

Critical Depinning in DC- and AC-Fields

- *T. Nattermann*
- A. Glatz University of Cologne
- V. Pokrovsky Texas A&M University, Landau-Institute

S. Stepanov, L.-H. Tang, H. Leschhorn, V. Vinokur

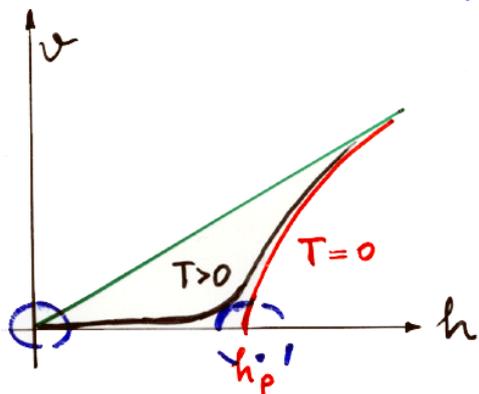
Outline:

- Depinning in DC-Fields, $T=0$
- Pinning in AC-Fields, $T=0$ (a poor man's approach)
- Thermal Fluctuations

PROBLEM: DRIVEN ELASTIC OBJECT IN RANDOM MEDIA

Examples:

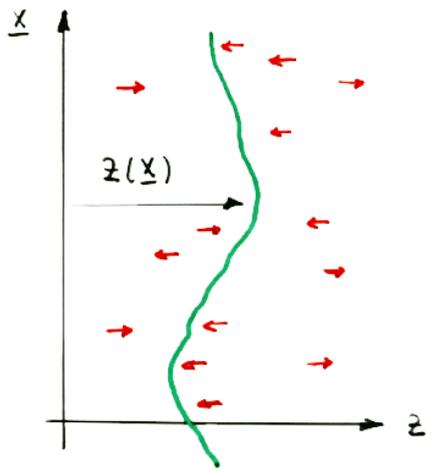
- Domain wall in random magnets → magnetic hysteresis
- Interface between two immiscible fluids in porous medium (oil/water)
- Flux or dislocation line in impure SC or solid contact line
↳ critical current
- Lattices of walls, lines, CDWs, ...



Questions:

- \exists sharp, reversible transition? h_p (disorder, dimension, ...)
- domain wall self-affine?
- "roughness" $w(t, L) \sim L^{\xi} f(t/L^z)$ ξ, z, β ?
- $v \propto (h - h_p)^{\beta}$ • oscillating fields?
- influence of thermal fluctuations?

minimal MODEL :



$V_z \equiv \frac{\partial V}{\partial z}$

stiffness \downarrow random pinning force \downarrow

$$\frac{1}{\gamma} \frac{\partial z}{\partial t} = \Gamma \nabla_z^2 - V_z(\underline{x}, z) + h_0 \cos(\omega_0 t)$$

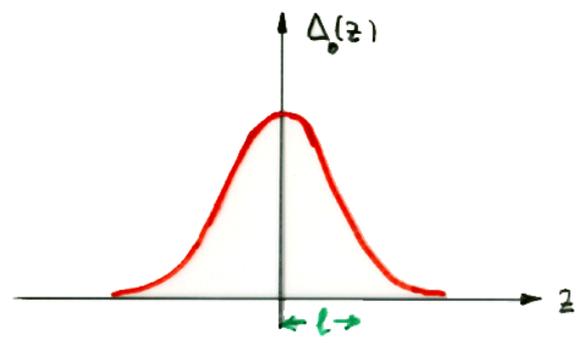
\uparrow mobility \downarrow -1 \uparrow driving force $h(t)$

$\underline{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_D)$

\exists statistical inversion symmetry : $h \rightarrow -h$
 $\langle \dot{z} \rangle = v \rightarrow -v$

Random force :
 gaussian

$$\langle V_z(\underline{x}, z) \rangle = 0 \quad \langle V_z(\underline{x}, z) V_z(\underline{x}', z') \rangle = \delta(\underline{x} - \underline{x}') \Delta(z - z')$$



$$\frac{1}{L^D} \left\langle \left(\int_L d^D x V_z(\underline{x}, z) \right)^2 \right\rangle^{1/2} = \frac{\Delta(0)^{1/2}}{L^{D/2}}$$

periodic media : $\Delta_0(z)$ also periodic

RELEVANT LENGTH SCALES:

$$\frac{1}{\gamma} \frac{\partial z}{\partial t} = \nabla^2 z - V_z(\underline{x}, z) + h_0 \cos(\omega_0 t)$$

(i) Larkin-length L_p :

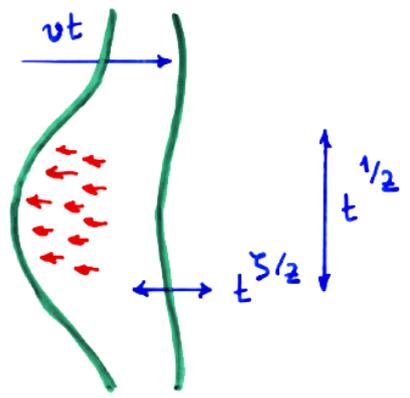
$$L_p = |\Delta_0''(0)|^{-\frac{1}{4-\beta}} \rightarrow \text{depinning threshold } h_p \sim \frac{t}{L_p^2}$$

(ii) $\omega_0 = 0$

Correlation Length ξ_v :

$$z = vt + u(x,t) \quad \langle u \rangle = 0$$

(co-moving frame)



Assume self-affine moving wall: $u(L,t) \sim L^\zeta \sim t^{5/2}$

→ linear problem if $vt \gg u(L,t) \sim t^{5/2}$

$$\downarrow t \gg v^{-2/(2-\zeta)}$$

$$L \gg \xi_v \sim v^{-\frac{1}{2-\zeta}}$$

(iii) $\omega_0 \neq 0$

Diffusion Length L_ω :

$$L_\omega = L_p \left(\frac{\gamma}{\omega_0 L_p^2} \right)^{1/2} = L_p \left(\frac{\omega_p}{\omega_0} \right)^{1/2} \quad \omega_p = \frac{\gamma}{L_p^2}$$

ADIABATIC LIMIT: $\omega_0 \rightarrow 0$:

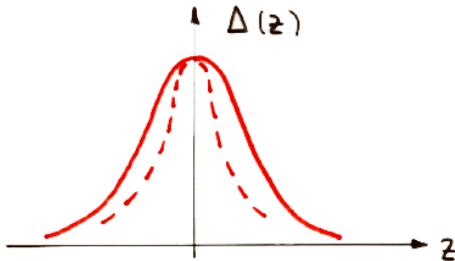
(i) Perturbation theory (Schmid + Hauger, Larkin + Ovchinnikov, ... Feigel'man)

$$\gamma \rightarrow \gamma_{\text{eff}} = \gamma \left[1 - c_1 \left(\frac{\sum v}{L_p} \right)^{4-D} - c_2 \left(\frac{\sum v}{L_p} \right)^{2(4-D)} + \dots \right]$$

divergent if $v \rightarrow 0$
 $h_p \sim \Delta'_0(\pm 0) = 0$

(ii) Renormalization Group

("Parquet" - eqs.)



$$\left[\begin{aligned} \frac{d\gamma_L}{d \ln L} &= c_1 \gamma_L \Delta_L''(0) \cdot L^\epsilon \\ \frac{d\Delta_L''(0)}{d \ln L} &= -3c_2 \Delta_L''(0)^2 L^\epsilon \end{aligned} \right]$$

$\epsilon = 4-D$ Efetov + Larkin '77

$$\Delta_L''(0) = \frac{\Delta_0''(0)}{1 + \underbrace{\frac{3c_2}{\epsilon} \Delta_0''(0)}_{\text{pole at } L \sim L_p} (L^\epsilon - a^\epsilon)}$$

pole at $L \sim L_p$

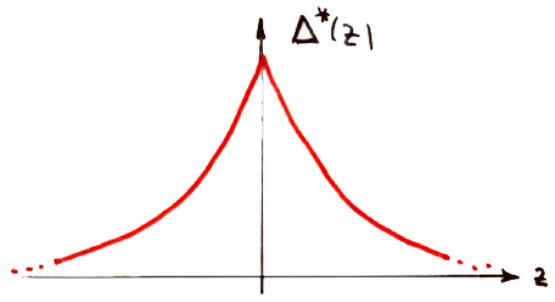
→ Landau-ghost?

→ Appearance of metastability
 D.S. Fisher '86

(iii) Functional Renormalization Group

N., Stepanow, Tang, Leschhorn '92

$$\frac{d \Delta(z)}{d \ln L} = -c L^\epsilon \left[\frac{1}{2} \Delta^2(z) - \Delta(z) \Delta(0) \right]$$



→

$$\Delta_L(z) \sim L^{2\zeta - \epsilon} \Delta^* \left(\frac{z}{L} \left(\frac{L}{L_p} \right)^{-\zeta} \right)$$
$$\nu_L \sim \nu \left(\frac{L}{L_p} \right)^{2-\zeta}$$

→ $h_p \sim -\Delta'(\pm 0) \neq 0$

$\epsilon = 4 - D$

→ $\nu \sim (h - h_p)^\beta$

$\beta = 1 - \frac{\epsilon}{3} = 0.040123 \epsilon^2$

→ domain wall self-affine
superdiffusive

$\zeta = 2 - \frac{2}{3} \epsilon = -0.04321 \epsilon^2$

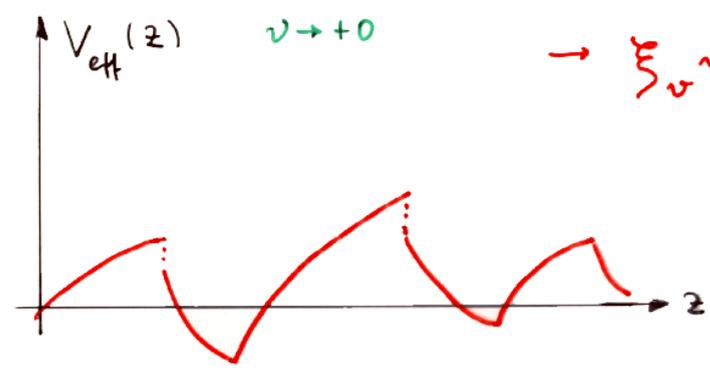
$\zeta = \frac{\epsilon}{3} (1 + 0.14331 \epsilon^2)$

Chauve, Le Doussal, Wise '01

→ $\xi_\nu \sim (h - h_p)^{-\nu}$

$$\nu = \frac{\beta}{2 - \zeta} = \frac{1}{2 - \zeta} \gg \frac{2}{D + \zeta}$$

↑
"Harris" - Argument for sharp transition

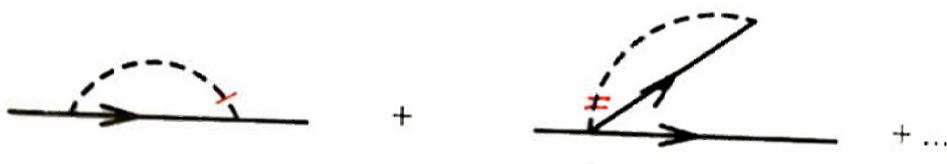


In co-moving frame:

$$\frac{1}{\gamma} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \nabla^2 u - V_2(x, vt+u) + h - \frac{v}{\gamma}$$



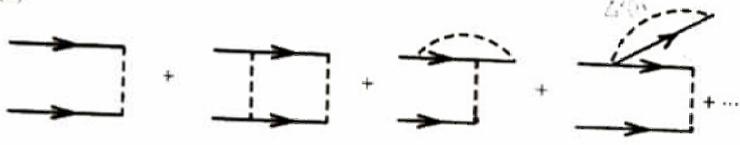
Corrections to propagator:



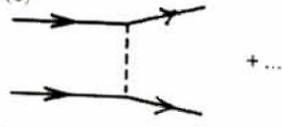
Correction to velocity:



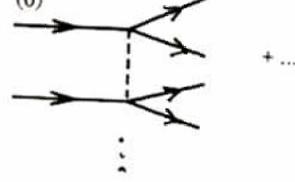
$\Delta(0)$



$\Delta^{(ii)}(0)$

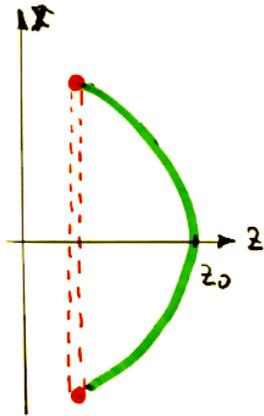


$\Delta^{(iv)}(0)$



Wall pinned at the boundary:

$$\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial z}{\partial t} = 0 = \nabla^2 z - V_z(\underline{x}, z) + h$$



$$z(\underline{x}) \Big|_{\underline{x} = \underline{x}_{\text{boundary}}} = 0$$

pure system : $z(\underline{x}) = z_0 - \frac{h}{2D} \underline{x}^2$

impute system : $z(\underline{x}) = z_0 - \frac{h - h_c}{2D} \underline{x}^2$ $h > h_c$

correlated region : $\xi^5 \sim \xi^{-1/2+2}$

CDWs

Thermal Fluctuations:

Expectation: $v \neq 0$ at $h = h_p$ if $T > 0$

Scaling: $v(h, T) \sim (h - h_p)^\beta \tilde{\Phi}((h - h_p)^\tau / T)$
 $\sim T^{\beta/\tau}$ at $h = h_p$

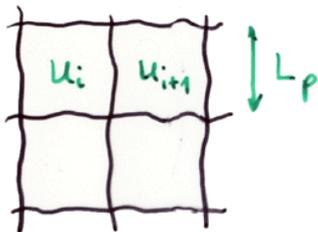
D.S. Fisher
A. Middleton

$\tau?$

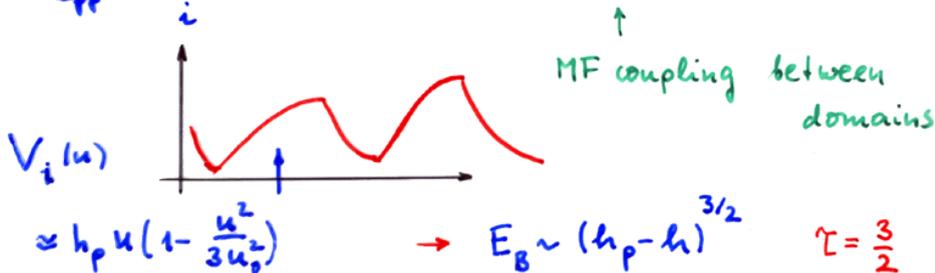
$$\frac{1}{\gamma} \frac{\partial z}{\partial t} = \nabla^2 z + h - V_3(\underline{x}, u) + \sum_{\underline{u}} (\underline{x}, t)$$

↑
irrelevant at large scales

$h \leq h_p$: All degrees of freedom depinned apart from those on scale L_p : u_i



$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{eff}} = \sum_i \left\{ V_i(u_i) - h u_i - \chi_i (h - h_p) u_i \right\}$$



$$\approx h_p u \left(1 - \frac{u^2}{3u_0^2} \right) \rightarrow E_B \sim (h_p - h)^{3/2}$$

$$\tau = \frac{3}{2}$$

Depinning in AC-Fields

$$h(t) = h_o \cos(\omega_o t)$$

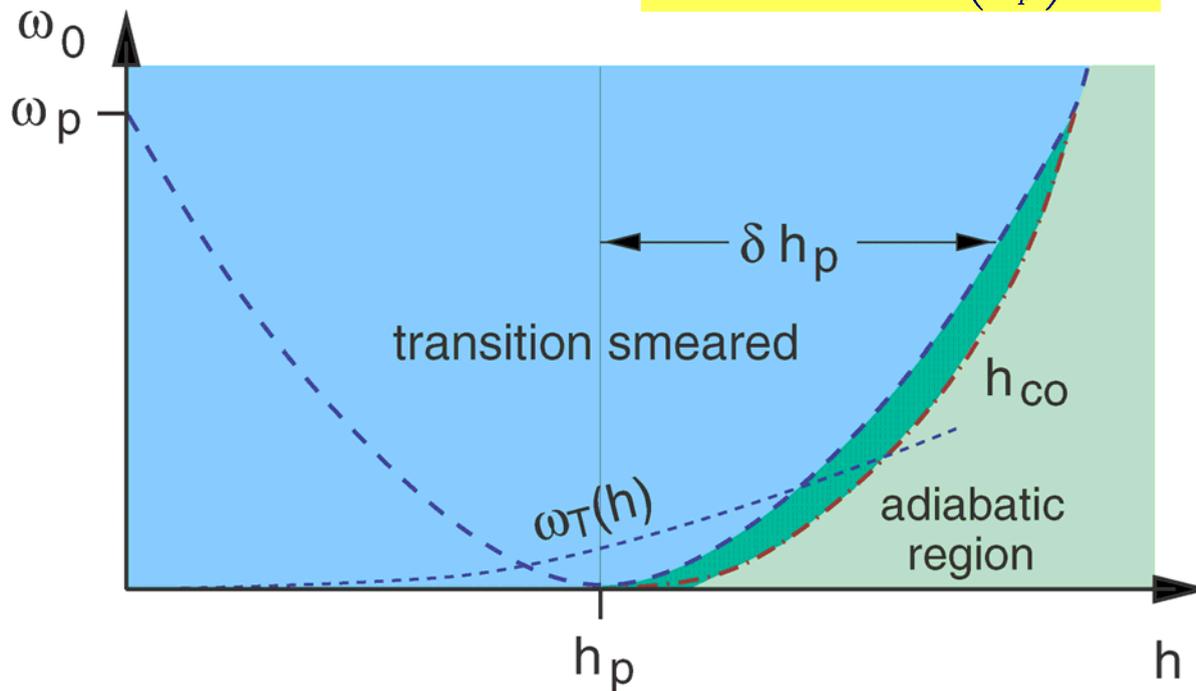
$\omega_o \neq 0$: Perturbations spread only over $L_\omega = L_p \left(\frac{\omega_p}{\omega_o}\right)^{1/z}$, $\omega_p = \gamma/L_p^2$

→ no sharp depinning transition

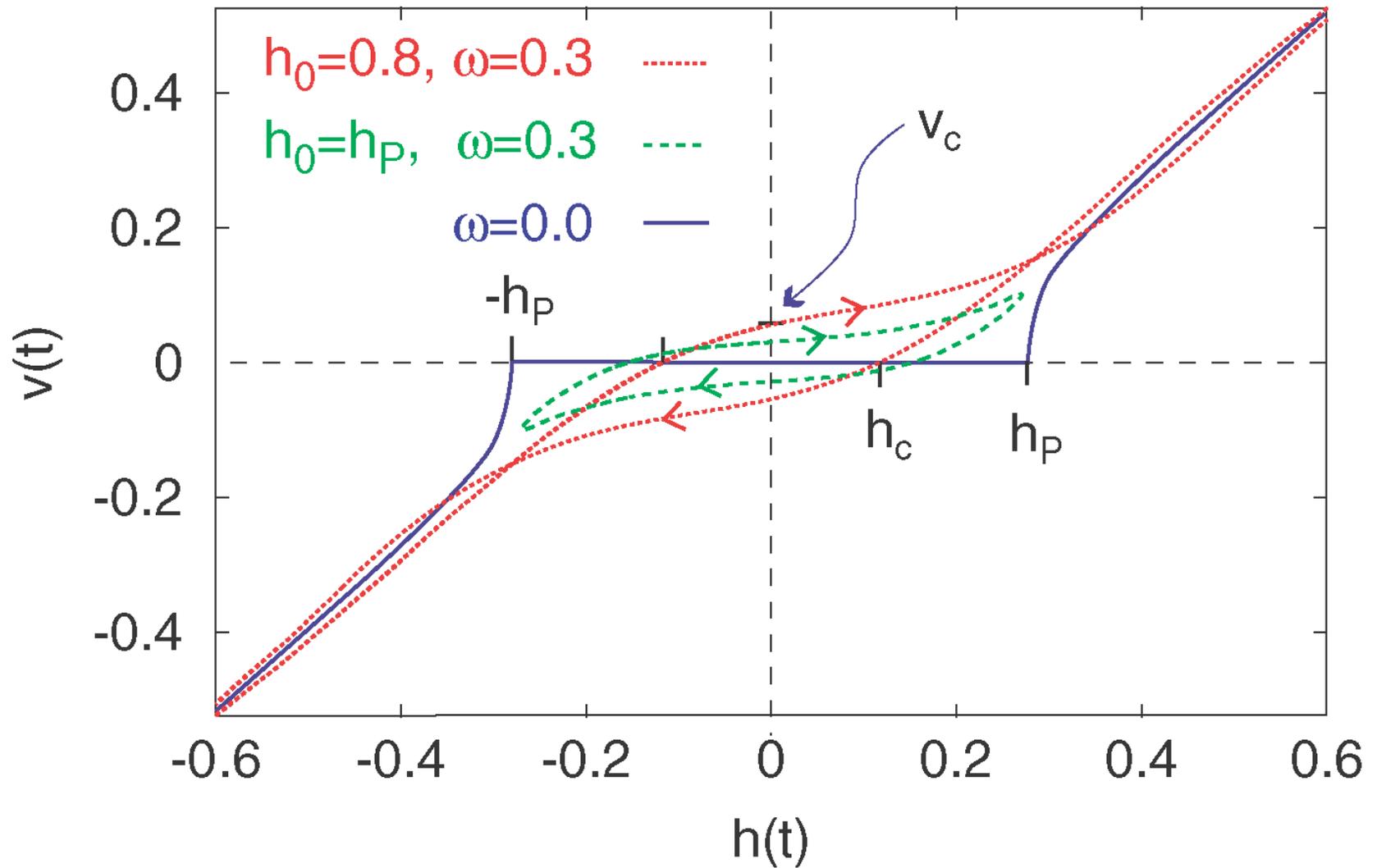
$$\frac{\delta h_p}{h_p} = \left(\frac{L_p}{L_\omega}\right)^{(D+\zeta)/2} = \left(\frac{\omega_o}{\omega_p}\right)^{(D+\zeta)/2z}$$

→ cross-over to adiabatic limit if $L_\omega \approx \xi_v$:

$$h_{co} - h_p \approx h_p \left(\frac{\omega_o}{\omega_p}\right)^{1/\nu z}$$



Velocity hysteresis in $D=1$



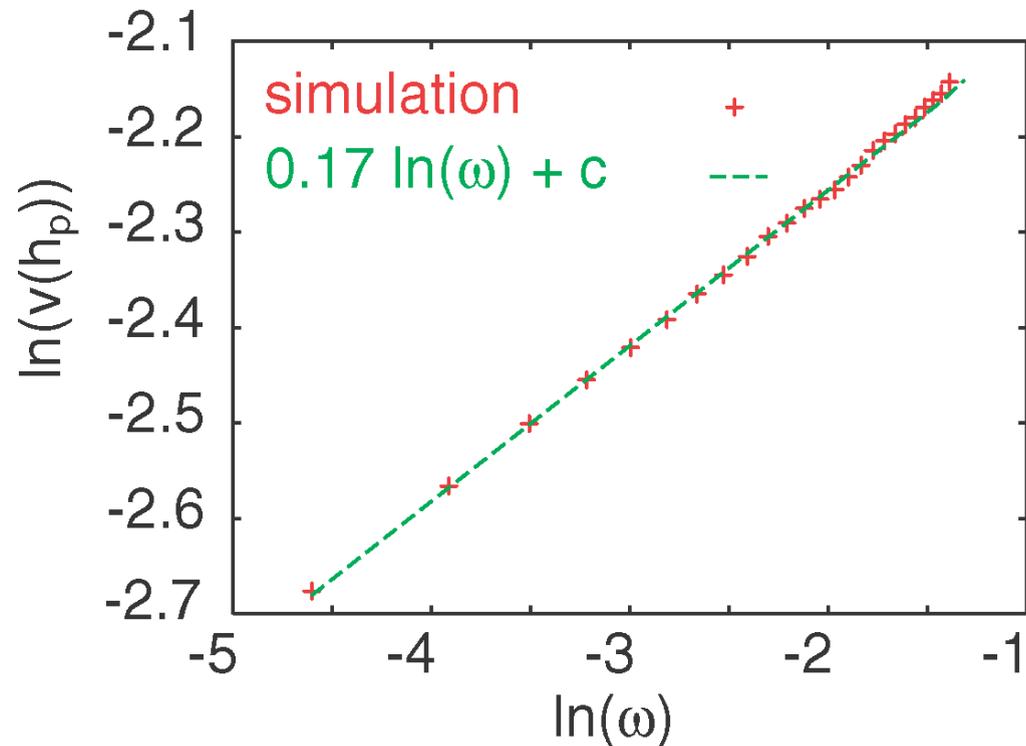
Scaling-Ansatz

$$\omega_0 \ll \omega_p = \gamma/L_p^2$$

$$v(h(t)) = \omega_p l \left(\frac{h(t) - h_p}{h_p} \right)^\beta \phi_\pm \left[\underbrace{\left(\frac{h(t) - h_p}{h_p} \right)^{-\nu} \left(\frac{\omega_0}{\omega_p} \right)^{1/z}}_{\xi_v/L_\omega} \right]$$



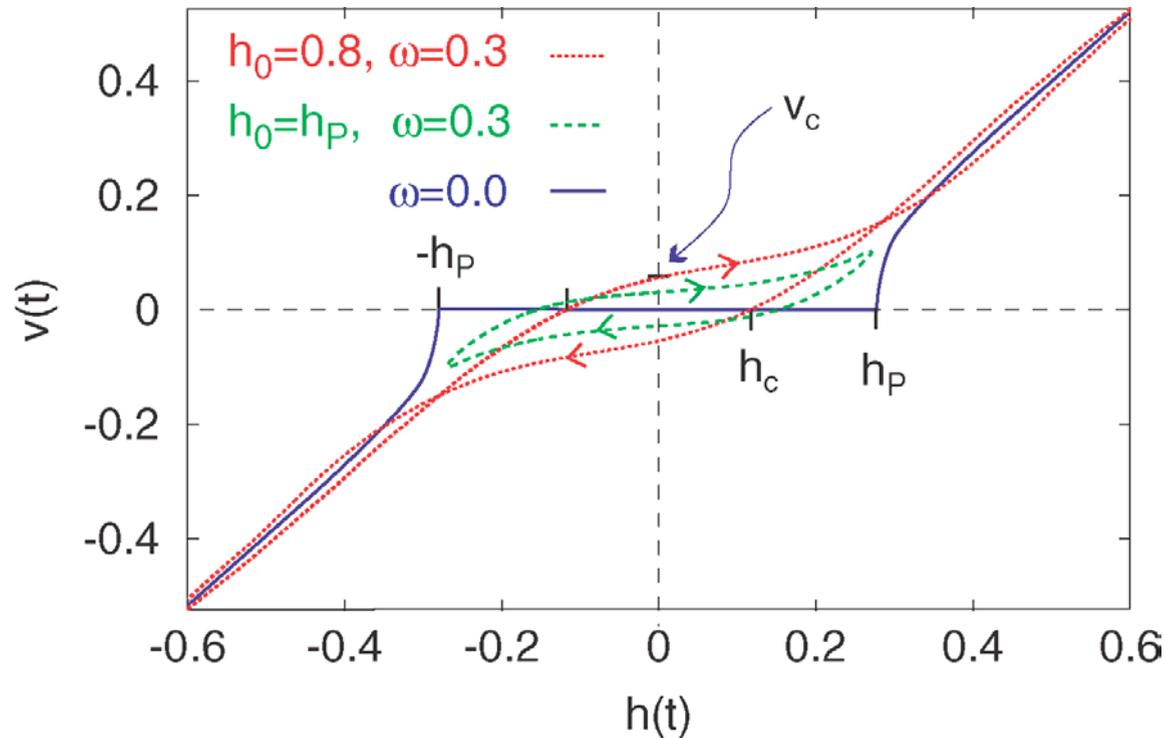
$$v(h_p) \sim \left(\frac{\omega_0}{\omega_p} \right)^{\beta/\nu z}$$



Chauve et al: $\beta/\nu z=0.19$

Scaling

$$h_c \approx h_p \left(1 - c_- \left(\frac{\omega_0}{\omega_p} \right)^{1/\nu z} \right)$$
$$v_c \approx \omega_p l \left(\frac{\omega_0}{\omega_p} \right)^{\beta/\nu z}$$



RENORMALIZED PERTURBATION THEORY

lowest order p.t.

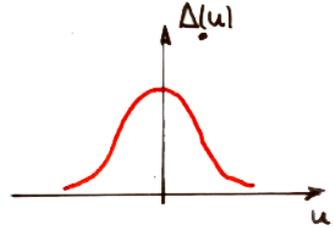
$$v = \langle \dot{u} \rangle$$

$$\frac{1}{\gamma} v(t) = h(t) + \int_0^\infty dt' \int_{\mathcal{F}} e^{-C\gamma p^2 t'} \Delta' \left(\int_{t-t'}^t v(t'') dt'' \right) \equiv h(t) + r(t)$$

(i) $\omega_0 = 0$,

$v \rightarrow 0+$

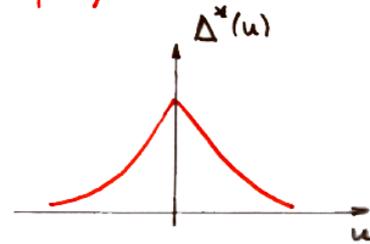
$0 = h_p + \Delta'(0+) \text{ Const.}$



functional

RG: $p > \sum_0^{-1}$: $\gamma \rightarrow \gamma(p)$, $\Delta_0(u) \rightarrow \Delta_p(u) \sim p^{4-D-2\epsilon} \Delta^* \left(\frac{u}{\ell} (pL_p)^\epsilon \right)$

$\Delta_p'(0) \neq 0 \rightarrow h_p \neq 0$



(ii) $0 < \omega_0 < \omega_p$

inner hysteresis : $h(t) = 0$

$\dot{h} > 0 \rightarrow r(t) > 0$

$\dot{h} < 0 \rightarrow r(t) < 0$



(ii) $0 < \omega_0 < \omega_p$:

System still critical if $L \ll \min(\xi_\nu, L_\omega)$

→ use renormalized parameters of adiabatic case on these scales

→ fluctuations negligible on larger scales

Problem: time-dependent cut-off since all terms between $t, \dots, t - 1/\omega_0$ appear.

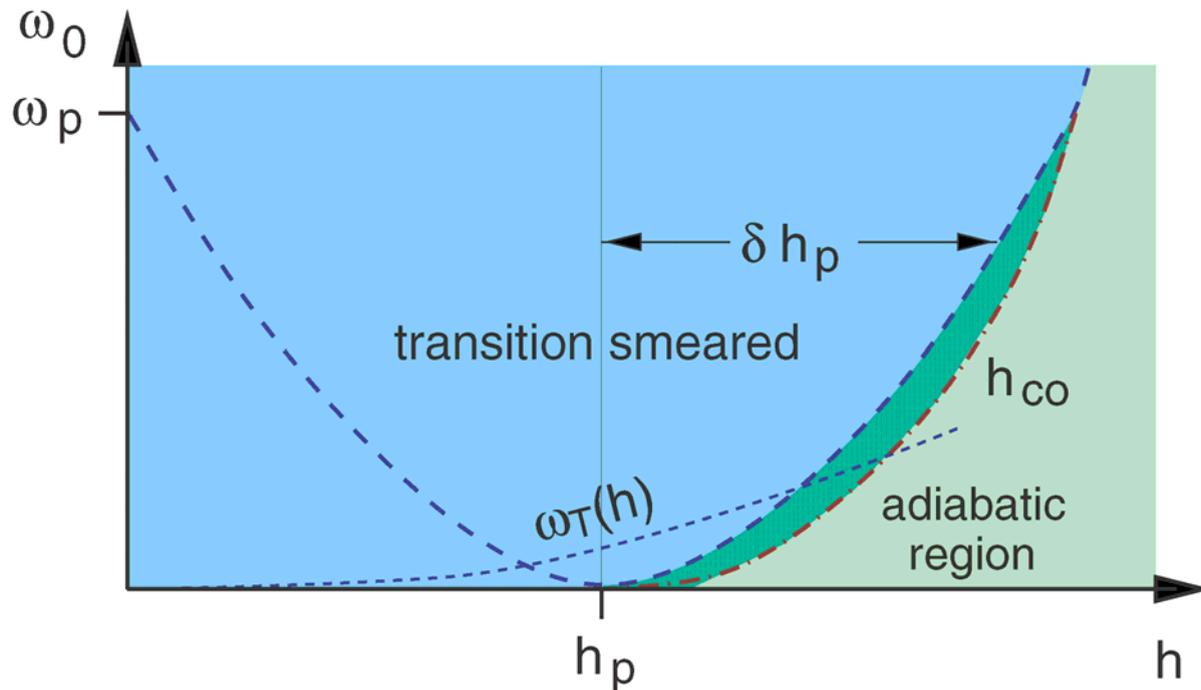
→ restrict to region $|h| \leq h_c$ i.e. $\xi_\nu > L_\omega$

→ approximate expression for $\phi_-(x) = c_- + x$, $c_- = \dots$

Scaling

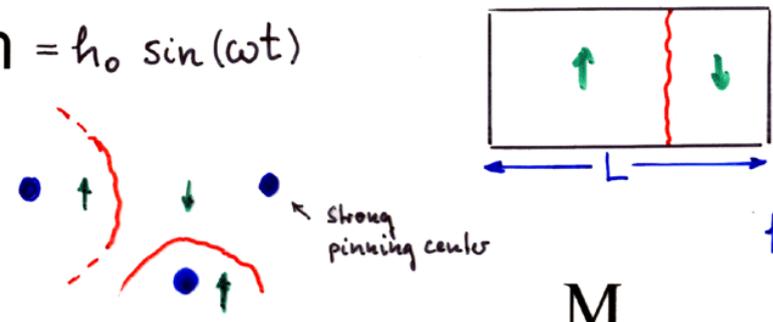
$$v(h, T) \sim (h - h_p)^\beta \phi_\pm \left[\frac{(\omega_0/\omega_p)^{1/z}}{(h-h_p)^\nu} \frac{T}{(h-h_p)^\tau} \right]$$

$$v(h_p) \sim T^{\nu z/\tau} \text{ if } \omega_o < \omega_p (T/T_p)^{\nu z/\tau} \equiv \omega_T(h_p)$$



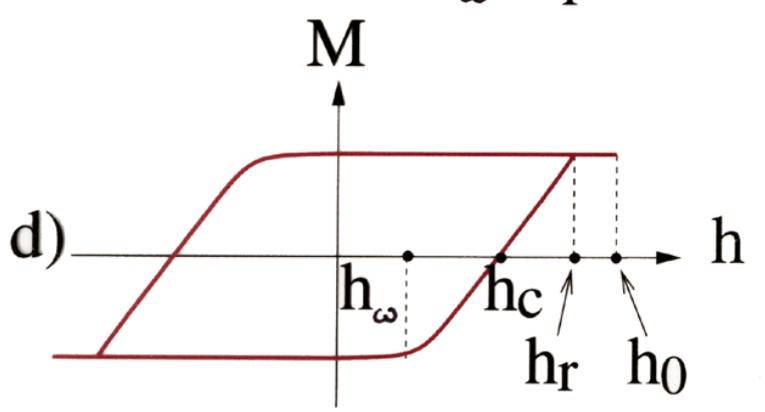
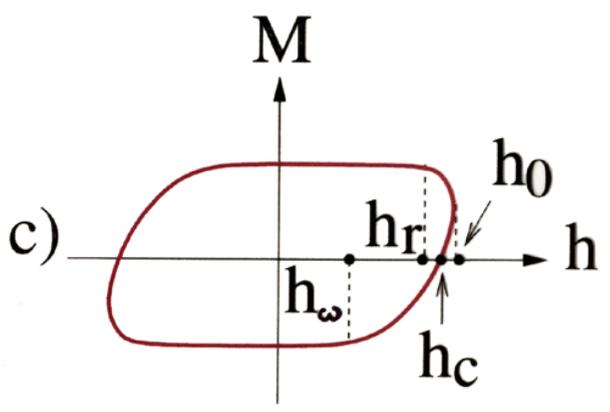
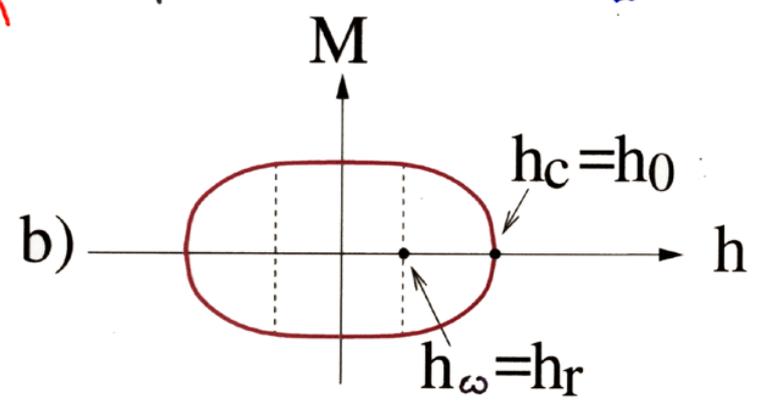
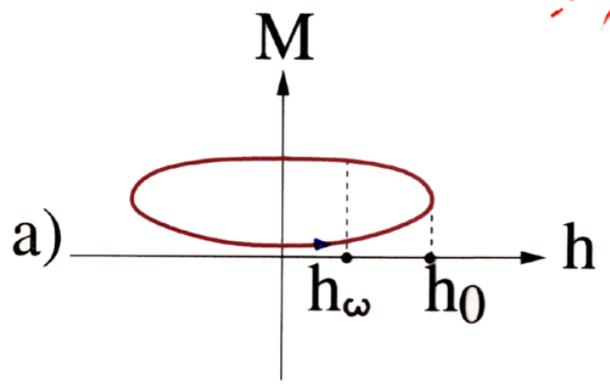
Magnets: $f \rightarrow h = h_0 \sin(\omega t)$

Hysteresis



OR: $L = \text{distance between strong pinning centers}$

$$h_c = h_{\omega} F\left(\frac{\omega L}{\gamma h_{\omega}}, \frac{h_0}{h_{\omega}}\right)$$



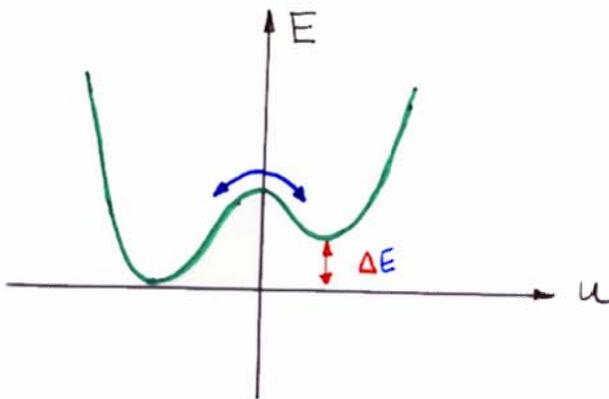
$$h_r = h_{\omega} F\left(\frac{2\omega L}{\gamma h_{\omega}}, \frac{h_0}{h_{\omega}}\right)$$

What happens for $f \ll f_{\omega}$?

NO global creep, $v \equiv 0$

BUT local oscillations on scales $L \lesssim L_{\omega}$

MODEL: Two-Level-Systems



Dislocations: Joffe - Vinokur '87

Domain Walls: N., Shapir, Vilfan '90

Vortex Lattices: Koshelev + Vinokur '91

K.H. Fischer + N. '91

Korshunov '01

Impedance: $z(\omega) = g(\omega) + i l(\omega)$

$$\text{e.g. } \frac{l(\omega) \sim L_{\omega}^2}{g(\omega) \sim -\omega^2 \frac{d}{d\omega} l(\omega)}$$

similar: susceptibility

Dissipation ?

(i) Thermal equilibrium: $n_0(\Delta E) = \frac{1}{e^{\Delta E/T} + 1}$ Boltzmann

(ii) External field $f(t)$ disturbs ΔE by $\delta E \approx f(t) \cdot L^D w(L)$

(iii) $n(\Delta E + \delta E) \approx n_0(\Delta E) + \delta n$

(iv) $\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{\tau}\right) \delta n + \frac{\partial n_0}{\partial \Delta E} \cdot \frac{\partial \delta E}{\partial t} = 0$ $\chi \approx \omega_p^{-1} e^{E_B(L)/T}$

(v) Dissipated power: $P = -\text{Re} \left\langle \delta n \cdot L^D w \frac{df}{dt} \right\rangle$
on scale L
 $\approx \frac{1}{4T} \left[\cosh \frac{\Delta E}{2T} \right]^{-2} \delta E^2 \frac{\omega^2 \tau}{1 + \omega^2 \tau^2}$

(vi) Total dissipated power:

$$P_{\text{total}} \sim \int_{L_p}^{\infty} \frac{dL}{L} \left(\frac{1}{L}\right)^D \frac{\delta E^2(L)}{E_B(L)} \cdot \frac{\omega^2 \tau(L)}{1 + \omega^2 \tau^2(L)}$$
$$\equiv \frac{1}{2} \omega \chi''(L, \omega) f_{\omega}^2$$

(viii) Low frequency susceptibility dominated by contributions from L_{ω} :

$$\chi(T, \omega) \sim \frac{L_p^2}{\gamma} \left[\frac{T}{T_p} \ln \frac{\omega_p}{\omega} \right]^{2/\chi_{eq}}$$

SUMMARY

- There is a sharp, reversible depinning transition in a DC field
- The critical behaviour is described by non-equilibrium scaling laws $v = \frac{\beta}{2-\zeta} = \frac{1}{2-\zeta}$
- The dynamics is superdiffusive
- The depinning transition is smeared and exhibits a velocity hysteresis in an AC field
- $v_c \sim \left(\frac{\omega_0}{\omega_p}\right)^{\beta/\nu z}$ $h_c \sim h_p \left(1 - c \left(\frac{\omega_0}{\omega_p}\right)^{1/\nu z}\right)$
- Thermal fluctuations lead to an additional smearing if $\omega_0 < \omega_p \left(\frac{T}{T_p}\right)^{\nu z/\theta}$