

22.4: Analyzing Trajectories

Analyzing Trajectories

Waiting-Time Distributions, P

τ_w : Waiting time between arriving and leaving a state or $P(k, t)$

P_k : Probability of making k jumps during a time interval, t . \rightarrow Survival probability

P_w : Probability of waiting a time τ_w between jumps? Waiting time distribution \rightarrow FPT distribution

Let's relate these...

Assume independent events. No memory of history – where it was in trajectory.

Flux: $\frac{dP_R}{dt} = J$

J : Probability of jump during Δt . Δt is small enough that $J \ll 1$, but long enough to lose memory of earlier configurations.

The probability of seeing k jumps during a time interval t , where t is divided into N intervals of width Δt ($t = N\Delta t$) is given by the binomial distribution

$$P(k, N) = \frac{N!}{k!(N-k)!} J^k (1-J)^{N-k} \quad (22.4.1)$$

Here $N \gg k$. Define rate λ in terms of the average number of jumps per unit time

$$\lambda = \frac{\langle k \rangle}{t} = \frac{1}{\langle \tau_w \rangle}$$

$$J = \lambda \Delta t \rightarrow J = \frac{\lambda t}{N}$$

Substituting this into eq. (22.4.1) Error! Reference source not found.. For $N \gg k$, recognize

$$(1-J)^{N-k} \approx (1-J)^N = \left(1 - \frac{\lambda t}{N}\right)^N \approx e^{-\lambda t}$$

The last step is exact for $\lim N \rightarrow \infty$.

Poisson distribution for the number of jumps in time t .

$$\langle P(k, t) \rangle = \langle \lambda t \rangle = \frac{\lambda t}{\langle P^2(k, t) \rangle^{1/2}} = (\lambda t)^{1/2}$$

Fluctuations: $\sigma / \langle P(k, t) \rangle = (\lambda t)^{-1/2}$

OK, now what about P_w the waiting time distribution?

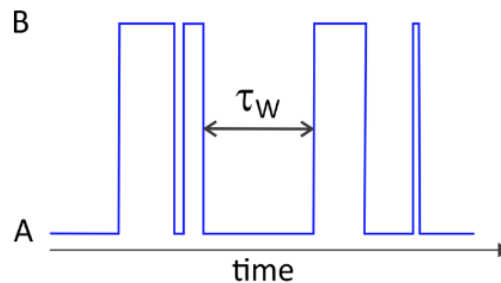
Consider the probability of not jumping during time t :

$$P_k(0, t) = e^{-\lambda t}$$

As you wait longer and longer, the probability that you stay in the initial state drops exponentially. Note that $P_k(0, t)$ is related to P_w by integration over distribution of waiting times.

$$\int_t^\infty P_w(t') dt' = P(0, t) = e^{-\lambda t}$$

$$\int_t^\infty P_w dt \rightarrow \text{probability of staying for } t$$



$$\int_0^t P_w dt \rightarrow \text{probability of jumping within } t$$

Probability of jumping between t and $t+\Delta t$:

$$P_w(t)\Delta t = \overbrace{(1 - \langle k \rangle \Delta t_1)}^{\text{Probability of no decay for time } < t} \overbrace{(1 - \langle k \rangle \Delta t_2) \dots (1 - \langle k \rangle \Delta t_N)}^{\text{decay on last}} \widehat{k \Delta t}$$

$$= (1 - \langle k \rangle \Delta t)^N k \Delta t \approx k e^{-kt} \Delta t$$

$$P_w = \lambda e^{-\lambda t}$$

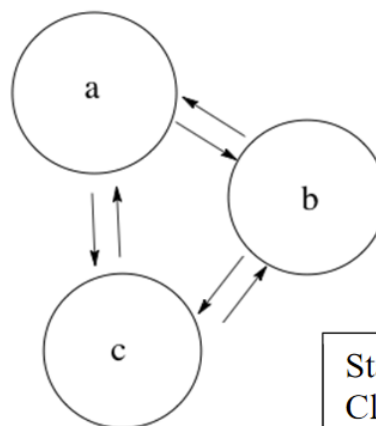
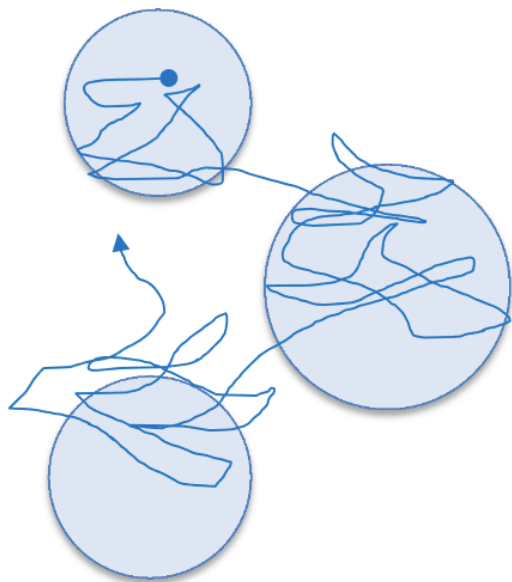
$$\langle \tau \rangle = \int_0^\infty t p_w(t) dt$$

$$\langle \tau_w \rangle = 1/\lambda \rightarrow \text{the average waiting time is the lifetime}(1/\lambda)$$

$$\langle \tau_w^2 \rangle - \langle \tau_w \rangle^2 = (1/\lambda)^2$$

Reduction of Complex Kinetics from Trajectories

- Integrating over trajectories gives probability densities.
- Need to choose a region of space to integrate over and thereby define states:



States:
Clustered regions
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- States: Clustered regions of phase space that have high probability or long persistence.
- Markovian states: Spend enough time to forget where you came from.
- Master equation: Coupled first order differential equations for the flow of amplitude between states written in terms of probabilities.

$$\frac{dP_m}{dt} = \sum_n k_{n \rightarrow m} P_n - \sum_n k_{m \rightarrow n} P_m$$

$k_{n \rightarrow m}$ is rate constant for transition from state n to state m . Units: probability/time. Or in matrix form: $\dot{P} = \mathbf{k}P$ where \mathbf{k} is the transition rate matrix. With detailed balance, conservation of population all initial conditions will converge on equilibrium

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