

FULLY NONLINEAR STOCHASTIC PDE

Theory & Applications

(joint work with P.-L. Lions)

OUTLINE OF LECTURE

- problem
- applications
- mathematical difficulties
- stochastic integration
- "correct" equation
- key observations
- theory
- phase transitions
- work in progress & open problems

$$(E) \begin{cases} du = F(D^2u, Du, x, t, \omega) dt + H(Du, x, t, \omega) \cdot dW_t & \text{in } \mathbb{R}^n \times (0, T) \\ u = u_0 & \text{on } \mathbb{R}^n \times \{0\} \end{cases}$$

$$u_0 \in BUC(\mathbb{R}^n)$$

F degenerate elliptic, i.e. $F(A, \dots) \geq F(B, \dots)$
if $A \geq B$

$H = (H_1, \dots, H_m)$, F continuous

$dW_t = (dW_t^1, \dots, dW_t^m)$ m -dim. WHITE NOISE

Why study (E)?

important class of eqns

many applications

"nothing" known nonlinear setting

History

linear uniformly elliptic operators & some uniformly elliptic quasilinear using MARTINGALE THEORY

Watanabe, Krylov, Kushner,
Pardoux, ...

stochastic analysis, filtering and stochastic control with partial information

H linear in Du

F linear in $D_u^2 Du$ & uniformly elliptic

example

$$\begin{cases} du = Du dW_t + \frac{1}{2} \Delta u dt \\ u|_{t=0} = u_0 \end{cases}$$

Ito's

$$\Rightarrow u(x, t) = u_0(x + W_t)$$

Watanabe, Pardoux Zakai, Kunita,
Krylov, Rozovsky,

- asymptotics of equations (processes) with rapidly oscillating (mixing) coefficients in time

eg $u_t^\varepsilon = \Delta u_{xx}^\varepsilon + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \int(\frac{t}{\varepsilon^2}) u_x^\varepsilon$, " $\frac{1}{\varepsilon} \int(\frac{t}{\varepsilon^2}) dt \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} dW$ "

$$u^\varepsilon \rightarrow u$$

$$du \left(\Delta + \frac{1}{2} u_{xx} + u_x dW \right)$$

Watanabe
Kushner & Huang

nonlinear?

Pathwise stochastic control theory

(financial models with interest rates)

typical problem:

$$\text{(SDE)} \begin{cases} dX_s = b(X_s, \alpha_s, \omega) ds + \Sigma(X_s, \alpha_s, \omega) d\tilde{W} + \sigma(X_s) \cdot dW(\omega) \\ X_0 = x \in \mathbb{R}^n \end{cases}$$

minimize over all α payoff $J(x, t, \alpha, \omega) = \tilde{\mathbb{E}} \mathbb{E} g(X(t))$

value function: $u(x, t) = \inf_{\alpha} J(x, t, \alpha)$

$$u_t = \inf_{\alpha} \left\{ b(x, \alpha) \cdot Du + \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(\Sigma \Sigma^T + \sigma \sigma^T) D^2 u \right\}$$

Bellman eqn

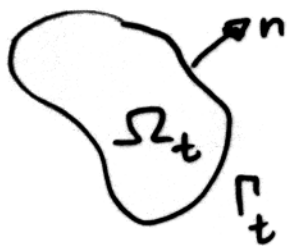
allow random dependence on u

$$U(x, t, \omega) = \inf_{\alpha} \tilde{\mathbb{E}} g(X(t, \omega))$$

$$dU = \inf_{\alpha} \left[b(x, \alpha, \omega) \cdot Du + \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(\Sigma \Sigma^T)(\alpha, x, \omega) D^2 u \right] + \sigma Du \cdot dW$$

stochastic Bellman eqn

- Front propagation with random normal velocities



$$\dot{x} = Vn, \quad "V = \frac{dW}{dt}"$$

(nucleations)

recall level sets

$$\Gamma_t = \{u(t) = 0\}$$

$$\Omega_t = \{u < 0, t > 0\}$$

u solves level set pde

$$V = c, \quad u_t = c|Du|; \quad V = -\kappa, \quad u_t = \Delta u - \frac{(Du \cdot Du \cdot Du)^2}{|Du|^2}$$

natural to expect

$$V = \frac{dW}{dt}, \quad du = |Du| dW$$

$$V = \alpha \frac{dW}{dt} - \beta \kappa, \quad \kappa = \text{curvature}$$

$$du = \alpha |Du| dW + \beta \left(\Delta u - \frac{(Du \cdot Du \cdot Du)^2}{|Du|^2} \right)$$

some background on STOCHASTIC INTEGRATION Stratonovich - Ito's Calculus

$$\int_a^b f(s) ds \approx \sum f(\tilde{s}_i) (s_{i+1} - s_i) \quad \tilde{s}_i \in (s_i, s_{i+1})$$

$$\int_a^b f(s) dW(s) \approx \sum f(\tilde{s}_i) (W(s_{i+1}) - W(s_i))$$

different answer depending on the choice of \tilde{s}_i

Ito $\tilde{s}_i = s_i$

Stratonovich: $\tilde{s}_i = \frac{s_i + s_{i+1}}{2}$

$$\int_a^b f(s) \circ dW(s) = \int_a^b f(s) dW(s) + \frac{1}{2} \int_a^b f'(s) ds$$

X_t stochastic process

$$d\phi(X_t) = \phi'(X_t) dX_t + \frac{1}{2} \phi''(X_t) \langle dX_t, dX_t \rangle \quad \text{- Ito's formula}$$

$$d\phi(X_t) = \phi'(X_t) \circ dX_t$$

MATHEMATICAL DIFFICULTIES

• $du = |Du| dW$

level set theory needs $\beta(u)$ to be a solution ($\beta' > 0$)

$$d\beta(u) = \beta'(u) du + \frac{1}{2} \beta''(u) |Du|^2 dt$$

$$= D\beta(u) |du + \boxed{\frac{1}{2} \beta''(u) |Du|^2 dt}$$

not the same equ

• $du = u_x dW + \lambda u_{xx} dt$; $\lambda \geq 0$

$$v(x, t) = u(x - W_t, t) \text{ solves}$$

$$dv = du - u_x dW + \frac{1}{2} u_{xx} dt - u_{xx} dt$$

$$= (\lambda - \frac{1}{2}) u_{xx} dt = \boxed{(\lambda - \frac{1}{2}) v_{xx}} dt$$

not well posed for
 $0 < \lambda < 1/2$

REPLACE ITO'S INTEGRAL BY

STRATONOVICH'S

- $du = |Du| \circ dW$

$$d\beta(u) = \beta'(u) | \circ dW = (u) \circ dW$$

- $du = u_x \circ dW + \lambda u_{xx} dt$, $\lambda \geq 0$

$$v = u(x - W_t, t) \text{ solves}$$

$$dv = \lambda v_{xx} dt$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 du &= F(Du^2, Du, x) dt + H(Du, x) \circ dW \\
 &= \left[F + \frac{1}{2} (Du^2 \frac{\partial H}{\partial p}, \frac{\partial H}{\partial p}) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial H}{\partial p} \cdot \frac{\partial H}{\partial x} \right] dt \\
 &\quad + H(Du, x) \cdot dW
 \end{aligned}$$

History

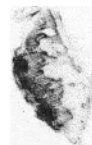
linear (uniformly elliptic)
 special quasilinear (unif. elliptic) } martingale theory
 nothing nonlinear

SAMPLE OF MAIN DIFFICULTIES

- NO SMOOTH SOLNS IN GENERAL

NOT ACCESSIBLE TO MARTINGALE THEORY
WHEN NONLINEAR

NO POINTWISE FORMULATION ("dW = ±∞ a.s.")



$$\begin{cases} u_t^\varepsilon = H(Du^\varepsilon)j^\varepsilon & \text{in } \mathbb{R}^n \times (0, \infty) \\ u^\varepsilon = u_0 & \text{on } \mathbb{R}^n \times \{0\} \end{cases}$$

j^ε changes sign "infinitely" often as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$

formally

$$u^\varepsilon(x,t) = U(x, \zeta^\varepsilon(t))$$

since j^ε may change signs

$$\begin{cases} U_t = H(DU) & \text{in } \mathbb{R}^n \times (-\infty, \infty) \\ U = u_0 & \text{on } \mathbb{R}^n \times \{0\} \end{cases}$$

u^ε cannot be the "correct" solution, unless U is smooth.

Example:
$$\begin{cases} u_t^\varepsilon + |Du^\varepsilon|j^\varepsilon = 0 & \text{in } \mathbb{R}^n \times (0, \infty) \\ u^\varepsilon = |x| & \text{on } \mathbb{R}^n \times \{0\} \end{cases}$$

$$u^\varepsilon(x,t) = \max \left[(|x| - \zeta^\varepsilon(t))_+, \max_{0 \leq s \leq t} (-\zeta_s^\varepsilon)_+ \right] = (|x| - (\zeta^\varepsilon(t) - \min_{0 \leq s \leq t} \zeta(s)^\varepsilon))_+ - \min_{0 \leq s \leq t} \zeta(s)^\varepsilon$$

$\downarrow \varepsilon \rightarrow 0$

$$u(x,t) = \max \left[(|x| - W(t))_+, \max_{0 \leq s \leq t} (-W_s)_+ \right] = (|x| - (W(t) - \min_{0 \leq s \leq t} W(s)))_+ - \min_{0 \leq s \leq t} W(s)$$

TRUE FOR ANY $j^\varepsilon \rightarrow j$ - not only W

IMPORTANT ISSUE

understand the oscillations - cancellations in time

notation

$$\begin{cases} v_t = H(Dv) \\ v|_{t=0} = v_0. \end{cases}$$

$$v(t) = S_H(t)v_0$$

Then

$$\begin{cases} u_t = H(Du) \\ u|_{t=0} = u_0 \end{cases}$$

$$H = H_1 - H_2 ; \quad H_1, H_2 \text{ convex}$$

Then:

$$\leq u(t) \leq S_{H_1}(\max_{0 \leq s \leq t} f(s)_+) S_{H_2}(\max_{0 \leq s \leq t} f(s)_-)$$

contrast with "typical" estimate

$$u(t) \leq S_{|H|} \left(\int_0^t |j(s)| ds \right)_{(=\infty)}$$

$$\begin{cases} u_t^\varepsilon = H(Du^\varepsilon) J^\varepsilon & \text{in } \mathbb{R}^n \times (0, \infty) \\ u^\varepsilon = |x|^2 & \text{on } \mathbb{R}^n \times \{0\} \end{cases}$$

Question: Assume $J^\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ locally uniformly as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$.
 When is it true that $u^\varepsilon(x, t) \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} u_0(x)$?

Answer: iff H is the difference of two convex fns

$$J \in C^1 \iff H \text{ continuous}$$

$$J \in C^{1/2} \text{ ("Bm")} \iff H \text{ Lipschitz}$$

$$J \in C \iff H \text{ difference of convex fns}$$

MAIN RESULTS

- notion of stochastic viscosity solution
- existence and uniqueness

$$\begin{cases} du = F(D_u^2, Du) dt + H(Du) \cdot dW \\ u|_{t=0} = u_0 \end{cases}$$

$H \in C^3$, F continuous & degenerate elliptic

Thm a.s. there exists a unique stochastic v.s.

EXISTENCE

Approximations to Brownian motion

$$J^\varepsilon(t) \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} W(t) \quad \text{uniformly in } (0, T) \text{ a.s.}$$

Examples: (i) $J^\varepsilon W * \rho_\varepsilon$ ρ_ε smooth

$$J^\varepsilon(t) = \frac{W(t+\varepsilon) - W(t)}{\varepsilon}$$

(ii) $J^\varepsilon(t) = \frac{1}{\varepsilon} J\left(\frac{t}{\varepsilon^2}\right)$ - mixing conditions

M^+ σ $J(u, \omega)$ $s \leq u \leq t$

$$\beta(t) = \sup_{s \geq 0} \{ |P(A \cap B) - P(A)P(B)| : A \in \mathcal{M}_0^s, B \in \mathcal{M}_t^s \}$$

$$\int_0^\infty \beta^\dagger(t) dt < \infty$$

Approximate problem

$$(IVP)_{\varepsilon J, u_0^\varepsilon} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} u_t^\varepsilon = F(D^2 u^\varepsilon, D u^\varepsilon) + H(D u^\varepsilon) J^\varepsilon, \quad \mathbb{R}^N \times (0, T) \\ u^\varepsilon = u_0^\varepsilon \quad \text{on } \mathbb{R}^N \text{ at } t=0 \end{array} \right.$$

Question

$u^\varepsilon \rightarrow u$ as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$?
eqn for u ?

Assumptions: (i) H Lipschitz continuous & difference of convex fr

(ii) $F \in C(S^N \times \mathbb{R}^N)$ degenerate elliptic

(iii) $\exists G \in C(S^{2N} \times \mathbb{R}^{2N})$ st

$$G \begin{pmatrix} \lambda A & -\lambda A \\ -\lambda A & \lambda A \end{pmatrix}, P = 0 \quad \& \quad F(X, P) - F(-Y, Q) \leq G(Z, P)$$

if

$$\begin{pmatrix} X & 0 \\ 0 & -Y \end{pmatrix} \leq Z \quad \& \quad P = (P, Q)$$

THEOREM: $(y^\varepsilon)_{\varepsilon>0}, (\xi^\eta)_{\eta>0}$ approximations to B_m

$(u^\varepsilon)_{\varepsilon>0}, (v^\eta)_{\eta>0}$ solutions of $(IVP)_{\varepsilon, T, \mu_0^\varepsilon}, (IVP)_{\eta, \xi^\eta, v_0^\eta}$

$\|u_0^\varepsilon - v_0^\eta\|_{C(\mathbb{R}^N)} \rightarrow 0$, as $\varepsilon, \eta \rightarrow 0$

Then: $\|u^\varepsilon - v^\eta\|_{C(\mathbb{R}^N \times [0, T])} \rightarrow 0$ a.s., as $\varepsilon, \eta \rightarrow 0$

In particular,

$(u^\varepsilon)_{\varepsilon>0}$ is Cauchy in $C(\mathbb{R}^N \times [0, T])$ a.s.
and

all approximations converge to the same limit.

\ddot{x} not ~~really~~ needed - it is used only to explain the ideas.

(Sketch of) proof: • possible strategy

1. define $z(x, y, t) = u^\varepsilon(x, t) - v^\eta(y, t)$, then

$$\begin{aligned} z_t &= F(D^2 u^\varepsilon, D u^\varepsilon) - F(D^2 v^\eta, D v^\eta) + H(D u^\varepsilon) \dot{f}^\varepsilon - H(D v^\eta) \dot{f}^\eta \\ &= F(D_x^2 z, D_x z) - F(-D_y^2 z, -D_y z) + H(D_x z) \dot{f}^\varepsilon - H(-D_y z) \dot{f}^\eta \end{aligned}$$

assumption on $F \Rightarrow$

$$(*) \quad z_t \leq G(D^2 z, D z) + H(D_x z) \dot{f}^\varepsilon - H(-D_y z) \dot{f}^\eta$$

2. Fix $\lambda > 0$, define $\bar{z}(x, y, t) = \lambda |x - y|^2 + C_{\varepsilon, \eta} t$ & compute

$$\bar{z}_t - \underbrace{G(D^2 \bar{z}, D \bar{z})}_{=0 \text{ by assumption}} - H(D_x \bar{z}) \dot{f}^\varepsilon + H(-D_y \bar{z}) \dot{f}^\eta = C_{\varepsilon, \eta} - H(\lambda |x - y|) (\dot{f}^\varepsilon - \dot{f}^\eta)$$

If $H(\lambda |x - y|)$ bdd & $\underbrace{\dot{f}^\varepsilon - \dot{f}^\eta}_{???} \rightarrow 0$, then $\exists C_{\varepsilon, \eta} \rightarrow 0$ st

\bar{z} supersolution of $(*)$

3. Then

$$z(x, y, t) \leq \lambda |x - y|^2 + C_{\varepsilon, \eta} t + \underbrace{\sup_{x, y} [u_0^\varepsilon(x) - v_0^\eta(y) - \lambda |x - y|^2]}_{\rightarrow 0 \text{ as } \varepsilon, \eta \rightarrow 0 \text{ \& } \lambda \rightarrow +\infty}$$

hence

$$\lim_{\varepsilon, \eta \rightarrow 0} (u^\varepsilon(x, t) - v^\eta(x, t)) \leq 0 \dots$$

STOCHASTIC HAMILTON-JACOBI EQNS

small time smooth solutions

assume $H \in C^3(\mathbb{R}^n)$, $\phi \in C^3(\mathbb{R}^n)$

$$(SHJ)_t \begin{cases} dv = H(Dv) dW \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^n \times (t, \infty) \\ v = \phi \text{ on } \mathbb{R}^n \times \{t\} \end{cases}$$

Claim: method of characteristics gives a small time a.s. smooth solution $S(s, t)\phi$ of $(SHJ)_t$

$$\text{d characteristics } \begin{cases} dX = -D_p H(p) dW \\ dP = 0 \end{cases} (s > t); \begin{matrix} X_t = x \\ P_t = p \end{matrix}$$

$$X(s; x, t) = x - D_p H(p)(W(s) - W(t)), \quad P(s) = p \quad (s > t)$$

a.s. $\exists T(\phi, \omega) > 0$ s.t. $X^{-1}(s; x, t)$ exists in $[t, t + T(\phi, \omega)]$

$$S(s, t)\phi(x) = \phi(X^{-1}(s; x, t)) +$$

$$(W(s) - W(t)) \left[\dot{H}(D\phi(X^{-1}(s; x, t))) - D_p H(D\phi(X^{-1}(\dots))) D\phi(X^{-1}(\dots)) \right]$$

smooth solution of $(SHJ)_t$

Back to the (sketch of the) proof

- $S^{\varepsilon\eta}(s,t)\phi(x,y)$ smooth solution in $[t, t+T^{\varepsilon\eta}(\phi, \omega)]$ of

$$\begin{cases} U_s = H(D_x U)j^\varepsilon - H(-D_y U)j^\eta & \text{in } \mathbb{R}^n \times [t, t+T^{\varepsilon\eta}(\phi, \omega)] \\ U(t, x, y) = \phi(x, y) \end{cases}$$
- $S(s,t)\phi(x,y)$ smooth soln in $[t, t+T(\phi, \omega)]$ of

$$\begin{cases} dU = (H(D_x U) - H(-D_y U)) \circ dW & \text{in } [t, t+T(\phi, \omega)] \\ U(t, x, y) = \phi(x, y) \end{cases}$$
- $S^{\varepsilon\eta}(\cdot, t)\phi \xrightarrow{\varepsilon\eta \rightarrow 0} S(\cdot, t)\phi$ uniformly in $\mathbb{R}^n \times [t, t+T(\phi, \omega)]$ a.s. (stochastic calculus)
- $\phi(x,y) = \lambda|x-y|^2$; $S(s,t)(\lambda|x-y|^2) = \lambda|x-y|^2$ (explicit calc.
 $S^{\varepsilon\eta}(s,t)(\lambda|x-y|^2) \xrightarrow{\varepsilon\eta \rightarrow 0} \lambda|x-y|^2$
- $\bar{z}^{\varepsilon\eta}(x,y,s,t) = S^{\varepsilon\eta}(s,t)(\lambda|x-y|^2)$ smooth (local time) supersolution of $z_t = G(D^2 z, Dz) + H(D_x z)j^\varepsilon - H(-D_y z)j^\eta$
- comparison \Rightarrow

$$u^\varepsilon(x, t+s) - v^\eta(y, t+s) \leq \underbrace{S^{\varepsilon\eta}(s,t)(\lambda|x-y|^2)}_{-\lambda|x-y|^2} + \sup_{x,y} [u^\varepsilon(x,t) - v^\eta(y,t) - \lambda|x-y|^2]$$
- $\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} \sup_{\substack{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^{2N} \\ t \in [0, T]}} \lim_{\varepsilon\eta \rightarrow 0} (u^\varepsilon(x,t) - v^\eta(y,t) - \lambda|x-y|^2) = 0$

INTRINSIC CHARACTERIZATION - NOTION OF WEAK SLN

$$v_t = F(D^2v, Dv) + H(Dv) \dot{J}$$

subsolution

ϕ smooth, at max of $v - \phi$

$$\phi_t \leq F(D^2\phi, D\phi) + H(D\phi) \dot{J}$$

problem if $|\dot{J}| = +\infty$

• equivalent definition

ϕ smooth ; g smooth ; $S(t+h, t)\phi$ smooth local time soln of $\begin{cases} v_t = H(Dv) \\ v(x, t) = \phi \end{cases}$

at a max (x_0, t_0) of $v(x, t+h) - (S(t+h, t)\phi(x) + g(h))$

$$g'(t_0) \leq F(D^2 S(t+h_0)\phi(x_0), DS(t+h_0)\phi(x_0))$$

• ϕ smooth - $F \equiv 0$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \max_x (v(x, t) - \phi(x)) \leq H(D\phi(\bar{x}(t))) \dot{J}(t)$$

why?

$$\frac{d}{dt} [v(\bar{x}(t), t) - \phi(\bar{x}(t))] = v_t + \underbrace{(v_x - \phi_x)}_{=0}(\bar{x}(t), t)$$

Definition: $u: \mathbb{R}^N \times [0, T] \times \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ subsolution iff

- (i) $u(\cdot, \cdot, \omega) \in BUC(\mathbb{R}^N \times [0, T])$ a.s
- (ii) $(t, \omega) \rightarrow u(\cdot, t, \omega) \in BUC(\mathbb{R}^N) \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{F}_t$ -measurable
- &
- (iii) for every ϕ smooth, every g smooth, every t if

$u(\cdot, t+h, \omega)$ $S(t+h, t)\phi(\cdot) - g(t+h)$ attains $S(t+h, t)\phi$ is the local time smooth solu of $dv = H(Dv)/dx$ $v(t) = \phi$
 $\&$ \max at (x_0, h_0) then

$$g'(t+h_0) \leq F(D^2 S(t+h_0, t)\phi(x_0), DS(t+h_0, t)\phi(x_0))$$

equivalent to

$$\max_x [u(\cdot, t+h) S(t+h, t)\phi(x)] \leq \max_x [u(\cdot, t) \phi(x)] + \int_t^{t+h} F(D^2 S(t+s, t)\phi(x(s)), DS(t+s, t)\phi(x(s))) ds,$$

$x(s)$ max of $u(\cdot, t+s) S(t+s, t)\phi(\cdot)$

□

Facts about weak solus

1. consistency smooth $(C^{2,\alpha})$ weak \Leftrightarrow classical

2. stability limits of solus are solus

3. existence

4. short time behavior u smooth, H smooth

$$\begin{aligned} u(\cdot, t) = & u_0 + t F(D^2 u_0, Du_0) + W(t) H(Du_0) \\ & + \frac{1}{2} (W(t))^2 (D^2 u_0 DH(Du_0), DH(Du_0)) \\ & + O(t^2 + t \max_{0 \leq s \leq t} |W(s)| + |W(t)|^2) \end{aligned}$$

5. UNIQUENESS

UNIQUENESS

Thm $\exists!$ weak solution

$$du = F(D_x^2 u, Du) dt + H(Du) \circ dW$$

$F \in C(S_x^m \times \mathbb{R}^n)$ degenerate elliptic
 H Lipschitz & difference of two convex fns

(MAIN STEP) PROOF 1. u, v two solutions

$U(x, y, t) = u(x, t) - v(y, t)$ solves

$$dU \leq G(D_{xy}^2 U, DU) dt + [H(D_x U) - H(-D_y U)] \circ dW$$

2. key ingredients: ϕ smooth, $|t - t_0| \ll 1$
 $S(t, t_0) \phi$ smooth soln of
 $d\phi = H(D\phi) \circ dW$

define $\hat{u}(\xi, t) = \sup_x [u(x, t) - S(t, t_0) \phi(\xi - x)]$

then (i) $\hat{u}_t \leq C$; $D_x^2 \hat{u} \geq -C$ in a nbhd of t_0

(ii) $\hat{u}_t \leq F(D_x^2 \hat{u}, D\hat{u})$

• NO NEED TO DOUBLE TIME

REMARK: Any path, not only Brownian paths.

BACK TO INTERFACES

$$V = \int v_1(Du, u, x, t) dt + \int v_2(u, x, t) dW$$

level set pde

$$du = \int \Gamma(Du, Du, x, t) dt + \int H(Du, x, t) \circ dW$$

$\Gamma_t = \{u(x, t) = 0\}$ well defined stable

distance fn

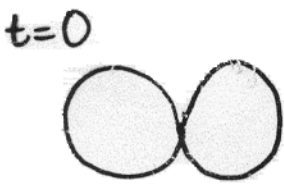
$\rho(x, t)$ - signed distance to front

$$d\rho = \int v_1(D\rho, \rho, x, t) dt + \int v_2(D\rho, x, t) dW$$

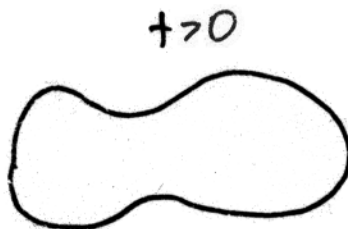
fattening

Yip time step min

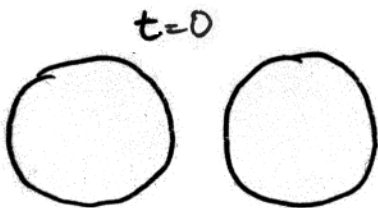
or $V = mc + \alpha dW$



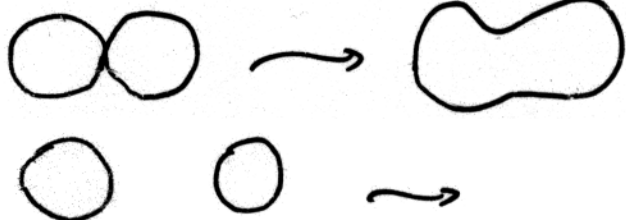
$\alpha \neq 0$
a.s

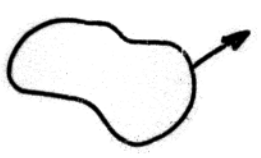


NO FATTENING
(Yip & S)



Prob. 1/2





understand evolution

$$V \nu(Dn, n, x, t) dt + \nu_2(n, x, t) dW$$

moving interfaces (between two coexisting phases) arise as

SCALING LIMITS OF VARIOUS TYPES OF MODELS

describing the dynamics of phase boundaries generated in the limit

macroscopic models Allen-Cahn-type equations
 Ginzburg-Landau

microscopic models spin or particle system

microscopic \Rightarrow macroscopic hydrodynamic space-time scaling

intermediate (mesoscopic) reaction-diffusion equations with additive noise

effect of randomness is not averaged out in the hydrodynamic limit

fluctuations yield in the limit an additive noise as a correction term

Spohn, Presutti et al Kawasaki, Ohta, ...

Example #1 (Funaki)

$$-\Delta u + f(u) + \varepsilon^{\gamma+\frac{1}{2}} a(\varepsilon^{\frac{1}{2}} x) \dot{W} = 0$$

"cubic" W^F , $\ddot{q} = f(q)$ standing wave
 f $p(x, y, t)$ fund. solu of $\partial_t - \Delta + f'(q)$

goal understand long time behavior & effect of noise

(i) $v(x, t) = u(\varepsilon^{-\frac{1}{2}} x, \varepsilon^{-1} t)$

$$\Delta v + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} f(v) + \varepsilon^{\gamma} a(x) \dot{W} = 0$$

$$(a^{\pm} \dot{W}(at) \approx \dot{W}(t))$$

Thm 1. As $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$, $v(x, t) \approx q(\varepsilon^{-\frac{1}{2}} d(x, \Gamma_t))$

Γ_t moves by mean curvature
 NO EFFECT OF NOISE

(ii) $z(x, t) = v(x, \varepsilon^{-2\gamma-\frac{1}{2}} t) = u(\varepsilon^{-\frac{1}{2}} x, \varepsilon^{-2\gamma-\frac{3}{2}} t)$ (LONGER TIME SCALES)

$$z_t - \frac{1}{\varepsilon^{2\gamma+\frac{1}{2}}} [\Delta z + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} f(z)] + \frac{1}{\varepsilon^{1/4}} a(x) \dot{W} = 0$$

main contribution of noise: $O(\varepsilon^{1/4})$

width of interface: $O(\varepsilon^{1/2})$

Thm 2 $z(x, t) \approx q(\varepsilon^{-\frac{1}{2}}(x - \xi_t))$; $\dot{\xi}_t = \alpha_3 a^2(\xi_t)$

$$\alpha_3 = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t ds \int f''(q(y)) q'(y) \left[\int_0^s \int p(s-\lambda, y, z) dz dW_\lambda \right]^2 dy$$

(iii) what of $\alpha_3 = 0$ (eg f_c & $f(-u)$)

$$\chi(x,t) \approx \varepsilon^{-\frac{1}{2}} t = v x, \varepsilon^{-2\gamma-1} t \quad \mu \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{2}} x \varepsilon^{2\gamma-2} t$$

$$\chi_t \varepsilon^{2\gamma+1} \left[\Delta \chi + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} f(\chi) \right] + \frac{1}{\varepsilon^{\frac{1}{2}}} a(x) \overset{0}{W} = 0$$

noise contr. $O(\varepsilon^{1/2})$ width of interface $O(\varepsilon^{\frac{1}{2}})$

Thm 3

$$\chi(x,t) \approx q(\varepsilon^{\frac{1}{2}}(x - \xi_t))$$

$$d\xi_t = \alpha_1 a(\xi_t) dW + \left(\frac{1}{2} \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 \right) a(\xi_t) a'(\xi_t) dt$$

$$\alpha_1 = \|q'\|_{L^2}^{-2} (q(+\infty) - q(-\infty))$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 = -\|q'\|_{L^2}^{-2} \int_0^\infty dt \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} x p(t, x, z) p(t, y, z) f''(q(z)) q'(z) dx dy dz$$

$$\alpha_2 \neq 0$$

α_3 & α_2 are new terms due to noise

Thm 2,3

Funaki (in law)
Lions-S (pathwise)

Example 2 Stochastic Allen Cahn (Lions & S)

$$du^\varepsilon = \Delta u^\varepsilon + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} f(u^\varepsilon) + \frac{1}{\varepsilon^{1/2}} a(x) dW^{(\varepsilon)} \quad 0 \quad (x,t) \in \mathbb{R}^N \times (0, \infty)$$

(dW^ε mild "smooth approximation to dW)
"cubic"

Thm As $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$, interface moving
with normal velocity

$$V = \text{mean curvature} + \alpha_1 a(x) dW + \alpha_2 a(x) Da(x) \cdot n$$

if $dW^\varepsilon \rightarrow J$ "smooth" then

$$V = mc + \alpha_1 a(x) J(t)$$

• $a(x) \equiv a$, $N \geq 2$, small time dW^ε Funaki

• $a(x) \equiv a$ $dW^\varepsilon = dW$ - formal result Kawasaki Ohta

WORK IN PROGRESS & OPEN PROBLEMS

- (x,t) - dependent case (Brownian paths)
- boundary conditions
- regularity of solutions $\left[\begin{array}{l} \text{simple problem: are solutions} \\ \text{to } du = H(u_x) \circ dW + \lambda u_{xx} dt \\ \text{regular?} \end{array} \right]$
- regularizing effects / formulae / numerics
- asymptotic behavior as $t \rightarrow \infty$ & INVARIANT MEASURES
- front propagation
- turbulent reaction-diffusion, combustion
- competition of scales in motions in random environments

$$du = F(D^2u, Du, u, x, t) dt + G(u, x, t) \circ dW$$

$$u(x, t) = \bar{\Psi}(v(x, t), x, t)$$

• stochastic conservation laws / kinetic formulation / regularizing effects

$$du = [\text{div} F(u)] \circ dW$$

$$du = f(u)_x dW + \frac{1}{2} [(\Phi'(v))^2]_x dt$$