

## Notes for today

- Reminder, web address: [rossgroup.tamu.edu/408page.html](http://rossgroup.tamu.edu/408page.html)  
Has HW, syllabus, slides posted.
- Reading: starting ch. 15. Today we will discuss the probabilities going into problems 4 and 5.
- I am still looking for a volunteer for problems 5 and 6.
- Lecture recordings etc.: Reminder again that you should let me know if you have a Covid quarantine (or other University excuse). I can share lecture recording or a zoom link to view the lecture in real time. I am still experimenting with various improvements for the zoom recording.

## Recall: Ideal gas

$$U = \frac{3}{2} N k_B T. \quad \text{Energy (ideal gas specific case)}$$

$$PV = N k_B T. \quad \text{Equation of state (ideal gas specific case.)}$$

**vs General Relationships** (for all systems, but recall these are for controlled processes):

$$dU = TdS - PdV + \mu dN$$

$$dS = \frac{1}{T} dU + \frac{P}{T} dV - \frac{\mu}{T} dN$$

$$S = S(U, V, N) \text{ or } U = U(S, V, N) \text{ [fundamental equation]}$$

$$\text{With } T = \left( \frac{\partial U}{\partial S} \right)_{VN} \text{ etc. } \Rightarrow \text{complete model of behavior.}$$

## Entropy define:

$$S \equiv k_B \ln(\Omega)$$

(Boltzmann)

- ❖ Fundamental assumption of statistical mechanics
- ❖ As before we assume equilibrium; then  $\Omega = \mathbf{multiplicity}$ , defined as *number of accessible states* (e.g. # of states at a given total energy, spatially accessible by particles in container volume, without violating known  $N$ , etc.)
- ❖ Classically states counted by “phase space bins”  $d^3r \cdot d^3p$ ; in QM  $\Omega$  counts number of eigenstates. Terminology –  
*microstate*: locally defined state (all quantum numbers)  
*macrostate*: specified by macroscopic parameters.
- ❖ Note, QM superposition is not the same thing, this is a “mixed state”.  
 $\psi_1 + \psi_2$  vs.  $\psi_1 + e^{i\phi}\psi_2$ : phase is random/rapidly changing: incoherent sum
- ❖ Extensive property: can see from definition.

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### **Fundamental Postulate of Statistical Mechanics:**

Over time an isolated system in equilibrium will be found in **each accessible microstate with equal probability.**

**Ergodic hypothesis invoked here:** all states that can be visited *will* be visited. Difficult to justify in detail; possibly not needed when very large numbers of states are involved.

## Second Law of Thermodynamics:

Spontaneous processes always tend toward a macrostate with the largest number of accessible microstates; e.g. spontaneous processes have  $\Delta S \geq 0$  (total entropy for all interacting systems, increases overall entropy of everything — isolated system, or "entropy of universe")

- Separate law of nature based on observed behavior, not derived from physics of microscopic behavior.
- Examples include free expansion; over-writing great novel on your laptop by random bits; mixing sugar and salt.

## Probabilities and multiple events:

probability of  $n$  events occurring in  $N$  turns:

$$P = (p_{event})^n (p_{no-event})^{N-n} \frac{N!}{n!(N-n)!}$$

- # permutations = multiplicity  $\Omega$ , for a single type of process (or for identical particles occupying multiple states) [ideal gas in phase space “bins”, “phonon” vibrational excitations,...]
- More generally, need *product* of multiplicities (e.g. 2 systems taken together, 2 distinguishable types of particles, etc.)
- Note 2-state system of ch. 15 is distinguishable.

Example: for sequence of coin flips, what is probability of H-T-T-T in order?

Probability of 2H & 2T, any order?

## Large numbers:

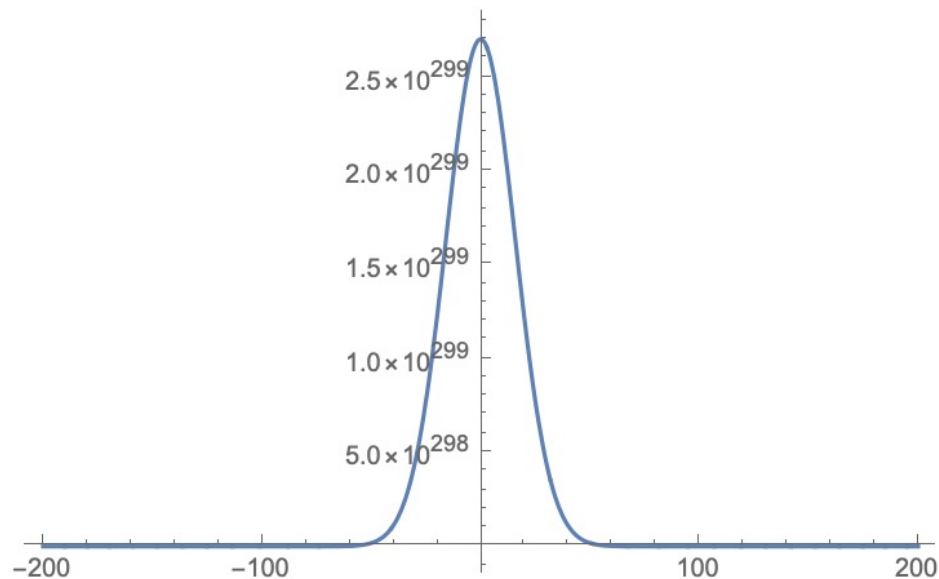
probability of  $n$  events occurring in  $N$  turns:

$$P = (p_{event})^n (p_{no-event})^{N-n} \frac{N!}{n!(N-n)!}$$

$$N \left[ \frac{1000!}{500! \times 500!} \right]$$
$$2.70288 \times 10^{299}$$

For large  $N$  equivalent to Gaussian distribution; relative width shrinks  $\propto 1/\sqrt{N}$

$$\text{Plot} \left[ \frac{1000!}{(500+n)! (500-n)!}, \{n, -200, 200\}, \text{PlotRange} \rightarrow \text{All} \right]$$



See e.g. Reif text.

## Binomial distribution, large N:

Recall  $P_{n_1} = \binom{N}{n_1} p^{n_1} (1 - p)^{N - n_1}$  normalized probability,  $n_1$  successes.

Binomial theorem,  $(p + q)^N = \sum_{n_1=0}^N \binom{N}{n_1} p^{n_1} q^{N - n_1}$

- So:  $\langle n_1 \rangle = p \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \sum_{n_1=0}^N \binom{N}{n_1} p^{n_1} q^{N - n_1} = Np$  easy to show.



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- width of peak:  $\langle n_1^2 \rangle = p \frac{\partial}{\partial p} p \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \sum_{n_1=0}^N \binom{N}{n_1} p^{n_1} q^{N-n_1}$   
 $= p \frac{\partial}{\partial p} [Np(p + q)^{N-1}]$   
 $\rightarrow Np[Np + q] = \langle n_1 \rangle^2 + Npq$

## Further note on Binomial distribution, large N:

Multiplicity: sufficient for fixed-energy systems (microcanonical ensemble this chapter).

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Probabilities important for distribution of possible energies (Canonical ensemble & Boltzmann distribution, ch. 16)

• So:  $\langle n_1 \rangle = p \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \sum_{n_1=0}^N \binom{N}{n_1} p^{n_1} q^{N-n_1} = Np$  easy to show.

• width of peak:  $\langle n_1^2 \rangle = p \frac{\partial}{\partial p} p \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \sum_{n_1=0}^N \binom{N}{n_1} p^{n_1} q^{N-n_1}$

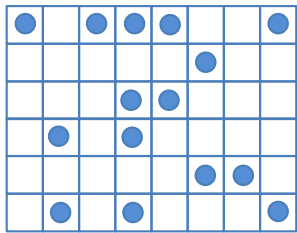
$$= p \frac{\partial}{\partial p} [Np(p+q)^{N-1}]$$

$$\rightarrow Np[Np+q] = \langle n_1 \rangle^2 + Npq$$

RMS width  $\propto \sqrt{N}$

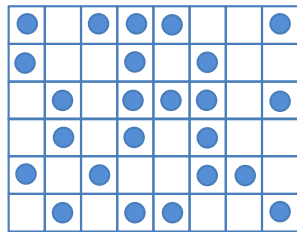
Note also, 4<sup>th</sup> moment treat in similar way: find ratio of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> moments identical to Gaussian distribution (Bell curve).

## Physical examples:

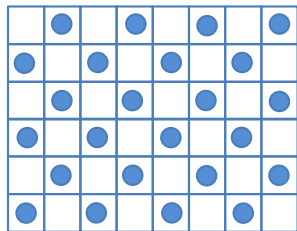


Diffusing atoms randomly located on lattice  
 $\approx$  2-state random magnetization problem  
(Rough equivalent situation for ideal gas atoms)

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↑ Small  $\Delta U$

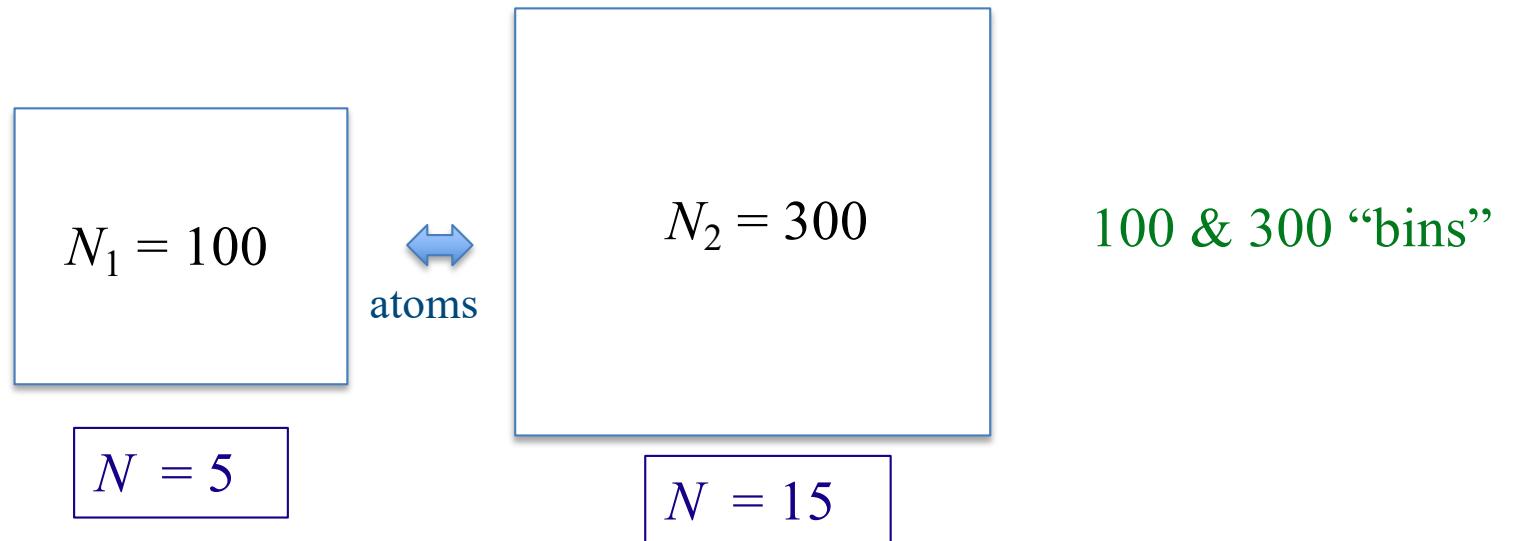


If  $k_B T \gg \Delta U$ , larger entropy overwhelmingly favors this configuration

(we will see a more formal way to treat such a fixed temperature case later)

“Low- $T$  state”: Entropy = 0  
(e.g. Copper + gold can order this way)

## Imbalanced example:



20 total atoms, expected location of atoms?

- independent configurations: probabilities multiply.
- peak value based on maximum  $\Omega$

$$\ln[1] = N \left[ \frac{100! \times 300!}{5! \times 95! \times 15! \times 285!} \right]$$

Out[1]=  $5.78801 \times 10^{32}$

$$\ln[2] = N \left[ \frac{100! \times 300!}{4! \times 96! \times 16! \times 284!} \right]$$

Out[2]=  $5.36974 \times 10^{32}$

$$\ln[3] = N \left[ \frac{100! \times 300!}{6! \times 94! \times 14! \times 286!} \right]$$

Out[3]=  $4.80648 \times 10^{32}$

← Maximum entropy