

## Translational partition function

Boltzmann statistics (corrected)  $Q(N, V, T) = \frac{[q(N, V)]^N}{N!}$

$$q = \sum_i e^{-\varepsilon_i/kT} \quad \text{molecular partition function}$$

sum over single-  
molecule states

### Separation of molecular partition function

$$\varepsilon = \varepsilon_{\text{trans}} + \varepsilon_{\text{rot}} + \varepsilon_{\text{vib}} + \varepsilon_{\text{elec}} + \varepsilon_{\text{spin}} = \varepsilon_{\text{trans}} + \varepsilon_{\text{int}}$$

$$q = \sum_i e^{-\varepsilon_i/kT} = \sum_i e^{-(\varepsilon_{\text{trans}i} + \varepsilon_{\text{int}i})/kT}$$

The sum includes every possible combination of translational and internal quantum numbers.

Consider the product

$$q_{\text{trans}} q_{\text{int}} = \sum_i e^{-\beta \varepsilon_{\text{trans}i}} \sum_i e^{-\beta \varepsilon_{\text{int}i}} = (e^{-\beta \varepsilon_{\text{trans}1}} + e^{-\beta \varepsilon_{\text{trans}2}} + e^{-\beta \varepsilon_{\text{trans}3}} + \dots) (e^{-\beta \varepsilon_{\text{int}1}} + e^{-\beta \varepsilon_{\text{int}2}} + e^{-\beta \varepsilon_{\text{int}3}} + \dots)$$

$$e^{-\beta(\varepsilon_{\text{trans}1} + \varepsilon_{\text{int}1})} + e^{-\beta(\varepsilon_{\text{trans}1} + \varepsilon_{\text{int}2})} + \dots$$

The sum includes every possible combination of translational and internal quantum numbers!

The separation will be valid as long as the energies are simply additive.

### Separation of thermodynamic contributions

We can write

$$Q = q^N / N! = Q_{\text{trans}} Q_{\text{int}} = (q_{\text{trans}}^N / N!) q_{\text{int}}^N$$

$$A = A_{\text{trans}} + A_{\text{int}} = (-NkT \ln q_{\text{trans}} + kT \ln N!) - NkT \ln q_{\text{int}}$$

Thermodynamic contributions are additive

## Translational partition function

Translational energies are solutions to Schrödinger equation for particle in a box of dimension  $a \times b \times c$

Quantum numbers  $n_x, n_y, n_z$

$$\varepsilon(n_x, n_y, n_z) = \frac{h^2}{8m} \left( \frac{n_x^2}{a^2} + \frac{n_y^2}{b^2} + \frac{n_z^2}{c^2} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} q_{\text{trans}} &= \sum_{n_x, n_y, n_z} e^{-\varepsilon(n_x, n_y, n_z)/kT} = \sum_{n_x=1}^{\infty} \sum_{n_y=1}^{\infty} \sum_{n_z=1}^{\infty} \exp \left[ -\frac{h^2}{8mkT} \left( \frac{n_x^2}{a^2} + \frac{n_y^2}{b^2} + \frac{n_z^2}{c^2} \right) \right] \\ &= \sum_{n_x=1}^{\infty} \exp \left( -\frac{h^2 n_x^2}{8mkT a^2} \right) \sum_{n_y=1}^{\infty} \exp \left( -\frac{h^2 n_y^2}{8mkT b^2} \right) \sum_{n_z=1}^{\infty} \exp \left( -\frac{h^2 n_z^2}{8mkT c^2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Need to solve sums

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \exp \left( -\frac{h^2 n^2}{8mkT a^2} \right) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \exp \left( -\frac{h^2 n^2}{8mkT a^2} \right) - 1 \approx \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \exp \left( -\frac{h^2 n^2}{8mkT a^2} \right)$$

Now approximate sum as integral:

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \exp \left( -\frac{h^2 n^2}{8mkT a^2} \right) \approx \int_0^{\infty} dn \exp \left( -\frac{h^2 n^2}{8mkT a^2} \right) = \left( \frac{2\pi mkT a^2}{h^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\text{since } \int_0^{\infty} dn \exp(-g^2 n^2) = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2g} \text{ with } g = \left( \frac{h^2}{8mkT a^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

So

$$q_{\text{trans}} = \left( \frac{2\pi mkT a^2}{h^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left( \frac{2\pi mkT b^2}{h^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left( \frac{2\pi mkT c^2}{h^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} = \left( \frac{2\pi mkT}{h^2} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} abc$$

$$q_{\text{trans}} = \left( \frac{2\pi mkT}{h^2} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} V$$

where  $V = abc$

We now have  $q_{\text{trans}}(V, T)$  in terms of quantities that we know

Example: 1 mol  $\text{N}_2$  at 1 atm, 273 K:

$$m = \frac{0.028 \text{ kg/mol}}{6 \times 10^{23} / \text{mol}} = 4.7 \times 10^{-26} \text{ kg} \quad V = 22.4 \text{ l} = 22.4 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3$$

$$q_{\text{trans}} = \left[ \frac{2\pi (4.7 \times 10^{-26} \text{ kg})(1.38 \times 10^{-23} \text{ J/K})(300 \text{ K})}{(6.6 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J-s})^2} \right]^{\frac{3}{2}} (22.4 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3) = 3.3 \times 10^{30}$$

$$\frac{N}{q_{\text{trans}}} = \frac{6 \times 10^{23}}{3.3 \times 10^{30}} = 1.8 \times 10^{-7}$$

$$\frac{\bar{n}_i}{q} = \frac{N e^{-\beta \epsilon_i}}{q} \ll 1. \text{ Boltzmann statistics are fine for molecules at room } T.$$

How about electrons? Assume gas of same density

$$m_e = 5 \times 10^{-7} \text{ kg/mol} \quad \frac{q_{\text{trans}}^e}{q_{\text{trans}}^{\text{N}_2}} = \left( \frac{5 \times 10^{-7}}{0.028} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} = 7.5 \times 10^{-8}$$

$$q_{\text{trans}}^e = q_{\text{trans}}^{\text{N}_2} (7.5 \times 10^{-8}) = (3.3 \times 10^{30})(7.5 \times 10^{-8}) = 2.5 \times 10^{23} \quad \frac{N}{q_{\text{trans}}^e} = \frac{6 \times 10^{23}}{2.5 \times 10^{23}} = 2.4$$

Definitely not  $\ll 1$ ! Electrons must be treated with Fermi-Dirac statistics.

Calculation of macroscopic thermodynamic properties from microscopic energy levels:  $q_{\text{trans}}$

$$q_{\text{trans}} = \left( \frac{2\pi m k T}{h^2} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} V$$

$$Q_{\text{trans}} = \frac{q_{\text{trans}}^N}{N!} = \frac{1}{N!} \left[ \frac{(2\pi m k T)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{h^3} V \right]^N$$

Translational contribution to energy

$$E = kT^2 \left( \frac{\partial \ln Q}{\partial T} \right)_{N,V}$$

$$\ln Q_{\text{trans}} = -\ln N! + \frac{3}{2} N \ln T + N \ln \left[ \frac{(2\pi mk)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{h^3} V \right]$$

$$\left( \frac{\partial \ln Q_{\text{trans}}}{\partial T} \right)_{N,V} = \frac{3}{2} \frac{N}{T}$$

$$E = kT^2 \left( \frac{3}{2} \frac{N}{T} \right)$$

$$E = \frac{3}{2} NkT = \frac{3}{2} RT$$

average translational energy per mole

$$E = \frac{3}{2} kT$$

average translational energy per molecule

Translational contribution to pressure

$$p = - \left( \frac{\partial A}{\partial V} \right)_{T,N} = kT \left( \frac{\partial \ln Q_{\text{trans}}}{\partial V} \right)_{T,N}$$

$$\ln Q_{\text{trans}} = -\ln N! + N \ln V + N \ln \left[ \frac{(2\pi mkT)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{h^3} \right]$$

$$\left( \frac{\partial \ln Q_{\text{trans}}}{\partial V} \right)_{N,V} = \frac{N}{V}$$

$$p = kT \frac{N}{V}$$

$$pV = NkT = nRT$$