

Define $\begin{cases} n \equiv \# \text{ spins parallel to } B \text{ (up)} \\ N-n = \# \text{ spins antiparallel to } B \text{ (down)} \end{cases}$

$$E = n(-\mu_B) + (N-n)(\mu_B) = (N-2n)\mu_B$$

\Rightarrow given N, B , n specifies energy

$$n = \frac{N}{2} - \frac{E}{2\mu_B}$$

\Rightarrow # microstates with energy E is given by way n of N spins can be up

$$\Omega(n, N) = \frac{N!}{n!(N-n)!}$$

Harmonic oscillator

$$E = \frac{p^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2} k x^2$$

classical; microstate specified by (x, p)

\uparrow point in phase space

x, p continuous variables \Rightarrow compute $g(E)\Delta E$

\nwarrow density of states

microstates between $E, E+\Delta E$

⇒ easier to compute $\Gamma(E)$

↖ # microstate with energy less than or equal to E

$$g(E) \Delta E = \Gamma(E + \Delta E) - \Gamma(E) \approx \frac{d\Gamma(E)}{dE} \Delta E$$

How do we count microstates?

→ (x, p) point in phase space

→ # microstates connected to area in phase space, specified by E , i.e. $\Gamma(E)$ bounds this area

Given trajectory of particle $x(t), p(t)$, part of phase space covered is given by E

↖ area

$$E = \frac{(p(t))^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2} k(x(t))^2$$

dividing both sides by E

$$\frac{(p(t))^2}{2mE} + \frac{(x(t))^2}{2E/m\omega^2} = 1$$

↖ $\omega^2 = k/m$

part of phase space covered is ellipse

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{p^2}{b^2} = 1$$

$$a = 2E/m\omega^2$$

$$b = 2mE$$

\Rightarrow area of phase space covered is area of this ellipse

$$\pi ab = \pi \sqrt{\frac{2E}{m\omega^2}} \sqrt{2mE} = \pi \sqrt{\frac{4E^2}{\omega^2}} = 2\pi E / \omega^2$$

\Rightarrow x, p continuous, infinite # microstates in this area

\Rightarrow to count them, divide into sections of size $\Delta x \Delta p$

$$\Gamma_d(E) = \frac{\text{area in phase space}}{\Delta x \Delta p} = \frac{2\pi E}{\omega \Delta x \Delta p}$$

Classical physics does not specify how to choose $\Delta x, \Delta p$

Quantum: energy levels are quantized (have discrete values)

$$\hbar \equiv h/2\pi$$

$$E = (n + \frac{1}{2}) \hbar \omega \quad (n = 0, 1, 2, \dots)$$

Now, $\Gamma(E)$ is straightforward to calculate since the states are discrete

$$\Gamma_{qn}(E) = n = \frac{E}{\hbar \omega} - \frac{1}{2} \rightarrow \frac{E}{\hbar \omega} \quad \leftarrow \text{for } E \gg \hbar \omega$$

Now there is no arbitrary "unit of phase space" $\Delta x \Delta p$

$$\Rightarrow \text{want } \Gamma_{cl}(E) = \Gamma_{qm}(E)$$

$$\frac{2\pi E}{\omega \Delta x \Delta p} = \frac{E}{\frac{h}{2\pi} \omega}$$

$$\Rightarrow h = \Delta x \Delta p$$

• we cannot specify microstate more precisely than this

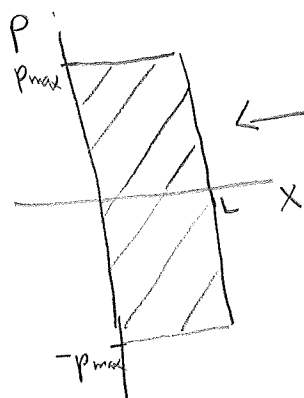
\Rightarrow consistent with Heisenberg

uncertainty principle

Want to build to N particles in 3D box, but start simple

Particle in 1D box

classical : particle of mass m confined to
1D box of length L



area in phase space

$$0 \leq x \leq L$$

$$0 \leq p \leq p_{\max} = \sqrt{2mE}$$

$$\left(\frac{p^2}{2m} = E \right)$$

no potential

$$\Gamma_{cl} = \frac{\text{area in phase space}}{\Delta x \Delta p} = \frac{2L p_{max}}{\Delta x \Delta p} = \frac{2L (2mE)^{1/2}}{\Delta x \Delta p}$$

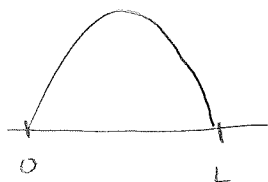
density of states: $g(E) \approx \frac{d\Gamma(E)}{dE}$

$$\approx \frac{2L \cdot \frac{1}{2} (2mE)^{-1/2}}{\Delta x \Delta p}$$

$$\approx \frac{L}{\sqrt{2mE}} \frac{1}{\Delta x \Delta p}$$

quantum:

particle has wave properties



$\lambda = 2L$ (particle wavefunction zero at the walls)

wavelengths consistent with boundary conditions at $x=0, x=L$

$$\lambda_n = \frac{2L}{n} \quad n=1, 2, 3, \dots$$

de Broglie $p = h/\lambda$

$$E_n = \frac{p_n^2}{2m} = \frac{h^2}{2m\lambda_n^2} = \frac{n^2 h^2}{8mL^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow n = \frac{2L}{h} (2mE)^{1/2} \quad \# \text{ microstates with energy } \leq E$$

microstates correspond to values of n differing by 1

$$\hookrightarrow \Gamma_{qm}(E) = n = \frac{2L}{h} (2mE)^{1/2}$$

$$\Gamma_{cl}(E) = \Gamma_{qm}(E) \Rightarrow \Delta x \Delta p = h$$

(again!)

Particle in 2D box

- assume energy levels are quantized
- particle of mass m in box of side length L

$$E = \frac{1}{2m} (p_x^2 + p_y^2)$$

$$p_n = \frac{h}{\lambda_n} \leftarrow \lambda_n = \frac{2L}{n} \text{ each dimension}$$

$$p_x = \frac{hn_x}{2L}, \quad p_y = \frac{hn_y}{2L}$$

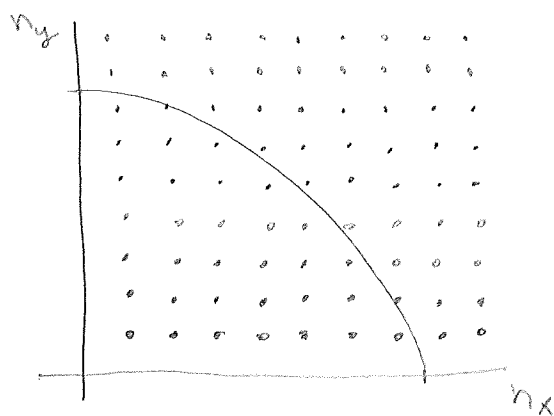
$$E = \frac{1}{2m} \left(\frac{h^2 n_x^2}{4L^2} + \frac{h^2 n_y^2}{4L^2} \right) = \frac{h^2}{8mL^2} (n_x^2 + n_y^2)$$

\Rightarrow energy levels satisfy constraint

$$(n_x^2 + n_y^2) = \frac{8mEL^2}{h^2}$$

interpret this geometrically:

n_x, n_y integers ≥ 1



Define $R^2 \equiv n_x^2 + n_y^2$ so that

$$R^2 = \left(\frac{2L}{h} \right)^2 2mE$$

\Rightarrow setting E sets R

\rightarrow states inside
positive quadrant
of circle with
radius R have
energy $\leq E$

Thus $\Gamma(E) = \# \text{ microstates w/energy } \leq E$ is given by

$$\Gamma(E) = \frac{1}{4} \pi R^2 = \frac{1}{4} \pi \left(\frac{L}{h} \right)^2 8mE = \frac{2\pi mEL^2}{h^2}$$

\Rightarrow note this is only true in the limit of large N

- our approximation of the circle overestimates the n_x, n_y inside, but approximation gets better and better as $N \rightarrow \infty$

Particle in 3D box

$$(n_x^2 + n_y^2 + n_z^2) = \frac{8mEL^2}{h^2}$$

Again, interpreting geometrically, we see

$$R^2 = n_x^2 + n_y^2 + n_z^2$$

and values of n_x, n_y, n_z that correspond to states w/energy $\leq E$ are given by positive octant of sphere of radius R .

$$\Rightarrow \Gamma(E) = \frac{1}{8} \left(\frac{4}{3} \pi R^3 \right) = \frac{\pi}{6} \left(\frac{8mEL^2}{h^2} \right)^{3/2} = \frac{2^2 2^{3/2} \pi m^{3/2} E^{3/2} L^3}{3 h^3}$$

$$\Gamma(E) = \frac{4\pi}{3} \frac{V}{h^3} (2mE)^{3/2}$$

$$V \equiv L^3$$

N particles in a 3D box

trick: Count microstates assuming particles are distinguishable (easier) and then correct for our overcounting by dividing by $N!$

\Rightarrow one particle in 3D box

$$\begin{aligned} \# \text{ microstates} &= \text{volume positive} \\ \text{energy} \leq E & \text{ part of 3D sphere} \\ R &= \left(\frac{2L}{h}\right) (2mE)^{1/2} \end{aligned}$$

\Rightarrow N particles in 3D box

$$\begin{aligned} \# \text{ microstates} &= \text{volume positive part} \\ \text{energy} \leq E & \text{ of } 3N\text{-dimensional} \\ & \text{hypersphere } R = \left(\frac{2L}{h}\right) (2mE)^{1/2} \end{aligned}$$

will derive
in discussion

$$V_n(R) = \frac{2\pi^{n/2}}{n \Gamma(n/2)} R^n$$

volume of
n-dimensional
hypersphere

gamma
function

$\Gamma(n) = (n-1)!$ for integer n
(generalization of factorial)