

1. Consider a three-level single particle system with six microstates with energies 0, 0,  $\varepsilon$ ,  $2\varepsilon$ ,  $2\varepsilon$ ,  $2\varepsilon$ . What is the mean energy of the system if it is in equilibrium with a bath at temperature  $T$ ? In the region where  $\beta\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ , what will the graph of heat capacity of the system as a function of  $\varepsilon$  look like at a constant temperature?

**Ans.** 
$$U = \frac{\sum_j E_j e^{-\beta E_j}}{\sum_j e^{-\beta E_j}} = \frac{\varepsilon \cdot e^{-\beta\varepsilon} + 2\varepsilon \cdot 3e^{-2\beta\varepsilon}}{2 + e^{-\beta\varepsilon} + 3e^{-2\beta\varepsilon}} = \varepsilon \cdot \frac{e^{-\beta\varepsilon} + 6e^{-2\beta\varepsilon}}{2 + e^{-\beta\varepsilon} + 3e^{-2\beta\varepsilon}}$$

heat capacity,  $C_V = \frac{\partial U}{\partial T} = -\frac{\beta}{T} \frac{\partial U}{\partial \beta} = -\frac{\beta\varepsilon}{T} \cdot \left[ -\varepsilon \cdot \frac{e^{-\beta\varepsilon} + 12e^{-2\beta\varepsilon}}{2 + e^{-\beta\varepsilon} + 3e^{-2\beta\varepsilon}} + \varepsilon \cdot \frac{(e^{-\beta\varepsilon} + 6e^{-2\beta\varepsilon})(e^{-\beta\varepsilon} + 6e^{-2\beta\varepsilon})}{(2 + e^{-\beta\varepsilon} + 3e^{-2\beta\varepsilon})^2} \right] = \text{const.} \cdot \varepsilon^2$

$\therefore$  the graph will look like a parabola.

2. Obtain (briefly derive) the criterion for an ideal gas like system to obey Classical statistics. Give one example of a real system where this criterion is violated.

**Ans.** Boltzmann statistics is valid if number of energy states available is large enough,  $\Phi(\varepsilon) \gg N$

A quantum mechanical system approaches classical behaviour if the difference in energy between states is very small and they can be treated as nearly continuous

We require for Maxwell-Boltzmann statistics to be valid,

# accessible states  $\gg$  #particles

using the particle in a box model for an ideal system ,

$$\frac{\pi}{6} \left( \frac{8m\varepsilon}{h^2} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} V \stackrel{\varepsilon = \frac{3}{2} k_B T}{=} \frac{\pi}{6} \left( \frac{12mk_B T}{h^2} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} V \gg N$$

or,  $\frac{\pi}{6} \left( \frac{12mk_B T}{h^2} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} \gg \frac{N}{V}$  : this is the required criterion

We can also put it like  $\frac{6N}{\pi V} \left( \frac{h^2}{12mk_B T} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} \ll 1$

examples where this criterion is violated : liquid He and electrons in metals, for which  $\frac{6N}{\pi V} \left( \frac{h^2}{12mk_B T} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}}$  is 1.6 and 1465 respectively

3. Using the canonical ensemble theory results, show that the information entropy  $S = -k_B \sum_j P_j \ln P_j$  , where  $P_j$  =the probability that the system is in the energy state  $E_j$ , is the same as the statistical expression for the probability.

**Ans.**  $P_j = \frac{e^{-\beta E_j}}{Q}$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore S &= -k_B \sum_j P_j \ln P_j = -k_B \sum_j \frac{e^{-\beta E_j}}{Q} \ln \left( \frac{e^{-\beta E_j}}{Q} \right) = -\frac{k_B}{Q} \sum_j e^{-\beta E_j} \ln (e^{-\beta E_j}) + \frac{k_B}{Q} \sum_j e^{-\beta E_j} \ln Q \\ &= \frac{\beta k_B}{Q} \sum_j E_j e^{-\beta E_j} + \frac{k_B}{Q} \cdot Q \ln Q = \frac{U}{T} + k_B \ln Q \end{aligned}$$

4. Show that Boltzmann statistics is a limiting case of quantum statistics.

**Ans.** Quantum statistics gives :  $\ln \Xi = \frac{pV}{k_B T} = \pm \sum_k \ln (1 \pm \lambda e^{-\beta \varepsilon_k})$

For small  $\lambda$ , we can expand the logarithm and use only the first term [ $\ln(1+x) \approx x$ ] :

$$\beta pV = \lambda \sum_k e^{-\beta \varepsilon_k} = \lambda q$$

$$\therefore \Xi = e^{\lambda q} = \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\lambda q)^N}{N!}$$

$$\text{But } \Xi(V, T, \mu) = \sum_N Q(N, V, T) e^{\beta \mu N} = \sum_N Q(N, V, T) \lambda^N$$

$$\therefore Q(N, V, T) = \frac{q^N}{N!} \text{ which is Boltzmann statistics.}$$

5. Obtain the value for:  $\frac{\Theta_{x, H_2}}{\Theta_{x, D_2}}$ , for x=r(rotational) at high temperatures, without using the Tables.

**Ans.** The equilibrium bond distance and the force constant is determined by electronic effects, so it will be the same for both  $H_2$  and  $D_2$ . But the reduced masses will change. The symmetry number for both is 2.

$$\frac{\Theta_{x, H_2}}{\Theta_{x, D_2}} = \frac{I_{D_2}}{I_{H_2}} = \frac{\mu_{D_2}}{\mu_{H_2}} = \frac{m_D}{m_H} = 2$$