

## Planck Distribution

### Review Blackbody Radiation

Set of oscillating EM modes in a cavity

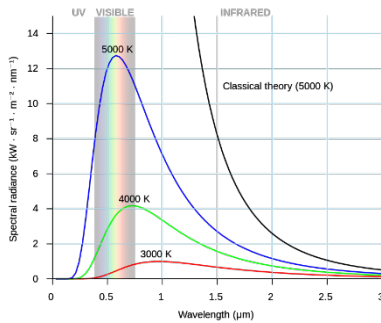
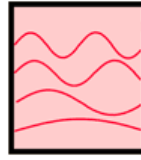
Classical. Each mode in cavity has energy  $k_B T$

Density of states (unit volume)  $D(k)dk = \frac{1}{2\pi} k^2 dk$

or in terms of frequency  $D(\nu)d\nu = \frac{8\pi\nu^2}{c^3} d\nu$

diverges at high  $\nu$  called ultraviolet catastrophe

Not what is observed (if true hot fireplace would emit huge number of X-rays)

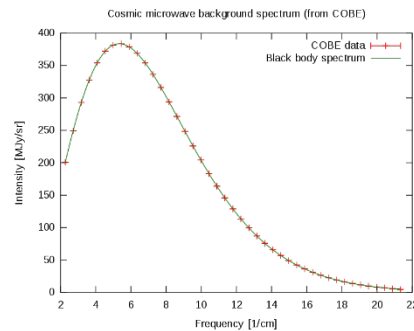
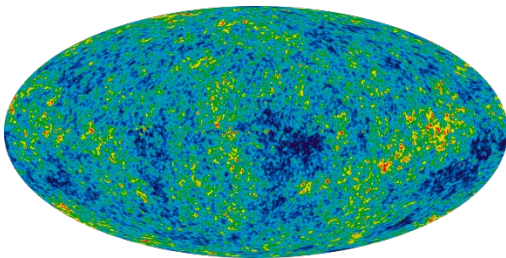


Credit: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blackbody\\_radiation#/media/File:Black\\_body.svg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blackbody_radiation#/media/File:Black_body.svg)

Cosmic background radiation (relic after Big Bang)

Fits universal curve (Planck distribution) perfectly

for  $T = 2.726\text{K}$



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cosmic\\_microwave\\_background](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cosmic_microwave_background)

## Planck's Model.

EM radiation consists of quanta

Energy of photon  $E = h\nu$   $h$  is Planck's constant  $6.623 \cdot 10^{-34}$  J.s

Treat electrons in black body source as simple harmonic oscillators

Energy  $E = \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right) \hbar\omega(k)$   $n$  an integer

Number of particles in state  $\phi(k)$

$$n(k) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n p_n(k)$$

Probability of occupation in state  $k$  given by previous arguments for Boltzmann distribution

$$p_n(k) = \frac{e^{-\beta n \hbar \omega(k)}}{Z(k)}$$

Partition function

$$Z(k) = 1 + e^{-\beta \hbar \omega} + e^{-2\beta \hbar \omega} + e^{-3\beta \hbar \omega} + \dots = \frac{1}{1 - e^{-\beta \hbar \omega}}$$

Average number of particles

$$\bar{n} = \sum_n n p_n(k) = \sum_n n e^{-\beta n \hbar \omega(k)} \frac{1}{1 - e^{-\beta \hbar \omega}}$$

Result

$$\bar{n} = \frac{1}{e^{\beta \hbar \omega} - 1} \quad \text{Boltzmann distribution function}$$

Average thermal energy

$$\overline{U(k)} = \hbar\omega(k) \bar{n}$$

Partition function  $Z = Z(k_1)Z(k_2)Z(k_3)Z(k_4) \dots = \frac{1}{1 - e^{-\beta \hbar \omega(k)}}$

Free energy  $F = -k_B T \ln Z_{total} = -k_B T \sum \ln Z(k)$

Use density of states in  $k$ -space  $D(k) = \frac{V}{2\pi^2} k^2$  per mode, two modes

$$F = -k_B T \int_0^{\infty} D(k) \ln(1 - e^{-\beta \hbar \omega(k)}) dk$$

Energy  $E(k) = \hbar ck$

$$F = -k_B T \int_0^{\infty} \frac{V}{\pi^2} k^2 \ln(1 - e^{-\beta \hbar ck}) dk$$

$$= -\frac{\hbar c V}{3\pi^2} \int_0^\infty \frac{k^3 dk}{e^{\beta \hbar c k} - 1}$$

Find free energy  $F = -\frac{\pi^2 (k_B T)^4}{45 (\hbar c)^3} V$

Entropy  $S = -\left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial T}\right)_V = \frac{4\pi^2 k_B^4 T^3}{45 (\hbar c)^3} V$

Internal Energy  $U = F + TS = \frac{\pi^2 (k_B T)^4}{15 (\hbar c)^3} V$

Pressure  $P = -\left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial T}\right)_V = \frac{\pi^2 (k_B T)^4}{45 (\hbar c)^3} = \frac{U}{3V}$