



**SIAM DS23 – MT1 – SPATIAL PATTERNS IN NATURE:
AN ENTRY-LEVEL INTRODUCTION TO THEIR EMERGENCE & DYNAMICS**

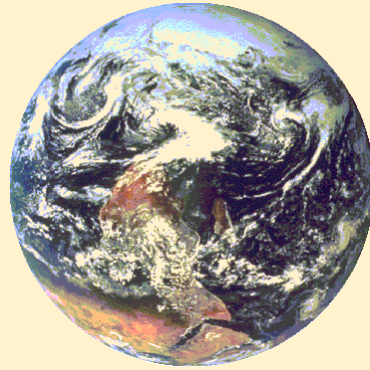
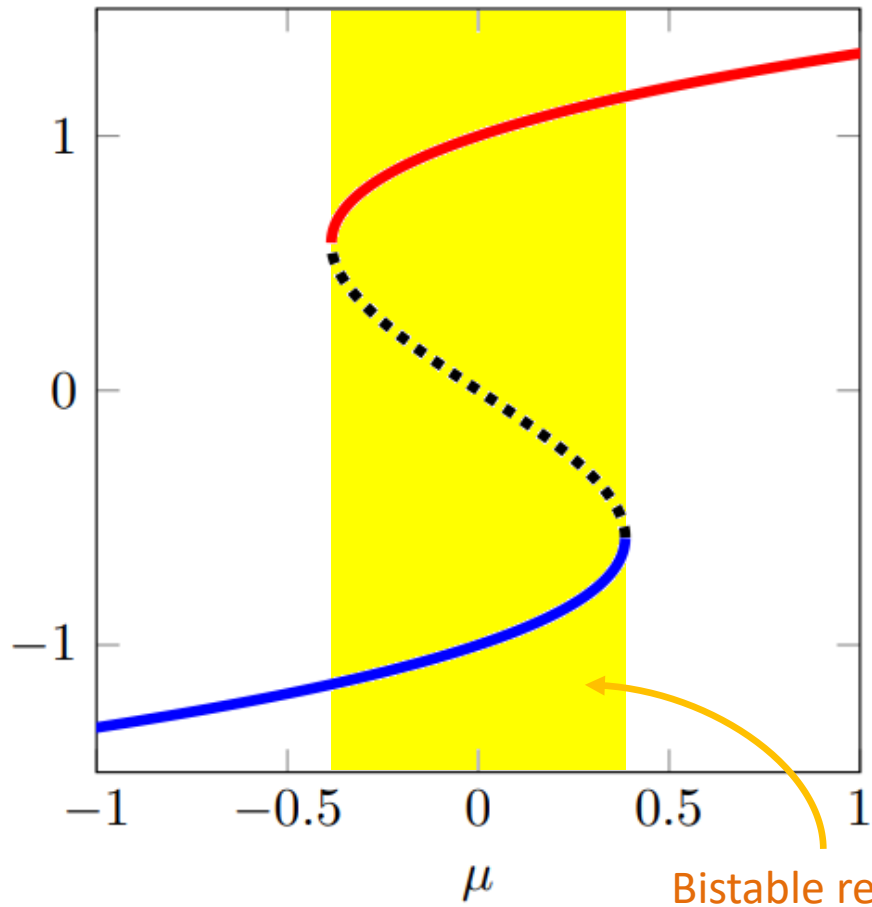
MULTISTABILITY OF PATTERNED STATES

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Bistability in dynamical systems

Canonical example:

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = y(1 - y^2) + \mu$$



Planetary transitions



Ecosystem shifts

Bistability

2 different stable states

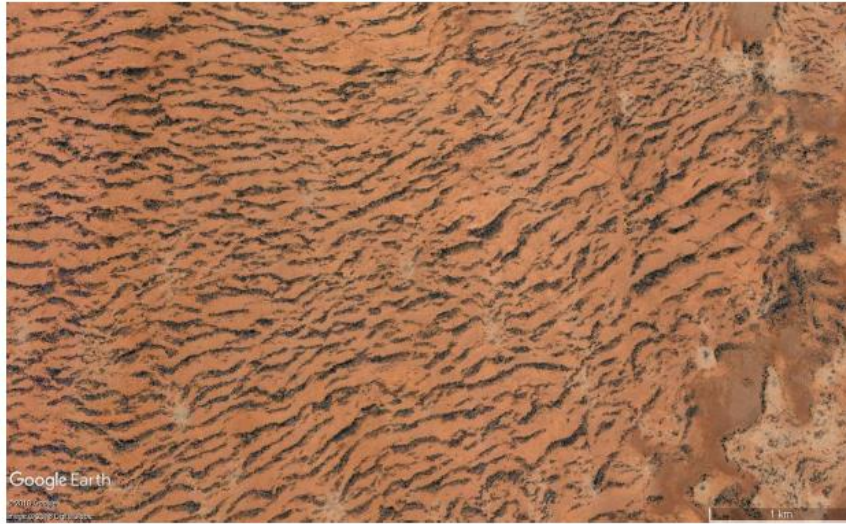
Each has different properties and characteristics

Tipping Points

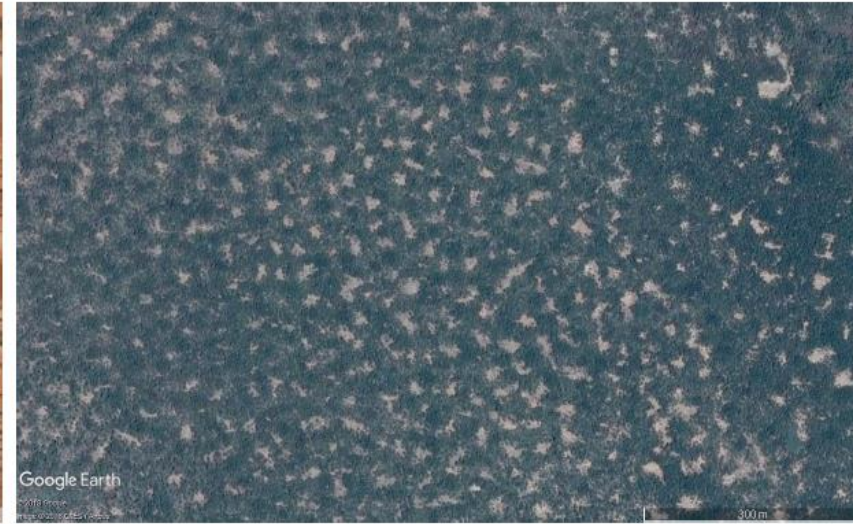
Transitions between alternative states

Bistability is found in many systems!

Example system: dryland ecosystems



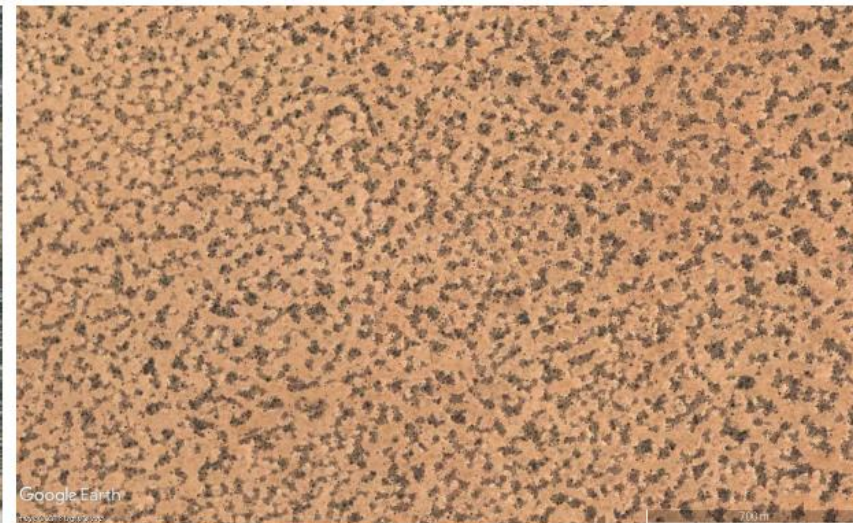
(a) Bands in Somalia



(b) Gaps in Niger



(c) Spots in Zambia



(d) Maze in Sudan

Example system: dryland ecosystems

Extended-Klausmeier model

$$\begin{aligned}w_t &= w_{xx} + (h_x w)_x - w + a - wv^2 \\v_t &= D^2 v_{xx} - mv + wv^2\end{aligned}$$

w : water

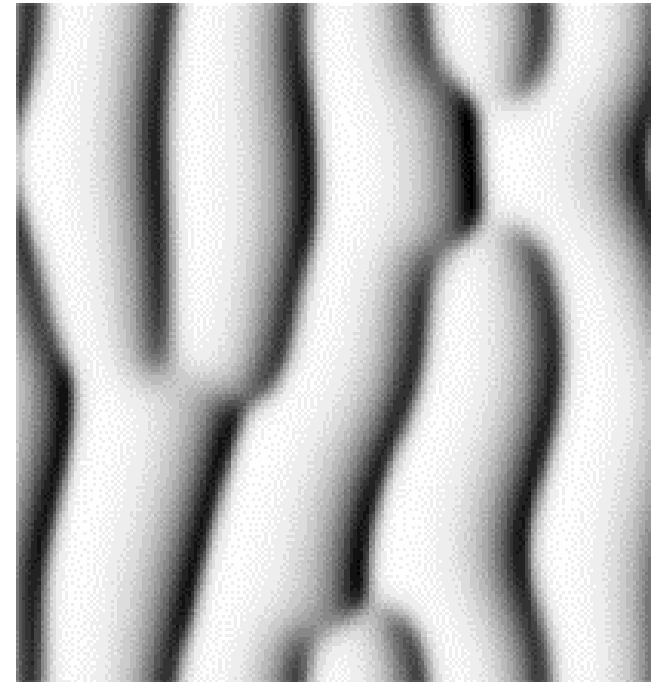
D : ratio of diffusion

v : vegetation

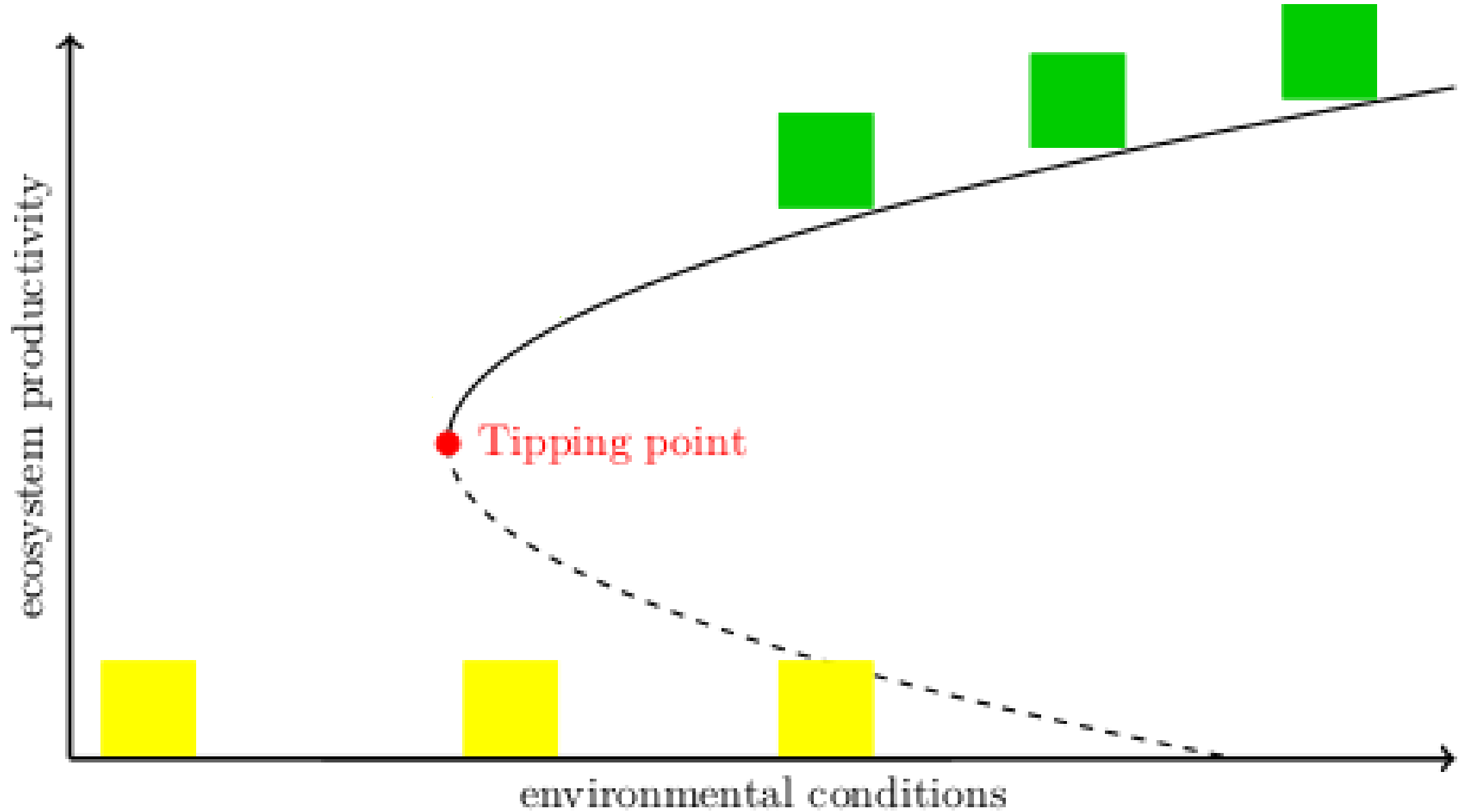
a : rainfall

h : height

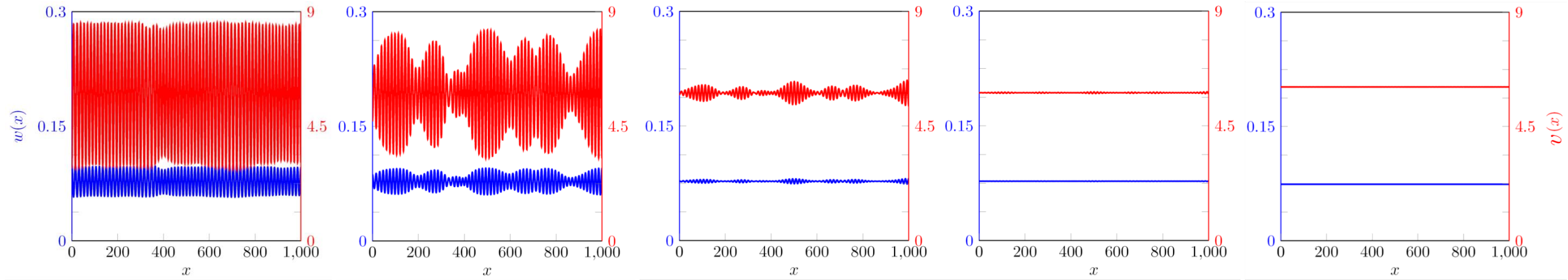
m : mortality



Bifurcation diagram of non-spatial model



The origin of patterns in extended-Klausmeier model



← Low rainfall

Critical rainfall
Onset of patterns

High rainfall

Turing Patterns [Turing, 1952]
Found in most reaction-diffusion equations

Patterns after Turing bifurcation

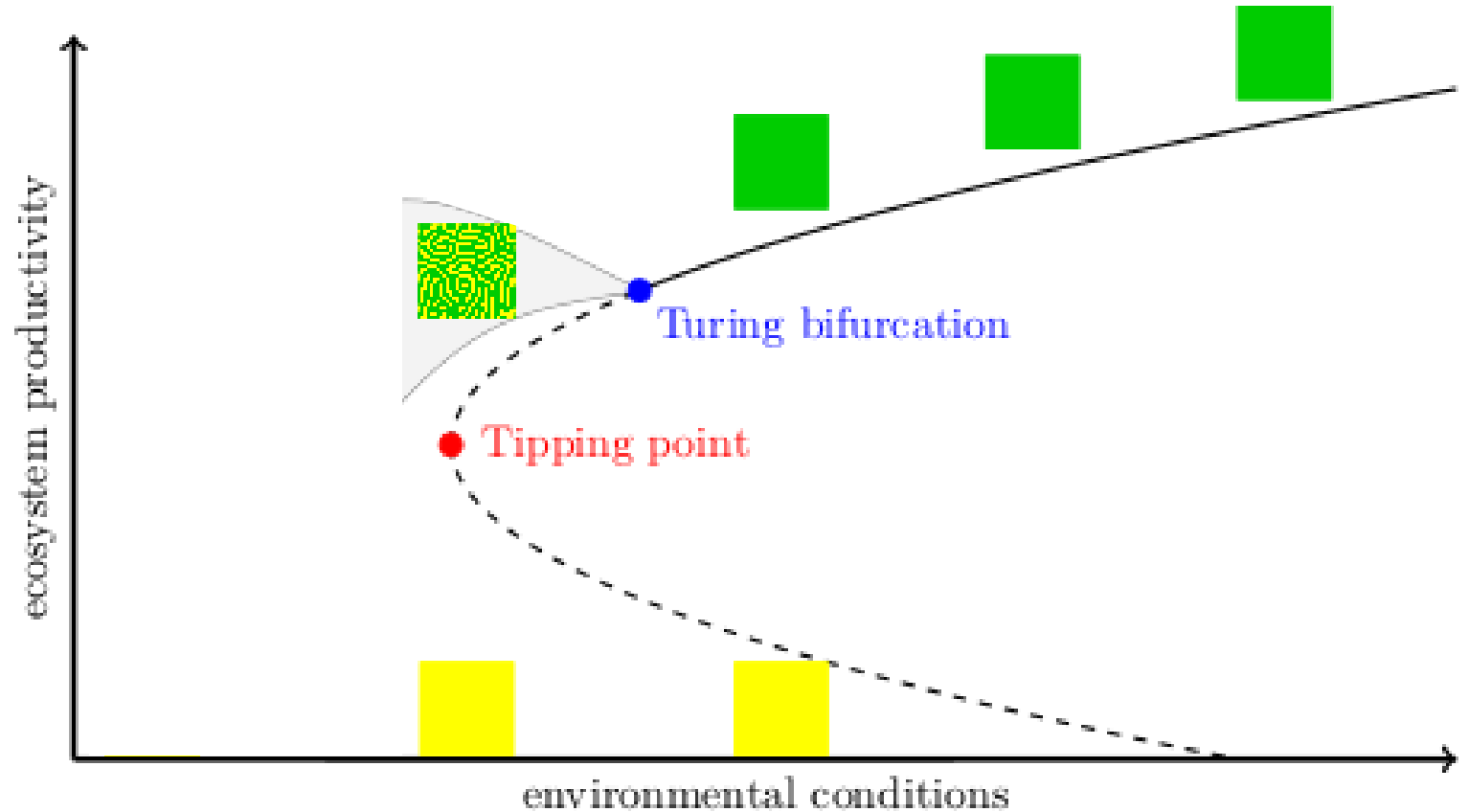
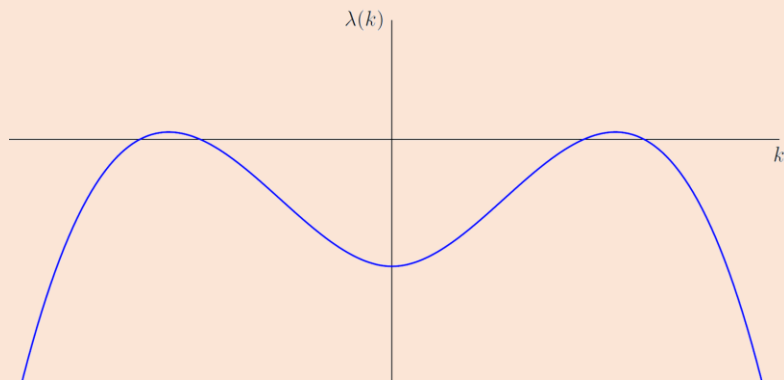
Emerging patterns

Instability to non-uniform perturbations

$$\begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} u_* \\ v_* \end{pmatrix} + e^{\lambda t} e^{ikx} \begin{pmatrix} \bar{u} \\ \bar{v} \end{pmatrix}$$

→ Dispersion relation

$$\lambda(k) = \dots$$



Weakly non-linear analysis

Ginzburg-Landau equation / Amplitude Equation
& Eckhaus/Benjamin-Feir-Newell criterion

[Eckhaus, 1965; Benjamin & Feir, 1967; Newell, 1974]

Busse balloon

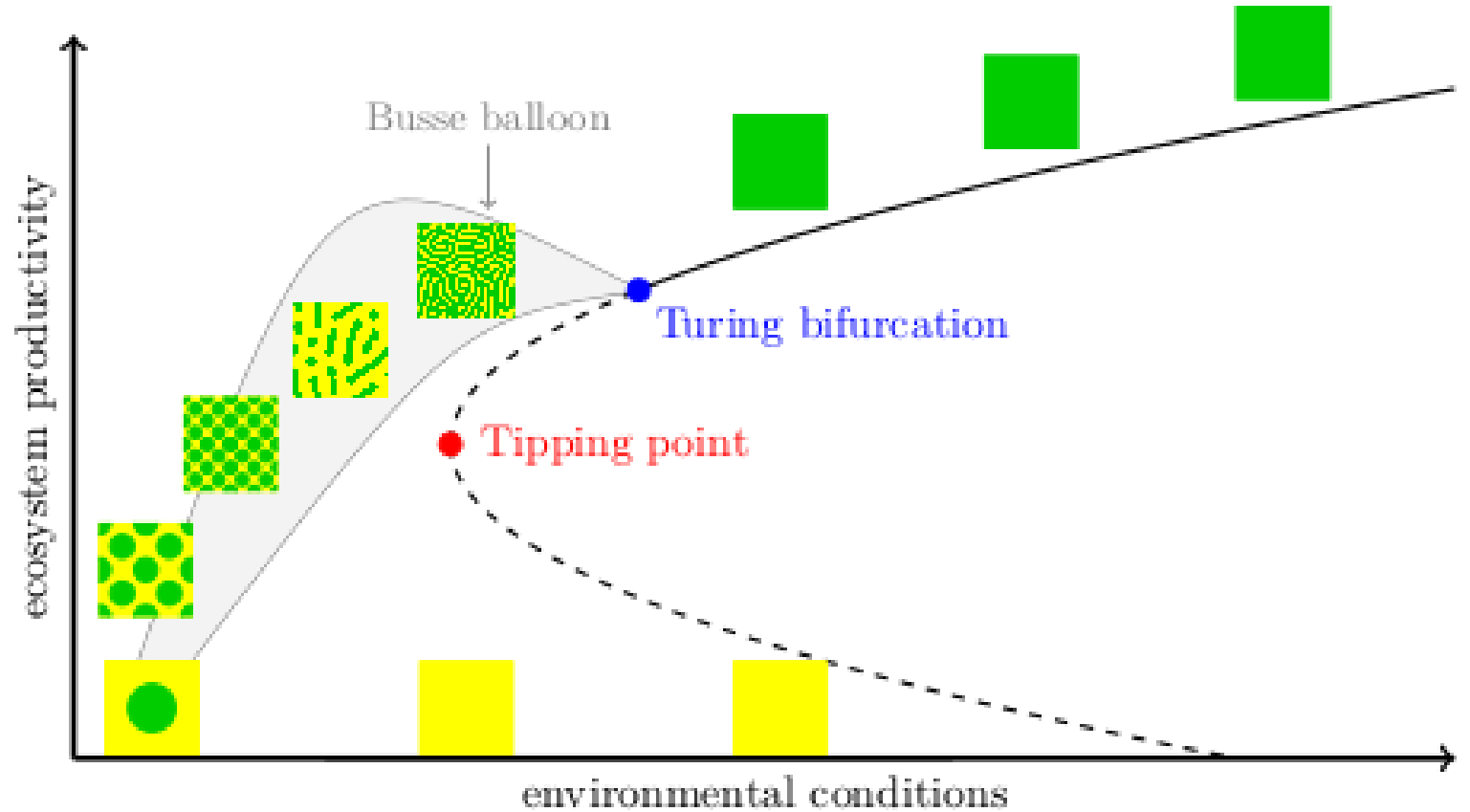
Busse balloon

A model-dependent shape in *(parameter, observable)* space that indicates all stable patterned solutions to the PDE.

Construction Busse balloon

Via numerical continuation

few general results on the shape of Busse balloon



Busse balloon

Idea originates from thermal convection

[Busse, 1978]

Rayleigh Bénard thermal convection

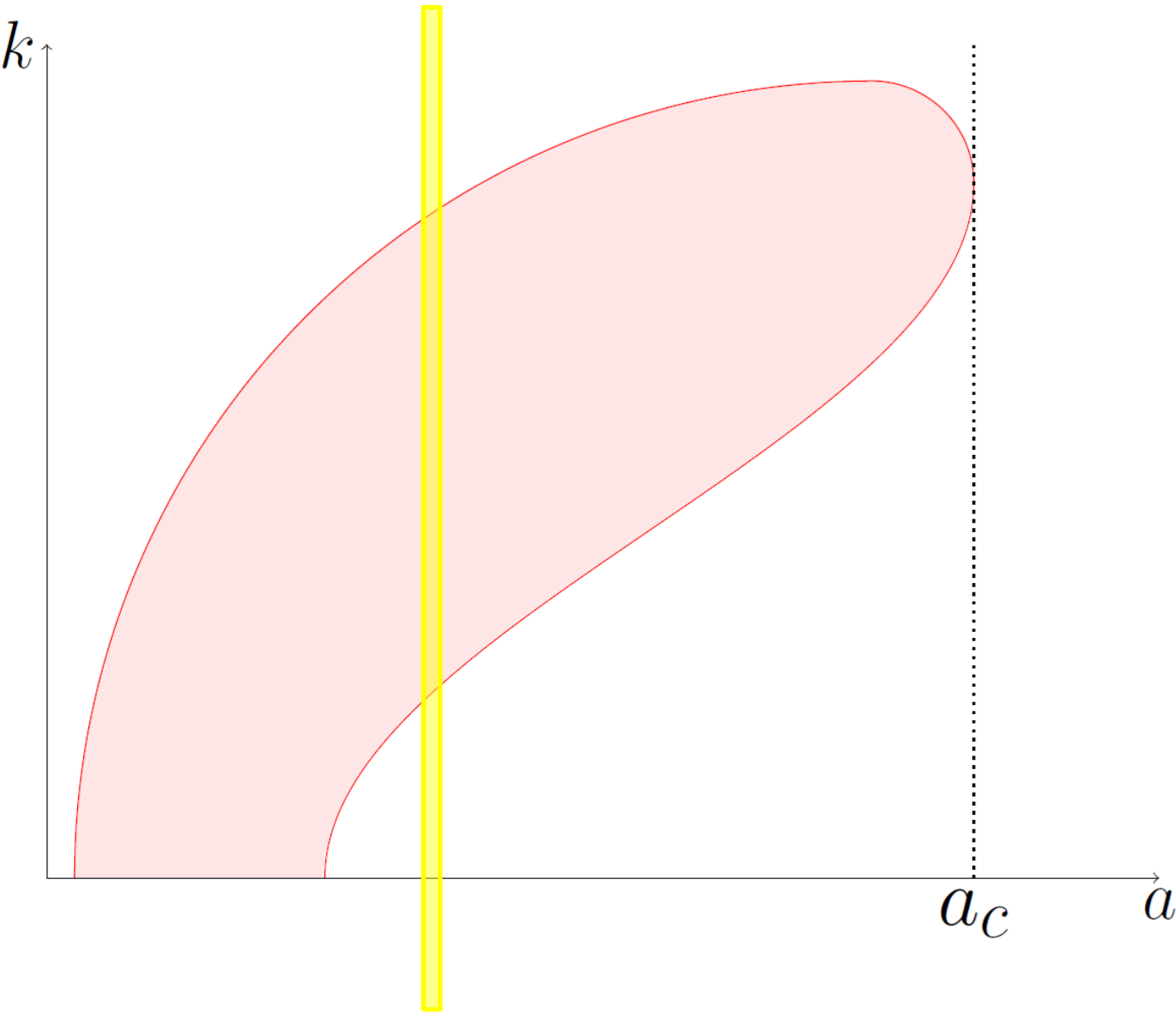


Busse balloon [Busse, 1978]

A *Busse balloon* is a model-dependent shape in (*parameter, wavenumber*)-space that indicates all combinations of parameter and wavenumber that represent stable solutions of the model.

Video source: wikiRigaou (wikimedia commons)

Multistability in the Busse balloon



Observation 1:

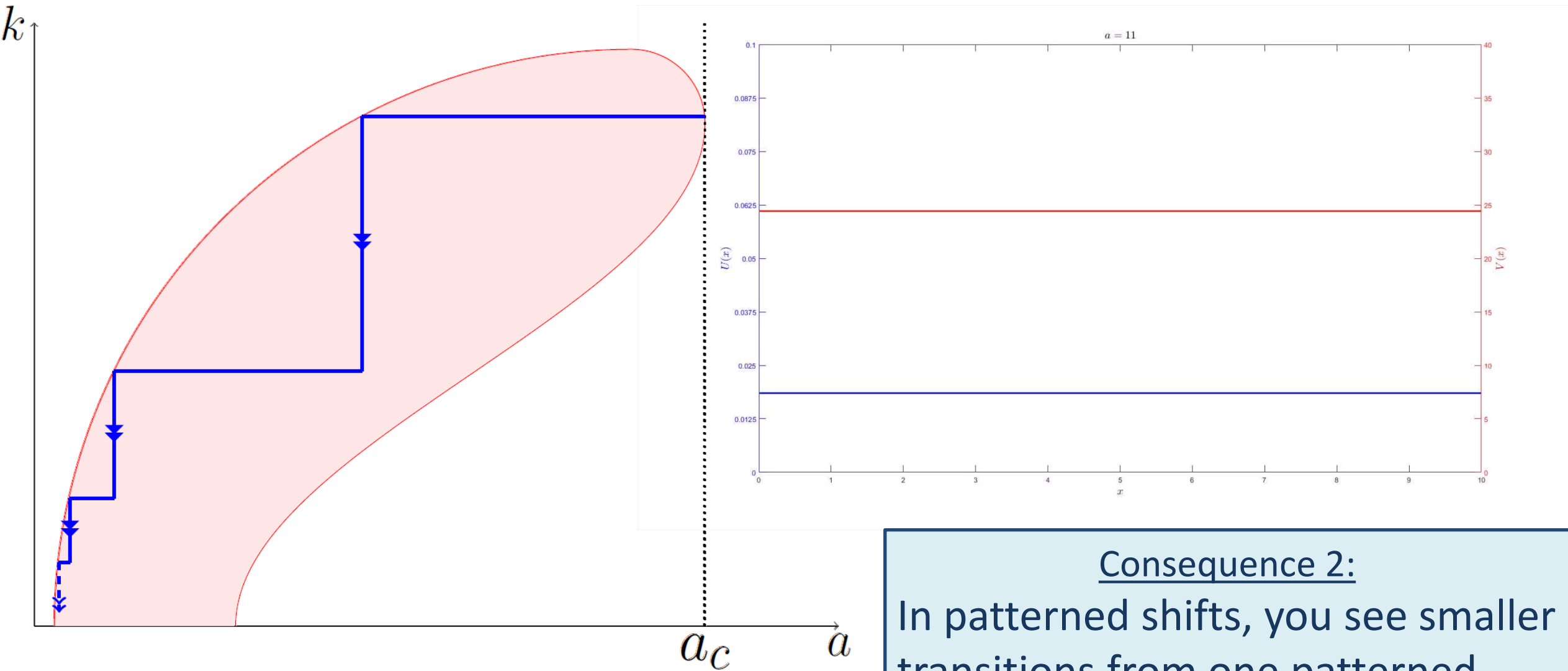
For a fixed parameter value, there is a **continuous** range of wavenumbers possible.

That is, there is a large **multistability** of stable pattern states to the PDE

Consequence 1:

Specifying only parameter values is ambiguous, as it does not correspond to only one patterned state.

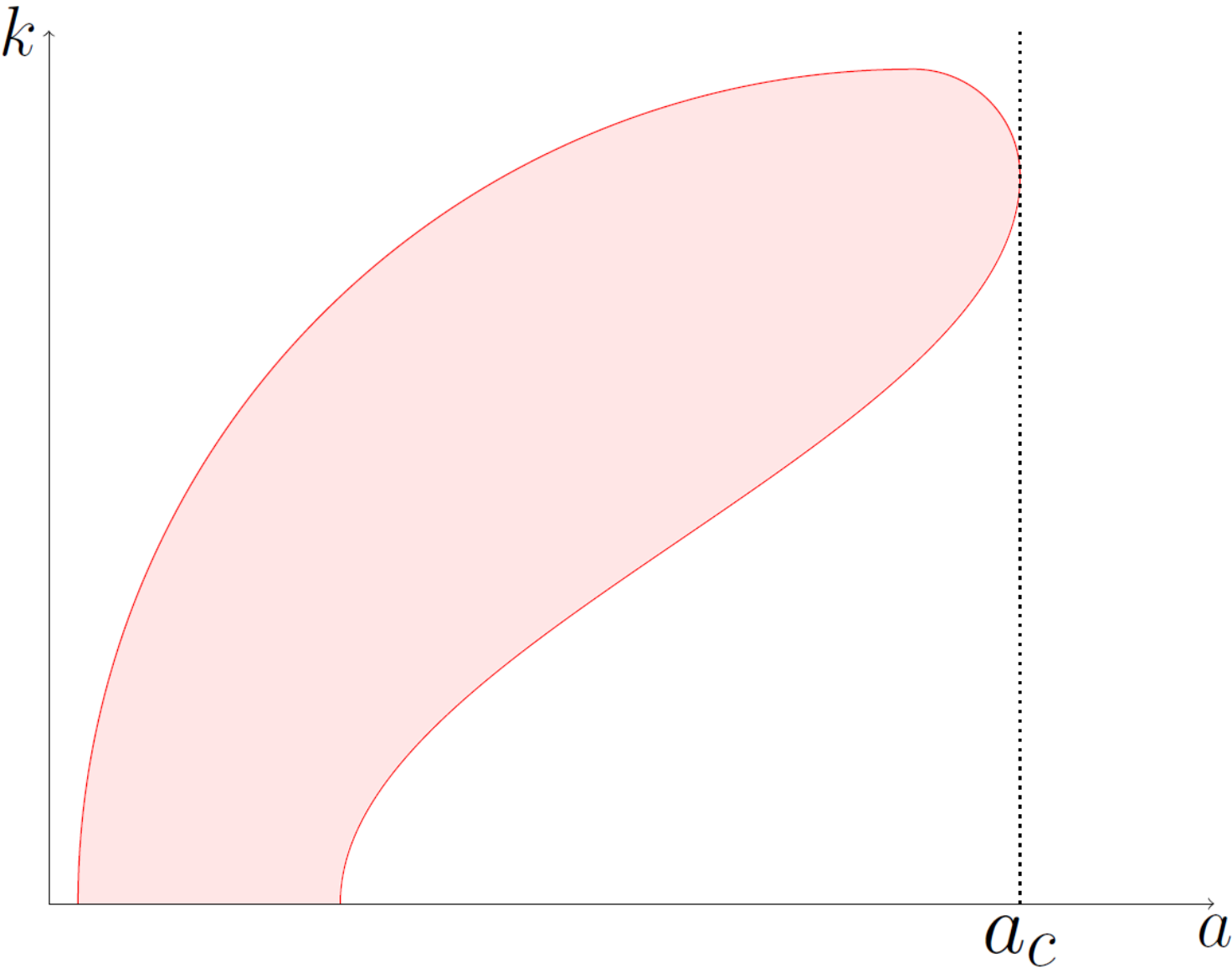
A Walk through the Busse balloon



More in Part 2 of this minitutorial

Consequence 2:
In patterned shifts, you see smaller transitions from one patterned states to another

The shape of Busse balloon

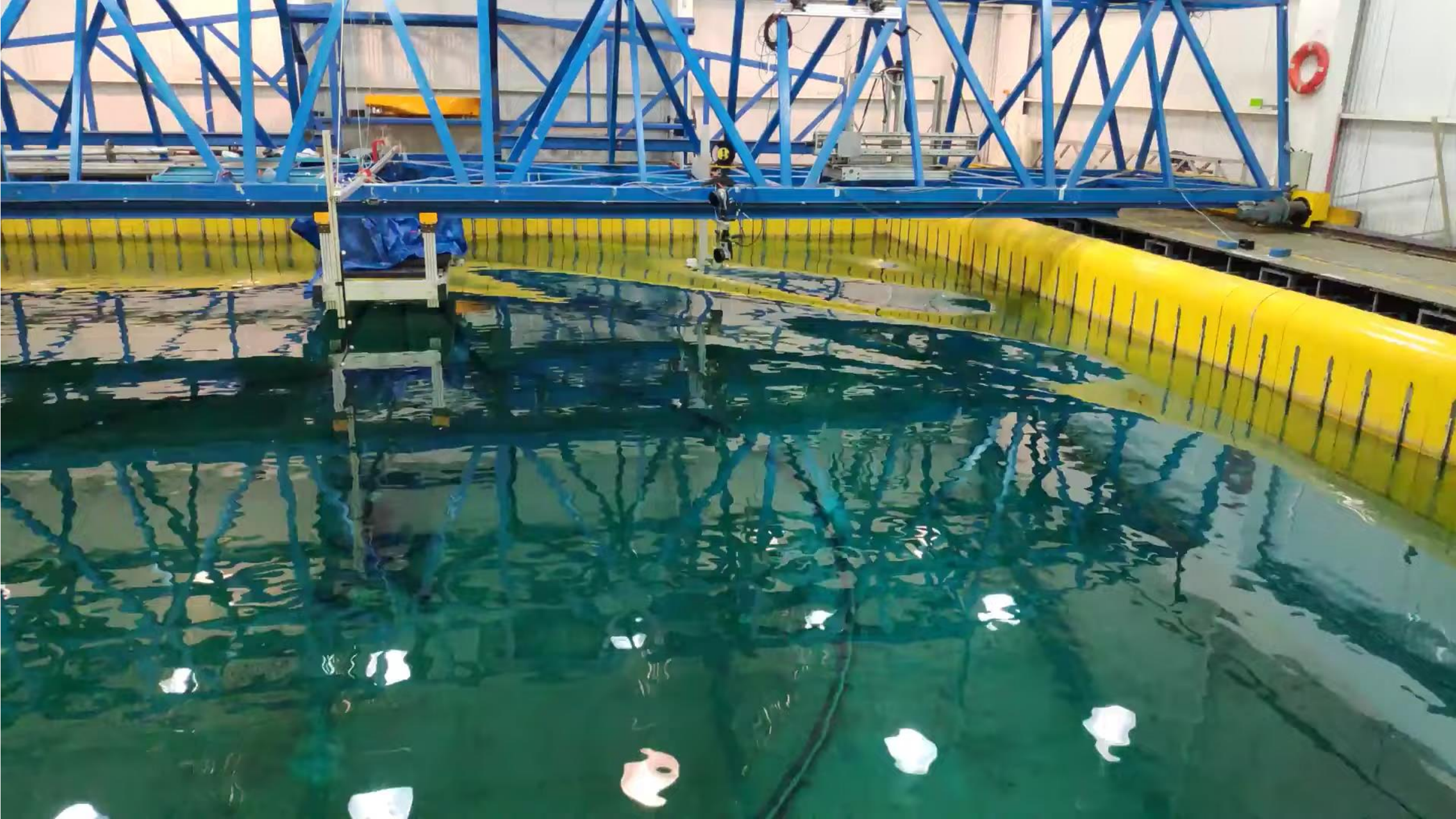


Only few generic results

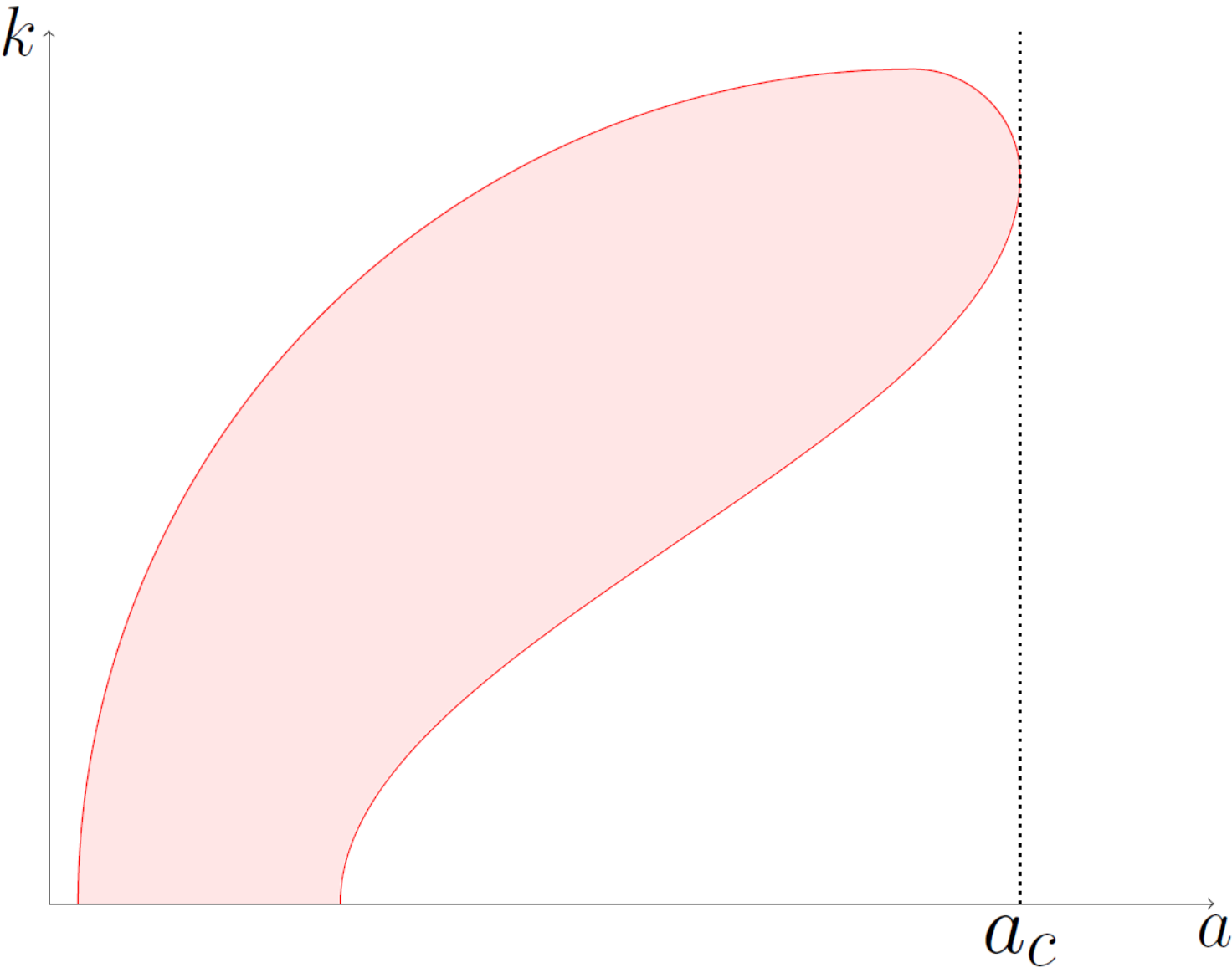
Shape is **model**-dependent

Shape is **domain**-dependent

Models on finite domains:
Shape breaks up into finitely
many lines



The shape of Busse balloon



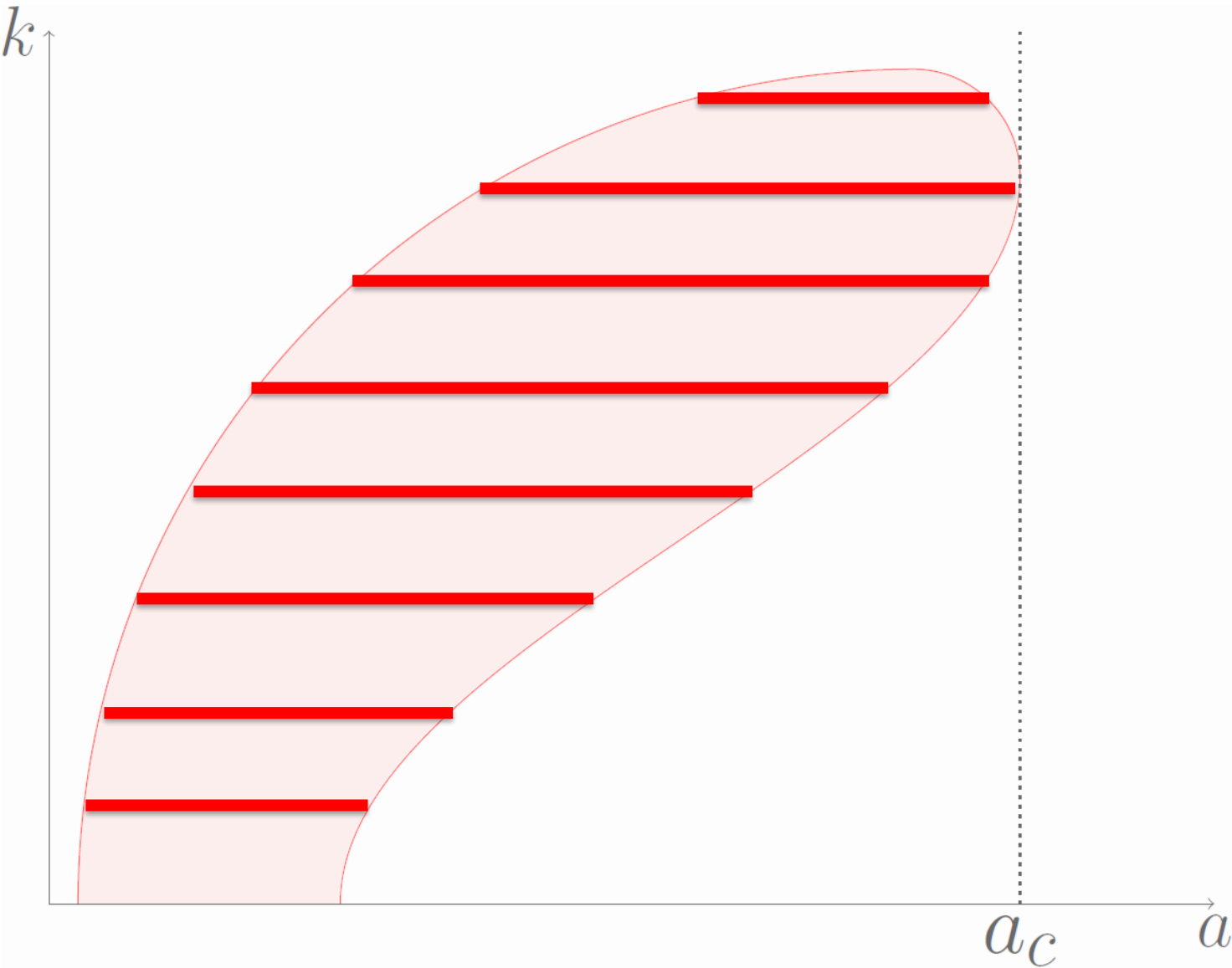
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Shape is **model**-dependent

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The shape of Busse balloon



Only few generic results

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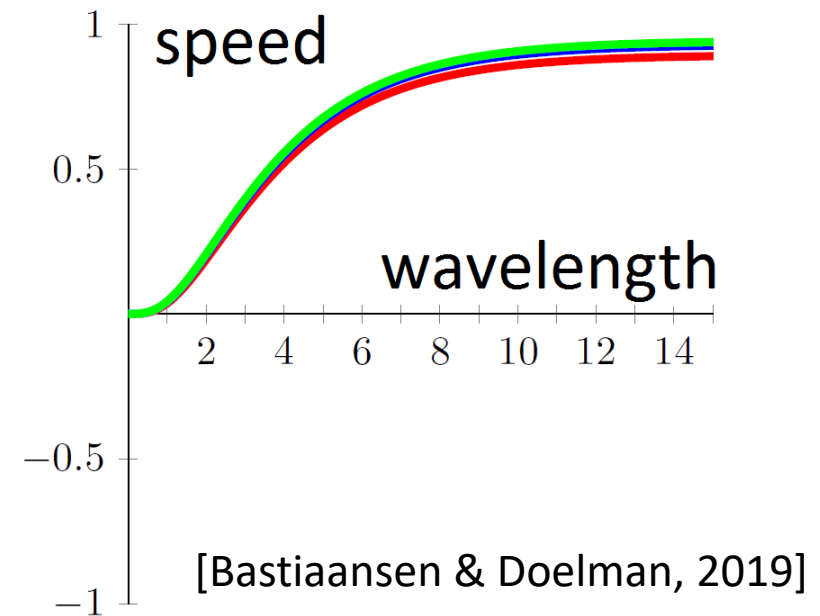
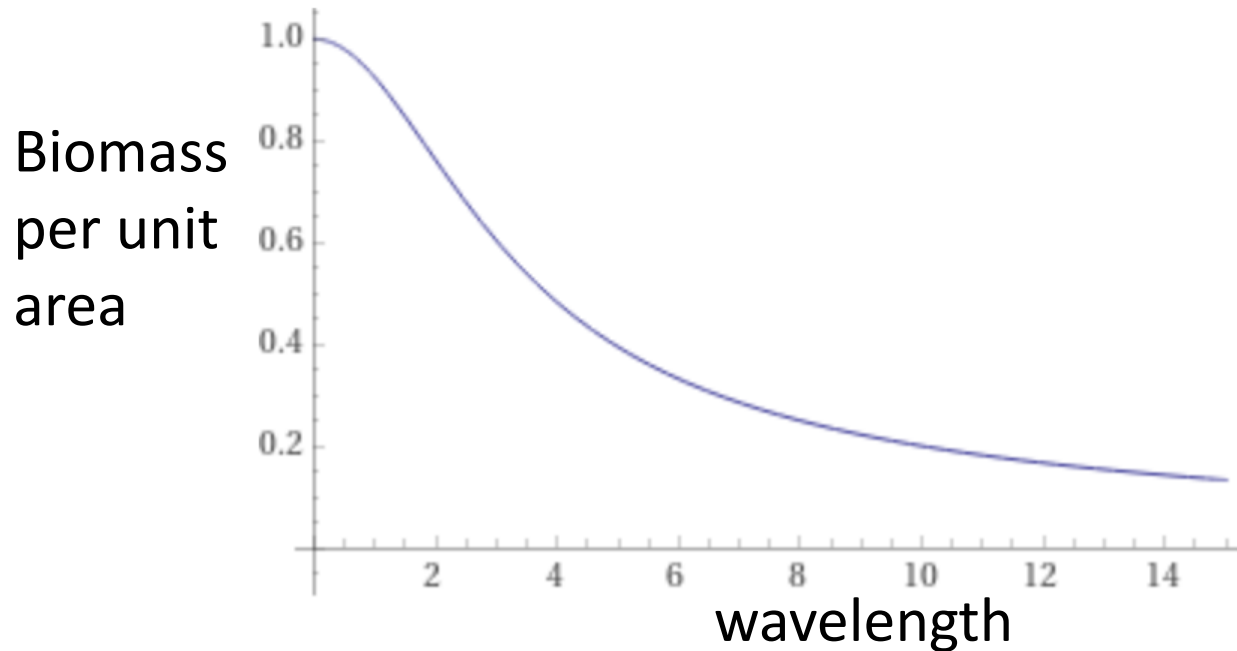
Models on finite domains:
Shape breaks up into finitely
many lines

“Quantization of Busse balloon”

Observables in multistable systems

Observation 2:

The value of an observable depends on the parameters and the precise patterned state



Figures can be made using the same techniques as will be explained by Peter next

Multistability in real patterned systems?

Comparison with sites in Horn of Africa

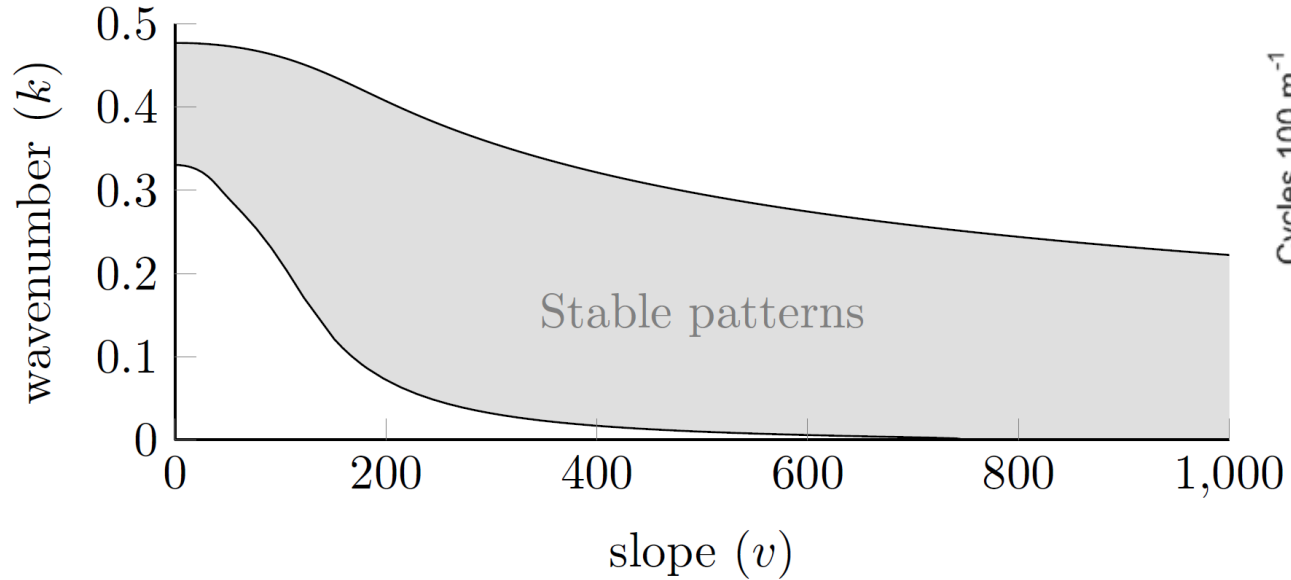
- Environmental conditions constant within site
- Topography main environmental variation

Method

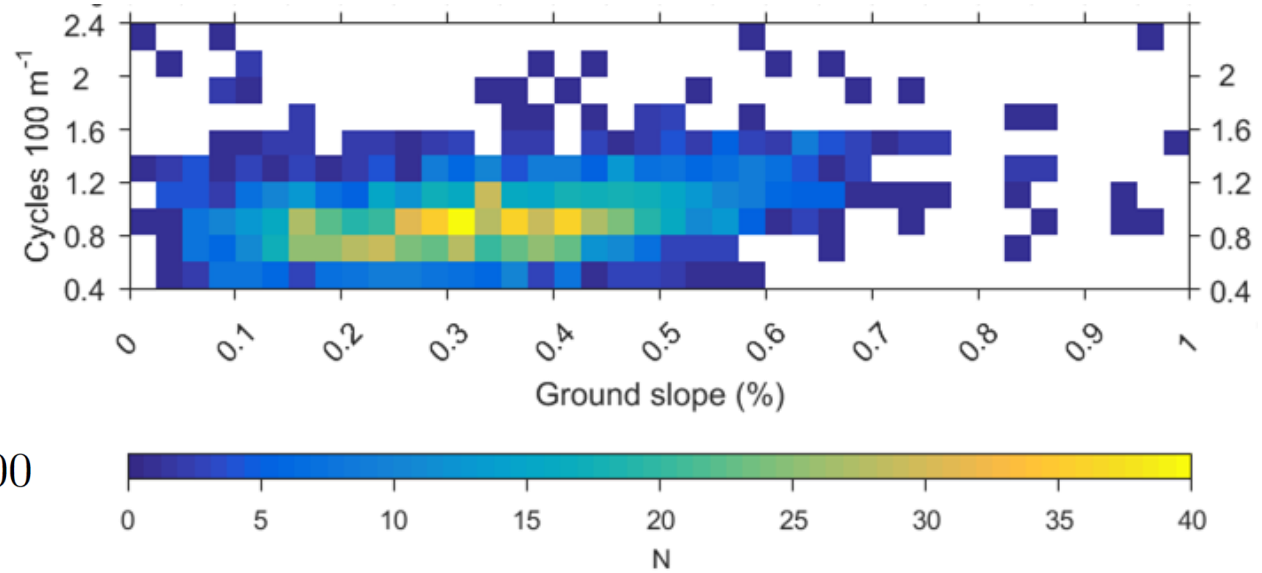
- Divide site into smaller windows
- Per window, find wavenumber, biomass and migration speed



Busse balloon in dryland ecosystems



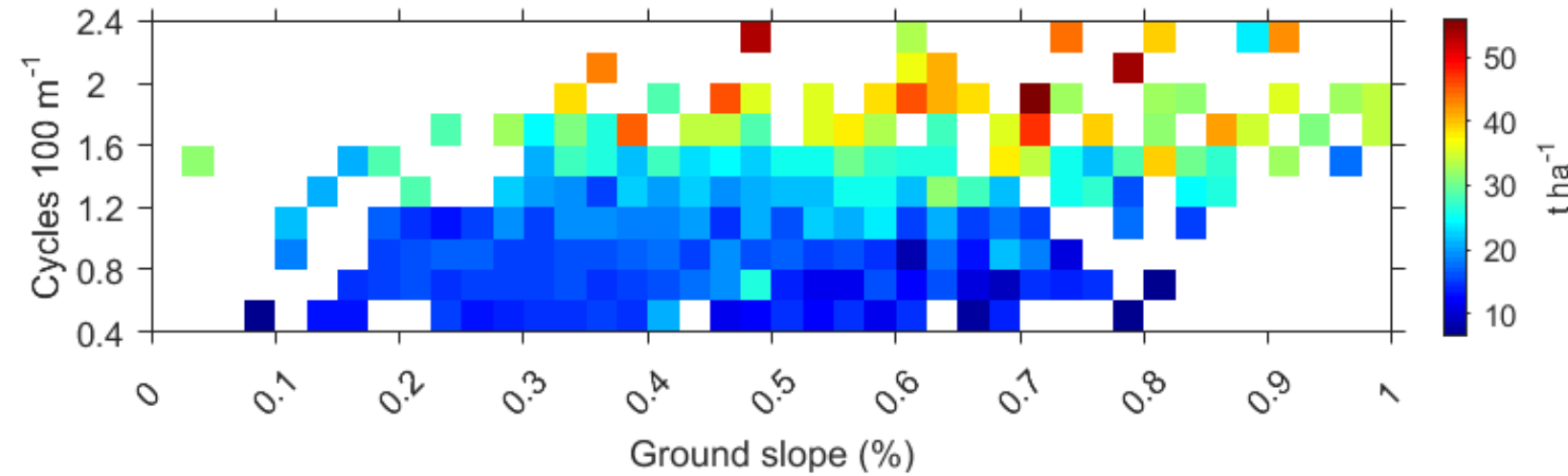
extended-Klausmeier model



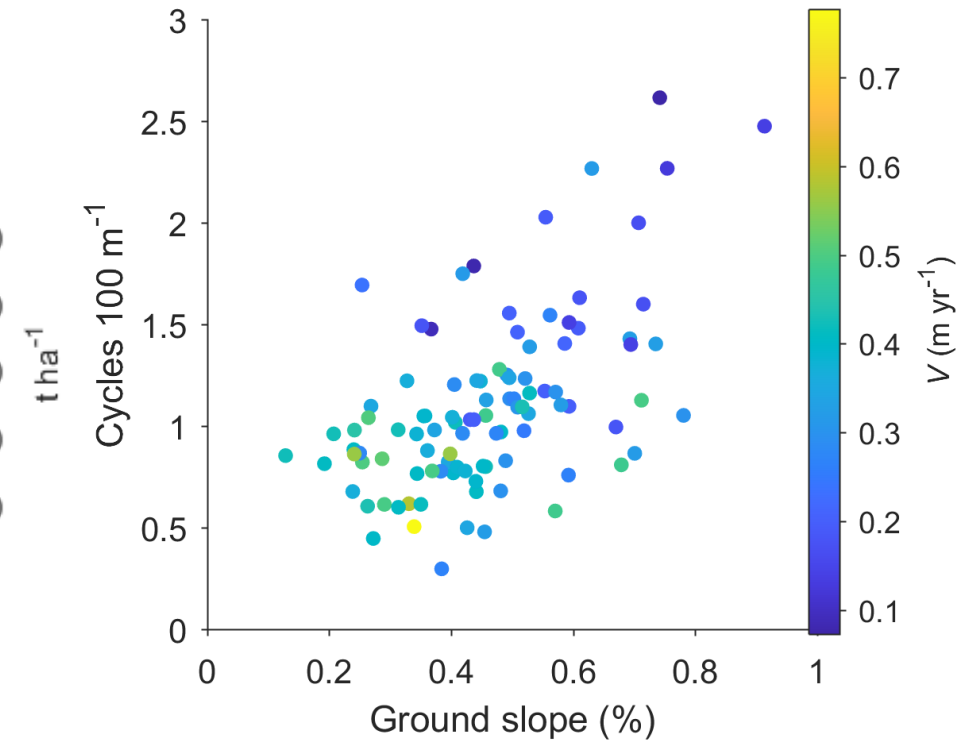
Somalia data

Wide wavenumber spread in both

Biomass and migration speed



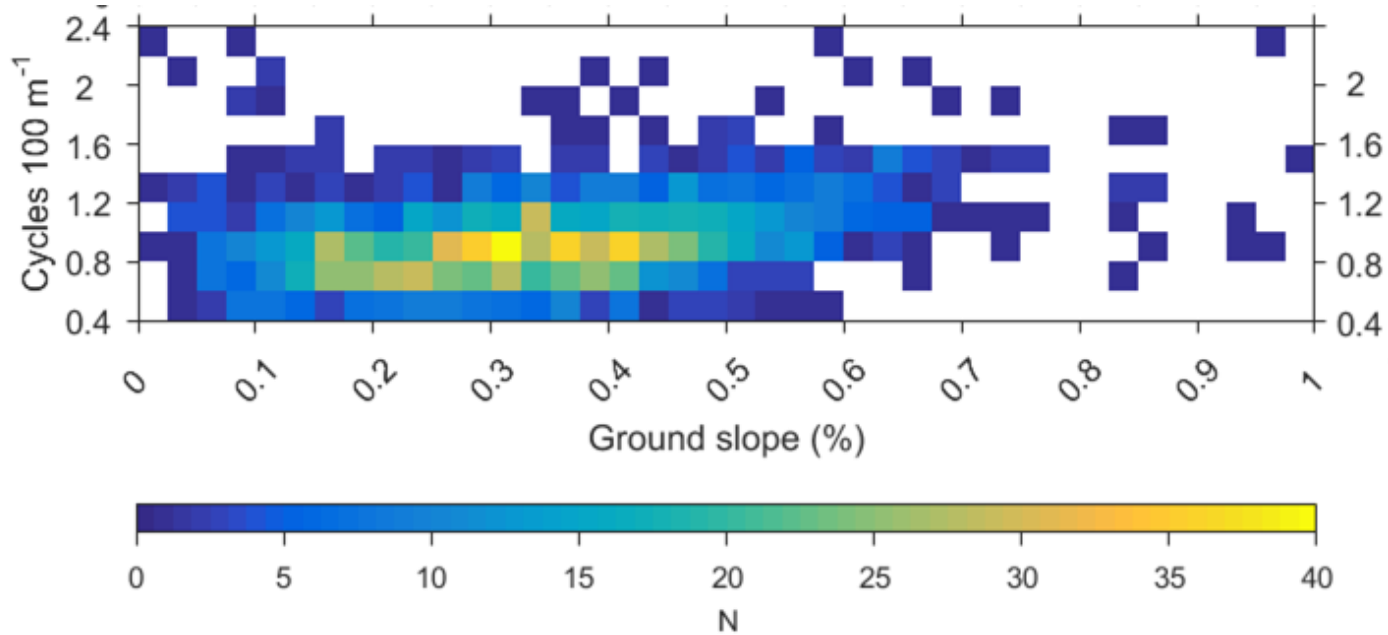
Biomass data



Migration speed data

Biomass and migration speed change with wavenumber

BUT: why not just averaging?



Looks like there is just a preferred patterned for each slope value

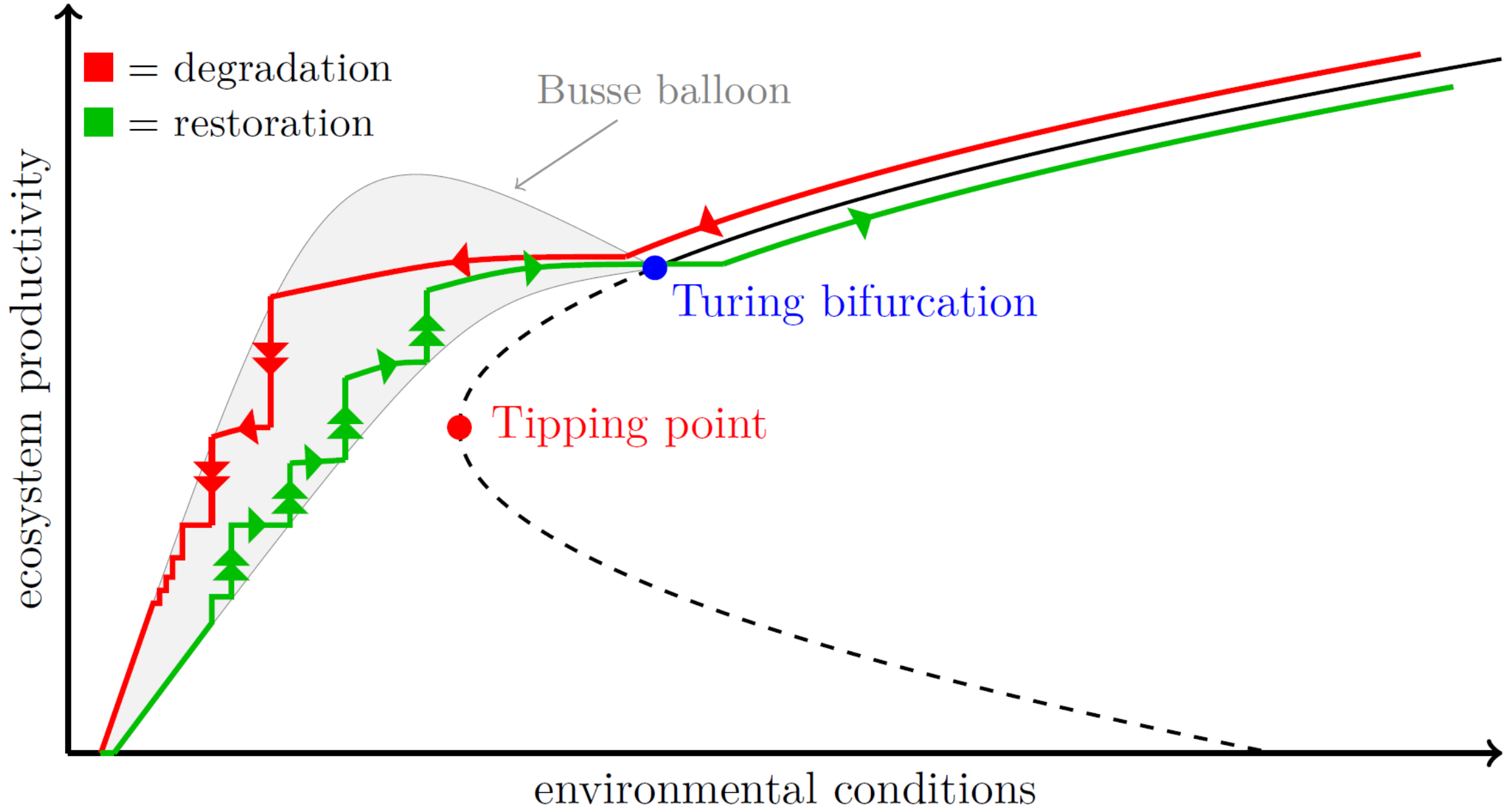
Two reasons:

1. You lose information on the pattern-dependence
2. You do NOT gain information about THE preferred pattern for the given parameters

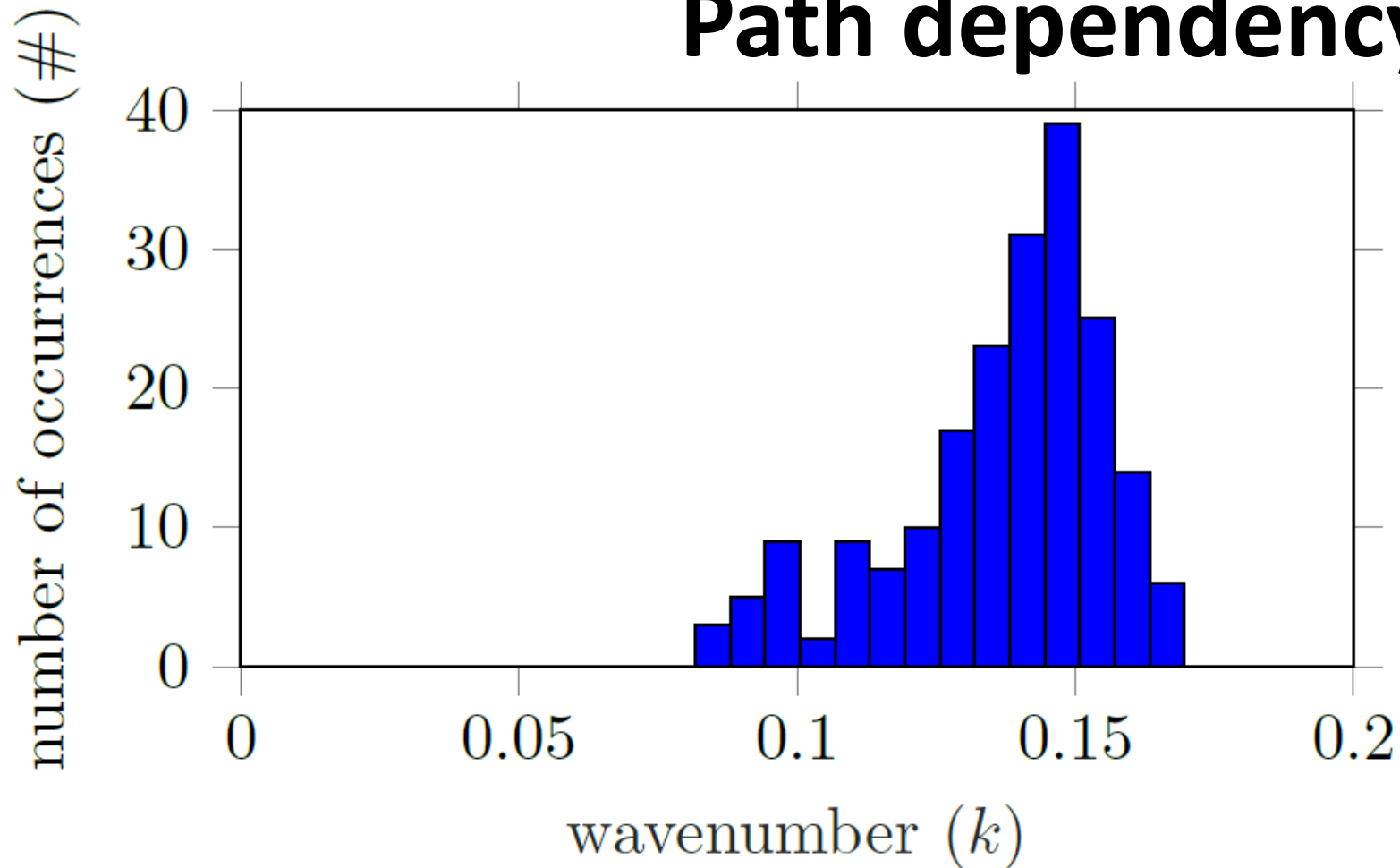
Recommendation 1:

Do NOT average over all observed states without thinking!

Path dependency



Path dependency



Example of wavenumber spread in model in a decreasing rainfall scenario

Recommendation 2:

Think about creation and history of patterns

Consequence 3:

Pattern distribution depends on both the current parameters and the path taken to get there ('history dependency')

In theory, you should be able to get insight into the past by looking at the current distribution.
[Sheratt (2014), PNAS]

Summary - Multistability of patterned states

Observations:

1. In models and real patterned systems there is a large **multistability** of stable pattern states
2. The value of an observable depends on the parameters and the precise patterned state

Consequences:

1. Specifying only parameter values is ambiguous, as it does not correspond to only one patterned state
2. In patterned shifts, you see smaller transitions from one patterned states to another
3. Pattern distribution depends on both the current parameters and the path taken to get there ('history dependency')

Recommendations:

1. Do NOT average over all observed states without thinking!
2. Think about creation and history of patterns

Slides available at:
[bastiaansen.github.io/
MTpatterns/patternMT
.html](https://bastiaansen.github.io/MTpatterns/patternMT.html)

