

The big picture summary; modelling; patterns



1 m

Figure 20.1d Physical Biology of the Cell, 2ed. (© Garland Science 2013)



5 cm

Figure 20.1e Physical Biology of the Cell, 2ed. (© Garland Science 2013)

Summary and big picture

**We want to predict the “future”:
predicting what happens after a
time t ?**

Equilibrium: what happens after infinite time?

(Forces/flows balance)

If temperature has no role, after infinite time, of the system will be found at the minimum of the potential energy

What is the dynamics? How does it reach it to the minimum? When?

**“Dead objects” with no role of
temperature: Newton’s equations**

**“Dead objects” with temperature:
Beyond Newton’s equations**

**Objects at finite temperature:
effect of thermal fluctuations**

Dead objects with temperature.

**Equilibrium => statistical
mechanics or thermodynamics**

Dead objects with temperature. Equilibrium => statistical mechanics or thermodynamics

**Systems go to the minimum of the free energy:
energy and entropy plays a role**

Dead objects with temperature. Equilibrium => statistical mechanics or thermodynamics

Systems go to the minimum of the free energy:
energy and entropy plays a role

Boltzmann distribution

**“Dead objects” with temperature:
Dynamics: time-dependent
changes**

**Langevin equation = Newton's
equation + effect of temperature**

$$m \frac{dv}{dt} = -\alpha v + f + f_{\text{random}}$$

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Choose random force such that

Mean of random force = 0

Variance of the random force is proportional to temperature

**Equivalent way is to write
equations for probability
distributions**

**How probability distribution of
states change with space and time**

**Diffusion: How probability
distribution (concentration) of
particles change with space and time**

Reaction-diffusion

Production of material and reaction diffusion leads to patterns



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