# Nonequilibrium thermodynamics at the microscale 

C. Jarzynski T-13 Complex Systems, LANL

- The entropy of a closed system never decreases.
- Clausius inequality
- Carnot limit on the efficiency of heat engines

The entropy of a closed system never decreases.

potential energy of weight
$\longmapsto$ thermal energy of fluid


Scale down to the microscopic level ...

potential energy of weight
$\Longleftrightarrow$ thermal energy of fluid

Quantify the fluctuations!


Distribution of entropy generated


Distribution of entropy generated


Distribution of entropy generated


- very general
- valid far from equilibrium
- reduces to linear response near equilibrium

Evans \& Searles, PRE 1994 Gallavotti \& Cohen PRL 1995 Kurchan, 1998
Lebowitz \& Spohn, J Stat Phys 1999

+ many others

Sheared fluid
shear rate


Evans, Cohen, Morriss, Phys Rev Lett (1993)

Optically dragged beads


## Demonstration of (integrated) Fluctuation Theorem

$$
\frac{\rho_{\tau}(+S)}{\rho_{\tau}(-S)}=\exp \left(S / k_{B}\right) \quad \Longleftrightarrow \frac{P\left(S_{\tau}<0\right)}{P\left(S_{\tau}>0\right)}=\left\langle\exp \left(-S_{\tau} / k_{B}\right)\right\rangle_{S_{\tau}>0}
$$



Ideally: divide the trajectory into many segments of duration $\tau$, compute $S$ for each segment, \& construct histogram ...

## not enough data!



Wang et al, Phys Rev Lett (2002)

More recently ...


Drive the system away from equilibrium with a time-symmetric pulse (squeeze, then relax) ... measure the work performed on the bead

Blickle et al, Phys Rev Lett (2006)

Parameter-dependent potential:

$$
V(z ; I)=A \cdot \exp (-\kappa z)+(B+C I) \cdot z
$$

displacement of bead from wall


Illustration of Clausius inequality: stretched rubber band



Irreversible process:


1. Begin in equilibrium
$\lambda=\mathrm{A}$
2. Stretch the molecule

W = work performed
3. End in equilibrium
$\lambda=B$
4. Repeat

After infinitely many repetitions ...


Nonequilibrium work theorem


- valid far from equilibrium
- fluctuations in W satisfy strong constraint
- nonequilibrium measurements reveal equilibrium properties
C.J., Phys Rev Lett (1997)

Crooks, J Stat Phys (1998)
Hummer \& Szabo, PNAS (2001)
\& others

## Derivation

(isolated system)

microstate Hamiltonian $H(x ; \lambda) \quad$ internal energy

In equilibrium ...

$$
\begin{aligned}
p^{e q}(x ; \lambda) & =\frac{1}{Z_{\lambda}} e^{-\beta H(x ; \lambda)} & & \text { Boltzmann-Gibbs distribution } \\
Z_{\lambda} & =\int d x e^{-\beta H(x ; \lambda)} & & \text { partition function } \\
F_{\lambda} & =-\beta^{-1} \ln Z_{\lambda} & & \text { free energy }
\end{aligned}
$$

Derivation
(isolated system)


One realization ...

$$
0 \leq t \leq \tau\left\{\begin{array}{lll}
\text { protocol } & \lambda_{t} & \text { how we act on the system } \\
\text { trajectory } & x_{t} & \text { how the system responds } \\
\text { work } & W=H\left(x_{\tau} ; B\right)-H\left(x_{0} ; A\right)
\end{array}\right.
$$

... now take average of $e^{-\beta W}$ over many realizations

$$
\begin{align*}
\left\langle e^{-\beta W}\right\rangle= & \text { trajectory } \\
& W\left(x_{0}\right)=H\left(x_{\tau}\left(x_{0}\right) ; B\right)-H\left(x_{0} ; A\right) \\
Z_{A} & e^{-\beta H\left(x_{0} ; A\right)} e^{-\beta W\left(x_{0}\right)} \\
= & \frac{1}{Z_{A}} \int d x_{0} e^{-\beta H\left(x_{\tau}\left(x_{0}\right) ; B\right)} \\
= & \frac{1}{Z_{A}} \int d x_{\tau}\left|\frac{\partial x_{\tau}}{\partial x_{0}}\right|^{-1} e^{-\beta H\left(x_{\tau} ; B\right)} \\
= & \frac{Z_{B}}{Z_{A}}=e^{-\beta \Delta F} \quad \text { Liouville's }
\end{align*}
$$

## Various derivations

- C.J. PRL \& PRE 1997, J.Stat.Mech. 2004
- G.E. Crooks J.Stat.Phys. 1998, PRE 1999, 2000
- G. Hummer \& A. Szabo PNAS 2001
- S.X. Sun J.Chem.Phys. 2003
- D. J. Evans Mol.Phys. 2003
- S. Mukamel PRL 2003 ... \& others

> Hamiltonian evolution, Markov processes, Langevin dynamics, deterministic thermostats, quantum dynamics ... robust
see also S. Park \& K. Schulten, J. Chem. Phys. 2004
R.C. Lua \& A.Y. Grosberg, J. Phys. Chem. B 2005
related result:
G.N. Bochkov \& Y.E. Kuzovlev JETP 1977

Experimental verification: unfolding a single RNA molecule


Liphardt et al, Science (2002)
unfolding / refolding cycles


Results: equilibrium $\Delta \mathrm{F}$ from nonequilibrium work values

- three pulling rates: $2-5 \mathrm{pN} / \mathrm{s}, 34 \mathrm{pN} / \mathrm{s}, 52 \mathrm{pN} / \mathrm{s}$
- ~ 300 cycles at each rate
- slow cycles (reversible) used to determine $\Delta F$


Relation to Second Law

$$
\left\langle e^{-\beta W}\right\rangle=e^{-\beta \Delta F} \longmapsto\langle W\rangle \geq \Delta F
$$



What is the probability that the 2nd law will be "violated" by at least $\zeta$ units of energy?

$$
\begin{aligned}
P[W<\Delta F-\zeta] & =\int_{-\infty}^{\Delta F-\xi} d W \rho(W) \\
& \leq \int_{-\infty}^{\Delta F-\xi} d W \rho(W) e^{\beta(\Delta F-\zeta-W)} \\
& \leq e^{\beta(\Delta F-\xi)} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} d W \rho(W) e^{-\beta W}=\exp (-\zeta / k T)
\end{aligned}
$$

## Crooks fluctuation theorem



Forward process ... $\lambda$ : A -> B (unfolding)
Reverse process ... $\lambda$ : B -> A (folding)


$$
\frac{\rho_{A \rightarrow B}(+W)}{\rho_{B \rightarrow A}(-W)}=\exp [\beta(W-\Delta F)]
$$

Crooks, Phys Rev E (1999)

Experimental verification: Collin et al, Nature (2005)

## 3-helix junction of ribosomal RNA of $E$. coli


wild type

Mutant

mutant

Collin et al, Nature 2005

$$
W_{\text {diss }} \approx 50 k_{B} T
$$

$$
\frac{\rho_{A \rightarrow B}(+W)}{\rho_{B \rightarrow A}(-W)}=\exp [\beta(W-\Delta F)] \quad \square \ln \frac{\rho_{A \rightarrow B}(+W)}{\rho_{B \rightarrow A}(-W)}=\beta(W-\Delta F)
$$



## Macroscopic machines

## steam engine

## Carnot cycle


textbook thermodynamics

## Molecular machines



What are the underlying thermodynamics?
How is chemical energy converted to mechanical motion?


A similar argument can be made far from equilibrium.

Minimal molecular motors


Van den Broeck, Meurs, Kawai Phys Rev Lett (2004)
"Triangulita"


Directed motion?


YES!

## Summary

New \& interesting thermodynamics at the microscale

- Fluctuation theorem

$$
\frac{\rho_{\tau}(+S)}{\rho_{\tau}(-S)}=\exp \left(S / k_{B}\right)
$$

symmetry between entropy generation \& consumption

- Nonequilibrium work theorem $\left\langle e^{-\beta W}\right\rangle=e^{-\beta \Delta F}$
equilibrium thermodynamic information encoded in fluctuations far from equilibrium
- Molecular motors "generic"

