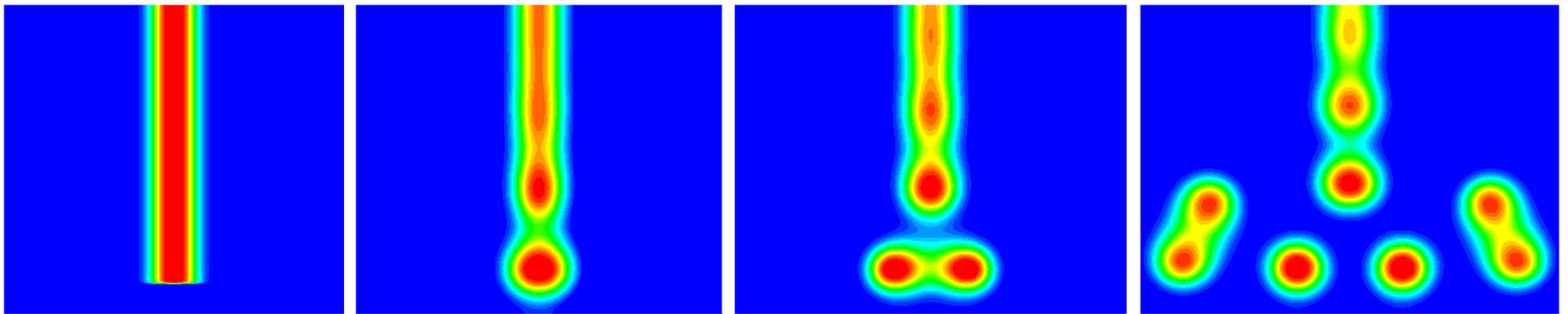


# The Dynamics of Reaction-Diffusion Patterns

Arjen Doelman (Leiden)

(Rob Gardner, Tasso Kaper, Yasumasa Nishiura, Keith Promislow, Bjorn Sandstede)



# STRUCTURE OF THE TALK

- Motivation
- Topics that won't be discussed
- Analytical approaches
- Patterns close to equilibrium
- Localized structures
- Periodic patterns & Busse balloons
- Interactions
- Discussion and more ...

# MOTIVATION

Reaction-diffusion equations are perhaps the most ‘**simple**’ PDEs that generate **complex** patterns



Reaction-diffusion equations serve as (often over-) **simplified models** in many applications

Examples:

FitzHugh-Nagumo (FH-N) - nerve conduction

Gierer-Meinhardt (GM) - ‘morphogenesis’

.....

# EXAMPLE: **Vegetation patterns**



Interaction between plants, soil & (ground) water modelled by **2- or 3-component** RDEs.

Some of these are remarkably familiar ...

At the transition to **'desertification'** in Niger, Africa.

# The Klausmeier & Gray-Scott (GS) models

$$\begin{cases} W_t = CW_x - WP^2 + A(1 - W) \\ P_t = D_p \Delta P + WP^2 - BP \end{cases} \quad (\text{Klausmeier})$$

$W(x, y, t) \leftrightarrow$  water,  $P(x, y, t) \leftrightarrow$  plant biomass

$$\begin{cases} U_t = D_u \Delta U - UV^2 + A(1 - U) \\ V_t = D_v \Delta V + UV^2 - BV \end{cases} \quad (\text{Gray - Scott})$$

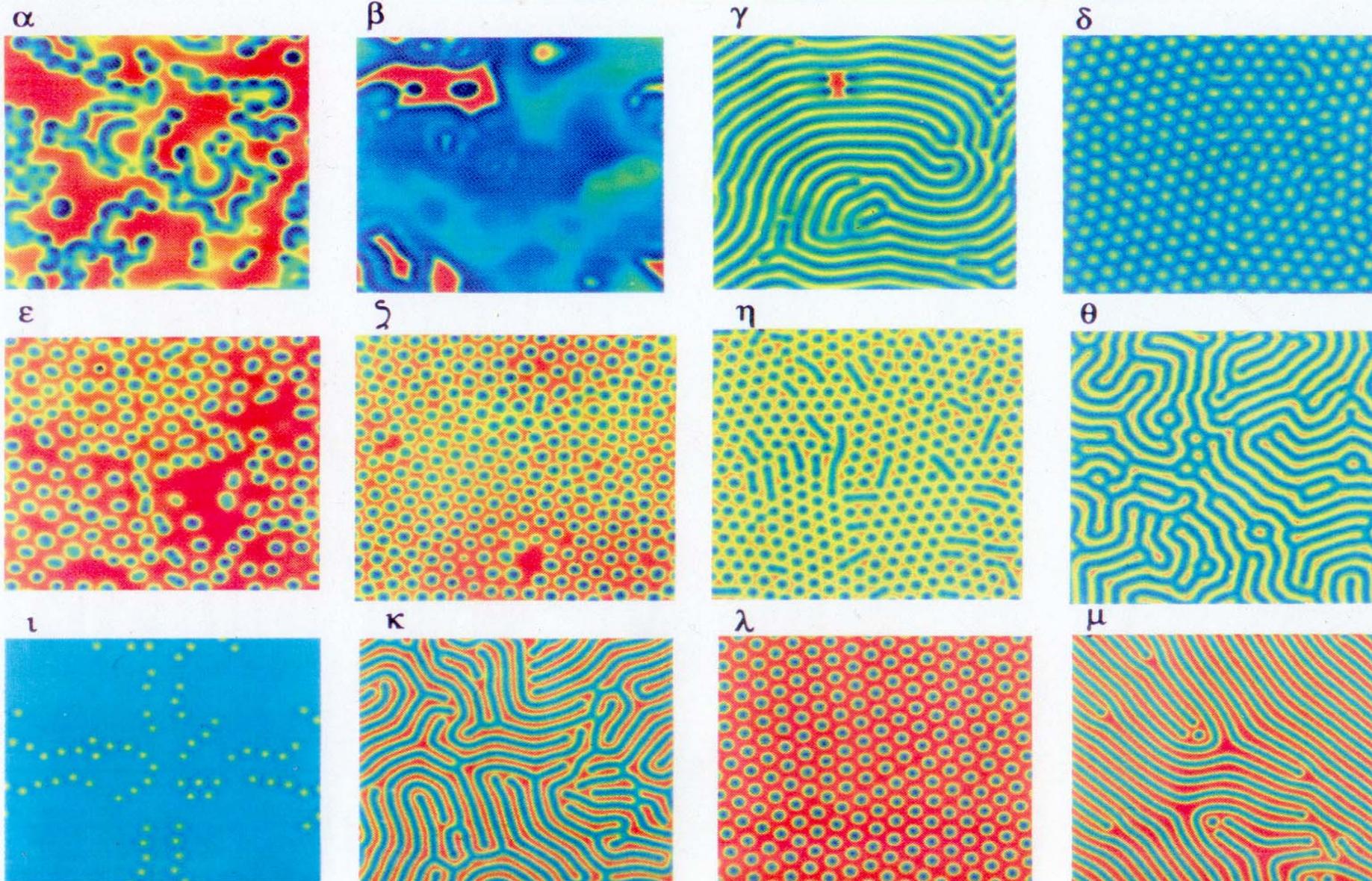
$U(x, y, t), V(x, y, t) \leftrightarrow$  concentrations

water flow on hill side  $\leftrightarrow CW_x$

horizontal water flow  $\leftrightarrow D_W \Delta W$  or  $D_W \Delta W^\gamma$

$\Rightarrow$  Klausmeier  $\leftrightarrow$  GS/GS in porous media: GKGS

# The dynamics of patterns in the GS equation



$A \rightarrow$

[J. Pearson (1993), Complex patterns in a simple system]

There is a (very) comparable richness in types of vegetation patterns ...



‘spots’



‘labyrinths’



‘stripes’

## EXAMPLE: Gas-discharge systems

From: [http://www.uni-muenster.de/Physik.AP/Purwins/...](http://www.uni-muenster.de/Physik.AP/Purwins/)

$$\partial_t \mathbf{u} = d_u^2 \Delta \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{u}) - \kappa_3 \mathbf{v} - \kappa_4 \mathbf{w} + \kappa_1 - \kappa_2 \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{u} d\Omega + \mu (\nabla \mathbf{u})(\nabla \mathbf{u}),$$

$$\tau \partial_t \mathbf{v} = d_v^2 \Delta \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v} - \kappa_1' + \kappa_2' \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{v} d\Omega,$$

$$\Theta \partial_t \mathbf{w} = d_w^2 \Delta \mathbf{w} + \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{w},$$

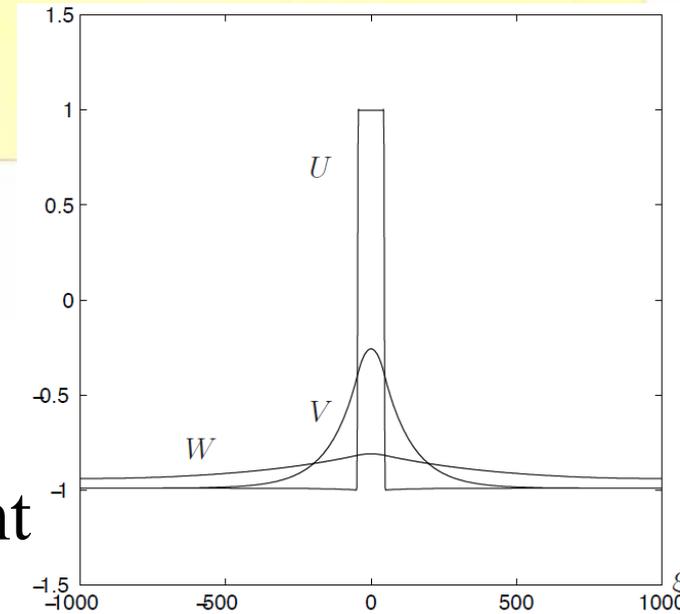
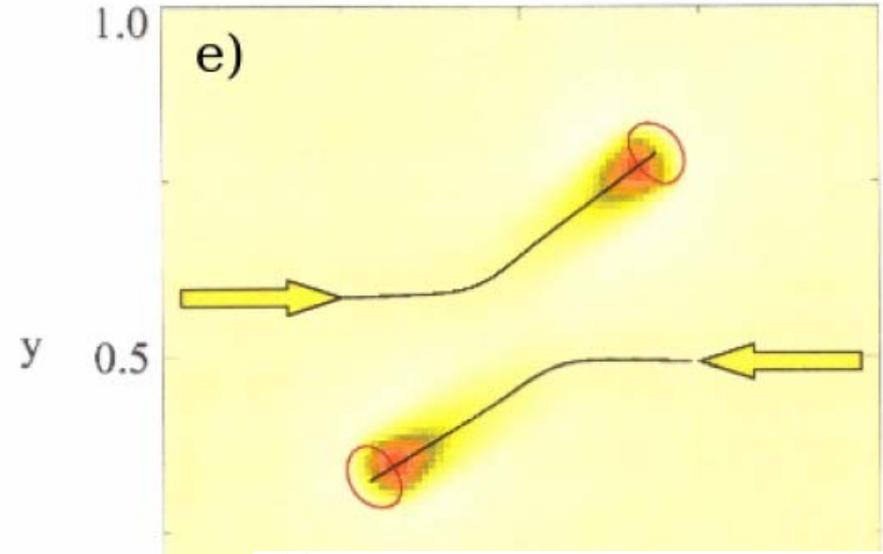
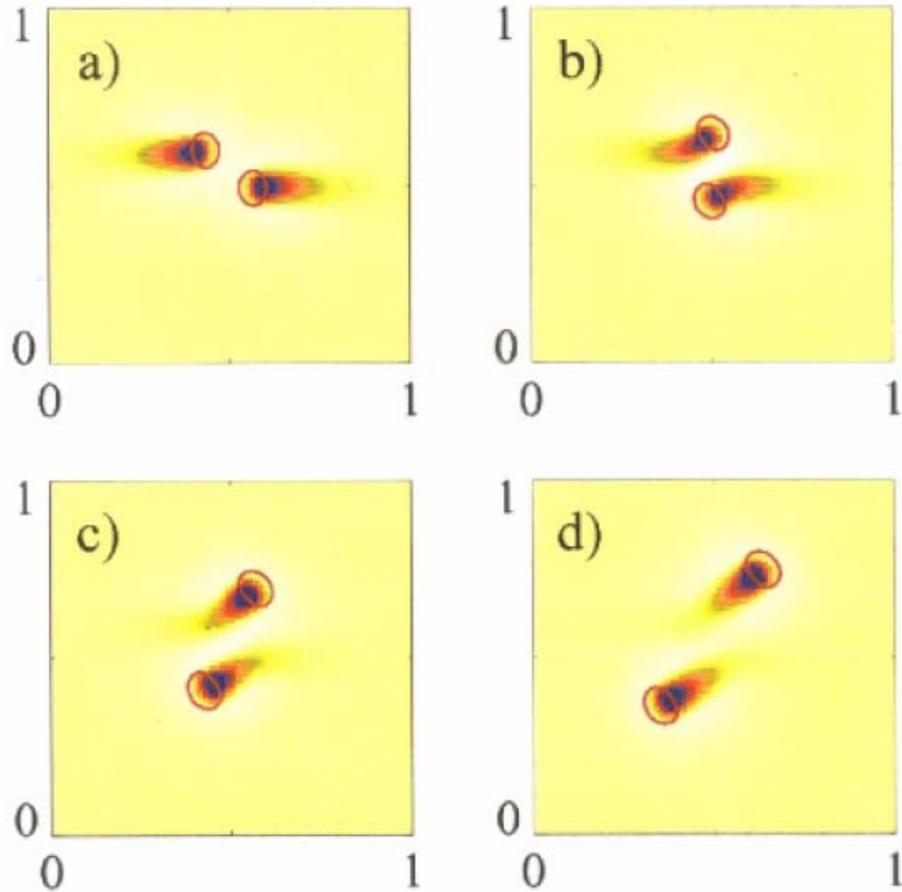
A PARADIGM MODEL

$\Updownarrow$  (Nishiura et al.)

$$\begin{cases} U_t &= U_{\xi\xi\xi} + U - U^3 - \varepsilon(\alpha V + \beta W + \gamma), \\ \tau V_t &= \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2} V_{\xi\xi\xi} + U - V, \\ \theta W_t &= \frac{D^2}{\varepsilon^2} W_{\xi\xi\xi} + U - W, \end{cases}$$

In 1D: van Heijster, D, Kaper, Promislow, in 2D: van Heijster, Sandstede

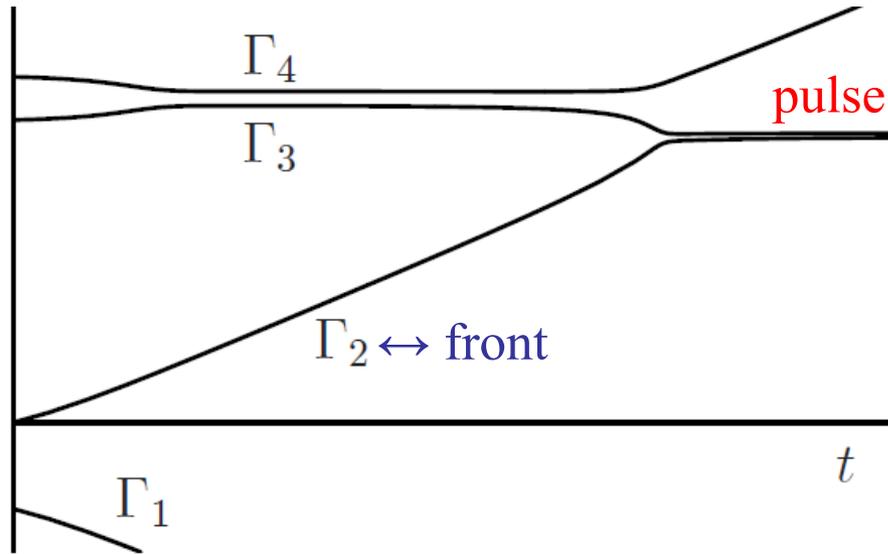
Again from the work (homepage) of **the Münster group**



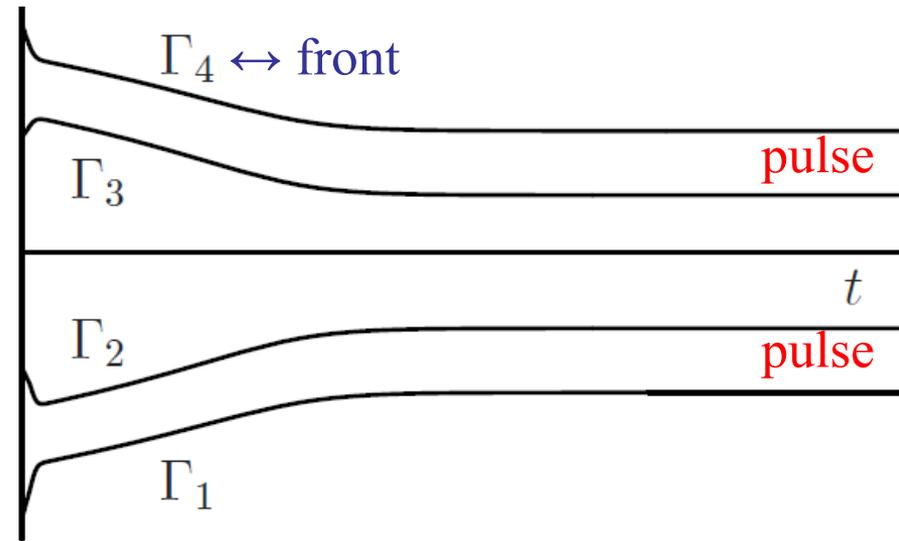
Spot interactions in 2 dimensions

As 1D structure: pulse  $\leftrightarrow$  2-front

From Peter van Heijster, AD, Tasso Kaper, Keith Promislow



$$(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, D, \varepsilon) = (6, -3, -1, 5, 0.1)$$



$$(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, D, \varepsilon) = (2, -1, -0.25, 5, 0.01)$$

## SEMI-STRONG INTERACTIONS

1-dimensional pulses appearing from **N-front dynamics**.

**PDE dynamics reduce to N-dim ODEs for front positions**

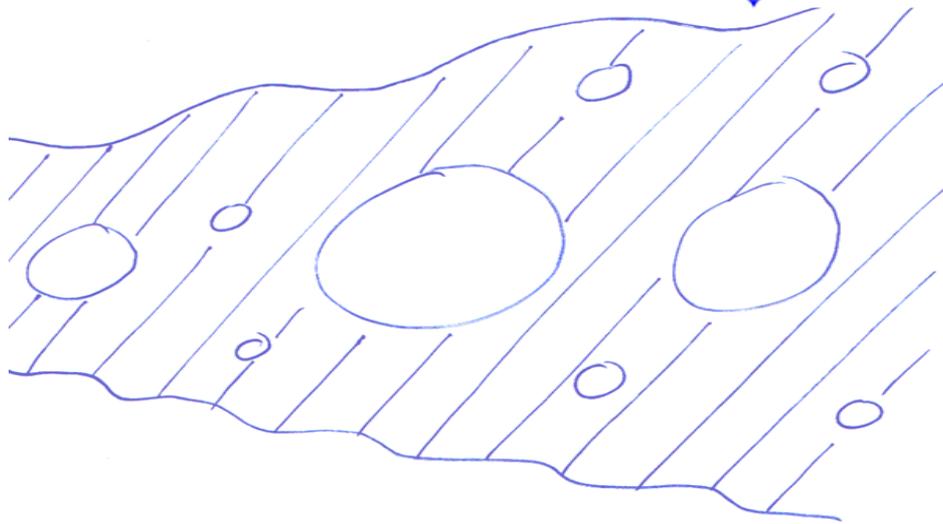
( $\rightarrow$  attractivity of N-dim manifold + dynamics on manifold)

# TOPICS THAT WON'T BE DISCUSSED:

- **SCALAR** EQUATIONS

$$U_t = \Delta U + F(U),$$

$$U(x, t) : \Omega \times \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d.$$



‘Tools’:

- Maximum principles
- Gradient structure

‘Waves in random media’ [Berestycki, Hamel, Xin, ...]

• GRADIENT FLOWS, such as

\* the Cahn-Hilliard equation ( $\leftrightarrow$  interface dynamics),

$$U_t = -\Delta((\varepsilon^2)\Delta U + F(U)),$$

$U(x, t) : \Omega \times \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ , and

\* the real Ginzburg-Landau equation ( $\leftrightarrow$  defects),

$$(U_t = ) \Delta U + U - |U|^2 U (= 0),$$

$U(x, t) : \Omega \times \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ ,  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ .

[Fife, Brezis, Nishiura, Sternberg, ...]

- INTERFACE DYNAMICS in 2D (**curvature!**)

- \* in gradient systems ( $\longleftrightarrow$  Cahn-Hilliard)

- \* in **singularly perturbed** ‘excitable’ systems

$$\begin{cases} U_t = \Delta U + F(U, V) \\ V_t = \delta \Delta V + \varepsilon G(U, V) \end{cases}$$

$$U, V : \Omega \times \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2, 0 < \varepsilon, \delta \ll 1,$$

- \* in general

- **BOUNDARY EFFECTS**

[Fife, ‘Japanese school’ (Mimura, Nishiura, ...), Sandstede, Scheel, ...]

# ANALYTICAL APPROACHES

**Restriction/Condition:** ‘We’ want explicit control on the nature/structure of the solutions/patterns



- Study solutions ‘near’ simple patterns

→ Modulated patterns & modulation equations.

- Study equations ‘close to’ simple equations (??)

→ (Singularly) perturbed equations & near-gradient/  
near-integrable systems

(nonlinear Schrödinger  $\leftrightarrow$  complex Ginzburg-Landau)

## • SOLUTIONS **NEAR** SIMPLE PATTERNS

\* **Weakly** nonlinear stability theory'

( $\Leftrightarrow$  evolution of **small** patterns **near** a **weakly** unstable trivial state)

$\rightarrow$  the **complex Ginzburg-Landau** equation (and more).

\* **Modulated** wave trains

( $\Leftrightarrow$  dynamics of **almost** spatially periodic patterns)

$\rightarrow$  the **Burgers** equation, the **Korteweg-de Vries** equation, the **Kuramoto-Sivashinsky** equation, ...

\* **Modulated** localized structures.

[Eckhaus, Newell, Schneider, Kopell, van Harten, D, Sandstede, Scheel, ...]

- EQUATIONS **NEAR** SIMPLE EQUATIONS

- \* **SINGULARLY PERTURBED** RDEs

Natural assumption:  $(U, V)$  are **bounded** on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . Then,

$$\begin{cases} U_t = \Delta U + F(U, V) \\ V_t = \varepsilon^2 \Delta V + G(U, V) \end{cases} \rightarrow \begin{cases} \varepsilon^2 U_t = \tilde{\Delta} U + \varepsilon^2 F(U, V) \\ V_t = \tilde{\Delta} V + G(U, V) \end{cases}$$

with  $0 < \varepsilon^2 = \frac{D_V}{D_U} \ll 1 \rightsquigarrow U \approx U_0$ , constant &  $V$  solves

$$V_t = \tilde{\Delta} V + G(U_0, V)$$

a **scalar** equation.

Nevertheless, SP-RDEs exhibit the dynamics of systems.

# PATTERNS CLOSE TO EQUILIBRIUM

**EXAMPLE:** 2-component systems in  $\mathbb{R}^1$ ,

$$\begin{cases} U_t = U_{xx} + F(U, V) \\ V_t = DV_{xx} + G(U, V) \end{cases}$$

A ‘trivial pattern’  $(U(x, t), V(x, t)) \equiv (U_0, V_0)$  solves

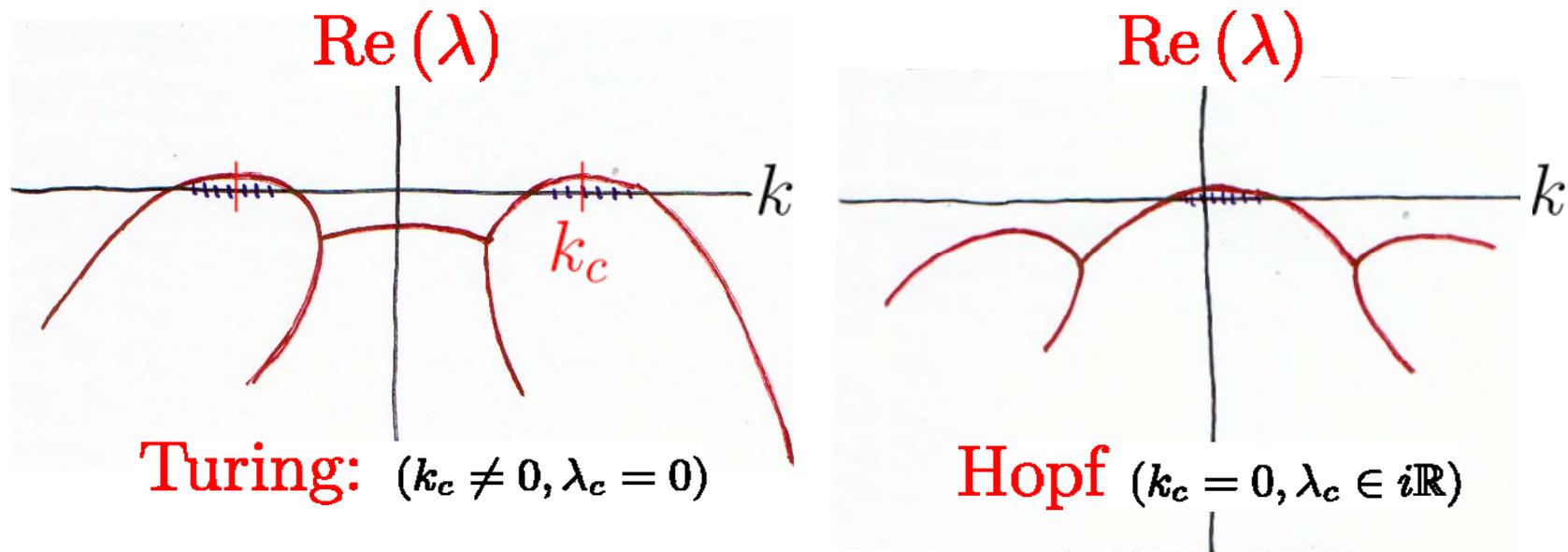
$$F(U_0, V_0) = G(U_0, V_0) = 0.$$

Its linear stability is determined by setting

$$(U(x, t), V(x, t)) = (U_0, V_0) + (\alpha, \beta) e^{ikx + \lambda(k^2)t}$$

with  $k \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $(\alpha, \beta) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ . The eigenvalues  $\lambda_{1,2}(k^2) \in \mathbb{C}$  can be computed explicitly as functions of  $k^2$ .

# Two typical pattern-generating bifurcations



**Small** amplitude patterns at **near**-criticality are described by a **modulation equation** for the complex amplitude  $A$ , where  $A = A(\xi, \tau)$  is related to  $(U, V)$  by

$$(U(x, t), V(x, t)) = (U_0, V_0) + \varepsilon A e^{ik_c x + \lambda_c t} (\alpha_c, \beta_c) + \text{c.c.} + \text{h.o.t.}$$

[Note. **Turing-Hopf**: no reversibility (**GKGS**),  $k_c, \lambda_c \neq 0$ ]

**Turing:** Evolution of  $A$  is described by the **rGL**,

$$A_\tau = A_{\xi\xi} + A \pm |A|^2 A.$$

**(Turing-)Hopf:** Evolution of  $A$  is described by the **cGL**,

$$A_\tau = (1 + ia)A_{\xi\xi} + A \pm (1 + ib)|A|^2 A.$$

[proofs of validity by Schneider]

**Turing:** Dynamics of patterns fully understood (**near-criticality**).

**(Turing-)Hopf:** Stable periodic patterns for  $\pm \rightarrow -$  and

$$1 + ab > 0 \quad (\text{Benjamin} - \text{Feir/Newell})$$

**Q:** Dynamics small amplitude patterns if  $1 + ab < 0??$

## cGL analysis in GKGS model

$$\begin{cases} U_t &= U_{xx}^\gamma + CU_x + A(1-U) - UV^2 \\ V_t &= \delta^{2\sigma} V_{xx} - BV + UV^2, \end{cases}$$

With

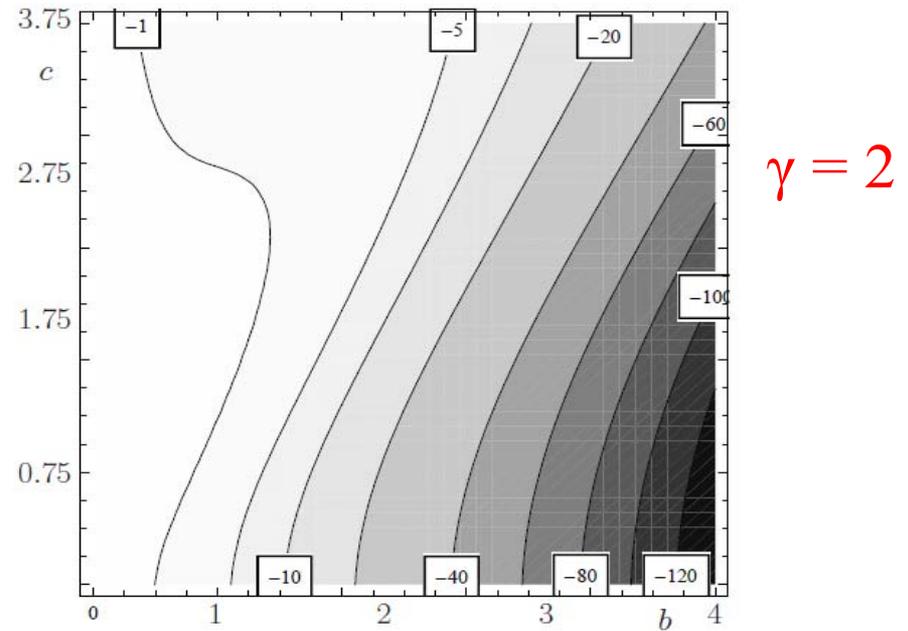
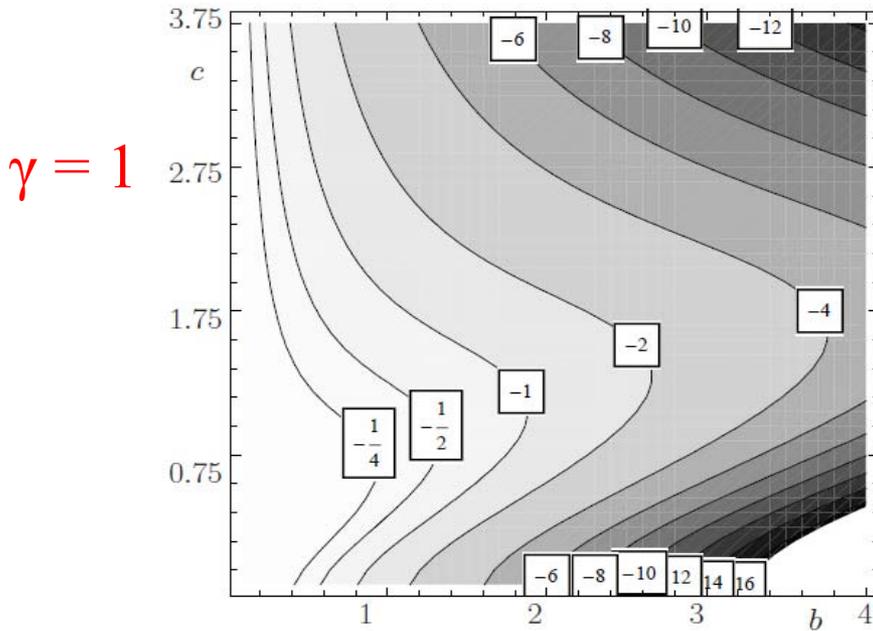
- $\delta^\sigma \ll 1$ : ratio spreading speed plants:water
- nonlinear diffusion  $\gamma \geq 1$  (mostly  $\gamma = 1$  or  $2$ )
- $A$  main parameter  $\leftrightarrow$  yearly precipitation
- $C \leftrightarrow$  slope,  $B \leftrightarrow$  mortality plants

For given  $B, C$  a Turing ( $C = 0$ )/Turing-Hopf ( $C \neq 0$ ) bifurcation takes place at  $A_{T(H)}$  (for decreasing  $A$ )

$\longrightarrow$  A cGL analysis near  $A = A_{T(H)}(B, C)$

$$\mathcal{A}_\tau = (a_1 + ia_2)\mathcal{A}_{\xi\xi} + (b_1 + ib_2)\mathcal{A} + (L_1 + iL_2)|\mathcal{A}|^2\mathcal{A}$$

$$\rightarrow L_1 = L_1(B, C) \quad \& \quad L_1(B, C) < 0 \leftrightarrow \pm \rightarrow - \text{ (patterns)}$$



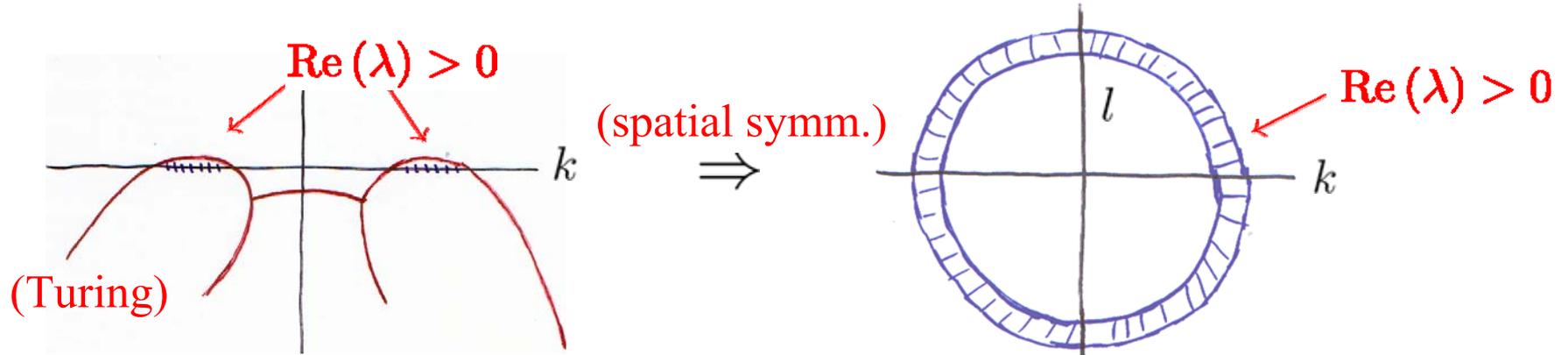
**B-F/N also OK: always stable patterns at onset (!?)**

**Note  $C = 0$ :**  $\mathcal{A}_\tau = 2\sqrt{2}\mathcal{A}_{\xi\xi} + b_1(\gamma)\mathcal{A} + L_1(\gamma)|\mathcal{A}|^2\mathcal{A}$  with

$$b_1(\gamma) = [-39 + 27\sqrt{2} + (41 - 29\sqrt{2})\gamma] \left(\frac{g\gamma}{b}\right)^{\frac{-1}{1+\gamma}} \frac{1}{b}$$

$$L_1(\gamma) = -\frac{1}{9}(2 - \sqrt{2}) \left[ 18(3 + 2\sqrt{2}) + 12(2 + \sqrt{2})\gamma + (-8 + 3\sqrt{2})\gamma^2 \right] \left(\frac{g\gamma}{b}\right)^{\frac{2}{\gamma+1}} b^3$$

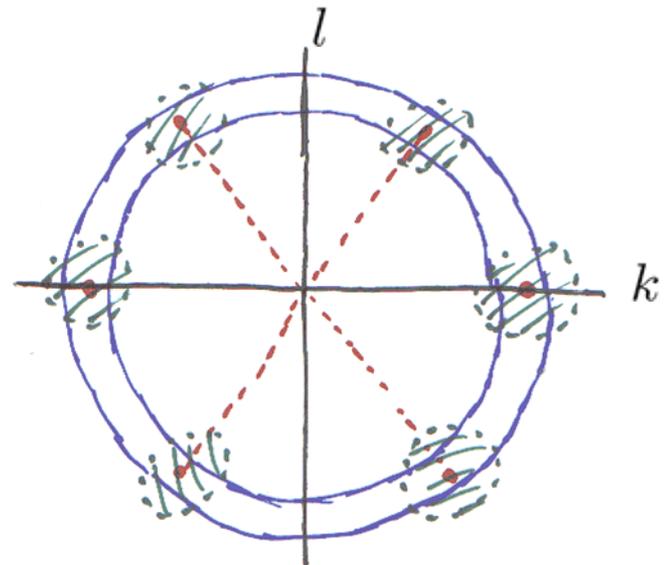
# Q: NEAR-CRITICAL PATTERN FORMATION IN $\mathbb{R}^2$ ??



CANNOT BE COVERED BY A 2-D cGL,

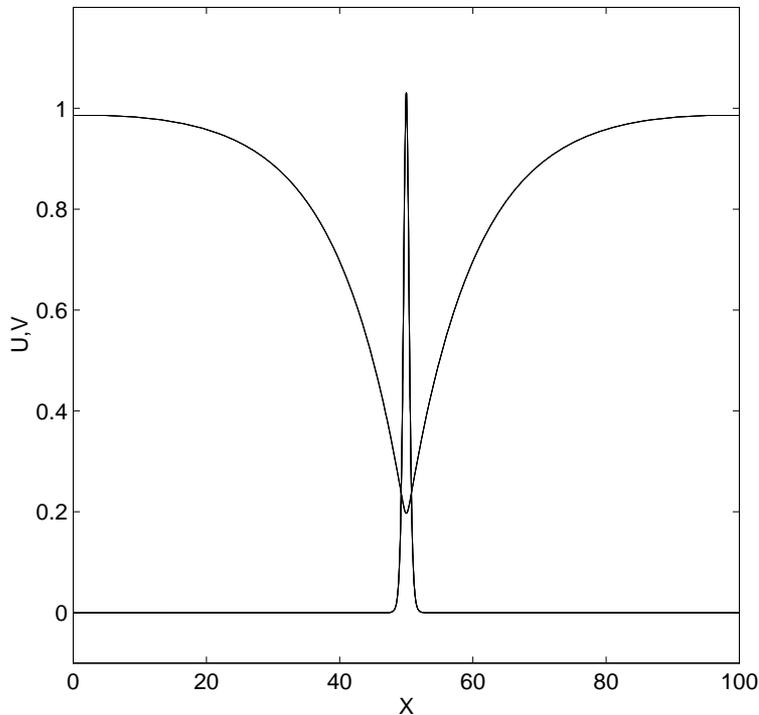
$$A_t = D_{11}A_{\xi\xi} + D_{12}A_{\xi\eta} + D_{22}A_{\eta\eta} + A \pm (1 + ib)|A|^2.$$

NOTE: Even the GL-extension of the system of coupled amplitude equations for hexagonal patterns only covers a small part of the ring of unstable 'modes'.

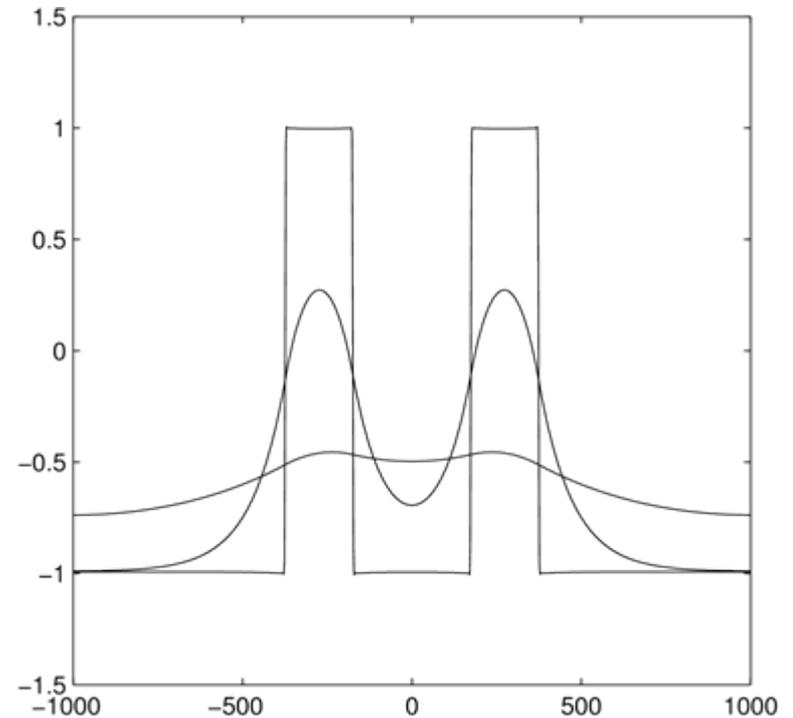


# LOCALIZED STRUCTURES

Far-from-equilibrium patterns that are 'close' to a trivial state, **except for a small spatial region.**



A (simple) pulse in GS



A 2-pulse or 4-front in a 3-component model

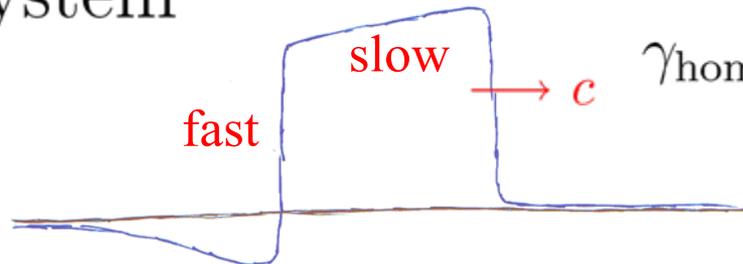
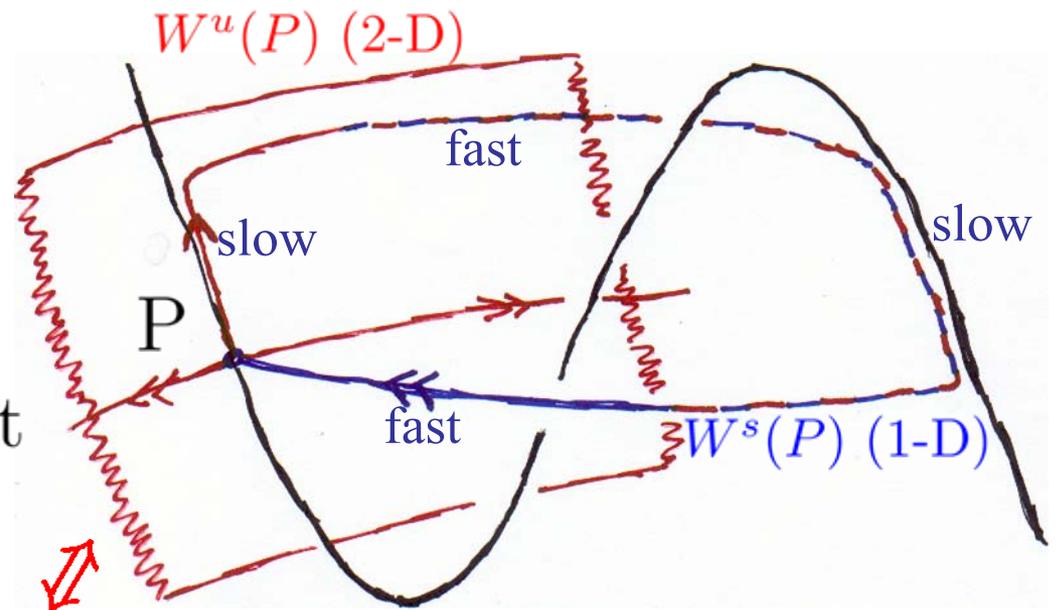
Pulses/fronts correspond to homo-/hetero-clinic orbits.

Prototypical example (that drove the development of ‘geometric singular perturbation theory’ [Fenichel, Jones, ...]):

FitzHugh-Nagumo

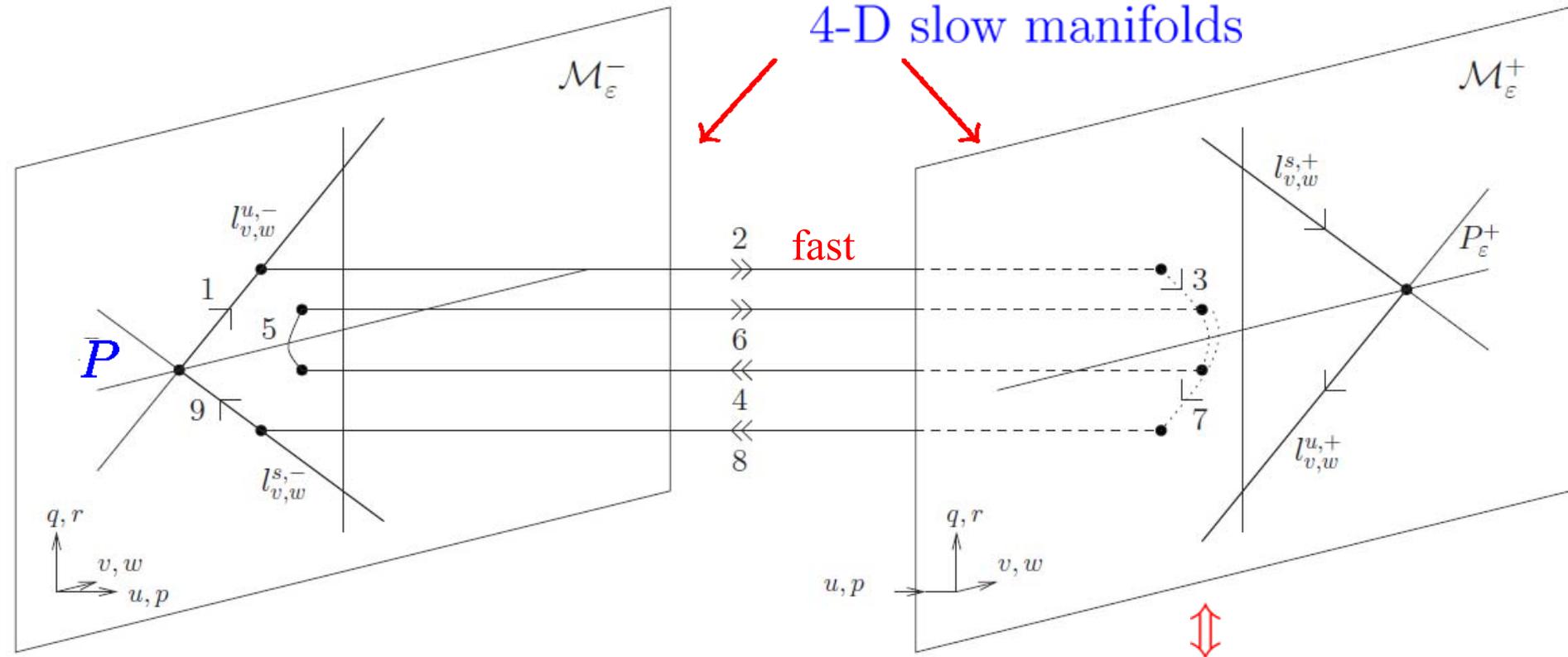


Construct 1-pulse, or 2-front homoclinic orbit in a 3-D singularly perturbed system



$$\gamma_{\text{hom}}(\xi) \subset W^u(P) \cap W^s(P)$$

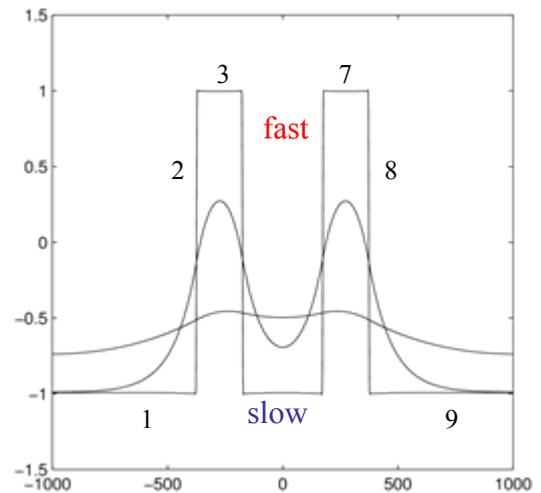
# 4-D slow manifolds



fast

$$\gamma_{\text{hom}}(\xi) \subset W^u(P) \cap W^s(P)$$

(= 3-D  $\cap$  3-D in 6-D space)



# SPECTRAL STABILITY

**EXAMPLE:** 2-component system on  $\mathbb{R}^1$ .

$$(U(x, t), V(x, t)) = (U_{\text{hom}}(x), V_{\text{hom}}(x)) + (u(x), v(x))e^{\lambda t}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{L}(x) \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix} = \lambda \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix}$$

Introduce  $\Phi(x) = (u, u_x, v, v_x)$ , then

$$\Phi_x = \mathcal{A}(x; \lambda)\Phi,$$

with  $\mathcal{A}$  a  $4 \times 4$  matrix with  $\text{Tr } \mathcal{A} = 0$ , and

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} \mathcal{A}(x; \lambda) = \mathcal{A}_\infty(\lambda)$$

Let  $\{\Phi_1(x; \lambda), \Phi_2(x; \lambda), \Phi_3(x; \lambda), \Phi_4(x; \lambda)\}$  be 4 independent solutions so that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \Phi_{1,2}(x; \lambda) = 0, \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \Phi_{3,4}(x; \lambda) = 0$$

(this is possible for  $\lambda \notin \sigma_{\text{ess}}$ ). The **Evans function** associated to this stability problem is defined by

$$\mathcal{D}(\lambda) = \det [\Phi_1(x; \lambda), \Phi_2(x; \lambda), \Phi_3(x; \lambda), \Phi_4(x; \lambda)]$$

- $\mathcal{D}$  does not depend on  $x$
- $\mathcal{D}$  is **analytic** as function of  $\lambda$  for  $\lambda \notin \sigma_{\text{ess}}$
- $\mathcal{D} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \lambda$  is an **eigenvalue**

[Evans, Alexander, Gardner, Jones, Pego, Weinstein]

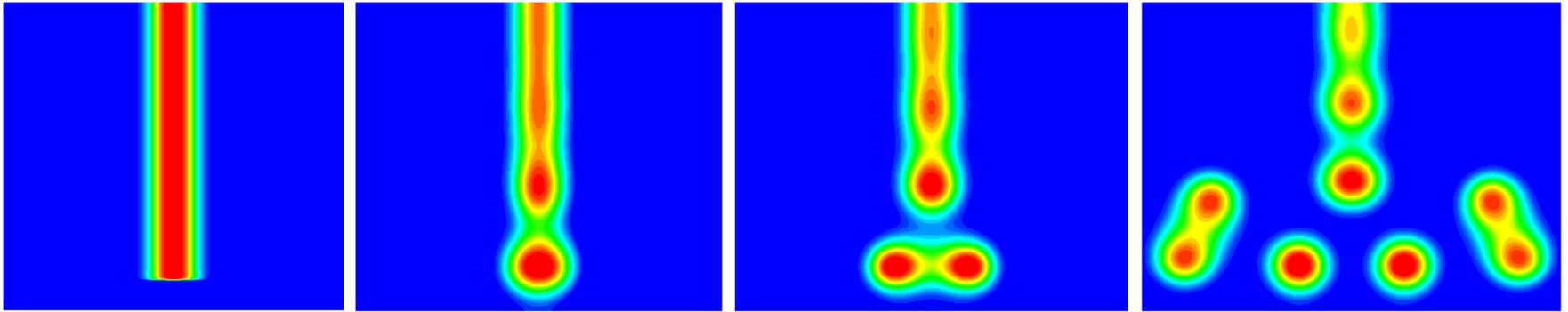
If the system is singularly perturbed,  $\mathcal{D}(\lambda)$  can be **decomposed**,

$$\mathcal{D}(\lambda) = \mathcal{D}_{\text{fast}}(\lambda)\mathcal{D}_{\text{slow}}(\lambda)$$

- $\mathcal{D}_{\text{fast}}(\lambda)$  is analytic for  $\lambda \notin \sigma_{\text{ess}}$ ;
- $\mathcal{D}_{\text{slow}}(\lambda)$  is **meromorphic**.
- the zeroes of  $\mathcal{D}_{\text{fast}}(\lambda)$  are given by a scalar problem and can be determined; **some of these correspond to poles of  $\mathcal{D}_{\text{slow}}(\lambda)$**
- the zeroes of  $\mathcal{D}_{\text{slow}}(\lambda)$  can be determined by a Melnikov-like approach

[D,Gardner,Kaper, ..., **Veerman**]

# What about localized 2-D patterns?



Spots, stripes, ‘volcanoes’, ....., most (all?) existence and stability analysis done for (or ‘close to’) ‘symmetric’ patterns  
(Again) PDE  $\rightsquigarrow$  ODE-analysis

Note, however: polar/spherical symmetries,

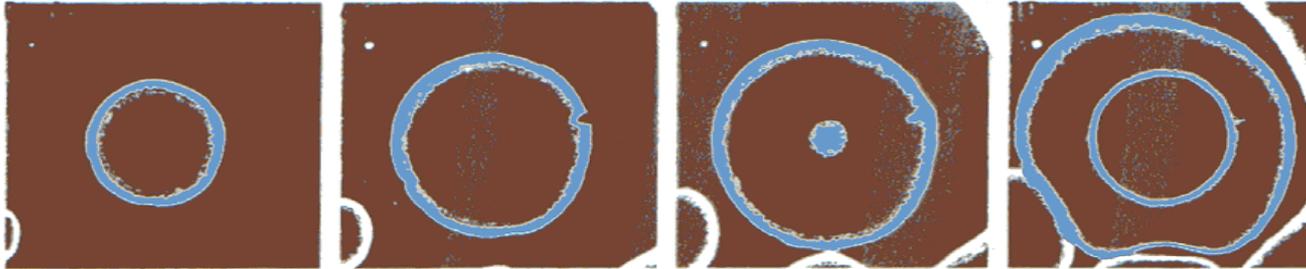
$$\Delta \rightarrow \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2} + \frac{N-1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r},$$

an inhomogeneous term with singularity at  $r = 0$ .

[Ward, Wei, Winter, van Heijster & Sandstede, ....]

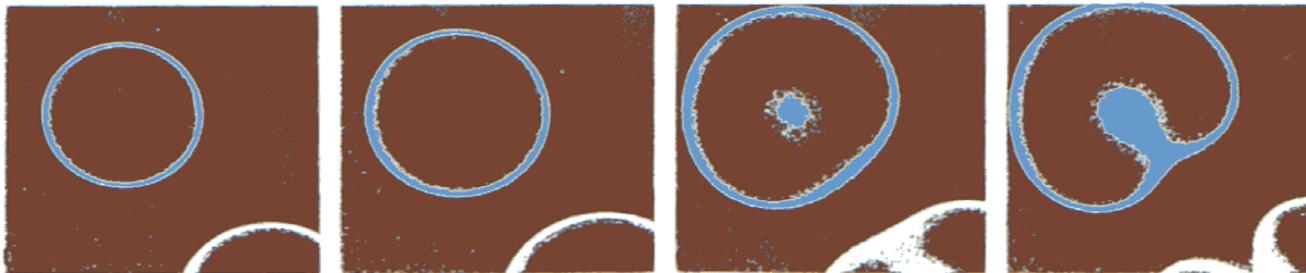
# 'Volcanoes' and 'Rings' in Klausmeier/Gray-Scott

Laboratory experiment

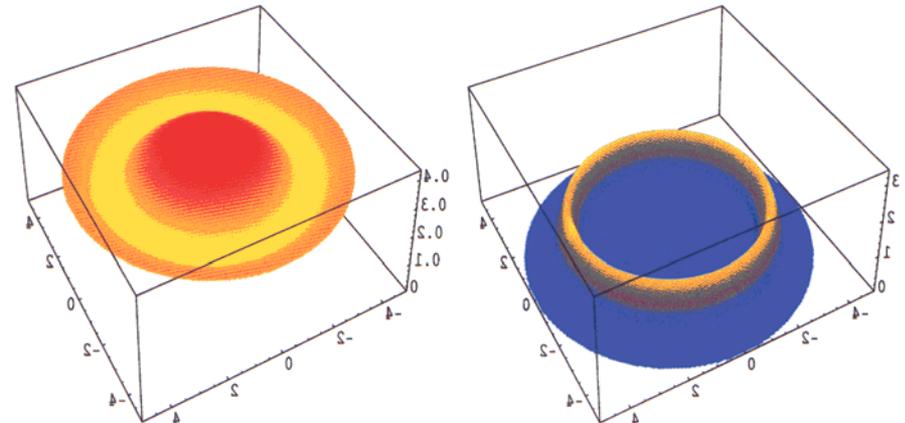


[Pearson, Swinney et al. 1994]

Numerical simulation



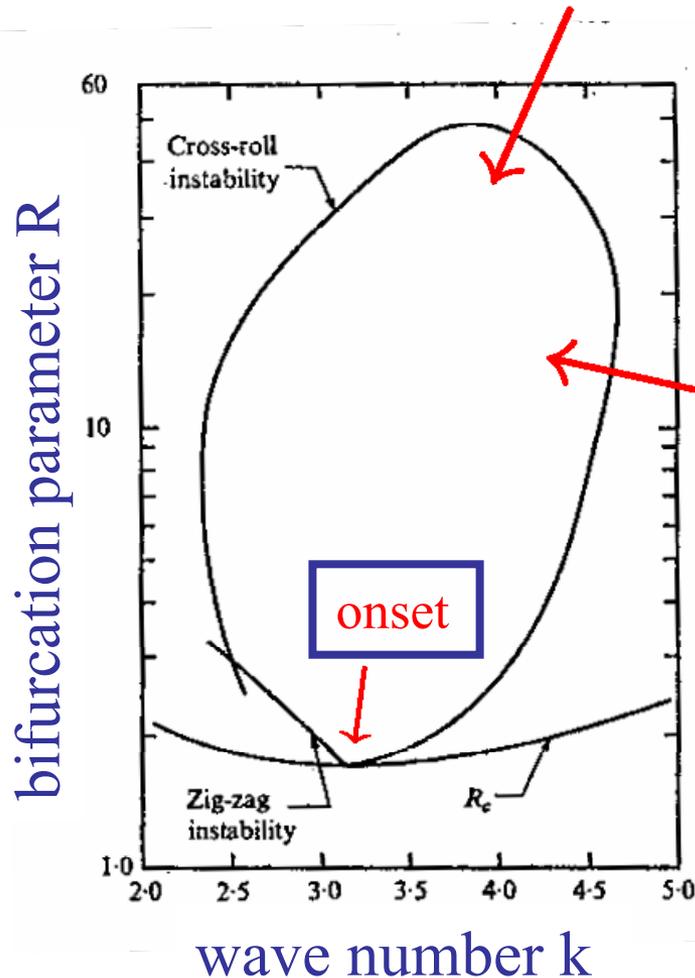
The 'volcano/ring-patterns are (fairly) well-understood



[Morgan & Kaper, 2004]

# PERIODIC PATTERNS & BUSSE BALLOONS

A natural connection between periodic patterns **near criticality** and **far-from-equilibrium** patterns

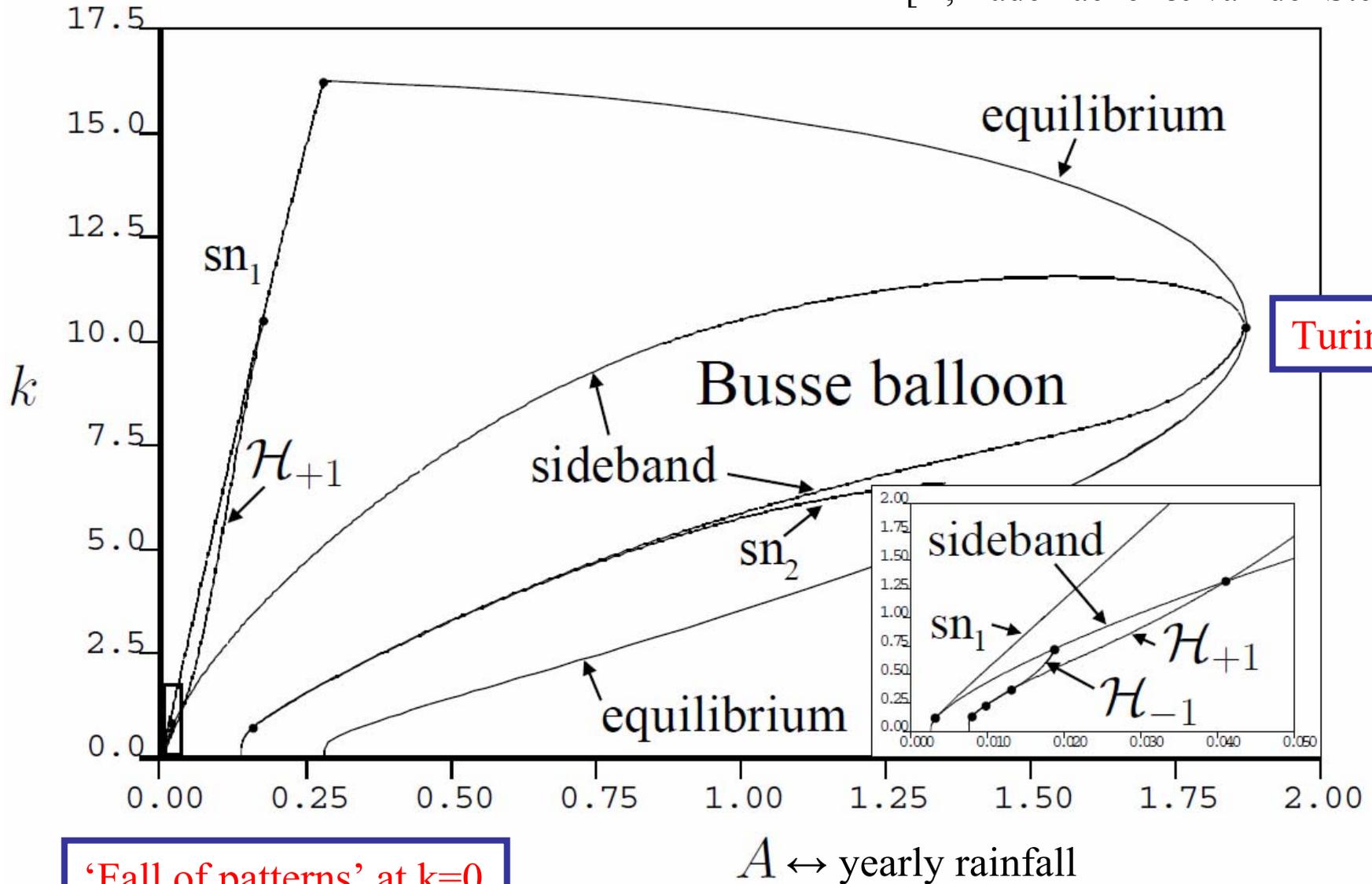


Region in  $(k,R)$ -space  
in which **STABLE**  
periodic patterns exist

[Busse, 1978] (convection)

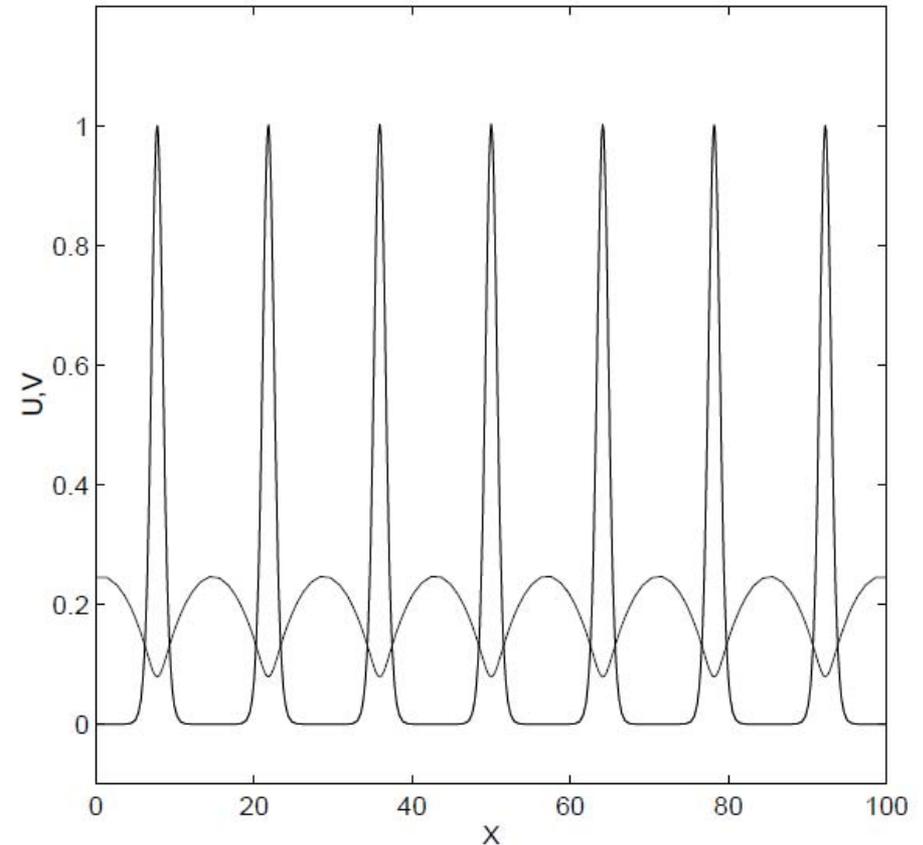
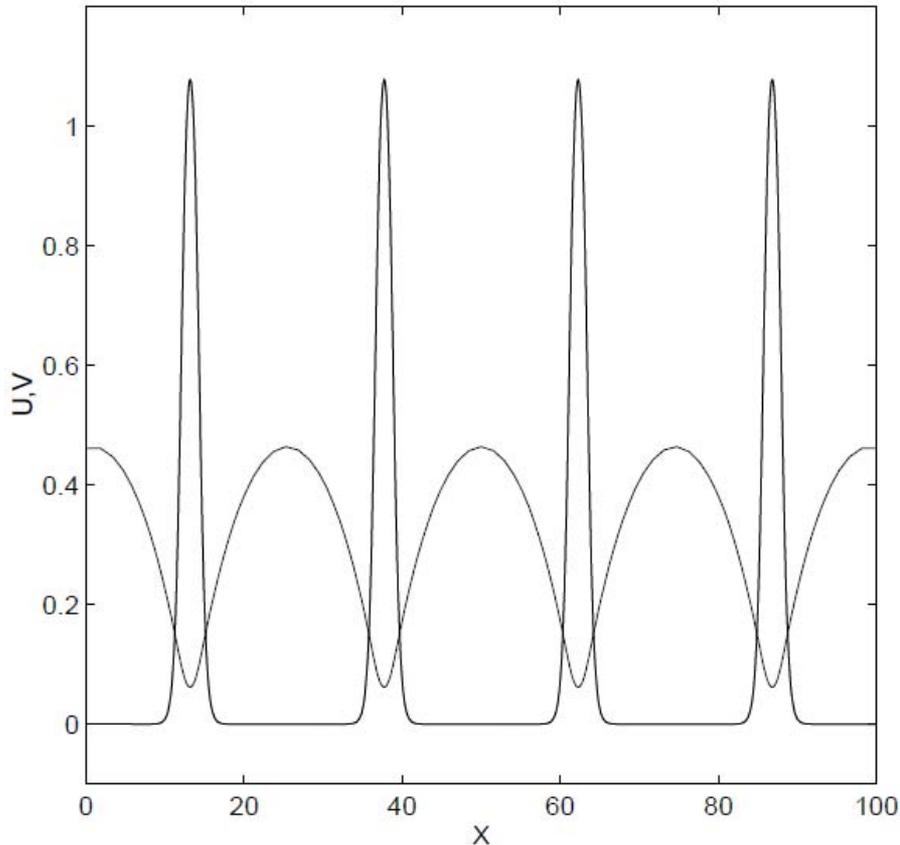
# A Busse balloon for the GS model

[D, Rademacher & van der Stelt, '12]



'Fall of patterns' at  $k=0$

Periodic patterns near  $k=0$ : **singular localized pulses**  
(of vegetation pattern kind)



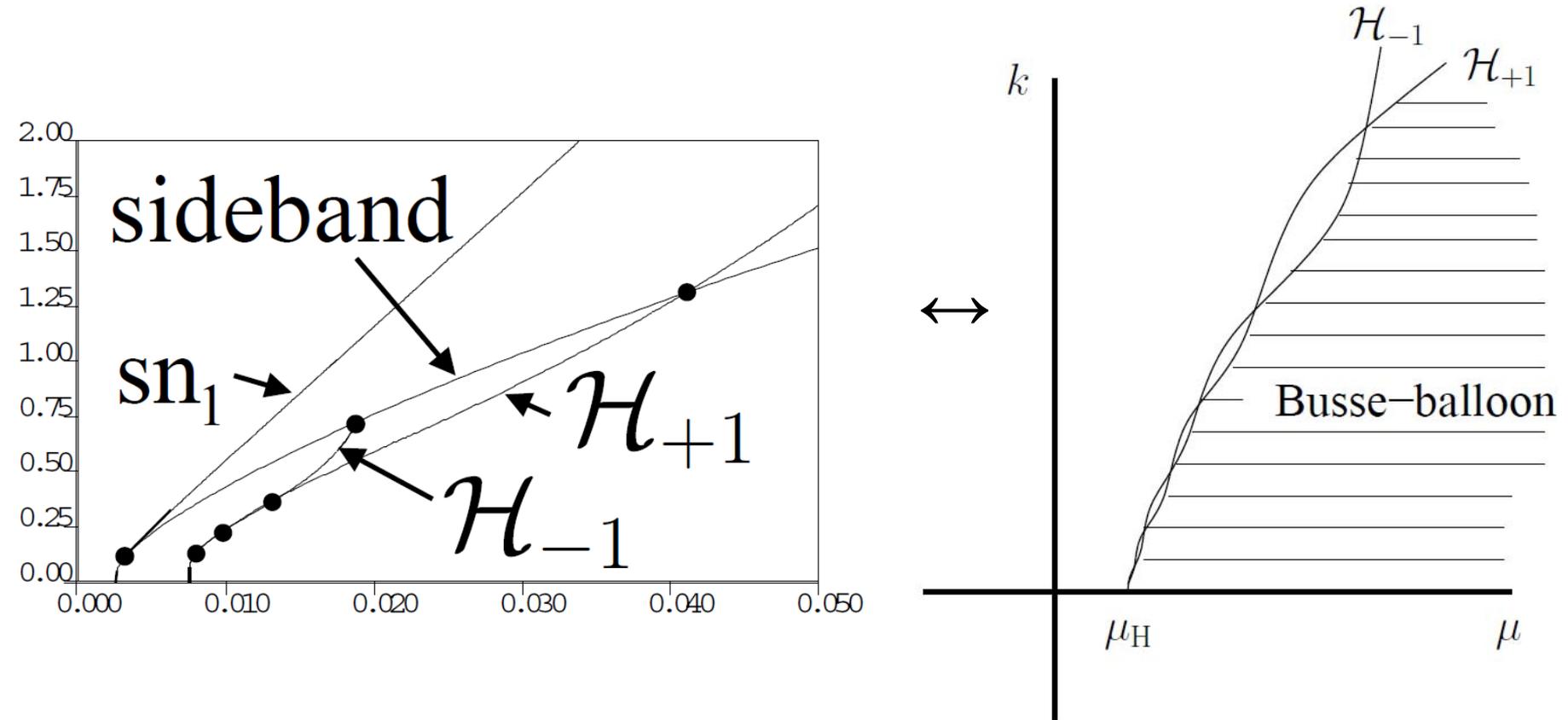
**Coexisting stable patterns (for the same parameter values)**

## What do we know analytically?

- **Near onset**/the Turing bifurcation: ‘full analytical control’ through Ginzburg-Landau theory.
- A complete classification of the generic character of the **boundary of the Busse balloon** [Rademacher & Scheel, '07].
- **Near the ‘fall of patterns’**: existence and stability of singular patterns [D, Gardner & Kaper, '01; van der Ploeg & D, '05; D, Rademacher & van der Stelt '12].

No further general insight in (the boundary of)  
the Busse balloon.

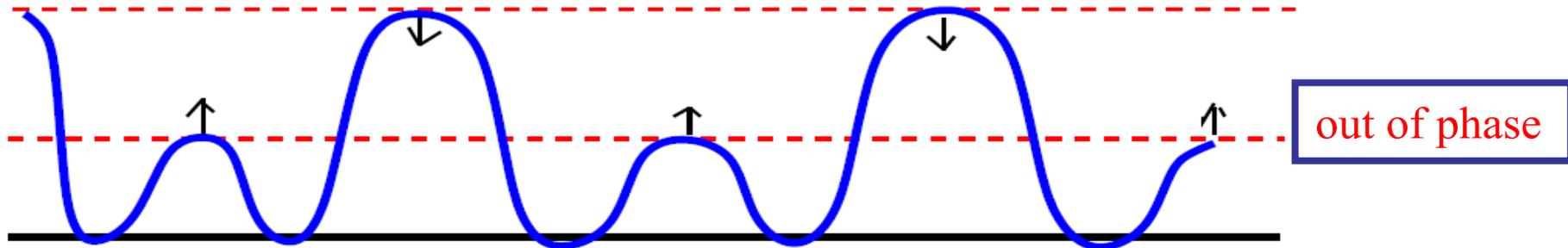
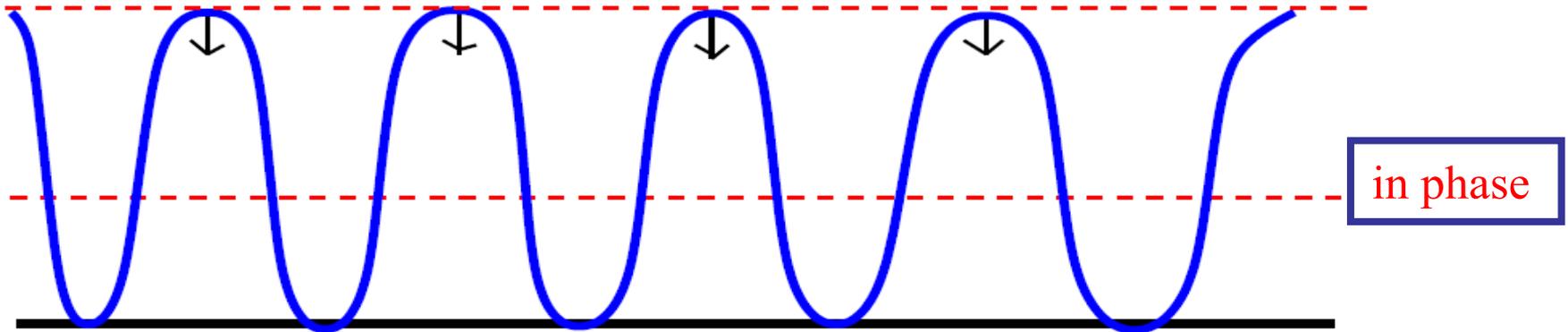
# A spin-off: the Hopf dance, a novel fine-structure



A ‘dance’ of intertwining Hopf bifurcations.

The homoclinic ( $k=0$ ) ‘oasis’ pattern is the last to destabilize  
(Ni’s conjecture)

# Two types of Hopf bifurcations?

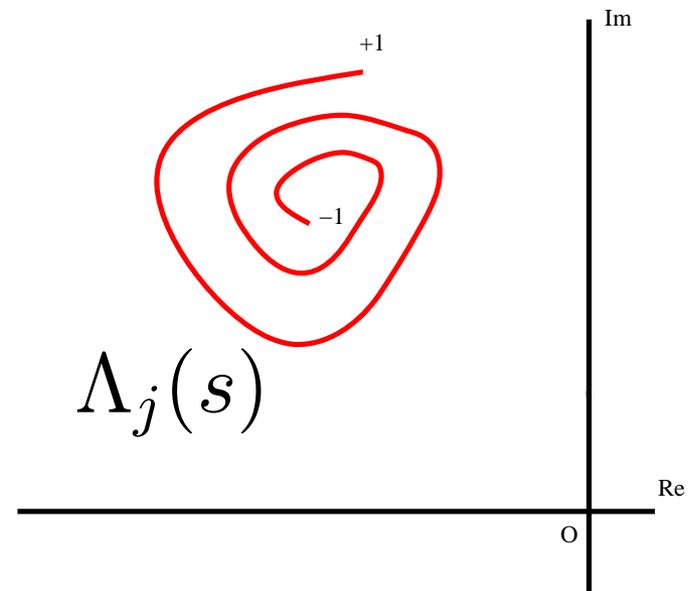
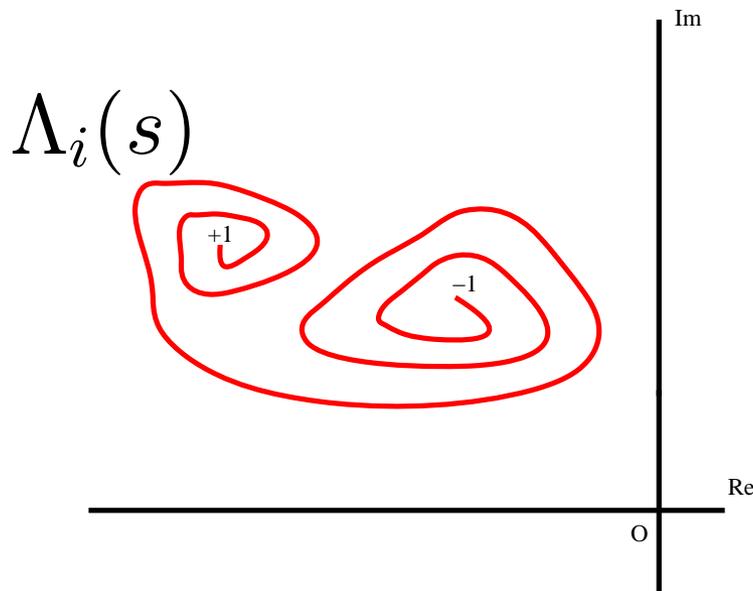


Why only these two?

# Spectral analysis

STABILITY: 'Solution' = 'Pattern' + 'Perturbation'

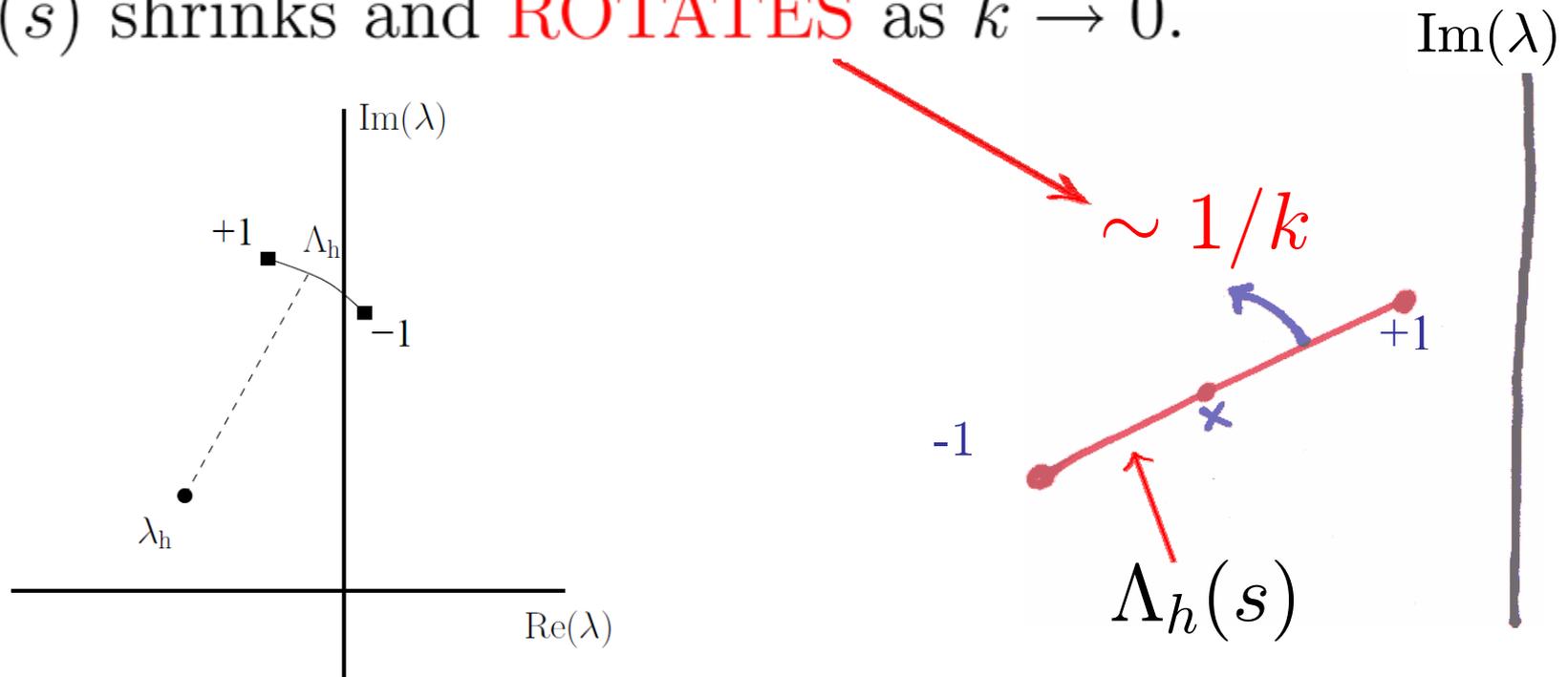
- LINEARIZATION: 'Perturbation' =  $P(x)e^{\lambda t}$ ,  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ .
- INSTABILITY: There is a  $\lambda$  s.t.  $\text{Re}(\lambda) > 0$ .
- **FACT**:  $\lambda = \{\Lambda_i(s), s \in [-1, 1], i = 1, 2, \dots, N/\infty\}$ .



**Note:**  $\pm 1$  endpoints correspond to  $\mathcal{H}_{\pm 1}$  Hopf bifurcations.

## The long wavelength limit ( $k \sim 0$ )

- The critical spectral branch  $\Lambda_h(s)$  ‘unrolls’.
- The ‘oasis’ state is the last pattern to destabilize.
- $\Lambda_h(s)$  shrinks and **ROTATES** as  $k \rightarrow 0$ .

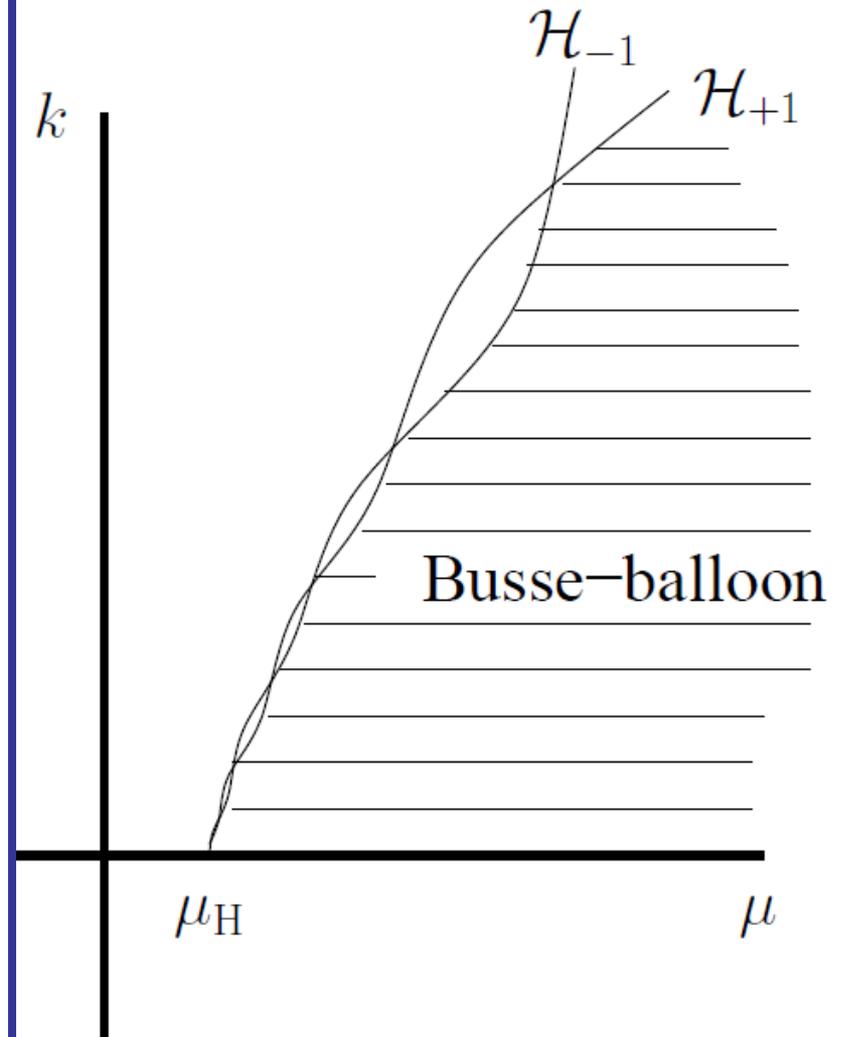


# A novel general insight in the ‘fall of patterns’

In a **general class** – well, ... – of reaction-diffusion models:

- The **homoclinic ‘oasis’ pattern** is the last pattern to become unstable ( $\leftrightarrow$  Ni’s conjecture).
- **The Hopf dance**: near the destabilization of the homoclinic pattern, the Busse balloon has a ‘**fine structure**’ of two intertwining curves of Hopf bifurcations.

[D, Rademacher & van der Stelt, '12]

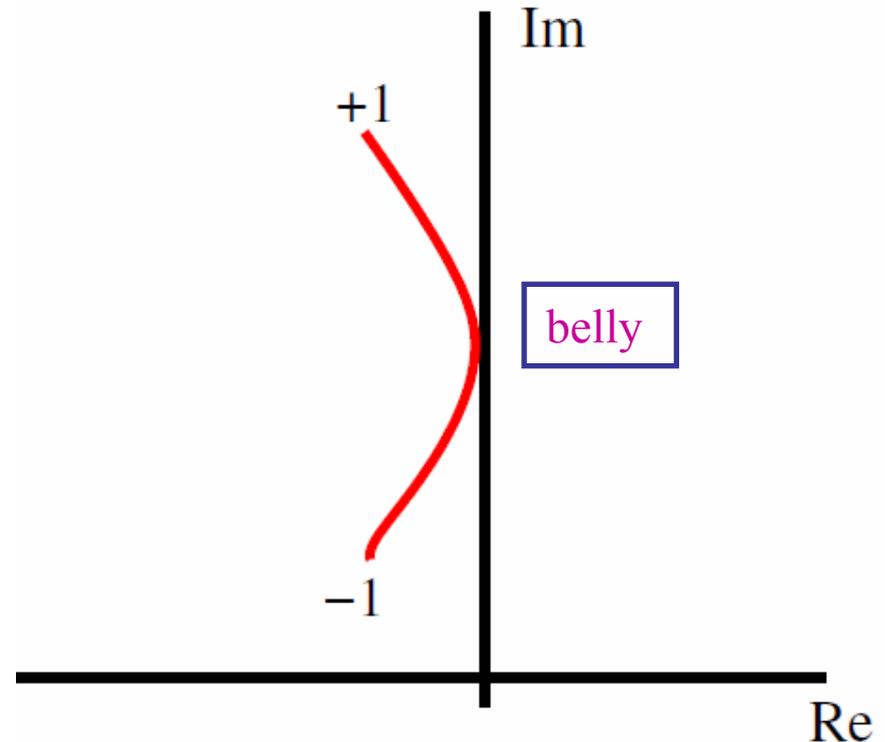


# THE BELLY DANCE

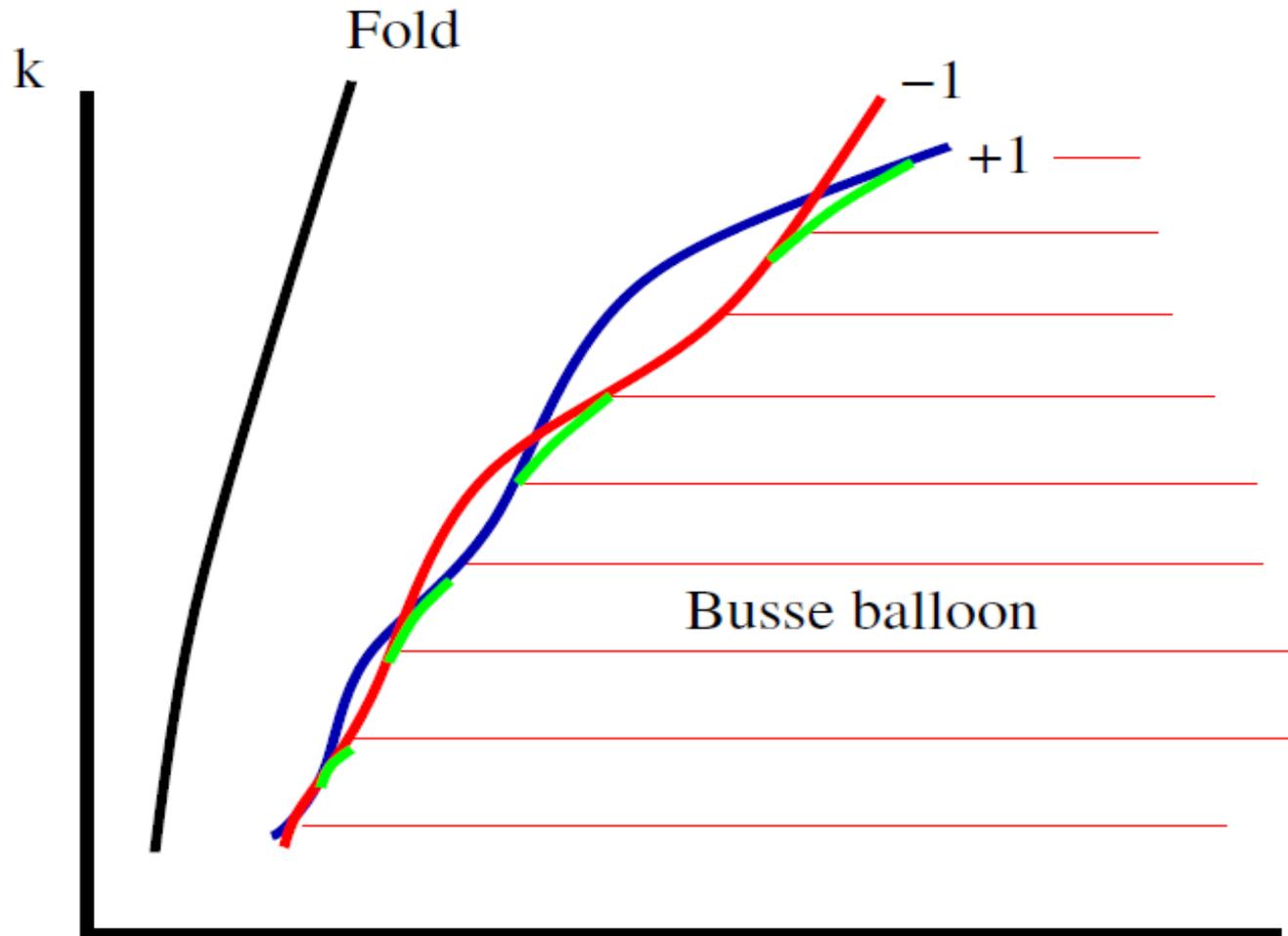
The spectral branch is only **to leading order** a straight line/an interval.

In general it will be (slightly) **bent**.

This may yield small regions of ‘**internal Hopf destabilizations**’ and the corners in the boundary of the BB will disappear  $\leftrightarrow$  **the orientation of the belly**.



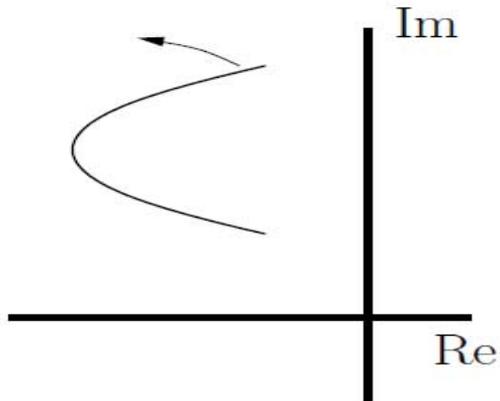
# A more typical Busse balloon?



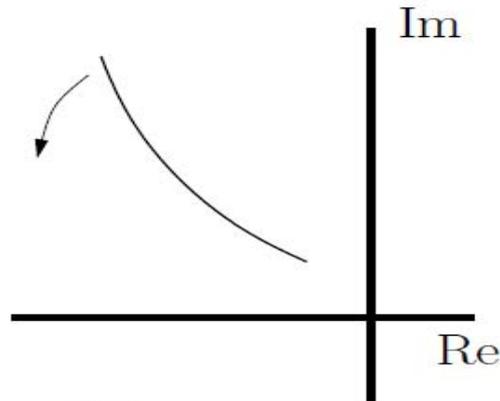
Or more generic (?): sometimes a co-dimension 2 intersection, sometimes an ‘**internal Hopf bridge**’?

This is however not the case. In the class of considered model systems, a **BELLY DANCE** takes place.

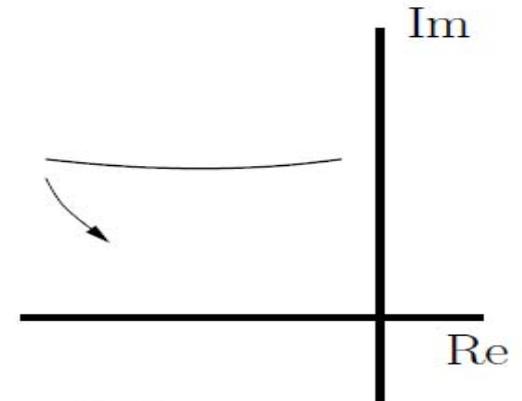
The **belly** always points away from the *Im*-axis near the ‘corner’ at which +1 and -1 cross at the same time.



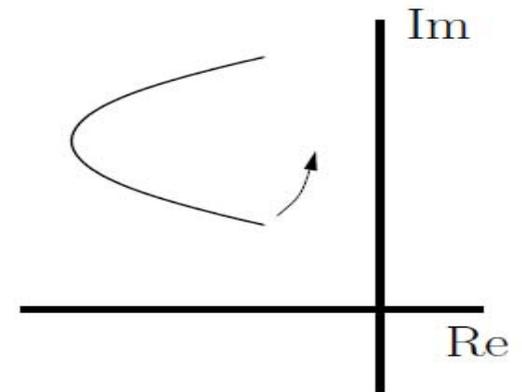
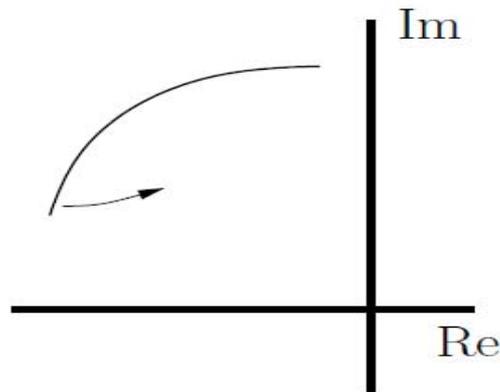
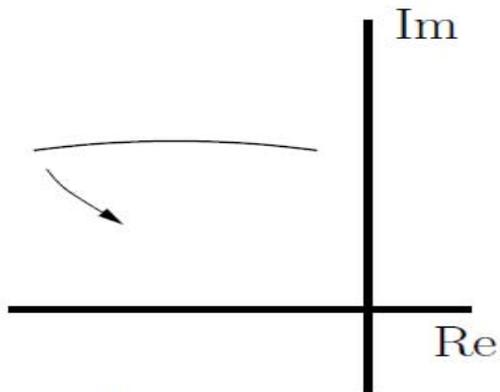
(a)



(b)



(c)



# WHY??

The theory includes in essence ‘all explicit models in the literature’

( $\leftrightarrow$  Gray-Scott/Klausmeier, Gierer-Meinhard, Schnakenberg, gas-discharge, ....)

**HOWEVER**, if one looks carefully it's clear these models are in fact very special.

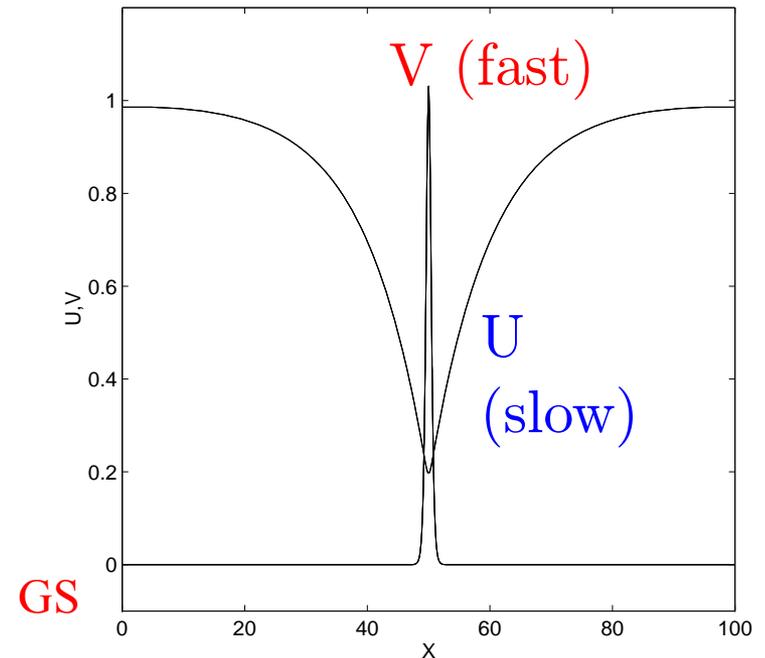
All these prototypical systems exhibit patterns that are only ‘locally nonlinear’ (?!)

# WHAT?

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(GM)} \quad & \begin{cases} U_t = U_{xx} - \mu U + V^2 \\ V_t = \varepsilon^2 V_{xx} - V + \frac{V^2}{U} \end{cases} \\ \text{(GS)} \quad & \begin{cases} U_t = U_{xx} + A(1 - U) - UV^2 \\ V_t = \varepsilon^2 V_{xx} - BV + UV^2 \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

These equations share special non-generic features.

$\implies$  Consider the ‘slow’  
and ‘fast’ reduced limits.



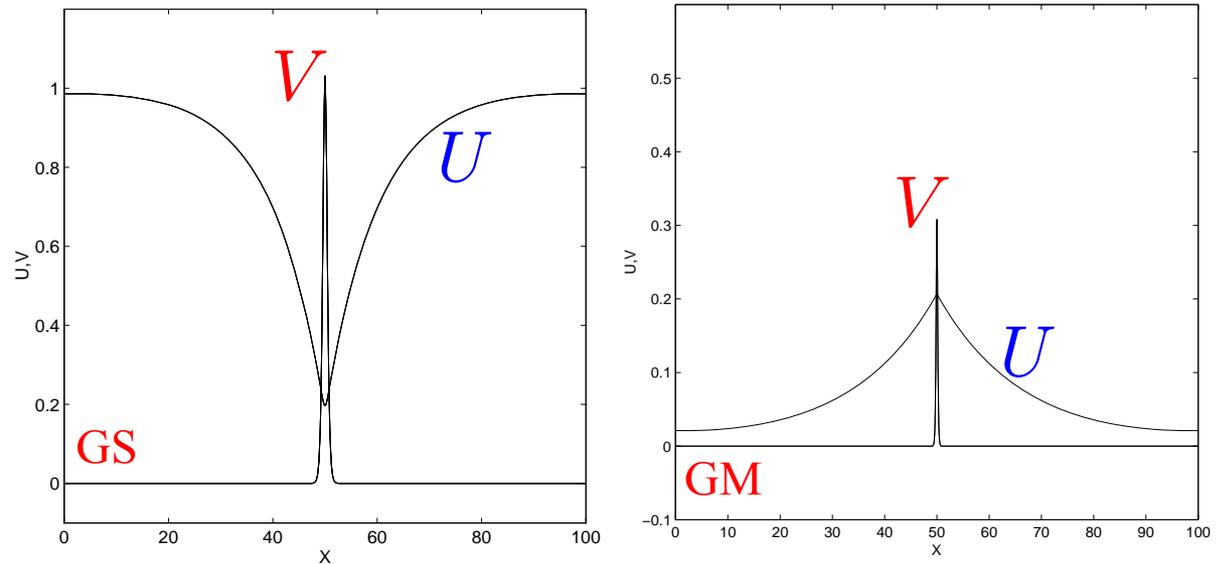
# THE MOST GENERAL MODEL:

- Reaction-diffusion equation.
- Two-components,  $U(x, t)$  &  $V(x, t)$ .
- On the unbounded domain:  $x \in \mathbb{R}^1$ .
- A stable background state  $(U, V) \equiv (0, 0)$ .
- **Singularly perturbed:**  $U(x, t)$  ‘slow’,  $V(x, t)$  ‘fast’.

$$\begin{cases} U_t = U_{xx} + \mu_{11}U + \mu_{12}V + F(U, V; \varepsilon) \\ V_t = \varepsilon^2 V_{xx} + \mu_{21}U + \mu_{22}V + G(U, V; \varepsilon) \end{cases}$$

- \* with  $\mu_{11} + \mu_{22} < 0$  and  $\mu_{11}\mu_{22} - \mu_{12}\mu_{21} > 0$ .
- \* some technical conditions on  $F(U, V)$  and  $G(U, V)$ .

THE SLOW REDUCED LIMIT:  $\varepsilon = 0$ ,  $V(x, t) \equiv 0$ .



The slow fields:

$$(GM) \quad U_t = U_{xx} - \mu U$$

$$(GS) \quad U_t = U_{xx} + A(1 - U)$$

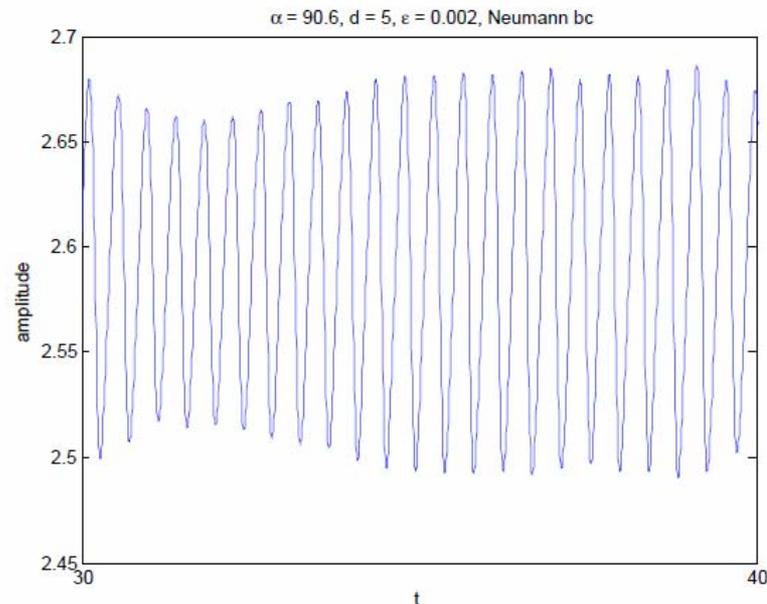
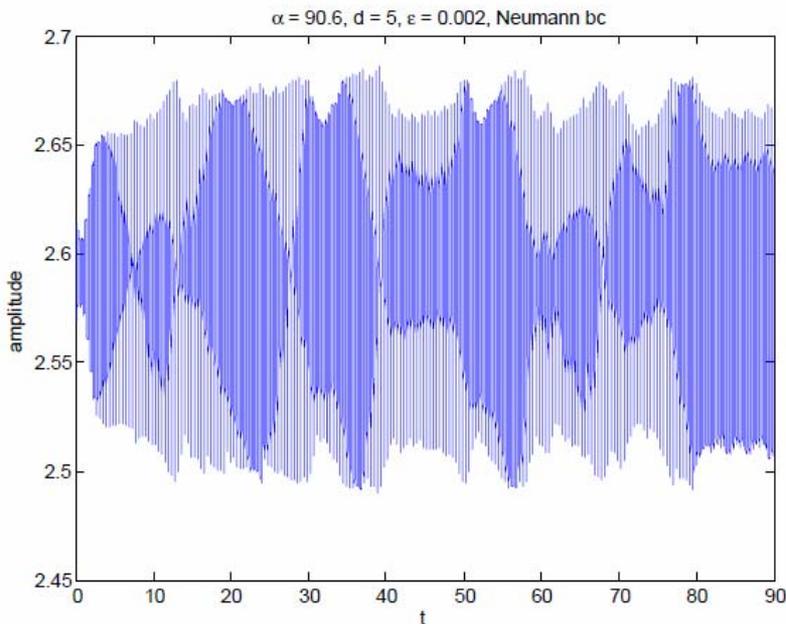
$$\text{GENERAL} \quad U_t = U_{xx} + \mu_{11}U + F(U, 0; 0)$$

GM/GS: LINEAR,  $F(U, 0; 0) \equiv 0!!$

Crucial for stability analysis & for Hopf/belly dance

Consider existence and stability of pulses in **generic** singularly perturbed systems (i.e. systems that are also nonlinear outside the localized fast pulses)

→ **Significant extension Evans function approach**  
(↔ **Frits Veerman**)



A Gierer-Meinhardt equation with a 'slow non-linearity'

A **chaotically oscillating** standing pulse??

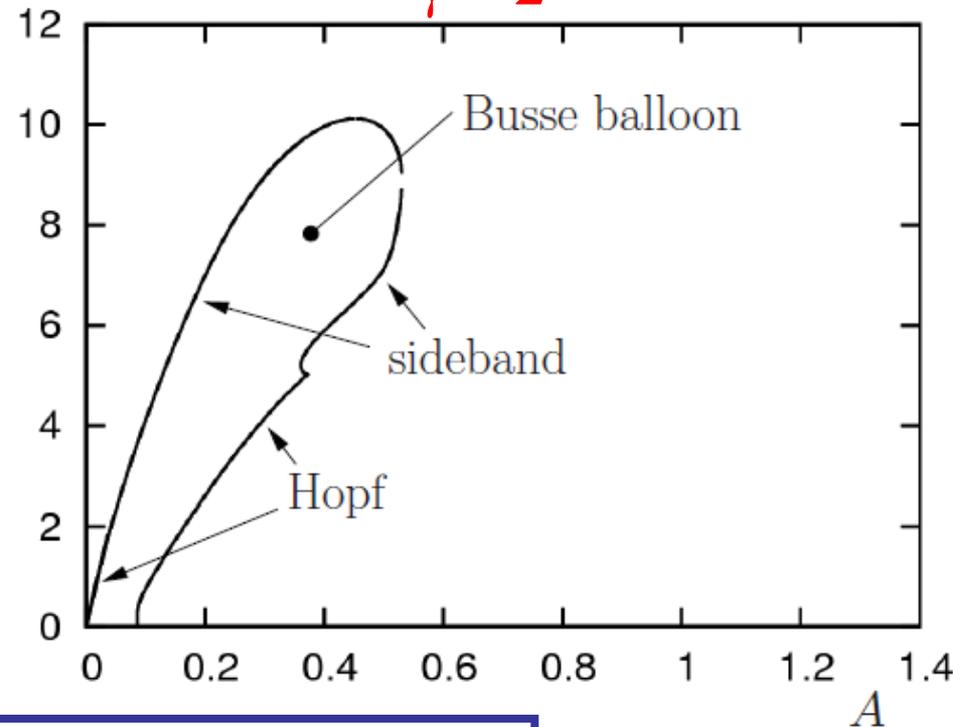
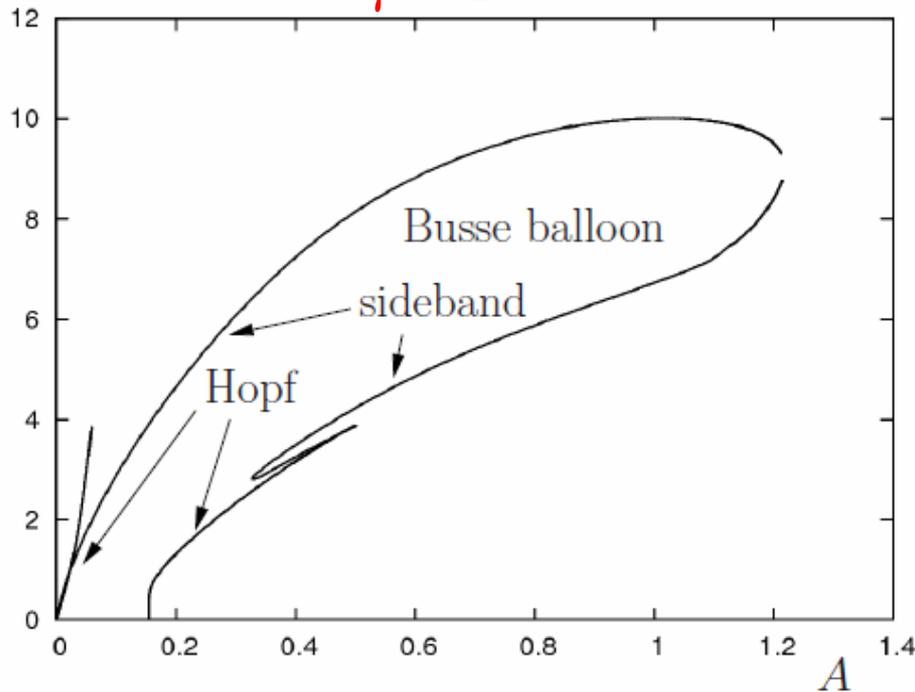
# Busse balloons in the GKGS model

$$\begin{cases} U_t = U^\gamma_{xx} + CU_x + A(1-U) - UV^2 \\ V_t = \delta^{2\sigma} V_{xx} - BV + UV^2, \end{cases}$$

$\gamma = 1$

$B = C = 0.2$

$\gamma = 2$

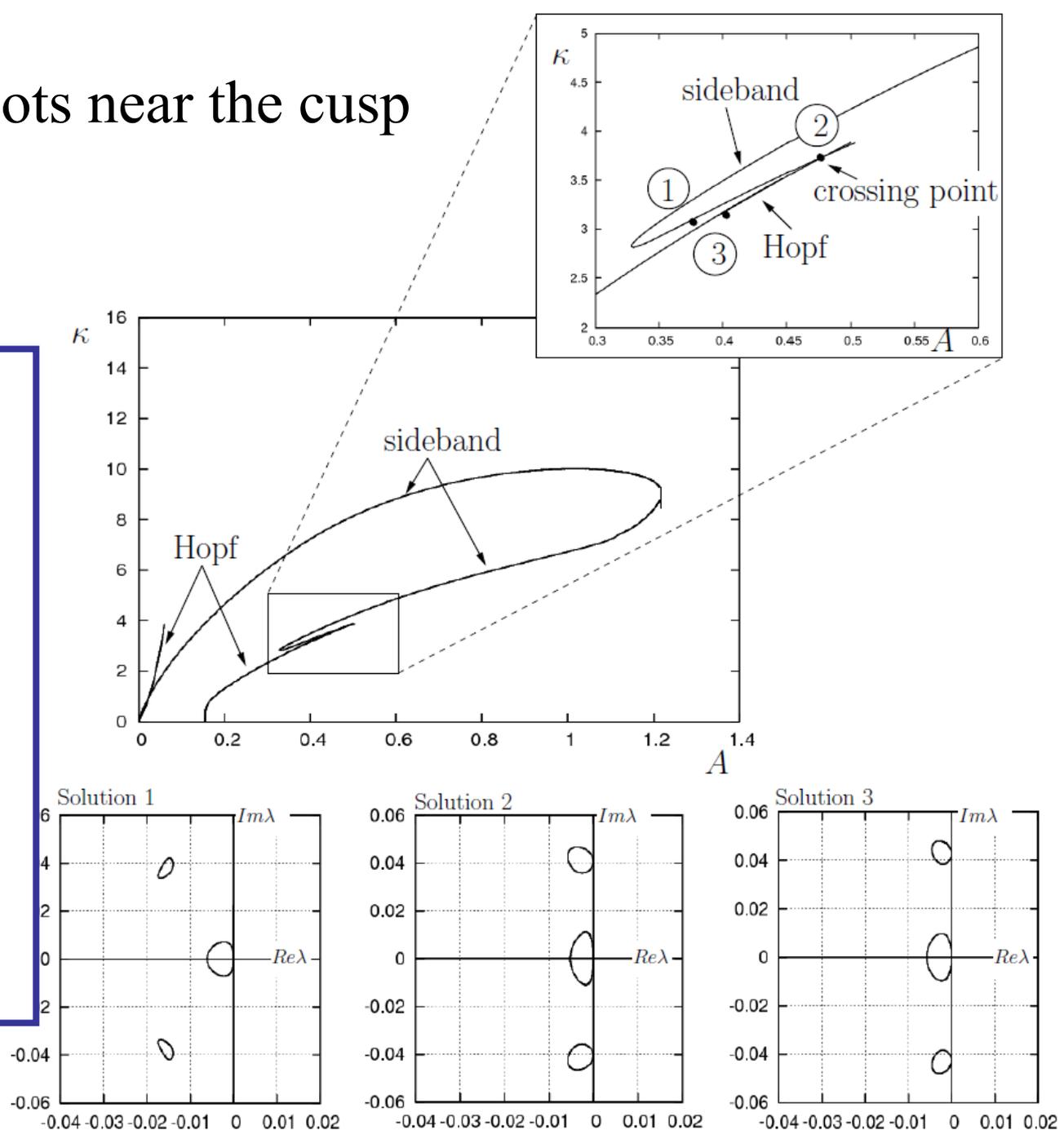


**REMARKABLY SIMILAR!**

# Some spectral plots near the cusp

Many, many open questions about structure & nature of Busse balloons in RD-systems

→ new project  
D & Rademacher



# What about (almost) periodic 2-D patterns?



A defect pattern in a convection experiment

## DEFECT PATTERNS



**Slow** modulations of  
(parallel) stripe patterns  
+ **localized** defects



Phase-diffusion equations with defects as singularities

[Cross, Newell, Ercolani, ....]

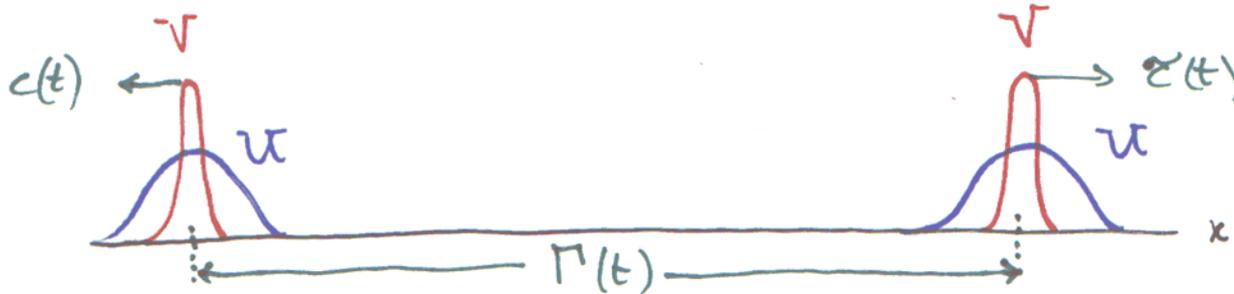
# INTERACTIONS (OF LOCALIZED PATTERNS)

## A hierarchy of problems

- Existence of stationary (or uniformly traveling) solutions
- The stability of the localized patterns
- The INTERACTIONS

Note: It's no longer possible to reduce the PDE to an ODE

# WEAK INTERACTIONS



General theory for exponentially small tail-tail interactions

[Ei, Promislow, Sandstede]

$\frac{d}{dt}\Gamma = C_1 e^{-C_2\Gamma}$  at leading order, for  $\Gamma$  large enough

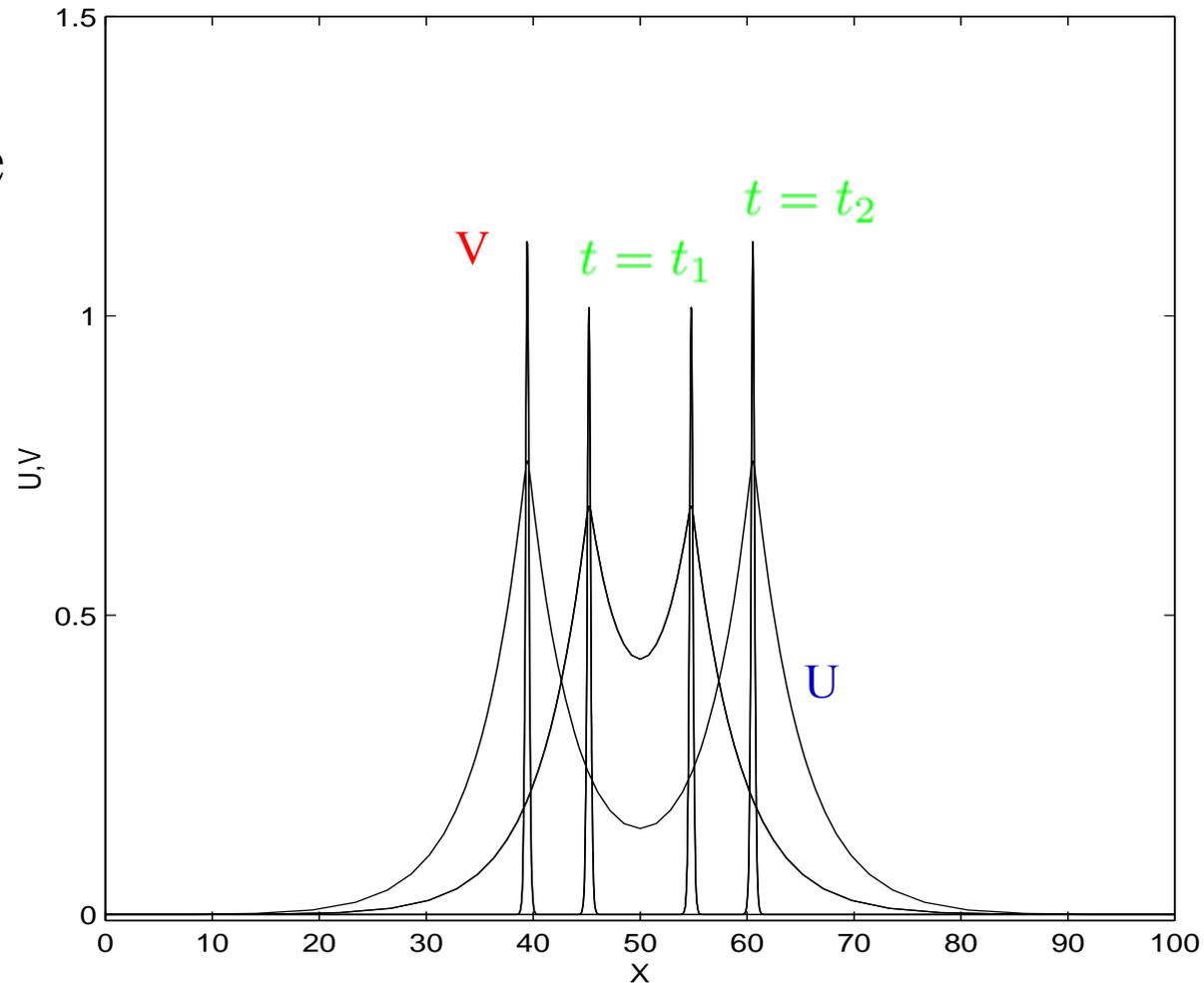
Essential: components can be treated as ‘particles’

$$\vec{U}(x, t) = \vec{U}_h(x + \frac{1}{2}\Gamma) + \vec{U}_h(x - \frac{1}{2}\Gamma)$$

is solution of the PDE up to exponentially small terms

# SEMI-STRONG INTERACTIONS

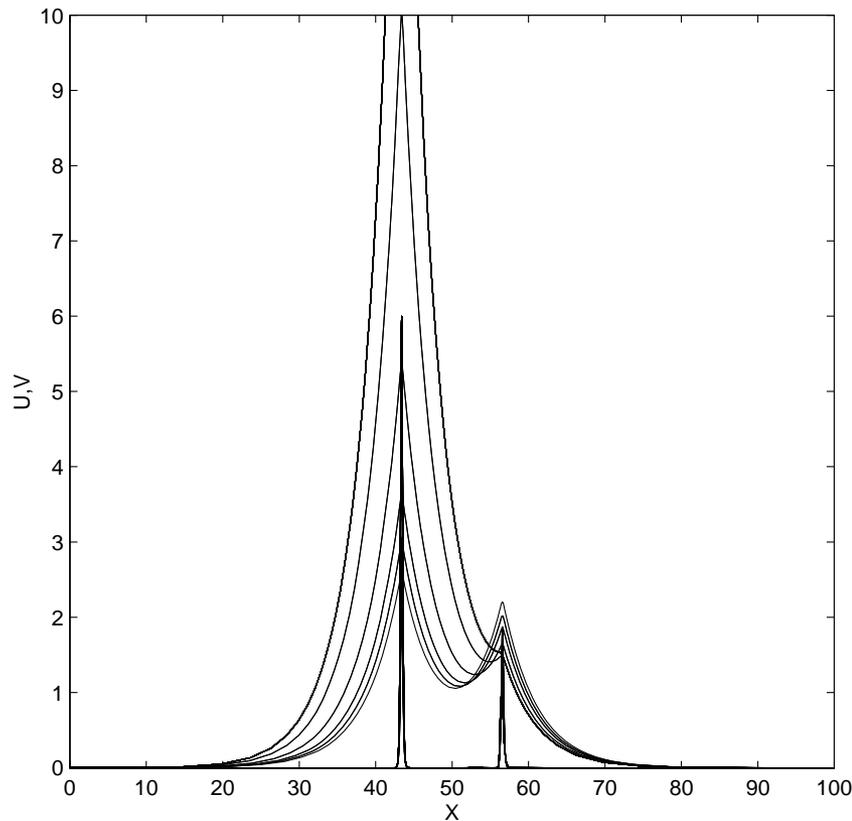
- Pulses evolve and change in magnitude and shape.
- Only  $O(1)$  interactions through one component, the other components have negligible interactions



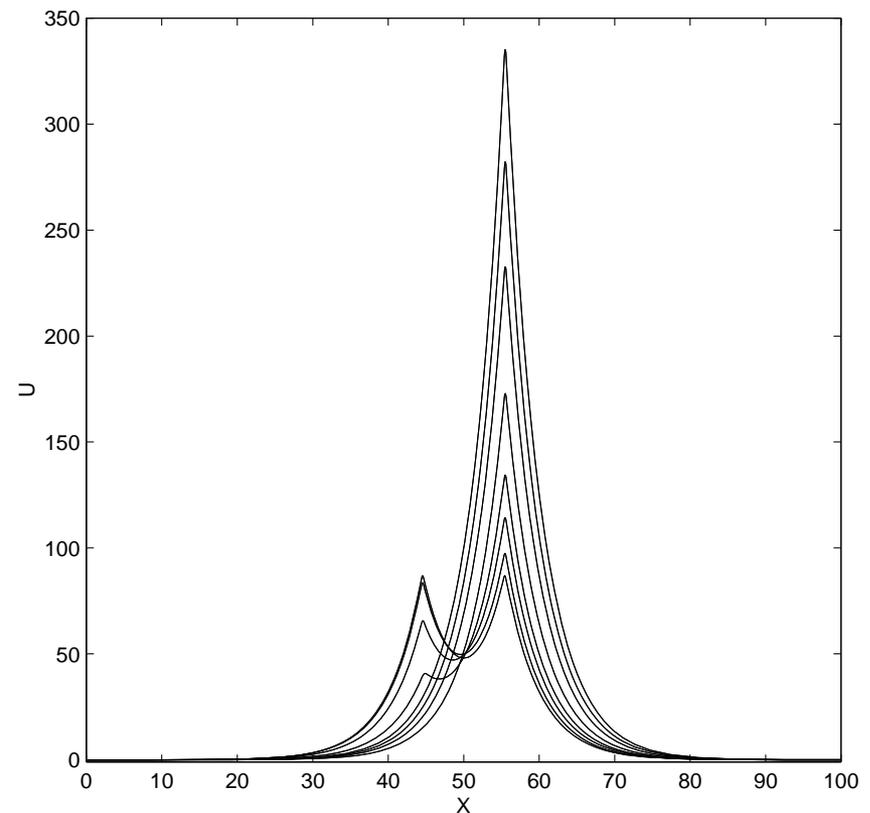
‘Gap’ in decay rates  $\Leftrightarrow$  PDE is singularly perturbed

Pulses are no 'particles' and may 'push' each other through a 'bifurcation'.

## Semi-strong dynamics in two (different) modified GM models



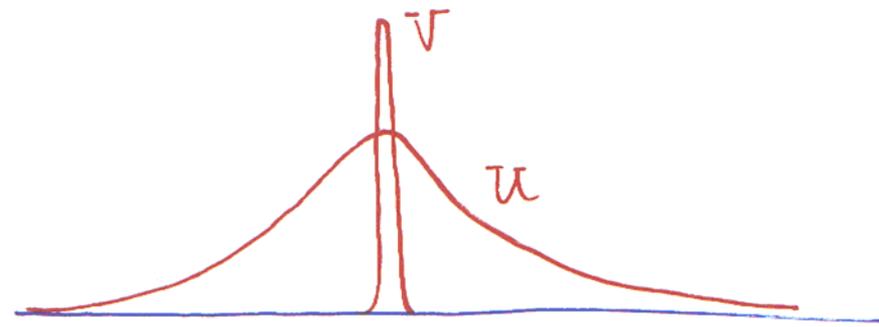
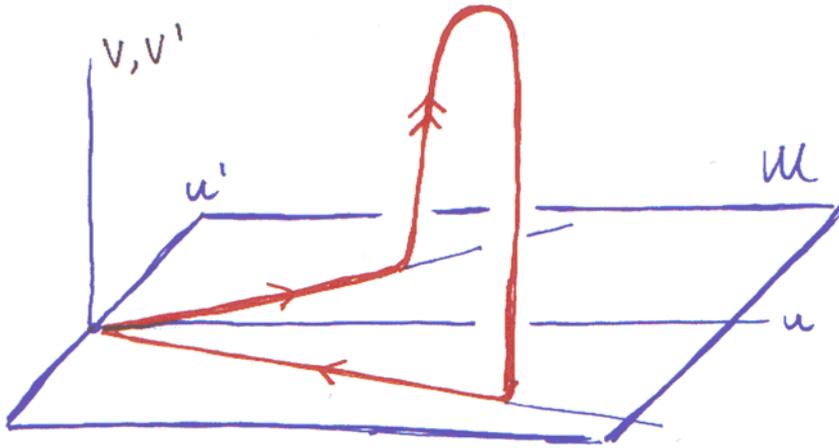
finite-time blow-up



a symmetry breaking bifurcation

[D. & Kaper '03]

# Example: Pulse-interactions in (regularized) GM



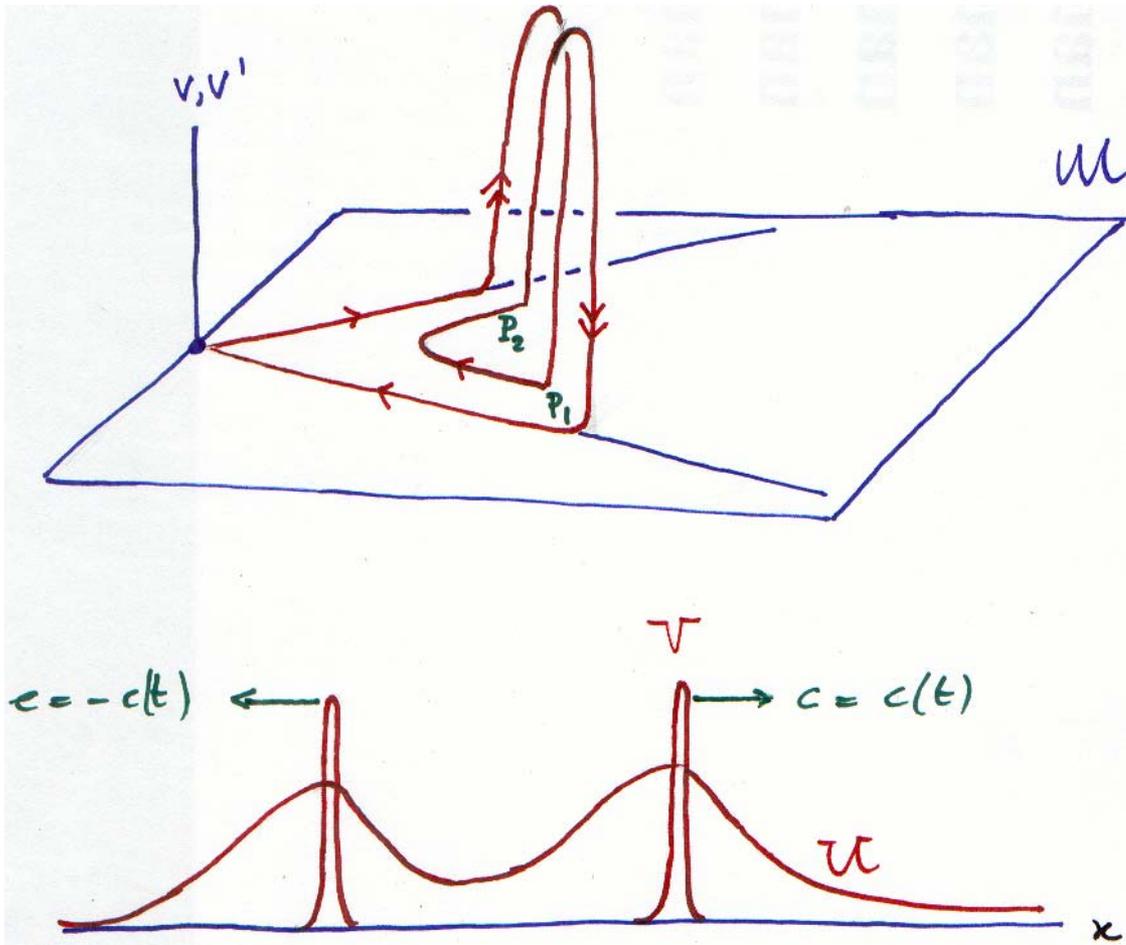
## Existence and Stability

**Theorem.** [Doelman, Gardner, Kaper]

Let  $\varepsilon$  be small enough.

- For  $0 < \mu \ll \frac{1}{\varepsilon^4}$  there is a homoclinic pulse solution  $(U_h(x), V_h(x)) = \Phi_h(x)$ .
- For  $\mu > \mu_{\text{Hopf}}$  the pulse is spectrally stable.

# The construction of the 2-pulse $\Phi_\Gamma(x)$



- 2 different ODE reductions with (unknown) speeds  $\pm c$ : one at each 'fast'  $V$ -pulse;
- outside 'fast' regions  $c$  is negligible  $\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^6)$  effect: solve the 'slow'  $U$ -eqs.

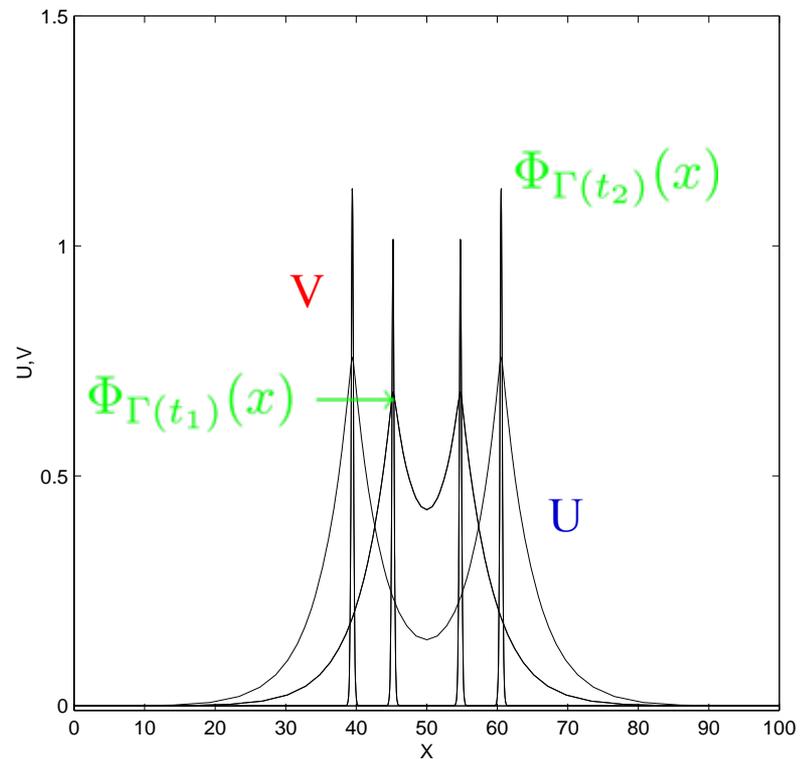
- distance between pulses  $= 2\Gamma(t) = 2 \int_{t_0}^t c(s) ds =$   
'time-of-flight'  $P_1 \rightarrow P_2 = F(c) = F\left(\frac{d}{dt}\Gamma(t)\right)$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt}\Gamma = \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon^2 \sqrt{\mu} \frac{e^{-2\varepsilon^2\Gamma\sqrt{\mu}}}{1+e^{-2\varepsilon^2\Gamma\sqrt{\mu}}}$$

$$\sup U_\Gamma = A(\Gamma)$$

$$\sup V_\Gamma = \frac{3}{2}A(\Gamma)$$

$$A(\Gamma) = \frac{\sqrt{\mu}}{3} \frac{1}{1+e^{-2\varepsilon^2\Gamma\sqrt{\mu}}}$$



## Intrinsically formal result [Doelman, Kaper, Ward]

**Note:**  $\Gamma \gg 1/\varepsilon^2 \rightarrow$  the weak interaction limit:

$$\frac{d}{dt}\Gamma = \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon^2 \sqrt{\mu} e^{-2\varepsilon^2\Gamma\sqrt{\mu}} \text{ and } A(\Gamma) = \frac{\sqrt{\mu}}{3}, \text{ constant}$$

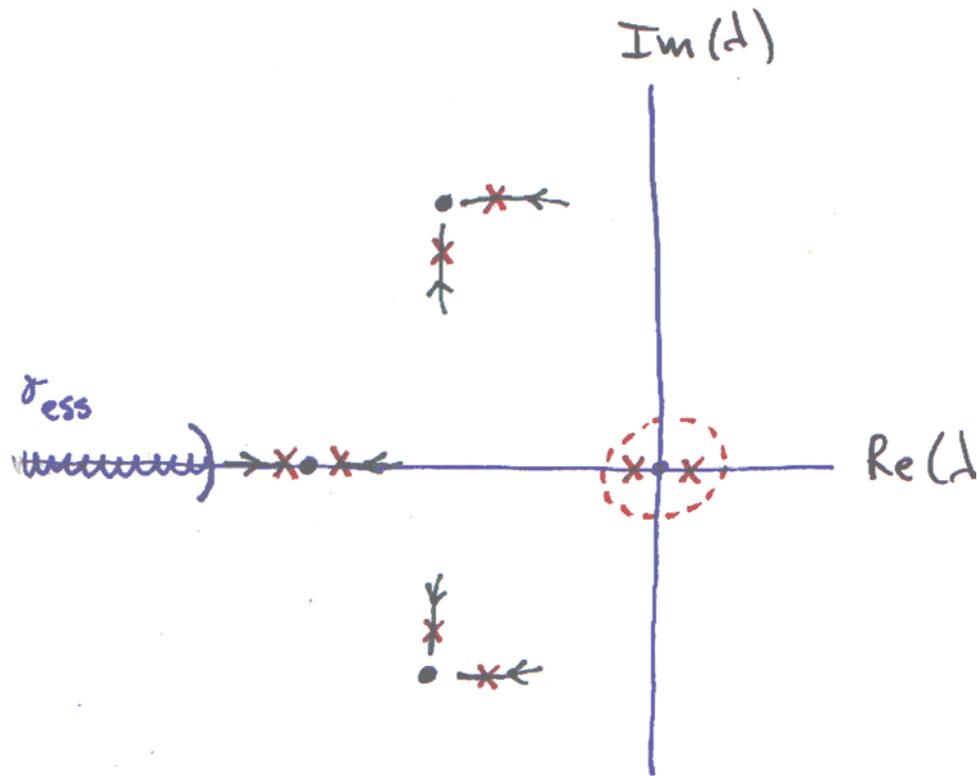
(2 'copies' of the stationary pulses)

# Stability of the 2-pulse solution:

**Q:** What is ‘linearized stability’?

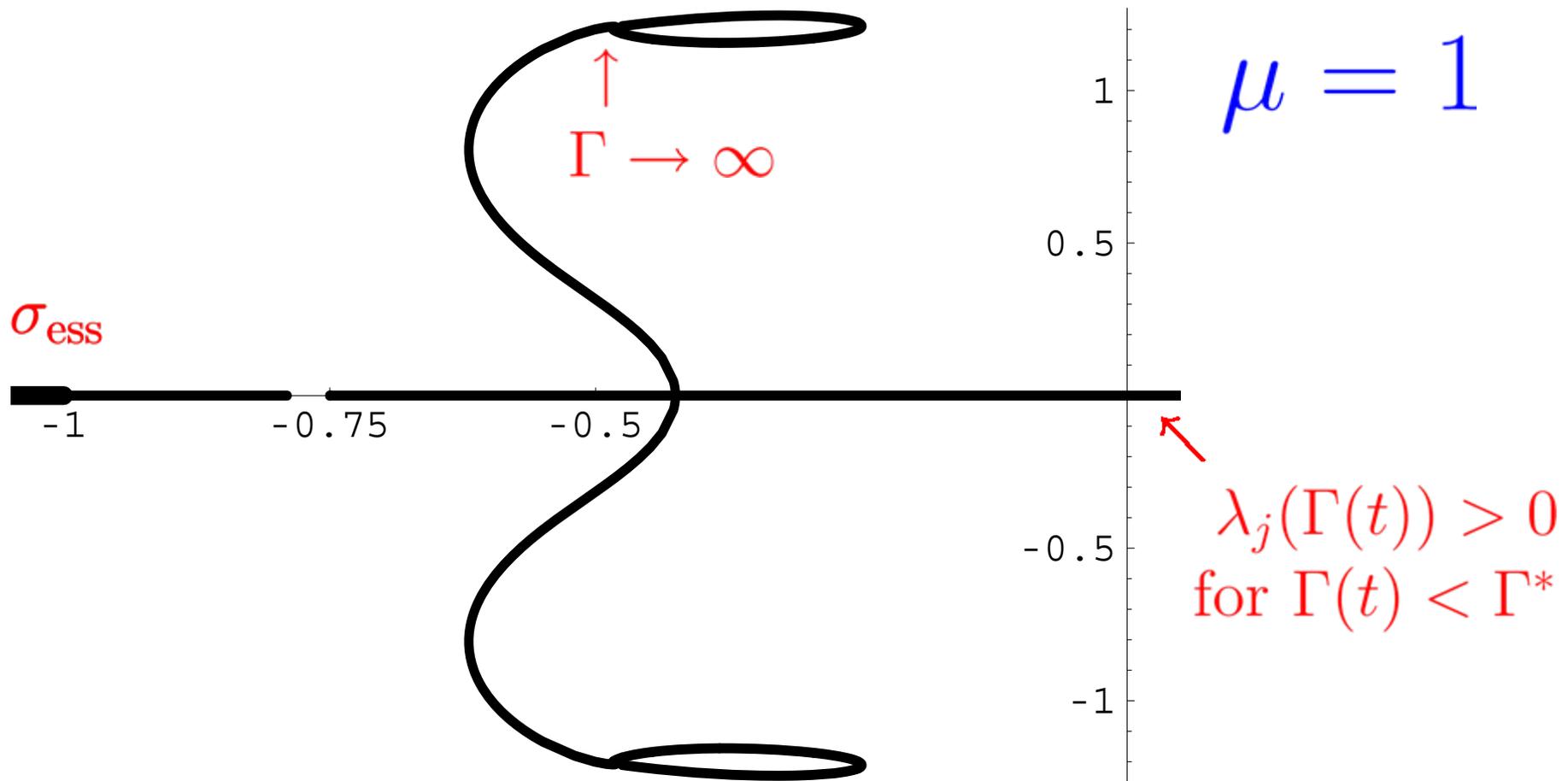
**A:** ‘Freeze’ solution and determine ‘quasi-steady eigenvalues’

Note: ‘not unrealistic’, since 2-pulse evolves slowly



Two pairs of eigenvalues ‘travel’ through  $\mathbb{C}$  as function of the distance  $\Gamma$  between the pulses, and approach the eigenvalues of the stationary 1-pulse solutions as  $\Gamma \rightarrow \infty$ .

The Evans function approach can be used to **explicitly** determine the paths of the eigenvalues



Note:  $\Gamma^* = \frac{\log 3}{\varepsilon^2 \sqrt{\mu}}$  for  $\mu > \mu_t > \mu_{\text{Hopf}}$

# Nonlinear Asymptotic Stability & Validity

**Theorem** [Doelman, Kaper, Promislow]

Define  $W(x, t)$  by

$$(U(x, t), V(x, t)) = \Phi_{\Gamma(t)}(x) + W(x, t).$$

Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  be sufficiently small,  $\mu > \mu_{\text{Hopf}}$ , and assume that  $(U_0(x), V_0(x))$  is sufficiently close to  $\Phi_{\Gamma(0)}(x)$  with  $\Gamma(0) > \Gamma^*$ . Then there exist  $M, \nu > 0$  such that

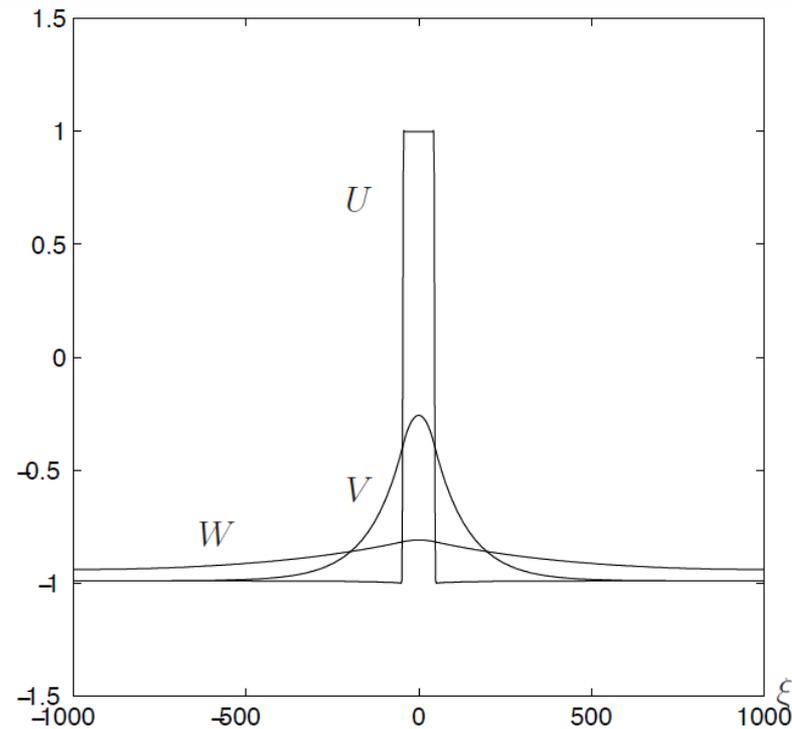
$$\|W\|_X \leq M(e^{-\nu t} \|W_0\|_X + \varepsilon^3)$$

with  $\|W\|_X = \varepsilon \|W_1\|_{L^2} + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \|\partial_x W_1\|_{L^2} + \|W_2\|_{H^1}$

**Proof:** Renormalization Group Method

# THE 3-COMPONENT (gas-discharge) MODEL

$$\begin{cases} U_t = U_{\xi\xi} + U - U^3 - \varepsilon(\alpha V + \beta W + \gamma), \\ \tau V_t = \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2} V_{\xi\xi} + U - V, \\ \theta W_t = \frac{D^2}{\varepsilon^2} W_{\xi\xi} + U - W, \end{cases}$$



[[Peter van Heijster](#), AD, Tasso Kaper, Keith Promislow '08,'09,'10]

# Simple and explicit results on existence and stability

## Theorem

*Our system possesses a standing pulse if there exists an  $A \in (0, 1)$  which solves*

$$\alpha A^2 + \beta A^{\frac{2}{D}} = \gamma.$$

*Moreover, if  $|\alpha D| > |\beta|$  and  $\text{sgn}(\alpha) \neq \text{sgn}(\beta)$ , then there is a saddle-node bifurcation of homoclinic orbits at  $\gamma = \gamma_{SN}$ .*

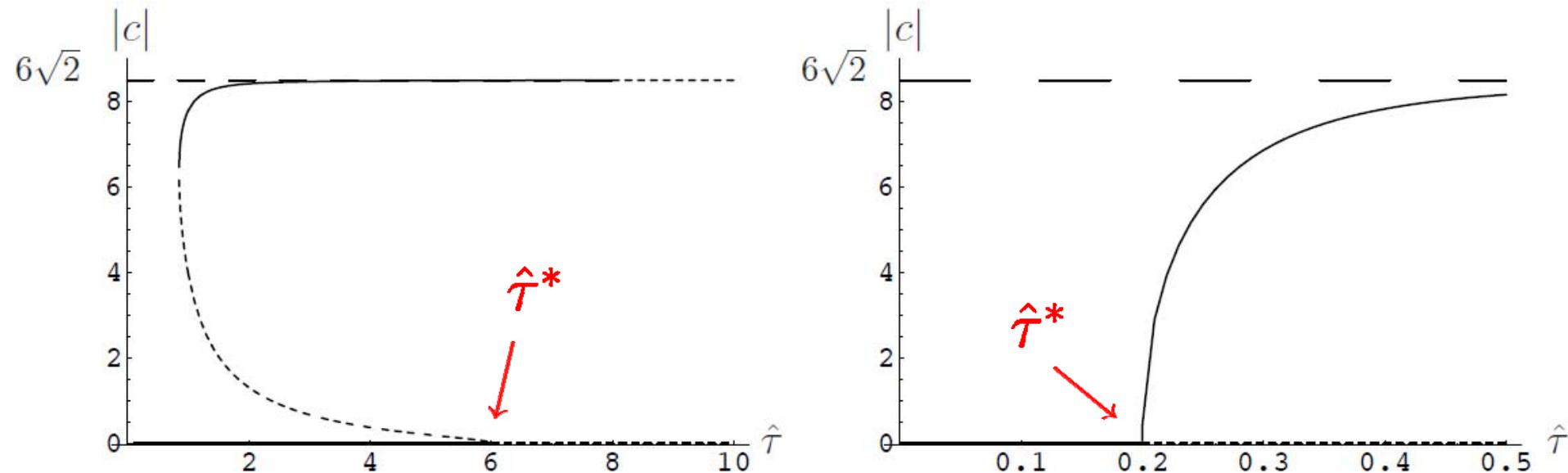
## Theorem

*The standing pulse with  $\mathcal{O}(1)$ -parameters is stable if and only if*

$$\alpha A^2 + \frac{\beta}{D} A^{\frac{2}{D}} > 0.$$

# Sub- and supercritical bifurcations into traveling pulses

$$\tau = \mathcal{O}(1/\varepsilon^2) = \hat{\tau}/\varepsilon^2, \text{ speed} = \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^2) = \varepsilon^2 c$$

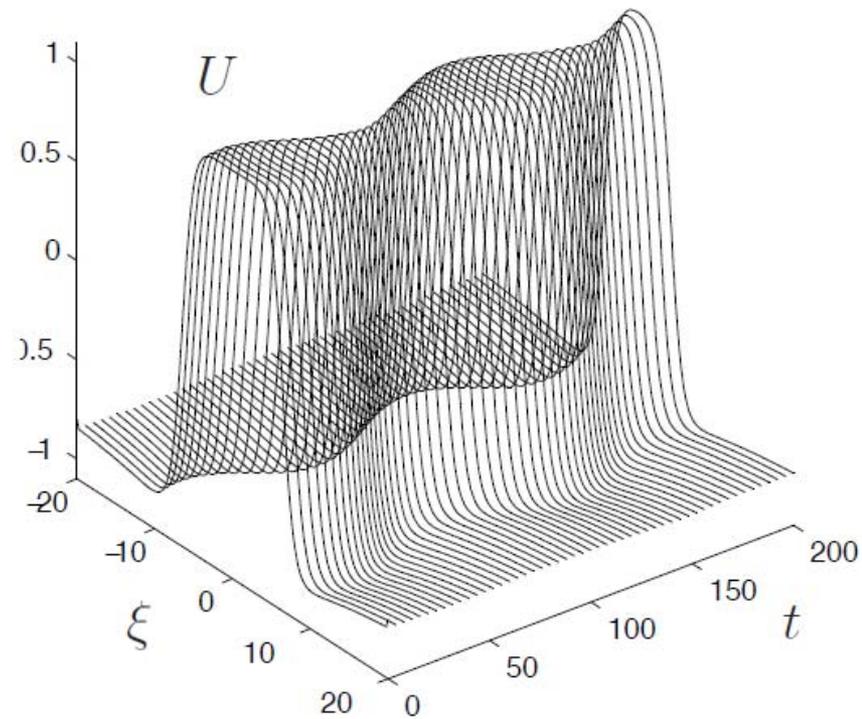
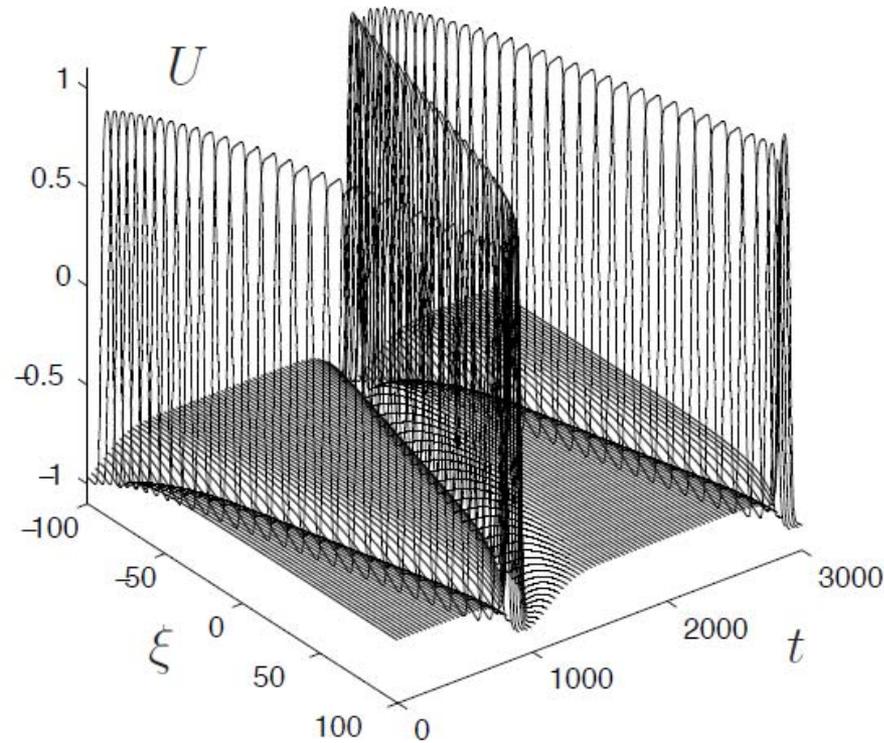


Bifurcation diagrams for two typical parameter combinations

(There is an explicit analytical expression for  $\hat{\tau}^*$ , etc)

# Interaction between Hopf and bifurcation into traveling pulse

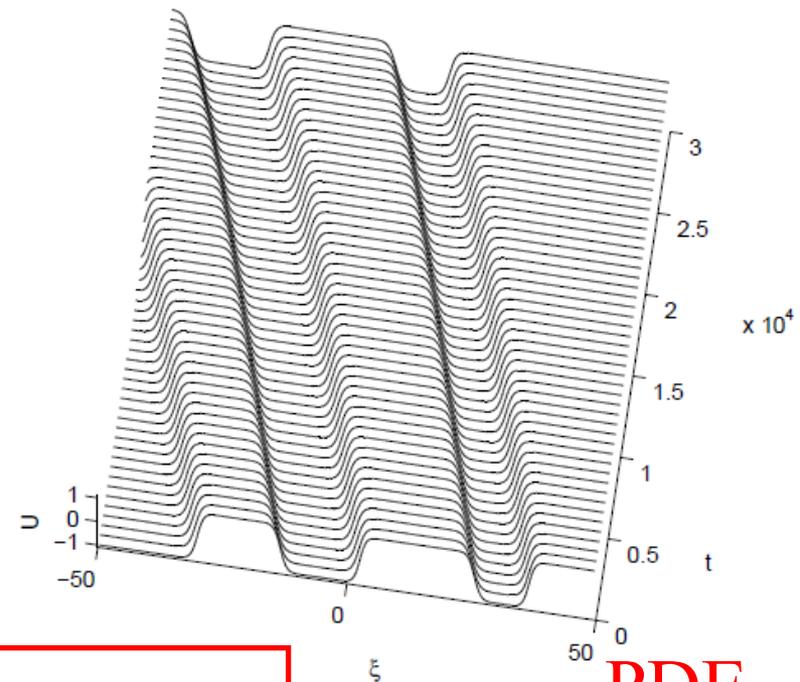
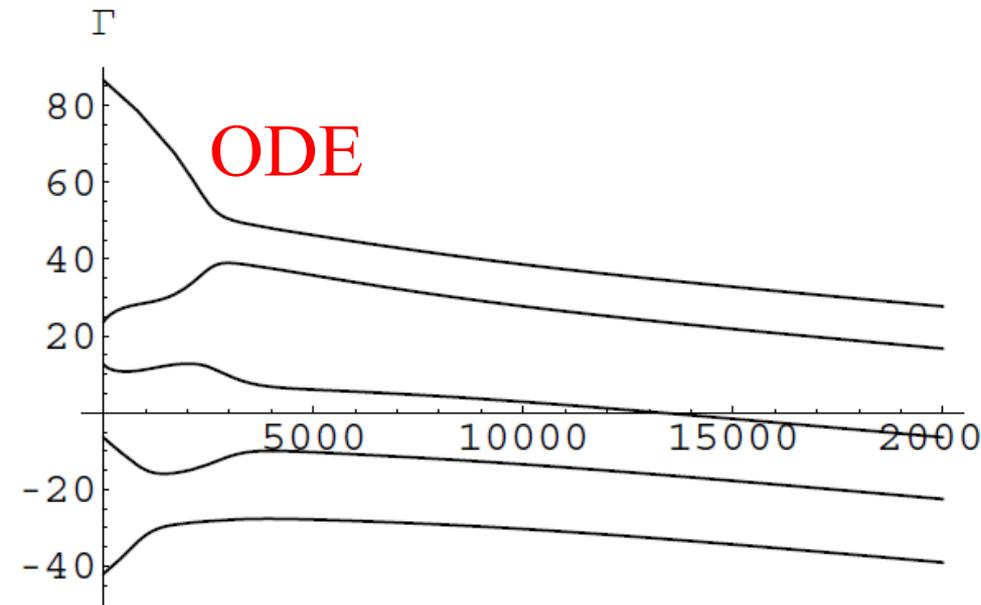
$$\tau = \mathcal{O}(1/\varepsilon^2)$$



Simulations for two typical parameter combinations

# Front interactions: similar validity/reduction results

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\Gamma}_i(t) = & (-1)^{i+1} \frac{3}{2} \sqrt{2} \varepsilon \left[ \gamma + \alpha \left( -e^{\varepsilon(\Gamma_1 - \Gamma_i)} + \dots + (-1)^{i-1} e^{\varepsilon(\Gamma_{i-1} - \Gamma_i)} \right. \right. \\ & \left. \left. + (-1)^i e^{\varepsilon(\Gamma_i - \Gamma_{i+1})} + \dots + (-1)^{N-1} e^{\varepsilon(\Gamma_i - \Gamma_N)} \right) + \beta \left( -e^{\frac{\varepsilon}{D}(\Gamma_1 - \Gamma_i)} \right. \right. \\ & \left. \left. + \dots + (-1)^{i-1} e^{\frac{\varepsilon}{D}(\Gamma_{i-1} - \Gamma_i)} + (-1)^i e^{\frac{\varepsilon}{D}(\Gamma_i - \Gamma_{i+1})} + \dots \right. \right. \\ & \left. \left. + (-1)^{N-1} e^{\frac{\varepsilon}{D}(\Gamma_i - \Gamma_N)} \right) \right] \quad \text{for } i = 1 \dots N. \end{aligned}$$

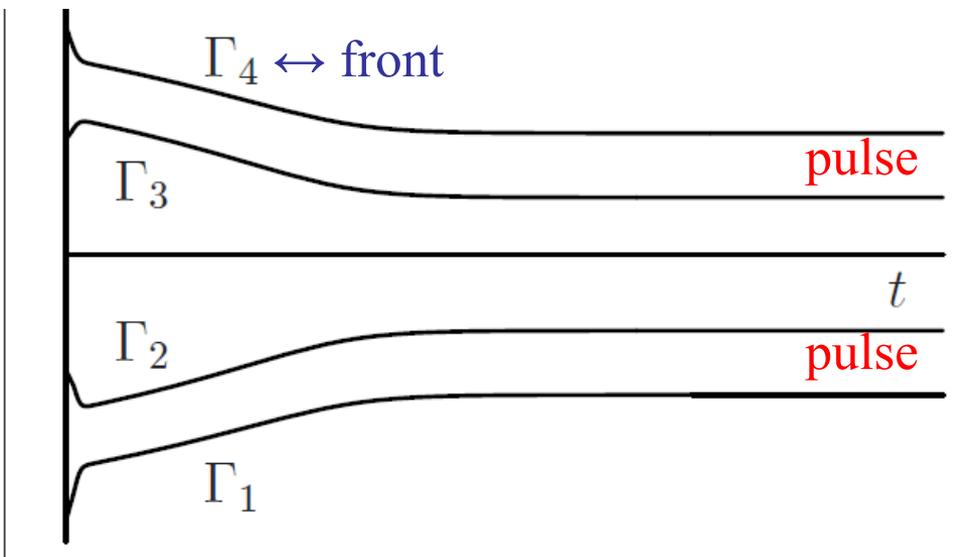
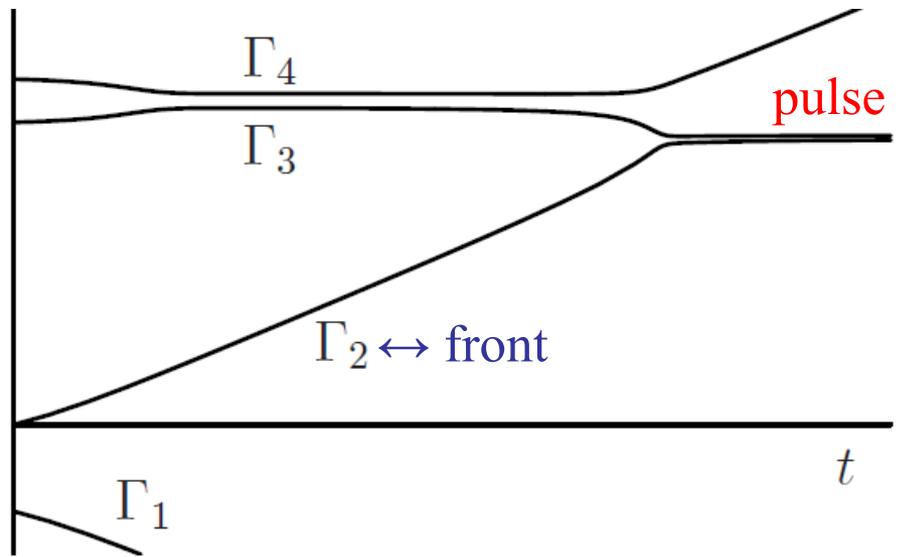


The formation of a 5-front traveling wave

PDE

$N = 4$

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} \dot{\Gamma}_1(t) &= \frac{3}{2}\sqrt{2}\varepsilon \left( \gamma + \alpha \left( -e^{\varepsilon(\Gamma_1-\Gamma_2)} + e^{\varepsilon(\Gamma_1-\Gamma_3)} - e^{\varepsilon(\Gamma_1-\Gamma_4)} \right) + \beta \left( -e^{\frac{\varepsilon}{D}(\Gamma_1-\Gamma_2)} + e^{\frac{\varepsilon}{D}(\Gamma_1-\Gamma_3)} - e^{\frac{\varepsilon}{D}(\Gamma_1-\Gamma_4)} \right) \right), \\ \dot{\Gamma}_2(t) &= -\frac{3}{2}\sqrt{2}\varepsilon \left( \gamma + \alpha \left( -e^{\varepsilon(\Gamma_1-\Gamma_2)} + e^{\varepsilon(\Gamma_2-\Gamma_3)} - e^{\varepsilon(\Gamma_2-\Gamma_4)} \right) + \beta \left( -e^{\frac{\varepsilon}{D}(\Gamma_1-\Gamma_2)} + e^{\frac{\varepsilon}{D}(\Gamma_2-\Gamma_3)} - e^{\frac{\varepsilon}{D}(\Gamma_2-\Gamma_4)} \right) \right), \\ \dot{\Gamma}_3(t) &= \frac{3}{2}\sqrt{2}\varepsilon \left( \gamma + \alpha \left( -e^{\varepsilon(\Gamma_1-\Gamma_3)} + e^{\varepsilon(\Gamma_2-\Gamma_3)} - e^{\varepsilon(\Gamma_3-\Gamma_4)} \right) + \beta \left( -e^{\frac{\varepsilon}{D}(\Gamma_1-\Gamma_3)} + e^{\frac{\varepsilon}{D}(\Gamma_2-\Gamma_3)} - e^{\frac{\varepsilon}{D}(\Gamma_3-\Gamma_4)} \right) \right), \\ \dot{\Gamma}_4(t) &= -\frac{3}{2}\sqrt{2}\varepsilon \left( \gamma + \alpha \left( -e^{\varepsilon(\Gamma_1-\Gamma_4)} + e^{\varepsilon(\Gamma_2-\Gamma_4)} - e^{\varepsilon(\Gamma_3-\Gamma_4)} \right) + \beta \left( -e^{\frac{\varepsilon}{D}(\Gamma_1-\Gamma_4)} + e^{\frac{\varepsilon}{D}(\Gamma_2-\Gamma_4)} - e^{\frac{\varepsilon}{D}(\Gamma_3-\Gamma_4)} \right) \right). \end{aligned} \right.$$



## DISCUSSION AND MORE ....

There is a well-developed theory for ‘simple’ patterns (localized, spatially periodic, radially symmetric, ...) in ‘simple’ equations.

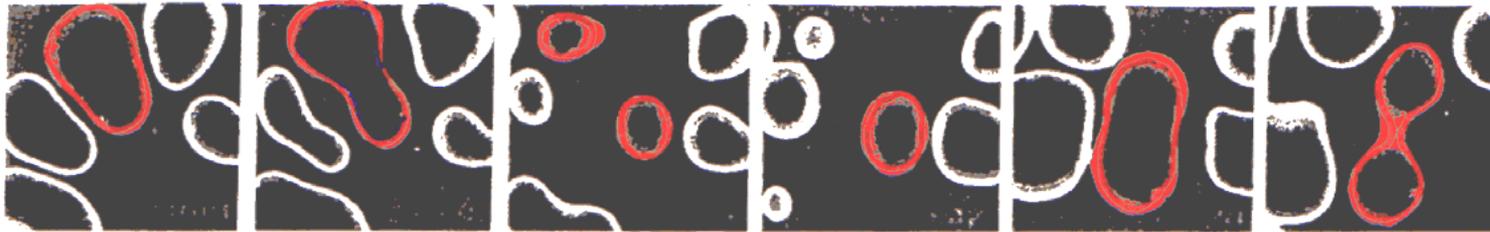
In 1 spatial dimension ‘quite some’ analytical insight can be obtained, but more complex dynamics are still beyond our grasp ...

Challenges:

- Defects in 2-dimensional stripe patterns
- Strong pulse interactions (1 D!)
- ....

The GS equation perhaps is one of the most well-studied reaction-diffusion equations of the last decades.

Laboratory experiment



chemical  
reaction

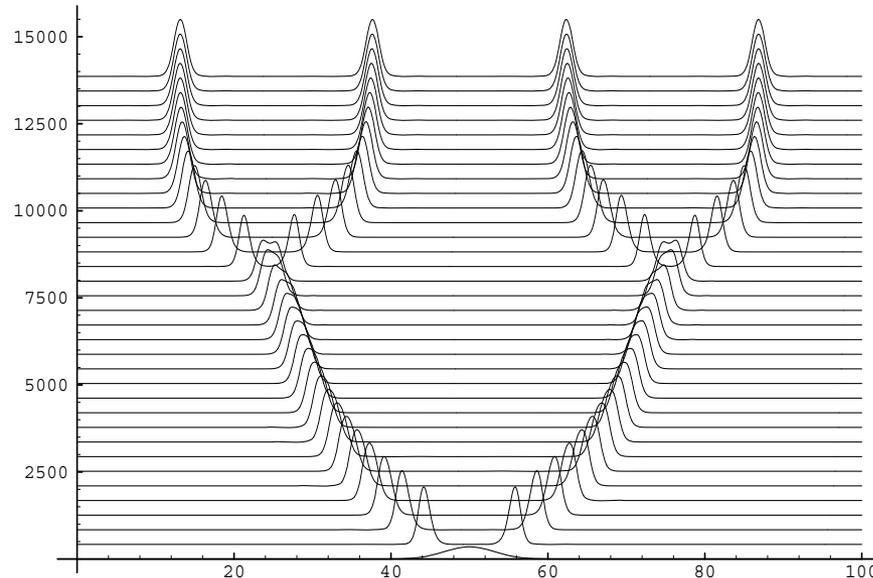
Numerical simulation



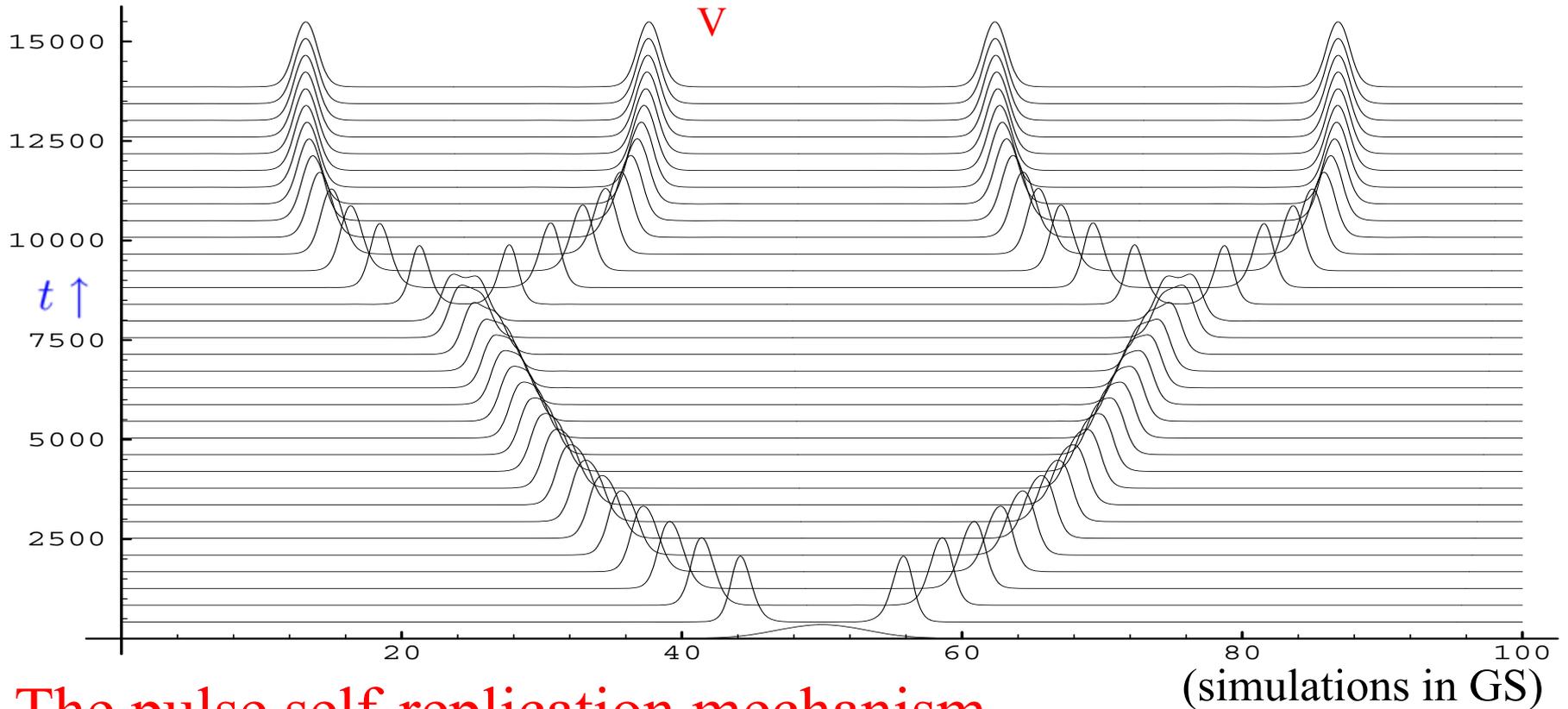
[Pearson, Swinney et al. 1994]

numerical  
simulation

It's mostly famous' for exhibiting 'self-replication dynamics'



# Strong interactions ...

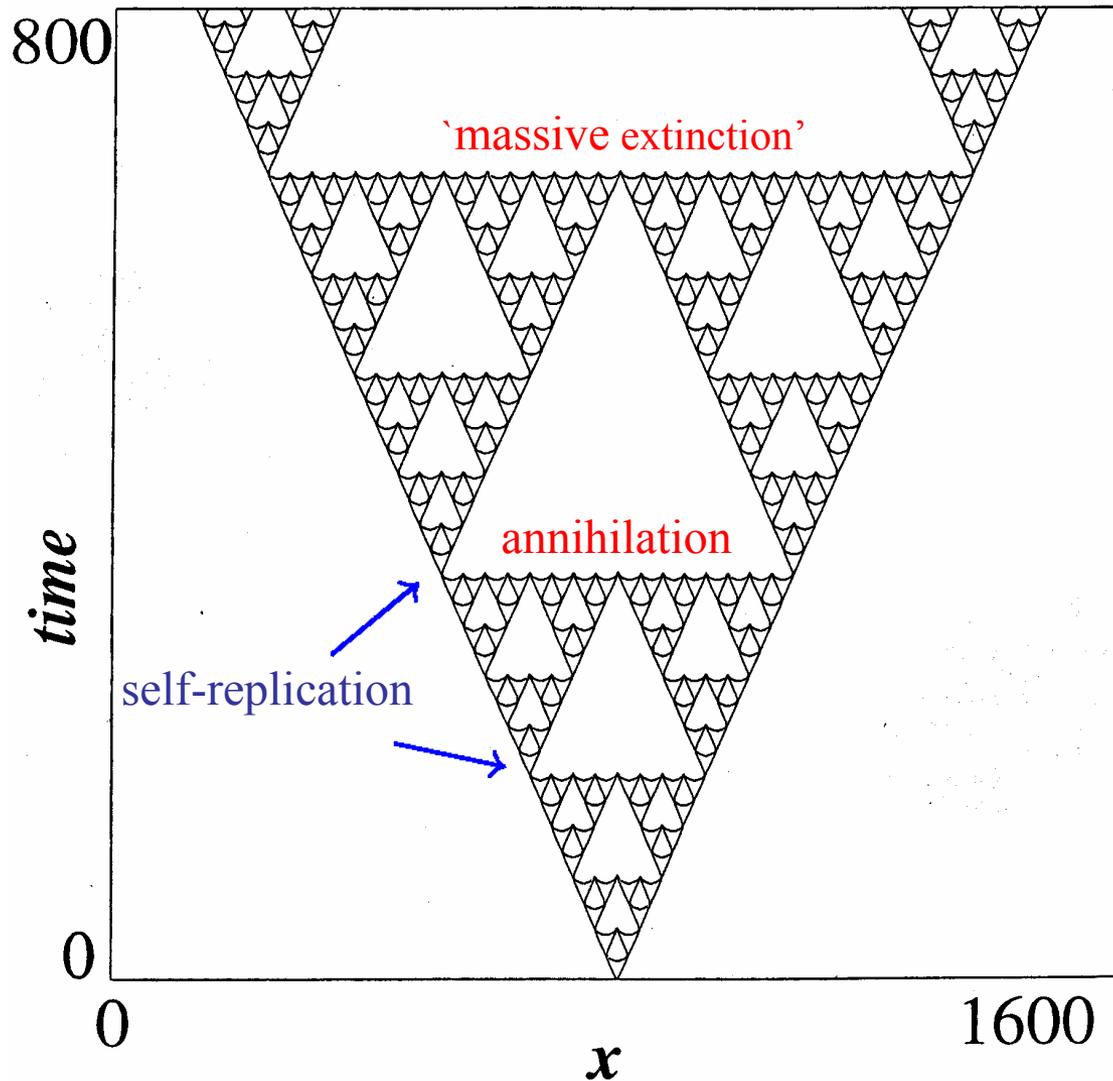


## The pulse self-replication mechanism

A **generic phenomenon**, originally discovered by Pearson et al in '93 in GS. Studied extensively, **but still not understood**.

[Pearson, Doelman, Kaper, Nishiura, Muratov, Ward, ....]

And there is more, much more ...



[Ohta, in GS & other systems]

A structurally stable Sierpinsky gasket ...



Various kinds of spot-, front-, stripe- interactions in 2D

[van Heijster, Sandstede]

