

# Introduction

What is statistical mechanics?

A "system" obeys E.O.M.  
like Newton's Eqs, S.E.

Classical: initial condition  
+ EOM  $\rightarrow$  everything

Idea: properties of a system  
property is independent of  
the "state" = system  
(micro)

$$\bar{X} = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{3N}, p_1, p_2, \dots, p_{3N}\}$$

Only depends on "Macroscopic"  
variable,  $(N, V, \bar{T})$

Properties only depend on  
averages over states

Statistical properties of the system

Average:

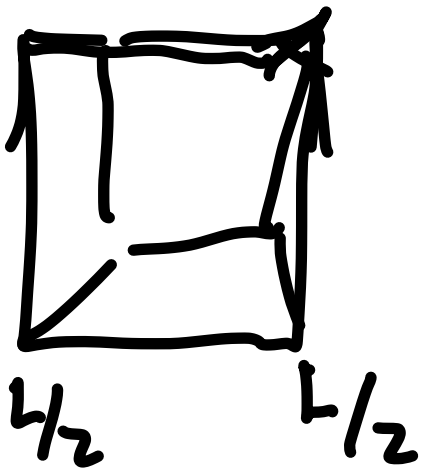
$A(\bar{X})$  an "observable"

can measure

What we measure is average of  
A over all microstates

$$\langle A \rangle = \int d\vec{X} P(\vec{X}) A(\vec{X})$$

$$\int d\vec{X} = \int_{-L/2}^{L/2} dx_1 \int_{-L/2}^{L/2} dx_2 \dots \int_{-L/2}^{L/2} dx_{3N} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dp_1 \dots$$



$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p_{3N} \dots$$

$$V = L \cdot L \cdot L$$

If Quantum mechanical:

States are discrete

$$-t^{1/2} \quad \epsilon \quad \hbar/2$$

$$-1/2 \quad -\hbar/2$$

$$\langle A \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^{n \text{ states}} A_i P(i)$$
$$\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \epsilon_i P(i) e^?$$

Clearly we need to know  $P(\bar{x})$   
if  $P(\bar{x})$  is simple we can compute  
any average property of  
our system

Probability Distribution:

$$P(X) \leq 1 \quad P(X) \geq 0$$

$$\int dX P(X) = 1$$

Example @  $N, V, T$  constant

$$P(X) \propto e^{-H(X)/k_B T}$$

← potential

$$H \text{ total energy} = U + K.E.$$

$T$  temperature

$k_B$  Boltzmann's constant

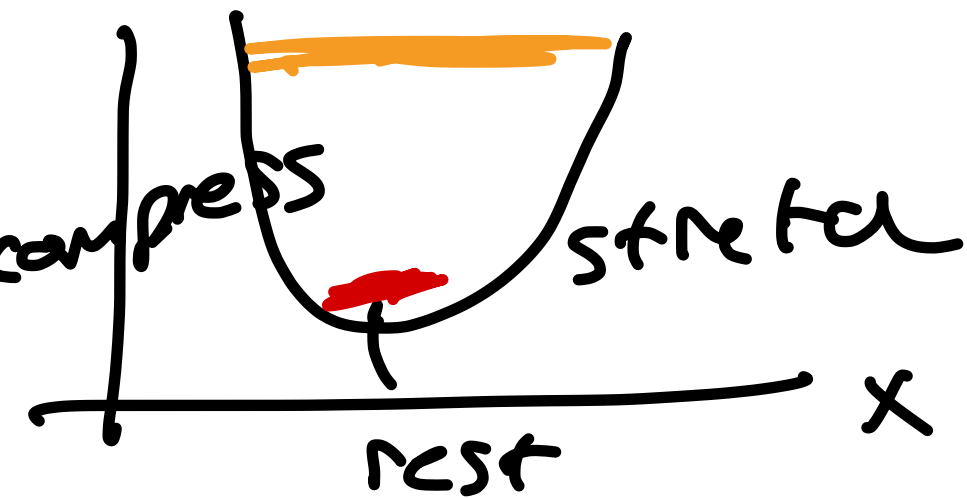
$$P(x) \propto e^{-\mathcal{H}(x)/k_B T} = \frac{1}{Z} e^{-\mathcal{H}(x)/k_B T}$$

$$\int P(x) dx = 1 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{Z} \int dx e^{-\mathcal{H}(x)/k_B T} = 1$$

$$Z = \int dx e^{-\mathcal{H}(x)/k_B T} \quad \leftarrow$$

Partition function

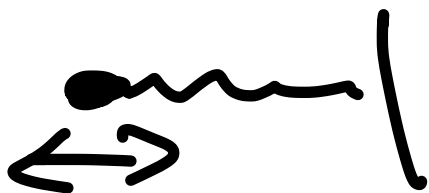




$$U(x) = \frac{1}{2} kx^2 \quad p = mv$$

$$KE = \frac{1}{2} mv^2 = \frac{p^2}{2m}$$

Harmonic  
Oscillator



$$H = \frac{p^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2} kx^2$$



$$Z = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \underline{dp} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \underline{dx} e^{-\frac{1}{k_B T} \left[ \frac{p^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2} k x^2 \right]}$$

$$= 2\pi k_B T \cdot \sqrt{m/k}$$

$$e^{A+B} = e^A e^B$$

$$= 2\pi k_B T \cdot \frac{\hbar}{\omega}$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dp e^{-\frac{p^2}{2mk_B T}}$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx e^{-\frac{kx^2}{2k_B T}}$$

$$e^{-x^2/2\sigma^2}$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}}$$

← Gaussian



$$\sqrt{2\pi m k_B T}$$



$$\sqrt{2\pi \frac{k_B T}{k}}$$



$Z$  is a  $\#$   $\rightarrow$  how does this  
tell us anything

Example  $\langle E_{\text{total}} \rangle = \langle H \rangle$

$$\langle E \rangle = \int dx P(x) H(x) =$$

$$\frac{1}{Z} \int dx H(x) e^{-H(x)/k_B T}$$

$$\beta = (k_B T)^{-1}$$

$$\langle E \rangle = \frac{1}{Z} \int dx e^{-\beta H(x)} \cdot H(x)$$

$$Z = \int dx e^{-\beta H(x)}$$

$$\frac{d e^{ax}}{dx} = a e^{ax}$$

$$\frac{\partial Z}{\partial \beta} = \int dx (-H(x)) e^{-\beta H(x)}$$

$$\langle E \rangle = - \frac{1}{Z} \frac{\partial Z}{\partial \beta} = - \frac{\partial \log Z}{\partial \beta}$$

for HO

$$z = \frac{k_B T}{\omega} \cdot 2\pi = \frac{2\pi}{\omega\beta}$$

for next time

What is  $\langle \mathcal{E} \rangle$ ?