



Noise, differential equations and quantum fields

Mid-Term Conference

Hendrik Weber

University of Münster

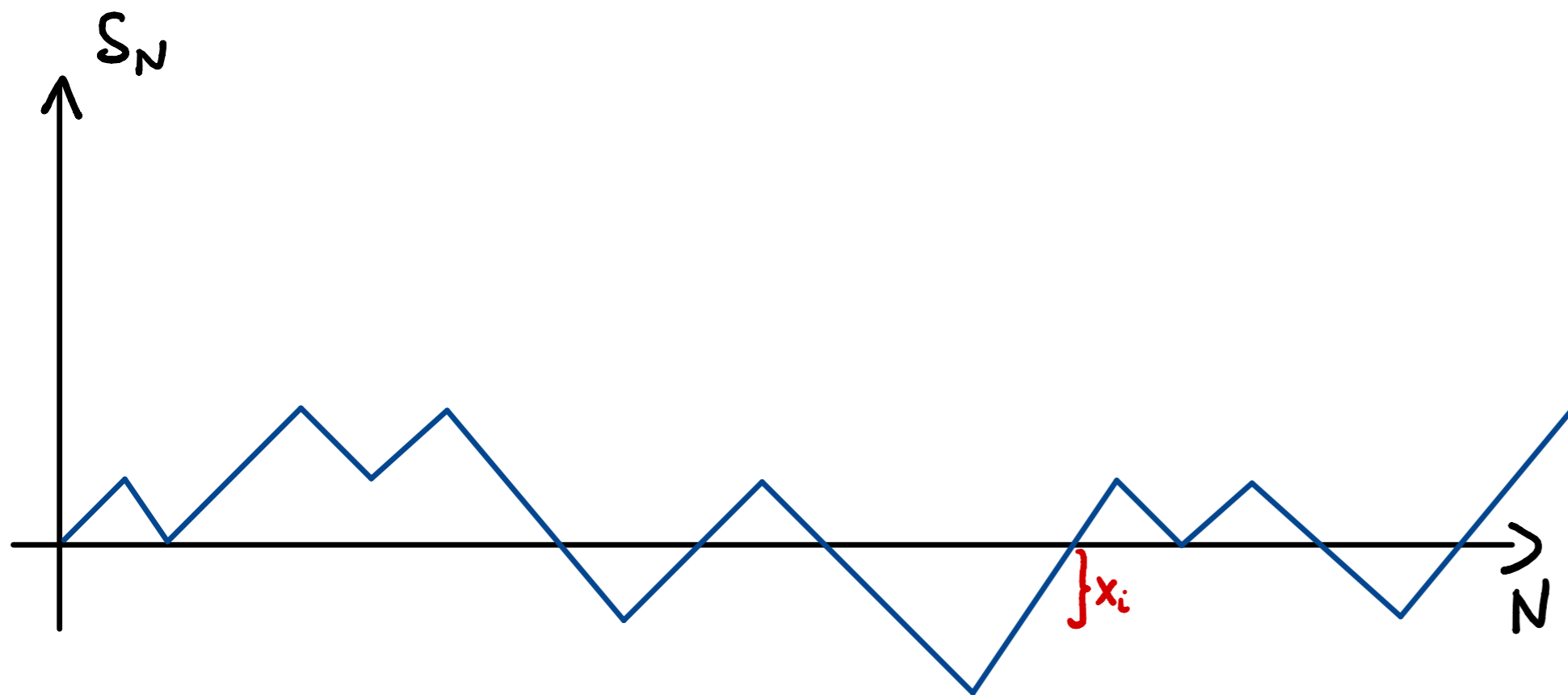
hendrik.weber@uni-muenster.de

Noise: A classical result on Random walks

Random walk

$$X_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if head} \\ -1 & \text{if tail} \end{cases}$$

$$S_N = \sum_{i=1}^N X_i$$



Donsker's invariance principle

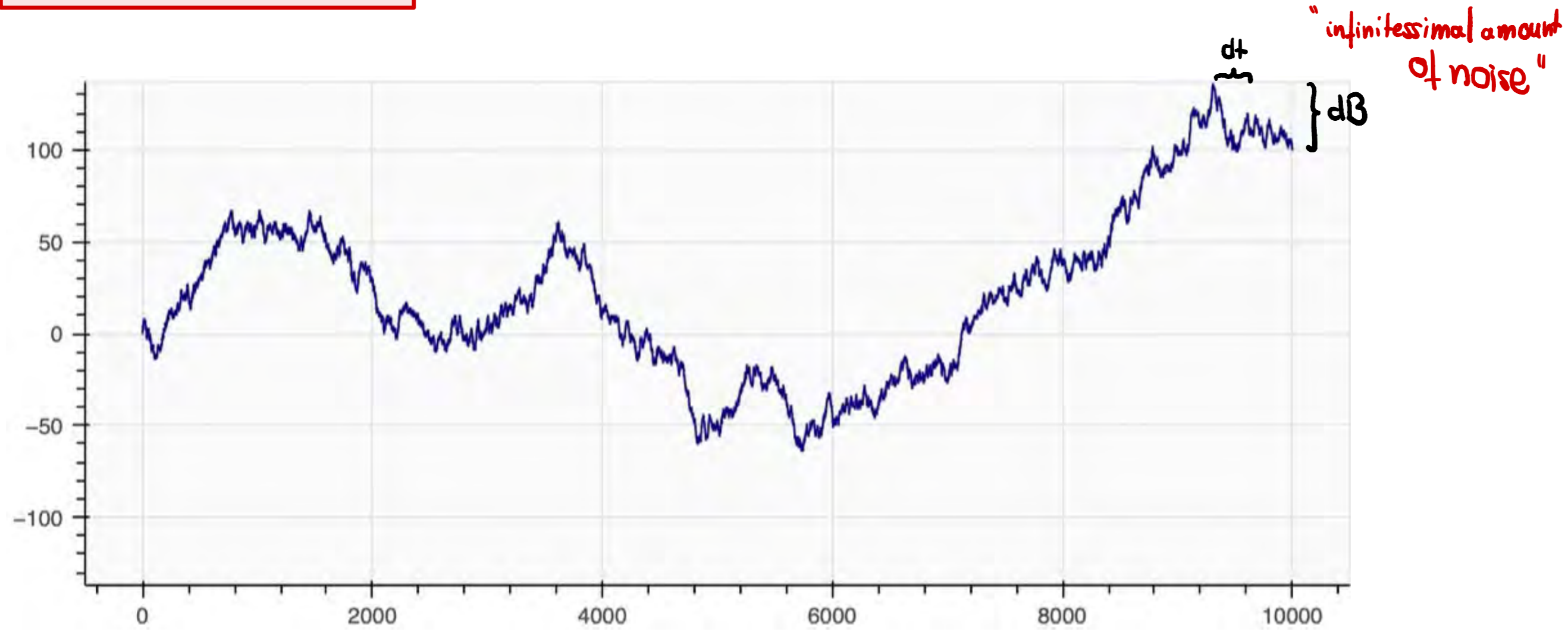
$$B_t^N = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} S_{Nt} \quad \leftarrow \text{(piecewise linear interpolation)}$$

Then $B_t^N \Rightarrow B_t$ Brownian motion

"Statistics of path functionals

e.g. $\sup_{t \in [0,1]} B_t$ converge.

Brownian motion



View Brownian motion as "integrated noise"

$$B_t = \int_0^t \xi(s) ds$$

white noise.

• In other words "white noise $\xi =$ (distributional) derivative of B_t "

• Formally: $\mathbb{E} \xi(t) \xi(s) = \delta(t-s)$

Dirac δ -Function

Rigorous interpretation — no problem!
but very irregular " $-\frac{1}{2}$ " times diff'able"

Definition: Stochastic analysis = analysis with white noise"

Itô's stochastic differential equations

noise

$$\partial_t X(t) = b(X(t)) + \sigma(X(t)) \xi(t)$$
$$\text{a.k.a. } dX_t = b(X_t) dt + \sigma(X_t) dB_t$$

drift

diffusion coefficient

Kyosi Itô
1954



Quelle: Wikimedia.org.

Problem: Nonlinear operation on ξ $\sigma(X(t)) \xi(t)$

Itô calculus (1940s) Solved based on "adaptedness", flow of information. If (Y_s) adapted then

$$\mathbb{E} \int_0^t Y_s dB_s = 0$$

and

$$\mathbb{E} \left(\int_0^t Y_s dB_s \right)^2 = \mathbb{E} \int_0^t Y_s^2 ds$$

Itô isometry

An example (T. Lyons '91)

White noise on $[0, 1]$: $(a_i), (b_i)$ i.i.d. $\sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$

$$\xi = a_0 c_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n c_n + b_n s_n)$$

$$c_n(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & n=0 \\ \sqrt{2} \cos(2\pi n x) & n \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

$$s_n(x) = \sqrt{2} \sin(2\pi n x)$$

Brownian motion as $\int_0^t \xi$

$$B(t) = a_0 t + g(t) - g(0) \quad \text{where} \quad g(t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2\pi n} (a_n s_n(t) - b_n c_n(t))$$

uniform convergence Wiener
1923

Define

$$\tilde{B}(t) = a_0 t + \tilde{g}(t) - \tilde{g}(0) \quad \text{where} \quad \tilde{g}(t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2\pi n} (a_n c_n(t) + b_n s_n(t))$$

$B(t)$ and $\tilde{B}(t)$ are both Brownian motions but not independent.

Question: Define

$$\int_0^1 \tilde{B}_t dB_t$$

$$g(t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2\pi n} (a_n s_n(t) - b_n c_n(t))$$
$$\tilde{g}(t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2\pi n} (a_n c_n(t) + b_n s_n(t))$$

Step 1 Regularise: cut-off Fourier series at $n \leq N$. (ultra-violet cut-off)

$$\int_0^1 \tilde{g}^N dg^N = \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{1}{2\pi n} (a_n^2 + b_n^2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbb{E} \int_0^1 \tilde{g}^N dg^N = \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{1}{\pi n} = \frac{\log N}{\pi} + O(1) = C_N \quad \text{diverges logarithmically}$$

Step 2 Renormalised integrals do converge

$$\int_0^1 \tilde{g}^N dg^N - C_N \xrightarrow{\text{in } L^2} \int \tilde{g} dg - \infty$$

"wide power"
↙

Example:

Its calculus has many applications (pricing of options, large scale dynamics of particle models, ...)

Here MCMC algorithms:

Question: Given a (complicated) probability measure μ ; how to compute $\int f d\mu$

nice test function.

Answer: Find a suitable stochastic process (Markov chain) X_s and compute.

$$\frac{1}{T} \int_0^T f(X_s) ds$$

Hope (often true - ergodic Thm)

$$\lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T f(X_s) ds = \int f d\mu$$

time average

space average

Langevin dynamics:

If $\mu(dx) = \frac{1}{Z} e^{-V(x)} dx$

normalisation constant

Lebesgue measure on \mathbb{R}^d

Candidate dynamics: Langevin

$$dX_t = -\nabla V(X_t) dt + \sqrt{2} dB_t$$

- X_t is reversible under μ i.e.

$$\mathbb{P}(X_t \in dx \ \& \ X_{t+s} \in dy) = \mathbb{P}(X_t \in dy \ \& \ X_{t+s} \in dx)$$

process in equilibrium

- Advantage: no need to know Z .
- Default choice in many situations.
- Can be used in ∞ dimensions (e.g. Bayesian inference...)

Quantum Fields

- Quantum field theory (QFT) was developed to understand nature at smallest scales. The standard model of particle physics is a QFT.
 - Highly successful theory, tested to extreme precision (e.g. anomalous magnetic moment of electron)
 - Mathematically incomplete - to date no rigorous construction of a QFT in the physical 4 space-time dimensions.
- cf. Yang-Mills Clay math problem.

Euclidean Quantum Field Theories

One approach to construct a QFT leads through

- Construction of a measure on functions/distributions ϕ of the form

$$\mu(d\phi) \sim \exp(-S(\phi)) \prod_{x \in \mathbb{R}^d} d\phi_x$$

↑ action

Example:

- $S(\phi) = \int m^2 \phi + |\nabla \phi|^2 dx$

"Free field"

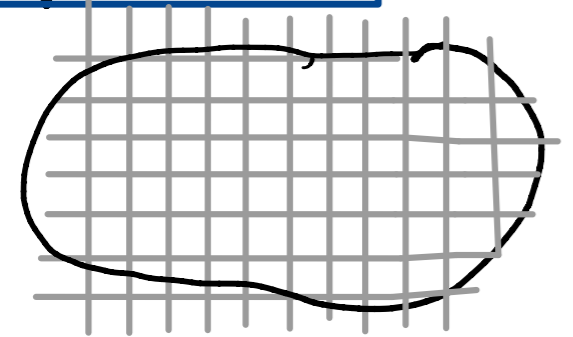
- $S(\phi) = \int m^2 \phi + |\nabla \phi|^2 + \phi^4 dx$

" ϕ^4 theory"

"easy theories"

Interpretation

Discrete, finite lattice



$$\Lambda_\varepsilon = \Lambda \cap \varepsilon \mathbb{Z}^d$$

$$\phi : \Lambda_\varepsilon \rightarrow \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{C}$$

$$\sim \exp(-S_\varepsilon(\phi)) \prod_{x \in \Lambda_\varepsilon} d\phi_x$$

finite dim. Lebesgue

Take limits:

$\varepsilon \downarrow 0$ ultraviolet
 $\Lambda \uparrow \mathbb{R}^d$ infrared

Free field $S(\phi) = \int m^2 \phi + |\nabla \phi|^2 dx$ $\mu(d\phi) \sim \exp(-S(\phi)) \prod_{x \in \mathbb{R}^d} d\phi_x$

Can be constructed / analysed easily:

E.g. on torus \mathbb{T}^d :

(almost) iid (complex) gaussian.

$$\phi(x) = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi^2 |k|^2 + m^2}} e^{2\pi i k \cdot x} X_k$$

Always well-defined but very irregular:

$$2s < -d + 2$$

$$\mathbb{E} \|\phi\|_{H^s}^2 = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \frac{1}{4\pi^2 |k|^2 + m^2} (1 + |k|^2)^s \mathbb{E} |X_k|^2 < \infty \iff s < \frac{2-d}{2}$$

Dimension d	Regularity s
1	$< 1/2$
2	< 0
3	$< -1/2$
4	< -1

rigorous interpretation - no problem. but very irregular

the higher d, the worse!

ϕ^4 theory $\cdot S(\phi) = \int m^2\phi + |\nabla\phi|^2 + \phi^4 dx \quad \mu(d\phi) \sim \exp(-S(\phi)) \prod_{x \in \mathbb{R}^d} d\phi_x$

Construction/analysis of measure:

$d=1$ immediate

$d=2$ Nelson 60s \leftarrow renormalisation needed

$d=3$ Glimm-Jaffe, ... 70s \leftarrow more renormalisation needed

$d \geq 4$ triviality results: $d \geq 5$ Aizenman '82, Fröhlich '82

$d=4$ Aizenman & Duminil-Copin 2021.

Watanabe '82 JSP "Euclidean ϕ^4_3 field theory has [...] become a mature branch of mathematical physics"

Stochastic quantisation

- { Parisi-Wu (motivation in gauge fixing) '82
 - { Creutz-Fredman (MCMC method) '82
- ↖ 1641 Zitate

• Look at "Langevin dynamics" for "Euclidean Field theories".

Leads to stochastic (partial) differential equation

$$\partial_t \phi = \underbrace{(\Delta \phi - \phi^4)}_{= -\nabla S(\phi)} + \xi$$

↑ white noise in $d+1$ space time dimensions

Attempts to develop a theory in $d=2$ in 80s & 90s. Resolution in $d=2$ by da Prato-Debussche '02.

The theory of regularity structures

for

Thm: (Hairer 2014) **Short time** well posedness for SPDEs including stochastic quantisation of ϕ_3^4 .

Regularised equation

$\sim \frac{1}{\varepsilon}$ $\sim \log \varepsilon^{-1}$

$$(\partial_t - \Delta)\phi_\varepsilon = - \left(\phi_\varepsilon^3 - (3C_\varepsilon + \mathcal{I}\bar{C}_\varepsilon)\phi_\varepsilon \right) + \xi_\varepsilon$$

Up to a random time $\tau > 0$ ϕ_ε converges to non-trivial limit.

Thm: Mourrat-W. '17 Solutions on $(0, \infty) \times \mathbb{T}^3$ exist **globally in time**.

Estimates imply existence of invariant measures.

On \mathbb{R}^3 : Gubinelli-Hofmanová 2019, Mourrat-Weber 2020.

Regularity structures in a nutshell

• For simplicity

$$(\partial_t - \Delta)u = g(u)\xi \quad x \in \mathbb{T}^2 \quad (gPAM)$$

$$\xi = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}^2} e^{2\pi i k x} X_k$$

essentially indep. Gaussians.

spacial white noise.

• Power counting: $\xi \in C^{\alpha-2}$ $\alpha < 1$. \rightsquigarrow parabolic regularity u should be in C^α

$$\alpha + \alpha - 2 < 0 \rightsquigarrow g(u)\xi \text{ not defined.}$$

• Freeze coefficients around base point $z_0 = (t_0, x_0)$

$$(\partial_t - \Delta)u = g(u(z_0))\xi + \underbrace{(g(u) - g(u(z_0)))\xi}_{\text{small near } z_0}$$

small near z_0

Regularity structures 2

- Near z_0 , u should "look like" sol'n of

$$(\partial_t - \Delta)u = g(u(z_0))\xi$$

$$(\partial_t - \Delta)u = g(u(z_0))\xi + \underbrace{(g(u) - g(u(z_0)))\xi}_{\text{small near } z_0}$$

- Modelledness

$$|u(z) - u(z_0) - g(u(z))(Z(z) - Z(z_0)) + \dots| \lesssim d(z, z_0)^{2\alpha}$$

where $(\partial_t - \Delta)Z = \xi$ (Stochastic heat eqn.)

- to define $u\xi$ (or $g(u)\xi$) it suffices to construct

$$Z\xi$$

- A "renormalised" product " $Z\xi - \infty$ " can be constructed just like renormalised stoch integral

$$(\partial_t - \Delta)u = g(u)\xi \quad (t,x) \in (0,\infty) \times \mathbb{T}^d \quad (g\text{PAM})$$

"Noise" ξ : Space-time distribution of regularity $-1-\kappa$, $\kappa < 0,132\dots$

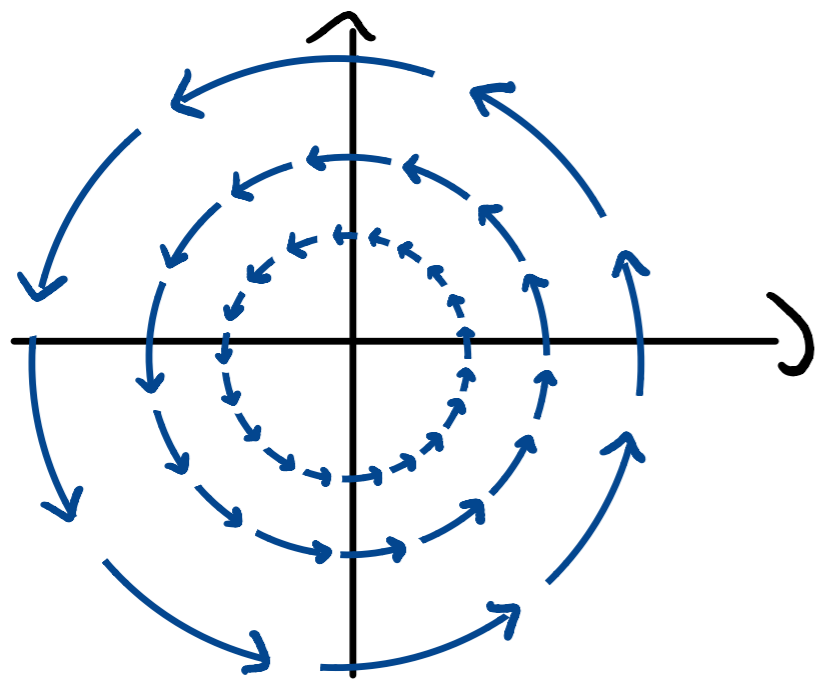
Example: $\xi = \text{space-white noise over } \mathbb{T}^2$

Coefficients g : $g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ regular; bdd. $\|g\|; \|g'\|; \|g''\| < \infty$

Thm (Chandra, Feltes, W. 2024)

Estimate for $\|u(t)\|_{\infty}$ for $t \gtrsim 1$. $\Rightarrow u$ cannot explode in finite time.

Global existence can fail in low regularity



$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}^\perp = \begin{pmatrix} -x_2 \\ x_1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ rotation}$$

$$\partial_t \kappa = |\kappa|^m \kappa^\perp + \partial_t W \quad (*)$$

- local existence easy for W continuous.
- global existence easy if W Lipschitz.

Thm. (Cox, Hutzenthaler, Jentzen '13): For $m \geq 3 \exists \alpha = \alpha(m) > 0$ and $W \in C^\alpha$ s.th. κ blows up in finite time.

Idea: $\partial_t W = |\kappa|^\epsilon \kappa$ $\int_s^t |\kappa|^\epsilon \kappa$ has cancellations due to fast rotation of κ

• See also: Scheutzow, Engel, Chemnitz 2024⁺