

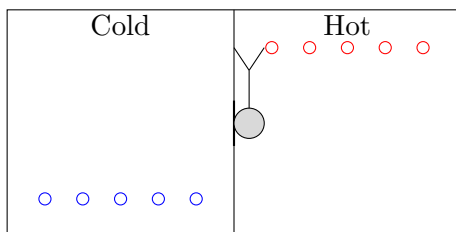
Student Mini-Conference

Thermodynamics Beyond Certainty: From Second Law Paradoxes to the Power of the van der Waals Model

Date: April, 17, 2026 *Time:* 3.00-5.30 pm
Location: Boggs 240

Welcome

Welcome to the mini-conference of the Thermodynamics class CHEM-3120-01. This session brings together a series of short presentations on selected fundamental topics, which are of great general interest, yet not very clear. We encourage discussion and questions following each talk. We acknowledge the Support of the National Science Foundation (Grant No. CHE-2201027) and the Chemistry Department of Tulane University.



Schematic illustration of Maxwell's Demon

Program

Time	Speaker	Title
03:00–03:05	Alex Burin	Introductory words
03:05–03:25	Sienna Alonso	Fermi-Pasta-Ulam-Tsingou computer experiment: when entropy fails to grow
03:25–03:45	Addison Romero	Maxwell Demon
03:45–04:05	Natalie Montalbano	Entropy and Life
04:05–04:20	Break	
04:20–04:40	Mingshu Xie	Thermal death of the Universe: Is this our future?
04:40–05:00	Joseph Higbe	Van der Waals gas Model with zero excluded volume
05:00–05:20	Ben Van Der Heyden	Speed of sound in liquid-gas transition

Notes

Please keep presentations within the allotted time leaving five minutes to discussion.