

STATISTICAL PHYSICS & THERMODYNAMICS

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EXERCISE 11.1: STATISTICS OF MISPRINTS (3P)

In a printing company, the error probability for a typo is $q = 10^{-6}$. The typos occur completely uncorrelated and the probability is the same for all characters.

- Estimate the numerical probability to have less than 5 typos in a book with 10^7 characters. (1P)
- Let n be the number of correct characters between two subsequent typos. Compute the probability distribution $P(n)$ in an infinitely long text. (1P)
- Determine the mean value and the variance of this distribution. (1P)

EXERCISE 11.2: ULTRARELATIVISTIC GAS (9P)

The energy of a relativistic particle is given by $E = \sqrt{m^2c^4 + p^2c^2}$, where c is the velocity of light and m is the rest mass. A gas is called *ultrarelativistic* if the energy of the particles is so high that the rest mass can be neglected. In the following let us consider an ultrarelativistic gas with N particles in a container with the volume V :

- Show that the phase space volume $\Phi = \int_{E < E_0} \prod_{i=1}^N d^3q_i d^3p_i$ over all states with the total energy $E < E_0$ can be written as

$$\Phi = (4\pi V)^N I_N(E_0),$$

where I_N obeys the recursion relation (3P)

$$I_N(E) = \int_0^{E/c} dp p^2 I_{N-1}(E - pc).$$

- Verify that $I_N(E)$ is a homogeneous function and show that it can be written as $I_N(E) = (E/c)^{3N} C_N$, where C_N is a (N -dependent) constant. (1P)
- Insert the homogeneity obtained in (b) into the recursion relation given in (a) and solve the integral (e.g. with *Mathematica*[®]). This gives a recursion relation for the C_N which you can solve exactly. (1P)
- Use this result to determine the number of states in an infinitesimal energy shell $[E, E + \delta E]$. (1P)
- Using Stirling's formula and taking the permutation entropy of non-distinguishable quantum particles into account, show that (1P)

$$H(E, V, N) \simeq N \left[\ln \left(\frac{8\pi V E^3}{27 h^3 c^3 N^4} \right) + 4 \right] + \dots$$

- (f) Compute temperature and pressure and show that the equation of state is the same as the one of the non-relativistic ideal gas. (1P)
- (g) Use (f) to show that the entropy can be expressed as

$$H(E, V, N) = N \ln\left(\frac{AT^3V}{N}\right), \quad H(T, P, N) = N \ln\left(\frac{AT^4}{P}\right)$$

where A is a constant. Use these formulas to calculate the specific heats C_V and C_P . How does $\gamma = C_P/C_V$ differ from the non-relativistic case? (1P)

($\Sigma = 12\mathbf{P}$)

To be handed in on Monday, January 15, 2018, at the beginning of the lecture.