

Statistical Mechanics

Statistical mechanics is a branch of physics that applies statistical methods and probability theory to study the behavior of large numbers of particles. It is used to explain the macroscopic properties of matter, such as temperature, pressure, and entropy, in terms of the microscopic behavior of atoms and molecules.

The connection between statistical mechanics and thermodynamics is established through the concept of the thermodynamic limit. In this limit, the number of particles N goes to infinity, and the volume V goes to infinity, while the density N/V remains constant. In this limit, the macroscopic properties of a system become independent of the details of the microscopic interactions, and the laws of thermodynamics emerge.

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$N \sim 10^{23}$

Thermodynamic limit is defined as the limit where the number of particles $N \rightarrow \infty$, the volume $V \rightarrow \infty$, and the density N/V remains constant. In this limit, the macroscopic properties of a system become independent of the details of the microscopic interactions, and the laws of thermodynamics emerge.

Extensive thermodynamic variables (extensive thermodynamic variables) are those that depend on the size of the system, such as energy E , entropy S , and volume V . Intensive thermodynamic variables (intensive thermodynamic variables) are those that do not depend on the size of the system, such as temperature T , pressure P , and chemical potential μ .

- Extensive thermodynamic variables -
 Energy (E), Entropy (S), Volume (V), and Mass (M),
 Surface Area (A), etc.
- Intensive thermodynamic variables -
 Temperature (T), Pressure (P), Chemical potential (μ), Density ($\rho = \frac{m}{V}$), etc.

Thermodynamics is a branch of physics that studies the relationships between heat, work, and energy. It is based on the laws of thermodynamics, which describe the behavior of macroscopic systems in equilibrium.

for our system to find out E is, we have to find out the energy of each particle and then sum it up.

$$E = \sum_i N_i E_i = N_1 E_1 + N_2 E_2 + N_3 E_3 + \dots \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

where N_i is the number of particles in energy level E_i .

$$N = \sum_i N_i = N_1 + N_2 + N_3 + \dots \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

we can find out the energy of each particle and then sum it up to find the total energy of the system.

(macro-state) of the system is the state of the system which is characterized by the macroscopic thermodynamic variables N, V, E .

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Postulate of equal a priori probabilities (PEAP)

Statistical Mechanics, thermodynamics, $\Omega(N, V, E)$

Contact between Statistical Mechanics and Thermodynamics:

(Two systems in contact and equilibrium state)

Two systems A, & A' (in contact and equilibrium state)

A system is characterized by N_1, V_1, E_1 and $\Omega_1(N_1, V_1, E_1)$

A' system is characterized by N_2, V_2, E_2 and $\Omega_2(N_2, V_2, E_2)$

System is in contact with Ω_1 & Ω_2 (functional form)

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$$E_0 = E_1 + E_2 = \dots$$

β is same, for two systems β_1 & β_2 in equilibrium
 we have $\beta_1 = \beta_2 \rightarrow (9)$

Let us consider two systems in contact with each other
 and let the total energy be E , and the energy of the first system
 be E_1 and the energy of the second system be E_2 .
 The number of states of the first system is $\Omega_1(E_1)$ and the number of states
 of the second system is $\Omega_2(E_2)$. The total number of states of the combined
 system is $\Omega(E) = \Omega_1(E_1) \Omega_2(E_2)$. The probability of finding the first
 system with energy E_1 is $P(E_1) = \frac{\Omega_1(E_1) \Omega_2(E - E_1)}{\Omega(E)}$.
 The most probable energy E_1 is found by maximizing $P(E_1)$ with respect to
 E_1 . This leads to the condition $\frac{d \ln \Omega_1(E_1)}{d E_1} = \frac{d \ln \Omega_2(E - E_1)}{d E_1}$.
 This is the condition for thermal equilibrium between the two systems.

Let us now consider a system in contact with a reservoir at temperature T .
 The system has energy E and the reservoir has energy $E - E$. The number of
 states of the system is $\Omega(E)$ and the number of states of the reservoir is
 $\Omega_r(E - E)$. The probability of finding the system with energy E is
 $P(E) = \frac{\Omega(E) \Omega_r(E - E)}{\Omega_{total}}$. The most probable energy E is found
 by maximizing $P(E)$ with respect to E . This leads to the condition
 $\frac{d \ln \Omega(E)}{d E} = \frac{d \ln \Omega_r(E - E)}{d E}$. This is the condition for thermal
 equilibrium between the system and the reservoir. The temperature of the
 reservoir is T and the temperature of the system is T . The condition for
 thermal equilibrium is $\frac{1}{T} = \frac{d \ln \Omega(E)}{d E} = \frac{d \ln \Omega_r(E - E)}{d E}$.
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$$\frac{1}{T} = \left(\frac{\partial S}{\partial E} \right)_{N, V} \rightarrow (10)$$

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$$\frac{dS}{d(\ln \Omega)} = \frac{1}{\beta T} = k_B T \rightarrow (11)$$

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$$S = k_B \ln \Omega \rightarrow (12)$$

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$$\beta = \frac{1}{k_B T} \rightarrow (13)$$

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