

# Chapter 5 - Travelling waves

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \underbrace{f(u)}$$

## 5.1 Fisher-KPP equation

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \underbrace{D \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}}_{\text{diffusion}} + \underbrace{ru \left(1 - \frac{u}{K}\right)}_{\text{logistic growth}} \quad \begin{array}{l} x \in (-\infty, \infty) \\ t > 0 \end{array}$$

Non-dimensionalise

$$\begin{aligned} u &= [u] \tilde{u} \\ t &= [t] \tilde{t} \\ x &= [x] \tilde{x} \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial \tilde{t}}{\partial t} \frac{\partial}{\partial \tilde{t}} = \frac{1}{[t]} \frac{\partial}{\partial \tilde{t}}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial \tilde{x}}{\partial x} \frac{\partial}{\partial \tilde{x}} = \frac{1}{[x]} \frac{\partial}{\partial \tilde{x}}$$

$$[u] = K$$

$$\frac{[u]}{[t]} \frac{\partial \tilde{u}}{\partial \tilde{t}} = \frac{D [u]}{[x]^2} \frac{\partial^2 \tilde{u}}{\partial \tilde{x}^2} + r [u] \tilde{u} \left(1 - \frac{[u] \tilde{u}}{K}\right)$$

$$[t] = \frac{1}{r}$$

$$\frac{D}{r [x]^2} = 1 \Rightarrow [x] = \sqrt{\frac{r}{D}}$$

$$\frac{\partial \tilde{u}}{\partial \tilde{t}} = \frac{\partial^2 \tilde{u}}{\partial \tilde{x}^2} + \tilde{u} (1 - \tilde{u}) \quad \begin{array}{l} \tilde{x} \in (-\infty, \infty) \\ \tilde{t} > 0 \end{array}$$

$$\text{ICS: } \tilde{u}(\tilde{x}, 0) = \tilde{u}_0(\tilde{x}), \quad \tilde{u}(\tilde{x}, \tilde{t}) \rightarrow \tilde{u}_{\pm\infty} \text{ as } \tilde{x} \rightarrow \pm\infty$$

## Travelling waves

Solutions that propagate without change in shape at fixed speed  $c$  (unknown).

change reference frame:  $z = x - ct$

change of variables

$$\left. \begin{aligned} z &= x - ct \\ \tau &= t \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial \tau}{\partial t} \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial t} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} - c \frac{\partial}{\partial z}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial \tau}{\partial x} \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial}{\partial z}$$

$$\text{let } u(x, t) = \hat{u}(z, \tau)$$

$$\frac{\partial \hat{u}}{\partial \tau} - c \frac{\partial \hat{u}}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial^2 \hat{u}}{\partial z^2} + \hat{u}(1 - \hat{u}) \quad \begin{aligned} z &\in (-\infty, \infty) \\ \tau &> 0 \end{aligned}$$

seek solutions  $\hat{u}(z, \tau) = U(z)$

$$U'' + cU' + U(1 - U) = 0 \quad \left( ' = \frac{d}{dz} \right)$$

$$z \in (-\infty, \infty)$$

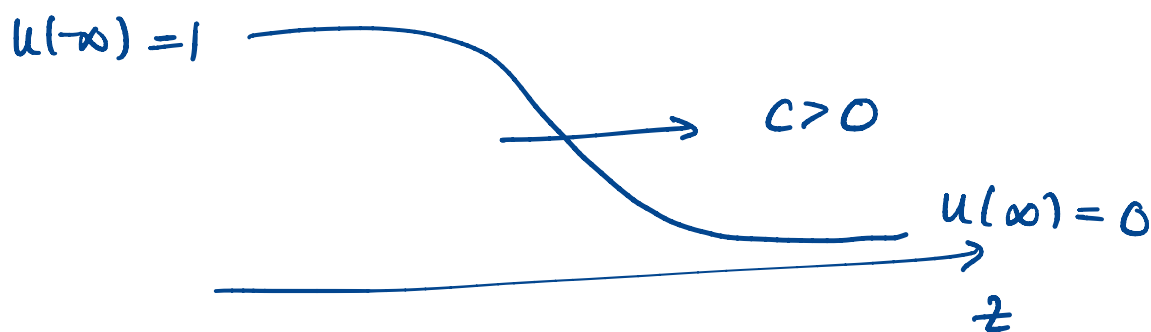
BCs:  $U(z) \rightarrow U_{\pm\infty}$  as  $z \rightarrow \pm\infty$ .

What values can  $U_{\pm\infty}$  take?

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} [U'' + cU' + U(1 - U)] dz$$

$$= [U' + cU]_{-\infty}^{\infty} + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} U(1 - U) dz = 0$$

For  $u$  constant as  $z \rightarrow \pm \infty$ , and  $u, u'$  finite  $\forall z$ ,  
then either  $u \rightarrow 0$  or  $u \rightarrow 1$  as  $z \rightarrow \pm \infty$ .



NB1 Solutions of the original Fisher-KPP equation  
are unique.

NB2 Solutions of the TW equation are not.

If  $u(z)$  is a solution for fixed  $c$   $\Rightarrow$   $u(z+A)$  is a solution for the same  $c$ .

But, if  $c, A$  both fixed, the wave is usually unique.

## Phase plane analysis's

$$u'' + cu' + u(1-u) = 0 \quad z \in (-\infty, \infty)$$

Boundary conditions:  $u(-\infty) = 1, u(+\infty) = 0$

Let  $u' = v$

$$v' = u'' = -cv - u(1-u)$$

i.e. 
$$\frac{d}{dz} \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} v \\ -cv - u(1-u) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} f(u,v) \\ g(u,v) \end{pmatrix}$$

Steady states:  $f(u,v) = 0 \Rightarrow v = 0$   
 $g(u,v) = 0 \Rightarrow u = 0, 1$

$\therefore$  steady states are  $(0,0)$  and  $(1,0)$ .

Linear stability:  $u = u_s + \tilde{u}$   $\tilde{u}, \tilde{v}$  are small perturbations.  
 $v = v_s + \tilde{v}$

$$\frac{d}{dz} \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{u} \\ \tilde{v} \end{pmatrix} = J \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{u} \\ \tilde{v} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$J = \left. \begin{pmatrix} \partial f / \partial u & \partial f / \partial v \\ \partial g / \partial u & \partial g / \partial v \end{pmatrix} \right|_{(u_s, v_s)}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1+2u_s & -c \end{pmatrix}$$

Recall: seek solns  $\begin{pmatrix} \tilde{u} \\ \tilde{v} \end{pmatrix} = \underline{v} e^{\lambda t}$   
solutions  $\Leftrightarrow \det(J - \lambda I) = 0$ .



(0,0)

$$\det(J - \lambda I) = \det \begin{pmatrix} -\lambda & 1 \\ -1 & -c - \lambda \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda(\lambda + c) + 1 = 0$$

$$\lambda^2 + c\lambda + 1 = 0$$

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{2} [-c \pm \sqrt{c^2 - 4}]$$

$\Rightarrow$  stable node if  $c \geq 2$

stable spiral if  $c < 2$

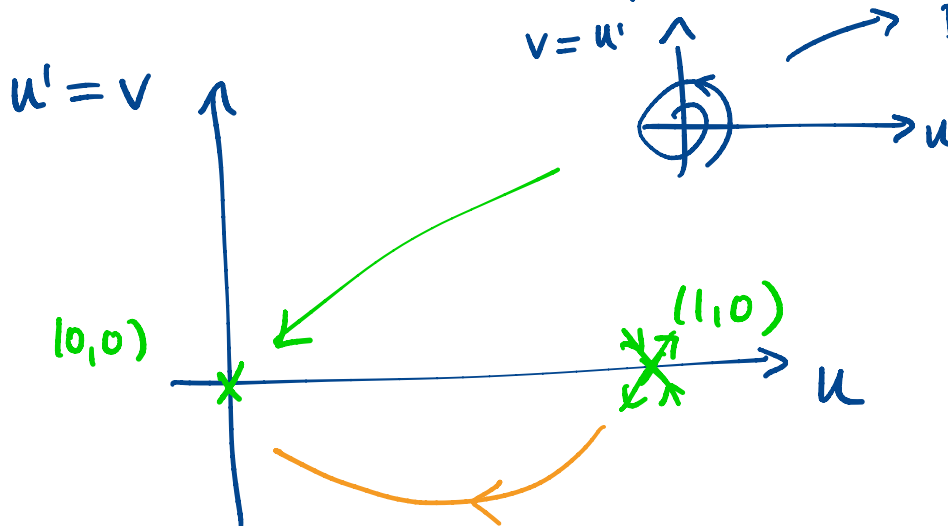
(1,0)

$$\det(J - \lambda I) = \det \begin{pmatrix} -\lambda & 1 \\ 1 & -c - \lambda \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$\lambda^2 + c\lambda - 1 = 0$$

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{2} [-c \pm \sqrt{c^2 + 4}]$$

$\Rightarrow$  Saddle point.



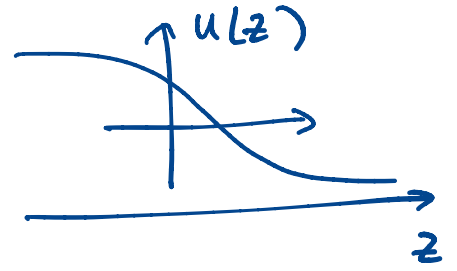
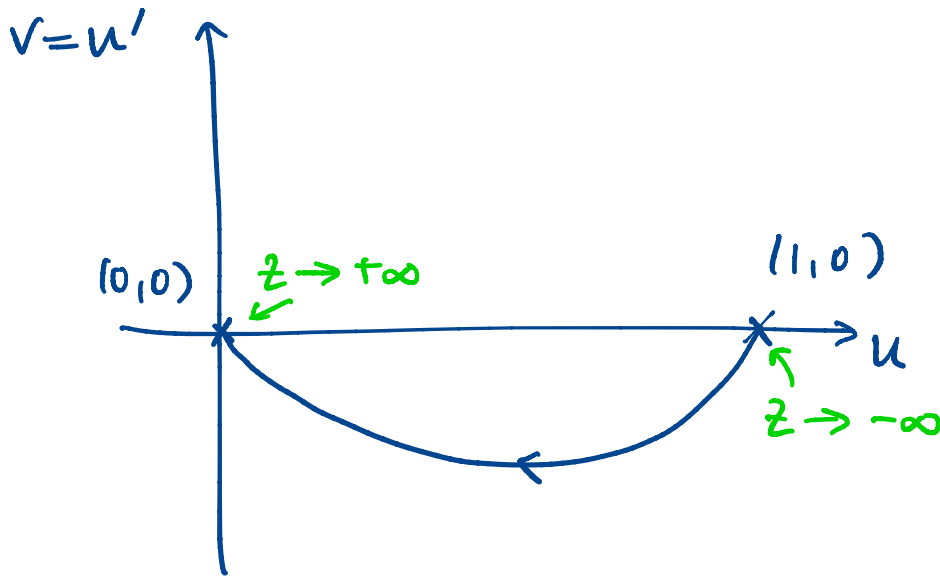
if  $c < 2$  then  $u < 0$  which is unfeasible

so we require

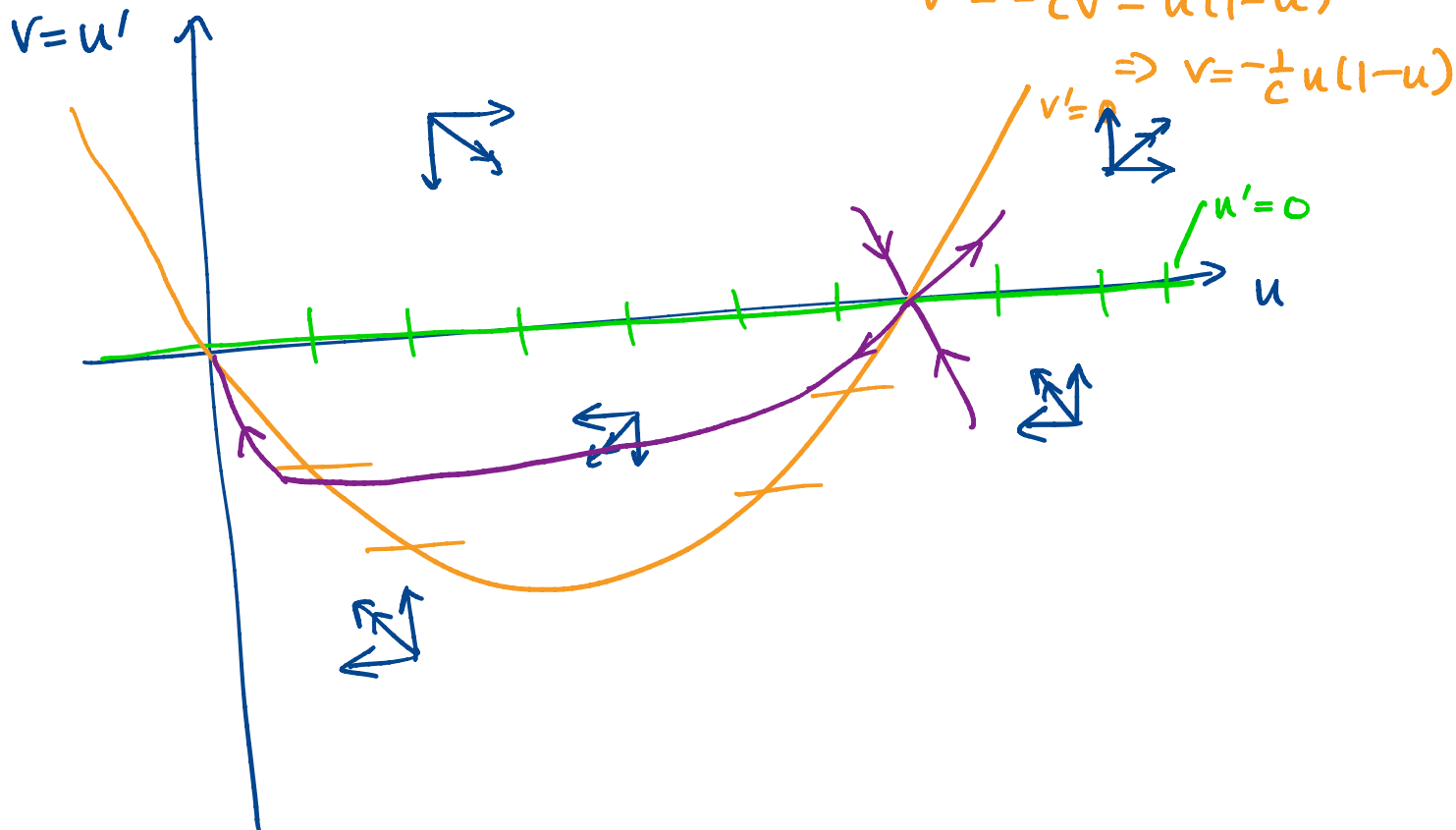
$$c \geq c_{\min} = 2$$

# Existence and uniqueness

consider  $c \geq 2$ .



# Phase plane



Let's check the direction of the trajectory leaving  $(1,0)$

Recall:  $\lambda \underline{v} = \underline{J} \underline{v} \Rightarrow \underline{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ q_{\pm} \end{pmatrix}$

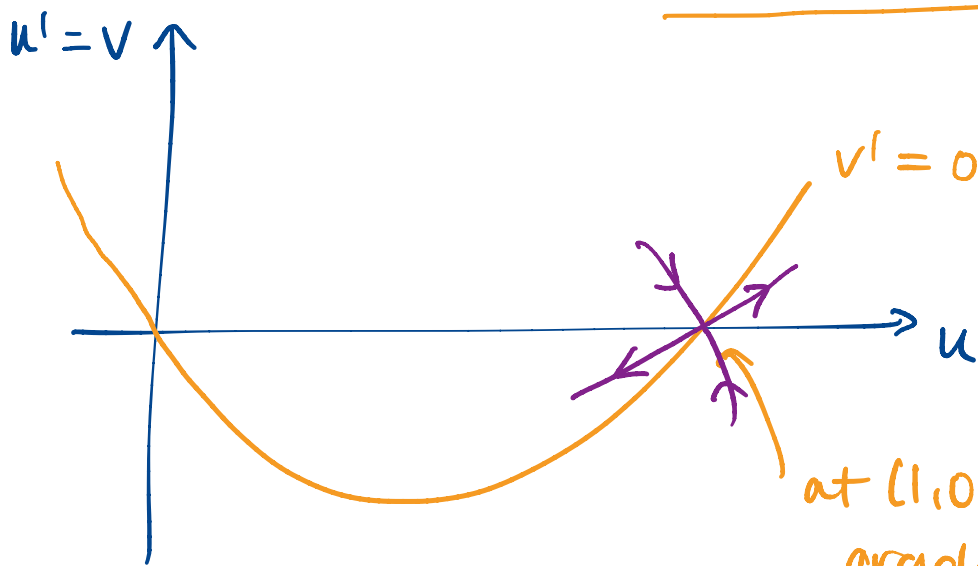
$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & -c \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ q_{\pm} \end{pmatrix} = \lambda_{\pm} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ q_{\pm} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow q_{\pm} = \lambda_{\pm}$$

$$e^i \quad \underline{v}_{\pm} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ q_{\pm} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \frac{1}{2} [-c \pm \sqrt{c^2 + 4}] \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Gradient: } \frac{1}{2} [-c \pm \sqrt{c^2 + 4}]$$

$$\text{unstable manifold } \underline{\frac{1}{2} [-c + \sqrt{c^2 + 4}]} < \frac{1}{c}$$



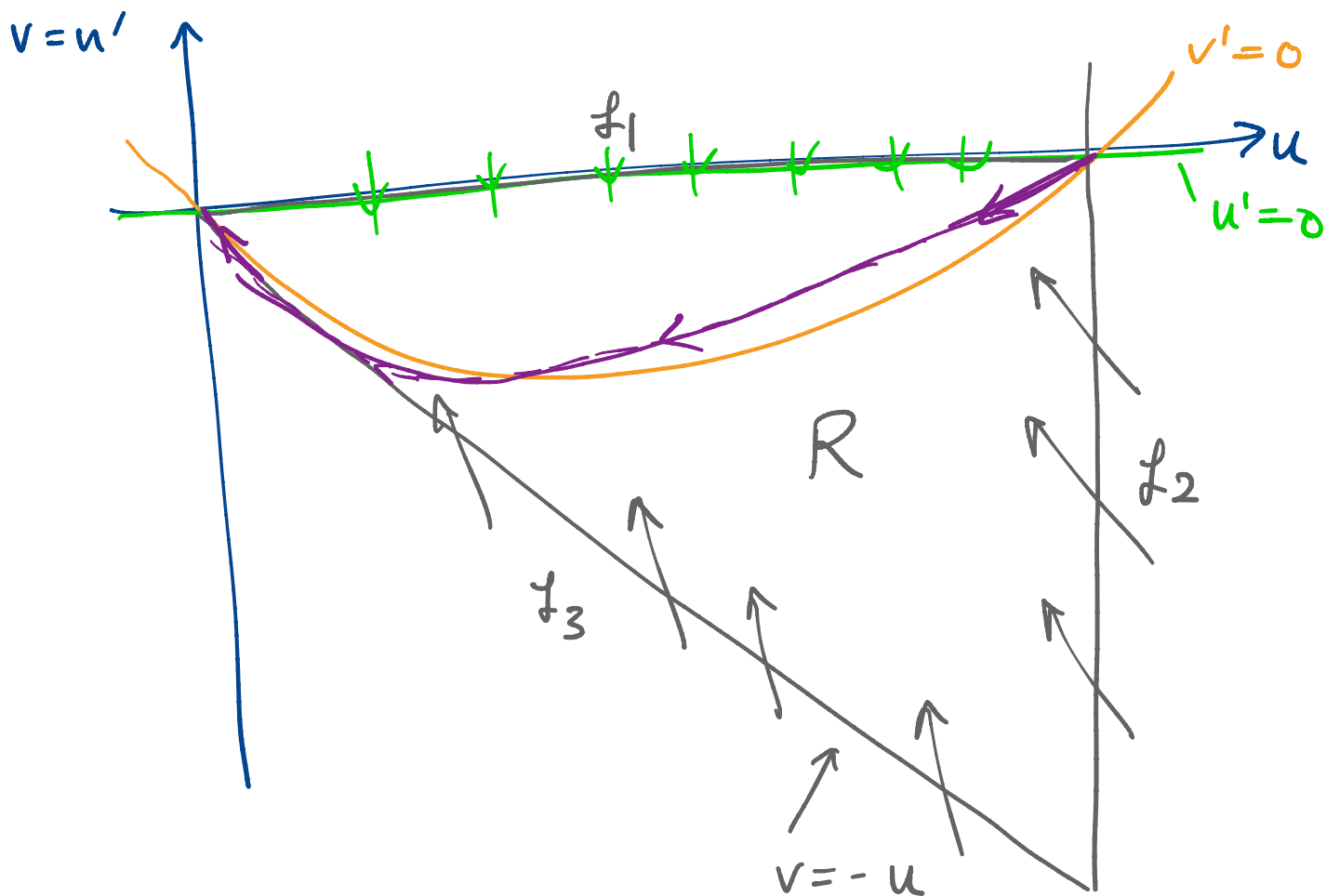
at  $(1, 0)$  this has gradient  $\frac{1}{c}$

Close to the steady state,

$$\begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} u_s \\ v_s \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{u} \\ \tilde{v} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= a_- e^{\lambda_- z} \underline{\underline{\tilde{v}_-}} + a_+ e^{\lambda_+ z} \underline{\underline{\tilde{v}_+}}$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{l} v = -\frac{1}{c} u (1-u) \\ \frac{dv}{du} = -\frac{1}{c} (1-2u) \\ \frac{dv}{du} \Big|_{u=1} = \frac{1}{c} \end{array} \right)$$



$$L_1 := \{(u, v) : v=0, u \in (0, 1)\}$$

$$\left| \frac{dv}{du} \right| \rightarrow \infty \text{ as we approach } L_1$$

$$\text{and } cv' = -u(1-u) < 0$$

$$L_2 := \{(u, v) : u=1, v \in (-1, 0)\}$$

$$\left. \frac{dv}{du} \right|_{L_2} = -c - \frac{u(1-u)}{v} = -c < 0$$

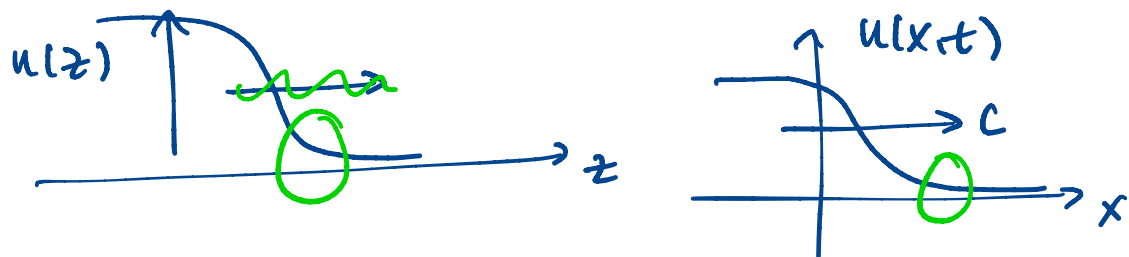
$$L_3 := \{(u, v) : u \in [0, 1], v = -u\}$$

$$\left. \frac{dv}{du} \right|_{L_3} = -c + (1-u) = (-c+2) - (1+u) < -1$$

We have shown that with  $u \geq 0$  there is a solution of the TW equations for every  $c \geq 2$ , and with  $c \geq 2$  fixed the phase space trajectory is unique. Moreover, the solution is monotonic because  $v < 0$  in  $R$ .

NB we have shown, for  $c$  fixed, the phase space trajectory is unique. The non-uniqueness associated with the fact that if  $U(z)$  solves the TW eqns then so does  $U(z+A)$  ( $A$ , constant) simply corresponds to a shift along the phase space trajectory. This, in turn, corresponds to translation of the TW.

## Relationship between TW speed and ICS



Linearise at the wavefront

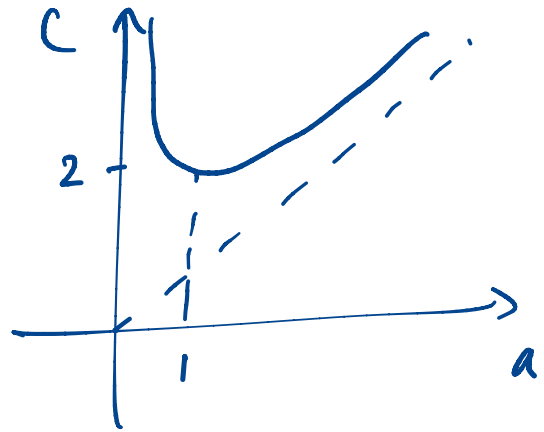
$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + u$$

Assume  $u(x,0) \sim B e^{-ax}$  as  $x \rightarrow \infty$   
 ( $a, B > 0$ )

seek travelling solutions of linearised equation of the form

$$u(x,t) \sim B e^{-a(x-ct)}$$

$$ac = a^2 + 1 \Rightarrow c = a + \frac{1}{a} \geq 2$$



$$e^{-ax} > a^{-x}$$

$$\underline{a < 1}$$

ICs decay less rapidly than the TW with  $C_{min} = 2$ . So behaviour dominated by the ICs,  $c = a + \frac{1}{a}$ .

$$\underline{a > 1}$$

$$e^{-ax} < e^{-x}$$

ICs decay more rapidly than the TW with  $C_{min} = 2$ . So the behaviour is dominated by the TW with  $c = C_{min} = 2$ .

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## 5.2 models of epidemics

SIR model       $S(t)$  - susceptibles  
                     $I(t)$  - Infectives  
                     $R(t)$  - Removed



$$\frac{dS}{dt} = -rSI$$

$$S(0) = S_0$$

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = rSI - aI$$

$$I(0) = I_0$$

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = aI \quad \left. \vphantom{\frac{dR}{dt}} \right\} \text{decouples}$$

$$R(0) = 0$$

① Will the disease spread?

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = -rIS \Rightarrow S \text{ decreasing, } S \leq S_0$$

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = I(rs - a) \\ \leq I(\underbrace{rS_0 - a})$$

$$\text{if } S_0 < \frac{a}{r} \text{ then } \frac{dI}{dt} < 0$$

initially and no outbreak.

ie need  $S_0 > \frac{a}{r}$  initially for an outbreak.

② Max. number of infectives?

$$\frac{dI}{dS} = \frac{-r(s-a)I}{rSI} = -1 + \frac{p}{s} \quad p := \frac{a}{r}$$

$$\int_{I_0}^{\bar{I}} d\bar{I} = \int_{s_0}^s \left(-1 + \frac{p}{\bar{s}}\right) d\bar{s}$$

$$\Rightarrow I + S - p \ln S = I_0 + S_0 - p \ln S_0$$

$$\frac{dI}{dS} = -1 + \frac{p}{s} = 0 \quad \text{if} \quad s = p$$

$$I_{\max} = \begin{cases} I_0 & s_0 \leq p \\ I_0 + S_0 - p \ln S_0 - p \ln p + p & s_0 > p \end{cases}$$

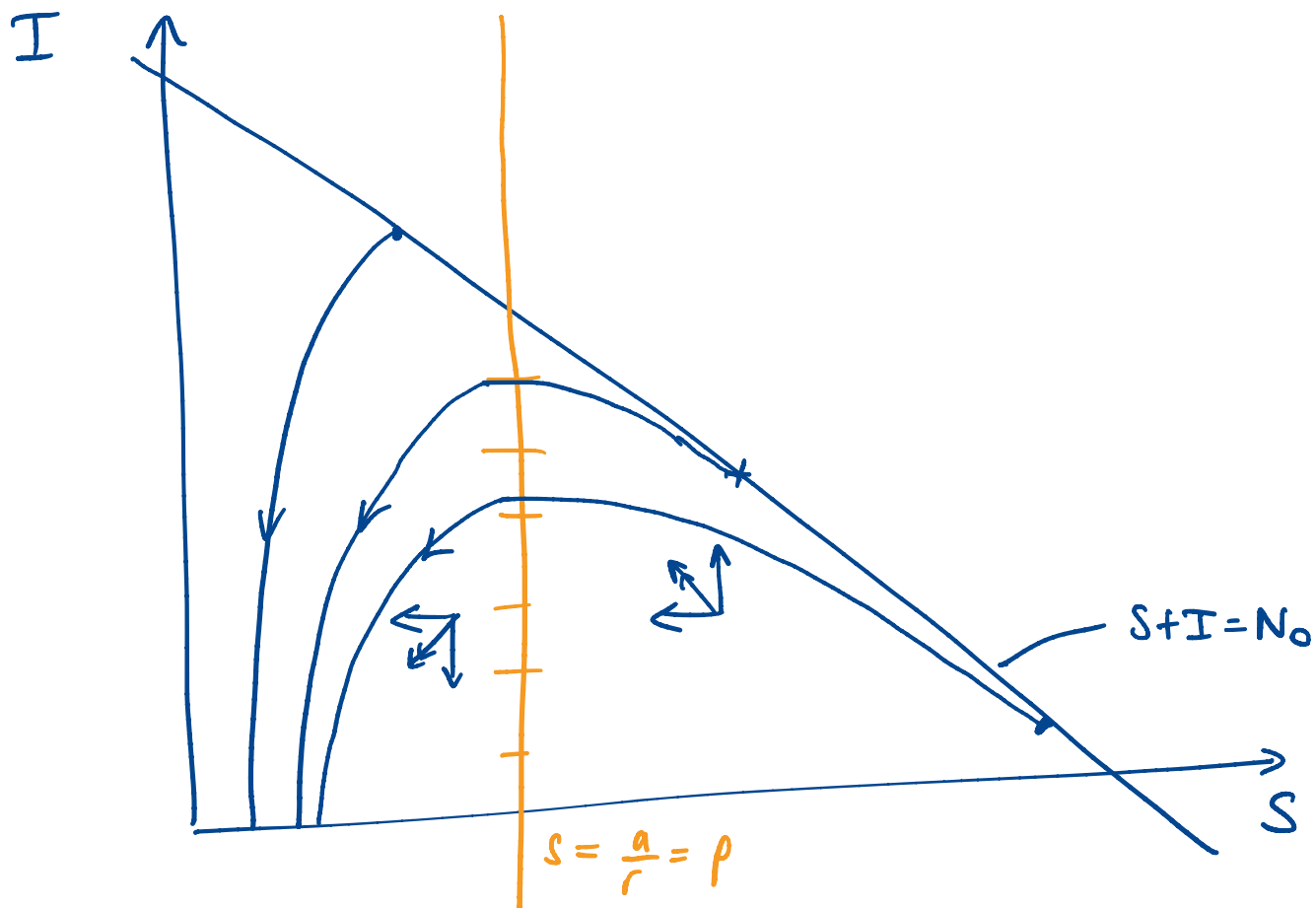
③ How many catch the disease overall?

$I \rightarrow 0$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } R(\infty) &= N_0 - \underbrace{S(\infty)}_{S_0 + I_0} - \underbrace{I(\infty)}_{=0} \\ &= N_0 - S(\infty) \end{aligned}$$

$S(\infty)$  satisfies  $S(\infty) - p \ln S(\infty) = N_0 - p \ln S_0$





$$\frac{ds}{dt} = -rSI \quad \Rightarrow \quad s \text{ decreasing}$$

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = I(rs - a)$$

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = 0 \text{ when } s = \frac{a}{r} := p$$

# Adding spatial heterogeneity

application to fox rabies.

healthy foxes territorial i.e. don't move

rapid foxes - undergo behavioural changes and migrate randomly.

$$\frac{\partial S}{\partial t} = -rIS$$

$$\frac{\partial I}{\partial t} = D\nabla^2 I + rIS - aI$$

$$\frac{\partial R}{\partial t} = aI \quad \left. \vphantom{\frac{\partial R}{\partial t}} \right\} \text{decouples.}$$

Non-dimensionalise: (and assume 1D)

$$S = s_0 \tilde{S}, \quad I = s_0 \tilde{I}, \quad x = \sqrt{\frac{D}{rs_0}} \tilde{x}, \quad t = \frac{1}{rs_0} \tilde{t}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{a}{rs_0} \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \mapsto \sqrt{\frac{rs_0}{D}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \tilde{x}} \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \mapsto rs_0 \frac{\partial}{\partial \tilde{t}}$$

$$\cancel{s_0} \cdot \cancel{rs_0} \frac{\partial \tilde{S}}{\partial \tilde{t}} = -r \cancel{s_0}^2 \tilde{I} \tilde{S}$$

$$\cancel{s_0} \cdot \cancel{rs_0} \frac{\partial \tilde{I}}{\partial \tilde{t}} = \underbrace{\frac{D \cdot \cancel{rs_0}^2}{\cancel{rs_0} D}}_1 \frac{\partial^2 \tilde{I}}{\partial \tilde{x}^2} + \cancel{rs_0}^2 \tilde{I} \tilde{S} - \frac{a \cancel{s_0} \tilde{I}}{\cancel{rs_0}} = \lambda$$

$$\frac{\partial S}{\partial t} = -SI$$

$$\frac{\partial I}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2 I}{\partial x^2} + I(s - \lambda)$$

Travelling wave analysis

$$s(x, t) = S(z) \quad z = x - ct$$

$$I(x, t) = I(z)$$

$$\begin{cases} 0 = cS' - IS \\ 0 = I'' + cI' + I(s - \lambda) \end{cases}$$

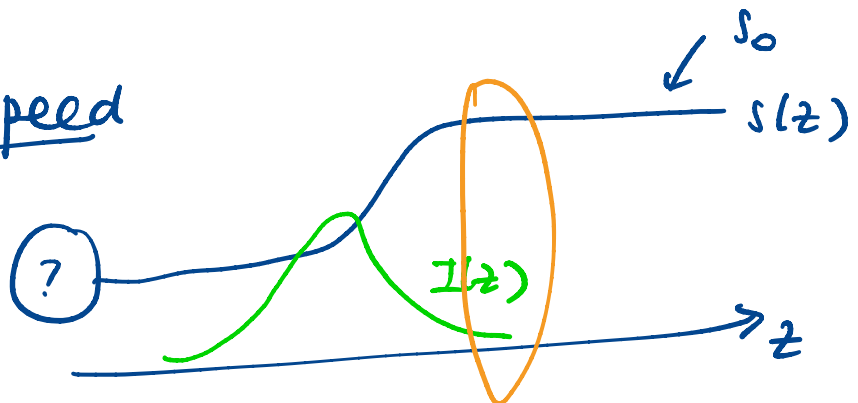
BCs :

$$z \rightarrow \infty \quad S \rightarrow 1$$

$$I \rightarrow 0$$

$$z \rightarrow -\infty \quad I \rightarrow 0$$

minimum wave speed



write  $S = 1 - P$   
and linearise

$$0 = -cP' - I$$

$$0 = I'' + cI' + I(1 - \lambda)$$

Eigenvalues :  $\mu = \frac{1}{2} \left[ -c \pm \sqrt{c^2 - 4(1 - \lambda)} \right]$

To avoid a spiral at  $(I, I') = (0, 0)$  then

$\mu_i$  must be real

$$\text{i.e. } c \geq c_{\min} = 2(1 - \lambda)$$

How severe is the epidemic?

Want an expression for  $S(-\infty)$

$$\left( \begin{array}{l} z = x - ct \\ t \rightarrow \infty \\ \Rightarrow z \rightarrow -\infty \end{array} \right)$$

$$\boxed{I = \frac{cS'}{s}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dz} (I' + cI) + cS' \left( \frac{s - \lambda}{s} \right) = 0$$

$$\int \frac{d}{dz} (I' + cI) dz + c \int \left( \frac{s - \lambda}{s} \right) \frac{ds}{dz} dz = \text{constant}$$

$$I' + cI + c(s - \lambda \ln s) = \text{constant}$$

$$\text{as } z \rightarrow \infty \quad s \rightarrow 1, I \rightarrow 0 \quad \Rightarrow \text{constant} = c$$

$$I' + cI + c(s - \lambda \ln s) = c$$

The severity is  $S(-\infty)$  where

$$S(-\infty) - \lambda \ln S(-\infty) = 1 \quad //$$