Special Issue

Thermodynamics in Quantum and Mesoscopic Systems

Message from the Guest Editors

Historically, thermodynamics was developed to study complex, macroscopic systems, where the standard "thermodynamic limit" applies. Nevertheless, recent experimental and theoretical progress offers glimpses into unconventional thermodynamic behavior in mesoscopic and quantum systems due to size-dependent fluctuations and quantum effects. This focus issue provides a venue for experimental and theoretical studies of thermodynamics on any topic related to mesoscopic and quantum systems. The aim is to advance our understanding of the principles underlying their thermalization and the exchange of heat, work, and information, as well as their foreseeable applications.

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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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