Chapter 17 Problem 63[†]

Given $T_i = 10 \ ^{\circ}C$ $T_f = 25 \ ^{\circ}C$ $V_f = 60 \ L$ $\beta = 95 \times 10^{-5} \ K^{-1}$

Solution

Find the volume placed in the tank which will not over flow when the gas warms up.

The volume expansion is given by

$$\beta = \frac{\Delta V/V}{\Delta T}$$

This leads to the formula

 $\Delta V = \beta V \Delta T$

Now the initial volume plus the increased volume must equal 60 L.

$$V + \Delta V = 60 \; L$$

Substituting the first equation into the second gives

$$V+\beta V\Delta T=60\;L$$

$$V(1 + \beta \Delta T) = 60 L$$

Solving for V gives

$$V = \frac{60 L}{1 + \beta \Delta T} = \frac{60 L}{1 + (95 \times 10^{-5} K^{-1})(25^{\circ}C - 10^{\circ}C)}$$
$$V = 59.2 L$$

 $^\dagger \mathrm{Problem}$ from Essential University Physics, Wolfson