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Define Entropy. what is its physical significance. Show that the Entropy remains constant in reversible process of change in irreversible process?

A measure of the unavailability of a system's energy to do work is called entropy. It is denoted by the symbol 'S'. An increase in entropy is accompanied by a decrease in energy availability. When a system undergoes a reversible change the entropy (S) changes by an amount equal to the entropy (Q) absorbed by the system divided by the thermodynamic temp. (T) at which the energy is absorbed.

i.e.  $\Delta S = \frac{\Delta Q}{T}$ . However all real processes are to a certain extent irreversible changes and is always accompanied by an increase in entropy.

In a wider sense entropy can be interpreted as a measure of a system's disorder. The higher, the entropy, greater the disorder. As an real change of a closed system tends towards higher entropy and therefore higher disorder, it follows that the entropy of the universe is increasing and its available energy is decreasing. This increase in entropy of the universe is one way of stating the Second law of thermodynamics.

Physical Significance:-

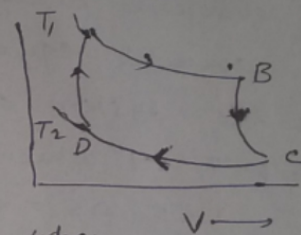
The change in ~~en~~ entropy

of a substance is defined by  $\Delta S = \frac{Q}{T}$  shows <sup>(2)</sup> that the heat energy has the same dimensions as the product of entropy and absolute temp. In earth's gravitational field, the P.E of a body is proportional to the product of its mass and height above some zero level. A comparison indicates that if we regard height as corresponding to temp, then mass corresponds to entropy.

### Change of Entropy in a Reversible Process $\Rightarrow$

Let us consider a complete reversible process:  $\rightarrow$  A Carnot's cycle ABCD shown in figure.

In the isothermal expansion from A to B, the working substance (perfect gas) absorbs an amount of heat  $Q_1$  at a



constant temp  $T_1$  of the source. When heat is absorbed by the system  $Q_1$  is (+ve), the entropy change is (+ve) because  $T$  is (+ve), hence gain in Entropy of working substance from A to B  $= \frac{Q_1}{T_1}$ . Since the source loses this heat  $Q_1$  at temp  $T_1$ , hence its entropy decreases by  $\frac{Q_1}{T_1}$ . During adiabatic expansion from B to C, there is no change in entropy because heat is neither taken nor given out. During the isothermal compression from C to D, the working substance gives out a quantity of heat  $Q_2$  at a constant temp  $T_2$  of sink and so the loss in entropy from C to D  $= \frac{Q_2}{T_2}$ . Again during adiabatic compression from D to A, there is no change in entropy, so the net gain in entropy of working substance in the whole cycle ABCD is



$$\frac{Q_1}{T_1} = - \frac{Q_2}{T_2}$$

But in complete reversible Carnot's cycle

$$\frac{Q_1}{T_1} - \frac{Q_2}{T_2} \therefore \frac{Q_1}{T_1} - \frac{Q_2}{T_2} = 0$$

So the total change in entropy of the working substance in a complete cycle of reversible process is zero. The change in entropy of a combined system of source and sink is also 0. In a cycle of reversible process, the entropy of the system remain unchanged.

Entropy in an irreversible process: →

The efficiency of a Carnot reversible cycle working between absolute temp  $T_1$  &  $T_2$  is

$$\eta = 1 - \frac{T_2}{T_1} = 1 - \frac{Q_2}{Q_1} \quad (\because Q \propto T)$$

where  $Q_1$  is the amount of heat taken in in ~~at~~ at temp  $T_1$  &  $Q_2$  that given up at temp  $T_2$ . Since the cycle is reversible, then

$$\frac{Q_2}{Q_1} = \frac{T_2}{T_1}$$

$$\therefore \eta = 1 - \frac{Q_2}{Q_1} = 1 - \frac{T_2}{T_1}$$

This is the maximum possible efficiency of an engine working b/w  $T_1$  and  $T_2$ . If the cycle of the engine be irreversible the efficiency will be lowered

$$\eta = 1 - \frac{Q_2}{Q_1} < 1 - \frac{T_2}{T_1}$$

$$\text{or } \frac{Q_2}{Q_1} > \frac{T_2}{T_1} \quad \text{or } \frac{Q_2}{T_2} > \frac{Q_1}{T_1}$$

Now during complete irreversible cycle, the entropy of the source decreases by  $\frac{Q_1}{T_1}$  while that of the sink increases by  $\frac{Q_2}{T_2}$ . The net change in the entropy of the working substance is also zero

The total increase in entropy of the system plus surroundings is  $= \Delta S + \frac{Q_2}{T_2} - \frac{Q_1}{T_1}$  which is (+ve)