

Problem Set 2

$$1. \quad P(x) = A e^{-a(x-x_0)^2} dx$$

$$\text{Normalization: } \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} P(x) dx = 1$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} A e^{-a(x-x_0)^2} dx = 1$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} u = x - x_0 \\ du = dx \end{array} \right\}$$

$$A \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-au^2} du = 1$$

← symmetric around  $u=0$

$$2A \int_0^{\infty} e^{-au^2} du = 1$$

→ integral table

$$2A \left[ \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{a}} \right] = 1$$

$$A \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{a}} = 1$$

$$A = \sqrt{\frac{a}{\pi}}, \text{ so}$$

$$P(x) = \sqrt{\frac{a}{\pi}} e^{-a(x-x_0)^2}$$

2.

$$\langle x \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x P(x) dx = \sqrt{\frac{a}{\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x e^{-a(x-x_0)^2} dx$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} u = x - x_0 \\ du = dx \\ x = u + x_0 \end{array} \right\}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{a}{\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (u + x_0) e^{-au^2} du$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{a}{\pi}} \left[ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u e^{-au^2} du + x_0 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-au^2} du \right]$$

odd function  
over symmetric  
limits = 0

even function  
over symmetric  
limits

$$= \sqrt{\frac{a}{\pi}} \left[ 0 + 2x_0 \int_0^{\infty} e^{-au^2} du \right]$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{a}{\pi}} \left[ 2x_0 \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{a}} \right] = x_0$$

$$\boxed{\langle x \rangle = x_0}$$

more 2)

$$\langle x^2 \rangle = \sqrt{\frac{a}{\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 e^{-a(x-x_0)^2} dx \quad \begin{array}{l} u = x - x_0 \\ du = dx \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} x = u + x_0 \\ x^2 = (u + x_0)^2 \end{array}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{a}{\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (u + x_0)^2 e^{-au^2} du$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{a}{\pi}} \left[ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u^2 e^{-au^2} du + \underbrace{2x_0 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u e^{-au^2} du}_{\text{odd function}} + x_0^2 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-au^2} du \right]$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{a}{\pi}} \left[ 2 \int_0^{\infty} u^2 e^{-au^2} du + 2x_0 \cdot 0 + 2x_0^2 \int_0^{\infty} e^{-au^2} du \right]$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{a}{\pi}} \left[ 2 \frac{1}{4a} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{a}} + 0 + 2x_0^2 \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{a}} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2a} + 0 + x_0^2$$

$$\boxed{\langle x^2 \rangle = x_0^2 + \frac{1}{2a}}$$

$$\sigma_x^2 = \langle x^2 \rangle - \langle x \rangle^2 = x_0^2 + \frac{1}{2a} - x_0^2$$

$$\sigma_x^2 = \frac{1}{2a}$$

$$\sigma_x = \sqrt{\sigma_x^2} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2a}}$$

$$\sigma_x = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2a}}$$

3.

Normalization

$$1 = \int_0^{\infty} c e^{-\lambda x} dx$$

$$= c \left[ -\frac{e^{-\lambda x}}{\lambda} \right]_0^{\infty}$$

$$1 = c \left[ 0 + \frac{e^0}{\lambda} \right] = \frac{c}{\lambda}$$

$$\therefore c = \lambda$$

$$P(x) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x} dx$$

$$\langle x \rangle = \int_0^{\infty} x \lambda e^{-\lambda x} dx = \lambda \int_0^{\infty} x e^{-\lambda x} dx$$

$$u = x$$

$$dv = e^{-\lambda x} dx$$

$$du = dx$$

$$v = -\frac{e^{-\lambda x}}{\lambda}$$

$$\langle x \rangle = \lambda \left[ \frac{-x e^{-\lambda x}}{\lambda} + \frac{1}{\lambda} \int e^{-\lambda x} dx \right]$$

$$= \lambda \left[ -\frac{x e^{-\lambda x}}{\lambda} - \frac{e^{-\lambda x}}{\lambda^2} \right]_0^{\infty}$$

$$= \lambda \left[ -0 - 0 + 0 + \frac{1}{\lambda^2} \right] = \frac{1}{\lambda}$$

$$\langle x \rangle = \frac{1}{\lambda}$$

more 3)

$$\langle x^2 \rangle = \int_0^{\infty} x^2 \lambda e^{-\lambda x} dx$$

$$= \lambda \int_0^{\infty} x^2 e^{-\lambda x} dx \quad \left[ \begin{array}{l} u = x^2 \\ du = 2x dx \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} dv = e^{-\lambda x} dx \\ v = \frac{-e^{-\lambda x}}{\lambda} \end{array} \right]$$

$$= \lambda \left[ \frac{-x^2 e^{-\lambda x}}{\lambda} + \frac{2}{\lambda} \int x e^{-\lambda x} dx \right] \quad \left[ \begin{array}{l} u = x \\ du = dx \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} dv = e^{-\lambda x} dx \\ v = \frac{-e^{-\lambda x}}{\lambda} \end{array} \right]$$

$$= \lambda \left[ \frac{-x^2 e^{-\lambda x}}{\lambda} + \frac{2}{\lambda} \left[ \frac{-x e^{-\lambda x}}{\lambda} + \frac{1}{\lambda} \int e^{-\lambda x} dx \right] \right]$$

$$= \lambda \left[ \frac{-x^2 e^{-\lambda x}}{\lambda} + \frac{2}{\lambda} \left[ \frac{-x e^{-\lambda x}}{\lambda} - \frac{e^{-\lambda x}}{\lambda^2} \right] \right]_0^{\infty}$$

$$= \left[ -x^2 e^{-\lambda x} - \frac{2x}{\lambda} e^{-\lambda x} - \frac{2 e^{-\lambda x}}{\lambda^2} \right]_0^{\infty}$$

$$= \left[ -0 - 0 - 0 + 0 + 0 + \frac{2}{\lambda^2} \right]$$

$$\langle x^2 \rangle = \frac{2}{\lambda^2}$$

$$\sigma_x^2 = \langle x^2 \rangle - \langle x \rangle^2 = \frac{2}{\lambda^2} - \left( \frac{1}{\lambda} \right)^2$$

$$= \frac{1}{\lambda^2}$$

$$\boxed{\sigma_x = \frac{1}{\lambda}}$$

5 a)  $P(v_x) = c e^{-mv_x^2/2k_B T}$  unknown proportionality const.

To normalize, the distribution must integrate to 1

$$1 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} P(v_x) dv_x = c \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-mv_x^2/2k_B T} dv_x$$

Gaussian integral:  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\alpha x^2} dx = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{\alpha}}$  ← Learn this.

here,  $\alpha = \frac{m}{2k_B T}$

∴

$$1 = c \sqrt{\frac{2\pi k_B T}{m}}$$

$$c = \sqrt{\frac{m}{2\pi k_B T}}$$

$$P(v_x) = \sqrt{\frac{m}{2\pi k_B T}} e^{-mv_x^2/2k_B T}$$

b)  $\langle E \rangle = \langle \frac{mv_x^2}{2} \rangle = \frac{m}{2} \langle v_x^2 \rangle$

$$= \frac{m}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} v_x^2 P(v_x) dv_x$$

$$= \frac{m}{2} \sqrt{\frac{m}{2\pi k_B T}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} v_x^2 e^{-mv_x^2/2k_B T} dv_x$$

← Look this integral up!

$$= \frac{m}{2} \sqrt{\frac{m}{2\pi k_B T}} \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2 \left(\frac{m}{2k_B T}\right)^{3/2}} = \frac{m \sqrt{m} \sqrt{\pi} (2k_B T)^{3/2}}{2 \sqrt{2\pi k_B T} \cdot 2 m^{3/2}}$$

$$\langle E \rangle = \frac{k_B T}{2}$$

← actually a statement of equipartition!

5 c)

$$\langle v_x \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} v_x P(v_x) dv_x$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{m}{2\pi k_B T}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} v_x e^{-mv_x^2/2k_B T} dv_x$$

Symmetric limits  
odd function      even function

← integrals of odd functions over symmetric limits are always 0

$$\langle v_x \rangle = 0$$

which is good, because any non-zero result would mean an ideal gas was in motion relative to the lab.

5 d)  $\langle mv_x \rangle = m \langle v_x \rangle = 0$

(there are other ways to do this, but this is the simplest!)

6. Channels are either open, with probability  $q$  or closed with probability  $1-q$ , so the expression we want is just the binomial distribution:

$$P(m, N) = q^m (1-q)^{N-m} \frac{N!}{m! (N-m)!}$$

7. We did most of this in class:

$$a) \quad \frac{a_2}{a_1} = f(E_1 - E_2) \quad \frac{a_3}{a_2} = f(E_2 - E_3)$$

$$\frac{a_3}{a_1} = f(E_1 - E_3)$$

$$\frac{a_3}{a_1} = \frac{a_2}{a_1} \frac{a_3}{a_2}$$

$$f(E_1 - E_3) = f(E_1 - E_2) f(E_2 - E_3)$$

$$\text{Let } \left. \begin{array}{l} x = E_1 - E_2 \\ y = E_2 - E_3 \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} x+y = E_1 - E_2 + E_2 - E_3 \\ = E_1 - E_3 \end{array}$$

$$f(x+y) = f(x)f(y) \quad \text{QED!}$$



b)  
1

$$f(x+y) = f(x)f(y)$$

$$\ln[f(x+y)] = \ln[f(x)] + \ln[f(y)]$$

Take partial wrt. x on both sides:

$$\left[ \frac{\partial \ln f(x+y)}{\partial x} \right]_y = \frac{\partial \ln f(x+y)}{\partial (x+y)} \left[ \frac{\partial (x+y)}{\partial x} \right]_y = \frac{d \ln f(x+y)}{d(x+y)}$$

← from LHS above

$$= \frac{d \ln f(x)}{dx}$$

← from RHS above

Doing the same with y (keeping x fixed):

$$\left[ \frac{\partial \ln f(x+y)}{\partial y} \right]_x = \frac{d \ln f(x+y)}{d(x+y)} \left[ \frac{\partial (x+y)}{\partial y} \right]_x = \frac{d \ln f(x+y)}{d(x+y)}$$

$$= \frac{d \ln f(y)}{dy}$$

$$\therefore \frac{d \ln f(x+y)}{d(x+y)} = \frac{d \ln f(x)}{dx} = \frac{d \ln f(y)}{dy}$$

← 1st set  
 ← 2nd set

$$\boxed{\frac{d \ln f(x)}{dx} = \frac{d \ln f(y)}{dy}} \quad \text{Q.E.D.}$$

c) If both sides must be a constant

$$\frac{d \ln f(x)}{dx} = c \Rightarrow \frac{1}{f(x)} \frac{df(x)}{dx} = c$$

$$\frac{df(x)}{f(x)} = c dx$$

~~7~~ c)

7

$$\ln f(x) = xc + \text{const}$$

← integrating both sides

$$f(x) = e^{cx} e^{\text{const}}$$

↔  
constant

$$\therefore f(x) \propto e^{xc} \quad \text{Q.E.D.}$$

8. Let's Do the relevant integrals first:

$$p(v_x) \propto e^{-mv_x^2/2k_B T} = A e^{-mv_x^2/2k_B T}$$

↑ normalization const

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(v_x) dv_x = 1$$

$$1 = A \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-mv_x^2/2k_B T} dv_x \quad \leftarrow \text{Gaussian integral (look it up)}$$

$$1 = A \sqrt{\frac{2\pi k_B T}{m}}$$

$$A = \sqrt{\frac{m}{2\pi k_B T}}$$

$$p(v_x) = \sqrt{\frac{m}{2\pi k_B T}} e^{-mv_x^2/2k_B T}$$

$$\langle E \rangle = \langle \frac{1}{2} m v_x^2 \rangle = \frac{1}{2} m \langle v_x^2 \rangle$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} m \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-mv_x^2/2k_B T} v_x^2 dv_x \times \sqrt{\frac{m}{2\pi k_B T}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} m \sqrt{\frac{m}{2\pi k_B T}} \times \sqrt{2\pi} \left(\frac{k_B T}{m}\right)^{3/2}$$

$$\langle E \rangle = \frac{k_B T}{2} \quad \leftarrow \text{this is the right answer according to equipartition}$$

Now, on to the confusing part: first normalize

$$p(E) = A e^{-E/k_B T}$$

$$1 = A \int_0^{\infty} e^{-E/k_B T} dE = k_B T$$

$$A = \frac{1}{k_B T}$$

$$p(E) = \frac{1}{k_B T} e^{-E/k_B T}$$

Now, to do the average energy:

$$\langle E \rangle = \int_0^{\infty} E P(E) dE$$

$$= \int_0^{\infty} \frac{E}{k_B T} e^{-E/k_B T} dE$$

$$= \frac{1}{k_B T} \left[ -e^{-E/k_B T} (E + k_B T) k_B T \right]_0^{\infty}$$

$$\langle E \rangle = k_B T \quad \leftarrow \text{so what's wrong?}$$

What's missing is the degeneracy

$$\sum_{\text{states}} e^{-\beta E_{\text{state}}} = \sum_{\text{levels}} g_{\text{level}} e^{-\beta E_{\text{level}}}$$

In this case, the states are the particle velocities,  $v_x$   
the levels are the energies,  $E$

We really need to do this

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} P(v_x) dv_x \longrightarrow \int_0^{\infty} g(E) P(E) dE$$

$\swarrow$  degeneracy of energy levels

The easy way to get this

$$P(v_x) dv_x = \sqrt{\frac{m}{2\pi k_B T}} e^{-mv_x^2/2k_B T} dv_x$$

$$E = \frac{1}{2} m v_x^2 \quad \rightarrow \quad \cancel{v_x} \quad v_x = \sqrt{\frac{2E}{m}}$$

$$dE = m v_x dv_x$$

$$v_x^2 = \frac{2E}{m}$$

$$dv_x = \frac{1}{m v_x} dE$$

$$dv_x = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2mE}} dE$$

$$\text{If } \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(v_x) dv_x = \int_0^{\infty} g(E) p(E) dE$$

We have

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \sqrt{\frac{m}{2\pi k_B T}} e^{-mv_x^2/2k_B T} dv_x = 1$$

Substituting  
in from  
previous  
page

$$\int_0^{\infty} A \sqrt{\frac{m}{2\pi k_B T}} e^{-E/k_B T} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2mE}} dE = 1$$

$$\int_0^{\infty} A \sqrt{\frac{1}{4\pi k_B T E}} e^{-E/k_B T} dE = 1$$

$$A = Z$$

$$\therefore g(E) p(E) dE = \sqrt{\frac{1}{\pi k_B T E}} e^{-E/k_B T} dE$$

$$g(E) \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{E}}$$

Basically there are more "states" available at low energies than at high energies

1.  $P_n$  = probability of no one in a group of  $n$  people having the same birthday.

$$= 1 - P(> 2 \text{ people with the same birthday})$$

↑ that's what we want

$$P_1 = 1 = \frac{365}{365}$$

$$P_2 = \frac{364}{365} \quad \leftarrow \text{that last day will make the 2 people have the same b-day}$$

$$P_3 = \frac{364}{365} * \frac{363}{365} \quad \leftarrow \text{joint probability of 2 \& 1 not sharing b-day and 3 \& 1, 3 \& 2 not sharing a Birthday}$$

$$P_4 = P_3 * \frac{362}{365}$$

⋮

$$P_n = \frac{1}{365^n} \frac{365!}{(365-n)!}$$

∴

$$P = 1 - \frac{1}{365^n} \frac{365!}{(365-n)!} \quad \leftarrow \text{general formula.}$$

for 15 people:

$$P = 0.252901 \approx 25.3\%$$

Cross over to 50% happens when  $n = 23$ :

$$P = 50.7297\% \quad \text{when } n = 23$$

6 Channels are either open, with probability  $q$  or closed with probability  $1-q$ , so the expression we want is just the binomial distribution:

$$P(m, N) = q^m (1-q)^{N-m} \frac{N!}{m!(N-m)!}$$

4)

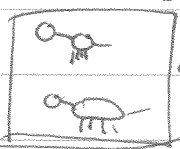
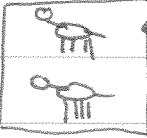
	<u>Door 1</u>	<u>Door 2</u>	<u>Door 3</u>
Scene 1	Car	Goat <sub>1</sub>	Goat <sub>2</sub>
Scene 2	Car	Goat <sub>2</sub>	Goat <sub>1</sub>
Scene 3	Goat <sub>1</sub>	Car	Goat <sub>2</sub>
Scene 4	Goat <sub>2</sub>	Car	Goat <sub>1</sub>
Scene 5	Goat <sub>1</sub>	Goat <sub>2</sub>	Car
Scene 6	Goat <sub>2</sub>	Goat <sub>1</sub>	Car

↑

There are 6 scenarios (assuming distinguishable goats)

If we pick, say door 1, Monty will have a reduced set of cases to show us a goat.

- a) for scenes 1 & 2 he can show us either door 2 or 3
- b) for scenes 3 & 4 he must show us door 3
- c) for scenes 5 & 6 he must show us door 2

<u>Scene</u>	<u>Door 1</u>	<u>Door 2</u>	<u>Door 3</u>
1	Car	hidden goat	hidden goat
2	Car	hidden goat	hidden goat
3	hidden goat	Car	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">  </div> ← revealed goats
4	hidden goat	Car	
5	hidden goat	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">  </div> ←	Car
6	hidden goat		Car

current choice

4) continued

If we stay with door 1, our probability of landing the car happens in only  $1/3$  of scenarios (1 & 2)

If we switch to the ~~random~~ <sup>other</sup> door, our probability of landing the car happens in  $2/3$  of scenarios (3, 4, 5)

We should switch doors, unless, of course we really wanted the goat.

5) We did most of this in class:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} a) & \frac{a_2}{a_1} = f(E_1 - E_2) & \frac{a_3}{a_2} = f(E_2 - E_3) & \frac{a_3}{a_1} = f(E_1 - E_3) \\ & \downarrow & \swarrow & \searrow \\ & \frac{a_3}{a_1} = \frac{a_2}{a_1} \frac{a_3}{a_2} & & \end{array}$$

$$f(E_1 - E_3) = f(E_1 - E_2) f(E_2 - E_3)$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{let } x = E_1 - E_2 \\ y = E_2 - E_3 \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} x+y = E_1 - E_2 + E_2 - E_3 \\ = E_1 - E_3 \end{array}$$

$$f(x+y) = f(x) f(y) \quad \text{Q.E.D.}$$



3. Channels are either open, with probability  $q$  or closed with probability  $1-q$ , so the expression we want is just the binomial distribution:

$$P(m, N) = q^m (1-q)^{N-m} \frac{N!}{m!(N-m)!}$$

(As an interesting challenge, can you derive an expression for the total average current through the membrane?)

4. We did most of this in class

a)

$$\frac{a_2}{a_1} = f(E_1 - E_2) \quad \frac{a_3}{a_2} = f(E_2 - E_3) \quad \frac{a_3}{a_1} = f(E_3 - E_1)$$

$$\frac{a_3}{a_1} = \frac{a_2}{a_1} \frac{a_3}{a_2}$$

$$f(E_1 - E_3) = f(E_1 - E_2) f(E_2 - E_3)$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{let } x = E_1 - E_2 \\ y = E_2 - E_3 \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} x+y = E_1 - E_2 + E_2 - E_3 \\ = E_1 - E_3 \end{array}$$

$$f(x+y) = f(x)f(y) \quad \text{Q.E.D.}$$