



UNIVERSITY OF  
NOTRE DAME

Physical Chemistry for Chemical Engineers  
(CHE 30324)

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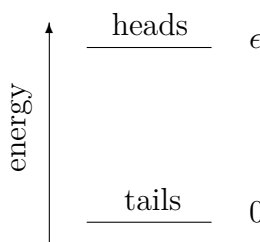
*AS A MEMBER OF THE NOTRE DAME COMMUNITY, I WILL NOT  
PARTICIPATE IN OR TOLERATE ACADEMIC DISHONESTY*

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_

WRITE YOUR SOLUTIONS IN THE SPACE INDICATED, MAKING SURE  
YOUR APPROACH IS CLEAR. USE THE BACK OF THE TABLES PAGES  
IF YOU NEED ADDITIONAL SCRATCH SPACE. WRITE YOUR NETID IN  
THE UPPER RIGHT OF EACH PAGE.

**1 Two states. We want two states. (30 pts)**

A normal coin lands on heads or tails with equal probability. Imagine a coin that is higher in energy by some amount  $\epsilon$  if it lands on heads rather than tails:



- 1.1 (10 pts) Write down the normalized Boltzmann probability for this imaginary coin to land on tails if it is flipped at some temperature  $T$ .

$$\tilde{P}_{\text{tail}} = \frac{e^{-E_{\text{tail}}/k_B T}}{\sum e^{-E/k_B T}} = \frac{e^{-0}}{1 + e^{-\epsilon/k_B T}} = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-\epsilon/k_B T}}$$

- 1.2 (10 pts) What is the expectation value of the number of tails in 100 of these coins tossed at a temperature  $T = \epsilon/k_B$ ?

$$\tilde{P}_{\text{tail}} = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-1}} = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-1}} \approx 0.73$$

$$\langle \text{tail} \rangle = 100 \cdot 0.73 = 73$$

- 1.3 (10 pts) What is the expectation value of the total energy of 100 coins tossed at a temperature  $T = \epsilon/k_B$ ?

$$\langle E \rangle = 100 \sum_{h,t} \epsilon_i p_i \quad 6$$

$$= 100 (0 \cdot 0.73 + \epsilon \cdot 0.27)$$

$$= 27\epsilon \quad 4$$

**2 Full of nothing. (30 pts)**

Ultrahigh vacuum (UHV) chambers are frequently used to study the interactions of gases with surfaces. UHV is defined as  $\approx 10^{-7}$  Pa, and a typical UHV chamber is a cube about 10 cm on a side. Let's assume the residual gas within the chamber is  $N_2$  (MW of  $0.028 \text{ kg mol}^{-1}$ ) and is at 300 K, so  $RT = 2500 \text{ Pa m}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$ .

2.1 (5 pts) About how many  $N_2$  molecules are in the UHV chamber?

$$\begin{aligned}
 N &= V \left( \frac{P}{RT} \right) = (0.1 \text{ m})^3 \left( \frac{10^{-7} \text{ Pa}}{2500 \text{ Pa m}^3 / \text{mol}} \right) & 4 \\
 &= 4 \times 10^{-14} \text{ mol} \\
 &= 2 \times 10^{10} \text{ molecules} & 1
 \end{aligned}$$

2.2 (5 pts) If  $N_2$  has a collision cross section of  $0.4 \text{ nm}^2$ , about how many collisions does one starting at the center of the chamber make before hitting the chamber wall? (Hint: Consider the mean free path.)

$$\begin{aligned}
 \lambda &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2} \left( \frac{N}{V} \right) \cdot \sigma} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2} \left( \frac{P}{RT} \right) \sigma} \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \frac{2500 \text{ Pa m}^3 / \text{mol}}{10^{-7} \text{ Pa}} \right) \cdot \frac{1}{0.4 \times 10^{-18} \text{ m}^2} \cdot \frac{1}{N_{\text{av}}} \\
 &= 7 \times 10^4 \text{ m} \gg \text{chamber size} & 3
 \end{aligned}$$

2 0 collisions before hitting wall

- 2.3 (5 pts) Is it reasonable to describe the gas molecules in the chamber as diffusing by a random walk process? Why or why not?

no. No molecule-molecule collisions.

3

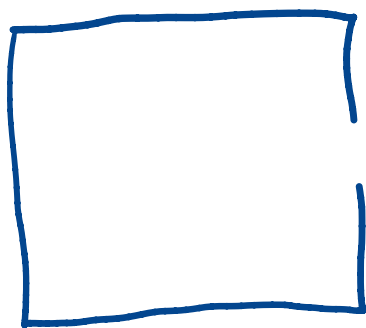
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- 2.4 (5 pts) What is the mean speed ( $\langle v \rangle$ ) of an  $N_2$  molecule inside the UHV chamber?

$$\langle v \rangle = \left( \frac{8RT}{\pi \cdot MW} \right)^{1/2} = \left( \frac{8 \cdot 2500 \text{ Pa m}^3/\text{mol}}{\pi \cdot 0.028 \text{ kg/mol}} \right)$$
$$= 480 \text{ m/s}$$

5

- 2.5 (10 pts) Suppose the UHV chamber has a pinhole one micrometer in diameter (an area of about  $10^{-12} \text{ m}^2$ ) and your lab is also full of  $\text{N}_2$  at 300 K and 1 bar ( $10^5 \text{ Pa}$ ). About how long will it take for the pressure inside the chamber to rise to  $10^{-5} \text{ Pa}$ ?



$$10^5 \text{ Pa} \quad N_{\text{box}} = \left( \frac{P}{RT} \right) \cdot V \quad 4$$

$$= \left( \frac{10^{-5} \text{ Pa}}{2500 \text{ Pa m}^3/\text{mol}} \right) \cdot (0.1 \text{ m})^3$$

$$= 4 \times 10^{-12} \text{ mol}$$

$$\frac{dN_{\text{box}}}{dt} = \text{in} - \text{out} + \text{gen} - \text{consump} \quad \begin{matrix} \nearrow 0 \\ \nearrow 0 \\ \nearrow 0 \end{matrix}$$

$$= J_w \cdot A = \text{constant} \quad 4$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{N}{V} \right) \langle v \rangle \cdot A$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{P}{RT} \right) \langle v \rangle \cdot A$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{10^5 \text{ Pa}}{2500 \text{ Pa m}^3/\text{mol}} \right) \cdot 480 \text{ m/s} \cdot 10^{-12} \text{ m}^2$$

$$= 4.8 \times 10^{-9} \text{ mol/s}$$

$$t = \frac{4 \times 10^{-12} \text{ mol}}{4.8 \times 10^{-9} \text{ mol/s}} = 8 \times 10^{-4} \text{ s} \quad 2$$

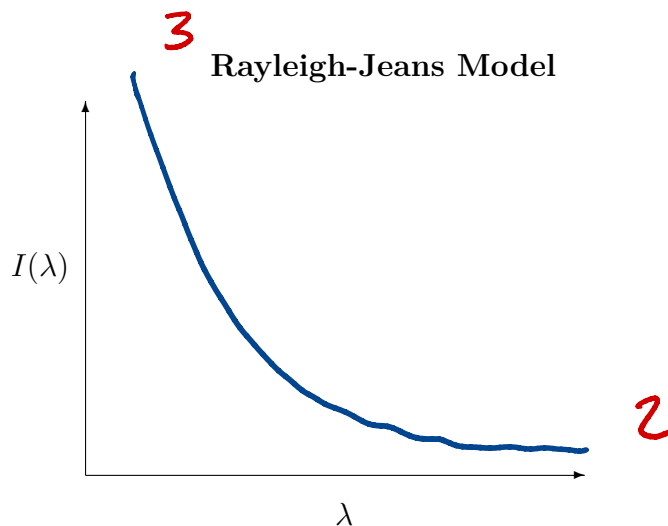
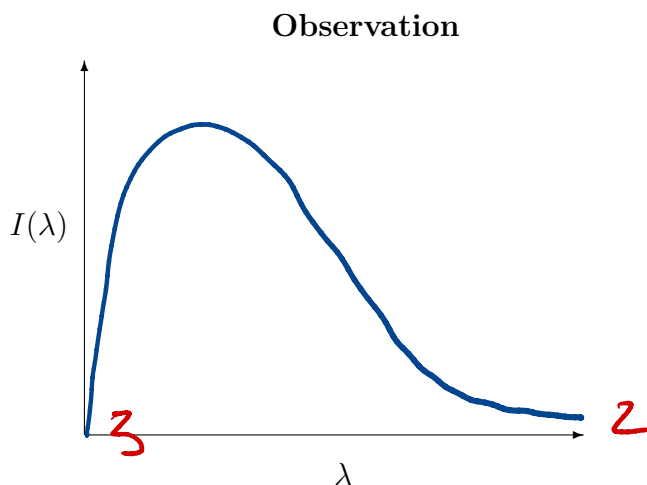
**3 Disappointing. Sure. Catastrophic. That's a bit much. (40 pts)**

The “ultraviolet catastrophe” refers to the unphysical predictions the Rayleigh-Jeans model makes for the spectrum of light emitted by an ideal blackbody radiator.

3.1 (5 pts) In one word, what determines the spectrum of an ideal blackbody radiator?

*temperature*

3.2 (10 pts) On the graph on the top below, provide a rough sketch of the spectrum of an ideal blackbody radiator. On the bottom, provide a rough sketch of what Rayleigh-Jeans models says it should look like.



- 3.3 (6 pts) Planck assumed that the blackbody radiator was full of quantized oscillators. Imagine a black body radiator at  $T = 11\,600\text{ K}$ , so that  $k_B T = 1\text{ eV}$ . What is the ratio of the probability to have one vs zero quanta of energy in a  $12\,400\text{ nm}$  oscillator?

$$\begin{aligned}
 E &= n h \nu = n h c / \lambda \\
 \frac{P_{n=1}}{P_{n=0}} &= \frac{e^{-hc/\lambda kT}}{e^0} = e^{-1240\text{ eV}\cdot\text{nm} / 1\text{ eV} \cdot 12400\text{ nm}} \\
 &= e^{-0.1} \\
 &= 0.9
 \end{aligned}$$

- 3.4 (4 pts) Imagine the same black body radiator at  $T = 11\,600\text{ K}$ , so that  $k_B T = 1\text{ eV}$ . What is the ratio of the probability to have one vs zero quanta of energy in a  $1.24\text{ nm}$  oscillator?

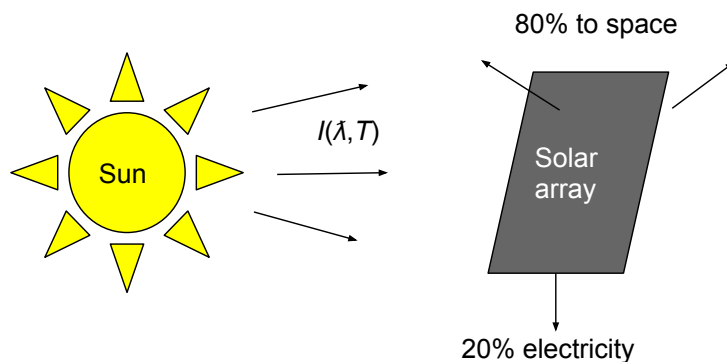
$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{P_{n=1}}{P_{n=0}} &= \frac{e^{-hc/\lambda kT}}{e^0} = e^{-1240\text{ eV}\cdot\text{nm} / 1\text{ eV} \cdot 1.24\text{ nm}} \\
 &= e^{-1000} \\
 &\sim 0
 \end{aligned}$$

- 3.5 (2 pts) Why, briefly, are these two answers different?

Boltzmann dist - lower probability to be in a high energy state



- 3.6 (13 pts) You are the radiation engineer at SpaceX, put on a project to put a solar array into space. The array is made from a large, thin sheet of dark material that absorbs and emits light like a blackbody radiator. When deployed, the array will receive  $500 \text{ W m}^{-2}$  from the sun. The array is 20% efficient, so that 20% of the incident radiation is converted into electricity and the rest is reemitted as blackbody radiation. What is the equilibrium temperature of the array? (Remember the array has two sides, but only one faces the sun!)



$$I_{\text{out}} = 500 \frac{\text{W}}{\text{m}^2} * 0.8 * \frac{1}{2} = 200 \frac{\text{W}}{\text{m}^2} \quad 8$$

$$= \sigma T^4$$

$$T = \left( \frac{I}{\sigma} \right)^{1/4} = \left( \frac{200 \text{ W/m}^2}{5.6 \times 10^{-8}} \right)^{1/4} \quad 5$$

$$= 244 \text{ K}$$

## 4 Tables

**Table 1:** Key units in Physical Chemistry

$N_{\text{Av}}$ :	$6.02214 \times 10^{23}$	$\text{mol}^{-1}$		
1 amu:	$1.6605 \times 10^{-27}$	kg		
$k_{\text{B}}$ :	$1.38065 \times 10^{-23}$	$\text{J K}^{-1}$	$8.61734 \times 10^{-5}$	$\text{eV K}^{-1}$
$R$ :	8.314472	$\text{J K}^{-1} \text{mol}^{-1}$	$8.2057 \times 10^{-2}$	$\text{l atm mol}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1}$
$\sigma_{\text{SB}}$ :	$5.6704 \times 10^{-8}$	$\text{J s}^{-1} \text{m}^{-2} \text{K}^{-4}$		
$c$ :	$2.99792458 \times 10^8$	$\text{m s}^{-1}$		
$h$ :	$6.62607 \times 10^{-34}$	$\text{J s}$	$4.13566 \times 10^{-15}$	$\text{eV s}$
$\hbar$ :	$1.05457 \times 10^{-34}$	$\text{J s}$	$6.58212 \times 10^{-16}$	$\text{eV s}$
$hc$ :	1239.8	$\text{eV nm}$		
$e$ :	$1.60218 \times 10^{-19}$	C		
$m_e$ :	$9.10938215 \times 10^{-31}$	kg	1: 0.5109989	$\text{MeV c}^{-2}$
$\epsilon_0$ :	$8.85419 \times 10^{-12}$	$\text{C}^2 \text{J}^{-1} \text{m}^{-1}$	$5.52635 \times 10^{-3}$	$e^2 \text{\AA}^{-1} \text{eV}^{-1}$
$e^2/4\pi\epsilon_0$ :	$2.30708 \times 10^{-28}$	$\text{J m}$	14.39964	$\text{eV \AA}$
$a_0$ :	$0.529177 \times 10^{-10}$	m	0.529177	$\text{\AA}$
$E_{\text{H}}$ :	1	Ha	27.212	eV

**Table 2:** Energy conversions and correspondences

	J	eV	Hartree	$\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$	$\text{cm}^{-1}$
1 J =	1	$6.2415 \times 10^{18}$	$2.2937 \times 10^{17}$	$6.0221 \times 10^{20}$	$5.0340 \times 10^{22}$
1 eV =	$1.6022 \times 10^{-19}$	1	0.036748	96.485	8065.5
1 Ha =	$4.3598 \times 10^{-18}$	27.212	1	2625.6	219474.6
1 $\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$ =	$1.6605 \times 10^{-21}$	0.010364	$3.8087 \times 10^{-4}$	1	83.5935
1 $\text{cm}^{-1}$ =	$1.986410^{-23}$	$1.23984 \times 10^{-4}$	$4.55623 \times 10^{-6}$	0.011963	1

**Table 3:** Kinetic theory of gases key equations

Boltzmann distribution ( $g(E)$ : degeneracy of $E$ )	$P(E) = g(E)e^{-E/k_B T}$
Maxwell-Boltzmann distribution	$P_{MB}(v) = 4\pi v^2 \left(\frac{m}{2\pi k_B T}\right)^{3/2} \exp\left(-\frac{mv^2}{2k_B T}\right)$
Mean and RMS speeds	$\langle v \rangle = \left(\frac{8k_B T}{\pi m}\right)^{1/2} \quad \langle v^2 \rangle^{1/2} = \left(\frac{3k_B T}{m}\right)^{1/2}$
Pressure	$\langle P \rangle = \frac{\Delta p}{\Delta t} = m \frac{N}{V} \frac{1}{3} \langle v^2 \rangle = \frac{N k_B T}{V} = \frac{n R T}{V}$
Wall collision frequency	$J_W = \frac{1}{4} \frac{N}{V} \langle v \rangle = \frac{P}{(2\pi m k_B T)^{1/2}}$
Molecular collision frequency	$z = \sqrt{2} \sigma \langle v \rangle \frac{N}{V} = \frac{4\sigma P}{(\pi m k_B T)^{1/2}}$
Total collisions	$z_{AA} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{N}{V} z$
Mean free path	$\lambda = \frac{\langle v \rangle}{z} = \frac{V}{\sqrt{2} \sigma N}$
Graham's effusion law	$\frac{dN}{dt} = \text{Area} \cdot J_w \propto 1/m^{1/2}$
Effusion from a vessel	$P = P_0 e^{-t/\tau}, \tau = \frac{V}{A} \left(\frac{2\pi m}{k_B T}\right)^{1/2}$
Self-diffusion constant	$D_{11} = \frac{1}{3} \langle v \rangle \lambda$
Diffusion rate	$\langle x^2 \rangle^{1/2} = \sqrt{2Dt} \quad \langle r^2 \rangle^{1/2} = \sqrt{6Dt}$
Einstein-Smoluchowski equation	$D_{11} = \frac{\delta^2}{2\tau}$
Stokes-Einstein equation for liquids	$D_{11} = \frac{k_B T}{4\pi\eta r}$ "Slip" boundary
	$D_{\text{Brownian}} = \frac{k_B T}{6\pi\eta r}$ "Stick" boundary

**Table 4:** Classical waves

The wave equation	$\frac{\partial^2 \Psi(x, t)}{\partial x^2} = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 \Psi(x, t)}{\partial t^2}$
General solution	$\Psi(x, t) = A \sin(kx - \omega t)$
Wavelength (distance)	$\lambda = 2\pi/k$
Frequency (/time)	$\nu = \omega/2\pi$
Speed	$v = \lambda\nu$
Amplitude (distance)	$A$
Energy	$E \propto A^2$
Standing wave	$\Psi(x, t) = A \sin(kx) \cos(\omega t), \quad k = n\pi/a$

**Table 5:** The new physics

Stefan-Boltzmann Law	$\int I(\lambda, T) d\lambda = \sigma_{\text{SB}} T^4$
Wien's Law	$\lambda_{\text{max}} T = 2897768 \text{ nm K}$
Rayleigh-Jeans eq	$I(\lambda, T) = \frac{8\pi}{\lambda^4} k_B T c$
Blackbody irradiance	$I(\lambda, T) = \frac{8\pi}{\lambda^5} \frac{hc^2}{e^{hc/\lambda k_B T} - 1}$
Einstein crystal	$C_v = 3R \left( \frac{h\nu}{k_B T} \right)^2 \frac{e^{h\nu/k_B T}}{(e^{h\nu/k_B T} - 1)^2}$
Photon energy	$\epsilon = h\nu$
Rydberg equation	$\nu = R_H c \left( 1/n^2 - 1/k^2 \right)$
Bohr equations	$l_n = n\hbar$
$n = 1, 2, \dots$	$r_n = n^2 \left( \frac{4\pi\epsilon_0 \hbar^2}{e^2 m_e} \right) = n^2 a_0$
	$E_n = -\frac{m_e e^4}{8\epsilon_0^2 h^2} \frac{1}{n^2} = -\frac{E_H}{2} \frac{1}{n^2}$
	$p_n = \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{m_e}{\hbar} \frac{1}{n} = p_0 \frac{1}{n}$
de Broglie equation	$\lambda = h/p$