

[tex103] Energy fluctuations and thermal response functions

(a) Show that the following relation holds between the energy fluctuations in the canonical ensemble and the heat capacity of a system described by a microscopic Hamiltonian \mathcal{H} :

$$\langle(\mathcal{H} - \langle\mathcal{H}\rangle)^2\rangle = k_B T^2 C_V.$$

(b) Prove the following relation in a similar manner:

$$\langle(\mathcal{H} - \langle\mathcal{H}\rangle)^3\rangle = k_B^2 \left[T^4 \left(\frac{\partial C_V}{\partial T} \right)_V + 2T^3 C_V \right].$$

(c) Determine the relative fluctuations as measured by the quantities $\langle(\mathcal{H} - \langle\mathcal{H}\rangle)^2\rangle/\langle\mathcal{H}\rangle^2$ and $\langle(\mathcal{H} - \langle\mathcal{H}\rangle)^3\rangle/\langle\mathcal{H}\rangle^3$ for the classical ideal gas with N atoms.

Solution: