

Part 5 The theory of Brownian motion

Typical experiment

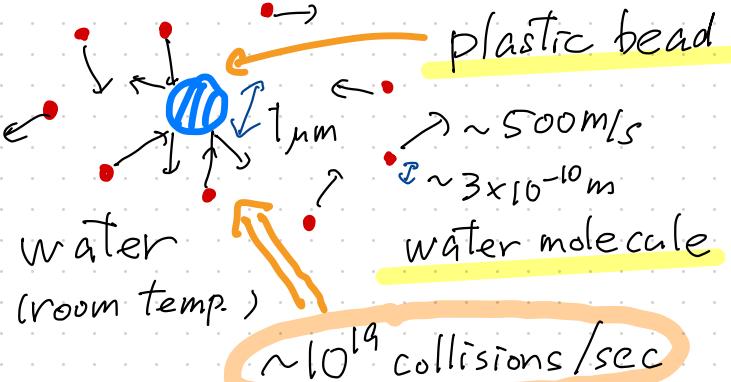
Basic symmetry and the transition probability

Kramers equation

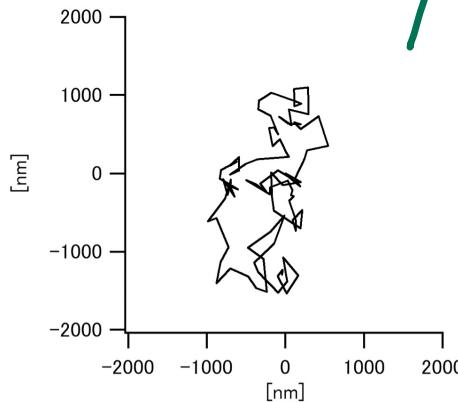
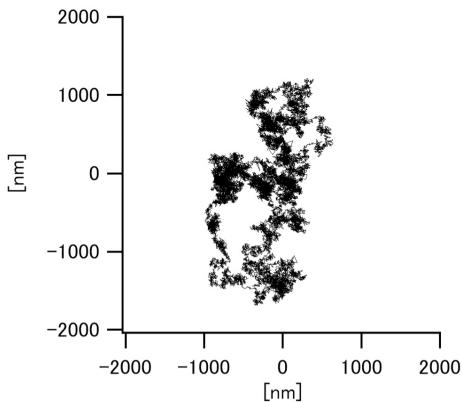
Langevin equation

Einstein's theory of Brownian motion

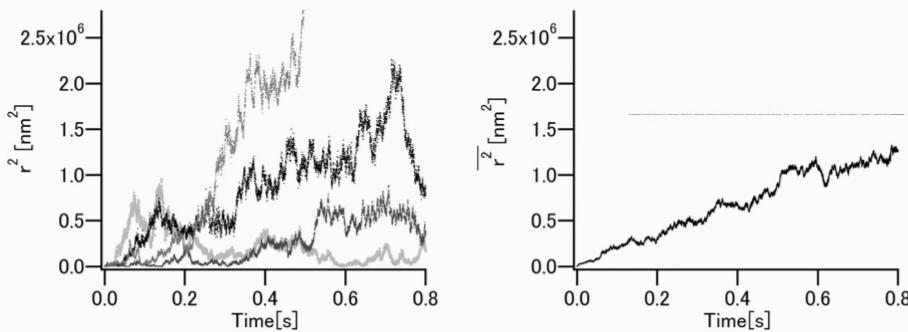
§ Typical experiment



$\sim 10^{19}$ collisions/sec



the bead exhibits a random motion
observable by an optical microscope.



Brownian motion

peculiar behavior

$(\text{displacement of the bead})^2 \propto \text{time}$

(experimental data by Takayuki Nishizaka)

§ basic symmetry and the transition probability → part 1-p29~2

setting

$$X = (t, \mathbf{P}, X_w) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} t, \mathbf{P} \text{ the position and momentum of the bead} \\ t \in \mathbb{N}, \mathbf{P} \in \mathbb{R}^d \quad (d=1, 2, 3) \\ X_w = (t_1, \dots, t_n; P_1, \dots, P_n) \text{ describes water molecules} \end{array} \right.$$

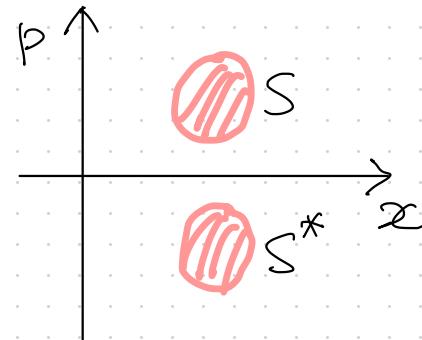
Hamiltonian (1) $H(X) = \frac{\mathbf{P}^2}{2m} + V(t) + H_w(X_w) + H_{int}(t, X_w)$

assume (2) $H(X^*) = H(X)$

S arbitrary finite region in the phase space $\mathcal{L} \times \mathbb{R}^d$ of the bead

time-reversal (3) $S^* = \{(t, -\mathbf{P}) \mid (t, \mathbf{P}) \in S\}$

(4) $\chi_S(X) = \begin{cases} 1 & (t, \mathbf{P}) \in S \\ 0 & (t, \mathbf{P}) \notin S \end{cases}$



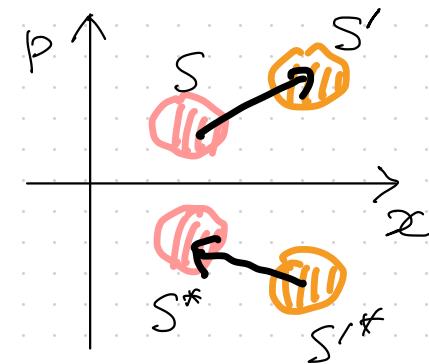
detailed balance condition

restricted partition function

$$(1) \quad Z_S(\beta) = \int dX e^{-\beta H(X)} \chi_S(X)$$

for $\tau > 0$ and two regions $S, S' \subset \Lambda \times \mathbb{R}^d$

$$(2) \quad p^{(\tau)}(S \rightarrow S') := \int dX \frac{e^{-\beta H(X)}}{Z_S(\beta)} \chi_S(X) \chi_{S'}(\mathcal{J}_\tau(X))$$



the probability that the state of the bead is in S' at $t = \tau$

When the whole system is initially in equilibrium with the constraint that the state of the bead in S

by repeating the derivation in part 1-p32, we get

detailed balance condition

$$(3) \quad Z_S(\beta) p^{(\tau)}(S \rightarrow S') = Z_{S'}(\beta) p^{(\tau)}(S' \rightarrow S)$$

transition probability in the short time scale

T small \rightarrow {essentially no changes in P
only P changes because of collisions}

S small region including (t, P) , S' small region including (t, P')

$$(1) \frac{Z_S(\beta)}{Z_{S'}(\beta)} = e^{-\beta \left(\frac{|P|^2}{2m} - \frac{|P'|^2}{2m} \right)}$$

$$(2) e^{-\frac{\beta}{2m}|P|^2} p^{(c)}(S \rightarrow S') = e^{-\frac{\beta}{2m}|P'|^2} p^{(c)}(S' \rightarrow S)$$

simple exponential

form

$$(3) p^{(c)}(S \rightarrow S') = A e^{\alpha \frac{\beta |P|^2}{2m} - (1-\alpha) \frac{\beta |P'|^2}{2m}}$$

set

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{2}$$

“

independent of P when $P=P'$
only if $\alpha=1/2$

plausible form

$$(4) p^{(c)}(S \rightarrow S') = A e^{\frac{\beta}{4m} \{ |P|^2 - |P'|^2 \}} = A e^{\frac{\beta m}{4} \{ |W|^2 - |W'|^2 \}}$$

§ Kramerse equation

Corresponding stochastic process

$$P = m v s$$

determines the time evolution of the probability density $P(V, V_0, t)$

Consider the $d=1$ case for simplicity (x, v)

the effect of collisions

→ we only focus on the prob. density for V

discretized version $V = j\delta, t = n \varepsilon, j, n \in \mathbb{Z}$

$P_V(t)$ the probability that the velocity is V at time t

as $t \rightarrow t + \varepsilon$ the velocity may change by $\pm \delta$

the transition probability $P(V \rightarrow V \pm \delta)$ ← the same as $P^{(\tau)}(S \rightarrow S')$

master equation (part 2 p.29)

$$(1) P_V(t + \varepsilon) - P_V(t) = -[P(V \rightarrow V + \delta) + P(V \rightarrow V - \delta)] P_V(t)$$

$$+ P(V + \delta \rightarrow V) P_{V+\delta}(t) + P(V - \delta \rightarrow V) P_{V-\delta}(t)$$

The position and the velocity of the bead

one gets the same result from more complicated models

π

the simplest model

from P4-(4)

$$(1) P(V \rightarrow V \pm \delta) = A e^{\frac{\beta m}{4} \{ v^2 - (v \pm \delta)^2 \}} = A e^{\frac{\beta m}{4} \{ \mp 2v\delta - \delta^2 \}}$$

$$= A \left\{ 1 \mp \frac{\beta m v}{2} \delta - \frac{\beta m}{4} \delta^2 + \frac{(\beta m v)^2}{8} \delta^2 + O(\delta^3) \right\}$$

$$(2) P(V \pm \delta \rightarrow V) = A \left\{ 1 \pm \frac{\beta m v}{2} \delta + \frac{\beta m}{4} \delta^2 + \frac{(\beta m v)^2}{8} \delta^2 + O(\delta^3) \right\}$$

Substitute these into P5-(1)

(can be neglected because this always has the same sign as 1)

$$(3) \underline{P_V(t+\epsilon) - P_V(t)} = A \left[-2 \left(1 - \frac{\beta m}{4} \delta^2 \right) P_V(t) \right]$$

$$\textcircled{C} \quad \dot{P}_V = \left[\left(1 + \frac{\beta m v}{2} \delta + \frac{\beta m}{4} \delta^2 \right) P_{V+\delta}(t) + \left(1 - \frac{\beta m v}{2} \delta + \frac{\beta m}{4} \delta^2 \right) P_{V-\delta}(t) \right]$$

$$= A \left[\left(P_{V+\delta}(t) + P_{V-\delta}(t) - 2P_V(t) \right) + \frac{\beta m v}{2} \delta \left(P_{V+\delta}(t) - P_{V-\delta}(t) \right) \right]$$

$\textcircled{D} \quad \delta^2 P''$

$\textcircled{E} \quad 2SP'$

$$+ \frac{\beta m}{4} \delta^2 \left(2P_V(t) + P_{V+\delta}(t) + P_{V-\delta}(t) \right)$$

$\textcircled{F} \quad 4P + O(\delta^3)$

$$(4) A = \text{const} \frac{\Sigma}{\delta^2}$$

write

$$(1) \quad A = \frac{\gamma}{m^2 \beta} \frac{\epsilon}{\delta^2}$$

this expression will be justified in P(6-2)

P6-(3) becomes

$$(2) \quad \frac{P_n(t+\epsilon) - P_n(t)}{\epsilon} = \frac{\gamma}{m^2 \beta} \frac{1}{\delta^2} \left\{ P_{n+s}(t) + P_{n-s}(t) - 2P_n(t) \right\} \\ + \frac{\gamma}{m} \nu \frac{1}{2\delta} \left\{ P_{n+s}(t) - P_{n-s}(t) \right\} + \frac{\gamma}{m} \left\{ P_n(t) + O(\delta) \right\}$$

Continuum limit $\epsilon, \delta \rightarrow 0$

$$(3) \quad \frac{P_n(t)}{\delta} \xrightarrow{\text{probability density}} P(v, t)$$

probability
density

$$(4) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t} P(v, t) = \frac{\gamma}{m^2 \beta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial v^2} P(v, t) + \frac{\gamma}{m} \nu \frac{\partial}{\partial v} P(v, t) + \frac{\gamma}{m} P(v, t)$$

$$= \frac{\gamma}{m^2 \beta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial v^2} P(v, t) + \frac{\gamma}{m} \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \left\{ \nu P(v, t) \right\}$$

the final form

the change in $P(x, v, t)$ due to the Hamiltonian dynamics is described by Liouville's equation \rightarrow part 1-p12-(6)

$$(1) \frac{\partial}{\partial t} P(x, v, t) = -v \frac{\partial}{\partial x} P(x, v, t) - \frac{f(x)}{m} \frac{\partial}{\partial v} P(x, v, t)$$

$$(2) f(x) = -\frac{\partial V(x)}{\partial x} \text{ for the potential force}$$

(1) + p7-(4)

the Kramers equation

$$(3) \frac{\partial}{\partial t} P(x, v, t) = -v \frac{\partial}{\partial x} P(x, v, t) - \frac{f(x)}{m} \frac{\partial}{\partial v} P(x, v, t)$$

$$+ \frac{\gamma}{m^2 \beta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial v^2} P(x, v, t) + \frac{\gamma}{m} \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \{ v P(x, v, t) \}$$

for $d=3$

$$(4) \frac{\partial}{\partial t} P(h, v, t) = -v \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial h} P(h, v, t) - \frac{f(h)}{m} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial v} P(h, v, t)$$

$$+ \frac{\gamma}{m^2 \beta} \Delta_v P(h, v, t) + \frac{\gamma}{m} \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \cdot \{ v P(h, v, t) \}$$

§ Langevin equation

what is the equation of motion that corresponds to the Kramers equation?

$$(1) \frac{\partial}{\partial t} P(x, v, t) = -v \frac{\partial}{\partial x} P(x, v, t)$$

Liouville's equation

$$- \frac{f(x)}{m} \frac{\partial}{\partial v} P(x, v, t)$$

the effect of collisions

$$+ \frac{\gamma}{m} \frac{\partial}{\partial v} (v P(x, v, t))$$

$$+ \frac{\gamma}{m^2 \beta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial v^2} P(x, v, t)$$

↳

leads to
 deterministic resistance
 random force

$$(2) \dot{x} = v$$

Newton's equations

$$(3) m \dot{v} = f$$

this too

- resisted motion

$$(4) m \dot{v} = -\gamma v$$

- diffusion-like behavior

$$(5) m \dot{v} = \zeta$$

random force

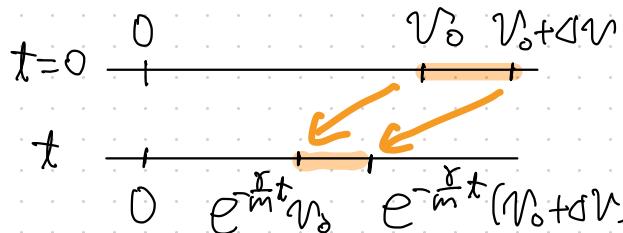
diffusion equation

$$(6) \frac{\partial}{\partial t} f(t, x) = D \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} f(t, x)$$

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resisted motion

$$(1) m \ddot{v}(t) = -\gamma v(t) \rightarrow (2) v(t) = e^{-\frac{\gamma}{m}t} v(0)$$



probability conservation

$$(3) P(V_0, 0) dV = P(e^{-\frac{\gamma}{m}t} V_0, t) e^{-\frac{\gamma}{m}t} dV \quad (*)$$

$$(4) \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (*) = \left[-\frac{\gamma}{m} v \frac{\partial}{\partial v} P(v, t) e^{-\frac{\gamma}{m}t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial t} P(v, t) e^{-\frac{\gamma}{m}t} - \frac{\gamma}{m} P(v, t) e^{-\frac{\gamma}{m}t} \right] v \rightarrow e^{-\frac{\gamma}{m}t} v_0 = 0$$

∴

$$(5) \frac{\partial}{\partial t} P(v, t) = \frac{\gamma}{m} \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \{ v P(v, t) \}$$

we get
the desired equation

random force

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discrete time (1) $t = n\varepsilon \quad (n \in \mathbb{Z}) \quad (\varepsilon > 0)$

difference equation

$$(2) m \frac{\hat{U}(t+\varepsilon) - \hat{U}(t)}{\varepsilon} = \hat{\zeta}_t^{(\varepsilon)} \Leftrightarrow (3) \hat{U}(t+\varepsilon) = \hat{U}(t) + \frac{\varepsilon}{m} \hat{\zeta}_t^{(\varepsilon)}$$

$\hat{\zeta}_t^{(\varepsilon)}$: random variable for each $t = n\varepsilon \quad (n \in \mathbb{Z})$

$\hat{\zeta}_t^{(\varepsilon)}$ and $\hat{\zeta}_{t'}^{(\varepsilon)}$ are independent if $t \neq t'$

the probability density that $\hat{\zeta}_t^{(\varepsilon)}$ takes value $\bar{z} \in \mathbb{R}$ (4) $\tilde{P}_\varepsilon(\bar{z}) = \sqrt{\frac{\beta\varepsilon}{4\pi}} e^{-\frac{\beta\varepsilon}{4\gamma}\bar{z}^2}$

$$(5) \int d\bar{z} \tilde{P}_\varepsilon(\bar{z}) = 1 \quad (6) \int d\bar{z} \bar{z} \tilde{P}_\varepsilon(\bar{z}) = 0 \quad (7) \int d\bar{z} \bar{z}^2 \tilde{P}_\varepsilon(\bar{z}) = \frac{2\gamma}{\beta\varepsilon}$$

we thus have (8) $\langle\langle \hat{\zeta}_{n\varepsilon}^{(\varepsilon)} \hat{\zeta}_{m\varepsilon}^{(\varepsilon)} \rangle\rangle = \frac{2\gamma}{\beta\varepsilon} S_{n,m}, \langle\langle \hat{\zeta}_{n\varepsilon}^{(\varepsilon)} \rangle\rangle = 0$

• master equation

$$\begin{aligned}
 (1) \quad & P(V, t + \varepsilon) - P(V, t) \\
 &= -P(V, t) \left\{ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tilde{z} \tilde{P}_{\varepsilon}(\tilde{z}) \right\} + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tilde{z} P(V - \frac{\varepsilon}{m} \tilde{z}, t) \tilde{P}_{\varepsilon}(\tilde{z}) \\
 &\simeq \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tilde{z} \left\{ -P(V, t) + P(V - \frac{\varepsilon}{m} \tilde{z}, t) \right\} \tilde{P}_{\varepsilon}(\tilde{z}) \\
 &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tilde{z} \left\{ -\frac{\varepsilon}{m} \tilde{z} \frac{\partial}{\partial V} P(V, t) + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\varepsilon}{m} \tilde{z} \right)^2 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial V^2} P(V, t) + \dots \right\} \tilde{P}_{\varepsilon}(\tilde{z}) \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\varepsilon}{m} \right)^2 \left(\frac{2\gamma}{\beta\varepsilon} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial V^2} P(V, t) + O(\varepsilon)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$(2) \quad \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \left\{ P(V, t + \varepsilon) - P(V, t) \right\} = \frac{\gamma}{m^2 \beta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial V^2} P(V, t) + \frac{O(\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon}$$

letting $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$

$$(3) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t} P(V, t) = \frac{\gamma}{m^2 \beta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial V^2} P(V, t)$$

desired
diffusion-type
equation

• continuum limit of the equation of motion

$$(1) m \frac{\hat{V}(t+\varepsilon) - \hat{V}(t)}{\varepsilon} = \hat{\zeta}_t^{(\varepsilon)} \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} (2) m \frac{d}{dt} \hat{V}(t) = \hat{\zeta}(t)$$

$$(3) \langle\langle \hat{\zeta}_{n\varepsilon}^{(\varepsilon)} \hat{\zeta}_{m\varepsilon}^{(\varepsilon)} \rangle\rangle = \frac{2\gamma}{\beta\varepsilon} \delta_{n,m}$$

$$(5) \sum_{m \in \mathbb{Z}} \varepsilon \langle\langle \hat{\zeta}_{n\varepsilon}^{(\varepsilon)} \hat{\zeta}_{m\varepsilon}^{(\varepsilon)} \rangle\rangle = \frac{2\gamma}{\beta}$$

$$(6) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} ds \langle\langle \hat{\zeta}(t) \hat{\zeta}(s) \rangle\rangle = \frac{2\gamma}{\beta}$$

$$(7) \langle\langle \hat{\zeta}(t) \hat{\zeta}(s) \rangle\rangle = \frac{2\gamma}{\beta} S(t-s)$$

$$(8) \langle\langle \hat{\zeta}(t) \rangle\rangle = 0$$

(fluctuation-dissipation relation)
of the 2nd kind

$\hat{\zeta}(t)$ Gaussian white noise

mathematically
better object

$$(9) \hat{W}_t^{(\varepsilon)} := \sum_{n=0}^{[t/\varepsilon]} \varepsilon \hat{\zeta}_{n\varepsilon}^{(\varepsilon)} \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \hat{W}(t)$$

Wiener process

Langevin equation

To sum up, the Kramers equation

$$(1) \frac{\partial}{\partial t} P(x, v, t) = -v \frac{\partial}{\partial x} P(x, v, t) - \frac{f(x)}{m} \frac{\partial}{\partial v} P(x, v, t) \\ - \frac{\gamma}{m^2 \beta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial v^2} P(x, v, t) + \frac{\gamma}{m} \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \{ v P(x, v, t) \}$$

is equivalent to

the Langevin equation

Stochastic differential equation

$$(2) \frac{d}{dt} \hat{x}(t) = \hat{v}(t)$$

$$(3) m \frac{d}{dt} \hat{v}(t) = f(\hat{x}(t)) - \gamma \hat{v}(t) + \hat{\zeta}(t)$$

$$(4) \langle\langle \hat{\zeta}(t) \hat{\zeta}(s) \rangle\rangle = \frac{2\gamma}{\beta} S(t-s) \quad \text{(fluctuation-dissipation relation of the 2nd kind)}$$

$$(5) \langle\langle \hat{\zeta}(t) \rangle\rangle = 0$$

$\hat{\zeta}(t)$ Gaussian white noise

§ Einstein's theory of Brownian motion

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free Brownian motion

$$(1) m \frac{d}{dt} \hat{v}(t) = -\gamma \hat{v}(t) + \hat{\zeta}(t)$$

usual ODE

$$(2) m \dot{v}(t) = -\gamma v(t) + f(t)$$

$$(3) v(t) = e^{-\frac{\gamma}{m}(t-t_0)} v(t_0) + \frac{1}{m} \int_{t_0}^t ds e^{-\frac{\gamma}{m}(t-s)} f(s)$$

$$t_0 \rightarrow -\infty$$

$$(4) v(t) = \frac{1}{m} \int_{-\infty}^t ds e^{-\frac{\gamma}{m}(t-s)} f(s)$$

formal solution of (1)

$$(5) \hat{v}(t) = \frac{1}{m} \int_{-\infty}^t ds e^{-\frac{\gamma}{m}(t-s)} \hat{\zeta}(s)$$

our treatment here is mathematically not rigorous

but the results
are correct

• correlation function of $\hat{U}(t)$

$$(1) \hat{U}(t) = \frac{1}{m} \int_{-\infty}^t ds e^{-\frac{\gamma}{m}(t-s)} \hat{\zeta}(s)$$

$$(2) \langle\langle \hat{U}(t) \rangle\rangle = \frac{1}{m} \int_{-\infty}^t ds e^{-\frac{\gamma}{m}(t-s)} \langle\langle \hat{\zeta}(s) \rangle\rangle = 0$$

$t \leq t'$

$$(3) \langle\langle \hat{U}(t) \hat{U}(t') \rangle\rangle = \frac{1}{m^2} \int_{-\infty}^t ds \int_{-\infty}^{t'} ds' e^{-\frac{\gamma}{m}(t+t'-s-s')} \langle\langle \hat{\zeta}(s) \hat{\zeta}(s') \rangle\rangle$$

*t ≤ t'
is crucial*

$$= \frac{1}{m^2} \frac{2\gamma}{B} \int_{-\infty}^t ds e^{-\frac{\gamma}{m}(t+t'-2s)}$$

$$\frac{2\gamma}{B} \delta(s-s')$$

$$= \frac{1}{mB} e^{-\frac{\gamma}{m}(t'-t)}$$

$t=t'$

$$(4) \langle\langle \frac{m}{2} \{\hat{U}(t)\}^2 \rangle\rangle = (2B)^{-1} = \frac{1}{2} k_B T \rightarrow$$

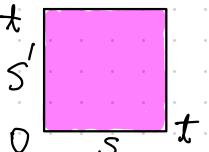
the choice of A in
p7-(1) is justified!

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• expectation value of $(\hat{x}(t) - \hat{x}(0))^2$

$$t > 0 \quad (1) \quad \hat{x}(t) - \hat{x}(0) = \int_0^t ds \hat{V}(s)$$

$$(2) \quad \langle\langle \hat{x}(t) - \hat{x}(0) \rangle\rangle = \int_0^t ds \langle\langle \hat{V}(s) \rangle\rangle = 0$$

$$(3) \quad \langle\langle (\hat{x}(t) - \hat{x}(0))^2 \rangle\rangle$$


$$= \int_0^t ds \int_0^t ds' \langle\langle \hat{V}(s) \hat{V}(s') \rangle\rangle = 2 \int_0^t ds \int_s^t ds' \langle\langle \hat{V}(s) \hat{V}(s') \rangle\rangle$$

$$= \frac{2}{m\beta} \int_0^t ds \int_s^t ds' e^{-\frac{\gamma}{m}(s'-s)} = \boxed{\frac{2}{\beta\gamma} t} - \frac{2m}{\beta\gamma^2} \left\{ -e^{-\frac{\gamma}{m}t} \right\}$$

diffusion constant

$$(4) \quad D = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2t} \langle\langle (\hat{x}(t) - \hat{x}(0))^2 \rangle\rangle = \boxed{\frac{1}{\beta\gamma}}$$

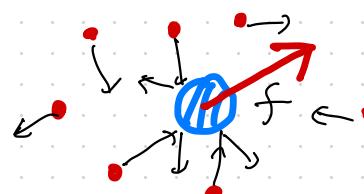
diffusive behavior

$$(5) \quad \langle\langle (\hat{x}(t) - \hat{x}(0))^2 \rangle\rangle \simeq 2Dt$$

Brownian motion under a constant force

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$$(1) m \frac{d}{dt} \hat{U}(t) = -\gamma \hat{V}(t) + f + \hat{\zeta}(t)$$



$$(2) m \frac{d}{dt} \hat{U}(t) = -\gamma \hat{U}(t) + \hat{\zeta}(t) \quad \text{with (4)} \quad \hat{U}(t) = \hat{V}(t) - \frac{f}{\gamma}$$

since (4) $\langle\langle \hat{U}(t) \rangle\rangle = 0$

terminal velocity (5) $\langle\langle \hat{V}(t) \rangle\rangle = \mu f$ with mobility (6) $\mu = \frac{1}{\gamma}$

from p17-(4) Einstein's relation

$$(7) \mu = \beta D$$

$$(8) D = k_B T \mu$$

$$(9) \mu = \beta \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2t} \int_0^t \int_0^t ds ds' \langle\langle \hat{V}(s) \hat{V}(s') \rangle\rangle$$

linear response relation

$$(10) L = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2T} \int_0^T \int_0^T ds ds' \langle\langle \hat{J}(s) \hat{J}(s') \rangle\rangle$$

part 4-p12-(1)

Einstein's relation

"Count" the number of molecules by observing the Brownian motion

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$$(1) D = k_B T \mu$$

$$(2) k_B = \frac{R}{N_A} \quad R: \text{gas constant}$$

$$N_A: \text{Avogadro's constant}$$

Stokes' law (fluid dynamics)

$$(3) \mu = \frac{1}{6\pi\eta a} \quad a: \text{radius}$$

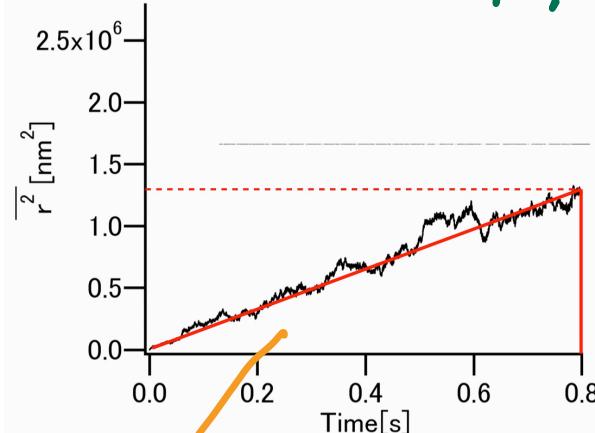
$\eta: \text{viscosity}$



determined by
macroscopic
experiments

the number
of
molecules

measured by
a microscope



$$D \approx \frac{1}{4} \frac{1.3 \times 10^6 (\text{nm})^2}{0.8 \text{ s}}$$

$$a \approx 0.5 \text{ nm} (d/2)$$

$$R \approx 8.3 \frac{\text{J}}{\text{K mol}}$$

$$\eta \approx 0.8 \times 10^{-3} \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m s}}$$

$$T \approx 300 \text{ K}$$

$$N_A \approx 8.1 \times 10^{23} / \text{mol}$$

Incomplete references

Detailed balance condition

C. Maes and K. Netocny, "Time-Reversal and Entropy", J. Stat. Phys. **110**, 269 (2003).

Einstein's theory of Brownian motion

A. Einstein, "The theory of the Brownian movement", Ann. der Physik **17**, 549 (1905).

Many textbooks on nonequilibrium statistical mechanics start by talking about the Langevin equation as if it is something you understand intuitively (but I never did). Now you (and I) can read these books with confidence!