

Boltzmann distribution

$$p_i = \frac{\exp(-\beta \epsilon_i)}{Z}$$

where

$$Z = \sum_{i=0}^{\text{all states}} \exp(-\beta \epsilon_i) = \sum_{i=0}^{\text{all energy levels}} g_i \exp(-\beta \epsilon_i)$$

$$\text{with } \beta = \frac{1}{k_B T}$$

$Z$  is the “partition function”.

a) Ensures that the  $p_i$ 's are normalized i.e.  $\sum_{i=0}^{\text{all states}} p_i = 1$

b) Describes how energy is “partitioned” over the ensemble i.e. states making a large contribution to  $Z$  have a high  $p_i$  hence a large share of the energy

### c) Links microscopic description of an ensemble to its macroscopic variables/ functions of state.

e.g. ensemble of  $N$  identical systems:

$$U = N\bar{\epsilon} = N \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \epsilon_i p_i$$

in equilibrium at temp  $T$ .

$$U = N \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \epsilon_i \frac{\exp(-\beta \epsilon_i)}{Z} = \frac{N}{Z} \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \epsilon_i \exp(-\beta \epsilon_i)$$

$$= -\frac{N}{Z} \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{\partial(\exp(-\beta \epsilon_i))}{\partial \beta} = -\frac{N}{Z} \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \exp(-\beta \epsilon_i) = -\frac{N}{Z} \frac{\partial Z}{\partial \beta} = -N \frac{\partial \ln Z}{\partial \beta}$$

$$= -N \frac{\partial \ln Z}{\partial T} \frac{dT}{d\beta}$$

$$U = Nk_B T^2 \frac{\partial \ln Z}{\partial T}$$

(in equilibrium)

In general:

$$S = k_B \ln \Omega$$

with

$$\Omega = \frac{N!}{\prod_{i=0}^{\infty} n_i!}$$

Hence

$$\ln \Omega = \ln N! - \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \ln n_i!$$

Stirling's approx.: - for large  $x$        $\ln x! \approx x \ln x - x$

$$\therefore \ln \Omega = N \ln N - N - \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} (n_i \ln n_i - n_i)$$

$$= N \ln N - N - \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} n_i \ln n_i + \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} n_i$$

$$= N \ln N - \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} n_i \ln n_i \quad \left( \text{as } \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} n_i = N \right)$$

$$= N \ln N - \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} N p_i \ln(N p_i) = N \ln N - \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} N p_i (\ln N + \ln p_i)$$

$$= N \ln N - N \ln N \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} p_i - N \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} p_i \ln p_i$$

$$= -N \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} p_i \ln p_i \quad \left( \text{as } \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} p_i = 1 \right)$$

$$S = -Nk_B \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} p_i \ln p_i$$

(in general, for  $N$  and all  $n_i$ 's large)

In equilibrium :-

$$\begin{aligned} S &= -Nk_B \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} p_i \ln \left( \frac{\exp(-\beta \epsilon_i)}{Z} \right) \\ &= -Nk_B \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} p_i (-\beta \epsilon_i - \ln Z) = Nk_B \beta \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} p_i \epsilon_i + Nk_B \ln Z \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} p_i \\ &= k_B \beta U + Nk_B \ln Z = \frac{U}{T} + Nk_B \ln Z \\ \therefore U - TS &= -Nk_B T \ln Z \end{aligned}$$

$U - TS$  is the Helmholtz Free Energy  $F$ , hence

$$\boxed{F = -Nk_B T \ln Z}$$

valid in equilibrium

$$\begin{aligned} S &= - \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial T} \right)_V = Nk_B \left( \frac{\partial (T \ln Z)}{\partial T} \right)_V \\ p &= - \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial V} \right)_T = Nk_B T \left( \frac{\partial \ln Z}{\partial V} \right)_T \end{aligned}$$