

#28.1 2-level Fermi gas chemical potential

Level 0: $E_0 = 0$ Level 1: $E_1 = E$ Ω_1 — $E_1 = E$
 Ω_0 — $E_0 = 0$

$$N = \sum_j \Omega_j (e^{\beta(E_j - \mu)} + 1)^{-1} = \Omega_0 (e^{-\beta\mu} + 1)^{-1} + \Omega_1 (e^{\beta(E - \mu)} + 1)^{-1} = 1$$

note: $\frac{1}{x+1} + \frac{1}{1/x+1} = \frac{(1+1/x)(x+1)}{(x+1)(1/x+1)} = 1$

1. Degeneracies $\Omega_0 = \Omega_1 = 1$ total $N = 1$ find μ, E_F

Set $x = e^{\beta\mu} : \Rightarrow (e^{\beta\mu} + 1)^{-1} + (e^{-\beta\mu} + 1)^{-1} = 1$ \star by $N=1$

$$\Rightarrow (e^{\beta\mu} + 1)^{-1} = 1 - (e^{-\beta\mu} + 1)^{-1} = (e^{\beta(E - \mu)} + 1)^{-1}$$

1 — $\mu = E/2$
 0 —

$$\Rightarrow \beta\mu = \beta(E - \mu) \Rightarrow \mu = E/2$$

2. Arbitrary Ω_0, Ω_1 with total $N = \Omega_0$: $T \rightarrow 0$

By \star $\Omega_0 [1 - (e^{\beta\mu} + 1)^{-1}] + \Omega_1 (e^{\beta(E - \mu)} + 1)^{-1} = N$ $\star\star$

$$\Omega_0 = N \Rightarrow \Omega_0 (e^{\beta\mu} + 1)^{-1} = \Omega_1 (e^{\beta(E - \mu)} + 1)^{-1}$$

Set $e^{\beta\mu} \gg 1$ and $e^{\beta(E - \mu)} \gg 1 \Rightarrow \Omega_0 e^{-\beta\mu} = \Omega_1 e^{-\beta(E - \mu)}$

$$\mu = \frac{E}{2} - \frac{k_B T}{2} \ln(\Omega_1 / \Omega_0) \rightarrow \frac{E}{2} \text{ at } T=0 \quad \therefore E_F = E/2$$

\uparrow bends towards level with lower degeneracy

3. Now $N < \Omega_0$

Rearrange $\star\star \Rightarrow \Omega_0 (e^{\beta\mu} + 1)^{-1} - (\Omega_0 - N) = \Omega_1 (e^{\beta(E - \mu)} + 1)^{-1}$

RHS $> 0 \Rightarrow \Omega_0 (e^{\beta\mu} + 1)^{-1} > \Omega_0 - N \Rightarrow \mu < k_B T \ln \frac{N}{\Omega_0 - N} \rightarrow 0$

can show $\approx \text{sing } \mu < E$

4. Now $N > \Omega_0$: $\mu \approx E_1 - k_B T \ln((\Omega_0 + \Omega_1 - N) / (N - \Omega_0)) \rightarrow E_1$