



Front motion

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Stochastic Front Motion & Slow Manifolds

Dirk Blömker (Universität Augsburg)

joint work with :

Dimitra Antonopoulou (Chester) & Georgia Karali (Heraklion)

Peter Bates (Michigan State)

Alexander Schindler (Augsburg)



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- General Concept
 - Slow Manifold
 - Key ideas
- Cahn-Hilliard
 - Construction of the Slow Manifold
 - Motion of interfaces
- Other models
 - Allen-Cahn
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 - Interface motion in 2D



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Setting:

∞ -dimensional stochastic system in \mathcal{H}

$$du = \mathcal{L}(u)dt + dW \quad (\text{SPDE})$$

- \mathcal{L} nonlinear operator (e.g. $\Delta u + f(u)$)
- small additive noise
- W - Wiener process in \mathcal{H} , covariance operator Q
 $(\mathbb{E}\langle u, W(t) \rangle \langle v, W(t) \rangle = tQ\langle u, v \rangle)$

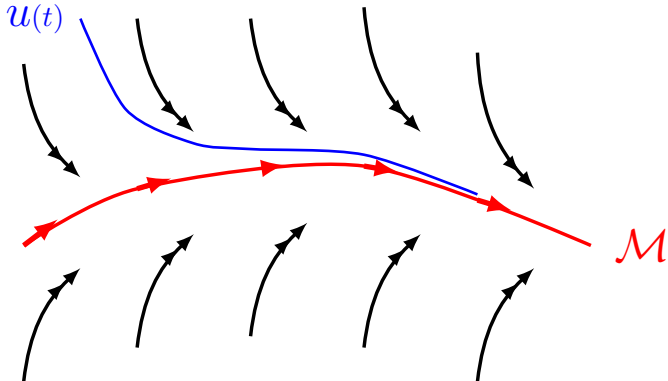
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Deterministic slow manifold $\mathcal{M} \subset \mathcal{H}$

(Dynamics for $W = 0$)

For example, parametrized by position of interfaces



!! NOT NECESSARILY INVARIANT !!

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- Otto, Reznikoff [07] – Slow manifold - gradient systems
- Beck, Wayne [09] – Slow manifold – Burgers on \mathbb{R}
- Brassesco, Butta, et al. [98,02,...] – single interface motion (stochastic Ginzburg-Landau, Phase Field Equation)
- Fatkullin, Kovacic, Vanden Eijnden [10] gradient systems
- Statistics, numerics, asymptotic expansions vanden Eijnden, Fatkullin[03], Fatkullin[10], Lythe[00,..],
- S. Weber [14], Shardlow [00] multi-kink stoch. Allen-Cahn
- Stannat et al [14,.....] travelling waves
- For SDE see Gentz & Berglund

Stochastic Cahn-Hilliard – Brassesco [14]

The motion of a single interface in Cahn-Hilliard on \mathbb{R} is non-Markovian (fractional Brownian motion)



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General Idea of the Approach

(usually hidden in technical details)



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Theorems (for stochastic dynamics)

- Attractivity of the manifold \mathcal{M}
 - only for a neighborhood
 - \mathcal{M} not necessarily invariant for deterministic dynamics

- Stability of \mathcal{M}
 - exit from a neighborhood of \mathcal{M}
 - here: weaker results than Large Deviation (not optimal)

- Motion along the manifold
 - Deterministic dynamics
 - Wiener process projected to \mathcal{M}

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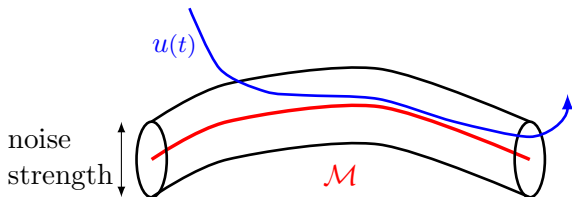
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Metatheorem (Stability)

With high probability, a solution

- 1 stays on the “order of noise-strength” close to \mathcal{M}
- 2 until it exits “at the end” of \mathcal{M}





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For some parameter space $\mathcal{P} \subset \mathbb{R}^N$

$$\mathcal{M} = \{u^\xi \in \mathcal{H} : \xi \in \mathcal{P}\}.$$

AIM:

Determine $b : \mathcal{P} \mapsto \mathbb{R}^N$ and $\sigma_j : \mathcal{P} \mapsto \mathcal{H}$ such that

$$u(t) \approx u^{\xi(t)} \quad \text{with} \quad d\xi_j = b_j(\xi)dt + \langle \sigma_j(\xi), dW \rangle .$$



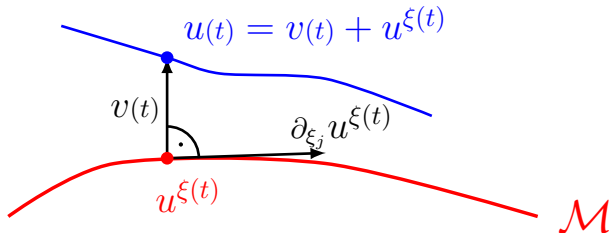
Coordinate System

One Possibility

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$$u = u^\xi + v \quad \text{with} \quad v \perp \partial_{\xi_j} u^\xi \quad \text{and} \quad \partial_{\xi_j} u^\xi \text{ is tangential}$$



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Now:

Differentiate (Itô-formula)

$$u = u^\xi + v \quad \text{and} \quad \langle \partial_{\xi_j} u^\xi, v \rangle = 0,$$

eliminate dv and derive an equation for $d\xi_j$.



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For Stability

$$\begin{aligned}dv &= du + du^\xi \\ &= \mathcal{L}(v + u^\xi)dt + \partial_\xi u^\xi \cdot d\xi + \text{It\bar{o}-Correction} + dW \\ &= D\mathcal{L}(u^\xi)v dt + N(u^\xi, v)dt + \partial_\xi u^\xi \cdot d\xi + \dots\end{aligned}$$

Now take scalar product with v

NEED:

- ... Bounds on linearized operator $\langle v, D\mathcal{L}(u^\xi)v \rangle$
- ... Control of Nonlinearity $N(u^\xi, v)$

To show bounds for v over large times with high probability



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Show for $t \leq \tau^*$

(τ^* exit time from a neighborhood of \mathcal{M} - distance R_ϵ)

$$d\|v\|^2 = -a_\epsilon \|v\|^2 dt + \mathcal{O}(K_\epsilon) dt + \langle \mathcal{O}(\|v\|), dW \rangle$$

Inductively

$$\mathbb{E}\|v(\tau^*)\|^{2p} \leq C_p \left(\frac{K_\epsilon + \|Q_\epsilon\|}{a_\epsilon} \right)^p \cdot \mathbb{E}\tau^*$$

Theorem

If $K_\epsilon + \|Q_\epsilon\| \ll a_\epsilon R_\epsilon^2 \epsilon^\kappa$, then:

Exiting the neighborhood of \mathcal{M} before any time of order ϵ^{-q} due to v being large has small probability.

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- Results of [Antonopoulou, Karali, DB, 12]
- Motion of interfaces between several "pure" phases
- Approximate slow manifold
 - parametrized by the interface positions
 - Based on Bates & Xun [94,95] + Carr & Pego [89,90]



Cahn-Hilliard model

Cahn & Hilliard [58,59], Cook [70]

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Phenomenological model for phase separation

For binary alloy, fluid,....

starting from an initially homogeneous mixture

$u(t, x)$ – concentration of one component

($t > 0$ time, x space)

$u = \pm 1$ (almost) “*pure*“ phases.



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Stochastic Cahn-Hilliard Equation

$$\partial_t u = -\partial_x^2[\epsilon^2 \partial_x^2 u - f(u)] + \epsilon^\delta \partial_t \partial_x W, \quad (\text{CH})$$

Neumann-type (no flow) boundary conditions

$$\partial_x u(t, 0) = \partial_x u(t, 1) = 0 \quad \partial_x^3 u(t, 0) = \partial_x^3 u(t, 1) = 0$$

- F smooth double well, $F' = f$ (E.g. $F(u) = \frac{1}{4}(1 - u^2)^2$)
- Noise strength: ϵ^δ , $\delta > 9/2$ (technical reason)
- Interaction length/interface width: $0 < \epsilon \ll 1$



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$$\partial_t u = -\partial_x^2 [\epsilon^2 \partial_x^2 u - f(u)] + \epsilon^\delta \partial_t \partial_x W$$

$$W(t, x) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \alpha_k \beta_k(t) e_k(x)$$

- e_k eigenfunctions of Dirichlet Laplacian (i.e., $\sin(\pi k x)$)
- $\alpha_k \rightarrow 0$ for $k \rightarrow \infty$, sufficiently fast (for Itô-formula)
- $\{\beta_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ i.i.d. standard Brownian motion

Physics: Mass conservative space-time white noise, $\alpha_k = 1$



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Slow Manifold Construction

Carr & Pego [89,90]

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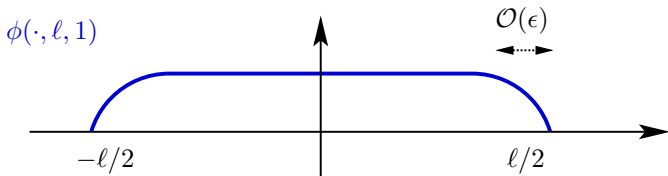
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Stationary solutions of deterministic (CH)!
(upto boundary conditions)



$\Phi(x, \ell, \pm 1)$ solves

$$\epsilon^2 \partial_x^2 \Phi = f(\Phi), \quad \Phi(-\ell/2) = 0 = \Phi(\ell/2)$$



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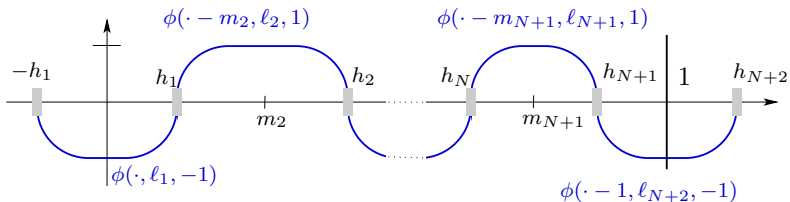
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2D-Case

u^h indexed by interfaces $h \in \Omega_\rho \subset \mathbb{R}^{N+1}$

Distance: $\ell_j = h_{j+1} - h_j > \epsilon/\rho$ (later $\rho = \epsilon^\kappa$, $0 < \kappa \ll 1$)



Near h_j use cut-off to glue the ϕ 's smoothly.



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(CH) is mass conservative. (i.e. $\int_0^1 u(t) dx = \int_0^1 u(0) dx$)

Fix mass $M = \int_0^1 u(t, x) dx$.

Definition (Slow Manifold)

$$\mathcal{M} = \left\{ u^h : h \in \Omega_\rho, \int_0^1 u^h dx = M \right\}$$

Interface h_{N+1} is a function of $\xi = (h_1, \dots, h_N)$.

Define $u^\xi := u^h$



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Technical Point:

If $u(t, x)$ solves (CH), then

$$\tilde{u}(t, x) = \int_0^x u(t, z) dz$$

solves the Integrated Cahn-Hilliard equation (ICH).

Advantage:

The linearized operator (around \tilde{u}^ξ)

$$L^c = -\epsilon^2 \partial_x^4 + \partial_x f'(u^\xi) \partial_x$$

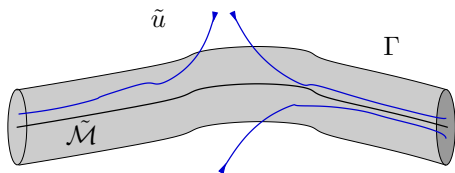
is self-adjoint.

(It depends on ξ !)

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\exists exponentially (in ϵ) small neighborhood Γ of $\tilde{\mathcal{M}}$ that is locally exponentially attracting with rate $\mathcal{O}(1)$



On $\tilde{\mathcal{M}}$ lies a stationary solution u^* (equidistant interfaces) with its N -dim. unstable manifold $W^u(u^*)$ exponentially close to $\tilde{\mathcal{M}}$.



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Theorem

$$\tilde{u}(0) = \tilde{u}^{\xi(0)} + \tilde{v}(0).$$

As long as $B_{\epsilon}(\tilde{v}) = \epsilon^2 \|\partial_x^2 \tilde{v}\|^2 + \|\partial_x \tilde{v}\|^2 = \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^3)$:

$$\tilde{u} = \tilde{u}^{\xi} + \tilde{v} \text{ is a solution of (ICH)}$$

\Leftrightarrow

$$\xi \text{ and } \tilde{v} \text{ solve (SDE) \& (SPDE)}$$

$$d\xi_k = b_k(\xi, \tilde{v})dt + \epsilon^{\delta} \langle \sigma_k(\xi \tilde{v}), dW \rangle \quad (\text{SDE})$$

with b and σ stated later.

$$d\tilde{v} = \mathcal{L}(\tilde{u}^{\xi} + \tilde{v})dt + \epsilon^{\delta} dW - d\tilde{u}^{\xi}, \quad (\text{SPDE})$$

where $\mathcal{L}(\tilde{u}) = -\epsilon^2 \partial_x^4 \tilde{u} + \partial_x f(\partial_x \tilde{u})$.

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$$\sigma_r(\xi) = \sum_i A_{ri}^{-1}(\xi) E_i^\xi. \quad (E_i^\xi \approx \partial_{\xi_i} \tilde{u}^\xi)$$

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$$b_r(\xi) = \sum_i A_{ri}^{-1}(\xi) \left\{ \langle \mathcal{L}^c(\tilde{u}^\xi + \tilde{v}), E_i^\xi \rangle + \sum_j \langle \mathcal{Q}_\epsilon E_{ij}^\xi, \sigma_j(\xi) \rangle \right. \\ \left. + \sum_{l,k} \frac{1}{2} \left[\langle \tilde{v}, E_{ilk}^\xi \rangle - \langle \tilde{u}_{kl}^\xi, E_i^\xi \rangle - 2 \langle \tilde{u}_k^\xi, E_{il}^\xi \rangle \right] \langle \mathcal{Q}_\epsilon \sigma_k(\xi), \sigma_l(\xi) \rangle \right\}$$

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$$A_{ri}(\xi, \tilde{v}) \approx 4\ell_{i+1}(\delta_{i,r} + \delta_{r,i-1}) + C_{ri}\epsilon$$

Allen-Cahn

Recall:

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Covariance operator of W is $\mathcal{Q}_\epsilon e_k = \epsilon^{2\delta} \alpha_k^2 e_k$

2D-Case

Indices are derivatives, $E_{ij}^\xi = \partial_{\xi_j} E_i^\xi$ and $\tilde{u}_{ij}^\xi = \partial_{\xi_j} \partial_{\xi_i} \tilde{u}^\xi$

Most of the terms in b are Itô-Stratonovic correction.



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Theorem – Stability

Consider a solution $\tilde{u} = \tilde{u}^\xi + \tilde{v}$ of (ICH).

Fix $\kappa > 0$.

If $\mathcal{A}_\epsilon(\tilde{v}(0)) < \epsilon^{2\delta}$, then with high probability

$$\mathcal{A}_\epsilon(\tilde{v}(t)) = \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^{2\delta - \kappa})$$

for all $t \leq \epsilon^{-q}$ for any $q > 0$ or until interface breaks down.

Def. $\mathcal{A}_\epsilon(\tilde{v}) = \langle \tilde{v}, L^c \tilde{v} \rangle$ with $c\epsilon^3 \|\tilde{v}\|_{H^1}^2 \leq \mathcal{A}_\epsilon(\tilde{v}) \leq C \|\tilde{v}\|_{H^2}^2$.

Attraction

Exponential attraction holds for a larger neighbourhood of order $B_\epsilon(\tilde{v}) = \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^6)$.



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Is the (SDE) for ξ usefull?



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Two interfaces ($N = 1$)

Second interface determined by first (mass conservation).

$$d\xi \approx \text{exp. small} + \epsilon^\delta \|\partial \tilde{u}^\xi\|^{-2} \langle \partial \tilde{u}^\xi, \circ dW \rangle,$$

Stratonovic equation for $\epsilon^\delta W$ projected to $\tilde{\mathcal{M}}$

Space-time white noise ($Q_\epsilon = \epsilon^{2\delta} \cdot Id$) – (too rough)

ξ is close to a Brownian motion with variance $\epsilon^{2\delta}/4\ell$.

$$[\text{B-X-94}] : \|\tilde{u}_1^\xi\|^2 \approx 4\ell - \text{distance between interfaces.}$$



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2D-Case

$$du = [\epsilon^2 \partial_x^2 u + u - u^3] dt + dW$$

& Neumann b.c

- similar dynamics than Cahn-Hilliard
- no mass conservation
- Interface motion similar [S. Weber 14, PhD]

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- based on [X. Chen 04]
- Using maximum principle
- Exit from manifold with N -layers
into the domain of attraction for $N-2$ -layers

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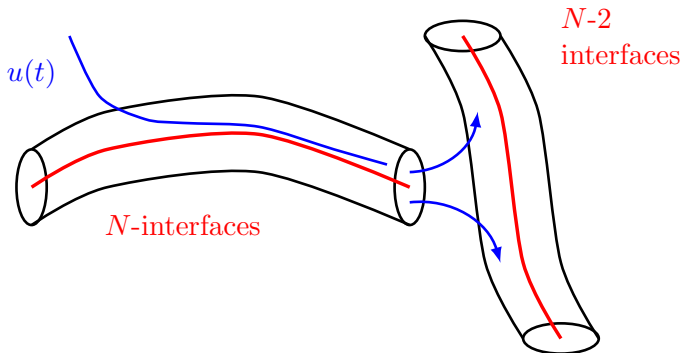
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On some sufficiently large domain $D \in \mathbb{R}^2$

$$du = \left[\epsilon^2 \Delta u + u - u^3 - \frac{1}{|D|} \int_D (u - u^3) dx \right] dt + \epsilon^\delta dW$$

& Neumann b.c

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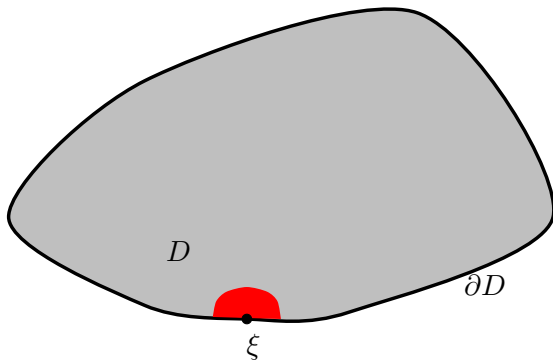
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2D-Case

$$u^\xi \approx \begin{cases} 1 & : \text{on ball of radius } 1 - \epsilon \text{ around } \xi \in \partial D \\ -1 & : \text{outside ball of radius } 1 + \epsilon \text{ around } \xi \in \partial D \end{cases}$$

$$\mathcal{M} = \{u^\xi : \xi \in \partial D\} \simeq S^1$$





Motion of a droplet

[Antonopoulou, Bates, Karali, DB 14]

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Theorem

Assume $\delta < 4$ and W sufficiently smooth in space.

Then:

Solutions stay close to \mathcal{M} up to times of order ϵ^{-q} .

$$d\xi \approx \epsilon^2 c(\xi) dt + \epsilon^\delta \|\partial_\xi u^\xi\|^{-2} \langle \partial_\xi u^\xi, \circ dW \rangle$$

with $c(\epsilon) \approx \mathcal{K}'(\xi)$, where $\mathcal{K}'(\xi)$ is the curvature of ∂D at ξ



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2D Case – Cahn-Hilliard

Results of [Antonopoulou, Karali, DB 15(?)]



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Example

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2D-Case

Rescale time, such that:

$$du_\epsilon = \Delta(-\epsilon\Delta u_\epsilon + \epsilon^{-1}f'(u_\epsilon))dt + \epsilon^\sigma dW \quad (\text{CH})$$

with Neumann boundary conditions on domain \mathcal{D} .

Chemical potential v_ϵ such that

$$\begin{cases} du_\epsilon &= -\Delta v_\epsilon dt + \epsilon^\sigma dW \\ v_\epsilon &= -\frac{1}{\epsilon}f'(u_\epsilon) + \epsilon\Delta u_\epsilon \end{cases} \quad (\text{SYS})$$



2D-Case – very small noise

(based on Alikakos, Bates, Chen 94)

Front motion

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If $\sigma < \frac{14}{3}$, then the limit (u, v) satisfies free boundary problem

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Delta v = 0 \quad \text{in } \mathcal{D} \setminus \Gamma, \\ \partial_n v = 0 \quad \text{on } \partial \mathcal{D} \\ v = \lambda H \quad \text{on } \Gamma \\ 2V = \partial_n v^+ - \partial_n v^- \quad \text{on } \Gamma \end{array} \right.$$

NEED:

$\Gamma = \Gamma(t)$ is closed hypersurface dividing $u = 1$ from $u = -1$
with mean curvature H , velocity V ,
unit outward normal n , constant $\lambda > 0$



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Conjecture for $\sigma = 1$

The limit (u, v) solves the stochastic Hele-Shaw problem.

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Delta v = 0 \quad \text{in } \mathcal{D} \setminus \Gamma, \\ \partial_n v = 0 \quad \text{on } \partial \mathcal{D} \\ v = \lambda H + \mathcal{W} \quad \text{on } \Gamma \\ 2V = \partial_n v^+ - \partial_n v^- \quad \text{on } \Gamma \end{array} \right.$$



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Thank you very much
for your attention