

# Anomalous transport and onset of diffusive behaviour in confined systems

Lamberto Rondoni – Politecnico di Torino

Scuola Galileiana - Padova - 2009

# Outline

- 1 The problem
- 2 Pointlike particles
- 3 Finite size particles
- 4 Conclusions

Local Thermodynamic Equilibrium, based on separation of scales

$$N \gg 1, \quad \ell \ll \delta L \ll L, \quad \tau \ll \delta t \ll t$$

$\delta L^3$  contains thermodynamic system  $(P, V, T)$ ;

$\delta t$  suffices for system in  $\delta L^3$  to reach equilibrium.

Hydrodynamic laws are given; container shape does **NOT** matter (only boundary conditions).

Differently, in microporous media, walls play a significant role in determining transport law: inter-particle and particle-wall interactions equally likely.

- How does transition take place?
- What if it does not take place (e.g. in bio- nano-systems)?

Introduce Transport Exponent  $\gamma$  as:  $\langle r^2(t) \rangle \sim t^{2\gamma}$

Inter-particle interactions have stronger influence on transition than defocussing particle-wall interactions: not bound to occur at fixed positions, efficiently break correlations.

Chaos neither sufficient nor necessary.

How does liner response need to be modified?

Given that

$$D_{ii} = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\langle (x_i(t) - x_i(0))^2 \rangle}{2t} = \int_0^\infty C_{ii}(t) dt, \quad C_{ii}(t) = \langle v_i(t)v_i(0) \rangle$$

anomalous diffusion occurs if

- variance of velocity is not finite ( $\langle v^2 \rangle = \infty$ )
- correlations persist ( $C_{ii}(t) \sim t^{-\beta}$ ,  $\beta < 1$ )

FDR relates mean velocity and position responses to an external perturbing force  $\mathbf{F}$ , to the velocity autocorrelation:

$$\langle v(t) \rangle_{\mathbf{F}} \propto \int_0^t C_v(t') dt'$$

$$\langle x(t) \rangle_{\mathbf{F}} = \int_0^t \langle v(t') \rangle_{\mathbf{F}} dt' \propto \int_0^t \int_0^{t'} C_v(t' - t'') dt' dt'' = \langle x(t)^2 \rangle_0 \sim t^{2\nu}$$

Although the above argument is correct in the case of normally diffusing systems, in general it is not rigorous, and in the case of anomalous diffusion it easily leads to inconsistencies.

In some subdiffusive case, however, its conclusions have been theoretically, numerically and experimentally confirmed [MBK99,GSGWS96,VPV08].

Various works show that **transient** anomalous diffusion is often realized, even when asymptotically normal diffusion sets in. It is then to be seen whether the asymptotic regime is experimentally relevant.

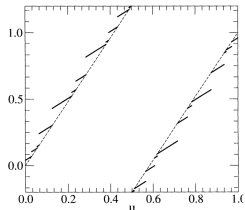
Many reports on fast diffusion, e.g. of water in carbon nanotubes.

Well known slow transport in *single-file diffusion*.

Let us investigate some simple model, to see how various transport regimes may be realized.

Studies concerning minimal requirements for  $\langle r^2(t) \rangle \sim t$ .  
In particular, non-chaotic systems:

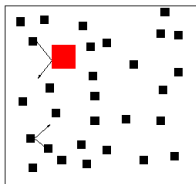
quenched disorder



irrational angles



$\Rightarrow$   
ergodicity(?)



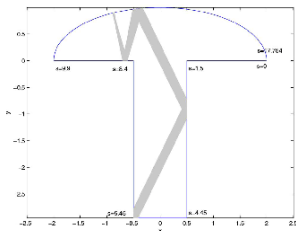
dynamical  
disorder

Alonso, Artuso, van Beijeren, Casati, Cohen, Dettmann, Klages,  
Larralde, Prosen, Sanders, Vulpiani, ...

Starting from non-interacting point particles

What happens when they become disks?

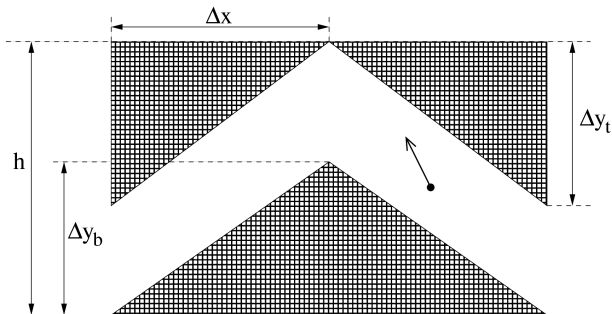
Bunimovich, Lancel, Porter for billiards with with regular, chaotic and mixed regular-chaotic pointlike particle dynamics.



Interacting particles:  
 some integrals of motion survive,  
 phase space subdivides in ergodic  
 components of positive measure.

Shape of container matters also for ergodic properties of  
 interacting particles (also Swinney et al.)

If particles don't interact inside polygonal pores, consider them as point-like. Vanishing Lyapunov exp. slow correlation decays. Trajectories slowly separate.



Uniform phase space probability distribution is invariant, but system does not need to be ergodic.

$\gamma$  for parallel walls. 5000 particles,  $10^7$  collisions.

$\frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x}$	$h = \Delta y/2$	$h = \Delta y$	$h = 1.05\Delta y$	$h = 2\Delta y$	$h = 20\Delta y$
0.25	1.85	1.83	1.82	1.85	1.85
1	1.66	1.64	1.62	1.67	1.68
2	1.83	1.85	1.82	1.80	1.79
3	1.86	1.87	1.84	1.80	1.70

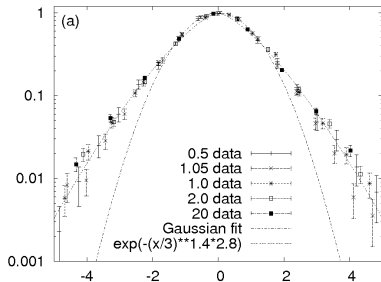
For  $h \geq 2\Delta y$ : infinite horizon.

Error estimated to  $\pm 0.03$ . Clearly superdiffusive, not ballistic.

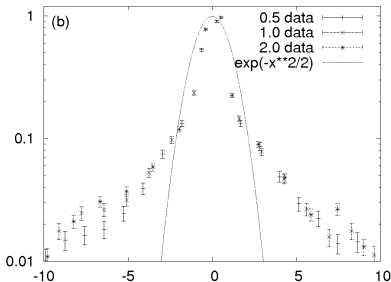
Note **reduction** of  $\gamma$  with  $h$ , for steepest walls.

1-flat wall: only longer transients, and even slightly **smaller**  $\gamma$  !

Total x-displacement after  $10^6$  collisions.

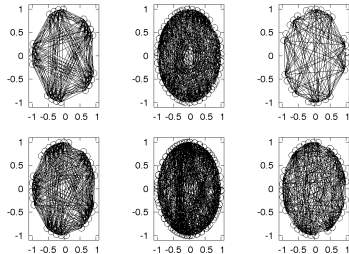


$\Delta y / \Delta x = 2$  i.e.  
 irrational polygon.  
 Gaussian only close to peak. Ex-  
 ponential tails.



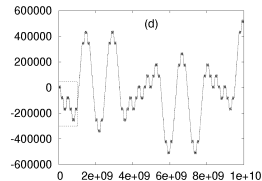
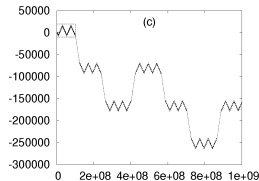
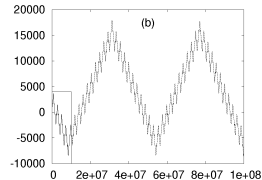
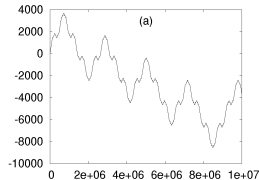
$\Delta y / \Delta x = 1$  i.e.  
 rational polygon.

## Very slow decay of correlations.



$\Delta y/\Delta x = 3$ , pore height =  $2\Delta y$ .  
 $10^3$  momenta,  
 sampled every  $10^4$  steps  
 6 different initial conditions.

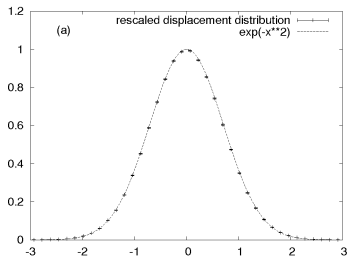
Particle displacement  
 for  $\Delta y/\Delta x = 1$ ,  $d = 2\Delta y$ .



Light gas in pore  $\sim 1$  nm, room  $T$ ,  $v \sim 400$  m/s,  $\tau \sim 1$  ps  
 $\implies$  correlations over  $1 \mu$ s and  $1$  mm.

## Unparallel walls.

## Apparent diffusion.



$$\Delta y_t / \Delta x = 0.62,$$

$$\Delta y_b / \Delta x = 0.65,$$

i.e. irrational polygons,

$10^6$  time units ( $10^6 - 10^7$  coll.),

$10^4$  initial conditions.

$\Delta y_t / \Delta x$	$\Delta y_b / \Delta x$	$0.5\Delta y$	$1.0\Delta y$	$1.05\Delta y$	$2.0\Delta y$	$20\Delta y$
0.62	0.63	1.00(2)	1.02(2)	0.97(3)	1.03(7)	0.72(3)
0.62	0.64	1.00(1)	1.2(1)	1.03(3)	1.19(7)	1.10(5)
0.62	0.65	0.99(2)	1.02(2)	1.02(3)	0.97(6)	1.13(5)

Individual  $\approx$  collective behaviour, except for rare apparently ballistic trajectories, which may affect collective behaviour.

$\Delta y_t / \Delta x$	$\Delta y_b / \Delta x$	$\gamma$	$\Delta y_t / \Delta x$	$\Delta y_b / \Delta x$	$\gamma$
1	1.01	0.71(4)	2	2.02	1.04(2)
1	1.001	0.35(6)	2	2.002	1.01(2)
1	1.0001	0.66(5)	2	2.0002	1.04(2)
1	1.00001	0.58(3)	2	2.00002	1.02(2)
1	1.000001	0.53(5)	2	2.000002	0.98(2)
1	1	1.66(3)	2	2	1.83(3)

Apparently, no trend towards super-diffusion, close to (rational or irrational) parallel cases, for fixed simulation times.

Sanders and Larralde show that the crossover time from normal to anomalous diverges as walls become parallel.

Macroscopically less predictable,  
 though microscopically more unstable than chaotic systems;  
 sensitive dependence of transport on geometry:  
 not just transport coefficient but transport law appears highly irregular.

**Definition.** Geometry determined by  $y \in [0, h]$ .

Transport law:  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \langle s_x^2(t) \rangle / t^\gamma = A$ .

$\Delta\gamma(y_m, y_M) =$  largest  $\gamma$  variation for  $y \in (y_m, y_M) \subset [0, h]$ .

Fix simulation time  $t_{\max}$ .

i. *Transport complexity of first kind in  $(y_m, y_M)$ :*

$$C_1(y_m, y_M) = \frac{h\Delta\gamma(y_m, y_M)}{2(y_M - y_m)}$$

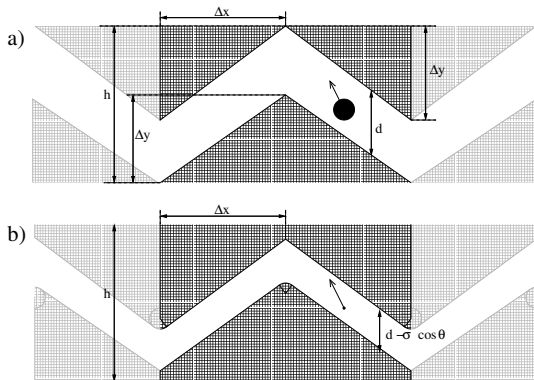
ii. *Transport complexity of second kind for  $y = \hat{y}$ :  $C_2(\hat{y})$  such that*

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{C_1(\hat{y} - \varepsilon, \hat{y} + \varepsilon)}{\varepsilon C_2(\hat{y})} < \infty$$

iii. *Transport complexity of third kind for  $y = \hat{y}$ :*

$$C_3(\hat{y}) = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \Delta\gamma(\hat{y} - \varepsilon, \hat{y} + \varepsilon)$$

Anomalous point-like diffusion:  $\Delta y / \Delta x = 1$  or  $2$ .  $\sigma =$  particle diameter.



Semidispersive  
billiard with bumps  
ergodicity  
not known.  
Collisions with  
rounded corners  
and interactions  
may lead to  
positive Lyapunov  
exponents.

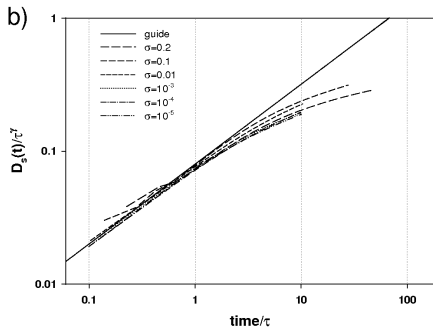
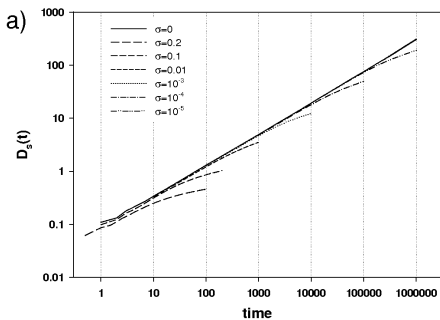
$$D_s(N; t) = \sum_{i=1}^N \int_0^t \frac{\langle \mathbf{v}_i(0) \mathbf{v}_i(s) \rangle}{2dN} ds, \quad D_0(N; t) = \sum_{i,j=1}^N \int_0^t \frac{\langle \mathbf{v}_i(0) \mathbf{v}_j(s) \rangle}{2dN} ds$$

Let  $f_{\text{apex}}$  = apex collision frequency;

$\tau_{\text{apex}}$  = mean apex collision time.

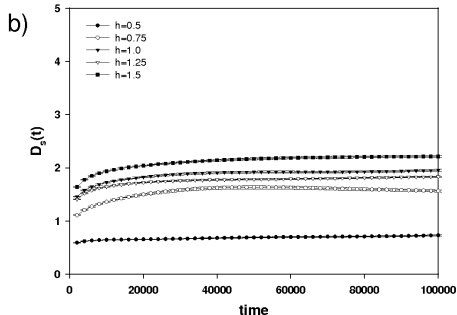
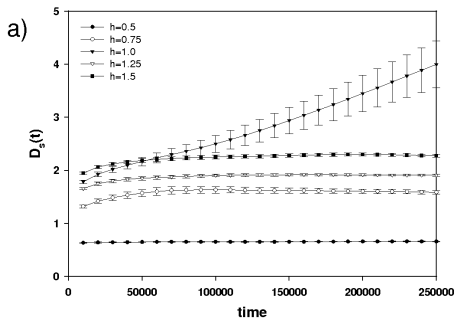
Initially: point-like transport in pores of reduced height;  
 super-diffusive,  $\gamma$  determined by wall angle.

Slow departure to apparently diffusive behaviour [ $O(10) \tau_{\text{apex}}$ ].



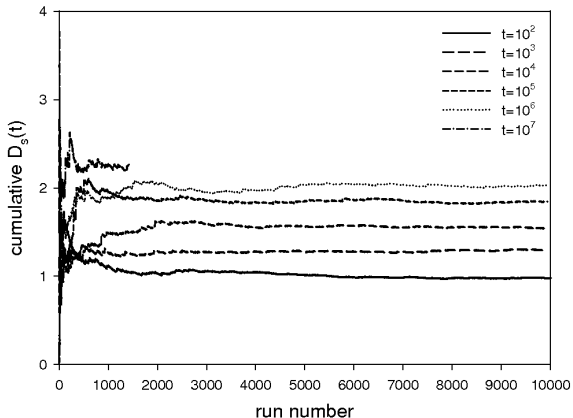
Departure points overlap if time rescaled by  $t' = t f_{\text{apex}}$ .

Convergence to diffusive behaviour not obvious. Even if departure from pointlike case occurs after  $10 \tau_{\text{apex}}$ ,  $10^3 \tau_{\text{apex}}$  and averaging over  $10^5$  initial conditions are not sufficient.



Do bursts due to very long very few ballistic trajectory segments affect asymptotic result?

Even removing the bursts, convergence is problematic:  
 convergence at fixed times is almost achieved,  
 but convergence at fixed ensemble size is not obvious:  
 $D$  grows with  $t$ .



Defocussing collisions  
 do contribute to decay  
 of correlations,  
 but is it enough?  
 Larger particles,  
 i.e. shorter  $\tau_{\text{apex}}$  help  
 (dispersive limit).

Interparticle collisions introduce further randomizing, decorrelating, mechanisms: defocussing collisions occur at random positions (hence impair the “bursts”).

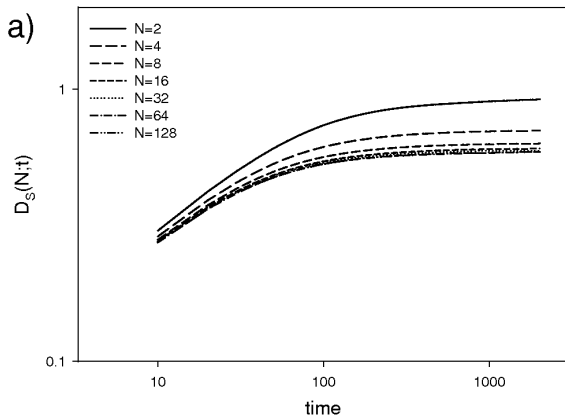
Departure from polygonal billiard phase takes place on the shortest time scale between  $1/f_{\text{apex}}$  and  $1/f_{\text{coll}}$ . Convergence towards diffusion, now common, is determined by  $f_{\text{coll}}$ .

However, for  $N \leq 10$ , kinetic theory prediction

$$D_s^{(2\text{D-Enskog})} = \frac{1}{2n\sigma g(\nu)} \sqrt{\frac{kT}{\pi m}}; \quad g(\nu) = \frac{1 - 7\nu}{16(1 - \nu)^2}; \quad \nu = \frac{\pi n\sigma^2}{4}$$

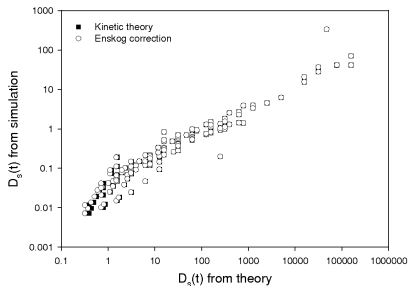
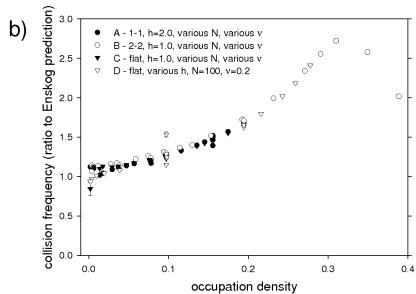
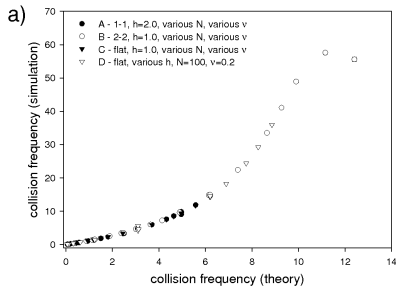
and even simply  $1/n$  behaviour are not verified.

Convergence rather quick ( $N \geq 16$ ):



$D_S \neq D_0$  and  
 $D_S \rightarrow D_0$  as  $\sigma \rightarrow 0$ ,  
 but  $D_S \not\rightarrow D_0$  if  $n \rightarrow 0$ .  
 $D_S$  closer to  $D_0$   
 for large  $D$ .

Correlations of particles  
 persist because of  
 rare or ineffective  
 (due to boundaries)  
 mutual interactions.



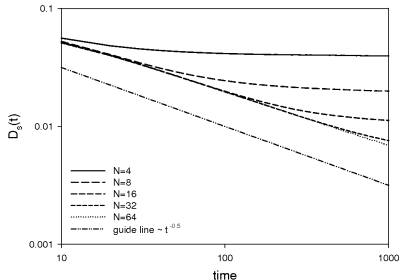
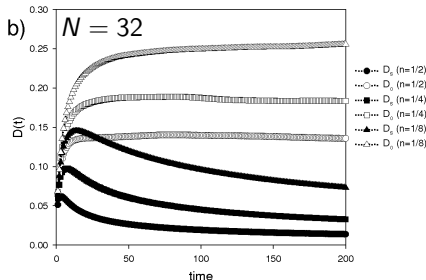
$$f_{\text{coll}}^{(2D)} = 2n\sigma g(\nu) \sqrt{\frac{\pi kT}{m}}$$

$$g = 1 \text{ in ideal case.}$$

Frequency discrepancies independent  
of geometry: low density as from  
kinetic theory; high density  $\ell \ll L$ .

Theories overestimate  $D_S$ .

Single File Transport ( $\sigma > d/2$ , cannot overtake); some correlation persists (particles order); expected  $\gamma = 1/2$ , for  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .  
Self diffusion surely affected,  $D_0$  may be not.



Finite  $N$ ,  $D_s$  only reduced, but  $\gamma \rightarrow 1/2$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ ;  $D_0$  differs from corresponding point-like  $D_s$  values; **single file  $D_s$  reached within  $O(10^3)$ , while  $10^5$  not enough for  $N = 1$ .** Yet  $f_{\text{apex}} \sim f_{\text{coll}}$ .  
**Stable phenomenon due to low dimensionality.**

- Point particles enjoy peculiar properties, but finite-sized particles behave similarly within given space and time scales. Can be diffusive (chaos not necessary).
- Single particle with  $\sigma > 0$ : **a)** initial point-like phase of duration  $O(1/\sigma)$ ; **b)** asymptotic regime appears diffusive.
- $N \geq 2$ : diffusion sets in even for  $f_{\text{coll}} \ll f_{\text{apex}}$ ; randomness of interactions counts more than chaos for normal transport (faster correlations decay).  $D \approx$  kinetic theory if  $N \geq 16$ ,  $\sigma \ll L$ .
- Single file: self-sub-diffusive; collectively diffusive even for  $f_{\text{coll}} \ll f_{\text{apex}}$ , because of low dimensionality (chaos not sufficient).

Geometry effects and correlations lasting over scales comparable with medium size, interesting even if not asymptotic: e.g. relevance for nano- bio-sciences.