



Instability of Walker Propagating Domain-Wall Mode in Magnetic Nanowires

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PRL 111, 027205 (2013)

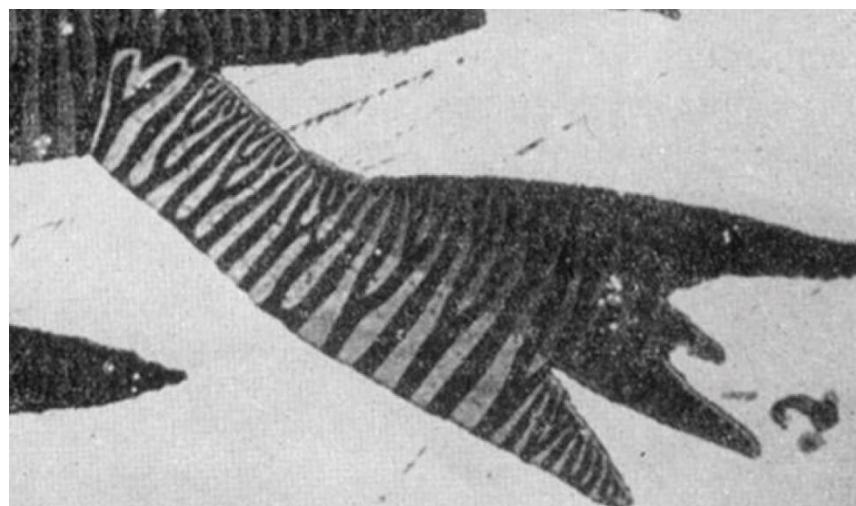
arXiv:1307.3825

**Concepts in Spintronics,
KITP, Oct. 1, 2013**

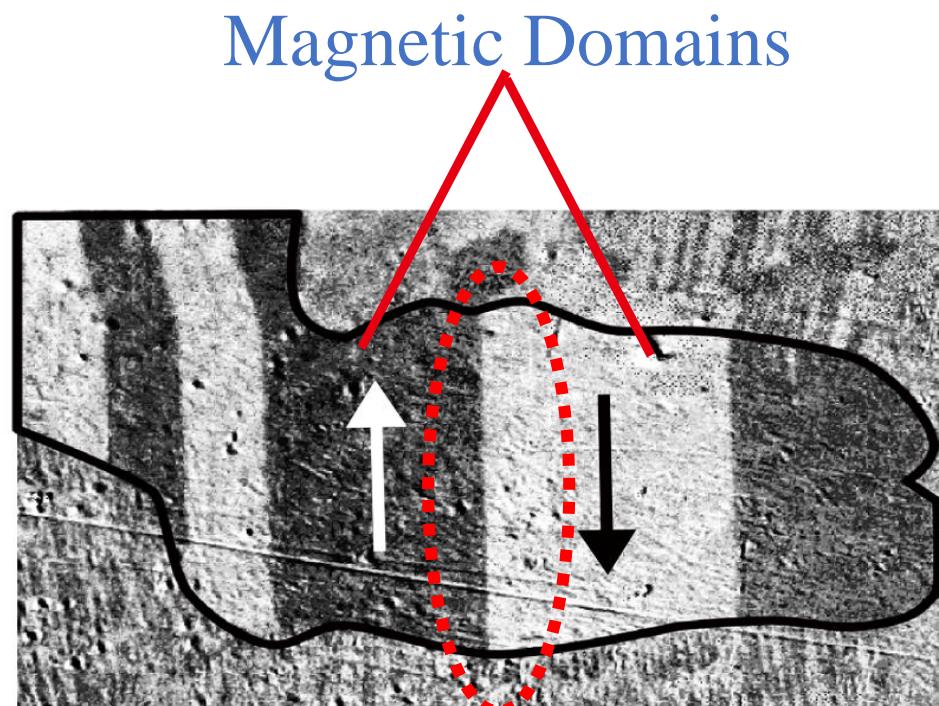
Outline

- Introduction
 - Magnetization Dynamics and Applications
 - Landau-Lifshitz-Gilbert Equation and Walker Solution
 - The Issue
- Instability of Walker Solution in Magnetic Nanowires
 - Essential Spectrum and Domain Instability
 - Absolute Spectrum and DW-Profile Instabilities
 - Transient Instability
 - Convective/Absolute Instability
- Conclusion

Magnetic Domain & Domain Wall



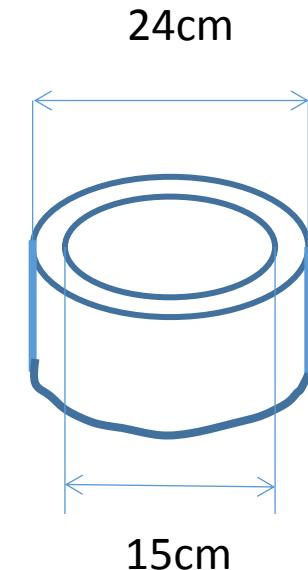
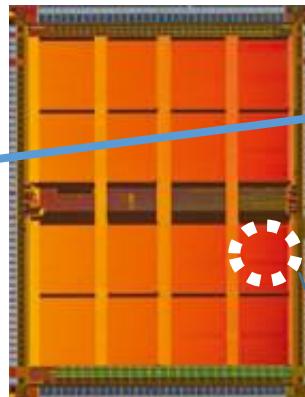
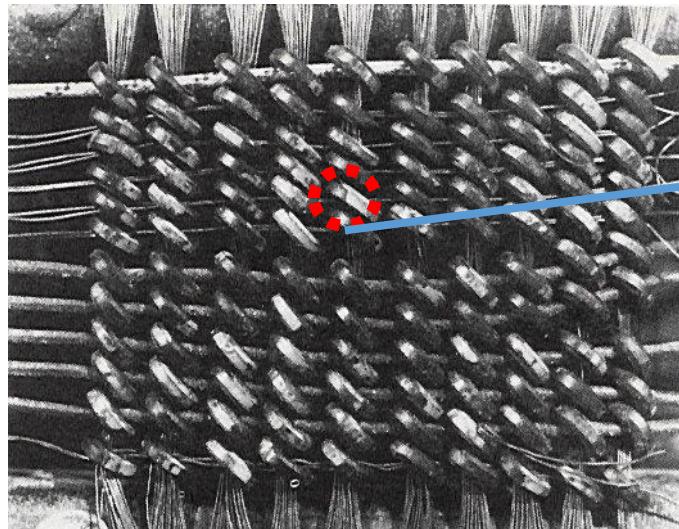
Roberts et al., Phys. Rev. 96, 1494 (1954).



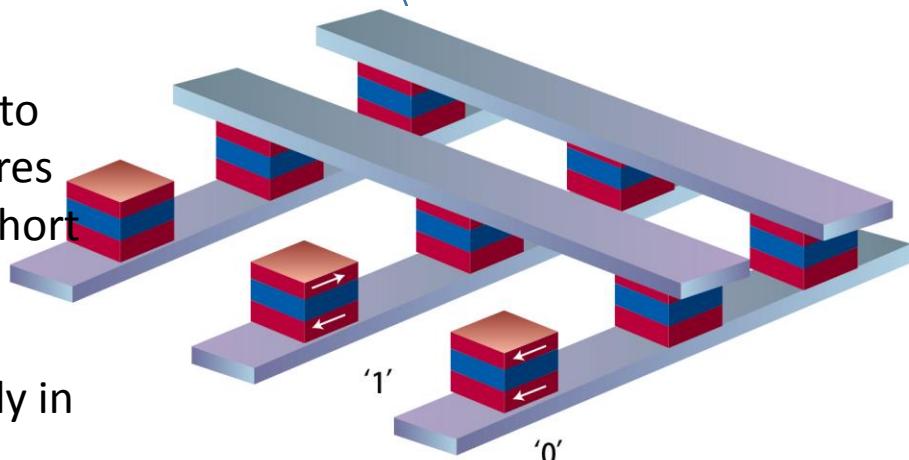
Zureks, Chris Vardon, Wikipedia, 2008.

Domain-Wall (DW)

Domain Applications



Magnetoresistance Random Access Memory

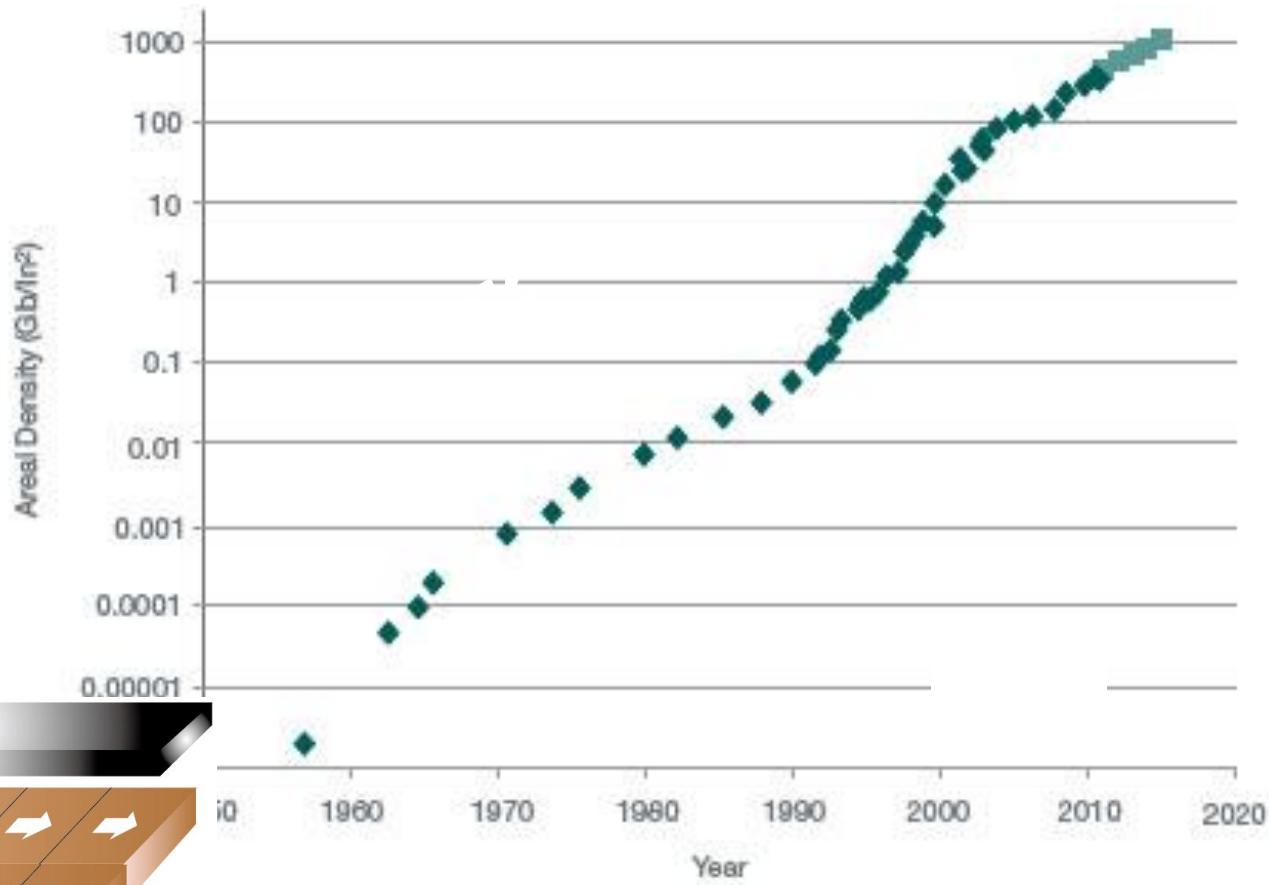
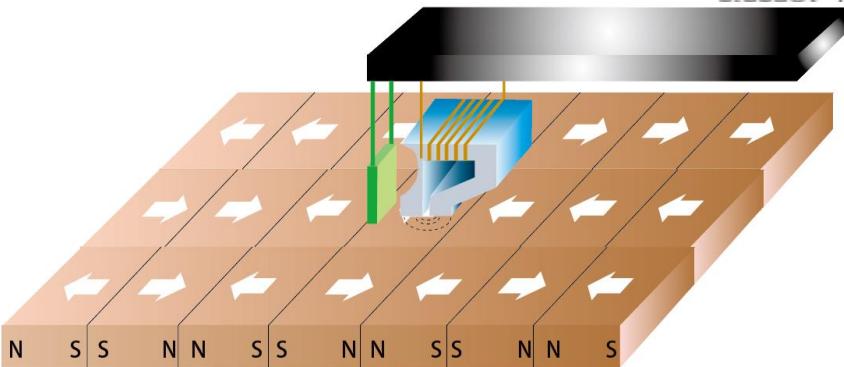


The 1st magnetic core memory, IBM 405 Alphabetical Accounting Machine. The photo shows the single drive lines through the cores in the long direction and fifty turns in the short direction. The cores are 150 mil inside diameter, 240 mil outside, 45 mil high. This experimental system was tested successfully in April 1952.

Applications



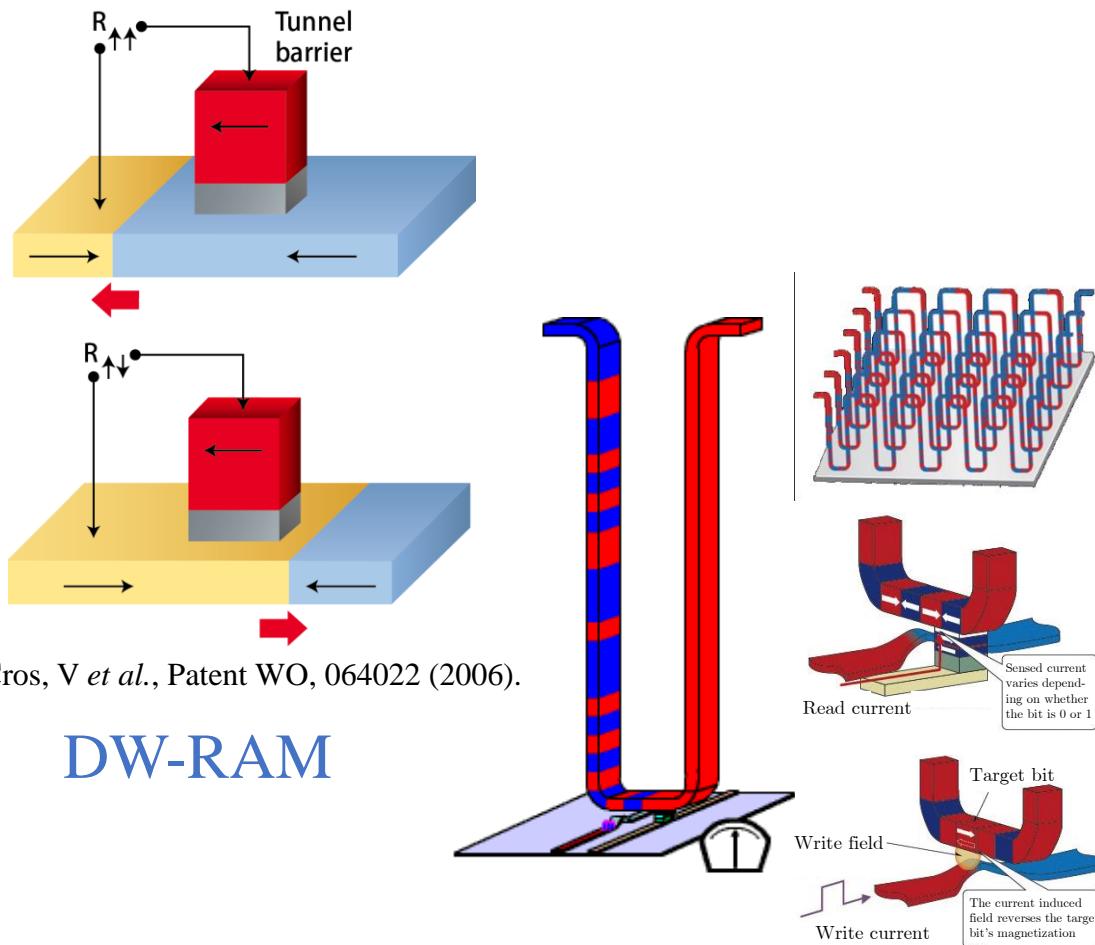
Hard Disk Drive





Domain Wall Propagation: Applications

Symbol	CMOS Circuit	Domain Wall Logic Circuit
Vdd (+5 V)		
0 V		
Fan-out		
Cross-over		
NOT		
AND		



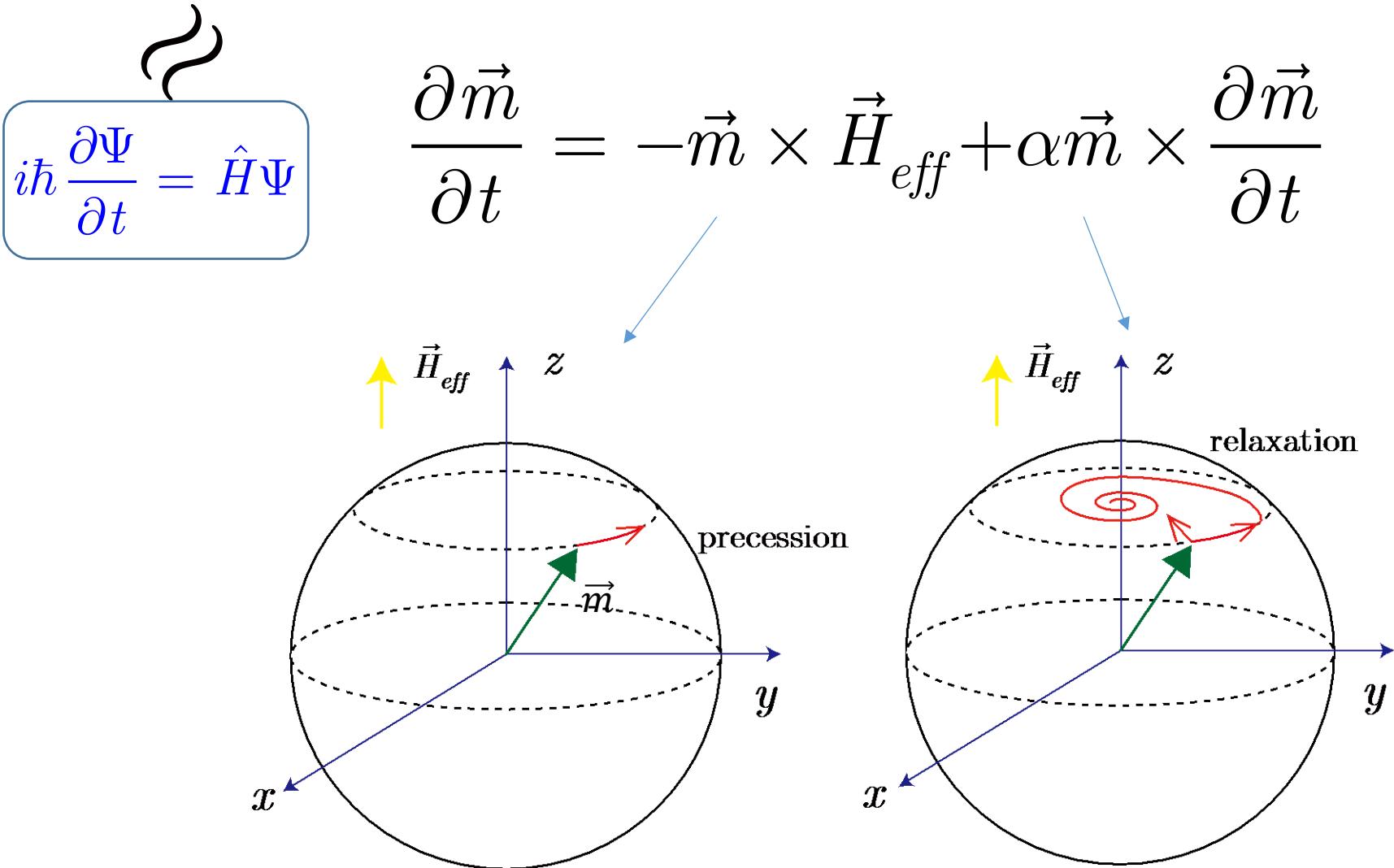
D. A. Allwood *et al.*, Science **309**, 1688 (2005).

DW Logic Circuit

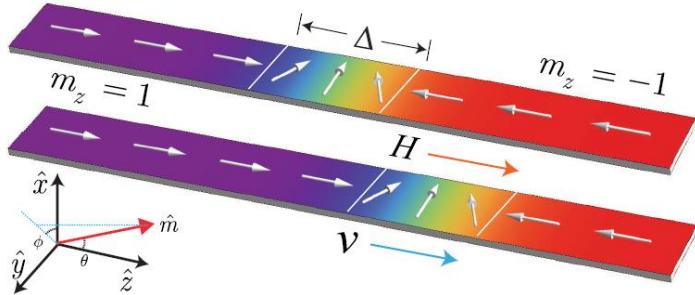
S. Parkin *et al.*, Science **320**, 190 (2008).

Racetrack Memory

Landau-Lifshitz-Gilbert (LLG) Equation



Walker DW Solution of the LLG Eq.

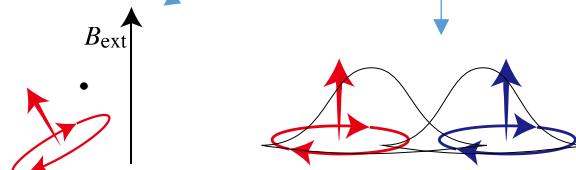


$$\frac{\partial \vec{m}}{\partial t} = -\vec{m} \times \vec{H}_{eff} + \alpha \vec{m} \times \frac{\partial \vec{m}}{\partial t},$$

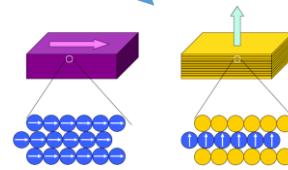
$$\vec{H}_{eff} = H \hat{z} + A \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} \vec{m} + K_{||} m_z \hat{z} - K_{\perp} m_x \hat{x}$$

$$\theta(z, t) = 2 \tan^{-1} \exp\left(\frac{z - vt}{\Delta}\right),$$

$$\phi = \pm \frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \sin^{-1} \frac{H}{H_c}.$$

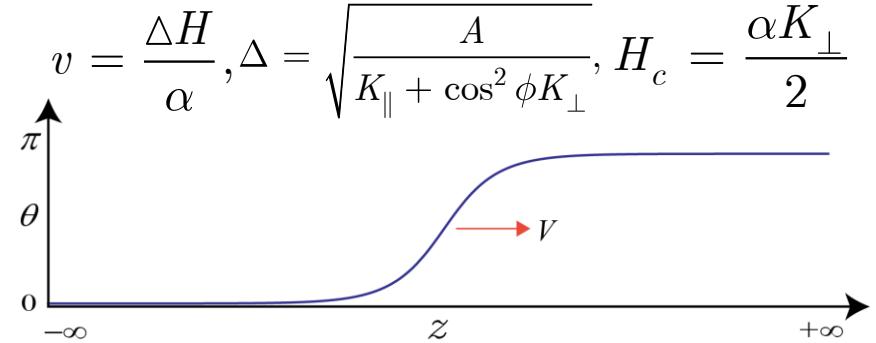


\mathcal{E}_z

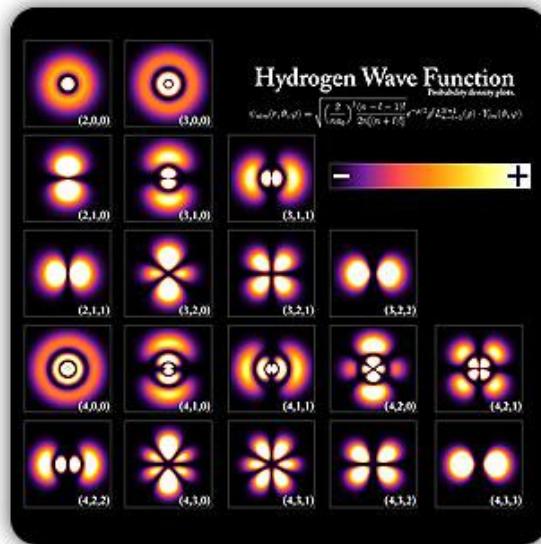


\mathcal{E}_e

\mathcal{E}_a



The Walker DW Solution-A Starting Point!



Hydrogen Wave function

S. Zhang and Z. Li, "Roles of nonequilibrium conduction electrons on the magnetization dynamics of ferromagnets," *Physical Review Letters*, vol. **93**, p. 127204, 2004.

K. Yamada, S. Kasai, Y. Nakatani, K. Kobayashi, H. Kohno, A. Thiaville, *et al.*, "Electrical switching of the vortex core in a magnetic disk," *Nature materials*, vol. **6**, pp. 270-273, 2007.

D. Ralph and M. D. Stiles, "Spin transfer torques," *Journal of Magnetism and Magnetic Materials*, vol. **320**, pp. 1190-1216, 2008.

Z. Li and S. Zhang, "Domain-wall dynamics and spin-wave excitations with spin-transfer torques," *Physical review letters*, vol. **92**, p. 207203, 2004.

M. Hayashi, L. Thomas, C. Rettner, R. Moriya, and S. S. Parkin, "Direct observation of the coherent precession of magnetic domain walls propagating along permalloy nanowires," *Nature Physics*, vol. **3**, pp. 21-25, 2006.

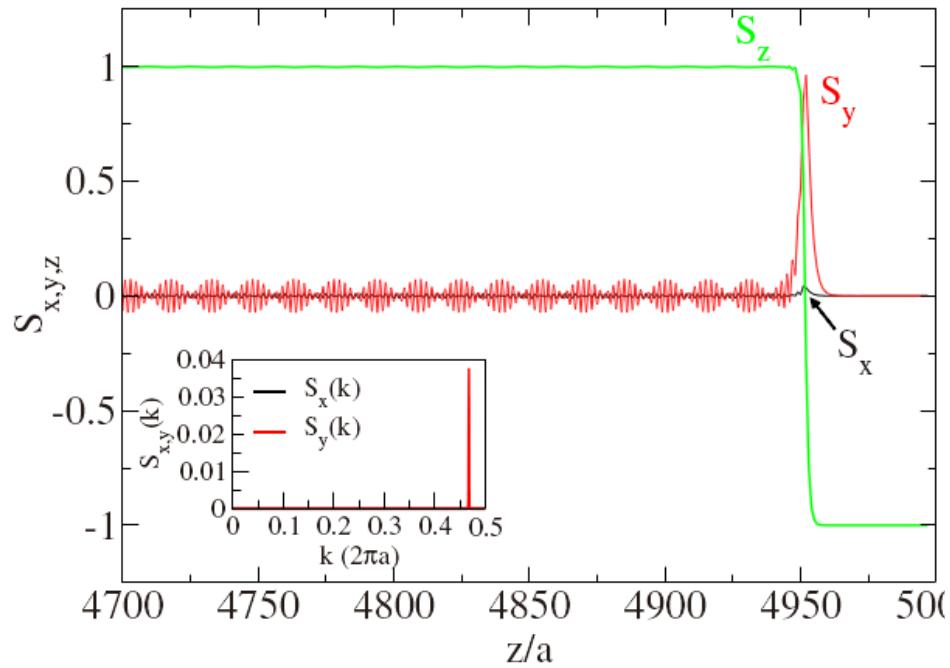
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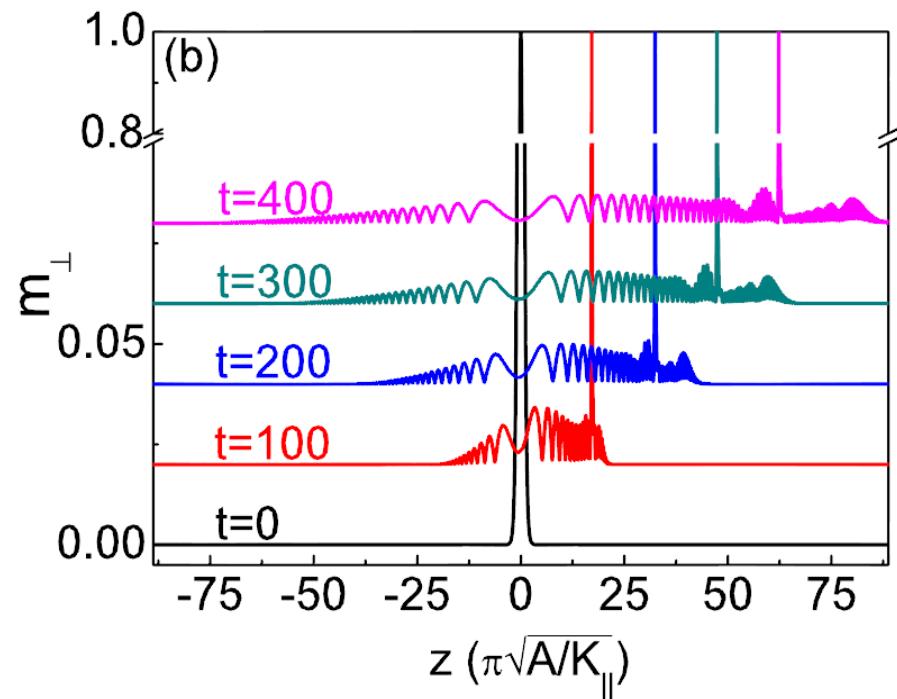
Issue:

Is the Walker Solution Stable?

Signs of Instability of Walker DW Mode



R. Wieser, et al.,
Phys. Rev. B **81**, 024405 (2010).

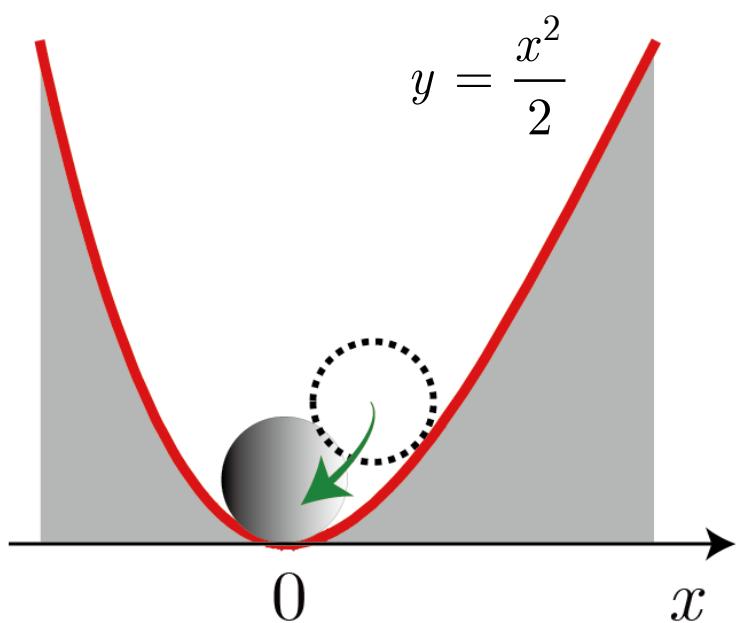


X. S. Wang, *et al.*,
Phys. Rev. Lett. **109**, 167209 (2012).

Overlooked! Attributed to Quasi-1D Nature

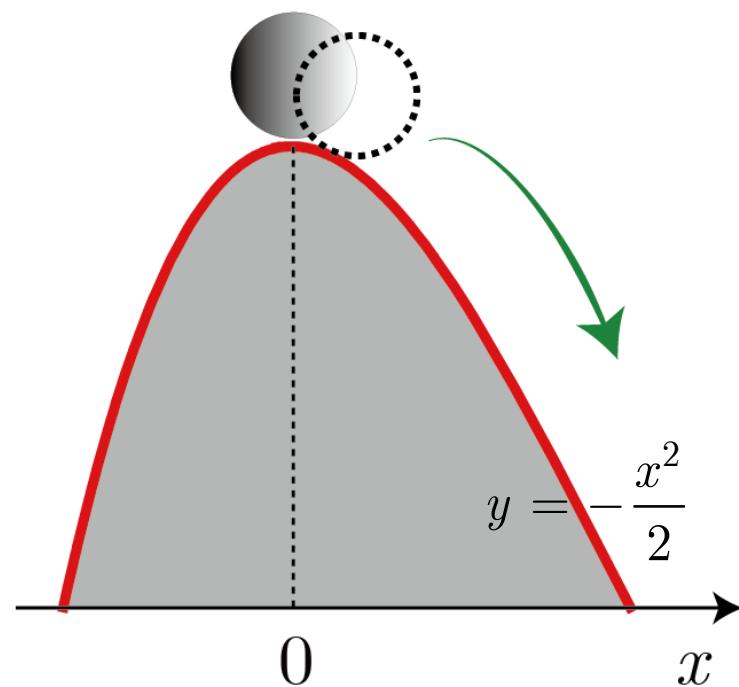


Issue: Instability of a Walker DW mode?



$$\begin{aligned}\ddot{x} &= -x - \eta \dot{x}, \\ x_0 &= 0.\end{aligned}$$

Stable



$$\begin{aligned}\ddot{x} &= x - \eta \dot{x}, \\ x_0 &= 0.\end{aligned}$$

Unstable

Stability Analysis Revisit

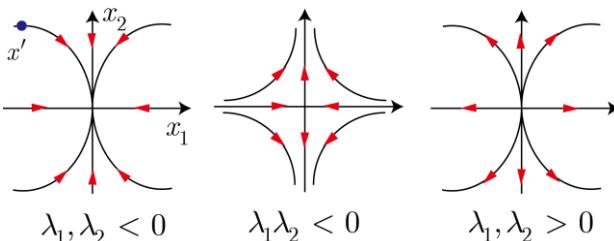
Linear ODE

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= Ax, \\ x &\in \mathbb{R}^n, A \in \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n. \\ \dot{x} = 0 \Rightarrow x_0 &= 0\end{aligned}$$

eigenvalues of A

example:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{pmatrix}, \\ x(t) = \begin{pmatrix} e^{\lambda_1 t} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{\lambda_2 t} \end{pmatrix} x', \quad x(0) = x'.$$



Nonlinear ODE

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= f(x), \\ x &\in \mathbb{R}^n, \\ \dot{x} = 0 \Rightarrow f(x_0) &= 0,\end{aligned}$$

$\Downarrow \quad x \rightarrow x + \delta$

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{\delta} &= A' \cdot \delta, \\ A' &= \nabla f(x) \mid_{x=x_0}.\end{aligned}$$

eigenvalues of A'

Stable

Unstable

Lyapunov analysis

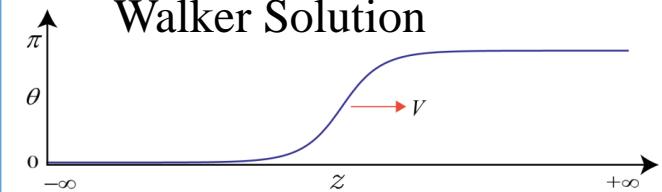
Nonlinear PDE ?

$$LLG : \vec{m}(z, t)$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial \vec{m}}{\partial t} &= -\vec{m} \times \vec{H}_{eff} + \alpha \vec{m} \times \frac{\partial \vec{m}}{\partial t}, \\ \vec{H}_{eff} &= H \hat{z} + A \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} \vec{m} + K_{||} m_z \hat{z} - K_{\perp} m_x \hat{x}\end{aligned}$$

Recent Progress (2001)
of Stability Analysis of
Traveling Front

Walker Solution



Modus Operandi: Linearization

$$\frac{\partial \vec{m}}{\partial t} = -\vec{m} \times \vec{H}_{eff} + \alpha \vec{m} \times \frac{\partial \vec{m}}{\partial t}, \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad \begin{aligned} \dot{\theta} - \alpha \sin \theta \dot{\varphi} &= -2K_{\perp} \sin \theta \sin \varphi \cos \varphi + 4A\theta' \varphi' \\ &\quad + 2A \sin \theta \varphi'', \\ \sin \theta \dot{\varphi} + \alpha \dot{\theta} &= -2K_{\perp} \sin \theta \cos \theta \cos^2 \varphi + 2K_{//} \sin \theta \cos \theta \\ &\quad + H \sin \theta + 2A \sin \theta \cos \theta \varphi'^2 - 2A \theta'', \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sin 2\varphi_w &= \frac{H}{H_c}, \\ \ln \tan \frac{\theta_w(z,t)}{2} &= \frac{z-vt}{\Delta}. \end{aligned}$$

$$\theta_w + \theta$$

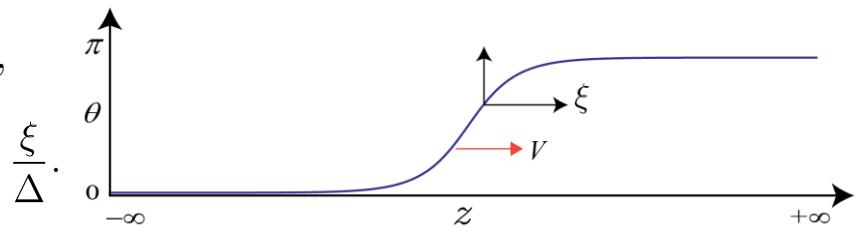
$$\varphi_w + \varphi$$

$$|\theta|, |\varphi| \ll 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} \xi &= z-vt \\ \ln \tan \frac{\theta_w(\xi)}{2} &= \frac{\xi}{\Delta}. \end{aligned}$$

substitute with θ_w, φ_w

LLG



$$\frac{d\Lambda}{dt} = L_0 \Lambda + L_1 \frac{\partial \Lambda}{\partial \xi} + L_2 \frac{\partial^2 \Lambda}{\partial \xi^2}$$

$$\Lambda \equiv (\theta, \varphi)^T, L_{0,1,2}(\theta_w)$$

expand w.r.t. θ, φ
keep only 1st terms





$$L_{0,11} = \frac{1}{1 + \alpha^2}$$

$$L_{0,12} = \frac{K_\perp \sinh \xi}{1 + \alpha^2} (-\sqrt{1 - \rho^2} + \alpha \rho \tanh \xi)$$

$$L_{0,21} = \frac{1}{1 + \alpha^2}$$

$$L_{0,22} = \frac{K_\perp}{1 + \alpha^2} (\alpha \sqrt{1 - \rho^2} + \rho \tanh \xi)$$

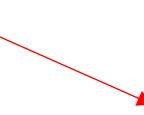
$G(\xi)$ is the Gudermannian function; $\rho = \frac{H}{H_c}$.

$$L_1 = \begin{pmatrix} v & -\frac{2A}{(1 + \alpha^2) \cosh \xi} \\ 0 & v + \frac{2A\alpha}{1 + \alpha^2} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$L_2 = \frac{1}{1 + \alpha^2} \begin{pmatrix} A\alpha & -\frac{A}{\cosh \xi} \\ A \cosh \xi & A\alpha \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\frac{d\Lambda}{dt} = L_0 \Lambda + L_1 \frac{\partial \Lambda}{\partial \xi} + L_2 \frac{\partial^2 \Lambda}{\partial \xi^2},$$

$$\Lambda(\xi, t) = \sum_i e^{\lambda_i t} \Lambda_i(\xi).$$

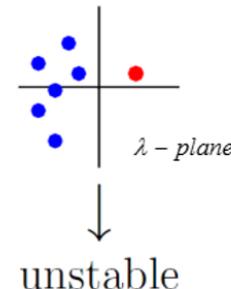
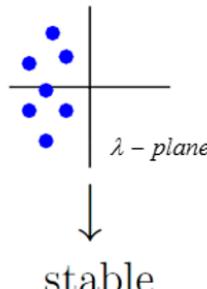


$$(L - \lambda_i)\Lambda_i = 0, \quad * \\ L := L_0 + L_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi} + L_2 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \xi^2}.$$

Spectrum: any λ_i such that the equation (*) has nontrivial solution Λ_i

iff . $\forall \lambda_i, \operatorname{Re}(\lambda) < 0$: all Λ exponentially decay \rightarrow **stable**

iff . $\exists \lambda_i, \operatorname{Re}(\lambda_i) > 0$: some Λ exponentially grows \rightarrow **unstable**



In the 1st Order ODEs form:

$$(L - \lambda_i)\Lambda_i = 0, \quad * \\ L := L_0 + L_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi} + L_2 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \xi^2}.$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{d\xi} \Lambda' = \Gamma(\lambda, \theta_w) \Lambda',$$

$$\Gamma(\lambda, \theta_w) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & I \\ L_2^{-1}(\lambda - L_0) & -L_2^{-1}L_1 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\Lambda' = (\theta, \varphi, \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial \xi}, \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial \xi})^T$$

$$\text{Spec}(L - \lambda) \xrightleftharpoons{idem.} \text{Spec}\left[\frac{d}{d\xi} - \Gamma(\lambda, \theta_w)\right]$$

How to find (λ, Λ') for $\frac{d}{d\xi} \Lambda' = \Gamma(\lambda, \theta_w) \Lambda'$?

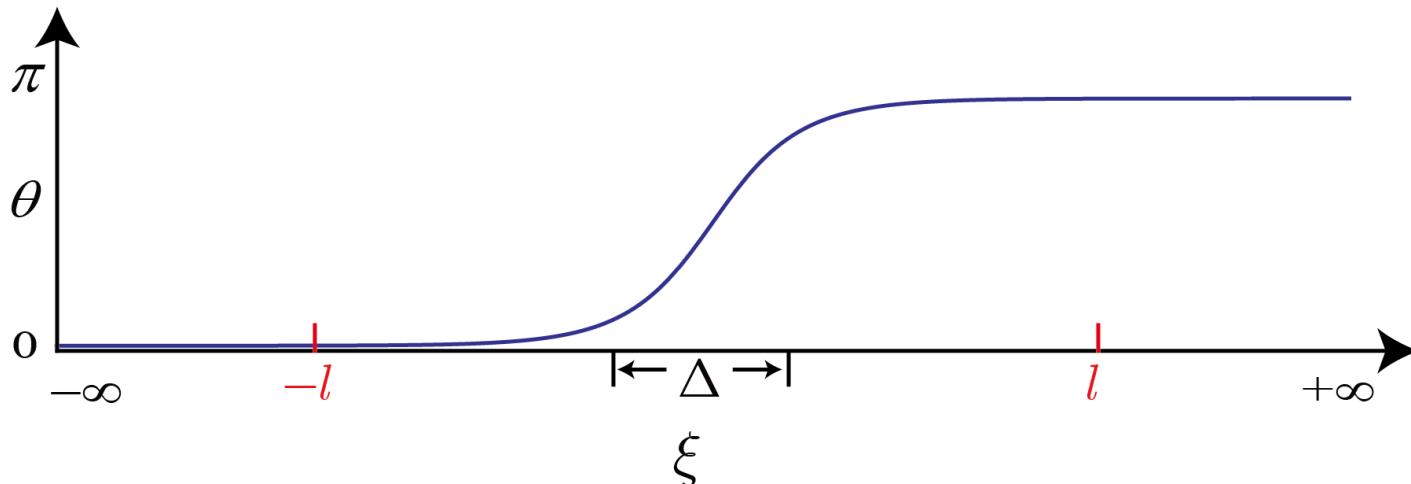


$$\Gamma = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ \Gamma_{31} & \frac{\lambda - K_\perp \rho \tanh \xi}{A \cosh \xi} & -\frac{v\alpha}{A} & -\frac{v}{A \cosh \xi} \\ -\cosh \xi & \alpha \lambda - K_\perp \sqrt{1 - \rho^2} & v \cosh \xi & v\alpha \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Gamma_{31} = \frac{\alpha \lambda - H \tanh \xi}{A} - \frac{1}{2A} (K_\perp - 2K_\parallel - K_\perp \sqrt{1 - \rho^2}) \cos[2G(\xi)]$$

$G(\xi)$ is the Gudermannian function; $\rho = \frac{H}{H_c}$.

Utilize the Property of a Front:



$$\theta_w(\xi) = 2 \arctan e^{\frac{\xi}{\Delta}}.$$

$$\lim_{\xi \rightarrow \pm\infty} \theta_w = 0, \pi, \quad \Rightarrow$$

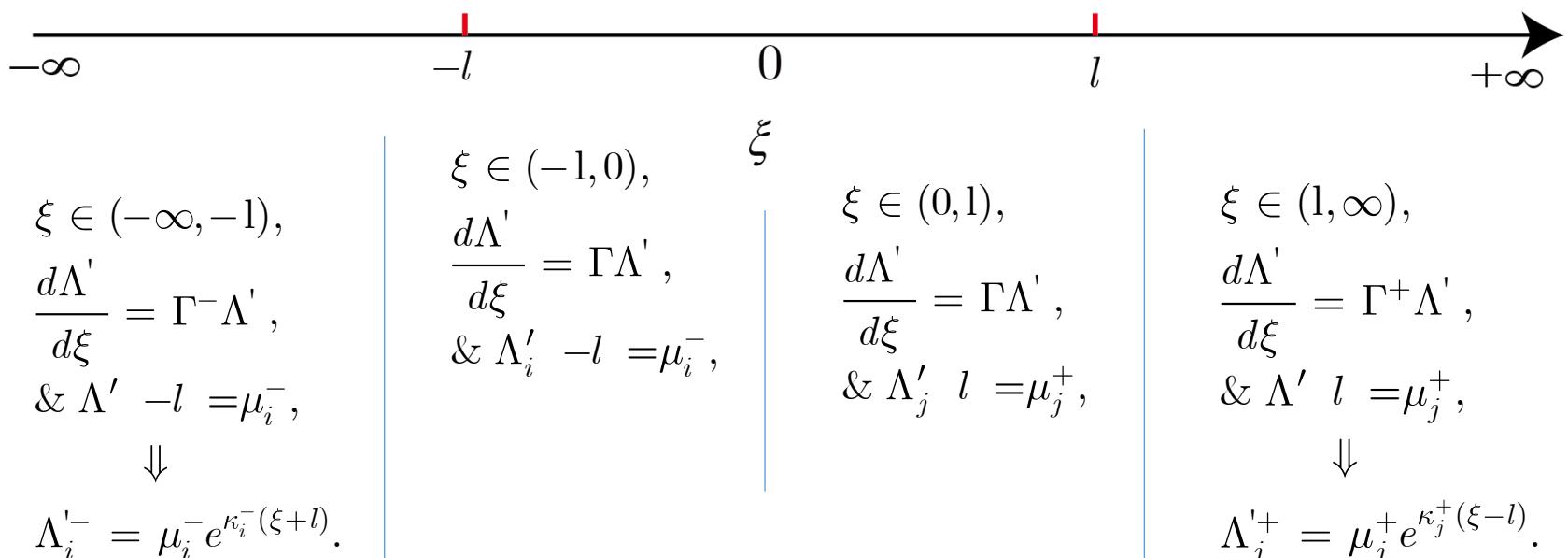
$$\lim_{\xi \rightarrow \pm\infty} \Gamma(\lambda, \theta_w) = \Gamma^\pm$$

$$\exists l \gg 1, \quad \frac{d\Lambda'}{d\xi} = \Gamma \Lambda' \quad \text{is} \quad \frac{d\Lambda'}{d\xi} = \Gamma^\pm \Lambda' \quad \text{for } |\xi| > l$$

Solve for Λ' (in principle)

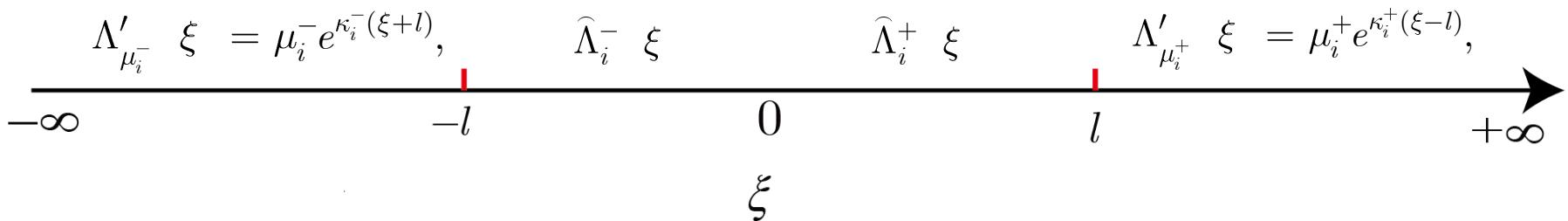
Denote (

λ can be classified by two integers n_+^\pm (n_-^\pm), denoting the number of κ_i^\pm whose real part is positive (negative).



for $|\xi| < l$, shoot towards 0 from $\xi = \pm l$,
with $\Lambda'_i |_{\pm l} = \mu_i^\pm$, denoted as $\hat{\Lambda}_i^\pm |_{\xi}$.

Solve for Λ' (in principle)



$\lambda \in spec \Leftrightarrow \text{for } \lambda, \exists (a_i, b_j), s.t.$

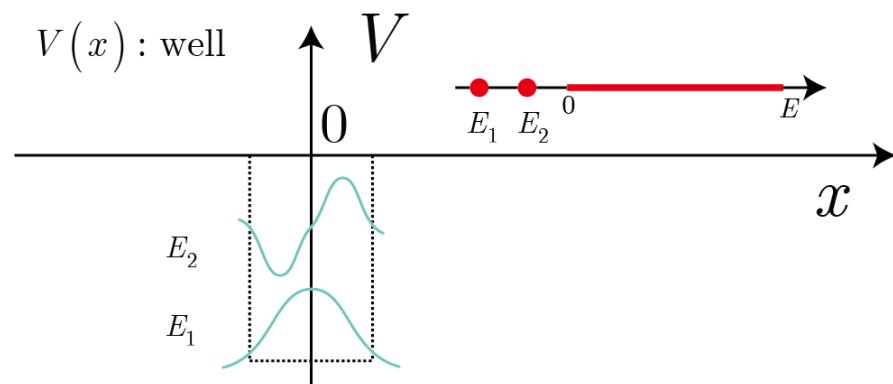
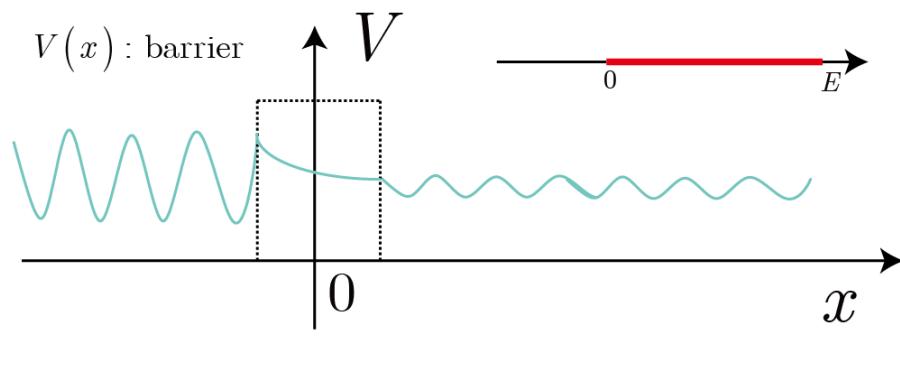
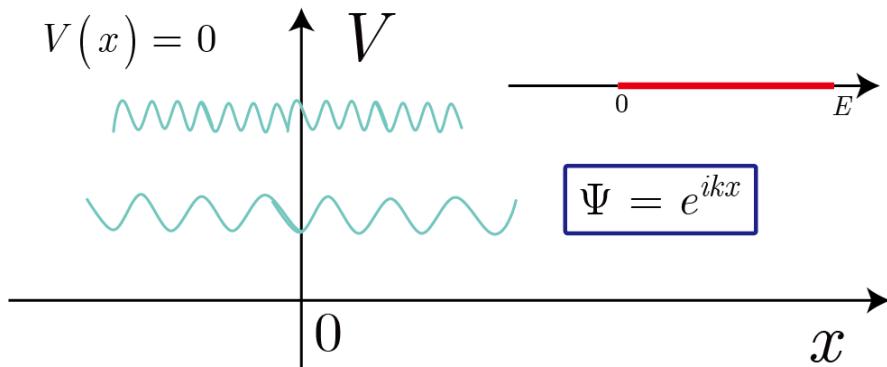
$$\sum_i a_i \hat{\Lambda}_i^+(0) = \sum_j b_j \hat{\Lambda}_j^-(0).$$

for each (a_i, b_j) , $\Lambda' \xi = \begin{cases} \sum_i a_i \varsigma \hat{\Lambda}_i^+ \xi + \sum_i a_i (1-\varsigma) \Lambda'_i(\xi), & \xi \geq 0 \\ \sum_j b_j \varsigma \hat{\Lambda}_j^- \xi + \sum_j b_j (1-\varsigma) \Lambda'_j(\xi). & \xi \leq 0 \end{cases}$ $\varsigma = \begin{cases} 1, & |\xi| < l, \\ 0, & |\xi| > l. \end{cases}$

How to dodge the heavy workload in finding $\hat{\Lambda}$?

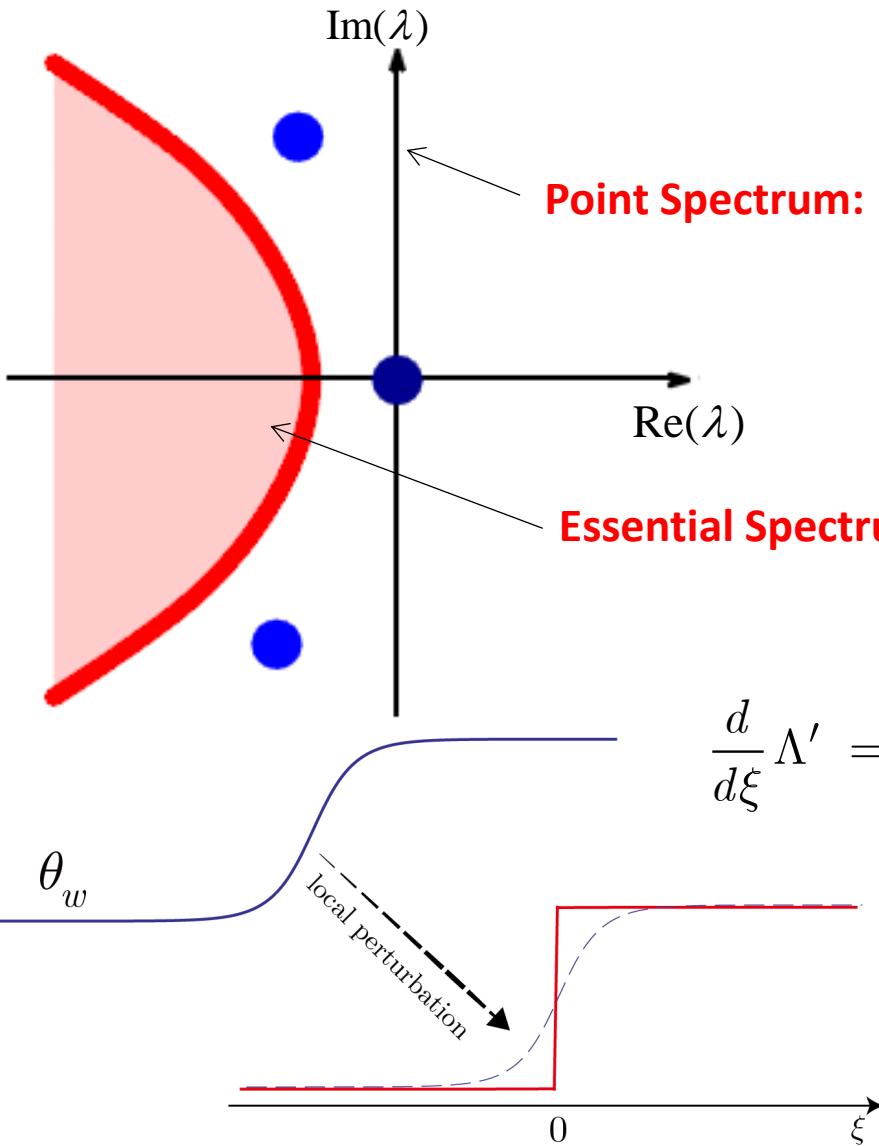
A Clue from the Schrödinger Eq.

$$\left(-\frac{d^2}{dx^2} + V(x) \right) \Psi = E\Psi$$



- 1 Spectrum can be decomposed into continuum and discrete.
- 2 Local perturbation does not change the continuum spectrum.

Decomposition of the Spectrum



Point Spectrum: all Λ' for each λ , s.t. $\|L(\lambda)\Lambda'\| < \varepsilon$
expand **finite** dimensional space

Essential Spectrum: all Λ' for each λ , s.t. $\|L(\lambda)\Lambda'\| < \varepsilon$
expand **infinite** dimensional space

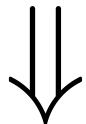
$$\frac{d}{d\xi} \Lambda' = \Gamma(\lambda, \theta_w) \Lambda', \xrightarrow{\text{id. } \lambda_{ess}} \frac{d}{d\xi} \Lambda' = \Gamma^\infty \Lambda',$$

$$\Gamma^\infty \begin{cases} \Gamma^+, \xi > 0, \\ \Gamma^-, \xi < 0. \end{cases}$$

$$\lim_{\xi \rightarrow \pm\infty} \Gamma(\lambda, \theta_w) = \Gamma^\pm$$

Essential Spectrum of $d\Lambda' / d\xi = \Gamma^\infty \Lambda'$

$$\frac{d}{d\xi} \Lambda' = \Gamma(\lambda, \theta_w) \Lambda', \xrightarrow{\text{identical } \lambda_{ess}} \frac{d}{d\xi} \Lambda' = \Gamma^\infty \Lambda'$$



$$\sum_i a_i \hat{\Lambda}_{\mu_i^+}(0) = \sum_j b_j \hat{\Lambda}_{\mu_j^-}(0)$$



$$\sum_i a_i \mu_i^+ = \sum_j b_j \mu_j^-$$

n_-^+ : number of κ^+ with
 $\text{Re}(\kappa^+) < 0,$

n_+^- : number of κ^- with
 $\text{Re}(\kappa^-) > 0.$

Example:

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n_-^+} a_i \mu_i^+ = \sum_{j=1}^{n_+^-} b_j \mu_j^-,$$

$$a_1 \begin{pmatrix} \square \\ \square \\ \square \\ \square \end{pmatrix} + \dots + a_{n_-^+} \begin{pmatrix} \square \\ \square \\ \square \\ \square \end{pmatrix} = b_1 \begin{pmatrix} \square \\ \square \\ \square \\ \square \end{pmatrix} + \dots + b_{n_+^-} \begin{pmatrix} \square \\ \square \\ \square \\ \square \end{pmatrix}$$

$n_-^+ + n_+^- \Rightarrow$ number of variables
 $4 \Rightarrow$ number of equations

$n_-^+ + n_+^- \begin{cases} > 4 & \text{many solutions} \\ = 4 & \text{unique solution} \\ < 4 & \text{no solution} \end{cases}$

Is λ_{ess} related
with n_-^+ & n_+^- ?



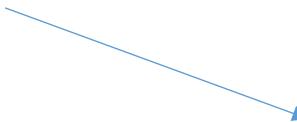
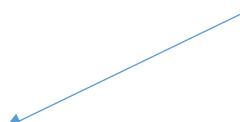
Conclusion: $\lambda \in \lambda_{ess}$



closed region on complex plane



boundaries+inner area



two curves

$$\lambda_{1,2}(k) := \det[\Gamma^\pm(\lambda) - ik] = 0$$



$\Lambda' \propto e^{ik\xi}$, plane wave

$$v_{1,2} = \operatorname{Im}\left(\frac{d\lambda_{1,2}(k)}{dk}\right)$$

$v > 0$ **bow** wave

$v < 0$ **stern** wave

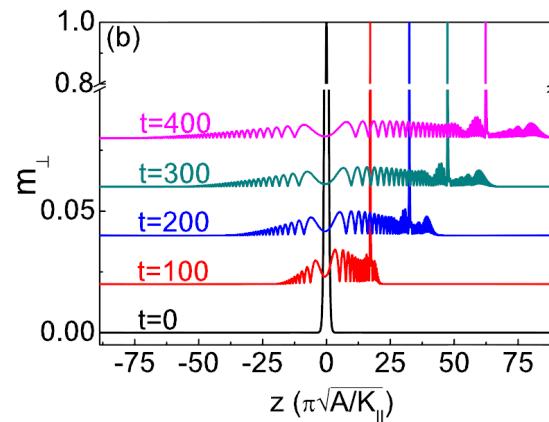
all λ , s.t. $n_-^+ + n_+^- \neq 4$.

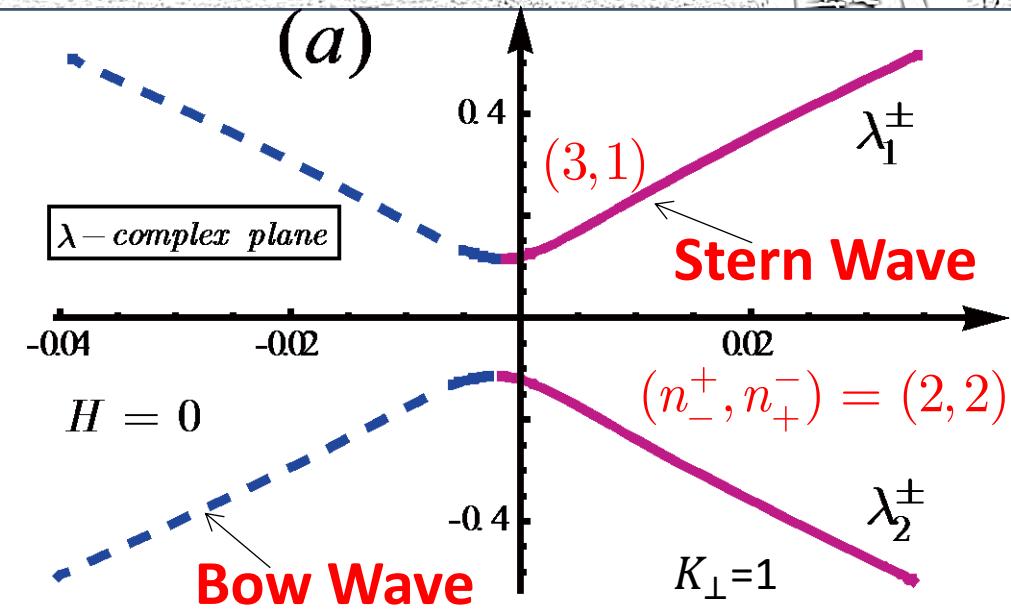


a group of Λ' , wave packet

YIG Parameter

Damping	$\alpha = 0.001$
Exchange	$A = 3.84 \times 10^{-12} J/m$
Saturation Magnetization	$M_s = 1.94 \times 10^5 A/m$
Gyromagnetic Ratio	$\gamma = 3.51 / kHz/(A/m)$
Easy Axis Anisotropy	$K_{\parallel} = 2 \times 10^3 J/m^3$
Hard Axis Anisotropy	$K_{\perp} = 1$

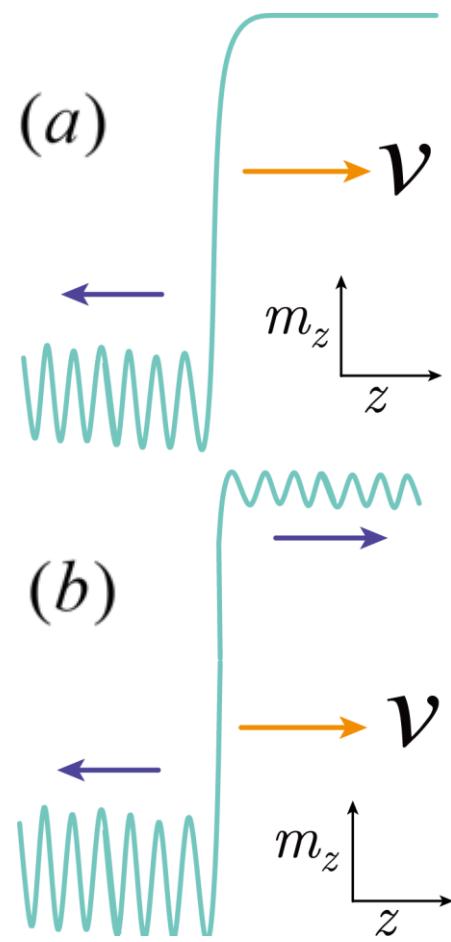
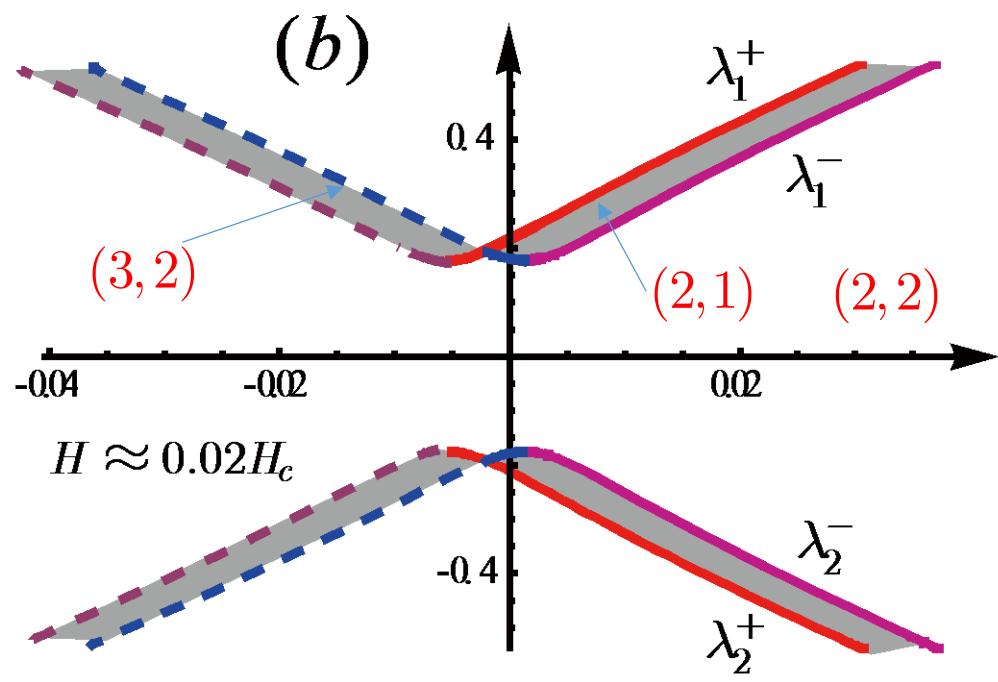


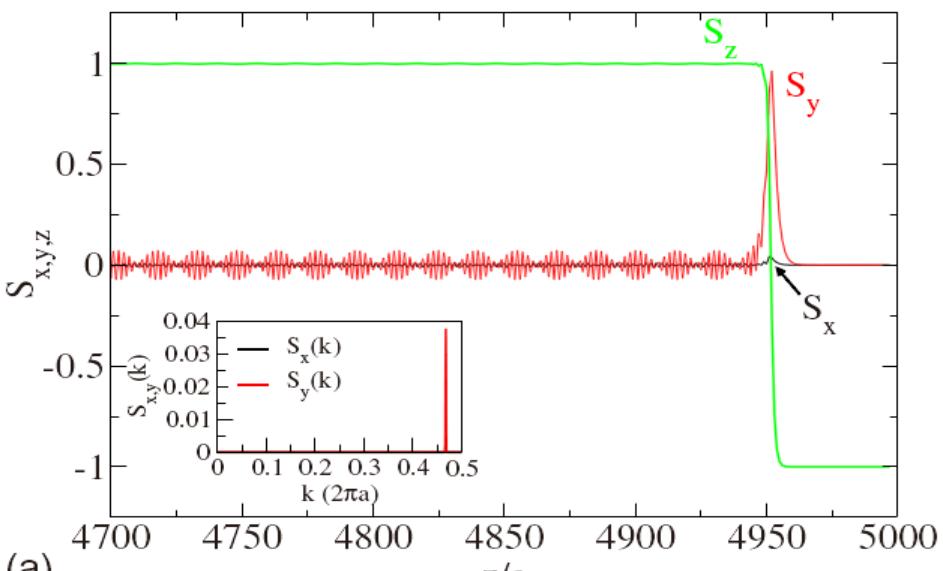
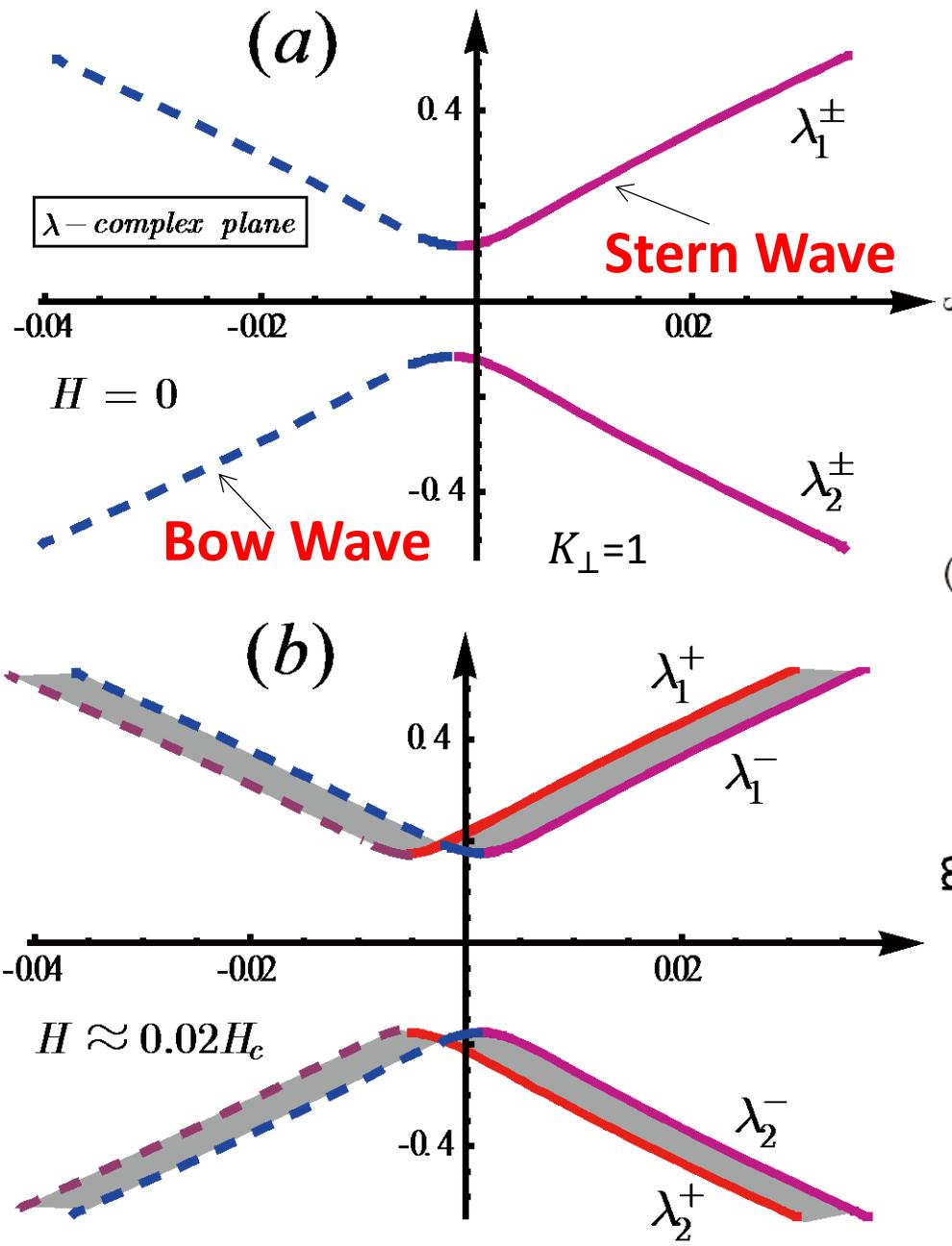


$$v_{1,2} = \text{Im}\left(\frac{d\lambda_{1,2}(k)}{dk}\right)$$

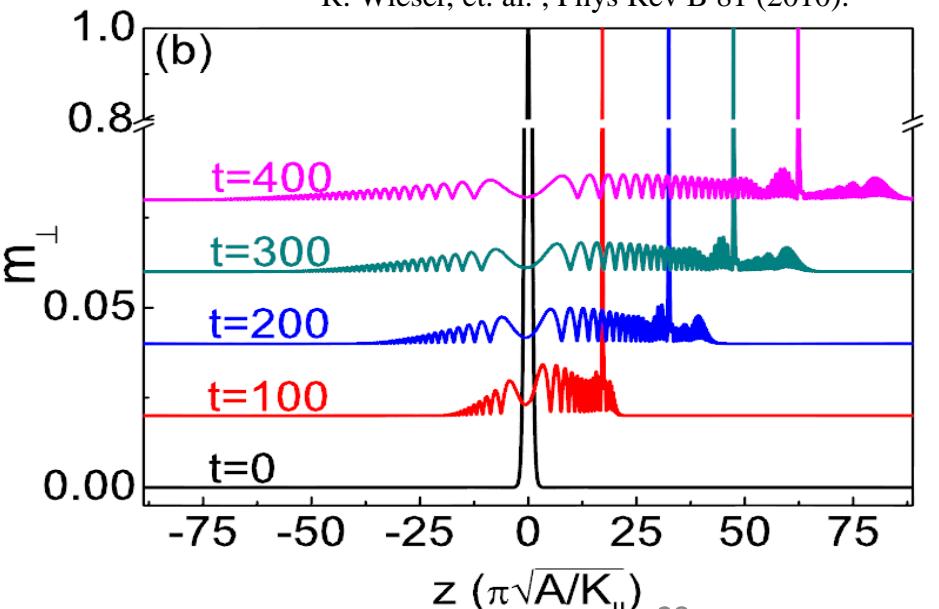
$v > 0$ bow wave

$v < 0$ stern wave

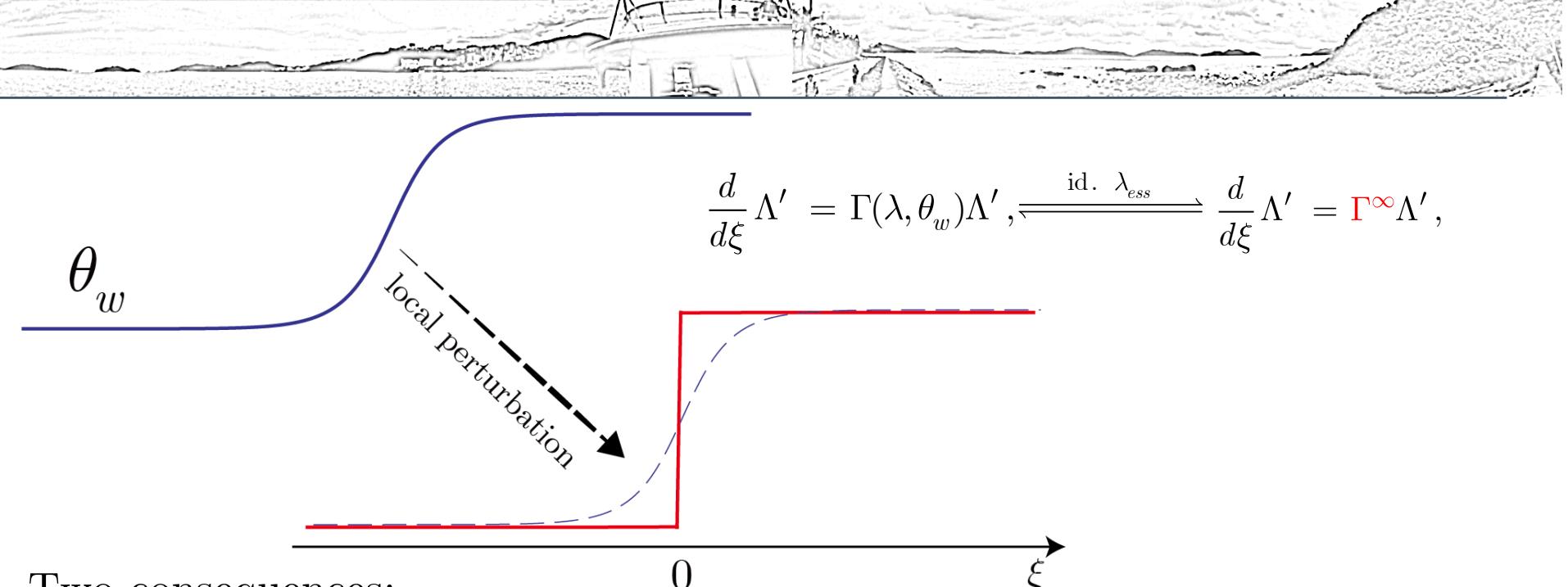




R. Wieser, et. al., Phys Rev B 81 (2010).

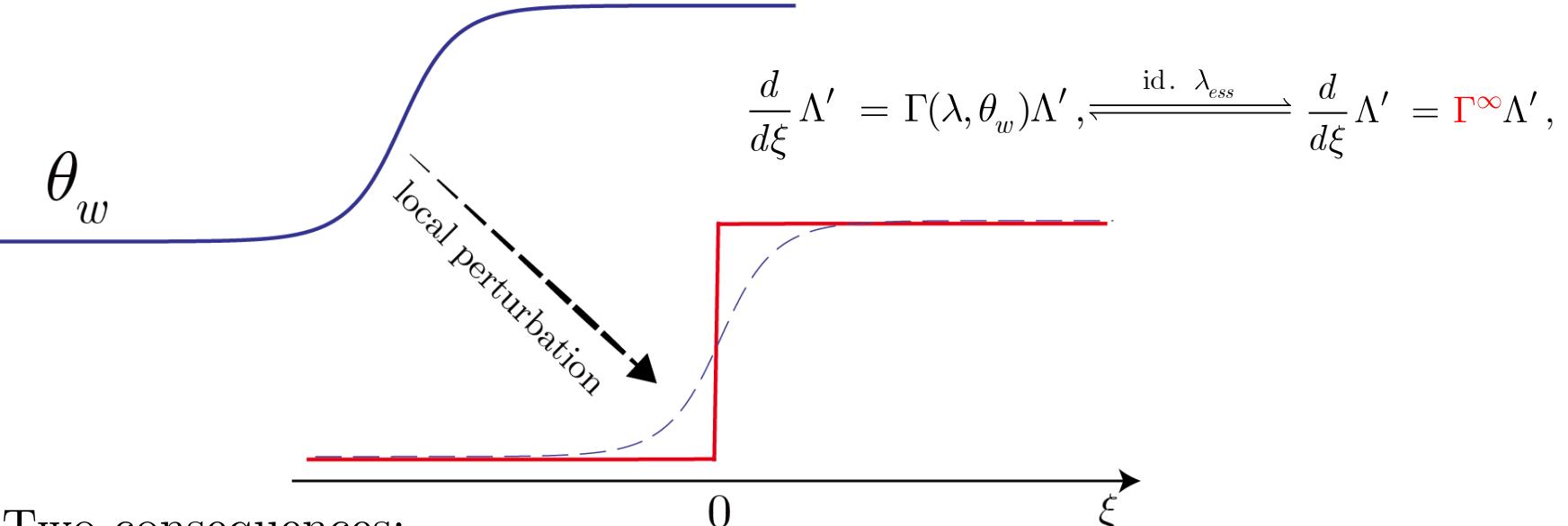


X. S. Wang et al., Phys Rev Lett 109 167209 (2012).
28



Two consequences:

- 1 Spin wave emission is not sensitive to local deformation of DW profile.
- 2 Essential spectrum cannot capture instability of DW profile.



Two consequences:

- 1 Spin wave emission is not sensitive to local deformation of DW profile.
- 2 Essential spectrum cannot capture instability of DW profile.

Why and how to capture DW's instability?

Many quantities,
e.g. DW speed, are
sensitive to profile
deformation

growth rate λ ($e^{\lambda t}$),
group velocity V ,
wave packet profile.

Absolute Spectrum

$\lambda \in \lambda_{abs}$ iff. $\operatorname{Re}(\kappa_2^+) = \operatorname{Re}(\kappa_3^+)$ or $\operatorname{Re}(\kappa_2^-) = \operatorname{Re}(\kappa_3^-)$

Consider: $\lambda \in$ branching set λ_{sd} iff. $\kappa_2^+ = \kappa_3^+$ or $\kappa_2^- = \kappa_3^-$

branching set: λ_{sd}

\Updownarrow

nontraveling modes

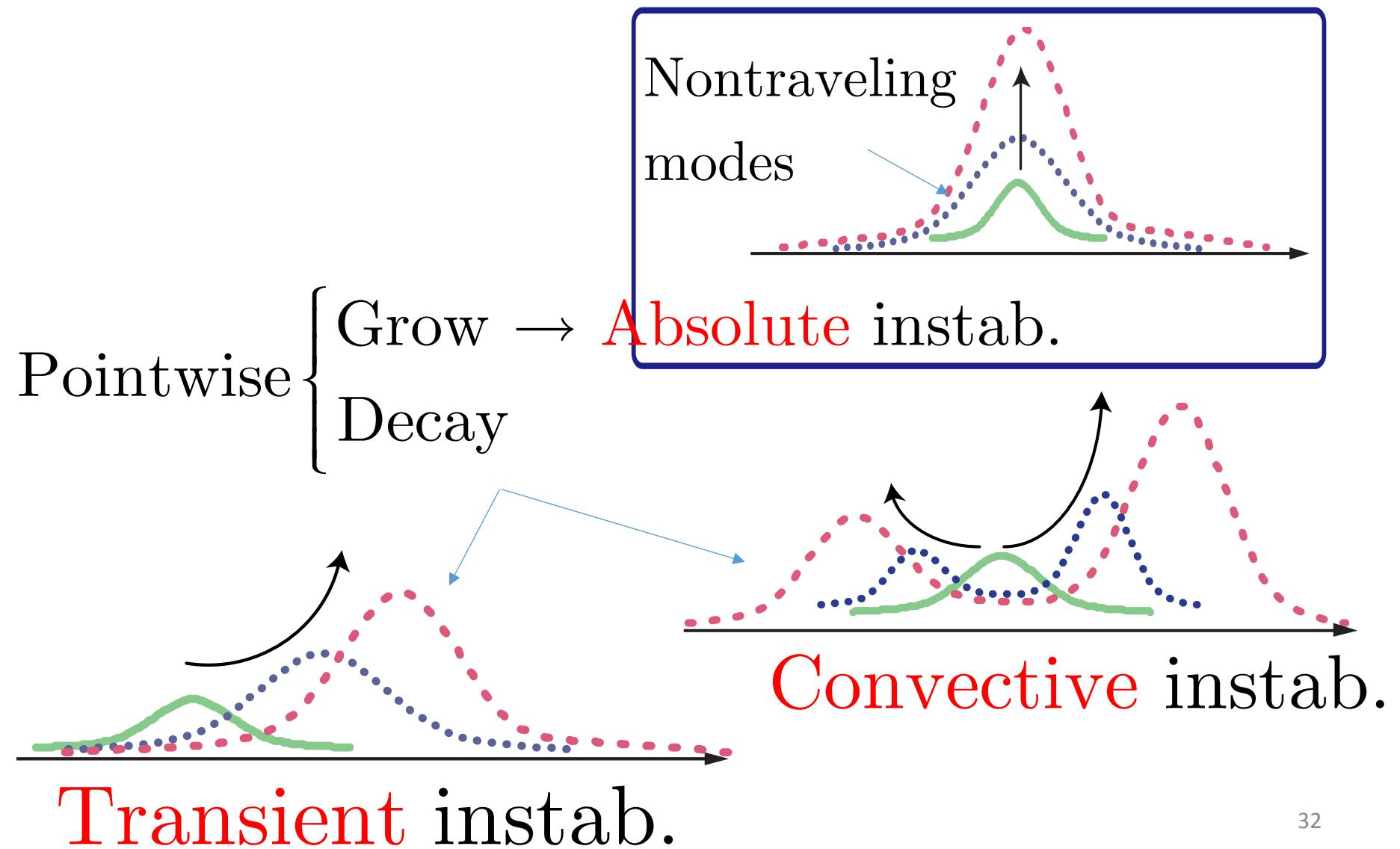
Proof : $v = \operatorname{Im}\left[\frac{d\lambda(\kappa)}{d\kappa}\right]$

$$\frac{d\lambda}{d\kappa} = -\frac{\partial F(\lambda, \kappa)}{\partial \kappa} / \frac{\partial F(\lambda, \kappa)}{\partial \lambda}$$

$$\lambda \in Sd \Leftrightarrow \kappa_2 = \kappa_3 = \bar{\kappa}$$

$$\begin{aligned} F(\lambda, \kappa) &\equiv \det(\Gamma(\lambda) - \kappa I) \\ F(\lambda_{sd}, \kappa) &= (\kappa - \bar{\kappa})^2(\kappa - \kappa_1)(\kappa - \kappa_4) \\ \Rightarrow \frac{\partial F(\lambda, \kappa)}{\partial \kappa} &\Big|_{\kappa=\bar{\kappa}, \lambda=\lambda_{sd}} \\ &= 0 = v! \end{aligned}$$

Classifications of Instabilities with Unstable λ_{ess}



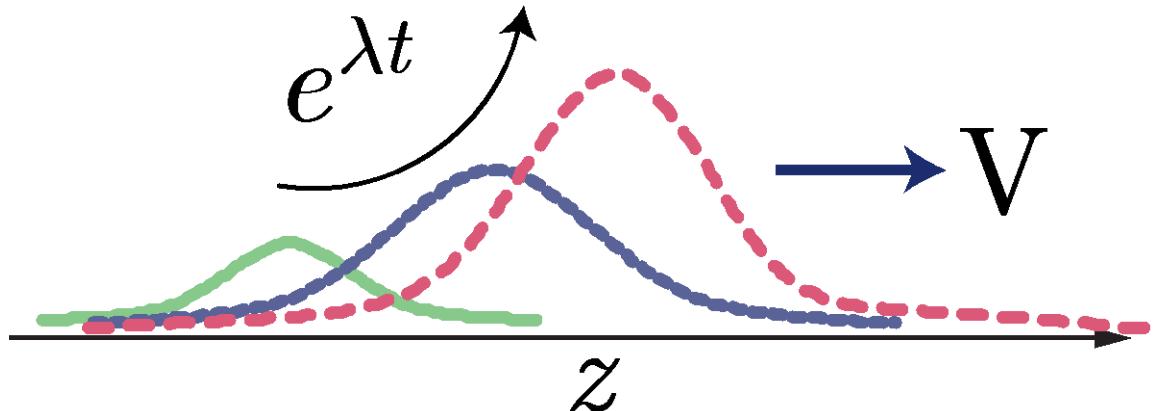


An Example:

growth rate λ ($e^{\lambda t}$),

group velocity V ,

wave packet profile.



$$\Lambda(z, t) = e^{\lambda t} \operatorname{sech}(z - vt)$$

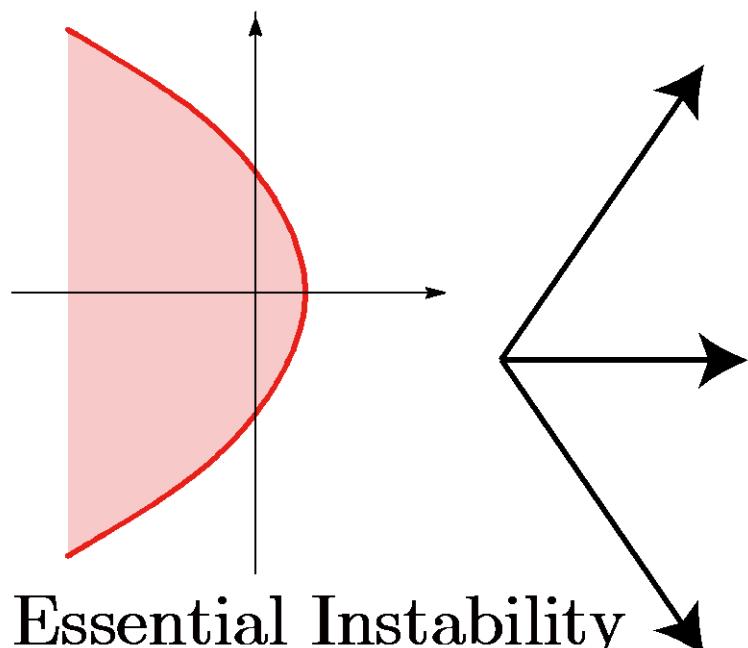
\forall fixed z_0 ,

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \Lambda(z_0, t) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } V > \operatorname{Re}(\lambda) \rightarrow p.w. \text{ decay} \\ \infty, & \text{if } V < \operatorname{Re}(\lambda) \end{cases}$$

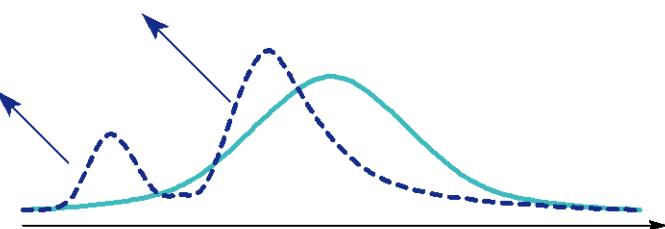
↓

p.w. growth

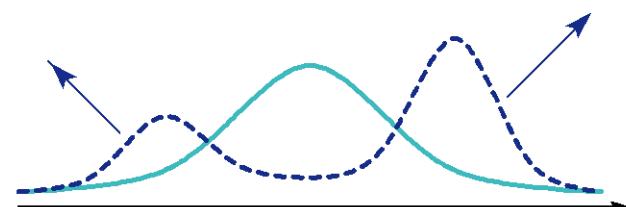
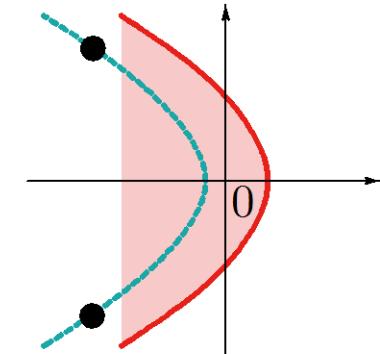
Summary of Instab.



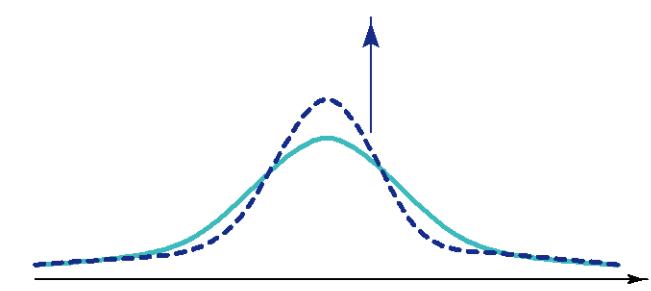
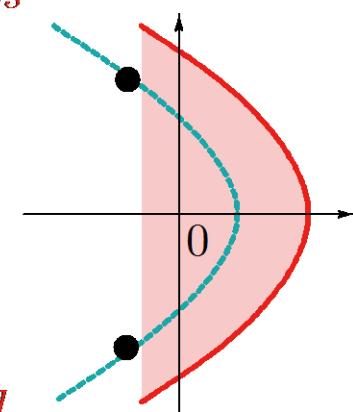
Essential Instability
unstable λ_{ess}



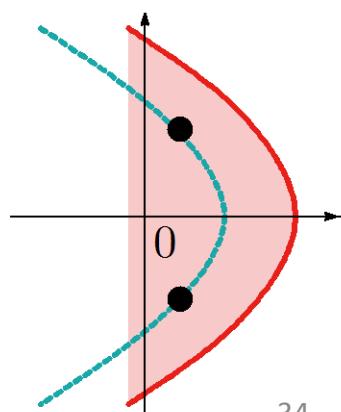
Transient Instability:
unstable λ_{ess} + stable λ_{abs}

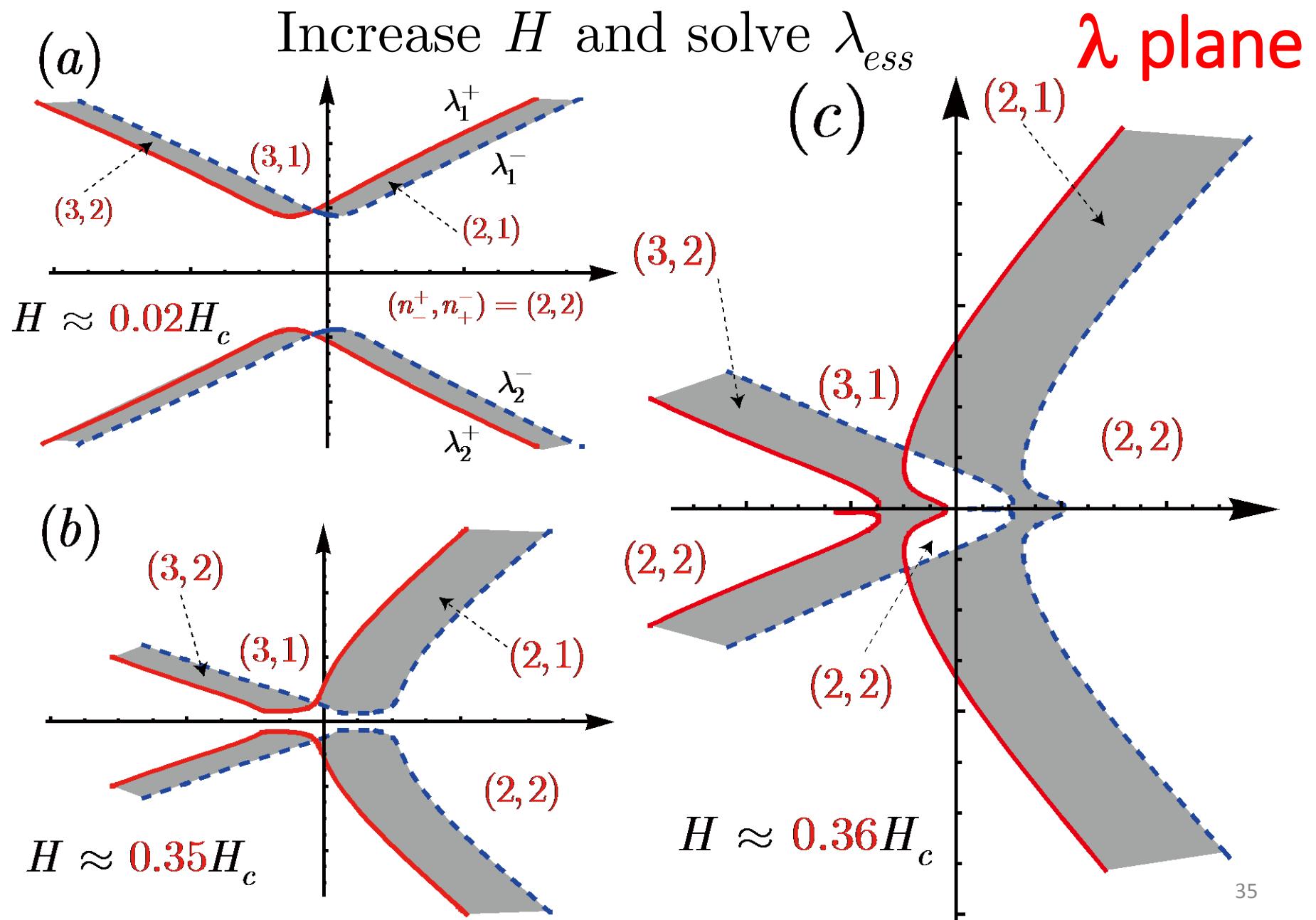


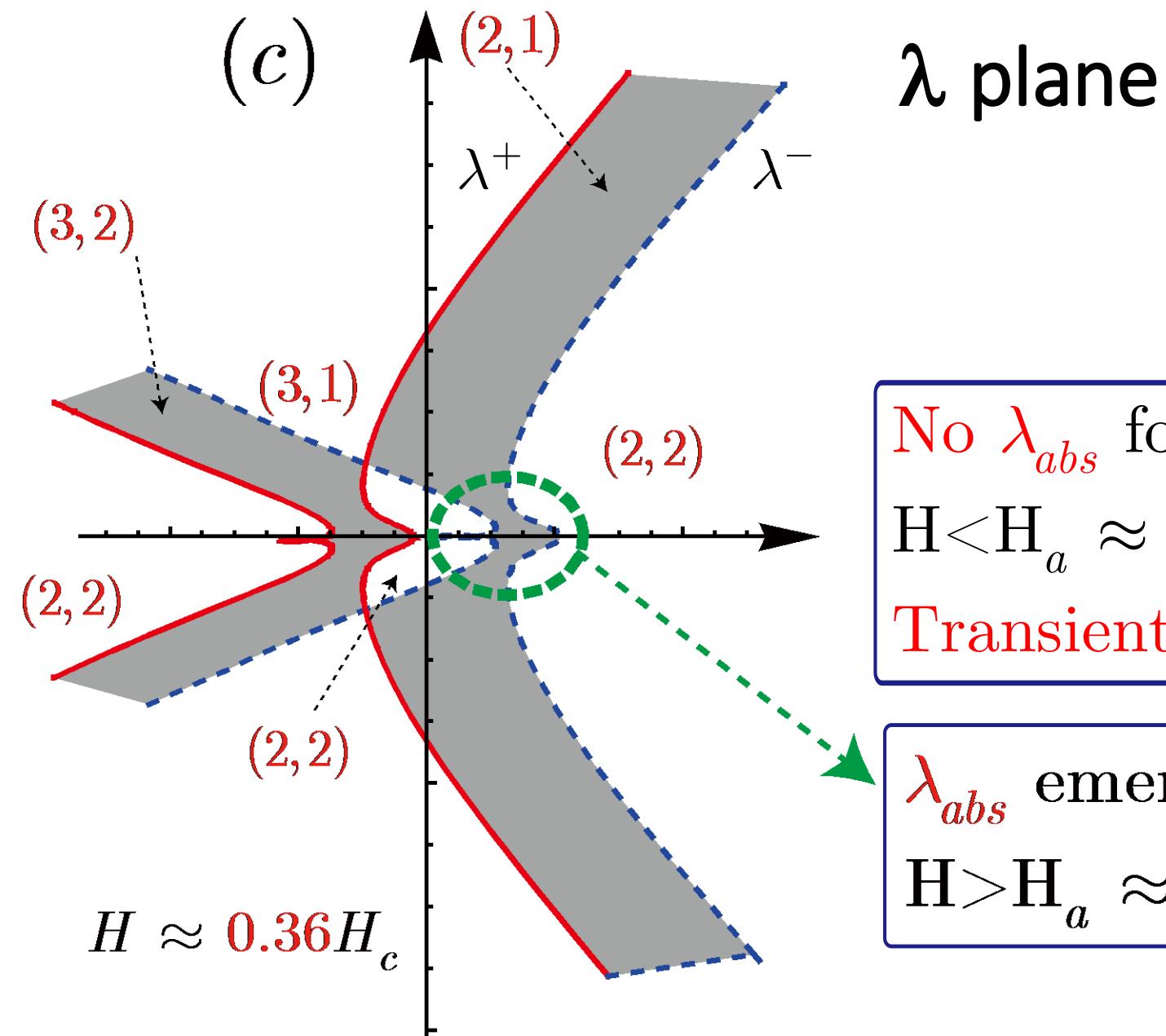
Convective Instability
unstable λ_{abs} + stable λ_{sd}



Absolute Instability
unstable λ_{sd}







No λ_{abs} found for
 $H < H_a \approx 0.36H_c$,
Transient Ins.

λ_{abs} emerges if
 $H > H_a \approx 0.36H_c$



λ plane

(c)

$(3, 2)$

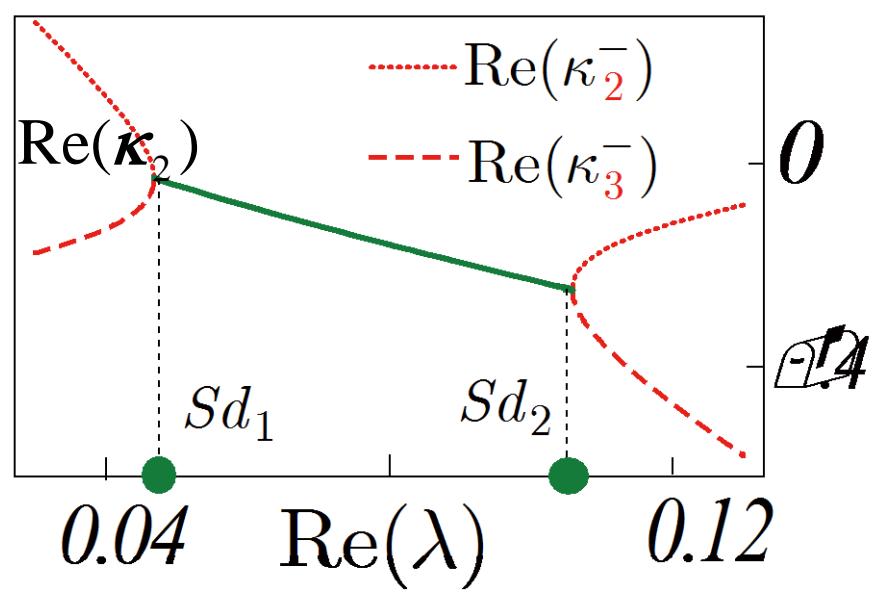
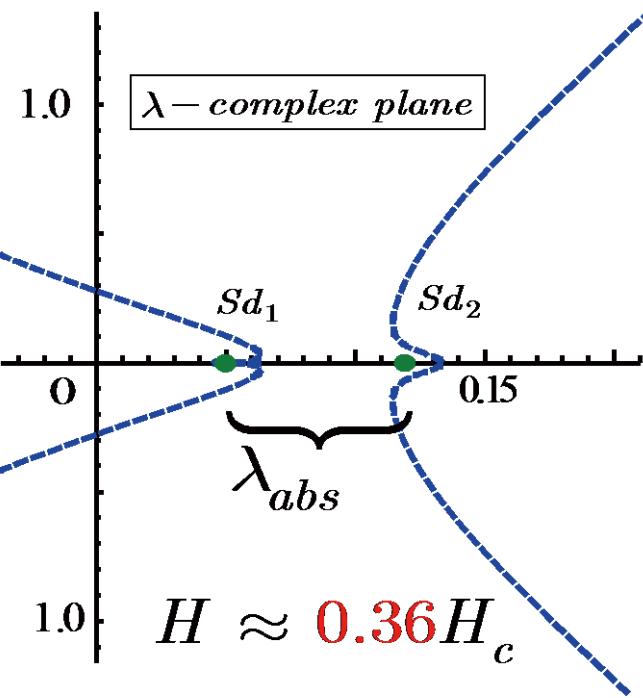
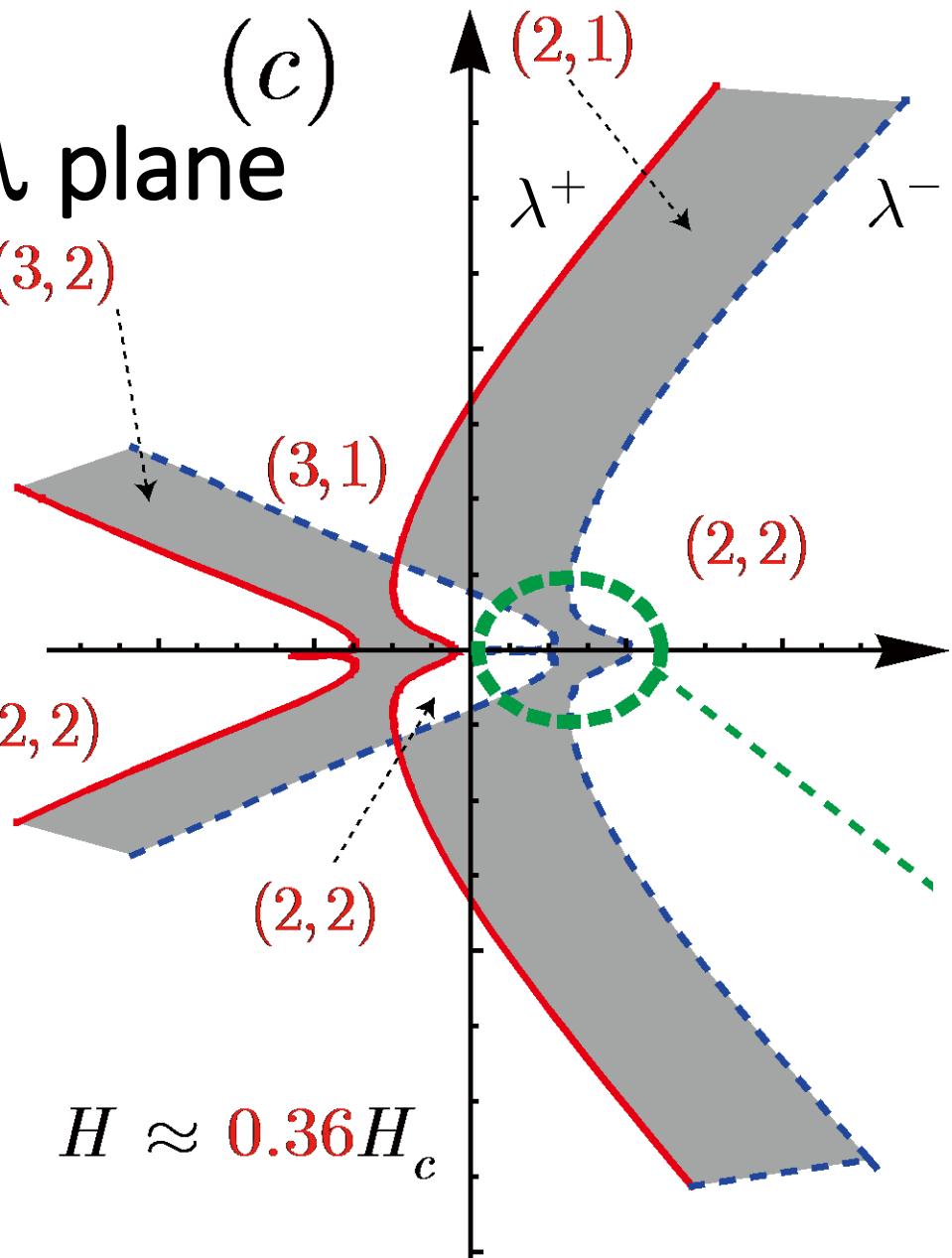
$(3, 1)$

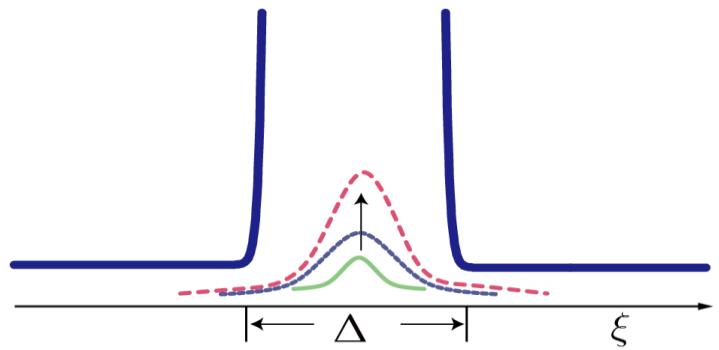
$(2, 2)$

$(2, 2)$

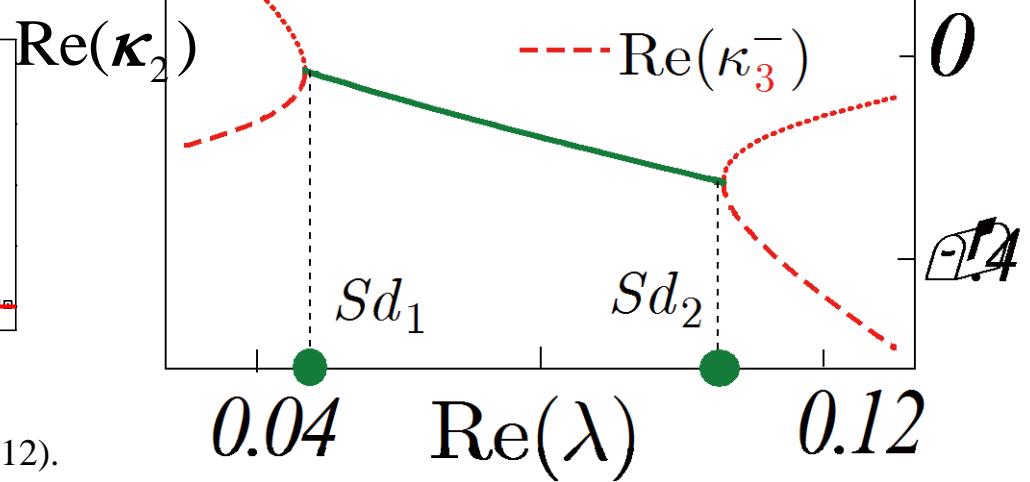
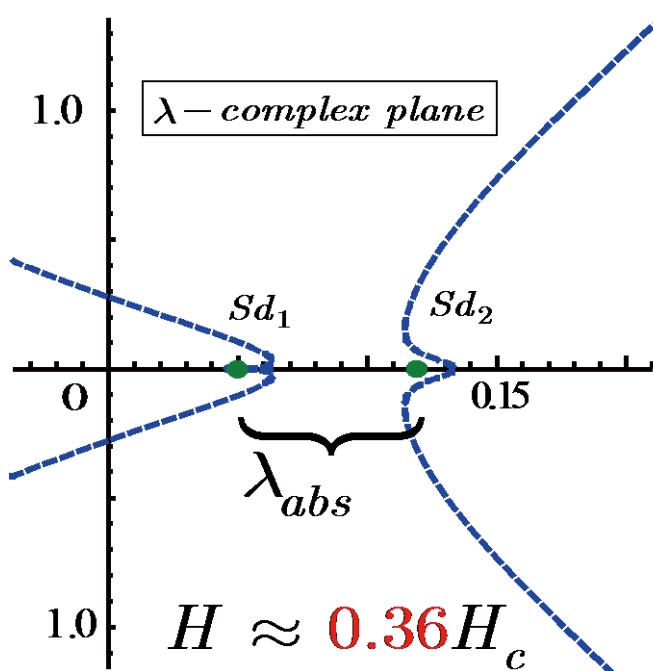
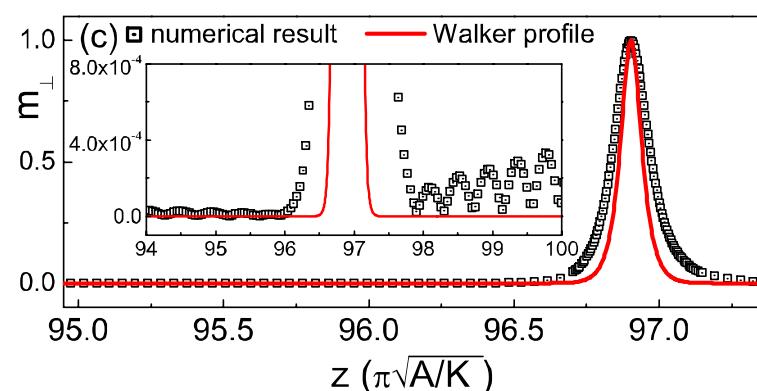
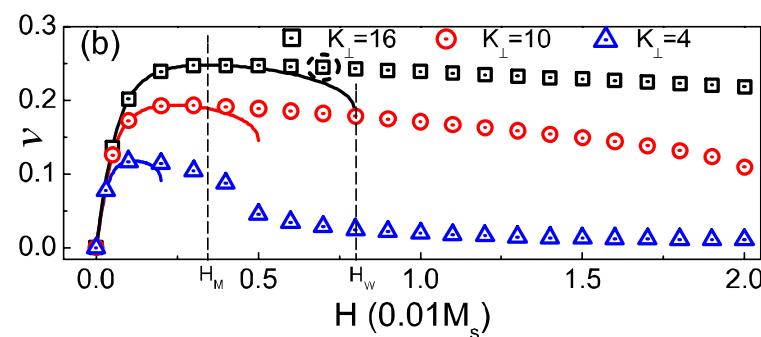
$(2, 2)$

$H \approx 0.36H_c$





AI/CI occurs at H_a

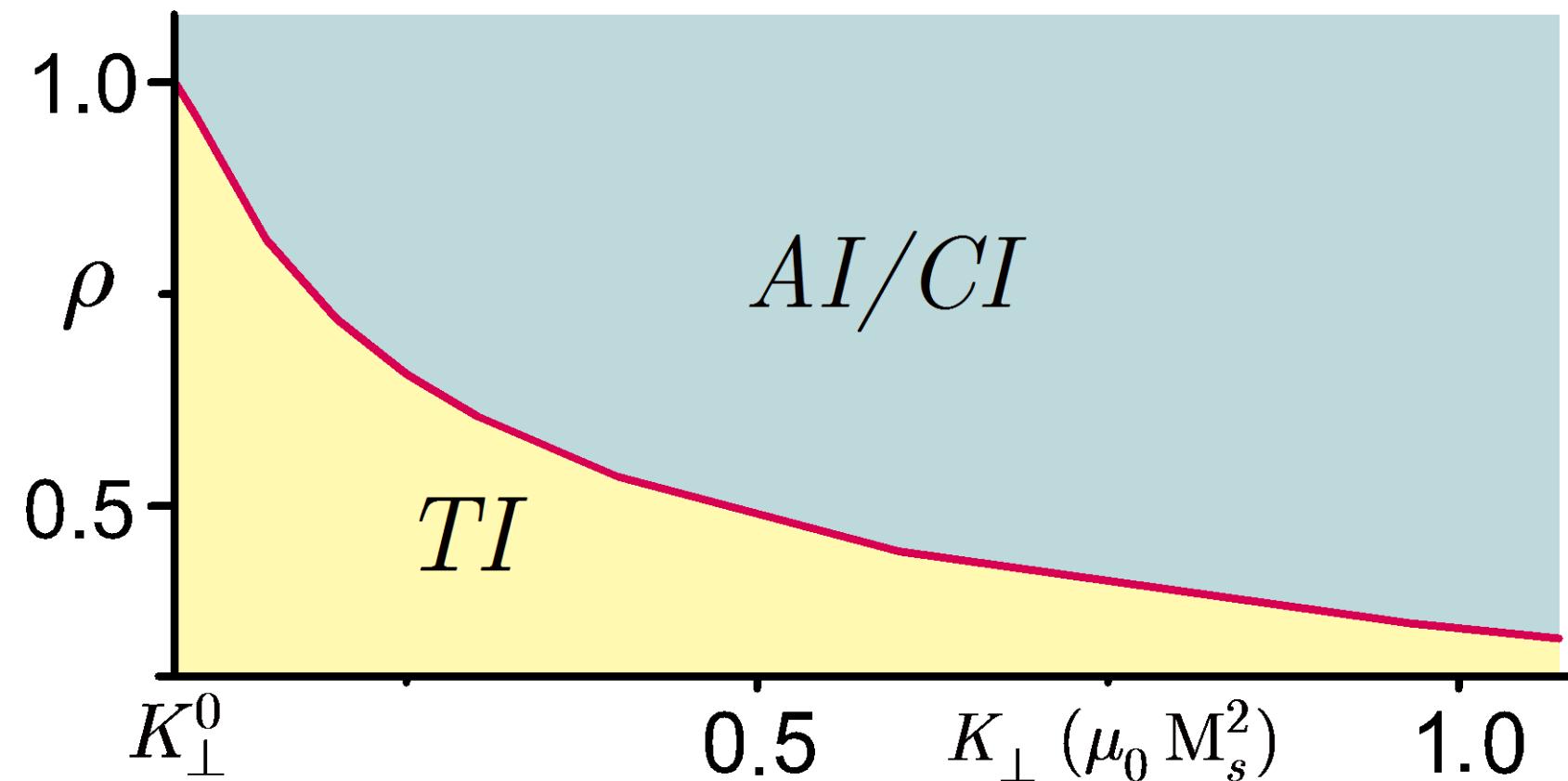


YIG Parameter	
Damping	$\alpha = 0.001$
Exchange	$A = 3.84 \times 10^{-12} J/m$
Saturation Magnetization	$M_s = 1.94 \times 10^5 A/m$
Gyromagnetic Ratio	$\gamma = 3.51 / kHz(A/m)$
Easy Axis Anisotropy	$K_{\parallel} = 2 \times 10^3 J/m^3$
Hard Axis Anisotropy	K_{\perp} : Varying

$$\rho = H_a / H_c,$$

$$\rho = 1 \text{ at},$$

$$K_{\perp}^0 \approx 0.085$$



Conclusion

- It is shown that a Walker propagating DW will always emit stern waves in a low field, and both stern and bow waves in a higher field.
- The true propagating DW is always dressed with spin waves.
- For a realistic wire with its transverse magnetic anisotropy larger than a critical value and when the applied external field is large enough, a propagating DW may undergo simultaneous convective and absolute instabilities, leading to DW deformation and velocity deviation.