

**Department of Physics
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Physics 603

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT #2

Spring 2012

Due date for problems on Tuesday, Feb. 14 [deadline on Feb. 16].

1. a) Starting from $dU = T dS - p dV$, show that the ideal gas equation of state $pV = Nk_B T$ implies that U can only depend on T .

b) Show that the most general equation of state for which the internal energy $U(T, V) = U(T)$, i.e. U depends only on T , has the form $p = f(V) T$, where f is an arbitrary function of V .

c) Show that $\left. \frac{\partial C_V}{\partial V} \right|_T = T \left. \frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial T^2} \right|_V$ and use this result to show that $\left. \frac{\partial C_V}{\partial V} \right|_T = 0$ (i.e. C_V is a

function of T alone) for the van der Waals equation of state: $\left[p + a \left(\frac{N}{V} \right)^2 \right] (V - Nb) = Nk_B T$

(You might take note of Pathria & Beale, problem 1.4; their b is what is called Nb here. However, that problem is not assigned!)

2. Pathria & Beale, problem 1.15. (Same in Pathria 2nd ed.) Hint: First show for an ideal gas of atoms, as in this problem, that $C_V = \frac{nR}{\gamma - 1}$. Note that mole fraction f_1 means $n_1/n = n_1/(n_1 + n_2)$.

3. a) Verify the results for the following thermodynamic potentials as written down quickly in class for an ideal gas of indistinguishable particles $Z_N = (1/N!)(V/\lambda_T^3)^N$:

$$U = - \partial \ln Z / \partial \beta|_{N,V} \quad F = - k_B T \ln Z \quad H = U + pV \quad p = - \partial F / \partial V|_{N,T} \quad S = (U - F)/T \quad G = H - TS$$

b) Repeat this exercise for distinguishable particles, $Z_N = (V/\lambda_T^3)^N$. Which are the same, which different? Which extensive potentials for indistinguishable particles remain so for distinguishable particles?