

Thermodynamics: Examples for chapter 8.

1. Derive expressions for C_V and C_P using the ideal gas result for internal energy $U = \frac{3}{2}nRT$.

Solution:

$$C_V = \left(\frac{\partial U}{\partial T} \right)_V = \frac{3}{2}nR$$

$$C_P = \left(\frac{\partial H}{\partial T} \right)_P = \frac{5}{2}nR$$

In the latter equation we have use the fact that $H = U + PV = U + nRT = \frac{5}{2}nRT$.

2. Derive the expression for entropy S using the ideal gas partition function.

Solution:

Entropy is given by:

$$S = \frac{U}{T} + k \ln(Z_{tr})$$

where we need to use the following (N is number of atoms):

$$U = \frac{3}{2}NkT$$

$$\ln(Z_{tr}) = N \times \left[\frac{3}{2} \ln(2\pi mk/h^2) + \frac{3}{2} \ln(T) + \ln(V) \right] - \ln(N!)$$

Inserting these into the expression for entropy, we get:

$$S = \frac{3}{2}Nk + Nk \times \ln \left[\left(\frac{2\pi mkT}{h^2} \right)^{3/2} \right] + \ln \left(\frac{V^{Nk}}{N!^k} \right)$$

To simplify this expression we use $N! = N^N/e^N$:

$$S = \frac{3}{2}nK + Nk \times \ln \left[\left(\frac{2\pi mkT}{h^2} \right)^{3/2} + \ln \left(\frac{V}{N} \right) + \ln(1) \right]$$

This further simplifies as:

$$S = nK \left\{ \ln \left[\left(\frac{2\pi mkT}{h^2} \right)^{3/2} \times \frac{V}{N} \right] + \frac{5}{2} \right\}$$

3. Consider 2 mol of $N_2(g)$ at 2 bar pressure and 209.18 K temperature. Calculate U , H , and S using the statistical thermodynamics expressions.

Solution:

The mass of N_2 can be calculated from the molar mass:

$$m = \frac{M_{N_2}}{N_A} = \frac{28.01 \times 10^{-3} \text{ kg mol}^{-1}}{6.022 \times 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1}} = 4.651 \times 10^{-26} \text{ kg}$$

The internal energy is given by:

$$U = \frac{3}{2}RT = 3.72 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$$

and the entropy (in terms of moles rather than number of atoms):

$$\begin{aligned} S &= R \left(\frac{5}{2} + \ln \left(\frac{q_t}{N_A} \right) \right) = 8.315 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1} (2.5 + \ln (5.829 \times 10^6)) \\ &= 150.3 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

where $q_t = \left(\frac{2\pi mkT}{h^2} \right)^{3/2} V = 3.510 \times 10^{30}$.
