

# Spontaneous periodic orbits in the Navier-Stokes flow

Jean-Philippe Lessard



**Workshop 2020 - Partial Differential Equations**

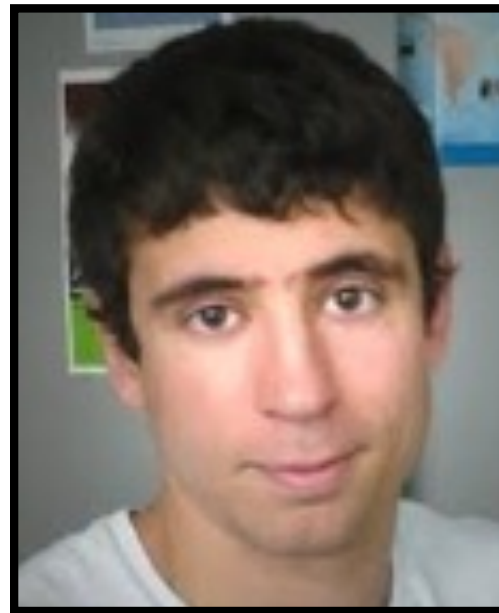
*Prague, Czech Republic*

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**Joint work with**



**J.B. van den Berg**  
**VU Amsterdam**



**Maxime Breden**  
**TU Munich**

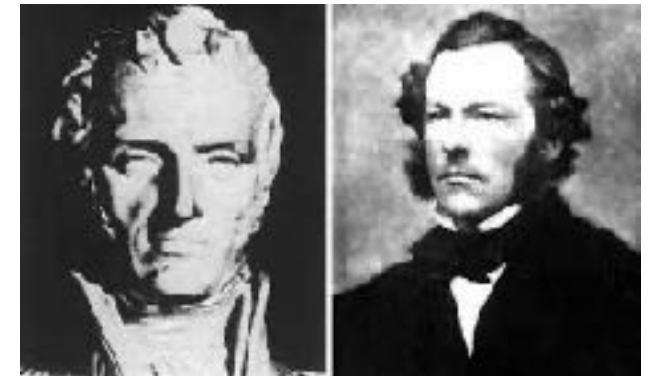


**Lennaert van Veen**  
**UOIT**

The Navier-Stokes equations for a fluid of constant density  $\rho$  can be expressed as

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u + (u \cdot \nabla)u - \nu \Delta u + \nabla p = f \\ \nabla \cdot u = 0, \end{cases}$$

where  $u = u(x, t)$  is the velocity,  $p(x, t) = P(x, t)/\rho$  is the pressure scaled by the density,  $\nu$  is the kinematic viscosity and  $f = f(x, t)$  is an external forcing term.



Navier (1822)

Stokes (1845)

## Millennium Prize problem

In three space dimensions and time, given an initial velocity field and identically zero forcing term, there exists a vector velocity and a scalar pressure field, which are both smooth and globally defined, that solve the Navier-Stokes equations.

**From a dynamical systems perspective,  
this is not the most important question.**

Who cares?



Henri Poincaré

# What shall we care about then ?

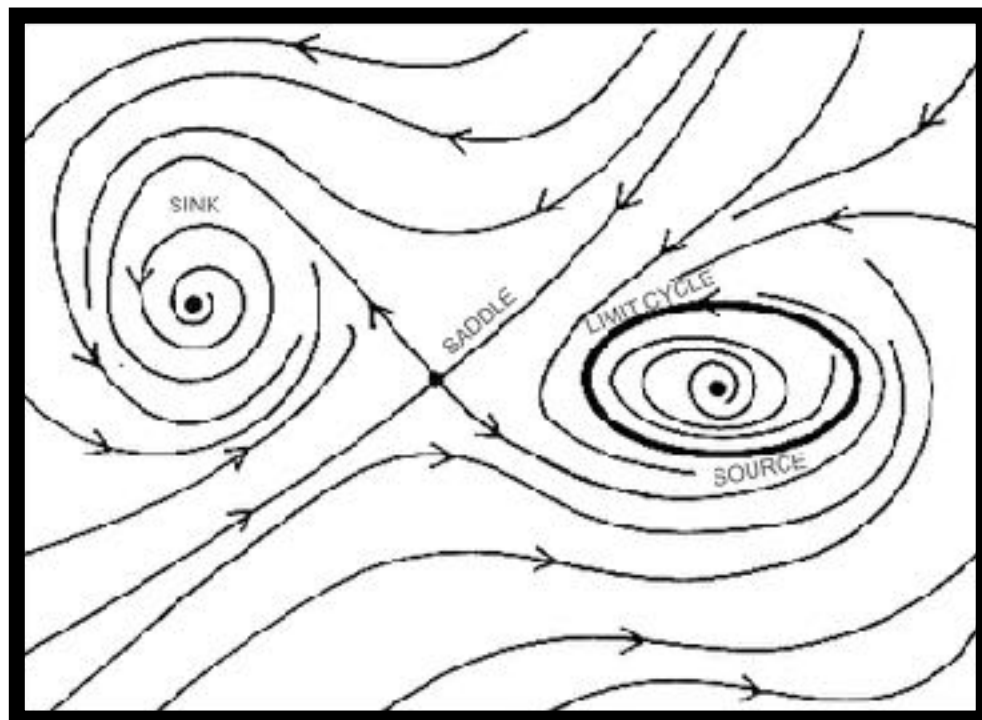
**In any dynamical system, it is the bounded solutions which are most important and which should be investigated first.**



*Henri Poincaré*

## Compact invariant sets

Exploit smoothness, boundedness and low dimensionality.



- Equilibrium solutions.
- Time periodic solutions.
- Connecting orbits.
- Global attractors.

→  $\mathcal{F}(x) = 0$

In 1959, James Serrin published two papers on the existence and stability of certain solutions to the Navier-Stokes equations in the limit of **large viscosity**.

- Existence of globally stable equilibrium solutions;
- Existence of periodic solutions on a three-dimensional bounded domain subject to time-periodic boundary data and body forces.



*James Serrin*

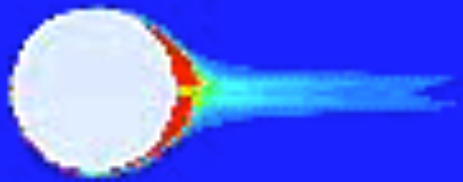
Many authors followed Serrin in studying the **periodically forced** (non-autonomous) Navier-Stokes system dominated by viscosity.

- [**Kaniel & Shinbrot, 1967**] Existence of periodic strong solutions for small time-periodic forcing  $f$  (for 3D bounded domains with fixed boundaries);
- [**Takeshita, 1969**] Existence of periodic strong solutions for any time-periodic forcing  $f$  (for 2D bounded domains with fixed boundaries);
- many more proofs of existence of periodic orbits for non-autonomous NS  
[**Teramoto, Maremonti, Kozono & Nakao, Kato, Farwig & Okabe, Hsia**]

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- The same cannot be said about **spontaneous** periodic motions, that is periodic flows driven by a time-**independent** forcing.
- The regular vortex shedding in the wake of a cylinder, for instance, arises in the absence of a body force and **as a consequence of** the nonlinearity in NS, not by virtue of the advection being dominated by viscous damping.





**Goal:** Develop a general (computer-assisted) approach to prove existence of spontaneous periodic orbits in the Navier-Stokes flow for some time-independent  $f$ .

## Computer-assisted proofs (CAPs) in dynamics

The main idea is to construct algorithms that provide an approximate solution to a problem together with precise and possibly efficient bounds within which the exact solution is guaranteed to exist in the mathematically rigorous sense.

This field draws inspiration from the ideas in

- Scientific computing
- Functional analysis
- Approximation theory
- Nonlinear analysis
- Numerical analysis
- Topological methods

### Early pioneer works

**Cesari [1964] *Functional analysis and Galerkin's method.***

**Lanford [1982] *A computer-assisted proof of the Feigenbaum conjectures.***

**Mischaikow & Mrozek [1995] *Chaos in the Lorenz equations.***

**Tucker [1999] *The Lorenz attractor exists.***

# **A functional analytic approach to CAPs in dynamics**

## A general nonlinear problem

$$\mathcal{F}(x) = 0$$

The unknown  $x$  could be a

- **solution to an initial value problem of an ODE**
- **periodic orbit of an ODE**
- **local (un)stable manifold of a fixed point of an ODE**
- **normal bundle of a periodic orbit of an ODE**
- **local (un)stable manifold of a periodic orbit of an ODE**
- **connecting orbit of an ODE**
- **periodic orbit of a functional delay equation**
- **critical point of an action functional**
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$$\mathcal{F}(x) = 0$$

**to solve in a Banach space**

***X***

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$$\mathcal{F}(x) = 0$$

**to solve in a Banach space**

$X$

●  $x_1$

●  $x_3$

●  $x_2$

●  $x_4$

●  $x_6$

●  $x_5$

●  $x_7$

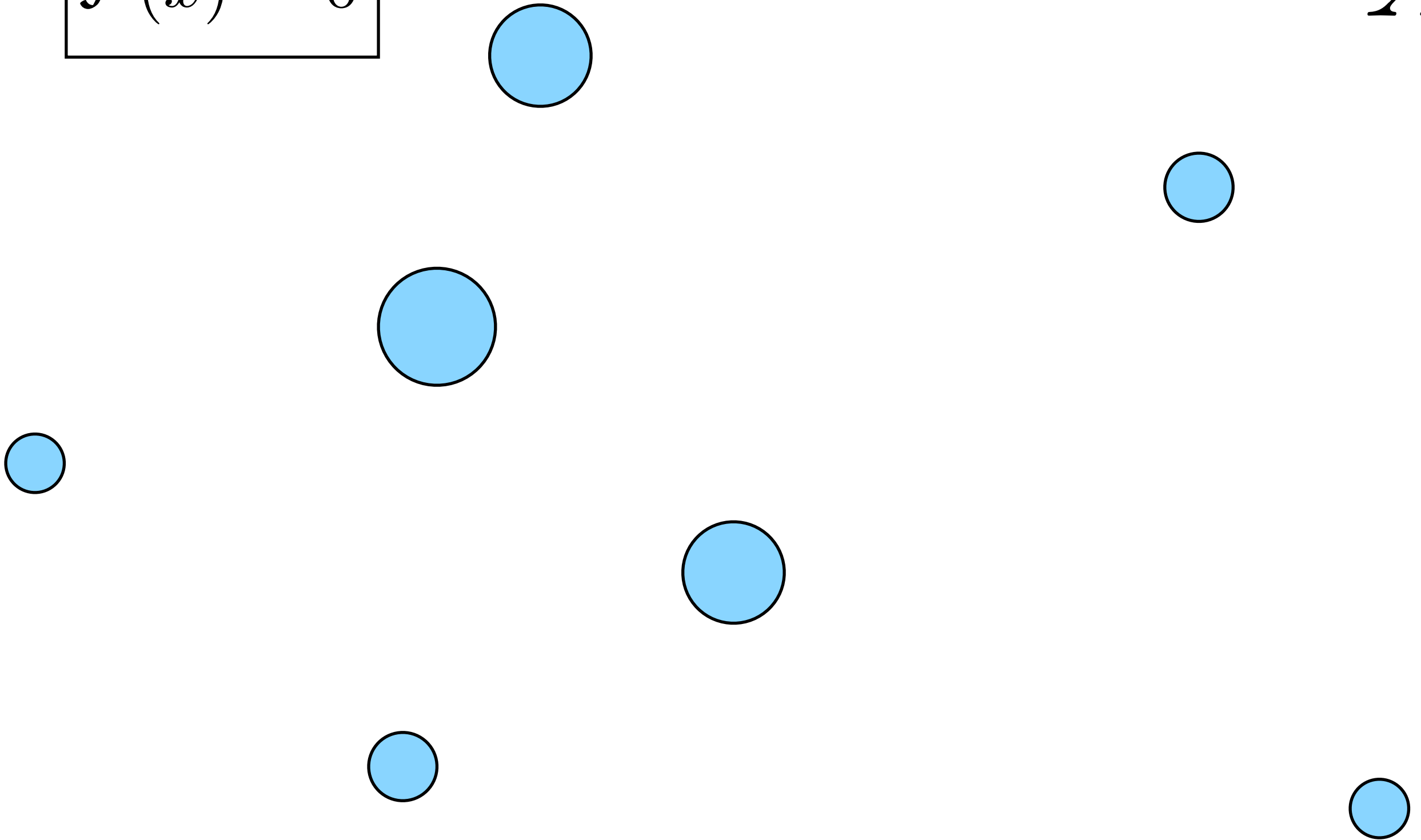
**Impossible to compute exactly !**

**A general nonlinear problem**

$$\mathcal{F}(x) = 0$$

**to solve in a Banach space**

$X$



**Alternative: find small balls in which it is demonstrated (in a mathematically rigorous sense) that a unique solution exists.**

# How to find these small isolating balls ?

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6. Find  $r > 0$  such that  $T : B_{\bar{x}}(r) \rightarrow B_{\bar{x}}(r)$  is a contraction mapping (tool : **radii polynomials**).

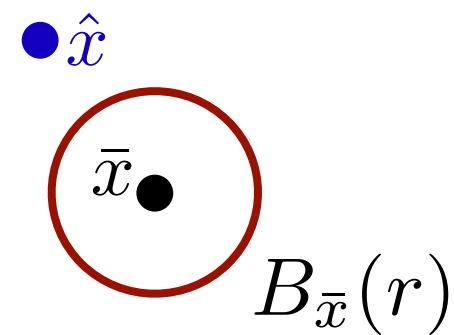
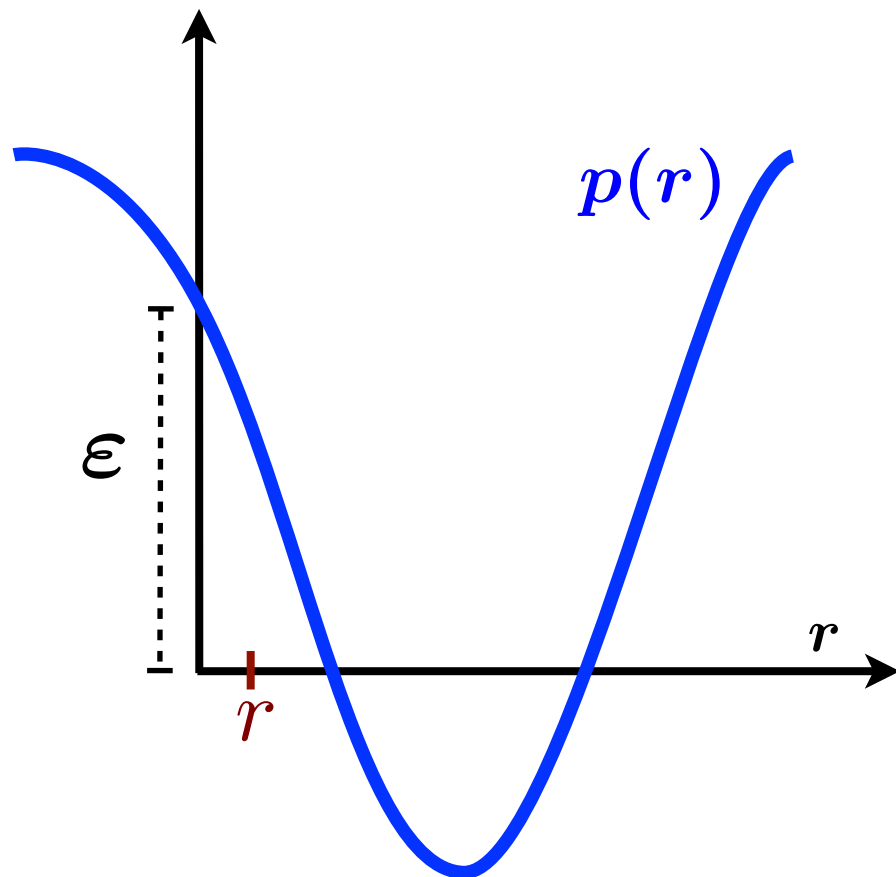
**Theorem :** Let  $T : X \rightarrow X$  defined by  $T(x) = x - A\mathcal{F}(x)$  with  $T \in C^1(X)$ .  
 Let  $r > 0$  and consider bounds  $\varepsilon$  and  $\kappa = \kappa(r)$  satisfying

$$\begin{aligned} \|T(\bar{x}) - \bar{x}\|_X &= \|A\mathcal{F}(\bar{x})\|_X \leq \varepsilon \\ \sup_{w \in B_{\bar{x}}(r)} \|DT(w)\|_X &= \sup_{w \in B_{\bar{x}}(r)} \|I - A \cdot D\mathcal{F}(w)\|_X \leq \kappa(r). \end{aligned}$$

If

$$p(r) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \varepsilon + r\kappa(r) - r < 0 \quad \textbf{(radii polynomial)}$$

then  $T : B_{\bar{x}}(r) \rightarrow B_{\bar{x}}(r)$  is a contraction with Lipschitz constant  $\kappa(r) < 1$ .  
 Moreover  $A$  is injective and therefore  $\mathcal{F} = 0$  has a unique solution in  $B_{\bar{x}}(r)$ .



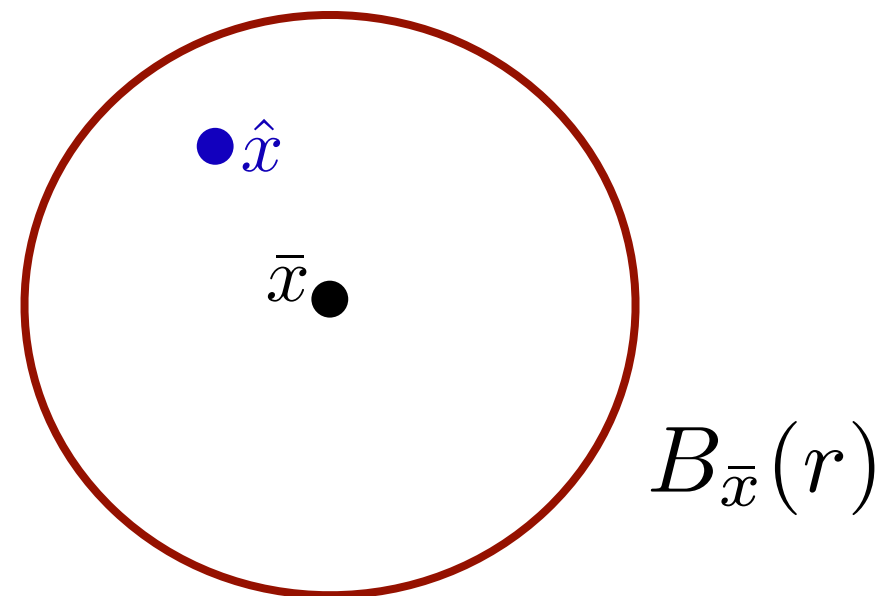
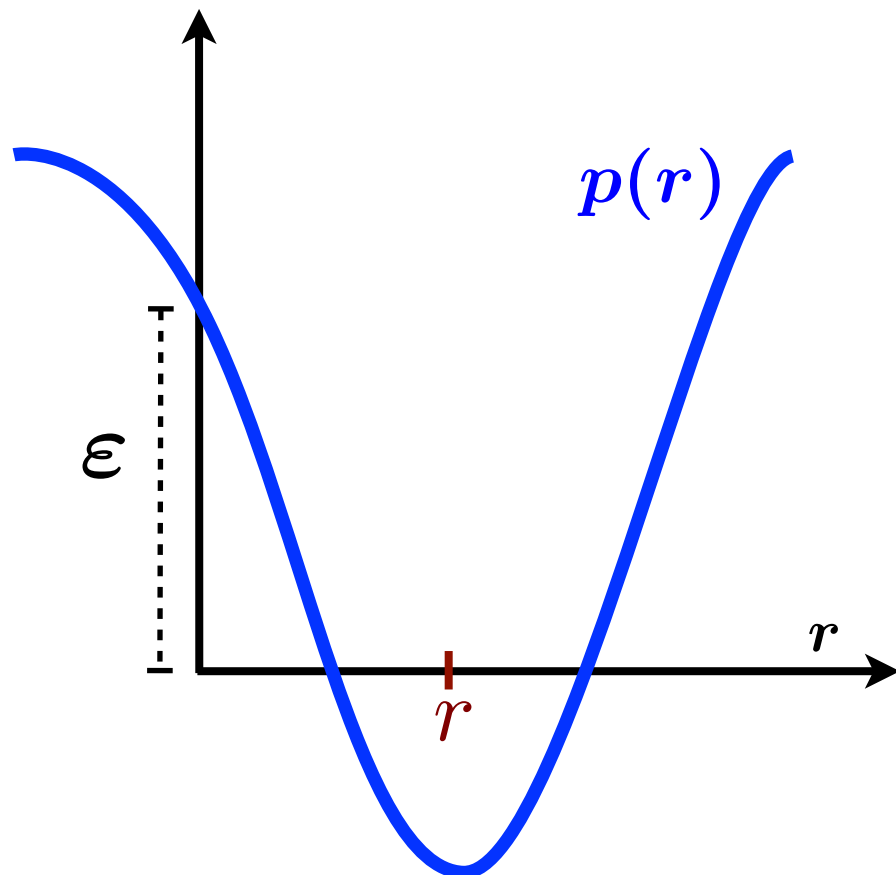
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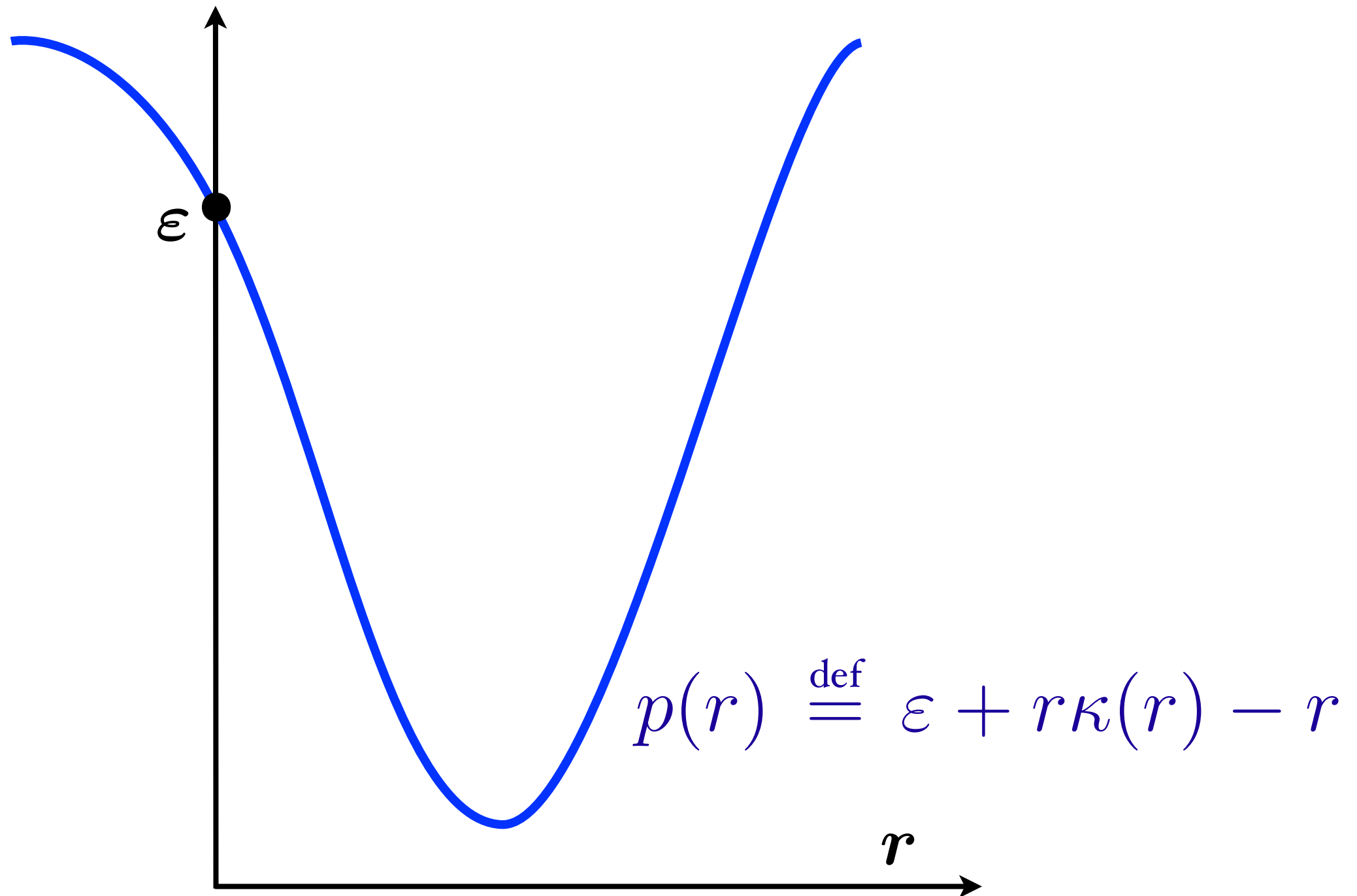
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**The method fails if the approximate solution is not good enough**

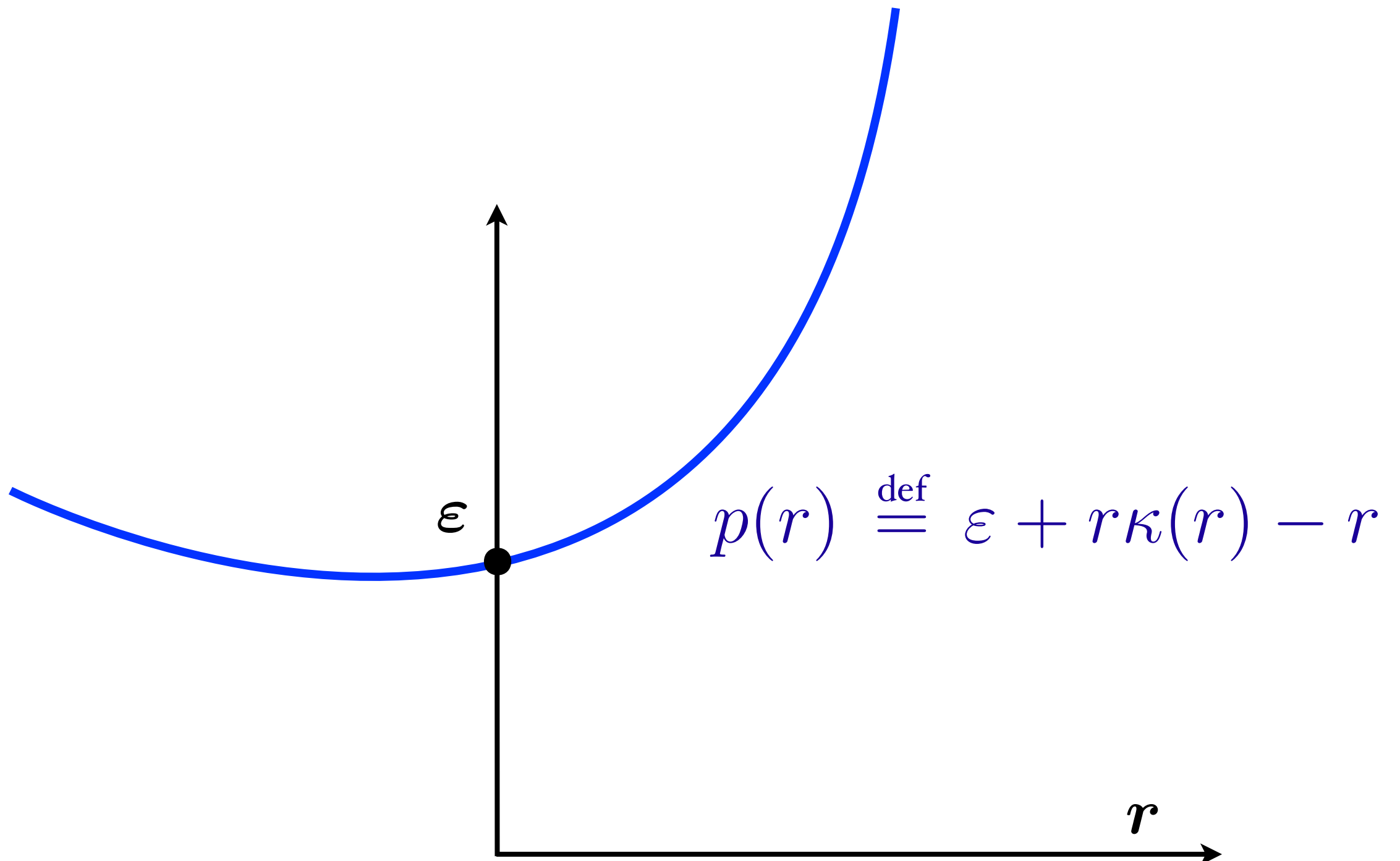
$$\|A\mathcal{F}(\bar{x})\|_X \leq \varepsilon$$





# The method fails if the approximate inverse is not good enough

$$\sup_{w \in B_{\bar{x}}(r)} \|I - A \cdot D\mathcal{F}(w)\|_X \leq \kappa(r)$$



## **A functional analytic approach to CAPs in dynamics**

This requires an a priori setup that allows analysis and numerics to go hand in hand:

- the choice of function spaces,
- the choice of the basis functions and Galerkin projections,
- the analytic estimates,
- and the computational parameters

must all work together to bound the errors due to approximation, rounding and truncation sufficiently tightly for the verification proof to go through.

# A zero-finding problem for periodic orbits in NS

Applying the curl operator to Navier-Stokes yields the **vorticity equation**

$$\partial_t \omega - \nu \Delta \omega + \text{nonlinear terms} = f^\omega \quad \text{on } \mathbb{T}^3 \times \mathbb{R},$$

where  $\omega \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \nabla \times u$  and  $f^\omega \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \nabla \times f$ .

Plugging the space-time Fourier expansion of the vorticity

$$\omega(x, t) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}^4} \omega_n e^{i(\tilde{n} \cdot x + n_4 \Omega t)}, \quad \tilde{n} = (n_1, n_2, n_3) \in \mathbb{Z}^3,$$

in the vorticity equation yields having to solve the zero-finding problem

$$F_n(W) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} i\Omega n_4 \omega_n + \nu \tilde{n}^2 \omega_n - f_n^\omega + \text{nonlinear terms} = 0,$$

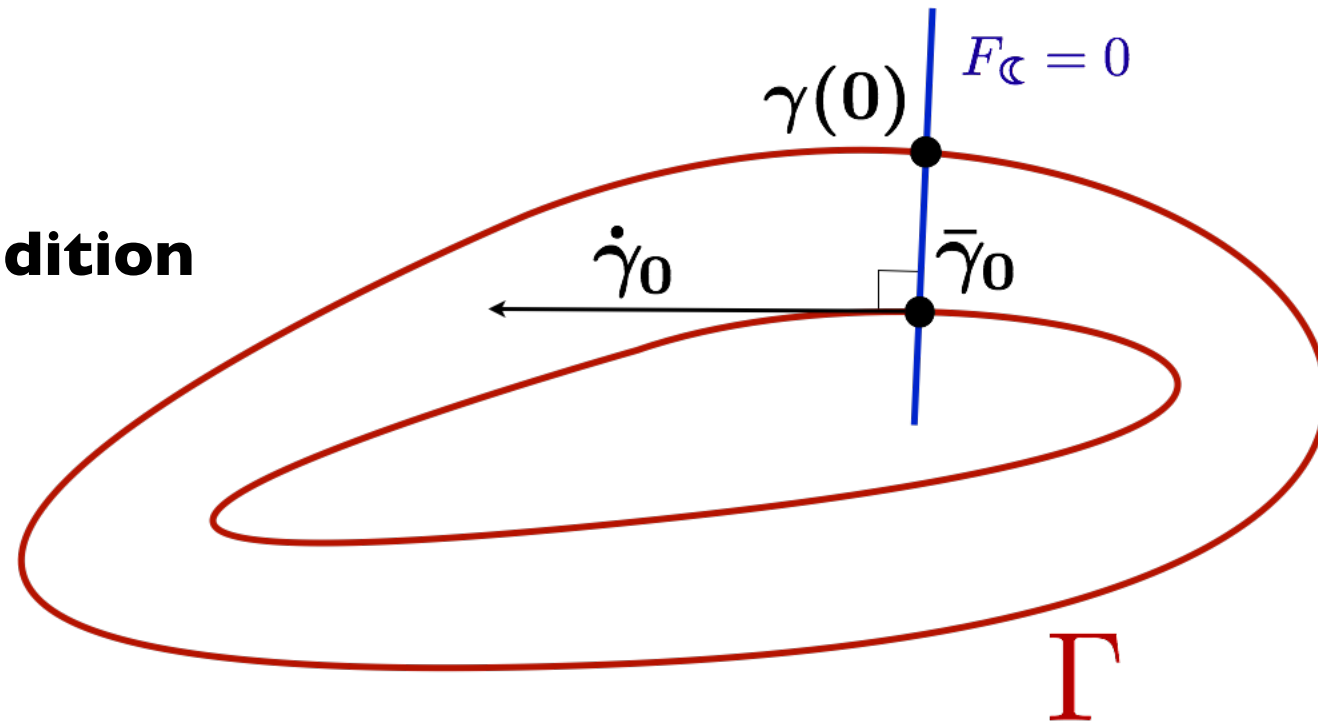
where  $\Omega$  is the a-priori unknown time-frequency of the periodic orbit and

$$W = \begin{pmatrix} \Omega \\ (\omega_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}^4 \setminus \{0\}} \end{pmatrix}.$$

# A zero-finding problem for periodic orbits in NS

**Lemma:** Let  $W$  be such that the vorticity  $\omega$  is analytic. Assume that  $F(W) = 0$  and  $\nabla \cdot \omega = 0$ . Assume also that  $f$  does not depend on time and has space average zero. Define  $u = M\omega$  (that is  $u$  solves  $\omega = \nabla \times u$ ). Then there exists a pressure function  $p : \mathbb{T}^3 \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $(u, p)$  is a  $\frac{2\pi}{\Omega}$ -periodic solution of NS.

**Phase condition**



➔ 
$$\mathcal{F}(W) = \begin{pmatrix} F_{\zeta}(W) \\ (F_n(W))_{n \in \mathbb{Z}_*^4} \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

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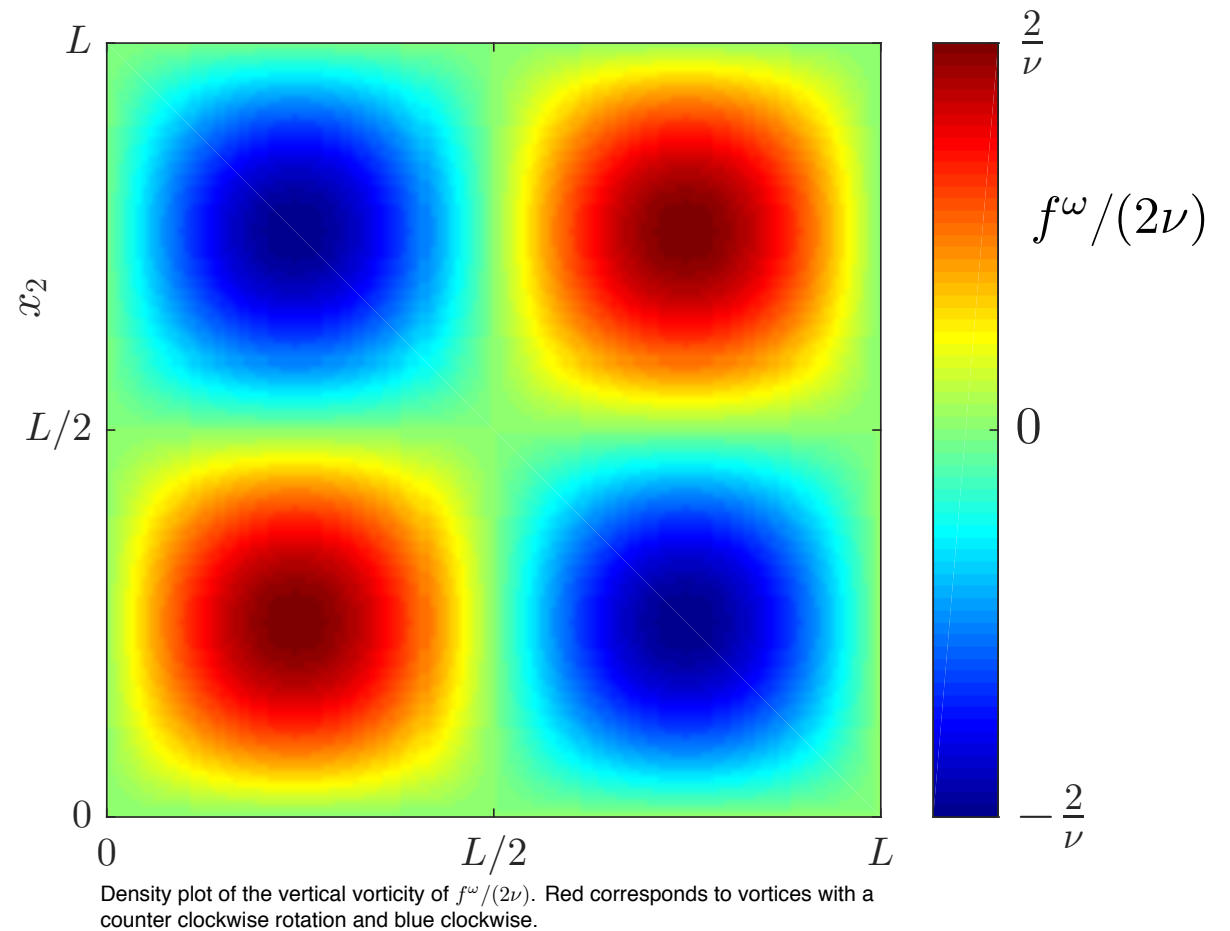
# Spontaneous periodic orbits in the Navier-Stokes flow

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u + (u \cdot \nabla)u - \nu \Delta u + \nabla p = f, & \text{on } \mathbb{T}^3 \text{ of size } L = 2\pi \\ \nabla \cdot u = 0. \end{cases}$$

## Taylor-Green (time-independent) forcing term

$$f = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \sin x_1 \cos x_2 \\ -2 \cos x_1 \sin x_2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$f^\omega \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \nabla \times f = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 4 \sin x_1 \sin x_2 \end{pmatrix}$$



The autonomous Navier-Stokes equations under this time-independent forcing term admit a **viscous equilibrium** solution for which we have the analytic expression

$$u^* = \frac{1}{2\nu} f, \quad p^* = \frac{1}{4\nu^2} (\cos 2x_1 + \cos 2x_2).$$

# Spontaneous periodic orbits in the Navier-Stokes flow

$$\mathcal{F}(W) = \begin{pmatrix} F_{\mathbb{C}}(W) \\ (F_n(W))_{n \in \mathbb{Z}_*^4} \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$F_n(W) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} i\Omega n_4 \omega_n + \nu \tilde{n}^2 \omega_n - f_n^\omega + \text{nonlinear terms}$$

**Banach space:**  $X = \mathbb{C} \times (\ell_\eta^1(\mathbb{C}))^3$

**Norm:**  $\|W\| = |\Omega| + \sum_{1 \leq l \leq 3} \|\omega^{(l)}\|_{\ell_\eta^1}$ .

# What is A?

$$T(x) = x - AF(x)$$

$$DF(\bar{x}) =$$

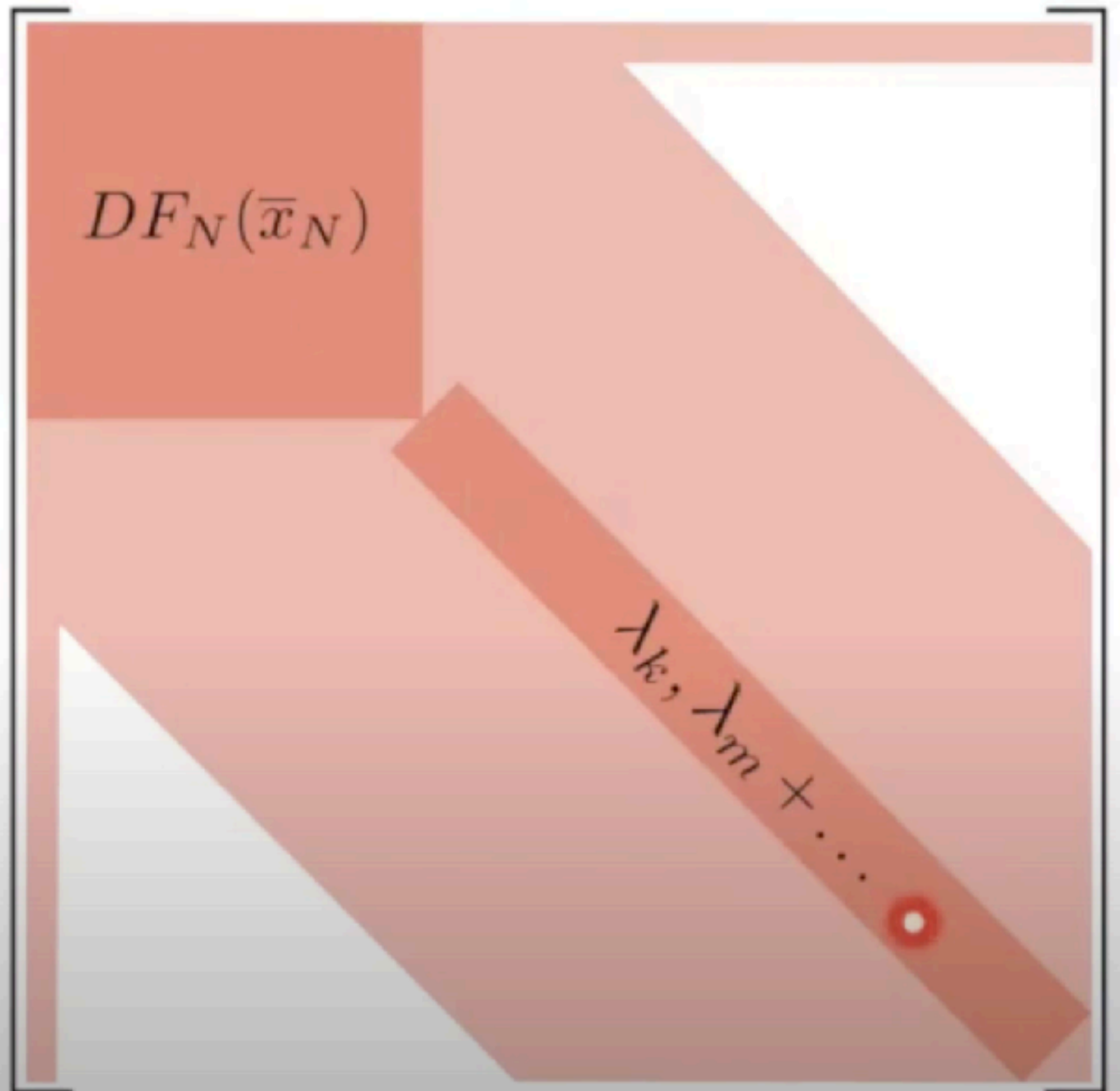




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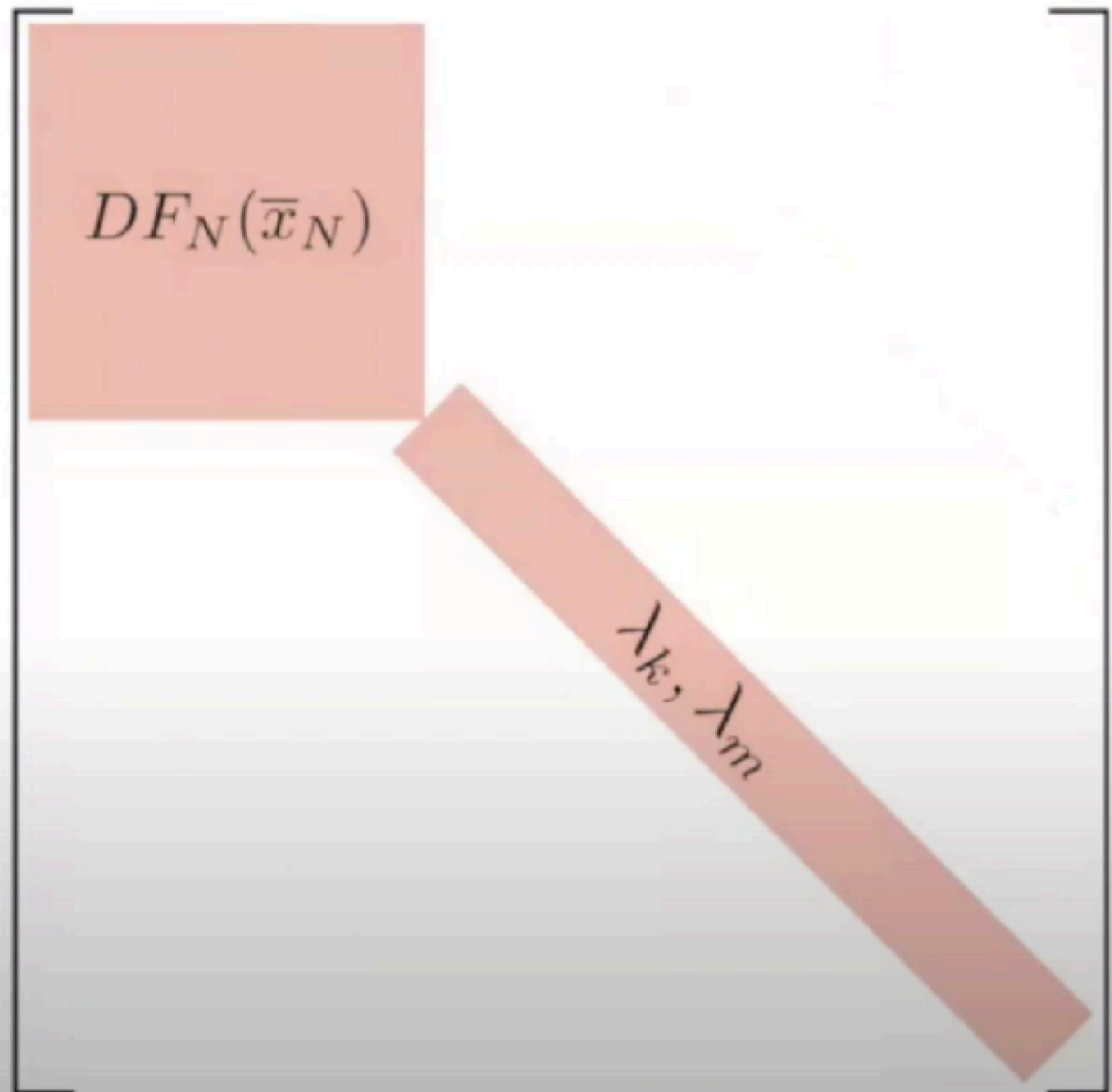
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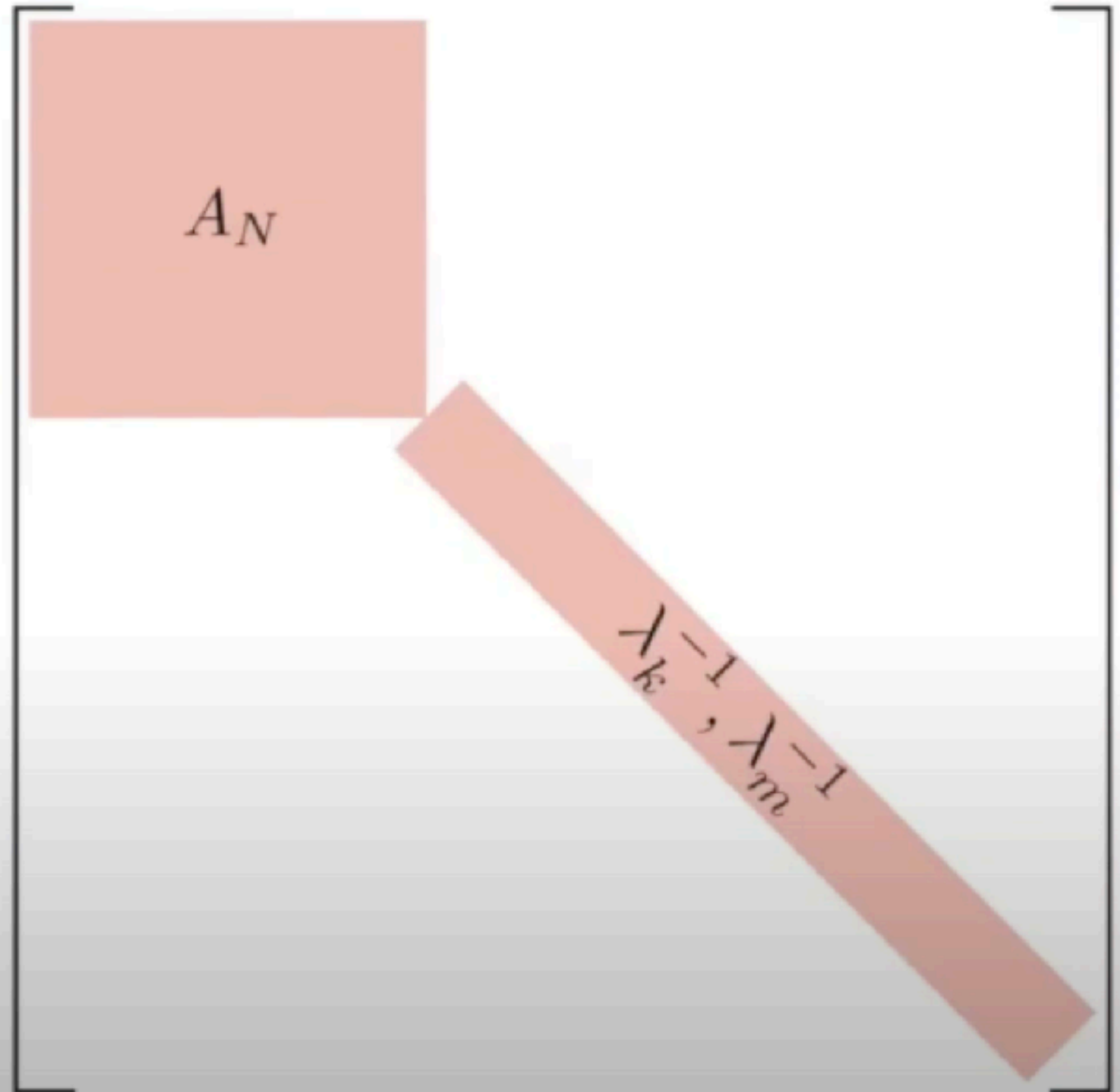
$$DF(\bar{x}) \approx$$



# What is A?

$$T(x) = x - AF(x)$$

$$A =$$



$$A_N \approx DF_N(\bar{x}_N)^{-1}$$

# Banach contraction Theorem

- $T$  maps  $B_r(\bar{x}) \subset X$  into itself
- $\|T(x) - T(\tilde{x})\|_X \leq \kappa \|x - \tilde{x}\|_X \quad \kappa < 1$

## Analytic estimates

$$\|T(\bar{x}) - \bar{x}\|_X \leq Y$$

$$\|DT(\bar{x})\|_{B(X)} \leq Z$$

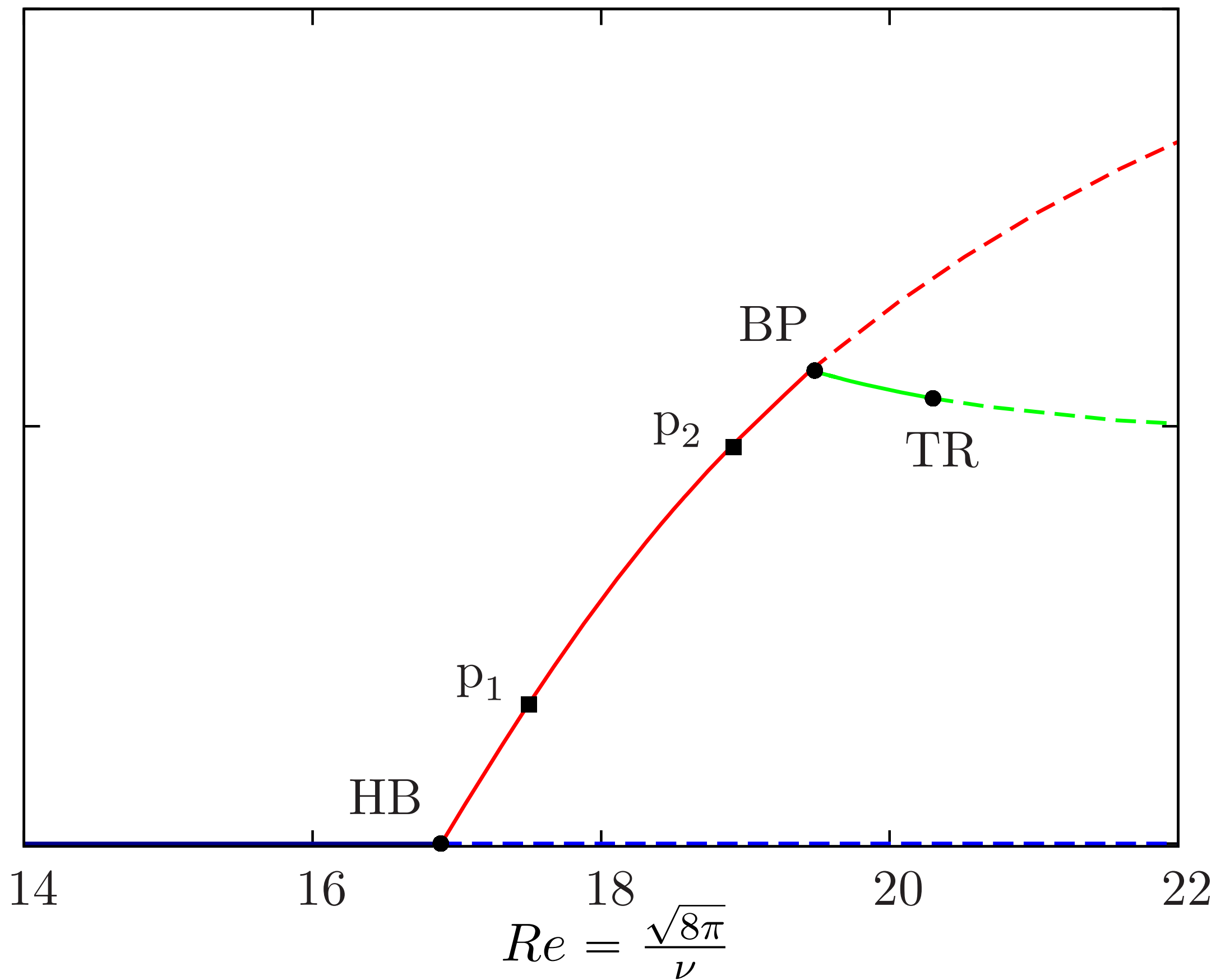
$$\|D^2T(x)\|_{\dots} \leq W(r) \quad \forall x \in B_r(\bar{x})$$

$$\text{Inequality } Y + Z\hat{r} + \frac{1}{2}W(\hat{r})\hat{r}^2 < \hat{r}$$

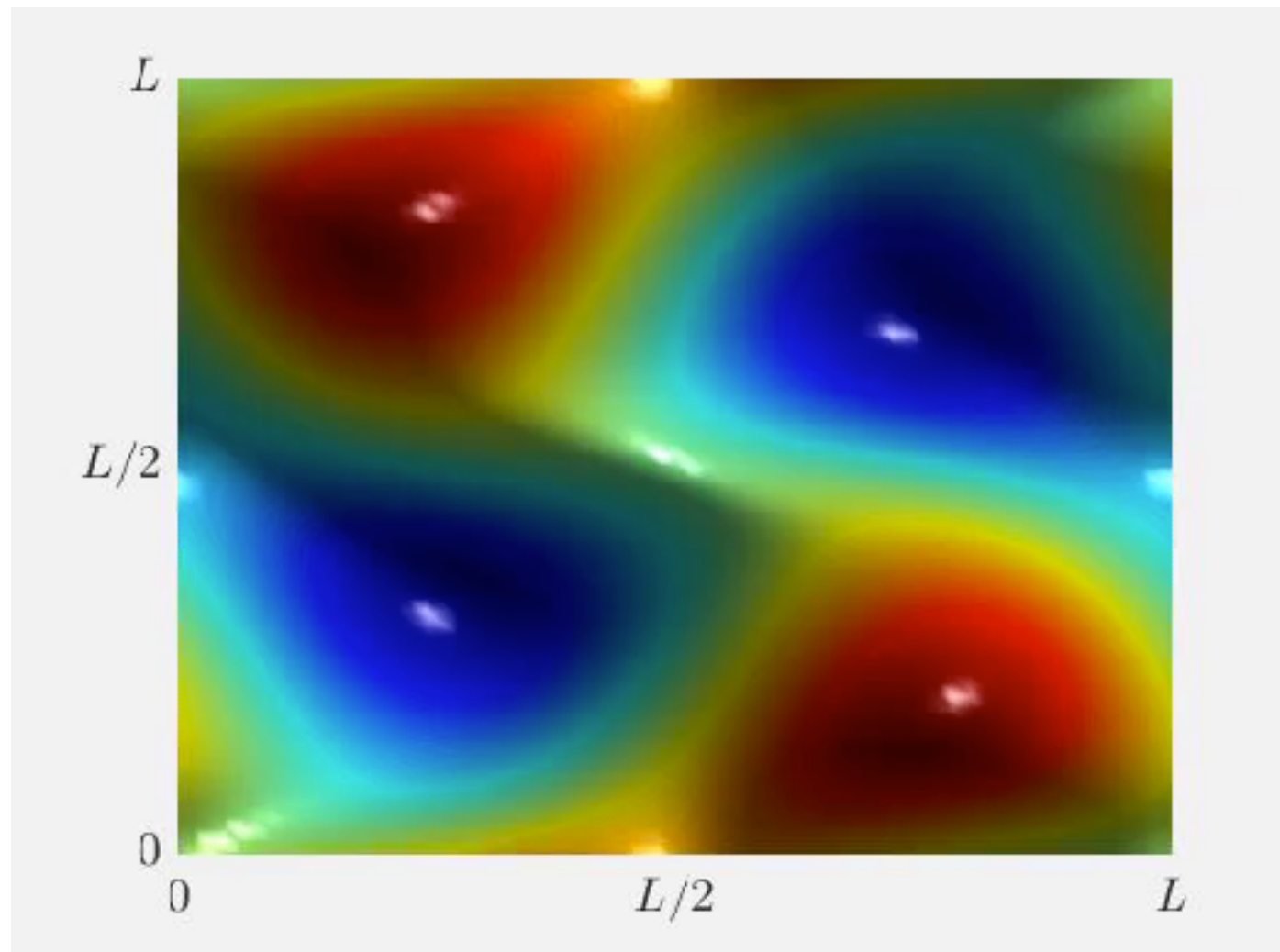


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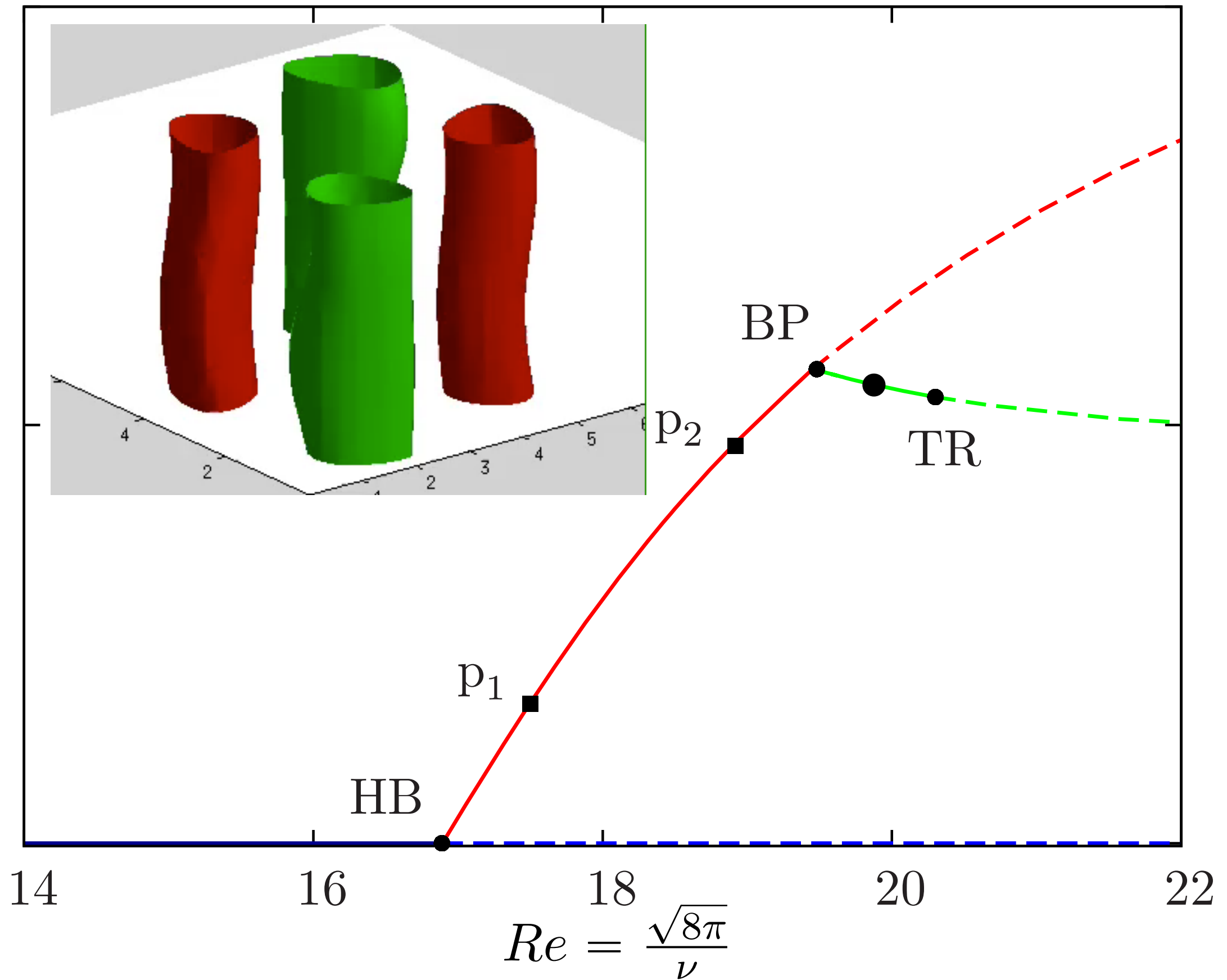
**Theorem:** Consider NS defined on the three-torus  $\mathbb{T}^3$  (with size length  $L = 2\pi$ ) and consider the Taylor-Green time-independent forcing term. Let  $\nu = 0.265$  and  $(\bar{u}, \bar{p})$  be a numerical solution computed with  $N_{x_1} = N_{x_2} = 21$ ,  $N_{x_3} = 0$  and  $N_t = 16$  Fourier coefficients. Let  $r = 2.2491 \cdot 10^{-6}$ . There exists a  $\frac{2\pi}{\Omega}$ -periodic solution  $(u, p)$  of NS with  $|\Omega - \bar{\Omega}| \leq r$  and  $\|u - \bar{u}\|_{C^0} \leq r$ .



	$\eta$	$N_{x_1}$	$N_{x_2}$	$N_{x_3}$	$N_t$	$N^\dagger$	$\tilde{N}$	RAM (GB)	CPU days
p <sub>1</sub>	1	17	17	0	11	130	265	10	6
p <sub>2</sub>	1	21	21	0	16	210	425	110	95

The Galerkin projection for the solution p<sub>2</sub> is  $\mathcal{F} : \mathbb{C}^{61018} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^{61018}$ .

# Future work: a fully 3D spontaneous periodic orbit





**Thank you**

