

[tex94] Classical ideal gas (grandcanonical ensemble)

Consider a classical ideal gas [$H_N = \sum_{i=1}^N (p_i^2/2m)$] in a box of volume V in equilibrium with heat and particle reservoirs at temperature T and chemical potential μ , respectively.

(a) Show that the grand partition function is $Z = \exp(zV/\lambda_T^3)$, where $z = \exp(\mu/k_B T)$ is the fugacity, and $\lambda_T = \sqrt{h^2/2\pi m k_B T}$ is the thermal wavelength.

(b) Derive from Z the grand potential $\Omega(T, V, \mu)$, the entropy $S(T, V, \mu)$, the pressure $p(T, V, \mu)$, and the average particle number $\langle N \rangle = \mathcal{N}(T, V, \mu)$.

(c) Derive from these expressions the familiar results for the internal energy $U = \frac{3}{2}\mathcal{N}k_B T$, and the ideal gas equation of state $pV = \mathcal{N}k_B T$.

Solution: