

**PHYSICS 140A : STATISTICAL PHYSICS**  
**HW ASSIGNMENT #8**

**(1)** Thanksgiving turkey typically cooks at a temperature of  $350^\circ\text{F}$ . Calculate the total electromagnetic energy inside an oven of volume  $V = 1.0\text{ m}^3$  at this temperature. Compare it to the thermal energy of the air in the oven at the same temperature.

**(2)** In §5.4.4 of the lecture notes we derived the spectral energy density  $\rho_\varepsilon(\nu, T)$  for a three-dimensional blackbody. We found that it was peaked at a frequency  $\nu^* = s^* k_B T/h$  where  $s^* = 2.83144$  extremizes the function  $s^3/(e^s - 1)$ . Consider instead the function  $\tilde{\rho}_\varepsilon(\lambda, T)$  as a function of wavelength  $\lambda$  and temperature  $T$ , where  $\lambda = c/\nu$ . To relate  $\rho_\varepsilon(\nu, T)$  and  $\tilde{\rho}_\varepsilon(\lambda, T)$ , set the fraction of energy of EM radiation between frequencies  $\nu$  and  $\nu + d\nu$  equal to the fraction of energy between wavelengths  $\lambda$  and  $\lambda + d\lambda$ . Show that this is maximized at a wavelength  $\lambda^* = t^* hc/k_B T$ , where  $t^*$  is a constant. Find  $t^*$  numerically. Is  $t^* = 1/s^*$ ? Why or why not?

**(3)** A three-dimensional gas of particles obeys the dispersion relation  $\varepsilon(\mathbf{k}) = A |\mathbf{k}|^{7/4}$ . The internal degeneracy is  $g = 1$ .

(a) Compute the single particle density of states  $g(\varepsilon)$ .

(b) For photon statistics, compute the pressure  $p(n)$ .

(c) For photon statistics, compute the entropy density  $s(n) = S/V$ .

(d) For Bose-Einstein statistics, compute the condensation temperature  $T_{\text{BEC}}(n)$ .

**(4)** A branch of excitations for a three-dimensional system has a dispersion  $\varepsilon(\mathbf{k}) = A |\mathbf{k}|^{2/3}$ . The excitations are bosonic and are not conserved; they therefore obey photon statistics.

(a) Find the single excitation density of states per unit volume,  $g(\varepsilon)$ . You may assume that there is no internal degeneracy for this excitation branch.

(b) Find the heat capacity  $C_V(T, V)$ .

(c) Find the ratio  $E/pV$ .

(d) If the particles are bosons with number conservation, find the critical temperature  $T_c$  for Bose-Einstein condensation.