

Instructions:

- Please solve these problems, putting your answer in the blank space.
- The real test will have 6 questions ... this practice test has 9
- Should an answer be wrong in the real test, you will have an opportunity to correct it ... by doing a calculation, open-book, showing your steps and reasoning and if you can, getting the correct answer at the end of your calculation.
- You can use your cheat sheets and a calculator.
- Good luck!

Useful data and conversion factors:

Ideal gas constant $R = 8.31 \text{ J/mol/K}$

Boltzmann's constant: $k = 1.38 \times 10^{-23} \text{ J/K}$

Planck's constant: $h = 6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J s}$

Proton mass: $1.66 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$

Electron mass: $9.1 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$

Stefan-Boltzmann constant: $\sigma = \frac{2\pi^2 k^4}{15h^3 c^2}$

Molar volumes: Ice: 19.58 cm^3 , Water: 18.02 cm^3

Latent heat of fusion for water: 6.03 kJ/mole

$1 \text{ eV} = 1.60 \times 10^{-19} \text{ Joule}$

Absolute zero: $0\text{K} = -273.15^\circ\text{C}$

speed of light: $c = 3.00 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$

Integrals of the form: $I(p) = \int_0^\infty \frac{x^{p-1}}{e^x - 1} dx$ for $p > 1$ have the value $I(p) = \zeta(p)\Gamma(p)$... see table below:

p	$\zeta(p)$	$\Gamma(p)$	$I = \zeta(p)\Gamma(p)$
$3/2$	2.612	$\sqrt{\pi}/2$	$1.306\sqrt{\pi}$
$5/2$	1.341	$3\sqrt{\pi}/4$	$1.006\sqrt{\pi}$
3	1.202	2	2.404
4	$\pi^4/90$	6	$\pi^4/15$
6	$\pi^6/945$	120	$8\pi^6/63$

Integrals of the form $I(p) = \int_0^\infty \frac{x^{p-1}}{e^x + 1} dx$ have the following values which may be helpful:

$$I(3/2) = 0.678; \quad I(1/2) = 1.072$$

1. A system of N electrons (which have their usual mass and spin $1/2$) exist in a nanowire of length L , which we can model as a one-dimensional box. For this problem, ignore interactions between electrons, treating them like a 1d ideal fermionic gas. What is the Fermi temperature, T_f , in degrees K, if $L = 10^{-6} \text{ m}$ and $N = 10^8$?

Answer: _____

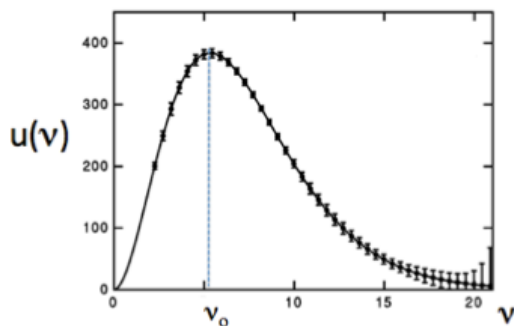
2. Photons are massless bosons with two polarization states. Their chemical potential, μ , is just what you'd expect from particles which are not conserved. If you have a box of volume V and temperature T , what is the mean number, N , of photons in the box?

Answer: _____

3. Consider a paramagnetic system of N spins that can take on, not two values, but *three* values: $s_i = -1, 0, 1$. The spins sit on a lattice. They do not interact with each other, but they do interact with a magnetic field B , so $E_i = -\mu_o B s_i$ is the energy of the i^{th} spin. (Here, μ_o is the magnetic moment for a single spin.) What are the free energy, F , and the average magnetization $\langle M \rangle$, of these spins at temperature T ? (Hint: Does your $\langle M \rangle$ have reasonable limits for low and high T ?)

Answers: _____ ; _____

4. Below is the Black Body spectrum of a cosmological object, where $u(\nu) d\nu$ is the amount of energy per unit volume produced in the small interval $d\nu$ near the frequency ν . The spectrum has a peak at frequency ν_0 . In terms of ν_0 and constants of nature, please give the approximate temperature, T , of the object. (Without Mathematica to solve a transcendental equation, it is fine to just give it approximately.)



Answer: _____

5. At a pressure of 1.000 atm. the freezing temperature of water is 273K. At a pressure of 100.0 atm, at what temperature will water freeze?

Answer: _____

6. This is a question about an ideal gas. Consider the three variables V , N and $\langle v \rangle$ which correspond to the volume, number, and expected speed of gas molecules. Suppose you change *one* of these three variables, but you are careful to *hold the other two constant*.

Which variable(s), when changed in this way, will result in a change in pressure P ?
Which variable(s), when changed in this way, will result in a change in chemical potential, μ ?

Answers: _____ ; _____

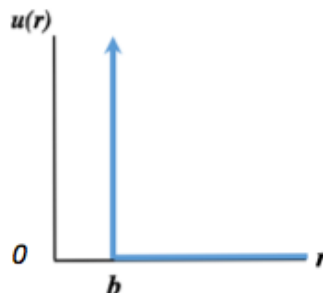
7. A system of fermions at temperature T has many nondegenerate energy levels. Two energy levels happen to have $\epsilon_1 = \mu - c$ and $\epsilon_2 = \mu + c$. Here, μ is the chemical potential and c is a constant. Suppose the probability of energy level 1 being occupied is calculated. Just to be concrete, say this probability has the value A :

$$n(\epsilon_1) = A$$

Please calculate the probability that energy level 2 is occupied, *giving your answer purely in terms of the value A* .

Answer: _____

8. A classical gas of N particles at temperature T , exists within a volume V . From this info, you can find the mean distance between particles, which we'll call a . Say that the particles interact like "hard spheres" of size b . In other words, if two particles are a distance r apart, their potential energy is described by the graph below:



Please estimate the relationship between a and b , in the case that $P = 1.10 \rho kT$. In other words, find out how the two sizes a and b are related when the gas pressure is 10% greater than the pressure of an ideal gas. (Hint: A necessary step is to calculate the second virial coefficient, $B(T)$.)

Answer: _____

9. Consider the spontaneous magnetization per spin, m , of the two-dimensional Ising model with zero external magnetic field. It's the case that $m = 0$ when $T > T_c$. But there is a continuous phase transition as temperature is lowered past T_c , and for $T \leq T_c$ the magnetization is known to be (thanks to Lars Onsager):

$$m^8 = 1 - (\sinh 2J/kT)^{-4}$$

From this information, please find an expression for T_c in terms of J and k_B . Also, please find the critical exponent β which is defined as follows in the limit of small $t = (T_c - T) / T_c$ as:

$$m \sim t^\beta$$

Answers: _____ ; _____

Answers:

1. $T_F = 1.1 \times 10^4 \text{ K}$

(Hint: You need to use the 1d density of states for particles in a box, and integrate over all of the k states up to k_F and set this integral equal to N . You should get $k_F = N \pi / 2L$ where the "2" in denominator comes because there will be 2 electronic spin states occupying each k state. Then you use the relationship between k_F and T_F and plug in numbers.)

2. $N = 2.404 \frac{V(kT)^3}{\pi^2 c^3 \hbar^3}$

3. $F = -NkT \ln[1 + 2 \cosh(\mu_0 B/kT)]$; $\langle M \rangle = 2 N \mu_0 \sinh(\mu B/kT) / [1 + 2 \cosh(\mu_0 B/kT)]$

4. $T = \frac{h\nu_0}{k 2.82}$

5. 272 K

6.

Changing any one of the three variables *will* change P .

Changing any one of the three variables *will* change μ .

7.

$$n(\epsilon_2) = 1 - A$$

8. $a = 2.76 b$

(In other words, the typical spacing between particles is about 3 times their diameter.)

9.

$$\frac{kT_c}{J} = \frac{2}{\ln(1 + \sqrt{2})} \approx 2.269.$$

and $\beta = 1/8$