

Diatomic Molecules

- So for monatomic gas $Q = Q_{tr}Q_{int} = Q_{tr}Q_{el}$

- What happens when we add more nuclei

$$Q = Q_{tr}Q_{int} = Q_{tr}Q_{el}Q_{rot.vib}$$

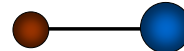
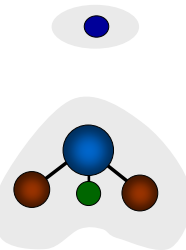
Born-Oppenheimer Approximation
separating electron from nuclear motion,
e⁻ move so fast that E field they experience
is from “fixed” position nuclei

$$Q = Q_{tr}Q_{el}Q_{rot}Q_{vib} \quad \text{and assuming rotation and vibration modes (motions) independent}$$

- Simplest multiatom molecules?

– diatomics

- Q_{tr} – no change
- Q_{el} – similar to atoms



Diatomic Properties-1

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Electronic States of Diatomics

- Naming nomenclature similar to multielectron atoms

$$^{2s+1}\ell_J \longrightarrow ^{2S+1}\Lambda_{\Omega}$$

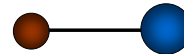
describes e⁻ orbitals around nucleus describes e⁻ orbitals about internuclear axis

$$J = \ell + s, \ell + s - 1, \dots, \ell - s \geq 0 \quad \Omega = \Lambda + S, \Lambda + S - 1, \dots, \Lambda - S \geq 0$$

(except for $\Lambda=0$, then not defined)

	0	1	2
ℓ	S	P	D
Λ	Σ	Π	Δ

$$g_{el,i} \neq 2\Omega + 1$$



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Q_{el} Example: NO

- Ground (lowest energy) electronic levels of NO have a $^2\Pi$ configuration $\Rightarrow \Lambda=1, S=1/2$

– so we get 2 spin(-split) states: $\Omega=1/2, 3/2$

– and 2 “lambda-doubled” states

- lambda-doubling occurs for all $\Lambda>0$

- Next excited electronic state is

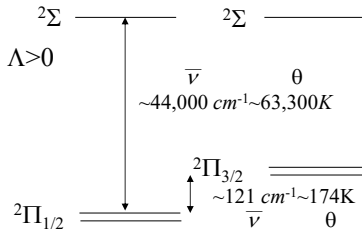
$a^2\Sigma \Rightarrow \Lambda=0, S=1/2$

- If we count each spin-split state as different (non-degenerate)

$$g_{el} = \begin{cases} 1 & \Lambda = 0 \\ 2 & \Lambda \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

- So $Q_{el,NO} \cong 2 + 2e^{-174K/T} + 2e^{-63,300K/T}$

– and $Q_{el,NO} \cong 4$ for $174K \ll T \ll 63,300K$



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Rotational Partition Function: Q_{rot}

- Recall for rigid rotor model

– B is rotational constant
(typical units of cm^{-1})

– and

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon_{rot} &= \frac{\hbar^2}{2I} J(J+1) \quad \text{quantum number for angular momentum} \\ &\equiv hcBJ(J+1) \end{aligned}$$

$$g_{rot} = 2J+1$$

- So $Q_{rot} = \sum_J (2J+1) e^{-\theta_r J(J+1)/T}$

with $\theta_r \equiv hcB/k$

characteristic rotational temperature

- For $T \gg \theta_r$, summation can be approximated by continuous integral

$$Q_{rot} \cong \int_0^\infty (2J+1) e^{-\theta_r J(J+1)/T} dJ = \int_0^\infty e^{-z\theta_r/T} dz \quad \text{with } z=J(J+1)$$

$$Q_{rot} \cong \frac{T}{\theta_r}$$

$$\int_0^\infty e^{-ax} dx = 1/a$$

closer approximation
for $T/\theta_r \gtrsim 1/4$
less than 1% difference
for $T/\theta_r > 33.6$

$$Q_{rot} \cong \frac{T}{\theta_r} \left(1 + \frac{\theta_r/T}{3} + \frac{(\theta_r/T)^2}{15} + \dots \right)$$

see McQuarrie p. 99

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Rotational Energy

- Rotational energy (**for $T \gg \theta_r$**)

$$\hat{e}_{rot} = \bar{R} T^2 \left. \frac{\partial \ln Q_{rot}}{\partial T} \right|_V \cong \bar{R} T^2 \frac{d \ln T / \theta_r}{dT} = \bar{R} T^2 \frac{1}{T}$$

$$\hat{e}_{rot} = \bar{R} T$$

$$\hat{c}_{v,rot} = \bar{R}$$

- and specific heat $\hat{c}_{v,rot} = d\hat{e}_{rot}/dT$
- so rotational mode calorically perfect
 - $c_{v,rot} = \text{constant} = 2/2 R$
 - *same result as Equipartition of Energy* for rotational mode with 2 degrees of freedom (linear molecule has 2 moments of inertia)
 - **when rotational mode is fully-excited** (i.e., for $T/\theta_r \gg 1$)

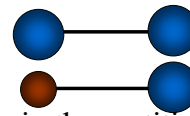
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Homonuclear vs Heteronuclear

- Diatomics can have 2 nuclei that are the same (**homonuclear**) or different (**heteronuclear**)
- This leads to a symmetry consideration in the partition function, so actually



$$Q_{rot} \cong \frac{T}{\sigma \theta_r}$$

Symmetry factor

$$\sigma = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{heteronuclear} \\ 2 & \text{homonuclear} \end{cases}$$

- if 2 nuclei are identical, 180° rotation can't be distinguished from original configuration
 \Rightarrow have overcounted number of distinguishable states by 2×
- Does not effect e_{rot} or $c_{v,rot}$ since they depend on $\partial \ln Q = (\partial Q)/Q$

*More accurate explanation based on nuclear spin and symmetry requirements
Wave function requires specific type of symmetry for Boson/Fermion (determined by nuclear spins)*

Symmetry type flips for odd vs even J, so half the rotational states are missing for homonuclear diatomics

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Vibrational Partition Function: Q_{vib}

- Assuming harmonic oscillator $\varepsilon_{vib} = h\nu \left(v + \frac{1}{2}\right)$
 - which also has $g_{vib}=1$ (no degeneracy)
- So $Q_{vib} = \sum_{v=0}^{\infty} e^{-\theta_v(v+1/2)/T}$ with $\theta_v = h\nu/k$ *characteristic vibrational temp.*
 - ν *vibrational quantum number*
 - ν *frequency of oscillation*
$$= e^{-\theta_v/2T} \sum_{v=0}^{\infty} e^{-v\theta_v/T} = e^{-\theta_v/2T} \left(1 + \sum_{v=1}^{\infty} e^{-v\theta_v/T}\right)$$
- From Taylor series expansion for $\frac{1}{1-x} = 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x^n$
 - we can see if we let $x=e^{-\theta_v/T}$

$$Q_{vib} = \frac{e^{-\theta_v/2T}}{1 - e^{-\theta_v/T}}$$

valid for all θ_v/T
(not approximation,
for harmonic oscillator)

if we let lowest vibration level have zero energy (remove $\frac{1}{2}k\theta_v$ energy)

$$Q_{vib} = \frac{1}{1 - e^{-\theta_v/T}}$$

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Vibrational Energy

- Get macroscopic energy
from $\hat{\varepsilon}_{vib} = \bar{R}T^2 \frac{\partial \ln Q_{vib}}{\partial T} \bigg|_V = \bar{R}T^2 \left(\frac{d \ln e^{-\theta_v/2T}}{dT} + \frac{d \ln \frac{1}{1 - e^{-\theta_v/T}}}{dT} \right)$

$$= \bar{R}T^2 \left(\frac{\theta_v}{2T^2} + \frac{\frac{\theta_v}{T^2} e^{-\theta_v/T}}{1 - e^{-\theta_v/T}} \right) = \bar{R} \theta_v \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{e^{-\theta_v/T}}{1 - e^{-\theta_v/T}} \right)$$
 - if we let lowest vibration level have zero energy (remove $\frac{1}{2}k\theta_v$ energy)
$$\hat{\varepsilon}_{vib} = \bar{R} \theta_v \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{e^{\theta_v/T} - 1} \right)$$

$$\hat{\varepsilon}_{vib} = \bar{R} \theta_v \frac{1}{e^{\theta_v/T} - 1}$$
- Also $\hat{\varepsilon}_{v,vib} = d\hat{\varepsilon}_{vib}/dT = \bar{R} \theta_v \left(0 + \frac{\theta_v}{T^2} \frac{e^{\theta_v/T}}{(e^{\theta_v/T} - 1)^2} \right) = \bar{R} \left(\frac{\theta_v}{T} \right)^2 \frac{e^{\theta_v/T}}{(e^{\theta_v/T} - 1)^2}$

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Vibrational Energy

- Normalizing expressions

$$\frac{e_{vib}}{R\theta_v} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{e^{\theta_v/T} - 1}$$

$$\frac{c_{v,vib}}{R} = \left(\frac{\theta_v}{T}\right)^2 \frac{e^{\theta_v/T}}{(e^{\theta_v/T} - 1)^2}$$

- Limits

– for $\theta_v/T \gg 1$, $e^{\theta_v/T} \rightarrow \infty$

- $e_{vib} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}R\theta_v$

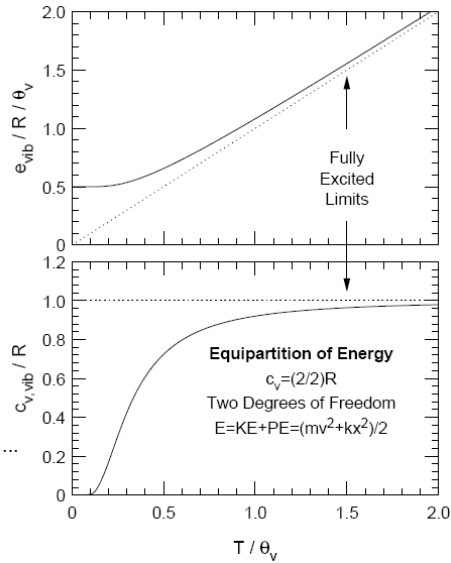
- $c_{v,vib} \rightarrow 0$

– for $\theta_v/T \ll 1$

$$e^{\theta_v/T} = 1 + \frac{\theta_v}{T} + \frac{1}{2!} \left(\frac{\theta_v}{T}\right)^2 + \dots$$

- $e_{vib} \rightarrow R\theta_v (\frac{1}{2} + T/\theta_v)$

- $c_{v,vib} \rightarrow R$



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Typical Values for Diatomic Molecules

Gas	θ_r (K)	θ_v (K)	Q_{el}
H ₂	85	6300	1 + e ^{-132,000/T}
NH	24	4496	3 + 2e ^{-18,250/T} + 2e ^{-30,490/T}
OH	27	5370	2 + 2e ^{-125/T} + 2e ^{-47,000/T}
N ₂	2.88	3390	1 + 2e ^{-99,600/T}
CO	2.8	3120	1 + 2e ^{-93,500/T}
NO	2.44	2740	2 + 2e ^{-174/T} + 2e ^{-63,300/T}
O ₂	2.08	2270	3 + 2e ^{-11,400/T}

- For typical conditions $\theta_r \ll T \lesssim \theta_v \ll \theta_{el,1}$ *except for some radicals like NO, OH*
except at very high T *but then often $Q_{el} \sim g_0 + g_1$*

NH and OH nearly the same mass, O has higher electronegativity than N
 \Rightarrow OH has much stronger bond thus: 1) lower r_e (and moment of inertia) so higher θ_r ; and 2) higher k_{spring} (and vibrational frequency) so higher θ_v

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Overall Diatomic Properties

- Combining all modes, i.e., $Q = Q_{tr} Q_{rot} Q_{vib} Q_{el}$, can write

- Specific heat $\hat{c}_v = \bar{R} \left[\frac{5}{2} + \left(\frac{\theta_v}{T} \right)^2 \frac{e^{\theta_v/T}}{(e^{\theta_v/T} - 1)^2} \right] + \hat{c}_{v,elec}$

- Pressure $p = \bar{R} T \frac{\partial \ln Q}{\partial V} \bigg|_T = \bar{R} T \frac{\partial \ln Q_{tr}}{\partial V} \bigg|_T \overset{\text{all other modes } Q \neq Q(V)}{\Rightarrow} pV = nRT$

- Entropy $\hat{S} = \hat{S}_{tr} + \hat{S}_{int} = \hat{S}_{tr} + \hat{S}_{rot} + \hat{S}_{vib} + \hat{S}_{el}$ $\frac{\hat{S}_{tr}}{\bar{R}} = \frac{5}{2} \ln T - \ln p + \left\{ \frac{5}{2} + \ln \left(\frac{(2\pi m)^{3/2} k^{5/2}}{h^3} \right) \right\} \overset{\text{Already showed}}{=} bk$

for $T \gg \theta_r$ $\hat{S}_{rot}/\bar{R} \cong \ln T + (1 - \ln(\sigma\theta_r))$ constant $\frac{\hat{S}_{int}}{\bar{R}} = \ln Q_{int} + T \frac{\partial \ln Q_{int}}{\partial T} \bigg|_V$ constant

$\hat{S}_{vib}/\bar{R} = -\ln(1 - e^{-\theta_v/T}) + \frac{\theta_v/T}{e^{\theta_v/T} - 1} = \ln T + (1 - \ln \theta_v)$ when $T \gg \theta_v$ constant

for $T \ll \theta_{el,1}$ $\hat{S}_{el}/\bar{R} \cong \ln g_o$ constant

$$\frac{\hat{S}}{\bar{R}} = \frac{7}{2} \ln T - \ln(1 - e^{-\theta_v/T}) + \frac{\theta_v/T}{e^{\theta_v/T} - 1} - \ln p + \text{constant}$$

$= (c_p/\bar{R}) \ln T - \ln p + \text{constant}$ when c_p const.

Overall Diatomic Properties

- Similarly for the chemical potential

$$\mu = \mu_{tr} + \mu_{int} = \bar{R} T \ln p + \bar{R} T \left[\ln(T, b, \theta_r, \theta_v, g_{el,i}, \theta_{el,i}) \right]$$

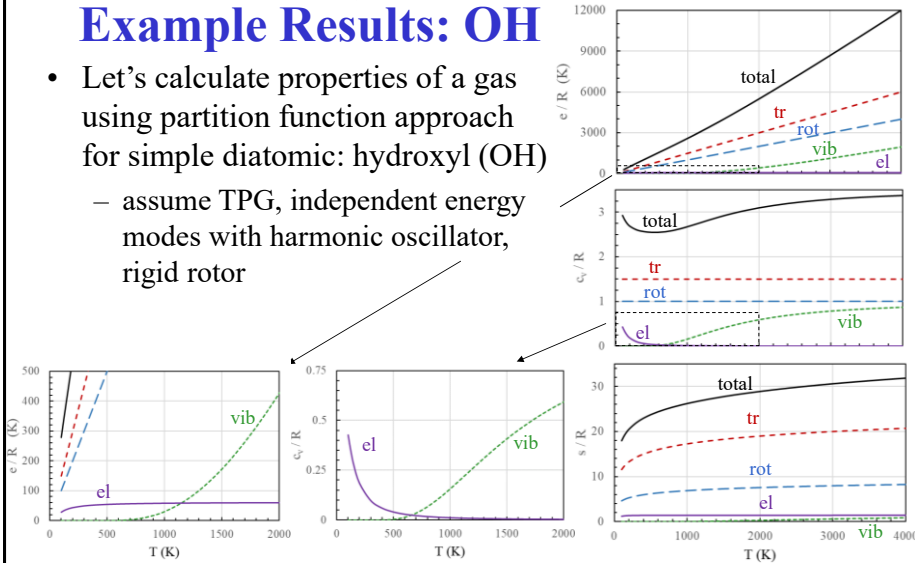
\downarrow $= -\bar{R} T \ln Q_{int}$ $\mu^o(T)$ $b \equiv (2\pi mk/h^2)^{3/2}$

$$\cong \bar{R} T \ln p - \bar{R} T \left[\begin{array}{l} \frac{5}{2} \ln T + \ln(bk) \text{ tran.} \\ + \ln T - \ln(\sigma\theta_r) \text{ rot. for } T \gg \theta_r \\ - \ln(1 - e^{-\theta_v/T}) - \frac{\theta_v}{2T} \text{ vib.} \\ + \ln g_o \text{ elec. for } T \ll \theta_{el,1} \\ + \frac{\theta_D}{T} \text{ chemical for atoms as the "elements"} \end{array} \right]$$

$\rightarrow \equiv \varepsilon_D/k$
with ε_D = energy required to dissociate molecule's ground state into atoms

Example Results: OH

- Let's calculate properties of a gas using partition function approach for simple diatomic: hydroxyl (OH)
 - assume TPG, independent energy modes with harmonic oscillator, rigid rotor

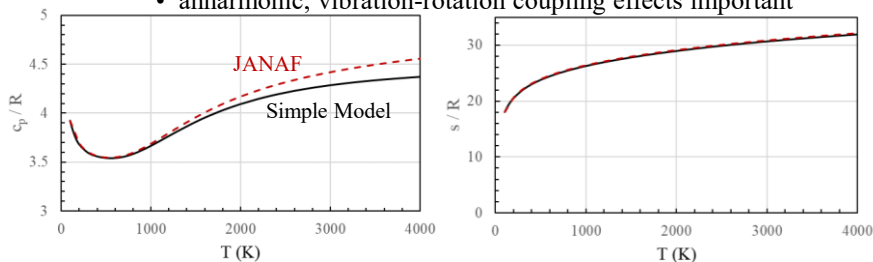


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Accuracy of Results for OH

- Compare these results to accepted standard TD properties
 - from JANAF tables <https://janaf.nist.gov/>
- Entropy
 - good agreement over full range (< 1% difference)
- Specific heat
 - excellent agreement for $T < 1000-1200$ K
 - error increase at higher temperatures (~5% at 4000K)
 - anharmonic, vibration-rotation coupling effects important



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