

E3520: Ideal Fermi gas in 2D space

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The problem:

N fermions with mass m and spin $\frac{1}{2}$ are in a two dimensional box with area A .

1) Show that: $N(\beta, \mu) = A \frac{m}{\pi} T \ln \left(1 + e^{\frac{\mu}{T}} \right)$

Guideline: Use variables exchange $X = e^{\beta(E-\mu)}$ and use the integral $\int_1^\infty \frac{dx}{x(x+1)} = \ln \left(\frac{1+X_1}{X_1} \right)$.

2) Take $T = 0$ and find $N = A \frac{m}{\pi} \mu$. Explain that result intuitively by looking at $g(E)$.

3) Find the chemical potential $\mu \left(T, \frac{N}{A} \right)$ and the fermi energy $E_F \equiv \mu(T \rightarrow 0)$.

4) Show that in low temperatures

$$\mu(T) \approx E_F - T e^{-\frac{E_F}{T}}$$

While in high temperatures we get a result consistent with the general expression you developed in the Boltzmann's proximity frame.

5) Find $E(\beta, \mu)$ and $P(\beta, \mu)$ in temperature zero, and by placing the expression for $\mu \left(T = 0, \frac{N}{A} \right)$.

Show that the following results

$$E = A \frac{\pi}{m} \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{N}{A} \right)^2, P = \frac{\pi}{m} \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{N}{A} \right)^2$$

6) Clarify yourself why in zero temperature $P \propto \frac{1}{A^2}$ while in high temperature $P \propto \frac{1}{A}$.

The solution:

1)

$$Z = \sum_{\{n_i\}} e^{-\beta(E_i - \mu n_i)}$$

$$E_i = \epsilon_i \cdot n_i, \quad n_i = 0, 1 \quad - \text{fermions}, \quad K_B = 1 \quad \left(\beta = \frac{1}{T} \right)$$

$$Z = \sum_{\{x_i, p_i, \sigma_i, n_i\}} e^{-\beta \cdot n_i (\epsilon_i - \mu)} = \prod_{\{x_i, p_i, \sigma_i\}} \left(1 + e^{-\beta(\epsilon_i - \mu)} \right)$$

$$N = T \frac{\partial \ln Z}{\partial \mu} = \sum_{\{x_i, p_i, \sigma_i\}} \frac{1}{1 + e^{\beta(\epsilon_i - \mu)}}$$

$$\epsilon_i = \frac{p_i^2}{2m}, \quad \text{spin } \frac{1}{2} \rightarrow \text{degeneracy } 2 \quad (\text{no external magnetic field})$$

$$= \frac{2}{(2\pi)^2} \cdot \int_A dA \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \int_0^\infty \frac{p dp}{1 + e^{\beta\left(\frac{p^2}{2m} - \mu\right)}}$$

$$x = e^{\beta\left(\frac{p^2}{2m} - \mu\right)}$$

$$= \frac{Am}{\pi\beta} \int_{e^{-\beta\mu}}^\infty \frac{dx}{x(1+x)} = \frac{Am}{\pi\beta} \ln \left(\frac{1 + e^{-\beta\mu}}{e^{-\beta\mu}} \right) = \frac{AmT}{\pi} \ln \left(1 + e^{\frac{\mu}{T}} \right)$$

2)

$$T = 0 \rightarrow e^{\frac{\mu}{T}} \gg 1$$

$$N = \frac{AmT}{\pi} \ln \left(1 + e^{\frac{\mu}{T}} \right) = \frac{AmT}{\pi} \ln \left(e^{\frac{\mu}{T}} \right) = \frac{Am\mu}{\pi}$$

We can look at it intuitively by saying that at $T=0$ all the energy levels are populated equally (2 fermions at each level) until E_F , so that the density number is just constant.

for ideal fermions gas, spin $\frac{1}{2}$ and 2D: $g(E) = \frac{mA}{\pi}$

(according to section 6.2 in the lecture notes)

so $N = g \cdot E_F|_{T \rightarrow 0} = \frac{Am \cdot \mu}{\pi}$ (as we got in the direct way).

3)

$$N = \frac{AmT}{\pi} \ln \left(1 + e^{\frac{\mu}{T}} \right) \rightarrow \mu \left(T, \frac{N}{A} \right) = T \cdot \ln \left(e^{\left(\frac{N}{A} \right) \cdot \frac{\pi}{mT}} - 1 \right)$$

$$E_F \equiv \mu (T \rightarrow 0)$$

$$e^{\left(\frac{N\pi}{AmT} \right)} [T \rightarrow 0] \gg 1$$

$$\mu \left(T, \frac{N}{A} \right) = T \cdot \ln \left(e^{\left(\frac{N\pi}{AmT} \right)} \right) = \frac{N\pi}{Am}$$

$$\mu (T \rightarrow 0) \equiv E_F = \frac{N\pi}{Am}$$

4)

Low Temperatures:

$$\frac{N\pi}{AmT} = \frac{E_F}{T} = \ln \left(1 + e^{\frac{\mu}{T}} \right)$$

$$\mu = T \cdot \ln \left(e^{\left(\frac{E_F}{T} \right)} - 1 \right) = T \cdot \ln \left[e^{\left(\frac{E_F}{T} \right)} \cdot \left(1 - e^{\left(\frac{-E_F}{T} \right)} \right) \right]$$

$$= T \left[\frac{E_F}{T} + \ln \left(1 - e^{\left(\frac{-E_F}{T} \right)} \right) \right]$$

$$e^{\left(\frac{-E_F}{T} \right)} [T \rightarrow 0] \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{and as we know} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \ln(1+x) \approx x$$

therefore

$$\mu \approx T \left[\frac{E_F}{T} - e^{\left(\frac{-E_F}{T} \right)} \right] = E_F - T \cdot e^{\left(\frac{-E_F}{T} \right)}$$

High Temperatures:

$$n\lambda_T^2 \ll 1 \text{ therefore } e^{\frac{\mu}{T}} \ll 1$$

$$N = \frac{AmT}{\pi} \ln\left(1 + e^{\frac{\mu}{T}}\right) \approx \frac{AmT}{\pi} \cdot e^{\frac{\mu}{T}}$$

$$\mu = T \cdot \ln\left(\frac{\pi N}{AmT}\right)$$

In the Boltzmann proximity frame $\mu = T \cdot \ln\left(\frac{N\lambda_T^2}{Ag_0}\right)$

$$g_0 = \sum_{spin} e^{-\beta\epsilon_{bound}} = 2, \text{ (no external magnetic field)}$$

$$\lambda_T^2 = \left(\frac{2\pi}{mT}\right)$$

$$\mu = T \cdot \ln\left(\frac{2N\pi}{AmT} \cdot \frac{1}{2}\right) = T \cdot \ln\left(\frac{\pi N}{AmT}\right)$$

as we can see the result we derived is consistent with the Boltzmann proximity frame.

5)

according to section 6.2 in the lecture notes:

$$\frac{E}{A} = \frac{m}{\pi} T^2 F_2(z)$$

for $T \rightarrow 0$ we get $z \gg 1$ and $F_2 \approx \frac{1}{2} [\ln(z)]^2$

$$\ln(z) = \ln\left(e^{\frac{\mu}{T}}\right) = \frac{\mu(T \rightarrow 0)}{T} = \frac{E_F}{T} = \frac{\pi N}{AmT}$$

$$\frac{E}{A} \approx \frac{m}{2\pi} T^2 \left(\frac{\mu}{T}\right)^2 = \frac{m}{2\pi} T^2 \left(\frac{\pi N}{AmT}\right)^2$$

$$E = \frac{\pi A}{2m} \left(\frac{N}{A}\right)^2$$

At $T = 0$ we get $E = F - TS = F$ therefore $P = -\left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial A}\right)_N = -\left(\frac{\partial E}{\partial A}\right)_N$

$$P = \frac{\pi}{2m} \left(\frac{N}{A}\right)^2$$

For high temperatures we have ideal gas in Boltzmann approximation so that simply $P = \frac{NT}{A}$

6)

The pressure reflects the dependence of the energy levels on the linear size of the box.

$P = -\frac{\partial E_n}{\partial A}$ averaged over n .

$E_n \propto \frac{n^2}{L^2} = \frac{n^2}{A}$ hence $P \propto \frac{n_{typical}^2}{A^2}$.

for N fermion at zero temperature the typical value is $n \sim N$, therefore $P \propto \frac{1}{A^2}$.

for high temperature T the typical value is determined from $E_n \sim T$ i.e.

$n^2 \sim TA$ and therefore $P \propto \frac{TA}{A^2} \propto \frac{1}{A}$.