

# Medical Biophysics II.

4th lecture: Diffusion, Brownian motion, Osmosis  
28th February 2019.

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## Diffusion?

Why?

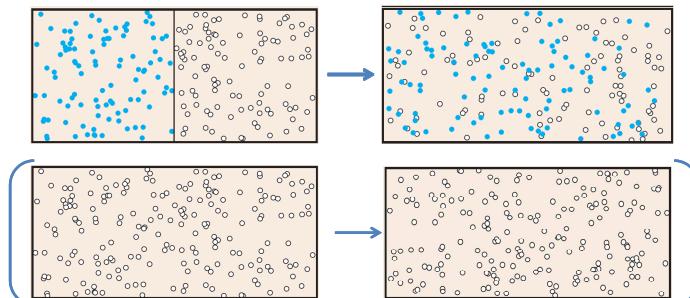
- physiology: cell function – ion diffusion...
- disorders: fibrosis, oedema, vasculitis, ascites...
- diagnostics: DWI MRI...
- therapy: dialysis, physiological saline....
- drug delivery: transdermal (liposomal), inhaled...

.....

## Diffusion?

The change in the spatial distribution of particles because of **random thermal motion**.

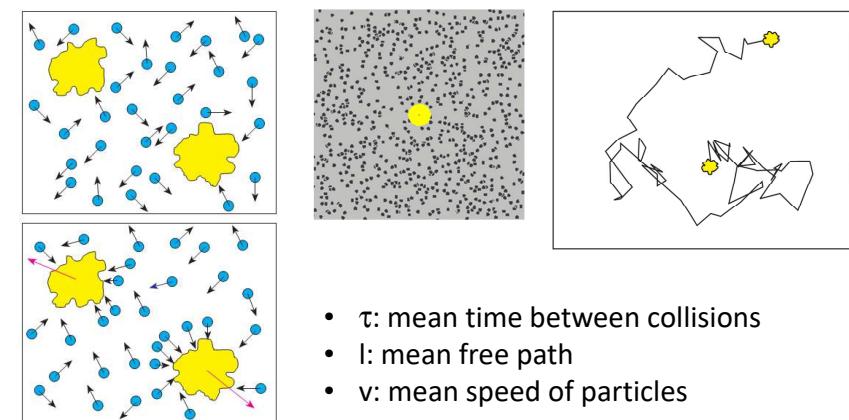
In microscopic level with **net matter transport**.



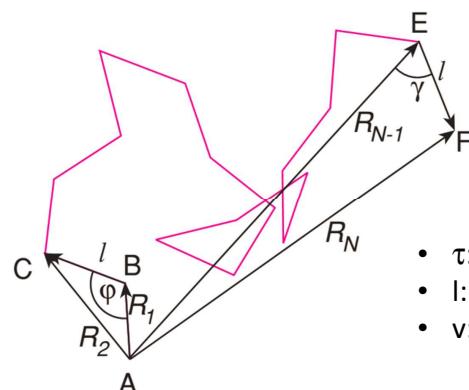
**Relevant:** NET transport of substance „A” in „B”.

## Brownian motion

The „random walk” of a particles resulting from their collision with other particles.



## How far reaches a particle?



- $\tau$ : mean time between collisions
- $l$ : mean free path
- $v$ : mean speed of particles

$$\text{One particle: } R_2^2 = R_1^2 + l^2 - 2 \cdot R_1 \cdot l \cdot \cos \varphi$$

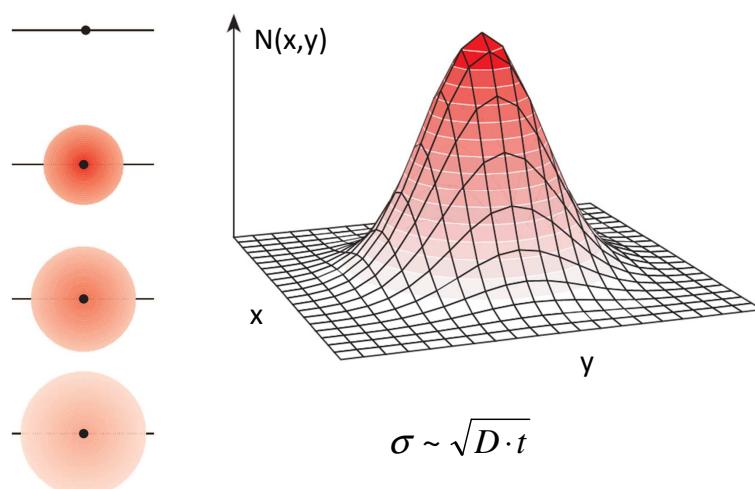
$$\text{A „mean” particle: } (\text{mean of } n \text{ particles}): \overline{R_2^2} = \frac{1}{n} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n (R_i^2 + l^2 - 2 \cdot R_i \cdot l \cdot \cos \varphi_i)$$

## How far reaches a particle?

$$\begin{aligned}\overline{R_2^2} &= \frac{1}{n} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n (R_i^2 + l^2 - 2 \cdot R_i \cdot l \cdot \cos \varphi_i) \\ \overline{R_2^2} &= \frac{1}{n} \cdot \left( n \cdot (R_1^2 + l^2) - 2 \cdot R_1 \cdot l \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n (\cos \varphi_i) \right) \\ \overline{R_2^2} &= R_1^2 + l^2 = l^2 + l^2 = 2 \cdot l^2 \\ \overline{R_N^2} &= N \cdot l^2\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\overline{R_t} &= \sqrt{N \cdot l^2} = \sqrt{\frac{t}{\tau} \cdot l \cdot l} = \sqrt{t \cdot v \cdot l} = \sqrt{3 \cdot D \cdot t} \\ \frac{v \cdot l}{3} &= D\end{aligned}$$

## Experiment – 2D distribution



## Matter transport - flow

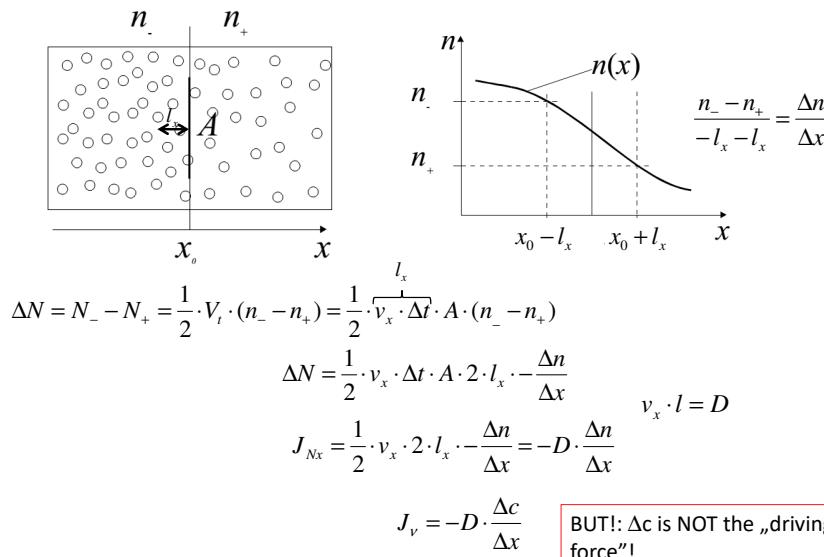
$$\text{Particle flow rate: } I_N = \frac{\Delta N}{\Delta t}; \left[ \frac{1}{s} \right]$$

$$\text{Particle flow density (flux): } J_N = \frac{\Delta I_N}{\Delta A}; \left[ \frac{1}{m^2 \cdot s} \right]$$

$$\text{Matter flow rate: } I_v = \frac{\Delta \nu}{\Delta t}; \left[ \frac{mol}{s} \right]$$

$$\text{Matter flow density (flux): } J_v = \frac{\Delta I_v}{\Delta A}; \left[ \frac{mol}{m^2 \cdot s} \right]$$

## Fick's first law



## Diffusion coefficient

$D$  gives the amount of matter diffused across a unit area in a unit time in a case of unit concentration gradient.

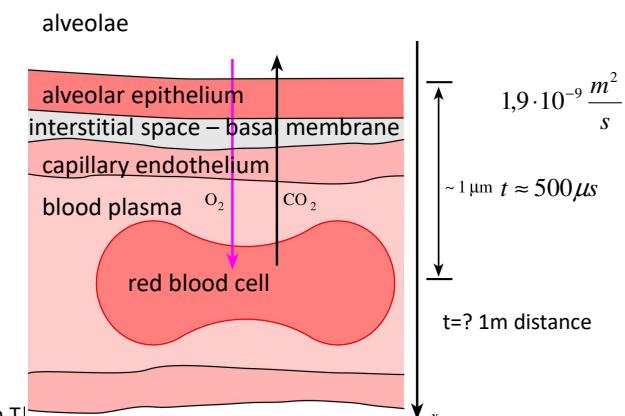
$$D = \frac{v \cdot l}{3}; \left[ \frac{m^2}{s} \right]$$

$$D = u \cdot k \cdot T$$

Einstein-Stokes (spheres)

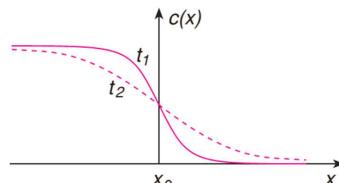
$$D = \frac{k \cdot T}{6 \cdot \pi \cdot \eta \cdot r}$$

**BUT!**  
Not directly proportional with  $T$ !

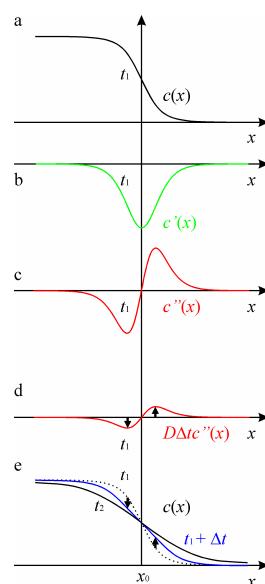


## Fick's second law

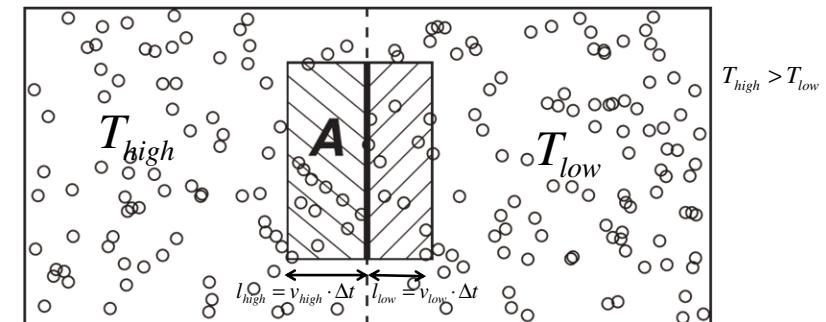
Fick II: change of the concentration gradient in time



$$c(t + \Delta t) = c(t) + D \cdot \Delta t \cdot \frac{\Delta \left( \frac{\Delta c}{\Delta x} \right)}{\Delta x}$$

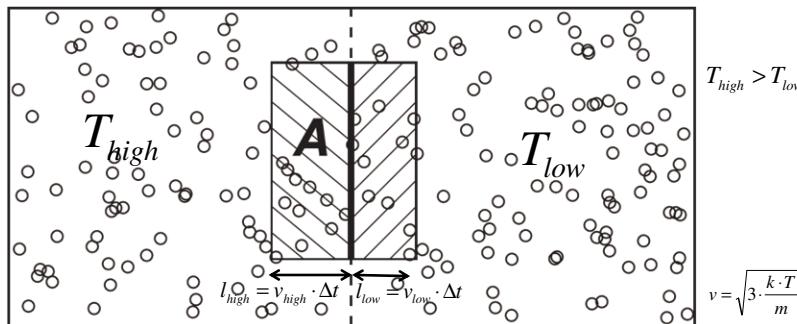


## Thermodiffusion



$$\Delta N = N_{high} - N_{low} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot n \cdot \Delta t \cdot A \cdot (v_{high} - v_{low}) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot n \cdot \Delta t \cdot A \cdot (v_{high} - v_{low}) \cdot \frac{(v_{high} + v_{low})}{(v_{high} + v_{low})}$$

## Thermodiffusion

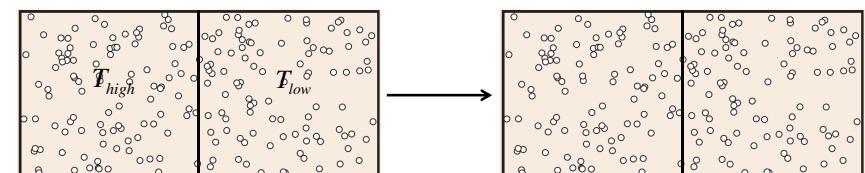


$$\frac{1}{2} \cdot n \cdot \Delta t \cdot A \cdot \frac{(v_{high}^2 - v_{low}^2)}{(v_{high} + v_{low})} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot n \cdot \Delta t \cdot A \cdot \frac{(v_{high}^2 - v_{low}^2)}{(v_{high} + v_{low})} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot n \cdot \Delta t \cdot A \cdot \frac{\frac{3 \cdot k \cdot T_{high}}{m} - \frac{3 \cdot k \cdot T_{low}}{m}}{2 \cdot v_{mean}}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \cdot \left( \frac{n \cdot \Delta t \cdot A \cdot 3 \cdot k}{m \cdot 2 \cdot v_{mean}} \right) \cdot (T_{high} - T_{low})$$

$$J_v = -L_r \cdot \frac{\Delta T}{\Delta x} \quad (\text{Ludwig-Soret effect})$$

## Heat conduction



$$T_{high} > T_{low}$$

$$\Delta N = N_{high} - N_{low} = 0$$

$$N_{high} = N_{low}$$

$$\bar{\epsilon} = \frac{3}{2} \cdot k \cdot T$$

Energy flow density  $J_v = \frac{\Delta E}{A \cdot \Delta t} = \frac{N_{high} \cdot \frac{3}{2} \cdot k \cdot (T_{high} - T_{low})}{A \cdot \Delta t} = -\lambda \cdot \frac{\Delta T}{\Delta x}$

(Fourier law for heat conduction)

## Generalization

Onsager-relation:  $J_{ext.} = L_{cond} * X_{int\_grad}$

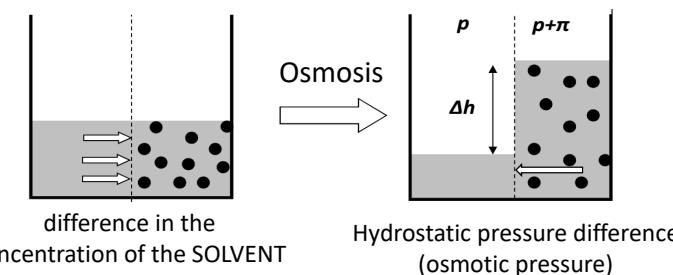
$J_{ext.}$ : flow density of extensive quantity (eg.  $J_{matter}$ )

$X_{int\_grad}$ : gradient of intensive quantity (eg.  $\frac{\Delta c}{\Delta x}$ )

$L_{cond}$ : conductivity coefficient (eg.  $D$ )

## Osmosis

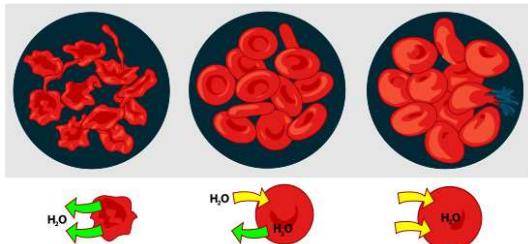
One-way diffusion of the SOLVENT.



$$p_{osm} = \pi = c_{solute} \cdot R \cdot T \quad (\text{Van 't Hoff law})$$

**Osmotic concentration** (equivalent osmotic pressure, „ozmolarity”, „ozmolality”):  
The concentration of a solution that keeps balance with a heterogeneous solution.  
Derived units:  $mOsm/L$ ,  $mmol/L$ ,  $mmol/kg$

# Medical practice



**Osmotic concentration of the blood: about 300mOsm/L**

**Physiological („isotonic“) solutions:**

Physiological/Normal/Isotonic saline: 0,9% (w/v) NaCl

d5W: 5% (w/v) glucose

Ringer, Ringer's lactate