

# The symmetric simple exclusion with slow boundaries

**Patrícia Gonçalves**  
**IST - Lisbon**

Joint with Tertuliano Franco (UFBA, Brazil) and Adriana Neumann (UFRGS, Brazil)

Bristol  
7th October 2016

## The dynamics

In the bulk:



## The dynamics

In the bulk:



## The dynamics

At the left boundary:



## The dynamics

At the left boundary:



## The dynamics

At the right boundary:



## The dynamics

At the right boundary:



## The dynamics (formally):

- For  $n \geq 1$  let  $\Sigma_n = \{1, \dots, n-1\}$ .
- We denote the process by  $\{\eta_t : t \geq 0\}$  which has state space  $\Omega_n := \{0, 1\}^{\Sigma_n}$ .
- The infinitesimal generator  $\mathcal{L}_n = \mathcal{L}_{n,0} + \mathcal{L}_{n,b}$  is given on  $f : \Omega_n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , by

$$(\mathcal{L}_{n,0}f)(\eta) = \sum_{x=1}^{n-2} \left( f(\eta^{x,x+1}) - f(\eta) \right),$$

$$(\mathcal{L}_{n,b}f)(\eta) = \frac{1}{n^\theta} \sum_{x \in \{1, n-1\}} c_x(\eta) \left( f(\sigma^x \eta) - f(\eta) \right),$$

where for  $x = 0, 1$ ,  $c_x(\eta) = \left[ r_x(1 - \eta(x)) + (1 - r_x)\eta(x) \right]$ ,  
 $r_1 = \alpha$  and  $r_{n-1} = \beta$ .



## Invariant measures

- If  $\alpha = \beta = \rho$  the Bernoulli product measures are invariant:

$$\nu_\rho\{\eta : \eta(x) = 1\} = \rho.$$

- If  $\alpha \neq \beta$  the stationary measure  $\mu_{SS}$  is not known.

### Questions:

- **Hydrodynamics? Studied by Baldasso et al.**
- **Fluctuations? When  $\theta = 0$ , studied by Landim et al.**
  - ▶ **What about  $\theta > 0$ ?**
  - ▶ **Here we give the answer for  $\theta = 1$ .**  
The other cases remain open.
- **What about non-nearest neighbor jumps?**  
**What is known?**

## Hydrodynamic Limit:

- For  $\eta \in \Omega_n$  let  $\pi_t^n(\eta; du) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{x=1}^{n-1} \eta_{tn^2}(x) \delta_{x/n}(du)$ .
- Fix  $\rho_0 : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  and  $\mu_n$  such that for every  $\delta > 0$  and every continuous function  $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{x=1}^{n-1} f\left(\frac{x}{n}\right) \eta(x) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^1 f(u) \rho_0(u) du, \quad (1)$$

wrt  $\mu_n$ . Then for any  $t > 0$ ,  $\pi_t^n \rightarrow \rho(t, u) du$ , as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , where  $\rho(t, u)$  evolves according to the heat equation

$$\partial_t \rho(t, u) = \partial_u^2 \rho(t, u)$$

with different type of boundary conditions depending on the value of  $\theta$ .

## Hydrodynamic Equations:

- $\theta < 1$ : The heat equation with Dirichlet boundary conditions

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \rho(t, u) = \partial_u^2 \rho(t, u), & \text{for } t > 0, u \in (0, 1), \\ \rho(t, 0) = \alpha \quad \rho(t, 1) = \beta, & \text{for } t > 0. \end{cases}$$

- $\theta = 1$ : The heat equation with Robin boundary conditions

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \rho(t, u) = \partial_u^2 \rho(t, u), & \text{for } t > 0, u \in (0, 1), \\ \partial_u \rho(t, 0) = \rho(t, 0) - \alpha, & \text{for } t > 0, \\ \partial_u \rho(t, 1) = \beta - \rho(t, 1), & \text{for } t > 0. \end{cases}$$

- $\theta > 1$ : The heat equation with Neumann boundary conditions

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \rho(t, u) = \partial_u^2 \rho(t, u), & \text{for } t > 0, u \in (0, 1), \\ \partial_u \rho(t, 0) = \partial_u \rho(t, 1) = 0, & \text{for } t > 0. \end{cases}$$

## Fluctuations: the case $\theta = 1$ .

Definition (The space of test functions)

Let  $\mathcal{S}$  denote the set of functions  $f \in C^\infty([0, 1])$  such that for any  $k \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$  it holds that

$$\partial_u^{2k+1} f(0) = \partial_u^{2k} f(0) \quad \text{and} \quad \partial_u^{2k+1} f(1) = -\partial_u^{2k} f(1).$$

Definition (Density fluctuation field)

We define the density fluctuation field  $\mathcal{Y}^n$  as the time-trajectory of linear functionals acting on functions  $f \in \mathcal{S}$  as

$$\mathcal{Y}_t^n(f) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{x=1}^{n-1} f\left(\frac{x}{n}\right) \left( \eta_{tn^2}(x) - \mathbb{E}_{\mu_n}[\eta_{tn^2}(x)] \right).$$

## What are the conditions on the initial state $\mu_n$ ?

- For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , the measure  $\mu_n$  is associated to a measurable profile  $\rho_0 : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  in the sense of (1).
- There exists a constant  $C_1 > 0$  not depending on  $n$  such that for  $\rho_0^n(x) = \mathbb{E}_{\mu_n}[\eta_0(x)]$

$$\max_{x \in \Sigma_n} |\rho_0^n(x) - \rho_0(\frac{x}{n})| \leq \frac{C_1}{n}.$$

- There exists a constant  $C_2 > 0$  not depending on  $n$  such that for

$$\varphi_0^n(x, y) = \mathbb{E}_{\mu_n}[\eta(x)\eta(y)] - \rho_0^n(x)\rho_0^n(y)$$

it holds that

$$\max_{1 \leq x < y \leq n-1} |\varphi_0^n(x, y)| \leq \frac{C_2}{n}.$$

## Non-equilibrium fluctuations: the case $\theta = 1$ .

For each  $n \geq 1$ , let  $Q_n$  be the probability measure on  $\mathcal{D}([0, T], \mathcal{S}')$  induced by  $\mathcal{Y}^n$  and  $\mu_n$ .

Theorem (Non-equilibrium fluctuations)

*The sequence of measures  $\{Q_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is tight on  $\mathcal{D}([0, T], \mathcal{S}')$  and all limit points  $Q$  are p.m. concentrated on paths  $\mathcal{Y}$  satisfying*

$$\mathcal{Y}_t(f) = \mathcal{Y}_0(T_t f) + W_t(f),$$

*for any  $f \in \mathcal{S}$ . Above  $T_t : \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$  is the semigroup associated to the hydrodynamic equation with  $\alpha = \beta = 0$ , and  $W_t(f)$  is a mean zero Gaussian variable of variance  $\int_0^t \|\nabla T_{t-r} f\|_{L^2(\rho_r)}^2 dr$ , where  $\rho(t, u)$  is the solution of the hydrodynamic equation, and  $\chi(u) = u(1 - u)$ . Moreover,  $\mathcal{Y}_0$  and  $W_t$  are uncorrelated in the sense that  $\mathbb{E}_Q[\mathcal{Y}_0(f) W_t(g)] = 0$  for all  $f, g \in \mathcal{S}$ .*

Above, for  $r > 0$

$$\begin{aligned}\langle f, g \rangle_{L^2(\rho_r)} &= [\alpha - (1 - 2\alpha)\rho(r, 0)] f(0)g(0) \\ &\quad + [\beta - (1 - 2\beta)\rho(r, 1)] f(1)g(1) \\ &\quad + \int_0^1 2\chi(\rho(r, u)) f(u)g(u) du.\end{aligned}$$

### Definition

Let  $\Delta : \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$  be the Laplacian operator which is defined on  $f \in \mathcal{S}$  as

$$\Delta f(u) = \begin{cases} \partial_u^2 f(u), & \text{if } u \in (0, 1), \\ \partial_u^2 f(0^+), & \text{if } u = 0, \\ \partial_u^2 f(1^-), & \text{if } u = 1. \end{cases}$$

Above,  $\partial_u^2 f(a^\pm)$  denotes the side limits at the point  $a$ . The definition of the operator  $\nabla : \mathcal{S} \rightarrow C^\infty[0, 1]$  is analogous.

## Theorem (Ornstein-Uhlenbeck limit)

Assume that the sequence of initial density fields  $\{\mathcal{Y}_0^n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  converges, as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , to a mean-zero Gaussian field  $\mathcal{Y}_0$  with covariance given on  $f, g \in \mathcal{S}$  by

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}_{\mu_n} [\mathcal{Y}_0^n(f) \mathcal{Y}_0^n(g)] = \mathbb{E} [\mathcal{Y}_0(f) \mathcal{Y}_0(g)] := \sigma(f, g).$$

Then, the sequence  $\{Q_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  converges, as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , to a generalized Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process, which is the formal solution of the equation:

$$\partial_t \mathcal{Y}_t = \Delta \mathcal{Y}_t dt + \sqrt{2\chi(\rho_t)} \nabla W_t,$$

where  $W_t$  is a space-time white noise of unit variance. As a consequence, the covariance of the limit field  $\mathcal{Y}_t$  is given on  $f, g \in \mathcal{S}$  by

$$E [\mathcal{Y}_t(f) \mathcal{Y}_s(g)] = \sigma(T_t f, T_s g) + \int_0^s \langle \nabla T_{t-r} f, \nabla T_{s-r} g \rangle_{L^2(\rho_r)} dr.$$



## Corollary (Local Gibbs state)

Fix a Lipschitz profile  $\rho_0 : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  and suppose to start the process from a Bernoulli product measure given by  $\mu_n\{\eta : \eta(x) = 1\} = \rho_0(\frac{x}{n})$ . Then, the previous theorem remains in force and the covariance in this case is given on  $f, g \in \mathcal{S}$  by

$$E [\mathcal{Y}_t(f)\mathcal{Y}_s(g)] = \int_0^1 \chi(\rho_0(u)) f(u)g(u) du + \int_0^s \langle \nabla T_{t-r}f, \nabla T_{s-r}g \rangle_{L^2(\rho_r)} dr,$$

where  $\rho(t, u)$  is the solution of the hydrodynamic equation with initial condition given by  $\rho_0(\cdot)$ .

## Stationary fluctuations: the case $\theta = 1$ .

### Theorem (Stationary fluctuations)

Suppose to start the process from  $\mu_{ss}$  with  $\alpha \neq \beta$ . Then,  $\mathcal{Y}^n$  converges to the centered Gaussian field  $\mathcal{Y}$  with covariance given on  $f, g \in \mathcal{S}$  by:

$$\begin{aligned} E_{\mu_{ss}}[\mathcal{Y}(f)\mathcal{Y}(g)] &= \int_0^1 \chi(\bar{\rho}(u))f(u)g(u) du \\ &\quad - \left(\frac{\beta - \alpha}{3}\right)^2 \int_0^1 [(-\Delta)^{-1}f(u)]g(u) du \\ &\quad + \frac{2(2\beta + \alpha)(2\beta - 1)}{3} \int_0^\infty T_t f(1) T_t g(1) dt \\ &\quad + \frac{2(\beta + 2\alpha)(2\alpha - 1)}{3} \int_0^\infty T_t f(0) T_t g(0) dt, \end{aligned}$$

with  $\bar{\rho}(u) = \left(\frac{\beta - \alpha}{3}\right) u + \frac{\beta + 2\alpha}{3}$ , which is the stationary solution of the hydrodynamic equation.

## How do we prove the results?

Two things to do:

- Tightness;
- Characterization of limit points.

Let us focus on the second point.

## Associated martingale.

Let  $\phi : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a test function and note that

$$M_t^n(\phi) := \mathcal{Y}_t^n(\phi) - \mathcal{Y}_0(\phi) - \int_0^t n^2 \mathcal{L}_n \mathcal{Y}_s^n(\phi) ds$$

is a martingale where

$$\begin{aligned} n^2 \mathcal{L}_n \mathcal{Y}_s^n(\phi) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{x=1}^{n-1} \Delta_n \phi\left(\frac{x}{n}\right) \left( \eta_{sn^2}(x) - \rho_s^n(x) \right) ds \\ &\quad + \sqrt{n} \left[ \nabla_n^+ \phi(0) - \phi\left(\frac{1}{n}\right) \right] \left( \eta_{sn^2}(1) - \rho_s^n(1) \right) \\ &\quad + \sqrt{n} \left[ \phi\left(\frac{n-1}{n}\right) + \nabla_n^- \phi(1) \right] \left( \eta_{sn^2}(n-1) - \rho_s^n(n-1) \right). \end{aligned}$$

Note that the second term at the right hand side of the previous expression is  $\mathcal{Y}_s^n(\Delta_n \phi)$ . Above, we have used the notation

$$\nabla_n^+ \phi(x) = n \left[ \phi\left(\frac{x+1}{n}\right) - \phi\left(\frac{x}{n}\right) \right] \quad \text{and} \quad \nabla_n^- \phi(x) = n \left[ \phi\left(\frac{x}{n}\right) - \phi\left(\frac{x-1}{n}\right) \right].$$

## The empirical profile.

Fix an initial measure  $\mu_n$  in  $\Omega_n$ . For  $x \in \Sigma_n$  and  $t \geq 0$ , let

$$\rho_t^n(x) = \mathbb{E}_{\mu_n}[\eta_{tn^2}(x)].$$

We extend this definition to the boundary by setting

$$\rho_t^n(0) = \alpha \text{ and } \rho_t^n(n) = \beta, \text{ for all } t \geq 0.$$

A simple computation shows that  $\rho_t^n(\cdot)$  is a solution of the discrete equation given by

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \rho_t^n(x) = (n^2 \mathcal{B}_n \rho_t^n)(x), & x \in \Sigma_n, \quad t \geq 0, \\ \rho_t^n(0) = \alpha, & t \geq 0, \\ \rho_t^n(n) = \beta, & t \geq 0, \end{cases}$$

where the operator  $\mathcal{B}_n$  acts on functions  $f : \Sigma_n \cup \{0, n\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  as

$$(\mathcal{B}_n f)(x) = \sum_{y=0}^n \xi_{x,y}^n (f(y) - f(x)), \quad \text{for } x \in \Sigma_n,$$

where

$$\xi_{x,y}^n = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } |y - x| = 1 \text{ and } x, y \in \Sigma_n, \\ \frac{1}{n}, & \text{if } x = 1, y = 0 \text{ and } x = n - 1, y = n, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

### Proposition

*Let  $\rho_t^n(\cdot)$  be as above. Then, there exists  $C > 0$  which does not depend on  $n$  such that*

$$|\rho_t^n(x + 1) - \rho_t^n(x)| \leq \frac{C}{n},$$

*for all  $x \in \{1, \dots, n - 2\}$ , uniformly in  $t \geq 0$ .*

## The correlation estimate.

Definition (Two-point correlation function)

For each  $x, y \in \Sigma_n$ ,  $x < y$ , and  $t \in [0, T]$ , we define the two-point correlation function as

$$\varphi_t^n(x, y) = \mathbb{E}_{\mu_n}[\eta_{tn^2}(x)\eta_{tn^2}(y)] - \rho_t^n(x)\rho_t^n(y),$$

where  $\rho_t^n$  is as above. Moreover, for  $x = 0$  or  $y = n$ , we set

$$\varphi_t^n(x, y) = 0,$$

Proposition

*There exists  $C > 0$  such that*

$$\sup_{t \geq 0} \max_{(x, y) \in V_n} |\varphi_t^n(x, y)| \leq \frac{C}{n},$$

where  $V_n = \{(x, y); x, y \in \mathbb{N}, 0 < x < y < n\}$ .

## If jumps are arbitrarily big? (Joint with C. Bernardin and B. Oviedo (University of Nice))

Let  $\gamma > 2$  and  $p(\cdot)$  be a translation invariant transition probability given at  $z \in \mathbb{Z}$  by

$$p(z) = \begin{cases} \frac{c_\gamma}{|z|^{\gamma+1}}, & z \neq 0, \\ 0, & z = 0, \end{cases}$$

where  $c_\gamma = \frac{2}{\zeta(\gamma+1)}$ . Since  $p(\cdot)$  is symmetric it is mean zero, that is:

$$\sum_{z \in \mathbb{Z}} zp(z) = 0$$

and since  $\gamma > 2$  we define its variance by

$$\sigma_\gamma^2 = \sum_{z \in \mathbb{Z}} z^2 p(z) < \infty.$$



## The infinitesimal generator:

$\mathcal{L}_n = \mathcal{L}_{n,0} + \mathcal{L}_{n,r} + \mathcal{L}_{n,\ell}$  where

$$(\mathcal{L}_{n,0}f)(\eta) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{x,y \in \Sigma_n} p(x-y)[f(\sigma^{x,y}\eta) - f(\eta)],$$

$$(\mathcal{L}_{n,\ell}f)(\eta) = \frac{1}{n^\theta} \sum_{\substack{x \in \Sigma_n \\ y \leq 0}} p(x-y)c_x(\eta; \alpha)[f(\sigma^x\eta) - f(\eta)],$$

$$(\mathcal{L}_{n,r}f)(\eta) = \frac{1}{n^\theta} \sum_{\substack{x \in \Sigma_n \\ y \geq n}} p(x-y)c_x(\eta; \beta)[f(\sigma^x\eta) - f(\eta)]$$

where

$$c_x(\eta) := [(1 - \eta_x)r_x + (1 - r_x)\eta_x].$$

## Hydrodynamic Equations:

- $\theta < 1$ : The heat equation with Dirichlet boundary conditions

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \rho(t, u) = \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \partial_u^2 \rho(t, u), & \text{for } t > 0, u \in (0, 1), \\ \rho(t, 0) = \alpha \quad \rho(t, 1) = \beta, & \text{for } t > 0. \end{cases}$$

- $\theta = 1$ : The heat equation with Robin boundary conditions

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \rho(t, u) = \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \partial_u^2 \rho(t, u), & \text{for } t > 0, u \in (0, 1), \\ \partial_u \rho(t, 0) = \frac{2m}{\sigma^2} (\rho(t, 0) - \alpha), & \text{for } t > 0, \\ \partial_u \rho(t, 1) = \frac{2m}{\sigma^2} (\beta - \rho(t, 1)), & \text{for } t > 0. \end{cases}$$

Above  $m = \sum_{y \geq 1} y \rho(y)$ .

- $\theta > 1$ : The heat equation with Neumann boundary conditions

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \rho(t, u) = \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \partial_u^2 \rho(t, u), & \text{for } t > 0, u \in (0, 1), \\ \partial_u \rho(t, 0) = \partial_u \rho(t, 1) = 0, & \text{for } t > 0. \end{cases}$$

## What about $\gamma \in (1, 2)$ ?

This is in progress. So far we know that for  $\gamma \in (1, 2)$  and  $\theta = 0$ , we get the fractional heat equation with Dirichlet boundary conditions:

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \rho(t, u) = -(-\Delta)^{\gamma/2} \rho(t, u), & \text{for } t > 0, u \in (0, 1), \\ \rho(t, 0) = \alpha \quad \rho(t, 1) = \beta, & \text{for } t > 0, \end{cases}$$

where the fractional Laplacian  $(-\Delta)^{\gamma/2}$  of exponent  $\gamma/2$  is defined on the set of functions  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{|f(u)|}{(1 + |u|)^{1+\gamma}} du < \infty$$

by

$$(-\Delta)^{\gamma/2} f(u) = c_\gamma \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \mathbf{1}_{|y-u| \geq \varepsilon} \frac{f(u) - f(y)}{|y-u|^{1+\gamma}} dy.$$

## References.

1. Baldasso, R. and Menezes, O. and Neumann, A., Souza, R.: *Exclusion process with slow boundary*, at arxiv.1407.7918.
2. Franco, G., Neumann: *Hydrodynamical behavior of symmetric exclusion with slow bonds*, Annales Institute Henri Poincaré: Prob. Stats., 49 n. 2, 402–427, (2013).
3. Franco, G., Neumann: *Phase transition in equilibrium fluctuations of symmetric slowed exclusion*, Stoc. Proc. Appl., 123, no. 12, 4156–4185, (2013).
4. Franco, T., G., Neumann, A. (2016): *Non-equilibrium and stationary fluctuations for a slowed boundary symmetric exclusion process*, at arxiv.org.
5. Landim, C., Milanes, A., Olla, S.: *Stationary and nonequilibrium fluctuations in boundary driven exclusion processes*, Markov Processes Related Fields, 14, 165–184 (2008).

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THE ATTENTION!