

## Simplified analysis of phase transitions in thermodynamics

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- Talk available at: [tinyurl.com/jay-umassd](http://tinyurl.com/jay-umassd)
- Example: Bose-Einstein condensation (and Ising model)
- Simplified analysis (IPAS)
  - insight without convoluted numerics
  - Possible to do at lower level courses
  - Analysis with Lambert  $W$  special function
  - Symbolic hands-on computation

### Bose-Einstein condensation

The number of particles  $N = \sum (\text{BE dist}) \times (\text{density of states})$ , or

$$N = A \int_0^\infty f(p) dp, \quad f(p) = \frac{p^2}{e^{(p^2-\mu)/kT} - 1}, \quad A = \frac{4\pi V}{h^3} (2m)^{3/2}$$

The key to understanding BEC is the relationship between  $\mu$  vs  $T$ .

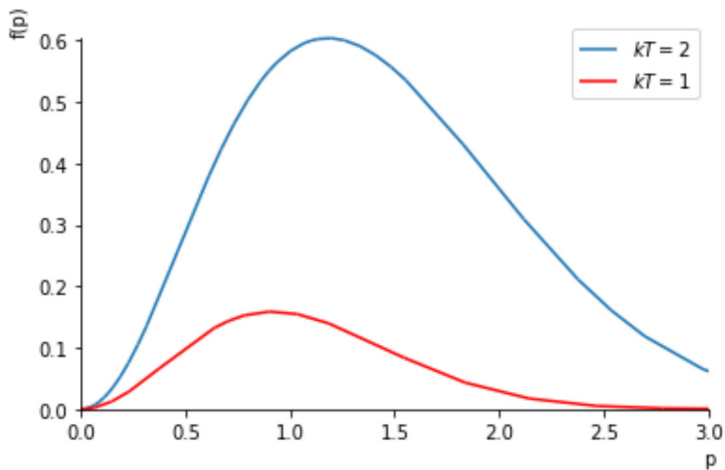
Use `sympy`, the symbolic lib, to examine the integrand,

```
In [1]: from sympy import *
init_printing() # pretty math symbols
%matplotlib inline

p, kT, mu = symbols('p kT mu')
def f(p, kT, mu):
    return p**2 / (exp((p**2-mu)/kT) - 1)
```

The integrand at fixed  $\mu$  and  $T$

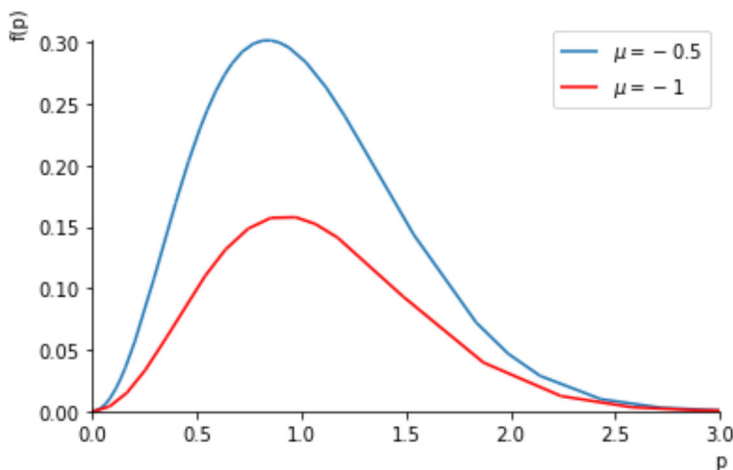
```
In [2]: plt = plot(f(p,kT=2,mu=-1), f(p,kT=1,mu=-1), ### Fixed chem. pot.
              xlim=[0,3], legend=1, show=0)
plt[0].label='$kT=2$'; plt[1].line_color='red'; plt[1].label='$kT=1$'
plt.show()
```



At fixed  $\mu$ ,  
 $f(p)$  decreases as  $T$  decreases

At fixed  $T$ ,  
 $f(p)$  increases as  $\mu$  increases

```
In [3]: plt = plot(f(p,kT=1,mu=-.5), f(p,kT=1,mu=-1), ### Fixed T
                  xlim=[0,3], legend=1, show=0)
plt[0].label='$\mu=-0.5$'; plt[1].line_color='red'; plt[1].label='$\mu=-1$'
plt.show()
```



So,  $\mu$  must increase when  $T$  decreases to conserve particle number  $N$ . Quantitatively, one must either do some numerical acrobatics; or some *simplification*. We choose the latter, semiquantitatively correct and suitable for lower level courses.

*Assumption:* The area is  $\sim$  proportional to the height of the peak,

$$\int f(p) dp \sim C f(p_{max})$$

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This is justified because the width varies much slower than height (details in Am. J. Phys. 2019, accepted)

Effectively,  $f_{max} \propto N$ , some scaled particle number.

To find the maximum, set  $df/dp = 0$ ,

```
In [4]: dfdp = diff(f(p,kT,mu), p) # derivative, f'(p)
dfdp
```

Out [4]:

$$\frac{2p}{e^{\frac{1}{kT}(-\mu+p^2)} - 1} - \frac{2p^3 e^{\frac{1}{kT}(-\mu+p^2)}}{kT \left( e^{\frac{1}{kT}(-\mu+p^2)} - 1 \right)^2}$$

Solve for  $p_{max}$ ,

```
In [5]: pmax = solve(dfdp, p) # find maximum
pmax
```

Out [5]:

$$\left[ 0, \sqrt{kT} \sqrt{\text{LambertW} \left( -e^{\frac{1}{kT}(-kT+\mu)} \right) + 1}, \right. \\ \left. -\sqrt{kT} \sqrt{\text{LambertW} \left( -e^{-\frac{1}{kT}(kT-\mu)} \right) + 1} \right]$$

Note the Lambert  $W$  function appears (more on it later).

To find  $f_{max} = f(p_{max})$

and find  $f_{max} = f(p_{max})$ ,

```
In [6]: fmax=f(pmax[1], kT, mu)
fmax
```

Out [6]:

$$\frac{kT \left( \text{LambertW} \left( -e^{\frac{1}{kT}(-kT+\mu)} \right) + 1 \right)}{e^{\frac{1}{kT} \left( kT \left( \text{LambertW} \left( -e^{\frac{1}{kT}(-kT+\mu)} \right) + 1 \right) - \mu \right)} - 1}$$

which simplifies to (sympy needs a bit help at times)

$$f_{max} = -kT W(-e^{\mu/kT-1}), \quad p_{max} = \left[ kT (W(-e^{\mu/kT-1}) + 1) \right]^{1/2}$$

```
In [7]: fmax = -kT*LambertW(-exp(mu/kT-1))
fmax
```

Out [7]:

$$-kT \text{LambertW} \left( -e^{-1+\frac{\mu}{kT}} \right)$$

Recall  $f_{max}$  represents the area (or  $N$ )

Now as  $T$  decreases,  $\mu$  must adjust such that  $f_{max} = const$ , say 1 (equiv  $kT_c = 1$ ) for some fixed  $N$ . Solve  $f_{max} - 1 = 0$  for  $\mu$

```
In [8]: u = solve(fmax-1, mu)
u
```

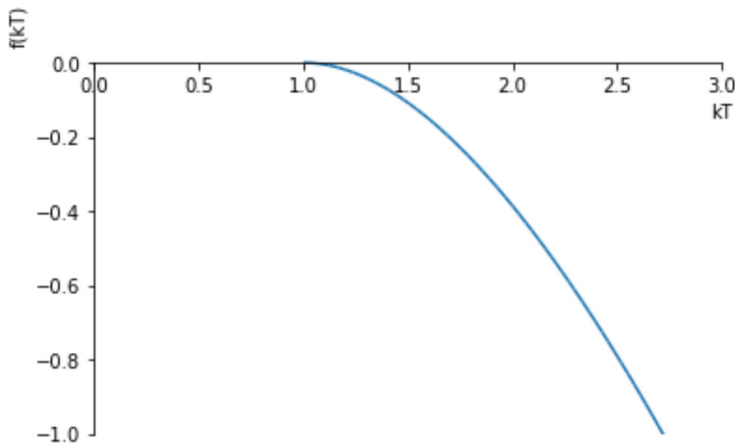
```
Out [8]: [kT * (log(e^(-1/kT)) + 1)]
```

or make it tidier,  $\mu = \begin{cases} kT(1 - \ln kT) - 1, & (T > T_c) \\ 0, & (T \leq T_c) \end{cases}$

Central closed-form result: how  $\mu$  changes to keep  $N$  constant.

### Relationship between $\mu$ and $T$ , critical temperature at $kT = 1$

```
In [9]: plot(u[0], (kT,1,3), xlim=[0,3], ylim=[-1,.1]);
```



The maximum of  $\mu$  is zero. What if  $T$  continues to decrease?

Because  $\mu = 0$  after  $T_c$ , it can no longer compensate for the shrinking integral. Evidently, the "missing" particles fall into the ground state, the Bose-Einstein condensate, i.e.,  $N = N_{exci} + N_{grnd}$

| $T$        | $\frac{N_{exci}}{N}$ | $\frac{N_{grnd}}{N}$ |
|------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| $T > T_c$  | 1                    | 0                    |
| $T < T_c$  | $\frac{T}{T_c}$      | $1 - \frac{T}{T_c}$  |
| $T \sim 0$ | 0                    | 1                    |

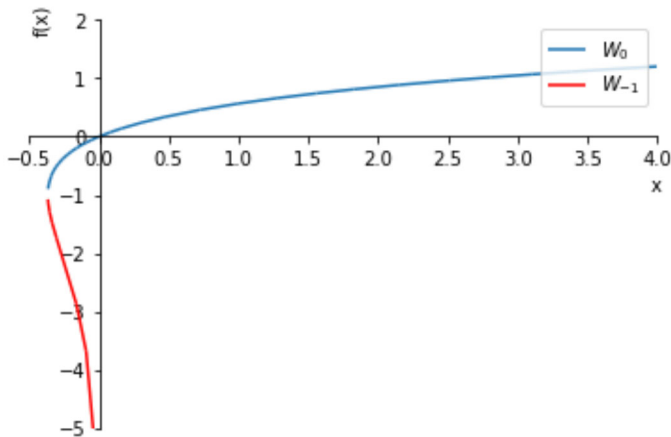
$$\frac{N_{exci}}{N} = \begin{cases} 1, & T > T_c, \\ \frac{T}{T_c}, & T \leq T_c, \end{cases} \quad \frac{N_{grnd}}{N} = \begin{cases} \sim 0, & T > T_c, \\ 1 - \frac{T}{T_c}, & T \leq T_c. \end{cases}$$

| $T$       | $N_{exci}/N$ | $N_{grnd}/N$ |
|-----------|--------------|--------------|
| $T > T_c$ | $\sim 1$     | $\sim 0$     |
| $T < T_c$ | $T/T_c$      | $1-T/T_c$    |

**The Lambert  $W$  function: defined as the  $W(x)$  satisfying  $W(x)e^{W(x)} = x$**

```
In [10]: x = symbols('x')
W = LambertW # shorthand

plt = plot(W(x,0), W(x,-1), xlim=[-0.5,4], ylim=[-5,2], legend=1, show=0)
plt[0].label='$W_0$'; plt[1].line_color='red'; plt[1].label='$W_{-1}$'; plt.show()
```



```
In [11]: diff(W(x), x)
```

Out[11]: 
$$\frac{\text{LambertW}(x)}{x(\text{LambertW}(x) + 1)}$$

```
In [12]: integrate(W(x), x)
```

Out[12]: 
$$x \text{LambertW}(x) - x + \frac{x}{\text{LambertW}(x)}$$

### Discussion

- Simplified analysis of BEC with the  $W$  function; Ising model may be solved similarly (AJP 2019 accepted)
- The  $W$  function recently used in CM, QM, thermo, chaos, helio- & astro-phys, eco-bio systems, supply-chain problems
- Potential application to yet unknown thermal problems due to FD and BE distributions involving  $[\exp((E - \mu)/kT) \pm 1]^{-1}$
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