

# IV Microcanonical ensemble

J116

(75)

microscopic model  $\rightarrow$  macroscopic laws (thermodynamics)

discrete: states  $i=1, \dots, N$  } model  
energies  $E_i$

$$N(E) = \# \text{ of states with energy } E$$

$$S = k_B \ln N(E) \rightarrow \text{thermodynamics}$$

continuous:  $N$  particles, phase space  $\vec{x} = (\vec{r}_1, \dots, \vec{r}_N, \vec{p}_1, \dots, \vec{p}_N)$  } model  
energy (Hamiltonian)  $H(\vec{x})$

$$\Omega(E, V, N) = \int_{H(\vec{x}) \leq E} d\vec{x}^N \text{ phase space volume below energy } E$$

$$S = k_B \ln \frac{\Omega(E, V, N)}{C_N} \rightarrow \text{thermodynamics}$$

## IV.4 The ideal gas

### IV.4.1 Classical point of view

$$H(\{\vec{p}_i\}, \{\vec{q}_i\}) = \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\vec{p}_i^2}{2m}$$

Want to find  $\Omega(E, V, N) = \int_{H(\vec{x}^N) \leq E} d\vec{x}^N$

$H$  independent of  $q$

volume of  $3N$  dimensional  
unit sphere

$$\rightarrow \Omega(E, V, N) = V^N \int_{\sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\vec{p}_i^2}{2m} \leq E} d\vec{p}^N = V^N (2mE)^{3N/2} \Omega_{3N}$$

Trick to calculate  $\Omega_{3N}$ :

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx_1 \dots \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx_{3N} \exp(-x_1^2 - x_2^2 - \dots - x_{3N}^2) = \sqrt{\pi}^{3N}$$

// polar coordinates

$$\underbrace{\Omega_{3N} \int_0^{\infty} r^{3N-1} \exp(-r^2) dr}_{\frac{d}{dr} (r^{3N} \Omega_{3N})} = \Omega_{3N} \underbrace{\int_0^{\infty} x^{\frac{3N}{2}-1} e^{-x} dx}_{\Gamma(\frac{3N}{2})}$$

$x=r^2$   
↓

$$\Rightarrow \Omega_{3N} = \frac{\pi^{\frac{3N}{2}}}{\frac{3N}{2} \Gamma(\frac{3N}{2})}$$

$$\Gamma(1) = 1 \quad \Gamma(z+1) = \Gamma(z)z \quad \Rightarrow \quad \Gamma(N+1) = N!$$

$$\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}) = \sqrt{\pi}$$

Back to  $\Omega(E, V, N)$ :

$$\Omega(E, V, N) = \frac{V^N}{V^N} (2\pi m E)^{\frac{3N}{2}} \frac{\pi^{\frac{3N}{2}}}{\frac{3N}{2} \Gamma(\frac{3N}{2})}$$

$$\Rightarrow S(E, V, N) = k_B \ln \frac{\Omega(E, V, N)}{C_N}$$

$$= k_B \ln \frac{V^N}{C_N} + \frac{3N}{2} k_B \ln 2\pi m E - k_B \ln \frac{\pi^{\frac{3N}{2}} \Gamma(\frac{3N}{2})}{\frac{3N}{2}}$$

$= \left(\frac{3N}{2}\right)!$

$$\approx \frac{3N}{2} \ln \frac{3N}{2} - \frac{3N}{2}$$

$$= N k_B \left\{ \frac{3}{2} + \ln \left[ \frac{V}{(C_N)^{1/N}} \left( \frac{2\pi m E}{3N} \right)^{3/2} \right] \right\}$$

Consequences:

$$\frac{1}{T} = \left( \frac{\partial S}{\partial E} \right)_{V,N} = \frac{3}{2} N k_B \frac{1}{E} \Rightarrow E = \frac{3}{2} N k_B T$$

→ ideal gas result, → knows the right constants in front of definition of entropy

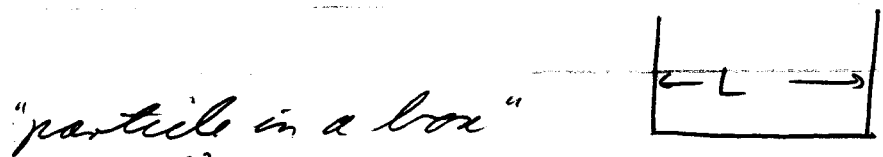
$$\frac{p}{T} = \left( \frac{\partial S}{\partial V} \right)_{E,N} = N k_B \frac{1}{V} \Rightarrow pV = N k_B T$$

→ microscopic derivation of ideal gas law  
→ entropy definition useful

Remaining question: What is  $C_N$ ?

Know: Entropy extensive →  $(C_N)^{1/N}$  must be extensive  
→  $C_N \sim N^N$

IV.4.2 Quantum-mechanical point of view



$$H = \frac{p^2}{2m}$$

→ discrete energy levels  $E = \frac{h^2}{8mL^2} n^2 \quad n=1,2,\dots$

ideal gas:  $N$  particles in three dimensional box  $V=L^3$

$$H = \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{p_i^2}{2m}$$

total energy  $E = \frac{h^2}{8mL^2} \sum_{i=1}^N (n_{i,x}^2 + n_{i,y}^2 + n_{i,z}^2)$

Similar to continuous system:

for  $N$  large

$$S = k_B \ln N(E) = k_B \ln \Omega(E)$$

number of states with energy less or equal to  $E$ .

number of states with energy equal to  $E$ .

Given  $E$ , what is  $\Omega(E)$ ?

$\Omega(E)$  = Number of distinguishable configuration of  $\{n_{i,x}, n_{i,y}, n_{i,z}\}$

such that

$$\sum_{i=1}^N (n_{i,x}^2 + n_{i,y}^2 + n_{i,z}^2) \leq \frac{8mL^2 E}{h^2}$$

distinguishable

= Number of lattice points on a  $3N$  dimensional lattice

within a sphere of radius  $\sqrt{\frac{8mL^2 E}{h^2}}$

$$= \frac{1}{N!} \left( \frac{8mL^2 E}{h^2} \right)^{\frac{3N}{2}} \Omega_{3N} \frac{1}{2^{3N}}$$

since only positive  $n_{i,x}, n_{i,y}, n_{i,z}$  occur

since particles are indistinguishable

$\Rightarrow$  All states resulting from a permutation of the particles are actually the same state

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$$S = k_B \ln \left[ \left( \frac{2mL^2 E}{h^2} \right)^{\frac{3N}{2}} \frac{1}{N!} \Omega_{3N} \right]$$

$$= k_B \ln \left[ V^N (2\pi m E)^{\frac{3N}{2}} \Omega_{3N} \frac{1}{h^{3N} N!} \right]$$

Compare to classical calculation

$$\rightarrow \boxed{C_N = h^{3N} N!}$$