

# **Blackbody Radiation, Planck's Quantum Hypothesis, and Specific Heats of Gases and Solids**

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## Recapitulate

- *The frequency ( $\nu$ ) of radiation emitted by a body is independent of the object being heated. It depends only on the temperature ( $T$ )*

- **Kirchhoff's Theorem**

$$e(\nu) = J(\nu, T)A(\nu) \quad e(\nu) : \text{Emissivity; Power emitted per unit area per unit frequency by a heated object}$$

$A(\nu)$  : *Fraction of incident power absorbed per unit area per unit frequency*

$J(\nu, T)$  : *A universal function, same for all black bodies*

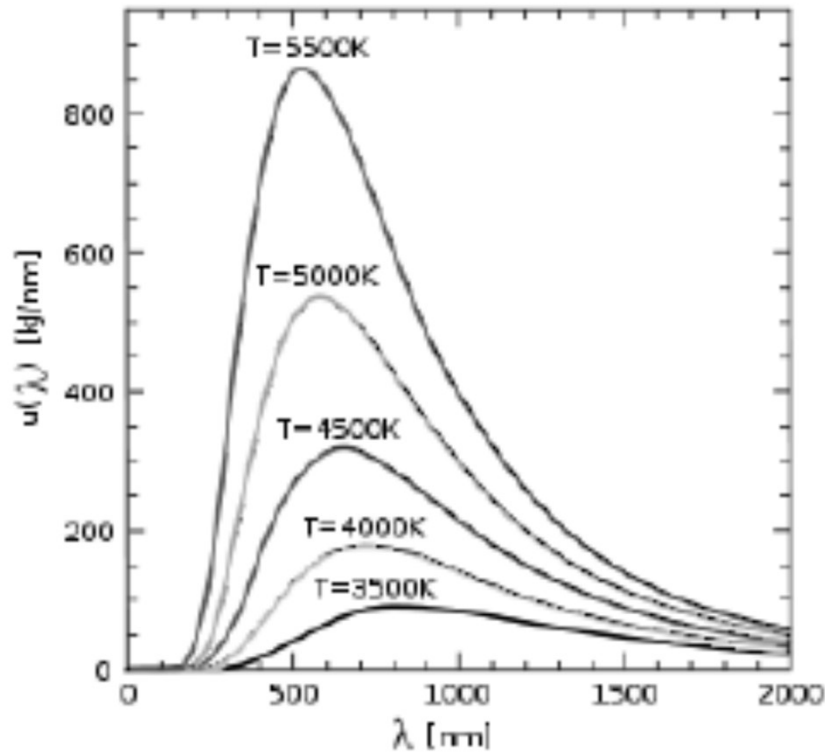
- **Blackbody is a body for which  $A(\nu)=1$ ,**

- **Stefan's Law**

*Total power ( $e_{total}$ ) per unit area emitted at all frequencies by a blackbody*

$$e_{total} = \int_0^{\infty} e(\nu) d\nu = \sigma T^4$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma &= \text{Stefan-Boltzmann constant} \\ &= 5.67 \times 10^{-8} \text{ W} \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot \text{K}^{-4} \end{aligned}$$



- **Black body radiation curve**

$$u(\nu, T) \text{ vs } \nu$$

(Energy per unit volume per unit frequency)

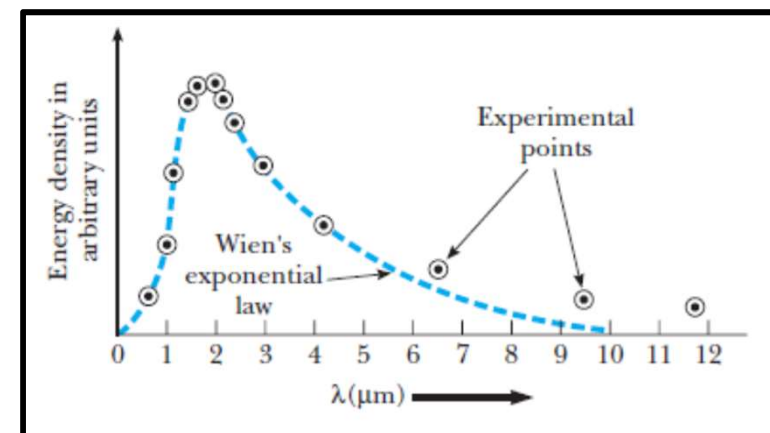
- **Wien's displacement Law**

$$\lambda_{\text{max}} T = 2.898 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m} \cdot \text{K}$$

- **Wien's Exponential Law**

$$u(\nu, T) = A \nu^3 e^{-\beta \nu / T}$$

Does not agree for longer wavelengths ( $\lambda > 6\mu\text{m}$  (6000 nm)) !



- **No. of modes in a cavity per unit volume in frequency interval  $\nu$  and  $\nu+d\nu$**   $= \frac{8\pi\nu^2}{c^3} d\nu$

$u(\nu, T) =$  No. of modes per unit volume per unit frequency  
 X **Average energy per mode**

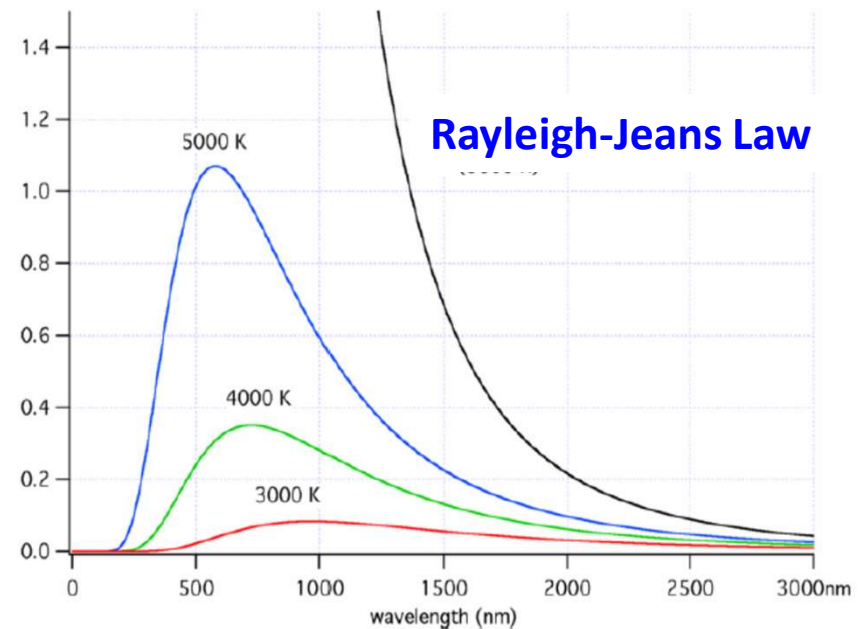
- **Rayleigh-Jeans Law (1900)**

$$u(\nu, T) = \frac{8\pi\nu^2}{c^3} kT$$

For high frequencies  $u(\nu, T)$  diverges:

**Ultraviolet Catastrophe**

$$\int_0^{\infty} \frac{8\pi\nu^2 kT}{c^3} d\nu \rightarrow \infty$$

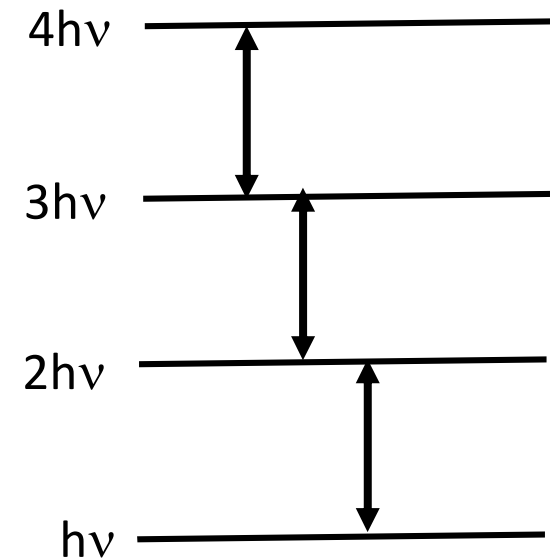


# Planck's Quantum Hypothesis (1900)

- *Energy of the oscillators is quantized*
- *Energy of a particular mode of frequency  $\nu$  can not have arbitrary value, but only those values that are integral multiple of  $h\nu$*

$$E = nh\nu \quad \nu = \text{frequency}$$

$h$  = Planck's constant =  $6.626 \times 10^{-34}$  J.s



- *All modes are in thermal equilibrium*
- *The equilibrium is established by exchange of energy between modes and this can happen through interaction with walls of the cavity.*

## *Average energy of a mode of frequency $\nu$*

$$E = n h \nu$$

### **Quantum average**

$$\langle E \rangle = \frac{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n h \nu e^{-(n h \nu / k T)}}{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e^{-(n h \nu / k T)}}$$

$$= \frac{h \nu}{e^{h \nu / k T} - 1}$$

### **Classical average**

$$\langle E \rangle = \frac{\int_0^{\infty} E e^{-E / k T} dE}{\int_0^{\infty} e^{-E / k T} dE}$$

$$= k T$$

# Black Body Radiation Formula

Energy density per unit volume per unit frequency interval = No. of modes per unit volume per unit frequency  $\times$  Average energy per mode

## Quantum

$$\langle E \rangle = \frac{h\nu}{e^{h\nu/kT} - 1}$$

$$u(\nu, T) d\nu = \frac{8\pi\nu^2}{c^3} \frac{h\nu}{e^{h\nu/kT} - 1} d\nu$$
$$= \frac{8\pi h \nu^3}{c^3} \frac{1}{e^{h\nu/kT} - 1} d\nu$$

**Planck's blackbody radiation formula**

## Classical

$$\langle E \rangle = kT$$

$$u(\nu, T) d\nu = \frac{8\pi\nu^2}{c^3} kT$$

**Rayleigh-Jeans Law**

**Supporting material:**  
**Finding quantum average**

$$\text{Let } x = e^{-(h\nu/kT)}$$

$$\langle E \rangle = \frac{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} nh\nu e^{-(nh\nu/kT)}}{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e^{-(nh\nu/kT)}} = h\nu \frac{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} nx^n}{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n} = h\nu \frac{x + 2x^2 + 3x^3 + \dots}{1 + x + x^2 + \dots}$$

$$= h\nu x \frac{(1 + 2x + 3x^2 + \dots)}{(1 + x + x^2 + \dots)}$$

$$\frac{1}{1-x} = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + \dots$$

$$\frac{1}{(1-x)^2} = 1 + 2x + 3x^2 + \dots$$

$$= \frac{h\nu x}{1-x} = \frac{h\nu}{x^{-1} - 1}$$

$$= \frac{h\nu}{e^{(h\nu/kT)} - 1}$$



## Planck's Law

$$u(\nu, T) d\nu = \frac{8\pi\nu^2}{c^3} \frac{h\nu}{e^{h\nu/kT} - 1} d\nu$$

$$e^{h\nu/kT} = 1 + \frac{h\nu}{kT} + \frac{1}{2!} \left( \frac{h\nu}{kT} \right)^2 + \dots$$

For  $h\nu \ll kT$   $\Rightarrow e^{h\nu/kT} - 1 \approx h\nu / kT$

$$\langle E \rangle = \frac{h\nu}{e^{h\nu/kT} - 1} \approx \frac{h\nu}{h\nu / kT} = kT \Rightarrow \text{Classical average}$$

$$u(\nu, T) d\nu = \frac{8\pi\nu^2}{c^3} kT d\nu \Rightarrow \text{Rayleigh-Jeans Law}$$

## Planck's Law

$$u(\nu, T) d\nu = \frac{8\pi\nu^2}{c^3} \frac{h\nu}{e^{h\nu/kT} - 1} d\nu$$

For  $h\nu \gg kT$   $\longrightarrow \frac{1}{e^{h\nu/kT} - 1} \approx e^{-h\nu/kT}$

$$u(\nu, T) d\nu \approx \frac{8\pi h \nu^3}{c^3} e^{-(h\nu/kT)} d\nu$$

$$= A \nu^3 e^{-\beta\nu/T} \longrightarrow \text{Wien's Law}$$

## Planck's Law

$$u(\nu, T) d\nu = \frac{8\pi^2 \nu^2}{c^3} \frac{h\nu}{e^{h\nu/kT} - 1} d\nu$$

In wavelength ( $\lambda$ ) units

$$\begin{aligned} u(\lambda, T) d\lambda &= \frac{8\pi^2 \nu^2}{c^3} \frac{h\nu}{e^{h\nu/kT} - 1} \frac{c}{\lambda^2} d\lambda \\ &= \frac{8\pi hc}{\lambda^5} \frac{1}{e^{hc/\lambda kT} - 1} d\lambda \end{aligned}$$

One can now find  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$

$$\lambda_{\text{max}} T = 2.898 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}\cdot\text{K} \quad \Rightarrow \text{Wien's displacement Law}$$

**Supporting material:** From Planck's Law to Wien's Displacement Law

$$u(\lambda, T) = \frac{8\pi hc}{\lambda^5} \frac{1}{e^{hc/\lambda kT} - 1} d\lambda \quad \beta = 8\pi hc \quad \alpha = hc/k$$
$$= \frac{\beta}{\lambda^5} \frac{1}{(e^{\alpha/\lambda T} - 1)}$$

$$\frac{du(\lambda, T)}{d\lambda} = \frac{\beta}{\lambda^6 (e^{\alpha/\lambda T} - 1)} \left[ 5 - \left( 5 - \frac{\alpha}{\lambda T} \right) e^{\alpha/\lambda T} \right] = 0$$

$$\beta \neq 0 \quad \longrightarrow \quad 5 - (5 - x)e^x = 0 \quad \text{where} \quad x = \alpha / \lambda T$$

Solution of the transcendental equation gives  $\lambda_{\max}$  where  $u(\lambda, T)$  becomes maximum

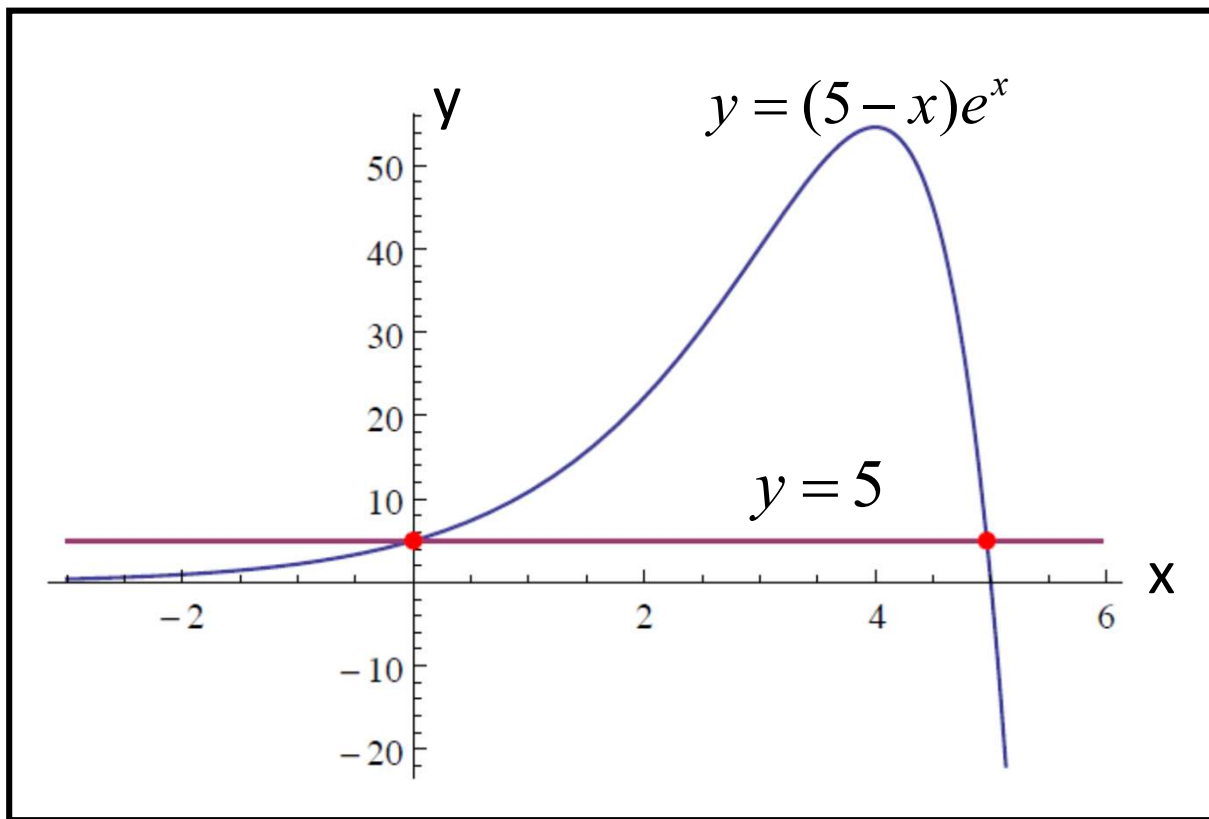
$$5 - (5 - x)e^x = 0$$

Trivial solution is  $x=0$

General solution can be found graphically using two equations

$$y = 5$$

$$y = (5 - x)e^x$$



$$x = 4.96511$$

$$x = \frac{\alpha}{\lambda T} = \frac{hc}{\lambda k T}$$

$$\lambda_{\max} T = \frac{hc}{k} \frac{1}{4.96511}$$

$$\lambda_{\max} T = 2.898 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m} \cdot \text{K}$$

## From Planck's Law to Stefan's law

Total power per unit area radiated at all frequencies

$$e_{Total} = \frac{c}{4} \int_0^{\infty} u(\nu) d\nu = \frac{c}{4} \frac{8\pi h}{c^3} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\nu^3}{e^{h\nu/kT} - 1} d\nu$$

$$= \frac{c}{4} \frac{8\pi h}{c^3} \left( \frac{kT}{h} \right)^3 \int_0^{\infty} \frac{x^3}{e^x - 1} dx$$

$$= \left( \frac{2\pi^5 k^4}{15c^2 h^3} \right) T^4 = \sigma T^4$$

$$x = h\nu / kT$$

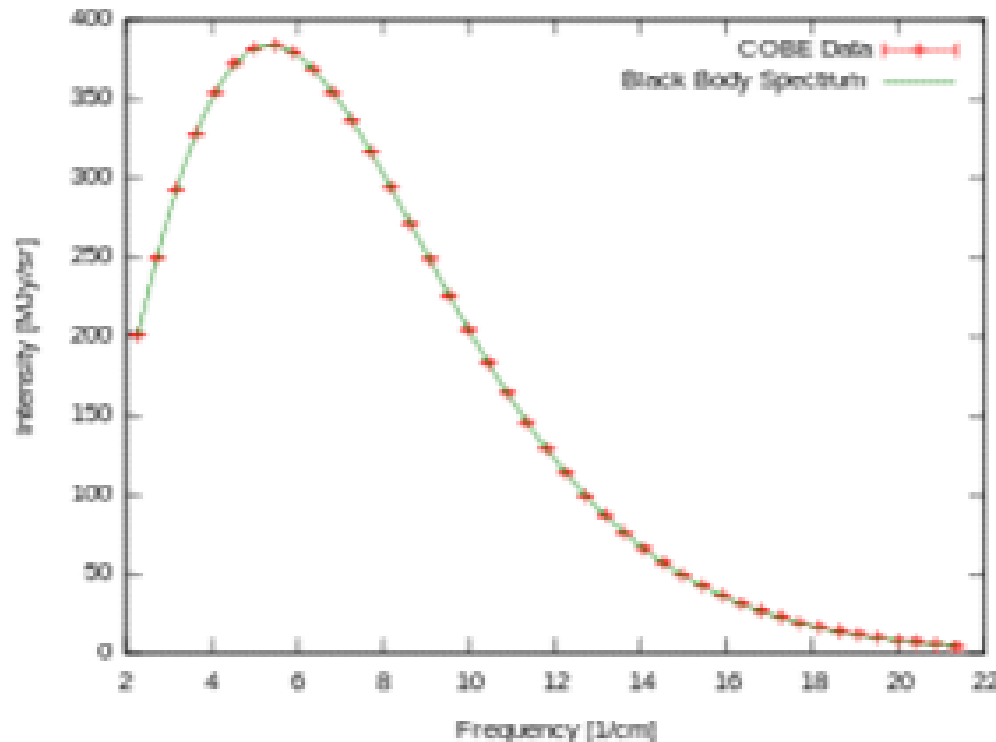
$$\int_0^{\infty} \frac{x^3}{e^x - 1} dx = \frac{\pi^4}{15}$$

$\sigma$  = Stefan-Boltzmann constant =  $5.67 \times 10^8 \text{ Wm}^{-2} \text{ K}^{-4}$

## Planck's Law for Blackbody Radiation

$$u(\nu, T) d\nu = \frac{8\pi^2 \nu^3}{c^3} \frac{h\nu}{e^{h\nu/kT} - 1} d\nu$$

'Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB)' was discovered by **Arno Penzias and Robert Wilson**, Bell Labs in 1964. They received **Nobel Prize** in 1978.



Energy of CMB was measured in 1990 by Cosmic Background Explorer (COBE), NASA Spacecraft.

**The spectrum fits blackbody spectrum at  $T=2.726$  K**

## Specific heats of gases

*Specific heat deals with the increase of temperature as heat is being consumed by the system.*

$$C_V = \text{Molar specific heat at constant volume} \\ = \left( \frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial T} \right)_V$$

### Monoatomic gases

Degrees of freedom = 3 (*only translational*)

$$\varepsilon = N_A \times 3 \times \frac{1}{2} kT$$

$N_A$  = No. of atoms

$$C_V = \frac{3}{2} N_A k = \frac{3}{2} R$$

**$R$  = gas constant =  $8.31 \text{ J mole}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$**



## Diatomic gases

### Rigid molecule

Degrees of freedom = 5

*3 Translational + 2 Rotational*

$$\varepsilon = N_A \times 5 \times \frac{1}{2} kT$$

$$C_V = \frac{5}{2} N_A k = \frac{5}{2} R$$

### Flexible molecule

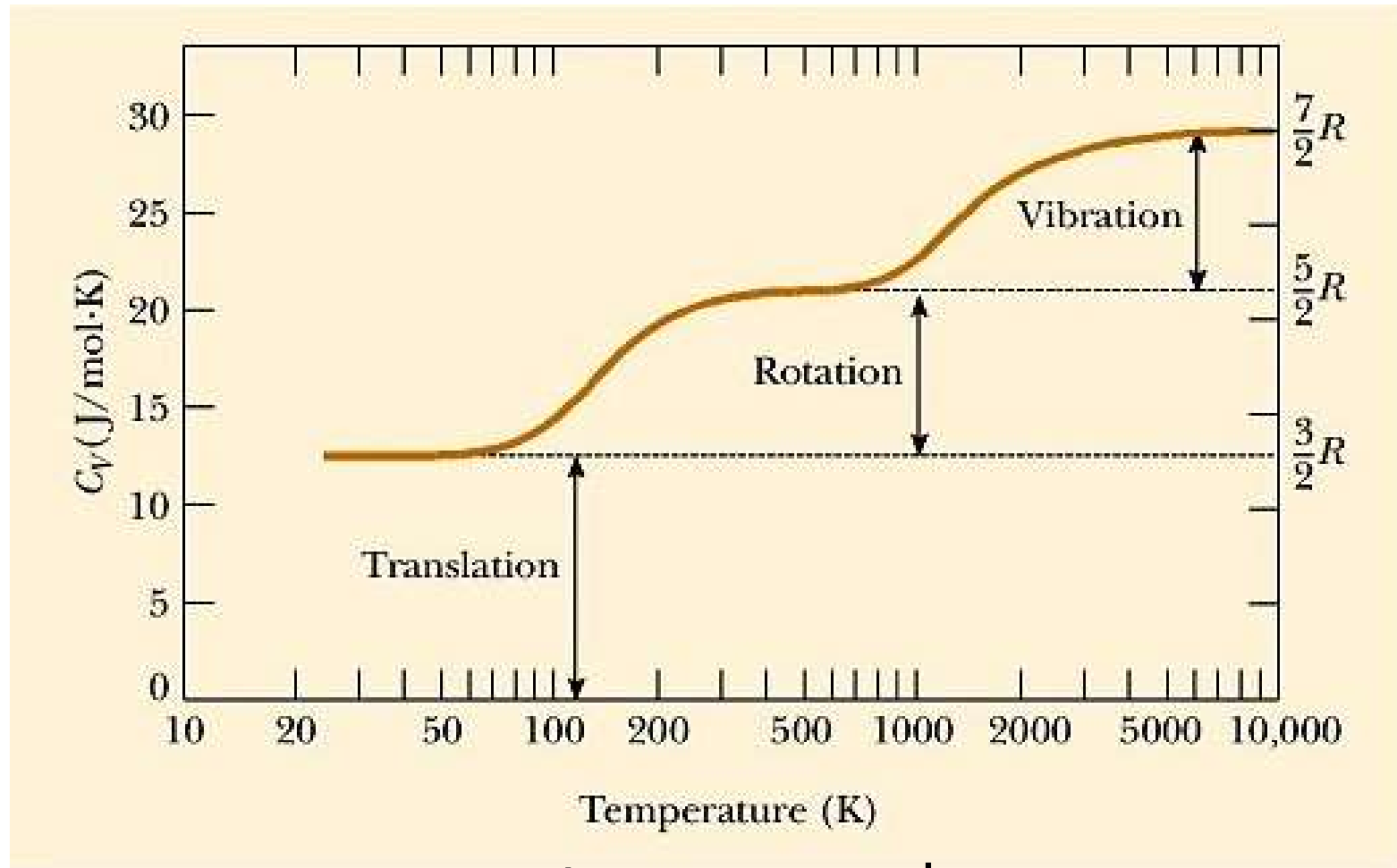
Degrees of freedom = 6

*3 Translational + 2 Rotational + 1 Vibrational*

$$\varepsilon = N_A \left( 5 \times \frac{1}{2} kT + kT \right)$$

$$C_V = \frac{7}{2} N_A k = \frac{7}{2} R$$

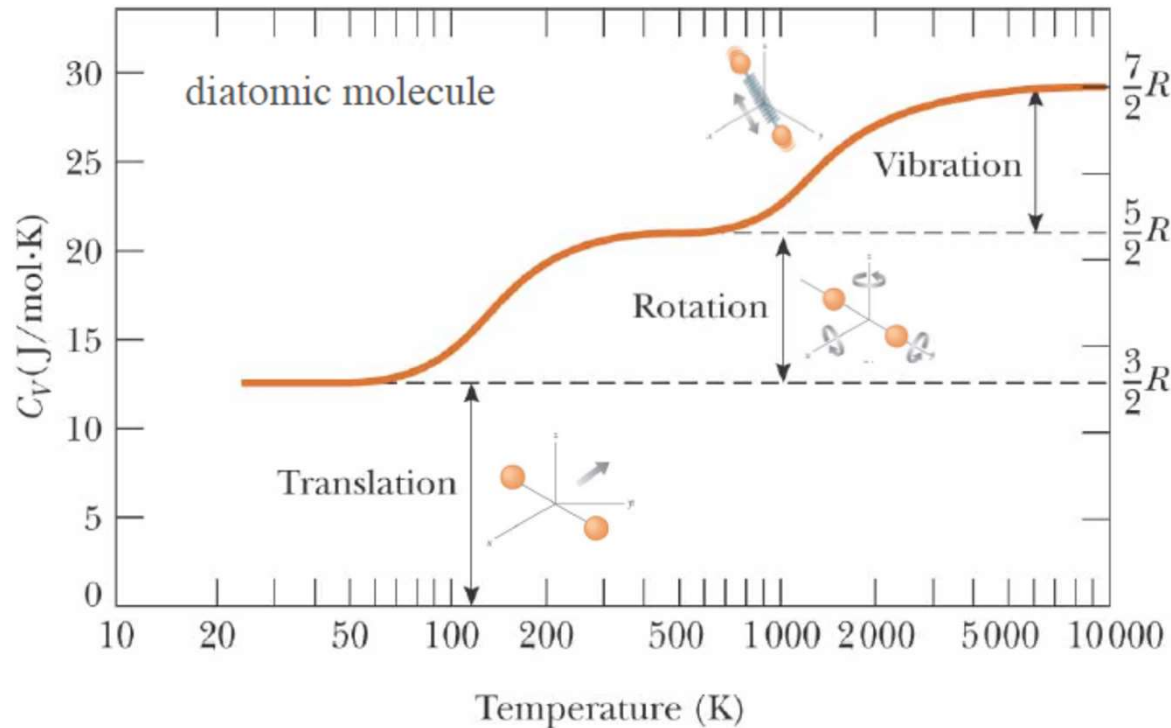
## Molar specific heat of hydrogen at constant volume



Only translation

Translation  
+ Rotation

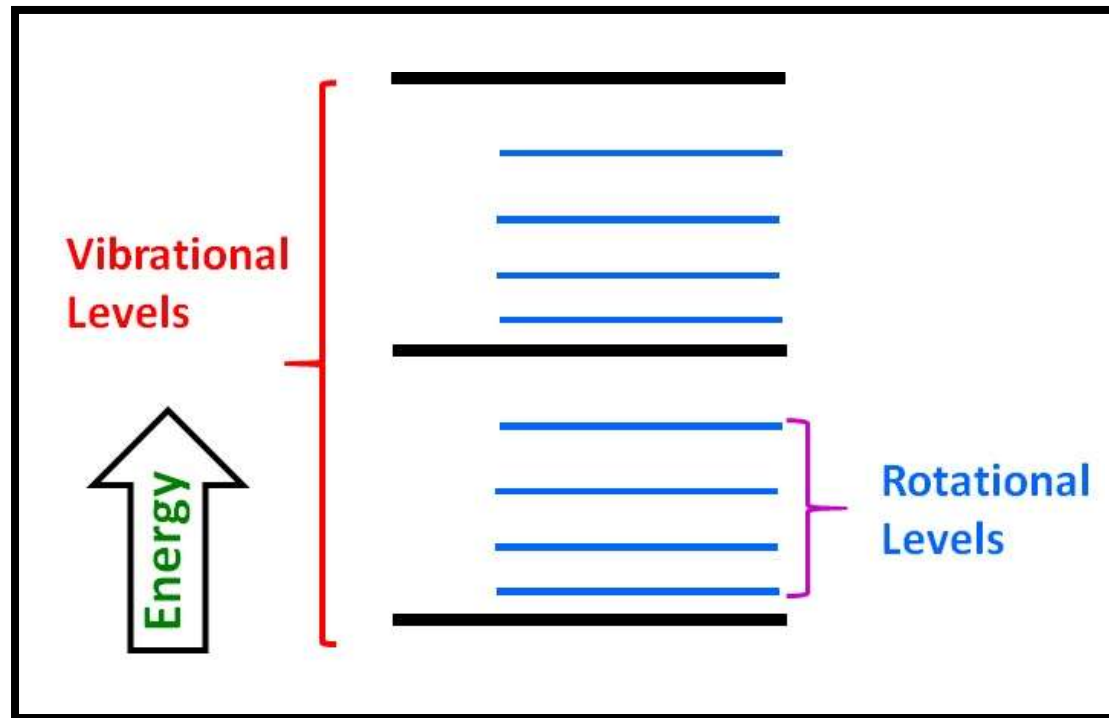
Translation +  
Rotation + vibration



- At low temperature a diatomic molecule acts like a mono atomic gas,  $C_V = 3R/2$

- At high temperature,  $C_V$  increases to  $5R/2$  consistent with adding **rotational energy** and not vibrational energy
- At still high temperature,  $C_V = 7R/2$  consistent with adding **rotational** energy as well as **vibrational** energy
- No explanation in 'Classical' theory. Does it smell 'Quantization' of rotational and vibrational motion?

## 'Quantization' of rotational and vibrational motion



- At low temperatures, all molecules are in the ground state of rotation and vibration, only translational motion contributes:  $C_v = 3R/2$

- At high temperature, molecule is excited to higher rotational energy levels and rotational motion contributes to  $C_v (=5R/2)$
- At still higher temperature, molecule is excited to higher vibrational energy levels and both vibrational and rotational motion contribute to  $C_v (=7R/2)$

## Heat capacity of solids

**Dulong and Petit Law** : The specific heat of all solids is  $3R$

Total degrees of freedom =  $3N_A$

Total vibrational degrees of freedom =  $3N_A - 6$

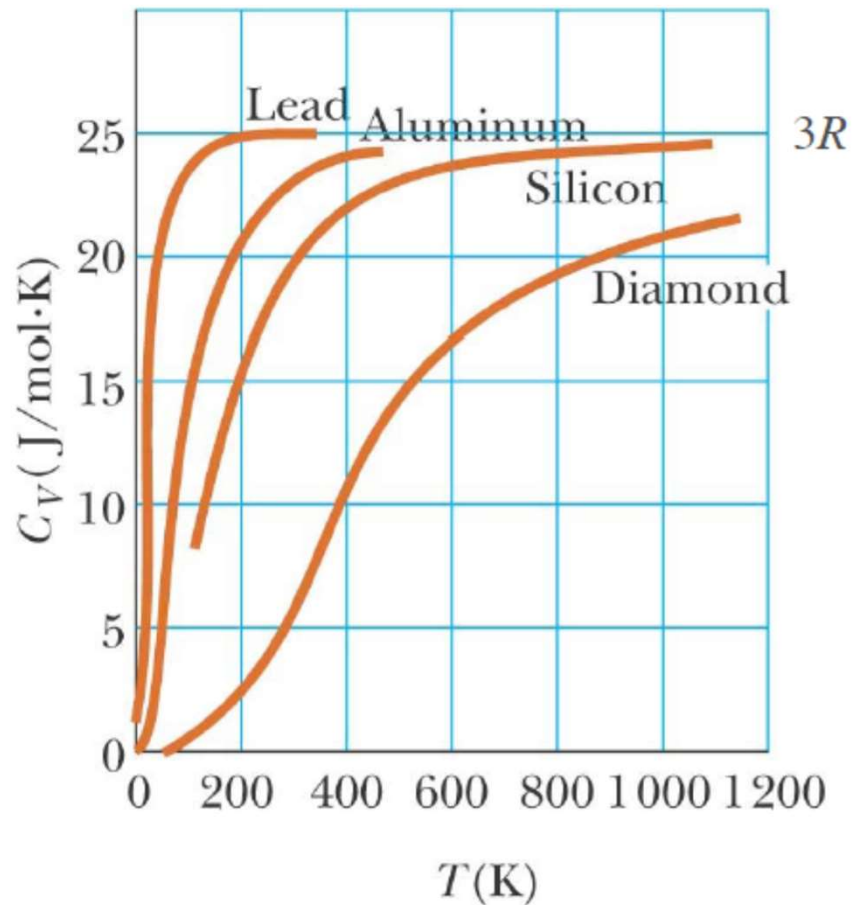
$$\varepsilon = (3N_A - 6) \times kT$$

*Each vibrational degree of freedom contributes energy =  $kT$*

$$C_V = \frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial T} = 3N_A kT = 3R$$

$$= 24.93 \text{ J mole}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$$

## Experimental Observations on $C_V$ of Solids



- $C_V$  shows marked temperature dependence

- At high temperatures,  $C_V \rightarrow 3R$ .

- $C_V$  decrease in a nonlinear manner with decreasing temperature; at low temperature,  $C_V = aT^3$

- $C_V \rightarrow 0$  as  $T \rightarrow 0$ .

**Dulong and Petit Law :**

$C_V = 3R$  for all solids

## Einstein Model for specific heat of solids (1907)

$$\varepsilon = (3N_A - 6) \times \langle E \rangle$$

$$= (3N_A - 6) \frac{h\nu}{e^{h\nu/kT} - 1}$$

$$C_V = \frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial T} = 3R \left( \frac{h\nu}{kT} \right)^2 \frac{e^{h\nu/kT}}{(e^{h\nu/kT} - 1)^2}$$

$$C_V = 3R \frac{x^2 e^x}{(e^x - 1)^2}$$

$$x = \frac{h\nu}{kT} = \frac{\theta_E}{T}$$

Treat each oscillator as a quantized harmonic oscillator:

$$E = nh\nu$$

$$\langle E \rangle = \frac{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} nh\nu e^{-(nh\nu/kT)}}{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e^{-(nh\nu/kT)}} = \frac{h\nu}{e^{h\nu/kT} - 1}$$

$$\theta_E = \frac{h\nu}{k}$$

Einstein  
Temperature

$$C_V = 3R \frac{x^2 e^x}{(e^x - 1)^2} \quad x = \frac{h\nu}{kT} = \frac{\theta_E}{T}$$

High temperature limit:

$$T \gg \theta_E \quad \Rightarrow \quad x \ll 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad e^x - 1 \approx x$$

$$C_V \rightarrow 3R$$

Low temperature limit:

$$T \ll \theta_E \quad \Rightarrow \quad x \gg 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad e^x - 1 \approx e^x$$

$$T \rightarrow 0, \quad C_V \rightarrow 0$$

*Yet another success of Quantum Hypothesis*