



# AVERAGE AVALANCHE SHAPE AS A PROBE OF NON-EQUILIBRIUM SYSTEMS: HOPES AND PITFALLS

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# OUTLINE

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1. intro: avalanches and bridges
  2. average avalanche shape: experimental portfolio
  3. ABBM model: exact solution
  4. ABBM average shape: avalanche and bridge universality
  5. asymmetric avalanche shapes: memory and time reverse
  6. detailed balance and asymmetry: brownian gyrator
  7. non markovian process and incomplete knowledge
  8. hopes and pitfalls of linear systems
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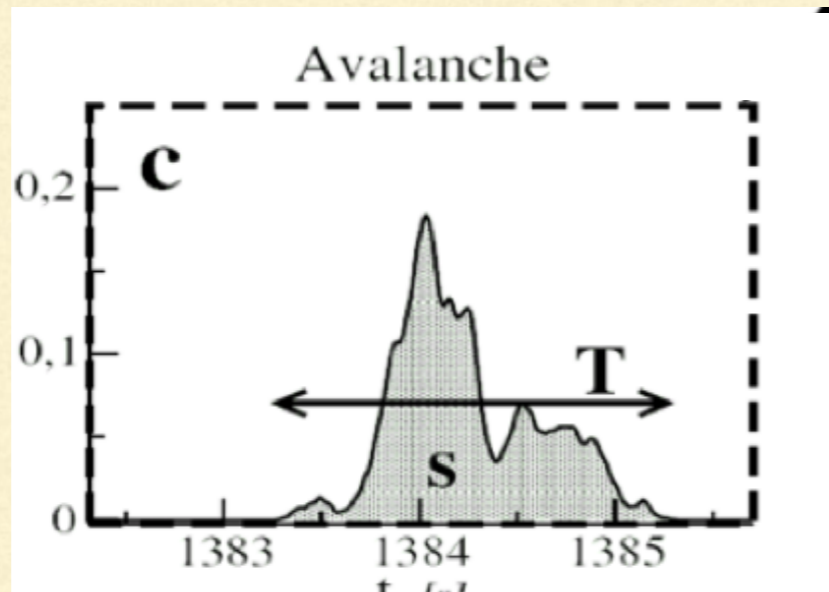
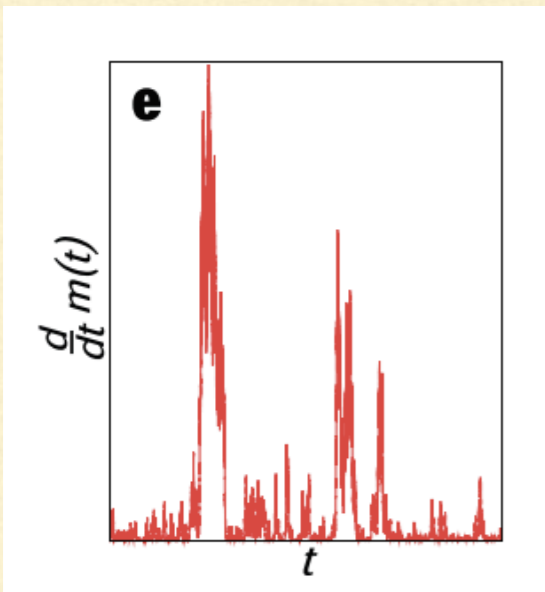
# INTRO

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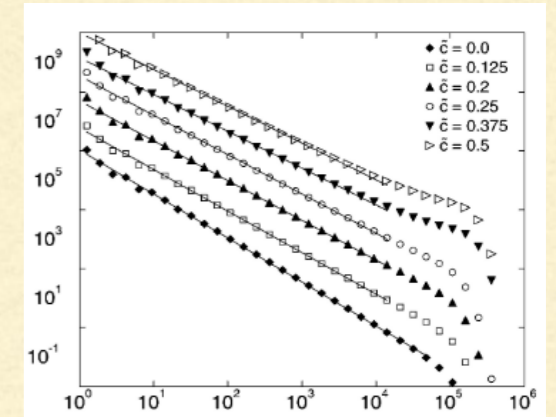
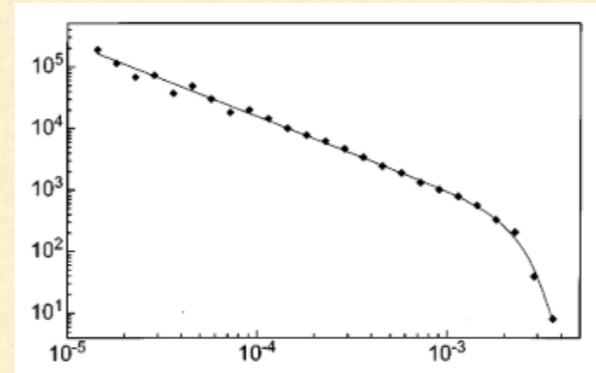
AVALANCHES AND BRIDGES

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# “CRACKLING NOISE” AND AVALANCHE SHAPE



## Universal critical exponents?

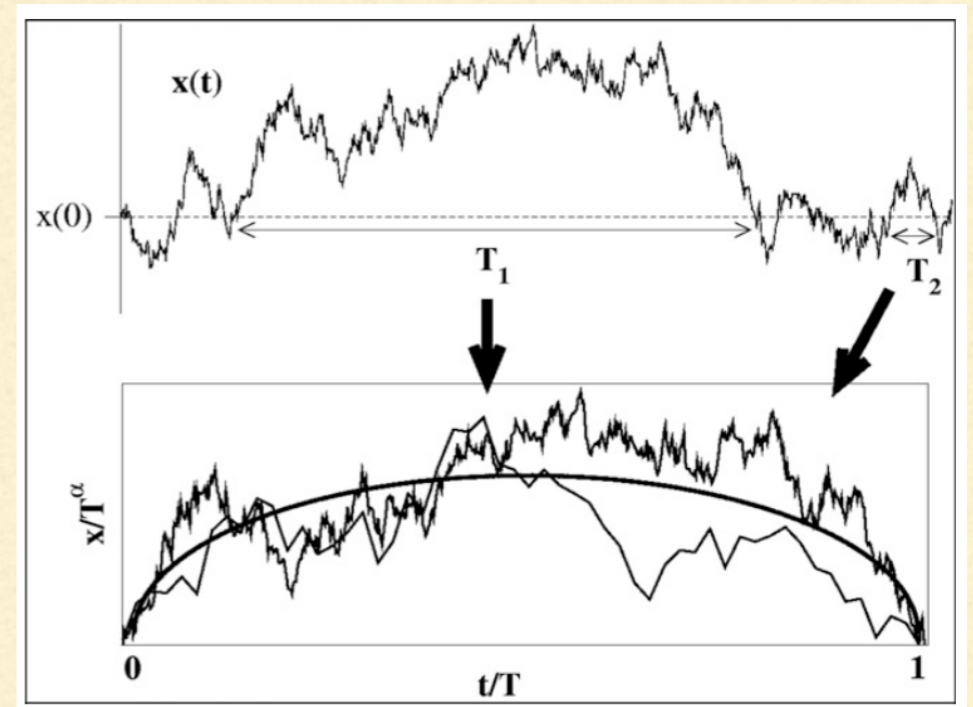


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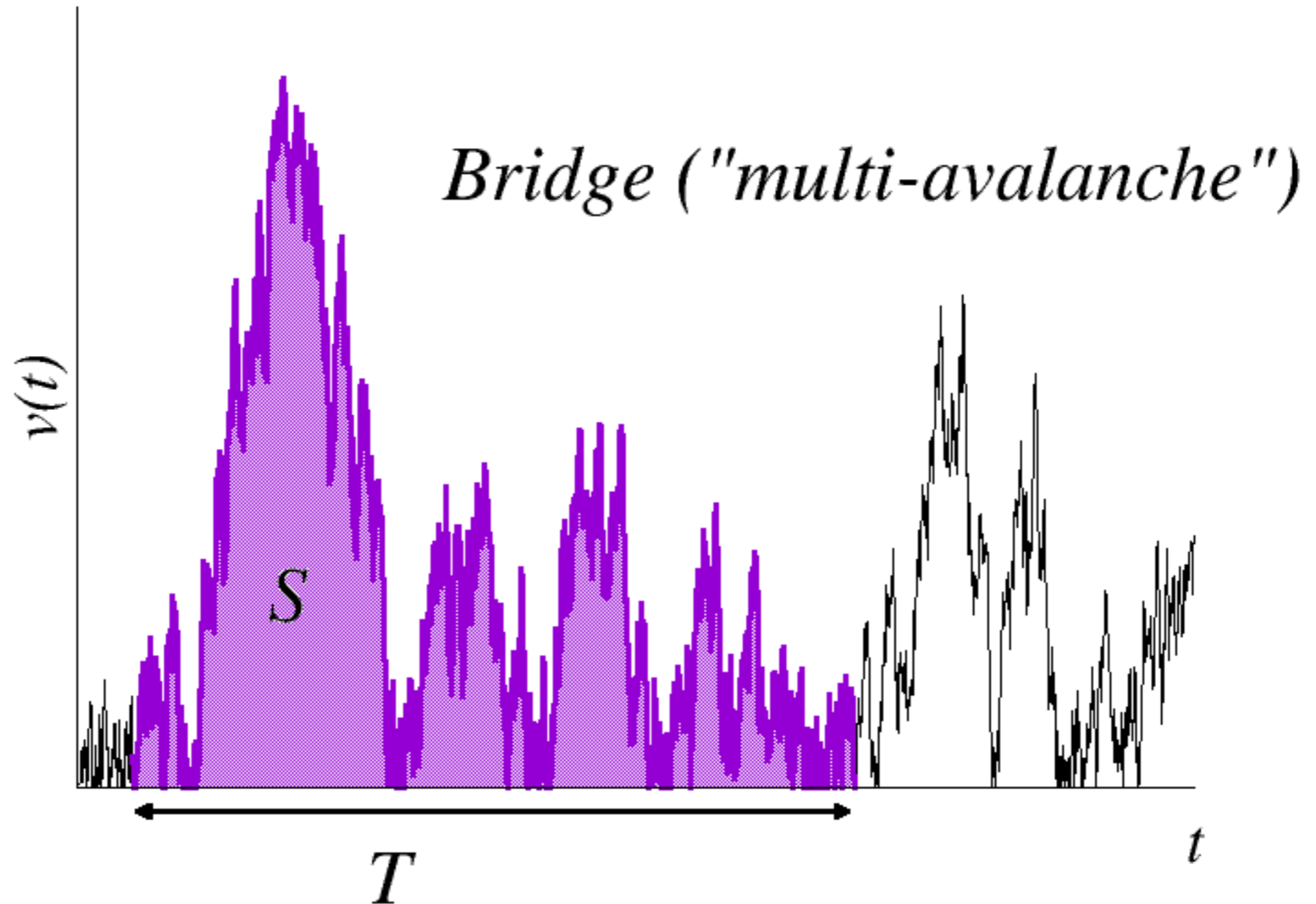
## Average avalanche shape

## Universality beyond exponents?

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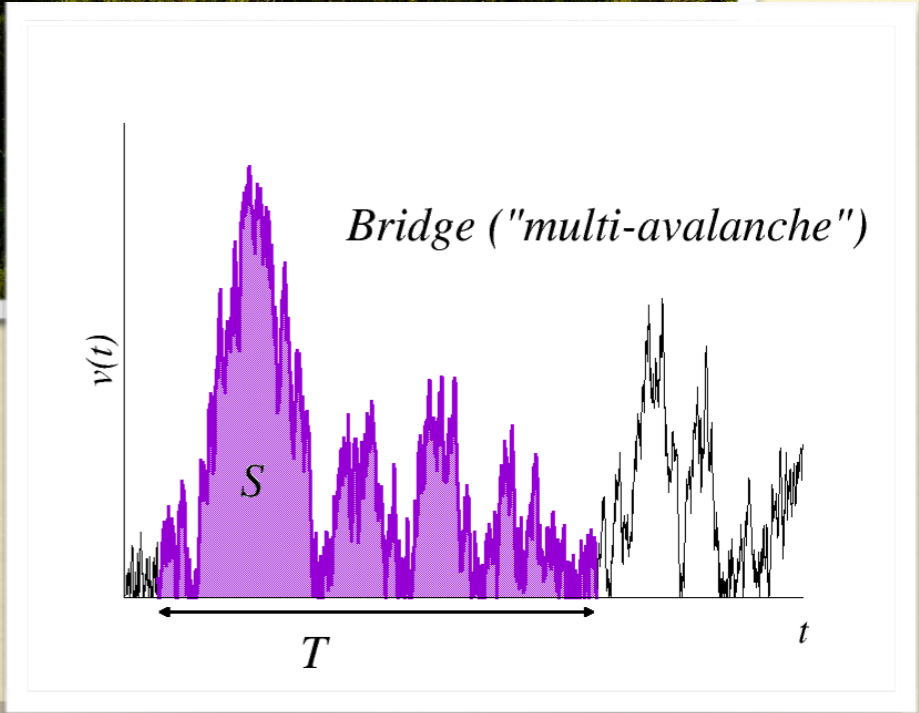
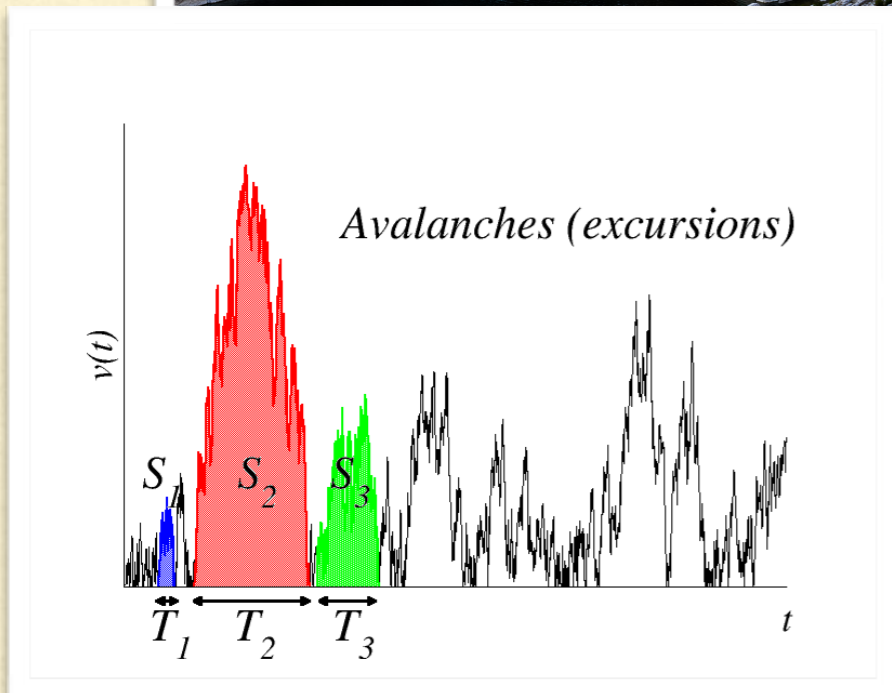
# AVALANCHES AND BRIDGES



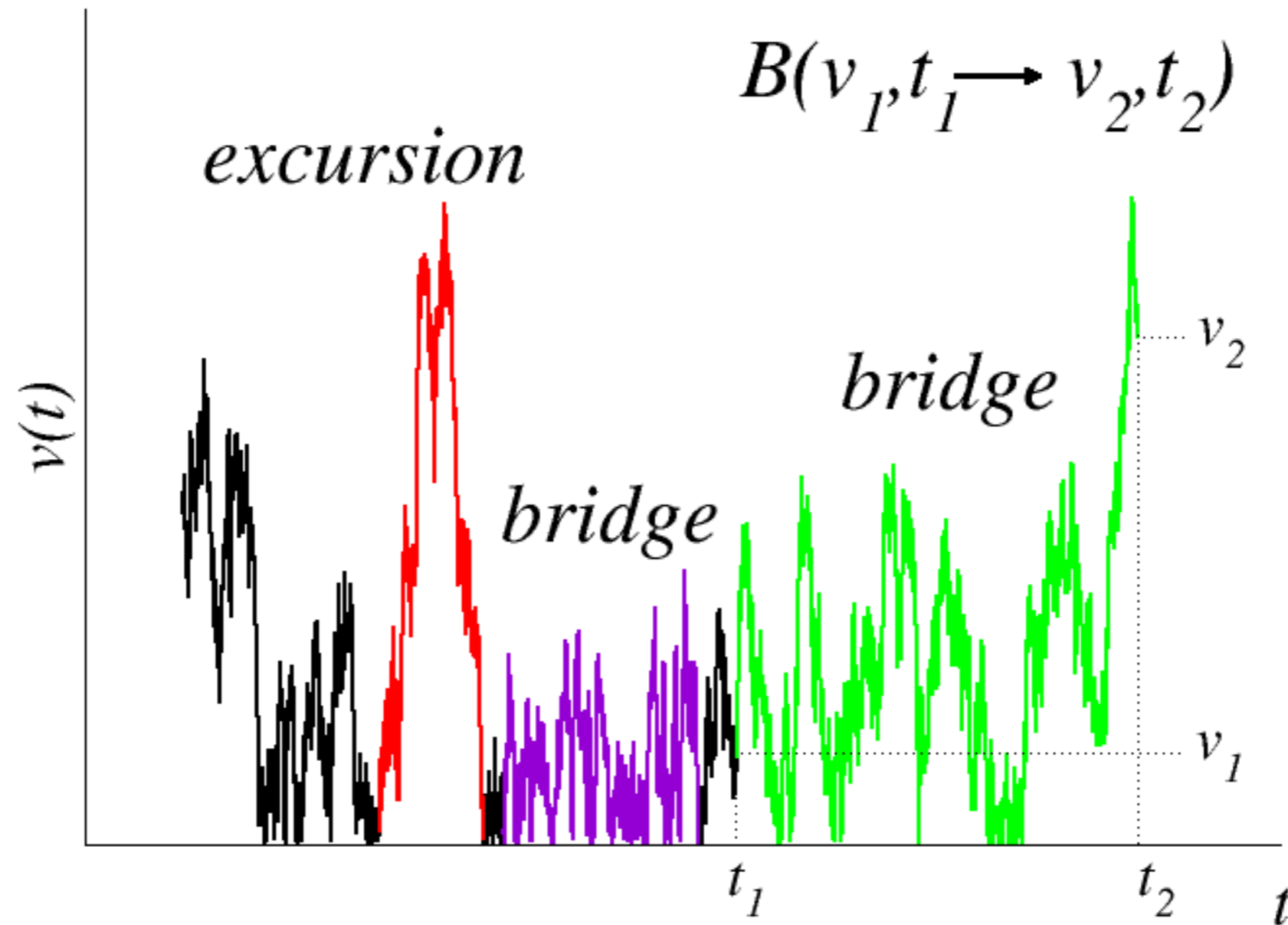
# AVALANCHES AND BRIDGES

*Avalanches*

*Bridge*



# BRIDGE GENERAL DEFINITION



# AVALANCHE VS. BRIDGE

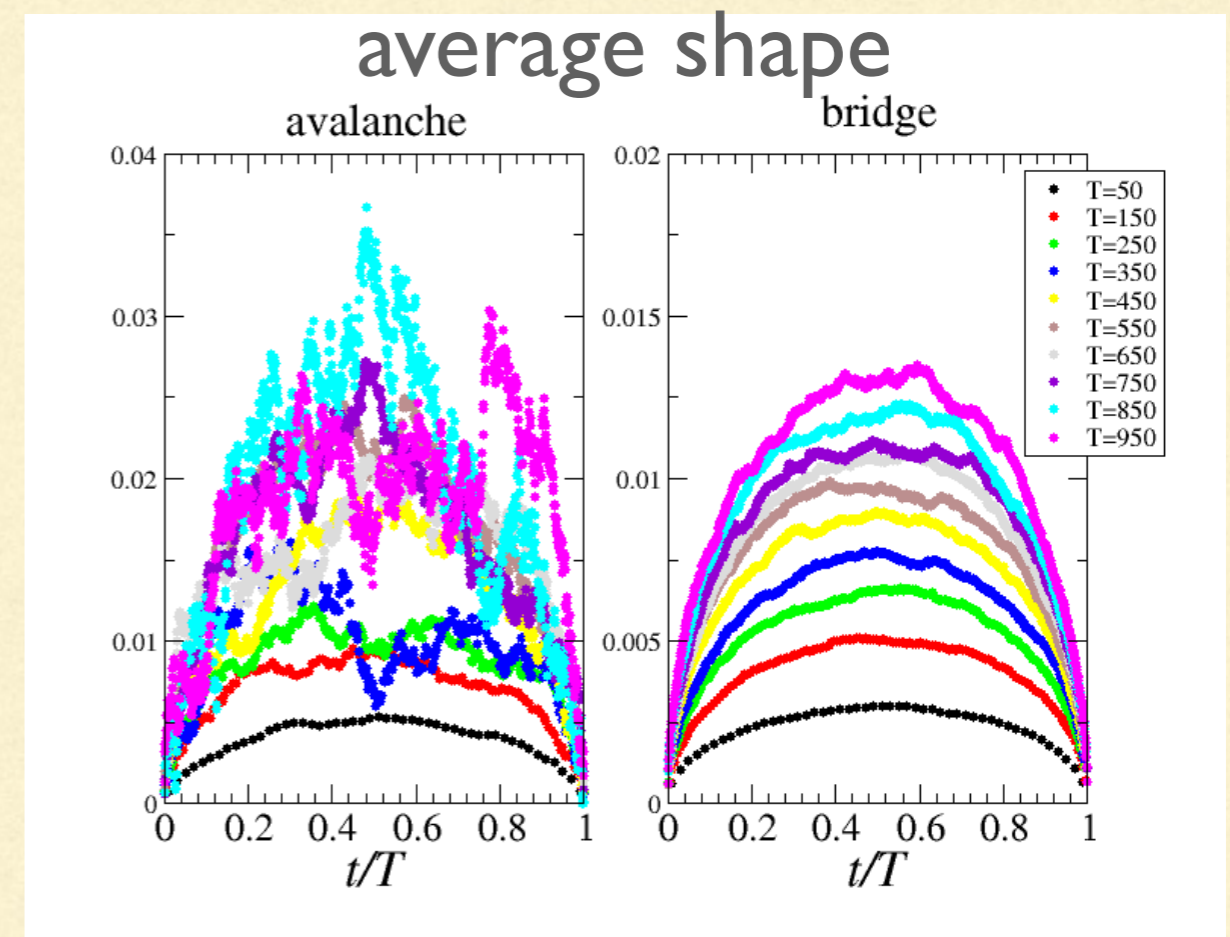
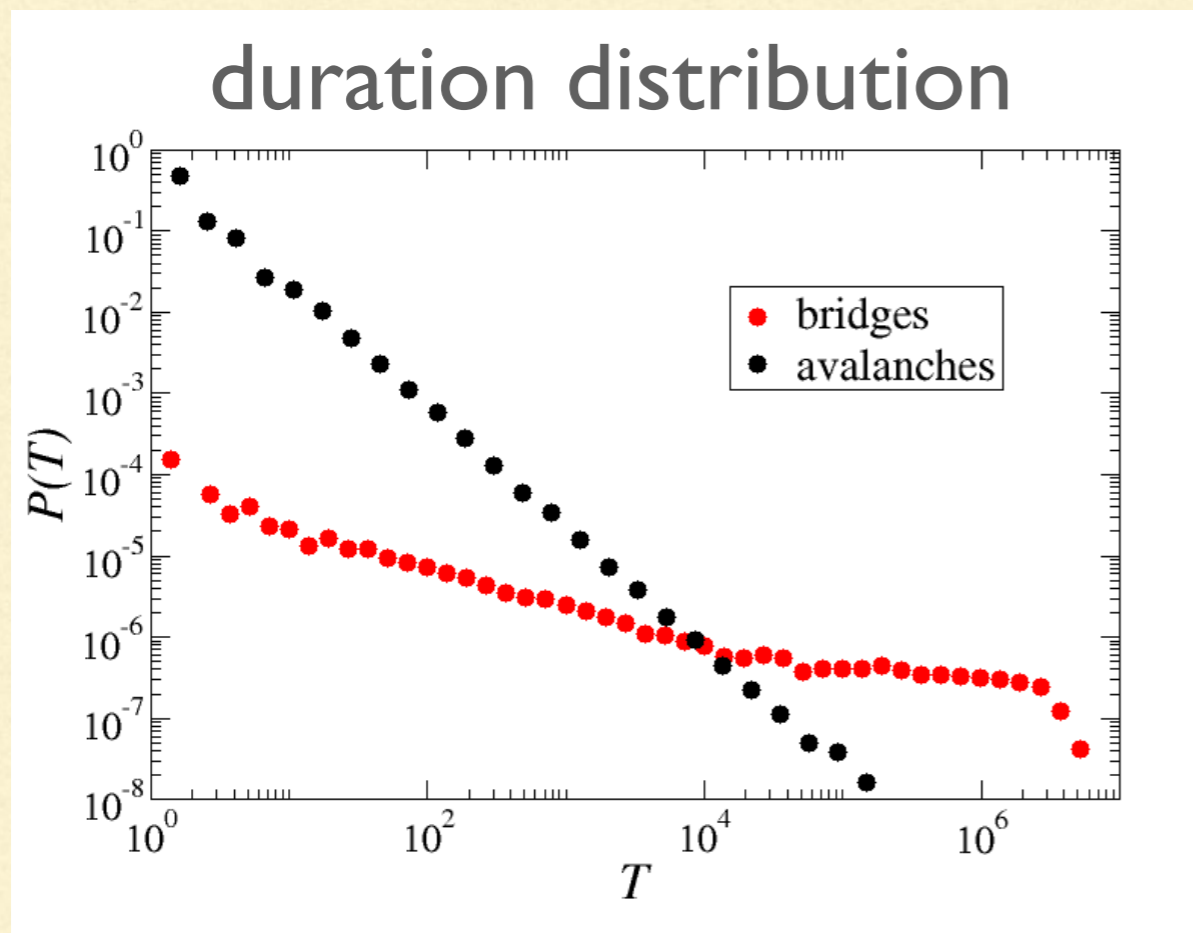
## avalanche:

- constraint on all duration time
- poor statistics for large duration

## bridge:

- constraint on initial and final time only
- large statistics for large duration

## Example: numerical analysis stochastic signal (OU)





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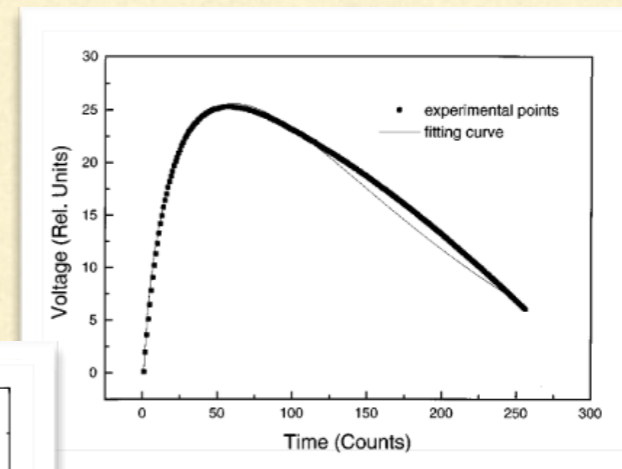
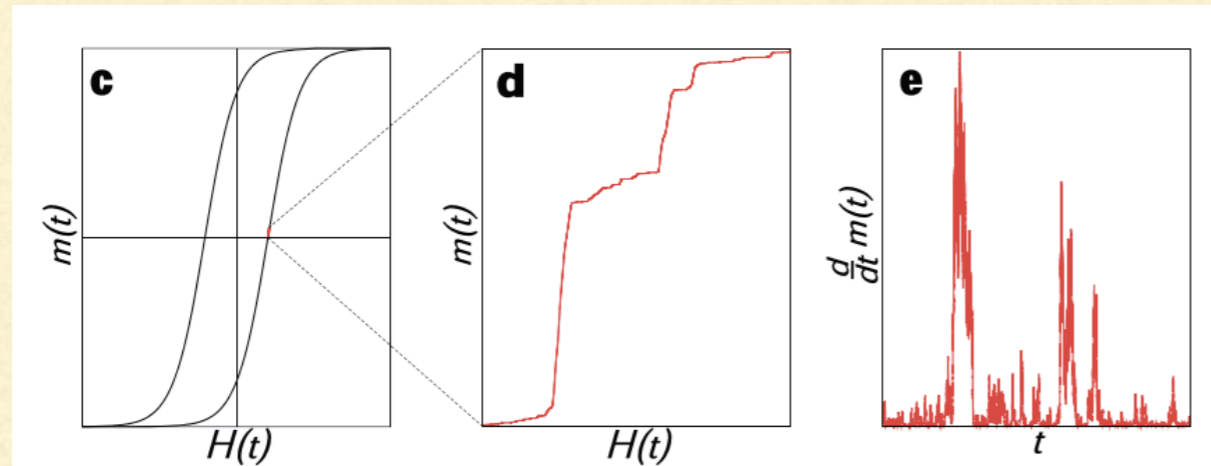
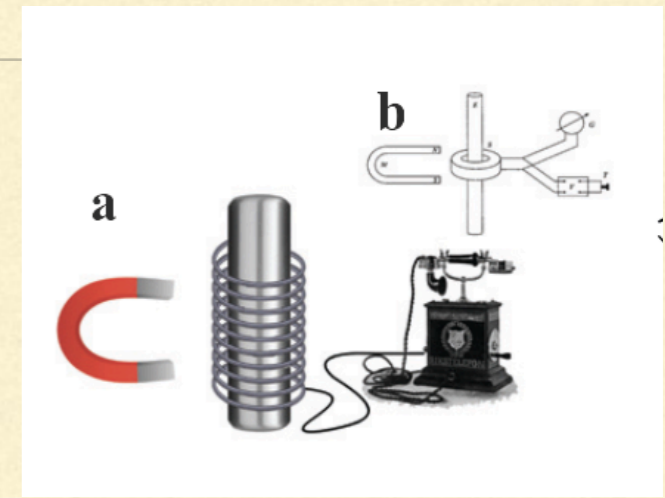
# AVERAGE AVALANCHE SHAPE: EXPERIMENTAL OBSERVATIONS

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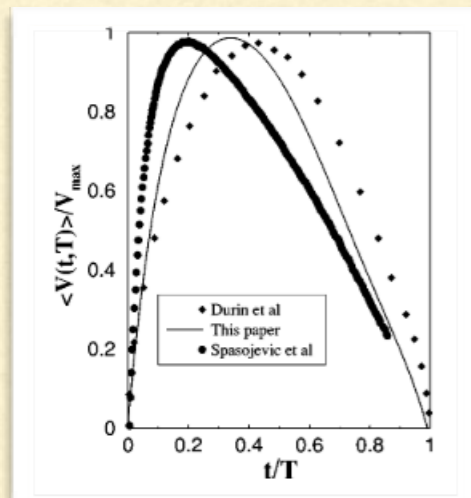
A PORTFOLIO...

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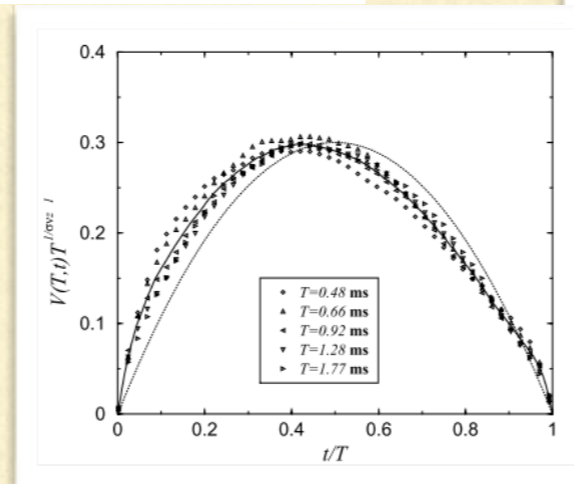
# BARKHAUSEN NOISE



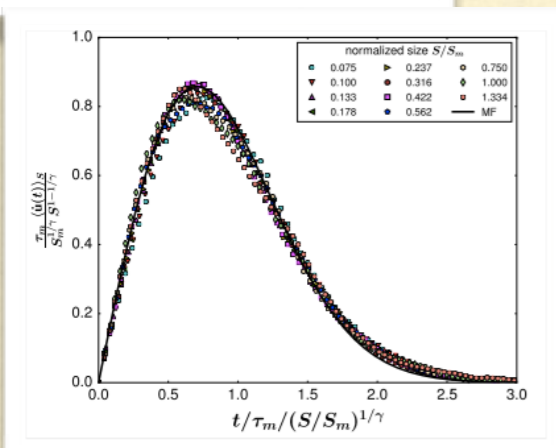
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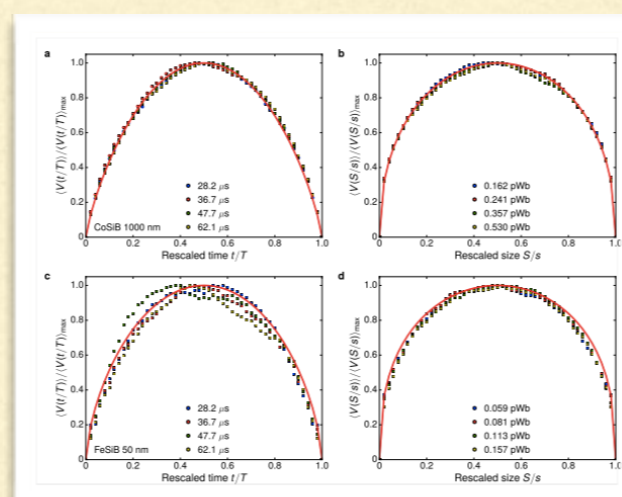
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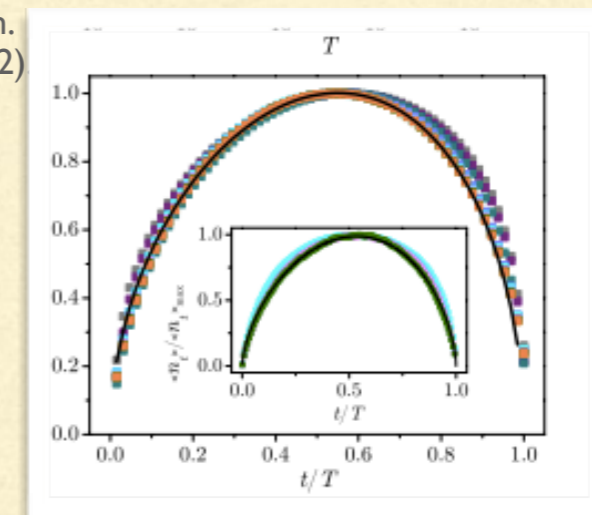
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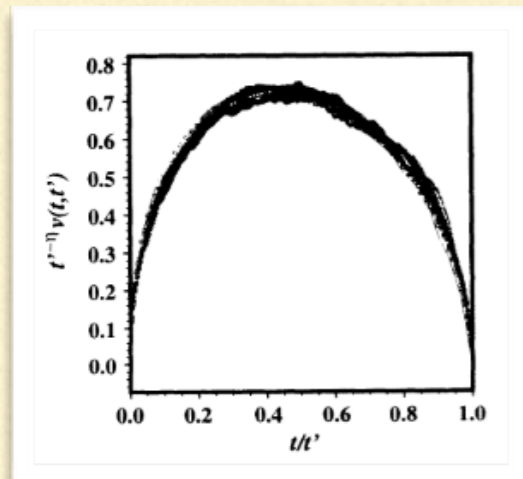
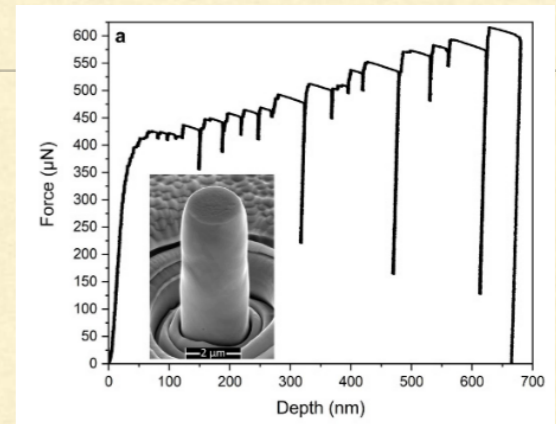


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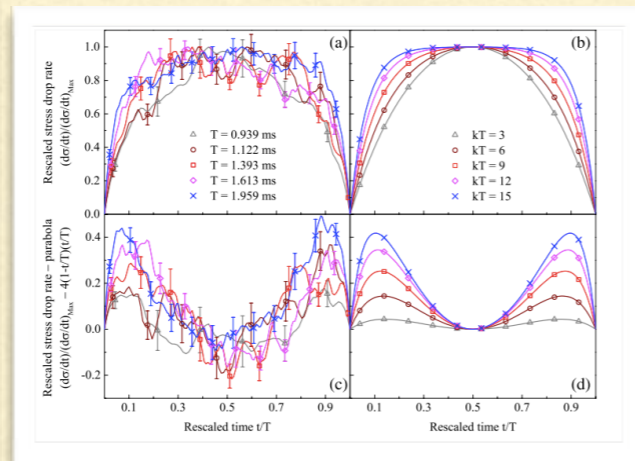


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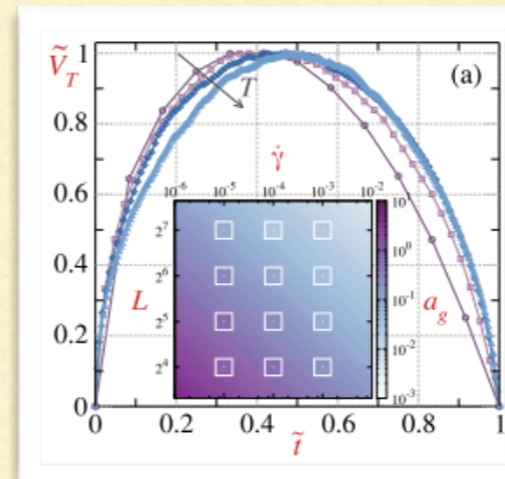
# PLASTIC DEFORMATION



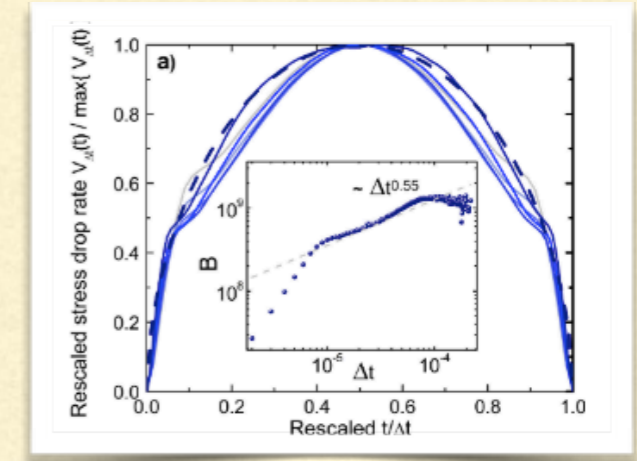
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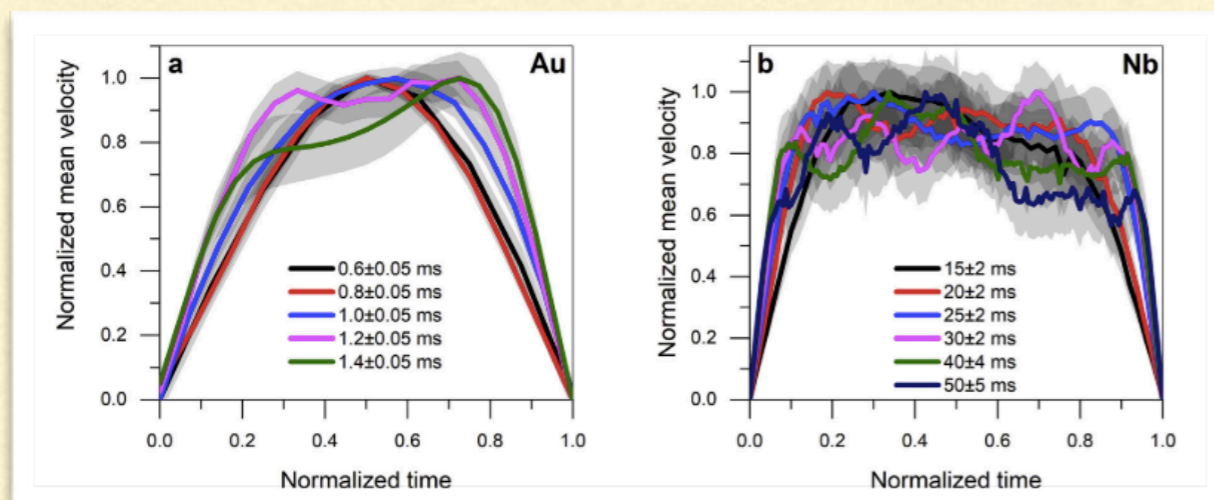
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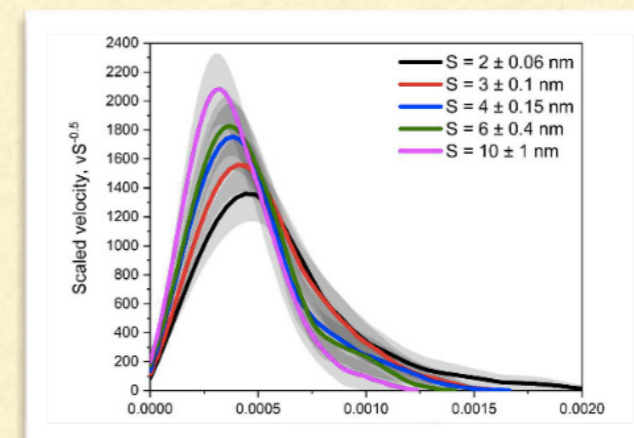
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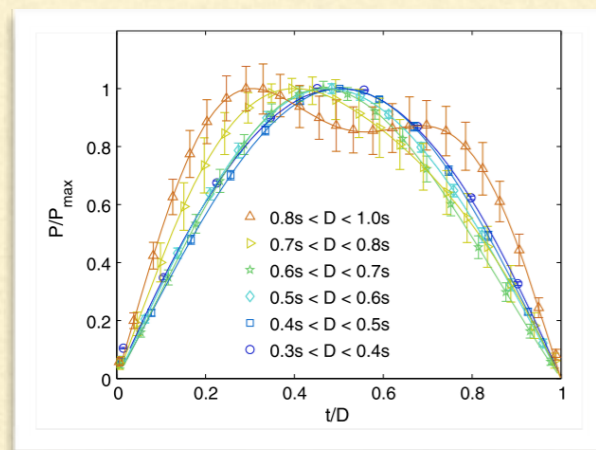
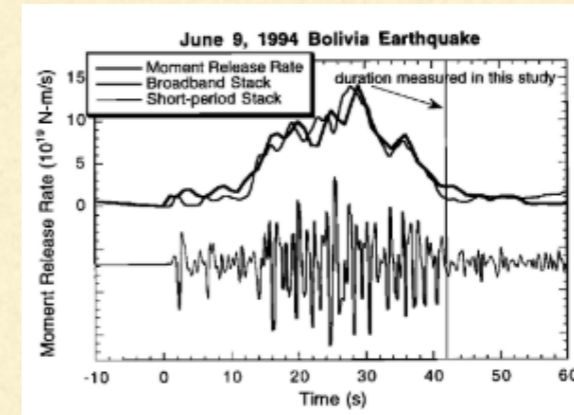


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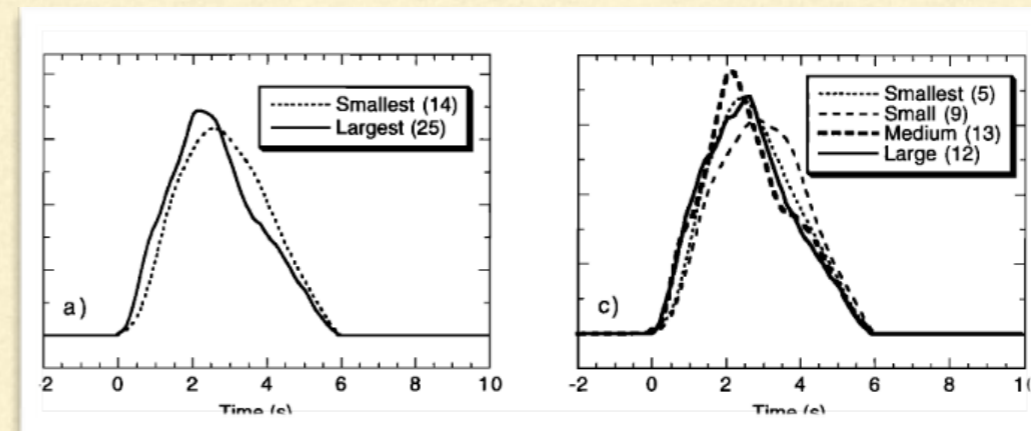


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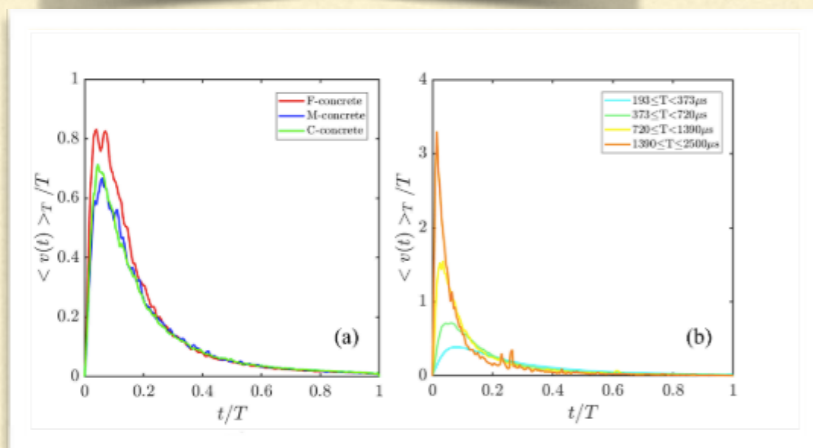
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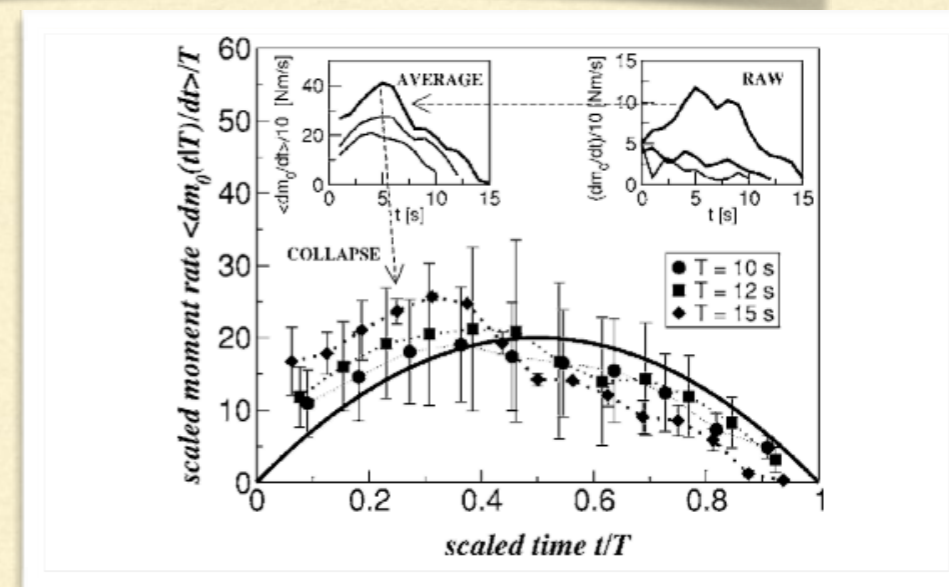
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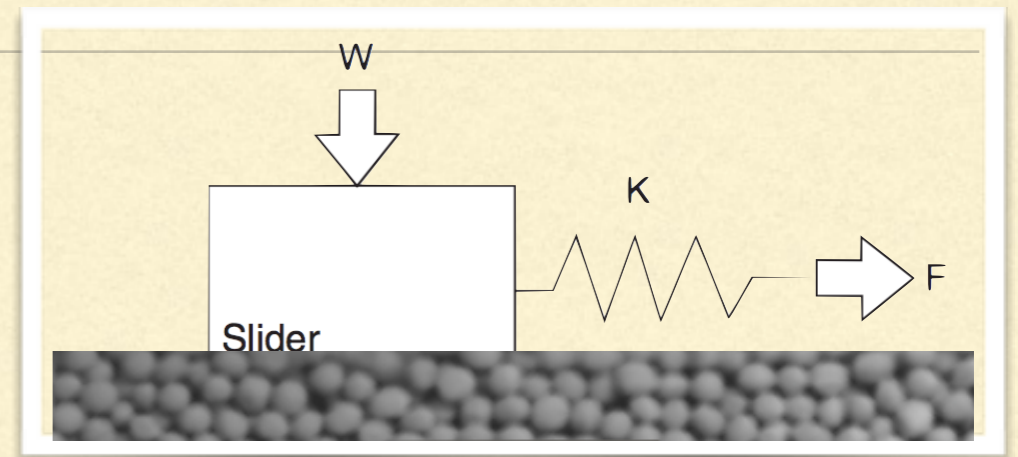


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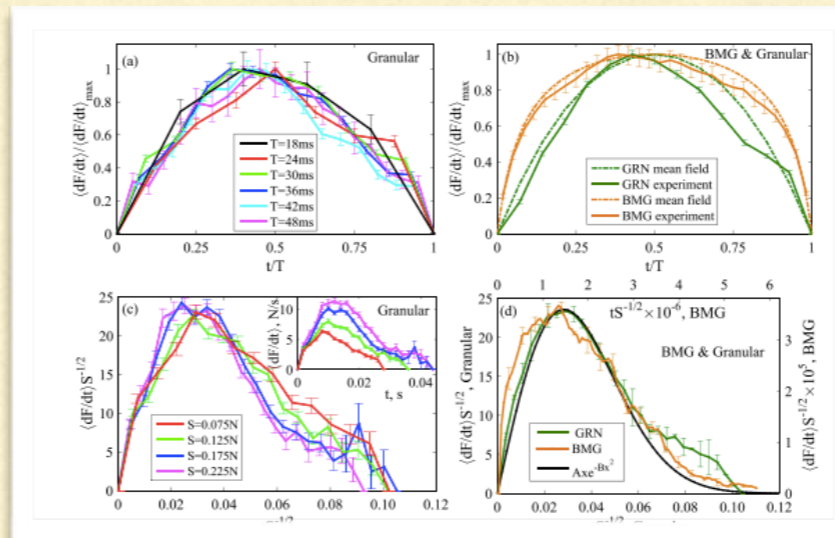
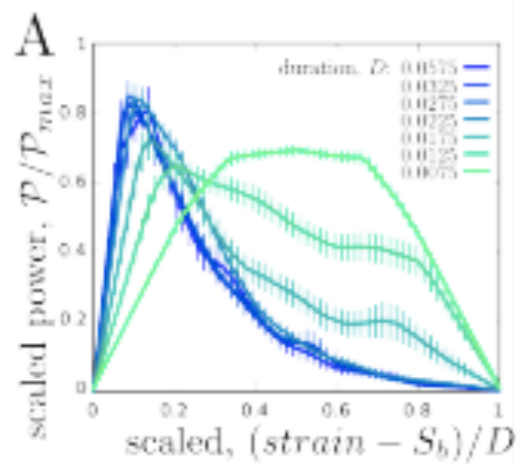


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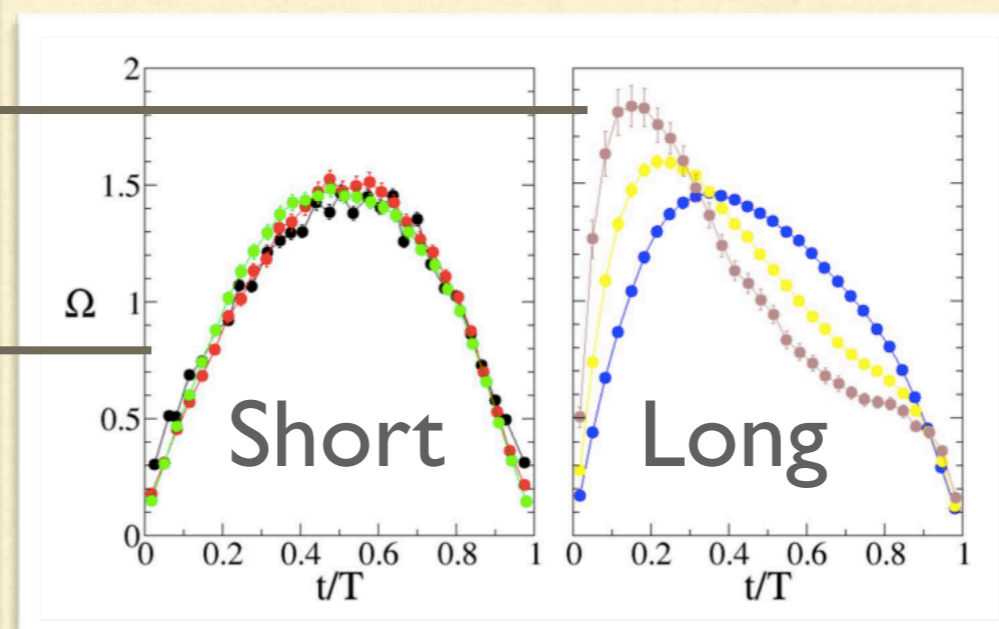
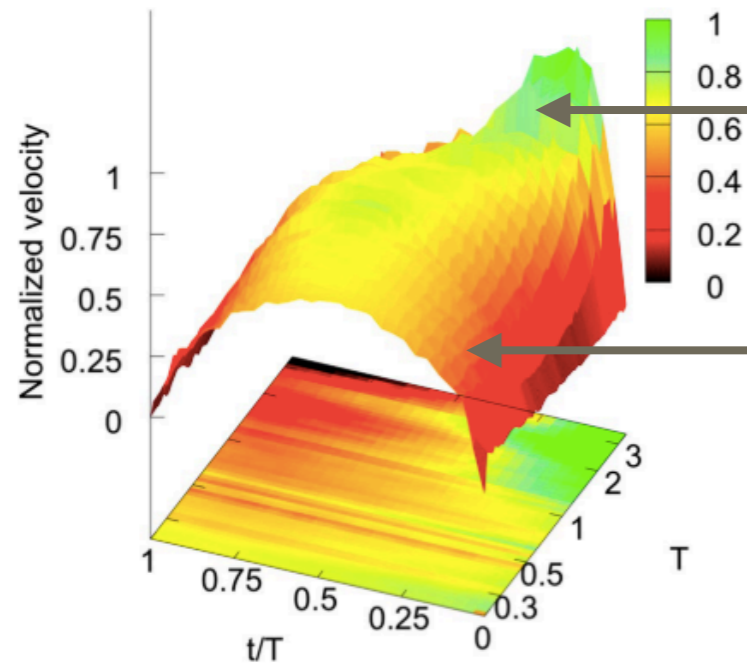
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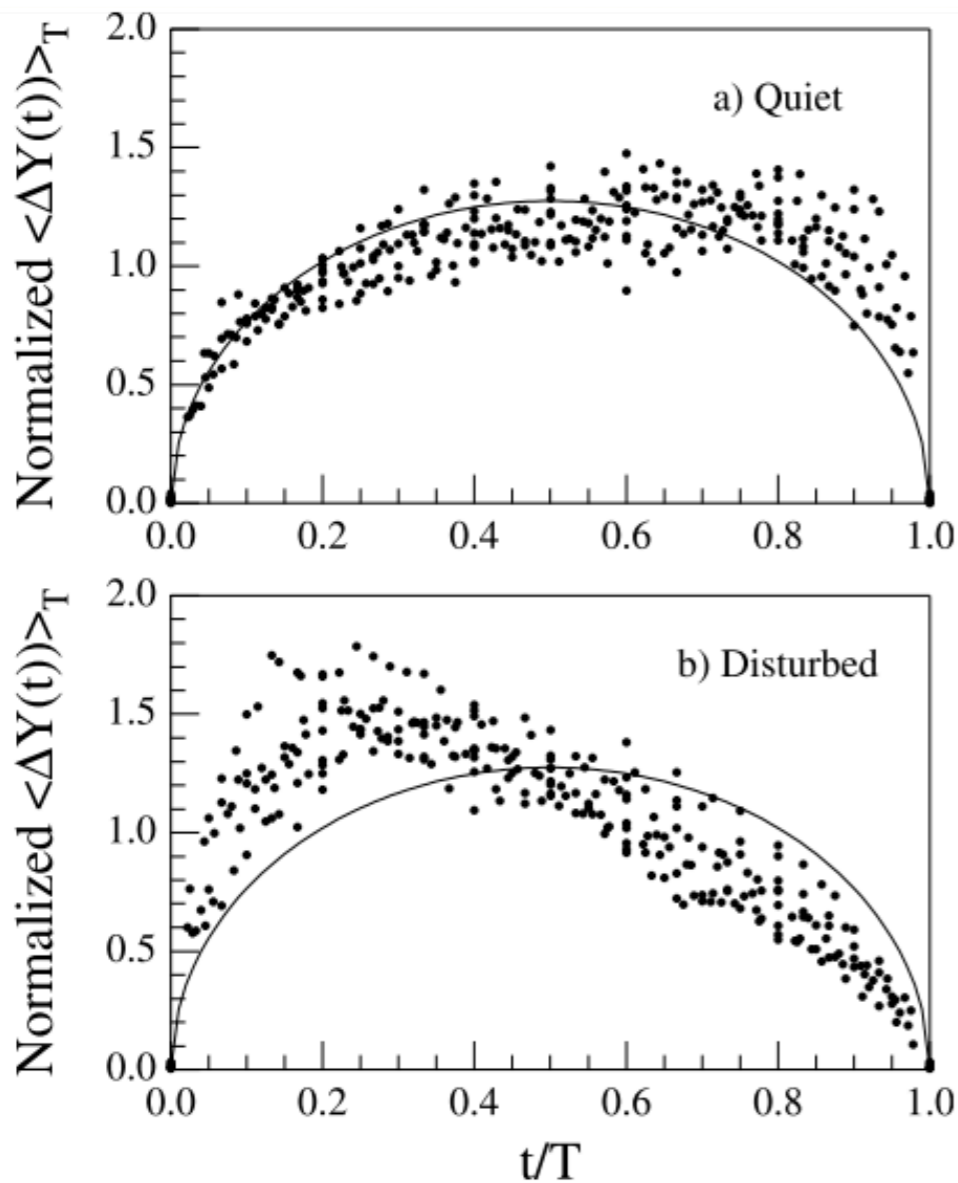
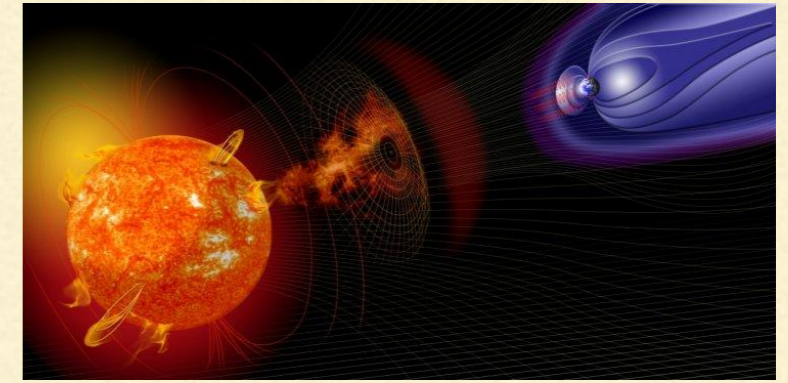


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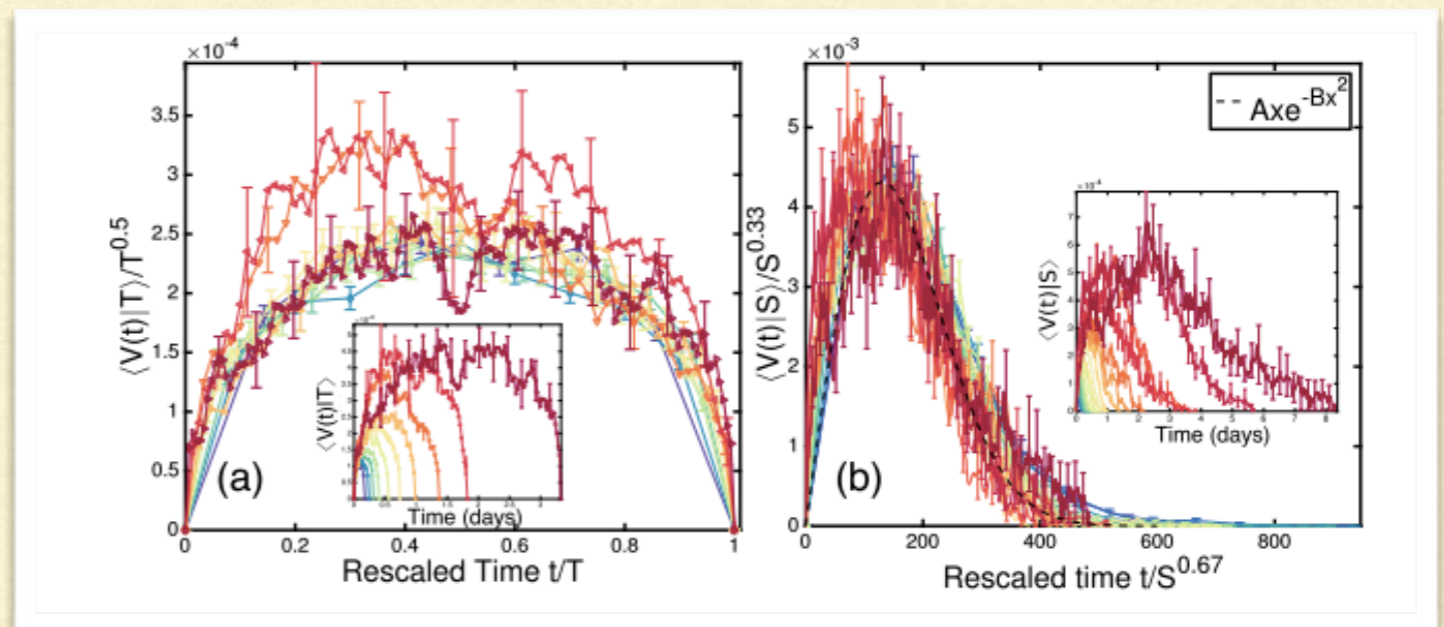


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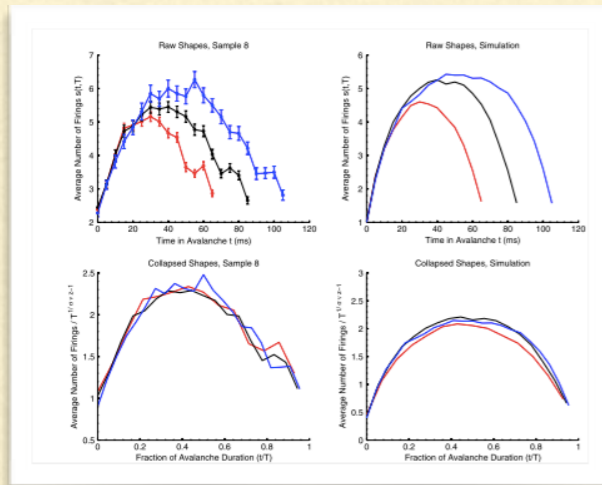
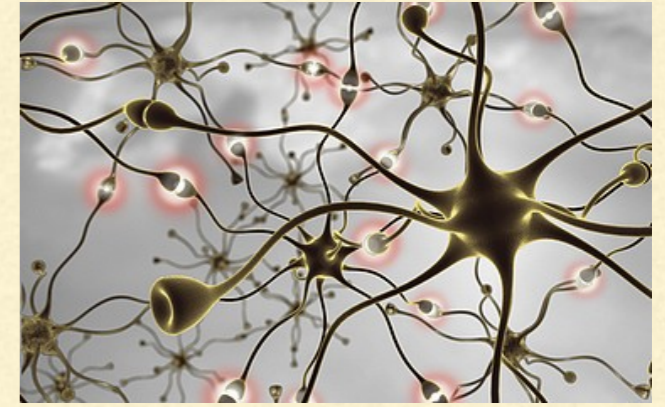


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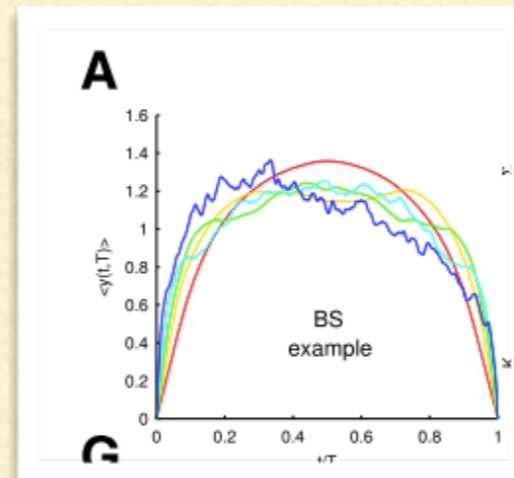


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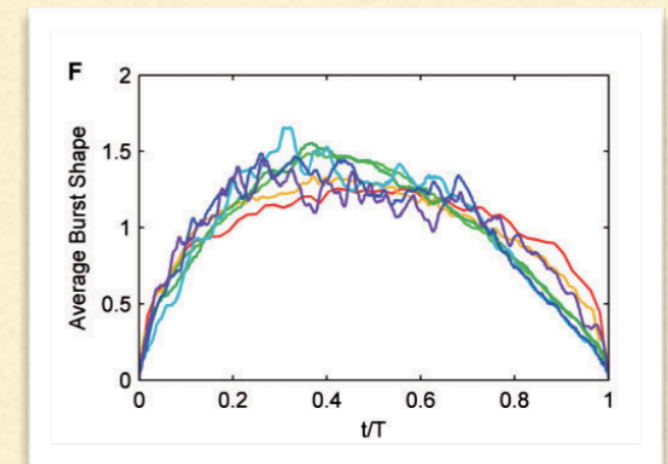
# NEURONAL ACTIVITY



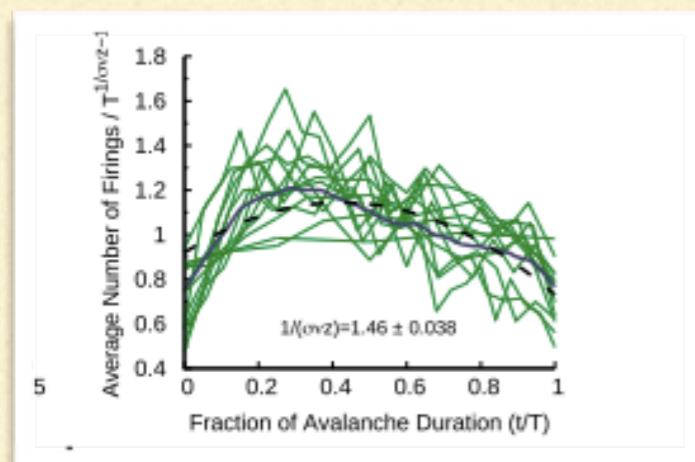
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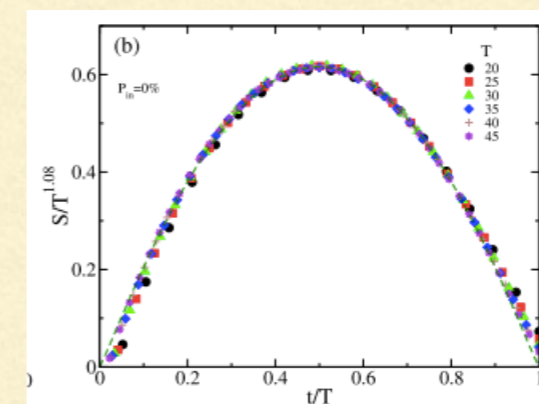
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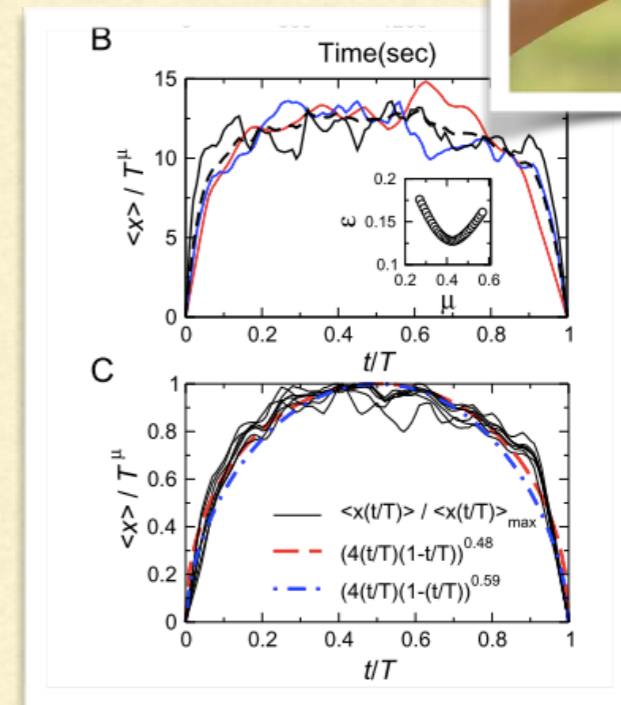
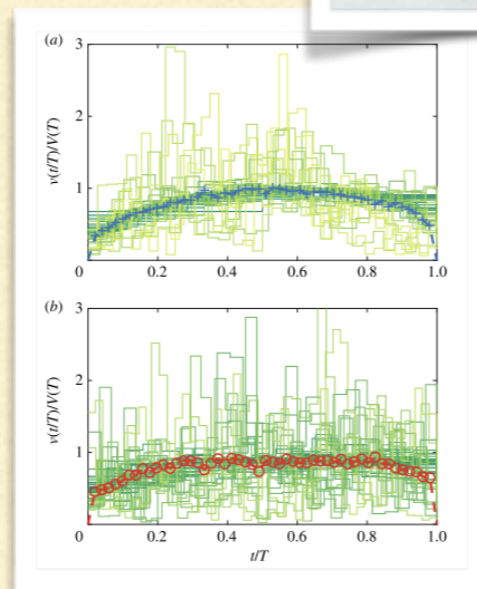
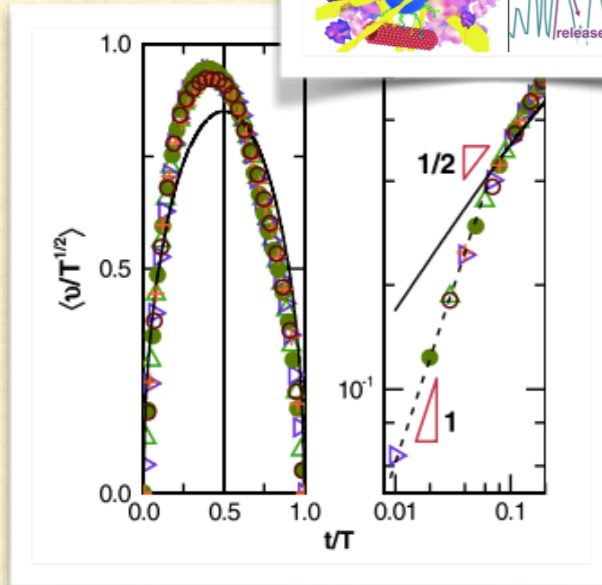
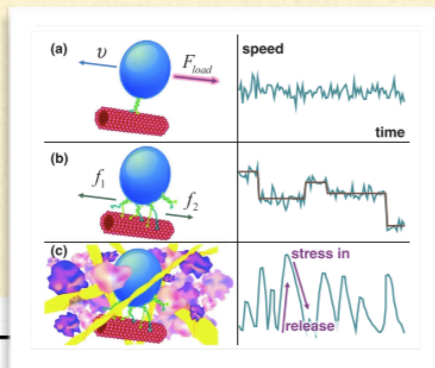


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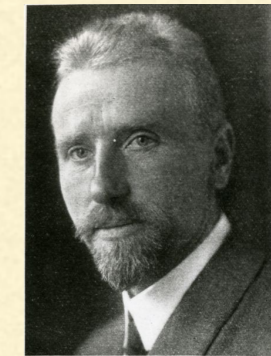
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# ABBM MODEL EXACT SOLUTION

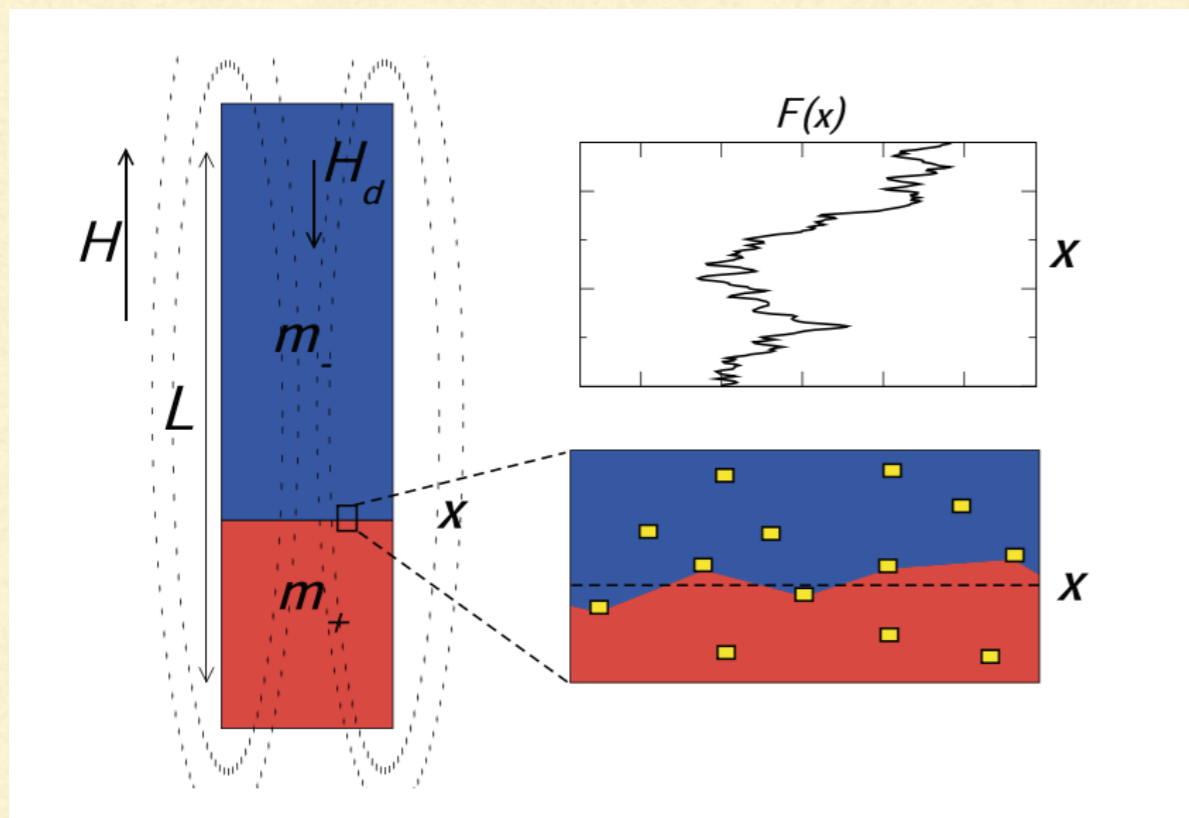
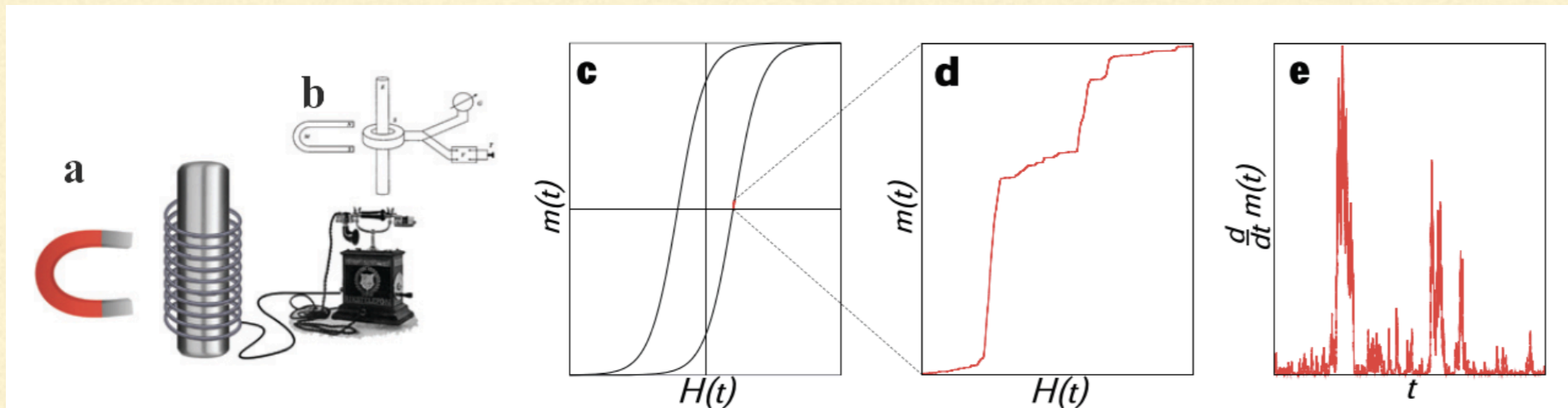
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# ABBM MODEL

B. Alessandro, C. Beatrice, G. Bertotti, and  
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Barkhausen  
noise



over damped  
motion of  
domain wall

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = k \underbrace{(ct - x)}_{\text{drive}} + \underbrace{F(x)}_{\text{disorder}}$$

“Brownian force”

$$F(x + dx) \approx F(x) \pm \sigma \sqrt{dx}$$

$$\frac{dF(x)}{dx} = \sigma \xi(x) \quad \text{stochastic process in space}$$

$$\overline{\xi(x)} = 0 \quad \overline{\xi(x)\xi(y)} = \delta(x - y)$$

How can we recast ABBM in a usual sde (with white noise "in time")?

# TIME CHANGE

$$t \rightarrow \tau(t) \quad \frac{d\tau}{dt} = G^2(X, t)$$

**problem:**

$$\frac{dX(t)}{dt} = \mu(X, t) + \sigma(X, t)\xi(t) \xrightarrow{?} \frac{dX(\tau)}{d\tau} = \hat{\mu}(X, \tau) + \hat{\sigma}(X, \tau)\xi(\tau)$$

**solution:**

$$\hat{\mu}(X, \tau) = \frac{\mu(X, t(\tau))}{G^2(X, t(\tau))} \quad \hat{\sigma}(X, \tau) = \frac{\sigma(X, t(\tau))}{G(X, t(\tau))}$$

**example of (deterministic) time change:**

Brownian process  $\frac{dx(t)}{dt} = \xi(t)$       time change  $t(\tau) = \frac{\sigma^2}{2k} (e^{2k\tau} - 1)$

new (rescaled) process

$$y(\tau) = e^{-k\tau} x(t(\tau))$$

Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process

$$\frac{y(\tau)}{d\tau} = -k y(\tau) + \sigma \xi(\tau)$$

# TIME CHANGE: FROM ABBM TO CIR

**ABBM**  $v(t) = k(ct - x) + F(x)$   $\frac{dF(x)}{dx} = \sigma \xi(x)$   $\overline{\xi(x)} = 0$   
 $\overline{\xi(x)\xi(y)} = \delta(x - y)$

ABBM in space coordinates

*white noise in space*

$$\frac{dv(t)}{dt} = k(c - v) + \frac{dF(x)}{dt} \quad \frac{dF(x)}{dt} = \frac{dF(x)}{dx} \frac{dx}{dt} = v\sigma\xi(x)$$
$$\frac{dv}{dx} = k \left( \frac{c}{v(x)} - 1 \right) + \sigma\xi(x) \quad \text{Rayleigh process (in space)}$$

**time change**  $x \rightarrow t$   $\frac{dx}{dt} = v(t) \equiv G^2(t) \geq 0$

Cox-Ingersoll-Ross process (**CIR**)

$$\frac{dv(t)}{dt} = k(c - v) + \sigma\sqrt{v}\xi(t) \quad \overline{\xi(t)} = 0$$
$$\overline{\xi(t)\xi(s)} = \delta(t - s)$$

**white noise in time**

# CONTINUOUS MARKOV PROCESSES

$$P(x_0, t_0; \dots; x_n, t_n) = P(x_0, t_0)P(x_0 \xrightarrow{t_1-t_0} x_1) \dots P(x_{n-1} \xrightarrow{t_n-t_{n-1}} x_n)$$

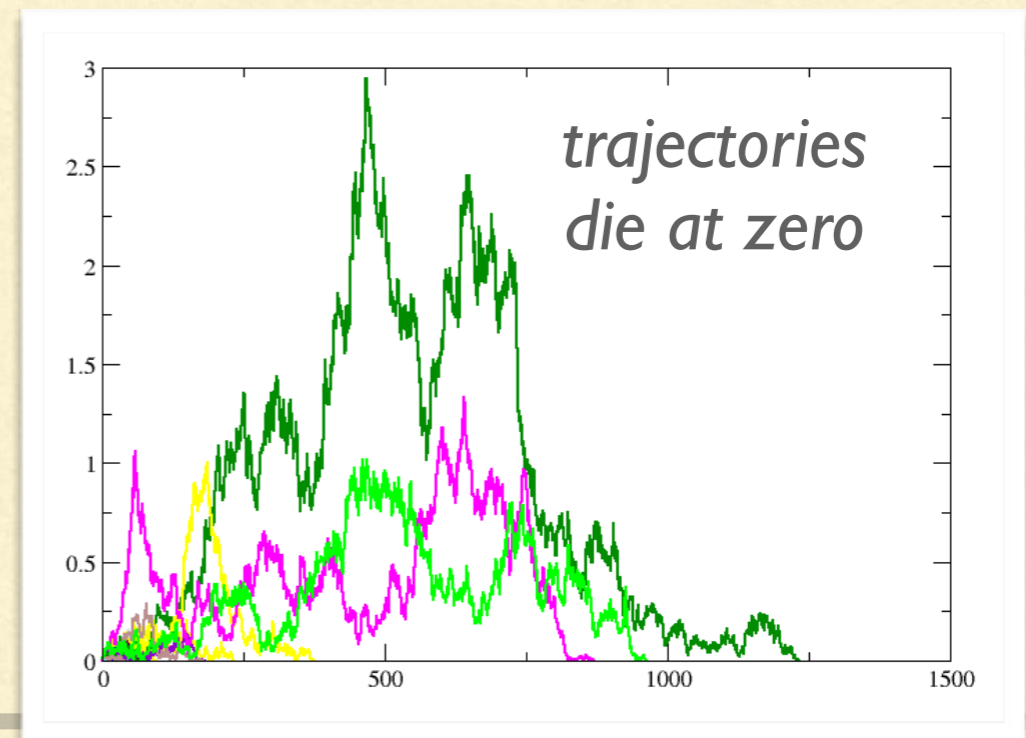
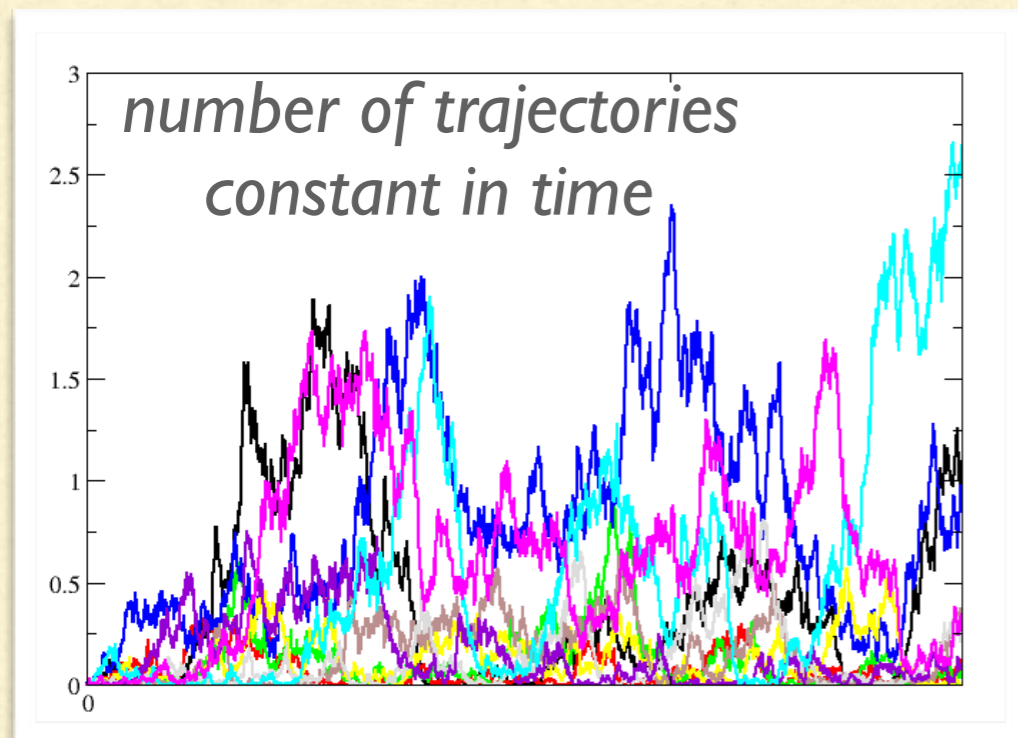
$P(\cdot \rightarrow \cdot)$  propagator

**FP:**  $\partial_t P = \partial_x \left[ -\mu(x, t)P + \frac{1}{2} \partial_x (\sigma^2(x, t)P) \right]$       **sde:**  $\frac{dx}{dt} = \mu(x, t) + \sigma(x, t) \xi(t)$

solution depends on b.c.

**Notable cases:**

**“free”**  $\int P(x_0 \xrightarrow{t} x) dx = 1$       **“absorbing”**  $\frac{d}{dt} \int P(x_0 \xrightarrow{t} x) dx < 0$   
 $P(0 \xrightarrow{t} v) = 0$



# FELLER'S SOLUTION OF ABBM/CIR FP (1951)

$$\begin{aligned} k &= 1 & \frac{dv}{dt} &= (c - v) + \sqrt{2v} \xi(t) & \partial_t P(v, t) &= \partial_v^2 [vP(v, t)] - \partial_v [(c - v)P(v, t)] \\ \sigma &= \sqrt{2} \end{aligned}$$

## Possible solutions depend on the value of $c$ (drive rate)

$$c > 1$$

$$c < 1$$

fast drive: "steady sliding"

slow drive: "stick-slip"

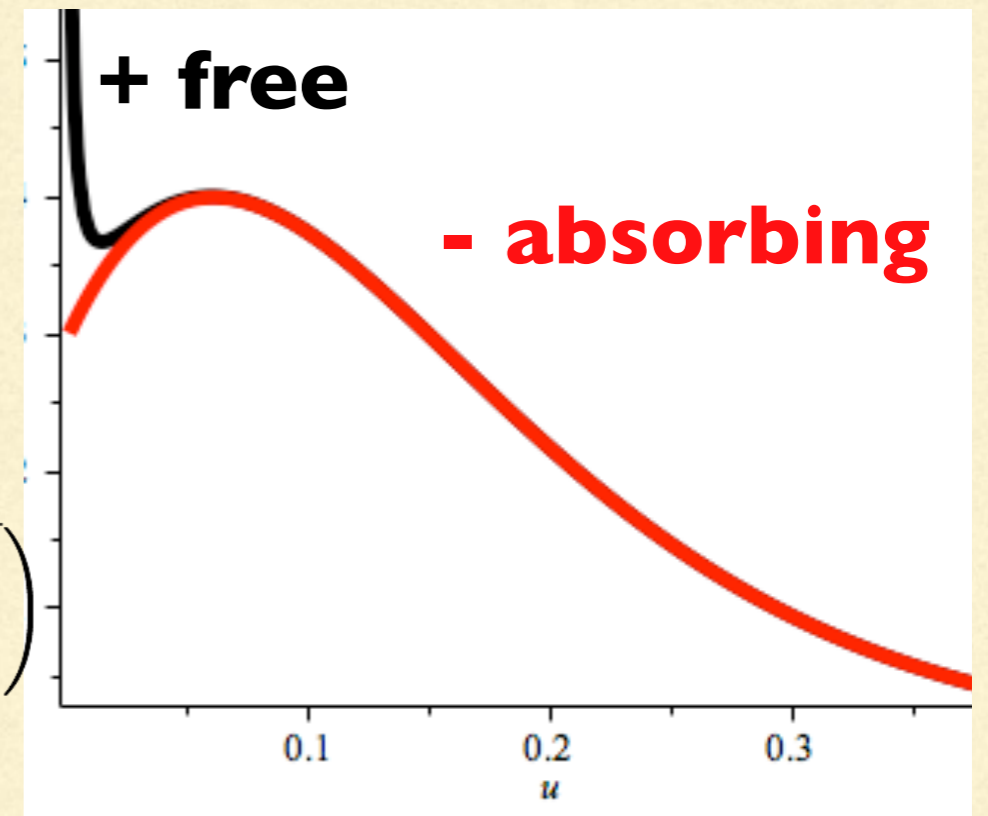
only "free" solution

- "free" solution
- "absorbing" solution

zero unattainable

zero attainable

$$P(v_0 \xrightarrow{t} v)$$



$$P_{\pm}(v_0 \xrightarrow{t} v) = \frac{\exp\left(-\frac{v+v_0e^{-t}}{1-e^{-t}}\right)}{1-e^{-t}} \left(\frac{v}{v_0e^{-t}}\right)^{c-1} I_{\pm(c-1)}\left(\sqrt{\frac{vv_0e^{-t}}{(1-e^{-t})^2}}\right)$$

$I_q(z)$  mod. Bessel 1st kind

**+ free**

**- absorbing**

$$P(v_0 \xrightarrow{t} v) \propto v^{c-1} \text{ for } v \approx 0$$

$$P(v_0 \xrightarrow{t} v) \approx \text{const. for } v \approx 0$$

---

# ABBM AVERAGE AVALANCHE & BRIDGE SHAPE

---

# ABBM AVERAGE SHAPE: PREVIOUS WORKS

Approximation:  $\langle v(x) \rangle_S \xrightarrow{x \approx \langle x(t) \rangle, S \approx \langle S(T) \rangle} \langle v(t) \rangle_T$

F. Colaiori, Adv. Phys. (2008).

sinusoidal shape:  $\langle v(t) \rangle_T = \frac{\pi T}{2} \sin\left(\pi \frac{t}{T}\right)$

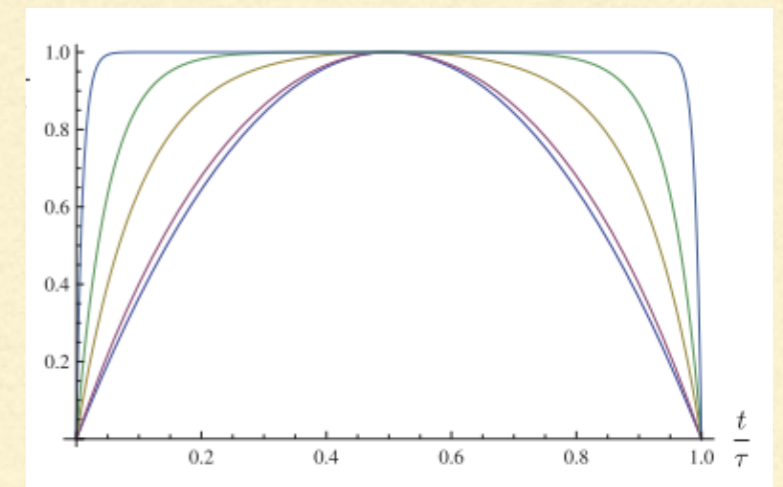
Exact ABBM for vanishing drive  $c \rightarrow 0$

S. Papanikolaou, F. Bohn, R. L. Sommer, G. Durin, S. Zapperi, and J. P. Sethna, Nat. Phys. 7, 316 (2011).

$$\langle v(t) \rangle_T = \frac{1}{2k} \frac{(e^{2k(T-t)} - 1)(e^{2kt} - 1)}{e^{2kT} - 1}$$

parabolic shape in the scaling regime  $T \ll \frac{1}{k}$

$$\langle v(t) \rangle_T = \frac{1}{8} t \left(1 - \frac{t}{T}\right)$$



Same result from theory of disordered elastic manifolds for  $d \geq d_{uc}$

$$(\eta_0 \partial_t - \nabla_x^2) \dot{u}(x, t) = \partial_t F(ct + u(x, t), x) - k \dot{u}(x, t)$$

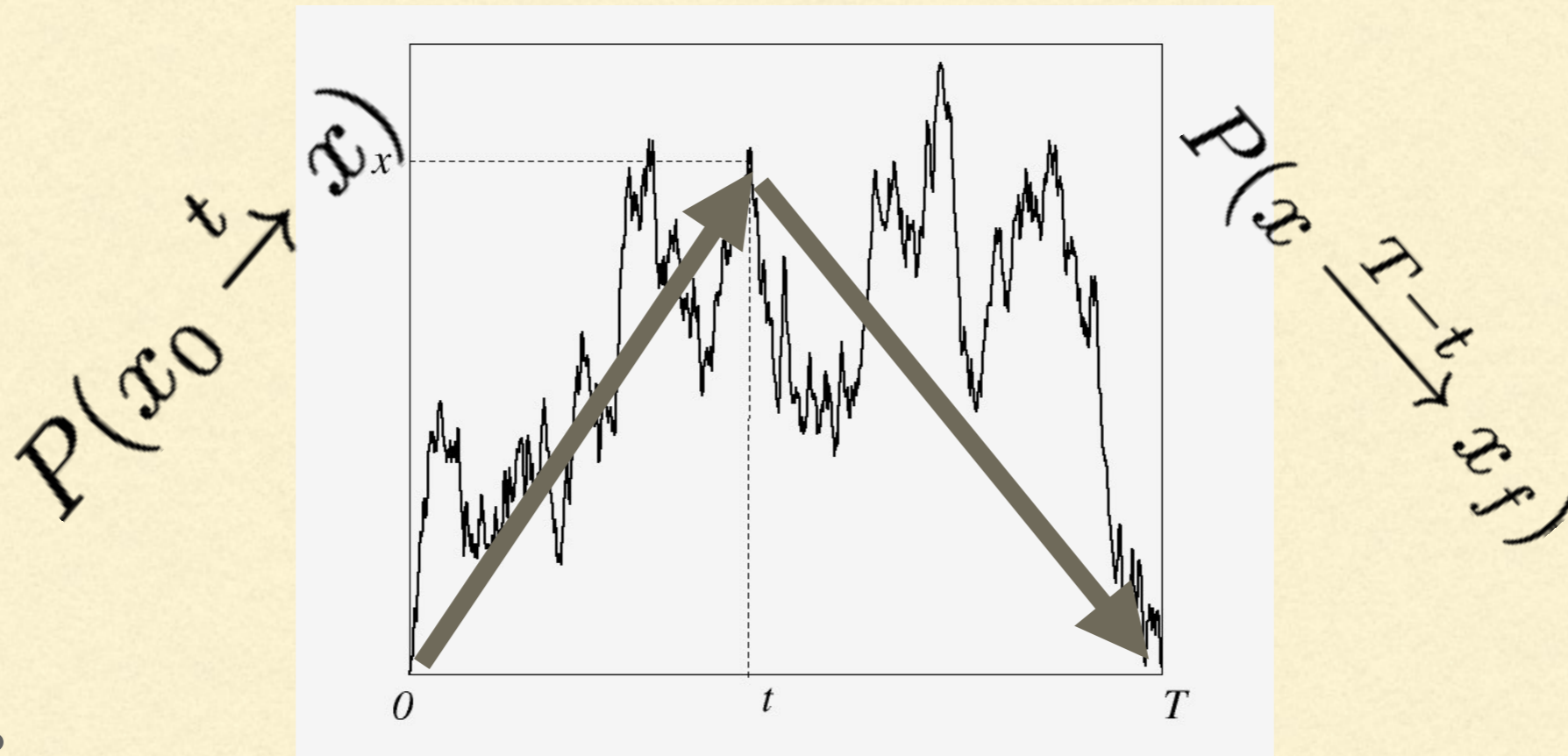
$$v(t) = L^{-d} \int dx \dot{u}(x, t)$$

P. Le Doussal and K. J. Wiese, Eur. Lett. (2012)  
K. J. Wiese, arXiv:2102.01215, ROPP (2022).



# AVALANCHE/BRIDGE DISTRIBUTION FOR MARKOV PROCESSES

$$P(x_0, t_0; \dots; x_n, t_n) = P(x_0, t_0) P(x_0 \xrightarrow{t_1-t_0} x_1) \dots P(x_{n-1} \xrightarrow{t_n-t_{n-1}} x_n)$$



**Bridge:**

$$B(x, t | x_0 \xrightarrow{T} x_f) = \frac{P(x_0 \xrightarrow{t} x) P(x \xrightarrow{T-t} x_f)}{P(x_0 \xrightarrow{T} x_f)}$$

← “free” propagator  
← normalization

**Avalanche:**

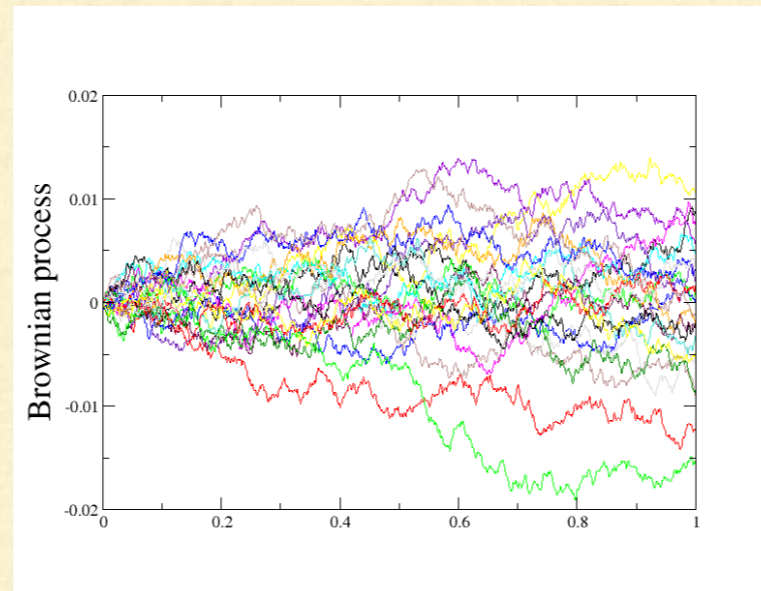
same expression with “absorbing” propagator

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# SDE FOR CONSTRAINED BROWNIAN PROCESS

## Brownian process

$$\frac{dv}{dt} = \xi(t)$$



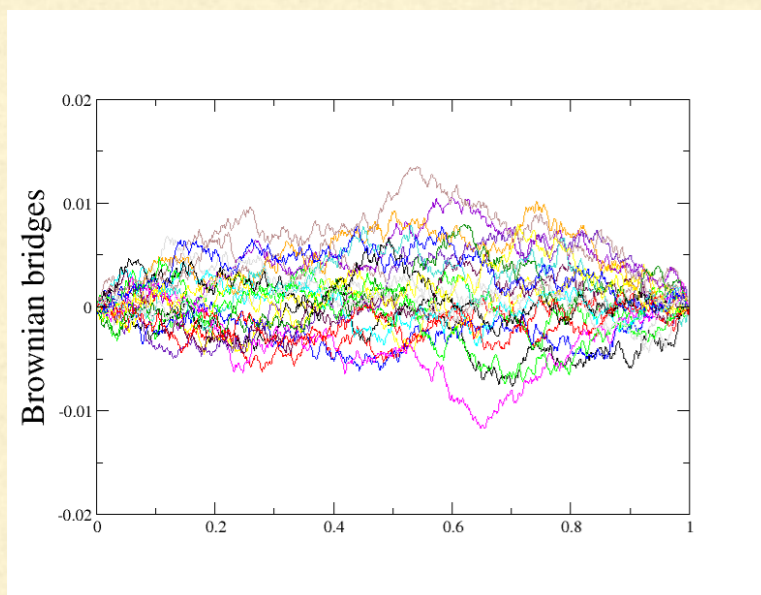
S. N. Majumdar and H. Orland, J. Stat. Mech. (2015).

J. Pitman and M. Yor, A Guide to Brownian Motion and Related Stochastic Processes, (2018).

A. Mazzolo, J. Stat. Mech. (2017).

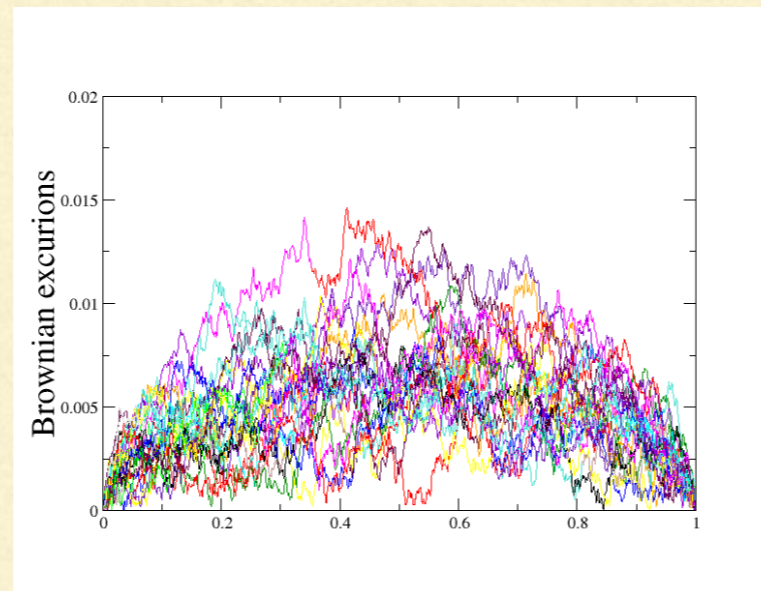
## Brownian Bridge

$$\frac{dv}{dt} = -\frac{v}{T-t} + \xi(t)$$



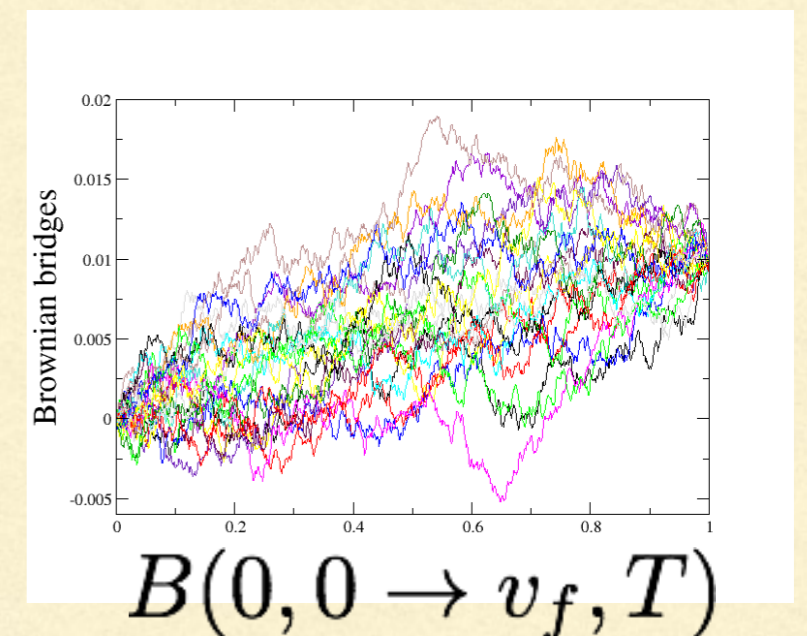
## Brownian Excursion

$$\frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{1}{v} - \frac{v}{T-t} + \xi(t)$$



## Brown. Bridge (general)

$$\frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{v_f - v}{T-t} + \xi(t)$$



---

# DOOB'S TRANSFORM

$$\frac{dv}{dt} = \mu(v) + \sigma(v)\xi(t) \quad \text{sde unconstrained process}$$

**Process constrained to  $v(T) = v_f$**

$$\frac{dv}{dt} = \mu(v) + \sigma^2(v) \frac{d}{dv} P(v, t \rightarrow v_f, T) + \sigma(v)\xi(t)$$

if P is:

- the “free” propagator: sde of bridge
- the “absorbing” propagator: sde for avalanche

*contact between FP  
and sde approach*

S. N. Majumdar and H. Orland, J. Stat. Mech. (2015).  
J. Pitman and M. Yor, A Guide to Brownian Motion  
and Related Stochastic Processes, (2018).  
A. Mazzolo, J. Stat. Mech. (2017).

# ABBM EFFECTIVE SDE FOR BRIDGE/EXCURSION

Doob's transform  $\frac{dv}{dt} = k(c - v) + \sigma^2 v \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \partial_v \log P(v, t \rightarrow \epsilon, T) + \sigma \sqrt{v} \xi(t)$

**Bridge:** "free" propagator

**Avalanche:** "absorbing" propagator

$$\frac{dv}{dt} = kc - vk \coth \left[ \frac{1}{2} k (T - t) \right] + \sigma \sqrt{v} \xi(t)$$

$$\frac{dv}{dt} = \sigma^2 - kc - vk \coth \left[ \frac{1}{2} k (T - t) \right] + \sigma \sqrt{v} \xi(t)$$

## Averaging sde equations

$$\langle \sqrt{v} \xi(t) \rangle = 0 \quad (\text{Ito scheme})$$

**bridge:**

$$\frac{d\langle v(t) \rangle}{dt} = kc - \langle v(t) \rangle k \coth \left[ \frac{1}{2} k (T - t) \right]$$

**avalanche:**

$$\frac{d\langle v(t) \rangle}{dt} = \sigma^2 - kc - \langle v(t) \rangle k \coth \left[ \frac{1}{2} k (T - t) \right]$$

Linear differential equations for average shapes!

# ABBM AVERAGE BRIDGE AND AVALANCHE

**Bridge:**

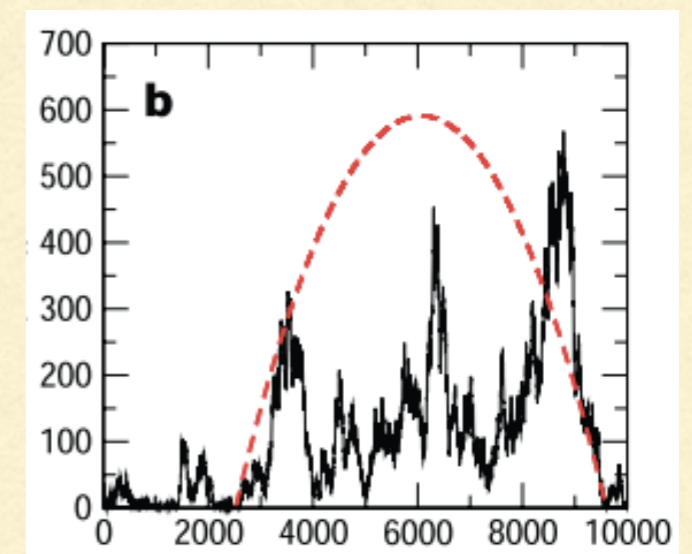
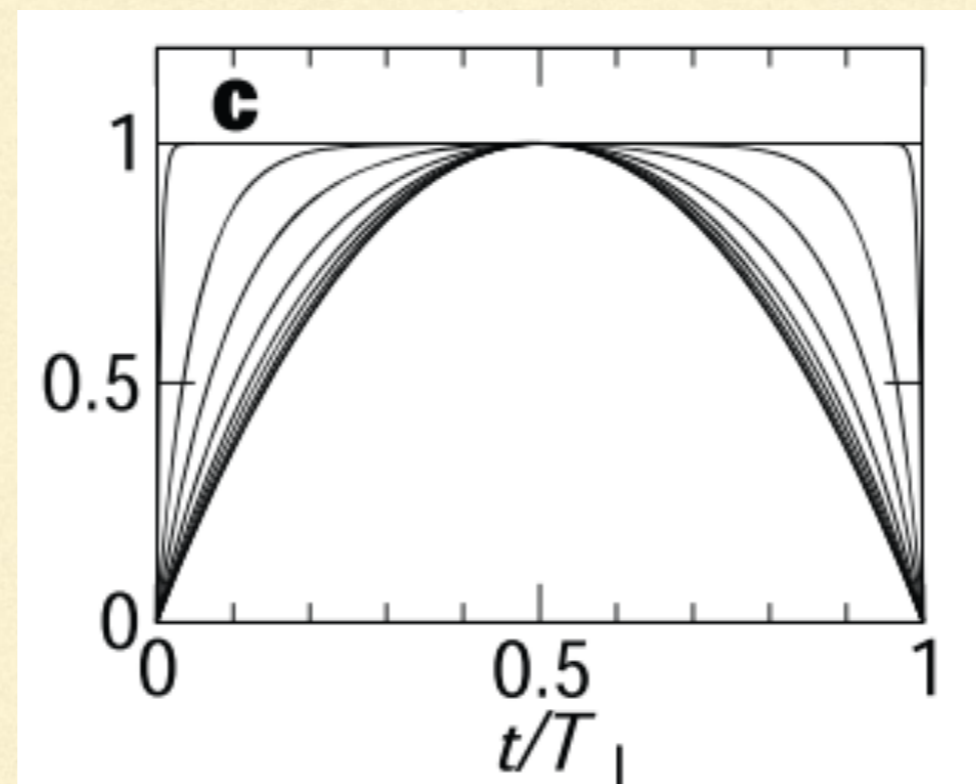
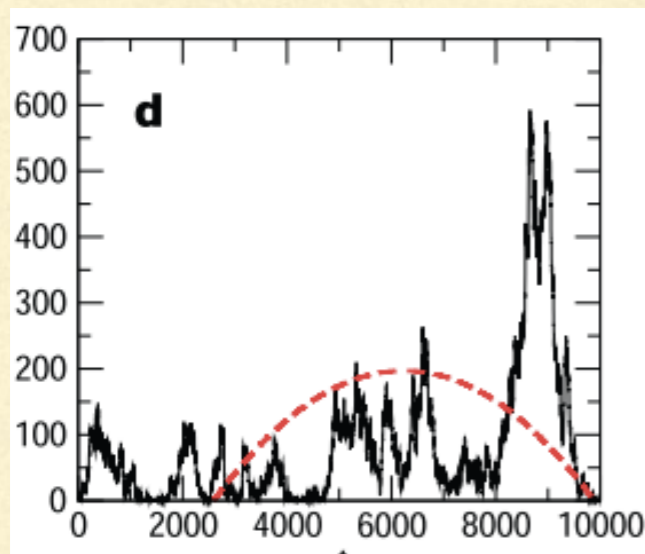
$$\langle v(t) \rangle_T = c \frac{(e^{-kt} - 1)(e^{k(T-t)} - 1)}{1 - e^{-kT}}$$

**Avalanche**

$$\langle v(t) \rangle_T = \left( \frac{\sigma^2}{k} - c \right) \frac{(e^{-kt} - 1)(e^{k(T-t)} - 1)}{1 - e^{-kT}}$$

Same normalised shape!

$$\langle v(t) \rangle / \langle v(T/2) \rangle$$



**symmetric** average shapes: **parabolic** for  $kT \ll 1$ ; flat for  $kT \gg 1$

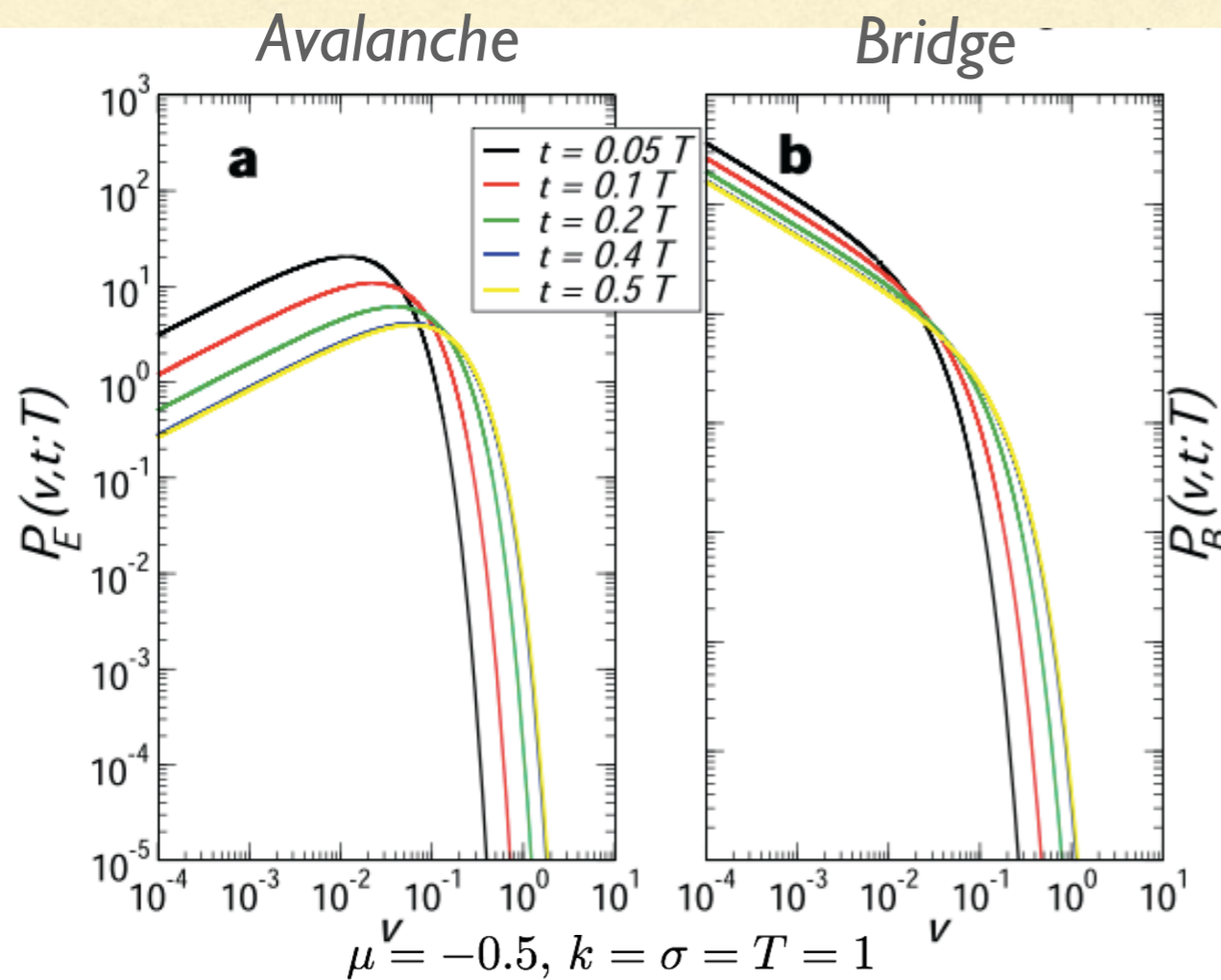
# BRIDGE/EXCURSION DISTRIBUTIONS

Both gamma distribution, but with different *shape* parameter

## Bridge

$$P_B(v, t; T) = \frac{\omega(t, T)^{1+\mu}}{\Gamma(1+\mu)} \exp(-\omega(t, T)v) v^\mu$$

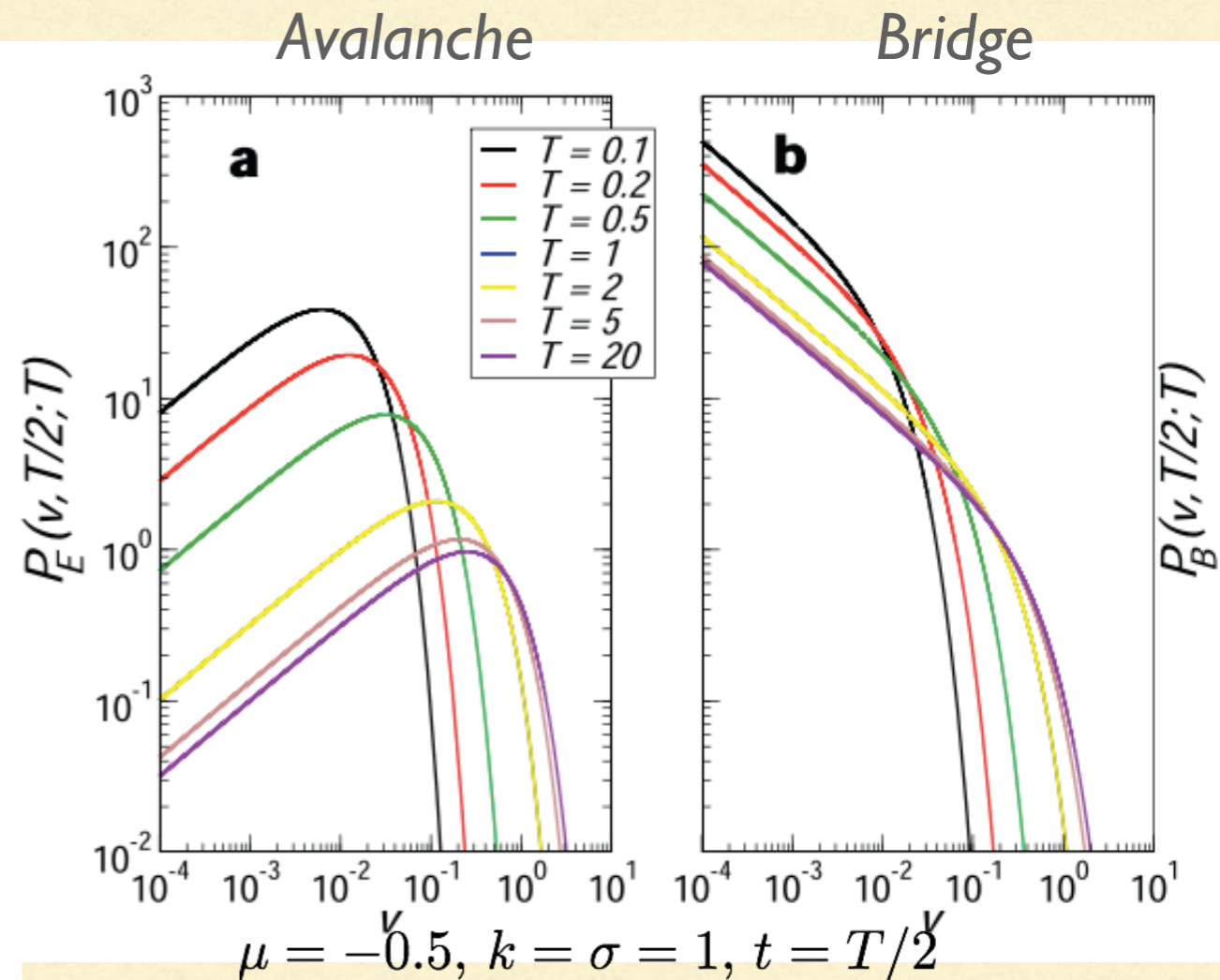
varying  $t$ :



## Avalanche

$$P_E(v, t; T) = \frac{\omega(t, T)^{1-\mu}}{\Gamma(1-\mu)} \exp(-\omega(t, T)v) v^{-\mu}$$

varying  $T$ :



$$\mu \equiv \frac{2kc}{\sigma^2} - 1$$

# SIMPLEST STOCHASTIC PROCESS

## Dumped random walk (Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process)

$$\frac{dv(t)}{dt} = -kv + \xi(t)$$

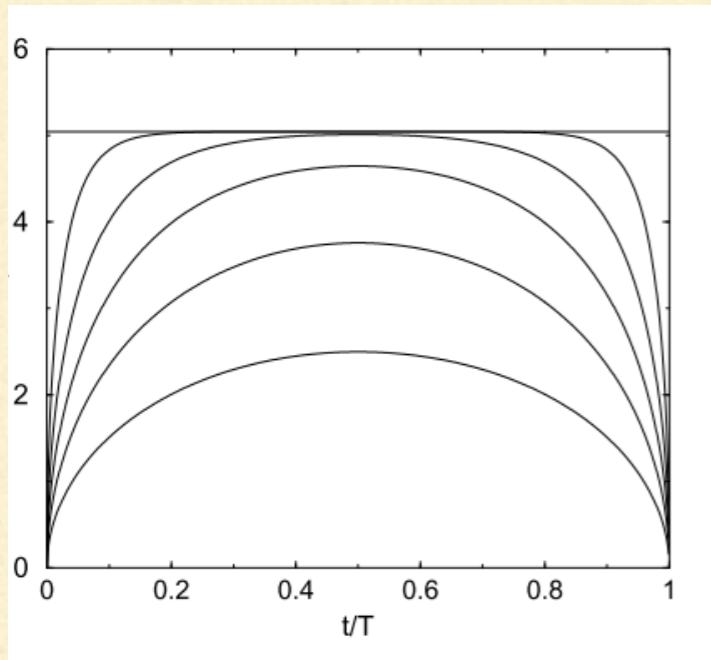
$$\overline{\xi(t)} = 0$$

$$\xi(t)\xi(s) = \delta(t-s)$$

A. Baldassarri, F. Colaiori, and C. Castellano, PRL (2003).  
F. Colaiori, A. Baldassarri, and C. Castellano, PRE (2004).

### Exact formula

$$\langle v(t) \rangle_T = \sqrt{\frac{4}{\pi k}} \sqrt{\frac{(1 - e^{-2kt})(1 - e^{-2k(T-t)})}{1 - e^{-2kT}}}$$



$$\langle v(t) \rangle_T \approx \begin{cases} \sqrt{\frac{8}{\pi}} \sqrt{\frac{t(T-t)}{T}} & T \ll 1/k \\ \sqrt{\frac{4}{k\pi}} & T \gg 1/k \end{cases}$$

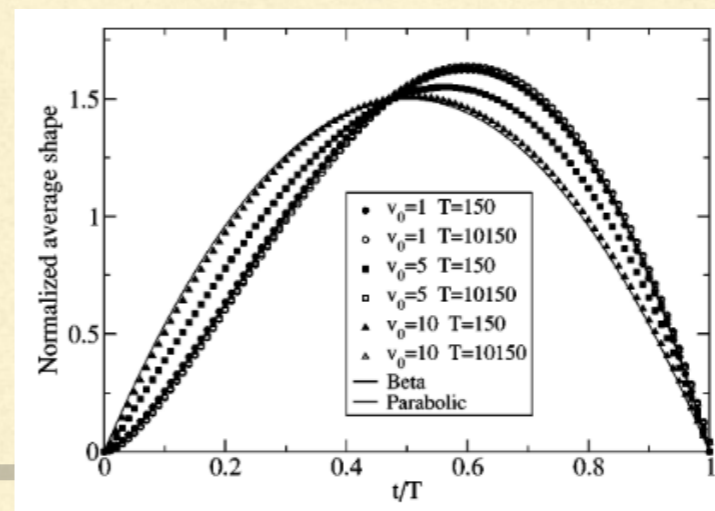
### Limit cases:

RW: semicircle  
(Gaussian or Levy increments)

Uncorrelated: flat

“Random accelerated particle”:

$$\frac{d^2v(t)}{dt^2} = \xi(t)$$



Different values of

$$\partial_t v(0)$$

# GENERALIZED BESSEL PROCESSES

$$\vec{Y} = (Y_1, \dots, Y_\delta) \quad \delta: \text{space dimension}$$

$$\frac{d\vec{Y}}{dt} = -\frac{\vec{Y}}{2} + \sqrt{2}\vec{\xi}(t) \quad \delta\text{-dimensional Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process}$$

$$v(t) = |\vec{Y}(t)|^2 \quad \frac{dv}{dt} = \left(\frac{\delta}{2} - v\right) + \sqrt{2v}\xi(t) \quad \text{Generalized Squared Bessel Process}$$

equivalent to  $\frac{dv}{dt} = (c - v) + \sqrt{2v}\xi(t) \quad \text{ABBM/CIR process} \quad c = \frac{\delta}{2}$

**Return to the origin?**

$$v = 0 \iff \vec{Y} = (Y_1 = 0, \dots, Y_\delta = 0) = \vec{0}$$

**ABBM/CIR**

*drive*

*dimension*

**Random Walk**

stick-slip

$$c < 1 \iff \delta < 2$$

recurrent

steady-sliding

$$c > 1 \iff \delta > 2$$

transient



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# ASYMMETRIC AVALANCHE SHAPES

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# INERTIAL ABBM

S. Zapperi, C. Castellano, F. Colaiori, and G. Durin, Nat. Phys.(2005).  
G. Durin, F. Colaiori, C. Castellano, and S. Zapperi, J. Magn. Mater.(2007)

$$\int_0^t f(t-s)v(s) = k(ct-x) + F(x) \quad \text{if } f(t) \approx \frac{\Gamma}{\tau_0} e^{-\frac{t}{\tau_0}}$$

Generalised damping term  
for non-instantaneous  
response due to eddy  
currents

and the avalanche is longer than  $\tau_0$

then  $\frac{\Gamma}{\tau_0} \int_0^t e^{-s/\tau_0} v(t-s) \approx \Gamma v(t) - \Gamma \tau_0 \frac{dv}{dt}$  that gives:

$$\Gamma v + M \frac{dv}{dt} = k(ct-x) + F(x)$$

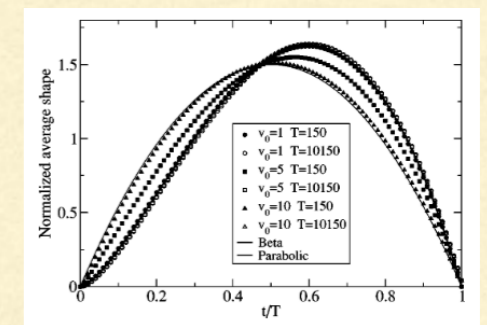
inertial term

but

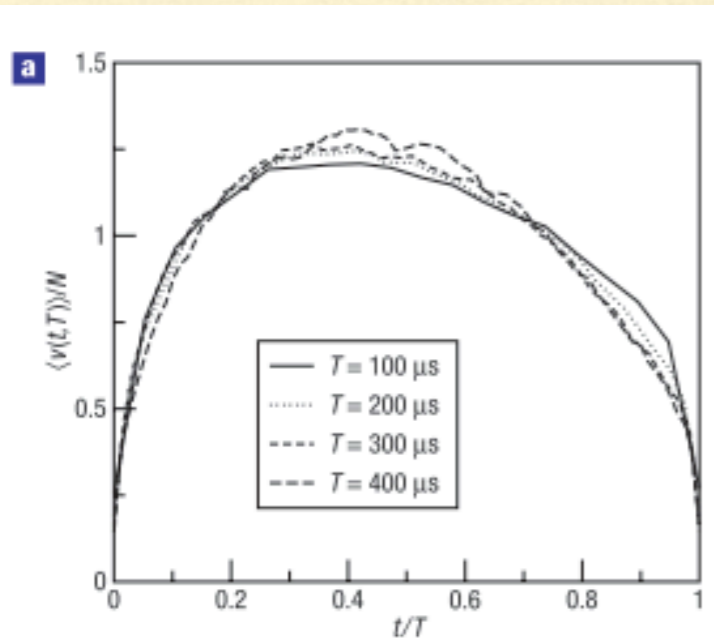
$$M = -\frac{64I^2\sigma b^2}{a\pi^4} \Sigma_2(b/a) < 0 \quad \text{negative mass}$$

opposite skewness  
to the case of  
positive mass

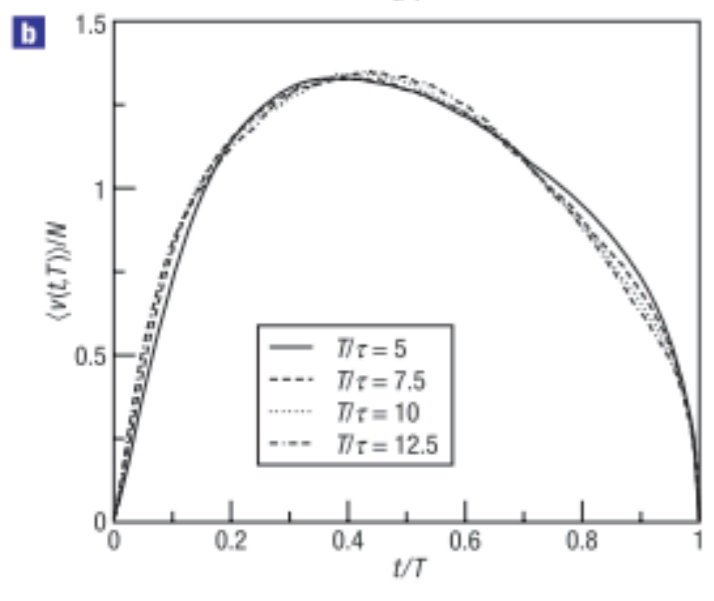
$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = \xi(t)$$



Experiments



Model



see also: P. Le Doussal, A. Petković, and K. J. Wiese, Phys. Rev. E (2012)  
A. Dobrinevski, P. Le Doussal, and K. J. Wiese, Phys. Rev. E(2013)

# AVERAGE SHAPE UNIVERSALITY CLASSES

L. Laurson, X. Illa, S. Santucci, K. Tore Tallakstad, K. J. Måløy, and M. J. Alava, *Class., Nat. Commun.* (2013).

Simulation of a model of 1d-elastic string in a 2d random medium

## Average shape proposal

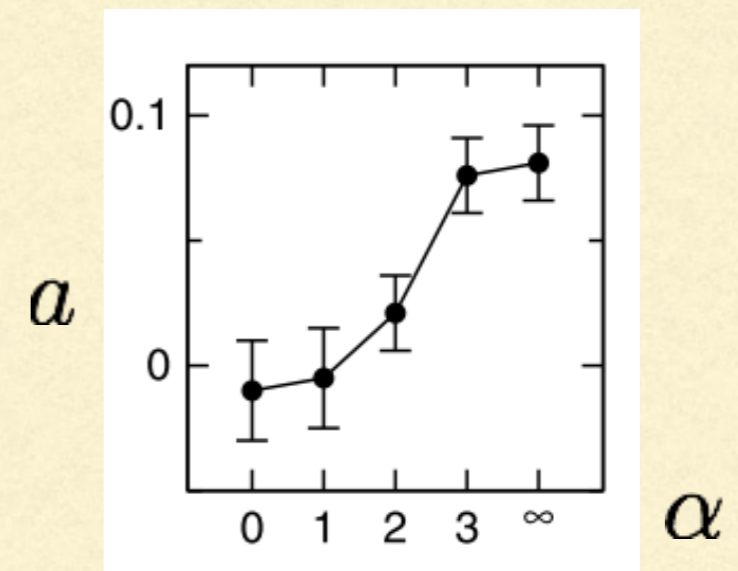
$$\langle S(T) \rangle \propto T^\gamma \quad \langle v(t) \rangle_T \propto T^{\gamma-1} \left[ \frac{t}{T} \left( 1 - \frac{t}{T} \right) \right]^{\gamma-1} \left[ 1 - a \left( \frac{t}{T} - \frac{1}{2} \right) \right]$$

Universality classes:

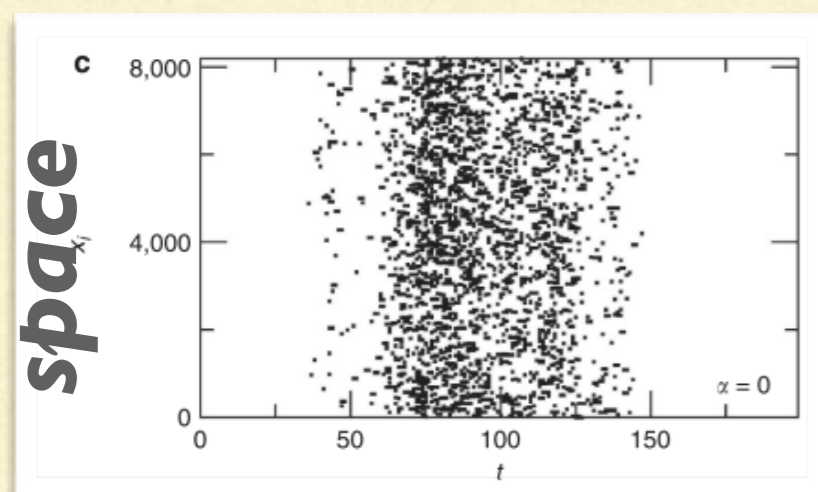
scaling  
exponent

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma &= 2.0 \pm 0.01 && \text{for } \alpha \leq 1 \\ \gamma &= 1.79 \pm 0.01 && \text{for } \alpha = 2 \\ \gamma &= 1.56 \pm 0.01 && \text{for } \alpha \geq 3 \end{aligned}$$

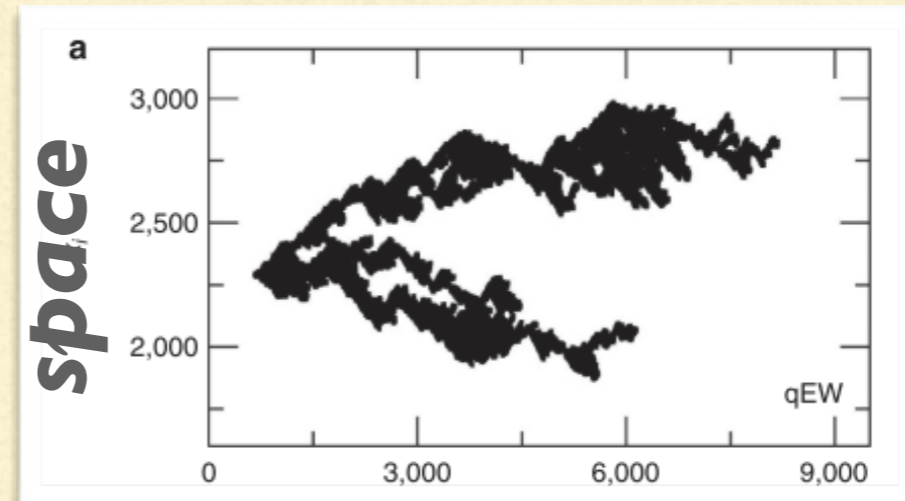
asymmetry  
parameter



Asymmetry related to time irreversibility of spatio-temporal structure of avalanches



$$\begin{aligned} \alpha &= 0 \\ a &\approx 0 \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned} \alpha &= 3 \\ a &\approx 0.1 \end{aligned}$$

time

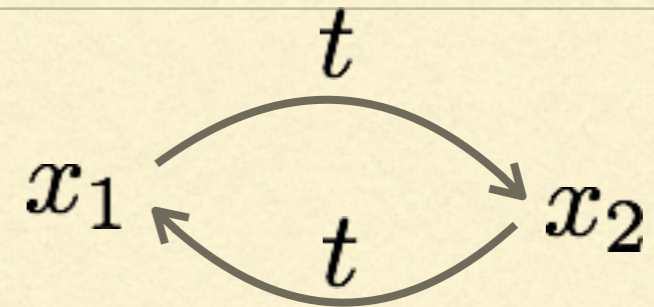
time

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# DETAILED BALANCE

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# DETAILED BALANCE



$$P_s(x_1)P(x_1 \xrightarrow{t} x_2) = P_s(x_2)P(x_2 \xrightarrow{t} x_1)$$

## general bridge

$$B(x, t | x_0 \xrightarrow{\tau} x_f) = \frac{P(x_0 \xrightarrow{t} x)P(x \xrightarrow{\tau-t} x_f)}{P(x_0 \xrightarrow{\tau} x_f)}$$

## use d.b.

$$B(x, t | x_0 \xrightarrow{\tau} x_f) = \frac{P(x \xrightarrow{t} x_0) \frac{P_s(x)}{P_s(x_0)} P(x_f \xrightarrow{\tau-t} x) \frac{P_s(x_f)}{P_s(x)}}{P(x_f \xrightarrow{\tau} x_0) \frac{P_s(x_f)}{P_s(x_0)}}$$

## simplify

$$B(x, t | x_0 \xrightarrow{\tau} x_f) = \frac{P(x \xrightarrow{t} x_0)P(x_f \xrightarrow{\tau-t} x)}{P(x_f \xrightarrow{\tau} x_0)} = B(x, \tau - t | x_f \xrightarrow{\tau} x_0)$$

**bridge**  $x_0 = x_f = 0$

$$B(x, t | 0 \xrightarrow{\tau} 0) = B(x, \tau - t | 0 \xrightarrow{\tau} 0)$$

**moments**

$$\langle x(t)^2 \rangle_{\tau} = \langle x(\tau - t)^2 \rangle_{\tau}$$

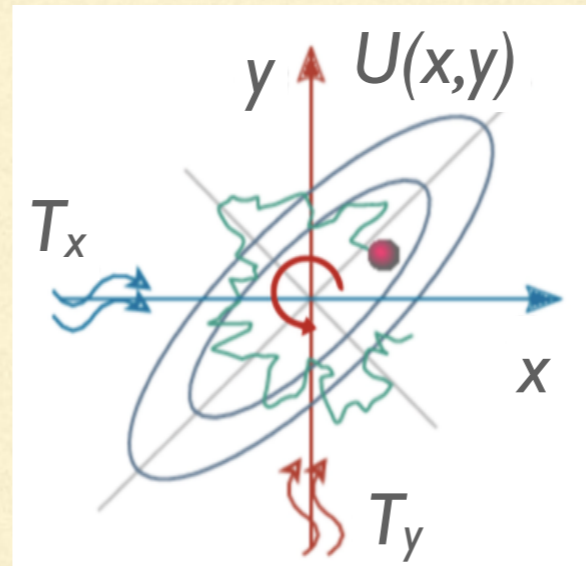
**d.b. implies symmetry of bridge average shape**

# BROWNIAN GYRATOR

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -kx - uy + \sqrt{T_x} \xi_1(t)$$

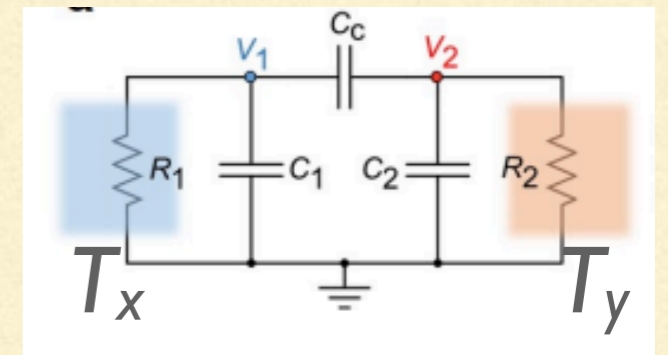
$$\frac{dy}{dt} = -ky - ux + \sqrt{T_y} \xi_2(t)$$

$$\langle \xi_i(t) \rangle = 0 \text{ and } \langle \xi_i(t) \xi_j(s) \rangle = \delta_{ij} \delta(t-s)$$



$$U(x, y) = \frac{1}{2}k(x^2 + y^2) + uxy$$

experimental realization



K. H. Chiang, C. L. Lee, P. Y. Lai, and Y. F. Chen, PRE (2017).

FP equation

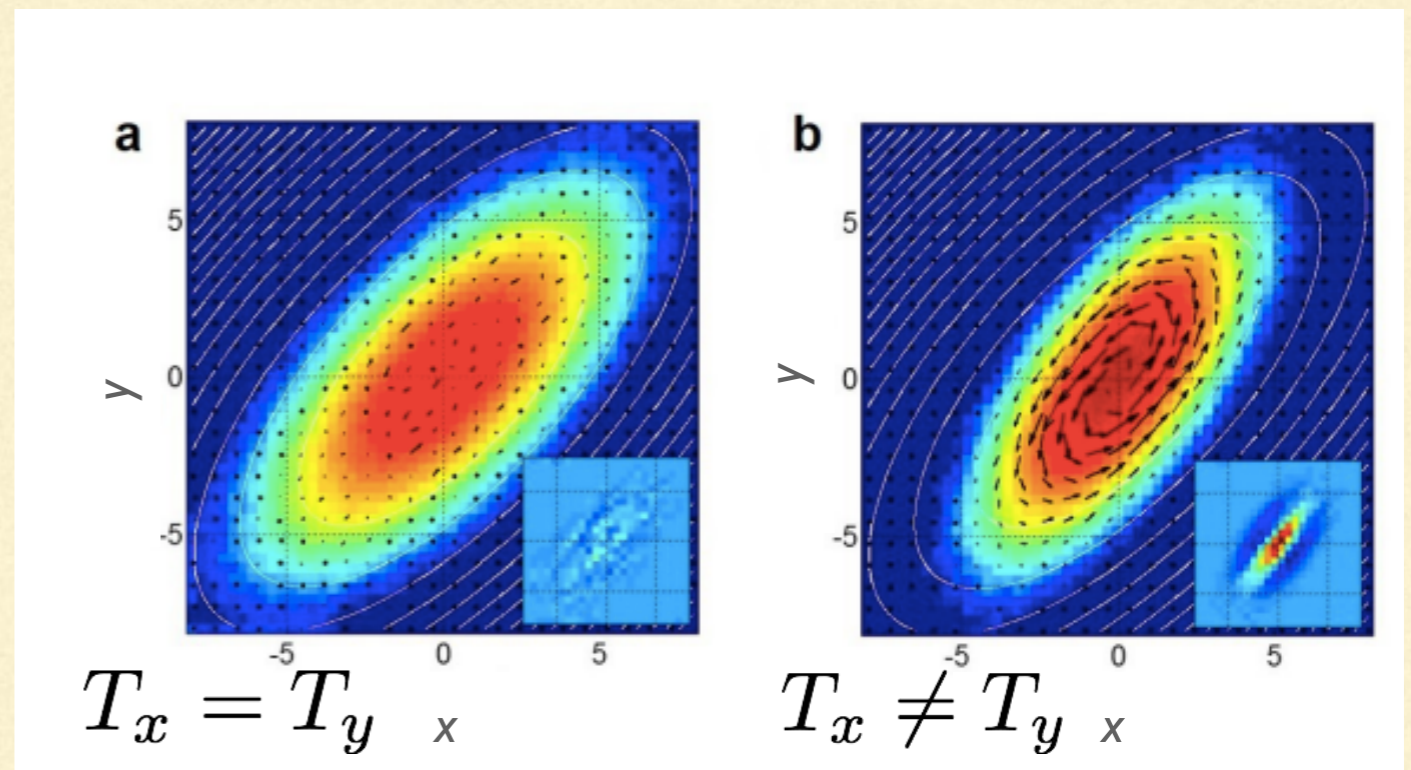
$$\partial_t P(x, y, t) = \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{J}(x, y, t)$$

Stationary state

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} P(x, y, t) = P_s(x, y)$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \vec{J}(x, y, t) = \vec{J}_s(x, y)$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{J}_s(x, y) = 0$$

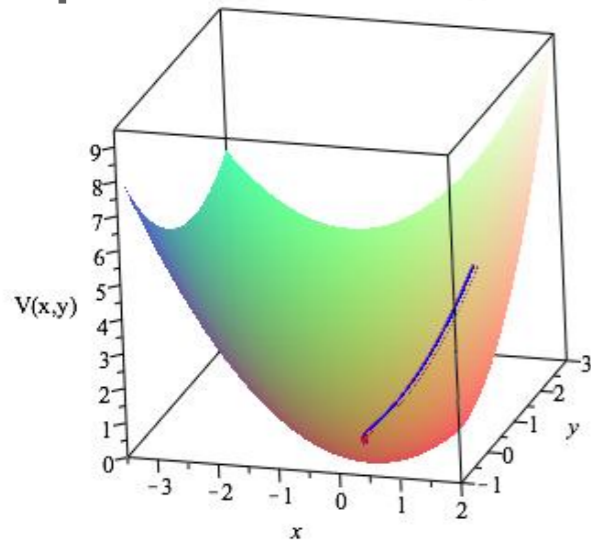


Equilibrium  $J_s(x, y) = 0$

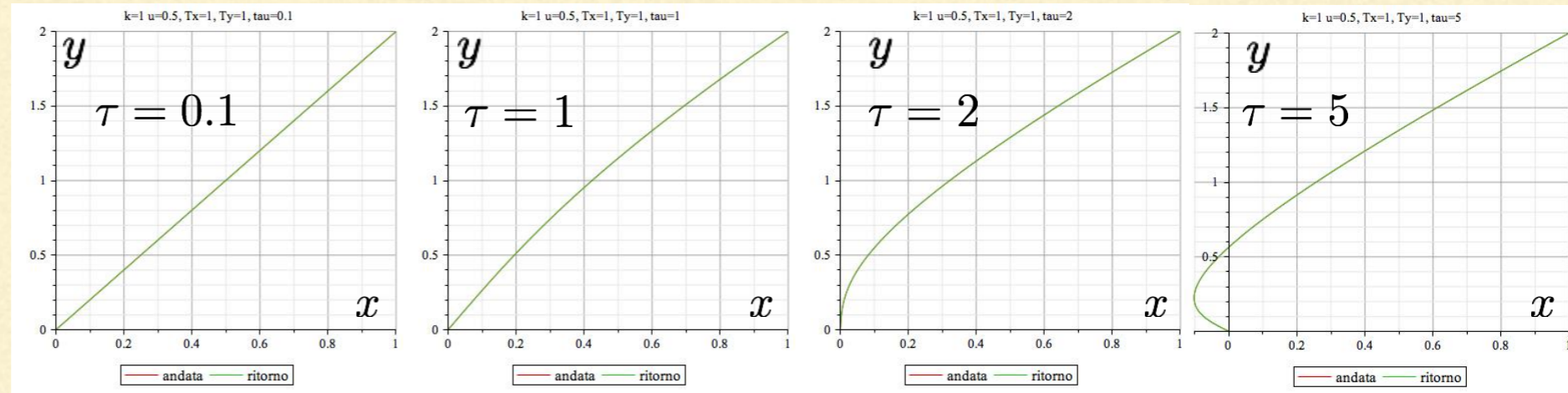
NESS  $J_s(x, y) \neq 0$

# AVERAGE BRIDGE FOR BROWNIAN GYRATOR

Equilibrium  $T_x = T_y$

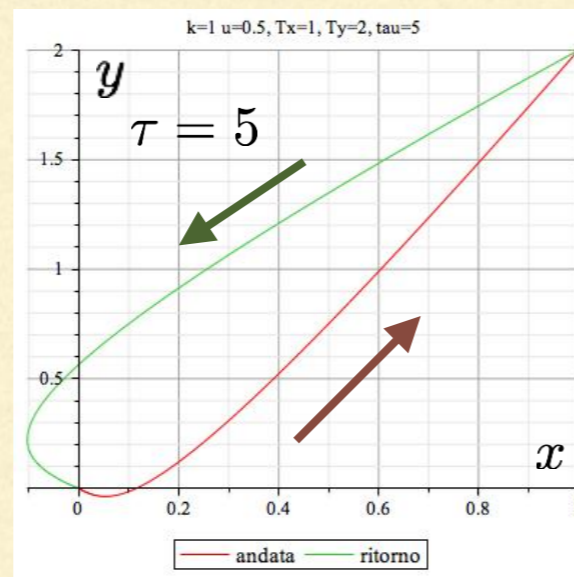
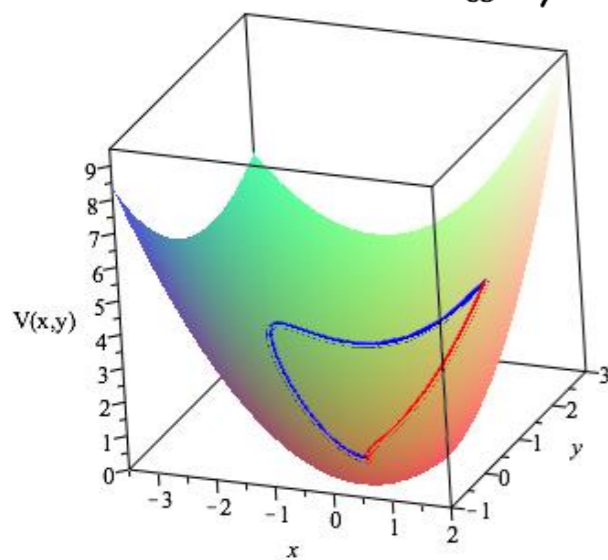


Average bridge  $(0, 0) \rightarrow (1, 2)$  in a time  $\tau$



same average path in direct and reverse bridge  
 $(0, 0) \xrightarrow{\tau} (1, 2)$  vs  $(1, 2) \xrightarrow{\tau} (0, 0)$

NESS  $T_x \neq T_y$



No detailed balance  
 different average path in  
 direct and reverse bridge

# ASYMMETRIC BRIDGE FOR SINGLE COMPONENT

$$B(x, y, t | x_1, y_1 \xrightarrow{\tau} x_2, y_2)$$

Full bridge distribution

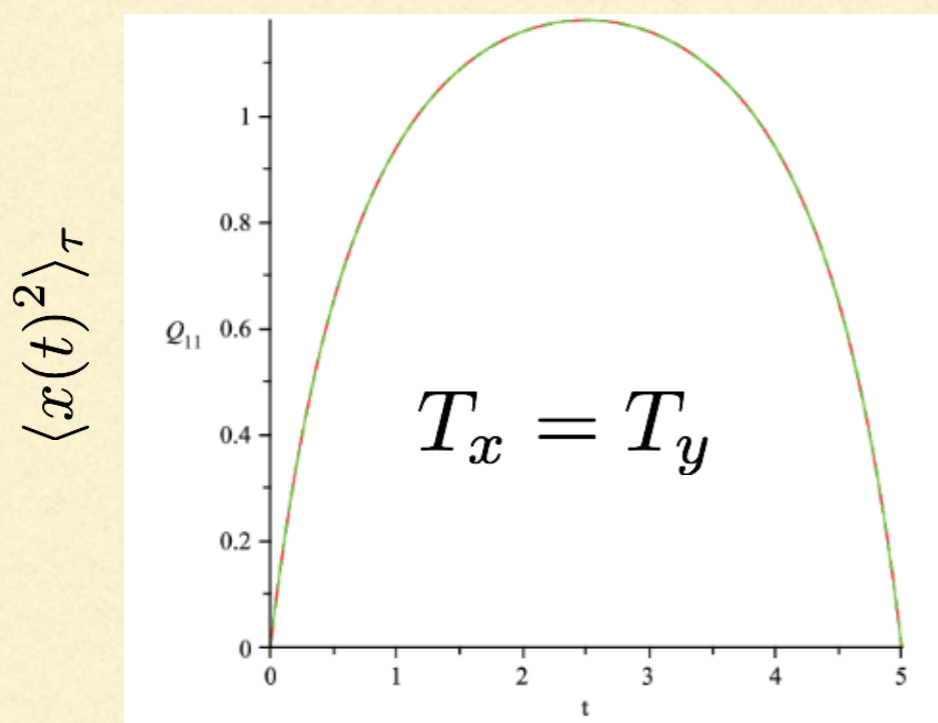
Bridge in x,y plane

$$(0, 0) \xrightarrow{\tau} (0, 0)$$

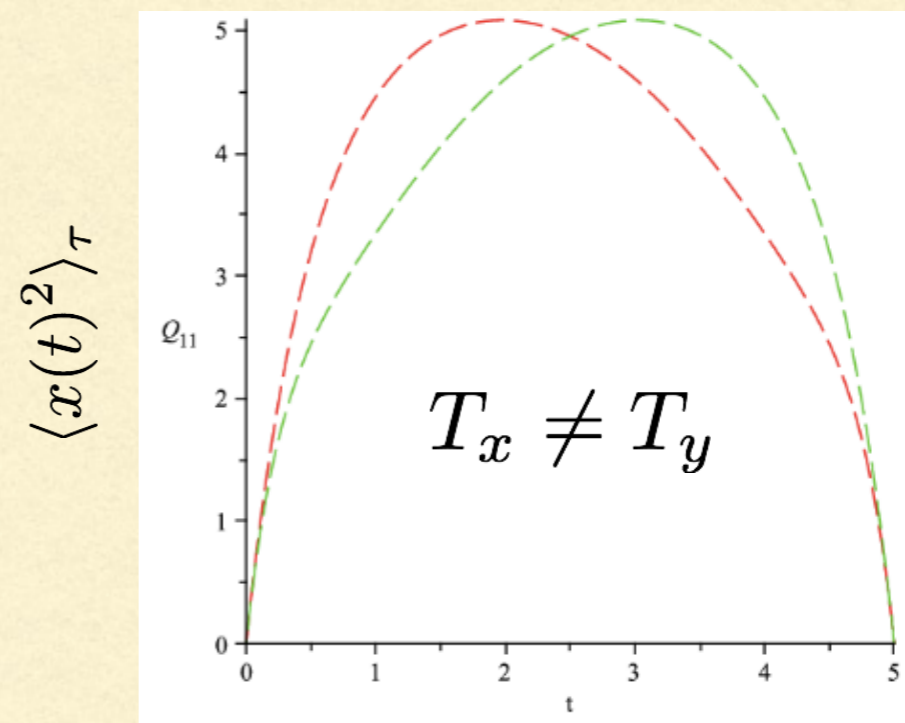
single component  
average shape

$$\langle x^2(t) \rangle_T = \int dy \int dx x^2 B(x, y, t | x_1, y_1 \xrightarrow{\tau} x_2, y_2)$$

(first moment null)



symmetric average shape



asymmetric average shape



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# NON MARKOV PROCESS: INCOMPLETE KNOWLEDGE

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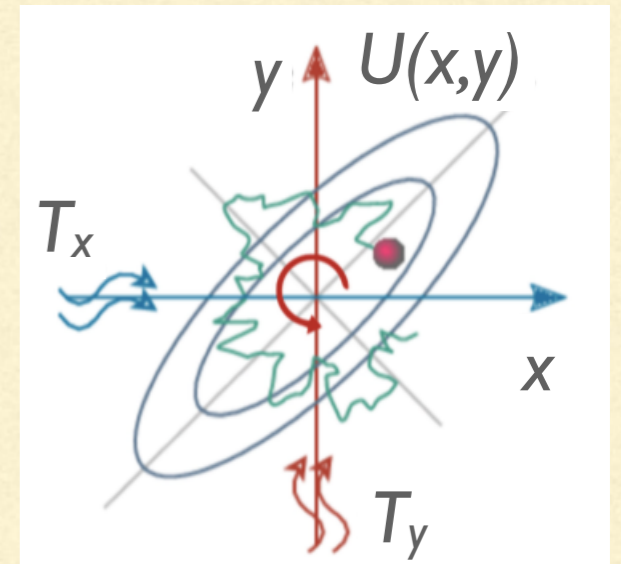
# INCOMPLETE KNOWLEDGE

## Brownian gyrator

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -kx - \alpha y + \sqrt{T_x} \xi_1(t)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = -ky - \alpha x + \sqrt{T_y} \xi_2(t)$$

$(x, y)$  is Markov



What if we don't have any access to  $y(t)$ ?

**Look at  $x(t)$  only:**

**“effective propagator”?**

*how to average over hidden variables?*

$$P_s(x_1 \xrightarrow{t} x) = \int_{\text{stationary initial condition}} dy_1 P_s(x_1, y_1) \int_{\text{marginal final condition}} dy P(x_1, y_1 \xrightarrow{t} x, y)$$

$(x)$  is not Markov

*Hidden variable  $y$  contribute to memory of  $x(t)$*

$$P_s(x_0, t_0; x_1, t_1; \dots x_n, t_n) \neq P_s(x_0) P_s(x_0, \xrightarrow{t_1-t_0} x_1) \dots P_s(x_{n-1} \xrightarrow{t_n-t_{n-1}} x_n)$$

---

# SHAPE WITH INCOMPLETE KNOWLEDGE

## bridge distribution

no more:  $B_s(x, t | x_1 \xrightarrow{\tau} x_2) \neq \frac{P_s(x_1 \xrightarrow{t} x) P_s(x \xrightarrow{\tau-t} x_2)}{P_s(x_1 \xrightarrow{\tau} x_2)}$

but

$$B_s(x, t | x_1 \xrightarrow{\tau} x_2) = \frac{\int dy_1 dy_2 dy P_s(x_1, y_1) P(x, y \xrightarrow{t} x, y) P(x, y \xrightarrow{\tau-t} x_2, y_2)}{\int dy_1 dy_2 P_s(x_1, y_1) P(x_1, y_1 \xrightarrow{\tau} x_2, y_2)}$$

complicated expression. However, still:

detailed balance of complete system

$$P_s(x_1, y_1) P(x_1, y_1 \xrightarrow{t} x_2, y_2) = P_s(x_2, y_2) P(x_2, y_2 \xrightarrow{t} x_1, y_1)$$

implies



symmetry of the single component average shape

$$B_s(x, t | x_1 \xrightarrow{\tau} x_2) = B_s(x, \tau - t | x_2 \xrightarrow{\tau} x_1)$$

$$\langle x(t)^2 \rangle_{\tau} = \langle x(\tau - t)^2 \rangle_{\tau}$$

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# HOPES...

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- detailed balance implies symmetric shape
  - broken d.b. **does not imply** asymmetric shape, however:
  - B.G. complete system does show asymmetric shape when d.b. is broken
  - single component shape is obtained with an asymmetric average procedure over the hidden variables (stationary initial condition, marginal final condition)
  - *how can an asymmetric complicated average procedure restore symmetry of the single component average shape?*
-

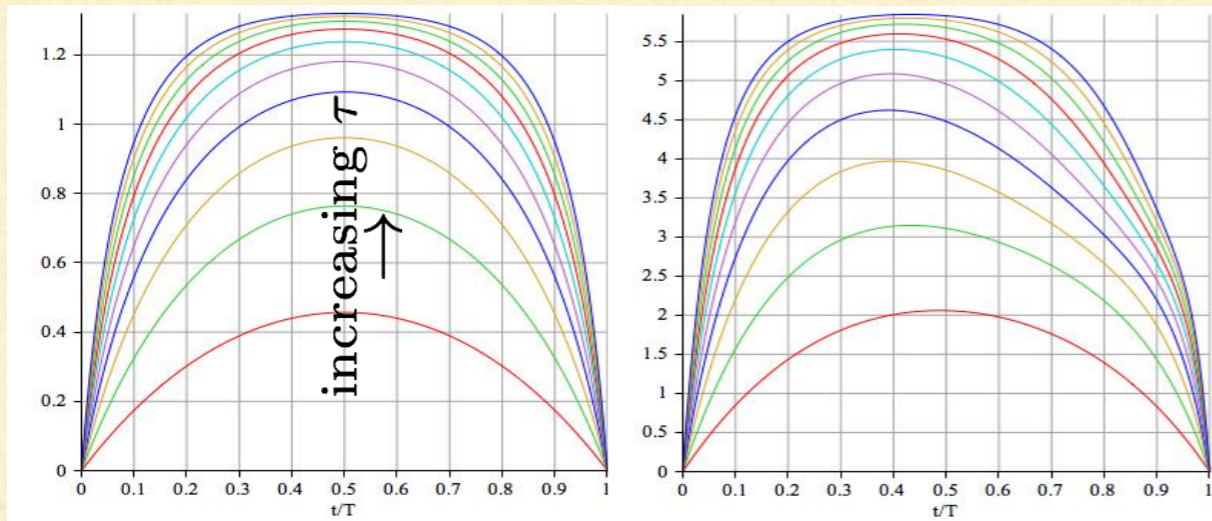
# PITFALL FOR LINEAR SYSTEMS

## Complete knowledge

$$(0, 0) \xrightarrow{\tau} (0, 0)$$

$$T_x = T_y$$

$$T_x \neq T_y$$



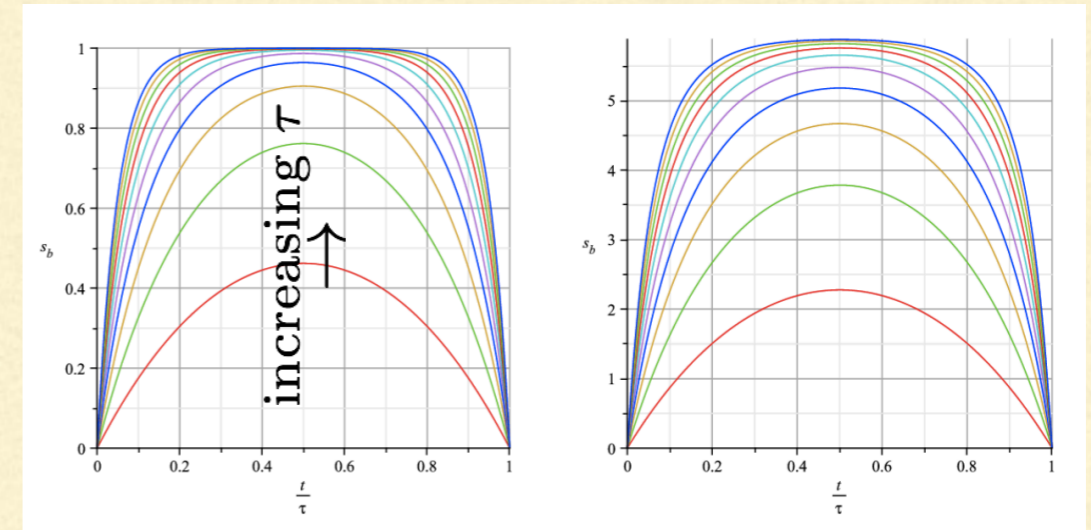
asymmetry signals non equilibrium dynamics

## Incomplete knowledge

$$0 \xrightarrow{\tau} 0$$

$$T_x = T_y$$

$$T_x \neq T_y$$



shape always symmetric!  
we can not understand if the system is in equilibrium or not

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# CONCLUSION AND OUTLOOKS

The shape of a fluctuation (avalanche or bridge) may contains interesting information, not yet exploited:

- Avalanche shape is more suitable for universality features (scaling exponents)
- Bridge shape may be statistically more significant and analytically approachable
- Can bridge statistics reveal correlation btw avalanches? (e.g. Omori's law?)

Beyond universality, one may hope to extract from fluctuation (avalanche or bridge) shapes some “stochastic thermodynamic” information on out-of-equilibrium systems:

- Linear systems can be easy to solve, but trivial or misleading
- Since broken d.b. allows for asymmetric shapes, can we relate some asymmetric measure to entropy production rate of the (full) system?

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[3] D. Lucente, A. Baldassarri, A. Puglisi, A. Vulpiani, M. Viale, arXiv:2205.08961 (2022).

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