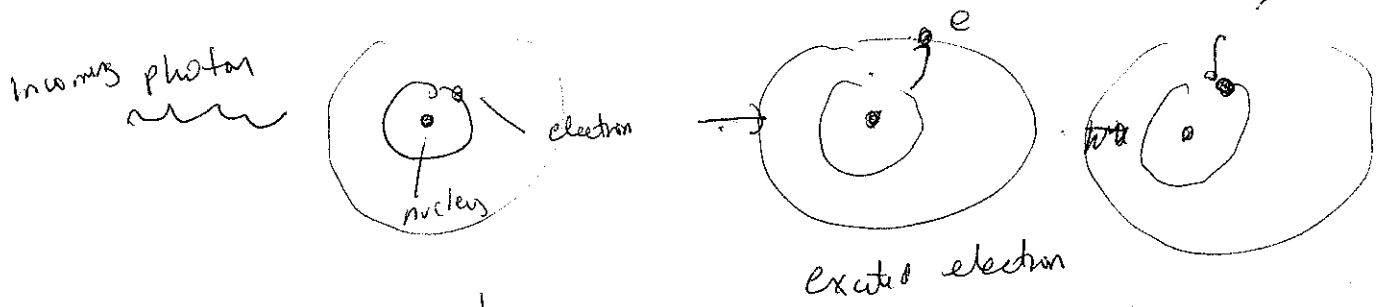
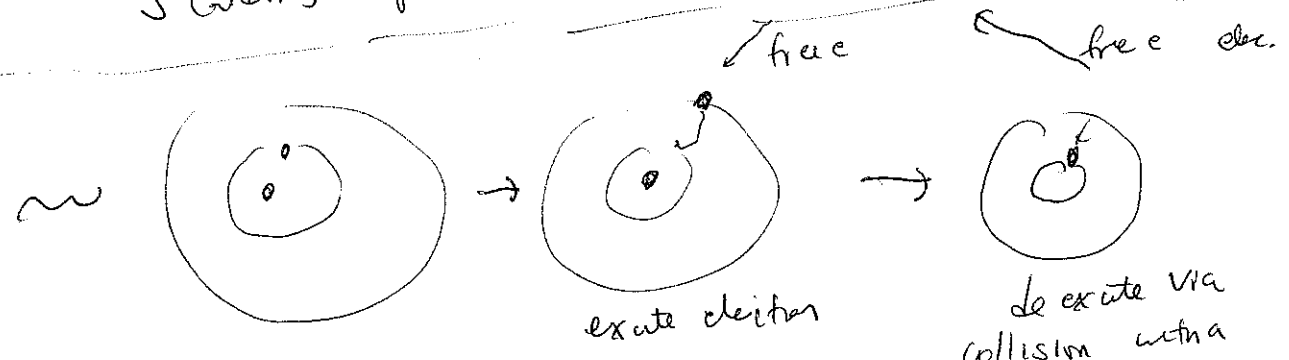


# Matter Radiation Interactions

(1) *outgoing*

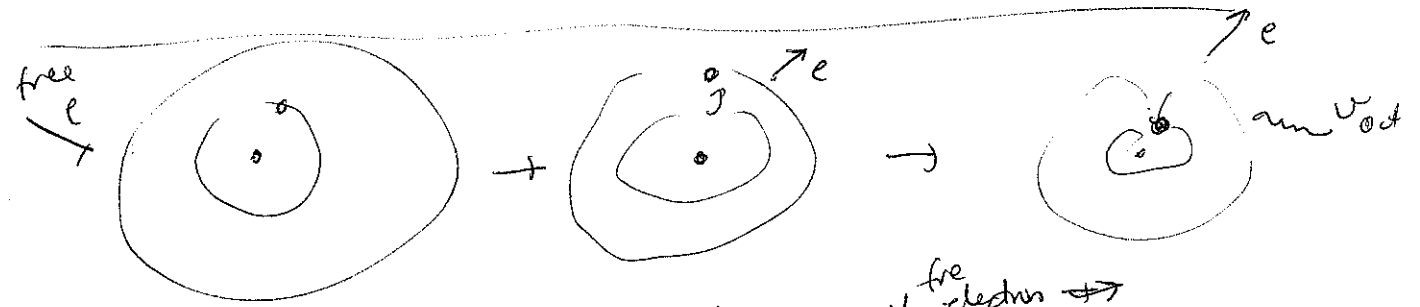


Scattering - *out* photon energy same as in photon energy



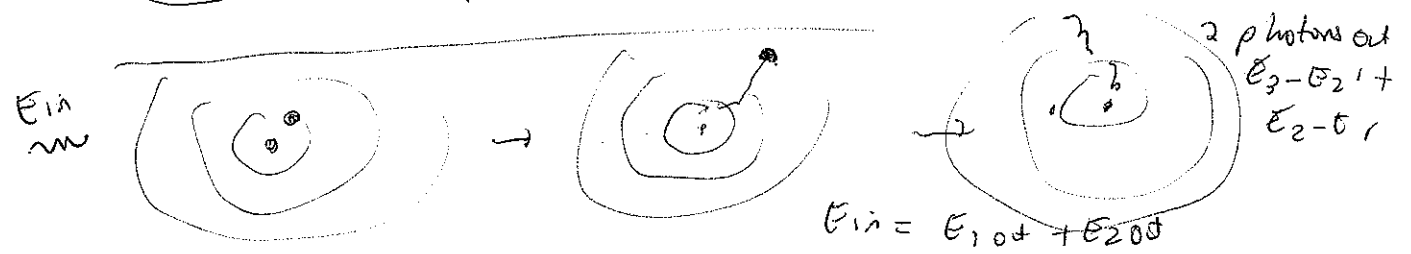
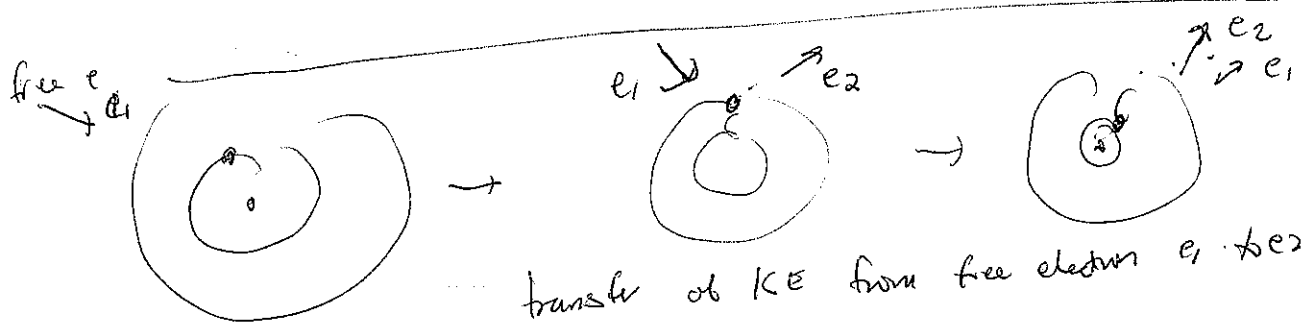
de excite via collision with a free electron.

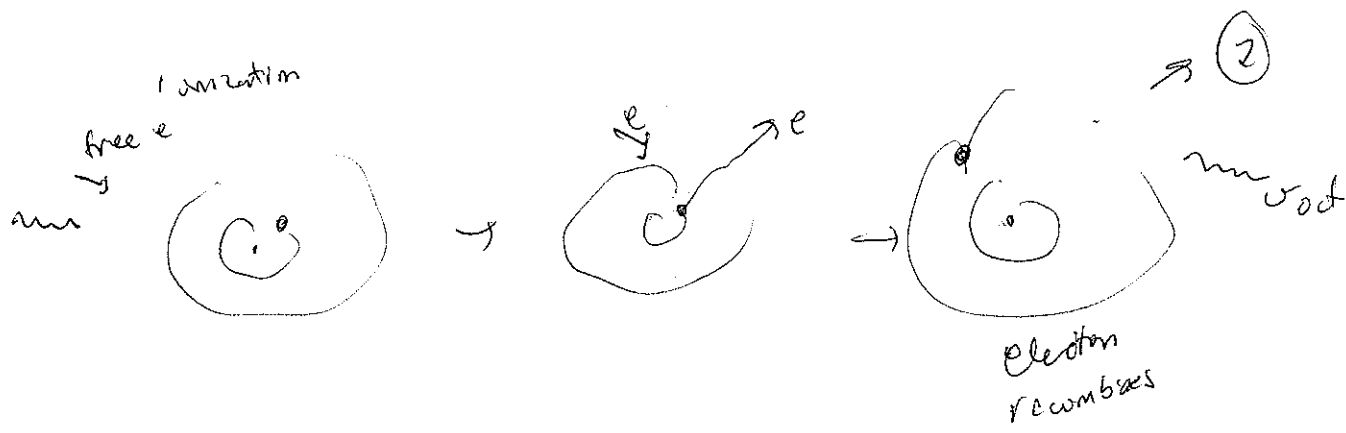
note  $|v_f|$  of free electron  $> |v_i|$



$$v_e(i) > v_e(f)$$

kinetic energy of free electron  $\rightarrow$   
 excitation energy of *at* bound electron  
~~the~~ falls to ground state  $\rightarrow$  photon





Note that mean KE (thermal equilibrium) per particle

$$= \frac{3}{2} kT$$

$$KE = \frac{1}{2} m v^2$$

$$\frac{3}{2} kT = \frac{1}{2} m (\bar{v})^2$$

$$\bar{v} = \sqrt{3kT/m}$$

So  $v_e \gg v_{atoms}$ , so

free electrons dominate excitation + photoionizations via collisions

#/unit time electron collides with atom  $\gg$  atom collides with atom

### Absorption vs Scattering

$h\nu_{in} = h\nu_{out}$  scattering, just change direction

abs.  $h\nu_{in} \rightarrow$  thermal energy  $\uparrow$  of gas  $\rightarrow$  may yield  $h\nu_{out}$

but  $h\nu_{out} \neq h\nu_{in}$

B-B transitions  
photon excites electron, fixed  $\nu$

B-F photon ionizes electron  $h\nu \geq E_{ion}$

F-F photon excites a free electron on an unbound orbit around atom A to a higher energy orbit.

$$\frac{1}{2} m_e v_f^2 = h\nu + \frac{1}{2} m_e v_i^2$$

A free electron cannot absorb both the energy & the momentum of a photon - need the atom there to absorb the extra momentum

$$E = h\nu \quad p = \frac{h\nu}{c}$$

Can't simultaneously satisfy

$$\frac{1}{2} m_e v_f^2 + h\nu = \frac{1}{2} m_e v_i^2 \quad + \quad m_e v_e + \frac{h\nu}{c} = m_e v_f$$

Scatterings  
by free electrons: Thomson scattering  
by atoms or molecules Rayleigh scattering

radiative opacity -  $K_\nu$  ( $\text{cm}^2 / \text{g}$ )

$$K_\nu S = \tau_\nu \quad (\text{units } \text{cm}^{-1}) = \frac{1}{\text{mean free path}}$$

$\text{cm}^2 / \text{gm} \quad \text{gm} / \text{cm}^3$

$$K_{\nu, \text{tot}} = K_\nu + \sigma_\nu \text{ - scattering}$$

(abs. processes absorption)

Thomson scattering easy, independent of  $\nu$   
(for low  $\nu$  typical in stellar astronomy)

$$\sigma_T = n_e \left( \frac{8\pi}{3} r_e^2 \right)$$

Rayleigh scattering

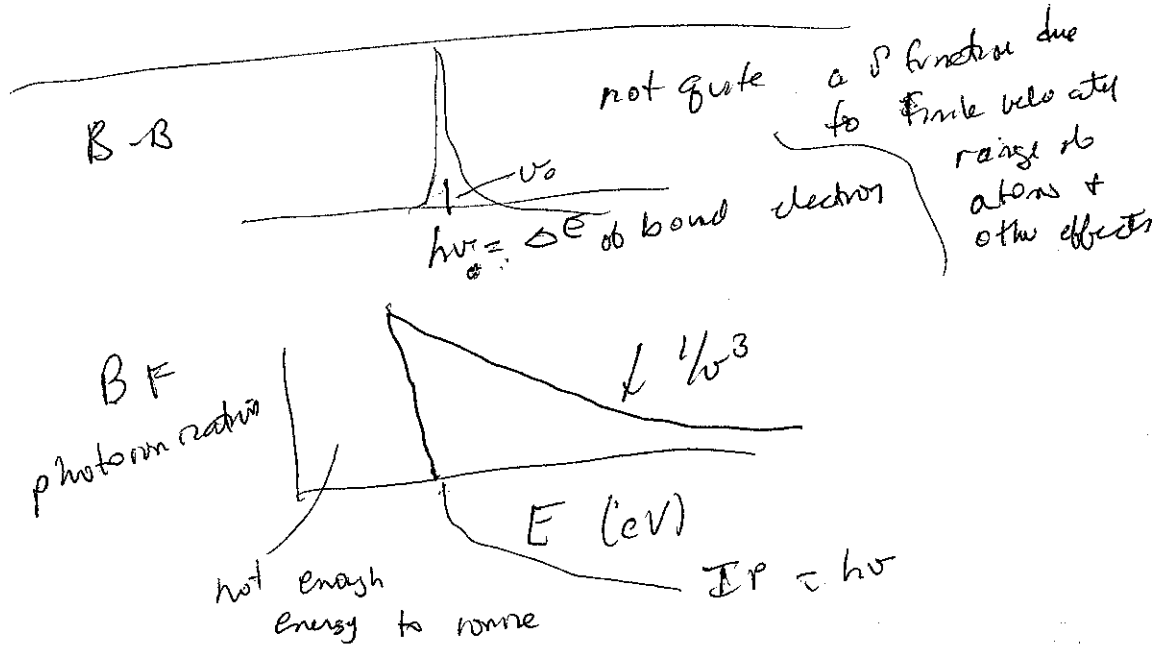
$$\sigma_R \propto \frac{1}{\lambda^4}$$

$\lambda_{blue} < \lambda_{red}$        $\sigma_R (blue) \gg \sigma_R (red)$

ISM absorption bigger in blue than red

Sun redder at sunset (blue all scattered)

Sky is blue (scattered light, many scatterings, arrive from all over)



$H^-$  in cool stars:  $H (p+e) + e$  (weakly bound)

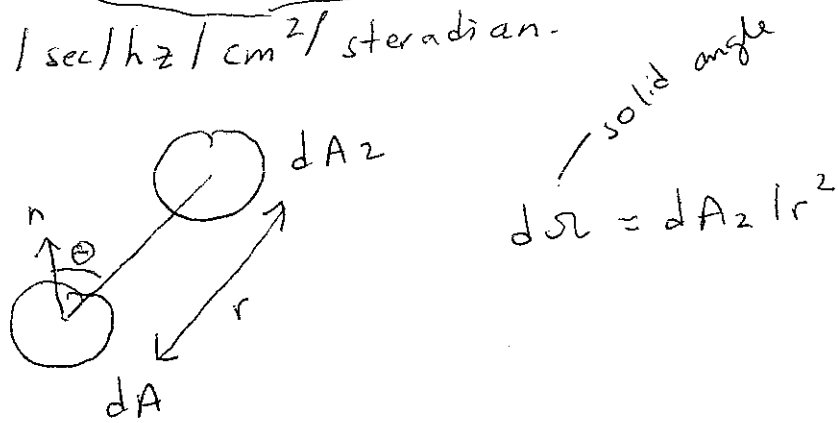
only  $H^-$  band state  $E = 0.754 \text{ eV} \Rightarrow \lambda = 16,500 \text{ \AA}$

important because period of BB radiation in cool stars

& few other opacity sources there (nothing involving normal H)

free electrons that provide 2nd e for  $H^-$  come from ionization of metals with  $IP < 13.6 \text{ eV}$  of H I

Fundamental parameter of radiation field  
 is  $I_\nu$  specific intensity. Units are  $\text{ergs/sec/hz/cm}^2/\text{steradian}$ . (5)



Energy flow from  $dA$  to  $dA_2$

$$[\text{ergs/sec/hz}] dE_\nu = I_\nu(\Omega) d\Omega d\nu dt (\hat{n} \cdot \hat{\Omega}) dA$$

$$\hat{n} \cdot \hat{\Omega} = \cos\theta = \text{projected area normal to ray along separation}$$

$$\int_{\text{over a sphere}} d\Omega = \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \int_0^\pi \sin\theta d\theta = 4\pi \quad (\text{spherical coordinates})$$

Beam travels a distance  $dl = c dt$  ( $v=c$ )

$$\text{Set } dV_{\text{volume}} = \cos\theta dA dl = \cos\theta dA c dt$$

$$\rightarrow dE_\nu = \frac{I_\nu}{c} d\Omega d\nu dV$$

$$\text{Energy density } u_\nu d\nu = \frac{1}{\Delta V} \int_{\Delta V} \int_{\Omega} dE_\nu$$

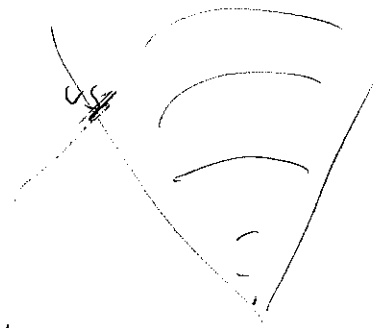
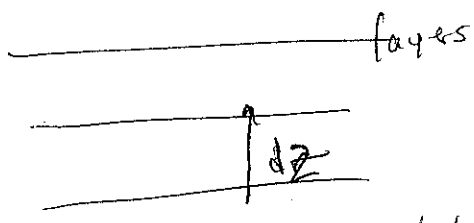
$$\boxed{u_\nu = \frac{1}{c} \int I_\nu d\Omega}$$

$$\frac{I_\nu d\Omega d\nu dt (\cos\theta) dA}{\cos\theta dA c dt} = I_\nu d\Omega d\nu$$

$$\text{So } dE_\nu = \frac{I_\nu}{c} d\Omega d\nu dV$$

Can assume  $I_r$  independent of time inside a star  
 i.e.  $\Delta t$  (nuclei etc)  $\gg \Delta t$  (radiation field)  
 (except SN explosions etc.)

In stellar atmosphere, plane  $\parallel$  approx



Simplifies equations a lot to not  
 have to take into account  
 spherical geometry.

Ignore curvature!

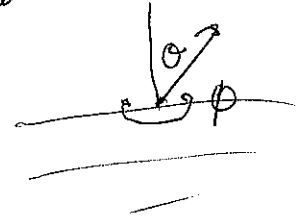
Just 1 variable,  $dr$

Treat as semi-infinite plane  $\parallel$  layers  
 OK for outer parts of \*

gets rid of all angle variables, independent of  $\phi$

$I_r(z, \theta)$

$u = \cos \theta$



Assume plane  $\parallel$  layers

pressure  
 $P_r =$  momentum flux  $\uparrow$  units dynes/cm<sup>2</sup>/hr  $\uparrow$  per unit area

$E$  (photon) =  $h\nu$        $p = h\nu/c$

need component of  $p$  along beam  $\perp$  to area

recall  $\int d\Omega = \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \int_0^\pi \sin\theta d\theta$

$$P_r = \iint \frac{I_r \cos^2\theta}{c} d\Omega = \frac{2\pi}{c} \int_0^\pi I_r \cos^2\theta \sin\theta d\theta$$

If  $I_r(\theta, \phi)$  independent of  $\phi$

If  $I_r$  isotropic (independent of  $\theta + \phi$ ), direction

$$P_r = \frac{2\pi}{c} I_r \left. \frac{\cos^3\theta}{3} \right|_0^\pi = \frac{4\pi}{3c} I_r$$

Radiative flux: ( $F_r$  ~~at~~ Radiation pressure) ergs/sect  $\frac{h\nu}{cm^2}$

$$E_r = F_r dA dt d\nu = \iint dE_r d\Omega$$

$$dE_r \frac{d\nu}{\nu} = I_r d\Omega d\nu dt dA \cos\theta = F_r dA dt d\nu$$

$$F_r = \iint I \cos\theta d\Omega$$

If  $I$  is isotropic,

$$F_r = 2\pi I \int_0^\pi \cos\theta \sin\theta d\theta = 2\pi I \left. \frac{\cos^2\theta}{2} \right|_0^\pi = 0$$

forward flux =  $F^+$       integral  $0 \leq \theta \leq 90^\circ$

Backward flux  $F^-$       "  $90 \leq \theta \leq 180^\circ$

(Net Flux)  $F = F^+ - F^-$  If isotropic radiation field  $F^+ = F^-$  and net flux = 0

Often use notation  $\mu = \cos\theta$  in radiative transfer equations. (Not mean weight per particle !)

Moments of  $I_\nu$

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(8)

$$J_\nu = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int I d\Omega \quad (\text{mean intensity})$$

$$F_\nu = \int I \mu d\Omega$$

$$K_\nu = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int I \mu^2 d\Omega$$

related to  $P_{rad}$  & to energy density

$$P_\nu = \frac{4\pi}{c} K_\nu$$

$$u_\nu = \frac{4\pi}{c} J_\nu$$

Isotropic -  $I$  independent of  $\theta, \phi$

$$J_\nu = I_\nu$$

$$F_\nu = 0 \quad (\text{no net flux})$$

$$F_- = F_+ = \pi I_\nu$$

$$K_\nu = \frac{1}{3} I_\nu$$

$$\text{so } P_\nu = \frac{1}{3} u_\nu$$

Axially symmetric,  $I$  independent of  $\phi$ , only  $I(\theta)$

$$J_\nu = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-1}^1 I \mu d\mu = 2\pi \int_0^\pi I \sin\theta d\theta$$

$$F_\nu = 2\pi \int_{-1}^1 I(\mu) \mu d\mu$$

Neither assumption is generally true.

This applies to  $\int F_\nu d\nu$ , not to  $F_\nu$  at a specific  $\nu$ , which depends on  $T$ , i.e. on  $B_\nu(T)$

In a stellar atmosphere, when all energy is from nuclear reactions close to the center of the star, & energy is transported by radiation, & plane // is OK, the integrated radiative flux is constant throughout the atmosphere. Not true in spherical geometry,  $F$  increases with depth as  $L$  constant but  $r$  decreasing. Once reach core  $L$  as  $r^2$ , so  $F \downarrow$  as  $r \downarrow$



# Black Body Radiation

(9)

$$I_\nu = B_\nu(T) = \frac{2h\nu^3}{c^2} \left[ e^{h\nu/kT} - 1 \right]^{-1}$$

$$B(T) = \int_0^\infty B_\nu(T) = \frac{2h}{c^2} \left( \frac{kT}{h} \right)^4 \int_0^\infty \frac{x^3}{e^x - 1} dx$$

$$= \frac{\sigma T^4}{\pi}$$

$\sigma =$  Stefan-Boltzmann constant  
 $= 5.67 \times 10^{-5} \text{ ergs/cm}^2/\text{sec/deg}^4$

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

$a =$  radiation constant  
 $= 4\sigma/c$

$$P_{\text{rad}} = \frac{4}{3} \frac{\pi}{c} B(T) = \frac{aT^4}{3}$$

$= 7.56 \times 10^{-15} \text{ erg/cm}^2/\text{deg}^4$

Photon # density ( $E/\text{photon} = h\nu$ )

$$= \int_0^\infty \frac{B_\nu(T)}{h\nu} d\nu = 20 T^3/\text{cm}^3$$

Brightness temperature - units of  $I_\nu$  are hard to remember,

Set  $T_B$ : at  $\nu = \nu_0$  ( $\lambda$  of interest)

$$I_{\nu_0}(T_B) = \text{actual } I_{\nu_0}$$

$I_\nu$  (actual) may not be a BB function at all!

$T_B$  much easier to use intuitively than  $I_B$

$10^{12}$  vs  $3 \text{ K}$  easy to remember

# Radiative Transfer Equation For Plane Parallel Layers

$$\frac{\mu}{\rho} \frac{dI_\nu(z, \mu)}{dz} = - \underbrace{k_\nu I_\nu}_{\text{absorption of radiation}} + \underbrace{j_\nu}_{\text{emission of radiation}}$$

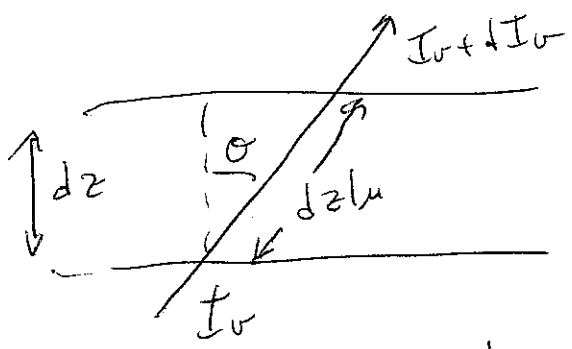
change in I with z

$j_\nu$  emission coefficient / unit mass, so  $j_\nu \rho = \epsilon I^+$   
 ↳ ergs / sec / Hz / steradian / gm

$k_\nu$  abs coefficient / unit mass  
 ↳ ergs / h z / gm       $k_\nu \rho = \sigma I^-$

$$j_\nu \approx k_\nu B_\nu + \sigma_\nu I_\nu$$

(abs)                      (scattering)



stellar surface

↑ z increases      ↓ r increases

Optical depth  $d\tau_\nu = -k_\nu dz$       • center

~~$\mu \frac{dI_\nu}{dz}$~~ 

$$\mu \frac{dI_\nu(z, \mu)}{dz} = I_\nu(z, \mu) - \frac{j_\nu}{k_\nu}$$

ratio: atomic physics

$\frac{j_\nu}{k_\nu} = S_\nu$  source function

$$\mu \frac{dI_\nu(z, \mu)}{dz} = I_\nu(z, \mu) - S_\nu(z)$$

Formal Solution ( ~~not~~ does not solve for  $I_{in}$  as need to know  $S_{ref}$  (temperature structure) )

$$I_{out}(\tau, \mu > 0) = \int_{\tau}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{(t-\tau)/\mu}{S(t)}} \frac{S(t)}{\mu} dt \quad \left. \vphantom{\int} \right\} \text{outward rays}$$

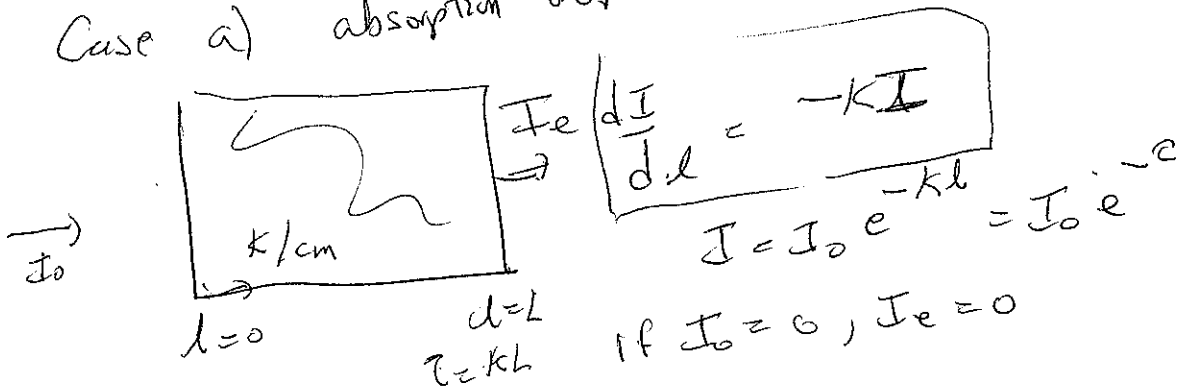
$$I_{in}(\tau, \mu < 0) = \int_{\tau}^0 e^{-\frac{(t-\tau)/\mu}{S(t)}} \frac{S(t)}{\mu} dt \quad \left. \vphantom{\int} \right\} \text{inward rays}$$

At surface,  $I_{in}$  is zero unless surface is illuminated by another object (boundary, etc)

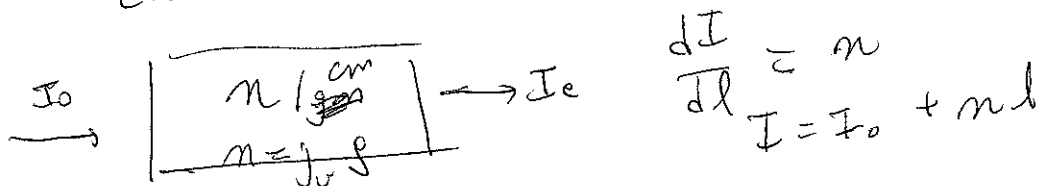
Get flux by integrating  $\int I(\mu, \tau) \mu d\Omega$   
 $F(\tau)$

Homogeneous slab

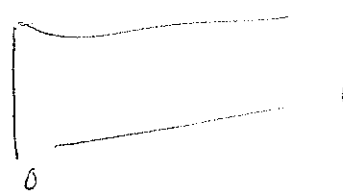
Case a) absorption only



Case b) emission only



Case e - both abs + emission (12)



$$\frac{dI}{dx} = n - kI$$

$$\frac{dI}{dx} > 0 \text{ if } n > kI$$

$$S = \frac{n}{k} > I$$

If  $S > I$ , emission dominates  
 If  $S < I$ , abs. dominates

In the radiative eq.,  $I$  constant, and  $I_0 = B_\nu(T)$ , so  $S_0 = B_\nu(T)$  also, since  $\frac{dI}{dx} = 0$

Note that  $S_\nu = \frac{n_\nu(z)}{k_\nu(z)}$  is a ratio of atomic processes only, so perhaps ok to say  $S_\nu = B_\nu$  ALWAYS, at least approximately

So  $\frac{dI_\nu}{dz}$  so if  $S > I$  i.e. if  $B > I$

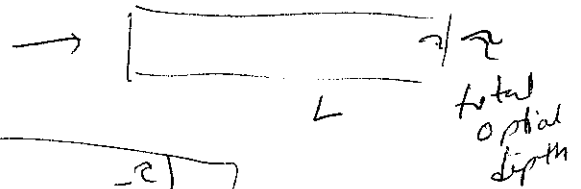
$B$  is a local  $f(T)$ ,  $I$  is determined by what is happening at distant locations

In usual stellar case, very hot interior determines  $I$ , surface is cooler,  $S < I$ , absorption is seen.

# Slab Again

(13)

$$\frac{dI}{dz} = S - I$$



$$I(z) = I_0 e^{-z} + S(1 - e^{-z})$$

formal solution, useless unless you know  $S(z)$ , i.e.  $T(z)$

For 0 incident light,  $I_0 = 0$   $I(z) = S(1 - e^{-z})$

$$I_{\max} = S = B_{\nu}(T) \text{ if } \tau \gg 1$$

For  $z$  small and  $I_0 = 0$

$$I(z) = S(1 - e^{-z}) \approx S[1 - (1 - z)] \approx Sz$$

Emission from an ~~astroph~~ optically thin slab.

$$I_{\nu}(L) = S_{\nu} k L \text{ for } \tau \ll 1$$

$$= S_{\nu}(T) \frac{kL}{L_e} = S_{\nu}(T) \tau_{\nu}$$

Thermodynamic Eq. / LTE

(14)

for thermodynamic eq.,  $I$  constant, incl. of  $t + position$ . So  $I_U = B_U(T)$   
 $S_U = B_U(T)$

this is required as  $\frac{dT}{d\ell} = 0$

$\frac{dI}{d\ell} = n - kI = 0$  So  $\frac{n}{k} = B_U(T) = I_U = S_U$

$\uparrow$  atomic physics (local) determined by distant locations

In thermodynamic eq. Boltzmann + Saha eqn hold

$\frac{n_i}{n_j} = \frac{g_i}{g_j} e^{-(E_i - E_j)/kT}$  Boltzmann eqn

+ for  $\frac{n_H}{n_e} = f(T)$  Saha eqn

$\left( \frac{2\pi m_e kT}{h^2} \right)^{3/2} \left( \frac{2U_2}{U_1} \right) e^{-IP/kT}$

(equivalent to electron collision dominate excitation + ionization, rather than photons dominating)

Local Thermodynamic Eq - this applies locally, although on very large scales it may not be true.

This works because particle/particle + photon/particle mean free paths are ~~small~~ short + collision rates are rapid compared to other stellar lengths or timescales (except

So 2 widely separated regions of star are effectively isolated from each other as far as thermodynamics is concerned. nuclear reactions, SN, core collapse etc)

Time for photon to diffuse out  
from stellar interior

(15)

Minimum opacity - electron scattering

Bohr radius for H ( $n=1$  level)  $\sim 5 \times 10^{-13}$  cm

Cross section  $\pi r_e^2$

Thompson scat.  $6 \times 10^{-25}$  cm<sup>2</sup>/electron

$\langle \rho \rangle$  (Sun)  $\approx 1.4$  gm/cm<sup>3</sup>

$\langle \mu \rangle$  (Sun)  $\approx 1/2$  (fully ionized H)

$\langle n_e \rangle \approx 10^{24}$  /cm<sup>3</sup>

$\langle n_e \sigma_T \rangle \approx 0.5$

mean free path  $= \frac{1}{\langle n_e \sigma_T \rangle} = \frac{1}{0.5} = 2$  cm

(Note how small this is compared to size of star, so ~~the random walk~~ LTE frequency shift in electron scattering ~~is ok~~ since  $v_e$  isotropic)

$$\frac{\Delta \nu}{\nu} \approx \frac{v_e}{c}$$

and  $\langle \frac{\Delta \nu}{\nu} \rangle = 0$  since  $v_e$  isotropic

$$\langle \left( \frac{\Delta \nu}{\nu} \right)^2 \rangle = \frac{\langle v_e^2 \rangle}{c^2} \quad \text{random walk}$$

# scatterings for a photon to forget its frequency

$$N \approx \frac{1}{\langle \left( \frac{\Delta \nu}{\nu} \right)^2 \rangle} = \frac{c^2}{\langle v_e^2 \rangle}$$

For  $T = 10^7$  K,  $v_e = 10^9$  cm/sec,  $\frac{v_e}{c} \approx \frac{1}{30}$

So  $N \sim 1000$

D for random walk of 1000 steps =  $\left( \frac{1}{2} \right) N^{1/2} = \frac{1}{2} N^{1/2}$

$$= 2 \sqrt{1000} = 60 \text{ cm}$$

↑  
mean free path

Other opacity sources besides electron

Scattering  $\tau_{Kp}$  from  $0.5 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  to  $10 \text{ cm}^{-1}$   
in Sun (averages)

mean free path

$$\langle \ell \rangle = \langle \frac{1}{\tau} \rangle^{-1} \approx 0.1 \text{ cm in Sun}$$

$$\frac{dT}{dr} \approx \frac{T_c}{R_\odot} \approx 10^{-4} \text{ for Sun}$$

time scale for photon to diffuse out of Sun

1st find  $N$  required  $\ell N^{1/2} = R_\odot$   $N = (R_\odot/\ell)^2$

$$t = N (\ell/c) = \frac{(R_\odot)^2}{\ell c} \approx \frac{1}{3} \times 10^{13} \text{ sec}$$

$$t \approx 10^5 \text{ years} \quad \text{photon diffuse out of Sun}$$

$$\text{Mean } T \text{ of } \odot \sim 4 \times 10^6 \text{ K}$$

$$L_{\text{rad}} = 4\pi R_\odot^2 F_{\text{rad}} = 4\pi R_\odot^2 \left[ \frac{4\pi}{3} a c T^3 \frac{dT}{dr} \right]$$

$$\approx 10^{34} \text{ ergs/sec} > L_{\text{actual of Sun}}$$

So radiation can carry the entire solar flux without problems.



Stellar Interiors: Use the Diffusion Approximation

(17)

In stellar interior, use diffusion approx

$J_r$  almost isotropic (so  $S_r$  almost isotropic)  
almost constant with depth

$$S_r(r) = B_r(r) + (r-2) \frac{dB_r}{2r} + \dots \quad (\text{Taylor series expansion})$$

Keep only 1st order term of this Taylor series

$$\int_{\mu > 0} I(r, \mu) d\mu = \int_0^\infty S_r(r) e^{-\mu(r-2)/r} \frac{d\mu}{\mu} \quad (\text{integrate this over } d\mu)$$

$$I(r, \mu) \approx B_r(r) + \mu \frac{dB_r}{2r}$$

(outward)

$$J_r \text{ (mean intensity)} \approx B_r(r)$$

$$\frac{L(r)}{4\pi r^2} = \text{Flux} \approx \frac{1}{3} \frac{dB_r}{2r} = -\frac{1}{3} \kappa_p \frac{2B}{2r} \frac{dT}{2r}$$

Valid only at high optical depth

$$\int_0^\infty I d\mu d\mu = \int_0^1 \mu^2 \frac{dB_r}{2r} d\mu$$

$$\int_0^1 \mu^2 d\mu = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\int B dv = \sigma T^4$$

$S_0$

$$L(r) = -\frac{16\pi ac}{3k\kappa} r^2 T^3 \frac{dT}{dr}$$

Note that  $\frac{L}{K} \propto \frac{2Bv}{T}$  is the above formula for  $L(r)$  (18)

Define Rosseland mean opacity  $K_R$  such that

$$\frac{L}{K_R} = \frac{\int_0^\infty \frac{L}{K} \frac{2Bv}{T} dv}{\int_0^\infty \frac{2Bv}{T} dv}$$

So setting  $K = K_R$  will work ok in above formula for  $L(r)$

2 points of interest in diffusion equation:

1)  $L(r) \propto \frac{dT}{dr}$

steepest gradient  $\rightarrow$  higher  $L(r)$

2)  $F_v(r) = \frac{L_v(r)}{4\pi r^2} \propto \frac{2Bv}{T} \frac{1}{KvS}$

For higher  $Kv$ ,  $F_v$  is smaller

$$\int_0^\infty F_v dv = L(r) = \text{constant (assuming outside core where nuclear reactions occur)}$$

So radiative ~~flow~~ flux transport through the star passes via frequencies that are less opaque (ie have lower  $Kv$ )

Another common opacity: often used in approximate simple calculations - (Kramer's opacity)

generic opacity  $K = K_0 \rho^h T^{-s} \text{ cm}^2/\text{gm}$

Thomson scattering of electrons,  $n=S=0$

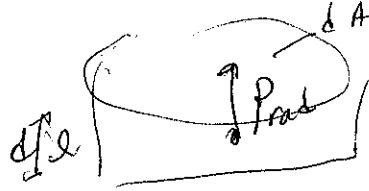
dominates in completely ionized regions  
Kramer's opacity ( $n=1, s=3.5$ ) is characteristic of radiative processes involving atoms.



Energy transferred to matter when light is absorbed (2)

$$dE_r = K_\nu \rho I_\nu d\Omega dv dt dA dl$$

momentum  
 $p = \frac{E}{c}$



↓ towards center of star  
 $P$  light flows toward surface

$$dP_r = \cos\theta \frac{dE_r}{c} = \frac{\mu}{c} K_\nu \rho I_\nu d\Omega dv dt dA dl$$

Integrate over solid angle

$$dP_r = \frac{4\pi}{c} K_\nu \rho H_\nu dv dt dA dl$$

$$dP = \frac{4\pi}{c} \rho dt dA dl \int_0^\infty K_\nu H_\nu dv$$

force =  $\frac{dP}{dt}$  Force / radiation =  $\frac{4\pi}{c} \rho dA dl \int_0^\infty K_\nu H_\nu dv$   
 $= \rho dA dl g_{rad}$

$$g_{rad} = \frac{4\pi}{c} \int_0^\infty K_\nu H_\nu dv$$

hydrostatic eq.

$$\frac{dP(r)}{dr} = -\rho(r) [g(r) - g_{rad}(r)]$$

$\nearrow$  to center / gravity  
 $\nwarrow$  up / radiation pressure

$g_{rad} > g_{grav}$ , matter pushed out of star  
 $g_{rad} \propto T_x^4$  so can be large in hot stars

Example 3.6 of Le Blanc

Assume opacity = Thomson scat.

Find upper limit to  $T_{eff}$  for a star before  $P_{rad} > P_{grav}$ . This is a maximum  $T_{eff}$  for a stable star

$$P_{rad} = \frac{4\pi}{c} \left( \frac{n_e \sigma_T}{g} \right) \int_0^\infty H_\nu d\nu$$

(constant  $\kappa$  independent of  $\nu$ )

$$P_{rad} = \frac{4\pi}{c} \left( \frac{n_e \sigma_T}{g} \right) \left( \sigma \frac{T_{eff}^4}{c} \right)$$

Assume pure H star  $g = n_p m_p + n_e m_e \approx n_p m_p$

Solve for  $T_{eff}$   
get  $T_{eff}^{max} = 60,000 K$