

# **PHY 341/641 Thermodynamics and Statistical Mechanics**

**MWF: Online at 12 PM & FTF at 2 PM**

**Record!!!**

## **Discussion for Lecture 28:**

**Quantum effects in statistical mechanics**

**Reading: Chapter 7 (mostly 7.3&4)**

- 1. Summary of results concerning statistical mechanics of Fermi and Bose particles**
- 2. Examples of Fermi systems**
- 3. Examples of Bose systems**

21	Mon: 03/22/2021	Chap. 6.1 & 6.5	Microcanonical and canonical ensembles		
22	Wed: 03/24/2021	Chap. 6.1-6.2	Canonical distributions	<a href="#">#18</a>	03/26/2021
23	Fri: 03/26/2021	Chap. 6.1-6.7	Canonical distributions	6.49	03/29/2021
24	Mon: 03/29/2021	Chap. 6.1-6.7	Canonical distributions	<a href="#">#20</a>	03/31/2021
25	Wed: 03/31/2021	App. A & Chap. 7.1	Quantum mechanical effects	<a href="#">#21</a>	04/02/2021
26	Fri: 04/02/2021	Chap. 7.1-7.2	Quantum mechanical effects		
27	Mon: 04/05/2021	Chap. 7.3	Bose and Fermi statistics	<a href="#">#22</a>	04/09/2021
	Wed: 04/07/2021	No class	<i>Holiday</i>		
28	Fri: 04/09/2021	Chap. 7.3 & 7.4	Bose and Fermi statistics	<a href="#">#23</a>	04/12/2021

## PHY 341/641 -- Assignment #23

April 9, 2021

Continue reading Chapter 7 in **Schroeder** .

1. In class, we evaluated the Grand potential for an ideal Fermi gas in the limit that  $T$  is approximately 0 K. From this result, we can estimate the internal energy  $U$  and the pressure  $P$  at very low temperature. Show that this estimate is consistent with the results presented in Section 7.3 of Schroeder.

## Accumulated questions –

**From Skye --** So when we are doing the Taylor expansion, would the term inside the block have a negative sign? Since the derivative  $f'(x) = -5b(n)^4$

**Comment –** You are correct. There is a minus sign error in the Lecture notes:

**Original:** Hint: Make a Taylor expansion of the argument of the delta function

$$\text{about } a - bx^5 = 0 \quad a - bx^5 \approx 0 + \left( x - \left( \frac{a}{b} \right)^{1/5} \right) 5b \left( \frac{a}{b} \right)^{4/5} + \dots$$

**Corrected:** Hint: Make a Taylor expansion of the argument of the delta function

$$\text{about } a - bx^5 = 0 \quad a - bx^5 \approx 0 - \left( x - \left( \frac{a}{b} \right)^{1/5} \right) 5b \left( \frac{a}{b} \right)^{4/5} + \dots$$

**From Kristen --** 1. I don't quite understand the purpose of the triplet of positive integers (n) if you could elaborate on that I would appreciate it.

2. How is it that we can simply approximate the temperature T, to be zero?

3. Could you elaborate on what the Sommerfield expansion actually does?

## Some results from last time

The Grand Partition Function for indistinguishable particles can be written in terms of the chemical potential  $\mu$ :

$$Z_{Grand}(T) = \sum_{n_1 n_2 n_3 \dots} \exp(-\beta(n_1(\epsilon_1 - \mu) + n_2(\epsilon_2 - \mu) + n_3(\epsilon_3 - \mu) \dots))$$

Here we sum over all occupation numbers  $n_s$  and energies  $\epsilon_s$ .

For  $N$  particles, the occupation numbers have the condition

$$N = \sum_s n_s.$$

For Fermi particles  $n_s=0$  or  $n_s=1$  only

$$\ln(Z_{GrandFermi}(T)) = \sum_s \ln(1 + e^{-\beta(\epsilon_s - \mu)})$$

$$\sum_s \frac{1}{e^{\beta(\epsilon_s - \mu)} + 1} = N$$

For Bose particles, the summation over  $n_s$  is a geometric sum resulting the analytic form:

$$\ln(Z_{GrandBose}(T, \mu)) = -\sum_s \ln(1 - e^{-\beta(\epsilon_s - \mu)})$$

$$\sum_s \frac{1}{e^{\beta(\epsilon_s - \mu)} - 1} = N$$

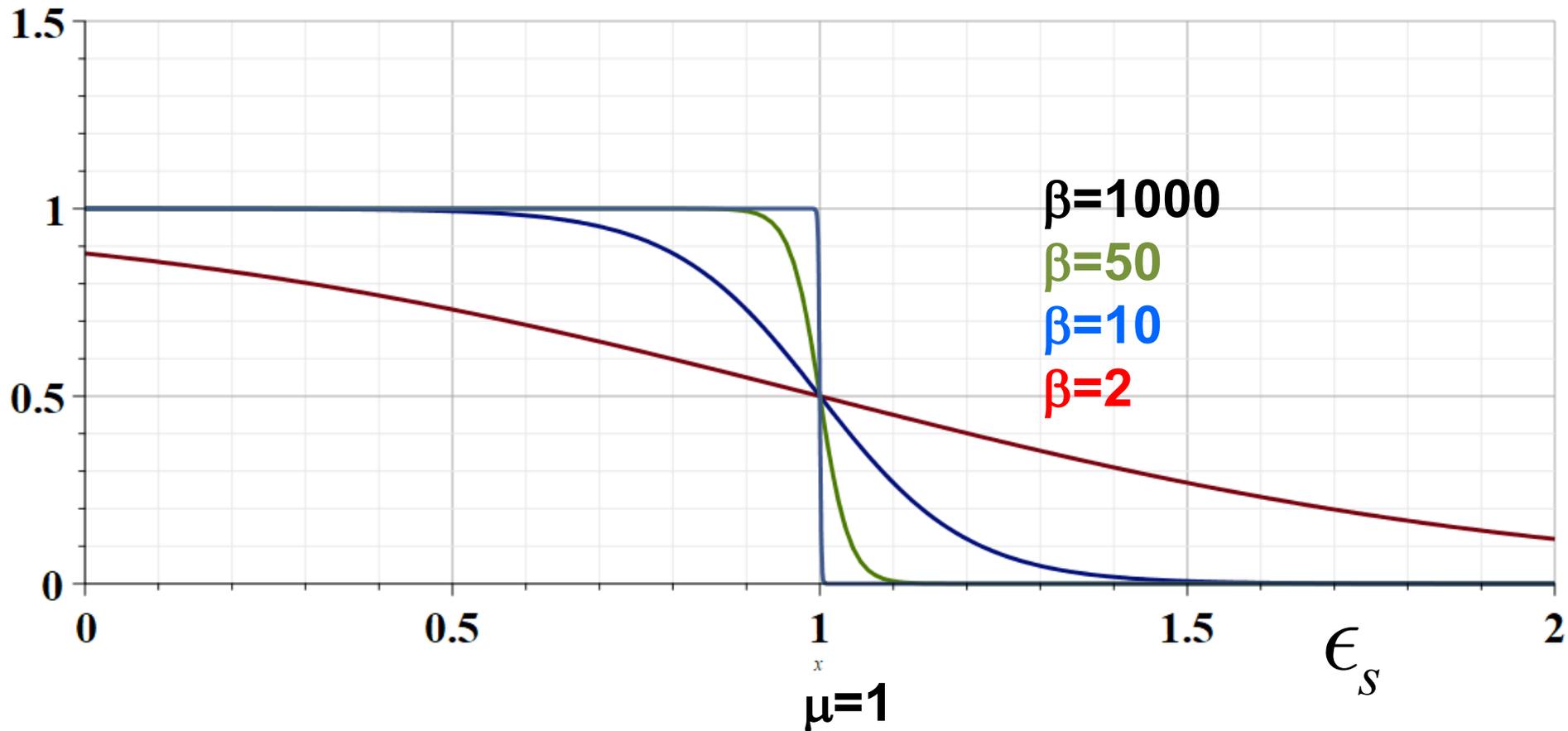
Summary of results for Fermi particles

$$\ln(Z_{GrandFermi}(T)) = \sum_s \ln(1 + e^{-\beta(\epsilon_s - \mu)})$$

$$\sum_s \frac{1}{e^{\beta(\epsilon_s - \mu)} + 1} = N$$

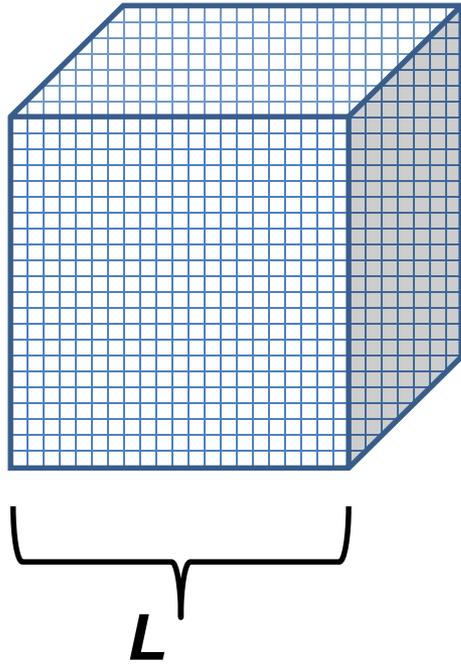
# Fermi distribution function

$$\mathcal{F}(\epsilon_s) = \frac{1}{e^{\beta(\epsilon_s - \mu)} + 1}$$



## Evaluation for an ideal gas of Fermi particles

Recall that Fermi particles have intrinsic half integer spin. For example, electrons have spin  $s=1/2$ , so that each spatial state can be occupied by 0 or 1 spin up electrons and by 0 or 1 spin down electrons. Generally, the spin degeneracy factor is given by  $(2s+1)$ . To evaluate the spatial states, for an ideal quantum gas, we can use the cube of length  $L$  similar to the photon analysis.



$$L^3 = V$$

Note that this is a bit different from your textbook;  $-\infty \leq n_{x,y,z} \leq \infty$

Spatial energy for electron: 
$$\epsilon_{n_x n_y n_z} = \frac{h^2}{2mL^2} (n_x^2 + n_y^2 + n_z^2)$$

Summing over all modes  $(n_x, n_y, n_z)$  in continuum limit:

Let  $q \equiv \sqrt{n_x^2 + n_y^2 + n_z^2}$  
$$\int dn_x \int dn_y \int dn_z = 4\pi \int q^2 dq$$

$$g(\epsilon) = 2 \cdot 4\pi \int q^2 dq \delta\left(\epsilon - \frac{h^2 q^2}{2mL^2}\right)$$

Spin degeneracy

Note that 
$$\int dx f(x) \delta(a - x) = f(a)$$

Let  $x = \frac{h^2 q^2}{2mL^2}$  
$$g(\epsilon) = 2 \cdot 4\pi \left(\frac{2mL^2}{h^2}\right)^{3/2} \frac{1}{2} \int \sqrt{x} dx \delta(\epsilon - x)$$

$$g(\epsilon) = 4\pi V \left(\frac{2m}{h^2}\right)^{3/2} \sqrt{\epsilon} \quad V \equiv L^3$$

## Evaluation of integrals --

$$\ln(Z_{GrandFermi}(T)) = \sum_s \ln(1 + e^{-\beta(\epsilon_s - \mu)})$$

$$\sum_s \frac{1}{e^{\beta(\epsilon_s - \mu)} + 1} = N$$

$$\sum_s \frac{1}{e^{\beta(\epsilon_s - \mu)} + 1} \rightarrow \int d\epsilon g(\epsilon) \frac{1}{e^{\beta(\epsilon - \mu)} + 1}$$

$$\text{For } T = 0: \quad \approx \int_0^{\mu} d\epsilon g(\epsilon) = 4\pi V \left(\frac{2m}{h^2}\right)^{3/2} \int_0^{\mu} d\epsilon \sqrt{\epsilon}$$

$$\Rightarrow 4\pi V \left(\frac{2m}{h^2}\right)^{3/2} \frac{2}{3} \mu^{3/2} = N$$

## Determination of chemical potential for $T=0$ :

$$\sum_s \frac{1}{e^{\beta(\epsilon_s - \mu)} + 1} = N \rightarrow \int d\epsilon g(\epsilon) \frac{1}{e^{\beta(\epsilon - \mu)} + 1} = N$$

$$\text{For } T = 0: \quad \approx \int_0^\mu d\epsilon g(\epsilon) = 4\pi V \left( \frac{2m}{h^2} \right)^{3/2} \int_0^\mu d\epsilon \sqrt{\epsilon}$$

$$\Rightarrow 4\pi V \left( \frac{2m}{h^2} \right)^{3/2} \frac{2}{3} \mu^{3/2} = N$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu(T = 0) \equiv \epsilon_F = \frac{h^2}{8m} \left( \frac{3N}{\pi V} \right)^{2/3}$$

# What can we do with the Grand Partition function?

Summary of thermodynamic energies that we have studied so far:

Internal:  $U(S, V, N)$   $dU = TdS - PdV + \mu dN$

Enthalpy:  $H(S, P, N) = U + PV$   $dH = TdS + VdP + \mu dN$

Helmholtz:  $F(T, V, N) = U - ST$   $dF = -SdT - PdV + \mu dN$

Gibbs:  $G(T, P, N) = F + PV$   $dG = -SdT + VdP + \mu dN$

Using the Legendre transformation, we can define a thermodynamic energy measure that is a function of the chemical potential instead of the particle number.

Such a energy is called by some texts as the "Grand potential"

$$\Omega(T, V, \mu) = F - \mu N \quad d\Omega = -SdT - PdV - Nd\mu$$

## Properties of the "Grand potential"

$$\Omega(T, V, \mu) = F - \mu N \qquad d\Omega = -SdT - PdV - Nd\mu$$

$$S = -\left(\frac{\partial\Omega}{\partial T}\right)_{V,\mu} \qquad P = -\left(\frac{\partial\Omega}{\partial V}\right)_{T,\mu} \qquad N = -\left(\frac{\partial\Omega}{\partial\mu}\right)_{V,T}$$

The canonical partition function  $Z(T, V, N)$

is directly connected to the Helmholtz free energy

according to  $F(T, V, N) = -kT \ln(Z(T, V, N))$

$\Rightarrow$  The grand canonical partition function  $Z_{Grand}(T, V, \mu)$

is directly connected to the Grand potential

according to  $\Omega(T, V, N) = -kT \ln(Z_{Grand}(T, V, \mu))$

Evaluation of the Grand potential:

$$\begin{aligned}\Omega(T, V, \mu) &= -kT \ln \left( Z_{\text{GrandFermi}}(T) \right) = -kT \sum_s \ln \left( 1 + e^{-\beta(\epsilon_s - \mu)} \right) \\ &= -kT \int d\epsilon g(\epsilon) \ln \left( 1 + e^{-\beta(\epsilon - \mu)} \right)\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{For } T \rightarrow 0, \beta \rightarrow \infty: \quad \ln \left( 1 + e^{-\beta(\epsilon_s - \mu)} \right) \approx \begin{cases} \beta(\mu - \epsilon) & \text{for } \epsilon < \mu \\ 0 & \text{for } \epsilon > \mu \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Omega(T \rightarrow 0, V, \mu) &= -\int_0^\mu d\epsilon g(\epsilon)(\mu - \epsilon) \\ &= -4\pi V \left( \frac{2m}{h^2} \right)^{3/2} \int_0^\mu d\epsilon \sqrt{\epsilon} (\mu - \epsilon) \\ &= -4\pi V \left( \frac{2m}{h^2} \right)^{3/2} \frac{4}{15} \mu^{5/2}\end{aligned}$$

# Summary of results for an ideal Fermi gas of $s=1/2$ particles in three dimensions evaluated in the limit that $T \rightarrow 0$ K

Evaluation of the Grand potential:

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega(T \rightarrow 0, V, \mu) &= - \int_0^{\mu} d\epsilon g(\epsilon) (\mu - \epsilon) \\ &= -4\pi V \left( \frac{2m}{h^2} \right)^{3/2} \int_0^{\mu} d\epsilon \sqrt{\epsilon} (\mu - \epsilon) \\ &= -4\pi V \left( \frac{2m}{h^2} \right)^{3/2} \frac{4}{15} \mu^{5/2} \quad \int d\epsilon g(\epsilon) \frac{1}{e^{\beta(\epsilon-\mu)} + 1} = N \\ &\quad \mu(T = 0) \equiv \epsilon_F = \frac{h^2}{8m} \left( \frac{3N}{\pi V} \right)^{2/3} \end{aligned}$$

Properties of the "Grand potential"

$$\Omega(T, V, \mu) = F - \mu N = U - ST - \mu N \quad d\Omega = -SdT - PdV - Nd\mu$$

$$S = - \left( \frac{\partial \Omega}{\partial T} \right)_{V, \mu} \quad P = - \left( \frac{\partial \Omega}{\partial V} \right)_{T, \mu} \quad N = - \left( \frac{\partial \Omega}{\partial \mu} \right)_{V, T}$$

## Evaluating these functions for $T > 0$

Evaluation of the Grand potential:

$$\begin{aligned}\Omega(T, V, \mu) &= -kT \ln(Z_{\text{GrandFermi}}(T)) \\ &= -kT \int d\epsilon g(\epsilon) \ln(1 + e^{-\beta(\epsilon - \mu)}) \\ &= -4\pi V \left(\frac{2m}{h^2}\right)^{3/2} kT \int d\epsilon \sqrt{\epsilon} \ln(1 + e^{-\beta(\epsilon - \mu)})\end{aligned}$$

Convenient trick -- the following series of integrals are useful

$$f_{5/2}(z) \equiv \frac{4}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^\infty dx x^2 \ln(1 + ze^{-x^2}) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{m+1} \frac{z^m}{m^{5/2}}$$

$$f_{3/2}(z) \equiv z \frac{d}{dz} f_{5/2}(z) = \frac{4}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^\infty dx x^2 \frac{z}{e^{x^2} + z} = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{m+1} \frac{z^m}{m^{3/2}}$$

$$\Omega(T, V, \mu) = -4\pi V \left( \frac{2m}{h^2} \right)^{3/2} kT \int d\epsilon \sqrt{\epsilon} \ln \left( 1 + e^{-\beta(\epsilon - \mu)} \right)$$

$$f_{5/2}(z) \equiv \frac{4}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^{\infty} dx x^2 \ln \left( 1 + ze^{-x^2} \right) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{m+1} \frac{z^m}{m^{5/2}}$$

$$\text{Let } z \equiv e^{\beta\mu} \quad x^2 = \beta\epsilon$$

$$\Omega(T, V, \mu) = -4\pi V \left( \frac{2m}{h^2} \right)^{3/2} kT \int d\epsilon \sqrt{\epsilon} \ln \left( 1 + e^{-\beta(\epsilon - \mu)} \right)$$

$$= -4\pi V \left( \frac{2m}{h^2} \right)^{3/2} kT 2(kT)^{3/2} \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{4} f_{5/2}(e^{\beta\mu})$$

This approach is useful at high temperatures; for low temperatures, further considerations are needed.