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Generalized Statistical Thermodynamics

Guest Editors:

Prof. Dr. Themis Matsoukas

Department of Chemical Engineering, Pennsylvania State University, 313 Chemical and Biomedical Engineering Building, University Park, PA 16802, USA

Prof. Dr. Milton W. Cole

Department of Physics, Penn State University, 104 Davey Lab, University Park, PA 16802, USA

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Message from the Guest Editors

Statistical thermodynamics, undoubtedly one of the most important achievements in mathematical physics, is the rigorous mathematical language that describes the equilibrium state of a system of interacting particles, classical or quantum. Its appeal, however, extends beyond molecular systems to generic stochastic populations, whether these are colloidal particles, ecological systems or financial markets. At its most fundamental level, statistical thermodynamics is a variational calculus of the most probable distribution: Out of all possible distributions, the one that materializes as the macroscopic observable is the most probable distribution.

This Special Issue solicits contributions that apply the language and tools of statistical thermodynamics to systems beyond molecules. Areas of special interest include clustering and fragmentation in particulate systems, propagation and extinction of epidemics, statistical thermodynamics of networks, and the application of statistical mechanics to stochastic processes in general.



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Special Issue



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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Kevin H. Knuth

Department of Physics, University
at Albany, 1400 Washington
Avenue, Albany, NY 12222, USA

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

The concept of entropy is traditionally a quantity in physics that has to do with temperature. However, it is now clear that entropy is deeply related to information theory and the process of inference. As such, entropic techniques have found broad application in the sciences.

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Entropy Editorial Office
MDPI, St. Alban-Anlage 66
4052 Basel, Switzerland

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