# THERMAL ROUNDING OF THE DEPINNING TRANSITION



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# THERMAL ROUNDING OF THE DEPINNING TRANSITION

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A. Mougin et al, LPS, Orsay – PT/Co/PT film – Kerr microscopy



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Ferromagnets out-of-plane anisotropy semiconductors Ferroelectrics Vortex lattices in High Tc Charge density waves Friction – sliding surfaces earthquakes

#### **Common ingredients:**

- $\checkmark$  interface degrees of freedom
- underlaying disorder
- driving force

#### Others:

thermal fluctuations

long-range forces dimensionality non-harmonic effects



#### One dimension



typical time spent close to the critical position









scaling hypotesis:

the order parameter is a homogeneous function of the state variables (universality, scaling relations among exponents)

$$V = \lambda f \left[ \frac{F - F_c}{F_c} \lambda^{-1/\beta}, T \lambda^{-1/\psi} \right]$$

$$M = \lambda f \left[ \frac{T_c - T}{T_c} \lambda^{-1/\beta}, H \lambda^{-\delta} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow V = T^{\psi} f\left[\frac{F - F_c}{F_c} T^{-\psi/\beta}, 1\right]$$

$$\Rightarrow M = H^{1/\delta} f\left[\frac{T_c - T}{T_c} H^{-1/\beta\delta}, 1\right]$$





How far can this analogy be taken?



## Minimum ingredients:

- interface degrees of freedom
- underlaying disorder
- driving force
- thermal fluctuations

experimental data, Pt/Co/Pt thin films, P. Metaxas et al 2007

#### Disorder elastic system

## Minimum ingredients:

- interface degrees of freedom
- underlaying disorder
- driving force
- thermal fluctuations

$$\mathcal{H}[u] = \int_{L} dz \left[ \frac{c}{2} \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \right)^{2} + V(u, x) + Fu \right]$$

Hamiltonian

# $\frac{\partial u(z,t)}{\partial t} = -\frac{\delta \mathcal{H}[u(z,t)]}{\delta u(z,t)} + \eta(z,t)$ overdamped equation of motion

$$\frac{\partial u(z,t)}{\partial t} = \nu \frac{\partial^2 u(z,t)}{\partial z^2} + \xi(u,z) + \eta(z,t)$$

uncorrelated Random bond disorder

$$\overline{V(u,z)} = 0$$
  
$$\overline{V(u,z)V(u',z')} = D_{\rm RB}\delta(u-u')\delta(z-z')$$

#### uncorrelated thermal noise

$$\langle \eta(z,t) \rangle = 0$$
  
 $\langle \eta(z,t)\eta(z',t') \rangle = 2\gamma T \delta(z-z') \delta(t-t')$ 



#### **Geometrical regimes**

$$\mathcal{H}[u] = \int_{L} dz \left[ \frac{c}{2} \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \right)^{2} + V(u, x) \right]$$

competition between elasticity and disorder



roughness function (heigh-heigh correlation)

$$B(r) = \overline{\left\langle \left[ u(z,r) - u(z) \right]^2 \right\rangle}$$

 $B(r) \sim r^{2\zeta}$  with  $\zeta$  the roughness exponent

power-law behavior, signature of self-affine properties

#### **Geometrical regimes**

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random matrix numerical simulation

#### **Geometrical regimes**

$$\mathcal{H}[u] = \int_{L} dz \left[ \frac{c}{2} \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \right)^{2} + V(u, x) \right]$$

competition between elasticity and disorder



 $\zeta_{eq} = 2/3$ 

equilibrium roughness exponent (zero force and zero temperature)

$$\zeta_{eq} > \zeta_{\rm random-walk} = 1/2$$

$$B(r) = \overline{\left\langle \left[ u(z,r) - u(z) \right]^2 \right\rangle}$$

 $B(r) \sim r^{2\zeta}$  with  $\zeta$  the roughness exponent

power-law behavior, signature of self-affine properties

the interface adjust to the disorder environment and roughens

**Geometrical regimes** 

### equilibrium

 $\zeta_{eq} = 2/3$ 



**Geometrical regimes** 



#### **Geometrical regimes**

fast flow

$$\partial_t u(z,t) = \nu \partial_z^2 u(z,t) + \xi(u,z) = \nu \partial_z^2 u(z,t) + \xi(vt,z)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\xi}(t,z) &= \xi(vt,z) \\ \overline{\tilde{\xi}(t,z)\tilde{\xi}(t',z')} &= \frac{D}{v}\delta(t-t')\delta(z-z') \end{aligned}$$

disorder becomes an effective "thermal" noise of intensity

$$\zeta_{FF} = \zeta_{\rm thermal} = \zeta_{\rm random-walk}$$

 $\frac{D}{v}$ 

$$\zeta_{FF} = 1/2$$

#### **Geometrical regimes**

fast flow

B(r,

$$\partial_t u(z,t) = \nu \partial_z^2 u(z,t) + \xi(u,z) = \nu \partial_z^2 u(z,t) + \xi(vt,z)$$

$$\frac{\tilde{\xi}(t,z)}{\tilde{\xi}(t,z)\tilde{\xi}(t',z')} = \frac{D}{v}\delta(t-t')\delta(z-z')$$

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta_{FF} &= 1/2 \\ S(q,t) &= \langle u(q,t)u(-q,t) \rangle \\ t) &= \int \frac{dq}{\pi} \left[ 1 - \cos\left(qr\right) \right] \, S(q) \\ \text{same information if } \zeta < 1 \end{aligned}$$



**Geometrical regimes** 



**Geometrical regimes** 



#### **Geometrical regimes**

#### depinning configuration

the interface becomes rougher: it is ready to move but stand still



Rosso, Krauth, PRE, 2001 Ferrero, Bustingorry, Kolton, PRE 2013

**Geometrical regimes** 



**Geometrical regimes** 

typical size of an "avalanche" which is critically pinned and detach  $\xi \sim (F - F_c)^{-\nu}$ ur flow divergent correlation length from above Is there a divergent correlation depinning length from below?  $f_c$ 

#### Geometrical regimes



sequence of metastable states

- *L<sub>opt</sub>* optimal size of the interface, necessary to excite to go to the next metastable state (steady state property)
- *L<sub>relax</sub>* relaxed size of the next metastable state (transient dynamics)

$$L_{opt} \sim F^{-\nu_{eq}} \qquad \nu_{eq} = 3/4$$



#### **Geometrical regimes**



#### **Geometrical regimes**

divergent steady state length scales



dynamic length **not as in standard critical phenomena** 

Kolton et al, PRL, 2006; PRB 2009

Dynamical regimes





#### **Dynamical regimes**



Beach et al, Nat Mat, 2005

#### **Dynamical regimes**



 $\beta = 0.245 \pm 0.006$  $\nu = 1.333 \pm 0.007$ 

numerical studies of relaxation properties in extremely large elastic line systems

zero temperature depinning

$$F \leq F_c \quad \Rightarrow \quad V = 0$$
  
$$F \gtrsim F_c \quad \Rightarrow \quad \begin{cases} V \sim (F - F_c)^{\beta} \\ \xi \sim (F - F_c)^{-\nu} \end{cases}$$

 $\beta = 0.25$  :depinning exponent

$$\nu = 4/3$$
 :correlation length exponent



FIG. 13. (Color online) String velocity v(t) as a function of time for the RB case with uniformly distributed disorder for which  $f_c =$ 1.5652 using  $\delta t = 0.1$ . The system size is  $L = 4\,194\,304$ . In (a) we present the raw data, and in (b) v(t, f) has been rescaled to  $vt^{\beta/vz}$  and t to  $t^{1/z}|f - f_c|^v$ . Ferrero, Bustingorry, Kolton, PRE 2013

#### Dynamical regimes



creep: simple scaling argument

energy scale

$$\mathcal{H} \sim \int dz (\partial_z u)^2 \Rightarrow U \sim \ell^{2\zeta + d - 2} \sim \ell^{\theta}$$

energy exponent  $\theta = 2\zeta_{eq} + d - 2$ 

the movement is achieved by overcoming the barriers associated to the optimal length

velocity is given by Arrhenius activation over this characteristic energy scale

$$U \sim L_{opt}^{\theta} \sim F^{-\theta\nu}$$

$$= V_0 \exp\left(-\frac{U}{k_B T}\right) = V_0 \exp\left[-\frac{U_c}{k_B T} \left(\frac{F}{F_c}\right)^{-\mu}\right]$$

$$(d=1)$$
  $\mu = 1/4$ 

Nattermann, PRL 1990 Chauve, Giamarchi, Le Doussal, PRB 2002

$$U(F) = U_c \left(\frac{F}{F_c}\right)^{-\mu}$$

creep exponent  $\mu = \frac{2\zeta_{eq} + d - 2}{2 - \zeta_{eq}}$ 

**Dynamical regimes** 

$$V = V_0 \exp\left(-\frac{U}{k_B T}\right) = V_0 \exp\left[-\frac{U_c}{k_B T} \left(\frac{F}{F_c}\right)^{-\mu}\right]$$

$$\mu = 1/4$$

robust exponent!



Numerically, disorder elastic system Kolton, Rosso, Giamarchi, PRL, 2005

Dynamical regimes

$$V = V_0 \exp\left(-\frac{U}{k_B T}\right) = V_0 \exp\left[-\frac{U_c}{k_B T}\left(\frac{F}{F_c}\right)^{-\mu}\right] \qquad \mu = 1/4 \text{ robust exponent!}$$

$$Pt/Co/Pt \text{ ferromagnetic ultrhin film (0.5nm)} LPS, Orsay \text{ Lemerle et al, PRL, 1998}$$

$$0 = \frac{1}{20} + \frac{1}{12} +$$

Metaxas et al, PRL, 2007

-30

0.2

0.4

0.6

H-1/4 (Oe-1/4)

0.8

1.0

Dynamical regimes

$$V = V_0 \exp\left(-\frac{U}{k_B T}\right) = V_0 \exp\left[-\frac{U_c}{k_B T} \left(\frac{F}{F_c}\right)^{-\mu}\right]$$

$$\mu = 1/4$$

robust exponent!



Pt/CoFe/Pt

ferromagnetic ultrthin film (0.3nm) Kim, Kim, Choe, IEEE TMag.,2009

different temperatures

Dynamical regimes

$$V = V_0 \exp\left(-\frac{U}{k_B T}\right) = V_0 \exp\left[-\frac{U_c}{k_B T} \left(\frac{F}{F_c}\right)^{-\mu}\right]$$

$$\mu = 1/4$$

robust exponent!



Pt/Co/Pt ferromagnetic nanowire Lee et al, PRL,2011

effective field including current induced velocity

$$H_{\mathrm{th}}^* = H - \varepsilon_{\mathrm{th}}J - \eta_{\mathrm{th}}J^2\sqrt{H - \varepsilon_{\mathrm{th}}J} + \frac{2}{5}\eta_{\mathrm{th}}^2J^4$$

#### **Dynamical regimes**





finite temperature depinning: Thermal rounding

from standard critical phenomena

 $F = F_c \Rightarrow V \sim T^{\psi}$ 

 $\psi$  :thermal rounding exponent



#### **Dynamical regimes**



$$\psi = 0.15 \pm 0.01$$

numerical simulation disodered elastic system finite temperature depinning: Thermal rounding

from standard critical phenomena

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#### **Dynamical regimes**



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#### **Dynamical regimes**

finite temperature depinning: Thermal rounding

$$F = F_c \Rightarrow V \sim T^{\psi}$$

$$F = F_c \Rightarrow \xi \sim T^{\psi\nu/\beta}$$

$$\xi \sim (F - F_c)^{-\nu} \sim V^{-\nu/\beta}$$

geometrical properties

$$\psi = 0.15 \pm 0.01$$

numerical simulation disodered elastic system



#### **Dynamical regimes**

$$F = F_c \Rightarrow V \sim T^{\psi}$$
$$F = F_c \Rightarrow \xi \sim T^{\psi\nu/\beta}$$

$$\xi \sim (F - F_c)^{-\nu} \sim V^{-\nu/\beta}$$

short time dynamics

$$\psi = 0.15 \pm 0.01$$

numerical simulation disodered elastic system

finite temperature depinning: Thermal rounding



#### Dynamical regimes



$$\psi = 0.20(6)$$

Pt/Co/Pt ultrathin fimls of thickness *s* Metaxas et al, PRL 2007 (LPS, Orsay)

#### first experimental data with the full three regimes

SCALING ANALISYS!

finite temperature depinning: Thermal rounding

from standard critical phenomena

 $F = F_c \Rightarrow V \sim T^{\psi}$ 

#### $\psi$ :thermal rounding exponent



#### **Dynamical regimes**



$$V = V_0 \, \exp\left[-\frac{U_c}{k_B T} \left(\frac{H_c}{H}\right)^{\mu}\right]$$

$$\mu = \frac{d-2+2\zeta}{2-\zeta}$$

$s[\mathrm{nm}]$	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	
$M_S[\mathrm{erg}/(\mathrm{G.cm}^3)]$	910	1130	1200	1310	
$K_{eff} [\mathrm{Merg}/\mathrm{cm}^3]$	3.2	4.5	3.2	2.0	
$A[\mu { m erg/cm}]$	1.4	1.6	1.8	2.2	
$\delta [ m nm]$	6.2	5.5	6.7	8.6	
m[m/(Oe.s)]	0.028	0.026	0.034	0.043	
$H^*(Oe)$	230	590	750	650	
$T_{dep}/T$	9	14	22	35	

 $\rm H_{_c}~y~T_{_{\rm dep}}$  has been originally obtained using the creep regime

Metaxas et al, PRL 20007

Dynamical regimes





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$T_c/T$	9	14	22	35
$H_c(\text{Oe})$	330	660	800	730
$T_c/T$	9.85	14.4	22.36	36.03

Mobility from the fast-flow regime

The critical field is now determined from the depinning regime

The depinning temperature is obtained from the creep law

#### Dynamical regimes

 $V \sim (F - F_c)^{\beta}$ 



$$\frac{V}{mH_c} \sim \left(\frac{H-H_c}{H_c}\right)^{\beta}$$

## experiment: scaled variables



Search for the value of  $H_c$  which better ajust to  $\beta = 1/3$ 

#### Dynamical regimes

 $\psi = 0.20(6)$ 0.8 - s = 0.5 nm 0.7 • s = 0.6 nm0.6 • s = 0.7 nm▲ s = 0.8 nm0.5 ∞ 0.4 0.3 0.2 0.1  $H_{\rm c}$ 0 200 400 600 800 1000 0  $H_{\rm c}^{\rm test}({\rm Oe})$ 

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					1
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$$V = V_0 \, \exp\left[-\frac{U_c}{k_B T} \left(\frac{H_c}{H}\right)^{\mu}\right]$$



Dynamical regimes





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- Mobility from the fast-flow regime
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$$V = V_0 \, \exp\left[-\frac{U_c}{k_B T} \left(\frac{H_c}{H}\right)^{\mu}\right]$$



#### effective temperature

#### Dynamical regimes



scaled variables

thermal rounding exponent

small value of the thermal rounding exponent consistent with numerical simulations

#### **Dynamical regimes**

Universal scaling function

$$\frac{V}{mH_c} \sim \left(\frac{T}{T_c}\right)^{\psi} G\left[\frac{H - H_c}{H_c} \left(\frac{T}{T_c}\right)^{-\psi/\beta}\right]$$

#### (as in standard critical phenomena)



**Dynamical regimes** 

#### New experimental results: Pt/Co/Pt at low temperatures



thickness s = 0.45nm KERR microscopy LPS, Orsay J. Gorchon, V. Jeudy, J. Ferré

temperature control 50 < T < 300



**Dynamical regimes** 

#### New experimental results: Pt/Co/Pt at low temperatures



thickness *s* = 0.45nm KERR microscopy LPS, Orsay J. Gorchon, V. Jeudy, J. Ferré

temperature control 50 < T < 300

the fast-flow regime is not well reached  $\rightarrow m$ ??

#### Dynamical regimes



T (K)	300	200	150	100	50
$M_s \ (\mathrm{erg}/\mathrm{G.cm}^3)$	800(40)	1120(50)	1260(60)	1370(70)	1470(80)
m(m/s.Oe)	0.085(0.04)	0.083(0.05)	0.091(0.05)	0.089(0.06)	0.102(0.07)
$H_{C-T}(creep)$ (Oe)	480(20)	720(30)	870(40)	1080(40)	1170(40)
$H_{C-T}(TAFF)$ (Oe)	470(20)	730(30)	890(40)	1070(40)	1190(40)
$H_{dep}(TAFF)$ (Oe)	920(30)	1060(50)	1360(30)	1480(50)	1500(40)
$H_{dep}(depin.)$ (Oe)	900(40)	1190(40)	1335(50)	1360(50)	1470(50)
$T_{dep}$ (K)	1880(110)	2500(150)	2700(160)	3200(190)	3500(210)

#### Dynamical regimes



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T (K)

**Dynamical regimes** 



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#### **Dynamical regimes**



$$v^0_{TAFF} \sim T^\psi$$

$$v_{TAFF}(H,T) = v_{TAFF}^0(T)e^{-\frac{T_{dep}}{T}\left(1 - \frac{H}{H_{dep}}\right)}$$

 $\psi = 0.15$ 

Dynamical regimes

v = mH

$$\begin{aligned} v_{dep}(H,T) &= v_{dep}^{0}(T)G\left[\frac{H - H_{dep}}{H_{dep}}\left(\frac{T}{T_{dep}}\right)^{-\psi/\beta}\right] \\ v_{TAFF}(H,T) &= v_{TAFF}^{0}(T)e^{-\frac{T_{dep}}{T}\left(1 - \frac{H}{H_{dep}}\right)} \\ v_{creep}(H,T) &= v_{creep}^{0}(T)e^{-\frac{T_{dep}}{T}\left(\frac{H_{dep}}{H}\right)^{\mu}} \end{aligned}$$

 $H_{dep}$ ,  $T_{dep}$  and m are temperature dependent parameters  $\rightarrow$  relevance of scaling variables

$$\frac{T}{T_{dep}}\approx 0.05$$



Partial conclusions

- We have shown that when  $F = F_c \Rightarrow V \sim T^{\psi}$ 

with a thermal rounding exponent  $\psi=0.15$ 

- We have shown, using proper scaling functions, that depinning in Pt/Co/Pt can be well described by EW-RM exponents

$$\beta = 0.25$$
  $\psi = 0.15$   $\mu = 0.25$   $\zeta = 1.25$ 

Many questions!!!

- Why EW-RM exponents? Is there a cut-off?
- What is the origin of the thermal rounding exponent?
- What about the geometrical properties?
- How does de TAFF come into play?
- More on temperature effects: current induced DW motion and Joule heat

#### Dynamical regimes



#### Dynamical regimes



THANKS