Statistical Mechanics

Pressure

- Other links between partition function and thermodynamic properties can be determined.
- Average pressure, <P>, defined in terms of microscopic properties

Pressure

Use partition function for a monoatomic ideal gas

<P>

Partition functions

Hard part of statistical mechanics is writing the partition function.

- Number of states can be very large
- Translational states

Partition functions

Translational states

Molecular partition function

Molecular partition function, q_i, is simpler to write.

For identical, distinguishable particles

Molecular partition function

What about identical, indistinguishable particles?