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SECOND SEMESTER M.Sc. DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2020 (CUCSS - PG)

CC19P PHY2 C07 - STATISTICAL MECHANICS

(Physics)

(2019 Admission - Regular)

Time: Three Hours

Maximum: 30 Weightage

Part A

Answer *all* questions. Each question carries 1 weightage.

- 1. How the physical reason for reducing the number of microstates in resolving the Gibbs paradox is explained?
- 2. State and explain Liouville's theorem.
- 3. How the uncertainty principle plays an important role in finding the number of representative points in phase space?
- 4. Explain the virial theorem of Clausius. How can it be applied to classical ideal gas?
- 5. Write the expression which shows the entropy of a physical system is solely and completely determined by the probability values of its accessible dynamical states. What conclusions can be derived from it?
- 6. Why the postulate of *random a priori phases* is invoked in quantum statistics?
- 'The ratio of specific heats C_p and C_v obtained in the case of classical ideal gas is not so in the case of ideal Bose gas'. Justify.
- 8. Distinguish between the approaches adopted by the Planck and Bose in describing the distribution of energy over the black-body spectrum.

(8 x 1 = 8 Weightage)

Part B

Answer any two questions. Each question carries 5 weightage.

- 9. Discuss in detail the problem of paramagnetism quantum mechanically by using classical ensemble theory and hence describe what happens when the quantum number $J \rightarrow \infty$ and $J = \frac{1}{2}$. Is J = 0 possible in this case? Why?
- 10. Discuss the density and energy fluctuations in the grand canonical ensemble and hence find a correspondence with the other ensembles.
- 11. Describe the problem of ideal gas in both quantum mechanical canonical and grand canonical ensembles by considering M.B. case, B.E. case and F.D. case and hence arrive at a general equation for the q-potential, applicable to three cases.

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12. Discuss in detail, Landau diamagnetism by quantum mechanical ensemble theory.

(2 x 5 = 10 Weightage)

Part C

Answer any *four* questions. Each question carries 3 weightage.

- 13. Write the Sackur-Tetrode equation and hence obtain an expression for chemical potential of classical ideal gas in terms of N, V and T. Check whether it is intensive or extensive.
- 14. From dimensional considerations, the fundamental volume ω_0 in the phase space must be in the nature of an 'angular momentum raised to the power of 3N'. Justify the statement by taking the classical ideal gas system.
- 15. Consider a system of classical ideal gas consisting of N number of particles having energy E enclosed in a volume V.
 - (a) Write the expression for the number of microstates of $\sum (N, V, E)$,
 - (b) Obtain the expression for density of states for energy in view of Gibbs correction factor and hence find out its canonical partition function and
 - (c) Check whether the result is correct by invoking inverse Laplace transform.
- 16. The canonical partition function of a single particle in a classical ideal gas of N particles enclosed in a volume V is proportional to a function of temperature f(T).
 - (a) Write the expression for grand partition function of the system,
 - (b) Obtain the equation of state of the system and its specific heat capacity at constant volume and
 - (c) Suppose if $f(T) \propto T^n$, obtain the energy density of the gas and also mention the peculiarity of the values for n = 3 and n = 3/2.
- 17. Prove that the expectation value of any given physical quantity G is manifestly independent of the choice of the basis $\{\Phi_n\}$. Find out the expectation value of the z component of Pauli spin operator $\hat{\boldsymbol{\sigma}}$ in the case of a single electron in a magnetic field.
- 18. Discuss analytically and graphically the variation of specific heat capacity at constant volume with temperature at (a) $T < T_c$, (b) $T = T_c$ and (c) $T > T_c$ for an ideal Bose gas.
- 19. For an ideal Fermi gas, prove that

$$\frac{C_v}{Nk} = \frac{15f_{5/2}(z)}{4f_{3/2}(z)} - \frac{9f_{3/2}(z)}{4f_{1/2}(z)}$$

(4 x 3 = 12 Weightage)
