

Introduction:

Suppose one has a variety of gas samples-- all with the same volume. Since the volumes are the same, according to Avogadro's hypothesis, the number of molecules in each sample must also be the same.

Suppose the mass is measured for each gas sample. It turns out that each gas sample has a different mass. Ummm??? Each sample contains the same number of molecules, but each sample has a different mass. Why is this the case???? Ahhhh, of course, each molecule has different mass

Purpose: Using the experimental data given, determine the relative mass of each gas.

Analysis of Data:

1) Determine the relative mass of each gas by filling in the chart below

Gas Sample	Mass of gas samples (all samples have the same volume)	Relative masses of gases (Mass of H ₂ is assigned a value of 1.00)	Relative masses of gases with H ₂ assigned a value of 2.00 (This gives one H atom a mass of 1.0) <i>** Please round values to 2 sig figs-- there is considerable error.</i>
hydrogen gas (H ₂)	0.0883 g $\div 0.0883 =$	1.00	$\times 2 =$ 2.0
helium gas (He)	0.176 g	1.99	4.0
oxygen gas (O ₂)	1.40 g	15.9	32
nitrogen gas (N ₂)	1.23 g	13.9	28
carbon dioxide gas (CO ₂)	1.93 g	21.9	44
ammonia gas (NH ₃)	0.743 g	8.41	17
methane gas (CH ₄)	0.706 g	8.00	16
hydrogen bromide(HBr)	3.54 g	40.1	80.
air (a mixture of what?)	1.28 g	14.5	29

2) In the last column, a H₂ gas was assigned a value of 2.0. This gave one hydrogen atom a value of 1.0.

Using this relative scale, determine the relative masses of the following atoms:

a) helium (He) atom 4.0

d) carbon (C) atom 44 - 32 = 12

b) oxygen (O) atom 16

e) bromine (Br) atom 80. - 1.00 = 79

c) nitrogen (N) atom 14

3) Look on your periodic table. The numbers that have the decimals are your relative masses for each element. Do your experimental masses for the atoms in #2, match those (or are close) on the periodic table?

H: 1.008; O: 16.00; N: 14.01; C: 12.01; Br: 79.9. Yes, they match (or are very close).

