

# The KPP minimal speed within large drift in two dimensions

Mohammad El Smaily  
Joint work with Stéphane Kirsch

University of British Columbia &  
Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences

Banff, March-2010

Deterministic and Stochastic Front Propagation-BIRS

# Introduction

- Traveling fronts in the homogenous case:

The equation is

$$u_t(t, x) = \Delta u + f(u) \quad t \in \mathbb{R}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^N. \quad (1)$$

- The Diffusion is the Id Matrix and the Reaction is  $f = f(u)$  and **no advection term** ( $q \cdot \nabla u$ ).
- Given a unitary direction  $e \in \mathbb{R}^N$ , traveling fronts propagating in the direction of  $-e$  and with a speed  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  were introduced as solutions of (1) in the form  $u(t, x) = \phi(x \cdot e + ct) = \phi(s)$  satisfying the limiting conditions  $\phi(-\infty) = 0$  and  $\phi(+\infty) = 1$ .

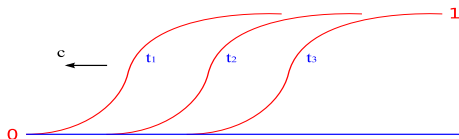


Figure: Traveling front, One dimensional case

## Theorem (Kolmogorov, Petrovsky and Piskunov)

*Having a KPP nonlinearity, a TF exists with a speed  $c$  iff  $c \geq 2\sqrt{f'(0)}$ . Moreover, this TF  $u(t, x)$  is increasing in  $t$ .*

$$c^* = 2\sqrt{f'(0)}$$

*is the minimal speed in the homogeneous case where there is no advection.*

The previous definition was extended to nonhomogeneous settings by Shigesada *et al* in 1986, H. Weinberger in 2002, J. Xin, and by Berestycki, Hamel in 2002:

- The domain is  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^{N-d}$  where  $1 \leq d \leq N$  such that:
- Each  $z \in \Omega$  can be written as  $z = (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^{N-d}$ .
- $\Omega$  is bounded in the  $y$  direction. That is,  $\exists R > 0$  s.t  $|y| \leq R$  for all  $(x, y) \in \Omega$ .
- There exist  $L_1, \dots, L_d > 0$  such that  $\boxed{\Omega = \Omega + k}$  for all  $k = (k_1, \dots, k_d, 0, \dots, 0) \in \prod_{i=1}^d L_i \mathbb{Z} \times \{0\}^{N-d}$ .
- Notice that if  $d = N$  then  $\Omega$  is unbounded in all directions.
- Having such domains, we assume that  $q = q(x, y)$  and  $f = f(x, y, u)$  are  $L$ -periodic in  $x$

$$q(x + L, y) = q(x, y), \quad f(x + L, y, u) = f(x, y, u)$$

s.t  $L = (L_1, \dots, L_d)$ .

## Equation

$$\begin{cases} u_t = \Delta u + q(x, y) \cdot \nabla u + f(x, y, u), & t \in \mathbb{R}, (x, y) \in \Omega, \\ \nu \cdot \nabla u = 0 & \text{on } \mathbb{R} \times \partial\Omega, \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

- Let  $e = (e^1, \dots, e^d) \in \mathbb{R}^d$  be a unitary direction and denote by  $\tilde{e} = (e, 0, \dots, 0) \in \mathbb{R}^N$ .

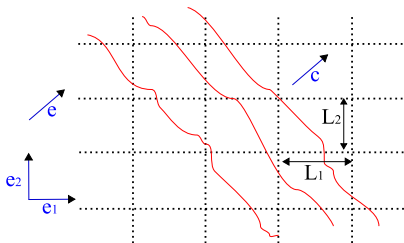
## Definition

A PTF propagating in the direction of  $-e$  with a speed  $c$  is a solution

$$u(t, x, y) = \phi(s, x, y) = \phi(x \cdot e + ct, x, y)$$

of (2) which is  $L$ -periodic in  $x$  and satisfies:

$$\phi(-\infty, \cdot, \cdot) = 0, \quad \phi(+\infty, \cdot, \cdot) = 1 \text{ uniformly in } (x, y) \in \Omega.$$



- $u_t = \operatorname{div}(A(x)\nabla u) + f(x, u)$
- $\Omega = \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $d = N = 2$ ,  $e \parallel (1, 1)$ .

# Assumptions on The Advection and Reaction

- The advection  $q(x, y) = (q_1(x, y), \dots, q_N(x, y))$  is a  $C^{1,\delta}(\bar{\Omega})$  (with  $\delta > 0$ ) vector field satisfying

$$q \text{ is } L\text{-periodic with respect to } x, \quad \nabla \cdot q = 0 \text{ in } \bar{\Omega},$$
$$q \cdot \nu = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega \text{ (when } \partial\Omega \neq \emptyset), \quad \text{and } \int_C q \, dx \, dy = 0.$$

- Generalized KPP nonlinearity  $f = f(x, y, u)$

$$f \geq 0, f \text{ is } L\text{-periodic with respect to } x, \text{ and of class } C^{1,\delta}(\bar{\Omega} \times [0, 1]),$$
$$\forall (x, y) \in \bar{\Omega}, \quad f(x, y, 0) = f(x, y, 1) = 0,$$
$$f \text{ is decreasing in } u \text{ on } \Omega \times [1 - \rho, 1] \text{ for some } \rho > 0$$

- With the additional “KPP” assumption

$$\forall (x, y, s) \in \bar{\Omega} \times (0, 1), \quad 0 < f(x, y, s) \leq f'_u(x, y, 0) \times s.$$

- Simple example:  $(x, y, u) \mapsto u(1 - u)h(x, y)$  defined on  $\bar{\Omega} \times [0, 1]$  where  $h$  is a positive  $C^{1,\delta}(\bar{\Omega})$   $L$ -periodic function.

## Theorem (Berestycki and Hamel, CPAM 2002)

- For any prefixed  $e \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , there exists a minimal speed  $c^* := c_{\Omega, q, f}^*(e) > 0$  such that a PTF with a speed  $c$  exists **if and only if**  $c \geq c^*$ .
- Any PTF is increasing in time.
- Moreover, for any  $c \geq c^*$ , Hamel and Roques proved that the fronts  $u(t, x, y)$  with a speed  $c$  are unique up to a translation in  $t$ .



# Variational formula for the minimal speed

- A variational formula of this minimal speed was given in 2005 (will be shown in the next slides...).
- This formula shows that this minimal speed depends strongly on the coefficients of the equation (Reaction, diffusion and advection) and on the geometry of the domain.
- Many asymptotic behaviors of  $c^*$  and many homogenization results have been studied by Berestycki-Hamel-Naderashvili, S. Heinze, Shigesada et al., J. Xin, A. Zlatoš, Zlatoš-Constantin-Kiselev-Ryzhik, E., and many others.
- In this talk, we will show a result about the asymptotic behavior of the minimal speed within large drift  $Mq$  ( $M \rightarrow +\infty$ ) and we will give some details about the limit in the case  $N=2$ .

# Variational Formula for the Parametric Minimal Speed

The equation that we study

$$\begin{cases} u_t = \Delta u + Mq(x, y) \cdot \nabla u + f(x, y, u), & t \in \mathbb{R}, (x, y) \in \Omega, \\ \nu \cdot \nabla u = 0 & \text{on } \mathbb{R} \times \partial\Omega. \end{cases}$$

$$c^*(M, e) = \min_{\lambda > 0} \frac{k(\lambda, M)}{\lambda};$$

- $k(\lambda, M)$  is the principal eigenvalue of the elliptic operator  $L_\lambda$  defined by

$$L_\lambda \psi := \Delta \psi + 2\lambda \tilde{e} \cdot \nabla \psi + Mq \cdot \nabla \psi + [\lambda^2 + \lambda Mq \cdot \tilde{e} + \zeta] \psi \text{ in } \Omega,$$

$$E_\lambda = \{ \psi(x, y) \in C^2(\overline{\Omega}), \psi \text{ is } L\text{-periodic in } x, \nu \cdot \nabla \psi = -\lambda(\nu \cdot \tilde{e})\psi \text{ on } \partial\Omega \}.$$

- The principal eigenfunction  $\psi^{\lambda, M}$  is positive in  $\overline{\Omega}$ . It is unique up to multiplication by a nonzero real number.
- $k(\lambda, M) > 0$  for all  $(\lambda, M) \in (0, +\infty) \times (0, +\infty)$ .

## Definition (First integrals)

The family of first integrals of  $q$  is defined by

$$\mathcal{I} := \left\{ w \in H_{loc}^1(\Omega), w \neq 0, w \text{ is } L\text{-periodic in } x, \text{ and } q \cdot \nabla w = 0 \text{ almost everywhere in } \Omega \right\}.$$

We also define the two subsets  $\mathcal{I}_1$  and  $\mathcal{I}_2$  :

$$\mathcal{I}_1 := \left\{ w \in \mathcal{I}, \text{ such that } \int_C \zeta w^2 \geq \int_C |\nabla w|^2 \right\}, \quad (3)$$

$$\mathcal{I}_2 := \left\{ w \in \mathcal{I}, \text{ such that } \int_C \zeta w^2 \leq \int_C |\nabla w|^2 \right\}.$$

$$\zeta(x, y) := f'_u(x, y, 0). \quad \zeta = f'(0) \text{ when } f = f(u).$$

# About “first integrals” of a vector field $q$

- The set  $\mathcal{I}$  is a closed subspace of  $H_{loc}^1(\Omega)$ .

## Notice

One can see that if  $w \in \mathcal{I}$  is a first integral of  $q$  and  $\eta : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a Lipschitz function, then  $\eta \circ w \in \mathcal{I}$ .

## Theorem (E.-Kirsch 2009)

We fix a unit direction  $e \in \mathbb{R}^d$ . Let  $q$  be an advection field which satisfies the previous assumptions. Then,

$$\lim_{M \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{c^*(Mq, e)}{M} = \max_{w \in \mathcal{I}_1} \frac{\int_C (q \cdot \tilde{e}) w^2}{\int_C w^2}. \quad (4)$$

- 1 Berestycki, Hamel and Nadirashvili (2005) gave estimates showing that the limit exists, but exact limit was still unknown.

## Theorem (E.-Kirsch 2009)

We fix a unit direction  $e \in \mathbb{R}^d$ . Let  $q$  be an advection field which satisfies the previous assumptions. Then,

$$\lim_{M \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{c^*(Mq, e)}{M} = \max_{w \in \mathcal{I}_1} \frac{\int_C (q \cdot \tilde{e}) w^2}{\int_C w^2}. \quad (4)$$

- 1 Berestycki, Hamel and Nadirashvili (2005) gave estimates showing that the limit exists, but exact limit was still unknown.
- 2 A. Zlatoš considered the same problem in any space dimension  $N$ .

## Theorem (E.-Kirsch 2009)

We fix a unit direction  $e \in \mathbb{R}^d$ . Let  $q$  be an advection field which satisfies the previous assumptions. Then,

$$\lim_{M \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{c^*(Mq, e)}{M} = \max_{w \in \mathcal{I}_1} \frac{\int_C (q \cdot \tilde{e}) w^2}{\int_C w^2}. \quad (4)$$

- 1 Berestycki, Hamel and Nadirashvili (2005) gave estimates showing that the limit exists, but exact limit was still unknown.
- 2 A. Zlatoš considered the same problem in any space dimension  $N$ .
- 3 We did this study in any dimension  $N$ , and we gave details about the limit in the case  $N = 2$ .

# Remarks and simple ideas

- $c^*(M) = \min_{\lambda > 0} \frac{k(\lambda, M)}{\lambda},$



# Remarks and simple ideas

- $c^*(M) = \min_{\lambda > 0} \frac{k(\lambda, M)}{\lambda},$
- $L_\lambda \psi := \Delta \psi + 2\lambda \tilde{e} \cdot \nabla \psi + M q \cdot \nabla \psi + [\lambda^2 + \lambda M q \cdot \tilde{e} + \zeta] \psi$  in  $\Omega,$

## Remarks and simple ideas

- $c^*(M) = \min_{\lambda > 0} \frac{k(\lambda, M)}{\lambda}$ ,
- $L_\lambda \psi := \Delta \psi + 2\lambda \tilde{e} \cdot \nabla \psi + M q \cdot \nabla \psi + [\lambda^2 + \lambda M q \cdot \tilde{e} + \zeta] \psi$  in  $\Omega$ ,
- We call

$$\lambda' = \lambda \times M, \text{ and } \mu(\lambda', M) = k(\lambda, M) \text{ and } \psi^{\lambda', M} = \psi^{\lambda, M}.$$

# Remarks and simple ideas

- $c^*(M) = \min_{\lambda > 0} \frac{k(\lambda, M)}{\lambda}$ ,
- $L_\lambda \psi := \Delta \psi + 2\lambda \tilde{e} \cdot \nabla \psi + M q \cdot \nabla \psi + [\lambda^2 + \lambda M q \cdot \tilde{e} + \zeta] \psi$  in  $\Omega$ ,
- We call

$$\lambda' = \lambda \times M, \text{ and } \mu(\lambda', M) = k(\lambda, M) \text{ and } \psi^{\lambda', M} = \psi^{\lambda, M}.$$

- Then,

$$\forall M > 0, \quad \frac{c^*(M)}{M} = \min_{\lambda' > 0} \frac{\mu(\lambda', M)}{\lambda'}.$$

# Remarks and simple ideas

- $c^*(M) = \min_{\lambda > 0} \frac{k(\lambda, M)}{\lambda}$ ,
- $L_\lambda \psi := \Delta \psi + 2\lambda \tilde{e} \cdot \nabla \psi + M q \cdot \nabla \psi + [\lambda^2 + \lambda M q \cdot \tilde{e} + \zeta] \psi$  in  $\Omega$ ,
- We call

$$\lambda' = \lambda \times M, \text{ and } \mu(\lambda', M) = k(\lambda, M) \text{ and } \psi^{\lambda', M} = \psi^{\lambda, M}.$$

- Then,

$$\forall M > 0, \quad \frac{c^*(M)}{M} = \min_{\lambda' > 0} \frac{\mu(\lambda', M)}{\lambda'}.$$

•

$$(E) \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mu(\lambda', M) \psi^{\lambda', M} = \Delta \psi^{\lambda', M} + 2 \frac{\lambda'}{M} \tilde{e} \cdot \nabla \psi + M q \cdot \nabla \psi^{\lambda', M} \\ \quad + \left[ \left( \frac{\lambda'}{M} \right)^2 + \lambda' q \cdot \tilde{e} + \zeta \right] \psi^{\lambda', M} \text{ in } \Omega, \\ \nu \cdot \nabla \psi^{\lambda', M} = - \frac{\lambda'}{M} (\nu \cdot \tilde{e}) \psi^{\lambda', M} \text{ on } \partial\Omega \text{ (whenever } \partial\Omega \neq \emptyset). \end{array} \right.$$

## Remark: Eigenfunctions converge to first integrals

For a fixed  $\lambda'$ , we take a sequence  $\{\psi^{\lambda', M_n}\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  such that

$$\int_C (\psi^{\lambda', M_n})^2 = 1.$$

We get  $\{\psi^{\lambda', M_n}\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is bounded in  $H^1(C)$ .

Hence there exists  $\psi^{\lambda', +\infty} \in H_{loc}^1(\Omega)$  s.t.  $\psi^{\lambda', M_n} \rightarrow \psi^{\lambda', +\infty}$  in  $H_{loc}^1(\Omega)$  weak, in  $L_{loc}^2(\Omega)$  strong, and almost everywhere in  $\Omega$  as  $n \rightarrow +\infty$ .

Elliptic eigenvalue problem implies that  $\psi^{\lambda', +\infty}$  is a first integral.

In dimension  $N = 2$ , the domain  $\Omega$  may be:

- 1- The whole space  $\mathbb{R}^2$  ( $d = N = 2$ ).
- 2-  $\mathbb{R}^2$  except a periodic array of holes ( $d = N = 2$ )
- 3- For  $d = 1$ ,  $\Omega$  can be an infinite cylinder with a uniform boundary or with an oscillating boundary.
- 4- For  $d = 1$ , the cylinder is connected but it may have a periodic array of holes.

## A Question and Some Remarks

- We were interested in getting Necessary and Sufficient Conditions on the advection field for which the limit of  $c^*(M)/M$  is positive.
- In dimension  $N = 2$  the geometry helps to study the divergence free advection field  $q$  which appears explicitly in the limit.

### Proposition (E.-Kirsch 2009)

Let  $d = 1$  or  $2$  where  $d$  is defined before. Let  $q = q(x, y) \in C^{1,\delta}(\overline{\Omega})$ ,  $L$ -periodic with respect to  $x$  and verifying the conditions

$$\int_C q = 0, \quad \nabla \cdot q = 0 \text{ in } \Omega, \quad q \cdot \nu = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega. \quad (5)$$

Then, there exists  $\phi \in C^{2,\delta}(\overline{\Omega})$ ,  $L$ -periodic with respect to  $x$ , such that

$$q = \nabla^\perp \phi \text{ in } \Omega. \quad (6)$$

Moreover,  $\phi$  is constant on every connected component of  $\partial\Omega$ .

## Remark

- The representation  $q = \nabla^\perp \phi$  is well-known in the case where the domain  $\Omega$  is bounded and **simply connected** or equal to whole space  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .
- However, the above proposition applies for domains which are not simply connected.

•  $\nabla^\perp \phi \cdot \nu = q \cdot \nu = 0$  on  $\partial\Omega \Rightarrow \phi$  is constant on every connected component of  $\partial\Omega$ .

- In the proof of existence of  $\phi$ , ( $d = 2$  let's say)

$$\hat{\Omega} := \Omega / (L_1\mathbb{Z} \times L_2\mathbb{Z}) \quad \text{and} \quad T := \mathbb{R}^2 / (L_1\mathbb{Z} \times L_2\mathbb{Z}).$$

If  $x \in \mathbb{R}^2$ , we denote by  $\hat{x}$  its class of equivalence in  $T$ , and if  $\phi : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is  $L$ -periodic, we denote  $\hat{\phi}$  the function  $T \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  verifying  $\phi(x) = \hat{\phi}(\hat{x})$ .



Define

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{q} : T &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^2, \\ \hat{x} \in \overline{\hat{\Omega}} &\longmapsto q(x), \\ \hat{x} \notin \overline{\hat{\Omega}} &\longmapsto 0.\end{aligned}$$

- $\tilde{q}$  is a divergence free vector field on  $T$  in the sense of distributions:

$$\forall \psi \in C^\infty(T),$$

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \operatorname{div}(\tilde{q}), \psi \rangle &:= - \langle \tilde{q}, \nabla \psi \rangle = - \int_T \tilde{q} \cdot \nabla \psi \\ &= - \int_{\hat{\Omega}} q \cdot \nabla \psi = - \int_{\partial \hat{\Omega}} \psi q \cdot \nu + \int_{\hat{\Omega}} \psi \nabla \cdot q \\ &= 0 + 0 = 0,\end{aligned}$$

We first get  $\tilde{\phi}$  solution of

$$\Delta \tilde{\phi} = \nabla \cdot R\tilde{q} \text{ in } T$$

in the weak sense.

We then have  $\tilde{\phi} \in H^1(T)$  such that in the sense of distributions

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \cdot R(\tilde{q} - \nabla^\perp \tilde{\phi}) &= 0 \text{ in } T \quad \text{and} \\ \nabla \cdot (\tilde{q} - \nabla^\perp \tilde{\phi}) &= 0 \text{ in } T \quad \text{since } \nabla \cdot \tilde{q} = 0 \text{ in } \mathcal{D}'(T) \text{ and } \operatorname{div}(\nabla^\perp \cdot) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

This implies that  $\tilde{q} - \nabla^\perp \tilde{\phi}$  is a harmonic distribution on  $T$ . Using Weyl's theorem, we conclude that  $\tilde{q} - \nabla^\perp \tilde{\phi}$  is a harmonic function on the torus  $T$  and therefore is constant.

- Then we define  $\hat{\phi} = \tilde{\phi}|_{\hat{\Omega}}$  and we take  $\phi$  the corresponding  $L$ -periodic function on  $\Omega$ .
- Also we get  $\nabla^\perp \tilde{\phi} = \tilde{q} = 0$  on  $T \setminus \hat{\Omega}$ .
- Hence  $\tilde{\phi} = \text{Constant}$  on  $T \setminus \hat{\Omega}$ .

## Corollary (Now we know more about first integrals...)

Let

$$\mathcal{J} := \{\eta \circ \phi, \text{ such that } \eta : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \text{ is Lipschitz}\}, \quad (7)$$

where  $\phi$ , such that  $q = \nabla^\perp \phi$ , is given by Proposition 6. Then,

$$\mathcal{J} \subset \mathcal{I}.$$

# The first integrals of the form $w = \eta \circ \phi$ , $\mathcal{J}$

$$\forall w \in \mathcal{J}, \text{ we have } \int_C (q \cdot \tilde{e}) w^2 = 0.$$

- Indeed,  $w = \eta \circ \phi$  and  $q = \nabla^\perp \phi$ . This gives

$$\begin{aligned} \int_C (q \cdot \tilde{e}) w^2 &= \tilde{e} \cdot \int_C (\nabla^\perp \phi) \eta^2(\phi) \\ &= \tilde{e} \cdot R \int_C \nabla (F \circ \phi) = \tilde{e} \cdot R \int_{\hat{\Omega}} \nabla (F \circ \tilde{\phi}), \end{aligned}$$

where  $R$  the matrix of a direct rotation of angle  $\pi/2$ ,  $F' = \eta^2$ ,

and where

$$T := \mathbb{R}^2 / (L_1 \mathbb{Z} \times L_2 \mathbb{Z}) \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{\Omega} := \Omega / (L_1 \mathbb{Z} \times L_2 \mathbb{Z}) \quad \text{if } d = 2,$$

$$T := \mathbb{R}^2 / (L_1 \mathbb{Z} \times \{0\}) \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{\Omega} := \Omega / (L_1 \mathbb{Z} \times \{0\}) \quad \text{if } d = 1.$$

- $\tilde{\phi}$  is constant on every connected component of  $T \setminus \hat{\Omega}$ , and so is  $F \circ \tilde{\phi}$ .

We then have

$$\int_{T \setminus \hat{\Omega}} \nabla (F \circ \tilde{\phi}) = 0.$$

- Hence,  $\int_C (q \cdot \tilde{e}) w^2 = \tilde{e} \cdot R \int_T \nabla (F \circ \tilde{\phi}) = 0$ , because  $T$  has no boundary. □

After studying the quantities of the form  $\int_C q \cdot \tilde{e} w^2$ , where  $w \in \mathcal{I}$ , it turned out that the limit of  $c^*(M)/M$  depends strongly on the trajectories (stream lines) of the advection field  $q$ .

# Trajectories of an $L$ -periodic vector field, Periodicity of trajectories?

## Definition (Trajectory of a vector field)

Assume that  $N = 2$ . Let  $x \in \Omega$  such that  $q(x) \neq 0$ . The trajectory of  $q$  at  $x$  is the largest (in the sense of inclusion) connected differentiable curve  $T(x)$  in  $\Omega$  verifying:

- (i)  $x \in T(x)$ ,
- (ii)  $\forall y \in T(x), q(y) \neq 0$ ,
- (iii)  $\forall y \in T(x), q(y)$  is tangent to  $T(x)$  at the point  $y$ .

The decision about the limit (null or positive) will depend on the existence of **periodic unbounded traj.** for  $q$ !

### Lemma (unbounded periodic trajectories)

Let  $T(x)$  be an unbounded periodic trajectory of  $q$  in  $\Omega$ , that is:

- there exists  $\mathbf{a} \in L_1\mathbb{Z} \times L_2\mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}$  (resp.  $L_1\mathbb{Z} \times \{0\} \setminus \{0\}$ ) when  $d = 2$  (resp.  $d = 1$ ) such that  $T(x) = T(x) + \mathbf{a}$ .
- In this case, we say that  $T(x)$  is  $\mathbf{a}$ -periodic.

Then,

if  $T(y)$  is another unbounded periodic trajectory of  $q$ ,  $T(y)$  is also  $\mathbf{a}$ -periodic.

Moreover,

in the case  $d = 1$ ,  $\mathbf{a} = L_1 e_1$ . That is, all the unbounded periodic trajectories of  $q$  in  $\Omega$  are  $L_1 e_1$ -periodic.



- There may exist **unbounded trajectories which are not periodic**, even though the vector field  $q$  is **periodic**.

A periodic vector field whose unbounded trajectories are not periodic!

Let

$$\phi(x, y) := \begin{cases} e^{-\frac{1}{\sin^2(\pi y)}} \sin(2\pi(x + \ln(y - [y]))) & \text{if } y \notin \mathbb{Z}, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

- $\phi$  is  $C^\infty$  on  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , and 1-periodic in  $x$  and  $y$ .
- Hence the vector field  $q = \nabla^\perp \phi$  is also  $C^\infty$ , 1-periodic in  $x$  and  $y$ , and  $\int_{[0,1] \times [0,1]} q = 0$  with  $\nabla \cdot q \equiv 0$ .
- The part of the graph of  $x \mapsto e^{-x}$  lying between  $y = 0$  and  $y = 1$  is a trajectory of  $q$ , and is obviously **unbounded and not periodic**.
- There exist no periodic unbounded trajectory for this vector field, so the theorem asserts that for all  $w \in \mathcal{I}$  we have

$$\int_C q w^2 = 0.$$

## Theorem (E.-Kirsch 2009)

Assume that  $N = 2$  and that  $\Omega$  and  $q$  satisfy the assumptions. The two following statements are equivalent:

(i) There exists  $w \in \mathcal{I}$ , such that  $\int_{\mathcal{C}} qw^2 \neq 0$ .

(ii) There exists a periodic unbounded trajectory  $T(x)$  of  $q$  in  $\Omega$ .

Moreover, if (ii) is verified and  $T(x)$  is  $\mathbf{a}$ -periodic, then for any  $w \in \mathcal{I}$  we have  $\int_{\mathcal{C}} qw^2 \in \mathbb{R}\mathbf{a}$ .

# Consequences

As a direct consequence of the previous Theorems, we get the following about the asymptotic behavior of the minimal speed within large drift:

Assume that  $N = 2$ . Then,

(i) If there exists no periodic unbounded trajectory of  $q$  in  $\Omega$ , then

$$\lim_{M \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{c_{\Omega, Mq, f}^*(e)}{M} = 0,$$

for any unit direction  $e$ .

(ii) If there exists a periodic unbounded trajectory  $T(x)$  of  $q$  in  $\Omega$  (which will be  $\mathbf{a}$ -periodic for some vector  $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^2$ ) then

$$\lim_{M \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{c_{\Omega, Mq, f}^*(e)}{M} > 0 \iff \tilde{e} \cdot \mathbf{a} \neq 0. \quad (8)$$

Notice that in the case where  $d = 1$ , we have  $\tilde{e} = \pm e_1$ . Lemma 10 yields that  $\tilde{e} \cdot \mathbf{a} = \pm L_1 \neq 0$ .

Thus, for  $d = 1$ ,

$$\lim_{M \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{c_{Mq}^*(e)}{M} > 0 \iff \exists \text{ a periodic unbounded traj. } T(x) \text{ of } q \text{ in } \Omega.$$

# Proof of the Theorem

## Definition

We define here the set of “regular trajectories” in  $\hat{\Omega}$ . Let  $\hat{U} := \left\{ \hat{x} \in \hat{\Omega} \text{ such that } T(\hat{x}) \text{ is well defined and closed in } \overline{\hat{\Omega}} \right\}$ .

- We denote by  $\hat{U}_i$  the connected components of  $\hat{U}$ .

## Proposition

*The set  $\hat{U}$  is exactly the union of the trajectories which are simple closed curves in  $\hat{\Omega}$ .*

## Proof of the Theorem.

- $$\int_C qw^2 = R \int_C (\nabla \phi) w^2 = R \int_{\hat{\Omega}} (\nabla \hat{\phi}) \hat{w}^2.$$
- Let  $W := \{ \hat{x} \in \hat{\Omega} \text{ such that } \hat{\phi}(\hat{x}) \text{ is a critical value of } \hat{\phi} \}$ .

- Co-area  $\Rightarrow \left| \int_W \hat{w}^2 \nabla \hat{\phi} \right| \leq \int_W \hat{w}^2 |\nabla \hat{\phi}| = \int_{\hat{\phi}(W)} \left( \int_{\hat{\phi}^{-1}(t)} \hat{w}^2(x) \right) dt.$

- From Sard's theorem, since  $\hat{\phi}$  is  $C^2$ ,  $\mathcal{L}^1(\hat{\phi}(W)) = 0$ , where  $\mathcal{L}^1$  denotes the Lebesgue measure on  $\mathbb{R}$ .

One then gets

$$\int_W \hat{w}^2 \nabla \hat{\phi} = 0.$$

- $\hat{\Omega} \setminus W \subset \hat{U} \subset \hat{\Omega}$ , we get

$$\int_C qw^2 = R \int_{\hat{\Omega}} (\nabla \hat{\phi}) \hat{w}^2 = R \int_{\hat{U}} (\nabla \hat{\phi}) \hat{w}^2 = R \sum_i \int_{\hat{U}_i} (\nabla \hat{\phi}) \hat{w}^2. \quad (9)$$

We need the following preliminary lemma in order to give details about the limit when  $N = 2$ :

## Lemma

Let  $\hat{\Omega}$  be the set defined before,  $\hat{V}$  be an open subset of  $\hat{\Omega}$ , and  $\hat{\phi}$  given by (6). Suppose that:

- (i)  $\hat{q}(\hat{x}) \neq 0$  for all  $\hat{x} \in \hat{V}$ ,
- (ii) the level sets of  $\hat{\phi}$  in  $\hat{V}$  are all connected.

Then, for every  $w \in \mathcal{I}$ , there exists a continuous function  $\eta : \hat{\phi}(\hat{V}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that

$$\hat{w} = \eta \circ \hat{\phi} \text{ on } \hat{V}. \quad (10)$$

We now use Lemma 14 to get  $\eta_i$  continuous such that

$$\int_{\hat{U}_i} (\nabla \hat{\phi}) \hat{w}^2 = \int_{\hat{U}_i} (\nabla \hat{\phi}) \eta_i^2(\hat{\phi}).$$

We define the function  $F_i$  by  $F_i' = \eta_i^2$  and  $F_i(0) = 0$ , and we obtain

$$\int_{\hat{U}_i} (\nabla \hat{\phi}) \hat{w}^2 = \int_{\hat{U}_i} \nabla F_i(\hat{\phi}).$$

## Lemma

Let  $\hat{U}_i$  as in the previous definition. Then,

- (i) all the level sets of  $\hat{\phi}$  in  $\hat{U}_i$  are connected,
- (ii) all the level sets of  $\hat{\phi}$  in  $\hat{U}_i$  are homeomorphic,
- (iii)  $\partial \hat{U}_i$  has exactly two connected components  $\hat{\gamma}_1$  and  $\hat{\gamma}_2$  such that  $\hat{\phi}(\hat{\gamma}_1) = \sup_{\hat{x} \in \hat{U}_i} \hat{\phi}(\hat{x})$  and  $\hat{\phi}(\hat{\gamma}_2) = \inf_{\hat{x} \in \hat{U}_i} \hat{\phi}(\hat{x})$ .



Due to the condition  $q \cdot \nu = 0$  on  $\partial\Omega$ , we have

Trajs of  $q$  follow the boundary, and this led us to:  $\gamma_1$  (resp.  $\gamma_2$ ) is either a connected component of  $\partial\hat{\Omega}$  or contains a critical point of  $\hat{\phi}$ .

If we define

$$\hat{U}_i^\varepsilon := \{\hat{x} \in \hat{U}_i \text{ such that } \inf_{\hat{U}_i} \hat{\phi} + \varepsilon < \hat{\phi}(x) < \sup_{\hat{U}_i} \hat{\phi} - \varepsilon\},$$

then it follows from dominated convergence theorem that

$$\int_{\hat{U}_i^\varepsilon} (\nabla \hat{\phi}) \hat{w}^2 \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{\hat{U}_i} (\nabla \hat{\phi}) \hat{w}^2. \quad (11)$$

•  $\Upsilon_{ii}) \implies \Upsilon_i)$  We suppose that there exist no periodic unbounded trajectories of  $q$ . In  $\hat{U}_i$ , the trajectories of  $q$  are exactly the level sets of  $\hat{\phi}$ . We consider the following set

$$U_i^\varepsilon := \Pi^{-1}(\hat{U}_i^\varepsilon).$$

Let  $x_0 \in U_i^\varepsilon$  and let  $U_{i,0}^\varepsilon$  be the connected component of  $U_i^\varepsilon$  containing  $x_0$ .

• We proved that  $\Pi$  is a **measure preserving bijection** from  $U_{i,0}^\varepsilon$  to  $\hat{U}_i^\varepsilon$ .

- Thus  $\int_{\hat{U}_i^\varepsilon} (\nabla \hat{\phi}) \hat{w}^2 = \int_{U_{i,0}^\varepsilon} (\nabla \phi) w^2 = \int_{U_{i,0}^\varepsilon} \nabla F_i(\phi) = \int_{\partial U_{i,0}^\varepsilon} F_i(\phi) \mathbf{n}$ ,
- $\partial U_{i,0}^\varepsilon$  is the union of two level sets  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  of  $\phi$  in  $\Omega$ , which are both simple closed curves!
- So we can write

$$\int_{U_{i,0}^\varepsilon} (\nabla \phi) w^2 = F(\phi(C_1)) \int_{C_1} \mathbf{n} + F(\phi(C_2)) \int_{C_2} \mathbf{n},$$

with

$$\int_{C_1} \mathbf{n} = \int_{C_2} \mathbf{n} = 0,$$

because the integral of the unit normal on a  $C^1$  closed curve in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is zero.

□

*ii)  $\implies$  i)* was proved using the same technics.

**Thank You**