

1. Calculate the partition function for a quantum harmonic oscillator with energy levels  $E_n = \hbar\omega(n + \frac{1}{2})$ .
  - (i) Find the average energy  $E$  and entropy  $S$  as a function of temperature  $T$ .
  - (ii) A simple model of a solid, due to Einstein, treats the atoms vibrating as a set of  $N$  harmonic oscillators. Calculate the heat capacity for  $K_B T \gg \hbar\omega$  and  $T \rightarrow 0$ . Compare this to the experimentally known results, for  $K_B T \gg \hbar\omega$  one finds  $C_V = 3Nk_B$  and for  $T \rightarrow 0$  one finds  $C_V \sim T^3$ .
2. We can find a unified way of thinking about various ensembles. Let's start from the Gibbs formula for entropy:

$$S = -k_B \sum_n p(n) \ln p(n).$$

We can find the microcanonical and canonical ensembles by maximising this with respect to different constraints for  $p(n)$ .

- (i) Find the microcanonical ensemble for  $p(n)$  by adding a constraint that  $\sum_n p(n) = 1$  and only states with energy  $E$  have non-zero  $p(n)$ . (To maximise with this constraint use a Lagrange multiplier.)
- (ii) For the canonical ensemble we must add the constraint that the average energy is fixed  $\langle E \rangle = \sum_n p(n) E_n$ .
- (iii) What happens if we add the constraint that the average energy is fixed  $\langle E \rangle = \sum_n p(n) E_n$  and the average particle number is fixed  $\langle N \rangle = \sum_n p(n) N_n$ ?