

## Doppler Broadening.

The distribution of one component of velocity in a gas is readily observed via the Doppler Effect.

- For a narrow transition at frequency  $\nu_0$ , each atom emits at  $\nu$  in its own rest frame.
- If an atom is in motion at velocity  $\vec{v}$  relative to lab.

$$(\nu - \nu_0) = \frac{v_x}{c} \nu_0$$

- Since  $v_x$  follows a Gaussian distribution, the light observed should have a range of frequencies.

- Frequency distribution  $g(\nu)$ .

$$g(\nu) = f_x(v_x) \left| \frac{dv_x}{d\nu} \right| = \frac{c}{\nu_0} N e^{\frac{-mc^2(\nu - \nu_0)^2}{2k_B T \nu_0^2}}$$

$$\text{standard deviation: } \sigma_\nu = \frac{\nu_0}{c} \sqrt{\frac{k_B T}{m}}$$