

28. (a) The derivative of  $P(E)$  is

$$\left( \frac{-1}{(e^{(E-E_F)/kT} + 1)^2} \right) \frac{d}{dE} e^{(E-E_F)/kT} = \left( \frac{-1}{(e^{(E-E_F)/kT} + 1)^2} \right) \frac{1}{kT} e^{(E-E_F)/kT} .$$

Evaluating this at  $E = E_F$  we readily obtain the desired result.

- (b) The equation of a line may be written  $y = m(x - x_o)$  where  $m$  is the slope (here: equal to  $-1/kT$ , from part (a)) and  $x_o$  is the  $x$ -intercept (which is what we are asked to solve for). It is clear that  $P(E_F) = 2$ , so our equation of the line, evaluated at  $x = E_F$ , becomes  $2 = (-1/kT)(E_F - x_o)$ , which leads to  $x_o = E_F + 2kT$ .