

CONTENTS

Chapter

I.	General introduction	<i>page 1</i>
II.	The method of the most probable distribution .	5
III.	Discussion of the Nernst theorem	15
IV.	Examples on the second section	18
	(a) Free mass-point (ideal monatomic gas)	19
	(b) Planck's oscillator	20
	(c) Fermi oscillator	20
V.	Fluctuations	22
VI.	The method of mean values	27
VII.	The n -particle problem	42
VIII.	Evaluation of the formulae. Limiting cases	53
	The entropy constant	56
	The failure of the classical theory. Gibbs's paradox	58
	Digression: Annihilation of matter?	62
	Digression on the uncertainty relation	64
	Gas-degeneration proper	67
	Weak degeneration	68
	Medium degeneration	69
	Strong degeneration	70
	(a) Strong Fermi-Dirac degeneration	70
	(b) Strong Bose-Einstein degeneration	76
IX.	The problem of radiation	81
	<i>Appendix</i>	89