

Heating a Room

A heater is turned on in a room, openly connected to the outside, so that the room maintains a constant pressure P and volume V . The following constants are known for the air:

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{V} \left. \frac{\partial V}{\partial T} \right|_{P,N},$$

$$c_P = \frac{1}{N} \left. \frac{\partial E}{\partial T} \right|_{P,N}.$$

(a) Show that

$$\left. \frac{\partial S}{\partial T} \right|_{P,V} = -\alpha S + \frac{N c_P}{T}.$$

This is tricky: to get started, consider writing $\partial_T = (\partial_T N) \partial_N$. Then, use the Gibbs-Duhem relation for chemical potential, and more partial derivative tricks.

(b) Show that if $H = E + PV$ is the enthalpy:

$$\left. \frac{\partial E}{\partial T} \right|_{P,V} = -\alpha H + N c_P.$$

(c) Evaluate the results of part (a) and (b) for a monoatomic ideal gas, and show that the room is heated by decreasing entropy, not increasing energy.