

# Separation Distances in Source-Sink Patterns in the Complex Ginzburg-Landau Equation

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Heriot-Watt University

PANDA, University of Bath, June 10, 2011

*This talk can be downloaded from my web site*

[www.ma.hw.ac.uk/~jas](http://www.ma.hw.ac.uk/~jas)

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(Microsoft Research  
Ltd., Cambridge)



Jens Rademacher

(CWI, Amsterdam)



# Outline

- 1 Wavetrains in the CGLE
- 2 Solutions in the Unstable Parameter Regime
- 3 Sources and Sinks
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# The Complex Ginzburg-Landau Equation

I consider a generic oscillator model, the complex Ginzburg-Landau equation:

$$A_t = (1 + ib)A_{xx} + A - (1 + ic)|A|^2 A.$$

I will look exclusively at  $b = 0$ . Then writing

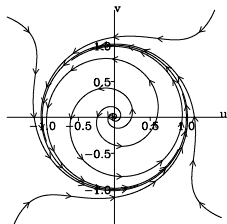
$$A(x, t) = e^{-iat}[u(x, t) + iv(x, t)]$$

gives a reaction-diffusion system of “ $\lambda-\omega$ ” type:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + (1 - r^2)u - (a + cr^2)v$$

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} + (a + cr^2)u + (1 - r^2)v$$

$$\text{where } r = \sqrt{u^2 + v^2}$$



# Amplitude and Phase Equations

To study these equations, it is helpful to use the variables  $r(x, t) = \sqrt{u^2 + v^2}$  and  $\theta(x, t) = \tan^{-1}(v/u)$ , giving

$$\begin{aligned} r_t &= r_{xx} - r\theta_x^2 + r(1 - r^2) \\ \theta_t &= \theta_{xx} + \frac{2r_x\theta_x}{r} + a - cr^2 \end{aligned}$$

There is a family of wavetrain solutions ( $0 < r^* < 1$ ):

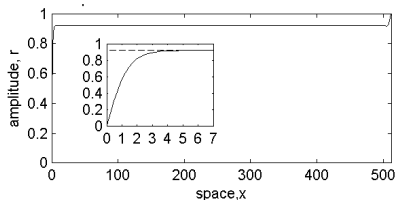
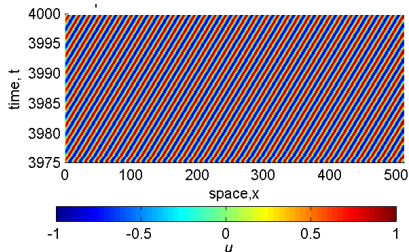
$$\begin{aligned} &\left\{ \begin{array}{l} r = r^* \\ \theta = \left[ (a + cr^{*2})t \pm \sqrt{(1 - r^{*2})}x \right] \end{array} \right\} \\ \Leftrightarrow &\left\{ \begin{array}{l} u = r^* \cos \left[ (a + cr^{*2})t \pm \sqrt{(1 - r^{*2})}x \right] \\ v = r^* \sin \left[ (a + cr^{*2})t \pm \sqrt{(1 - r^{*2})}x \right] \end{array} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

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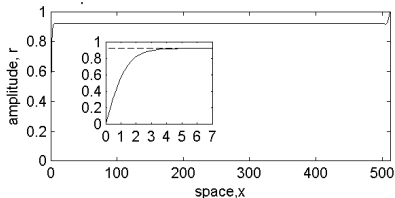
Dirichlet boundary conditions  
generate a wavetrain

$$R(x) = R^* \tanh(x/\sqrt{2})$$

$$\Psi(x) = \Psi^* \tanh(x/\sqrt{2})$$

$$R^* = \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \left[ 1 + \sqrt{1 + \frac{8}{9}c^2} \right] \right\}^{-1/2}$$

$$\Psi^* = -\text{sign}(c)(1 - R^{*2})^{1/2}$$



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The wavetrain of amplitude  $R^*$   
is stable  $\Leftrightarrow |c| < 1.110468\dots$

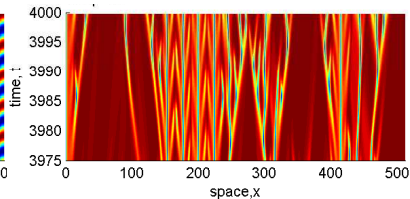
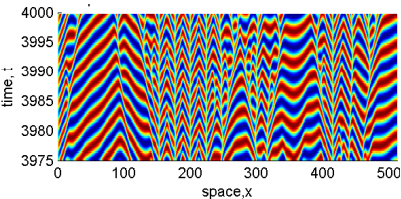
What happens when  
 $|c| > 1.110468\dots?$

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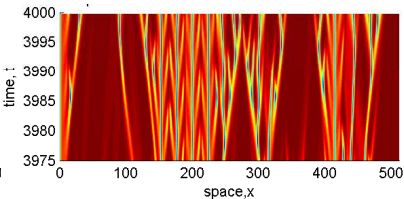
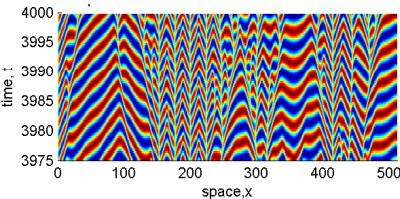
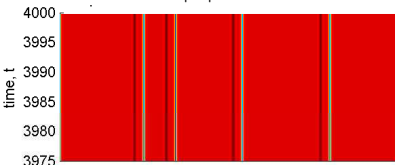
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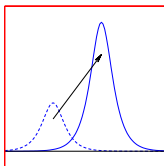


## Convective and Absolute Stability

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- The key concept for distinguishing these is “absolute stability”.

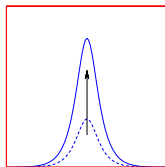
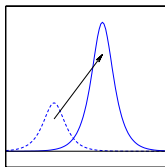
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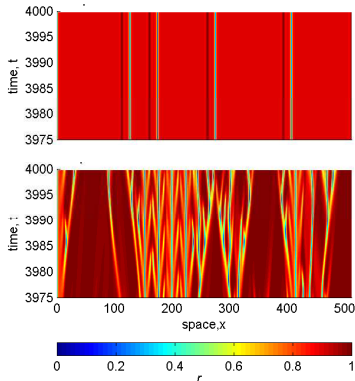
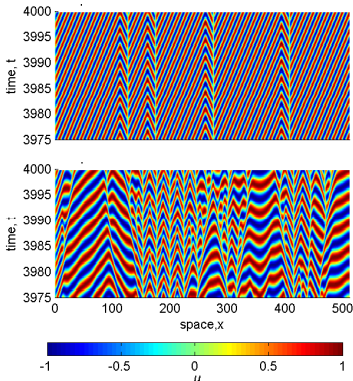
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- The key concept for distinguishing these is “absolute stability”.
- In spatially extended systems, a solution can be unstable, but with any perturbation that grows also moving. This is “convective instability”.
- Alternatively, a solution can be unstable with perturbations growing without moving. This is “**absolute instability**”.



# Generation of Absolutely Stable and Unstable Wavetrains by Dirichlet Boundary Conditions

Numerical simulations show distinct behaviours in the absolutely stable and unstable parameter regimes



Convectively  
unstable,  
absolutely  
stable

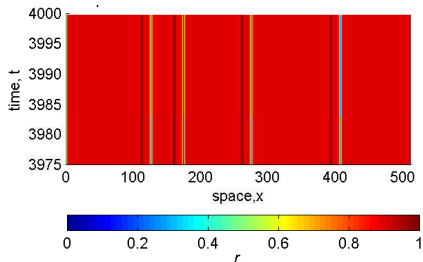
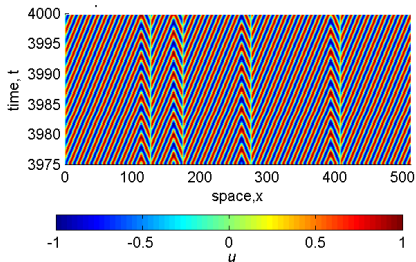
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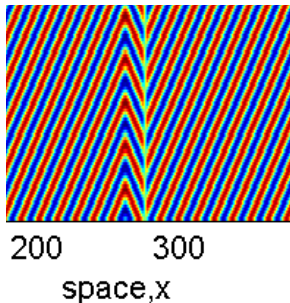
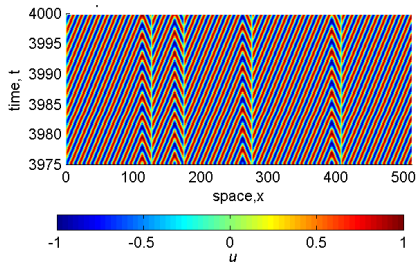
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The solution in the convectively unstable but absolutely stable case is a pattern of “sources and sinks”.



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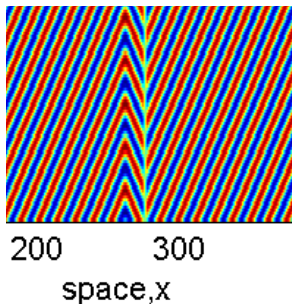
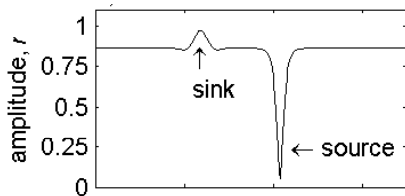
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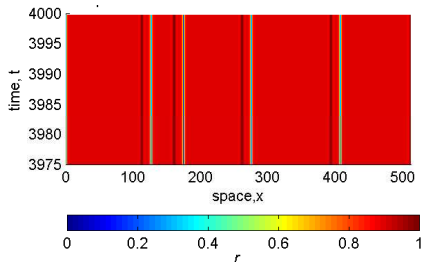
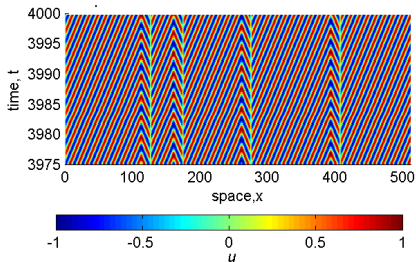
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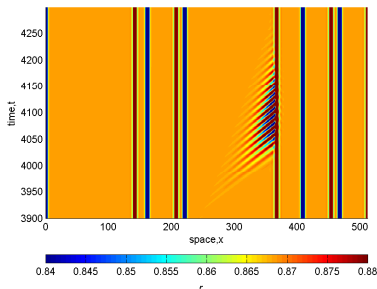


**Question:** How can an unstable wavetrain persist between the sources and sinks?

# Sources, Sinks, and Convective Instability

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**Answer:** Any growing perturbations moves, and is absorbed when it reaches a sink.

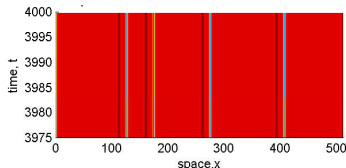


## Previous Mathematical Work on Sources and Sinks

- Sources are “Nozaki–Bekki” holes (Nozaki & Bekki, Phys. Lett. A 110: 133-135, 1985), on which the literature is extensive (> 100 citations).
- Sinks are also well studied, though only numerically.
- But patterns of sources and sinks have received almost no attention.
- One open question is: are there constraints on the distances separating sources and sinks?

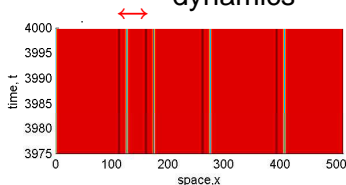
# Numerical Study of Source-Sink Separations

- Step 1:** generate a source-sink pattern via a Dirichlet boundary condition
- Step 2:** extract a sink-source-sink triple
- Step 3:** transfer this part of the solution to a domain with zero Neumann boundary conditions
- Step 4:** translate the source and track the subsequent dynamics



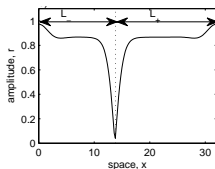
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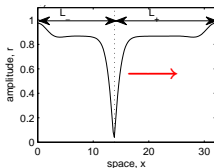
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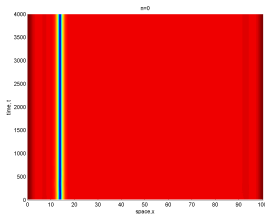


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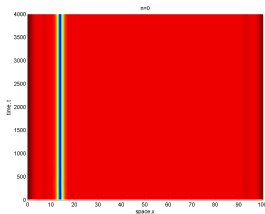


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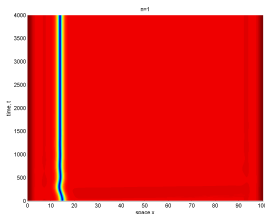


Original solution

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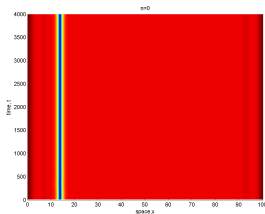


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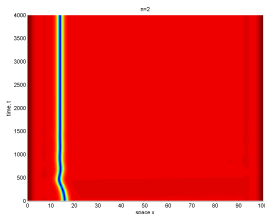


Solution with translated source

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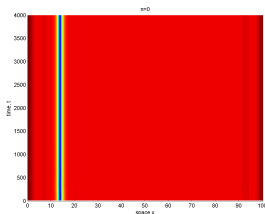


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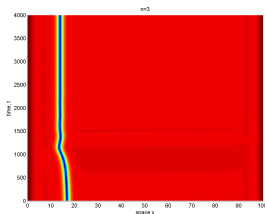


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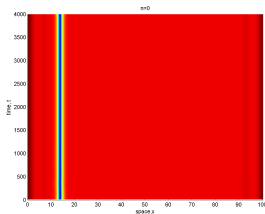


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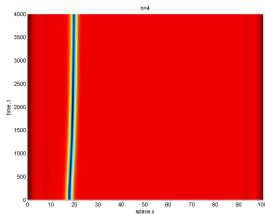


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# Numerical Study of Source-Sink Separations



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# Numerical Study of Source-Sink Separations

**Conclusion:** source-sink separations appear to be constrained to a discrete set of possible values.

**Next Step:** analytical investigation of the separations.

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## Travelling Waves of Amplitude

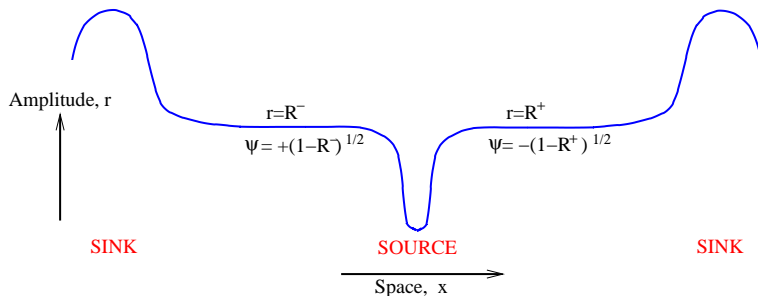
For stationary source-sink patterns, substitute  $r(x, t) = \hat{r}(x)$ ,  
 $\theta_x(x, t) = \hat{\psi}(x)$

$$\implies d^2\hat{r}/dx^2 + \hat{r}(1 - \hat{r}^2 - \hat{\psi}^2) = 0$$

$$d\hat{\psi}/dx + K - c\hat{r}^2 + 2\hat{\psi}(d\hat{r}/dx)/\hat{r} = 0$$

( $K$  is a constant of integration).

## Solution Structure



Based on source-sink patterns seen in numerical simulations,  
we consider large separations.

# Eigenvalue Structure of Isolated Sources and Sinks

Isolated sources and sinks satisfy

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Linearise about the wavetrain

⇒ isolated sources decay to the wavetrain at rate  $\sqrt{2}$   
& isolated sinks decay to the wavetrain at rate  $1/\sqrt{2} \pm i\delta/4$

$$(\delta = \sqrt{11 - 12R^{*2}} \in \mathbb{R})$$

⇒ in patterns, the effect of sinks on sources dominates  
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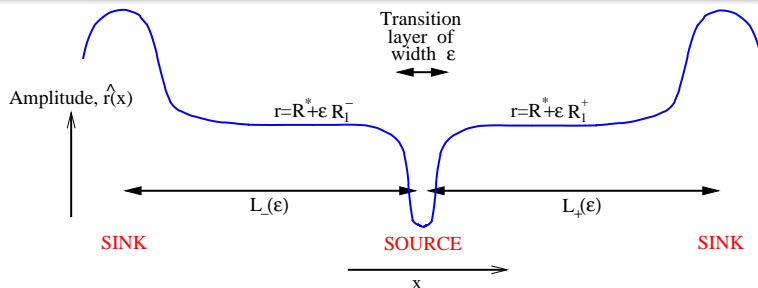
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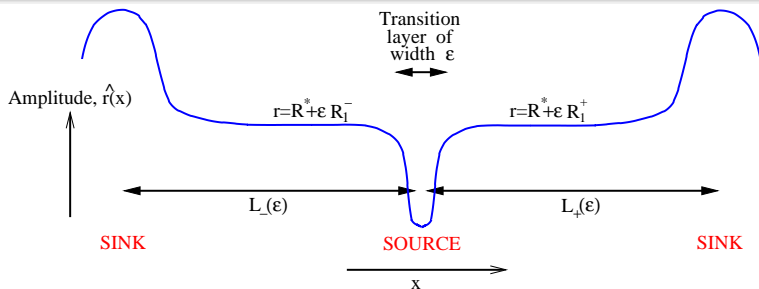
$$r = R^* |\tanh(x/\sqrt{2})|$$

# Perturbation Theory Calculation



We study the problem using perturbation theory.

## Perturbation Theory Calculation



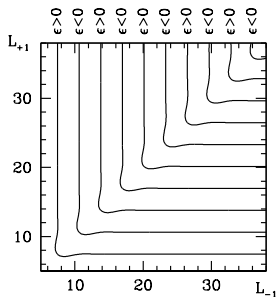
**Key result** (phase-locking condition):

$$\arg [\exp(-L_-(1 + i\delta)/\sqrt{2}) + \exp(-L_+(1 + i\delta)/\sqrt{2})] = \text{constant}.$$

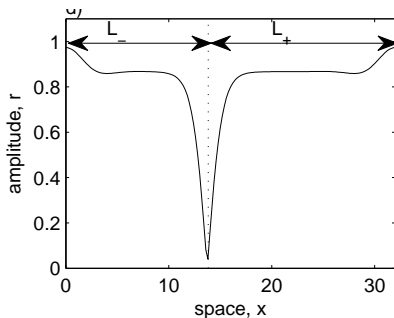
The constant is determined explicitly.

## Illustration of the Locking Condition

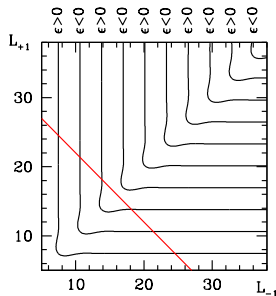
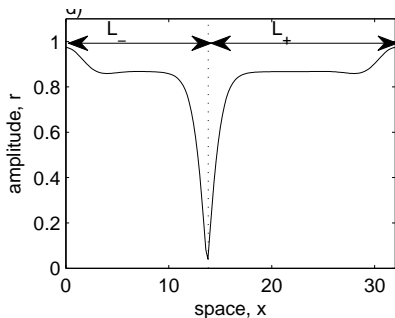
$$\arg [\exp (-L_{-}(1+i \delta) / \sqrt{2})+\exp (-L_{+}(1+i \delta) / \sqrt{2})]=\text { constant}$$



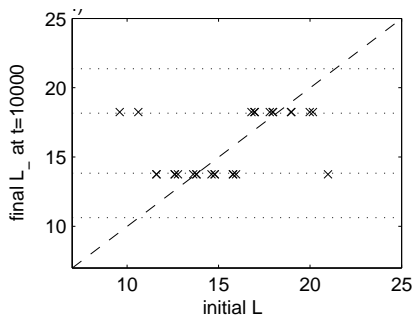
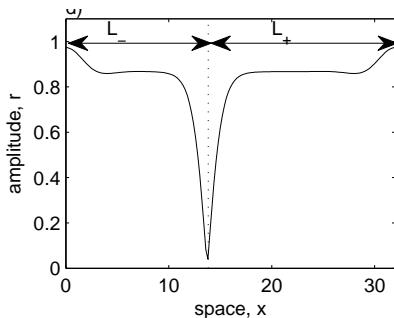
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# Summary of Main Results

## Main Results:

- For behaviour induced by Dirichlet boundary conditions, the transition from a wavetrain to spatiotemporal disorder occurs via source-sink patterns.
- The separations between a source and its neighbouring sinks,  $L_-$  and  $L_+$ , are constrained to lie on one of a discrete infinite sequence of curves in the  $L_- - L_+$  plane (to leading order as velocity  $\rightarrow 0$  and separations  $\rightarrow \infty$ ).

# Implications for Real Systems

## Implications for Real Systems:

- Physics**
- Experiments are sufficiently precise that the prediction of discrete spacings are testable.
- Ecology**
- Empirical testing is not feasible.
  - In the convectively unstable parameter regime, wavetrains will only be detected in field data if the spatial scale of the data is small compared to source-sink separations.

## Future Work and Publications

- Selection of source-sink separations from the discrete family by initial and boundary conditions
- Stability of source-sink patterns
- Higher order terms (sink-sink coupling)
- Extension to  $b \neq 0$

[M.J. Smith, J.D.M. Rademacher, J.A. Sherratt:](#)

Absolute stability of wavetrains can explain spatiotemporal dynamics in reaction-diffusion systems of lambda-omega type. *SIAM J. Appl. Dyn. Systems* 8, 1136-1159 (2009).

[J.A. Sherratt, M.J. Smith, J.D.M. Rademacher:](#)

Patterns of sources and sinks in the complex Ginzburg-Landau equation with zero linear dispersion. *SIAM J. Appl. Dyn. Systems* 9, 883-918 (2010).

# List of Frames

- 1 **Wavetrains in the CGLE**
- The Complex Ginzburg-Landau Equation
  - Amplitude and Phase Equations
  - Wavetrain Generation by Dirichlet Bndy Conditions

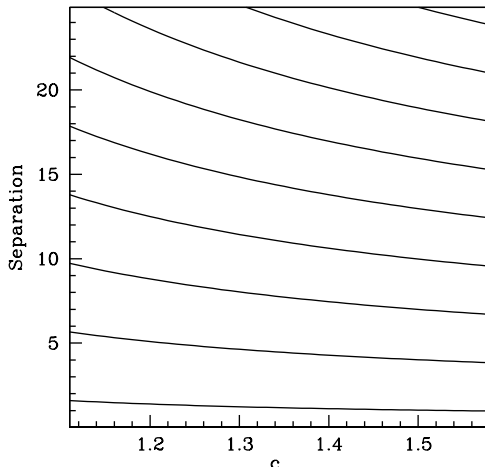
- 2 **Solutions in the Unstable Parameter Regime**
- Two Types of Solution
  - Convective and Absolute Stability
  - Generation of Absolutely Stable and Unstable Wavetrains

- 3 **Sources and Sinks**
- Sources, Sinks, and Convective Instability
  - Literature on Sources and Sinks
  - Numerical Study of Source-Sink Separations

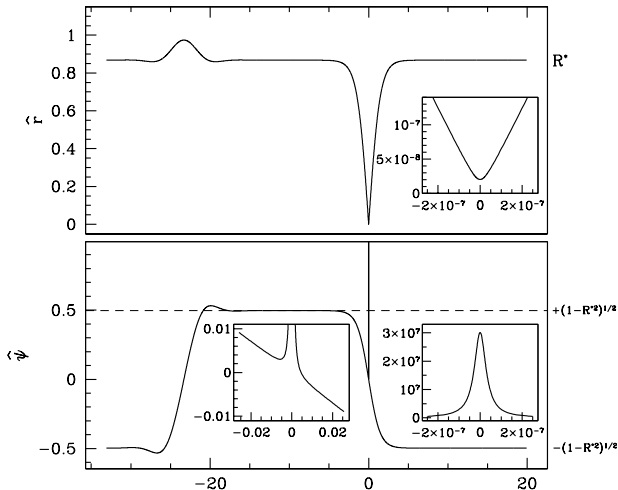
- 4 **Analytical Study of Source-Sink Patterns**
- Travelling Waves of Amplitude
  - Solution Structure
  - Numerical Verification of the Analysis

- 5 **Conclusions**
- Summary of Main Results
  - Implications for Real Systems
  - Future Work and Publications

# Dependence of Source-Sink Separations on $c$



## Detailed form of a Source-Sink Pair



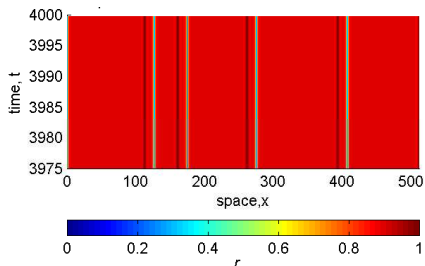
# Experimental Observation of Sources and Sinks

Experimental systems in which sources and sinks have been observed include:

- chemical reactions
- electrochemical systems
- heated wire convection
- binary fluid convection
- convection waves generated by heating at a boundary
- the “printer’s instability”, in which the thin gap between two rotating acentric cylinders is filled with oil.

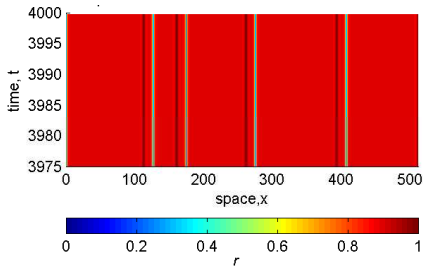
## Movement of Sources and Sinks

These sources and sinks  
appear to be stationary.....

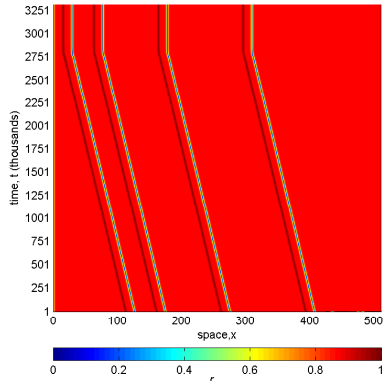


# Movement of Sources and Sinks

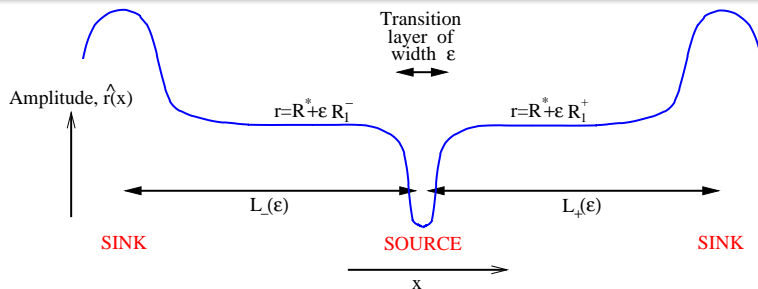
These sources and sinks appear to be stationary.....



.....but very long simulations show that they move.

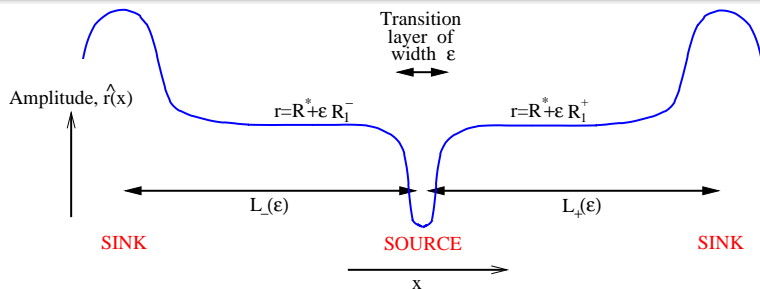


# Perturbation Theory Calculation



We study the problem using perturbation theory.

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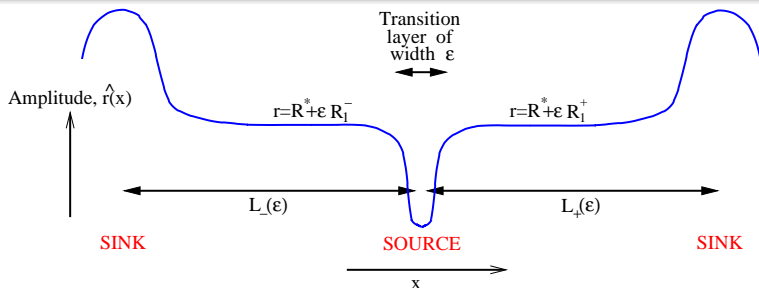
For  $\epsilon = 0$  :

$$K = (9 - \sqrt{81 + 72c^2}) / (4c)$$

$$\hat{r} = R^* |\tanh(x/\sqrt{2})|$$

$$\hat{\psi} = -(1 - R^{*2})^{1/2} \tanh(x/\sqrt{2})$$

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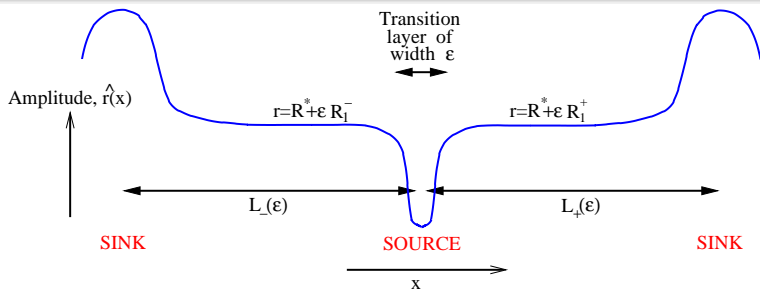
For  $\epsilon \neq 0$ :

$$K = (9 - \sqrt{81 + 72c^2}) / (4c) + \epsilon K_1 + O(\epsilon^2)$$

$$\hat{r} = R^* |\tanh(x/\sqrt{2})| + \epsilon \hat{r}_1(x) + O(\epsilon^2)$$

$$\hat{\psi} = -(1 - R^{*2})^{1/2} \tanh(x/\sqrt{2}) + \epsilon \hat{\psi}_1(x) + O(\epsilon^2)$$

# Perturbation Theory Calculation



**Key result** (phase-locking condition):

$$\arg [\exp (-L_-(1+i \delta) / \sqrt{2}) + \exp (-L_+(1+i \delta) / \sqrt{2})] = \text{constant} .$$

The constant is determined explicitly.