

MAXWELL - BOLZMANN DISTRIBUTION LAW —

In Maxwell-Boltzmann distribution law, the particles are distinguishable.

Let  $N$  particles in different cells, the  $N$  particles can be put in  $N!$  ways. Assume that the  $i$ th cell has  $n_i$  particles in  $g_i$  different levels. The first particles can occupy  $g_i$  levels in  $g_i$  different ways, the second particle in  $g_i$  ways, the  $n_i$  particles can third & particles in  $g_i$  ways and so on.

Therefore, in  $(g_i)^{n_i}$  ways, the  $n_i$  particles can occupy  $g_i$  levels. The arrangements among  $n_i$  identical particles do not create new microstates and  $n_i$  particles can be distributed in  $n_i!$  ways. So, if there are  $K$  no. of groups, then the total no. of microstates is

$$\Omega\{g_i, n_i\} = N! \prod_{i=1}^K \frac{(g_i)^{n_i}}{n_i!} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

Thus,  $\Omega\{g_i, n_i\}$  denotes the no. of microstates for distinguishable particles. The  $g_i$  different ways is called the degeneracy in the  $i$ th cell.

We know that the total No. of particles is constant and for isolated system the total energy  $U$  is also constant.

Thus,

$$N = \sum_i n_i = \text{constant} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

$$\text{and } U = \sum_i n_i \epsilon_i = \text{constant} \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

where  $\epsilon_i$  is the energy of the  $i$ th particles.

The most probable distribution (Maximum  $\Omega(n_i, g_i)$  with respect to  $n_i$ )

$$\begin{aligned} \ln \Omega\{g_i, n_i\} &= \ln N! + \sum n_i \ln g_i - \sum \ln n_i! \\ &= N \ln N - N + \sum n_i \ln g_i - \sum n_i \ln n_i + \sum n_i \quad \text{--- (4)} \end{aligned}$$

(from Stirling approximation,  $\ln x! \approx n \ln x - x$ )

We maximize  $\Omega\{g_i, n_i\}$  with respect to  $n_i$  subject to the conditions.

$$\delta N = \sum_i \delta n_i = 0 \quad \text{--- (5)}$$

$$\text{and } \delta U = \sum_i \epsilon_i \delta n_i = 0 \quad \text{--- (6)}$$

$$\therefore \delta(\ln \Omega) = \sum_i (\ln g_i - \ln n_i) \delta n_i \quad \text{--- (7)}$$

We introduce two Lagrange's undetermined multipliers  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , such that

$$\sum_i [\ln g_i - \ln n_i - (\alpha + \beta \epsilon_i)] \delta n_i = 0 \quad \text{--- (8)}$$

Since,  $\delta n_i$  is arbitrary, we have

$$\ln \left( \frac{g_i}{n_i} \right) = (\alpha + \beta \epsilon_i)$$

$$n_i, \bar{n}_i = g_i \cdot e^{-(\alpha + \beta \epsilon_i)} \quad \text{--- (9)}$$

Therefore, the no. of particles per state the average occupation  $\bar{n}_i$ .

$$f(\epsilon_i) = \frac{\bar{n}_i}{g_i} = e^{-(\alpha + \beta \epsilon_i)} \quad \text{--- (10)}$$

This is called Maxwell-Boltzmann distribution function.

The constant  $\alpha$  is determined by the normalised condition in terms of  $\beta$  as

$$N = \sum_i \bar{n}_i = \sum_i g_i \cdot e^{-(\alpha + \beta \epsilon_i)} \quad \text{--- (11)}$$

$$\text{or, } Ne^\alpha = \sum_i g_i \cdot e^{-\beta \epsilon_i}$$

We replace summation by integration, where  $g_i$  is the density of states is given by

$$g(p) dp = \frac{4\pi V p^2 dp}{h^3}$$

$$\therefore Ne^\alpha = \frac{4\pi V}{h^3} \int_0^\infty p^2 dp e^{-\frac{\beta p^2}{2m}} = \frac{V}{\lambda^3} \quad \text{--- (12)}$$

$$\text{Where } \lambda = \sqrt{\frac{h^2 \beta}{2\pi m}}$$

We can determine  $\beta$  from the requirement of an ideal gas

$$U = \sum \epsilon_i \bar{n}_i = e^{-\alpha} \sum \epsilon_i g_i e^{-\beta \epsilon_i}$$

$$= \frac{3}{2} NK_B T \quad \text{--- (13)}$$

$$\therefore e^{-\frac{\alpha V}{h^3}} \int_0^\infty \left(\frac{p^2}{2m}\right) 4\pi p^2 e^{-\frac{\beta p^2}{2m}} dp = \frac{3}{2} NK_B T$$

$$\approx \frac{3}{2} NK_B T$$

$$\text{or, } N \left(\frac{h^2 \beta}{2\pi m}\right)^{3/2} \frac{1}{h^3} \left(\frac{2\pi}{m}\right) \int_0^\infty p^4 e^{-\beta p^2/2m} dp = \frac{3}{2} NK_B T$$

$$\text{We put } \sqrt{\frac{\beta}{2m}} p = x$$

$$\therefore dp = \sqrt{\frac{2m}{\beta}} dx$$

$$\therefore \left(\frac{\beta}{2\pi m}\right)^{3/2} \left(\frac{2\pi}{m}\right) \left(\sqrt{\frac{2\pi m}{\beta}}\right)^4 \sqrt{\frac{2\pi m}{\beta}} \int_0^{\infty} x^4 e^{-x^2} A \cdot x = \frac{3}{2} K_B T$$

We, get

$$\left(\frac{\beta}{2\pi m}\right)^{3/2} \cdot \left(\frac{2\pi}{m}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{2\pi}{m}\right)^{3/2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \Gamma\left(\frac{5}{2}\right) = \frac{3}{2} K_B T$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{\beta} = K_B T \quad \text{or, } \boxed{\beta = \frac{1}{K_B T}}$$

$$\therefore N e^{\alpha} = \frac{V}{\lambda^3}$$

where  $\lambda = \left(\frac{h^2}{2\pi m K_B T}\right)^{1/2}$  ————— (14)

Entropy of ideal Boltzmann Gas :-

The entropy of Boltzmann gas is given by Boltzmann relation.

$$S = K_B \ln \Omega \{g_i, n_i\} \text{ ————— (15)}$$

$$= K_B \left[ N \ln N + \sum_i n_i \ln \left(\frac{g_i}{n_i}\right) \right]$$

$$= K_B \left[ N \ln N + \sum_i n_i (\alpha + \beta \epsilon_i) \right]$$

$$= K_B \left[ N \ln N - N \ln A + \frac{U}{K_B T} \right], \quad \left\{ \text{where } A = e^{\alpha}, \text{ \& } N = \sum n_i \right\}$$

$$= \sum g_i e^{(\alpha + \beta \epsilon_i)} = A \sum g_i e^{-\beta \epsilon_i}$$

$$\therefore \ln N = \ln A + \ln \sum g_i e^{-\beta \epsilon_i} \text{ ————— (16)}$$

$$\therefore S = N K_B \ln \sum g_i e^{-\beta \epsilon_i} + \frac{U}{T}$$

We can derive the ideal gas equation in the following ways:-

$$S = K_B \left[ N \ln N - N \ln A + \frac{U}{K_B T} \right] \quad \text{--- (17)}$$

$$\text{where, } A = \bar{\epsilon}^\alpha = \frac{V}{N \lambda^3} = \left( \frac{V}{N} \right) \left( \frac{2\pi m K_B T}{h^2} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore S &= K_B \left[ N \ln N + N \ln V - N \ln N + N \ln \left( \frac{2\pi m K_B T}{h^2} \right) + \frac{U}{K_B T} \right] \\ &= K_B \left[ N \ln V + N \ln \left( \frac{2\pi m K_B T}{h^2} \right) + \frac{U}{K_B T} \right] \quad \text{--- (18)} \end{aligned}$$

from 1st law of thermodynamics

$$dU = T ds - P dv \quad \text{--- (19)}$$

$$\therefore P = T \left( \frac{\partial S}{\partial V} \right)_U = \frac{N K_B T}{V} \quad \text{--- (20)}$$

or,  $PV = N K_B T$  which is the ideal gas equation.

The relation,

$$S = N K_B \left[ \ln V + \frac{3}{2} \ln T + \frac{3}{2} \ln \left( \frac{2\pi m K_B}{h^2} \right) - \ln N + \frac{5}{2} \right] \quad \text{--- (21)}$$

This equation is called Sackur-Tetrode equation.

This equation was experimentally verified as the correct entropy of an ideal gas at high temperatures.

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