

Final Spring

1. Show that in d -dimensions and for $\varepsilon = \alpha p^s$, $PV = sE/d$ regardless of the statistics of particles in an ideal gas.

Solution

$$\begin{aligned}
 PV &= -\Omega \\
 &= \pm \frac{gVT}{(2\pi\hbar)^d} \int_0^\infty \ln \left(1 \pm \exp \frac{\mu - \varepsilon}{T} \right) d^d p \\
 &= \pm \frac{gVT}{(2\pi\hbar)^d} \frac{\alpha^{-d/s}}{s} \int_0^\infty \ln \left(1 \pm \exp \frac{\mu - \varepsilon}{T} \right) \varepsilon^{d/s-1} d\varepsilon \\
 &= \pm \frac{gVT}{(2\pi\hbar)^d} \frac{\alpha^{-d/s}}{d} \int_0^\infty \ln \left(1 \pm \exp \frac{\mu - \varepsilon}{T} \right) d\varepsilon^{d/s} \\
 &= \pm \frac{gVT}{(2\pi\hbar)^d} \frac{\alpha^{-d/s}}{d} \int_0^\infty \frac{\varepsilon^{d/s} [\mp T^{-1} \exp(\mu - \varepsilon)/T]}{1 \pm \exp(\mu - \varepsilon)/T} d\varepsilon \\
 &= \frac{gV}{(2\pi\hbar)^d} \frac{\alpha^{-d/s}}{d} \int_0^\infty \frac{\varepsilon^{d/s}}{\exp(\varepsilon - \mu)/T \pm 1} d\varepsilon
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 E &= \frac{gV}{(2\pi\hbar)^d} \int_0^\infty \frac{\varepsilon}{\exp(\varepsilon - \mu)/T \pm 1} d^d p \\
 &= \frac{gV}{(2\pi\hbar)^d} \frac{\alpha^{-d/s}}{s} \int_0^\infty \frac{\varepsilon^{d/s}}{\exp(\varepsilon - \mu)/T \pm 1} d\varepsilon
 \end{aligned}$$

$$PV = \frac{s}{d}E$$

2. Evaluate the isothermal compressibility of an ideal, spinless, 3D, non-relativistic Bose gas as $T \rightarrow T_0$, the temperature of Bose-Einstein condensation, from above.

Hint: Evaluate the inverse compressibility $\kappa_T^{-1} = -V (\partial P / \partial V)_{N,T}$ from the Gibbs free energy and relate the latter to the chemical potential.

Solution

$$d\Phi = -SdT + VdP + \mu dN$$

$$\kappa_T^{-1} = -V \left(\frac{\partial P}{\partial V} \right)_{N,T} = - \left(\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial V} \right)_{N,T} = -N \left(\frac{\partial \mu}{\partial V} \right)_{N,T}$$

But as $T \rightarrow T_0$

$$\mu = -\frac{9I_0^2}{4\pi^2} \frac{(T - T_0)^2}{T_0}$$

$$I_0 \equiv \int_0^\infty \frac{\sqrt{z} dz}{\exp z - 1} = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} \varsigma\left(\frac{3}{2}\right), \varsigma\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) = 2.612$$

whereof, using $T_0 \propto V^{-2/3}$, we find

$$\kappa_T^{-1} \cong -\frac{9I_0^2 N}{2\pi^2} \frac{T - T_0}{T_0} \frac{\partial T_0}{\partial V} = -\frac{9I_0^2 N}{2\pi^2} (T - T_0) \frac{\partial \log T_0}{\partial V} = \frac{3I_0^2 N}{\pi^2 V} (T - T_0)$$

leading to a divergent compressibility κ_T .

3. Electron gas is confined, at zero temperature, to a compartment of volume V inside a thermally isolated container of volume $V + \Delta V$, $\Delta V \ll 1$. The other compartment (of volume ΔV) is initially empty. Subsequently, the partition separating the two compartments, V and ΔV , is removed. Find the temperature of the electron gas once the equilibrium is reached.

Solution

By energy conservation

$$\frac{E_i}{N} = \frac{3\pi^2}{10\beta} \left(\frac{N}{V} \right)^{2/3} = \frac{3\pi^2}{10\beta} \left(\frac{N}{V + \Delta V} \right)^{2/3} + \frac{\beta T^2}{2} \left(\frac{V + \Delta V}{N} \right)^{2/3} = \frac{E_f}{N}$$

$$\left(\frac{V + \Delta V}{V} \right)^{2/3} = 1 + \frac{5\beta^2 T^2}{3\pi^2} \left(\frac{V + \Delta V}{N} \right)^{4/3} \approx 1 + \frac{5\beta^2 T^2}{3\pi^2} \left(\frac{V}{N} \right)^{4/3}$$

$$\frac{2\Delta V}{3V} \approx \frac{5\beta^2 T^2}{3\pi^2} \left(\frac{V}{N}\right)^{4/3} = \frac{5\beta T^2}{6\varepsilon_F} \left(\frac{V}{N}\right)^{2/3} = \frac{5\pi^2 T^2}{12\varepsilon_F^2}$$

$$T \approx \varepsilon_F \sqrt{\frac{8}{5\pi^2} \frac{\Delta V}{V}}$$

4. Find the relationship between the isothermal compressibility and the particle number fluctuation in the grand canonical ensemble.

Hint: use the hint in Problem 2 and make a conversion from a fixed number of particles to a fixed volume, similar to p. 342 in LL.

Solution

$$\kappa_T^{-1} = -N \left(\frac{\partial \mu}{\partial V} \right)_{N,T} = \frac{N^2}{V} \left(\frac{\partial \mu}{\partial N} \right)_{V,T}$$

$$\kappa_T = \frac{V}{N^2} \left(\frac{\partial N}{\partial \mu} \right)_{V,T} = \frac{V}{TN^2} \langle (\Delta N)^2 \rangle$$

where eq. (112.14) from LL was used.

5. Derive eq. (144.9) in the strong field limit and evaluate the heat capacity in this limit.