

# Solutions to Pathria's Statistical Mechanics

## Chapter 1

SM-at-THU

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### Problem 1.1

### Problem 1.2

Utilizing the additive characteristic of  $S = f(\Omega)$  and get

$$S = S_1 + S_2 = f(\Omega_1) + f(\Omega_2) \quad (1)$$

$$\left(\frac{dS}{d\Omega_1}\right)_{\Omega_2} = f'(\Omega_1) \quad (2)$$

$$\left(\frac{dS}{d\Omega_2}\right)_{\Omega_1} = f'(\Omega_2) \quad (3)$$

Inspect a small perturbation near the equilibrium state using the fact that  $S = f(\Omega) = f(\Omega_1\Omega_2)$

$$\left(\frac{dS}{d\Omega_1}\right)_{\Omega_2} = \lim_{\Delta \rightarrow 0} \frac{f((\Omega_1 + \Delta)\Omega_2) - f(\Omega_1\Omega_2)}{\Delta} \quad (4)$$

Assume that  $\delta = \Delta\Omega_2$

$$\left(\frac{dS}{d\Omega_1}\right)_{\Omega_2} = \lim_{\Delta \rightarrow 0} \Omega_2 \frac{f(\Omega_1\Omega_2 + \Delta\Omega_2) - f(\Omega_1\Omega_2)}{\Delta\Omega_2} = \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \Omega_2 \frac{f(\Omega + \delta) - f(\Omega)}{\delta} = \Omega_2 f'(\Omega) \quad (5)$$

Apply to  $\left(\frac{dS}{d\Omega_2}\right)_{\Omega_1}$ , we can get similar result.

$$\left(\frac{dS}{d\Omega_2}\right)_{\Omega_1} = \Omega_1 f'(\Omega) \quad (6)$$

Finally,

$$f'(\Omega_1) = \Omega_2 f'(\Omega) = \frac{\Omega_2}{\Omega_1} f'(\Omega_2) \quad (7)$$

$$\Omega_1 f'(\Omega_1) = \Omega_2 f'(\Omega_2) \quad (8)$$

$$(9)$$

It is obvious that this equation holds for all  $\Omega$ . Set the value of the equation constant  $k$ .

$$\Omega \frac{df(\Omega)}{d\Omega} = k \quad (10)$$

$$f(\Omega) = k \ln \Omega + C \quad (11)$$

$$(12)$$

Using a special value  $\Omega = 1$

$$f(\Omega * 1) = f(\Omega) + f(1) \quad (13)$$

$$C = f(1) = 0 \quad (14)$$

$$(15)$$

And get the result

$$S = f(\Omega) = k \ln \Omega \quad (16)$$

## Problem 1.3

## Problem 1.4

Suppose  $N$  is the number of particles,  $v_0$  is the volume occupied by one particle and therefore the total number of microstates  $\Omega$  is

$$\Omega = \frac{1}{N!} \left( \frac{V}{v_0} \right) \dots \left( \frac{V}{v_0} - N + 1 \right) \quad (17)$$

Following (1.4.2), we have

$$\frac{P}{T} = k \left( \frac{\partial \ln \Omega}{\partial V} \right)_{N,E} \quad (18)$$

$$= k \frac{\partial \Omega}{\Omega \partial V} \quad (19)$$

$$= k \frac{N}{V} \left( 1 + \frac{(N-1)v_0}{2V} + \dots \right) \quad (20)$$

Considering only the first two terms, it corresponds to  $P(V - b) = NkT$  with  $b = Nv_0/2$ .

Notes: I don't know why the problem says  $b = 4Nv_0$  since this gas is hard sphere gas. Anyone has an idea?

## Problem 1.5

Using equation (A.11), and setting  $K = \pi\sqrt{\varepsilon}/L$ , it is straight forward to achieve

$$\Sigma_1(\varepsilon) = \frac{\pi}{6} \varepsilon^{3/2} \pm \frac{3\pi}{8} \varepsilon \quad (21)$$

where the first term is the volume term ( $V = L^3$ ) and the next one is the surface correction ( $S = 6L^2$ ).

## Problem 1.6

Use the formula for ideal gas  $PV = NkT$ .

$$Nk \times 300 = 10^5 \times \frac{\pi}{10} \quad (22)$$

Thus  $\Delta T = 10^4/Nk \sim 955K$ .