Material for Week 3

Physics 4488/6562: Statistical Mechanics https://sethna.lassp.cornell.edu/Teaching/562/ Exercises due Mon. Feb 14

Last correction at January 11, 2022, 9:02 pm ©2021, James Sethna, all rights reserved

All exercises are from the second edition of the text: https://sethna.lassp.cornell.edu/StatMech/EntropyOrderParametersComplexity20.pdf

Monday

In-class question: 3.16 Taste, smell, and μ

Wednesday

Read: Chapter 4, Sec. 4.1 (Liouville's theorem), Sec. 4.2 (Ergodicity)

Pre-class question: 4.6 Perverse initial conditions

In-class question: 4.2 Liouville vs. the damped pendulum

In-class question: 3.11 Maxwell relations

Friday

Read: Chapter 5, Sec. 5.1 (Engines & Heat Death) Pre-class question: 4.5 No Hamiltonian attractors

In-class question: 5.1 Life and the heat death of the Universe

Monday

Read: Chapter 5, Sec. 5.2.1 (Entropy of mixing)

Pre-class question: 3.18 Ideal gas glass

Exercises for everyone (4488 and 6562)

- 5.8 The Arnol'd cat map.
- 4.8 Jarzynski. Liouville's theorem applies also to time-dependent Hamiltonians. Jarzynski, and later Crooks, used this to calculate the exact entropy change for a non-equilibrium process. Here we use an ideal gas, compressed non-adiabatically, to illustrate how this exact result is used in practice.

Exercises for Graduate Course (6562 only)

- 3.14 Pendulum energy shell.
- 4.7 Crooks. Here we derive the remarkable Crooks relation using Liouville's theorem