

Thu 29 Feb

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Thermal contact \rightarrow total $M = \sum_{e_1} M_{e_1}^{(1)} M_{E-e_1}^{(2)}$

Say $N_{\text{terms}} \geq 1$ in sum, largest called "max"

Simple bound $\text{max} \leq M \leq N_{\text{terms}} \cdot \text{max}$

Micro-canonical: $\log(\text{max}) \leq S \leq \log(N_{\text{terms}} \cdot \text{max})$

Illustrative example $N \sim 10^{23}$

$N_{\text{terms}} \sim N$

$\text{max} \sim e^N$

$M = 2^N = e^{N \log 2}$

$N! \sim \left(\frac{N}{e}\right)^N \sim N^N$

$$N \lesssim S \lesssim N + \log N$$

$$10^{23} \lesssim S \lesssim 10^{23} + 50$$

Concrete example

$H=1$ $N_1 = N_2 = 10$ $E = e_1 + e_2 = -10$

$e_1 = -(2N_1^{(1)} - N_1) = -10, -8, -6, \dots, 10$

| e_1 | $E - e_1$ | $n_+^{(1)}$ | $n_+^{(2)}$ | $M_1 M_2$ |
|-------|-----------|-------------|-------------|--|
| -10 | 0 | 10 | 5 | $\binom{10}{0} \cdot \binom{10}{5} = 1 \cdot \frac{10 \cdot 9 \cdot 8 \cdot 6 \cdot 7}{5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2} = 4 \cdot 63 = 252$ |
| -8 | -2 | 9 | 6 | 2100 |
| -6 | -4 | 8 | 7 | $\left. \begin{aligned} \binom{10}{8} \cdot \binom{10}{7} &= \frac{10 \cdot 9}{2} \times \frac{10 \cdot 9 \cdot 8}{3 \cdot 2} = 45 \cdot 120 = 5400 = \text{max} \end{aligned} \right\}$ |
| -4 | -6 | 7 | 8 | |
| -2 | -8 | 6 | 9 | 2100 |
| 0 | -10 | 5 | 10 | 252 |

$\text{max} = 5400$

$N_{\text{terms}} = 6$

$$\log(5400) \leq \log(15,504) \leq \log(6 \cdot 5400)$$

$$8.59 \lesssim 9.65 \lesssim 10.39$$

$\log(\text{max})$ gives 89% of entropy

Stirling's Formula

$$\log(N!) \approx N \log N - N \quad \text{for } N \gg 1$$

$$N! \approx \exp(N \log N - N) = N^N e^{-N} = \left(\frac{N}{e}\right)^N$$

More precise:

$$N! = \sqrt{2\pi N} \left(\frac{N}{e}\right)^N \left(1 + \frac{A}{N} + \frac{B}{N^2} + \frac{C}{N^3} + \dots\right)$$

(asymptotic)

1) Simple bounds

$$N \log N - N < \log(N!) < N \log N$$

2) Find $N! \approx \sqrt{2\pi N} \left(\frac{N}{e}\right)^N$

by showing $N! = \int_0^{\infty} x^N e^{-x} dx$ approximate by gaussian

3) Compute A, B, \dots

by compare $N!$ and $(N+1)! = (N+1)N!$

commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Stirling_error_vs_number_of_terms.svg

