

DP VIPRA COLLEGE BILASPUR

Session 2021-22

Department of Chemistry

M. Sc 2nd Semester

SUBJECT– PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY

Topic-Vibrational Partition Function

Partition Function

Introduction :- Statistical Thermodynamics analysis is facilitated through the use of the partition function. This great analytical tool i.e the partition function is defined as.

$$Q = \sum g_i e^{-\epsilon_i / KT}$$

Definition:- A partition function describes the statistical properties of the system in thermodynamics equilibrium partition function are function of the thermodynamics state variable . Such as the temperature and volume.

Vibrational partition function :-

Introduction:- The partition function for vibrational energy of a diatomic molecules is given by

$$f_v = \sum g_v \cdot e^{-\epsilon_v / KT}$$

Definition:- The vibrational partition function traditionally refers to the component of the canonical partition resulting from the vibrational degree of freedom of a system.

The partition function for vibrational energy of a diatomic molecules is given by

$$f_v = \sum g_v \cdot e^{-\epsilon_v / KT}$$

As the statistical Weight of each vibrational level is unity we have

$$f_v = \sum e^{-\epsilon_v/KT} \dots\dots\dots (1)$$

At the nth quantam level the vibrational energy of a diatomic is given by

$$\epsilon_v = (n+1/2) h\nu$$

Where ν =fundamental frequency of vibration

n = an integer 0,1,2,3.....etc

Therefore from equation 1 we have

$$\begin{aligned} f_v &= \sum_0^{\infty} e^{-(n+1/2) h\nu/KT} \\ &= e^{-(1/2) h\nu/KT} [1 + e^{-h\nu/KT} + e^{-2h\nu/KT} + \dots\dots + e^{-ih\nu/KT} + \dots\dots] \end{aligned}$$

$$= e^{-(1/2)hv/KT} [1 - e^{-hv/KT}]^{-1}$$

$$[\text{As } (1 - e^{-x})^{-1} = 1 + e^{-x} + e^{-2x} + e^{-3x} + \dots + e^{-ix} + \dots]$$

The quantity hv/KT is very small and as a first approximation

$$f\nu = (1 - e^{-hv/KT})^{-1}$$

The value of ν is equal to $c\omega$. Where c is the velocity of light and ω cm^{-1} is the vibration frequency in wave number of the given oscillator. Hence

$$\begin{aligned} f\nu &= (1 - e^{-h\nu/KT})^{-1} \\ &= (1 - e^{-1.439\omega/T})^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{As } h\nu/KT = 1.439\omega/T$$