

## Week 4 – MathDetour 3: Stability of fixed points



# Neuronal Dynamics: Computational Neuroscience of Single Neurons

## Week 4 – Reducing detail: Two-dimensional neuron models

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### √ 4.1 From Hodgkin-Huxley to 2D

### √ 4.2 Phase Plane Analysis

- Role of nullcline

### 4.3 Analysis of a 2D Neuron Model

- MathDetour 3: Stability of fixed points

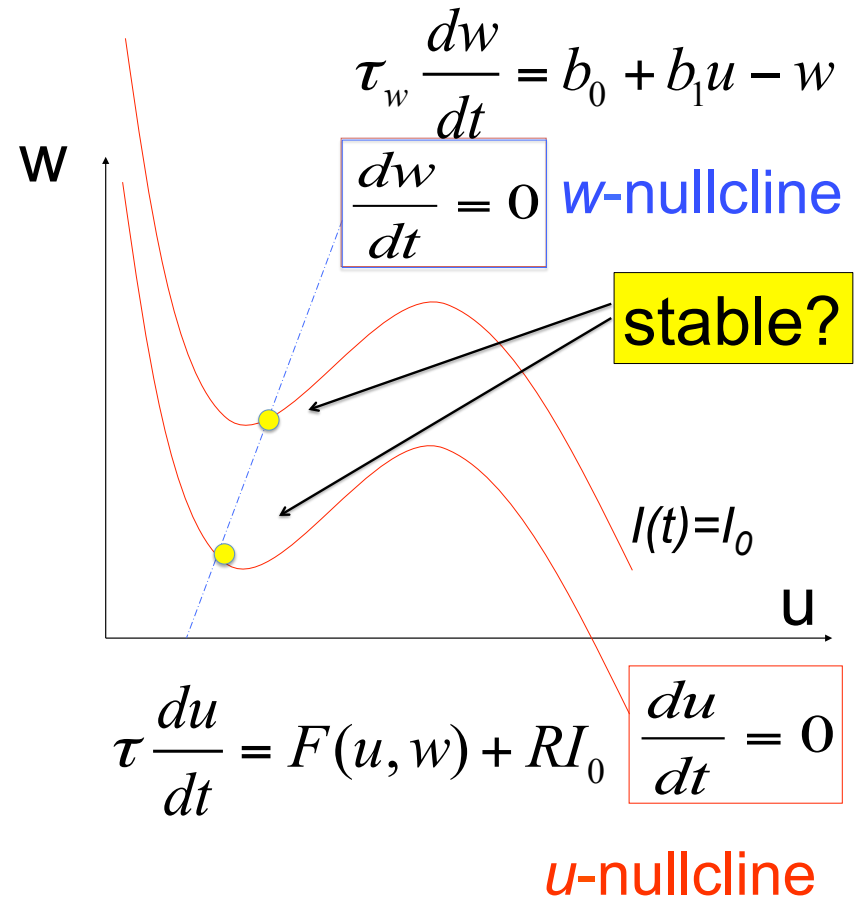
### 4.4 Type I and II Neuron Models

- where is the firing threshold?
- separation of time scales

### 4.5. Nonlinear Integrate-and-fire

- from two to one dimension

# Neuronal Dynamics – Detour 4.3 : Stability of fixed points.



## Neuronal Dynamics – 4.3 Detour. Stability of fixed points

2-dimensional equation stimulus

$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + RI_0$$

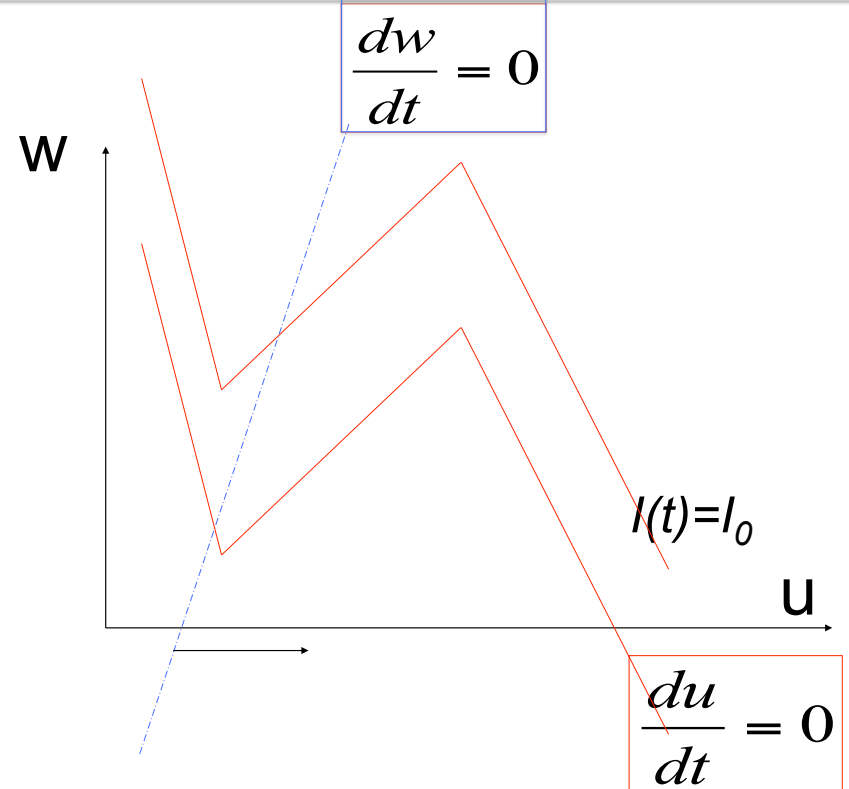
$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = G(u, w)$$

How to determine stability  
of fixed point?

# Neuronal Dynamics – 4.3 Detour. Stability of fixed points

stimulus  
↓

$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = au - w + I_0$$
$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = cu - w$$

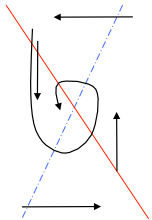


# Neuronal Dynamics – 4.3 Detour. Stability of fixed points

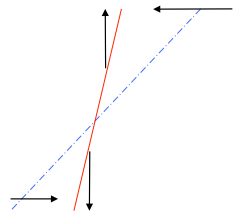
$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + RI_0$$

$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = G(u, w)$$

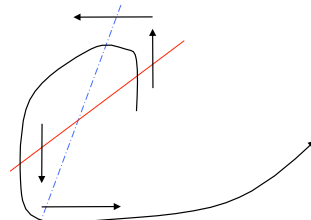
zoom in:



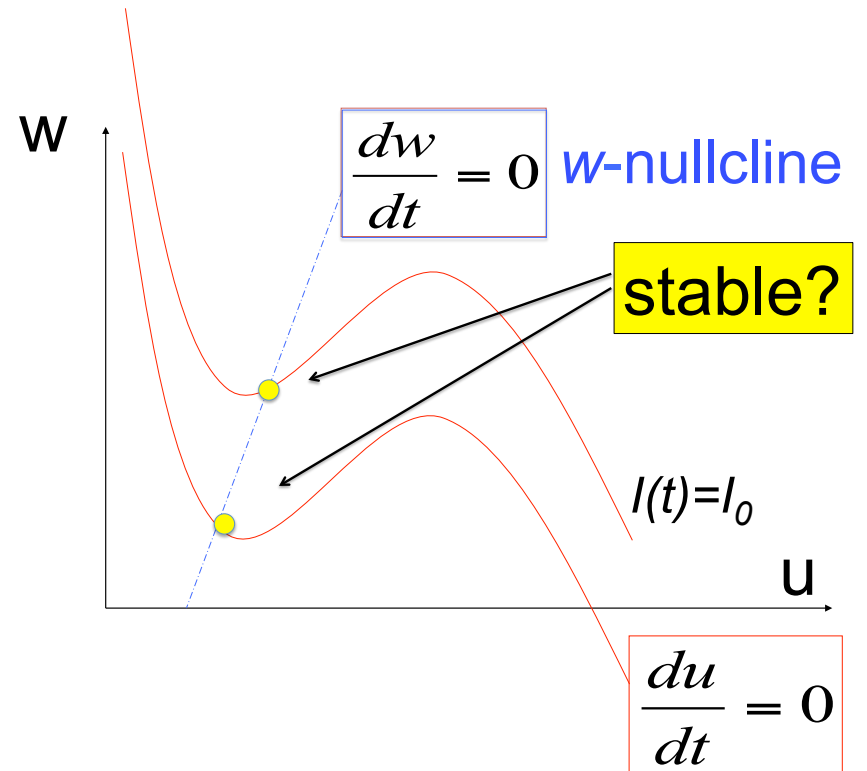
stable



saddle



unstable



Math derivation  
now

*u*-nullcline

## Neuronal Dynamics – 4.3 Detour. Stability of fixed points

$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + RI_0$$

$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = G(u, w)$$

zoom in:

$$x = u - u_0$$

$$y = w - w_0$$

Fixed point at  $(u_0, w_0)$

At fixed point

$$0 = F(u_0, w_0) + RI_0$$

$$0 = G(u_0, w_0)$$

## Neuronal Dynamics – 4.3 Detour. Stability of fixed points

$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + RI_0$$

$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = G(u, w)$$

zoom in:

$$x = u - u_0$$

$$y = w - w_0$$

$$\tau \frac{dx}{dt} = F_u x + F_w y$$

$$\tau_w \frac{dy}{dt} = G_u x + G_w y$$

Fixed point at  $(u_0, w_0)$

At fixed point

$$0 = F(u_0, w_0) + RI_0$$

$$0 = G(u_0, w_0)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} F_u & F_w \\ G_u & G_w \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} ;$$

## Neuronal Dynamics – 4.3 Detour. Stability of fixed points

Linear matrix equation

$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} F_u & F_w \\ G_u & G_w \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x},$$

Search for solution

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = \mathbf{e} \exp(\lambda t)$$

Two solution with Eigenvalues  $\lambda_+, \lambda_-$

$$\lambda_+ + \lambda_- = F_u + G_w$$

$$\lambda_+ \lambda_- = F_u G_w - F_w G_u$$



## Neuronal Dynamics – 4.3 Detour. Stability of fixed points

Linear matrix equation

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Two solution with Eigenvalues  $\lambda_+, \lambda_-$

$$\lambda_+ + \lambda_- = F_u + G_w$$

$$\lambda_+ \lambda_- = F_u G_w - F_w G_u$$

Stability requires:

$$\lambda_+ < 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \lambda_- < 0$$



$$F_u + G_w < 0$$

and

$$F_u G_w - F_w G_u > 0$$



# Neuronal Dynamics – 4.3 Detour. Stability of fixed points

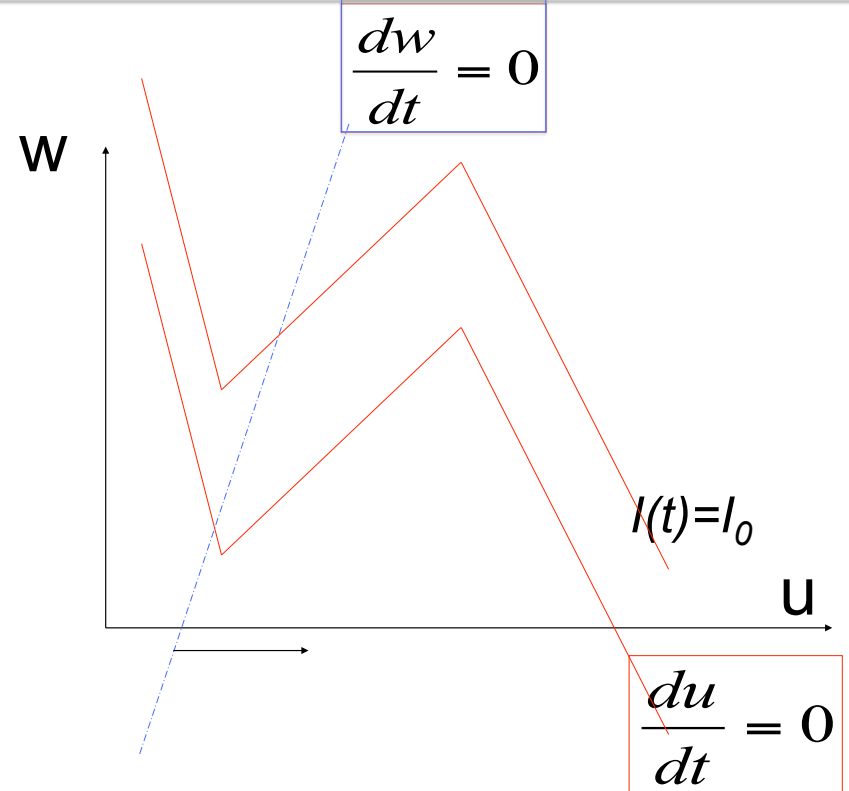
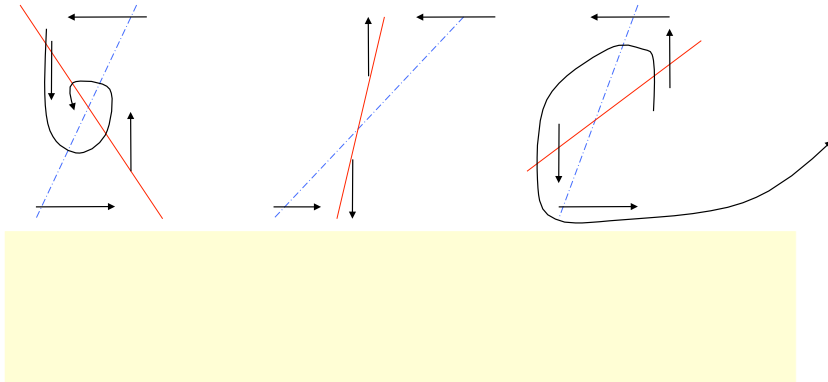
stimulus



$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = au - w + I_0$$

$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = cu - w$$

$\lambda_{+/-} =$



## Neuronal Dynamics – 4.3 Detour. Stability of fixed points

2-dimensional equation

$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + RI_0$$

$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = G(u, w)$$

Stability characterized  
by Eigenvalues of  
linearized equations

$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} F_u & F_w \\ G_u & G_w \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}$$

# Neuronal Dynamics – Assignment.

Stability analysis of 2-dimensional equations is important for the homework assignment of week 4.

