

# Non-classical large deviations in the AB model

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Workshop on Computation of Transition Trajectories  
and Rare Events in Non-Equilibrium Systems  
ENS Lyon, France  
13 June 2012

# Outline

## Study

- Low-noise large deviations for stationary distribution
- Fluctuation paths – instantons
- Nonequilibrium case
- Non-isolated attractor

## Plan

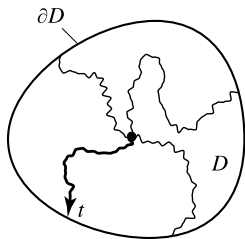
- 1 Recap on Freidlin-Wentzell theory
- 2 AB model – results
- 3 Conclusion



Freddy Bouchet (ENS Lyon), HT

Non-classical large deviations for a noisy system  
with non-isolated attractors, J. Stat. Mech. P05028, 2012

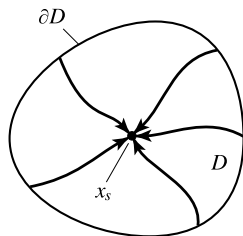
# Noise-perturbed dynamical systems



- Noisy system:

$$\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t)) + \sqrt{\nu} \xi(t)$$

- Gaussian white noise:  $\xi(t)$



- Zero-noise system:

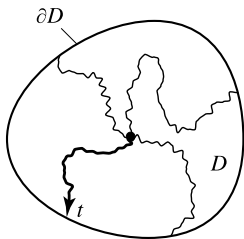
$$\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t))$$

- Fixed points:  $f(x^*) = 0$
- Attractor:  $x_s$

## Interesting probabilities

- Propagator:  $P(x, t | x_s, 0) \sim e^{-V(x,t)/\nu}$
- Stationary distribution:  $P(x) \sim e^{-V(x)/\nu}$

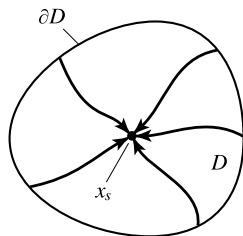
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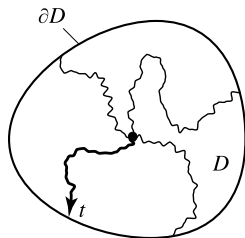
# Stationary distribution

- Path integral:

$$P(x, t | x_s, 0) = \int_{x_s, 0}^{x, t} \mathcal{D}[x] P[x]$$

- Path probability:

$$P[x] \sim e^{-I[x]/\nu}, \quad I[x] = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t (\dot{x} - f(x))^2 ds$$



## Large deviation approximation

$$P(x) \sim e^{-V(x)/\nu}, \quad V(x) = \inf_{x(0)=x_s, x(\infty)=x} I[x]$$

- Most probable path = min action path = instanton
- Onsager-Machlup 1950s; Graham 1980s; Freidlin-Wentzell 1970-80s
- Semi-classical approximation

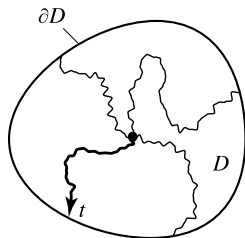
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## Example: Gradient dynamics

- Gradient system:

$$\dot{x}(t) = -\nabla U(x(t)) + \sqrt{\nu} \xi(t)$$

- Stationary distribution:

$$P(x) \sim e^{-V(x)/\nu}, \quad V(x) = 2U(x)$$

- Instanton = time-reverse of decay path from  $x$  to  $x_s$
- Consequence of detailed balance
- Equilibrium system

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$$P(x) \sim e^{-V(x)/\sqrt{\nu}}$$

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- Nonequilibrium system
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# AB model

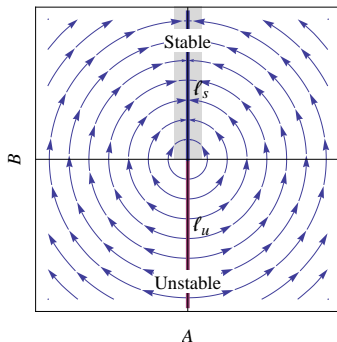
## Noiseless dynamics

$$\dot{A} = -AB$$

$$\dot{B} = A^2$$

- **Stable** line:  $A = 0, B > 0$
- **Unstable** line:  $A = 0, B < 0$
- Energy:

$$E = A^2 + B^2, \quad \dot{E} = 0$$



## Perturbed dynamics

$$\dot{A} = -AB - \nu A + \sigma_A \sqrt{\nu} \xi_A(t)$$

$$\dot{B} = A^2 - \nu B + \sigma_B \sqrt{\nu} \xi_B(t)$$

- Dissipation needed for stationarity
- Toy model of hydrodynamic equations ( $\infty$  stable states)

# AB model

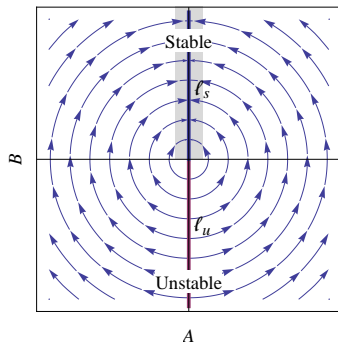
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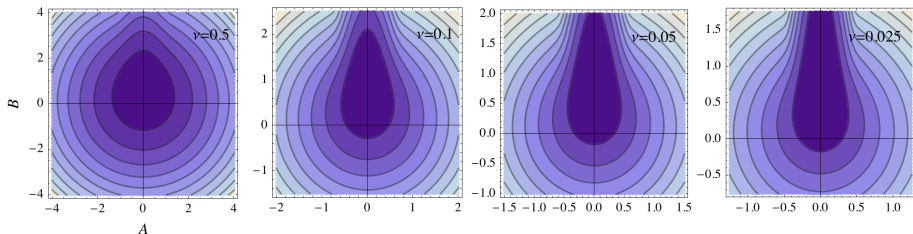
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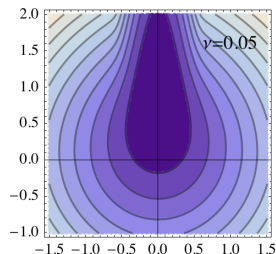
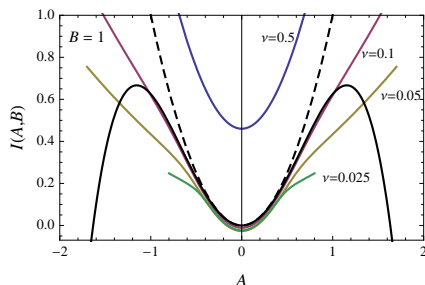
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# Stationary distribution



- $P(A, B)$
- Numerical integration of Fokker-Planck equation
- Concentration around stable line as  $\nu \rightarrow 0$
- Radial symmetry away from stable line

# Large deviations near stable line



- Stationary distribution:

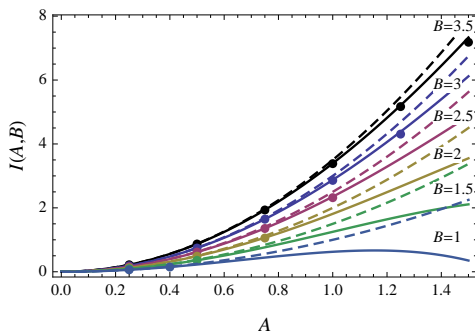
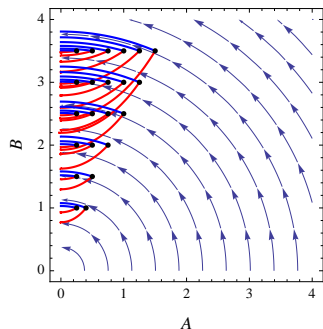
$$P(A, B) \sim e^{-I(A, B)/\nu}$$

- Rate function or quasi-potential:

$$I(A, B) = \frac{B}{\sigma_A^2} A^2 - \frac{2\sigma_A^2 + \sigma_B^2}{8\sigma_A^4 B} A^4 + O(A^6)$$

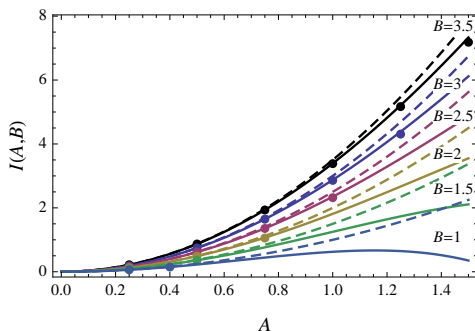
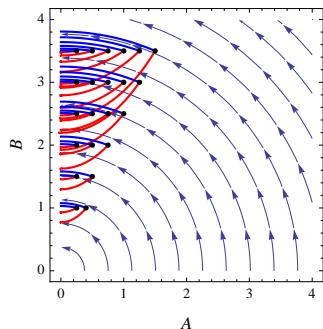
- ▶ **Instanton approximation** = Fokker-Planck  $\nu$ -expansion lowest order
- ▶ Fokker-Planck  $\nu$ -expansion – higher order

## Large deviations near stable line (cont'd)



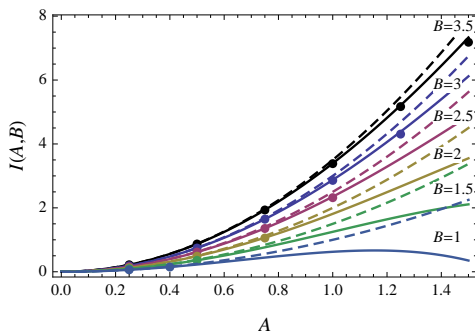
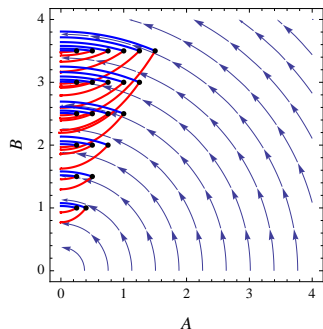
- **Instanton**: stable line  $\rightarrow (A, B)$ 
  - ▶  $I(A, B) = I[\text{instanton}] > 0$
- **Decay path**:  $(A, B) \rightarrow$  stable line
  - ▶  $I[\text{decay path}] = 0$
- Instanton  $\neq$  Time reverse of decay path
- Nonequilibrium (non-gradient) system

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# Nonequilibrium current

- Fokker-Planck equation:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} P(A, B) = -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J}$$

- Probability current:

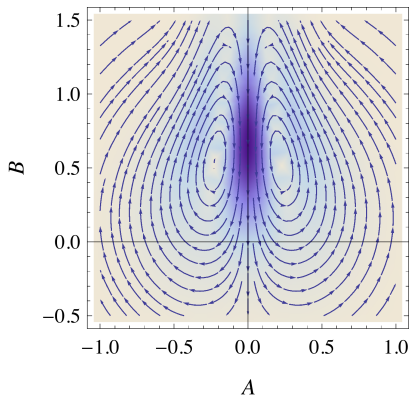
$$\mathbf{J} = (J_A, J_B)$$

- Stationary current:  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} = 0$

- Components:

$$J_A = (-AB - \nu A)P(A, B) - \frac{\nu\sigma_A^2}{2} \frac{\partial P(A, B)}{\partial A}$$

$$J_B = (A^2 - \nu B)P(A, B) - \frac{\nu\sigma_B^2}{2} \frac{\partial P(A, B)}{\partial B}$$





# Large deviations near unstable line

- Any point  $(A, B)$  reachable by instanton of zero action!
- Sub-instanton
- Consequence:

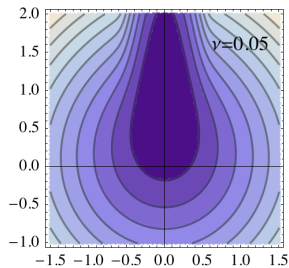
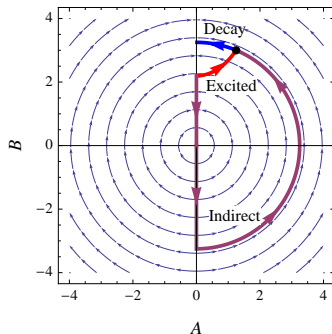
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- Meaning:

$$P(A, B) \sim e^{-0/\nu} + \text{corrections}$$

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$$P(A, B) \sim \underbrace{e^{-I(A,B)/\nu}}_{\text{stable line}} + \underbrace{e^{-J(A,B)/\sqrt{\nu}}}_{\text{unstable line}}$$



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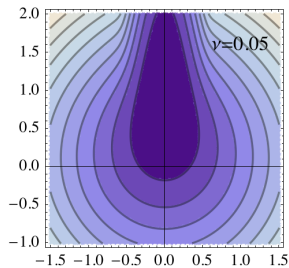
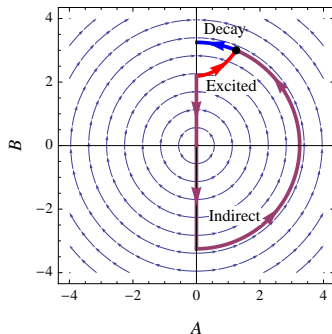
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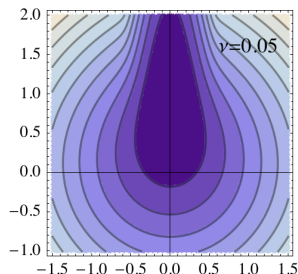
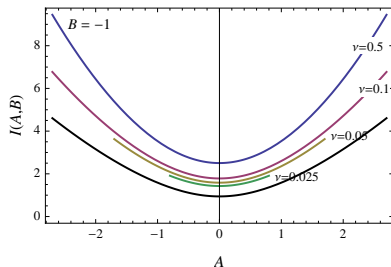
$$P(A, B) \sim e^{-J(A, B)/\sqrt{\nu}}$$

- Hamilton-Jacobi equation for  $J(A, B)$
- Solve in polar coordinates
- Solution:

$$J(r) = \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{3} r^{3/2}$$

$$J(A, B) = \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{3} (A^2 + B^2)^{3/4}$$

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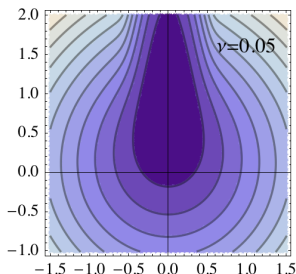
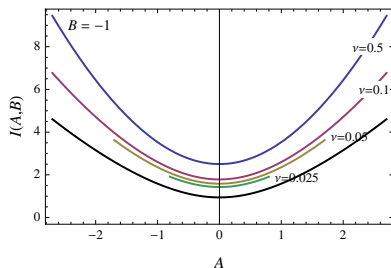
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# Summary

- AB model: Nonequilibrium system
- Line of **stable** points connected to a line of **unstable** points
- Low-noise large deviations:

$$P(A, B) \sim \underbrace{e^{-I(A,B)/\nu}}_{\text{stable line}} + \underbrace{e^{-J(A,B)/\sqrt{\nu}}}_{\text{unstable line}}$$

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  - ▶ Instanton approximation (Freidlin-Wentzell)
  - ▶ Low-noise expansion of Fokker-Planck
- Overall dominant term:

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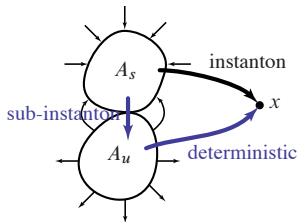
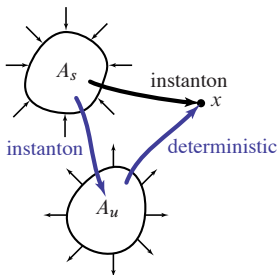
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## More general models



### Unconnected sets

- All fluctuations paths are instantons
- $P(x) \sim e^{-I[\text{instanton}]/\nu}$
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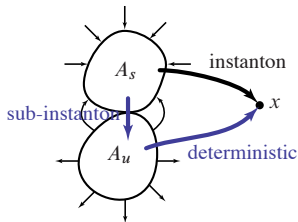
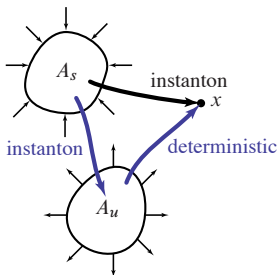
### Connected sets

- Instantons + sub-instantons
- $P(x) \sim e^{-I[\text{sub-instanton}]/\nu^\alpha}$
- Classical + non-classical large deviations

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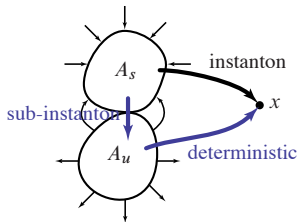
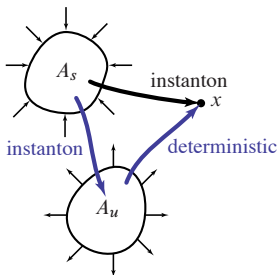
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