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# Effects of gas species on pressure dependence of thermophoretic velocity



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## ABSTRACT

Microgravity experiments are conducted to measure the thermophoretic velocity, and effects of gas species are investigated. Particles adopted are PMMA spheres of 2.91  $\mu\text{m}$  in mean diameter, and atmospheric gases chosen are pure gases of argon, nitrogen, and carbon dioxide. The temperature gradient is set at 10 K/mm, and the pressure is set at several conditions in the range from 20 kPa to 100 kPa. Terminal velocities of particles suspended in a gas are individually measured during 0.25 s of the microgravity condition, which is achieved by a free-fall. The accuracy of the measurement is attained by accumulating data from repeated trials. Obtained experimental results are compared with theoretical predictions; a notable discrepancy is found for carbon dioxide, while the results for other two gases are consistent with predictions. Some attempts are made to fix the discrepancy: first by modifying constants and second by modifying two empirical coefficients in the theory.

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## 1. Introduction

Thermophoresis is the phenomenon that a small particle in a gas with a temperature gradient moves toward the lower temperature side. This phenomenon is supposed to influence practically on the movement of soot particles in exhaust gas from combustors, especially near cool walls around the hot gas flow, where the temperature gradient can become as large as the order of  $10^2$  K/mm. For example, the measured size-distribution of particulate matter is influenced by the temperature of the transfer tube connecting the exhaust pipe of a diesel engine to the dilution tunnel ahead of the measuring device (Yuasa et al., 2011). A soot particle is generally an aggregate of fine primary spheres. There have been some direct measurements on the thermophoretic phenomenon of such an aggregate particle. Zheng & Davis (2001) have measured the thermophoretic force acting on an aggregate of polystyrene latex spheres, and found that the force is affected by the number of primary spheres in the aggregate. Dobashi et al. (2000) and Suzuki & Dobashi (2007) have conducted direct measurements on the thermophoretic velocity of soot particles, and have revealed that the velocity is dependent not only on the macroscopic size of the soot particle but also on the aggregating condition; Suzuki & Dobashi (2007) have shown experimental results suggesting that the phenomenon is dominated by the size of primary spheres when the aggregation is coarse. Thus, the understanding of the phenomenon for a single sphere is indispensable before understanding for an aggregate.

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The thermophoretic phenomenon of a spherical particle has been studied both theoretically and experimentally. Theoretical works have been carried out by considering the boundary condition on the surface of a single spherical particle suspended in a gas with a temperature gradient. Brock (1962) derived a theoretical solution to the thermophoretic force on the particle by applying a slip boundary condition on its surface, which includes effects of the thermal slip, the viscous slip, and the temperature jump. Derjaguin & Yalamov (1965) derived the thermophoretic velocity from the Brock's theoretical solution by equating the balance between the thermophoretic and the drag forces.

Experiments, on the other hand, have been performed by measuring the thermophoretic force or the thermophoretic velocity. Fredlund (1938) attempted a systematic experiment to examine the effect of the temperature field upon a disk suspended on a balance. The thermophoretic force and the thermophoretic velocity are measured by several methods: Millikan cell (Rosenblatt & La Mer, 1946; Saxton & Ranz, 1952; Schadt & Cadle, 1961; Jacobsen & Brock, 1965), electrodynamic balance (Li & Davis, 1995a, 1995b), precipitation in a thermoprecipitator (Schadt & Cadle, 1957; Keng & Orr, 1966), jet technique (Kousaka et al., 1976; Prodi et al., 1979; Talbot et al., 1980), and deflection of a particle suspended by a small wire (Davis & Adair, 1975; Tong, 1975).

Above experimental methods are complex in practical implementation, and as a consequence, involve numerous errors. Among those, errors caused by buoyancy are the largest problem; in a field with a temperature gradient, buoyancy induces natural convection, which influences the movement of particles and disturbs the measurement. The velocity of such natural convection is usually comparable to the thermophoretic velocity, and cannot be measured directly. To avoid this problem, some experiments have been conducted under microgravity conditions. Toda et al. (1996, 1998) performed experiments in a drop tower facility and demonstrated that the microgravity environment satisfactorily suppresses the disturbance. Prodi et al. (2006, 2007) also conducted microgravity experiments by means of a drop tower facility and/or parabolic flights. However, their reported data still seem to contain errors, possibly owing to limited trial numbers of experiments, so that those data are not sufficient to make quantitative comparison with theories (Suzuki et al., 2009a).

Recently, our group has developed a device for conducting experiments repeatedly under a microgravity environment in a very short period time, i.e. 0.3 s, by means of the free-fall method, to accumulate data of the thermophoretic velocity. It has been confirmed that satisfactory accuracy can be attained if the amount of data is sufficient for statistical treatment (Suzuki et al., 2009a). By comparing the obtained experimental results with the existing theory (Brock, 1962), two notable differences are found; one is the substantial difference for particles with high thermal conductivity, and the other the remarkable difference in the dependence of the humidity in the air (Suzuki et al., 2009b). The problem of the former difference has been solved by reconsidering the boundary condition to improve the theory (Hoshino et al., 2010a). Hoshino et al., (2010b) has derived an improved theoretical solution of the thermophoretic velocity by applying the boundary condition proposed by Lockerby et al. (2004), which includes the thermal stress slip and the higher order isothermal slip. However, even this improved theory cannot solve the problem of the latter difference. The deviation of the theory from the experiment infers that the composition of the surrounding gas mixture has some unknown influence on the phenomenon.

Before analyzing the influence of the composition of the gas mixture, it is indispensable to know the characteristics of the phenomenon for each gas component. Thus, in this study, the characteristics of the thermophoresis for several gas species, i.e., argon, nitrogen, and carbon dioxide are experimentally examined. The first one is chosen as the reference, and the latter two are chosen as the major components of exhaust gas from combustors. Water vapor is the clue of starting this work, but it is excluded owing to technical reasons on conducting the experiment.

## 2. Theory for thermophoretic velocity

The theory adopted in this work is based on the works by Hoshino et al. (2010b) and by Chang & Keh (2012). The thermophoretic velocity is calculated from the balance between the thermophoretic and the drag forces, the equation of which is shown as below

$$V_T = \frac{2\mu C_f [C_S(k + C_T Kn) + C_H(C_M C_T Kn^2 + C_M Kn[k-1])]}{\rho T_{F0} [1 + 3C_M Kn + h](1 + 2k + 2C_T Kn)} |\nabla T|, \quad (1)$$

where  $\mu$ ,  $|\nabla T|$ ,  $\rho$ ,  $T_{F0}$ ,  $C_f$ ,  $k$ ,  $Kn$ ,  $h$ ,  $C_M$ ,  $C_T$ ,  $C_S$ , and  $C_H$  are the viscosity, the temperature gradient, the density of the surrounding gas, the reference temperature, the slip correction factor of the drag force for rarefied condition, the gas-to-particle thermal conductivity ratio, Knudsen number, the term of higher order isothermal slip, and constants for slip flow, temperature jump, thermal creep, and thermal stress slip, respectively. Here, the reference temperature  $T_{F0}$  is defined as the supposed gas temperature at the center of the particle in the given temperature field without the existence of the particle, and Knudsen number  $Kn$  is the ratio of the mean-free-path  $l$  to the particle radius. The mean-free-path is calculated from the following equation (Kennard, 1938):

$$l = \frac{\mu}{0.499P} \sqrt{\frac{\pi RT_{F0}}{8}}, \quad (2)$$

where  $P$  and  $R$  are the pressure and the gas constant, respectively. The slip correction factor  $C_f$  adopted in this work is Cunningham's correction factor  $C_{fc} = 1 + A Kn$ , where  $A = 1.257 + 0.4 \exp(-1.10/Kn)$  (Talbot et al., 1980). The term  $h$  of

higher order isothermal slip is written as below

$$h = \frac{9}{2\pi} \text{Pr}Kn^2(1-\gamma^{-1}) \quad (3)$$

where  $Pr$  and  $\gamma$  are Prandtl number and the specific heat ratio, respectively.

Eq. (1) is basically identical to both of those proposed by Hoshino et al. (2010b) and Chang & Keh (2012). If constant values  $C_S=0.75$  and  $C_H=1.00$  (Lockerby et al., 2004) are applied, the equation becomes just the same as the one given by Hoshino et al. (2010b). On the other hand, the equation becomes the same as the one given by Chang & Keh (2012) by neglecting the term  $h$ , which is usually negligible in the range of  $Kn \leq 0.1$ , and applying Basset's correction (Basset, 1961),  $C_{fb} = (1 + 3C_MKn)/(1 + 2C_MKn)$ , instead of the Cunningham's correction for the slip correction factor  $C_f$ . The Basset's correction is applicable in  $Kn \leq 0.1$  while the Cunningham's one in  $Kn < 1$ , and both are basically identical in those applicable ranges.

Two constants  $C_M$  and  $C_T$  are calculated as follows from two empirical coefficients, i.e., the tangential momentum accommodation coefficient  $\alpha_m$  and the thermal accommodation coefficient  $\alpha_t$

$$C_M = \frac{2-\alpha_m}{\alpha_m}, \quad (4)$$

$$C_T = \frac{15}{8} \left( \frac{2-\alpha_t}{\alpha_t} \right). \quad (5)$$

These accommodation coefficients represent the magnitude of the momentum and energy exchange in the collision between gas molecules and the particle (Kennard, 1938; Shen, 2010), which are defined as below

$$\alpha_m \equiv \frac{M_i - M_r}{M_i - M_s}, \quad (6)$$

$$\alpha_t \equiv \frac{E_i - E_r}{E_i - E_s}, \quad (7)$$

where  $M$  and  $E$  are average tangential components of the momentum and the energy flux normal to the particle surface, respectively, of gas molecules, and subscripts  $i$ ,  $r$ , and  $s$  refer to incident molecules, molecules reflecting from the surface, and molecules leaving the surface in equilibrium with the surface, respectively. For example,  $\alpha=1$  corresponds to the situation that incident molecules achieve complete equilibrium with the particle surface before leaving, while  $\alpha=0$  corresponds to the situation of complete specular reflection.

In many cases, values of accommodation coefficients are simply assumed to be unity (Suzuki et al., 2009b; Hoshino et al., 2010a). There are some experimental measurements, e.g., Thomas & Lord (1974) and Douglas (1982), who measured accommodation coefficients on steel spheres and gas covered tungsten tube, respectively. Although those experiments report values different from unity under some conditions, yet there are no commonly accepted values.

### 3. Experimental

#### 3.1. Apparatus

Fig. 1 shows a schematic of the apparatus, which includes a drop tower, a measuring unit, and a damping cushion. The measuring unit is hung at the top of the drop tower by an electric magnet. The unit starts falling when the electric

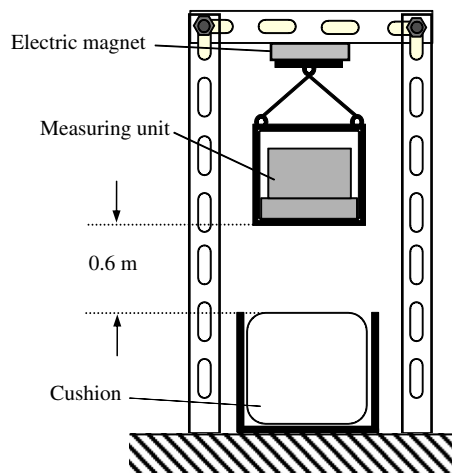


Fig. 1. Schematic of apparatus.

magnet is deactivated. The falling distance is 0.6 m, which corresponds to the duration time of the microgravity condition at 0.3 s.

Fig. 2 shows a variation of the gravity level during an experiment. The gravity level is measured by the G-sensor attached on the measuring unit. The duration time of the free-fall is about 0.3 s as seen in the figure. When the electric magnet is deactivated at  $t=0$ , the gravity level in z-axis changes from  $-1.0$  G to  $+0.4$  G once, possibly owing to the vibrational motion of the frame of the unit, and then decays as time passes until the unit reaches the cushion. The range between  $\pm 0.1$  G in gravity level is regarded as the microgravity condition in this work, the duration time of which is about 0.25 s.

Fig. 3 shows a cross-section of the pressure vessel, the main part of the measuring unit. Placed in the vessel is a cylindrical thin chamber of 1.5 mm in height between two opposing aluminum plates. The upper plate, initially at the room temperature, is kept cool by moving it 15 mm away from the bottom plate while the latter is under the process of heating to raise its temperature. Keeping this arrangement, the vessel is evacuated by a pump. When the bottom plate reaches the appointed temperature, the upper plate is put in place where the distance between the plates is 1.5 mm. Then, the vessel is filled with the test gas. When the temperature of the upper plate becomes the target temperature, both electromagnetic valves at the inlet and the outlet are simultaneously opened for 0.01 s such that some particles are blown into the chamber from a particle reservoir upstream the inlet. The magnet holding the measuring unit is deactivated 0.84 s after the closure of both valves. The disturbances caused by the blow are expected to cease within this period before the drop; since it is larger than both characteristic times for the flow field and the temperature field to reach the steady state; those characteristic times are expressed as  $t_f = (\delta/2)^2/\nu$  and  $t_t = (\delta/2)^2/\alpha$ , respectively, where  $\delta$ ,  $\nu$ , and  $\alpha$  are the distance between two plates, the kinematic viscosity, and the thermal diffusivity, respectively (Toda et al., 1996,1998). The largest values of those for present conditions are estimated at 0.06 s and 0.05 s. Those blown particles are illuminated by the laser

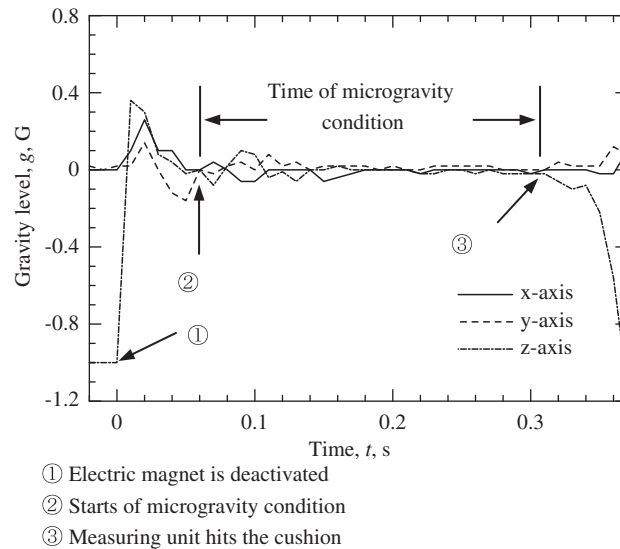


Fig. 2. Gravity level during experiment Gravity level is measured by the G-sensor which is attached on the measuring unit.

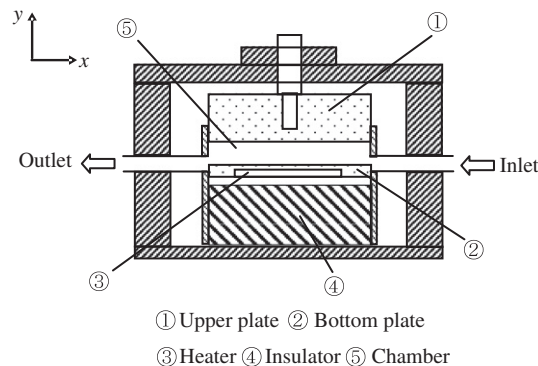


Fig. 3. Schematic of pressure vessel.

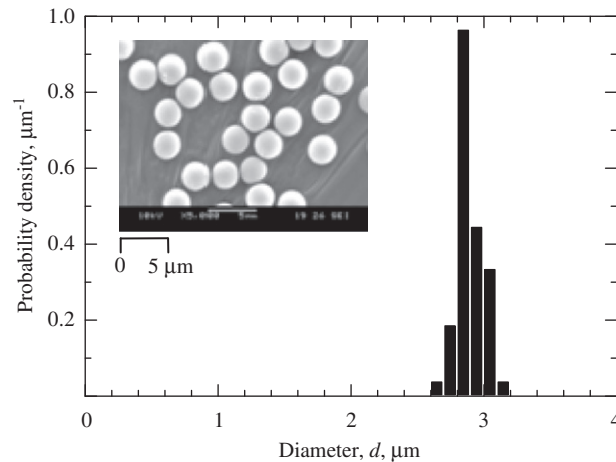


Fig. 4. Diameter distribution of particles.

beam introduced into the chamber to produce scattering lights, the image of which is recorded by a high-speed camera under the condition of the frame rate at 200 fps and of the shutter speed at 2 ms.

### 3.2. Sample particles and experimental condition

Sample particles used in this work are PMMA sphere particles from Sekisui Plastics Co., Ltd. These are chosen since the size is quite uniform; Fig. 4 shows the probability density distribution of the particle diameter  $d$  measured from SEM images. The mean diameter and the standard deviation are 2.91  $\mu\text{m}$  and 0.09  $\mu\text{m}$ , respectively. The thermal conductivity is measured by the manufacturer at 0.21 W/(mK).

Experiments are conducted under the microgravity condition with the test gas of argon, nitrogen or carbon dioxide. The target temperature and the temperature gradient are 313 K and 10 K/mm, respectively. The temperature field during the experiment is monitored by measuring temperatures at two points in the vessel: one is in the top plate and the other in the bottom one. The temperature field is controlled based on these measured temperatures. Before making experiments, the preparatory measurement for the temperature field is conducted by inserting two more thermocouples suspended in the chamber at different heights. Measuring two points is sufficient because the linearity of the temperature field has already been confirmed by the Mach–Zehnder interferometry (Toda et al., 1996,1998). The relation between these temperatures at monitoring points and the actual temperature field in the chamber is examined from this preparatory measurement. When conducting thermophoresis experiments, additional two thermocouples are removed; the temperature field is controlled based on the temperatures at those two monitoring points.

Various pressure conditions are chosen from 20 kPa to 100 kPa. The thermophoretic velocity for each particle is individually measured, and the mean value and the 95% confidence interval for each experimental condition are statistically obtained.

## 4. Results

Fig. 5 shows examples of the movement of particles during a free-fall in the surrounding gas of argon at 20 kPa. The measurement of the velocity should be taken at a fixed temperature since the thermophoretic velocity is dependent on not only the temperature gradient but also the temperature itself. The velocity of each particle is measured by tracing its movement while it travels within the range of the temperature between  $313 \pm 2$  K. It is seen from the figure that the velocity of each particle can be considered as constant in the range. The velocity is constant also in other two gases.

Table 1 shows the statistical data for the tested pressure conditions with the argon gas. It is noted that the 95% confidence interval indicates not the range of data scattering but the range of expected mean value of the population. It is seen that the confidence interval is roughly estimated at around 0.01 mm/s to 0.02 mm/s. The ratio of the confidence interval to the mean value is only 3% for the pressure at 20 kPa. As the pressure increases, the velocity decreases, and as a consequence, the ratio tends to increase.

Fig. 6 shows the thermophoretic velocity for each gas. The white rectangle ( $\square$ ), the black circle ( $\bullet$ ), and the white circle ( $\circ$ ) represent experimental values for argon, nitrogen, and carbon dioxide, respectively. Error bars in the figure indicate the 95% confidence interval. The solid line is the prediction calculated by assuming constants to be identical to those in the previous work (Hoshino et al., 2010a), namely,  $C_M$ ,  $C_T$ ,  $C_S$ , and  $C_H$  to be 1.000, 1.875, 0.750, and 1.000, respectively.

For argon and nitrogen, predictions are in good agreement with experiments throughout all the tested pressure conditions; the solid line runs through the range of the confidence interval at every tested pressure. On the other hand, for carbon dioxide, discrepancy is seen at low pressure conditions; the prediction is within the range of the confidence interval

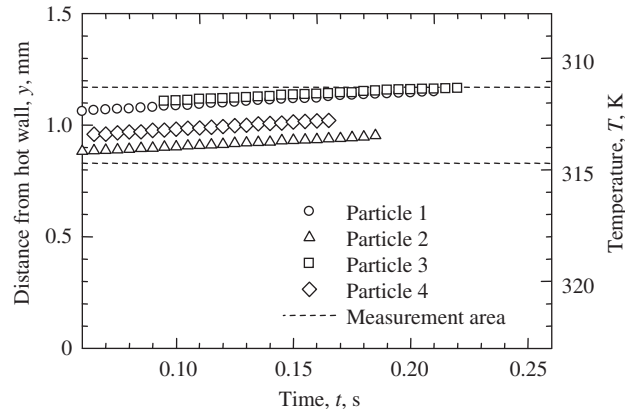


Fig. 5. Movement of particles in surrounding gas of argon.

Table 1

Statistical data of thermophoretic velocity in surrounding gas of argon.

Pressure, $P$ , kPa	20	40	60	80	100
Sampling number, $n$ , –	39	35	37	33	47
Mean thermophoretic velocity, $\overline{V}_T$ , mm/s	0.538	0.183	0.111	0.075	0.066
Standard deviation, $\sigma$ , mm/s	0.053	0.044	0.026	0.030	0.036
Confidence interval (95%), mm/s	0.017	0.015	0.009	0.011	0.011
Ratio of confidence interval to mean thermophoretic velocity, –	0.03	0.08	0.08	0.15	0.17

only when the pressure is at 100 kPa or 80 kPa. As the pressure decreases, discrepancy becomes notable; the experimental value at 20 kPa is 0.182 mm/s, which is 70% of the theory.

## 5. Discussion

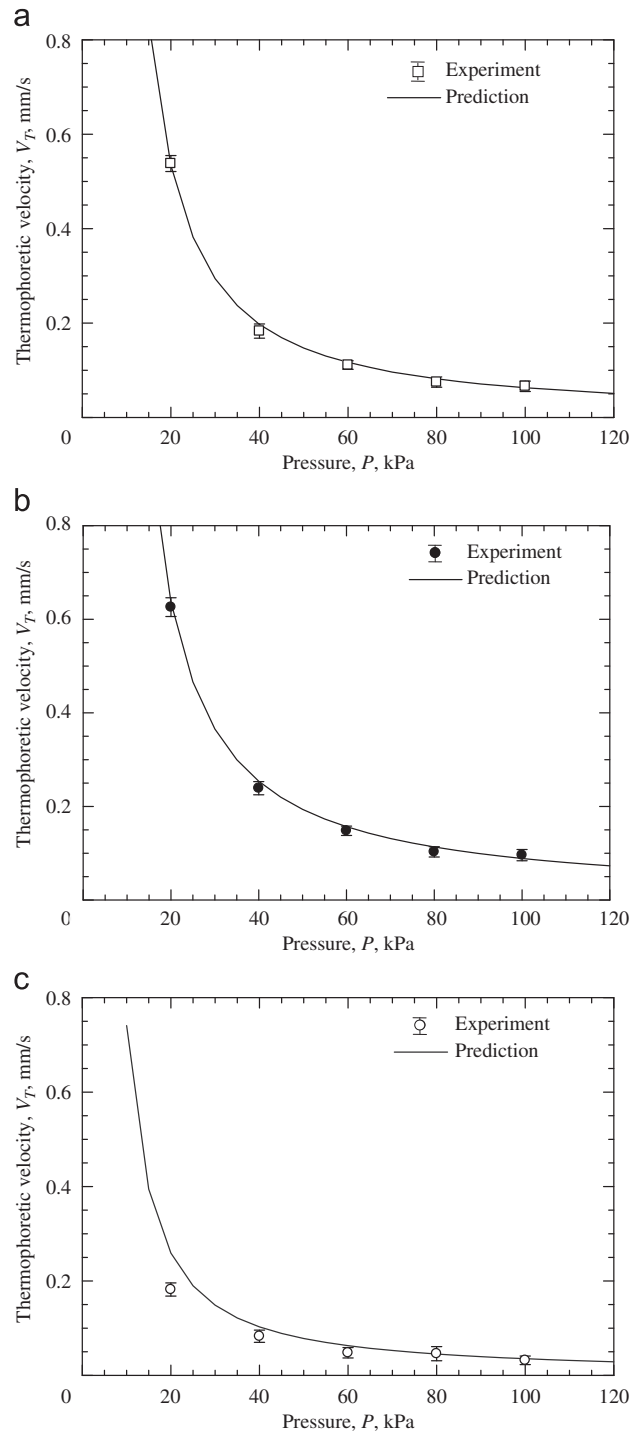
It is quite interesting that the discrepancy is seen only for carbon dioxide. Also, previous work (Hoshino et al., 2010a) has shown satisfactory accordance between the prediction and the experiment for the air. As noted earlier, the theory contains four constants,  $C_M$ ,  $C_T$ ,  $C_S$ , and  $C_H$ , and the former two of these are calculated from accommodation coefficients  $\alpha_m$  and  $\alpha_t$ . These constants and coefficients have been determined empirically; different researchers have given different proposed values. Attempts should be made for finding suitable values to fit the prediction to these experimental results.

The first attempt is done by applying proposed values from references, which are shown in Table 2. The set of values noted as Case 1 is from the paper by Hoshino et al. (2010a), and those as Case 2 and 3 are both from the paper by Chang & Keh (2012). Fig. 7 shows predictions together with experimental results. The vertical axis represents the reduced thermophoretic velocity, which is a dimensionless parameter defined as follows:

$$V_{TR} \equiv \frac{V_T T_{F0}}{\nu \sqrt{T}}, \quad (8)$$

where  $\nu$  is the kinematic viscosity of the gas. This parameter is often used when making comparison between different conditions. Lines labeled as Prediction 1, 2, and 3 are those predicted from Eq. (1) by applying values of Case 1, 2, and 3, respectively. For both argon and nitrogen, the best fit to experimental results is Prediction 1, and then Prediction 3 follows; the velocity predicted from Case 3 is higher than the experiment at  $Kn=0.25$  for both two gases, whereas that from Case 1 is within the error bar throughout all the measured range of  $Kn$ . For carbon dioxide, on the other hand, there is no line predicting satisfactorily the experimental result at  $Kn=0.15$ , though Prediction 3 seems to be better than Prediction 1. Prediction 2 can be omitted from the discussion since it obviously disagrees with the experiment for all gases.

Provisionally, Case 1 is chosen as the best among three cases; Case 3 is not good enough for high  $Kn$  for all tested gases in comparison to Case 1. Choosing Case 1 instead of Case 3 is also consistent with the previous work, in which experiments have been conducted in the air under the atmospheric pressure for particles of PMMA, alumina, and Zn (Suzuki et al., 2009b); as shown in Table 3, significant differences are seen between Case 3 and experimental results for alumina and Zn, whereas agreements are satisfactory for all particles with Case 1. In the theory, only the radius and the thermal conductivity are considered as particle-related parameters. It would be reasonable to assume that coefficients for  $\text{CO}_2$  are different from those for other gases; Sharipov (2004) has reviewed related papers and summarized accommodation coefficients for various gases, in which  $\text{CO}_2$  values are notably different from Ar and  $\text{N}_2$ .

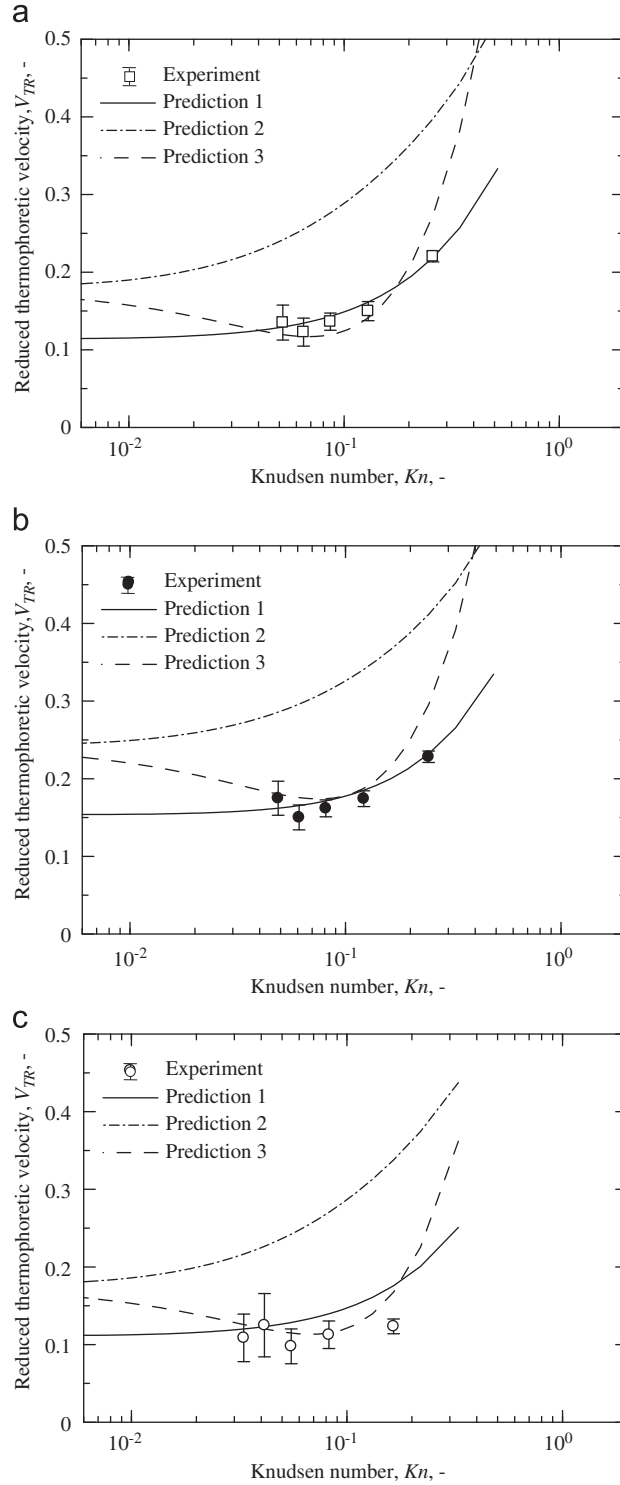


**Fig. 6.** Pressure dependence of thermophoretic velocity in each gas. Error bars represent the confidence interval (95%). Predictions are calculated under the assumption of  $C_M=1.000$ ,  $C_T=1.875$ ,  $C_S=0.750$ , and  $C_H=1.000$ : (a) argon, (b) nitrogen and (c) carbon dioxide.

**Table 2**  
Constants for each case.

	$C_M$ , -	$C_T$ , -	$C_S$ , -	$C_H$ , -	$\alpha_m$ , -	$\alpha_t$ , -	References
Case 1	1.000	1.875	0.750	1.000	(1.000) <sup>a</sup>	(1.000) <sup>a</sup>	Hoshino et al. (2010a)
Case 2	1.140	2.180	1.170	1.000	(0.935) <sup>a</sup>	(0.925) <sup>a</sup>	Chang & Keh (2012)
Case 3	1.140	2.180	1.170	3.000	(0.935) <sup>a</sup>	(0.925) <sup>a</sup>	Chang & Keh (2012)

<sup>a</sup>Values in bracket are from Eqs. (4) and (5) (not directly given in the reference).



**Fig. 7.** Comparison between predictions and experiment in each gas Error bars represent the confidence interval (95%). Predictions are calculated using constants in Table 2: (a) argon, (b) nitrogen and (c) carbon dioxide.

The second attempt is done by changing the accommodation coefficients from Case 1 by means of the least square fit. The residue  $R$  representing the discrepancy between the experiment and the prediction is defined as follows:

$$R \equiv \sum_{j=1}^n (V_{ej} - V_{pj})^2, \quad (j = 1, \dots, n) \quad (9)$$

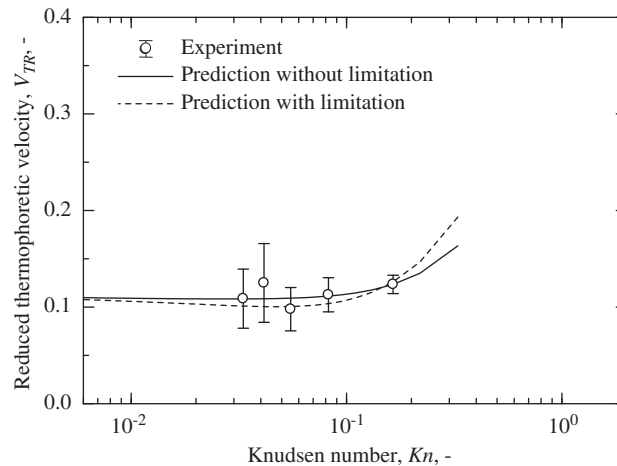


**Table 3**  
Reduced thermophoretic velocity in air under atmospheric pressure.

Material	$V_{TR, -}$		Experiment <sup>a</sup>
	Prediction (Case 1)	Prediction (Case 3)	
PMMA	0.167	0.210	$0.172 \pm 0.011$
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.037	-0.035	$0.036 \pm 0.008$
Zn	0.049	-0.034	$0.050 \pm 0.010$

<sup>a</sup> From Suzuki et al. (2009b).**Table 4**  
Estimated accommodation coefficients for carbon dioxide.

	$\alpha_m, -$	$\alpha_t, -$
Without limitation	1.193	1.307
With limitation	0.841	1.000

**Fig. 8.** Comparison of predictions for carbon dioxide. Error bars represent the confidence interval (95%). The solid and the broken lines represent predictions calculated with the coefficients from least-square-fit “without limitation” and “with limitation”, respectively.

where  $V_e$ ,  $V_p$ , and  $n$  are thermophoretic velocities of the experiment and the prediction, and the number of the tested pressure conditions, respectively, and the subscript  $j$  refers to each tested condition. The values for  $C_S$  and  $C_H$  are unchanged from the Case 1, and those for  $C_M$  and  $C_T$  are calculated from Eqs. (4) and (5), respectively, with accommodation coefficients  $\alpha_m$  and  $\alpha_t$  determined such that the residue  $R$  becomes the lowest.

Table 4 shows the result of the least square fit for carbon dioxide. The best fit is attained with the coefficients noted as “without limitation” in the table. It should be noted that both values are clearly above unity, which is curious when interpreting the physical meaning of those values. Based on the kinetic theory, both those coefficients should lie between 0 and 1 (Brock, 1962; Kennard, 1938; Shen, 2010). The Cercignani-Lampis (CL) model provides a more physical description of the gas-surface interaction (Sharipov, 2003, 2004), which allows  $\alpha_m$  to vary between 0 and 2 while  $\alpha_t$  remains between 0 and 1. In this CL model,  $\alpha_m$  can exceed unity when the surface is rough. Considering this, additional work is done for the fitting by applying the limitation of  $0 \leq \alpha_t \leq 1$  and  $0 \leq \alpha_m \leq 2$ , the result of which is shown as “with limitation” in the table. In this case,  $R$  becomes the lowest when both the coefficients are below unity even  $\alpha_m$  is allowed to exceed it.

Fig. 8 shows the comparison of predictions based on these values. It is seen that both predictions are in good agreement with the experiment within the range of the tested conditions. The difference between these two predictions is notable only under the condition of higher Knudsen number than the current work.

In order to interpret the different coefficients for the carbon dioxide, authors have found two different points of view from literatures so far; one is the molecular weight, and the other the diameter of a molecule. The former is based on the work by Gronych et al. (2004), who have conducted experiments to find out that the tangential momentum accommodation coefficient increases as the molecular weight of the gas decreases. This may be related to the influence of gas species. However, applying

this effect for the explanation of the present results would not be appropriate; the molecular weight of argon is closer to carbon dioxide rather than nitrogen, while the thermophoretic characteristic of the argon is much closer to the nitrogen rather than the carbon dioxide.

The latter is based on the work by Arya et al., (2003), who have conducted a molecular simulation for a wall-slip phenomenon in rarefied gases. According to their result, the tangential momentum accommodation coefficient decreases as the collision diameter of the molecule increases. Among the gases used in this work, carbon dioxide has a notably larger collision diameter; based on the rigid sphere model, the diameter of argon, nitrogen, and carbon dioxide are 3.659 Å, 3.784 Å, and 4.643 Å, respectively (Ivchenko et al., 2007). This can explain qualitatively the results in this work if the coefficients “with limitation” are adopted for the carbon dioxide and those at unity are adopted for other two gases. The thermal accommodation coefficient “with limitation” is also consistent with the work by Winkler et al. (2004), in which the coefficient  $\alpha_t$  is reported to be approximately unity for water vapor, a polyatomic gas having a large collision diameter. The constants and coefficients, however, cannot be determined from the results in this work, since several combinations of those are possible to fit predictions to experimental results.

## 6. Conclusions

In this study, effects of gas species on the thermophoretic velocity are investigated, and following results are obtained:

1. Experimentally-obtained pressure dependence of the thermophoretic velocity for both argon and nitrogen are quantitatively in good agreement with the theory, while notable discrepancy is seen for carbon dioxide, if values for the constants  $C_M$ ,  $C_T$ ,  $C_S$ , and  $C_H$  to be 1.000, 1.875, 0.750, and 1.000 are applied to the theory.
2. Values of those empirical constants proposed in some references were applied to the theory and compared with experiments; none of those has reduced the notable deviation for the carbon dioxide at  $Kn=0.15$ .
3. The coefficients are calculated by means of the least square fit. The obtained values can be interpreted qualitatively by considering the effect of the molecular diameter on the tangential momentum accommodation coefficient. The proposed values of  $C_M$ ,  $C_T$ ,  $C_S$ , and  $C_H$  for carbon dioxide are 1.378, 1.875, 0.750, and 1.000, although further discussion will be required for the determination of the values.

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