## Kinetic Theory of Gases

Kinetic theory of gases envisions gases as a collection of atoms or molecules in motion. Atoms or molecules are considered as particles.

This is based on the concept of the particulate nature of matter, regardless of the state of matter.



A particle of a gas could be an atom or a group of atoms (molecule).

Kinetic Theory of Gases

Chapter 33

The Kinetic Theory relates the 'micro world' to the 'macro world'.

http://www.chemtutor.com/sta.htm#kin

For gases following the relationship, PV = nRT (IGL);

Observations	<b>KT Postulate</b>	
Gas density is very low	Particles are far apart	
Pressure is uniform in all directions	Particle motion is random	
IGL is independent of particle type	Gas particles do not interact	
Dalton's Law of Partial Pressures	Gas particles do not interact	
$P = \frac{nRT}{V}$		

KT (IGL): Applicable when particle density is such that the inter-particle distance >> particle size (point masses). Low pressures and high temperatures e.g latm and room temp.

Postulates

Gas particles are very far apart.

Gas particles in constant random motion.

Gas particles do not exert forces on each other due to their large intermolecular distances.

Pressure in a gas is due to particle collisions (elastic) with the walls of the container from translational motion - the microscopic explanation of pressure.

<u>Collisions with the wall are elastic</u>, therefore, *translational energy* of the particle is conserved with these collisions.

Each collision imparts a linear *momentum* to the wall, which *results the gaseous pressure*. In Newtonian mechanics <u>force</u> defined as the change of momentum, here, due to the collision; <u>pressure</u> is force per unit area.

In KT, the pressure arising from the collision of a single molecule at the wall is derived and then scaled up to the collection of molecules in the container, to obtain the ideal gas law (IGL);

PV = nRT

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Gas kinetic theory derives the relationship between <u>root-mean-squared speed</u> and temperature.

The particle motions are <u>random</u>, therefore <u>velocities</u> along all directions are equivalent. Therefore the <u>average</u> <u>velocity</u> (vector) along any dimension/direction will be zero.

Now,

the root-mean-squared velocity = *root-mean-squared <u>speed</u>*; *it is nonzero*.

A distribution of translational energies; therefore, many velocities would exist for a collection of gaseous particles.

What is the distribution of the particle velocities?

Velocity is a vector quantity (v). Speed is a scalar (v).

$$v^{2} = v \cdot v = v_{x}^{2} + v_{y}^{2} + v_{z}^{2}$$
$$v^{2} = v^{2} = v_{x}^{2} + v_{y}^{2} + v_{z}^{2}$$
$$\langle v^{2} \rangle = \langle v^{2} \rangle \qquad ; \text{ symbol } \langle x \rangle =$$

Most properties of gases depend on molecular speeds.

average of x.

The translational movements of particles are amenable to treatment with classical Newtonian mechanics (Justification, later).

#### Root mean square velocity, translational energy:



For a gas sample of n moles occupying a volume V (cube), with an area of each side A. Consider a single particle of mass m, velocity v.

Particle collides with the wall. (elastic collisions)





Change of momentum  $\Delta p = mv - (-mv) = 2mv$  $mv_x - (-mv_x) = 2mv_x$ 

Number density of particles =  $\widetilde{N} = \frac{nN_A}{V}$ 

where  $N_A$  = Avagadro Number

Half of the molecules moving on x axis with a (velocity component in the x direction) within the volume  $v_x \Delta t$  collides with one surface in the x direction.

$$N_{coll} = \tilde{N} \times (Av_x \Delta t) \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{nN_A}{V} (Av_x \Delta t) \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$$

 $N_{coll}$  = number of collisions on the wall of area A in time  $\Delta t$ .

### Change of momentum on a surface during $\Delta t =$

$$\Delta p_{T_{otal}} = (2m \mathbf{v}_x)(N_{coll})$$



Force on the surface = Rate of change of momentum =

$$F = \frac{\Delta p_{Total}}{\Delta t} = \frac{nN_A}{V} Am \langle \mathbf{v}_x^2 \rangle$$

Pressure = Force per unit area =

$$P = \frac{F}{A} = \frac{nN_A}{V} m \langle \mathbf{v}_x^2 \rangle$$

Pressure arises because of the molecular motion of gases; microscopic/molecular model of pressure.

$$P = \frac{nN_A}{V} m \langle \mathbf{v}_x^2 \rangle$$
  
using  $m \langle \mathbf{v}_x^2 \rangle = k_B T = kT$ 
$$P = \frac{nN_A}{V} m \langle \mathbf{v}_x^2 \rangle = \frac{nN_A}{V} kT = \frac{nRT}{V}$$
$$PV = nRT$$
 Ideal gas law- IGL

Pressure: microscopic/empirical model.

Thus the kinetic theory describes the pressure of an ideal gas using a classical description of the motion of a single molecular collision with the walls and then scaling this result up to macroscopic proportions. The fact that component velocities of all molecules are not the same, necessitates the definition of an average in each direction.

Thus  $\langle v_j \rangle$  arises because of a probability distribution of  $v_j$  values  $f(v_j)$  in each direction (j = x, y, z)

$$\Omega(\mathbf{v}_x, \mathbf{v}_y, \mathbf{v}_z) = f(\mathbf{v}_x)f(\mathbf{v}_y)f(\mathbf{v}_z)$$

velocity distribution function

Being a probability function;  $\int_{all v_j} f(v_j) dv_j = 1$ 

## Derivation of distribution functions $f(v_i)$

$$\Omega(\mathbf{v}_x, \mathbf{v}_y, \mathbf{v}_z) = f(\mathbf{v}_x)f(\mathbf{v}_y)f(\mathbf{v}_z)$$
$$\ln \Omega(\mathbf{v}_x, \mathbf{v}_y, \mathbf{v}_z) = \ln f(\mathbf{v}_x) + \ln(\mathbf{v}_y) + \ln(\mathbf{v}_z)$$
$$\mathbf{v} \leftrightarrow \mathbf{v} \Leftrightarrow (\mathbf{v}_x, \mathbf{v}_y, \mathbf{v}_z)$$
$$\left(\frac{\partial \ln \Omega(\mathbf{v})}{\partial \mathbf{v}_x}\right)_{\mathbf{v}_y, \mathbf{v}_z} = \frac{d \ln f(\mathbf{v}_x)}{d \mathbf{v}_x}$$
$$\frac{d \ln \Omega(\mathbf{v})}{d \mathbf{v}} \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}_x}{\partial \mathbf{v}_x} \right)_{\mathbf{v}_y, \mathbf{v}_z} = \frac{d \ln f(\mathbf{v}_x)}{d \mathbf{v}_x}$$
Chain rule

Math supplement

also from another relationship

$$v^{2} = v_{x}^{2} + v_{y}^{2} + v_{z}^{2} \quad \text{for a molecule}$$

$$v = [v_{x}^{2} + v_{y}^{2} + v_{z}^{2}]^{2}$$

$$\left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial v_{x}}\right)_{v_{y}, v_{z}} = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial v_{x}}(v_{x}^{2} + v_{y}^{2} + v_{z}^{2})^{1/2}\right)_{v_{y}, v_{z}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}(2v_{x})(v_{x}^{2} + v_{y}^{2} + v_{z}^{2})^{-1/2}$$

$$= \frac{v_{x}}{v}$$

$$\left(\frac{d\ln\Omega(\nu)}{d\nu}\right)\left(\frac{\partial\nu}{\partial v_x}\right)_{v_y,v_z} = \frac{d\ln f(v_x)}{dv_x}$$
$$\left(\frac{d\ln\Omega(\nu)}{d\nu}\right)\left(\frac{v_x}{\nu}\right) = \frac{d\ln f(v_x)}{dv_x}$$
$$\frac{d\ln\Omega(\nu)}{\nu d\nu} = \frac{d\ln f(v_x)}{v_x dv_x}$$
Similarly
$$\frac{d\ln\Omega(\nu)}{\nu d\nu} = \frac{d\ln f(v_y)}{v_y dv_y}$$
$$\frac{d\ln\Omega(\nu)}{\nu d\nu} = \frac{d\ln f(v_z)}{v_y dv_z}$$

In general 
$$\frac{d \ln f(\mathbf{v}_j)}{\mathbf{v}_j d \mathbf{v}_j} = \frac{d f(\mathbf{v}_j)}{\mathbf{v}_j f(\mathbf{v}_j) d \mathbf{v}_j} = -\gamma$$
 for  $j = x, y, z$ ?

Because derivatives of three independent variables are equal, the derivatives must be constant, say =  $-\gamma$ ;( $\gamma$ >0).

Upon rearrangement and integration,  $\int \frac{df(v_j)}{f(v_j)} = -\int \gamma v_j \, dv_j$  $\ln f(v_j) = -\frac{1}{2} \gamma v_j^2$  $f(v_j) = A e^{-\gamma v_j^2/2}$ 

where A = integration constant

Note the distribution (probability) function!

Distribution function: probability of a gas particle having a velocity within a given range, e.g.  $v_x$  and  $v_x+dv_x$ .

Distribution  
function  
$$f(\mathbf{v}_j) = \left(\frac{\gamma}{2\pi}\right)^{1/2} e^{-\gamma \mathbf{v}_j^2/2}$$
$$\langle \mathbf{v}_x^2 \rangle = \frac{kT}{m} \quad \text{(Assumption slide 9)}$$

Mean/average

$$\langle \mathbf{v}_x^2 \rangle = \frac{kT}{m} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \mathbf{v}_x^2 f(\mathbf{v}_x) \, d\mathbf{v}_x \quad \text{averaging}$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \mathbf{v}_x^2 \sqrt{\frac{\gamma}{2\pi}} e^{-\gamma \mathbf{v}_x^2/2} d\mathbf{v}_x \quad \text{averaging}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{\gamma}{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \mathbf{v}_x^2 e^{-\gamma \mathbf{v}_x^2/2} d\mathbf{v}_x \quad \text{use tables}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{\gamma}{2\pi}} \left(\frac{1}{\gamma} \sqrt{\frac{2\pi}{\gamma}}\right) \quad \text{Math supplement}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\gamma}$$

$$\frac{m}{kT} = \gamma$$

Now, 
$$f(v_j) = \left(\frac{\gamma}{2\pi}\right)^{1/2} e^{-\gamma v_j^2/2}$$
 where  $\gamma = \frac{m}{kT}$   
Substituting for  $\gamma$  in  $f(v_j)$ ;  
 $f(v_j) = \left(\frac{m}{2\pi kT}\right)^{1/2} e^{(-mv_j^2/2kT)} = \left(\frac{M}{2\pi RT}\right)^{1/2} e^{(-Mv_j^2/2RT)}$ 

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Evaluating A:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(\mathbf{v}_j) d\nu_j = 1 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} A e^{-\gamma \mathbf{v}_j^2/2} d\mathbf{v}_j$$

$$1 = 2A \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\gamma \mathbf{v}_j^2/2} d\mathbf{v}_j$$
even function
$$1 = A \sqrt{\frac{2\pi}{\gamma}}$$

$$\sqrt{\frac{\gamma}{2\pi}} = A$$
Math supplement

$$f(\mathbf{v}_j) = \left(\frac{\gamma}{2\pi}\right)^{1/2} e^{-\gamma \mathbf{v}_j^2/2}$$



# velocity distribution function

$$F(\mathbf{v}) = \frac{f(\mathbf{v}_x)f(\mathbf{v}_y)f(\mathbf{v}_z)}{f(\mathbf{v}_z)d\mathbf{v}_x d\mathbf{v}_y d\mathbf{v}_z}$$
$$= \left[\left(\frac{m}{2\pi kT}\right)^{1/2}e^{-m\mathbf{v}_x^2/2kT}\right]\left[\left(\frac{m}{2\pi kT}\right)^{1/2}e^{-m\mathbf{v}_y^2/2kT}\right]$$
$$\times \left[\left(\frac{m}{2\pi kT}\right)^{1/2}e^{-m\mathbf{v}_z^2/2kT}\right]d\mathbf{v}_x d\mathbf{v}_y d\mathbf{v}_z$$
$$= \left(\frac{m}{2\pi kT}\right)^{3/2}e^{\left[-m(\mathbf{v}_x^2 + \mathbf{v}_y^2 + \mathbf{v}_z^2)\right]/2kT}d\mathbf{v}_x d\mathbf{v}_y d\mathbf{v}_z$$

# Deriving the distribution function for *v*

$$\nu = (v_x^2 + v_y^2 + v_z^2)^{1/2}$$
  
Changing the 'volume'  
element (in *Cartesian*) to  
variable v, spherical  
coordinates.  
replace  $dv_x dv_y dv_z$  by  $4\pi v^2 dv$   
and  $v_x^2 + v_y^2 + v_z^2$  by  $v^2$ 

$$F(\nu) d\nu = f(v_x)f(v_y)f(v_z) dv_x dv_y dv_z$$
  
=  $\left[ \left( \frac{m}{2\pi kT} \right)^{1/2} e^{-mv_x^2/2kT} \right] \left[ \left( \frac{m}{2\pi kT} \right)^{1/2} e^{-mv_y^2/2kT} \right]$   
 $\times \left[ \left( \frac{m}{2\pi kT} \right)^{1/2} e^{-mv_z^2/2kT} \right] dv_x dv_y dv_z$   
=  $\left( \frac{m}{2\pi kT} \right)^{3/2} e^{\left[ -m(v_x^2 + v_y^2 + v_z^2) \right]/2kT} dv_x dv_y dv_z$   
 $F(\nu) d\nu = 4\pi \left( \frac{m}{2\pi kT} \right)^{3/2} \nu^2 e^{-m\nu^2/2kT} d\nu$ 

$$F(\nu) d\nu = \underline{4\pi} \left(\frac{m}{2\pi kT}\right)^{3/2} \nu^2 e^{-m\nu^2/2kT} \frac{d\nu}{d\nu}$$
$$F(\nu) d\nu = 4\pi \left(\frac{M}{2\pi RT}\right)^{3/2} \nu^2 e^{-M\nu^2/2RT} d\nu$$

### rise exponential decay



Notice the shape, blue.

 $v_{ave}$ 's of Xe, H<sub>2</sub>, He ? Earth and Jupiter (×300)



Notice the shape, blue.

 $\nu_{ave}\mbox{'s of Xe},\,H_2,\,He\,?$  Earth and Jupiter ( $\times 300)$ 



At lower angular velocities slower moving molecules go through the second slit.

Detector signal proportional to the number of particles reaching the detector.



Most probable velocity vmp

$$F(\nu) d\nu = 4\pi \left(\frac{m}{2\pi kT}\right)^{3/2} \nu^2 e^{-m\nu^2/2kT} d\nu$$

$$F(\nu) = 4\pi \left(\frac{m}{2\pi kT}\right)^{3/2} \nu^2 e^{-m\nu^2/2kT}$$

Most probable velocity  $v_{mp}$ : differentiate F(v), set to zero.

$$2\nu_{mp} - \frac{m\nu_{mp}^3}{kT} = 0$$
$$\nu_{mp} = \sqrt{\frac{2kT}{m}} = \sqrt{\frac{2RT}{M}}$$

Mean (average) velocity:

$$\begin{split} \nu_{ave} &= \langle \nu \rangle = \int_{0}^{\infty} \nu F(\nu) \, d\nu \\ &= \int_{0}^{\infty} \nu \left( 4\pi \left( \frac{m}{2\pi kT} \right)^{3/2} \nu^2 e^{-m\nu^2/2kT} \right) d\nu \\ &= 4\pi \left( \frac{m}{2\pi kT} \right)^{3/2} \int_{0}^{\infty} \nu^3 e^{-m\nu^2/2kT} \, d\nu \\ &= 4\pi \left( \frac{m}{2\pi kT} \right)^{3/2} \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{2kT}{m} \right)^2 \\ \nu_{ave} &= \left( \frac{8kT}{\pi m} \right)^{1/2} = \left( \frac{8RT}{\pi M} \right)^{1/2} \end{split}$$

Root mean square velocity:

Using:

and

$$\langle \mathbf{v}_x^2 \rangle = \frac{kT}{m}$$
 (Assumption slide 4)

$$\therefore \langle v^2 \rangle = \langle v_x^2 \rangle + \langle v_y^2 \rangle + \langle v_z^2 \rangle = 3 \langle v_x^2 \rangle$$
$$\sqrt{\langle v^2 \rangle} = \sqrt{3 \langle v_x^2 \rangle} = v_{rms}$$

$$\nu_{rms} = \left[ \left\langle \nu^2 \right\rangle \right]^{1/2} = \left( \frac{3kT}{m} \right)^{1/2} = \left( \frac{3RT}{M} \right)^{1/2} \checkmark$$



Number of collisions per unit time on the wall of area A:



$$\begin{split} \frac{dN_c}{dt} &= \widetilde{N}A \int_0^\infty \mathbf{v}_x \left(\frac{m}{2\pi kT}\right)^{1/2} e^{-m\mathbf{v}_x^2/2kT} d\mathbf{v}_x \\ &= \widetilde{N}A \left(\frac{m}{2\pi kT}\right)^{1/2} \int_0^\infty \mathbf{v}_x e^{-m\mathbf{v}_x^2/2kT} d\mathbf{v}_x \\ &= \widetilde{N}A \left(\frac{m}{2\pi kT}\right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{kT}{m}\right) \\ &= \widetilde{N}A \left(\frac{kT}{2\pi m}\right)^{1/2} \\ &= \widetilde{N}A \left(\frac{kT}{2\pi m}\right)^{1/2} \end{split}$$

<u>Collisional Flux</u>  $Z_c$ :

Number of collisions on the wall per unit time per unit area.

$$Z_c = \frac{dN_c/dt}{A} = \frac{1}{4} \widetilde{N}\nu_{ave} \qquad \& \qquad \nu_{ave} = \left(\frac{8kT}{\pi m}\right)^{1/2}$$
$$\widetilde{N} = \frac{N}{V} = \frac{nN_A}{V} = \frac{P}{kT}$$

Substituting in  $Z_c$ ;

$$Z_c = \frac{P}{(2\pi m kT)^{1/2}} = \frac{PN_A}{(2\pi M RT)^{1/2}}$$

### Particle collision rates: (Hard sphere model)

Particles interact when spheres attempt to occupy the same region of the phase. (consider one moving particle – orange, label 1; all other particles stationary are red – label 2



Because the collisional 'partners are moving too' in reality, an "effective speed",  $\langle v_{12} \rangle$ , of orange particle will be considered in the model to emulate the collisions the orange particle encounters;



Because the collisional 'partners are moving', an *effective* speed  $\langle v_{12} \rangle$  used to model the system;

$$\langle \nu_{12} \rangle = (\langle \nu_1 \rangle^2 + \langle \nu_2 \rangle^2)^{1/2} = \left[ \left( \frac{8kT}{\pi m_1} \right) + \left( \frac{8kT}{\pi m_2} \right) \right]^{1/2}$$

$$= \left[ \frac{8kT}{\pi} \left( \frac{1}{m_1} + \frac{1}{m_2} \right) \right]^{1/2}$$

$$= \left( \frac{8kT}{\pi \mu} \right)^{1/2}$$

$$\mu = \frac{m_1 m_2}{m_1 + m_2}; \text{ reduced mass}$$

Collisional partner (red) density =  $\frac{N_2}{V}$ Volume covered by orange in  $dt = V_{cyl}$   $V_{cyl} = \sigma v_{ave} dt$ Collisions by it in time  $dt = V_{cyl} \frac{N_2}{V}$ Particle collisional frequency of it =  $z_{12}$ 

$$z_{12} = \frac{N_2}{V} \left( \frac{V_{cyl}}{dt} \right) = \frac{N_2}{V} \left( \frac{\sigma \nu_{ave} dt}{dt} \right) = \frac{N_2}{V} \sigma \left( \frac{8kT}{\pi \mu} \right)^{1/2}$$

For a sample of *one type of gas*;

$$z_{11} = \frac{N_1}{V} \sigma \sqrt{2} \left(\frac{8kT}{\pi m_1}\right)^{1/2} = \frac{P_1 N_A}{RT} \sigma \sqrt{2} \left(\frac{8RT}{\pi M_1}\right)^{1/2}$$

Total collisional frequency, two types of gases  $Z_{12}$ :

Total number of collisions in the gaseous sample.

$$Z_{12} = \frac{N_1}{V} z_{12}$$

For a sample of one type of gas we have;

$$Z_{11} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{N_1}{V} z_{11} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\frac{N_1}{V}\right)^2 \sigma \left(\frac{8kT}{\pi m_1}\right)^{1/2} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\frac{P_1 N_A}{RT}\right)^2 \sigma \left(\frac{8RT}{\pi M_1}\right)^{1/2}$$

Accounts for double counting

ABLE 33.1	Collisional Parameters for Various Gases	
Species	<i>r</i> (nm)	$\sigma$ (nm <sup>2</sup> )
He	0.13	0.21
Ne	0.14	0.24
Ar	0.17	0.36
Kr	0.20	0.52
N <sub>2</sub>	0.19	0.43
O <sub>2</sub>	0.18	0.40
CO <sub>2</sub>	0.20	0.52

### Effusion:

Effusion is the process in which a gas escapes through a small aperture. This occurs if the *diameter of the aperture is considerably smaller than the <u>mean free path</u> of the molecules (effusion rate = number of molecules that pass through the opening (aperture) per second). Once the particle passes through it generally wont come back because of the low partial pressure on the other side* 

Pressure of the gas and size of the aperture is such the molecules do not undergo collisions near or when passing through the opening.

#### Mean Free Path:

Average distance a particle would travel between two successive collisions two types of molecules , say 1 and 2.

$$\lambda = \frac{\nu_{ave} \, dt}{(z_{11} + z_{12}) \, dt} = \frac{\nu_{ave}}{(z_{11} + z_{12})}$$

For one type of molecules,

$$\lambda = \frac{\nu_{ave}}{z_{11}} = \frac{\nu_{ave}}{\left(\frac{N_1}{V}\right)\sqrt{2}\sigma\nu_{ave}} = \left(\frac{RT}{P_1N_A}\right)\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}\sigma}$$



Left – effusion; right - diffusion. Effusion occurs through an aperture (size  $A \sim d$ ) smaller than the mean path of the particles in motion whereas diffusion occurs through an aperture through which many particles can flow through simultaneously.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Effusion

### <u>Collisional Flux</u> $Z_C$ :

 $Z_C$  = number of collisions <u>per unit time per unit area</u>. (by one type of molecule); definition.

$$Z_c = \frac{dN_c/dt}{A} = \frac{1}{4}\widetilde{N}\nu_{ave} \qquad \nu_{ave} = \left(\frac{8kT}{\pi m}\right)^{1/2}$$

Note: 
$$\widetilde{N} = \frac{N}{V} = \frac{mV_A}{V} = \frac{P}{kT}$$
 ;using IGL

Upon substitution for  $v_{ave}$ ,  $\widetilde{N}$  and simplification;

$$Z_c = \frac{P}{(2\pi m kT)^{1/2}} = \frac{PN_A}{(2\pi M RT)^{1/2}}$$

Effusion rate decreases with time because of the reduction in gas pressure inside the container due to effusion/diffusion.

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{NkT}{V} \right) = \frac{kT}{V} \frac{dN}{dt}$$

And rate of loss of molecules

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = -Z_c A = \frac{-PA}{(2\pi mkT)^{1/2}}$$

Upon substitution

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = \frac{kT}{V} \left( \frac{-PA}{\left(2\pi m kT\right)^{1/2}} \right)$$



$$= P_0 \exp\left[-\frac{At}{V} \left(\frac{kT}{2\pi m}\right)^{1/2}\right]$$









$$f(-v_{x0} \le v_x \le v_{x0}) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_{0}^{\xi_0} e^{-\xi^2} d\xi$$
  
$$erf(z) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_{0}^{z} e^{-x^2} dx = f(-z \le v_x \le z)$$



 $\xi^{2} = mv_{x}^{2} / 2kT \qquad @ v_{x} = v_{x0} = \sqrt{2kT / m}$   $\xi^{2} = mv_{x0}^{2} / 2kT = 1 \qquad \xi = 1$   $erf(z) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_{0}^{z} e^{-x^{2}} dx$   $erf(1) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_{0}^{1} e^{-x^{2}} dx$   $erf(z) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_{0}^{1} e^{-x^{2}} dx$  $erf(z) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_{0}^{1} e^{-x^{2}} dx$ 

covers 
$$v_x \le \sqrt{2kT / m}$$
  
probability  $v_x > \sqrt{2kT / m}$ ?

