Noise-induced traveling waves in electroconvection

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The 24th Int'l Conf. on Noise and Fluctuations, Vilnius Lithuania, June 20-23, 2017

Response of Dynamical Dissipative System (e.g., EC) to External Noise



Carr-Helfrich mechanism for ac-driven Electroconvection (EC) induced in nematic liquid crystals and a typical EC pattern (Williams domain)

What is Traveling wave (TW)?



$$\dot{A}_{\sigma} = \lambda_{\sigma}(R)A_{\sigma} - \tilde{\alpha}^{2}R\sigma_{a}^{eff}(\sigma_{\perp}\tau_{d})^{-1}A_{n}$$
$$\dot{A}_{n} = \frac{R\sigma_{\perp}}{\sigma_{a}^{eff}\tau_{d}} \left(\frac{C}{1+(\beta\Omega\tau_{q})}\right)^{2}A_{\sigma} + \lambda_{n}(R)A_{n}$$

M. Dennin, M. Treiber and L. Kramer, G. Ahlers, and D. S. Cannell, Phys. Rev. Lett. 76, 319 (1996).

$$\frac{dA_{\sigma}}{dt} = f(A_{\sigma}, A_n, R),$$
$$\frac{dA_n}{dt} = g(A_{\sigma}, A_n, R)$$

The WEM can be considered as an activator-inhibitor model for a Hopf bifurcation (if $\partial f / \partial A_n < 0$, $\partial g / \partial A_\sigma > 0$).

 A_{σ} : the amplitude of the local deviation of the conductivity A_n : the director amplitude $R(=V^2/V_c^2)$: a control parameter

Experiment

Important Parameters

EC in Liquid Crystals

> $\tau_{\rm d} = \frac{\gamma_1 d^2}{K_{33}} \sim 10^{-1} \,\mathrm{s}$: the director relaxation time

 $\tau_{\sigma} = \frac{\varepsilon_0 \varepsilon_{//}}{\sigma_{//}} \sim 10^{-3} \text{ s}$

: the charge relaxation time



External noise

by Ornetein-Uhlenbeck process $\blacktriangle \langle \xi(t) \rangle = 0$ $\blacktriangle C(t-t') = \langle \xi(t)\xi(t') \rangle$ $= \frac{Q}{\tau_N} \exp(-|t - t'|/\tau_N)$ external timescale $\tau_N = \frac{1}{2\pi f_c} \sim 10^{-6} - 10^{-3} \text{ s}$ timescale : the correlation time $\triangleright V_{\rm N} = d \sqrt{\langle \xi(t)\xi(t) \rangle} \sim 0 - 30 \,\mathrm{V}$: noise intensity

Previous study :noise-induced EC threshold problems + Instability Problem (Threshold Vc of EC)



Theory

✓ Kawakubo 81
for b > 0 (white noise-limit)

 $V_{\rm c}^2 = V_{\rm c0}^2 + bV_{\rm N}^2$

$$b = \frac{(1+\omega^2 \tau_{\sigma})}{\zeta^2 - (1+\omega^2 \tau_{\sigma})}$$



☑ Huh 2014

for *b* > 0, *b* < 0 (colored noise)

$$V_{\rm c}^2 = V_{\rm c0}^2 + b_{cor} V_{\rm N}^2, \quad b_{cor} = b(1 - h \frac{\tau_{\rm N}}{\tau_{\sigma}^n})$$

Experimental results for TW (1)





Fig.1 EC-threshold V_c , wave number k_c , and Hopf frequency f_H as functions of ac frequency f. For $f > f_{TW}$ (~160 Hz), TW arises as a primary instability.

"Traveling waves and localized waves of electroconvection in external multiplicative noise," Jong-Hoon Huh, PRE95, 042704 (2016).

Fig.2 Measurement of Hopf frequency $f_{\rm H.}$ Spacetime map was obtained by successive arrangement of a one-dimensional image arbitrarily selected in TW with an identical time interval.

Experimental results for TW (2)



Fig.3 Noise-induced traveling waves. Increasing noise intensity V_N , unique pattern evolutions are observed: $SW \rightarrow TW1 \rightarrow TW2 \rightarrow TW3$ (for $f < f_{TW}$), and $TW1 \rightarrow TW2 \rightarrow TW3$ (for $f > f_{TW}$).



Fig.4 Noise-induced traveling waves: SW (stationary wave, $f_{\rm H} = 0$), TW1 (traveling wave with defect motions), TW2 (without defects), TW3 (localized TW).

Experimental results for TW (3)



Fig.5 Comparison between the WEM prediction and experimental results (with different noise intensities).

- **The WEM works well at low** V_N and **low** V. See green regions in Figs.5 and 6.
- The WEM is inapplicable to high V_N (due to unknown noise effects) and high V (due to defects).



Fig.6 Dependence of Hopf frequency $f_{\rm H}$ on a reduced ac voltage $\varepsilon = (V^2 - V_c^2)/V_c^2$ in the absence and presence of noise. TW ($f_{\rm H} \neq 0$) smoothly changes into an SW ($f_{\rm H} = 0$); however, this SW is completely different from the SW around $\varepsilon = 0$ (in Fig.4). See each space-time map for various ε .

Discussions and Summary (1)

For low noise intensities ($V_{\rm N}$ < 15 V), the WEM for TW works well.

→ See Fig.1 and Fig.5.

For high noise intensities ($V_N > 15$ V), the WEM is inapplicable to TW.

 \rightarrow See Fig.3 and Fig.5.

 V-dependent Hopf frequency shows unexpected behavior (Fig.6) due to the motion of defects; the role of V should be examine in defect-free EC.
 > See the proceeding of ICNF2017, and "Electroconvection in in-plane switching-mode cells" (submitted to PRE.



Fig.7 **Defect-free EC** in quasi-one dimensional cells prepared by employing the in-plane switching mode.

Discussions and Summary (2)

• What happens in the WEM under external noise ?

$$\dot{A}_{\sigma} = \lambda_{\sigma}(R)A_{\sigma} - \tilde{\alpha}^2 R \sigma_a^{eff} (\sigma_{\perp} \tau_d)^{-1} A_n$$

$$\dot{A}_{n} = \frac{R\sigma_{\perp}}{\sigma_{a}^{eff}\tau_{d}} \left(\frac{C}{1 + (\beta\Omega\tau_{q})}\right)^{2} A_{\sigma} + \lambda_{n}(R)A_{n}$$

←Noise may activate conductivity (σ)-related parameters (e.g., $\lambda_{\sigma}, \sigma_{\perp}, \sigma_{a}^{e\!f\!f}$) due to noise-driven random oscillation of space charges in EC.

Colored noise can change the present results?

e.g., V- and V_N -dependent Hopf frequencies ? (To understand this approach, see the previous study)

Our future study

Acknowledgement

This study was supported by JSPS KAKENHI (Grant No. 15K05215).

Pattern formations in electroconvection by colored noise

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24th International Conference on Noise and Fluctuations Vilnius, Lithuania – June 20-23, 2017

Introduction (**Mechanism of Electroconvection** (**EC**)

- **Q**. What's Liquid Crystals (LCs)?
- A. state between liquid and solid crystals
 - fluidity of liquid and anisotropy of solid crystals
- **Q**. What is the merits of EC?
- A. •easy to visualize
 - •easy to control (by electric parameter)
 - •efficiency of experiments (fast response)
 - abundance of convection pattern (due to anisotropy)



Nonequilibrium system Internal Convention Input ≠ Output



If voltage excess thresholds,

Electroconvection is occurred



Williams domain (1963)

Introduction² Spatio-Temporal Plot (STP) and Experimental Setup



external multiplicative noise N(t)Nosie intensity: $V_N = d\sqrt{N^2(t)}$ [V] (Here, *d* is the thickness of sample cells) T : measurement time[s]









Experimental Results (1) Measurement of Threshold by Colored Noise



 $f_{\rm c}$: cutoff frequency

 $\rightarrow V_{c}$ is monotonically decreased (b < 0) noise effect \rightarrow destabilizer

 $\rightarrow V_{c}$ is monotonically increased (b > 0) noise effect \rightarrow stabilizer

 $\rightarrow V_c$ behavior cannot be fitted by the theoretical formula below.



Experimental Results 2 Measurement of Light Intensity



Experimental Results ③ Depending on Temperature on STP

 \bigcirc

 $V_{\rm N}[V]$

7.8

X = 640 pixel = 0.421 mm

In a lower temperature, Different pattern is observed. It is called "Traveling Wave (TW)"







25°C 28°C

Pattern formations depending on temperature V = 6.68V, $V_{\rm N} = 17.8$ V, $f_{\rm c} = 570$ Hz, for 660 s

Taking dissociation and recombination into consideration Also, impurities and dopants are included This mdoel meets the condition of "Hopf Bifurcation"

* Hopf Bifurcation : vibration of sol.

 $560 T [60 \times 11s]$

 $(f_c = 570 \text{Hz}, 22^{\circ}\text{C})$

Weak Electrolyte Model (WEM)

: LC's molecules



Discussions ~possible explanation of ISR~

•ISR is induced by specific cutoff frequencies and intensities $V_N = 4 \sim 14 \text{ V}, f_c = 500 \sim 570 \text{ Hz}$

• Theoretical equation $V_c^2 = V_0^2 + bV_N^2$ should be modified.



Summary



This work was partly supported by JSPS KAKENHI (No.15K05215)