

$$p(p_x) = \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{4\pi m}} e^{-1/2} \right) \left(\sqrt{N} e^{1/2} \right) \frac{1}{\sqrt{3N \langle \epsilon \rangle}} e^{-\epsilon/2 \langle \epsilon \rangle}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi m \langle \epsilon \rangle}} e^{-\epsilon/2 \langle \epsilon \rangle}$$

Now use $\epsilon = p_x^2/2m$ and $\langle \epsilon \rangle = \langle p_x^2 \rangle / 2m$.

$$p(p_x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi \langle p_x^2 \rangle}} e^{-p_x^2/2 \langle p_x^2 \rangle}$$

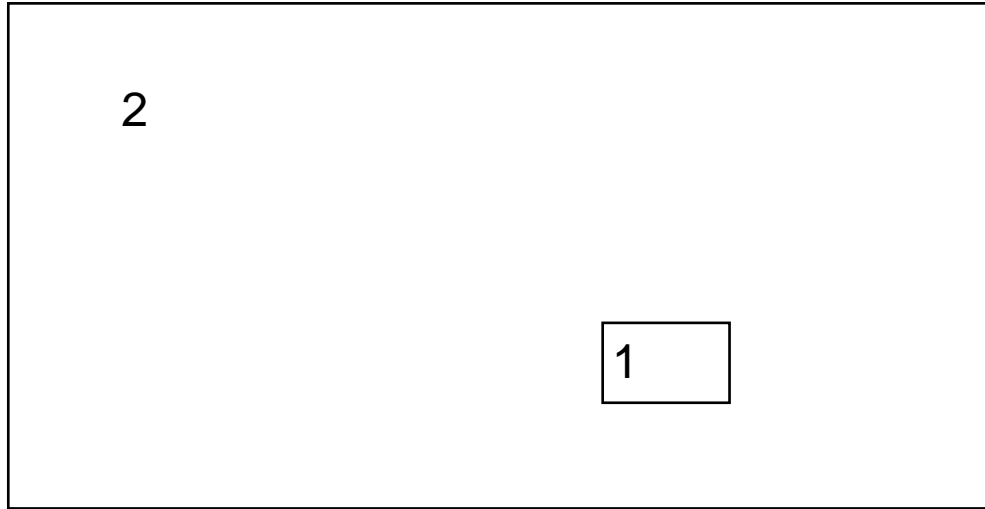
Homework problem on classical harmonic oscillators

$$p(p_i, q_i) = \frac{1}{(2\pi/\omega) \langle \epsilon \rangle} \exp[-\epsilon / \langle \epsilon \rangle]$$
$$= \frac{1}{(2\pi/\omega) kT} \exp[-p_i^2 / 2mkT] \exp[-(m\omega^2 / 2kT) q_i^2]$$

= ...

Ensembles

- Microcanonical: E and N fixed
Starting point for all of statistical mechanics
Difficult to obtain results for specific systems
- Canonical: N fixed, T specified; E varies
Workhorse of statistical mechanics
- Grand Canonical: T and μ specified; E and N vary
Used when the the particle number is not fixed



1 IS THE SUBSYSTEM OF INTEREST.

2, MUCH LARGER, IS THE REMAINDER OR THE "BATH".

ENERGY CAN FLOW BETWEEN 1 AND 2.

THE TOTAL, $1+2$, IS ISOLATED AND REPRESENTED BY A MICROCANONICAL ENSEMBLE.

For the entire system (microcanonical) one has

$$p(\text{system in state } X) = \frac{\text{volume of accessible phase space consistent with } X}{\Omega(E)}$$

In particular, for our case

$$\begin{aligned} p(\{p_1, q_1\}) &\equiv p(\text{subsystem at } \{p_1, q_1\}; \text{ remainder undetermined}) \\ &= \frac{\Omega_1(\{p_1, q_1\})\Omega_2(E - E_1)}{\Omega(E)} \end{aligned}$$

$$k \ln p(\{p_1, q_1\}) = \underbrace{k \ln \Omega_1}_{k \ln 1 = 0} + \underbrace{k \ln \Omega_2(E - E_1)}_{S_2(E - E_1)} - \underbrace{k \ln \Omega(E)}_{S(E)}$$

$$S_2(E - E_1) \approx S_2(E) - \underbrace{\frac{\partial S_2(E_2)}{\partial E_2}}_{\text{evaluated at } E_2 = E} E_1$$

$$k \ln p(\{p_1, q_1\}) = \underbrace{-\frac{\mathcal{H}_1(\{p_1, q_1\})}{T}} + \underbrace{S_2(E) - S(E)}$$

The first term on the right depends on the specific state of the subsystem.

The remaining terms on the right depend on the reservoir and the average properties of the subsystem.

In all cases, including those where the system is too small for thermodynamics to apply,

$$p(\{p_1, q_1\}) \propto \exp\left[-\frac{\mathcal{H}_1(\{p_1, q_1\})}{kT}\right]$$
$$= \frac{\exp\left[-\frac{\mathcal{H}_1(\{p_1, q_1\})}{kT}\right]}{\int \exp\left[-\frac{\mathcal{H}_1(\{p_1, q_1\})}{kT}\right] \{dp_1, dq_1\}}$$

If thermodynamics does apply, one can go further.

$$S(E) = S_1(\langle E_1 \rangle) + S_2(\langle E_2 \rangle)$$

$$S_2(E) - S(E) =$$

$$\approx \underbrace{\frac{S_2(E) - S_2(\langle E_2 \rangle)}{\partial S_2(E_2)/\partial E_2}}_{\langle E_1 \rangle} = \langle E_1 \rangle / T - S_1(\langle E_1 \rangle)$$

$$k \ln p(\{p_1, q_1\}) = -\frac{\mathcal{H}_1(\{p_1, q_1\})}{T} + \frac{\langle E_1 \rangle}{T} - S_1$$

$$p(\{p_1, q_1\}) = \underbrace{\exp\left[\frac{(\langle E_1 \rangle - TS_1)}{kT}\right]}_{\equiv 1/Z} \exp\left[-\frac{\mathcal{H}_1(\{p_1, q_1\})}{kT}\right]$$

$$\langle E_1 \rangle - TS_1 = U_1 - T_1 S_1 = F_1$$

$$p(\{p, q\}) = Z^{-1} \exp\left[-\frac{\mathcal{H}(\{p, q\})}{kT}\right]$$

Z is called the partition function.

$$\begin{aligned} Z_N(T, V) &= \int \exp\left[-\frac{\mathcal{H}(\{p, q\})}{kT}\right] \{dp, dq\} \\ &= \exp\left[-\frac{(E - TS)}{kT}\right] = \exp\left[-\frac{F(T, V, N)}{kT}\right] \end{aligned}$$

In the canonical ensemble, the partition function is the source of thermodynamic information.

$$F(T, V, N) = -kT \ln Z_N(T, V)$$

$$S(T, V, N) = - \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial T} \right)_{V, N}$$

$$P(T, V, N) = - \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial V} \right)_{T, N}$$