

At steady state, flux is constant  $t_0 = \frac{1}{j(x_0)}$

$$t_0 = \frac{1}{j_0} = \frac{1}{D} \int_0^{x_0} e^{-u(x)/k_B T} \left\{ \int_x^{x_0} e^{u(y)/k_B T} dy \right\} dx$$

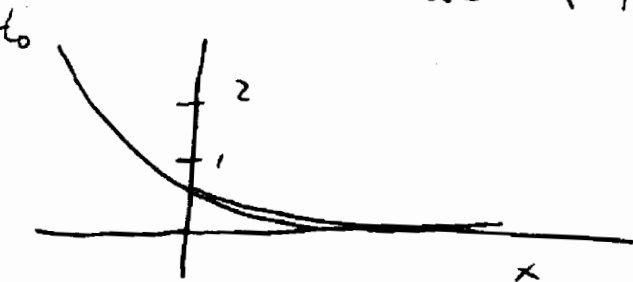
This integral needs to be solved for different choices of forces

① Free diffusion (No force)  $U(x) = 0$

$$t_0 = \frac{1}{j_0} = \frac{1}{D} \frac{x_0^2}{2}$$

② Constant force  $U(x) = -Fx$

$$t_0 = 2 \frac{x_0^2}{2D} \left( \frac{k_B T}{Fx_0} \right)^2 \left\{ e^{-\frac{Fx_0}{k_B T}} + \frac{Fx_0}{k_B T} - 1 \right\}$$



'Downhill' movement  $x_0 \rightarrow \text{large}$

$$t_0 \rightarrow \frac{\gamma x_0}{F} \frac{x_0}{v}$$

'Uphill' movement

$$t_0 \sim e^{Fx_0/k_B T}$$

like transfer over energy barrier

③ Harmonic potential

$$U(x) = \frac{1}{2} \kappa x^2$$

$$U(x_0) \gg k_B T$$

$$t_0 = \frac{\gamma}{\kappa} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{4}} \sqrt{\frac{k_B T}{u_0}} e^{u_0/k_B T} \quad \text{for } U(x_0) \gg k_B T$$

# Steady - state solutions to Fick equations

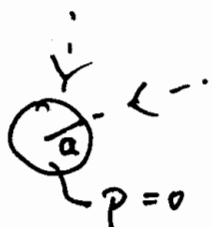
$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial t} = 0 = D \nabla^2 p$$

$$\nabla^2 p = 0 \quad \text{Laplace equation}$$

For problems with radial symmetry

$$\frac{1}{r^2} \frac{d}{dr} \left( r^2 \frac{dp}{dr} \right) = 0$$

## ① Diffusion to spherical absorber



$$r = a \quad p(r=a) = 0$$

$$p(r=\infty) = p_0$$

Solution like in  $E \& M$  (see Jackson, ch. 3)

$$p = A r^l + B r^{-l-1}$$

$$p = u \cdot r, \quad l=0$$

$$p = A - \frac{B}{r}$$

$$r \rightarrow \infty \Rightarrow A = p_0$$

$$r \rightarrow a \Rightarrow B = -a p_0$$

$$p(r) = p_0 \left( 1 - \frac{a}{r} \right)$$

$$\text{Flux } J = -D \frac{\partial p}{\partial r} = -D p_0 \frac{a}{r^2}$$

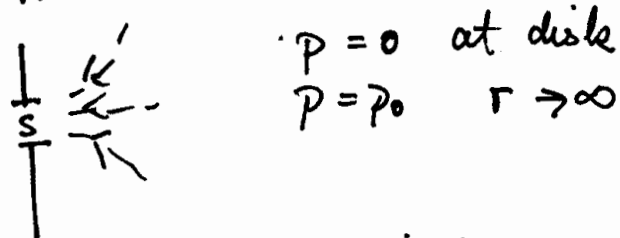
current = flux  $\times$  area

$$I = D p_0 \frac{a}{r^2} \cdot 4\pi a^2 = 4\pi D a p_0$$

$$I \propto a$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Area} \propto a^2 \\ \text{conc. grad} \propto \frac{1}{a} \end{array} \right\} \propto a$$

## ② Diffusion to disk-like absorber



cylindrical coordinates

$$I = 4Ds p_0$$

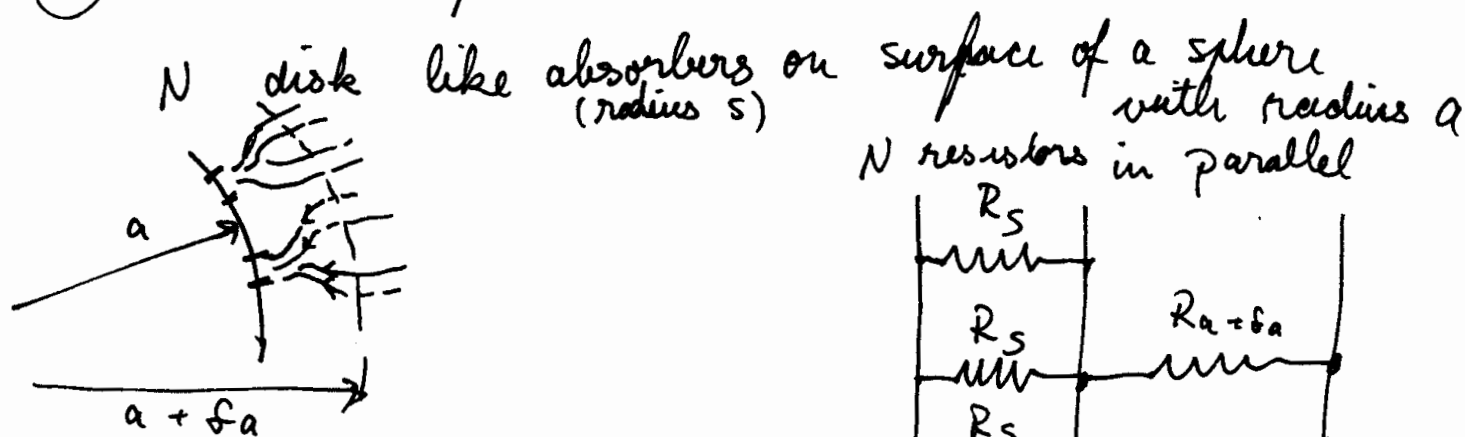
again : proportional to  $s$  and not  $s^2$

Electrical analogue

$$I = 4\pi D C p_0$$

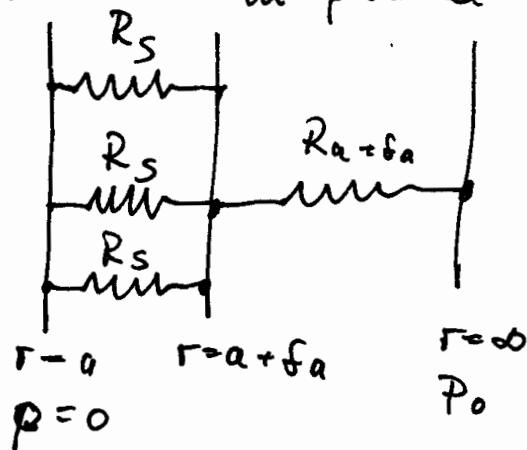
$C$ : capacitance (cgs units) of an isolated conductor of that size and shape

## ③ Cell absorption



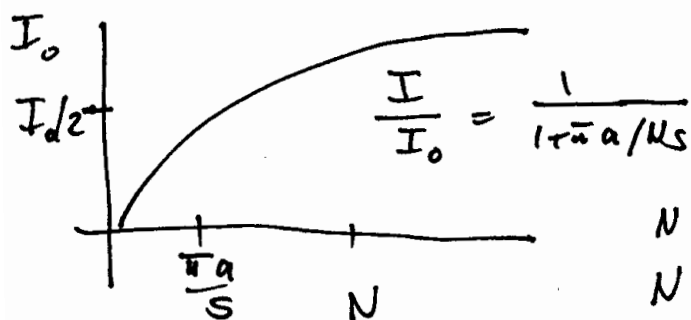
lines of flux radial for  $r > a + \delta a$ , i.e. constant  $p$  but converge on disks

$N$  resistors in parallel



$$R = R_{a+\delta} + R_s / N$$

$$= \frac{4\pi a \delta a}{N}$$



limits  
 $N$  small  
 $N$  large

$$I \sim 4\pi D N s p_0$$

$$I \sim 4\pi D a p_0$$

# Diffusion coefficients for proteins

$$D_t = \frac{kT}{\gamma_t} [\mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}] \text{ translational (lateral) diff. coeff.}$$

$$D_r = \frac{kT}{\gamma_r} [1/\text{s}] \text{ rotational diff. coeff.}$$

More general:

$$\begin{pmatrix} u^\infty - u \\ \Omega^\infty - \Omega \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\eta} \begin{pmatrix} a & b^t \\ b & c \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} F \\ T \end{pmatrix}$$

$\nearrow$  Force  
 $\nearrow$  Torque  
 $u$ : transl. velocity field of fluid  
 $\Omega$ : rotational velocity field

"Put" protein in fluid

Solve Stokes equations to get  $u, u^\infty, \Omega, \Omega^\infty$  of fluid

Easy for simple shapes  $\rightarrow$  Einstein's solution for sphere  
 Numerical for real proteins

$$D^t = \frac{1}{3} \frac{kT}{\eta} \text{tr}(a)$$

$$D_r = \frac{1}{3} \frac{kT}{\eta} \text{tr}(c)$$

Experimental: fluorescence <sup>photolysis</sup> measurements  
 sees lateral movement  
 use  $D_r [D_e]$  relationship to get  $D_r$

Order of magnitude estimates

water

lipid membrane

$D_t / D_e$

$100 \mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$

$1 \mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$

(less for high prot conc.)

$D_r$

$1 \times 10^7 / \text{s}$

$1 \times 10^5 / \text{s}$

or low L/P  
 lipid to - protein  
 ratios)

# More general Stat Mech

$$m_i \frac{d^2}{dt^2} r_i = - \frac{\partial}{\partial r_i} U(r_1 \dots r_N) \quad \text{Newton's Eq.}$$

## Stochastic DE

$$\partial_t x(t) = \underbrace{A(x(t), t)}_{\text{drift}} + \underbrace{B(x(t), t)}_{\text{noise}} \cdot \eta(t)$$

Choice of  $A$  and  $B$  and  $\eta$  determines SDE

This is very general

For each set of Newton's Eq. there is a corresponding SDE

We are not really interested in  $x(t)$ , but  
in  $P(x, t | x_0, t_0) \rightarrow$  Fokker-Planck Eq.

## Langevin Eq.

$$m \ddot{r} = -\gamma \dot{r} + F(r) + \sigma \xi(t)$$

$\rightarrow$  corresponding F-P Eq.

limit of strong friction  
(white noise)

$$|\dot{r}| \gg |\ddot{r}|$$

Eq. distribution: Boltzmann  $p_0(r) = N e^{-U/kT}$   
Potential  $U(r)$

F-P Eq. is called Smoluchowski Eq.

$$\Rightarrow \sigma^2 = 2k_B T \gamma$$

In order for system to attain thermal equilibrium,  
there needs to be a temperature - dep. relationship  
between amplitude of fluctuating and dissipative forces

Fluctuation - Dissipation theorem