

10/13/08 Review

• Equipartition Theorem

For each mode of energy a particle picks up

$$\frac{1}{2} k_B T$$

of average energy

Monatomic gas (atom)

$$E_a = \frac{3}{2} k_B T$$

per atom

Diatomic gas

Vibration (2 modes)

rotation (2 modes)

but @ T_{room} vibration not active because levels are quantized and diatomic molecule in $v=0$ or ground state with no extractable vibrational energy. Rotation is active

$$\Rightarrow E_a = \frac{5}{2} k_B T$$

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• Molar Specific Heats

Const. Volume $C_v = \frac{3}{2} R$ monatomic gas
 $= \frac{5}{2} R$ diatomic gas

Const. pressure $C_p = \frac{5}{2} R$ monatomic
 $= \frac{7}{2} R$ diatomic

• Important processes

- Isothermal $\Delta T = 0$
for ideal gas $\Rightarrow \Delta E = 0$

$$PV = \text{const}$$

- adiabatic $\Delta Q = 0$
 $\Delta E = -W$ (done by system)

$$PV^\gamma = \text{const.}$$

$$\gamma = \frac{C_p}{C_v}$$

• Average velocity.

$$\frac{1}{2} m \langle v^2 \rangle = \frac{3}{2} k_B T$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle v^2 \rangle = \frac{3 k_B T}{m}$$

$$v_{rms} = \sqrt{\langle v^2 \rangle}$$