

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 ν_0 , each atom emits at ν_0 in its own rest frame.
- If an atom is in motion at velocity \vec{v} relative to lab.

$$(\nu - \nu_0) = \frac{1}{c} v_0$$

- Since v_0 follows a Gaussian distribution, the light observed should have a range of frequencies.
- Frequency distribution $g(\nu)$.

$$g(\nu) = f_x(v_0) \left| \frac{dv_0}{d\nu} \right| = \frac{c}{\nu_0} N e^{-\frac{mc^2(\nu-\nu_0)^2}{2k_B T \nu_0^2}}$$

$$\text{standard deviation: } \sigma_\nu = \frac{v_0}{c} \sqrt{\frac{k_B T}{m}}$$