# The Kuramoto-Sivashinsky Equation

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#### Abstract

This is the abstract. Write smart things here.

# Introduction

The Kuramoto-Sivashinsky equation,

$$u_t + u_{xx} + u_{xxx} + uu_x = 0 \tag{1}$$

is one of the simplest partial differential equations that exhibits complicated dynamics in both time and space, which is why the equation has been the attention for a lot of research. The equation was developed by two scientists at the same time in 1977 [1]. Gregory Sivashinsky determined an equation for a laminar flame front, while Yoshiki Kuramoto modeled a diffusion-induced chaos using the same equation. Because of this, the equation is named Kuramoto-Sivashinsky. The KS-equation also models the motion of a fluid going down a vertical wall, e.g. solitary pulses in a falling thin film. [2]

The reason for the complex behaviour comes from the second- and fourth-order derivatives in (1). While the second-order term acts as an energy source and has a destabilizing effect, the fourth-order term has a stabilizing effect. In addition to this, the nonlinear term transfers energy from low to high wave numbers. [3] The KS-equation is a stiff equation, i.e. an equation where numerical methods for solving it are numerically unstable, unless the step size is extremely small.  $u_{xxxx}$  is the main reason for this as it leads to rapid variation in the solution.

### Numerical results

#### Initial conditions

In the solution of the KS-equation we had periodic boundary conditions, i.e. u(0,t)=u(L,t). We also used L-periodic initial conditions. We experienced that a common initial condition used in several other reports was

$$u(x,0) = \cos(\frac{x}{16})(1+\sin(\frac{x}{16}). \tag{2}$$

We also tried the initial condition

$$u(x,0) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\sin(x) - \frac{1}{8}\sin(2x),\tag{3}$$

which worked well. The L-periodic initial conditions is customarily taken [4] to satisfy

$$\int_0^L f(x) \, \mathrm{d}x = 0,\tag{4}$$

which both of our initial conditions satisfy. The same article also states that for L-periodic initial data, a unique solution for (1) exits, and is bounded as  $t \to \infty$ . The bound has been proven to be smaller than  $O(L^{8/5})$ . In our numerical tests, with t = 5000, the initial condition (2) did indeed not exceed the bound, nor did (3).

## Stability

Von Neumann stability analysis is a method based on Fourier decomposition of numerical error, and is used to check the stability of linear pde-s. Since the KS-equation has a non-linear term,  $\frac{1}{2}(u^2)_x$ , this has to be linearized before the method is applied. The KS-equation is stiff, and the non-linear term stabilizes the equation. Replacing it by  $\frac{1}{2}(\rho(x)u)_x$ , where  $\rho(x) \approx u(x)$  is constant in time, we obtain

$$u_t = -u_{xx} - u_{xxxx} - \frac{1}{2} (\rho(x)u)_x.$$
 (5)

Choosing  $\rho(x)=f(x,0),$  where  $f(x,0)=U^0,$  we obtain the linearized scheme

$$\left(I + \frac{k}{h^2}A + \frac{k}{h^4}A^2\right)U^{n+1} = \left(I - \frac{k}{h^2}A - \frac{k}{h^4}A^2 - \frac{k}{4h}DR\right)U^n,$$

which written out becomes

$$\begin{split} U_m^{n+1} + \frac{k}{h^2} (U_{m+1}^{n+1} - 2U_m^{n+1} + U_{m-1}^{n+1}) + \frac{k}{h^4} (U_{m+2}^{n+1} - 4U_{m+1}^{n+1} + 6U_m^{n+1} - 4U_{m-1}^{n+1} n + U_{m-2}^{n+1}) \\ &= U_m^n - \frac{k}{h^2} (U_{m+1}^n - 2U_m^n + U_{m-1}^n) - \frac{k}{h^4} (U_{m+2}^n - 4U_{m+1}^n + 6U_m^n - 4U_{m-1}^n + U_{m-2}^n) \\ &\qquad \qquad - \frac{k}{4h} (U_{m+1}^0 U_{m+1}^n - U_{m-1}^0 U_{m-1}^n) \end{split}$$

Let  $U_m^n = \xi^n e^{i\beta x_m}$  and  $U_m^0 = \xi^0 e^{i\beta x_m} = e^{i\beta x_m}$  such that

$$\begin{split} \xi(1+\frac{k}{h^2}(e^{i\beta h}-2+e^{-i\beta h})+\frac{k}{h^4}(e^{2i\beta h}-4e^{i\beta h}+6-4e^{-i\beta h}+e^{-2i\beta h})\\ =1-\frac{k}{h^2}(e^{i\beta h}-2+e^{-i\beta h})-\frac{k}{h^4}(e^{2i\beta h}-4e^{i\beta h}+6-4e^{-i\beta h}+e^{-2i\beta h})\\ -\frac{k}{4h}(e^{i\beta h}e^{i\beta h}-e^{-i\beta h}e^{-i\beta h}) \end{split}$$

$$\xi = \frac{1 - \frac{k}{h^2}(\cos(\beta h) - 1) - \frac{k}{2h^4}(6 - 8\cos(\beta h) + \cos(2\beta h)) - \frac{k}{2h}i\sin(2\beta h)}{1 + \frac{k}{h^2}(\cos(\beta h) - 1) + \frac{k}{2h^4}(6 - 8\cos(\beta h) + 2\cos(2\beta h))}$$

$$= \frac{1 + \frac{2k}{h^2}\sin^2\left(\frac{\beta h}{2}\right) - \frac{8k}{h^4}\sin^4\left(\frac{\beta h}{2}\right) - \frac{k}{2h}\sin^2(2\beta h)}{1 - \frac{2k}{h^2}\sin^2\left(\frac{\beta h}{2}\right) + \frac{8k}{h^4}\sin^4\left(\frac{\beta h}{2}\right)}$$

Let  $q = \sin^2(\frac{\beta h}{2})$  and  $r = \frac{k}{h^4}$ . The Von Neumann's stability criterion claims there is a constant  $\mu \ge 0$  such that  $|\xi| \le 1 + \mu k$ .

$$|\xi|^2 = \left(\frac{1 + 2rq(h^2 - 4q)}{1 - 2rq(h^2 - 4q)}\right)^2 + \frac{1}{4} \frac{krh^2 \sin^2(2\beta h)}{\left(1 - 2rq(h^2 - 4q)\right)^2}$$

Maximizing  $-2rq(4q-h^2)$  wrt q gives  $q=h^2/8$ , which replaced in the equation gives

$$\begin{split} |\xi|^2 & \leq \left(\frac{1 + rh^4/8}{1 - rh^4/8}\right)^2 + \frac{1}{4}kh^2r\frac{\sin(2\beta h)}{(1 - rh^4/8)^2} \\ & \leq \left(\frac{1 + rh^4/8}{1 - rh^4/8}\right)^2 + k\frac{rh^2}{4} \end{split}$$

This expression is dependent on both k and h, so the method is not stable. This is expected, since the linearized KS-equation is unstable in numerical experiments.

$$U^{n+1} = \left(I - \frac{k}{h^2}A - \frac{k}{h^4}A^2 - \frac{k}{4h}D(RU^n)\right)$$

$$U_m^{n+1} = U_m^n - \frac{k}{h^2} (U_{m+1}^n - 2U_m^n + U_{m-1}^n) - \frac{k}{h^4} (U_{m+2}^n - 4U_{m+1}^n + 6U_m^n - 4U_{m-1}^n + U_{m-2}^n) - \frac{k}{4h} (U_{m+1}^0 U_{m+1}^n - U_{m-1}^0 U_{m-1}^n)$$

Let  $U_m^n = \xi^n e^{i\beta x_m}$  and  $U_m^0 = \xi^0 e^{i\beta x_m} = e^{i\beta x_m}$  s.t.

$$\xi = 1 - \frac{k}{h^2} (e^{i\beta h} - 2 + e^{-i\beta h}) - \frac{k}{h^4} (e^{2i\beta h} - 4e^{i\beta h} + 6 - 4e^{-i\beta h} + e^{-2i\beta h}) - \frac{k}{4h} (e^{i\beta h} e^{i\beta h} - e^{-i\beta h} e^{-i\beta h})$$
2k k

$$=1-\frac{2k}{h^2}(\cos(\beta h)-1)-\frac{k}{h^4}(6-8\cos(\beta h)+2\cos(2\beta h))-\frac{k}{4h}2i\sin(2\beta h)$$

The Von Neumann's stability criterion claims there is a constant  $\mu \geq 0$  such that  $|\xi| \leq 1 + \mu k$ . Let  $r = r/k^4$ .

$$|\xi|^2 = (1 - 4rh^2(\cos(\beta h) - 1) - 2r(3 - 4\cos(\beta h) + \cos(2\beta h)))^2 + k\frac{rh^2}{4}\sin^2(2\beta h)$$
$$= \left(1 + 4rh^2\sin^2\left(\frac{\beta h}{2}\right) - 16r\sin^4\left(\frac{\beta h}{2}\right)\right)^2 + k\left(\frac{rh^2}{4}\sin^2(2\beta h)\right)$$

We want  $|\xi| \leq 1 + \mu k$ , so we need  $\psi = |1 + 4rh^2 \sin^2\left(\frac{\beta h}{2}\right) - 16r \sin^4\left(\frac{\beta h}{2}\right)| \leq 1 + \tilde{\mu}k$ . Let  $q = \sin^2\left(\frac{\beta h}{2}\right)$ . For the case  $(1 \leq 16rq^2 \leq 2)$  we achieve

$$\psi = \left| 1 + 4rh^2q - 16rq^2 \right| \le 1 \underset{0 \le x \le 1}{\Longrightarrow} (1/16 \le r \le 1/8)$$

For the case  $(0 \le 16rq^2 \le 1)$  we get no further result. Let us now assume that  $(1 \le 16rq^2 \le 2)$  and r = 1/8.

$$|\xi|^2 = \left(1 + \frac{4}{8}qh^2 - \frac{16}{8}q^2\right)^2 + k\frac{h^2}{4\cdot 8}\sin(2\beta h)$$
 
$$\max\left(1 + \frac{xh^2}{2} - 2x^2\right)|(0 \le x \le 1) \text{gives } x = \frac{h^2}{8}$$

#### References

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