

**SMB** Recall that that in a grand canonical ensemble of identical bosons the number of particles in an energy level  $\varepsilon_n$  is

$$f(\varepsilon_n) = \frac{1}{e^{\beta(\varepsilon_n - \mu)} - 1}, \quad \mu \leq 0.$$

Consider first free non-relativistic bosons of mass  $m$  confined in a large cubic box of volume  $V$ .

- a) Write down, in terms of  $\hbar$ ,  $m$  and  $V$ , the expression  $D(\varepsilon)d\varepsilon$  for the number of energy states between  $\varepsilon$  and  $\varepsilon + d\varepsilon$ .
- b) The total number of particles  $N$  can be written as

$$N = N_0 + N_{\text{excited}} = N_0 + \int_0^\infty D(\varepsilon)f(\varepsilon)d\varepsilon$$

where  $N_0$  is the number of particles in the ground state. For a given  $k_B T = \beta^{-1}$ , at what value of  $\mu$  does  $N_{\text{excited}}$  take its maximum possible value? Express this maximum value in terms of  $\Gamma(s)\zeta(s)$  where these functions are defined below.

- c) The critical temperature,  $T_c$ , is the temperature below which there *must* be a finite fraction  $N_0/N$  of particles in the ground state. Use your result from part (b) to express  $T_c$  as a function of  $n = N/V$ , the number density of particles.

Now consider the same particles confined in a three dimensional harmonic trap

$$U(x, y, z) = \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2(x^2 + y^2 + z^2).$$

- d) Assuming that the trap is weak (*i.e.*  $\hbar\omega \ll k_B T$  so that we can regard the energy spectrum as continuous) write down the new density of states  $D(\varepsilon)$ .
- e) Show that in this case  $T_c \propto N^a$  (and not to  $n = N/V$ ) and find  $a$ .

**Useful Formulæ:**

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{t^{s-1}}{e^t - 1} dt = \Gamma(s)\zeta(s).$$

where  $\Gamma(s)$  is Euler's Gamma function and  $\zeta(s)$  is the Riemann zeta function

$$\zeta(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^s}, \quad s > 1.$$