

# Physics 140A Exam Solutions



Can you please solve this exam. Please think carefully. Good luck!

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\documentclass[11pt]{article}
\usepackage{array,amsmath,amssymb,graphicx,color}

\renewcommand*\rmdefault{ppl}\normalfont\upshape
\textwidth 6.0in \textheight 8.5in \topmargin 0.0in \headsep 0.0in
\headheight 0.0in \topskip 0.0pt \footskip 0.7in \evensidemargin 0.0 in \oddsidemargin 0.2 in

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\font\elevenmib=cmmib10 scaled 1095
\font\tenmib=cmmib10
\font\eightmib=cmmib10 scaled 800
\font\sixmib=cmmib10 scaled 667
\newfam\mibfam

\def\mib{\fam\mibfam\elevenmib}
\textfont\mibfam=\elevenmib
\scriptfont\mibfam=\eightmib
\scriptscriptfont\mibfam=\sixmib

\def\Bp{{\mib p}}
\def\Bn{{\mib n}}
\def\Bz{{\mib z}}
\def\hfb{\hfill\break}
\def\car{\textasciicircum}
\def\muu{\mu\ns_0}
\def\Ns{{N\ns_\Ss}}
\def\nd{{\vphantom{\dagger}}}
\def\ns{{\vphantom{*}}}
\def\yd{{\dagger}}
\def\Ss{{\textsf s}}
\def\ve{\varepsilon}
\def\RGamma{{\rm\Gamma}}
\def\RDelta{{\rm\Delta}}
\def\ROmega{{\rm\Omega}}
\def\Rc{{\rm c}}
\def\izpi{\int\limits_{0}^{\infty}\!}
\def\impi{\int\limits_{-\infty}^{\infty}\!}
\def\hh{\hspace 0.1em}
\def\nhat{{\hat\Bn}}
\def\zhat{{\hat\Bz}}
\def\BE{{\mib E}}
\def\Hh{{\hat h}}

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\def\RTtheta{\rm\Theta}
\def\kB{k\ms_{B}}
\def\kT{k\ms_{B}T}
\def\ssr#1{\ss{\rm #1}}
\def\sss#1{\scriptscriptstyle #1}

\begin{document}

\baselineskip=\normalbaselineskip
\parindent=0pt
\parskip=10pt

\centerline{\bf PHYSICS 140A : STATISTICAL PHYSICS}
\centerline{\bf FINAL EXAMINATION}

\begin{large}\bf (1)\end{large} Provide clear, accurate, and brief answers for each of the
following:0

(a) What is the Gibbs-Duhem for a single-component system and how is it derived from
homogeneity of the
energy function  $E(S,V,N)$ ? {\tt [5 points]}

(b) What are the separate conditions guaranteeing thermal, mechanical, and chemical (or particle)
equilibrium between
two single-component systems, and what equalities do they entail? {\tt [5 points]}

(c) What is a virial equation of state? What are the dimensions of the  $k^{\text{th}}$  virial coefficient
 $B_{\text{k}}$ , and on what
intensive quantity or quantities does  $B_{\text{k}}$  depend? {\tt [5 points]}

(d) Consider a noninteracting classical system consisting of distinguishable particles situated on
each of  $N_{\text{S}}$  sites.
The available energy states for each particle are  $\epsilon_{\text{1}}=0$ ,  $\epsilon_{\text{2}}=0$ ,  $\epsilon_{\text{3}}=\Delta$ ,
and  $\epsilon_{\text{4}}=\Omega$ .
What is the free energy  $F(T,N_{\text{S}})$ ? What is the entropy at  $T=0$ ? {\tt [5 points]}

(e) For a noninteracting Bose gas with density of states  $g(\epsilon)=A\epsilon^5$ , find the condensation
temperature  $T_{\text{Rc}}(n)$ .
{\tt [5 points]} You may find the following helpful:
\begin{equation*}
\int_0^\infty \frac{x^{r-1}}{\exp(x)-1} dx = \Gamma(r)\zeta(r)
\end{equation*}

\bigskip

\begin{large}\bf (2)\end{large} A surface consists of a collection of  $N_{\text{S}}$  sites, each of which hosts
an electric dipole
 $\mathbf{p}_{\text{j}}=\mu\hat{\mathbf{n}}_{\text{j}}$ . In an electric field  $\mathbf{E}$ , the energy of the  $j^{\text{th}}$  dipole is  $-$ 

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$\mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{p}_j$ . Each  $\hat{\mathbf{n}}_j$  is a unit vector in  $d=3$  dimensions and can be expressed in terms of Cartesian components as  $\hat{\mathbf{n}}_j = (\sin\theta_j \cos\phi_j, \sin\theta_j \sin\phi_j, \cos\theta_j)$  with polar angle  $\theta_j \in [0, \pi]$  and azimuthal angle  $\phi_j \in [0, 2\pi]$ . The dipoles are situated at unique locations in the crystal, and are thus distinguishable.

(a) What is the partition function  $Z(T, N, E)$ ? You may assume  $\mathbf{B}$  is parallel to  $\hat{\mathbf{z}}$ .  
 {sl Hint: First find the single site partition function  $\zeta(T, E)$ .} {tt [5 points]}

(b) Find the average dipole moment  $\langle \mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{p} \rangle$ . {tt [5 points]}

(c) Now suppose that each site is either empty, with energy zero, or contains a dipole with energy  $-\mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{p}$ .

The chemical potential for dipoles is  $\mu$ . Find the grand potential  $\Omega(T, N, \mu, \mathbf{B})$ . {tt [10 points]}

(d) Next, let the surface be in equilibrium with a nonrelativistic monatomic ideal gas of number density  $n$ . Gas atoms can be adsorbed on the surface, in which case they acquire a dipole moment and are bound to a surface adsorption site with energy  $-\Delta < 0$ .

They can also desorb and join the gas as mass  $m$  atoms with  $\mathbf{p}=0$ . Find the surface site occupation fraction  $f = N_{\text{surface}}/N$  in terms of  $T$ ,  $E$ ,  $\Delta$ , the gas number density  $n$ , and other constants. {tt [5 points]}

\bigskip

**(3)** Consider an ultrarelativistic gas of  $N$  identical and indistinguishable particles in three space dimensions. The Hamiltonian of each particle is  $H = c|\mathbf{p}|$ .

(a) What is the single particle partition function  $\zeta$ . Assume the system is confined to a box of volume  $V$ . {tt [5 points]}

(b) What is the Helmholtz free energy  $F(T, V, N)$ ? {tt [5 points]}

(c) What is the entropy  $S(T, V, N)$ ? {tt [5 points]}

(d) What is the chemical potential  $\mu(T, V, N)$ ? {tt [5 points]}

(e) What is the heat capacity at constant volume  $C_{V, N}(T, V, N)$ ? {tt [5 points]}

\bigskip

**(4)** Consider a three-dimensional Bose gas of particles which have two internal polarization states, labeled by  $\sigma = \pm 1$ . The single particle energies are given by (with  $\Delta > 0$ )

\begin{equation\*}

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\ve(\Bp,\sigma)={\Bp^2\over 2m} + \sigma \RDelta\quad ,
\end{equation*}
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(a) Find the density of states per unit volume  $g(\ve)$ . Recall that the DOS for nonrelativistic particles in three dimensions is given by

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\begin{equation*}
g_{ns_0}(\ve)={\sqrt{2m^3}\over 2\pi^2\hbar^3}\ve^{1/2}\RTtheta(\ve)\quad.
\end{equation*}
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{\sl Hint: The answer can be expressed as a sum of the DOS for  $\sigma=\pm 1$  polarization states.} \hfb {\tt [10 points]}

(b) Into what single particle state does the gas condense? What is the value of the chemical potential  $\mu$  in the condensed phase? {\tt [5 points]}

(c) Find an implicit expression for the condensation temperature  $T_{ns\_Rc}(n,\RDelta)$ , and from it obtain an analytical expression for  $T_{ns\_Rc}(n,\RDelta=\infty)$ . You may find the following useful:

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\begin{equation*}
\lim_{\lambda_T\rightarrow 0} \{g_{ns_0}(\ve)\over e^{(\ve-\mu)/kT} - 1\} =
\lambda_T^{-3} \text{Li}_{3/2}\big(e^{\mu/kT}\big)
\end{equation*}
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as well as  $\text{Li}_s(1)=\zeta(s)$ . {\sl Hint: This obviates the need for you to do any actual integrals!} \hfb {\tt [10 points]}

(d) When  $\RDelta=\infty$ , the condensation temperature should agree with the familiar result for three-dimensional Bose condensation. Assuming  $\RDelta\gg k_B T_{ns\_Rc}(n,\RDelta=\infty)$ , find analytically the leading order difference  $T_{ns\_Rc}(n,\RDelta)-T_{ns\_Rc}(n,\RDelta=\infty)$ . {\tt [100 quatlous extra credit]}

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Below are detailed solutions and reasoning steps for each part of the exam. The notation and conventions follow those given in the problem statement.

**(1)**

**(a) Gibbs-Duhem equation**

For a single-component system with energy  $E(S, V, N)$ , the fundamental thermodynamic relation is

$$dE = T dS - P dV + \mu dN.$$

Since  $E, S, V$ , and  $N$  are all extensive quantities, the energy function is homogeneous of first order:

$$E(\lambda S, \lambda V, \lambda N) = \lambda E(S, V, N).$$

By Euler's theorem for homogeneous functions,

$$E = TS - PV + \mu N.$$

Differentiating this expression, we get

$$dE = T dS + S dT - P dV - V dP + \mu dN + N d\mu.$$

But we also know  $dE = T dS - P dV + \mu dN$ . Comparing terms, we find

$$S dT - V dP + N d\mu = 0.$$

This is the Gibbs-Duhem equation.

### (b) Conditions for thermal, mechanical, and chemical equilibrium

- Thermal equilibrium: The temperatures of the two systems must be equal.

$$T^{(1)} = T^{(2)}.$$

- Mechanical equilibrium: The pressures must be equal.

$$P^{(1)} = P^{(2)}.$$

- Chemical (particle) equilibrium: The chemical potentials must be equal.

$$\mu^{(1)} = \mu^{(2)}.$$

### (c) Virial equation of state

A virial equation of state expresses the pressure  $P$  as a power series in the number density  $n = N/V$ :

$$P = k_B T n + B_2(T) n^2 + B_3(T) n^3 + \dots$$

The coefficients  $B_k(T)$  are called virial coefficients. The  $k^{\text{th}}$  virial coefficient  $B_k$  has dimensions of volume <sup>$k - 1$</sup> . Each  $B_k$  generally depends only on the temperature  $T$  (and possibly other intensive parameters), but not on extensive quantities like  $N$  or  $V$  individually.

### (d) Noninteracting classical system on discrete sites

Each of the  $N_s$  sites hosts a particle with possible energies  $\varepsilon_1 = 0, \varepsilon_2 = 0, \varepsilon_3 = \Delta, \varepsilon_4 = \Omega$ . The single-site partition function is

$$\zeta_1 = e^{-0/(k_B T)} + e^{-0/(k_B T)} + e^{-\Delta/(k_B T)} + e^{-\Omega/(k_B T)} = 2 + e^{-\Delta/(k_B T)} + e^{-\Omega/(k_B T)}.$$

For  $N_s$  distinguishable sites,

$$Z = \zeta_1^{N_s}.$$

The Helmholtz free energy is

$$F = -k_B T \ln Z = -k_B T N_s \ln \left[ 2 + e^{-\Delta/(k_B T)} + e^{-\Omega/(k_B T)} \right].$$

At  $T = 0$ , the system will occupy the lowest energy states. The lowest energy is 0, and there are two such states per site. Thus each site has a two-fold ground-state degeneracy at  $T = 0$ . The entropy at

zero temperature is

$$S(T = 0) = k_B N_s \ln(2).$$

**(e) Condensation temperature for a Bose gas with  $g(\varepsilon) = A\varepsilon^5$**

For a noninteracting Bose gas, the particle number density at chemical potential  $\mu = 0$  is

$$n = \int_0^\infty d\varepsilon \frac{g(\varepsilon)}{e^{\varepsilon/(k_B T_c)} - 1}.$$

Here,  $g(\varepsilon) = A\varepsilon^5$ . Make the substitution  $t = \varepsilon/(k_B T_c)$ , then  $d\varepsilon = k_B T_c dt$ :

$$n = A(k_B T_c)^6 \int_0^\infty \frac{t^5}{e^t - 1} dt.$$

Using the given integral formula,

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{t^r}{e^t - 1} dt = \Gamma(r + 1)\zeta(r + 1),$$

for  $r = 5$ ,  $\Gamma(6) = 5! = 120$ , we get

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{t^5}{e^t - 1} dt = \Gamma(6)\zeta(6) = 120 \zeta(6).$$

Therefore,

$$n = A(k_B T_c)^6 120 \zeta(6).$$

Solve for  $T_c$ :

$$T_c = \frac{1}{k_B} \left( \frac{n}{A 120 \zeta(6)} \right)^{1/6}.$$

**(2)**

Consider a surface with  $N_s$  sites, each site has a dipole  $\mathbf{p} = \mu \hat{\mathbf{n}}$ . The energy in an electric field  $\mathbf{E} = E \hat{\mathbf{z}}$  is  $-\mu E \cos \theta$ .

**(a) Partition function  $Z(T, N_s, E)$**

A single dipole's partition function:

$$\zeta(T, E) = \int_0^\pi d\theta \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \sin \theta e^{\beta \mu E \cos \theta}.$$

Perform the  $\phi$ -integration:

$$\zeta(T, E) = 2\pi \int_0^\pi d\theta \sin \theta e^{\beta \mu E \cos \theta}.$$

Substitute  $x = \cos \theta$ ,  $d\theta = -dx / \sin \theta$ :

$$\zeta(T, E) = 2\pi \int_{-1}^1 dx e^{\beta\mu E x} = 2\pi \frac{e^{\beta\mu E} - e^{-\beta\mu E}}{\beta\mu E} = \frac{4\pi \sinh(\beta\mu E)}{\beta\mu E}.$$

For  $\backslash N_s$  distinguishable dipoles:

$$Z(T, \backslash N_s, E) = [\zeta(T, E)]^{\backslash N_s} = \left( \frac{4\pi \sinh(\beta\mu E)}{\beta\mu E} \right)^{\backslash N_s}.$$

**(b) Average dipole moment  $\langle \mathbf{p} \rangle$**

The average  $\langle \cos \theta \rangle$  for a single dipole is the Langevin function:

$$\langle \cos \theta \rangle = \coth(\beta\mu E) - \frac{1}{\beta\mu E}.$$

Hence

$$\langle \mathbf{p} \rangle = \backslash N_s \mu \left( \coth(\beta\mu E) - \frac{1}{\beta\mu E} \right) \hat{\mathbf{z}}.$$

**(c) Grand potential  $\Omega(T, \backslash N_s, \mu, E)$  with occupancy variable**

Now each site can be empty or occupied by a dipole. For one site:

- Empty state: contribution = 1.
- Occupied state: factor  $e^{\beta\mu} \zeta(T, E)$ .

Thus the single-site grand partition function:

$$\xi_1 = 1 + e^{\beta\mu} \frac{4\pi \sinh(\beta\mu E)}{\beta\mu E}.$$

For  $\backslash N_s$  sites:

$$\Xi = \xi_1^{\backslash N_s}, \quad \Omega = -k_B T \ln \Xi = -k_B T \backslash N_s \ln \left( 1 + e^{\beta\mu} \frac{4\pi \sinh(\beta\mu E)}{\beta\mu E} \right).$$

**(d) Equilibrium with a nonrelativistic gas of density  $n$**

The gas chemical potential  $\mu_g = k_B T \ln(\lambda_T^3 n)$ , where  $\lambda_T = h/\sqrt{2\pi m k_B T}$ .

An atom adsorbing on the surface gains energy  $-\Delta$  and forms a dipole. Thus the effective energy shift for adsorption is  $-\Delta$ , and in equilibrium  $\mu_{\text{site}} = \mu_g$ . The site grand partition function (with that energy shift included) is:

$$\xi_1 = 1 + e^{\beta(\mu_g + \Delta)} \frac{4\pi \sinh(\beta\mu E)}{\beta\mu E}.$$

The probability that a site is occupied is

$$f = \frac{e^{\beta(\mu_g + \Delta)} \frac{4\pi \sinh(\beta\mu E)}{\beta\mu E}}{1 + e^{\beta(\mu_g + \Delta)} \frac{4\pi \sinh(\beta\mu E)}{\beta\mu E}}.$$

Substitute  $\mu_g = k_B T \ln(\lambda_T^3 n)$ :

$$f = \frac{\lambda_T^3 n e^{\beta \Delta} \frac{4\pi \sinh(\beta \mu E)}{\beta \mu E}}{1 + \lambda_T^3 n e^{\beta \Delta} \frac{4\pi \sinh(\beta \mu E)}{\beta \mu E}}.$$


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**(3) Ultrarelativistic gas in 3D with  $\mathbf{Hh} = c|\mathbf{p}|$**

**(a) Single particle partition function  $\zeta$**

In 3D momentum space:

$$\zeta = \frac{1}{h^3} \int d^3 p e^{-\beta c p} = \frac{4\pi}{h^3} \int_0^\infty p^2 e^{-\beta c p} dp.$$

Compute the integral:

$$\int_0^\infty p^2 e^{-\alpha p} dp = \frac{2}{\alpha^3}, \quad \alpha = \beta c.$$

So

$$\zeta = \frac{4\pi}{h^3} \cdot \frac{2}{(\beta c)^3} = \frac{8\pi}{h^3 (\beta c)^3}.$$


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**(b) Helmholtz free energy  $F(T, V, N)$**

For  $N$  indistinguishable classical particles,

$$Z = \frac{\zeta^N}{N!}, \quad F = -k_B T \ln Z = -k_B T [N \ln \zeta - \ln N!].$$

Using Stirling's approximation:

$$\ln N! \approx N \ln N - N.$$

Thus

$$F = -k_B T [N \ln \zeta - (N \ln N - N)] = N k_B T [\ln(N/\zeta) - 1].$$


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**(c) Entropy  $S(T, V, N)$**

We know  $U = \langle E \rangle$ . For an ultrarelativistic gas in 3D, the average energy per particle is  $3k_B T$ . Thus  $U = 3Nk_B T$ .

From  $F = U - TS$ , we have  $S = (U - F)/T$ :

$$S = \frac{3Nk_B T - Nk_B T [\ln(N/\zeta) - 1]}{T} = 3Nk_B - Nk_B [\ln(N/\zeta) - 1].$$

Simplify:

$$S = 4Nk_B - Nk_B \ln(N/\zeta).$$


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**(d) Chemical potential  $\mu$**



$$\mu = \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial N} \right)_{T,V} = k_B T \ln(N/\zeta).$$

(e) Heat capacity at constant volume  $C_{V,N}$

$$C_{V,N} = \left( \frac{\partial U}{\partial T} \right)_{V,N} = \frac{\partial(3Nk_B T)}{\partial T} = 3Nk_B.$$

(4) 3D Bose gas with two internal states  $\sigma = \pm 1$

$$\varepsilon(\mathbf{p}, \sigma) = \frac{p^2}{2m} + \sigma \Delta.$$

(a) Density of states  $g(\varepsilon)$

For nonrelativistic particles in 3D,

$$g_0(\varepsilon) = \frac{\sqrt{2m^3}}{2\pi^2 \hbar^3} \varepsilon^{1/2} \Theta(\varepsilon).$$

For  $\sigma = +1$ :

$$\varepsilon - \Delta = \frac{p^2}{2m} \implies g_+(\varepsilon) = g_0(\varepsilon - \Delta) \Theta(\varepsilon - \Delta).$$

For  $\sigma = -1$ :

$$\varepsilon + \Delta = \frac{p^2}{2m} \implies g_-(\varepsilon) = g_0(\varepsilon + \Delta) \Theta(\varepsilon + \Delta).$$

Total:

$$g(\varepsilon) = g_0(\varepsilon - \Delta) \Theta(\varepsilon - \Delta) + g_0(\varepsilon + \Delta) \Theta(\varepsilon + \Delta).$$

(b) Condensation state and chemical potential

The lowest energy occurs at  $p = 0$ . For  $\sigma = +1$ , minimum energy =  $\Delta$ ; for  $\sigma = -1$ , minimum energy =  $-\Delta$ . Since  $\Delta > 0$ , the absolute ground state is  $-\Delta$  at  $\sigma = -1$ .

At condensation,  $\mu = \text{lowest energy} = -\Delta$ .

(c) Condensation temperature  $T_c(n, \Delta)$

At the onset of condensation, set  $\mu = -\Delta$ . The number density:

$$n = \int_0^\infty \frac{g(\varepsilon)}{e^{(\varepsilon+\Delta)/k_B T_c} - 1} d\varepsilon.$$

Splitting into two polarization branches and making appropriate substitutions leads to an implicit equation:

$$n = \int_0^\infty \frac{g_0(\varepsilon + \Delta)}{e^{(\varepsilon+\Delta-\mu)/k_B T_c} - 1} d\varepsilon + \int_0^\infty \frac{g_0(\varepsilon - \Delta)}{e^{(\varepsilon-\Delta-\mu)/k_B T_c} - 1} d\varepsilon.$$

With  $\mu = -\Delta$ :

$$n = \int_0^\infty \frac{g_0(\varepsilon + \Delta)}{e^{\varepsilon/k_B T_C} - 1} d\varepsilon + \int_0^\infty \frac{g_0(\varepsilon)}{e^{(\varepsilon+2\Delta)/k_B T_C} - 1} d\varepsilon.$$

Using the polylogarithm representation (as given), one finds an expression of the form:

$$n = \lambda_{T_C}^{-3} \left[ \zeta(3/2) + \text{Li}_{3/2}(e^{-2\Delta/(k_B T_C)}) \right].$$

When  $\Delta = \infty$ ,  $e^{-2\Delta/(k_B T_C)} \rightarrow 0$ , and

$$T_C(n, \Delta = \infty) = \frac{h^2}{2\pi m k_B} \left( \frac{n}{\zeta(3/2)} \right)^{2/3},$$

the familiar BEC result in 3D.

**(d) [Extra Credit]**

For large  $\Delta \gg k_B T_C(\infty)$ ,  $\text{Li}_{3/2}(e^{-2\Delta/(k_B T_C)})$  is small. Expanding will show a shift in  $T_C(n, \Delta)$  relative to  $T_C(n, \infty)$  that vanishes as  $\Delta \rightarrow \infty$ .

**End of Solutions**