

## 8 BIFURCATIONS REVISITED.

From 1-dim to 2-dim systems, fixed pts can be created, destroyed, destabilized as a parameter is detuned.

We begin to describe the way in which oscillations can be turned on or off.

In this context,

what do exactly we mean by a bifurcation?

If the phase portrait changes its topological structure, as a parameter is detuned, we say that a bifurcation has occurred.

Example: Changes in the number of, or stability of, fixed points, closed orbits, saddle connections ... as the parameter is varied.

### 8.1 Saddle-Node, Transcritical, and Pitchfork bifurcations

Bifurcations in chapter 3 have its analogous in 2-dim, and in  $n$ -dimensions.

All the action is confined to a 1-dim subspace along which bifurcation occurs, while in the extra dimensions flow is either simple attraction or repulsion from the corresponding subspace.

# Saddle-Node bifurcation.

It is the typical mechanism for creation or annihilation of fixed points. The standard model is:

$$\dot{x} = \mu - x^2$$

$$\dot{y} = -y$$

In the  $y$ -direction we have typical structure, exponential decay to the  $x$ -axis:

In the  $x$ -axis we have the process of bifurcation, as  $\mu$  is detuned.

For  $\mu < 0$ ,  $\dot{x} < 0$  always: when  $\mu$  is close to 0, but still negative, there is a "ghost" or "bottleneck" that drags the flux to go through the origin. As it was shown

in section 4.3, the time to go through this bottleneck goes as:

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{|\mu - \mu_c|}}$$

where  $\mu_c$  is the value of the parameter for the bifurcation to occur.

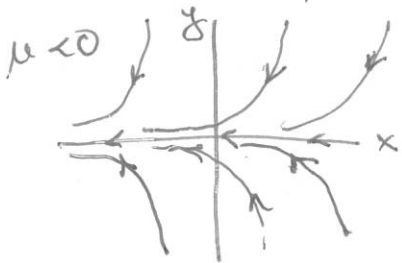
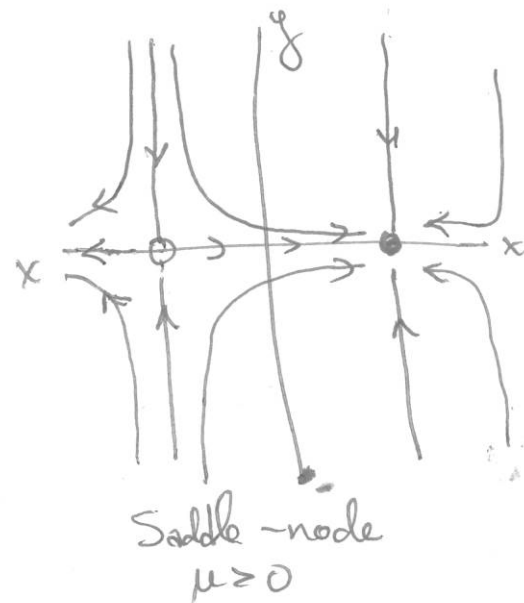
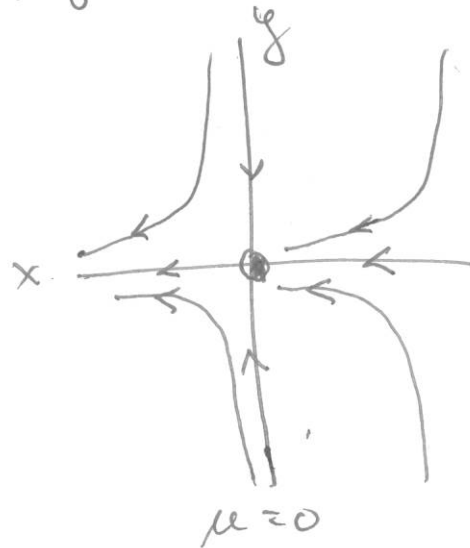
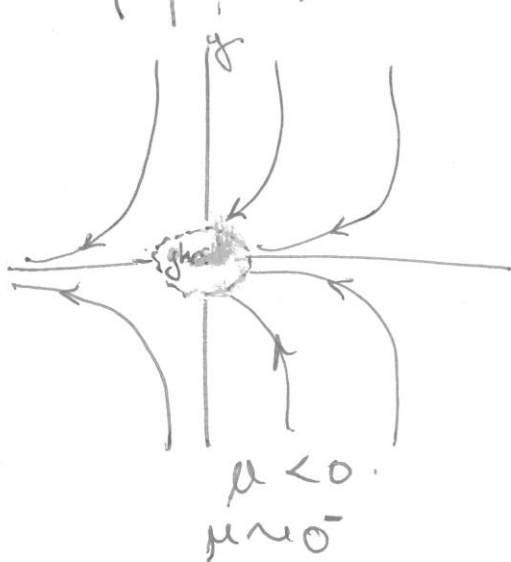
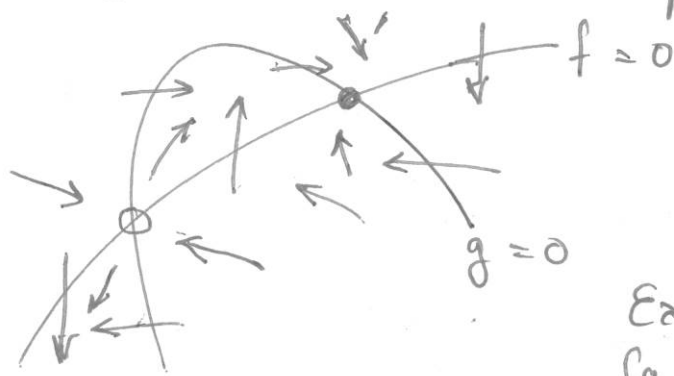


Figure 8.1.1.



Typical picture for a saddle-node scenario



Null-clines for the system

$$\dot{x} = f(x, y)$$

$$\dot{y} = g(x, y)$$

Each intersection corresponds to a fixed point.

We assume <sup>that</sup> at some value of the parameter,  $\mu_c$ , the curves  $f=0$  and  $g=0$  become tangent, and pull away from each other, then the fixed points (one being a saddle and the other a node) collide to disappear in a "blue-sky" collision.

Example The biological argument can be found in the text.

$$\dot{x} = -ax + y$$

$$\dot{y} = \frac{x^2}{1+x^2} - by$$

where  
 $a > 0, b > 0$   
 Assume  $b$ -fixed.

- Show that the system has three fixed points for  $a < a_c$ .
- Determine  $a_c$ .
- Show these three points collide at  $a = a_c$  in a saddle-node bifurcation.
- Sketch the phase-portrait.
- Interpret biologically.

# Schubman Null-lines.

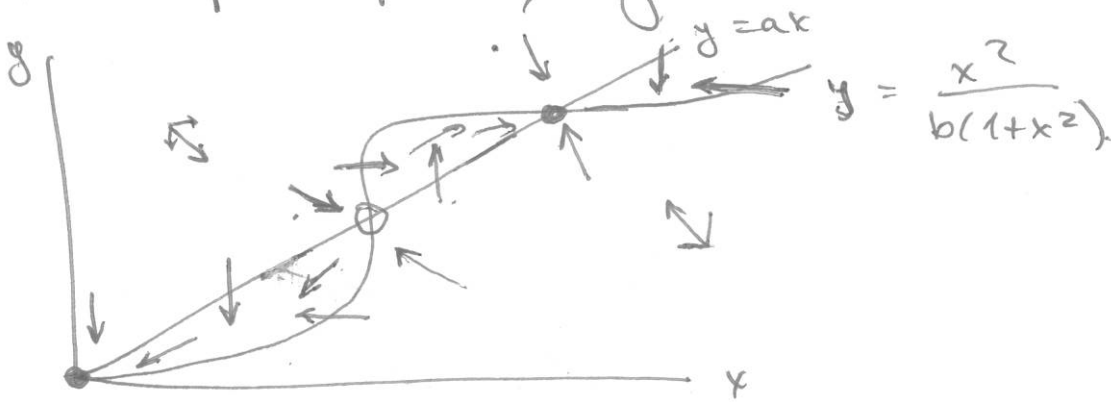
$$y = ax$$

$\Leftrightarrow \dot{x} = 0$  Vertical field

$$y = \frac{x^2}{b(1+x^2)}$$

$\Leftrightarrow \dot{y} = 0$  Horizontal field

In the phase-plane, they look like



\* Notice that above the straight line:  $y > ax \Rightarrow y - ax > 0$   
 $\Rightarrow \dot{x} > 0 \Rightarrow$  motion to the right.

\* Below the line:  $y < ax \Rightarrow y - ax < 0 \Rightarrow \dot{x} < 0$ .  
 $\Rightarrow$  motion to the left

\* Above the curve  $g(x,y) = 0 (\dot{y}) \Rightarrow y > \frac{x^2}{b(1+x^2)} \Rightarrow 0 > \frac{x^2}{b(1+x^2)} - by$   
 $\Rightarrow \dot{y} < 0$ , motion goes down

\* and below the curve  $g(x,y) = 0 \Rightarrow y < \frac{x^2}{b(1+x^2)} \Rightarrow 0 < \frac{x^2}{b(1+x^2)} - by$   
 $\dot{y} > 0$ , motion goes up.

We observe, as above:

node - saddle - node.

for values of  $a$  small enough.

For large values of  $a$ , the line has a large slope, having just one intersection, the origin.

To find the intersections <sup>ie. the fixed pts:</sup> and the value of  $a_c$  when the bifurcation occurs, let's solve:  $f(x,y) = 0$   
 $g(x,y) = 0$   
 $ax = \frac{x^2}{b(1+x^2)}$

Then, the origin:  $x=0, y=0$  is a solution.

If  $x \neq 0$  (then  $y \neq 0$ ) and so:

$$a = \frac{x}{b(1+x^2)}$$

ie.  $ab(1+x^2) = x$

$$\Rightarrow abx^2 - x + ab = 0$$

then, the fixed. pts are given by (the  $x$ -components):

$$x_f = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{1 - 4a^2b^2}}{2ab}$$

Notice there are two solutions for  $1 - 4a^2b^2 > 0$   
ie. for  $2ab < 1$

Then, the fixed points collide when:  $2ab = 1$ , ie.

$$a_c = \frac{1}{2b} \quad (\text{remember } b \text{ is fixed})$$

Notice that the bifurcation occurs when  $a = a_c = \frac{1}{2b}$  and

$$\text{for } x_f^{a_c} = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{1 - 4\left(\frac{1}{2b}\right)^2 b^2}}{2\left(\frac{1}{2b}\right)b} = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{1-1}}{1}$$

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I.e., the bifurcation occurs at

$$a = a_c \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x_f^{a_c} = 1 \\ y_f^{a_c} = a_c = \frac{1}{2b} \end{cases}$$

We can check what type are the fixed point are for  $a < a_c$ , by means of linear analysis.

At the origin: (0,0)

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x} &= -ax + y \\ \dot{y} &= \frac{x^2}{1+x^2} - by \end{aligned} \Rightarrow J(x,y) = \begin{pmatrix} -a & 1 \\ \frac{2x}{(1+x^2)^2} & -b \end{pmatrix}$$
$$J_x = \frac{(1+x^2)2x - x^2 \cdot 2x}{(1+x^2)^2} = \frac{2x}{(1+x^2)^2}$$

Then:  $J(0,0) = \begin{pmatrix} -a & 1 \\ 0 & -b \end{pmatrix}$

- \*  $\tau = -(a+b) < 0 \Rightarrow$  stable sink or saddle.
- \*  $\Delta = ab > 0 \Rightarrow$  stable sink  $\Rightarrow$   $\begin{cases} \text{spiral} \\ \text{or} \\ \text{node.} \end{cases}$

$$\begin{aligned} * \quad \tau^2 - 4\Delta &= (a+b)^2 - 4ab \\ &= a^2 + 2ab + b^2 - 4ab = a^2 - 2ab + b^2 \\ &= (a-b)^2 > 0. \quad (\text{if } a \neq b) \end{aligned}$$

left to the parabola:  $4\Delta < \tau^2$   
the Origin is a stable node.

At the other fixed points:

\*  $\tau = -(a+b) \Rightarrow$  still a saddle or  $\begin{cases} \text{stable,} \\ \text{sink,} \end{cases}$

\* here  $\Delta = ab - \frac{2x_f}{(1+x_f^2)^2} \stackrel{\uparrow}{=} ab - \frac{2ab(1+x_f^2)}{(1+x_f^2)^2} >$

i.e.

$$ab(1+x_f^2) = x_f$$

$$\Delta = ab \left[ 1 - \frac{2}{(1+x_f^2)} \right] = ab \left( \frac{x_f^2 - 1}{(1+x_f^2)} \right).$$

\* Now, for

$$x_f = \frac{1 - \sqrt{1 - 4a^2b^2}}{2ab} < 1.$$

notice that

$$\left[ \begin{aligned} 1 - \sqrt{1 - 4a^2b^2} < 2ab &\Rightarrow \underbrace{1 + 2ab}_{\substack{\text{positive:} \\ \text{since } 2ab < 1}} < \sqrt{1 - 4a^2b^2} \Rightarrow \\ \Rightarrow (1 - 2ab)^2 < 1 - 4a^2b^2 &\Rightarrow 1 - 4ab + 4a^2b^2 < 1 - 4a^2b^2 \\ \Rightarrow 8a^2b^2 < 4ab &\Rightarrow 2ab < 1 \text{ and go backwards} \end{aligned} \right]$$

Hence, since  $x_f < 1$ :  $\Delta = ab \left( \frac{x_f^2 - 1}{(1+x_f^2)} \right) < 0$ ,

then, this fixed point is a saddle.

\* For:  $x_f = \frac{1 + \sqrt{1 - 4a^2b^2}}{2ab} > 1$

This is true because:

$$-1 + \sqrt{1 - 4a^2b^2} > 2ab$$

$$\sqrt{1 - 4a^2b^2} > 2ab - 1$$

$$\sqrt{1 - 4ab^2} > 0 > 2ab - 1$$

and go backwards!

Hence

$$x_f > 1 \text{ implies: } \Delta = ab \left[ \frac{x_f^2 - 1}{1 + x_f^2} \right] > 0.$$

then, this fixed point is a sink.

Actually,  $\Delta = ab \left( \frac{x_f^2 - 1}{1 + x_f^2} \right) < ab$ . Then:

$$\tau^2 - 4\Delta = (a+b)^2 - 4\Delta = a$$

$$\Rightarrow (a+b)^2 - 4ab = a^2 + 2ab + b^2 - 4ab$$

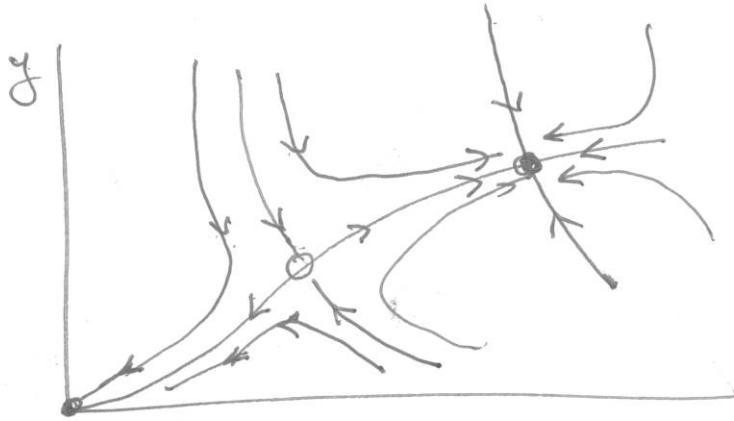
$$= a^2 - 2ab + b^2 = (a-b)^2 > 0.$$

ie:  $\tau^2 > 4\Delta$ , ie.  $4\Delta < \tau^2$ , we are to the left of the parabola

and the sink is a stable node.



Looking at the figure with nullclines in it, we observe that the unstable manifold of the saddle lies in between the nullclines. The phase portrait looks like:



For a biological interpretation, look at the text.

We observe that the picture looks pretty similar to the prototypical saddle node bifurcation. Figure 8.1.1. All trajectories fastly decay onto the unstable manifold of the saddle point.

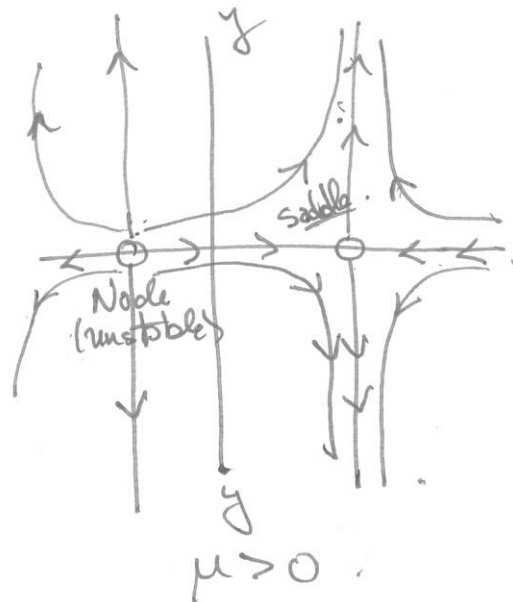
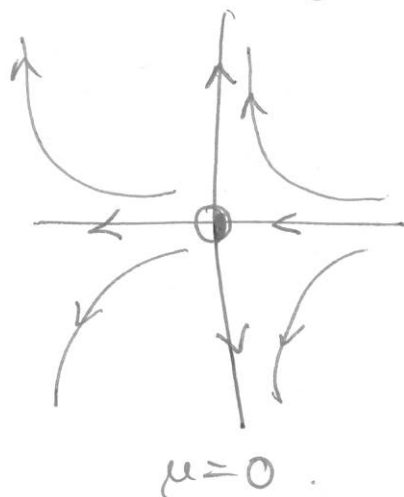
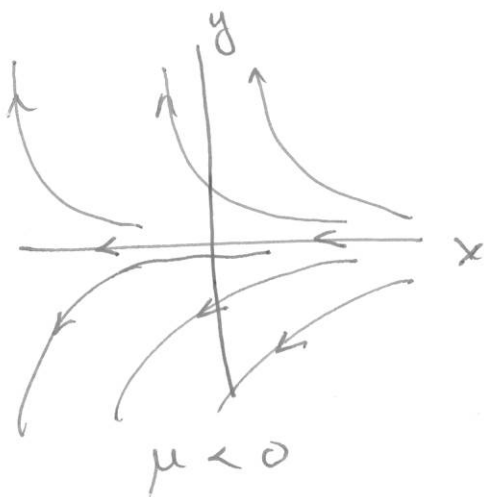
- The bifurcation is, basically, 1-dimensional.
- They are building block in higher dimensional systems.
- This can be justified by the Center Manifold theorem.
- This is the reason why 1-dim bifurcations were studied in deep detail.
- Details can be found in Wiggins, Applied Introduction to Nonlinear Dynamical System and Chaos. (1990); Center Manifold theory.

Remark: If

$$\dot{x} = \mu - x^2$$

$$\dot{y} = +y$$

The horizontal behaviour remains the same, but we now we have a flux that goes away from the horizontal axis.



We still have a saddle-node bifurcation, but now it turns that the ~~node~~ node becomes unstable:

### Transcritical and Pitchfork Bifurcations.

the prototypical examples are:

$$\dot{x} = \mu x - x^2$$

$$\dot{y} = -y$$

Transcritical bifurcation

$$\dot{x} = \mu x - x^3$$

$$\dot{y} = -y$$

Supercritical pitchfork bifurcation

$$\dot{x} = \mu x + x^3$$

$$\dot{y} = -y$$

Subcritical pitchfork bifurcation

Example 8.1.2.

Construct the phase portrait for the supercritical pitchfork bifurcation system:

$$\dot{x} = \mu x - x^3$$

$$\dot{y} = -y$$

for the several cases of  $\mu$ -values.

Solu:

For the one-dimensional case:

$\mu < 0$   $\dot{x} = \mu x - x^3 < 0$  for  $x > 0$  } Then  $x_f = 0$  is stable  
 $\dot{x} = \mu x - x^3 > 0$  for  $x < 0$  } and it is the only fixed point.

If  $\mu \geq 0$   $\dot{x} = (\mu - x^2)x \Rightarrow 3$  fixed points: The origin  $x = 0$   
 and  $x = \pm\sqrt{\mu}$

Now, the origin is unstable:

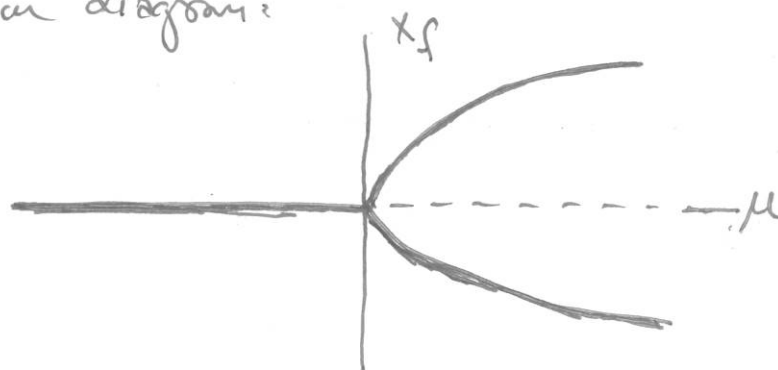
$$f'(x) = \mu - 3x^2$$

$$f'(0) = \mu > 0$$

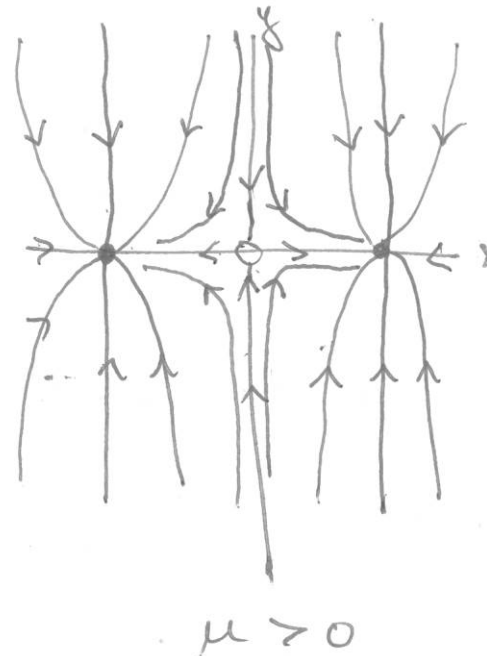
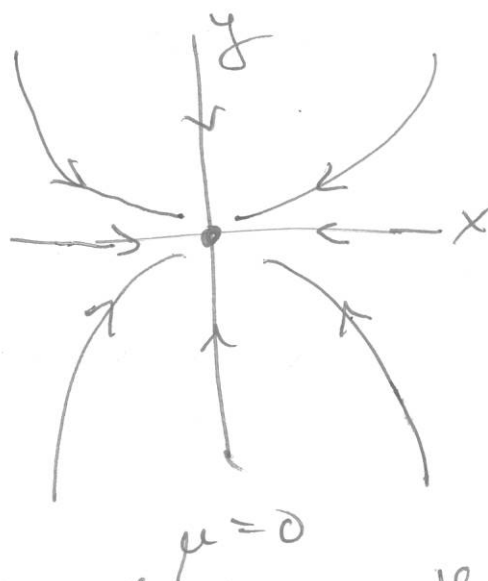
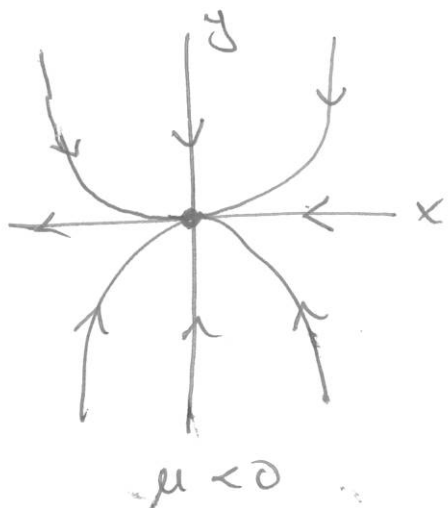
Hence we see:  $f'(\pm\sqrt{\mu}) = \mu - 3\mu = -2\mu < 0$

Then  $x_f = \pm\sqrt{\mu}$  are stable

The bifurcation diagram:



The phase portraits for the 2-diml system are:



Here, the decay in the x-direction is not exponential, but algebraic.

This type of systems occur very often in Physics

Example: [8.1.3] Show that a pitchfork bifurcation occurs at the origin for the system:

$$\dot{x} = \mu x + y + \sin x$$

$$\dot{y} = x - y,$$

and determine the value of the bifurcation parameter,  $\mu_c$ , at which the bifurcation takes place. Plot the phase portrait near the origin for  $\mu \gtrsim \mu_c$ .

Solution Notice the system is invariant for  $x \rightarrow -x$   
 $y \rightarrow -y$ .

Then, there is a symmetry w.r.t. the origin.

Then, the origin should be a fixed point.

The Jacobian is:

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$$J(x,y) = \begin{pmatrix} \mu + \cos x & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

At the origin:

$$J(0,0) = \begin{pmatrix} \mu + 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Here:

$$\tau = \mu$$

$$\Delta = -(\mu + 2).$$

\* The origin is a saddle if:  $\Delta < 0$ , i.e.,  $-(\mu + 2) < 0$ .  
i.e. if:

$$-2 < \mu.$$

\* And if:

$$\mu < -2$$

then:  $\Delta > 0$  and  $\tau = \mu < -2 < 0$ ,  
then the origin is a stable sink. In fact:

$$\begin{aligned} \tau^2 - 4\Delta &= \mu^2 + 4(\mu + 2) = \mu^2 + 4\mu + 8 \\ &= (\mu + 2)^2 + 4 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

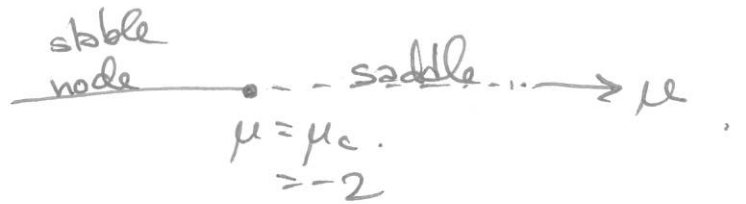
i.e.:

$\Delta < \frac{\tau^2}{4}$ , we are to the left of the parabola: Stable node.

The important part is that there is a bifurcation at  $\mu_c = -2$   
which goes from a stable node to a saddle at least  
Notice we are passing through  $\Delta = 0$ , i.e., one of the  
eigenvalues goes zero.

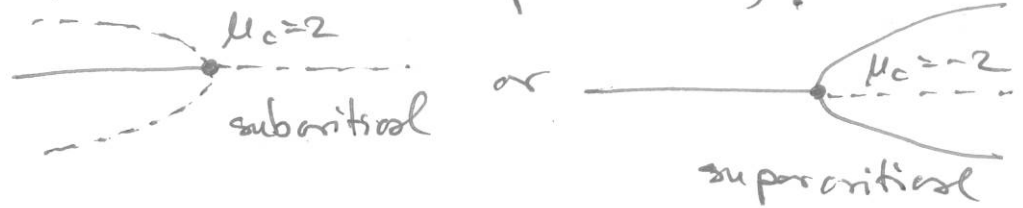
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The change from a stable node, to a saddle, suggest a pitchfork bifurcation.



We now look for symmetric fixed points near the origin, for  $\mu \leq -2$ , on either side of  $\mu_c = -2$ . (we still have to check if it is sub- or supercritical).

Two possible scenarios.



Fixed points:  
 $\dot{x} = 0$   
 $\dot{y} = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} \mu x + y + \sin x &= 0 \\ x - y &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} y = -\mu x - \sin x \\ y = x \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{(\mu+1)x + \sin x = 0} \quad \dots (*)$$

∴ solution is  $x_f = 0$ , as we already know,  
 $y_f = 0$

Consider now eq (\*) for  $x \sim x_f = 0$ , and expand in Taylor.

$$(\mu+1)x + x - \frac{x^3}{6} = O(x^5)$$

$$(\mu+2)x - \frac{x^3}{6} = O(x^5)$$

Since  $x \neq 0$ :  $(\mu+2) - \frac{x^2}{6} = O(x^4)$

Neglect higher order terms to:

$$= 2|2 =$$

$$x^2 - 6(\mu+2) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x_f = \pm \sqrt{6(\mu+2)}$$

\* For  $\mu+2 < 0$ , i.e.  $\mu < -2$ , we only have one fixed pt:  $x_f = 0$ .

\* For  $\mu+2 > 0$ , i.e.  $-2 < \mu$ , we have three fixed pts:

$$\begin{cases} x_f = 0 \\ x_f = \pm \sqrt{6(\mu+2)} \end{cases} \quad \left. \vphantom{\begin{cases} x_f = 0 \\ x_f = \pm \sqrt{6(\mu+2)} \end{cases}} \right\} \text{ i.e., we have a } \underline{\text{supercritical}} \text{ } \underline{\text{Pitchfork bifurcation}}$$

\* For  $\mu > -2$ , we know  $x_f = 0$  is a saddle.

\* Since it is supercritical, with no proof we know the pair of new fixed pts are stable.

The Jacobian is, at the origin:

$$\frac{\partial(f,g)}{\partial(x,y)}(0,0) = \begin{pmatrix} \mu+1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{with } \Delta = -(\mu+1) - 1$$

$$\text{i.e. } \Delta = -(\mu+2)$$

Notice that, at  $\mu = \mu_c = -2$ :

$$\Delta = 0.$$

i.e. one of the eivds is zero:  $\lambda_1 = 0$ .

Then, at  $\mu = \mu_c = -2$

$$\frac{\partial(f,g)}{\partial(x,y)}(0,0) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

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The eigenvalues are:

$$\lambda_1 = 0 \rightarrow \bar{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_2 = -2 \rightarrow \bar{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

For  $\mu \neq \mu_c$ :

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} \mu+1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

with eigenvalues:  $\det(J - \lambda I) = 0$ ;  $\det \begin{pmatrix} \mu+1-\lambda & 1 \\ 1 & -(1+\lambda) \end{pmatrix} = 0$

$$\Rightarrow (\lambda - (\mu+1))(\lambda+1) - 1 = 0$$

$$\lambda^2 + \lambda(1 - (\mu+1)) - (\mu+1) - 1 = 0$$

$$\lambda^2 - \mu\lambda - (\mu+2) = 0.$$

$$\lambda = \frac{\mu \pm \sqrt{\mu^2 + 4(\mu+2)}}{2}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{\mu \pm \sqrt{(\mu+2)^2 + 4}}{2}$$

$$\left[ \text{For } \mu = -2: \lambda = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{0 + 4}}{2} = \frac{-2 \pm 2}{2} = \begin{cases} 0 \\ -2 \end{cases} \right]$$

For  $\mu \neq -2$ ,  $\lambda_1 = \frac{\mu + \sqrt{(\mu+2)^2 + 4}}{2} \geq 0 \Rightarrow \bar{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  is

the unstable manifold of the saddle.

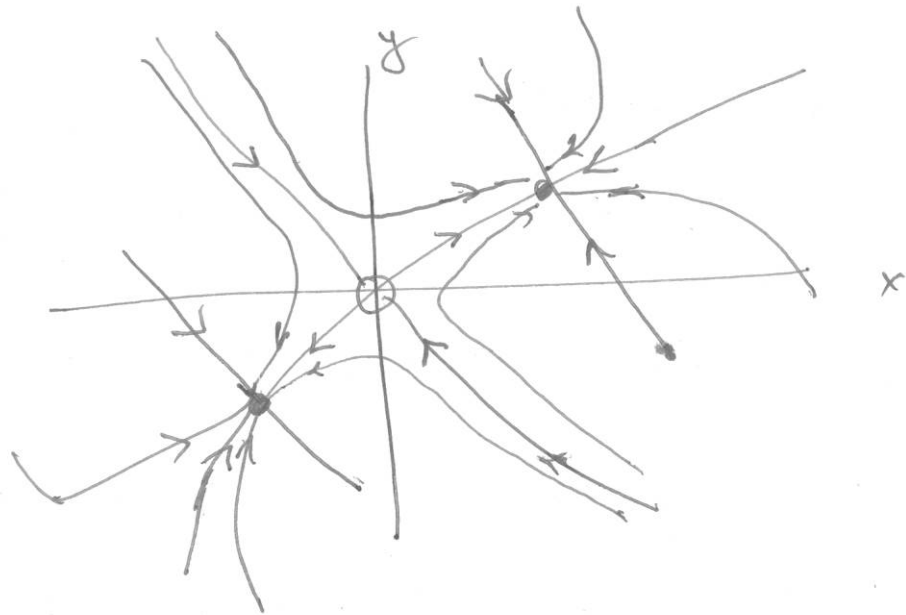


We can now plot the phase portrait, being careful that this portrait is valid only for:

$$(x, y) \sim (x_f, y_f) = (0, 0)$$

and

$$\mu \approx \mu_c = -2$$



In all the examples, the bifurcations occur when, i.e., one at least one of the eiv's is zero,  $\Delta = 0$ .

Then: saddle-node  
transcritical  
pitchfork } bifurcation  $\Rightarrow$  zero-eigenvalue  
bifurcations

These are not inclusive (there are more examples) but these are the most common.

Here, we have collision of fixed pts.

The type of bifurcation which follows does not have a 1-dim analog.

This type of bifurcation provides a way to lose stability without the collision of fixed pts.

## 8.2 Hopf Bifurcations.

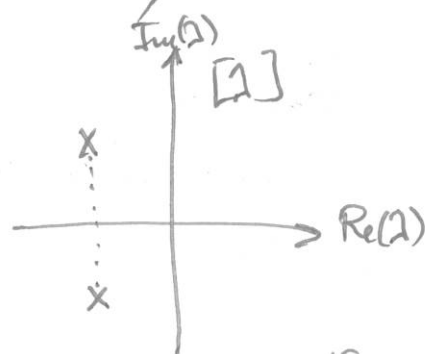
Assume  $\vec{x}_f$  is a fixed pt of  $\begin{cases} \dot{x} = f(x, y, \mu) \\ \dot{y} = g(x, y, \mu) \end{cases}$ .

How  $\vec{x}_f$  can lose stability as we detune  $\mu$ ?

When linearizing we get two roots:  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$

Assume  $\vec{x}_f$  is stable then:  $\text{Re}(\lambda_1) < 0$   
 $\text{Re}(\lambda_2) < 0$

Now,  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$  satisfy a quadratic eqn, with real coefficients. So: either they are real, or come in complex conjugates:



To lose stability, we need: (a) one of the real <sup>and</sup> negative eigenvalues crosses the origin becoming positive, or

(b) both complex conjugates move to the plane  $\text{Re}(\lambda)$ .

(Case (a) was already study in section 8.1 (and in chapter 3))

Case (b) will be the subject of study for this section.

### Supercritical Hopf bifurcation.

Physical system w/ equilibrium after oscillations:

$\Rightarrow$  stable spiral.

The decay rate depend on a parameter  $\mu$ .

As we detune  $\mu$

the decay gets smaller and smaller, up to a value  $\mu_c$ , at which the oscillation don't decay but they growth to a motion of small-amplitude, sinusoidal, becoming a limit cycle;

$\Rightarrow$  this is a supercritical Hopf bifurcation



In the phase plane:

Hopf bifurcation: Stable spiral  $\longrightarrow$  unstable spiral  
+  
small limit cycle

Hopf bifurcations occur if the dimension<sup>n</sup> of the phase plane is:  $n \geq 2$ .

Model example:

$$\dot{r} = \mu r - r^3$$

$$\dot{\theta} = \omega + br^2.$$

$\mu$  - bifurcation parameter: it controls the stability of the origin  $r=0$ .

$\omega$  - small oscillations frequency parameter

$b$  - it determines the dependence of the frequency for large amplitude oscillations.

For  $\mu < 0$ ,  $\dot{r} < 0$ , then  $r_f = 0$  is a stable spiral, and the rotation depends on the sign of  $\omega$ .

For  $\mu = 0$ , the origin is still a stable spiral,

$$\dot{r} = -r^3, \text{ but the decay is algebraic.}$$

(See Fig. 6.32 in text. Remember that linearization predicts a linear center, but not necessarily a center for the nonlinear system).

For  $\mu > 0$ :  $\dot{r} = (\mu - r^2)r$ . We have the origin  $r_f = 0$ , to be an unstable spiral, and a limit cycle  $r_f = \sqrt{\mu}$ .

We now write the system into cartesian coordinates to study the behaviour of the eigenvalues at  $\begin{pmatrix} x_f \\ y_f \end{pmatrix} = \vec{0}$ .

$$\begin{cases} x = r \cos \theta \\ y = r \sin \theta \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x} &= \dot{r} \cos \theta + r(-\sin \theta) \dot{\theta} = (\mu r - r^3) \cos \theta - r \sin \theta (\omega + br^2) \\ &= (\mu - r^2) r \cos \theta - r \sin \theta (\omega + br^2) = (\mu - r^2) x - y (\omega + br^2) \\ &= \mu x - \omega y + \underbrace{(x^2 + y^2)(-x - by)}_{\text{cubic terms.}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{y} &= \dot{r} \sin \theta + r \cos \theta \dot{\theta} = r(\mu - r^2) \sin \theta + r \cos \theta (\omega + br^2) \\ &= (\mu - r^2) y + x (\omega + br^2) = \mu y + \omega x - r^2 (y - bx) \\ &= \mu y + \omega x - \underbrace{(x^2 + y^2)(y - bx)}_{\text{cubic terms.}} \end{aligned}$$

Linearization about the origin results into (dropping the NL terms).

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x} &= \mu x - \omega y \\ \dot{y} &= -\omega x + \mu y \end{aligned} \Rightarrow \boxed{\begin{pmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mu & -\omega \\ +\omega & \mu \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}}$$

The eigenvalues are given by:

$$\lambda = \mu \pm i\omega$$

As expected, the eigenvalues come in conjugate pairs, and moves from  $\text{Re}(\lambda) < 0$  to  $\text{Re}(\lambda) > 0$ , as we move  $\mu$  from  $\mu < 0$  to  $\mu > 0$ .

## Generic properties for Hopf Bifurcations

1. The limit cycle grows as  $\sqrt{\mu - \mu_c}$ , for  $\mu \gtrsim \mu_c$ .

2. The frequency of oscillation of the limit cycle is:

$$\omega = \text{Im}(\lambda), \text{ at } \mu = \mu_c.$$

Once the limit cycle arises, the frequency correction

is:

$$\omega = \text{Im}(\lambda) + O(\mu - \mu_c), \text{ for } \mu \gtrsim \mu_c.$$

why?

$$\text{For } \dot{r} = 0 \Rightarrow r_f = 0 \text{ or } r_f = \sqrt{\mu}.$$

$$\text{Then, at } r_f = \sqrt{\mu} \Rightarrow \dot{\theta} = \omega + b\mu = \omega + b(\mu - \mu_c)$$

↑ correction

The period becomes

$$T = \frac{2\pi}{\text{Im} \lambda} + O(\mu - \mu_c).$$

This idealized prototype of a Hopf bifurcation brings some odds.

(a) The limit cycle is, in general, an ellipse.

(b) The transition from  $\text{Re}(\lambda) < 0$  to  $\text{Re}(\lambda) > 0$  is

not generally on a curve (not a straight line)



# Subcritical Hopf bifurcation

07/05/2010

Hopf bifurcation  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Super-critical} \leftarrow \text{Ducé,} \\ \text{Sub-critical} \end{array} \right.$

Subcritical Hopf bifurcation: after the bifurcation occurs, solution jump to distant attractors: another fixed point, or another limit cycle or infinity or a chaotic attractor, (Lorenz equations) (Chapter 9).

Prototypical example:

$$\dot{r} = \mu r + r^3 - r^5,$$

$$\dot{\theta} = \omega + br^2,$$

In this example, the cubic term  $r^3$  is now a destabilizing term.

\* For  $\mu \leq 0$ :  $\dot{r} = r(\mu + r^2 - r^4)$ .

Fixed points:  $r(\mu + r^2 - r^4) = 0 \Rightarrow r_0 = 0$

and  $r^4 - r^2 - \mu = 0$

$\Rightarrow r_{1,2}^2 = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{1+4\mu}}{2}$ . If  $\mu < 0$ :  $r_1^2 = \frac{1 - \sqrt{1+4\mu}}{2} < 1$

and there is no real values for

Actually, for  $-\frac{1}{4} < \mu < 0$ ,  $0 < r_1^2 < 1 \Rightarrow 0 < r_1 < 1$

and:  $0 < r_2^2 > 1 \Rightarrow r_2 > 1$

There are two orbits  $r = r_2 > 0$ , unstable  
 $r = r_1 > 0$ , stable

$$f(r) = r(\mu + r^2 - r^4) \quad f'(r) = \mu + 2r^2 - 5r^4$$

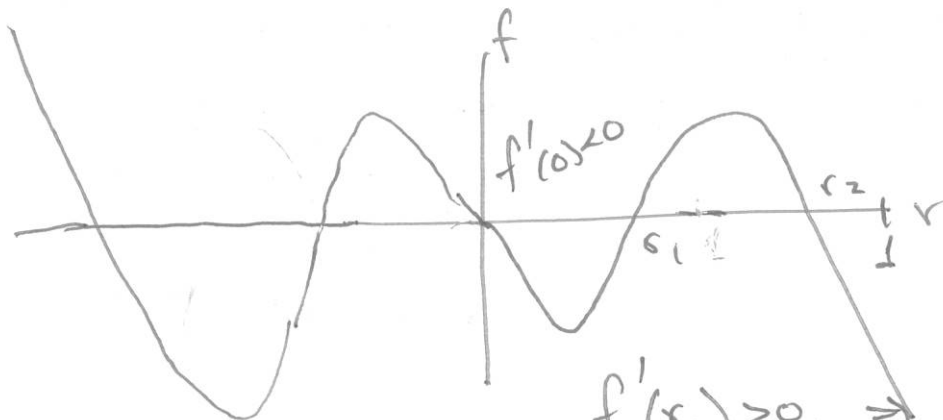
At  $r=0$ :

$$f'(0) = \mu < 0 \Rightarrow r_0 = 0 \text{ is stable,}$$

Now:

$$f(r) = r(\mu + r^2 - r^4), \quad \mu < 0.$$

$f(r)$  looks like:



$$f'(r_1) > 0, \Rightarrow r = r_1 \text{ is unstable}$$

$$f'(r_2) < 0 \Rightarrow r = r_2 \text{ is stable.}$$

\* At  $\underline{\mu=0}$   $\dot{x} = f(r) = r^3(1 - r^2)$

Only two fixed pts. or  $r_0 = 0$  or  $r_2 = 1$ .  $\begin{cases} f'(r) = 3r^2 - 5r^2 \\ f'(0) = 0 \text{ indeterminate} \end{cases}$

Similarly:  $f'(r_2) = 3 - 5 = -2 < 0$  stable.

the origin becomes then unstable.

(Notice that, for  $\mu < 0$ :  $r_2 \rightarrow 1$  as  $\mu \rightarrow 0^-$   
 $r_1 \rightarrow 0$ .)

\* For  $\underline{\mu > 0}$ : Here,  $r_1^2 < 0$ , and disappears, while  $r_2$  grows with  $\mu$ :

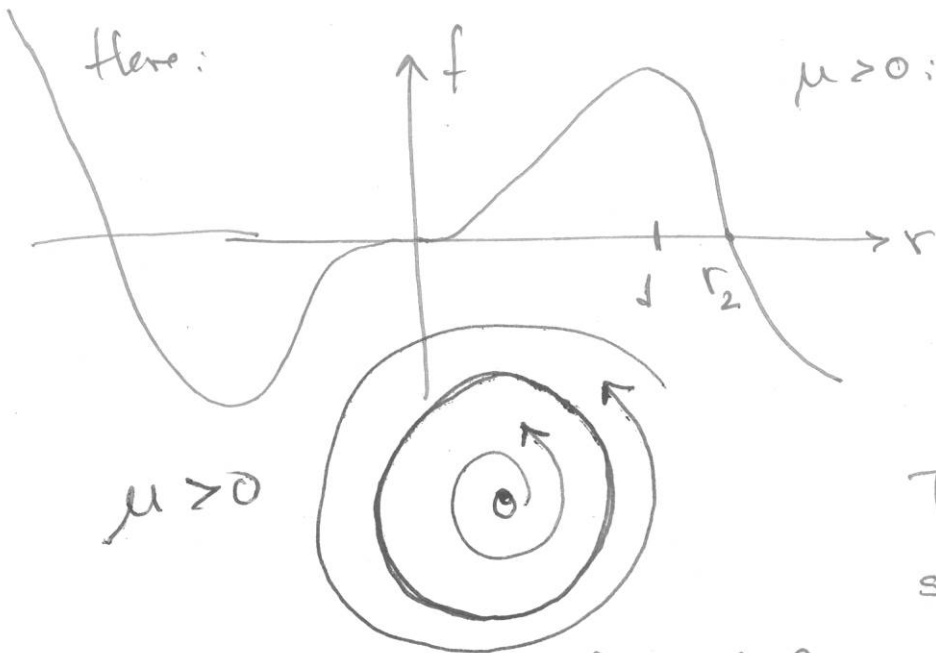
$$r_1^2 = \frac{1 - \sqrt{1 + 4\mu}}{2}$$

$$r_2^2 = \frac{1 + \sqrt{1 + 4\mu}}{2}$$

= 2222

2



 $\mu > 0$ :

Notice that

 $r_2 > 1$  now,and  
 $f'(r_2) < 0$ Then  $r = r_2$  is a  
stable limit cycle.Also notice that  $f(r) \nearrow$  for  $r \nearrow 0$ . Then  $r=0$  is unstable

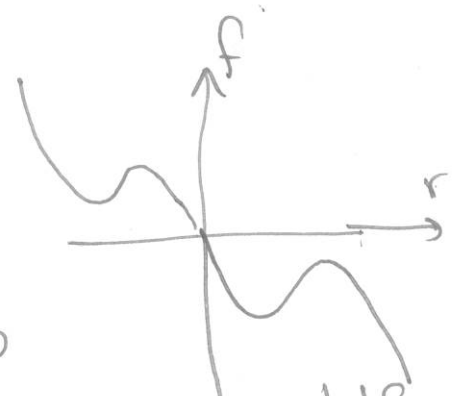
Then, the trajectories going to  $r_0=0$ , for  $\mu < 0$ ,  
will jump to  $r = r_2$  for  $\mu > 0$ ; this is a  
subcritical Hopf bifurcation.

Now, if we return from  $\mu > 0$  to  $\mu < 0$ , we still have  
the limit cycle  $r = r_2$  stable, then the trajectories do not  
go to the origin, until  $\mu < -\frac{1}{4}$ ; we have a hysteresis

In this case:  $r_1^2 < 0, r_2^2 < 0$ .  
 $r_1^2 \in \mathbb{C}, r_2^2 \in \mathbb{C}$ ,

and the only fixed point becomes  
 $r_0^2 = 0$ .

which becomes stable: for  $\mu < -\frac{1}{4}$

Here:  $f(r_0) = 0$ and  $f'(r_0) < 0 \Rightarrow r_0$  is stable.

This destruction is a: global bifurcation of cycles.

How to distinguish among Subcritical, Supercritical and Degenerate Bifurcation?

Linearization does not provide a feeling: in any case, the eigenvalues move from  $\text{Re}(\lambda) < 0$  to  $\text{Re}(\lambda) > 0$

The solution given by the text is to use the computer:  
(a) if the amplitude shrinks back to zero, as the parameter is reversed, then it is maybe supercritical.  
(b) if it presents hysteresis, then it is maybe.

Degenerate Hopf bifurcation

Example: damped pendulum;

$$\ddot{x} + \mu \dot{x} + \sin x = 0.$$

for  $\mu > 0$  to  $\mu < 0$   
stable spiral unstable spiral

At  $\mu = 0$ , we have a band, i.e., a continuum of closed orbits due to the conservation of energy.

These trajectories are not limit cycles, since they are not isolated (we require them to be isolated to be limit cycles).

Degenerate Hopf bifurcation arises when you have a conservative system in the background (here, for  $\mu = 0$ ).

Example Subcritical Hopf bifurcation

02/04/05/2010

$$\dot{x} = \mu x - y + xy^2$$

$$\dot{y} = x + \mu y + y^3$$

Show: there is a Hopf bifurcation occurs at  $(x, y) = (0, 0)$ , as  $\mu$  varies. Is the bifurcation, subcritical, supercritical or degenerate?

Soln: At the origin: the Jacobian is  $J = \begin{pmatrix} \mu & -1 \\ 1 & \mu \end{pmatrix}$

$$J(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} \mu + y^2 & -1 + 2xy \\ 1 & \mu + 3y \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{(0,0)}$$

trace:  $\tau = 2\mu$

Eigen's  $(\mu - \lambda)^2 + 1 = 0$

$\Delta = \mu^2 + 1$

$\Rightarrow \boxed{\lambda = \mu \pm i}$

Hopf bifurcation, when  $\mu = \mu_c = 0$ .

To decide it is supercritical, subcritical, <sup>or</sup> degenerate,

Use polar coordinates.

$$x\dot{x} = \mu x^2 - xy + x^2 y^2$$

$$y\dot{y} = xy + \mu y^2 + y^4$$

$$\boxed{\dot{r} = \mu r + r y^2}$$

$$x\dot{x} + y\dot{y} = \mu(x^2 + y^2) + (x^2 + y^2)y^2$$

$$\frac{1}{2}(x^2 + y^2)\dot{\phantom{r}} = \mu(x^2 + y^2) + (x^2 + y^2)y^2$$

$$\frac{1}{2}(\dot{r}^2)\dot{\phantom{r}} = \mu r^2 + r^2 y^2 \Rightarrow \frac{2}{2}r\dot{r} = \mu r^2 + r^2 y^2$$

\* For  $\mu > 0$ :

$$\dot{r} = \mu r + r y^2 \geq \mu r$$

then:  $r(t) \geq r_0 e^{\mu t}$

ie. all trajectories go to infinity. } No stable  
ie. no closed curves for  $\mu > 0$ , } limit cycle  
then:  
cannot be super critical

\* for  $\mu = 0$ :

$\dot{r} = r y^2$  is still non-negative.

then  $r \uparrow$ , and there is no closed trajectories,  
ie. it is not conservative.

Then, it is not degenerate

$\mu > 0$  \* Then it must be subcritical, as an unstable limit  
cycle is ~~go~~ created from going from  $\mu > 0$  to  $\mu < 0$ .

→ An unstable limit cycle surround a stable fixed point:  
this is typical for a subcritical Hopf bifurcation

→ The cycle is nearly elliptical. } Typical in sub-  
and the cycle surrounds and surrounds } or super-critical  
a gently winding spiral } Hopf bifurcations.