

# *Anomalous diffusion of random walkers*

*Three examples and application to  
persistence*

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# Continuous Time Random Walk (CTRW)

$$t_n = \sum_{i=1}^n \tau_i, \quad x(t) = \sum_{i=1}^{\max(n: t_n \leq t)} \xi_i$$

Probability distribution function of the jumps:  $\phi(\xi, \tau)$

One easily gets:

$$p(x, t) = \delta(x) \Psi(t) + \int_0^t \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \phi(x - x', t - t') p(x', t') dt' dx'$$

$$\Psi(t) = \int_t^{+\infty} \int_{+\infty}^{+\infty} \phi(\xi, \tau) d\tau d\xi = \int_t^{+\infty} \psi(\tau) d\tau$$

Can be solved by Fourier transform in  $x$  (dual variable  $k$ )  
and Laplace transform in  $t$  (dual variable  $s$ )

$$\hat{p}(k, s) = \frac{1 - \hat{\psi}(s)}{s} \frac{1}{1 - \hat{\phi}(k, s)}; \quad \hat{\Psi}(s) = \frac{1 - \hat{\psi}(s)}{s}$$

# Continuous Time Random Walk (CTRW)

Independant distributions  $\phi(\xi, \tau) = \lambda(\xi)\psi(\tau)$

$$\hat{p}(k, s) = \frac{1 - \hat{\psi}(s)}{s} \frac{1}{1 - \hat{\lambda}(k)\hat{\psi}(s)}$$

Assume

- $\psi(\tau) = \frac{1}{r} \psi_0(\tau / r)$ , with  $\psi_0(\tau) \sim \tau^{-\beta-1}$  ( $0 < \beta < 1$ ) and  $\int_0^{+\infty} \psi_0(\tau) d\tau = 1$

Then,  $1 - \hat{\psi}(s) \underset{r \rightarrow 0}{\sim} c_1 (rs)^\beta$

- $\lambda(\xi) = \frac{1}{h} \lambda_0(\xi / h)$ , with  $\lambda_0(\xi) \sim |\xi|^{-\alpha-1}$  ( $0 < \alpha < 2$ ) and  $\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \lambda_0(\xi) d\xi = 1$

Then,  $1 - \hat{\lambda}(k) \underset{h \rightarrow 0}{\sim} c_2 |hk|^\alpha$

# Continuous Time Random Walk (CTRW)

In the limit  $r, h \rightarrow 0$ :

$$\hat{p}(k, s) = \frac{1 - \hat{\psi}(s)}{s} \frac{1}{1 - \hat{\lambda}(k)\hat{\psi}(s)} \sim \frac{c_1 r^\beta s^{\beta-1}}{c_1 (rs)^\beta + c_2 |hk|^\alpha}$$

To define the continuous limit, we set  $c_1 r^\beta = c_2 h^\alpha$

Hence, up to a multiplicative constant

$$\hat{p}(k, s) \rightarrow \frac{s^{\beta-1}}{s^\beta + |k|^\alpha}$$

# CTRW scaling distribution

$$\hat{p}(k, s) = \frac{s^{\beta-1}}{s^\beta + |k|^\alpha}$$

The inverse Laplace transform is  $E_\beta(-|k|^\alpha t^\beta)$ ,

where  $E_\beta(z) := \sum_{n=0}^{+\infty} \frac{z^n}{\Gamma(\beta n + 1)}$  is the Mittag-Leffler function

satisfying  $E_\beta(-z) \underset{z \rightarrow +\infty}{\sim} \frac{\sin(\beta\pi) \Gamma(\beta)}{\pi z}$  (for  $0 < \beta < 1$ )

Finally, in the continuous limit ( $p(x, t=0) = \delta(x)$ ),

$$p(x, t) = \frac{1}{t^{\beta/\alpha}} W_{\alpha, \beta} \left( \frac{x}{t^{\beta/\alpha}} \right), \quad \text{with } W_{\alpha, \beta}(u) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} E_\beta(-|k|^\alpha) e^{-iku} \frac{dk}{2\pi}$$

(one recovers the Gaussian distribution for  $\alpha = 2$  and  $\beta = 1$ )

# CTRW (diffusion-like) master equation

Define the Caputo fractional derivative for  $0 < \beta < 1$

$$\frac{d^\beta}{dt^\beta} f(t) := \frac{1}{\Gamma(1-\beta)} \left[ \frac{d}{dt} \int_0^t \frac{f(\tau)}{(t-\tau)^\beta} d\tau - \frac{f(0^+)}{t^\beta} \right]$$

(related to the Riemann-Liouville derivative)

The Laplace transform of  $\frac{d^\beta}{dt^\beta} f(t)$  is  $s^\beta \hat{f}(s) - s^\beta f(0^+)$

Hence, the inverse Laplace transform of

$$\hat{f}(s) := \hat{p}(k, s) = \frac{s^{\beta-1}}{s^\beta + |k|^\alpha} \text{ satisfies}$$

$$\frac{d^\beta}{dt^\beta} f(t) = -|k|^\alpha f(t); f(t) = E_\beta \left( -|k|^\alpha t^\beta \right)$$

# CTRW (diffusion-like) master equation

Define the Riesz fractional derivative for  $0 < \alpha \leq 2$

$$\frac{d^\alpha}{d|x|^\alpha} f(x) := \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+1)}{\pi} \sin\left(\frac{\alpha\pi}{2}\right) \int_0^{+\infty} \frac{f(x+\xi) + f(x-\xi) - 2f(x)}{\xi^{\alpha+1}} d\xi$$

The Fourier transform of  $\frac{d^\alpha}{d|x|^\alpha} f(x)$  is simply  $-|k|^\alpha \hat{f}(k)$

Hence, the inverse Laplace/Fourier transform of

$$\hat{p}(k, s) = \frac{s^{\beta-1}}{s^\beta + |k|^\alpha} \text{ satisfies a diffusion-like equation}$$

$$\frac{\partial^\beta}{\partial t^\beta} p(x, t) = \frac{\partial^\alpha}{\partial |x|^\alpha} p(x, t), \text{ with solution } p(x, t) = \frac{1}{t^{\beta/\alpha}} W_{\alpha, \beta} \left( \frac{x}{t^{\beta/\alpha}} \right),$$

$$\text{and } W_{\alpha, \beta}(u) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} E_\beta \left( -|k|^\alpha \right) e^{-iku} \frac{dk}{2\pi}$$

# Other interesting processes leading to anomalous diffusion

Probability distribution function  $\phi(\xi, \tau) = \lambda(\xi) \times \nu(\xi) e^{-\nu(\xi)\tau}$ ,

with  $\nu(x) = |x|^{-\theta}$  ( $\theta > -1$ ),

and  $\lambda(\xi) = \frac{e^{-\xi^2/2}}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$  or  $\lambda(\xi) \underset{\pm\infty}{\sim} |\xi|^{-\alpha-1}$  ( $0 < \alpha < 2$ ; Lévy)

In the continuum limit, one obtains the Fokker-Planck equation

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} p(x, t) = \frac{\partial^\alpha}{\partial |x|^\alpha} \left[ |x|^{-\theta} p(x, t) \right],$$

with a scaling solution in terms of  $u = x / t^{1/(\alpha+\theta)}$

For instance, for  $\alpha = 2$ ,  $p(x, t) = C_\theta \frac{|x|^\theta}{t^{2+\theta}} \exp \left[ -\frac{2|x|^{2+\theta}}{(2+\theta)t} \right]$



# Other interesting processes leading to anomalous diffusion

Processes defined by their Langevin-type equation of motion:

$dx = p(x,t) \frac{1-q}{2} dw$ , where  $w(t)$  is a standard Brownian walker (relevant in astrophysics and stock price models - option theory...)

The associated Fokker-Planck equation reads

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} p(x,t) = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} [p(x,t)^{2-q}],$$

with a scaling solution in terms of  $u = x / t^{1/(3-q)}$  :

$$p(x,t) = Z(t)^{-1} [1 + \beta(t)(q-1)x^2]^{-1/(q-1)} \quad (\text{Tsallis } q\text{-exponential})$$

with  $Z(t) = ((2-q)(3-q)ct)^{1/(3-q)}$ , and  $\beta(t) = cZ(t)^{-2}$

# Persistence

The persistence up to time  $t$  of a process  $x(t)$  is

$$P(t) = \text{Prob}(x(t') > 0, \forall t' \in [0, t])$$

Very hard problem for non Markovian processes!

(see the rest of the presentation)

More generally, we are interested in  $p_{>}(x, t)$ ,

with  $p_{>}(x, t = 0) = \delta(x - x_0)$  (the distribution of "survivors")

$$P(t) = \int_0^{+\infty} p_{>}(x, t) dx$$

# Persistence

Example (method of images):

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} p_{>}(x, t) = \frac{1}{2} D(t) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} [p_{>}(x, t)]; \quad p_{>}(x, 0) = \delta(x - x_0), \quad p_{>}(0, t) = 0$$

$$p_{>}(x, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma(t)}} \left[ e^{-\frac{(x-x_0)^2}{2\sigma(t)}} - e^{-\frac{(x+x_0)^2}{2\sigma(t)}} \right], \quad \sigma(t) = \int_0^t D(t') dt'$$

$$\text{For } D(t) = 1, \text{ and } t \rightarrow +\infty, \quad p_{>}(x, t) = \frac{2x_0 x}{\sqrt{2\pi t^{3/2}}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{2t}}; \quad P(t) = \frac{2x_0}{\sqrt{2\pi t}}$$

Can be easily generalized to the case  $\beta = 1, 0 < \alpha < 2$

$$p_{>}(x, t) = -x_0 t^{-2/\alpha} W'_{\alpha, 1}(x / t^{1/\alpha}); \quad P(t) \sim t^{-1/\alpha}$$

# Persistence of the $q$ -process

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} p_{>}(x, t) = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \left[ p_{>}(x, t)^{2-q} \right], \quad p_{>}(x=0, t) = 0$$

Exact scaling solution in terms of  $u = x / t^{\frac{1}{2(2-q)}}$

(instead of  $u = x / t^{1/(3-q)}$  in the free case)

$$p(x, t) = t^{-\frac{1}{2-q}} F_q \left( x / t^{\frac{1}{2(2-q)}} \right); \quad F_q(u) = c_1 u^{\frac{1}{2-q}} \left[ 1 + c_2 (q-1) u^{\frac{3-q}{2-q}} \right]^{-\frac{1}{q-1}}$$

To be compared to  $c_1 \left[ 1 + c_2 (q-1) u^2 \right]^{-\frac{1}{q-1}}$  in the free case

(but same large  $u$  decay)

Finally,  $P(t) \underset{t \rightarrow +\infty}{\sim} t^{-\frac{1}{2(2-q)}}$

# Some references

- <http://pre.aps.org/abstract/PRE/v69/i1/e011107>
- [http://pre.aps.org/abstract/PRE/v58/i2/p1621\\_1](http://pre.aps.org/abstract/PRE/v58/i2/p1621_1)
- <http://pre.aps.org/abstract/PRE/v69/i1/e016116>
- [Lisa Borland](#) on arXiv
- <http://pre.aps.org/abstract/PRE/v77/i2/e021122>
- [th-www.if.uj.edu.pl/acta/vol38/pdf/v38p3119.pdf](http://th-www.if.uj.edu.pl/acta/vol38/pdf/v38p3119.pdf)
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- [http://prl.aps.org/abstract/PRL/v77/i8/p1420\\_1](http://prl.aps.org/abstract/PRL/v77/i8/p1420_1)

***Persistence of a random  
temporal signal  
Approximate methods and applications***

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# ***Persistence of a non-Markovian stationary Gaussian random walker***

- A stationary Gaussian walker  $x(\tau)$  ( $\langle x(\tau) \rangle = 0$ ) is ***fully characterized*** by  $f(\tau) = \langle x(\tau + \tau') x(\tau') \rangle$
- The **persistence** is the probability that  $x(s)$  ***remains above (or below) a certain level  $M$*** , for all  $s \in [0, \tau]$ ;  $\mathcal{P}_<(\tau, M) \sim \exp(-\theta_-(M) \tau)$
- $\theta(M)$  is the **persistence “exponent”** probing the ***full history*** of the system
- $f(\tau) = \exp(-\lambda |\tau|)$  means that  $x(\tau)$  is ***Markovian***

# *Persistence of a non-Markovian scale-invariant random walker*

➤ If  $\langle y(t)y(t') \rangle = g(t/t')$ , then  $x(\tau) = y(\exp(\tau))$  is *stationary* in the *new variable*  $\tau = \ln(t) \Rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\tau, M) \sim \exp(-\theta\tau) \sim t^{-\theta}$

➤ *Example:* the ordinary Brownian walker  $W(t)$

$$y(t) = W(t) / \sqrt{\langle W^2(t) \rangle}$$

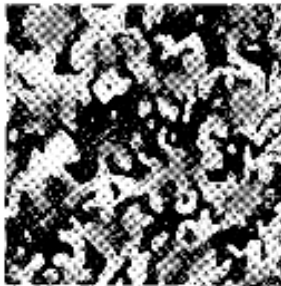
$$g(t/t') = \sqrt{\frac{t'}{t}}; \quad f(\tau) = \exp(-|\tau|/2); \quad \theta(M=0) = \frac{1}{2}$$

➤ Many physical quantities of interest are (scale-invariant or stationary) *Gaussian or well approximated* by a Gaussian process

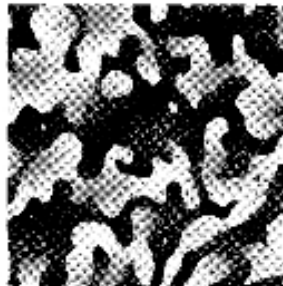


# Physical applications

- **Persistence exponent of the Ising model:**  
*local and global persistence; a new critical exponent for spin systems*
- $\mathcal{H} = -J \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} S_i S_j$ ;  $S_i = \pm 1$  on a lattice
- For  $T < T_c \sim J$ , the system orders at equilibrium:  $\langle S \rangle \neq 0$



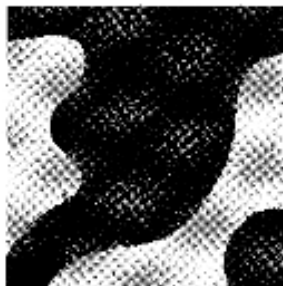
t = 1 sec



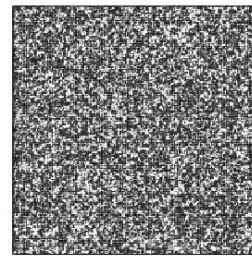
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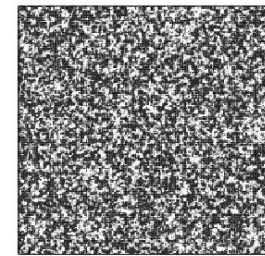
t = 20 sec



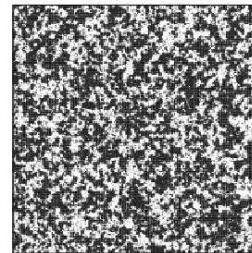
t = 100 sec



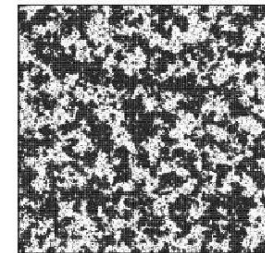
t=2



t=5



t=20



t=93

# Physical applications: spin systems

- The total magnetization is a *true scale-invariant Gaussian process* for which the associated stationary correlator  $f(\tau)$  can be computed approximately at  $T < T_c$  (S. Cueille & CS) or  $T = T_c$  (S. N. Majumdar *et al.*)

$$m(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{V}} \sum_{i \in V} S_i(t)$$

- $\text{Prob}(m(t') > 0; t' \in [0, t]) \sim t^{-\Theta} \quad (T < T_c)$
- $\text{Prob}(m(t') > 0; t' \in [0, t]) \sim t^{-\Theta_c} \quad (T = T_c)$

- A single spin at  $T \leq T_c$  is well approximated by the *sign of a Gaussian process* (exact when  $d \rightarrow \infty$ )  
(G. Mazenko, CS & S.N. Majumdar, S. Cueille & CS)

$$S_i(t) \approx \text{sign}(y(t))$$

- $\text{Prob}(S_i(t') > 0; t' \in [0, t]) \sim t^{-\theta} \quad (T < T_c)$
- $\text{Prob}(S_i(t') > 0; t' \in [0, t]) \sim t^{-\theta_c} \quad (T = T_c)$

# Physical applications

- Persistence exponent for the *diffusion equation* (S. N. Majumdar *et al.*, Derrida *et al.*)

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = \Delta_d \rho; \quad \rho(\mathbf{x}, t = 0) = \text{random}$$

$$\text{Prob}(\rho(\mathbf{x}_0, t') > 0; t' \in [0, t]) \sim t^{-\theta_d}$$

- Persistence for any level  $M$  (CS): distribution of the *minima and maxima* of a Gaussian process

$$\text{Prob}\left(\max_{t' \in [0, t]} x(t') \leq M\right) = \text{Prob}(x(t') \leq M; t' \in [0, t])$$

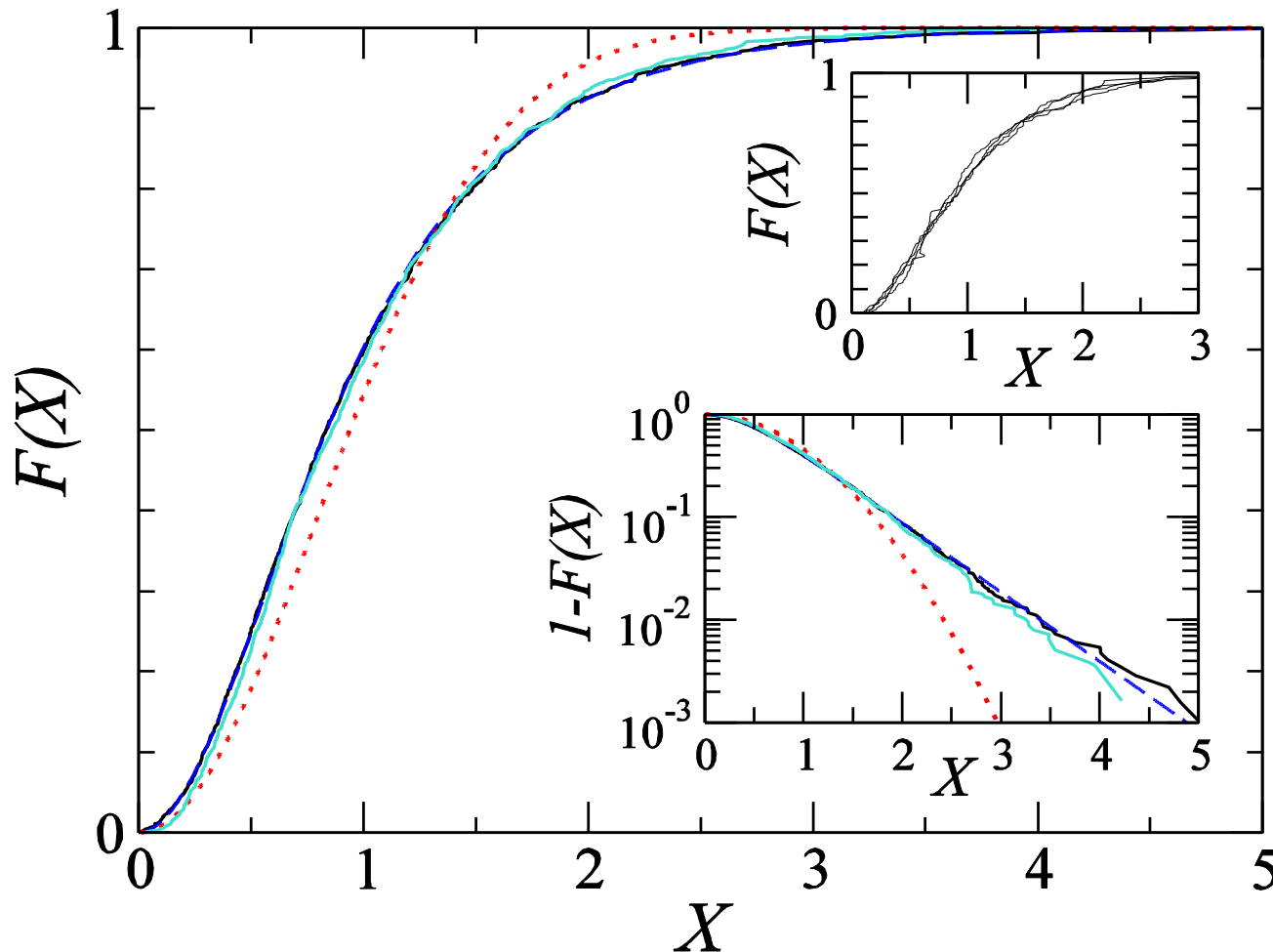
- Many other *experimental measurements* (breath figures, Si surfaces, soap bubbles, Xe gas...)

# Dynamics of poker tournaments

Players survive if their fortune  $x(t) > 0$  (*persistence*)

$X = x(t) / \langle x(t) \rangle$  = fortune of a player in unit of the average fortune at time  $t$

$F(X)$  = fraction of players poorer than the considered player



# Two approximate calculations of $\mathcal{P}(M, \tau)$

## 1. Perturbation theory around a Gaussian Markovian process (S. N. Majumdar & CS)

Defining the *Gaussian* weight (“action”)

$$S(\{x(\tau)\}) = \frac{1}{2} \iint_{0 \leq t_1, t_2 \leq t} x(t_1) f^{-1}(t_1 - t_2) x(t_2) dt_1 dt_2$$
$$\propto \frac{1}{2} \sum_{0 \leq i\Delta t, j\Delta t \leq t} x_i f^{-1}(i\Delta t - j\Delta t) x_j \quad (x_i \equiv x(i\Delta t))$$

The *persistence* is formally expressed as ( $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$ )

$$\mathcal{P}_{<}(\tau, M) = \frac{\int_{x(\tau) < M} \exp(-S(\{x(\tau)\})) \mathcal{D}x(\tau)}{\int \exp(-S(\{x(\tau)\})) \mathcal{D}x(\tau)} \quad \left( \mathcal{D}x(\tau) \equiv \prod_{0 \leq i\Delta t \leq t} dx_i \right)$$

# The Markovian case

The *equation of motion* reads

$$\frac{dx}{d\tau}(\tau) = -\lambda x(\tau) + \sqrt{2\lambda} \eta(\tau) \quad \left( dx(\tau) = -\lambda x(\tau) + \sqrt{2\lambda} dW(\tau) \right)$$

And the *correlator* is

$$f_\lambda(\tau) = \langle x(\tau + \tau') x(\tau') \rangle = \exp(-\lambda |\tau|) ; \quad \hat{f}_\lambda(\omega) = \frac{2\lambda}{\omega^2 + \lambda^2}$$

The “action” is really that of a *harmonic oscillator* of frequency  $\lambda$  (in imaginary time)

$$\begin{aligned} S_\lambda(\{x(\tau)\}) &\sim \int (\omega^2 + \lambda^2) |\hat{x}(\omega)|^2 d\omega \\ &\sim \int_0^\tau \left[ \left( \frac{dx}{d\tau} \right)^2(\tau') + \lambda^2 x^2(\tau') \right] d\tau' \end{aligned}$$

# The Markovian case: a quantum analogy

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{P}_{<}(\tau, M) &= \frac{\int_{x(\tau) < M} \exp(-S_\lambda(\{x(\tau)\})) \mathcal{D}x(\tau)}{\int \exp(-S_\lambda(\{x(\tau)\})) \mathcal{D}x(\tau)} \\ &\equiv \frac{\text{partition function of QHO with a wall at } x = M}{\text{partition function of QHO at } \beta = T^{-1} = \tau} \\ &\stackrel{M=0}{=} \frac{\sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} \exp\left[-\beta\left(2n-1 + \frac{1}{2}\right)\lambda\right]}{\sum_{n=0}^{+\infty} \exp\left[-\beta\left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right)\lambda\right]} \sim \exp(-\beta\lambda)\end{aligned}$$

**For a Markovian process:  $\theta(M = 0) = \lambda$**

# *The nearly Markovian case for $M=0$*

$$f(\tau) = \exp(-\lambda\tau) + \varphi(\tau) \quad (\varphi(0) = 0)$$

where the *perturbation*  $\varphi(\tau)$  is assumed to be “small”

$$S(\{x(\tau)\}) = S_\lambda(\{x(\tau)\}) + \delta S_\varphi(\{x(\tau)\})$$

$$\delta S_\varphi(\{x(\tau)\}) = -\frac{1}{2} \int \frac{\hat{\varphi}(\omega)}{\hat{f}_\lambda(\omega)} |\hat{x}(\omega)|^2 d\omega$$

Applying standard *quantum mechanics perturbation theory*

$$\theta = \lambda + \lim_{\tau \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{\tau} \left\{ \left\langle \delta S_\varphi(\{x(\tau)\}) \right\rangle_{GS; \lambda; M} - \left\langle \delta S_\varphi(\{x(\tau)\}) \right\rangle_{GS; \lambda} \right\}$$



# Results of the perturbation theory

➤ *Quantum perturbation theory:*

$$\theta = \lambda + \frac{2\lambda^2}{\pi} \int_0^{+\infty} \frac{\varphi(\tau)}{(1 - \exp(-2\lambda\tau))^{3/2}} d\tau + O(\phi^2)$$

➤ *Self-consistent perturbation theory:*

$$\int_0^{+\infty} \frac{f(\tau) - \exp(-\theta\tau)}{(1 - \exp(-2\theta\tau))^{3/2}} d\tau = 0$$

➤ *Resummed perturbation theory:*

$$\theta = \int_0^{+\infty} K(f(\tau)) \frac{d\tau}{\tau^2}, \quad K(u) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_u^1 \frac{\ln^2(v)}{(1 - v^2)^{3/2}} dv$$

# Applications of the perturbation theory

- Persistence of Ising spins at  $T < T_c$  (exact for  $d \rightarrow \infty$ )

$$\theta_{d=1} = \frac{3}{8} \text{ (B.Derrida)}; \theta_{Pert} = 0.35 - 0.36$$

$$\theta_{d=2} \approx 0.19 \text{ (exp. \& num.)}; \theta_{Pert} = 0.19 - 0.20$$

- “Exact” perturbative expression of  $\Theta_c$  at  $T = T_c$   
(S. N. Majumdar et al.; K. Oerding et al.)

$$\Theta_c = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{4} \frac{N+2}{N+8} (4-d) + a_2(N)(4-d)^2 + O((4-d)^3)$$

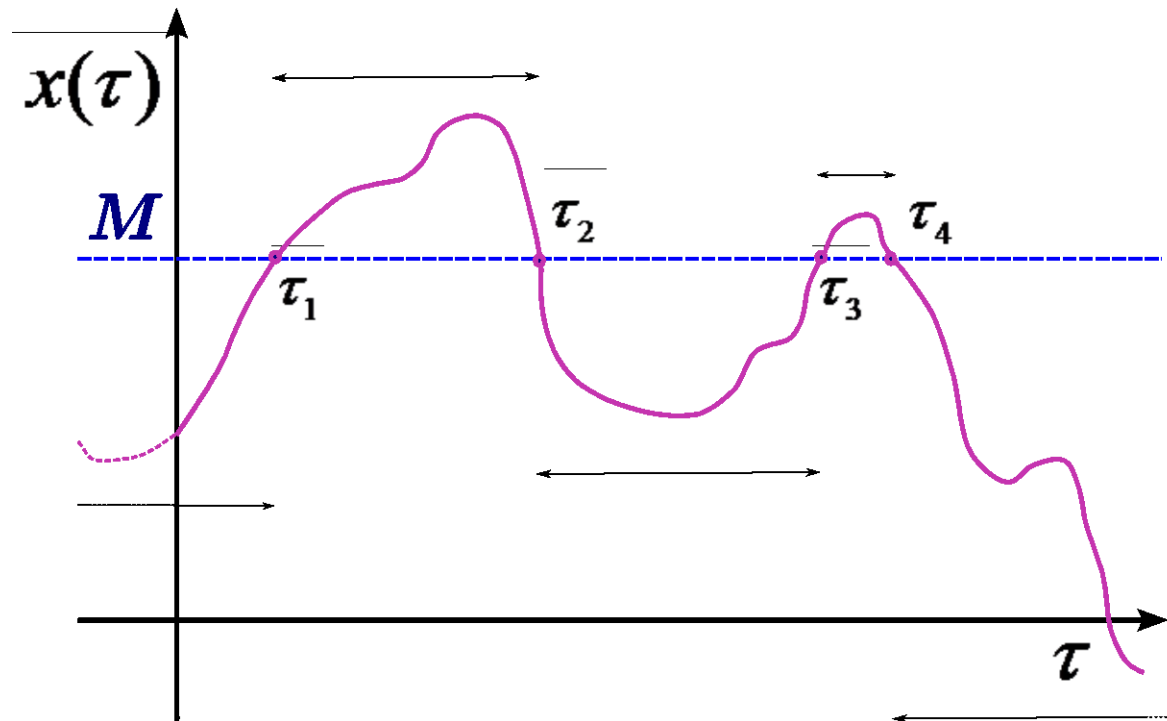
- Approximate expression of  $\Theta$  ( $T < T_c$ )
- Exact general upper bounds for  $\theta$ , small  $M...$

# Approximate calculation of $\mathcal{P}(M, \tau)$

## 2. Independent interval approximation

(S. N. Majumdar et al.; CS)

- We consider “*smooth*” walkers (continuous velocity and  $f''(0)$ )
- We assume + and - interval to be of *independent lengths* (drawn from two unknown distributions  $P_{\pm}(\tau)$ )



## *Independent interval approximation for any $M$*

➤ Assume one knows (analytically, experimentally or numerically):

❖ The *autocorrelation function*

$$A_{<}(\tau) = \langle \mathcal{G}[M - x(\tau)] \mathcal{G}[M - x(0)] \rangle$$

❖  $N_{<}(\tau)$ , the *average number of  $M$ -crossings* in the interval  $[0, \tau]$ , starting from  $x(t = 0) \leq M$

➤ For any *stationary smooth Gaussian process*, both quantities can be *expressed explicitly* in terms of the correlator  $f(\tau) = \langle x(\tau + \tau') x(\tau') \rangle$  ( $f(0) = 1$ )

## *Independent interval approximation for any $M$*

➤ Define  $P_{<}(n, \tau)$  as the probability to have  $n$   *$M$ -crossings* in the interval  $[0, \tau]$ , starting from  $x(t=0) \leq M$

➤ Then  $N_{<}(\tau) = \sum_{n=0}^{+\infty} n P_{<}(n, \tau)$ , and

$$A_{<}(\tau) = \langle \mathcal{G}[M - x(\tau)] \mathcal{G}[M - x(0)] \rangle = G(M) \sum_{n=0}^{+\infty} P_{<}(2n, \tau)$$

with

$$G(M) = 1 - \bar{G}(M) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^M e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}} dx$$

## Independent interval approximation for any $M$

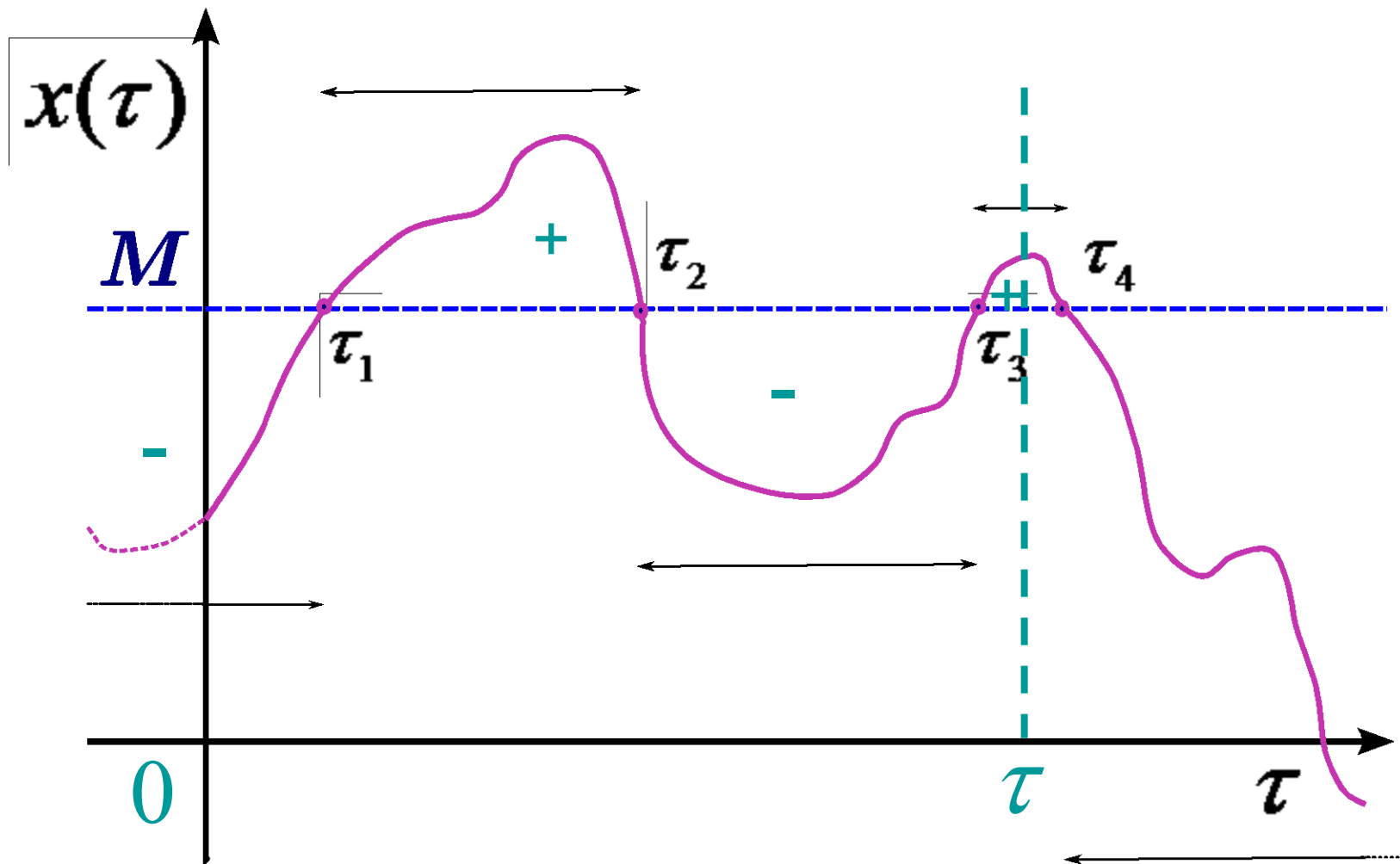
- Using the IIA,  $P_{<}(n, \tau)$  can be expressed in terms of  $P_{\pm}(\tau)$

$$P_{<}(2n-1, \tau) = \tau_-^{-1} \int_0^{\tau} d\tau_1 Q_-(\tau_1) \int_{\tau_1}^{\tau} d\tau_2 P_+(\tau_2 - \tau_1) \int_{\tau_2}^{\tau} d\tau_3 P_-(\tau_3 - \tau_2) \cdots \\ \int_{\tau_{2n-3}}^{\tau} d\tau_{2n-2} P_+(\tau_{2n-2} - \tau_{2n-3}) \int_{\tau_{2n-2}}^{\tau} d\tau_{2n-1} P_-(\tau_{2n-1} - \tau_{2n-2}) Q_+(\tau - \tau_{2n-1})$$

- The *average interval lengths* are  $\bar{\tau} = \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{-f''(0)}} e^{\frac{M^2}{2}}$  and  
 $\tau_- = 2\bar{\tau} G(M)$ ;  $\tau_+ = 2\bar{\tau} \bar{G}(M)$

- The probability to find a  $\pm$  *interval larger than*  $\tau$  is

$$Q_{\pm}(\tau) = \int_{\tau}^{+\infty} P_{\pm}(\tau') d\tau'$$



## *Independent interval approximation for any $M$*

- The persistence  $\mathcal{P}_<(\tau, M)$  is *exactly* given by an identity recovered by the IIA:

$$\mathcal{P}_<(\tau, M) = P_<(n=0, \tau) = \tau_-^{-1} \int_{\tau}^{+\infty} (\tau' - \tau) P_-(\tau') d\tau'$$

- Expressing all these equations in *Laplace space* leads to

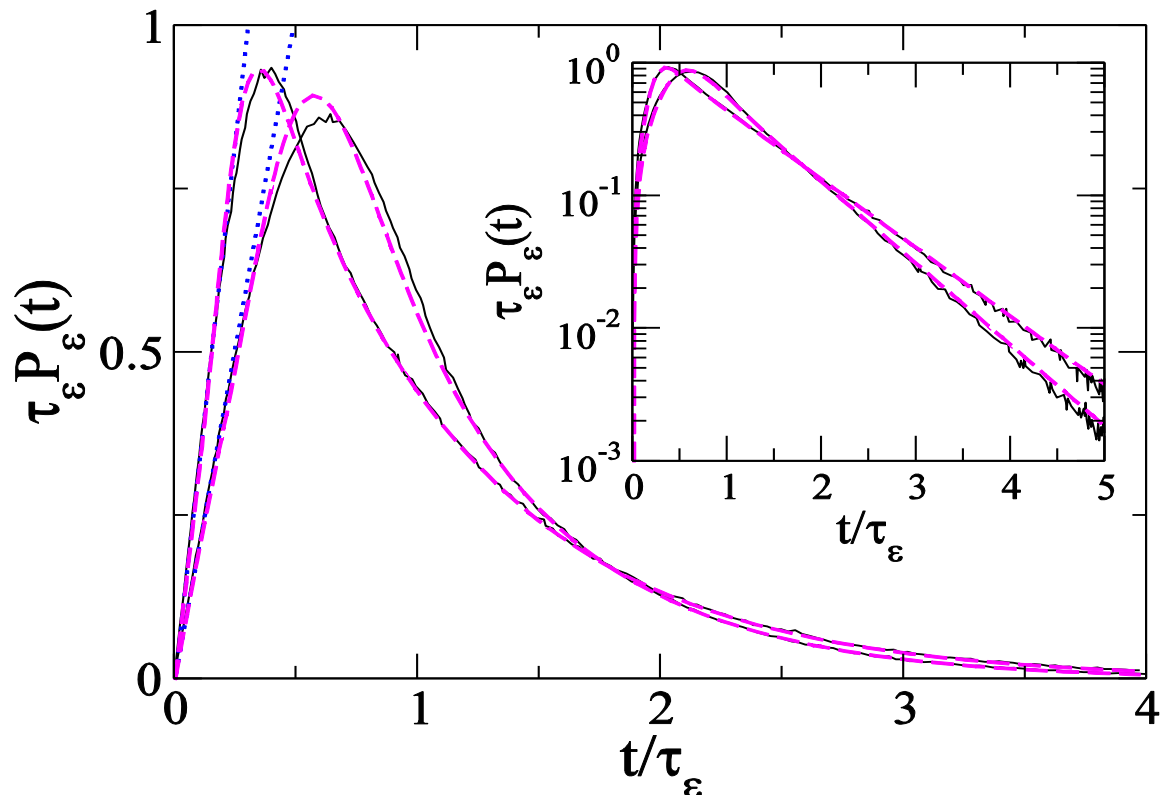
$$\hat{N}_<(s) = \frac{(1 + \hat{P}_+)(1 - \hat{P}_-)}{\tau_- s^2 (1 - \hat{P}_+ \hat{P}_-)}, \quad \hat{A}_<(s) = G(M) \left[ \frac{1}{s} - \frac{1 - \hat{P}_+}{1 + \hat{P}_+} \hat{N}_<(s) \right]$$

$$\hat{\mathcal{P}}_<(s, M) = \frac{1}{s} - \frac{1 - \hat{P}_-(s)}{\tau_- s^2}, \quad \hat{\mathcal{P}}_>(s, M) = \frac{1}{s} - \frac{1 - \hat{P}_+(s)}{\tau_+ s^2}$$



# Applications of the IIA

- The IIA result for  $P_{\pm}(\tau)$  is exact at *small*  $\tau$  up to  $O(\tau^3)$  (all  $M$ ) and for *large*  $|M|$
- It is also very accurate for *moderate*  $M$



$$P_{\pm}(\tau) \text{ for } f(\tau) = \exp(-t^2/2) \text{ and } M = \frac{1}{2}$$

# *The diffusion equation*

- The associated correlator in dimension  $d$  is

$$f(\tau) = \cosh^{-d/2}(\tau/2)$$

- Comparison of the IIA to numerical simulations for  $M = 0$

$d$	$\theta_{\text{IIA}}$	$\theta_{\text{Num.}}$
1	0.1203...	$0.1207 \pm 0.0005$
2	0.1862...	$0.1875 \pm 0.0010$
3	0.2358...	$0.2380 \pm 0.0015$

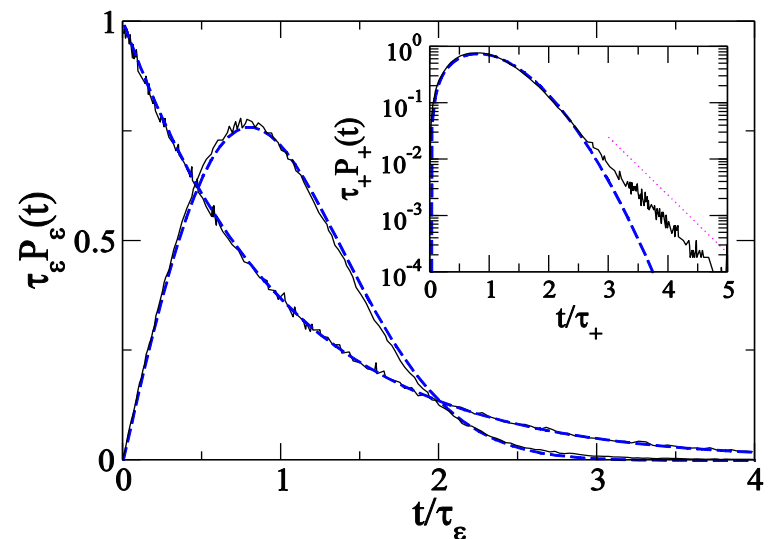
# The diffusion equation

- Comparison of the IIA to numerical simulations for  $d = 2$

$M$	$\theta_{-}^{\text{IIA}} \times \bar{\tau}_{M=0}$	$\theta_{-}^{\text{Num.}} \times \bar{\tau}_{M=0}$
-2	4.8926...	5.0(1)
-3/2	3.6677...	3.74(7)
-1	2.6475...	2.67(2)
-1/2	1.8164...	1.865(6)
0	1.1700...	1.178(2)
1/2	0.6949...	0.7008(7)
1	0.3715...	0.3743(6)
3/2	0.1734...	0.1750(4)
2	0.06813...	0.06834(6)
5/2	0.02177...	0.02180(3)
3	0.005509...	0.005510(2)

For  $M \rightarrow -\infty$ ,  $P_{+}(\tau) \approx \frac{1}{\tau_{+}} e^{-\frac{\tau}{\tau_{+}}}$

and  $P_{-}(\tau) \approx \frac{\pi}{2} \frac{\tau}{\tau_{-}^2} e^{-\frac{\pi}{4} \left(\frac{\tau}{\tau_{-}}\right)^2}$



# Other results of IIA

- The *random acceleration process*  $\frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} = \eta(t)$  is associated to the *non-analytic* stationary correlator

$$f(\tau) = \frac{3}{2} e^{-\frac{|\tau|}{2}} - \frac{1}{2} e^{-\frac{3|\tau|}{2}}$$

For  $M = 0$ ,  $\theta = \frac{1}{4}$  (Y.G. Sinai, T.W. Burkhardt)

while  $\theta_{\text{IIA}} = 0.2657\dots$

- *General exact bounds* for  $M \geq 0$

$$\theta_{M=0} + \frac{M^2}{4\hat{f}(0)} \leq \theta_+(M) = \theta_+(-M) \leq \theta_{M=0} + \frac{\langle x(\tau) \rangle_{x>0}}{2\hat{f}(0)} M + \frac{M^2}{4\hat{f}(0)}$$

➤ ...

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