

## 2. ELEMENTS OF ENSEMBLE THEORY

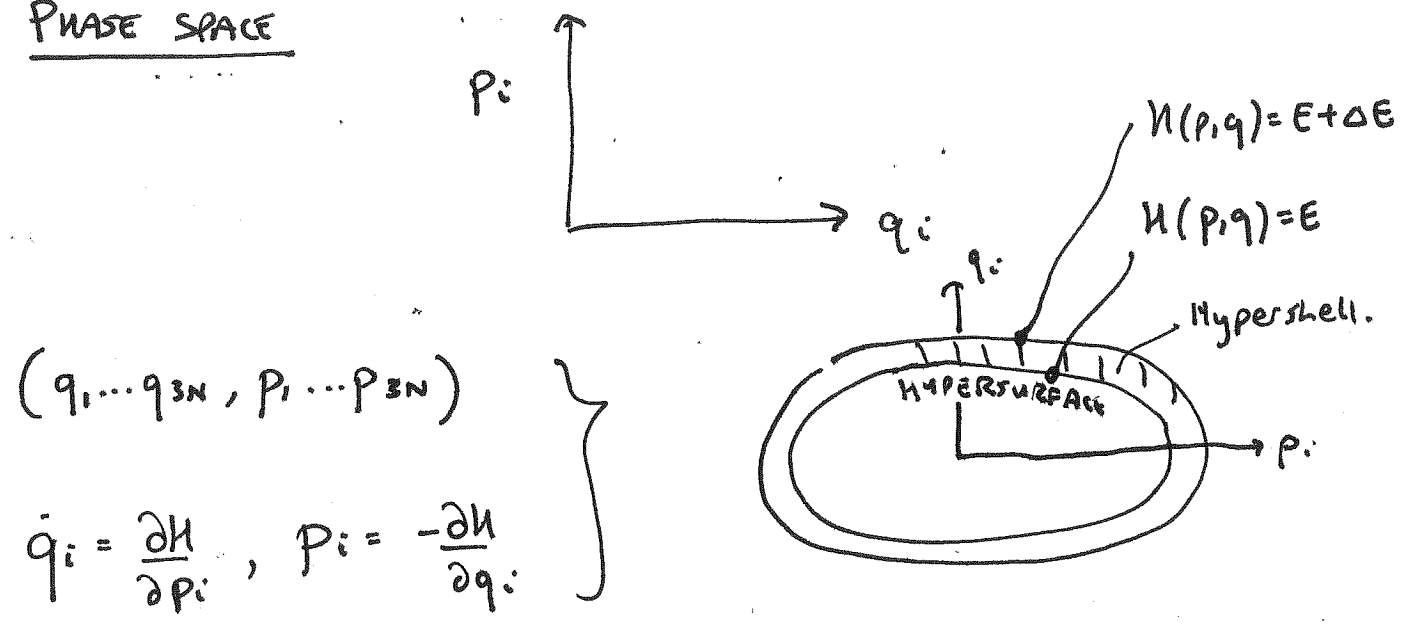
Idea of replacing the time average by the average over many identical macrostates, distributed randomly amongst the microstates

$$\bar{A} = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T A(t) dt \quad \text{Time average}$$

$$\langle A \rangle = \sum p_i \langle i | A | i \rangle \quad \text{Ensemble Average.}$$

We will examine this through classical mechanics

### PHASE SPACE



Density of states in phase space =  $\rho(q, p)$

$$d\omega = d^{3N}q d^{3N}p = \text{volume integral in phase space.}$$

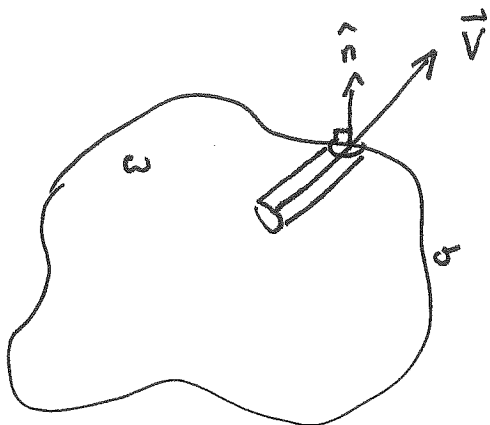
$$\langle f \rangle = \frac{\int f(q, p) \rho(q, p) d\omega}{\int \rho(q, p) d\omega}$$

In a stationary ensemble  $\frac{d\rho}{dt}$  at fixed  $q, p$

is fixed

$$\left. \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} \right|_{q, p} = \text{constant}$$

&  $\langle f \rangle$  is independent of time.



## 2.1 Liouville's Theorem

Phase space is incompressible

$$\frac{d\rho}{dt} = \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \sum_i \left( \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial q_i} \dot{q}_i + \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial p_i} \dot{p}_i \right) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial n}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int \rho \, d\omega = \int \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} \, d\omega$$

change in number of states inside  $\omega$

$$\text{Flow out} = \int \rho (\vec{v} \cdot \hat{n}) \, d\sigma = \int \nabla \cdot (\rho \vec{v}) \, d\omega$$

By Divergence Thm

$$= - \frac{\partial n}{\partial t} = - \int \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} \, d\omega$$



$$\nabla \cdot (\rho \vec{v}) + \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = 0$$

Continuity

Now let's evaluate the continuity equation using Hamiltonian dynamics.

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \sum_{i=1}^{3N} \left( \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial q_i} \dot{q}_i + \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial p_i} \dot{p}_i \right) + \rho \sum_{i=1}^{3N} \left( \frac{\partial \dot{q}_i}{\partial q_i} + \frac{\partial \dot{p}_i}{\partial p_i} \right) = 0$$

But  $\frac{\partial \dot{q}_i}{\partial q_i} = \frac{\partial}{\partial q_i} \left( \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_i} \right) = \frac{\partial^2 H}{\partial p_i \partial q_i} = \frac{\partial}{\partial p_i} (-p_i) = -\frac{\partial p_i}{\partial p_i}$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \sum \left( \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial q_i} \dot{q}_i + \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial p_i} \dot{p}_i \right) = \frac{d\rho}{dt} = 0}$$

or  $\frac{d\rho}{dt} = \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + [\rho, H] = 0$

$$[\rho, H] = \sum \left( \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial q_i} \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_i} - \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial p_i} \frac{\partial H}{\partial q_i} \right) = \text{Poisson bracket of } \rho \text{ with } H.$$

But equilibrium means  $\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = 0$ , so this in turn

implies  $[\rho, H] = 0$ . One way to satisfy this

is simply  $\rho = \text{constant}$ . Another is to have

$$\rho(q, p) = \rho[H(q, p)]$$

Since  $H$  is a constant of the motion,  $\rho$  is too.

There are various kinds of distribution.

Microcanonical

$$\rho = \rho_0 \delta_{\Delta}(H(q, p) - E)$$

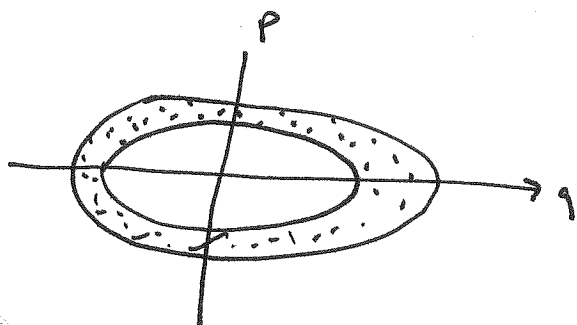
$$\delta_{\Delta}(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & x \in [-\Delta/2, \Delta/2] \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Canonical

$$\rho(q, p) = \exp\left(-\frac{H(q, p)}{k_B T}\right)$$

# Microcanonical

$$g(q,p) = \begin{cases} \text{const} & E - \Delta/2 \leq H \leq E + \Delta/2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle f \rangle &= \text{ensemble average of } f && \text{time independent.} \\
 &= \text{time average (ensemble avg)} && \swarrow \text{Averaging over } t + \text{ensemble } \underline{\text{indep}} \\
 &= \text{ensemble avg (time avg)} && \swarrow \\
 &= \text{time avg of } f && \text{Subtle — if ergodic.} \\
 &= f_{\text{exp}} && \text{if experiment averages over times long enough.}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Gamma = \omega / \omega_0 \quad \omega_0 = \text{unit of phase space.}$$

$$S = k_B \ln [\omega / \omega_0]$$

Now the dimensions of  $\omega_0$  are  $[\omega_0] = (\text{angular momentum})^{3N}$

From the classical gas we learned that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\omega}{\omega_0} &= d^{3N} n = V^{3N} \frac{d^{3N} k}{(2\pi)^{3N}} = V^{3N} \frac{d^{3N} p}{(2\pi k)^{3N}} \\ &= \frac{V^{3N} d^3 p}{(h)^{3N}} = \frac{\omega}{\omega_0} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\omega_0 = h^{3N}}$$

PLANCK'S CONSTANT SETS THE  
BASIC UNIT OF PHASE SPACE

p.s. We found

$$\Gamma = \frac{\partial \Sigma_N}{\partial E} \Delta = \frac{(2\pi m E)^{3N/2}}{\left(\frac{3N}{2} - 1\right)!} \left(\frac{\Delta}{E}\right) \left(\frac{V}{h^3}\right)^N.$$

e.g Simple Harmonic Oscillator

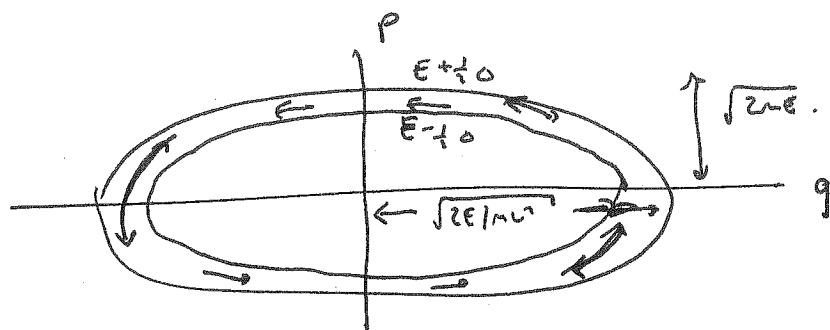
$$H(q,p) = \frac{1}{2} kq^2 + \frac{1}{2m} p^2$$

$$\begin{cases} q = A \cos(\omega t + \phi) \\ p = m\dot{q} = -m\omega A \sin(\omega t + \phi) \end{cases}$$

$$\omega = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$$

$$E = \frac{1}{2} m\omega^2 A^2$$

$$\frac{1}{2} m\omega^2 q^2 + \frac{p^2}{2m} = E \Leftrightarrow \frac{q^2}{(2E/m\omega^2)} + \frac{p^2}{(2mE)} = 1$$



$$A = \pi a b \\ = 2\pi \left( \frac{E}{\omega} \right)$$

$$\int dq dp = 2\pi \left( \frac{E + \frac{1}{2} h\omega}{\omega} \right) - 2\pi \left( \frac{E - \frac{1}{2} h\omega}{\omega} \right) = \frac{2\pi h}{\omega}$$

$$E - \frac{1}{2} h\omega \leq H \leq E + \frac{1}{2} h\omega$$

$$QM \quad E = h\omega \left( n + \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

$$\Delta E = h\omega \quad \Delta \omega = 2\pi \frac{h\omega}{\omega} = h$$

$$N \text{ harmonic oscillators} \quad \omega_0 = h^N$$



# QUANTUM STATES AND PHASE SPACE

$$(\Delta q \Delta p)_{\min} \approx h$$

In any phase space of  $2N$  dimensions, the corresponding "volume of uncertainty" is then  $\sim h^N$

Phase space is split into elementary cells of volume  $\sim h^N$ .

Detailed calculation shows that  $\omega_0 = h^N$ .

e.g. photons in a cavity

$$p = \hbar k = \frac{\hbar \omega}{c} = \frac{h\nu}{c}$$

$$\int d^3q d^3p = V 4\pi p^2 dp = V \left( \frac{4\pi h^3 \nu^2}{c^3} \right) d\nu = d\omega$$

corresponds to the Rayleigh expression:

$$\# = V \left( \frac{4\pi \nu^2}{c^3} \right) d\nu = \frac{d\omega}{h^3} = \frac{d\omega}{\omega_0}$$

In practice both expressions  $\times 2$  to account for two polarizations.