

# Single file diffusion in spatially inhomogeneous systems



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**with**

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# Plan of talk

**1. Coarse graining effective diffusion coefficients**

**2. Single file diffusion**

**3. Single file diffusion in terms of effusion**

**4. Treatment using physics take on homogenisation theory from mathematics**

# Coarse graining for single particle

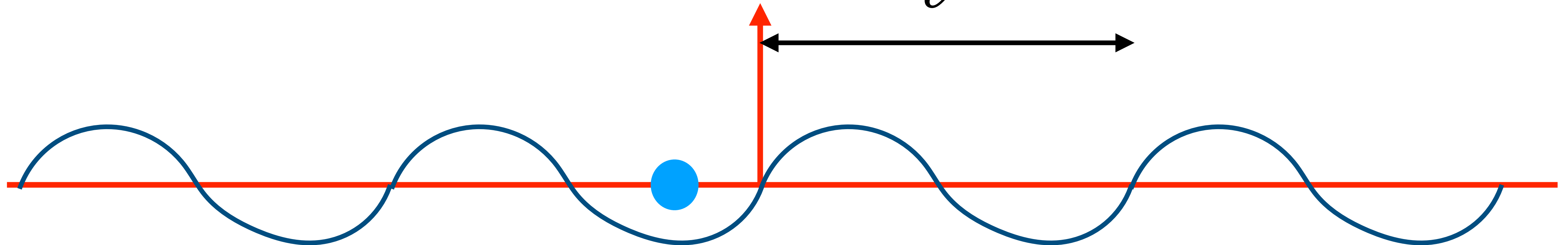
**Fokker-Planck equation**  $\frac{\partial p(x, t)}{\partial t} = \hat{H}p(x, t), \quad \hat{H} \equiv \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ D(x) \left( \beta \frac{d\phi(x)}{dx} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \right]$

**Single particle in 1d with spatially varying periodic local diffusivity and potential**

$$D(x + \ell) = D(x)$$

$$\phi(x + \ell) = \phi(x)$$

$\ell$



**Expect that at late times**  $\langle [X(t) - X(0)]^2 \rangle \simeq 2D_{\text{eff}}t$  **(No drift or bias in periodic system)**

$D_{\text{eff}}$  **Effective (late time) diffusion constant**

# Effective coarse grained equation

Assume that on large length and time scales

$$\frac{\partial p(x, t)}{\partial t} = \hat{H}_{\text{eff}} p(x, t), \quad \hat{H}_{\text{eff}} \equiv D_{\text{eff}} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}$$

Lifson-Jackson J. Chem. Phys. 36, 2410 (1962) - solve mean first passage time to some large distance  $L \gg \ell$  for both problems and compare (can be done analytically in 1 d)

$T(x)$  Mean first passage time to  $\pm L$  starting from  $x$

$$\hat{H}^\dagger T(x) = -1 \quad T(L) = T(-L) = 0$$

$$D_{\text{eff}} = \frac{\ell^2}{\left[ \int_0^\ell dx e^{\beta\phi(x)} / D(x) \right] \left[ \int_0^\ell dx e^{-\beta\phi(x)} \right]}$$

# Effective diffusion constant can be evaluated

directly from definition  $\langle [X(t) - X(0)]^2 \rangle \simeq 2D_{\text{eff}}t$

H. Brenner and D.A. Edwards, Macrotransport processes, 1993

G. A. Pavliotis and A. Stuart, Multiscale Methods: Averaging and Homogenization, 2008

T. Guérin and D.S. Dean, Phys. Rev. Lett. 15, 020601 (2015) - Kubo formulas

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial t} = -Hp \quad Hf = -\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (\kappa_{ij}(\mathbf{x})f(\mathbf{x})) - A_i(\mathbf{x})f(\mathbf{x}) \right)$$

$$P_s(\mathbf{x}) \quad J_{si}(\mathbf{x}) = -\frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (\kappa_{ij}(\mathbf{x})P_s(\mathbf{x})) + A_i(\mathbf{x})P_s(\mathbf{x})$$

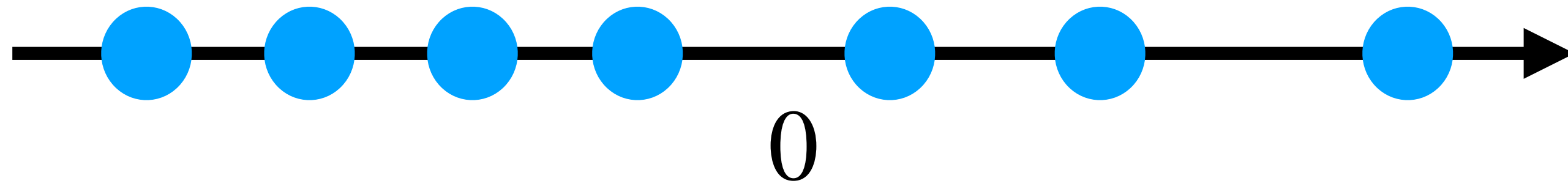
Steady state density and current  
on periodic unit cell  $\Omega$

$$Hf_i(\mathbf{x}) = \left[ \left( A_i(\mathbf{x}) - \int_{\Omega} d\mathbf{y} A_i(\mathbf{y})P_s(\mathbf{y}) \right) P_s(\mathbf{x}) - 2\frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (\kappa_{ij}(\mathbf{x})P_s(\mathbf{x})) \right]$$

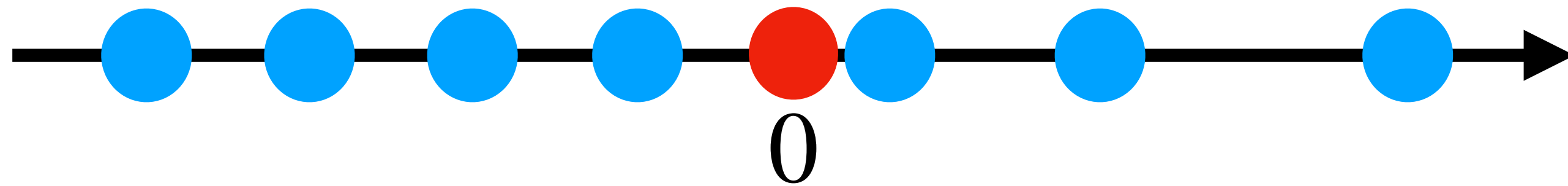
Auxillary function

$$\int_{\Omega} d\mathbf{x} f_i(\mathbf{x}) = 0 \quad \text{Orthogonality condition} \quad D_{ii} = \int_{\Omega} d\mathbf{x} \kappa_{ii}(\mathbf{x})P_s(\mathbf{x}) + \int_{\Omega} d\mathbf{x} A_i(\mathbf{x})f_i(\mathbf{x}).$$

# Single file diffusion



**Brownian particles with hard-core interactions in a homogeneous system  
- reflecting boundary conditions**



$Y_t$  position of tracer particle (identical to others) started at 0 at  $t = 0$

# Tracer dispersion

Average over Brownian motion (thermal noise)  $\langle \dots \rangle$

Average over uniform (ideal gas) initial conditions with density  $\bar{\rho}$ ,  $\overline{\dots}$

S. Alexander and P. Pincus, Phys. Rev. B 18 2011 (1978)

T. Harris, J. Appl. Probab. 2, 323 (1965)

P.L. Krapivsky, K. Mallick and T. Sadhu, Phys. Rev. Lett. 113 078101 (2014).

**Annealed average**  $\langle Y^2(t) \rangle_{\text{ac}} = \overline{\langle Y^2(t) \rangle} - \overline{\langle Y(t) \rangle} \overline{\langle Y(t) \rangle} = \frac{2}{\bar{\rho}} \sqrt{\frac{Dt}{\pi}}$

**Quenched average**  $\langle Y^2(t) \rangle_{\text{qc}} = \overline{\langle Y^2(t) \rangle} - \overline{\langle Y(t) \rangle} \overline{\langle Y(t) \rangle} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\bar{\rho}} \sqrt{\frac{Dt}{\pi}}$

**Quenched average here is mathematically identical to result for regularly spaced initial conditions (more generally hyper uniform initial conditions)**

# Simple question

In periodic inhomogeneous systems is the following true

$$\langle Y^2(t) \rangle_{\text{ac}} = \frac{2}{\bar{\rho}} \sqrt{\frac{D_{\text{eff}} t}{\pi}}$$

$$\langle Y^2(t) \rangle_{\text{qc}} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\bar{\rho}} \sqrt{\frac{D_{\text{eff}} t}{\pi}}$$

**Numerical simulations of SFD systems with periodic potentials say yes (varying diffusivity not considered).**

A. Taloni and F. Marchesoni, Phys. Rev. Lett. 96, 020601 (2006).

D. Lips, A. Ryabov, and P. Maass, Phys. Rev. E 100, 052121 (2019).

**Physically it is difficult to see how it could not be true - but let's prove it**

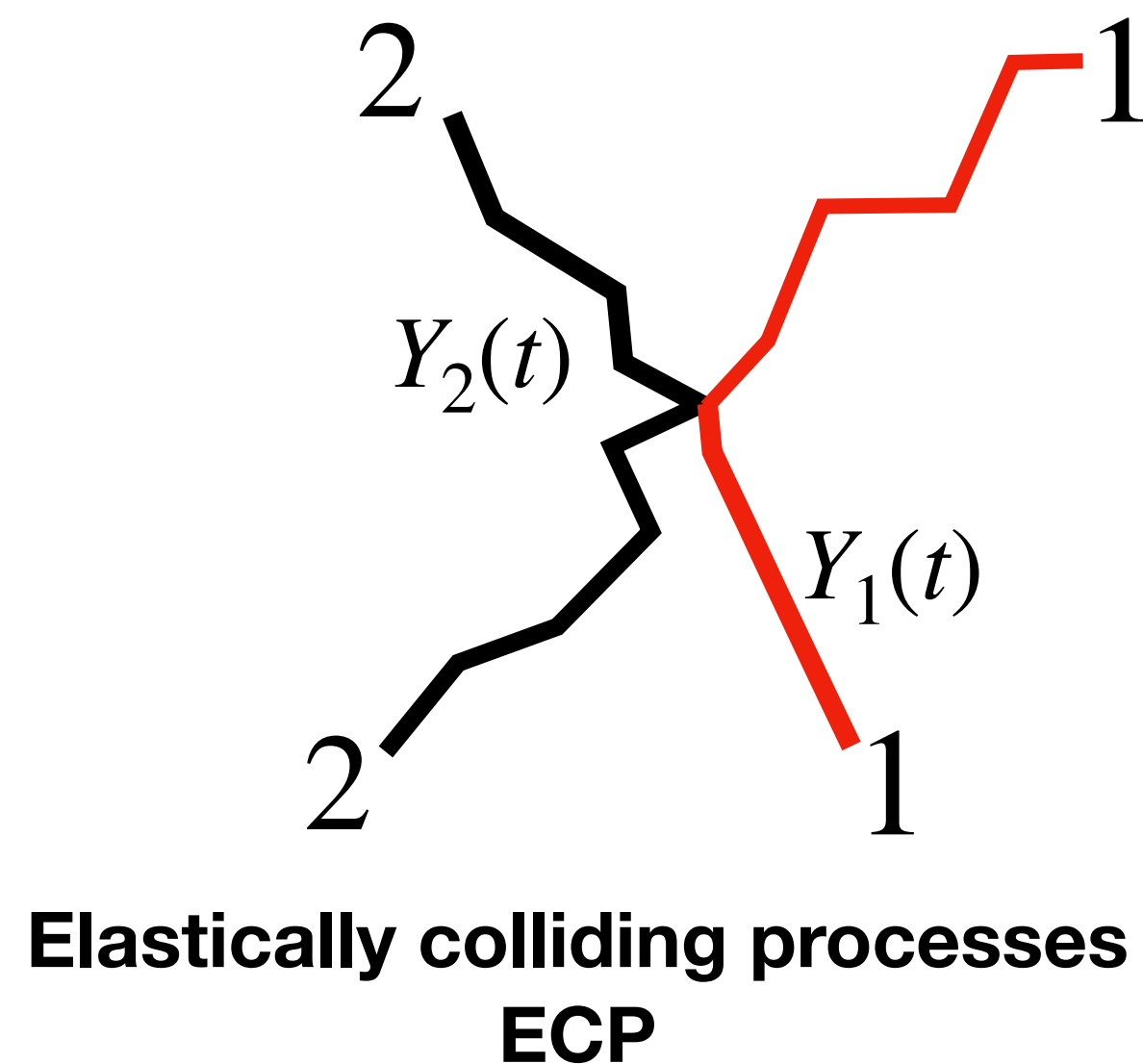
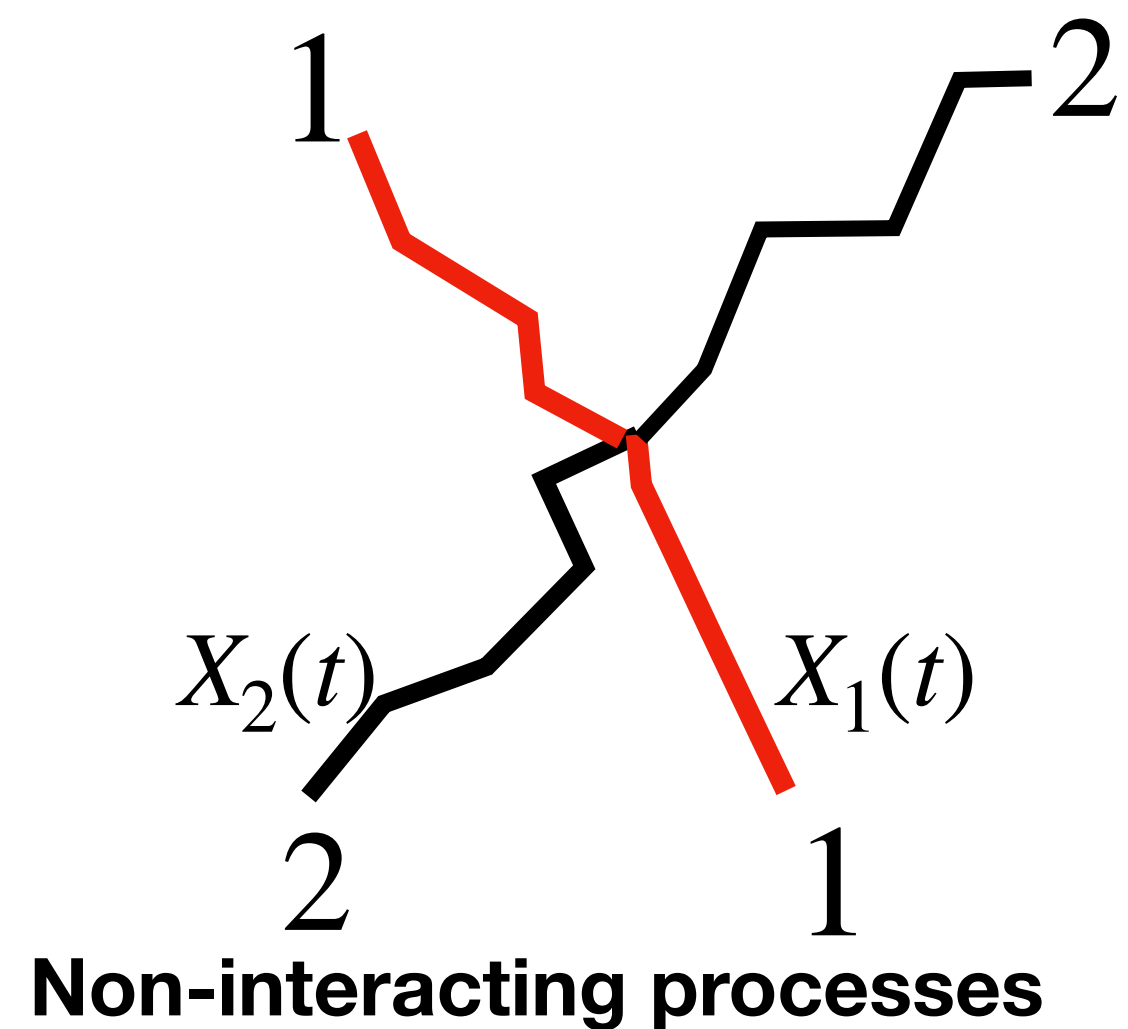


# SFD and free particles

T. E. Harris, J. Appl. Probab. 2, 323 (1965)

## Elastically colliding stochastic processes

articles do not interact but change labels when they cross

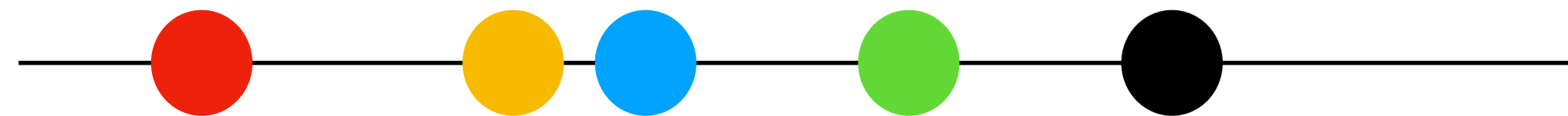
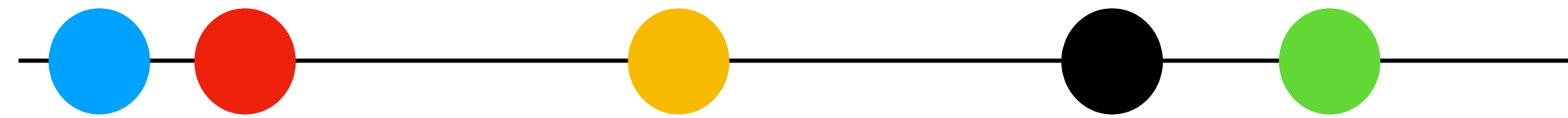


$$Y_1(t) = \max(X_1(t), X_2(t))$$

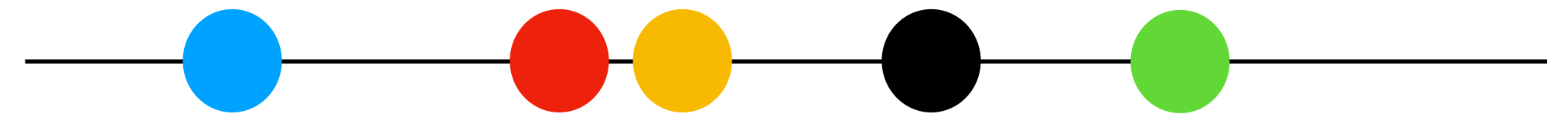
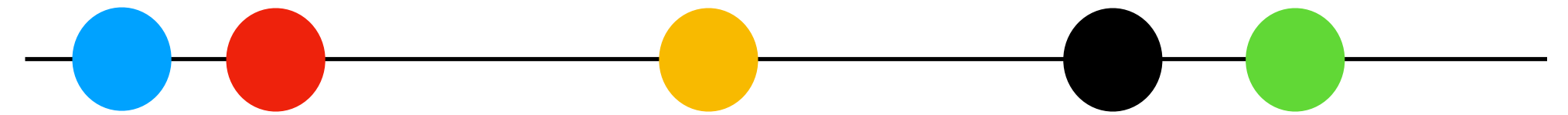
$$Y_2(t) = \min(X_1(t), X_2(t))$$

**No interaction seen  
if particle numbers are  
not observed (not a SEP)**

## Without relabelling



## With relabelling



# Keeping track of the tracer

Free particle density

$$\rho(x) = \sum_i \delta(X_i(t) - x)$$

Tracer particle position  $Y(t)$ ,  $Y(0) = 0$

$$\int_{-L}^0 dx \rho(x,0) = \int_{-L}^{Y(t)} dx \rho(x, t)$$

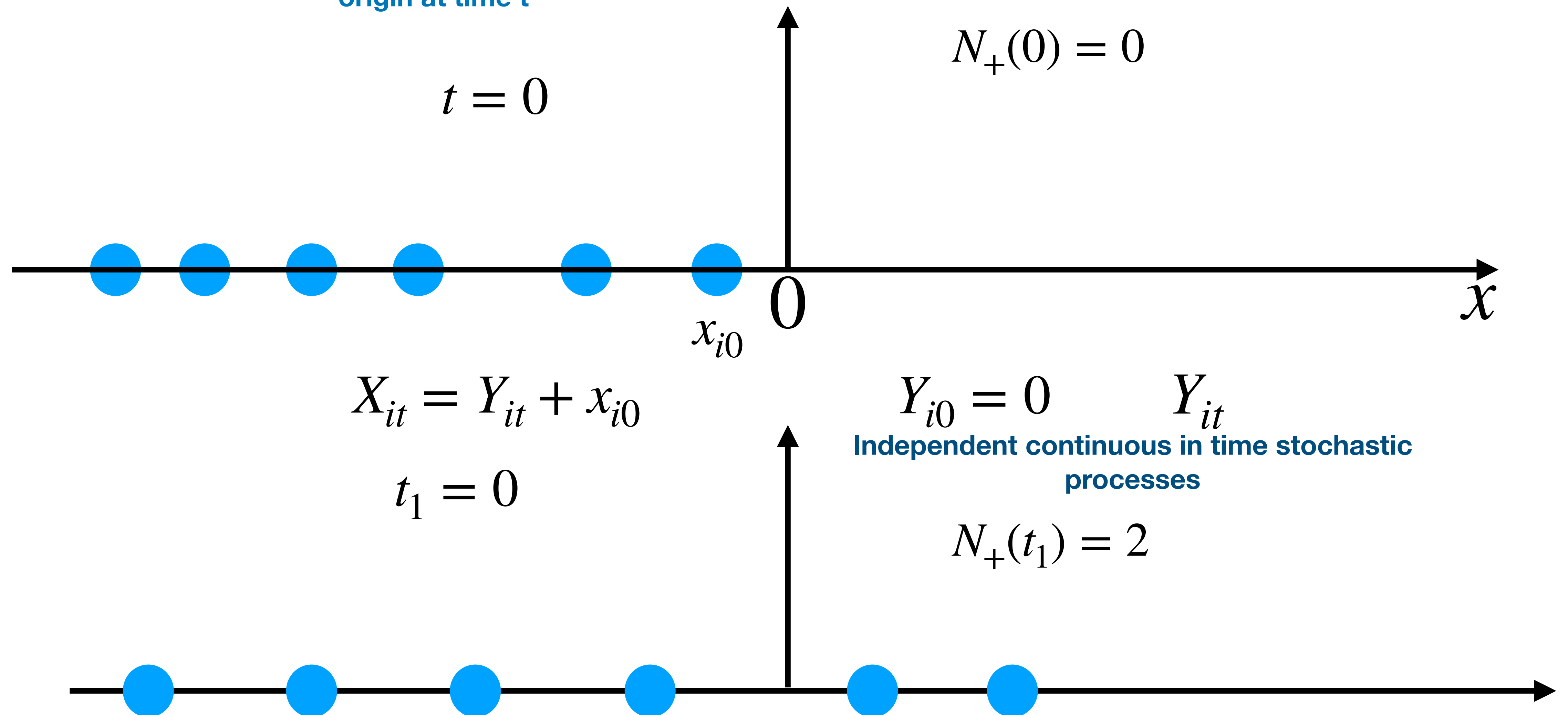
Number of particles to left of tracer under relabelling  
is constant

$$\int_0^{Y(t)} dx \rho(x,0) = \int_{-L}^0 dx \rho(x,0) - \rho(x, t)$$

# General effusion problem

$N_+(t)$

Number of particles to right of origin at time  $t$

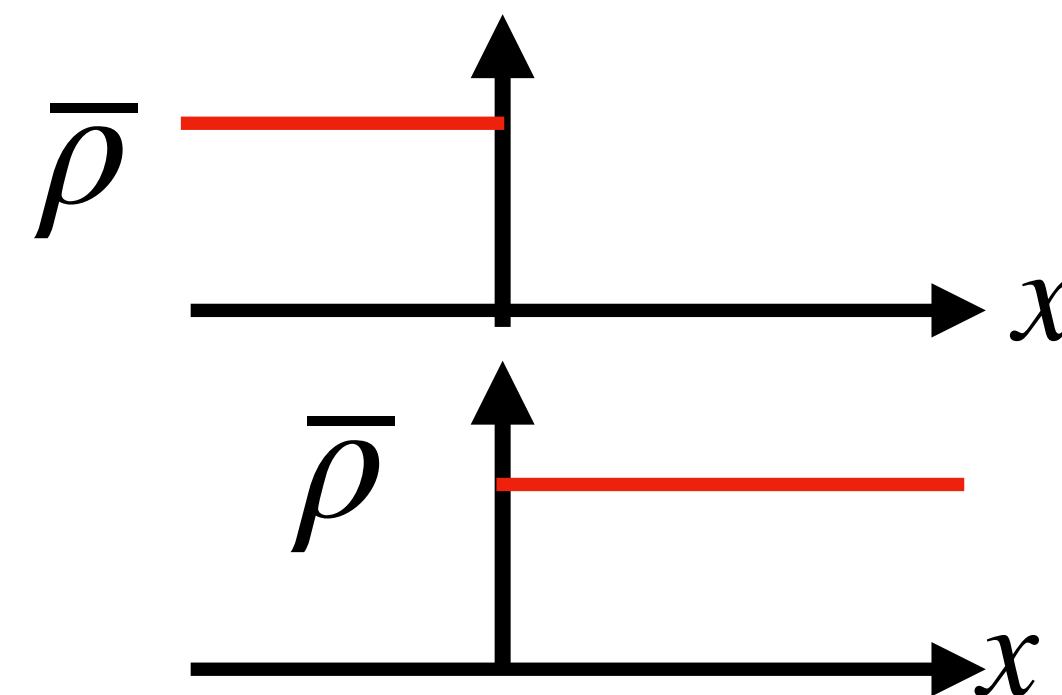


# Links with two independent effusion problems

$$\rho(x, t) = \rho_R(x, t) + \rho_L(x, t)$$

density due to particles  
initially right of 0

density due to particles  
initially left of 0



$$N_+(t) = \int_0^{\infty} dx \rho_L(x, t)$$

$$N_-(t) = \int_0^{\infty} dx \rho_R(x, t)$$

$$\int_0^{Y(t)} dx \rho(x, t) = N_+(t) - N_-(t)$$

Key result

Two independent effusion  
problems

$$Y(t) \simeq \frac{1}{\bar{\rho}} [N_+(t) - N_-(t)]$$

Assuming  $|Y(t)| \rightarrow \infty$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$  central limit theorem

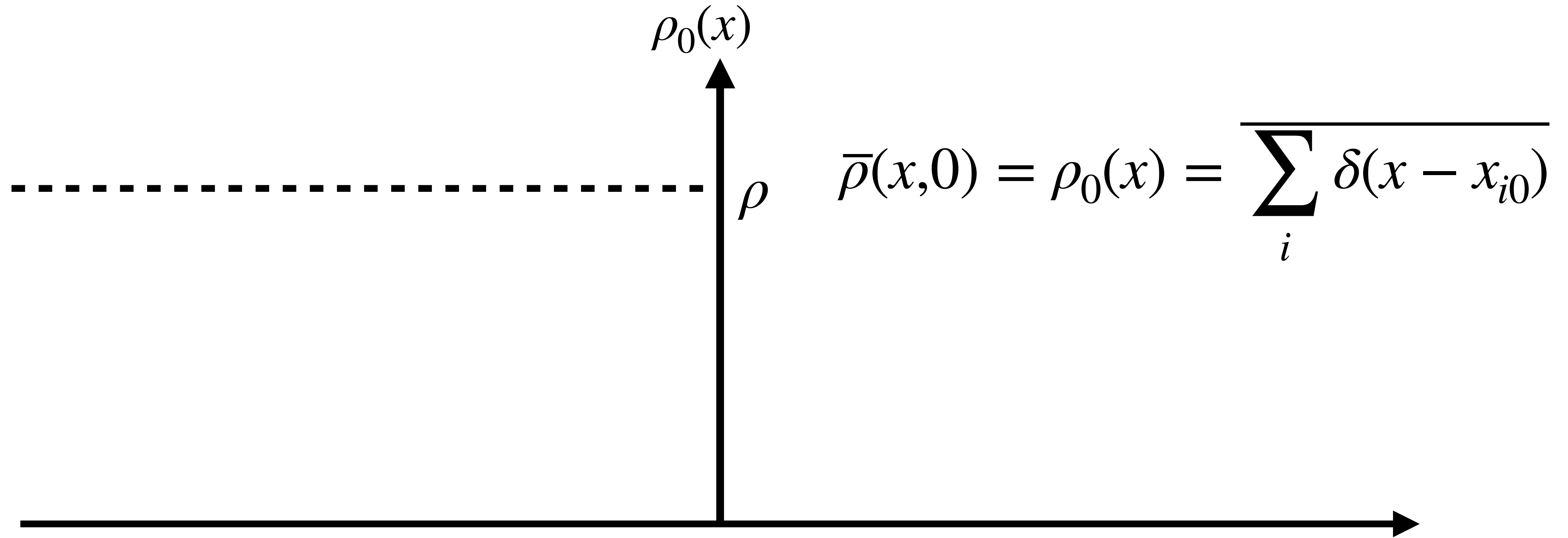
D. Durr, S. Goldstein, and J. L. Lebowitz, Commun. Pure Appl. Math. 38, 573 (1985)

$$\langle Y^2(t) \rangle_{a/qc} \simeq \frac{1}{\bar{\rho}^2} \langle [N_+(t) - N_-(t)]^2 \rangle_{a/qc}$$

# Coarse grained picture -step like initial density profile

B. Derrida and A. Gerschenfeld, J. Stat. Phys. 137, 978 (2009) - macroscopic fluctuation theory (BM)

Banerjee, S. N. Majumdar, A. Rosso, and G. Schehr, Phys. Rev. E 101, 052101 (2020) - direct calculation



Two types of averaging  $\overline{\dots}$

$\langle \dots \rangle$

$$\langle Q^2 \rangle_{ac} = \overline{\langle Q^2 \rangle} - \overline{\langle Q \rangle}^2$$

initial conditions  $x_{i0}$  stochastic trajectories  $Y_{it}$

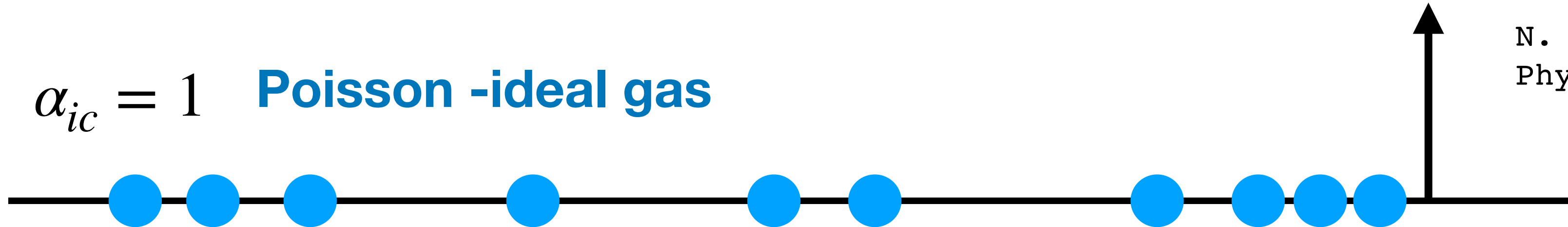
$$\langle Q^2 \rangle_{qc} = \overline{\langle Q^2 \rangle} - \overline{\langle Q \rangle}^2$$

# Role of initial conditions

T. Banerjee, R. L. Jack, and M. E. Cates  
 Phys. Rev. E 106, (2022),

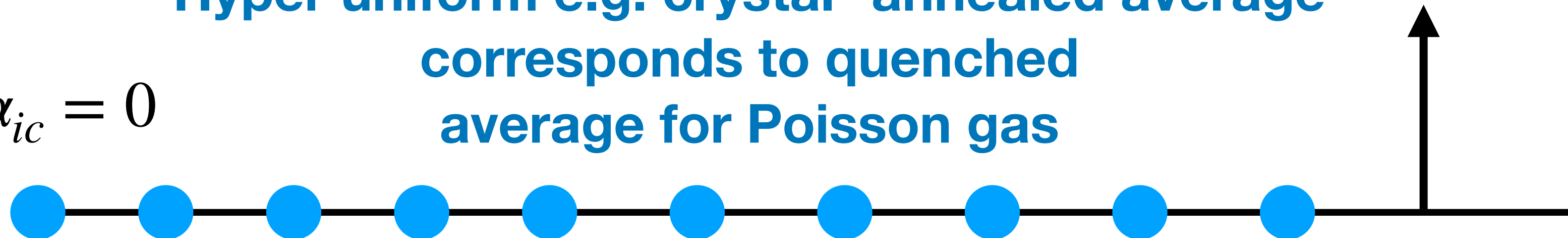
N. Leibovich and E. Barkai,  
 Phys. Rev. E 88, 032107 (2013)

$\alpha_{ic} = 1$  **Poisson -ideal gas**



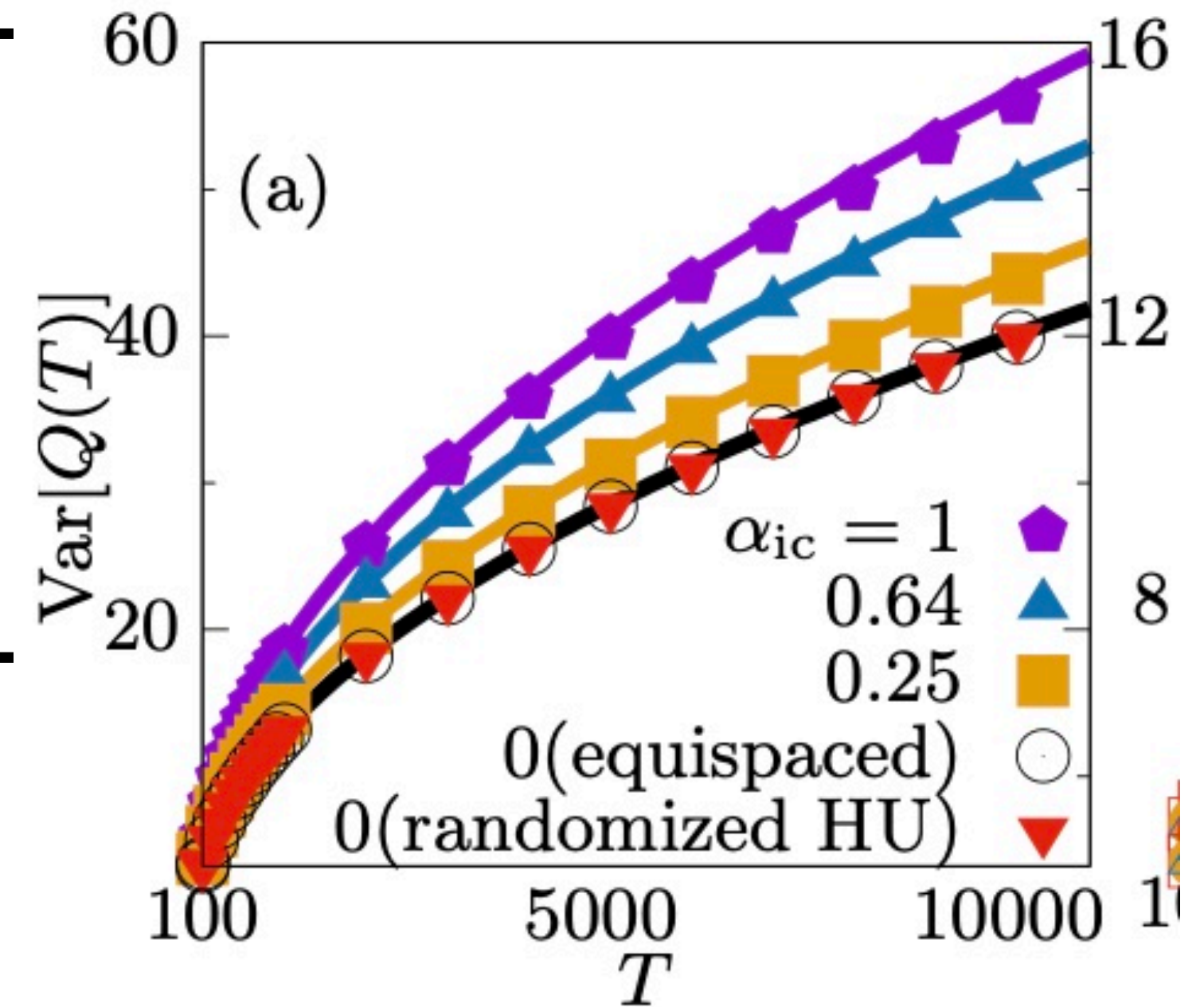
**Hyper uniform e.g. crystal -annealed average corresponds to quenched average for Poisson gas**

$\alpha_{ic} = 0$



$$\overline{\langle N_{\mathbb{R}^+}^2(t) \rangle} - \overline{\langle N_{\mathbb{R}^+}(t) \rangle}^2$$

depends at all times on initial conditions via



**Fano-factor**  
**Generalised compressibility**

$$\alpha_{ic} = \lim_{\ell \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\text{Var } n(\ell)}{\overline{n(\ell)}} = \lim_{q \rightarrow 0} S(q)$$

**Structure factor**

# General solution to effusion problem

D.S.D, S.N. Majumdar and G. Schehr, J.Stat. Mech.063208 (2023).

$$\overline{\rho_L(x)} = (\ell_0 M/L) P_0(x) \quad \text{initial density to left of origin } x \in [-L, 0] \text{ of period } \ell_0 \quad \bar{\rho} = M/L$$

$\ell_0$  doesn't have to be the same as  $\ell$

$$\overline{\langle N_+(t) \rangle} = \int_{-\infty}^0 \overline{\rho_L(x_0)} \int_0^{\infty} dx p(x, t | x_0, 0) \quad \text{average}$$

$$\langle N_+^2(t) \rangle_{\text{ac}} = \int_{-\infty}^0 dx_0 \overline{\rho_L(x_0)} \int_0^{\infty} dx p(x, t | x_0, 0) = \overline{\langle N_+(t) \rangle} \quad \text{annealed variance same as average - Poisson}$$

$$\langle N_+^2(t) \rangle_{\text{qc}} = \int_{-\infty}^0 dx_0 \overline{\rho_L(x_0)} \int_0^{\infty} dx p(x, t | x_0, 0) - \int_{-\infty}^0 dx_0 \overline{\rho_L(x_0)} \int_0^{\infty} dx p(x, t | x_0, 0) \int_0^{\infty} dx' p(x', t | x_0, 0) \quad \text{quenched variance}$$

$$\frac{\partial p(x, t | x_0)}{\partial t} = \hat{H} p(x, t | x_0), \quad \hat{H} \equiv \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ D(x) \left( \beta \frac{d\phi(x)}{dx} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \right] \quad p(x, t | x_0) \text{ propagator for FP equation}$$



# Solve in terms of initial coordinate

$$\frac{f(x_0, t)}{P_B(x_0)} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx p(x, t | x_0, 0) \Theta(x)$$

$$\langle N_+^2(t) \rangle_{ac} = \bar{\rho} \ell_0 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx_0 \Theta(-x_0) P_0(x_0) \frac{f(x_0, t)}{P_B(x_0)}$$

$$\frac{\partial f(x, t)}{\partial t} = \hat{H} f(x, t)$$

$$f(x, 0) = \Theta(x) P_B(x)$$

$$\hat{H} \tilde{f}(x, s) = s \tilde{f}(x, s) - f(x, 0)$$

$$P_B(x) = Z^{-1} e^{-\beta \phi(x)}$$

**Boltzmann distribution  
over one  
period  $\ell$**

**Obeys forward FP equation**

**Initial conditions**

**Laplace transform**

# Homogenisation à la physicist

$$\tilde{f}(x, s) = \frac{1}{s} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} s^{\frac{n}{2}} F_n(x, \sqrt{s}x)$$

$F_n(x, y)$  **Periodic in  $x$  with period  $\ell$  - fast variable**

$$(\partial/\partial x) \rightarrow (\partial/\partial x) + s^{1/2} \cdot (\partial/\partial y)$$

**Perturbatively solve for small  $s$  (corresponding to large  $t$ )**  
**systematic separation of variable  $F_n(x, y) = M_n(x)K_n(y)$**

$$F_0(x, y) = P_B(x)K_0(y)$$

**Order  $s^{-1}$**

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ D(x) \left( \beta \frac{d\phi(x)}{dx} F_1(x, y) + \frac{\partial F_1(x, y)}{\partial x} \right) \right] + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left[ D(x) \left( \beta \frac{d\phi(x)}{dx} F_0(x, y) + \frac{\partial F_0(x, y)}{\partial x} \right) \right] + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ D(x) \frac{\partial F_0(x, y)}{\partial y} \right] = 0$$

**Order  $s^{-\frac{1}{2}}$**

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ D(x) \left( \beta \frac{d\phi(x)}{dx} F_2(x, y) + \frac{\partial F_2(x, y)}{\partial x} \right) \right] + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left[ D(x) \left( \beta \frac{d\phi(x)}{dx} F_1(x, y) + \frac{\partial F_1(x, y)}{\partial x} \right) \right] + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ D(x) \frac{\partial F_1(x, y)}{\partial y} \right] + D(x) \frac{\partial^2 F_0(x, y)}{\partial y^2} = F_0(x, y) - \Theta(y)P_0(x).$$

**Order 1**

# Effective or coarse grained diffusion equation

$$D_{\text{eff}} \frac{\partial^2 K_0(y)}{\partial y^2} = K_0(y) - \Theta(y) \quad D_{\text{eff}} \text{- Lifson-Jackson result !}$$

$$\overline{\langle N_+^2 \rangle}_{\text{ac}} = \frac{\bar{\rho} \ell_0}{2s} \int_{-\infty}^0 dx_0 P_0(x_0) \exp \left( \sqrt{\frac{s}{D_{\text{eff}}}} x_0 \right).$$

$$P_0(x) = \frac{1}{\ell_0} \left[ 1 + \sum_{n \neq 0} \exp \left( \frac{2\pi i n x}{\ell_0} \right) \int_0^{\ell} dx' P_0(x') \exp \left( -\frac{2\pi i n x'}{\ell_0} \right) \right] \quad \text{Fourier series}$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^0 dx_0 \exp \left( \sqrt{\frac{s}{D_{\text{eff}}}} x_0 + i k_n x_0 \right) = \frac{1}{i k_n + \sqrt{s/D_{\text{eff}}}} \quad \text{Mode } n=0 \text{ dominates at late times}$$

dependence on  $P_0(x)$  goes away

**Leading order late time result**

$$\langle N_+^2(t) \rangle_{\text{ac}} = \bar{\rho} \sqrt{\frac{D_{\text{eff}} t}{\pi}} \quad \text{agrees with intuition}$$

# Simulation results- potential

$$\beta\phi(x) = E[1 - \cos(2\pi x/\ell)]$$

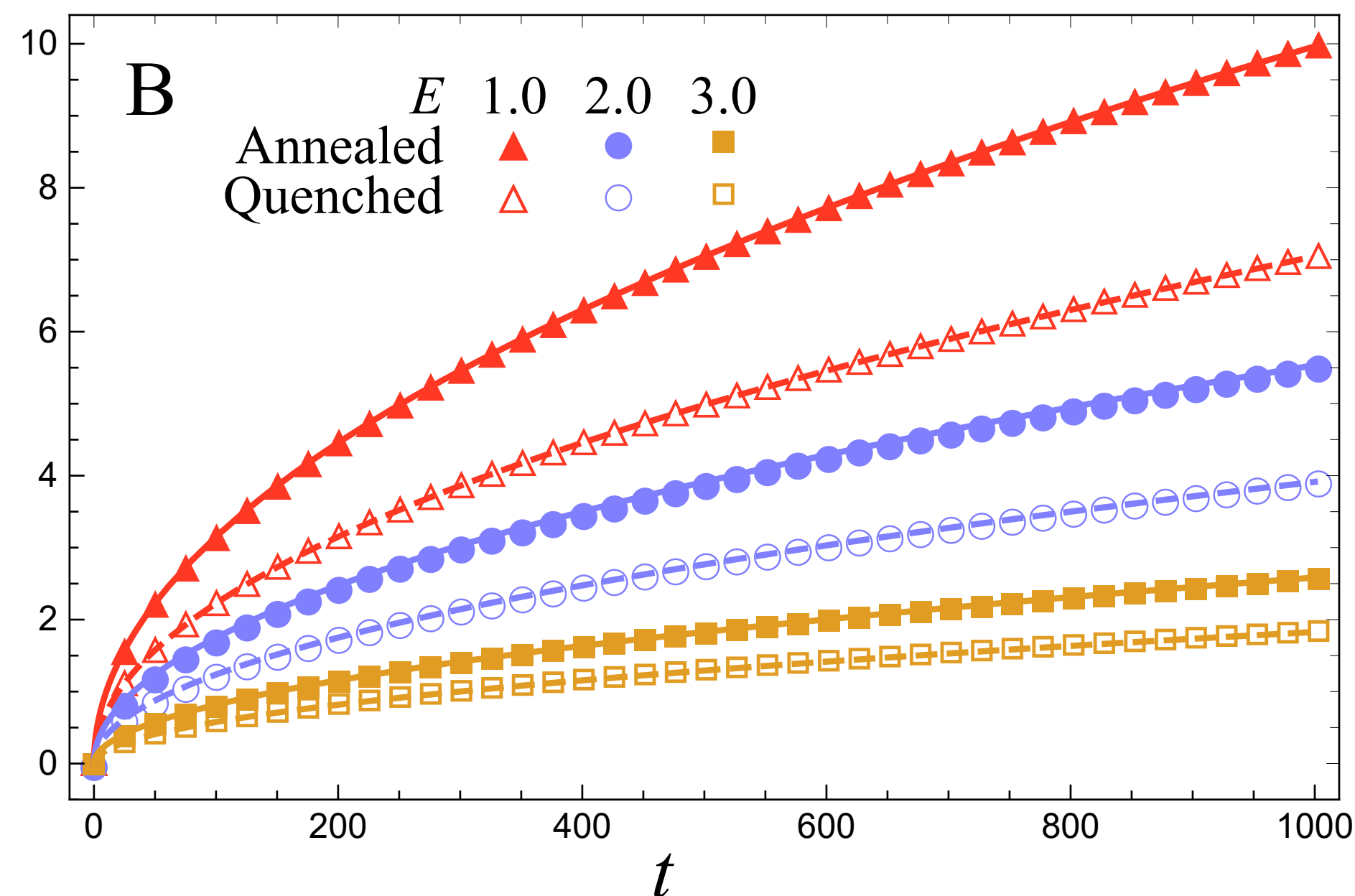
A. Taloni and F. Marchesoni, Phys. Rev. Lett. 96, 020601 (2006).  
 D. Lips, A. Ryabov, and P. Maass, Phys. Rev. E 100, 052121 (2019).

$$D(x) = D_0$$

**Theoretical predictions**

$$\langle Y^2(t; E, \bar{\rho}) \rangle_{ac} = \frac{2}{\bar{\rho} I_0(E)} \sqrt{\frac{D_0 t}{\pi}} \quad \langle Y^2(t; E, \bar{\rho}) \rangle_{qc} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\bar{\rho} I_0(E)} \sqrt{\frac{D_0 t}{\pi}}$$

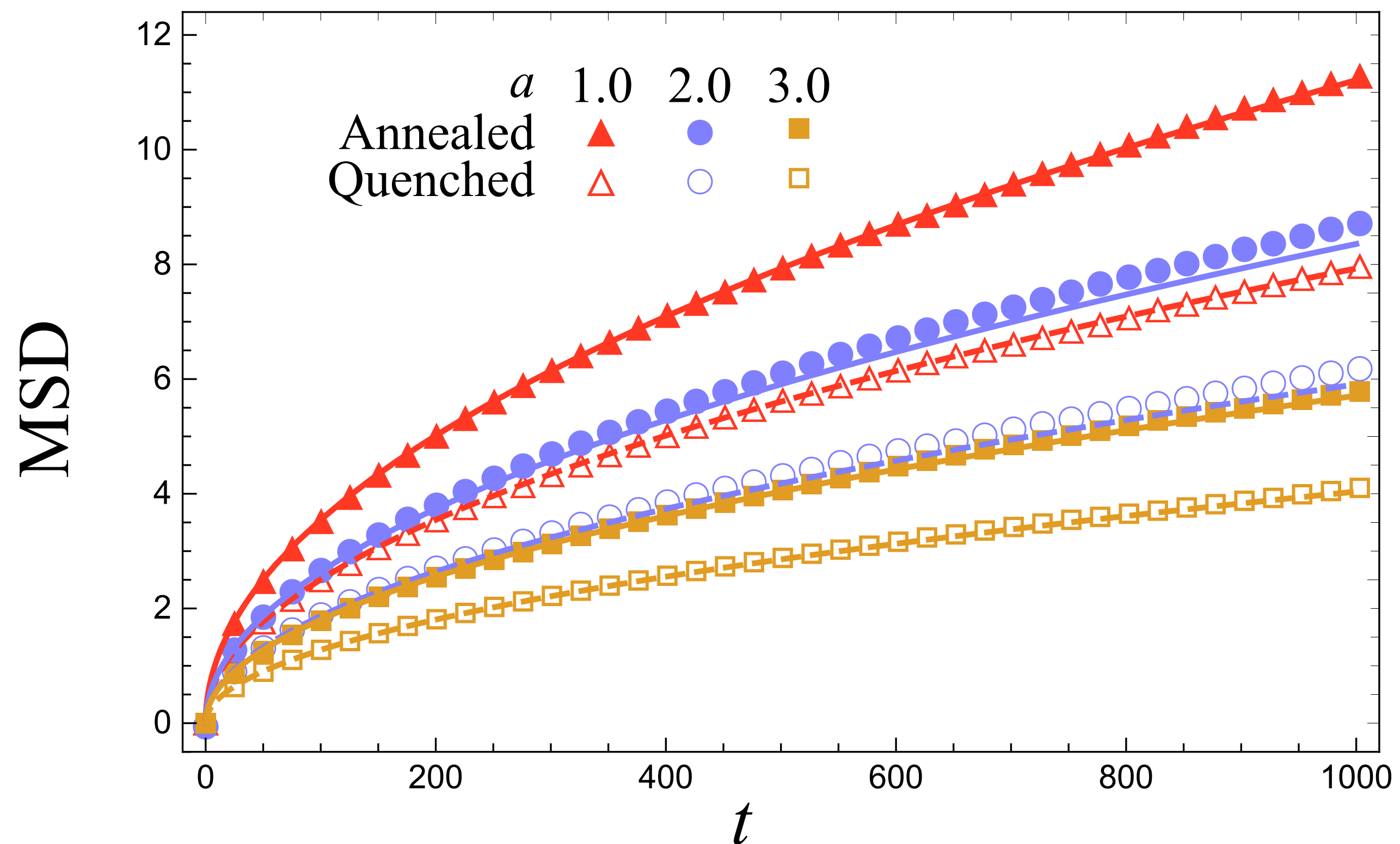
$I_0(z)$  modified Bessel function



# Simulations-diffusivity

$$D(x) = D_0 \exp[a \cos(2\pi x/\ell)] \quad \phi = 0$$

$$\langle Y^2(t; a, \bar{\rho}) \rangle_{\text{ac}} = \frac{2}{\bar{\rho}} \sqrt{\frac{D_0 t}{I_0(a)\pi}} = F_{\text{eff}} \sqrt{t} \quad \langle Y^2(t; a, \bar{\rho}) \rangle_{\text{qc}} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\bar{\rho}} \sqrt{\frac{D_0 t}{I_0(a)\pi}} = F_{\text{eff}} \sqrt{t}$$



# Conclusion

**Long time effective diffusion constant can be used to characterise the long time SFD behavior**

**A form of homogenisation theory from applied mathematics can be adapted to prove the result**

**It would be interesting to see if homogenisation theory can be applied to other problems in statistical physics - for example to justify macroscopic fluctuation theory**

L. Bertini, A. De Sole, D. Gabrielli, G. Jona-Lasinio and C. Landim,  
Phys. Rev. Lett. 87, 040601 (2001)