Memory and universality in interface growth

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Abstract

In many physical systems, the interface of a stable phase growing into an unstable one exhibits, in presence of noise, a remarkably universal behavior, independent of the details of the growth mechanism: this is called the Kardar-Parisi-Zhang (KPZ) class of growth phenomena. Recent improvements in experimental protocols and theoretical methods led to major progress in understanding of this class, except for one important aspect: do statistical correlations survive during the time evolution? Here we provide a first analytical result, and a smoking gun experiment for it, which show how the memory of past growth is kept at later times in a quantitative manner. Our finding highlights persistent memory effects in non-equilibrium phenomena, which may also exist beyond the KPZ class. Ref: Jacopo De Nardis, Pierre Le Doussal, Kazumasa A. Takeuchi, arXiv:1611.04756

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