

Konstanz, 8th International Conference on Random Dynamical Systems

# Metastability in a Kuramoto model with nearest neighbour interaction

Nils Berglund

Institut Denis Poisson, University of Orléans, France

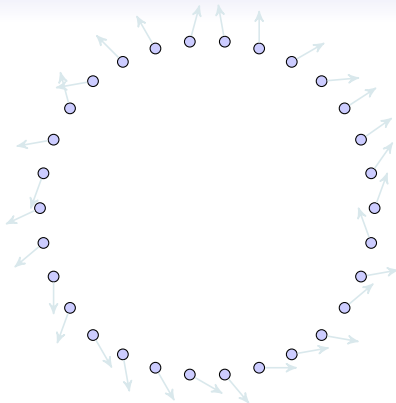


22 July 2025

Joint work with Georgi Medvedev and Gideon Simpson (Drexel Univ.)



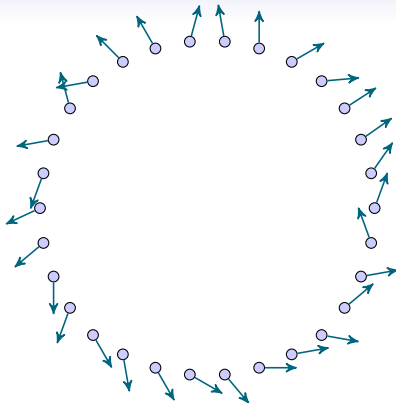
# The model



- ▷ Lattice  $\Lambda = \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $n \geq 1$
- ▷ Configuration:  $u : \Lambda \rightarrow \mathbb{S} = \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}$  (config. space:  $\mathbb{S}^\Lambda = (\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z})^{\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}}$ )
- ▷ Energy of configuration:

$$V(u) = -\frac{K}{2\pi} \sum_{i \in \Lambda} \cos(2\pi(u_{i+1} - u_i)) \quad K > 0$$

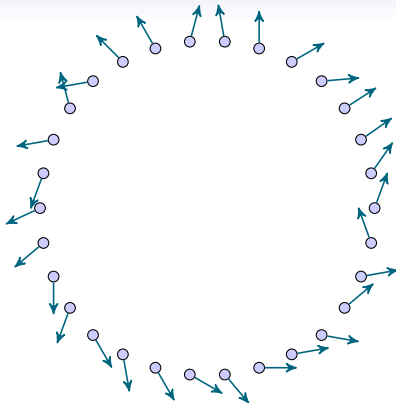
# The model



- ▷ Lattice  $\Lambda = \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $n \geq 1$
- ▷ Configuration:  $u : \Lambda \rightarrow \mathbb{S} = \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}$  (config. space:  $\mathbb{S}^\Lambda = (\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z})^{\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}}$ )
- ▷ Energy of configuration:

$$V(u) = -\frac{K}{2\pi} \sum_{i \in \Lambda} \cos(2\pi(u_{i+1} - u_i)) \quad K > 0$$

# The model



- ▷ Lattice  $\Lambda = \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $n \geq 1$
- ▷ Configuration:  $u : \Lambda \rightarrow \mathbb{S} = \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}$  (config. space:  $\mathbb{S}^\Lambda = (\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z})^{\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}}$ )
- ▷ Energy of configuration:

$$V(u) = -\frac{K}{2\pi} \sum_{i \in \Lambda} \cos(2\pi(u_{i+1} - u_i)) \quad K > 0$$

# Dynamics

- ▷ Gradient dynamics with noise ( $0 < \varepsilon \ll 1$ ):

$$du(t) = -\nabla V(u(t)) dt + \sqrt{2\varepsilon} dW_t$$

- ▷ In components:

$$du_i = K[\sin(2\pi(u_{i+1} - u_i)) + \sin(2\pi(u_{i-1} - u_i))] dt + \sqrt{2\varepsilon} dW_t^{(i)}$$

# Dynamics

- ▷ Gradient dynamics with noise ( $0 < \varepsilon \ll 1$ ):

$$du(t) = -\nabla V(u(t)) dt + \sqrt{2\varepsilon} dW_t$$

- ▷ In components:

$$du_i = K \left[ \sin(2\pi(u_{i+1} - u_i)) + \sin(2\pi(u_{i-1} - u_i)) \right] dt + \sqrt{2\varepsilon} dW_t^{(i)}$$

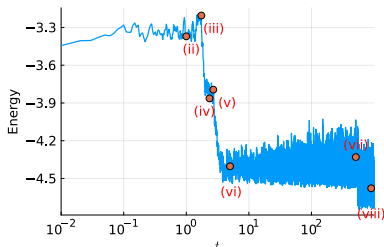
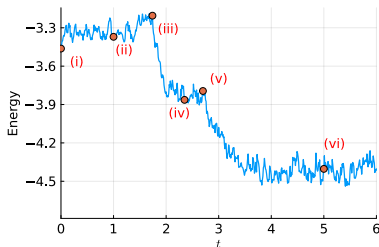
# Dynamics

- ▷ Gradient dynamics with **noise** ( $0 < \varepsilon \ll 1$ ):

$$du(t) = -\nabla V(u(t)) dt + \sqrt{2\varepsilon} dW_t$$

- ▷ In components:

$$du_i = K[\sin(2\pi(u_{i+1} - u_i)) + \sin(2\pi(u_{i-1} - u_i))] dt + \sqrt{2\varepsilon} dW_t^{(i)}$$



# Reversible diffusions

$$dx_t = -\nabla V(x_t) dt + \sqrt{2\varepsilon} dW_t$$

$V: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  confining potential, bounded below

- ▷ Invariant Gibbs measure:  $\mu(dx) = \frac{1}{Z} e^{-V(x)/\varepsilon} dx$
- ▷ Dynamics is reversible wrt  $\mu$  (detailed balance)
- ▷  $\varepsilon = 0$ : stationary states  $x^*$  satisfy  $\nabla V(x^*) = 0$
- ▷ Assume  $V$  is Morse function: Hessian of  $V$  non-degenerate at any  $x^*$
- ▷ Morse index of  $x^*$ : number of negative eigenvalues of Hessian at  $x^*$ 
  - index 0: local minima, stable
  - index 1: 1-saddles, contained in optimal paths between minima



# Reversible diffusions

$$dx_t = -\nabla V(x_t) dt + \sqrt{2\varepsilon} dW_t$$

$V : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  confining potential, bounded below

- ▷ Invariant **Gibbs measure**:  $\mu(dx) = \frac{1}{Z} e^{-V(x)/\varepsilon} dx$
- ▷ Dynamics is reversible wrt  $\mu$  (detailed balance)
- ▷  $\varepsilon = 0$ : stationary states  $x^*$  satisfy  $\nabla V(x^*) = 0$
- ▷ Assume  $V$  is Morse function: Hessian of  $V$  non-degenerate at any  $x^*$
- ▷ Morse index of  $x^*$ : number of negative eigenvalues of Hessian at  $x^*$ 
  - ◊ index 0: local minima, stable
  - ◊ index 1: 1-saddles, contained in optimal paths between minima

# Reversible diffusions

$$dx_t = -\nabla V(x_t) dt + \sqrt{2\varepsilon} dW_t$$

$V : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  confining potential, bounded below

- ▷ Invariant Gibbs measure:  $\mu(dx) = \frac{1}{Z} e^{-V(x)/\varepsilon} dx$
- ▷ Dynamics is reversible wrt  $\mu$  (detailed balance)
- ▷  $\varepsilon = 0$ : stationary states  $x^*$  satisfy  $\nabla V(x^*) = 0$
- ▷ Assume  $V$  is Morse function: Hessian of  $V$  non-degenerate at any  $x^*$
- ▷ Morse index of  $x^*$ : number of negative eigenvalues of Hessian at  $x^*$ 
  - ◊ index 0: local minima, stable
  - ◊ index 1: 1-saddles, contained in optimal paths between minima

# Reversible diffusions

$$dx_t = -\nabla V(x_t) dt + \sqrt{2\varepsilon} dW_t$$

$V : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  confining potential, bounded below

- ▷ Invariant Gibbs measure:  $\mu(dx) = \frac{1}{Z} e^{-V(x)/\varepsilon} dx$
- ▷ Dynamics is reversible wrt  $\mu$  (detailed balance)
- ▷  $\varepsilon = 0$ : stationary states  $x^*$  satisfy  $\nabla V(x^*) = 0$
- ▷ Assume  $V$  is Morse function: Hessian of  $V$  non-degenerate at any  $x^*$
- ▷ Morse index of  $x^*$ : number of negative eigenvalues of Hessian at  $x^*$ 
  - ◊ index 0: local minima, stable
  - ◊ index 1: 1-saddles, contained in optimal paths between minima

# Reversible diffusions

$$dx_t = -\nabla V(x_t) dt + \sqrt{2\varepsilon} dW_t$$

$V : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  confining potential, bounded below

- ▷ Invariant Gibbs measure:  $\mu(dx) = \frac{1}{Z} e^{-V(x)/\varepsilon} dx$
- ▷ Dynamics is reversible wrt  $\mu$  (detailed balance)
- ▷  $\varepsilon = 0$ : stationary states  $x^*$  satisfy  $\nabla V(x^*) = 0$
- ▷ Assume  $V$  is Morse function: Hessian of  $V$  non-degenerate at any  $x^*$
- ▷ Morse index of  $x^*$ : number of negative eigenvalues of Hessian at  $x^*$ 
  - ◇ index 0: local minima, stable
  - ◇ index 1: 1-saddles, contained in optimal paths between minima

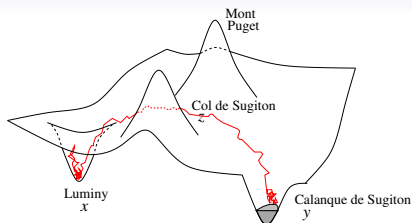
# Metastability in a double-well potential

$$dx_t = -\nabla V(x_t) dt + \sqrt{2\varepsilon} dW_t$$

$V : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  confining potential

$$\tau_y^x = \inf\{t > 0 : x_t \in \mathcal{B}_\varepsilon(y)\}$$

first-hitting time of small ball  $\mathcal{B}_\varepsilon(y)$ ,  
when starting in  $x$



# Metastability in a double-well potential

$$dx_t = -\nabla V(x_t) dt + \sqrt{2\varepsilon} dW_t$$

$V: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  confining potential

$$\tau_y^x = \inf\{t > 0: x_t \in \mathcal{B}_\varepsilon(y)\}$$

first-hitting time of small ball  $\mathcal{B}_\varepsilon(y)$ ,  
when starting in  $x$

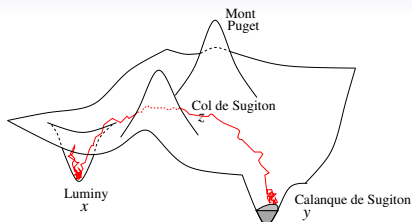
Arrhenius' law (1889):  $\mathbb{E}[\tau_y^x] \simeq e^{[V(z)-V(x)]/\varepsilon}$

Eyring–Kramers law (1935, 1940):

Eigenvalues of Hessian of  $V$  at minimum  $x$ :  $0 < \nu_1 \leq \nu_2 \leq \dots \leq \nu_d$

Eigenvalues of Hessian of  $V$  at saddle  $z$ :  $\lambda_1 < 0 < \lambda_2 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_d$

$$\mathbb{E}[\tau_y^x] = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{\lambda_2 \dots \lambda_d}{|\lambda_1| \nu_1 \dots \nu_d}} e^{[V(z)-V(x)]/\varepsilon} [1 + \mathcal{O}_\varepsilon(1)]$$



# Metastability in a double-well potential

$$dx_t = -\nabla V(x_t) dt + \sqrt{2\varepsilon} dW_t$$

$V: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  confining potential

$$\tau_y^x = \inf\{t > 0: x_t \in \mathcal{B}_\varepsilon(y)\}$$

first-hitting time of small ball  $\mathcal{B}_\varepsilon(y)$ ,  
when starting in  $x$

Arrhenius' law (1889):  $\mathbb{E}[\tau_y^x] \simeq e^{[V(z)-V(x)]/\varepsilon}$

Eyring–Kramers law (1935, 1940):

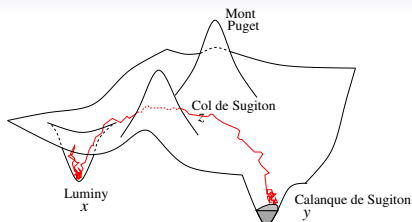
Eigenvalues of Hessian of  $V$  at minimum  $x$ :  $0 < \nu_1 \leq \nu_2 \leq \dots \leq \nu_d$

Eigenvalues of Hessian of  $V$  at saddle  $z$ :  $\lambda_1 < 0 < \lambda_2 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_d$

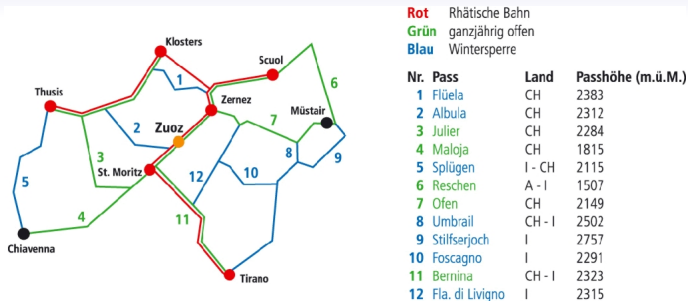
$$\mathbb{E}[\tau_y^x] = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{\lambda_2 \dots \lambda_d}{|\lambda_1| \nu_1 \dots \nu_d}} e^{[V(z)-V(x)]/\varepsilon} [1 + \mathcal{O}_\varepsilon(1)]$$

Arrhenius' law: proved by [Freidlin, Wentzell, 1979] using large deviations

Eyring–Kramers law: [Bovier, Eckhoff, Gaynard, Klein, 2004] using potential theory,  
[Helffer, Klein, Nier, 2004] using Witten Laplacian, ...



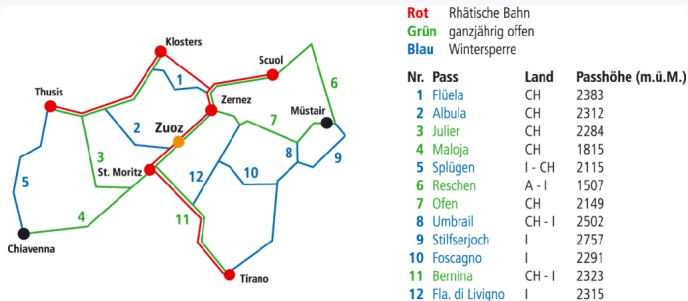
# Multiwell landscapes



- ▷  $G = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$ : graph where  $\mathcal{V}$  is set of local minima of  $V$   
 $x^*, y^* \in \mathcal{V}$  connected by an edge  $\Leftrightarrow \exists$  1-saddle whose unstable manifold reaches  $x^*$  and  $y^*$
- ▷ Dynamics resembles markovian jump process on  $\mathcal{V}$  with transition rates given by inverses of EK law [Landim, Seo, ..., B, ...]



# Multiwell landscapes



- ▷  $G = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$ : graph where  $\mathcal{V}$  is set of local minima of  $V$   
 $x^*, y^* \in \mathcal{V}$  connected by an edge  $\Leftrightarrow \exists$  1-saddle whose unstable manifold reaches  $x^*$  and  $y^*$
- ▷ Dynamics resembles markovian jump process on  $\mathcal{V}$  with transition rates given by inverses of EK law [Landim, Seo, ..., B, ...]

# Kuramoto model

$$V(u) = -\frac{K}{2\pi} \sum_{i \in \Lambda} \cos(2\pi(u_{i+1} - u_i)) \quad K > 0$$

- ▶ **Problem:**  $V$  is degenerate in  $(1, 1, \dots, 1)^\top$  direction  $\Rightarrow$  not a Morse function
- ▶ **Solution:** rotation,  $u = \bar{u}q_0 + Qv$ ,  $\bar{u} \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $v \in \mathbb{R}^{n-1}$   
( $q_0|Q$ ) orthogonal matrix,  $q_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}(1, 1, \dots, 1)^\top$

$$d\bar{u}_t = \sqrt{2\varepsilon} d\widehat{W}_t^0$$

$$dv_t = \nabla V_\perp(v_t) dt + \sqrt{2\varepsilon} d\widehat{W}_t^\perp$$

with  $V_\perp(v) = V(Qv)$ ,  $(\widehat{W}_t^0)_t$  and  $(\widehat{W}_t^\perp)_t$  indep. B.M.

$\Rightarrow \bar{u}_t$  performs B.M. independent of  $v_t$ ,  $V_\perp$  Morse function

# Kuramoto model

$$V(u) = -\frac{K}{2\pi} \sum_{i \in \Lambda} \cos(2\pi(u_{i+1} - u_i)) \quad K > 0$$

- ▷ **Problem:**  $V$  is degenerate in  $(1, 1, \dots, 1)^\top$  direction  $\Rightarrow$  not a Morse function
- ▷ **Solution:** rotation,  $u = \bar{u}q_0 + Qv$ ,  $\bar{u} \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $v \in \mathbb{R}^{n-1}$   
 $(q_0|Q)$  orthogonal matrix,  $q_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}(1, 1, \dots, 1)^\top$

$$d\bar{u}_t = \sqrt{2\varepsilon} d\widehat{W}_t^0$$

$$dv_t = \nabla V_\perp(v_t) dt + \sqrt{2\varepsilon} d\widehat{W}_t^\perp$$

with  $V_\perp(v) = V(Qv)$ ,  $(\widehat{W}_t^0)_t$  and  $(\widehat{W}_t^\perp)_t$  indep. B.M.

$\Rightarrow \bar{u}_t$  performs B.M. independent of  $v_t$ ,  $V_\perp$  Morse function

# Kuramoto model

$$V(u) = -\frac{K}{2\pi} \sum_{i \in \Lambda} \cos(2\pi(u_{i+1} - u_i)) \quad K > 0$$

- ▷ **Problem:**  $V$  is degenerate in  $(1, 1, \dots, 1)^\top$  direction  $\Rightarrow$  not a Morse function
- ▷ **Solution:** rotation,  $u = \bar{u}q_0 + Qv$ ,  $\bar{u} \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $v \in \mathbb{R}^{n-1}$   
 $(q_0|Q)$  orthogonal matrix,  $q_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}(1, 1, \dots, 1)^\top$

$$d\bar{u}_t = \sqrt{2\varepsilon} d\widehat{W}_t^0$$

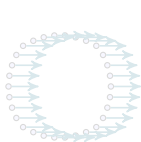
$$dv_t = \nabla V_\perp(v_t) dt + \sqrt{2\varepsilon} d\widehat{W}_t^\perp$$

with  $V_\perp(v) = V(Qv)$ ,  $(\widehat{W}_t^0)_t$  and  $(\widehat{W}_t^\perp)_t$  indep. B.M.

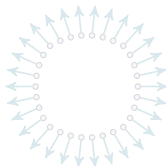
$\Rightarrow \bar{u}_t$  performs B.M. independent of  $v_t$ ,  $V_\perp$  Morse function

# Kuramoto model: $q$ -twisted states

- ▷  $q$ -twisted state:  $u_i^{(q)} = q \frac{i}{n}$ , for  $-\frac{n}{2} < q \leq \frac{n}{2}$ ,  $q \in \mathbb{Z}$



$$q = 0$$



$$q = 1$$



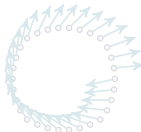
$$q = 2$$



$$q = -1$$

- ▷ stable for  $|q| < \frac{n}{4}$  (unstable with Morse index  $n - 1$  if  $|q| > \frac{n}{4}$ )

- ▷ 1-saddles:  $u_i^{(r)} = \hat{q} \frac{i - i_0}{n}$ , with  $\hat{q} = r \frac{n}{n-2} = r(1 + \mathcal{O}(n^{-1}))$ ,  $r \in \mathbb{Z} + \frac{1}{2}$



$$r = \frac{1}{2}$$



$$r = \frac{3}{2}$$



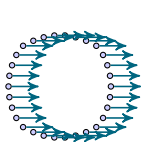
$$r = \frac{5}{2}$$



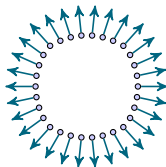
$$r = -\frac{1}{2}$$

# Kuramoto model: $q$ -twisted states

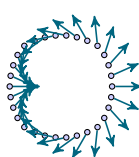
- ▷  $q$ -twisted state:  $u_i^{(q)} = q \frac{i}{n}$ , for  $-\frac{n}{2} < q \leq \frac{n}{2}$ ,  $q \in \mathbb{Z}$



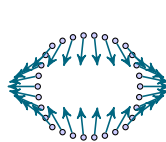
$$q = 0$$



$$q = 1$$



$$q = 2$$



$$q = -1$$

- ▷ stable for  $|q| < \frac{n}{4}$  (unstable with Morse index  $n - 1$  if  $|q| > \frac{n}{4}$ )

- ▷ 1-saddles:  $u_i^{(r)} = \hat{q} \frac{i - i_0}{n}$ , with  $\hat{q} = r \frac{n}{n-2} = r(1 + \mathcal{O}(n^{-1}))$ ,  $r \in \mathbb{Z} + \frac{1}{2}$



$$r = \frac{1}{2}$$



$$r = \frac{3}{2}$$



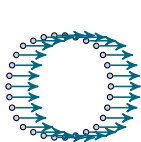
$$r = \frac{5}{2}$$



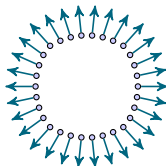
$$r = -\frac{1}{2}$$

# Kuramoto model: $q$ -twisted states

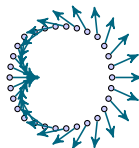
- ▷  $q$ -twisted state:  $u_i^{(q)} = q \frac{i}{n}$ , for  $-\frac{n}{2} < q \leq \frac{n}{2}$ ,  $q \in \mathbb{Z}$



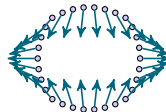
$$q = 0$$



$$q = 1$$



$$q = 2$$



$$q = -1$$

- ▷ **stable** for  $|q| < \frac{n}{4}$  (**unstable** with Morse index  $n - 1$  if  $|q| > \frac{n}{4}$ )

- ▷ 1-saddles:  $u_i^{(r)} = \hat{q} \frac{i - i_0}{n}$ , with  $\hat{q} = r \frac{n}{n-2} = r(1 + \mathcal{O}(n^{-1}))$ ,  $r \in \mathbb{Z} + \frac{1}{2}$



$$r = \frac{1}{2}$$



$$r = \frac{3}{2}$$



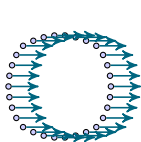
$$r = \frac{5}{2}$$



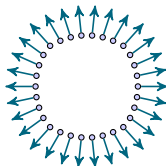
$$r = -\frac{1}{2}$$

# Kuramoto model: $q$ -twisted states

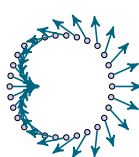
- ▷  $q$ -twisted state:  $u_i^{(q)} = q \frac{i}{n}$ , for  $-\frac{n}{2} < q \leq \frac{n}{2}$ ,  $q \in \mathbb{Z}$



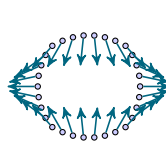
$$q = 0$$



$$q = 1$$



$$q = 2$$



$$q = -1$$

- ▷ **stable** for  $|q| < \frac{n}{4}$  (**unstable** with Morse index  $n - 1$  if  $|q| > \frac{n}{4}$ )
- ▷ 1-saddles:  $u_i^{(r)} = \hat{q} \frac{i - i_0}{n}$ , with  $\hat{q} = r \frac{n}{n-2} = r(1 + \mathcal{O}(n^{-1}))$ ,  $r \in \mathbb{Z} + \frac{1}{2}$



$$r = \frac{1}{2}$$



$$r = \frac{3}{2}$$



$$r = \frac{5}{2}$$

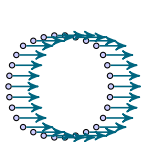


$$r = -\frac{1}{2}$$

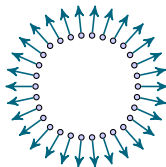


# Kuramoto model: $q$ -twisted states

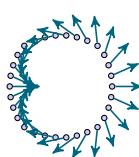
- ▷  $q$ -twisted state:  $u_i^{(q)} = q \frac{i}{n}$ , for  $-\frac{n}{2} < q \leq \frac{n}{2}$ ,  $q \in \mathbb{Z}$



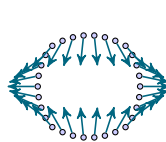
$$q = 0$$



$$q = 1$$

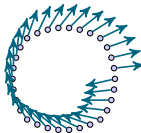


$$q = 2$$

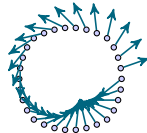


$$q = -1$$

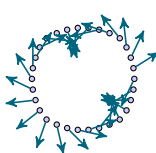
- ▷ **stable** for  $|q| < \frac{n}{4}$  (**unstable** with Morse index  $n - 1$  if  $|q| > \frac{n}{4}$ )
- ▷ 1-saddles:  $u_i^{(r)} = \hat{q} \frac{i - i_0}{n}$ , with  $\hat{q} = r \frac{n}{n-2} = r(1 + \mathcal{O}(n^{-1}))$ ,  $r \in \mathbb{Z} + \frac{1}{2}$



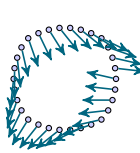
$$r = \frac{1}{2}$$



$$r = \frac{3}{2}$$



$$r = \frac{5}{2}$$



$$r = -\frac{1}{2}$$

# Classification of equilibria

$$\nabla V(u) = 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \sin(2\pi(\underbrace{u_{i+1} - u_i}_{a_i})) = \sin(2\pi(\underbrace{u_i - u_{i-1}}_{a_{i-1}})) \quad \forall i \in \Lambda$$

$\Rightarrow$  the  $2\pi a_i$  can only take two supplementary values

## Proposition

Assume  $n \geq 5$ .

- ▶ If all  $a_i$  equal and in  $(-\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4})$ :  $q$ -twisted state  $u^{(q)}$  with  $|q| < \frac{n}{4}$ , stable
  - ▶ If all but one  $a_i$  equal and in  $(-\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4})$ : 1-saddle  $u^{(r)}$  with  $|r| < \frac{n}{4} - \frac{1}{2}$
  - ▶ All other cases: saddle of index  $\geq 2$
- 
- ▶  $q$ -twisted state:  $\text{Hess } V$  is circulant matrix, use discrete Fourier transf.
  - ▶  $u^{(r)}$ :  $\text{Hess } V$  is rank 1 perturbation of circulant matrix
  - ▶ Other cases: find 2-dim subspace on which  $\langle v, (\text{Hess } V)v \rangle < 0$  if  $v \neq 0$

# Classification of equilibria

$$\nabla V(u) = 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \sin(2\pi \underbrace{(u_{i+1} - u_i)}_{a_i}) = \sin(2\pi \underbrace{(u_i - u_{i-1})}_{a_{i-1}}) \quad \forall i \in \Lambda$$

$\Rightarrow$  the  $2\pi a_i$  can only take two supplementary values

## Proposition

Assume  $n \geq 5$ .

- ▶ If all  $a_i$  equal and in  $(-\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4})$ :  $q$ -twisted state  $u^{(q)}$  with  $|q| < \frac{n}{4}$ , **stable**
  - ▶ If all but one  $a_i$  equal and in  $(-\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4})$ : 1-saddle  $u^{(r)}$  with  $|r| < \frac{n}{4} - \frac{1}{2}$
  - ▶ All other cases: saddle of index  $\geq 2$
- 
- ▶  $q$ -twisted state:  $\text{Hess } V$  is circulant matrix, use discrete Fourier transf.
  - ▶  $u^{(r)}$ :  $\text{Hess } V$  is rank 1 perturbation of circulant matrix
  - ▶ Other cases: find 2-dim subspace on which  $\langle v, (\text{Hess } V)v \rangle < 0$  if  $v \neq 0$

# Classification of equilibria

$$\nabla V(u) = 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \sin(2\pi(\underbrace{u_{i+1} - u_i}_{a_i})) = \sin(2\pi(\underbrace{u_i - u_{i-1}}_{a_{i-1}})) \quad \forall i \in \Lambda$$

$\Rightarrow$  the  $2\pi a_i$  can only take two supplementary values

## Proposition

Assume  $n \geq 5$ .

- ▶ If all  $a_i$  equal and in  $(-\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4})$ :  $q$ -twisted state  $u^{(q)}$  with  $|q| < \frac{n}{4}$ , **stable**
  - ▶ If all but one  $a_i$  equal and in  $(-\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4})$ : 1-saddle  $u^{(r)}$  with  $|r| < \frac{n}{4} - \frac{1}{2}$
  - ▶ All other cases: saddle of index  $\geq 2$
- 
- ▶  $q$ -twisted state:  $\text{Hess } V$  is circulant matrix, use discrete Fourier transf.
  - ▶  $u^{(r)}$ :  $\text{Hess } V$  is rank 1 perturbation of circulant matrix
  - ▶ Other cases: find 2-dim subspace on which  $\langle v, (\text{Hess } V)v \rangle < 0$  if  $v \neq 0$

# Symmetries

The potential  $V$  has the following symmetries ( $V(g(u)) = V(u) \forall u$ ):

- ▷ Integer translations:  $T_k(u) = (u_0 + k_0, \dots, u_{n-1} + k_{n-1}), k \in \mathbb{Z}^n$
- ▷ Global phase shift:  $S_\varphi(u) = (u_0 + \varphi, \dots, u_{n-1} + \varphi), \varphi \in \mathbb{R}$
- ▷ Cyclic permutation:  $C_p(u) = (u_p, \dots, u_{n-1+p}), p \in \Lambda$
- ▷ Inversion:  $I(u) = -u$

Fundamental domains:

- ▷ For integer translations:  $\mathbb{T}^n = \mathbb{R}^n / \mathbb{Z}^n$
- ▷ For global phase shifts: plane  $\Sigma = \{u_0 + \dots + u_{n-1} = 0\}$
- ▷ For integer translations and global phase shifts:  
obtained by orthogonal projection of integer lattice on  $\Sigma$

# Symmetries

The potential  $V$  has the following symmetries ( $V(g(u)) = V(u) \forall u$ ):

- ▷ Integer translations:  $T_k(u) = (u_0 + k_0, \dots, u_{n-1} + k_{n-1}), k \in \mathbb{Z}^n$
- ▷ Global phase shift:  $S_\varphi(u) = (u_0 + \varphi, \dots, u_{n-1} + \varphi), \varphi \in \mathbb{R}$
- ▷ Cyclic permutation:  $C_p(u) = (u_p, \dots, u_{n-1+p}), p \in \Lambda$
- ▷ Inversion:  $I(u) = -u$

Fundamental domains:

- ▷ For integer translations:  $\mathbb{T}^n = \mathbb{R}^n / \mathbb{Z}^n$
- ▷ For global phase shifts: plane  $\Sigma = \{u_0 + \dots + u_{n-1} = 0\}$
- ▷ For integer translations and global phase shifts:  
obtained by orthogonal projection of integer lattice on  $\Sigma$

# Symmetries

The potential  $V$  has the following symmetries ( $V(g(u)) = V(u) \forall u$ ):

- ▷ Integer translations:  $T_k(u) = (u_0 + k_0, \dots, u_{n-1} + k_{n-1})$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^n$
- ▷ Global phase shift:  $S_\varphi(u) = (u_0 + \varphi, \dots, u_{n-1} + \varphi)$ ,  $\varphi \in \mathbb{R}$
- ▷ Cyclic permutation:  $C_p(u) = (u_p, \dots, u_{n-1+p})$ ,  $p \in \Lambda$
- ▷ Inversion:  $I(u) = -u$

Fundamental domains:

- ▷ For integer translations:  $\mathbb{T}^n = \mathbb{R}^n / \mathbb{Z}^n$
- ▷ For global phase shifts: plane  $\Sigma = \{u_0 + \dots + u_{n-1} = 0\}$
- ▷ For integer translations and global phase shifts:  
obtained by orthogonal projection of integer lattice on  $\Sigma$

# Symmetries

The potential  $V$  has the following symmetries ( $V(g(u)) = V(u) \forall u$ ):

- ▷ Integer translations:  $T_k(u) = (u_0 + k_0, \dots, u_{n-1} + k_{n-1})$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^n$
- ▷ Global phase shift:  $S_\varphi(u) = (u_0 + \varphi, \dots, u_{n-1} + \varphi)$ ,  $\varphi \in \mathbb{R}$
- ▷ Cyclic permutation:  $C_p(u) = (u_p, \dots, u_{n-1+p})$ ,  $p \in \Lambda$
- ▷ Inversion:  $I(u) = -u$

Fundamental domains:

- ▷ For integer translations:  $\mathbb{T}^n = \mathbb{R}^n / \mathbb{Z}^n$
- ▷ For global phase shifts: plane  $\Sigma = \{u_0 + \dots + u_{n-1} = 0\}$
- ▷ For integer translations and global phase shifts:  
obtained by orthogonal projection of integer lattice on  $\Sigma$



# Symmetries

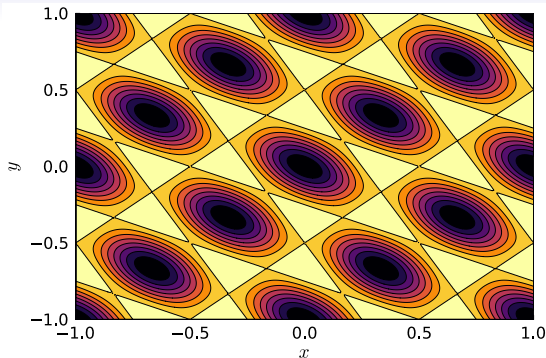
The potential  $V$  has the following symmetries ( $V(g(u)) = V(u) \forall u$ ):

- ▷ Integer translations:  $T_k(u) = (u_0 + k_0, \dots, u_{n-1} + k_{n-1})$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^n$
- ▷ Global phase shift:  $S_\varphi(u) = (u_0 + \varphi, \dots, u_{n-1} + \varphi)$ ,  $\varphi \in \mathbb{R}$
- ▷ Cyclic permutation:  $C_p(u) = (u_p, \dots, u_{n-1+p})$ ,  $p \in \Lambda$
- ▷ Inversion:  $I(u) = -u$

Fundamental domains:

- ▷ For integer translations:  $\mathbb{T}^n = \mathbb{R}^n / \mathbb{Z}^n$
- ▷ For global phase shifts: plane  $\Sigma = \{u_0 + \dots + u_{n-1} = 0\}$
- ▷ For integer translations and global phase shifts:  
obtained by orthogonal projection of integer lattice on  $\Sigma$

# Case $N = 3$



▷  $u^{(0)}$ : stable



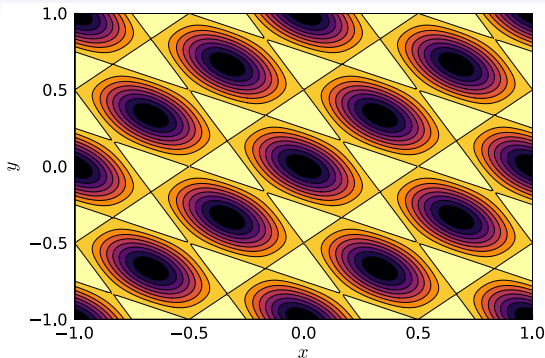
▷  $u^{(1)}, u^{(-1)}$ : 2-saddles



▷  $u^{(1/2)}, C_1 u^{(1/2)}, C_2 u^{(1/2)}$ : 1-saddles



# Case $N = 3$



▷  $u^{(0)}$ : stable



▷  $u^{(1)}, u^{(-1)}$ : 2-saddles



▷  $u^{(1/2)}, C_1 u^{(1/2)}, C_2 u^{(1/2)}$ : 1-saddles

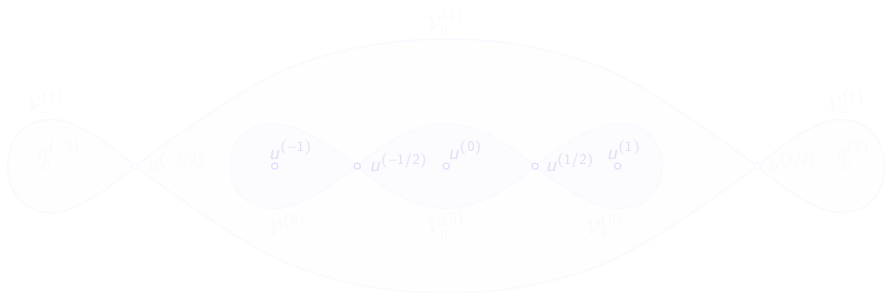


# Potential landscape

$$V(u) = -\frac{K}{2\pi} \sum_{i \in \Lambda} \cos(2\pi(u_{i+1} - u_i)) \quad K > 0$$

$$V(u^{(q)}) = -n \frac{K}{2\pi} \cos\left(\frac{2\pi q}{n}\right)$$

$$V(u^{(q+1/2)}) = -(n-2) \frac{K}{2\pi} \cos\left(\frac{2\pi(q+\frac{1}{2})}{n-2}\right)$$

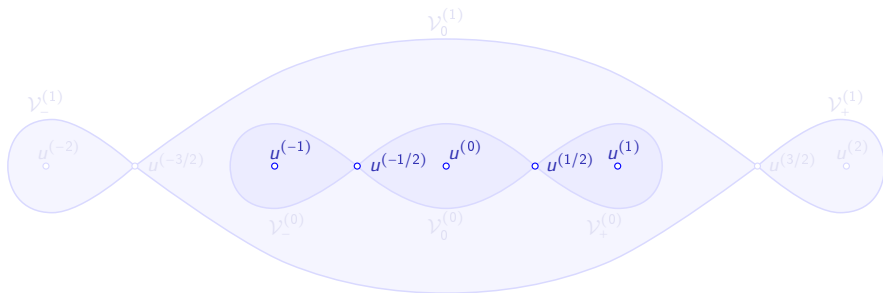


# Potential landscape

$$V(u) = -\frac{K}{2\pi} \sum_{i \in \Lambda} \cos(2\pi(u_{i+1} - u_i)) \quad K > 0$$

$$V(u^{(q)}) = -n \frac{K}{2\pi} \cos\left(\frac{2\pi q}{n}\right)$$

$$V(u^{(q+1/2)}) = -(n-2) \frac{K}{2\pi} \cos\left(\frac{2\pi(q+\frac{1}{2})}{n-2}\right)$$

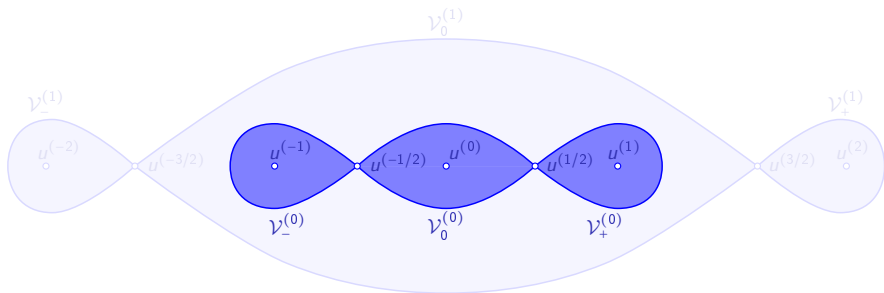


# Potential landscape

$$V(u) = -\frac{K}{2\pi} \sum_{i \in \Lambda} \cos(2\pi(u_{i+1} - u_i)) \quad K > 0$$

$$V(u^{(q)}) = -n \frac{K}{2\pi} \cos\left(\frac{2\pi q}{n}\right)$$

$$V(u^{(q+1/2)}) = -(n-2) \frac{K}{2\pi} \cos\left(\frac{2\pi(q+\frac{1}{2})}{n-2}\right)$$

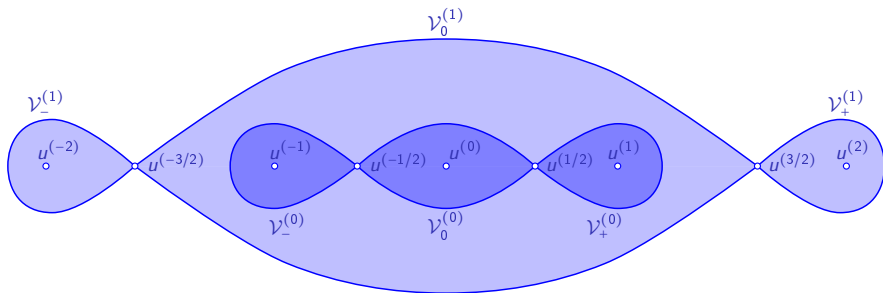


# Potential landscape

$$V(u) = -\frac{K}{2\pi} \sum_{i \in \Lambda} \cos(2\pi(u_{i+1} - u_i)) \quad K > 0$$

$$V(u^{(q)}) = -n \frac{K}{2\pi} \cos\left(\frac{2\pi q}{n}\right)$$

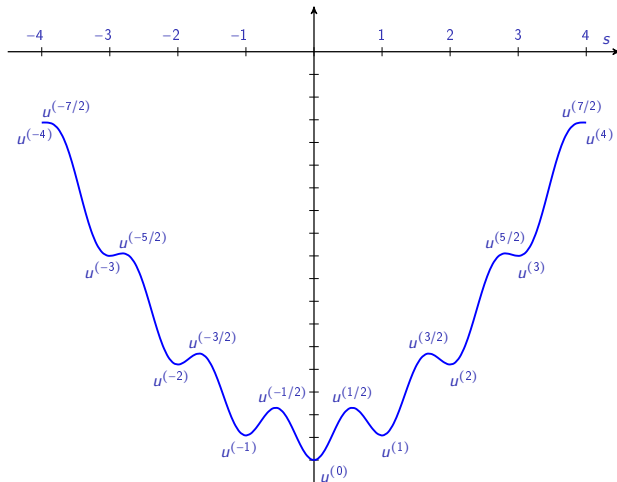
$$V(u^{(q+1/2)}) = -(n-2) \frac{K}{2\pi} \cos\left(\frac{2\pi(q+\frac{1}{2})}{n-2}\right)$$



# Potential landscape

$$H_q = V(u^{(q-1/2)}) - V(u^{(q)}) = \frac{K}{\pi} - \left(q - \frac{1}{4}\right) \frac{K\pi}{n} + \mathcal{O}(n^{-2})$$

$$\bar{H}_q = V(u^{(q+1/2)}) - V(u^{(q)}) = \frac{K}{\pi} + \left(q + \frac{1}{4}\right) \frac{K\pi}{n} + \mathcal{O}(n^{-2}) \quad (q > 0)$$





# Mean transition times

Eyring–Kramers law for minimum  $u^{(q)}$  and saddle  $u^{(q-1/2)}$ :

$$\mathbb{E}^{u^{(q)}}[\tau_{q-1}] = \frac{2\pi}{|\mu_1|} \sqrt{\frac{|\det M_{\perp}|}{\det L_{\perp}}} e^{H_q/\varepsilon} (1 + \mathcal{O}_{\varepsilon}(1))$$

where  $L_{\perp} = \text{Hess } V_{\perp}(u^{(q)})$ ,  $M_{\perp} = \text{Hess } V_{\perp}(u^{(q-1/2)})$ ,  $\mu_1$  negative ev of  $M_{\perp}$

## Proposition

$$\frac{\det M_{\perp}}{\det L_{\perp}} = -1 + \frac{2}{n}$$

**Proof:** Take limit as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  of regularization

$$\frac{\det(\varepsilon \mathbb{1} + M)}{\det(\varepsilon \mathbb{1} + L)} = \det[(\varepsilon \mathbb{1} + M)(\varepsilon \mathbb{1} + L)^{-1}] = \det[\mathbb{1} + (M - L)(\varepsilon \mathbb{1} + L)^{-1}]$$

where  $M - L = \psi\psi^{\top}$  rank 1,  $(\varepsilon \mathbb{1} + L_{\perp})^{-1} = \sum_k (\varepsilon + \lambda_k)^{-1} \Pi_k$  explicit.  $\square$

## Proposition

$$-\frac{4}{3} \leq \mu_1 \leq -\frac{4}{3} + \frac{1}{3^{n-3}}$$

# Mean transition times

Eyring–Kramers law for minimum  $u^{(q)}$  and saddle  $u^{(q-1/2)}$ :

$$\mathbb{E}^{u^{(q)}}[\tau_{q-1}] = \frac{2\pi}{|\mu_1|} \sqrt{\frac{|\det M_{\perp}|}{\det L_{\perp}}} e^{H_q/\varepsilon} (1 + \mathcal{O}_{\varepsilon}(1))$$

where  $L_{\perp} = \text{Hess } V_{\perp}(u^{(q)})$ ,  $M_{\perp} = \text{Hess } V_{\perp}(u^{(q-1/2)})$ ,  $\mu_1$  negative ev of  $M_{\perp}$

## Proposition

$$\frac{\det M_{\perp}}{\det L_{\perp}} = -1 + \frac{2}{n}$$

**Proof:** Take limit as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  of regularization

$$\frac{\det(\varepsilon \mathbb{1} + M)}{\det(\varepsilon \mathbb{1} + L)} = \det[(\varepsilon \mathbb{1} + M)(\varepsilon \mathbb{1} + L)^{-1}] = \det[\mathbb{1} + (M - L)(\varepsilon \mathbb{1} + L)^{-1}]$$

where  $M - L = \psi\psi^{\top}$  rank 1,  $(\varepsilon \mathbb{1} + L_{\perp})^{-1} = \sum_k (\varepsilon + \lambda_k)^{-1} \Pi_k$  explicit.  $\square$

## Proposition

$$-\frac{4}{3} \leq \mu_1 \leq -\frac{4}{3} + \frac{1}{3^{n-3}}$$

# Mean transition times

Eyring–Kramers law for minimum  $u^{(q)}$  and saddle  $u^{(q-1/2)}$ :

$$\mathbb{E}^{u^{(q)}}[\tau_{q-1}] = \frac{2\pi}{|\mu_1|} \sqrt{\frac{|\det M_{\perp}|}{\det L_{\perp}}} e^{H_q/\varepsilon} (1 + \mathcal{O}_{\varepsilon}(1))$$

where  $L_{\perp} = \text{Hess } V_{\perp}(u^{(q)})$ ,  $M_{\perp} = \text{Hess } V_{\perp}(u^{(q-1/2)})$ ,  $\mu_1$  negative ev of  $M_{\perp}$

## Proposition

$$\frac{\det M_{\perp}}{\det L_{\perp}} = -1 + \frac{2}{n}$$

**Proof:** Take limit as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  of regularization

$$\frac{\det(\varepsilon \mathbb{1} + M)}{\det(\varepsilon \mathbb{1} + L)} = \det[(\varepsilon \mathbb{1} + M)(\varepsilon \mathbb{1} + L)^{-1}] = \det[\mathbb{1} + (M - L)(\varepsilon \mathbb{1} + L)^{-1}]$$

where  $M - L = \psi\psi^{\top}$  rank 1,  $(\varepsilon \mathbb{1} + L_{\perp})^{-1} = \sum_k (\varepsilon + \lambda_k)^{-1} \Pi_k$  explicit.  $\square$

## Proposition

$$-\frac{4}{3} \leq \mu_1 \leq -\frac{4}{3} + \frac{1}{3^{n-3}}$$

# Mean transition times

Eyring–Kramers law for minimum  $u^{(q)}$  and saddle  $u^{(q-1/2)}$ :

$$\mathbb{E}^{u^{(q)}}[\tau_{q-1}] = \frac{2\pi}{|\mu_1|} \sqrt{\frac{|\det M_{\perp}|}{\det L_{\perp}}} e^{H_q/\varepsilon} (1 + \mathcal{O}_{\varepsilon}(1))$$

where  $L_{\perp} = \text{Hess } V_{\perp}(u^{(q)})$ ,  $M_{\perp} = \text{Hess } V_{\perp}(u^{(q-1/2)})$ ,  $\mu_1$  negative ev of  $M_{\perp}$

## Proposition

$$\frac{\det M_{\perp}}{\det L_{\perp}} = -1 + \frac{2}{n}$$

**Proof:** Take limit as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  of regularization

$$\frac{\det(\varepsilon \mathbb{1} + M)}{\det(\varepsilon \mathbb{1} + L)} = \det[(\varepsilon \mathbb{1} + M)(\varepsilon \mathbb{1} + L)^{-1}] = \det[\mathbb{1} + (M - L)(\varepsilon \mathbb{1} + L)^{-1}]$$

where  $M - L = \psi\psi^{\top}$  rank 1,  $(\varepsilon \mathbb{1} + L_{\perp})^{-1} = \sum_k (\varepsilon + \lambda_k)^{-1} \Pi_k$  explicit.  $\square$

## Proposition

$$-\frac{4}{3} \leq \mu_1 \leq -\frac{4}{3} + \frac{1}{3^{n-3}}$$

# Eyring–Kramers law

## Theorem

For  $0 \leq q < \frac{n}{4}$ ,  $\delta > 0$ , first-hitting time

$\tau_q = \inf\{t > 0: \text{dist}(u_t, \{u^{(0)}, \dots, u^{(q)}\}) < \delta\}$  satisfies

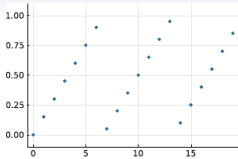
$$\mathbb{E}^{u^{(q+1)}}[\tau_q] = C(q, n) e^{H_{q+1}/\varepsilon} [1 + \mathcal{O}_\varepsilon(1)]$$

where

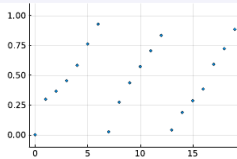
$$C(q, n) = \frac{3}{4K} \left( 1 + \frac{\pi^2(4q+3) - 4}{4n} \right) + \mathcal{O}(n^{-3})$$

$$H_{q+1} = \frac{K}{\pi} - \left( q + \frac{3}{4} \right) \frac{K\pi}{n} + \mathcal{O}(n^{-2})$$

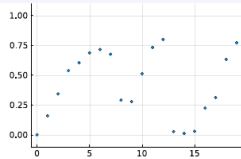
# Simulation



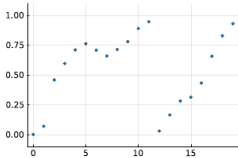
(a) Point (i),  $t = 0$



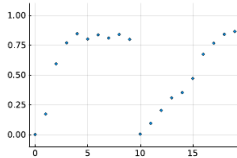
(b) Point (ii),  $t = 1$



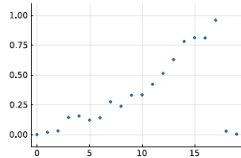
(c) Point (iii),  $t = 1.74$



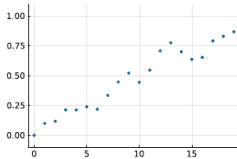
(d) Point (iv),  $t = 2.35$



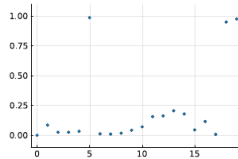
(e) Point (v),  $t = 2.7$



(f) Point (vi),  $t = 5$

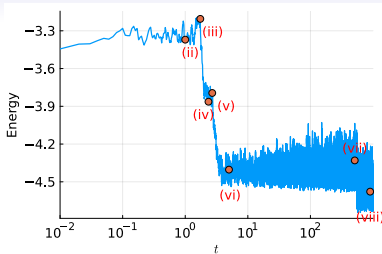
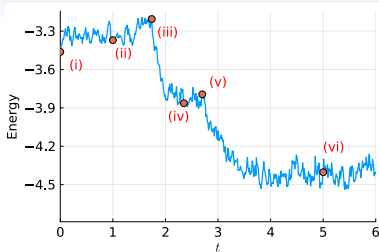


(g) Point (vii),  $t = 510.65$



(h) Point (viii),  $t = 900$

# Simulation



# Outlook

- ▷ Limit  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ? For what scaling?
- ▷ Beyond nearest-neighbour coupling?
- ▷  $\Lambda$  of higher dimension? Effect of topology?

## References

- ▷ N. B., G. Medvedev & G. Simpson, *Metastability in the stochastic nearest-neighbor Kuramoto model of coupled phase oscillators*, arXiv/2412.15136
- ▷ C. Cosco, A. Shapira, *Topologically induced metastability in periodic XY chain*, arXiv/2001.07950
- ▷ N. B., *Reducing metastable continuous-space Markov chains to Markov chains on a finite set*, 44p (2023), to appear in Annales de l'Institut Henri Poincaré
- ▷ N. B., S. Dutercq, *The Eyring-Kramers law for Markovian jump processes with symmetries*, J. Theoretical Probability, 29 (4):1240–1279 (2016)



# Model on $\mathbb{T}^2$

(Online: [https://youtube.com/shorts/xKe9\\_RCCrho](https://youtube.com/shorts/xKe9_RCCrho))

# Model on $\mathbb{S}^2$

(Online: [https://youtube.com/shorts/FQYA5udyY\\_E](https://youtube.com/shorts/FQYA5udyY_E))