

lec7.tex

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## 1 Repetition

Probability of binding in a certain volume is

$$P_b = \frac{1}{1 + e^{\beta \Delta G}} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{V} e^{-\beta \epsilon}} \quad (1)$$

depending on how you define your energy.

$\Delta G$  = free energy = energy + entropy

Huge entropy cost of folding DNA.

Non-specific binding means that  $P_b = 1/2$

Corporate binding : counteract the entropy term in the binding prob by having two binding sites next to each other.

$$\Delta G = \epsilon + \epsilon' - k_b T \ln(\Omega) + \epsilon_{R-R'} \quad (2)$$

where  $k_b T \ln(\Omega)$  is the entropy.  $\Omega$  is the # of boxes =  $V/a^3$ .

## 2 Stochastic dynamics in living systems

- Diffusion
- Target search

Examples:

- Protein diffusion: Molecule moving around in a cell.

If you want to move in a straight line, you will have to spend energy.

Random thermal motion costs nothing.

- Target search :

- Transcription initiation:

## 2.1 Diffusion

Incredibly low Reynolds numbers in cells.

Check out "Life at low Reynolds numbers" again.

3D position of the particle:

$$\vec{r} = (x, y, z) \quad (3)$$

Equation of motion: particle in a viscous fluid.

N2:

$$m \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = \text{drag force} + \text{noise} (+ \text{external force}) \quad (4)$$

Drag force  $\propto$  velocity at low vel.s.

$$m \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = \xi \frac{dx}{dt} = \eta(t) \quad (5)$$

where  $\xi$  is the hydrodynamic friction:  $\xi = (6\pi \text{viscosity}/\text{radius})$

in the high-friction limit:

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = 0 \quad (6)$$

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{1}{\xi} \eta(t) \quad (7)$$

which is the Langevin eq. (Brownian motion)

This is an unbiased random walk. (also used in stock market analysis (geometric brownian motion))

What is  $\eta(t)$ ? White noise. Random noise with

1) mean = 0.

many types of averages. Ensemble average: "in statistical mechanics, the ensemble average is defined as the mean of a quantity that is a function of the microstate of a system, according to the distribution of the system on its micro-states in this ensemble."

$$\langle \eta(t) \rangle = 0 \quad (8)$$

2) variance over time is constant.

3) uncorrelated

if you correlate two different regions, the correlation should be 0. Corr. between  $T_1$  and  $T_1 = 1$ , but between  $T_1$  and  $T_n = 0$  for  $n \neq 1$

White noise is the least biased noise you can add.

$$\langle \eta(t) \eta(t') \rangle = \delta(t - t') \quad (9)$$

calculate displacement:

Integrate Langevin eq. ( $\int_0^t du$ )

$$x(t) - x(0) = \Delta x = \frac{1}{\xi} \int_0^t \eta(u) du \quad (10)$$

$$\langle \Delta x \rangle = \langle \frac{1}{\xi} \int_0^t \langle \eta(u) \rangle du \rangle = 0 \quad (11)$$

-Calc mean-squared displacement (MSD):

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \Delta x(t)^2 \rangle &= \langle \Delta x(t) \Delta x(t) \rangle \\ &= \langle \frac{1}{\xi} \int_0^t \eta(u) du \cdot \int_0^t \eta(v) dv \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{\xi^2} \int_0^t \int_0^t \text{const} \cdot \delta(u-v) du dv \quad (12) \\ &= \frac{C}{\xi^2} \int_0^t du \\ &= \frac{Ct}{\xi^2} \end{aligned}$$

which is  $\equiv 2Dt$  where  $D$  is the diffusion constant.

special for diffusion: square of distance traveled is prop- to time,  $\text{dist} \propto \sqrt{t}$ , much slower than ballistic motion.

All directions are independent:

$$\langle \Delta x^2 \rangle = \langle \Delta y^2 \rangle = \langle \Delta z^2 \rangle \quad (13)$$

gives that

$$\langle \Delta R^2 \rangle = \langle \Delta \vec{R} \cdot \Delta \vec{R} \rangle = \langle \Delta x^2 + \Delta y^2 + \Delta z^2 \rangle = 3 \langle \Delta x^2 \rangle = 6Dt \quad (14)$$

How fast will RNAP diffuse across E.Coli?

Diameter  $1 \mu m$

$$D = 5(\mu m^2)/s$$

$$\langle \Delta R^2 = 6Dt \rangle$$

$$t = \frac{\langle \Delta R^2 \rangle}{6D} = 0.03 \quad (15)$$

seconds.

Pretty fast.

What about human cells?

Diameter  $10 \mu m$

$$D = 5(\mu m^2)/s$$

$$\langle \Delta R^2 = 6Dt \rangle$$

$$t = 3 \quad (16)$$

seconds.

How long to diffuse along E.Coli's DNA?

1D diffusion.

$$l_{DNA} = 1550 \mu m \text{ (calc from \# BPs and size. )}$$

$$D = \frac{5(\mu m)^2}{s}$$

$$t = \frac{l_{DNA}^2}{2D} = \frac{2.4e6(\mu m)^2}{2 \cdot 5 \frac{(\mu m)^2}{s}} \approx 67hrs \approx 3days \quad (17)$$

## 2.2 What is the distribution of x?

$P(x,t)$

x is the sum of random numbers, so it will conform to a gaussian for large numbers.

Will tend to a gaussian curve with mean  $M = 0$ ,  $\sigma^2 = 2Dt$

$$\Rightarrow P(x,t) = \frac{e^{-(x-x_0)^2/4Dt}}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} \quad (18)$$

$P(x,t)$  satisfies

$$\frac{\partial D}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial x^2} \quad (19)$$

independent directions, so

$$\begin{aligned} P(\vec{r}, t) &= p(x, y, z, t) = p(x, t)p(y, t)p(z, t) \\ &= \frac{e^{-x^2/4Dt}}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} \cdot \frac{e^{-y^2/4Dt}}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} \cdot \frac{e^{-z^2/4Dt}}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} \\ &= \frac{e^{-(x^2+y^2+z^2)}}{(4\pi Dt)^{3/2}} \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

## 2.3 Target search

Find the search time  $t$  from volume,  $D$ ,  $a$ .

$$t \approx \frac{V}{aD} \quad (21)$$

$$t = \frac{V}{4\pi aD} \quad (22)$$