

Microscopic theory for negative differential mobility in crowded environments

Alessandro Sarracino

in collaboration with

O. Bénichou, P. Illien, G. Oshanin, R. Voituriez

[Phys. Rev. Lett. 113, 268002 \(2014\)](#)



Outline of the talk

- ▶ Introduction on negative differential mobility (NDM)
- ▶ The model: **driven tracer** in a **lattice gas** (ASEP in a sea of SEPs)
 - 📌 Physical argument for NDM at low density
- ▶ General expression for the **force-velocity relation**
 - 📌 Analytical solution and the decoupling approximation
 - 📌 Criterion for NDM in the parameter space
- ▶ **Transition rates** out of equilibrium
 - 📌 NDM and fluctuation-dissipation relations
- ▶ Conclusions and perspectives

Passive and active microrheology

Rheological properties in soft matter from the microscopic motion of **colloidal tracers**

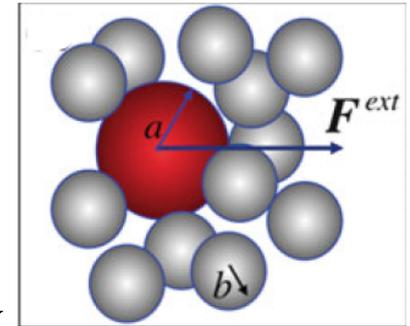
Puertas & Voigtmann (2014), Squires & Mason (2010)

➔ **Passive:** probes **freely diffusing** in the host medium due to **thermal fluctuations**

$$\text{Stokes-Einstein relation } D = \frac{k_B T}{6\pi\eta a}$$

➔ Extension to the case where the **probe size** is comparable to the interaction **length scales** relevant for the host

➔ **Active:** **tracer particle** (TP) driven by an **external force F** (pulling with a constant force, or dragging at constant velocity)



Linear response connects active and passive microrheology

➔ Extensions to the **non-linear response** regime $F \gg \frac{k_B T}{a} \approx \text{pN}$

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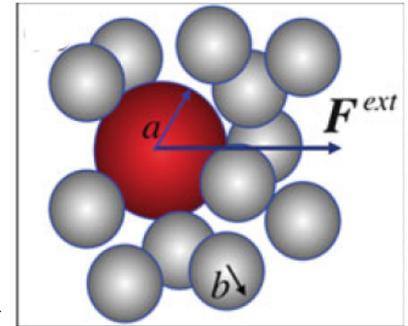
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Applications: complex fluids, gels, glasses, **living cells**, granular systems,...

Experimental techniques: optical and magnetic tweezers, Janus particles, etc...

Negative differential mobility

Tracer particle (TP) driven by an external force F in a host medium

The differential mobility $\mu(F) = \left. \frac{\delta V}{\delta F} \right|_F$ measures how the

velocity increases with changing $F \rightarrow F + dF$

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Negative differential mobility

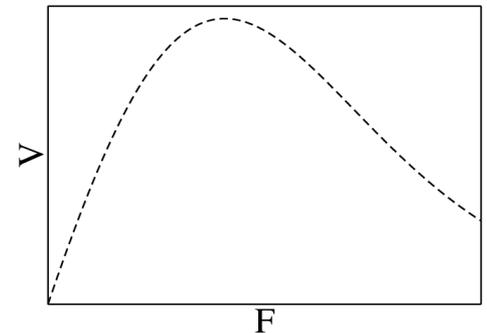
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Nonlinear response regime: increasing the applied force can **reduce** the probe's drift velocity in the force direction $\mu(F) \leq 0$



“Getting more from pushing less”

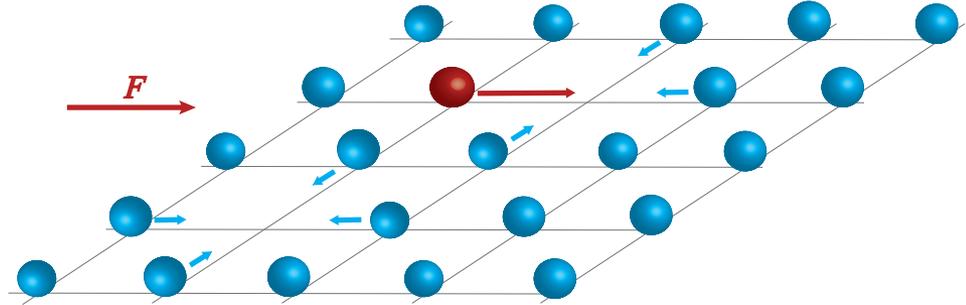
(Zia et al. Am. J. Phys. 2002)

Driven tracer in a hard-core lattice gas

General **many-particle** interacting system, **analytically** tractable

($N-1$) hard-core particles,
symmetric exclusion process,
average waiting time \mathcal{T}^*

Tracer driven by a force F
asymmetric exclusion process,
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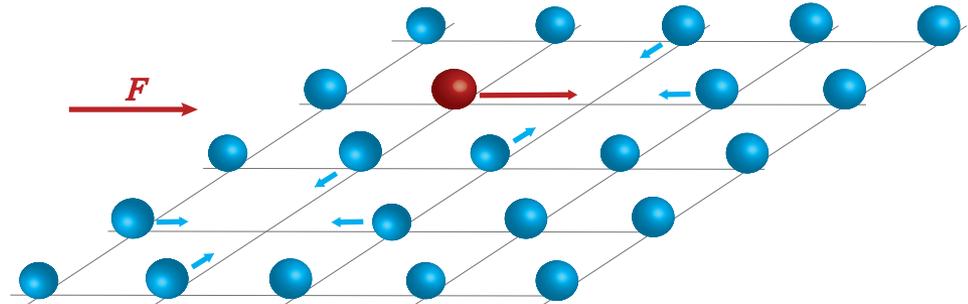
Particle density $\rho = \frac{N}{V}$

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Tracer jump probabilities
$$p_\nu = \frac{e^{(\beta/2)\mathbf{F}\cdot\mathbf{e}_\nu}}{\sum_\mu e^{(\beta/2)\mathbf{F}\cdot\mathbf{e}_\mu}} \quad \nu = \pm 1, \dots, \pm d \quad \mathbf{F} = F\mathbf{e}_1$$

Local detailed balance
$$\frac{p_1}{p_{-1}} = e^{\beta F}$$

→ LDB **does not** determine univocally the transition rates

Force-velocity relation in a hard-core lattice gas

Study of the **force-velocity relation** $V(F)$ and NDM phenomenon

Previous results in specific cases:

Fixed obstacles (Lorentz gas)

$$\tau^* / \tau = \infty$$

analytic results at **low density**

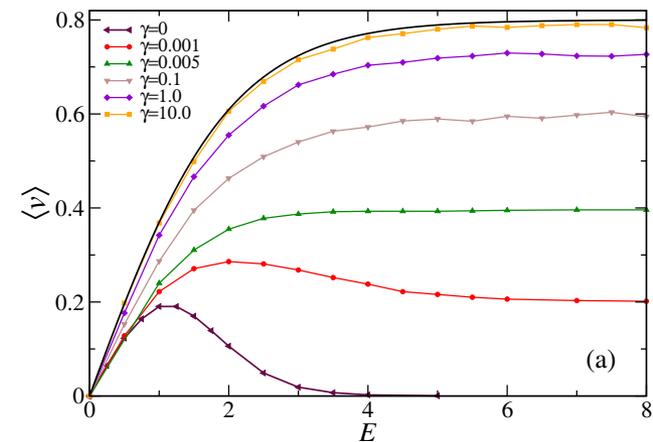
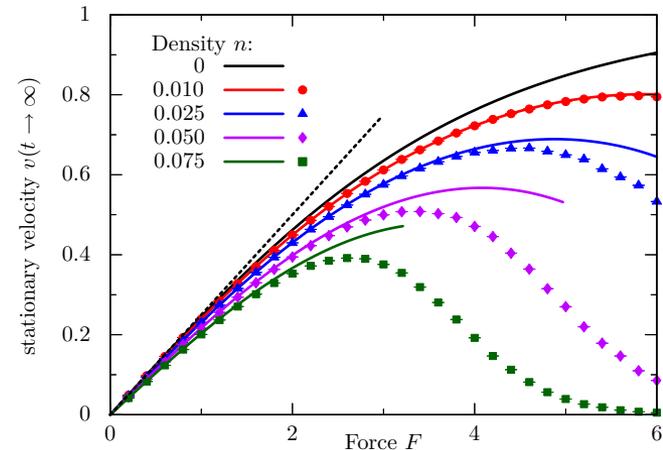
Leitmann & Franosch PRL 2013

Mobile obstacles

$$\tau^* / \tau < \infty, \rho = 0.2$$

numerical analysis

Basu & Maes J. Phys. A 2014



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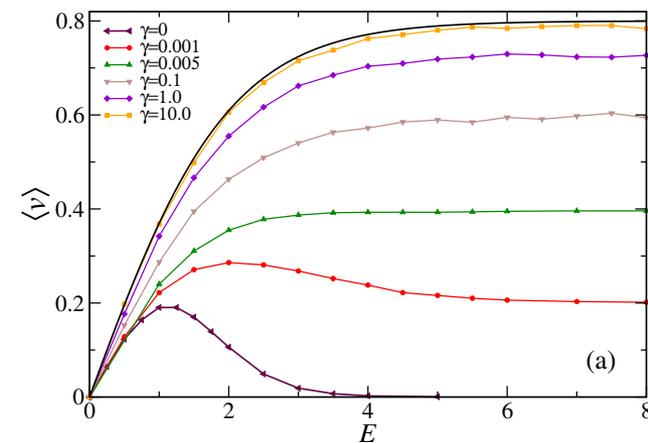
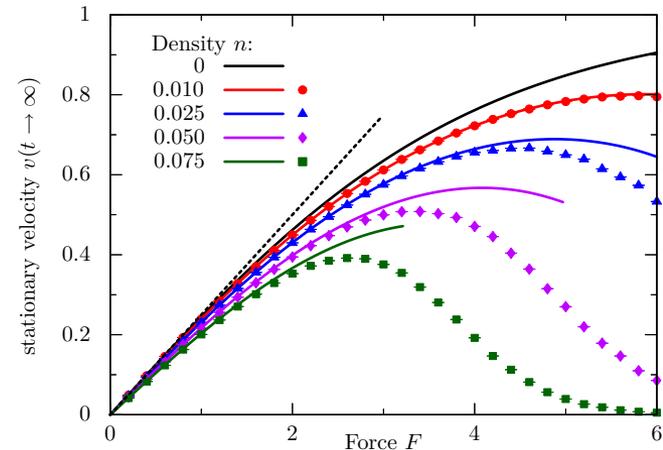
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General description in all regimes?



Role of **density** and **time scales** ratio? Physical mechanism?

Argument for NDM at low density

Bénichou et al. PRL 2014

Strong external force $\epsilon = 2e^{-\beta F/2} \ll 1$

$$p_1 = 1 - \epsilon \quad p_{-1} = O(\epsilon^2) \quad p_{\mu \neq \pm 1} = \frac{\epsilon}{2d - 2}$$

**Force-velocity
relation:**

$$V(F) = \frac{\text{mean distance}}{\text{mean time of free flight} + \text{mean trapping time}}$$

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Mean distance between two obstacles $1/\rho$

Mean duration of **free flight** $\tau/[\rho(1 - \epsilon)]$

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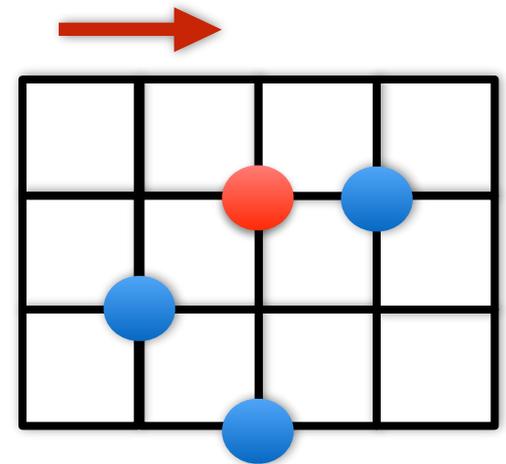
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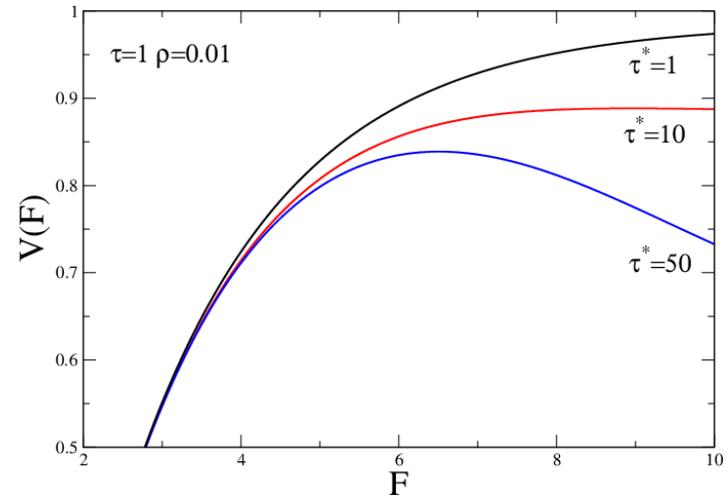
$$1/\tau_{\text{trap}} = \underbrace{3/(4\tau^*)}_{\text{obstacle steps away}} + \underbrace{\epsilon/\tau}_{\text{tracer steps in a transverse direction}}$$



Argument for NDM at low density

$$V(F) = \frac{1 - \epsilon}{\tau + 4\rho(1 - \epsilon) \frac{\tau^*}{3 + 4\epsilon\tau^*/\tau}}$$

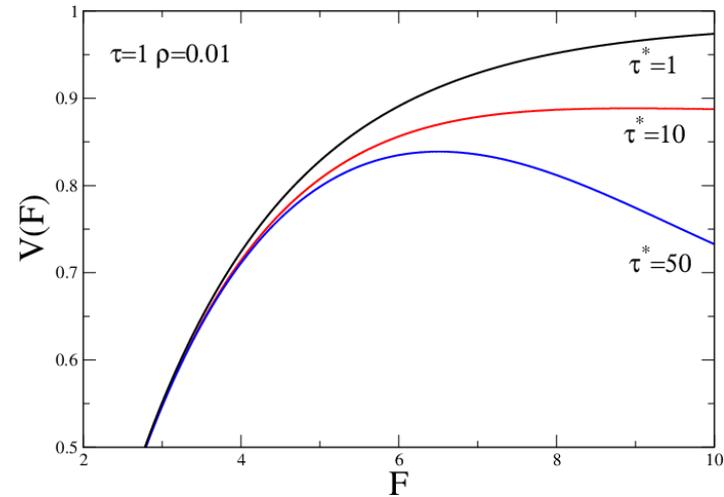
Criterion for NDM $\tau^* \gtrsim \tau / \sqrt{\rho}$



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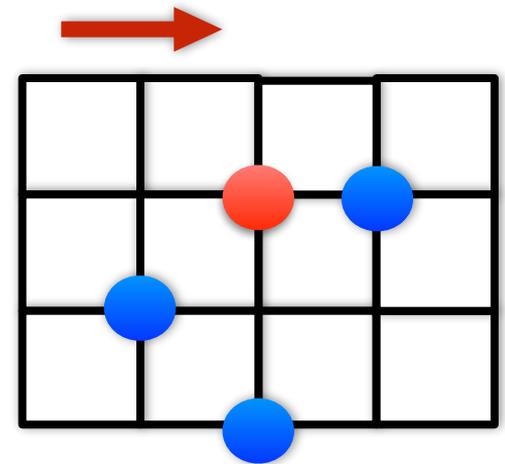
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Physical mechanism: a large force

→ **reduces** the flight time between two consecutive encounters with bath particles;

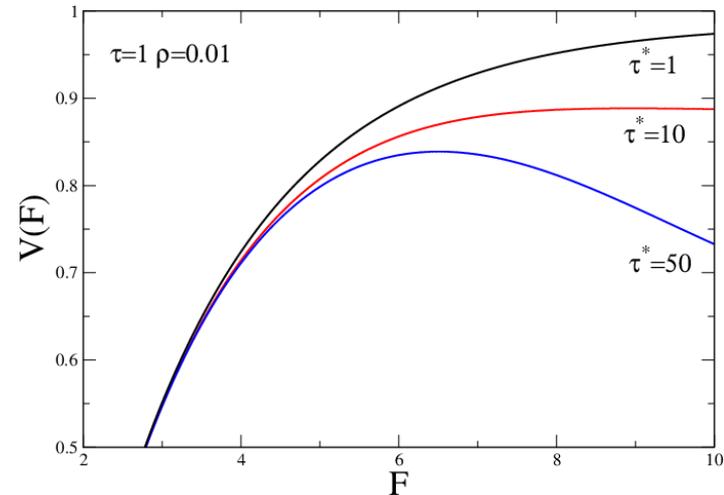
→ **increases** the escape time from **traps** created by surrounding obstacles



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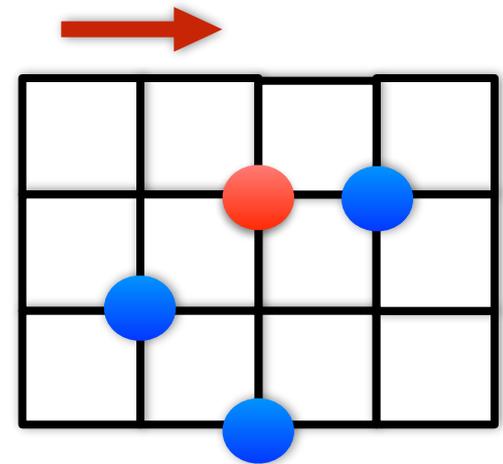
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Physical mechanism: a large force

→ reduces the flight time between two consecutive encounters with bath particles;

→ increases the escape time from traps created by surrounding obstacles



For τ^* large enough (“slow” obstacles), traps are sufficiently long lived to slow down the TP when F is increased → NDM

Master equation of the driven lattice gas

Master Equation for $P(\mathbf{R}_{TP}, \eta; t)$

\mathbf{R}_{TP} tracer position

η obstacle configuration

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t P(\mathbf{R}_{TP}, \eta; t) &= \frac{1}{2d\tau^*} \sum_{\mu=1}^d \sum_{\mathbf{r} \neq \mathbf{R}_{TP} - \mathbf{e}_\mu, \mathbf{R}_{TP}} [P(\mathbf{R}_{TP}, \eta^{\mathbf{r}, \mu}; t) - P(\mathbf{R}_{TP}, \eta; t)] \\ &+ \frac{1}{\tau} \sum_{\mu=1}^d p_\mu \{ [1 - \eta(\mathbf{R}_{TP})] P(\mathbf{R}_{TP} - \mathbf{e}_\mu, \eta; t) \\ &- [1 - \eta(\mathbf{R}_{TP} + \mathbf{e}_\mu)] P(\mathbf{R}_{TP}, \eta; t) \} \end{aligned}$$

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$$A_\nu \equiv 1 + \frac{2d\tau^*}{\tau} p_\nu (1 - k(\mathbf{e}_\nu))$$

Decoupling approximation and analytic solution

Density profile
around the tracer

$$k(\lambda; t) = \sum_{\mathbf{R}_{TP}, \eta} \eta(\mathbf{R}_{TP} + \lambda) P(\mathbf{R}_{TP}, \eta; t)$$

↑ occupation variable

Equation of motion for the density profile

$$2d\tau^* \partial_t k(\lambda; t) = \sum_{\mu} (\nabla_{\mu} - \delta_{\lambda, \mathbf{e}_{\mu}} \nabla_{-\mu}) k(\lambda; t) + \frac{2d\tau^*}{\tau} \sum_{\nu} p_{\nu} \langle [1 - \eta(\mathbf{R}_{TP} + \mathbf{e}_{\nu})] \nabla_{\nu} \eta(\mathbf{R}_{TP} + \lambda) \rangle$$

higher order correlations are involved

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$$\langle \eta(\mathbf{R}_{TP} + \boldsymbol{\lambda}) \eta(\mathbf{R}_{TP} + \mathbf{e}_{\nu}) \rangle \approx \langle \eta(\mathbf{R}_{TP} + \boldsymbol{\lambda}) \rangle \langle \eta(\mathbf{R}_{TP} + \mathbf{e}_{\nu}) \rangle$$

for $\boldsymbol{\lambda} \neq \mathbf{e}_{\nu}$

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Tracer velocity $V(F) \equiv \frac{d\langle \mathbf{R}_{TP} \cdot \mathbf{e}_1 \rangle}{dt} = \frac{1}{2d\tau^*} (A_1 - A_{-1})$

The decoupling approximation allows us to obtain a **closed nonlinear system** of equations

$$A_\nu = 1 + \frac{2d\tau^*}{\tau} p_\nu \left[1 - \rho - \rho(A_1 - A_{-1}) \frac{\det C_\nu}{\det C} \right]$$

$$C \equiv (A_\mu \nabla_{-\mu} \mathcal{F}_{\mathbf{e}_\nu} - \alpha \delta_{\mu,\nu})_{\mu,\nu} \quad \alpha = \sum_{\mu} A_\mu$$

$$C_\nu = C \rightarrow ((\nabla_1 - \nabla_{-1}) \mathcal{F}_{\mathbf{e}_\nu})_\nu$$

$$\mathcal{F}_{\mathbf{n}} = \left(\frac{A_{-1}}{A_1} \right)^{n_1/2} \int_0^\infty e^{-t} I_{n_1} (2\alpha^{-1} \sqrt{A_1 A_{-1}} t) \prod_{i=2}^d I_{n_i} (2\alpha^{-1} A_2 t) dt$$

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➔ Solution for $V(F)$ for arbitrary values of the parameters

Linearized solution at low density

Low density limit $\rho \rightarrow 0$ Auxiliary variable $k(\mathbf{e}_\nu) = \rho(1 + v_{\mathbf{e}_\nu})$

$$V = \frac{1}{\tau}(p_1 - p_{-1}) - \frac{\rho}{\tau}(p_1 - p_{-1} + p_1 v_1 - p_{-1} v_{-1})$$

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For $\tau^* = \infty$ we recover the solution
of the **Lorentz lattice gas**

Leitmann & Franosch PRL 2013

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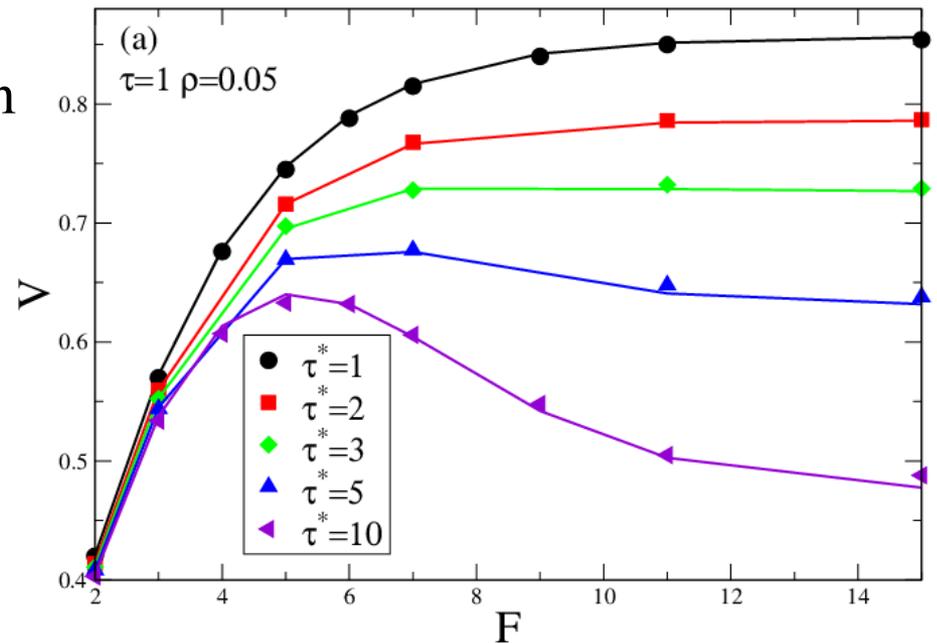
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Leitmann & Franosch PRL 2013

Exact at low density,
for arbitrary τ^*



Linearized solution at low density

Explicit **criterion** for NDM in the parameter space

Linearized solution at low density

Explicit **crit**erion for NDM in the parameter space

Strong force $p_1 = 1 - \epsilon$ $p_{-1} = O(\epsilon^2)$ $p_{\mu \neq \pm 1} = \frac{\epsilon}{2d - 2}$

$$V \left(\frac{\tau^*}{\tau} \right) = V^{(0)} \left(\frac{\tau^*}{\tau} \right) + \epsilon V^{(1)} \left(\frac{\tau^*}{\tau} \right)$$

The sign of $V^{(1)} \left(\frac{\tau^*}{\tau} \right)$ determines the **region of NDM**

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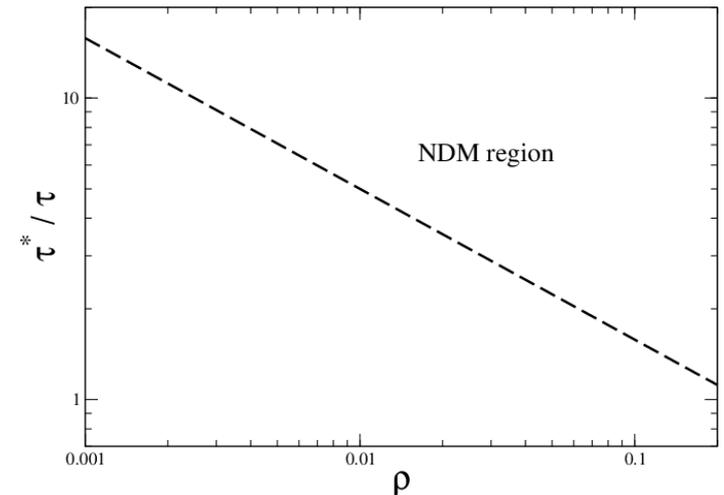
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Exact asymptotic result

$$\rho \frac{\tau^*}{\tau} \rightarrow \infty \sim \frac{1}{4 \left(\frac{\tau^*}{\tau} \right)^2}$$



Explicit solution at high density

High density limit $\rho \rightarrow 1$ $A_\nu = 1 + \frac{4\tau^*}{\tau} p_\nu [1 - \rho(2 + k_\nu)]$

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$$V(\rho \rightarrow 1) = \frac{1}{\tau} (p_1 - p_{-1})(1 - \rho) \frac{1}{1 + \frac{4\tau^*}{\tau} \frac{(p_1 + p_{-1})(4 - 8/\pi)}{8/\pi}}$$

Exact result $V(F) = \frac{1}{\tau} (1 - \rho) \frac{\sinh(\beta F/2)}{1 + \cosh(\beta F/2) [1 + \frac{2\tau^*}{\tau} (\pi - 2)]}$

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Bénichou & Oshanin PRE (2002)

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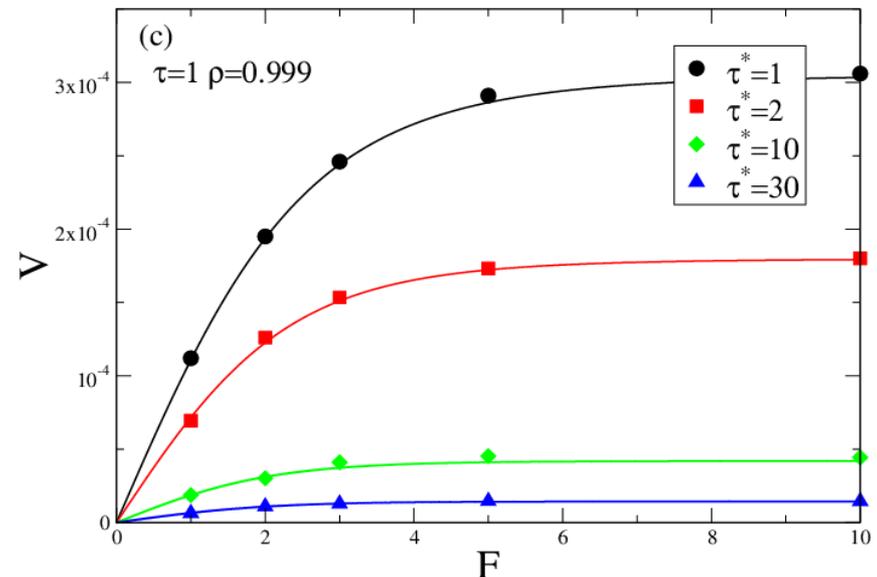
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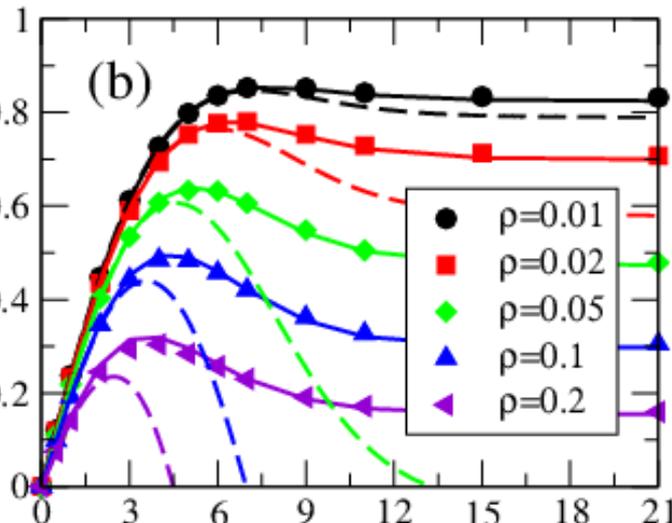
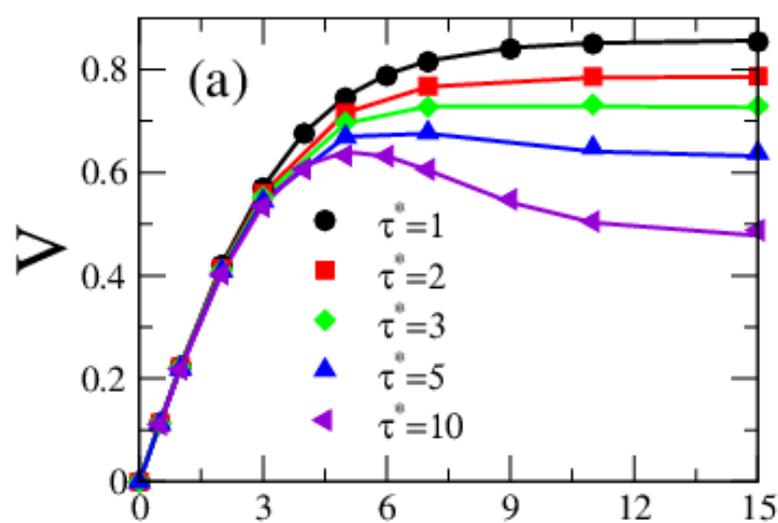
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Comparison with Monte Carlo numerical simulations

$d = 2, \tau = 1$

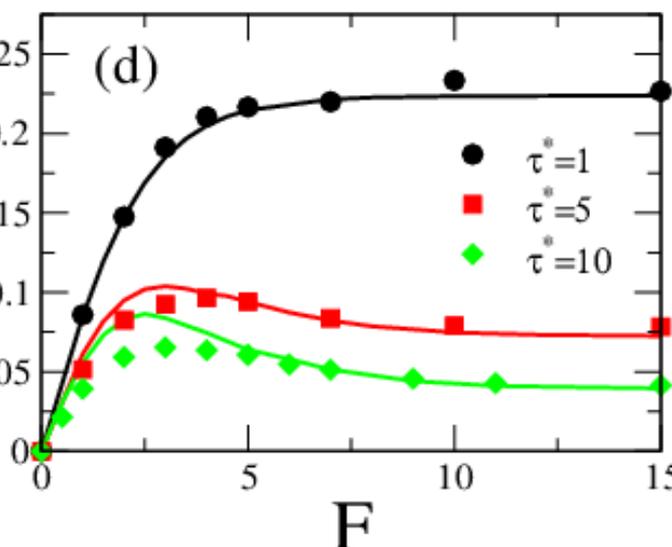
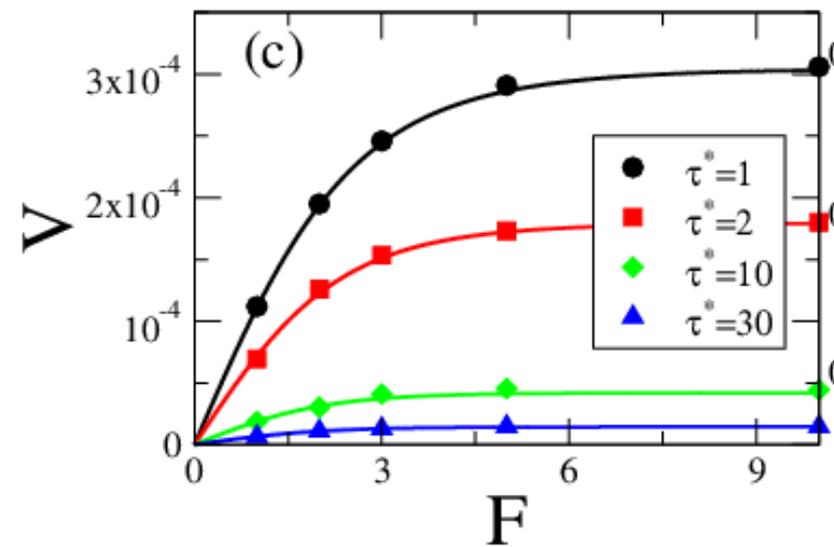


(a) $\rho = 0.05$

(b) $\tau^* = 10$

(c) $\rho = 0.999$

(d) $\rho = 0.5$



Very good agreement in a wide range of parameters

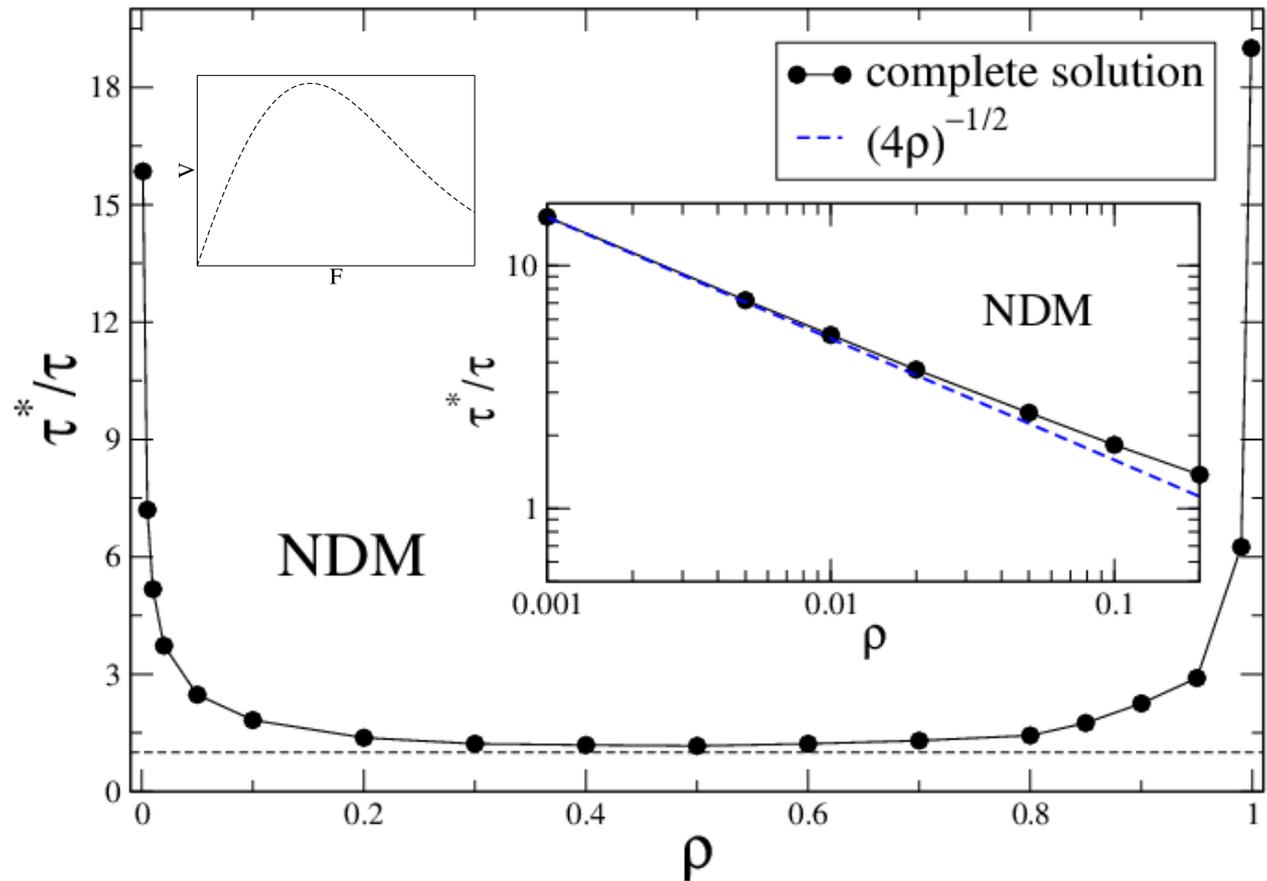
Criterion for negative differential mobility

➔ The analytical solution allows us to obtain a **complete description**

Phase chart in the parameter space:

time scales τ^* / τ

and density ρ



Physical mechanism: **coupling** between density and time scales ratio

Transition rates out of equilibrium

Decoupling approximation  General solution

Tracer velocity $V(F) \equiv \frac{d\langle \mathbf{R}_{TP} \cdot \mathbf{e}_1 \rangle}{dt} = \frac{1}{2d\tau^*} (A_1 - A_{-1})$

$$A_\nu = 1 + \frac{2d\tau^*}{\tau} p_\nu \left[1 - \rho - \rho(A_1 - A_{-1}) \frac{\det C_\nu}{\det C} \right]$$

Significant dependence on the choice of **transition probabilities**?

Transition rates out of equilibrium

General form of transition rates $k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \psi(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})e^{S(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})/2}\delta(K.C.)$

→ $\psi(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \psi(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x}) \geq 0$

Symmetric (kinetic) part

→ $S(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = -S(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x})$

Antisymmetric part

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Local detailed balance imposes a constraint on the antisymmetric part

$S(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \propto$ entropy flux → $S(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{e}_\nu) = \beta \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{e}_\nu$

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Arbitrary choice for the symmetric part

Leitmann & Franosch, $\psi(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{e}_\nu) = 1/\tau [e^{\beta F/2} + e^{-\beta F/2} + 2]$
Bénichou et al.

Basu & Maes $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \psi(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{e}_\nu) = 1/2\tau [e^{\beta F/2} + e^{-\beta F/2}] \text{ for } \nu = \pm 1 \\ \psi(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{e}_\nu) = 1/4\tau \text{ for } \nu = \pm 2 \end{array} \right.$

independent of F in the transverse direction

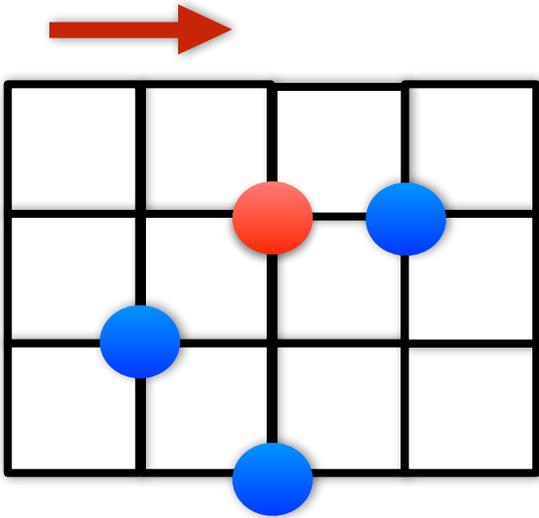
Role of the transition probabilities

$$p_\nu = \frac{e^{(\beta/2)\mathbf{F}\cdot\mathbf{e}_\nu}}{\sum_\mu e^{(\beta/2)\mathbf{F}\cdot\mathbf{e}_\mu}}$$

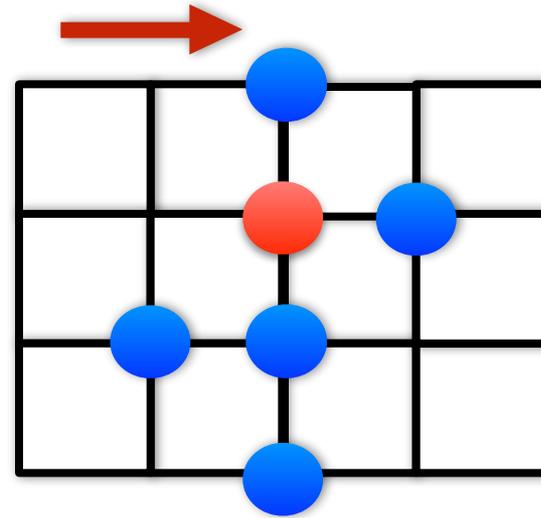
(Leitmann & Franoch, Bénichou et al.)

$$p_\uparrow = p_\downarrow = \frac{1}{4} \text{ independent of } \mathbf{F}$$

(Basu & Maes)



One obstacle can create a long lived trap



No trapping effect at linear order in the density

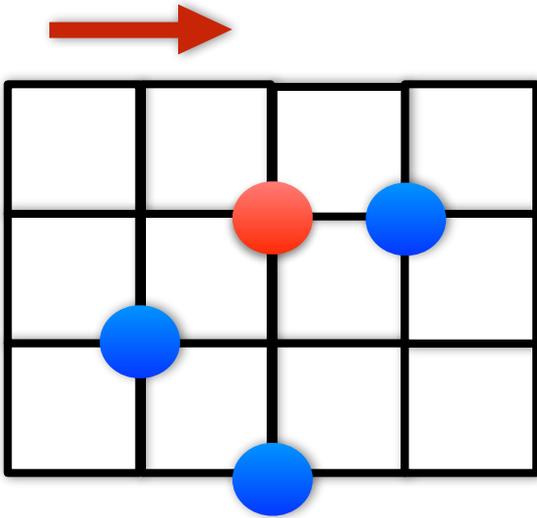
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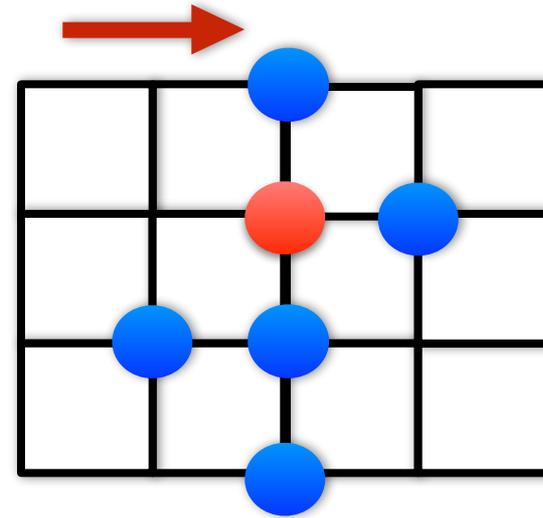
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Different choices \longrightarrow significant macroscopic differences

Problem: how to define microscopic transition rates out of equilibrium?

(e.g. molecular motors with external load)

Fluctuation-Dissipation Relation

Linear response around **nonequilibrium**

Trajectory $\omega \equiv \{\mathbf{x}_s\}_{s=0}^{s=t}$ characterized by **discrete jumps** at s_i

and by exponentially distributed **waiting times** $s_{i+1} - s_i$

Entropy flux $\Sigma(\omega) = \sum_i S(\mathbf{x}_{s_i}, \mathbf{x}_{s_{i+1}})$

Dynamical activity
(“frenesy”)

$$D(\omega) = \int_0^t ds \left(\sum_{\mathbf{y}} k(\mathbf{x}_s, \mathbf{y}) \right) - \sum_i \log \psi(\mathbf{x}_{s_i}, \mathbf{x}_{s_{i+1}})$$

Nonequilibrium
FDR


$$\frac{d\langle O \rangle_F}{dF} = \frac{1}{2} \left\langle O \frac{d\Sigma}{dF} \right\rangle_F - \left\langle O \frac{dD}{dF} \right\rangle_F$$

(Baiesi, Maes, Wynants PRL 2009)

Fluctuation-Dissipation Relation

In our case:

jumps on the **right** jumps on the **left**

$$\Sigma(\omega) = \beta F (N_{\rightarrow} - N_{\leftarrow})$$

$$D(\omega) = \int_0^t ds \left\{ p_1 [1 - \eta(\mathbf{x}_s + \mathbf{e}_1)] + p_{-1} [1 - \eta(\mathbf{x}_s + \mathbf{e}_{-1})] \right. \\ \left. + p_2 [1 - \eta(\mathbf{x}_s + \mathbf{e}_2)] + p_{-2} [1 - \eta(\mathbf{x}_s + \mathbf{e}_{-2})] \right\} \\ - N \log [1 / (e^{\beta F/2} + e^{-\beta F/2} + 2)]$$

total number of jumps

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Consider $O \equiv V$ in
$$\frac{d\langle O \rangle_F}{dF} = \frac{1}{2} \left\langle O \frac{d\Sigma}{dF} \right\rangle_F - \left\langle O \frac{dD}{dF} \right\rangle_F$$

Differential mobility, linear response around **nonequilibrium**

$$\begin{aligned} \longrightarrow \frac{d\langle V \rangle_F}{dF} &= \frac{\beta}{2} \langle V^2 \rangle_{F,c} - p'_1 \langle V \cdot (t - t_{\rightarrow}) \rangle_{F,c} - p'_{-1} \langle V \cdot (t - t_{\leftarrow}) \rangle_{F,c} \\ &- 2p'_2 \langle V \cdot (t - t_{\uparrow}) \rangle_{F,c} - h' \langle V \cdot N \rangle_{F,c} \end{aligned}$$

Conclusions

- **Microscopic theory** for NDM in a driven lattice gas model:
 - ☑ Decoupling approximation
 - ☑ **General expression** for the force-velocity relation
 - ☑ **Exact** at low and high density
 - ☑ Unification of recent results
- **Criterion** for NDM in the parameter space:
 - ☑ **Coupling** between density and diffusion time scales
- **Role** of transition rates out of equilibrium
 - ☑ Significant **macroscopic** effects

Perspectives

- » Analytical expression of **velocity fluctuations** and higher order moments
 - 📌 How to infer the applied force from a **velocity measurement**?
- » Nonequilibrium **fluctuation-dissipation relations**
 - 📌 Linear FDR **around nonequilibrium**
 - 📌 Analytical expressions for the terms responsible for NDM

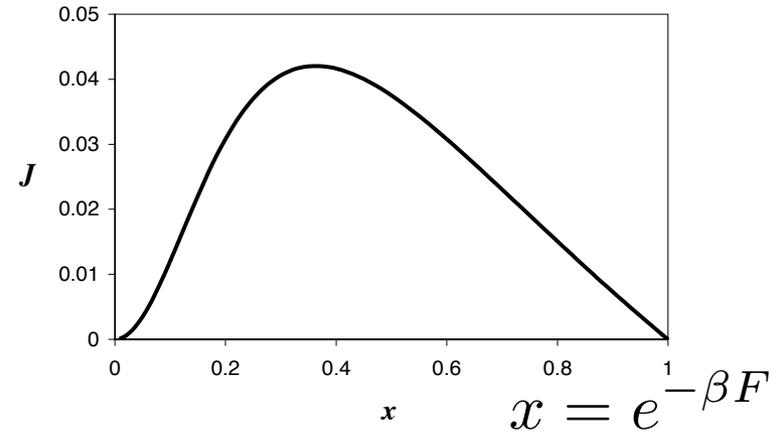
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 - 📌 Analytical expressions for the terms responsible for NDM
- » Is it possible to observe NDM in **off-lattice** systems?
 - 📌 Recent studies show a **monotonic** behavior
 - 📌 To explore a **wider range of parameters** (for tracer and obstacles)
- » **Experiments** and simulations in driven **granular systems**?
- » Role of the **kinetic part** of transition rates out of equilibrium
 - 📌 To measure “effective” transition rates from **molecular dynamics**

Negative differential mobility in different systems

- **Nonequilibrium** steady states

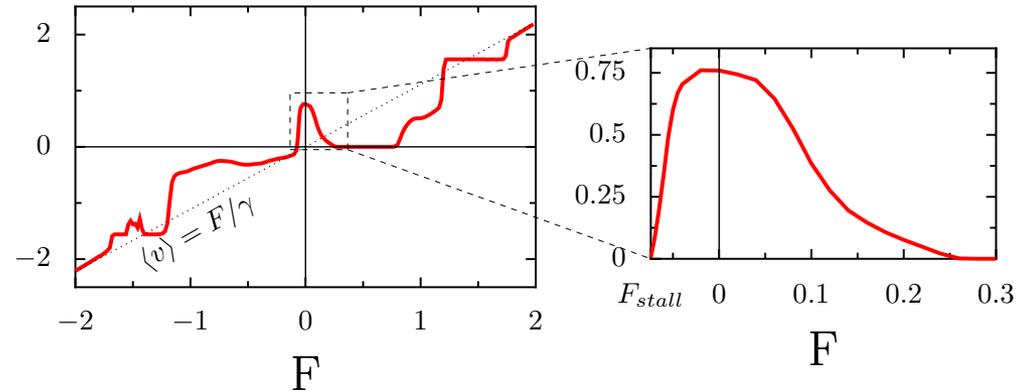
(Zia et al. Am. J. Phys. 2002)



- Models of **Brownian motors**

(Cecchi & Magnasco PRL 1996, $\langle v \rangle$)

Kostur et al. Physica A 2006)



- **Kinetically constraint** models for glassy dynamics

(Jack et al. PRE 2008, Sellitto PRL 2008)

