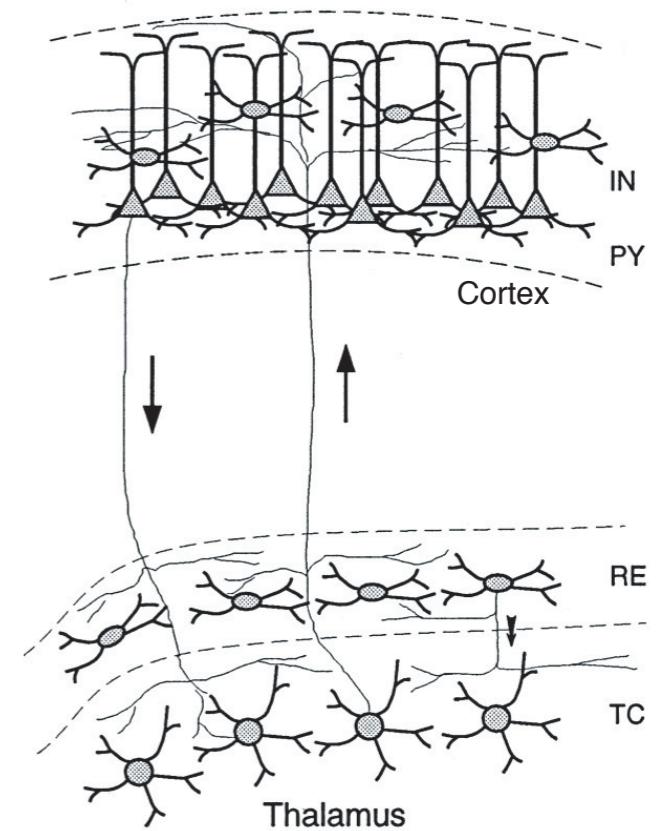


# Neural field models



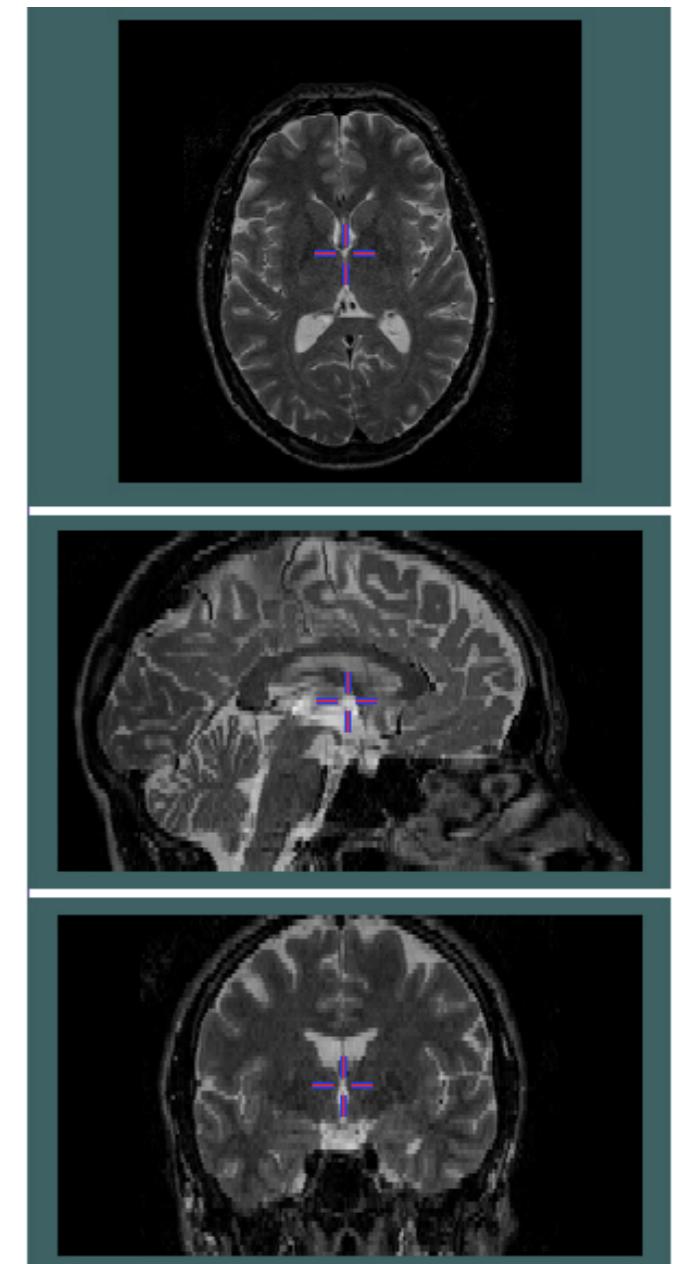
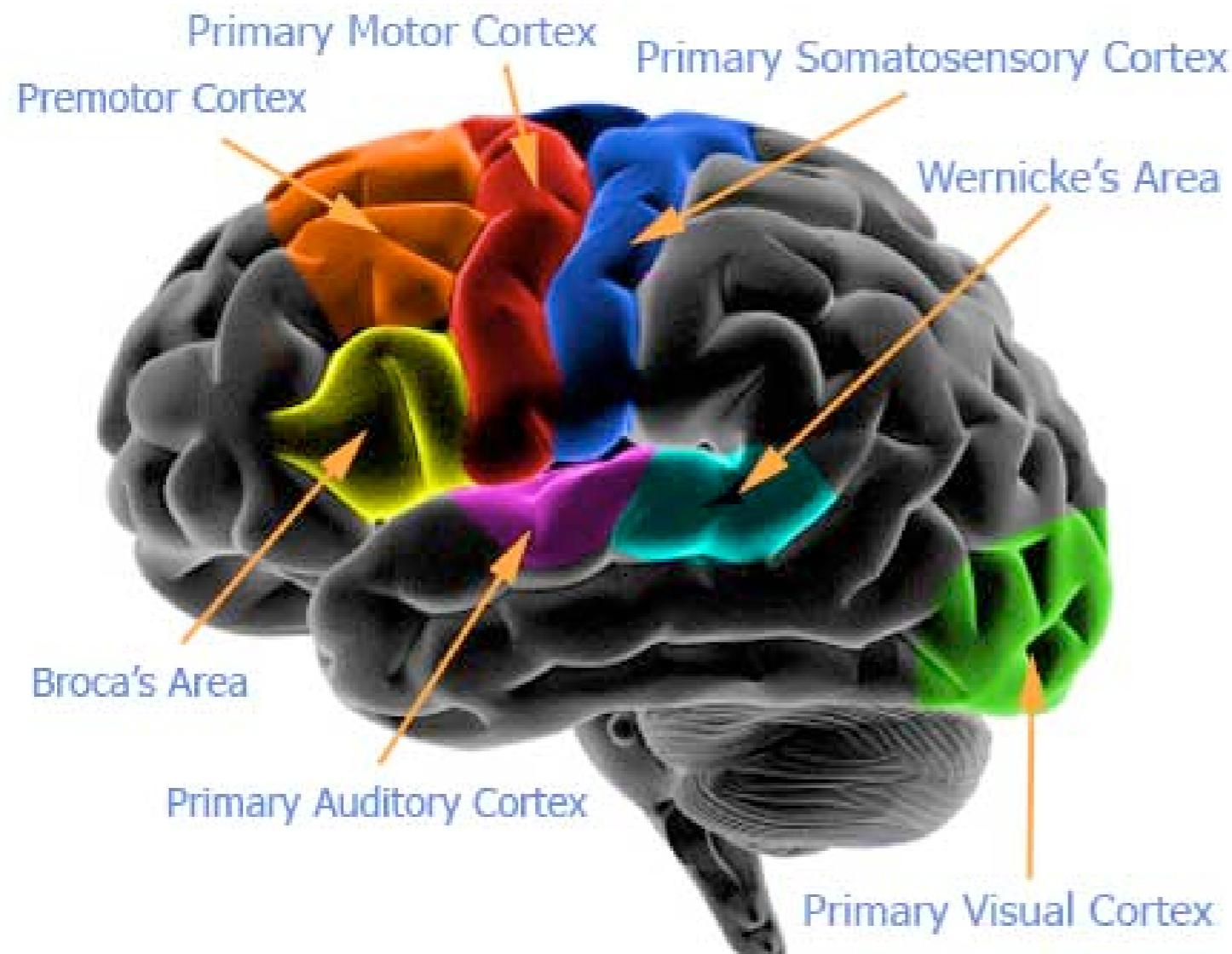
Steve  
Coombes



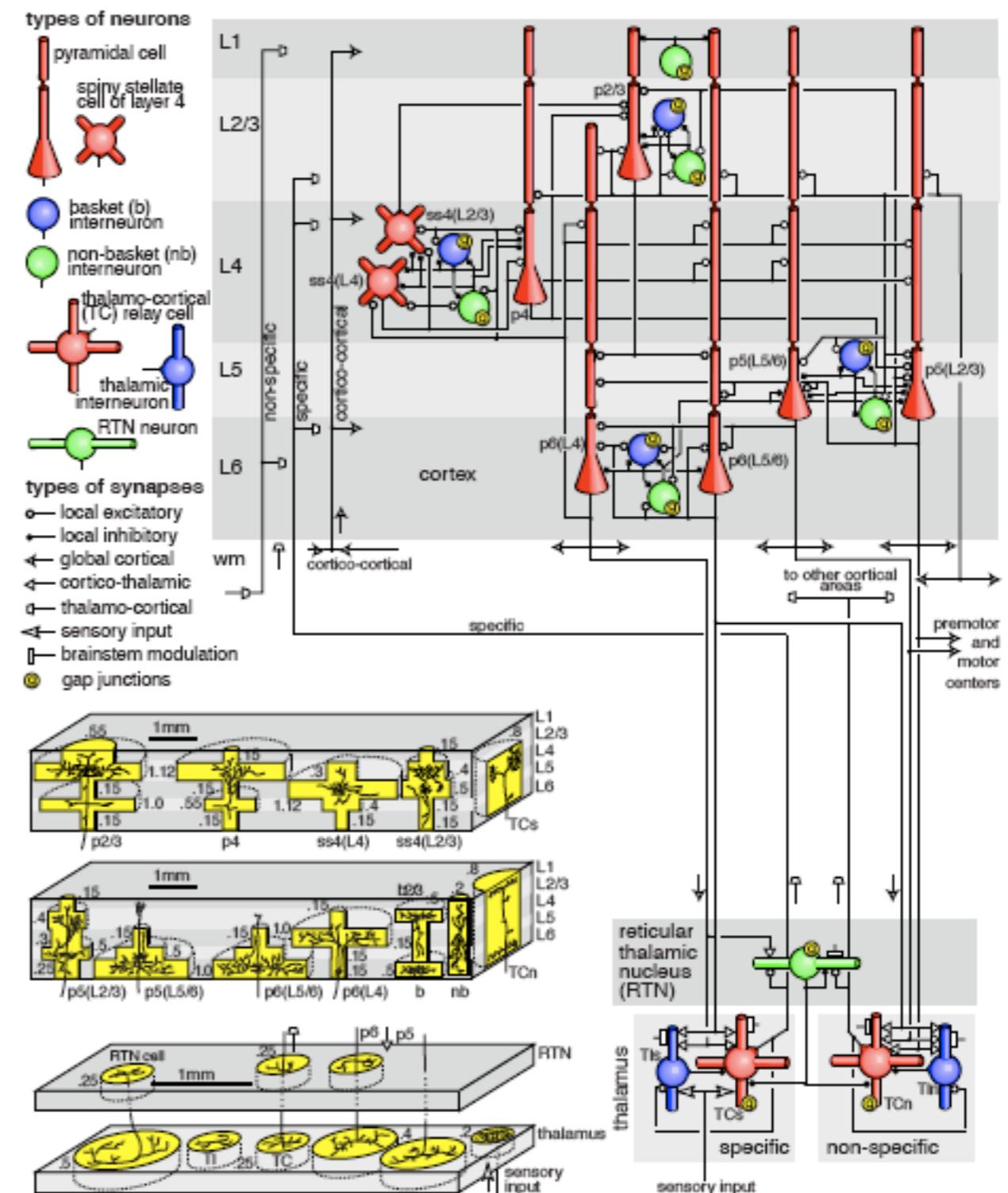
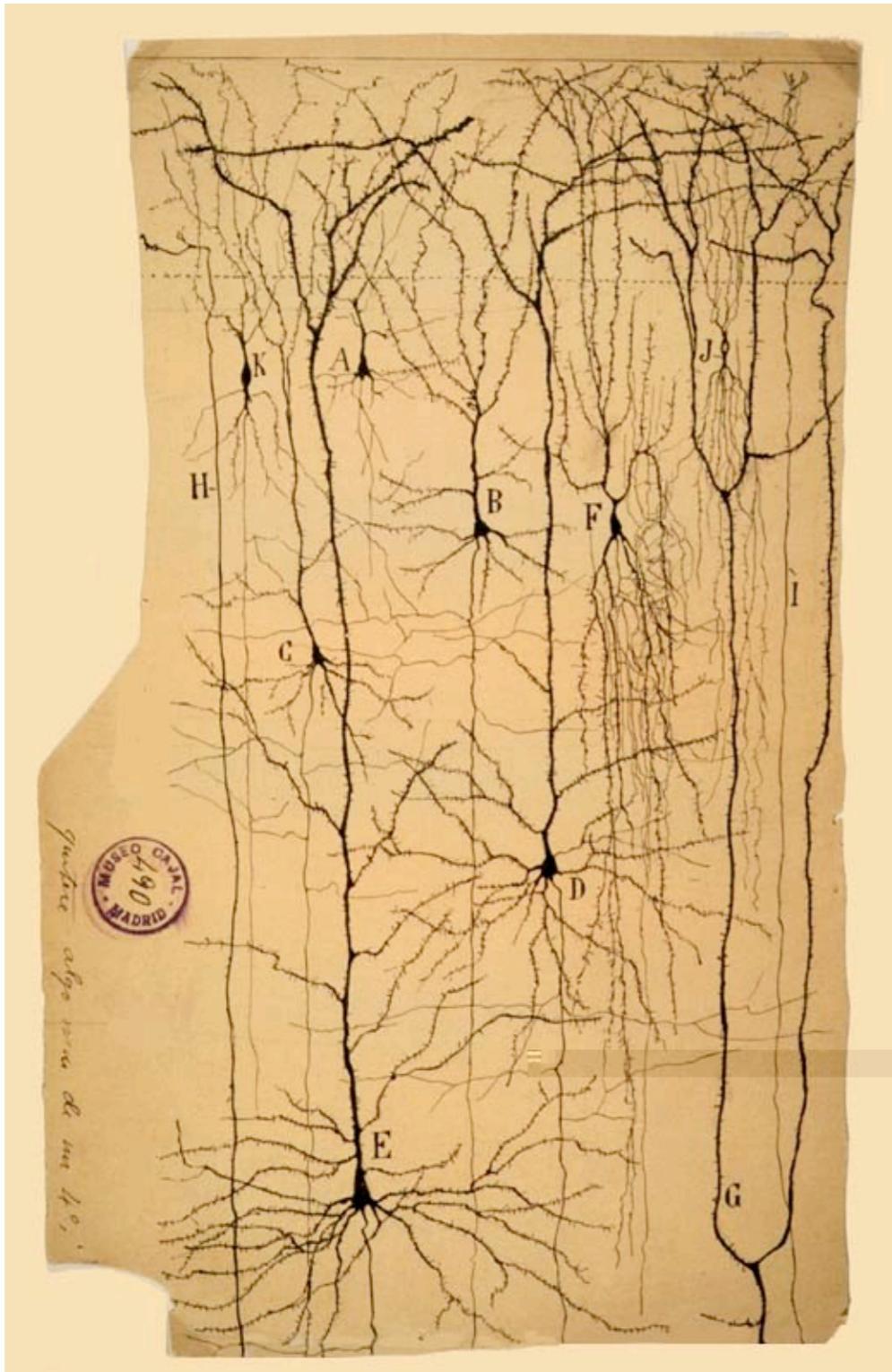
The University of  
Nottingham

School of Mathematical  
Sciences

# Brain and Cortex



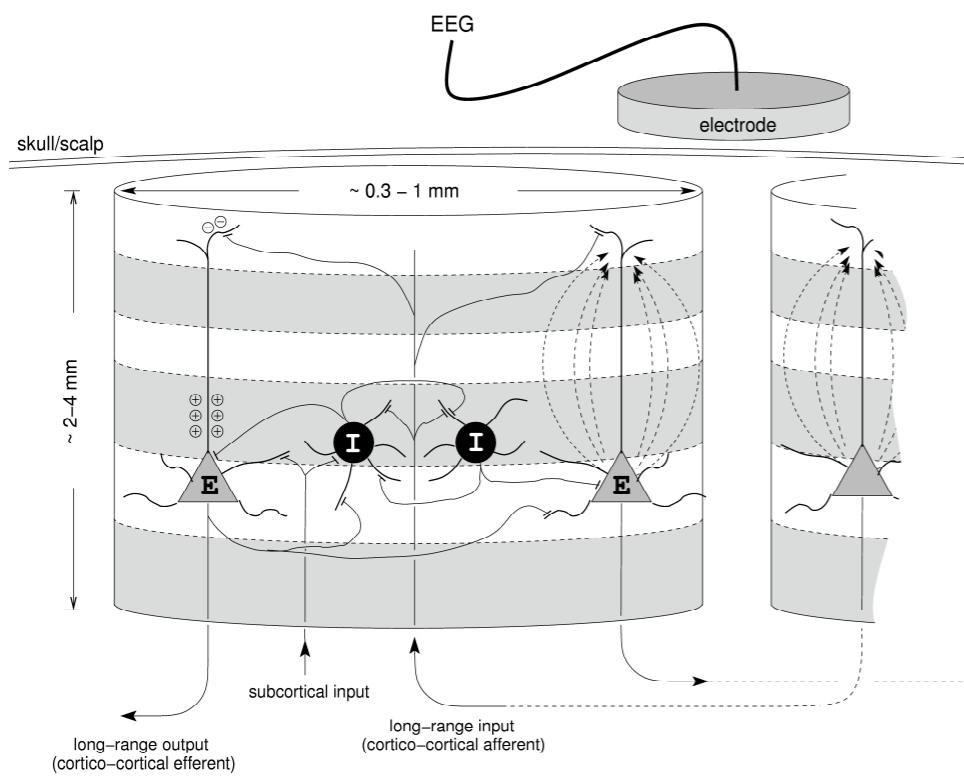
# Principal cells and interneurons



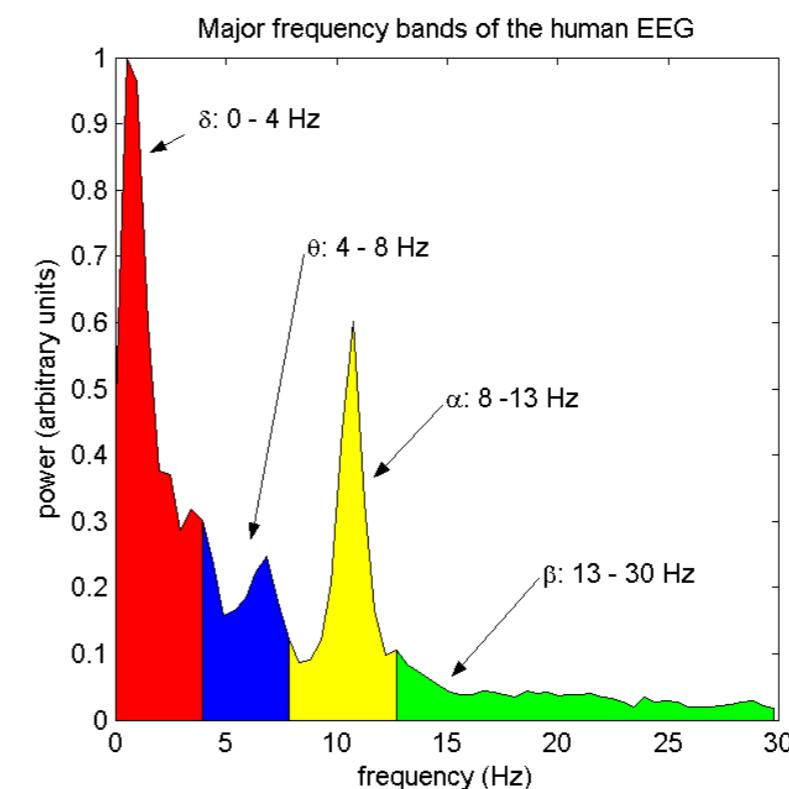
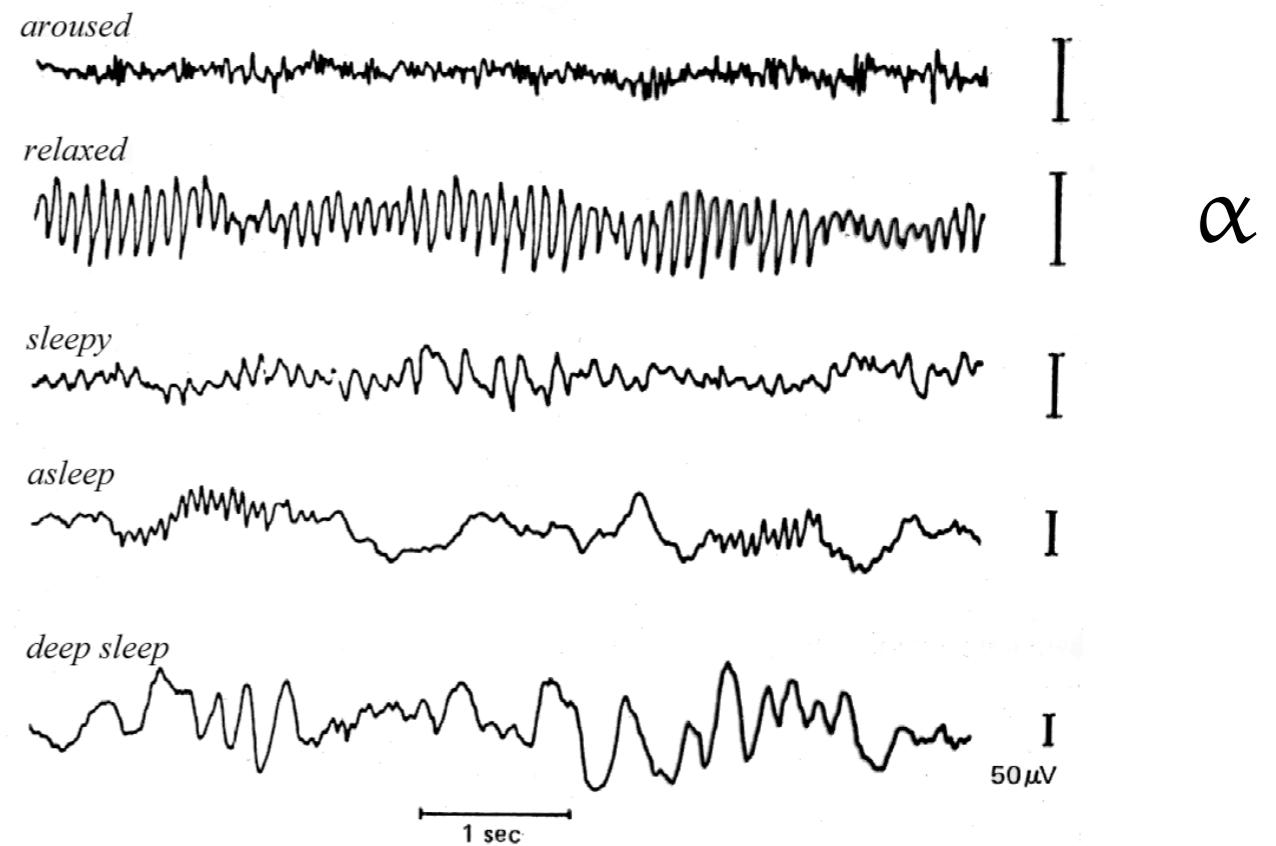
Santiago Ramón y Cajal  
1900

Eugene Izhikevich  
2008

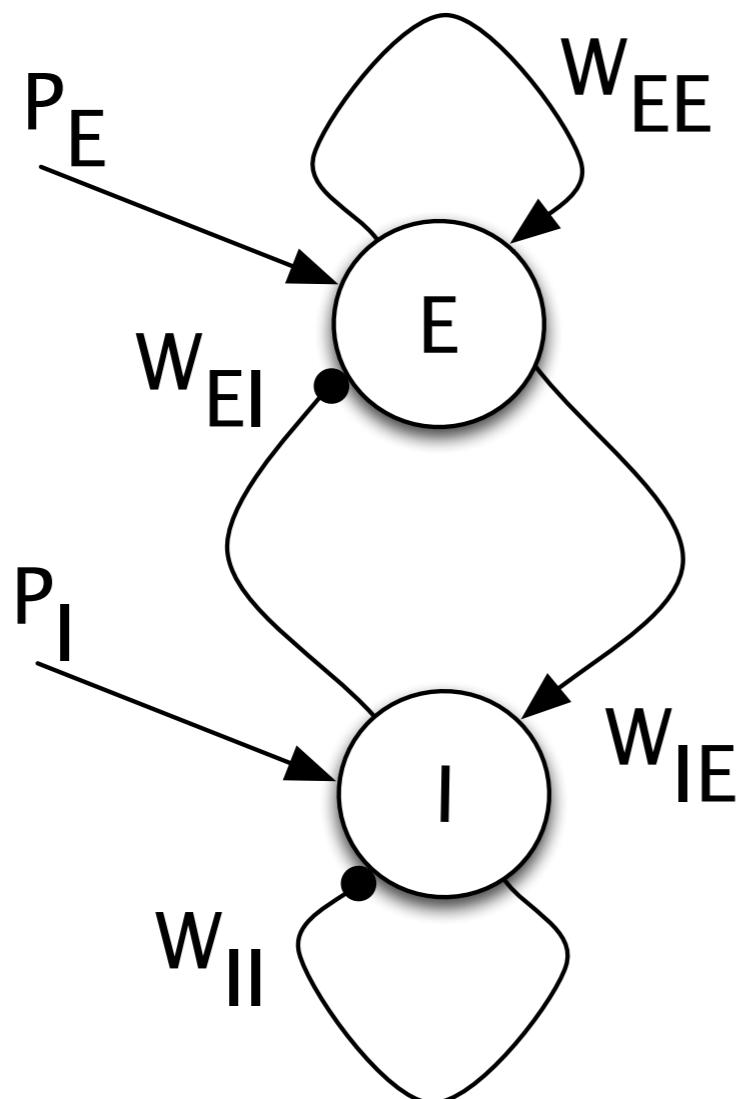
# Electroencephalogram (EEG) power spectrum



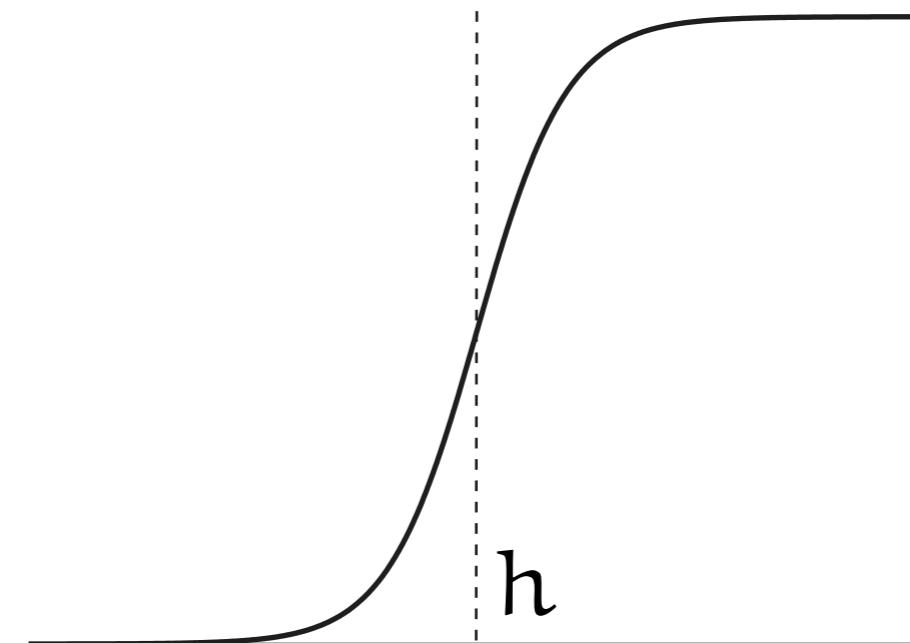
EEG records the activity of  $\sim 10^6$  pyramidal neurons.



# Population model



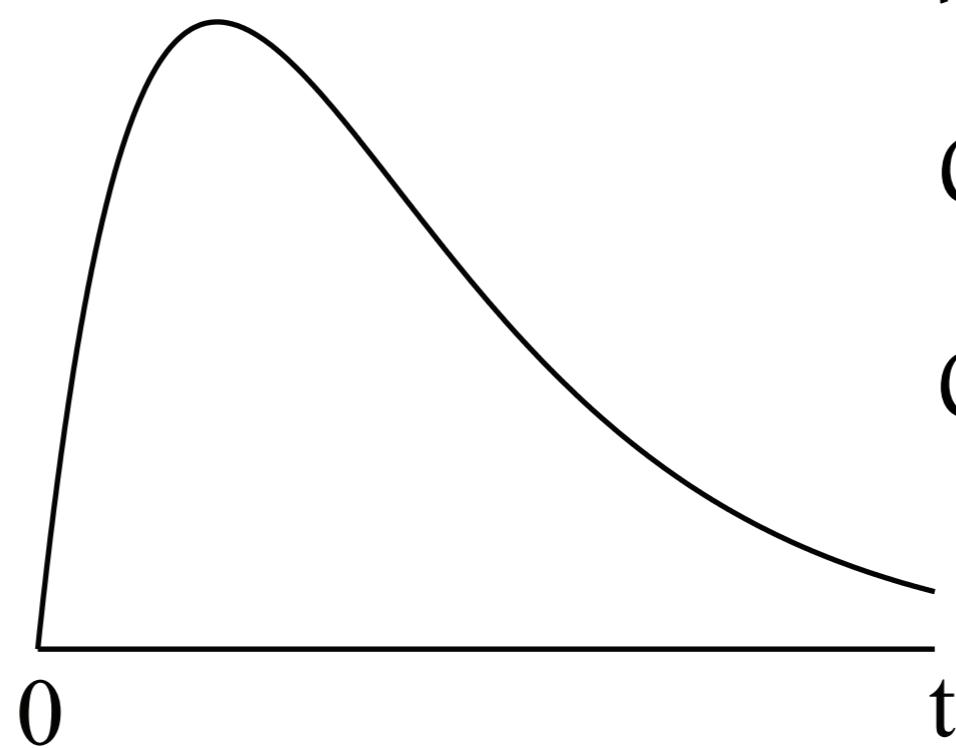
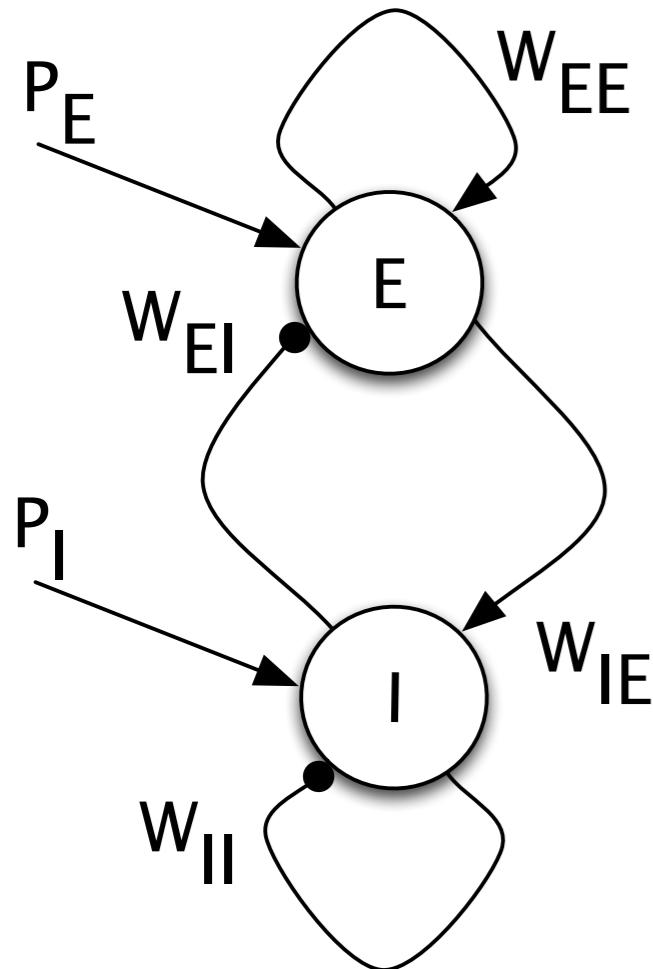
Firing rate activity  $f(E)$



Firing rate activity  $f(I)$

$$\dot{E} = -\frac{E}{\tau_E} + W_{EE}g_{EE}(A^+ - E) + W_{EI}g_{EI}(A^- - E) + P_E$$

$$\dot{I} = -\frac{I}{\tau_I} + W_{II}g_{II}(A^- - I) + W_{IE}g_{IE}(A^+ - I) + P_I$$



$$\eta(t) = \alpha^2 t e^{-\alpha t}$$

$$Q\eta = \delta$$

$$Q = \left(1 + \frac{1}{\alpha} \frac{d}{dt}\right)^2$$

$$Qg_j E = f(E)$$

$$Qg_j I = f(I)$$

**Steady state  
approximation**

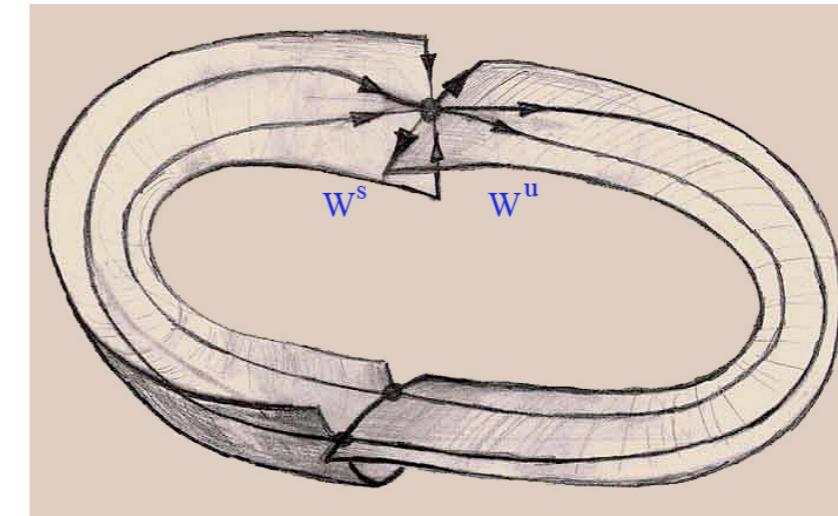
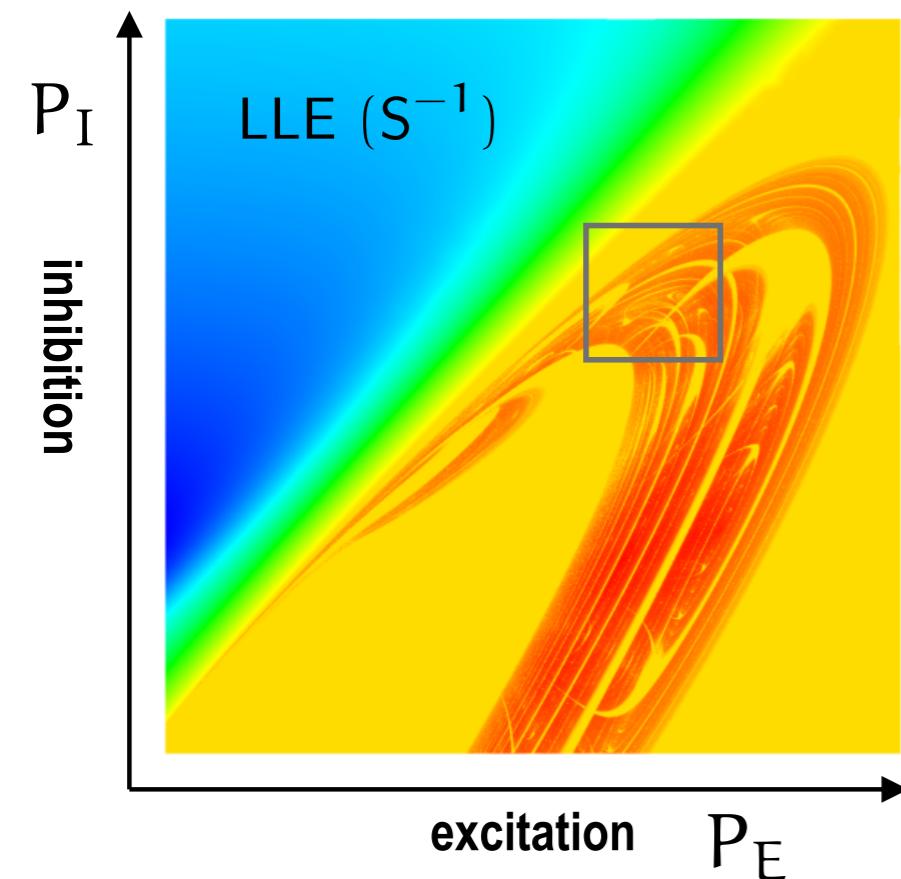
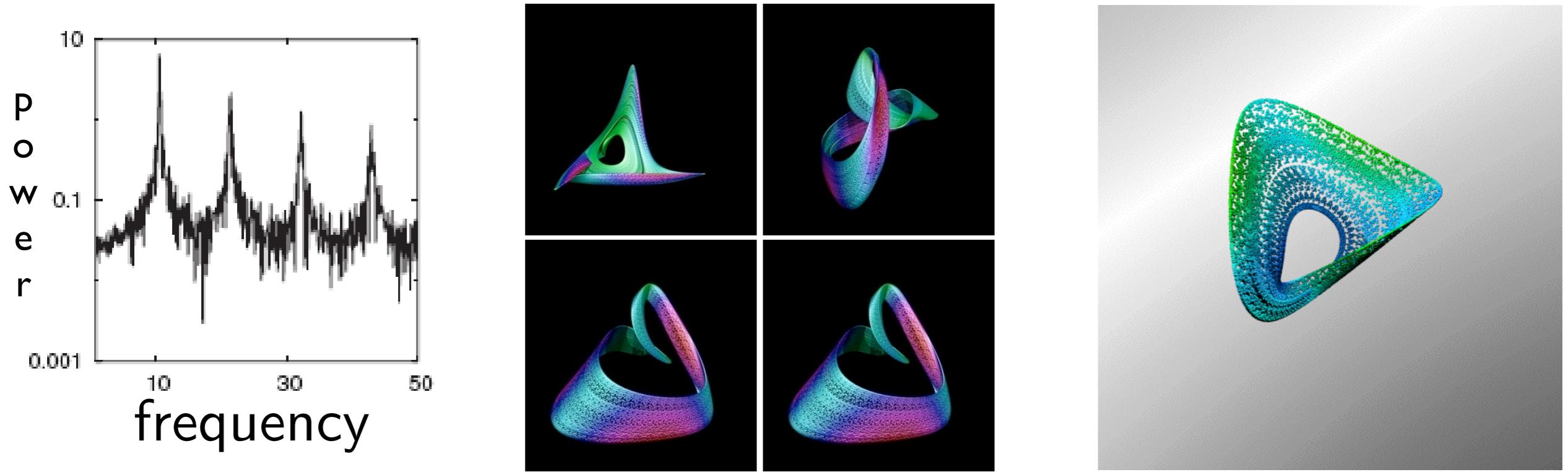
$$E = E(g_{EE}, g_{EI})$$

$$I = I(g_{II}, g_{IE})$$

$$\begin{aligned} Qg &= f \\ f &= f(\{g\}) \end{aligned}$$

$$g = \eta * f$$

# Alphoid chaos (10 D)

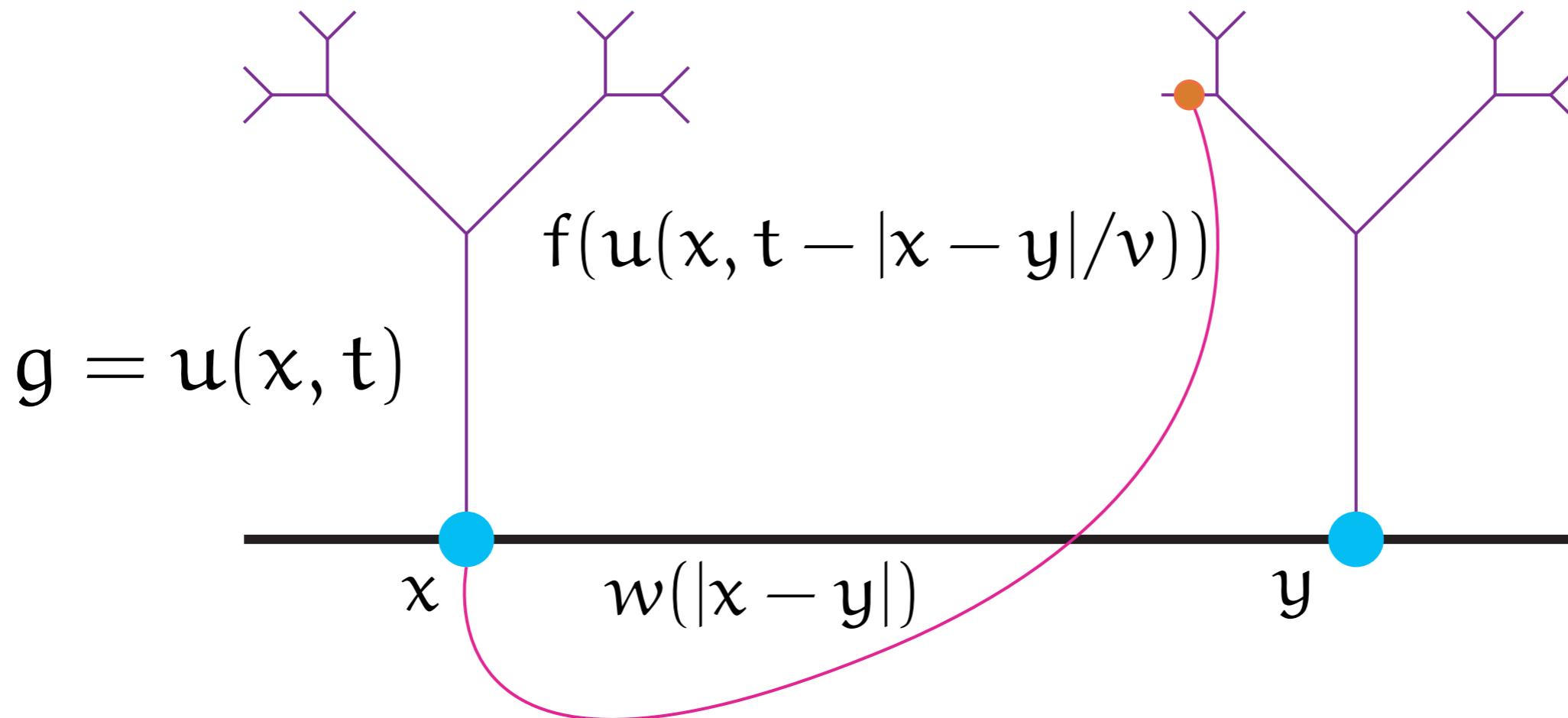


Shilnikov saddle-node route to chaos  
van Veen and Liley, PRL, **97**, 208101 (2006)

# Spatially extended models

$$g = w \otimes \eta * f$$

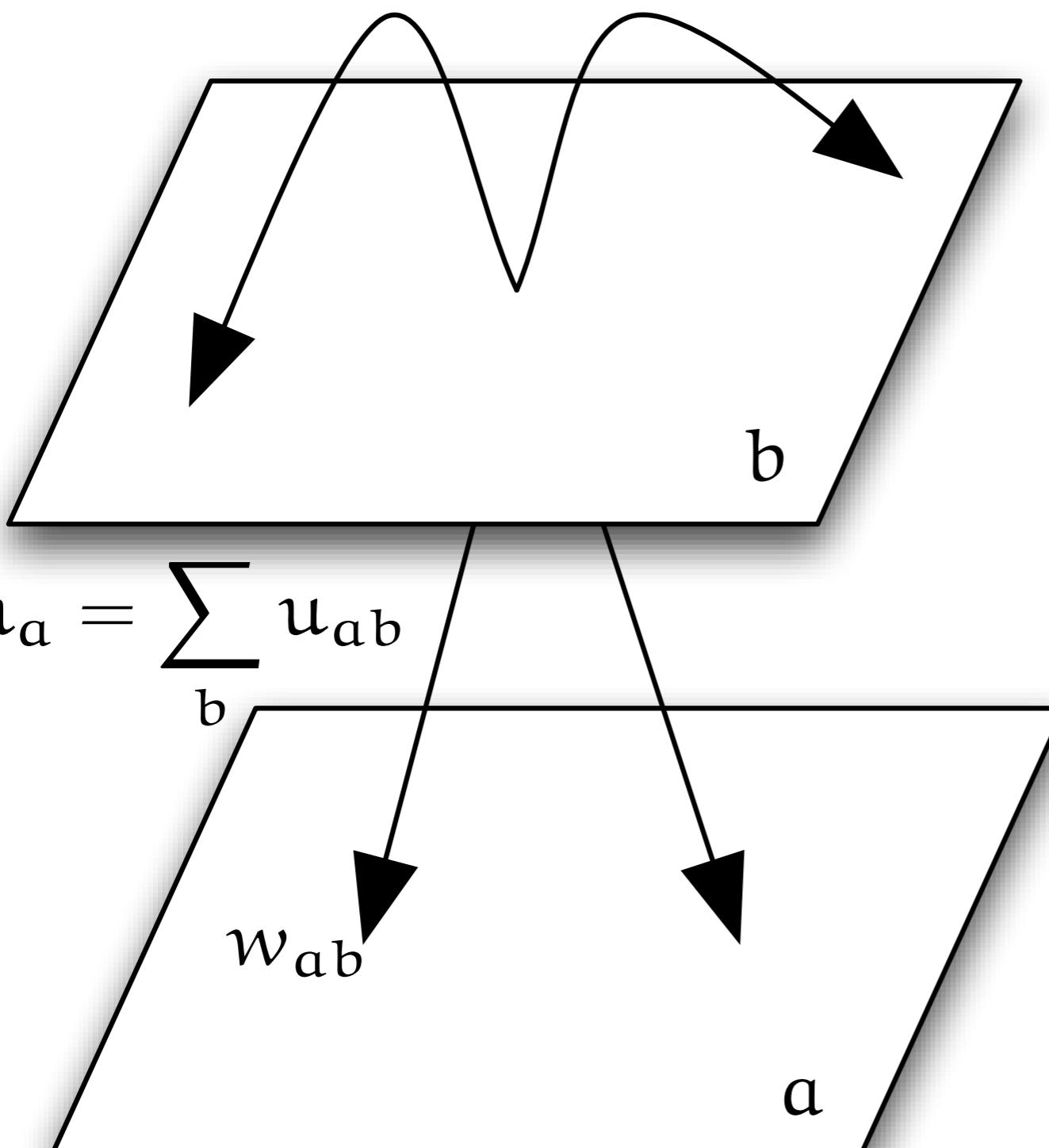
Simplest neural field model: Wilson-Cowan ('72), Amari ('77)



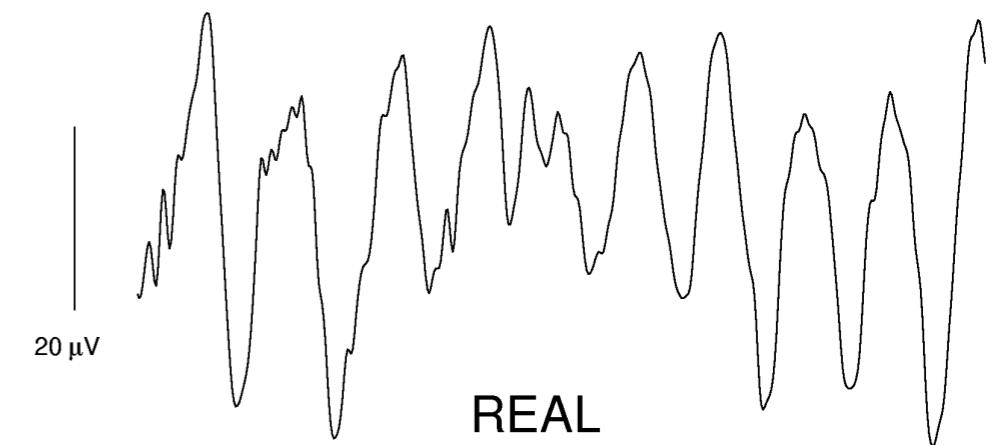
$$u(x, t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dy w(y) \int_0^{\infty} ds \eta(s) f(u(x - y, t - s - |y|/v))$$

# 2D layers

$$u_{ab} = \eta_{ab} * \psi_{ab}$$



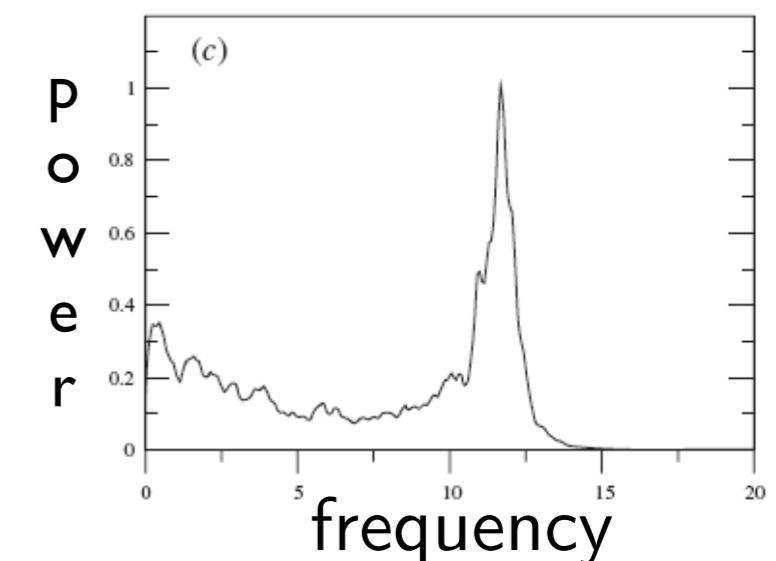
$$\psi_{ab}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} d\mathbf{r}' w_{ab}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') f_b \circ h_b (\mathbf{r}', t - |\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|/\nu_{ab})$$



REAL  
(scalp)

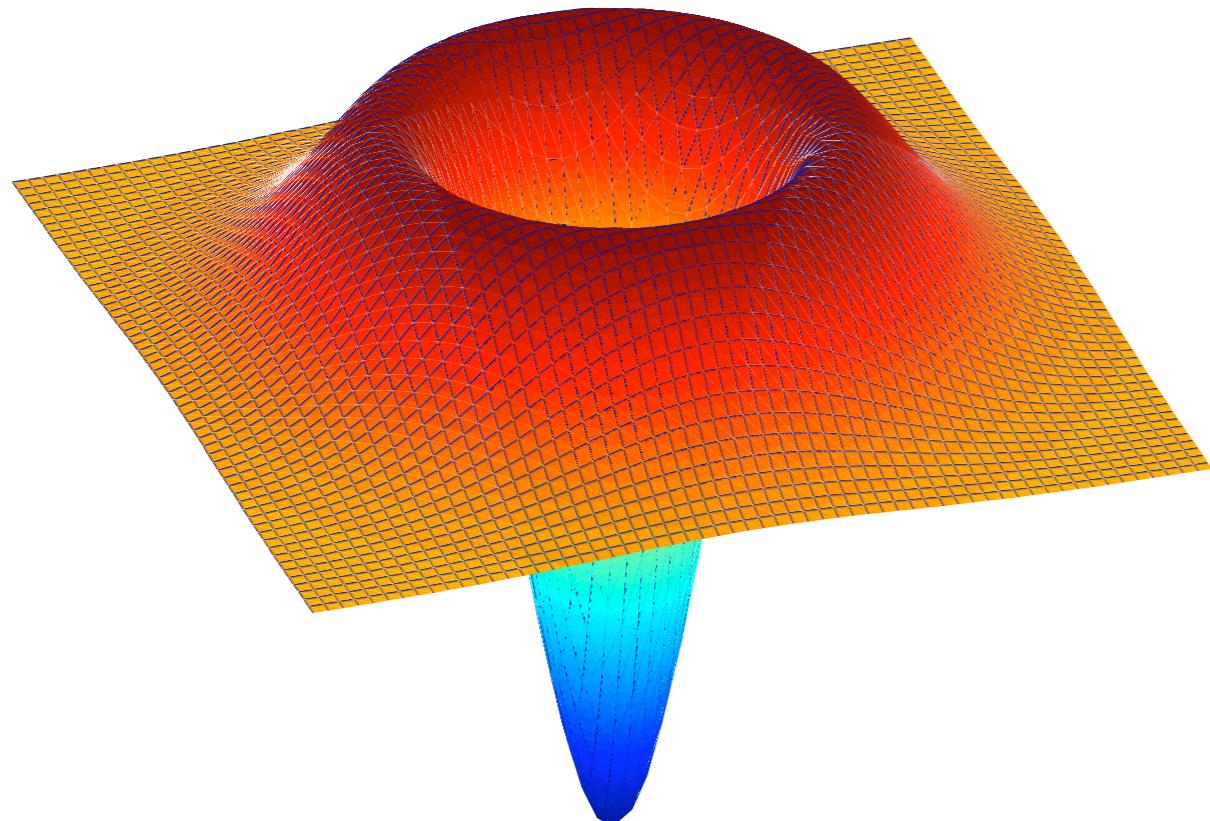


SIMULATED  
(cortex)



# Turing instability analysis

E layer and I layer



$$e^{ik \cdot r} e^{\lambda t}$$

Continuous spectrum

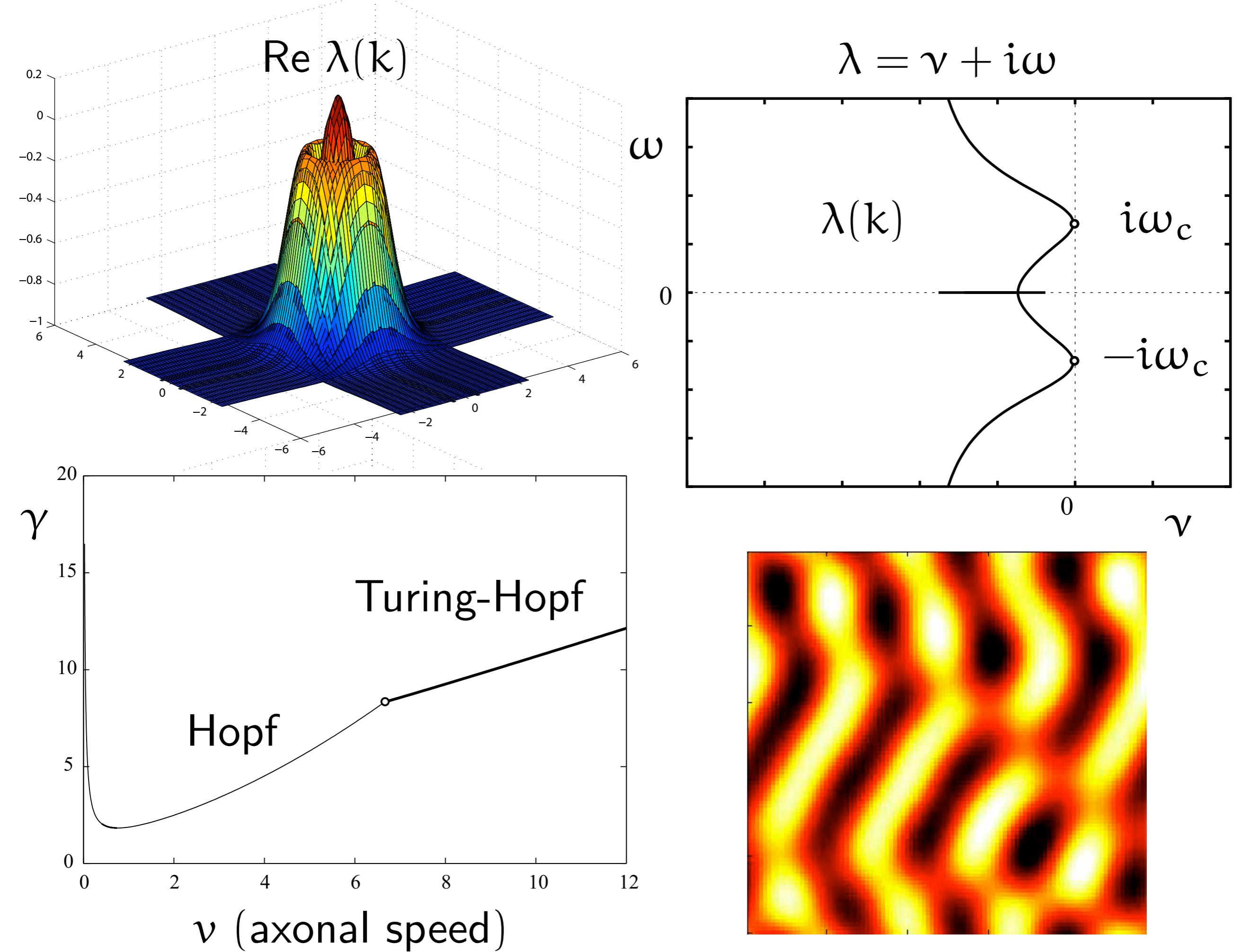
$$\det(\mathcal{D}(k, \lambda) - I) = 0$$

$$[\mathcal{D}(k, \lambda)]_{ab} = \tilde{\eta}_{ab}(\lambda) G_{ab}(k, -i\lambda) \gamma_b$$

$$\tilde{\eta} = LT \eta$$

$$G = FLT w(r) \delta(t - r/v)$$

$$\gamma = f'(ss)$$



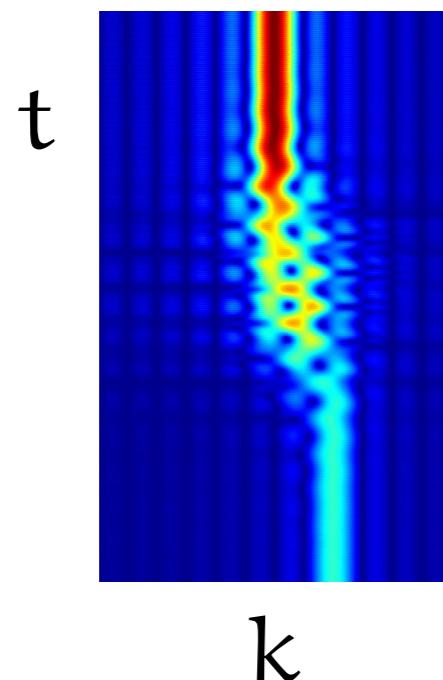
# Amplitude Equations (one D)

Coupled mean-field Ginzburg–Landau equations describing a Turing–Hopf bifurcation with modulation group velocity of  $O(1)$ .

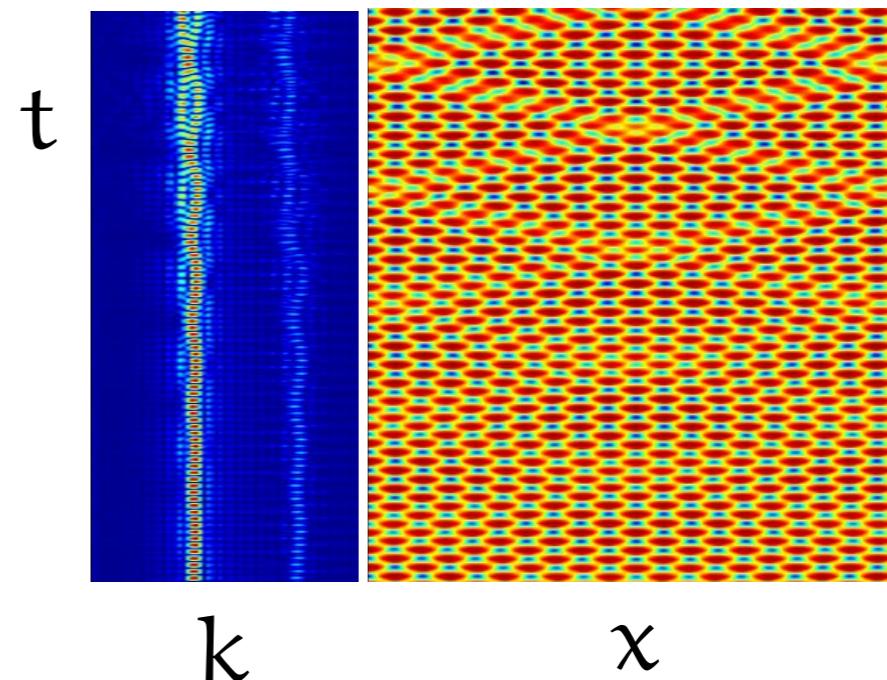
$$\frac{\partial A_1}{\partial \tau} = A_1(a + b|A_1|^2 + c\langle |A_2|^2 \rangle) + d \frac{\partial^2 A_1}{\partial \xi_+^2}$$

$$\frac{\partial A_2}{\partial \tau} = A_2(a + b|A_2|^2 + c\langle |A_1|^2 \rangle) + d \frac{\partial^2 A_2}{\partial \xi_-^2}$$

Benjamin–Feir (BF)



BF-Eckhaus instability



Coefficients in terms of integral transforms of  $w$  and  $\eta$ .

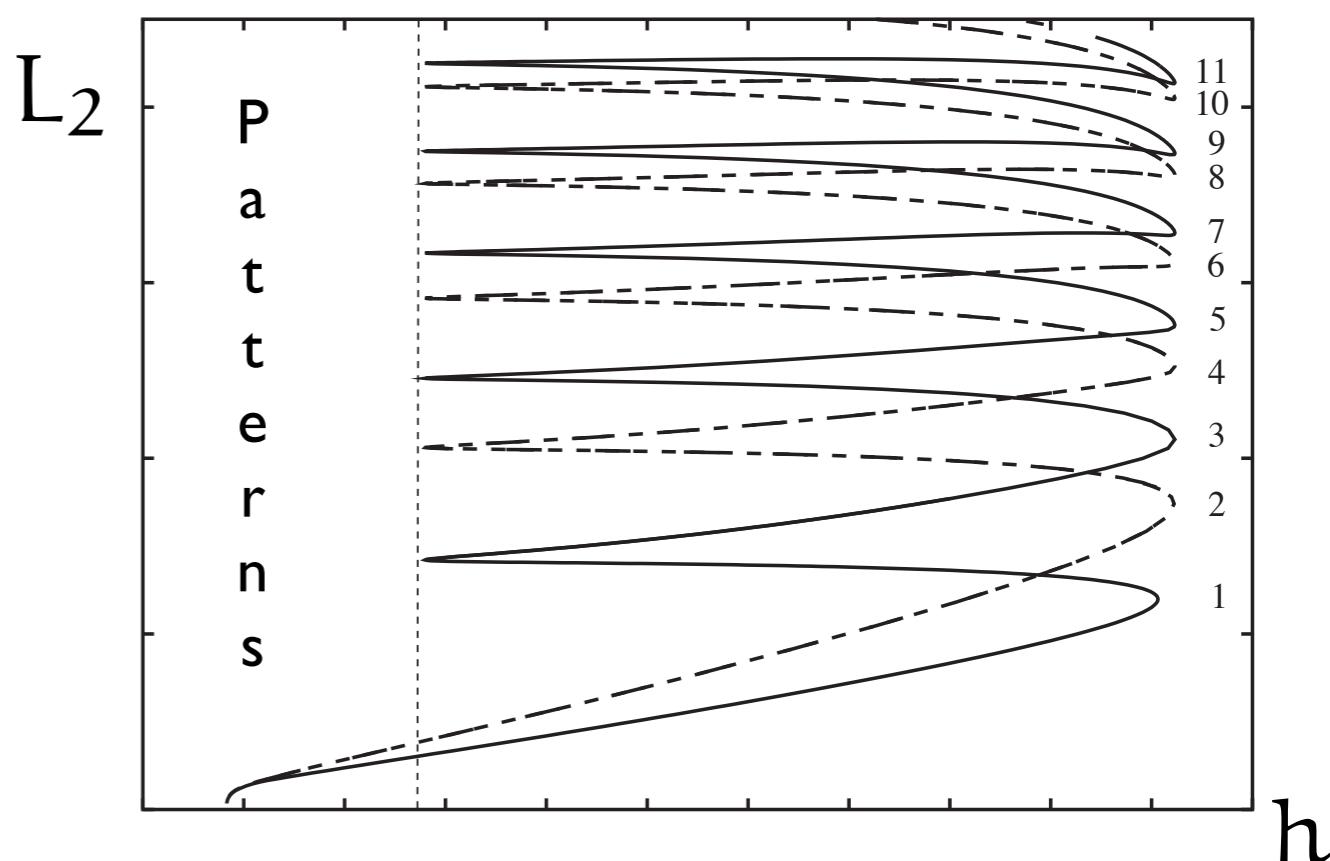
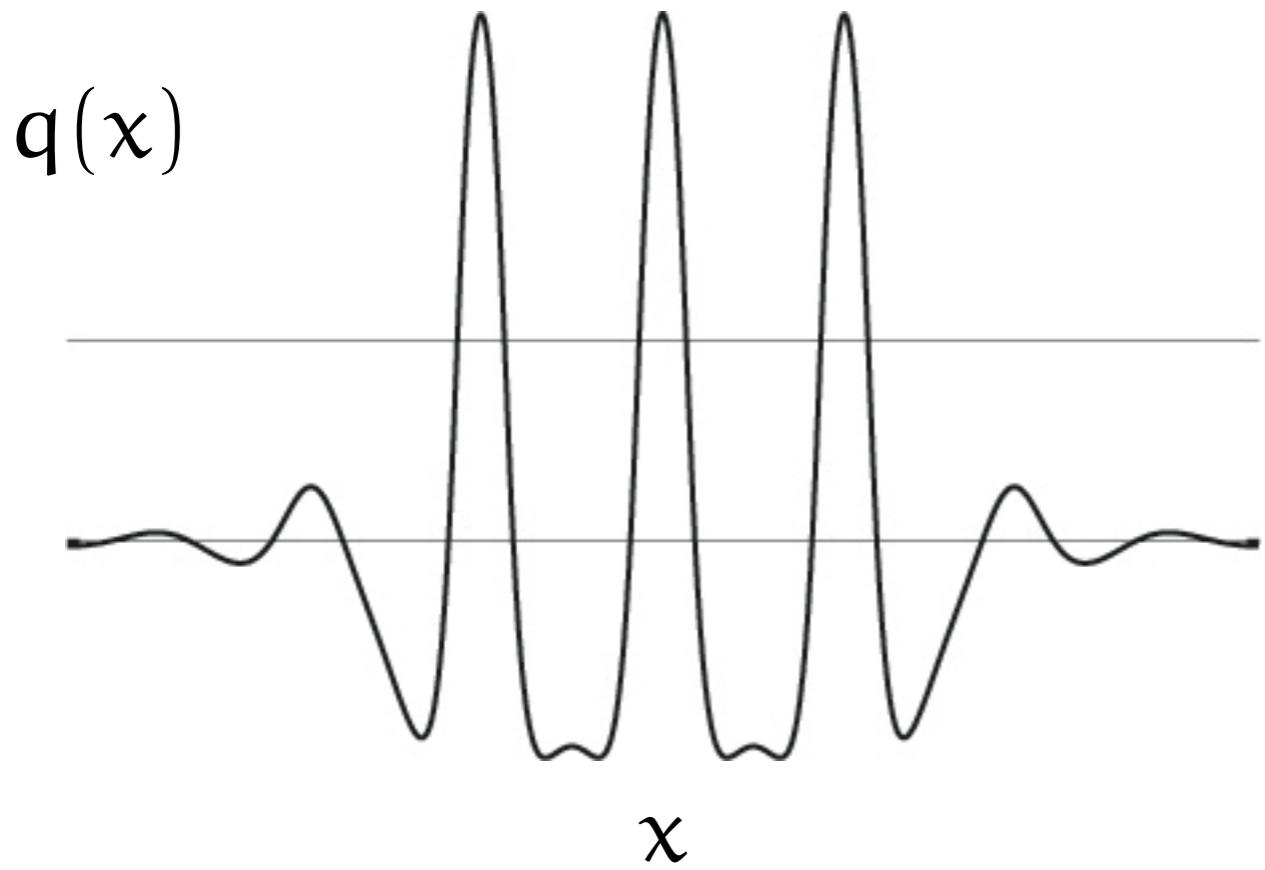
# Time independent localised solutions

$$w \otimes \eta * f \rightarrow w \otimes f$$

$$q(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} dy \, w(x-y) f \circ q(y)$$

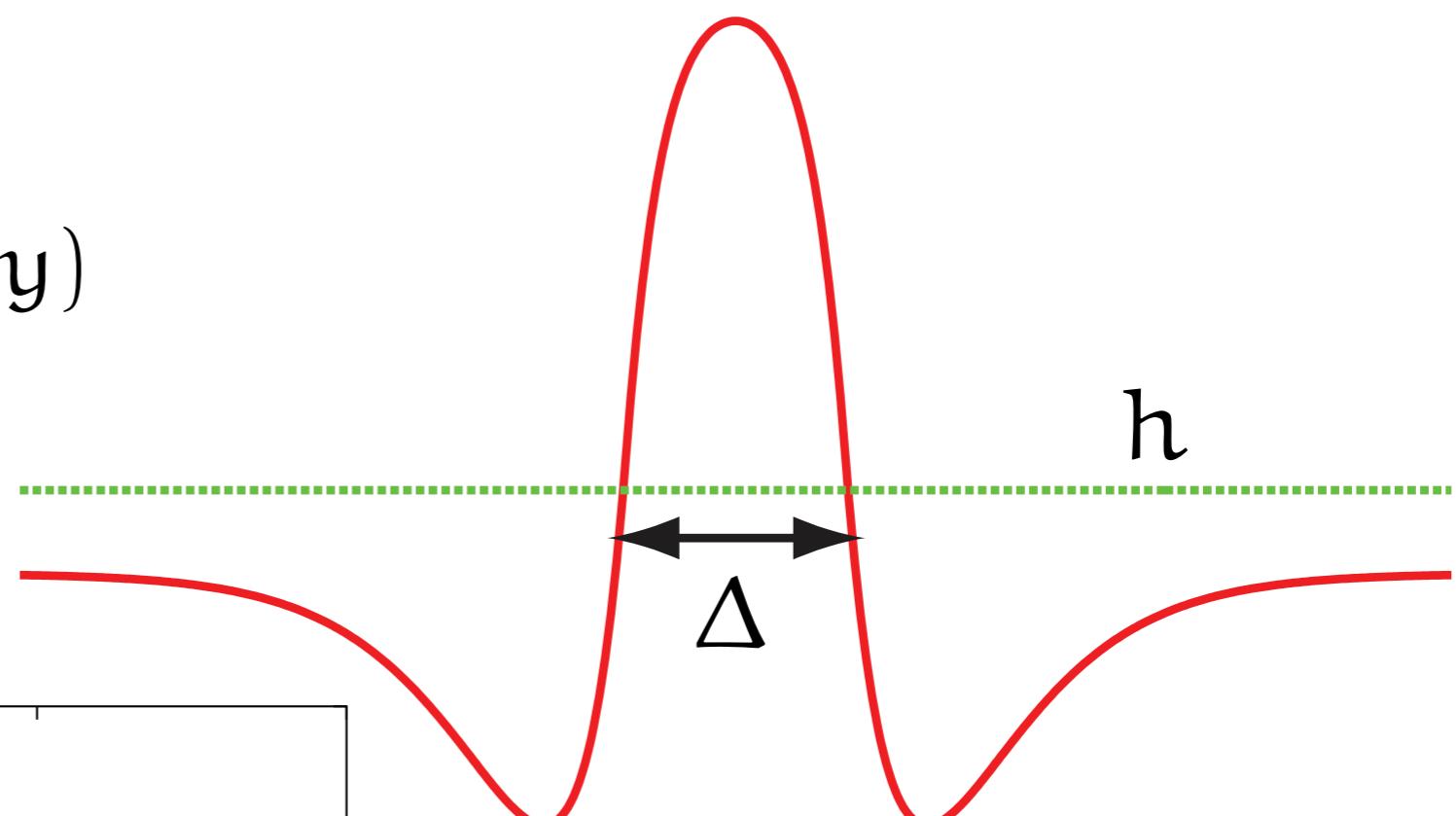
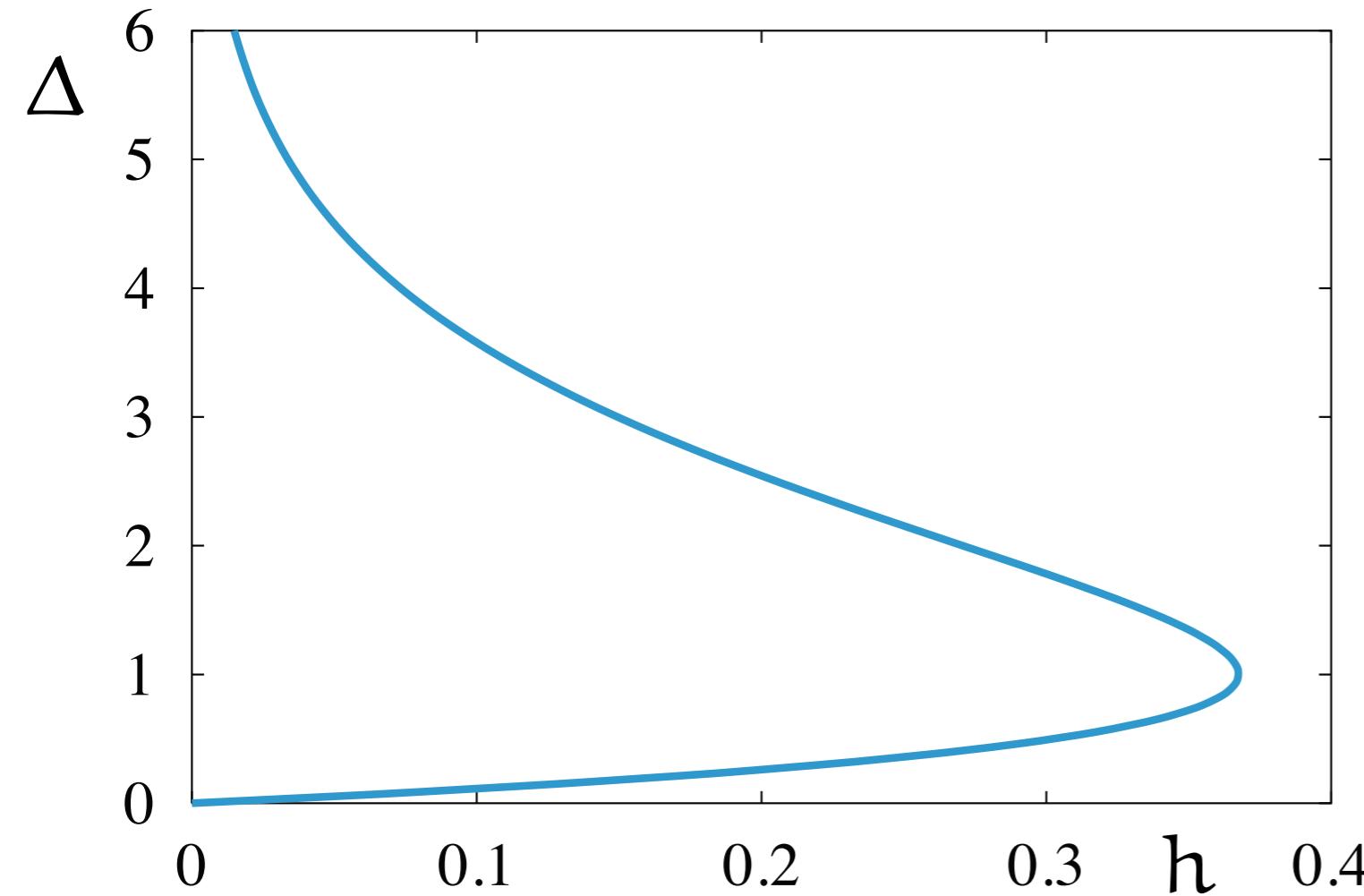


$$w(x) = (1 - |x|)e^{-|x|}$$



**Exact result for 1-bump:**  $f(u) = H(u - h)$

$$q(x) = \int_0^\Delta dy w(x - y)$$



$$q(0) = h = q(\Delta)$$

$$\Delta e^{-\Delta} = h$$

**working memory**

# Stability

Examine eigenspectrum of the linearization about a solu

Solutions of form  $u(x)e^{\lambda t}$  satisfy  $\mathcal{L}u(x) = u(x)$

$$\mathcal{L}u(x) = \tilde{\eta}(\lambda) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dy w(x-y) f'(q(y) - h) u(y)$$

For Heaviside firing rate

$$f'(q(x)) = \frac{\delta(x)}{|q'(0)|} + \frac{\delta(x - \Delta)}{|q'(\Delta)|}$$

so

$$u(x) = \frac{\tilde{\eta}(\lambda)}{|w(0) - w(\Delta)|} [w(x)u(0) + w(x - \Delta)u(\Delta)]$$

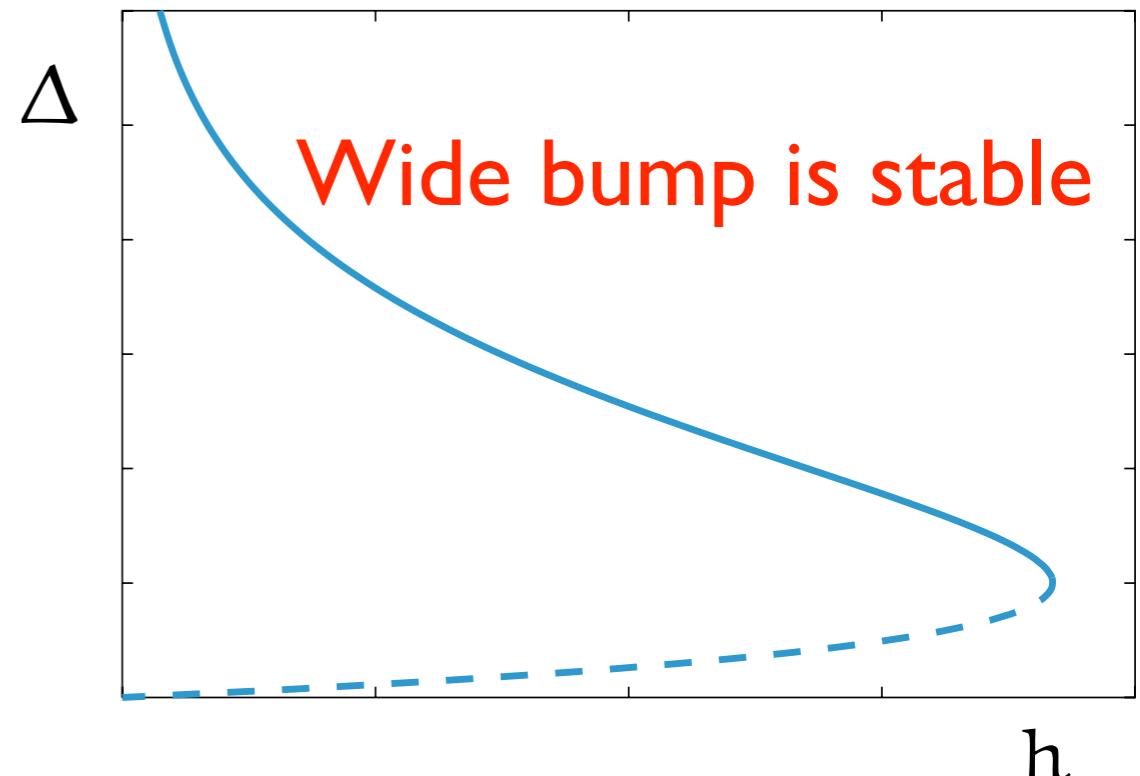
# System of linear equations for perturbations at threshold

$$\begin{bmatrix} u(0) \\ u(\Delta) \end{bmatrix} = \mathcal{A}(\lambda) \begin{bmatrix} u(0) \\ u(\Delta) \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathcal{A}(\lambda) = \frac{\tilde{\eta}(\lambda)}{|w(0) - w(\Delta)|} \begin{bmatrix} w(0) & w(\Delta) \\ w(\Delta) & w(0) \end{bmatrix}$$

Non trivial solution if

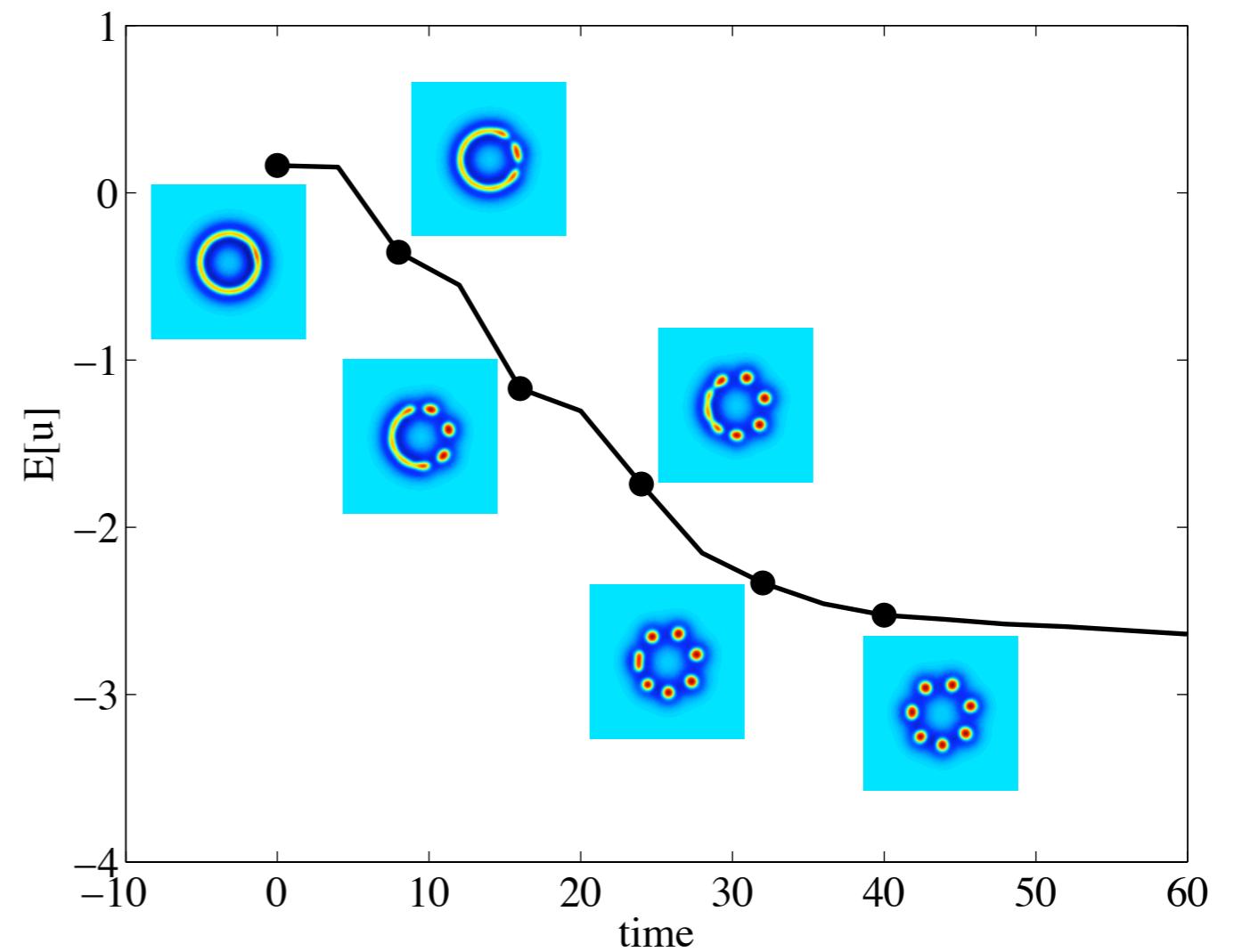
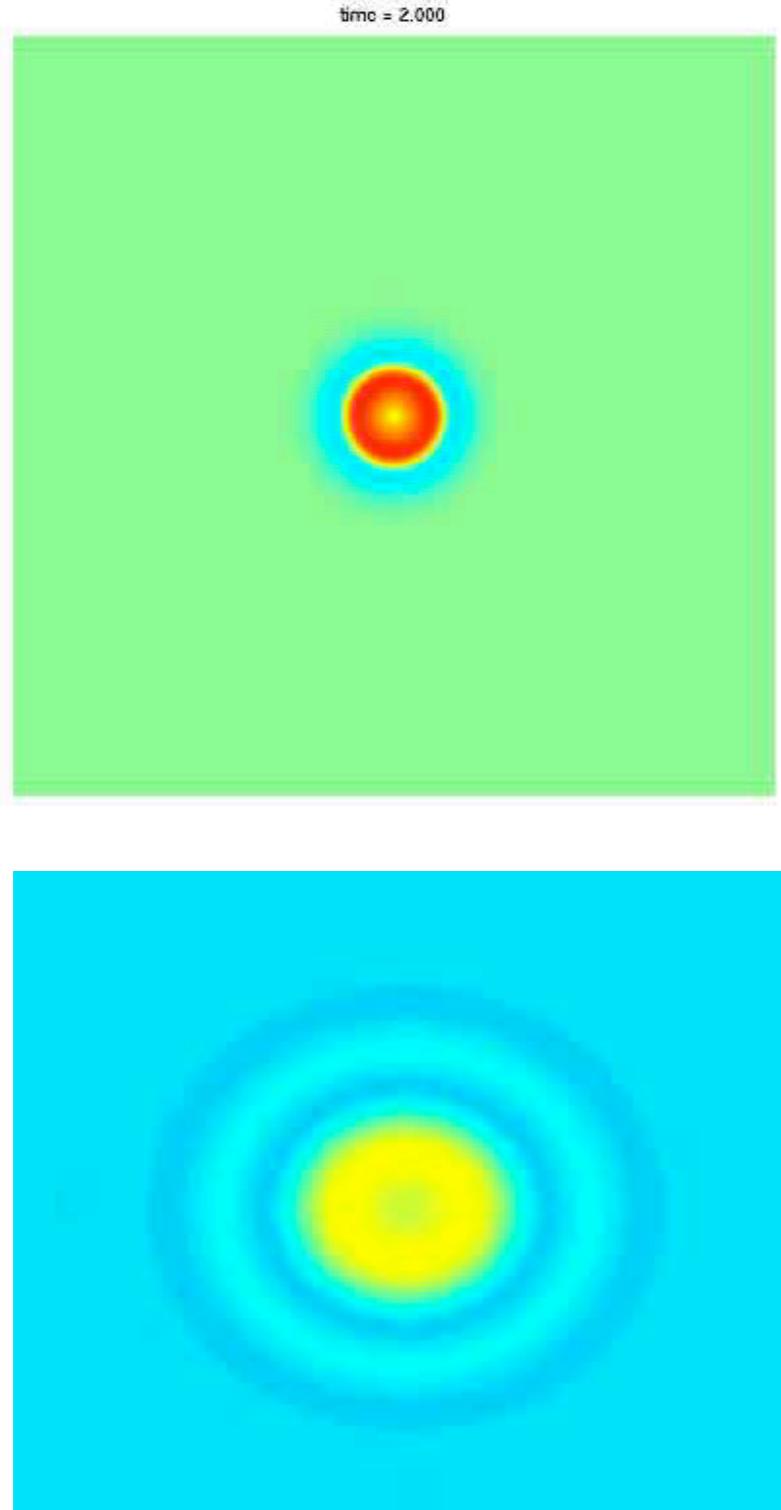
$$\mathcal{E}(\lambda) = \det(\mathcal{A}(\lambda) - I) = 0$$

Solutions stable if  $\text{Re } \lambda < 0$



## Evans function for integral neural field equation

# Predictions of Evans function



# Threshold accommodation

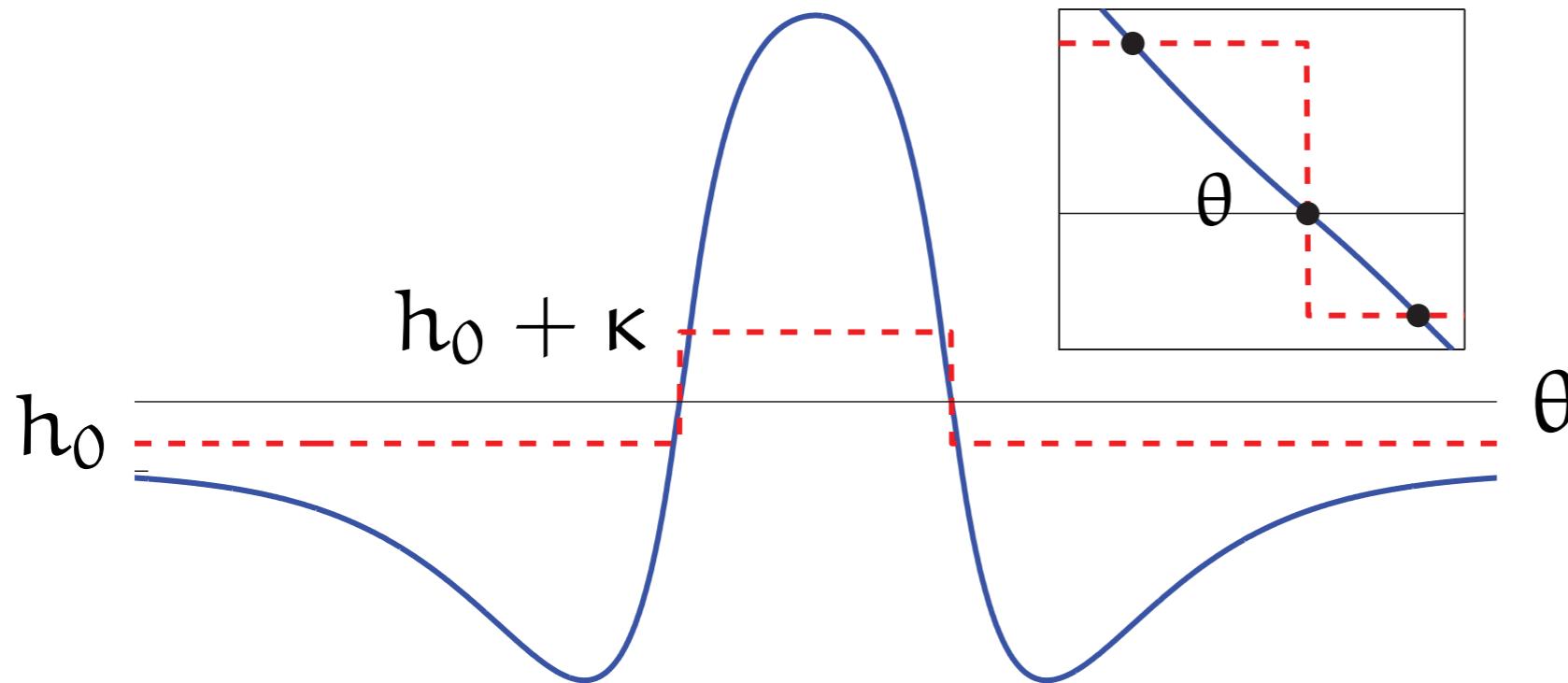
Hill (1936), "... the threshold rises when the *local potential* is maintained ... and reverts gradually to its original value when the nerve is allowed to rest."

$$\frac{\partial h}{\partial t} = -(h - h_0) + \kappa H(u - \theta)$$

One bump  $(u, h) = (q(x), p(x))$

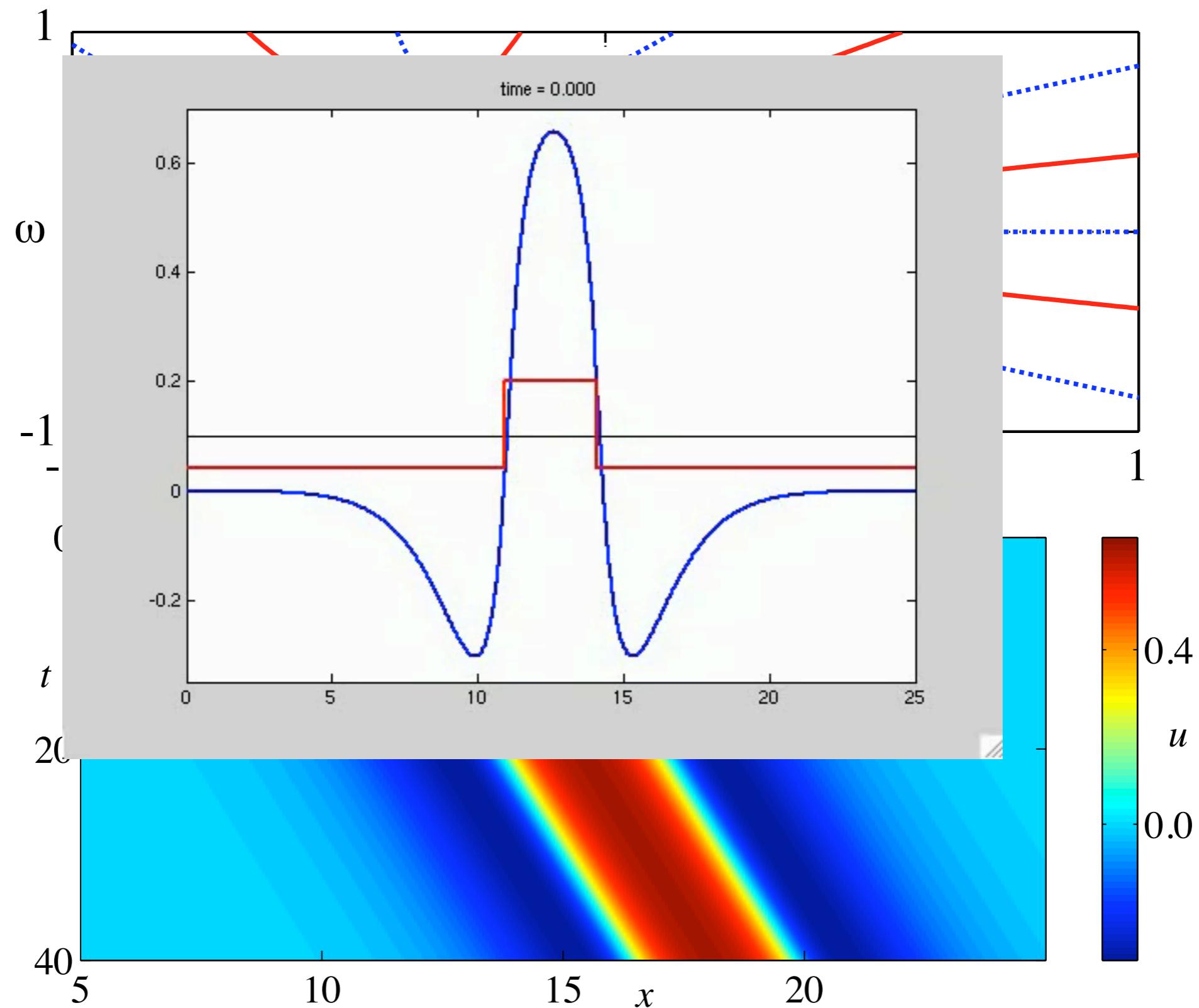
$$q = w \otimes H(q - p)$$

$$p = \begin{cases} h_0 & q < \theta \\ h_0 + \kappa & q \geq \theta \end{cases}$$



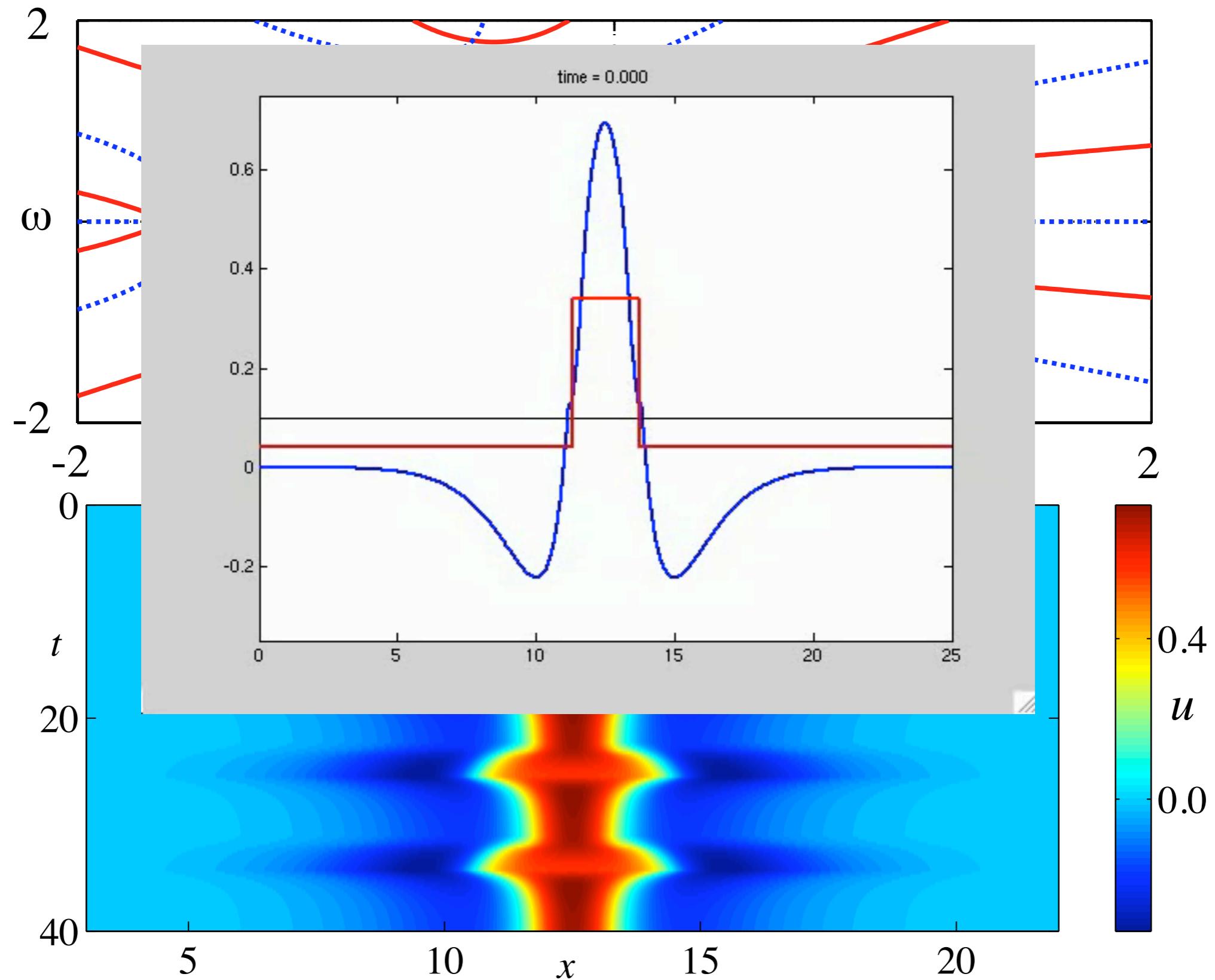
# Bump Stability I: $\eta(t) = \alpha^2 t e^{-\alpha t}$

Low  $\kappa$  instability on Re axis (increasing  $\alpha$ )

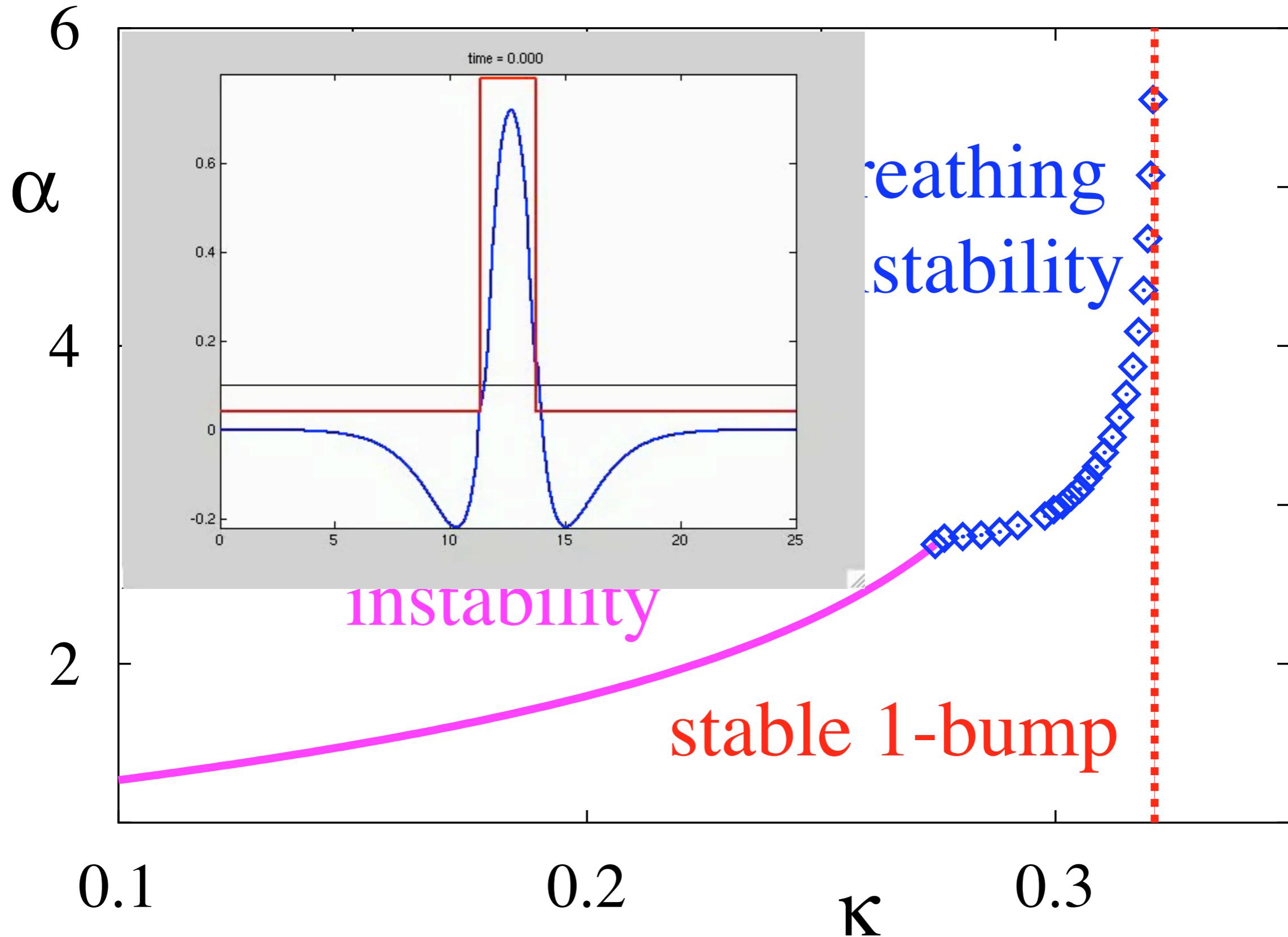


# Bump Stability II

High  $\kappa$  instability on Im axis (increasing  $\alpha$ ) gives a breather

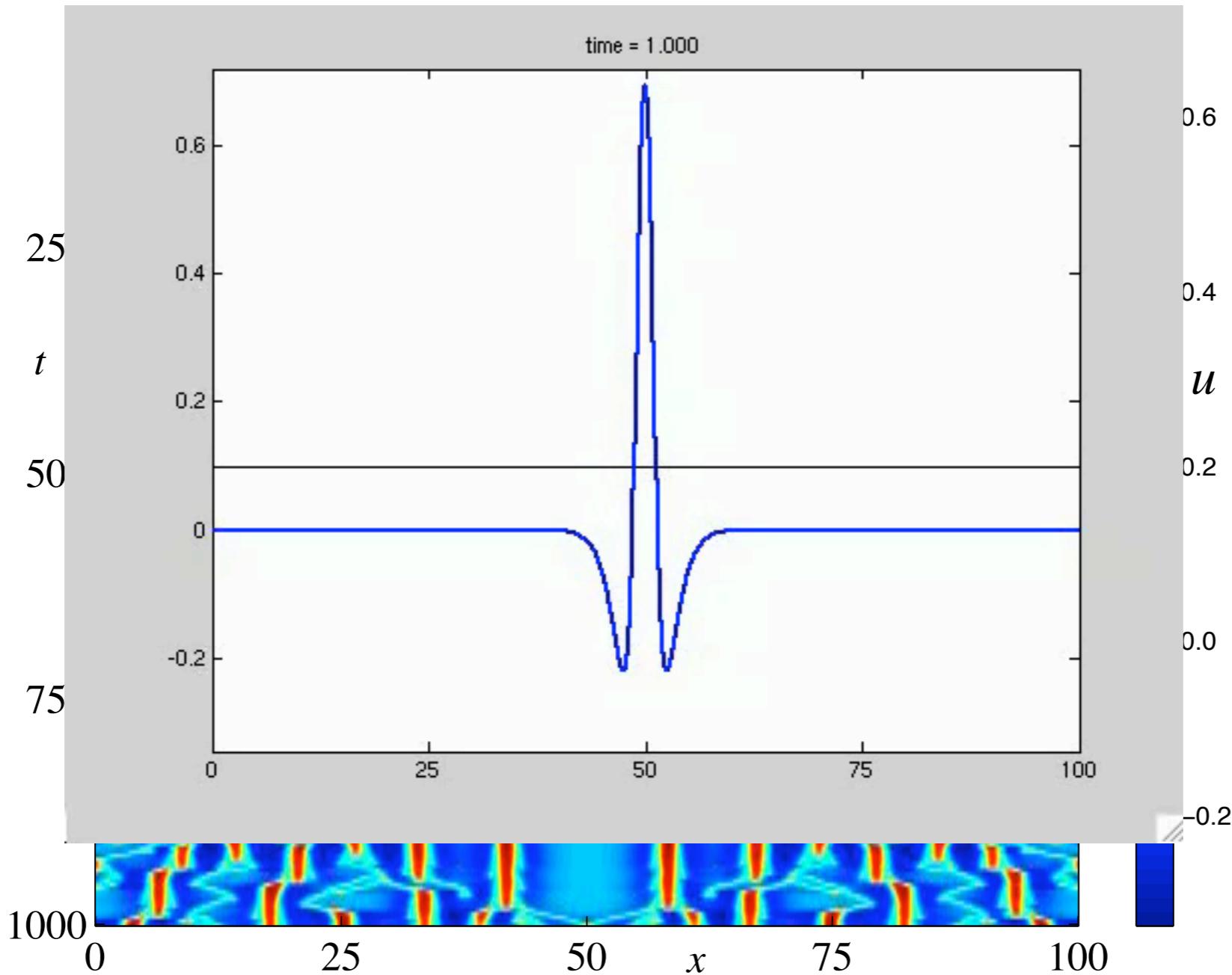


# Summary of Bump instabilities

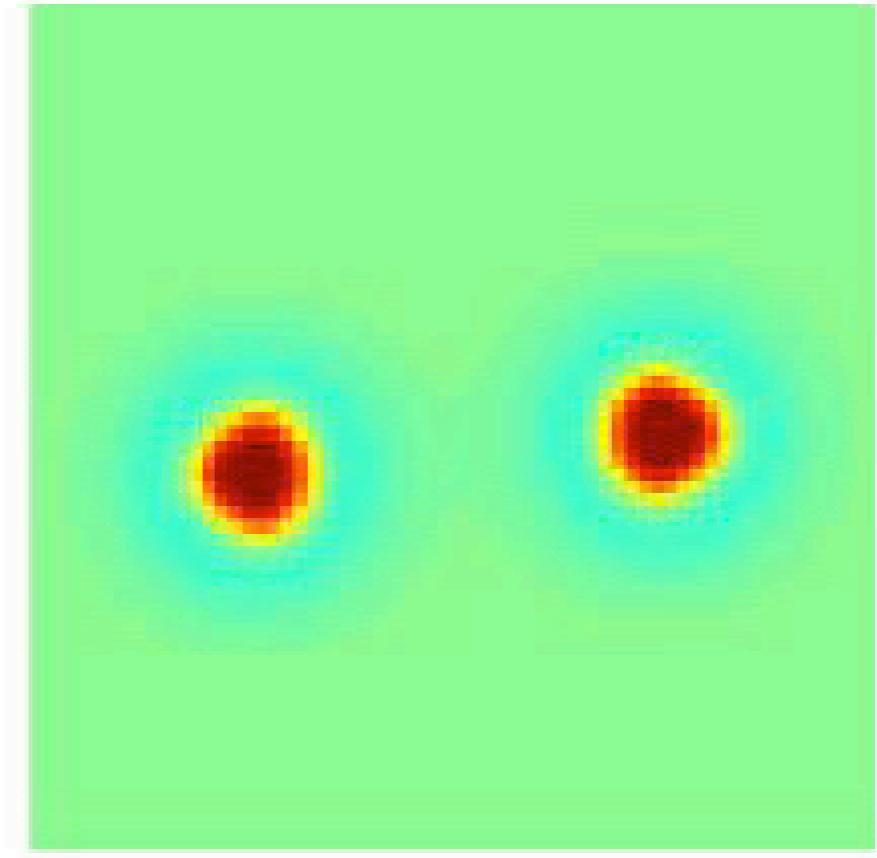
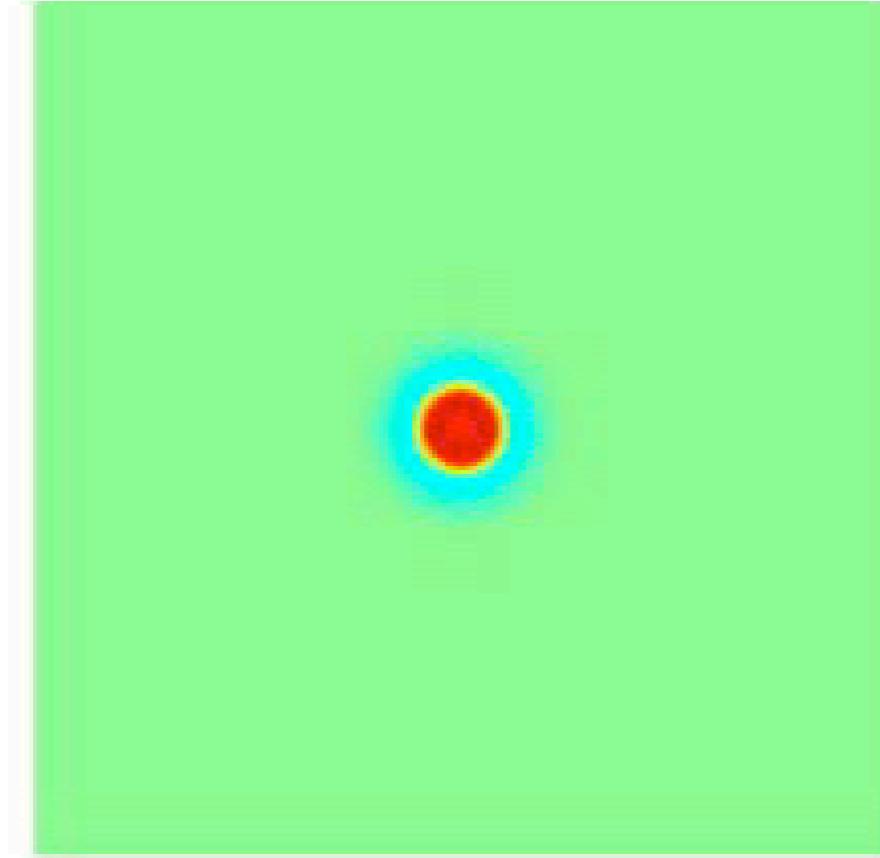


# Exotic Dynamics

... including asymmetric breathers, multiple bumps, multiple pulses, periodic traveling waves, and bump-splitting instabilities that appear to lead to spatio-temporal chaos.

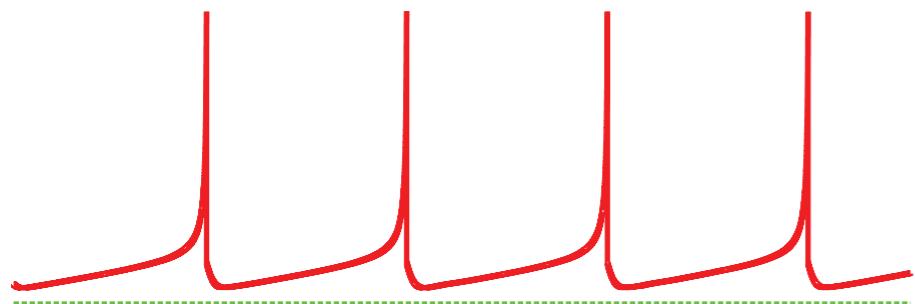


# Splitting and scattering

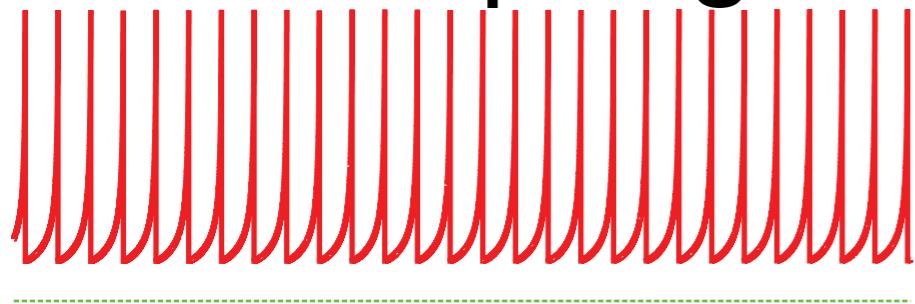


Auto/dispersive solitons as seen in coupled cubic complex Ginzburg-Landau systems and three component reaction-diffusion systems.

## Regular spiking



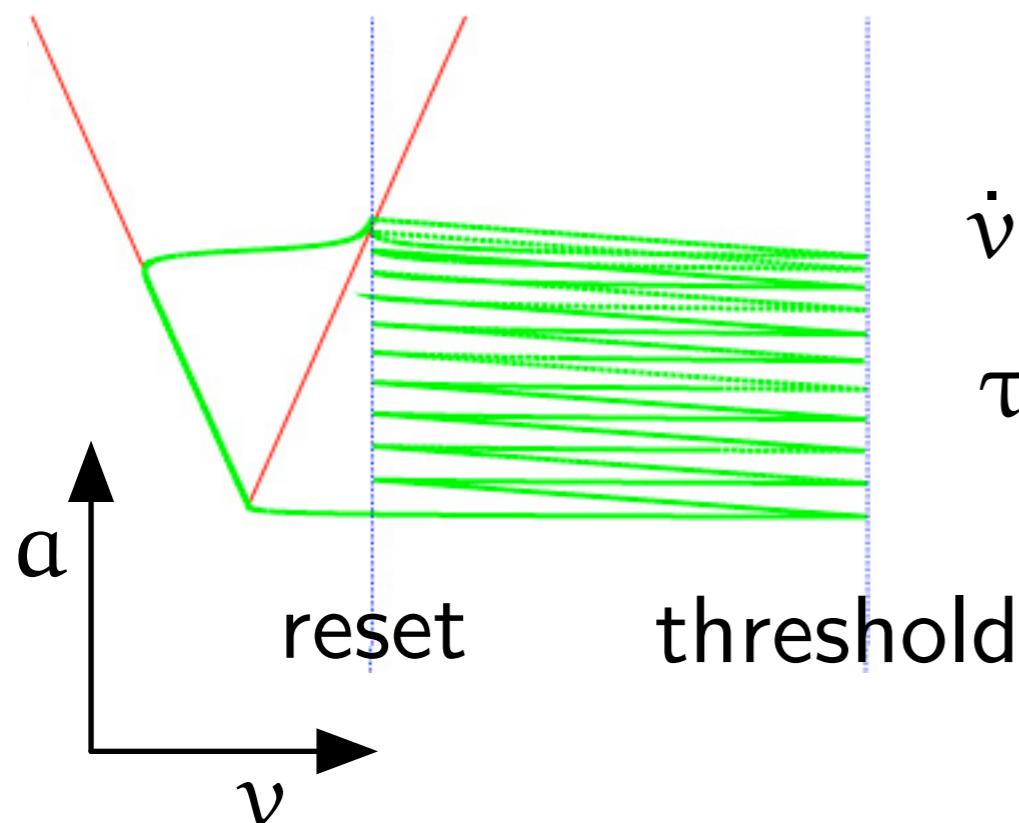
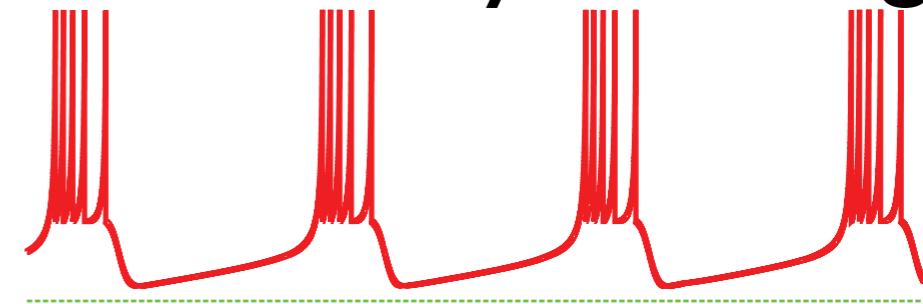
## Fast spiking



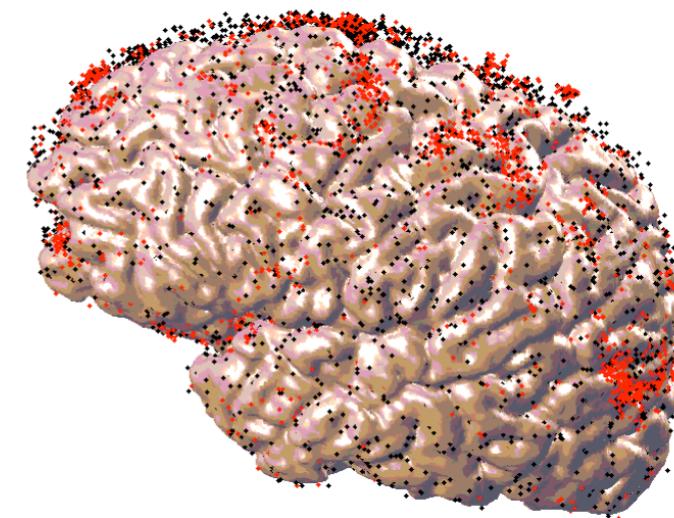
## Chattering



## Intrinsically bursting

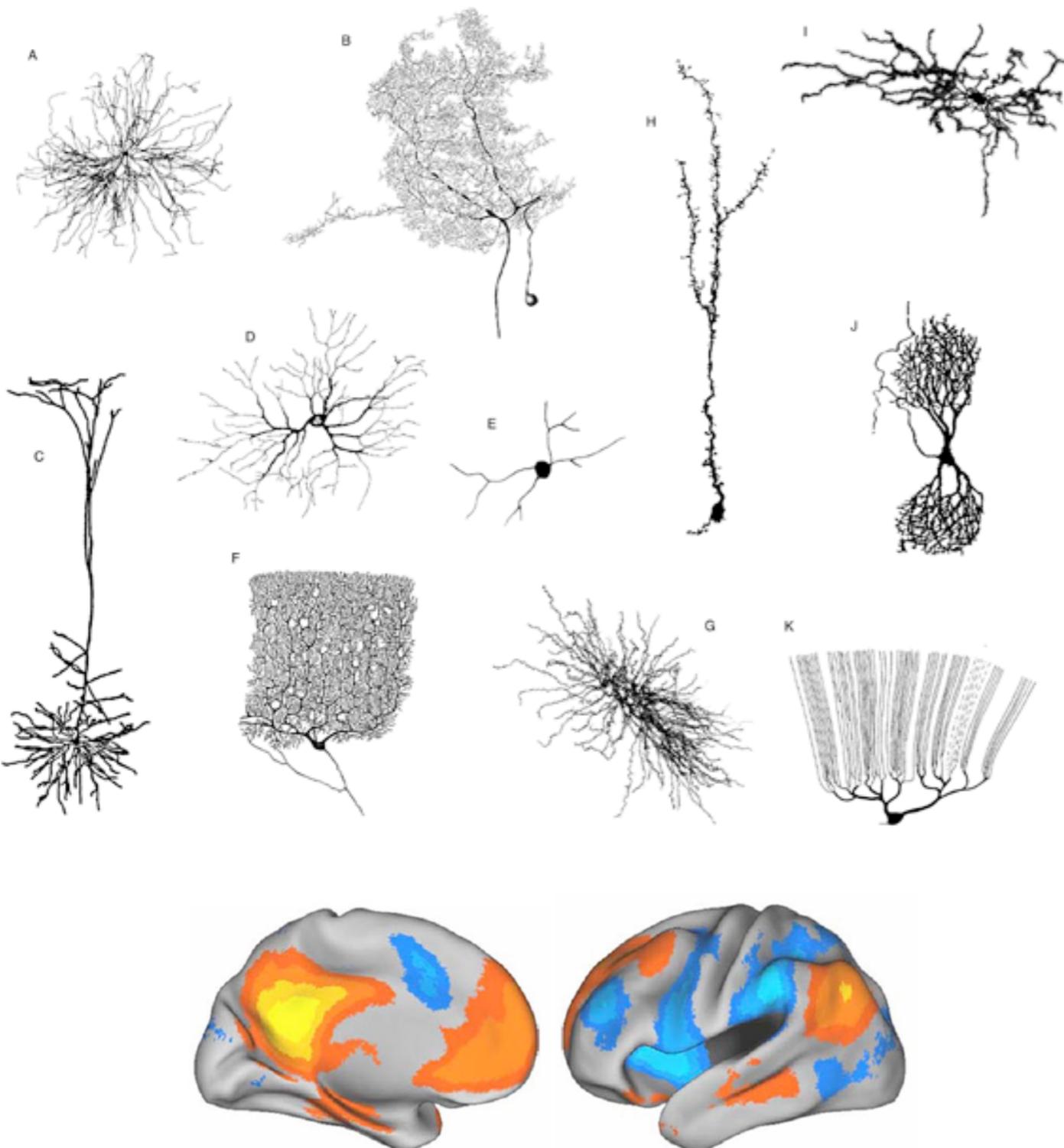


$$\dot{v} = |v| +$$
$$\tau \dot{a} = -a$$

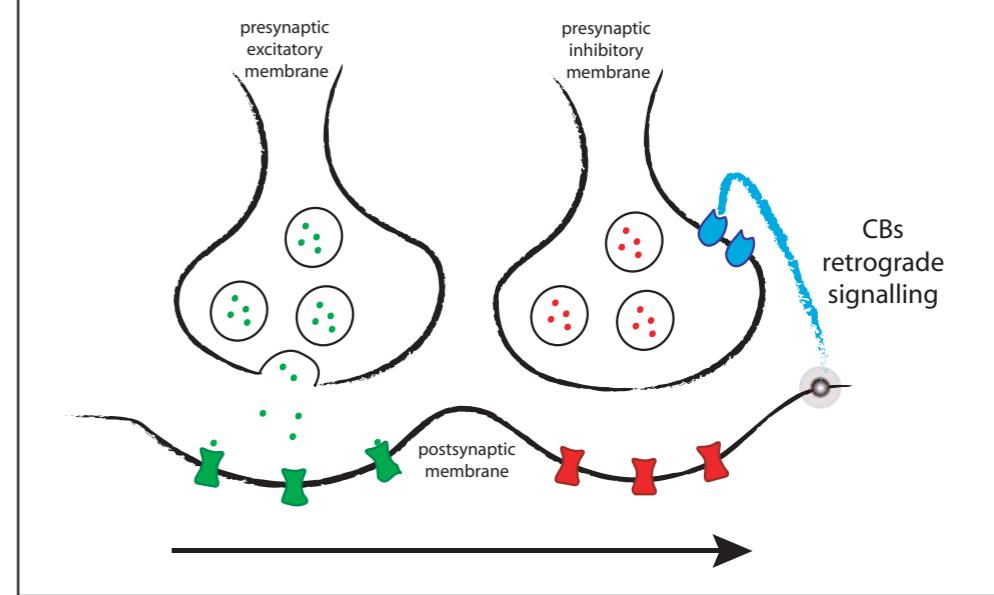
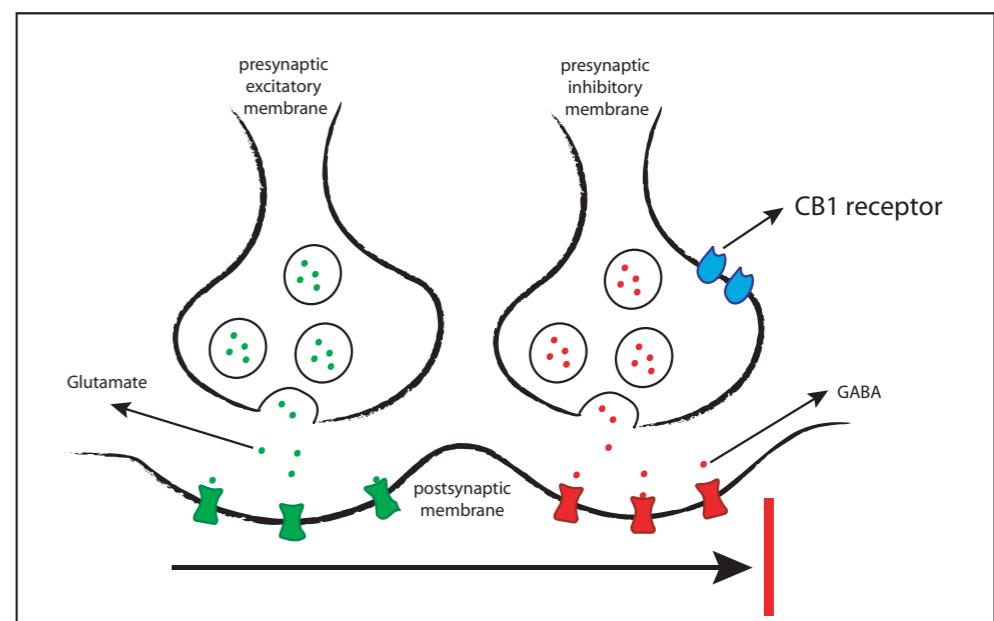
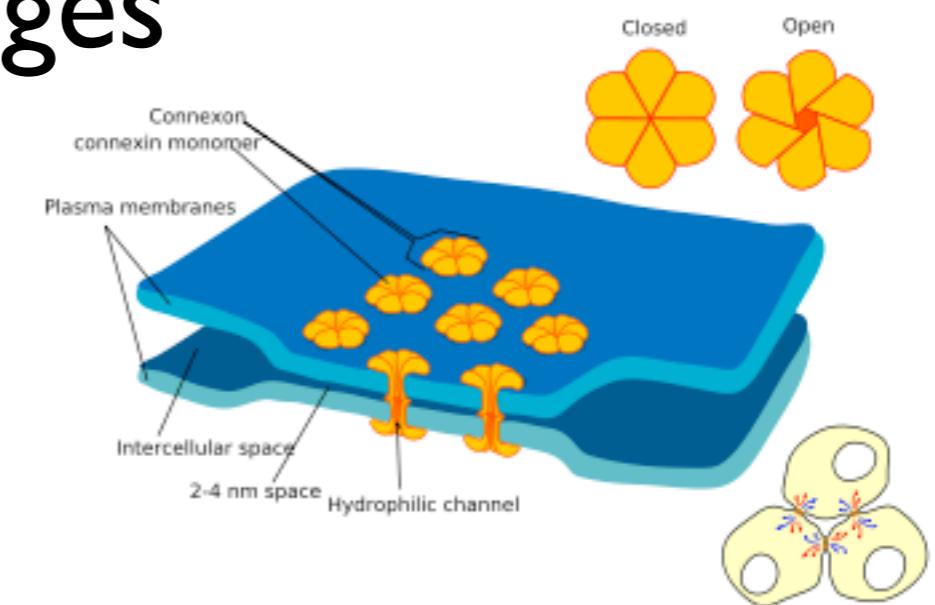


S Coombes and M Zachariou 2009, in  
Coherent Behavior in Neuronal Networks  
(Ed. Rubin, Josic, Matias, Romo), Springer.

# Further Challenges



Default mode network and ultra slow coherent oscillations



# In collaboration with

Nikola Venkov  
(Notts)



Gabriel Lord  
(Heriot-Watt)



Yulia Timofeeva  
(Warwick)

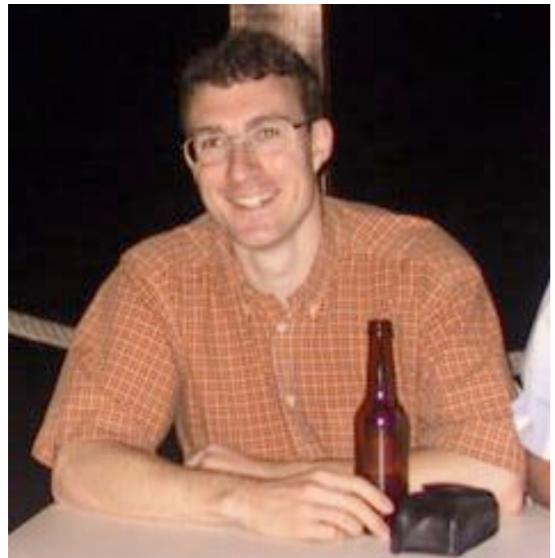


David Liley  
(Melbourne)

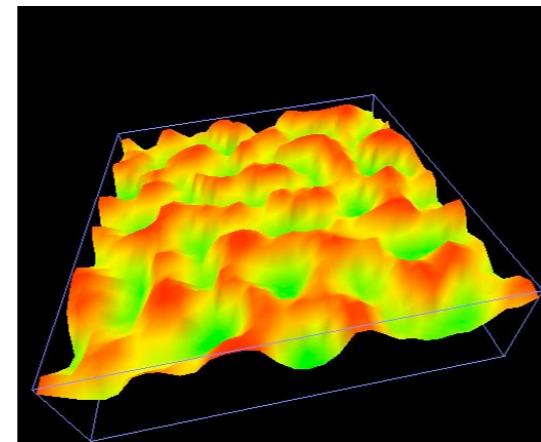


Engineering and Physical Sciences  
Research Council

Markus Owen (Notts)



Ingo Bojak (Nijmegen)



Carlo Laing (Massey, NZ)

