



Consider oscillator & reservoir together

$$\Omega = \Omega_0 \Omega_R$$

$\uparrow$  # of microstates in combined system     $\uparrow$  # of microstates in oscillator     $\uparrow$  " " " reservoir

The probability that the harmonic oscillator is in ground state  $E=E_0$  is proportional to # microstates of the combined system given that oscillator is in its ground state.

if oscillator is in its ground state,  $\Omega_0 = 1$

$$\Omega = 1 \cdot \Omega_R$$

$$S = k \ln \Omega \rightarrow \Omega = e^{S/k}$$

Consider two oscillator states A & B,  
suppose  $E(A) < E(B)$

$$E_R(A) > E_R(B) \quad \text{because energy is conserved}$$

$$\rightarrow \Omega_R(A) > \Omega_R(B)$$

$$\rightarrow P(A) > P(B) \quad \text{lower energy states are more likely}$$

$$\frac{P(A)}{P(B)} = \frac{\Omega_R(A)}{\Omega_R(B)} = \frac{e^{S_R(A)/k}}{e^{S_R(B)/k}} = e^{[S_R(A) - S_R(B)]/k}$$

$$dS_R = \frac{1}{T} dU_R = -\frac{1}{T} dU_0$$

$$S_R(A) - S_R(B) = -\frac{1}{T} (E(A) - E(B))$$

$$\frac{P(A)}{P(B)} = e^{-[E(A) - E(B)]/kT} = \frac{e^{-E(A)/kT}}{e^{-E(B)/kT}}$$

$$\boxed{P(A) = \frac{1}{Z} e^{-E(A)/kT}} \quad \text{for any system in contact with a thermal reservoir } T$$

•  $Z$  is a normalization constant  
ridiculously useful

$$\sum_{\text{all states } s} \frac{1}{Z} e^{-E(s)/kT} = 1$$

partition function  $Z(T)$   
independent of state

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

•  $e^{-E/kT}$  Boltzmann factor for a given state

$$P(A) \sim e^{-E(A)/kT}$$

if energy increases by  $kT$   
probability reduced by  $1/e$  (to 37% of original)

$kT$ : characteristic energy scale  
@ 300 K,  $kT = \frac{1}{40} \text{ eV}$

e.g. hydrogen atom

$$\begin{array}{l} -3.4 \text{ eV} \text{ --- } \\ -13.6 \text{ eV} \text{ --- } \end{array} \quad \left[ \begin{array}{l} \Delta E = 10.2 \text{ eV} \\ @ 300 \text{ K, } \Delta E = 400 kT \\ P_{\text{exc}} \sim e^{-400} = 2 \times 10^{-174} \end{array} \right.$$

$$@ 3000 \text{ K, } \Delta E = 40 kT \quad P_{\text{exc}} \sim e^{-40} = 4 \times 10^{-9}$$

for 1 mol  $H$ ,  
 $\sim 10000$  excited ones

$$Z = \sum_s e^{-E_s/kT} \quad \text{sum of all Boltzmann factors}$$

$$Z = \sum_s e^{-E_s/kT}$$

sum of all Boltzmann factors

$$= \sum_s e^{-\beta E_s}$$

$$\beta = \frac{1}{kT}$$

If ground state is  $E=0$ ,

$$Z = 1 + \sum_{\text{excited}} e^{-\beta E_s} \leftarrow \text{all} < 1$$

$$\Omega = 1 + \sum_{\text{excited}} 1 \quad 0 \leq Z \leq \Omega$$

$\Omega$  is a count of all microstates

$Z$  is a weighted count of all microstates, weighted by  $e^{-\beta E}$

# Average Energy

each particle has 3 possible energy states

7	—	—	—	—	—	✓	}	✓
4	—	—	—	✓	✓	—		✓✓
0	✓	✓	✓	—	—	—		✓✓✓
	1 particle							

$$\langle E \rangle = \frac{0+0+0+4+4+7}{6} = \frac{3(0) + 2(4) + 1(7)}{3+2+1}$$

$$= \frac{3}{6}(0) + \frac{2}{6}(4) + \frac{1}{6}(7)$$

probabilities of given energy state

$$\langle E \rangle = \sum_s P_s E_s$$

In general  $\langle X \rangle = \sum_s P_s X_s$

in contact with a thermal reservoir

$$\langle X \rangle = \frac{1}{Z} \sum_s X_s e^{-\beta E_s}$$

e.g.  $\langle 1 \rangle = \frac{1}{Z} \sum_s 1 e^{-\beta E_s} = \frac{1}{Z} \sum_s e^{-\beta E_s} = \frac{1}{Z} Z = 1$

$$\langle E \rangle = \frac{1}{Z} \sum_s E_s e^{-\beta E_s}$$

Neat trick:  $E_s e^{-\beta E_s} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} e^{-\beta E_s}$

$$\langle E \rangle = \frac{1}{Z} \sum_s -\frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} e^{-\beta E_s}$$

$$= -\frac{1}{Z} \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \sum_s e^{-\beta E_s}$$

$$\boxed{\langle E \rangle = -\frac{1}{Z} \frac{\partial Z}{\partial \beta}} = -\frac{\partial \ln Z}{\partial \beta} = -\frac{\partial \ln Z}{\partial z} \frac{\partial z}{\partial \beta}$$