Partition derivatives, energy fluctuations and heat capacity

GRE Subject Test · GRE Physics · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
partition function /pɑːˈtɪʃn ˈfʌŋkʃn/	Keep the energy levels fixed when differentiating the **partition function**.
free energy /friː ˈenədʒi/	A system at fixed temperature moves towards lower **free energy**.
heat capacity /hiːt kəˈpæsɪti/	**Heat capacity** is the heat needed per kelvin of temperature rise.
fluctuations	Small systems show large energy **fluctuations**.
two-level system	A **two-level system** has only a ground state and one excited state.
Schottky peak	A two-level system's heat capacity shows a **Schottky peak**.

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