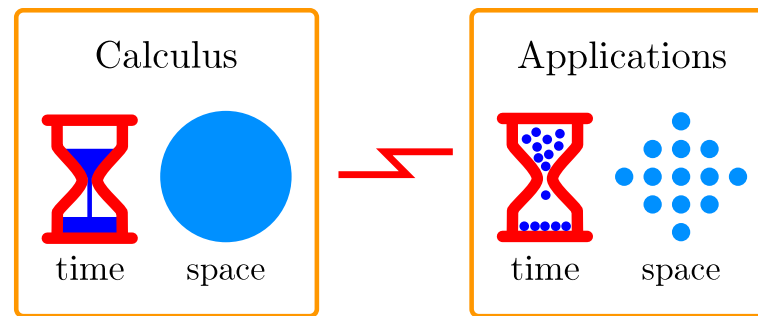


Discretization Schemes vs Travelling Waves for Reaction-Diffusion Systems



Hermen Jan Hupkes (Leiden University)

Joint work with:

Erik van Vleck (U. Kansas, KS, USA)

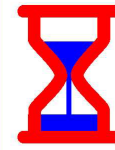
Weizhang Huang (U. Kansas, KS, USA)

Willem Schouten (Leiden University)

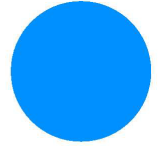
Patterns

PDE

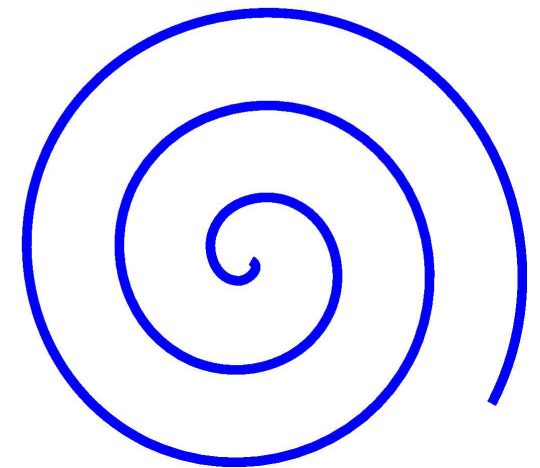
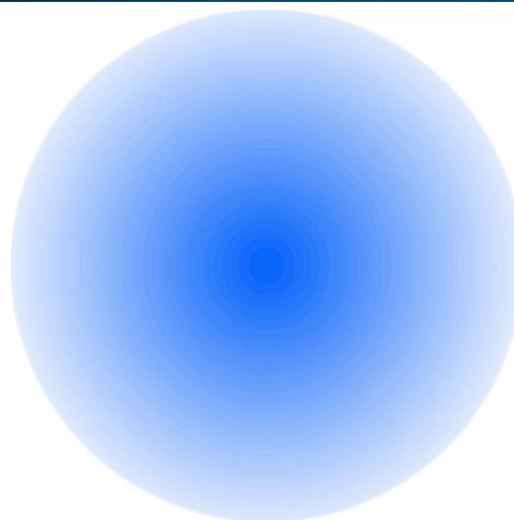
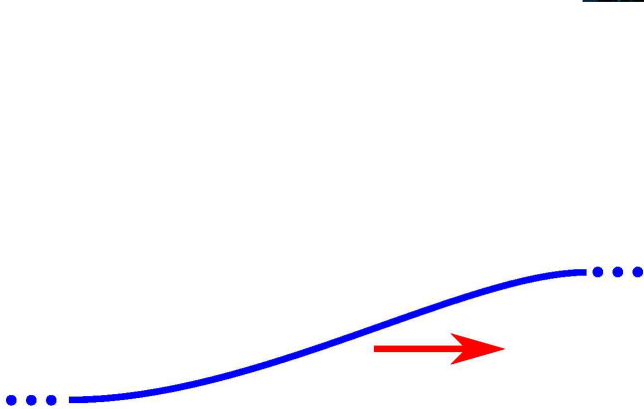
$$u_t = F(u, \nabla u, \Delta u)$$



time



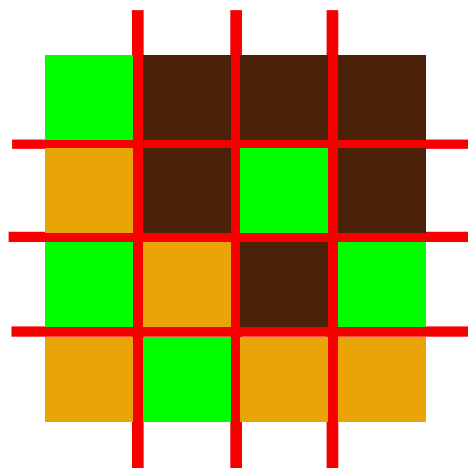
space






Desertification



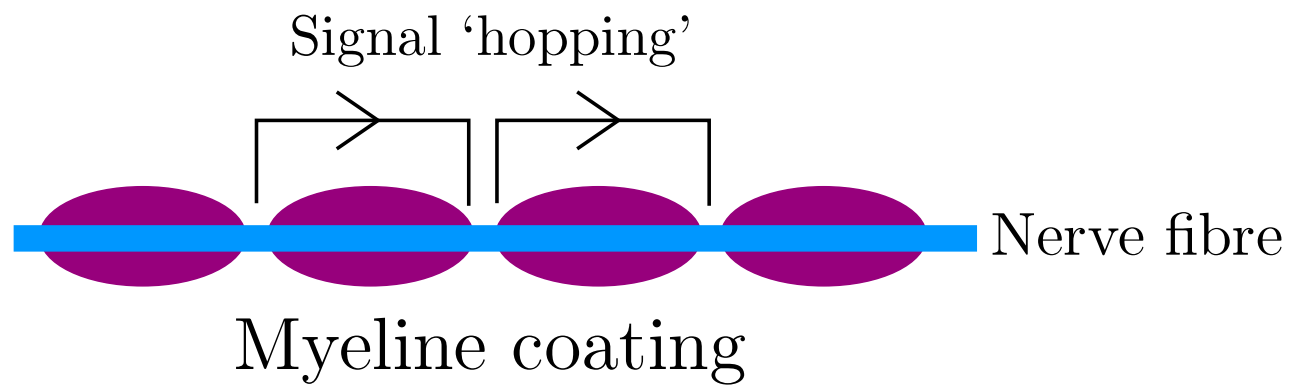
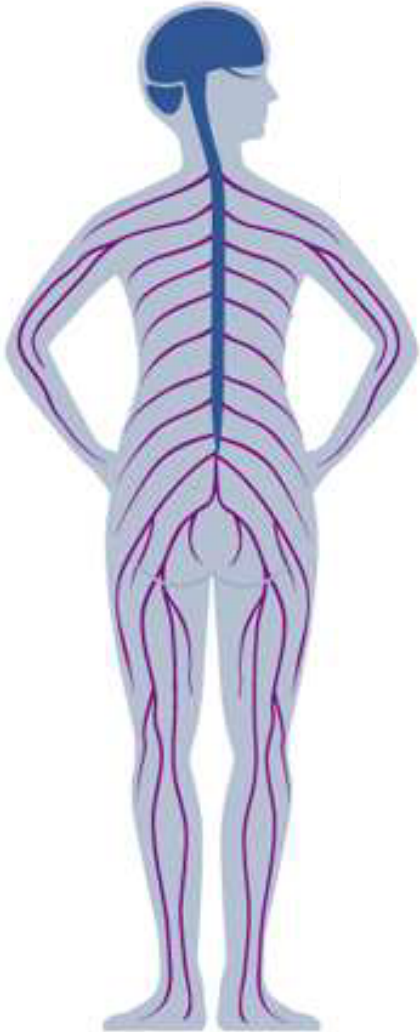
vegetation patch size
 \sim
power law



-  Fertile
-  Vegetation
-  Desert

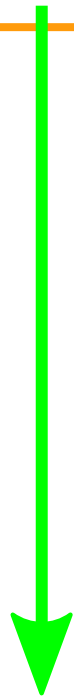
[Kéfi et al; Nature (2007)]

Nerve Conduction

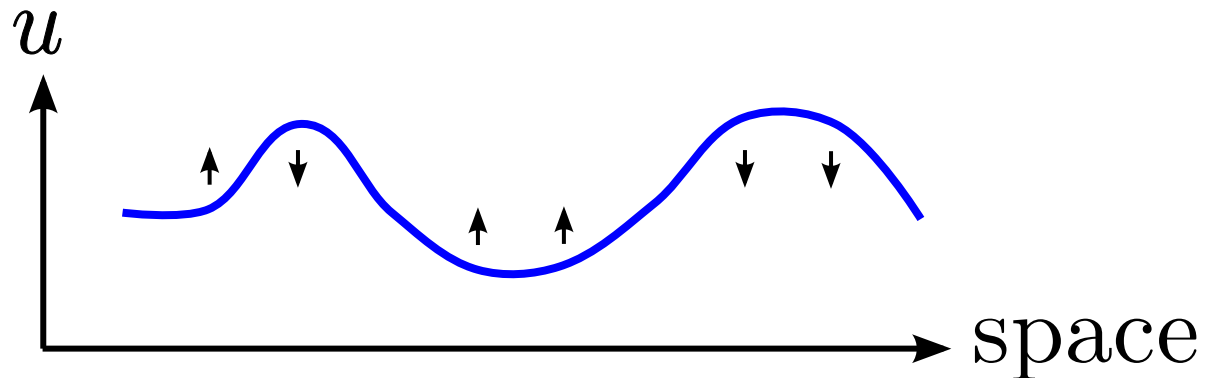


Reaction-diffusion PDE

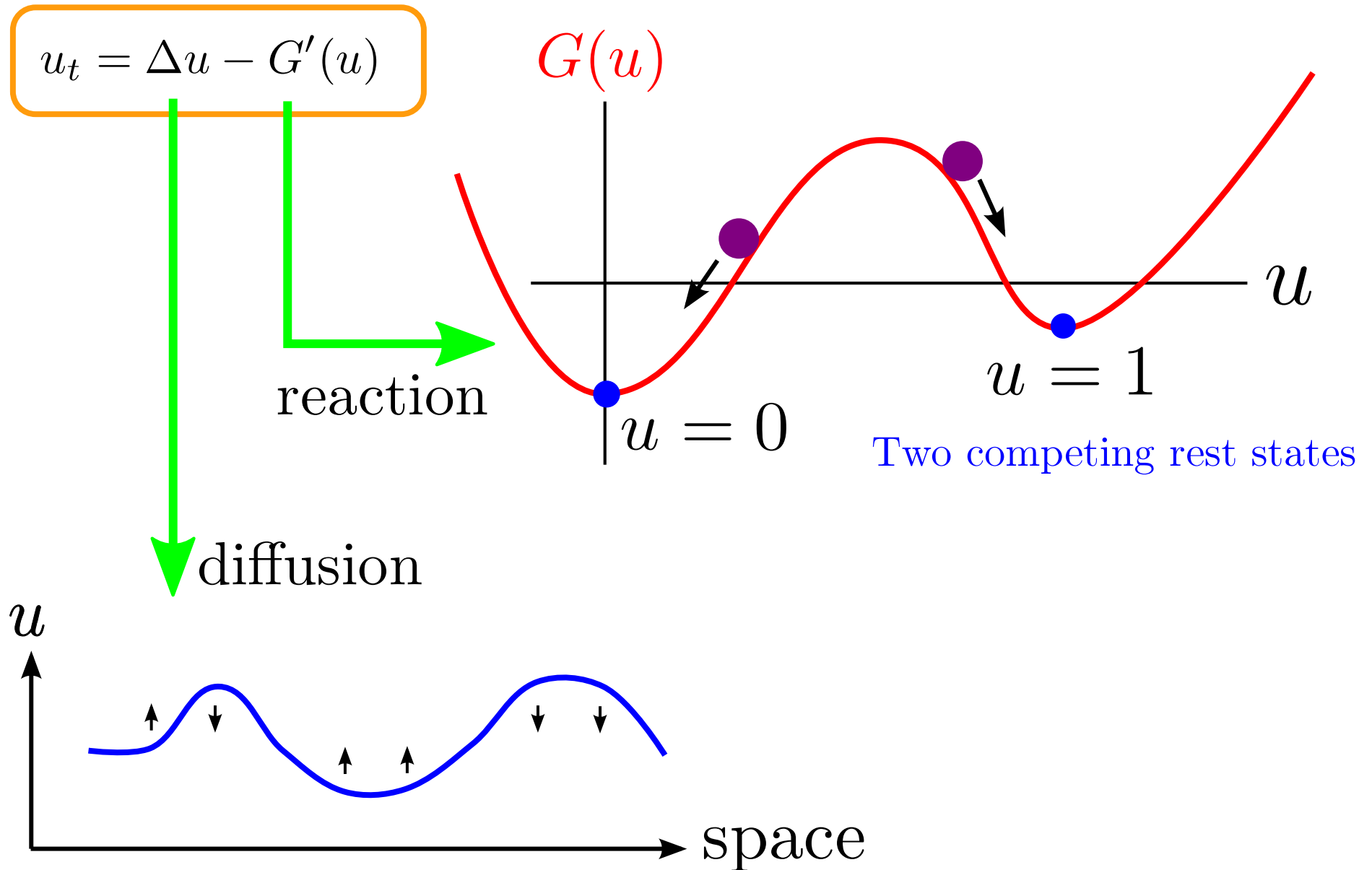
$$u_t = \Delta u - G'(u)$$



diffusion



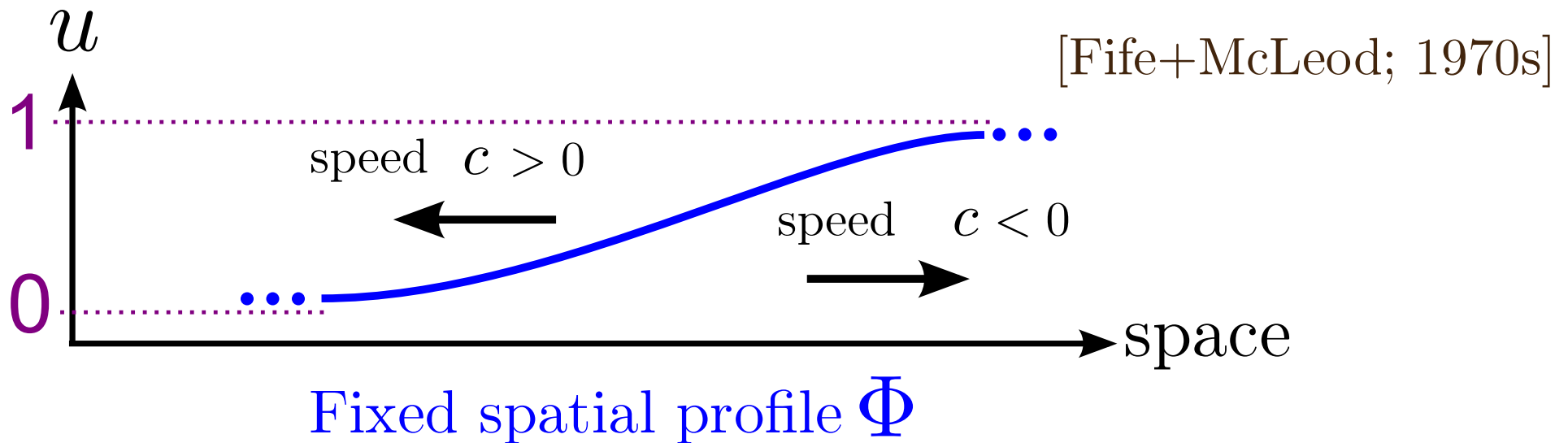
Reaction-diffusion PDE



Reaction-diffusion PDE

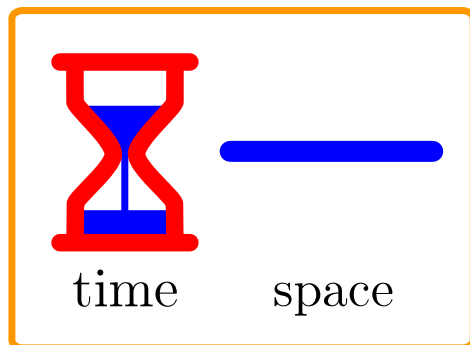
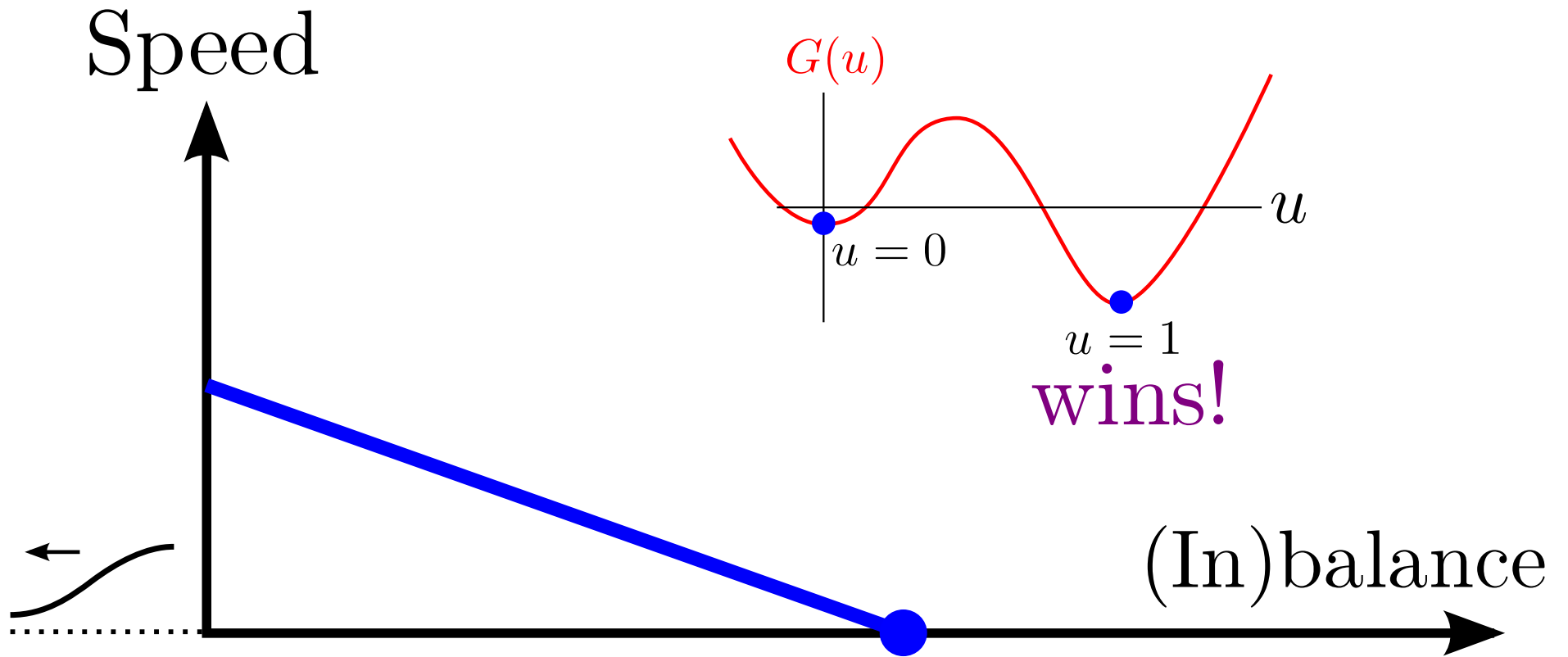
$$u_t = \Delta u - G'(u) \quad \text{PDE}$$

$$\text{Structure: Invasion wave} \quad u(t, x) = \Phi(x + ct)$$

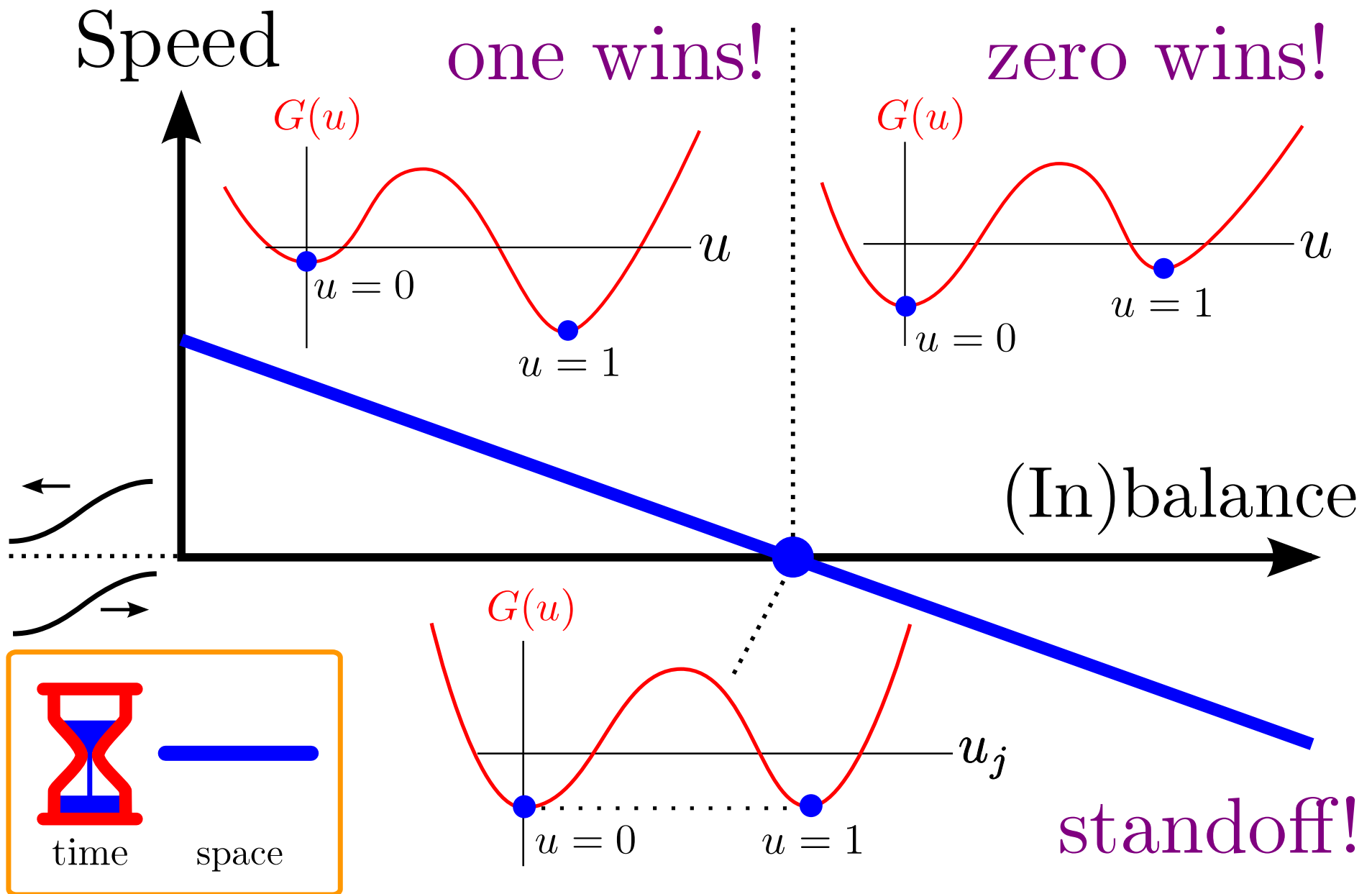


$$c\Phi'(\xi) = \Phi''(\xi) - G'(\Phi(\xi)) \quad \text{ODE}$$

Reaction-diffusion - continuous space



Reaction-diffusion - continuous space



Continuous vs Discrete Space

$$c\Phi'(\xi) = \Phi''(\xi) - G'(\Phi(\xi)) \quad \text{ODE}$$

\mathbb{R}



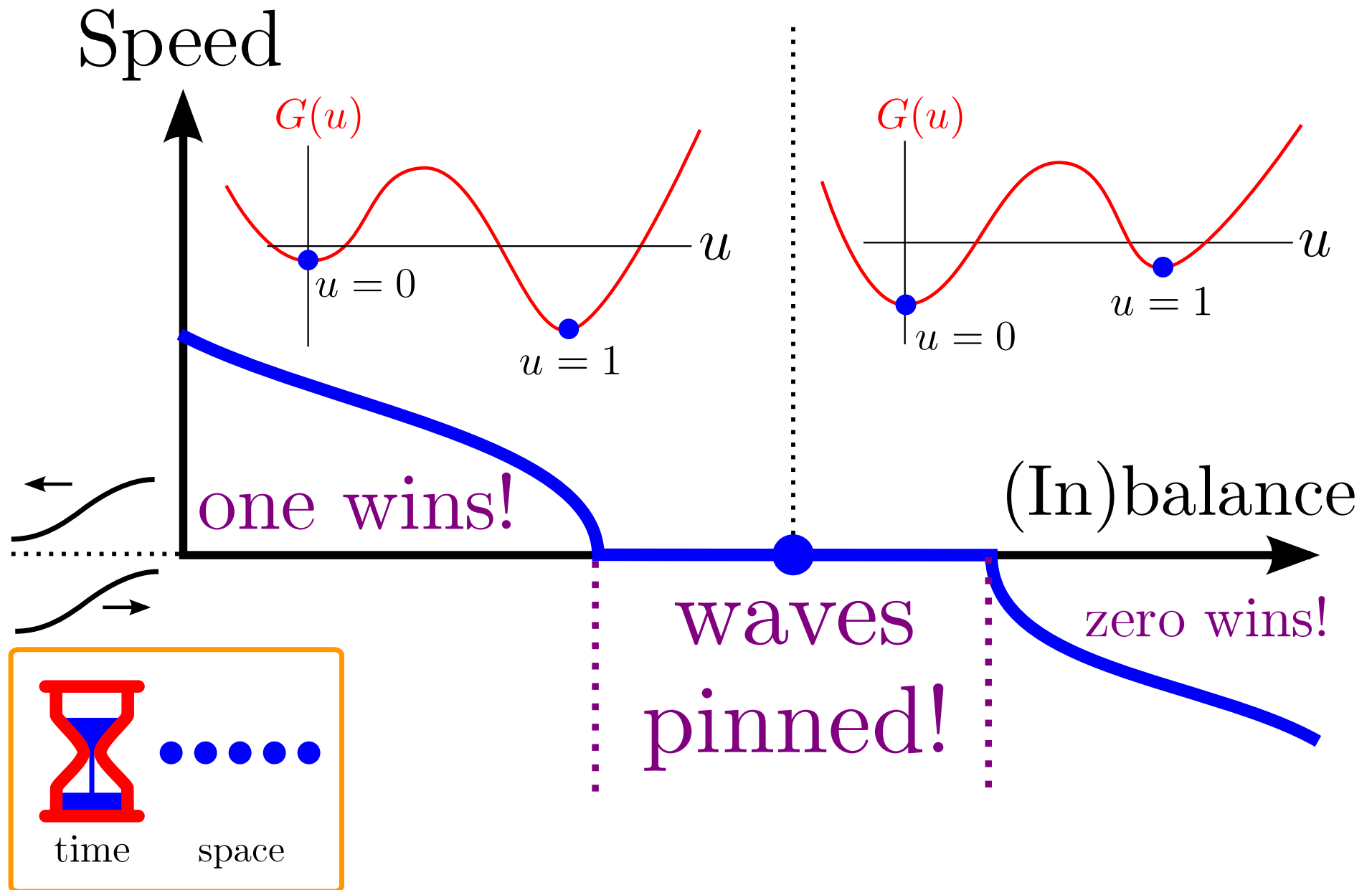
Translational
symmetry
broken

\mathbb{Z}



$$c\Phi'(\xi) = \Phi(\xi + 1) + \Phi(\xi - 1) - 2\Phi(\xi) - G'(\Phi(\xi)) \quad \text{MFDE}$$

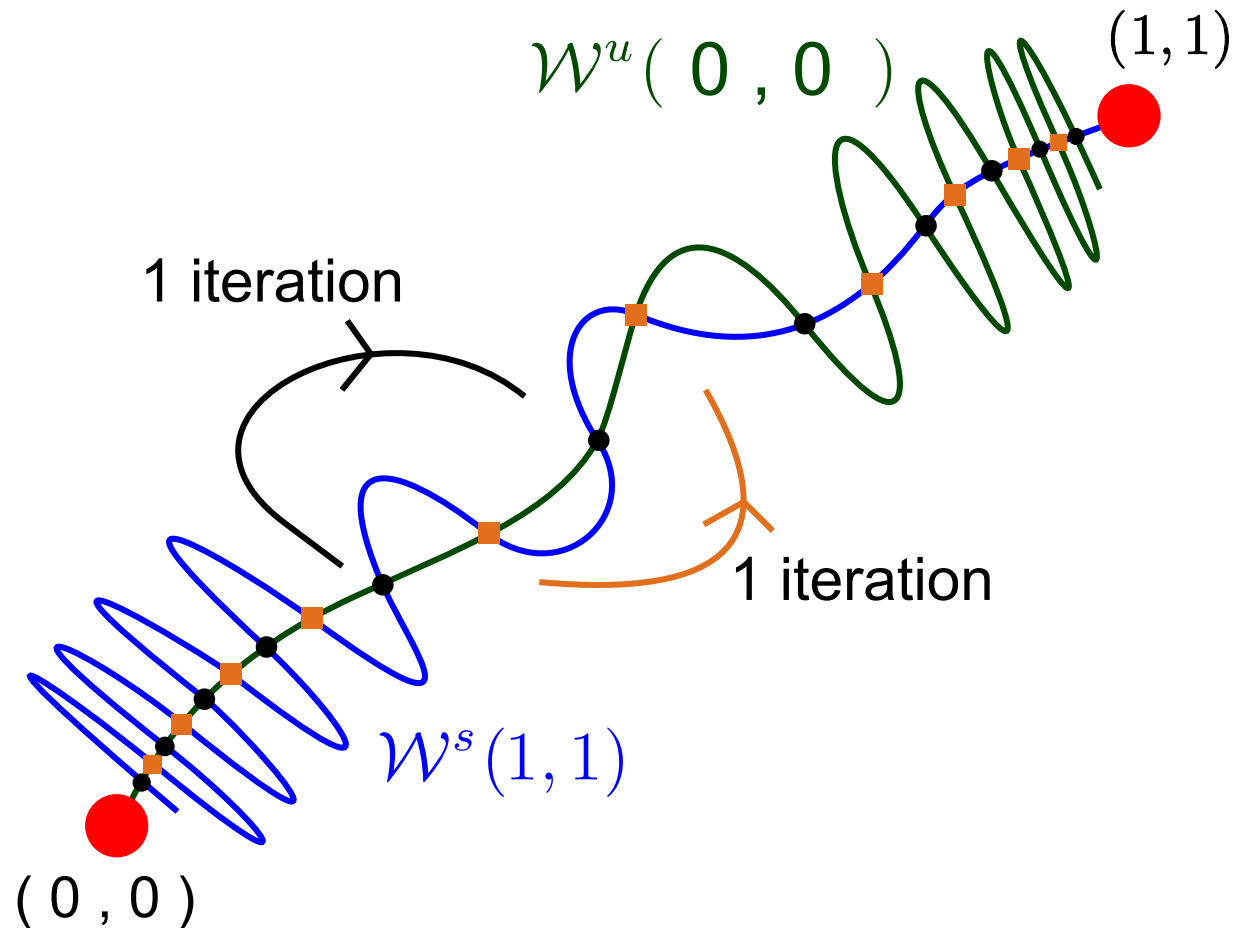
Reaction-diffusion - discrete space



Propagation Failure

At $c = 0$, planar recurrence relation for pair $(\Phi(j), \Phi(j + 1))$.

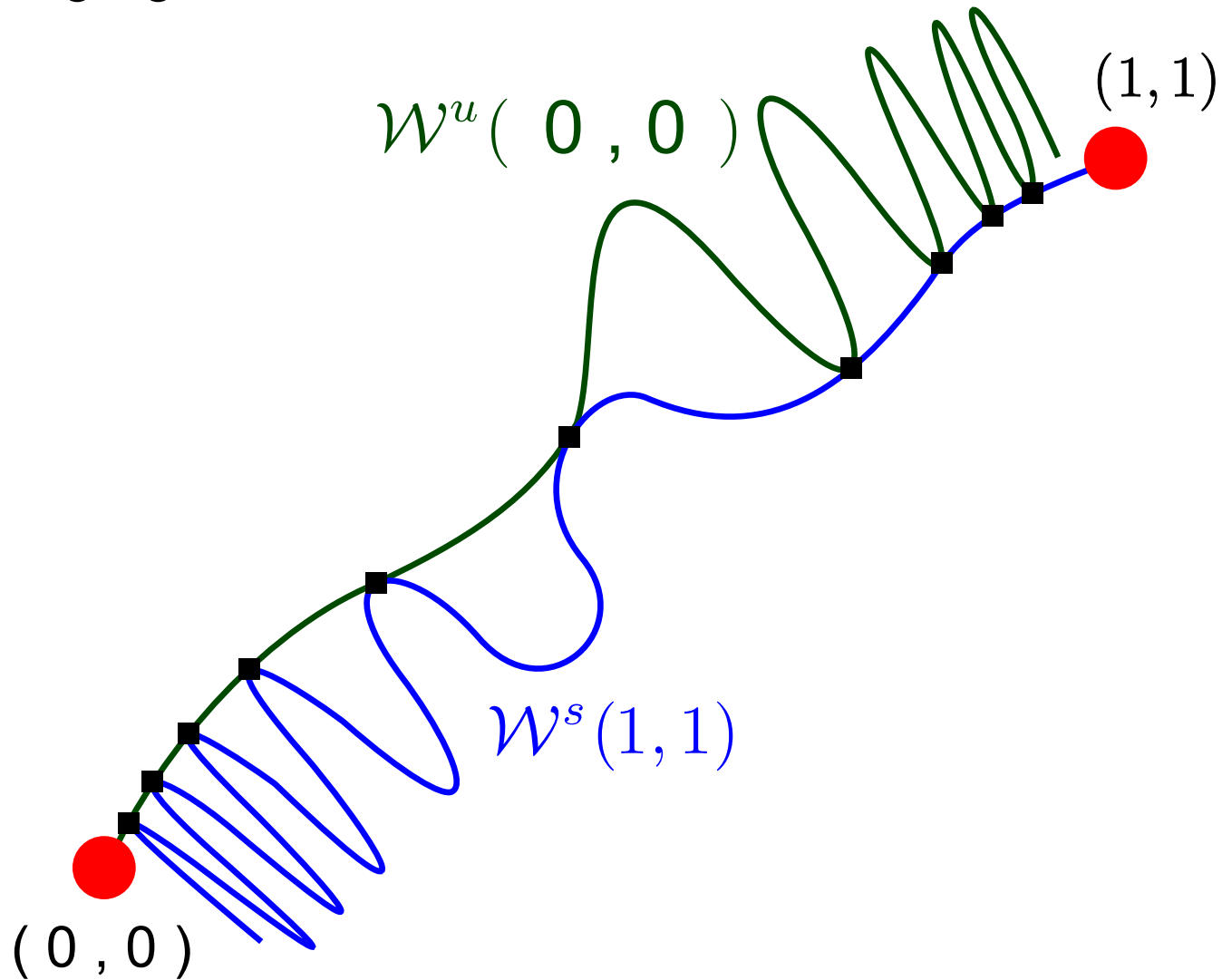
Typical at balance:



Heteroclinic for recursion relation \leftrightarrow standing wave for LDE.

Propagation Failure

Edge of pinning region:

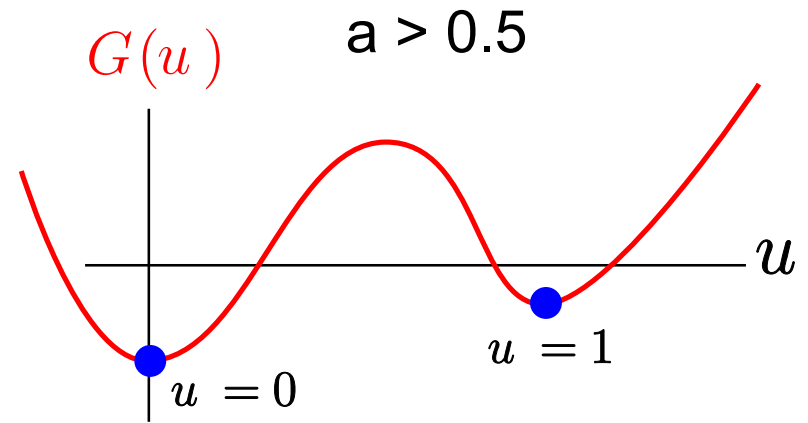
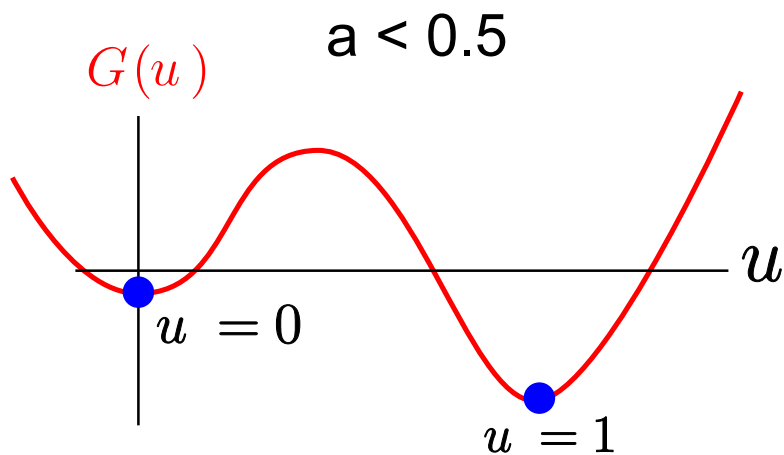


[Keener, Hoffman, Mallet-Paret, Van Vleck, Elmer, Scheel, ...]

Nonlinearity

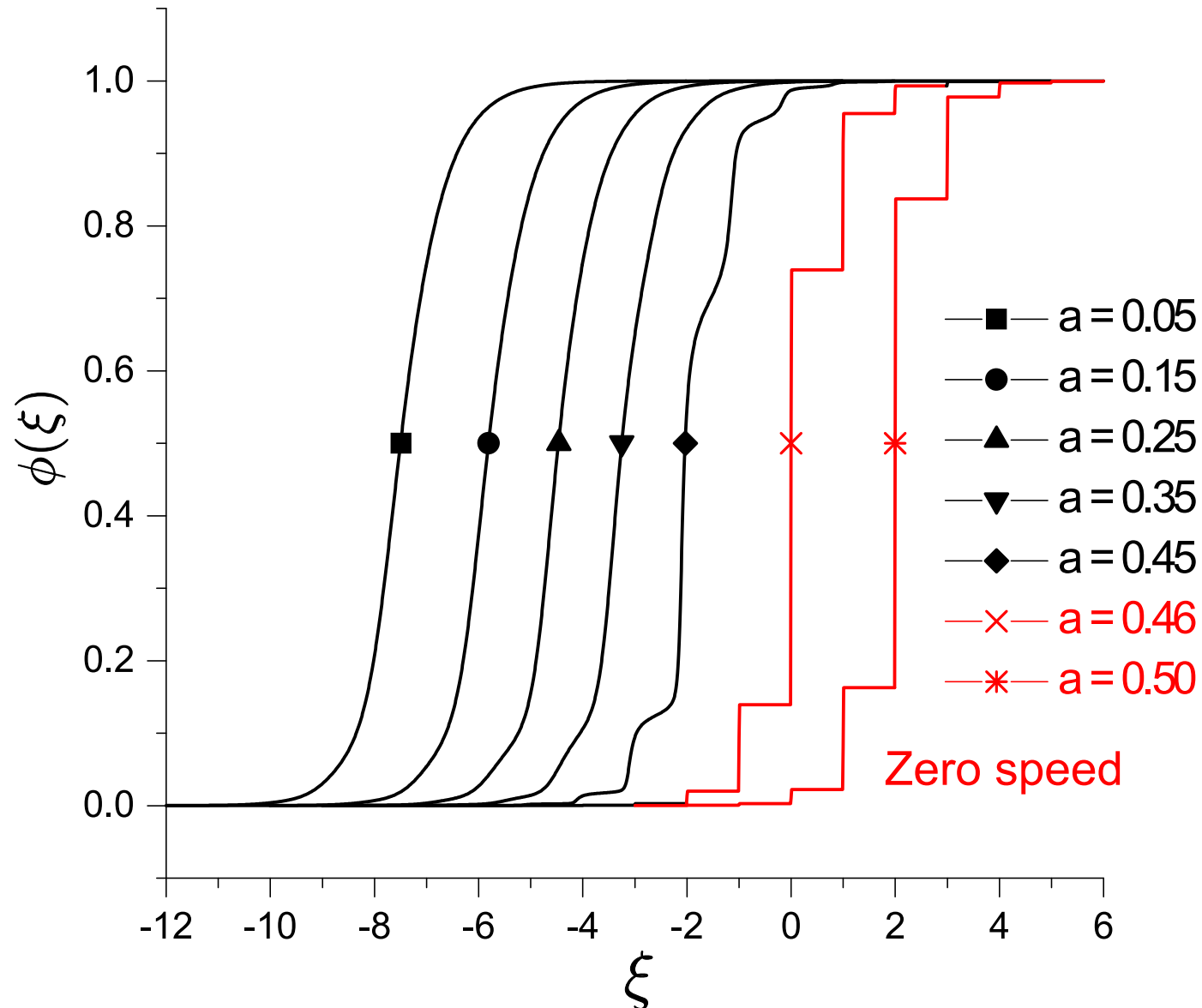
For concreteness, will use quartic potential; i.e.

$$-G'(u) = -G'(u; a) = g_{\text{cub}}(u; a) = u(1 - u)(u - a)$$



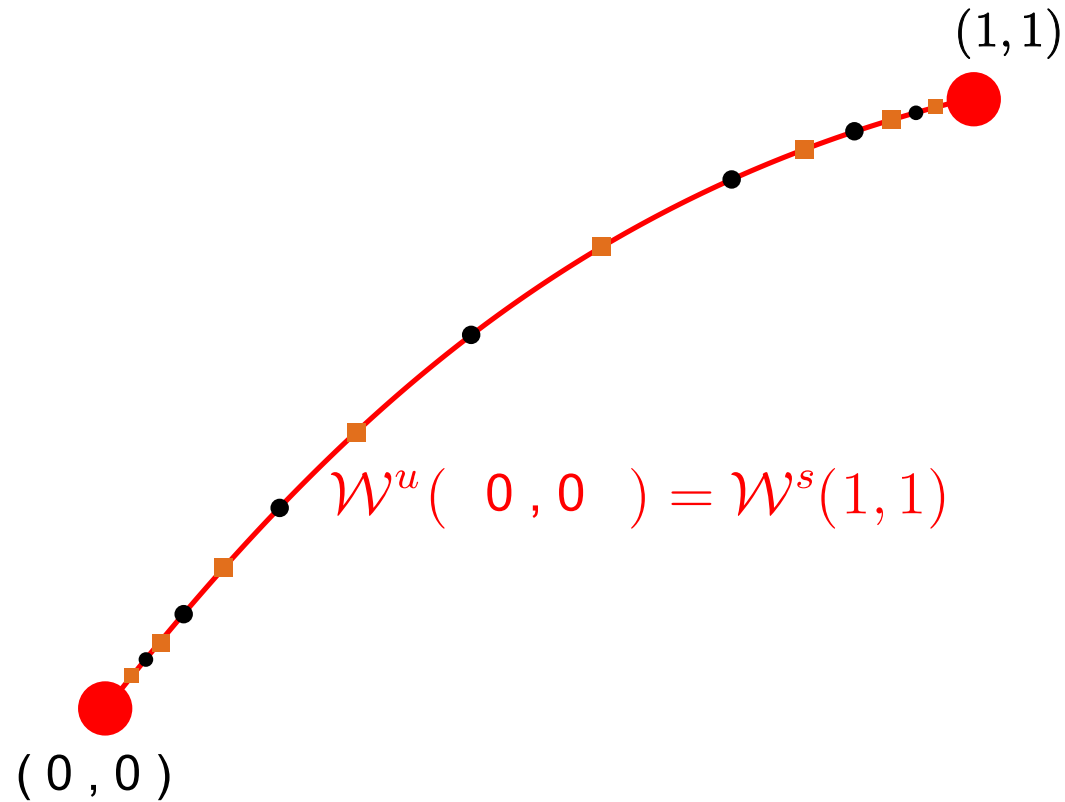
Discrete Nagumo LDE - Propagation failure

Wave profiles:



Propagation Failure - Discrete map

Special multi-site discretizations:

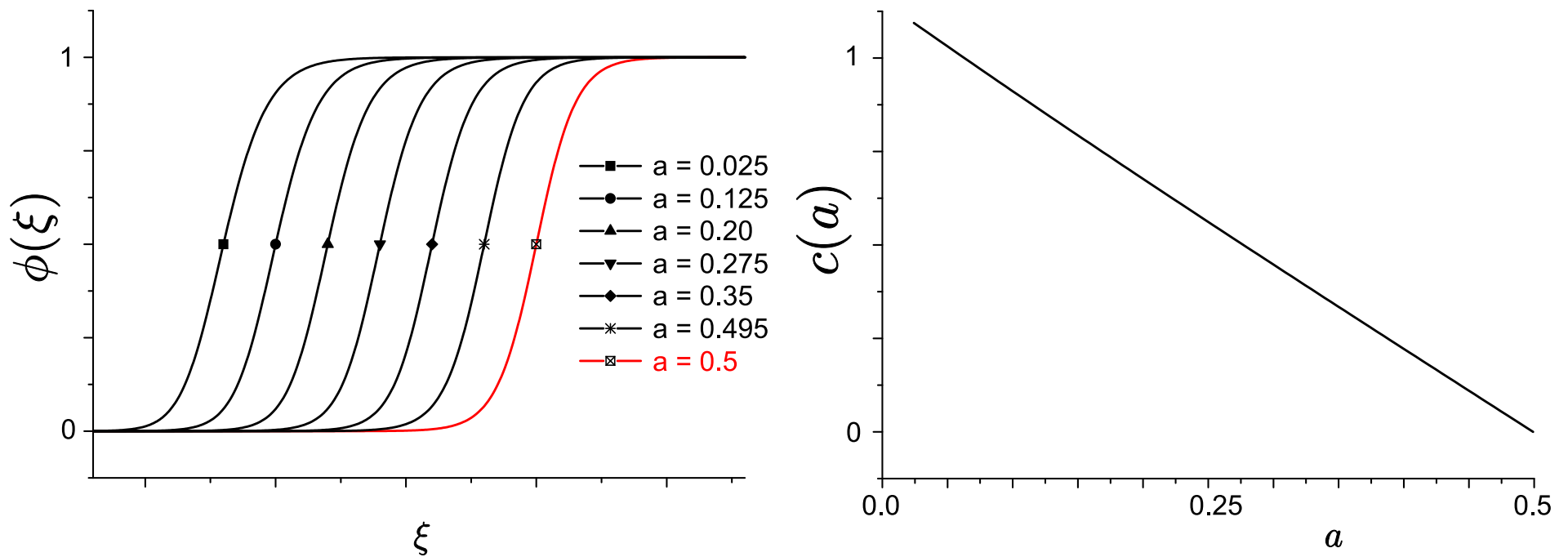


Continuous family of standing waves instead of just two flavours.

Propagation Failure

Thm. [H., Sandstede, Pelinovsky] **No** pinning for LDE

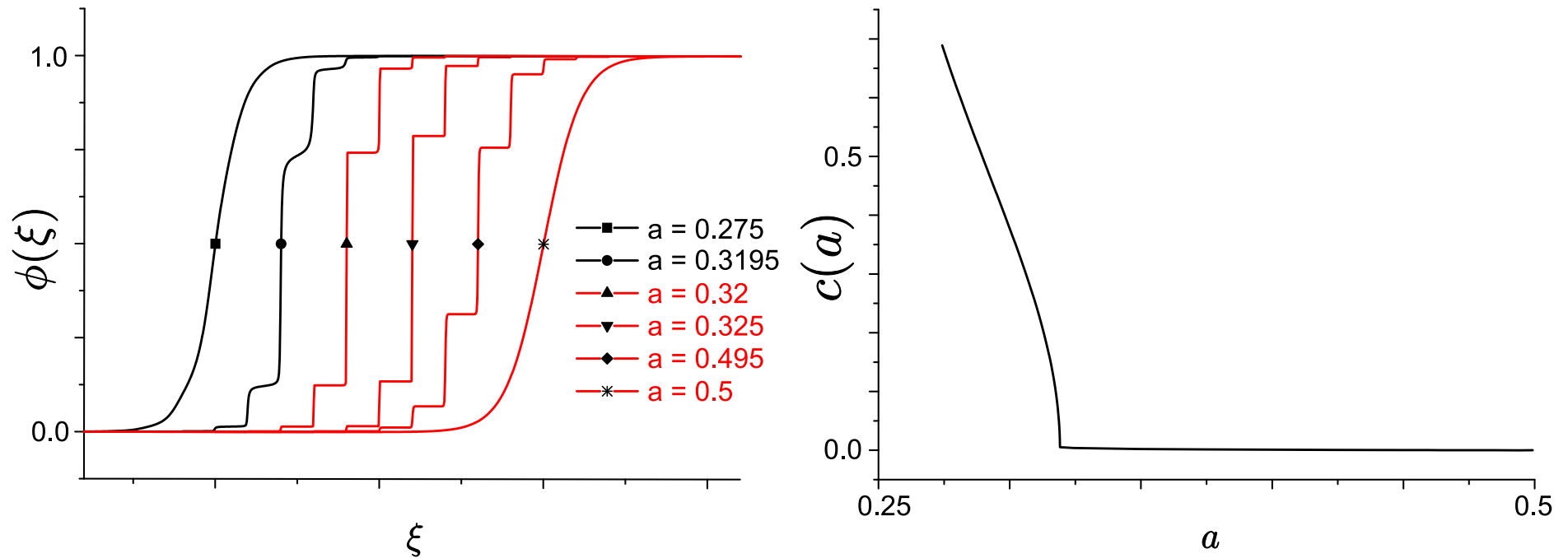
$$\frac{d}{dt}u_j = u_{j-1} + u_{j+1} - 2u_j + (u_j - a) \left(u_{j-1}(1 - u_{j+1}) + u_{j+1}(1 - u_{j-1}) \right)$$



Propagation Failure

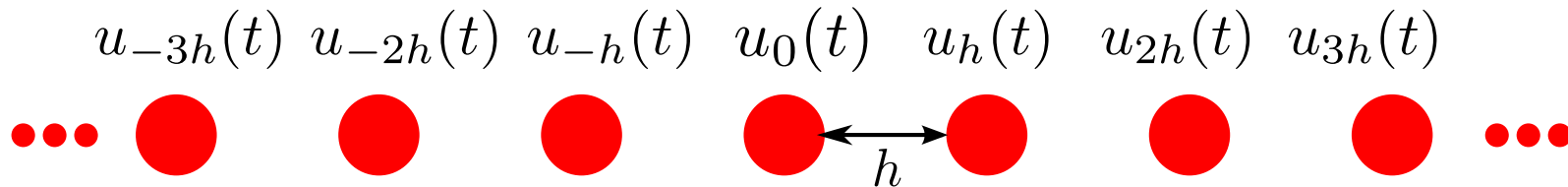
Thm. [H., Sandstede, Pelinovsky] **Do** have pinning for LDE

$$\frac{d}{dt}u_j = u_{j-1} + u_{j+1} - 2u_j + 4u_j(1 - u_j)(u_{j-1} + u_{j+1} - 2a) - 5\left(a - \frac{1}{2}\right) \sin(2\pi u_j) \left(\frac{6}{5} + \frac{8}{5}u\right).$$



Continuum regime

Rescale grid: $\mathbb{Z} \mapsto h\mathbb{Z}$.



Rescale LDE:

$$\frac{d}{dt}u_{jh}(t) = \frac{1}{h^2} [u_{(j+1)h}(t) + u_{(j-1)h}(t) - 2u_{jh}(t)] - G'(u_{jh}(t))$$

Travelling wave $u_{jh}(t) = \Phi(jh + ct)$ must satisfy

$$c\Phi'(\xi) = [\Delta_h \Phi](\xi) - G'(\Phi(\xi))$$

with

$$[\Delta_h \Phi](\xi) = \frac{1}{h^2} [\Phi(\xi + h) + \Phi(\xi - h) - 2\Phi(\xi)]$$

Lifting waves

Recall

$$[\Delta_h \Phi] = \frac{1}{h^2} [\Phi(\xi + h) + \Phi(\xi - h) - 2\Phi(\xi)]$$

Goal: bifurcate off PDE waves

$$c_0 \phi_0'(\xi) = \phi_0''(\xi) - G'(\phi(\xi))$$

to get LDE waves

$$c\Phi'(\xi) = [\Delta_h \Phi](\xi) - G'(\Phi(\xi))$$

for $0 < h \ll 1$.

[Bates, Chen, Chmaj (2003)]: 'spectral convergence'.

The perturbation

Bifurcation problem

$$\Phi(\xi) = \phi_0(\xi) + v(\xi), \quad c = c_0 + \tilde{c}$$

where (c_0, ϕ_0) is PDE wave.

The perturbation is **singular**, in the sense that one must solve

$$\mathcal{L}_h v = O(v^2 + h + \tilde{c}),$$

with $\mathcal{L}_h : H^1 \rightarrow L^2$ given by

$$[\mathcal{L}_h v](\xi) = -c_0 v'(\xi) + [\Delta_h v](\xi) - G''(\phi_0(\xi))v(\xi).$$

Compare with PDE operator $\mathcal{L}_0 : H^2 \rightarrow L^2$

$$[\mathcal{L}_0 v](\xi) = -c_0 v'(\xi) + v''(\xi) - G''(\phi_0(\xi))v(\xi).$$

Note: operators act on different spaces.

Spectral Convergence

Recall

$$[\mathcal{L}_h v](\xi) = -c_0 v'(\xi) + [\Delta_h v](\xi) - G''(\phi_0(\xi))v(\xi).$$

Want to show: $\mathcal{L}_h - 1$ invertible for $0 < h \ll 1$.

- Assume $(\mathcal{L}_h - 1)v_h = w_h$ with $\|v_h\|_{H^1} = 1$.
- Goal: show $\|w_h\|_{L^2} \gtrsim 0$ as $h \downarrow 0$.
- Take **weak** limits:

$$v_h \rightharpoonup v_0 \in H^1, \quad w_h \rightharpoonup w_0 \in L^2$$

- Observe: $[\mathcal{L}_0 - 1]v_0 = w_0$ so

$$v_0 = [\mathcal{L}_0 - 1]^{-1}w_0$$

- Danger: v_0 and w_0 could be zero.

Continued

- For compact $K \subset \mathbb{R}$, we have (after subseq) strong convergence

$$v_h \rightarrow v_0 \in L^2(K)$$

Can we exclude $v_0 = 0$? **Danger:**

$$v_h = h \sin(\xi/h), \quad v'_h = \cos(\xi/h)$$

Notice:

$$\|v_h\|_{L^2([- \pi; \pi])} = h\sqrt{\pi}$$

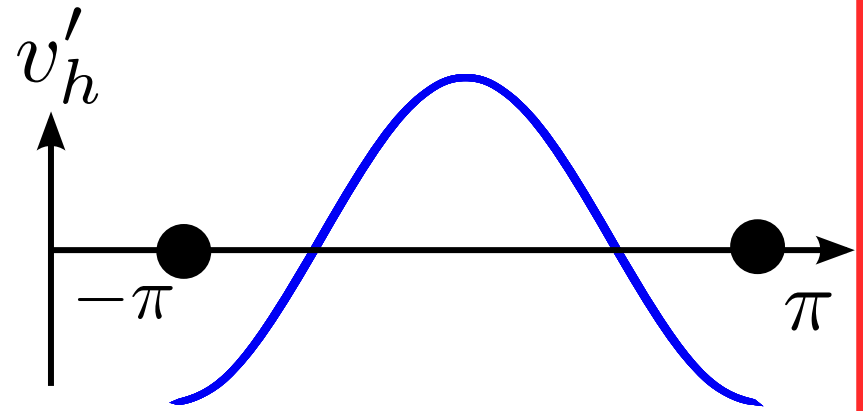
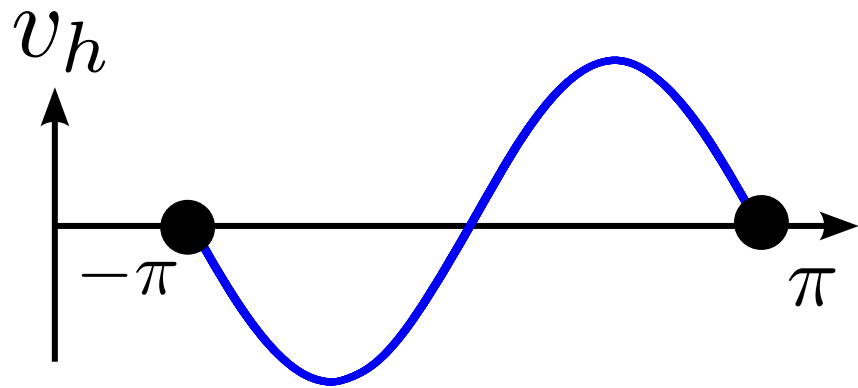
while

$$\|v'_h\|_{L^2([- \pi; \pi])} = \sqrt{\pi}$$

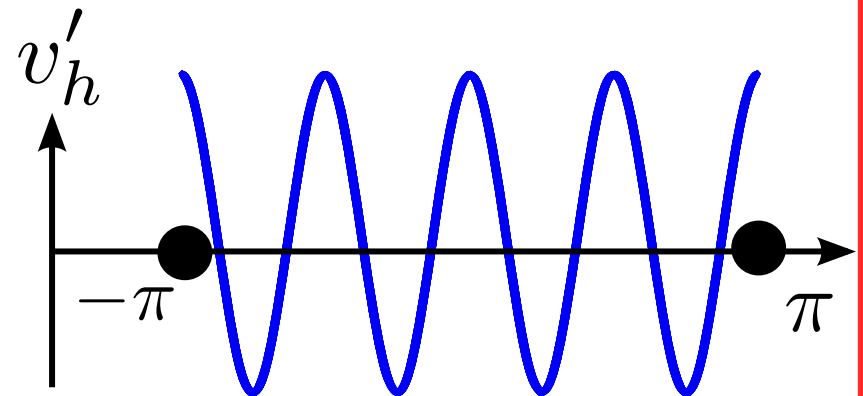
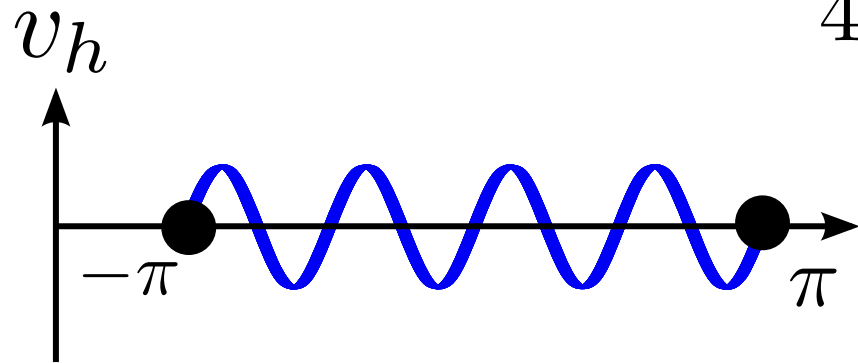
So: $\|v_h\|_{L^2(K)} \sim O(h)$ while $\|v_h\|_{H^1(K)} \sim O(1)$

Weak Limits

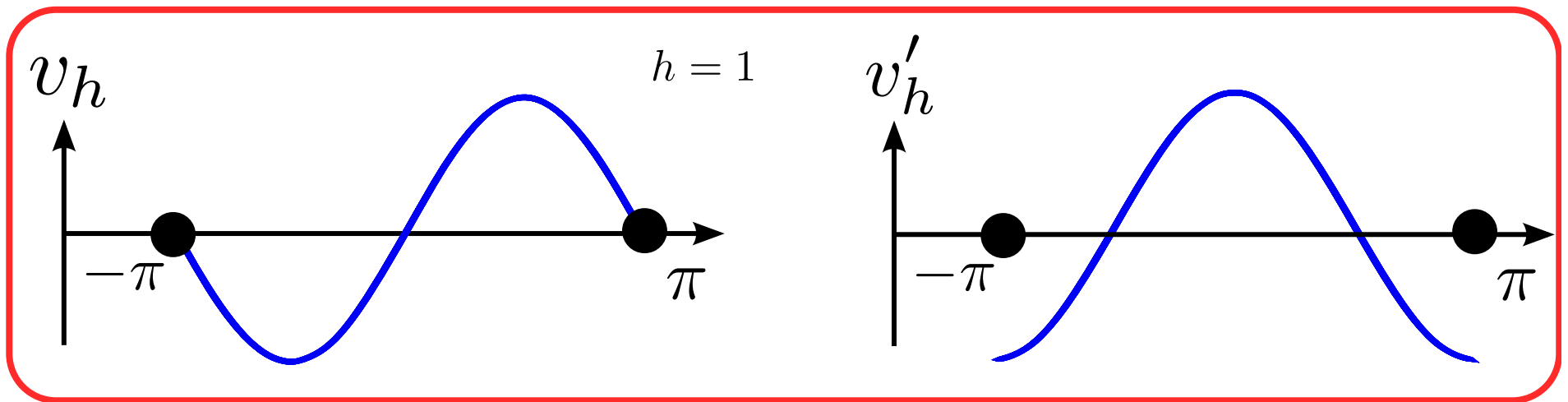
$$h = 1$$



$$h = \frac{1}{4}$$

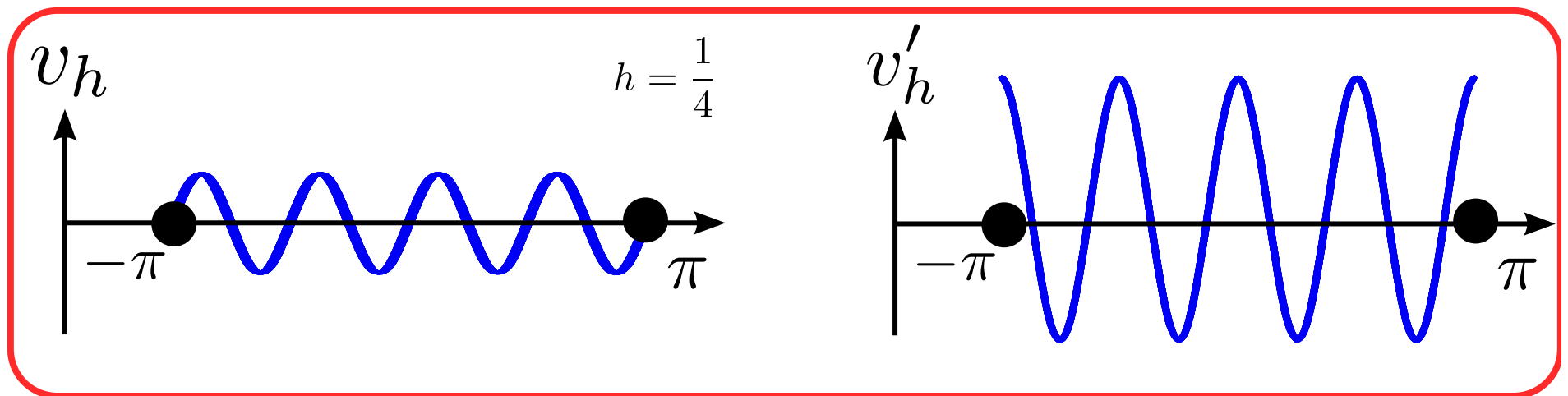


Weak Limits



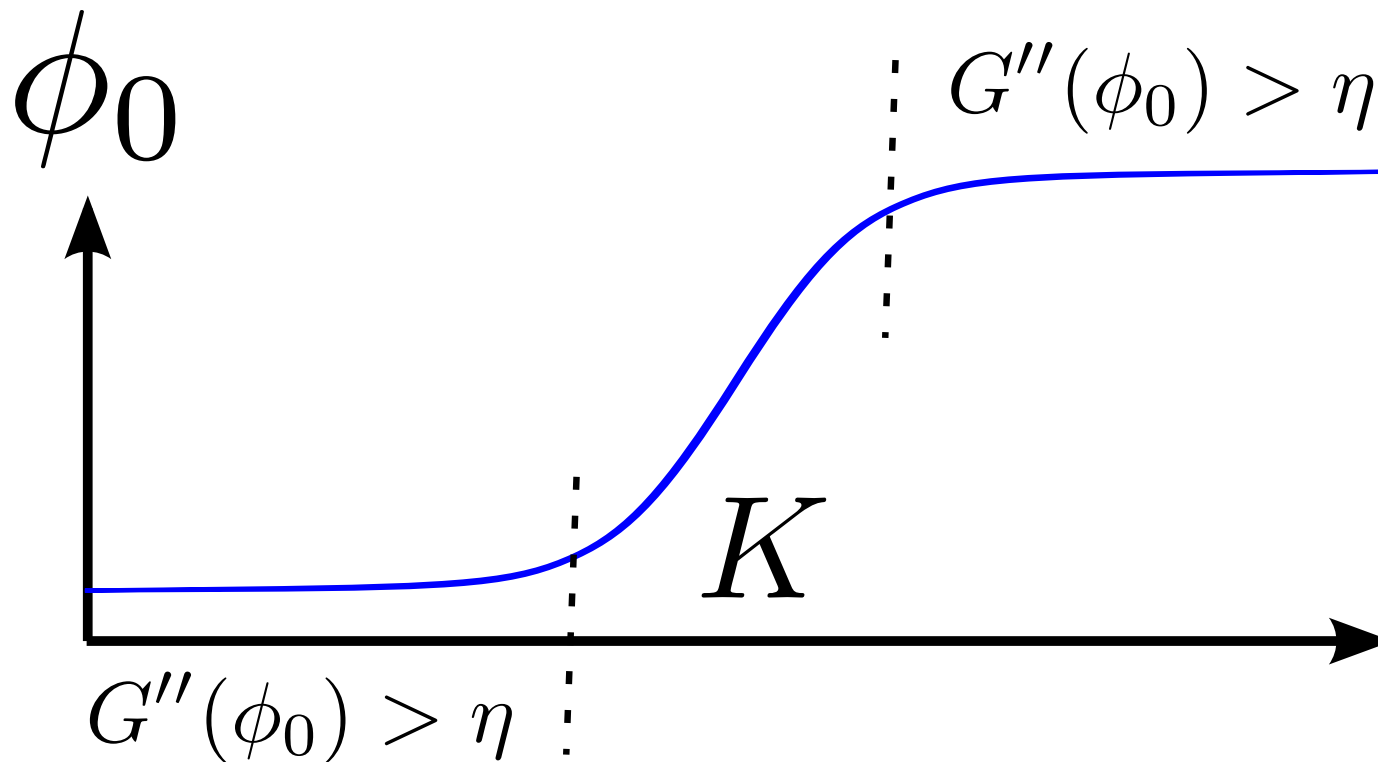
$$\|v_h\|_2 = O(h)$$

$$\|v'_h\|_2 = O(1)$$

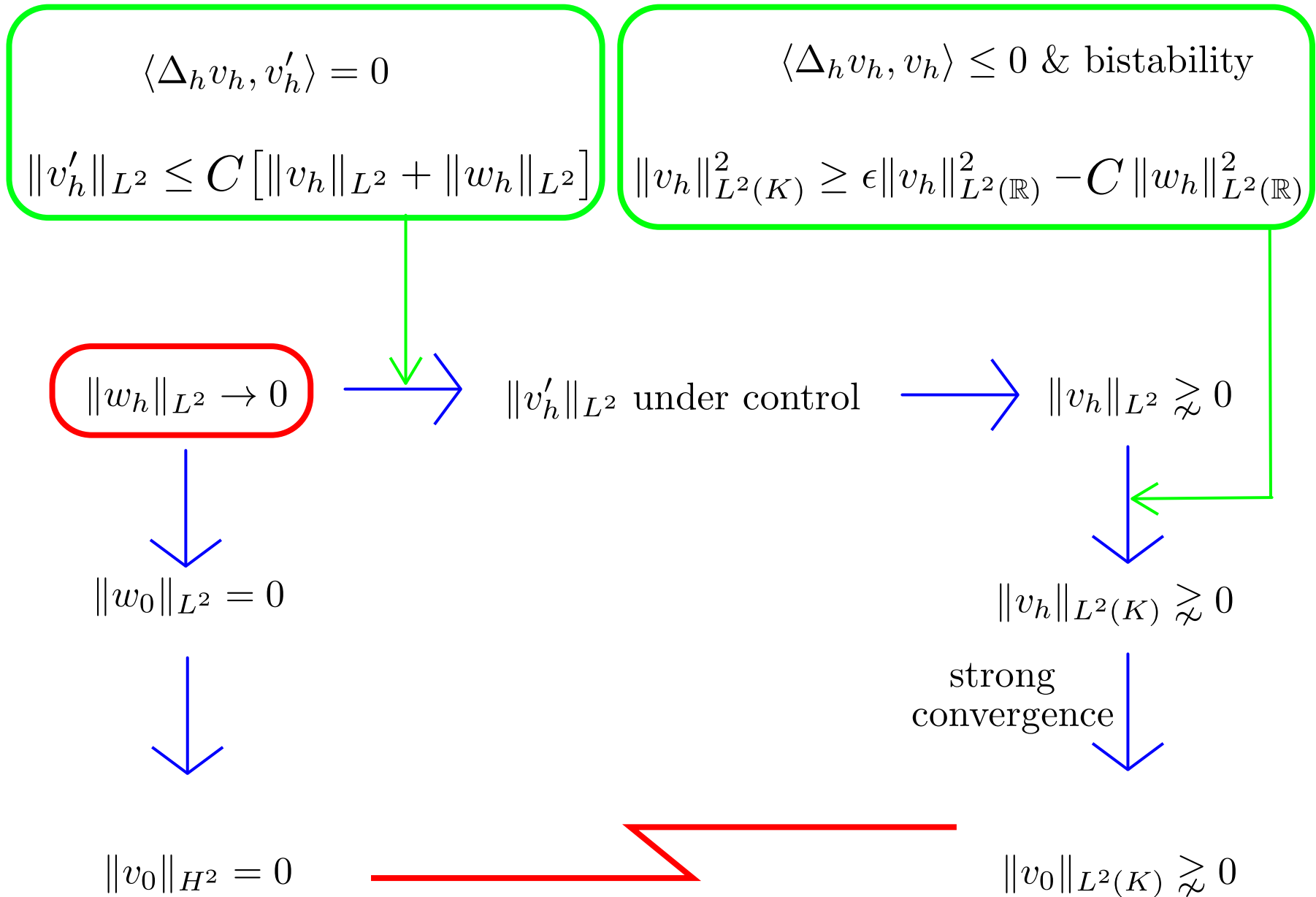


Compact Interval

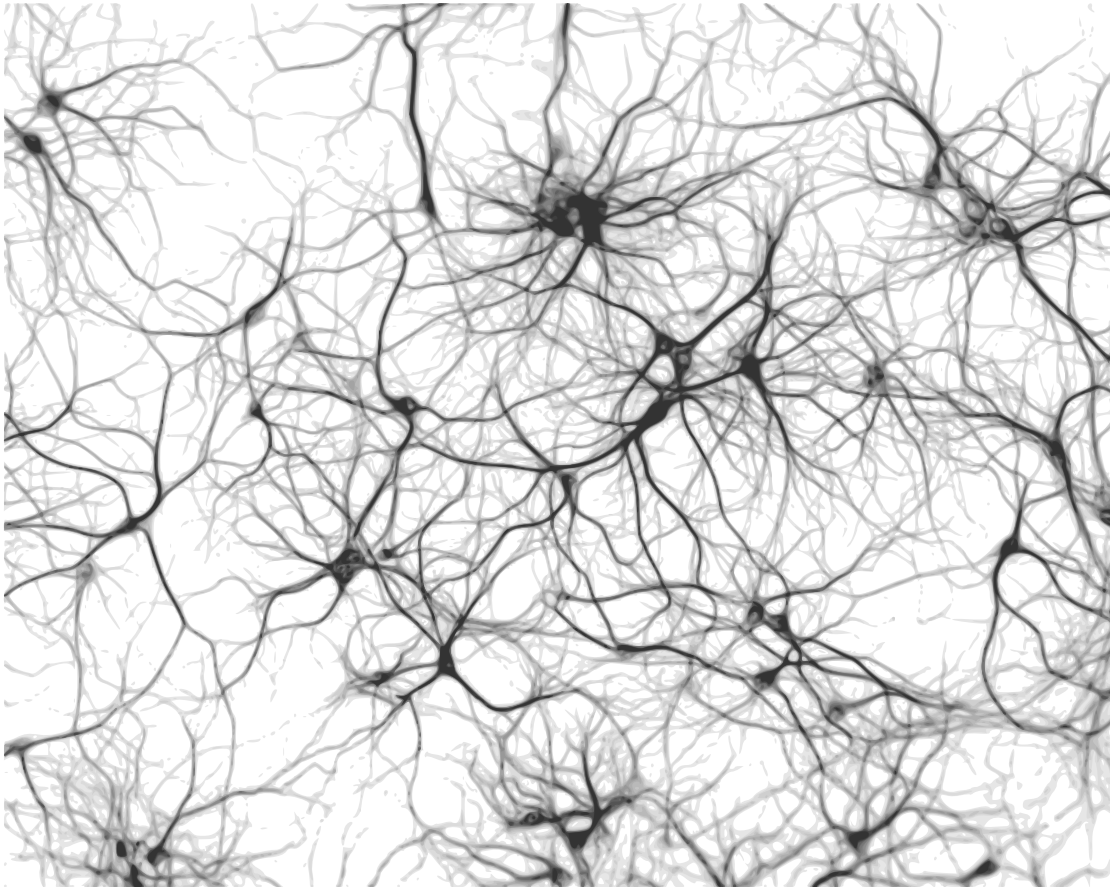
Pick K large so that $G'' > \eta$ outside K :



Spectral convergence [Bates, Chen, Chmaj (2003)]



Neural Fields



Complex (discrete) topology

Longe range interactions

[Bressloff (2012)]

Search for effective eqns

Infinite-Range FitzHugh-Nagumo LDE

Discrete FitzHugh-Nagumo

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{u}_{jh} &= \frac{1}{h^2} \sum_{k>0} \alpha_k [u_{(j+k)h} + u_{(j-k)h} - 2u_{jh}] - G'(u_{jh}) - w_{jh} \\ \dot{w}_{jh} &= \rho [u_{jh} - \gamma w_{jh}]\end{aligned}$$

- Coefficients α_k decay sufficiently fast
- Not necessarily positive
- Spectral conditions ensure Laplace-like properties

Infinite-range discretization of FHN PDE

$$\begin{aligned}u_t &= u_{xx} - G'(u) - w \\ w_t &= \rho [u - \gamma w]\end{aligned}$$

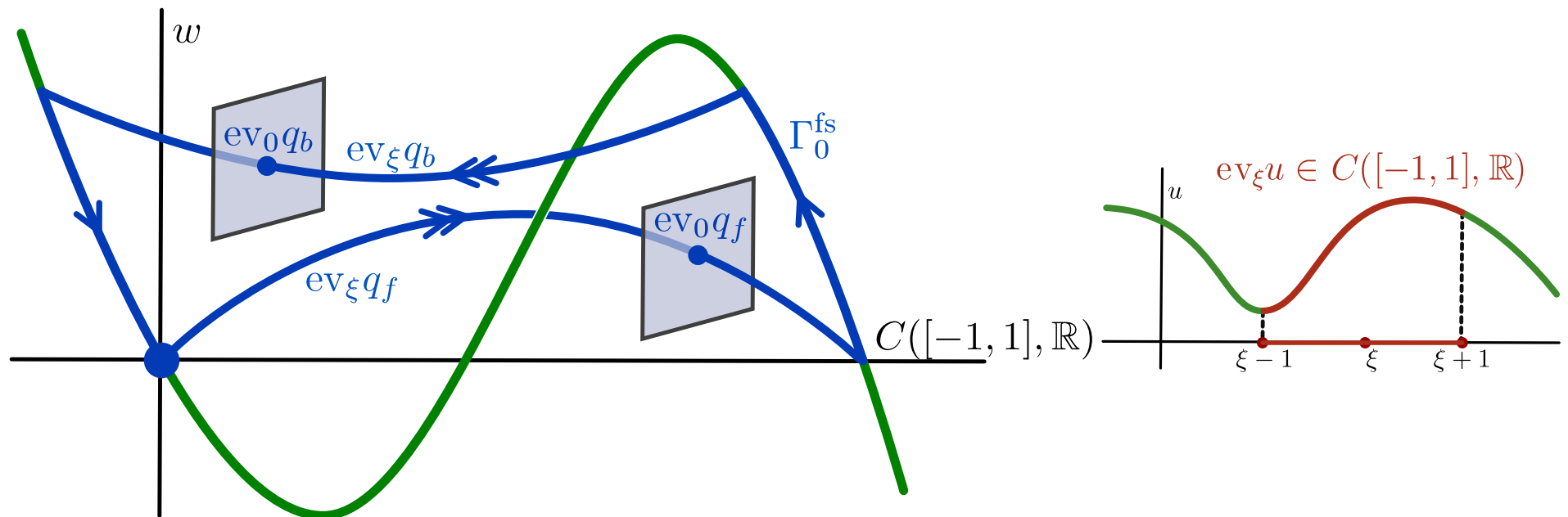
Goal: transfer existence and stability of PDE waves to LDE (for $0 < h \ll 1$)

Infinite-Range FitzHugh-Nagumo LDE

Discrete FitzHugh-Nagumo

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{u}_{jh} &= \frac{1}{h^2} \sum_{k>0} \alpha_k [u_{(j+k)h} + u_{(j-k)h} - 2u_{jh}] - G'(u_{jh}) - w_{jh} \\ \dot{w}_{jh} &= \rho [u_{jh} - \gamma w_{jh}]\end{aligned}$$

When $\alpha_k = 0$ for $k > 1$: Lin's method [Sandstede + H.].



Wave Equation

LDE travelling wave equation:

$$\begin{aligned}c\bar{u}'(\xi) &= [\Delta_{h;inf}\bar{u}](\xi) - G'(\bar{u}(\xi)) - \bar{w}(\xi) \\c\bar{w}'(\xi) &= \rho[\bar{u}(\xi) - \gamma\bar{w}(\xi)]\end{aligned}$$

with

$$[\Delta_{h;inf}\Phi](\xi) = \frac{1}{h^2} \sum_{k>0} [\Phi(\xi + kh) + \Phi(\xi - kh) - 2\Phi(\xi)]$$

PDE waves:

$$\begin{aligned}c_0\bar{u}'_0 &= u''_0 - G'(\bar{u}_0) - \bar{w}_0 \\c_0\bar{w}'_0 &= \rho[\bar{u}_0 - \gamma\bar{w}_0]\end{aligned}$$

Assumption: PDE waves exist and spectrally stable.

Results

Recall travelling wave MFDE

$$\begin{aligned}c\bar{u}'(\xi) &= [\Delta_{h;inf}\bar{u}](\xi) - G'(\bar{u}(\xi)) - \bar{w}(\xi) \\c\bar{w}'(\xi) &= \rho[\bar{u}(\xi) - \gamma\bar{w}(\xi)]\end{aligned}$$

Thm. [H. and W. Schouten 2017] Suppose $\sum k^2\alpha_k < \infty$. For every $0 < h \ll 1$ there is a travelling pulse solution which converges to $(c_0, \bar{u}_0, \bar{w}_0)$ as $h \downarrow 0$.

Thm. [H. and W. Schouten 2017] Suppose

$$\sum e^{\nu k}\alpha_k < \infty$$

for some $\nu > 0$. Then the travelling pulses above are **nonlinearly stable**.

Remark: Existence of pulses obtained earlier by [Scheel and Faye] **without** restriction on h , but with exponential decay on α_k .

Linear operators

Proofs hinge on understanding transition from PDE operator

$\mathcal{L}_0 : H^2 \times H^1 \rightarrow L^2 \times L^2$:

$$\mathcal{L}_0 = \begin{pmatrix} -c_0 \frac{d}{d\xi} + \frac{d^2}{d\xi^2} - G''(u_0) & 1 \\ \rho & -c_0 \frac{d}{d\xi} - \gamma \rho \end{pmatrix}$$

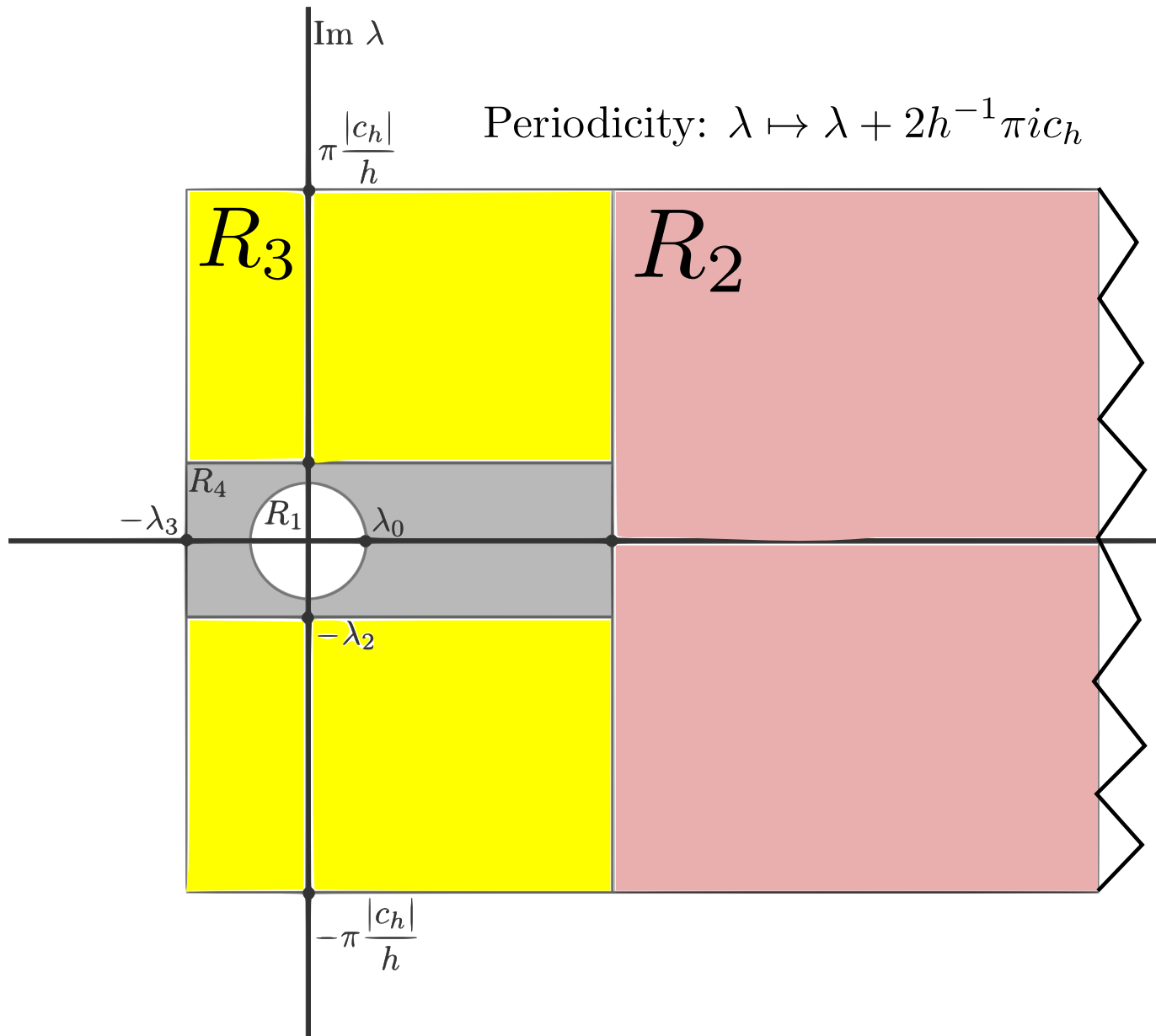
to LDE operator $\mathcal{L}_h : H^1 \times H^1 \rightarrow L^2 \times L^2$:

$$\mathcal{L}_h = \begin{pmatrix} -c_0 \frac{d}{d\xi} + \Delta_h - G''(u_0) & 1 \\ \rho & -c_0 \frac{d}{d\xi} - \gamma \rho \end{pmatrix}.$$

As before: operators act on different spaces

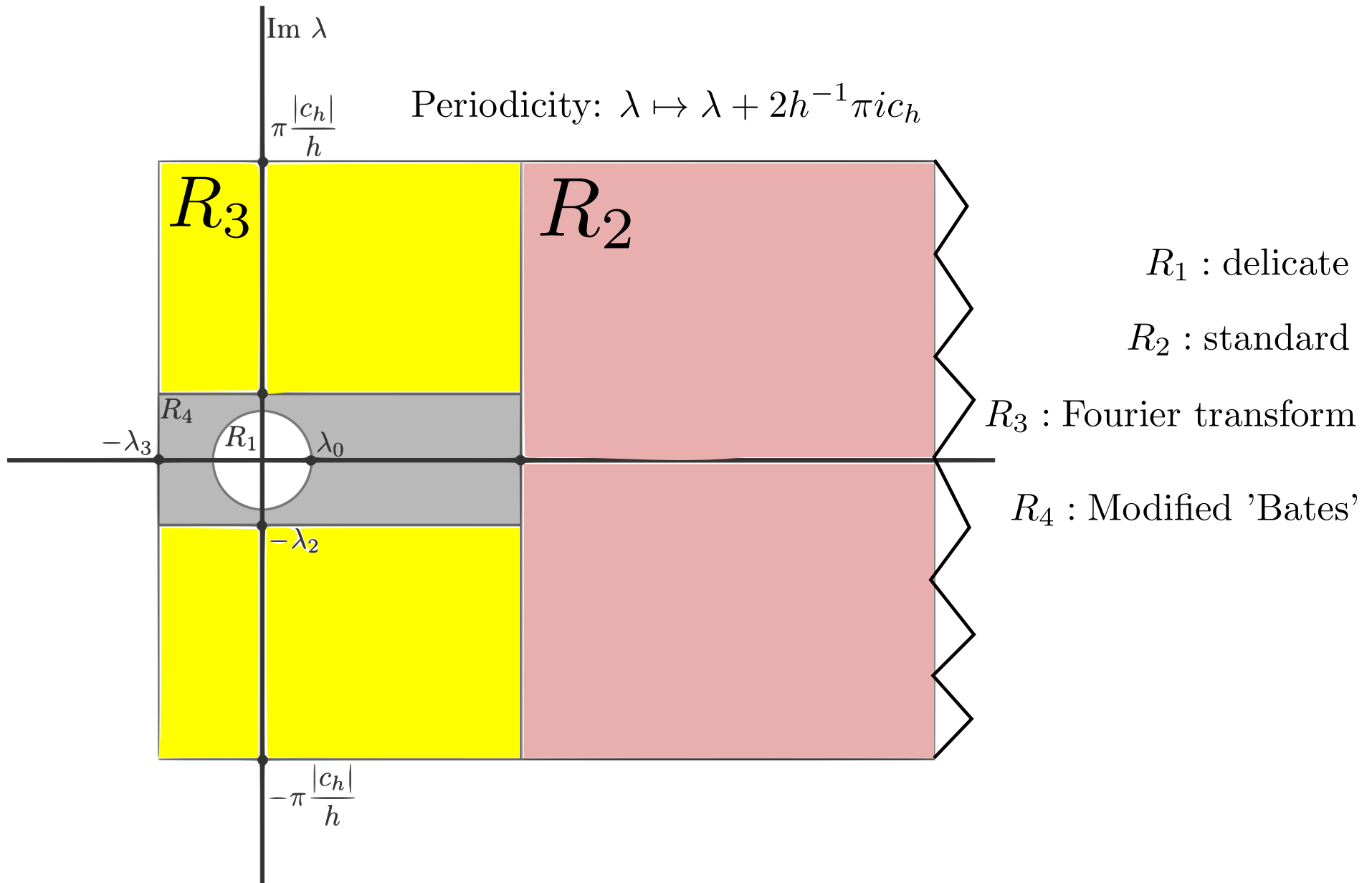
- 'Spectral convergence' can be extended
- Cross-terms needs to be kept under control
- Very useful: slow system is **linear**

Spectral Stability



Need to understand $\mathcal{L}_h - \lambda$ uniformly in λ as $h \downarrow 0$

Spectral Stability



Near $\lambda = 0$ - Beyond 'Bates'

PDE: \mathcal{L}_0 is Fredholm with index zero; simple eigenvalue $\lambda = 0$.

In particular, given $\mathbf{f} = (f_1, f_2) \in L^2 \times L^2$, there exist $(v, w) \in H^2 \times H^1$ and $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}$ for which

$$\mathcal{L}_0(v, w) = \mathbf{f} + \gamma(\bar{u}'_0, \bar{w}'_0)$$

with orthogonality condition

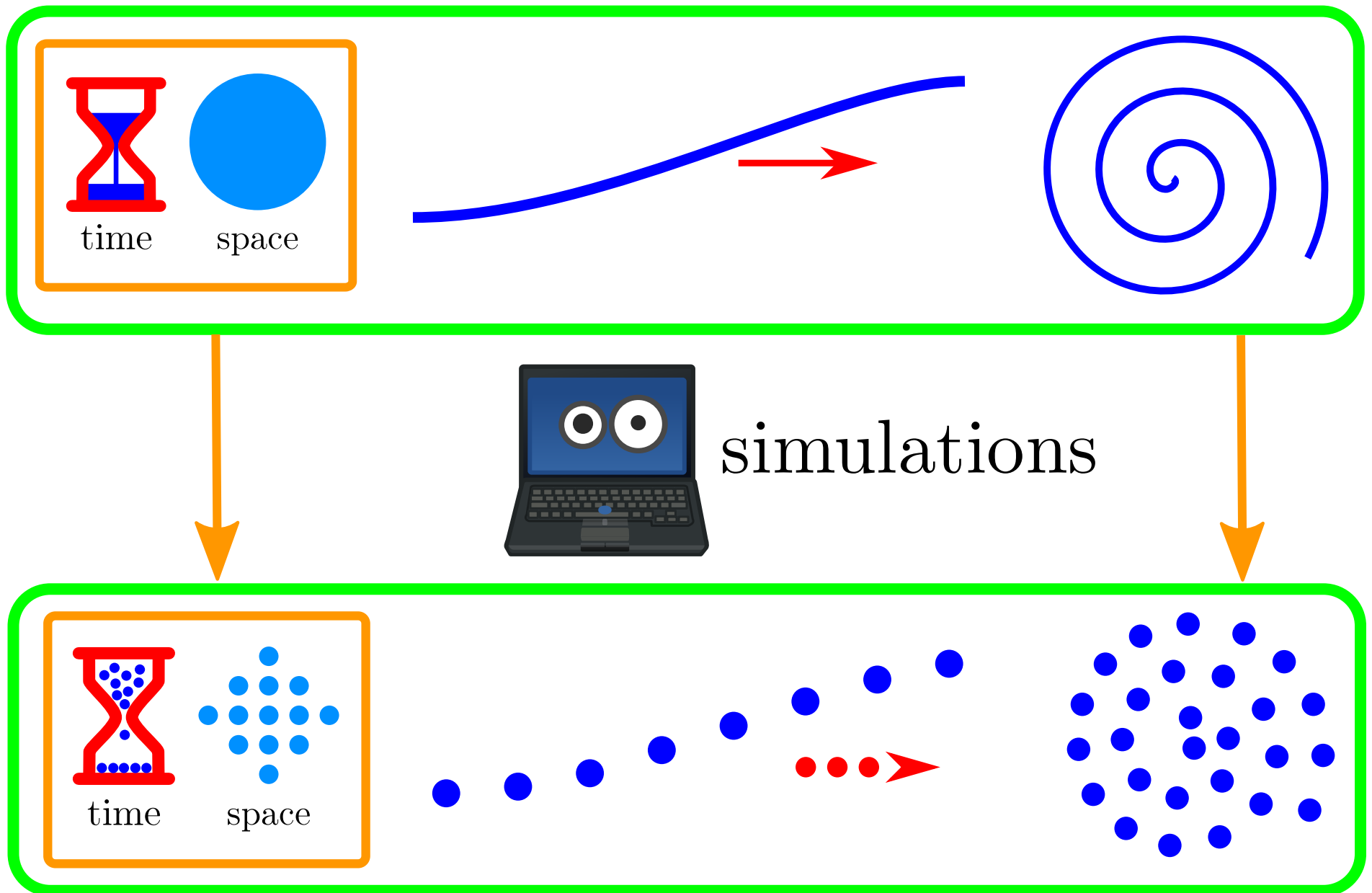
$$\left\langle (\bar{u}'_0, \bar{w}'_0), (v, w) \right\rangle_{L^2 \times L^2} = 0.$$

Thm. [H., Schouten] For all $0 < h \ll 1$ and all $\mathbf{f} = (f_1, f_2) \in L^2 \times L^2$ there are $(v, w) = (v_h, w_h)(\mathbf{f}) \in H^1 \times H^1$ and $\gamma = \gamma_h(\mathbf{f}) \in \mathbb{R}$ so that

$$\mathcal{L}_h(v, w) = \mathbf{f} + \gamma(\bar{u}'_0, \bar{w}'_0)$$

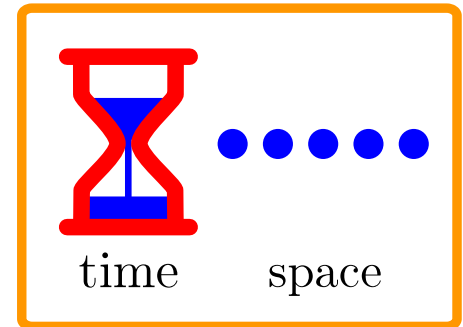
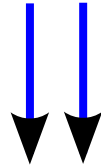
with same orthogonality condition as above.

Numerical Analysis



Full discretization

$$\dot{u}_j = u_{j+1} + u_{j-1} - 2u_j - G'(u_j)$$



$$\frac{1}{\Delta t} [u_j(t) - u_j(t - \Delta t)] = u_{j+1}(t) + u_{j-1}(t) - 2u_j(t) - G'(u_j(t))$$

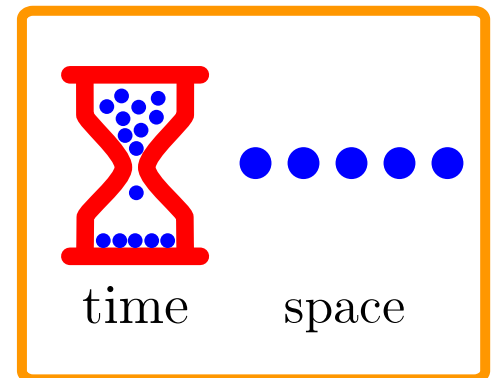
BDF-1 (Backward-Euler)

$$\frac{3}{2\Delta t} [u_j(t) - \frac{4}{3}u_j(t - \Delta t) + \frac{1}{3}u_j(t - 2\Delta t)] = u_{j+1}(t) + u_{j-1}(t) - 2u_j(t) - G'(u_j(t))$$

BDF-2



BDF-6



Full discretization

Travelling waves under BDF-k must solve:

$$c[\mathcal{D}_{k,c,\Delta t}\Phi](\zeta) = \Phi(\zeta + 1) + \Phi(\zeta - 1) - 2\Phi(\zeta) - G'(\Phi(\zeta))$$

BDF-1:

$$[\mathcal{D}_{1,c,\Delta t}\Phi](\zeta) = \frac{1}{c\Delta t} \left[\Phi(\zeta) - \Phi(\zeta - c\Delta t) \right]$$

BDF-2:

$$[\mathcal{D}_{2,c,\Delta t}\Phi](\zeta) = \frac{3}{2c\Delta t} \left[\Phi(\zeta) - \frac{4}{3}\Phi(\zeta - c\Delta t) + \frac{1}{3}\Phi(\zeta - 2c\Delta t) \right]$$

For smooth functions Φ :

$$[\mathcal{D}_{k,c,\Delta t}\Phi](\zeta) - \Phi'(\zeta) \sim (\Delta t)^k \left\| \Phi^{(k+1)} \right\|_{\infty}.$$

Full discretization

Travelling waves under BDF-k must solve:

$$c[\mathcal{D}_{k,c,\Delta t}\Phi](\zeta) = \Phi(\zeta + 1) + \Phi(\zeta - 1) - 2\Phi(\zeta) - G'(\Phi(\zeta))$$

Write (Φ_*, c_*) for spatially discrete wave (assume $c_* > 0$).

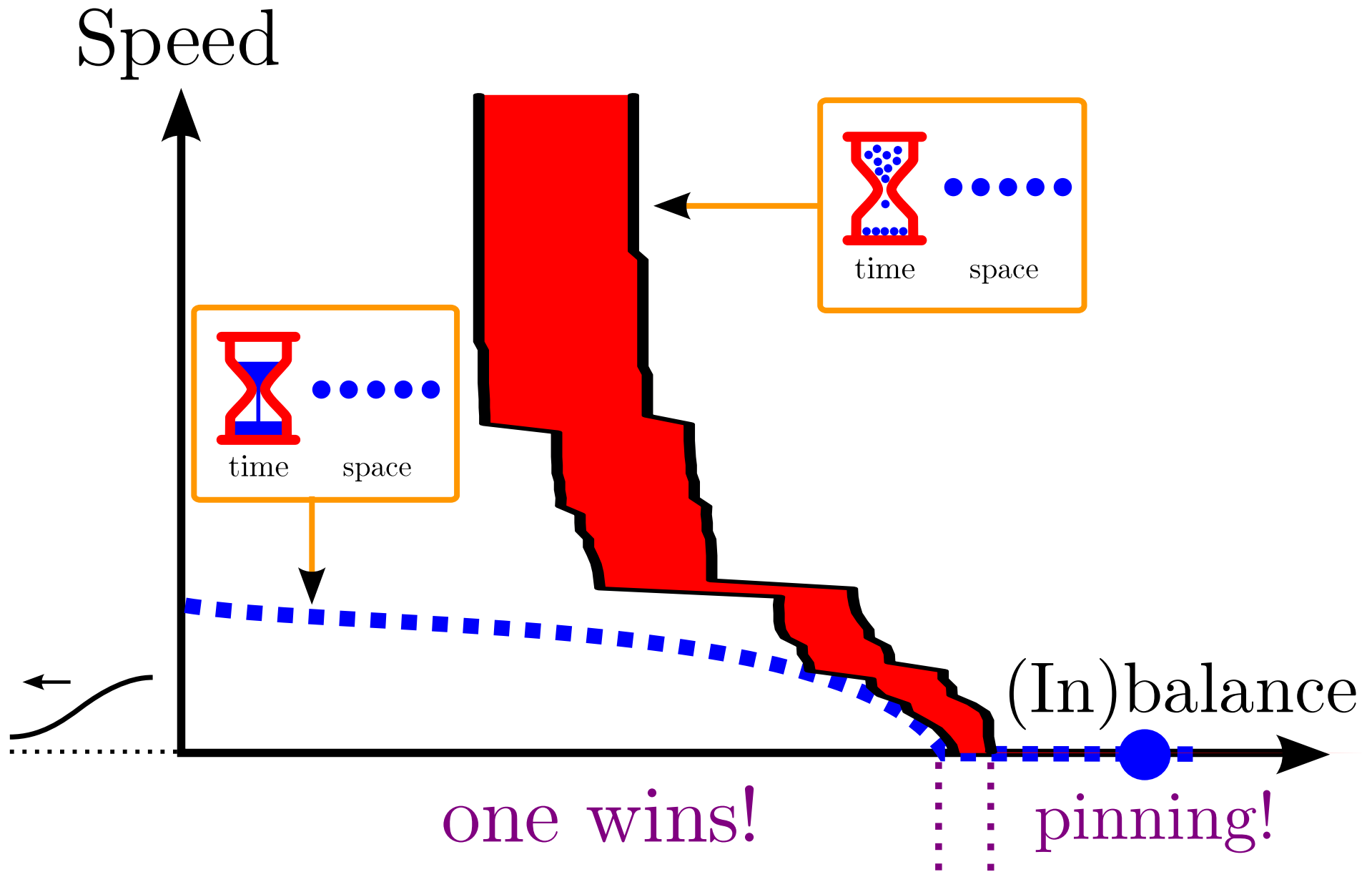
Thm. [H. and Van Vleck 2015] Fix integer $P \geq 1$. For all small

$$\epsilon \in \frac{P}{\mathbb{N}_{>0}}$$

there exists a **family** of travelling waves (Φ, c) near (Φ_*, c_*) for BDF-k with timestep $\Delta t = \frac{\epsilon}{c}$.

Observation The wavespeed loses its uniqueness. (We have a proof for BDF-1 in anti-continuum regime).

Reaction-diffusion - discrete time+space



Bifurcation

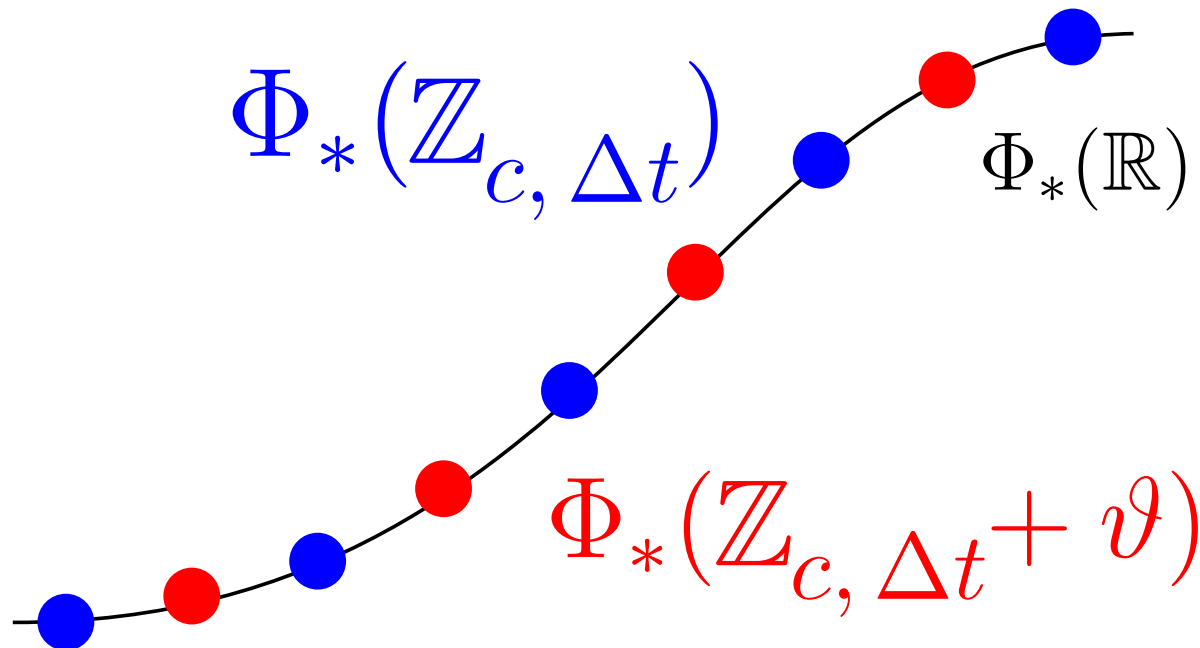
Bifurcate from spatially discrete wave Φ_* by writing

$$\Phi(\zeta) = \Phi_*(\vartheta + \zeta) + v(\zeta).$$

Pair (c, Φ) must solve fully discrete travelling wave system

$$c[\mathcal{D}_{k,c,\Delta t}\Phi](\zeta) = \Phi(\zeta + 1) + \Phi(\zeta - 1) - 2\Phi(\zeta) - G'(\Phi(\zeta); a).$$

Write $\mathbb{Z}_{c,\Delta t}$ for domain of ζ . For $c\Delta t = \frac{p}{q}$ we have $\mathbb{Z}_{c,\Delta t} = q^{-1}\mathbb{Z}$. Otherwise dense.



Singular perturbation

Fix $\vartheta = 0$ and concentrate on bifurcation problem

$$\Phi(\zeta) = \Phi_*(\zeta) + v(\zeta), \quad c = c_* + \tilde{c}$$

where (c_*, Φ_*) is **spatially discrete** wave.

The perturbation is **singular**, in the sense that one must solve

$$\mathcal{L}_{k,c,\Delta t} v = O(v^2 + c\Delta t + \tilde{c}),$$

with $\mathcal{L}_{k,c,\Delta t} : \ell^2(\mathbb{Z}_M; \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \ell^2(\mathbb{Z}_M; \mathbb{R})$ given by

$$[\mathcal{L}_{k,c,\Delta t} v](\zeta) = -c_* \mathcal{D}_{k,c,\Delta t} v + v(\zeta + 1) + v(\zeta - 1) - 2v(\zeta) + g'(\Phi_*(\zeta))v(\zeta).$$

Want to exploit spatially-discrete linearization $\mathcal{L}_* : H^1(\mathbb{R}; \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow L^2(\mathbb{R}; \mathbb{R})$

$$[\mathcal{L}_* v](\xi) = -c_* v'(\xi) + v(\xi + 1) + v(\xi - 1) - 2v(\xi) + g'(\Phi_*(\xi))v(\xi).$$

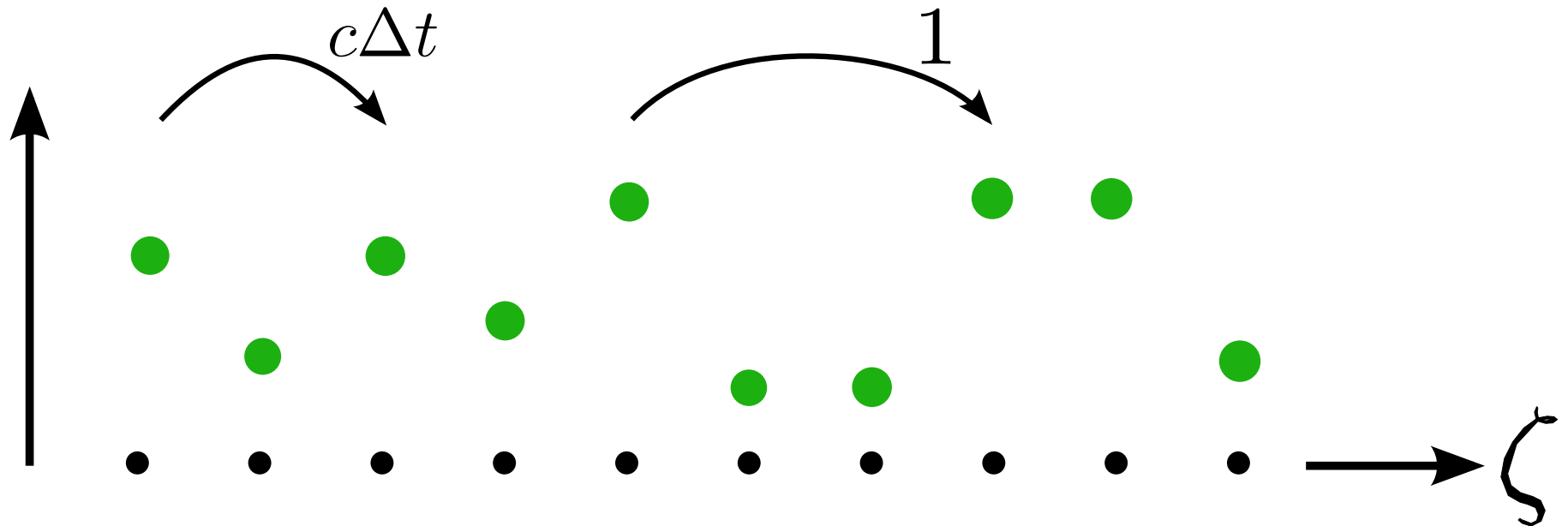
Note: operators act on different spaces.

Spectral convergence

- Proof based on adaptation of 'spectral convergence' technique [Bates, Chen, Chmaj].
- Step A: Assuming $(\mathcal{L}_{k,c_j,(\Delta t)_j} - \delta)v_j \rightarrow 0$, use interpolation to pass to a weak limit $V \in H^1$.
- Step B: recover 'missing' information on V by exploiting bistable structure.

Step A: Weak Convergence

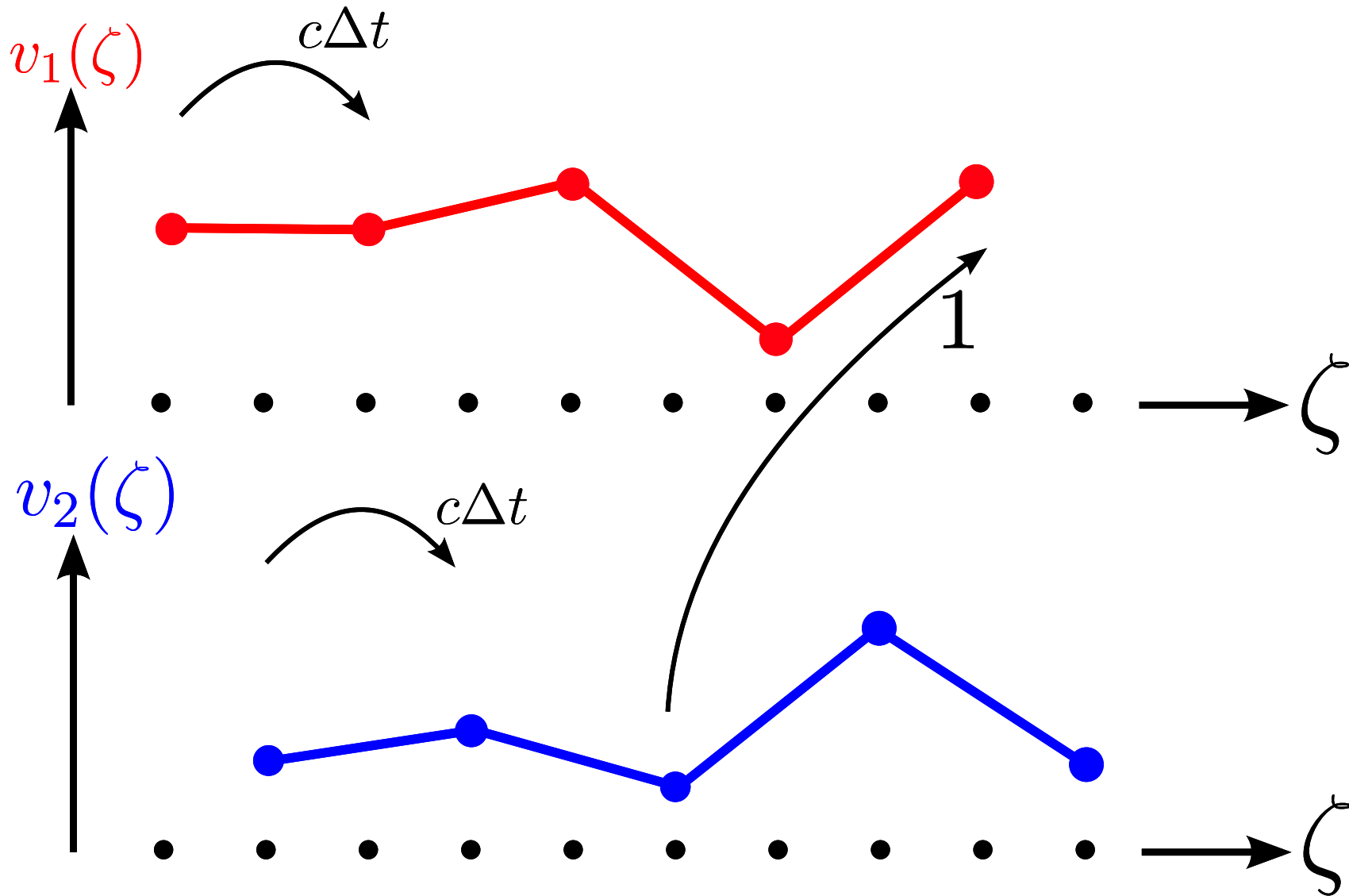
Need to build an H^1 -function from sequence



Here $c\Delta t = \frac{2}{3}$ so $\zeta \in \mathbb{Z}_{c,\Delta t} = \frac{1}{3}\mathbb{Z}$.

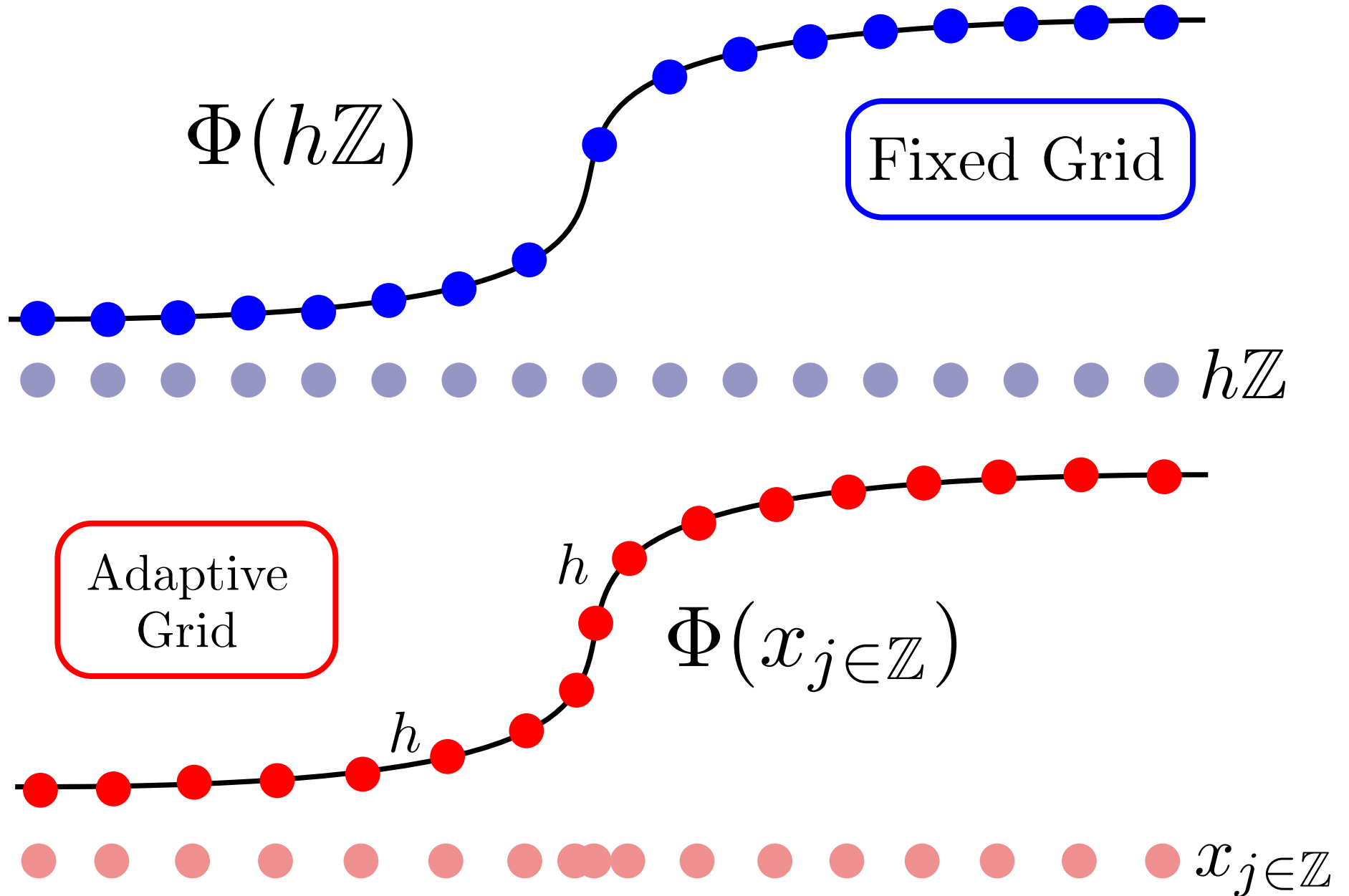
Cannot directly do interpolation in a **controlled** fashion.

Step A: Weak Convergence



After splitting; can interpolate. Size of derivative controlled by $\mathcal{D}_{k,c,\Delta t}v$.

Adaptive Grid



Adaptive Grid

Lattice system:

$$\dot{u}_j = \left(\frac{u_{j+1} - u_{j-1}}{x_{j+1} - x_{j-1}} \right) \dot{x}_j + \frac{2}{x_{j+1} - x_{j-1}} \left[\frac{u_{j-1} - u_j}{x_j - x_{j-1}} + \frac{u_{j+1} - u_j}{x_{j+1} - x_j} \right] - G'(u_j; a).$$

Starting point: instant equidistribution of arclength:

$$h^2 = (x_{j+1} - x_j)^2 + (u_{j+1} - u_j)^2 \quad \text{for all } j \in \mathbb{Z}$$

Boundary condition:

$$x_j \rightarrow jh \quad \text{as } j \rightarrow -\infty$$

(only local movement of grid-points)

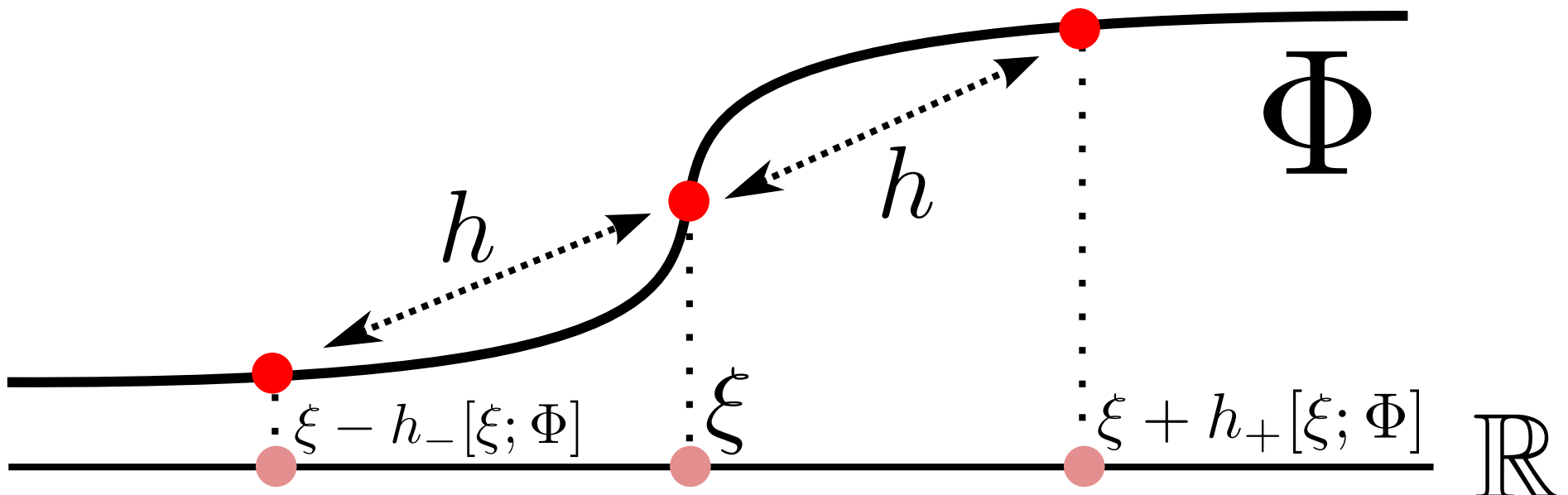
Adaptive Grid

$$\dot{u}_j = \left(\frac{u_{j+1} - u_{j-1}}{x_{j+1} - x_{j-1}} \right) \dot{x}_j + \frac{2}{x_{j+1} - x_{j-1}} \left[\frac{u_{j-1} - u_j}{x_j - x_{j-1}} + \frac{u_{j+1} - u_j}{x_{j+1} - x_j} \right] - G'(u_j; a).$$

Ansatz: $u_j(t) = \Phi(x_j(t) + ct) = \Phi(\xi)$.

Implicitly define grid distance in terms of wave-coordinate ξ :

$$x_{j+1}(t) - x_j(t) = h_+[\xi; \Phi], \quad x_j(t) - x_{j-1}(t) = h_-[\xi; \Phi]$$

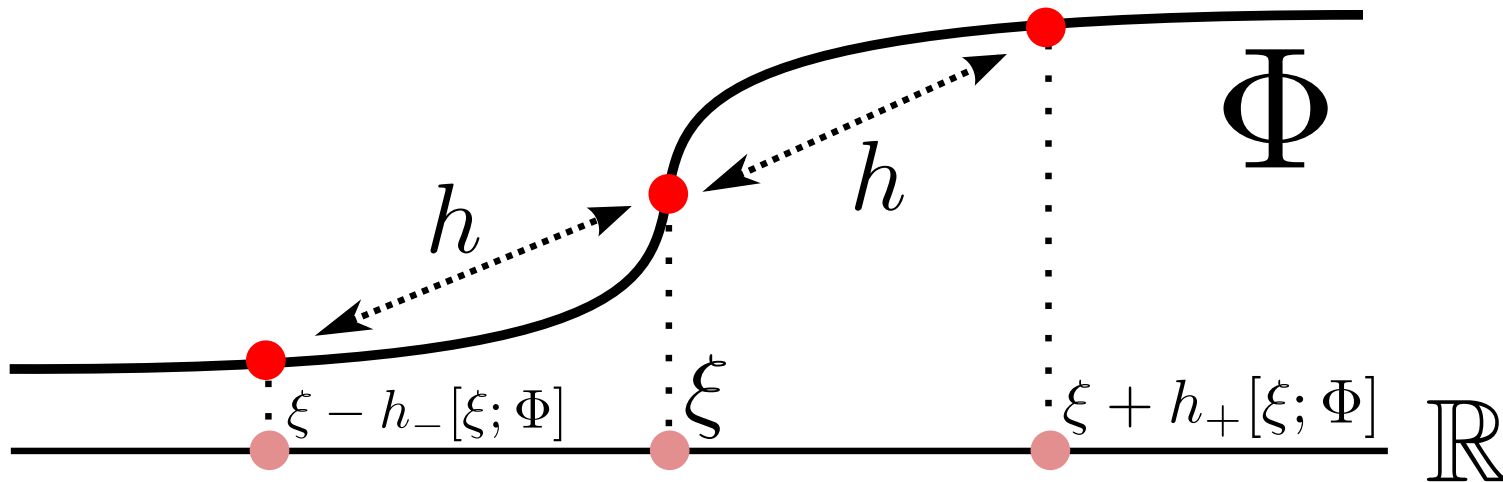


Adaptive Grid

Travelling wave equation is state-dependent MFDE with infinite shifts.

Example: diffusive term Φ'' becomes:

$$\frac{2}{h_+[\xi; \Phi] + h_-[\xi; \Phi]} \left[\frac{\Phi(\xi + h_+[\xi; \Phi]) - \Phi(\xi)}{h_+[\xi; \Phi]} - \frac{\Phi(\xi - h_-[\xi; \Phi]) - \Phi(\xi)}{h_-[\xi; \Phi]} \right]$$



Thm. [H., Van Vleck and Huang, 2017]: For $0 < h \ll 1$ the adaptive scheme has travelling waves.

Observation: Pinning region is significantly smaller with adaptive grids.

Outlook

- Transfer of stability properties?
- Wavespeed (non)-uniqueness hidden in exponentially small terms
- Can we handle fast (but non-instantaneous) grid movement:

$$\tau \dot{x}_j = \sqrt{(x_{j+1} - x_j)^2 + (u_{j+1} - u_j)^2} - \sqrt{(x_{j-1} - x_j)^2 + (u_{j-1} - u_j)^2},$$

- Other structural perturbations: di-atomic lattices