

Astronomy from 4 perspectives: the Dark Universe

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exercises: Planck - spectrum and CMB

Solutions

1. Properties of the Planck-spectrum

$$S(\nu) = S_0 \frac{\nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{kT}} - 1} \Rightarrow S(\nu) = S_0 \nu^3 e^{-\frac{h\nu}{kT}} \quad (\text{I})$$

(a)

$$\int_0^\infty S(\nu) d\nu = \int_0^\infty S_0 \nu^3 e^{-\frac{h\nu}{kT}} d\nu \quad (\text{II})$$

$$x = \frac{h\nu}{kT} \quad ; \quad \nu = \frac{kT}{h} x \quad ; \quad d\nu = \frac{kT}{h} dx \quad (\text{III})$$

$$\int_0^\infty S_0 \left(\frac{kT}{h}\right)^3 e^{-\frac{h\nu}{kT}} \left(\frac{kT}{h}\right) dx \propto T^4 \quad (\text{IV})$$

(b)

$$\frac{dS}{d\nu} = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{dS}{d\nu} = 3S_0 \nu^2 e^{-\frac{h\nu}{kT}} + S_0 \nu^3 \left(-\frac{h}{kT}\right) e^{-\frac{h\nu}{kT}} = \quad (\text{V})$$

$$= S_0 \nu^3 e^{-\frac{h\nu}{kT}} \left(3 - \frac{h\nu}{kT}\right) \quad (\text{VI})$$

$$3 - \frac{h\nu}{kT} = 0 \Rightarrow \nu = \frac{3kT}{h} \propto T \quad (\text{VII})$$

(c)

$$\langle \nu \rangle = \frac{\int_0^\infty \nu S(\nu) d\nu}{\int_0^\infty S(\nu) d\nu} = \frac{\int_0^\infty \nu^3 S(\nu) d\nu}{\int_0^\infty S(\nu) d\nu} \quad (\text{VIII})$$

$$x = \frac{h\nu}{kT} \quad ; \quad \nu = \frac{kT}{h} x \quad ; \quad d\nu = \frac{kT}{h} dx \quad (\text{IX})$$

$$\frac{\int_0^\infty S_0 \left(\frac{kT}{h}\right)^4 e^{-x} \left(\frac{kT}{h}\right) dx}{\int_0^\infty S_0 \left(\frac{kT}{h}\right)^3 e^{-x} \left(\frac{kT}{h}\right) dx} \quad (\text{X})$$

$$S \propto \frac{T^5}{T^4} \propto T \quad (\text{XI})$$

(d) Yes, as both of them depend on T

(e) Only at high energies

(f) No, as if we consider any power of T in the exponential, any substitution $x = \frac{h\nu}{kT}$ gives a new differential $d\nu \frac{kT^4}{h}$ both in numerator and denominator

(a) **Wien's distribution function**

$$S(\nu) = S_0 \nu^n e^{-\frac{h\nu}{kT}} \quad ; \quad \Gamma(n) = \int_0^\infty dx x^{n-1} e^{-x} \quad (\text{XII})$$

a)

$$\int_0^\infty dx x^n e^{-x} = \int_0^\infty \cancel{[e^{-x} x^n]}_0^\infty - n \int_0^\infty dx x^{n-1} e^{-x} = \int_0^\infty dx n x^{n-1} e^{-x} \quad (\text{XIII})$$

$$= \int_0^\infty \cancel{x [e^{-x} n x^{n-1}]}_0^\infty - \int_0^\infty dx - n(n-1) x^{n-2} = \int_0^\infty dx - n(n-1) x^{n-2} e^{-x} \quad (\text{XIV})$$

$$= [\dots] = \quad (\text{XV})$$

$$= n! \int_0^\infty dx e^{-x} = n! \quad (\text{XVI})$$

Let's show that $\Gamma(1) = 1$

$$\Gamma(1) = \int_0^\infty x^0 e^{-x} \quad (\text{XVII})$$

To demonstrate our relation recursively let's start by showing it works for $n = 2$

$$\Gamma(2) = \int_0^\infty x e^{-x} dx = [-e^{-x} x]_0^\infty - \int_0^\infty -e^{-x} = 1 \quad (\text{XVIII})$$

$$= (2 - 1)\Gamma(1) = 1 \quad (\text{XIX})$$

We can now show it for $n + 1$

$$\Gamma(n + 1) = n\Gamma(n) = n(n - 1)\Gamma(n - 1) = n(n - 1) \int_0^\infty x^{n-2} e^{-x} dx \quad (\text{XX})$$

Let's introduce $m = n - 2 \Rightarrow n = m + 2$

$$\Gamma(n + 1) = (m + 2)(m + 1) \int_0^\infty x^m e^{-x} dx = (m + 2)(m + 1)m! = (m + 2)! = n! \quad (\text{XXI})$$

But

$$\Gamma(n + 1) = \int_0^\infty x^n e^{-x} dx = n! \quad (\text{XXII})$$

(b)

$$\langle \nu^m \rangle = \frac{\int_0^\infty \nu^m S(\nu) d\nu}{\int_0^\infty S(\nu) d\nu} \quad (\text{XXIII})$$

$$= \frac{\int_0^\infty \nu^m S_0 \nu^n e^{-\frac{h\nu}{kT}} d\nu}{\int_0^\infty S_0 \nu^n e^{-\frac{h\nu}{kT}} d\nu} \quad (\text{XXIV})$$

$$x = \frac{h\nu}{kT} \quad ; \quad \nu = \frac{kT}{h} x \quad ; \quad d\nu = \frac{kT}{h} dx \quad (\text{XXV})$$

$$\langle \nu^m \rangle = \frac{\int_0^\infty \frac{kT}{h}^m S(\nu) \frac{kT}{h}^n e^{-x \frac{kT}{h}} d\nu}{\int_0^\infty S_0 \frac{kT}{h}^n e^{-x \frac{kT}{h}} d\nu} \propto \quad (\text{XXVI})$$

$$\propto \frac{T^{m+n+1}}{T^{n+1}} \propto T^m \quad (\text{XXVII})$$

The momenta scale like the power chosen.

(c) From the result on point c, we find:

$$S = \frac{\langle \nu^3 \rangle}{(\langle \nu^2 \rangle)^{3/2}} \propto \frac{T^3}{T^{3/2}} \quad (\text{XXVIII})$$

$$k = \frac{\langle \nu^4 \rangle^2}{\langle \nu^2 \rangle^2} \propto \frac{T^4}{(T^2)^2} \quad (\text{XXIX})$$

Neither of which depends on T

(d) Yes, again from the result of point c):

$$\frac{\langle \nu^{2n} \rangle}{\langle \nu^2 \rangle^n} \propto \frac{T^{2n}}{(T^2)^n} \quad (\text{XXX})$$

3. *Planck-spectra at cosmological distances*

Discussed in the classroom

4. *CMB as a source of energy*

(a) The answer a) with the Stephan Boltzmann law, the power per m^2 can be produced if:

$$w = 10^{-5} \sigma T^4 = 3 \cdot 10^{-11} \text{ W m}^{-2} \quad (\text{XXXI})$$