

HW2 ISM, Radiative transfer and processes

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1.

If the source function can be approximated as:

$$S(\tau) \approx S(\tau_*) + S'(\tau_*)(\tau - \tau_*) + \frac{1}{2}S''(\tau_*)(\tau - \tau_*)^2 \quad (1)$$

Then the full general solution for the radiative transfer can be written as:

$$I_\nu(\tau_1, \mu) = I_\nu(\tau_2, \mu)e^{-(\tau_2 - \tau_1)/\mu} + \frac{1}{\mu} \int_{\tau_1}^{\tau_2} S_\nu(\tau') e^{-(\tau' - \tau_1)/\mu} d\tau' \quad (2)$$

$$I_\nu(\tau_1, \mu) = I_\nu(\tau_2, \mu)e^{-(\tau_2 - \tau_1)/\mu} + \frac{1}{\mu} \int_{\tau_1}^{\tau_2} e^{-(\tau' - \tau_1)/\mu} d\tau' \left[S(\tau_*) + S'(\tau_*)(\tau' - \tau_*) + \frac{1}{2}S''(\tau_*)(\tau' - \tau_*)^2 \right] d\tau' \quad (3)$$

Now I treat the 3 integrals separately:

The first integral involving the term $S(\tau_*)$ is:

$$\int_{\tau_1}^{\tau_2} e^{-(\tau' - \tau_1)/\mu} S(\tau_*) d\tau' = S(\tau_*) \int_{\tau_1}^{\tau_2} e^{-(\tau' - \tau_1)/\mu} d\tau' = S(\tau_*)(-\mu) [e^{-(\tau_2 - \tau_1)/\mu} - 1] \quad (4)$$

The second integral corresponding to the $S'(\tau_*)$ term:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\tau_1}^{\tau_2} e^{-(\tau' - \tau_1)/\mu} S'(\tau_*)(\tau' - \tau_*) d\tau' &= S'(\tau_*) \int_{\tau_1}^{\tau_2} e^{-(\tau' - \tau_1)/\mu} (\tau' - \tau_*) d\tau' = -\mu S'(\tau_*)(\mu - \tau_* + \tau') e^{-(\tau' - \tau_1)/\mu} \\ &= -\mu S'(\tau_*) [(\mu - \tau_* + \tau_2) e^{-(\tau_2 - \tau_1)/\mu} - (\mu - \tau_* + \tau_1)] \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

Finally the third integral corresponding to the $S''(\tau_*)$ term is:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \int_{\tau_1}^{\tau_2} e^{-(\tau' - \tau_1)/\mu} S''(\tau_*)(\tau' - \tau_*)^2 d\tau' &= \frac{S''(\tau_*)}{2} \int_{\tau_1}^{\tau_2} e^{-(\tau' - \tau_1)/\mu} (\tau' - \tau_*)^2 d\tau' \\ &= \frac{S''(\tau_*)}{2} [-\mu(\tau_*^2 - 2\tau_*(\mu + \tau') + 2\mu^2 + 2\mu\tau' + \tau'^2) e^{-(\tau' - \tau_1)/\mu}] \\ &= \frac{-\mu S''(\tau_*)}{2} [(\tau_*^2 - 2\tau_*(\mu + \tau_2) + 2\mu^2 + 2\mu\tau_2 + \tau_2^2) e^{-(\tau_2 - \tau_1)/\mu} - (\tau_*^2 - 2\tau_*(\mu + \tau_1) + 2\mu^2 + 2\mu\tau_1 + \tau_1^2)] \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

If $\tau_* = \mu$ and $\tau_1 = 0$ the terms that would be affected are Eq.5 & Eq.6 correspondly.

$$= -\mu S'(\tau_*) [\tau_2 e^{-(\tau_2 - \tau_1)/\mu} - \tau_1] = -\mu S'(\tau_*) \tau_2 e^{-\tau_2/\mu} \approx 0 \quad (7)$$

$$= \frac{-\mu S''(\tau_*)}{2} [(\mu^2 + \tau_2^2)e^{-(\tau_2 - \tau_1)/\mu} - (\mu^2 + \tau_1^2)] = \frac{-\mu S''(\tau_*)}{2} (-\mu^2) = \frac{\mu^3 S''(\tau_*)}{2} \quad (8)$$

2.

$$I_\nu = I_\nu(0)e^{-\tau_\nu} + B_\nu(T) [1 - e^{-\tau_\nu}] \quad (9)$$

When the source is observed through the nebula:

$$I_{\nu,1} = I_\nu(T_s)e^{-\tau_\nu} + I_\nu(T_n) [1 - e^{-\tau_\nu}] \quad (10)$$

$$I_{\nu,2} = I_\nu(T_n) [1 - e^{-\tau_\nu}] \quad (11)$$

Subtracting Eq.10 & Eq.11

$$I_{\nu,1} - I_{\nu,2} = I_\nu(T_s)e^{-\tau_\nu} \quad (12)$$

$$-\tau_\nu = \ln \left(\frac{I_{\nu,1} - I_{\nu,2}}{I_\nu(T_s)} \right) \quad (13)$$

3.

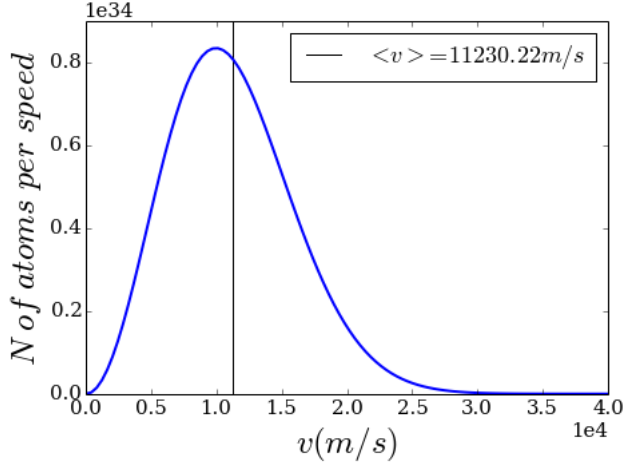


Figure 1: Velocity distribution for 10^{38} Hydrogen atoms in the solar photosphere

1.

Figure 1 show the velocity distribution of the 10^{38} atoms in the solar photosphere. The black vertical line shows the typical speed of a Hydrogen atom, which was computed as follows:

$$\langle v \rangle = 2 \int_0^\infty \left(\frac{m}{2\pi KT} \right)^{3/2} 4\pi v^3 e^{-mv^2/KT} \quad (14)$$

$$\langle v \rangle = 8\pi \left(\frac{m}{2\pi KT} \right)^{3/2} \left(\frac{KT}{m} \right)^4 = 2 \left(\frac{2}{\pi} \right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{KT}{m} \right)^{1/2} \quad (15)$$

$$\langle v \rangle = 11203.22 \text{ m/s} \quad (16)$$

2.

The number of photons (N1) within a 1% of $\langle v \rangle$ can be computed with the CDF as follows:

$$N1 = erf(v/\sqrt{2}a) - \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \frac{ve^{-v^2/2a^2}}{a} \Big|_{0.99<v>}^{1.01<v>} = 9.07 \times 10^{35} \quad (17)$$

3.

The Doppler shifht due to the speed $< v >$ would be:

$$\frac{\nu}{\nu_0} = (1 + < v > / c) = 1.000037 \quad (18)$$

4.

4.

To show that $h\nu \ll KT$ for HII regions we select the extreme case that corresponds to $\lambda = 1mm$. Using the fact the typical temperature of a HII region is 10^4K we found that:

$$h\nu = 1.98 \times 10^{28} J \quad (19)$$

$$KT_{HII} = 1.38 \times 10^{-19} J \quad (20)$$

Then for radio observations it is valid to work in the Rayleigh-Jeans limit.

$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{2\nu^2}{c^2} KT \quad (21)$$

$$T_b = \frac{c^2}{2\nu^2 K} I_\nu \quad (22)$$

$$I_\nu = T_\nu(0)e^{-\tau_\nu} + B_\nu(T)(1 - e^{-\tau_\nu}) \quad (23)$$

$$\frac{2\nu^2 K}{c^2} T_\nu = \frac{2\nu K}{c^2} T_b(0)e^{-\tau_\nu} + \frac{2\nu^2 K}{c^2} T(1 - e^{-\tau_\nu}) \quad (24)$$

$$T_\nu = T_b(0)e^{-\tau_\nu} + T(1 - e^{-\tau_\nu}) \quad (25)$$