



Microswimmers, nanoswimmers, and microfluidic mixers: The roles of hydrodynamic interactions and fluctuations





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Inspired by Molecular Motors ...

Which Are:

- Nano-scale machines
- Highly accurate despite Brownian agitation
- Capable of converting *chemical* energy directly to *mechanical* work

We Ask: Can we design such machines? In particular, Swimmers?

Hydrodynamics at Low Reynolds Number



Low Reynolds: small size and/or high viscosity

Low Re Hydrodynamics is Dominated by Viscous Forces

Viscous Hydrodynamics

Hydrodynamic Friction: Stokes (1851)



$$\mathbf{v} = \frac{1}{6\pi\eta a} \mathbf{f}$$

Hydrodynamic Interaction: Oseen (1927)



Stokes Equation

$$-\eta \partial^2 v_i = -\partial_i p + g_i$$
$$\partial_j v_j = 0 \qquad p = \left(\frac{1}{\partial^2}\right) \partial_j g_j$$
$$-\eta \partial^2 v_i = \left(\delta_{ij} - \frac{\partial_i \partial_j}{\partial^2}\right) g_j$$
$$w(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{\partial_i} \left(\delta_{ij} + \frac{r_i r_j}{\partial_j}\right) F$$

 $v_i(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{8\pi\eta r} \left(\delta_{ij} + \frac{\pi r_j}{r^2}\right) F_j$

Minimal Low Re Swimmers

- Purcell Swimmer (1976)
 - One, is not enough:
 Scallop Theorem
 - Two, will just do!





Three-Sphere Swimmer
 Two Translational Degrees of Freedom



A. Najafi & RG, PRE 69, 062901 (2004)

Analysis of the Motion

$$v_{1} = \frac{f_{1}}{6\pi\eta a_{1}} + \frac{f_{2}}{4\pi\eta L_{1}} + \frac{f_{3}}{4\pi\eta(L_{1} + L_{2})} \qquad V = \frac{1}{3}(v_{1} + v_{2} + v_{3})$$

$$v_{2} = \frac{f_{1}}{4\pi\eta L_{1}} + \frac{f_{2}}{6\pi\eta a_{2}} + \frac{f_{3}}{4\pi\eta L_{2}} \qquad \dot{L}_{1} = v_{2} - v_{1}$$

$$v_{3} = \frac{f_{1}}{4\pi\eta(L_{1} + L_{2})} + \frac{f_{2}}{4\pi\eta L_{2}} + \frac{f_{3}}{6\pi\eta a_{3}} \qquad \dot{L}_{2} = v_{3} - v_{2}$$

$$f_{1} + f_{2} + f_{3} = 0$$

Swimming Velocity

• Perturbative Analysis

$$L_1 = \ell + u_1$$

$$L_2 = \ell + u_2$$

$$L_1 = L_1$$

$$\overline{V} = \frac{7}{24} \frac{a}{\ell^2} \,\overline{(u_1 \dot{u}_2 - \dot{u}_1 u_2)}$$

• Geometric Interpretation



RG & A. Ajdari, PRE 77, 036308 (2008)

Swimmer with Cargo

• Swimming Velocity

$$\overline{V} = \frac{9}{4} \left(\frac{a_1 a_2}{R^3}\right) \frac{\ell_2^2 \left(3\ell_1 + 2\ell_2\right)}{\ell_1^2 \left(\ell_1 + 2\ell_2\right)} \overline{(\dot{u}_1 u_2 - \dot{u}_2 u_1)}$$

• Size Dependence

balancing "internal force" with "Stokes Friction" is WRONG



Paris Swimmer





R. Dreyfus, J. Baudry, M.L. Roper, M. Fermigier, H.A. Stone & J. Bibette, Nature **437**, 862 (2005)



Cambridge "Swimmer"



M. Leoni, J. Kotar, B. Bassetti, P. Cicuta, and M. C. Lagomarsino, Soft Matter 5, 472 (2009)

Barcelona Swimmer



Motion of the Unicycle



P. Tierno, RG, I. Pagonabarraga, & F. Sagues, PRL 101, 218304 (2008)

Swimming Velocity of the Unicycle



Stochastic Swimming

Conformational Transitions



RG & A. Ajdari, PRL 100, 038101 (2008)

General Theory of Stochastic Swimming

• Master Equation Formulation

$$J_{\langle nm\rangle} = k_{mn}P_n - k_{nm}P_m \qquad \sum_n P_n = 1$$

$$\sum_m J_{\langle nm\rangle} = 0$$

• ``Parallel'' Arrangement $|\Delta A|$

$$\left\langle \frac{\Delta \mathcal{A}}{\Delta t} \right\rangle = \sum_{\alpha} \mathcal{A}(\alpha) J(\alpha)$$



Stationary State

• Average Swimming Velocity

$$V = K\delta_1\delta_2 J \qquad T = J^{-1}$$



 $J = \frac{k_{AD}k_{DC}k_{CB}k_{BA} - k_{AB}k_{BC}k_{CD}k_{DA}}{\sum_{\text{replace A by B, C, D}}(k_{AD}k_{DC}k_{CB} + k_{AB}k_{BC}k_{CD} + k_{AB}k_{AD}k_{DC} + k_{AD}k_{AB}k_{BC})}$

Breaking the detailed balance

• ``Series'' Arrangement $k_{BA} \gg k_{AB}$, etc. $T = k_{AD}^{-1} + k_{DC}^{-1} + k_{CB}^{-1} + k_{BA}^{-1}$ • Example: $k_{BA} = 1 + \epsilon$ $J = \epsilon/(16 + 6\epsilon)$

Mechanical Response

- Two types:
 - Contribution to *hydrodynamic* force balance
 - Changing the *kinetics* of the conformational transitions



• Force-Velocity Relation

$$V(F) = -\frac{F}{18\pi\eta a_R} + V_0 \ J(F)/J(0)$$

Mechanical Response

• Transition Rates

$$k_{\beta\alpha} = k_{0\beta\alpha} \exp\left(\frac{1}{2} \frac{f_{\beta\alpha} \delta_i}{k_{\rm B} T}\right)$$

Transition	Head	Tail	Middle
$A \rightarrow B$	$+\frac{1}{3}F$	$-\frac{2}{3}F$	$+\frac{1}{3}F$
$B \rightarrow C$	$+\frac{2}{3}F$	$-\frac{1}{3}F$	$-\frac{1}{3}F$
$C \rightarrow D$	$-\frac{1}{3}F$	$+\frac{2}{3}F$	$-\frac{1}{3}F$
$D \rightarrow A$	$-\frac{2}{3}F$	$+\frac{1}{3}F$	$+\frac{1}{3}F$



 $F\delta/k_{\rm B}T$

Mechanochemical Coupling



Alberts et al., Molecular Biology of The Cell

Can we design something like that?

Synthetic Molecular Swimmers

$$F + h \rightarrow hF \rightarrow hQ^{-} + G^{+} \rightarrow h + Q^{-} + G^{+}$$
$$R^{-} + P^{+} + t \rightarrow tR^{-} + P^{+} \rightarrow t + S$$

Electrostatic Actuation



h = CA	$carbonic\ anhydrase$
t = SOD	superoxide dismutase

 $F = CO_2$ $Q^- = HCO_3^- \text{ bicarbonate}$ $G^+ = H^+$ $R^- = O_2 \cdot - \text{ superoxide anion}$ $P^+ = H^+$ $S = \frac{1}{2}H_2O_2 + \frac{1}{2}O_2$



(bio-) chemical cycle

RG, PRL 105, 018103 (2010)

Mechanochemical Swimmers



Concentration Dependence



- a) Michaelis-Menten behavior
- b) Sign change of the velocity as a function of concentration
- c) Non-monotonic concentration dependence; optimal concentration

Interaction between Swimmers



Hydro Coupling for Stochastic Swimmers

• Coupled 3-Sphere & 2-Sphere System

$$\begin{split} V^L &= \frac{7}{12} \frac{R}{L^2} \left\langle \dot{u}_1^L u_2^L \right\rangle - \frac{1}{2} \frac{RL}{D^3} \left[\left\langle u_1^L \dot{u}^R \right\rangle - \left\langle u_2^L \dot{u}^R \right\rangle \right] \\ V^R &= \frac{RL}{D^3} \left[-2 \left\langle \dot{u}_1^L u_2^L \right\rangle + \frac{3}{2} \left\langle u_1^L \dot{u}^R \right\rangle + \frac{3}{2} \left\langle u_2^L \dot{u}^R \right\rangle \right] \end{split}$$

• Phase and Coherence

$$\begin{split} \left\langle \dot{u}_{1}^{L} u_{2}^{L} \right\rangle &= \frac{1}{2} d^{2} \Omega \sin(\varphi_{1}^{L} - \varphi_{2}^{L}) \\ \left\langle u_{1}^{L} \dot{u}^{R} \right\rangle &= \frac{1}{2} d^{2} \Omega \sin(\varphi^{R} - \varphi_{1}^{L}) \\ \left\langle u_{2}^{L} \dot{u}^{R} \right\rangle &= \frac{1}{2} d^{2} \Omega \sin(\varphi^{R} - \varphi_{2}^{L}) \end{split}$$

• 8-State Configuration



(12):

(22):(32):(42):

A. Najafi & RG, EPL 90, 68003 (2010)

Coherence in Stochastic Swimming

• Probabilities & Currents

 $\langle \dot{u}_1^L u_2^L \rangle = \delta^2 (I_6 - I_5)$ $\langle u_1^L \dot{u}^R \rangle = \delta^2 (I_3 - I_1)$ $\langle u_2^L \dot{u}^R \rangle = \delta^2 (I_4 - I_2)$



Stable

1.5

1.0

Hydrodynamic Bound-State



Phoretic Motion

- Electrophoresis Smoluchowski (1903)
- Thermophoresis Ludwig (1856), Soret (1879)
- Osmiophoresis
 Sackmann *et al* (1999)
- Diffusiophoresis

Derjaguin *et al* (1961), Anderson & Prieve (1984)



Reaction-Driven Propulsion

Self-diffusiophoresis



Propulsion (repulsive interaction)

Particle half-coated with catalyst

RG, T.B. Liverpool & A. Ajdari, PRL 94, 220801 (2005)

Who is Going Where?



Without Solvent

With Solvent

In solvent, balancing "Osmotic Pressure" with "Stokes Friction" is WRONG

See, e.g.: U.M. Córdova-Figueroa and J.F. Brady, PRL 100, 150303 (2008)

What is Diffusiophoresis?

For Solute:
$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{J} = -\mu k_{\mathrm{B}} T \nabla c + \mu c (-\nabla W) + c \mathbf{v} \\ \partial_t c + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} = 0 & \circ & \circ & \circ \\ D = \mu k_{\mathrm{B}} T & \mathbf{F} = -\nabla W(\mathbf{r}) & \bullet & \circ & \circ & \circ \\ \mathbf{For Solvent:} & \begin{bmatrix} -\eta \nabla^2 \mathbf{v} = -\nabla p + \mathbf{f} \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0 & -\nabla^2 p + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{f} = 0 \\ \mathbf{f} = c \mathbf{F} = c (-\nabla W) \end{bmatrix}$$

Stationary State: $-D \nabla^2 c + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla c + \mu \nabla \cdot \mathbf{f} = 0$
$$\nabla^2 [p - k_{\mathrm{B}} T c] + \frac{1}{\mu} \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla c = 0$$

What is Diffusiophoresis?

Hydrostatic+Osmotic pressure balance:



For a slightly different, and more general discussion, see: F. Julicher and J. Prost, EPJE 29, 27 (2009)

Analysis of the Motion

• Slip Velocity $\mu = k_{\rm B}T\lambda^2/\eta$

$$\lambda_D^2 = \int_0^\infty dl \ l \left[1 - \mathrm{e}^{-W(l)/k_\mathrm{B}T} \right]$$

$$\mathbf{v}_{s}(\mathbf{r}_{s}) = \mu(\mathbf{r}_{s})(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{nn}) \cdot \nabla c(\mathbf{r}_{s})$$

• Surface Reaction

$$D\nabla^2 c = 0$$

$$-D\mathbf{n}\cdot\nabla c(\mathbf{r}_{\rm s})=\alpha(\mathbf{r}_{\rm s})$$

Characteristics of the Motion

• Swimming Velocity

$$V \sim \alpha \mu / D$$
 $\mu = k_{\rm B} T \lambda^2 / \eta$

- Design-related Questions
 - Symmetry breaking
 - Relative importance of activity/mobility
 - Effect of Geometry
- Generic for Any Phoresis



RG, T.B. Liverpool & A. Ajdari, New J Phys 9, 126 (2007)

Flow Field Pattern



Phoretic

"Osmotic Pressure" Picture

Image from: M.N. Popescu, S. Dietrich, and G. Oshanin, JCP **130**, 194702 (2009) *For a thorough discussion, see:* F. Julicher and J. Prost, EPJE **29**, 27 (2009)

Stochastic Dynamics of Phoretic Swimmers



Activity: $\alpha(\theta, \phi, t) = \sum_{\ell, m} \left(\frac{4\pi}{2\ell+1}\right) \alpha_{\ell} Y_{\ell m}^*(\theta_n(t), \phi_n(t)) Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \phi)$

RG, PRL 102, 188305 (2009)

Relevant Time Scales

- Colloid Rotational Diffusion $au_r = 4\pi \eta R^3 / k_{\rm B} T$ $au_r = 3 \ (R/1\mu {\rm m})^3 {\rm ~s}$
- Solute Diffusion $\tau_d = R^2/D$

$$\tau_d = 10^{-3} \ (R/1\mu {\rm m})^2 {\rm s}$$

• Hydrodynamic $au_h = R^2/
u$ $u = \eta/\rho$

 $\tau_h = 10^{-6} \ (R/1\mu m)^2 \ s$



Symmetric Contribution

• Short Time Behavior

$$\Delta L_{\rm sym}^2 \simeq \frac{8\alpha_0 \mu^2}{3\pi^{3/2} D^{3/2} R^3} t^{3/2} \quad ; \ t \ll \tau_d$$

$$\begin{split} \Delta L^2 &\sim v^2 t^2 \\ v &\sim \mu \nabla C \sim \mu \delta C/R \\ \Delta L^2 &\sim \mu^2 \langle \delta C(t) \delta C(0) \rangle t^2/R^2 \\ \langle \delta C(t) \delta C(0) \rangle &= \langle \delta C^2 \rangle k(t) \end{split} \qquad \begin{aligned} k(t) &\sim 1/(Dt)^{3/2} \\ \langle \delta C^2 \rangle &\sim C_{\rm av} \\ C_{\rm av} &\sim (\alpha_0 R^2 t)/R^3 \end{aligned}$$

• Long Time Behavior

 $c_1 = 1.17810$

$$\Delta L_{\rm sym}^2 \simeq \frac{2c_1 \alpha_0 \mu^2}{\pi^2 D^2 R^2} t \quad ; \ t \gg \tau_d$$

Asymmetric Contribution

Memory Effect

$$v_0 = -\alpha_1 \mu / (3D)$$

$$\mathbf{v}(t) = \frac{v_0}{\tau_d} \int_{-\infty}^t dt' \mathcal{M}(t-t') \mathbf{n}(t')$$

$$\mathcal{M}(t) \simeq \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} (t/\tau_d)^{-1/2} \text{ for } t \ll \tau_d$$
$$\mathcal{M}(t) \simeq \frac{3}{8\sqrt{\pi}} (t/\tau_d)^{-5/2} \text{ for } t \gg \tau_d$$

• Rotational Diffusion

$$\langle \mathbf{n}(t) \cdot \mathbf{n}(0) \rangle = e^{-t/\tau_r}$$

Asymmetric Contribution

• Short Time Behavior

$$\Delta L_{\text{asym}}^2 \simeq v_0^2 t^2 \left[1 - \frac{4c_2}{\pi} \left(\frac{\tau_d}{\tau_r} \right) \right] \quad ; \ t \ll \tau_d \ll \tau_r$$

 $c_2 = 0.642699$

• Intermediate Time Behavior

$$\Delta L_{\text{asym}}^2 \simeq v_0^2 t^2 - \left(\frac{8}{3\sqrt{\pi}}\right) \frac{v_0^2 \tau_d^{3/2}}{\tau_r} t^{3/2} \quad ; \ \tau_d \ll t \ll \tau_r$$

• Long Time Behavior

$$\Delta L_{\text{asym}}^2 \simeq 2v_0^2 \tau_r \ t \quad ; \ \tau_d \ll \tau_r \ll t$$

Hydrodynamic Contribution

- Short Time Behavior $\Delta L_{\rm hyd}^2 \simeq 3 \left(\frac{k_{\rm B}T}{M_{\rm eff}}\right) t^2 \quad ; \ t \ll \tau_h$
- Long Time Behavior $\Delta L_{\text{hyd}}^2 \simeq 6D_0 t - \frac{2k_{\text{B}}T\rho^{1/2}}{\pi^{3/2}\eta^{3/2}} t^{1/2} \quad ; t \gg \tau_h$

Bare Diffusion Coefficient of the Colloid: $D_0 = k_{
m B}T/(6\pi\eta R)$

Hydrodynamic long-time tail: Alder-Wainwright 1967; Zwanzig-Bixon 1970

Effect of All Contributions

• Summary of the Different Regimes



• Effective Diffusion at Long Times

$$D_{\rm eff} = \frac{k_{\rm B}T}{6\pi\eta R} + \frac{4\pi\alpha_1^2\mu^2\eta R^3}{27D^2k_{\rm B}T} + \frac{c_1\alpha_0\mu^2}{3\pi^2D^2R^2}$$

Non-monotonic Size Dependence



J. Howse, R.A.L. Jones, A.J. Ryan, T. Gough, R. Vafabakhsh, & RG, PRL 99, 048102 (2007)

Sheffield Swimmer

Penn Swimmer



W.F. Paxton, et al JACS 126, 13424 (2004) [Ayusman Sen Group]

A short circuited inverted battery!

Theoretical Analysis: J. L. Moran, P.M. Wheat, and J.D. Posner, PRE 81, 065302(R) (2010)

Sheffield II: Runners and Tumblers



Two half-Pt coated spherical PS beads attached at an angle in aqueous hydrogen peroxide solution

Translational and Rotational Propulsion

Mean-Square Displacement



Crossover:

- 1. from Ballistic
- 2. to Oscillatory+decay
- 3. to Diffusive behavior

Trajectory	$\omega (\mathrm{rad}\mathrm{s}^{-1})$	$ au_r$ (s)	$ au_r$ (s)	$D~(\mu \mathrm{m}^2 \mathrm{s}^{-1})$	$v \; (\mu {\rm m s^{-1}})$	$\omega (\mathrm{rad}\mathrm{s}^{-1})$
	from MSAD	from MSAD	from MSD	from MSD	from MSD	from MSD
а	0	14.5	n/a	0.10	0	0
b	1.32	11.1	19.2	0.06	2.07	1.35
с	1.08	16.4	15.6	0.15	1.30	1.07
d	0.63	22.7	21.3	0.07	1.66	0.63
е	0.39	20.5	24.5	0.03	2.80	0.49
f	0	21.8	14.1	0.09	5.99	0

$$\Delta L^{2}(t) = 4Dt + \frac{2v^{2}D_{r}t}{D_{r}^{2} + \omega^{2}} + \frac{2v^{2}(\omega^{2} - D_{r}^{2})}{(D_{r}^{2} + \omega^{2})^{2}} + \frac{2v^{2} e^{-D_{r}t}}{(D_{r}^{2} + \omega^{2})^{2}} \left[(D_{r}^{2} - \omega^{2})\cos\omega t - 2\omega D_{r}\sin\omega t \right]$$



Tokyo Swimmer

Self-thermophoresis



H-R. Jiang, N. Yoshinaga, and M. Sano, Phys. Rev. Lett. **105**, 268302 (2010)



Active Hydrodynamics at Low Re

Active components (cilia, flagella, ...) couple via long-ranged hydrodynamic interactions, leading to interesting emergent behaviors.

metachronal waves



beating pattern



Mike Sanderson

A Simple Model for Metachrony

Generic for microfluidic rotors on a substrate, coupled via hydrodynamic interactions



- \rightarrow Can they synchronize?
- \rightarrow Can they form patterns and dynamic structures?

N. Uchida & RG, PRL 104, 178103 (2010)

Symmetric Pumping

Complete synchronization for δ =0, via defect coarsening



Turbulent Spiral Waves

Synchronization NOT possible for $40 < \delta = 45$



Turbulent Spiral Waves

Synchronization NOT possible for $40 < \delta = 60$



The Effect of Thermal Noise



Living systems operate close to the transition boundary $au \sim 10^{-1}$

Hydrodynamic Synchronization

When do we have hydrodynamic synchronization or coordination?

- When the trajectories are asymmetric? How asymmetric?
- When the beating patterns are jerky? How jerky?

Numerical modeling of ciliary systems as elastic objects with realistic and complicated beating patterns does not answer the above questions.

Recent Experiments from Goldstein and Cicuta Labs in Cambridge opened new doors...





Conditions for Hydro Synchronization

Q: When do objects with fixed trajectories synchronize via hydrodynamic interaction?

Hydro Coupling:



 $F(\phi)$

 $H(\phi_1,\phi_2) = \mathbf{Q}_1 \cdot \mathbf{t}(\phi_1) \cdot \zeta \mathbf{G}_{12} \cdot \mathbf{Q}_2 \cdot \mathbf{t}(\phi_2)$

Growth Rate:

$$\Gamma = -\frac{2}{T} \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \left[\ln F(\phi)\right]' H(\phi, \phi)$$

Condition for Synchronization: $\Gamma < 0$

N. Uchida & RG, PRL 106, 058104 (2011)

Example: Circular Trajectories

 $\mathbf{R}(\phi) = b(\cos\phi, \sin\phi, 0)$



Hydro Coupling for parallel circles:

$$H(\phi,\phi) = G_D(d)\sin^2\phi = -\frac{1}{2}G_D(d)\cos(2\phi) + \text{const}$$



In general, *logarithm of Force* should have a negative 2nd sine-Fourier coefficient!

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Sheffield II, the grey goo, at your service...

THANK YOU

Conclusion

- At small scales the conformational changes will be random, and we will need to cleverly "bias" them towards our desired outcome
- The stochastic nature can lead to novel mechanical responses of the "engine"
- Electrostatic actuation could be used to design synthetic molecular swimmers
- Coherence can be defined for stochastic swimmers
- Stochastic motion of phoretic swimmers is anomalous, depending on time scale
- Phoretic swimmers can be made to follow a variety of trajectories
- Phase ordering, defects, turbulent spiral waves, and much more in a model of microfluidic rotors
- Quantitative prescriptions for designing beating patterns that lead to synchronization

Bacterial Swimming

• *E. coli* driven by rotating flagella



L. Turner, W.S. Ryu, and H.C. Berg, J. Bacteriol. **182**, 2793-2801 (2000)

• G.I. Taylor (1951) Swimming at low Reynolds number

Example: Linear Trajectories

$$\mathbf{R}(\phi) = R(\phi)\mathbf{e}_{x}$$

$$(\phi) = R(\phi)\mathbf{e}_{x}$$

$$(\phi) = -2R(\phi)\left[G'_{I}(d)(\mathbf{q}_{1} \cdot \mathbf{q}_{2})p_{x} + G'_{D}(d)q_{1x}q_{2x}p_{x}\right]$$

$$(\phi) = \mathbf{q}_{1} - \mathbf{q}_{2}$$

$$(\phi) = -2R(\phi)\left[G'_{I}(d)(\mathbf{q}_{1} \cdot \mathbf{q}_{2})p_{x} + G'_{D}(d)q_{1x}q_{2x}p_{x}\right]$$

No monopole-monopole contribution for linear trajectories.

Assuming: $R(\phi) = b \cos \phi$

logarithm of Force should have a negative 1st sine-Fourier coefficient!

Nonlinear Stability Analysis

Cycle-averaged Eqn: $\dot{\Delta} = -V'(\Delta)$ $\Delta = \Phi_1 - \Phi_2$



Hydrodynamic synchronization is possible:

- in-phase
- out-of-phase
- at intermediate phases
- with varying phase shift