

[tex60] Maxwell distribution derived from minimizing the H–function

Minimize Boltzmann's H-function

$$H(t) = \int d^3v f(\mathbf{v}, t) \ln f(\mathbf{v}, t)$$

for the spatially uniform velocity distribution  $f(\mathbf{v}, t)$  of a classical ideal gas. Impose the integral constraints

$$\int d^3v f(\mathbf{v}, t) = 1, \quad \frac{1}{2}m \int d^3v v^2 f(\mathbf{v}, t) = \frac{3}{2}k_B T,$$

dictated by normalization and equipartition, respectively. Show that the resulting velocity distribution is Maxwellian.

**Solution:**