

Homework 1
Due Friday, September 30

1. Consider two subsystems in thermal equilibrium with each other, forming a closed system. Using additivity of energy and entropy, prove that the temperatures of the two subsystems are equal.
2. (Problem 1.9 of PB) Using additivity of entropy, show that

$$S = N \left(\frac{\partial S}{\partial N} \right)_{V,E} + V \left(\frac{\partial S}{\partial V} \right)_{N,E} + E \left(\frac{\partial S}{\partial E} \right)_{N,V}.$$

3. (Problem 3.15 of PB) Show that the partition function Z of a gas of N relativistic particles with energy-momentum relation $\epsilon = cp$, where c is the speed of light, is given by

$$Z = \frac{1}{N!} \left[8\pi V \left(\frac{T}{hc} \right)^3 \right]^N.$$

Further demonstrate that in this system $PV = \frac{1}{3}E$, $E = 3NT$ and, for an adiabatic process, $PV^{4/3} = \text{const.}$

4. Consider a quantum rotor with a Hamiltonian

$$H = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2I} \frac{d^2}{d\theta^2},$$

where $0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$ is an angular variable.

- (a) Find the eigenstates and energy eigenvalues of this system.
- (b) Find the density matrix in the θ -representation, i.e. $\langle \theta' | \hat{\rho} | \theta \rangle$ at temperature T , and examine its low- and high-temperature limits.