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# Asynchronous lecture 10

- Reaction with Drift Equation

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# Reaction-Drift equation

$$\frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial t} + v \frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial x} = f(u)$$

Concentration dynamics for  $u(x, t)$

Two processes at the same time:

spatial spreading

and

growth or decay depending on the sign of  $f(u)$

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# Reaction-Drift equation

$$\frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial t} + v \frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial x} = au - bu^2$$

$$u(x, 0) = f(x)$$

Make the transformation  $u(x, t) = \frac{1}{\phi(x, t)}$

$$-\frac{\phi_t}{\phi^2} - v \frac{\phi_x}{\phi^2} = \frac{a}{\phi} - \frac{b}{\phi^2} \Rightarrow$$

$$\boxed{\phi_t + v\phi_x = -a\phi + b}$$

# Reaction-Drift equation

$$\phi_t + v\phi_x = -a\phi + b$$

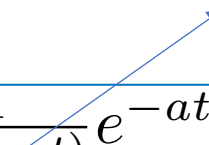
Solution via methods of characteristics 

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dt}{ds} = 1 \text{ with } t(r, 0) = 0 \rightarrow t(r, s) = s + c_1(r) \rightarrow t = s \\ \frac{dx}{ds} = v \text{ with } x(r, 0) = r \rightarrow x(r, s) = vs + c_2(r) \rightarrow x = vs + r \\ \frac{d\phi}{ds} = -a\phi + b \text{ with } \phi(r, 0) = 1/f(r) \rightarrow \text{Laplace transform the } s \text{ variable} \end{cases}$$

$$\epsilon \tilde{\phi}(\epsilon) - \phi(r, 0) = -a\tilde{\phi}(\epsilon) + \frac{b}{\epsilon} \rightarrow \tilde{\phi}(\epsilon) = \frac{\phi(r, 0)}{\epsilon + a} + \frac{b}{\epsilon(\epsilon + a)} = \frac{\phi(r, 0)}{\epsilon + a} + \frac{b}{a} \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon} - \frac{1}{\epsilon + a} \right)$$

inverse Laplace transforming

$$\phi(r, s) = \frac{1}{f(r)} e^{-as} + \frac{b}{a} (1 - e^{-as}) \longrightarrow \boxed{\phi(x, t) = \frac{1}{f(x-vt)} e^{-at} + \frac{b}{a} (1 - e^{-at})}$$

$r = x - vt$  

## Reaction-Drift equation

$$\frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial t} + v \frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial x} = au - bu^2$$

$$u(x, 0) = f(x)$$

Make the transformation  $u(x, t) = \frac{1}{\phi(x, t)}$

$$\phi(x, t) = \frac{1}{f(x-vt)} e^{-at} + \frac{b}{a} (1 - e^{-at})$$

$$u(x, t) = \frac{f(x - vt)}{e^{-at} + \frac{b}{a} (1 - e^{-at}) f(x - vt)}$$

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# Reaction-Drift equation

$$u(x, t) = \frac{f(x - vt)}{e^{-at} + \frac{b}{a} (1 - e^{-at})} f(x - vt)$$

What happens as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ ?

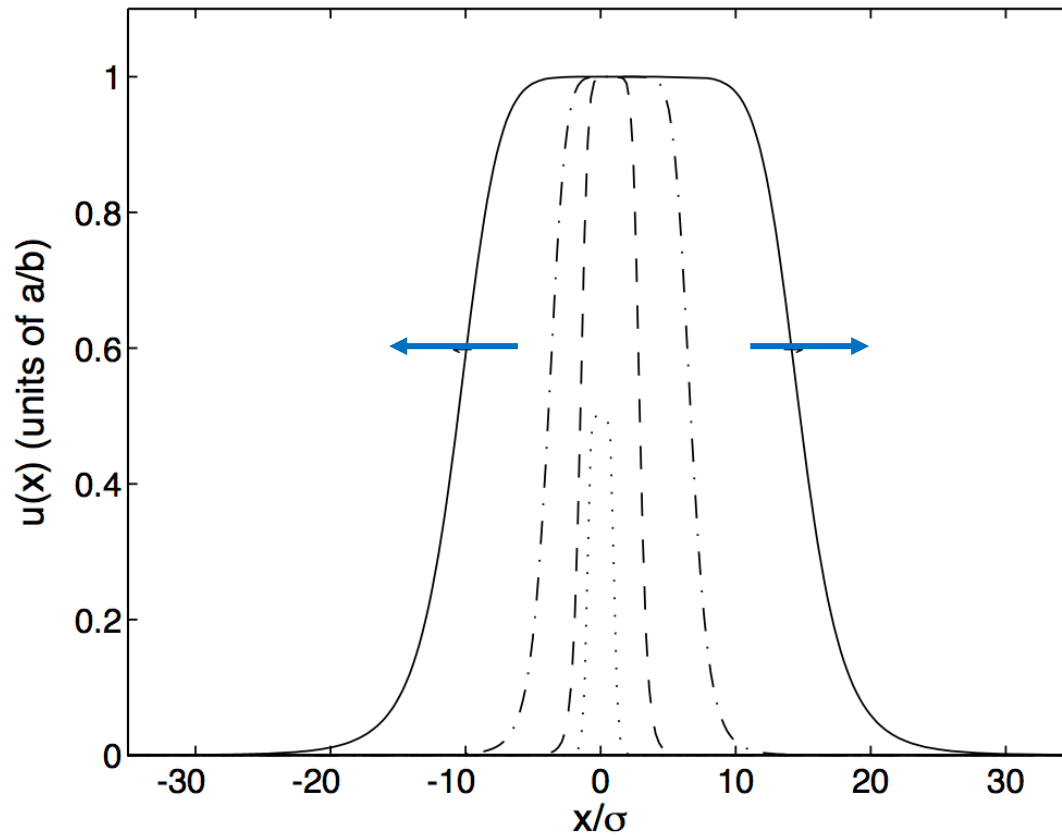
$$u \rightarrow b/a$$

Is this really true ?

No, it depends on the initial condition

More specifically on how the exponential decay in relation to the initial condition

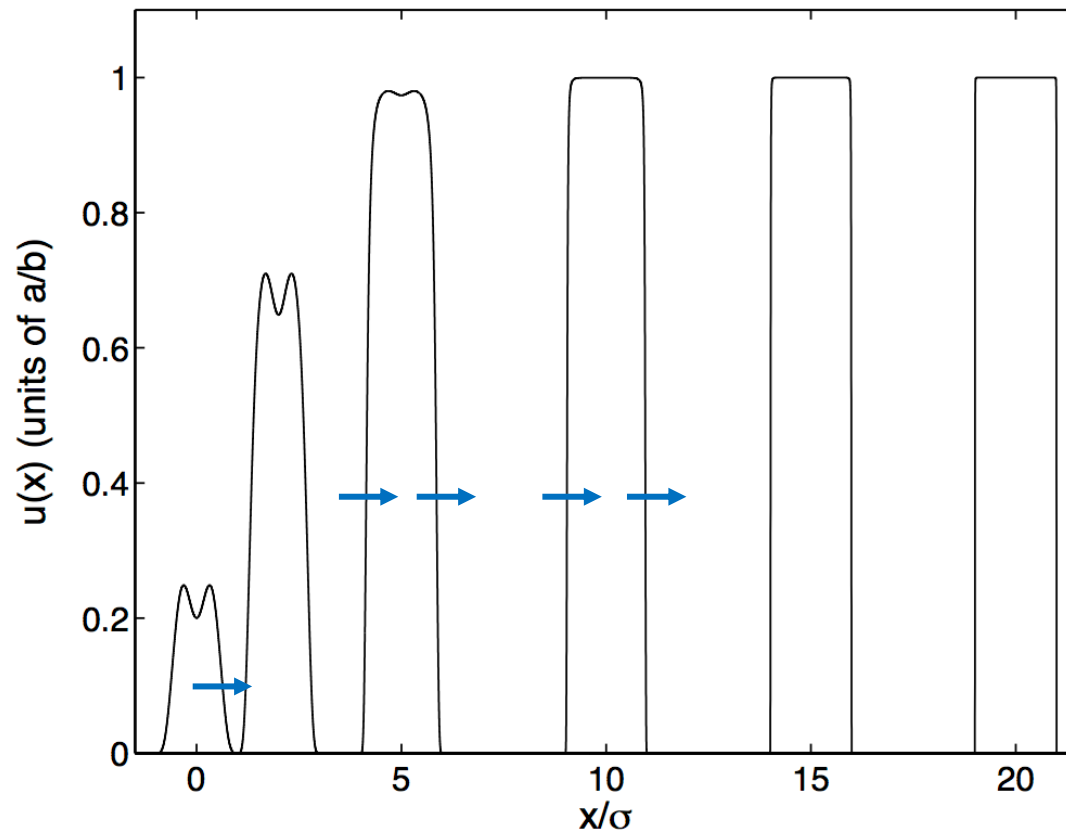
# Dynamics for shallow initial conditions



$$u(x, t) = \frac{f(x - vt)}{e^{-at} + \frac{b}{a} (1 - e^{-at}) f(x - vt)}$$

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{1 + \left(\frac{x}{\sigma}\right)^8}$$

# Dynamics for steep initial conditions



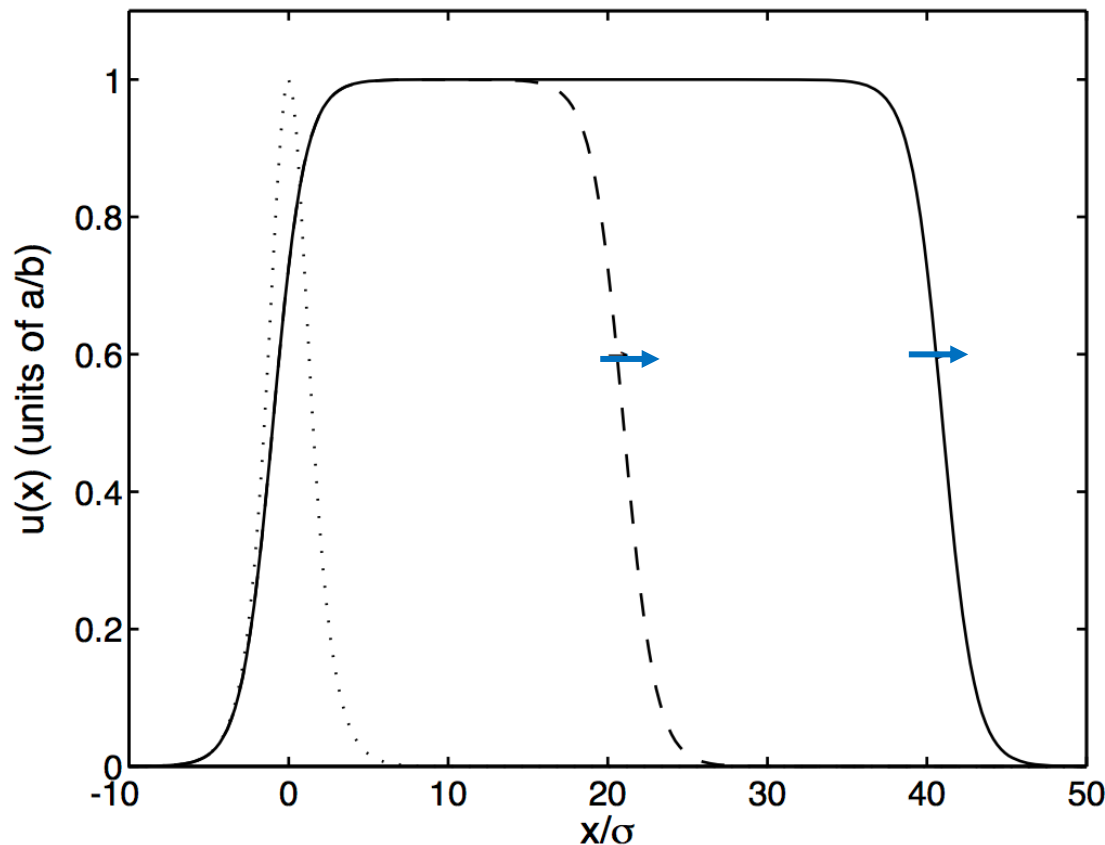
$$u(x, t) = \frac{f(x - vt)}{e^{-at} + \frac{b}{a} (1 - e^{-at})} f(x - vt)$$

Compact support initial condition



# Dynamics for exponentially decaying initial conditions

Steady front



$$u(x, t) = \frac{f(x - vt)}{e^{-at} + \frac{b}{a} (1 - e^{-at}) f(x - vt)}$$

$$f(x) = \left[ \operatorname{sech} \left( \frac{x}{\sigma} \right) \right]^{1/\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\frac{v}{\sigma a} = \sqrt{2}$$

Engineer an initial condition that  
decays at the same rate as the  
exponential

## Travelling front ansatz

$$\frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial t} + v \frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial x} = au - bu^2$$

$$\text{Ansatz: } u(x, t) = F(x - ct)$$

$$z = x - ct$$

Make the same transformation as before to solve the ODE for  $F$

$$F(z) = \frac{1}{\frac{e^{-\frac{az}{(v-c)}}}{F(0)} + \frac{b}{a} \left( 1 - e^{-\frac{az}{(v-c)}} \right)}$$

## Travelling front ansatz

$$F(z) = \frac{1}{\frac{e^{-\frac{az}{(v-c)}}}{F(0)} + \frac{b}{a} \left(1 - e^{-\frac{az}{(v-c)}}\right)}$$

$$F(0) = \frac{1}{2} \frac{a}{b} \quad \text{For convenience}$$

$$F(x - ct) = \frac{a}{b} \frac{1}{1 + e^{-\frac{a(x-ct)}{(v-c)}}}$$

$c > v$ , right front

$c < v$ , left front

## Blow-up in finite time

$$u_t + au_x = u^2 \quad u(x, 0) = \cos(x)$$

$$\frac{dt}{ds}(r, s) = 1 \quad \frac{dx}{ds}(r, s) = a \quad \frac{du}{ds}(r, s) = u^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} t(r, s) &= s + c_1(r) & x(r, s) &= as + c_2(r) & -u^{-1}(r, s) &= s + c_3(r) \\ t(r, 0) &= 0 & x(r, 0) &= r & u(r, 0) &= \cos(r) \end{aligned}$$

$$t(r, s) = s \quad x(r, s) = as + r \quad -\frac{1}{u(r, s)} = s - \frac{1}{\cos(r)}$$

$$r = x - at \quad \frac{1}{u(x, t)} = \frac{1 - t \cos(x - at)}{\cos(x - at)}$$

## Blow-up in finite time

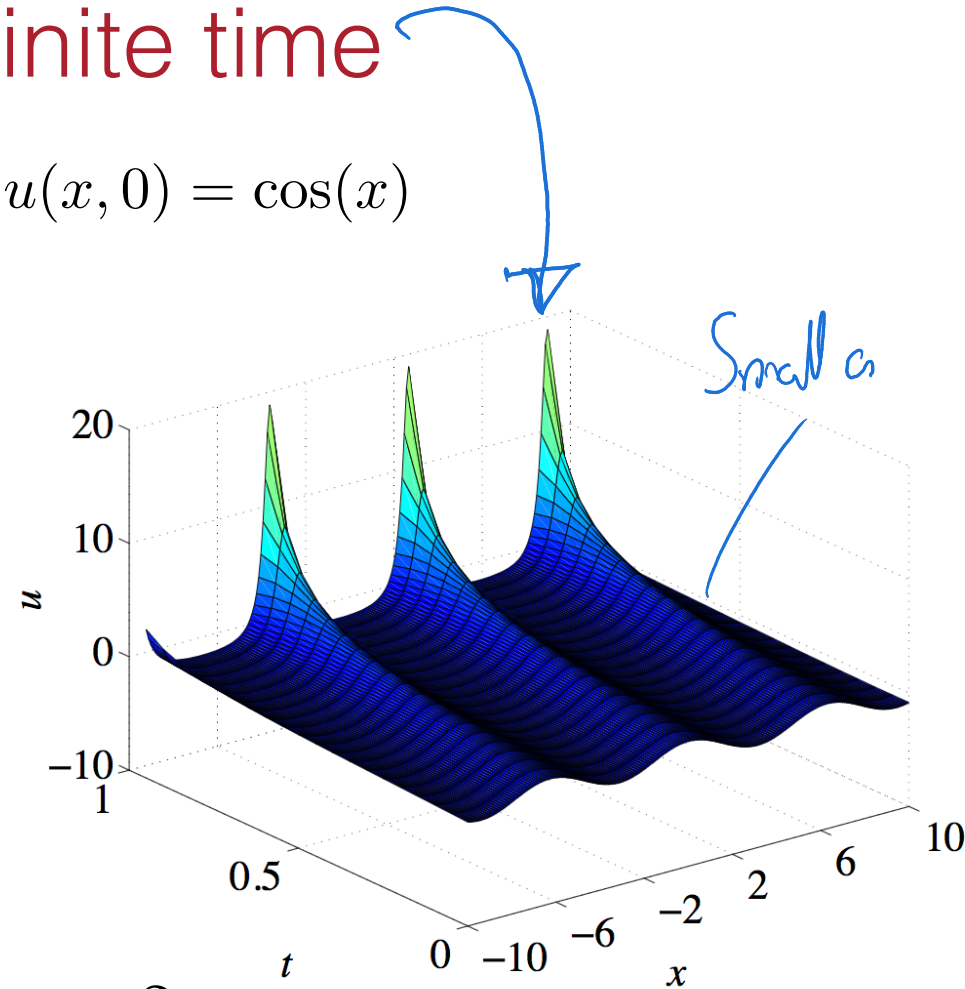
$$u_t + au_x = u^2$$

$$u(x, 0) = \cos(x)$$

$$u(x, t) = \frac{\cos(x - at)}{1 - t \cos(x - at)}$$

Blow-up at time  $t$  such  
that  $\cos(x - at) = t^{-1}$

When  $t = 1$  divergencies at  $x = a + 2n\pi$



## Burger's equation (inviscid)

$$u_t + u u_x = 0 \quad u(x, 0) = \phi(x)$$

$$\frac{dt}{ds} = 1 \quad \frac{dx}{ds} = u \quad \frac{du}{ds} = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} t(r, s) &= s & u(r, s) &= \phi(r) & x(r, s) &= \phi(r)s + r \\ t(r, 0) &= 0 & u(r, 0) &= \phi(r) & x(r, 0) &= r \end{aligned}$$

$$x = \phi(r)s + r \rightarrow r = x - \phi(r)t = x - ut$$

$$u(x, t) = \phi(x - ut) \quad \text{implicit solution}$$

## Burger's equation (inviscid)

$$u(x, t) = \phi(x - u t) \quad \text{implicit solution}$$

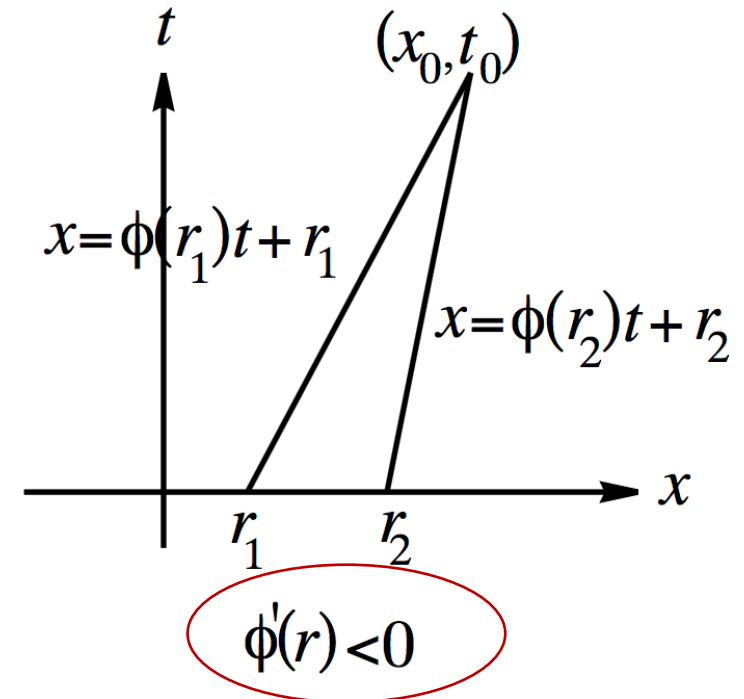
Suppose there is  $r_1 < r_2$  and  $\phi(r_1) > \phi(r_2)$

Projected characteristic curves  
intersect at some point  $(x_0, t_0)$

But  $u$  is constant along

characteristics  $\left( \frac{du}{ds} = 0 \right)$

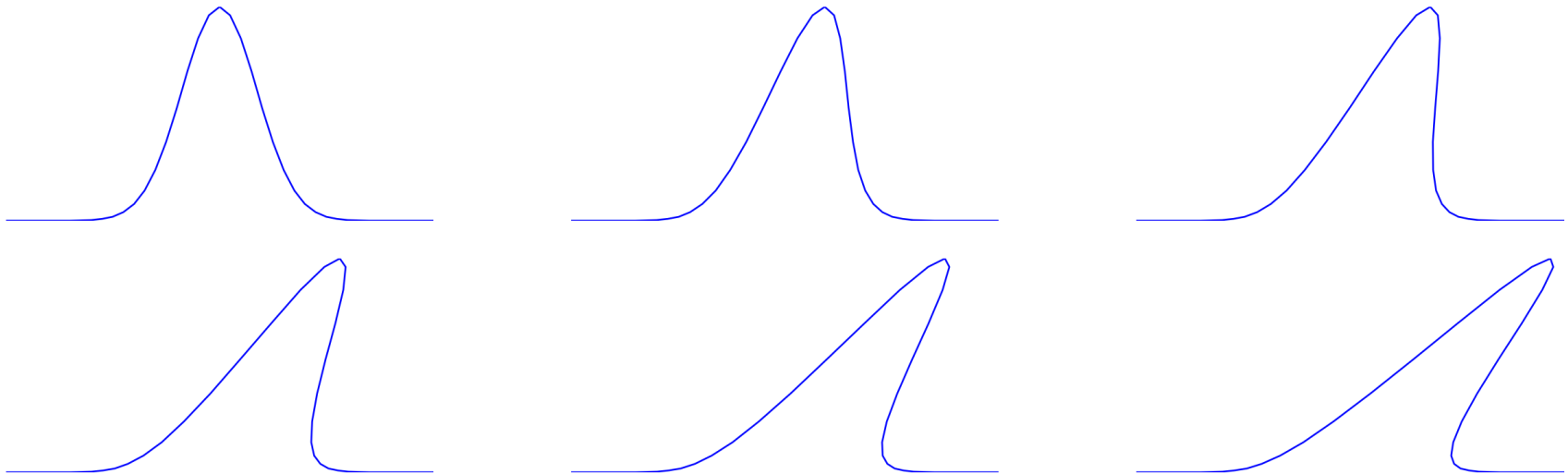
**Contradiction!**



## Burger's equation (inviscid)

$$u_t + u u_x = 0 \quad u(x, 0) = \phi(x)$$

$$\phi(x) = e^{-x^2}$$



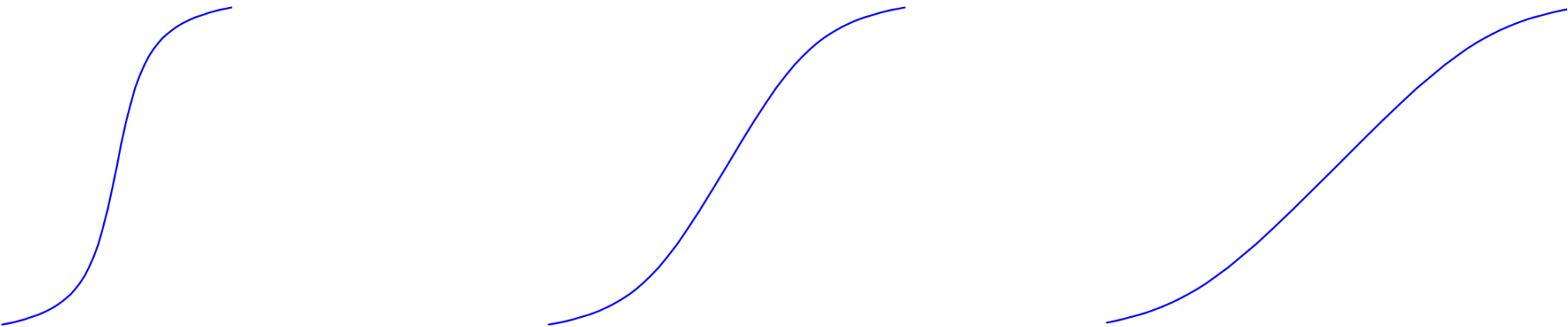
The taller part of the wave will overtake the shorter part of the wave



## Burger's equation (inviscid)

$$u_t + u u_x = 0 \quad u(x, 0) = \phi(x)$$

$$\phi(x) = \arctan(x)$$



$\phi'(x) \geq 0$  and the projected characteristics do not intersect

$$\begin{aligned} x &= \phi(r_1)t + r_1 \\ x &= \phi(r_2)t + r_2 \end{aligned}$$

do not cross for  $r_2 > r_1$