

3/4-Fractional superdiffusion of energy in a harmonic chain with bulk noise

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Motivation

Prepare a macroscopic system at initial time with an inhomogeneous temperature $T_0(x)$. At some macroscopic time t , we expect that the temperature $T_t(x)$ at x is given by the solution of the **heat equation** (Fourier, 1822):

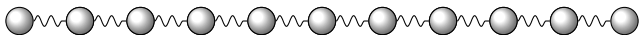
$$\partial_t T = \nabla[\kappa(T)\nabla T].$$

$\kappa(T)$ is the thermal conductivity.



- It turns out that one dimensional systems (e.g. carbon nanotubes) can display anomalous energy diffusion *if momentum is conserved*. The heat equation is no longer valid: the conductivity is infinite, energy current correlation function is not integrable...
- What shall replace the heat equation?

Microscopic models



Standard microscopic models of heat conduction are given by very long (=infinite) chains of coupled oscillators, i.e. infinite dimensional Hamiltonian system with Hamiltonian

$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_{x \in \mathbb{Z}} \left\{ \frac{p_x^2}{2} + V(r_x) \right\}, \quad r_x = q_{x+1} - q_x.$$

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2. The total momentum $\sum_x p_x$,
3. The compression of the chain $\sum_x r_x = \sum_x (q_{x+1} - q_x)$.

The problem of the existence (or not) of other conserved quantities is a highly challenging problem (ergodic problem).

Hydrodynamics: Euler equations

It is expected that in a Euler time scale the empirical energy $\epsilon(t, x)$, the empirical momentum $p(t, x)$ and the empirical compression $\tau(t, x)$ are given by a system of compressible Euler equations (hyperbolic system of conservation laws):

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \tau = \partial_x p, \\ \partial_t p = \partial_x \tau, \\ \partial_t \epsilon = \partial_x (p\tau), \end{cases} \quad \tau := \tau(\tau, \epsilon - \frac{p^2}{2}).$$

This can be proved rigorously if the ergodic problem (precisely formulated) can be solved (before the shocks).

Some theoretical approaches

Apart from a huge amount of numerical simulations (see Dhar's review), there are various theoretical approaches to predict the time decay of total energy current correlation function $C(t)$:

- *Renormalization Group analysis* (Narayan-Ramaswamy'02). $C(t) \sim t^{-2/3}$.
- *Mode Coupling Theory* (Delfini-Lepri-Livi-Politi'06): $C(t) \sim t^{-2/3}$ (asymmetric potentials) and $C(t) \sim t^{-1/2}$ (symmetric potentials).
- *Kinetic Theory* (Pereverzev'03, Lukkarinen-Spohn'07): $C(t) \sim t^{-3/5}$ (for FPU β).

Nonlinear fluctuating hydrodynamics predictions

Recently, Spohn (following van Beijeren) developed a theory of *non-linear fluctuating hydrodynamics* (NFH) to predict the behavior of the long time behavior of the time-space correlation functions of *all* the conserved fields $g(x, t) = (r_x(t), p_x(t), e_x(t))$

$$S_{\alpha\alpha'}(x, t) = \langle g_\alpha(x, t) g_{\alpha'}(0, 0) \rangle_{\tau, \beta} - \langle g_\alpha \rangle_{\tau, \beta} \langle g_{\alpha'} \rangle_{\tau, \beta}$$

where $\langle \cdot \rangle_{\tau, \beta}$ is the (product) equilibrium Gibbs measure at temperature β^{-1} and pressure τ

$$\langle \cdot \rangle_{\tau, \beta} \sim \exp\left\{-\beta \sum_x (e_x + \tau r_x)\right\} dr dp.$$

Nonlinear fluctuating hydrodynamics predictions

- The long time behavior of the correlation functions of the conserved fields depends on explicit relations between thermodynamic parameters (KPZ universality class and others).
- It is a *macroscopic* theory based on the validity of the hydrodynamics in the Euler time scale after some coarse-graining procedure.
- Mutatis mutandis, it can be applied for any conservative model whose conserved fields evolve in the Euler time scale according to a system of $n = 2, 3 \dots$ conservation laws. Similar universality classes appear.

Harmonic chain with bulk noise

- A proof of such predictions starting from stochastic Euler equations or from Hamiltonian microscopic dynamics are out of the range of actual mathematical techniques.
- Following ideas of [Olla-Varadhan-Yau'93] and [Fritz-Funaki-Lebowitz'94] we consider chains of oscillators perturbed by a bulk stochastic noise such that in the hyperbolic time scale Euler equations are valid.

- We start with a harmonic chain $\{(r_x(t), p_x(t)); x \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ and we use an equivalent dynamical variable $\{\eta_x(t); x \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ defined by

$$\eta_{2x} = p_x, \quad \eta_{2x+1} = r_x.$$

- Newton's equations are

$$d\eta_x = (\eta_{x+1} - \eta_{x-1})dt, \quad x \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

- **Noise:** On each bond $\{x, x + 1\}$ we have a Poisson process (clock). All are independent. When the clock of $\{x, x + 1\}$ rings, η_x is exchanged with η_{x+1} . The dynamics between two successive rings of the clocks is given by the Hamiltonian dynamics.

- We obtain in this way a Markov process which conserves the total energy

$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_{x \in \mathbb{Z}} e_x = \sum_{x \in \mathbb{Z}} \eta_x^2 = \sum_{x \in \mathbb{Z}} \left\{ \frac{p_x^2}{2} + \frac{r_x^2}{2} \right\}.$$

- The noise destroys the conservation of the momentum and the conservation of the compression field.
- Nevertheless, the “volume” field $\sum_x \eta_x$ is conserved.

- The energy $\sum_x \eta_x^2$ and the volume $\sum_x \eta_x$ are the **only** conserved quantities of the model (in a suitable sense which can be made precise).
- The Gibbs equilibrium measures $\langle \cdot \rangle_{\tau, \beta}$ are parameterized by two parameters $(\tau, \beta) \in \mathbb{R} \times [0, \infty)$ and are product of Gaussians

$$\langle \cdot \rangle_{\tau, \beta} \sim \exp\left\{-\beta \sum_x (\eta_x^2 + \tau \eta_x)\right\} d\eta.$$

Theorem (B., Stoltz'11)

In the Euler time scale, the empirical volume field $v(t, x)$ and the empirical energy field $e(t, x)$ evolve according to

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t v = 2\partial_x v, \\ \partial_t e = \partial_x v^2. \end{cases}$$

The theorem is clearly false without the presence of the noise.

- We define

$$S_t(x) = \left\langle \left(\eta_0(0)^2 - \frac{1}{\beta} \right) \left(\eta_t(x)^2 - \frac{1}{\beta} \right) \right\rangle_{\tau=0, \beta}$$

- The case $\tau \neq 0$ can be recovered by considering the dynamics

$$\tilde{\eta}_t(x) = \eta_t(x) - \tau.$$

Theorem (B., Gonçalves, Jara'14)

We have that for any $x \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_{tn^{3/2}}([nx]) = \frac{2}{\beta^2} P_t(x),$$

where $\{P_t(x); x \in \mathbb{R}, t \geq 0\}$ is the fundamental solution of the skew fractional heat equation

$$\partial_t u = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \{(-\Delta)^{3/4} - \nabla(-\Delta)^{1/4}\} u.$$

- In fact, we can prove more: the limit of the energy fluctuation field is given by an *infinite dimensional fractional Ornstein Uhlenbeck (Gaussian) process*:

$$\partial_t \mathcal{E} = \mathcal{L} \mathcal{E} dt + \sqrt{2T} (-\Delta)^{3/8} \partial_t \mathcal{W}$$
$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \{ (-\Delta)^{3/4} - \nabla (-\Delta)^{1/4} \}.$$

- These results confirm the predictions of the NFH/MCT for this particular case. The $\sqrt{2}$ is not available in the NFH but it is in the MCT.

- The proof can be adapted to chains of harmonic oscillators with a noise consisting to exchange n.n. momenta at independent random exponential times (3 conserved quantities; Basile, B., Olla'06 model).
- Then, the skew fractional Laplacian has to be replaced by the fractional Laplacian. This is because the two sound modes have opposite velocities and the two drift terms $\pm \nabla(-\Delta)^{1/4}$ annihilate each other.

Related works

- Fractional diffusion has been obtained starting from a linear kinetic phonons equation (Basile-Olla-Spohn'08, Jara-Komorowski-Olla'09).
- Delfini-Lepri-Livi-Mejia-Monasteiro-Politi '08 ... obtained also a fractional Laplacian by considering the NESS of a system of harmonic oscillators with energy conserving noise.
- More recently, Jara, Komorowski and Olla obtained similar results by a very different method (Wigner function). They don't have access to the fractional OU process but their method also work out of equilibrium.

We want to prove

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Ideas of the proof ($\beta = 1$)

- The *energy fluctuation field* is defined as

$$\mathcal{E}_t^n(f) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{y \in \mathbb{Z}} f\left(\frac{y}{n}\right) \left(\eta_{tn^{3/2}}(y)^2 - \frac{1}{\beta} \right).$$

- The *quadratic field* is defined as

$$Q_t^n(h) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{y \neq z \in \mathbb{Z}} h\left(\frac{y}{n}, \frac{z}{n}\right) \eta_{tn^{3/2}}(y) \eta_{tn^{3/2}}(z).$$

By Itô calculus,

$$d\mathcal{E}_t^n(f) \approx -2Q_t^n(f' \otimes \delta)dt + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\mathcal{E}_t^n(f'')dt + \text{martingale}.$$

$$\begin{aligned}dQ_t^n(h) &\approx Q_t^n(L_n h)dt - 2\mathcal{E}_t^n([\mathbf{e} \cdot \nabla h](x, x))dt \\ &\quad + \frac{2}{\sqrt{n}}Q_t^n(\partial_y h(x, x) \otimes \delta)dt + \text{martingale}.\end{aligned}$$

where $(\varphi \otimes \delta)(x, y) = \varphi(x)\delta(x = y)$ (distribution) and $\mathbf{e} = (1, 1)$.

The linear operator L_n is defined by

$$L_n h = n^{-1/2}\Delta h + 2n^{1/2}(\mathbf{e} \cdot \nabla)h.$$

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Choose h_n such that $L_n h_n = 2f' \otimes \delta$ and add the two equations.

Up to small terms and martingale terms, we get

$$d\mathcal{E}_t^n(f) \approx -2\mathcal{E}_t^n([\mathbf{e} \cdot \nabla h_n](x, x))dt - dQ_t^n(h_n)$$

Integrate in time and use Cauchy-Schwarz inequality to show that $Q_t^n(h_n), Q_0^n(h_n)$ vanish as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Then, up to small terms and martingale terms,

$$\mathcal{E}_t^n(f) - \mathcal{E}_0^n(f) \approx -2 \int_0^t \mathcal{E}_s^n([\mathbf{e} \cdot \nabla h_n](x, x)) ds$$

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Recall that $h_n := h_n(f)$ is the solution of

$$L_n h_n = n^{-1/2} \Delta h_n + 2n^{1/2} (\mathbf{e} \cdot \nabla) h_n = 2f' \otimes \delta$$

The equation for $\mathcal{E}_t^n(\cdot)$ is closed.

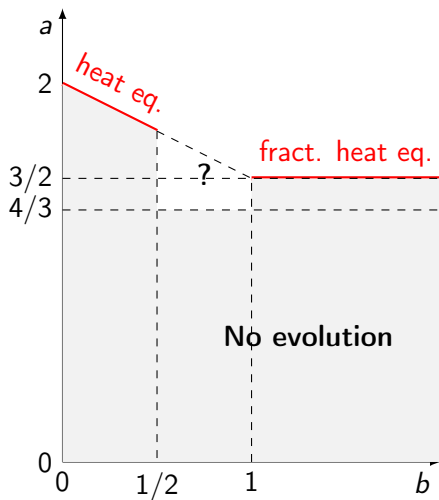
It remains only to show (by Fourier transform, it's easy) that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} [\mathbf{e} \cdot \nabla h_n](x, x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[\left(-\frac{d^2}{dx^2}\right)^{3/4} - \frac{d}{dx} \left(-\frac{d^2}{dx^2}\right)^{1/4} \right] f.$$

The evanescent flip noise limit

- Consider the same Markov process (harmonic chain + exchange noise) and add a second stochastic perturbation with intensity $\gamma_n = n^{-b}$, $b > 0$, which consists to flip independently on each site at Poissonian times the variable η_x into $-\eta_x$.
- The energy is conserved but the volume $\sum_x \eta_x$ is not (stricto sensu, only if $b = \infty$).
- We look at the system in the time scale tn^a , $a > 0$, such that the energy field has a non-trivial limit.

We have (B., Gonçalves, Jara, Sasada, Simon'14)



Conclusion

- We considered a harmonic chain with a conservative noise (discrete version of the non-linear fluctuating hydrodynamics) and we computed the scaling limit of the energy fluctuation field.
- The limit is given by the stationary solution of the infinite-dimensional fractional Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process.
- Is this limit the same for others nonlinear models (e.g. anharmonic chains with symmetric potentials at zero pressure)? The answer to this question is outside the range of the NFH/RG/MFT predictions.