

Velocity distributions and kinetic equations for plasmas including Levy-type noise

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Our task

- Theoreticians like Gaussian distributions and in particular the Maxwell distribution of velocities which was found already in 1866.
- In nature we find sometimes weak deviations (noneq gases and plasmas) and sometimes big deviations from Maxwell (high energy events, explosions of clusters or heavy nuclei, shocks, TOKAMAKs, laser-radiated D-clusters,.....)
- problem of hydrodynamics (E.Son)

Open questions

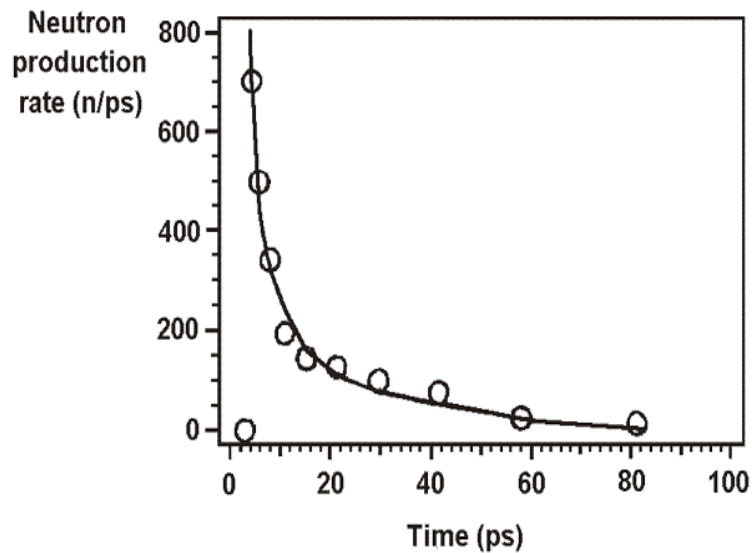
- Sometimes we have no good theory but assume hypothetically strong deviations as
- gas discharges (Dryuvestein distributions)
- anomal diffusion at the edge of Tokamak devices
- flow problems,
- The high neutron emission from irradiated clusters as due to high energy wings???

What is known about Coulomb clusters exc by fs laser beams

- See reviews Krainov/Smirnow, Phys. Reports 370, 237 (2002), + KSS Uspekhi 50, 237 (2007)
- --- 10^{-14} --- 10^{-13} ---- 10^{-12} ---- 10^{-11} ----
- laser pulse cluster life time formation of uniform plasma
- Coulomb energy plays a large role $R(t) \sim c t$
($c \sim$ sound speed)
- Note: our estimate of $R(t)$ is more complicated but leads also to a quasilinear dependence

About the LLNL EXPERIMENTS

PRL 85, 3640 (2000)



- Laser pulse filament
- diam. 200 μm , length 1 mm
 - average ion density:
 - $2 \cdot 10^{19} / \text{cm}^3$
 - peak average ion energy ~
 - 12 keV
- Total neutron yield per shot ~ 5000-20000

Outline of this talk

- We explain the difference between Gauss and Levy distributions
- we study convolutions of Gauss and Levy distributions,
- we solve the Langevin equation with pure Levy and mixed noise sources,
- we discuss the high energy tails and possible applications

What is a Levy distribution?

$$W_L(\beta, \alpha) = \int_0^{\infty} \cos(\beta t) \exp(-t^\alpha) dt,$$

$$W_L(\beta, \alpha) \sim 1 / \beta^{\alpha+1} \quad \text{if } \alpha < 2$$

$$W_L(\beta, 2) \sim \exp(-c\beta^2) \quad \text{Gauss distr}$$

$$W_L(\beta, 1) \sim \frac{a}{b + \beta^2} \quad \text{Cauchy distr}$$

- Levy distributions are quite general distr which contain Gauss- and Cauchy- distributions as special cases. Specific property = long tails
- Note: in 3d we have a $(t \sin t)$ instead of $(\cos t)$

Levy distr play a role in plasma physics since 1919 when Holtsmark showed that the 3d-microfield distributions are Levy-type (index 1.5)

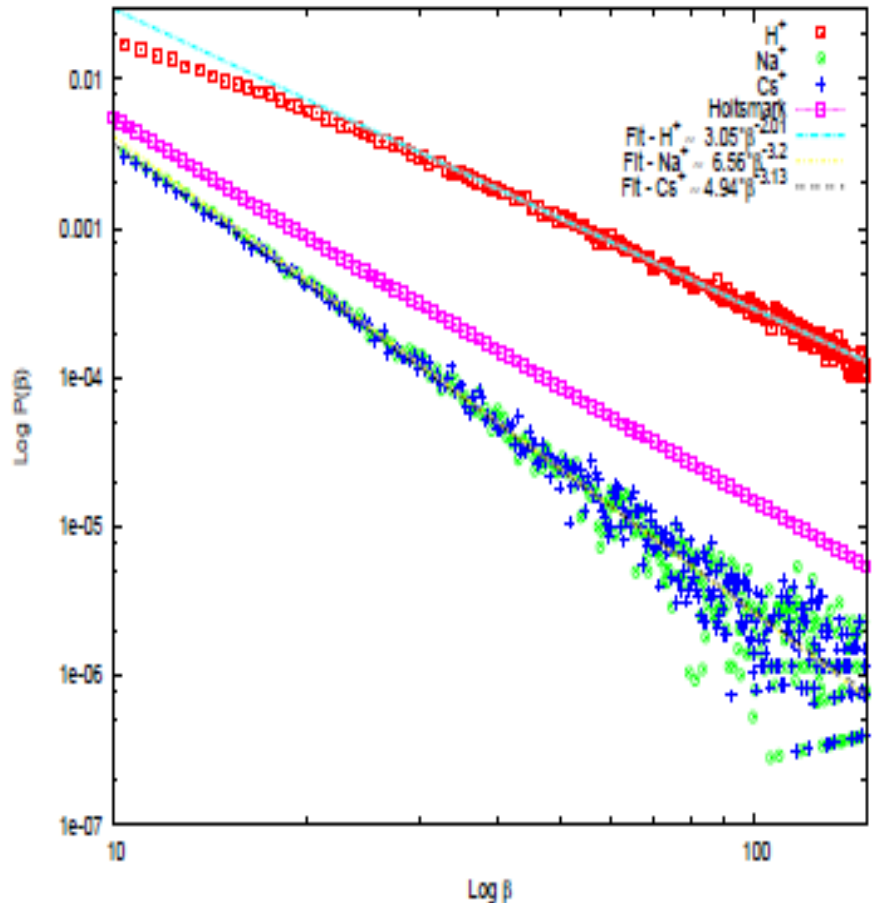
$$W_{MF}(\beta, \alpha) = C \int_0^{\infty} t \sin(\beta t) \exp(-t^\alpha) dt,$$

$$W_{MF}(\beta, \alpha) \sim 1/\beta^{\alpha+1}, \dots E_H = 1.2en^{2/3}$$

- Here beta = E / E_n
- E_n characteristic field (E_H - Holtsmark field)
- alpha = 1.5 for Holtsmark distributions
- Mayer/Broyles found alpha = 2 for dense plasmas
- MRom found alpha = 1 for Kepler scattering
- Our simul: index changes in range 0.5 < alpha < 1.5,

Levy exponents of the tails from simulations (Sadykova/Valuev workshop 2009)

- In the present example $\Gamma=2$ we find
- $\alpha < 1$ for H
- $\alpha \sim 1.5$ for neutrals
- $\alpha \sim 2$ for alkali
- Microfield distributions are appr of Levy-type but $1 < \alpha < 2$ and E_n are free parameters, depending on species, n , T , the main body is Gaussian



Here we are interested not in Microfield distributions but in Velocity Distributions which are generated by microscopic stochastic forces: Gaussian collisions + Holtsm-electr microfields.

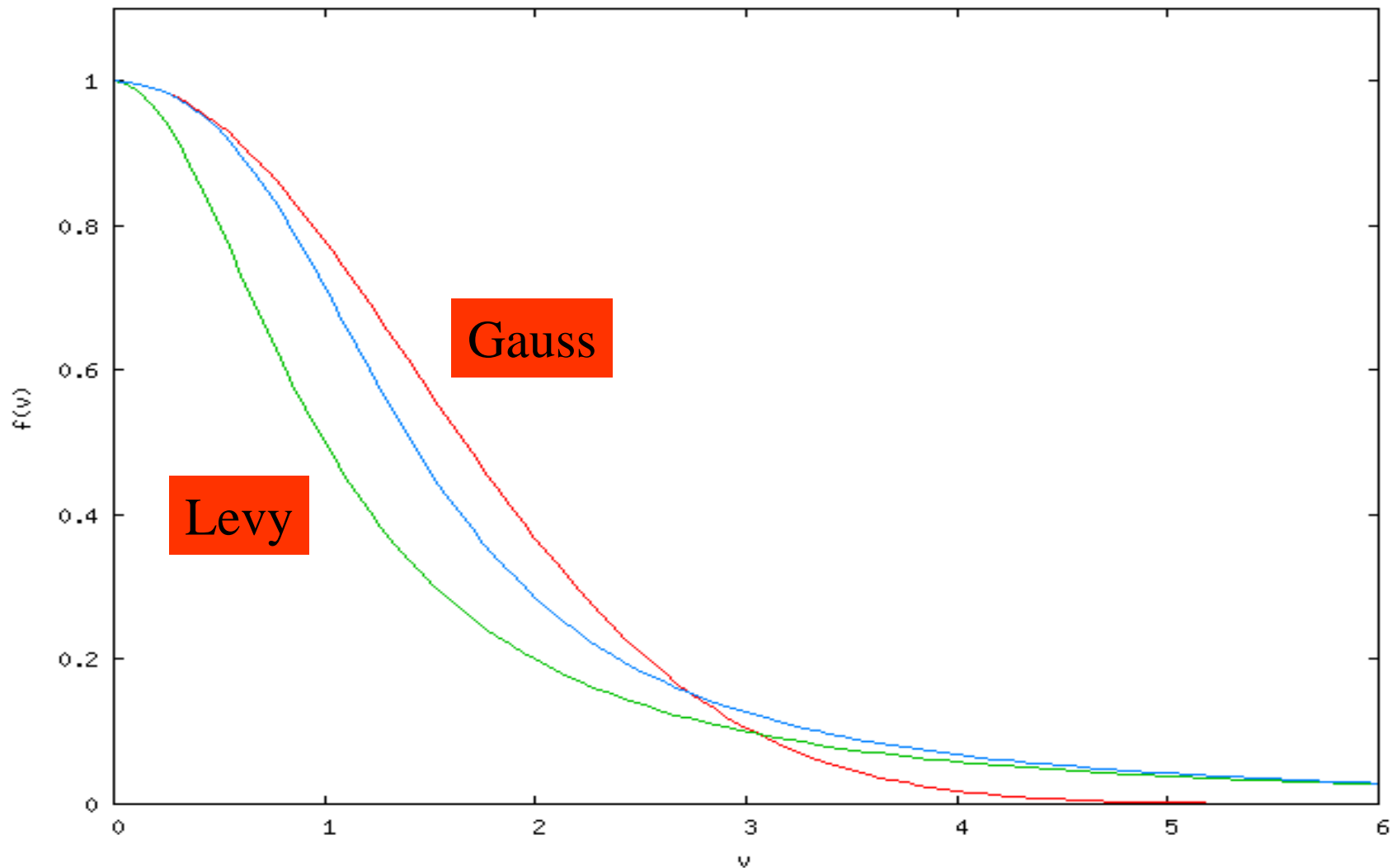
- Collisions corr to Gauss-distributed forces, microfields to Levy-distributed forces. In a first appr we obtain the integral distribution by a convolution of Gaussian with Levy-distributions

$$W(y) = \int dz W_G(y-z) W_L(z)$$

$$W(y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dk \cos(ky) \exp(-at^{\alpha} - bt^2)$$

$$W(y) \sim 1/y^{\alpha+1}$$

Comparison of Gauss- with Cauchy distr and convoluted Gauss-Cauchy distr



For Gaussian stoch forces follows the
standard Fokker-Planck eq.

(a special case is the Landau eq.),

Maxwell solutions

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} f(v, t) = \nabla[\gamma v f(v, t)] + D \nabla^2 f(v, t)$$

$$f_0(v) = C \exp\left[-\frac{\gamma v^2}{2D}\right] = C \exp\left[-\frac{mv^2}{2k_B T}\right]$$

For Levy forces follows a kinetic equation with fractal derivatives

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} f(v, t) = \nabla[\gamma v f(v, t)] + D \nabla^\alpha f(v, t)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} f(k, t) = -\gamma k \frac{\partial}{\partial k} f(k, t) + D k^\alpha f(k, t)$$

The velocity distribution function for Levy noise

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} f(k, t) = -\gamma_0 k \frac{\partial}{\partial k} f(k, t) + D k^\alpha f(k, t)$$

$$f_0(k) = \exp[-D(t) |k|^\alpha]; D(t) = \frac{qE_n}{m\alpha\gamma_0} [1 - \exp(-\alpha\gamma_0 t)]$$

$$W(|v|) = \frac{2|v|}{\pi} \int_0^\infty t \sin(|v|t) \exp(-t^\alpha) dt \sim \frac{d(t)}{\alpha |v|^{\alpha+1}}$$

$$\alpha = 1 \longrightarrow W(|v|) = \frac{4d(t) |v|^2}{\pi [d(t) + |v|^2]^2}$$

The velocity distribution for Gauss+Levy forces

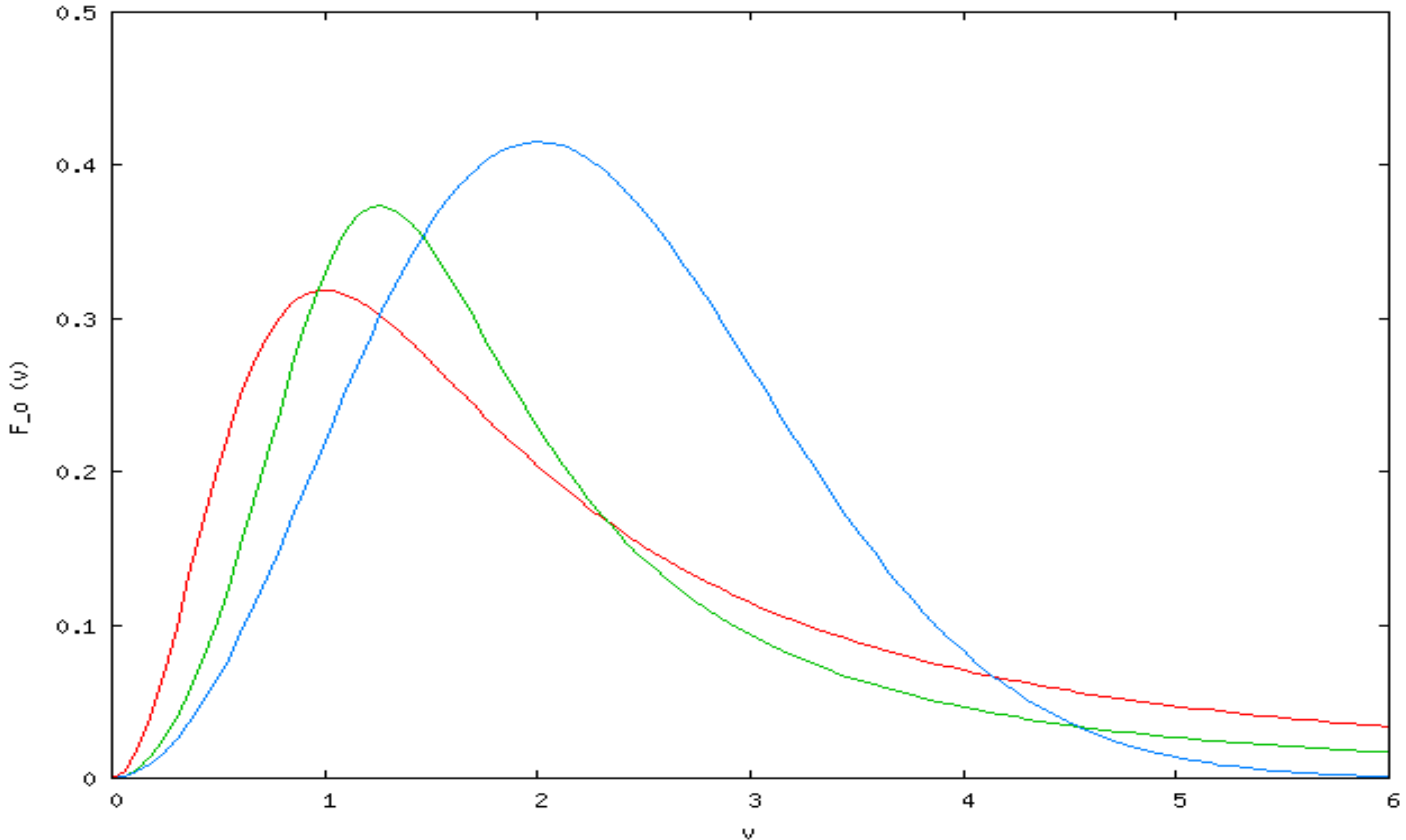
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} f(k, t) = -\gamma_0 k \frac{\partial}{\partial k} f(k, t) + (D_\alpha k^\alpha + D_2 k^2) f(k, t)$$

$$f_0(k) = \exp\left[-d_\alpha(t) D_\alpha |k|^\alpha - d_2(t) D_2 k^2\right];$$

$$d_\alpha(t) = \frac{1}{\alpha\gamma} [1 - \exp(-\alpha\gamma t)]$$

$$W(|v|) = \frac{2|v|}{\pi} \int_0^\infty k v \sin(k|v|) \exp\left(-\frac{D_\alpha |k|^\alpha}{\alpha\gamma} - \frac{D_2 k^2}{2\gamma}\right) dt \sim \frac{d(t)}{\alpha |v|^{\alpha+1}}$$

Distr of the modulus of the velocity (root of kinetic energy)

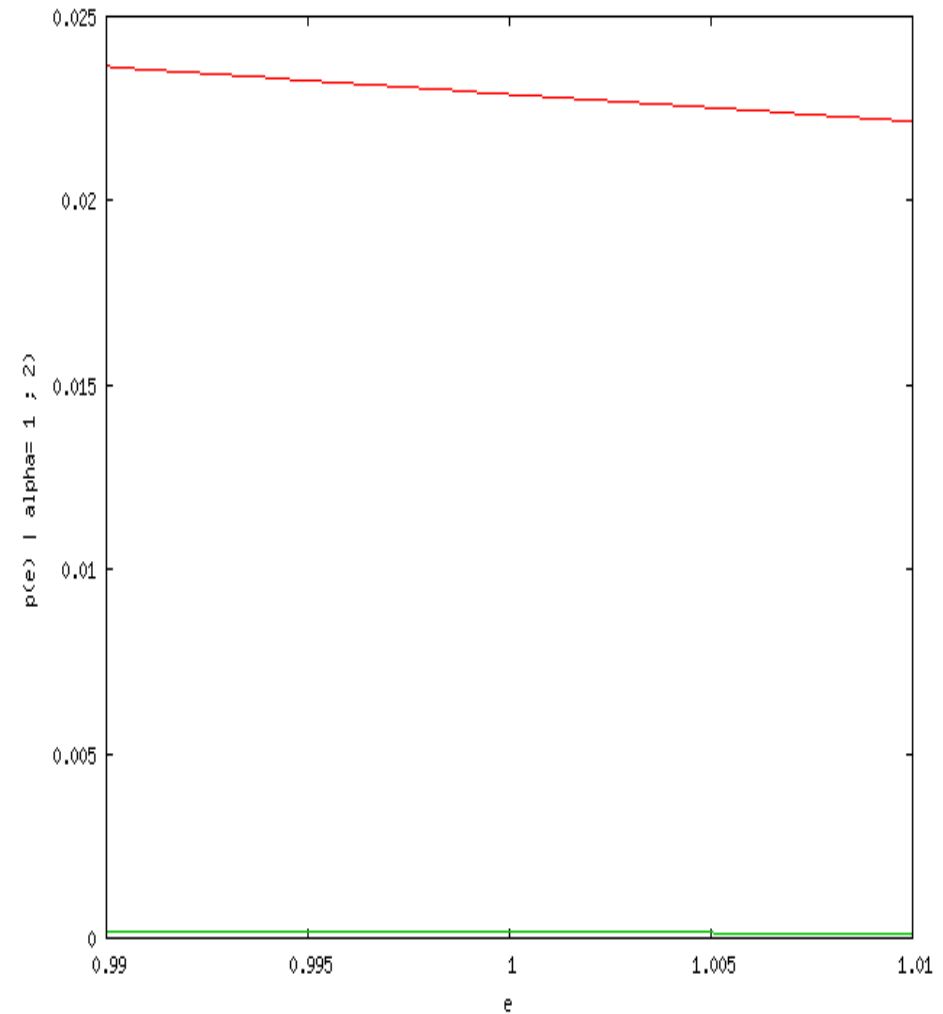
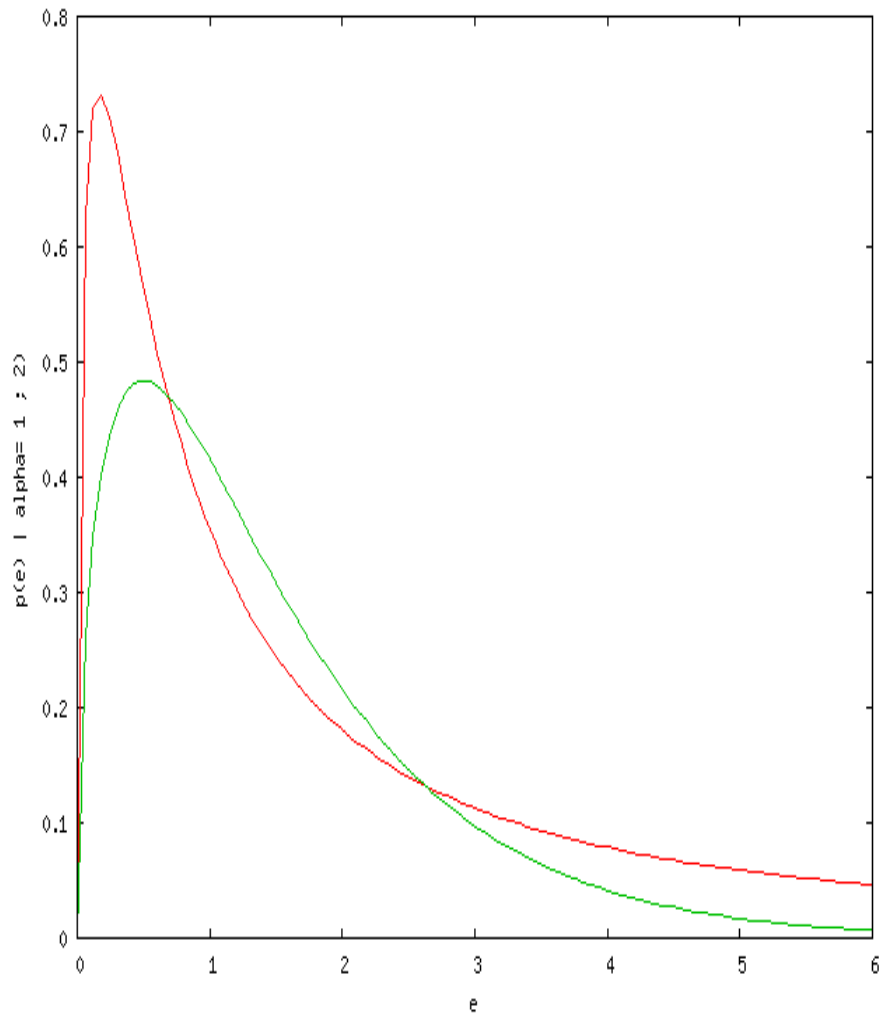


The energy distribution for Gauss+Levy forces

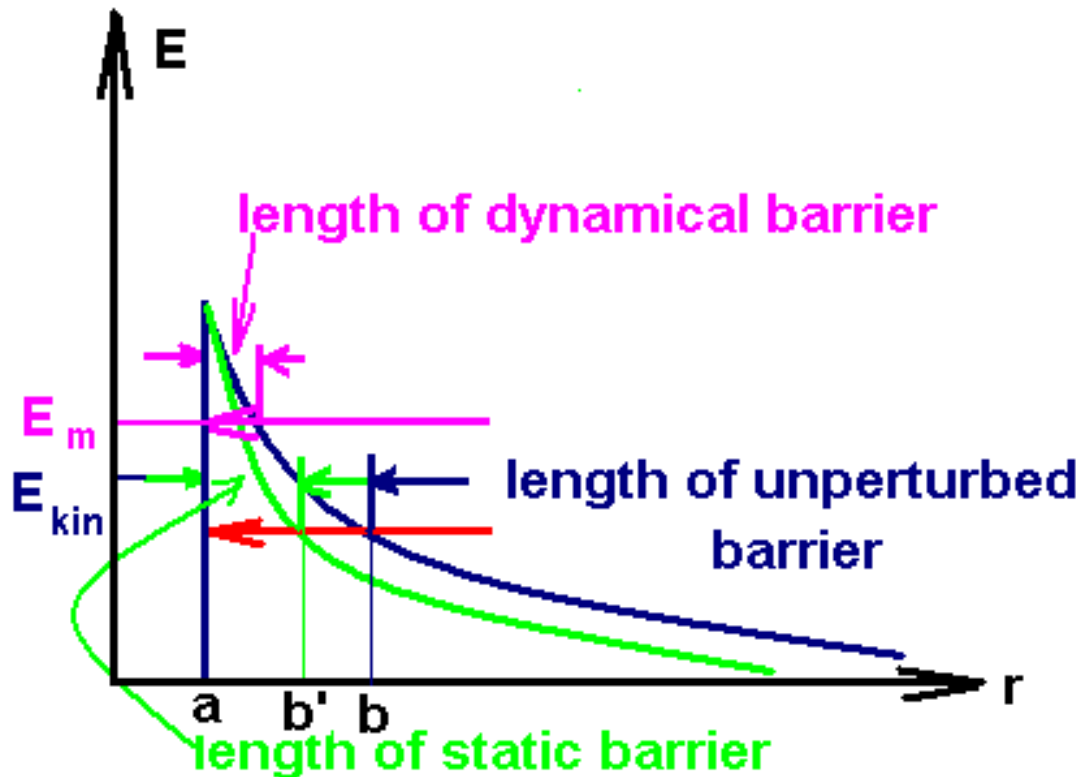
$$W(\varepsilon) = C \int_0^{\infty} k \sqrt{2m\varepsilon} \sin(k \sqrt{2m\varepsilon}) \exp\left(-\frac{D_\alpha k^\alpha}{\alpha\gamma} - \frac{D_2 k^2}{2\gamma}\right) dk$$

$$W(\varepsilon) \sim \frac{\text{const}}{\alpha \varepsilon^{\alpha+1/2}}, \quad W(\varepsilon > \varepsilon_0) \sim \frac{\text{const}}{\alpha (\alpha + 1) \varepsilon^{\alpha-1/2}}$$

Difference between Gauss and Cauchy distr
is for $(E/kBT \sim 10)$ already about 140, increases quickly



The problem of nuclear fusion (Gamov model)



- Fusion occurs as the result of tunneling of protons/deuterons through the Coulombic barrier: Enhancement requires influencing the barrier during the reaction time
- **or changing velocity distribution**

Take Thompson cross section of fusion average over energy distr (Cauchy)

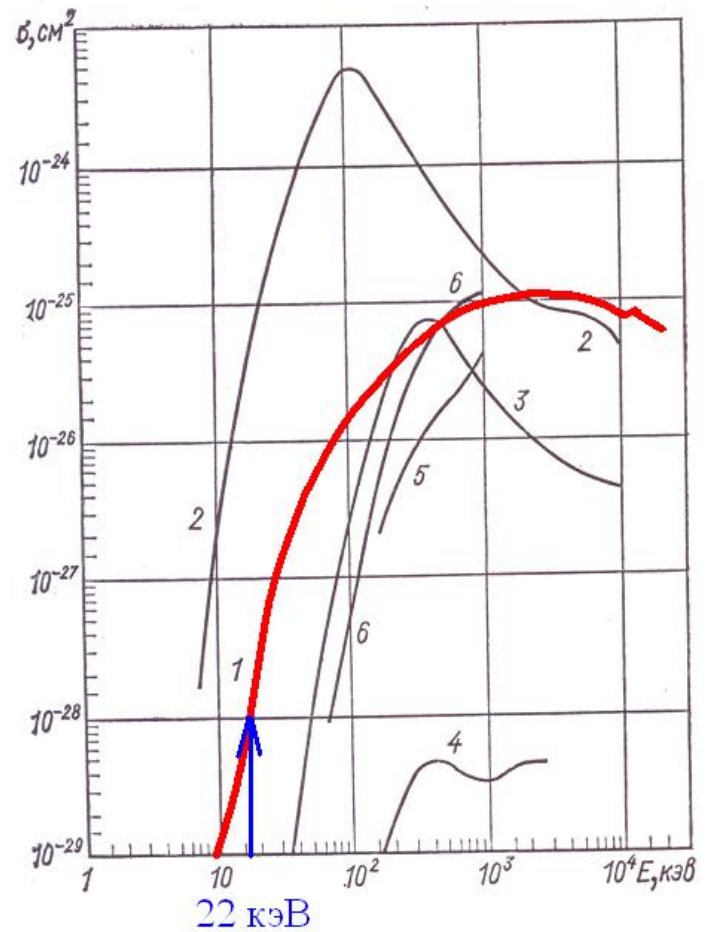
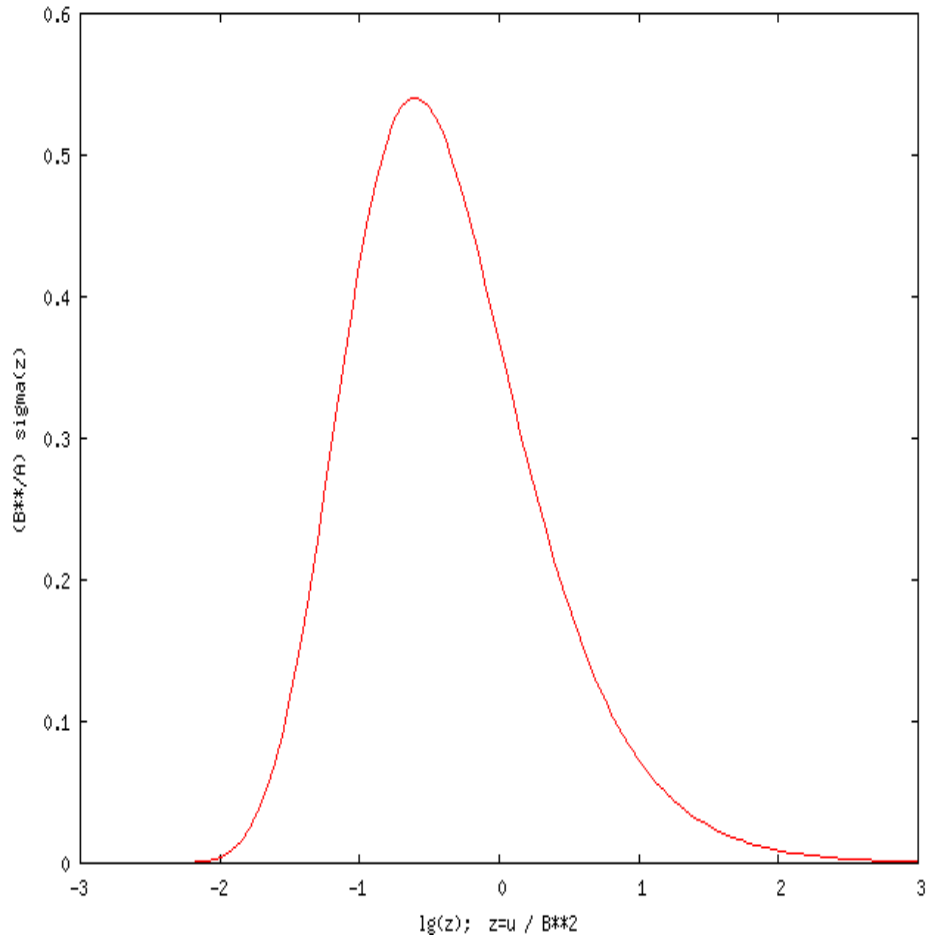
$$\sigma(U) = \frac{A}{U} \exp\left(-\frac{B}{\sqrt{U}}\right)$$

$$\frac{dN_n}{dt} = Nn(t)v\sigma(u)$$

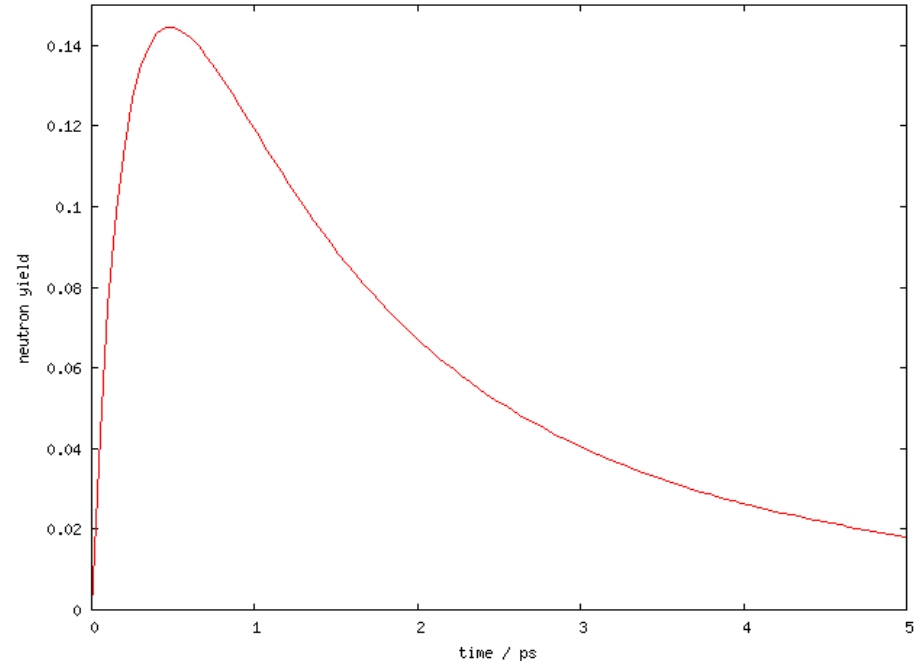
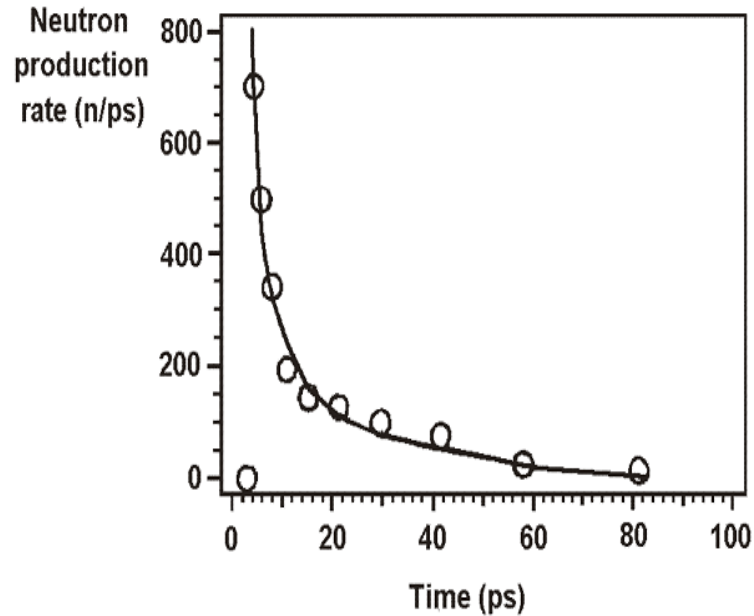
$$\frac{dN_n}{dt} = Nn(t) \frac{2Ad(t)}{\pi B^2} \int_0^\infty du \exp\left[-\frac{B}{\sqrt{u}}\right] \frac{B^2}{[u + d(t)(m/2)]^2}$$

The Thompson semi-empirical REACTION CROSS-SECTION

left: Thompson formula; right: data for several reactions DD=red



LLNL EXPERIMENTS (PRL 85, 3640 (2000)) vs. our estimate



Exp: Shot about 50 ps

average ion density:

- $2 \cdot 10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3}$

peak average ion energy

- $\sim 12 \text{ keV}$

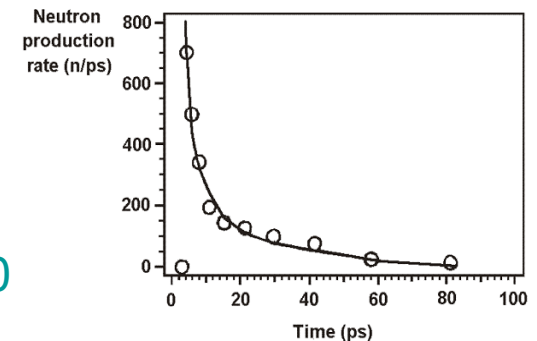
Total neutron yield

100-1000 neutrons/shot

- estimate $\sim 30-100$

Interpretation: Fast ionization of clusters by strong laser pulses, explosion due to Coulomb repulsion

- in subsequent collisions sometimes very high fields are created which accelerate D-D fusion
- LLNL-group: main role play “collisions of clusters” [PRL 85, 3640 \(2000\)](#)
- Our estimate: coll times too short cross sections too small. The observation of neutrons 100 -1000 neutrons / ps remains unexplained



Our interpretation

- The strong repulsive forces in Coulomb clusters lead to deviations from Maxwell distributions with power law decay.
- Short time high energy wings appear in the range 10 fs - 100 fs decay within 1 ps.
- High energetic protons/deuterons may penetrate the fusion barrier
- Theoretical approach: study the velocity distributions = Levy distributions with long tails.
- enhancement of fusion rates due to the long tails in the velocity distribution

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