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International Centre for Theoretical Physics*



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**Pseudochaos and Stable-Chaos in Statistical Mechanics and Quantum  
Physics**

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**Pseudo-chaos in piecewise isometric systems**

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# pseudo-chaos in piecewise isometric systems

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## Mathematics:

- polygonal outer billiards
- polygon-exchange maps
- non-ergodic rotations on tori
- piecewise isometries



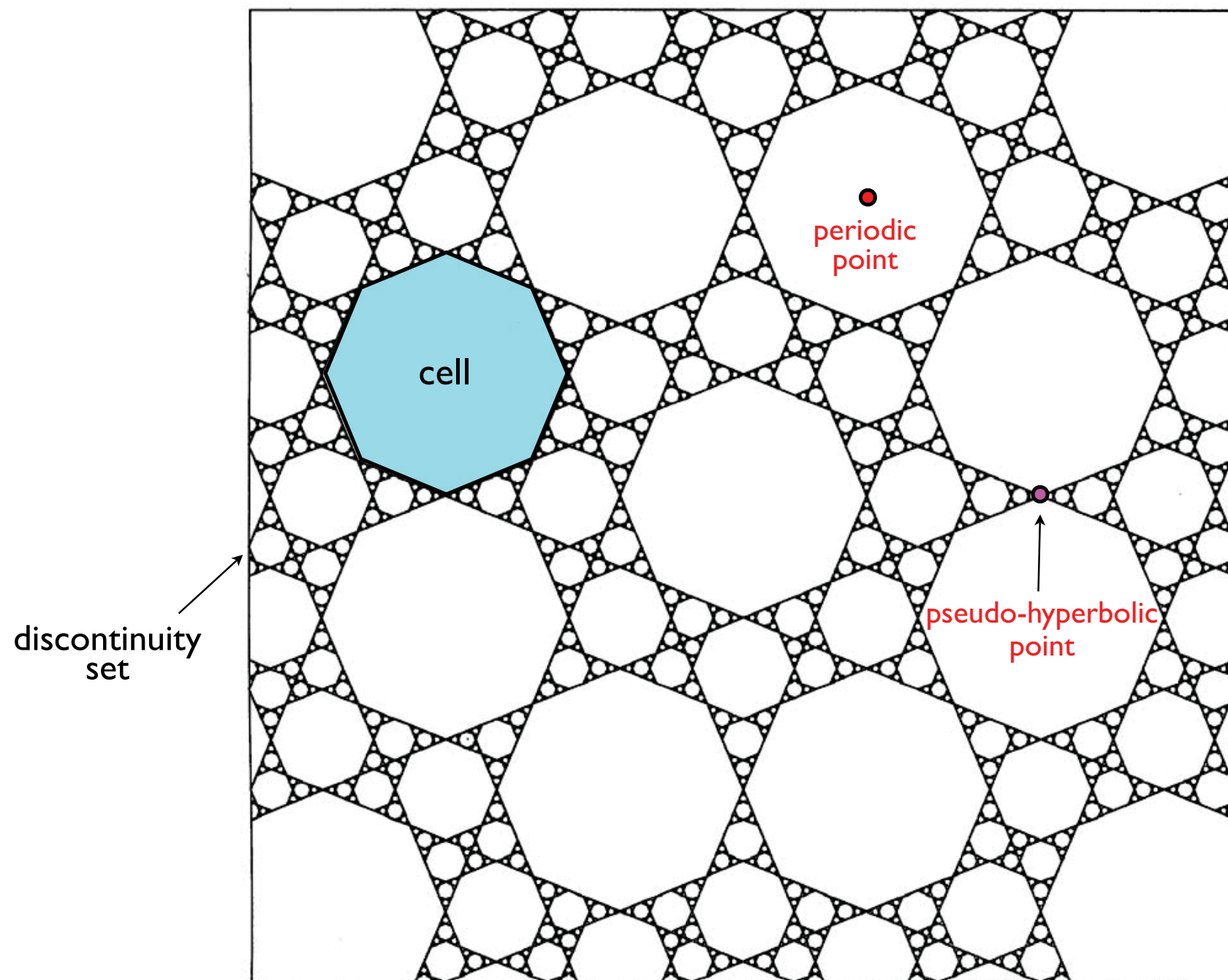
pretty pictures

## Applications:

- digital filters
- sigma-delta modulators
- digital printing
- micro electromechanical systems
- voltage-controlled oscillators
- dynamics of round-off errors



ugly proofs



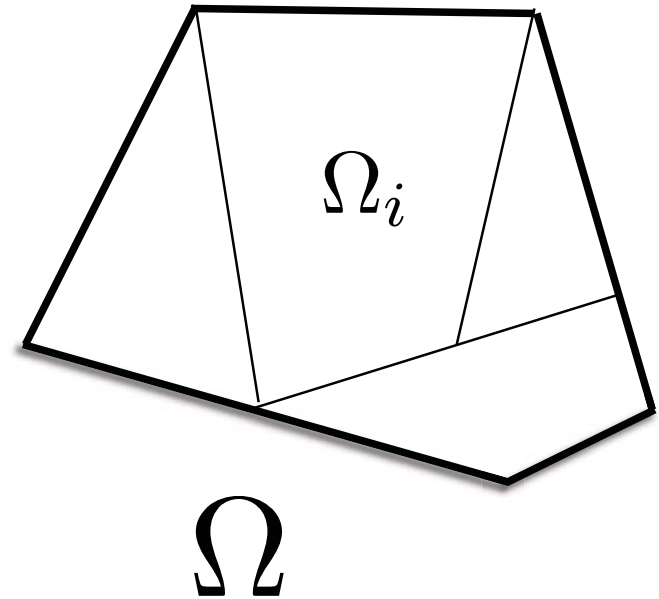
# Piecewise isometries

the space:

$$\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$\Omega = \overline{\bigcup \Omega_i}$$

a finite collection of pairwise disjoint open polytopes (intersection of open half-spaces), called the **atoms**.



the dynamics:

$$F : \Omega \rightarrow \Omega$$

$$F|_{\Omega_i} \text{ is an isometry}$$

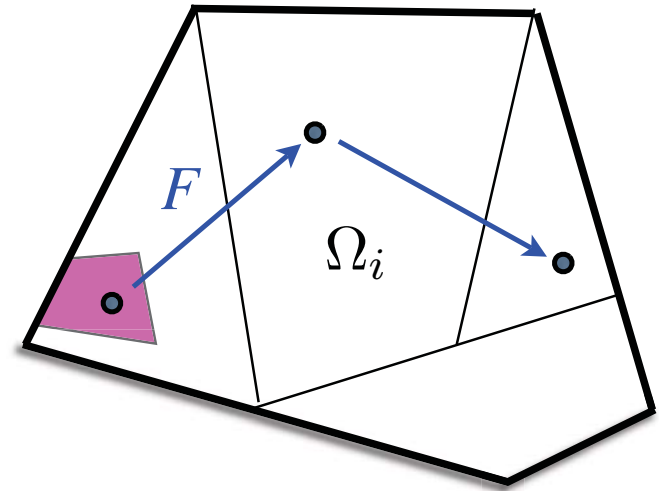
**Theorem** (Gutkin & Haydin 1997, Buzzi 2001)

*The topological entropy of a piecewise isometry is zero.*

# Cells

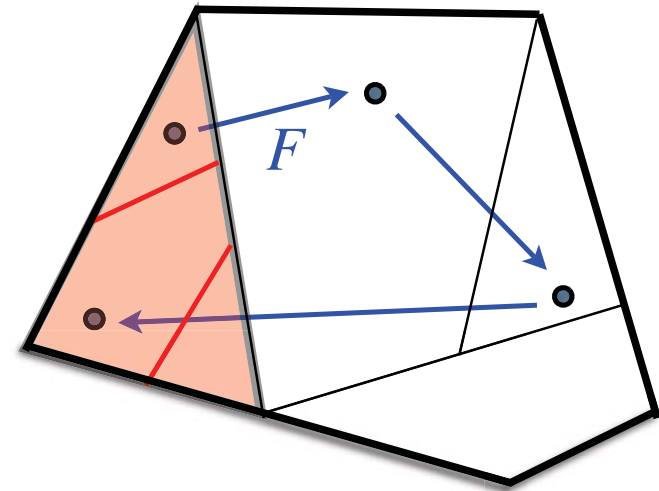
The points of an orbit visit atoms in succession, defining a symbolic dynamics.

A **cell** is a set of points with the same symbolic dynamics; cells are convex sets.



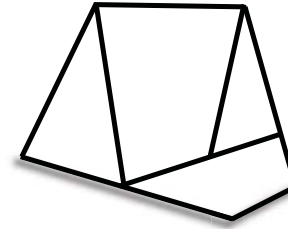
## Induced maps

The first return map to an atom defines a new PWI on a smaller domain. This process may be continued recursively.



# Topology

Iterating the boundary of the atoms:



$$\partial\Omega = \bigcup \partial\Omega_i$$

$$\mathcal{D} = \bigcup_{t \in \mathbb{Z}} F^t(\partial\Omega)$$

**discontinuity set**

$$\Pi = \Omega \setminus \overline{\mathcal{D}}$$

**periodic set** (union of cells of positive measure)

$$\mathcal{E} = \overline{\mathcal{D}} \setminus \mathcal{D}$$

**exceptional set** (asymptotic phenomena)

**Conjecture** (Goetz 1998). *If  $\overline{\mathcal{D}} \neq \Omega$ , then  $\overline{\mathcal{D}}$  has empty interior.*

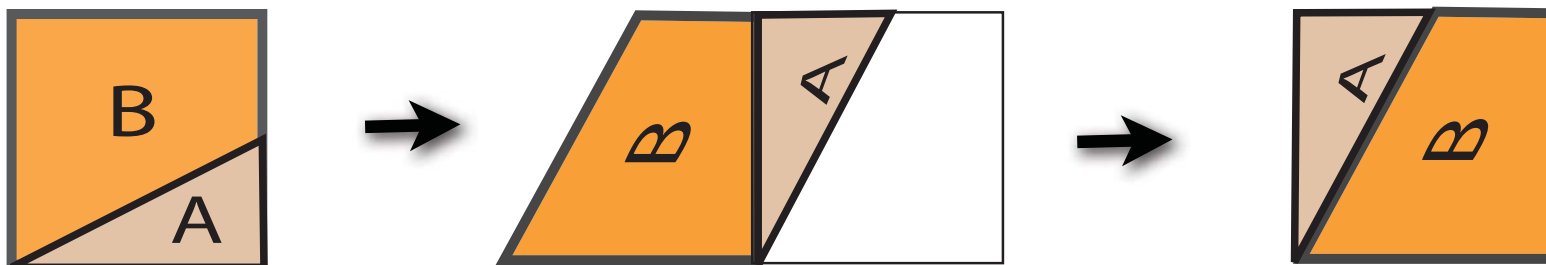
# Rotations on tori: the standard model

$$\Omega = \mathbb{T}^2 \simeq [0, 1)^2$$

$$F : (x, y) \mapsto (\lambda x - y, x) \pmod{1}$$

$$\lambda = 2 \cos(2\pi\nu)$$

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



Adler, Kitchens and Tresser, ETDS (2000):

“What surprised us most about these maps, is how quickly we ran out of cases which are amenable of any detailed analysis”

The relevant arithmetical environment is the field

$$\mathbb{Q}(\lambda) \quad \lambda = 2 \cos(2\pi\nu)$$

There are two basic cases:

$$\nu \in \mathbb{Q}$$

**rational rotations**  
cells are polygons  
field is algebraic

$$\nu \notin \mathbb{Q}$$

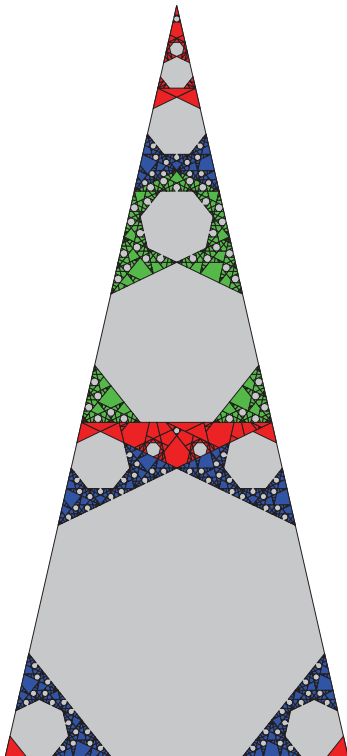
**irrational rotations**  
cells are ellipses  
field may be algebraic  
or transcendental

# Rational rotations

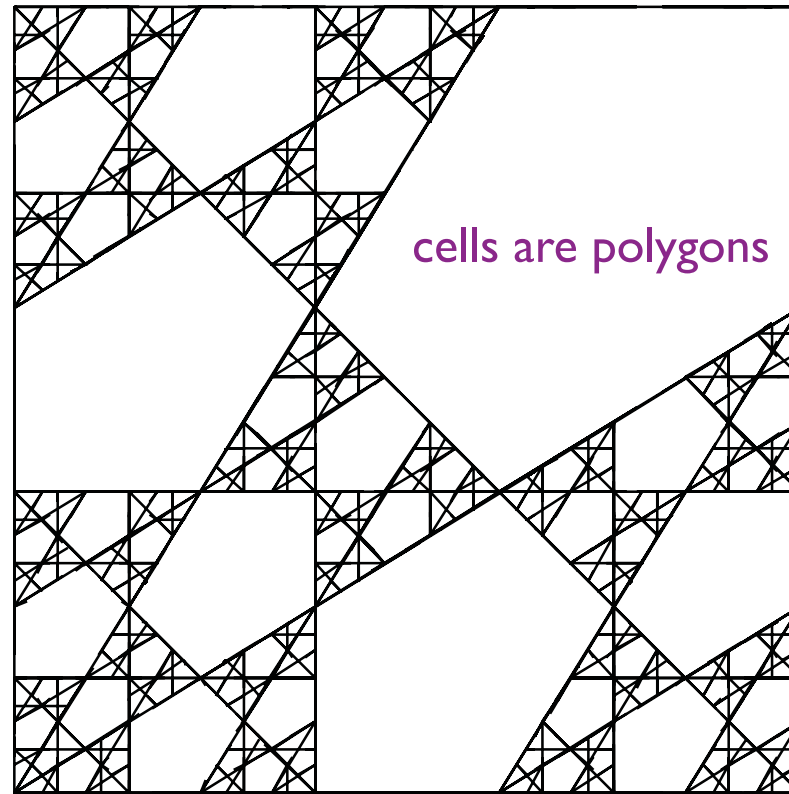
$$\lambda = 2 \cos(2\pi\nu) \quad \nu \in \mathbb{Q}$$

Some rigorous results.

Self-similarity for quadratic fields (8 cases in all).



One known cubic case:  
finitely-generated  
renormalization structure

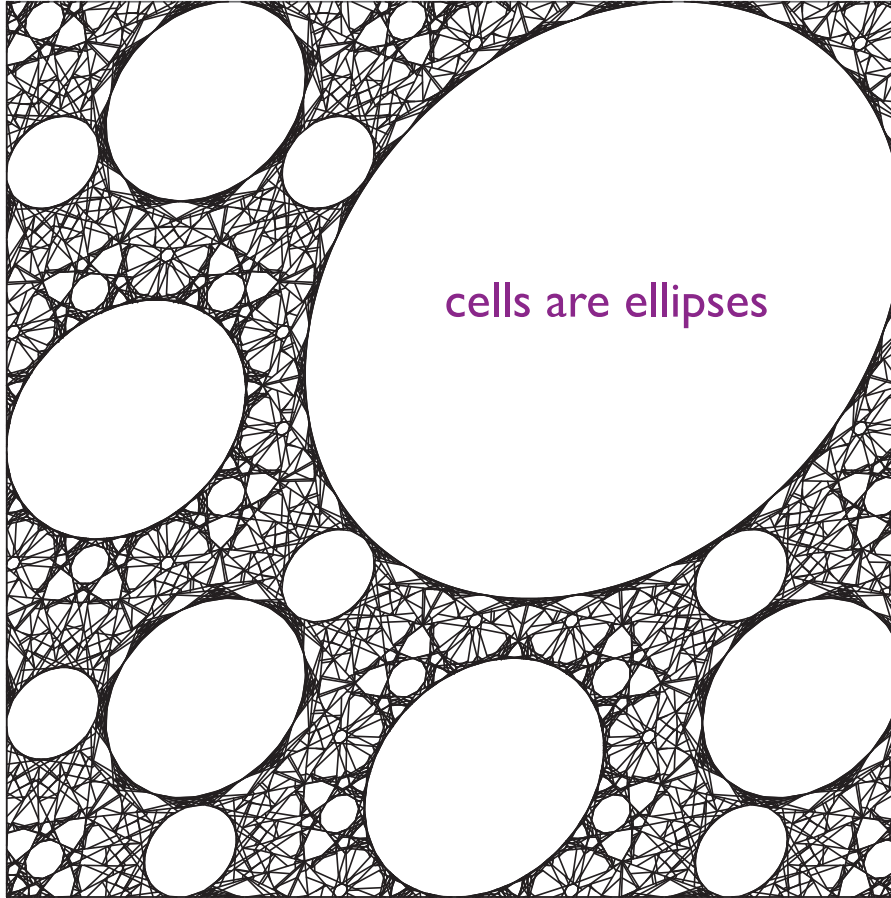


cells are polygons

↑  
discontinuity set

# Irrational rotations

$$\lambda = 2 \cos(2\pi\nu) \quad \nu \notin \mathbb{Q}$$



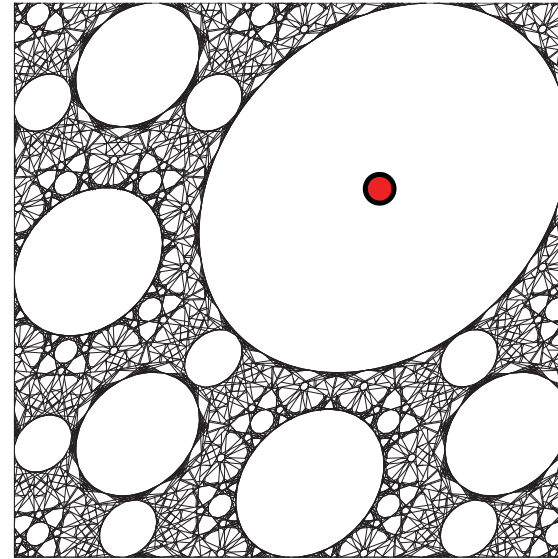
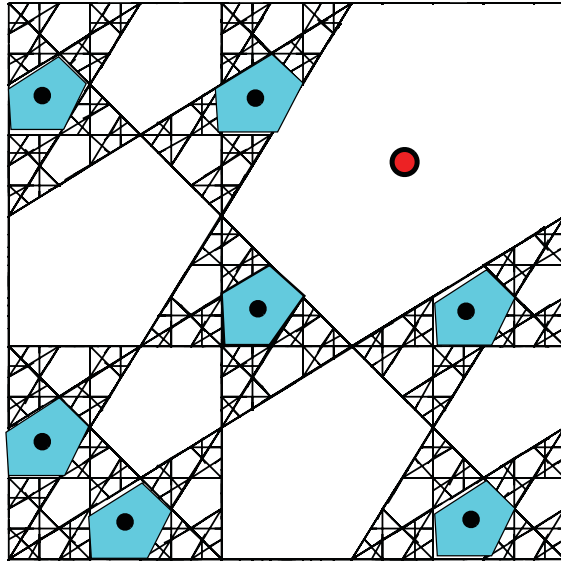
cells are ellipses

Very few rigorous results.

No known renormalization structure.

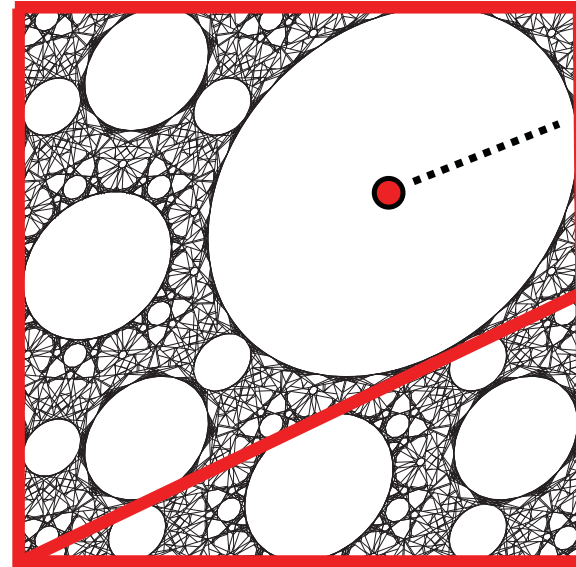
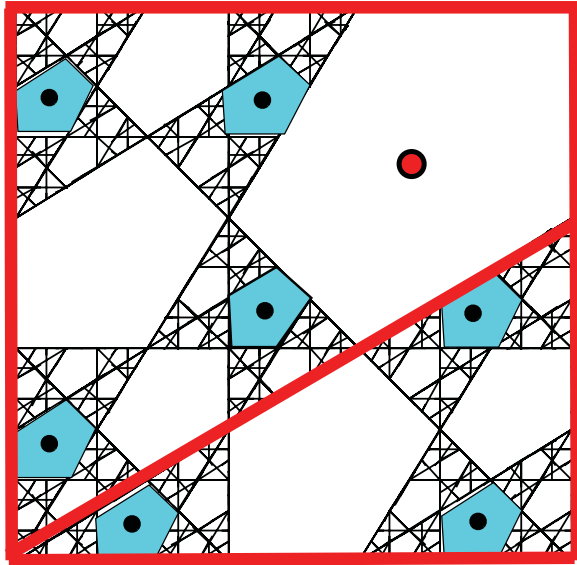
**Conjecture** (Ashwin 1997) *The exceptional set of a 2-D irrational piecewise isometry has positive Lebesgue measure.*

# Periodic points



at the centre of each cell, there is an elliptic periodic point

# Periodic points

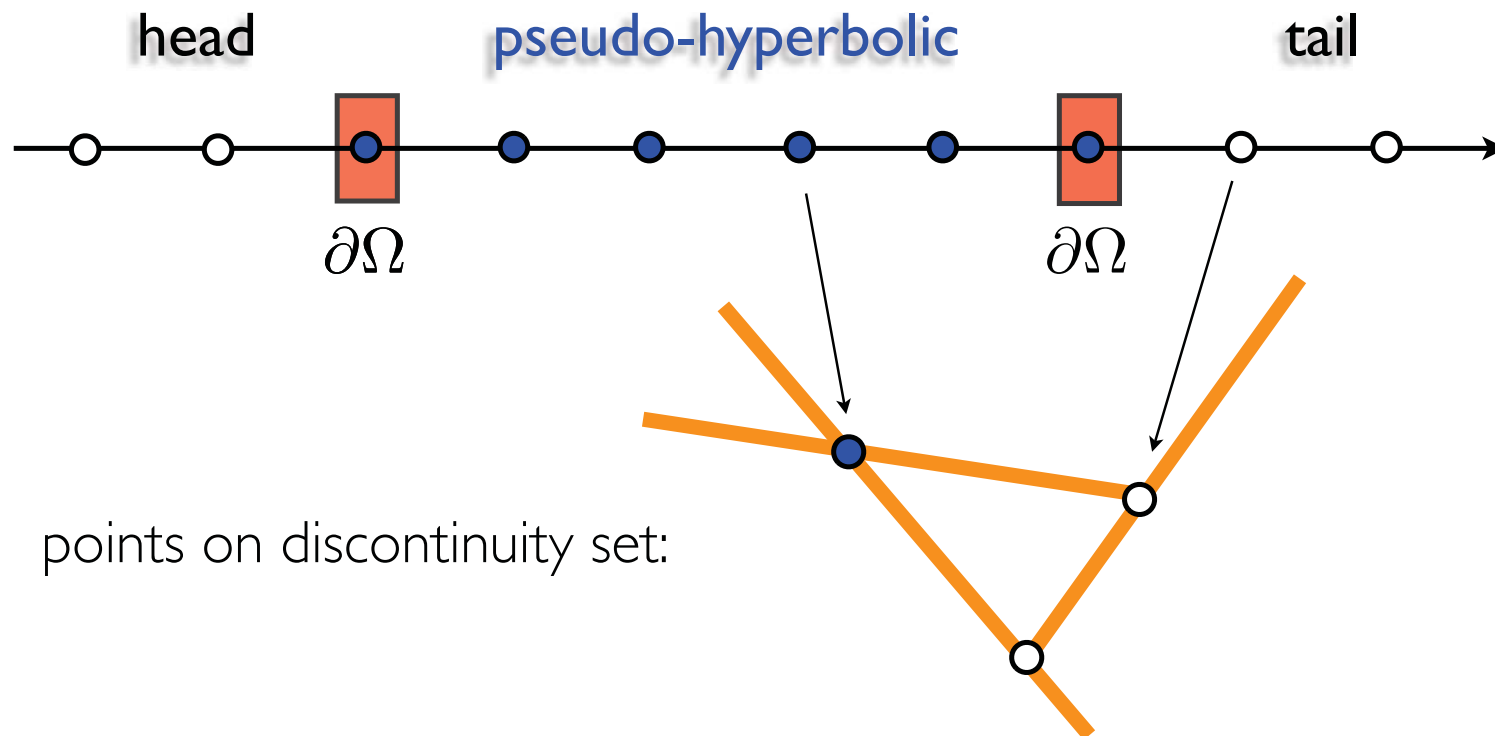
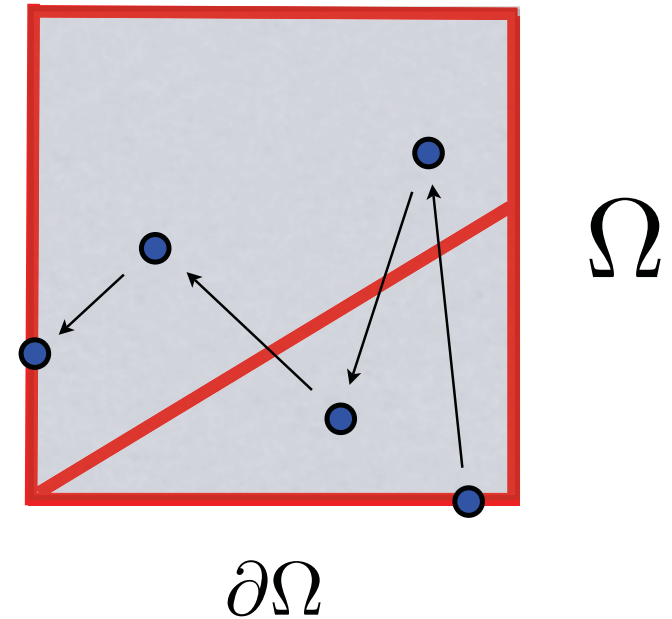


at the centre of each cell, there is an elliptic periodic point

the size of a cell is determined by the minimal distance of the periodic orbit from the boundary of the atoms

# Pseudo-hyperbolic points

A point is **pseudo-hyperbolic** if its orbit reaches the boundary of the atoms in both time directions.



**Non-archimedean absolute values** provide a natural way of measuring the size of elliptic and pseudo-hyperbolic points.

Standard model:  $x_{t+1} \equiv \lambda x_t - x_{t-1} \pmod{1}$

$\lambda$  **rational**: Under iteration, the primes dividing the denominator of  $\lambda$  will occur with increasing exponents in the denominator of  $x_t$ .

Need a concept of size, for which  $x_t$  becomes **bigger**.

■ Fix a prime  $p$ . The *p-adic value*  $\nu_p(m)$  of an integer  $m$  is defined to be the largest  $k$  such that  $p^k$  divides  $m$ , with  $\nu_p(0) = \infty$ .

■ Letting  $\nu_p(m/n) = \nu_p(m) - \nu_p(n)$ , we extend the definition of  $\nu_p$  to the rationals.

**Define:**

$$|r|_p = e^{-\nu_p(r)} \quad r \in \mathbb{Q}$$

$\lambda$  **transcendental**: The point  $x_t$  depends polynomially on  $\lambda$ .  
Under iteration, the degree increases.

■ For a polynomial  $f(\lambda)$  with rational coefficients we let  $\nu_\infty(f) = -\deg(f)$ ,  
with  $\nu_\infty(0) = \infty$ .

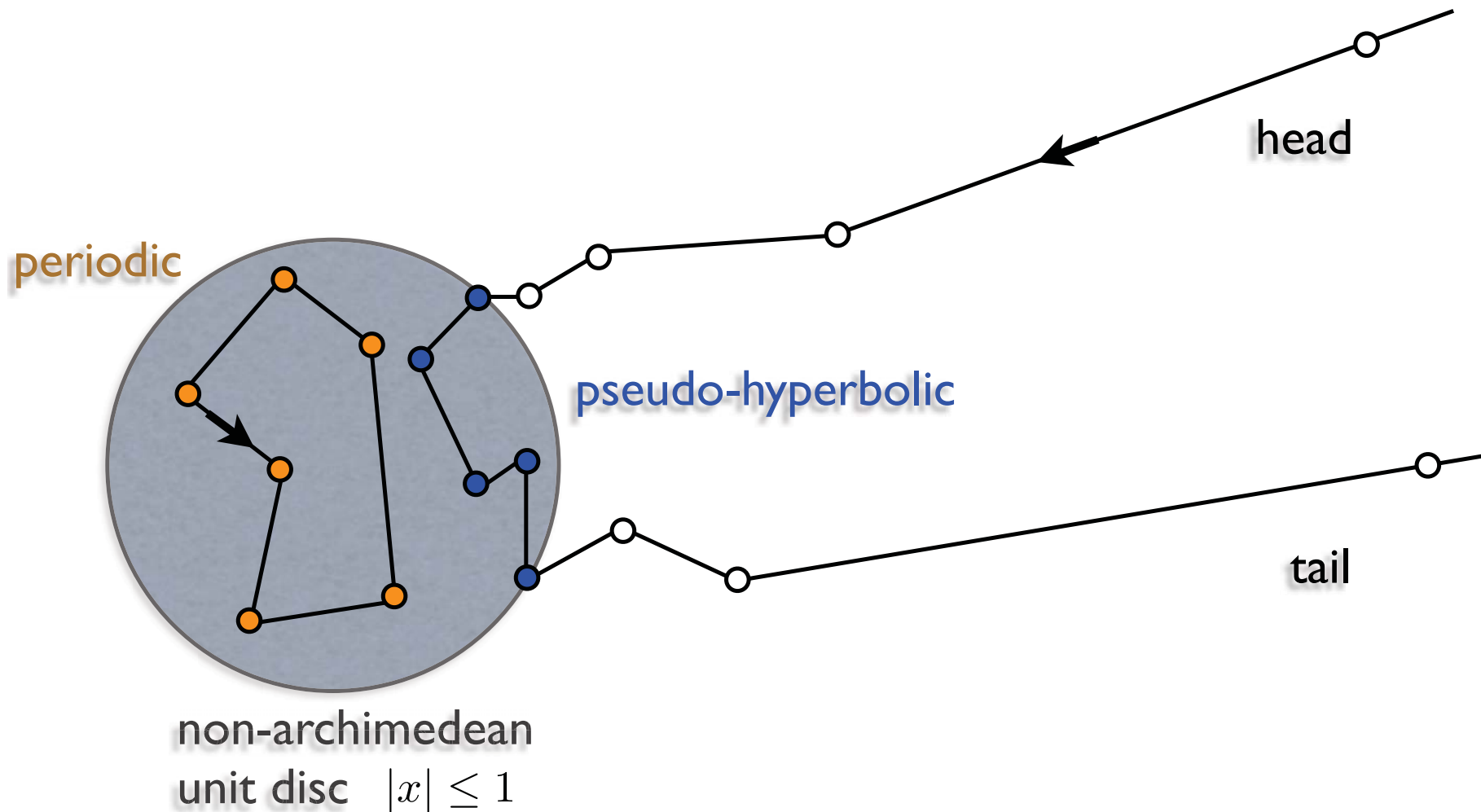
■ We extend the definition of  $\nu_\infty$  to rational functions  $r(\lambda) = f(\lambda)/g(\lambda)$  via  
 $\nu_\infty(r) = \nu_\infty(f) - \nu_\infty(g)$ .

**Define:**

$$|r|_\infty = e^{-\nu_\infty(r)} \quad r \in \mathbb{Q}(\lambda)$$

## Main lemma:

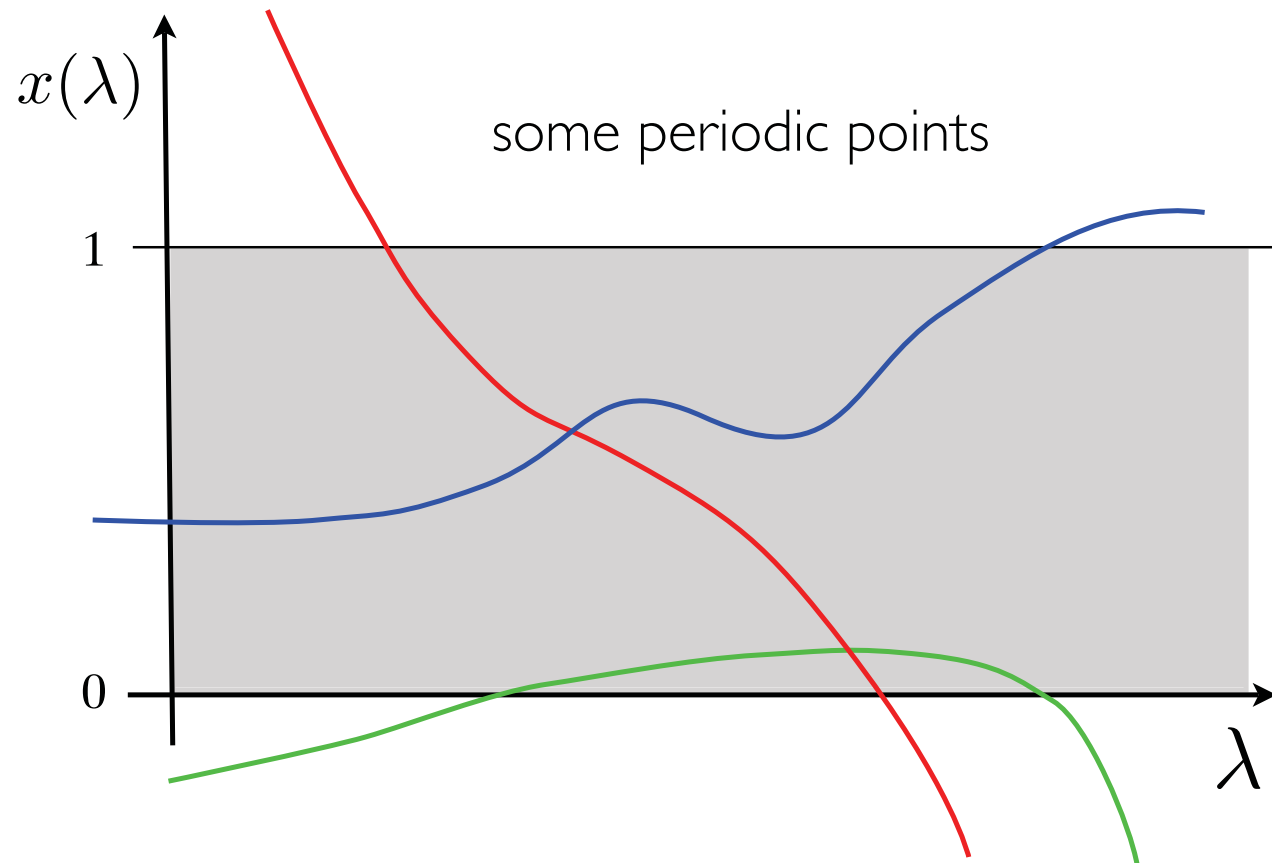
Standard model: the parameter is **rational** or **transcendental**



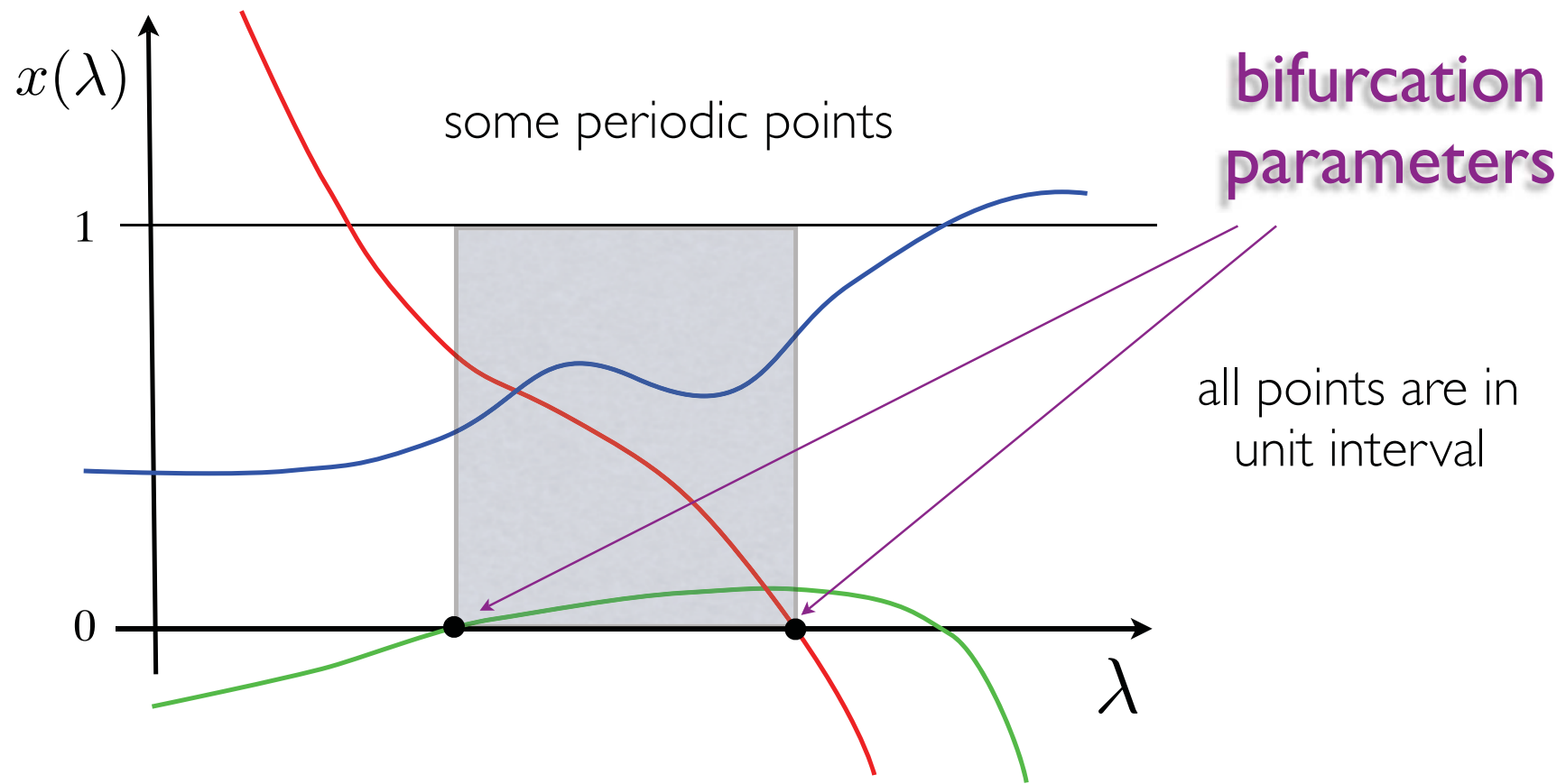
### **Theorem** (Lowenstein & FV)

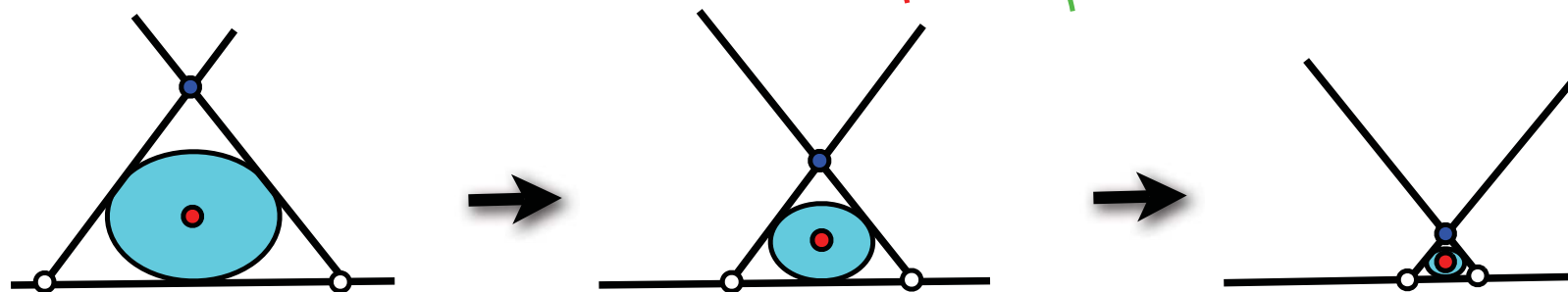
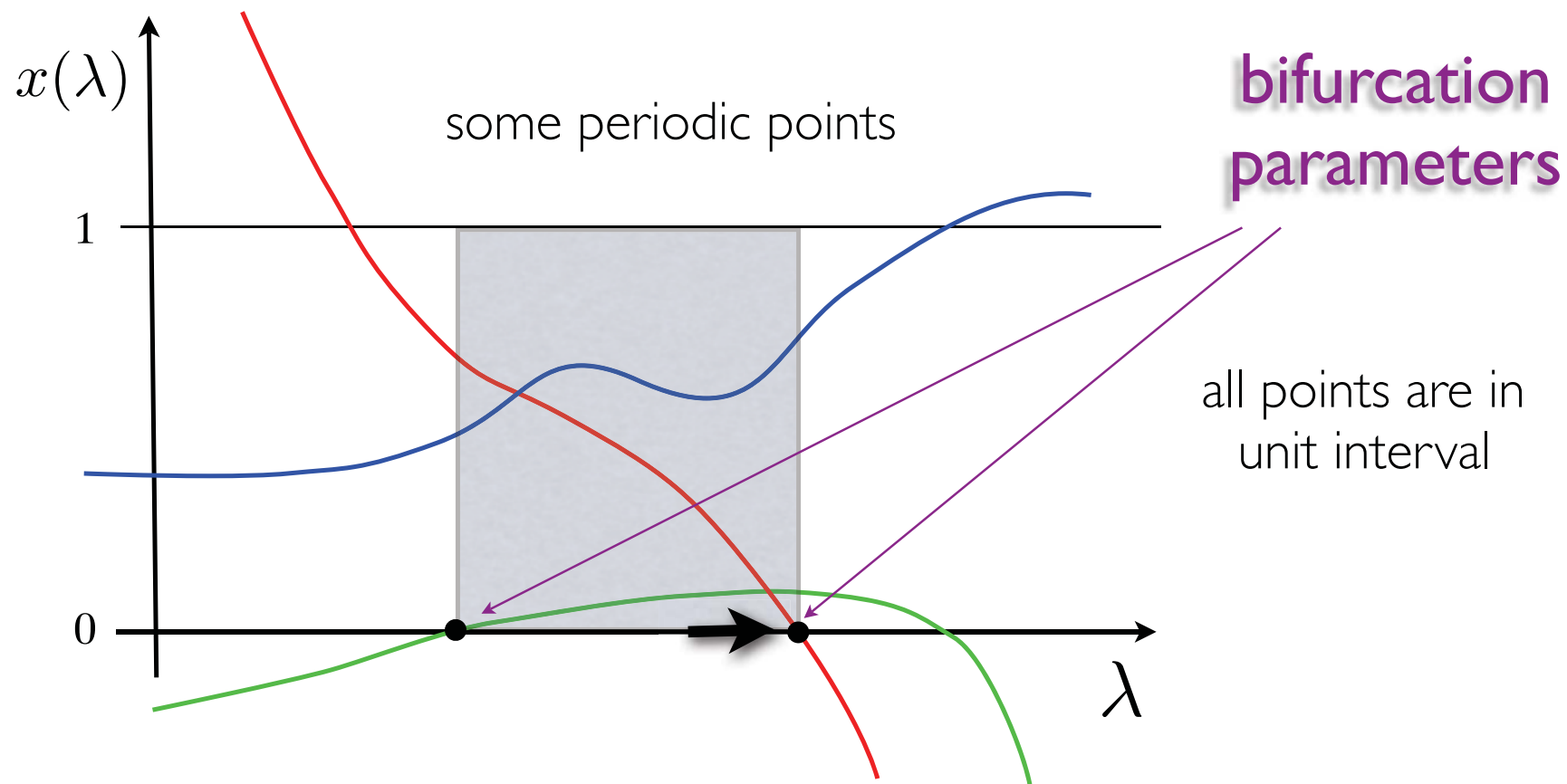
*For rational or transcendental values of  $\lambda$ , the standard model has no unstable periodic orbits.*

- Except for trivial cases, all parameters correspond to irrational rotations.
- Unstable periodic orbits do exist for algebraic parameter values, for both rational and irrational rotations.



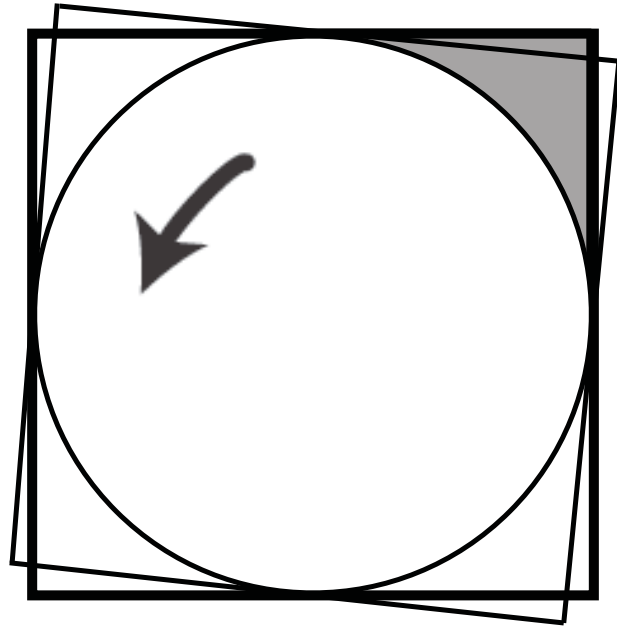
unit interval





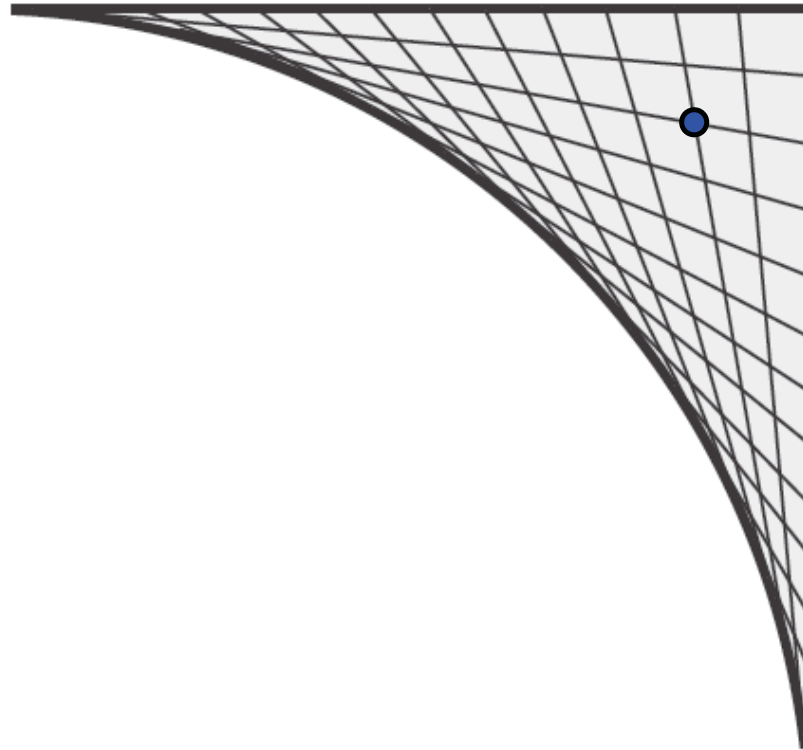
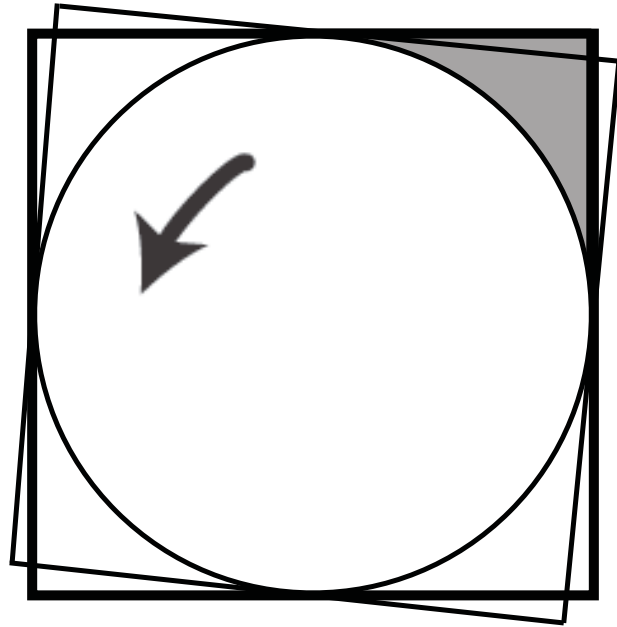
- Elliptic points collide with pseudo-hyperbolic points.
- A single polynomial characterizes each bifurcation.

# Near-rational behaviour



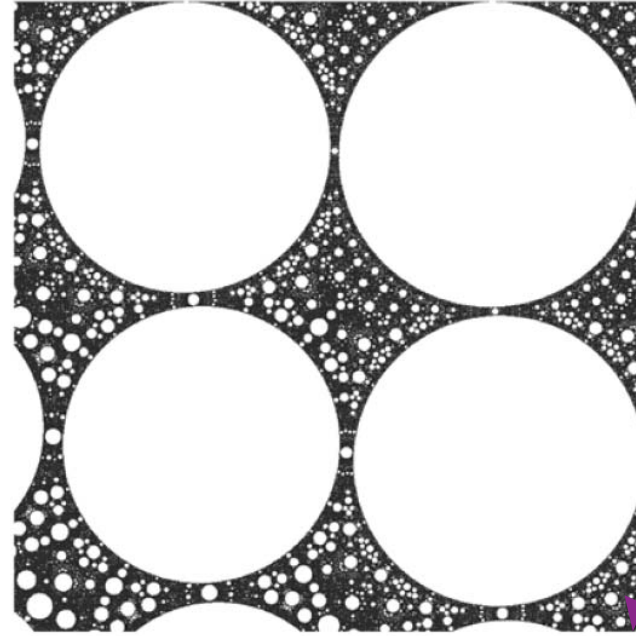
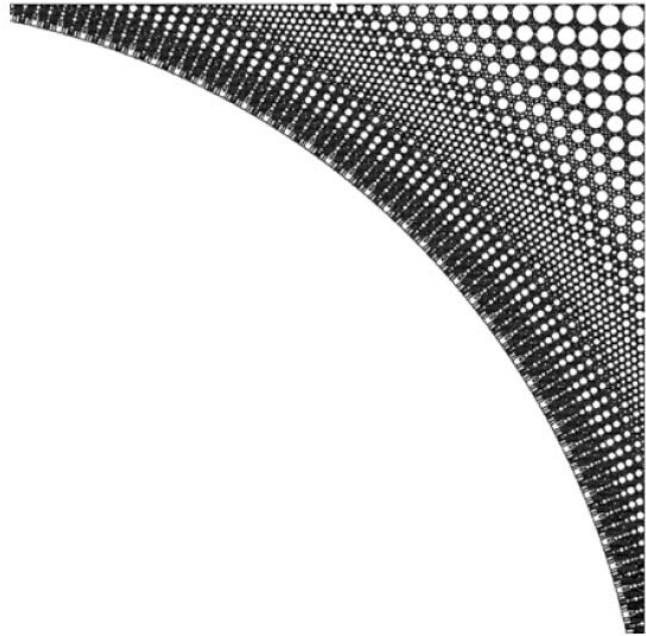
as  $\lambda$  approaches zero, the map approaches a rotation by  $\pi/2$

# Near-rational behaviour



as  $\lambda$  approaches zero, the map approaches a rotation by  $\pi/2$

pseudo-hyperbolic points become dense



### Theorem (Lowenstein & FV)

*As  $\lambda$  tends to zero, the measure of the regular islands approaches a positive limit.*

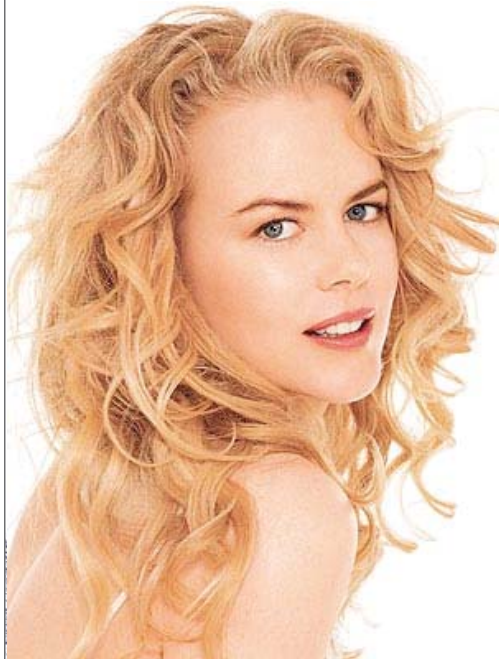
- The measure is computed explicitly
- Long, laborious proof, requiring computer assistance

pseudo-chaos

# Invariant curves

Do non-smooth invariant curves exist in irrational PWIs?

Smooth invariant curves exist within cells



$$\begin{pmatrix} 1/2 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

