

Thermal Radiation

Alexander Knebe (*Universidad Autonoma de Madrid*)



Can we find the intensity $I_\nu(T, \Omega)$ for some simple example?

- black-body radiation
- thermodynamics of black-body radiation
- Planck spectrum
- local thermal equilibrium

- **black-body radiation**
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- Planck spectrum
- local thermal equilibrium

▪ formally we need to distinguish...

- thermal radiation

- black-body radiation

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 - thermal radiation
 - generated by thermal motion in matter
 - all matter with $T > 0$ emits thermal radiation
 - described by $I_\nu(T, \Omega)$

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 - black-body radiation
 - generated by matter in thermal equilibrium ($T = \text{const.}$)
 - fully isotropic
 - described by $B_\nu(T) = I_\nu(T, \Omega)$

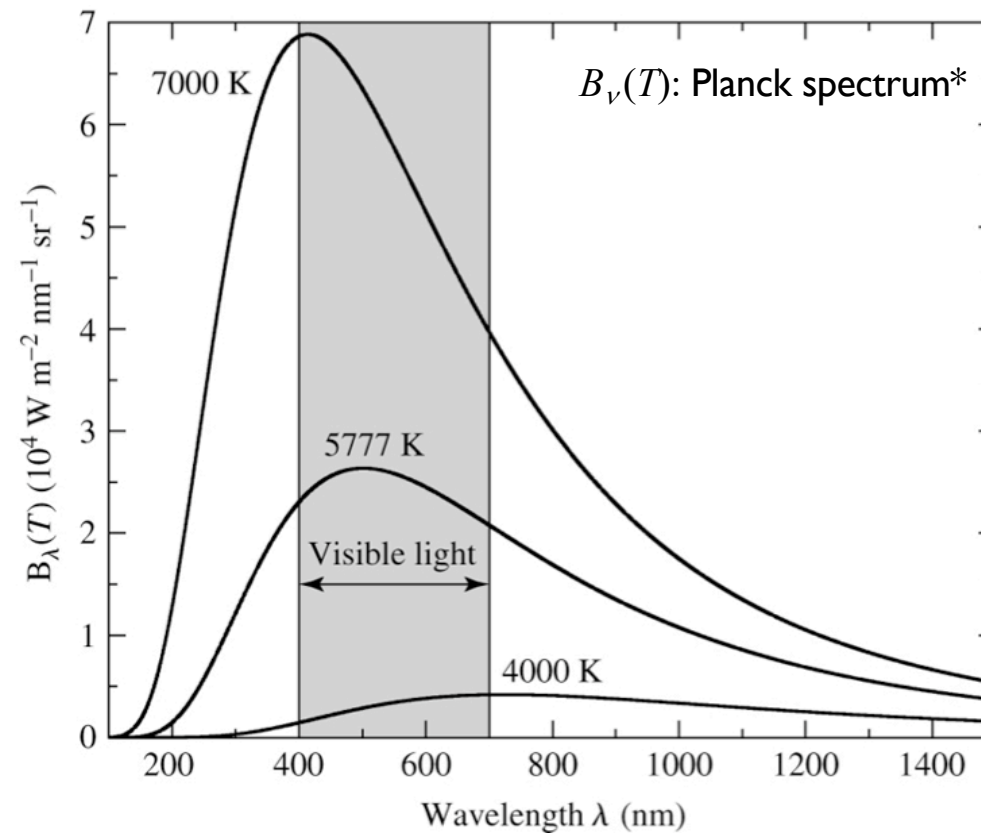
- formally we need to distinguish...

- thermal radiation

- generated by thermal motion in matter
- all matter with $T > 0$ emits thermal radiation
- described by $I_\nu(T, \Omega)$
- becomes black-body radiation for optically thick media

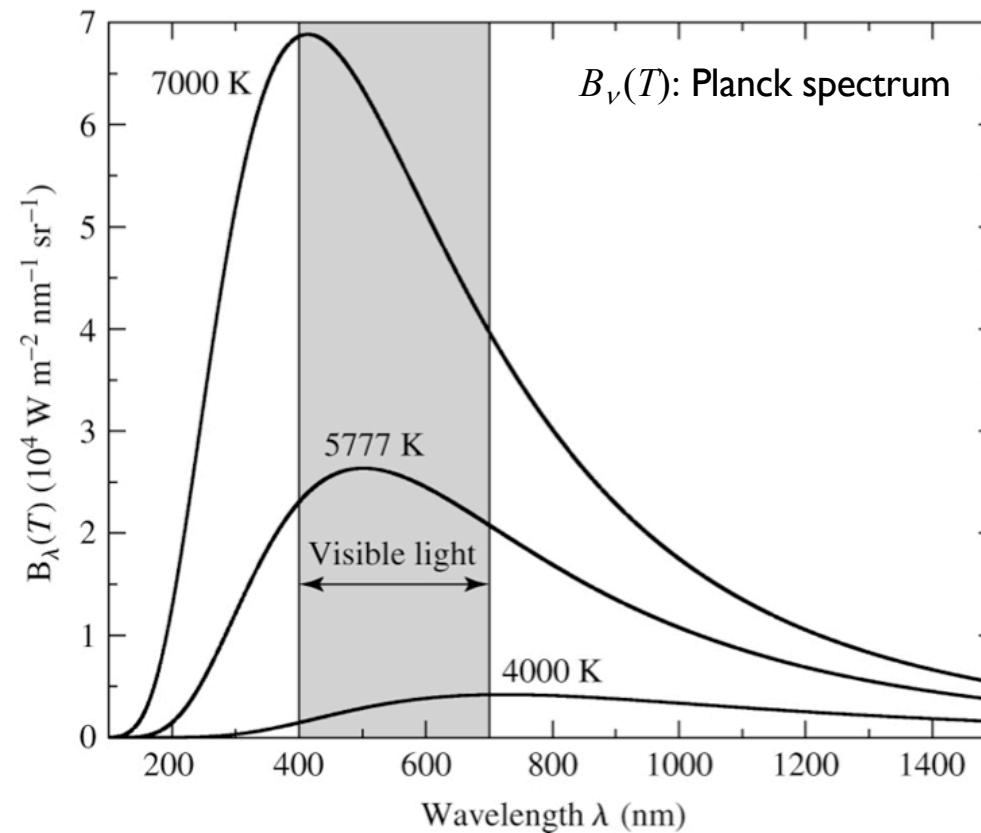
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**emitted by an idealized
opaque, non-reflective body**

- **black-body**

*idealized physical body that absorbs all incident electromagnetic radiation,
regardless of frequency or angle of incidence*

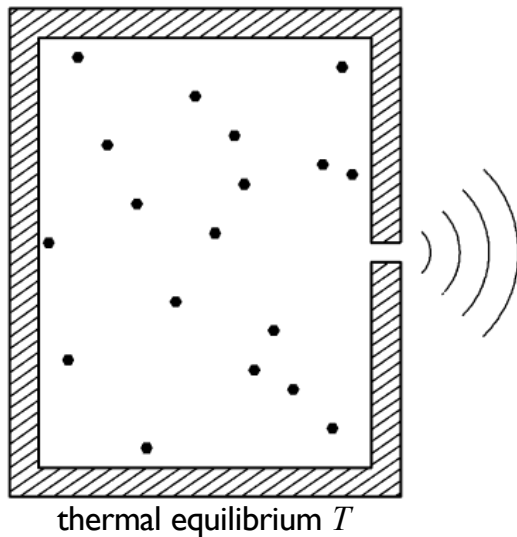
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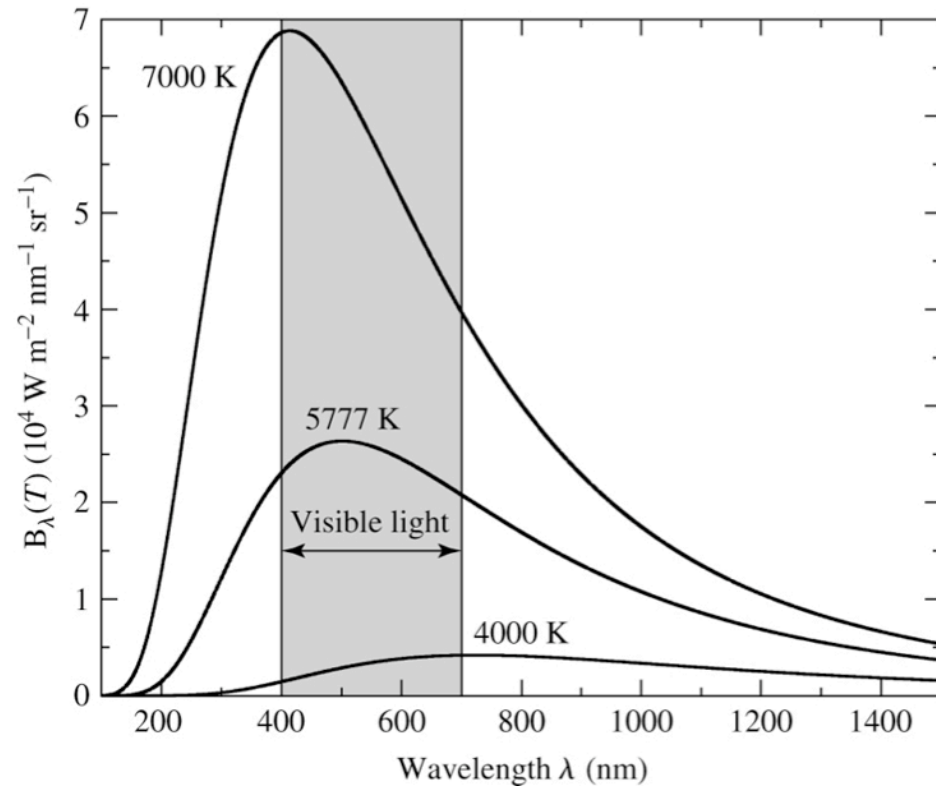
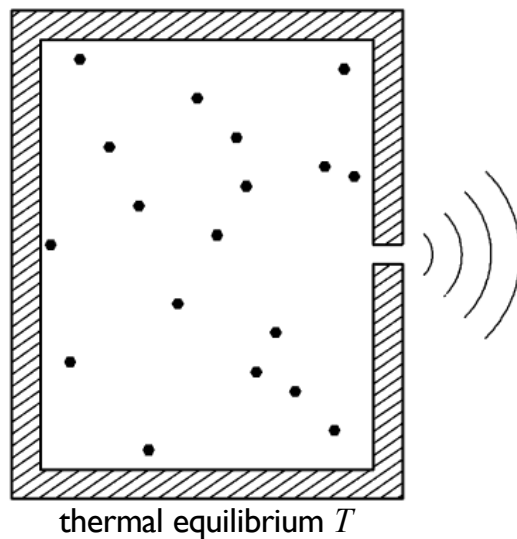
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examples for black-bodies

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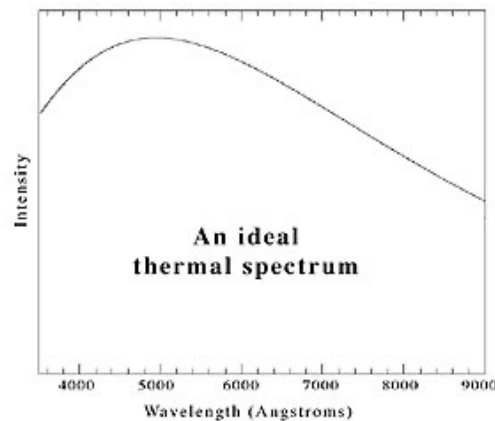
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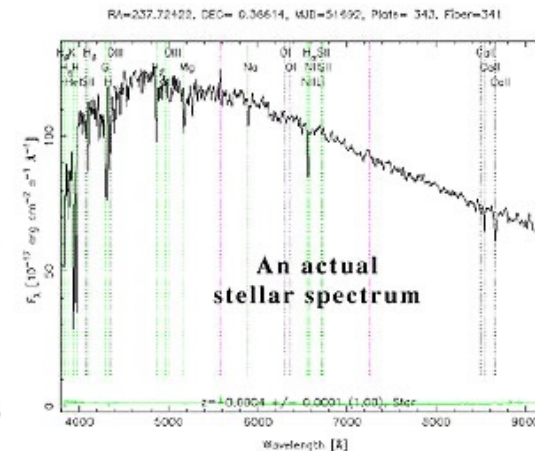
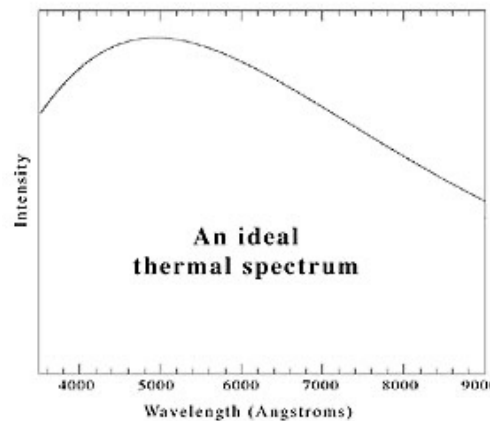


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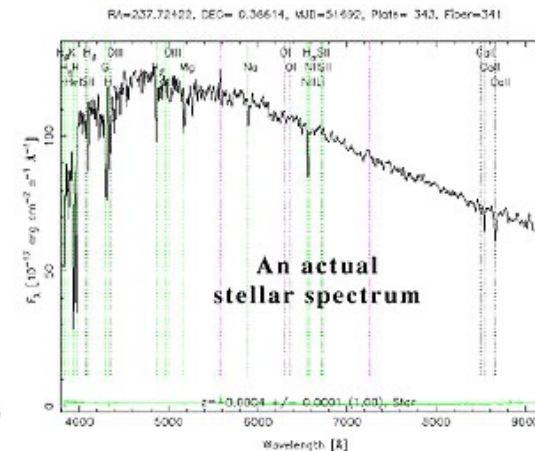
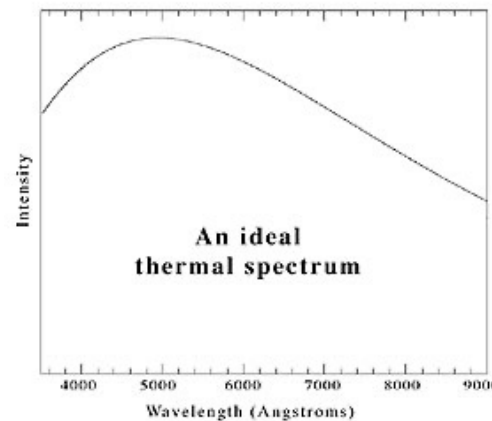
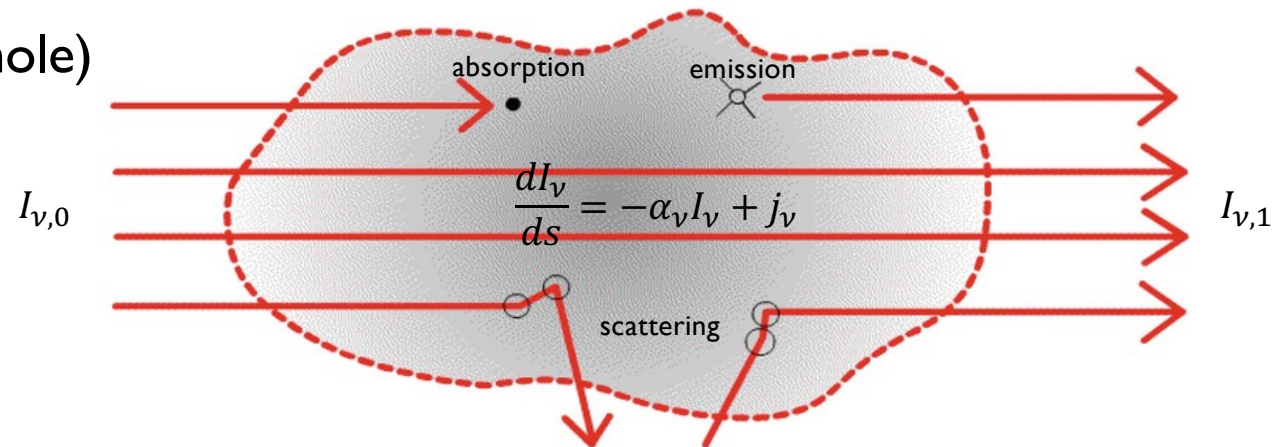


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- black holes?

- **black-body**

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- **black holes:**
 - they absorb all the radiation that falls on them
 - they emit black-body radiation (Hawking radiation)

- black-body

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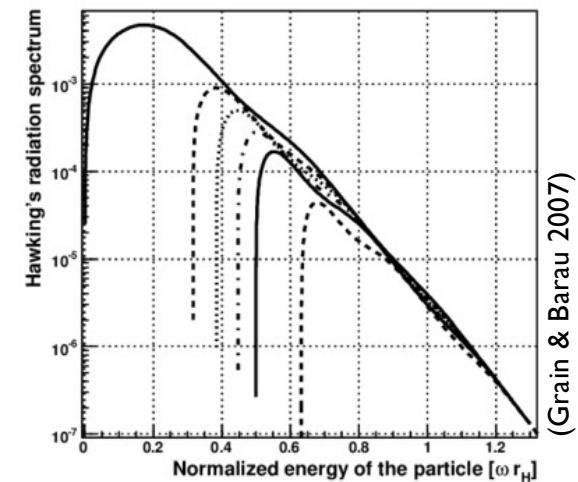
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 - the temperature depends on the mass of the black hole

$$T = \frac{hc^3}{8\pi GM_{bh}k_B}$$

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- cavity (with a hole)
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- the most perfect black-body in the Universe?

▪ black-body

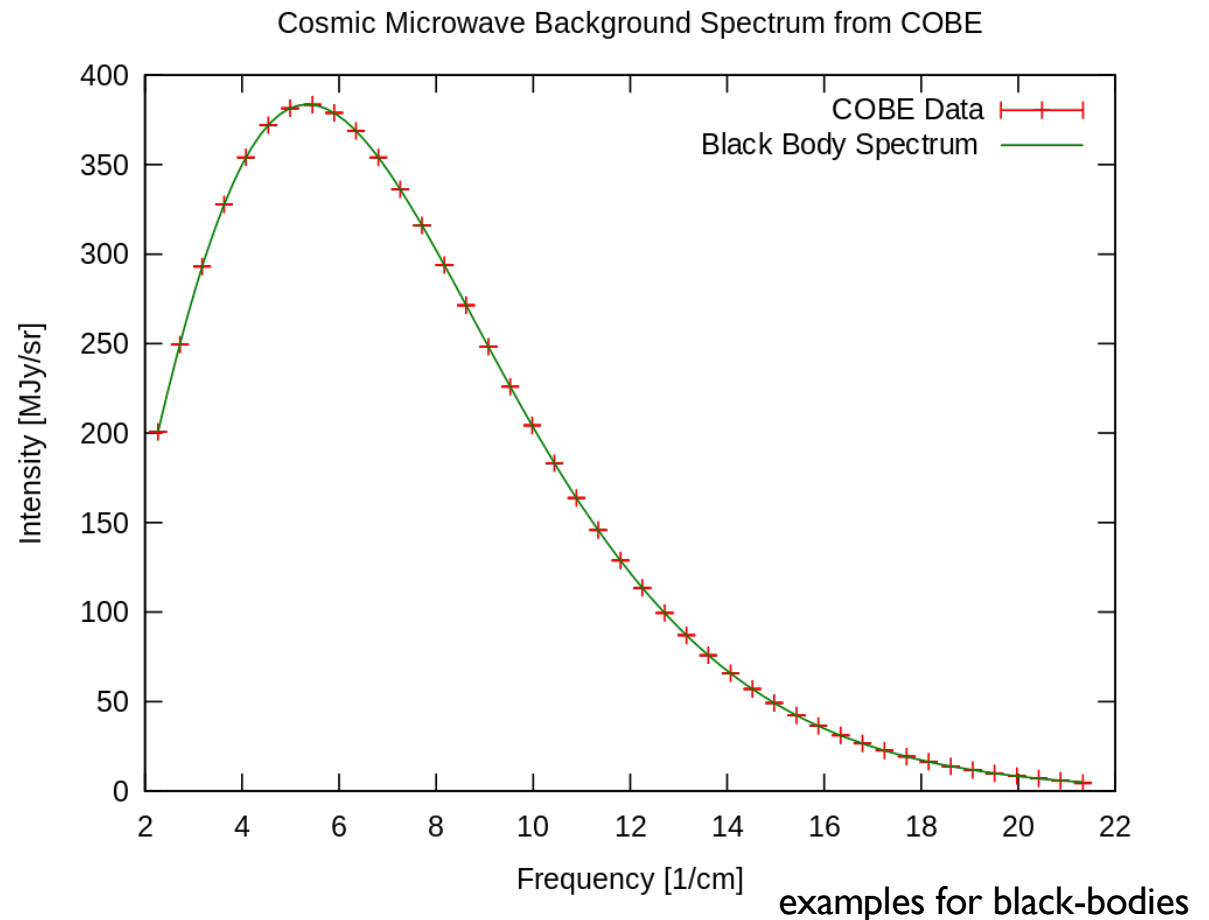
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- cavity (with a hole)
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- CMBR*

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- **black-body radiation**

thermal radiation of a (black-)body in thermodynamic equilibrium with its environment

- black-body radiation

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- populations **described by Saha-Boltzmann statistics***

$$N_i = N e^{-\frac{E_i}{k_B T}}$$

N_i : number of atoms/ions/molecules with energy E_i

*we'll make use of that later when deriving $B_\nu(T)$

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$$\frac{dI_\nu}{d\tau_\nu} = -I_\nu + S_\nu$$

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in **thermal equilibrium** the intensity must be spatially constant

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$$\frac{dI_\nu}{d\tau_\nu} = -I_\nu + S_\nu = \mathbf{0} \quad \rightarrow \quad I_\nu = S_\nu = B_\nu(T)$$

- Kirchoff's law

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*if material absorbs well at a certain wavelength,
it will also radiate well at the same wavelength.*

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at thermal equilibrium, the power radiated must be equal to the power absorbed

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- **thermodynamics of black-body radiation**
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- thermodynamics

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*any chance to obtain
energy density, intensity, and flux
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as a function of temperature?*

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$$u(T) = \frac{4}{c} \sigma_B T^4 \quad \text{energy density}$$

$$B(T) = \frac{1}{\pi} \sigma_B T^4 \quad \text{intensity}$$

$$F(T) = \sigma_B T^4 \quad \text{flux}$$

$$S(T) = \frac{16}{3c} \sigma_B T^3 V \quad \text{entropy}$$

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$B_{\nu}(T)$ comes later...

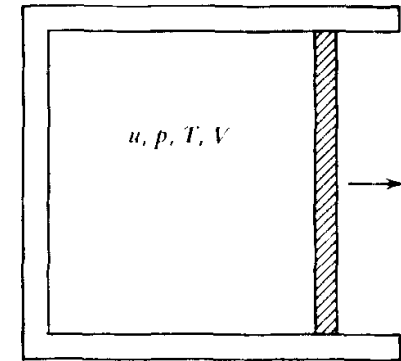
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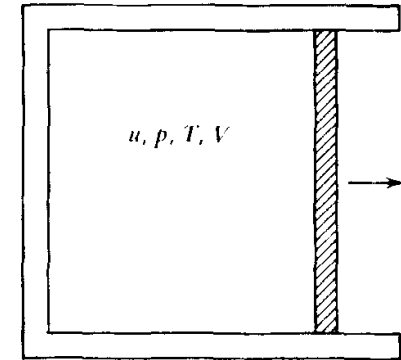


cavity that can be manipulated

■ thermodynamics

- first law of thermodynamics

$$dQ = dU + pdV$$



cavity that can be manipulated

U : total energy of cavity

Q : heat

p : pressure

V : volume

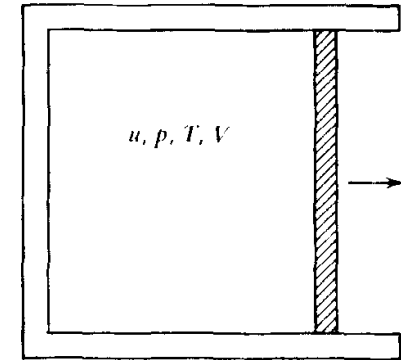
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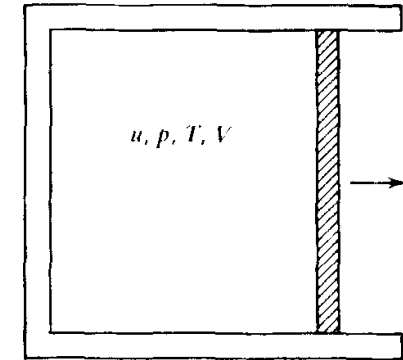
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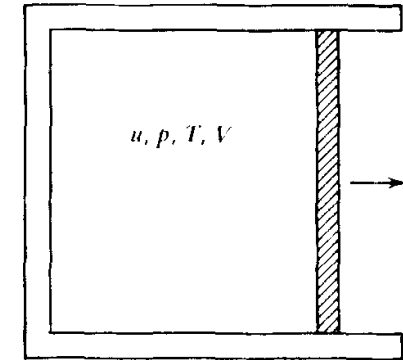
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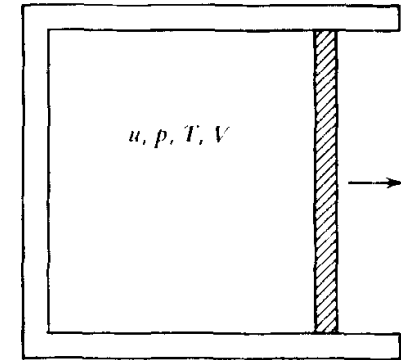
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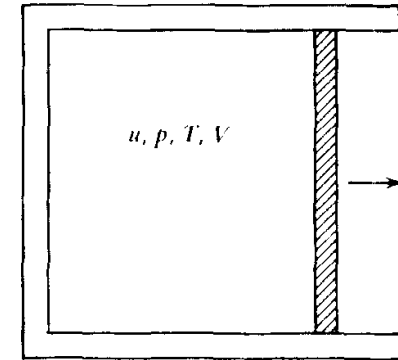
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$$S = S(T, V)$$



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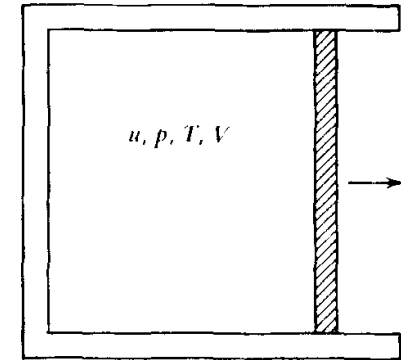
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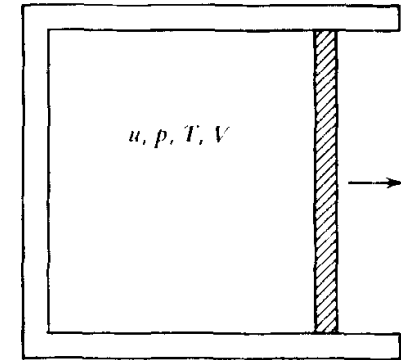
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$S = S(T, V)$ ↖



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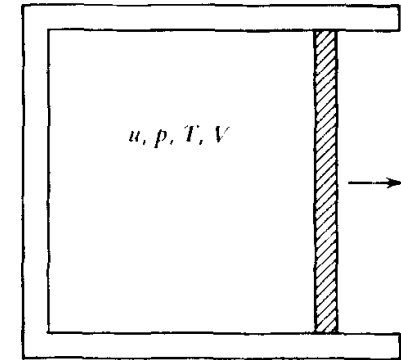
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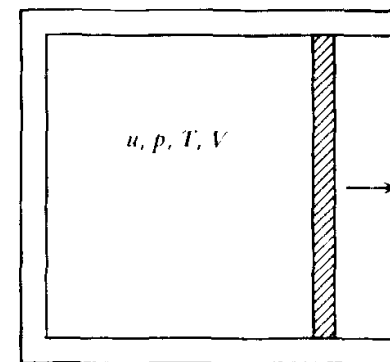
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$$\frac{\partial^2 S}{\partial T \partial V} = \frac{\partial^2 S}{\partial V \partial T}$$

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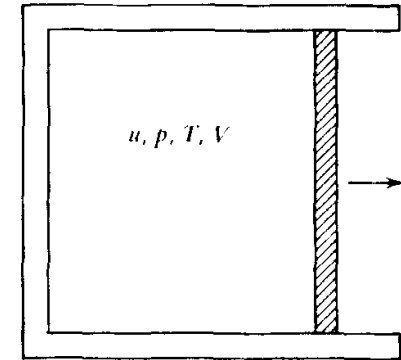
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$$dS = \frac{dQ}{T}$$

- radiation field

$$U = uV, \quad p = \frac{u}{3}$$

$$\frac{1}{T} \frac{du}{dT} = -\frac{4}{3} \frac{u}{T^2} + \frac{4}{3T} \frac{du}{dT}$$



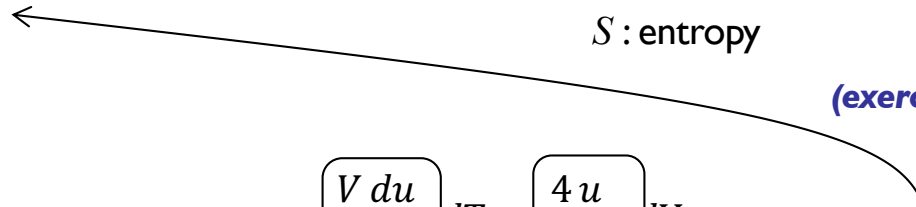
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(exercise)

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[\frac{V}{T} \frac{du}{dT} \right] dT + \left[\frac{4u}{3T} \right] dV \\ & = \left(\frac{\partial S}{\partial T} \right)_V dT + \left(\frac{\partial S}{\partial V} \right)_T dV \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 S}{\partial T \partial V} = \frac{\partial^2 S}{\partial V \partial T}$$



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$$dQ = dU + pdV$$

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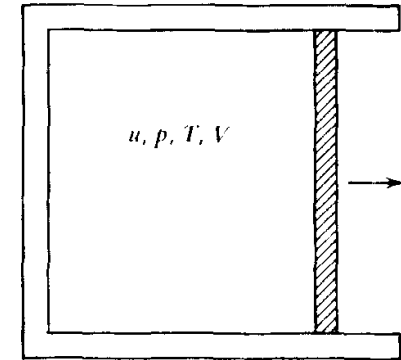
$$dS = \frac{dQ}{T}$$

- radiation field

$$U = uV, \quad p = \frac{u}{3}$$

$$\frac{1}{T} \frac{du}{dT} = -\frac{4}{3} \frac{u}{T^2} + \frac{4}{3T} \frac{du}{dT}$$

$$0 = -\frac{4}{3} \frac{u}{T^2} + \frac{1}{3T} \frac{du}{dT}$$



cavity that can be manipulated

U : total energy of cavity

Q : heat

p : pressure

V : volume

S : entropy

- thermodynamics

- first law of thermodynamics

$$dQ = dU + pdV$$

- second law of thermodynamics

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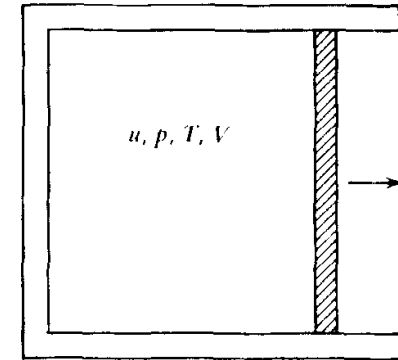
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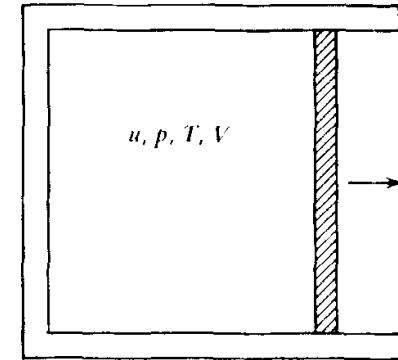
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■ thermodynamics

- first law of thermodynamics

$$dQ = dU + pdV$$

- second law of thermodynamics

$$dS = \frac{dQ}{T}$$

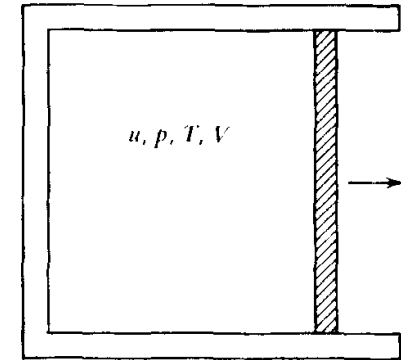
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- second law of thermodynamics

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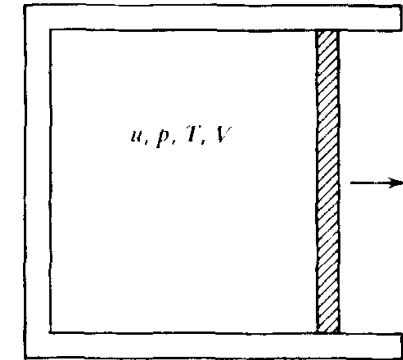
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Stefan-Boltzmann law

■ thermodynamics

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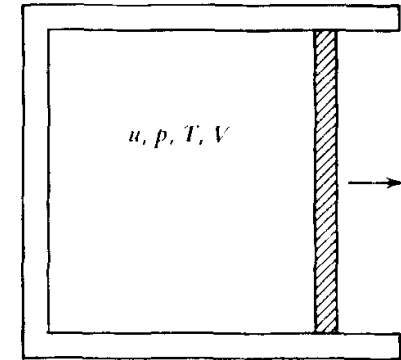
- second law of thermodynamics

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- Stefan-Boltzmann law

$$u(T) = a T^4$$

energy density



cavity that can be manipulated

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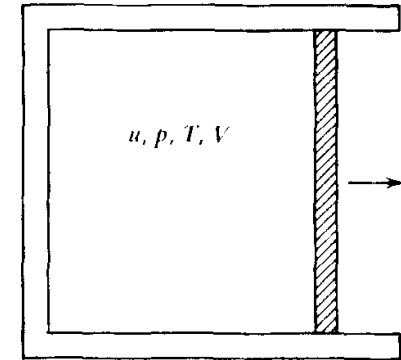
- Stefan-Boltzmann law

$$u(T) = a T^4$$

energy density

...relation to intensity*

$$u(T) = \int u_\nu d\nu = \iint \frac{I_\nu(T)}{c} d\Omega d\nu = \frac{4\pi}{c} \int I_\nu(T) d\nu$$



cavity that can be manipulated

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*see Fundamentals lecture...

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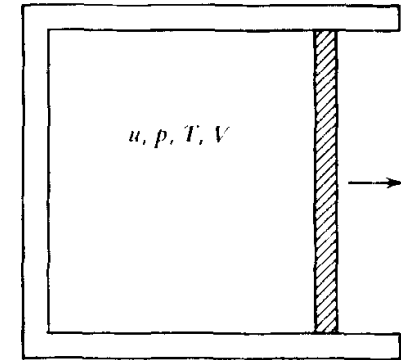
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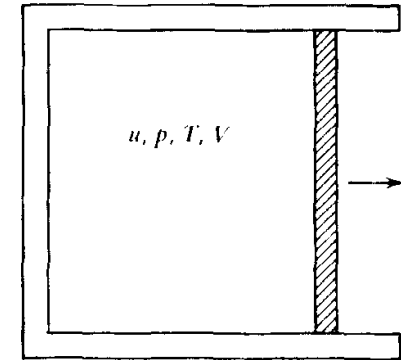
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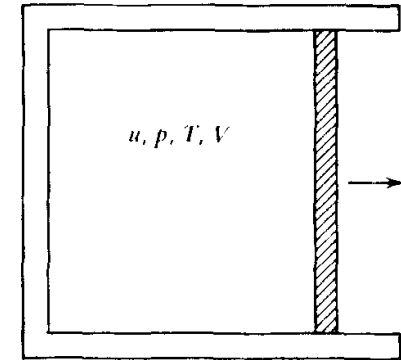
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$$aT^4 = \frac{4\pi}{c} \int B_\nu(T) d\nu \quad \rightarrow \quad B(T) = \int B_\nu(T) d\nu = \frac{ac}{4\pi} T^4$$



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- thermodynamics

- first law of thermodynamics

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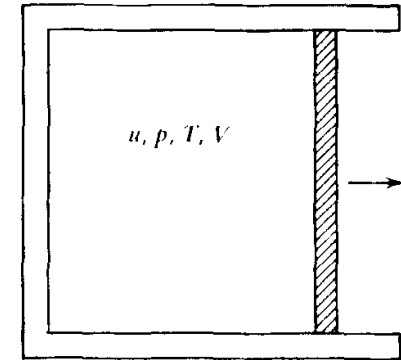
- second law of thermodynamics

$$dS = \frac{dQ}{T}$$

- Stefan-Boltzmann law

$$u(T) = a T^4 \quad \text{energy density}$$

$$B(T) = \frac{ac}{4\pi} T^4 \quad \text{integrated intensity}$$



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- first law of thermodynamics

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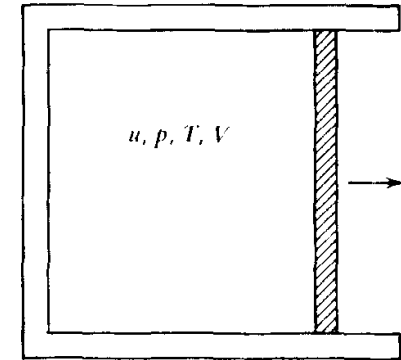
- second law of thermodynamics

$$dS = \frac{dQ}{T}$$

- Stefan-Boltzmann law

$$u(T) = \frac{4\pi}{c} B(T)$$

$u(T) = a T^4$ energy density
 $B(T) = \frac{ac}{4\pi} T^4$ integrated intensity



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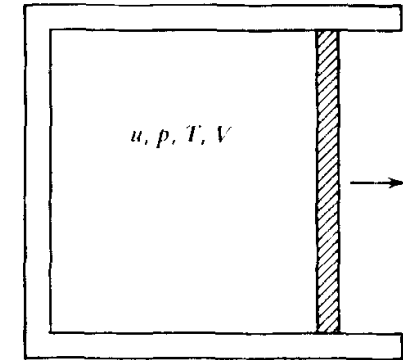
- Stefan-Boltzmann law

$$u(T) = a T^4 \quad \text{energy density}$$

$$B(T) = \frac{ac}{4\pi} T^4 \quad \text{integrated intensity}$$

...relation to flux*

$$\begin{aligned}
 F &= \int F_\nu d\nu = \iint I_\nu(\Omega) \cos\theta d\Omega d\nu = \iint B_\nu \cos\theta d\Omega d\nu \\
 &= \int B_\nu d\nu \int \cos\theta d\Omega = \int B_\nu d\nu \int_0^{2\pi} d\varphi \int_0^{\pi/2} \cos\theta \sin\theta d\theta = \pi \int B_\nu d\nu = \pi B(T)
 \end{aligned}$$



cavity that can be manipulated

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*see Fundamentals lecture...

■ thermodynamics

- first law of thermodynamics

$$dQ = dU + pdV$$

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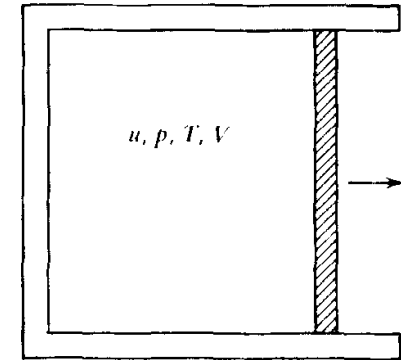
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$$F(T) = \frac{ac}{4} T^4 \quad \text{emergent flux}$$



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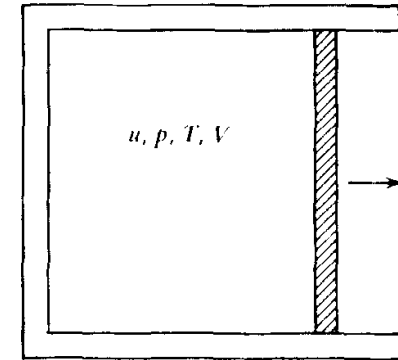
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$a?$



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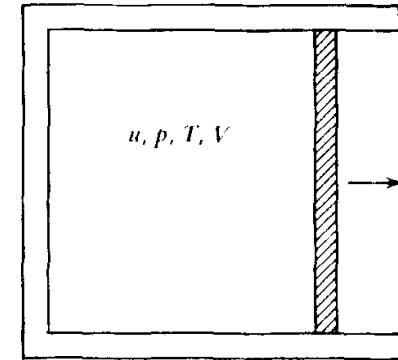
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$$a = \frac{4}{c} \sigma_B$$

σ_B : Stefan-Boltzman constant



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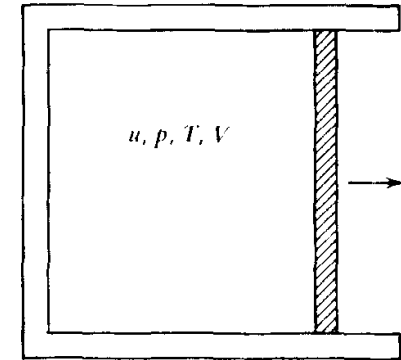
$$dS = \frac{dQ}{T}$$

- Stefan-Boltzmann law

$$u(T) = \frac{4}{c} \sigma_B T^4 \quad \text{energy density}$$

$$B(T) = \frac{1}{\pi} \sigma_B T^4 \quad \text{integrated intensity}$$

$$F(T) = \sigma_B T^4 \quad \text{emergent flux } \left(\sigma_B = \frac{2\pi^5 k_B^4}{15c^2 h^3} : \text{Stefan-Boltzman constant} \right)$$



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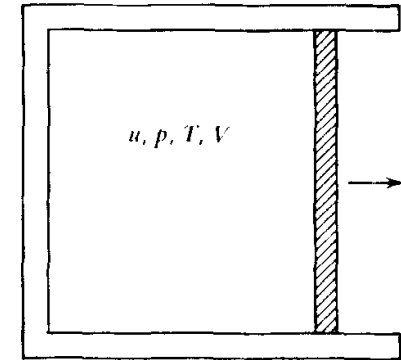
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this factor – and its relation to a – will be derived later...



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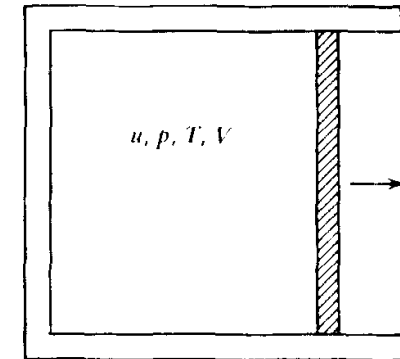
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$$S(T) = \frac{16}{3c} \sigma_B T^3 V \quad \text{entropy (exercise)}$$



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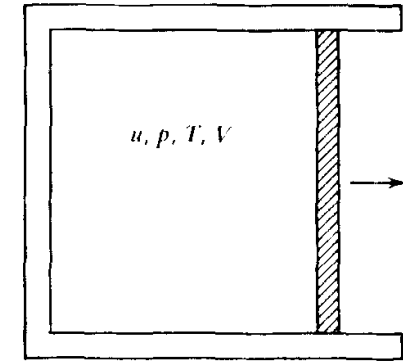
$$u(T) = \frac{4}{c} \sigma_B T^4 \quad \text{energy density}$$

dependency on wave-length?

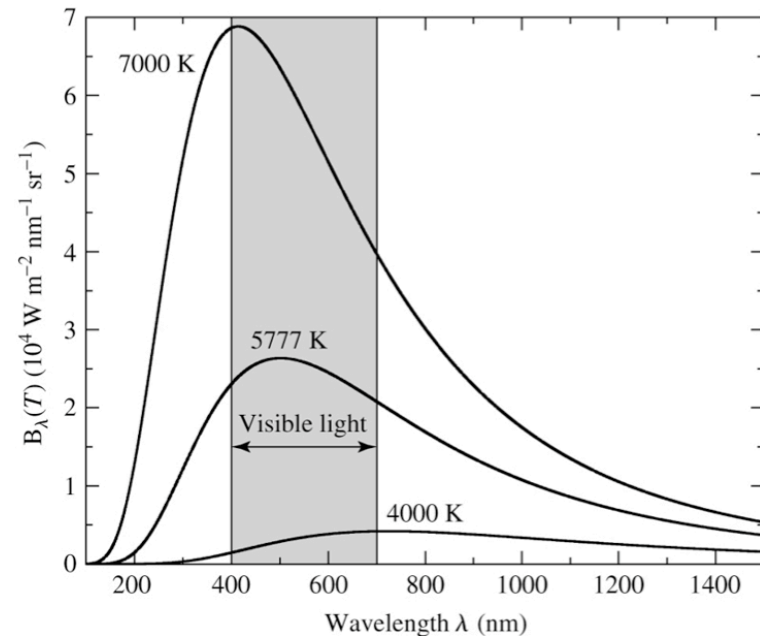
$$B_\nu(T) ? \quad B(T) = \frac{1}{\pi} \sigma_B T^4 \quad \text{integrated intensity}$$

$$F(T) = \sigma_B T^4 \quad \text{emergent flux } (\sigma_B)$$

$$S(T) = \frac{16}{3c} \sigma_B T^3 V \quad \text{entropy (exercise)}$$



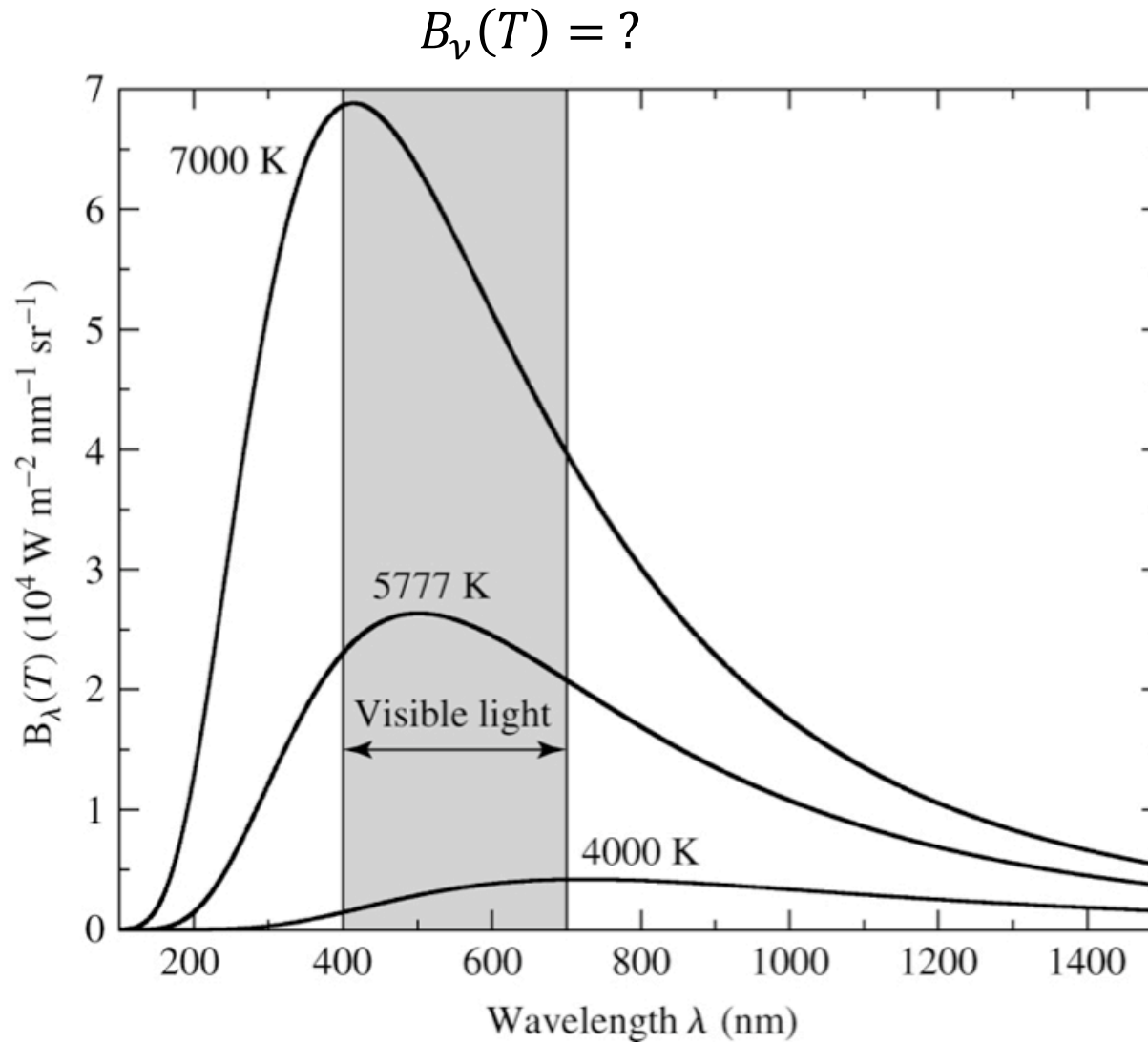
cavity that can be manipulated



- black-body radiation
- thermodynamics of black-body radiation
- **Planck spectrum**
- local thermal equilibrium

- black-body radiation
- thermodynamics of black-body radiation
- **Planck spectrum:**
 - derivation
 - properties
- local thermal equilibrium

- black-body radiation
- thermodynamics of black-body radiation
- **Planck spectrum:**
 - **derivation**
 - properties
- local thermal equilibrium



$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{c}{4\pi} u_\nu(T)$$

$$u_\nu(T) d\nu = ?$$

$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{c}{4\pi} u_\nu(T)$$

$$u_\nu(T) d\nu = \frac{dN(\nu)}{dV} \langle E \rangle$$

$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{c}{4\pi} u_\nu(T)$$

$$u_\nu(T) d\nu = \frac{dN(\nu)}{dV} \langle E \rangle$$

number density of possible photon states

average energy per state

$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{c}{4\pi} u_\nu(T)$$

$$u_\nu(T) d\nu = \frac{dN(\nu)}{dV} \langle E \rangle$$

number density of possible photon states

average energy per state:

- quantum mechanics → Planck spectrum
- classical thermodynamics → Rayleigh-Jeans law

$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{c}{4\pi} u_\nu(T)$$

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number density of possible photon states

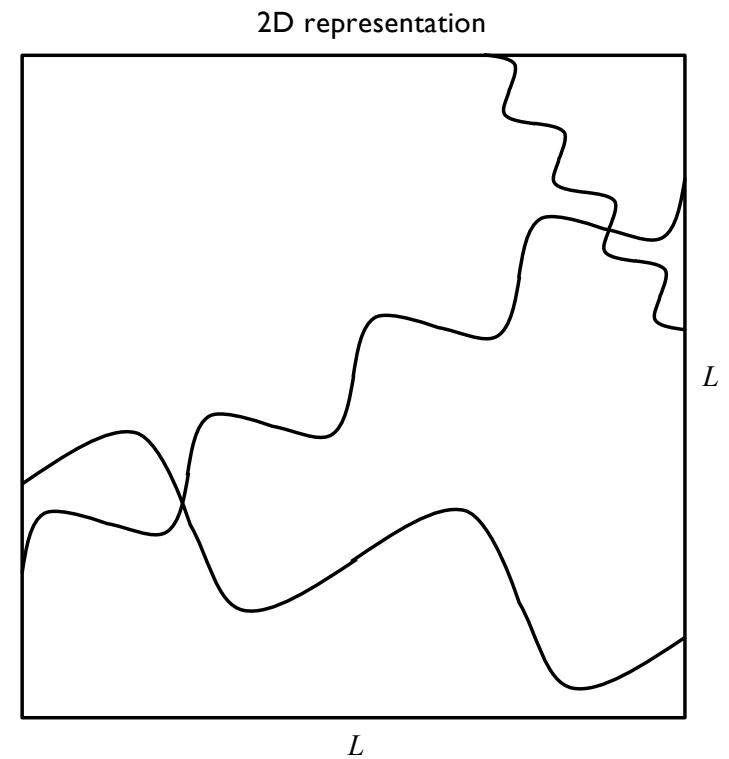
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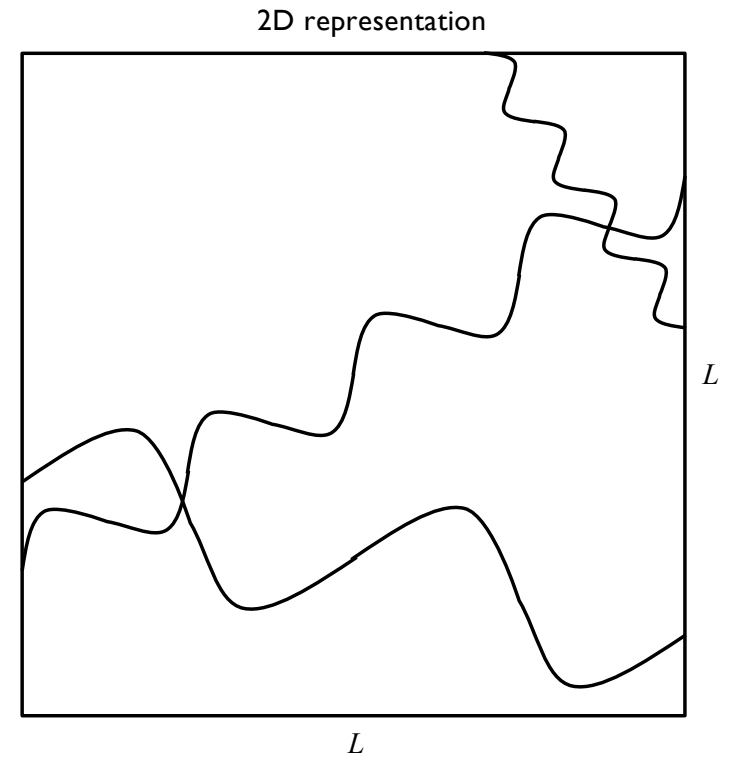
- number density of possible photon states

$$\frac{dN(\nu)}{dV} = ?$$

- number density of possible photon states



- number density of possible photon states
 - standing wave

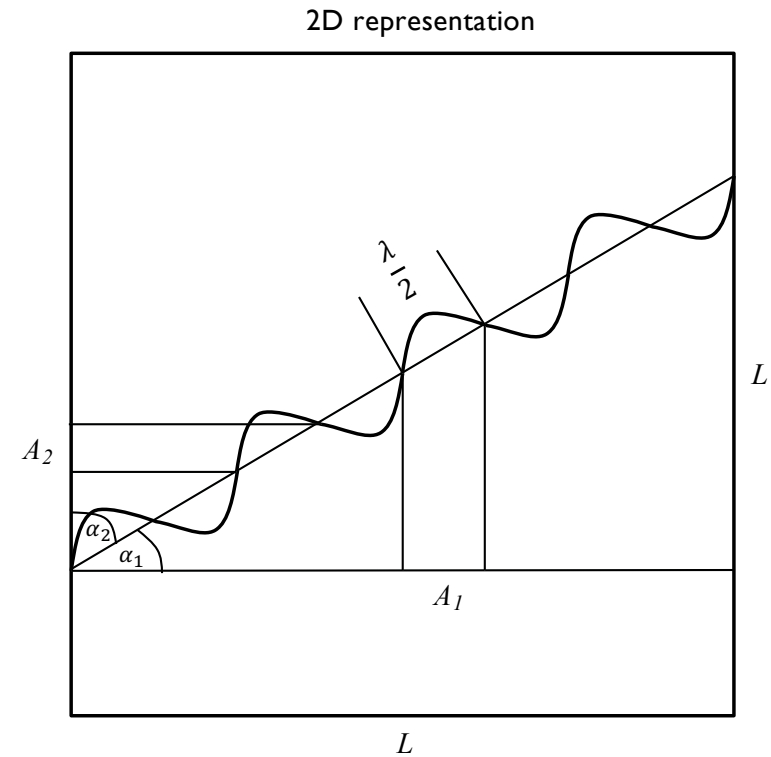


- number density of possible photon states
 - standing wave

$$n_i A_i = L$$

$$n_i \in \mathbb{N}, i = 1, 2, 3$$

$$\frac{\lambda/2}{A_i} = \cos(\alpha_i)$$



■ number density of possible photon states

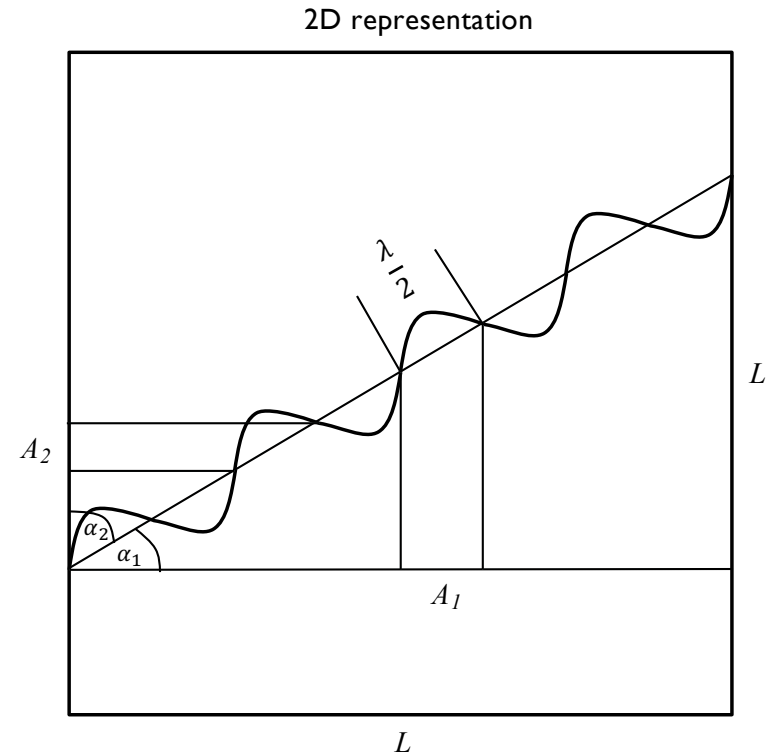
- standing wave

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$$\frac{\lambda/2}{A_i} = \cos(\alpha_i)$$

- direction cosine (3D)

$$1 = \cos^2(\alpha_1) + \cos^2(\alpha_2) + \cos^2(\alpha_3)$$

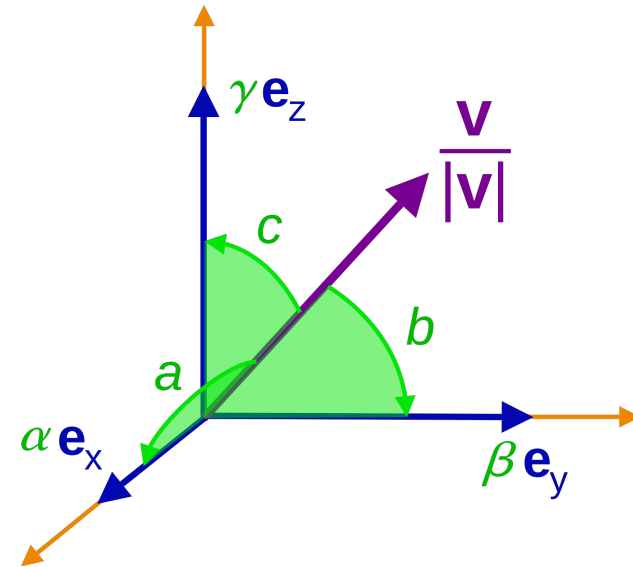


▪ direction cosine

$$\cos(a) = \frac{\vec{v} \cdot \vec{e}_x}{|\vec{v}|}$$

$$\cos(b) = \frac{\vec{v} \cdot \vec{e}_y}{|\vec{v}|}$$

$$\cos(c) = \frac{\vec{v} \cdot \vec{e}_z}{|\vec{v}|}$$



$$\rightarrow 1 = \left(\frac{\vec{v} \cdot \vec{e}_x}{|\vec{v}|}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\vec{v} \cdot \vec{e}_y}{|\vec{v}|}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\vec{v} \cdot \vec{e}_z}{|\vec{v}|}\right)^2 = \cos^2(a) + \cos^2(b) + \cos^2(c)$$

■ number density of possible photon states

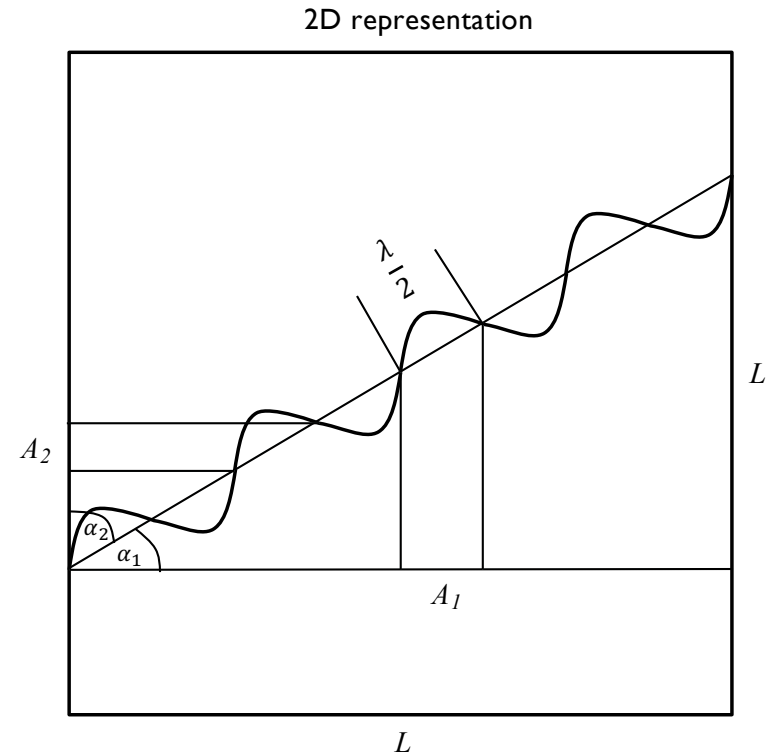
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- direction cosine (3D)

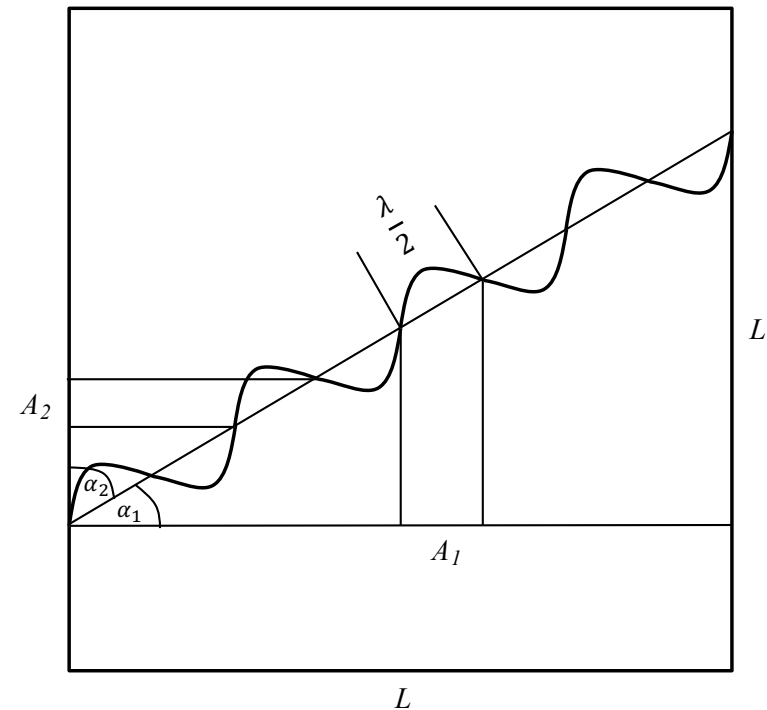
$$1 = \cos^2(\alpha_1) + \cos^2(\alpha_2) + \cos^2(\alpha_3)$$

- 'sphere' condition for standing wave

$$\left(\frac{2L}{\lambda}\right)^2 = n_1^2 + n_2^2 + n_3^2$$

$$1 = \frac{\lambda^2}{4A_1} + \frac{\lambda^2}{4A_2} + \frac{\lambda^2}{4A_2} = \left(\frac{\lambda}{2}\right)^2 \left(\left(\frac{n_1}{L}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{n_2}{L}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{n_3}{L}\right)^2 \right) = \left(\frac{\lambda}{2L}\right)^2 (n_1^2 + n_2^2 + n_3^2)$$

2D representation



▪ number density of possible photon states

- standing wave

$$n_i A_i = L \quad n_i \in \mathbb{N}, i = 1, 2, 3$$

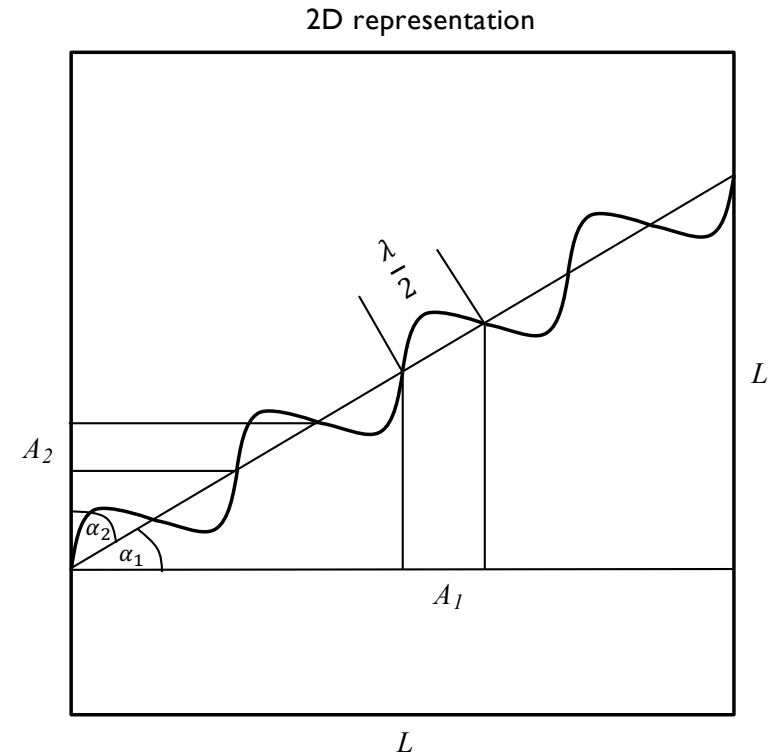
$$\frac{\lambda/2}{A_i} = \cos(\alpha_i)$$

- direction cosine (3D)

$$1 = \cos^2(\alpha_1) + \cos^2(\alpha_2) + \cos^2(\alpha_3)$$

- 'sphere' condition for standing wave

$$\left(\frac{2L}{\lambda}\right)^2 = n_1^2 + n_2^2 + n_3^2 \quad \text{describes a sphere w/ radius } \frac{2L}{\lambda}$$



▪ number density of possible photon states

- standing wave

$$n_i A_i = L \quad n_i \in \mathbb{N}, i = 1, 2, 3$$

$$\frac{\lambda/2}{A_i} = \cos(\alpha_i)$$

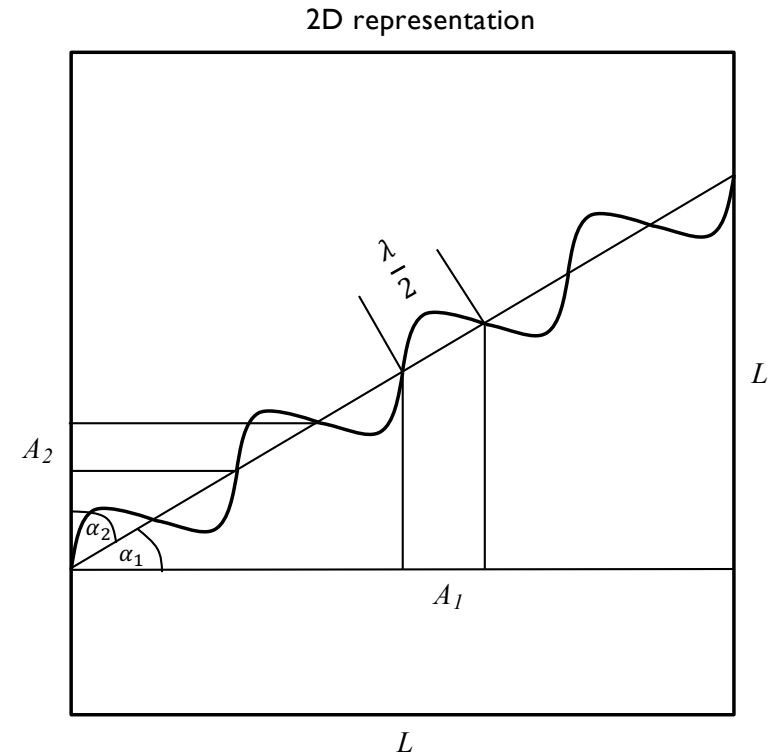
- direction cosine (3D)

$$1 = \cos^2(\alpha_1) + \cos^2(\alpha_2) + \cos^2(\alpha_3)$$

- 'sphere' condition for standing wave

$$\left(\frac{2L}{\lambda}\right)^2 = n_1^2 + n_2^2 + n_3^2 \quad \text{describes a sphere w/ radius } \frac{2L}{\lambda}$$

how many standing waves fit into octant $n_i > 0$?



▪ number density of possible photon states

- standing wave

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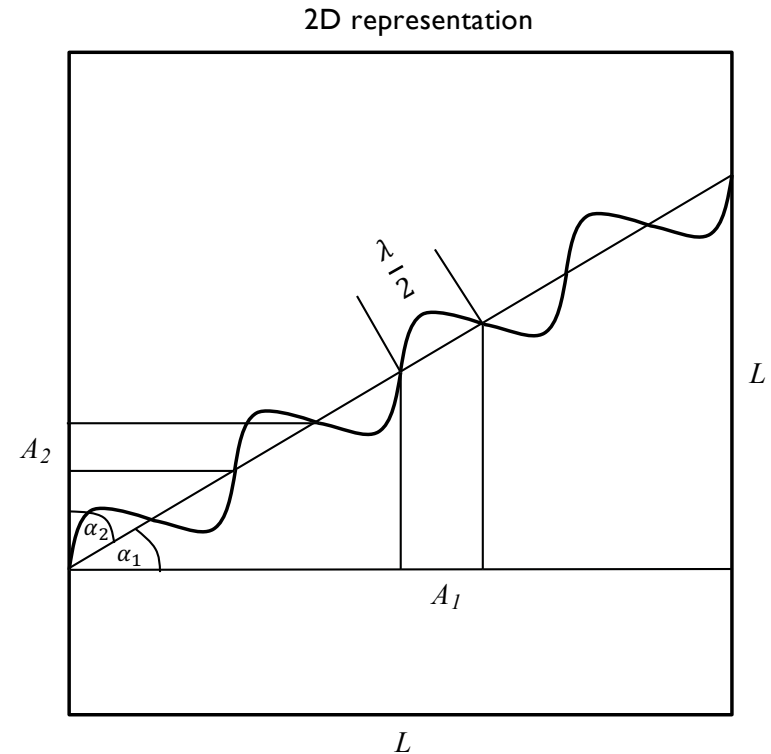
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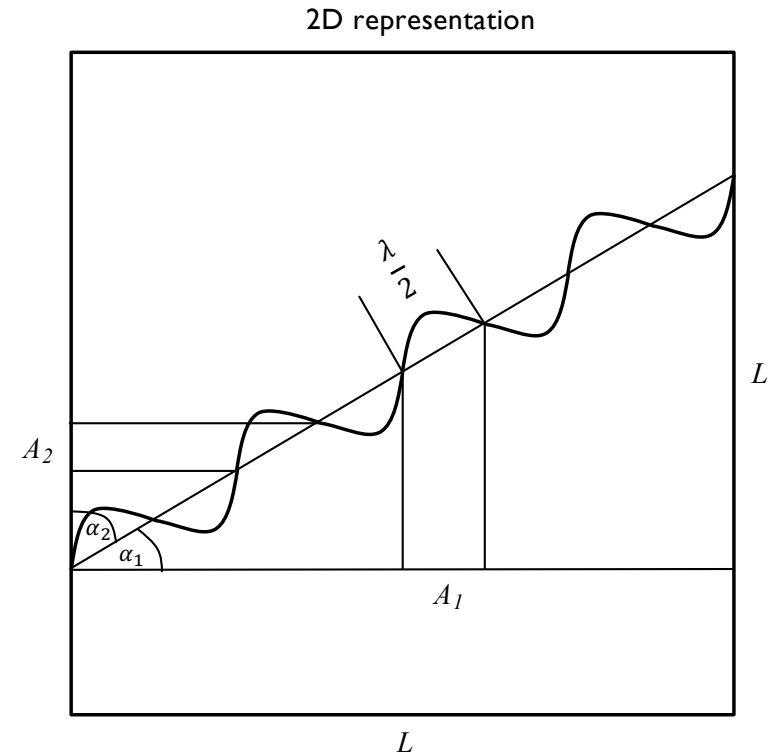
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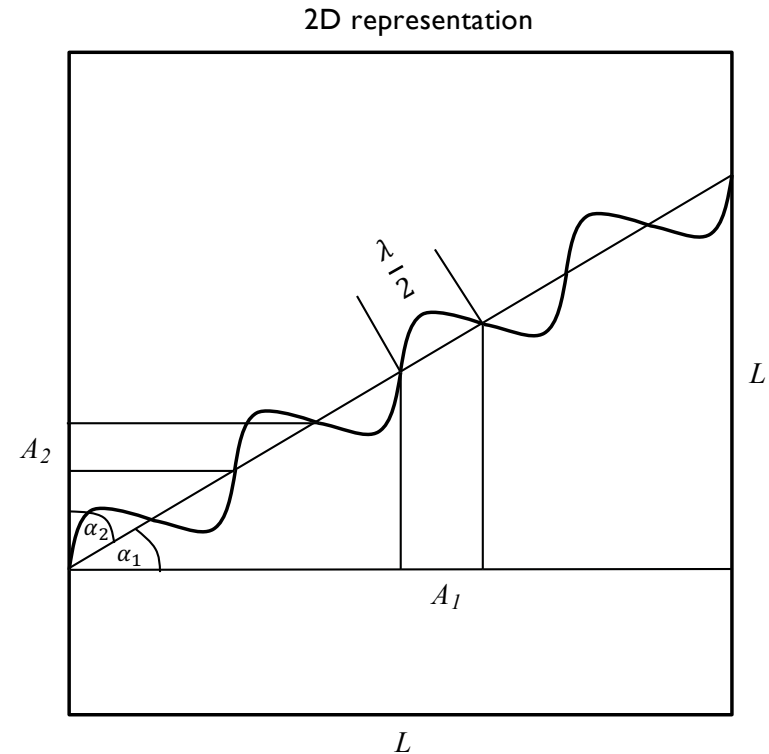
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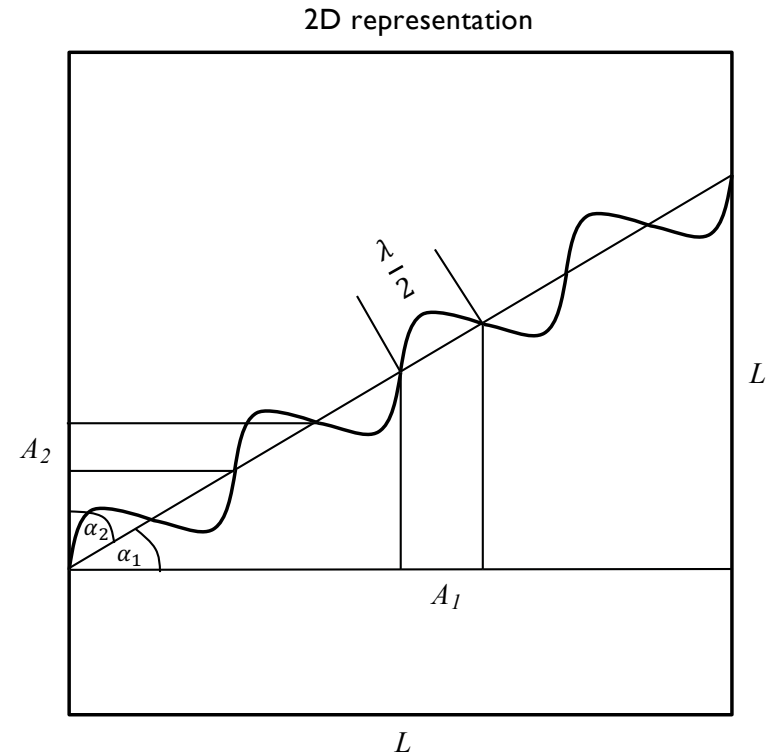
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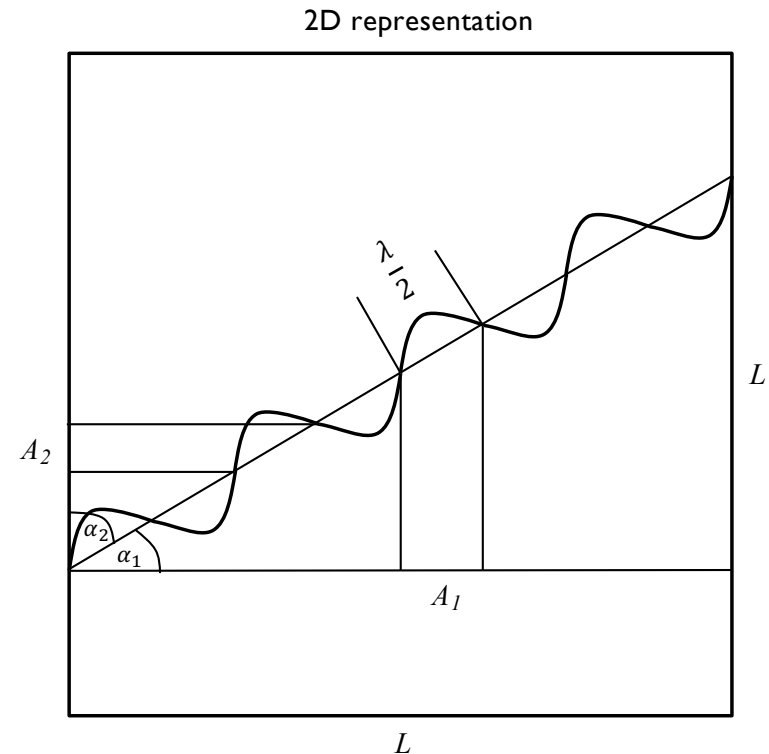
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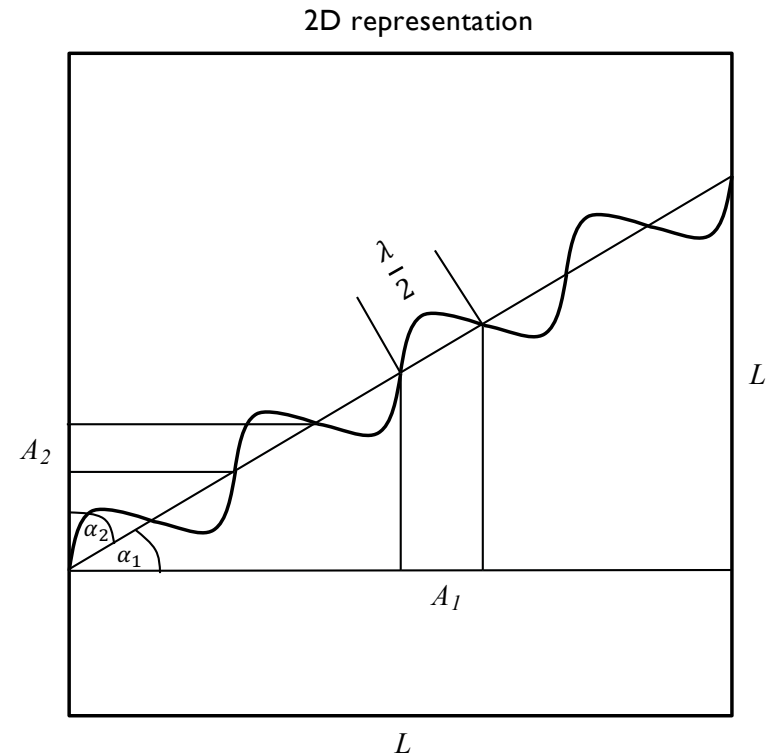
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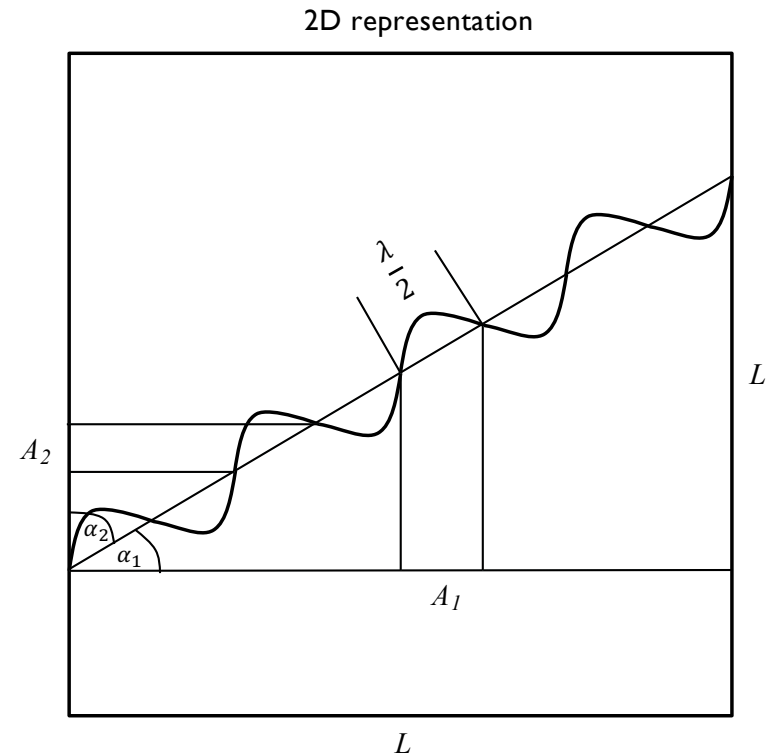
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$$? \quad \frac{dN(\nu)}{dV} = \frac{4\pi}{c^3} \nu^2 d\nu \quad ? \quad 2 \text{ polarisations!}$$

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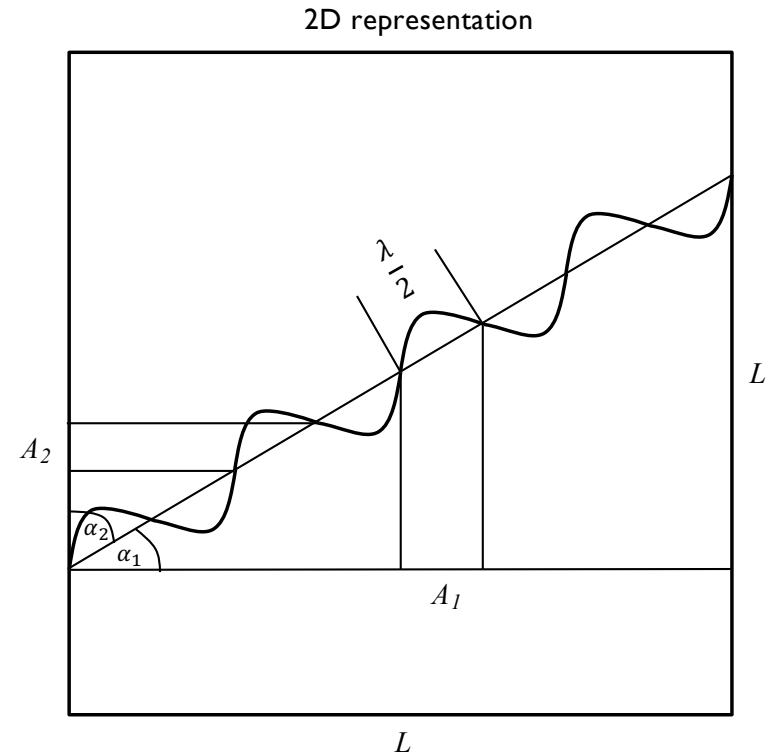
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$$\frac{dN(\nu)}{dV} = 2 \frac{4\pi}{c^3} \nu^2 d\nu$$

$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{c}{4\pi} u_\nu(T)$$

$$u_\nu(T) d\nu = \frac{dN(\nu)}{dV} \langle E \rangle$$

number density of possible photon states:

$$\frac{dN(\nu)}{dV} = \frac{8\pi}{c^3} \nu^2 d\nu$$

average energy per state:

- quantum mechanics → Planck spectrum
- classical thermodynamics → Rayleigh-Jeans law

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quantum mechanical approach!

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$$p(E_n) \propto e^{-\frac{E_n}{k_B T}}$$

*this is not the number density of photons

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$$\beta = (k_B T)^{-1}$$

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$$= \frac{h\nu e^{-\beta h\nu}}{1 - e^{-\beta h\nu}} = \frac{h\nu}{e^{\beta h\nu} - 1} = \frac{h\nu}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1}$$

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▪ **number density of possible photon states**

$$\frac{dN(\nu)}{dV} = \frac{8\pi}{c^3} \nu^2 d\nu$$

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- Planck spectrum

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classical thermodynamics?

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classical thermodynamics → Rayleigh-Jeans law

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classical thermodynamics \rightarrow Rayleigh-Jeans law

$$\langle E \rangle = k_B T \quad (\text{classical thermodynamics})$$

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$$u(T) = \int u_\nu(T) d\nu = \frac{8\pi}{c^3} k_B T \int \nu^2 d\nu = \infty \quad \text{'ultraviolet catastrophe'}$$

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classical thermodynamics → Rayleigh-Jeans law

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$$u(T) = \frac{4}{c} \sigma_B T^4 \quad \text{finite energy density}$$

- Planck spectrum

$$u_\nu(T) = \frac{8\pi}{c^3} \frac{h \nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1}$$

$$B_\nu(T) = ?$$

▪ Planck spectrum

$$u_\nu(T) = \frac{4\pi}{c} B_\nu(T)$$
$$u_\nu(T) = \frac{8\pi}{c^3} \frac{h \nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1}$$
$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{2}{c^2} \frac{h \nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1}$$

▪ Planck spectrum

- energy density:
$$u_\nu(T) = \frac{8\pi}{c^3} \frac{h \nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1}$$

- intensity:
$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{2}{c^2} \frac{h \nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1}$$

- black-body radiation
- thermodynamics of black-body radiation
- **Planck spectrum:**
 - derivation
 - **properties**
- local thermal equilibrium

- properties

▪ properties

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$$B_\lambda(T) = 2c^2 \frac{h/\lambda^5}{e^{\frac{hc}{\lambda k_B T}} - 1}$$

▪ properties

$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{2}{c^2} \frac{h \nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1} \quad \leftrightarrow \quad B_\lambda(T) = 2c^2 \frac{h/\lambda^5}{e^{\frac{hc}{\lambda k_B T}} - 1}$$

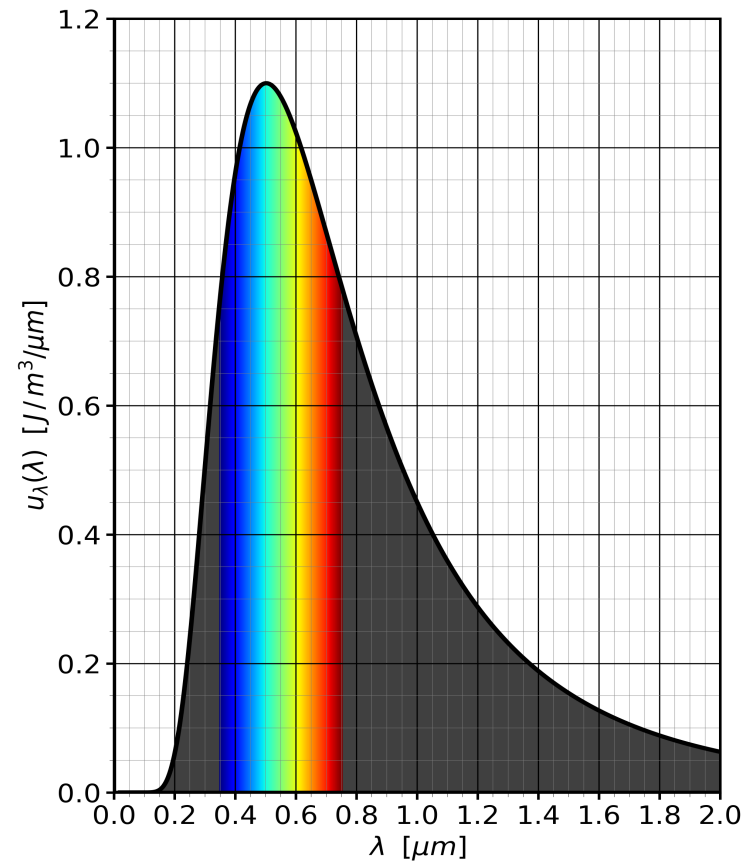
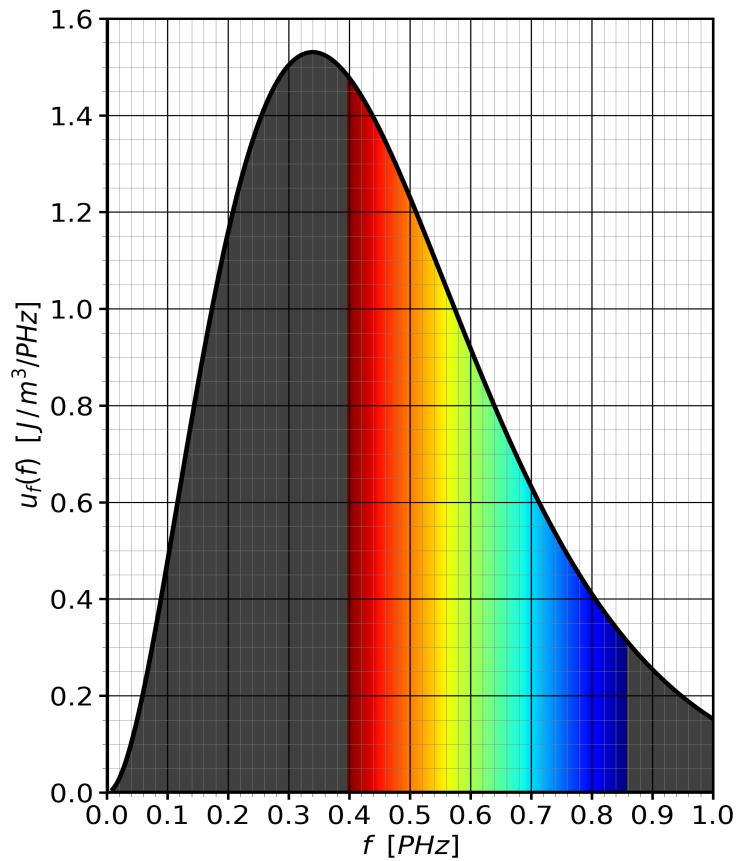
(exercise)

■ properties

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- fixed temperature T

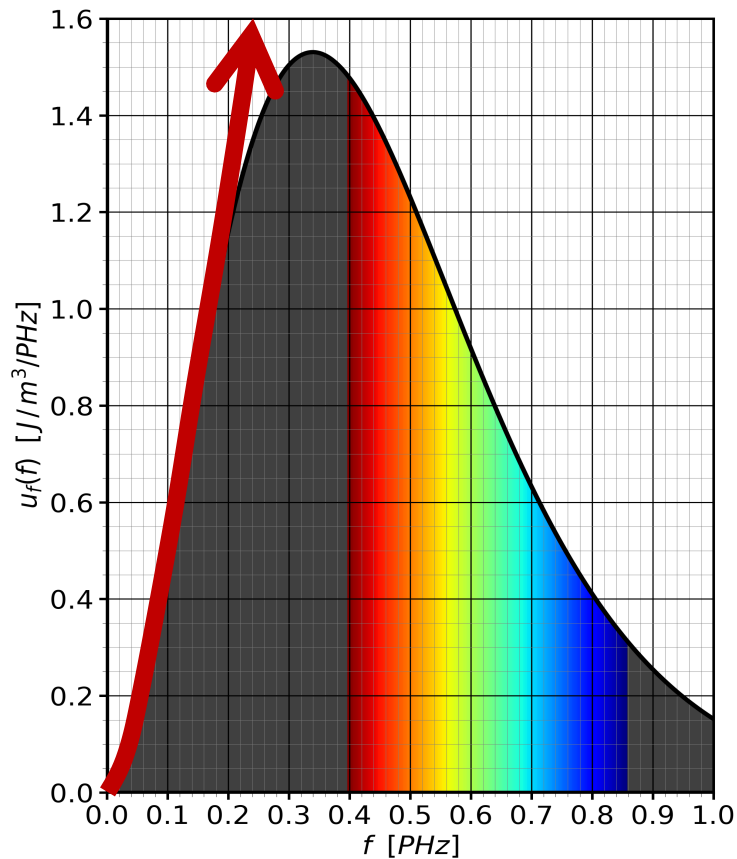


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- fixed temperature T



$h\nu \ll k_B T$: *Rayleigh-Jeans law*

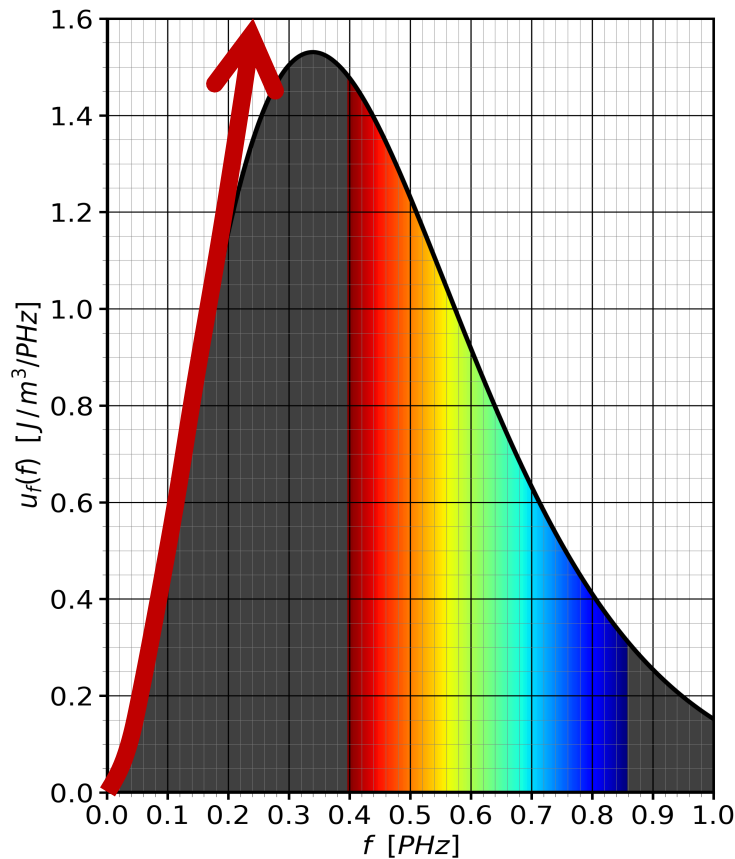
$$e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1 \approx \frac{h\nu}{k_B T} \quad \rightarrow \quad B_\nu(T) = \frac{2}{c^2} \nu^2 k_B T$$

▪ properties

$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{2}{c^2} \frac{h \nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1}$$

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- fixed temperature T



$h\nu \ll k_B T$: *Rayleigh-Jeans law*

$$e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1 \approx \frac{h\nu}{k_B T} \quad \rightarrow \quad B_\nu(T) = \frac{2}{c^2} \nu^2 k_B T$$

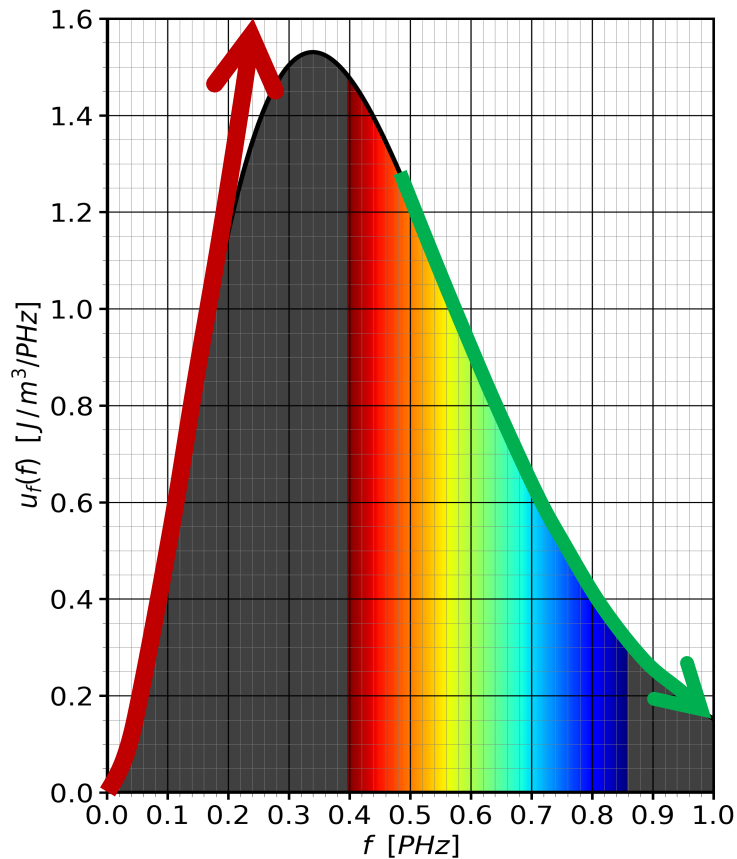
- previously derived using classical thermodynamics $\langle E \rangle = k_B T$
- no Planck constant involved

■ properties

$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{2}{c^2} \frac{h \nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1}$$

$$B_\lambda(T) = 2c^2 \frac{h/\lambda^5}{e^{\frac{hc}{\lambda k_B T}} - 1}$$

- fixed temperature T



$h\nu \ll k_B T$: **Rayleigh-Jeans law**

$$e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1 \approx \frac{h\nu}{k_B T} \quad \rightarrow \quad B_\nu(T) = \frac{2}{c^2} \nu^2 k_B T$$

- previously derived using classical thermodynamics $\langle E \rangle = k_B T$
- no Planck constant involved

$h\nu \gg k_B T$: **Wien law**

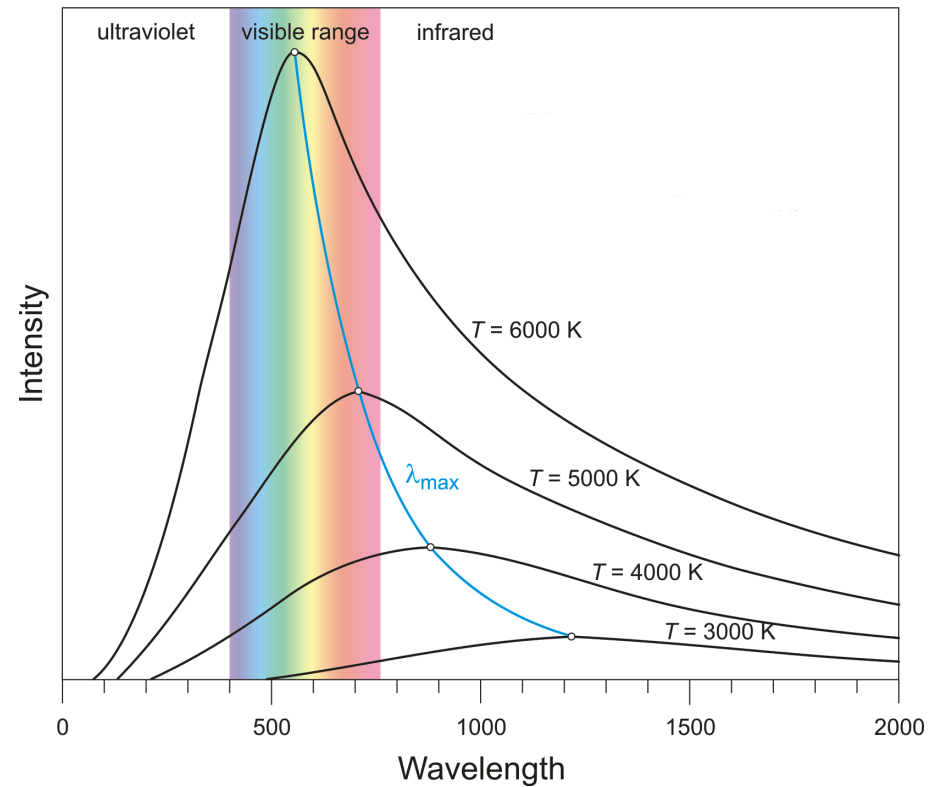
$$e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1 \approx e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} \quad \rightarrow \quad B_\nu(T) = \frac{2}{c^2} h \nu^3 e^{-\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}}$$

■ properties

$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{2}{c^2} \frac{h \nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1}$$

$$B_\lambda(T) = 2c^2 \frac{h/\lambda^5}{e^{\frac{hc}{\lambda k_B T}} - 1}$$

- varying temperature T



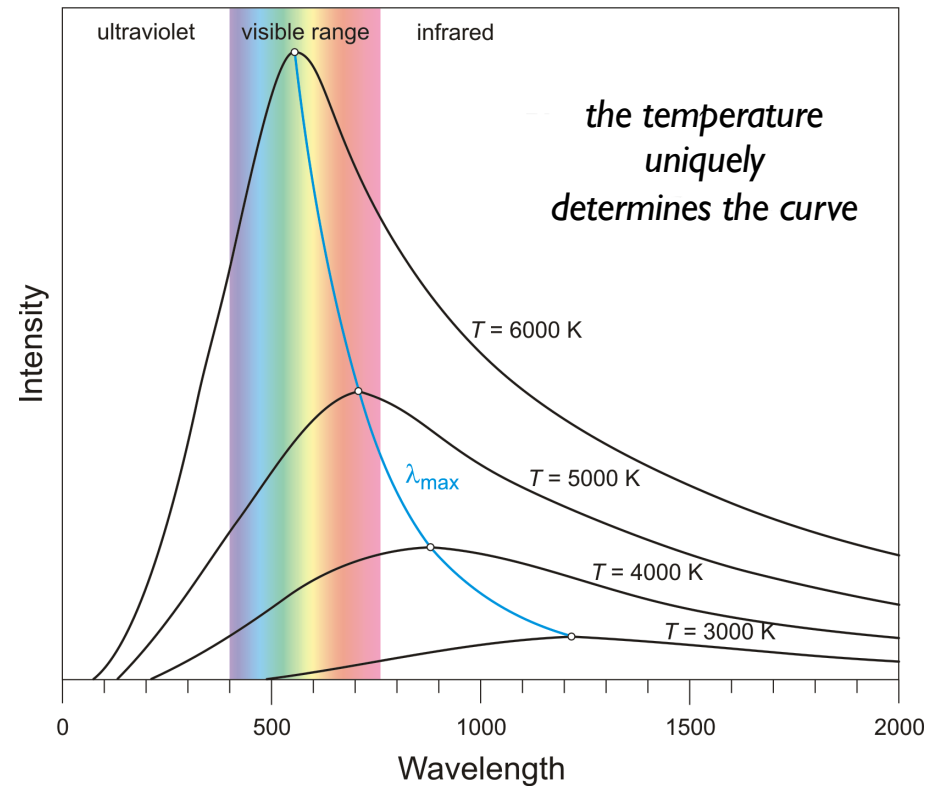
■ properties

$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{2}{c^2} \frac{h \nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1}$$

$$B_\lambda(T) = 2c^2 \frac{h/\lambda^5}{e^{\frac{hc}{\lambda k_B T}} - 1}$$

- varying temperature T :

- curves never cross



■ properties

$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{2}{c^2} \frac{h \nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1}$$

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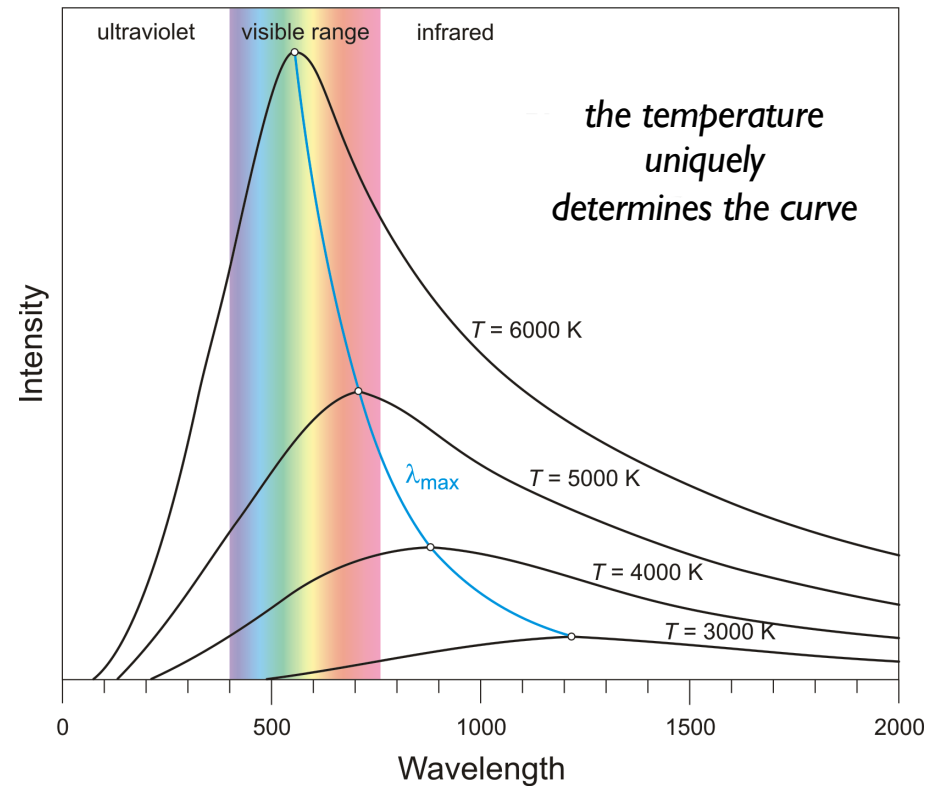
• varying temperature T :

- curves never cross
- maximum shifts with T

$$\lambda_{max} T = 0.290 \text{ cm K}$$

$$h\nu_{max} = 2.82 k_B T$$

Wien's displacement law



■ properties

$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{2}{c^2} \frac{h \nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1}$$

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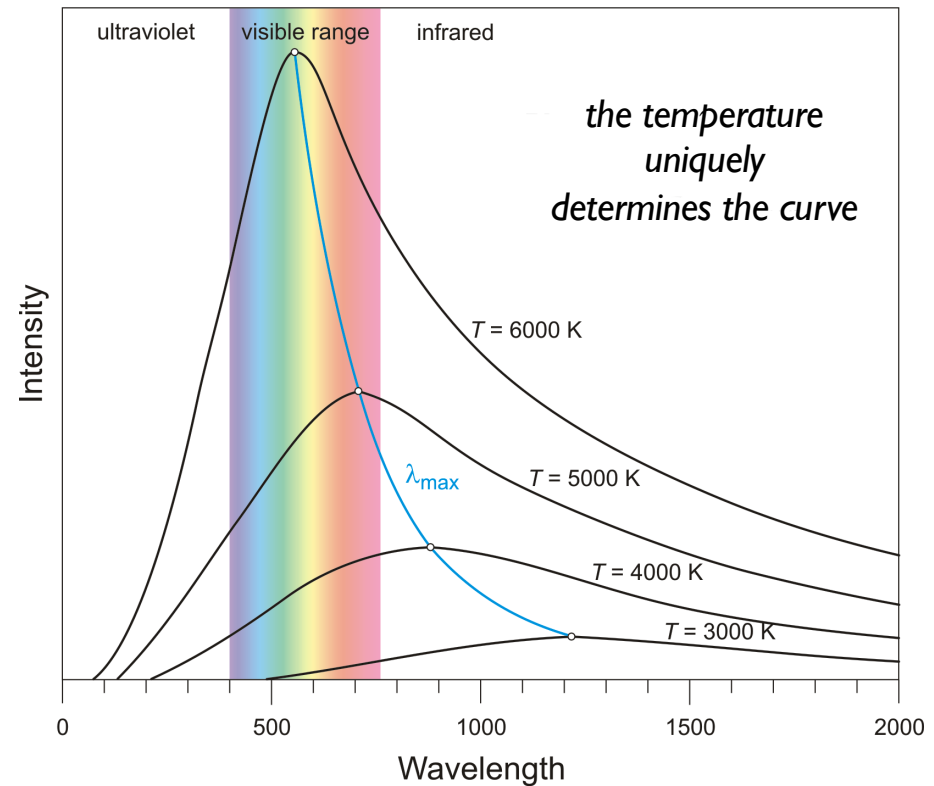
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$\lambda \gg \lambda_{max}$: Rayleigh-Jeans law

$\lambda \ll \lambda_{max}$: Wien law

■ properties

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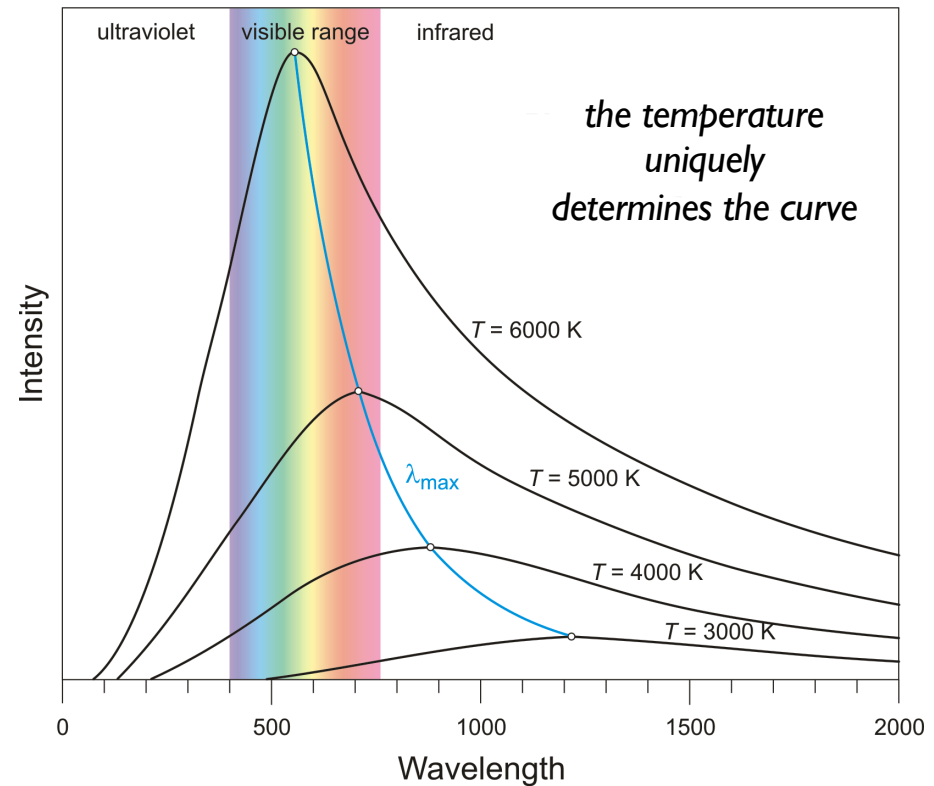
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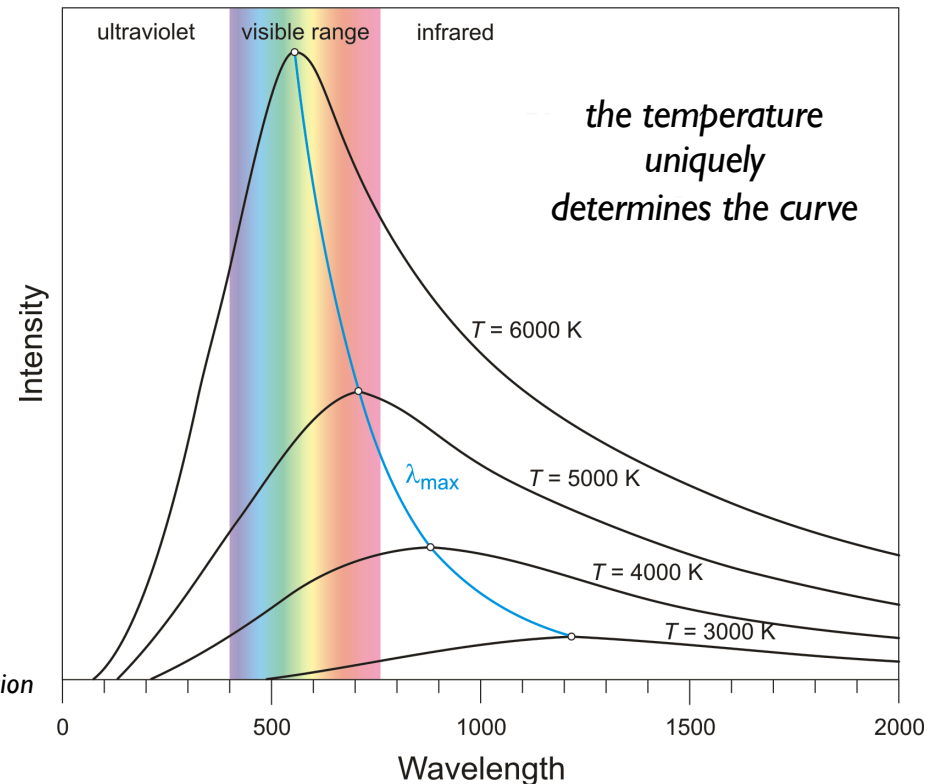
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$$h\nu_{max} = 2.82 k_B T$$

- intensity increases with T

$$B(T) = \int B_\nu(T) d\nu = \frac{ac}{4\pi} T^4$$

result from thermodynamics of black-body radiation



$\lambda \gg \lambda_{max}$: Rayleigh-Jeans law

$\lambda \ll \lambda_{max}$: Wien law

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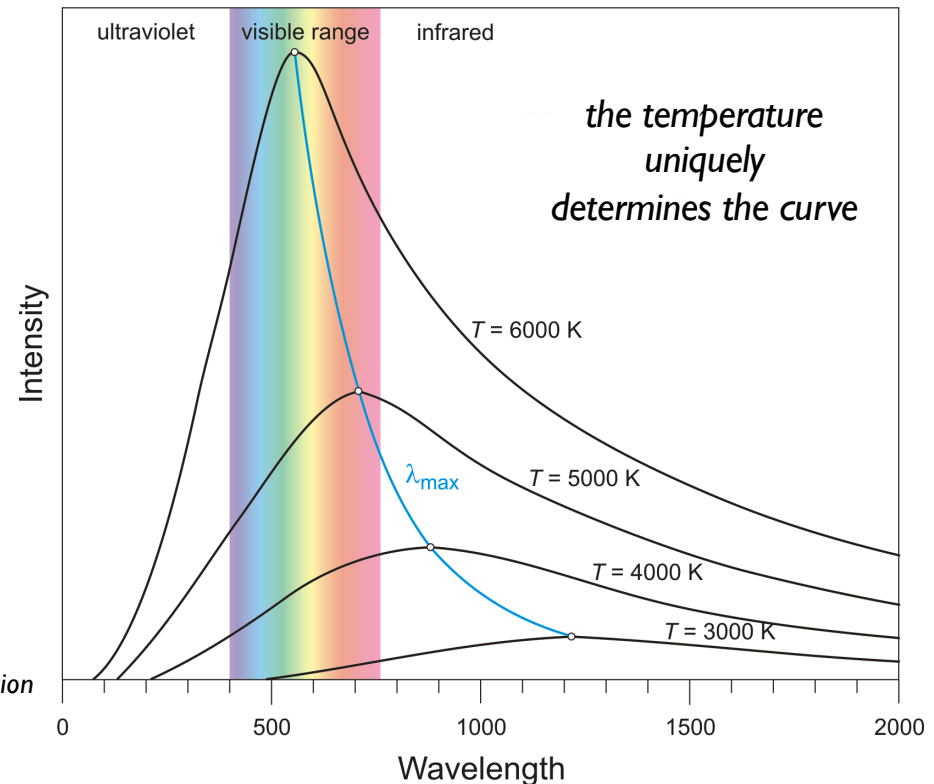
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result from thermodynamics of black-body radiation
(let's hope that $\int B_\nu(T) d\nu$ will also give T^4)



$\lambda \gg \lambda_{max}$: Rayleigh-Jeans law

$\lambda \ll \lambda_{max}$: Wien law

■ properties

$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{2}{c^2} \frac{h \nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1}$$

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• varying temperature T :

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- maximum shifts with T

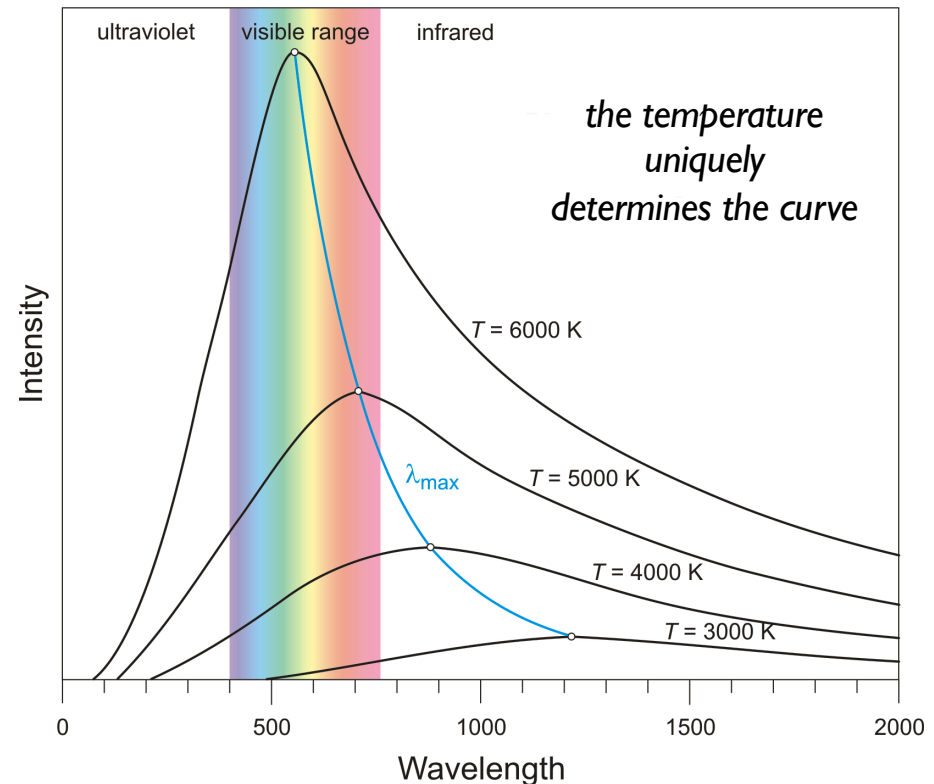
$$\lambda_{max} T = 0.290 \text{ cm K}$$

Wien's displacement law

$$h\nu_{max} = 2.82 k_B T$$

- intensity increases with T ?

$$B(T) = \int B_\nu(T) d\nu = \frac{a}{4\pi} T^4$$



$\lambda \gg \lambda_{max}$: Rayleigh-Jeans law

$\lambda \ll \lambda_{max}$: Wien law

properties

$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{2}{c^2} \frac{h \nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1}$$

$$B_\lambda(T) = 2c^2 \frac{h/\lambda^5}{e^{\frac{hc}{\lambda k_B T}} - 1}$$

• varying temperature T :

let's integrate...

○ curves never cross

○ maximum shifts with T

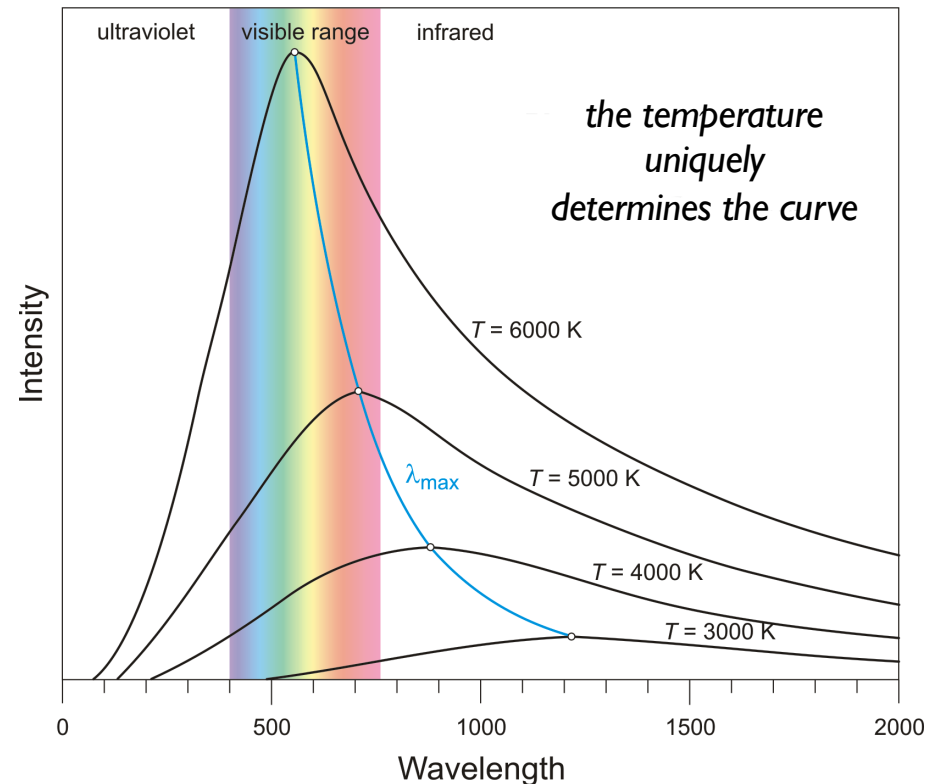
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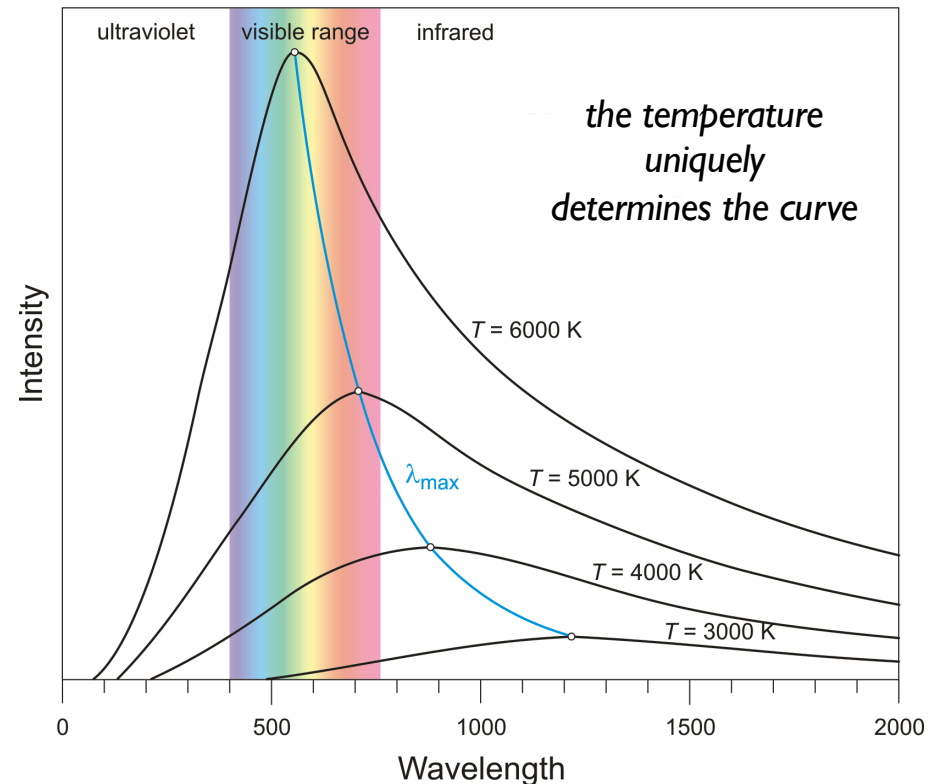
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$$h\nu_{max} = 2.82 k_B T$$

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$$B(T) = \int B_\nu(T) d\nu = \frac{ac}{4\pi} T^4$$

$$\frac{ac}{4\pi} T^4 = \int \frac{2}{c^2} \frac{h \nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1} d\nu$$



$\lambda \gg \lambda_{max}$: Rayleigh-Jeans law

$\lambda \ll \lambda_{max}$: Wien law

▪ properties $B_\nu(T) = \frac{2}{c^2} \frac{h \nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1}$

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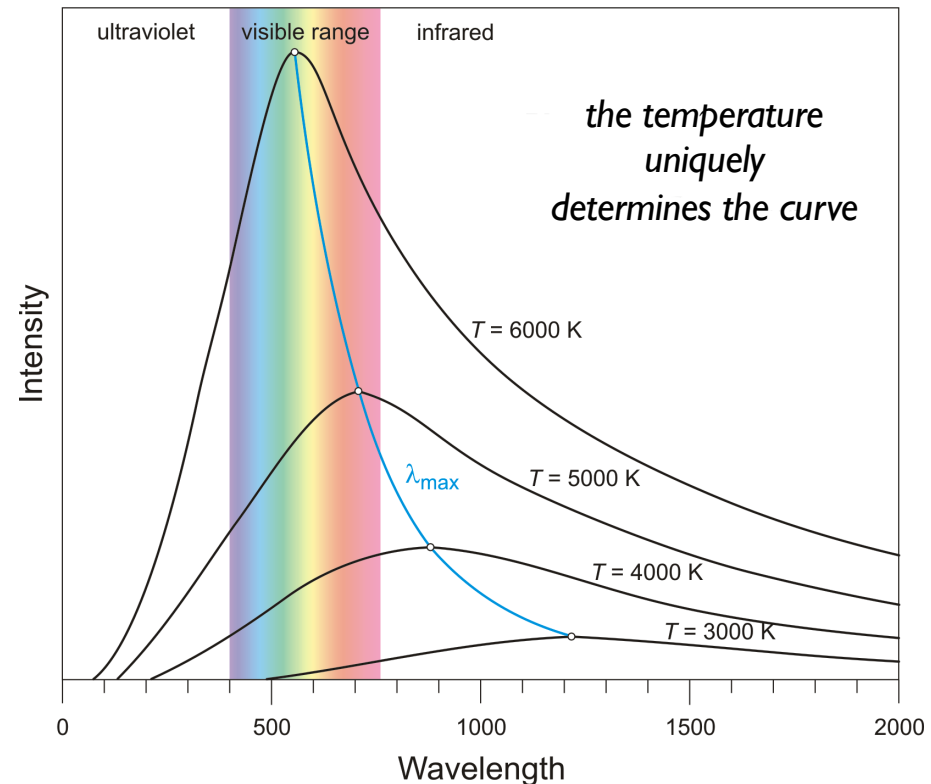
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$$B(T) = \int B_\nu(T) d\nu = \frac{ac}{4\pi} T^4$$

$$\frac{ac}{4\pi} T^4 = \int \frac{2}{c^2} \frac{h \nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1} d\nu$$

$$= \frac{2h}{c^2} \int \frac{\nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1} d\nu$$

$$= \frac{2\pi^4 k_B^4 T^4}{15c^2 h^3}$$



$\lambda \gg \lambda_{max}$: Rayleigh-Jeans law

$\lambda \ll \lambda_{max}$: Wien law

▪ properties $B_\nu(T) = \frac{2}{c^2} \frac{h \nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1}$

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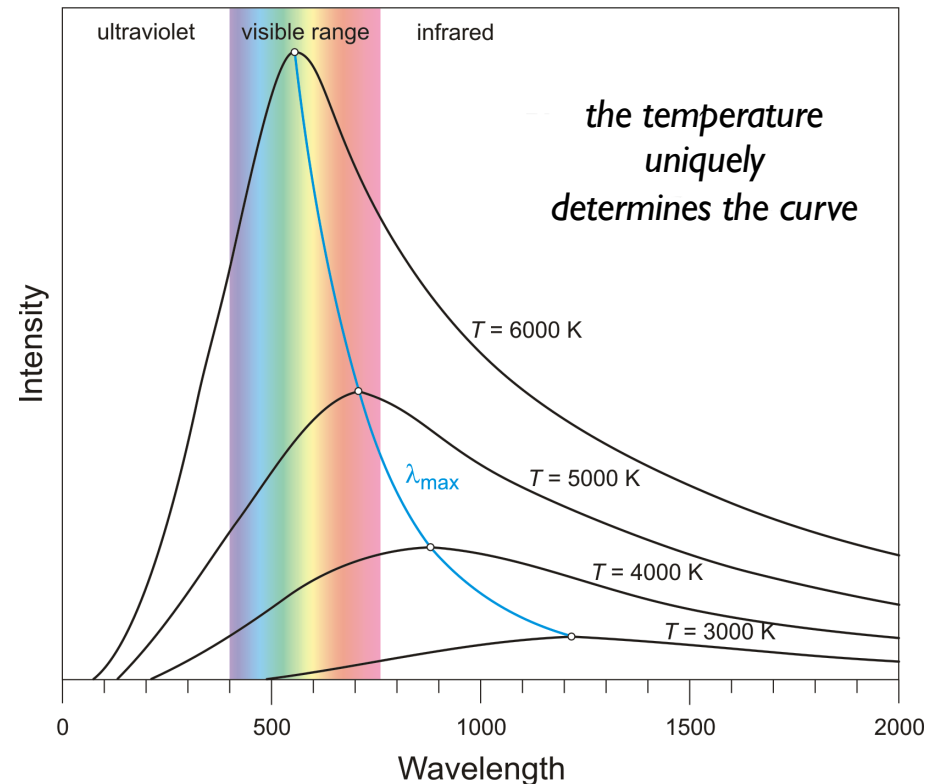
Wien's displacement law

$$h\nu_{max} = 2.82 k_B T$$

- intensity increases with T

$$B(T) = \int B_\nu(T) d\nu = \frac{ac}{4\pi} T^4$$

$$a = \frac{8\pi^5 k_B^4}{15c^3 h^3} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{ac}{4\pi} T^4 = \int \frac{2}{c^2} \frac{h \nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1} d\nu \\ = \frac{2h}{c^2} \int \frac{\nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1} d\nu \\ = \frac{2\pi^4 k_B^4 T^4}{15c^2 h^3} \end{array} \right.$$



$\lambda \gg \lambda_{max}$: Rayleigh-Jeans law

$\lambda \ll \lambda_{max}$: Wien law

▪ properties $B_\nu(T) = \frac{2}{c^2} \frac{h \nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1}$

$$B_\lambda(T) = 2c^2 \frac{h/\lambda^5}{e^{\frac{hc}{\lambda k_B T}} - 1}$$

• varying temperature T :

○ curves never cross

○ maximum shifts with T

$$\lambda_{max} T = 0.290 \text{ cm K}$$

Wien's displacement law

$$h\nu_{max} = 2.82 k_B T$$

○ intensity increases with T

$$B(T) = \frac{ac}{4\pi} T^4$$

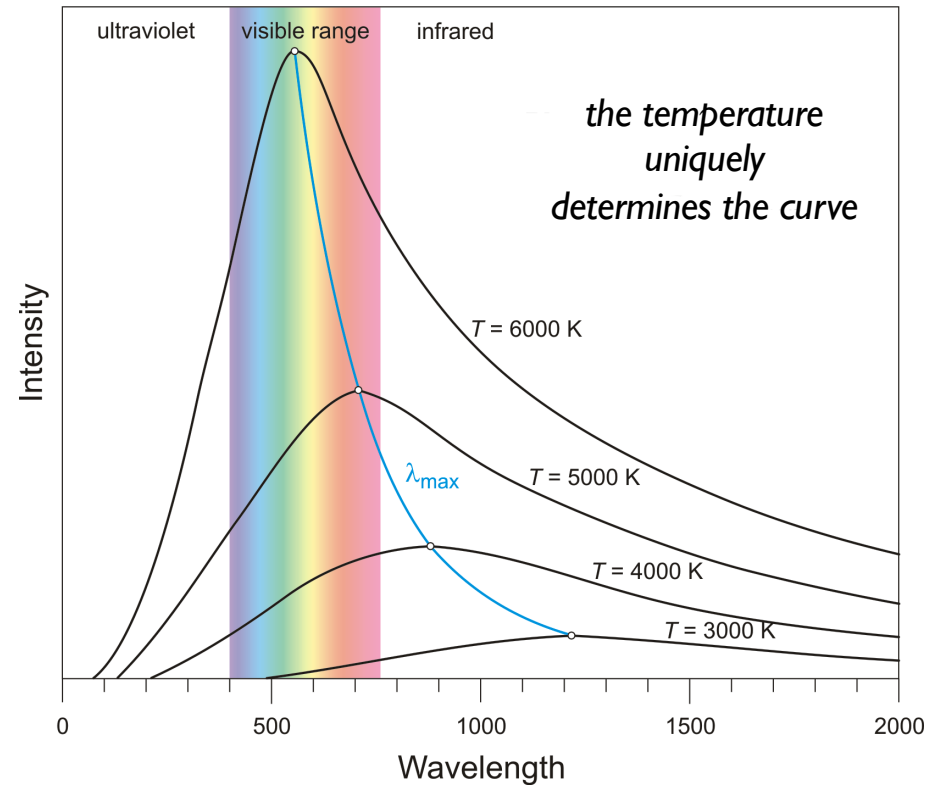
$$a = \frac{8\pi^5 k_B^4}{15c^3 h^3}$$

$\sigma_B = ac/4$

$$B(T) = \frac{\sigma_B}{4} T^4$$

$$\sigma_B = \frac{2\pi^5 k_B^4}{15c^2 h^3}$$

radiation constants
(expressed in terms of fundamental constants)



$\lambda \gg \lambda_{max}$: Rayleigh-Jeans law

$\lambda \ll \lambda_{max}$: Wien law

▪ properties

$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{2}{c^2} \frac{h \nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1}$$

$$B_\lambda(T) = 2c^2 \frac{h/\lambda^5}{e^{\frac{hc}{\lambda k_B T}} - 1}$$

- characteristic temperatures

▪ properties

$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{2}{c^2} \frac{h \nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1}$$

$$B_\lambda(T) = 2c^2 \frac{h/\lambda^5}{e^{\frac{hc}{\lambda k_B T}} - 1}$$

• characteristic temperatures:

- brightness temperature T_b
- color temperature T_c
- effective temperature T_{eff}

▪ properties

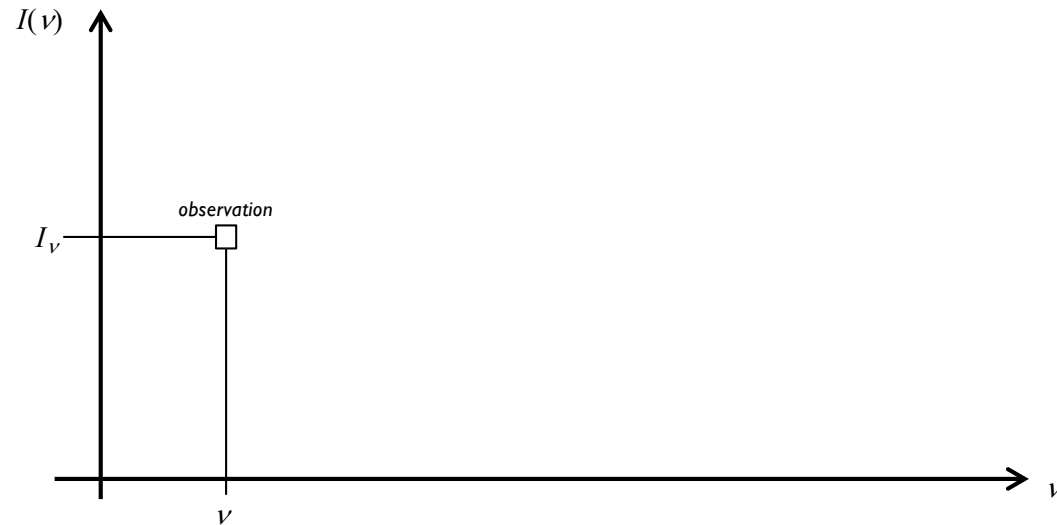
$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{2}{c^2} \frac{h \nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1}$$

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- characteristic temperatures:

- brightness temperature T_b

- we observe I_ν for fixed ν and use it to define T_b



▪ properties

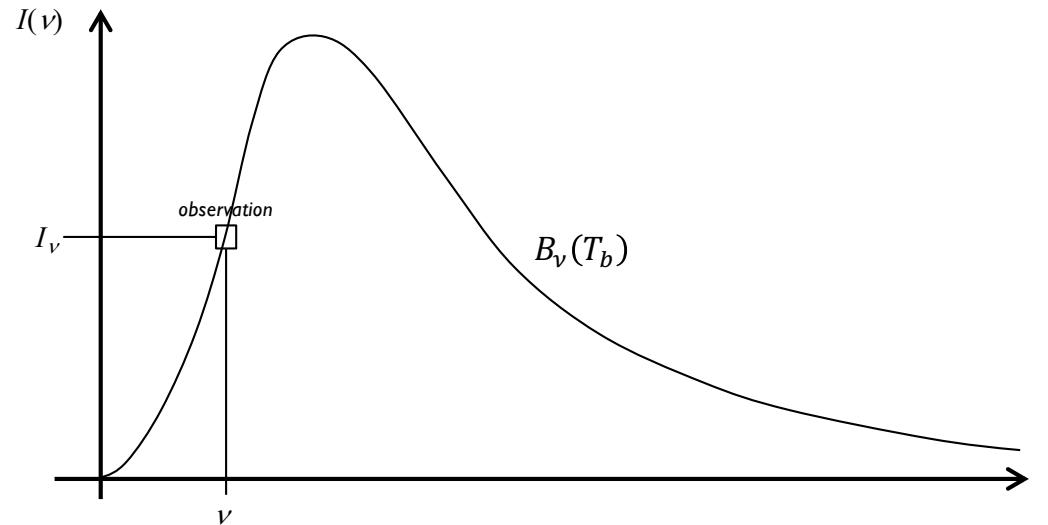
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• characteristic temperatures:

○ brightness temperature T_b

- we observe I_ν for fixed ν and use it to define T_b



remember, Planck curves do not cross!

▪ properties

$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{2}{c^2} \frac{h \nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1}$$

$$B_\lambda(T) = 2c^2 \frac{h/\lambda^5}{e^{\frac{hc}{\lambda k_B T}} - 1}$$

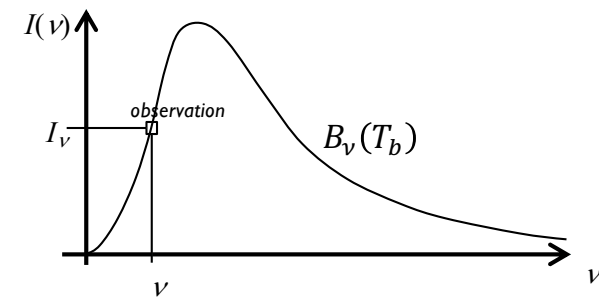
• characteristic temperatures:

○ brightness temperature T_b

- we observe I_ν for fixed ν and use it to define T_b

- frequently used in radio-astronomy*:

$$I_\nu(T_b) = \frac{2}{c^2} \nu^2 k_B T_b$$



*where one can safely use the Rayleigh-Jeans law for $B_\nu(T)$

▪ properties

$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{2}{c^2} \frac{h \nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1}$$

$$B_\lambda(T) = 2c^2 \frac{h/\lambda^5}{e^{\frac{hc}{\lambda k_B T}} - 1}$$

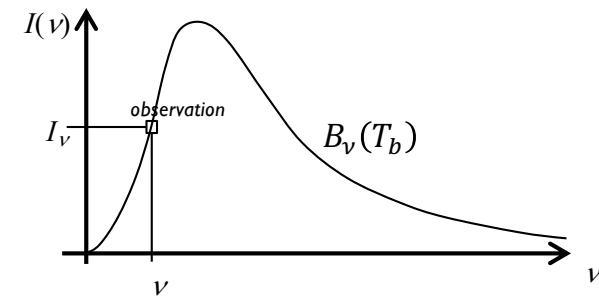
• characteristic temperatures:

○ brightness temperature T_b

- we observe I_ν for fixed ν and use it to define T_b

- frequently used in radio-astronomy (Rayleigh-Jeans limit):

$$T_b = \frac{c^2}{2k_B} \nu^{-2} I_\nu$$



■ properties

$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{2}{c^2} \frac{h \nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1}$$

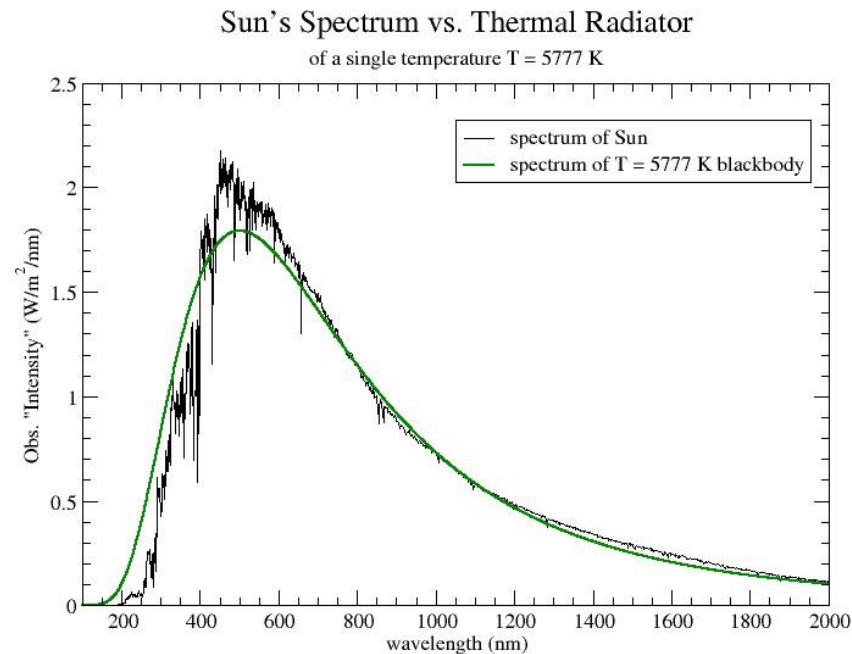
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• characteristic temperatures:

○ brightness temperature T_b

○ color temperature T_c

- temperature of best-fit Planck curve to observed spectrum



■ properties

$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{2}{c^2} \frac{h \nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1}$$

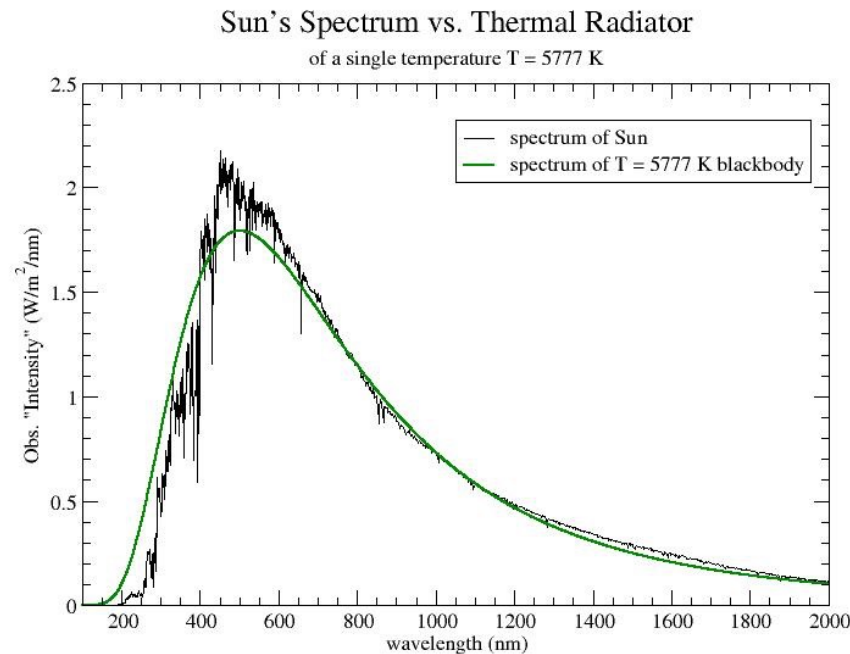
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• characteristic temperatures:

○ brightness temperature T_b

○ color temperature T_c

- temperature of best-fit Planck curve to observed spectrum



in practice:

- find maximum
- use Wien's displacement law to get T_c

▪ properties

$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{2}{c^2} \frac{h \nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1}$$
$$B_\lambda(T) = 2c^2 \frac{h/\lambda^5}{e^{\frac{hc}{\lambda k_B T}} - 1}$$

• characteristic temperatures:

○ brightness temperature T_b

○ color temperature T_c

○ effective temperature T_{eff}

- we only have bolometric, but no frequency information, e.g. total flux F

$$F = \int I_\nu(\Omega) \cos\theta \, d\Omega \, d\nu = \sigma_B T_{eff}^4$$

▪ properties

$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{2}{c^2} \frac{h \nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1}$$

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↙
↘

observed
derived

▪ properties

$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{2}{c^2} \frac{h \nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1}$$

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• characteristic temperatures:

- brightness temperature T_b - we observe I_ν for fixed ν and use it to define T_b
- color temperature T_c - temperature of best-fit Planck curve to observed spectrum
- effective temperature T_{eff} - no frequency information, only integrated information (e.g. F)

▪ properties $B_\nu(T) = \frac{2}{c^2} \frac{h \nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1}$

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• characteristic temperatures:

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- color temperature T_c #- temperature of best-fit Planck curve to observed spectrum
- effective temperature T_{eff} *- no frequency information, only integrated information (e.g. F)

*depends on magnitude of the source

#depends on spectral shape only

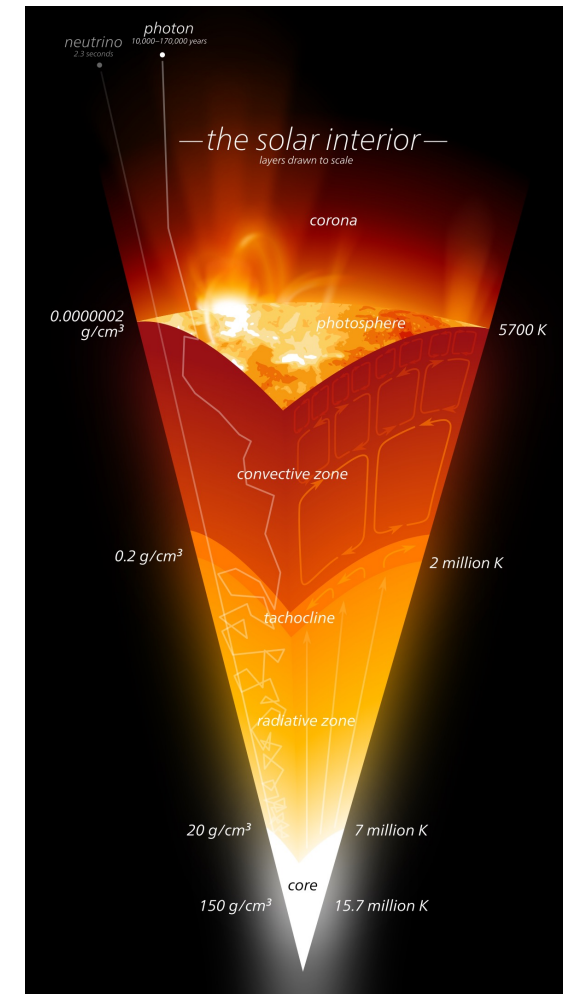
- black-body radiation
- thermodynamics of black-body radiation
- Planck spectrum
- **local thermal equilibrium**

- global thermal equilibrium

- the whole system of interest has one well defined temperature T

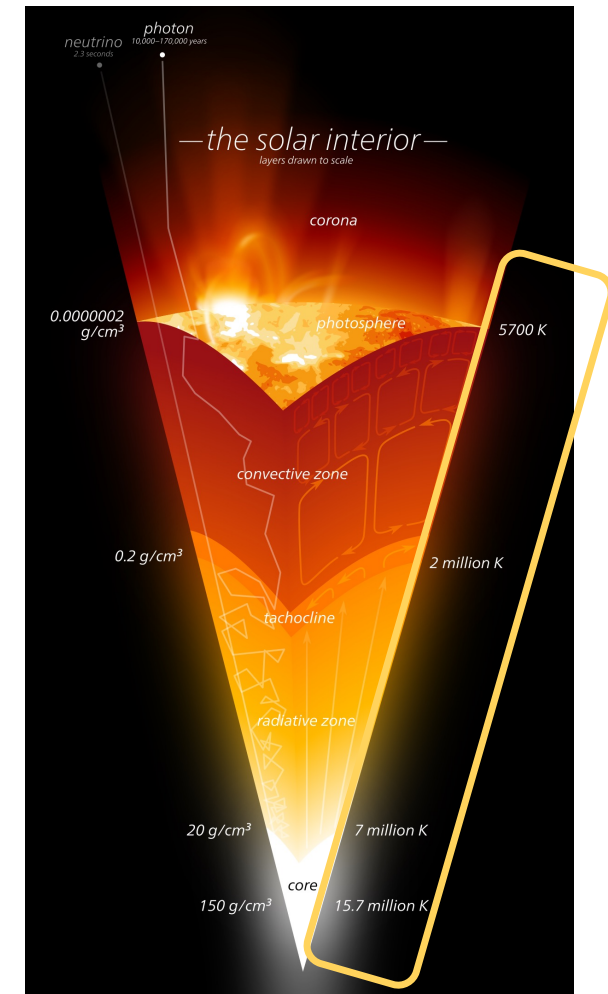
- global thermal equilibrium
 - the whole system of interest has one well defined temperature T
- local thermal equilibrium

but what about this system?



- global thermal equilibrium
 - the whole system of interest has one well defined temperature T
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*but what about this system,
for which the temperature varies 3 orders of magnitude!*

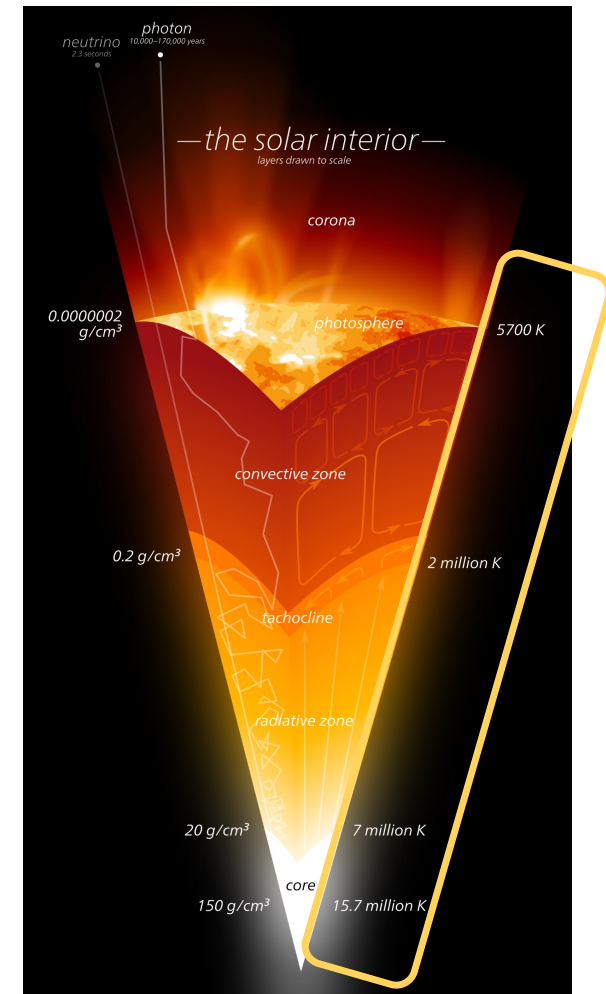


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stellar modelling $\rightarrow \frac{dT}{dr} \approx 10^{-4} \frac{K}{cm}$



- global thermal equilibrium

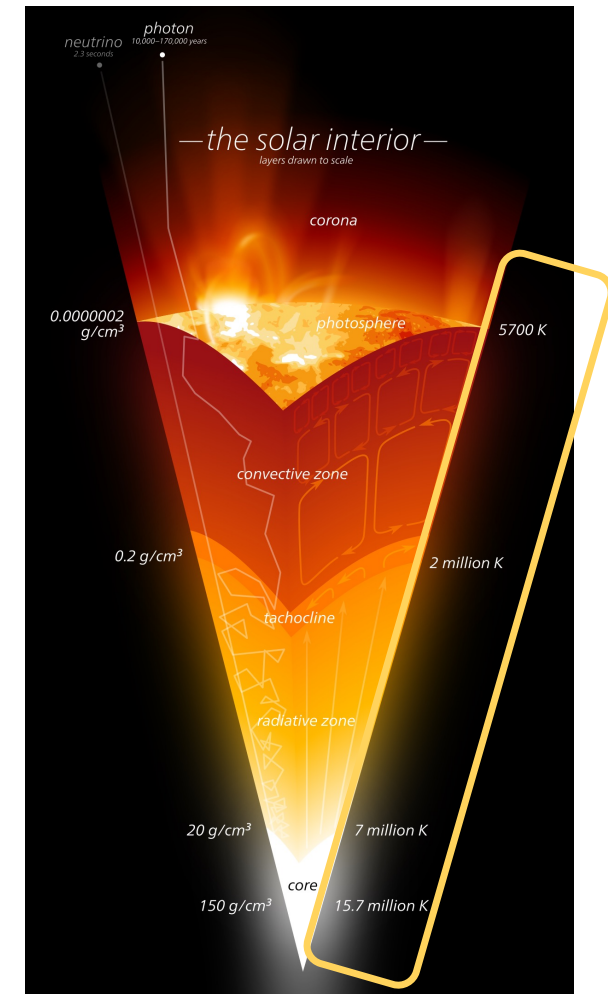
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\Rightarrow even for layers several kms thick,
the temperature changes only minimally



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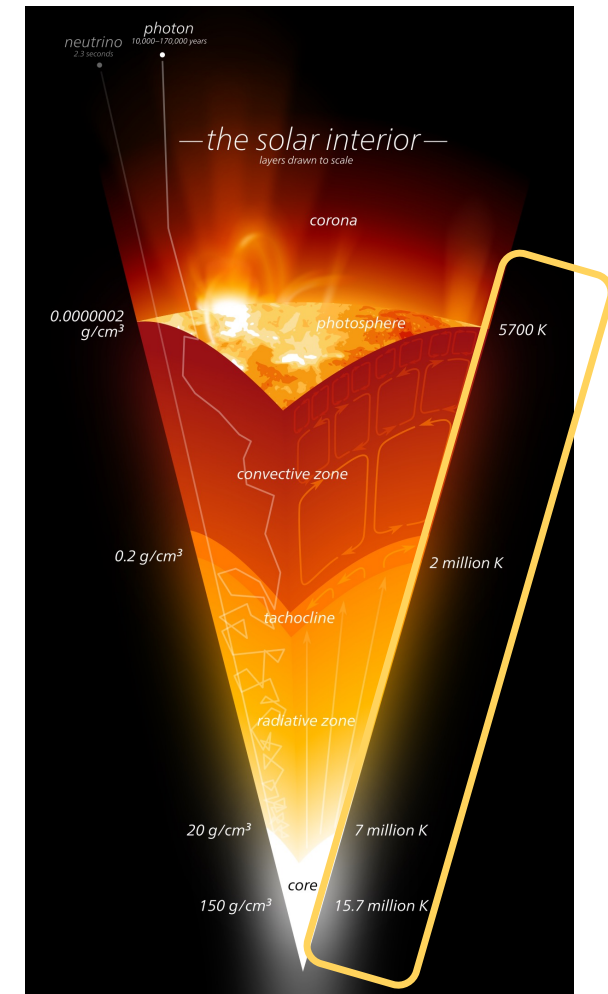
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and what about the mean free path?



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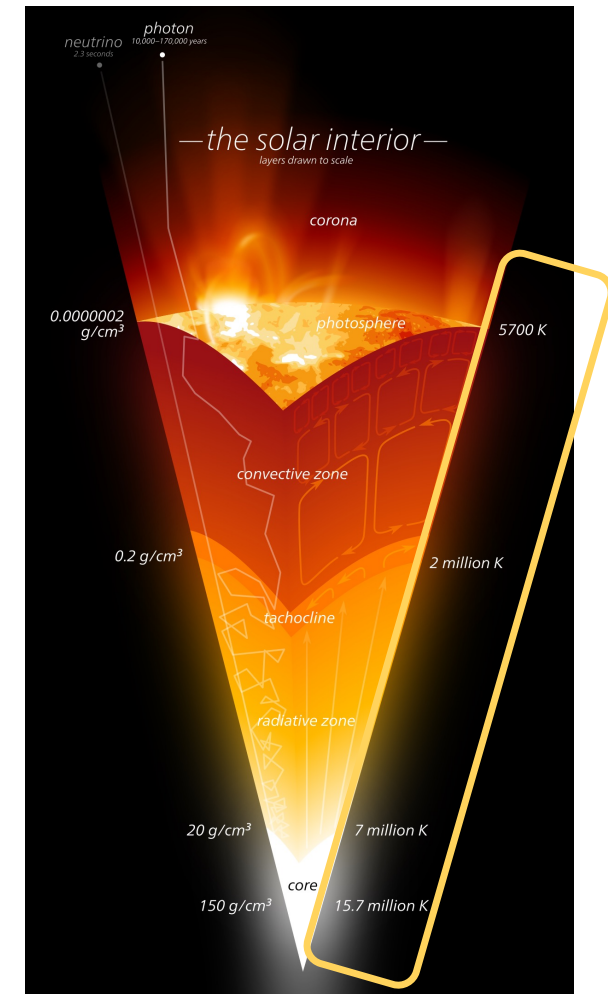
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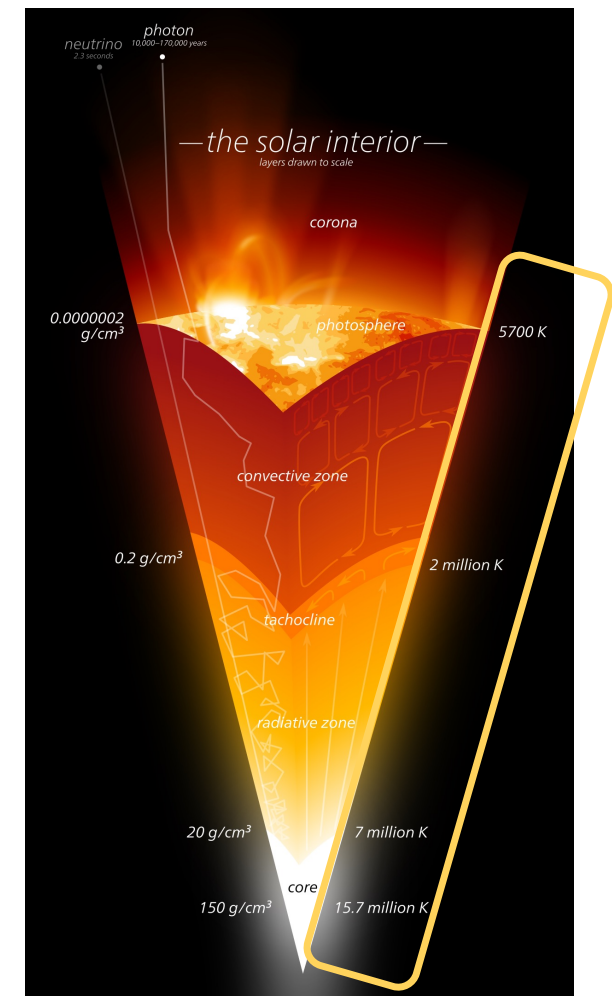
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\Rightarrow even for layers several kms thick,
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and what about the mean free path?

stellar properties $\rightarrow l = \frac{1}{\kappa\rho} \approx 2cm$

\Rightarrow layers of several kms are optically thick



- global thermal equilibrium

- the whole system of interest has one well defined temperature T

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*but what about this system,
for which the temperature varies 3 orders of magnitude!*

stellar modelling $\rightarrow \frac{dT}{dr} \approx 10^{-4} \frac{K}{cm}$

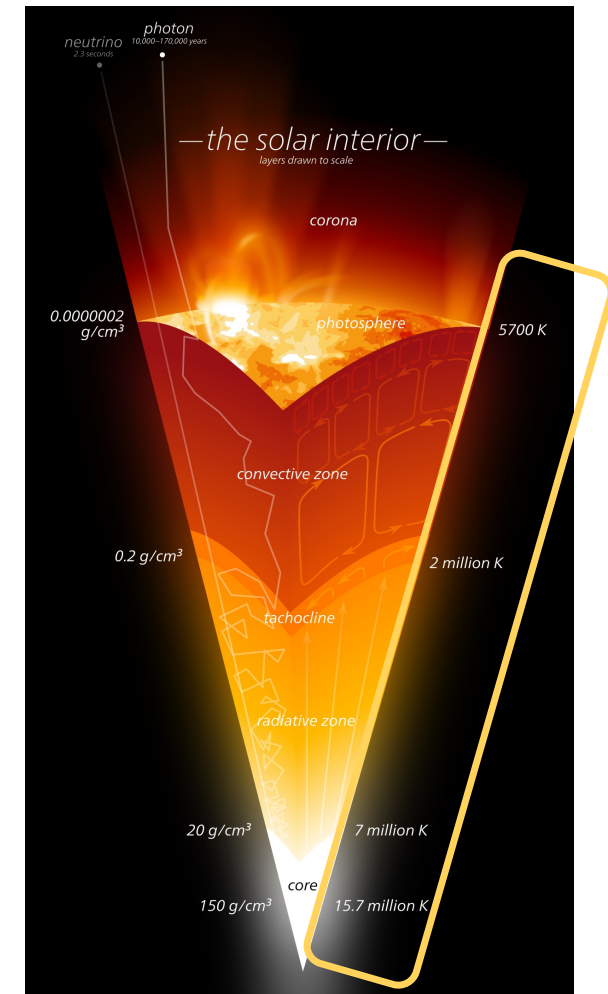
\Rightarrow even for layers several kms thick,
the temperature changes only minimally

and what about the mean free path?

stellar properties $\rightarrow l = \frac{1}{\kappa\rho} \approx 2cm$

\Rightarrow layers of several kms are optically thick

the radiation in a layer is considered to be at a
local thermal equilibrium

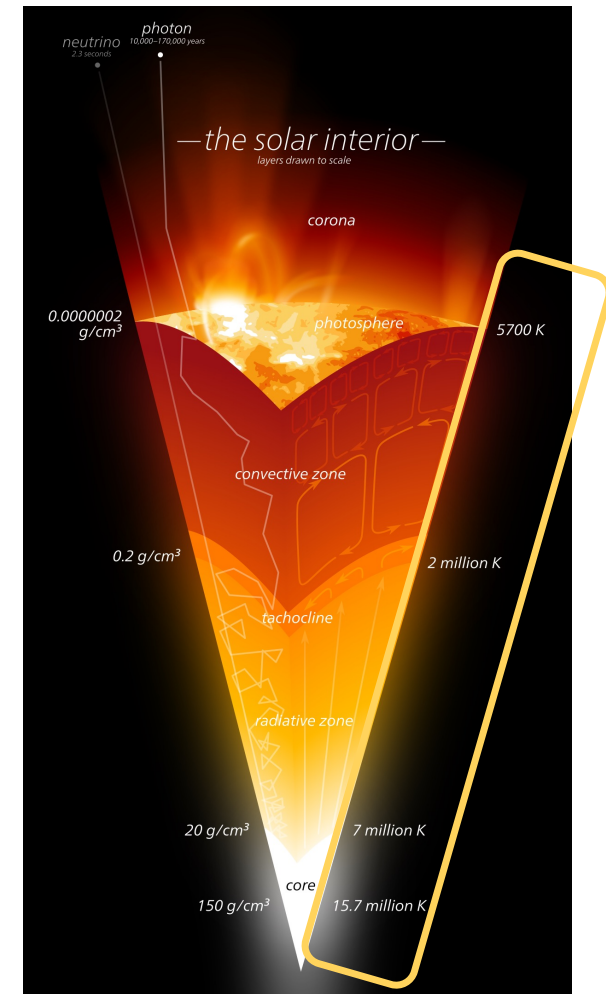


- global thermal equilibrium

- the whole system of interest has one well defined temperature T

- local thermal equilibrium

- the mean free path of any particles that might transport heat (e.g. photons, electrons) is very small compared to the length scale over which the temperature is changing.

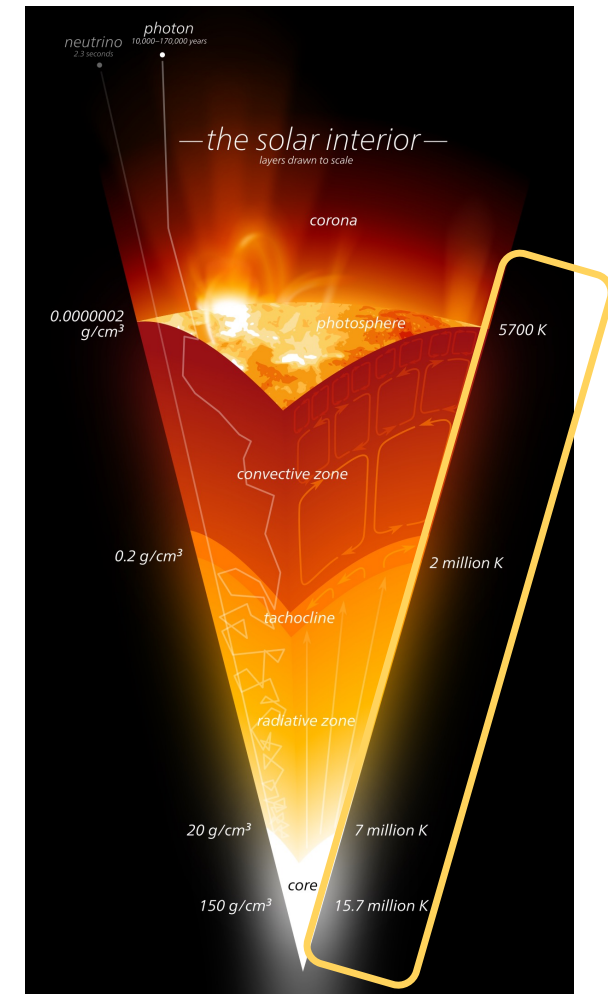


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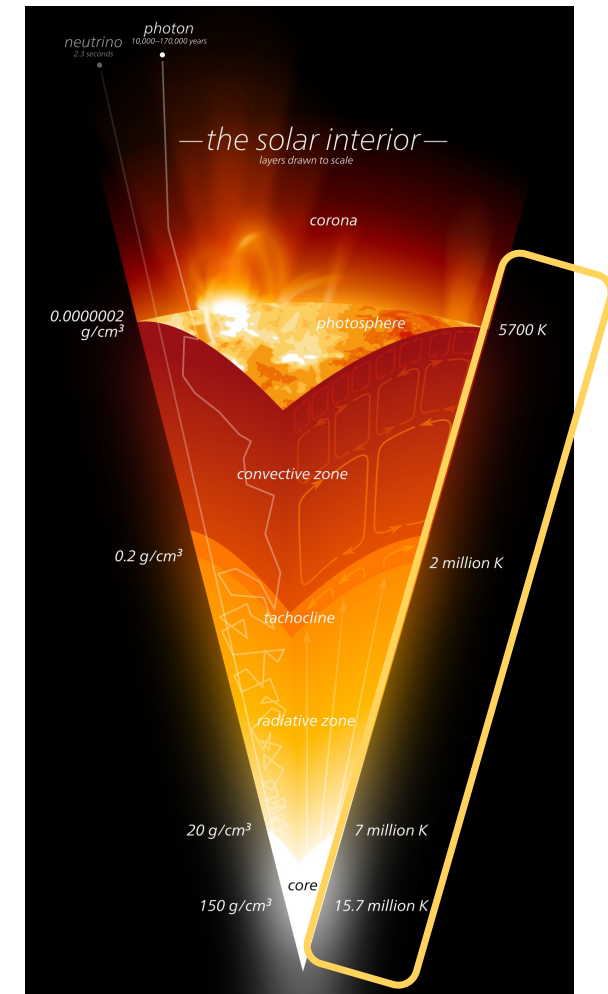
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→ the radiation locally follows a Planck curve



■ Planck spectrum

$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{2}{c^2} \frac{h \nu^3}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}} - 1}$$

$$B_\lambda(T) = 2c^2 \frac{h/\lambda^5}{e^{\frac{hc}{\lambda k_B T}} - 1}$$

