

# A brief introduction to the delights of **non-equilibrium statistical physics**

Chris Jarzynski

Institute for Physical Science and Technology Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry Department of Physics University of Maryland, College Park In the beginning ...

- The energy of the universe is constant.
- The entropy of the universe tends toward a maximum.

Rudolf Clausius, 1865

Thermodynamics is organized logically around <u>equilibrium states</u>, in which "nothing happens".

<u>State function</u>: an observable that has a well-defined value in any equilibrium state. E.g. U = U(state) = *internal energy*, S = S(state) = *entropy*.

<u>Thermodynamic process</u>: a sequence of events during which a system evolves from one equilibrium state (A) to another (B).

During a *reversible process*, the system and its surroundings remain in equilibrium at all times.

#### <u>First Law</u> of Thermodynamics: $\Delta U = W + Q$



If we stretch the rubber band slowly: W > 0, Q < 0.

Second Law of Thermodynamics: 
$$\int_{A}^{B} \frac{dQ}{T} \leq \Delta S$$

dQ = energy absorbed by system as heat T = temperature of thermal surroundings  $\Delta S = S_B - S_A$  = net change in system's entropy



Isothermal processes:

$$\Delta S \ge \frac{Q}{T} = \frac{\Delta U - W}{T}$$

$$W \ge \Delta F$$

$$F = U-TS$$

$$= Helmholtz free energy$$



Kelvin-Planck statement of 2nd Law:  $W_F + W_R \ge 0$ 

We perform more work during the forward half-cycle ( $A \rightarrow B$ ) than we recover during the reverse half-cycle ( $A \leftarrow B$ ) ... No free lunch !

### Stretching a microscopic rubber band





1. Begin in equilibrium $\lambda = A$ 2. Stretch the molecule $\lambda : A \rightarrow B$  $W = work performed \geq \Delta F$  on average3. End in equilibrium $\lambda = B$ 4. Repeat

... fluctuations are important



## Second Law, macro vs micro $-W_R$ W<sub>F</sub> $-W_R \le \Delta F \le W_F$ W [N·cm] $\rho_{R}$ (-W) $\rho_{F}(W)$ $-\langle W_R \rangle \leq \Delta F \leq \langle W_F \rangle$ $\Delta \mathsf{F}$ W [pN·nm] <W>

#### **Classical statistical mechanics**

system: 
$$x = (q, p) = (q_1, \dots, q_n, p_1, \dots, p_n)$$
 microscopic  
environment:  $y = (Q, P)$   
 $H(x, y; \lambda) = H_s(x; \lambda) + H_E(y) + h_{int}(x, y)$   
Equilibrium state:  $p^{eq}(x; \lambda) = \frac{1}{Z} \exp[-\beta H_s(x; \lambda)]$   
State functions:  $U = H_s(x; \lambda)$  or  $\int dx p^{eq} H_s$   
 $S = -k_B \int p^{eq} \ln p^{eq}$   
 $F = -k_B T \ln Z$ 

#### **Classical statistical mechanics**

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$$x = (q, p) = (q_1, \dots, q_n, p_1, \dots, p_n)$$
  
environment:  $y = (Q, P)$ 

$$H(x,y;\lambda) = H_{S}(x;\lambda) + H_{E}(y) + h_{int}(x,y)$$

First law of thermodynamics:  $\Delta U = W + Q$ 

$$\frac{dH_{s}}{dt} = \frac{\partial H_{s}}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial H_{s}}{\partial \lambda} \frac{d\lambda}{dt}$$
heat work
$$W = \int dt \frac{d\lambda}{dt} \frac{\partial H_{s}}{\partial \lambda} (x(t); \lambda(t))$$

$$Q = \int dt \frac{dx}{dt} \cdot \frac{\partial H_{s}}{\partial x} (x(t); \lambda(t))$$
Second law (isothermal):
$$\langle W \rangle \ge \Delta F$$

#### **Classical statistical mechanics**

system:  $x = (q, p) = (q_1, \dots, q_n, p_1, \dots, p_n)$ environment: y = (Q, P)

$$H(x, y; \lambda) = H_{S}(x; \lambda) + H_{E}(y) + h_{int}(x, y)$$

- Some modifications required if h<sub>int</sub> is not weak
- Same definitions apply if system's evolution is modeled stochastically (e.g. Brownian dynamics)

## Beyond classical thermodynamics: Fluctuation Theorems

$$\left\langle e^{-\beta W} \right\rangle = e^{-\beta \Delta F}$$
  
C.J., *PRL* **78**, 2690 (1997)

... places a strong constraint on  $\rho(W)$ .



## Beyond classical thermodynamics: Fluctuation Theorems





#### Folding and unfolding of ribosomal RNA

$$\frac{\rho_{unfold}(+W)}{\rho_{refold}(-W)} = \exp[\beta(W - \Delta F)]$$



#### Nonequilibrium Steady States



(Gallavotti, Cohen, Evans, Searles, Kurchan, Lebowitz, Spohn ... 1990's)

#### Autonomous and non-autonomous feedback control





How to design a device with the desired specifications?

What can be achieved by an agent with given abilities of measurement and feedback?

## Maxwell's Demon



"... the energy in A is increased and that in B diminished; that is, the hot system has got hotter and the cold colder and yet no work has been done, only <u>the intelligence</u> of a very observant and neat-fingered being has been employed"

J.C. Maxwell, letter to P.G. Tait, Dec. 11, 1867

non-autonomous feedback control

### Maxwell's Demon



#### Is a "mechanical" Maxwell demon possible?

M. Smoluchowski, *Phys Z* **13**, 1069 (1912) R.P. Feynman, *Lectures* 

#### autonomous feedback control

## Maxwell's Demon



#### Is a "mechanical" Maxwell demon possible?

R. Landauer, *IBM J Res Dev* 5, 183 (1961)
O. Penrose, *Foundations of Statistical Mechanics* (1970) yes, but ...
C.H. Bennett, *Int J Theor Physics* 21, 905 (1982)

autonomous feedback control

#### Second Law of Thermodynamics

... with measurement and feedback



$$\langle W \rangle \ge \Delta F - k_B T \langle I \rangle$$
$$\langle e^{-\beta W - I} \rangle = e^{-\beta \Delta F}$$

Sagawa & Ueda, PRL 100, 080403 (2008)

Sagawa & Ueda, PRL 104, 090602 (2010)

## Autonomous demons

H.T. Quan *et al*, *PRL* 97, 180402 (2006)
D. Mandal and C. Jarzynski, *PNAS* 109, 11641 (2012)
T. Sagawa and M. Ueda, *PRL* 109, 180602 (2012)
P. Strasberg *et al*, *PRL* 110, 040601 (2012)
J.M. Horowitz, T. Sagawa and J.M.R. Parrondo *PRL* 111, 010602 (2013)
A.C. Barato and U. Seifert, *EPL* 101, 60001 (2013)
D. Mandal, H.T. Quan and C. Jarzynski, *PRL* 111, 030602 (2013)
S. Deffner, *PRE* 88, 062128 (2013)
Z. Lu, D. Mandal and C. Jarzynski, *Phys Today* 67, 60 (Aug 2014)

Gedankenengineering:

Design a mechanical gadget that ...

(1) systematically withdraws energy from a single thermal reservoir,

(2) delivers that energy to raise a mass against gravity, and

(3) records information in a memory register.



## Guessing the direction of the arrow of time

You are shown a movie depicting a thermodynamic process,  $A \rightarrow B$ . Task: determine whether you are viewing the events in the order in which they actually occurred, or a movie run backward of the reverse process.



Maragakis et al, J Chem Phys 2008

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W -  $\Delta F / kT$ 

Maragakis *et al*, J Chem Phys 2008



information processing – autonomous