

Key points from previous lecture

- (1) how to extend Boltzmann machinery to classical systems with continuously varying labels like x, p, θ
- (2) need to change from probability p_s for discrete states to probability density $\mathcal{D}(q)$, which gives probability $\mathcal{D}(q) dq$ for system in equilibrium with reservoir of temp T to be ~~have~~ in particular state such that the quantity q lies in small range $q, q+dq$
- (3) $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \mathcal{D}(q) dq = 1$ $\int_a^b \mathcal{D}(q) dq = \text{prob for } q \text{ to lie in interval } [a, b]$
- (4) $\langle x \rangle = \frac{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(q) e^{-\beta E(q)} dq}{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\beta E(q)} dq} = \frac{1}{Z} \sum x p_s$
- $\langle E \rangle = -\frac{1}{Z} \frac{\partial Z}{\partial \beta}$ $Z = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\beta E(q)} dq$ q is cont. variable
 $\downarrow$
 $E(q) = Cq^2$
- (5) applications to equipartition theorem with $E(q) = Cq^2$
 to classical electric dipole $E = -\vec{p} \cdot \vec{E} = -pE \cos \theta$ ← cont. variable

See my lecture notes of 3/29 for more details

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Applied ideas to ideal gas of non-interacting molecules
of mass m at temperature T

$$E(\vec{v}) = E(v_1, v_2, v_3) = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$$

Then velocity probability distribution $\mathcal{D}(\vec{v})$, which gives probability
to observe molecule with velocity components in small ranges
 $v_1, v_1 + dv_1$ $v_2, v_2 + dv_2$ $v_3, v_3 + dv_3$

given by

$$\mathcal{D}(v_1, v_2, v_3) = \frac{e^{-\beta[\frac{1}{2}mv^2]}}{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dv_1 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dv_2 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dv_3 e^{-\beta[\frac{1}{2}mv^2]}} = \frac{e^{-\beta[\frac{1}{2}mv^2]}}{\left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dv_1 e^{-\beta[\frac{1}{2}mv_1^2]}\right) \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dv_2 e^{-\beta[\frac{1}{2}mv_2^2]}\right) \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dv_3 e^{-\beta[\frac{1}{2}mv_3^2]}\right)}$$

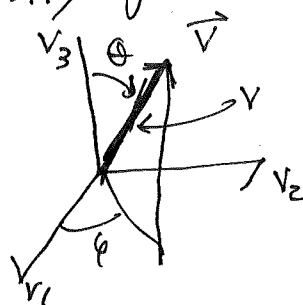
$$\boxed{\mathcal{D}(v_1, v_2, v_3) = \left(\frac{m}{2\pi kT}\right)^{3/2} e^{-\beta mv^2/2}}$$

If we are not interested in orientation of velocity vector, just the
speed v , we can switch to spherical coordinates in velocity space:

$$\vec{v} = (v_1, v_2, v_3) \rightarrow (v, \theta, \phi)$$

$$v^2 = v_1^2 + v_2^2 + v_3^2$$

$$v_1 = v \sin\theta \cos\phi \quad v_2 = v \sin\theta \sin\phi \quad v_3 = v \cos\theta$$



$$dv_1 dv_2 dv_3 \rightarrow v^2 \sin\theta dv d\theta d\phi$$

$$1 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \mathcal{D}(v_1, v_2, v_3) dv_1 dv_2 dv_3 = \int_0^{\infty} \int_0^{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \mathcal{D}(v, \theta, \phi) \cdot v^2 \sin\theta dv d\theta d\phi$$

If we evaluate the θ, ϕ integrals, we find:

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$$1 = \int_0^\infty \underbrace{(4\pi v^2) \left[\frac{m}{2\pi kT} \right]^{3/2} e^{-\beta m v^2/2}}_{\text{this must be a prob. density}} dv$$

This tells us that

$$\mathcal{Q}(v) = \left(\frac{m}{2\pi kT} \right)^{3/2} \cdot 4\pi v^2 \cdot e^{-\beta m v^2/2}$$

Maxwell speed distribution

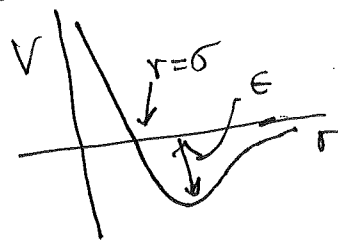
is probability density for speed of molecule in equilibrium ideal gas. This is highly non-obvious result from classical mechanics point of view: if we throw a lot of small balls together and they start colliding with walls and with each other, speeds spread out until consistent with this expression.

Can get some intuition by looking at computer simulation of 2D gas consisting of point particles that collide elastically (no friction so energy is conserved during each collision)

Look at Java applets posted on Lectures webpage

(1) molecular dynamics $m \frac{d\vec{x}_i}{dt} = \sum_j \vec{F}_{ij}$

Lennard-Jones potential $V(r) = 4\epsilon \left[\left(\frac{\sigma}{r} \right)^{12} - \left(\frac{\sigma}{r} \right)^6 \right]$

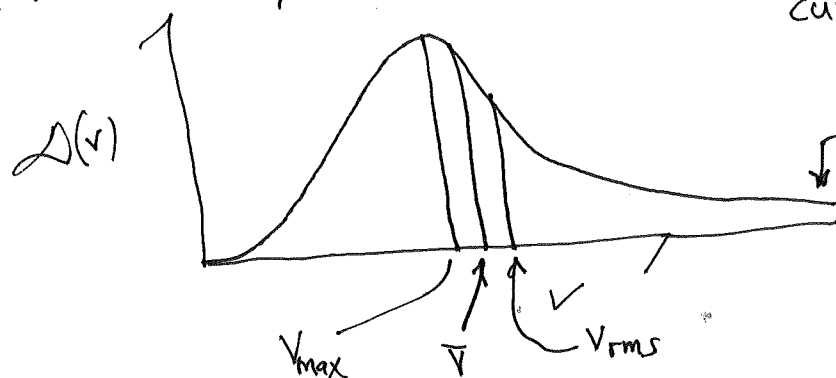


use toroidal geometry (periodic walls)

$$\frac{3}{2} kT = \left\langle \frac{1}{2} m v^2 \right\rangle \leftarrow \text{compute } T \text{ from } \vec{v}_i$$

Brief class project: a single He atom with mass m_{He} is thrown into container of N molecules with mass m_{N_2} and everything comes to equilibrium with temperature T . Write down expression for probability that He atom will have speed between $200 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$ and $400 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$.

Distribution has following shape



curve is not symmetric about maximum
tail goes to ∞

$$\frac{d f(v)}{dv} = 0 \Rightarrow v_{\text{max}} = \left(\frac{2kT}{m} \right)^{1/2} \approx 420 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}} \text{ for } \text{N}_2 \text{ at } T=300\text{K}$$

$$\bar{v} = \int_0^{\infty} v f(v) dv = \left(\frac{8kT}{m} \right)^{1/2}$$

$$v_{\text{rms}} = \left[\int_0^{\infty} v^2 f(v) dv \right]^{1/2} = \left(\frac{3kT}{m} \right)^{1/2}$$

consistent with equipartition
 $\langle \frac{1}{2} m v^2 \rangle = \frac{3}{2} kT$

$$v_{\text{rms}} : \bar{v} : v_{\text{max}} = \sqrt{3} : \sqrt{\frac{8}{\pi}} : \sqrt{2} = 1.22 : 1.13 : 1$$

all rather close in value, for 10% accurate calculations, use any one

Comment (not needed for quizzes or exams, just for fun and insight):

high-speed tail of Maxwell distribution drops off rapidly with increasing speed v , NIntegrate can fail to give useful answer.

For example, in our classroom at room temperature, for what speed v , will only ten molecules be moving faster than v ?

Need to use asymptotics, Problem B.5 on p. 387 of Schroeder

$$\int_x^\infty t^2 e^{-t^2} dt \approx e^{-x^2/2} \cdot \frac{x}{2} + \frac{1}{4x} + O(x^{-3}) \quad x \gg 1$$

Then:
$$\frac{L_x L_y L_z}{22 \text{ l/mole}} \times \frac{6 \cdot 10^{23} \text{ molecules}}{\text{mole}} \times \int_{v_1}^\infty \mathcal{D}(v) dv = 10$$

$$L_x \sim 10\text{m}, \quad L_y \sim 6\text{m}, \quad L_z = 3\text{m}, \quad 22 \text{ l} = 22 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3$$

$$10^{27} \frac{x}{2} \cdot e^{-x^2} = 10 \quad \text{where } x = \frac{v_1}{v_{\text{max}}}$$

If $x \gg 1$, $\frac{x}{2}$ is large number multiplying reciprocal of a very ~~large~~ small number e^{-x^2} so $\frac{x}{2} e^{-x^2} \approx e^{-x^2}$ so $10^{27} e^{-x^2} \approx 10$

$$\Rightarrow x = \frac{v_1}{v_{\text{max}}} \approx 8 \quad \text{i.e. almost no molecules moving faster than Mach 8}$$

in particular, no particles moving relativistically, near speed of light

Important to evaluate average powers of v , v^n ,
for many kinetic problems. In homework, you show
result:

$$\langle v^n \rangle = \int_0^\infty v^n \mathcal{Q}(v) dv = \int_0^\infty v^n \left[\left(\frac{m}{2\pi kT} \right)^{3/2} \cdot 4\pi v^2 e^{-\beta m v^2/2} \right] dv$$

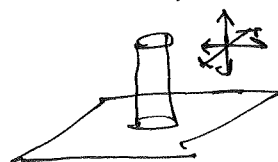
$$\boxed{\langle v^n \rangle = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left(\frac{2kT}{m} \right)^{n/2} \Gamma\left(\frac{n+3}{2}\right)}$$

holds even for ~~n~~ n
a non-integer real number

e.g. $\langle v^2 \rangle = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left(\frac{2kT}{m} \right)^{2/2} \Gamma\left(\frac{5}{2}\right) = \frac{3kT}{m}$

since $\Gamma\left(\frac{5}{2}\right) = \frac{3}{2} \Gamma\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) = \frac{3}{4} \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{3\sqrt{\pi}}{4}$

We can finally go back to kinetic theory of Chapter 1
and do general case of isotropic gas in thermodynamic
equilibrium with temperature T . For example, let's
calculate Flux of particles through tiny hole of area A
whose diameter is smaller than a mean free path. Original
argument looked like this:

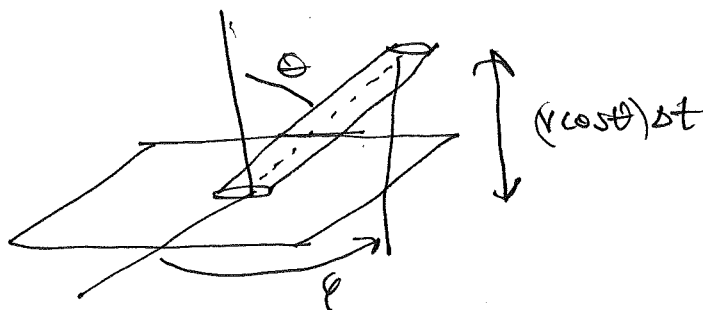


anisotropic gas
all speeds the same, v

$$\Delta N = \frac{1}{6} \cdot A \cdot (v \Delta t) \cdot \frac{N}{V}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Phi = \frac{1}{A} \frac{dN}{dt} = \frac{1}{6} \left(\frac{N}{V} \right) v \leftarrow \text{but what } v \text{ to use?}$$

$v_{\text{max}}, \bar{v}, v_{\text{rms}}, v^?$

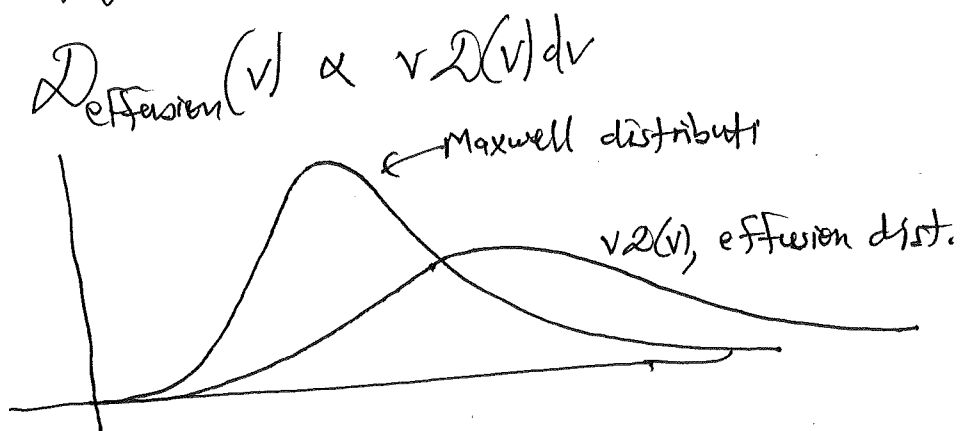


For isotropic gas velocities, we can repeat our argument from before:

$$dN = \underbrace{A \cdot (v \cos \theta) dt}_{dV} \times \frac{N}{V} \times \frac{\sin \theta d\theta d\phi}{4\pi} \times \underbrace{2(v) dv}_{\text{new factor, fraction of molecules with speed } v, v+dv}$$

$$d\Phi = \frac{dN}{A dt} = n \cdot \frac{\sin \theta \cos \theta d\theta d\phi}{4\pi} \cdot v 2(v) dv$$

This leads to unexpected insight: speed distribution of particles coming out of hole by effusion is not Maxwell distribution inside of gas:



particles in effusion beam are hotter on average. In next homework assignment, you figure this out:

$$\frac{\langle E_{\text{effusion}} \rangle}{\langle E_{\text{gas}} \rangle} > 1 \quad = ?$$

Completing the calculation of the flux, we find

$$\Phi = \int_0^\infty dv \int_0^{\pi/2} d\theta \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \dot{\Phi}(\theta, \phi, v)$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} n \bar{v} \quad \text{where} \quad \bar{v} = \int_0^\infty v \mathcal{D}(v) dv = \left(\frac{8kT}{m} \right)^{1/2}$$

so v in flux calculation is not v_{rms} , but the real average.

For pressure calculation, we would have

$$\underbrace{\Delta p}_{\substack{\text{change in} \\ \text{momentum} \\ \text{in time } \Delta t}} = A \cdot \underbrace{(v \cos \theta \Delta t)}_{\substack{\downarrow \\ \text{change in} \\ \text{momentum}}} \times \left(\frac{N}{V} \right) \times \frac{\sin \theta d\theta d\phi}{4\pi} \times \underbrace{2mv \cos \theta}_{\substack{\downarrow \\ \text{change in} \\ \text{momentum}}} \times \mathcal{D}(v) dv$$

leads to $\int_0^\infty v^2 \mathcal{D}(v) dv = v_{rms}^2$

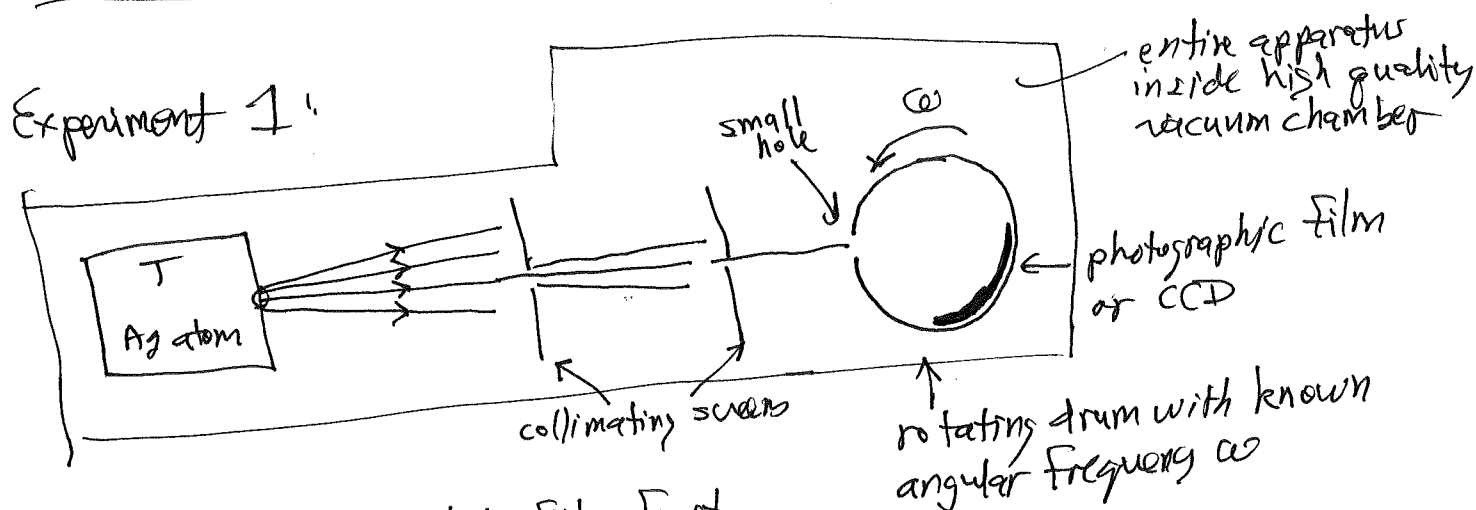
For energy calculation (cold plate problem),

$$\Delta E = A \cdot \underbrace{v \cos \theta \Delta t}_{\substack{\downarrow \\ \text{change in} \\ \text{momentum}}} \times \frac{N}{V} \times \frac{\sin \theta d\theta d\phi}{4\pi} \times \underbrace{\frac{1}{2}mv^2}_{\substack{\downarrow \\ \text{change in} \\ \text{energy}}} \times \mathcal{D}(v) dv$$

leads to integral $\int_0^\infty v^3 \mathcal{D}(v) dv$ $\leftarrow$ evaluate using gamma fn

3rd moment of speed, not related to $\bar{v}$, v_{rms} , or v_{max}

Effusion discussion gives idea of how to
confirm the Maxwell speed distribution experimentally

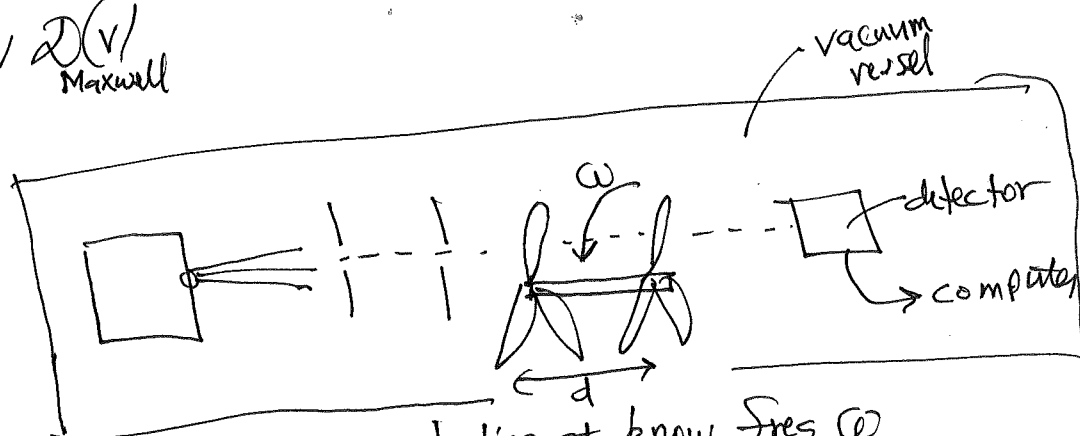


fastest particles will hit film first,
then slower particles. Measuring degree
of exposure will give $\mathcal{D}_{\text{effusion}}(v)$,
compare with theory



$$C v \mathcal{D}_{\text{Maxwell}}(v)$$

Experiment 2:



use "chopper" to propagate on axis rotating at known freq ω
only molecules moving in certain range of speeds $v_1 < v < v_2$ will
not get blocked by second blade, so plot intensity $I(\omega)$,
relate to $\mathcal{D}_{\text{effusion}}(v) \propto v \mathcal{D}_{\text{Maxwell}}(v)$.

What would 21st century expt be? Doppler shift?

Maxwell distribution holds even for interacting colliding molecules!

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General case, energy has form

$$E_i = \frac{1}{2} m \vec{v}_i^2 + \underbrace{V(x_i, y_i, z_i)}_{\text{external grav. or electric field}} + \sum_{i \neq j} \underbrace{V_{\text{mol}}(\vec{x}_i, \vec{x}_j)}_{\text{pairwise interactions with other molecules}}$$

$$e^{-\beta E_i} = \underbrace{e^{-\frac{1}{2} m \vec{v}_i^2}}_{\text{doesn't depend on location}} \times \underbrace{e^{-\beta [V_{\text{ext}}(\vec{x}_i) + V_{\text{int}}(\vec{x}_1, \vec{x}_2, \dots)]}}_{\text{doesn't depend on velocities}}$$

So can integrate over all spatial coordinates and find same speed distribution $\mathcal{Q}(v) dv$.

Harder to include effects of walls...

Also implies that, for equilibrium atmosphere with constant temperature T , exponentially decreasing pressure and density, $\mathcal{Q}(v)$ will be same at all heights.