

# Strategy for solving Thermodynamics Problems

- Identify form of  $dU$  (e.g.  $dU = TdS + xdx$ )
- Identify relevant thermodynamic coefficients and moduli ( e.g.  $C_V$ ,  $C_p$ ,  $\kappa_T$ , etc)

- Thermodynamic potentials:

$$U$$

$$H = U - xX$$

$$F = U - TS$$

$$G = H - TS$$

- Exact differentials:

$$dH = TdS - Xdx$$

$$dF = -SdT + xdx$$

$$dG = -SdT - Xdx$$

- Identify relevant partial derivatives

- Maxwell's relations e.g.  $\left(\frac{\partial S}{\partial V}\right)_T = \left(\frac{\partial P}{\partial T}\right)_V$

- Reciprocal and reciprocity theorems

$$\left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial x}\right)_z = \frac{1}{\left(\frac{\partial x}{\partial y}\right)_z} \quad \left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial x}\right)_z \left(\frac{\partial x}{\partial z}\right)_y \left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial y}\right)_x = -1$$