

**KING FAHD UNIVERSITY OF PETROLEUM AND MINERALS  
PHYSICS DEPARTMENT**

**PHYS-430: Thermal Physics  
Term 061  
EXAM # 1**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ID#** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Solve all the Problems.**

**Problem 1.**

A bit in computer sciences is some physical object that can be in two different states 0 or 1. A word is a sequence of bits. Lets assume that the word here consist of N bits some of them ( $N_0$ ) have values of 0 and some ( $N_1$ ) have values of 1.

- a. What is the probability that half of the bits in the word are 1's and half are 0's?
- b. What is the probability that the word has a value of 1?
- c. What is the probability that the word has a value of 0?
- d. What is the probability that the number of 0's is larger than the number of 1's?

Solution

$$a. P = \frac{1}{2^N} \frac{N!}{(N/2)!^2}$$

$$b. P = \frac{1}{2^N}$$

$$c. P = \frac{1}{2^N}$$

$$d. P > \frac{1}{2^N} \frac{N!}{\left(\frac{N}{2} + 1\right)! \left(\frac{N}{2} - 1\right)!}$$

**Problem 2.**

A gas expands isothermally from volume  $V_1$  to  $V_2$  in an isothermal process. Find the work if the equation of state for this gas is

$$P = \frac{nRT}{V - nb} - \frac{an^2}{V^2}$$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} W &= -\int P dV = -\int_{V_1}^{V_2} nRT \frac{dV}{V - nb} + \int_{V_1}^{V_2} an^2 \frac{dV}{V^2} \\ &= -nRT \ln \left( \frac{V_2 - nb}{V_1 - nb} \right) + an^2 \left( \frac{1}{V_2} - \frac{1}{V_1} \right) \end{aligned}$$

### Problem 3.

The multiplicity of an Einstein solid containing  $N$  oscillators and  $q$  energy units is given as

$$\Omega = \left( \frac{q+N}{q} \right)^q \left( \frac{q+N}{N} \right)^N$$

Show that in the limit of  $T \rightarrow \infty$ , the heat capacity  $C = Nk$ .

$$S = k \ln \Omega = k \left[ q \ln \left( \frac{q+N}{q} \right) + N \ln \left( \frac{q+N}{N} \right) \right]$$

$$\frac{1}{T} = \frac{\partial S}{\partial U} = \frac{\partial q}{\partial U} \frac{\partial S}{\partial q} = \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \frac{\partial S}{\partial q}$$

$$= \frac{k}{\varepsilon} \ln \left( 1 + \frac{N}{q} \right)$$

$$T = \frac{\varepsilon}{k \ln(1 + N \varepsilon / U)}$$

$$U = \frac{N \varepsilon}{e^{\varepsilon/kT} - 1}$$

$$C = \frac{\partial U}{\partial S} = \frac{N \varepsilon^2}{kT^2} \left( \frac{e^{\varepsilon/kT}}{(e^{\varepsilon/kT} - 1)^2} \right)$$

$$\text{when } T \rightarrow \infty, (kT > \varepsilon) \Rightarrow e^{\varepsilon/kT} \approx 1 + \frac{\varepsilon}{kT}$$

$$C \approx \frac{N \varepsilon^2}{kT^2} \frac{1 + \varepsilon/kT}{(\varepsilon/kT)^2} \approx Nk \left( 1 + \frac{\varepsilon}{kT} \right) \approx kT$$

#### Problem 4.

A 10 g ice cube whose temperature is  $-10^{\circ}\text{C}$  is placed in a lake whose temperature is  $15^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Calculate the change in entropy of the cube-lake system as the ice cube comes to thermal equilibrium with the lake.

The specific heat of ice is  $2220\text{ J/kg K}$

The specific heat of water is  $4190\text{ J/kg K}$

Solution

For the ice cube:

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta S_{ice} &= \Delta S(T = -10^{\circ}\text{C} \rightarrow T = 0^{\circ}\text{C}) + \Delta S(T = 0) + \Delta S(T = 0 \rightarrow T = 15^{\circ}\text{C}) \\ &= mc_{ice} \ln(T_f / T_i) + \frac{mL}{T} + mc_{water} \ln(T_f / T_i) \\ &= 0.01 \times 2220 \times \ln(273/263) + \frac{0.01 \times 333 \times 10^3}{273} + 0.01 \times 4190 \ln(288/273) \\ &= 15.27\text{ J/K}\end{aligned}$$

the change of the entropy of the lake is  $\Delta S_{lake} = \frac{Q_{lake}}{T}$ ,

where this  $Q$  is the energy lost by the lake. This is equal to the negative of the heat gained by the ice  $Q_{ice}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}Q_{ice} &= mc_{ice} \Delta T + mL + mc_{water} \Delta T \\ &= 0.01 \times 2220 \times (273 - 263) + 0.01 \times 333 \times 10^3 + 0.01 \times 4190 \times (288 - 273) \\ &= 4.18 \times 10^3\text{ J}\end{aligned}$$

$$\Delta S_{lake} = -\frac{4.18 \times 10^3}{288} = -14.51\text{ J/K}$$

The change of the entropy of the ice cube-lake system is

$$\Delta S = \Delta S_{ice} + \Delta S_{lake} = 0.76\text{ J/K}$$

### Problem 5.

The fundamental relation for what may be regarded as a gas of photons in thermal equilibrium is

$$S = [AU^{3/4}V^{1/4}],$$

where A is a constant.

- a. Calculate the pressure of the photon gas and its equation of state
- b. Calculate the energy of the photon gas
- c. What is the chemical potential of the photon gas

Solution

$$a. P = \left( \frac{\partial S}{\partial V} \right) = \frac{A}{4} T U^{3/4} V^{-3/4}$$

$$\frac{1}{T} = \left( \frac{\partial S}{\partial U} \right) = \frac{3A}{4} U^{-1/4} V^{1/4}$$

$$P = \frac{27}{64} A^4 T^4$$

$$b. U = \frac{3}{4} A T V^{1/4}$$

$$c. \mu = -T \frac{\partial S}{\partial N} = 0$$

