

# Kinetic Theory of Gases

## Brief overview

---

Spent a lot of time on  
ideal gas

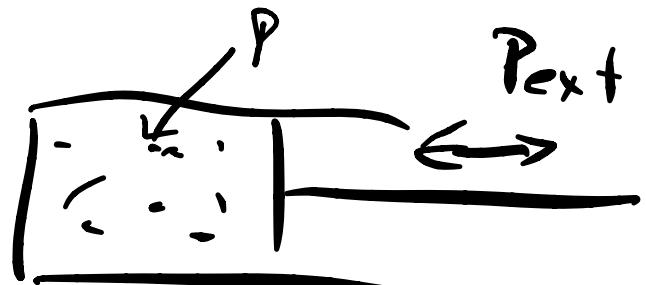


$N$  particles

Box volume  $V$

@temp  $T$

or in piston



where pressure matches external pressure

But what are gas molecules  
doing?

In ideal gas, only energy is kinetic energy, and no particle interacts, so we can consider one molecule/atom in 1d to start

$$E = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$$

Said before, will discuss more the Boltzmann equation for constant temperature  $P(E) \propto e^{-E/k_B T}$

Prob of this system having energy  $E$  is exponential in  $E$

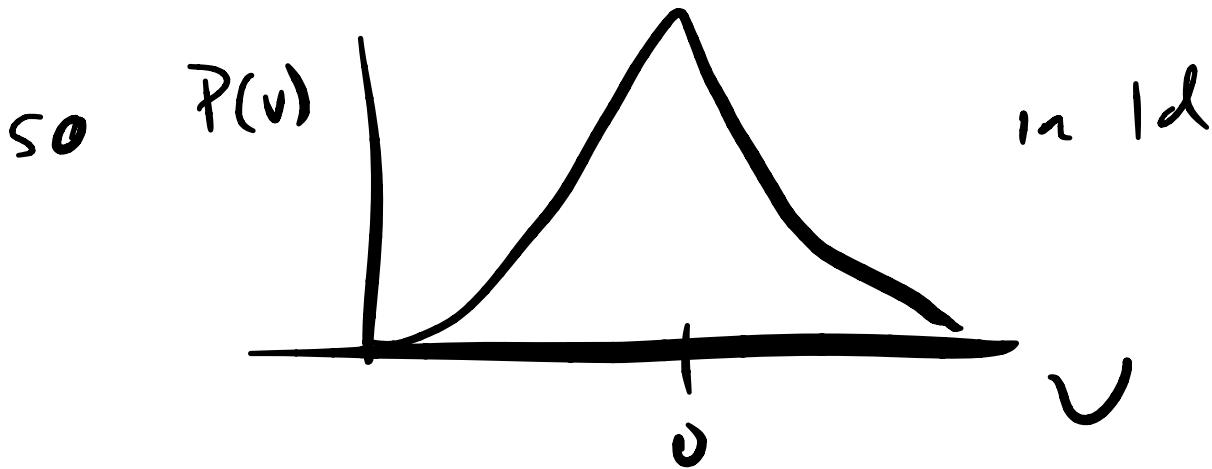
The prob of a particular velocity is related to the energy of the system at that v

$$P(v) \propto e^{-\frac{1}{2}mv^2/k_B T} \leftarrow \text{gaussian } \mu=0 \\ \sigma^2 = k_B T/m$$

Learned at beginning of class:

$$P(v) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi k_B T/m}} e^{-\frac{mv^2}{2k_B T}} \text{ has}$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dv P(v) = 1$$



$$\langle v^2 \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dv v^2 P(v) = \frac{k_B T}{m} \leftarrow \text{variance}$$

$$\text{so } \langle \epsilon \rangle = \left\langle \frac{1}{2}mv^2 \right\rangle = \frac{1}{2}m\langle v^2 \rangle = k_B T/2$$

what about 3d?

$$\vec{V} = (v_x, v_y, v_z)$$

$$\mathcal{E} = \frac{1}{2} m \vec{V}^2 = \frac{1}{2} m (v_x^2 + v_y^2 + v_z^2)$$

$$\text{So } P(\mathcal{E}) \propto e^{-\frac{m}{2k_B T} (v_x^2 + v_y^2 + v_z^2)} dv_x dv_y dv_z$$
$$\propto P(v_x) P(v_y) P(v_z) \text{ independent}$$

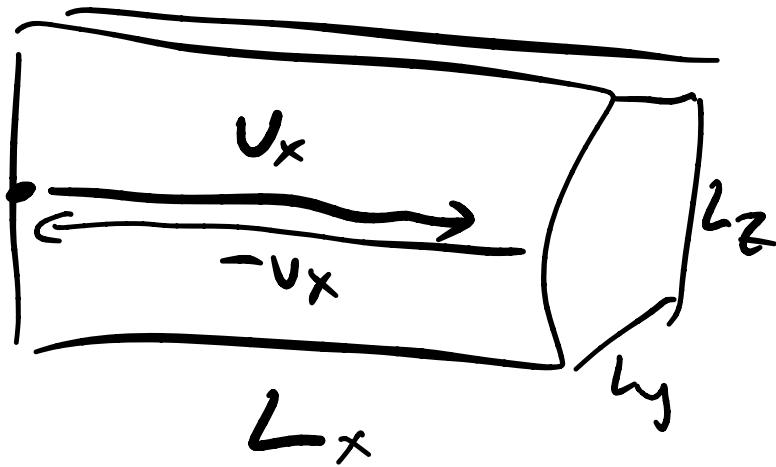
$$\langle \mathcal{E} \rangle = \left\langle \frac{1}{2} m \vec{V}^2 \right\rangle = \frac{1}{2} m \langle v_x^2 + v_y^2 + v_z^2 \rangle$$
$$= \frac{3}{2} m \cdot \frac{k_B T}{m} = \frac{3}{2} k_B T$$

For  $N$  independent particles

$$\langle \mathcal{E} \rangle = \frac{3}{2} N k_B T = \underline{\underline{\frac{3}{2} n R T}}$$

Ideal gas energy from  
microscopics

What about ideal gas law?



Change in momentum is

$$mv_x - (-mv_x) = 2mv_x$$

time passed is  $2L_x/v_x$  ( $d = vf$ )

$$\frac{\Delta P}{\Delta t} = \frac{mv_x^2}{L_x} \approx F_x$$

$$\text{Pressure} = F/A = F_x / (Ly Lz)$$

$$P = \frac{mv_x^2}{L_x L_y L_z} = mv_x^2 / V$$

$$P/V = mv_x^2 \text{ per particle}$$

Total pressure

$$P = \sum P_j = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{m v_i^2}{V} = \frac{Nm}{V} \cdot \underbrace{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^n v_i^2}_{\langle v_j^2 \rangle^2}$$
$$= \frac{N}{V} m k_B T$$

$$\text{so } PV = Nk_B T = nRT \quad \checkmark$$

What do the speeds of molecules  
look like in the gas

$$\langle v^2 \rangle = 3 \langle v_x^2 \rangle = 3 k_B T / m$$

RMS speed/ velocity

$$\sqrt{v^2} = \sqrt{3 k_B T / m}$$

Speed is  $|v|$ , no direction

$$P(\vec{v}) = P(v_x) P(v_y) P(v_z)$$
$$= \left( \frac{m}{2\pi k_B T} \right)^{3/2} e^{-\frac{mv^2}{2k_B T}} \quad \uparrow$$

Spherical coordinates

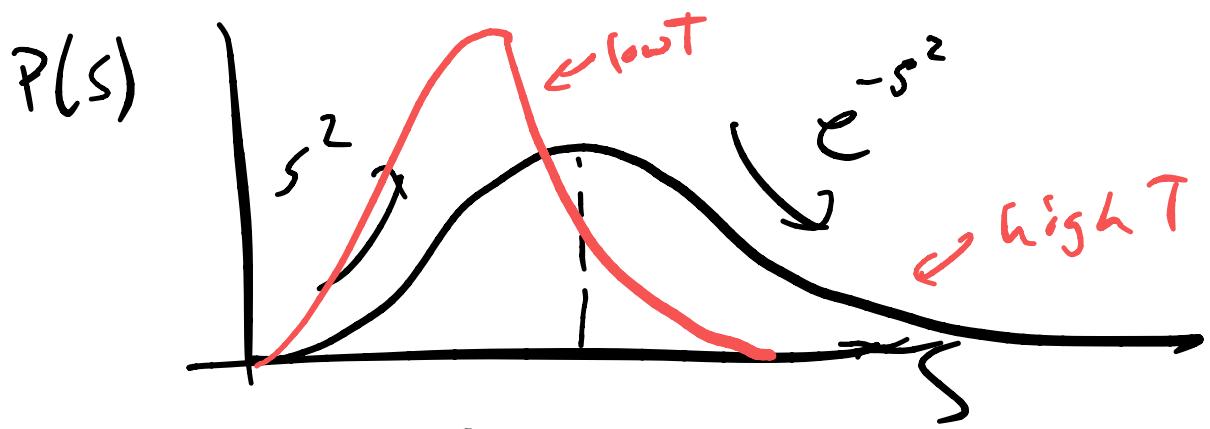
$$x, y, z \rightarrow \theta, \phi, r$$

$$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$$

$$\text{Here } P(s, \theta, \phi) = \left( \frac{m}{2\pi k_B T} \right)^{3/2} \sin \theta s^2 e^{-\frac{ms^2}{2k_B T}}$$

$$P(s) = 4\pi \cdot \left( \frac{m}{2\pi k_B T} \right)^{3/2} s^2 e^{-\frac{ms^2}{2k_B T}}$$

check normalized



Avg speed ?

$$\langle s \rangle = \int_0^{\infty} s P(s) ds = \left( \frac{8k_B T}{\pi m} \right)^{1/2}$$

$\checkmark$  check, see pg 1114

Is this bigger or smaller than  
V<sub>RMS</sub>

$$V_{RMS} = \sqrt{3k_B T / m}$$

$$\frac{\langle s \rangle}{V_{RMS}} = \sqrt{\frac{8}{3\pi}}$$

avg speed smaller

What is most probable speed / mode?

$$\frac{dP(s)}{ds} = 0 = C \cdot \left[ s^2 \cdot -\frac{m}{k_B T} + 2s \right] e^{-ms^2/2k_B T}$$

$$2k_B T s_{max} = s_{max}^3 \Rightarrow s_{max} = \sqrt[3]{2k_B T / m}$$

smaller than avg speed

$S_{\text{max}} < S_{\text{avg}} < S_{\text{rms}}$  !

$$S_{\text{max}} \approx 86.6\% S_{\text{avg}} < S_{\text{avg}} < 108.5\% S_{\text{avg}} \approx S_{\text{rms}}$$

What are these values for  
a real molecule?

Eg  $N_2$  @ 300 K?

Speed of sound must be related  
to how fast molecules move

turns out to be

$$c = \sqrt{\frac{\gamma}{3}} S_{\text{rms}} \quad \text{where } \gamma = \frac{C_p}{C_v}$$

from before

For  $N_2$  approximating air, what  
is the speed of sound at 1 atm  
& 300 K?

From these considerations, can derive collision frequency of molecules

\* Reaction rate proportional to collision frequency, & prob energy exceeds a reaction threshold

(Pg 1116 - 1127 McQuarrie)

### Evaporative cooling

If  $\epsilon = \epsilon_{\text{kinetic}} + \epsilon_{\text{potential}}$ , then

$$P(\epsilon) \propto e^{-(K\epsilon + \frac{1}{2}k_B T)} = e^{-\frac{K\epsilon}{k_B T}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\frac{k_B T}{\epsilon}}$$

So even not in gasses,  $P(v) \propto e^{\frac{mv^2}{2k_B T}}$

Maxwell-Boltzmann is true in liquids @  $\epsilon_f$

$$\text{Just learned } \langle s^2 \rangle = \langle v^2 \rangle = \frac{3k_B T}{m}$$

$$\text{conversely, } T = m \langle s^2 \rangle / 3k_B$$



What is  $S_{rms}^{100}$  for  $T = 100^\circ C$ ?

Prob of  $S > S_{rms}^{100}$

$$P(S > S_{rms}) = \int_{S_{rms}}^{\infty} P(S) dS$$

calculate

These can evaporate taking their energy away (could approximately calculate)

new dist

