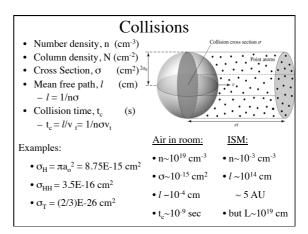


### Things that go Bump in a Box of Gas

- <u>Particles</u> (mostly electrons, ions, atoms, molecules)
  - Elastic collisions: KE before = KE after
  - Inelastic collisions: KE lost or gained in collision
    where does it go?

#### <u>Photons</u>

- Emission: creation of photons (where is E from?)
- Absorption: destruction of photons (where does E go?)  $% \left( {{{\left( {{{C_{1}}} \right)}}} \right)$
- Scattering: no net change in photon number, just a change in direction
  - but these processes are extremely important
  - can lead to apparent emission or apparent absorption



# TE Distribution Functions

- Maxwell-Boltzmann Distribution:  $N_v/N~(T_k)~dv = [m/2\pi kT_K]^{3/2}~e^{-mv^2/2kT_K}~4\pi v^2~dv$
- Boltzmann Distribution:  $N_b/N_a(T_x) = (g_b/g_a) e^{-(E_b-E_a)/kT_x}$ 
  - Saha Equation:  $(f_x) = (g_b/g_a) e^{-y}$

$$N_{i+1}/N_i (T_i) = (2/n_e) (Z_{i+1}/Z_i) (2\pi m_e k T_i/h^2)^{3/2} e^{-\chi_i/kT_i}$$

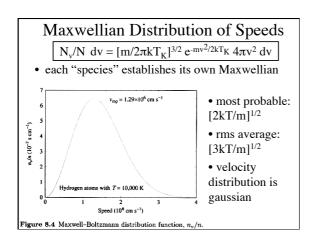
- Planck Function:  $B_{v}(T_{r}) = 2hv^{3}/c^{2} [e^{hv/KT_{r}} - 1]^{-1}$
- Where does this  $e^{-\Delta E/kT}$  come from?

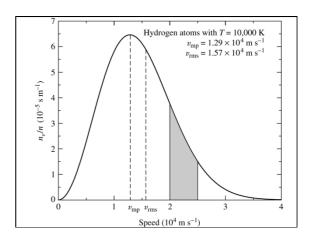
## Probability and Statistical Physics

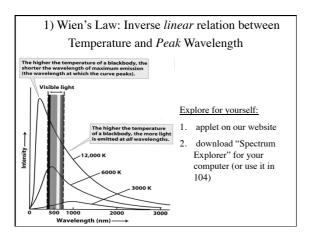
#### • Probability =

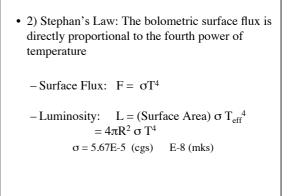
(# of ways to achieve desired result) /
 (# of ways to achieve any result)

- # of ways energy can be distributed among states with kT per degree of freedom increases exponentially with Energy (i.e. temperature)
- so # of states ~  $e^{\Delta E/kT}$
- postulate: all possible states are equally likely
- so P is # of ways to put energy in desired state divided by number of possible states  $\sim e^{-\Delta E/kT}$









• 3) Planckian Brightness Distribution: The functional form of intensity v. wavelength exactly matches an analytic expression...  $B_{\lambda}(T) = 2hc^{2}/\lambda^{5} [e^{hc/\lambda KT} - 1]^{-1} erg/s cm^{-2} Å^{-1} sr^{-1}$ or...

 $B_v(T) = 2hv^3/c^2 [e^{hv/KT} - 1]^{-1} erg/s cm^{-2} Hz^{-1} sr^{-1}$ 

