Fluctuations and energetics in small systems

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Fluctuations and work: two examples.
Irreversibility and dissipation.
GISC activities.

Brownian motors

The flashing ratchet

U_{on} U_{off} U_{on}

A Brownian particle in a flashing asymmetric potential Ajdari and Prost, 1992

Simulation:

http://www.elmer.unibas.ch/bm/index.html

Paradoxical games

The flashing ratchet





Parrondo Paradox



Fluctuations and work



Information theory

$$\frac{P_{\rm U}(W)}{P_{\rm R}(-W)} = \exp\left(\frac{W - \Delta G}{k_{\rm B}T}\right) \implies \langle W \rangle - \Delta G = k_B T \int dW P_U(W) \ln \frac{P_U(W)}{P_R(-W)}$$

Kullbak-Leibler distance or relative entropy

 $D(P_U(W)||P_R(-W))$

$\langle W \rangle - \Delta G = k_B T D(p_{\text{forward}} || p_{\text{backward}}) \leq k_B T D(\tilde{p}_{\text{forward}} || \tilde{p}_{\text{backward}})$

(Kawai, Parrondo, van den Broeck, PRL 2007)

Relative entropy: a measure of indistinguishability







5,7,12,9,6,2,5,2,9,2,12,8,10,4,...





$$D(p||q) \equiv \sum_{i} p_i \log_2\left(\frac{p_i}{q_i}\right)$$

 $D(||||_{log}) = 0.185$ $D(||||||||_{log}) = 0.220$

Stein's Lemma:

the probability of incorrectly guessing p from n data actually distributed as q is (asympt.): $2^{-nD(p||q)}$

We need approximately 5 data to distinguish between dice and lottery with an error 1/2



Detecting active processes



Martin, Hudspeth, Jülicher, PNAS 2001



Estimating dissipation (E. Roldán)





Energetics and fluctuations in small systems

• Applications: biology, nanosciences.

• Maths: stochastic processes, stochastic control, information theory, time series analysis,...

GISC

3 Universities, 12 senior researchers, 5 posdocs, 11 PhD students

www.gisc.es

•Granular media (Brito, UCM).

• Transport in disordered systems and DNA (Domínguez-Adame, UCM)

- Game Theory (Sánchez, Cuesta, UC3M)
- Econophysics, networks (Moro, UC3M)
- Liquids, wetting (Rascón, Martínez-Ratón, UC3M)
- Growth phenomena (Cuerno, UC3M)