

# Physics 140B: Homework 2

## Due Jan 28, 2010

1. A problem from the previous chapters:

Consider a gas consisting of 1 kilomole of Helium-4 atoms at  $0^\circ\text{C}$  and at atmospheric pressure.

- a) Using Maxwell's law of distribution of speeds (11.28), determine the number of atoms in this gas whose energy  $\varepsilon$  lies within an interval of width  $10^{-22}\text{ J}$  around the mean value of  $\varepsilon$ . *viz.*  $\frac{3}{2}kT$ .

*Hint: For this, it may be better that you first express Maxwell's distribution law in terms of the variable  $\varepsilon$ , rather than  $v$ .*

- b) Next, using expression (12.25), determine the number of "single-particle energy states" that lie within the energy interval specified above.
- c) Finally, determine the *mean* number of particles *per* energy state in this range of  $\varepsilon$ .

2. Solve Carter's problem 18.6.

3. Solve Carter's Problem 18.9.

*Hint: For this, write  $U = u(T) \cdot V$  and  $P = \frac{1}{3}u(T)$ , to finally show that  $u \propto T^4$ .*

4. Solve Carter's problem 18.16.

5. Consider a Bose-Einstein gas, in three dimensions, consisting of particles with energy-momentum relationship  $\varepsilon = Ap^s$ , where  $A$  is a constant and  $s$  a number; the values  $s = 1$  and  $s = 2$  are quite familiar, but here  $s$  is unspecified.

Examine the phenomenon of Bose-Einstein condensation in this gas and determine

- a) the manner in which the condensation temperature  $T_B$ , depends on the particle density  $N/V$ ,
- b) the manner in which the condensate fraction  $N_0/N$  varies with  $T$ , and

- c) the manner in which the specific heat  $C_v$ , and the entropy  $S$  of the gas vary with  $T$  when  $T < T_B$ .

*Hint: in lieu of the number of “single-particle energy states”,  $g(\varepsilon)d\varepsilon$ , make use of the phase space expression  $4\pi V \frac{p^2 dp}{h^3}$ .*