

KLAUSUR (EXAM)

- Answer *all* questions 0)-3).
- Put your **name** on each sheet submitted.
- Illegible scripts might be ignored.
- The duration of the exam is 180 mins.
- Indicate clearly which question (and part) your respective solution is referring to.

1

Definitions/formulas:

- Define the *grand canonical ensemble* in quantum mechanics.
- State the *first law of thermodynamics* in terms of E, S, T, μ, N, P, V .
- Define the *efficiency* of a general cyclic process (closed curve γ in (T, S) -diagram).

2

Consider the following cyclic process in the (P, V) -diagram:

- $I \rightarrow II$: Isothermal (constant T) expansion.
- $II \rightarrow III$: Adiabatic expansion.
- $III \rightarrow IV$: Isobaric (constant P) compression.
- $IV \rightarrow I$: Adiabatic compression.

You can assume the equations of state of an ideal gas,

$$PV = Nk_B T, \quad E = \frac{3}{2}PV. \quad (1)$$

- Sketch the process in a (P, V) -diagram, and identify where heat is injected/given off by the system.
- What is the work ΔW performed by the system in one cycle?
- What is the heat ΔQ_{in} injected into the system in one cycle?
- What is the efficiency? $\rightarrow \text{frisch}$

State your answers in b), c), d) in terms of the temperatures T_I, \dots, T_{IV} and $v = V_{II}/V_I$.

3

Recall that the energy eigenstates $|n\rangle$ of a single harmonic oscillator have energy $E_n = \varepsilon(n + \frac{1}{2})$, where $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

- Calculate the *canonical partition function* for one oscillator $Z_1(\beta) = \sum_n e^{-\beta E_n}$.
- Calculate the canonical partition function $Z_N(\beta)$ for a system of N independent harmonic oscillators in terms of that found for the single oscillator.
- Calculate the mean energy E .
- The free energy is $F = E - TS$. Show that the first law takes the form

$$dF = -SdT + \mu dN \quad (2)$$

in terms of F (noting that $dV = 0$ in this question). Give a formula for the chemical potential μ in terms of a derivative of $F(T, N)$. Using the formula $F(\beta, N) = -\beta^{-1} \log Z_N(\beta)$ [where $\beta^{-1} = k_B T$], calculate μ for the present system.

4). Lagrange multi. \rightarrow

✓
2

A system has N states occupied with probabilities p_n , $n = 1, \dots, N$. The n -th state has energy E_n and particle number n . The entropy is defined as $S = -k_B \sum_n p_n \log p_n$, the average energy is $U = \sum_n E_n p_n$, and the average particle number is $v = \sum_n n p_n$. Using the method of Lagrange multipliers, determine the probability distribution which maximizes S for fixed U, v , and show that it is given by

$$p_n = \frac{1}{Y} e^{-\beta(E_n - \mu n)} \quad (3)$$

for some β, μ, Y .

KLAUSUR (EXAM)

- Answer *all* questions 0)-3).
- Put your **name** on each sheet submitted.
- Illegible scripts might be ignored.
- The duration of the exam is 180 mins.
- Indicate clearly which question (and part) your respective solution is referring to.

0) Definitions/formulas:

- Define the *grand canonical ensemble* in quantum mechanics.
- State the *first law of thermodynamics* in terms of E, S, T, μ, N, P, V .
- Define the *efficiency* of a general cyclic process (closed curve γ in (T, S) -diagram).

1) Consider the following cyclic process in the (P, V) -diagram:

- $I \rightarrow II$: Isothermal (constant T) expansion.
- $II \rightarrow III$: Adiabatic expansion.
- $III \rightarrow IV$: Isobaric (constant P) compression.
- $IV \rightarrow I$: Adiabatic compression.

You can assume the equations of state of an ideal gas,

$$PV = Nk_B T, \quad E = \frac{3}{2}PV. \quad (1)$$

- Sketch the process in a (P, V) -diagram, and identify where heat is injected/given off by the system.
- What is the work ΔW performed by the system in one cycle?
- What is the heat ΔQ_{in} injected into the system in one cycle?
- What is the efficiency?

State your answers in b), c), d) in terms of the temperatures T_I, \dots, T_{IV} and $v = V_{II}/V_I$.

2) Recall that the energy eigenstates $|n\rangle$ of a single harmonic oscillator have energy $E_n = \varepsilon(n + \frac{1}{2})$, where $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

- Calculate the *canonical partition function* for one oscillator $Z_1(\beta) = \sum_n e^{-\beta E_n}$.
- Calculate the canonical partition function $Z_N(\beta)$ for a system of N independent harmonic oscillators in terms of that found for the single oscillator.
- Calculate the mean energy E .
- The free energy is $F = E - TS$. Show that the first law takes the form

$$dF = -SdT + \mu dN \quad (2)$$

in terms of F (noting that $dV = 0$ in this question). Give a formula for the chemical potential μ in terms of a derivative of $F(T, N)$. Using the formula $F(\beta, N) = -\beta^{-1} \log Z_N(\beta)$ [where $\beta^{-1} = k_B T$], calculate μ for the present system.

3) A system has N states occupied with probabilities p_n , $n = 1, \dots, N$. The n -th state has energy E_n and particle number n . The entropy is defined as $S = -k_B \sum_n p_n \log p_n$, the average energy is $U = \sum_n E_n p_n$, and the average particle number is $v = \sum_n n p_n$. Using the method of Lagrange multipliers, determine the probability distribution which maximizes S for fixed U, v , and show that it is given by

$$p_n = \frac{1}{Y} e^{-\beta(E_n - \mu n)} \quad (3)$$

for some β, μ, Y .

PROBEKLAUSUR (MOCK EXAM)

- You need at least 50 points to pass this exam
- Put your name on each sheet submitted.
- Illegible scripts might be ignored.
- The duration of the exam is 180 mins.
- Indicate clearly which question (and part) your respective solution is referring to.

1) (25 points) Recall the first law of thermodynamics:

$$TdS = dE + PdV - \mu dN. \quad (1)$$

- a) State the "microscopic" (i.e. statistical mechanics-) definition of the entropy S in the context of the classical micro canonical ensemble. State what it means for S to be an "extensive quantity".
- b) Derive the relations

$$\frac{\partial N}{\partial E} \Big|_{V,S} = \frac{1}{\mu}, \quad \frac{\partial N}{\partial S} \Big|_{V,E} = -\frac{T}{\mu}, \quad \frac{\partial N}{\partial V} \Big|_{E,S} = \frac{P}{\mu}, \quad (2)$$

from the first law (Hint: rewrite the first law in terms of the differentials dE, dV, dS).

- c) Introduce the free energy by $F = E - TS$, viewed as a function of T, N, V . Write the first law in terms of F instead of E .
- d) Write the first law (1) as $dS = \dots$. Applying the exterior differential d to the resulting equation and using $d(dS) = 0$, derive the relation

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial V} \Big|_{E,N} - P \frac{\partial T}{\partial E} \Big|_{V,N} + T \frac{\partial P}{\partial E} \Big|_{V,N} = 0. \quad (3)$$

(Hint: Keep in mind that $dEdV = -dVdE$.)

2) (25 points) Consider the following cyclic process:

- I → II: Adiabatic (constant S) expansion
- II → III: Isochoric (constant V) cooling
- III → IV: Adiabatic (constant S) compression
- IV → I: Isothermal (constant T) expansion

Throughout it is assumed that the particle number N remains constant (so that $dN = 0$ in the entire process), and we assume that the equations of state of an ideal gas hold:

$$PV = Nk_B T, \quad E = \frac{3}{2}PV. \quad (4)$$

- a) Show that $PV = cst.$ on isotherms and $PV^{5/3} = cst.$ on adiabatics using the equation(s) of state and the first law $TdS = dE + PdV$. (If you cannot do this, carry on with b) – e) assuming these results.)
- b) Sketch the process in a (P,V) -diagram, and identify where heat is injected/given off by the system.
- c) What is the work ΔW performed by the system in one cycle?
- d) What is the heat ΔQ_{in} injected into the system in one cycle?
- e) What is the efficiency $\eta = \frac{\Delta W}{\Delta Q_{in}}$?

State your answers in c) - e) in terms of $N, T_I, V_I, V_{II} (= V_{III}), V_{IV}$.

- 3) (25 points) We consider a gas of charged particles of unit charge $\pm q$. The eigenstates of the charge operator \hat{Q} and Hamiltonian \hat{H} are $|n_+, n_-\rangle$ with

$$\hat{H}|n_+, n_-\rangle = \epsilon_{n_+, n_-}|n_+, n_-\rangle, \quad \hat{Q}|n_+, n_-\rangle = q(n_+ - n_-)|n_+, n_-\rangle, \quad (5)$$

where $n_+, n_- \geq 0$ are integers that have the interpretation of the number of positively resp. negatively charged particles in the state. We consider a density matrix of the form

$$\rho = \sum_{n_+, n_- \geq 0} p_{n_+, n_-} |n_+, n_-\rangle \langle n_+, n_-| \quad (6)$$

where $\text{Tr}\rho = 1$ is required as usual, and where expectation values are defined as usual by $\langle A \rangle = \text{Tr}(A\rho)$. The information entropy is defined by $S(\rho) = -k_B \text{Tr}\rho \log \rho$, the mean energy by $E = \langle \hat{H} \rangle$ and the mean charge by $Q = \langle \hat{Q} \rangle$.

- a) Using the method of Lagrange multipliers, show that the density matrix which maximizes $S(\rho)$ for fixed E, Q is of the form $p_{n_+, n_-} = \frac{1}{Y} \exp(-\beta[\epsilon_{n_+, n_-} + \Phi q(n_+ - n_-)])$, or equivalently $\rho = \frac{1}{Y} \exp[-\beta(\hat{H} + \Phi \hat{Q})]$. (Here β, Φ, Y are constants.)
- b) Define $G = -k_B T \log Y(T, \Phi)$, where $\beta^{-1} = k_B T$. Using $Y = \text{Tr} \exp[-(\hat{H} + \Phi \hat{Q})/(k_B T)]$, show that

$$S = -\left. \frac{\partial G}{\partial T} \right|_{\Phi}, \quad Q = -\left. \frac{\partial G}{\partial \Phi} \right|_T, \quad (7)$$

where S, Q are defined as above.

- c) For a charged gas at fixed volume, the first law of thermodynamics is $TdS = dE - \Phi dQ$. What is the physical meaning of Φ ? Show that if we define $G = E - TS - \Phi Q$, then $G = G(T, \Phi)$ satisfies $dG = -SdT - Qd\Phi$.
- d) Verify the relations (7) using $dG = -SdT - Qd\Phi$.

- 4) (25 points) A directed polymer consists of atoms $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N$ at positions $(x_i, y_i) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$ of a square lattice. The atom at the origin is fixed at the position $x_0 = y_0 = 0$ and the other atoms are chained together such that $x_i - x_{i-1} = 1$ and $|y_i - y_{i-1}| = 1$. This polymer is hence oriented in the x -direction and it does not self-intersect.

- a) Determine the total number of micro-states of the polymer.
- b) Determine the number of microstates $W(y)$ having the property that $y_N = y$. Hint: Write y_N in terms of $\sigma_i = y_i - y_{i-1} \in \{\pm 1\}$, where $i = 1, \dots, N$, and then in terms of the number v of $+1$'s in $\{\sigma_i\}$.
- c) Calculate the typical deflection of the chain end,

$$\langle y_N^2 \rangle = \frac{\sum_y y^2 W(y)}{\sum_y W(y)}. \quad (8)$$

Hint: Consider the partition function of the canonical ensemble $Z(\beta) = \sum_y e^{\beta y} W(y)$. Write $\langle y_N^2 \rangle$ in terms of β -derivative(s) of $Z(\beta)$.

$$|y_1 - y_0| = 1 \Rightarrow y_1 - y_0 = 1$$

- You need at least 50 points to pass this exam
- Put your name on each sheet submitted.
- Illegible scripts might be ignored.
- The duration of the exam is 180 mins.
- Indicate clearly which question (and part) your respective solution is referring to.

1) (25 points) Recall the first law of thermodynamics:

$$TdS = dE + PdV - \mu dN. \quad (1)$$

- a) State the "microscopic" (i.e. statistical mechanics-) definition of the entropy S in the context of the classical micro canonical ensemble. State what it means for S to be an "extensive quantity".

b) Derive the relations

$$\left. \frac{\partial N}{\partial E} \right|_{V,S} = \frac{1}{\mu}, \quad \left. \frac{\partial N}{\partial S} \right|_{V,E} = -\frac{T}{\mu}, \quad \left. \frac{\partial N}{\partial V} \right|_{E,S} = \frac{P}{\mu}, \quad (2)$$

from the first law (Hint: rewrite the first law in terms of the differentials dE, dV, dS .)

- c) Introduce the free energy by $F = E - TS$, viewed as a function of T, N, V . Write the first law in terms of F instead of E .
- d) Write the first law (1) as $dS = \dots$. Applying the exterior differential d to the resulting equation and using $d(dS) = 0$, derive the relation

$$\left. \frac{\partial T}{\partial V} \right|_{E,N} - P \left. \frac{\partial T}{\partial E} \right|_{V,N} + T \left. \frac{\partial P}{\partial E} \right|_{V,N} = 0. \quad (3)$$

(Hint: Keep in mind that $dEdV = -dVdE$.)

2) (25 points) Consider the following cyclic process:

- I → II: Adiabatic (constant S) expansion
- II → III: Isochoric (constant V) cooling
- III → IV: Adiabatic (constant S) compression
- IV → I: Isothermal (constant T) expansion

Throughout it is assumed that the particle number N remains constant (so that $dN = 0$ in the entire process), and we assume that the equations of state of an ideal gas hold:

$$PV = Nk_B T, \quad E = \frac{3}{2}PV. \quad (4)$$

- a) Show that $PV = cst.$ on isotherms and $PV^{5/3} = cst.$ on adiabatics using the equation(s) of state and the first law $TdS = dE + PdV$. (If you cannot do this, carry on with b) – e) assuming these results.)
- b) Sketch the process in a (P,V) -diagram, and identify where heat is injected/given off by the system.
- c) What is the work ΔW performed by the system in one cycle?
- d) What is the heat ΔQ_{in} injected into the system in one cycle?
- e) What is the efficiency $\eta = \frac{\Delta W}{\Delta Q_{in}}$?

State your answers in c) - e) in terms of $N, T_I, V_I, V_{II} (= V_{III}), V_{IV}$.

- 3) (25 points) We consider a gas of charged particles of unit charge $\pm q$. The eigenstates of the charge operator \hat{Q} and Hamiltonian \hat{H} are $|n_+, n_-\rangle$ with

$$\hat{H}|n_+, n_-\rangle = \epsilon_{n_+, n_-}|n_+, n_-\rangle, \quad \hat{Q}|n_+, n_-\rangle = q(n_+ - n_-)|n_+, n_-\rangle, \quad (5)$$

where $n_+, n_- \geq 0$ are integers that have the interpretation of the number of positively resp. negatively charged particles in the state. We consider a density matrix of the form

$$\rho = \sum_{n_+, n_- \geq 0} p_{n_+, n_-} |n_+, n_-\rangle \langle n_+, n_-| \quad (6)$$

where $\text{Tr}\rho = 1$ is required as usual, and where expectation values are defined as usual by $\langle A \rangle = \text{Tr}(A\rho)$. The information entropy is defined by $S(\rho) = -k_B \text{Tr}\rho \log \rho$, the mean energy by $E = \langle \hat{H} \rangle$ and the mean charge by $Q = \langle \hat{Q} \rangle$.

- a) Using the method of Lagrange multipliers, show that the density matrix which maximizes $S(\rho)$ for fixed E, Q is of the form $p_{n_+, n_-} = \frac{1}{Y} \exp(-\beta[\epsilon_{n_+, n_-} + \Phi q(n_+ - n_-)])$, or equivalently $\rho = \frac{1}{Y} \exp[-\beta(\hat{H} + \Phi \hat{Q})]$. (Here β, Φ, Y are constants.)

- b) Define $G = -k_B T \log Y(T, \Phi)$, where $\beta^{-1} = k_B T$. Using $Y = \text{Tr} \exp[-(\hat{H} + \Phi \hat{Q})/(k_B T)]$, show that

$$S = -\left. \frac{\partial G}{\partial T} \right|_{\Phi}, \quad Q = -\left. \frac{\partial G}{\partial \Phi} \right|_T, \quad (7)$$

where S, Q are defined as above.

- c) For a charged gas at fixed volume, the first law of thermodynamics is $TdS = dE - \Phi dQ$. What is the physical meaning of Φ ? Show that if we define $G = E - TS - \Phi Q$, then $G = G(T, \Phi)$ satisfies $dG = -SdT - Qd\Phi$.

- d) Verify the relations (7) using $dG = -SdT - Qd\Phi$.

- 4) (25 points) The Hamiltonian of a gas of N classical, relativistic particles moving in one dimension is

$$H(q_1, \dots, q_N, p_1, \dots, p_N) = \sum_{i=1}^N \{c|p_i| + U(q_i)\}. \quad (8)$$

Here (p_1, \dots, p_N) are the momenta of the particles, and (q_1, \dots, q_N) the positions (i.e. $q_i, p_i \in \mathbb{R}$ for all $i = 1, \dots, N$). The potential $U(q)$ is $= 0$ if $q \in [0, L]$ and $= \infty$ otherwise and effectively restricts the particles to the interval $[0, L]$.

- a) The micro-canonical partition function for distinguishable particles is

$$W(E, L, N) = h^{-N} \int_{E \leq H(\{p_i\}, \{q_j\}) \leq E + \Delta E} dq_1 \dots dq_N dp_1 \dots dp_N. \quad (9)$$

Perform first the q_i -integrals.

- b) Next, perform the p_i -integrals assuming that ΔE is small compared to E . You may use that the volume of a layer of thickness $\delta \ll R$ surrounding the surface of an N -dimensional hyperpyramid (the set defined by $x_i \geq 0, \sum_{i=1}^N x_i \leq R$) is given by $\sim \delta \cdot \sqrt{NR^{N-1}} / (N-1)!$. Do not forget to take into account that each p_i can be negative or positive!

- c) How does the partition function W have to be modified if the particles are indistinguishable?

- d) Compute the entropy $S = k_B \log W$ in the micro canonical ensemble for indistinguishable particles, and verify that

$$S(E, L, N) = Nk_B \log \left(\frac{2e^2 LE}{hcN^2} \right) \quad (10)$$

up to subleading terms in the large N limit. (Hint: Use Stirling's approximation $N! \sim N^N e^{-N}$.)

- e) Use the result of item 2d) and the first law of thermodynamics to derive

$$P = \frac{Nk_B T}{L} \quad (11)$$

for the pressure. (Hint: First derive $P = T \partial S / \partial L|_{E,N}$.)

f) Similarly, derive the relation $1/T = Nk_B/E$.

- g) Argue that the probability density $\mathcal{P}(p)$ for finding a particle with momentum p is given by

$$\mathcal{P}(p) = \frac{L}{Nh} \cdot \frac{W(E - c|p|, L, N - 1)}{W(E, L, N)} \quad (12)$$

(Hint: If one particle has momentum p , what is the energy left for the remaining particles?)
From this, derive

$$\mathcal{P}(p) \sim \frac{c}{2k_B T} e^{-c|p|/(k_B T)} \quad (13)$$

(Hint: Use the relation $(1 + a/N)^N \sim e^a$ for large N , and the relation between E and T derived before. For W , use the result of question 2d))