

A container has 8360.0 torr of Nitrogen, 5.00 atm of Oxygen, 101.1 kPa of Argon, and 760.0 mm Hg of Carbon Dioxide.

What is the mole fraction of Oxygen?

- A. 0.167
- B. 0.267
- C. 0.278
- D. 0.467
- E. 0.578

Solution:

A mixing of ideal gases is considered in the task.

According to Dalton's law, $P = \sum_{i=1}^k P_i$, where P - the total pressure of gas mixture, P_i - the partial pressure of the i-th component.

Ideal gas law for each component: $P_i = \frac{n_i RT}{V}$.

$$\text{Then, } P = \sum_{i=1}^k P_i = \frac{RT}{V} \sum_{i=1}^k n_i ;$$

$$P_i = n_i \frac{RT}{V} = \frac{n_i}{\sum_{i=1}^k n_i} P = x_i P, \quad x_i - \text{the mole fraction of the i-th component in the mixture.}$$

So, $P_1(\text{N}_2) = 8360.0 \text{ torr} = 8360.0 \text{ mm Hg}$;

$P_2(\text{O}_2) = 5.00 \text{ atm} = 3800.00 \text{ mm Hg}$;

$P_3(\text{Ar}) = 101.1 \text{ kPa} = 758.31 \text{ mm Hg}$;

$P_4(\text{CO}_2) = 760.0 \text{ mm Hg}$.

$P = 8360.0 \text{ mm Hg} + 3800.00 \text{ mm Hg} + 758.31 \text{ mm Hg} + 760.0 \text{ mm Hg} = 13678.31 \text{ mm Hg}$.

$$x(\text{O}_2) = \frac{3800.00 \text{ mm Hg}}{13678.31 \text{ mm Hg}} = 0.278$$

Answer: C. 0.278.