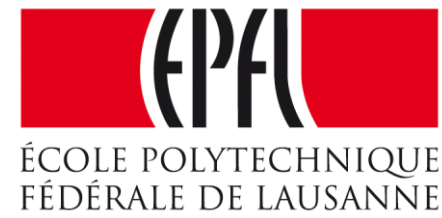


# Biological Modeling of Neural Networks



**Week 4**

**Reducing detail:**

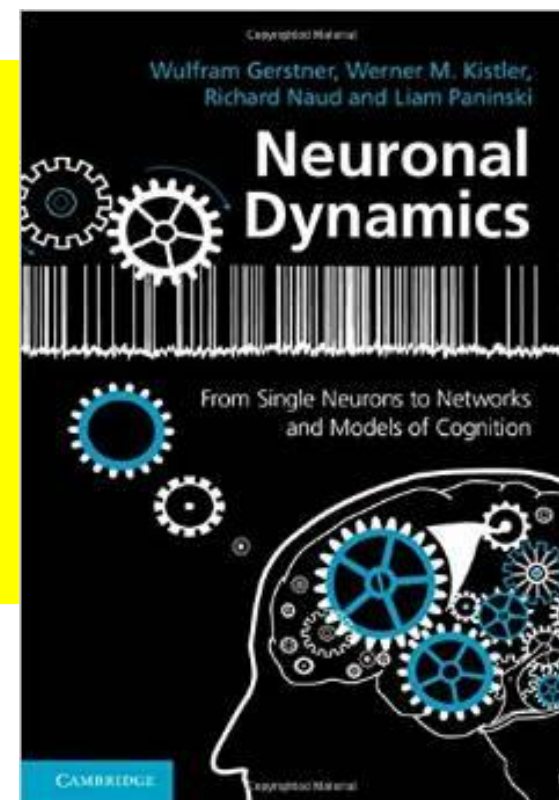
**Analysis of 2D models**

Wulfram Gerstner

EPFL, Lausanne, Switzerland

*Reading for week 4:*  
**NEURONAL DYNAMICS**  
- Ch. 4.4 – 4.7

Cambridge Univ. Press



✓ 3.1 From Hodgkin-Huxley to 2D

✓ 3.2 Phase Plane Analysis

✓ 3.3 Analysis of a 2D Neuron Model

**4.1 Separation of time scales**

**4.2 Type I and II Neuron Models**

- limit cycles: constant input

**4.3 Pulse input**

- where is the firing threshold?

**4.4. Further reduction to 1 dim**

- nonlinear integrate-and-fire (again)

# **Week 4 – Review from week 3**

---

## **-Reduction of Hodgkin-Huxley to 2 dimension**

-step 1: separation of time scales

-step 2: exploit similarities/correlations

# Week 4 – Review from week 3

$$C \frac{du}{dt} = - \overbrace{g_{Na} [m(t)]^3 h(t) (u(t) - E_{Na})}^{I_{Na}} - \overbrace{g_K [n(t)]^4 (u(t) - E_K)}^{I_K} - \overbrace{g_l (u(t) - E_l)}^{I_{leak}} + I(t)$$

$$C \frac{du}{dt} = -g_{Na} m_0 (u)^3 (1-w)(u - E_{Na}) - g_K \left[\frac{w}{a}\right]^4 (u - E_K) - g_l (u - E_l) + I(t)$$

1) dynamics of  $m$  are fast

$$\longrightarrow m(t) = m_0(u(t))$$

2) dynamics of  $h$  and  $n$  are similar

$$\longrightarrow \underbrace{1-h(t)}_{w(t)} = a \underbrace{n(t)}_{w(t)}$$

$w(t)$

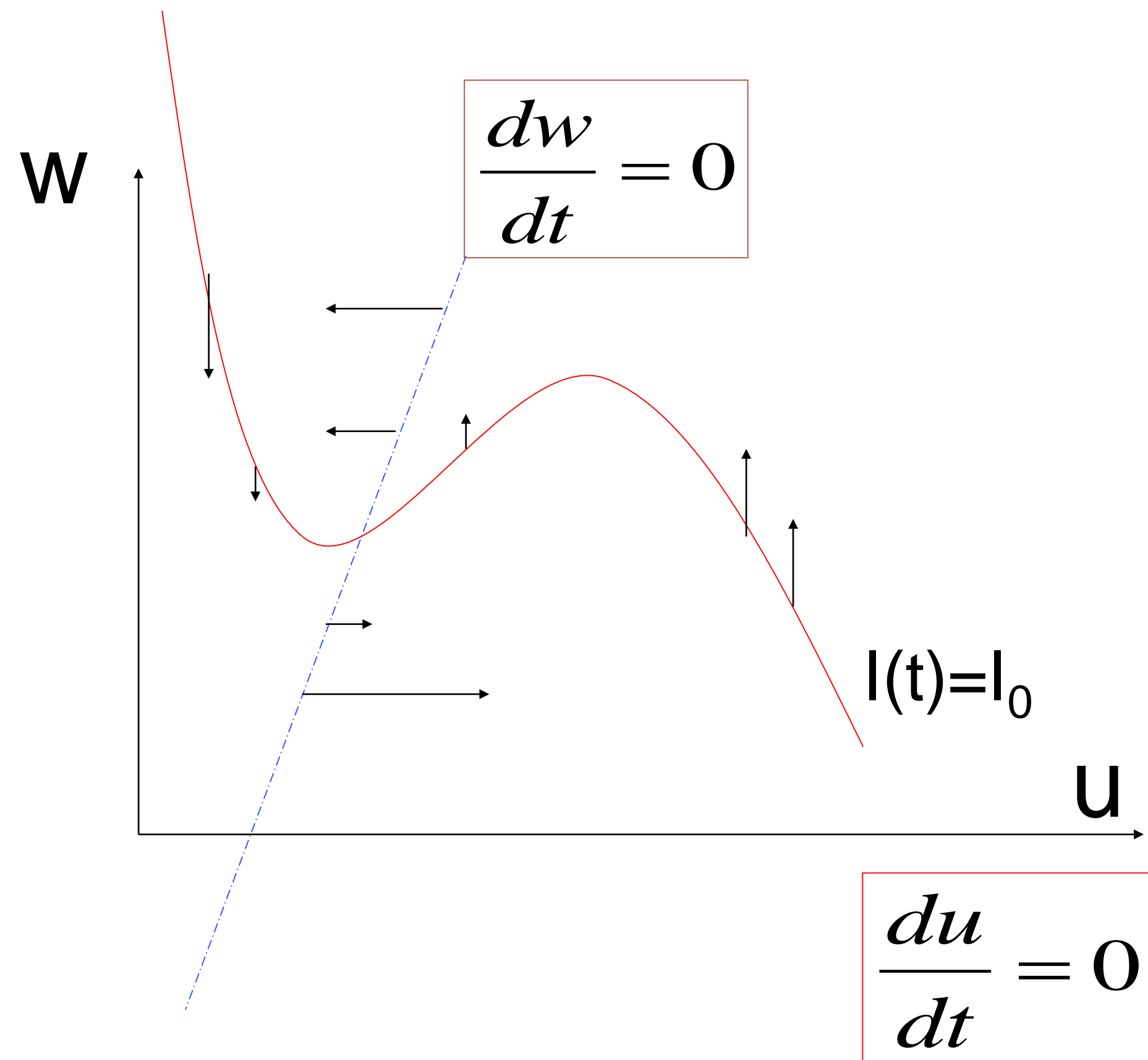
$w(t)$

$$\frac{dh}{dt} = - \frac{h - h_0(u)}{\tau_h(u)}$$

$$\longrightarrow \frac{dw}{dt} = - \frac{w - w_0(u)}{\tau_{eff}(u)}$$

$$\frac{dn}{dt} = - \frac{n - n_0(u)}{\tau_n(u)}$$

# Week 4 – review from week 3



2-dimensional equation <sup>stimulus</sup>

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

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

**Enables graphical analysis!**

- Pulse input

→ AP firing (or not)

- Constant input

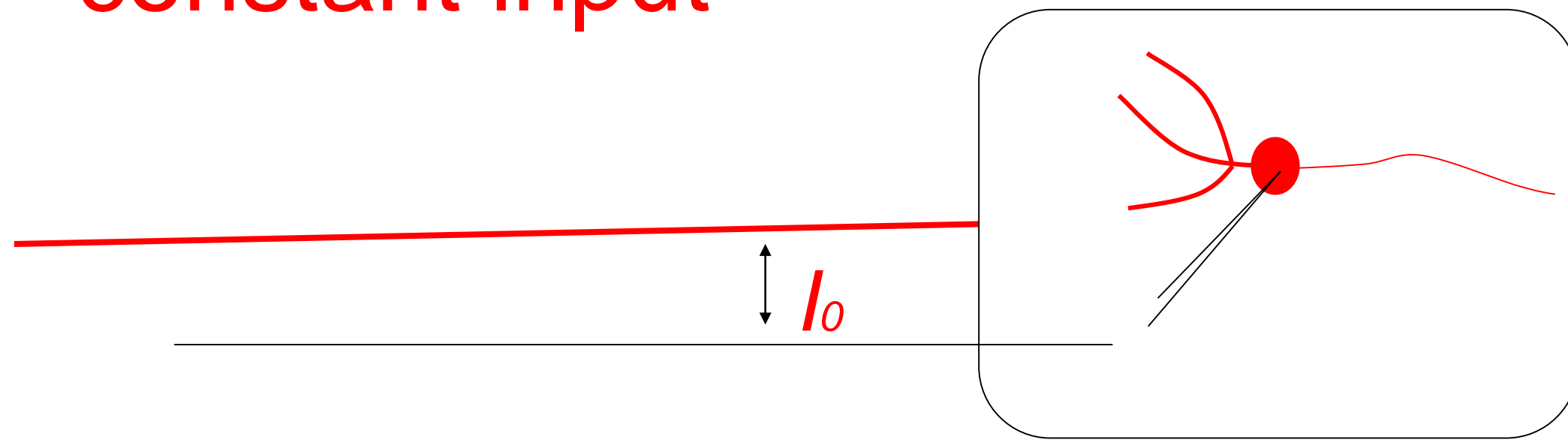
→ repetitive firing (or not)

→ limit cycle (or not)

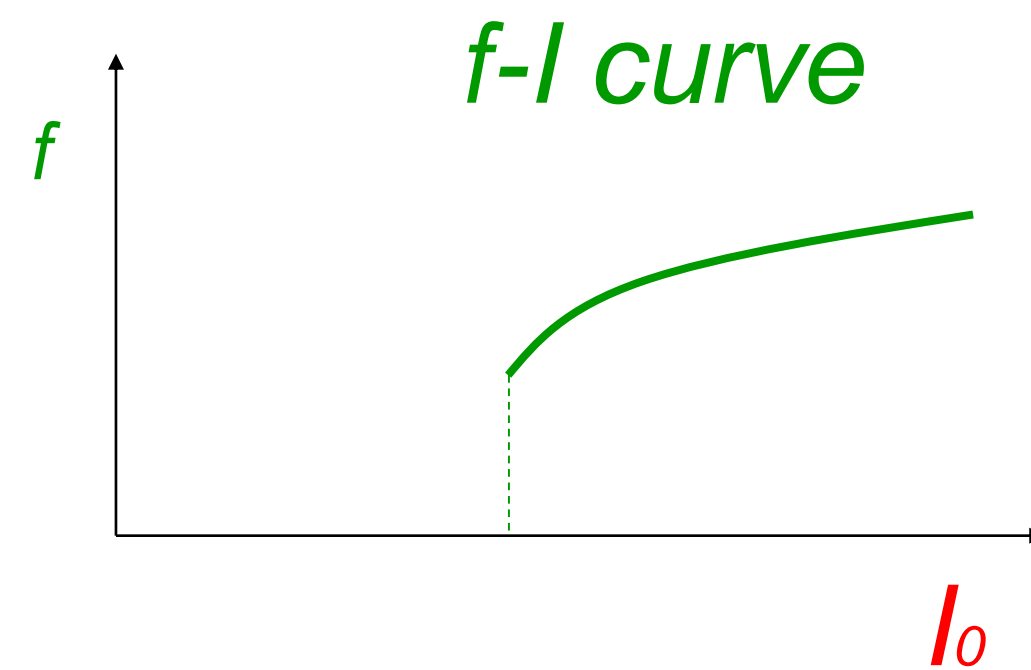
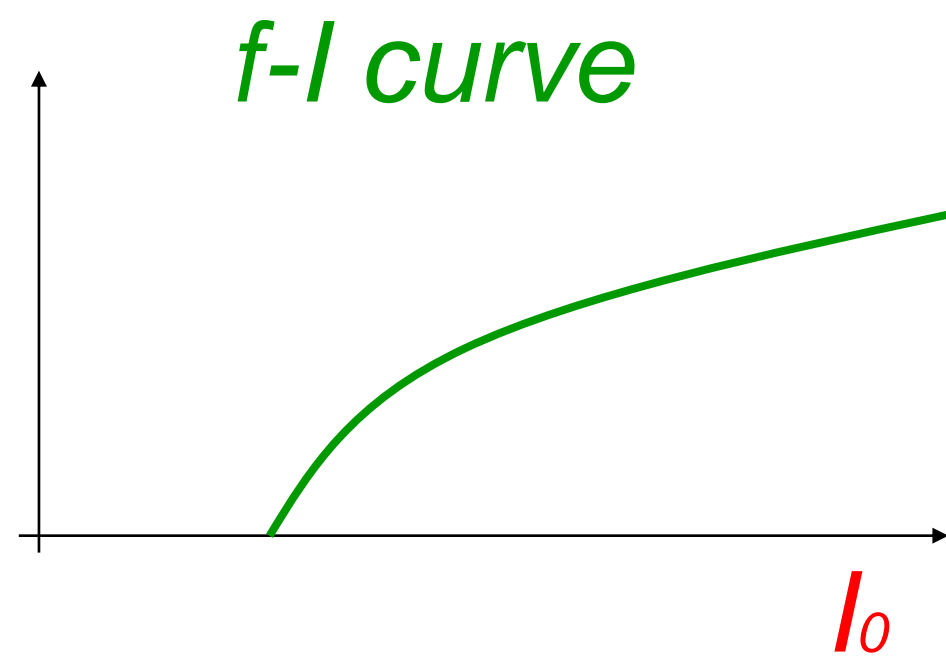
# Week 4 – Reducing Detail – 2D models

ramp input/  
constant input

neuron



Type I and type II



# 4.1 Nullclines change for constant stimulus

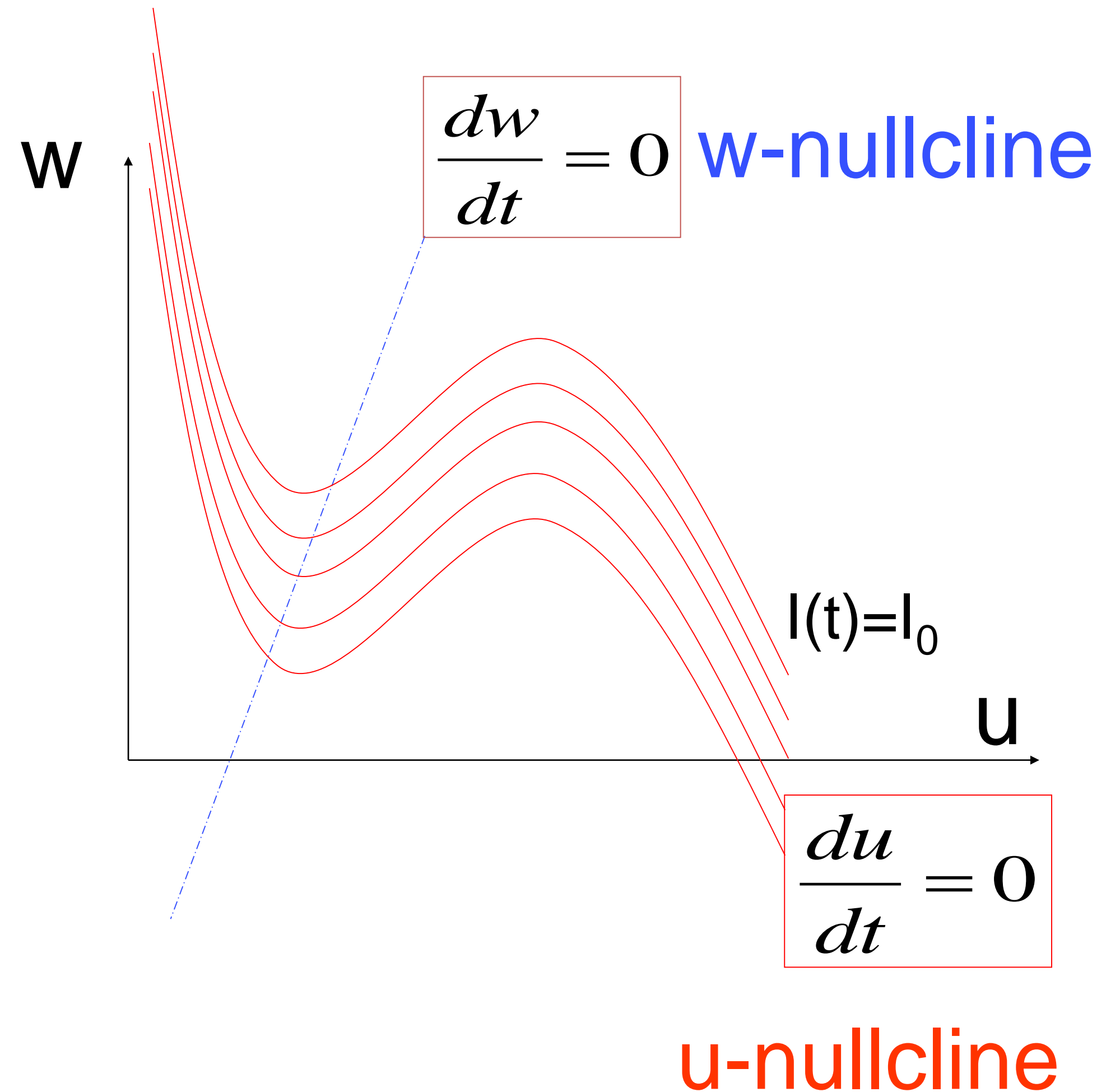
$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + I(t)$$

stimulus  
↓

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

apply constant stimulus  $I_0$

Blackboard 1  $\varepsilon = \frac{\tau}{\tau_w}$



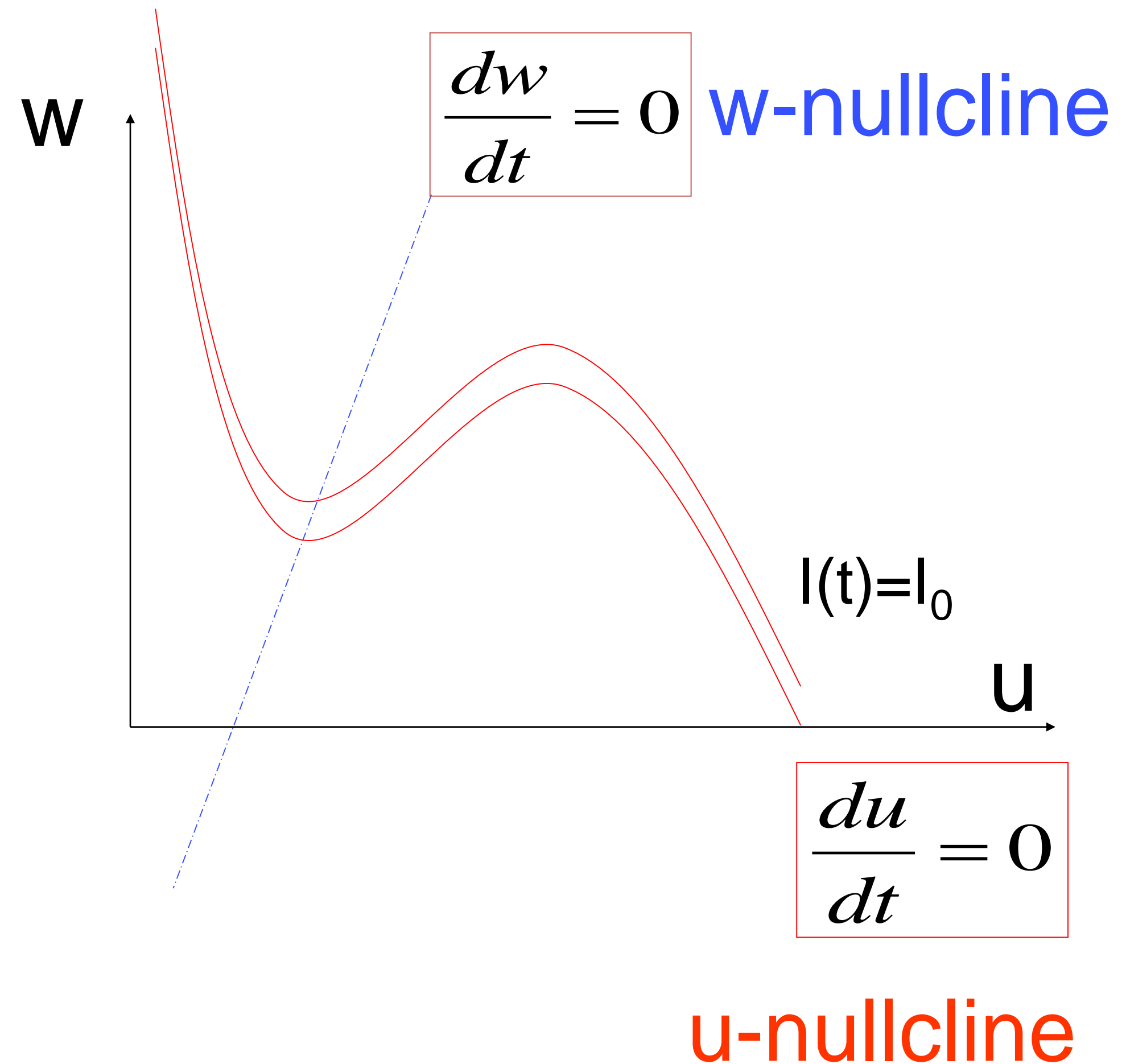
# 4.1 Separation of time scales

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

stimulus  
↓

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

Blackboard 1  $\varepsilon = \frac{\tau}{\tau_w}$



# 4.1. Separation of time scales

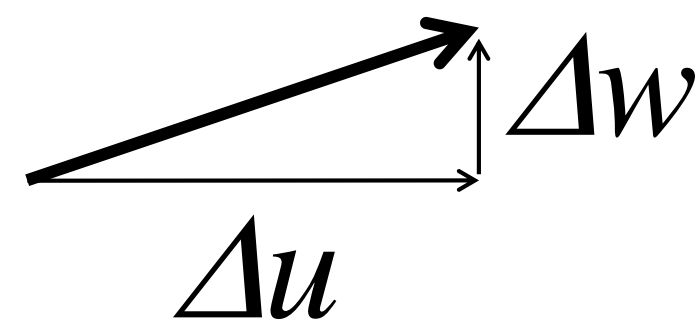
$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + \overset{\text{stimulus}}{\downarrow} RI(t)$$

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

**Separation of time scales**

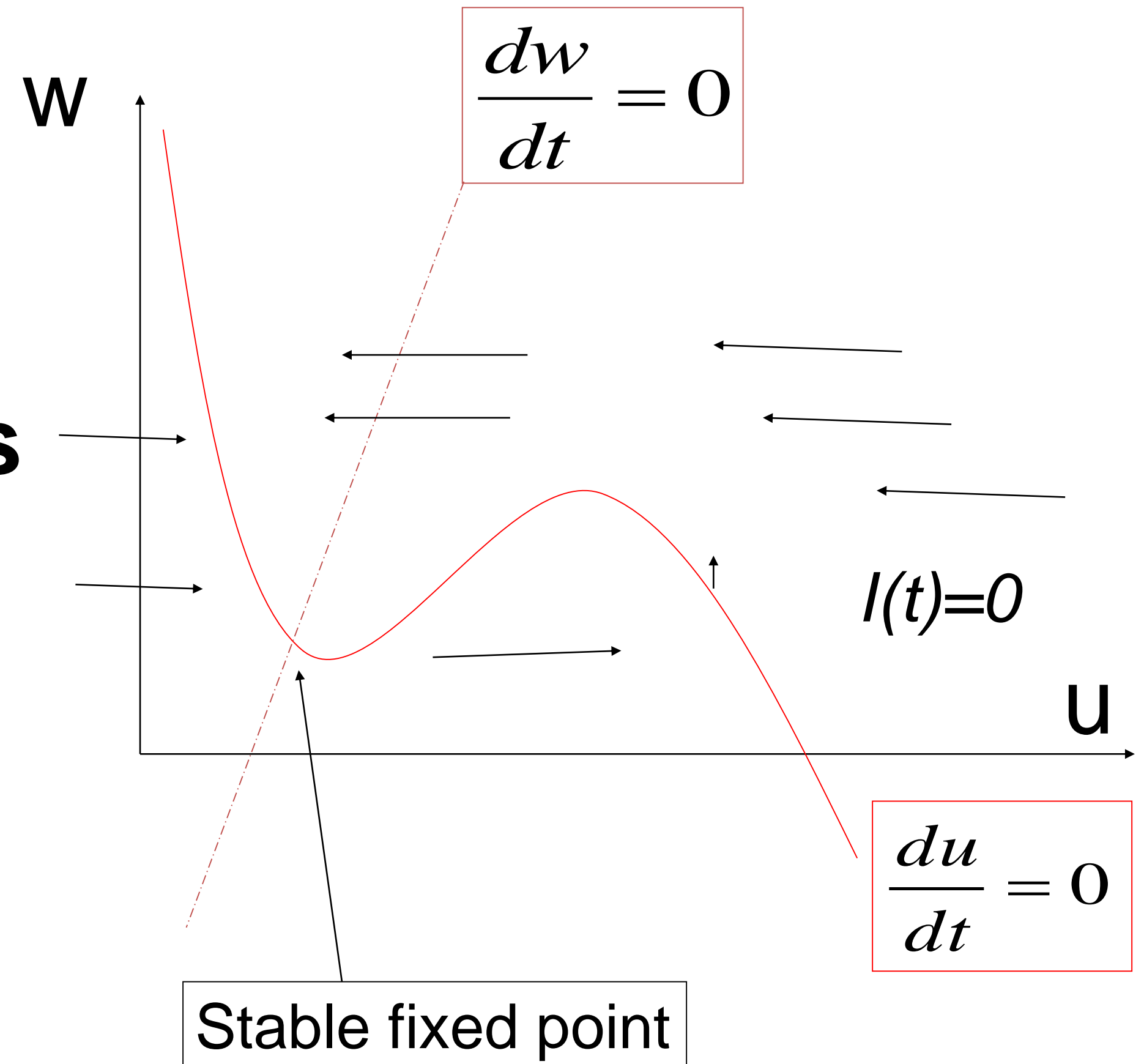
$$\tau_w \gg \tau_u$$

**Blackboard 1**



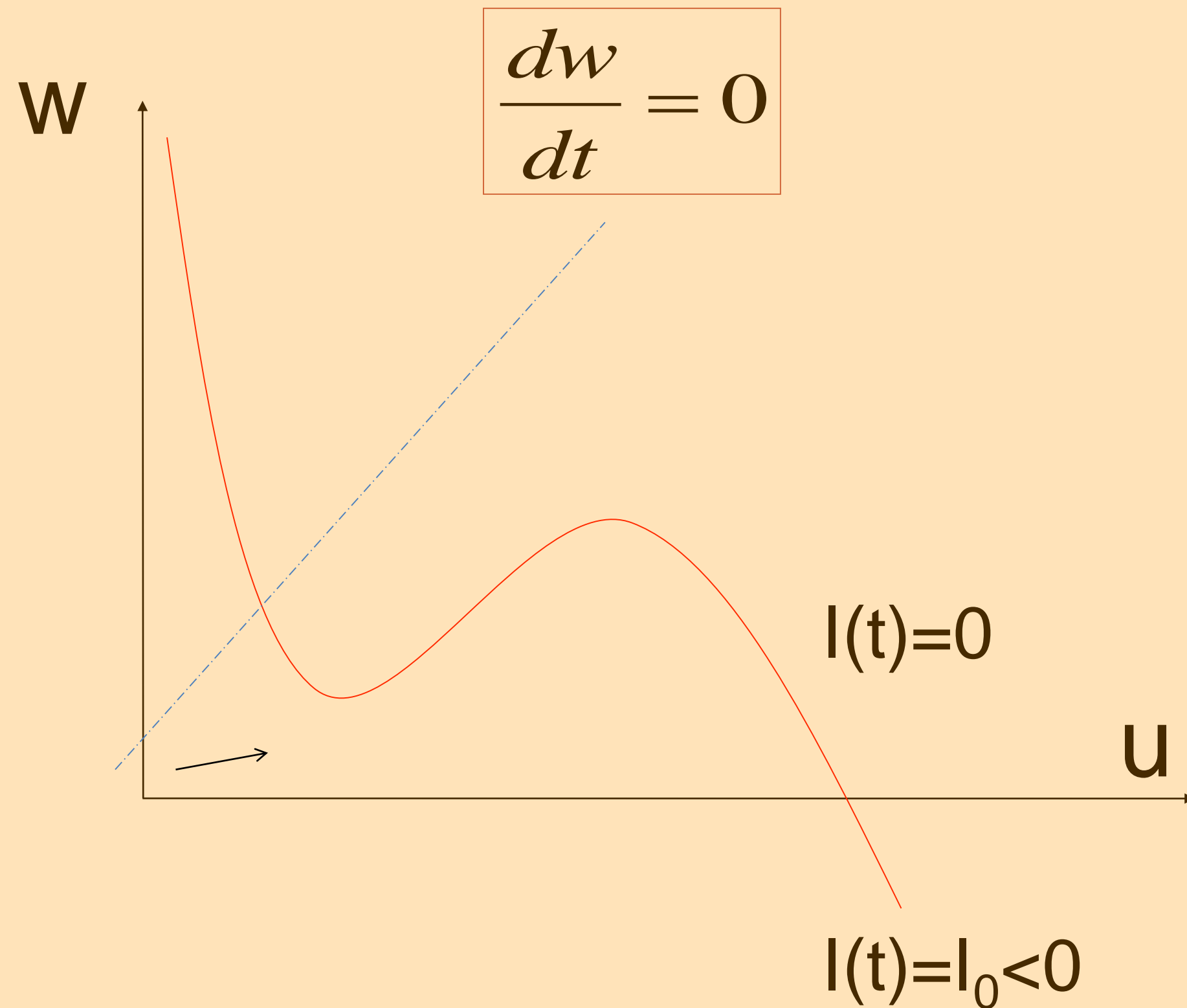
$$\tau_w \gg \tau_u \longrightarrow \Delta w \ll \Delta u$$

**Unless close to nullcline**





# Week 4 – Exercise 1 preparation



**Now exercises**

## Exercise 1: Inhibitory rebound

Consider the following two-dimensional Fitzhugh-Nagumo model:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{du}{dt} = u(1-u^2) - w + I \equiv F(u, w) \\ \frac{dw}{dt} = \varepsilon(u - 0.5w + 1) \equiv \varepsilon G(u, w), \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where  $\varepsilon \ll 1$ .

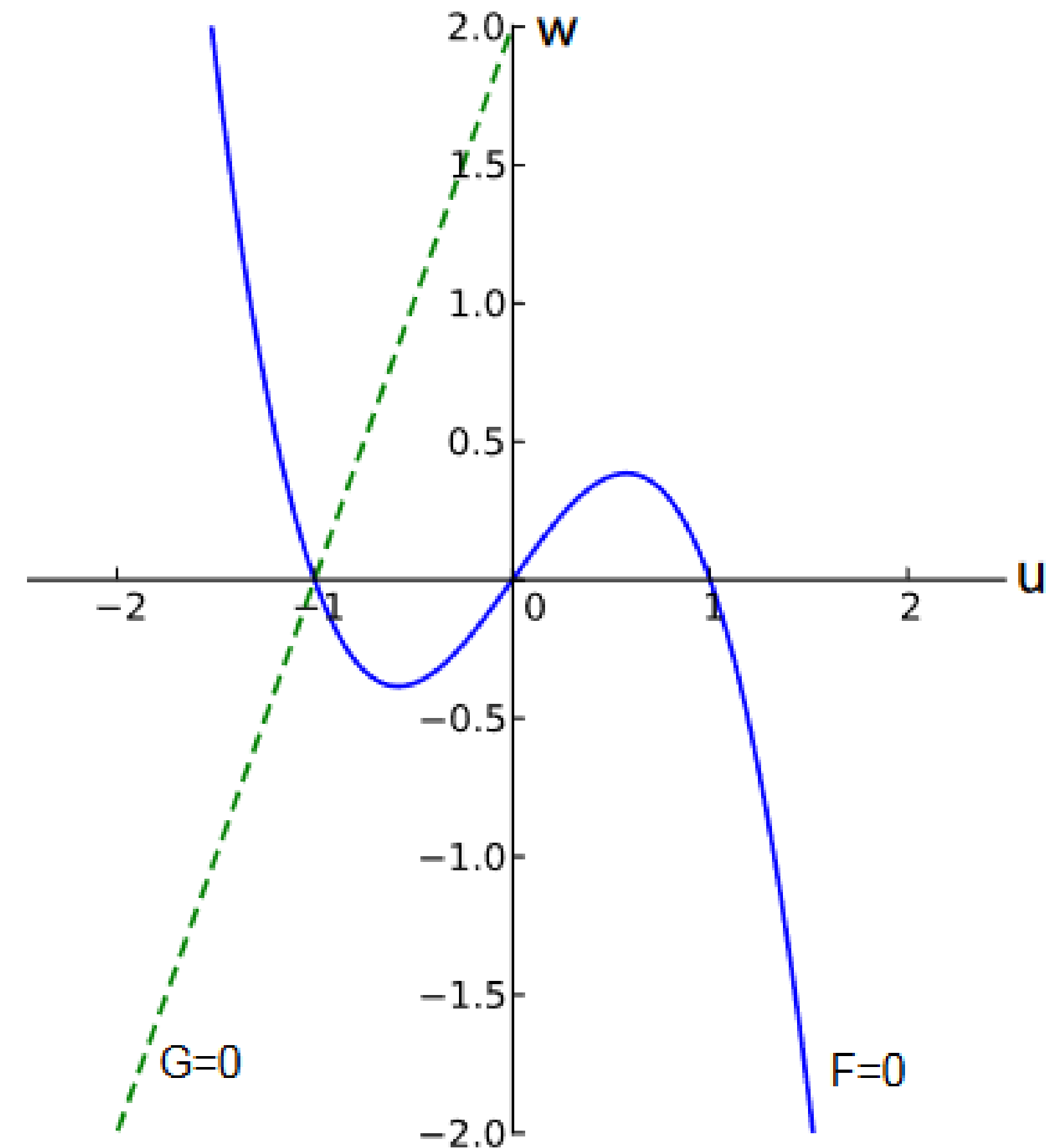
1.1 Suppose that an inhibitory current step is applied,

$$I(t) = \begin{cases} -I_0 & t \leq 0 \\ 0 & t > 0 \end{cases}$$

How does the fixed point move?

1.2 What happens after the driving current is removed? Sketch the form of the trajectories for increasing values of  $I_0$ . What happens for large  $I_0$ ?

Start at 9:30  
Next lecture at 9:40



## 4.1. Summary: Separation of time scales

We have seen a first separation of time scales last week to remove the  $m$ -variable. Today I have introduced a second separation of time scale: the  $w$ -variable is (in reality a bit) slower than the voltage variable.

For mathematical reasons we considered the limit where  $w$  is MUCH slower than the voltage variable.

In this limit, the flow arrows are all horizontal – except in the region very close to the  $u$ -nullcline.

This condition can be exploited for two interesting stimuli:

- (i) A constant stimulus strong enough to evoke a limit cycle. In this case the trajectory either jumps or follows the  $u$ -nullcline.
- (ii) A pulse stimulus. In this case, the voltage either goes rapidly back to the fixed point or it takes a detour.

We look at both stimulation paradigms again throughout the lecture.

# Biological Modeling of Neural Networks



**Week 4**

**Reducing detail:**

**Analysis of 2D models**

✓ 3.1 From Hodgkin-Huxley to 2D

✓ 3.2 Phase Plane Analysis

✓ 3.3 Analysis of a 2D Neuron Model

4.1 Separation of time scales

4.2 Type I and II Neuron Models

- limit cycles: constant input

4.3 Pulse input

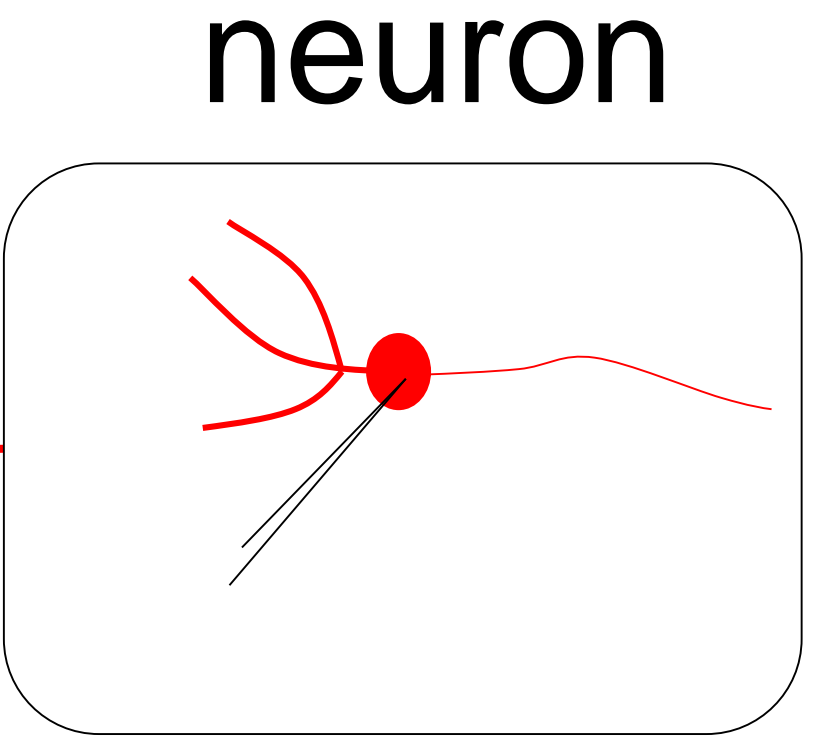
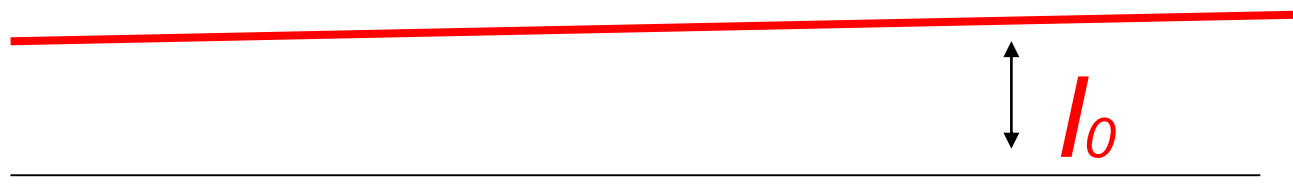
- where is the firing threshold?

4.4. Further reduction to 1 dim

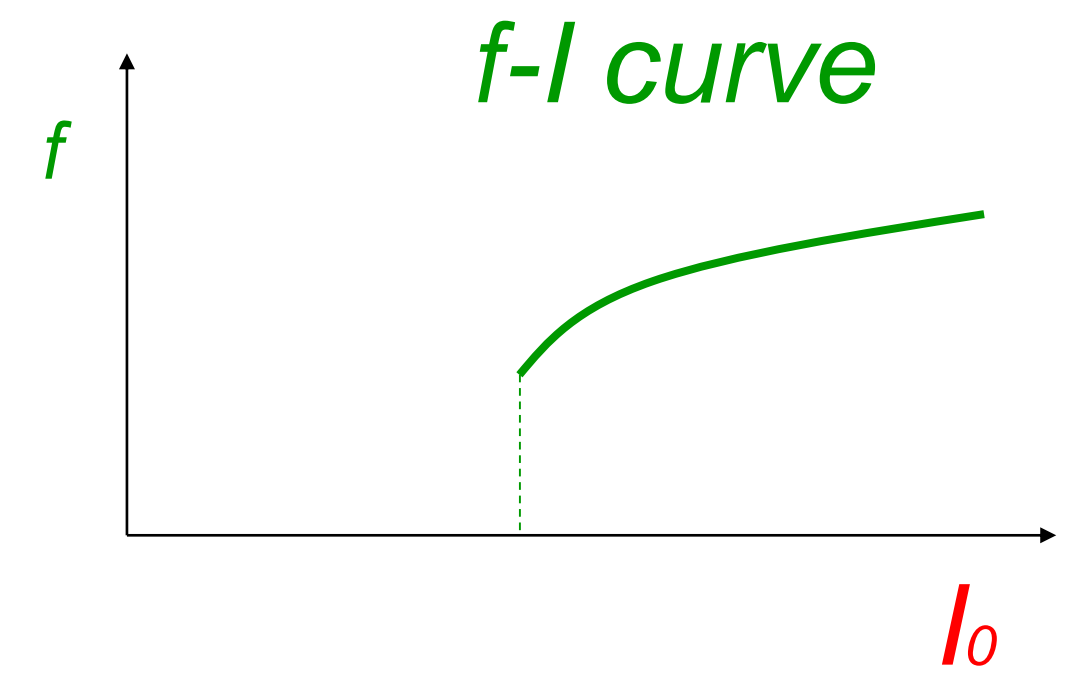
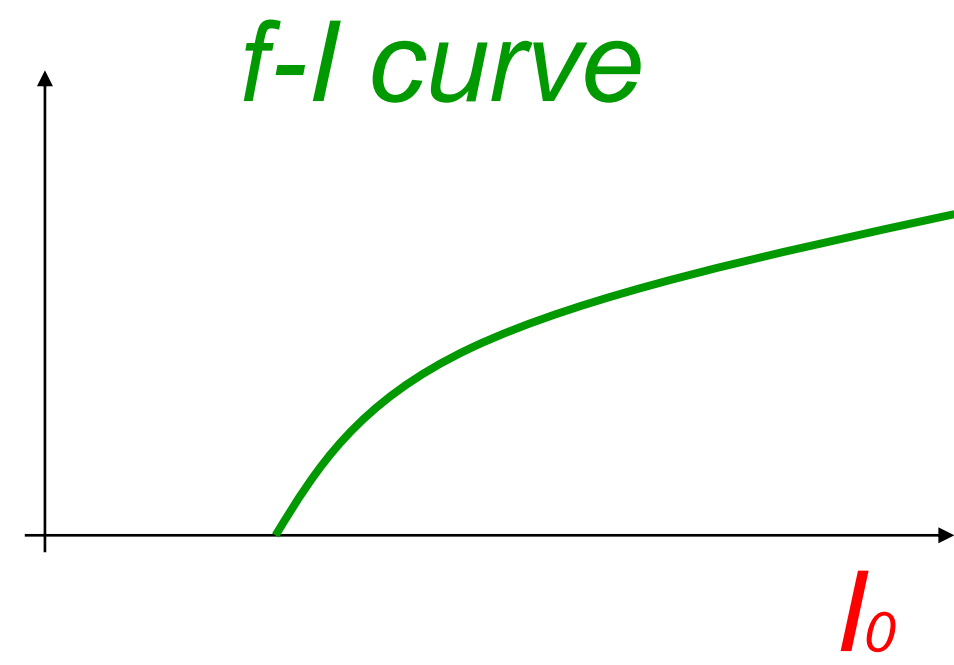
- nonlinear integrate-and-fire (again)

# Week 4 – 4.2. Type I and II Neuron Models

ramp input/  
constant input



Type I and type II models



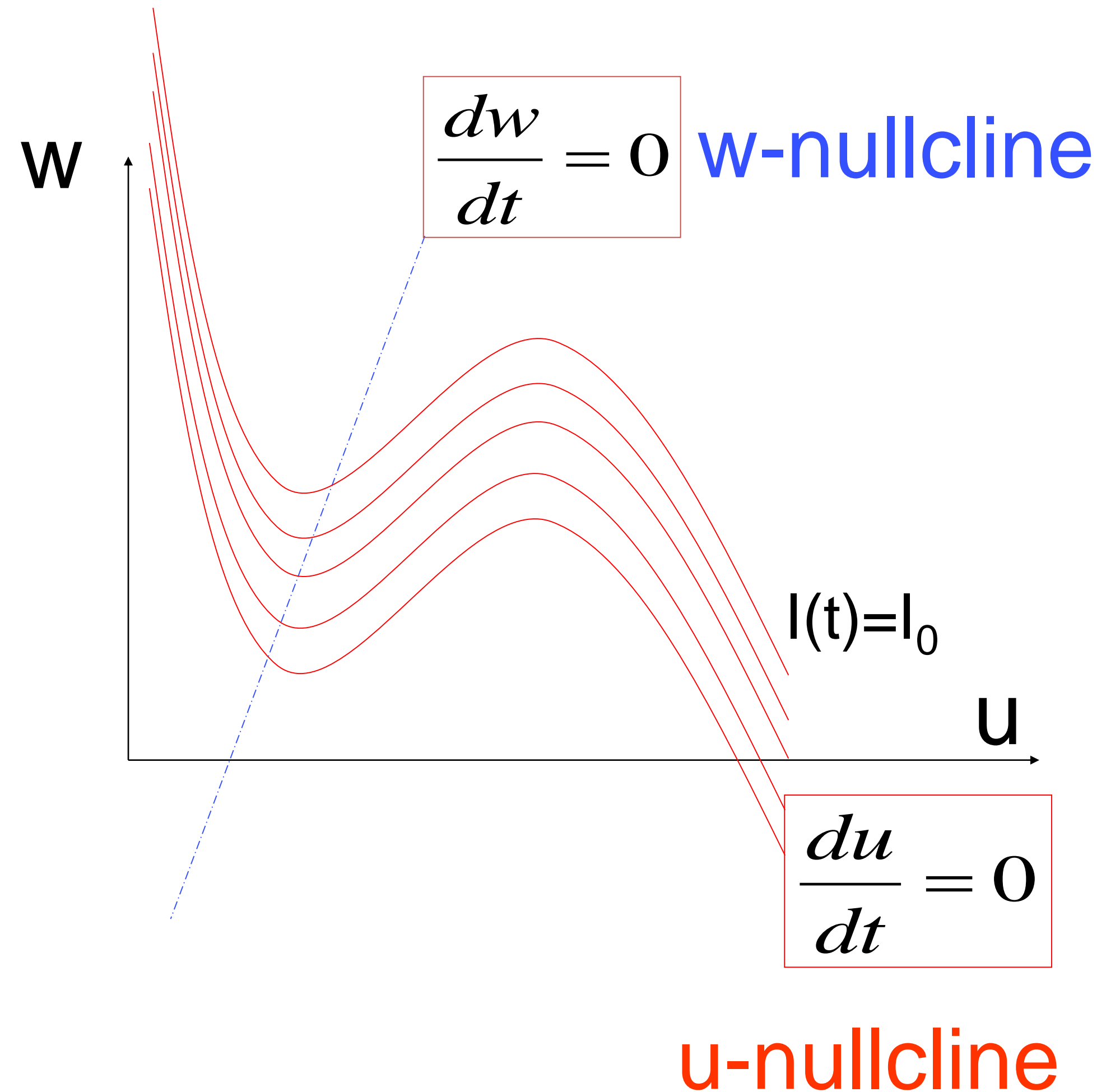
# Review: Nullclines change for constant stimulus

$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + I(t)$$
$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = G(u, w)$$

stimulus



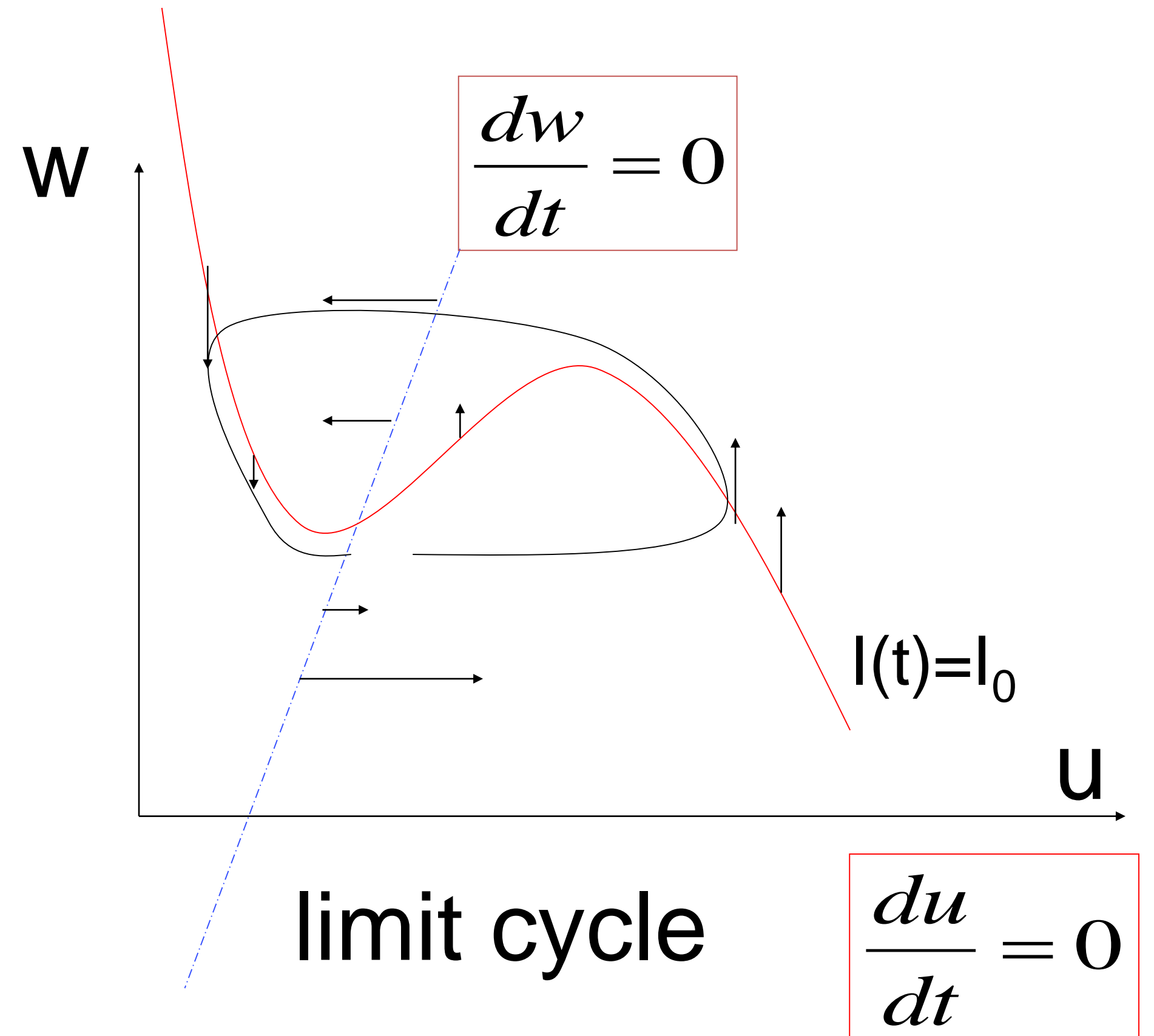
apply constant stimulus  $I_0$



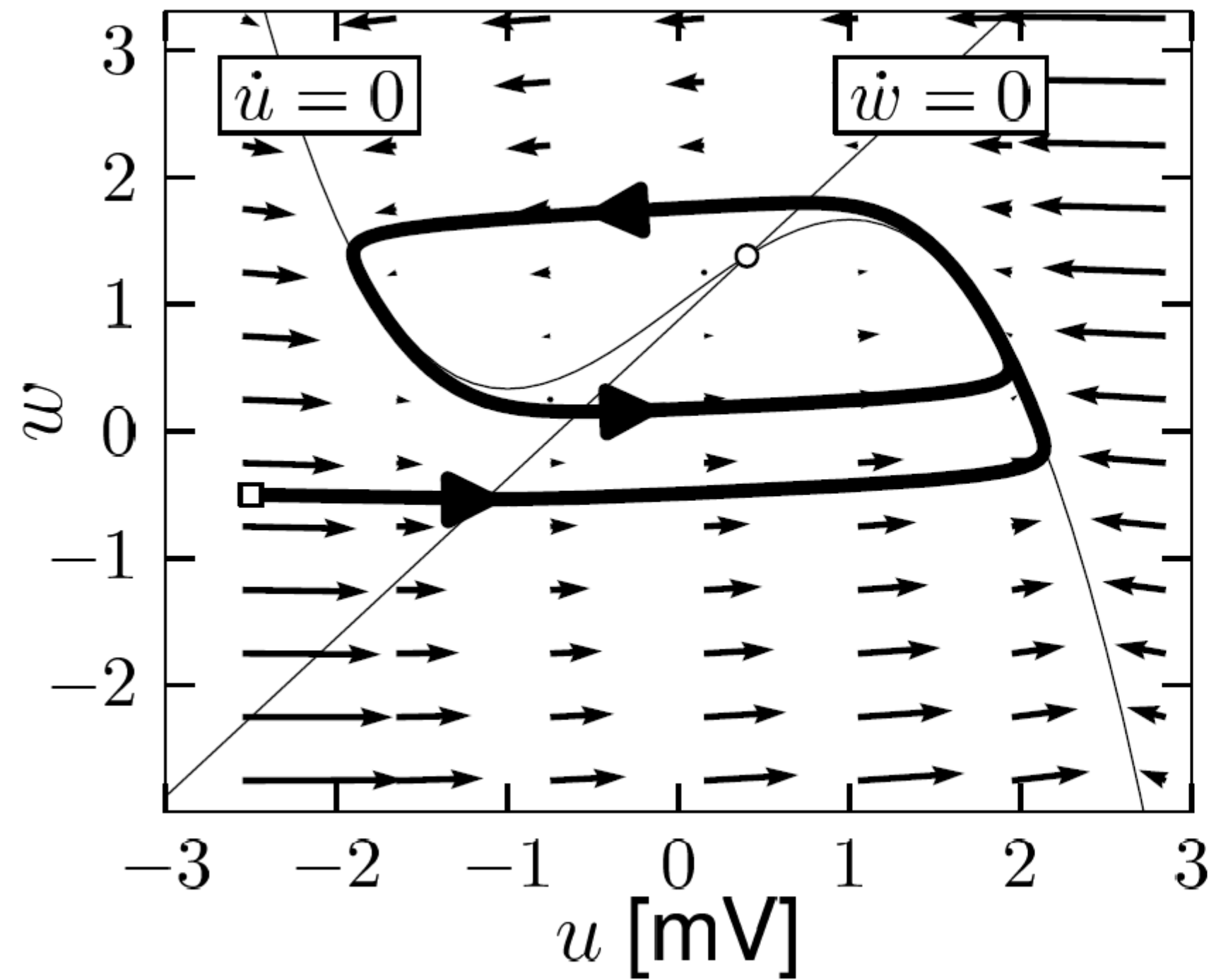
## 4.2. Limit cycle (example: FitzHugh Nagumo Model)

$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + I(t)$$
$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = G(u, w)$$

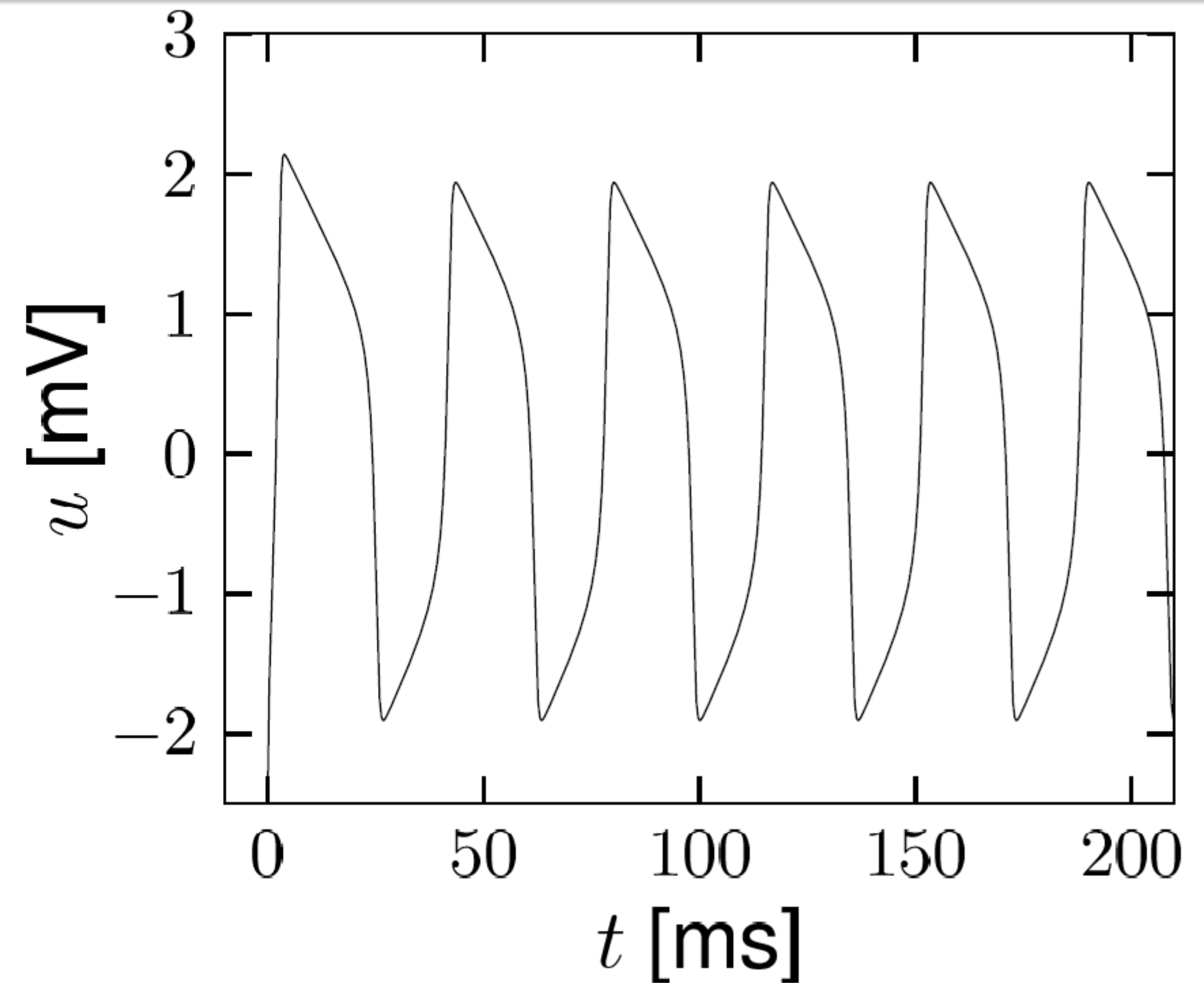
- unstable fixed point
  - closed boundary  
with arrows pointing inside
- > limit cycle



## 4.2. Limit Cycle



D



- unstable fixed point in 2D
- bounding box with inward flow  
→ limit cycle (*Poincare Bendixson*)

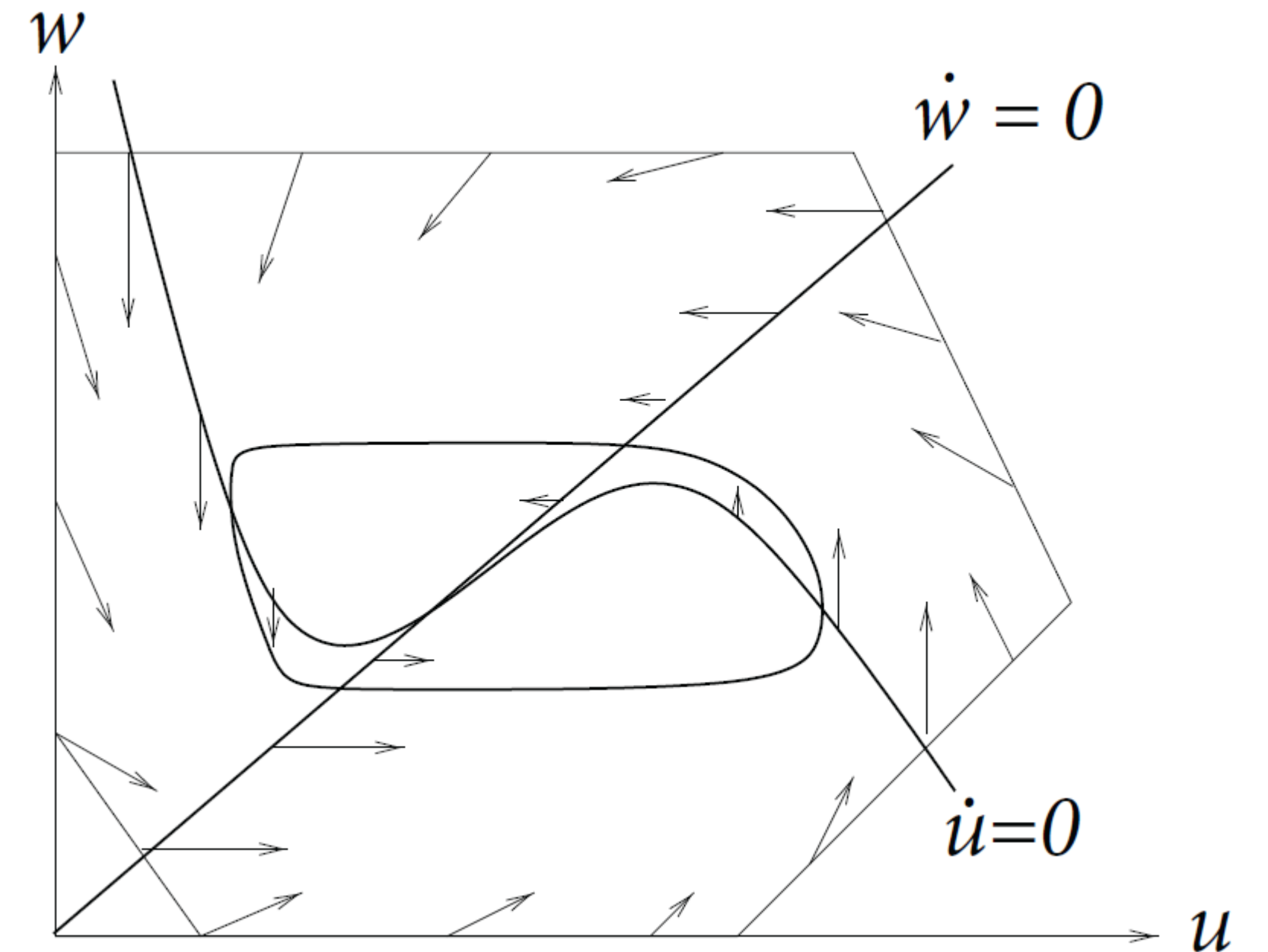
*Image: Neuronal Dynamics,  
Gerstner et al.,  
Cambridge Univ. Press (2014)*



## 4.2. Limit Cycle

**In 2-dimensional equations,  
a limit cycle must exist, if we can  
find a surface**

- containing one unstable fixed point
- no other fixed point
- bounding box with inward flow
  - limit cycle (*Poincare Bendixson*)



*Image: Neuronal Dynamics,  
Gerstner et al.,  
Cambridge Univ. Press (2014)*

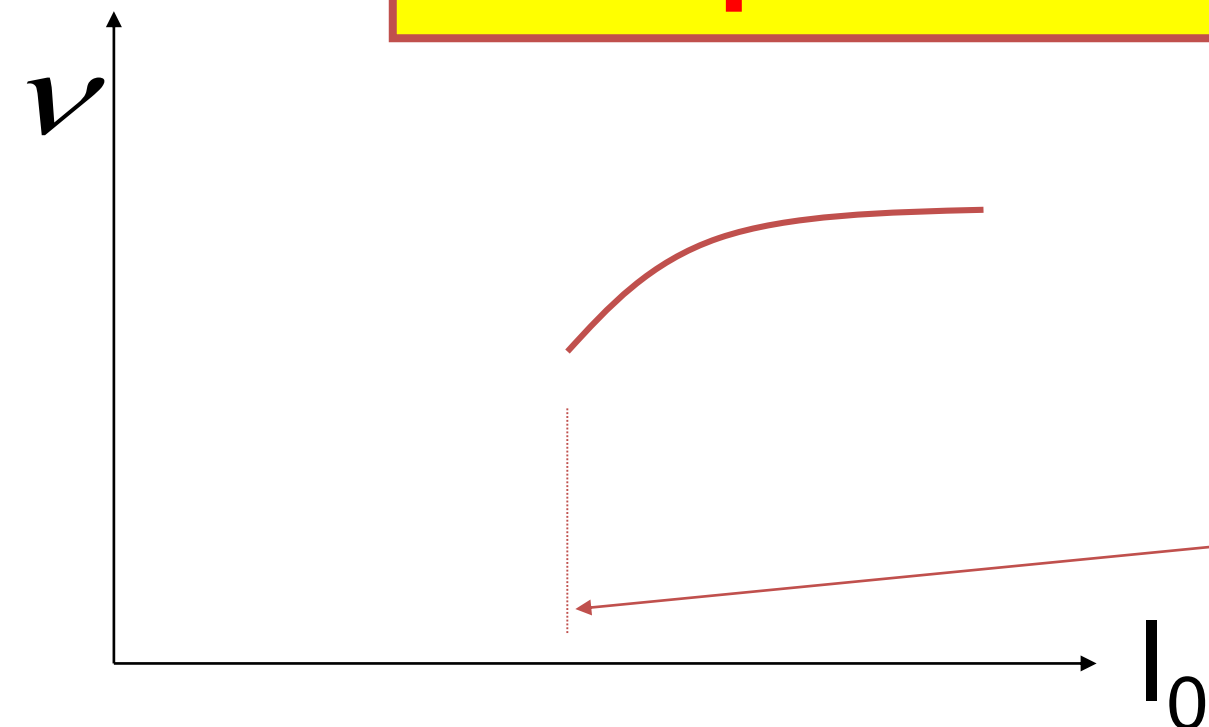
# 4.2 Type II Model

constant input

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

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

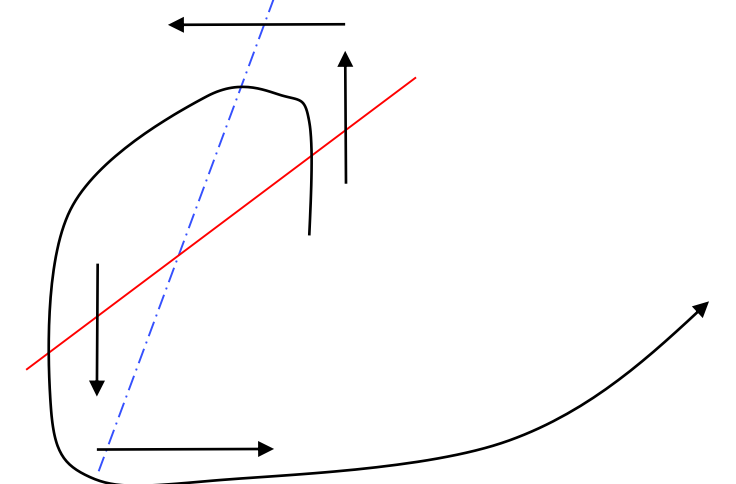
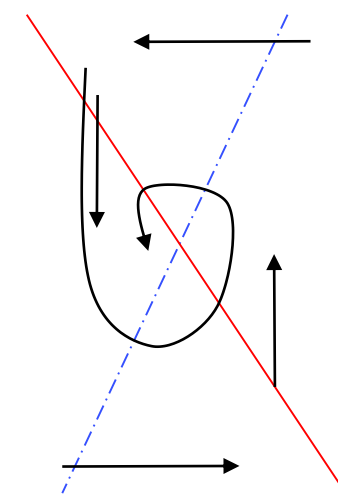
Hopf bifurcation



Discontinuous gain function

Stability lost  $\rightarrow$  oscillation with finite frequency

stimulus



$w$

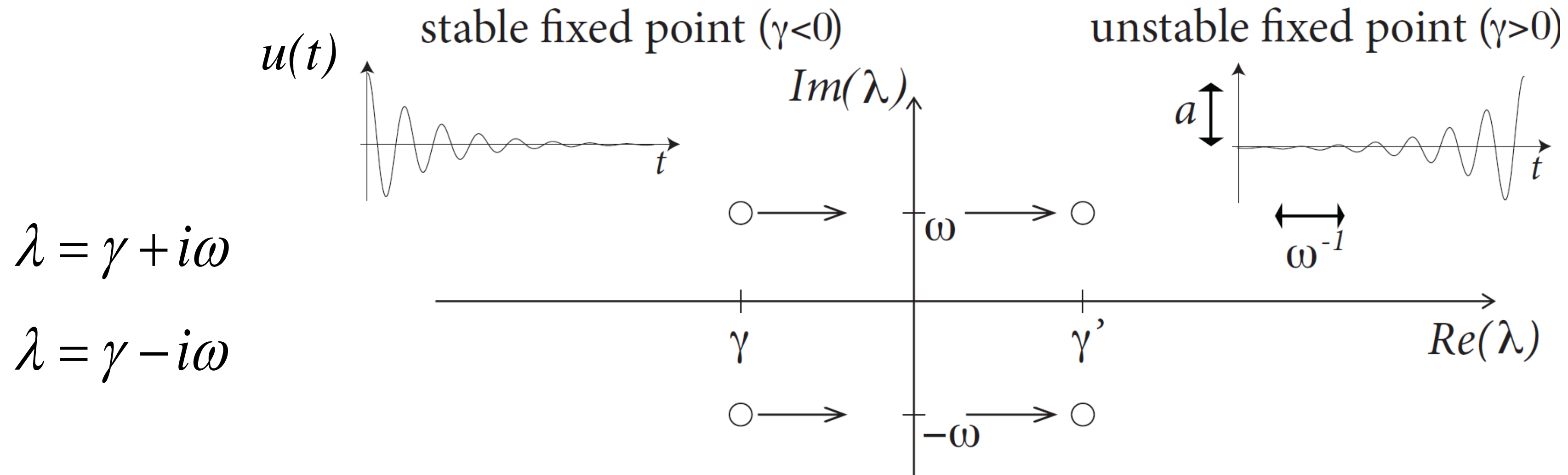
$$\frac{dw}{dt} = 0$$

$I(t) = I_0$

$u$

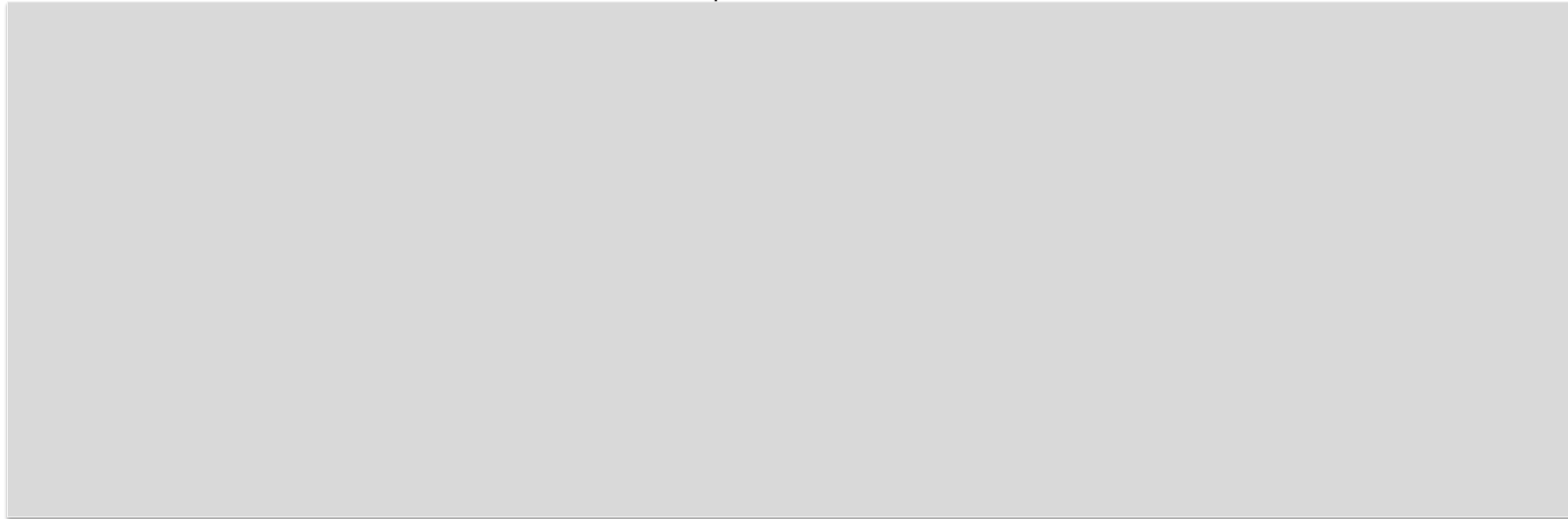
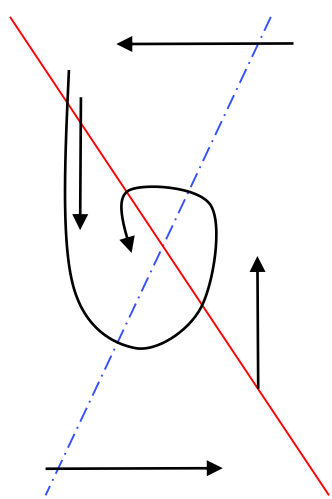
$$\frac{du}{dt} = 0$$

# 4.1. Hopf bifurcation



Blackboard 2

$\gamma < 0$



$\gamma > 0$

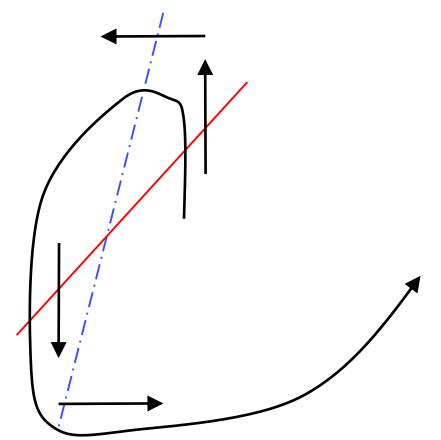
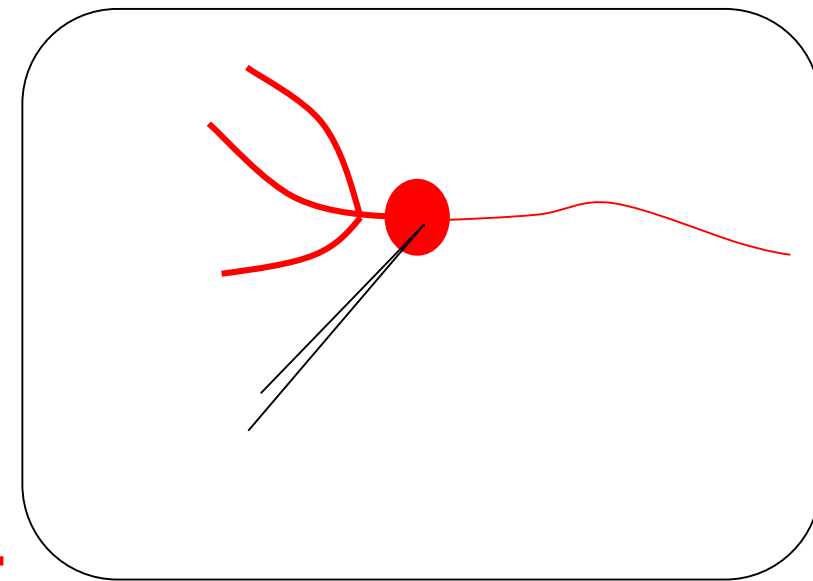


Image: *Neuronal Dynamics*, Gerstner et al., Cambridge Univ. Press (2014)

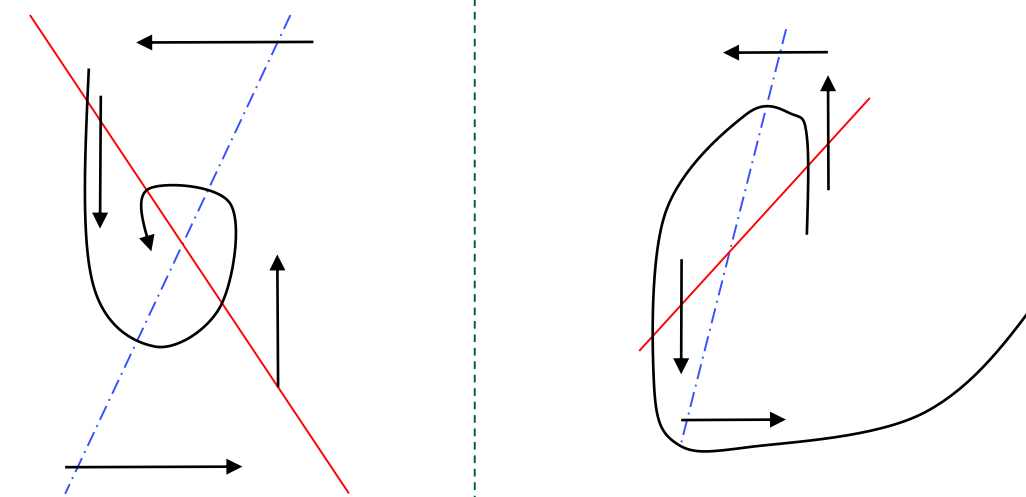
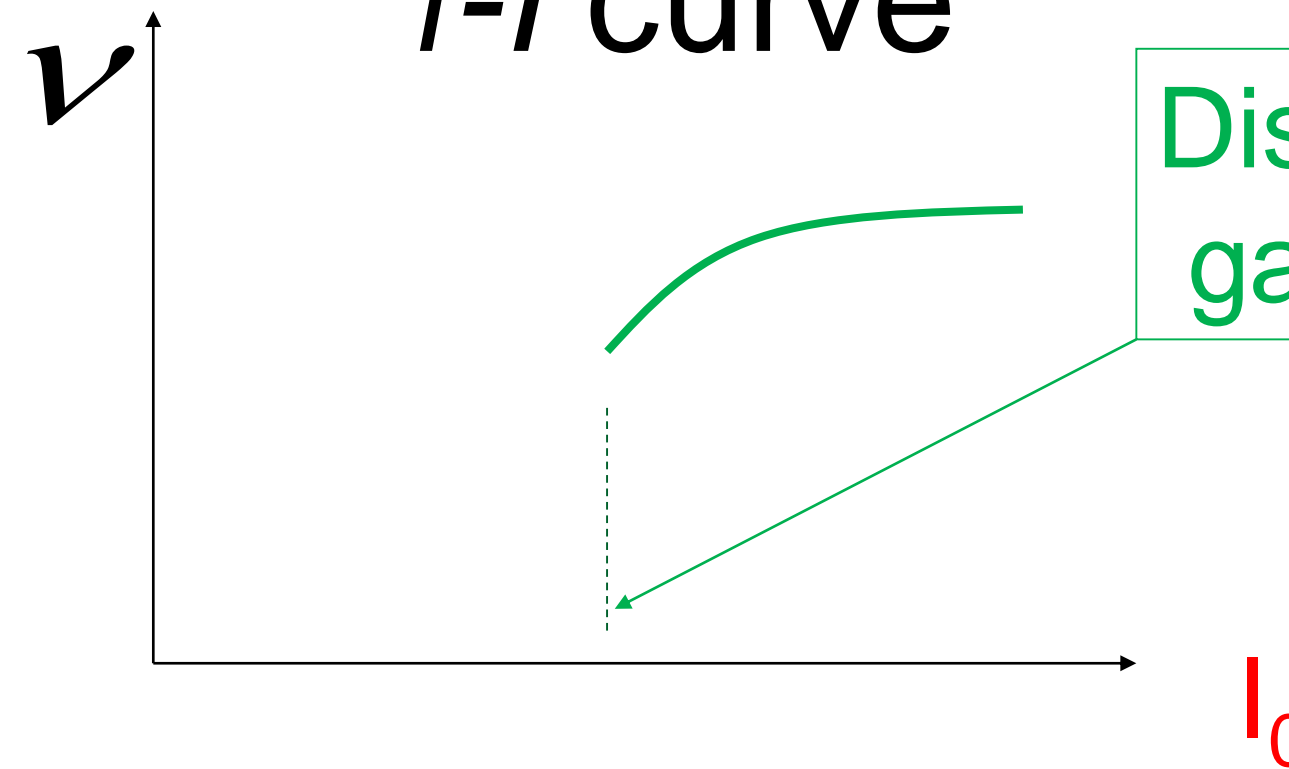
## 4.2. Hopf bifurcation: $f-I$ -curve

ramp input/  
constant input



$I_0$

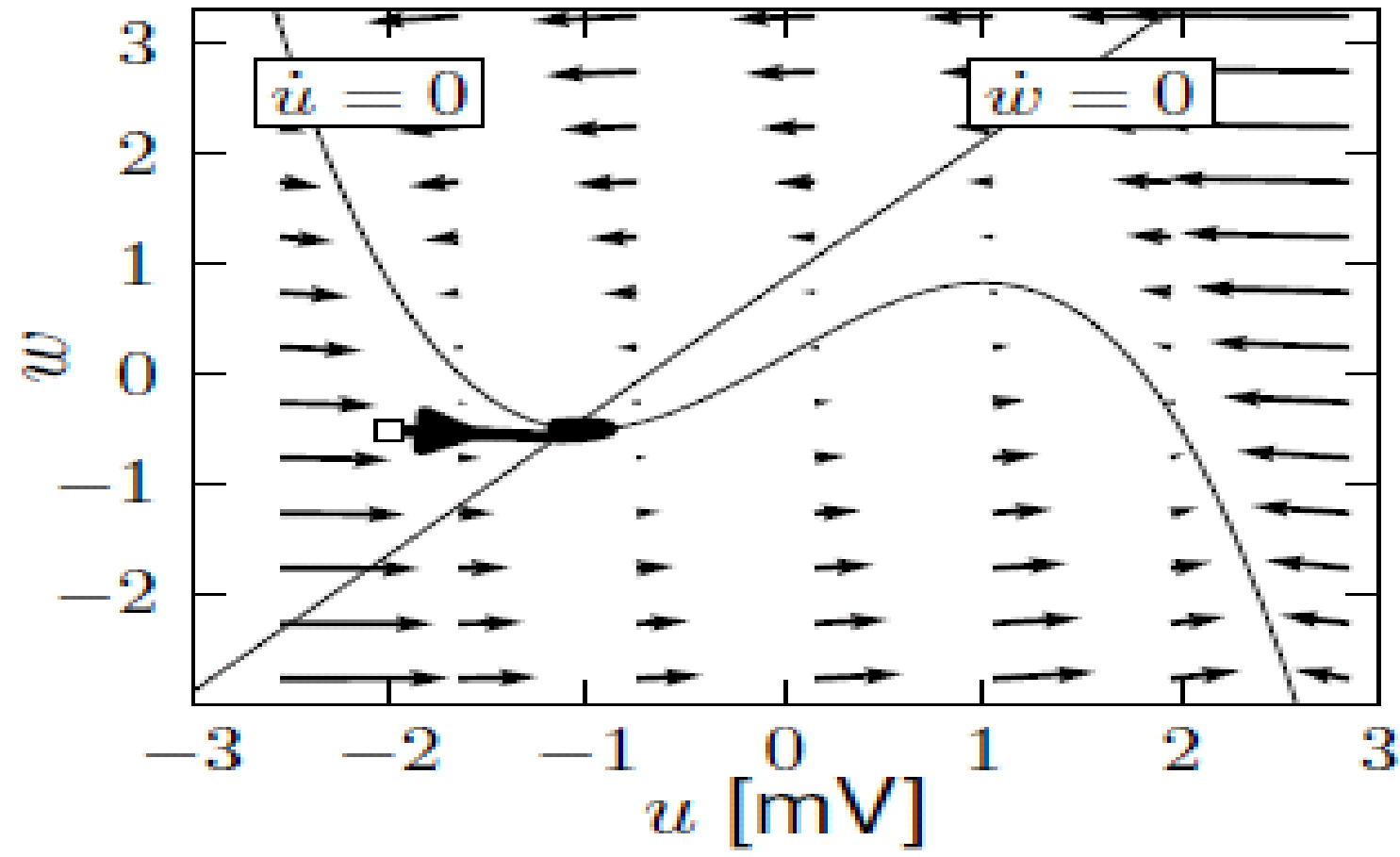
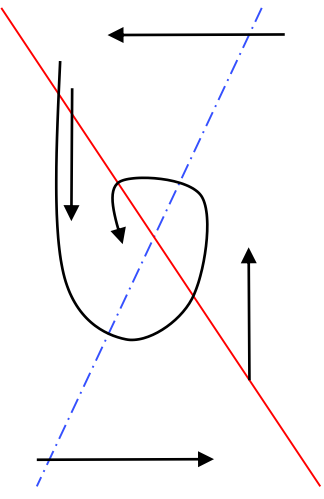
$f-I$  curve



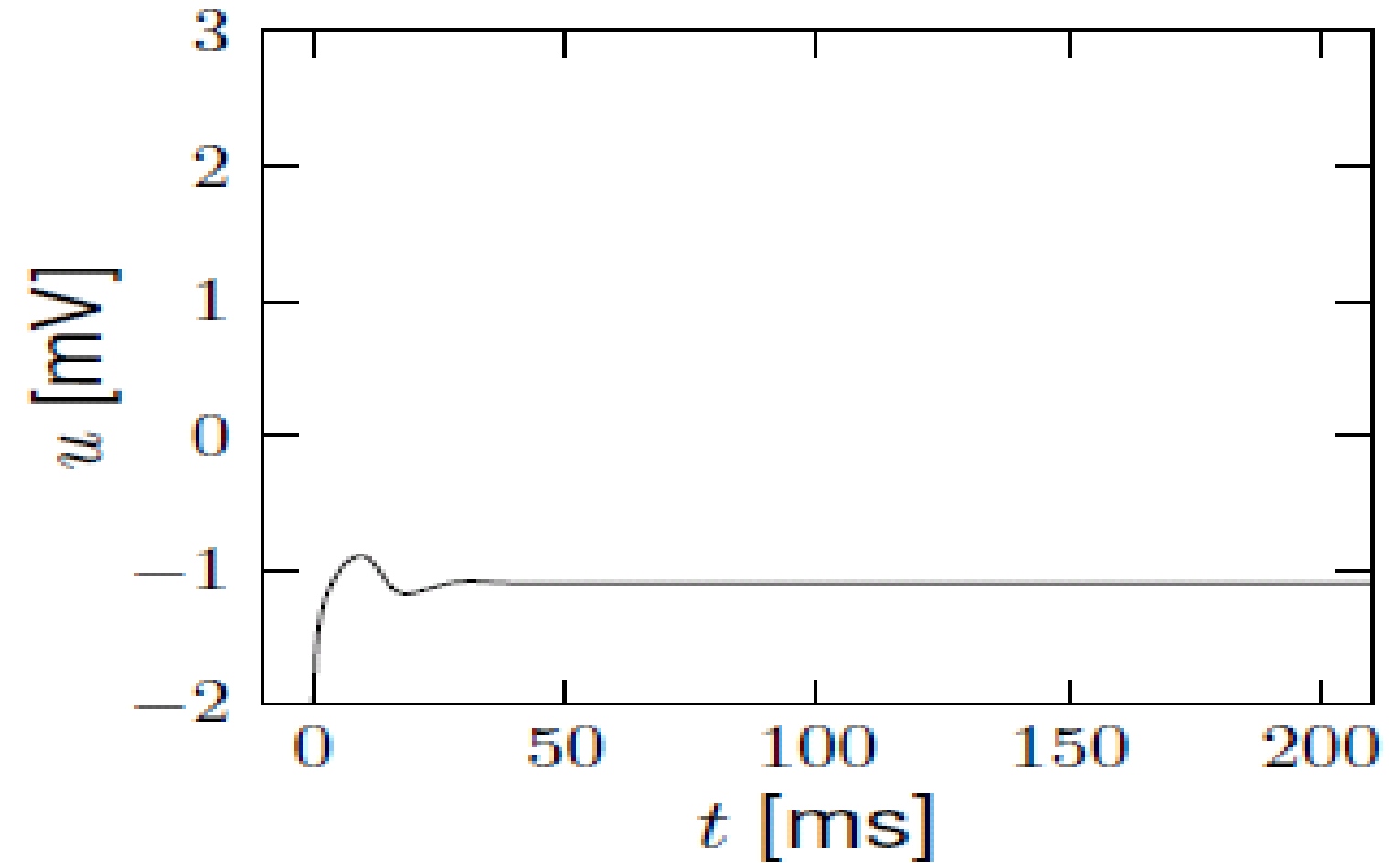
Hopf bifurcation: pair of complex Eigenvalues  
Stability lost  $\rightarrow$  oscillation with finite frequency  
Subcritical  $\rightarrow$  local oscillation is also unstable, and therefore jump (in neuron models) to a large limit cycle

# 4.2 Example: FitzHugh-Nagumo / Hopf bifurcation

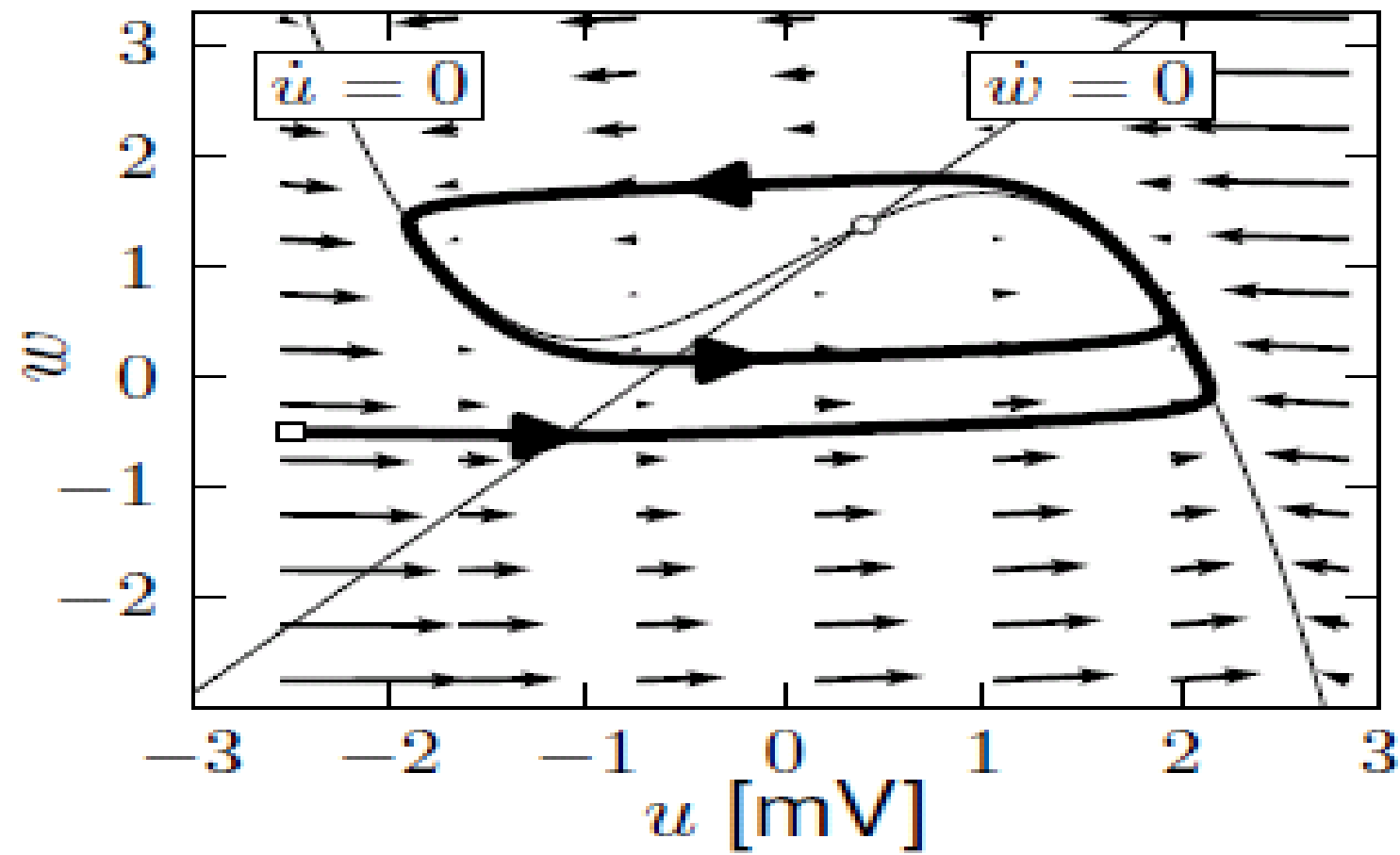
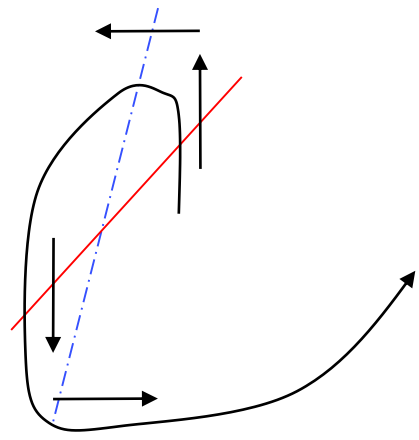
$I=0$



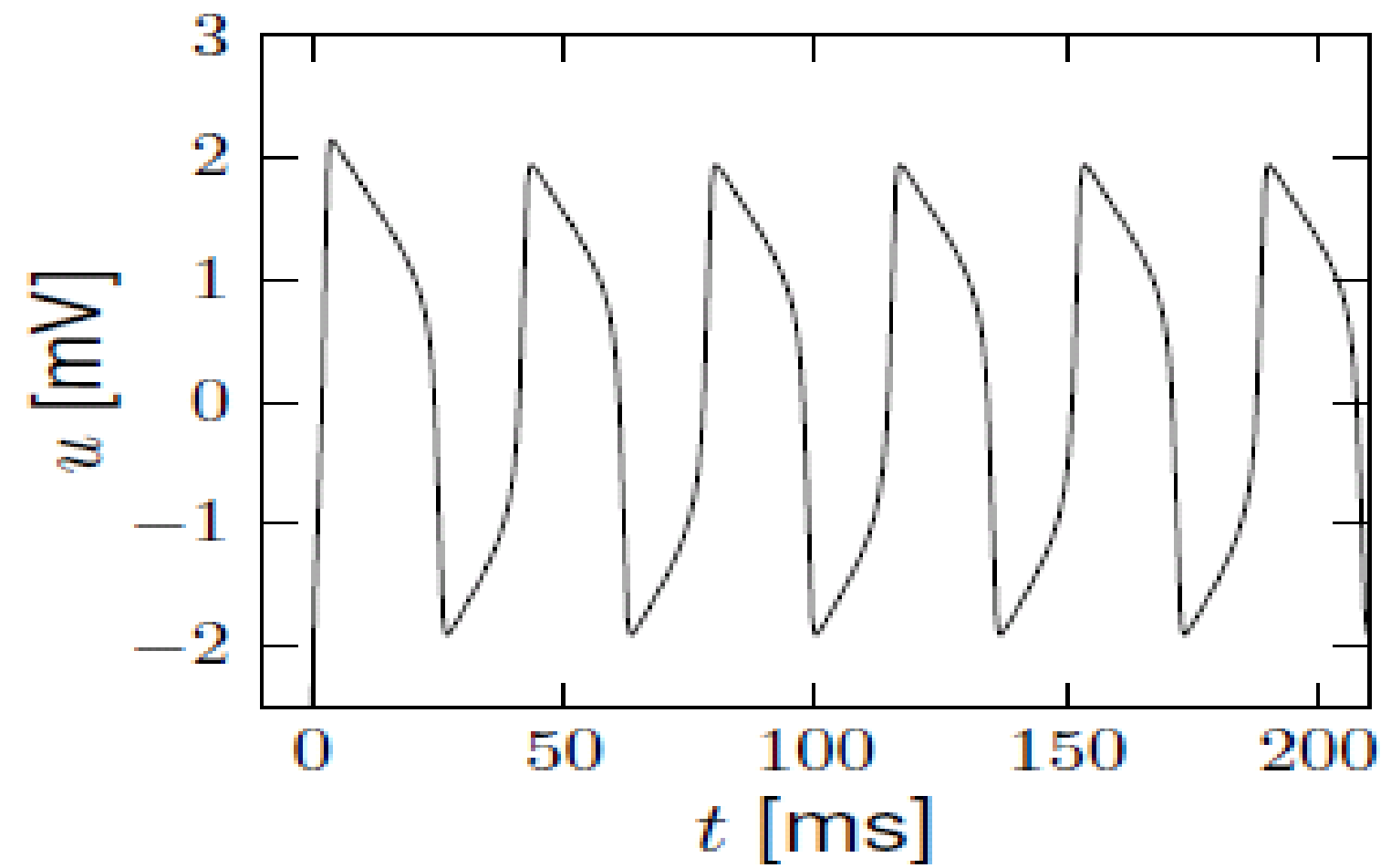
B



$I > I_c$

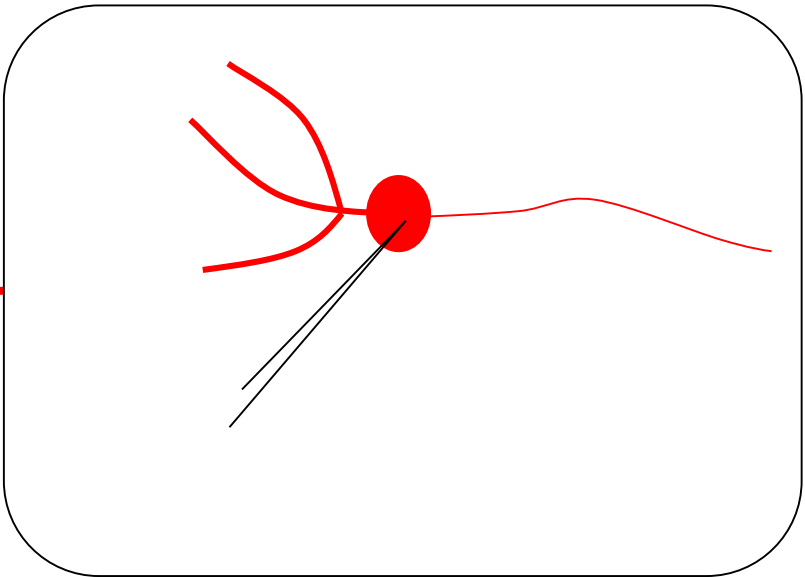
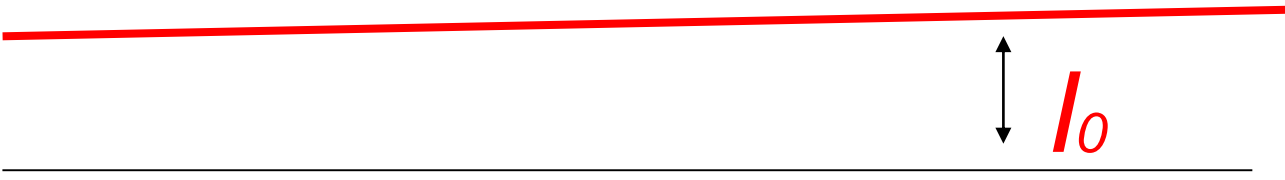


D



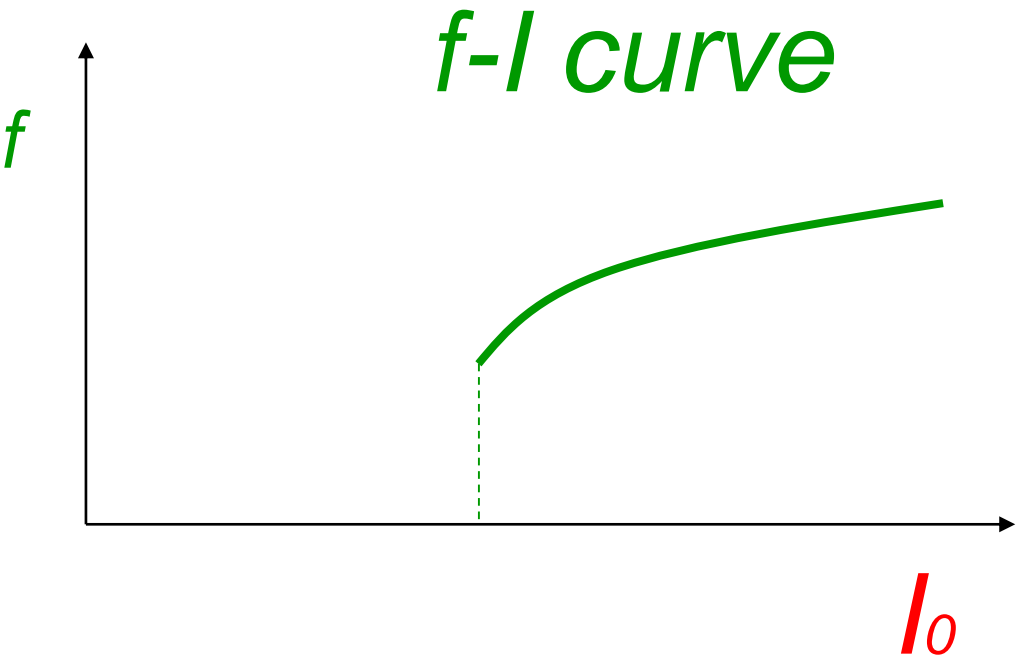
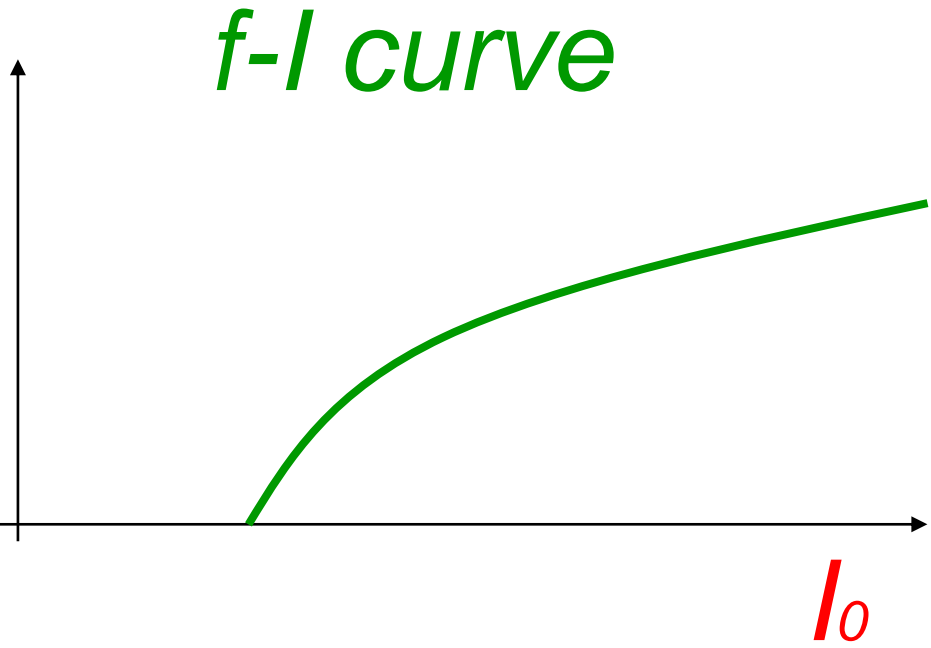
# 4.2. Type I and II Neuron Models

ramp input/  
constant input



Now:  
Type I model

Type I and type II models



## 4.2. Type I Neuron Models: saddle-node bifurcation

type I Model: 3 fixed points

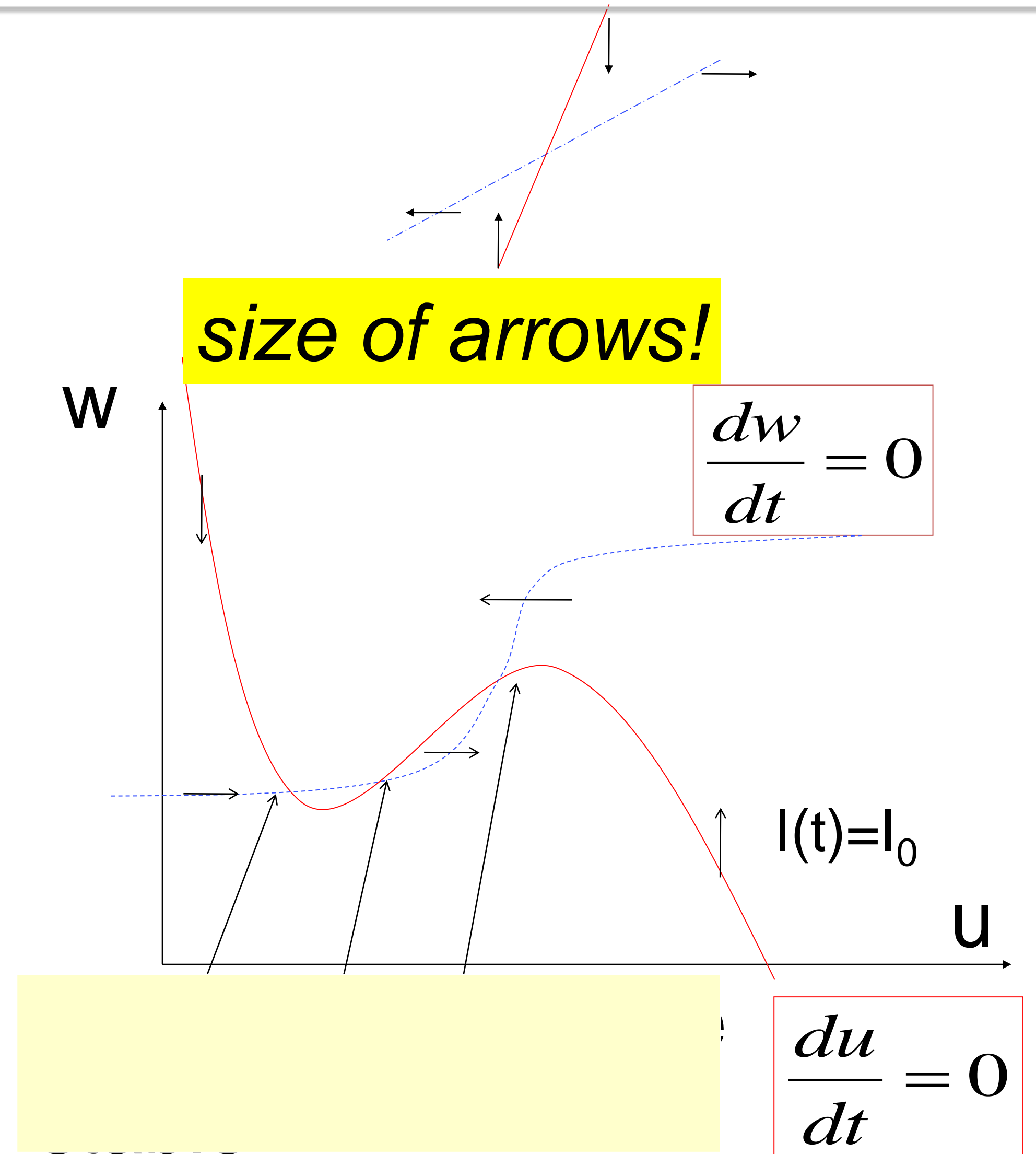
stimulus

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

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

apply constant stimulus  $I_0$

Saddle-node bifurcation



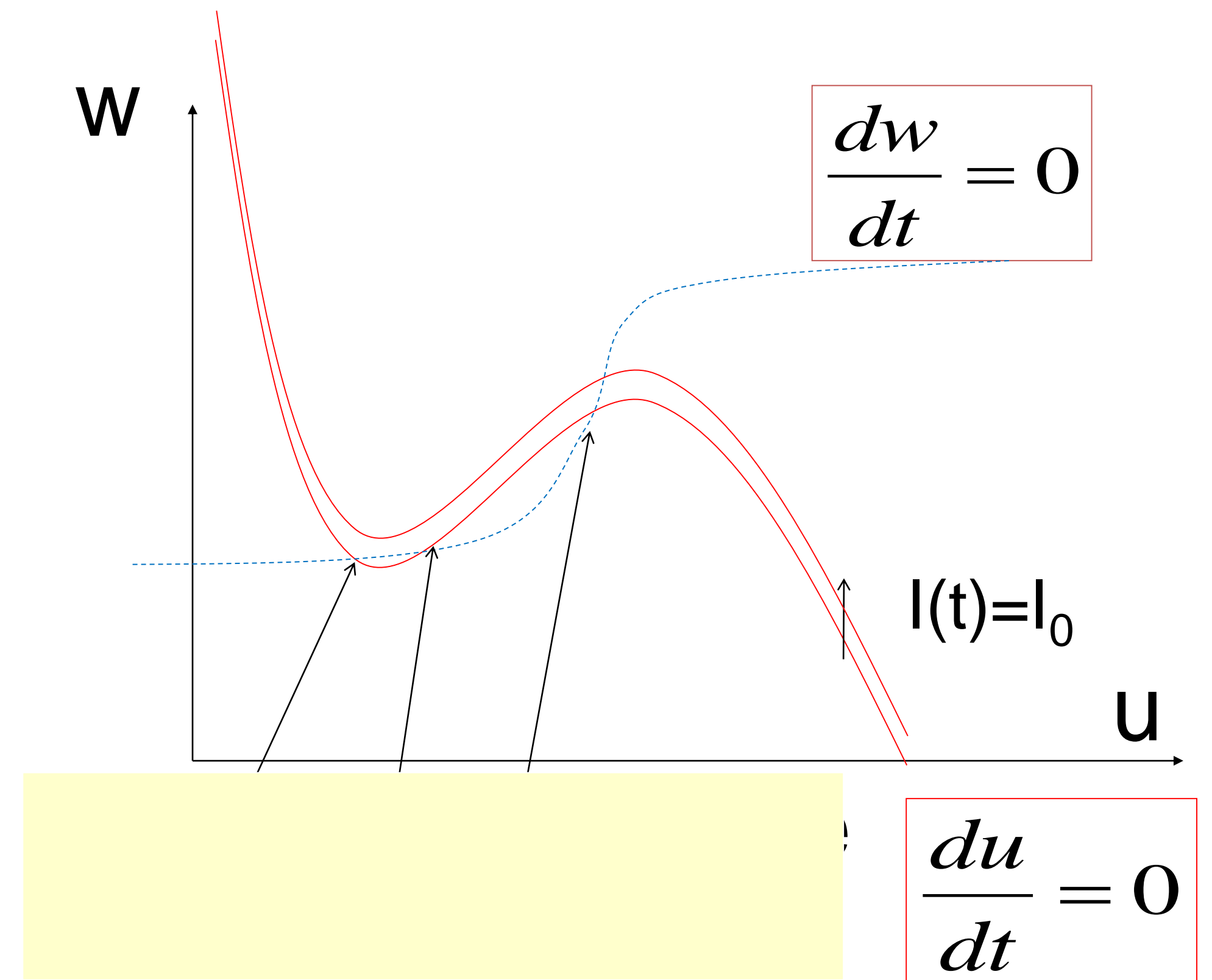
## 4.2. Type I Neuron Models: saddle-node bifurcation

$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + I(t)$$
$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = G(u, w)$$

stimulus  
↓

Blackboard 3:  
- flow arrows,  
- ghost/ruins

constant input



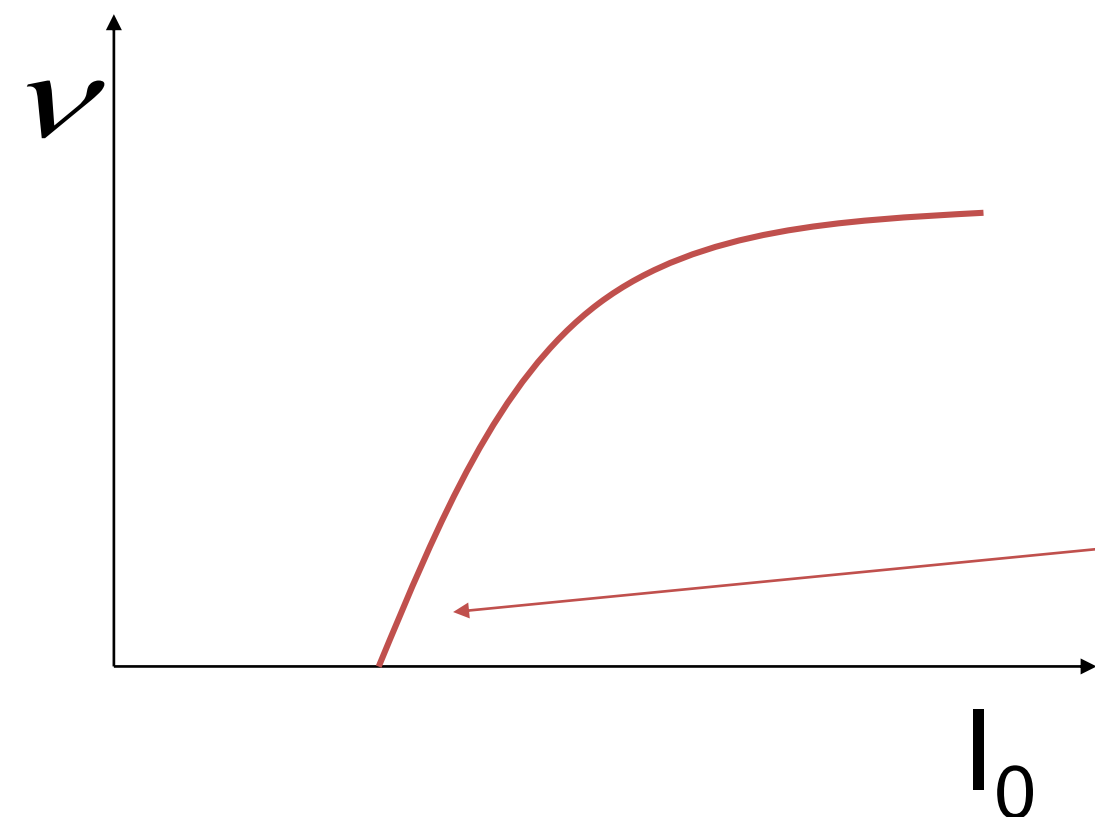


## 4.2. Type I Neuron Models: saddle-node bifurcation

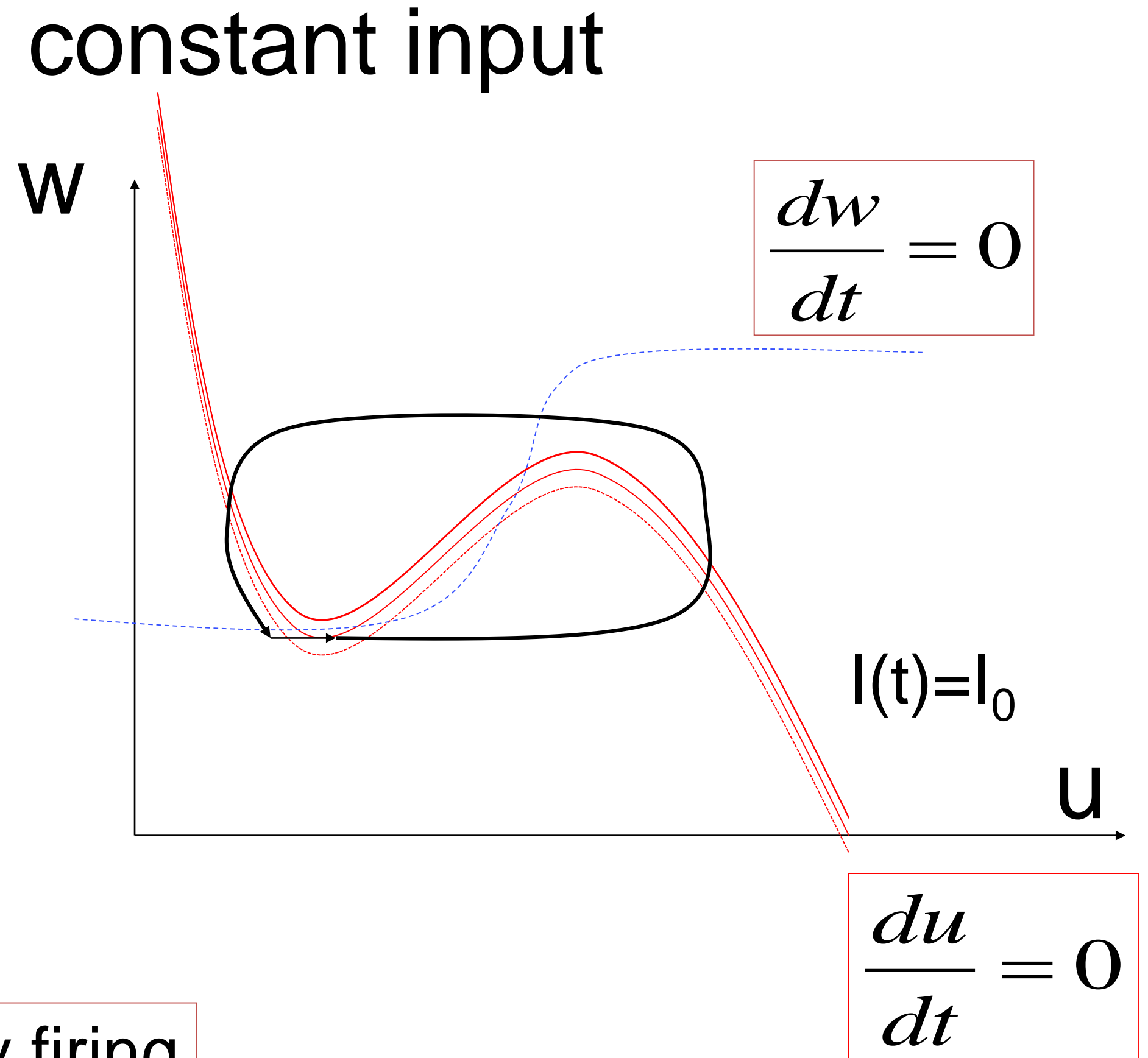
$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + I(t)$$

stimulus  
↓

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

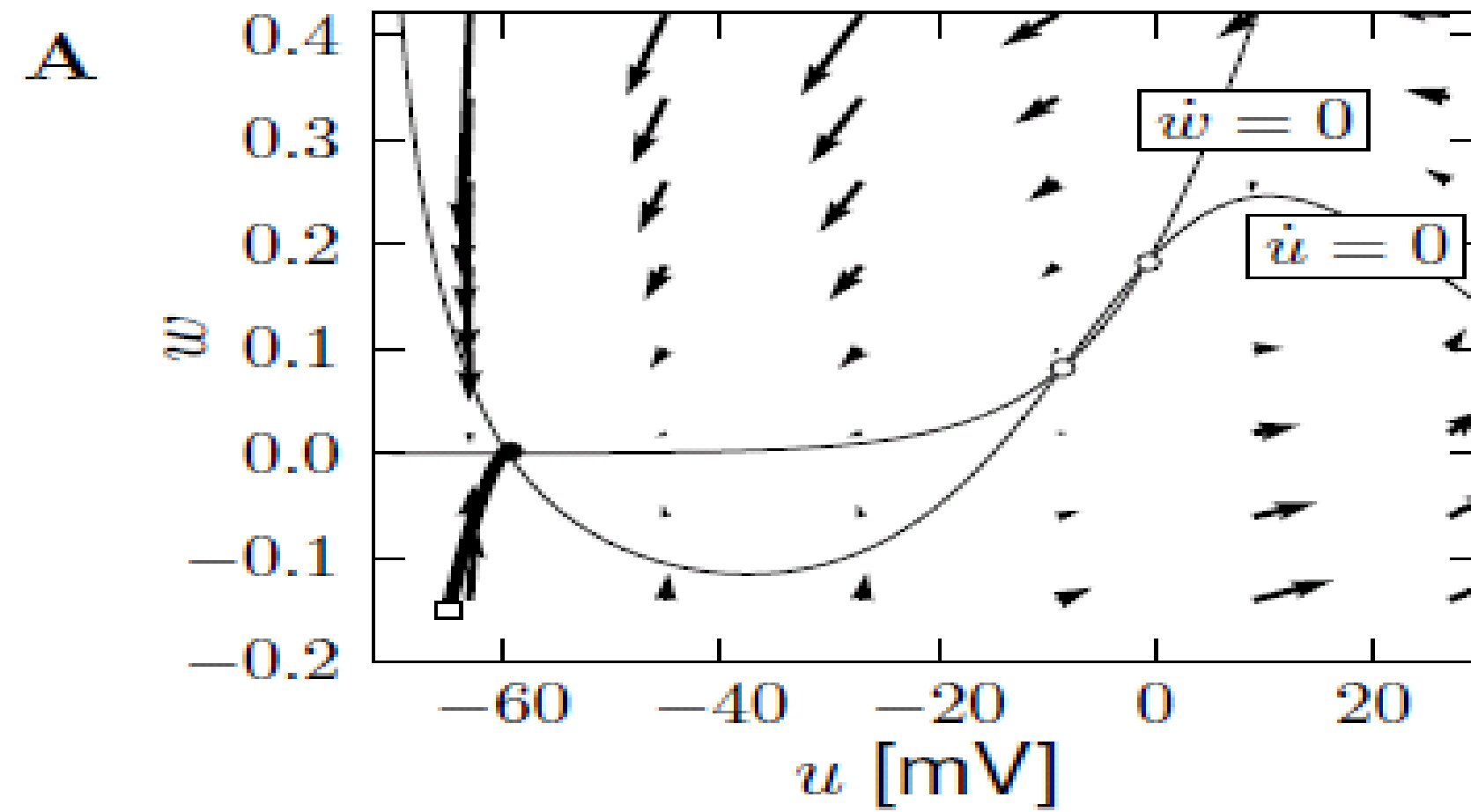


Low-frequency firing

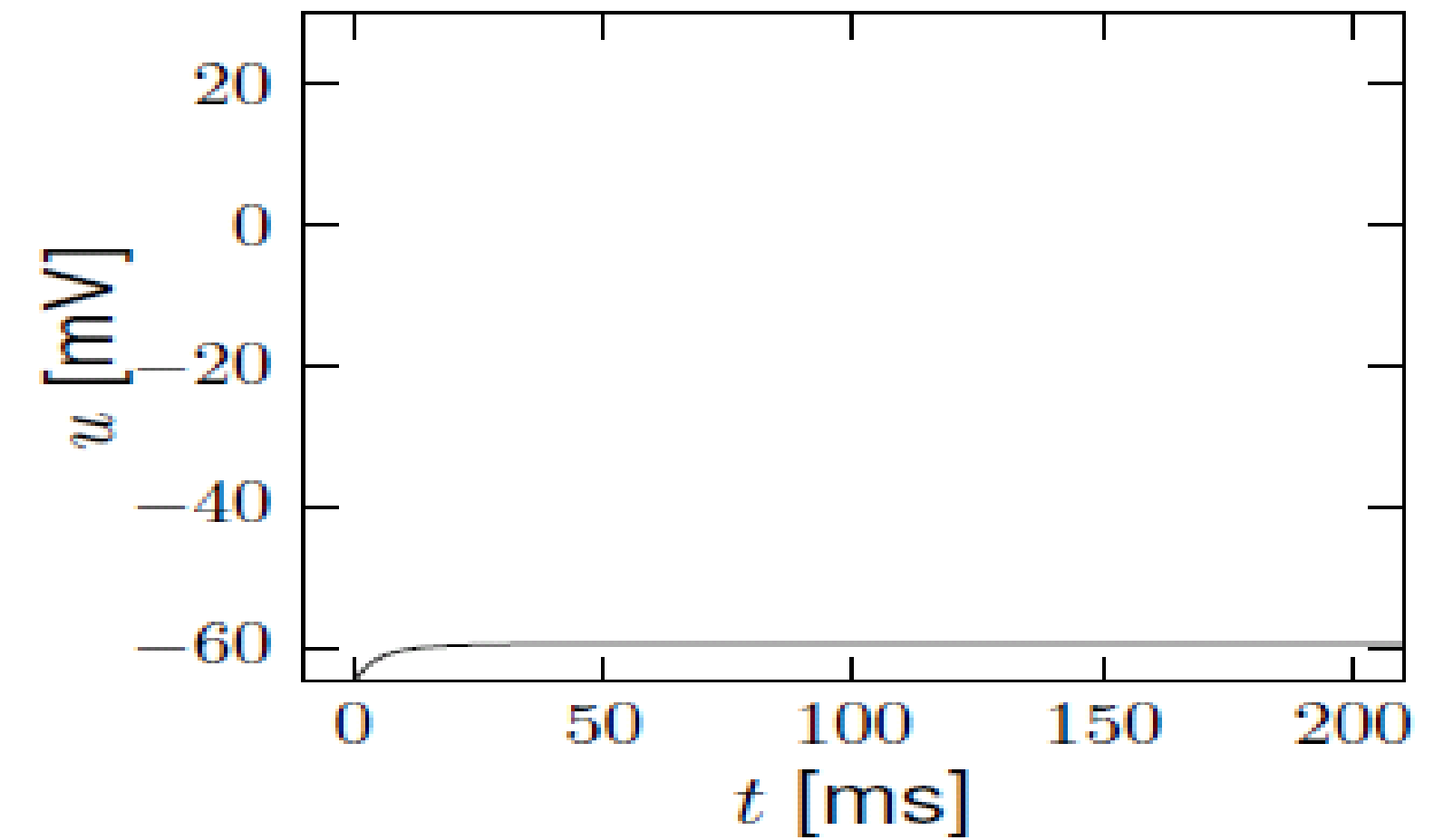


## 4.2. Example: Morris-Lecar as type I Model

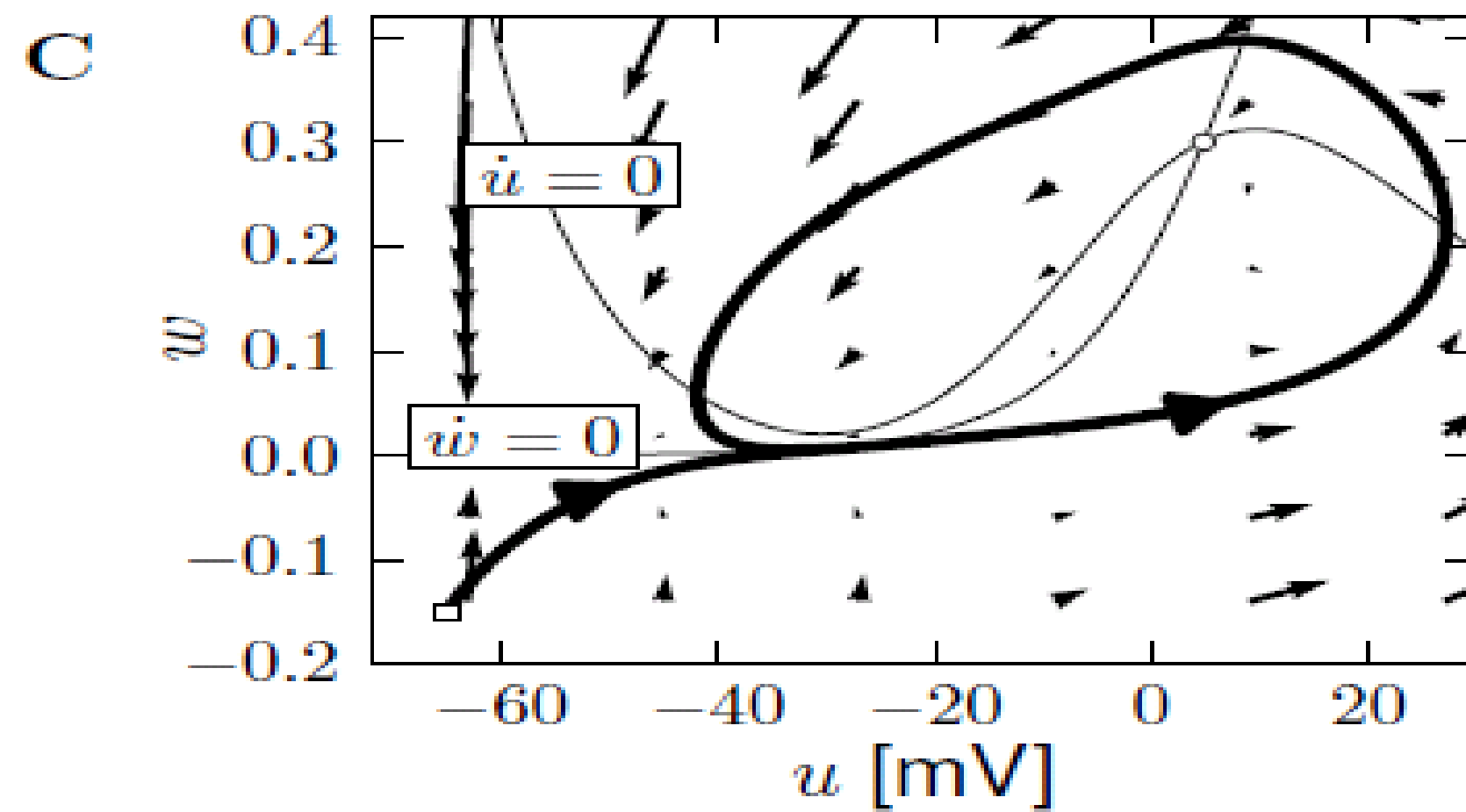
$I = 0$



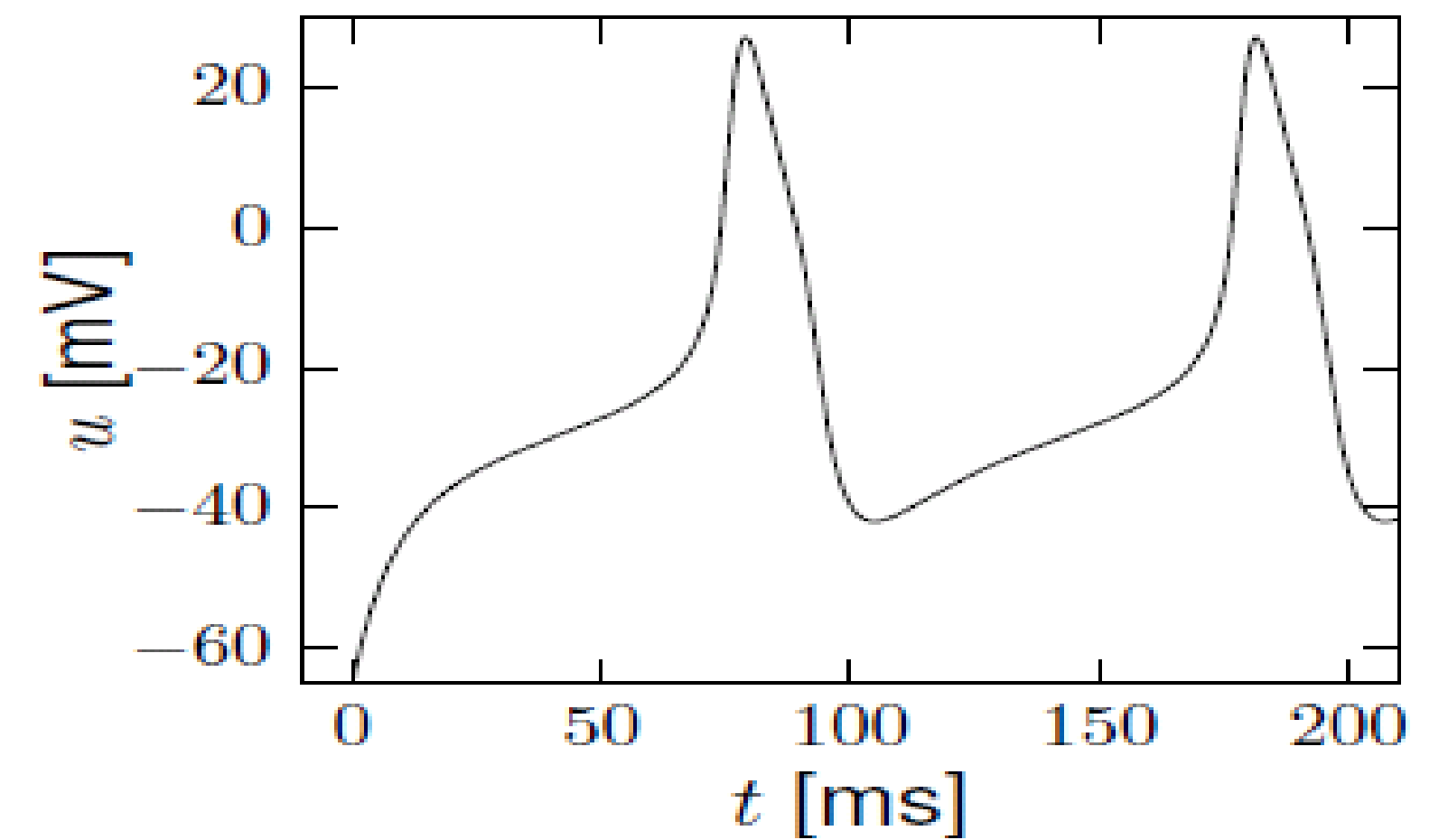
**B**



$I > I_c$



**D**



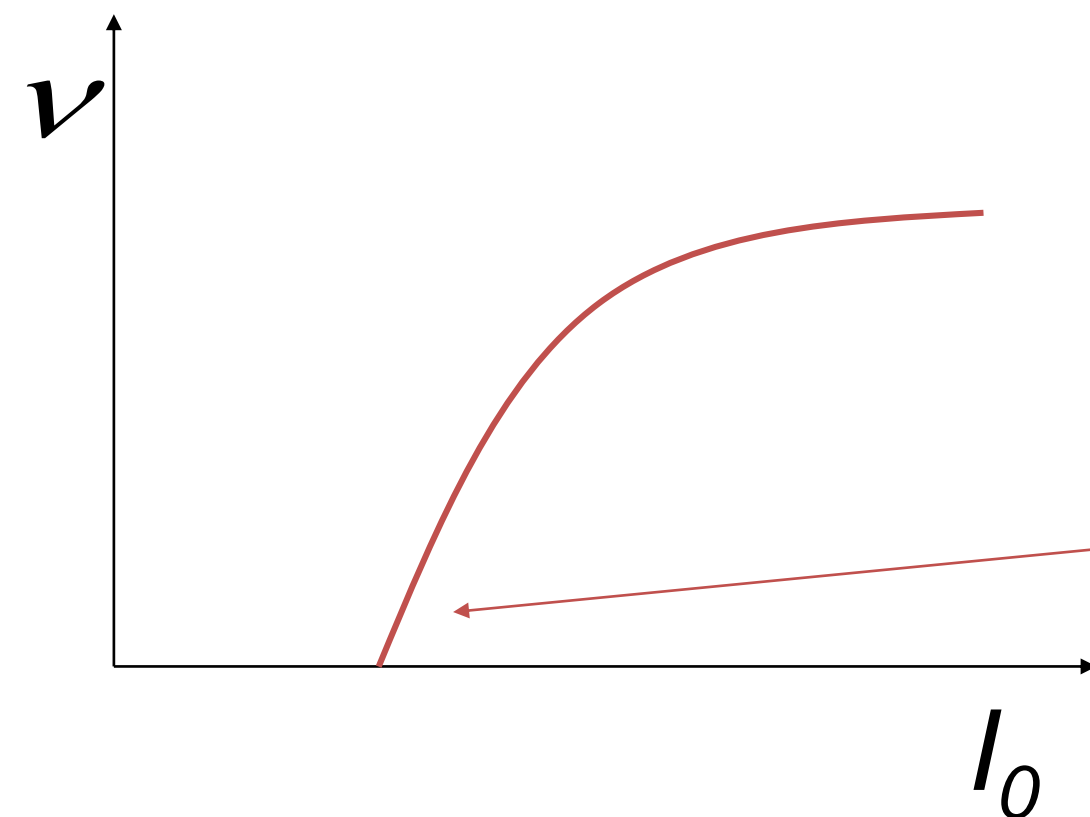
## 4.2. Example: Morris-Lecar as type I Model

stimulus

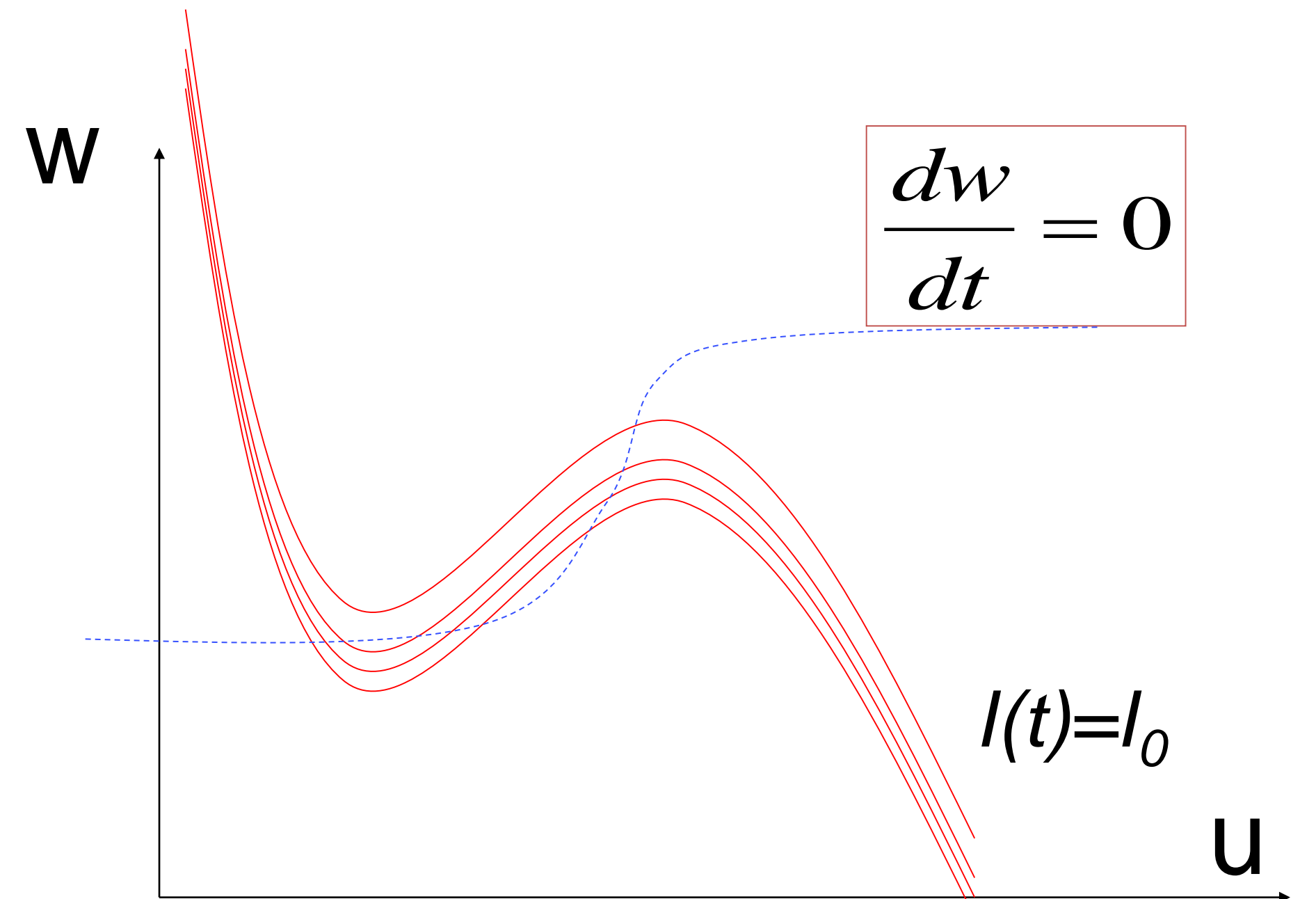
$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + I(t)$$

$$\frac{dw}{dt} = -\frac{w - w_0(u)}{\tau_{eff}(u)}$$

$$w_0(u) = 0.5 \left[ 1 + \tanh\left(\frac{u - \theta}{d}\right) \right]$$



Low-frequency firing



$$\frac{dw}{dt} = 0$$

$$\frac{du}{dt} = 0$$

## 4.2. Type I and II Neuron Models

Response at firing threshold?

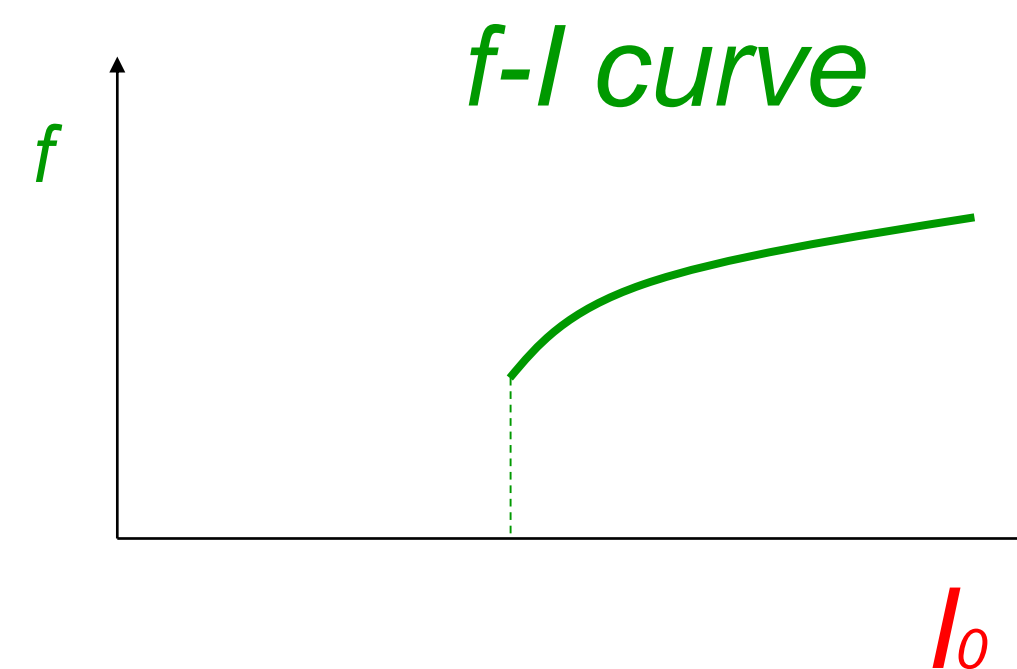
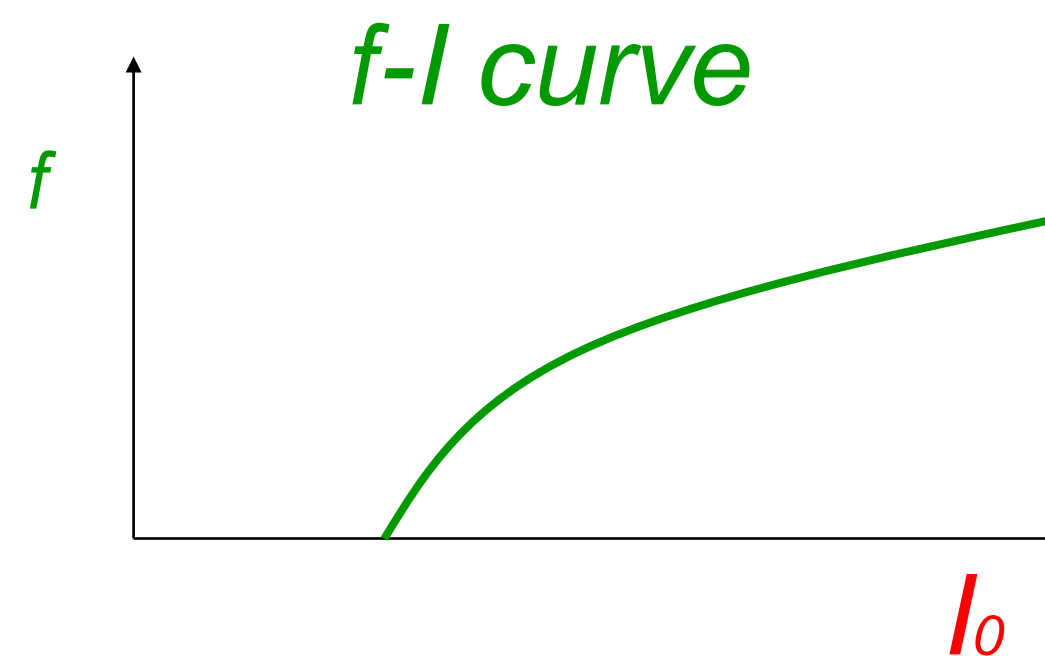
Type I

type II

Saddle-Node  
Onto limit cycle

For example:  
Subcritical Hopf

ramp input/  
constant input



## 4.2. Type I and II Neuron Models

2-dimensional equation

stimulus

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

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

Enables graphical analysis!

Constant input

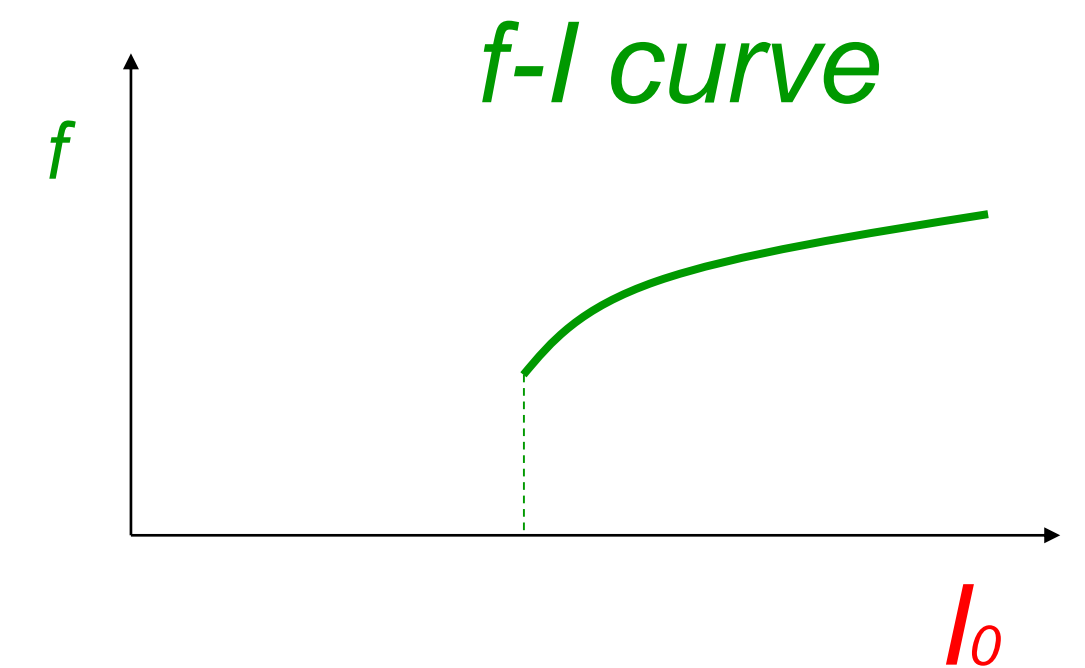
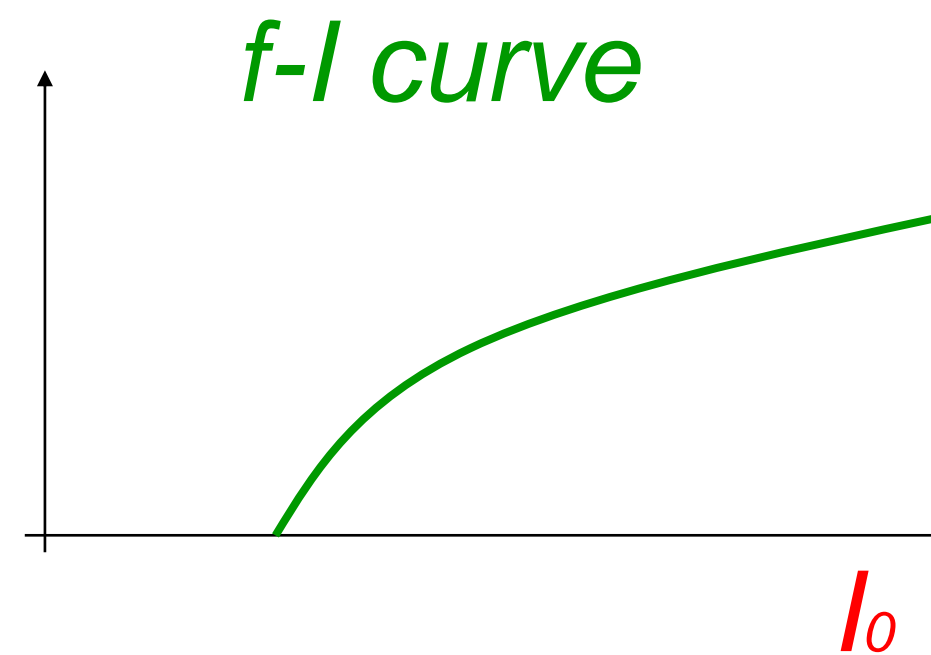
- repetitive firing (or not)
- limit cycle (or not)

ramp input/  
constant input



neuron

Type I and type II models



# Neuronal Dynamics – Quiz 4.1.

## A. 2-dimensional neuron model with (supercritical) saddle-node-onto-limit cycle bifurcation

The neuron model is of type II, because there is a jump in the f-I curve

The neuron model is of type I, because the f-I curve is continuous

The neuron model is of type I, if the limit cycle passes through a regime where the flow is very slow.

## B. Threshold in a 2-dimensional neuron model with subcritical Hopf bifurcation

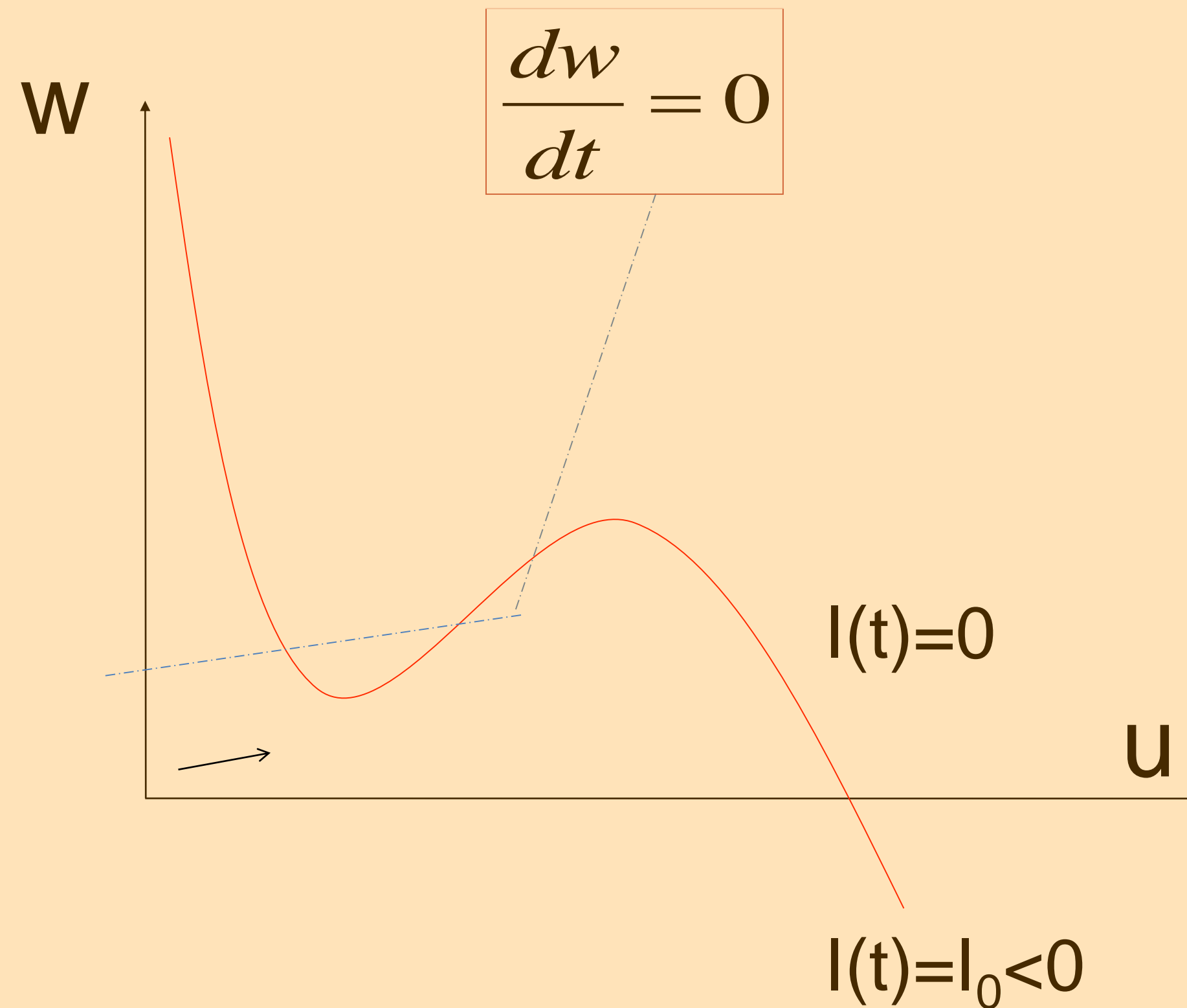
The neuron model is of type II, because there is a jump in the f-I curve

The neuron model is of type I, because the f-I curve is continuous

starting with zero current, and slowly increasing the current, is this true?

“ in the regime below the Hopf bifurcation, the neuron is at rest or will necessarily converge to the resting state”

# Week 4 - Exercise 2.1-2.5: NOW!



**Now exercises**



## Exercise 2: Phase Plane Analysis

In this exercise, we use the phase plane to study the dynamics of a two dimensional, nonlinear neuron model. The system is described by:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d}{dt}u = F(u, w) \\ \frac{d}{dt}w = G(u, w) \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

where  $F(u, w) = f(u) - w + I(t)$  and  $G(u, w) = \epsilon(g(u) - w)$  with  $\epsilon = 0.1$ .  $I(t)$  is an external current.

Figure 1 shows the  $u$ - and  $w$ -nullclines for the case  $I(t) = 0$ :

**2.1** Given  $F(u_4, 0) = 5$ ,  $G(u_4, 0) = 1$ , draw a few flow arrows along the two nullclines in figure 1.

**2.2** Without doing any computation, can you determine the stability of the fixed point 2 (the one at  $(u_2, w_2)$ )? Justify your answer.

**2.3** Discuss the stability of the third fixed point (the one at  $(u_3, w_3)$ ) analytically. That is, linearize the system at the fixed point 3 and discuss the evolution of a small perturbation around that point. For the numeric calculations, use  $\epsilon = 0.1$  and approximate the values of  $\frac{d}{du}f(u)|_{u_3}$  and  $\frac{d}{du}g(u_3)|_{u_3}$  from figure 1.

**2.4** Assume the neuron is at rest. Then, at  $t_0$  we apply a pulse stimulus  $I(t)$  to this system:

$$I(t) = (u_3 - u_1)\delta(t - t_0)$$

(i) Sketch the trajectory  $(u(t), w(t))$  in Figure 1.

(ii) Sketch the membrane potential  $u(t)$  vs. time in a new figure.

Make sure you get the two plots qualitatively correct: Clearly indicate important states, for example at  $t < t_0$ , at  $t_0$ , and at  $t > t_0$ . Furthermore, in your  $u(t)$  plot, fast and slow regions should be distinguishable.

**2.5** Referring to figure 1, discuss the effect of injecting pulse currents  $I(t) = q\delta(t - t_0)$  of different amplitudes  $q$  into the neuron. What happens if we gradually increase  $q$ ? Does this neuron model have a threshold?

# Next lecture at 11:15

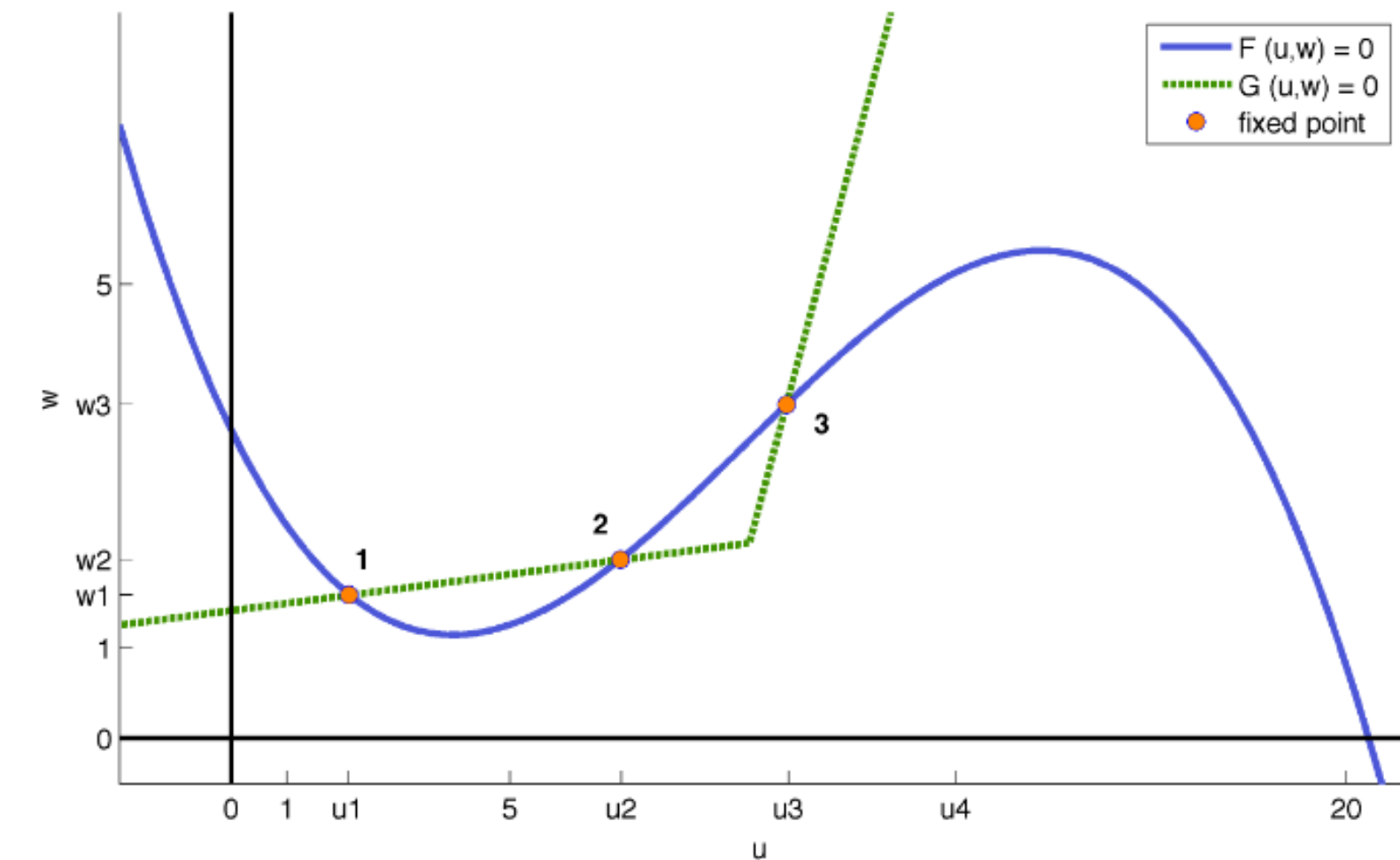


Figure 1



## 4.2. Exercise

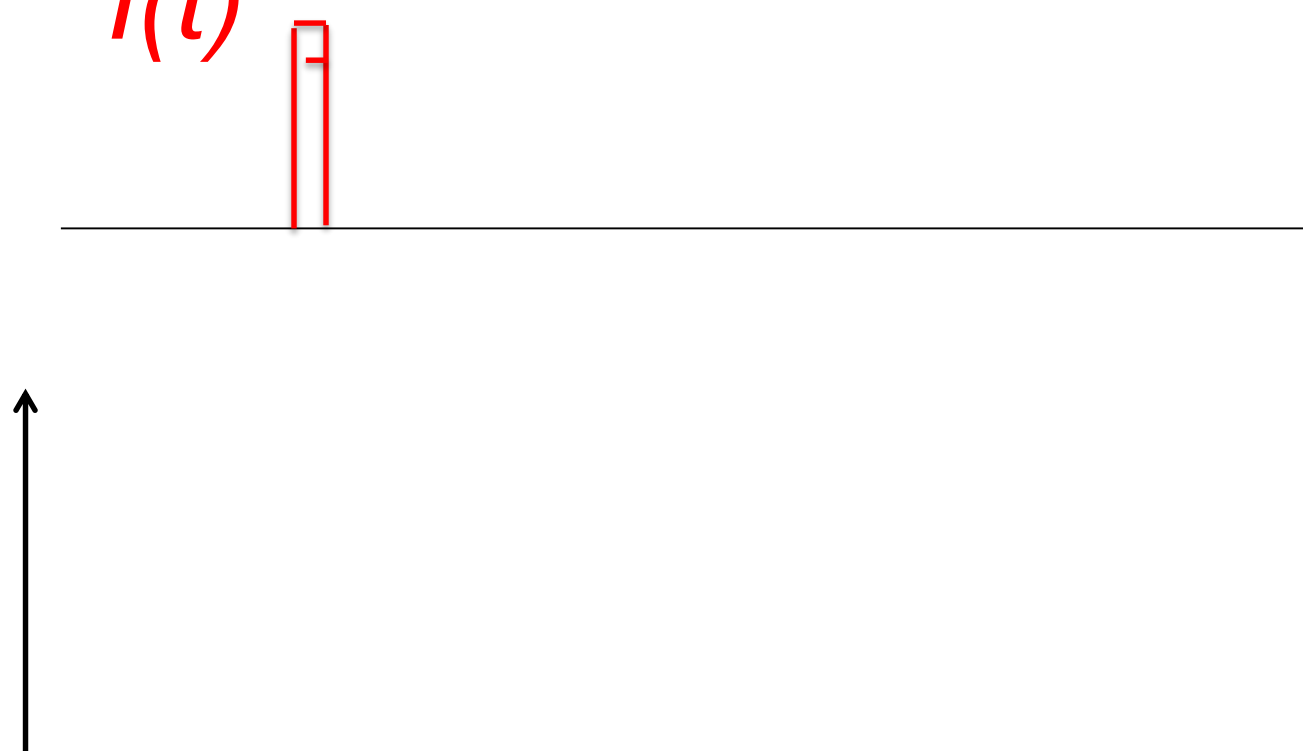
stimulus

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

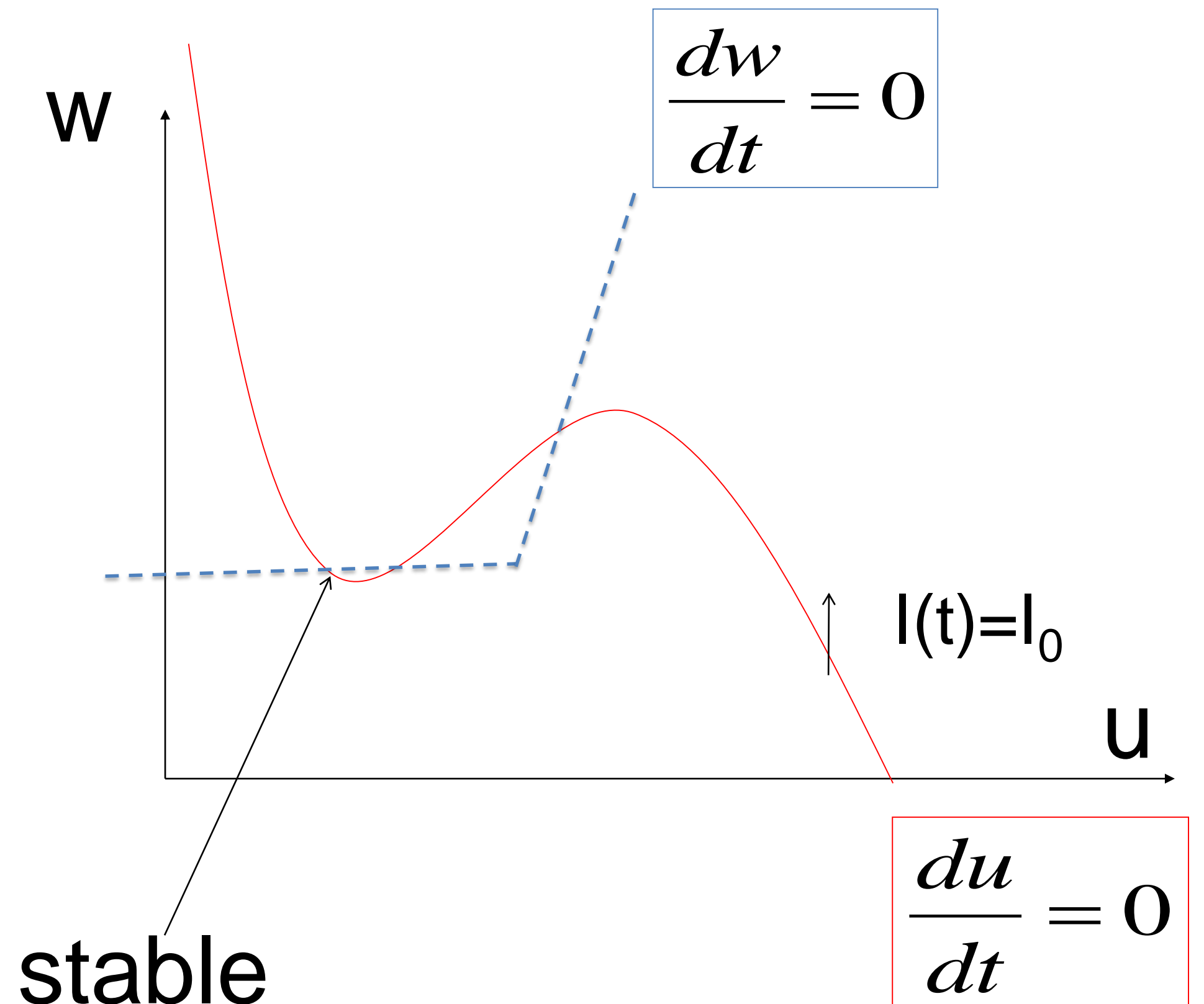
$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = G(u, w)$$

pulse input

$I(t)$



Blackboard 4:  
Saddle, stable manifold,  
Slow response



## 4.2 Bifurcations, simplifications

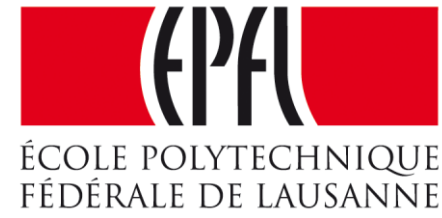
Bifurcations in neural modeling,  
Type I/II neuron models,  
Canonical simplified models

*Nancy Koppell,  
Bart Ermentrout,  
John Rinzel,  
Eugene Izhikevich  
and many others*

## 4.2. Summary: Limit cycles and neuron models

- 1) In 2 dimensions we have a powerful theorem: if we can find a bounding box around an unstable fixed such that all flow arrows point inside the box, then there must be a limit cycle.
- 2) We can change the stability of the fixed point(s) by a constant input.
- 3) The limit cycle MAY appear at the moment when the fixed point loses stability. In this case it would often be a limit cycle of small amplitude in the neighborhood of the fixed point.
- 4) But we can also observe bistability between the stable fixed point and a limit cycle.
- 5) Neuron models can be classified according to the bifurcation type that makes a limit cycle appear. Type 1 neuron models have a smooth  $f-I$  curve and are always linked to a saddle-node-onto limit cycle bifurcation.
- 6) Type 2 models can have various origins; an example is the subcritical Hopf-bifurcation

# Biological Modeling of Neural Networks



**Week 4**

**Reducing detail:**

**Analysis of 2D models**

✓ 3.1 From Hodgkin-Huxley to 2D

✓ 3.2 Phase Plane Analysis

✓ 3.3 Analysis of a 2D Neuron Model

4.1 Separation of time scales

4.2 Type I and II Neuron Models

- limit cycles: constant input

4.3 Pulse input

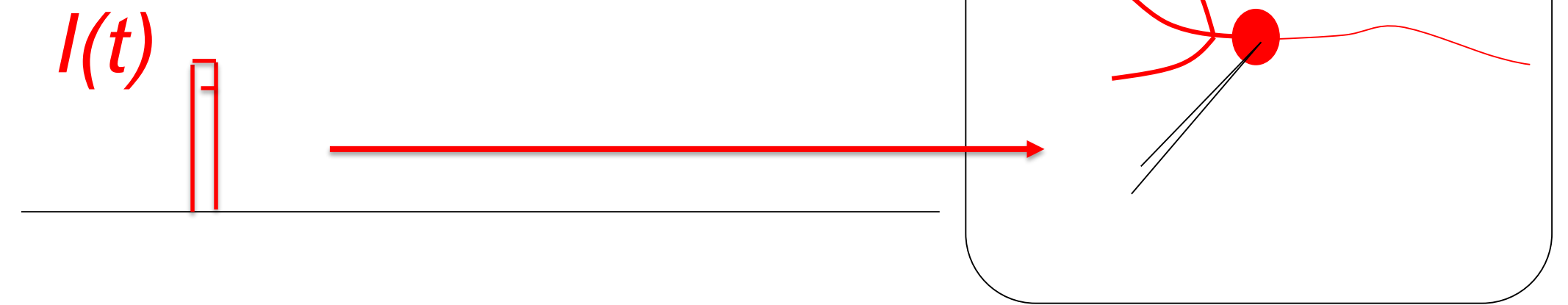
- where is the firing threshold?

4.4. Further reduction to 1 dim

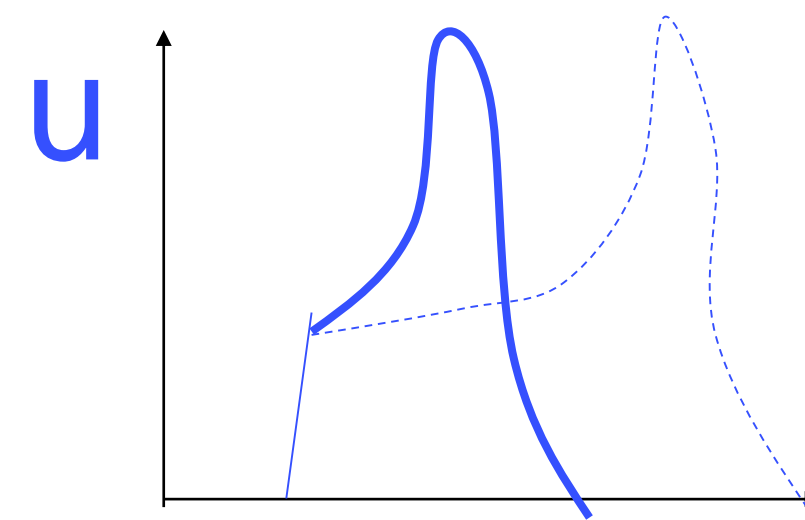
- nonlinear integrate-and-fire (again)

# 4.3. Threshold for Pulse Input in 2dim. Neuron Models

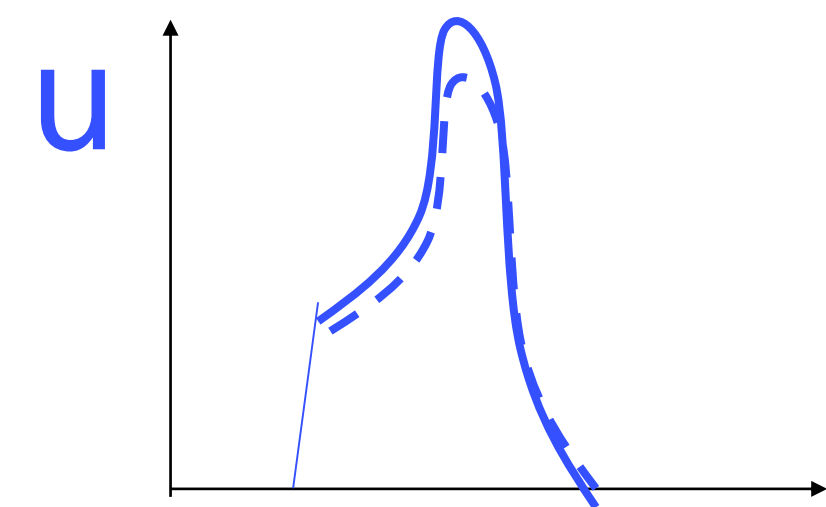
pulse input



Delayed spike



Reduced amplitude



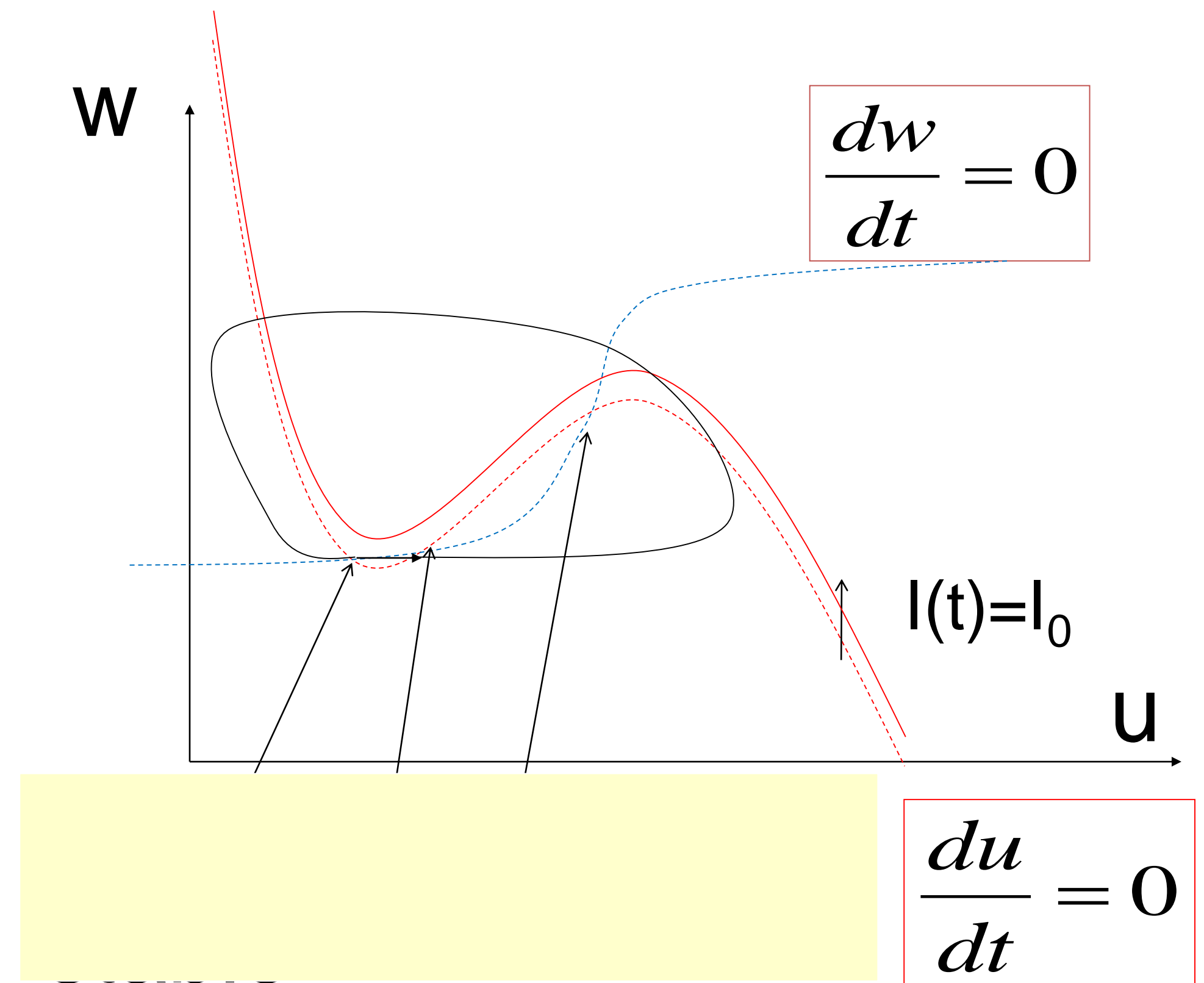
# Review from 4.1: Saddle-node onto limit cycle bifurcation

stimulus



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

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



# 4.3 Threshold for Pulse input

stimulus

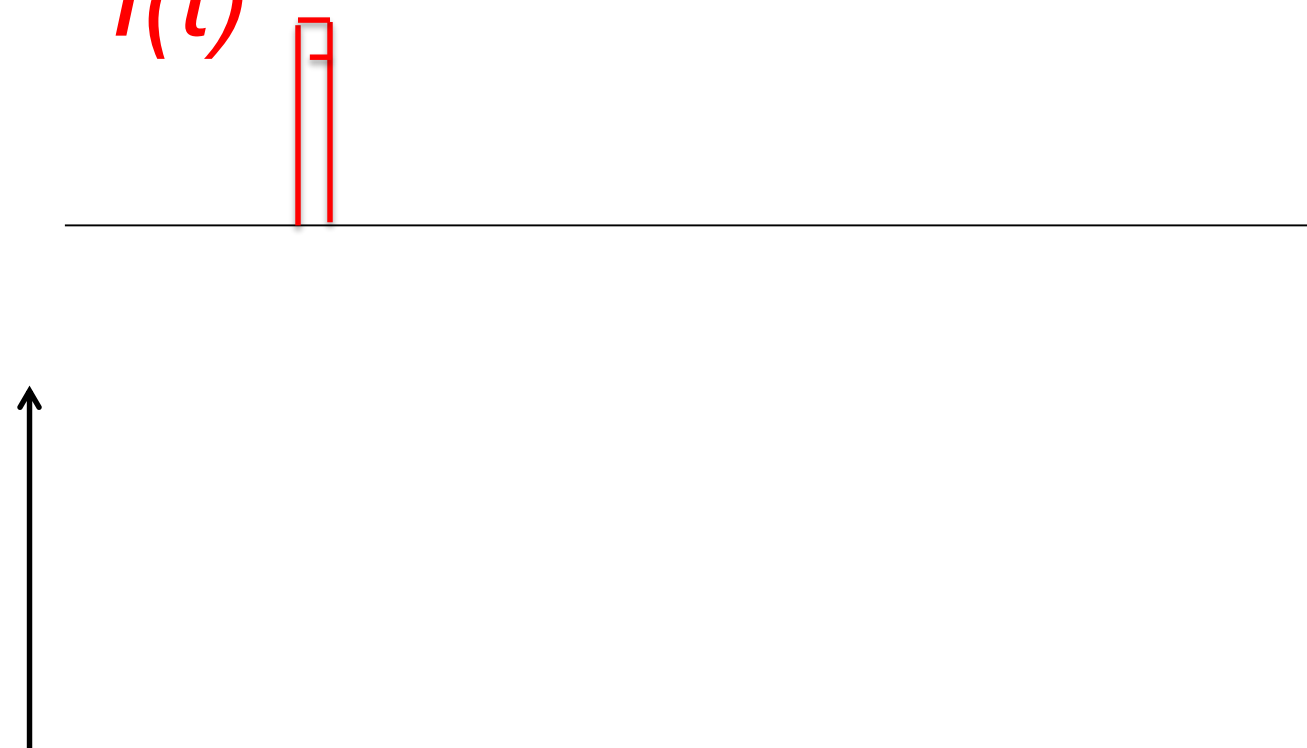


$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + RI(t)$$

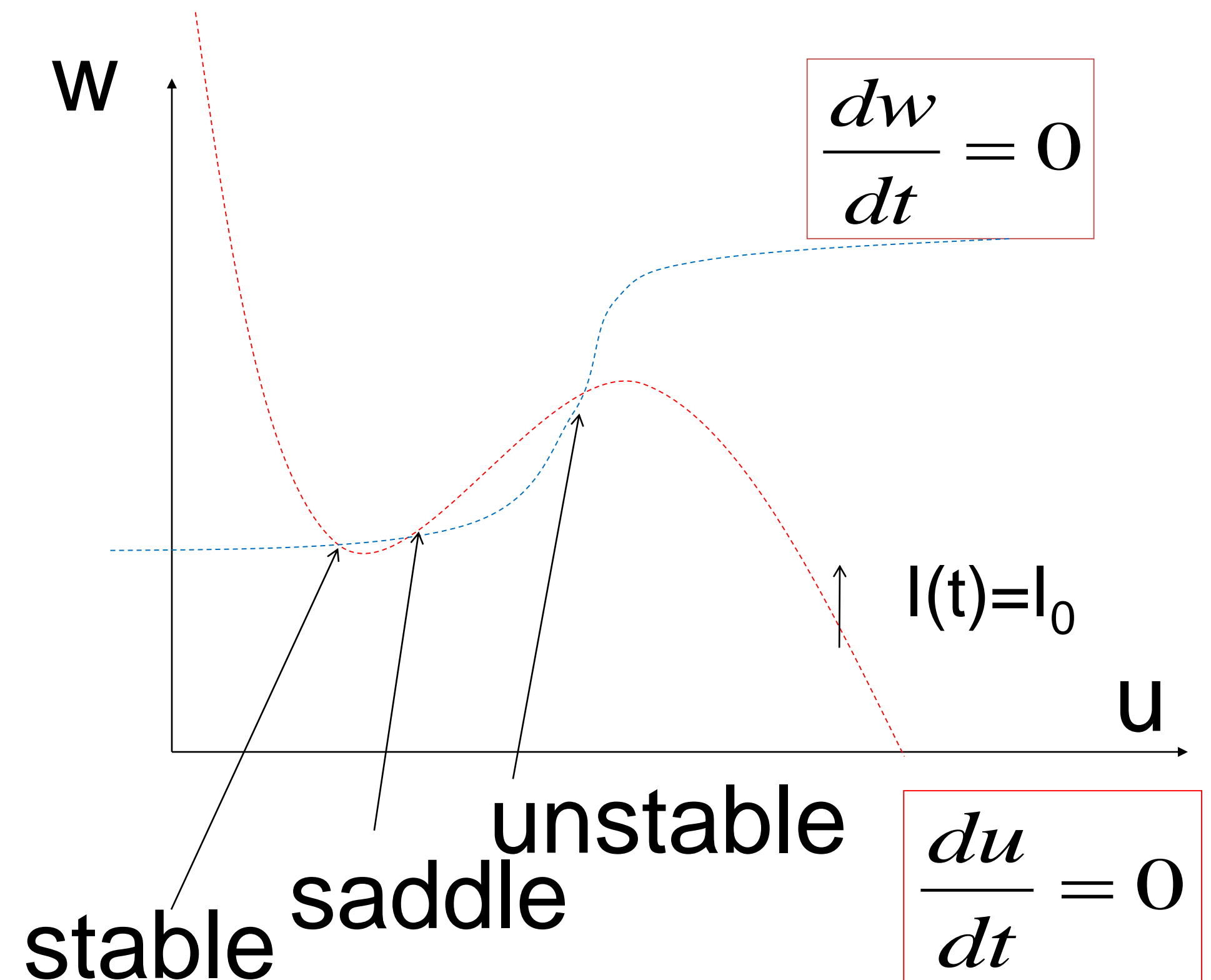
$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = G(u, w)$$

pulse input

$I(t)$



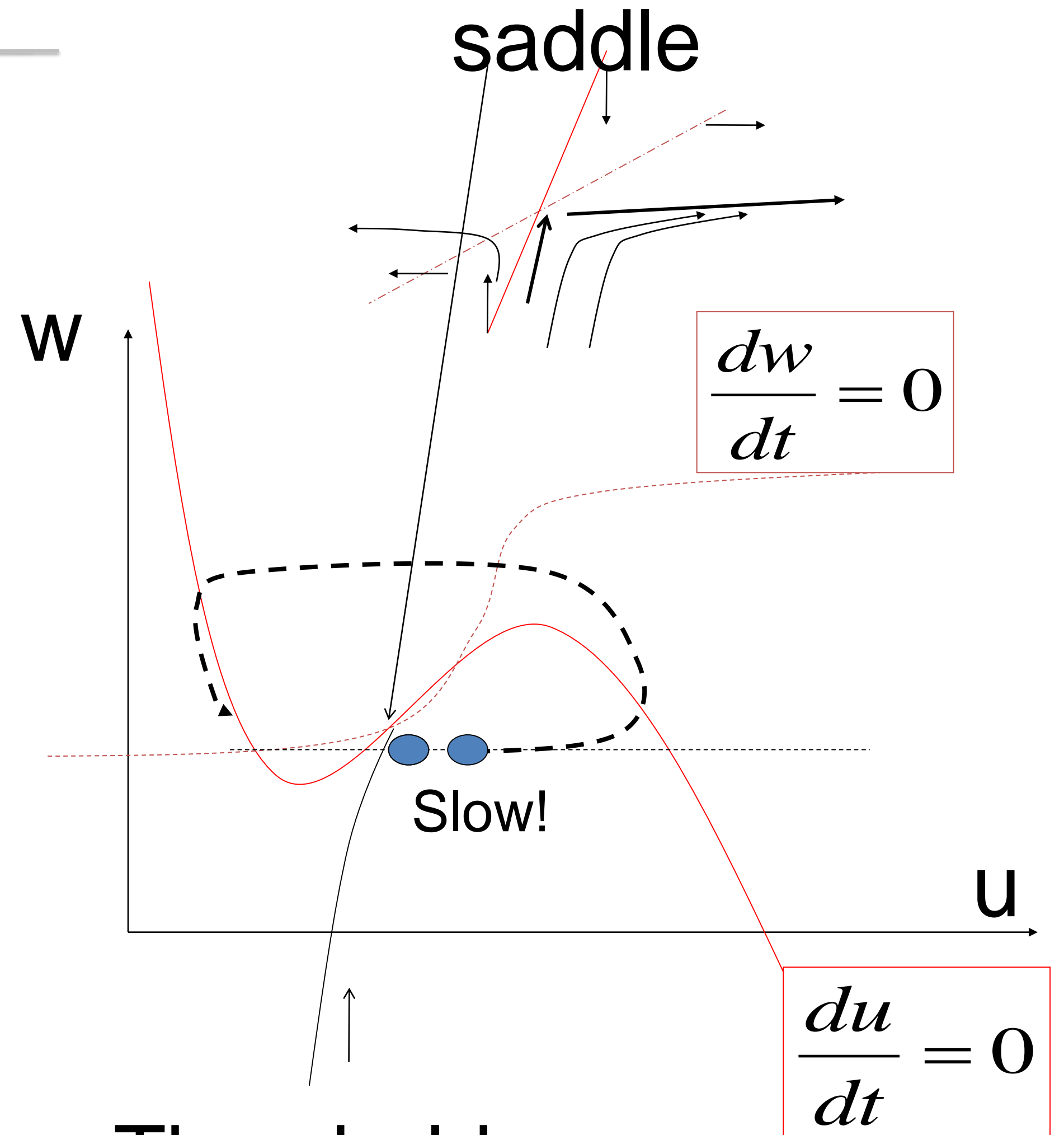
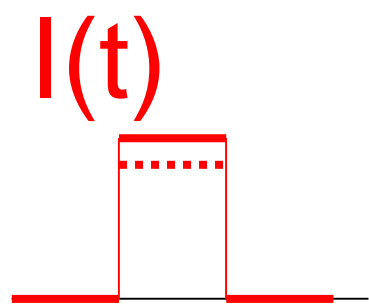
Blackboard 4:  
Saddle, stable manifold,  
Slow response



## 4.3 Type I model: Pulse input

$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + \overset{\text{stimulus}}{\downarrow} RI(t)$$
$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = G(u, w)$$

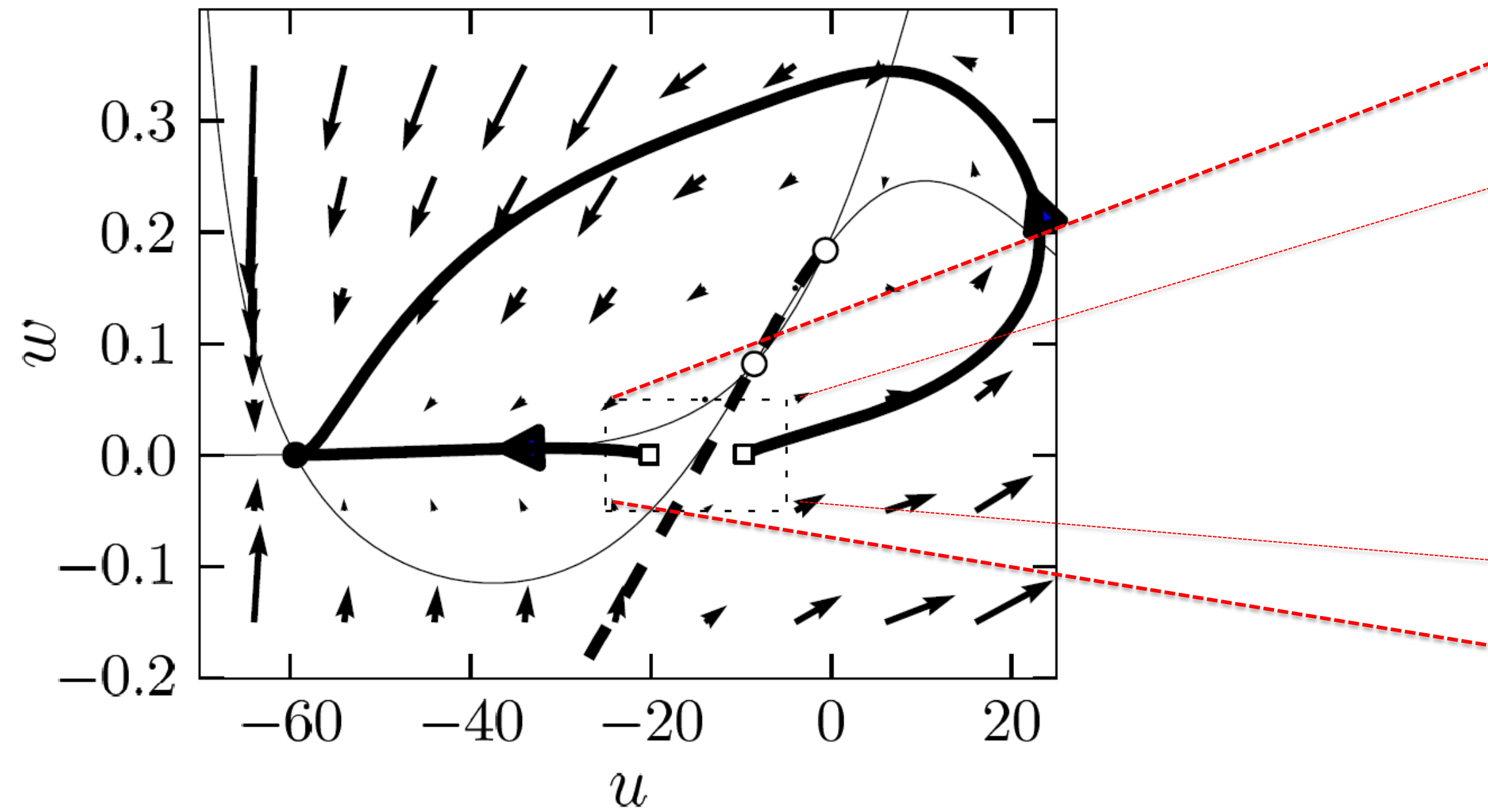
pulse input



Threshold  
for pulse input



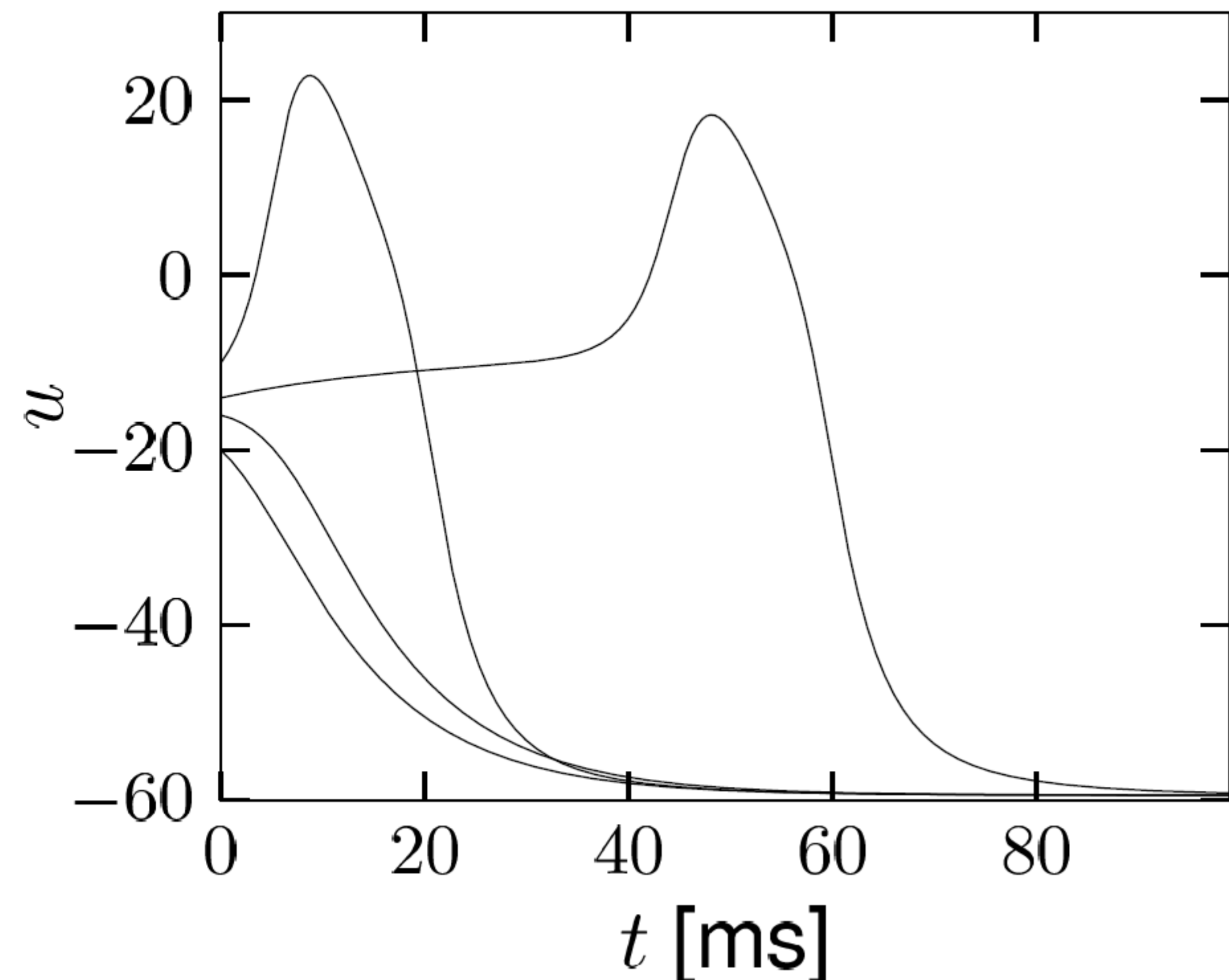
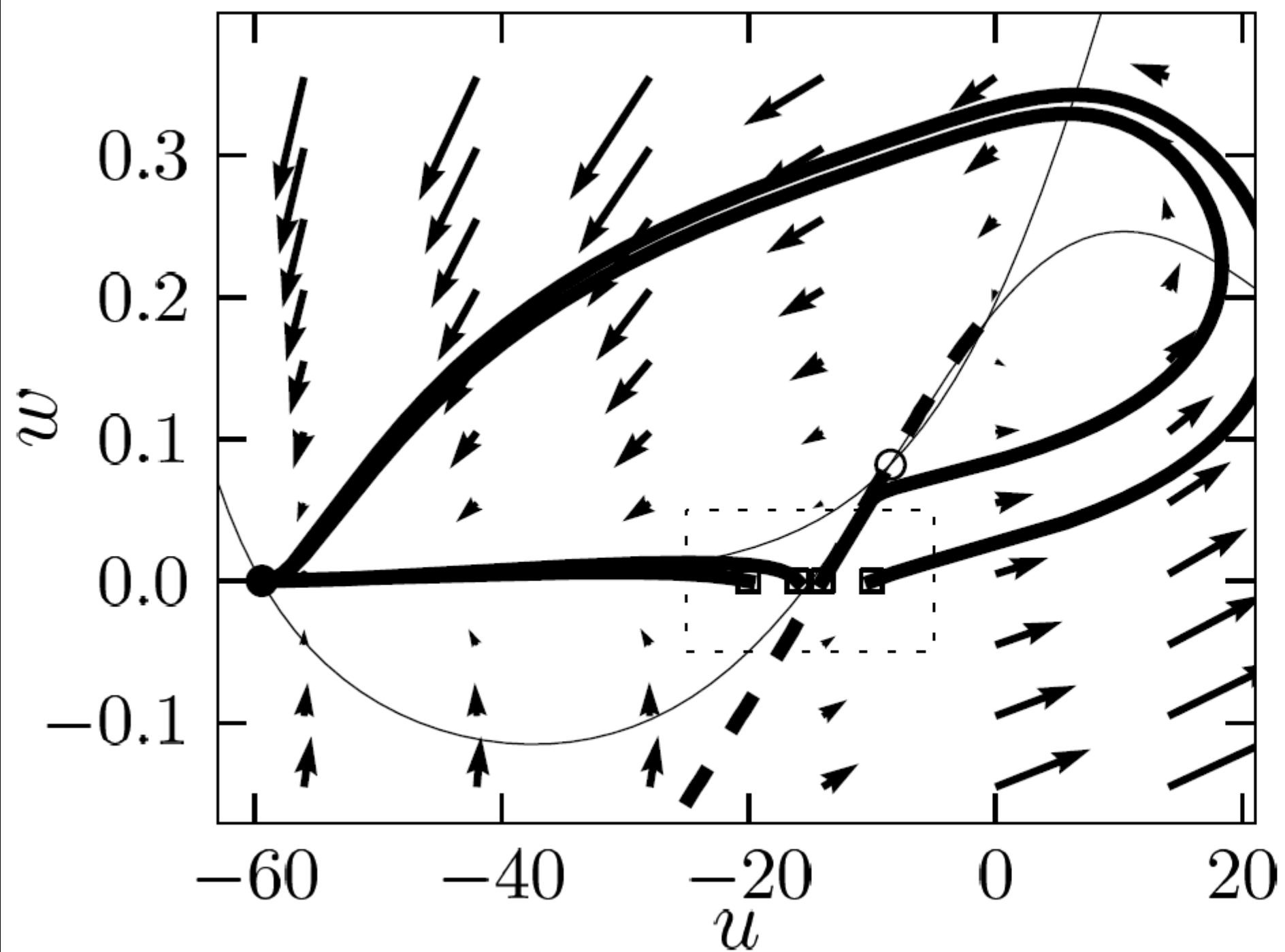
## 4.3 Type I model: Threshold for Pulse input



Stable manifold plays role of  
'Threshold' (for pulse input)

*Image: Neuronal Dynamics,  
Gerstner et al.,  
Cambridge Univ. Press (2014)*

## 4.3 Type I model: Delayed spike initiation for Pulse input



Delayed spike initiation close to  
'Threshold' (for pulse input)

*Image: Neuronal Dynamics,  
Gerstner et al.,  
Cambridge Univ. Press (2014)*

## Week 4– Quiz 4.2.

### A. Threshold in a 2-dimensional neuron model with saddle-node bifurcation

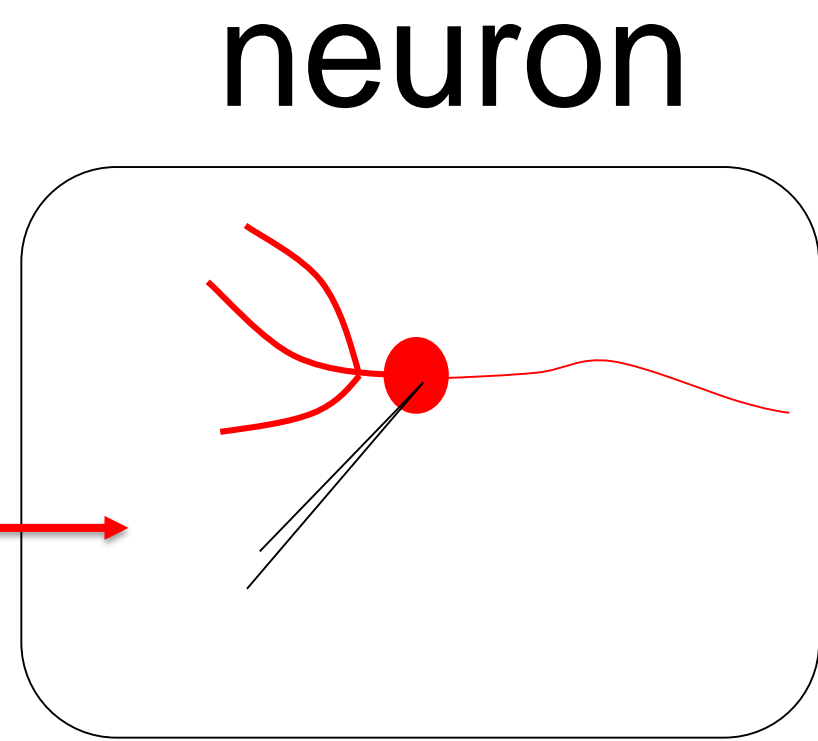
The voltage threshold for repetitive firing is always the same as the voltage threshold for pulse input.

in the regime below the saddle-node bifurcation, the voltage threshold for repetitive firing is given by the stable manifold of the saddle.

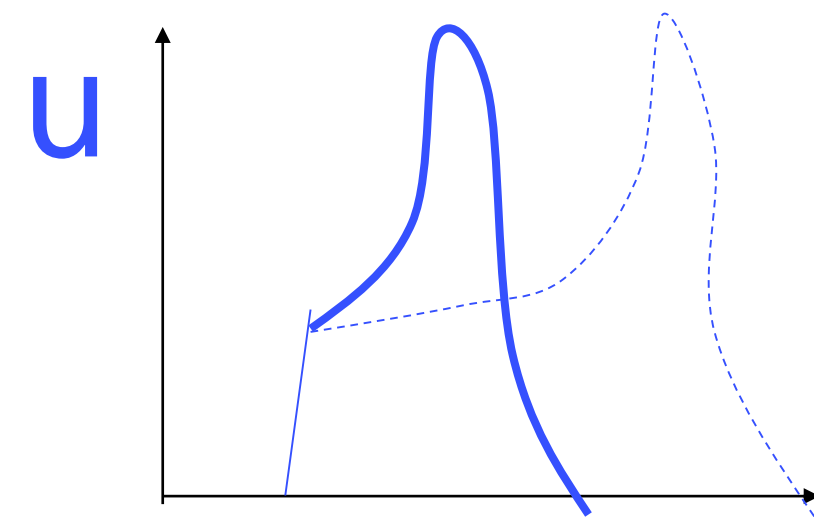
in the regime below the saddle-node bifurcation, the voltage threshold for action potential firing in response to a short pulse input is given by the stable manifold of the saddle point.

# 4.3 Threshold for pulse input in 2dim. Neuron Models

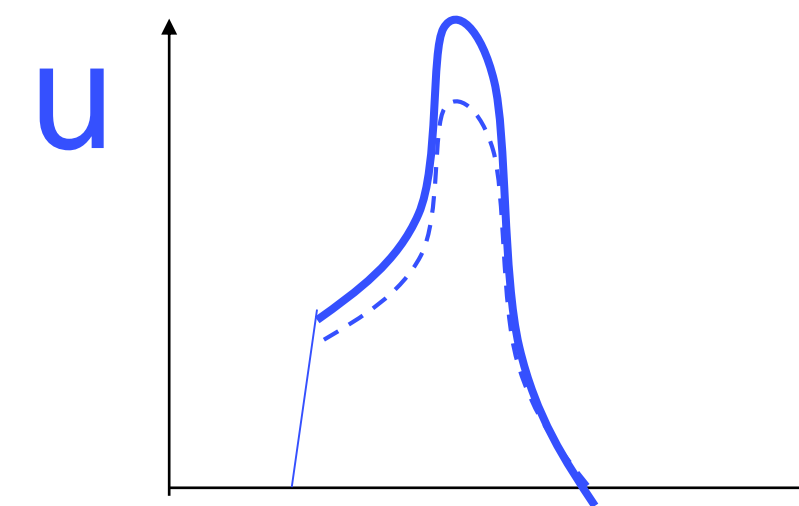
pulse input



Delayed spike



Reduced amplitude



NOW: model with subc. Hopf

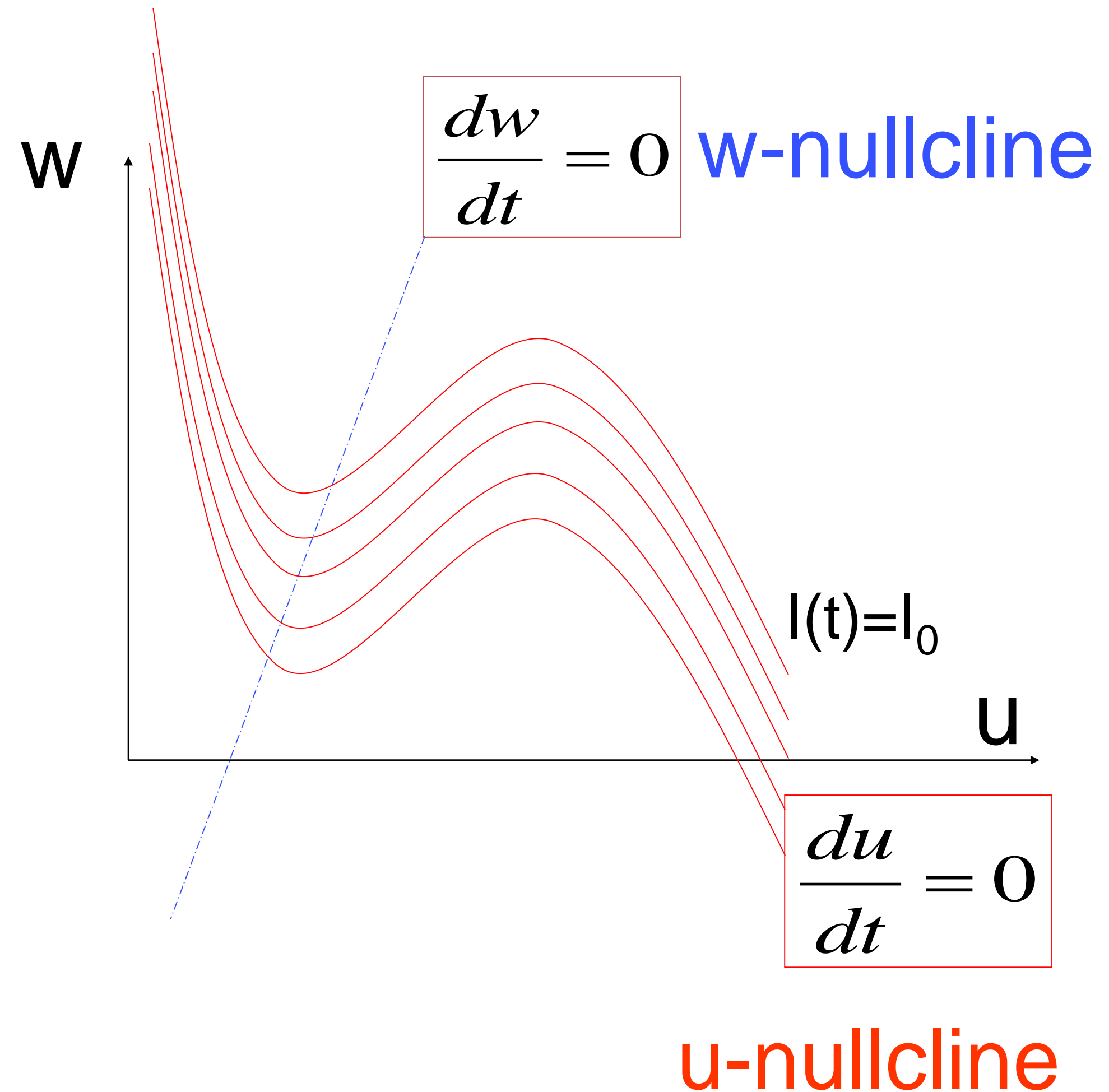
# Review from 4.1: FitzHugh-Nagumo Model: Hopf bifurcation

$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + RI(t)$$
$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = G(u, w)$$

stimulus



apply constant stimulus  $I_0$



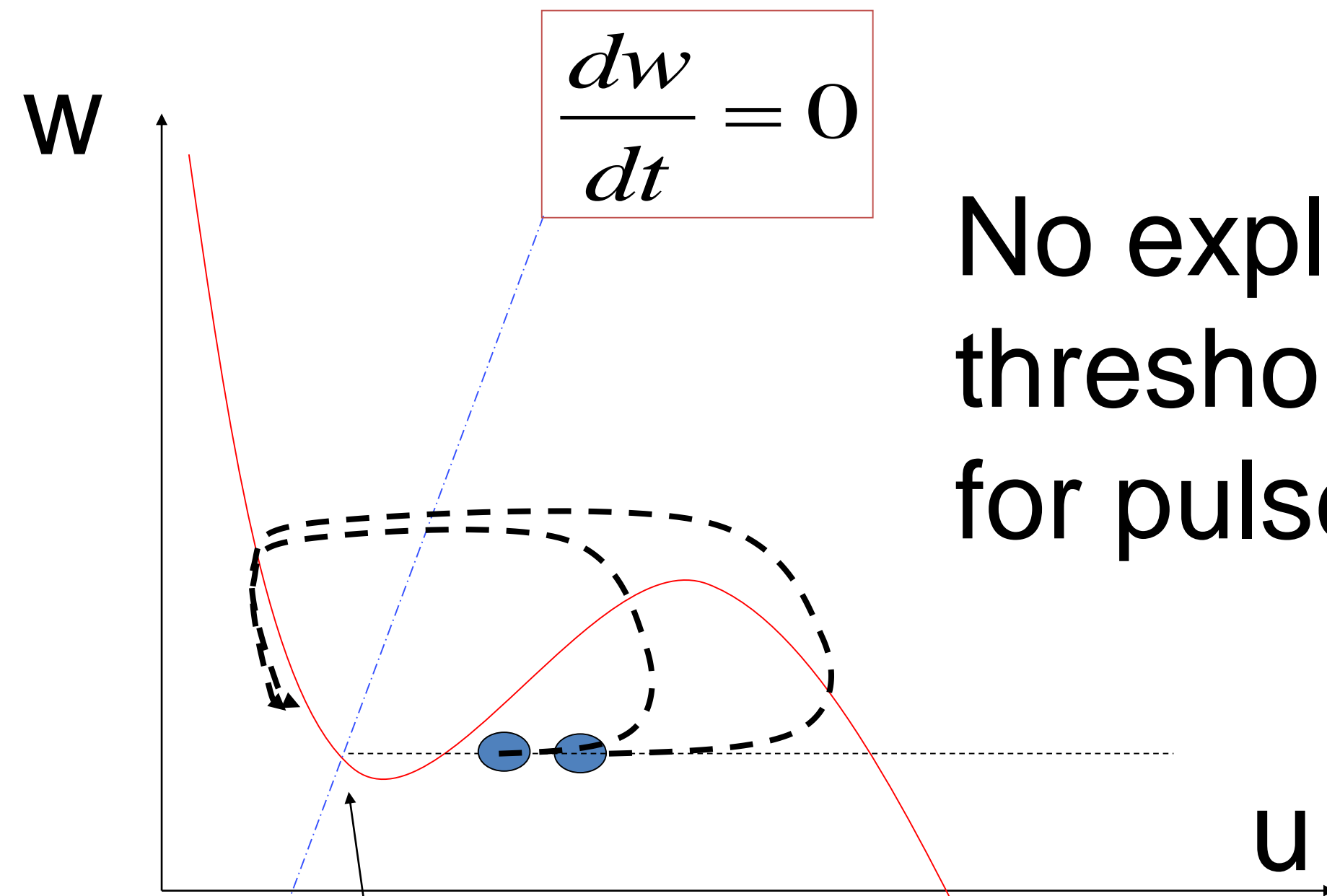
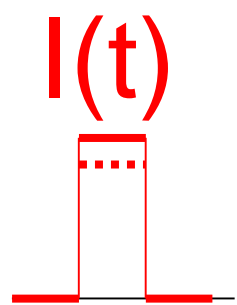
# 4.3 FitzHugh-Nagumo Model with pulse input

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

stimulus  
↓

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

pulse input



No explicit threshold for pulse input

Stable fixed point

$$\frac{du}{dt} = 0$$

$$I(t)=0$$

# Biological Modeling of Neural Networks



**Week 4**

**Reducing detail:**

**Analysis of 2D models**

✓ 3.1 From Hodgkin-Huxley to 2D

✓ 3.2 Phase Plane Analysis

✓ 3.3 Analysis of a 2D Neuron Model

4.1 Separation of time scales

4.2 Type I and II Neuron Models

- limit cycles: constant input

4.3 Pulse input

- where is the firing threshold?

- with separation of time scales

4.4. Further reduction to 1 dim

- nonlinear integrate-and-fire (again)

# 4.3 Separation of time scales, example FitzHugh-Nagumo Model

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

stimulus

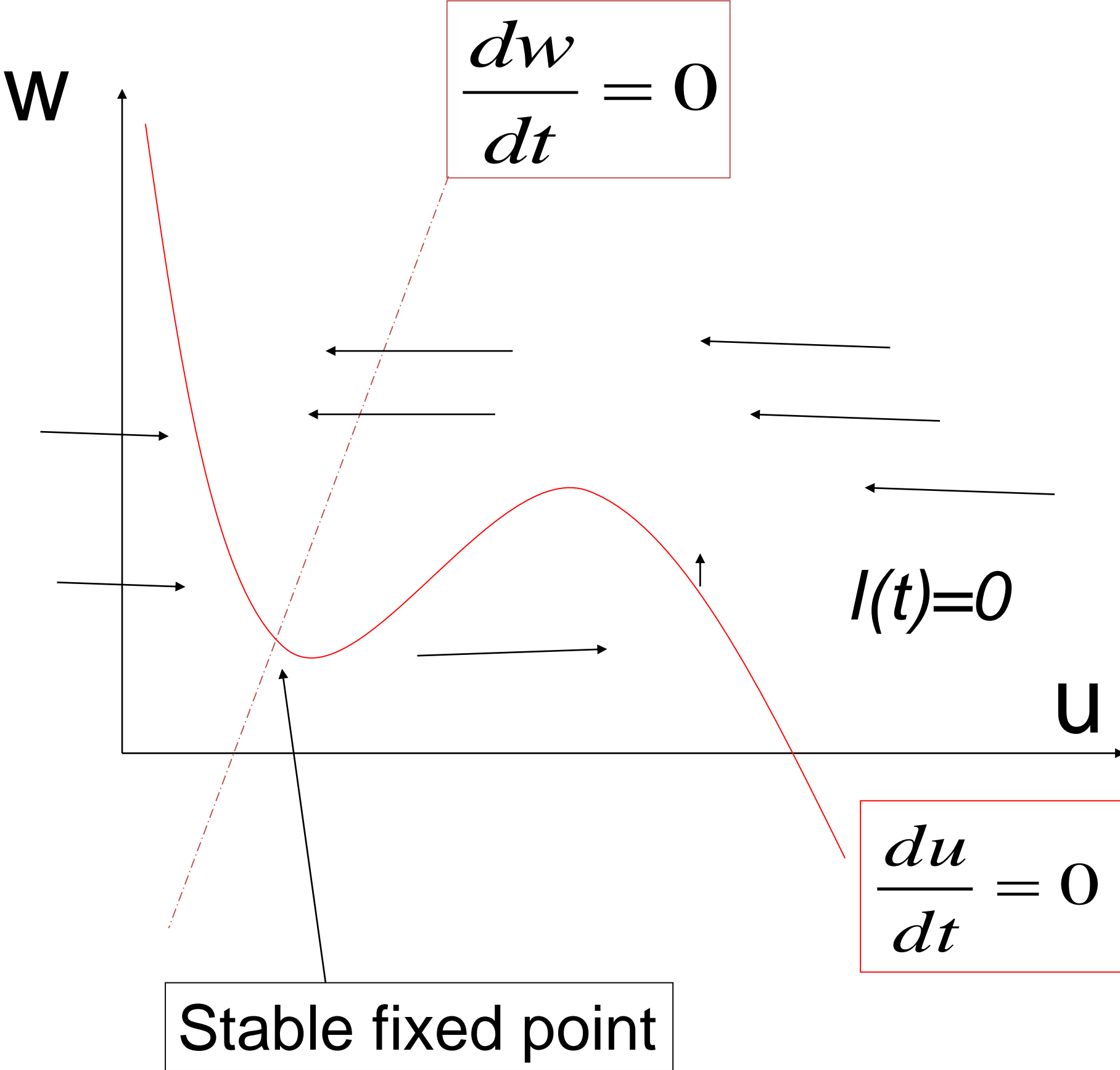
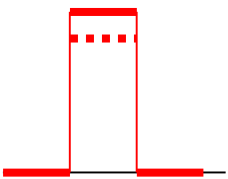
$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = G(u, w)$$

**Separation of time scales**

pulse input

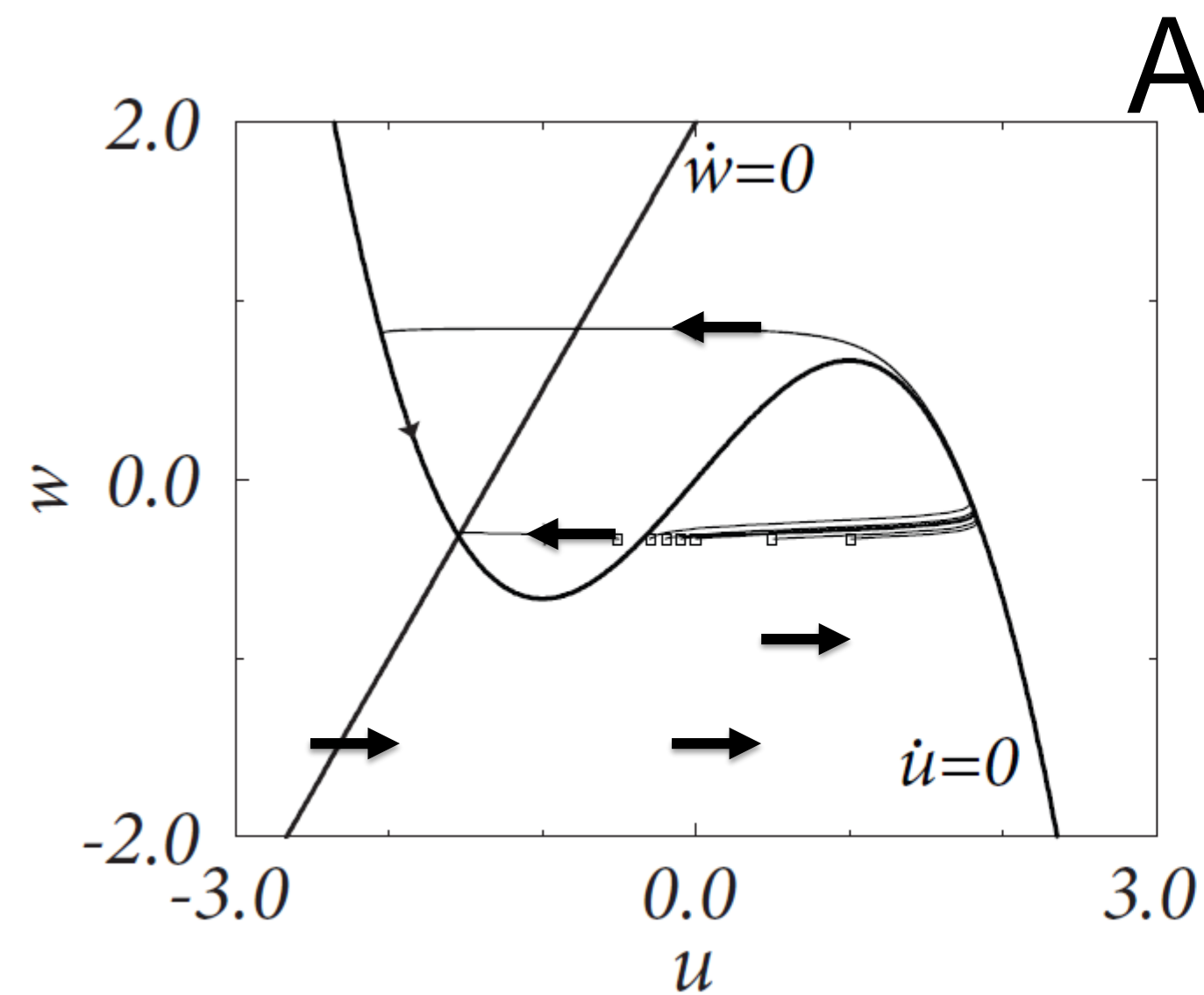
$$\tau_w \gg \tau_u$$

$I(t)$



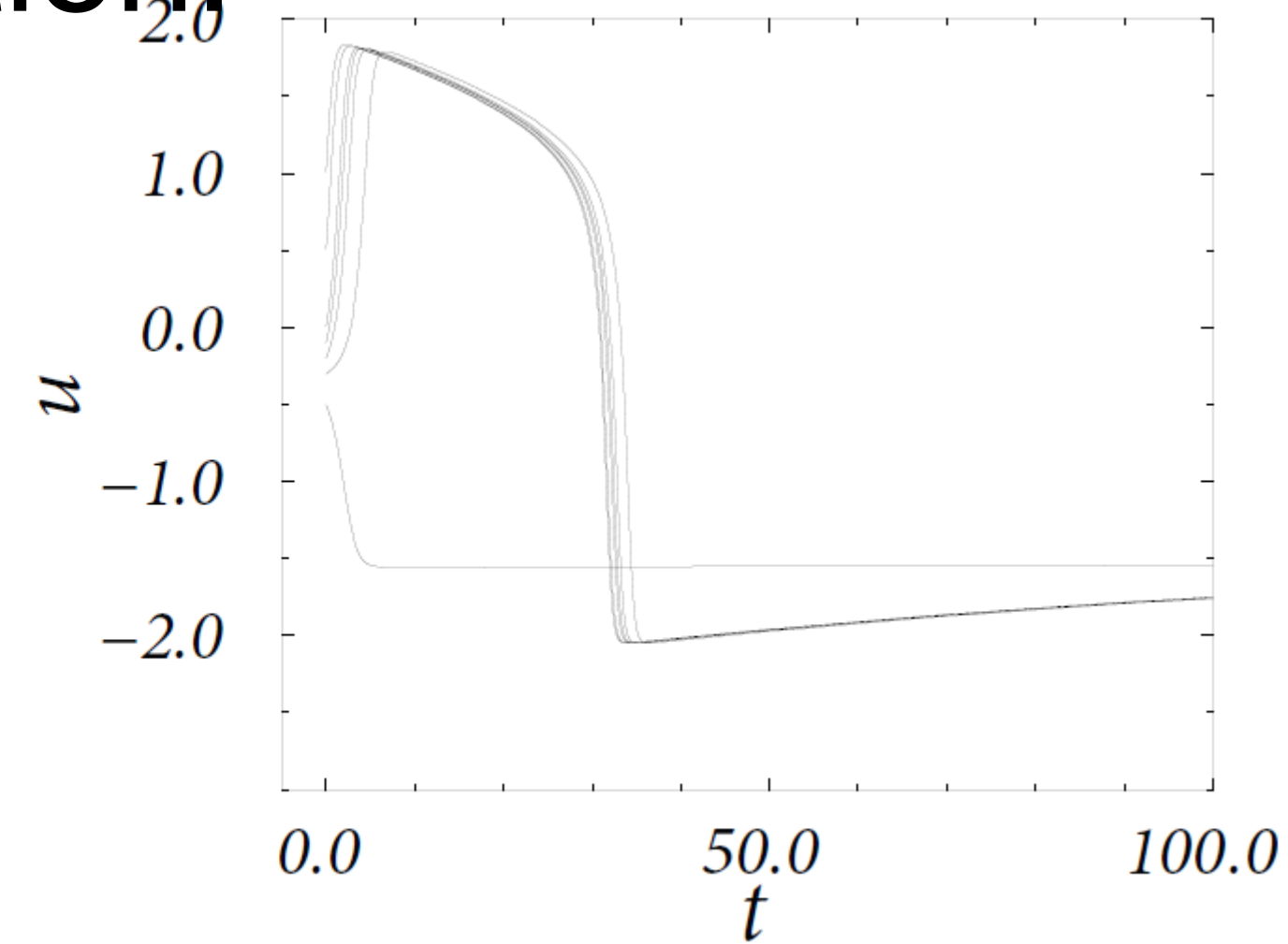


## 4.3 FitzHugh-Nagumo model: Threshold for Pulse input



Assumption:

$$\tau_w \gg \tau_u$$



Middle branch of  $u$ -nullcline  
plays role of  
'Threshold' (for pulse input)

*Image: Neuronal Dynamics,  
Gerstner et al.,  
Cambridge Univ. Press (2014)*

## 4.3 Detour: Separation of time scales in 2dim models

$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + \overset{\text{stimulus}}{\downarrow} RI(t)$$

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

Assumption:

$$\tau_w \gg \tau_u$$

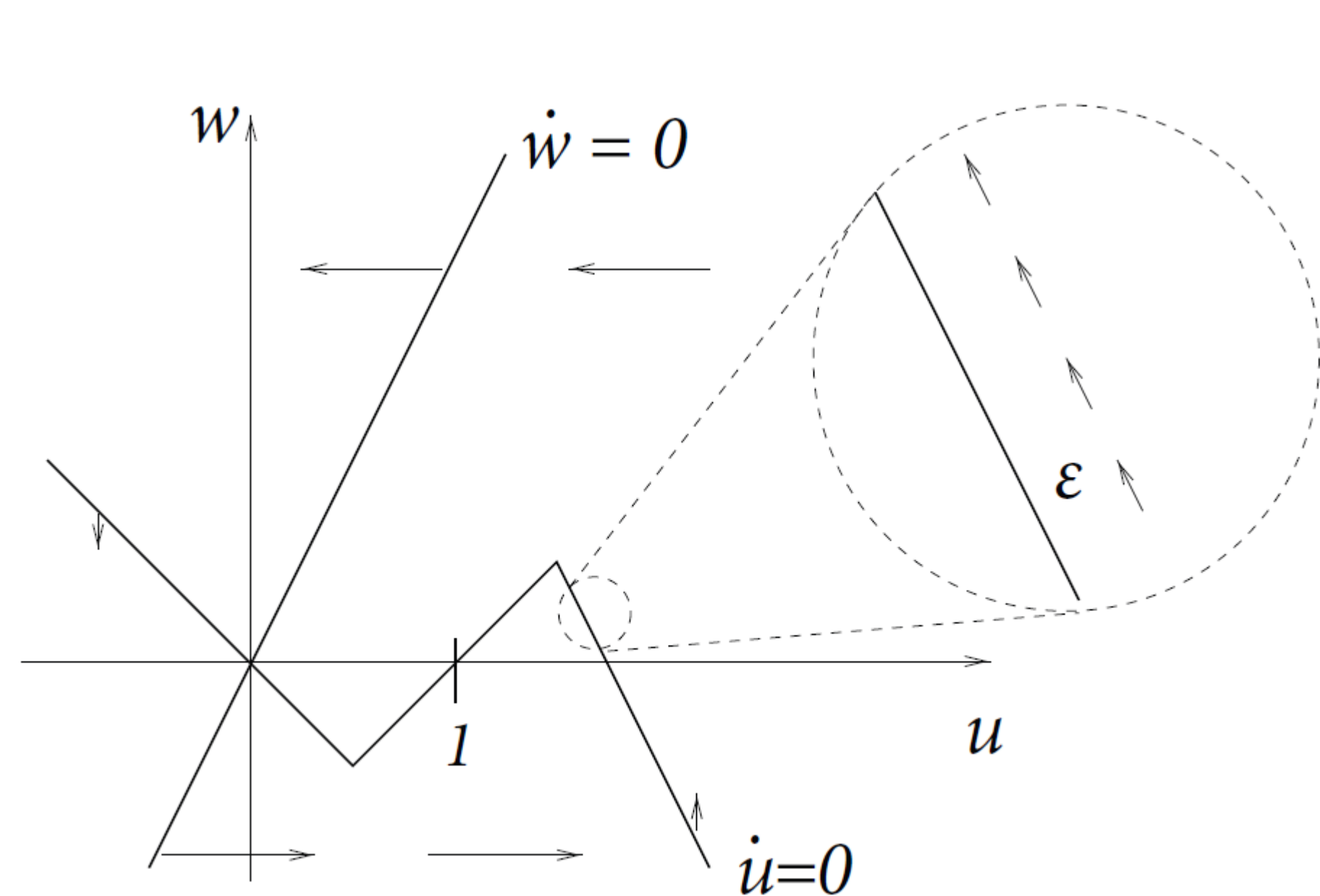
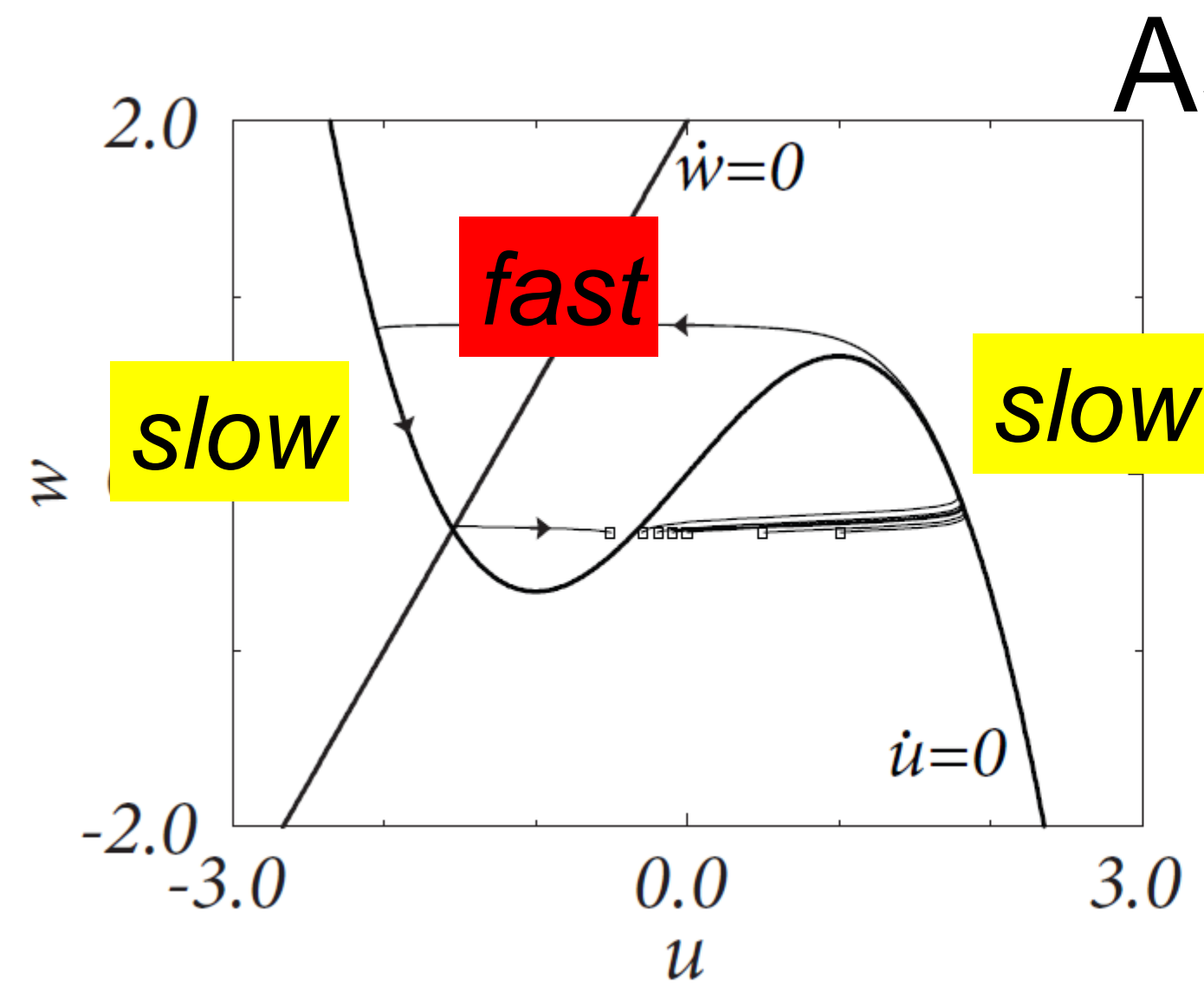


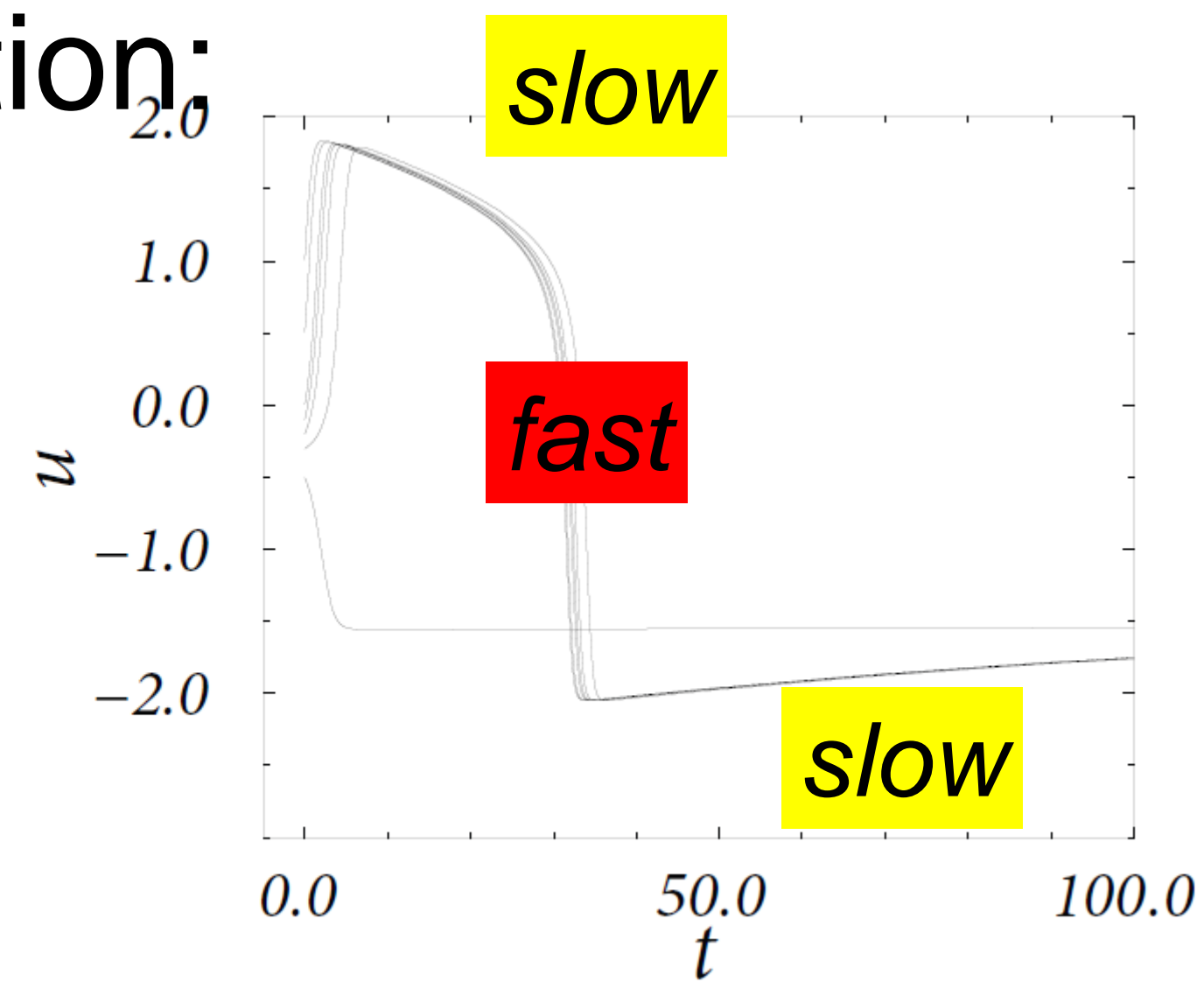
Image: *Neuronal Dynamics*,  
Gerstner et al.,  
Cambridge Univ. Press (2014)

# 4.3 FitzHugh-Nagumo model: Threshold for Pulse input



Assumption:

$$\tau_w \gg \tau_u$$



trajectory

-follows  $u$ -nullcline: **slow**

-jumps between branches: **fast**

*Image: Neuronal Dynamics,  
Gerstner et al.,  
Cambridge Univ. Press (2014)*

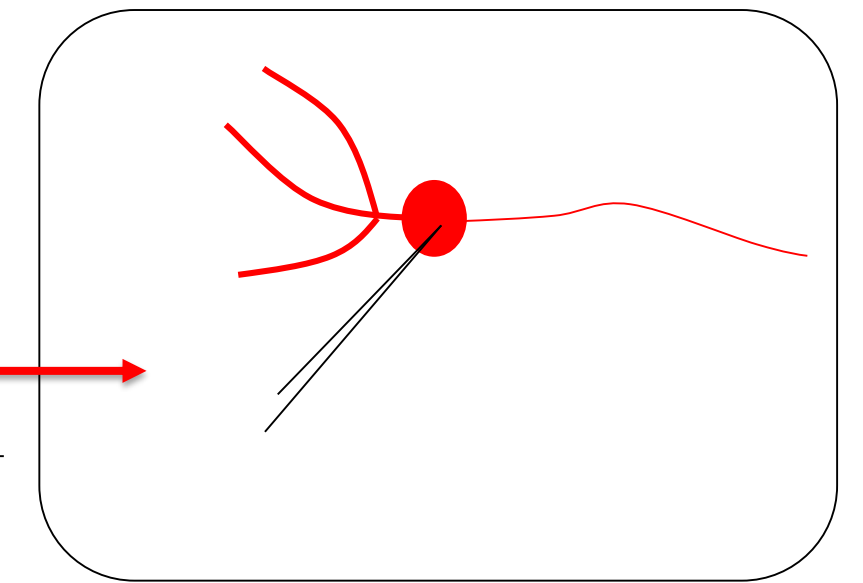
## 4.2 Threshold for pulse input in 2dim. Neuron Models

Biological input scenario

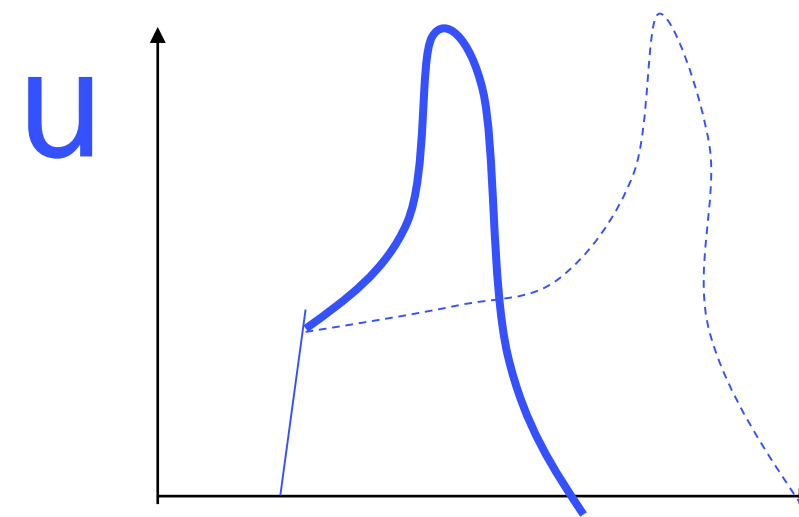
pulse input



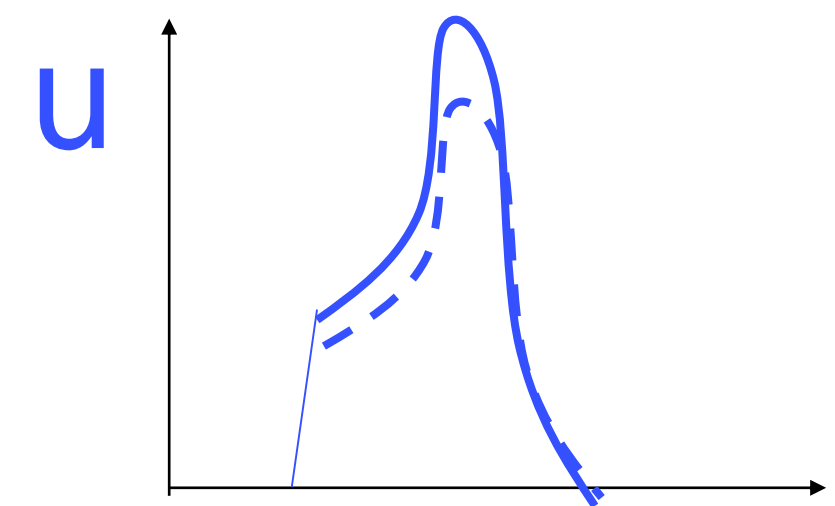
neuron



Delayed spike



Reduced amplitude



Mathematical explanation:  
Graphical analysis in 2D

# Week 4– Quiz 4.3.

## B. Threshold in a 2-dimensional neuron model with subcritical Hopf bifurcation

[ ] in the regime below the Hopf bifurcation, the voltage threshold for action potential firing in response to a short pulse input is the middle branch of the u-nullcline.

[ ] in the regime below the bifurcation, a voltage threshold for action potential firing in response to a short pulse input exists only if  $\tau_w \gg \tau_u$

## 4.3. Summary: Pulse input and thresholds

Neuron models with Saddle-node-onto limit cycle bifurcation have

- a smooth f-I curve
- a well-defined threshold for pulse input: either an AP occurs or not.
- Transition from subthreshold to superthreshold happens via an AP with very large delay.

Neuron models with subcritical Hopf-bifurcation have

- a non-smooth f-I curve
- not a well-defined voltage: there is a small regime where AP transforms into non-AP
- However, together with a separation of time scale, the middle branch of the u-nullcline acts as a voltage threshold.

*The END*

**The END**

# Biological Modeling of Neural Networks



**Week 4**

**Reducing detail:**

**Analysis of 2D models**

✓ 3.1 From Hodgkin-Huxley to 2D

✓ 3.2 Phase Plane Analysis

✓ 3.3 Analysis of a 2D Neuron Model

**4.1 Separation of time scales**

**4.2 Type I and II Neuron Models**

- limit cycles: constant input

**4.3 Pulse input**

- where is the firing threshold?

**4.4. Further reduction to 1 dim**

- nonlinear integrate-and-fire (again)



## 4.4. Further reduction to 1 dimension

stimulus



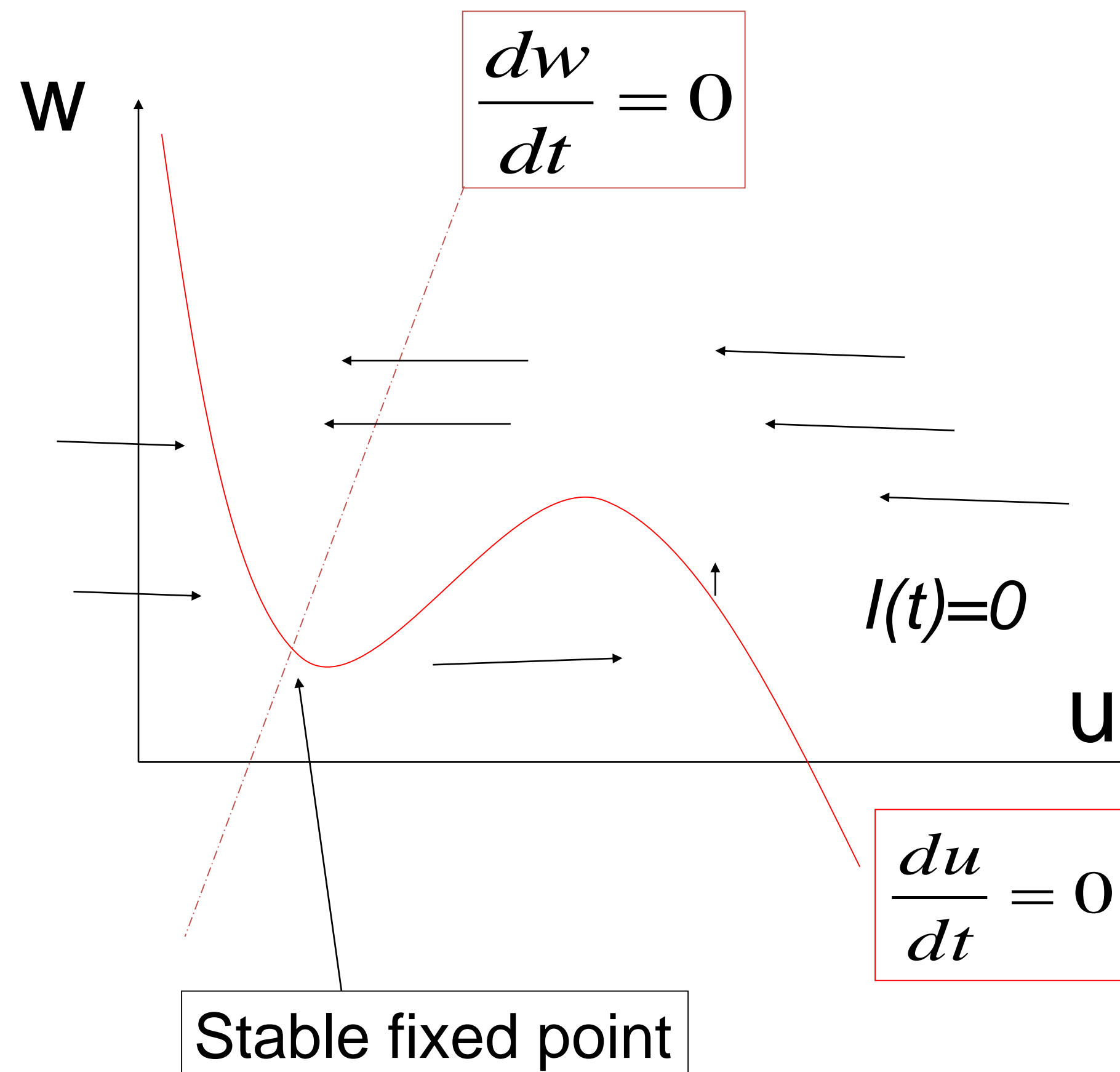
$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w) + I(t)$$

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

Separation of time scales

$$\tau_w \gg \tau_u$$

→ Flux nearly horizontal



## 4.4. Further reduction to 1 dimension

2-dimensional equation stimulus

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

$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = G(u, w) \quad \text{slow!}$$

Separation of time scales

-w is nearly constant  
(most of the time)

## 4.4. Further reduction to 1 dimension

Hodgkin-Huxley reduced to 2dim

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

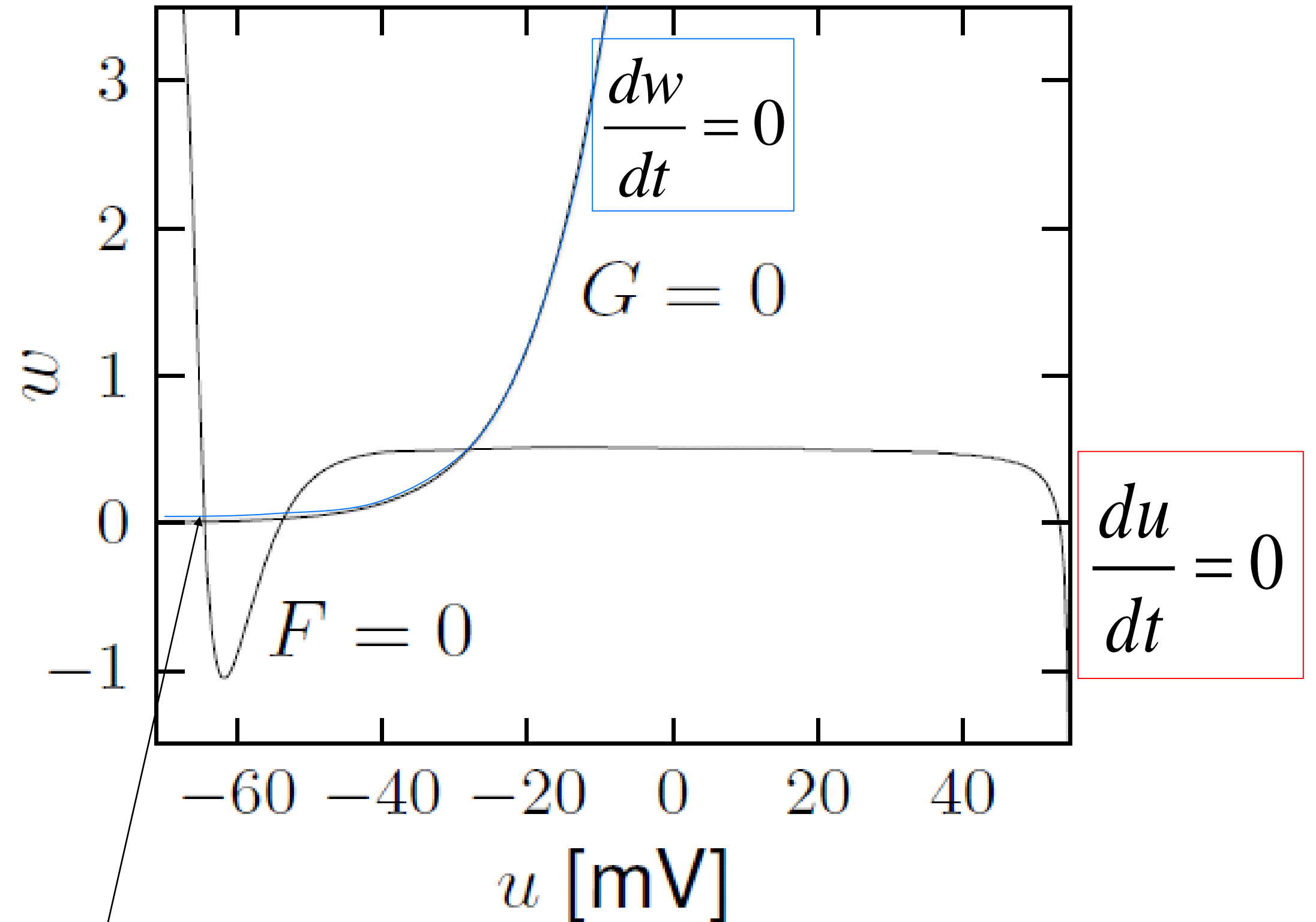
$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} = G(u, w)$$

Separation of time scales

$$\tau_w \gg \tau_u$$

$$\tau_w \frac{dw}{dt} \approx 0 \rightarrow w \approx w_{rest}$$

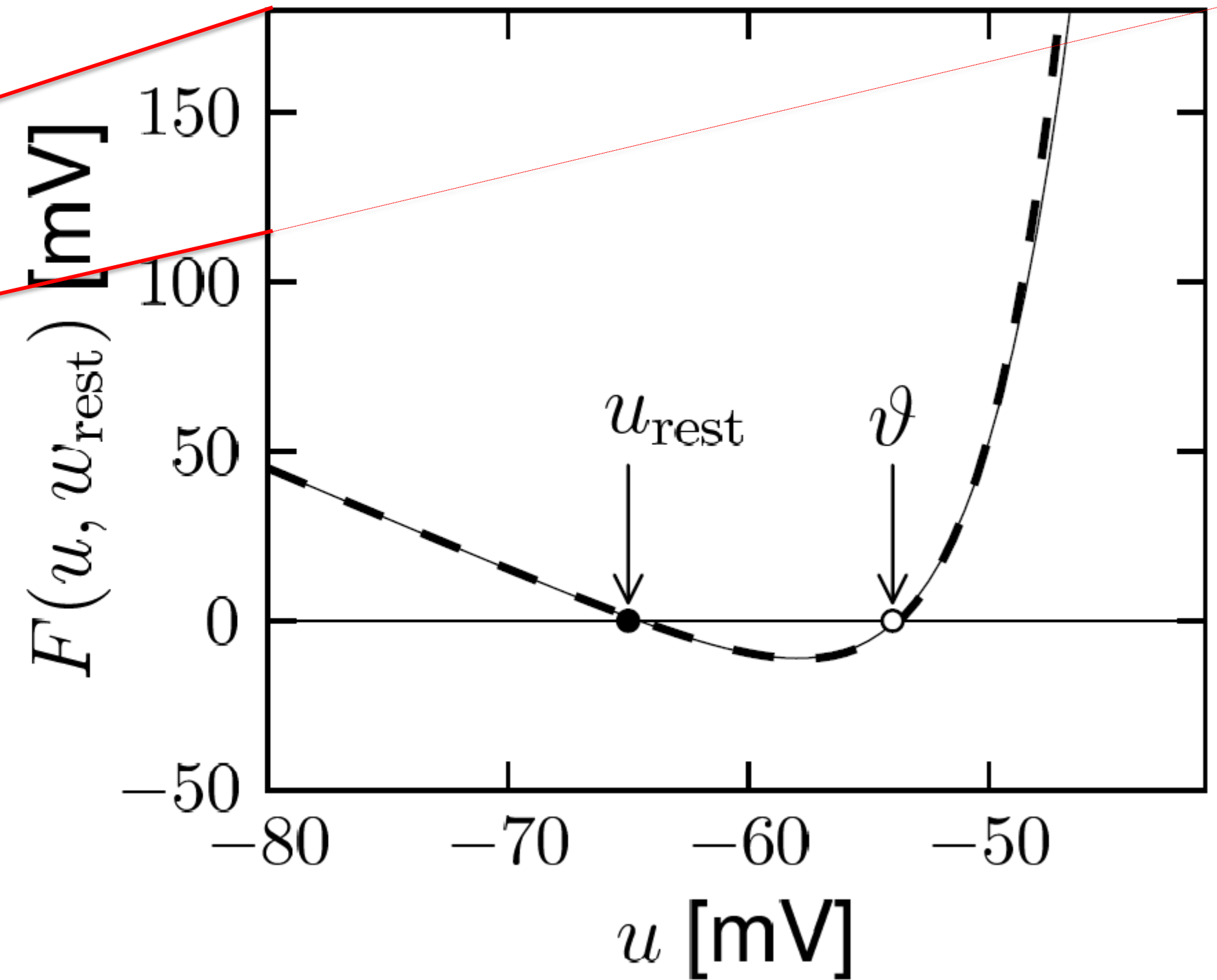
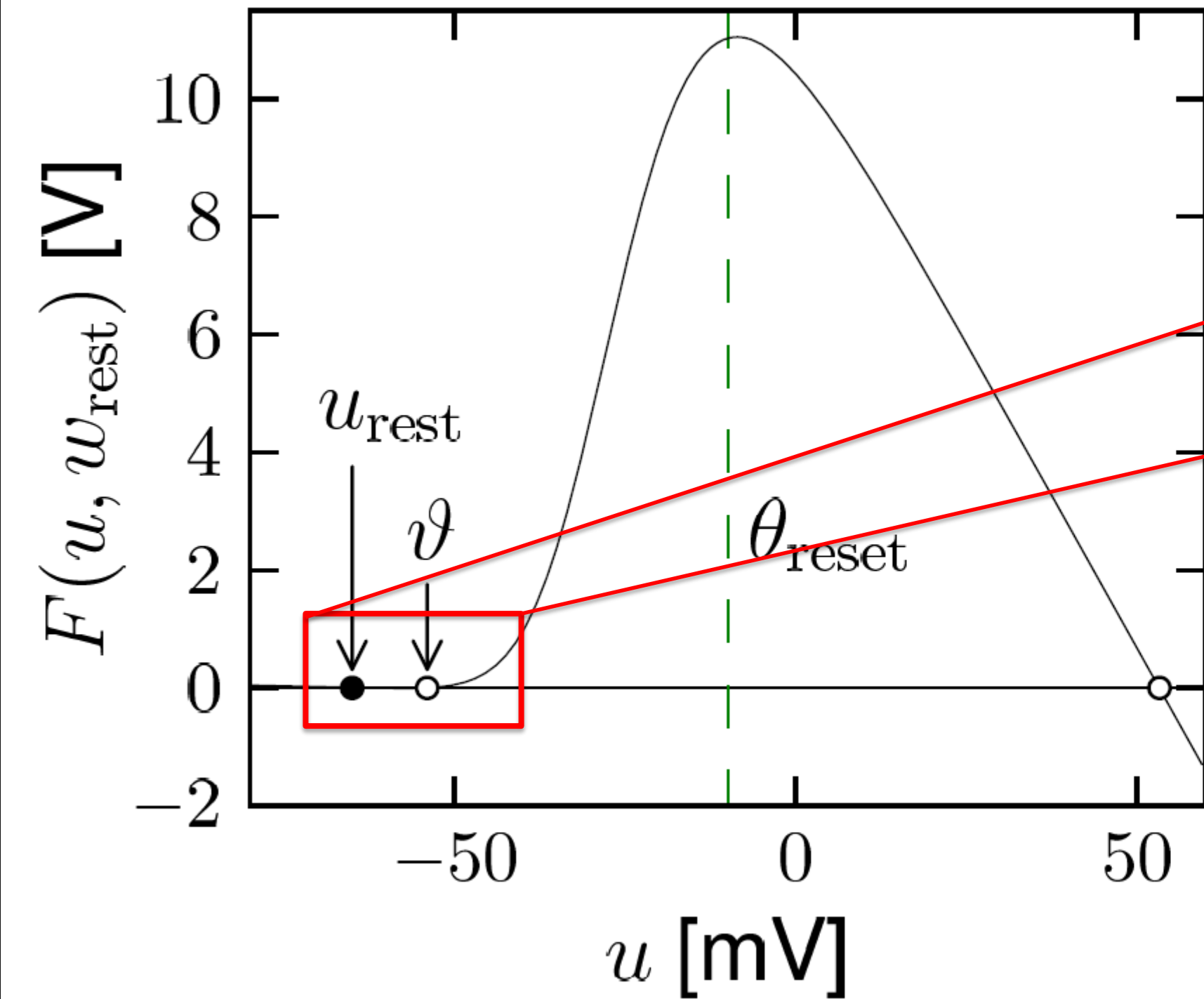
$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w_{rest}) + RI(t)$$



Stable fixed point

← During preparation/initiation of spike

## 4.4. Spike initiation: Nonlinear Integrate-and-Fire Model



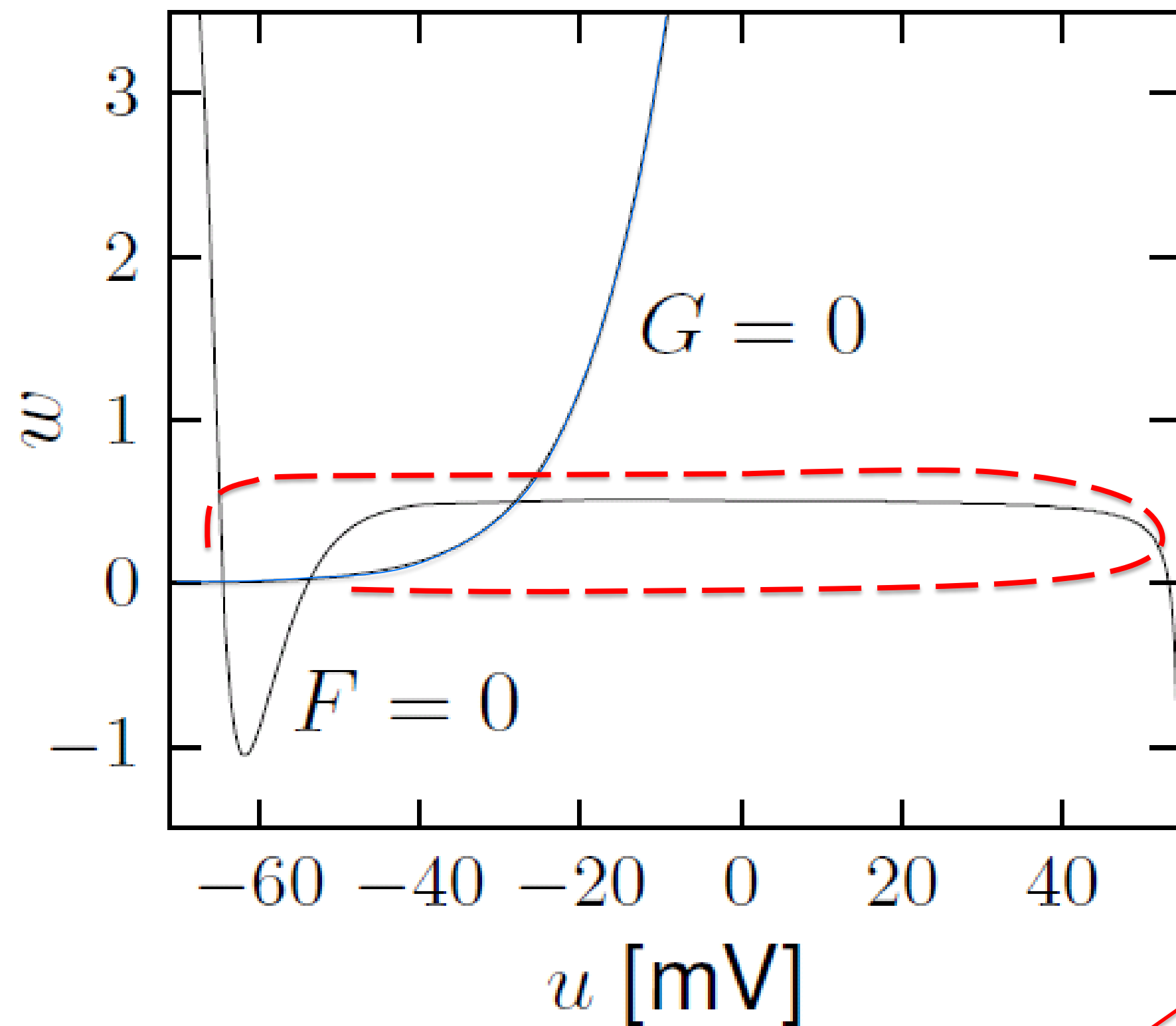
$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w_{rest}) + RI(t) = f(u) + RI(t)$$

→ Nonlinear I&F (see week 1!)

*Image: Neuronal Dynamics,  
Gerstner et al.,  
Cambridge Univ. Press (2014)*

During spike initiation, the 2D models with separation of time scales can be reduced to a 1D model equivalent to nonlinear integrate-and-fire

## 4.4. 2D model, after spike initiation



Relevant during spike  
and downswing of AP

2-dimensional equation

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

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

Separation of time scales

-  $w$  is constant (if not firing)

$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = f(u) + RI(t)$$

Integrate-and-fire:  
threshold+reset for AP

## 4.4. From 2D to Nonlinear Integrate-and-Fire Model

2-dimensional equation

### 2-dimensional Model

Relevant during spike  
and downswing of AP

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

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

**Separation of time scales**

- $w$  is constant (if not firing)

### Nonlinear Integrate-and-Fire Model

$w$ -dynamics replaced by  
Threshold and reset in  
Integrate-and-fire

$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = f(u) + RI(t)$$

Linear plus exponential

# Neuronal Dynamics – Literature for week 3 and 4.1

**Reading:** W. Gerstner, W.M. Kistler, R. Naud and L. Paninski, *Neuronal Dynamics: from single neurons to networks and models of cognition*. Chapter 4 Cambridge Univ. Press, 2014

OR J. Rinzel and G.B. Ermentrout, (1989). Analysis of neuronal excitability and oscillations. In Koch, C. Segev, I., editors, *Methods in neuronal modeling*. MIT Press, Cambridge, MA.

## Selected references.

- Ermentrout, G. B. (1996). *Type I membranes, phase resetting curves, and synchrony*. Neural Computation, 8(5):979-1001.
- Fourcaud-Trocme, N., Hansel, D., van Vreeswijk, C., and Brunel, N. (2003). *How spike generation mechanisms determine the neuronal response to fluctuating input*. J. Neuroscience, 23:11628-11640.
- Badel, L., Lefort, S., Berger, T., Petersen, C., Gerstner, W., and Richardson, M. (2008). *Biological Cybernetics*, 99(4-5):361-370.
- E.M. Izhikevich, *Dynamical Systems in Neuroscience*, MIT Press (2007)



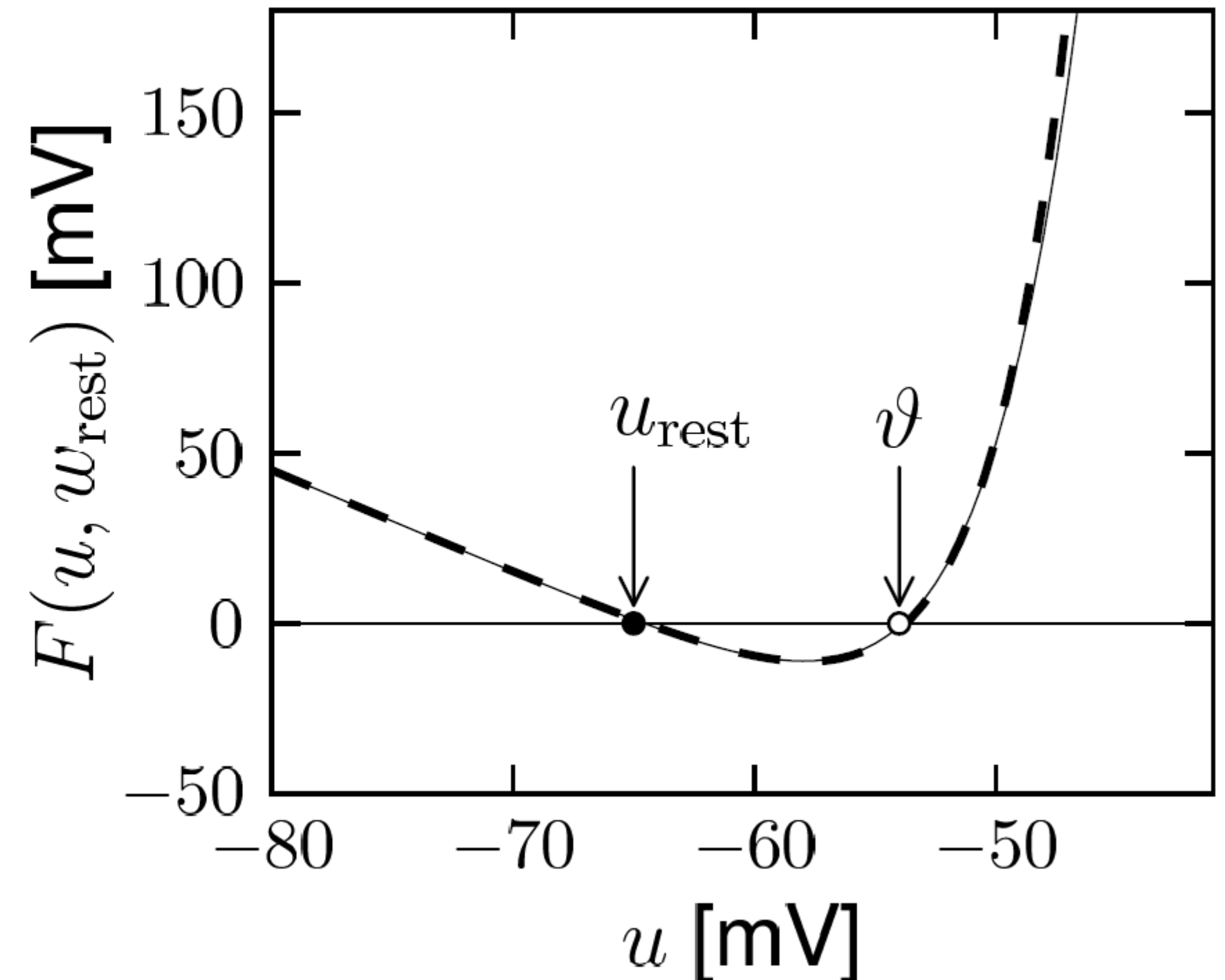
## 4.3. Nonlinear Integrate-and-Fire Model

### Exponential integrate-and-fire model (EIF)

$$f(u) = -(u - u_{rest}) + \Delta \exp\left(\frac{u - \vartheta}{\Delta}\right)$$

$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, w_{rest}) + RI(t) = f(u) + RI(t)$$

→ Nonlinear I&F (see week 1!)



*Image: Neuronal Dynamics,  
Gerstner et al.,  
Cambridge Univ. Press (2014)*



# Neuronal Dynamics – 4.2. Exponential Integrate-and-Fire Model

Direct derivation from Hodgkin-Huxley

$$C \frac{du}{dt} = -g_{Na} m^3 h (u - E_{Na}) - g_K n^4 (u - E_K) - g_l (u - E_l) + I(t)$$

$$C \frac{du}{dt} = -g_{Na} [m_0(u)]^3 h_{rest} (u - E_{Na}) - g_K [n_{rest}]^4 (u - E_K) - g_l (u - E_l) + I(t)$$

*Fourcaud-Trocme et al, J. Neurosci. 2003*

$$f(u) = -(u - u_{rest}) + \Delta \exp\left(\frac{u - \theta}{\Delta}\right)$$

$$\tau \frac{du}{dt} = F(u, h_{rest}, n_{rest}) + RI(t) = f(u) + RI(t)$$

gives expon. I&F

# Neuronal Dynamics – Quiz 4.3.

## A. Exponential integrate-and-fire model.

The model can be derived

- from a 2-dimensional model, assuming that the auxiliary variable  $w$  is constant.
- from the HH model, assuming that the gating variables  $h$  and  $n$  are constant.
- from the HH model, assuming that the gating variables  $m$  is constant.
- from the HH model, assuming that the gating variables  $m$  is instantaneous.

## B. Reset.

- In a 2-dimensional model, the auxiliary variable  $w$  is necessary to implement a reset of the voltage after a spike
- In a nonlinear integrate-and-fire model, the auxiliary variable  $w$  is necessary to implement a reset of the voltage after a spike
- In a nonlinear integrate-and-fire model, a reset of the voltage after a spike is implemented algorithmically/explicitly