

# Statistical mechanics - distributions - mean, variance, and standard distribution

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Given a distribution in  $v$  of

$$D = Av^2 e^{-Bv^2},$$

find the first, second moment, variance, and standard deviation in the interval 0 to  $\infty$  ( $A$  and  $B$  are real and positive)?

Solution:

This first moment is

$$\langle v \rangle = \frac{A \int_0^\infty v \cdot v^2 e^{-Bv^2} dv}{A \int_0^\infty v^2 e^{-Bv^2} dv} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{B\pi}}$$

The second moment is

$$\langle v^2 \rangle = \frac{A \int_0^\infty v^2 \cdot v^2 e^{-Bv^2} dv}{A \int_0^\infty v^2 e^{-Bv^2} dv} = \frac{3}{2B}$$

The variance is

$$\sigma^2 = \langle v^2 \rangle - \langle v \rangle^2 = \frac{1}{B} \left( \frac{3}{2} - \frac{4}{\pi} \right)$$

The standard deviation is

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{1}{B} \left( \frac{3}{2} - \frac{4}{\pi} \right)}$$