Speed distributions and statistical ensembles

GRE Subject Test · GRE Physics · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
probability density /ˌprɒbə'bɪlɪti 'densɪti/	Integrate the **probability density** over the chosen speed interval.
Maxwell distribution /'mækswel ˌdɪstrɪ'bju:ʃn/	The **Maxwell distribution** gives the spread of molecular speeds.
equipartition /ɪˌkwɪpɑ:'tɪʃn/	By **equipartition**, each quadratic term gets ½kT. ½kT
degeneracy /dɪ'dʒenərəsi/	The **degeneracy** of a level is how many states share its energy.
root-mean-square speed	The **root-mean-square speed** rises with temperature.
canonical ensemble /kə'nɒnɪkl ɒn'sɒmbl/	The **canonical ensemble** describes a system exchanging heat at fixed temperature.

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