

# A Diffusion Model in Population Genetics with Mutation and Dynamic Fitness

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# The Problem

- **The question:** What is the behavior of a quantitative polygenic trait under selection, drift, and mutation?
  - Can we determine the long-time behavior of the trait mean?
  - Can we determine the long-time behavior of the total genetic variance?
- Portions of this work are joint with Judith Miller, Georgetown University.

# The Discrete Model

- Consider a single haploid panmictic population of constant size  $N_{\text{pop}}$  with  $n_{\text{loci}}$  diallelic loci.
- Suppose that the two alleles at locus  $i \in \{1, \dots, n_{\text{loci}}\}$  are  $A_i$  and  $a_i$ .
- The effect of allele  $A_i$  is greater than the effect of allele  $a_i$ .
- We assume that the difference in phenotype between  $A_i$  and  $a_i$  is  $Q$ , and that this is constant across loci.
- We assume strict additivity, so that dominance and epistasis are absent.

# The Discrete Model

- Let the fraction of the population with allele  $A_i$  at locus  $i$  be denoted by  $x_i$ .
- The population phenotypic mean is then

$$m = \sum_{i=1}^{n_{\text{loci}}} \left[ x_i \left( \frac{1}{2} Q \right) + (1 - x_i) \left( -\frac{1}{2} Q \right) \right] = \sum_{i=1}^{n_{\text{loci}}} \left( x_i - \frac{1}{2} \right) Q$$

up to a constant.

- We assume that the environment has a most fit phenotype  $r_{\text{opt}}$ , and that there is a fitness function of the form

$$f(r) = e^{-\kappa(r-r_{\text{opt}})^2}$$

which gives the relative fitness of a phenotype  $r$ .

# The Discrete Model

- What is the probability  $p_i$  that an individual in the next generation will contain allele  $A_i$ ?
  - Clearly,  $p_i \propto x_i$ .
  - In addition,  $p_i$  is proportional to the average fitness of the population that carries  $A_i$ .
- The average phenotype  $m_i^+$  of the population that carries the allele  $A_i$  is

$$m_i^+ = \sum_{j \neq i} (x_j - \frac{1}{2}) Q + \frac{1}{2} Q = m + (1 - x_i) Q,$$

- The average phenotype  $m_i^-$  of the population that carries the allele  $a_i$  is

$$m_i^- = \sum_{j \neq i} (x_j - \frac{1}{2}) Q - \frac{1}{2} Q = m - Q x_i.$$

# The Discrete Model

- Assume that alleles at locus  $i$  are independent of alleles at locus  $j$  (gametic phase equilibrium); then  $p_i \propto f(m_i^+)$ .
- Because the population size is fixed at  $N_{\text{pop}}$ , we then know  $(1 - p_i) \propto (1 - x_i)$  and  $(1 - p_i) \propto f(m_i^-)$ .
- As a consequence

$$\begin{aligned} p_i &= \frac{x_i f(m_i^+)}{x_i f(m_i^+) + (1 - x_i) f(m_i^-)} \\ &= \frac{x_i f(m + (1 - x_i)Q)}{x_i f(m + (1 - x_i)Q) + (1 - x_i) f(m - x_i Q)}. \end{aligned}$$

# The Discrete Model

- Let  $\phi(x, t)$  be the number of loci with allele frequency  $x$  after  $t$  generations.
- Then the population phenotypic mean after  $t$  generations can be written as

$$m(t) = \sum_x Q(x - \frac{1}{2})\phi(x, t).$$

- We are indexing loci by allele frequency rather than by arbitrary integers.
- $\phi(0, t)$  gives the number of loci with allele frequency zero, so the  $A$  allele no longer appears in the population.
- $\phi(1, t)$  gives the number of loci with allele frequency one, so the  $a$  allele no longer appears in the population.

# The Discrete Model

- We scale the variables, and pass to the limits  $n_{\text{loci}} \rightarrow \infty$ , and  $N_{\text{pop}} \rightarrow \infty$ , and as time becomes continuous.



# The Continuous Model

- We obtain the partial differential equation for  $\phi$ ,

$$\phi_t = -[x(1-x)m(t)\phi]_x + \frac{1}{2}[x(1-x)\phi]_{xx}$$

where

$$m(t) = \kappa(\rho - R(t));$$

- Here  $\rho$  is rescaled optimal trait mean,  $\kappa$  is a rescaled strength of selection and  $R(t)$  is the trait mean, given by

$$R(t) = \int_0^1 (x - \frac{1}{2})\phi(x, t) dx + R_0(t) + R_1(t)$$

where

$$R'_0(t) = \frac{1}{2} \left[ -\frac{1}{2}[x(1-x)\phi]_x \right]_{x=0^+},$$

$$R'_1(t) = \frac{1}{2} \left[ -\frac{1}{2}[x(1-x)\phi]_x \right]_{x=1^-}.$$

# Mutation- Hypotheses

- Selection precedes mutation in every generation
- There is a probability  $\mu$  that allele  $A_i$  becomes allele  $a_i$  or vice-versa for each locus  $i$  and for each generation.

# The Model with Mutation

- Then

$$\phi_t = -[x(1-x)m(t)\phi]_x - [\mu(1-2x)\phi]_x + \frac{1}{2}[x(1-x)\phi]_{xx}$$

where

$$m(t) = \kappa(\rho - R(t))$$

$$R(t) = \int_0^1 (x - \frac{1}{2})\phi(x, t) dx + R_0(t) + R_1(t)$$

$$R'_0(t) = \frac{1}{2} \left[ +\mu\phi - \frac{1}{2}[x(1-x)\phi]_x \right]_{x=0^+}$$

$$R'_1(t) = \frac{1}{2} \left[ -\mu\phi - \frac{1}{2}[x(1-x)\phi]_x \right]_{x=1^-} .$$

# Features of the Problem

- The problem is highly nonlinear, as  $m(t)$  depends on the solution  $\phi$ .
- The problem is nonlocal, as some of this dependence is via an integral of the solution  $\phi$ .
- Though the equation appears to be a non-uniformly parabolic equation, note that it has no boundary conditions.
- The behavior of the solutions at the boundaries are incorporated into the coefficients and the nonlinearity of the problem.
- The mutation term behaves like a leading-order term, not a lower order term.

# Main Results

- If the mutation rate  $\mu$  is sufficiently small ( $\mu < 0.10$  will do) then the problem has a solution.
- The solution is unique and stable under perturbations of the initial data.
- In the case without mutation, we also have:
  - The scaled genetic variance  $S^2(t) = \int_0^1 x(1-x)\phi(x,t) dx$  tends weakly to zero as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .
  - We have  $R(t) - \rho = (R(0) - \rho) \exp \int_0^t -\kappa S^2(\tau) d\tau$
  - If the initial trait mean is sufficiently close to optimal, then  $S^2(t) = O(e^{-ct})$  for some  $c > 0$ , and
  - $|R(t) - \rho| \geq |R(0) - \rho| \exp[\gamma S^2(0)(e^{-ct} - 1)]$  for some  $c, \gamma > 0$ , implying that the larger the initial genetic variance, the closer the trait mean can come to the optimum.

## Precise Results- The Spaces $B_i$

- $B_0 = \left\{ \psi \text{ measurable on } [0, 1] : \langle \psi, \psi \rangle_{B_0}^2 < \infty \right\}$  where

$$\langle \phi, \psi \rangle_{B_0} = \int_0^1 x(1-x)\phi\psi \, dx.$$

- $B_1 = \left\{ \psi \in B_0 : \langle \psi, \psi \rangle_{B_1}^2 < \infty \right\}$  where

$$\langle \phi, \psi \rangle_{B_1} = \langle \phi, \psi \rangle_{B_0} + \int_0^1 [x(1-x)\phi]_x [x(1-x)\psi]_x \, dx.$$

- $B_2 = \left\{ \psi \in B_1 : \langle \psi, \psi \rangle_{B_2}^2 < \infty \right\}$  where

$$\langle \phi, \psi \rangle_{B_2} = \langle \phi, \psi \rangle_{B_1} + \int_0^1 x(1-x)[x(1-x)\phi]_{xx} \cdot [x(1-x)\psi]_{xx} \, dx.$$

# Precise Results- Hypotheses

- $\phi_0 \in B_1$
- $\phi_0(x) \geq 0$  for almost every  $x$
- $R_0(0)$  and  $R_1(0)$  are given.
- $0 \leq \mu < \frac{15}{98} \sqrt{\frac{5}{11}} \approx 0.10319$ .

# Precise Results- Existence

- There exists a function

$$\begin{aligned} \phi \in C([0, T]; B_1) \cap L_2(0, T; B_2) \\ \cap C_{\text{loc}}((0, 1) \times [0, T)) \cap C^\alpha([0, T]; L_p(0, 1)) \end{aligned}$$

for any  $1 \leq p < 2$  and any  $0 < \alpha < \frac{1}{p} - \frac{1}{2}$ .

- There exist functions  $R_0(t), R_1(t) \in C^\beta[0, T]$  for any  $0 < \beta < \frac{1}{2}$ .
- Define

$$R(t) = \int_0^1 (x - \frac{1}{2})\phi(x, t) dx + R_0(t) + R_1(t).$$

Then  $R \in C^1[0, T]$ .



# Precise Results- Existence

- Then

$$\phi_t = -[x(1-x)m\phi]_x - [\mu(1-2x)\phi]_x + \frac{1}{2}[x(1-x)\phi]_{xx}$$

as elements of  $L_2(0, T; B_0)$ .

- Further,

$$\lim_{t \downarrow 0} \phi(x, t) = \phi_0(x)$$

with the limit taken strongly in  $B_1$ .

# Precise Results- Existence

- Set

$$v(x, t) = \int_0^t \left\{ -\mu(1 - 2x)\phi(x, s) + \frac{1}{2}[x(1 - x)\phi(x, s)]_x \right\} ds$$

Then  $v \in C^\alpha([0, T]; C^{1-\frac{1}{p}}[0, 1])$  for any  $1 \leq p < 2$  and any  $0 < \alpha < \frac{1}{p} - \frac{1}{2}$ . Further

$$R_0(t) = R_0(0) - \frac{1}{4}v(0, t), \quad R_1(t) = R_1(0) - \frac{1}{4}v(1, t).$$

- Notice that, formally differentiating, and substituting for  $v$  we find

$$\begin{aligned} R_0'(t) &= \frac{1}{2} \left[ +\mu\phi - \frac{1}{2}[x(1 - x)\phi]_x \right]_{x=0^+} \\ R_1'(t) &= \frac{1}{2} \left[ -\mu\phi - \frac{1}{2}[x(1 - x)\phi]_x \right]_{x=1^-}. \end{aligned}$$

# Proof Sketch- Existence

- Theory of the spaces  $B_0$ ,  $B_1$ , and  $B_2$ .
- Fix and freeze  $\tilde{\phi}$ ,  $\tilde{R}_0$  and  $\tilde{R}_1$  so that  $|\tilde{R}(t)| < \gamma$ .
- Energy estimates for  $\phi$ .
- Energy estimates for  $\gamma$ .
- Maximum principle for  $\phi$ .
- Fixed point argument

# The space $B_1$

- If  $\phi \in B_1$ , then  $x(1-x)\phi \in \overset{\circ}{W}_2^1(0,1) \hookrightarrow C^{\frac{1}{2}}[0,1]$  and

$$\begin{aligned} & |x_1(1-x_1)\phi(x_1) - x_2(1-x_2)\phi(x_2)| \\ & \leq |x_2 - x_1|^{\frac{1}{2}} \left( \int_0^1 [x(1-x)\phi(x)]_x^2 dx \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

- Proof follows from the fact that for all  $\epsilon > 0$ , so that  $\text{meas}\{x \in (0,k) : |x(1-x)\phi(x)| \geq \epsilon\} \leq \frac{1}{3}k$  for almost all sufficiently small  $k$ .

# The space $B_1$ - simple consequences:

- Let  $\phi \in B_1$ ; then

$$\sup_{x \in [0,1]} x(1-x)\phi^2(x) \leq 2 \int_0^1 [x(1-x)\phi]_x^2 dx$$

$$|\phi(x)| \leq 2 \max\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x}}\right) \|\phi\|_{B_1}.$$

- For any  $1 \leq p < 2$ ,

$$B_1 \hookrightarrow L_p$$

and there exists a constant  $C = C(p)$  so that if  $\phi \in B_1$  then

$$\|\phi\|_{L_p} \leq C \|\phi\|_{B_1}.$$

- $C_0^\infty(0, 1)$  is dense in  $B_1$ .

# The space $B_2$

- Let  $\phi \in B_2$ ; then

$$\int_0^1 x(1-x)\phi^2 dx \leq 2 \int_0^1 x(1-x)[x(1-x)\phi]_{xx}^2 dx,$$
$$\int_0^1 [x(1-x)\phi]_x^2 dx \leq 8 \int_0^1 x(1-x)[x(1-x)\phi]_{xx}^2 dx.$$

- We have the embedding  $B_2 \hookrightarrow C_{\text{loc}}^{\frac{3}{2}}(0, 1)$
- $C^\infty[0, 1]$  is dense in  $B_2$ .
- Proofs follow by using the Green's function for  $\psi'' = 0$ ,  $\psi(0) = \psi(1) = 0$  and the representation 
$$\phi(x) = \frac{1}{x(1-x)} \int_0^1 G(x, y)[y(1-y)\phi]_{yy} dy.$$

# Eigenvalues

There exists a sequence of eigenvalues  $\lambda_k$  and eigenfunctions  $\phi_k \in B_2$  so that:

- $-[x(1-x)\phi_k]'' = \lambda_k \phi_k$ ,
- The set  $\{\phi_k\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$  is an orthonormal basis for  $B_0$ , and
- The set  $\{\phi_k\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$  forms a basis for  $B_1$ .

In fact,

$$\lambda_k = (k+1)(k+2)$$
$$\phi_k(x) = \sqrt{\frac{8(k+3/2)}{(k+1)(k+2)}} C_k^{(3/2)}(2x-1)$$

where  $C_k^{(3/2)}$  are the Gegenbauer polynomials.

# First Limiting Embedding

- We have the embedding  $B_1 \hookrightarrow L_2(0, 1)$ ; in particular there is an absolute constant  $K_1 \leq 2\sqrt[4]{10}$  so that

$$\|f\|_{L_2(0,1)} \leq K_1 \left( \int_0^1 [x(1-x)f(x)]_x^2 dx \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

for any  $f \in B_1$ .

- To prove this, we use some essentially Fourier series techniques.
  - Indeed, to begin we write

$$f = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \alpha_j \phi_j(x)$$

with convergence in  $B_1$  where

$$\alpha_j = \langle f, \phi_j \rangle_{B_0}.$$



# First Limiting Embedding

- Now

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^1 [x(1-x)f(x)]_x^2 dx &= \sum_{j,k} \alpha_j \alpha_k \int_0^1 [x(1-x)\phi_j]_x [x(1-x)\phi_k]_x dx \\ &= \sum_k \lambda_k \alpha_k^2 \\ &= \sum_k (k+1)(k+2) \alpha_k^2\end{aligned}$$

- On the other hand

$$\|f\|_{L_2}^2 = \sum_{j,k} |\alpha_j \alpha_k| \int_0^1 \phi_j \phi_k dx \leq 2 \sum_{j,k} |\alpha_j \alpha_{j+k}| \int_0^1 \phi_j \phi_{j+k} dx$$

# First Limiting Embedding

- Because the  $\phi_k$  are known in terms of Gegenbauer polynomials, we can evaluate:

$$\int_0^1 \phi_j \phi_{j+k} dx = \begin{cases} 4 \sqrt{\frac{(j+1)(j+2)(j+3/2)(j+k+3/2)}{(j+k+1)(j+k+2)}} & k \text{ even} \\ 0 & k \text{ odd.} \end{cases}$$

- Thus

$$\|f\|_{L_2}^2 \leq 8 \sum_{j,k} |\alpha_j \alpha_{j+2k}| \sqrt{\frac{(j+1)(j+2)(j+3/2)(j+2k+3/2)}{(j+2k+1)(j+2k+2)}}$$

- Careful application of Hölder's inequality on the sums together with the fact  $\int_0^1 [x(1-x)f(x)]_x^2 dx = \sum_k (k+1)(k+2)\alpha_k^2$  gives us the embedding.

## Second Limiting Embedding

- There is an absolute constant  $K_2 \leq \frac{49}{15} \sqrt{\frac{11}{5}}$  so that

$$\left\| \frac{df}{dx} \right\|_{B_0} \leq K_2 \left( \int_0^1 x(1-x)[x(1-x)f]_{xx}^2 dx \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

for any  $f \in B_2$ .

- This is proven in essentially the same fashion.
- We start with the fact that

$$\int_0^1 x(1-x)[x(1-x)f]_{xx}^2 dx = \sum_k (k+1)^2(k+2)^2 \alpha_k^2$$

## Second Limiting Embedding

- We also have

$$\begin{aligned}\left\| \frac{df}{dx} \right\|_{B_0}^2 &= \sum_j \left\langle \frac{df}{dx}, \phi_j \right\rangle_{B_0}^2 \\ &= \sum_j \left\langle \sum_k \alpha_k \frac{d\phi_k}{dx}, \phi_j \right\rangle_{B_0}^2 \\ &= \sum_{j,k,\ell} |\alpha_k \alpha_\ell| \left\langle \frac{d\phi_k}{dx}, \phi_j \right\rangle_{B_0} \left\langle \frac{d\phi_\ell}{dx}, \phi_j \right\rangle_{B_0}\end{aligned}$$

## Second Limiting Embedding

- Using the fact that the  $\phi_k$  are known in terms of Gegenbauer polynomials, we evaluate the integrals, and find

$$\left\| \frac{df}{dx} \right\|_{B_0}^2 \leq 32 \sum_k \sum_{\ell \geq k} \sum_{j < k} |\alpha_k \alpha_\ell| \sqrt{\frac{(k + 3/2)(\ell + 3/2)}{(k + 1)(k + 2)(\ell + 1)(\ell + 2)}} (j + 1)(j + 2)(j + 3/2).$$

- The embedding then follows after another application of Hölder's inequality.

# Energy Estimates for $\phi$

- Freeze the choice of  $\tilde{R}(t)$ .
- We have the energy estimates

$$\sup_{0 \leq t < T} \int_0^1 x(1-x)\phi^2 dx + \int_0^T \int_0^1 [x(1-x)\phi]_x^2 dx dt \leq C \|\phi_0\|_{B_0}^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{0 \leq t < T} \int_0^1 [x(1-x)\phi]_x^2 dx + \int_0^T \int_0^1 x(1-x)[x(1-x)\phi]_{xx}^2 dx dt \\ \leq C \|\phi_0\|_{B_1}^2 \end{aligned}$$

The constants  $C$  depend on  $\max |\tilde{R}(t)|$ .

# Energy Estimates for $\phi$ - Proof sketch

Multiply the equation

$$\phi_t = -[x(1-x)\tilde{m}(t)\phi]_x - [\mu(1-2x)\phi]_x + \frac{1}{2}[x(1-x)\phi]_{xx}$$

by  $x(1-x)[x(1-x)\phi]_{xx}$  and integrate; then

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int_0^1 [x(1-x)\phi]_x^2 dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 x(1-x)[x(1-x)\phi]_{xx}^2 dx \\ & \leq \|\tilde{m}\|_\infty \left( \int_0^1 [x(1-x)\phi]_x^2 dx \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left( \int_0^1 x(1-x)[x(1-x)\phi]_{xx}^2 dx \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ & \quad + \mu \left[ 2 \left( \int_0^1 x(1-x)\phi^2 dx \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} + \left( \int_0^1 x(1-x) \left( \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right)^2 dx \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right] \\ & \quad \cdot \left( \int_0^1 x(1-x)[x(1-x)\phi]_{xx}^2 dx \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \end{aligned}$$

# Energy Estimates for $\phi$

- $\phi \in C_{\text{loc}}((0, 1) \times [0, T]);$
- $x^{1-\theta}(1-x)^{1-\theta}\phi(x, t) \in C\left([0, T]; C^{\frac{1}{2}-\theta}[0, 1]\right)$  for any  $0 \leq \theta < \frac{1}{2};$
- $\sup_{0 \leq t < T} |\phi(x, t)| \leq C \max\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x}}\right) \|\phi_0\|_{B_1}$
- $\sup_{0 \leq t < T} \|\phi(\cdot, t)\|_{L_p(0,1)} \leq C_p \|\phi_0\|_{B_1}$  for  $1 \leq p \leq 2.$
- $\phi \in C^{1/2}([0, T]; B_0)$
- $\phi \in C^\alpha([0, T]; L_p(0, 1))$  for any  $1 \leq p < 2$  and any  $0 < \alpha < \frac{1}{p} - \frac{1}{2}$
- $\phi_t \in L_2(0, T; B_0);$



# Energy Estimates for $v$

- Recall

$$v(x, t) = \int_0^t \left\{ -\mu(1 - 2x)\phi(x, s) + \frac{1}{2}[x(1 - x)\phi(x, s)]_x \right\} ds$$

- Then the energy estimates for  $\phi$  allow us to prove

- $v \in L_\infty(0, T; L_2(0, 1))$ ,
- $v_t \in L_\infty(0, T; L_2(0, 1))$ ,
- $v_x \in C^\alpha([0, T]; L_p(0, 1))$ , and
- $v \in C^\alpha([0, T]; C^{1-1/p}[0, 1])$

for any  $1 \leq p \leq 2$  and for any  $0 < \alpha < \frac{1}{p} - \frac{1}{2}$ .

- In each case, the relevant norm is bounded by  $C \|\phi_0\|_{B_1}$  for  $C$  depending on  $\max |\tilde{R}(t)|$ .
- As a consequence,  $v(0, t), v(1, t) \in C^\beta[0, T]$  for any  $0 < \beta < 1/2$ .

# Maximum Principle

- Maximum Principle: For any  $0 \leq t_1 \leq t_2 < T$

$$\int_0^1 \phi^\pm(x, t_2) dx \leq \int_0^1 \phi^\pm(x, t_1) dx$$

- The proof follows by using

$$\frac{x(1-x)\phi^\pm}{x(1-x)\phi^\pm + \epsilon}$$

as a test function on the interval  $[a, b]$ , then letting  $\epsilon \downarrow 0$ ,  $a \downarrow 0$  and  $b \uparrow 1$ .

# Maximum Principle, Proof

- It is easy to see that

$$\lim_{b \uparrow 1} \lim_{a \downarrow 0} \lim_{\epsilon \downarrow 0} \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \int_a^b \phi_t^\pm \frac{x(1-x)\phi^\pm}{x(1-x)\phi^\pm + \epsilon} dx dt = \int_0^1 \phi^\pm(x, t) dx \Big|_{t=t_1}^{t=t_2}$$

$$\lim_{b \uparrow 1} \lim_{a \downarrow 0} \lim_{\epsilon \downarrow 0} \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \int_a^b \tilde{m}[x(1-x)\phi^\pm]_x \frac{x(1-x)\phi^\pm}{x(1-x)\phi^\pm + \epsilon} dx dt = 0.$$

- To handle the remaining terms, we first notice that

$$-\mu(1-2x)\phi + \frac{1}{2}[x(1-x)\phi]_x = \frac{1}{2}x^{2\mu}(1-x)^{2\mu}[x^{1-2\mu}(1-x)^{1-2\mu}\phi]_x.$$

# Maximum Principle, Proof

- Thus

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \int_a^b \left\{ -\mu(1-2x)\phi + \frac{1}{2}[x(1-x)\phi]_x \right\}_x \frac{\pm x(1-x)\phi^\pm}{x(1-x)\phi^\pm + \epsilon} dx dt \\
 &= -\frac{1}{2} \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \int_a^b \frac{\epsilon [x(1-x)\phi^\pm]_x^2}{(x(1-x)\phi^\pm + \epsilon)^2} dx dt \\
 &+ \mu \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \int_a^b \frac{1-2x}{x(1-x)} \frac{\epsilon [x(1-x)\phi^\pm] [x(1-x)\phi^\pm]_x}{(x(1-x)\phi^\pm + \epsilon)^2} dx dt \\
 &\pm \frac{1}{2} \int_{t_1}^{t_2} x^{2\mu}(1-x)^{2\mu} [x^{1-2\mu}(1-x)^{1-2\mu}\phi]_x \\
 &\quad \cdot \frac{x(1-x)\phi^\pm}{x(1-x)\phi^\pm + \epsilon} dt \Bigg|_{x=a}^{x=b}
 \end{aligned}$$

# Maximum Principle: Consequences

- $R \in C^1[0, T)$  and

$$|R(t)| \leq |R(0)| + \|\phi_0\|_{L^1} \left[ \frac{1}{2}\mu t + \int_0^t \kappa |\rho - \tilde{R}(s)| ds \right]$$

- This follows from the identity

$$R(t_2) - R(t_1) = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \int_0^1 [\tilde{m}x(1-x) + \mu(x - \frac{1}{2})] \phi dx dt$$

which follows from the use of  $x - \frac{1}{2}$  as a test function.

# Fixed Point Argument

- Let  $\mathcal{U} = C([0, T]; L_1(0, 1)) \times C[0, T] \times C[0, T]$  and consider the function  $\mathfrak{F} : \mathcal{U} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$  defined by

$$\mathfrak{F}(\tilde{\phi}, \tilde{R}_0, \tilde{R}_1) = (\phi, R_0, R_1)$$

where  $\phi$  is the solution of the problem with frozen coefficients with corresponding values of  $R_0, R_1$ .

- Our energy estimates and some additional embedding results for the spaces  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  show that  $\mathfrak{F}$  is continuous and compact
- The maximum principle shows that the set  $\{(\phi, R_0, R_1) \in \mathcal{U} : (\phi, R_0, R_1) = \sigma \mathfrak{F}(\phi, R_0, R_1) \text{ for some } 0 \leq \sigma \leq 1\}$  is bounded in  $\mathcal{U}$ .
- Existence follows from Schaefer's Fixed Point Theorem.