



PHY 410 - Reference Sheet

Stirling’s approximation - for very large N the factorial can be very accurately approximated with the following

log N! ≈ N log N - N
N! ≈ √(2πN) N^N e^-N

Fractional uncertainty of X is uncertainty of expected value per particle.

(ΔX)/N = (√(⟨X^2⟩) - ⟨X⟩^2)/N

Boltzmann’s constant
kB = 1.380649 × 10^-23 m^2 s^-2 K^-1
Entropy S = kBσ, σTOT = σ1 + σ2
Temperature T = τ/kB

Microcanonical Ensemble

Multiplicity function

g = # of microstates, P(n) = 1/g

Expected value of X is the average across all microstates.

⟨X⟩ = Σ X(n)P(n) = 1/g Σ X(n)

Entropy can be written in terms of the multiplicity function.

σ(N, T, U, V, P) ≡ log[g(N, T, U, V, P)]

Binary System

A binary system is a system of N particles where each particles has two possible states. Let N↑ is the number of particle in the up state and N↓ be the number of particles in the down state.

g(N, N↑) = N! / (N↑!(N - N↑)!), Σ g(N, N↑) = 2^N

The binary system can be rewritten in terms of the difference between up states and down states this is the spin excess.

2S = N↑ - N↓
g(N, S) = N! / ((N/2 + S)!(N/2 - S)!)
Σ g(N, N↑) = 2^N

Applying Stirling’s approximation to the binary model, for large N the multiplicity function and fractional uncertainty are

g(N, S) ≈ g(N, 0)e^-2s^2/N
g(N, S) ≈ √(2/πN) 2^N e^-2s^2/N
ΔS/N ≈ 1/√N

An example of a binary system is N spin 1/2 particles in an external magnetic field B. The total energy U and magnetization M of the system are

U = Σ -m_i · B = -(N↑ - N↓)mB = -2SmB

M = 2Sm = -U/B
g(N, U) = N! / ((N/2 - U/2mB)!(N/2 + U/2mB)!)

σ(N, S) ≈ -((N/2 + S) log((1/2 + S/N) - (N/2 - S) log((1/2 - S/N)))

M = Nm tanh(mB/τ)

Einstein Solid

An einstein solid is a system of N atoms where each atom is modeled as a harmonic oscillator the energy of the system is determined by the number of atoms n oscillating at frequency ω.

U = nħω
g(N, n) = (n + N - 1)! / n!(N - 1)!
g(N, n) ≈ ((n+N)/n)^n ((n+N)/N)^(n+N)

Thermal Equilibrium

Temperature

1/τ = (∂σ/∂U)_{N,V}

Thermal Equilibrium

(∂σ1/∂U1)_{N1,V1} = (∂σ2/∂U2)_{N2,V2}
1/τ1 = 1/τ2

2nd law of thermo - Change in entropy ≥ 0.
Sharpness of Equilibrium For a two binary systems, the number of states in a configuration of deviation δ from equilibrium is

g1g2 = (g1g2)max e^(-2δ^2/N1 - 2δ^2/N2)

Canonical Ensemble

Partition Function - partition by energy levels for a fixed temperature

z = Σ e^-εn/τ, P(n) = 1/z e^-εn/τ
z = Σ g(εα)e^-εα/τ, for degeneracy g(εα)

Expected Value of X is the average across all energies (Thermal Average).

⟨X⟩ = Σ X(n)P(n) = 1/z Σ X(n)e^-εn/τ

Expected Energy in the canonical ensemble is

U = ⟨ε⟩ = 1/z Σ εne^-εn/τ
U = ⟨ε⟩ = τ^2 1/z ∂z/∂τ = τ^2 ∂/∂τ log z

The total partition function and expected energy for N non-interacting particles is simply

zN = z1^N
UN = ⟨ε⟩N = NU1 = N⟨ε⟩1

(this also applies for expected value of any X)

Theromodynamic Relations

1st Law of Thermo

dU = dQ + dW = τdσ - PdV
dσ = 1/τ dU + P/τ dV

Temperature τ = (∂U/∂σ)_V
Quasi-static Compression Equilibrium the equilibrium condition for quasi-static compression is

(∂U1/∂V1)_σ1 = (∂U2/∂V2)_σ2

Helmholtz Free Energy

F = U - τσ = U - ST = -τ log z
dF = -σdτ - PdV

Entropy σ = -(∂F/∂τ)_V, S = kBσ
Pressure

P = -(∂U/∂V)_σ = τ (∂σ/∂V)_U = -(∂F/∂V)_τ

Energy

U = -τ^2 ∂/∂τ (F/τ)

Ideal Gas

DeBroglie Thermal Wavelength is the wavelength of the wave functions of matter at a given temperature.

λT = √(2πħ^2/mτ)

Concentration of a system is the inverse of the volume

n = 1/V

Quantum Concentration is the density of quantum state per particle. It is used to define when a system will behave classically (n << nQ) and when a system will be dominated by quantum effects (n >> nQ).

nQ = 1/λT^3

Single Particle Ideal Gas is a system in the canonical ensemble consisting of a signle particle in a box of side lengths L. The energy levels , partition function and average energy are

Enx,ny,nz = ħ^2/(2m) (π/L)^2 (nx^2 + ny^2 + nz^2)
z1 = V/λT^3
U1 = 3/2 τ
σ1 = log(V/λT^3) + 3/2

Gibbs Resolution states that for systems in the classical regime the partition function for an ideal gas with N particles is

zN = 1/N! (z1)^N
UN = 3/2 Nτ
σN = N [log(V/(NλT^3)) + 5/2]

N-Particle Ideal Gas - by applying Gibbs resolution and properties of expected values we can find the classical ideal gas results

PV = Nτ
U = 3/2 Nτ
σ = N [log(V/(NλT^3)) + 5/2]

DOG (bork)



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