

Thermal Physics, Autumn 2019 CMI

Problem set 5

Due by the beginning of lecture, Tue, Oct 15, 2019

Entropy and its properties

1. ⟨8⟩ Suppose we choose the conjugate variables T and S as independent thermodynamic variables instead of P and V . (a) Draw a diagram of a Carnot cycle on a TS diagram (T vertical, S horizontal) indicating the axes, direction of process, adiabats, temperatures, isotherms. (b) Geometrically interpret the heats absorbed/expelled by the engine, net heat absorbed, the net work done and the efficiency of the engine.
2. ⟨8⟩ Show that the infinitesimal heat reversibly added to a gas (not necessarily ideal) can be expressed as (Hint: use results we have derived!)

$$TdS = c_V dT + \frac{\alpha T}{\kappa_T} dV. \quad (1)$$

3. ⟨6⟩ Calculate the adiabatic (isentropic) compressibility κ_S of an ideal gas. Is it less or more than the isothermal compressibility?