

Spring 2005 #14

photon gas

a) partition function, $\bar{n}_{s, \text{state}}$

$$\bar{Z} \bar{A}_s = -\frac{1}{\beta} \frac{\partial \ln Z}{\partial \epsilon_s}$$

$$Z = \sum_R e^{-\beta E_R} = \sum_{R=n_1, n_2, n_3, \dots} e^{-\beta(n_1 \epsilon_1 + n_2 \epsilon_2 + \dots)}$$

$$\bar{n}_s = -\frac{1}{\beta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \epsilon_s} \ln(\sum e^{-\beta n_s \epsilon_s})$$

all other terms go away since derivative selects ϵ_s state

$$= -\frac{1}{\beta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \epsilon_s} \ln(\sum e^{-\beta n_s \epsilon_s})$$

easier seen

$$\bar{n}_s = \frac{\sum_n e^{-\beta n_s \epsilon_s} n_s}{\sum_{n_1, n_2, \dots} e^{-\beta(n_1 \epsilon_1 + n_2 \epsilon_2 + \dots)}} \quad (\text{excluding } s)$$

$$\frac{\sum_n e^{-\beta n_s \epsilon_s} n_s}{\sum_{n_1, n_2, n_3, \dots} e^{-\beta(n_1 \epsilon_1 + n_2 \epsilon_2 + \dots)}} \quad (\text{excluded})$$

$$\bar{n}_s = \frac{\sum_n e^{-\beta n_s \epsilon_s} n_s}{\sum_n e^{-\beta n_s \epsilon_s}} = -\frac{1}{\beta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \epsilon_s} \ln(\sum e^{-\beta n_s \epsilon_s})$$

$$\Rightarrow \bar{n}_s = -\frac{1}{\beta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \epsilon_s} \ln\left(\frac{1}{1 - e^{-\beta \epsilon_s}}\right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{\beta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \epsilon_s} \ln(1 - e^{-\beta \epsilon_s}) = \frac{e^{-\beta \epsilon_s}}{1 - e^{-\beta \epsilon_s}} = \frac{1}{e^{\beta \epsilon_s} - 1}$$

b) find relation between radiation pressure and mean energy density (\bar{U})

Ref: 9.13.20

$$\bar{p} = \sum_s \bar{n}_s \left(-\frac{\partial \epsilon_s}{\partial V} \right) \quad \text{Follows from } \bar{p} = \frac{1}{B} \frac{d \ln \bar{p}}{d \ln V} \quad \bar{p} = \frac{1}{B} \frac{d \ln \bar{z}}{d \ln \epsilon_s} \frac{d \epsilon_s}{d V}$$

Consider cube $L_x = L_y = L_z = L$ $V = L^3$

$$\epsilon_s = \hbar \omega = \hbar c k = \hbar c (k_x^2 + k_y^2 + k_z^2)^{1/2}$$

↑
wave vector

$$k_i = \frac{2\pi}{L_i} n_i$$

$$= \hbar c \left(\frac{2\pi}{L} \right) (n_x^2 + n_y^2 + n_z^2)^{1/2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \epsilon_s = B L^{-1} = B V^{-1/3} \quad B = \text{constant}$$

$$\frac{\partial \epsilon_s}{\partial V} = -\frac{1}{3} B V^{-4/3} = -\frac{1}{3} \frac{\epsilon_s}{V}$$

$$\bar{p} = \sum_s \bar{n}_s \left(\frac{1}{3} \frac{\epsilon_s}{V} \right) = \frac{1}{3V} \sum_s \bar{n}_s \epsilon_s = \frac{1}{3V} \bar{E} = \frac{1}{3} \bar{u}$$

c) Adiabatic process $dQ=0 \Rightarrow dE = -p dV$

$$p = -\frac{\partial E}{\partial V}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial \epsilon_s}{\partial V} = -p = -\frac{1}{3} B V^{-4/3}$$

$\Rightarrow p V^{4/3} \propto \text{constant}$ in general

$$p_0 V_0^{4/3} = p_f V_f^{4/3} \quad V_f = \frac{1}{8} V_0$$

$$p_f = p_0 \left(\frac{V_0}{V_f} \right)^{4/3} = p_0 (8)^{4/3}$$