## Continuous Box-Ball systems

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Box-Ball system
by Takahashi-Satsuma (1990) [29]
Box at each $z \in \mathbb{Z}$. Ball configuration $\eta \in\{0,1\}^{\mathbb{Z}}$

$$
\eta(z)=0 \quad \text { empty box, } \quad \eta(z)=1 \quad \text { ball at } z
$$

Carrier visits boxes from left to right.
Carrier picks balls from occupied boxes.
Carrier deposits one ball, if carried, at empty boxes.
$T \eta$ : configuration after the carrier visited all boxes.

Motivation: Korteweg \& de Vries equation

$$
\dot{u}=u^{\prime \prime \prime}+u u^{\prime}
$$

Figure from Rendiconti di Matematica,
Serie VII, 11, p.351-376, 1991
Interacting soliton solutions

Soliton: a solitary wave that propagates with little loss of energy and retains its shape and speed after colliding with another such wave.

Related mathematical works
Kato, Tsujimoto and Zuk [19], spectral decomposition of BBS.
Levine, Lyu and Pike [23] big solitons in a semi-infinite interval.
Kuniba and Lyu [21] one-sided multicolor solitons.
Croydon and Sasada: Invariant measures [7], Pitman transformation [11], Hydrodynamics [10],
Linearizations: Kirillov-Sakamoto [20], Kuniba, Okado, Sakamoto,Takagi, Yamada [22] F, Nguyen, Rolla, Wang [17]
Mucciconi, Sasada, Sasamoto, Suda [24] relation between linearizations
F. Gabrielli $[15,16]$ : Big family of excursion based invariant measures.

## Soliton Identification

Walk representation


$$
\xi(z)-\xi(z-1)=2 \eta(z)-1, \quad \xi(0)=0
$$

Records: $\{z: \xi(y)>\xi(z)$ for all $y<z\}$ (non-local function of $\eta$ ).


Excursion: configuration between two successive records

Soliton identification for excursions [16, 29]
Let $t_{i}, s_{i}$ the localization of maxima and minima of the excursion. runs: segments induced by broken lines of the walk: $\left[s_{i-1}, t_{i}\right]$ or $\left[t_{i}, s_{i}\right]$

(1) Look for the shortest run $I$. Let $L$ be its length, and $s, t$ its extremes.


Identify the interval of length $2 L$ centered at $t$ as an $L$-soliton. Call it $\gamma$.
(2) Ignore previously identified solitons $\tilde{\gamma}$ by gluing $\inf \tilde{\gamma}$ with $\sup \tilde{\gamma}$. Iterate.


Solitons may be broken to give place to smaller solitons.

Soliton identification for infinite configurations Assume that the path $\xi$ has all records.

Apply the identification algorithm to each excursion.


Records are black, solitons are colored.
Any site is either a record or belongs to a soliton.
Call $s(\gamma)$ and $t(\gamma)$ the positions of the path min and max contained in $\gamma$.

# Dynamics: BBS and Pitman transformation 

Pitman transformation [6, 9, 12, 18, 26]
Reflect each excursion with respect to the current minimum of the walk:


The dynamics is well defined if all excursions are finite.
Call $T \xi$ the path obtained after one iteration of $\xi$.
Pitman transformation yields BBS for the derivative: $\eta(T \xi)=T \eta(\xi)$.

BBS conserves solitons
Proposition [29],[17] For any path $\xi$ :
$\xi$ has $L$-soliton $\gamma$ with maximum $t(\gamma)$
if and only if
$T \xi$ has $L$-soliton $\gamma^{\prime}$ with minimum $s\left(\gamma^{\prime}\right)=t(\gamma)$.


Corollary: We can follow solitons along time.

## Generalized hydrodynamics


ball density $=0.25$

Effective soliton speeds in the stationary regime
Theorem (F-Nguyen-Rolla-Wang [17])
Let $\mu$ be a shift-ergodic T-invariant measure on the ball configuration space.
$x\left(\gamma^{t}\right):=$ position of leftmost box of $k$-soliton $\gamma$ at time $t$.
There exists deterministic effective velocities $\underline{v}=\left(v_{k}\right)_{k \geq 1}$ such that

$$
\lim _{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x\left(\gamma^{t}\right)}{t}=v_{k}, \quad \mu \text {-a.s. }
$$

And $\underline{v}$ satisfies

$$
v_{k}=k+\sum_{m \neq k} 2(m \wedge k) \bar{\rho}_{m}\left(v_{k}-v_{m}\right)
$$

$\bar{\rho}_{k}:=$ mean number of $k$-solitons per site.


Ball density $=0.15$

Hydrodynamics
Sequence of initial ball configurations $\eta^{\epsilon}$. Empirical density measures:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{K}_{t}^{\epsilon} \varphi & :=\epsilon \sum_{x \in \mathbb{Z}} T_{t / \varepsilon} \eta^{\epsilon}(x) \varphi(\epsilon x) \\
\mathrm{K}_{k, t}^{\epsilon} \varphi & :=\epsilon \sum_{x \in \mathbb{Z}} S_{k, t / \varepsilon} \eta^{\epsilon}(x) \varphi(\epsilon x)
\end{aligned}
$$

$\varphi$ test function; $S_{k, t} \eta(x):=1\left\{x\right.$ is leftmost box of a $k$-soliton in $\left.T_{t} \eta\right\}$.
Theorem (Croydon and Sasada [10]) Assume uniformly bounded solitons and no ball at negative sites. Let $g_{k, 0}$ be densities such that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\lim _{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \mathrm{~K}_{k, t}^{\epsilon} \varphi=\int g_{k, t}(x) \varphi(x) d x, \quad k \geq 1 \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

holds for $t=0$. Then (1) holds for $t>0$, where $g_{k, t}$ satisfy

$$
\frac{\partial}{\partial t} g_{k, t}(x)=-\frac{\partial}{\partial x} v_{k, t}(x) g_{k, t}(x)
$$

and the effective instantaneous velocities $v_{k, t}$ satisfy

$$
v_{k, t}(x)=k-\sum_{j \geq 1} 2(k \wedge j) g_{j, t}(x)\left(v_{j, t}(x)-v_{k, t}(x)\right)
$$

Furthermore, the ball empirical measure converges:

$$
\lim _{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \mathrm{~K}_{t}^{\epsilon} \varphi=\sum_{k \geq 1} k \int g_{k, t}(x) \varphi(x)
$$

Universality of speed equations
Toda lattice: Cao, Bulchadani, Spohn [5].
Hard-rods: Boldrighini, Dobrushin, Suhov [2, 3], F, Franceschini, Grevino, Spohn [14], F, Olla [25]

Surveys: Bulchandani-Cao-Moore [4], Doyon [13], Spohn [27, 28],...

## Continuous BBS



## Space of continuous excursions

$\varepsilon: x \mapsto \varepsilon(x),\left|\varepsilon^{\prime}(x)\right|=1$ at all $x$ but at maxima/minima located at

$$
\underline{t}_{n}=\left(t_{1}, \ldots, t_{n}\right) \quad \underline{s}_{n-1}=\left(s_{1}, \ldots, s_{n-1}\right):
$$


$\mathcal{E}(n):=$ Set of $\left(\underline{t}_{n}, \underline{s}_{n-1}\right)$ representing excursions with $n$ maxima.

## Soliton identification

Same as in the discrete setup.
Look for shortest run $I$, denote $L, s, t$ its length and extremes.
Identify $\gamma=$ interval centered at $t$ with length $2 L$.
Glue extremes of previous identified solitons and iterate


Slot set
Denote $L_{1}>\cdots>L_{n}>0$ the maxima of $\varepsilon \in \mathcal{E}(n)$.
Define $L$-slot set of $\varepsilon$ :

$$
S(L \mid \varepsilon):=\left[0, s_{n}\right] \backslash \cup_{i=1}^{n}\left(t_{i}-\left(L \wedge L_{i}\right), t_{i}+\left(L \wedge L_{i}\right)\right),
$$

where $s_{n}=2\left(L_{1}+\cdots+L_{n}\right)$ is the excursion size.

$L$-slot set is the set of points where an $L$-soliton may be inserted.

Slot set


Slot sets of $L_{5}, \ldots, L_{2}$. There is only one slot point for $L_{1}$ (blue).

## Attachement slot

$$
u_{i}:=\left|S\left(L_{i} \mid \varepsilon_{n}\right) \cap\left[0, \inf \gamma_{i}\right]\right|
$$

This is the $L_{i}$-slot length of $\left[0, \inf \gamma_{i}\right]$.


This is $u_{5}$

## Attachement slot

$$
u_{i}:=L_{i} \text {-slot length in }\left[0, \inf \gamma_{i}\right]
$$



These are $u_{5}, \ldots, u_{2}, u_{1}=0$ is the origin of the excursion.

Slot diagram
The slot diagram of the excursion $\varepsilon$ is the set of points $\left(u_{1}, L_{1}\right), \ldots,\left(u_{n}, L_{n}\right):$


Horizontal: attachement slot $u_{i}$,
Vertical: soliton size $L_{i}$.

Space of slot diagrams with $n$ points

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathcal{S}(n):=\left\{\left(\underline{u}_{n}, \underline{L}_{n}\right): L_{1}>\cdots>L_{n}>0,\right. \\
& \\
& \left.\quad u_{1}=0 ; 0<u_{i} \leq 2 \sum_{j=1}^{n}\left[L_{j}-\left(L_{j} \wedge L_{i}\right)\right], i=2, \ldots, n\right\}
\end{aligned}
$$

Bijection between excursions and slot diagrams
The function

$$
\Phi:\left(\underline{t}_{n}, \underline{s}_{n-1}\right) \mapsto\left(\underline{u}_{n}, \underline{L}_{n}\right)
$$

is a bijection between $\mathcal{E}(n)$ and $\mathcal{S}(n)$.

Construction of $\Phi^{-1}$
We start with the slot diagram $\left(u_{1}, L_{1}\right), \ldots,\left(u_{n}, L_{n}\right)$ :


Horizontal: attachement slot $u_{i}$,
Vertical: soliton size $L_{i}$.

Construction of $\Phi^{-1}$
(1) Insert biggest soliton $L_{1}$ at the origin.


Construction of $\Phi^{-1}$
(2) Insert second biggest soliton $L_{2}$ at $L_{2}$ slot distance $u_{2}$ :



Construction of $\Phi^{-1}$
(3) Insert third soliton $L_{3}$ at $L_{3}$-slot distance $u_{3}$ :



Construction of $\Phi^{-1}$
(4-5) Insert remainig solitons $L_{4}$ and $L_{5}$ at slot distance $u_{4}$ and $u_{5}$ :


Move slots sets together with the solitons containing them.

Slot decomposition of infinite paths


Concatenate the slot diagrams of the excursions
Keeping the same separation distances $D_{i}$.

Translate points associated to $\varepsilon_{i}$ to the left so that the left boundary of each diagram is at distance $D_{i}$ for all $y$.

Slot decomposition of infinite paths


Slot decomposition of an infinite path is a discrete set of points


Similar construction gives a point configuration in the left semiplane.

Analogous to discrete BBS FNRW [17] and FG [16].

Random excursions

Soliton based measures $\mu_{\alpha}$
Probability measures on $\mathcal{E}=\cup_{n} \mathcal{E}(n)$,
$\alpha: \mathbb{R}^{+} \rightarrow[0,1)$ is a parameter function.

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mu_{\alpha}(\varepsilon) & :=\frac{1}{\mathcal{Z}(\alpha)} \prod_{i=1}^{n} \alpha\left(L_{i}\right) d \underline{t}_{n} d \underline{s}_{n-1}, \quad \varepsilon=\left(\underline{t}_{n}, \underline{s}_{n-1}\right) \in \mathcal{E}(n) \\
\mathcal{Z}(\alpha) & :=\sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} \int_{\mathcal{E}(n)} d \underline{t}_{n} d \underline{s}_{n-1} \prod_{i=1}^{n} \alpha\left(L_{i}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

$L_{1}, \ldots L_{n}$ are the heigths of the solitons of $\varepsilon$.
$d \underline{t}_{n}:=d t_{1} \ldots d t_{n}$.

Example: Zig-zag excursion
$X_{t}$ continuous time Markov process on $\{-1,+1\}$
Rates $c(-1,1)=\lambda_{-}$and $c(1,-1)=\lambda_{+} . \quad \lambda_{-}<\lambda_{+}$.

$$
\varepsilon(t):=\int_{0}^{t} X_{s} d s, \quad \quad X_{0}:=1
$$

$$
\varepsilon:=(\varepsilon(t))_{t \in[0, \tau]} \quad \tau:=\text { hitting time of } 0
$$



Excursion $\varepsilon$ has law $\mu_{\alpha}$, with

$$
\alpha(L)=e^{-\left(\lambda_{+}+\lambda_{-}\right) L_{-}} \lambda_{-} \lambda_{+}, \quad \mathcal{Z}(\alpha)=\lambda_{-} .
$$

Poisson (q) process
Let $q: \mathbb{R}_{+} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{+}$be integrable:

$$
\int_{0}^{+\infty} q(L) d L<+\infty
$$

Let $\mathcal{N} \subset \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}_{+}$be a Poisson process with intensity

$$
d u q(L) d L
$$



Slot diagram based measures
$\left(u_{1}, L_{1}\right):=$ leftmost positive point in $\mathcal{N}$
Grow region at rate twice the number of points in it

$$
\begin{aligned}
& g(\ell)=2 \sum_{(u, L) \in A(\ell)}(L-\ell)^{+} \quad G(\ell):=\int_{0}^{\ell} g\left(\ell^{\prime}\right) d \ell^{\prime} . \\
& A(\ell)=\left\{\left(u^{\prime}, \ell^{\prime}\right): u_{1}<u^{\prime}<G\left(\ell^{\prime}\right) ; \ell \leq \ell^{\prime} \leq L_{1}\right\} .
\end{aligned}
$$



Random slot diagram
$\left(u_{1}, L_{1}\right):=$ leftmost positive point in $\mathcal{N}$
Grow region at rate twice the number of points in it

$$
\begin{aligned}
& g(\ell)=2 \sum_{(u, L) \in A(\ell)}(L-\ell)^{+} \quad G(\ell):=\int_{0}^{\ell} g\left(\ell^{\prime}\right) d \ell^{\prime} . \\
& A(\ell)=\left\{\left(u^{\prime}, \ell^{\prime}\right): u_{1}<u^{\prime}<G\left(\ell^{\prime}\right) ; \ell \leq \ell^{\prime} \leq L_{1}\right\} .
\end{aligned}
$$



Sort $A(0) \cap \mathcal{N}$ to get $\left\{\left(u_{1}, L_{1}\right), \ldots,\left(u_{n}, L_{n}\right)\right\}$. ( $n$ depends on $\mathcal{N}$ ) Shift by $u_{1}$ :

$$
\varepsilon(\mathcal{N}):=\Phi^{-1}\left(\left(0, L_{1}\right),\left(u_{2}-u_{1}, L_{2}\right), \ldots,\left(u_{n}-u_{1}, L_{n}\right)\right) \in \mathcal{S}(n)
$$

Lemma The distribution of $\varepsilon(\mathcal{N})$ is given by

$$
\nu_{q}(d \underline{u}, d \underline{L}):=\frac{1}{\int_{0}^{+\infty} q(z) d z} \prod_{i=1}^{n} e^{-2 \int_{0}^{L_{i}}\left(L_{i}-y\right) q(y) d y} q\left(L_{i}\right) d L_{i} \prod_{i=2}^{n} d u_{i}
$$

Proof. Explore the points of the Poisson process according to the construction of $\Phi^{-1}$.

## Equivalence of measures

Proposition If $\alpha(L)=q(L) e^{-2 \int_{0}^{L}(L-y) q(y) d y}$, then

$$
\mu_{\alpha}=\nu_{q},
$$

and $\mathcal{Z}(\alpha)=\int_{0}^{+\infty} q(L) d L$.
Proof. The Jacobian is 1: $d \underline{y}_{n} d \underline{s}_{n-1}=d \underline{u}_{n} d \underline{L}_{n}$.
The identity is immediate.

Relation between $\alpha$ and $q$
Call $Q(L)=\int_{0}^{L} q(z) d z$. Integrating $q(L) e^{-2 \int_{0}^{L}(L-y) q(y) d y}$ by parts gives

$$
q(L)=\alpha(L) e^{2 \int_{0}^{L} Q(z) d z}
$$

Calling $M(L)=\int_{0}^{L} Q(z) d z$, this is equivalent to

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
M^{\prime \prime}(L)=\alpha(L) e^{2 M(L)}, \\
M(0)=M^{\prime}(0)=0
\end{array}\right.
$$

Explicit $q$ for the Zig-zag excursion

Proposition If $\alpha(L)=e^{-\left(\lambda_{+}+\lambda_{-}\right) L} \lambda_{-} \lambda_{+}$, then the solution $q$ of

$$
\alpha(L)=q(L) e^{-2 \int_{0}^{L}(L-y) q(y) d y}
$$

is given by

$$
\begin{aligned}
q(L) & =E[\sinh (\sqrt{E}(L+K))]^{-2} \\
E & :=\lambda_{+}^{2}+\lambda_{-}^{2}+\lambda_{-} \lambda_{+} \\
K & :=\frac{1}{\sqrt{E}} \operatorname{coth}^{-1}\left(\sqrt{1+\frac{\lambda_{+} \lambda_{-}}{E}}\right) .
\end{aligned}
$$

Normalized $q$ is the distribution of the maximum of an excursion with law $\mu_{\alpha}$.

Slot decomposition of infinite paths


Concatenate the slot diagrams of the excursions.
Keep the same separation distances $D_{i}$.

Translate points associated to $\varepsilon_{i}$ to the left so that the left boundary of each diagram is at distance $D_{i}$ for all $y$.

Slot decomposition of infinite paths


Slot decomposition of an infinite path is a point process


Similar construction gives a point configuration in the left semiplane.

Analogous to discrete BBS FNRW [17] and FG [16].
$\mu_{\alpha}$ excursions generate Poisson $(q)$ process
Construct random path $\xi$ :
(1) iid excursions with law $\mu_{\alpha}=\nu_{q}$
(2) iid random variables $D_{i} \sim$ Exponential $\left(\int q(x) d x\right)$ separate excursions


Proposition Slot decomposition $\mathcal{N}(\xi)$ is a Poisson $(q)$ process
We have constructed a random path $\xi$ with a record at the origin.
Its law $\hat{\mu}$ is invariant by translation to another record.

## Dinamics

## BBS operator commutes with slot decomposition



Theorem [17] Take $\eta$ with no ball at negative boxes and the origin and $\xi=\xi(\eta)$. Then $\mathcal{N}(T \xi)=\mathcal{T} \mathcal{N}(\xi)$.
$\mathcal{T N}:=\{(u+L, L):(u, L) \in \mathcal{N}\}$,
$\mathcal{N}$ contained in positive quadrant.
$L$-soliton jumps $L$ to the right

Doubly infinite case
$\hat{T} \xi:=" T \xi$ as seen from record at level $0 "$.
Theorem [17] Take initial $\xi$ with a record at level 0 at the origin. Then

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{N}(\hat{T} \xi) & =\mathcal{T} \mathcal{N}(\xi) \\
\mathcal{T N} & :=\{(u+L-o(L, \mathcal{N}), L):(u, L) \in \mathcal{N}\} \\
o(L, \mathcal{N}) & :=\text { flow of L-slots through record } 0
\end{aligned}
$$

$L$-soliton jumps $L$ to the right, but $L$-slot crossing of the origin must be considered.

## Invariant measures for continuous BBS

Take $\alpha$ such that $\int L \alpha(L) d L<\infty$, and $q$ compatible with $\alpha$.

This is equivalent to $\int y q(y) d y<\infty$ (finite maximum mean).
Consider iid excursions $\varepsilon_{j} \sim \mu_{\alpha}$, separated by iid $A_{j} \sim \operatorname{Exponential}\left(\int q\right)$.
We obtain a random path $\xi$ with a record at the origin, and invariant by translation to any record.

Call $\hat{\mu}$ the distribution of $\xi$.
Call $\mu$ the anti-Palm distribution of $\hat{\mu}$.
$\mu$ is translation invariant.
Theorem [17] The measure $\mu$ is invariant for $T$.
Corollary The stationary zigzag process with $\lambda_{+}>\lambda_{-}$is invariant for $T$.

From excursions to trees


Vertical slot space

From excursions to trees


Vertical slot space

## To be continued

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