

1. Discuss the following concepts (just writing formulas is not enough, use words)

Entropic principle

Closed system

Subsystem

Distribution function

Microcanonical distribution function

2. Consider  $N$  identical non-interacting 1D harmonic oscillators. The energy levels of the system will be given by:

$$E = \hbar\omega \left( \sum_{i=1}^N n_i + \frac{N}{2} \right) \quad (1)$$

a For  $N=2$ , calculate the total number of states that have energies less than or equal to  $E = \hbar\omega(M + \frac{N}{2})$ .

b Generalize the previous result for arbitrary  $N$  and obtain an expression for  $\Gamma_N(E)$ .

c Calculate the total number of states,  $\Delta\Gamma$  that the system can be in if the total energy is exactly  $E = \hbar\omega(M + \frac{N}{2})$ . How is this result related to  $\Gamma(E)$

d Calculate entropy,  $S$ . What is the temperature  $T$  of the state?

d What is the probability that a particular harmonic oscillator is in the  $n^{\text{th}}$  excited state?

e Given a subsystem consisting of 2 harmonic oscillators, what is the probability that this subsystem has total energy,  $\epsilon = \hbar\omega(n + 1)$

*Hint:* In calculating the probabilities, express your result in terms of temperature and try to obtain an expression which is proportional to  $e^{-\frac{\epsilon}{kT}}$