

## L63-Thermal Equilibrium

Tuesday, February 23, 2016 08:18

\* Summary: (redraw diagram of states)

- the probability of a configuration  $P(N_1, N_2, N_3 \dots) \propto Q(N_1, N_2, N_3 \dots)$ ,  
 $Q(\dots)$  = degeneracy of multiparticle states  $\Psi_{E_1 E_2 E_3 \dots}(\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2, \dots, \vec{r}_{\sum N_i})$
- depends on how we build them from single-particle states  $\Psi_E(\vec{r})$  with degeneracy  $d_E$
- in particular, depends on the exchange symmetry  $P_{ij} \Psi_{1,2,3,4 \dots}(\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2 \dots)$  or the "quantum statistics", which depends on the spin

\* Goal: develop the probability of finding a single particle in the state  $\Psi_i(\vec{r})$  with energy  $E_i$ : the distribution  $n(E) = e^{-E/kT}/Z$  (classical)

- this involves maximizing  $Q(N_1, N_2, N_3 \dots)$ , since this probability is sharply peaked for high  $N$ .

\* Assumptions:

- large- $N$  statistics:  $\frac{\delta Q}{Q} \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \xrightarrow{N \rightarrow N_A} 0$

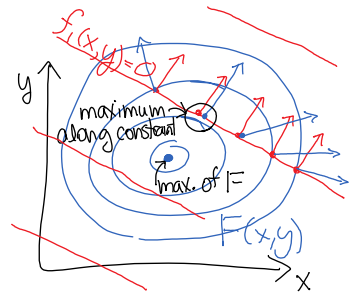
Sterling's approx:  $\ln N! \approx N \ln N - N$   $d \ln N! = \frac{dN!}{N!} = \ln N dN$

- principle of indifference - each microstate  $\Psi(\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2 \dots)$  equally likely
- ergodicity (chaos): each particle cycles through all states
- conservation of particle number  $N = \sum N_i$  (no creation/annihilation)  
 this isn't true for photons, positrons, ...
- conservation of energy  $E = \sum N_i E_i$  (pretty safe!)

\* Maximization: use Lagrange multipliers

- to maximize  $F(x_1, x_2 \dots)$   $\rightarrow f_1(x_1, x_2) = f_2(x_1, x_2) \dots = 0$   
 set  $\frac{\partial G}{\partial x_i} = 0$   $\frac{\partial G}{\partial \lambda_i} = 0$  where  $G = F - \lambda_1 f_1 - \lambda_2 f_2 \dots$

- let  $G = \ln Q + \alpha(N - \sum N_i) + \beta(E - \sum N_i E_i)$   
 monotonic, easier to treat



1) Classical Maxwell-Boltzmann distribution  $n_{MB}(E)$

$$Q(N_1, N_2, \dots) = \binom{N}{N_1, N_2, \dots} \prod_n d_n^{N_n} = N! \prod_n \frac{d_n^{N_n}}{N_n!}$$

[sort  $N$  into bins of  $N_n$  counts with degeneracy  $d_n$ ]

$$G = [\ln(N!) + \sum_n N_n \ln d_n - \ln N_n!] - \sum_n (\alpha N_n + \beta N_n E_n) + \alpha N + \beta E$$

$$\partial_{N_n} G = \ln d_n - \ln N_n - \alpha - \beta E_n = 0$$

$$N_n = d_n e^{-\alpha - \beta E_n} \quad (\text{M.B.}) \rightarrow n_{MB}(\varepsilon) = \left[ e^{(\varepsilon - \mu)/kT} \right]^{-1}$$

(single state, no  $d_e$ )

2) Fermi-Dirac distribution

$$Q(N_1, N_2, \dots) = \prod_n \binom{d_n}{N_n} = \prod_n \frac{d_n!}{N_n! (d_n - N_n)!}$$

[in each bin  $n$ , sort  $d_n$  into  $N_n$  occupied levels,  $d_n - N_n$  empty.]

$$G = [\sum_n \ln(d_n!) - \ln(N_n!) - \ln(d_n - N_n)!] - \sum_n (\alpha N_n + \beta N_n E_n) + \alpha N + \beta E$$

$$\partial_{N_n} G = -\ln N_n + \ln(d_n - N_n) - \alpha - \beta E_n = 0$$

$$N_n = d_n (e^{\alpha + \beta E} + 1)^{-1} \quad n_{FD}(\varepsilon) = [e^{(\varepsilon - \mu)/kT} + 1]^{-1}$$

3) Bose-Einstein distribution

$$Q(N_1, N_2, \dots) = \prod_n \binom{N_n + d_n - 1}{d_n - 1} = \prod_n \frac{(N_n + d_n - 1)!}{N_n! (d_n - 1)!}$$

[in each bin  $n$ , sort  $N_n + d_n - 1$  symbols into  $d_n - 1$  partitions dividing up  $N_n$  particles.]

$$G = \ln(N_n + d_n - 1)! - \ln N_n! - \ln(d_n - 1)! - \sum_n (\alpha N_n + \beta N_n E_n) + \alpha N + \beta E$$

$$\partial_{N_n} G = \ln(N_n + d_n - 1) - \ln N_n - \alpha - \beta E_n = 0$$

$$N_n = \overset{\sim d_n - 1}{d_n} (e^{\alpha + \beta E} - 1)^{-1} \quad n_{BE}(\varepsilon) = [e^{(\varepsilon - \mu)/kT} - 1]^{-1}$$

\* meaning of Lagrange multipliers  $\alpha, \beta$   
 - used to satisfy the constraints:

$\beta = \frac{1}{kT}$  : Temperature " $T$ " spreads out excitations into spectrum to obtain average energy  $\bar{E}N = E = \sum_i N_i E_i$

$\alpha = \frac{\mu}{kT}$  : Chemical Potential " $\mu$ " normalizes distribution to obtain correct # of particles  $N = \sum N_i$   $\int d\epsilon d(\epsilon) n(\epsilon) = 1$

