

# The pathwise solution of an SPDE with fractal noise

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## The theorem of existence and uniqueness

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## Stochastic transport equation

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(t, x) = \Delta u(t, x) + \nabla B^H(x) \cdot \nabla u(t, x), & t \in (0, T], x \in D \\ u(0, x) = u_0(x), & x \in D \\ u(t, x) = 0, & t \in (0, T], x \in \partial D \end{cases}$$

- ▶  $u(t, x)$ : unknown concentration of the substance at time  $t$  and position  $x$
- ▶  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ : bounded domain with smooth boundary
- ▶  $B^H(x) = B^H(x, \omega)$ : suitable stochastic noise

—> In this session  $B^H(x)$  will be a fractional Brownian field with Hurs index  $0 < H < 1$ .

## Fractional Brownian motion ( $d = 1$ )

$\{B^H(x), x \in \mathbb{R}_+\}$  is a fractional Brownian motion with Hurst parameter  $H \in (0, 1)$  if it is a centred Gaussian process with covariance function given by

$$\mathbb{E}(B_x^H B_y^H) = \frac{1}{2} (x^{2H} + y^{2H} - |x - y|^{2H})$$

- ▶ homogeneous increments but not independent (negatively correlated if  $H < 1/2$ , positively if  $H > 1/2$ )
- ▶ there exists a version of  $B^H$  with  $\alpha$ -Hölder continuous trajectories, for  $\alpha < H$
- ▶ if  $H \neq 1/2$  then  $B^H$  is not a semimartingale: Itô-type theory can not be used

## The abstract Cauchy problem

- ▶  $X$  Banach space
- ▶ A linear operator on  $X$
- ▶  $A$  generates a semigroup  $(T(t), t \geq 0)$
- ▶  $f : [0, T) \rightarrow X$  given function

The abstract Cauchy problem is

$$\begin{cases} \frac{du(t)}{dt} = Au(t) + f(t) & , \quad t > 0 \\ u(0) = h \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where  $u$  is a  $X$ -valued function.

We define the mild solution as the function

$$u(t) = T(t)h + \int_0^t T(t-s)f(s) ds.$$

## The stochastic transport equation as abstract Cauchy problem

- ▶  $X$  infinite dimensional Banach space
- ▶  $h \in X$  function depending on  $x \in D \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ :  $h(x)$

The function  $u(t, x)$  is now interpreted only as function of time and takes values in  $X$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{u} : [0, T] &\rightarrow X \\ t &\mapsto \underline{u}(t) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\underline{u}(t)$  is a function of  $x$  defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{u}(t) : D &\rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ x &\mapsto \underline{u}(t)(x) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\underline{u}(t)(x) := u(t, x)$ .

The Cauchy problem with Dirichlet conditions is now rewritten as

$$\begin{cases} \underline{u}_t = \Delta_D \underline{u} + \nabla B^H \cdot \nabla \underline{u}, & t \in (0, T] \\ \underline{u}(0) = \underline{u}_0 \end{cases}$$

where

- ▶  $\underline{u}_t$  indicates the derivative of  $\underline{u}$  with respect to time
- ▶  $\underline{u}_0(x) := u(0, x) = u_0(x)$
- ▶  $\Delta_D$  is the *Dirichlet laplacian* on  $D$ : it encodes the condition  $\underline{u}(t)(x) \equiv 0$  for  $x \in \partial D$
- ▶  $\nabla B^H \cdot \nabla \underline{u}$  has still to be defined since  $\nabla B^H$  is a distribution
- ▶ **pathwise interpretation**: fix  $\omega \in \Omega$  and study the equation for almost every  $\omega$



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## $\Delta$ e $\Delta_D$ : probabilistic interpretation

► **Laplacian  $\Delta$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ .**

generates a semigroup  $\{T_t\}_{t \geq 0}$

$$T_t u(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} p(t, x, y) u(y) dy$$

where  $p(t, x, y)$  is the heat kernel

$$p(t, x, y) = \frac{1}{(2\pi t)^{d/2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{|x - y|^2}{2t} \right\}$$

$\longleftrightarrow$  Brownian motion on  $\mathbb{R}^d$  where

$p(t, x, y) = \mathbb{P}^x(B_t \in dy)$  is the transition probability density function of a Brownian motion  $\{B_t\}_{t \geq 0}$ .

► **Laplacian  $\Delta_D$ .**

generates a semigroup  $\{P_t\}_{t \geq 0}$

$$P_t u(x) = \int_D p_D(t, x, y) u(y) dy$$

where  $p_D(t, x, y) = p(t, x, y) - r(t, x, y)$  with

$$r(t, x, y) = \mathbb{E}^x[p(t - \tau_D, B_{\tau_D}, y); \tau_D < t]$$

and  $\tau_D$  is the first exit time from  $D$ .

$\longleftrightarrow$  killed Brownian motion (killed at exiting  $D$ )

$$\bar{B}_t = \begin{cases} B_t & \text{if } t < \tau_D \\ \zeta & \text{if } t > \tau_D. \end{cases}$$

## $\Delta$ e $\Delta_D$ : analytical interpretation

- ▶ The semigroup  $T_t$  acts (for instance) on  $L_2(\mathbb{R}^d)$ .

In this case we have

$$\text{dom}(\Delta) = W^2(\mathbb{R}^d) \subset W^0(\mathbb{R}^d) = L_2(\mathbb{R}^d).$$

**Property:**  $\lambda - \Delta : H^\gamma(\mathbb{R}^d) \rightarrow H^{\gamma-2}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ , for every  $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  
 $\lambda > 0$ .

- ▶ The semigroup  $P_t$  and its generator act on a space restricted to  $D$  which contains information on  $\partial D$ .  
—> fractional Sobolev spaces on  $D$ .

## Fractional Sobolev spaces on $\mathbb{R}^d$

- **Sobolev spaces.** Let  $m \in \mathbb{N}$

$$W_p^m(\mathbb{R}^d) := \left\{ f \in \mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R}^d) : \partial^\gamma f \in L_p(\mathbb{R}^d) \text{ for every } |\gamma| \leq m \right\}$$

endowed with the norm  $\|f\|_{W_p^m} := \left( \sum_{|\gamma| \leq m} \|\partial^\gamma f\|_{L_p}^p \right)^{1/p}$

- **Fractional Sobolev Spaces.** Let  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$

$$H_p^\alpha(\mathbb{R}^d) := \left\{ f \in \mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R}^d) : ((1 + |\xi|^2)^{\alpha/2} \hat{f})^\vee \in L_p(\mathbb{R}^d) \right\}$$

endowed with the norm  $\|f\|_{H_p^\alpha} = \|((1 + |\xi|^2)^{\alpha/2} \hat{f})^\vee\|_{L_p}$

**Property:** if  $\alpha = m \in \mathbb{N}$  then  $H_p^m(\mathbb{R}^d) = W_p^m(\mathbb{R}^d)$ .

## Fractional Sobolev spaces on $D$

Let  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$

- ▶ define

$$H_p^\alpha(D) := \left\{ f \in \mathcal{S}'(D) : \exists g \in H_p^\alpha(\mathbb{R}^d) \text{ s.t. } g|_D = f \right\}$$

endowed with the norm

$$\|f\|_{H_p^\alpha(D)} = \inf \left\{ \|g\|_{H_p^\alpha(\mathbb{R}^d)} \text{ s.t. } g \in H_p^\alpha(\mathbb{R}^d) \text{ and } g|_D = f \right\}$$

- ▶ define  $\tilde{H}_p^\alpha(D) := \{f \in H_p^\alpha(\mathbb{R}^d) : \text{supp}(f) \subset \bar{D}\}$   
endowed with the norm  $\|\cdot\|_{H_p^\alpha(\mathbb{R}^d)}$

—> right space for  $P_t$  and  $\Delta_D$ :

$$\bar{H}^\alpha(D) := \begin{cases} \tilde{H}^\alpha(D), & \text{if } \alpha \geq 0 \\ H^\alpha(D), & \text{if } \alpha < 0 \end{cases}$$

Scale of spaces with good properties for  $-3/2 < \alpha < 3/2$ .

- ▶  $P_t : \bar{H}^\gamma(D) \rightarrow \bar{H}^{\gamma+2}(D)$
- ▶  $\Delta_D^\alpha : \bar{H}^\gamma(D) \rightarrow \bar{H}^{\gamma-2\alpha}(D)$

## The noise $\nabla B^H$ and the term $\nabla B^H \cdot \nabla \underline{u}(s)$

- ▶ let consider a version of  $B^H$  with  $\alpha$ -Hölder continuous paths, for  $\alpha < H$ .
- ▶ **Property:** if  $h$  is  $\alpha$ -Hölder continuous on  $\mathbb{R}^d$  with compact support for  $0 < \alpha < 1$ , then for any  $\alpha' < \alpha < 1$  we have  $h \in H_q^{\alpha'}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  for any  $1 < q < \infty$ .
- ▶ let  $\psi(x) \in \mathcal{C}_c^\infty$  such that  $\psi(x) \equiv 1$  for any  $x \in D$ .  
Apply Property to  $\psi(x)B^H(\omega)(x)$  with a fixed  $\omega \in \Omega$ :  
 $\psi B^H \in H_q^{1-\beta}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  for any  $1 - \beta < H < 1$ .
- ▶ substitute  $B^H$  with a deterministic function  $Z \in H_q^{1-\beta}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ .
- ▶ we have  $\nabla Z \in H_q^{-\beta}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  with  $\beta > 0$ : it is a distribution  $\rightarrow$  problems while defining  $\nabla Z \cdot \nabla \underline{u}(s)$ .



## The pointwise product in $\mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R}^d)$

given  $f, g \in \mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R}^d)$  we define the product

$$fg := \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} S^j f S^j g$$

if the limit exists in  $\mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R}^d)$ , where

$$S^j f(x) := \left( \phi\left(\frac{\xi}{2^j}\right) \hat{f} \right)^\vee(x)$$

with

- ▶  $\phi(\xi) \in \mathcal{C}^\infty$ ,  $0 \leq \phi(\xi) \leq 1$  for any  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^d$
- ▶  $\phi(\xi) = 1$  if  $|\xi| \leq 1$
- ▶  $\phi(\xi) = 0$  if  $|\xi| \geq 3/2$

## Property

Let  $1 < p, q < \infty$ ,  $0 < \beta < \delta$  and assume  $q > \max(p, d/\delta)$ .  
Then for any  $f \in H_p^\delta(\mathbb{R}^d)$  and  $g \in H_q^{-\beta}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  we have  
 $fg \in H_p^{-\beta}(\mathbb{R}^d)$

$$\|fg|_{H_p^{-\beta}(\mathbb{R}^d)}\| \leq c \|f|_{H_p^\delta(\mathbb{R}^d)}\| \cdot \|g|_{H_q^{-\beta}(\mathbb{R}^d)}\|.$$

Application:

- ▶  $g = \nabla Z \in H_q^{-\beta}(\mathbb{R}^d)$
- ▶  $f = \nabla \underline{u}(s) \in \bar{H}_p^\delta(D) \subset H_p^\delta(\mathbb{R}^d)$  (since  $\delta > 0$ )
- ▶ notation:  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  for the scalar product in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  combined with the pointwise product just defined.
- ▶  $\langle \nabla Z, \nabla \underline{u}(s) \rangle \in H_p^{-\beta}(\mathbb{R}^d)$

**Property:** Let  $f, g \in \mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R}^d)$ ,  $\text{supp}(f) \subset \bar{D}$  then  $\text{supp}(fg) \subset \bar{D}$ .

- ▶ by definition of  $\bar{H}_p^\delta(D)$  with  $\delta > 0$  we have  $\text{supp}(\nabla \underline{u}(s)) \subset \bar{D}$
  - ▶ can apply the property:  $\text{supp}(\langle \nabla Z, \nabla \underline{u}(s) \rangle) \subset \bar{D}$
  - ▶ notice that  $\langle \nabla Z, \nabla \underline{u}(s) \rangle \in H_p^{-\beta}(\mathbb{R}^d) \subset \mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R}^d)$  so that  $\langle \nabla Z, \nabla \underline{u}(s) \rangle \in \mathcal{S}'(D)$
  - ▶ by definition of  $\bar{H}_p^{-\beta}(D)$  with  $\beta > 0$  (functions in  $\mathcal{S}'(D)$  s.t. there exists an extension in  $H_p^{-\beta}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ ) we have  $\langle \nabla Z, \nabla \underline{u}(s) \rangle \in \bar{H}_p^{-\beta}(D)$
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## The mild solution

$$\begin{cases} \underline{u}_t = \Delta_D \underline{u} + \nabla Z \cdot \nabla \underline{u} & \text{for } t \in (0, T] \\ \underline{u} = u_0 \end{cases}$$

- ▶  $P_t$  semigroup generated by  $-\Delta_D$
- ▶ the boundary conditions are included in the choice of the domain of  $\Delta_D$

We say that a function  $\underline{u} : [0, T] \rightarrow X$  is a **mild solution** of the problem if

$$\underline{u}(t) = P_t u_0 + \int_0^t P_{t-r} \langle \nabla \underline{u}(r), \nabla Z \rangle dr$$

for all  $t \in [0, T]$ .

The operator on which we concentrate is then the following

$$I_t(\underline{u}) := \int_0^t P_{t-r} \langle \nabla \underline{u}(r), \nabla Z \rangle dr.$$

for any fixed  $\underline{u}$ .

### Which is the time regularity?

Let us introduce the space of all  $\gamma$ -Hölder continuous functions on  $[0, T]$  taking values in an (infinite dimensional) Banach space  $(X, \|\cdot\|_X)$ :

$$C^\gamma([0, T]; X) := \{h : [0, T] \rightarrow X \text{ s.t. } \|h\|_{\gamma, X} < \infty\}$$

where

$$\|h\|_{\gamma, X} := \sup_{t \in [0, T]} \|h(t)\|_X + \sup_{s < t \in [0, T]} \frac{\|h(t) - h(s)\|_X}{(t - s)^\gamma}$$

## Local mapping property of $I_t$ (I., 2009)

Let  $X = \bar{H}_2^{1+\delta}(D)$  for some  $0 < \beta < \delta$ ,  $\delta + \beta < 1/2$  with  $Z \in \bar{H}_q^{1-\beta}(D)$ . Then we have

$$I_{(\cdot)} : C^\gamma([0, T]; X) \rightarrow C^\gamma([0, T]; X)$$

for all  $0 < \gamma < 1/4$ , and moreover for any  $\underline{u} \in C^\gamma([0, T]; X)$

$$\|I_{(\cdot)}(\underline{u})\|_{\gamma, 1+\delta} \leq c(T) \|\underline{u}\|_{\gamma, 1+\delta}$$

where  $c(T)$  is a function not depending on  $\underline{u}$  and such that  $\lim_{T \rightarrow 0} c(T) = 0$ . □

$\implies$  by contraction theorem it is easy to obtain existence and uniqueness of the solution  $\underline{u} \in C^\gamma([0, \varepsilon]; X)$  with  $\varepsilon$  sufficiently small. (local solution)

## How to extend the theorem to any $T < \infty$ ?

- ▶ Let us introduce a family of equivalent norms on  $\mathcal{C}^\gamma([0, T]; X)$  parametrized by a real parameter  $\rho > 1$ :

$$\|f\|_{\gamma, X}^{(\rho)} := \sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} e^{-\rho t} \left( \|f(t)\|_X + \sup_{0 \leq s < t} \frac{\|f(t) - f(s)\|_X}{(t-s)^\gamma} \right).$$

- ▶ it is easy to prove that for any  $\rho > 1$

$$\|\cdot\|_{\gamma, X}^{(\rho)} \sim \|\cdot\|_{\gamma, X}$$

- ▶ **Idea:** work in the space  $\mathcal{C}^\gamma([0, T]; X)$  endowed with the  $\rho$ -norm and prove that  $I_t$  is a contraction for some suitable  $\rho$  which does not depend on  $T$ .



## Theorem 1 (I., 2009)

Let  $X = \bar{H}_2^{1+\delta}(D)$  for some  $0 < \beta < \delta$ ,  $\delta + \beta < 1/2$ . Fix  $Z \in H_q^{1-\beta}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ . Then

$$I_{(\cdot)} : C^\gamma([0, T]; X) \rightarrow C^\gamma([0, T]; X)$$

for every  $0 < 2\gamma < 1 - \delta - \beta$ , and moreover for any  $\underline{u} \in C^\gamma([0, T]; X)$  we have

$$\|I_{(\cdot)}(\underline{u})\|_{\gamma, 1+\delta}^{(\rho)} \leq c(\rho) \|\underline{u}\|_{\gamma, 1+\delta}^{(\rho)}$$

where  $c(\rho)$  is a function of  $\rho$  not depending on  $\underline{u}$  and  $T$  and such that

$$\lim_{\rho \rightarrow \infty} c(\rho) = 0.$$



## Theorem 2 (I., 2009)

Let  $0 < \beta < \delta$ ,  $\delta + \beta < 1/2$  and  $0 < 2\gamma < 1 - \delta - \beta$ . Moreover fix  $Z \in H_q^{-\beta}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  for some  $q < 2 \vee d/\delta$ .

Then for every initial condition  $u_0 \in \bar{H}_2^{1+\delta+2\gamma}(D)$ , with  $1 + \delta + 2\gamma < 3/2$ , there exists a unique mild solution  $u(t, x)$  for the abstract Cauchy problem

$$\begin{cases} \underline{u}_t = \Delta_D \underline{u} + \nabla \underline{u} \cdot \nabla Z & \text{for } t \in (0, T] \\ \underline{u} = u_0 \end{cases}$$

given by  $u(t, \cdot) = P_t u_0 + I_t(\underline{u})$ .

Moreover this solution belongs to the Hölder space  $\mathcal{C}^\gamma([0, T]; \bar{H}_2^{1+\delta}(D))$  for any finite positive time  $T$ . □

Grazie.