CHEM1612 2013-N-2 November 2013

• Explain the following terms or concept.

Marks 3

Third law of thermodynamics

A perfect pure crystal at absolute zero (0 K) has zero entropy. It is not possible to reduce the temperature of any system to absolutel in a finite number of finite operations.

• The specific heat capacity of water at 0 °C is undefined. Explain why this is so.

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At 0 °C, any heat transferred into or out of the system is either causing the ice to melt or the water to freeze – there is no change in the temperature. Specific heat capacity is defined as $c = q/m\Delta T$. As there is no change in temperature, $\Delta T = 0$ and c is undefined.