

P423 - Lecture 17 : Chemical potential for ideal gases, blackbody radiation, time-dependent perturbation theory. (1)

last class : $\langle n \rangle = \begin{cases} e^{-\frac{\epsilon - \mu}{k_B T}} & \text{for distinguishable particles (Maxwell-Boltzmann distribution)} \\ \frac{1}{e^{\frac{\epsilon - \mu}{k_B T}} - 1} & \text{for Bosons (Bose-Einstein dist.)} \\ \frac{1}{e^{\frac{\epsilon - \mu}{k_B T}} + 1} & \text{for Fermions (Fermi-Dirac dist.)} \end{cases}$

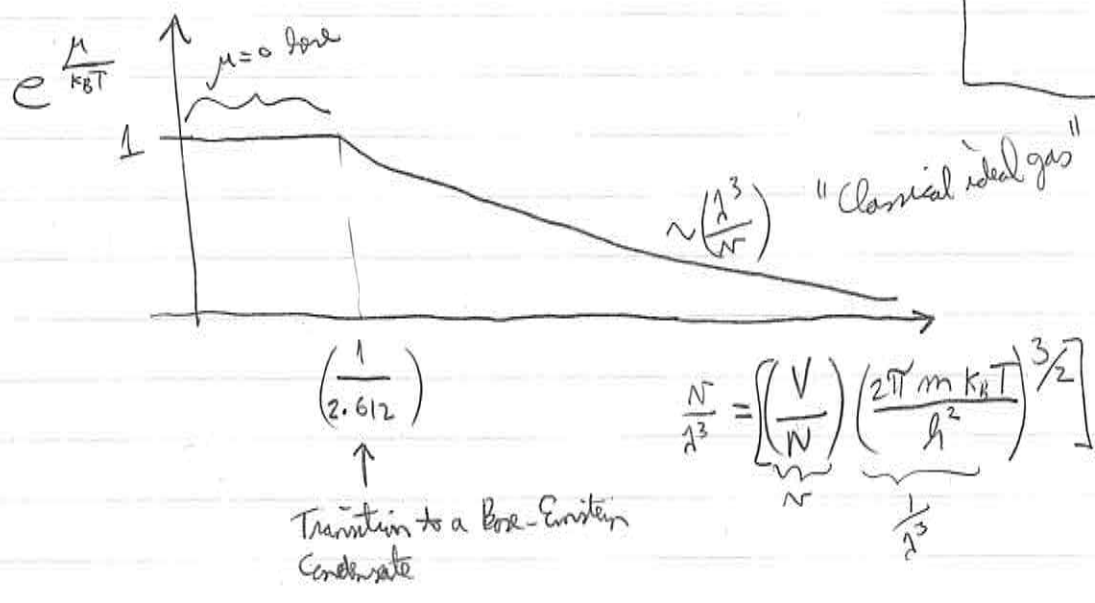
where μ is chemical potential calculated from

for ideal Fermi gas : $\mu(T, N) = E_F \left[1 - \frac{\pi^2}{12} \left(\frac{k_B T}{E_F} \right)^2 + \mathcal{O}(T^4) \right]$

So to a very good approximation $\mu \approx E_F$ when $T \ll T_F$.

$N = \sum_{\epsilon} n_{\epsilon} d_{\epsilon}$
 $\Rightarrow N = f(T, \mu)$
 $\Rightarrow \mu = \mu(T, N)$

For a Bose gas, $\mu(T, N)$ shows critical behavior:



when $\frac{N}{\lambda^3} < \frac{1}{2.612} \Rightarrow \frac{V}{N} \left(\frac{2\pi m k_B T}{h^2} \right)^{3/2} < \frac{1}{2.612}$

$\Rightarrow T < T_c = \left(\frac{N}{V} \right)^{2/3} \frac{1}{(2.612)^{2/3}} \frac{h^2}{2\pi m k_B}$ we get a Bose-Einstein Condensate:

All the particles collapse into the lowest energy state, i.e. $N_{i=\text{ground}} = N$ and all other N_i are zero.

(2)

Blackbody radiation

- Photons are Bosons: They have spin 1 (but only $m_s = \pm 1$ is observable).
- Their energy is $E_k = \hbar \omega = \hbar c k$.
- Also, their number is not conserved $\Rightarrow \mu = 0$ (μ is the Lagrange multiplier for keeping N constant).

Based on this, let's calculate the photon energy density in a gas of photons (blackbody):

$$d_k = \underbrace{2}_{\text{spin}} \cdot \frac{1}{8} \frac{4\pi k^2 dk}{\pi^3} = \frac{V}{\pi^2} k^2 dk = \frac{V}{\pi^2} \frac{1}{c^3} \omega^2 d\omega$$

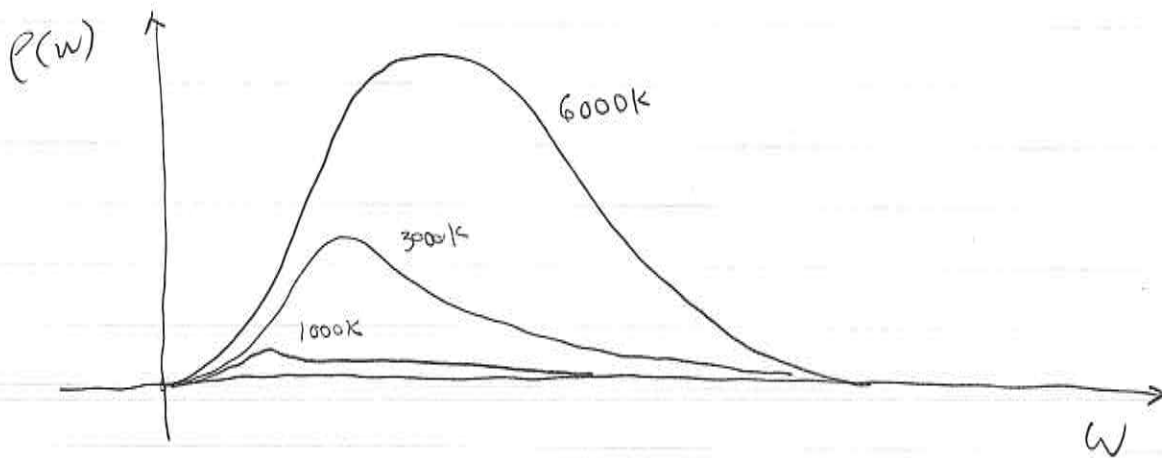
$\omega = ck$

The energy density within $d\omega$ is: $p(\omega)d\omega = \frac{E_k d_k}{V} n(E_k) = \frac{\hbar \omega}{V} \frac{1}{\pi^2 c^3} \omega^2 d\omega \frac{1}{e^{\frac{\hbar \omega}{kT}} - 1}$

$$\Rightarrow p(\omega) = \frac{\hbar}{\pi^2 c^3} \frac{\omega^3}{e^{\frac{\hbar \omega}{kT}} - 1}$$

"Universal",
Depends only on Temperature T
(apart from fundamental constants \hbar and c)

Energy per unit volume, per unit freq. of the electromagnetic field at thermal equilibrium with temperature T .



Now you know how to read the specifications of an LED light bulb (it's given as a temperature that refers to the blackbody spectrum).

Time dependent perturbation theory

Quantum statics: $V(\vec{r})$ does not depend on time

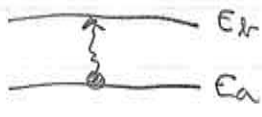
$$H\psi = \hbar \omega \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} \Rightarrow \psi(\vec{r}, t) = e^{-\frac{i\pm \hbar}{\hbar} t} \psi(\vec{r})$$

When ψ is an energy eigenstate $H\psi = E\psi$: $\psi(\vec{r}, t) = e^{-\frac{i\pm}{\hbar} E} \psi(\vec{r})$

What happens when V depends on time?

If time dependence of V is "weak" we can think of it as leading to transitions between

levels, or "quantum jumps":



ρ transition rate

Small collisions between particles in gas



$$(1, 1, 1) \rightarrow (5, 7, 17)$$

- Time dependent pert. theory allows you to compute transition rates Γ for quantum jumps.
- "Fermi's golden rule" formula.

Two level system subject to a time dependent perturbation

$$\begin{cases}
 H_0 \psi_a = E_a \psi_a \\
 H_0 \psi_b = E_b \psi_b
 \end{cases}
 \quad
 \begin{matrix}
 H = H_0 + V'(t) \\
 \uparrow \quad \quad \uparrow \\
 \text{indep of time} \quad \text{"small"}
 \end{matrix}$$

$$\langle \psi_a | \psi_b \rangle = \delta_{a,b}$$

$\psi(t=0) = c_a \psi_a + c_b \psi_b$, under H_0 evolution:

$$\psi(t) = c_a e^{-\frac{iE_a t}{\hbar}} \psi_a + c_b e^{-\frac{iE_b t}{\hbar}} \psi_b, \text{ with } |c_a|^2 + |c_b|^2 = 1.$$

④

Now suppose we turn on $H'(t)$. $\{\psi_a, \psi_b\}$ are a complete set, so the wave func can be

written as:

$$\psi(t) = c_a(t) e^{-i \frac{E_a t}{\hbar}} \psi_a + c_b(t) e^{-i \frac{E_b t}{\hbar}} \psi_b$$

Plug this into Schrodinger's eqn: $H\psi = i\hbar \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t}$, where $H = H_0 + H'(t)$:

$$\begin{aligned} c_a e^{-i \frac{E_a t}{\hbar}} \underbrace{H_0 \psi_a}_{= E_a \psi_a} + c_b e^{-i \frac{E_b t}{\hbar}} \underbrace{H_0 \psi_b}_{= E_b \psi_b} + c_a e^{-i \frac{E_a t}{\hbar}} H' \psi_a + c_b e^{-i \frac{E_b t}{\hbar}} H' \psi_b = \\ = i\hbar \left[-i \frac{E_a}{\hbar} c_a e^{-i \frac{E_a t}{\hbar}} \psi_a - i \frac{E_b}{\hbar} c_b e^{-i \frac{E_b t}{\hbar}} \psi_b + \dot{c}_a e^{-i \frac{E_a t}{\hbar}} \psi_a + \dot{c}_b e^{-i \frac{E_b t}{\hbar}} \psi_b \right] \end{aligned}$$

Take $\langle \psi_a |$:

$$c_a e^{-i \frac{E_a t}{\hbar}} \underbrace{\langle \psi_a | H' | \psi_a \rangle}_{\equiv H'_{aa}} + c_b e^{-i \frac{E_b t}{\hbar}} \underbrace{\langle \psi_a | H' | \psi_b \rangle}_{H'_{ab}} = i\hbar e^{-i \frac{E_a t}{\hbar}} \dot{c}_a \underbrace{\langle \psi_a | \psi_a \rangle}_{=1} + (\dots) \langle \psi_a | \psi_b \rangle$$

$\times (-i) e^{i \frac{E_a t}{\hbar}}$:

$$\dot{c}_a = -\frac{i}{\hbar} \left[c_a H'_{aa} + c_b e^{-i \frac{(E_b - E_a)t}{\hbar}} H'_{ab} \right]$$

Similarly, $\langle \psi_b |$ on eqn:

$$c_a e^{-i \frac{E_a t}{\hbar}} H'_{ba} + c_b e^{-i \frac{E_b t}{\hbar}} H'_{bb} = i\hbar \dot{c}_b e^{-i \frac{E_b t}{\hbar}}$$

$$\dot{c}_b = -\frac{i}{\hbar} \left[c_b H'_{bb} + c_a e^{+i \frac{(E_b - E_a)t}{\hbar}} H'_{ba} \right]$$

For simplicity assume $H'_{aa} = H'_{bb} = 0$ (diagonals vanish - actually when H' is "weak", they do not make much of a difference) -

and $\omega_0 \equiv \frac{E_b - E_a}{\hbar}$ ($E_b > E_a$)
 $\omega_0 > 0$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} \dot{c}_a = -\frac{i}{\hbar} H'_{ab} e^{-i\omega_0 t} c_b \\ \dot{c}_b = -\frac{i}{\hbar} H'_{ba} e^{i\omega_0 t} c_a \end{cases}$$

These are exact.

Time dependent perturbation theory

Suppose particle starts in the lower state:

$$c_a(0) = 1, \quad c_b(0) = 0$$

Zeroth order: ($H' = 0$):

$$c_a^{(0)} = 1, \quad c_b^{(0)} = 0$$

First order: Plug zeroth order into diff eqns:

$$\dot{c}_a^{(1)} = -\frac{i}{\hbar} H'_{ab} e^{-i\omega_0 t} \underbrace{c_b^{(0)}}_{=0} \Rightarrow c_a^{(1)}(t) = \text{const} = 1$$

$$\dot{c}_b^{(1)} = -\frac{i}{\hbar} H'_{ba} e^{i\omega_0 t} \underbrace{c_a^{(0)}}_{=1} \Rightarrow c_b^{(1)}(t) = -\frac{i}{\hbar} \int_0^t dt' H'_{ba}(t') e^{i\omega_0 t'}, \text{ first order in } H'$$

$$\text{Since } c_a^{(1)}(t) = \sqrt{1 - [c_b^{(1)}(t)]^2} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \mathcal{O}(H'^2)}} = 1$$

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2nd order:

$$\frac{dC_a^{(2)}}{dt} = -\frac{i}{\hbar} H'_{ab} e^{-i\omega_0 t} \underbrace{\left(\frac{-i}{\hbar} \int_0^t dt' H'_{ba}(t') e^{i\omega_0 t'} \right)}_{C_b^{(1)}}$$

$$\Rightarrow C_a^{(2)}(t) = 1 + \left(\frac{-i}{\hbar} \right) \int_0^t dt' H'_{ab}(t') e^{-i\omega_0 t'} \left(\frac{-i}{\hbar} \right) \int_0^{t'} dt'' H'_{ba}(t'') e^{i\omega_0 t''}$$

$$\frac{dC_b^{(2)}}{dt} = -\frac{i}{\hbar} H'_{ba}(t) e^{i\omega_0 t} \underbrace{C_a^{(1)}}_{=1} \Rightarrow C_b^{(2)}(t) = C_b^{(1)}(t).$$

General result:

$$C_a^{(2m)}(t) = C_a(t=0) \left[1 + \sum_{j=1}^m \left(\frac{-i}{\hbar} \right)^{2j} \left(\int_0^t dt_1 H'_{ab}(t_1) e^{-i\omega_0 t_1} \int_0^{t_1} dt_2 H'_{ba}(t_2) e^{i\omega_0 t_2} \dots \int_0^{t_{2j-1}} dt_{2j} H'_{ba}(t_{2j}) e^{i\omega_0 t_{2j}} \right) \right]$$

$$+ C_b(t=0) \sum_{j=1}^m \left(\frac{-i}{\hbar} \right)^{2j-1} \left(\int_0^t dt_1 H'_{ab}(t_1) e^{-i\omega_0 t_1} \int_0^{t_1} dt_2 H'_{ba}(t_2) e^{i\omega_0 t_2} \dots \int_0^{t_{2j-2}} dt_{2j-1} H'_{ab}(t_{2j-1}) e^{-i\omega_0 t_{2j-1}} \right)$$

$$C_b^{(2m)}(t) = C_a(t=0) \sum_{j=1}^m \left(\frac{-i}{\hbar} \right)^{2j-1} \left(\int_0^t dt_1 H'_{ba}(t_1) e^{i\omega_0 t_1} \int_0^{t_1} dt_2 H'_{ab}(t_2) e^{-i\omega_0 t_2} \dots \int_0^{t_{2j-2}} dt_{2j-1} H'_{ba}(t_{2j-1}) e^{-i\omega_0 t_{2j-1}} \right)$$

$$+ C_a(t=0) \left[1 + \sum_{j=1}^m \left(\frac{-i}{\hbar} \right)^{2j} \left(\int_0^t dt_1 H'_{ba}(t_1) e^{i\omega_0 t_1} \int_0^{t_1} dt_2 H'_{ab}(t_2) e^{-i\omega_0 t_2} \dots \int_0^{t_{2j-1}} dt_{2j} H'_{ab}(t_{2j}) e^{-i\omega_0 t_{2j}} \right) \right]$$

Sinusoidal perturbation

Suppose $H'(\vec{r}, t) = V(\vec{r}) \cos(\omega t)$

$\Rightarrow H'_{ab} = V_{ab} \cos(\omega t)$, where $V_{ab} = \langle \psi_a | V | \psi_b \rangle$ (and $V_{aa} = V_{bb} = 0$ for simplicity.)

To 1st order:

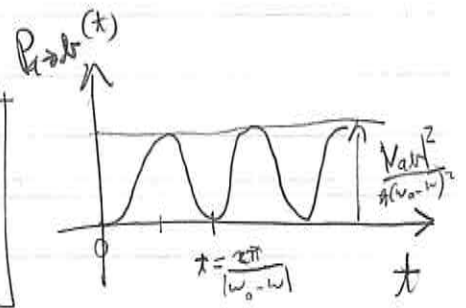
$$C_b(t) \approx -\frac{i}{\hbar} V_{ba} \int_0^t dt' e^{i\omega_0 t'} \cos(\omega t') = -\frac{i}{\hbar} \frac{V_{ba}}{2} \int_0^t dt' [e^{i(\omega_0+\omega)t'} + e^{i(\omega_0-\omega)t'}]$$
$$= -\frac{i}{2\hbar} V_{ba} \left[\frac{e^{i(\omega_0+\omega)t} - 1}{i(\omega_0+\omega)} + \frac{e^{i(\omega_0-\omega)t} - 1}{i(\omega_0-\omega)} \right]$$

Assume: $\omega_0 + \omega \gg |\omega_0 - \omega|$ i.e. ω is close to ω_0 :

$$C_b(t) \approx -\frac{V_{ba}}{2\hbar} \frac{e^{i(\omega_0-\omega)t}}{(\omega_0-\omega)} \left[+ e^{i\frac{(\omega_0-\omega)t}{2}} - e^{-i\frac{(\omega_0-\omega)t}{2}} \right]$$
$$= -i \frac{V_{ba}}{\hbar} \frac{\sin\left[\frac{(\omega_0-\omega)t}{2}\right]}{(\omega_0-\omega)} e^{i\frac{(\omega_0-\omega)t}{2}}$$

Transition probability:

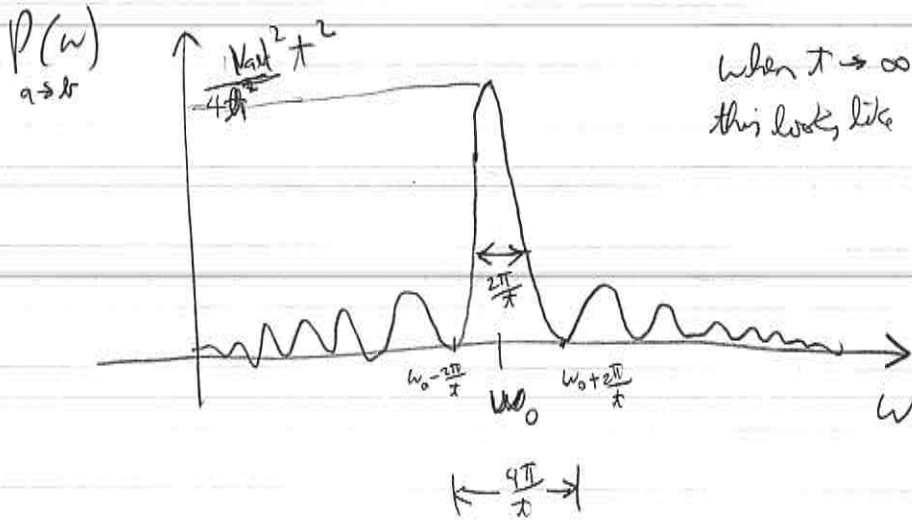
$$P_{a \rightarrow b}(t) = |C_b(t)|^2 = \frac{|V_{ab}|^2}{\hbar^2} \frac{\sin^2\left[\frac{(\omega_0-\omega)t}{2}\right]}{(\omega_0-\omega)^2}$$



Interpretation of oscillatory $P_{a \rightarrow b}$: Atom "borrows" an energy equal to $\Delta E = \hbar |\omega_0 - \omega|$ during a time $\Delta t \approx \frac{2\pi}{|\omega_0 - \omega|}$ so that $\Delta E \Delta t = 2\pi \hbar$ (This is greater than \hbar , so it respects the energy-time uncertainty relation $\Delta E \Delta t \gtrsim \hbar$)

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As a func of ω :



when $t \rightarrow \infty$,
this looks like a delta func!

we must have $P(\omega) < 1$ or $\frac{|V_{ab}|^2 t^2}{4\delta\omega^2} < 1$ for pert. to remain valid

But note that when $t \rightarrow \infty$ transition is only allowed if $\omega \rightarrow \omega_0$. This is just a statement

of energy conservation: The EM field supplies $\hbar\omega$ of energy (the photon) so when $\omega < \omega_0$ that

energy is not enough to induce a "Real transition" (one that lasts $\Delta t \gg \frac{\hbar}{\Delta E}$). Only virtual transitions are induced

(the ones that last $\Delta t \sim \frac{\hbar}{\Delta E}$). On the other hand, when $\omega = \omega_0$ a real transition does happen.

Similar argument for $\omega > \omega_0$ because energy conservation can not be satisfied with just one photon and one atom (no photon with energy $\hbar(\omega - \omega_0)$ in the problem).