

# Ecological Invasions in Cyclic Populations

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Department of Mathematics  
Heriot-Watt University

SMB–CSMB Joint Meeting, June 2009

*This talk can be downloaded from my web site*

`www.ma.hw.ac.uk/~jas`

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Matthew Smith

(Microsoft Research  
Ltd., Cambridge)



Jens Rademacher

(CWI, Amsterdam)



# Outline

- 1 Predator-Prey Invasion and Wavetrains
- 2 Long-term Behaviour after Invasion
- 3 Absolute Stability
- 4 Calculating the Band Width
- 5 Band Width Sensitivity and Ecological Implications

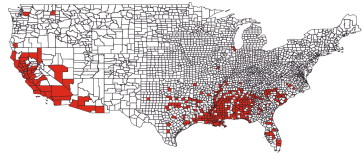
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# Climate Change and Invasions

- Climate change  $\Rightarrow$  more frequent ecological invasions.
- Examples:



In California, argentine ants do not decrease foraging time as temperatures rise, in contrast to native ant species.

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White-cloud mountain minnows (an aquarium fish) are released into the Great Lakes and could invade if water temperatures increase.

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Water hyacinth may overwinter in New England  
due to climate change.

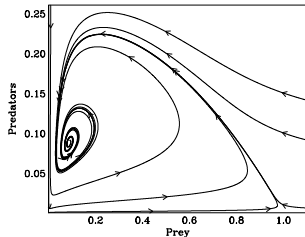
# Climate Change and Invasions

- Climate change  $\Rightarrow$  more frequent ecological invasions.
- My focus: invasion of a prey population by predators when the population dynamics are cyclic.

# Cyclic Predator-Prey Systems

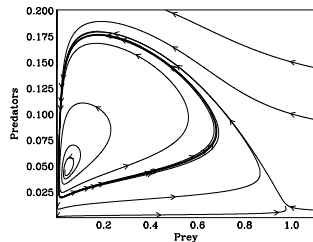
The interaction between a predator population and its prey can cause population cycles.

This has been modelled extensively using systems of two coupled ODEs



constant coexistence

change  
→  
parameters



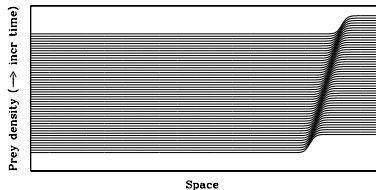
cycles

# Predator-Prey Invasion

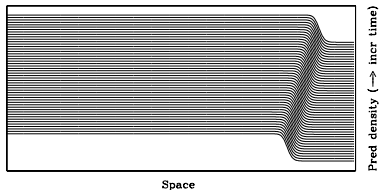
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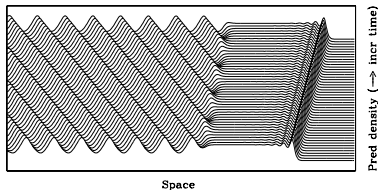
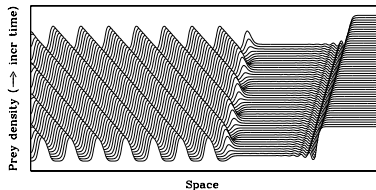
Simple invasion front



(local bhr: constant)

# Predator-Prey Invasion

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Wavetrain behind an invasion front (local bhr: cycles)



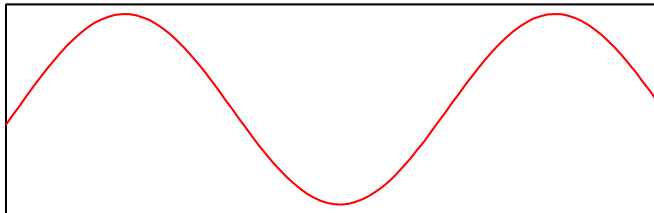
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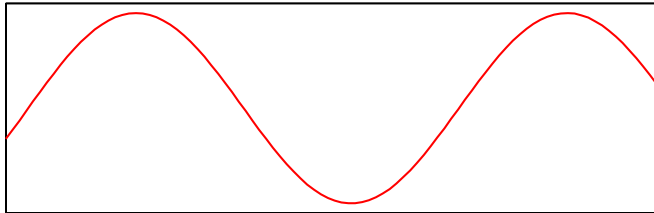


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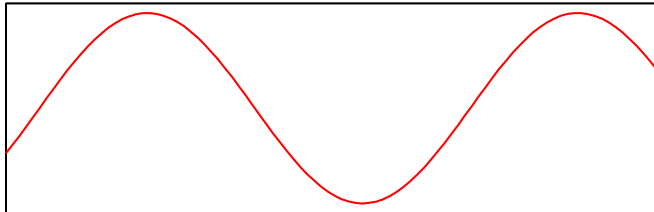


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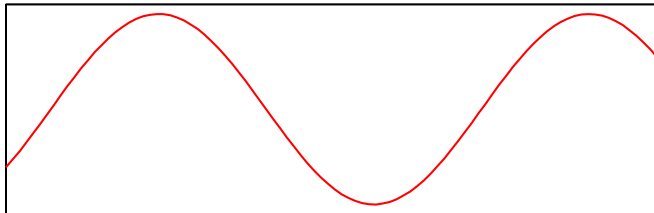


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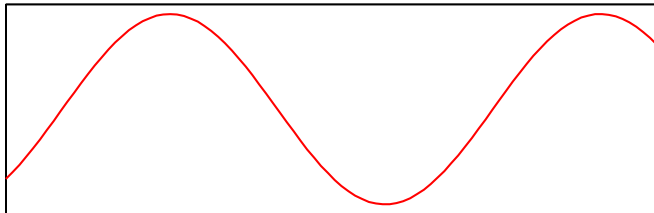


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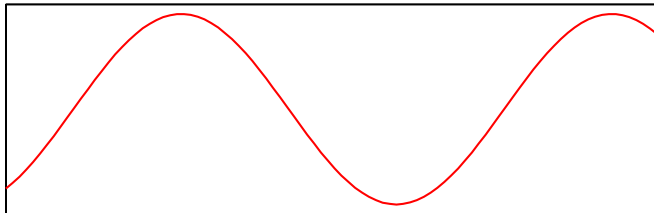


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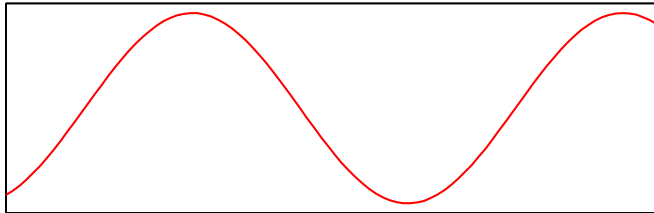


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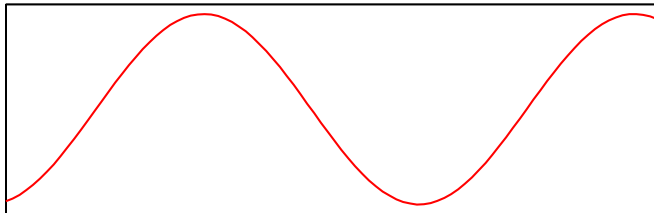
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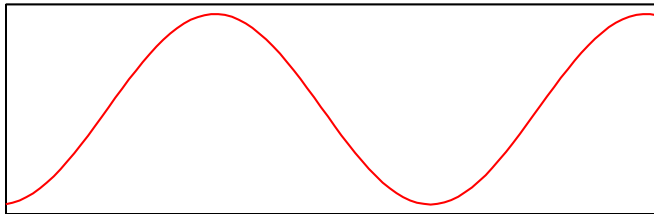


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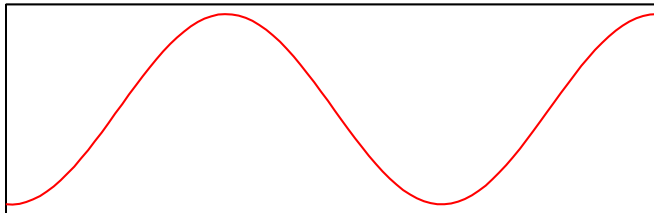


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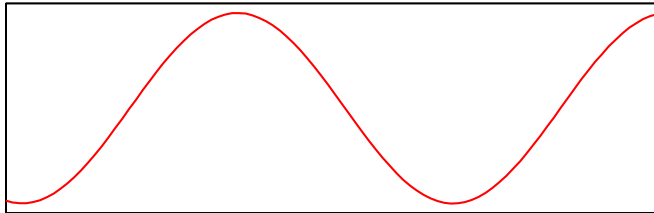


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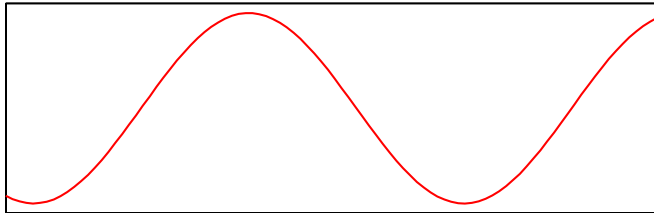


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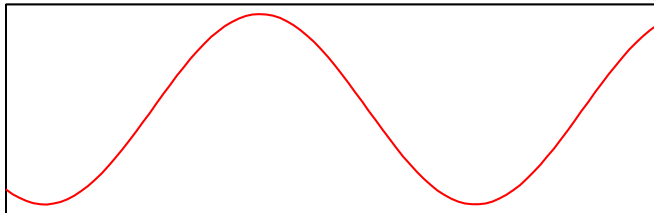


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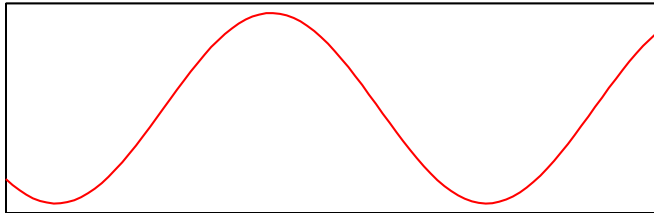


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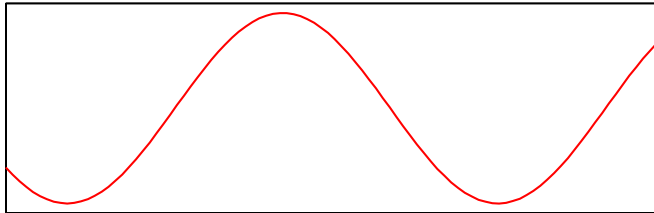


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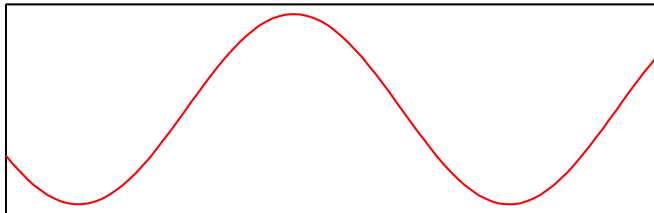
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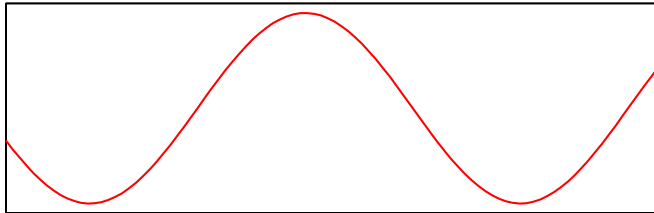


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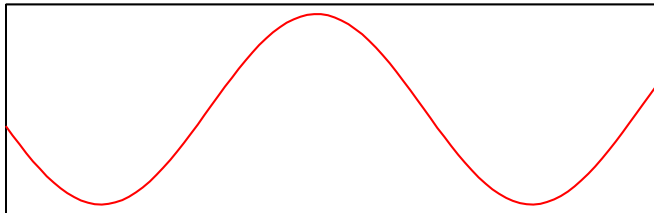


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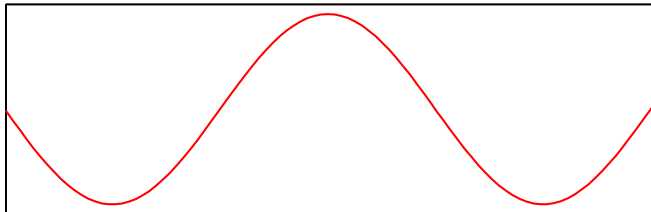


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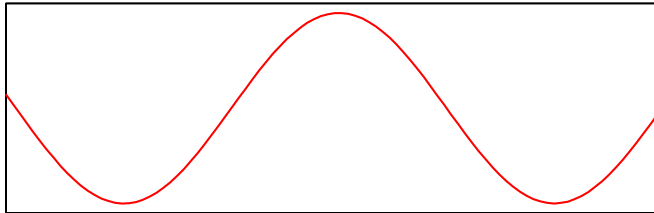


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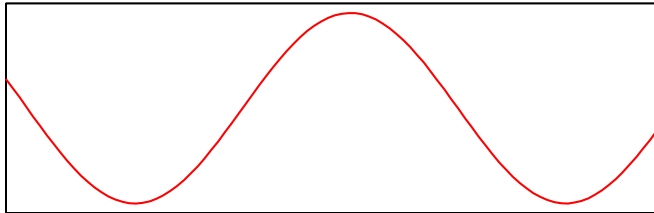


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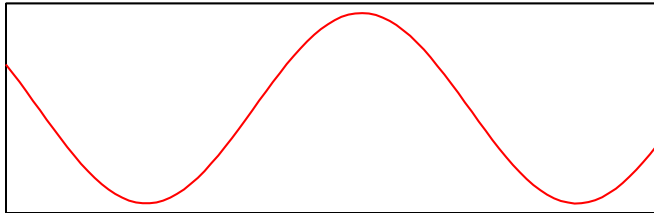


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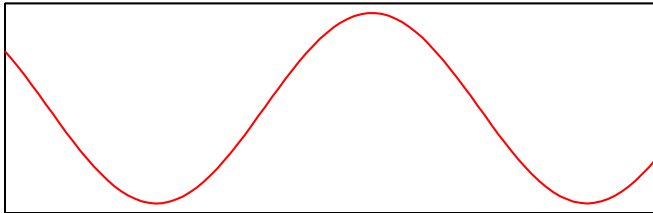


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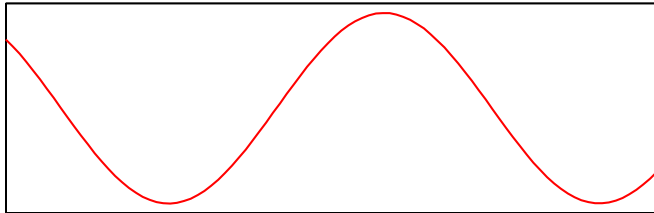
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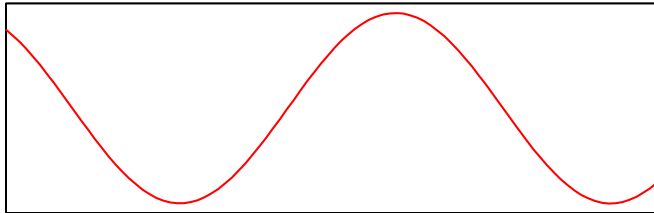


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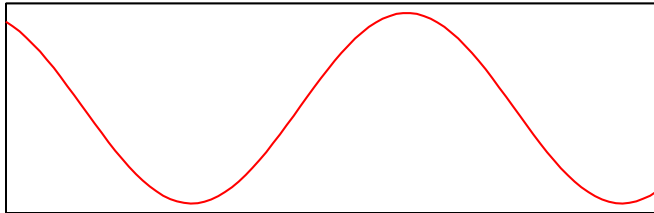


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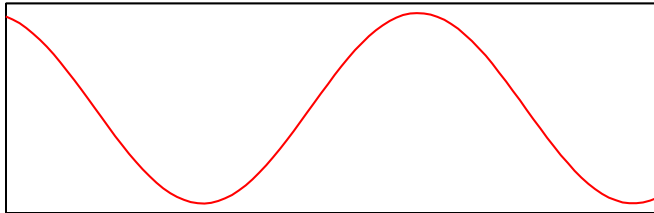


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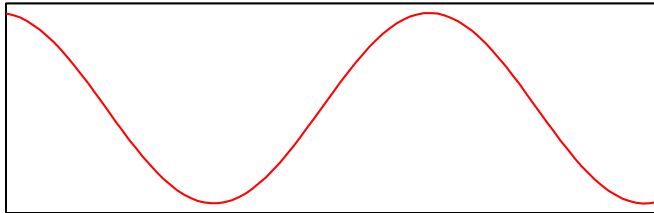


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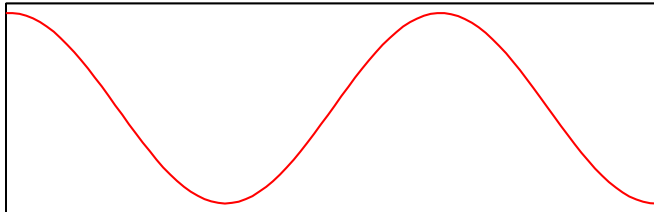


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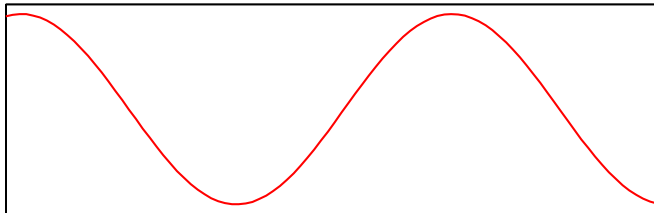


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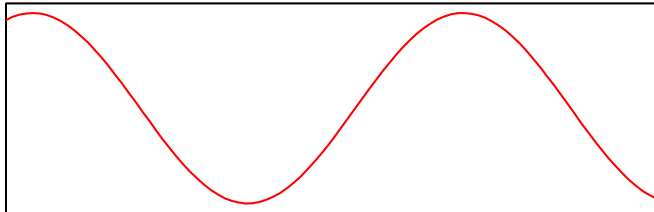


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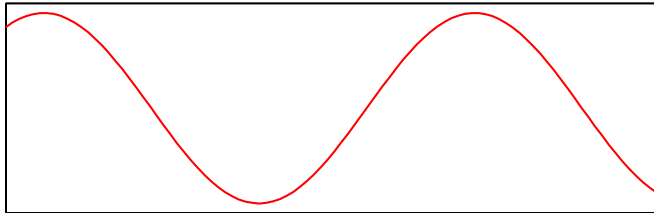
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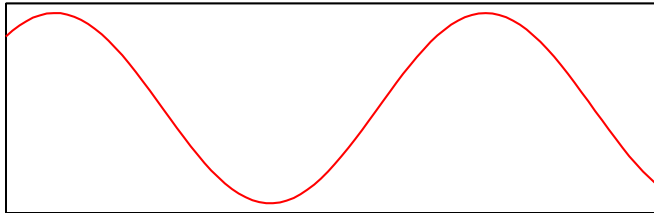


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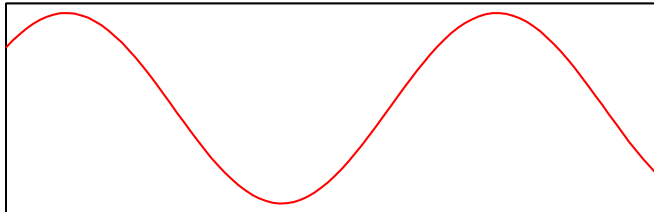


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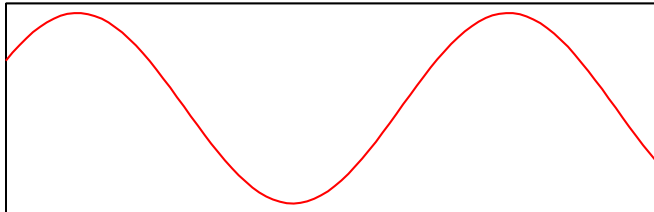


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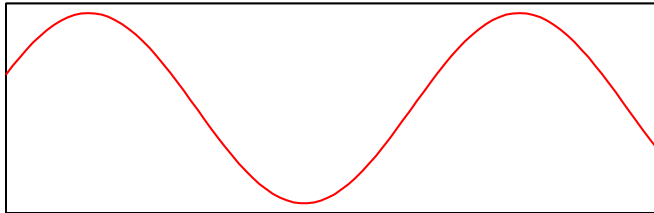


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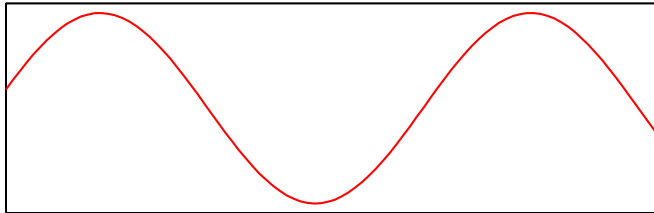


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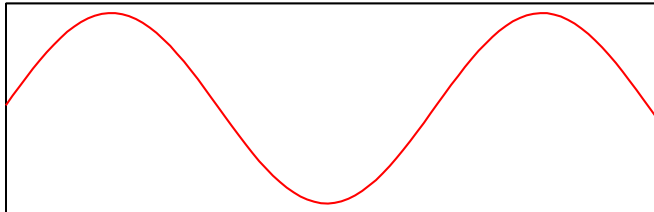


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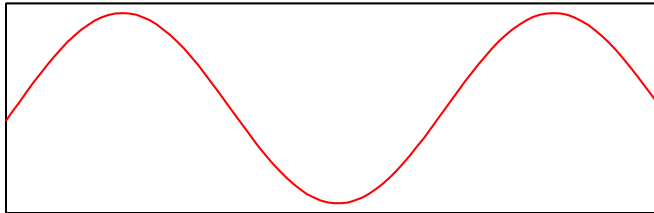


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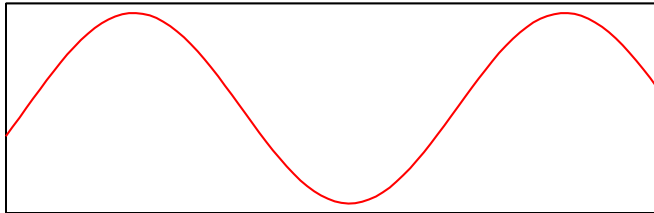
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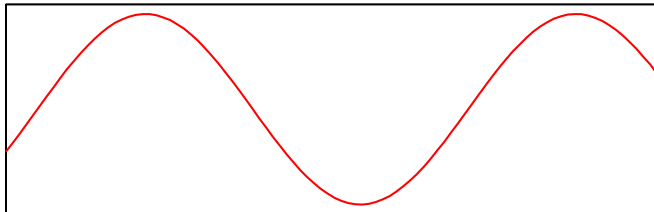


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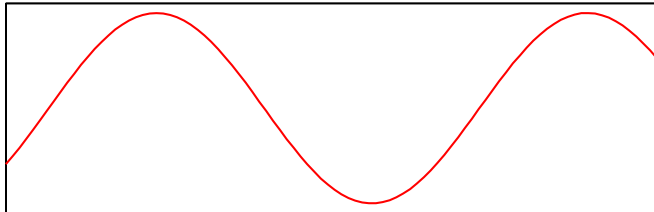


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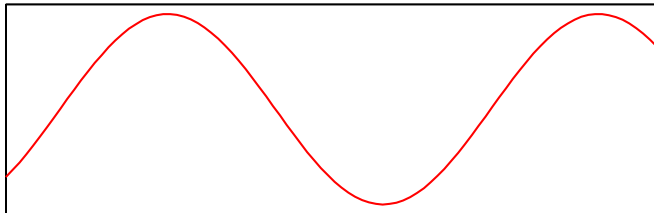


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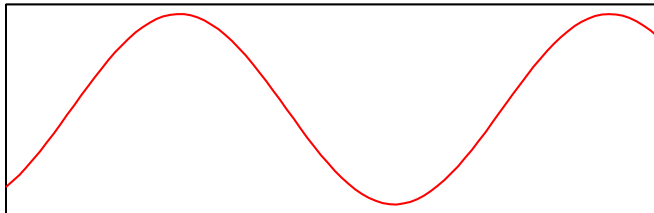


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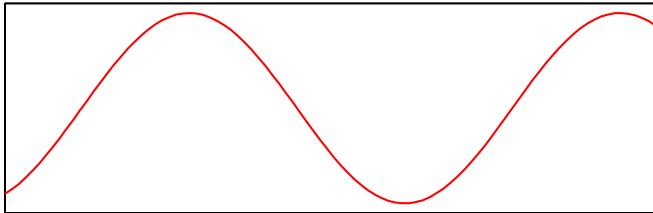


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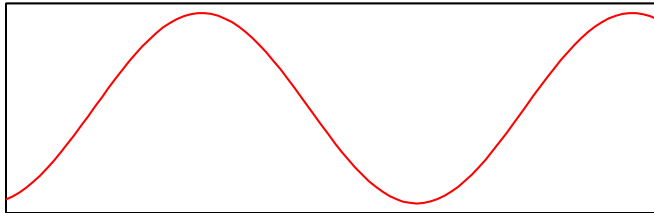


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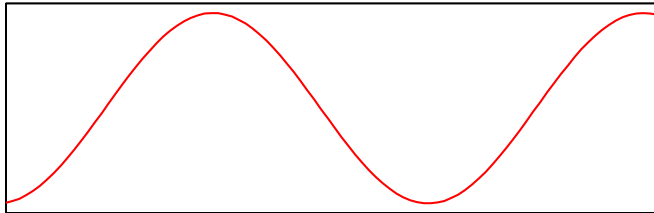


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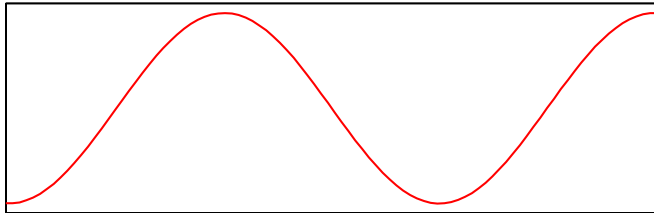
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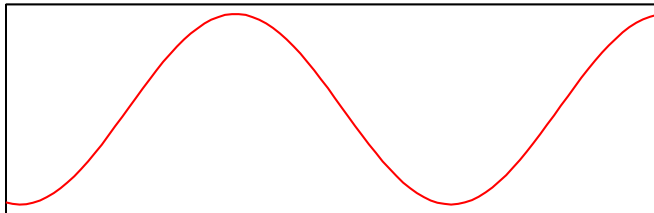


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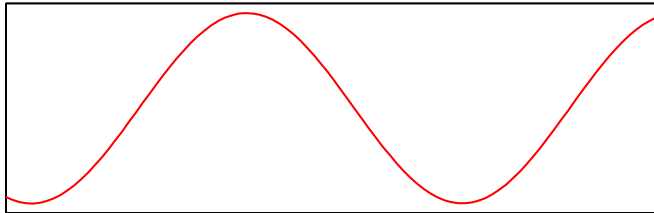


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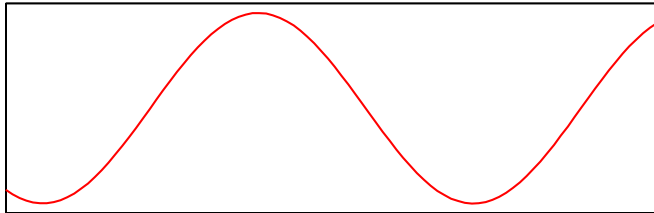


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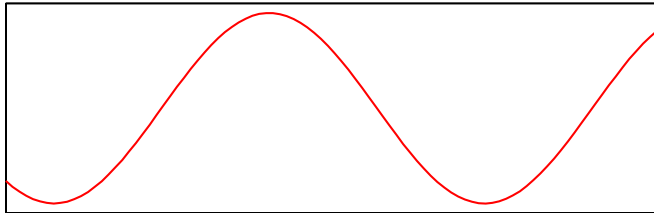


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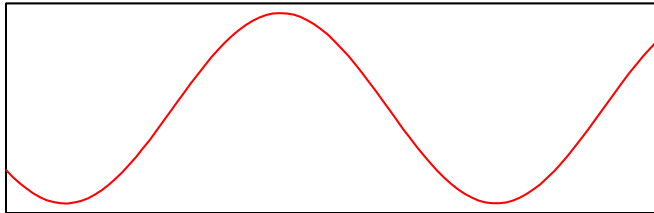


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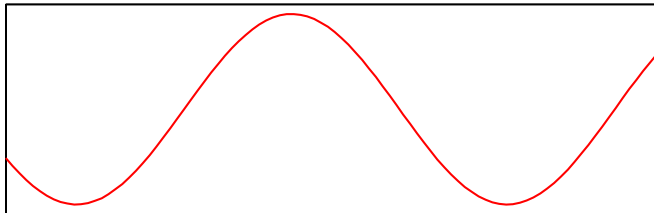


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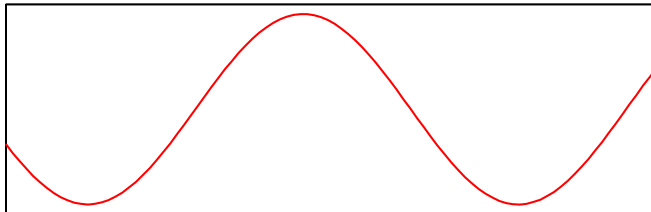


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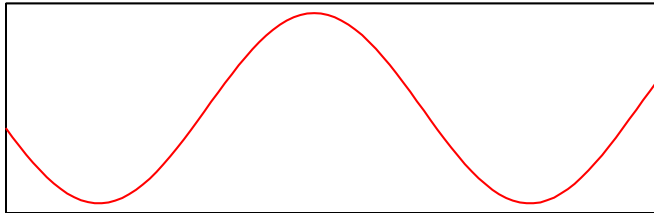
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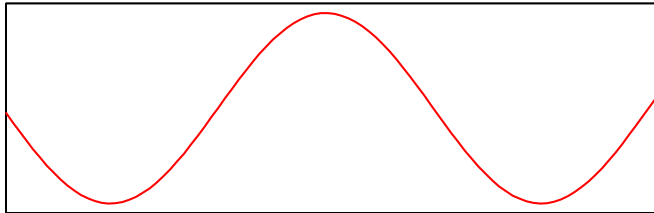


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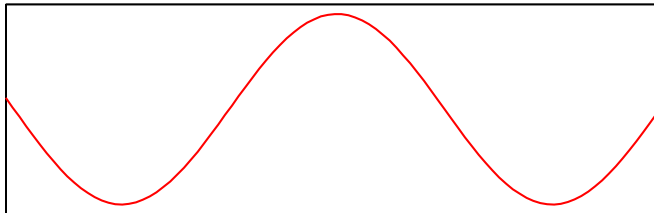


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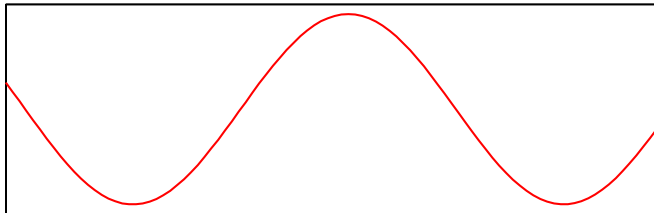


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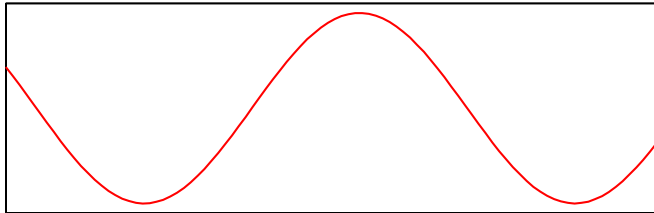


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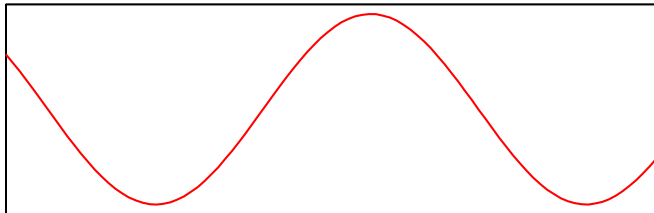


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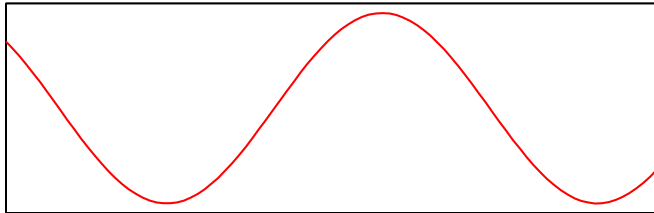


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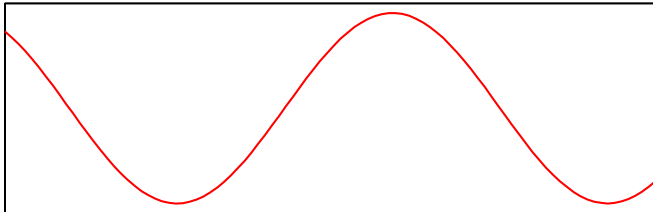


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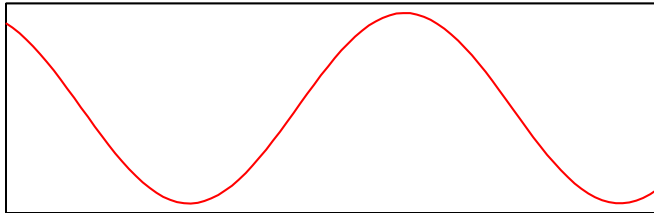
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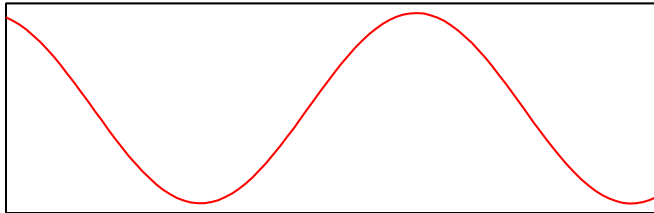


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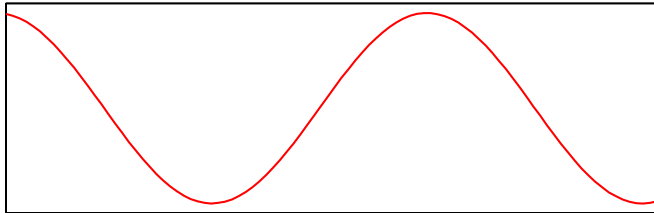


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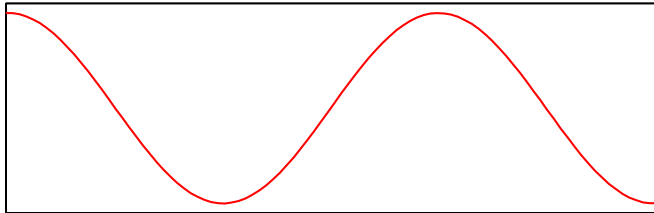


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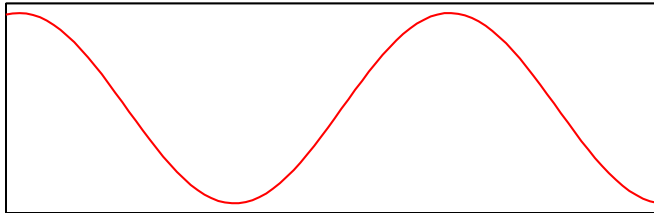


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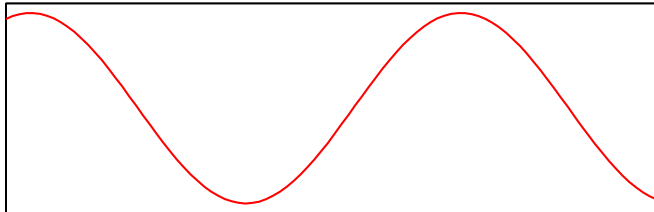


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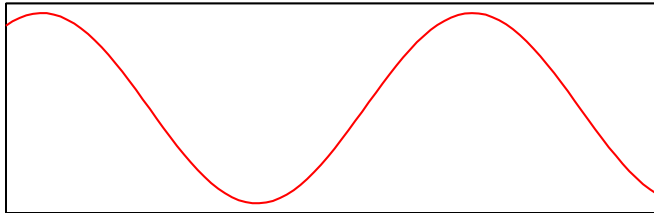


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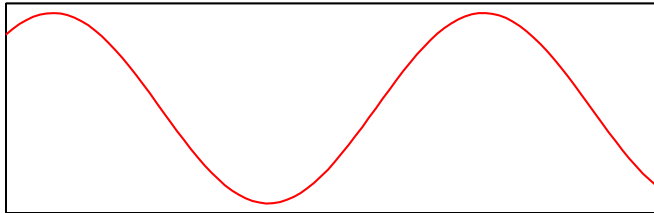


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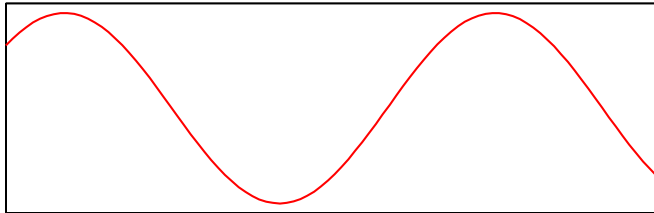
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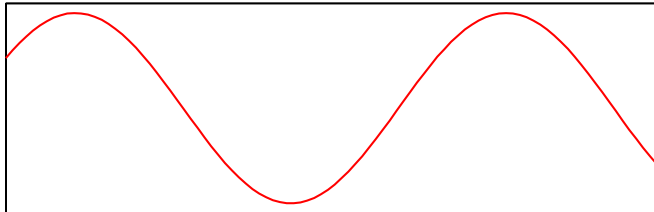


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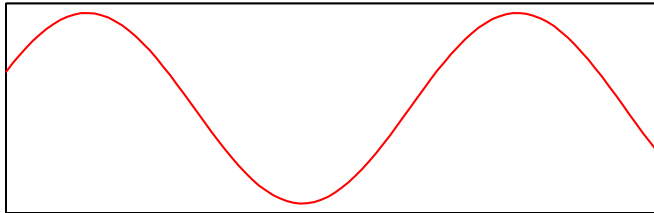


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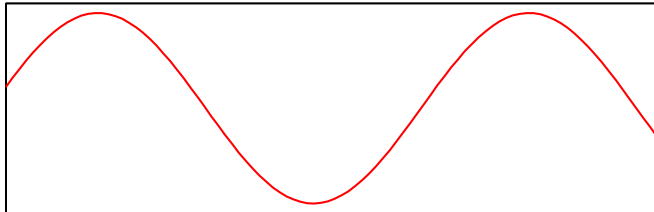


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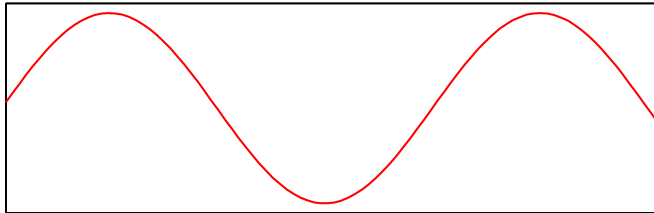


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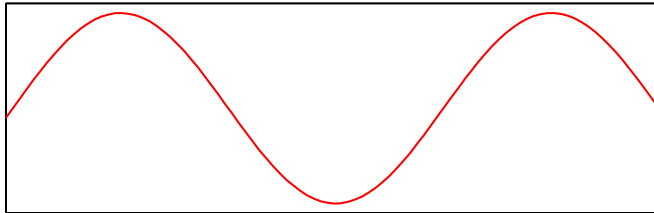


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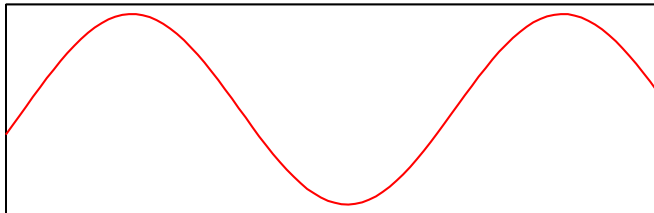


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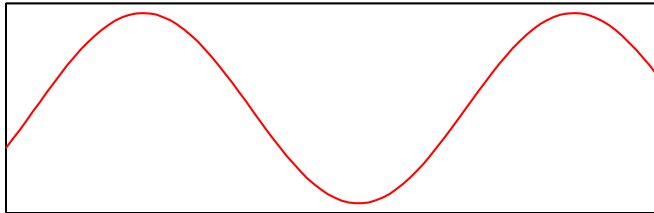


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Population Density



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# What is a Wavetrain?

A wavetrain is a soln of form  $f(x \pm ct)$ , with  $f(\cdot)$  periodic.

There is an extensive literature on wavetrains  
in oscillatory reaction-diffusion equations

$$\begin{aligned}\partial u / \partial t &= D_u \partial^2 u / \partial x^2 + f(u, v) \\ \partial v / \partial t &= D_v \partial^2 v / \partial x^2 + \underbrace{g(u, v)}_{\substack{\text{kinetics have} \\ \text{a stable} \\ \text{limit cycle}}}\end{aligned}$$

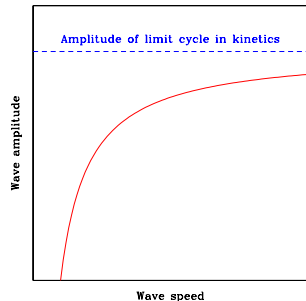
# What is a Wavetrain?

A wavetrain is a soln of form  $f(x \pm ct)$ , with  $f(\cdot)$  periodic.

An oscillatory reaction-diffusion system has a one-parameter family of wavetrain solutions,

(if the diffusion coefficients are sufficiently close to one another)

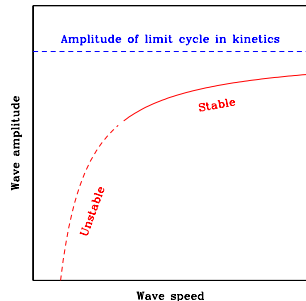
(Kopell & Howard, 1973).



# What is a Wavetrain?

A wavetrain is a soln of form  $f(x \pm ct)$ , with  $f(\cdot)$  periodic.

Some members of the wavetrain family are stable as solutions of the partial differential equations, while others are unstable.



# Outline

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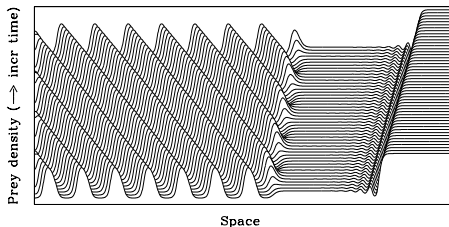
# The Wavetrain Band

The invasion process selects a particular member of the wavetrain family (Sherratt (1998) *Physica D* 117:145).

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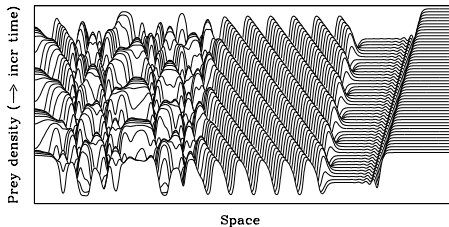
For these parameters,  
the selected wavetrain  
is stable.



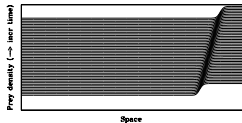
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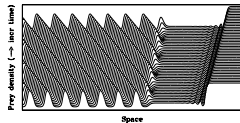
A “wavetrain band” occurs when the selected wavetrain is unstable.



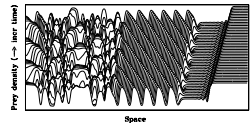
# Predator-Prey Invasion: Summary



Local bhr: constant



Local bhr: cycles



Local bhr: cycles

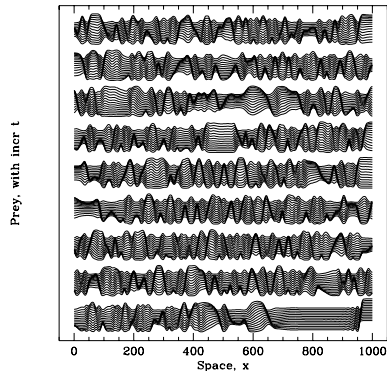
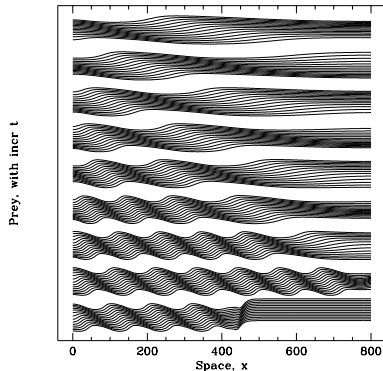


# Behaviour after Invasion

A key ecological question is: what is the behaviour after the entire habitat has been invaded?

# Behaviour after Invasion

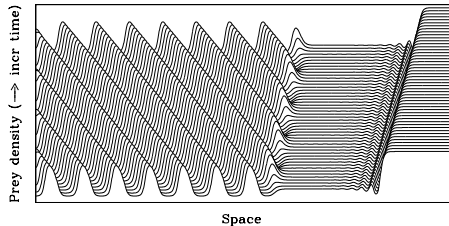
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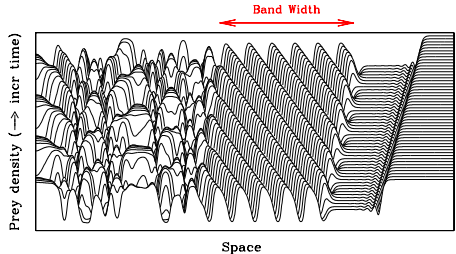
When the selected wavetrain is stable, the behaviour after invasion is homogeneous oscillations.



# Behaviour after Invasion

A key ecological question is: what is the behaviour after the entire habitat has been invaded?

When the selected wavetrain is unstable, the behaviour after invasion depends on whether domain length is shorter than “band width”.

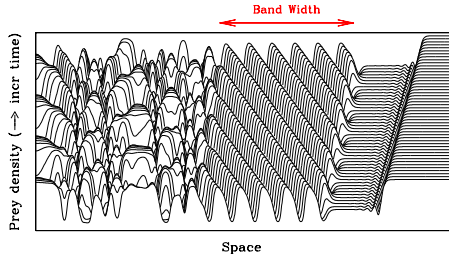


# Behaviour after Invasion

A key ecological question is: what is the behaviour after the entire habitat has been invaded?

Band width  $<$  domain length  
 $\Rightarrow$  spatiotemporal chaos

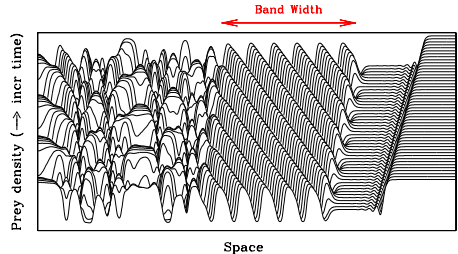
Band width  $>$  domain length  
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# Behaviour after Invasion

A key ecological question is: what is the behaviour after the entire habitat has been invaded?

**Question:** what is the wavetrain band width?

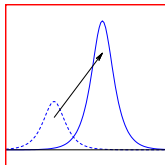


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# Convective and Absolute Stability

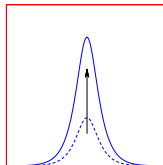
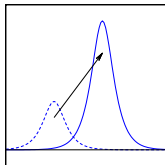
- In spatially extended systems, a solution can be unstable, but with any perturbation that grows also moving. This is “**convective instability**”.





# Convective and Absolute Stability

- In spatially extended systems, a solution can be unstable, but with any perturbation that grows also moving. This is “convective instability”.
- Alternatively, a solution can be unstable with perturbations growing without moving. This is “absolute instability”.



# Absolute Stability in a Moving Frame of Reference

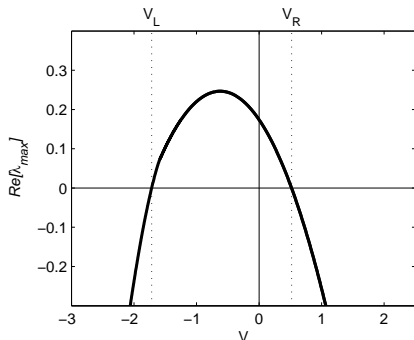
Absolute stability refers to the growth/decay of **stationary** perturbations.

We must consider the growth/decay of perturbations **moving** with a specified velocity  $V$ , i.e. absolute stability in a frame of reference moving with velocity  $V$ .

Define  $\lambda_{max}(V)$  = temporal eigenvalue of the most unstable linear mode

$\nu_{max}(V)$  = the corresponding spatial eigenvalue

# Absolute Stability in a Moving Frame of Reference



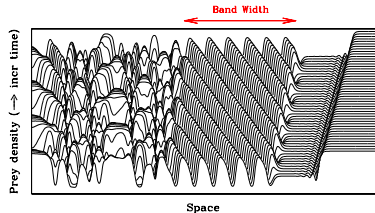
A tutorial guide to calculating absolute stability is freely available at

<http://research.microsoft.com/en-us/projects/loptw/tutorial.aspx>

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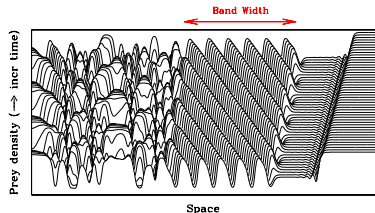
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# Defining the Band Width



- We define the left-hand edge of the wavetrain band as where unstable linear modes first become amplified by a factor  $\mathcal{F}$ .

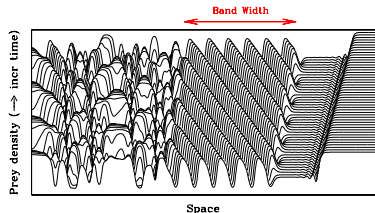
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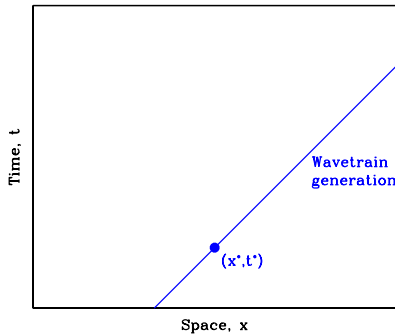
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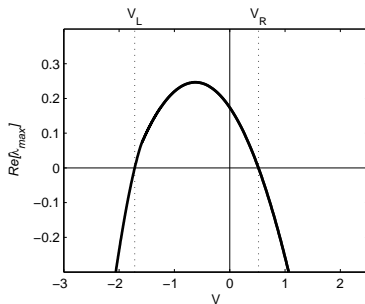
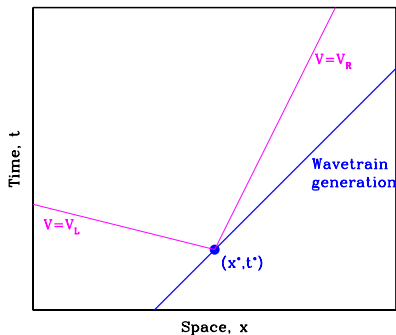
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- The dependence on ecological parameters is via  $\mathcal{W}$ .

# The Band Width Formula

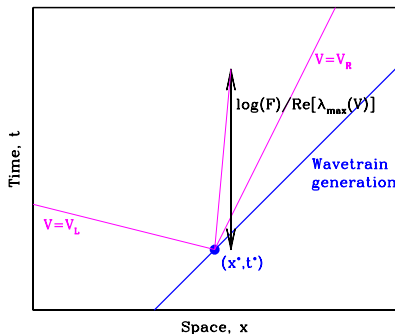




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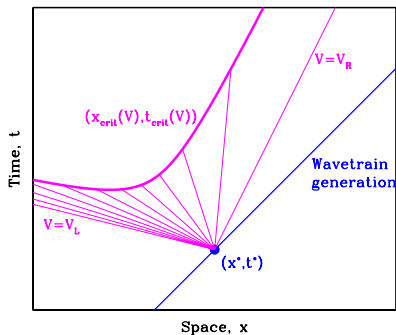
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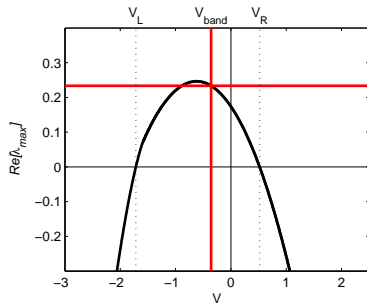
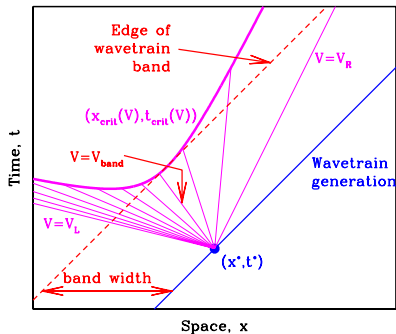
Perturbations moving with velocity  $V$  grow as  $\exp[\text{Re}(\lambda_{\max}(V)) \cdot t]$

$\Rightarrow$  amplified by the factor  $\mathcal{F}$  after time  $\log(\mathcal{F})/\text{Re}(\lambda_{\max}(V))$

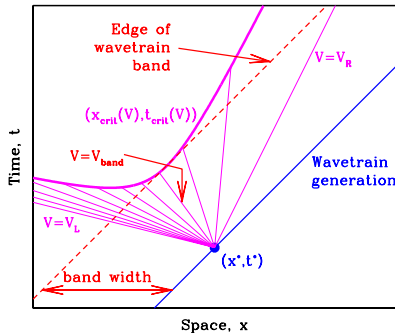
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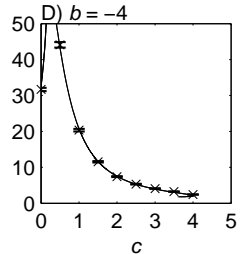
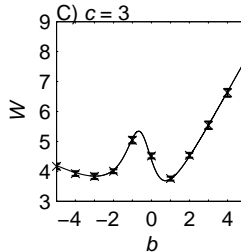
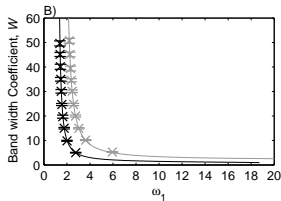
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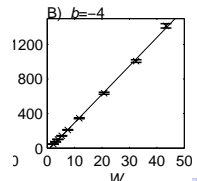
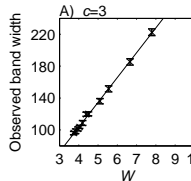
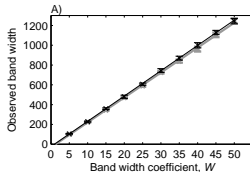
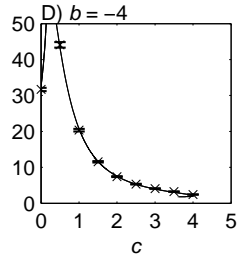
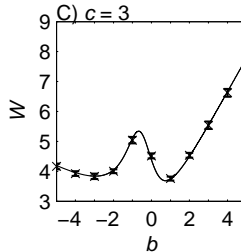
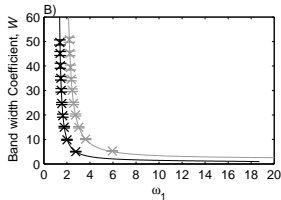
$$\mathcal{W} = 1/\text{Re} [\nu_{max}(V_{band})]$$

$$\text{where } (V_{band} - c_{inv})\text{Re} [\nu_{max}(V_{band})] = \text{Re} [\lambda_{max}(V_{band})]$$

# The Form of $W$



# The Form of $W$



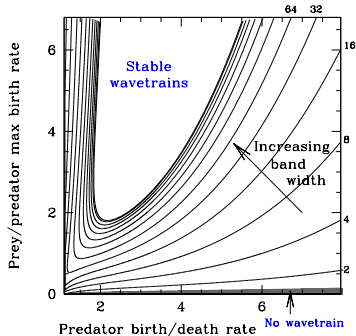
# Outline

- 1 Predator-Prey Invasion and Wavetrains
- 2 Long-term Behaviour after Invasion
- 3 Absolute Stability
- 4 Calculating the Band Width
- 5 **Band Width Sensitivity and Ecological Implications**



# Band Width Sensitivity

Our formula gives band width vs ecological parameters.



# Band Width Sensitivity

Our formula gives band width vs ecological parameters.

Example: vole – weasel interaction in Fennoscandia



vole

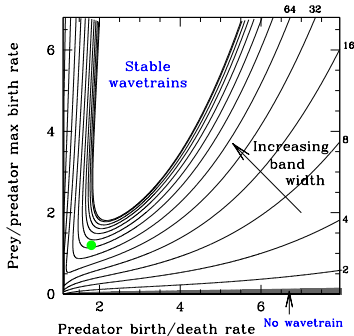


weasel



# Band Width Sensitivity

Our formula gives band width vs ecological parameters.



● = weasel-vole  
parameters.

5%↑ in vole birth rate  
⇒ 22%↑ in band width.

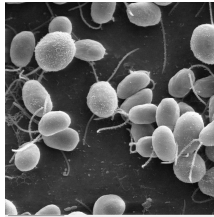
# Band Width Sensitivity

Our formula gives band width vs ecological parameters.

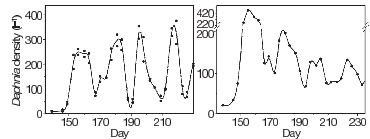
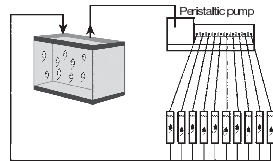
Example: *Daphnia pulex*–*Chlamydomonas reinhardtii* interaction



*Daphnia pulex*



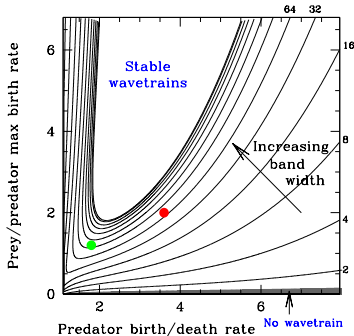
*Chlamydomonas  
reinhardtii*



(from McCauley *et al* (2008), *Nature* 455:1240, 2008)

# Band Width Sensitivity

Our formula gives band width vs ecological parameters.



● = plankton parameters  
(*Daphnia pulex*–*Chlamydomonas reinhardtii*).

5.2%↓ in *Daphnia*  
birth rate  
⇒ doubling of band width.

# Ecological Implications

- Climate change  $\Rightarrow$  more frequent invasions.
- It is known that climate change is significantly affecting the parameters of oscillatory ecological systems (e.g. Ims *et al* (2008) *TREE* 23:79).
- The band width determines whether one sees spatiotemporal chaos or periodic homogeneous oscillations after invasion
- We have shown that band width depends sensitively on ecological parameters.

# Ecological Implications

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- It is known that climate change is significantly affecting the parameters of oscillatory ecological systems (e.g. Ims *et al* (2008) *TREE* 23:79).
- The band width determines whether one sees spatiotemporal chaos or periodic homogeneous oscillations after invasion
- We have shown that band width depends sensitively on ecological parameters.
- This suggests that the implications of climate change for *spatio*temporal dynamics may be even more dramatic than for purely temporal behaviour.

# Reference

J.A. Sherratt, M.J. Smith, J.D.M. Rademacher: Locating the transition from periodic oscillations to spatiotemporal chaos in the wake of invasion. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* in press.



# List of Frames

## 1 Predator-Prey Invasion and Wavetrains

- Climate Change and Invasions
- Cyclic Predator-Prey Systems
- Predator-Prey Invasion
- What is a Wavetrain?

## 2 Long-term Behaviour after Invasion

- The Wavetrain Band
- Predator-Prey Invasion: Summary
- Behaviour after Invasion

## 3 Absolute Stability

- Convective and Absolute Stability
- Absolute Stability in a Moving Frame of Reference

## 4 Calculating the Band Width

- Defining the Band Width
- The Band Width Formula
- The Form of W

## 5 Band Width Sensitivity and Ecological Implications

- Band Width Sensitivity
- Ecological Implications
- Reference

## The Form of $V_{band}$

