

1. Consider a system of  $N$  free particles in which the energy of each particle can assume two distinct values, 0 and  $E$ . Let  $n_0$  particles be at 0-energy state and  $N-n_0$  particles are in the  $E$ -energy state. The total energy of the system is  $U$ .
  - a. Find the entropy of such a system.
  - b. Find the most probable values of number of particles in each state. and find the mean square fluctuation of these quantities.
  - c. Find the temperature of the system.  
(problem taken from Huang, can consider the reference therein to clarify for the possible negative temperature of the system.)
  
2. A simple harmonic oscillator has energy states  $E_n = (n+1/2)h\omega$ , where  $h$  and  $\omega$  are constants,  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$  all integers. The system is at a temperature  $T$ .
  - a. Find the ration of probability of the oscillator being in the first excited state to that being in the ground state.
  - b. Assuming that the ground and the first excited states are only occupied find the mean energy of the oscillator.
  - c. Find an expression of the mean energy of the oscillator when all the states are occupied according to the Boltzmann distribution. (Reif, chap. 6, Q.1)
  
3. Consider  $N$  weakly interacting spin  $1/2$  and magnetic moment  $\mu$  particles in an external magnetic field  $H$ . Let the system be at a temperature  $T$ . Calculate the mean energy  $\langle E \rangle$  and magnetic moment of the system. (Reif, chap 6, Q.2)
  
4. A system consists  $N$  weakly interacting particles, each of which can be in one of the two states of energy  $\epsilon_1$  and  $\epsilon_2$  ( $\epsilon_1 < \epsilon_2$ ).
  - a. Without explicit calculations show How the average energy of the system should change with temperature.
  - b. Using the above plot show how  $C_V$  changes with temperature.
  - c. Calculate explicitly  $\langle E \rangle$  and  $C_V$  and compare with the above qualitative plots. (Reif, chap 6, Q.6)
  
5. A solid at absolute temperature  $T$  contains  $N$  negatively charged impurity ions per cubic centimetre, these ions replace some ordinary atoms of the solid. Each negative ion of charge  $-e$  has in its vicinity mobile positive ions which can sit at the middle of the square lattice where at each lattice point there is a negative ion (see the schematic diagram in Reif's book, chap 6, Q.8). If a small electric field  $\epsilon$  is applied in the  $x$ -direction, calculate the mean electric dipole moment per unit volume.
  
6. A dilute solution of macro-molecules at temperature  $T$  is placed in a centrifuge rotating with angular velocity  $\omega$ . Considering a molecule of mass  $m$  experiences a radially outward force  $m\omega^2 r$  at a distance  $r$  from the axis;
  - a. Find how the relative density  $\rho(r)$  of molecules varies with their radial distance.
  - b. Show quantitatively how the molecular weight of the macromolecule can be determined if the density ratio  $\rho_1/\rho_2$  at the radii  $r_1$  and  $r_2$ . (Reif, Q. 6.10)
  
7. Consider a rectangular box with four walls and a bottom but no top. The total area of the sides and the bottom is  $A$ . Find the dimensions of the box which gives a maximum volume using
  - a. the method of straight forward calculus,
  - b. Lagrange multipliers. (Reif, Q. 6.12)
  
8. An ideal monatomic gas of  $N$  particles, each of mass  $m$ , is in thermal equilibrium at a temperature  $T$ . The gas is contained in a cubical box of sides  $L$ , whose top and bottom surfaces are parallel to the ground. Considering the presence of the gravitational acceleration,
  - a. find the average K.E. of the particles,

- b. and find the average potential energy of the particles. (Reif, Q. 7.2)
9.  $N$  weakly interacting particles at a high temperature  $T$  undergo one dimensional oscillations about some mean positions. calculate the heat capacity of
- when the restoring force causing the oscillation is proportional to displacement  $x$  from mean position,
  - when the restoring force is proportional to  $x^3$ . (Reif, Q. 7.10)
10. An aqueous solution at room temperature  $T$  contains the small concentration of magnetic atoms, each of which has a net spin  $1/2$  and a magnetic moment  $\mu$ . The solution is placed in an external magnetic field  $H$  pointing along  $z$ -direction. The field is inhomogeneous  $H = H(z)$  where  $H(Z)$  is a monotonically increasing function of  $Z$ . Consider  $H$  at  $Z = Z_1(\text{bottom})$  is  $H_1$  and at  $Z = Z_2(\text{top})$  is  $H_2$ .
- Let  $n_+(z)dz$  be the mean number of atoms whose spin points along the  $z$  direction at the height  $z$  and  $z+dz$ . What is the ration  $n_+(z_2)/n_+(Z_1)$ .
  - Let  $n(z)dz$  be the total number of magnetic atoms (both up and down) at a height  $z$ . What is the ratio  $n(z_2)/n(z_1)$ ?
  - Considering  $\mu H \ll kT$ , simplify the above expressions. (Reif, Q. 7.16)
11. an ideal monatomic gas is in thermal equilibrium at temperature  $T$  (velocity distribution Maxwellian).
- If  $v$  is the speed of molecules, calculate  $1/\bar{v}$  and  $1/\bar{v}$ .
  - find the mean number of molecules at an energy  $\epsilon$  and  $\epsilon + d\epsilon$  (Reif, Q. 7.20)