

Chapter 10

Identical Particles

2. Energy Distribution Function

Energy distribution function $f(E_i)$ is the average number of particles per level in the energy

states E_i . Therefore $f(E_i) = \frac{n_i}{g_i} = \frac{N}{V} \left(\frac{h^2}{2\pi m k_B T} \right)^{3/2} e^{-E_i / k_B T}$

Energy distribution in different dimension

- $f(E) = \frac{N}{V} \left(\frac{h^2}{2\pi m k_B T} \right)^{3/2} e^{-E / k_B T}$ distribution function in three dimension where V is volume.
- $f(E) = \frac{N}{A} \left(\frac{h^2}{2\pi m k_B T} \right) e^{-E / k_B T}$ distribution function in two dimensions where A is area.
- $f(E) = \frac{N}{L} \left(\frac{h^2}{2\pi m k_B T} \right)^{1/2} e^{-E / k_B T}$ distribution function in one dimension. where L is length.

The number of particles $n(E)dE$ having energies in the range from E to $E + dE$ is

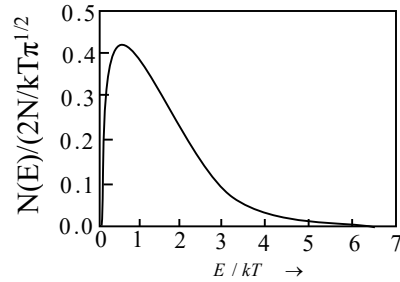
$n(E)dE = f(E)g(E)dE$ where $f(E)$ is distribution function and $g(E)dE$ is number of level(quantum state) in the range of E to $E + dE$

- $g(E)dE$ in three dimension $g(E)dE = 2\pi V \left(\frac{2m}{h^2}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}} E^{\frac{1}{2}} dE$ where V is volume of three dimensional space
- $g(E)dE$ in two dimension $g(E)dE = \pi A \left(\frac{2m}{h^2}\right) dE$ where A is area of the two dimensional space
- $g(E)dE$ in one dimension $g(E)dE = L \left(\frac{2m}{h^2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} E^{-\frac{1}{2}} dE$ where L is area of the one dimensional space

The number of particles $n(E)dE$ having energies in the range from E to $E + dE$ in three-dimensional space

$$n(E)dE = \frac{N}{V} \left(\frac{h^2}{2\pi m k_B T}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}} e^{-E/k_B T} 2\pi V \left(\frac{2m}{h^2}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}} E^{\frac{1}{2}} dE$$

$$= \frac{2\pi N}{(\pi k_B T)^{\frac{3}{2}}} E^{\frac{1}{2}} e^{-E/k_B T} dE$$



This is known as the Maxwell-Boltzmann energy distribution law for an-ideal gas.

Where $\lambda = \frac{h}{\sqrt{2\pi m k_B T}}$ is defined as the thermal wavelength.

Average Energy

For the Maxwell-Boltzmann energy distribution law, average energy $\langle E \rangle$ of the particles is

$$\langle E \rangle = \frac{\int_0^{\infty} E n(E) dE}{\int_0^{\infty} n(E) dE}$$

$$\langle E \rangle = \frac{1}{N} \frac{2\pi N}{(\pi k_B T)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \int_0^{\infty} E^{\frac{3}{2}} e^{-E/k_B T} dE$$

Let $E = k_B T x$ and therefore, $dE = k_B T dx$ Then we have

$$E = \frac{2\pi}{(\pi k_B T)^{3/2}} \int_0^\infty (k_B T x)^{3/2} e^{-x} k_B T dx = \frac{2k_B T}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^\infty x^{3/2} e^{-x} dx = \frac{3}{2} k_B T$$

Hence, the average of a particle is $\frac{1}{2} k_B T$ per degree of freedom, for three degree of freedom it

is $\frac{3}{2} k_B T$

Example: If N number of distinguishable particle is kept into two dimensional box of area A what is average energy at temperature A .

Solution: for two dimensional system $g(E)dE = \pi A \left(\frac{2m}{h^2} \right) dE$ and distribution

Function is given by $f(E) = \frac{N}{A} \left(\frac{h^2}{2\pi m k_B T} \right) e^{-E/k_B T}$

$$\langle E \rangle = \frac{\int_0^\infty E n(E) dE}{\int_0^\infty n(E) dE} \quad \text{where } n(E) dE = f(E) g(E) dE = \frac{N}{A} \left(\frac{h^2}{2\pi m k_B T} \right) e^{-E/k_B T} \pi A \left(\frac{2m}{h^2} \right) dE$$

$$\langle E \rangle = k_B T$$