

Molecules in motion

- Transport processes
 - Diffusion: transport of matter
 - Thermal conductivity: transport of energy
 - Viscosity: transport of momentum
 - **Ionic conduction: transport of ions/charge**
- Interpretation of transport processes with the kinetic theory of gases
- Effusion
- Barometric formula

Transport phenomena

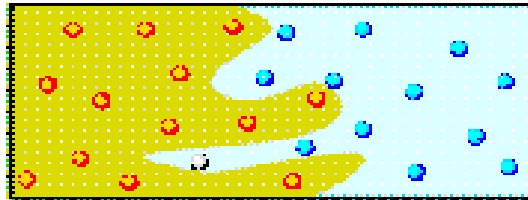
Phenomenon	gradient	transport
Diffusion	concentration	matter
Thermal conduction	temperature	energy
Viscosity	velocity	momentum
Ionic conduction	electronic potential	charge

- Transport processes can be found in all three phases (with some exceptions).
- In transport processes, only the molecules are in motion, the system and its macroscopic parts are not.
- There is no convection or mixing.

Transport phenomena

- **Diffusion:**

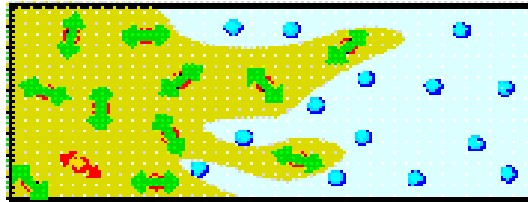
- particle transport



(a)

- **Thermal conduction:**

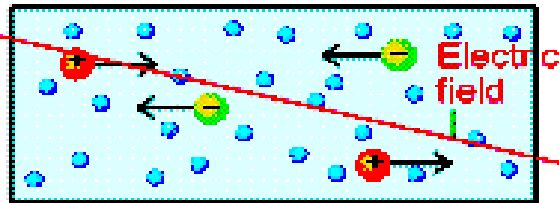
- energy transport



(b)

- **Electrolytic conduction:**

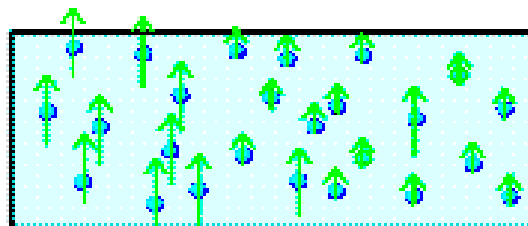
- charge transport



(c)

- **Viscosity:**

- momentum transport



(d)

Transport phenomena

Common concepts in transport phenomena:

- **Gradient:** one of the parameters ($T, c, E \dots$) is inhomogeneously distributed in space, at least in one direction.
- **Flux:** the quantity of a given property ($m, v \dots$) passing through a given area in a given time interval divided by the area and the duration of the interval.
 - Symbol: $J(\text{matter, charge } \dots)$.
 - $J(\text{matter}) \propto \frac{dN}{dz}$
 - N : number density of particles with units number per cubic meter

Diffusion: transport of matter (molecular level)

$$J(\text{matter}) = -D \frac{dN}{dz}$$

$$[J]: \quad \text{m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

flux of matter

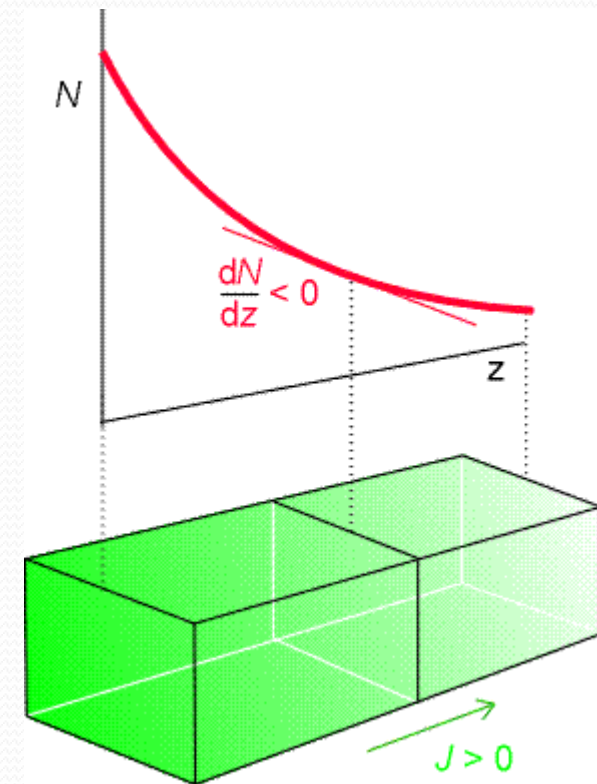
$$[D]: \quad \text{m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

diffusion coefficient

$$dN/dz: \text{m}^{-4}$$

concentration gradient

- **Fick's first law of diffusion:** diffusion will be faster when the concentration varies steeply with position than when the concentration is nearly uniform.
- Different concentrations mean different chemical potentials (since μ depends on c),
- Practical importance: motion of matter in soils.



Thermal conduction: transport of energy

$$J(\text{energy}) = -\kappa \frac{dT}{dz}$$

[J]: $\text{J m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ flux of energy

[κ]: $\text{J K}^{-1} \text{m}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1}$ coefficient of thermal conductivity

dT/dz : K m^{-1} temperature gradient

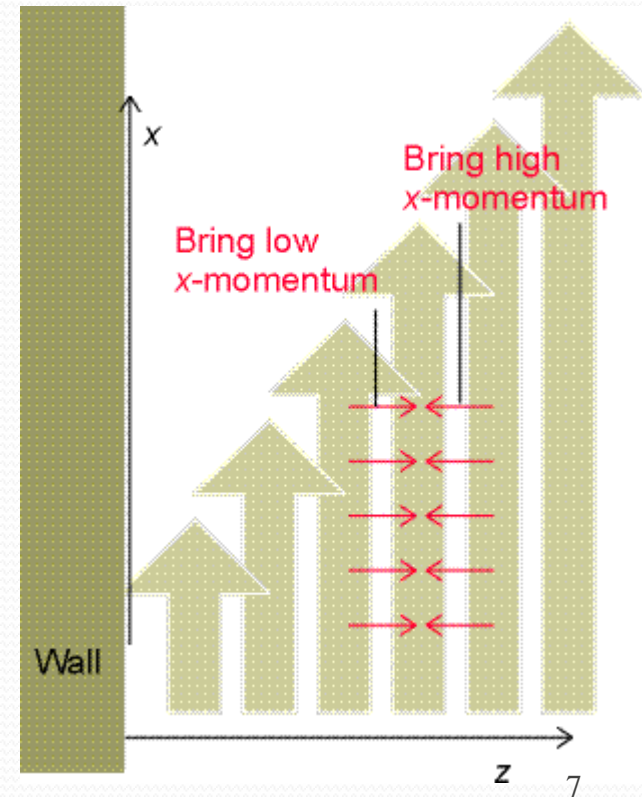
- Energy migrates down a temperature gradient.
- The connection between flux and gradient is similar to **Fick's first law of diffusion**.
- Good thermal conductors: metals (Ag, Cu, Au, Al), marble, diamond
- Good thermal insulators: vacuum, CO₂, plastic, wood
- Practical importance: thermal insulation of houses.
- There is **molecular heat conduction, macroscopic (convective) heat flow and heat radiation**.

Viscosity: transport of momentum

$$J(\text{momentum})_z = -\eta \frac{dv_x}{dz}$$

$[J]: \text{ kg m}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-2}$ flux of momentum
 $[\eta]: \text{ kg m}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ coefficient of viscosity
(or simply 'the viscosity')
 $dv_x/dz: \text{ s}^{-1}$ velocity gradient

- Because the retarding effect depends on the transfer of the x -component of linear momentum into the layer of interest,
- the viscosity depends on the flux of this x -component in the z -direction.



Data for gases:

- diffusion coefficients: $10^{-4} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$
- coefficients of thermal conductivity: $0.01\text{-}0.1 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ m}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$
- coefficients of viscosity: $1\text{-}2 \times 10^{-5} \text{ kg m}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$

	Density (g cm^{-3})	Diffusion ($\text{cm}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$)	Viscosity ($\text{g cm}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$)
Gas	10^{-3}	10^{-1}	10^{-4}
Supercritical fluid	$10^{-1} - 1$ <i>Liquid-like</i>	$10^{-4} - 10^{-3}$ <i>Liquid-like</i>	$10^{-4} - 10^{-3}$ <i>Gas-like</i>
Liquid	1	$< 10^{-5}$	10^{-2}

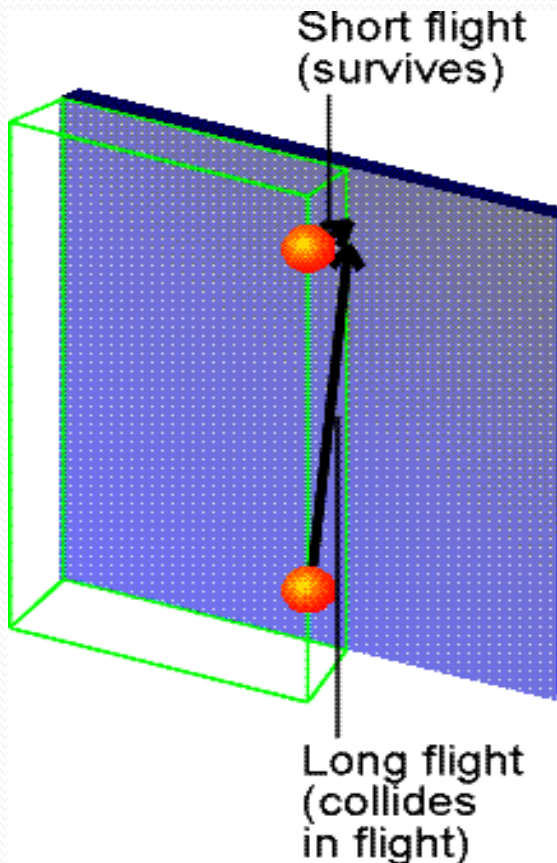
Kinetic theory of gases:

- Molecules in the gaseous phase (macroscopic equilibrium).
 - The gas particles (with m mass) move continuously in a straight line with constant speed and
 - they collide. The collisions are perfectly elastic (there is no change in the shape of the molecule).
- The gas molecules have „only” m mass and v velocity, so, **momentum** (mv) and **kinetic energy** ($\frac{1}{2} mv^2$).

Kinetic theory of gases - results:

- **Mean free path:** $\lambda = \frac{k_B T}{\sqrt{2} \sigma p}$
 - σ : collision cross-section
 - p and T have opposite effects on λ .
- **Mean speed** of a particle with m mass (i.e. $M = N_A \cdot m$ molar mass):
$$\bar{c} = \left(\frac{8k_B T}{\pi m} \right)^{1/2} = \left(\frac{8RT}{\pi M} \right)^{1/2}$$
 - The mean speed is directly proportional with $T^{1/2}$ and
 - inversely proportional to $M^{1/2}$.
- **Collision frequency:** $Z_w = \frac{p}{(2\pi m k_B T)^{1/2}}$
 - Z_w : the number of collisions made by one molecule divided by the time interval during which the collisions are counted

The **transport constants** from the **kinetic theory of gases**:



diffusion coefficient:

$$D = \frac{1}{3} \lambda \bar{c}$$

coefficient of thermal conductivity:

$$\kappa = \frac{1}{3} \lambda \bar{c} C_{V,m} [A]$$

coefficient of viscosity:

$$\eta = \frac{1}{3} \lambda \bar{c} m N$$

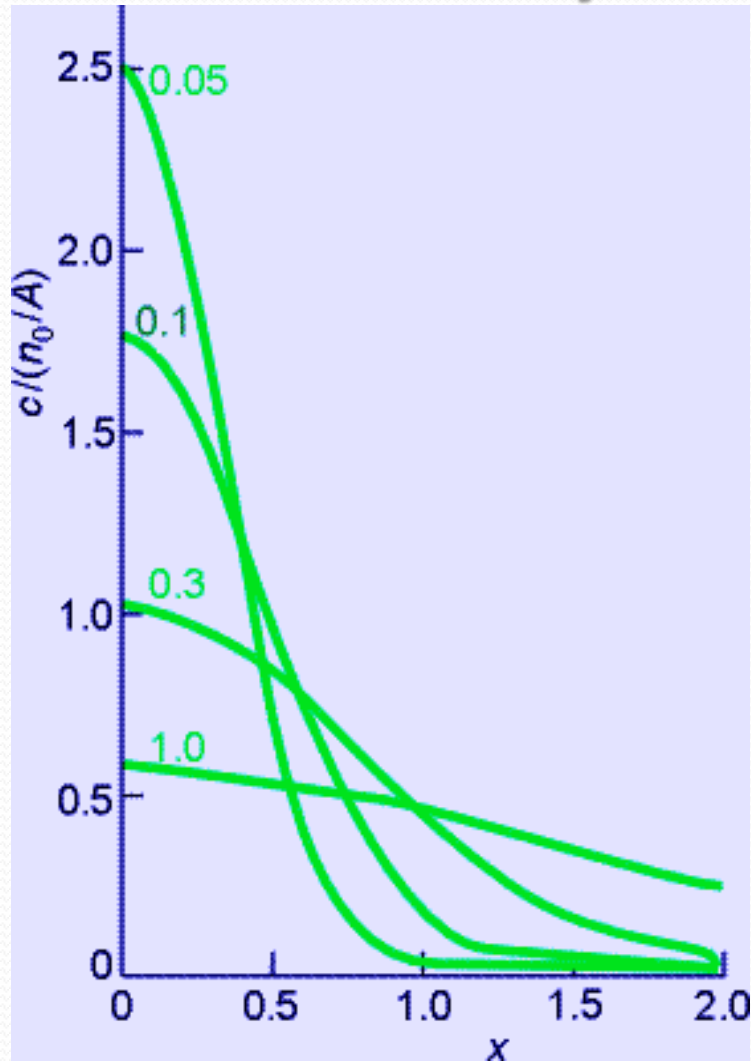
Time and diffusion: **the diffusion equation** **(Fick's 2nd law)**

- At a given position x , the concentrations change is given as:

$$\frac{\partial c}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial x^2}$$

- Some solutions of the diffusion equation:
- An initial value and two boundary conditions are needed:
 - At $t = 0$, the concentration is N_0 in the x, y plane
 - No reactions in the system
 - Concentration are always finite.
 - *Sugar at the bottom of the tea cup: diffusion in space*

Time and diffusion: **the diffusion equation** **(Fick's 2nd law)**



- A solution of the diffusion equation:

$$c = \frac{n_0 e^{-\frac{x^2}{4Dt}}}{A(\pi Dt)^{1/2}}$$



Effusion:

- **Effusion:** gas slowly escapes through a small hole into an external vacuum (a tire becomes flat slowly if the hole is small [*Vacuum is relative: the essence is the unidirectional diffusion.*])
- **Graham's law of effusion:** the rate of effusion is inversely proportional to the square root of the molar mass (an old determination method for molar mass):

$$\text{rate of effusion} \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{M}}$$

Inhomogeneity in gas pressure in an external force field:

- In a force field (e.g. **gravity field of Earth**), the pressure is not uniform (e.g. atmosphere): there is an exponential decrease in pressure with the elevation. This is described by the barometric formula:

$$p = p_0 e^{-\frac{Mgh}{RT}}$$

- The phenomenon can be observed in an artificial „gravity” field (centrifuge) as well, and the distribution (which depend on the molar mass) can be used in separating different isotopes.