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Thermodynamics and Statistical Mechanics

Learn classical thermodynamics alongside statistical mechanics with this fresh approach to the subjects. Molecular and macroscopic principles are explained in an integrated, side-by-side manner to give students a deep, intuitive understanding of thermodynamics and equip them to tackle future research topics that focus on the nanoscale. Entropy is introduced from the get-go, providing a clear explanation of how the classical thermodynamic laws connect to molecular principles, and closing the gap between the atomic world and the macroscale. Notation is streamlined throughout, with a focus on general concepts and simple models, for building basic physical intuition and gaining confidence in problem analysis and model development.

Well over 400 guided end-of-chapter problems are included, addressing conceptual, fundamental, and applied skill sets. Numerous worked examples are also provided, together with handy shaded boxes to emphasize key concepts, making this the complete teaching package for students in chemical engineering and the chemical sciences.

M. Scott Shell is an Associate Professor in the Chemical Engineering Department at the University of California, Santa Barbara. He earned his PhD in Chemical Engineering from Princeton in 2005 and is well known for his ability to communicate complex ideas and teach in an engaging manner. He is the recipient of a Dreyfus Foundation New Faculty Award, an NSF CAREER Award, a Hellman Family Faculty Fellowship, a Northrop-Grumman Teaching Award, a Sloan Research Fellowship, and a UCSB Distinguished Teaching Award.

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“This textbook presents an accessible (but still rigorous) treatment of the material at a beginning-graduate level, including many worked examples. By making the concept of entropy central to the book, Prof. Shell provides an organizing principle that makes it easier for the students to achieve mastery of this important area.”

Athanassios Z. Panagiotopoulos
Princeton University

“Other integrated treatments of thermodynamics and statistical mechanics exist, but this one stands out as remarkably thoughtful and clear in its selection and illumination of key concepts needed for understanding and modeling materials and processes.”

Thomas Truskett
University of Texas, Austin

“This text provides a long-awaited and modern approach that integrates statistical mechanics with classical thermodynamics, rather than the traditional sequential approach, in which teaching of the molecular origins of thermodynamic laws and models only follows later, after classical thermodynamics. The author clearly shows how classical thermodynamic concepts result from the underlying behavior of the molecules themselves.”

Keith E. Gubbins
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To Janet, Mike, Rox, and the entire Southern Circus

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An Integrated Approach

M. SCOTT SHELL

University of California, Santa Barbara



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Contents

<i>Preface</i>	<i>page xv</i>
<i>Reference tables</i>	xvii
<i>Table A</i> Counting and combinatorics formulae	xvii
<i>Table B</i> Useful integrals, expansions, and approximations	xvii
<i>Table C</i> Extensive thermodynamic potentials	xviii
<i>Table D</i> Intensive per-particle thermodynamic potentials for single-component systems	xviii
<i>Table E</i> Thermodynamic calculus manipulations	xix
<i>Table F</i> Measurable quantities	xx
<i>Table G</i> Common single-component statistical-mechanical ensembles	xxi
<i>Table H</i> Fundamental physical constants	xxii
1 Introduction and guide for this text	1
2 Equilibrium and entropy	6
2.1 What is equilibrium?	6
2.2 Classical thermodynamics	7
2.3 Statistical mechanics	11
2.4 Comparison of classical thermodynamics and statistical mechanics	14
2.5 Combinatorial approaches to counting	15
Problems	18
3 Energy and how the microscopic world works	21
3.1 Quantum theory	21
3.2 The classical picture	25
3.3 Classical microstates illustrated with the ideal gas	29
3.4 Ranges of microscopic interactions and scaling with system size	32
3.5 From microscopic to macroscopic	34
3.6 Simple and lattice molecular models	37
3.7 A simple and widely relevant example: the two-state system	38
Problems	41
4 Entropy and how the macroscopic world works	50
4.1 Microstate probabilities	50
4.2 The principle of equal a priori probabilities	51
4.3 Ensemble averages and time averages in isolated systems	54
4.4 Thermal equilibrium upon energy exchange	58
4.5 General forms for equilibrium and the principle of maximum entropy	65
4.6 The second law and internal constraints	69
4.7 Equivalence with the energy-minimum principle	70

4.8 Ensemble averages and Liouville's theorem in classical systems	72
Problems	75
5 The fundamental equation	82
5.1 Equilibrium and derivatives of the entropy	82
5.2 Differential and integrated versions of the fundamental equations	83
5.3 Intensive forms and state functions	85
Problems	91
6 The first law and reversibility	93
6.1 The first law for processes in closed systems	93
6.2 The physical interpretation of work	95
6.3 A classic example involving work and heat	97
6.4 Special processes and relationships to the fundamental equation	98
6.5 Baths as idealized environments	101
6.6 Types of processes and implications from the second law	101
6.7 Heat engines	105
6.8 Thermodynamics of open, steady-flow systems	107
Problems	114
7 Legendre transforms and other potentials	123
7.1 New thermodynamic potentials from baths	123
7.2 Constant-temperature coupling to an energy bath	123
7.3 Complete thermodynamic information and natural variables	126
7.4 Legendre transforms: mathematical convention	128
7.5 Legendre transforms: thermodynamic convention	130
7.6 The Gibbs free energy	132
7.7 Physical rationale for Legendre transforms	133
7.8 Extremum principles with internal constraints	134
7.9 The enthalpy and other potentials	136
7.10 Integrated and derivative relations	137
7.11 Multicomponent and intensive versions	141
7.12 Summary and look ahead	142
Problems	143
8 Maxwell relations and measurable properties	149
8.1 Maxwell relations	149
8.2 Measurable quantities	151
8.3 General considerations for calculus manipulations	154
Problems	156
9 Gases	161
9.1 Microstates in monatomic ideal gases	161
9.2 Thermodynamic properties of ideal gases	165

9.3	Ideal gas mixtures	167
9.4	Nonideal or “imperfect” gases	170
9.5	Nonideal gas mixtures	171
	Problems	172
10	Phase equilibrium	176
10.1	Conditions for phase equilibrium	176
10.2	Implications for phase diagrams	181
10.3	Other thermodynamic behaviors at a phase transition	184
10.4	Types of phase equilibrium	187
10.5	Microscopic view of phase equilibrium	188
10.6	Order parameters and general features of phase equilibrium	194
	Problems	195
11	Stability	201
11.1	Metastability	201
11.2	Common tangent line perspective on phase equilibrium	202
11.3	Limits of metastability	205
11.4	Generalized stability criteria	209
	Problems	212
12	Solutions: fundamentals	217
12.1	Ideal solutions	217
12.2	Ideal vapor–liquid equilibrium and Raoult’s law	220
12.3	Boiling-point elevation	221
12.4	Freezing-point depression	224
12.5	Osmotic pressure	224
12.6	Binary mixing with interactions	227
12.7	Nonideal solutions in general	230
12.8	The Gibbs–Duhem relation	231
12.9	Partial molar quantities	233
	Problems	236
13	Solutions: advanced and special cases	246
13.1	Phenomenology of multicomponent vapor–liquid equilibrium	246
13.2	Models of multicomponent vapor–liquid equilibrium	248
13.3	Bubble- and dew-point calculations at constant pressure	250
13.4	Flash calculations at constant pressure and temperature	252
13.5	Relative volatility formulation	254
13.6	Nonideal mixtures	255
13.7	Constraints along mixture vapor–liquid phase boundaries	258
13.8	Phase equilibrium in polymer solutions	260
13.9	Strong electrolyte solutions	266
	Problems	274

14 Solids	280
14.1 General properties of solids	280
14.2 Solid–liquid equilibrium in binary mixtures	281
14.3 Solid–liquid equilibrium in multicomponent solutions	287
14.4 A microscopic view of perfect crystals	290
14.5 The Einstein model of perfect crystals	292
14.6 The Debye model of perfect crystals	296
Problems	300
15 The third law	305
15.1 Absolute entropies and absolute zero	305
15.2 Finite entropies and heat capacities at absolute zero	309
15.3 Entropy differences at absolute zero	310
15.4 Attainability of absolute zero	312
Problems	315
16 The canonical partition function	319
16.1 A review of basic statistical-mechanical concepts	319
16.2 Microscopic equilibrium in isolated systems	320
16.3 Microscopic equilibrium at constant temperature	321
16.4 Microstates and degrees of freedom	328
16.5 The canonical partition function for independent molecules	332
Problems	335
17 Fluctuations	343
17.1 Distributions in the canonical ensemble	343
17.2 The canonical distribution of energies	345
17.3 Magnitude of energy fluctuations	350
Problems	353
18 Statistical mechanics of classical systems	357
18.1 The classical canonical partition function	357
18.2 Microstate probabilities for continuous degrees of freedom	361
18.3 The Maxwell–Boltzmann distribution	368
18.4 The pressure in the canonical ensemble	372
18.5 The classical microcanonical partition function	375
Problems	376
19 Other ensembles	387
19.1 The isothermal–isobaric ensemble	387
19.2 The grand canonical ensemble	392
19.3 Generalities and the Gibbs entropy formula	396
Problems	397

20 Reaction equilibrium	404
20.1 A review of basic reaction concepts	404
20.2 Reaction equilibrium at the macroscopic level	405
20.3 Reactions involving ideal gases	407
20.4 Reactions involving ideal solutions	409
20.5 Temperature and pressure dependence of K_{eq}	410
20.6 Reaction equilibrium at the microscopic level	412
20.7 Fluctuations	414
Problems	417
21 Reaction coordinates and rates	425
21.1 Kinetics from statistical thermodynamics	425
21.2 Macroscopic considerations for reaction rates	426
21.3 Microscopic origins of rate coefficients	428
21.4 General considerations for rates of rare-event molecular processes	438
Problems	441
22 Molecular simulation methods	444
22.1 Basic elements of classical simulation models	445
22.2 Molecular-dynamics simulation methods	450
22.3 Computing properties	453
22.4 Simulations of bulk phases	457
22.5 Monte Carlo simulation methods	459
Problems	464
<i>Index</i>	470

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[More information](#)

Preface

Like so many texts, this book grew out of lecture notes and problems that I developed through teaching, specifically, graduate thermodynamics over the past seven years. These notes were originally motivated by my difficulty in finding a satisfactory introductory text to both classical thermodynamics and statistical mechanics that could be used for a quarter-long course for first-year chemical engineering graduate students. However, as the years pressed forward, it became apparent that there was a greater opportunity to construct a new presentation of these classic subjects that addressed the needs of the modern student. Namely, few existing books seem to provide an integrated view of both classical and molecular perspectives on thermodynamics, at a sufficient level of rigor to address graduate-level problems.

It has become clear to me that first-year graduate students respond best to a molecular-level “explanation” of the classic laws, at least upon initial discussion. For them this imparts a more intuitive understanding of thermodynamic potentials and, in particular, entropy and the second law. Moreover, students’ most frequent hurdles are conceptual in nature, not mathematical, and I sense that many older presentations are inaccessible to them because concepts are buried deep under patinas of unnecessarily complex notation and equations.

With this book, therefore, I aim for a different kind of storytelling than the conventional *classical first, statistical second* approach. Namely, I have endeavored to organize the material in a way that presents classical thermodynamics and statistical mechanics side-by-side throughout. In a manner of speaking, I have thus eschewed the venerable *postulatory approach* that is so central to the development of the classical theory, instead providing a bottom-up, molecular rationale for the three laws. This is not to say that I reject the former and its impressive elegance, or that I view it as an unnecessary component of a graduate-level education in thermodynamics. It is merely a pedagogical choice, as I strongly believe one can only truly appreciate the postulatory perspective once one has a “gut feel” and a solid foundation for thermodynamics, and this is best served by a molecular introduction. Moreover, the topics of modern graduate research are increasingly focused on the nanoscale, and therefore it is essential that all students understand exactly how macroscopic and microscopic thermodynamic ideas interweave.

At the same time, this book seeks to provide a contemporary exposure to these topics that is complementary to classic and more detailed texts in the chemical thermodynamics canon. Here, I place heavy emphasis on *concepts* rather than formalisms, mathematics, or applications. My experience has been that complex notation and long analyses of intricate models at the outset get in the way of students’ understanding of the basic conceptual foundations and physical behaviors. Therefore, I have tried to streamline notation and focus on simple qualitative models (e.g., lattice models) for building basic physical intuition and student confidence in model development and refinement. By the same token, this narrative does not try to be comprehensive in covering many applied

thermodynamic property models, which I feel are best left in existing and specialist texts. I also deliberately use a straightforward, casual voice for clarity.

I have included a number of problems at the end of each chapter, most of which are entirely original. Many of these are guided and multi-step problems that walk students through the analysis of different kinds of systems, including modern problems in biophysics and materials, for example. These are divided into three categories: *conceptual and thought problems* that address the basic origins, behaviors, and trends in various thermodynamic quantities; *fundamentals problems* that develop classic and general thermodynamic relations and equations; and, finally, *applied problems* that develop and analyze simple models of specific systems.

I owe tremendous thanks to the many students over the years in my group and course who have provided great amounts of feedback on my notes. Perhaps unbeknownst to them, it has been their questions, discussions, and epiphanies that have shaped this text more than anything else – inspiring a seemingly unending but happy circumstance of repeated revisions and improvements. I am also deeply indebted to my mentors Pablo, Thanos, Frank, and Ken, who not only chaperoned my own appreciation for thermodynamics, but also provided immaculate examples of clear and concise communication. Finally, I am profoundly fortunate to have the love and support of my family, and it is returned to them many times over.

As with any first edition, I am under no illusion that this book will be entirely free of errors, typographical or otherwise, despite the repeated edits it has received from many different eyes. I am grateful to future readers for pointing these out to me, and I welcome any form of feedback, positive or negative.

M.S.S.

Santa Barbara, CA

Reference tables

Table A Counting and combinatorics formulae

Description	Example	Formula
Number of ways to pick k ordered objects from n without replacement	How many ways are there to put k distinctly colored marbles in n separate buckets, with at most one marble per bucket?	${}^n P_k = \frac{n!}{(n-k)!}$
Number of ways to pick k unordered objects from n without replacement	How many ways are there to put k identical blue marbles in n separate buckets, with at most one marble per bucket?	${}^n C_k = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}$
Number of ways to pick k ordered objects from n with replacement	How many ways are there to put k distinctly-colored marbles in n separate buckets, with any number of marbles per bucket?	n^k
Number of ways to pick k unordered objects from n with replacement	How many ways are there to put k identical orange marbles in n separate buckets, with any number of marbles per bucket?	$\frac{(k+n-1)!}{k!(n-1)!}$
Number of ways to pick k_1 objects of type 1, k_2 of type 2, etc., out of $n = k_1 + k_2 + \dots$ in an unordered manner and without replacement	How many ways are there to put k_1 blue, k_2 orange, and k_3 red marbles in $k_1 + k_2 + k_3$ buckets, with at most one marble per bucket?	$\frac{n!}{\prod_i k_i!} = \frac{\left(\sum_i k_i\right)!}{\prod_i k_i!}$

Table B Useful integrals, expansions, and approximations

$\ln n! \approx n \ln n - n$ $n! \approx (n/e)^n$	$\int_0^\infty e^{-cx^2} dx = \frac{\pi^{1/2}}{2c^{1/2}}$
$e^x = \sum_{n=0}^\infty \frac{x^n}{n!}$	$\int_0^\infty x e^{-cx^2} dx = \frac{1}{2c}$
$(1+x)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!} x^k$	$\int_0^\infty x^2 e^{-cx^2} dx = \frac{\pi^{1/2}}{4c^{3/2}}$
$\int_0^\infty x^n e^{-x} dx = n! = \Gamma(n+1)$	$\int_0^\infty x^3 e^{-cx^2} dx = \frac{1}{2c^2}$
$\ln(1+x) \approx x$ for small x	$\int_0^\infty x^4 e^{-cx^2} dx = \frac{3\pi^{1/2}}{8c^{5/2}}$
$(1+x)^{-1} \approx 1 - x$ for small x	$\int_0^\infty x^n e^{-cx^2} dx = \frac{\pi^{1/2}(n-1)!!}{2^{n/2+1} c^{(n+1)/2}} \quad (n \text{ even})$

Table C Extensive thermodynamic potentials

Name	Independent variables	Differential form	Integrated form
Entropy	$S(E, V, \{N\})$	$dS = \frac{1}{T} dE + \frac{P}{T} dV - \sum_i \frac{\mu_i}{T} dN_i$	$S = \frac{E}{T} + \frac{PV}{T} - \sum_i \frac{\mu_i N_i}{T}$
Energy	$E(S, V, \{N\})$	$dE = T dS - P dV + \sum_i \mu_i dN_i$	$E = TS - PV + \sum_i \mu_i N_i$
Enthalpy	$H(S, P, \{N\})$	$dH = T dS + V dP + \sum_i \mu_i dN_i$	$H = E + PV = TS + \sum_i \mu_i N_i$
Helmholtz free energy	$A(T, V, \{N\})$	$dA = -S dT - P dV + \sum_i \mu_i dN_i$	$A = E - TS = -PV + \sum_i \mu_i N_i$
Gibbs free energy	$G(T, P, \{N\})$	$dG = -S dT + V dP + \sum_i \mu_i dN_i$	$G = E + PV - TS = A + PV = H - TS = \sum_i \mu_i N_i$

Table D Intensive per-particle thermodynamic potentials for single-component systems

Name	Independent variables	Differential form	Integrated relations
Entropy per particle	$s(e, v)$	$ds = \frac{1}{T} de + \frac{P}{T} dv$	$\frac{\mu}{T} = -s + \frac{e}{T} + \frac{Pv}{T}$
Energy per particle	$e(s, v)$	$de = T ds - P dv$	$\mu = e - Ts + Pv$
Enthalpy per particle	$h(s, P)$	$dh = T ds + v dP$	$h = e + Pv$ $\mu = h - Ts$
Helmholtz free energy per particle	$a(T, v)$	$da = -s dT - P dv$	$a = e - Ts$ $\mu = a + Pv$
Gibbs free energy per particle	$g(T, P)$	$dg = -s dT + v dP$	$g = e + Pv - Ts = a + Pv = h - Ts$ $\mu = g$

Table E Thermodynamic calculus manipulations

Name	Applies to	Functional form	Example
Inversion	Anything	$\left(\frac{\partial X}{\partial Y}\right)_Z = 1 / \left(\frac{\partial Y}{\partial X}\right)_Z$	$\left(\frac{\partial P}{\partial S}\right)_T = 1 / \left(\frac{\partial S}{\partial P}\right)_T$
Triple product rule	Anything	$\left(\frac{\partial X}{\partial Y}\right)_Z \left(\frac{\partial Z}{\partial X}\right)_Y \left(\frac{\partial Y}{\partial Z}\right)_X = -1$	$\left(\frac{\partial P}{\partial T}\right)_S = - \left(\frac{\partial S}{\partial T}\right)_P / \left(\frac{\partial S}{\partial P}\right)_T$
Addition of variable	Anything	$\left(\frac{\partial X}{\partial Y}\right)_Z = \left(\frac{\partial X}{\partial W}\right)_Z / \left(\frac{\partial W}{\partial Y}\right)_Z$	$\left(\frac{\partial H}{\partial V}\right)_P = \left(\frac{\partial H}{\partial T}\right)_P / \left(\frac{\partial V}{\partial T}\right)_P$
Non-natural derivative	Anything	$Z(X, Y) \rightarrow \left(\frac{\partial Z}{\partial Y}\right)_W = \left(\frac{\partial Z}{\partial X}\right)_Y \left(\frac{\partial X}{\partial Y}\right)_W + \left(\frac{\partial Z}{\partial Y}\right)_X$	$\left(\frac{\partial E}{\partial V}\right)_P = \left(\frac{\partial E}{\partial S}\right)_V \left(\frac{\partial S}{\partial V}\right)_P + \left(\frac{\partial E}{\partial V}\right)_S = T \left(\frac{\partial S}{\partial V}\right)_P - P$
Potential transformation	Potentials	$\frac{\partial}{\partial X} \left(\frac{F_1}{X}\right)_Y = -\frac{F_2}{X^2}$	$\frac{\partial}{\partial T} \left(\frac{A}{T}\right)_V = -\frac{E}{T^2}$
Maxwell relations	Potential second derivatives	$\left(\frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial X \partial Y}\right) = \left(\frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial Y \partial X}\right) \rightarrow \left(\frac{\partial A}{\partial X}\right)_Y = \left(\frac{\partial B}{\partial Y}\right)_X$	$\left(\frac{\partial S}{\partial P}\right)_T = - \left(\frac{\partial V}{\partial T}\right)_P$

The term “anything” indicates any complete state function.

Table F Measurable quantities

Name	Notation and definition
Pressure	P
Temperature	T
Volume	V
Total mass of species i	m_i
Total moles of species i	n_i
Molecular weight of species i	\mathcal{M}_i
Molecules of species i	$N_i = m_i/\mathcal{M}_i$
Mole fraction of species i	x_i, y_i OR z_i
Enthalpy or latent heat of phase change <i>per particle or per mole</i>	ΔH_{latent} Δh_{latent}
Constant-volume heat capacity <i>per particle or per mole</i>	$C_V \equiv \left(\frac{\partial E}{\partial T}\right)_{V,N} = T \left(\frac{\partial S}{\partial T}\right)_{V,N}$ $c_V \equiv \left(\frac{\partial e}{\partial T}\right)_v = T \left(\frac{\partial s}{\partial T}\right)_v$
Constant-pressure heat capacity <i>per particle or per mole</i>	$C_P \equiv \left(\frac{\partial H}{\partial T}\right)_{P,N} = T \left(\frac{\partial S}{\partial T}\right)_{P,N}$ $c_P \equiv \left(\frac{\partial h}{\partial T}\right)_P = T \left(\frac{\partial s}{\partial T}\right)_P$
Isothermal compressibility	$\kappa_T \equiv -\frac{1}{V} \left(\frac{\partial V}{\partial P}\right)_{T,N} = -\left(\frac{\partial \ln V}{\partial P}\right)_{T,N} = -\left(\frac{\partial \ln v}{\partial P}\right)_T$
Thermal expansivity or thermal expansion coefficient	$\alpha_P \equiv \frac{1}{V} \left(\frac{\partial V}{\partial T}\right)_{P,N} = \left(\frac{\partial \ln V}{\partial T}\right)_{P,N} = \left(\frac{\partial \ln v}{\partial T}\right)_P$

Table G Common single-component statistical-mechanical ensembles

Property	Microcanonical	Canonical	Grand canonical	Isothermal–isobaric
Constant conditions	E, V, N	T, V, N	T, V, μ	T, P, N
Fluctuations	None	E	E, N	E, V
Microstate probabilities	$\wp_m = \frac{\delta_{E_m, E}}{\Omega(E, V, N)}$	$\wp_m = \frac{e^{-\beta E_m}}{Q(T, V, N)}$	$\wp_m = \frac{e^{-\beta E_m + \beta \mu N_m}}{\Xi(T, V, \mu)}$	$\wp_m = \frac{e^{-\beta E_m - \beta P V_m}}{\Delta(T, P, N)}$
Partition function	$\Omega(E, V, N) = \sum_n \delta_{E_n, E}$	$Q(T, V, N) = \sum_n e^{-\beta E_n}$	$\Xi(T, V, \mu) = \sum_N \sum_n e^{-\beta E_n + \beta \mu N}$	$\Delta(T, P, N) = \sum_V \sum_n e^{-\beta E_n - \beta P V}$
Relations to other partition functions	None	$Q = \sum_E e^{-\beta E} \Omega(E, V, N)$	$\Xi = \sum_N \lambda^N Q(T, V, N)$ $= \sum_N \sum_E \lambda^N e^{-\beta E} \Omega(E, V, N)$ where $\lambda \equiv \exp(\beta \mu)$	$\Delta = \sum_V e^{-\beta P V} Q(T, V, N)$ $= \sum_V \sum_E e^{-\beta E - \beta P V} \Omega(E, V, N)$
Potential	$S = k_B \ln \Omega(E, V, N)$	$A = -k_B T \ln Q(T, V, N)$	$PV = k_B T \ln \Xi(T, V, \mu)$	$G = -k_B T \ln \Delta(T, P, N)$
Classical partition function	$\Omega = \frac{1}{h^{3N} N!} \int \delta[H(\mathbf{p}^N, \mathbf{r}^N) - E] d\mathbf{p}^N d\mathbf{r}^N$	$Q = \frac{Z(T, V, N)}{\Lambda^{3N} N!}$ $Z \equiv \int e^{-\beta U(\mathbf{r}^N)} d\mathbf{r}^N$ $\Lambda \equiv [h^2 / (2\pi m k_B T)]^{1/2}$	$\Xi = \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^N Z(T, V, N)}{\Lambda^{3N} N!}$ where $\lambda \equiv \exp(\beta \mu)$	$\Delta = \frac{1}{\Lambda^{3N} N!} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-\beta P V} Z(T, V, N) dV$

Sums over n are sums over all microstates at a given V and N .

Sums over N are from 0 to ∞ , sums over V are from 0 to ∞ , and sums over E are from $-\infty$ to ∞ .

Classical partition functions are given for a monatomic system of indistinguishable, structureless particles.

Table H Fundamental physical constants

Name	Notation and definition
Boltzmann constant	$k_B = 1.38065 \times 10^{-23} \text{ J/K}$
Gas constant	$R = 8.31446 \text{ J/mol} \cdot \text{K}$
Avogadro constant	$N_A = 6.02214 \times 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1}$
Elementary unit of charge	$e = 1.60218 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$
Planck constant	$h = 6.62607 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J} \cdot \text{s}$
Reduced Planck constant	$\hbar = h/(2\pi) = 1.05457 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J} \cdot \text{s}$
Standard gravitational acceleration	$g = 9.80665 \text{ m/s}^2$
Vacuum permittivity	$\epsilon_0 = 8.8542 \times 10^{-12} \text{ C}^2/\text{J} \cdot \text{m}$