

Maxwell's demon and Landauer's bound: from gedanken to real experiments



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Biological systems



Microdevices Electro-Mechanica



Google data center









Computers costs are driven by Flops/W



10% of total electric energy production is used by computers and internet



Is there a fundamental law of physics (therdynamics) which connects Energy with Information ?

Can we perform logic operation with no energy cost ?



Several famous Physicists have been interested by these questions:

J.C.Maxwell(1870), L. Szillard(1930), L.Brillouin(1950), C.Shannon(1950), R.Landauer (1961).

1) Second principle of thermodynamics and Maxwell's demon

- 2) Maxwell's demon and Landauer's bound
- 3) Experiments and experimental results
- 4) The importance for applications

Main Laws of Thermodynamics I

The First Law of Thermodynamics is a version of the Law of Conservation of Energy



Clausius

Clausisus statement of the First Law

In a thermodynamic process, the increment in the internal energy of a system is equal to the difference between the heat exchanged by the system with the heat bath and the increment of work done on it.

$$\Delta U_{A,B} = W_{A,B} - Q$$

Main Laws of Thermodynamics II

The Second Law is a statement about irreversibility. It is usually stated in physical terms of impossible processes.

Sadi Carnot was the first to give a formulation of this principle





Lord Kelvin Statement of the Second Law

Lord Kelvin

No process is possible in which the sole result is the absorption of heat from a reservoir and its complete conversion into work.

Main Laws of Thermodynamics III

The Second Law of Thermodynamics is related to the concept of Entropy

$$\Delta S = \frac{Q}{T}$$

$$\Delta S_{tot} \ge 0$$

In statistical mechanics, Entropy is

related to the probability of the microstates, correponding to a particular macrostate:

$$S = -k_B \Sigma_i p_i \log p_i$$



Shannon entropy

$$\mathbf{S} = -\sum_{i} p_i \log p_i$$

Measure the amount of information contained in a text, in a signal.....





Gibbs

Boltzmann

Question : is Thermodynamic entropy the same than information entropy ?

C. Shannon

Brownian motion of micro particles in water

Observed by Mr. Brown in 1827



(10 times faster)

Particles size is 2 micron= 2 mm/1000



J. Perrin

A. Einstein

Characteristic energy of these thermal fluctuations is : $k_{\rm B}T$ (4*10⁻²¹ Joule à 25°C)

This is the energy of molecules around us

It is 1000 times smaller than the energy used by a bacteria to swim into the water.

10⁶ smaller than the energy used in computer to commute a bit.



Maxwell's Demon





How to overcome the problem ?

Szillard's Engine and the connection between thermodynamics and information



Figure 2. Szilard's engine. A crafty observer can turn a single particle in a box into an engine that converts information into mechanical work. If, say, the particle is found on the box's left-hand side, the observer inserts a movable wall and attaches a weight to its left side. The free expansion of the one-particle gas pushes the wall to the right, lifts the weight, and thereby performs work against gravity. (Adapted from ref. 12, J. V. Koski et al.)

Brillouin, Landauer and Bennett

Modern technology and stochastic thermodynamics allow us to design real demons



Leó Szilárd





Experimental realisation of the Mawell's demon

The measure of the Landauer's bound





A. Bérut et al., Nature 483, 187 (2012).



Experimental realisation of the Mawell's demon



$$\langle e^{(-W+\Delta F-I)} \rangle = 1$$

From Jensen inequality

$$\langle W \rangle \ge \Delta F - k_B T \langle I \rangle.$$

$$I = -p \ln p - (1-p) \ln(1-p)$$

S. Toyabe et al., Nat. Phys. 6, 988 (2010)





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Cooling with a demon



J.V. Koski, A. Kutvonen, I. M. Khaymovich, T. Ala-Nissila, and J.P. Pekola. On-chip maxwell's demon as an information-powered refrigerator. Phys. Rev. Lett., 115:260602, 2015.



Observing a quantum Maxwell demon at work





The demon is a microwave cavity that encodes quantum information about a superconducting qubit and converts information to work by powering a propagating microwave pulse

by stimulated emission

Nathanaël Cottet, Sébastien Jezouin, Landry Bretheau, Philippe Campagne-Ibarcq, Quentin Ficheux, Janet Anders, Alexia Auffèves, Rémi Azouit, Pierre Rouchon, and Benjamin Huard, PNAS, 114 (29) 7561-7564, (2017).





Experimental realisation of the Mawell's demon

The measure of the Landauer's bound





A. Bérut et al., Nature 483, 187 (2012).



The Landauer's principle



(I)

Any logically irreversible transformation of classical information is necessarily accompanied by the dissipation of at least k_BT·ln 2 of heat per lost bit (about 3·10⁻²¹ Joules at room temperature)

Typical examples of logically irreversible transformations are Boolean functions such as AND, NAND, OR and NOR They map several input states onto the same output state

The erasure of information, the RESET TO ONE operation, is logically irreversible and leads to an entropy production of $k_B \cdot ln 2$ per erased bit





Landauer's principle II

Landauer's principle is a central result which exorcises the Maxwell's demon It has been criticized

however it has been tested in several experiments

- How to reach Landauer's bound in experiments ?
- Does any experimentally feasible protocol allow us to reach this bound ?
- Is there a strong connection with stochastic thermodynamics ?

Following Bennett the RESET to ONE operation is often used

Bennett, C. H. The thermodynamics of computation, a review. Int. J. Theor. Phys. 21, 905-940 (1982).



Bennett's erasure protocol





If the protocol is quasi static : $-T\Delta S=Q$ As the energy variation $\Delta U=0$ then from the first principle

$$\langle W \rangle = \langle Q \rangle = -T \Delta S \ge k_B T \ln(2)$$

A minimum work is needed to erase a bit



Examples of traps





A Ashkin Physics Nobel Price in 2018 for the invention of optical tweezers









Potential measured using the probability density function of x(t)

$$P(x) \propto \exp\left(\frac{-U(x)}{k_B T}\right)$$







The Erasure Protocol







The Erasure Procedure







Bead trajectories









Bead trajectories







From the measure of the applied forces and of the particles trajectories we can estimate the work needed to erase the memory





The work on the erasure cycle



$$\nu \dot{x} = -\frac{\partial U_o(x,t)}{\partial x} + f(t) + \eta$$

multiplying by $\dot{\mathbf{x}}$ and integrating for a time τ we get :

$$\Delta U_{ au} = W_{ au} - Q_{ au}$$
 Stochastic thermodynamics

$$\Delta U_{\tau} = -\int_{0}^{\tau} \frac{\partial U_{o}}{\partial x} \dot{x} dt \qquad \qquad W_{\tau} = \int_{0}^{\tau} f \dot{x} dt$$
$$Q_{\tau} = \int_{0}^{\tau} \nu \dot{x}^{2} dt - \int_{0}^{\tau} \eta \dot{x} dt$$

Sekimoto K, Progress of Theoretical Phys. supplement (130), 17 (1998).

The work on the erasure cycle







Landauer's bound





The work approaches the bound but its values are larger than $k_B T \ln 2$





number of successful cycles

Success rate r =

Total number of cycle

Qualitative observations :

- At constant τ : W and r increase with F_{max}
- At constant $F_{max\,:}$ W decreases and r increases for increasing τ





Landauer's bound as a function of r

$$"_{\text{Landauer}}^{r} = kT[\ln 2 + r\ln r + (1-r)\ln(1-r)]"$$

At r=0.5 $< Q >_{\text{Landauer}}^{r} = 0$

Indeed the Erasure Procedure left the initial state unchanged





Landauer's limit







The success rate r





Why in the experiment r< 1 ?

The finite height of the initial and final barrier is responsible of r<1





Summary of the results



 Our experimental results indicate that the thermodynamic limit to information erasure, the Landauer bound, can be approached in the quasistatic regime, but not exceeded.

- •The asymptotic limit is reached in 1/T
- The fact that r<1 is due to the finite height of the initial barrier</p>
- Thermal fluctuations play an important role to reach the limit

Other experiments on Landauer's bound in classical systems



Alexei O. Orlov, Craig S. Lent, Cameron C. Thorpe, Graham P. Boechler, and Gregory L. Snider.

Experimental test of Landauer's principle at the sub-k_BT level. Japanese Journal of Applied Physics, 51(6S):06FE10,2012.



Y. Jun, M. Gavrilov, and J. Bechhoefer. <u>High-precision test of</u> <u>Landauer's principle</u> <u>in a feedback trap.</u> PRL., 113:190601, 2014.



L. Martini, M. Pancaldi, M. Madami, P. Vavassori, G. Gubbiotti, S. Tacchi, F. Hartmann, M. Emmerling, S. Höfling, L. Worschech, and G. Carlotti. <u>Experimental</u> <u>and theoretical analysis of Landauer erasure</u> <u>in nano-magnetic switches of different sizes</u>. Nano Energy, 19:108–116, 2016.



J. Hong, B. Lambson, S. Dhuey, and J. Bokor. <u>Experimental test of</u> <u>Landauer's principle in single-bit</u> <u>operations on nanomagnetic</u> <u>memory</u>

bits. Sci. Adv., 2:e1501492, 2016.

Experiments on Landauer's bound in quantum systems



L. L. Yan, T. P. Xiong, K. Rehan,
F. Zhou, D. F. Liang, L. Chen, J. Q.Zhang,
W. L. Yang, Z. H. Ma, and M. Feng.
<u>Single-atom demonstration of the</u>
quantum Landauer principle.
PRL., 120:210601 (2018).



R. Gaudenzi, E. Burzuri, S. Maegawa, H. S. J. van der Zant, and F. Luis. <u>Quantum</u> <u>landauer erasure with a molecular</u> <u>nanomagnet.</u> Nucl. Phys. 14 (6):565–568, JUN 2018.





$$< \exp(-W_s) >= \exp(-\Delta F)$$

with $W_s = -\int_o^{\tau_{cycle}} \dot{\lambda} \frac{\partial H(x,\lambda)}{\partial \lambda} dt$

In our case this equality transforms

$$W_{s} = \int_{0}^{\tau} \dot{f} x \, dt = [f \, x]_{o}^{\tau} - \int_{0}^{\tau} f \, \dot{x} \, dt = -W_{f}$$

Since the height of the barrier is always finite there is no change in the *equilibrium* **F** of the system between **the beginning and the end of the procedure**.

$$<\exp(-W_s)>=rac{\rho_{eq}(\tau)}{\rho(\tau)}\exp(-\Delta F)$$

S. Vaikuntanathan and C. Jarzynski, Euro. Phys. Lett. 87, 60005 (2009).

Generalized Jarzynski equality



ENS DE LYON We consider the erasure protocol $\rho = r \simeq 1, \quad \rho_{eq} = 1/2, \quad \Delta F = 0$ If the final state is 0 then $<\exp(-W_s)>_{\to 0}=\frac{1/2}{1}$ and the Generalized Jarzynski is : $< W_s > \to 0 \ge (\ln 2 + \ln r)$ from Jensen inequality $\frac{1}{2} < \exp(-W_{1,0}) > +\frac{1}{2} < \exp(-W_{0,0}) > = \frac{1}{2}$ Work done when the Work done if the particle starts in the particle makes the jump from 1 to 0 final state

Landauer's limit and the Jarzynski equality



Total work $\langle W_s \rangle = r \langle W_s \rangle_{\to 0} + (1 - r) \langle W_s \rangle_{\to 1}$

using the inequalities

$$\langle W_s \rangle \ge \ln 2 + r \ln r + (1 - r) \ln(1 - r)$$

The generalized Landauer's Bound









Landauer's bound



Question : can Landauer's bound be reached in short times ?

Optimal protocol :

E. Aurell, et al. J. Stat. Phys.147, 487-505 (2012).



Nature 483, 187-189 (2012)

Landauer's bound in an underdamped micromechanical oscillator

In this system, Landauer's bound is reached with a 1 % uncertainty, with protocols as short as 100 ms.

S Dago, J. Pereda, N. Barros, S. Ciliberto, L. Bellon, PRL 126, 170601 (2021)



Landauer's bound in an underdamped micromechanical oscillator



Comparison of the mechanical oscillator with optical trap

$$\langle \mathcal{Q} \rangle = \langle \mathcal{W} \rangle = k_B T \left(\ln 2 + \frac{B}{\tau} \right)$$



Question : can Landauer's bound be reached in short times ?

This is possible using underdamped systems.



Main messages



a) Maxwell's demon allows us to produce energy from informationb) Information needs a minimum energy in order to be processed

The energy gain from information is smaller/equal than the processing energy. The demon cannot overcome the second principle.

References

Nature 483, 187-189 (2012)

2013 *EPL* **103** 60002 ; arXiv:1302.4417 ; Detailed Jarzynski Equality applied on a Logically Irreversible Procedure

JSTAT, 2015, P06015

Information and thermodynamics: experimental verification of Landauer's Erasure principle

Physics Today, September 2015; Information: From Maxwell's demon to Landauer's eraser

Information and Thermodynamics: Fast and Precise Approach to Landauer's Bound in an Underdamped Micromechanical Oscillator PRL 126, 170601 (2021)

The physics of information: From Maxwell to Landauer. In 'Energy Limits in Computation', Springer, 2019.



Computers costs are driven by Flops/KWh







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THANK YOU !!

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