## Nonlinear convective stability of travelling fronts near Turing and Hopf instabilities

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September 28, 2009 Boston University Dynamics Seminar

## Motivation: Ways to have a Hopf bifurcation

ODEs: Hopf bifrucation via eigenvalues



- Before bifurcation: u(x) = 0 stable
- After bifurcation: u(x) = 0 unstable
- After bifurcation: nearby stable periodic orbit exists
- After bifurcation: solutions approach periodic orbit, amplitude saturates

## Motivation: Ways to have a Hopf bifurcation

PDEs: Hopf bifurcation via eigenvalues or essential spectrum



- Before bifurcation: equilibrium is stable
- After bifurcation: equilibrium is linearly unstable
- After bifurcation: do nearby stable solutions exist?
- After bifurcation: what state do solutions approach?

## "Essential" Hopf bifurcations

What causes an "essential" Hopf bifurcation?



Roughly speaking:

- Eigenvalues: localized perturbations and interior of wave
- Essential spectrum: non-localized perturbations and end states of wave

An "essential" Hopf bifurcation is caused by a destabilization of the end states.

### Essential instabilities of fronts: results of Sandstede and Scheel '01

What patterns can form through essential Hopf instabilities of fronts?



Two cases:

- Rest state ahead of front destabilizes: *u*<sub>+</sub>
- Rest state behind front destabilizes: 0

Expect fronts connecting remaining stable state to emergent patterns:

# Essential instabilities of fronts: results of Sandstede and Scheel '01

What patterns can form through essential Hopf instabilities of fronts?



Two cases:

- Rest state ahead of front destabilizes:  $u_+$
- Rest state behind front destabilizes: 0

Expect fronts connecting remaining stable state to emergent patterns:



### Essential instabilities of fronts: ecological examples

Patterns in wake of front in predator-prey models (matches field studies):



[From papers by Jonathan A. Sherratt and colleagues]

In all cases the front outruns the pattern.

## Essential instabilities of fronts: results of Sandstede and Scheel '01

- Destabilization ahead: patterns exist and are stable!
- Destabilization behind: patterns do not exist; front outruns it!



[From Sandstede and Scheel, Dynamical Systems Vol. 16, 2001]

Sandstede and Scheel explain this using exponential dichotomies and Fredholm theory: roughly speaking, dimension counting of stable and unstable manifolds.

Question: when no emergent pattern exists, what is the "stable" behavior?

- Front becomes linearly unstable
- Front is still be observed: must be nonlinearly stable

### Set up and assumptions

Reaction-diffusion system

$$u_t = D\partial_x^2 u + f(u;\mu), \quad u \in \mathbb{R}^n, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}, \quad \mu \approx 0$$
 (RD)

**Hypothesis 1**: Existence of front solution  $\forall \mu \approx 0$ 

$$\begin{aligned} u(x,t) &= u_*(x-c(\mu)t;\mu), \qquad c(\mu) > 0\\ \lim_{\xi \to -\infty} u_*(\xi;\mu) &= 0, \qquad \lim_{\xi \to +\infty} u_*(\xi;\mu) = u_+ \end{aligned}$$

Linearized operator at critical front:

$$\mathcal{L}_* = D\partial_{\xi} + c_*\partial_{\xi} + f_u(u^0_*(\xi); 0), \qquad \xi = x - c_*t, \quad c_* = c(0)$$

Asymptotic operators:

$$\mathcal{L}_{-}(\mu) = D\partial_x^2 + f_u(0;\mu), \qquad \mathcal{L}_{+}(0) = D\partial_x^2 + f_u(u_+;0),$$

Exponential weight:

$$ho_{s}(\xi) = egin{cases} 1 & ext{if } \xi \geq 1 \ e^{s\xi} & ext{if } \xi \leq -1 \end{cases}$$

### Set up and assumptions

Hypothesis 2: Spectral assumptions

- 0 < a ≤ a<sub>0</sub>: the spectrum of L<sup>\*</sup><sub>a</sub> := ρ<sub>a</sub>L<sub>\*</sub>ρ<sup>-1</sup><sub>a</sub> is in open left half plane except isolated eigenvalue at 0.
- For  $\mu \approx$  0, spectrum of  $\mathcal{L}_{-}(\mu)$  is in open left half plane except for

$$\lambda(k,\mu)=\lambda_0(\mu)-\lambda_2(\mu)(k-k_0)^2+\mathcal{O}(|k-k_0|^3), \qquad |k-k_0|\ll 1$$

and its complex conjugate, where  $\operatorname{Re} \lambda_2(0) > 0$ ,  $\operatorname{Re} \lambda'_0(0) > 0$  and either Turing:  $k_0 > 0$  and  $\lambda_0(0) = 0$ , or Hopf:  $k_0 = 0$ ,  $\lambda_0(0) = i\omega_0$  for some  $\omega_0 > 0$ .

• The spectrum of  $\mathcal{L}_+(0)$  lies in the open left half plane.



Note: Picture is in moving frame  $\xi$ , so  $\omega_0 = k_0 c_* > 0$  at Turing bifurcations.

### Set up and assumptions

Need bifurcation to be supercritical:

$$u(x,t) = \epsilon e^{i(k_0 x + \omega_0 t)} A(\epsilon x, \epsilon^2 t) e(k_0) + c.c., \qquad \mu = \rho \epsilon^2$$

Amplitude A(X, T) satisfies Ginzburg-Landau equation

$$A_t = \lambda_2(0)\partial_X^2 A + \rho \lambda_0'(0)A - b|A|^2 A$$

Hypothesis 3: Supercritical bifurcation

 $\operatorname{Re} b > 0$ 

This ensures the growth of the emergent pattern saturates.

Function space: uniformly local functions

$$\rho_{\rm ul}(x) = e^{-|x|}, \qquad \|u\|_{\rho_{\rm ul}}^2 = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \rho_{\rm ul}(x)|u(x)|^2 \,\mathrm{d}x \qquad \|u\|_{L^2_{\rm ul}} = \sup_{y \in \mathbb{R}} \|u\|_{\tau_y \rho_{\rm ul}}.$$

Like normal Sobolev spaces but allow for nonlocalized functions.

### Statement of result

**Theorem** [B., Ghazaryan, Sandstede JDE 09] Assume **(H1)-(H3)**, then there exist positive constants K,  $\Lambda_*$ ,  $a_*$ ,  $\mu_*$ , and  $\delta_*$  such that: for any

$$\|\mu\| \leq \mu_*, \qquad \|\mathbf{v}(\cdot, \mathbf{0})\|_{H^1_{\mathrm{ul}}} < \delta_*,$$

the solution of (RD) with  $u(x,0) = u_*(x;\mu) + v(x,0)$  exists for all  $t \ge 0$  and

$$u(x,t) = u_*(x - c(\mu)t - p(t);\mu) + v(x - c(\mu)t, t)$$

for an appropriate real-valued function p; furthermore,  $\exists \ p_* \in \mathbb{R}$  such that

$$\begin{split} \|v(\cdot,t)\|_{H^{1}_{\mathrm{ul}}} + |p(t)| &\leq \quad \mathcal{K}\left(\|v(\cdot,0)\|_{H^{1}_{\mathrm{ul}}} + \sqrt{|\mu|}\right) \\ \|\rho_{a_{*}}(\cdot)v(\cdot,t)\|_{H^{1}_{\mathrm{ul}}} + |p(t) - p_{*}| &\leq \quad \mathcal{K}\mathrm{e}^{-\Lambda_{*}t} \end{split}$$

for all  $t \geq 0$ .

In other words, the perturbation  $v(\xi, t)$  decays to zero exponentially in time in the weighted norm  $\|\rho_{a_*} \cdot \|_{H^1_{ul}}$  in the comoving frame  $\xi = x - c(\mu)t$ .

# Intuition

Front outruns emergent pattern



and because bifurcation is supercritical, growth of pattern saturates.



# Difficulties in proof

Just after bifurcation:



Mathematical issues:

- Need to control the growth this causes
- No spectral gap: how to isolate this growth?

Resolution: mode filters

- Developed by G. Schneider, 1994 papers
- Generalization of a spectral projection

## Mode filters

Standard spectral projection:



$$e^{\mathcal{L}t} = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma_1} e^{\lambda t} (\lambda - \mathcal{L})^{-1} d\lambda + \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma_2} e^{\lambda t} (\lambda - \mathcal{L})^{-1} d\lambda$$
$$= e^{\mathcal{L}t} P^{c} + e^{\mathcal{L}t} P^{s}$$

Mode filters effectively allow for:



#### Proof: two steps



$$u(x,t) = u_*(x - c(\mu)t - p(t);\mu) + v(x - c(\mu)t,t)$$

Step 1: A prior estimates in weighted space:

 $\begin{array}{ll} \mbox{If} & ||v(t)||_{H^1_{\rm ul}} < \delta & \forall t \ge 0 \\ \\ \mbox{Then} & ||\rho_a v(t)||_{H^1_{\rm ul}} \le K e^{-\Lambda_* t} & \forall t \ge 0 \end{array}$ 

Step 2: Use mode filters to prove that, indeed

$$||v(t)||_{H^1_{\mathrm{ul}}} < \delta \quad \forall t \ge 0$$

Note: strategy similar to [Ghazaryan & Sandstede '07], but they had a specific system and their step 2 was proved using the maximum principle.

Step 1: A priori estimates in weighted space

Expect:  $u(\xi, t) \rightarrow u_*(\xi - p)$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

$$u(x,t) = \underbrace{u_{*}(x - c(\mu)t - p(t); \mu)}_{u_{*}(\xi - p(t))} + \underbrace{v(x - c(\mu)t, t)}_{v(\xi,t)}$$

Unshifted linearized operator:

$$\mathcal{L}_0 = D\partial_\xi^2 + c(\mu)\partial_\xi + f_u(u_*(\xi))$$

Work in weighted space:  $w(\xi, t) := \rho_a(\xi)v(\xi, t)$ 

$$w_t = \mathcal{L}_0^a w + F(p,\xi)w + N(v,w)$$



Because in weighted space there is a spectral gap:

$$w_t = P^{s} [\mathcal{L}_0^a w + F(p,\xi)w + N(v,w)]$$
  

$$p_t = CP^{c} [\tilde{F}(p,\xi)w + N(v,w)]$$

### Step 1: A priori estimates in weighted space

Given  $\eta$  sufficiently small, define  $T_{\max}(\eta) > 0$  to be the maximum time so that

$$\sup_{t\in[0,T]}\left(|p(t)|+\|v(\cdot,t)\|_{H^1_{\mathrm{ul}}}\right)\leq\eta$$

**Lemma** There exists a  $\Lambda$  so that if w is a solution in the weighted space, then

$$\|w(\cdot,t)\|_{H^{1}_{\mathrm{ul}}} \leq K \mathrm{e}^{-\Lambda t} \|w(\cdot,0)\|_{H^{1}_{\mathrm{ul}}}, \qquad |p(t)| \leq K \|w(\cdot,0)\|_{H^{1}_{\mathrm{ul}}}$$

for all  $0 \le t \le T_{\max}(\eta)$ , for some positive constant K that is independent of  $\mu$  and  $\eta$ . If  $T_{\max}(\eta) = \infty$ , then there is a  $p_* \in \mathbb{R}$  with

$$|p(t) - p_*| \leq K \mathrm{e}^{-\Lambda t} \|w(\cdot, 0)\|_{H^1_\mathrm{ull}}$$

for all  $t \ge 0$ .

Therefore, in step 2 we need to show  $T_{\max}(\eta) = \infty$ .

### Step 2: estimates in unweighted space via mode filters

**Proposition** There exist positive constants K,  $\delta_*$  and  $\mu_*$  such that, if  $\|v(0)\|_{H^1_{ul}} < \delta_*$ , then for each  $\mu$  with  $|\mu| \le \mu_*$  the perturbation satisfies  $\|v(\cdot, t)\|_{H^1_{ul}} + |p(t)| \le K \left(\|v(\cdot, 0)\|_{H^1_{ul}} + \sqrt{|\mu|}\right)$  for all  $t \ge 0$ . In particular,  $T_{\max}(\eta) = \infty$ .

Remark:  $\mathcal{O}(\sqrt{\mu})$  is emergent pattern size due to Ginzburg-Landau theory.

Proof This also has two steps:

- Show behavior of perturbations is governed by that at  $-\infty$ .
- Control behavior at  $-\infty$  using mode filters.



#### Step 2a: behavior at $-\infty$

Strategy: linearize at rest state 0 and show nothing else matters.



Recall:

$$\mathcal{L}_{-}=D\partial_{\xi}^{2}+c\partial_{\xi}+f_{u}(0)$$

Write

$$v_t = \mathcal{L}_- v + \mathcal{N}_-(v) + \Delta(p, v)$$

 $\Delta(p, v) = \text{difference in (non)linearization about } u_* \text{ and about } 0$ 

**Lemma** For all  $0 \le t \le T_{\max}(\eta)$ ,

 $\|\Delta(\rho, v)(t)\|_{H^1_{\mathrm{ul}}} \leq C(\eta, \Lambda) \|w(t)\|_{H^1_{\mathrm{ul}}} \leq C(\eta, \Lambda) \mathrm{e}^{-\Lambda t} \|w(0)\|_{H^1_{\mathrm{ul}}}.$ 

Step 2b: control emergent pattern via mode filters

$$v_t = D\partial_x^2 v + f(v;\mu) + \underbrace{\Delta(p,v)}_{\mathcal{O}(e^{-\Lambda t})}$$

Ginzburg-Landau formalism for

$$v_t = D\partial_x^2 v + f(v;\mu) \tag{RD}$$

Consider modulated waves of the form

$$v(x,t) = \delta e^{ik_0 x + i\omega_0 t} A(\delta x, \delta^2 t) e(k_0) + c.c.$$
 (MW)

Dynamics of amplitude  $A(\delta x, \delta^2 t) = A(X, T)$ 

$$A_T = \lambda_2(\mathbf{0})\partial_X^2 A + \frac{\mu\lambda_0'(\mathbf{0})}{\delta^2} A - b|A|^2 A.$$
 (GL)

To show (GL) really controls the behavior of v, we need:

- Approximation: Given solution of (GL) and (MW),  $\exists$  nearby sol'n of (RD)
- Attractivity: Given sol'n of (RD), ∃ a nearby (MW) via (GL)

Note: Both have been shown by Schneider and Mielke for (RD), ie  $\Delta = 0$ 

#### Step 2b: define mode filters

Linear operator at  $-\infty$ , where pattern will form:

$$\mathcal{L}_{-}(\partial_x) = D\partial_x^2 + f_u(0), \qquad \hat{\mathcal{L}}_{-}(\mathrm{i}k) = -k^2D + f_u(0)$$

Turing bifurcation: for any  $\mu \approx 0$  and  $k \approx k_0 \neq 0$ , near critical mode

 $\lambda(k)\hat{\mathcal{L}}_{-}(ik) = \lambda(k)\hat{\mathbf{e}}(k), \qquad \hat{\mathcal{L}}_{-}^{*}(ik), \qquad \langle \hat{\mathbf{e}}(k), \hat{\mathbf{e}}^{*}(k) \rangle = 1$ Re $\lambda(k)$   $-k_{0}$   $k_{0}$  k

 $\mu = 0$ 

Mode filter: defined in Fourier space

$$(\widehat{P}^{\pm}_{\mathrm{mf}}\hat{u})(k)=\hat{\chi}(2(k\mp k_{0}))\langle \hat{\mathbf{e}}^{*}(k,\mu),\hat{u}(k)
angle \hat{\mathbf{e}}(k,\mu), \qquad \widehat{P}^{\mathrm{c}}_{\mathrm{mf}}=\widehat{P}^{+}_{\mathrm{mf}}+\widehat{P}^{-}_{\mathrm{mf}}$$

Note: doesn't yield projections!

$$\textit{P}_{\rm mf}^{\rm c} \circ \textit{P}_{\rm mf}^{\rm c} \neq \textit{P}_{\rm mf}^{\rm c}$$

#### Step 2b: new Ansatz via mode filters

Standard Ansatz: (Turing: 
$$k_0 \neq 0$$
,  $\omega_0 = 0$ )  
 $v(x, t) = \delta e^{ik_0 x} A(\delta x, \delta^2 t) e(k_0) + c.c.$ 

Tells us v = v(A). For attractivity, need better "guess" and other direction!

$$\begin{aligned} v(x;A) &= \delta e^{ik_0 x} \mathcal{F}^{-1} \left[ \hat{\chi}(k) \hat{e}(k+k_0) \mathcal{F}(A(\delta x)) \right] + \text{c.c.} \\ A(X;v) &= \frac{1}{\delta} e^{-ik_0 X/\delta} (p_{\text{mf}}^+ v) (X/\delta) \end{aligned}$$

Extract critical modes from v to get A.

This allows us to:

- Prove both attractivity and approximation, for (mod RD)
- Therefore, v behaves as predicted by A
- Amplitude of pattern must saturate

$$\|\mathbf{v}(\cdot,t)\|_{H^1_{\mathrm{ul}}} \leq K\left(\|\mathbf{v}(\cdot,0)\|_{H^1_{\mathrm{ul}}} + \sqrt{|\mu|}
ight)$$

# Summary

Essential Hopf bifurcation caused by rest state behind front:





After bifurcation, intuitively:

- Front becomes linearly unstable
- No other nearby solutions exist [Sandstede & Scheel 01]
- Numerically: front outruns perturbation
- If growth of perturbation saturates, front should be nonlinearly stable

### Summary

Proof had two steps:

1) Show decay in exponentially weighted space if pattern growth saturates



2) Show, via mode filters, that growth does indeed saturate



$$v_t = D\partial_x^2 v + f(v;\mu) + \mathcal{O}(e^{-\Lambda t})$$
 (RD)

$$A_T = \lambda_2(0)\partial_X^2 A + \frac{\mu\lambda_0'(0)}{\delta^2} A - b|A|^2 A \quad (\text{GL})$$