Statistical mechanics, lecture 2 of 4

0. Spin half paramagnet entropy

1. Simple harmonic oscillator

2. Combining two independent aspects of a system

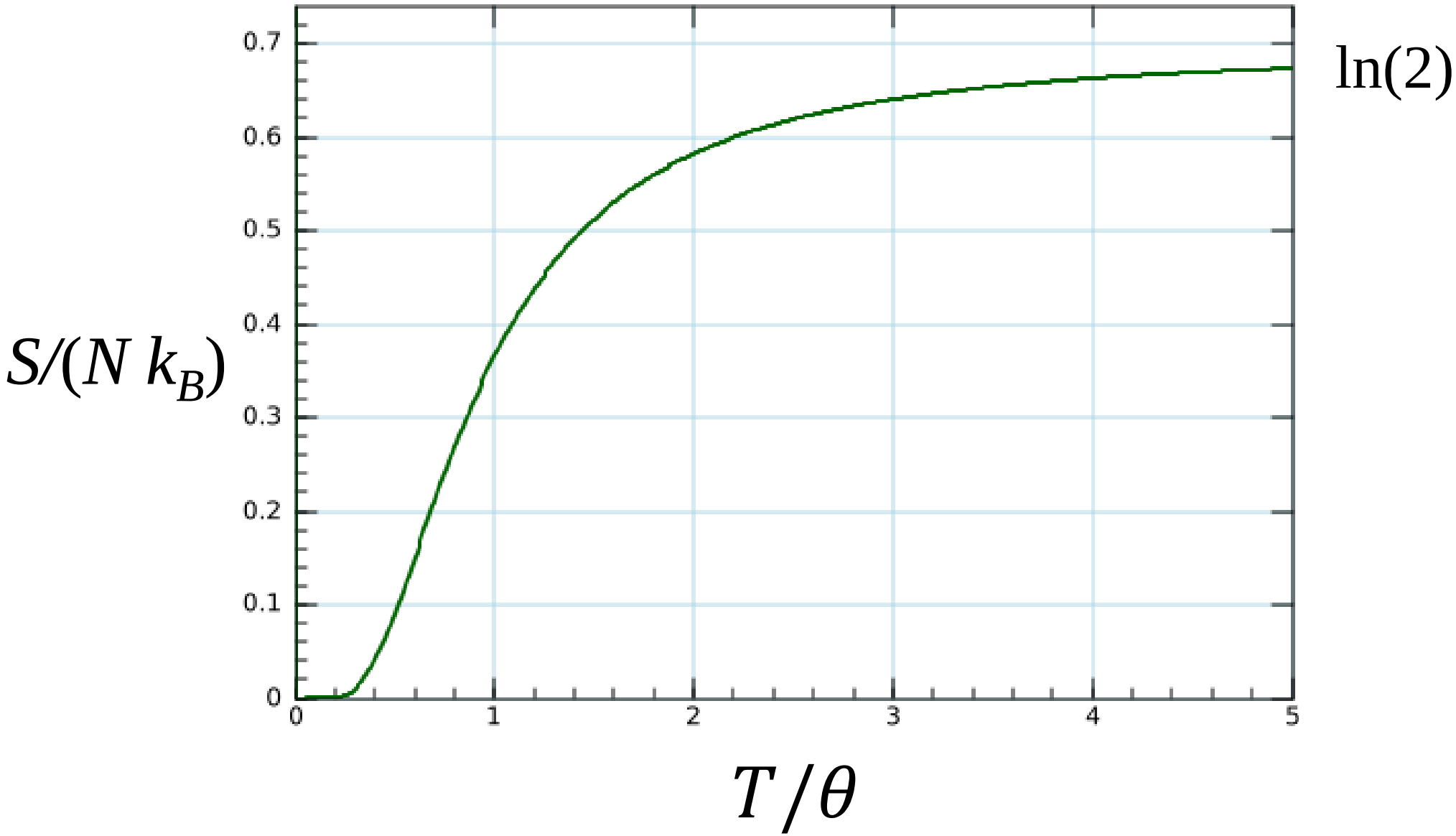
3. 3D SHM

4. application to crystal vibrations

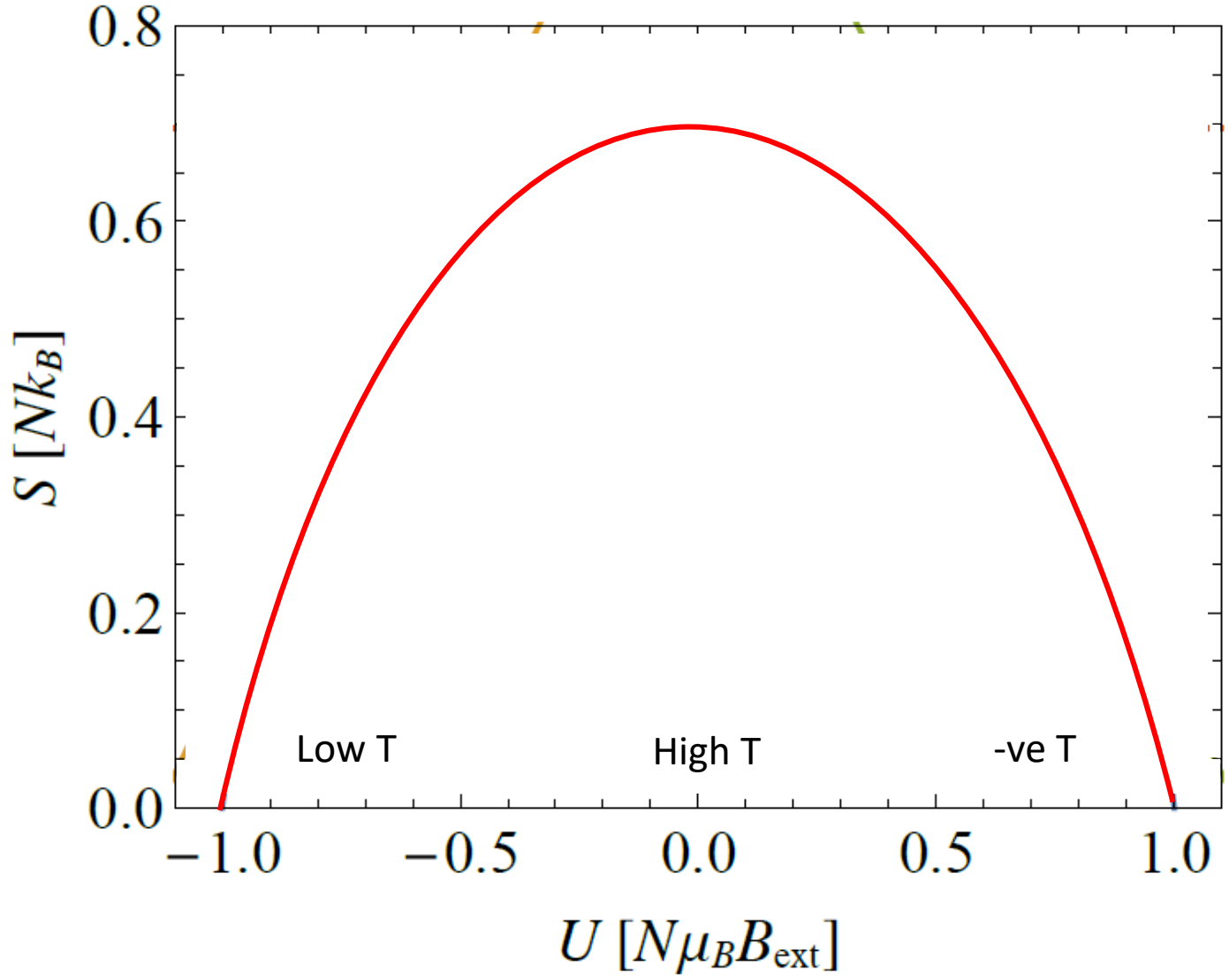
5. Rotator

6. Equipartition theorem

Entropy of spin-1/2 paramagnet as a function of temperature



Entropy of spin-1/2 paramagnet as a function of internal energy.



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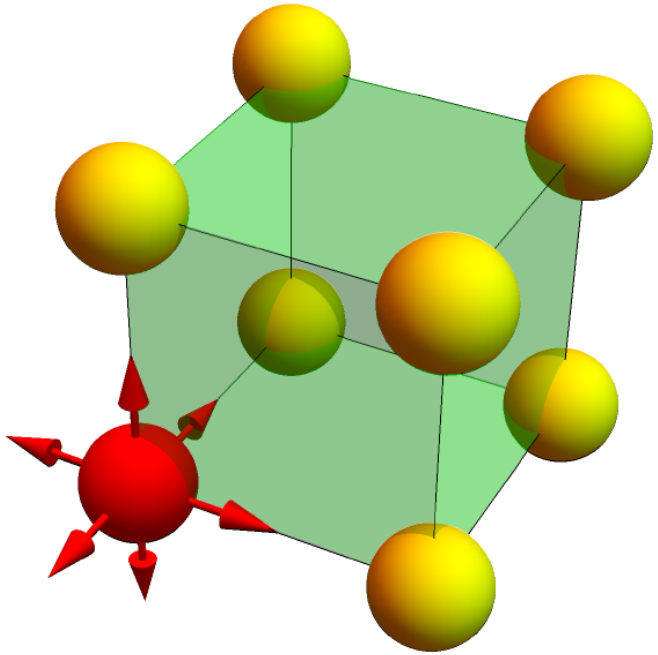
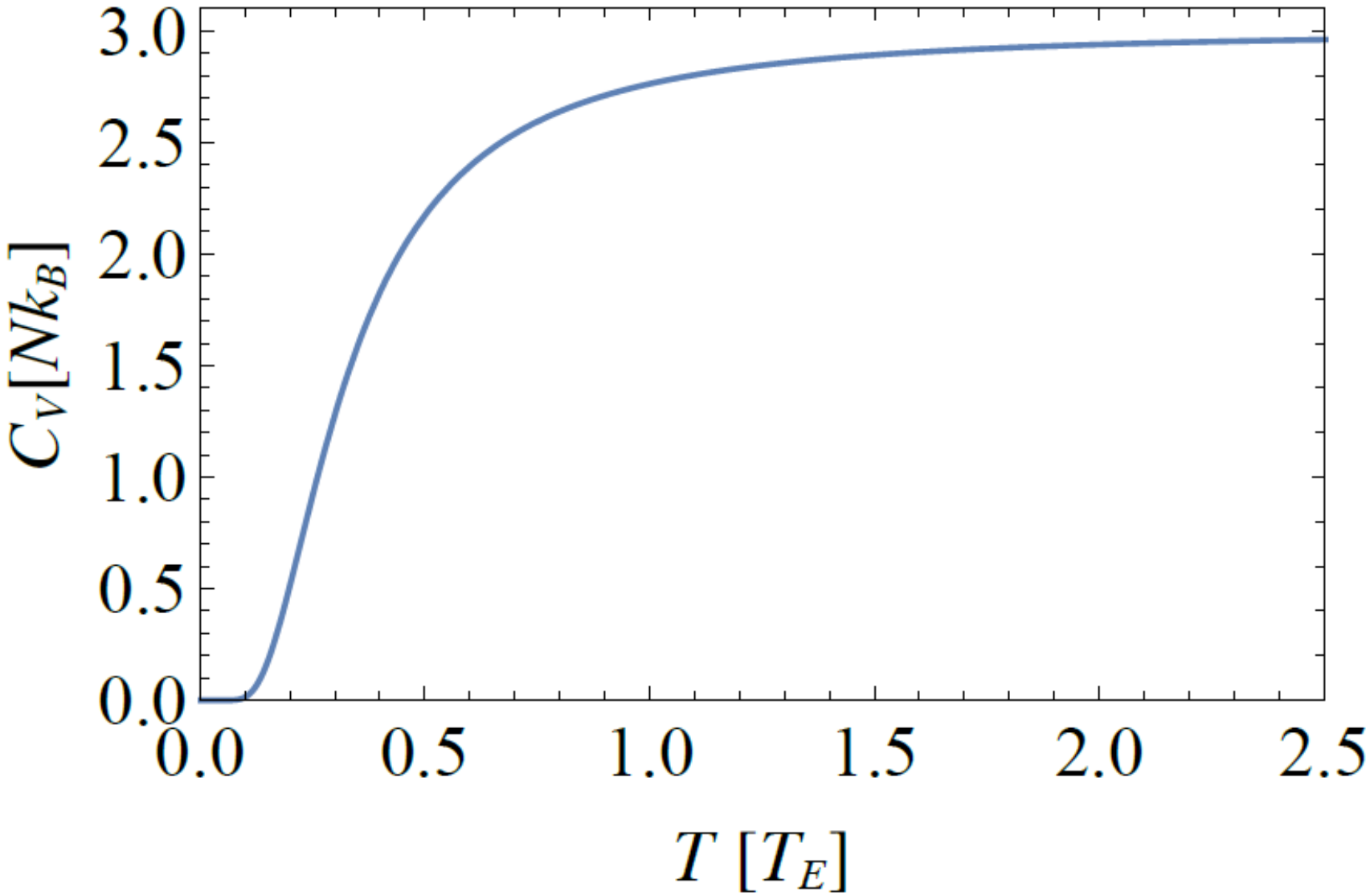


Diagram to illustrate the idea of an atom in a crystal vibrating around its equilibrium position. (Of course, all the atoms vibrate in practice, not just one!)



Heat capacity of a 3-dimensional crystal owing to vibrations, according to a simple model (the Einstein model) which only allows for one vibrational frequency.

Theorem 8.1 Equipartition theorem. *Each independent quadratic term in the Hamiltonian makes a contribution* $\frac{1}{2}k_{\mathrm{B}}T$ *to the mean internal energy in thermal equilibrium when the associated motion is highly excited.*