
33-765 — Statistical Physics

Department of Physics, Carnegie Mellon University, Spring Term 2019, Deserno

Problem sheet #8

26. Examples of simple thermodynamic identities (4 points)

Rewrite the following thermodynamic derivatives until only the “standard” derivatives α_P , κ_T , c_P , and c_V (and possibly factors, such as T or P , or numbers, such as 2 or π) occur:

1. $\left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial P}\right)_{S,N} = ?$

2. $\left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial S}\right)_{T,N} = ?$

27. Maxwell relations and Jacobians in tedious disguise (4 points)

1. Prove the first $T dS$ equation: $T dS = N c_V dT + \frac{\alpha T}{\kappa_T} dV$.
2. Prove the second $T dS$ equation: $T dS = N c_P dT - \alpha T V dP$.

Hint: If you write the entropy $S(\cdot, \cdot, N)$ in the variables indicated by the $T dS$ equation(s), what would be its differential?

28. Changing the chemical potential (4 points)

If one changes the chemical potential of a particle reservoir, the number of particles in one’s system of interest will change as well. We can measure this by some partial derivatives which, for lack of a better name, I will hereby call “fillability”:

$$\varphi_{S,V} := \frac{1}{N} \left(\frac{\partial N}{\partial \mu}\right)_{S,V} \quad \text{or} \quad \varphi_{T,V} := \frac{1}{N} \left(\frac{\partial N}{\partial \mu}\right)_{T,V} .$$

The first one could be called the “adiabatic fillability,” and the second one the “isothermal fillability.”

If $C_{N,V}$ and $C_{\mu,V}$ are heat capacities (with the indicated variables fixed, and *without* making them specific by dividing by N), prove the following thermodynamic identity:

$$\frac{\varphi_{S,V}}{\varphi_{T,V}} = \frac{C_{N,V}}{C_{\mu,V}} .$$

29. Relation between the isothermal and the adiabatic compressibilities (4 points)

In analogy to the well-known relation between the isobaric and the isochoric heat capacities, c_P and c_V , derive the following very similar formula for the isothermal and adiabatic compressibilities, κ_T and κ_S :

$$\kappa_T - \kappa_S = \frac{TV\alpha^2}{Nc_P} . \tag{1}$$

30. Adiabatic compression (4 points)

1. Show that, quite generally, $\frac{\kappa_T}{\kappa_S} = \frac{c_P}{c_V} =: \gamma$, where γ is called the *adiabatic index*.
2. Calculate κ_T , c_V , c_P , and γ for the monoatomic ideal gas.
3. Show that for adiabatic (constant entropy) compression of an ideal gas we get $P \propto V^{-\gamma}$.