

1. (a) For a free, non-relativistic particle confined to a cubic box of side L ($V = L^3$), we have $\varepsilon(n_x, n_y, n_z) = \frac{h^2}{8mL^2} (n_x^2 + n_y^2 + n_z^2)$; $n_x, n_y, n_z = 1, 2, 3, \dots$. The number of distinct microstates for a particle of energy ε is denoted by $\Omega(1, \varepsilon, V)$. For a system with N such particles, one can have $\Omega(N, E, V)$, where E is the energy of the system. Please show that in a reversible adiabatic process, one gets $PV^{5/3} = \text{constant}$. **(10 pts)**
 (b) By evaluating the “volume” of the relevant region of its phase space, show that the number of microstates available to a rigid rotator with angular momentum $\leq J$ is $(J/\hbar)^2$. **(10 pts)**

2. (a) In the canonical ensemble, one has $Q_N(V, T) = \sum_r \exp(-\beta E_r)$, where Q_N is the partition function of a system. Please show that the Helmholtz free energy $A = -kT \ln Q_N(V, T)$. **(10 pts)**
 (b) We have a system of N independent harmonic oscillators. Please calculate the Helmholtz free energy A and the energy U of the oscillators by treating the oscillators quantum mechanically. **(12 pts)**

3. The potential energy of 1-dimensional, *anharmonic classical* oscillator may be written as $V(q) = cq^2 - fq^3 - gq^4$, where c, f and g are positive constants and f and g are very small values. What is the leading contribution of anharmonic terms to (a) the heat capacity **(10 pts)** and (b) the mean value of the position coordinate q ? **(10 pts)**

4. (a) Consider a classical ideal gas of N particles. Please write down the grand partition function of the gas **and** show that $PV = NkT$. (hint: the canonical partition function $Q_N(V, T) = Q_1(V, T)^N/N!$, and you can assume that $Q_1(V, T) = Vf(T)$). **(12 pts)**
 (b) The expectation value of a physical quantity G , which is dynamically represented by an operator \hat{G} : $\langle G \rangle = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \int \psi^{k*} \hat{G} \psi^k d\tau$. Where the wave functions ψ^k are normalized. One can show that $\langle G \rangle = \text{Tr}(\hat{\rho} \hat{G})$. ($\hat{\rho}$ is the density operator) (You **do not** need to show it)
 Consider a single electron placed in a magnetic field \mathbf{B} . The electron possesses an intrinsic spin $\frac{1}{2}\hbar\hat{\sigma}$ and a magnetic moment μ_B , where $\hat{\sigma}$ is the Pauli spin operator and $\mu_B = e\hbar/2mc$. Let the applied field be in the direction of the z-axis. Please write down the density matrix in the canonical ensemble and obtain the expectation value of σ_z . **(13 pts)**

5. The grand partition function ($z = e^{\mu/kT}$)

$$Q(z, V, T) = \begin{cases} \prod_{\varepsilon} \frac{1}{(1 - ze^{-\beta\varepsilon})} & \text{in the B.E. case with } ze^{-\beta\varepsilon} < 1 \\ \prod_{\varepsilon} (1 + ze^{-\beta\varepsilon}) & \text{in the F.D. case} \end{cases}$$

Please derive the value of the mean occupation number $\langle n_{\varepsilon} \rangle$ of level ε for both B. E. and F. D. cases. **(13 pts)**