

PHY294, Winter 2019, Term Test 2

Possibly Useful Equations:

$$dU = Tds - PdV + \mu dN \quad S = k \ln(\Omega) \quad T = \left(\frac{\partial S}{\partial U} \right)^{-1}_{V,N} \quad F = U - TS \quad F = -kT \ln Z$$

$$\int_0^\infty (2x+1) e^{-x(x+1)C} dx = 1/C \quad C_V = \left(\frac{\partial U}{\partial T} \right)_V \quad P = - \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial V} \right)_{T,N} \quad S = - \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial T} \right)_{V,N}$$

$$\mu = \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial N} \right)_{T,V} \quad U = - \frac{1}{Z} \frac{\partial Z}{\partial \beta} = - \frac{\partial \ln Z}{\partial \beta} \quad Z = \sum_s e^{-E(s)/kT} \quad \int_0^\infty x^2 e^{-x^2} dx = \sqrt{\pi}/4$$

For a gas: $Z = \frac{1}{N!} \left(\frac{V}{v_Q} Z_{\text{int}} \right)^N$ where $v_Q = h^3 (2\pi m k T)^{-3/2}$

$$P(s) = \frac{e^{-E(s)/kT}}{Z} \quad \bar{X} = \sum_s X(s) P(s)$$

$$\ln(N!) \approx N \ln N - N \quad \text{for very large } N.$$

For all of these questions, you need to show your work, but you can assume any equations listed in *Possibly Useful Equations*:

1) [10 points] Imagine a particle that can be in only three states, with energy 0, ϵ , and 2ϵ .

a) What is the the partition function for this system.

$$Z = \sum_s e^{-E(s)/kT}$$

$$Z = 1 + e^{-\epsilon/kT} + e^{-2\epsilon/kT}$$

b) What is the probability that the particle will be in each of the three states?

$$P(s) = \frac{e^{-E(s)/kT}}{Z}$$

$$P(E=0) = \frac{1}{Z}$$

$$P(E=0) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-\epsilon/kT} + e^{-2\epsilon/kT}}$$

$$P(E=\epsilon) = \frac{e^{-\epsilon/kT}}{Z}$$

$$P(E=\epsilon) = \frac{e^{-\epsilon/kT}}{1 + e^{-\epsilon/kT} + e^{-2\epsilon/kT}}$$

$$P(E=2\epsilon) = \frac{e^{-2\epsilon/kT}}{Z}$$

$$P(E=2\epsilon) = \frac{e^{-2\epsilon/kT}}{1 + e^{-\epsilon/kT} + e^{-2\epsilon/kT}}$$

2) [15 points] Consider rotational modes for a gas with rotational energy levels $E(j) = j(j+1)\epsilon$, and degeneracy $2j+1$.

a) Write down the partition function as a sum.

$$Z = \sum e^{-E(j)/kT}$$

$$Z = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} (2j+1) e^{-j(j+1)\epsilon/kT}$$

b) In the very low temperature limit, when $kT \ll \epsilon$, the sum can be cut off after the second term. In this limit, calculate the energy, U , stored in the rotational modes

$$Z = 1 + 3e^{-2\epsilon/kT}$$

$$Z = 1 + 3e^{-2\epsilon\beta}$$

$$U = -\frac{1}{Z} \frac{\partial Z}{\partial \beta}$$

$$U = \frac{6\epsilon e^{-2\epsilon/kT}}{1 + 3e^{-2\epsilon/kT}} = \frac{6\epsilon}{e^{2\epsilon/kT} + 3}$$

c) In the same limit, calculate the heat capacity, C_v of the rotational modes.

$$C_v = \left(\frac{\partial U}{\partial T} \right)_v$$

$$C_v = \frac{12\epsilon^2 e^{2\epsilon/kT}}{kT^2 (e^{2\epsilon/kT} + 3)^2}$$

3) [25 points] Consider N molecules of a diatomic gas with these properties:

- Molecular mass m , Temperature T , Volume V
- Rotational energy levels: $E(j) = j(j+1)\epsilon$, with degeneracy $2j+1$.
- The electronic ground state is not degenerate.

In terms of these variables, and the Boltzmann constant, k , find, using the partition function, the following:

- Energy, U
- Heat capacity at constant volume, C_v
- Helmholtz free Energy, F
- Pressure, P
- Chemical Potential, μ

Evaluate any sums in the high temperature limit using integrals. Assume N is very large.

$$Z = \frac{1}{N!} \left(\frac{V}{v_Q} Z_{\text{int}} \right)^N$$

$$Z = \sum_s e^{-E(s)/kT}$$

$$Z_{\text{int}} = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} (2j+1) e^{-j(j+1)\epsilon/kT}$$

$$Z_{\text{int}} \approx \int_{j=0}^{\infty} (2j+1) e^{-j(j+1)\epsilon/kT} dj \quad \text{when } kT \gg \epsilon$$

From "Possibly Useful Equations", $\int_0^{\infty} (2x+1) e^{-x(x+1)C} dx = 1/C$

so $Z_{\text{int}} \approx kT/\epsilon$

$$Z = \frac{1}{N!} \left(\frac{kTV}{\epsilon v_Q} \right)^N \quad \text{where } v_Q = h^3 (2\pi m kT)^{-3/2}$$

$$\text{So } Z = \frac{1}{N!} \left(\frac{kTV (2\pi m kT)^{3/2}}{\epsilon h^3} \right)^N = \frac{1}{N!} \left(T^{5/2} V \frac{(2\pi m)^{3/2} k^{5/2}}{\epsilon h^3} \right)^N$$

$$\ln Z = N \left(-\frac{5}{2} \ln \beta + \ln V + \ln \left(\frac{(2\pi m)^{3/2}}{\epsilon h^3} \right) - \ln N + 1 \right) \quad \text{where } \beta = \frac{1}{kT}$$

a) Energy:

$$U = -\frac{\partial \ln Z}{\partial \beta} = \frac{5}{2} NkT$$

b) Heat Capacity

$$C_v = \left(\frac{\partial U}{\partial T} \right)_v = \frac{5}{2} Nk$$

c) Helmholtz free Energy, F

$$F = -kT \ln Z = -kTN \left(-\frac{5}{2} \ln \beta + \ln V + \ln \left(\frac{(2\pi m)^{3/2}}{\epsilon h^3} \right) - \ln N + 1 \right)$$

d) Pressure, P

$$P = - \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial V} \right)_{T, N} = kTN/V$$

e) Chemical Potential, μ

$$\mu = \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial N} \right)_{T, V} = -kT \left(\frac{5}{2} \ln(kT) + \ln V + \ln \left(\frac{(2\pi m)^{3/2}}{\epsilon h^3} \right) \right) - \ln N$$

$$\mu = -kT \left(\ln \left(\frac{(kT)^{5/2} (2\pi m)^{3/2} V}{\epsilon N h^3} \right) \right)$$