

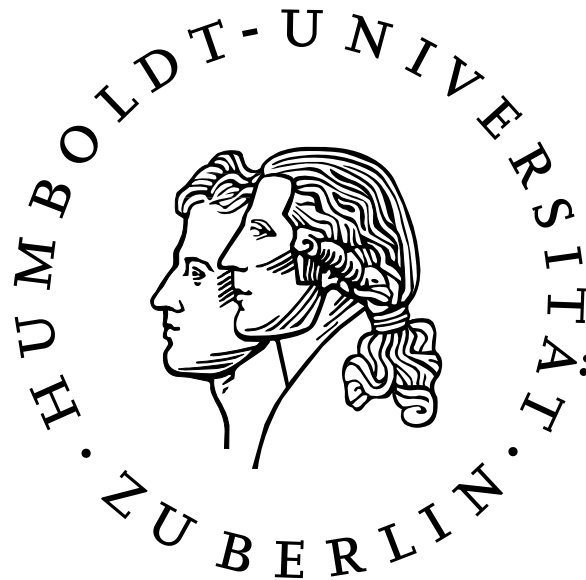
# Kramers' type law for Lévy flights\*

Lévy noise induced transitions

Peter Imkeller

Ilya Pavlyukevich

Humboldt-University of Berlin  
Department of Mathematics



4th Conference on **Extreme Value Analysis**, Gothenburg, 2005

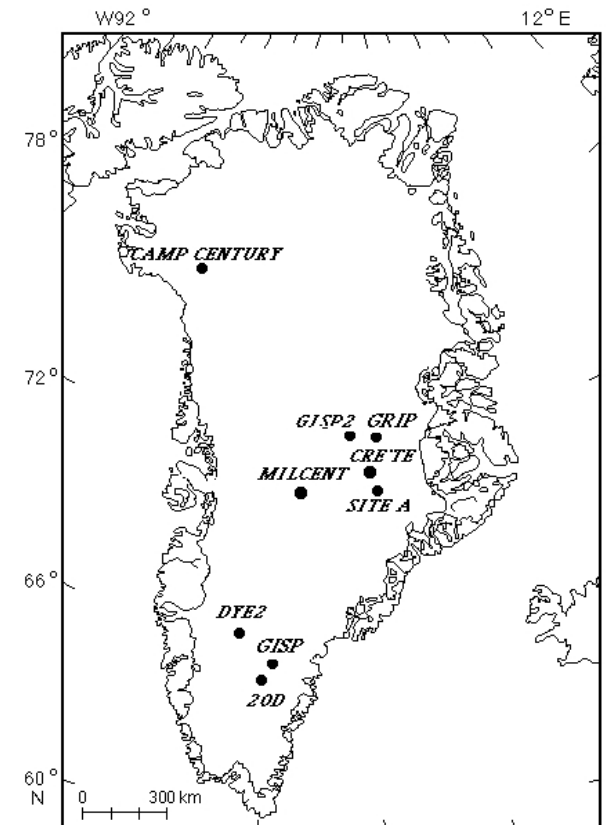
\* Supported by the DFG Research Center **Matheon** (FZT86) in Berlin and the DFG Research Project *Stochastic Dynamics of Climate States*

# 1. Motivation

Greenland ice-core data allows to reconstruct Earth's climate up to 200.000 years before present.

International projects:

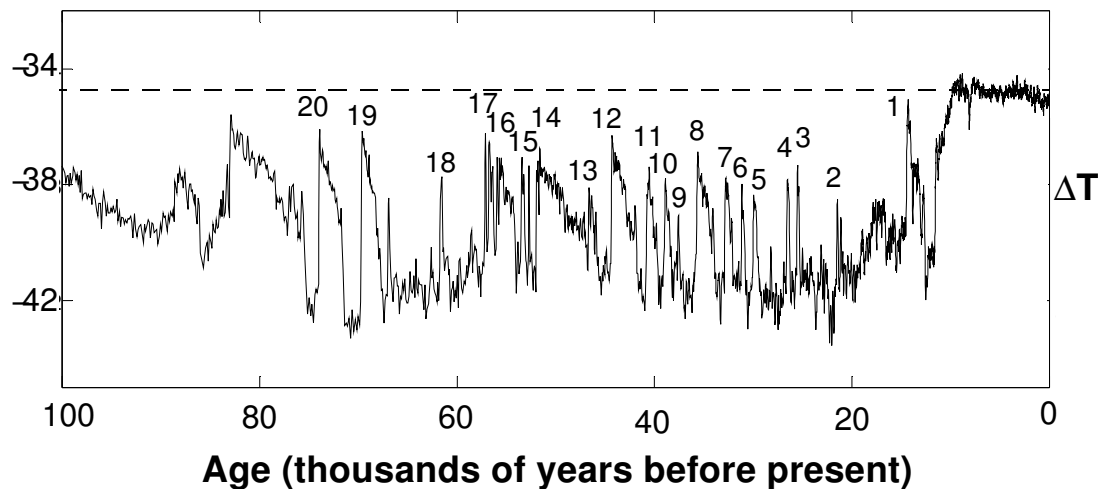
GRIP (3028 m), GISP2 (3053.44 m), NGRIP (3084.99 m)



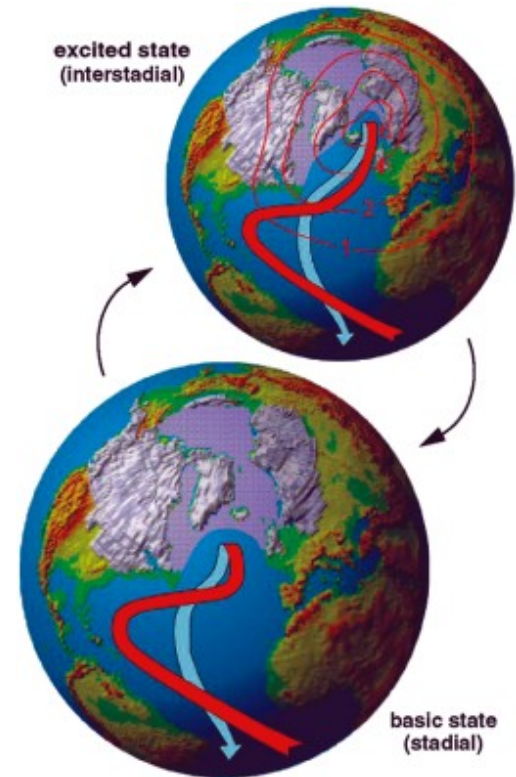
## 2. Paleo Proxy Data. Dansgaard-Oeschger Events

Paleo Data Proxies: Oxygen isotopes, dust, volcanic markers etc.

Global climate during the last glacial ( $\sim 120\,000 - 10\,000$  b. p.) has experienced at least 20 abrupt and large-amplitude shifts (Dansgaard-Oeschger events).



- rapid warming by 5-10 °C within at most a few decades
- plateau phase with slow cooling lasting several centuries
- rapid drop to cold stadial conditions

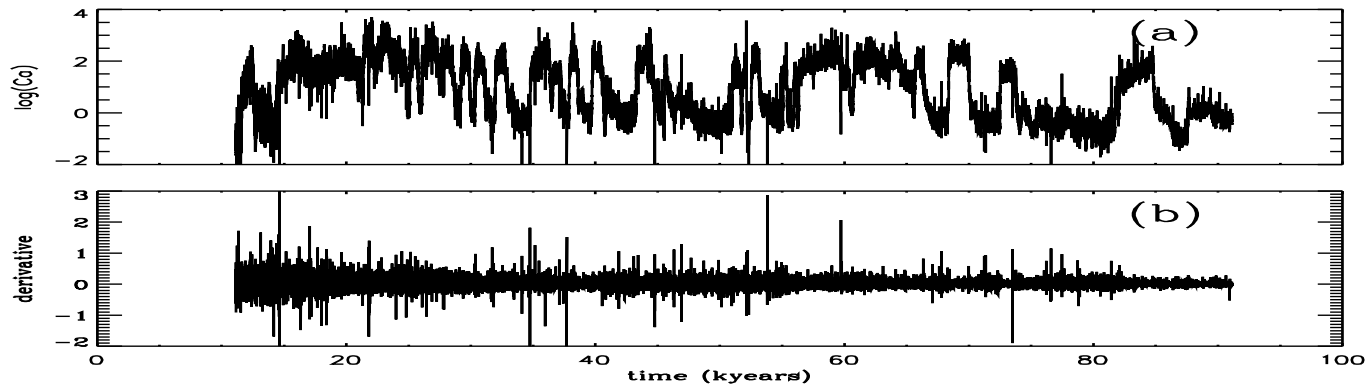


Simulations: Ganopolsky/Rahmstorf,  
Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact

Research

### 3. Paleo Proxy Data. Detailed Look.

The calcium (Ca) signal from the GRIP ice-core:  
about 80,000 data-points from 11 kyr to 91 kyr before present.



Typical interjump time: 1000 – 2000 years, mean waiting time  $\sim 1470$  years

#### What triggers the transitions?

Langevin equation for climate dynamics

$$dX_t^\varepsilon = -U'(X_t^\varepsilon) dt + \varepsilon dL_t$$

$U$  – double-well potential, wells correspond to the climate states.

P. Ditlevsen (*Geophys. Res. Lett.* 1999): spectral analysis of the data.  
Noise  $L$  has  $\alpha$ -stable component with  $\alpha \approx 1.75$ .

## 4. Object of Study. Simple System with Lévy Noise

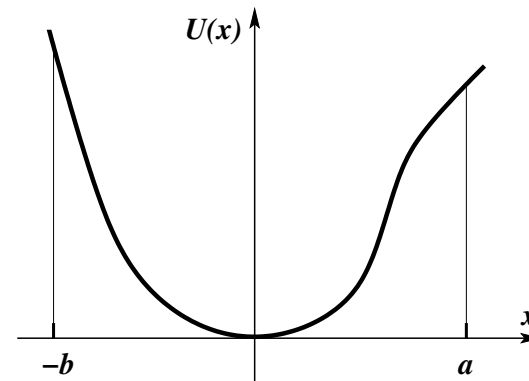
Small noise ( $\varepsilon \downarrow 0$ ) asymptotics of transition times for systems with Lévy noise

$$X_t^\varepsilon = x - \int_0^t U'(X_{s-}^\varepsilon) ds + \varepsilon L_t, \quad \varepsilon \downarrow 0.$$

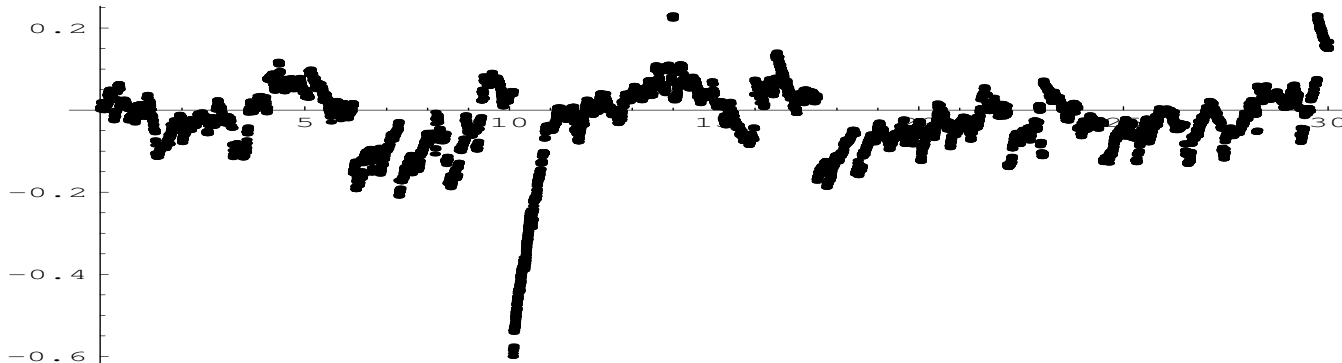
- $L$  —  $\alpha$ -stable symmetric Lévy motion ( $0 < \alpha < 2$ ) + Brownian Motion

Potential  $U \in \mathcal{C}^{(3)}(\mathbb{R})$ :

- $U'(x)x \geq 0$
- $U'(x) = 0$  iff  $x = 0$
- $U''(0) = M > 0$



$$\sigma(\varepsilon) = \inf\{t \geq 0 : X_t^\varepsilon \notin [-b, a]\}, \quad a, b < \infty \ (b = \infty)$$



Ref.: P. Imkeller, I. Pavlyukevich, [arXiv:math.PR/0409246](https://arxiv.org/abs/math.PR/0409246) (2004)

## 5. The Driving Process $L$

$L$  – symmetric  $\alpha$ -stable Lévy process (plus Brownian motion).

Marginal laws determined by Lévy–Hinčin's formula

$$\mathbf{E}e^{i\lambda L_1} = \exp \left\{ -\frac{d}{2}\lambda^2 + \int_{\mathbb{R}\setminus\{0\}} (e^{i\lambda y} - 1 - i\lambda y \mathbb{I}\{|y| \leq 1\}) \frac{dy}{|y|^{1+\alpha}} \right\},$$

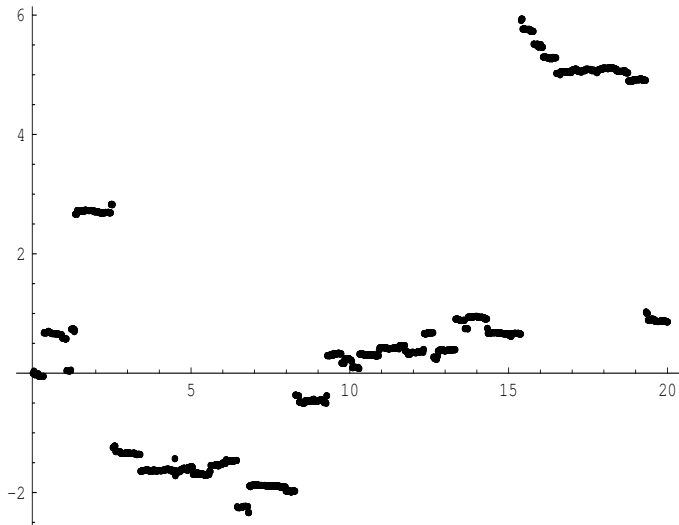
$$\alpha \in (0, 2)$$

- Gaussian variance  $d \geq 0$
- Lévy measure  $\nu(dy) = \frac{dy}{|y|^{1+\alpha}}, y \neq 0$
- $\nu(\mathbb{R}) = \infty \Leftrightarrow$  countably many (small) jumps on any finite time interval, jump times are dense

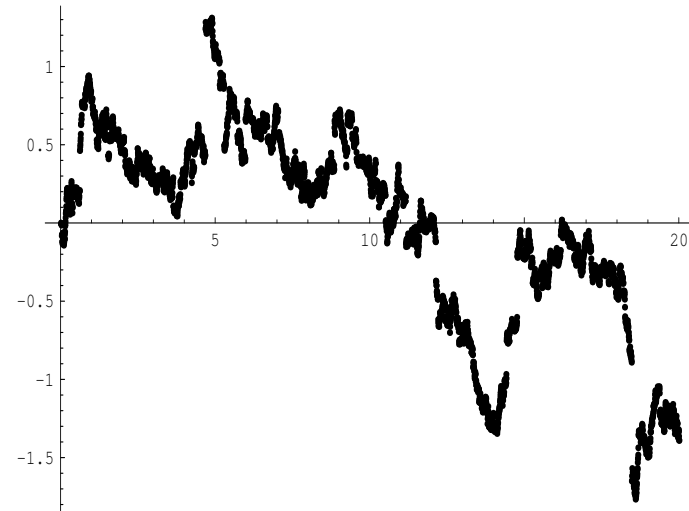
$$\mathbf{E}e^{i\lambda L_1} = \exp \left\{ -\frac{d}{2}\lambda^2 - c(\alpha)|\lambda|^\alpha \right\}.$$

$$c(\alpha) \rightarrow \infty, \quad \alpha \uparrow 2$$

## 6. Symmetric $\alpha$ -stable Lévy process $L$



$\alpha = 0.75$



$\alpha = 1.75$

$\alpha = 1$	Cauchy process	$\frac{1}{\pi} \frac{1}{1+x^2}$
$\alpha = 2$	Brownian motion	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}}$

In the physical literature: **Lévy Flights**

In a broader sense: **Anomalous Diffusion**

## 7. Exit Time. Results

**Theorem 1.** *There exist positive constants  $\varepsilon_0$ ,  $\gamma$ ,  $\delta$ , and  $C > 0$  such that for  $0 < \varepsilon \leq \varepsilon_0$  the following asymptotics holds*

$$e^{-u(1+C\varepsilon^\delta)}(1 - C\varepsilon^\delta) \leq \mathbf{P}_x \left( \frac{\varepsilon^\alpha}{\alpha} \left[ \frac{1}{a^\alpha} + \frac{1}{b^\alpha} \right] \sigma(\varepsilon) > u \right) \leq e^{-u(1-C\varepsilon^\delta)}(1 + C\varepsilon^\delta)$$

*uniformly for all  $x \in [-b + \varepsilon^\gamma, a - \varepsilon^\gamma]$  and  $u \geq 0$ .*

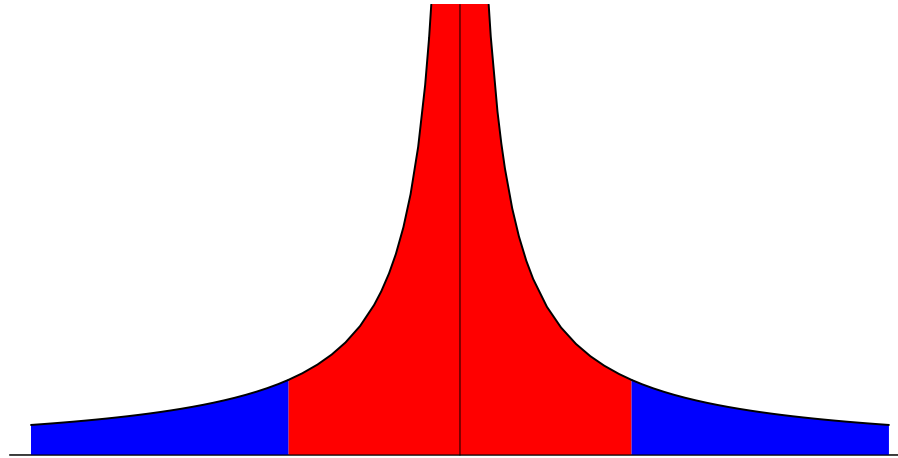
**Theorem 2.** *There exist positive constants  $\varepsilon_0$ ,  $\gamma$  and  $\delta$  such that for  $0 < \varepsilon \leq \varepsilon_0$  the following asymptotics holds*

$$\mathbf{E}_x \sigma(\varepsilon) = \frac{\alpha}{\varepsilon^\alpha} \left[ \frac{1}{a^\alpha} + \frac{1}{b^\alpha} \right]^{-1} (1 + \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^\delta))$$

*uniformly for all  $x \in [-b + \varepsilon^\gamma, a - \varepsilon^\gamma]$ .*

## 8. Probabilistic Approach

$$L_t = \xi_t^\varepsilon + \eta_t^\varepsilon$$



$$\nu_\xi^\varepsilon(dy) = \mathbb{I}_{\{|y| \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon}}\}}(y) \frac{dy}{|y|^{1+\alpha}}$$

$$\nu_\eta^\varepsilon(dy) = \mathbb{I}_{\{|y| > \frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon}}\}}(y) \frac{dy}{|y|^{1+\alpha}}$$

$$\nu_\xi^\varepsilon(\mathbb{R}) = \infty$$

$$\nu_\eta^\varepsilon(\mathbb{R}) = 2 \int_{1/\sqrt{\varepsilon}}^{\infty} \frac{dy}{|y|^{1+\alpha}} = \frac{2}{\alpha} \varepsilon^{\alpha/2} = \beta_\varepsilon$$

$\varepsilon \xi^\varepsilon$  is a sum of BM of intensity  $\varepsilon$  and a small-jumps process,  $|\Delta(\varepsilon \xi_t^\varepsilon)| \leq \sqrt{\varepsilon}$ .

$\varepsilon \eta^\varepsilon$  is a compound Poisson process,  $|\Delta(\varepsilon \eta_t^\varepsilon)| > \sqrt{\varepsilon}$

$\varepsilon \xi^\varepsilon$  and  $\varepsilon \eta^\varepsilon$  are independent.

## 9. The Small- and Large-Jump Parts

$0 = \tau_0, \tau_1, \tau_2, \dots$  arrival times of  $\eta^\varepsilon$

$T_k = \tau_k - \tau_{k-1}$  independent i.d. inter-arrival times

$W_k = \eta_{\tau_k}^\varepsilon - \eta_{\tau_k-}^\varepsilon$  independent i.d. jumps

$$T_k \sim \exp(\beta_\varepsilon) \quad W_k \sim \frac{1}{\beta_\varepsilon} \nu_\eta^\varepsilon(\cdot)$$

$$\mathbf{E}T_k = \frac{1}{\beta_\varepsilon} = \frac{\alpha}{2} \frac{1}{\varepsilon^{\alpha/2}} \quad \mathbf{P}(W_k \leq x) = \frac{1}{\beta_\varepsilon} \int_{-\infty}^x \mathbb{I}_{\{|y| > \frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon}}\}}(y) \frac{dy}{|y|^{1+\alpha}}$$

Between the big jumps  $X^\varepsilon$  is driven by  $\varepsilon \xi^\varepsilon$ :

$$X_t^\varepsilon = x - \int_0^t U'(X_{s-}^\varepsilon) ds + \varepsilon \xi_t^\varepsilon, \quad t \in [0, \tau_1),$$

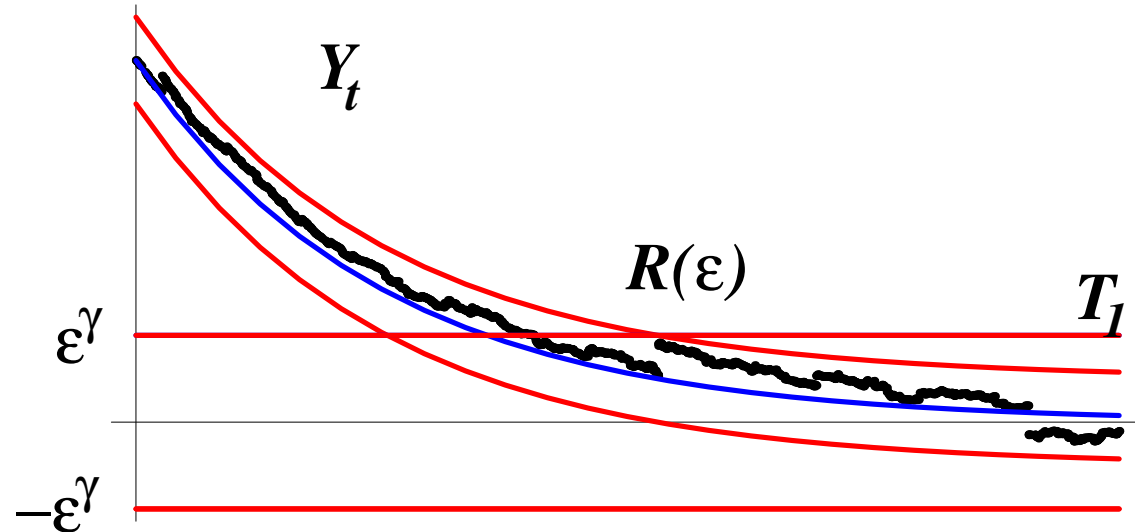
$$Y_t = x - \int_0^t U'(Y_s^\varepsilon) ds.$$

On inter-jump intervals  $X^\varepsilon$  is  $Y$  perturbed by  $\varepsilon \xi^\varepsilon$ .

## 10. Behaviour on the Intervals between Big Jumps

$$\dot{Y}_t = -U'(Y_t)$$

$$T_1 \sim \exp(\beta_\varepsilon)$$



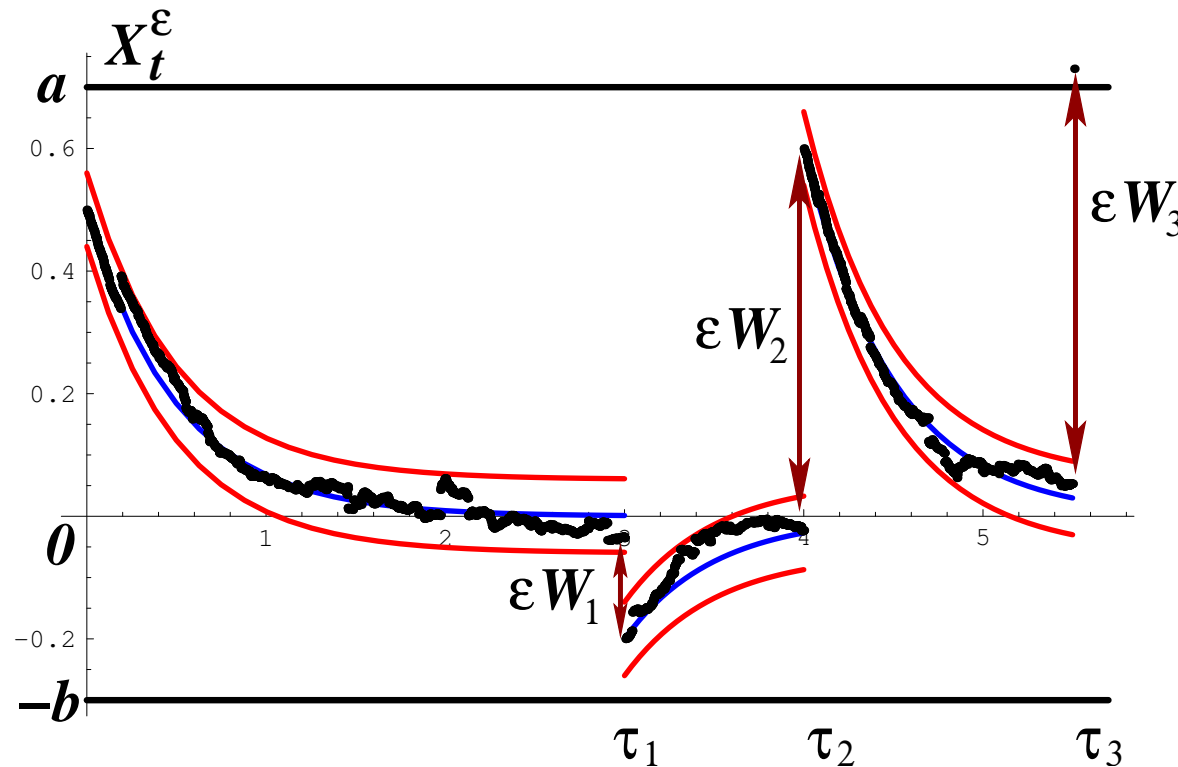
$$\mathbf{P} \left( \sup_{[0, T_1]} |X_t^\varepsilon - Y_t| \geq \frac{\varepsilon^\gamma}{2} \right) \leq \mathbf{P} \left( \sup_{[0, T_1]} |\varepsilon \xi_t^\varepsilon| \geq \frac{\varepsilon^\gamma}{C} \right)$$

$$\leq \int_0^\infty \mathbf{P} \left( \sup_{[0, u]} |\varepsilon \xi_t^\varepsilon| \geq \frac{\varepsilon^\gamma}{C} \right) \beta_\varepsilon e^{-\beta_\varepsilon u} du \leq e^{-1/\varepsilon^\delta}$$

$$T(x, \varepsilon) = \int_{\varepsilon^{\gamma/2}}^x \frac{dy}{|U'(y)|} \approx \int_\delta^x \frac{dy}{|U'(y)|} + \int_{\varepsilon^{\gamma/2}}^\delta \frac{dy}{My}$$

$$\approx \text{Const} + \frac{\gamma}{M} |\ln \varepsilon| \leq R(\varepsilon) = \mathcal{O}(|\ln \varepsilon|)$$

# 11. Predominant Behaviour



**Expected inter-jump time**  
**Relaxation time**  
**Between big jumps**  
**Deviation probability**

$$\mathbf{E}T_k = \frac{1}{\beta_\epsilon} = \frac{\alpha}{2}\epsilon^{-\alpha/2}$$

$$R(\epsilon) = \mathcal{O}(|\ln \epsilon|)$$

$X^\epsilon$  is driven by

**polynomial in  $\epsilon$**   
**logarithmic in  $\epsilon$**   
**“small jumps”  $\epsilon^\xi$**   
**small**

$\Rightarrow$  Typically,  $X^\epsilon$  **jumps from a neighbourhood of 0** by  $\epsilon W_k$  at  $\tau_k$ .  
 Typically,  $X^\epsilon$  exits  $I = [-b, a]$  by jumping at times  $\tau_k$ .

## 12. Exit Time Law. Heuristic Proof of Theorem 2

$$\tau_k = T_1 + T_2 + \cdots + T_k, \quad \mathbf{E}T_1 = 1/\beta_\varepsilon$$

$$\mathbf{P}(\varepsilon W_1 \notin [-b, a]) = \frac{1}{\beta_\varepsilon} \left( \int_{\frac{a}{\varepsilon}}^{\infty} + \int_{\frac{b}{\varepsilon}}^{\infty} \right) \frac{dy}{y^{1+\alpha}} = \frac{\varepsilon^\alpha}{\alpha\beta_\varepsilon} \left[ \frac{1}{a^\alpha} + \frac{1}{b^\alpha} \right]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}_x \sigma(\varepsilon) &\approx \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \mathbf{E}T_k \cdot \mathbf{P}(\sigma(\varepsilon) = \tau_k) \\ &\approx \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k \cdot \mathbf{E}T_1 \cdot \mathbf{P}(\varepsilon W_1 \in I, \dots, \varepsilon W_{k-1} \in I, \varepsilon W_k \notin I) \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k \cdot \mathbf{E}T_1 \cdot [1 - \mathbf{P}(\varepsilon W_1 \notin I)]^{k-1} \cdot \mathbf{P}(\varepsilon W_1 \notin I) \\ &= \frac{\mathbf{P}(\varepsilon W_1 \notin I)}{\beta_\varepsilon} \frac{1}{\mathbf{P}(\varepsilon W_1 \notin I)^2} = \frac{\alpha}{\varepsilon^\alpha} \left[ \frac{1}{a^\alpha} + \frac{1}{b^\alpha} \right]^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

## 13. Exponential Exit. Heuristic Proof of Theorem 1

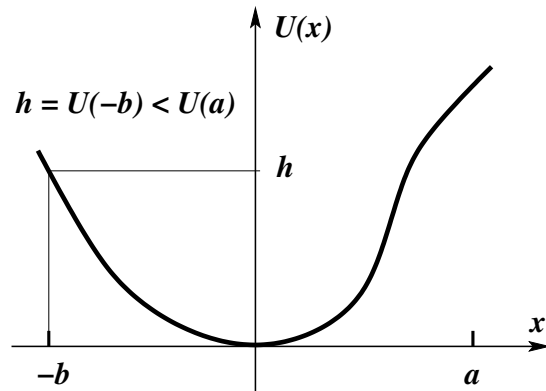
$$\tau_k = T_1 + T_2 + \cdots + T_k \sim \text{Gamma}(\beta_\varepsilon, k)$$

$$\mathbf{P}(\tau_k \in [t, t + dt]) = \beta_\varepsilon e^{-\beta_\varepsilon t} \frac{(\beta_\varepsilon t)^{k-1}}{(k-1)!} dt$$

$$\mathbf{P}(\varepsilon W_1 \notin [-b, a]) = \frac{1}{\beta_\varepsilon} \left( \int_{\frac{a}{\varepsilon}}^{\infty} + \int_{\frac{b}{\varepsilon}}^{\infty} \right) \frac{dy}{y^{1+\alpha}} = \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon^{\alpha/2} \left[ \frac{1}{a^\alpha} + \frac{1}{b^\alpha} \right]$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{P}_x \left( \frac{\varepsilon^\alpha}{\alpha} \left[ \frac{1}{a^\alpha} + \frac{1}{b^\alpha} \right] \sigma(\varepsilon) > u \right) \\ & \approx \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \mathbf{P} \left( \frac{\varepsilon^\alpha}{\alpha} \left[ \frac{1}{a^\alpha} + \frac{1}{b^\alpha} \right] \tau_k > u \right) \cdot \mathbf{P}_x(\sigma(\varepsilon) = \tau_k) \\ & \approx \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \mathbf{P} \left( \frac{\varepsilon^\alpha}{\alpha} \left[ \frac{1}{a^\alpha} + \frac{1}{b^\alpha} \right] \tau_k > u \right) \cdot \mathbf{P}(\varepsilon W_1 \in I, \dots, \varepsilon W_{k-1} \in I, \varepsilon W_k \notin I) \\ & = \exp(-u) \end{aligned}$$

# 14. Comparison with Gaussian Case



$$\hat{X}_t^\varepsilon = x - \int_0^t U'(\hat{X}_s^\varepsilon) ds + \varepsilon W_t$$

Freidlin–Wentzell (large deviations):

$$\mathbf{P}_x(e^{(2h-\delta)/\varepsilon^2} < \hat{\sigma} < e^{(2h+\delta)/\varepsilon^2}) \rightarrow 1$$

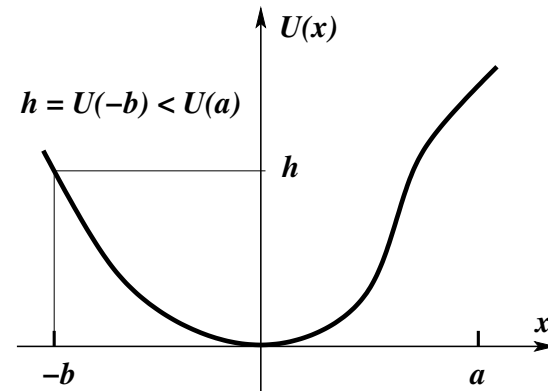
Kramers' law ('40, Williams, Bovier):

$$\mathbf{E}_x \hat{\sigma} \approx \frac{\varepsilon \sqrt{\pi}}{|U'(-b)| \sqrt{U''(0)}} e^{2h/\varepsilon^2}$$

Exponential exit (Day, Bovier)

$$\mathbf{P}_x\left(\frac{\hat{\sigma}}{\mathbf{E}_x \hat{\sigma}} > u\right) \sim \exp(-u)$$

Diffusion 'climbs up and out'



$$X_t^\varepsilon = x - \int_0^t U'(X_{s-}^\varepsilon) ds + \varepsilon L_t$$

$$\mathbf{P}_x\left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon^{\alpha-\delta}} < \sigma < \frac{1}{\varepsilon^{\alpha+\delta}}\right) \rightarrow 1$$

$$\mathbf{E}_x \sigma \approx \frac{\alpha}{\varepsilon^\alpha} \left[\frac{1}{a^\alpha} + \frac{1}{b^\alpha}\right]^{-1}$$

$$\mathbf{P}_x\left(\frac{\sigma}{\mathbf{E}_x \sigma} > u\right) \sim \exp(-u)$$

Lévy motion driven SDE 'jumps out'

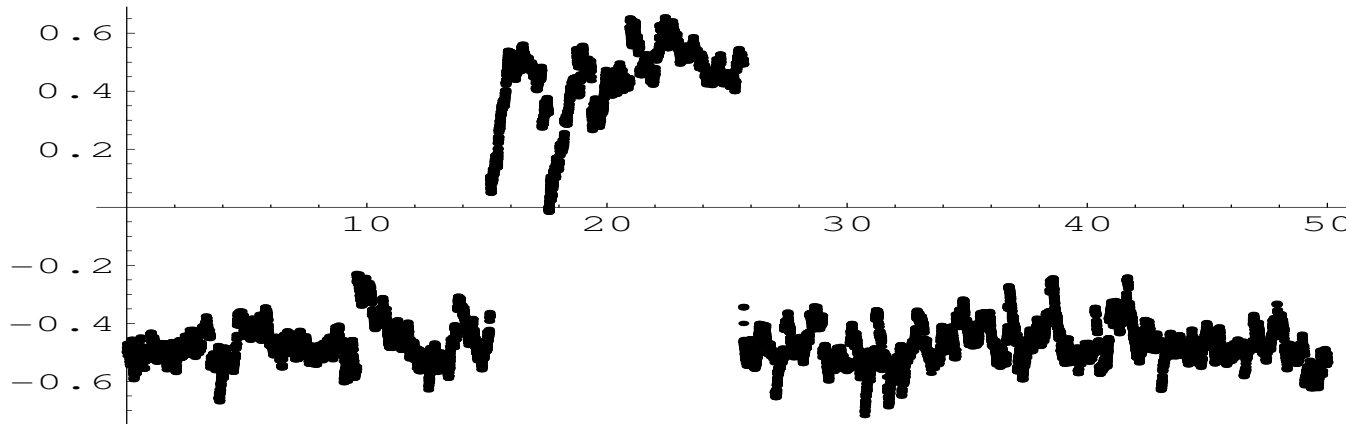
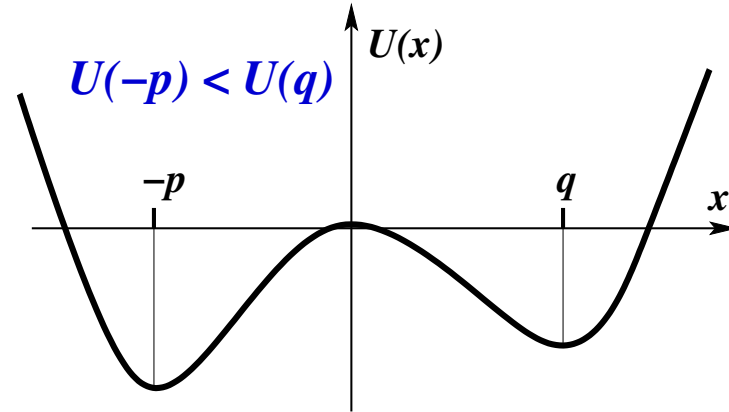
# 15. Double-well Potential

$$X_t^\varepsilon = x - \int_0^t U'(X_{s-}^\varepsilon) ds + \varepsilon L_t, \quad \varepsilon \downarrow 0.$$

- $L$  —  $\alpha$ -stable symmetric Lévy motion ( $0 < \alpha < 2$ ) + Brownian Motion

Potential  $U \in \mathcal{C}^{(3)}(\mathbb{R})$ :

- $U'(-p) = U'(0) = U'(q) = 0$
- $U''(-p), U''(q) > 0, U''(0) < 0$
- $|U'(x)| > c_1|x|^{1+c_2}, x \rightarrow \pm\infty$



Main inconvenience: **Saddle Point 0**, characteristic boundary

Gaussian Case:  $\mathbf{E}_x \hat{\sigma} \approx \frac{2\pi}{\sqrt{U''(0)|U''(q)|}} e^{2|U(q)|/\varepsilon^2}$

## 16. Metastable Behaviour

**Theorem 3.** For any  $0 < t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_n$ ,

$$(X_{t_1/\varepsilon^\alpha}^\varepsilon, X_{t_2/\varepsilon^\alpha}^\varepsilon, \dots, X_{t_n/\varepsilon^\alpha}^\varepsilon) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{D}} (Y_{t_1}, Y_{t_2}, \dots, Y_{t_n}), \quad \varepsilon \downarrow 0,$$

where  $Y$  is a  $\{-p, q\}$ -valued Markov process with generator

$$\begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{\alpha p^\alpha} & \frac{1}{\alpha p^\alpha} \\ \frac{1}{\alpha q^\alpha} & -\frac{1}{\alpha q^\alpha} \end{pmatrix}, \text{ and } Y_0 = \begin{cases} -p, & \text{if } x < 0, \\ q, & \text{if } x > 0. \end{cases}$$

**Gaussian case** (Kipnis and Newman '85, Mathieu '95).

Assume the left well is deeper:  $U(-p) < U(q) < 0$

There is a scaling  $\lambda(\varepsilon)$ :  $\varepsilon^2 \ln \lambda(\varepsilon) \rightarrow -2U(q)$  such that

$$(\hat{X}_{t_1\lambda(\varepsilon)}^\varepsilon, \hat{X}_{t_2\lambda(\varepsilon)}^\varepsilon, \dots, \hat{X}_{t_n\lambda(\varepsilon)}^\varepsilon) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{D}} (\hat{Y}_{t_1}, \hat{Y}_{t_2}, \dots, \hat{Y}_{t_n}), \quad \varepsilon \downarrow 0,$$

where  $\hat{Y}$  is a  $\{-p, q\}$ -valued Markov process with generator

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ and } \hat{Y}_0 = \begin{cases} -p, & \text{if } x < 0, \\ q, & \text{if } x > 0. \end{cases}$$

# Sources and References

## Page 1 Pictures:

[http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/paleo/globalwarming/gallery/icecore\\_4.jpg](http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/paleo/globalwarming/gallery/icecore_4.jpg)

[http://ess.geology.ufl.edu/ess/Notes/Paleoclimatology/Paleoclimate Slides/greenland.gif](http://ess.geology.ufl.edu/ess/Notes/Paleoclimatology/Paleoclimate%20Slides/greenland.gif)

## Page 2 Pictures:

Ganopolski, A. and Rahmstorf, S., 2002: Abrupt glacial climate changes due to stochastic resonance. Phys. Rev. Lett. 88(3), 038501.

## Page 3 Picture:

P. D. Ditlevsen, 1999: Observation of alpha-stable noise and a bistable climate potential in an ice-core record. Geophys. Res. Lett. 26, 1441-1444.

- [1] P. IMKELLER AND I. PAVLYUKEVICH, First exit times of solutions of non-linear stochastic differential equations driven by symmetric Lévy process with  $\alpha$ -stable component, arXiv:math.PR/0409246, 2004.
- [2] M. FREIDLIN AND A. WENTZELL, Random perturbations of dynamical systems, 1998.
- [3] H.A. KRAMERS, Brownian motion in a field of force and the diffusion model of chemical reactions, Physica 7, 284–304, 1940.
- [4] M. WILLIAMS, Asymptotic exit time distributions, SIAM J. Appl. Math. 42, 149–154, 1982.
- [5] A. BOVIER, M. ECKHOFF, V. GAYRARD AND M. KLEIN, Metastability in reversible diffusion processes I. Sharp asymptotics for capacities and exit times, WIAS Berlin, Preprint No. 767, 2002, to appear in J. Eur. Math. Soc.
- [6] M. DAY, On the exponential exit law in the small parameter exit problem, Stochastics 8, 297–323, 1983.
- [7] I. PAVLYUKEVICH, Metastable Behaviour of Lévy-Driven Diffusion (Lévy Flights in a Double-Well Potential), in preparation, 2005
- [8] C. KIPNIS AND C. NEWMAN, The metastable behavior of infrequently observed, weakly random, one-dimensional diffusion processes, SIAM J. Appl. Math. 45 (6), 972–982, 1985
- [9] P. MATHIEU, Spectra, exit times and long time asymptotics in the zero white noise limit, Stoch. Stoch. Rep. 55, 1–20 1995

Peter Imkeller  
 Institut für Mathematik  
 Humboldt Universität zu Berlin  
 Rudower Chaussee 25  
 12489 Berlin Germany  
 E.mail: [imkeller@mathematik.hu-berlin.de](mailto:imkeller@mathematik.hu-berlin.de)  
<http://www.mathematik.hu-berlin.de/~imkeller>

Ilya Pavlyukevich  
 Institut für Mathematik  
 Humboldt Universität zu Berlin  
 Rudower Chaussee 25  
 12489 Berlin Germany  
 E.mail: [pavljuke@mathematik.hu-berlin.de](mailto:pavljuke@mathematik.hu-berlin.de)  
<http://www.mathematik.hu-berlin.de/~pavljuke>