

3.7 Prove: $C_p - C_v = \frac{-k \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial T} \left(T \left(\frac{\partial \ln Q}{\partial V} \right)_T \right) \right]^2}{\left(\frac{\partial^2 \ln Q}{\partial V^2} \right)_T} \geq 0$

Holding N constant, we can

use 1.4.17 and 1.4.18: $C_p = T \left(\frac{\partial S}{\partial T} \right)_p$, $C_v = T \left(\frac{\partial S}{\partial T} \right)_v$

$C_p = T \left(\frac{\partial S}{\partial T} \right)_p = T \left(\frac{\partial S}{\partial T} \Big|_v + \frac{\partial S}{\partial V} \Big|_T \cdot \frac{\partial V}{\partial T} \Big|_p \right)$ by Appendix H.1d

$= C_v + T \frac{\partial S}{\partial V} \Big|_T \cdot \frac{\partial V}{\partial T} \Big|_p \Rightarrow C_p - C_v = T \frac{\partial S}{\partial V} \Big|_T \cdot \frac{\partial V}{\partial T} \Big|_p$

(Now, by H.1c, $-1 = \frac{\partial V}{\partial T} \Big|_p \frac{\partial T}{\partial P} \Big|_v \frac{\partial P}{\partial V} \Big|_T \Rightarrow \frac{\partial V}{\partial T} \Big|_p = \frac{-1}{\frac{\partial T}{\partial P} \Big|_v \frac{\partial P}{\partial V} \Big|_T}$)

$\therefore C_p - C_v = \frac{-T \frac{\partial S}{\partial V} \Big|_T}{\frac{\partial T}{\partial P} \Big|_v \frac{\partial P}{\partial V} \Big|_T}$

(Further, by H.1a, $\frac{\frac{\partial S}{\partial V} \Big|_T}{\frac{\partial T}{\partial P} \Big|_v} = \frac{\frac{\partial S}{\partial V} \Big|_T \frac{\partial P}{\partial T} \Big|_v}{\frac{\partial P}{\partial V} \Big|_T} = \frac{\partial P}{\partial T} \Big|_v \frac{\partial P}{\partial V} \Big|_T = \left(\frac{\partial P}{\partial T} \Big|_v \right)^2$ by H.7a)

$\therefore C_p - C_v = -T \frac{\left(\frac{\partial P}{\partial T} \Big|_v \right)^2}{\frac{\partial P}{\partial V} \Big|_T} \geq 0$ (b/c $-T \left(\frac{\partial P}{\partial T} \Big|_v \right)^2$ is clearly ≤ 0 , and The denominator must be negative b/c if pressure grows with volume, we have a very bad situation!)

Now, $A = -kT \ln Q$, and by H.6c, $P = - \left(\frac{\partial A}{\partial V} \right)_T = kT \frac{\partial \ln Q}{\partial V} \Big|_T$ (†)

So, take a derivative: $\left(\frac{\partial P}{\partial V} \right)_T = kT \frac{\partial^2 \ln Q}{\partial V^2} \Big|_T$

and another: $\left(\frac{\partial P}{\partial T} \right)_v = k \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial T} \left(T \cdot \frac{\partial \ln Q}{\partial V} \Big|_T \right) \right)_v$

Plug these into (★):

$$C_p - C_v = \frac{-k \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial T} \left(T \cdot \frac{\partial \ln Q}{\partial V} \Big|_T \right) \right]^2}{\frac{\partial^2 \ln Q}{\partial V^2} \Big|_T} \geq 0 \quad \square$$

Now, let's verify that $C_p - C_v = Nk$ for an ideal gas.

$P = kT \frac{\partial \ln Q}{\partial V} \Big|_T$ from (†), and for an ideal gas $P = \frac{NkT}{V} \Rightarrow \frac{N}{V} = \frac{\partial \ln Q}{\partial V}$

\Rightarrow The Numerator becomes $-k \left(\frac{N}{V} \right)^2$

\Rightarrow The Denominator becomes $\frac{\partial^2 \ln Q}{\partial V^2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial V} \frac{N}{V} = -\frac{N}{V^2}$

$\therefore C_p - C_v = \frac{-k \left(\frac{N}{V} \right)^2}{-\frac{N}{V^2}} = \boxed{kN}$

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