

Mpemba effect in bistable continuous potentials

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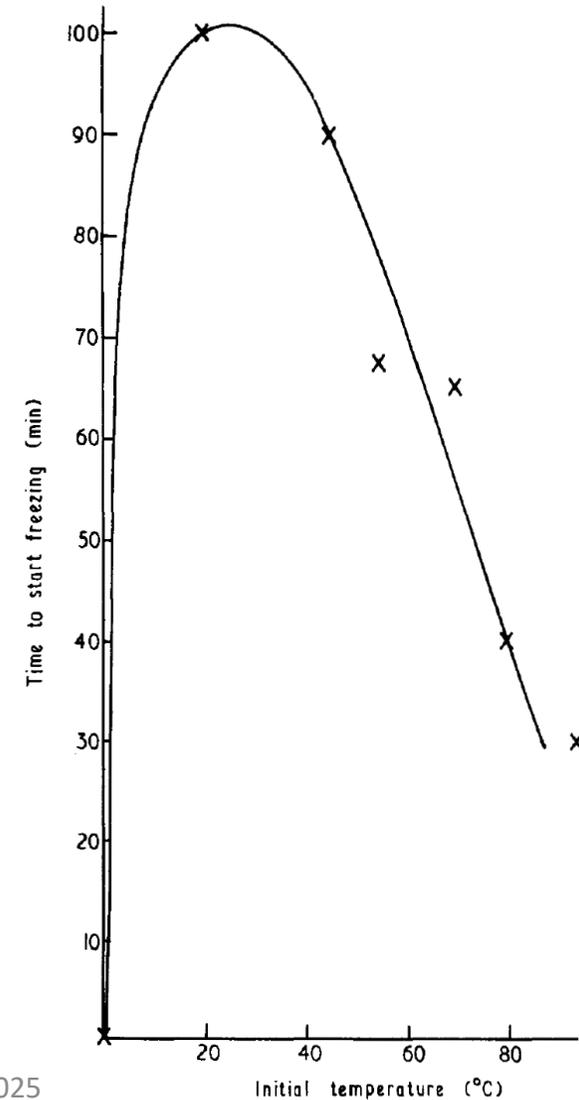
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What is the Mpemba effect?

- **Erasto B. Mpemba** found that some hot suspensions (*ice cream mix*) can freeze faster than cold (1963).
- Mpemba & D. G. Osborne published a paper (1969).

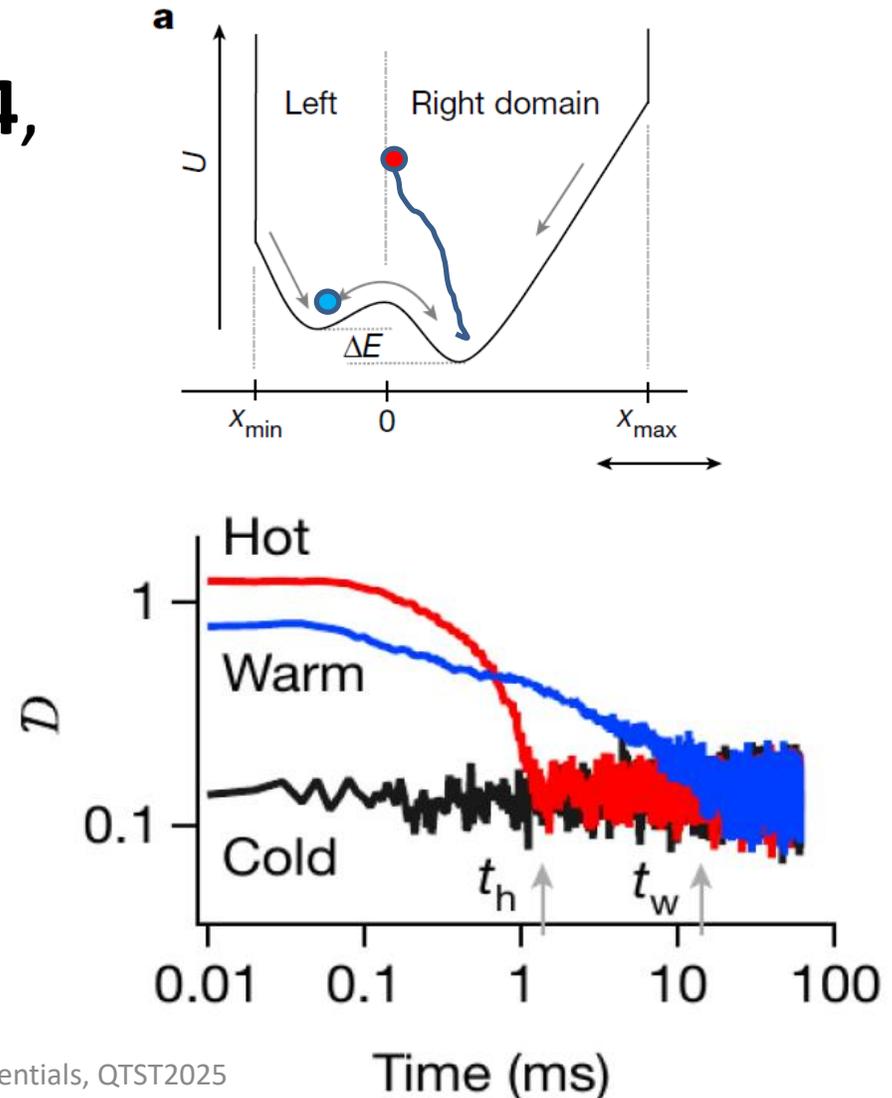


Mpemba in continuous potentials, QTST2025

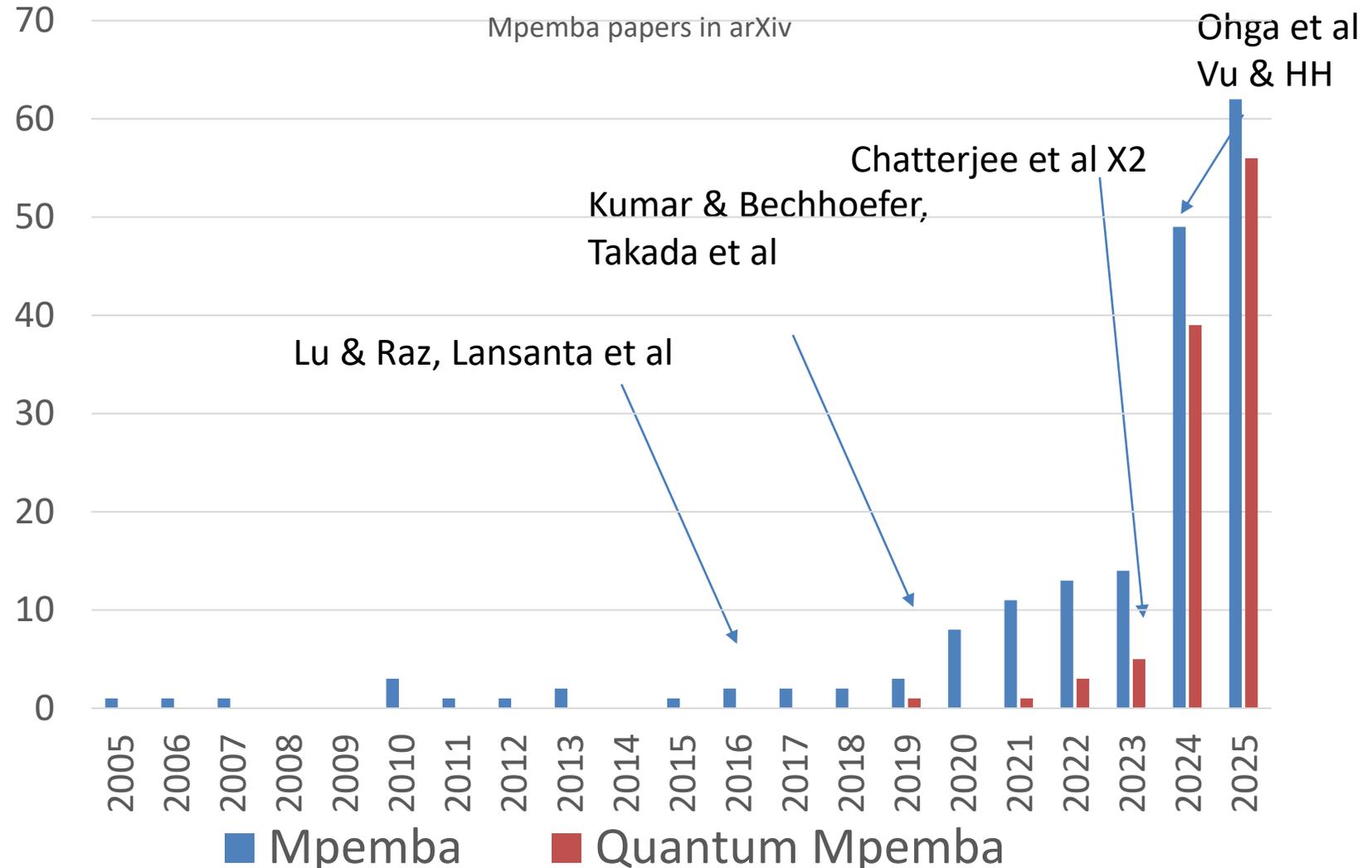


Experimental confirmation

- Kumar & Bechhoefer, Nature **584**, 64 (2020).
- They have analyzed **trapped colloids in a double well potential**.
- They observed the **distance** between the distribution and equilibrium one.



Papers on Mpemba effect in arXiv (December 5th)



Analysis of the Mpemba

	Two equilibrium initial conditions	Control of initial conditions
Classical	✓ Vu & Hayakawa Ohga et al	✓ Takada et al
Quantum	?	✓ Yamashika's talk (Chatterjee et al x2)

The second scenario (Lu & Raz 2017)

- We use the **Fokker-Planck** equation in a potential $V(x)$:

$$\partial_t p = \mathbb{W}(\beta)p, \quad \mathbb{W}(\beta) := \partial_x(V'(x) + T\partial_x)$$

- Because FP eq. with detailed balance does not have any degeneracy, we can write

$$p(x, \beta; t) = \sum_n e^{-\lambda_n t} r_n(x, \beta) a_n$$

$$a_n := \int dx' l_n(x', \beta) p_i(x', \beta_i)$$

l_n and r_n are the left and right eigenvectors.

$$p(x, t) \approx p_{\text{eq}}(x, \beta) + e^{-\lambda_2 t} r_2(x) a_2(\beta_i, \beta), \quad a_2(\beta_i, \beta) := \int dx' l_2(x', \beta) p_i(x')$$

$$p_i := e^{-\beta_i V} / Z(\beta_i)$$

Continuous potential

- We can use the mapping onto imaginary time **Schrödinger equation** with

$$g(x, t) := e^{-\beta V(x)/2} p(x, t)$$

$$T \partial_t g(x, t) = [T^2 \partial_x^2 - U(x)] g(x, t) = T \mathbb{L} g(x, t)$$

Effective potential $U(x) := \frac{1}{4} V'(x)^2 - \frac{1}{2} T V''(x)$

$$\mathbb{L} \varphi_n(x) = -\lambda_n \varphi_n(x)$$

$$r_n(x) = e^{-\frac{\beta V(x)}{2}} \varphi_n(x)$$

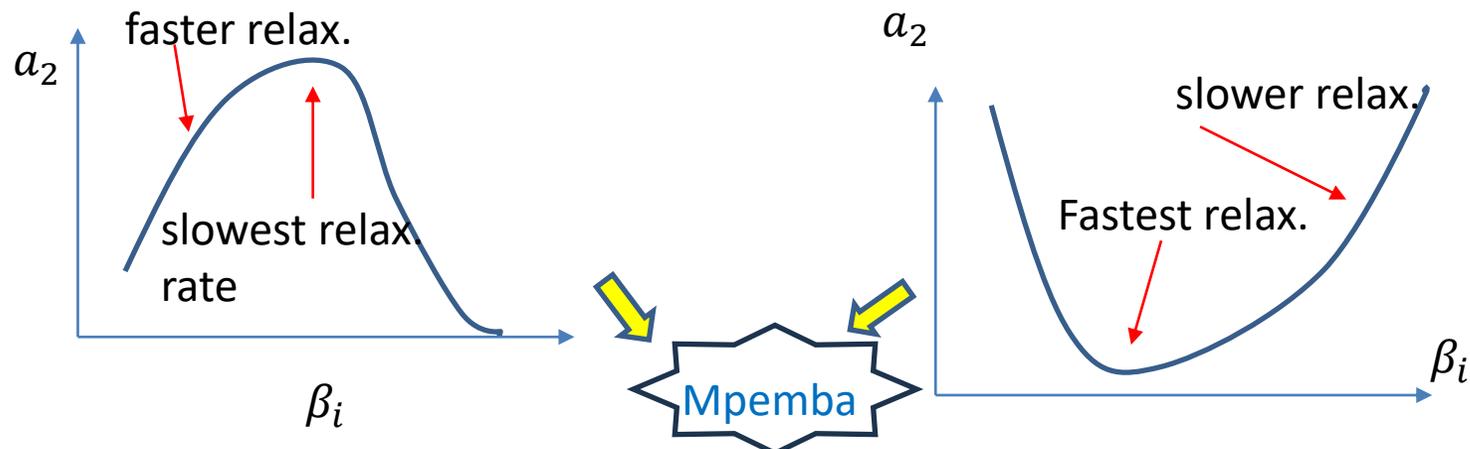
$$l_n(x) = e^{\frac{\beta V(x)}{2}} \varphi_n(x)$$

Observable dynamics & condition of Mpemba effect

- An observable A obeys:

$$\langle A \rangle(t) = \langle A \rangle_{\text{eq}} + \sum_n e^{-\lambda_n t} a_n(\beta_i, \beta) \int dx r_n(x) A(x)$$

- To observe the Mpemba condition a_2 with small n should have **a maximum or a minimum.**



Triple harmonic potential

- If we adopt a triple-harmonic potential, the effective potential is still harmonic.

$$V(x) = \begin{cases} V_{\text{I}}(x) := \frac{k_{\text{I}}}{2}(x+1)^2, & \text{if } x < x_- \\ V_{\text{II}}(x) := V_M - \frac{k_{\text{II}}}{2}x^2, & \text{if } x_- \leq x \leq x_+, \\ V_{\text{III}}(x) := -V_m + \frac{k_{\text{III}}}{2}(x-\alpha)^2, & \text{if } x > x_+, \end{cases}$$



$$U(x) = \begin{cases} U_{\text{I}}(x) := \frac{k_{\text{I}}^2}{4}(x+1)^2 - T\frac{k_{\text{I}}}{2}, & \text{if } x < x_- \\ U_{\text{II}}(x) := \frac{k_{\text{II}}^2}{4}x^2 + \frac{T}{2}k_{\text{II}}, & \text{if } x_- \leq x \leq x_+, \\ U_{\text{III}}(x) := \frac{k_{\text{III}}^2}{4}(x-\alpha)^2 - \frac{T}{2}k_{\text{III}}, & \text{if } x > x_+, \end{cases}$$

Solution of the triple harmonic model

- Eigenvalues and approximate eigenfunctions

$$\varphi_n^{\text{I}}(x) = c_1^{\text{I}} H_{n-1}(\zeta_{\text{I}}) e^{-\zeta_{\text{I}}^2/2} \quad (x < x_-; \quad n \geq 1),$$

$$\varphi_n^{\text{II}}(x) = c_1^{\text{II}} H_{n-1}(\zeta_{\text{II}}) e^{-\zeta_{\text{II}}^2/2} + c_2^{\text{II}} e^{-\zeta_{\text{II}}^2/2} {}_1F_1 \left[\frac{n}{2}, \frac{1}{2}; \zeta_{\text{II}}^2 \right], \quad (x_- \leq x \leq x_+; \quad n \geq 1)$$

$$\varphi_n^{\text{III}}(x) = c_1^{\text{III}} H_{n-1}(\zeta_{\text{III}}) e^{-\zeta_{\text{III}}^2/2} \quad (x > x_+; \quad n \geq 1),$$

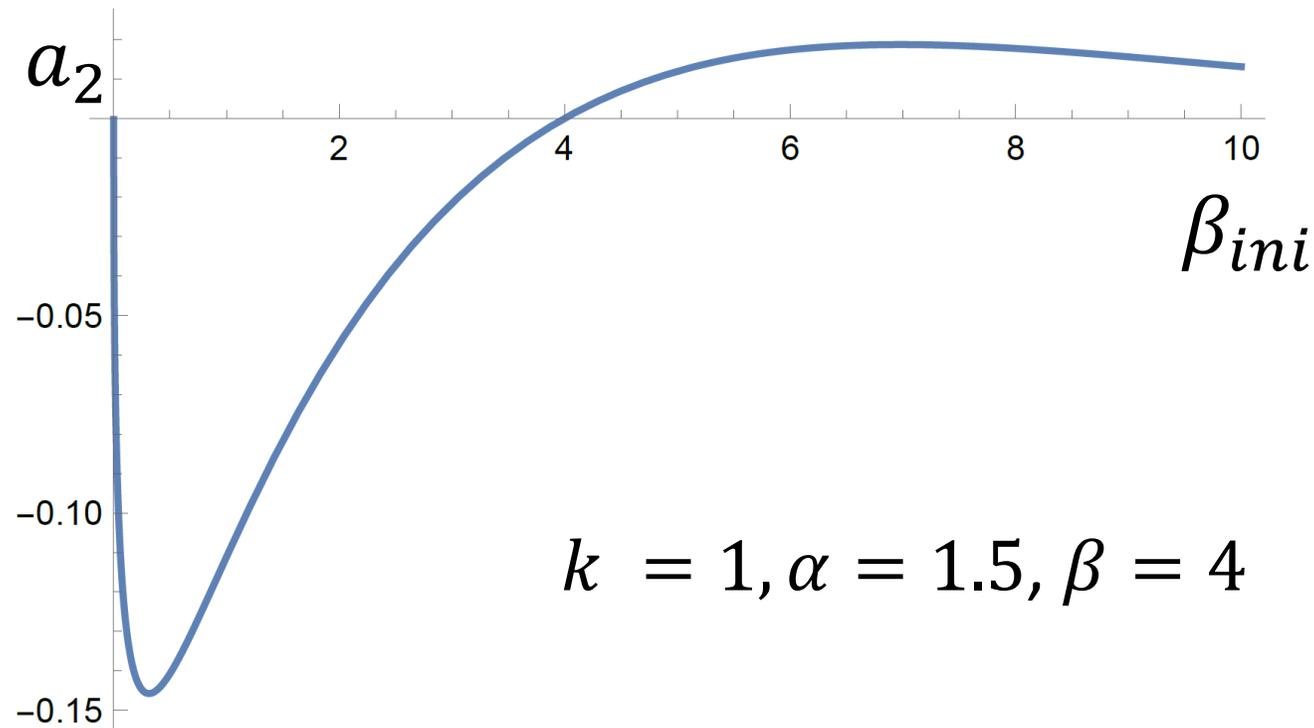
$$\lambda_n^{\text{I}} \rightarrow k_{\text{I}}(n-1), \quad \lambda_n^{\text{II}} \rightarrow k_{\text{II}}(n-1), \quad \lambda_n^{\text{III}} \rightarrow k_{\text{III}}(n-1), \quad \Rightarrow k_{\text{I}} = k_{\text{II}} = k_{\text{III}}$$

$$\xi_{\text{I}} := \sqrt{k_{\text{I}}/T}(x+1), \quad \xi_{\text{II}} := \sqrt{k_{\text{II}}/T}x, \quad \text{and} \quad \xi_{\text{III}} := \sqrt{k_{\text{III}}/T}(x-\alpha)$$

$H_m(x)$ is the Hermite polynomial

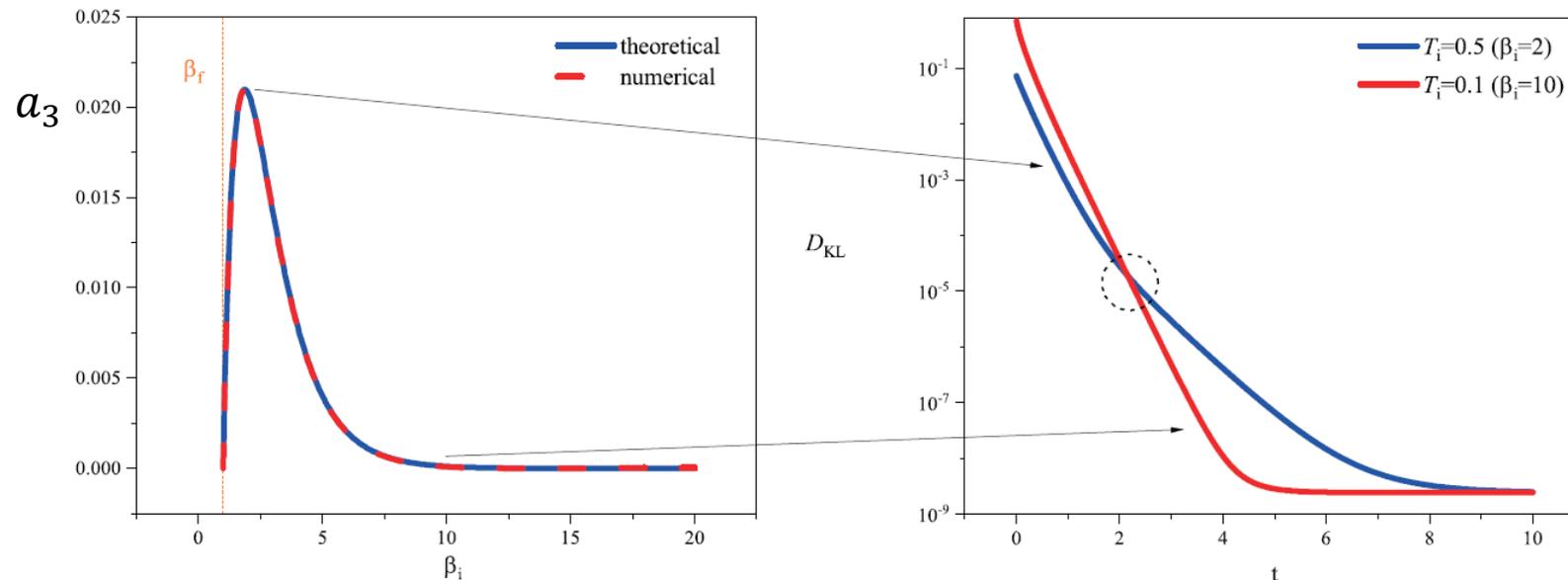
Results (1)

- We find there is the minimum for a_2 if $k_I > 1$.



Symmetric case (Yue Liu)

- So far, we analyzed relaxation in an asymmetric potential.
- The symmetric potential also exhibits the Mpemba effect, although $a_2 = 0$ but a_3 has a maximum or a minimum.



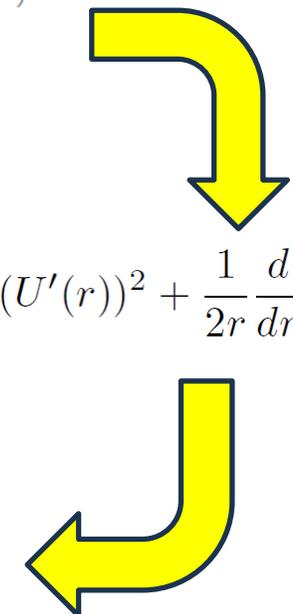
Two-dimensional case

- We can use a parallel argument in 2D problems.

$$U(r) = \begin{cases} U_{\text{in}}(r) = \frac{a_{\text{in}}}{2} r^2 + C_{\text{in}}, & 0 \leq r < r_-, \\ U_{\text{mid}}(r) = \frac{a_{\text{mid}}}{2} r^2 + b_{\text{mid}} \ln r + C_{\text{mid}}, & r_- \leq r < r_+, \\ U_{\text{out}}(r) = \frac{a_{\text{out}}}{2} r^2 + b_{\text{out}} \ln r + C_{\text{out}}, & r \geq r_+, \end{cases}$$

$$V_S(r) = \begin{cases} a_{\text{in}} + \frac{a_{\text{in}} b_{\text{in}}}{2T} + \frac{a_{\text{in}}^2}{4T} r^2 + \frac{b_{\text{in}}^2}{4T r^2}, & 0 \leq r < r_-, \\ a_{\text{mid}} + \frac{a_{\text{mid}} b_{\text{mid}}}{2T} + \frac{a_{\text{mid}}^2}{4T} r^2 + \frac{b_{\text{mid}}^2}{4T r^2}, & r_- \leq r < r_+, \\ a_{\text{out}} + \frac{a_{\text{out}} b_{\text{out}}}{2T} + \frac{a_{\text{out}}^2}{4T} r^2 + \frac{b_{\text{out}}^2}{4T r^2}, & r \geq r_+. \end{cases}$$

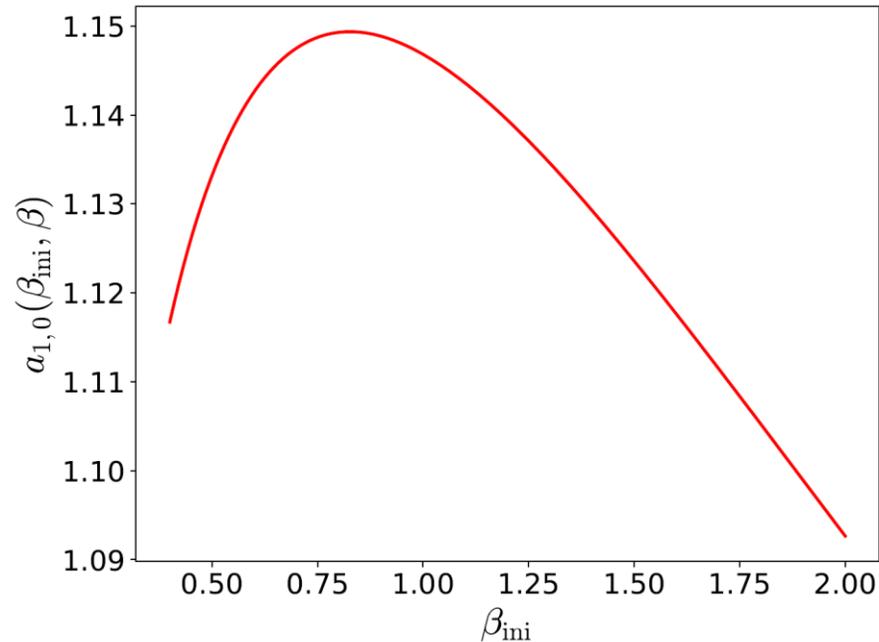
$$V_S(r) = \frac{1}{4T} (U'(r))^2 + \frac{1}{2r} \frac{d}{dr} (r U'(r)).$$



Eigenmode analysis

$$P(r, t) = \sum_m a_{m,0} \varphi_{m,0}(r) e^{-\beta U(r)/2 - \lambda_{m,0} t} \approx a_{1,0} \varphi_{1,0}(r) e^{-\beta U(r)/2 - \lambda_{1,0} t},$$

$$a_{m,n} = \frac{2\pi \delta_{n0}}{Z(\beta_{\text{ini}})} \int_0^\infty dr r \exp \left[\left(\frac{\beta}{2} - \beta_{\text{ini}} \right) U(r) \right] \varphi_{m,0}(r),$$



$T = 1$, $a_{\text{in}} = 1.0$, $a_{\text{mid}} = -0.5$, $a_{\text{out}} = 0.8$, $\xi = 1.0$, and $\alpha = 3.0$

Summary

- We have solved **two bistable potential models** using Fokker-Planck equation with exact and simple analytic calculation.
 - 1D bistable case and 2D bistable case
 - Even relaxation in **a symmetric potential** exhibits the Mpemba effect.
 - The relaxation modes can be obtained exactly.
- **Single well potential** also exhibits the Mpemba effect.
- Effect of disorders in potentials?=> This will be important.
- So far, nobody has argued the quantum Mpemba effect starting from two equilibrium conditions.=> This will be an important problem.

Acknowledgment



- Collaborators



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Thank you for your attention.