

# Paracontrolled KPZ equation

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# Motivation: modelling of interface growth

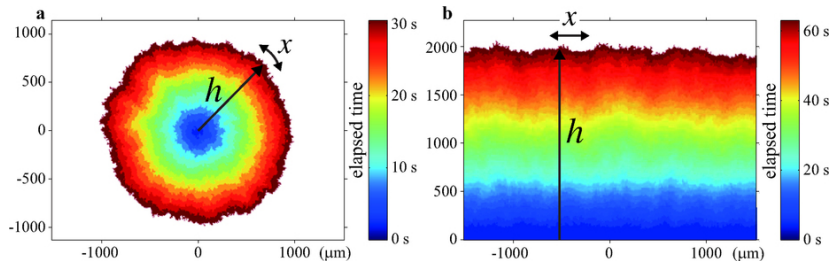


Figure: Takeuchi, Sano, Sasamoto, Spohn (2011, Sci. Rep.)

# KPZ equation

- KPZ equation is a model for random interface growth:

$$h: \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R},$$

$$\partial_t h(t, x) = \underbrace{\kappa \Delta h(t, x)}_{\text{diffusion}} + \underbrace{\lambda |\partial_x h(t, x)|^2}_{\text{slope-dependence}} + \underbrace{\xi(t, x)}_{\text{space-time white noise}}$$

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- Kardar-Parisi-Zhang (1986): slope-dependent growth  $F(\partial_x h)$ ;

$$F(\partial_x h) = F(\bar{h}) + F'(\bar{h})(\partial_x h - \bar{h}) + \frac{1}{2} F''(\bar{h})(\partial_x h - \bar{h})^2 + \dots$$

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**Highly non-rigorous** since  $\partial_x h$  is a distribution. But: Hairer-Quastel (2015, unpublished) justify it via scaling.

- Fluctuations of  $\varepsilon^{1/3} h(t\varepsilon^{-1}, x\varepsilon^{-2/3})$  should converge to **KPZ fixed point**. Only known for one-point distribution, special  $h_0$  (Amir et al. (2011), Sasamoto-Spohn (2010), Borodin et al. (2014)).

## Weak KPZ universality conjecture

$$\partial_t h = \Delta h + |\partial_x h|^2 + \xi.$$

- KPZ equation for  $t \rightarrow \infty$  in KPZ universality class. For  $t \rightarrow 0$  Gaussian ([Edwards-Wilkinson class](#) of symmetric “growth” models).

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- KPZ equation for  $t \rightarrow \infty$  in KPZ universality class. For  $t \rightarrow 0$  Gaussian ([Edwards-Wilkinson class](#) of symmetric “growth” models).
- [Weak KPZ universality conjecture](#): KPZ equation is only growth model interpolating EW and KPZ. Mathematically: fluctuations of [weakly asymmetrical](#) models converge to KPZ.
- Example: Ginzburg-Landau  $\nabla\varphi$  model

$$dx^j = (pV'(r^{j+1}) - qV'(r^j)) dt + dw^j; \quad r^j = x^j - x^{j-1};$$

For  $p = q$  convergence to  $\partial_t \psi = \alpha \Delta \psi + \beta \xi$ . For  $p - q = \sqrt{\varepsilon}$  convergence to KPZ [Diehl-Gubinelli-P. \(2015, in preparation\)](#).



## How to interpret KPZ?

$$\mathcal{L}h(t, x) = (\partial_t - \Delta)h(t, x) = |\partial_x h(t, x)|^2 + \xi(t, x).$$

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- Cole-Hopf transformation: Bertini-Giacomin (1997) set  $h(t, x) := \log w(t, x)$ , where

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- Hairer (2013): series expansion and **rough paths/regularity structures**, defines  $|\partial_x h(t, x)|^2$ . So far **on circle** ( $h: \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ), but certainly soon extended to  $h: \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

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- **Martingale problem**: Assing (2002), Gonçalves-Jara (2014), Gubinelli-Jara (2013) define “energy solutions” of **equilibrium KPZ**. Uniqueness long open, solved in Gubinelli-P. (2015).

# Solution concepts and weak KPZ universality

- **Cole-Hopf:** equation for  $e^h$ ; most systems behave badly under exponential transformation. Only very **specific models:** Bertini-Giacomin (1997), Dembo-Tsai (2013), Corwin-Tsai (2015).

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- **Martingale problem:** powerful for universality of **equilibrium fluctuations** Gonçalves-Jara (2014), Gonçalves-Jara-Sethuraman (2015), Diehl-Gubinelli-P. (2015, in preparation). Before only tightness and martingale characterization of limits. Now: uniqueness proves convergence.

## Aims for the rest of the talk

- Equivalent derivation of [Hairer's](#) solution, replacing rough paths by [paracontrolled distributions](#).



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- Uniqueness of equilibrium [KPZ martingale problem](#).

1 Paracontrolled formulation of the equation

2 KPZ as HJB equation

3 Uniqueness of the martingale solution

## Formal expansion of the KPZ equation

$$\mathcal{L}h(t, x) = (\partial_t - \Delta)h(t, x) = |\partial_x h(t, x)|^2 - \infty + \xi(t, x),$$

- Perturbative expansion around linear solution:  $h = Y + h^{\geq 1}$  with  $Y \in C^{1/2-}$ ,

$$\mathcal{L}Y = \xi,$$

thus

$$\mathcal{L}h^{\geq 1} = \underbrace{|\partial_x Y|^2 - \infty}_{C^{-1-} = B_{\infty, \infty}^{-1-}} + 2 \underbrace{\partial_x Y \partial_x h^{\geq 1}}_{C^{-1/2-}} + \underbrace{|\partial_x h^{\geq 1}|^2}_{C^0}.$$

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- Continue expansion: set  $\mathcal{L}Y^{\mathbf{V}} = |\partial_x Y|^2 - \infty$  and then  $\mathcal{L}Y^{\mathbf{V}} = \partial_x Y^{\mathbf{V}} \partial_x Y$  and in general  $\mathcal{L}Y^{(\tau_1 \tau_2)} = \partial_x Y^{\tau_1} \partial_x Y^{\tau_2}$ . Formally:

$$h = \sum_{\tau} c(\tau) Y^{\tau}.$$

Seems **very difficult** to make this rigorous.

# Truncated expansion

Following Hairer (2013), truncate expansion and set

$$h = Y + Y^{\vee} + 2Y^{\Psi} + h^P,$$

where  $h^P$  is **paracontrolled** by  $P$  with  $\mathcal{L}P = \partial_x Y$ , write

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where for  $\Delta_k \equiv k$ -th Littlewood-Paley block:

$$h' \prec P = \sum_{i < j-1} \Delta_i h' \Delta_j P.$$

Intuitively:  $h^P$  is **frequency modulation** of  $P$  plus smoother remainder;  
more intuitively: on small scales  $h^P$  “looks like”  $P$ .

# Paracontrolled differential equation

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Theorem (Gubinelli, Imkeller, P. (2015))

For *paracontrolled*  $h \in \mathcal{D}_{\text{rbe}}$  the square  $|\partial_x h|^2 - \infty$  is well defined, depends continuously on  $h$  and  $(Y, Y^{\mathbf{v}}, Y^{\mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}}, Y^{\mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}}, Y^{\mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}}, \partial_x P \partial_x Y)$ , and we have

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Theorem (Gubinelli, P. (2015))

*Local-in-time existence and uniqueness of paracontrolled solutions. Solution depends locally Lipschitz continuously on extended data  $(Y, Y^{\mathbf{V}}, Y^{\mathbf{V}\mathbf{V}}, Y^{\mathbf{V}\mathbf{V}\mathbf{V}}, Y^{\mathbf{V}\mathbf{V}\mathbf{V}\mathbf{V}}, \partial_x P \partial_x Y)$ . Agrees with Hairer's solution.*

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## Formal derivation

- Cole-Hopf:  $h = \log w$ , where

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- **Feynman-Kac:**

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- **Boué-Dupis (1998):**

$$\log \mathbb{E}[e^{F(B)}] = \sup_v \mathbb{E} \left[ F(B + \int_0^\cdot v_s ds) - \frac{1}{4} \int_0^t v_s^2 ds \right].$$

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- Thus (see also E-Khanin-Mazel-Sinai (2000)):

$$h(t, x) = \sup_v \mathbb{E}_x \left[ h_0(\gamma_t^v) + \int_0^t (\xi(t-s, \gamma_s^v) - \infty) ds - \frac{1}{4} \int_0^t v_s^2 ds \right],$$

where  $\gamma_s^v = x + B_s + \int_0^s v_r dr$ . (But of course **nothing was rigorous!**)

## Let's make it rigorous

Regularize  $\xi$ :

$$\mathcal{L}h_\varepsilon = |\partial_x h_\varepsilon|^2 - c_\varepsilon + \xi_\varepsilon.$$

Then

$$h_\varepsilon(t, x) = \sup_v \mathbb{E}_x \left[ h_0(\gamma_t^v) + \int_0^t (\xi_\varepsilon(t-s, \gamma_s^v) - c_\varepsilon) ds - \frac{1}{4} \int_0^t v_s^2 ds \right].$$



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Fix singular part of optimal control:

$$d\zeta_s^v = 2\partial_x(Y_\varepsilon + Y_\varepsilon^V)(t-s, \zeta_s^v) ds + v_s ds + dB_s,$$

Then  $It\hat{o}$  gives

$$\begin{aligned} h_\varepsilon(t, x) &= (Y_\varepsilon + Y_\varepsilon^V + Y_\varepsilon^R)(t, x) \\ &+ \sup_v \mathbb{E}_x \left[ h_0(\zeta_t^v) + \int_0^t \left( \partial_x Y_\varepsilon^R(t-s, \zeta_s^v) v_s - \frac{1}{4} |v_s|^2 \right) ds \right], \end{aligned}$$

where  $Y_\varepsilon^R$  solves a **linear paracontrolled equation**.

## Singular control problem

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- techniques of Delarue-Diel (2014), Cannizzaro-Chouk (2015) allow to formulate control problem in the limit, get **variational representation** of KPZ.
- Result independent of Cole-Hopf, only used to abbreviate derivation.

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# Burgers generator

Burgers equation:

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- Invariant measure  $\mu = \text{law}(\text{white noise})$ .
- Formally: generator  $L_0 + B$ ,  $L_0$  symmetric in  $L^2(\mu)$  and  $B$  antisymmetric.  $L_0$  is generator of OU process  $\partial_t \psi = \Delta \psi + \partial_x \xi$ .
- So for  $u(0) \sim \mu$ , backward process  $\hat{u}(t) = u(T - t)$  should solve

$$\partial_t \hat{u} = \Delta \hat{u} - \partial_x \hat{u}^2 + \partial_x \hat{\xi}$$

for new white noise  $\hat{\xi}$ . **Difficult to make rigorous.**



# Gubinelli-Jara controlled processes

Gubinelli-Jara (2013):  $u$  is called **controlled** by the OU process if

- 1  $u_t \sim \mu$  for all  $t$ ;
- 2 for all  $\varphi \in \mathcal{S}$

$$u_t(\varphi) = u_0(\varphi) + \int_0^t u_s(\Delta\varphi)ds + \mathcal{A}_t(\varphi) + M_t(\varphi),$$

$M(\varphi)$  martingale with  $\langle M(\varphi) \rangle_t = 2t \|\partial_x \varphi\|_{L^2}$  and  $\langle \mathcal{A}(\varphi) \rangle \equiv 0$ ;

- 3  $\hat{u}_t = u_{T-t}$  of same type with backward martingale  $\hat{M}$ ,  
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Define  $\int_0^T \partial_x u_s^2 ds$  via **martingale trick**:

$$F(u_T) = F(u_0) + \int_0^T L_0 F(u_s) ds + \int_0^T DF(u_s) d\mathcal{A}_s + M_T^F,$$

$$F(\hat{u}_T) = F(\hat{u}_0) + \int_0^T L_0 F(u_s) ds + \int_0^T DF(\hat{u}_s) d\hat{\mathcal{A}}_s + \hat{M}_T^F,$$

$$\text{so } 2 \int_0^T L_0 F(u_s) ds = -M_T^F - \hat{M}_T^F.$$

# Uniqueness of energy solutions I

Call controlled  $u$  **energy solution** if  $\mathcal{A} = \int_0^\cdot \partial_x u_s^2 ds$ . Gubinelli-Jara (2013):  
existence.

- **Uniqueness** difficult because energy formulation gives little control.
- Easy: uniqueness of **paracontrolled** energy solutions.

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Then we read Funaki-Quastel (2014) who study invariant measure for KPZ via Sasamoto-Spohn discretization:

- Mollify discrete model to safely pass to continuous limit

$$\partial_t h^\varepsilon = \Delta h^\varepsilon + \delta_\varepsilon * \delta_\varepsilon * (\partial_x h^\varepsilon - c_\varepsilon)^2 + \delta_\varepsilon * \xi;$$

- **Cole-Hopf**:  $w^\varepsilon = e^{h^\varepsilon}$  solves

$$\partial_t w^\varepsilon = \Delta w^\varepsilon + w^\varepsilon \left( \delta_\varepsilon * \delta_\varepsilon * \left( \frac{\partial_x w^\varepsilon}{w^\varepsilon} \right)^2 - \left( \frac{\partial_x w^\varepsilon}{w^\varepsilon} \right)^2 \right) + w^\varepsilon (\delta_\varepsilon * \xi).$$

- Use **Boltzmann-Gibbs principle** to show convergence of nonlinearity.

# Uniqueness of energy solutions II

Implement **Funaki-Quastel strategy** for energy solutions:

- $u^\varepsilon = \delta_\varepsilon * u$ . Itô:  $w^\varepsilon = e^{\partial_x^{-1} u^\varepsilon}$  solves

$$dw_t^\varepsilon = \Delta w_t^\varepsilon dt + w_t^\varepsilon \partial_x^{-1} (dM_t^\varepsilon + d\mathcal{A}_t^\varepsilon) - w_t^\varepsilon (u_t^\varepsilon)^2 dt + w_t^\varepsilon c_\varepsilon dt.$$

- $\partial_x^{-1} \partial_t M_t^\varepsilon \rightarrow \xi$ . If rest converges to  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ , then  $\partial_t w = \Delta w + w(\xi + c)$ . Since  $\partial_x \log w^{c_1} = \partial_x \log w^{c_2}$ ,  $u$  is **unique**.

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- Remains to study  $(d\partial_x^{-1} \mathcal{A}_t^\varepsilon - (u_t^\varepsilon)^2 dt + c_\varepsilon dt)$ .

## Uniqueness of energy solutions III

Convergence of  $(d\partial_x^{-1}\mathcal{A}_t^\varepsilon - (u_t^\varepsilon)^2 dt + c_\varepsilon dt)$ :

- $\mathcal{A}^\varepsilon = \delta_\varepsilon * \mathcal{A} = \int_0^\cdot \delta_\varepsilon * \partial_x u_s^2 ds$ , so

$$\begin{aligned} & (d\partial_x^{-1}\mathcal{A}_t^\varepsilon - (u_t^\varepsilon)^2 dt + c_\varepsilon dt) \\ &= \Pi_0(\delta_\varepsilon * (u_t^2) - (\delta_\varepsilon * u_t)^2) dt \\ &+ (c_\varepsilon - \int_{\mathbb{T}} (\delta_\varepsilon * u_t)^2 dx) dt \end{aligned}$$

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- Remains to control integrals like  $\int_0^T F(u_s) ds$ . [Kipnis-Varadhan](#) extends to controlled processes, so

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \left| \sup_{t \leq T} \int_0^t F(u_s) ds \right|^2 \right] \lesssim \sup_G \{ 2\mathbb{E}[F(u_0)G(u_0)] - \mathbb{E}[G(u_0)(-L_0 G)(u_0)] \},$$

where  $L_0$  is OU generator,  $u_0 \sim$  white noise.



## Uniqueness of energy solutions IV

- Control  $\sup_G \{2\mathbb{E}[F(u_0)G(u_0)] - \mathbb{E}[G(u_0)(-L_0 G)(u_0)]\}$ , where  $L_0$  is OU generator,  $u_0 \sim$  white noise.
- For us:  $F$  in second chaos of white noise. Use **Gaussian IBP** to reduce to deterministic integral over explicit kernel.

## Uniqueness of energy solutions IV

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- For us:  $F$  in second chaos of white noise. Use **Gaussian IBP** to reduce to deterministic integral over explicit kernel.

### Theorem (Gubinelli, P. (2015))

*There exists a unique controlled process  $u$  which is an energy solution to Burgers equation.*

Thank you