

# Synchronization by noise

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# Outline

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- 2 A new approach to synchronization
- 3 Weak synchronization
- 4 Order-preserving RDS

# Introduction

## Introduction

# Synchronization by noise

- We consider SDE on  $\mathbb{R}^d$  of the type

$$dX_t = b(X_t)dt + \sigma(X_t)dW_t. \quad (*)$$

- The inclusion of noise may simplify the long-time dynamics, i.e. while

$$dX_t = b(X_t)dt$$

may not be globally stable, the long-time behavior of (\*) may be trivial.

- Roughly speaking: Synchronization by noise means that the random attractor consists of a single random point, i.e.

$$A(\omega) = \{a(\omega)\}, \quad \mathbb{P}\text{-a.s.}$$

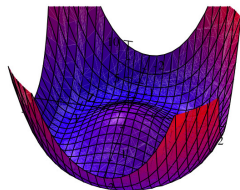
- In particular: If synchronization occurs, then each two trajectories converge to each other in probability:

$$|X_t^x - X_t^y| \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{for } t \rightarrow \infty$$

in probability.

# Model example

- Double-well potential,  $V(x) = -\frac{1}{2}|x|^2 + \frac{1}{4}|x|^4$



with additive Wiener noise, i.e.

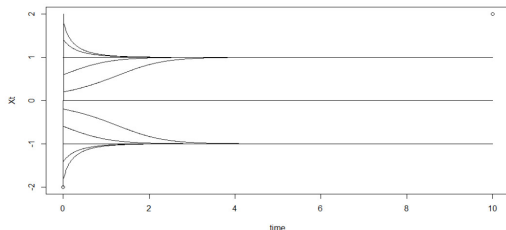
$$dX_t = (X_t - |X_t|^2 X_t)dt + \sigma dW_t.$$

# Model example

- Deterministic case ( $\sigma = 0$ ,  $d = 1$ ):

$$dX_t = (X_t - X_t^3)dt$$

- Attractor is given by closed unit ball:  $A = \bar{B}_1(0) = [-1, 1]$ .
- Point attractor is given by  $S^{d-1} \cup \{0\} = \{\pm 1, 0\}$ .
- Simulation:

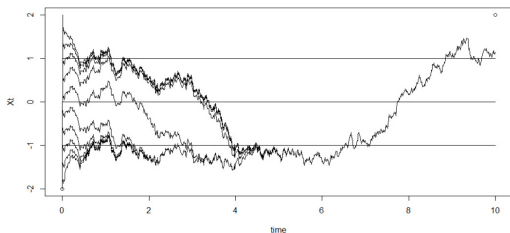


# Model example

- Additive noise ( $\sigma > 0$ ):

$$dX_t = (X_t - X_t^3)dt + \sigma dW_t$$

- Synchronization occurs:  $A(\omega) = \{a(\omega)\}$  a.s.. In particular  $|X_t^x - X_t^y| \rightarrow 0$  for  $t \rightarrow \infty$  in probability.
- Simulation:



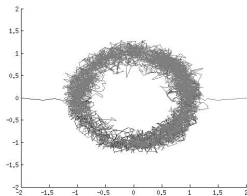
# Model example

- Starting point of presented work: How to prove this for  $d > 1$ ?

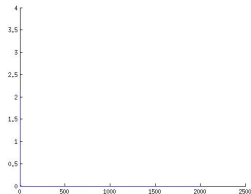
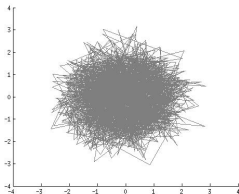
Trajectories

Distance of trajectories

$\sigma = 1$



$\sigma = 10$





# Known methods

There are several distinct methods to prove synchronization by noise available in the literature (there are many more!):

- 1 Order-preserving RDS + uniqueness of invariant measure (e.g. Arnold, Chueshov '98; Chueshov, Scheutzow '04)
  - For  $d = 1$  this proves synchronization for

$$dX_t = (X_t - X_t^3)dt + \sigma dW_t, \quad \sigma > 0.$$

- Problem: No preserved partial order on  $\mathbb{R}^d$  for  $d > 1$
- 2 Local stability + transitivity of the two-point motion (e.g. Baxendale '91)
    - Transitivity of the two-point motion completely unclear for additive noise
  - 3 Perturbation techniques/large deviation methods (e.g. Tearne '08, Martinelli, Scoppola, '88, '94)
    - Essential assumption: The drift  $b$  has only finitely many fixed points.
  - 4 ... (many more, e.g. Master-slave synchronization (Chueshov, Schmalfuss '10)) ...

# Model example

## Question

*Open question in the literature: Does synchronization occur for*

$$dX_t = (X_t - |X_t|^2 X_t) dt + \sigma dW_t$$

*with  $\sigma > 0$  and  $d > 1$ ?*

# A new approach to synchronization

## A new approach to synchronization

## General setup

In the following let  $\varphi$  be a white noise RDS,  $(E, d)$  be a Polish space.

### Definition

A *weak random attractor* is a random compact set  $A(\omega)$  such that

- 1 (invariance):  $\varphi_t(\omega)A(\omega) = A(\theta_t\omega)$ , a.s. for all  $t \geq 0$ .
- 2 (attraction):

$$d(\varphi_t(\omega)B, A(\theta_t\omega)) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{for } t \rightarrow \infty$$

in probability, for each compact set  $B$ .

If we replace compact sets  $B$  by points, then  $A$  is called a *weak point attractor*.

### Definition

We say that *synchronization* occurs if the weak random attractor is a singleton

$$A(\omega) = \{a(\omega)\} \quad \text{a.s.}$$

We say that *weak synchronization* occurs if there is a singleton weak point attractor.

# Local stability

## Definition

Let  $U \subset E$  be a (deterministic) non-empty open set. We say that  $\varphi$  is *asymptotically stable* on  $U$  if there exists a (deterministic) sequence  $t_n \uparrow \infty$  such that

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{diam}(\varphi_{t_n}(\cdot, U)) = 0\right) > 0.$$

- We will see later that a negative top Lyapunov exponent implies asymptotic stability.
- In the following assume that  $\varphi$  has a weak random attractor  $A$ .

## Lemma

Let  $\varphi$  be asymptotically stable on  $U$  and assume

$$\mathbb{P}(A \subset U) > 0.$$

Then  $A$  is a singleton  $\mathbb{P}$ -a.s., i.e. synchronization holds.

# Full support for the attractor

## Definition

We say that  $\varphi$  is *swift transitive* if, for every closed ball  $B(x, r)$  and every point  $y$ , there is a time  $t > 0$  such that

$$\mathbb{P}(\varphi_t(\cdot, B(x, r)) \subset B(y, 2r)) > 0.$$

## Lemma

If  $\varphi$  is *swift transitive* and

$$\text{ess inf} \{ \text{diam}(A(\omega)); \omega \in \Omega \} = 0 \quad (*)$$

then

$$\mathbb{P}(A \subset U) > 0$$

for every non-empty (deterministic) open set  $U \subset E$ .

Condition (\*) means that  $\mathbb{P}(\text{diam}(A) < \varepsilon) > 0$  for every  $\varepsilon > 0$ .

# Full support for the attractor

## Theorem

Assume that  $\varphi$  is asymptotically stable on some non-empty open set  $U \subset X$  and is swift transitive. Let  $A$  satisfy

$$\operatorname{ess\,inf} \{ \operatorname{diam}(A(\omega)); \omega \in \Omega \} = 0 \quad (*)$$

Then  $A$  is a singleton, i.e. synchronization occurs.

## Small diameter

### Definition

We say that  $\varphi$  is *contracting on large sets* if for every  $R > 0$ , there is a ball  $B(y, R)$  and a time  $t > 0$  such that

$$\mathbb{P} \left( \text{diam}(\varphi_t(\cdot, B(y, R))) \leq \frac{R}{4} \right) > 0.$$

### Lemma

Assume that  $\varphi$  is *contracting on large sets* and *swift transitive*. Then  $A$  has small diameter, i.e. (\*) holds.



## Examples

- How restrictive are the assumptions of asymptotic stability, swift transitivity and contraction on large sets?
- asymptotic stability:
  - Follows from local stable manifold theorem if  $\lambda_{top} < 0$
  - For additive noise

$$dX_t = b(X_t)dt + dW_t \quad (*)$$

we have the bound

$$\lambda_{top} \leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \lambda^+(x) d\mu(x),$$

with  $\lambda^+(x) := \max_{|v|=1} (Db(x)v, v)$ .

- For gradient systems, i.e.  $b = -\nabla V$  and small noise one often has  $\lambda_{top} < 0$ . If  $V(x) = g(|x|^2)$  with  $g$  convex, then always  $\lambda_{top} < 0$ .
- swift transitivity: Satisfied basically for all SDE with additive noise.
- contraction on large sets: Consider (\*) and assume that for all  $R > 0$  there exists a ball  $B(z, R)$  such that

$$\langle b(x) - b(y), x - y \rangle < 0 \quad \forall x, y \in B(z, R).$$

Then contraction on large sets holds.

# Examples

In particular we obtain:

## Example

Synchronization holds for

$$dX_t = (X_t - |X_t|^2 X_t) dt + \sigma dW_t$$

with  $\sigma > 0$  and  $d \geq 1$ .

# Weak synchronization

## Weak synchronization

# Weak synchronization

- What can we say without assuming eventual monotonicity?
- Let  $\varphi$  be a white noise RDS and assume that  $P_t$  is ergodic with invariant measure  $\mu$ .
- A random probability measure  $\omega \mapsto \mu_\omega$  is a measurable function from  $\Omega$  to the space of probability measures. We say that  $\mu_\omega$  is  $\varphi$ -invariant if

$$\varphi_t(\omega)_* \mu_\omega = \mu_{\theta_t \omega} \quad \text{a.s.}$$

## Fact

If  $\mu_\omega$  is an  $\mathcal{F}_0$ -measurable random invariant measure, then  $\mu = \mathbb{E} \mu_\omega$  is  $P_t$ -invariant. Conversely, if  $\mu$  is  $P_t$ -invariant then

$$\mu_\omega = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \varphi_t(\theta_{-t} \omega)_* \mu$$

exists for  $\mathbb{P}$ -a.e.  $\omega$ , it is an  $\mathcal{F}_0$ -measurable random invariant measure.

# Weak synchronization

## Fact

Every  $\mathcal{F}_0$ -measurable random invariant measure is supported by the weak random point attractor, i.e.

$$\mu_\omega(A(\omega)) = 1 \quad \text{a.s.}$$

If  $\varphi$  is strongly mixing and  $A(\omega) := \text{supp}(\mu_\omega)$  is compact then  $A(\omega)$  is a (minimal) weak point attractor.

## Lemma

The statistical equilibrium  $\mu_\omega$  is either discrete or diffuse. More precisely, either  $\mu_\omega$  consists of finitely many atoms of the same mass  $\mathbb{P}$ -a.s., i.e. there is an  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\mathcal{F}_0$ -measurable random variables  $a_1, \dots, a_N$  such that

$$\mu_\omega = \left\{ \frac{1}{N} \delta_{a_i(\omega)} : i = 1, \dots, N \right\}$$

or  $\mu_\omega$  does not have point masses  $\mathbb{P}$ -a.s..

## Weak synchronization

Local stability can now be nicely captured in terms of the structure of the statistical equilibrium, i.e.

### Lemma

Assume that  $\varphi$  is weakly asymptotically stable on  $U$  with  $\mu(U) > 0$ , i.e. there exists a sequence  $t_n \rightarrow \infty$  such that, for all  $x, y \in U$

$$d(\varphi_{t_n}(\cdot, x), \varphi_{t_n}(\cdot, y)) \rightarrow 0$$

in probability. Then  $\mu_\omega$  is discrete.

### Proposition

If  $\varphi$  is strongly mixing and weakly asymptotically stable on  $U$  with  $\mu(U) > 0$ , then there is an  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\mathcal{F}_0$ -measurable random variables  $a_1, \dots, a_N$  such that

$$A(\omega) = \text{supp}(\mu_\omega) = \{a_i(\omega) : i = 1, \dots, N\}$$

is a minimal weak point attractor.

# Weak synchronization

- It remains to show (under further assumptions) that trajectories get close. This replaces the assumption of eventual monotonicity/contraction on large sets.
- Let us consider gradient systems, i.e.

$$dX_t = -\nabla V(X_t)dt + \sigma dW_t$$

and assume strong mixing, i.e.  $\rho(x) := e^{-\frac{2}{\sigma^2} V(x)} \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ .

- To prove that trajectories get close, we need some kind of monotonicity of  $b = -\nabla V$ . From  $\rho(x) \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$  we get: For all  $s \in S^{d-1}$ ,  $\delta > 0$  there is a  $z \in \mathbb{R}^d$  such that

$$\langle b(z) - b(z - \delta s), s \rangle < 0.$$

# Weak synchronization

## Theorem

Assume that  $\rho(x) := e^{-\frac{2}{\sigma^2} V(x)} \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$  and that  $\varphi$  is weakly asymptotically stable on  $U$  with  $\mu(U) > 0$ . Then, there is a minimal weak point attractor  $A$  consisting of a single random point  $a(\omega)$  and

$$A(\omega) = \text{supp}(\mu_\omega) = \{a(\omega)\} \quad \mathbb{P}\text{-a.s.},$$

*i.e. weak synchronization holds.*

## Question

Open questions:

- For gradient systems: Does weak asymptotic stability always hold?
- What about the Lorenz system?



# Order-preserving RDS

**Order-preserving RDS**  
ongoing work with Franco Flandoli

# Order-preserving RDS

- So far: Had to assume (weak) asymptotic stability. We show next: For order-preserving RDS this is unnecessary.
- Let  $(E, d)$  be a Polish space with closed partial order “ $\leq$ ”
- Let  $\varphi$  be a white noise RDS and  $\varphi$  be strongly mixing with invariant measure  $\mu$ , i.e. for all  $x \in E$

$$\mathcal{L}(\varphi_t(\cdot, x)) \rightarrow \mu, \quad \text{for } t \rightarrow \infty.$$

- $\varphi$  is order-preserving if for all  $x \leq y$

$$\varphi_t(\omega, x) \leq \varphi_t(\omega, y) \quad \forall t \geq 0, \omega \in \Omega.$$

# Order-preserving RDS

## Theorem

Assume that  $\mu$  is concentrated on intervals, i.e. for all  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists an interval  $[f, g] \subseteq E$  such that

$$\mu([f, g]) \geq 1 - \varepsilon.$$

Then, the support of the statistical equilibrium is given by a single random point  $\text{supp}\mu_\omega = \{a(\omega)\}$  and

$$A(\omega) := \{a(\omega)\}$$

is a singleton minimal weak point attractor, i.e. weak synchronization holds.

- Note: No asymptotic stability nor contraction on large sets required.

# Order-preserving RDS

Key ingredient:

## Proposition

Let  $\varphi$  be strongly mixing, order-preserving and  $f \leq g$ . Then, for all  $x, y \in [f, g]$ :

$$d(\varphi_t(\omega, x), \varphi_t(\omega, y)) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{for } t \rightarrow \infty$$

in probability. In other words:  $\varphi$  is weakly asymptotically stable on each interval  $[f, g]$ .

# Order-preserving RDS and SPDE

- Generally speaking: Order-preservation corresponds to comparison principles for SPDE
- In the literature: To prove synchronization “compatibility” of “ $\leq$ ” with the topology of  $E$  had to be assumed, i.e.
  - Admissibility: For each compact set  $K \subseteq E$  there is an interval  $[f, g] \subseteq E$  containing  $K$ .
  - Normality:  $\text{diam}([f, g]) \leq C\|f - g\|$  (in Banach spaces)
- Problem:
  - Admissibility is often false for SPDE, e.g.  $L^p$  spaces  $p \in [1, \infty)$ .
  - The following example shows that also normality can be too restrictive.

# An application to SPDE

- We consider the stochastic porous medium equation

$$dX_t = \left( \Delta X_t^{[m]} + X_t \right) dt + dW_t,$$

with zero Dirichlet boundary conditions on a bounded, smooth domain  $\mathcal{O} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $d \leq 4$ ,  $m > 1$ .

- There is an associated RDS  $\varphi$  on  $H^{-1} := (H_0^1)^*$  with strongly mixing invariant measure  $\mu$  (assuming some non-degeneracy for  $W_t$ ).
- For two distributions  $x, y \in H^{-1}$  we can introduce the (standard) partial order “ $\leq$ ” on  $H^{-1}$  by  $x \leq y$  iff

$$(y - x)(v) \geq 0$$

for all nonnegative  $v \in H_0^1$ .

- “ $\leq$ ” is preserved by  $\varphi$ .
- We need to check that  $\mu$  concentrates on intervals: For all  $\varepsilon > 0$  exists a  $[f, g]$  such that  $\mu([f, g]) \geq 1 - \varepsilon$ . **But:** We only know  $\mu(L^{m+1}) = 1$ .

# An application to SPDE

- Key idea: Introduce alternative non-standard partial order: For  $x, y \in H^{-1}$  we have  $x \preceq y$  iff

$$(-\Delta)^{-1}x \leq (-\Delta)^{-1}y.$$

- Now:

- “ $\preceq$ ” is preserved by  $\varphi$
- $\mu$  is concentrated on intervals since  $W^{2,m+1} \hookrightarrow L^\infty$ .

- But:

- “ $\preceq$ ” is not normal: There are  $f \preceq g$  such that  $\text{diam}([f, g]) = \infty$
- “ $\preceq$ ” is not admissible for  $d > 1$ .

## Theorem

*Weak synchronization holds for*

$$dX_t = \left( \Delta X_t^{[m]} + X_t \right) dt + dW_t,$$

*with  $d \leq 4$ ,  $m > 1$ .*

# Thanks

**Thanks!**