

7.4: Normal Modes in Three Dimensions

If you wanted to study heat flow, or how sound warms up a crystal, or how light warms up a crystal, you'd have to study these time-dependent dispersion effects. This is hard: the classical mechanics is hard (normal modes) and the quantum mechanics is hard. For the purposes of this book we need only examine static effects, and in particular we need only find the heat capacity at low temperatures.

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