

Phy 410

Quiz #8, March 26, 2010

Write down the expression for quantum concentration n_Q associated with particles of mass M at temperature τ .

$$n_Q = \left(\frac{M\tau}{2\pi\hbar^2} \right)^{3/2}$$

If for electrons at room temperature $T=300\text{K}$, $n_Q = 1.27 \times 10^{25} \frac{1}{\text{m}^3}$ then what is n_Q at $T=3\text{K}$ and at $T=30,000\text{K}$.

$$T = 3\text{K}; n_Q = 1.27 \times 10^{25} \frac{1}{\text{m}^3} \left(\frac{3}{300} \right)^{3/2} = 1.27 \times 10^{22} \frac{1}{\text{m}^3}$$

$$T = 30,000\text{K}; n_Q = 1.27 \times 10^{25} \frac{1}{\text{m}^3} \left(\frac{30000}{300} \right)^{3/2} = 1.27 \times 10^{28} \frac{1}{\text{m}^3}$$

Is n_Q larger or smaller for ^3He atoms (which are fermions) than that for electrons at the same temperature?

Larger because $n_Q \propto M^{3/2}$; $M_{\text{He}3} = 3 \times 1837 \times m_{\text{electron}}$