

2. BEC in ideal gas



2.1 BE distribution

•) recall, gas of noninteracting/ideal bosons

$$H = \sum_p p^2 a_p^\dagger a_p \iff H_N = \sum_{j=1}^N (-\Delta_{x_j})$$

on $L^2(\mathbb{R}^N)$ in the latter case (canonical) or
 on $\mathcal{F}(L^2(\mathbb{R}))$ in former (grand-canonical)
 $\Omega = [0, L]^3$ with p.b.c.

•) we now stick to the grand canonical ensemble and let us compute $\langle a_p^\dagger a_p \rangle \equiv \langle n_p \rangle$
 By definition

$$\langle n_p \rangle = \text{Tr} \left(n_p \frac{e^{-\beta(H - \mu N)}}{Z} \right)$$

$$-\beta(H - \mu N) = -\beta \sum_p (p^2 - \mu) a_p^\dagger a_p \equiv \sum_p \epsilon(p) n_p$$

Note that $\text{Tr} \left(e^{-\beta(H - \mu N)} \right) = \prod_p \sum_{n_p=0}^{\infty} e^{\epsilon(p) n_p}$

This is because plane waves are eigenstates of $H - \mu N$ (or rather form the Fock space basis)

Remark: $\mu < 0$ is chosen such that $\langle N \rangle = N$
 i.e. to make sense of density $\rho = \frac{N}{V}$.

Thus we can compute (exercise)

$$\begin{aligned} \langle n_k \rangle &= \frac{\sum_k n_k e^{\epsilon_k n_k} \prod_{q \neq k} \sum_{n_q} e^{\epsilon_q n_q}}{\prod_p \sum_{n_p} e^{\epsilon_p n_p}} = \frac{\sum_{n_k} n_k e^{\epsilon_k n_k}}{\sum_{n_k} e^{\epsilon_k n_k}} \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \log \sum_n e^{-nx} \Big|_{x = \beta(\epsilon_k - \mu)} = \frac{1}{e^{\beta(\epsilon_k - \mu)} - 1} \end{aligned}$$

Bose-Einstein distribution:

$$y^{\text{id}}(p) = \frac{1}{\exp(\beta(p^2 - \mu)) - 1}, \quad \mu < 0 \text{ s.t. } \sum_p y^{\text{id}}(p) = N$$



Properties of $\gamma^{id}(\rho)$

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•) for every $\rho \neq 0$ $\gamma^{id}(\rho) \rightarrow 0$ as $T \rightarrow 0$

•) thermodynamic limit: $N, V \rightarrow \infty$, $\rho = \frac{N}{V} = \text{const}$

$$g = \frac{\langle N \rangle}{V} = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{\rho \in \frac{2\pi}{L} \mathbb{Z}^3} \gamma^{id}(\rho) \xrightarrow[\text{Riemann sum}]{V \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \int \gamma^{id}(\rho) d\rho$$

$$\leq \int \gamma^{id}(\rho) \Big|_{\mu=0} d\rho =: g_{cr}(T)$$

•) however, $g_{cr}(T) \xrightarrow{T \rightarrow 0} 0$ which implies $g \rightarrow 0$

•) what went wrong?

Setting $V \rightarrow \infty$ and $\mu=0$ do not commute,

in particular: $\mu \rightarrow 0$ as $L \rightarrow \infty$

which leads to a macroscopic occupation of the $\rho=0$ mode.

$$\gamma^{id}(0) = \frac{1}{\exp(-\beta\mu) - 1} \sim \mathcal{O}(N)$$

$\sim \frac{1}{\beta\mu} \Rightarrow \mu \sim L^{-3}$

2.2. Definition of BEC

•) the computation of the BE distribution possible because there was no interaction

•) $\gamma^{id}(\rho)$ was the Fourier transform of the kernel of one-body reduced density matrix

•) for a general state $\gamma_{\Gamma}^{(n)}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \text{Tr}(e_2^{\otimes n} \rho_{\Gamma})$

a) $\gamma^{id}(z)$ is a macroscopic eigenvalue of $\gamma^{id}(x, y)$

Def (Penrose, Onsager 1956)

We say that a sequence of states Γ_N (conserved) displays BEC iff

$$\liminf_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{\|\psi\|=1} \frac{\langle \psi, \gamma_N^{(1)} \psi \rangle}{N} > 0$$

a) in other words: the 1-pdm has an eigenvalue of order N

Example: ideal gas ground state:

$$\Gamma_N = |\Psi_N\rangle\langle\Psi_N|, \quad \gamma_{\Psi_N}^{(1)}(x, y) = N \int dx_2 \dots dx_N \Psi_N(x, x_2, \dots, x_N) \overline{\Psi_N(y, x_2, \dots, x_N)}$$

b) we know $\Psi_N := u_0^{\otimes N} = u_0(x_1) \dots u_0(x_N)$
 where $u_0(x)$ is the ground state of the one-body Hamiltonian $-1 + V(x)$ (in the case of box with p.b.c $V \equiv 0$ $u_0(x) = \frac{1}{L^{3/2}}$.)

\hookrightarrow we compute $\gamma_{u_0^{\otimes N}}^{(1)}(x, y) = N u_0(x) \overline{u_0(y)}$

$$\gamma_{u_0^{\otimes N}}^{(1)} = N |u_0\rangle\langle u_0|$$

\uparrow
 eigenvalue of order N

The BEC conjecture

Consider an interacting system ($w \neq 0$)
 in the thermodynamic limit $N/L \rightarrow \infty$, $N/L^3 = \rho = \text{const}$
 Show its ground / Gibbs state displays BEC.

Let us stress: even in the ground state...



Why difficult?

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-) ground state of interacting systems is not a product state \Rightarrow correlations play a crucial role
-) no analytical solutions (computer simulations do not help)
-) large volume \Rightarrow gap of Laplacean closes ($\frac{1}{L}$)
 \Rightarrow loss of coercivity

To make progress:

-) consider toy models
-) test methods on them, understand those
-) extend to more difficult models

\leadsto simpler scaling regimes than TL

3. Scaling regimes

idea: 1) change, rescale the interaction to make it weak

2) keep volume fixed \Leftrightarrow spectral gap

$$H_N = \sum_{i=1}^N (-\Delta_{x_i} + V(x_i)) + \lambda_N \sum_{i < j} w_N(x_i - x_j)$$

•) $\lambda_N \geq 0$ coupling constant

weaken the interaction $\lambda_N \sim \frac{1}{N}$

•) the gap in the spectrum is fixed by $V(x)$ on a fixed box. ($L=1$)

•) macroscopic parameter $N \rightarrow \infty$

•) with $\lambda_N \sim \frac{1}{N}$ both terms in H_N are $O(N)$

o) we can tune the range of interaction

$$\omega_N(x) = N^{3\alpha} \omega(N^\alpha x) \quad \alpha \in [0, 1]$$

notice $\int \omega_N(x) = \int \omega(x)$

L) $\alpha = 0$ range of interaction $O(1)$
"long range" as the size of the system is $O(1)$, all particles interact with each other

mean-field scaling

L) $\alpha > 0$ $\omega_N \rightarrow \delta$ -point interaction

range of interaction $\sim N^{-\alpha}$
average distance between the particles $N^{-1/3}$
dilute system $N^{-\alpha} \ll N^{-1/3}$

L) $\alpha = 1$ ultra-dilute regime relevant for cold atom experiments

$$\omega_N(x) = N^3 \omega(Nx)$$

→ rare interaction due to diluteness

↑ strong interactions

Gross-Pitaevskii scaling (comment later)

4. BEC in the mean-field Bose gas

$$H_N^{MF} = \sum_{i=1}^N (-\Delta_{x_i} + V(x_i)) + \frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{i \neq j} \omega(x_i - x_j)$$

as before $V(x) \rightarrow \infty$ as $|x| \rightarrow \infty$, $\omega \geq 0, \hat{\omega} \geq 0$

4.1. Ground state energy of the MF gas

$$E_0(N)^{MF} = \inf_{\|\psi_N\|=1} \langle \psi_N, H_N^{MF} \psi_N \rangle$$



4.1.1 Upper bound

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idea: weakly interacting system - maybe, at least energetically, a product trial state is good?

trial state: $\psi_N^{\text{trial}}(x_1, \dots, x_N) = u(x_1) \dots u(x_N)$ for some normalized u .

Then:

$$\begin{aligned} E_0^{MF}(N) &\leq N \langle u, (-\Delta + V)u \rangle + \frac{1}{N-1} \frac{N(N-1)}{2} \iint \overline{u(x)u(y)} w(x-y) u(x)u(y) \\ &= N \int (|\nabla u|^2 + V|u|^2) + \frac{N}{2} \iint w(x-y) |u(x)|^2 |u(y)|^2 dx dy \\ &= N \int (|\nabla u|^2 + V|u|^2) + \frac{N}{2} \int w * |u|^2(x) |u(x)|^2 dx \end{aligned}$$

We define $E_H(u) = \int (|\nabla u|^2 + V|u|^2) + \frac{1}{2} \int (w * |u|^2) |u|^2$

Then $\frac{E_0^{MF}(N)}{N} \leq \inf_{\|u\|_2=1} E_H(u) \stackrel{||}{=} E_H$ - Hartree functional

Thm The assumptions on V and w imply that the E_H admits a pointwise positive minimizer u_H which is unique up to phase and which satisfies the Euler-Lagrange equation

$$(-\Delta + V + w * |u_H|^2) u_H = E_0 u_H$$

Hartree equation

↑ Lagrange multiplier due to the condition $\|u\|_2=1$

where

$$E_0 = E_H(u_H) + \frac{1}{2} \langle u_H, w * |u_H|^2 u_H \rangle = E_H + \frac{1}{2} \langle u_H, w * |u_H|^2 u_H \rangle$$