

Uncertainty quantification analysis of bifurcations of PDEs with random coefficients

Chiara Piazzola

joint with Christian Kuehn and Elisabeth Ullmann

Department of Mathematics
Technical University of Munich

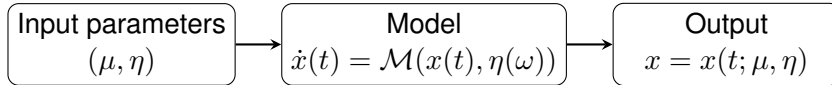
November 12, 2024

- 1 Motivation
- 2 The Allen–Cahn equation
- 3 Numerical method and results
- 4 Summary and outlook

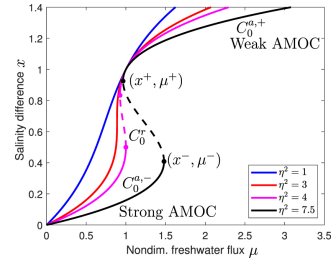
- 1 Motivation
- 2 The Allen–Cahn equation
- 3 Numerical method and results
- 4 Summary and outlook

The Atlantic meridional overturning circulation (AMOC)

An ODE model¹



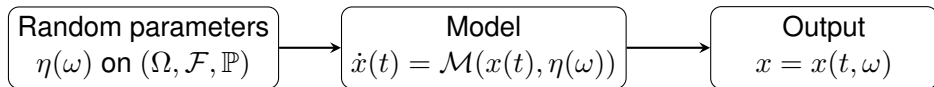
- μ : bifurcation parameter
- (x, μ) : **equilibria** of the system
- (x^-, μ^-) and (x^+, μ^+) : **bifurcation/tipping points**
- The parameter η determines the **overall qualitative behavior of the system**



Equilibrium curves¹.

¹K. Lux et al. "Assessing the impact of parametric uncertainty on tipping points of the Atlantic meridional overturning circulation". In: *Environmental Research Letters* (2022).

Uncertainty quantification analysis



Uncertainty quantification analysis

Random parameters

$\eta(\omega)$ on $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$



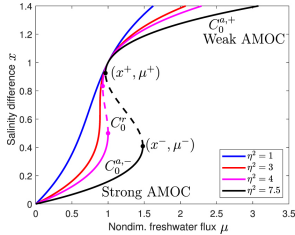
Model

$\dot{x}(t) = \mathcal{M}(x(t), \eta(\omega))$



Output

$x = x(t, \omega)$



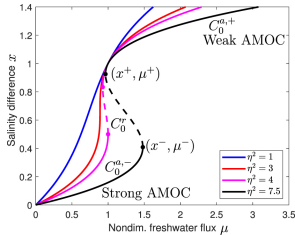
Equilibrium curves¹.

Uncertainty quantification analysis

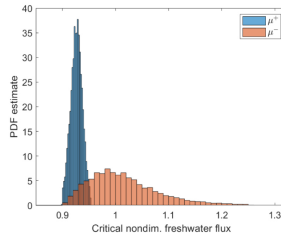
Random parameters
 $\eta(\omega)$ on $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$

Model
 $\dot{x}(t) = \mathcal{M}(x(t), \eta(\omega))$

Output
 $x = x(t, \omega)$



Equilibrium curves¹.



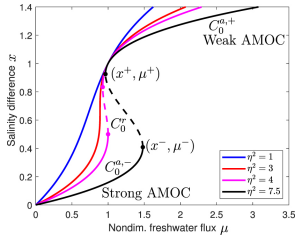
Distribution of $\mu^-(\omega), \mu^+(\omega)$ ¹.

Uncertainty quantification analysis

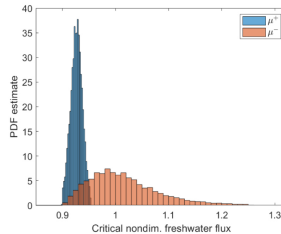
Random parameters
 $\eta(\omega)$ on $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$

Model
 $\dot{x}(t) = \mathcal{M}(x(t), \eta(\omega))$

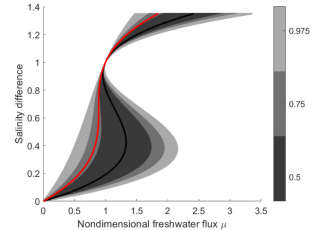
Output
 $x = x(t, \omega)$



Equilibrium curves¹.



Distribution of $\mu^-(\omega), \mu^+(\omega)$ ¹.



Probabilistic bifurcation diagram¹.

Goal of this work

Uncertainty quantification analysis of bifurcations of PDEs with random coefficients:

Goal of this work

Uncertainty quantification analysis of bifurcations of PDEs with random coefficients:

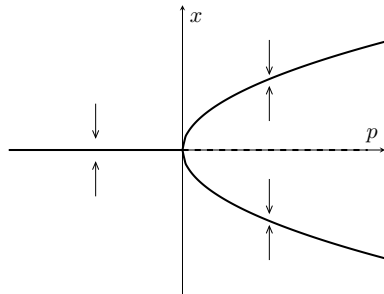
Supercritical pitchfork bifurcation

$$\dot{x} = px - x^3, \quad p \in \mathbb{R}$$

- Equilibria are solutions of $\dot{x} = 0$:

$$x^* = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad p - x^{*2} = 0$$

- $(0, 0)$ is the bifurcation point



Goal of this work

Uncertainty quantification analysis of bifurcations of PDEs with random coefficients:

Bifurcations

Reaction-diffusion equations with **polynomial nonlinearity**

What the **impact of the randomness** on the dynamics?

How can we do **UQ analysis in an efficient manner**?

Pitchfork type

The Allen–Cahn equation

Bifurcation theory

Surrogate modeling

The Allen–Cahn equation with random coefficients

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_t u &= \Delta u + q(\mathbf{x}, \omega)u - u^3, & \mathbf{x} &\in D \subset \mathbb{R}^d, \, d = 1, 2, 3, \\ u &= 0, & \mathbf{x} &\in \partial D, \, \mathbb{P}\text{-almost surely,}\end{aligned}$$

where

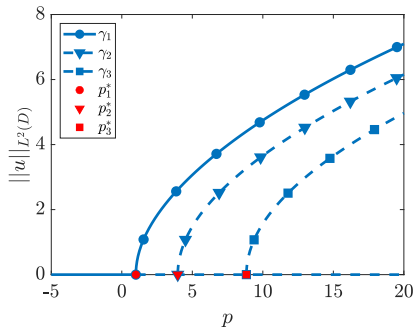
- $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$: probability space,
- $q(\mathbf{x}, \omega) : \overline{D} \times \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$: random coefficient function,
- $u = u(t, \mathbf{x}, \omega)$: random solution.

- 1 Motivation
- 2 The Allen–Cahn equation**
- 3 Numerical method and results
- 4 Summary and outlook

The Allen–Cahn equation

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_t u &= \Delta u + pu - u^3, & \mathbf{x} &\in D \subset \mathbb{R}^d, \quad p \in \mathbb{R}, \\ u &= 0, & \mathbf{x} &\in \partial D.\end{aligned}$$

- **Equilibria** are solutions of the stationary problem
 - **Trivial branch:** $\{(p, 0) \mid p \in \mathbb{R}\}$
 - **Non-trivial branch:** $\gamma_i = \{(p, u(p)) \mid p \geq p_i^*\}$
- **Bifurcation points:** $(p_i^*, 0)$
- **Bifurcation parameter:** $p \in \mathbb{R}$



The Allen–Cahn equation

Bifurcation analysis

Main tool to prove existence of pitchfork bifurcations: [Crandall–Rabinowitz theorem](#)².

Let $F(p, u) := \Delta u + pu - u^3$.

- Condition 1: [failure of the implicit function theorem](#)
 - $D_u F(p, 0)$ has a zero eigenvalue
 - Since $D_u F(p, 0)v = \Delta v + pv$, the bifurcation value is $p_i^* = -\lambda_i$
- Condition 2: bifurcation points correspond to [simple eigenvalues](#) of $D_u F(p, 0)$
- Local shape of bifurcation curves is inferred by computing higher order derivatives of F

²H. Kielhofer. *Bifurcation Theory: An Introduction with Applications to Partial Differential Equations*. Springer, 2014.

The Allen–Cahn equation with random coefficients

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_t u &= \Delta u + q(\mathbf{x}, \omega)u - u^3, & \mathbf{x} \in D \subset \mathbb{R}^d, p \in \mathbb{R}, \\ u &= 0, & \mathbf{x} \in \partial D, \mathbb{P}\text{-almost surely,}\end{aligned}$$

where

- $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$: probability space,
- $q(\mathbf{x}, \omega) : \overline{D} \times \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$: random coefficient function,
- $u = u(t, \mathbf{x}, \omega)$: random solution.

Assumption 1

We assume the random field $q(\mathbf{x}, \omega)$ to be of the following form

$$q(\mathbf{x}, \omega) = p + g(\mathbf{x}, \omega), \quad p \in \mathbb{R}$$

- $\mathbb{E}[g(\mathbf{x}, \omega)] = 0, \forall \mathbf{x} \in \overline{D},$

Assumption 1

We assume the random field $q(\mathbf{x}, \omega)$ to be of the following form

$$q(\mathbf{x}, \omega) = p + g(\mathbf{x}, \omega), \quad p \in \mathbb{R}$$

- $\mathbb{E}[g(\mathbf{x}, \omega)] = 0, \forall \mathbf{x} \in \overline{D},$

- Same structure as the classic AC with an additional linear term
- $\mathbb{E}[q(\mathbf{x}, \omega)] = p$: bifurcation parameter is a **hyper-parameter** of the random field model

Assumption 1

We assume the random field $q(\mathbf{x}, \omega)$ to be of the following form

$$q(\mathbf{x}, \omega) = p + g(\mathbf{x}, \omega), \quad p \in \mathbb{R}$$

- $\mathbb{E}[g(\mathbf{x}, \omega)] = 0, \forall \mathbf{x} \in \overline{D},$
- g is uniformly bounded: $\exists \bar{g} \in \mathbb{R}$ s.t. $\mathbb{P}(\omega \in \Omega : |g(\mathbf{x}, \omega)| \leq \bar{g} \forall \mathbf{x} \in \overline{D}) = 1,$

- Same structure as the classic AC with an additional linear term
- $\mathbb{E}[q(\mathbf{x}, \omega)] = p$: bifurcation parameter is a **hyper-parameter of the random field model**

Assumption 2

We assume that the random field $g(\mathbf{x}, \omega)$ is parametrized by a finite number N of independent random variables $Y_n(\omega)$, $n = 1, \dots, N$ with $\mathbf{Y}(\omega) = [Y_1(\omega), \dots, Y_N(\omega)]$ such that

- $\mathbf{Y} : \Omega \rightarrow \Gamma$, $\omega \mapsto \mathbf{y} = [y_1, \dots, y_N]$,
- $\rho : \Gamma \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$, $\rho(\mathbf{y}) = \prod_{i=1}^N \rho_i(y_i)$: joint probability density function.

Assumption 2

We assume that the random field $g(\mathbf{x}, \omega)$ is parametrized by a finite number N of independent random variables $Y_n(\omega)$, $n = 1, \dots, N$ with $\mathbf{Y}(\omega) = [Y_1(\omega), \dots, Y_N(\omega)]$ such that

- $\mathbf{Y} : \Omega \rightarrow \Gamma$, $\omega \mapsto \mathbf{y} = [y_1, \dots, y_N]$,
- $\rho : \Gamma \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$, $\rho(\mathbf{y}) = \prod_{i=1}^N \rho_i(y_i)$: joint probability density function.

- The AC with random coefficients is now posed on the **finite-dimensional probability space** $(\Gamma, \mathcal{B}(\Gamma), \mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{Y}})$
- $g, u : \overline{D} \times \Gamma \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

The Allen–Cahn equation with random coefficients

Bifurcation analysis

We turn the Allen–Cahn equation with random coefficients to the following [parametric form](#)

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta u + pu + g(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})u - u^3 &= 0, & \mathbf{x} \in D, \\ u &= 0, & \mathbf{x} \in \partial D, \mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{Y}} - \text{a.s.}\end{aligned}$$

The Allen–Cahn equation with random coefficients

Bifurcation analysis

We turn the Allen–Cahn equation with random coefficients to the following **parametric form**

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta u + pu + g(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})u - u^3 &= 0, & \mathbf{x} \in D, \\ u &= 0, & \mathbf{x} \in \partial D, \mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{Y}} - \text{a.s.}\end{aligned}$$

Bifurcation points: $(p_i^*(\mathbf{y}), 0)$

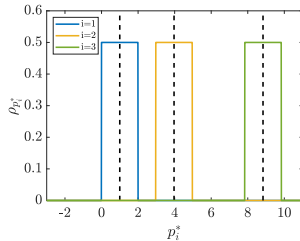
- $\hat{F}(p, u) := \Delta u + pu + g(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})u - u^3$
- $D_u \hat{F}(p, 0)v = \Delta v + pv + g(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})v.$
- $p_i^*(\mathbf{y}) = -\lambda_i^g(\mathbf{y})$, where λ_i^g is the i th-eigenvalue of $\Delta v + g(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})v$.

The Allen–Cahn equation with random coefficients

Bifurcation analysis

If $g(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = g(\mathbf{y})$:

$$p_i^*(\mathbf{y}) = -\lambda_i - g(\mathbf{y})$$



$$g(x, y) = y, Y \sim \text{Unif}[-1, 1]$$

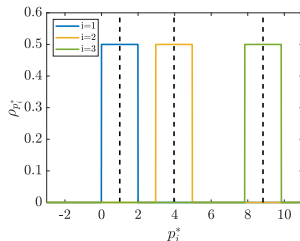
³A. Chernov and T. Lê. “Analytic and Gevrey Class Regularity for Parametric Elliptic Eigenvalue Problems and Applications”. In: *SIAM Journal on Numerical Analysis* (2024)

The Allen–Cahn equation with random coefficients

Bifurcation analysis

If $g(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = g(\mathbf{y})$:

$$p_i^*(\mathbf{y}) = -\lambda_i - g(\mathbf{y})$$



$$g(x, y) = y, Y \sim \text{Unif}[-1, 1]$$

In general:

Proposition

If g is \mathbf{y} -analytic, the bifurcation values arising in correspondence of a simple eigenvalue are realizations of an associated random variable $p_i^*(\mathbf{Y})$.

It follows from the analyticity of such eigenvalues³.

³A. Chernov and T. Lê. “Analytic and Gevrey Class Regularity for Parametric Elliptic Eigenvalue Problems and Applications”. In: *SIAM Journal on Numerical Analysis* (2024)

The Allen–Cahn equation with random coefficients

Bifurcation analysis

Non-trivial branches of equilibria: $\gamma(\mathbf{y}) = \{(p, u(p, \mathbf{y})) \mid p \geq p^*(\mathbf{y})\}$

The Allen–Cahn equation with random coefficients

Bifurcation analysis

Non-trivial branches of equilibria: $\gamma(\mathbf{y}) = \{(p, u(p, \mathbf{y})) \mid p \geq p^*(\mathbf{y})\}$

- For $\mathbf{y} \in \Gamma$ fixed, derivatives of $\hat{F}(p, u)$ looks similar to the classic case. We conclude that the bifurcations are of type **supercritical pitchfork**.

The Allen–Cahn equation with random coefficients

Bifurcation analysis

Non-trivial branches of equilibria: $\gamma(\mathbf{y}) = \{(p, u(p, \mathbf{y})) \mid p \geq p^*(\mathbf{y})\}$

- For $\mathbf{y} \in \Gamma$ fixed, derivatives of $\hat{F}(p, u)$ looks similar to the classic case. We conclude that the bifurcations are of type **supercritical pitchfork**.
- Let $\mathbf{y} \in \Gamma$ be fixed. Then the curve $\gamma(\mathbf{y})$ can be parametrized as follows

$$\gamma(\mathbf{y}) = \{(r(s, \mathbf{y}), u(s, \mathbf{y})) \mid s \in [0, S], (r(0, \mathbf{y}), u(0, \mathbf{y})) = (p^*(\mathbf{y}), 0)\}$$

$$\{\gamma(s, \mathbf{Y})\}_{s \in [0, S]} = \{(r(s, \mathbf{Y}), u(s, \mathbf{Y}))\}_{s \in [0, S]} \quad \text{random parametrized curve}$$

The Allen–Cahn equation with random coefficients

Bifurcation analysis

Non-trivial branches of equilibria: $\gamma(\mathbf{y}) = \{(p, u(p, \mathbf{y})) \mid p \geq p^*(\mathbf{y})\}$

- For $\mathbf{y} \in \Gamma$ fixed, derivatives of $\hat{F}(p, u)$ looks similar to the classic case. We conclude that the bifurcations are of type **supercritical pitchfork**.
- Let $\mathbf{y} \in \Gamma$ be fixed. Then the curve $\gamma(\mathbf{y})$ can be parametrized as follows

$$\gamma(\mathbf{y}) = \{(r(s, \mathbf{y}), u(s, \mathbf{y})) \mid s \in [0, S], (r(0, \mathbf{y}), u(0, \mathbf{y})) = (p^*(\mathbf{y}), 0)\}$$

$$\{\gamma(s, \mathbf{Y})\}_{s \in [0, S]} = \{(r(s, \mathbf{Y}), u(s, \mathbf{Y}))\}_{s \in [0, S]} \quad \text{random parametrized curve}$$

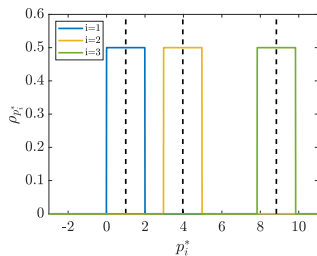
- Mean bifurcation curve:**

$$\bar{\gamma}_i: = \{(\bar{r}(s), \bar{u}(s)) = (\mathbb{E}[r(s, \mathbf{Y})], \mathbb{E}[u(s, \mathbf{Y})]) , s \in [0, S], (\bar{r}(0), \bar{u}(0)) = (\mathbb{E}[p_i^*(\mathbf{Y})], 0)\}$$

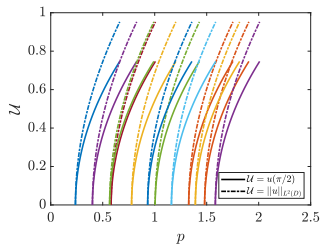
The Allen–Cahn equation with random coefficients

Spatially-homogeneous coefficients

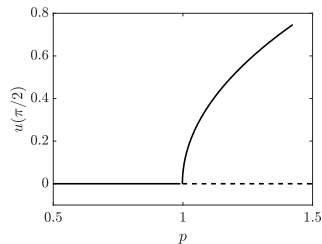
We consider the 1d Allen–Cahn equation on $D = [0, \pi]$ with $g(x, y) = y$, $Y \sim \text{Unif}[-1, 1]$.



Pdf of p_i^*



Samples of $\gamma_1(Y)$



Mean bifurcation diagram

- 1 Motivation
- 2 The Allen–Cahn equation
- 3 Numerical method and results**
- 4 Summary and outlook

The Polynomial Chaos expansion⁴

Bifurcation points:

$$p_i^*(\mathbf{Y})$$

$$p_i^*(\mathbf{y}) \approx p_{\text{PC}}^*(\mathbf{y}) = \sum_{\alpha \in \Lambda} \widehat{p}_{\alpha}^* \psi_{\alpha}(\mathbf{y})$$

Bifurcation curves:

$$\{(r(s, \mathbf{Y}), u(s, \mathbf{Y}))\}, \text{ } s \text{ fixed}$$

$$r(s, \mathbf{y}) \approx r_{\text{PC}}(s, \mathbf{y}) := \sum_{\alpha \in \Lambda} \widehat{r}_{\alpha}(s) \psi_{\alpha}(\mathbf{y}),$$

$$u(r, \mathbf{y}) \approx u_{\text{PC}}(s, \mathbf{y}) := \sum_{\alpha \in \Lambda} \widehat{u}_{\alpha}(s) \psi_{\alpha}(\mathbf{y})$$

where ψ_{α} are $\rho(\mathbf{y})d\mathbf{y}$ -orthonormal multivariate polynomials of degree α_n in the variable y_n and $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_N) \in \mathbb{N}_{\geq 0}^N$.

⁴D. Xiu and G. E. Karniadakis. "The Wiener–Askey Polynomial Chaos for Stochastic Differential Equations". In: *SIAM Journal on Scientific Computing* (2002)

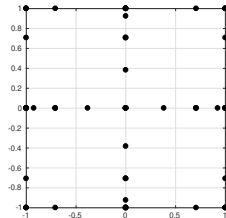
The PC expansion

❖ Which family of polynomials?

- Legendre polynomials for uniform random variables
- ...

❖ How to compute the coefficients? [Stochastic collocation](#)

- Set of collocation points \rightarrow [sparse grid](#)
- Type of points chosen according to the distribution of \mathbf{Y}
 - Uniform r.v.: Gauss–Legendre, Leja, Clenshaw–Curtis, ...
 - ...
- Convert the sparse-grids-based Lagrange approximation to a PC approximation



The PC expansion: bifurcation points⁵

$$\text{Bifurcation points: } p_i^*(\mathbf{Y}) \rightarrow p_1^*(\mathbf{y}) \approx p_{\text{PC}}^*(\mathbf{y}) = \sum_{\alpha \in \Lambda} \widehat{p}_{\alpha}^* \psi_{\alpha}(\mathbf{y})$$

- Solve a set of **independent deterministic eigenvalue problems** at the collocation points.
- Remember that $p_i^*(\mathbf{y}) = -\lambda_i^g(\mathbf{y})$

⁵B. Sousedík et al. “On surrogate learning for linear stability assessment of Navier-Stokes Equations with stochastic viscosity”. In: *Applications of Mathematics* (2022)

The PC expansion: bifurcation curves

Bifurcation curves:

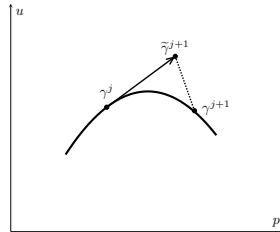
$$\{(r(s, \mathbf{Y}), u(s, \mathbf{Y}))\}, \quad s \text{ fixed}$$

$$r(s, \mathbf{y}) \approx r_{\text{PC}}(s, \mathbf{y}) := \sum_{\alpha \in \Lambda} \hat{r}_{\alpha}(s) \psi_{\alpha}(\mathbf{y}),$$

$$u(r, \mathbf{y}) \approx u_{\text{PC}}(s, \mathbf{y}) := \sum_{\alpha \in \Lambda} \hat{u}_{\alpha}(s) \psi_{\alpha}(\mathbf{y})$$

→ Approximate a set of **independent deterministic branches** arising at the collocation points.

- We need to solve a parametric nonlinear root-finding problem
- **Numerical continuation**
- s is the **pseudo-arclength parameter**



Implementation

❖ PC expansion: [The Sparse Grids Matlab Kit](#)

- <https://github.com/lorenzo-tamellini/sparse-grids-matlab-kit>
- [C. Piazzola and L. Tamellini](#). “Algorithm 1040: The Sparse Grids Matlab Kit - a Matlab implementation of sparse grids for high-dimensional function approximation and uncertainty quantification”. In: *ACM Transactions on Mathematical Software* (2024)

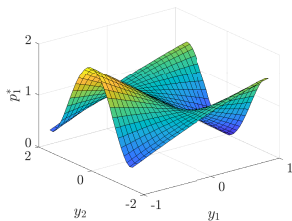
❖ Numerical continuation solver: [Continuation Core and Toolboxes \(COCO\)](#)

- <https://sourceforge.net/projects/cocotools/>
- [H. Dankowicz and F. Schilder](#). *Recipes for Continuation*. [Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics](#), 2013

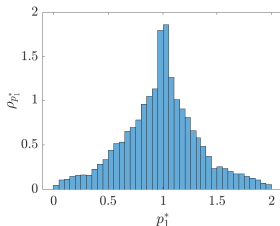
Numerical results

Bifurcation points

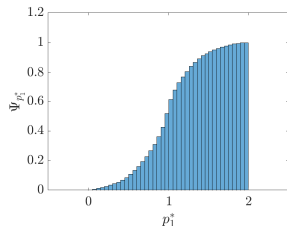
We consider the 1d Allen–Cahn equation on $D = [0, \pi]$ with $g(x, \mathbf{Y}) = Y_1 \cos(Y_2 x)$, where $Y_1 \sim U([-1, 1])$, $Y_2 \sim U([-\pi/2, \pi/2])$.



gPC approximation of p_1^*



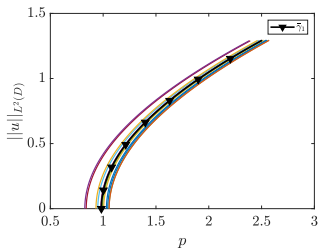
Pdf of p_1^*



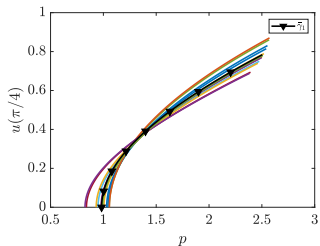
Cdf of p_1^*

Numerical results

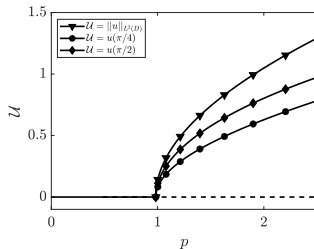
Bifurcation curves



Realizations and mean branch



Realizations and mean branch



Mean bifurcation diagram

→ Mean branch $\bar{\gamma}_1$ can be constructed by taking the first coefficient.

- 1 Motivation
- 2 The Allen–Cahn equation
- 3 Numerical method and results
- 4 Summary and outlook**

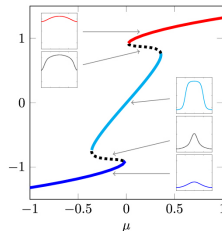
Summary & Outlook

- ❖ Bifurcation analysis of the Allen–Cahn equation with random coefficients
 - Turn the stochastic problem into a set of deterministic ones
 - Apply the tools from deterministic bifurcation analysis

⁶R. Bastiaansen, H. A Dijkstra, and A. S von der Heydt. “Fragmented tipping in a spatially heterogeneous world”. In: *Environmental Research Letters* (2022)

❖ Bifurcation analysis of the Allen–Cahn equation with random coefficients

- Turn the stochastic problem into a set of deterministic ones
 - Apply the tools from deterministic bifurcation analysis
- Examine other type of bifurcations, e.g. fold points



$$\partial_t u = \partial_x^2 u + u(1 - u^2) + g(x) + \mu^6.$$

⁶R. Bastiaansen, H. A Dijkstra, and A. S von der Heydt. “Fragmented tipping in a spatially heterogeneous world”. In: *Environmental Research Letters* (2022)

Summary & Outlook

- ❖ Forward UQ analysis of bifurcations by means of the PC expansion
 - Representation of bifurcation points and branches of equilibria
 - ➔ Explore possible structures in the solution, e.g. patterns, travelling waves?

Summary & Outlook

- ❖ Forward UQ analysis of bifurcations by means of the PC expansion
 - Representation of bifurcation points and branches of equilibria
 - Explore possible structures in the solution, e.g. patterns, travelling waves?
- ❖ Mean value of the random coefficient is a bifurcation parameter
 - What about other hyper-parameters of the random field model?

C. Kuehn, C. Piazzola, and E. Ullmann. “Uncertainty quantification analysis of bifurcations of the Allen–Cahn equation with random coefficients”. In: *Physica D: Nonlinear Phenomena* (2024)

Thank you for the attention!



UNTERSTÜTZT VON / SUPPORTED BY

Alexander von
HUMBOLDT
STIFTUNG