Far-from-equilibrium Statistical Dynamics of Small Systems: Past, Present & Future



Forward Through Backwards Time by RocketBoom



The Past

Life is divided into three periods: that which has been, that which is, that which will be. Seneca the Younger





Thermodynamic Equilibrium: Future, past and present are indistinguishable





The 2nd Law of Thermodynamics



$$\Delta S_{\text{total}} \ge 0$$

Total Entropy increases as time progresses





The (improved) 2nd Law of Thermodynamics

Clausius inequality (1865) Jarzynski Identity (1997)

$$\langle \Delta S_{\rm total} \rangle \ge 0 \qquad \langle e^{-\Delta S_{\rm total}} \rangle = 1$$

equality only for reversible process

equality far-from-equilibrium

$$\Delta S_{\text{total}} = \frac{1}{T} \left(W - \Delta F \right)$$







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Inverse Temperature



Time





Feedback Fluctuation Theorems (c2010)



Sagawa & Ueda (2008) (2010) Horowitz & Vaikuntanathan (2010)



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The Present

Of these the present is fleeting, the future is doubtful, the past is certain. Seneca the Younger Reviews of Nonlinear Dynamics and Complexity.

Edited by R. Klages, W. Just, and C. Jarzynski WILEY-VCH

Nonequilibrium Statistical Physics of Small Systems

Fluctuation Relations and Beyond





What have we learned?

$$\langle e^{-\Delta S_{\text{total}}} \rangle = 1$$

- Exact, general relations for driven systems, far-from-equilibrium
- Fluctuations matter
- Trajectories primary objects (rather than states)
- Entropy change breaks time reversal symmetry, quantitatively.
- Relevant at small dissipation (<10s kT)
- Coupled systems: Information flow is as important as work and heat flow.



Where are we useful?

computer simulations

experiments





(e.g. Free energy calculations, Nonequilibrium candidate Monte Carlo, Langevin dynamics simulation) Free energies of unfolding





It's tough to make predictions, especially about the future. Yogi Berra

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-0.26 -0.26







(I) The Measurement Problem

• Example: Hanata-Sasa Relation



Fluctuation theorem for transitions between steady states.

Total heat = Housekeeping heat + Excess Heat

Hatano & Sasa (2001) Massimiliano & Van den Broeck (2010) "Three detailed fluctuation theorems"



(I) The problem of measuring entropy out-of-equilibrium



 $S = -\sum p_i \ln p_i$

 natural unit of entropy equivalent to
kT of thermal energy

> T : Temperature (ambient 300K) k : Boltzmann's constant

I kT = 25 meV = 2.5 kJ/mol = 0.6 kcal/mol



(2) Not-so-near equilibrium statistical dynamics?

Thermodynamic Equilibrium	Near equilibrium	Not-so-near equilibrium?	Far from equilibrium
Statistical mechanics	Linear Response	Almost-linear response?	Fluctuation theorems, Jarzynski equality
(c1900)	(1950s)	(<2034?)	(1990s)







Near-equilibrium measurements of free energy

• Practical method for measuring free energies in near-equilibrium regime. Applicable to existing single-molecule experiments



(3) Optimization principles

 How does one design a machine to: minimize dissipation? maximize rate (or power)? maximize fidelity?

rate / dissipation / fidelity tradeoff?

• What are the optimal principles relevant to operation of biological molecular machines?



Minimum dissipation protocols



Schmiedl & Seifert PRL (2007)





Geometry of thermodynamic control

- Finite time thermodynamics with linear response friction tensor
- Riemannian metric, minimum dissipation paths are geodesics







Hyperbolic geometry

Sivak & Crooks, *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, 2012 Zulkowski, Sivak, Crooks & DeWeese Phys. Rev. E 2012



The future: Summary

- What are the fundamental operational principles of molecular scale machines?
 - (I) How do we measure entropy (and probabilities) away

from thermodynamics equilibrium

- (2) Not-so-near equilibrium, almost linear response?
- (3) Optimization principles

rate / dissipation / fidelity tradeoff? minimum dissipation protocols

Time flies like an arrow; Fruit flies like a banana Groucho Marks

