

# Diffusion of euro currency.

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Abstract: European currency has been distributed in the various european countries in different, economically equivalent, forms.

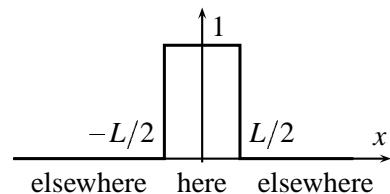
## 1. Introduction

People of Euroland now use coins with a distinctive feature of the country where they come from. It may be the head of a king, queen, or grand duke, or a famous building, or the face of a great human being of the past (Dante, Mozart, Cervantes), or some other symbol, see <http://www.geocities.com/eurocoin2003/revers/>. One takes a big interest in understanding how fast foreign coins travel.

## 2. Diffusion equation for euro coins

2.1. **A very simple model.** People  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_N$  regularly spread on the real line look how the proportion of their own currency decreases with time.

Let  $y_i(t)$  be the proportion of local currency owned by  $a_i$  at time  $t$ . Let  $t_0$  be the average time needed for a full exchange of the coins of  $a_i$  with the ones of its two neighbours, so



$$y_i(t + t_0) = \frac{y_{i-1}(t) + y_{i+1}(t)}{2} \quad (1)$$

starting with  $y_i(0) = 1$  on an interval of length  $L$  and  $y_i(0) = 0$  elsewhere (il ne sagit que de la proportion de monnaie du pays considéré, la quantité d'argent détenue par les gens ne change pas<sup>1</sup>).

<sup>1</sup>Mais alors, à quoi sert l'argent???

Should the country of interest be very narrow, several applications of the rule (1) would rapidly show the typical shape of Galton's nailed board

#### Google Search

Searched the web for galton nail board. Results 1 - 10 of about 233. Search took 0.10 seconds.

Galton board and the binomial distribution ... simulates Galton's Board, in which balls are dropped through a triangular array of nails. This device is also called a quincunx. Every time a ball hits a nail ...

[www.statucino.com/berrie/dsl/Galton.html](http://www.statucino.com/berrie/dsl/Galton.html) - 8k - Cached - Similar pages

[www.stat.ucla.edu/~dinov/courses\\_students.dir/Applets.dir/QuincunxApplet.html](http://www.stat.ucla.edu/~dinov/courses_students.dir/Applets.dir/QuincunxApplet.html) - 3k - Cached - Similar pages

QUINCUNX ... Galton named this board "the quincunx", by a peculiar Latin derivation. ... finally, use board 1/2" x 1" x 18", driven in, to prop up top of the nail-board. ...

[members.fortunecity.com/jonhays/quincunx.htm](http://members.fortunecity.com/jonhays/quincunx.htm) - 6k - Cached - Similar pages

Untitled ... Galton is also responsible for the pinball machine! ... finally, use board 1/2" x 1" x 18", driven in, to prop up top of the nail-board. ...

[members.fortunecity.com/jonhays/galton.htm](http://members.fortunecity.com/jonhays/galton.htm) - 7k - Cached - Similar pages

Quincunx or Galton's Board ... Introduction: The Galton's Board resembles a Pascals triangle. ... A 5 row Quincunx has 1 nail on the top and 5 in the bottom. ...

[math.allconet.org/synergy/sami/quincunx.htm](http://math.allconet.org/synergy/sami/quincunx.htm) - 14k - Cached - Similar pages

Lab III ... to simulate the particle movement in Galton's Board, in which balls are dropped through a triangular array of nails. Every time a ball hits a nail it has a ...

[www.cz3.nus.edu.sg/~chenk/gem2503/lab3.htm](http://www.cz3.nus.edu.sg/~chenk/gem2503/lab3.htm) - 5k - Cached - Similar pages

[PDF]APL IN COMPUTER - ASSISTED INSTRUCTION: SIMULATION OF STOCHASTIC ... File Format: PDF/Adobe Acrobat ... demonstrate how much we took advantage of the interactivity of APL, the Galton board program will ...  $0 \sim p \sim 1$ . The event is a ball's deflection at a nail to the ...

[delivery.acm.org/10.1145/810000/803708/p447-wittig.pdf?key1=803708&key2=0258764401&coll=portal&am...](http://delivery.acm.org/10.1145/810000/803708/p447-wittig.pdf?key1=803708&key2=0258764401&coll=portal&am...) Similar pages

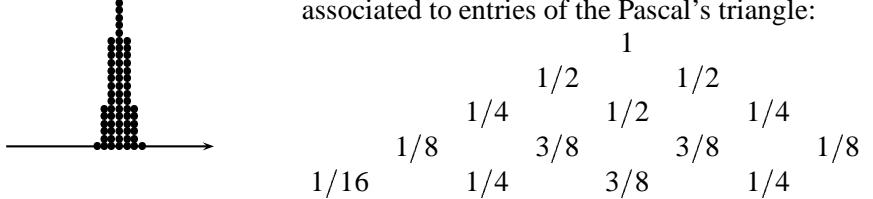
[PDF]arXiv:cond-mat/0101281 v1 18 Jan 2001 File Format: PDF/Adobe Acrobat - View as HTML ... This is analogous to the statistics of a falling ball on a Galton's nail-board where also a 3 Page 4. single trajectory is not touching all nails but is random.

[arxiv.org/pdf/cond-mat/0101281.pdf](http://arxiv.org/pdf/cond-mat/0101281.pdf) - Similar pages

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<http://archives.math.utk.edu/software/msdos/probability/jkgalton.html>

associated to entries of the Pascal's triangle:



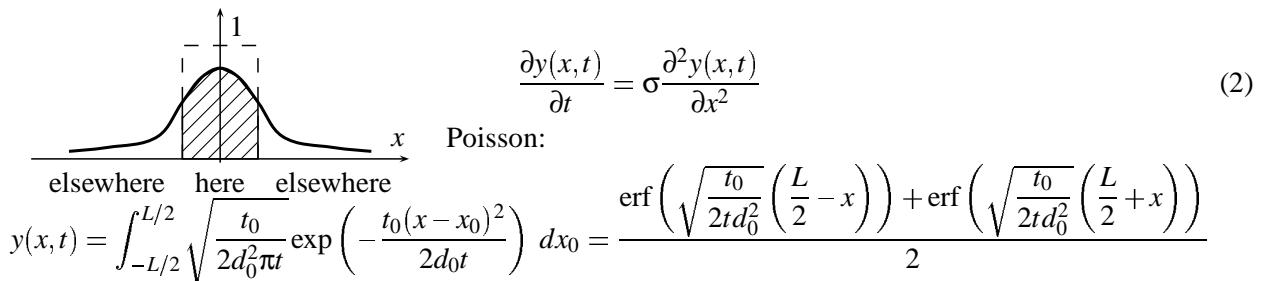
The continuous limit is better understood by writing (1) as

$$y_i(t+t_0) - y_i(t) = \frac{y_{i-1}(t) - 2y_i(t) + y_{i+1}(t)}{2}$$

$$\text{or } \frac{y_i(t+t_0) - y_i(t)}{t_0} = \sigma \frac{y_{i-1}(t) - 2y_i(t) + y_{i+1}(t)}{d_0^2}$$

si  $d_0$  est la distance moyenne entre deux acteurs, et  $\sigma := \frac{d_0^2}{2t_0}$ .

**2.2. The diffusion equation.** Les quotients ainsi mis en évidence sont proches de dérivées:



où  $\text{erf}(X) := \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^X e^{-u^2} du$ . Remarquons que

$$\frac{\partial y(x,t)}{\partial x} = \sqrt{\frac{t_0}{2d_0^2\pi t}} \left[ \exp\left(-\frac{t_0(L/2+x)^2}{2td_0^2}\right) - \exp\left(-\frac{t_0(L/2-x)^2}{2td_0^2}\right) \right]$$

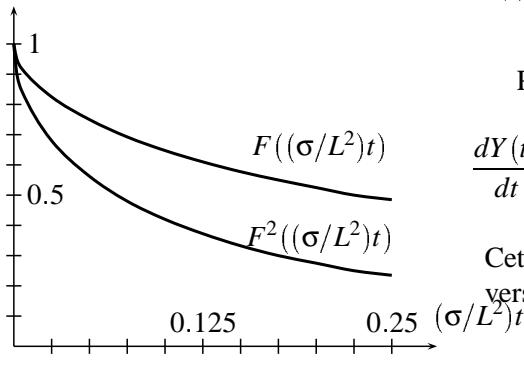
Au temps  $t > 0$ , la distribution uniforme confinée au pays d'origine s'est affaissée et a quelque peu envahi les pays voisins. La proportion encore disponible dans le pays d'origine (c'est la valeur la plus facile à mesurer) est donnée par la partie hachurée

$$Y(t) = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L/2}^{L/2} y(x,t) dx$$

Par (2), on a aussi

$$\frac{dY(t)}{dt} = 2 \frac{d_0^2}{2Lt_0} \frac{\partial y(L/2,t)}{\partial x} = \sqrt{\frac{d_0^2}{2L^2t_0\pi t}} \left( \exp\left(-\frac{t_0L^2}{2td_0^2}\right) - 1 \right)$$

Cette moyenne nationale décroît avec  $t$  selon une fonction universelle  $F$  de  $(\sigma/L^2)t$ .



$$Y(t) = F((\sigma/L^2)t); \quad F(X) = \sqrt{\frac{4X}{\pi}} \left( \exp\left(-\frac{1}{4X}\right) - 1 \right) + \text{erf}\left(\sqrt{\frac{1}{4X}}\right).$$

|                      |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
|----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| $(\sigma/L^2)t$      | 0.025 | 0.05  | 0.075 | 0.1   | 0.125 | 0.15  | 0.175 | 0.2   | 0.225 | 0.25  |
| $F((\sigma/L^2)t)$   | 0.822 | 0.748 | 0.692 | 0.647 | 0.610 | 0.578 | 0.550 | 0.526 | 0.505 | 0.486 |
| $F^2((\sigma/L^2)t)$ | 0.676 | 0.560 | 0.479 | 0.419 | 0.372 | 0.334 | 0.303 | 0.277 | 0.255 | 0.236 |

(Au fait, en appliquant directement (1), on obtient  $Y = 1 - \frac{3}{2} \frac{5}{4} \cdots \frac{2k-1}{2k-2} \frac{d_0}{L}$  après  $2k$  pas de temps, si  $d_0 \ll L$  Cela donne  $\approx 1 - \sqrt{\frac{4k}{\pi}} \frac{d_0}{L} = 1 - \sqrt{\frac{2t}{t_0\pi}} \frac{d_0}{L} = 1 - \sqrt{\frac{4\sigma t}{L^2\pi}}$  pour  $(\sigma/L^2)t$  petit.

For a **two-dimensional** problem, the equation is  $\partial u(x,y,t)/\partial t = (\sigma/2)[\partial^2 u(x,y,t)/\partial x^2 + \partial^2 u(x,y,t)/\partial y^2]$ . Pour un **rectangle**, on obtient  $Y_1(t)Y_2(t) = F((\sigma/L_1^2)t)F((\sigma/L_2^2)t)$ , avec les longueurs  $L_1$  et  $L_2$  des deux côtés. Avec un rectangle, on peut déjà respecter le rapport superficie/longueur de frontière d'un pays (N.B.: frontière commune avec l'Euroland!). Et tenir compte du nombre moyen de connexions (monétaires) entre les agents et leurs voisins.

Bon, avec  $d_0 \approx 1$  km (distance moyenne au supermarché ou à la pompe la plus proche<sup>2</sup>),  $L \approx$  une centaine de km, et  $t_0 \approx 1$  mois, on devrait être tout au plus à un millième dans la figure ci-dessus.

<sup>2</sup>oui, mais si on paie par carte?

| date         | BEL.  | NED.  | LUX   |
|--------------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1 fév. 2002  | 0.888 | 0.910 | 0.750 |
| 1 mar. 2002  | 0.812 | 0.869 | 0.810 |
| 1 avr. 2002  | 0.814 | 0.822 | 0.660 |
| 1 mai 2002   | 0.788 | 0.826 | 0.660 |
| 1 juin 2002  | 0.766 | 0.780 | 0.510 |
| 1 juil. 2002 | 0.802 | 0.789 | 0.570 |
| 1 aoû. 2002  | 0.734 | 0.749 | 0.590 |
| 1 sep. 2002  | 0.722 | 0.755 | 0.510 |
| 1 Oct. 2002  | 0.753 | 0.759 |       |
| 1 Nov. 2002  | 0.751 | 0.757 |       |
| 1 Dec. 2003  | 0.743 | 0.772 |       |
| 1 Jan. 2003  | 0.737 | 0.770 |       |
| 1 Feb. 2003  | 0.748 | 0.757 |       |

On voit que la théorie précède l'observation. Eh bien, observons. Une énorme documentation portant sur des mesures effectuées par des centaines de gens aux Pays-Bas et en Belgique (du nord...) est rassemblée à  
<http://www.wiskgenoot.nl/eurodiffusie>)

On y voit<sup>3</sup>, parmi d'autres informations disponibles (voir leur section "download"), la répartition des monnaies en Belgique, aux Pays-Bas et au Luxembourg<sup>4</sup> en fonction du temps.

On en estime très approximativement le  $\sigma/L^2$  de la Belgique et des Pays-Bas à  $\approx 0.0022$  et  $0.0018 \text{ mois}^{-1}$ , et à  $\approx 0.01 \text{ mois}^{-1}$  pour le Luxembourg.

```
c: eurofit .m          1636 19.02.103 12:02  \calc\matlab4

% eurofit.m      local euros in Belgium and Netherlands
%
% data from      http://www.wiskgenoot.nl/eurodiffusie
%
%
% U(t) = proportion of local euros at time t, averaged on a
%         whole country.
%
x=0:13;    % 1 Jan 2002 , 1 Feb 2002 , ... , 1 Feb 2003.
%BE
y=[1 0.888 0.812 0.814 0.788 0.766 0.802 0.734 0.722 0.753 0.751 0.743 0.737 0.748];
plot(x,y);
title(' Local euros in Belgium');
hold on;
%ys=(1-y).^2;
%[p,S]=polyfit(x,ys,3);
%p,
%xp=0:0.1:10;
%p(4)=0;
%[yp,delta]=polyval(p,xp,S);
%plot(xp,1-sqrt(0.0000000001+yp),'r');
%
% model solution is: U(t)=mean value on a square of the solution
%         of the diffusion equation
%
% du(x,y,t)/dt = sigma Laplacian u(x,y,t)
%
% with initial u= 1 on the square , and u=0 elsewhere.
%
% Solution: U(t)= square of one-dimensional solution
%                         (see below)
xe=0.2:0.2:13;
sig=0.0022;s4=1/(4*sig);ye=sqrt(4*sig*xe/pi).*(exp(-s4./xe)-1)+ ...
erf(sqrt(s4./xe));    ye=ye.*ye;
xe(1:5),ye(1:5),
for ix=12:12:96, xx=ix;
yy=sqrt(4*sig*xx/pi)*(exp(-s4./xx)-1)+ erf(sqrt(s4./xx));yy=yy.^2;[xx,yy],
```

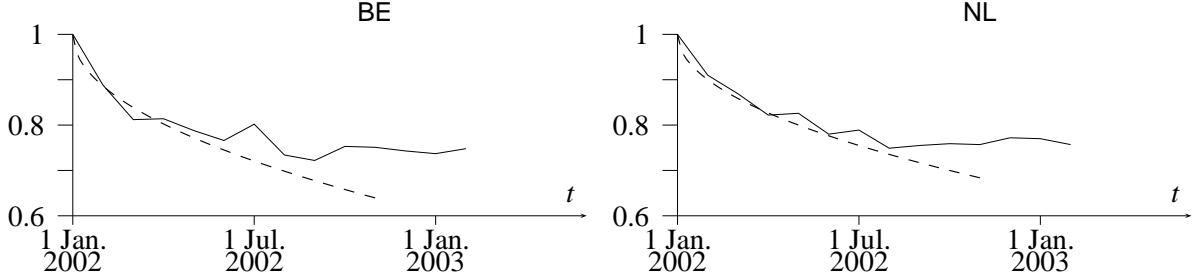
<sup>3</sup>New site is now <http://www.eurodiffusie.nl>

<sup>4</sup>For Luxembourg, data furnished by family of T. Hitzky.

```

end;
plot([0,xe],[1,ye],'g');
print -dps eurofb.ps
pause;
hold off;
%NL
y=[1 0.910 0.869 0.822 0.826 0.780 0.789 0.749 0.755 0.759 0.757 0.772 0.770 0.757];
plot(x,y);
title(' Local euros in Netherlands');
hold on;
sig=0.0018;s4=1/(4*sig);ye=sqrt(4*sig*xe/pi).*(exp(-s4./xe)-1)+ ...
erf(sqrt(s4./xe)); ye=ye.*ye;
plot([0,xe],[1,ye],'g');
print -dps eurofn.ps
%LUX
%y=[1 0.750 0.810 0.660 0.660 0.510 0.570 0.590 0.510 ];

```



### 3. Effect of adding fresh coins.

After about 6 months, the decreasing trend seems to have died.

We consider that during each exchange period  $t_0$ , the national bank makes available a fraction  $c$  of fresh national coins. As the number of various coins in each pocket is still supposed constant, the same fraction  $c$  of owned coins is removed, so that (1) is now

$$y_i(t+t_0) = (1-c) \frac{y_{i-1}(t) + y_{i+1}(t)}{2} + c, \quad -L/2 \leq x \leq L/2, \quad (3)$$

whereas fresh coins brought abroad are of course of THEIR own kind, and our own brand decreases even faster:

$$y_i(t+t_0) = (1-c) \frac{y_{i-1}(t) + y_{i+1}(t)}{2}, \quad |x| > L/2, \quad (4)$$

In the continuous limit:

$$\frac{\partial y(x,t)}{\partial t} = \sigma \frac{\partial^2 y(x,t)}{\partial x^2} - \gamma y(x,t) + \gamma \chi_{(-L/2,L/2)}(x), \quad (5)$$

with  $\gamma = c/t_0$ , and where  $\chi_{(a,b)}(x) = 1$  when  $a < x < b$  and vanishes elsewhere.

Limit solution when  $t \rightarrow \infty$ :

$$\begin{aligned} y(x,\infty) &= 1 - \exp\left(-\sqrt{\frac{\gamma}{\sigma}} \frac{L}{2}\right) \cosh\left(\sqrt{\frac{\gamma}{\sigma}} x\right), \quad -L/2 \leq x \leq L/2, \\ &= \sinh\left(\sqrt{\frac{\gamma}{\sigma}} \frac{L}{2}\right) \exp\left(-\sqrt{\frac{\gamma}{\sigma}} |x|\right), \quad |x| \geq L/2. \end{aligned}$$

Average on  $(-L/2, L/2)$ :

$$\frac{1}{L} \int_{-L/2}^{L/2} y(x, \infty) dx = 1 - \frac{1 - \exp\left(-\sqrt{\frac{\gamma}{\sigma}} L\right)}{\sqrt{\frac{\gamma}{\sigma}} L} \quad (6)$$

In <http://www.senat.fr/rap/I01-087-344/I01-087-34429.html>, it is stated that the French bank intended to release about  $6.5 \cdot 10^9$  coins on January 2002, followed by a regular flow of about  $3 \cdot 10^8$  coins each month. This means  $\gamma$  about  $0.05 \text{ month}^{-1}$ . Assuming the same value here, and with  $\sigma/L^2$  near to 0.002, we have  $\gamma L^2/\sigma \approx 25$ . The value of  $\gamma$  may decrease with time...

It figures: if  $G(t) = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L/2}^{L/2} y(x, \infty) dx$ , we must consider  $G^2$  for a two-dimensional problem, and here are some limit values, from (6):

| $(\gamma L^2/\sigma)$ | 1     | 2     | 3     | 4     | 5     | 10    | 15    | 20    | 25    | 30    | 50    |
|-----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| $G(\infty)$           | 0.368 | 0.465 | 0.525 | 0.568 | 0.601 | 0.697 | 0.747 | 0.779 | 0.801 | 0.818 | 0.859 |
| $G^2(\infty)$         | 0.135 | 0.216 | 0.275 | 0.322 | 0.361 | 0.486 | 0.558 | 0.607 | 0.642 | 0.669 | 0.737 |

Simple discretization of (5):

$$y_i(t + \Delta t) = y_i(t) + \sigma \Delta t \frac{y_{i-1} - 2y_i + y_{i+1}}{h^2} - \gamma \frac{y_{i-1} + y_{i+1}}{2} + \gamma \Delta t \chi_i$$

```

10      ' eurodi2.ub
20      N=500:point 2:emaword 2:dim ema(0;2*N,2)
30      ' screen 21:color:console 0,*,0
50      Lh=100
60      for I=N-Lh to N+Lh:ema(0;I,0)=1:next I
68      ' Gls = gamma L^2/sigma , Delta t=t0 h^2/d0^2 = h^2/(2 sigma)
70      Gls=25.0:Gdt=Gls/(8*Lh^2):Limp=1-(1-exp(-sqrt(Gls)))/sqrt(Gls)
72      print "gamma L^2/sigma= ";Gls;" , limit=";Limp;" square=";Limp^2
100     for It=1 to 50000:Som=0:for I=N-Lh to N+Lh:Som=Som+ema(0;I,0):next I
105     ' if It@25=0 then print It*Gdt/Gls;" ";ema(0;N,0);";0.5*Som/Lh
106     if It@25=0 then print "(";10*It*Gdt/Gls;";";5*(Som/Lh)^2;"%)"
107     ' if It@25=0 then for I=1 to 2*N-1:line (I,420-400*ema(0;I,0))-(I+1,420-400*ema(0;I+1,0)):next I:line (I
110     for I=1 to N-Lh:ema(0;I,1)=0.5*(1-Gdt)*(ema(0;I-1,0)+ema(0;I+1,0)):next I
120     for I=N-Lh to N+Lh:ema(0;I,1)=0.5*(1-Gdt)*(ema(0;I-1,0)+ema(0;I+1,0))+Gdt:next I
130     for I=N+Lh to 2*N-1:ema(0;I,1)=0.5*(1-Gdt)*(ema(0;I-1,0)+ema(0;I+1,0)):next I
150     for I=0 to 2*N:ema(0;I,0)=ema(0;I,1):next I
175     next It

```

