

1. The saturation vapour pressure (SVP) of water is the pressure at which the water in two different phases is in *equilibrium*, i.e. as many molecules are leaving one phase as are entering it (per unit time), e.g. liquid water \leftrightarrow gaseous water vapour, or gaseous water vapour \leftrightarrow solid crystals.

For water vapour in air (an ideal gas), the SVP is expressed as a *partial pressure* (P_{H_2O}). Partial pressure is the pressure of any constituent in the gas, e.g. the total pressure would be

$$P = P_{H_2O} + P_{dry\ air} = P_{H_2O} + P_{N_2} + P_{O_2} + P_{Ar} \quad (1)$$

The SVP can be described by (P in Pascals and T in $^{\circ}C$)

$$P_{H_2O}(SVP) = 610.78 * \exp\left(\frac{17.2694 * T}{T + 238.3}\right) \quad \text{vapour} \leftrightarrow \text{liquid} \quad (2)$$

$$P_{H_2O}(SVP) = \exp\left(-\frac{6140.4}{(T + 273)} + 28.916\right) \quad \text{vapour} \leftrightarrow \text{solid} \quad (3)$$

so for rain, Eqn. 2 applies and for snow, Eqn. 3 applies.

Finally, the *relative humidity*, RH , is the ratio of the actual partial pressure of H_2O to the SVP, usually expressed as a percentage.

(a) Plot a graph of the SVP from $-40\ ^{\circ}C$ to $+40\ ^{\circ}C$. Ensure that the plot is well-labeled.

(b) At 11:00 p.m. on Jan. 14, 2019, Kingston's weather was: $P = 102.80$ kPa, $RH = 78\%$, $T = -11\ ^{\circ}C$. Calculate:

(i) The SVP in Pa.

(ii) P_{H_2O} .

(iii) P_{N_2} , P_{O_2} , P_{Ar} , and $P_{dry\ air}$.

(iv) The molar fraction for each constituent (i.e. what fraction of the total number of moles is H_2O , N_2 , O_2 , and Ar).

(v) The mean molecular weight, μ , of this moist air.

(c) Repeat part (b) for 12:00 noon on Jul. 28, 2018 when $P = 101.47$ kPa, $RH = 63\%$, $T = 25\ ^{\circ}C$.

(d) Compare the mean molecular weights of dry air, warm moist air and cold moist air. (use words!)