# Experimental realization of KPZ dynamics: Slow combustion of paper

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# Outline

- I. Slow combustion
- II. Experimental set-up
- III. Demonstration of KPZ dynamics
- IV. Future work

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# Slow combustion

Ignition wire

Paper 70 g/m2

### Slow combustion



Slow combustion fronts digitized at 10 second intervals. The width of the area is 310 mm.

### Laboratory





# **Experimental set-up**







### **Experimental set-up**



### **Experimental set-up**







-Paper is produced by pressing together cellulose pulp

-Pulp can be made mechanically, chemically or it can be recycled

-Additional fillers may be used to enhance the properties of base paper

-A coating of kaoline or calcium carbonate may be used to impart certain surface qualities to the paper



# Samples









Fig. 2. The noise fluctuation correlation functions C(r) for noises (II), (III), (I) and (IV) from top to bottom in linear (a) and in semi-logarithmic (b) scale. The inset of (a) shows the noise amplitude distributions and the inset of (b) a doublelogarithmic plot of the correlation function.

### Samples

Front velocity was controlled by KNO<sub>3</sub> concentration.







FIG. 1. Velocity distributions for slow-combustion fronts with potassium-nitrate concentrations  $0.34~g\,m^{-2}$  (full line) and  $0.536~g\,m^{-2}$  (dashed line). Velocities are determined for a time difference of 2 s.

**KPZ** equation:

$$\frac{\partial h}{\partial t} = v \nabla^2 h + \frac{\lambda}{2} (\nabla h)^2 + c + \eta(x, t)$$

Surface width :

$$w = \sqrt{\frac{1}{L} \sum_{x} \left[ h(x,t) - \bar{h}(t) \right]^2}$$

scales as



$$(1)_{0}^{10}$$

 $\chi$  = roughening exponent

 $\beta$  = growth exponent

**FIGURE 4.1** Time evolution of the front width for three paper grades. The slope of both solid lines is the KPZ value for the growth exponent,  $\beta = 1/3$ . The symbols used in the figures of this Chapter are:  $\bigstar$  = lens paper (9.1 g/m<sup>2</sup>),  $\circ$  = copier paper (70 g/m<sup>2</sup>) and  $\Box$  = copier paper (80 g/m<sup>2</sup>). Individual lens paper burns are denoted by dotted lines and the average of them by stars.

#### **KPZ equation**:

$$\frac{\partial h}{\partial t} = v \nabla^2 h + \frac{\lambda}{2} (\nabla h)^2 + c + \eta(x, t)$$

Scaling properties from the **two-point correlation function** 

$$C_2(r,t) = \left\langle \overline{\left[ \delta h(x',t') - \delta h(x'+r,t'+t) \right]^2} \right\rangle$$

Asymptotically:

Universal coupling constant:

$$C_2(r,0) \sim Ar^{2\chi}$$
 and  $C_2(0,t) \sim Bt^{2\beta}$   
 $g^* = \frac{\lambda}{2} \left[\frac{A}{B^{z/2}}\right]^{1/\chi}$ 

Theoretical prediction for KPZ equation with  $\eta(x,t) =$  white noise:

$$\beta = 1/3, \quad \chi = 1/2$$
  
 $g^* = 0.87$ 



**FIGURE 4.2** (a) Spatial correlation functions  $G_2(r)$  for three paper grades, and (b) the resulting effective exponents. Crossover scales from the short-range regimes to the asymptotic scaling regimes are marked with dotted lines.

**Temporal correlation functions** 



**FIGURE 4.3** (a) Temporal correlation functions  $C_2(t)$  for three paper grades, and (b) the resulting effective exponents. Crossover scales from the short-range regimes to the asymptotic scaling regimes are marked with dotted lines.

#### Demonstration of KPZ dynamics Universal coupling constant

$$g^* = \frac{\lambda}{2} \left[ \frac{A}{B^{z/2}} \right]^{1/\chi}$$

TABLE III. Results for the correlation amplitudes,  $\lambda$ , and the universal quantities using  $\beta = 1/3$  and  $\chi = 1/2$ .

Paper grade	A	В	λ	$R_G$	g*
$70  \mathrm{gm}^{-2}$	0.52(2)	0.186(12)	0.465(2)	0.74(6)	0.79(9)
$80  {\rm gm}^{-2}$	0.475(7)	0.14(1)	0.370(1)	0.73(5)	0.76(8)
$9.1  \mathrm{gm}^{-2}$	3.4(1)	8.0(8)	4.0(4)	0.62(8)	1.0(2)

Theory : g\*=0.87 [8]

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**TABLE 4.1** Results for the scaling exponents, amplitudes and universal constants. The two latter quantities were determined for  $\beta = 1/3$  and  $\chi = 1/2$ . The scaling exponents  $\beta$  and  $\chi$  were obtained by first subtracting the intrinsic widths from the data.

	$\chi_{SR}$	$\chi_{LR}$	$eta_{SR}$	$\beta_{LR}$	A	B	$R_g$	$g^*$
$70 { m g/m^2}$	0.90(3)	0.50(4)		0.36(3)	0.52(2)	0.186(12)	0.74(6)	0.79(9)
$80 \text{ g/m}^2$	0.90(4)	0.47(4)	0.75(5)	0.34(4)	0.475(7)	0.14(1)	0.73(5)	0.76(8)
$9.1{ m g}/{ m m}^2$	0.85(1)	0.50(6)	0.64(3)	0.43(6)	3.4(1)	8.0(8)	0.62(8)	1.0(2)

Theoretical prediction for KPZ equation with  $\eta(x,t) =$  white noise:

$$\beta = 1/3, \quad \chi = 1/2$$
  
 $g^* = 0.87$ 

#### Persistence

Height-fluctuation field:

\*  $\delta h(x,t) > 0$ ; black region \*  $\delta h(x,t) < 0$ ; white region



\* 
$$\delta h = h(x,t) - \overline{h}(t)$$

#### \* Temporal first-return distribution:

 $f^{temp}(\tau)$  is the distribution of the return time  $\tau$  defined as the time interval for which  $\delta h$ stays above/below zero at fixed *x*.

#### \* Spatial first-return distribution:

 $f^{temp}(l)$  is the distribution of l defined as the distance over which  $\delta h$  stays above/below zero.

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* Persistence exponents \theta_{\text{temp}} and \theta_{\text{spat}}:

f^{temp}(\tau) \sim \tau^{-(1+\theta_{\text{temp}})}

f^{spat}(\tau) \sim \tau^{-(1+\theta_{\text{spat}})}
```

#### Demonstration of KPZ dynamics Persistence



Theory : Asymptotically  $1 + \theta^{temp} = 1.666$  and  $1 + \theta^{spat} = 1.5$ 

#### Demonstration of KPZ dynamics Height-fluctuation distributions

The probability distribution for local fluctuations of the position around its mean value is given by

$$P\Big(\frac{h(x,t_2) - h(x,t_1) - (t_2 - t_1)\langle \partial_t h \rangle}{A_q(t_2 - t_1)^{1/3}} \le s\Big) = F_q(s),$$



**Fig. 3.** Height-fluctuation distribution for horizontal fronts in the transient  $(w \sim t^{1/3})$  regime, and a fit by a (scaled and shifted) theoretical distribution  $f_1$ . A theoretical inversion of the measured distribution is shown in the inset. The dots denote the measured data and the circles the data with an avalanche suppressed.



Fig. 6. Height-fluctuation distribution for horizontal fronts in the saturated regime, and a fit by a (scaled)  $f_0$  distribution.

#### Demonstration of KPZ dynamics Non-linear term



The slope dependent velocity  $u(\lambda, m)$  vs. local slope m for three different average velocities  $\langle u \rangle$ .

#### Columnar defect

Even a thin columnar defect in a substrate will affect the interface propagating in that substrate. A convenient control parameter of the problem, which determines the size and nature of the effect, is the difference in driving in the defect and elsewhere in the substrate.



FIG. 4. Successive fronts with a time difference of 0.5 s for the concentration difference  $\Delta C = 0.327$ . Also marked are the stripe with enhanced concentration of potassium nitrate, the fronts between which the average profile is determined (thick lines), the height of the final profile, and the average shape of the profile.



#### Demonstration of KPZ dynamics Columnar defect

The **difference in the shape of the front profiles** for enhanced vs reduced driving in the defect **clearly demonstrates the existence of a Kardar-Parisi-Zhang-type nonlinear term** in the effective evolution equation for the slow-combustion fronts. We also find that slow-combustion fronts display a faceted form for large enough enhanced driving, and that there is a corresponding increase then in the average front speed.



### **KPZ** parameters





Coefficients of the KPZ-equation:  $\frac{\partial h}{\partial t} = v \nabla^2 h + \frac{\lambda}{2} (\nabla h)^2 + c + \eta(x, t)$ 

with noise

$$\langle \eta(x,t) \eta(x',t') \rangle = 2D\delta(x-x')\delta(t-t')$$

were calculated using an inverse method as a function of coarse graining level l and time step  $\tau$ .



**5.6** Measured  $D/\nu$  as a function of cutoff length  $\ell$  for the  $80 \,\mathrm{g/m^2}$  copierms.

### **KPZ** parameters

**TABLE 6.4** Measured average values for KPZ coefficients and the ratio  $D/\nu$ . For the slow-combustion fronts  $l = 11.6 \dots 17.6 \text{ mm}$  and  $\tau = 0.4 \text{ s}$ , and for the magnetic flux fronts  $l = 11.2 \dots 19.6 \text{ µm}$  and  $\tau = 0.5 \text{ s}$ , were used as the coarse-graining scales for c and  $\lambda$ . The scaled  $\nu$  and the  $D/\nu$  ratio were determined for  $\ell = 17.5 \text{ mm}$  and  $\tau = 25.6 \text{ s}$  (copier-paper), and  $\ell = 17.6 \text{ mm}$  and  $\tau = 1.6 \text{ s}$  (lens-paper). The  $D/\nu$  ratio for the magnetic flux was determined for  $\ell = 22.4 \text{ µm}$  and  $\tau = 3.5 \text{ s}$ .

Coefficient	Inverse method			Slope-dependent velocity		
	Copier	Lens	$\begin{array}{c} {\rm Flux} \\ \times 10^{-3} \end{array}$	Copier	Lens	$\begin{array}{c} {\rm Flux} \\ \times 10^{-3} \end{array}$
$c \; [mm/s] \lambda \; [mm/s]$	0.49(2) 0.40(2)	9.2(5) 4.1(2)	27.0(1) 15.9(8)	0.485(2) 0.37(3)	9.1(2) 5.1(2)	27.1(2) 17.4(2)
$\nu \left(\frac{\tau}{\Delta t}\right)^{-1/3} \left[\mathrm{mm}^2/\mathrm{s}\right]$	0.049(3)	2.0(1)	-	-	-	-
$D/\nu \; [{ m mm}]$	0.83(5)	4.6(1.1)	6(3)	_	_	_

### Short range behaviour



FIG. 9. The noise amplitude distribution  $P(\eta > 0)$  averaged over 35 burns of the 9.1 gm<sup>-2</sup> lens paper with an average velocity >8.4 mm/s. The distribution was calculated for time intervals  $\tau$ =0.5, 1.0, 2.0, 4.0, and 8.0 s shown in the figure. The linear fits have slopes -2.71, -2.67, -2.72, -2.99, and -4.97, left to right. The inset shows the local velocity fluctuation distributions for the same time intervals  $\tau$ .



**FIGURE 4.2** (a) Spatial correlation functions  $G_2(r)$  for three paper grades, and (b) the resulting effective exponents. Crossover scales from the short-range regimes to the asymptotic scaling regimes are marked with dotted lines.

#### Short range behaviour Multiscaling $C_q(r,\tau) = \langle [\delta h(x,t) - \delta h(x+r,t+\tau)]^q \rangle_{x,t},$ $G_q(r) \equiv C_q(r,0) \sim r^{q\chi_q}$

 $C_q(\tau) \equiv C_q(0,\tau) \sim \tau^{q\beta_q}$ 



**FIGURE 6.3** The (a) spatial and (b) temporal *q*th order correlation functions  $G_q(r)$  and  $C_q(t)$  averaged over 10 burns for the 70 g/m<sup>2</sup> copier paper and 20 burns for the  $80 \text{ g/m}^2$  copier paper, respectively.

#### Short range

$$\eta_{\rm eff}(x,t) \equiv \delta h(x,t+\tau) - \delta h(x,t),$$





**FIGURE 4.7** The noise amplitude distribution  $P(\eta_{\text{eff}})$  for slow-combustion fronts in lens paper determined for time steps  $\tau = 0.5, 1.0, 2.0, 4.0$ , and 8.0 s. The inset shows the spatial correlations of the velocity fluctuations in the same samples.

Numerical solution of KPZ-equation was achived by using the Euler's method solution of the finite difference equation

$$h_i^{n+1} = h_i^n + \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x^2} \Big[ \nu_0 (h_{i+1}^n + h_{i-1}^n - 2h_i^n) + (\lambda_0/6) [(h_{i+1}^n - h_i^n)^2 + (h_{i+1}^n - h_i^n)(h_i^n - h_{i-1}^n) + (h_i^n - h_{i-1}^n)^2] \Big] + \Delta t \ c_0 + \sqrt{\frac{2D_0\Delta t}{\Delta x}} \ \xi(i, h_i^n),$$

The nominal values of the parameters  $\Box_0$  and  $\Box_0$  were obtained by an inverse method from our experimental data as described above. The nominal values for  $c_0$  and  $D_0$  were fixed by comparing the velocity distributions from simulations and experiments. The noise matrices were obtained from paper samples of the same grades as used in the experiments.





**FIGURE 5.1** The effective parameters for  $\tau = 0.2(.)$ ,  $0.4(\circ)$ ,  $0.8(\times)$ ,  $1.6(\star)$ , 3.2(\*) and  $6.4(\Box)$  s of the KPZ equation as determined by the inverse method. On the left are the experimental values and on the right the effective values determined from the simulated fronts produced by our 'best simulation model'. The nominal values  $\lambda_0$  and  $\nu_0$  are indicated by the horizontal lines.



**FIGURE 5.2** The average front widths  $w^2$  as functions of time for ten lens-paper simulations. The result for a flat initial condition is plotted with a thick solid line, and with a dashed line for rough initial conditions. The inset displays the magnitude of fluctuations, showing the individual results for ten realizations of noise.



Fig. 1.  $30 \times 30 \text{ mm}^2$  samples of the noise used in the simulations. Noise (I) is an optically scanned image of lens paper, and noise (II) and noise (III) are  $\beta$ -radiographs of copier papers. Noise (IV) is generated by disordering noise (I).

- \* Simulations using real paper structure as an input noise.
- \* Input parameters for KPZ equation measured from experiments.
- \* Similar asymptotic KPZ scaling properties as in experiments.
- \* Anomalous short range scaling was a consequence of the short-range correlated paper structure.







# Conclusions

- \* **Experiments :** well propagating fronts in paper
  - Extensive averaging over noise is necessary
- \* Asymptotic behaviour : KPZ universality class with white noise
  - correlation functions (  $\chi$ ,  $\beta$ )
  - universal coupling constant (g\*)
  - persistence  $(\theta)$

- \* Anomalous **short range behaviour** below cross-over:
  - short-range **correlations** in noise => **higher apparent scaling exponents**
  - dynamic effects 'amplify' quenched noise in temporal direction
- \* **Simulations of the KPZ equation** with relevant noise and parameters show similar asymptotic and short range behaviour than experiment.

### The latest achievements

Preparing 8 meter long paper sample



### The latest achievements

Experiment of 6 meter long paper sample



### The latest achievements

Preliminary results for 6 meter long paper



### Future work

- New paper grade with better formation and without coating layer
- Wider paper sample to get more statistics from transient region
- Open access to experimental data



**FIGURE 6.1** Pinned interfaces. The lower configurations are for copier paper samples and the uppermost configuration for a lens paper sample with a low KNO<sub>3</sub> concentration.

# Thank you for your attention