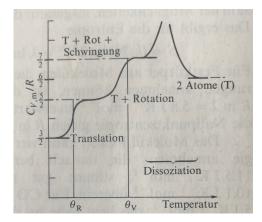
Problem Set 8	Prof. Dr. R. Hentschke
Statistical Mechanics	
summer 2024	TA: Lena Tarrach (F12.19)
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## Problem 20: Heat capacity of HCl

The picture below (which is Abb. 22-6 in P.W. Atkins *Physikalische Chemie* (3rd edition) VCH (1986)) illustrates the general temperature dependence of the isochoric heta capacity  $C_V^{(1)}$  of a diatomic molecule (per mol). We want to, at least partially, calculate this curve for HCl.



Produce a graph of  $C_V^{(1)}/k_B$  for HCl in the temperature range between 0.1 and 10<sup>5</sup> K (cf. Aufgabe 20 in R. Hentschke *Statistische Mechanik* Wiley-VCH (2004)). Assume that HCl  $\equiv$  <sup>1</sup>H<sup>35</sup>Cl is a linear rotor with the equilibrium inter nuclear separation  $r_o = 127.45$  pm. Further assume  $C_{V,trans}^{(1)}/k_B = 3/2$ in the entire *T*-range and a vibrational wave number 2990.95 cm<sup>-1</sup>. State explicitly the values you use for  $T_{rot}$  and  $T_{vib}$ .

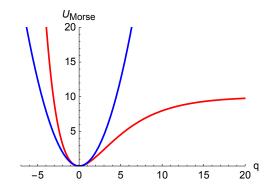
(6 points)

## Problem 21: Harmonic vs. Morse oscillator

The Morse potential,

$$U_{Morse} = D_o (1 - \exp[-a\,q])^2 \,, \tag{1}$$

is a phenomenological internuclear potential energy function for diatomic molecules. Here q is the deviation of the internuclear separation from its equilibrium value.  $U_{Morse}$  for  $D_o = 10$  and  $a = 1/\sqrt{2D_o}$  is shown by the red line in the figure. Taylor expansion of  $U_{Morse}$  at q = 0 and using again a =  $1/\sqrt{2D_o}$  yields the harmonic oscillator potential  $U_{Morse}(q) \approx q^2/2$  shown by the blue line in the figure. Note that the Morse potential allows the dissociation of the molecule since the depth of the potential well,  $D_o$ , is finite.



In the present units the energy eigenvalues of the harmonic oscillator potential (blue curve) are  $\epsilon_{osc} = n + 1/2$  and  $n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$  The energy eigenvalues of the Morse potential can also be calculated analytically (e.g. chapter 6 in S.-H. Dong *Factorization method in quantum mechanics*. Springer (2007)). They follow via the condition

$$2s = \nu - 2n - 1 , \qquad (2)$$

where  $s = \sqrt{2(D_o - \epsilon_{Morse})/a^2}$ ,  $\nu = \sqrt{8D_o/a^2}$  and  $n = 0, 1, ..., n_{max}$ .

Calculate the heat capacity for the Morse potential  $c_V \equiv C_V/k_B$  vs.  $t = T/T_{vib}$  in the range 0 < t < 4 using  $a = 1/\sqrt{2D_o}$  and  $D_o = 10$ . Plot your result together with the corresponding heat capacity for the harmonic oscillator approximation. Indicate the high temperature limit of the harmonic oscillator by a dotted line also in the range 0 < t < 4. Interpret the difference between the two heat capacities, i.e. why is  $c_V$  of the Morse potential larger than  $c_V$  of the oscillator for intermediate t but decreases towards zero for  $t \to \infty$ ?

(6 points)

## Problem 22: Second virial coefficient of Argon

Let's assume that the interaction between Argon atoms in the gas phase is well described by the (pairwise) Lennard-Jones (LJ) potential

$$u_{LJ}(r) = 4\epsilon \left[ \left(\frac{\sigma}{r}\right)^{12} - \left(\frac{\sigma}{r}\right)^6 \right] .$$
(3)

Using the experimental data provided in the table, obtain the LJ parameters  $\epsilon/k_B$  (in units of Kelvin) and  $\sigma$  (in units of Å) for Argon. Provide a graph showing the comparison between  $B_2^{theo}(T)$  and  $B_2^{exp}(T)$  vs. temperature T. Hint: Do not try to solve the  $B_2$ -integral analytically. Use a numerical solver instead.

T/K	$B_2/cm^3mol^{-1}$
100	-184
280	-19
460	3
640	13
820	18
1000	21

(6 points)