Diffusion with stochastic resetting

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Collaborators:

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References:

- M. R. Evans and S. N. Majumdar, Phys. Rev. Lett. 106, 160601 (2011); J. Phys. A 44, 435001 (2011)
- SG, S. N. Majumdar, and G. Schehr, Phys. Rev. Lett. 112, 220601 (2014)



• In a small time Δt , $x(t + \Delta t) = x_0$ with probability $r\Delta t$ (Resetting) = Diffusion with probability $1 - r\Delta t$



- What is the probability to be at x at time t?
- What is the average time to detect the target ??



r = 0: Only Diffusion:

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NO STATIONARY STATE,
Particle anywhere at long times
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 $r \neq 0$: Diffusion+resetting:

STATIONARY STATE, Particle cannot go very far even at long times $p_{\text{stat}}(x) \sim \exp(-|x|\sqrt{r/D})$





 $P(x,t) = \int_0^t d\tau \ (r \exp(-r\tau)) \ G(x,\tau) + r \exp(-rt)G(x,t),$ $G(x,t): \text{ Free diffusion propagator} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{4Dt}\right)$ $t \to \infty \Rightarrow \sum_{p_{\text{stat}}(x) \sim \exp(-|x|\sqrt{r/D})}^{\frac{1}{2}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{4Dt}\right)$

0.2

How does resetting affect the search time?

Average search time



Average search time



Sea of N independent searchers initially distributed with uniform density ρ .



Target survival probability P_s(t) = ∏_i Q(x_i, t) Q(x_i, t) : Probability that the *i*-th searcher starting at x_i does not reach the target up to time t

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- **3** Finally let $N \to \infty$, $L \to \infty$, keeping density $\rho = N/L$ fixed and finite

• Average
$$\langle P_{s}(t) \rangle = \langle \prod_{i} Q(x_{i}, t) \rangle = \prod_{i=1}^{N} (1 - \langle (1 - Q(x_{i}, t)) \rangle)$$

$$= \left[1 - \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L/2}^{L/2} dx \left(1 - Q(x, t) \right) \right]^{N}$$
$$\rightarrow \boxed{\exp\left[-2\rho \int_{0}^{\infty} dx \left(1 - Q(x, t) \right) \right]}$$

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• Diffusive searchers:

$$\rightarrow \langle P_s(t) \rangle = \exp(-4\rho\sqrt{Dt/\pi})$$

$$\rightarrow P_s^{\text{typ}}(t) = \exp(-4\rho b\sqrt{Dt}); \quad b = 1.03442...$$

STRETCHED EXPONENTIAL DECAY !

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• Diffusive + resetting searchers:

$$\begin{array}{l} \rightarrow \langle \mathcal{P}_{s}(t) \rangle \sim t^{-2\rho\sqrt{D/r}} \text{ for large } t \\ \rightarrow \mathcal{P}_{s}^{\mathrm{typ}}(t) \sim \exp\left(-8(1-\log 2)\sqrt{Dr}\rho t\right) \text{ for large } t \\ \qquad \qquad \mathcal{P}_{s}^{\mathrm{typ}}(t) \ll \langle \mathcal{P}_{s}(t) \rangle \\ \text{Typically the target has been reached,} \\ \text{ On the average, still not reached!} \end{array}$$









• Resetting to flat confg. at a fixed rate r

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t

• Fluctuations $h(x, t) \equiv H(x, t) - \langle H(x, t) \rangle$

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- Highly non-Gaussian !!

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- More general search strategies: Space-dependent resetting rate, Resetting of searcher distribution,