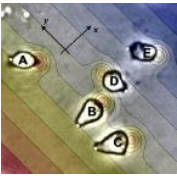


Physics 131-Physics for Biologists I



Professor: Wolfgang Losert
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Midterm 2: November 8

Office Hours before Midterm 2:

Course Center: Monday Nov 4, 11am-12.30pm

3341 AV Williams: Wednesday Nov 6, 11.30am-1pm

Random walk in 2D



- As a result of random motion, an initially localized distribution will spread out, getting wider and wider. This phenomenon is called *diffusion*
- The square of the average distance traveled during random motion will grow with time.

- 1 Dimension $\langle (\Delta x)^2 \rangle = 2D\Delta t$

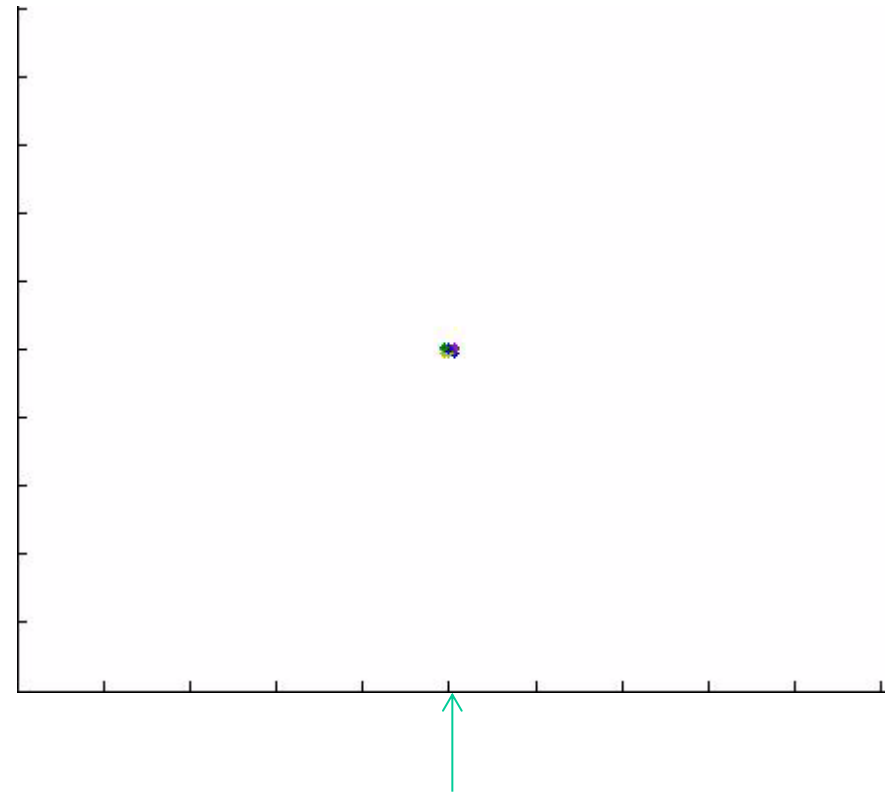
- 2 Dimensions $\langle (\Delta r)^2 \rangle = \langle (\Delta x)^2 + (\Delta y)^2 \rangle = 4D\Delta t$

- 3 Dimensions $\langle (\Delta r)^2 \rangle = \langle (\Delta x)^2 + (\Delta y)^2 + (\Delta z)^2 \rangle = 6D\Delta t$

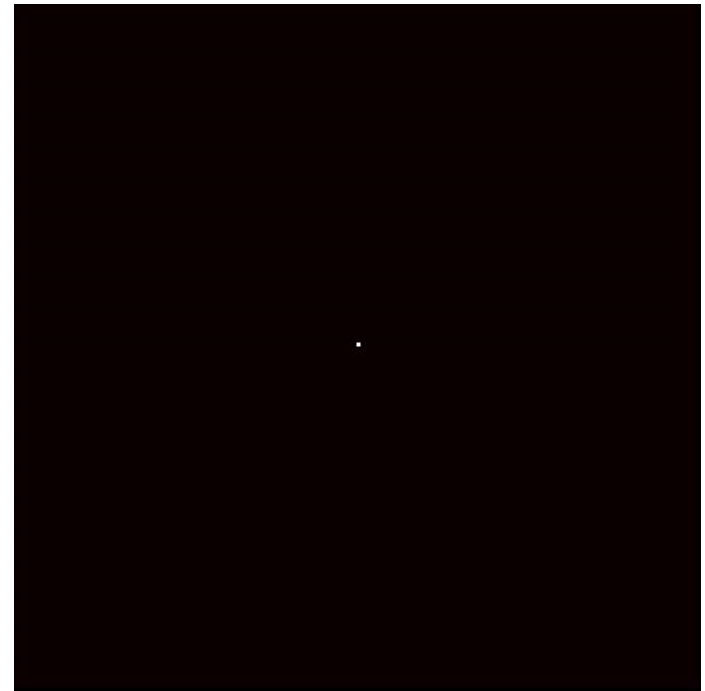
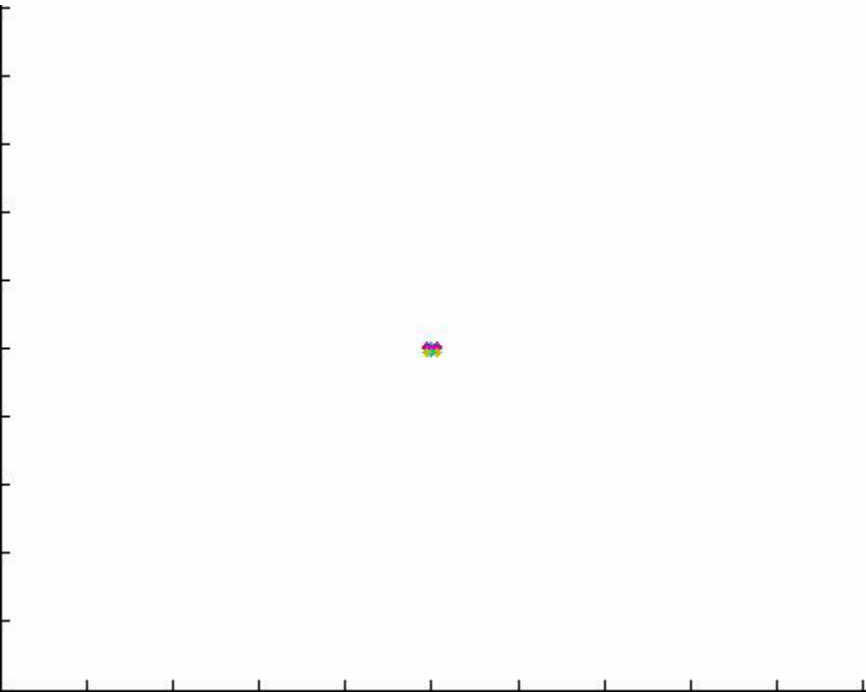
Start 200 random walkers in two dimension near 0
Sketch where you expect to see the 200 points after they walk some time

**Whiteboard,
TA & LA**

1. Particles will form a “wave” – a ragged ring of particles moving outward.
2. They will be mostly stay near 0 no matter how long you wait.
3. **Many particles will remain near zero, but they will gradually spread out.**



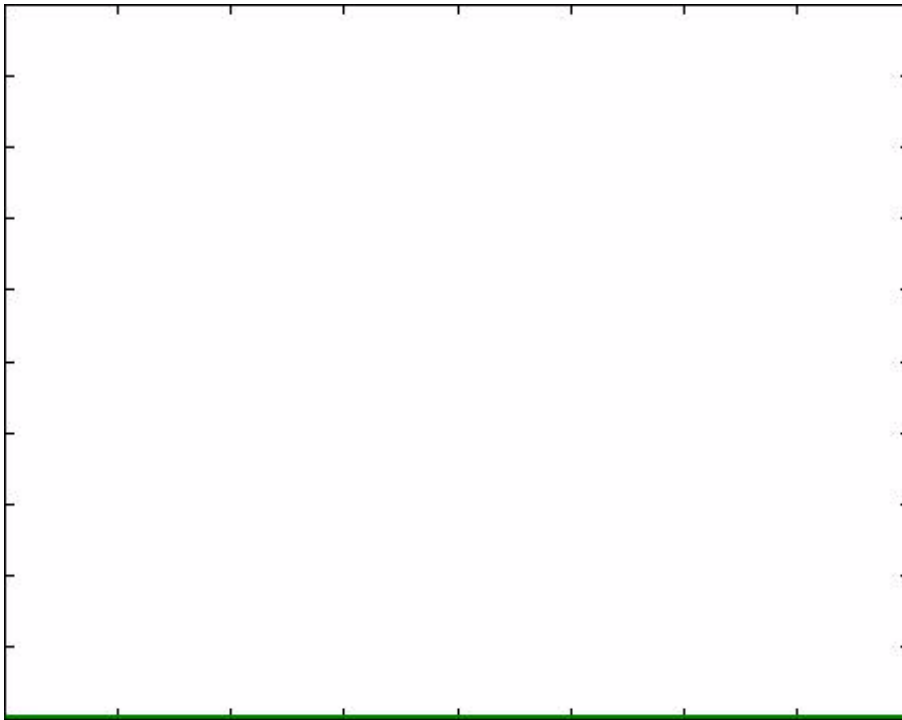
A simulation of many random walkers



Alex Morozov &
Kerstin Nordstrom

Density as a function of position

Gaussian Distribution



Measure width at half the peak height. Measure the full width.

Since we only have a fixed number of walkers, the line is choppy!

The variability is equal to $\sqrt{N}$
e.g. if on average we have 100 particles in a bin, variability will be 10

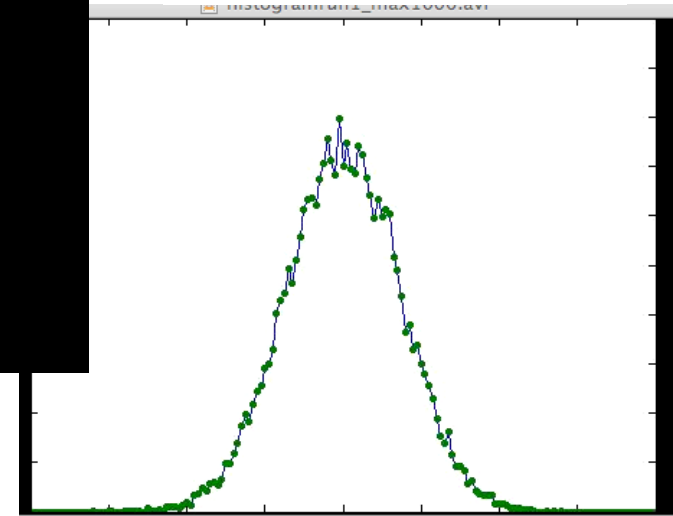
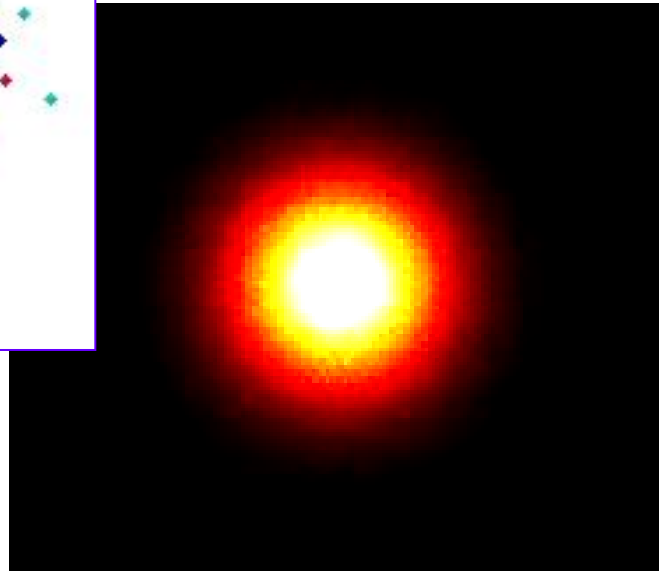
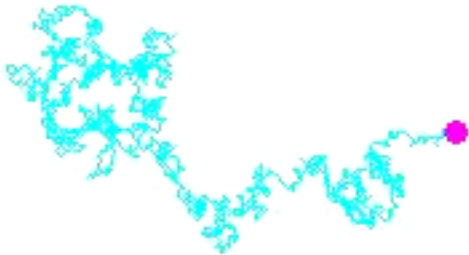
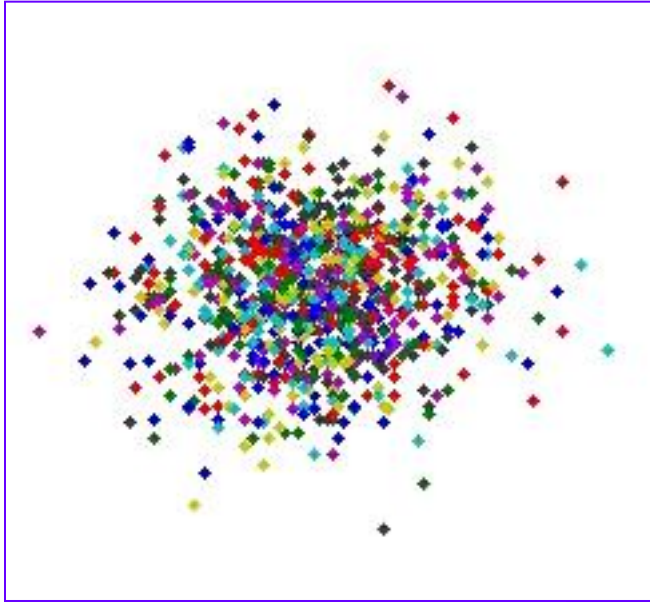
Alex Morozov &
Kerstin Nordstrom

- If I wait four times longer, the width of the distribution increases by a factor?

**Width increases by
factor of 2**

**Whiteboard,
TA & LA**

2D Simulations: Multiple representations



10/29/13

How many cross A in a time Δt ?

- Number hitting A from left

$$\frac{1}{2} n_- (Av_0 \Delta t)$$

- Number hitting A from right

$$\frac{1}{2} n_+ (Av_0 \Delta t)$$

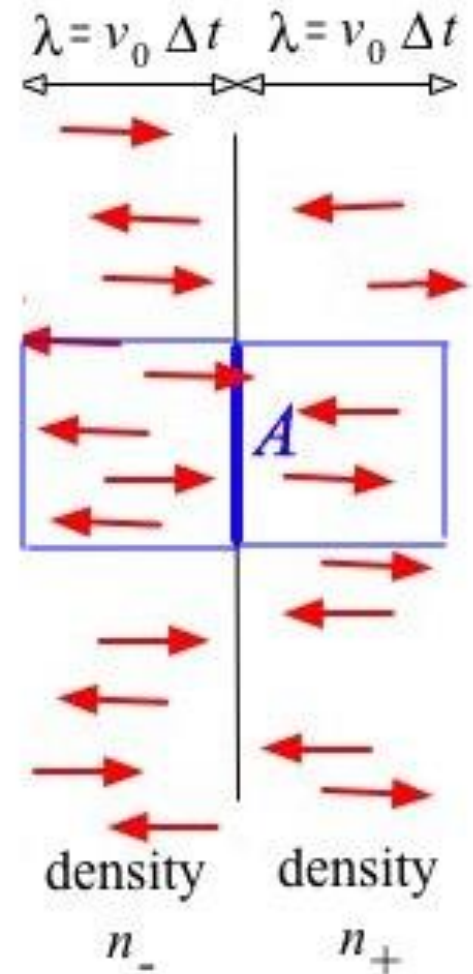
- Net flow across A

$$\frac{1}{2} (n_- - n_+) (Av_0 \Delta t)$$

- Define flux (per unit area per unit time) as J therefore:

$$JA\Delta t = \frac{1}{2} (n_- - n_+) (Av_0 \Delta t)$$

$$J = \frac{1}{2} \Delta n (v_0)$$



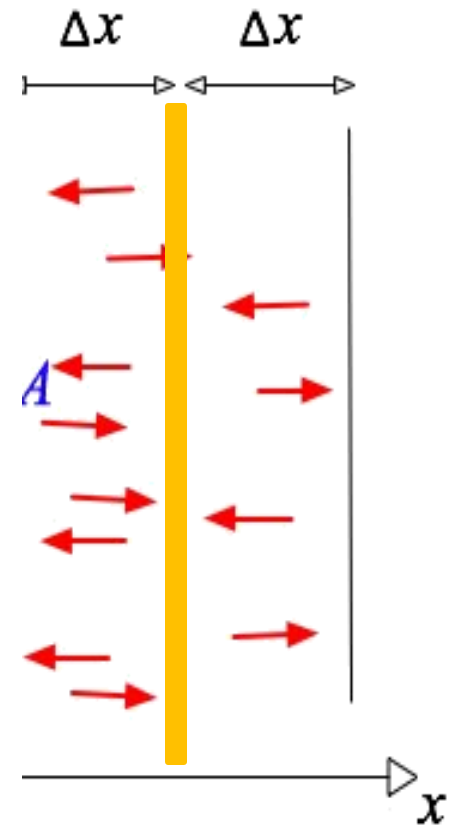
Fick's law

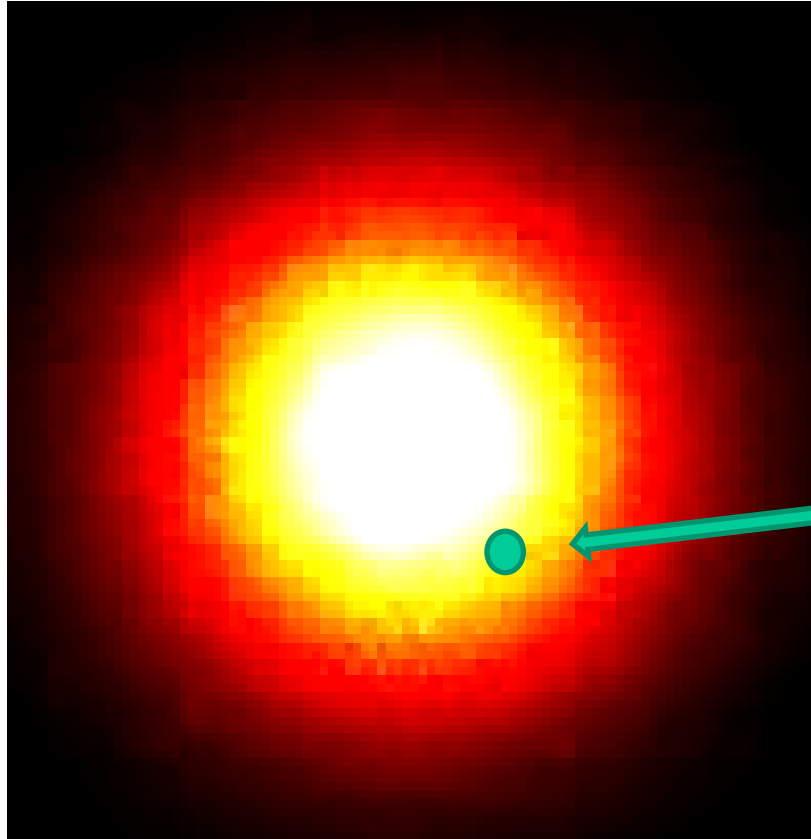
- 1D result

$$J = -D \frac{dn}{dx} \quad D = \frac{1}{2} \lambda v_0$$

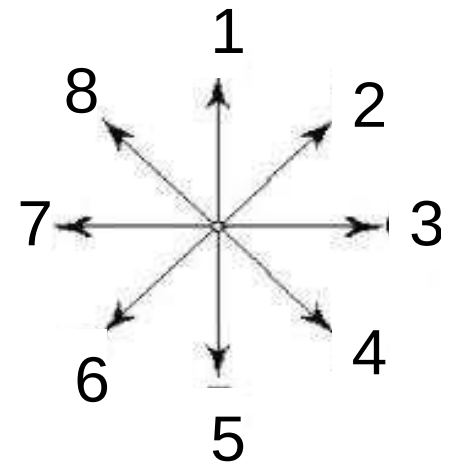
Atoms move randomly in two containers. More atoms are on the left than on the right of a yellow gate. When the gate is suddenly lifted, some of the randomly moving atoms travel across the gate.

1. **More go to the right**
2. More go to the left
3. Equal amount goes left and right in random motion
4. Not enough information





In which
Direction does
the flux J
point?



The gradient

- If we want to take the derivative of a function of one variable, $y = df/dx$, it's straightforward.
- If we have a function of three variables - $f(x,y,z)$ - what do we do?
- The gradient is the **vector derivative**.
To get it at a point (x,y,z)
 - Find the direction in which f is changing the fastest.
 - Take the derivative by looking at the rate of change in that direction.
 - Put a vector in that direction with its magnitude equal to the maximum rate of change.
 - The result is the vector called $\vec{\nabla}f$

Fick's law

- 1D result

$$J = -D \frac{dn}{dx} \quad D = \frac{1}{2} \lambda v_0$$

- For all directions (not just 1D) Fick's law becomes

$$\vec{J} = -D \vec{\nabla} n$$

Diffusion is a simple example of emergent behavior.

- Mean Squared Displacement

$$\langle (\Delta r)^2 \rangle = 6D\Delta t$$

- Fick's Law

$$\vec{J} = -D\vec{\nabla}n$$

Connect DYNAMICS (Motion) to FORCES

- Pressure
- Ideal Gas law

How much force does air exert on a sheet of size 1 m^2 with vacuum on the other side ?
Equivalent to the weight of:

1. 1N
2. Glass of Milk
3. Gallon of Milk
4. Person
5. Car
6. 10Ton truck
7. 100 foot boat
8. Building

