

Statistical Thermodynamics.

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Occupation number -

It is the number of systems in that particular state.

Distribution -

The set of occupation number is called distribution.

Configuration -

Various equivalent ways of achieving a state is called configuration of the system.

Statistical weight factor -

It is the degree of degeneracy of particular energy level and is equal to energy states of an energy level.

It is denoted by 'g'.

Stirling's approximation -

for large 'n' -

$$\ln n! = n \cdot \ln n - n$$

Ensemble -

Ensemble is formed by reproducing the distinct unit many times.

Micro-canonical ensemble -

N, V, E - remains same

No contact with surrounding

Canonical ensemble -

N, V, T - remains same

Thermal contact with surrounding.

Grand canonical ensemble-

μ, V, T - remains same

Thermal and material contact (exchange)

Statistical equilibrium-

An ensemble is said to be in statistical equilibrium if it obeys following conditions-

1. The probabilities of finding phase points in various regions of phase should be independent of time.
2. The average values for properties of system in the ensemble should also be independent of time.

Thermodynamic probability-

The number of microstates which correspond to a macrostate is referred to as thermodynamic probability.

* Most probable Configuration -

Consider a system containing n particles having total energy E_t .

Thermodynamic probability of this distribution is given by -

$$P = \frac{n!}{n_0! n_1! n_2! \dots n_i!} = \frac{n!}{\prod n_i!}$$

Taking log on both sides

$$\log P = \log n! - (\log n_0! + \log n_1! + \dots + \log n_i!)$$

$$\log P = \log n! - \sum \log n_i! \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

Applying Stirling's theorem to eq. (1)

$$\log n! = n \log n - n$$

$$\log P = n \log n - n - [\sum n_i \log n_i - \sum n_i]$$

$$= n \log n - n - \sum n_i \log n_i + \sum n_i$$

(but $\sum n_i = n$)

$$= n \log n - n - \sum n_i \log n_i + n$$

$$\log P = n \log n - \sum n_i \log n_i \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

To find most probable distribution, system attains equilibrium.

↳ probability will be maximum

Hence at equilibrium

$$d \log P = 0.$$

Now,

differentiating eq. (2),

$$d \log P = d (n \cdot \log n) - d (\sum n_i \log n_i) = 0$$

$$d \log P = - \sum d n_i \log n_i = 0$$

$$\sum d n_i \log n_i = 0$$

$$(\sum n_i) \cdot d \log n_i + (\sum \log n_i) \cdot d n_i = 0$$

$$\sum n_i \cdot \frac{d n_i}{n_i} + \sum \log n_i \cdot d n_i = 0$$

$$\sum d n_i + \sum \log n_i \cdot d n_i = 0 \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

But, $\sum n_i = n = \text{constant}$

Hence, $\sum d n_i = 0$

\therefore Equation becomes

$$\sum \log n_i \cdot d n_i = 0 \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

For the given system, total energy and total number of particles remains constant.

$$n = \sum n_i \quad \text{or} \quad d n = \sum d n_i = 0 \quad \text{--- (5)}$$

$$E_t = \sum n_i \epsilon_i \quad \text{or} \quad d E_t = \sum \epsilon_i d n_i = 0 \quad \text{--- (6)}$$

Multiply equation (5) and (6) by arbitrary undetermined multipliers α and β respectively and add eq. (4). We get,

$$\sum \log n_i \cdot d n_i + \alpha \sum d n_i + \beta \sum \epsilon_i d n_i = 0$$

$$d n_i (\sum \log n_i + \alpha + \beta \sum \epsilon_i) = 0$$

If $d n_i \neq 0$,

$$\log n_i + \alpha + \beta \epsilon_i = 0$$

$$\log n_i = -\alpha - \beta \epsilon_i$$

$$n_i = e^{-\alpha - \beta \epsilon_i}$$

--- (7)

Equation (7) gives number of particles in each energy level.

Equation (7) is the Boltzmann distribution law.

We can write

$$n = \sum n_i = e^{-\alpha} \cdot \sum e^{-\beta \epsilon_i} \quad \text{--- (8)}$$

Now,

$$\frac{n_i}{n} = \frac{e^{-\alpha} \cdot e^{-\beta \epsilon_i}}{e^{-\alpha} \cdot \sum e^{-\beta \epsilon_i}}$$

$$\frac{n_i}{n} = \frac{e^{-\beta \epsilon_i}}{\sum e^{-\beta \epsilon_i}} \quad \text{--- (9)}$$

Equation (9) is known as Maxwell-Boltzmann distribution law

If there are g_i number of possible distributions of energy in a given energy level 'i', then the state is said to be ' g_i -degenerate'.

Thus equation (7) and (8) becomes

$$n_i = e^{-\alpha} \cdot g_i \cdot e^{-\beta \epsilon_i} \quad \text{--- (10)}$$

$$\text{and } n = e^{-\alpha} \cdot \sum g_i e^{-\beta \epsilon_i} \quad \text{--- (11)}$$

$$\frac{n_i}{n} = \frac{g_i \cdot e^{-\beta \epsilon_i}}{\sum g_i \cdot e^{-\beta \epsilon_i}} \quad \text{--- (12)}$$