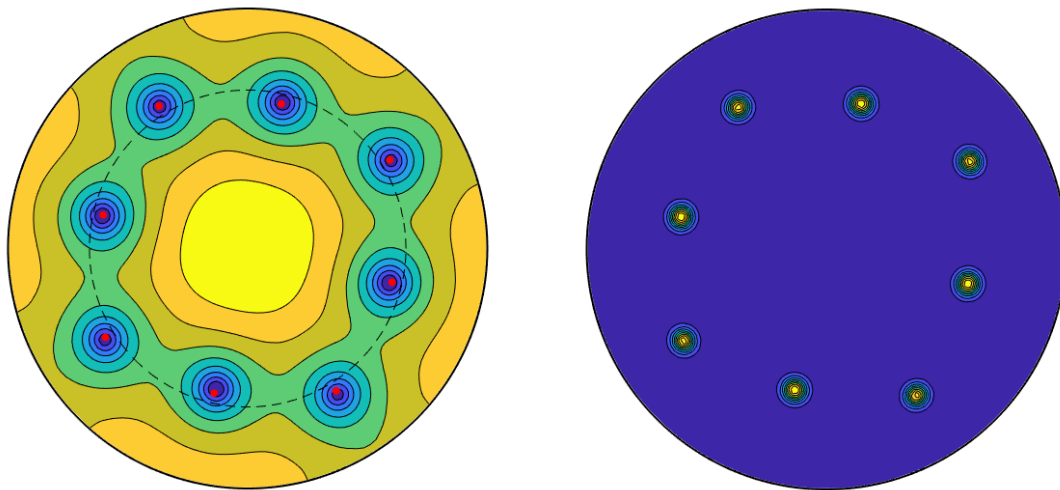


A ring of spikes and its stability



Introduction

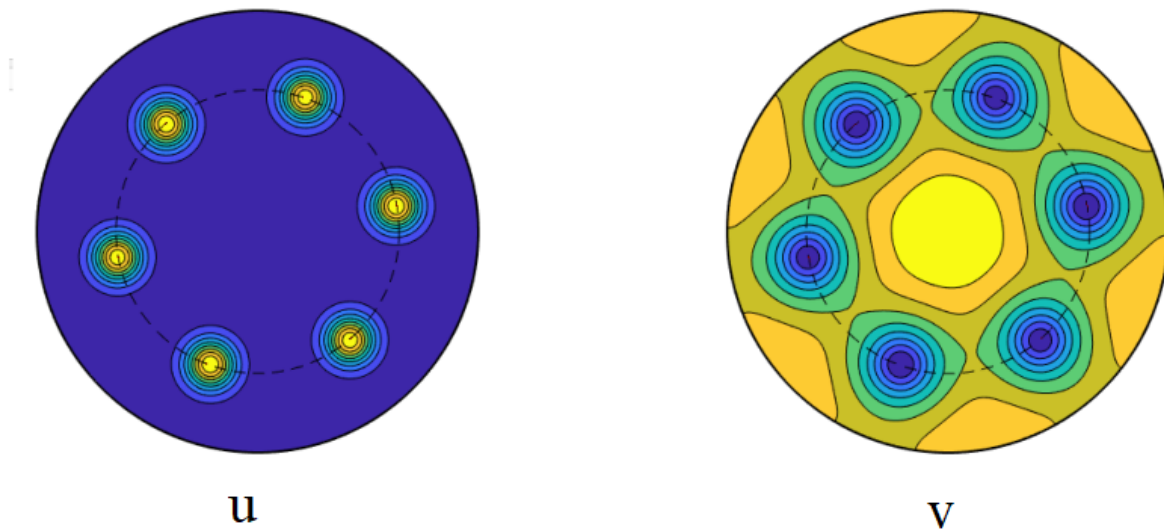
- Schnakenberg model:

$$u_t = \varepsilon^2 \Delta u - u + u^2 v, \quad 0 = \Delta v + A - u^2 v \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2 \log \varepsilon^{-1}} \quad (1)$$

with the usual Neumann boundary conditions inside a radially symmetric domain Ω_b , which we take to be either a disk or an annulus:

$$\Omega_b = \{x : b < |x| < 1\}. \quad (2)$$

- Example of ring solution:



Reduced equations for spike motion

- Define

$$\begin{cases} \Delta G - \frac{1}{\pi} = -\delta(x - \xi), & x, \xi \in \Omega_b, \\ \partial_n G = 0, & x \in \partial\Omega_b, \\ \int_{\Omega_b} G(x, \xi) dx = 0 \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

- Spike motion:

$$\frac{dx_k}{dt} \sim -\frac{\varepsilon^2}{\eta} \frac{2}{\int w^2} S_k \sum_{j=1}^N S_j \nabla G_{kj}; \quad (4)$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^N S_j = |\Omega| A; \quad \frac{\eta \int w^2}{S_k} = T - \sum_{j=1}^N S_j G_{kj}. \quad (5)$$

$$G_{kj} = \begin{cases} G(x_k, x_j), & \text{if } k \neq j \\ \frac{1}{2\pi} \log \varepsilon^{-1} + H(x_j, x_j), & \text{if } k = j \end{cases}, \quad \nabla G_{kj} = \begin{cases} \nabla_{x_k} G(x_k, x_j), & \text{if } k \neq j \\ \nabla_x H(x, \xi)|_{\substack{x=x_k \\ \xi=x_j}}, & \text{if } k = j \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

$$H = G + \frac{1}{2\pi} \log |x - \xi|$$

and define

Spike ring radius

- Let

$$J(r, R, l) = \begin{cases} G(r, Re^{i2\pi l/N}), & \text{if } l \neq 0 \pmod{N} \\ \frac{1}{2\pi} \log \varepsilon^{-1} + H(r, R), & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

- Then ring radius R satisfies

$$\sum_{k=0}^{N-1} J_r(R, R, k) = 0. \quad (8)$$

- Explicit computation for a unit disk:

$$R^2 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2N} + \frac{1}{R^{-2N} - 1} = 0. \quad (9)$$

Ring radius R for a ring of N spikes

N	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
R	0.4536	0.5517	0.5985	0.6251	0.6417	0.6527	0.6604	0.6662	0.6706

(10)

- For an annulus $b < |x| < 1$:

$$0 = \frac{R^2 - b^2}{(1 - b^2)} - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2N} + \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} \left\{ \frac{b^{2Np}}{R^{-2N} - b^{2Np}} - \frac{b^{2N(p+1)}}{R^{2N} - b^{2N(p+1)}} \right\}. \quad (11)$$

Stability, LARGE eigenvalues:

- Previous result (for *any*) configuration:

$$A_{l0} \sim \frac{1}{\log \varepsilon^{-1}} \frac{N}{|\Omega|} \left(2\pi \int w^2 \right)^{1/2}. \quad (12)$$

- *More accurate:* Define

$$\Upsilon(m) := \sum_{l=0}^{N-1} \exp(2\pi l m i / N) J(r, R, l); \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{\Upsilon} := \Upsilon - \frac{1}{2\pi} \log \varepsilon^{-1};$$

Define

$$A_l(m) = \frac{1}{\log \varepsilon^{-1}} \frac{N}{|\Omega|} \left(2\pi \int w^2 \right)^{1/2} \left(1 + \frac{2\pi}{\log \varepsilon^{-1}} \tilde{\Upsilon}(m) \right)^{-1/2}; \quad (13)$$

$$A_l = \max_m A_l(m) = A_l(\lfloor N/2 \rfloor) \quad (14)$$

For even N ,

$$A_l = \frac{1}{\log \varepsilon^{-1}} \frac{N}{\pi} \left(2\pi \int w^2 \right)^{1/2} \left(1 + \frac{1}{\log \varepsilon^{-1}} \ln \left(\frac{4R}{N} \frac{1 + R^N}{1 - R^N} \right) \right)^{-1/2}. \quad (15)$$

- Example: $\varepsilon = 0.05, N = 8$: $A_{l0} \approx 11.86$; $A_l \approx 14.66$, 25% difference.

Small eigenvalues I

- Linearize equations of motion
- In the limit $A \gg O(1/\log \varepsilon^{-1})$ (when all spikes have same height to leading order)

$$\Lambda(m) = - \sum_{l=0}^{N-1} \left(J_{rr}(R, R, l) + J_{rR}(R, R, l) z^l \right) \quad (16)$$

where $z = \exp(2\pi m i / N)$; $J(r, R, l) = \begin{cases} G(r, R e^{i2\pi l / N}), & \text{if } l \neq 0 \pmod{N} \\ \frac{1}{2\pi} \log \varepsilon^{-1} + H(r, R), & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

- Stability depends only on annulus thickness and N (not on A)
- Most unstable mode is $m = N/2$
- “Explicit” formula for a disk:

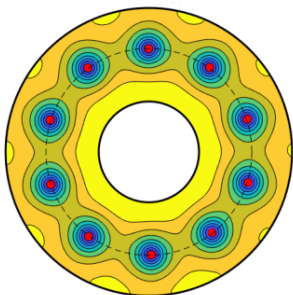
$$2\pi\Lambda(N/2) = -NR^{2N-2} \frac{(N-1+R^{2N}) + N(R^N + R^{-N})}{(1-R^{2N})^2} + \frac{1}{8R^2} (N-2)^2 - N$$

- Disk: 8 or less spots are stable, 9 or more are unstable.

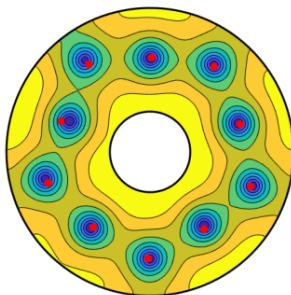
– Annulus $b < |x| < 1$: N spikes stable when $b > b_c(N)$:

N	$b_c(N)$
9	0.174
10	0.293
11	0.356
12	0.412
13	0.450
14	0.488
15	0.516
16	0.545
17	0.567
18	0.589
19	0.607
20	0.625

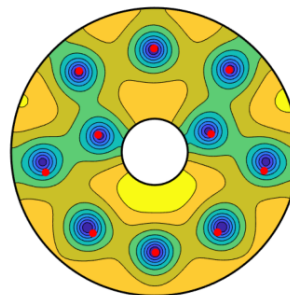
$b=0.35$



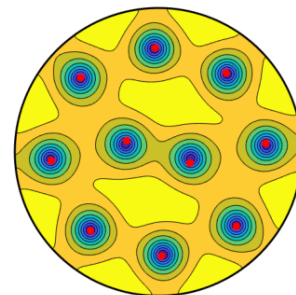
$b=0.28$



$b=0.23$



$b=0$



Small eigenvalues II

- Don't assume all the heights are the same; assume $A = O(1/\log \varepsilon^{-1})$.
- Linearized equations are:

$$\frac{\lambda}{S^2} = \Lambda - \frac{1}{\frac{\eta \int w^2}{S^2} - \sum_{l=0}^{N-1} z^l J} \left(\sum_{l=0}^{N-1} J_r z^l \right)^2$$

- Setting $\lambda = 0$ we get a critical threshold:

$$A_s(m) = \frac{N \left(2\pi \int w^2 \right)^{1/2}}{\log \varepsilon^{-1} |\Omega|} \left\{ 1 + \frac{2\pi}{\log \varepsilon^{-1}} \left[\tilde{\Upsilon}(R, R, m) + \frac{\Upsilon_r^2(R, R, m)}{\Lambda(m)} \right] \right\}^{-1/2} \quad (17)$$

$$A_s = \max_m A_s(m) = A_s(\lfloor N/2 \rfloor) \quad (18)$$

- Recall the large eigenvalue threshold:

$$A_l(m) = \frac{N \left(2\pi \int w^2 \right)^{1/2}}{\log \varepsilon^{-1} |\Omega|} \left(1 + \frac{2\pi}{\log \varepsilon^{-1}} \tilde{\Upsilon}(m) \right)^{-1/2}; \quad (19)$$

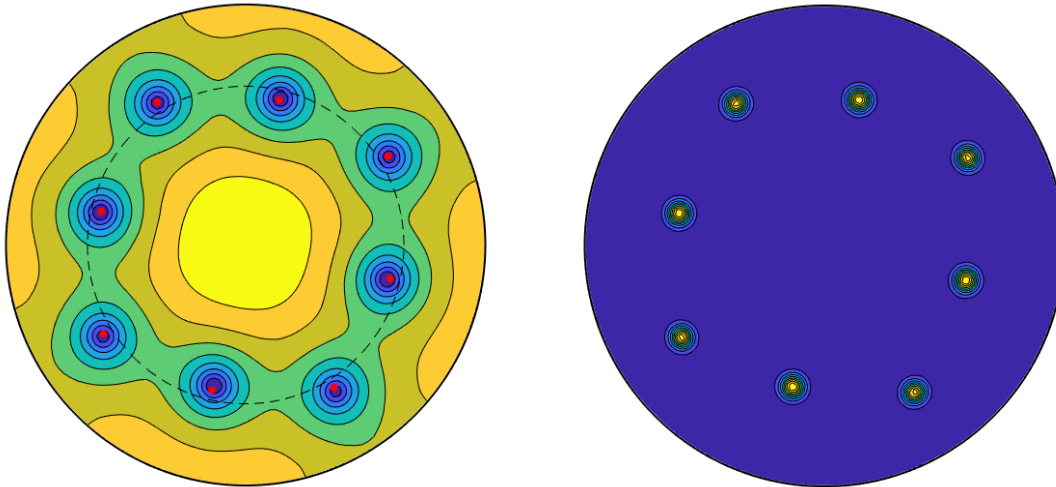
– If ring is stable for large A then Λ is negative; this means that $A_s > A_l$.

- Conclusion: small eigenvalue instability is triggered before the large eigenvalue instability
- But $\frac{A_s - A_l}{A_l} = O(1/\log \varepsilon^{-1})$. and $A_s \sim A_l$ as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$.

	$\varepsilon = 0.02$			$\varepsilon = 0.05$		
N	A_s	A_l	$A_{l,0}$	A_s	A_l	$A_{l,0}$
2	2.455	2.183	2.271	3.293	2.818	2.965
3	3.481	3.213	3.406	4.577	4.127	4.448
4	5.033	4.698	4.542	6.814	6.201	5.931
5	6.379	5.962	5.677	8.687	7.910	7.414
6	8.119	7.530	6.813	11.35	10.18	8.897
7	9.912	8.946	7.949	14.20	12.18	10.38
8	52.90	10.59	9.084	N/A	14.66	11.86

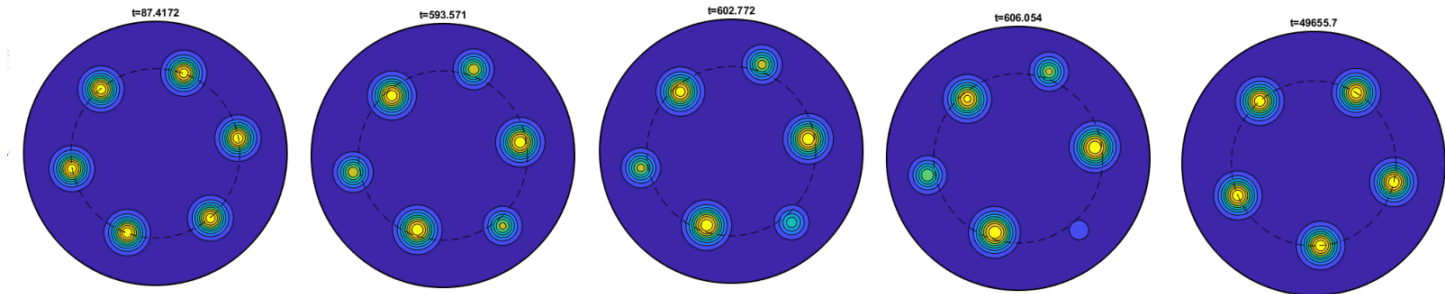
Ring of 8 spikes

- $N = 8$: $A_s = \frac{39.981}{\log \varepsilon^{-1}} \left\{ 1 - \frac{3.796}{\log \varepsilon^{-1}} \right\}^{-1/2}$, $A_l = \frac{39.981}{\log \varepsilon^{-1}} \left\{ 1 - \frac{1.035}{\log \varepsilon^{-1}} \right\}^{-1/2}$
 - When $\varepsilon = 0.05$, $1 - \frac{3.796}{\log \varepsilon^{-1}} < 0$ so A_s does not exist; whereas $A_l = 14.66$.
 - When $\varepsilon = 0.02$, $A_s = 52.9$. $A_l = 10.59$ *But self-replication is observed for $A > 20 \implies$ cannot observe a stable 8-ring.*
 - E.g. $\varepsilon = 0.02$, $A = 16.7$. 8-Ring deforms into a “square”:



Conclusions:

- On a disk:
 - A ring of ≥ 9 spikes is *always* unstable due to small eigenvalues
 - A ring of ≤ 8 spikes is stable if $A \gg O(1/\log \varepsilon^{-1})$.
 - The *dominant* instability is wrt to small eigenvalues even when $N \leq 8$.



- The instability is subcritical, *except* when $N = 8$.
- On an annulus:
 - The thinner the annulus, the more spikes can be stable
 - The instability is due to small eigenvalues, and is often supercritical.

Under hood I: stability of ring

- **Restrict** the motion of k th spike to be along rays $x_k(t) = r_k(t) \exp(2\pi ki/N)$:
 – Simplified problem where all heights are the same:

$$r'_k = - \sum_{l=0}^{N-1} J_r(r_k, r_{k+l}, l) \quad \text{with indices taken mod } N \quad (20)$$

$$\text{where } J(r, R, l) = \begin{cases} G(r, Re^{i2\pi l/N}), & \text{if } l \neq 0 \pmod{N} \\ \frac{1}{2\pi} \log \varepsilon^{-1} + H(r, R), & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (21)$$

- Linearize:

$$r_k = R + \phi_k e^{\lambda t}$$

$$\lambda \phi_k = - \sum_{l=0}^{N-1} \phi_k J_{rr}(R, R, l) + \phi_{k+l} J_{rR}(R, R, l)$$

- “Circulant” ansatz:

$$\phi_k = \phi z^k, \quad z = \exp(2\pi mi/N)$$

$$\Lambda(m) = - \sum_{l=0}^{N-1} (J_{rr} + J_{rR} z^l)$$

Under hood II: Green's function on annulus

$$G_r(r, R, \theta) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \cos(n\theta) \partial_r g_n(r, R);$$

$$\partial_r g_n = \frac{1}{2\pi r (1 - b^{2n})} \left(R^n r^n + R^{-n} r^n - b^{2n} R^n r^{-n} - b^{2n} R^{-n} r^{-n} \right), \quad r < R, \quad n \geq 0$$

- Need to compute: $f(1, b^2)$ where $f(\rho, a) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\rho^n}{1 - a^n}$

– Key insight: *resummation trick* ("Ewald summation"):

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\rho^n}{1 - a^n} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \rho^n \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} a^{np} = \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (\rho a^p)^n = \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} \frac{\rho a^p}{1 - \rho a^p}.$$

– Similar trick for N -ring interaction:

$$\sum_{l=1}^{N-1} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\rho^n}{1 - a^n} \cos\left(\frac{2\pi l}{N} n\right) = \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} \left(N \frac{\rho^N a^{Np}}{1 - \rho^N a^{Np}} - \frac{\rho^{p+1}}{1 - a^{p+1}} \right)$$

Under hood III: explicit computations for a disk

- Key calculation: $\Lambda(m) = - \sum_{l=0}^{N-1} (J_{rr} + J_{rR} z^l)$

$$J_r(r, R, \theta) = \frac{1}{2\pi r} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \cos(n\theta) (R^n r^n + R^{-n} r^n)$$
$$T(\rho) := \sum_{l=1}^{N-1} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \cos\left(\frac{2\pi nl}{N}\right) e^{2\pi mli/N} \rho^n, \quad m \neq 0. \quad (22)$$

Then

$$T(\rho) = \frac{N}{1 - \rho^N} \left(\frac{\rho^m + \rho^{N-m}}{2} \right) - \frac{\rho}{1 - \rho}$$

and

$$T(1) = 1/2; \quad T(1) = \frac{1 - N^2}{12} + \frac{m}{2} (N - m).$$

End result:

$$\Lambda(N/2) = -NR^{2N-2} \frac{(N-1 + R^{2N}) + N(R^N + R^{-N})}{(1 - R^{2N})^2} + \frac{1}{8R^2} (N-2)^2 - N$$

- For the annulus, J is evaluated as above, then a sum is evaluated numerically...