

Q1. Consider a polypeptide (protein) with ' N ' sequences. Each position in the sequence has ' M ' options (amino acids).

a) Write down the number of possible sequences; call it Ω

a) Define the disorder (I) as the natural logarithm of Ω , multiplied by a constant ' K '.

a) Define the P_i as the probability that i^{th} option (amino acid) is used within the sequence.

a) Use the Stirlings' approximation to arrive at SHANNON'S FORMULA for the disorder per N :

$$I/N = -K \sum_{j=1}^M P_j \ln P_j$$

Q2. Show that the disorder as defined in Shannon's formula is maximum when all the probabilities (P_i) are the same.

Q3. The entropy of an ideal gas at equilibrium is given by the Sackur-Tetrode Formula:

$$S = k_B \ln \left[\left(\frac{2\pi^{3N/2}}{(3N/2 - 1)!} \right) (2mE)^{3N/2} V^N \frac{1}{N!} (2\pi\hbar)^{-3N} \frac{1}{2} \right]$$

In the above equation, \hbar is the Planck's Constant whose units are Joule-second.

a) Identify the variables

b) Show that the argument within the natural logarithm is dimensionless

c) We would like to re-state the above formula as, $S = k_B \ln[(2mE)^{3N/2} V^N \alpha]$

where ' α ' represent a constant. Write down an expression for this constant.