Periodic pulse solutions to slowly nonlinear reaction-diffusion systems

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Curriculum vitae

Björn de Rijk was born on the 9th of October, 1988 in Rijswijk, the Netherlands. In 2007 he obtained his gymnasium diploma at the Interconfessioneel Makeblijde College in Rijswijk. In the same year he enrolled at Leiden University and in 2010 he received a bachelor's degree in mathematics (cum laude). During his bachelor studies he worked as an exam trainer teaching classes of high school students in preparation for their final exams. Moreover, as a student ambassador he provided information to and organized activities for prospective mathematics students. In 2009 he was elected as a member of student party BeP to the faculty council of the faculty of science. In 2012 he obtained his master's degree in mathematics (cum laude) taking courses with an emphasis on functional analysis. His master's thesis is titled *The Order Bicommutant* and was written under the supervision of dr. M. de Jeu. It was awarded the GQT student prize for best master's thesis in a field related to geometry and quantum theory. During his master's studies Björn became student member of the examination appeals board.

In 2012 he commenced his Ph.D. research at the Mathematical Institute of Leiden University under the guidance of prof. dr. A. Doelman and prof. dr. J.D.M. Rademacher, which culminated in this thesis. His research project was partly funded by the Dutch science foundation (NWO) through the NDNS+-cluster. During his Ph.D. studies Björn attended, organized and spoke at various seminars and colloquia in Leiden, Delft, Bremen, Stuttgart, Berlin, Providence, Boston, Troy and Lunteren. He was one of the organizers of the Ph.D. colloquium at the Leiden Mathematical Institute, which aims to connect Ph.D. students from different fields. He gave contributed talks and poster presentations at international conferences in Cambridge, Snowbird, Lyon and Philadelphia. At the SIAM NW14 Conference in Cambridge he won the poster prize. In 2014 he earned a travel grant for a four month research visit to Brown University in Providence. This resulted in a successful research project under the supervision of prof. dr. B. Sandstede leading to a journal publication [10] that is not included in this thesis.

Björn also assisted in the teaching of many bachelor and master courses, including the national Mastermath functional analysis course. He was an instructor of the numeracy course at Leiden University College in The Hague in 2013. Moreover, he lectured ordinary differential equations several times in the absence of the senior lecturer. After obtaining his doctor's degree, Björn will proceed with post-doctoral research at Stuttgart University in the group of prof. dr. G. Schneider.