

Problem set 3
FYS4130 at UiO Spring 2014

January 28, 2014

1 Harmonic oscillator

Consider a system of localized, independent, 3-dimensional harmonic oscillators. They obey the Hamiltonian

$$H = \sum_{i=1}^{3N} \left(\frac{p_i^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2} m \omega^2 q_i^2 \right).$$

- a) Use the phase space volume Ω and the density of states Σ to convince yourself that the number of microstates is

$$W = \frac{1}{(2\pi\hbar)^{3N}} \frac{\pi^{3N}}{(3N)!} \left(\frac{2mE}{m\omega} \right)^{3N} = \frac{1}{(3N)!} \left(\frac{E}{\hbar\omega} \right)^{3N}.$$

- b) Show that when $3N \gg 1$ the entropy is

$$S = 3Nk \left(1 + \log \frac{E}{3N\hbar\omega} \right).$$

- c) Use the entropy to calculate the internal energy. Does the result agree with the equipartition theorem? *Hint: Calculate T as a function of E and invert this relation to find $E(T)$.*
- d) Find the specific heat C .

2 From the booklet

Do problems 4.19, 4.20 and 4.23 in the booklet. Note that there is a sign error on the right hand side of problem 4.20a, that is, the answer you should get is

$$S - S_0 = k_B \sum_r P_r \ln \frac{P_r^{(0)}}{P_r}.$$