

Quiz 15

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Prof. Garima's talk yesterday had an interesting statement: *Excluded volume leads to an increase in free energy*. Let us see if we can show this for a simple non-interacting gas with an excluded volume. Such a gas has an internal energy and equation of state given by

$$U = C_V T \quad \text{and} \quad P(V - Nb) = Nk_B T. \quad (1)$$

(a) We will first try to find $S(T, V)$ for such a system. Use the differential form of the first law to show

$$(i) \quad \left(\frac{\partial U}{\partial T} \right)_{V,N} = T \left(\frac{\partial S}{\partial T} \right)_{V,N}, \text{ and consequently that } \left(\frac{\partial S}{\partial T} \right)_{V,N} = \frac{C_V}{T}. \quad [3]$$

$$(ii) \quad \text{Next, show that } \left(\frac{\partial S}{\partial V} \right)_{T,N} = \frac{P}{T} = \frac{Nk_B}{V - Nb}. \quad [3]$$

- (b) Use the above two results to show that [2]

$$S(T, V) = S_0 + C_V \log T + Nk_B \log(V - Nb), \quad (2)$$

where S_0 is an unimportant constant. **Hint:** Use the fact that $dS(T, V) = \left(\frac{\partial S}{\partial T}\right)_V dT + \left(\frac{\partial S}{\partial V}\right)_T dV$.

- (c) Using the fact that $F(T, V, N) = U - TS$, find F for the given system. Now, suppose $Nb \ll V$: show that in this case, we can write

$$F(T, V, N) \approx F_{\text{ideal gas}}(T, V, N) + k_B T \left(\frac{N^2 b}{V} \right). \quad (3)$$

In other words, if we take into account the “excluded” volume of a real gas, its free energy is *higher* than that of an ideal gas. [2]