

# Stability of Travelling Waves

Dichotomies, spectra and Fredholm properties

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## Björn Sandstede

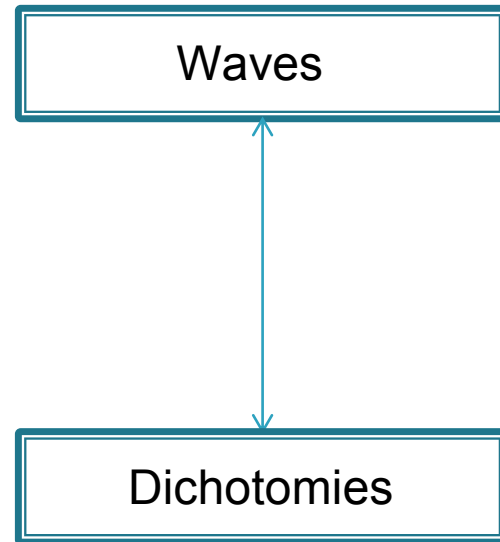
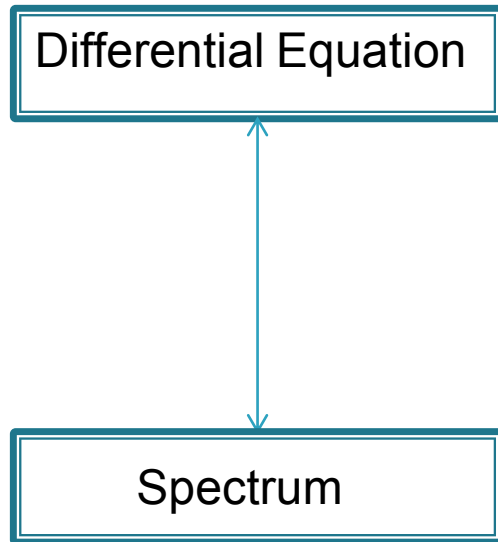
- Professor, Division of Applied Mathematics, Brown University, Providence
- Author of *Stability of travelling waves (2002)*

# Overview

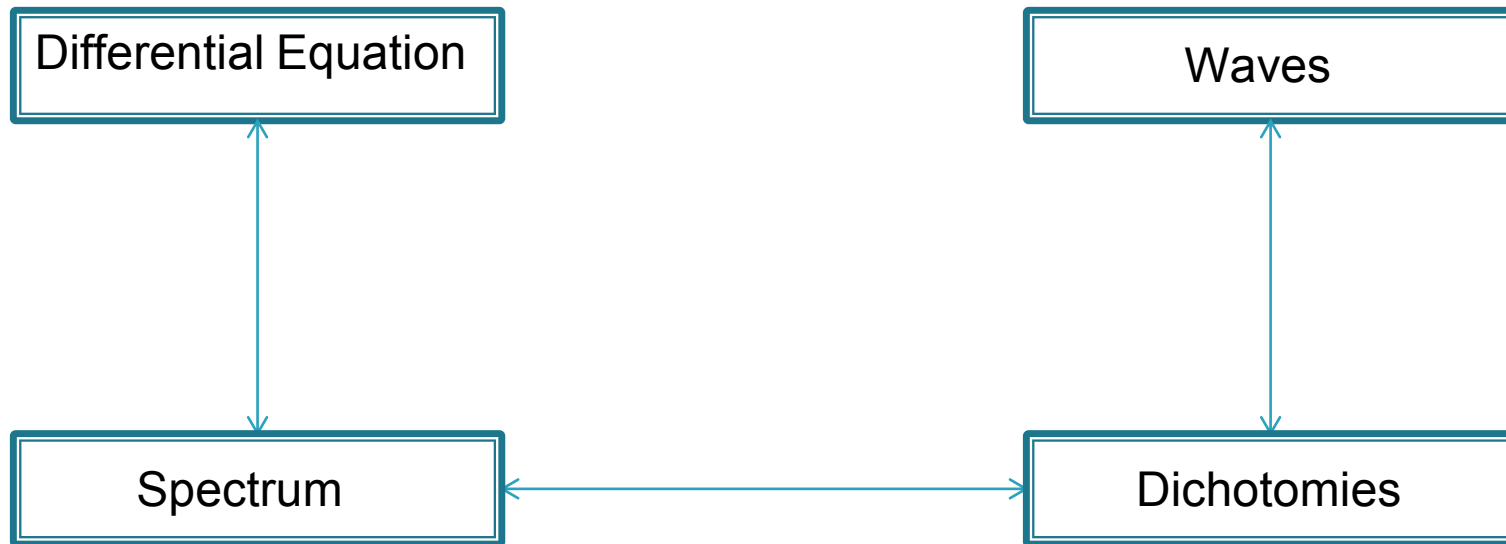
Differential Equation

Waves

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# Assumptions

We consider partial differential equations of the form

$$U_t = \mathcal{A}(\partial_x)U + \mathcal{N}(U), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}, \quad U \in \mathcal{X}. \quad (1)$$

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We introduce coordinate

$$\xi = x - ct$$



**Hypothesis**      *The matrix-valued function  $A(\xi; \lambda) \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  is of the form*

$$A(\xi; \lambda) = \tilde{A}(\xi) + \lambda B(\xi) \quad (3)$$

*where  $\tilde{A}(\cdot)$  and  $B(\cdot)$  are in  $C^\infty(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}^{n \times n})$ .*

# Dichotomies

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with evolutionary operator  $\Phi$  with the properties:

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(\xi, \zeta) &= \Phi(\xi, \zeta; \lambda) \\ \Phi(\xi, \xi) &= \text{id}, \Phi(\xi, \tau)\Phi(\tau, \zeta) = \Phi(\xi, \zeta) \text{ for all } \xi, \tau, \zeta \in \mathbb{R} \\ u(\xi) &= \Phi(\xi, \zeta)u_0 \text{ satisfies (4) for every } u_0 \in \mathbb{C}^n \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

**Definition 1 (Exponential dichotomies)** Let  $I = \mathbb{R}^+, \mathbb{R}^-$  or  $\mathbb{R}$ , and fix  $\lambda_* \in \mathbb{C}$ . We say that (4), with  $\lambda = \lambda_*$  fixed, has an exponential dichotomy on  $I$  if constants  $K > 0$  and  $\kappa^s < 0 < \kappa^u$  exist as well as a family of projections  $P(\xi)$ , defined and continuous for  $\xi \in I$ , such that the following is true for  $\xi, \zeta \in I$ .

- With  $\Phi^s(\xi, \zeta) := \Phi(\xi, \zeta)P(\zeta)$ , we have

$$|\Phi^s(\xi, \zeta)| \leq Ke^{\kappa^s(\xi - \zeta)}, \quad \xi \geq \zeta, \quad \xi, \zeta \in I.$$

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- The projections commute with the evolution,  $\Phi(\xi, \zeta)P(\zeta) = P(\xi)\Phi(\xi, \zeta)$ , so that

$$\Phi^s(\xi, \zeta)u_0 \in \text{R}(P(\xi)), \quad \xi \geq \zeta, \quad \xi, \zeta \in I$$

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The  $\xi$ -independent dimension of  $\mathbf{N}(P(\xi))$  is referred to as the Morse index of the exponential dichotomy on  $I$ . If (4) has exponential dichotomies on  $\mathbb{R}^+$  and on  $\mathbb{R}^-$ , the associated Morse indices are denoted by  $i_+(\lambda_*)$  and  $i_-(\lambda_*)$ , respectively.

**Theorem 1** Firstly, let  $I$  be  $\mathbb{R}^+$  or  $\mathbb{R}^-$ . Suppose that  $A(\cdot) \in C^0(I, \mathbb{C}^{n \times n})$  and that the equation

$$\frac{d}{d\xi}u = A(\xi)u \tag{6}$$

has an exponential dichotomy on  $I$  with constants  $K$ ,  $\kappa^s$  and  $\kappa^u$  as in Definition 1. There are then positive constants  $\delta_*$  and  $C$  such that the following is true.



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$$\frac{d}{d\xi}u = (A(\xi) + B(\xi))u \quad (7)$$

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has an exponential dichotomy on  $I$  with constants  $\tilde{K}$ ,  $\kappa^s + \delta$  and  $\kappa^u - \delta$ . Moreover, the projections  $P(\xi)$  and evolutions  $\Phi^s(\xi, \zeta)$  and  $\Phi^u(\xi, \zeta)$  associated with (7) are  $\delta$ -close to those associated with (6) for all  $\xi, \zeta \in I$  with  $|\xi|, |\zeta| \geq L$ . Secondly, if  $I = \mathbb{R}$ , then the above statement is true with  $L = 0$ .

**Remark 1** *If the perturbation  $B(\xi)$  in (7) converges to zero as  $|\xi| \rightarrow \infty$  with  $\xi \in I$ , then the projections and evolutions of (7) converge to those of (6).*

*It is also true that, if (4) has an exponential dichotomy for  $\lambda = \lambda_*$ , then the evolutions and projections that appear in Definition 1 can be chosen to depend analytically on  $\lambda$  for  $\lambda$  close to  $\lambda_*$ .*

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We may wish to replace the condition  $\kappa^s < 0 < \kappa^u$  that appears in Definition 1 by the weaker condition  $\kappa^s < \kappa^u$ . Using a transformation for an appropriate  $\eta$ , we see that all the results mentioned above are also true under this weaker condition, i.e. for arbitrary spectral gaps.

# Spectra and Fredholm Properties

We consider the family of operators

$$T(\lambda) : \mathcal{D} \longrightarrow \mathcal{H}, \quad u \longmapsto \frac{du}{d\xi} - A(\cdot; \lambda)u \quad (8)$$

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Recall that an operator  $\mathcal{L} : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$  is said to be a Fredholm operator if  $R(\mathcal{L})$  is closed in  $\mathcal{Y}$ , and the dimension of  $N(\mathcal{L})$  and the codimension of  $R(\mathcal{L})$  are both finite.

The difference  $\dim N(\mathcal{L}) - \text{codim } R(\mathcal{L})$  is called the Fredholm index of  $\mathcal{L}$ .

**Definition 2 (Spectrum)** We say that  $\lambda$  is in the spectrum  $\Sigma$  of  $\mathcal{T}$  if  $\mathcal{T}(\lambda)$  is not invertible, i.e. if the inverse operator does not exist or is not bounded. We say that  $\lambda \in \Sigma$  is in the point spectrum  $\Sigma_{\text{pt}}$  of  $\mathcal{T}$  or, alternatively, that  $\lambda \in \Sigma$  is an eigenvalue of  $\mathcal{T}$  if  $\mathcal{T}(\lambda)$  is a Fredholm operator with index zero. The complement  $\Sigma \setminus \Sigma_{\text{pt}} =: \Sigma_{\text{ess}}$  is called the essential spectrum. The complement of  $\Sigma$  in  $\mathbb{C}$  is the resolvent set of  $\mathcal{T}$ .

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**Remark 2** The point spectrum is often defined as the set of all isolated eigenvalues with finite multiplicity, i.e. as the set  $\tilde{\Sigma}_{\text{pt}}$  of those  $\lambda$  for which  $\mathcal{T}(\lambda)$  is Fredholm with index zero, the null space of  $\mathcal{T}(\lambda)$  is non-trivial, and  $\mathcal{T}(\tilde{\lambda})$  is invertible for all  $\tilde{\lambda}$  in a small neighbourhood of  $\lambda$  (except, of course, for  $\tilde{\lambda} = \lambda$ ).



**Theorem 2**

*Fix  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ . The following statements are true.*

- *$\lambda$  is in the resolvent set of  $\mathcal{T}$  if, and only if, (4) has an exponential dichotomy on  $\mathbb{R}$ .*

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- *$\lambda$  is in the point spectrum  $\Sigma_{\text{pt}}$  of  $\mathcal{T}$  if, and only if, (4) has exponential dichotomies on  $\mathbb{R}^+$  and on  $\mathbb{R}^-$  with the same Morse index,  $i_+(\lambda) = i_-(\lambda)$ , and  $\dim \mathbf{N}(\mathcal{T}(\lambda)) > 0$ . In this case, denote by  $P_{\pm}(\xi; \lambda)$  the projections of the exponential dichotomies of (4) on  $\mathbb{R}^{\pm}$ , then the spaces  $\mathbf{N}(P_-(0; \lambda)) \cap \mathbf{R}(P_+(0; \lambda))$  and  $\mathbf{N}(\mathcal{T}(\lambda))$  are isomorphic via  $u(0) \mapsto u(\cdot)$ .*

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- *$\lambda$  is in the essential spectrum  $\Sigma_{\text{ess}}$  if (4) either does not have exponential dichotomies on  $\mathbb{R}^+$  or on  $\mathbb{R}^-$ , or else if it does, but the Morse indices on  $\mathbb{R}^+$  and on  $\mathbb{R}^-$  differ.*

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**Remark 3** To summarize the relation between Fredholm properties of  $\mathcal{T}$  and exponential dichotomies of (4), we remark that  $\mathcal{T}$  is Fredholm if, and only if, (4) has exponential dichotomies on  $\mathbb{R}^+$  and on  $\mathbb{R}^-$ . The Fredholm index of  $\mathcal{T}$  is then equal to the difference  $i_-(\lambda) - i_+(\lambda)$  of the Morse indices of the dichotomies on  $\mathbb{R}^-$  and  $\mathbb{R}^+$ . If  $\mathcal{T}(\lambda)$  is not Fredholm, then typically the range  $\mathbf{R}(\mathcal{T}(\lambda))$  of  $\mathcal{T}(\lambda)$  is not closed in  $\mathcal{H}$ .

**Remark 4** *Suppose that the equation*

$$\frac{d}{d\xi}u = A(\xi; \lambda)u \quad (9)$$

*has an exponential dichotomy on  $I$  with projections  $P(\xi; \lambda)$  and evolutions  $\Phi^s(\xi, \zeta; \lambda)$  and  $\Phi^u(\xi, \zeta; \lambda)$ , then the equation*

$$\frac{d}{d\xi}v = -A(\xi; \lambda)^*v \quad (10)$$

*also has an exponential dichotomy on  $I$  with projections  $\tilde{P}(\xi; \lambda)$  and evolutions  $\tilde{\Phi}^s(\xi, \zeta; \lambda)$  and  $\tilde{\Phi}^u(\xi, \zeta; \lambda)$ . The projections and evolutions of (9) and (10) are related via*

$$\tilde{P}(\xi; \lambda) = \text{id} - P(\xi; \lambda)^*, \quad \tilde{\Phi}^s(\xi, \zeta; \lambda) = \Phi^u(\zeta, \xi; \lambda)^*, \quad \tilde{\Phi}^u(\xi, \zeta; \lambda) = \Phi^s(\zeta, \xi; \lambda)^*.$$

*This is a consequence of Definition 1.*

# Summary

