

# Coupled KPZ equations

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[1] F-Quastel, Stoch. PDE: Anal. Comp., **3** (2015)

[2] F, Seminaire de Probab., LNM, **2137** (2015), special issue for M. Yor

# 1. KPZ equation

- The KPZ (**Kardar-Parisi-Zhang**, 1986) equation describes the motion of growing interface with random fluctuation.
- It has the form for **height function**  $h(t, x)$ :

$$\partial_t h = \frac{1}{2} \partial_x^2 h + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_x h)^2 + \xi(t, x), \quad x \in \mathbb{T} \text{ (or } \mathbb{R}). \quad (1)$$

where  $\mathbb{T} \equiv \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z} = [0, 1)$ .

- $\xi(t, x)$  is a **space-time Gaussian white noise** with mean 0 and correlation function:

$$E[\xi(t, x)\xi(s, y)] = \delta(t - s)\delta(x - y). \quad (2)$$

### Ill-posedness of the KPZ eq (1)

- The nonlinearity and roughness of the noise do not match.
- The linear SPDE:

$$\partial_t h = \frac{1}{2} \partial_x^2 h + \xi(t, x),$$

obtained by dropping the nonlinear term has a solution  $h \in C^{\frac{1}{4}-, \frac{1}{2}-}([0, \infty) \times \mathbb{R})$  a.s. Therefore, **no way** to define the nonlinear term  $(\partial_x h)^2$  in (1) in a usual sense.

- Actually, the following Renormalized KPZ eq with compensator  $\delta_x(x)$  ( $= +\infty$ ) has the meaning:

$$\partial_t h = \frac{1}{2} \partial_x^2 h + \frac{1}{2} \{(\partial_x h)^2 - \delta_x(x)\} + \xi(t, x).$$

## KPZ approximating equation-1: Simple

- **Symmetric convolution kernel** Let  $\eta \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R})$  s.t.  $\eta(x) \geq 0$ ,  $\eta(x) = \eta(-x)$  and  $\int_{\mathbb{R}} \eta(x) dx = 1$  be given, and set  $\eta^\varepsilon(x) := \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \eta(\frac{x}{\varepsilon})$  for  $\varepsilon > 0$ .
- **Smeared noise**  $\xi^\varepsilon(t, x) = \xi(t) * \eta^\varepsilon(x)$
- **Approximating Eq-1:**

$$\partial_t h = \frac{1}{2} \partial_x^2 h + \frac{1}{2} ((\partial_x h)^2 - c^\varepsilon) + \xi^\varepsilon(t, x),$$

where

$$c^\varepsilon = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \eta^\varepsilon(y)^2 dy \left( = \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \|\eta\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R})}^2 \right).$$

## Cole-Hopf solution to the KPZ equation

- Consider the Cole-Hopf transform:  $Z = Z^\varepsilon := e^h$ , then  $Z$  satisfies

$$\partial_t Z = \frac{1}{2} \partial_x^2 Z + Z \xi^\varepsilon(t, x).$$

(The product  $Z \xi^\varepsilon$  is defined in Itô's sense.)

- Indeed, apply Itô's formula for  $z = e^h$  to see

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t Z &= Z \partial_t h + \frac{1}{2} Z (\partial_t h)^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} Z \{ \partial_x^2 h + (\partial_x h)^2 - c^\varepsilon \} + Z \xi^\varepsilon + \frac{1}{2} Z c^\varepsilon \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \partial_x^2 Z + Z \xi^\varepsilon, \end{aligned}$$

since  $Z \{ \partial_x^2 h + (\partial_x h)^2 \} = \partial_x^2 Z$ .

- It is not difficult to show (Bertini-Giacomin '97) that  $Z = Z^\varepsilon$  converges to the sol  $Z$  of the **linear stochastic heat equation (SHE)** (defined in Itô's sense):

$$\partial_t Z = \frac{1}{2} \partial_x^2 Z + Z \xi(t, x), \quad (3)$$

with a multiplicative noise. This is a **well-posed** eq.

- This implies that **the solution  $h = h^\varepsilon$  of the approximating KPZ equation-1 converges to the Cole-Hopf solution** of the KPZ eq. defined by

$$h_{CH}(t, x) := \log Z(t, x). \quad (4)$$

## KPZ approximating equation-2: Suitable for studying inv meas

- We consider another KPZ approximating equation:

$$\partial_t h = \frac{1}{2} \partial_x^2 h + \frac{1}{2} ((\partial_x h)^2 - c^\varepsilon) * \eta_2^\varepsilon + \xi^\varepsilon(t, x), \quad (5)$$

where  $\eta_2(x) = \eta * \eta(x)$ ,  $\eta_2^\varepsilon(x) = \eta_2(x/\varepsilon)/\varepsilon$ .

- (F-Quastel [1]) The distribution of  $B * \eta^\varepsilon(x)$ , where  $B$  is the periodic Brownian motion (in case  $\mathbb{T}$ ) or the two-sided Brownian motion (in case  $\mathbb{R}$ ), is invariant for  $h^\varepsilon$  determined by (5).



## Cole-Hopf transform for SPDE (5)

- The **goal** is to pass to the limit  $\varepsilon \downarrow 0$  in the KPZ approximating equation (5):

$$\partial_t h = \frac{1}{2} \partial_x^2 h + \frac{1}{2} ((\partial_x h)^2 - c^\varepsilon) * \eta_2^\varepsilon + \xi^\varepsilon(t, x).$$

- F-Quastel [1] considered its Cole-Hopf transform:  $Z (\equiv Z^\varepsilon) := e^h$ . Then, by Itô's formula,  $Z$  satisfies the SPDE:

$$\partial_t Z = \frac{1}{2} \partial_x^2 Z + A^\varepsilon(x, Z) + Z \xi^\varepsilon(t, x), \quad (6)$$

where

$$A^\varepsilon(x, Z) = \frac{1}{2} Z(x) \left\{ \left( \frac{\partial_x Z}{Z} \right)^2 * \eta_2^\varepsilon(x) - \left( \frac{\partial_x Z}{Z} \right)^2(x) \right\}.$$

- The complex term  $A^\varepsilon(x, Z)$  looks vanishing as  $\varepsilon \downarrow 0$ .

- But this is not true. Indeed, under the average in time  $t$ ,  $A^\varepsilon(x, Z)$  can be replaced by a linear function  $\frac{1}{24}Z$ .
- The limit as  $\varepsilon \downarrow 0$  (under stationarity of tilt),

$$\partial_t Z = \frac{1}{2} \partial_x^2 Z + \frac{1}{24} Z + Z \xi(t, x).$$

- Or, heuristically at KPZ level,

$$\partial_t h = \frac{1}{2} \partial_x^2 h + \frac{1}{2} \{(\partial_x h)^2 - \delta_x(x)\} + \frac{1}{24} + \xi(t, x).$$

- Or one can say that the limit  $h(t, x)$  of the KPZ approximating eq-2 (5) is given by

$$h(t, x) = h_{CH}(t, x) + \frac{1}{24}t,$$

where  $h_{CH}(t, x)$  denotes the Cole-Hopf solution.

## Taking the limit $\varepsilon \downarrow 0$ (Similar to Boltzmann-Gibbs principle)

- Asymptotic replacement of  $A^\varepsilon(x, Z^\varepsilon(s))$  by  $\frac{1}{24}Z^\varepsilon(s, x)$ .
- To avoid the complexity arising from the infiniteness of invariant measures, we view  $h^\varepsilon(t, \rho) = \int h^\varepsilon(t, x)\rho(x)dx$  (height averaged by  $\rho \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}), \geq 0, \int \rho(x)dx = 1$ ) in modulo 1 (called wrapped process).

### Theorem 1

For every  $\varphi \in C_0(\mathbb{R})$  satisfying  $\text{supp } \varphi \cap \text{supp } \rho = \emptyset$ , we have that

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \downarrow 0} E^{\pi \otimes \nu^\varepsilon} \left[ \left\{ \int_0^t \tilde{A}^\varepsilon(\varphi, Z^\varepsilon(s)) ds \right\}^2 \right] = 0,$$

where  $\pi$  is the uniform measure for  $h^\varepsilon(0, \rho) \in [0, 1)$ ,

$$\tilde{A}^\varepsilon(\varphi, Z) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \tilde{A}^\varepsilon(x, Z)\varphi(x)dx$$

$$\tilde{A}^\varepsilon(x, Z) = A^\varepsilon(x, Z) - \frac{1}{24}Z(x).$$

## Invariant measures of Cole-Hopf solution

As a byproduct, one can give a class of invariant measures for the Cole-Hopf solution of the KPZ equation. (We state results only on  $\mathbb{R}$ .)

- Let  $\nu^c$  be the distribution of  $B(x) + cx$ , where  $B(x)$  is the two-sided Brownian motion s.t.  $\nu^c(B(0) \in dx) = dx$ . Note that these are **not** probability measures.
- Then,  $\{\nu^c\}_{c \in \mathbb{R}}$  are invariant under the Cole-Hopf solution of the KPZ equation.
- $c$  means the average tilt of the interface. We have different invariant measures for different average tilts.

## 2. Coupled KPZ equation

- (Ferrari-Sasamoto-Spohn 2013)  $\mathbb{R}^d$ -valued coupled KPZ equation for  $h(t, x) = (h^\alpha(t, x))_{\alpha=1}^d$  on  $\mathbb{T}$  (or  $\mathbb{R}$ ):

$$\partial_t h^\alpha = \frac{1}{2} \partial_x^2 h^\alpha + \frac{1}{2} \Gamma_{\beta\gamma}^\alpha \partial_x h^\beta \partial_x h^\gamma + \sigma_\beta^\alpha \xi^\beta, \quad x \in \mathbb{T}. \quad (7)$$

- We use Einstein's convention.
- $\xi(t, x) = (\xi^\alpha(t, x))_{\alpha=1}^d$  is an  $\mathbb{R}^d$ -valued **space-time Gaussian white noise** with the covariance structure

$$E[\xi^\alpha(t, x) \xi^\beta(s, y)] = \delta^{\alpha\beta} \delta(x - y) \delta(t - s).$$

- $(\sigma_\beta^\alpha)_{1 \leq \alpha, \beta \leq d}$ ,  $(\Gamma_{\beta\gamma}^\alpha)_{1 \leq \alpha, \beta, \gamma \leq d}$  are given constants.
- From the form of the equation (7), the constants  $\Gamma_{\beta\gamma}^\alpha$  ought to satisfy

$$\Gamma_{\beta\gamma}^\alpha = \Gamma_{\gamma\beta}^\alpha \quad \text{for all } \alpha, \beta, \gamma. \quad (8)$$

## Two approximating equations

- Symmetric convolution kernels  $\eta \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R})$  and  $\eta^\varepsilon, \eta_2^\varepsilon$  are given similarly as before.
- Simple approximating equation with smeared noise:

$$\partial_t h^\alpha = \frac{1}{2} \partial_x^2 h^\alpha + \frac{1}{2} \Gamma_{\beta\gamma}^\alpha (\partial_x h^\beta \partial_x h^\gamma - c^\varepsilon A^{\beta\gamma}) + \sigma_\beta^\alpha \xi^\beta * \eta^\varepsilon, \quad (9)$$

where  $A^{\beta\gamma} = \sum_{\delta=1}^d \sigma_\delta^\beta \sigma_\delta^\gamma$  and  $c^\varepsilon = \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \|\eta\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R})}^2$  is the same as before.

- Approximation suitable for studying invariant measures:

$$\partial_t h^\alpha = \frac{1}{2} \partial_x^2 h^\alpha + \frac{1}{2} \Gamma_{\beta\gamma}^\alpha (\partial_x h^\beta \partial_x h^\gamma - c^\varepsilon A^{\beta\gamma}) * \eta_2^\varepsilon + \sigma_\beta^\alpha \xi^\beta * \eta^\varepsilon, \quad (10)$$

- For the solution of (10), F [2] showed (on  $\mathbb{R}$ ), under the additional condition:

$$\Gamma_{\beta\gamma}^\alpha = \Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^\gamma \quad (11)$$

and  $\sigma_\beta^\alpha = \delta_\beta^\alpha$  (Kronecker's  $\delta$ ), the infinitesimal invariance of the distribution of  $B * \eta^\varepsilon(x)$ , where  $B$  is the  $\mathbb{R}^d$ -valued two-sided Brownian motion.

- When  $d = 1$  and  $\Gamma_{\beta\gamma}^{\alpha} = \sigma_{\gamma}^{\alpha} = 1$  for simplicity, the approximating equations (9) and (10) have the forms:

$$\partial_t h = \frac{1}{2} \partial_x^2 h + \frac{1}{2} ((\partial_x h)^2 - c^\varepsilon) + \xi * \eta^\varepsilon, \quad (12)$$

and

$$\partial_t h = \frac{1}{2} \partial_x^2 h + \frac{1}{2} ((\partial_x h)^2 - c^\varepsilon) * \eta_2^\varepsilon + \xi * \eta^\varepsilon, \quad (13)$$

respectively, as we have already discussed.



## Goal

- As we saw, the solution of (12) converges as  $\varepsilon \downarrow 0$  to the Cole-Hopf solution  $h_{CH}(t, x)$  of the KPZ equation, while the solution of (13) converges to  $h_{CH}(t, x) + \frac{1}{24}t$  under the equilibrium setting (F-Quastel) and also under the non-equilibrium setting (Hoshino).
- The method of F-Quastel is based on the Cole-Hopf transform, which is not available for the coupled equation with multi-components in general.
- **Our goal** is to study the limits of the solutions of (9) and (10) as  $\varepsilon \downarrow 0$  based on the **paracontrolled calculus** (Gubinelli and others).
- In particular, we study the difference between these two limits.

## Expansion

- We think of the noise as the leading term and the nonlinear term as its perturbation by putting (small parameter)  $a > 0$  in front of the nonlinear term, though we eventually take  $a = 1$ .

$$\mathcal{L}h^\alpha = \frac{a}{2}\Gamma_{\beta\gamma}^\alpha \partial_x h^\beta \partial_x h^\gamma + \sigma_\beta^\alpha \xi^\beta,$$

where  $\mathcal{L} = \partial_t - \frac{1}{2}\partial_x^2$ .

- We expand the solution  $h$  of the coupled KPZ eq (7) in  $a$ :  $h^\alpha = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a^k h_k^\alpha$ . Then, we have

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a^k \mathcal{L}h_k^\alpha = \sigma_\beta^\alpha \xi^\beta + \frac{a}{2} \sum_{k_1, k_2=0}^{\infty} a^{k_1+k_2} \Gamma_{\beta\gamma}^\alpha \partial_x h_{k_1}^\beta \partial_x h_{k_2}^\gamma.$$

- Comparing the terms of order  $a^0, a^1, a^2, a^3, \dots$  in both sides and noting the condition (8), we obtain the followings:

$$\mathcal{L}h_0^\alpha = \sigma_\beta^\alpha \xi^\beta,$$

$$\mathcal{L}h_1^\alpha = \frac{1}{2} \Gamma_{\beta\gamma}^\alpha \partial_x h_0^\beta \partial_x h_0^\gamma,$$

$$\mathcal{L}h_2^\alpha = \Gamma_{\beta\gamma}^\alpha \partial_x h_0^\beta \partial_x h_1^\gamma,$$

$$\mathcal{L}h_3^\alpha = \Gamma_{\beta\gamma}^\alpha \partial_x h_0^\beta \partial_x h_2^\gamma + \frac{1}{2} \Gamma_{\beta\gamma}^\alpha \partial_x h_1^\beta \partial_x h_1^\gamma,$$

...

- By replacing  $\xi^\beta$  by  $\xi^\beta * \eta^\varepsilon$  and taking care of the factor  $-c^\varepsilon A^{\beta\gamma}$ , we have the expansion of the solution of the equation (9) (simple approximating eq):

$$h^{\alpha,\varepsilon} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a^k h_k^{\alpha,\varepsilon}$$

and the equations:

$$\mathcal{L}h_0^\alpha = \sigma_\beta^\alpha \xi^\beta * \eta^\varepsilon,$$

$$\mathcal{L}h_1^\alpha = \frac{1}{2} \Gamma_{\beta\gamma}^\alpha (\partial_x h_0^\beta \partial_x h_0^\gamma - c^\varepsilon A^{\beta\gamma}),$$

$$\mathcal{L}h_2^\alpha = \Gamma_{\beta\gamma}^\alpha \partial_x h_0^\beta \partial_x h_1^\gamma,$$

$$\mathcal{L}h_3^\alpha = \Gamma_{\beta\gamma}^\alpha (\partial_x h_0^\beta \partial_x h_2^\gamma - B^{\beta\gamma,\varepsilon}) + \frac{1}{2} \Gamma_{\beta\gamma}^\alpha (\partial_x h_1^\beta \partial_x h_1^\gamma - C^{\beta\gamma,\varepsilon}),$$

...

- Furthermore, we have the expansion

$$\tilde{h}^{\alpha,\varepsilon} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a^k \tilde{h}_k^{\alpha,\varepsilon}$$

of the solution of the equation (10) (approximation suitable for studying invariant measures) and the equations:

$$\mathcal{L}\tilde{h}_0^\alpha = \sigma_\beta^\alpha \xi^\beta * \eta^\varepsilon,$$

$$\mathcal{L}\tilde{h}_1^\alpha = \frac{1}{2} \Gamma_{\beta\gamma}^\alpha (\partial_x \tilde{h}_0^\beta \partial_x \tilde{h}_0^\gamma - c^\varepsilon A^{\beta\gamma}) * \eta_2^\varepsilon,$$

$$\mathcal{L}\tilde{h}_2^\alpha = \Gamma_{\beta\gamma}^\alpha \partial_x \tilde{h}_0^\beta \partial_x \tilde{h}_1^\gamma * \eta_2^\varepsilon,$$

$$\mathcal{L}\tilde{h}_3^\alpha = \Gamma_{\beta\gamma}^\alpha (\partial_x \tilde{h}_0^\beta \partial_x \tilde{h}_2^\gamma - \tilde{B}^{\beta\gamma,\varepsilon}) * \eta_2^\varepsilon + \frac{1}{2} \Gamma_{\beta\gamma}^\alpha (\partial_x \tilde{h}_1^\beta \partial_x \tilde{h}_1^\gamma - \tilde{C}^{\beta\gamma,\varepsilon}) * \eta_2^\varepsilon,$$

...

- After defining  $h_0^\alpha, \dots, h_3^\alpha$  (actually, +one more term  $h_4^\alpha$ ) in the above way, we consider the equation for extra term and solve it by fixed point theorem in a suitable space (controlled by these driving terms). Similar for  $\tilde{h}$ .
- Our notation and those in [Hairer, Gubinelli] studying the case  $d = 1$  correspond with each other as follows:

$$h_0 = X_\epsilon^{\mathbf{I}}, h_1 = X_\epsilon^{\mathbf{Y}}, h_2 = X_\epsilon^{\mathbf{Y}}, h_3 = X_\epsilon^{\mathbf{V}} + X_\epsilon^{\mathbf{V}},$$

$$c^\epsilon A^{\beta\gamma} = c_\epsilon^{\mathbf{V}}, C^{\beta\gamma,\epsilon} = c_\epsilon^{\mathbf{V}}, B^{\beta\gamma,\epsilon} = c_\epsilon^{\mathbf{V}}.$$

## Convergence results due to paracontrolled calculus (rough formulation)

- Convergence of driving terms:  
 $\exists h_i^\alpha$  ( $i = 0, 1, \dots, 4$ ; indeed, two terms in  $h_3^\alpha$  should be considered separately) s.t.

$$h_i^{\alpha, \varepsilon} \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \downarrow 0} h_i^\alpha \text{ and } \tilde{h}_i^{\alpha, \varepsilon} \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \downarrow 0} h_i^\alpha \text{ in } C([0, T], C^{\kappa_i}(\mathbb{T})),$$

where  $\kappa_0 = \mu$ ,  $\kappa_1 = 2\mu$ ,  $\kappa_2 = \mu + 1$ ,  $\kappa_3 = 2\mu + 1$ ,  
 $\kappa_4 = 2\mu - 1 (< 0)$  with  $\mu \in (\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{2})$ .

- If driving terms  $(h_i^{\alpha, \varepsilon})$  converges to  $(h_i^\alpha)$ , then the solutions of the KPZ equations with these driving terms converge in  $C([0, T], C^\mu(\mathbb{T}))$ .

## Example

- Assume the condition (11) (the condition we assumed for studying the stationarity) in addition to (8) and  $(\sigma_{\beta}^{\alpha}) = \sigma I$  with  $\sigma \in \mathbb{R}$  and a unit matrix  $I$ .
- In this case, we have

$$\tilde{h}^{\alpha}(t, x) = h^{\alpha}(t, x) + c^{\alpha}t, \quad 1 \leq \alpha \leq d,$$

in the limit, where

$$c^{\alpha} = \frac{\sigma^4}{24} \sum_{\beta, \gamma, \gamma_1, \gamma_2} \Gamma_{\beta\gamma}^{\alpha} \Gamma_{\gamma_1\gamma_2}^{\beta} \Gamma_{\gamma_1\gamma_2}^{\gamma}.$$



## Summary of the talk.

- 1 KPZ equation:

$$\partial_t h = \frac{1}{2} \partial_x^2 h + \frac{1}{2} (\partial_x h)^2 + \xi(t, x), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

- 2 KPZ approximating equation with  $\xi^\varepsilon(t, x) = \xi(t) * \eta^\varepsilon(x)$ :

$$\partial_t h = \frac{1}{2} \partial_x^2 h + \frac{1}{2} ((\partial_x h)^2 - c^\varepsilon) * \eta_2^\varepsilon + \xi^\varepsilon(t, x)$$

has invariant measure  $\nu^\varepsilon$  (=distribution of  $B * \eta^\varepsilon$ ).

- 3 As  $\varepsilon \downarrow 0$ ,  $h^\varepsilon$  converges to  $h_{CH}(t, x) + \frac{1}{24}t$ .
- 4 To study the limits of two types of coupled KPZ approximating equations, we apply Gubinelli's paracontrolled calculus.

Thank you for your attention!