


DYNAMICS OF
LATTICE DIFFERENTIAL
EQUATIONS


John Mallet-Paret
Brown University


Lattice Differential Equations

Infinite (or high dimensional) system of ODE's with underlying spatial structure (lattice)

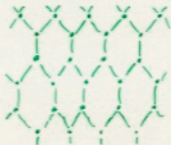
$$\dot{u}_\gamma = F_\gamma(\{u_{\gamma+s}\}_{s \in \Lambda}) \quad \gamma \in \Lambda \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$$

eg $\Lambda = \mathbb{Z}$ 

$\Lambda = \mathbb{Z}^d$ 

$\Lambda = \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$ 

$\Lambda \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$ hexagonal lattice



$\Lambda \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$ crystallographic lattices

Dynamical System Setting

$$\dot{u}_\gamma = F_\gamma(\{u_{\gamma+s}\}_{s \in \Lambda})$$

Regard $u = \{u_\gamma\}_{\gamma \in \Lambda}$ as an element $u \in \mathcal{l}^\infty(\Lambda)$
 and $F = \{F_\gamma\}_{\gamma \in \Lambda}$ as a map $F: \mathcal{l}^\infty(\Lambda) \rightarrow \mathcal{l}^\infty(\Lambda)$

$$\dot{u} = F(u)$$

Initial condition

$$u(0) = u_0 \in \mathcal{l}^\infty(\Lambda)$$

Unique solution

$$u(t) \quad t \in I$$

$$\dot{u}_i = \alpha (u_{i+1} + u_{i-1} - 2u_i) - f(u_i) \quad i \in \mathbb{Z}$$

discrete laplacian
↓
┌──────────────────┐
└──────────────────┘

↑
coupling constant
↑
nonlinearity (given)

Spatially discrete version of Chafee-Infante
(Allen-Cahn) PDE

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - f(u) \quad \begin{array}{l} u = u(t, x) \\ x \in \mathbb{R} \end{array}$$

$\alpha > 0$ diffusion

$\alpha \rightarrow \infty$ PDE limit $(\alpha = \frac{1}{h^2} \quad h = \text{grid size})$

$\alpha = 0$ decoupling

$\alpha = O(1)$

$\alpha < 0$ anti-diffusion

} new phenomena

$$\dot{u}_i = \alpha(u_{i+1} + u_{i-1} - 2u_i) - f(u_i)$$

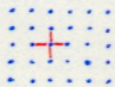
$$\dot{u}_i = \alpha(u_{i+1} - u_i) + \beta(u_{i-1} - u_i) - f(u_i)$$

$$\dot{u}_i = \sum_{r=-R}^R \alpha_r (u_{i+r} - u_i) - f(u_i) \quad \text{long range } R < \infty \text{ or } R = \infty$$

$$\dot{u}_i = \sum_{r=-R}^R \alpha_{i,r} (u_{i+r} - u_i) - f(u_i) \quad \text{not translation invariant}$$

$$\dot{u}_{ij} = \underbrace{u_{i+1,j} + u_{i-1,j} + u_{i,j+1} + u_{i,j-1} - 4u_{ij}}_{\Delta u_{ij}} - f(u_{ij})$$

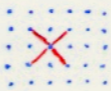
Δu_{ij}



$(i,j) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$

$$\dot{u}_{ij} = \underbrace{u_{i+1,j+1} + u_{i-1,j+1} + u_{i+1,j-1} + u_{i-1,j-1} - 4u_{ij}}_{\tilde{\Delta} u_{ij}} - f(u_{ij})$$

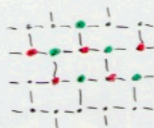
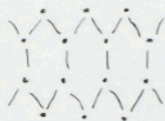
$\tilde{\Delta} u_{ij}$



$$\dot{u}_{ij} = \alpha \Delta u_{ij} + \tilde{\alpha} \tilde{\Delta} u_{ij} - f(u_{ij})$$

$$\dot{u}_i = F(u_{i+1}, u_i, u_{i-1}) \quad \text{nonlinear coupling}$$

etc...

 \mathbb{Z}^2

← same connections →

$(i, j) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$ connects to

$(i \pm 1, j)$

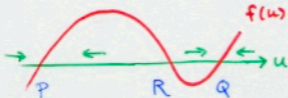
$(i, j + \delta_{ij})$

$\delta_{ij} = (-1)^{i+j}$

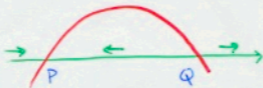
$$\dot{u}_{ij} = u_{i+1,j} + u_{i-1,j} + u_{i,j+\delta_{ij}} - 3u_{ij} - f(u_{ij})$$

Nonlinearity f

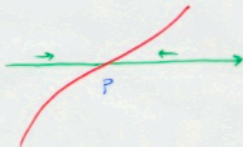
bistable



Fisher



monostable



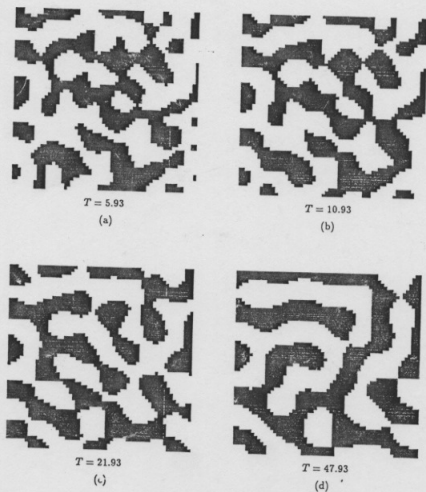
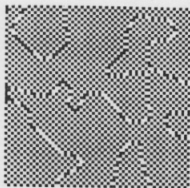


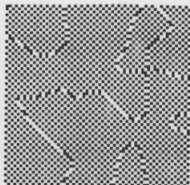
Figure 1. Neumann BCs ($\sigma = -2.5, \alpha_{10} = 0.5, \alpha_{11} = 0.25, c_0 = 0.0$)

We will usually consider only the case in which there is a double well potential; i.e. when $\sigma < -2$, but when either $\alpha_{10} < 0$ or $\alpha_{11} < 0$ we may consider $\sigma > -2$ since with a negative gradient energy coefficient the constant solution is not a minimizer. Since we typically obtain high amplitude solutions, "snapshots" of the time evolution are displayed using a white square to indicate a value greater than zero and a black square to indicate a value less than zero.

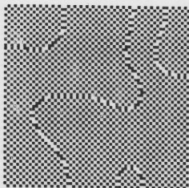
In Figure 1 we display "snapshots" of the time evolution in the range of parameters that corresponds to a well-posed PDE; i.e. the Cahn-Hilliard equation. Note that the solution undergoes coarsening like the continuous equation. Figure 1 shows what is known as spinodal decomposition.



$T = 0.96$
(a)



$T = 1.35$
(b)



$T = 2.76$
(c)



$T = 10.82$
(d)

Figure 2. Neumann BCs ($\sigma = -1.0, \alpha_{10} = -0.25, \alpha_{11} = 0.5, c_0 = 0.0$)

Figure 2 shows the ordering that occurs for $\alpha_{10} < 0$ and $\alpha_{11} > 0$. The bulk phases here are "checkerboard" patterns, one with even parity and one with odd parity. The bulk phases are separated by an interface.



$T = 0.28$

(a)



$T = 0.36$

(b)



$T = 0.68$

(c)



$T = 1.78$

(d)

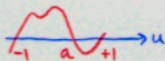
Figure 3. Neumann BCs ($\sigma = -4.0, \alpha_{10} = 2.0, \alpha_{11} = -1.0, c_0 = 0.0$)

We have $\alpha_{10} > 0$ and $\alpha_{11} < 0$ in Figure 3. For these parameter values the bulk phases are even and odd parity horizontal stripes and even and odd parity vertical stripes.

Bistable Reaction-Diffusion PDE

$$u_t = u_{xx} - f(u)$$

$$f(u) = f(u, a)$$



Traveling Wave $u(t, x) = \varphi(x - ct)$

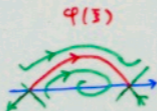
$$(*) \quad \begin{cases} -c\varphi'(\xi) = \varphi''(\xi) - f(\varphi(\xi)) \\ \varphi(\pm\infty) = \pm 1 \end{cases}$$

THM $\exists \! \! \exists c = c_*$ for which $(*)$ has a solution. The solution $\varphi(\xi)$ is unique and monotone. Also, $c = c_*(a)$ depends smoothly on a .

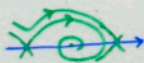
φ'



$$c < c_*$$



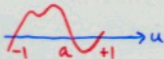
$$c = c_*$$



$$c > c_*$$

Bistable Reaction-Diffusion PDE

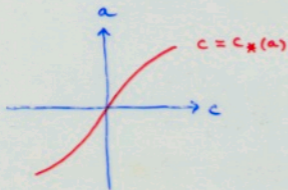
$$u_t = u_{xx} - f(u)$$

$$f(u) = f(u, a)$$


Traveling Wave $u(t, x) = \varphi(x - ct)$

$$\textcircled{*} \begin{cases} -c\varphi'(\xi) = \varphi''(\xi) - f(\varphi(\xi)) \\ \varphi(\pm\infty) = \pm 1 \end{cases}$$

THM $\exists \pm c = c_*$ for which $\textcircled{*}$ has a solution. The solution $\varphi(\xi)$ is unique and monotone. Also, $c = c_*(a)$ depends smoothly on a .



f monotone in a



$c_*(a)$ monotone in a

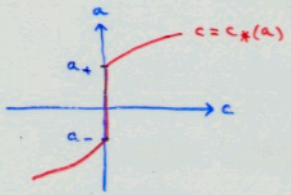
Lattice Differential Equation

$$\dot{u}_i = \alpha(u_{i+1} + u_{i-1} - 2u_i) - f(u_i)$$

Traveling wave $u_i(t) = \varphi(i-ct)$

$$\textcircled{\#} \begin{cases} -c\varphi'(\xi) = \alpha(\varphi(\xi+1) + \varphi(\xi-1) - 2\varphi(\xi)) - f(\varphi(\xi)) \\ \varphi(\pm\infty) = \pm 1 \end{cases}$$

THM $\exists ! c = c_*$ for which $\textcircled{\#}$ has a monotone solution. If $c_* \neq 0$ the solution $\varphi(\xi)$ is unique and monotone. If $c_* = 0$ there exists a monotone solution, generically an even number of them.



THM Generically $a_- < a_+$

The interval $[a_-, a_+]$ is called the PINNING REGION

$$\underline{P=2}$$

$$\dot{u}_i = \begin{cases} \alpha(u_{i+1} - u_i) + \beta(u_{i-1} - u_i) - f(u_i) & i = \text{even} \\ \tilde{\alpha}(u_{i+1} - u_i) + \tilde{\beta}(u_{i-1} - u_i) - f(u_i) & i = \text{odd} \end{cases}$$

$$u_{2i}(t) = \varphi(i-ct)$$

wave speed = $2c$

$$u_{2i+1}(t) = \tilde{\varphi}(i-ct)$$

$$\Phi(\xi) = \begin{pmatrix} \varphi(\xi) \\ \tilde{\varphi}(\xi) \end{pmatrix}$$

$f(u)$

$$-c \Phi'(\xi) = A_+ \Phi(\xi+1) + A_0 \Phi(\xi) + A_- \Phi(\xi-1) - f(\Phi(\xi))$$

$$\Phi(\pm\infty) = \begin{pmatrix} \pm 1 \\ \pm 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A_+ = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ \tilde{\alpha} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad A_0 = \begin{pmatrix} -\alpha-\beta & \alpha \\ \tilde{\beta} & -\tilde{\alpha}-\tilde{\beta} \end{pmatrix} \quad A_- = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \beta \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

"shift" matrices nonnegative $A_{\pm} \geq 0$

off-diagonal elements of A_0 nonnegative

similar for $3 \leq p < \infty$

P=1 (translation invariant equation)

but: solution not translation invariant

$$\dot{u}_i = \alpha(u_{i+1} - u_i) + \beta(u_{i-1} - u_i) - f(u_i)$$

wave joins homogeneous equilib $u_i \equiv -1$

to "checkerboard" equilib $u_i = \begin{cases} p & i = \text{even} \\ q & i = \text{odd} \end{cases}$

$$\begin{cases} 0 = \alpha(q-p) + \beta(q-p) - f(p) \\ 0 = \alpha(p-q) + \beta(p-q) - f(q) \end{cases}$$

As before $u_{zi}(t) = \varphi(i-ct)$ \Rightarrow same equation
 $u_{zi+1}(t) = \tilde{\varphi}(i-ct)$
 $\Phi(\xi) = \begin{pmatrix} \varphi(\xi) \\ \tilde{\varphi}(\xi) \end{pmatrix}$ for $\Phi(\xi)$

but different boundary conditions

$$\Phi(-\infty) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \Phi(+\infty) = \begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \end{pmatrix}$$

THM Consider the system

$$-c\Phi'(\xi) = \sum_{k=0}^K A_k \Phi(\xi + r_k) - f(\Phi(\xi))$$

↑ diag of $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$\Phi(\pm\infty) = p_{\pm}$$

$$\Phi: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$$

where $A_k \geq 0 \quad 1 \leq k \leq K$

$\sum_{k=0}^K A_k$ irreducible

$A_0 \geq \lambda I$ some $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$

$$r_0 = 0$$

p_{\pm} are "stable" equilibria

$$p_- \ll p_0 \ll p_+$$

↑ only equilibrium between, "unstable"

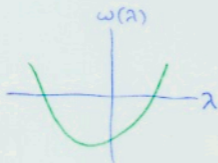
Then \exists unique $c \in \mathbb{R}$ and \exists monotone $\Phi(\xi)$.

Also, $c \neq 0 \Rightarrow \Phi$ unique.

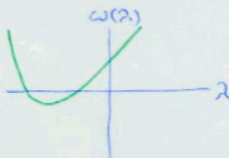
$$\Delta(\lambda) = \lambda cI + \sum_{k=0}^K A_k e^{\lambda r_k} - D$$

$\omega(\lambda) =$ largest eigenvalue of $\Delta(\lambda)$
(positive eigenvector)

$\lambda \rightarrow \omega(\lambda)$ convex



"stable"
 $\omega(0) < 0$



"unstable"
 $\omega(0) > 0$

COR For the system

$$\dot{u}_i = \alpha_i(u_{i+1} - u_i) + \beta_i(u_{i-1} - u_i) - f(u_i)$$

$$\alpha_{i+p} = \alpha_i > 0$$

$$\beta_{i+p} = \beta_i > 0$$

with spatial period P , there exists $c \in \mathbb{R}$ and a traveling wave solution

$$u_{kP+j}(t) = \varphi_j(k-ct) \quad 0 \leq j < P$$

$$\varphi_j(\pm\infty) = \pm 1$$

which is strictly spatially monotone

$$u_i(t) < u_{i+1}(t) \quad \forall i \in \mathbb{Z} \quad \forall t \in \mathbb{R}$$

If $c_* \neq 0$ then we have the orbit

$$\Gamma = \{ g(t) \mid t \in \mathbb{R} \} \cup \{-1, +1\} \subseteq \mathcal{L}^\infty$$

$$g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}^\infty \quad g_i(t) = \varphi(i - c_* t)$$

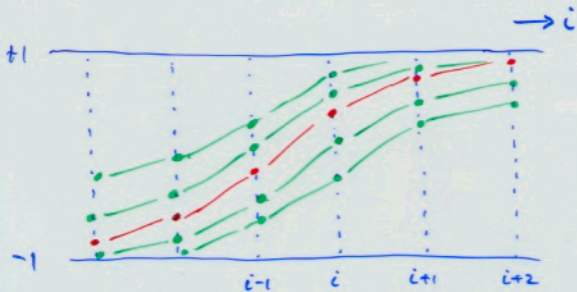
$$g(t+T) = S^{-1}g(t) \quad T = c_*^{-1}$$

$\Gamma \subseteq [-1, 1] \subseteq \mathcal{L}^\infty$ is invariant,
totally ordered,
maximal

$$\forall \xi \in [-1, 1] \subseteq \mathbb{R} \quad \forall i \in \mathbb{Z} \quad \exists u \in \Gamma \text{ with } u_i = \xi$$

If $c_* = 0$, what is the analog of Γ ?

ANS A "monotone complex" consisting of equilibria and their strong unstable manifolds.



Sample $g(t)$ at same t

Sample $g(t)$ at various t

A Generalized Traveling Wave for

$$\dot{u}_i = \alpha(u_{i+1} + u_{i-1} - 2u_i) - f(u_i)$$

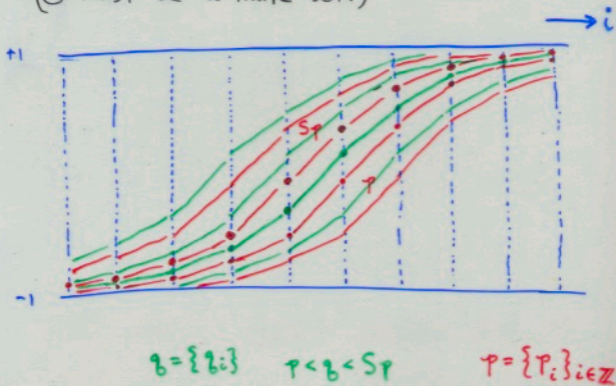
Assume $c_* = 0$

Assume for simplicity that every $u \in \mathcal{S}$ is hyperbolic, namely $\text{spec}(D\mathcal{F}(u)) \cap i\mathbb{R} = \emptyset$

Fix $p \in \mathcal{S}$

Let $G \subseteq \{u \in \mathcal{S} \mid p \leq u \leq Sp\}$ be a maximal totally ordered set

(G must be a finite set.)



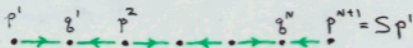
G contains an odd number of elements,
namely an even number modulo the
equivalence $p \sim Sp$

$$G = \left\{ \underset{\substack{\parallel \\ P}}{p^1} < q^1 < p^2 < q^2 < \dots < p^N < q^N < \underset{\substack{\parallel \\ Sp}}{p^{N+1}} \right\}$$

Elements of G alternate in stability

e.g. $p^i = \text{unstable}$ $q^i = \text{stable}$

Fill in gaps with strong unstable manifolds



Then apply all powers of S to get

$$\Gamma = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} S^n \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^N W(p^i) \cup \{q^i\} \right)$$

\circledast $\Gamma \subseteq [-1, 1] \subseteq \ell^\infty$ invariant
 totally ordered
 maximal

$\Rightarrow \forall \xi \in [-1, 1] \subseteq \mathbb{R}, \forall i \in \mathbb{Z}, \exists u \in \Gamma$ with $u_i = \xi$

Γ is closed in compact-open topology

$$\Gamma = \Gamma^{eb} \cup \Gamma^{up} \cup \Gamma^{dn}$$

\uparrow \uparrow
 $\dot{u}_i > 0 \ \forall i$ $\dot{u}_i < 0 \ \forall i$

\circledR Also, $\Gamma \subseteq \mathcal{M}$

DEF A generalized traveling wave (GTW) is a set Γ satisfying \circledast . It is regular if also \circledR holds.

Solution with $c \neq 0$ satisfies

$$u(t+T) = S^P u(t)$$

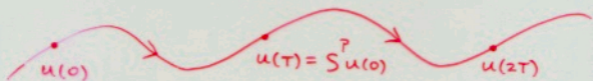
$$T = \frac{1}{c}$$

$$S: l^\infty \rightarrow l^\infty$$

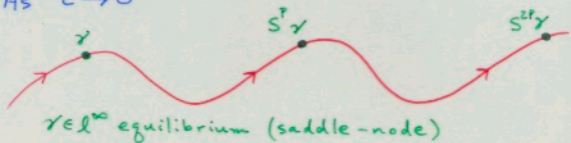
$$\{u_i\} \rightarrow \{u_{i+1}\}$$

shift operator

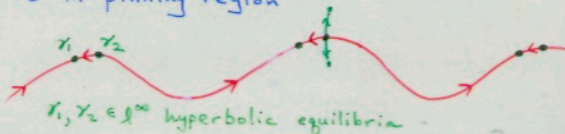
In phase space l^∞ :



As $c \rightarrow 0$



$c=0$ in pinning region



Techniques extend to more general system

$$\dot{u}_i = \alpha_i(u_{i+1} - u_i) + \beta_i(u_{i-1} - u_i) - f(u_i)$$

$$\alpha_{i+p} = \alpha_i > 0 \quad \beta_{i+p} = \beta_i > 0$$

THM \exists a regular GTW $\Gamma \in \ell^\infty$.

Non-periodic coefficients α_i, β_i

Approximating system with coefficients

$$\begin{cases} \alpha_i^N = \alpha_i & |i| \leq N \\ \alpha_{i+p}^N = \alpha_i^N & p = 2N+1 \end{cases} \quad + \text{ same with } \beta$$

$$\Rightarrow \Gamma^N \in \ell^\infty \text{ RGTW}$$

Limit as $N \rightarrow \infty$

$$\Gamma^N \rightarrow \Gamma \text{ GTW}$$

But is Γ regular?

THM Γ is regular if either

$$\alpha_i = \beta_i \quad \forall i$$

or else if

$$\underline{\alpha}(e^\lambda - 1) + \bar{\beta}(e^{-\lambda} - 1) + k > 0 \quad \forall \lambda \geq 0$$

$$\bar{\alpha}(e^\lambda - 1) + \underline{\beta}(e^{-\lambda} - 1) + k > 0 \quad \forall \lambda \leq 0$$

and

$$\underline{\alpha} = \liminf_{i \rightarrow \pm\infty} \alpha_i$$

$$\underline{\beta} = \text{similar}$$

$$\bar{\alpha} = \limsup_{i \rightarrow \pm\infty} \alpha_i$$

$$\bar{\beta} = \text{similar}$$

$$k = -f'(a) > 0$$