

BROWNIAN MOTION



- CONSIDER A PARTICLE OF MASS m MOVING IN ONE-DIMENSIONAL AXIS/SPACE.

- $x(t) \Rightarrow$ POSITION OF THE PARTICLE AT TIME t

$v(t) \Rightarrow$ VELOCITY AT TIME t

- EQUATION OF MOTION:

$$m \frac{dv}{dt} = -\alpha v(t) + F(t)$$

FRICTION
CONSTANT
(POSITIVE)

DAMPING FORCE
(MEDIUM)

RAPIDLY
FLUCTUATING
FORCE
(NOISE/
STOCHASTIC
FORCE)

$$v \equiv \dot{x}$$

$$\frac{dv}{dt} \equiv \frac{d\dot{x}}{dt}$$

$$\dot{x} \equiv \frac{dx}{dt}$$

$$m \frac{d\dot{x}}{dt} = -\alpha \dot{x} + F(t)$$

→ MULTIPLY BY x ON BOTH SIDES

$$m x \frac{dx}{dt} = -\alpha x \dot{x} + x F(t)$$

$$m \left[\frac{d}{dt} (x \dot{x}) - \dot{x}^2 \right] = -\alpha x \dot{x} + x F(t)$$

→ TAKE AVERAGE ON BOTH SIDES:

$$m \left[\left\langle \frac{d}{dt} (x \dot{x}) \right\rangle - \langle \dot{x}^2 \rangle \right] = -\alpha \langle x \dot{x} \rangle + \langle x F \rangle$$

FROM EQUIPARTITION
THEOREM:

$$\frac{1}{2} m \langle \dot{x}^2 \rangle = \frac{1}{2} k_B T$$

ZERO
(UNCORRELATED
NOISE)
 $\langle x F \rangle = \langle x \rangle \langle F \rangle$
 $= 0$

$$m \frac{d}{dt} \langle x \dot{x} \rangle = k_B T - \alpha \langle x \dot{x} \rangle$$

$$\tau = \frac{\alpha}{m}$$

SOLUTION:

$$\langle x \dot{x} \rangle = C e^{-\tau t} + \frac{k_B T}{\alpha}$$

$C \rightarrow$ CONSTANT OF INTEGRATION

NOTE: $\langle x \dot{x} \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \langle x^2 \rangle$

INITIAL CONDITION:-

$$t = 0 ; x = 0$$

$$C = -\frac{k_B T}{\alpha}$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle x \dot{x} \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \langle x^2 \rangle = \frac{k_B T}{\alpha} (1 - e^{-t/\tau})$$

INTEGRATE THIS:-

$$\langle x^2 \rangle = \frac{2 k_B T}{\alpha} \left[t - \frac{(1 - e^{-t/\tau})}{1/\tau} \right]$$

CASE 1: $t \ll \frac{1}{\tau} \Rightarrow t/\tau \ll 1$

$$\langle x^2 \rangle = \frac{2 k_B T}{\alpha} \left[t - \frac{1}{1/\tau} (1 - 1 + t/\tau - \frac{1}{2} (t/\tau)^2 + \dots) \right]$$

$$\approx \frac{k_B T}{\alpha} \left(\frac{\alpha}{m} \right) t^2$$

$$\langle x^2 \rangle \approx \frac{k_B T}{m} t^2$$

SHORT TIME
LIMIT

→ MOVES LIKE A FREE PARTICLE
WITH A CONSTANT THERMAL VELOCITY
 $\left(\frac{k_B T}{m} \right)^{1/2}$

CASE 2 : $t \gg \frac{1}{\tau}$; $ht \gg 1$

$$e^{-ht} \rightarrow 0$$

LONG TIME
LIMIT

$$\langle x^2 \rangle = \frac{2k_B T}{\alpha} t$$

\Rightarrow MOVES LIKE A RANDOM WALKER

$$\langle x^2 \rangle \propto t$$

