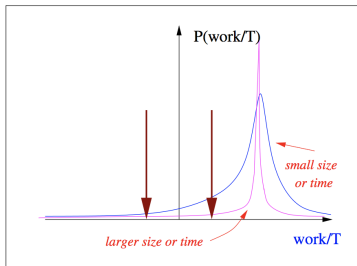


Distribution of work done during a time t.
obtained repeating the same protocol



$$\frac{P(\text{work})}{P(-\text{work})} \sim e^{t \text{ work}/T}$$

several different versions, depending on **initial conditions**
and the nature of the **thermal bath**

in all but one case, the result holds almost without assumptions

what exactly are experiments testing?

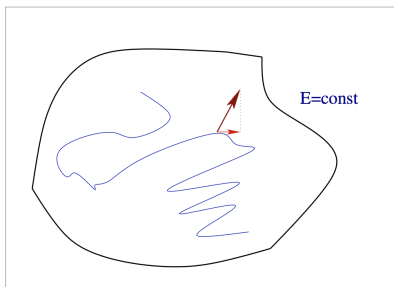
Stochastic thermal bath: Langevin dynamics

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \dot{q}_i = \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial p_i} = \frac{p_i}{m} = v_i \\ \dot{p}_i = -\frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial q_i} - \underbrace{f_i(\mathbf{q})}_{\text{Forcing}} + \underbrace{\eta_i(t) - \gamma p_i}_{\text{Thermal Bath}} \end{array} \right.$$

$$\langle \eta_i(t) \eta_j(t') \rangle = 2\gamma T \delta_{ij} \delta(t - t')$$

no problem with ergodicity, the noise 'takes you everywhere'

Gaussian (Hoover) thermostat



The motion is restricted to the energy shell

However, under forcing, the distribution is **not flat**

Gaussian thermostat: **deterministic**

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \dot{q}_i = \frac{p_i}{m} \\ \dot{p}_i = -\frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial q_i} + \underbrace{\gamma(t)p_i}_{\text{thermostat}} - \underbrace{f_i(\mathbf{q})}_{\text{forcing}} \end{array} \right.$$

energy is conserved provided $\gamma(t) = \frac{\mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{p}}{p^2}$.

ergodicity is not guaranteed!

Gaussian thermostat: **noisy**

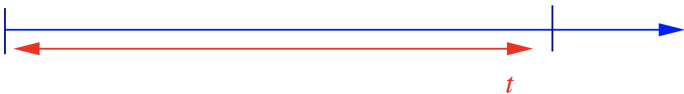
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \dot{q}_i = \frac{p_i}{m} \\ \dot{p}_i = -\frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial q_i} + \underbrace{\gamma(t)p_i}_{\text{thermostat}} - \underbrace{f_i(\mathbf{q})}_{\text{forcing}} - \underbrace{\eta_i^{\parallel}}_{\text{conservative noise}} \end{array} \right.$$

- η_i^{\parallel} is a noise tangential to the energy surface
- again, energy is conserved provided $\gamma(t) = \frac{\mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{p}}{p^2}$.

ergodicity is restored, but what happens in the small noise limit?

initial condition: equilibrium at T?

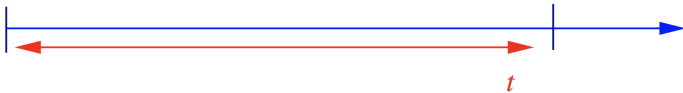
if so, FT holds for any time interval



initial condition: equilibrium at T?

if so, FT holds for any time interval

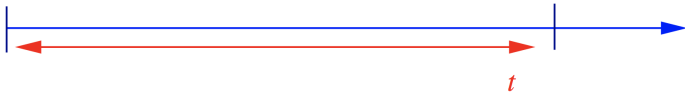
with no assumptions



STATIONARY INITIAL CONDITION

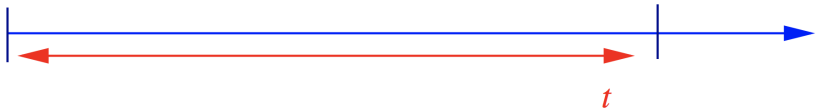
FT holds for large time intervals

WE NEED A THERMOSTAT



STATIONARY INITIAL CONDITION
FT holds for large time intervals

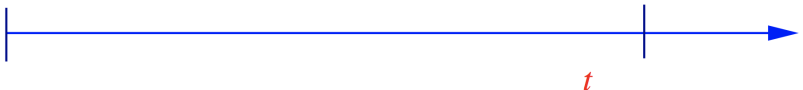
"Stochastic" THERMOSTAT
again, the FT is valid with no assumptions



STATIONARY INITIAL CONDITION
FT holds for large time intervals

"Deterministic" THERMOSTAT

Gallavotti–Cohen: special ergodicity assumptions



WHAT IS THEIR MEANING?

The fluctuation theorem is a mathematical truth if:

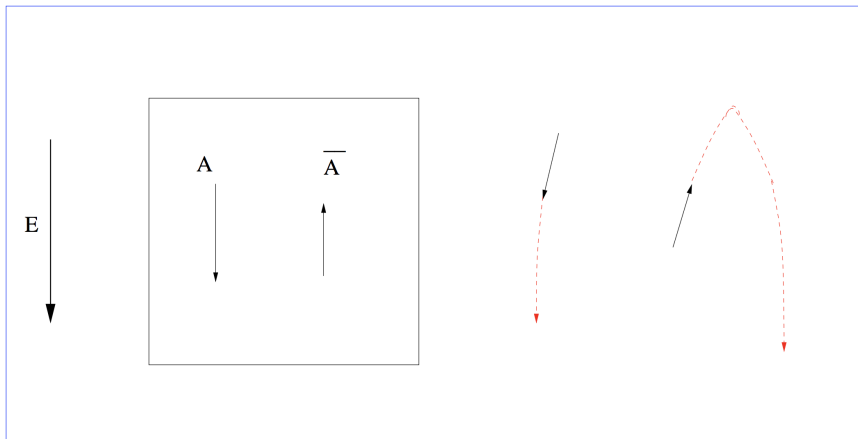
- **sampling times are long compared to the longest timescale of the problem**
- **the thermostat either is stochastic, or can be substituted by one without changing the result.**

MAKING A VIRTUE OF NECESSITY:

Chaotic principle (Gallavotti): just as in equilibrium you assume ergodicity to go to thermodynamics

propose that the fluctuation theorem shows us the way for out of equilibrium: assume that a given system has the necessary properties to give the FT

A simple example Bonetto-Gallavotti



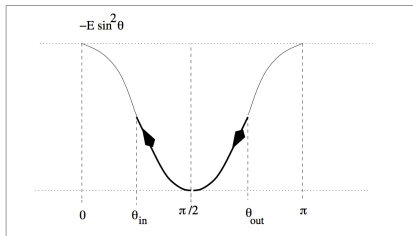
$p_x^2 + p_y^2 = 1$ at all times, and:

$$\dot{p}_x = E - Ep_x^2$$

$$\dot{p}_y = -Ep_x p_y$$

$$\dot{\theta} = -E \sin \theta = -\frac{d}{d\theta}[-E \cos \theta]$$

a pendulum!

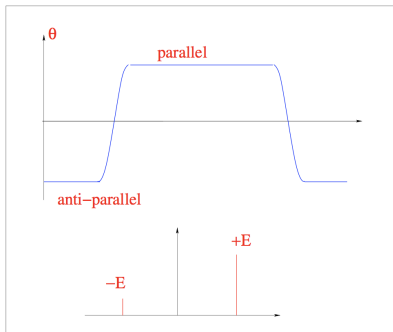


The system rapidly converges to moving parallel to the field, and there is no reversal of power.

The stationary fluctuation relation does not work!

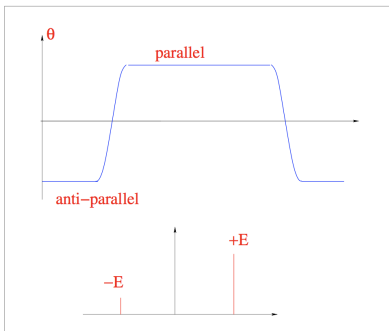
However, if we add a little bit of noise...

**The system visits attractor (parallel) and repeller (anti-parallel)
in just the right proportion to satisfy the FT**



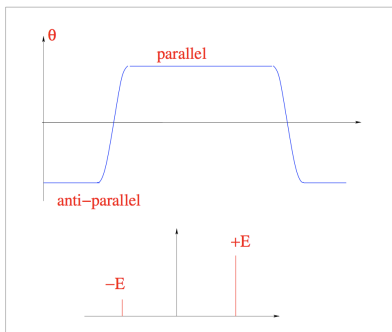
**the noise level only dictates the time to cross from one to the
other**

The system visits attractor (parallel) and repeller (anti-parallel) in just the right proportion to satisfy the FT



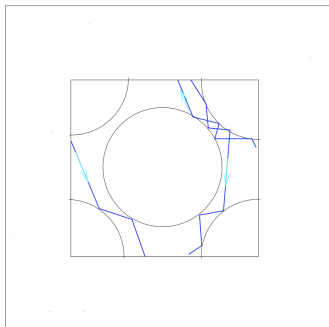
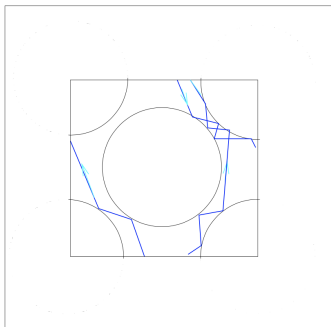
the noise level only dictates the time to cross from one to the other

The system visits attractor (parallel) and repeller (anti-parallel) in just the right proportion to satisfy the FT

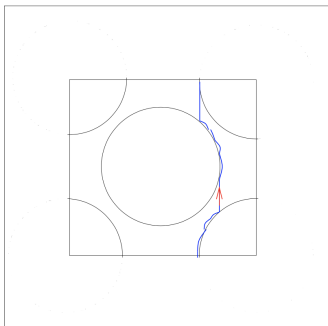
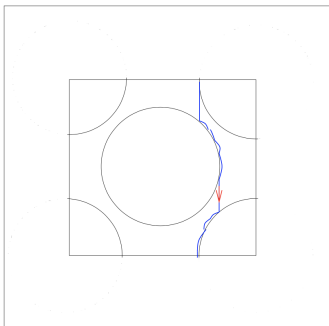


the noise level only dictates the time to cross from one to the other

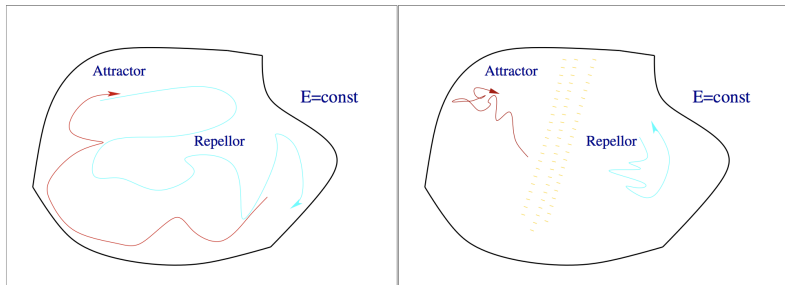
A chaotic system without forcing: attractor and repeller are intertwined



A chaotic system with forcing: attractor and repeller divorce



ON THE ENERGY SHELL:



in a driven system you may need noise to 'push you across the desert'

IN CONCLUSION:

The Fluctuation Theorem is not only a test of the ergodicity within the attractor

but also a check of the difficulty of passage between attractor and repellor

The 'chaotic hypothesis' is then the statement that nothing changes dramatically from small noise to no noise: i.e. stochastic stability

Because noise is unavoidable in an experimental system, it seems that failure of observing the fluctuation relation with the appropriate temperature T **can only be attributed to experimental timescales being shorter than the 'ergodic' timescale to visit attractor *and* repeller**