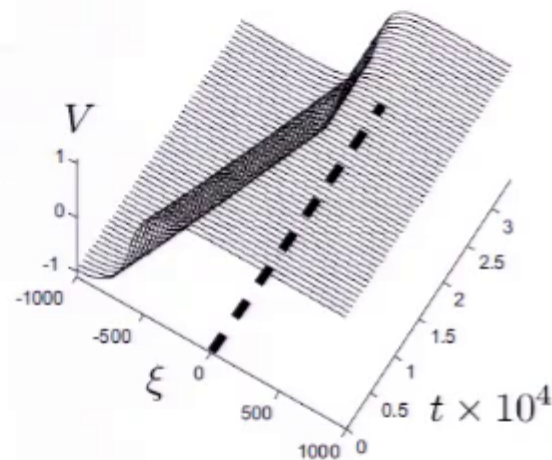


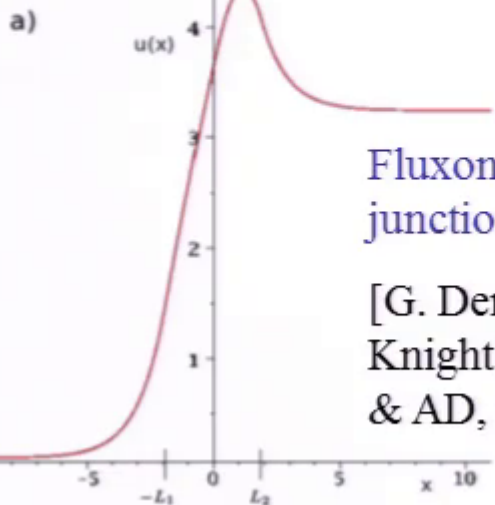
# A geometric approach to stationary defect solutions in one space dimension

Arjen Doelman (Leiden U), Peter van Heijster (Queensland UT), Feng Xie (Donghua U)

Spatial heterogeneities



'Pinned' defect patterns

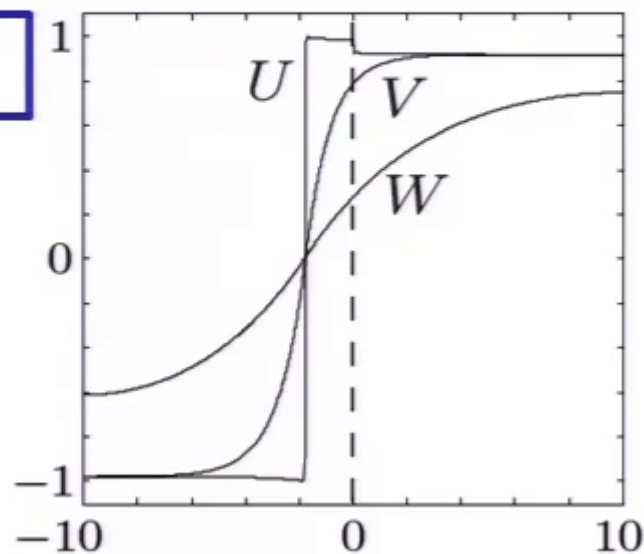


Fluxons in Josephson junctions

[G. Derks, C.J.K. Knight, H. Susanto & AD, '12, '13]

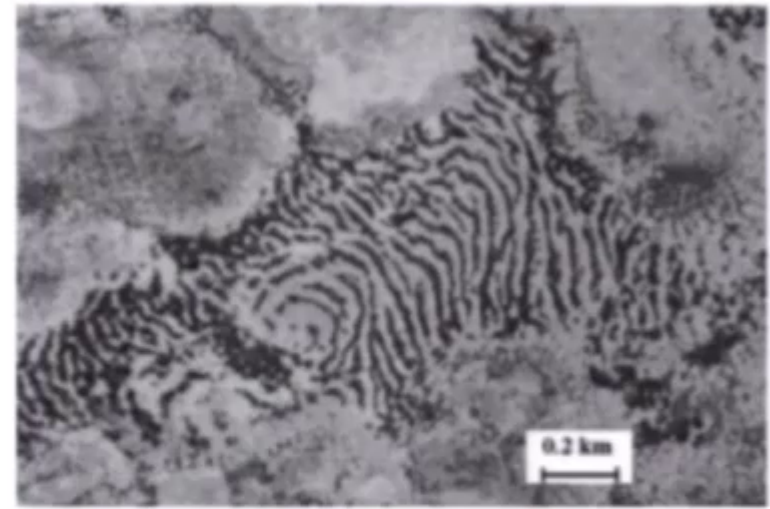
Fronts in a 3-component FitzHugh-Nagumo model

[P.J.A. van Heijster, T. Kaper, Y. Nishiura, K.-I. Ueda & AD, '11]

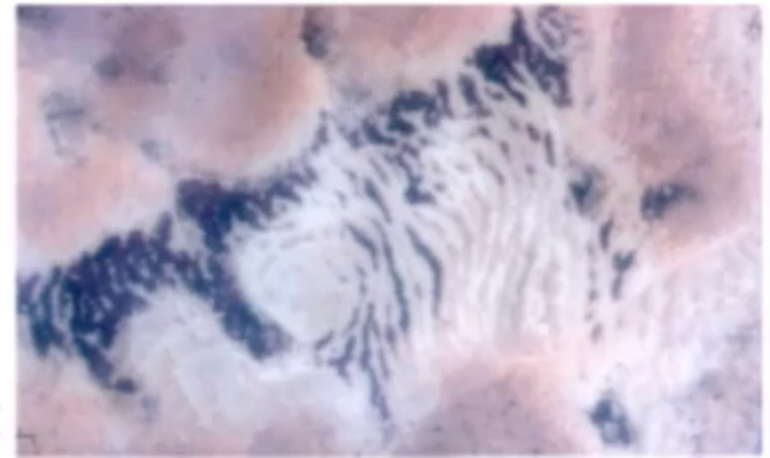


## Structure of the talk

- PDE with **jump-type** heterogeneity  
→ **non-autonomous, discontinuous** ODE.
- Trivial, **local** & global defect solutions.
- **Small** effects: persistence of heteroclinic connections.
- In a  $n = 3$ -dimensional phase space:  
**twist conditions** or **countably many** defects.
- $n \geq 3$ : general results on the existence of **local** defects.
- $n = 4$ : **kinks** in the extended Fisher-KPP equation.
- $n = 6$ : **(multi-)fronts** in a FitzHugh-Nagumo model.
- Discussion.



[Valentin '99] → Rademacher '10



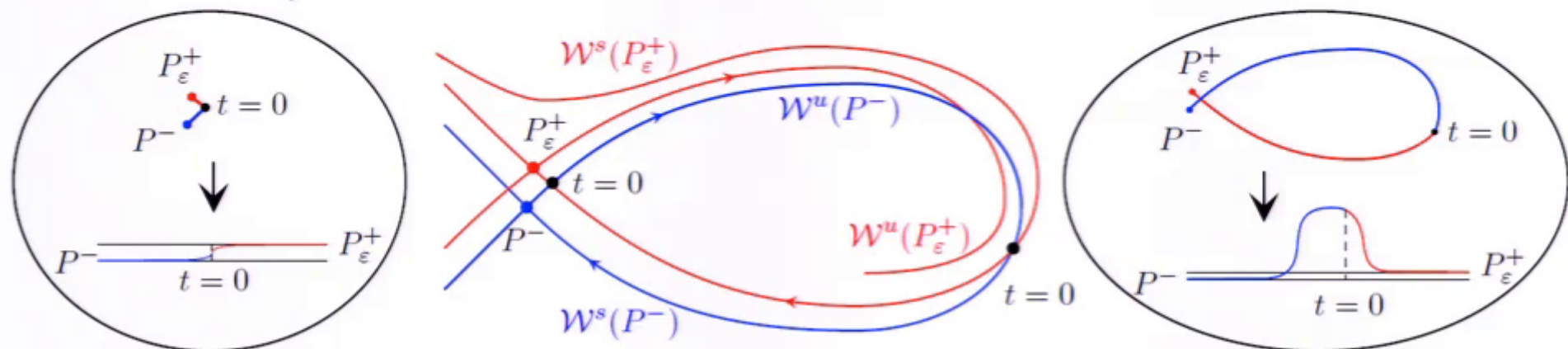
# Some definitions

PDE model with **small** jump-type spatial heterogeneity, in **one** spatial dimension,

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial t} = \mathcal{L}U + \mathcal{N}(U) + \begin{cases} 0, & x \leq 0, \\ \varepsilon \mathcal{G}(U), & x > 0, \end{cases} \quad U(x, t) : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N$$

**Existence** of **stationary** patterns  $\rightarrow$  **spatial** ODE ( $x \leftrightarrow t$ ),

$$\dot{u} = \begin{cases} f(u), & t \leq 0, \\ f(u) + \varepsilon g(u), & t > 0, \end{cases} \quad u(t) : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n.$$



$N=1/n=2$ , Fisher-KPP-type



# Trivial, local & global defect solutions

A defect solution = a heteroclinic  $\Gamma_\varepsilon(t)$  from  $P^- \rightarrow P_\varepsilon^+ =$

- a **trivial defect** solution if  $P^- = P^+$  and

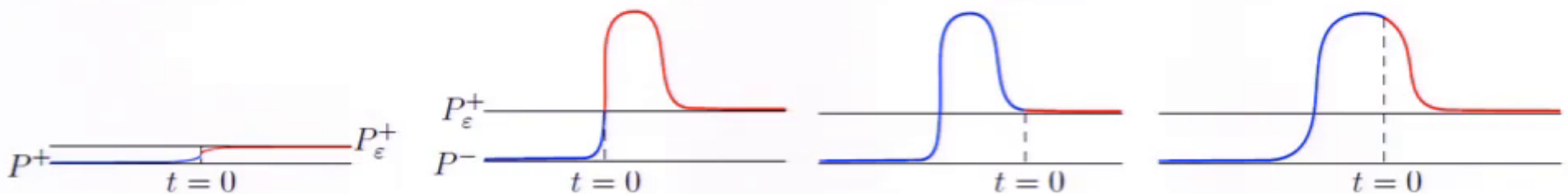
$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \|\Gamma_\varepsilon(t) - P_\varepsilon^+\|_\infty = 0;$$

- a **local defect** solution if either

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \|\Gamma_\varepsilon(t) - P_\varepsilon^+\|_{\infty, \mathbb{R}^+} = 0, \quad \text{or} \quad \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \|\Gamma_\varepsilon(t) - P^-\|_{\infty, \mathbb{R}^-} = 0,$$

- a **global defect** solution if

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \|\Gamma_\varepsilon(t) - P_\varepsilon^+\|_{\infty, \mathbb{R}^+} > 0, \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \|\Gamma_\varepsilon(t) - P^-\|_{\infty, \mathbb{R}^-} > 0.$$



trivial defect

local near  $P^-$

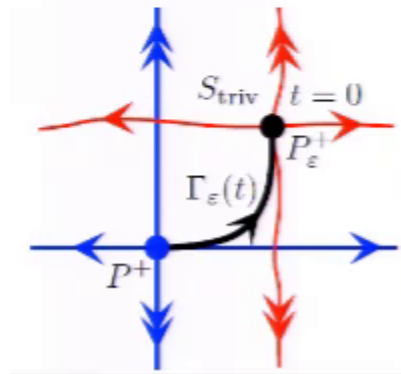
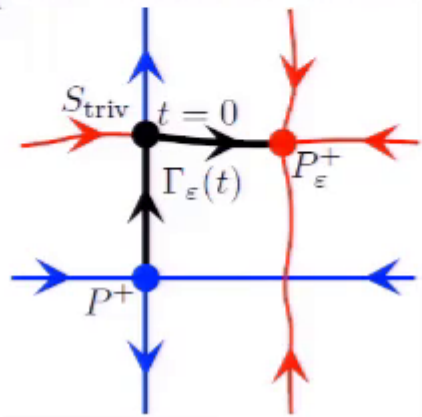
local near  $P_\varepsilon^+$

global defect

# Trivial and global defects

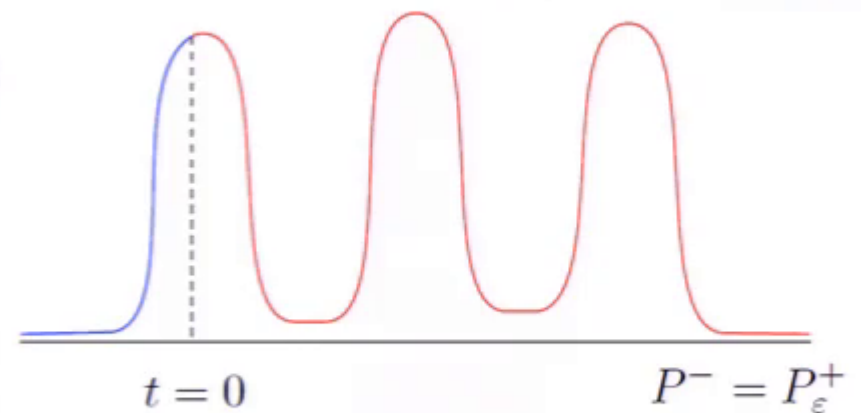
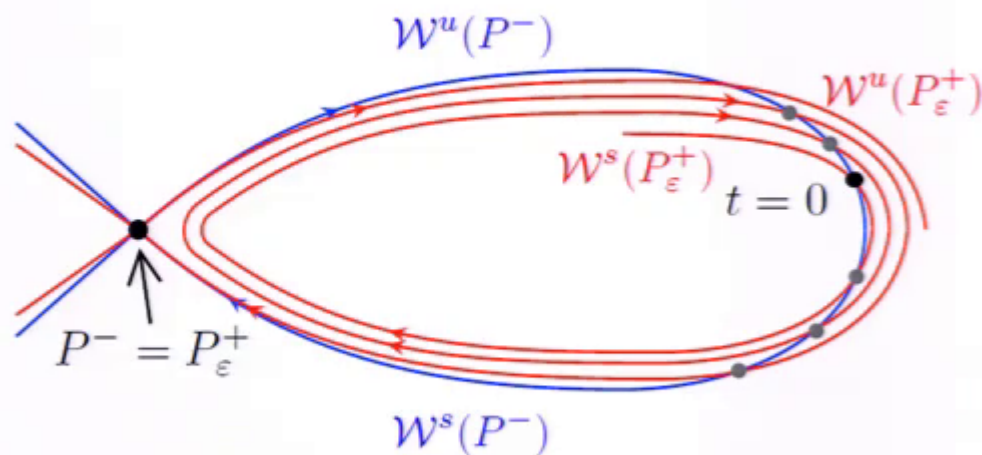
- Trivial defects: ‘too easy’

⇒ Unique existence result under generic conditions.



- Global defects,  $n \geq 3$ : ‘too hard’ (in general)

$N=1/n=2$ , Fisher-KPP-type



- Singularly perturbed systems ([vHeijster et al.],  $n = 6$ )

## Basic assumptions

- There exists an unperturbed heteroclinic connection  $\Gamma(t) \in \mathcal{W}^u(P^-) \cap \mathcal{W}^s(P^+)$ .

Note:  $\Gamma$  corresponds to a (stationary) ‘localized structure’ in the underlying homogeneous PDE.

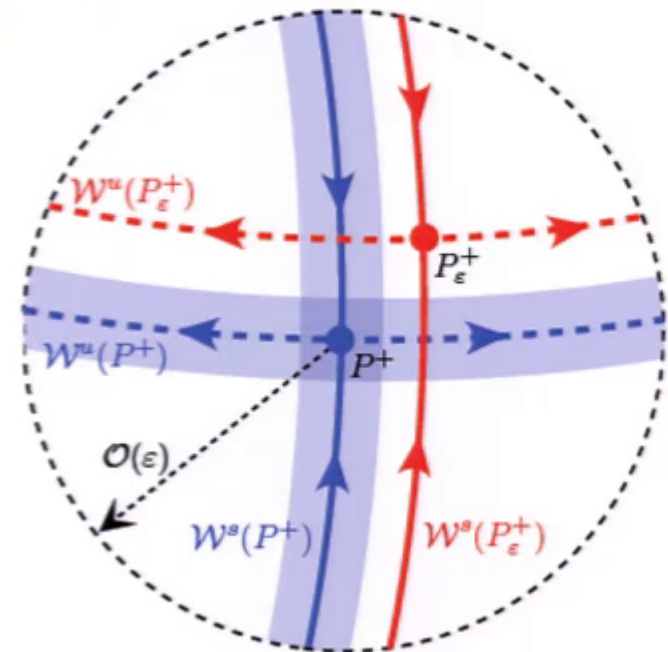
- $\Gamma$  is **minimally non-transversal**:

– if  $\dim(\mathcal{W}^u(P^-)) + \dim(\mathcal{W}^s(P^+)) \leq n$ , then  $\dim(\mathcal{W}^u(P^-) \cap \mathcal{W}^s(P^+)) = 1$

– if  $\dim(\mathcal{W}^u(P^-)) + \dim(\mathcal{W}^s(P^+)) = m > n$ , then  $\dim(\mathcal{W}^u(P^-) \cap \mathcal{W}^s(P^+)) = m - n$ .

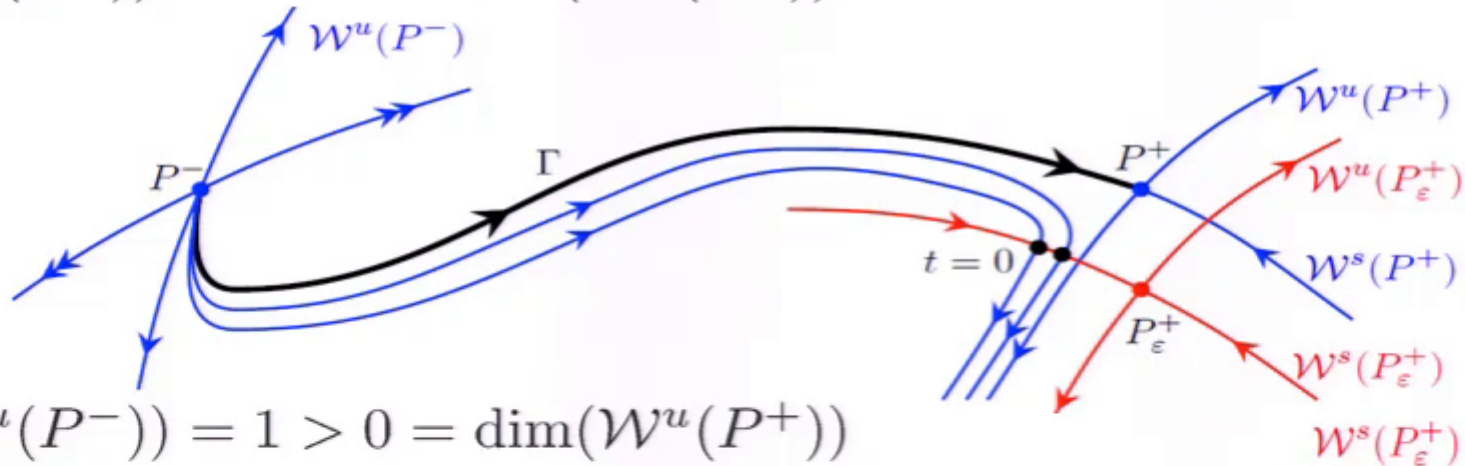
- $P^\pm$  are **hyperbolic** fixed points with only **simple** eigenvalues.

- $g(u)$  is a **generic perturbation**.

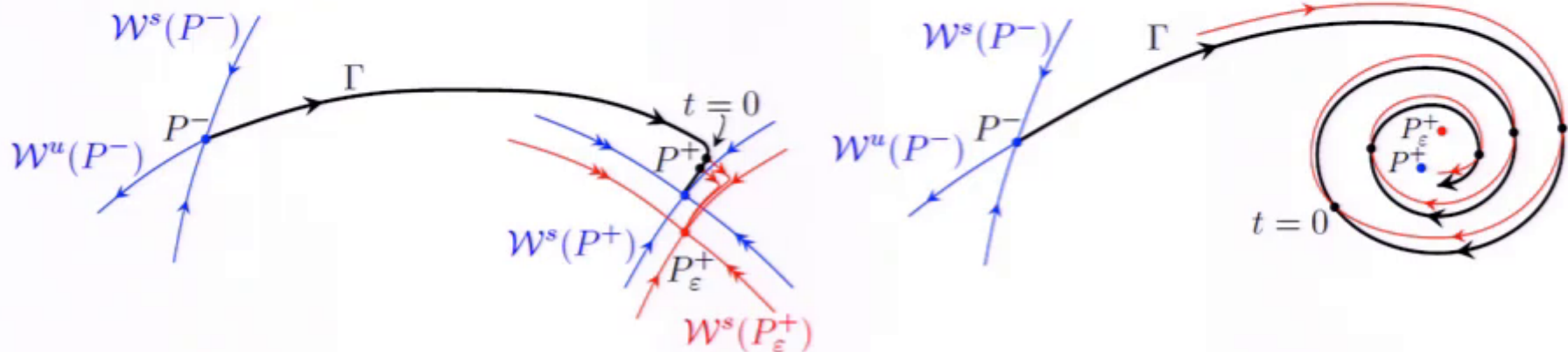


# Dimensions

- $\dim(\mathcal{W}^u(P^-)) < \dim(\mathcal{W}^u(P^+)) = n - \dim(\mathcal{W}^s(P^+))$ :  
(generically) **no** local defects.
- $\dim(\mathcal{W}^u(P^-)) > \dim(\mathcal{W}^u(P^+)) = n - \dim(\mathcal{W}^s(P^+))$ :  
**continuous families** of local defects.
- $\dim(\mathcal{W}^u(P^-)) = 2 > 1 = \dim(\mathcal{W}^u(P^+))$



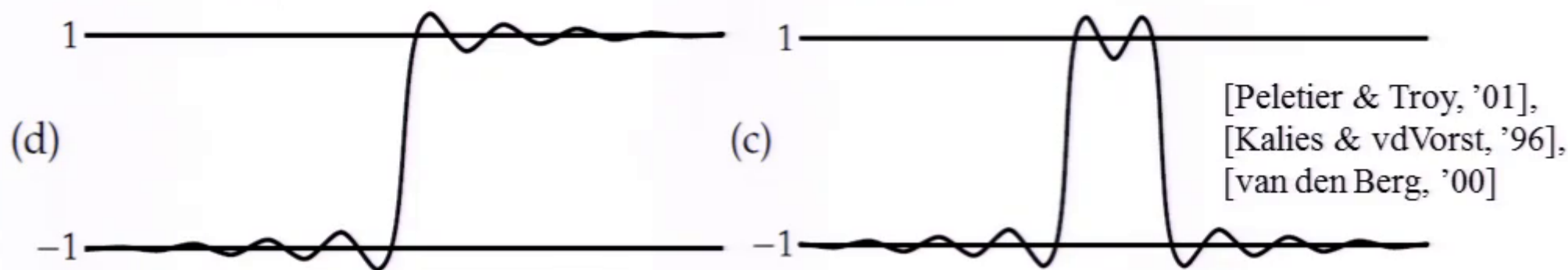
- $\dim(\mathcal{W}^u(P^-)) = 1 > 0 = \dim(\mathcal{W}^u(P^+))$



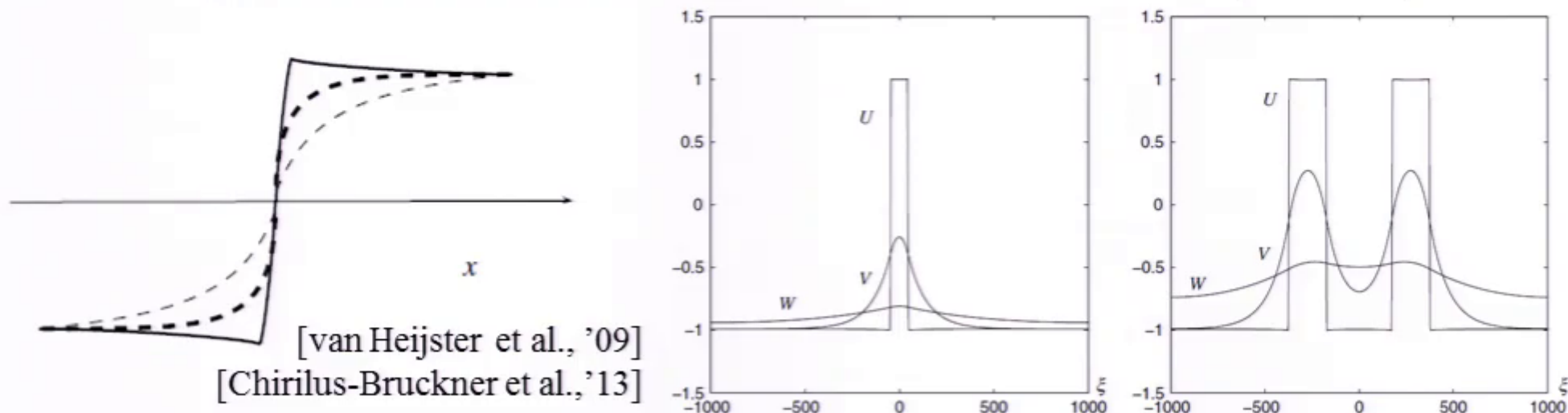


Most interesting/relevant:  $\dim(\mathcal{W}^u(P^-)) = \dim(\mathcal{W}^u(P^+))$ .

- $P^- = P^+$ : Homoclinic orbits  $\leftrightarrow$  pulses.
- Fronts/pulses in extended Fisher-KPP ( $n = 4$ ).



- Fronts/pulses in FitzHugh-Nagumo model ( $n = 6$ ).

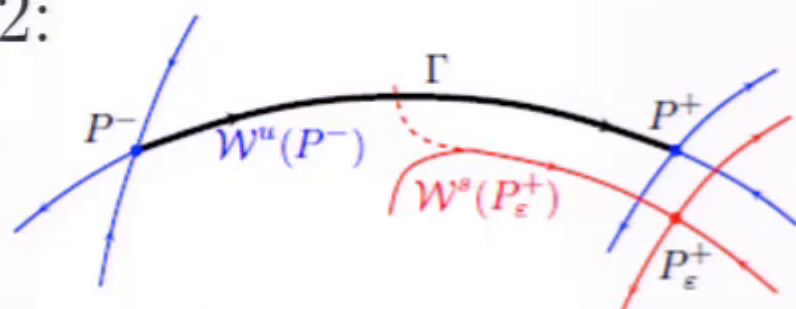




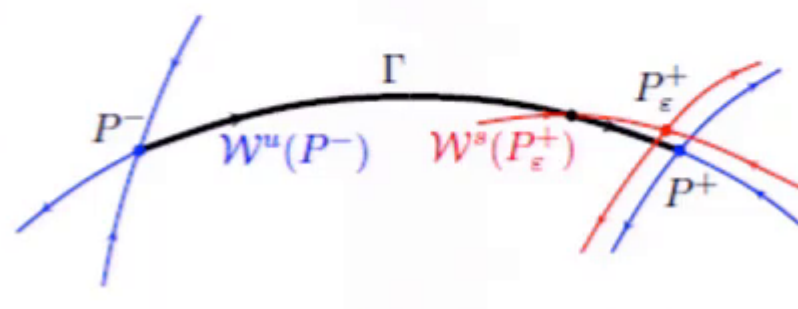
$$\dim(\mathcal{W}^u(P^-)) = \dim(\mathcal{W}^u(P^+)) = 1:$$

in general no local defects.

•  $n = 2$ :

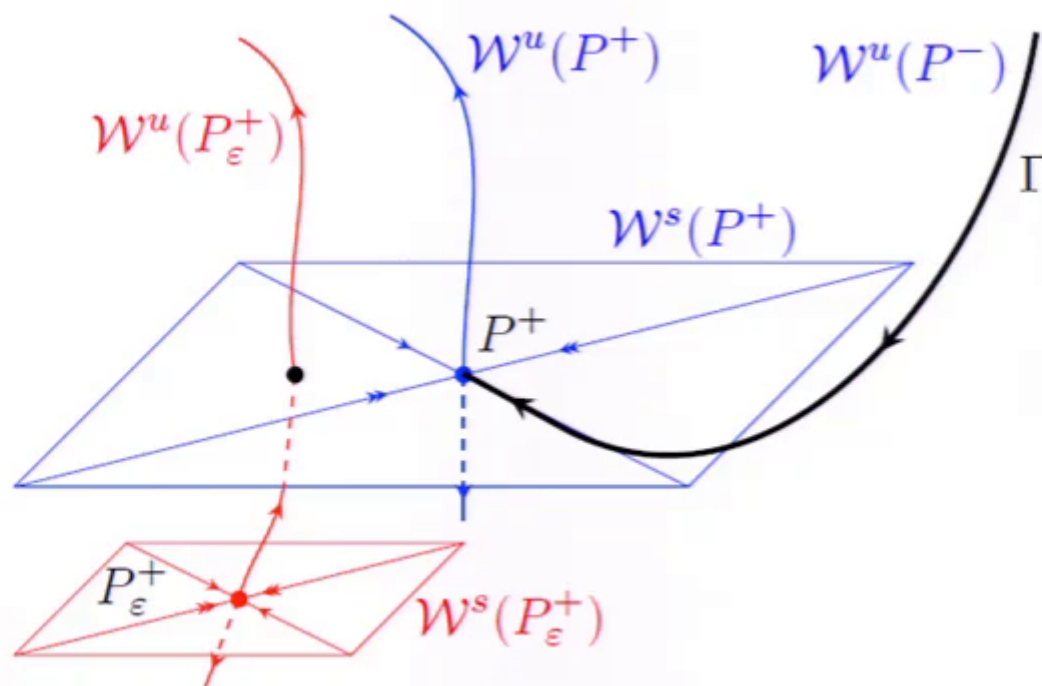


global defect?



a non-generic perturbation

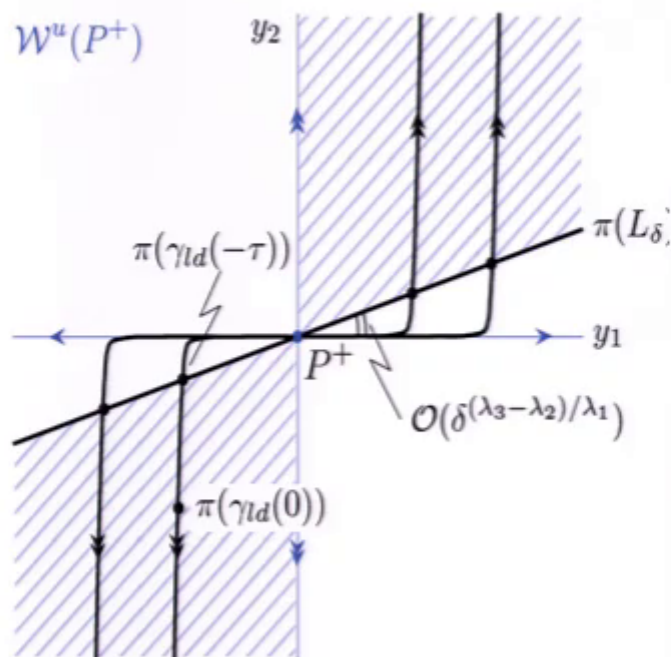
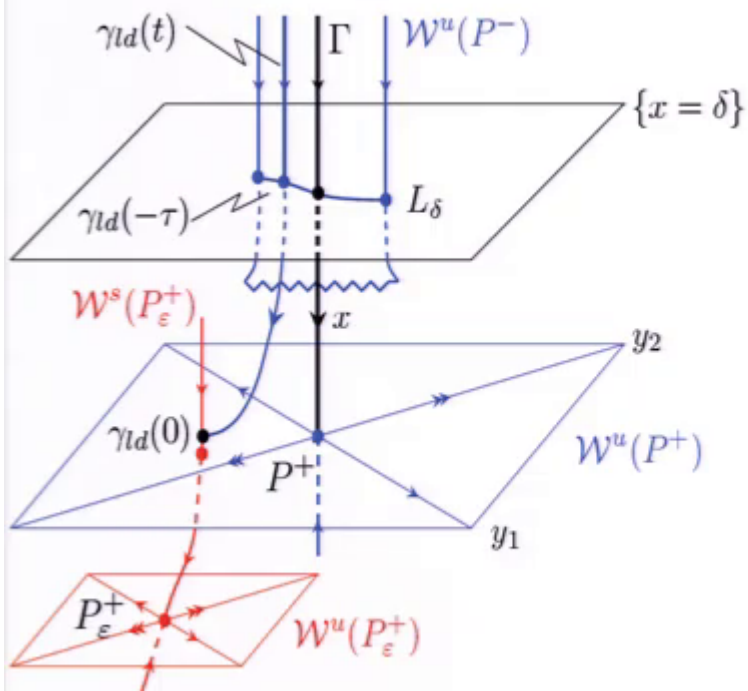
•  $n = 3$ :



# $n=3$ , real eigenvalues: a **twist condition**

Assumptions on  $P^\pm$ ,  $\Gamma$  &  $g(u) + \varepsilon$  small enough  $\Rightarrow$

**Theorem.** *If  $\dim(\mathcal{W}^u(P^-)) = \dim(\mathcal{W}^u(P^+)) = 2$ ,  $P^+$  has two unstable real eigenvalues and some non-tangency conditions hold, then there exists a **unique** local defect solution near  $P^+$  if and only if a **twist condition** holds.*

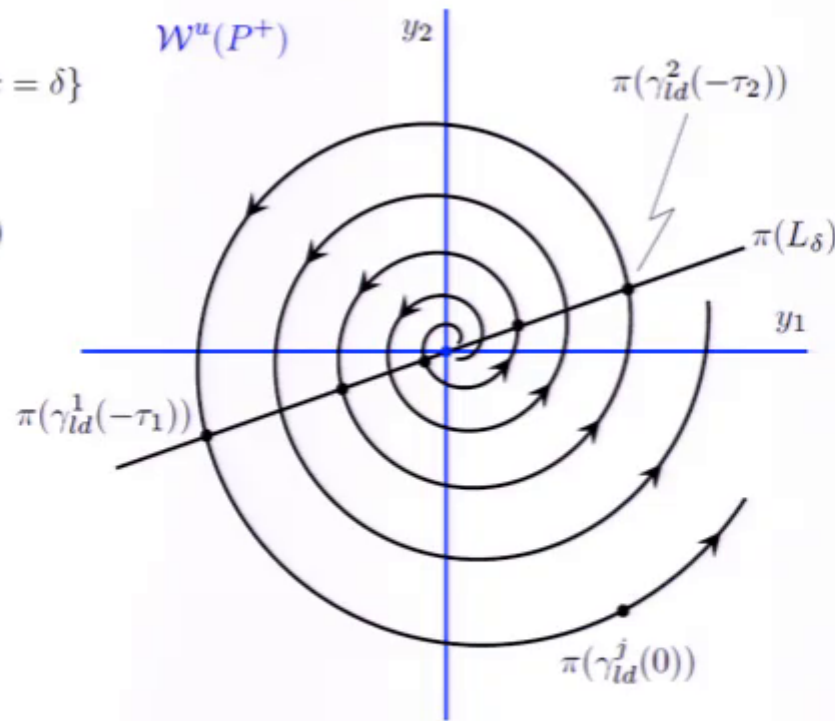
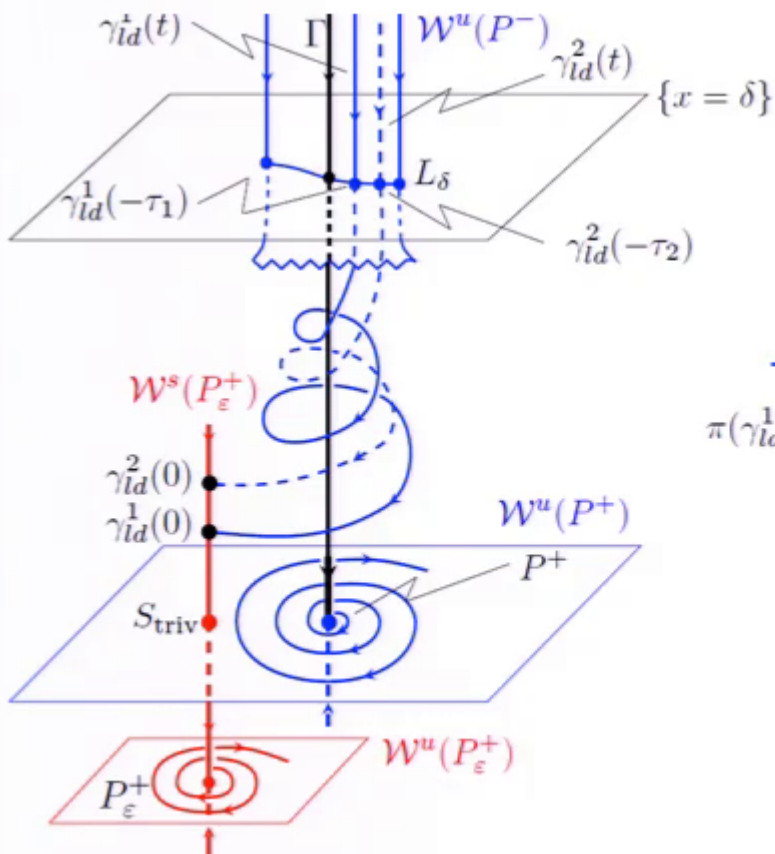


The **cone-type** twist condition encodes the **global twist** of  $\mathcal{W}^u(P^-)$  around  $\Gamma$  as it travels from  $P^-$  to  $P^+$ .

# $n=3$ , complex eigenvalues: countably many defects

Assumptions on  $P^\pm$ ,  $\Gamma$  &  $g(u) + \varepsilon$  small enough  $\Rightarrow$

**Theorem.** *If  $\dim(\mathcal{W}^u(P^-)) = \dim(\mathcal{W}^u(P^+)) = 2$  and  $P^+$  has a complex conjugate pair of unstable eigenvalues, then there exists **countably many** local defect solutions near  $P^+$ .*



**Proofs.**

Normal forms  
+  
flows dominated  
by linear  
approximations.



## $n > 3$ : generalizations

**Definition.** The **leading** (unstable) eigenvalue(s) = the (unstable) eigenvalue(s) closest to the Im-axis.

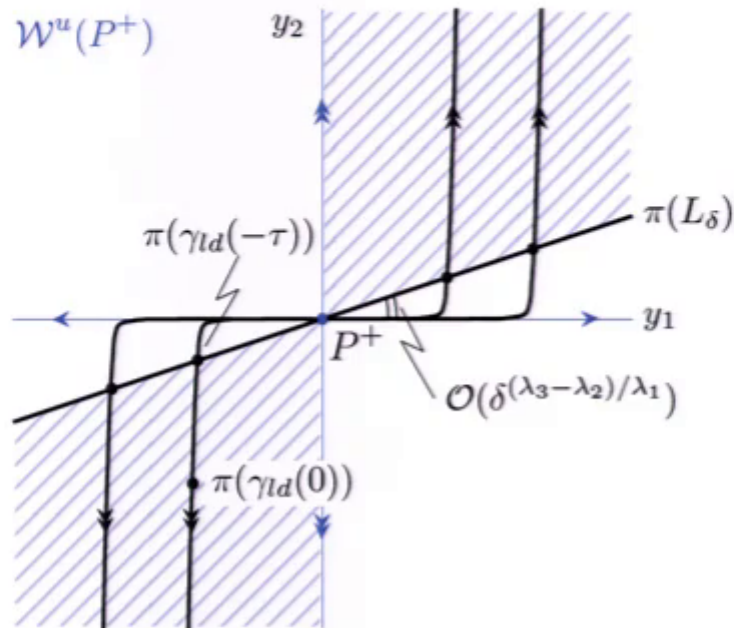
Assumptions on  $P^\pm$ ,  $\Gamma$  &  $g(u)$ ,  $\varepsilon$  small enough &  
 $\dim(\mathcal{W}^u(P^-)) = \dim(\mathcal{W}^u(P^+)) \geq 2 \Rightarrow$

**Theorem.** *If  $P^+$  has a real **leading** unstable eigenvalue, some non-tangency conditions and a **twist condition** hold, then there exists **at least one** local defect solution.*

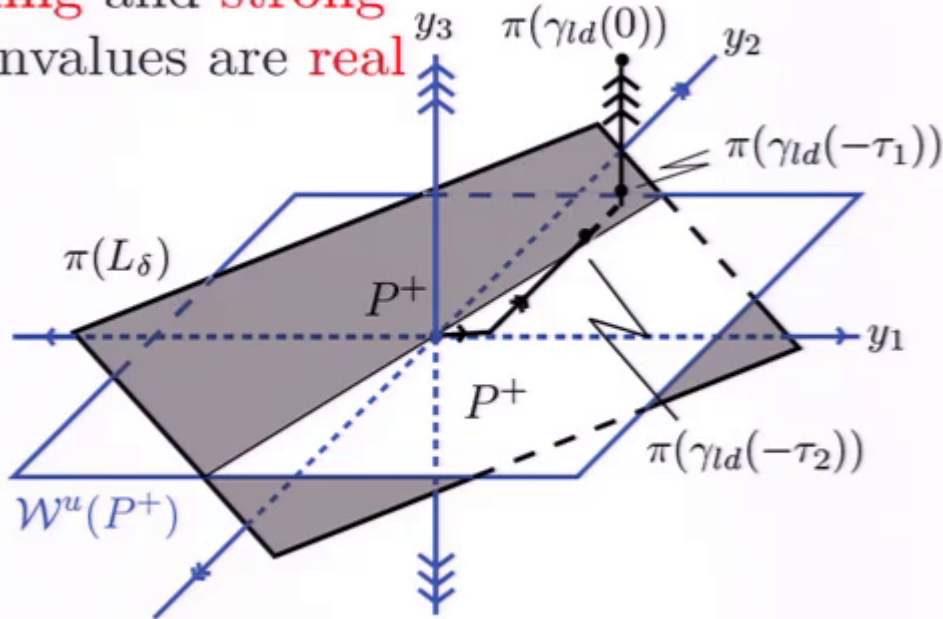
**Theorem.** *If  $P^+$  has a complex conjugate pair of **leading** unstable eigenvalues and some non-tangency conditions hold, then there are **countably many** local defect solutions.*

# $n > 3$ , the impact of the strong eigenvalues

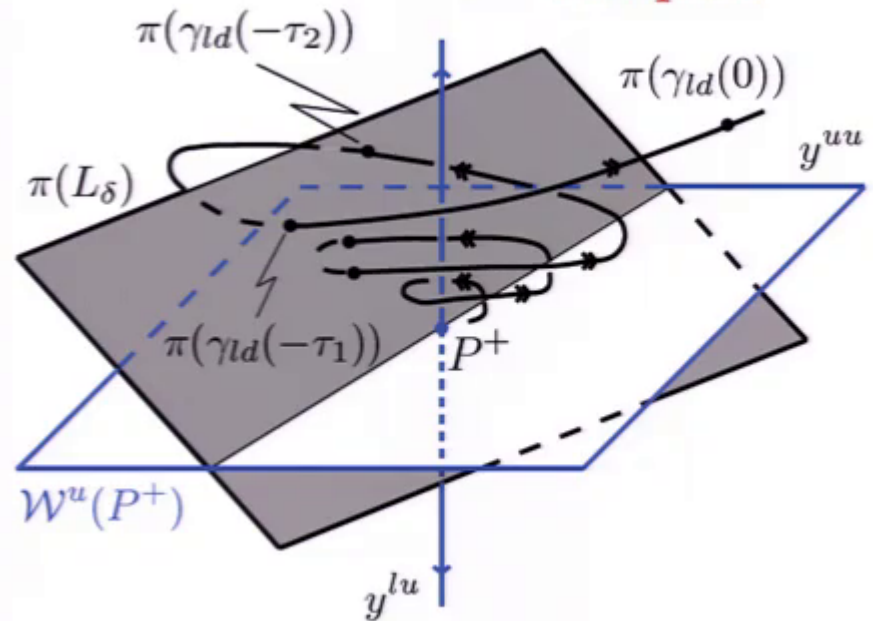
$\dim(\mathcal{W}^u(P^+)) = 2$ :  
**leading** and **strong**  
 eigenvalues are **real**



$\dim(\mathcal{W}^u(P^+)) = 3$ :  
**leading** and **strong**  
 eigenvalues are **real**



$\dim(\mathcal{W}^u(P^+)) = 3$ :  
**leading** eigenvalue  
 is real,  
**strong** eigenvalues  
 are **complex**

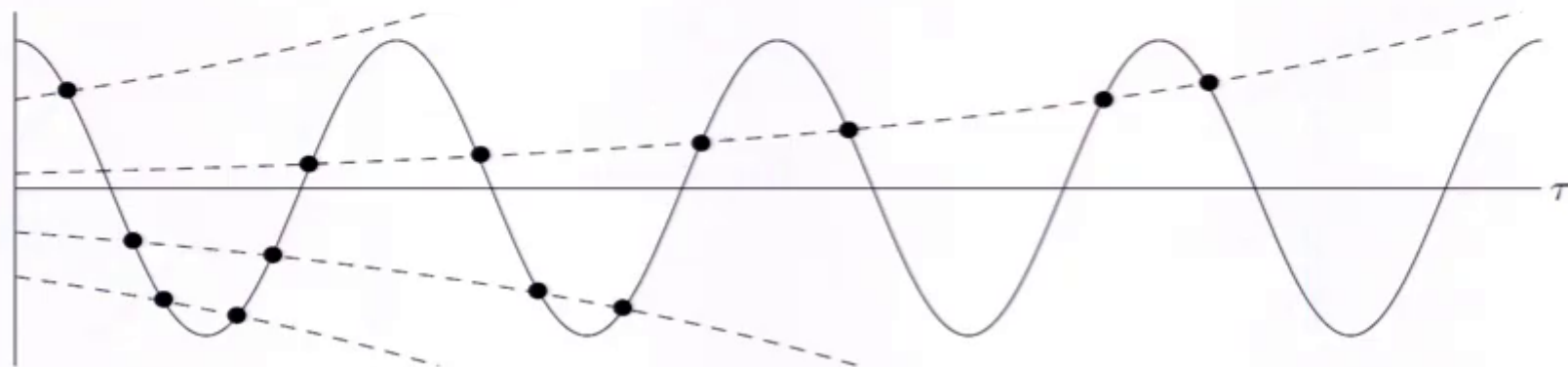


Assumptions on  $P^\pm$ ,  $\Gamma$  &  $g(u)$ ,  $\varepsilon$  small enough &  
 $\dim(\mathcal{W}^u(P^-)) = \dim(\mathcal{W}^u(P^+)) = k \geq 2 \Rightarrow$

**Theorem.**  $P^+$  has a real **leading** unstable eigenvalue.

**A.** If  $P^+$  has  $k$  real unstable eigenvalues (...), then there are open regions in 'parameter space' in which there are exactly  $j = 0, 1, \dots$  up to  $k - 1$  local defect solutions.

**B.** If  $P^+$  has a complex conjugate pair of unstable eigenvalues (...), then there are open regions in 'parameter space' in which there are  $j = 0, 1, \dots$  up to  $K$ , where  $K$  is arbitrarily large, but finite, local defect solutions.





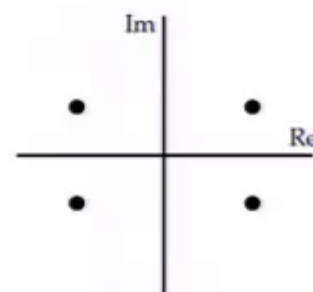
## Example: the extended Fisher-KPP equation

Existence problem heterogeneous extended Fisher-KPP,

$$\frac{d^4 u}{d\xi^4} + \beta \frac{d^2 u}{d\xi^2} - u + u^3 = \begin{cases} 0, & \xi < 0, \\ \varepsilon g(u, u_\xi, u_{\xi\xi}, u_{\xi\xi\xi}), & \xi > 0, \end{cases}$$

$\beta \in (-\sqrt{8}, 0)$ ,  $\varepsilon = 0$ : critical points

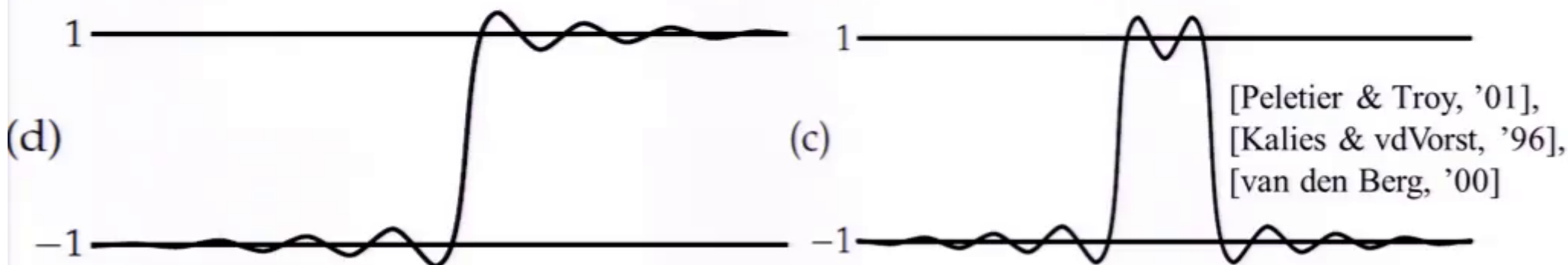
$P^\pm = (\pm 1, 0, 0, 0)$  are **saddle-foci**.



**Theorem.** [Peletier & Troy, '95]

$\beta \in (-\sqrt{8}, 0)$ : existence 'kinks' in homogeneous limit.

**Theorem.**  $\beta \in (-\sqrt{8}, 0)$ ,  $g(1, 0, 0, 0) \neq 0$ ,  $\varepsilon$  small enough: there are countably many local defects.



## Example: the 3-component FitzHugh-Nagumo model

$$\begin{cases} U_t = \varepsilon^2 \Delta U + U - U^3 - \varepsilon(\alpha V + \beta W + \gamma(x)) \\ \tau V_t = \Delta V + U - V \\ \theta W_t = D^2 \Delta W + U - W, \end{cases} \quad \gamma(x) = \begin{cases} \gamma_1 & x \leq 0 \\ \gamma_2 & x > 0 \end{cases}$$

[Purwins et al.], [Nishiura et al.], [van Heijster et al.]

Existence ODE is **6**-dimensional and has critical points  $P^\pm = (\pm 1, 0, \pm 1, 0, \pm 1, 0) + \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon)$  with,

$$\lambda_6^\pm < \lambda_5^\pm < \lambda_4^\pm < 0 < \lambda_3^\pm < \lambda_2^\pm < \lambda_1^\pm.$$

**Theorem.** [D, van Heijster, Kaper, '09]

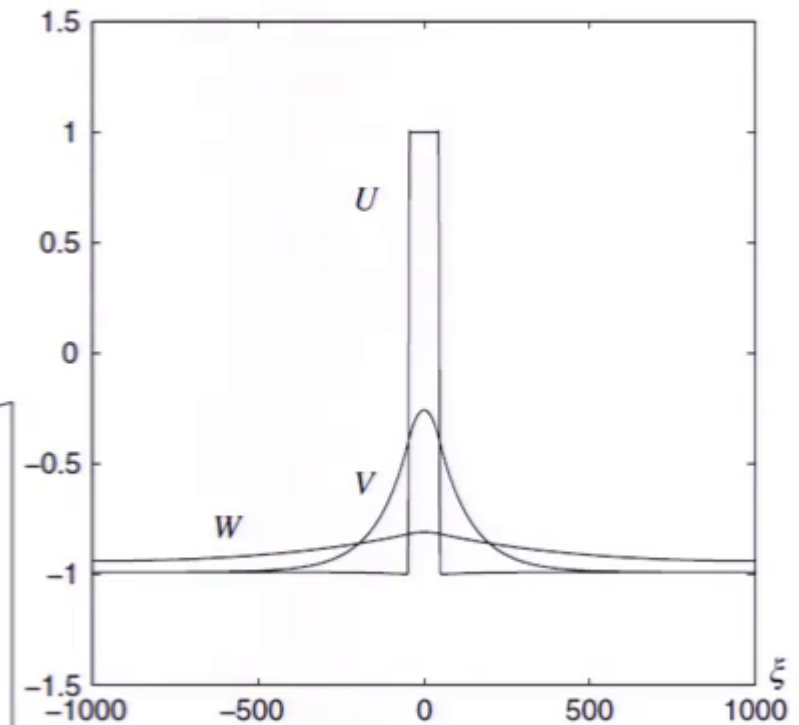
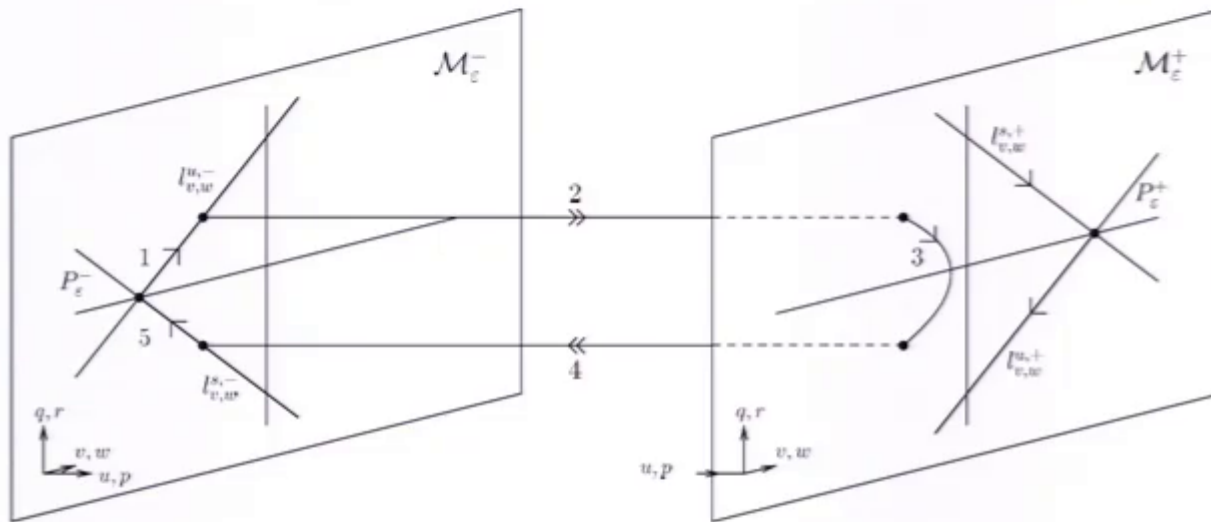
Let  $\gamma(x) \equiv \gamma_1$  and let  $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, D)$  be such that

$$\alpha A + \beta A^{\frac{1}{D}} = \gamma_1$$

has  $K$  solutions with  $A \in (0, 1)$ . If  $K > 0$  and  $\varepsilon$  is small enough, then there are  $K$  homoclinic pulse, or 2-front, orbits  $\Gamma_k(\xi)$  to  $P^-$  (and/or to  $P^+$ ).

## Question.

What is the *twist condition* (that settles the existence of local defect solutions) and *can it be satisfied?*



**Theorem.**  
 $\alpha, \beta > 0$  (...):  
 there is *a*  
 local defect.

