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Mullinsによる結晶の蒸発・凝固モデルに現れる
一般化された曲率流方程式

(Generalized curvature flow equations appearing in
evaporation-condensation model by Mullins)

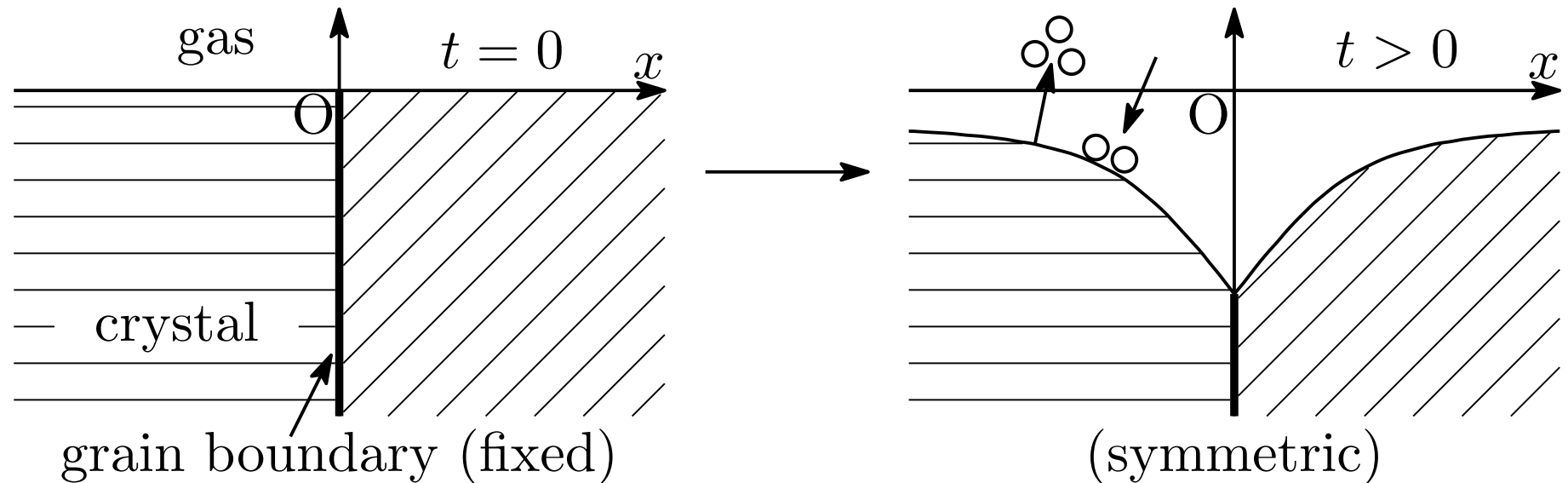
東京大学 大学院数理科学研究科 博士課程2年

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1 Introduction

Evaporation-condensation model

[Mullins '57] William W. Mullins (1927–2001), Materials Scientist.



Surface diffusion model is also proposed in [Mullins '57].

(: 4th order eq.)

* Mg & high air pressure \rightsquigarrow evaporation-condensation.

Au & low air pressure \rightsquigarrow surface diffusion.

Equation and its derivation

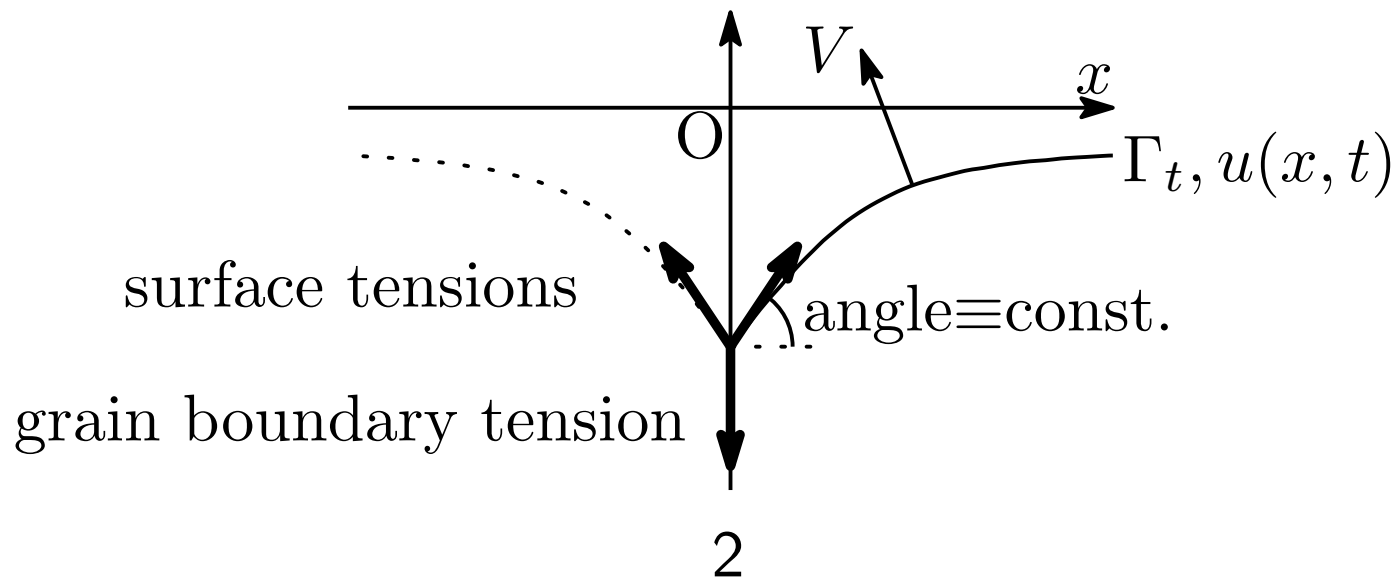
$\Gamma_t = \{(x, u(x, t)) \mid x \geq 0, t \geq 0\}$: surface (curve).

V : upward normal velocity. k : upward curvature.

Generalized curvature flow equation: $V = 1 - e^{-k}$ on Γ_t , i.e.,

$$\frac{u_t}{\sqrt{1 + u_x^2}} = 1 - e^{-k} \quad \text{with } k = \frac{u_{xx}}{\sqrt{1 + u_x^2}^3}.$$

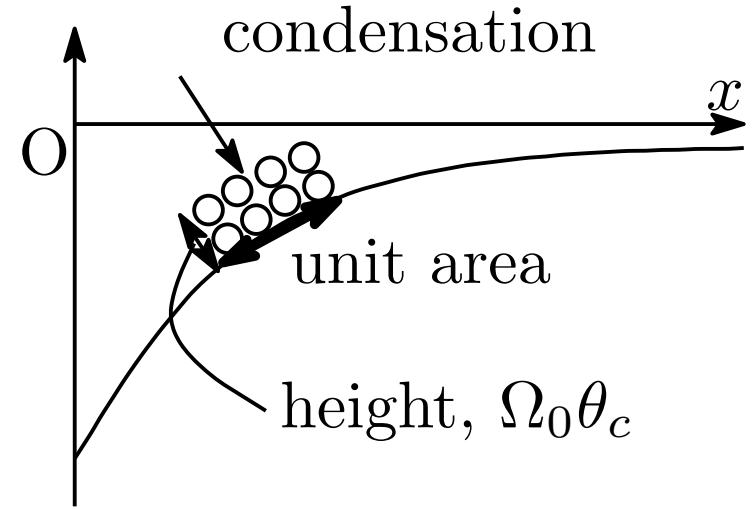
Boundary condition: By equilibrium of tensions $u_x(0, t) \equiv \beta > 0$.



Derivation.

- Upward normal velocity V .

$$\begin{aligned}
 V &= (\text{condensation}) - (\text{evaporation}) \\
 &= \Omega_0(\theta_c - \theta_e) \\
 &= \Omega_0 \cdot C_1(p_0 - p). \quad (C_1 > 0) \quad (*1)
 \end{aligned}$$



* Here Ω_0 : molecular volume,

θ_c (θ_e): number of impinging (emitted) atoms per unit time and unit area,

p_0 (p): vapor pressure in the atmosphere (in equilibrium with the surface).

- **Gibbs-Thompson formula:** $\log \frac{p}{p_0} = -C_2 k$ ($C_2 > 0$). (*2)
(k : upward curvature)

$$(*1) \ \& \ (*2) \ \implies \ V = \Omega_0 C_1 p_0 (1 - e^{-C_2 k}).$$

Generalization.

[Srolovitz '89] strain energy. [Ogasawara '03] temperature gradient.

Approximations by Mullins

$$u(x, 0) \equiv 0, \quad u_x(0, t) \equiv \beta \ll 1.$$

$$\frac{u_t}{\sqrt{1 + u_x^2}} = 1 - e^{-k}$$

$$1 - e^{-k} \approx k$$

$$v_t = \frac{v_{xx}}{1 + v_x^2}$$

$$v_x \approx 0$$

$$w_t = w_{xx}$$

generalized curvature flow eq.

curvature flow eq. for graph

heat eq.

Solving the heat equation, Mullins concludes the groove profile is

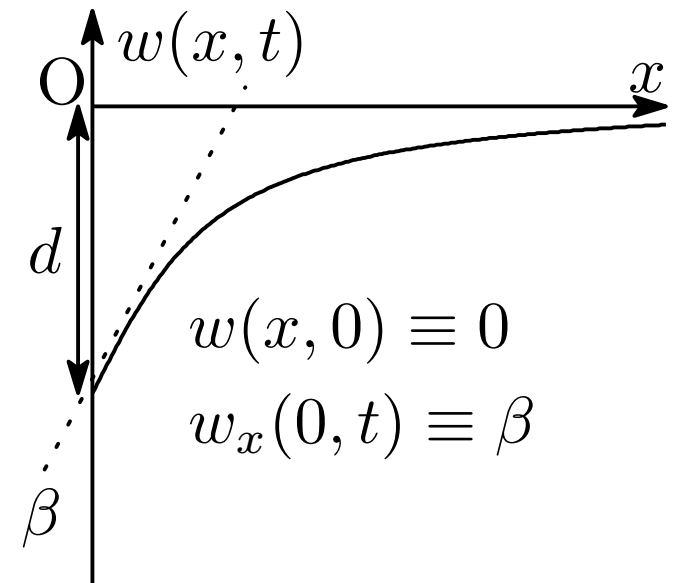
$$w(x, t) = -2\beta\sqrt{t} \cdot \text{ierfc} \left(\frac{x}{2\sqrt{t}} \right).$$

In particular, the depth at the origin is

$$d := -w(0, t) = 2\beta\sqrt{\frac{t}{\pi}} \approx 1.13\beta\sqrt{t}.$$

* Here $\text{ierfc}(x)$ is the **integral error function**:

$$\text{ierfc}(x) = \int_x^\infty \text{erfc}(z) dz, \quad \text{erfc}(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_x^\infty e^{-z^2} dz.$$



Our aims

- **Justification of Mullins's two approximations.**

$$\boxed{\frac{u_t}{\sqrt{1+u_x^2}} = 1 - e^{-k}} \xrightarrow{1-e^{-k} \approx k} \boxed{v_t = \frac{v_{xx}}{1+v_x^2}} \xrightarrow{v_x \approx 0} \boxed{w_t = w_{xx}}$$

Point. v & w are self-similar (if initial data is 0), i.e.,

$$v(x, t) = \sqrt{t}V\left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{t}}\right), \quad w(x, t) = \sqrt{t}W\left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{t}}\right).$$

1. $u \approx v$? ★[Ans.] u is asymptotically self-similar, i.e.,

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{t}}u(\sqrt{t}x, t) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} V(x).$$

2. $-V(0) \approx -W(0)$ (: depth of the groove) if $\beta \ll 1$? ★[Ans.] $o(\beta)$.

- **Degenerate cases.** ★[Ans.] V has a corner.

2 Neumann boundary problems

Let $F : \mathbf{R}^n \times \mathbf{S}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ be continuous & degenerate elliptic.

$$(NP) \begin{cases} u_t(x, t) = F(\nabla_x u(x, t), \nabla_x^2 u(x, t)) & \text{in } \{x_1 > 0\} \times (0, \infty), \\ u(x, 0) = u_0(x) \in BUC & \text{on } \{x_1 \geq 0\}, \\ u_{x_1}(x, t) = \beta > 0 & \text{on } \{x_1 = 0\} \times (0, \infty). \end{cases}$$

Theorem. (NP)=(NP; F, u_0) admits a unique viscosity solution.

* The boundary condition is interpreted as the viscosity sense.

* BUC = bounded & uniformly continuous.

cf. (Neumann problems and viscosity sol.)

- [Lions '85] pioneer.
- [Barles '99], [Ishii-Sato '04] general singular 2nd order eq.
- [Sato '96] half space, capillary boundary condition: $u_{x_1} - k|\nabla u| = 0$.

} bounded domain

3 Asymptotic behavior

Structure of equations. $F, G : \mathbf{R}^n \times \mathbf{S}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$.

• F : homogeneous (hom.) $\stackrel{\text{def.}}{\iff} F(p, \lambda X) = \lambda F(p, X), \forall \lambda > 0$.

• G : asymptotically homogeneous (a-hom.)

$\stackrel{\text{def.}}{\iff} \exists F$: hom., $\lambda G(p, X/\lambda) \xrightarrow{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} F(p, X)$ loc. unif. in $\mathbf{R}^n \times \mathbf{S}^n$.

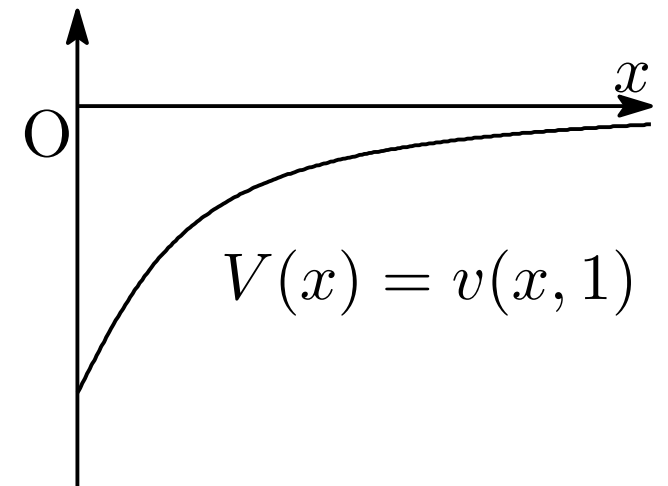
★ Mullins's 1st approx. ($G \approx F$)

* $G(p, X) = \sqrt{1 + p^2}(1 - e^{-k})$ is a-hom. with the limit $F(p, X) = \frac{X}{1 + p^2}$.

Self-similar solution.

• v : self-similar $\stackrel{\text{def.}}{\iff} \exists V, v(x, t) = \sqrt{t}V\left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{t}}\right)$.

V is called a profile function.



Fact.

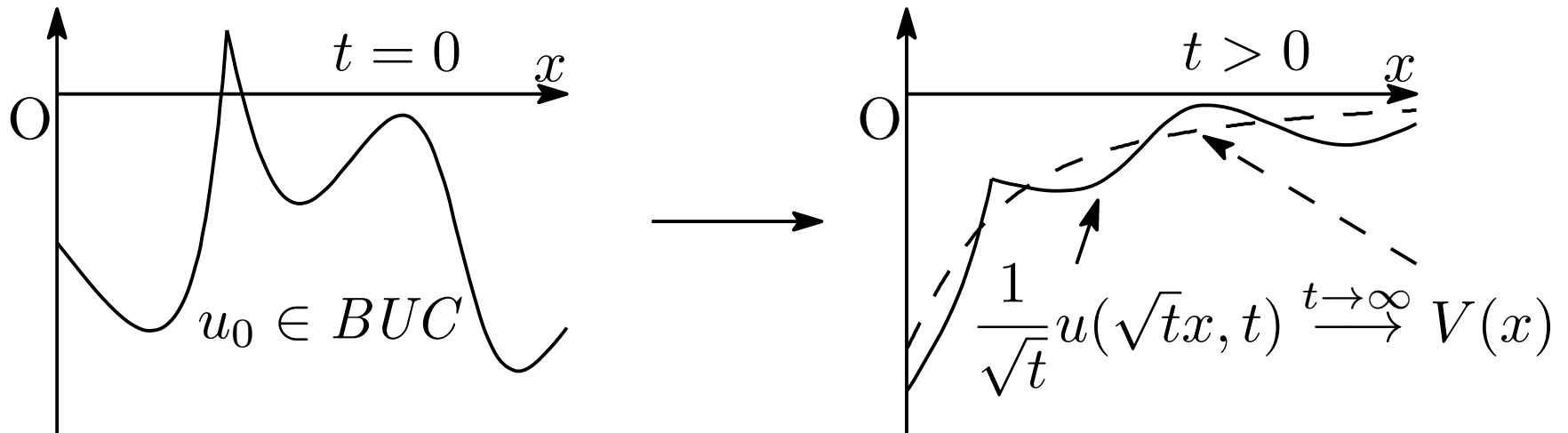
If F is hom., the unique sol. of (NP; $F, u_0 \equiv 0$) is self-similar.

Theorem (Asymptotic convergence).

Assume G is a-hom. with the limit F . Let u solve (NP; G, u_0), v solve (NP; $F, u_0 \equiv 0$) and V be the profile function of v . Then

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{t}}u(\sqrt{t}x, t) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} V(x) \quad \text{locally uniformly on } \{x_1 \geq 0\}.$$

Remark. The limit is common to all initial data!!



Proof. (u solves (NP; G, u_0), v solves (NP; $F, 0$).

1. **Rescale function:** $u_{(\lambda)}(x, t) := \frac{1}{\lambda} u(\lambda x, \lambda^2 t)$ ($\lambda > 0$).

It suffices to show “ $u_{(\lambda)} \xrightarrow{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} v$ loc. unif. on $\{x_1 \geq 0\} \times [0, \infty)$ ”.

★ $u_{(\lambda)}$ is a solution of (NP; $\underbrace{\lambda G(p, X/\lambda)}_{\rightarrow F}, u_0(\lambda x)/\lambda$).

2. **Relaxed limits:** $\bar{u} := \limsup_{\lambda \rightarrow \infty}^* u_{(\lambda)}$ & $\underline{u} := \liminf_{* \lambda \rightarrow \infty} u_{(\lambda)}$.

★ Construct suitable barriers $U^\pm(x, t)$ so that $U^\pm = O(\sqrt{t})$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$.

$\implies U^\pm$: unif. bounded w.r.t. rescaling.

$-\infty < \bar{u}(\text{subsol.}) \stackrel{\text{CP}}{=} \underline{u}(\text{supersol.}) < \infty$, i.e., loc. unif. convergence!! \square

Remark. If G is hom. (i.e. $G \equiv F$), then

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{t}} u(\sqrt{t}x, t) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} V(x) \quad \text{locally uniformly on } \{x_1 \geq 0\}.$$

Contraction property: $\|u_{(\lambda)} - v\|_{L^\infty} \leq \|u_0(\lambda x)/\lambda - 0\|_{L^\infty} \xrightarrow{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} 0$.
 “(difference of sol.) \leq (difference of data)”

4 Profile functions

Let $n = 1$. The profile function V ($V(x) = v(x, 1)$) satisfies

$$(ODE) \begin{cases} V(\xi) - \xi V'(\xi) = a(V'(\xi))V''(\xi) & \text{in } (0, \infty), \\ V'(0) = \beta > 0, \\ \lim_{\xi \rightarrow \infty} V(\xi) = 0, \end{cases}$$

$$v_t = \frac{v_{xx}}{1 + v_x^2}$$

where $a(p) = -2F(p, -1)$. In Mullins's case

$$a(p) = \frac{2}{1 + p^2}.$$

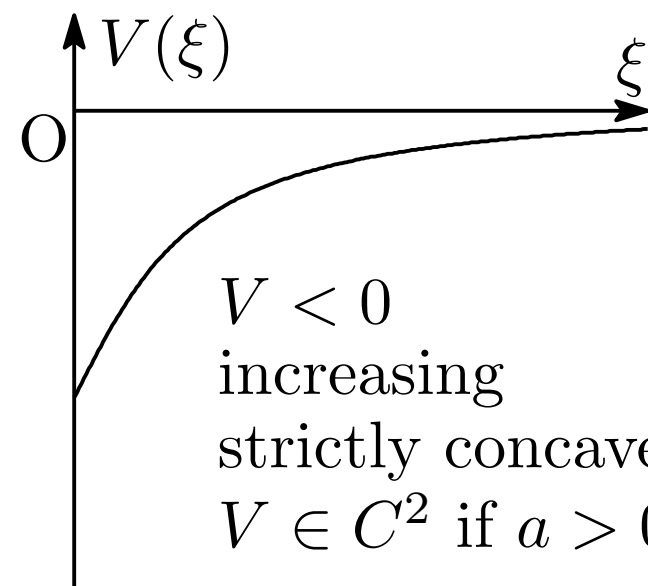
Conversely, solving (ODE) gives the self-similar sol.

(Recall $v(x, t) = \sqrt{t}V(x/\sqrt{t})$.)

Assumptions (on given a .)

$a \in C(\mathbf{R})$, $a \geq 0$ & $a(0) > 0$.

Fact. (ODE) has a unique viscosity sol.,
and the sol. V satisfies \rightarrow



$$(\text{ODE}) \quad V(\xi) - \xi V'(\xi) = \underline{\underline{a(V'(\xi))}} V''(\xi).$$

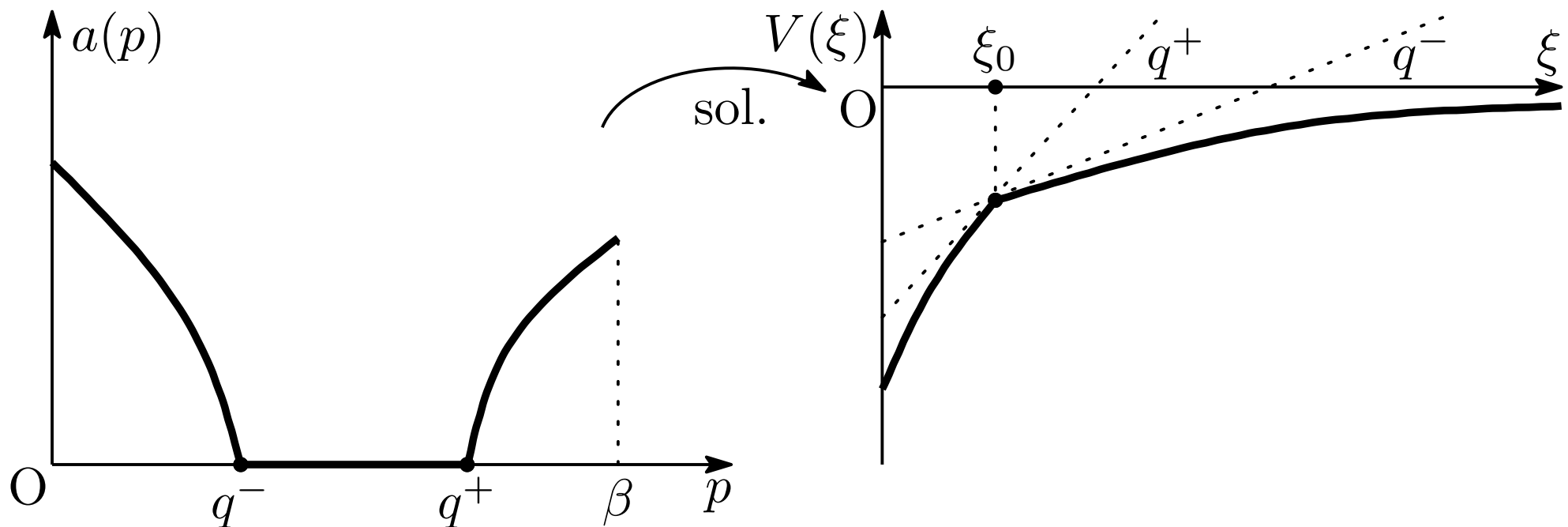
Theorem (Corner of profile functions).

Assume $a(p) = 0$ ($p \in [q^-, q^+] \subset (0, \beta)$), $a(p) > 0$ (otherwise).

Let V be the unique vis. sol. of (ODE). Then $\exists! \xi_0 \in (0, \infty)$ s.t.

$$q^+ = \lim_{\xi \uparrow \xi_0} \frac{V(\xi) - V(\xi_0)}{\xi - \xi_0}, \quad q^- = \lim_{\xi \downarrow \xi_0} \frac{V(\xi) - V(\xi_0)}{\xi - \xi_0}.$$

(left derivative) (right derivative)



5 Depth of the groove

Let $d(\beta) := -V(0)$, where V solves (ODE): non-linear eq.
 (= depth at time $t = 1$ at the origin.)

Let $L(\beta) := -W(0)$, where W solves (“= $\underline{\underline{a(V'(\xi))V''(\xi)}}$ ” (ODE))
 \swarrow **★ Mullins’s 2nd approx.**

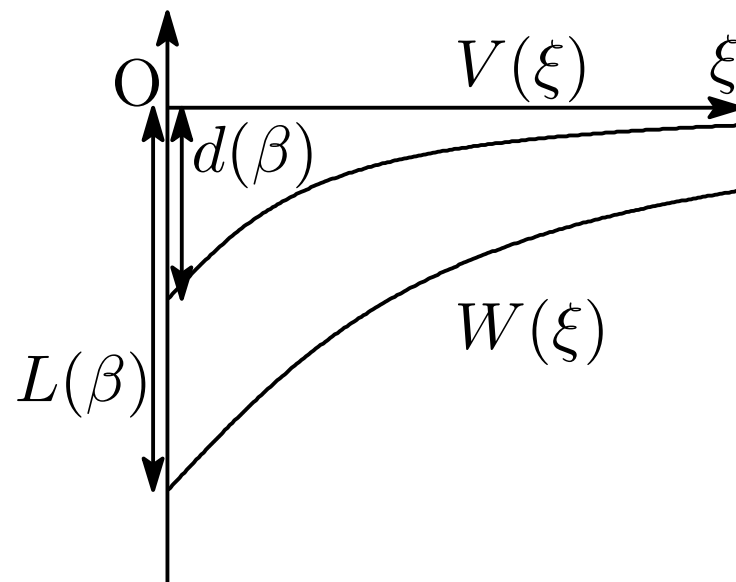
$$(L\text{-ODE}) \begin{cases} W(\xi) - \xi W'(\xi) = \underline{\underline{a(0)}} W''(\xi) & \text{in } (0, \infty), \\ W'(0) = \beta > 0, \\ \lim_{\xi \rightarrow \infty} W(\xi) = 0. \end{cases} \quad : \text{ linear eq.}$$

W is the profile function of the heat eq.

$$\implies L(\beta) = \beta \sqrt{\frac{2a(0)}{\pi}}$$

Want to

- study $d(\beta)$ as a function of β .
- compare $d(\beta)$ and $L(\beta)$ when $\beta \ll 1$.



Theorem (Depth of the groove).

Assume $a(p) \leq a(0)$ ($\forall p \geq 0$).

Define $d(\beta)$ and $L(\beta)$ as before.

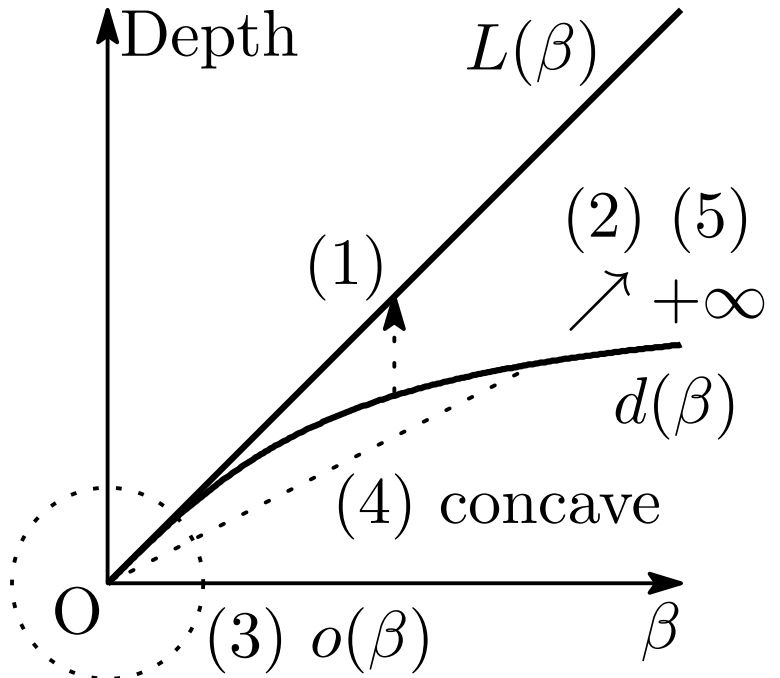
(1) $0 < d(\beta) \leq L(\beta)$.

(2) d is nondecreasing in $(0, \infty)$.

(3)
$$\frac{L(\beta) - d(\beta)}{\beta} \leq \exists C \left(a(0) - \min_{[0, \beta]} a \right).$$

(4) $\lambda d(\beta) \leq d(\lambda\beta)$ ($\forall \lambda \in [0, 1]$) if a is nonincreasing.

(5) $\lim_{\beta \rightarrow \infty} d(\beta) = +\infty$ if $a(p) \geq \frac{c}{1+p^2}$ ($\forall p \gg 1$).



Proof. Comparison principle.

Find a suitable subsol. V_1 and supersol. V_2 of (ODE). $\implies V_1 \leq V_2$. \square

Remark. In Mullins's case $L(\beta) - d(\beta) = O(\beta^{1+2})$ as $\beta \rightarrow 0$ by (3).