Slow-fast Bogdanov-Takens bifurcations in an application

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This talk is about slow-fast systems

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = f(x, y, \varepsilon, \lambda) \\ \dot{y} = \varepsilon g(x, y, \varepsilon, \lambda) \end{cases}$$

where $\varepsilon > 0$ is small, λ is some parameter.

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Mathematical foundations:

Geometric singular perturbation Theory by Fenichel, Jones

- Desingularization by Dumortier, Roussarie
- Canards by Benoit et al
- Asymptotics by Eckhaus, Wasow, Ramis et al

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- Motivation is 2-fold:

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- Study of periodic orbits (Hilbert 16th problem)
- Applications to natural rhythms in biology, neurology, ecology,

The Fitzhugh-Nagumo model and slow-fast Hopf bifurcations

$$\begin{cases} \dot{v} = v - \frac{1}{3}v^3 - w + I \\ \dot{w} = \varepsilon(v + a - bw) \end{cases}$$

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The Fitzhugh-Nagumo model and slow-fast Hopf bifurcations



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The Fitzhugh-Nagumo model and slow-fast Hopf bifurcations



Type I vs type II excitation



Changing the w-nullcline



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Slow-fast equations

$$\begin{cases} w' = \varepsilon g(w, v, \varepsilon, \lambda) \\ v' = f(w, v, \varepsilon, I) \end{cases}$$
(1)

A more specific neuronal model:

$$w' = \varepsilon(G(v) - w)$$

$$v' = v^2(d - v) - w + I,$$
(2)

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with

$$G(v) = \begin{cases} cv, & v \leq v_{\text{th}} \\ cv + e(v - v_{\text{th}})^2, & v > v_{\text{th}} \end{cases}$$
(3)



$$\begin{cases} w' = 0 \\ v' = v^2(d-v) - w + I \end{cases} \begin{cases} w' = G(v) - w \\ 0 = v^2(d-v) - w + I \end{cases}$$

The critical manifold S is cubic shaped and given as a graph $\{w = \phi_I(v)\}$, i.e.

$$S = S_a^- \cup F^- \cup S_r \cup F^+ \cup S_a^+,$$

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$$\begin{cases} w' = 0 \\ v' = v^2(d-v) - w + I \end{cases} \begin{cases} w' = G(v) - w \\ 0 = v^2(d-v) - w + I \end{cases}$$

Along the *w*-nullcline $g(w, v, 0, \lambda) = 0$:

$$\frac{\partial g}{\partial w} \neq 0\,, \quad \frac{\partial g}{\partial v} \cdot \frac{\partial g}{\partial w} \leq 0\,.$$

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$$\begin{cases} w' = 0 \\ v' = v^2(d-v) - w + I \end{cases} \begin{cases} w' = G(v) - w \\ 0 = v^2(d-v) - w + I \end{cases}$$

The system can have one, two or three equilibria on $w = \phi_I(v)$, all of them located either on S_r or on S_a^-



$$\begin{cases} w' = 0 \\ v' = v^2(d-v) - w + I \end{cases} \begin{cases} w' = G(v) - w \\ 0 = v^2(d-v) - w + I \end{cases}$$

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The fold point $F^+ = (w^+, v^+)$ is a regular jump point.

Assumption

Consider

$$\begin{cases} w' = \varepsilon g(w, v, \varepsilon, \lambda) \\ v' = f(w, v, \varepsilon, I) \end{cases}$$

and define

$$\mathcal{G}(\mathbf{v},\mathbf{I},\lambda) = g(\phi_{\mathbf{I}}(\mathbf{v}),\mathbf{v},0,\lambda).$$

For fixed $(I, \lambda) = (I_{\text{bif}}, \lambda_{\text{bif}})$, the fold point $F^- = (w^-, v^-)$ is a singular contact point that undergoes a singular Bogdanov-Takens bifurcation with respect to the parameters (I, λ) :

$$\mathcal{G}(v^{-}, I_{\mathsf{bif}}, \lambda_{\mathsf{bif}}) = 0, \quad \frac{\partial \mathcal{G}}{\partial v}(v^{-}, I_{\mathsf{bif}}, \lambda_{\mathsf{bif}}) = 0, \quad \frac{\partial^{2} \mathcal{G}}{\partial v^{2}}(v^{-}, I_{\mathsf{bif}}, \lambda_{\mathsf{bif}}) > 0, \\ \frac{\partial \mathcal{G}}{\partial I}(v^{-}, I_{\mathsf{bif}}, \lambda_{\mathsf{bif}}) \neq 0, \quad \frac{\partial \mathcal{G}}{\partial \lambda}(v^{-}, I_{\mathsf{bif}}, \lambda_{\mathsf{bif}}) = 0, \quad \frac{\partial^{2} \mathcal{G}}{\partial \lambda \partial v}(v^{-}, I_{\mathsf{bif}}, \lambda_{\mathsf{bif}}) \neq 0.$$

Besides the possible singular points near F^- occurring in this bifurcation, there are no other singular points on S_a^- .

Proposition

Under these assumptions, the family of vector fields can be locally transformed in the following normal form near F^- ,

$$x' = \varepsilon \left(cy - \sigma x - a + O(x^2, y^3, xy, \varepsilon y^2) \right)$$

$$y' = y^2 - x + \beta y^3 + O(y^4),$$
(4)

where $\sigma = \pm 1$, $\sigma c \ge 0$ and $\beta \ne 0$. The coefficients a, c and β can be computed explicitly in terms of $(I, \lambda, \varepsilon)$.

For system (2), the coefficients in the normal form are given by $c \ge 0$ and

$$a = dI, \qquad \beta = -1/d^2, \qquad \sigma = 1,$$
 (5)



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(a) a = c = 0: singular SNIC (b) a = 0, c > 0 below c_{cusp} : slow-fast Hopf (truncated) (c) a = 0, $c = c_{cusp}$: slow-fast Hopf (truncated) (d) a = 0, $c > c_{cusp}$: slow-fast Hopf



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Theorem

For fixed $0 < c < c_{cusp}$ and $0 < \varepsilon \ll 1$ there exists an unstable equilibrium on the middle branch $S_{r,\varepsilon}$ bounded away from the lower fold F^- . Furthermore, there exist functions

$$0 < a_{snpo}(\varepsilon) < a_{\ell}(\varepsilon) < a_{s}(\varepsilon) < a_{c}(\varepsilon) < a_{h}(\varepsilon) < a_{sn}^{+}(\varepsilon)$$

that all converge to zero in the singular limit $\varepsilon \to 0$ (except a_{sn}^+) and for which the following holds:

- 1. For $a_{sn}^+ < a$, the fold F^- is of regular jump type and a large stable relaxation cycle exists.
- 2. At $a = a_{sn}^+$, a saddle-node bifurcation of singular points on the middle branch $S_{r,\varepsilon}$ in an O(c)-neighbourhood of F^- ; the large relaxation cycle persists.
- For a_h < a < a⁺_{sn}, the system has a saddle p₊ and an unstable focus/node p₋ on the middle branch S_{r,ε} surrounded by the large relaxation cycle. The unstable focus/node p₋ is closer to the fold F⁻.

- 4. At $a = a_h$, p_- changes stability and a subcritical singular Andronov-Hopf bifurcation takes place; the large relaxation cycle persists.
- 5. For $a_c < a < a_h$, repelling small amplitude limit cycles appear around the stable focus p_- ; the large relaxation cycle persists.
- 6. For $a_s < a < a_c$, small jump-back canard cycles appear that rapidly grow in amplitude (canard explosion); the large relaxation cycle perturbs to a large-amplitude jump-forward canard cycle.
- 7. At $a = a_s$, a small jump-back homoclinic loop of canard type, issued from the saddle p_+ , appears together with a stable large-amplitude canard cycle.
- 8. For $a_{\ell} < a < a_s$, the small homoclinic loop breaks and only the stable large-amplitude canard cycle persists.
- 9. At $a = a_{\ell}$, a large-amplitude homoclinic loop of canard type, issued from the saddle p_+ , appears together with the outer large-amplitude cycle.
- 10. As a decreases from a_{ℓ} , large amplitude canard cycles appear that grow in amplitude until it disappears in a saddle-node bifurcation of limit cycles at $a = a_{\text{max}}$



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Heteroclinic connections of canard type undergo a transition from headless canard to canard with head, from the jump-back canard homoclinic to the jump-away canard homoclinic:





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In order to get a hold on the parameters close to c = 0, we rescale the parameters and introduce

$$(c,a) = (\varepsilon C, \varepsilon^2 A), \qquad (C,A) \in [0,M] \times [-M,M] \qquad (6)$$

for some large M > 0. By doing this we in fact assume that $c = O(\varepsilon)$ and $a = O(\varepsilon^2)$. After the parameter rescaling (6), we study the system

$$\begin{aligned} x' &= \varepsilon \left(-\varepsilon^2 A + \varepsilon C y - x + O(x^2, y^3, xy, \varepsilon y^2) \right) \\ y' &= y^2 - x + O(y^3) \,. \end{aligned}$$

The singularity at $(x, y, \varepsilon) = (0, 0, 0)$ is a *slow-fast* Bogdanov-Takens point. Near the fold, we study the system using *blow-up* [?, ?]. We write

$$(x, y, \varepsilon) = (r^2 X, rY, rE), \qquad r \ge 0, (X, Y, E) \in S^2_+$$

where S_+^2 denotes the half-sphere $X^2 + Y^2 + E^2 = 1$ with $E \ge 0$ (also known as *Poincaré or blow-up sphere*). The weights are chosen in a way that the higher order (big-oh) terms in (12) have also higher order in the rescaled equation.



$$x' = \varepsilon \left(cy - \sigma x - a + O(x^2, y^3, xy, \varepsilon y^2) \right)$$

$$y' = y^2 - x + \beta y^3 + O(y^4),$$
(8)

$$(x,y) = (\varepsilon^2 X, \varepsilon Y), \qquad (X,Y) \in [-R,R]^2,$$
 (9)

for some large R > 0. Applying this rescaling to (12), we can divide out a common factor ε , thus transforming the system into a regular perturbation family

$$\dot{X} = -A + CY - X + O(\varepsilon),$$

$$\dot{Y} = Y^2 - X + O(\varepsilon).$$
(10)



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Theorem

There exists a parameter surface $A_{sn}^+(C,\varepsilon) = C^2/4 + O(\varepsilon)$ along which a saddle-node singularity p_{\pm} exists. On this surface, there exists a curve $C = \frac{1}{2} + O(\varepsilon)$ along which a saddle-node homoclinic (SN-HOM_l) connection appears containing the hyperbolic separatrix of the saddle-node. For $C < \frac{1}{2} + O(\varepsilon)$ on this parameter surface, there is a SNIC connection containing a center separatrix of the saddle-node. For $C > \frac{1}{2} + O(\varepsilon)$, there is no SNIC connection.

Proof: SN-bifurcation is stable so there exists A_{sn}^+ -curve which is perturbation of $A = C^2/4$.

There exists a C^k - center outgoing separatrix W and a C^{∞} incoming stable separatrix V.

Both are (C, ε) -families of curves. Intersect V with a transverse section parameterized by a coordinate s so that

$$V: s = \psi(C, \varepsilon),$$

for some smooth ψ . Then integrate W following the vector field until it reaches V. This gives

$$s = \phi(C, \varepsilon),$$

for some C^k -function ϕ . Next $\phi(1/2, 0) = \psi(1/2, 0)$ and $\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial C}(1/2, 0) \neq \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial C}(1/2, 0)$ (Melnikov-like computation). So there we can apply IFT: there exists $C = C(\varepsilon)$ along which a SN-HOM connection appears.

Finally for $C < C(\varepsilon)$ we apply the technique of rotating vector fields to see that the SNIC connection is made.

The same technique shows that $C > C(\varepsilon)$ shows a big relaxation cycle.



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Theorem

Let $C_{min} > \frac{1}{2}$. There exists a parameter surface $A_{\ell}(C, \varepsilon) = -\frac{1}{16} + \frac{C}{4} + O(\varepsilon)$, $C > C_{min}$ along which a large-amplitude saddle-homoclinic (HOM_{ℓ}) connection exists. On this surface, there exists a curve $C = \frac{3}{4} + O(\varepsilon)$ along which the homoclinic changes stability (Resonant HOM_{ℓ}): for lower values of C, the homoclinic is stable, for larger values it is unstable. From this curve emerges a surface $A = A_{snpo}(C, \varepsilon)$ along which a SNPO bifurcation takes place. The surfaces $A_{snpo}(C, \varepsilon)$ and $A_{\ell}(C, \varepsilon)$ are exponentially close.

Proof:

The existence is HOMOCLINIC is similar to that of SN-HOM. (A little attention must be paid gluing HOM to SN-HOM.) Take C^1 -normal form around hyperbolic saddle (for equivalence)

$$\begin{cases} \dot{X} &= -X \\ \dot{Y} &= \rho(C)Y, \qquad \rho(C,\varepsilon) := 4C - 2 + O(\varepsilon) > 0. \end{cases}$$

Take a section Y = 1 with coordinate x_0 and integrate backward in time until we reach the section X = 1 with coordinate y_0 . This gives

$$y_0 = x_0^{\rho(C,\varepsilon)}$$

Next integrate in positive time.

$$y_0 = \phi(A, C, \varepsilon) + \exp(-\tilde{l}(\varepsilon^2 x_0, A, C, \varepsilon)/\varepsilon).$$

(formula explained on blackboard)

Along $A = -\frac{1}{16} + \frac{C}{4}$ we have a HOM connection given by $x_0 = 0$, so

$$\phi(A, C, \varepsilon) + \exp(-\tilde{l}(0, A, C, \varepsilon)/\varepsilon) = 0.$$

Applying again a Melnikov argument shows that this bifurcation line perturbs to $\varepsilon > 0$. The Saddle-node of Periodic Orbits (SNPO):

$$\Delta := \phi(A, C, \varepsilon) + \exp(-\tilde{I}(\varepsilon^2 x_0, A, C, \varepsilon)/\varepsilon) - x_0^{\rho(C, \varepsilon)}.$$

We derive with respect to x_0 :

$$\Delta' = \exp(-\hat{l}(\varepsilon^2 x_0, A, C, \varepsilon)/\varepsilon) - \rho(C, \varepsilon) x_0^{\rho(C, \varepsilon) - 1}$$

.

It is clear that when $\rho(C) < 1$ this expression tends to $-\infty$ as $x_0 \rightarrow 0$. When $\rho(C) > 1$ we find a critical point at a solution of the equation

$$x_0 = \left(\frac{1}{\rho}\right)^{1-\rho} \exp\left(\frac{-\hat{l}(\varepsilon^2 x_0, A, C, \varepsilon)}{\varepsilon(1-\rho)}\right).$$

Clearly, this solution is of exponentially-flat type (w.r.t. ε and $1 - \rho$). Combine with

$$\phi(A, C, \varepsilon) + \exp(-\tilde{l}(\varepsilon^2 x_0, A, C, \varepsilon)/\varepsilon) = x_0^{\rho(C, \varepsilon)}$$
to find $A = A_{snpo}(C), \varepsilon$).

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Before we have used the rescaling

$$(c,a) = (\varepsilon C, \varepsilon^2 A), \qquad (C,A) \in [0,M] \times [-M,M]$$

It is better to do

$$(c, a, \varepsilon) = (vC, v^2A, vE), \qquad (C, A, E) \in S^2, v \ge 0.$$

The previous rescaling amounts to looking on a chart of the sphere in the direction of E = 1.

$$(c, a, \varepsilon) = (v, v^2 A, v E), \qquad E \approx 0, A \in [-M, M], v \ge 0.$$

Since c = v we can simplify to

$$(a,\varepsilon)=(c^2A,cE), \qquad E\approx 0, A\in [-M,M], c\geq 0.$$

The vector field:

$$x' = cE(-c^{2}A + cy - x + O(x^{2}, y^{3}, xy, \varepsilon y^{2}))$$

$$y' = y^{2} - x + O(y^{3}).$$
(11)

$$x' = cE(-c^{2}A + cy - x + O(x^{2}, y^{3}, xy, \varepsilon y^{2}))$$

$$y' = y^{2} - x + O(y^{3}).$$
(12)

$$(x,y) = (c^2 X, cY), \qquad (X,Y) \in [-R,R]^2,$$
 (13)

for some large R > 0. Applying this rescaling to (12), we can divide out a common factor ε , thus transforming the system into a regular perturbation family

$$\dot{X} = E(-A+Y-X+O(c)),$$

 $\dot{Y} = Y^2 - X + O(c).$

 \implies in this parameter regime the Bogdanov-Takens contact point blows up to a slow-fast Hopf situation.

$$\dot{X} = E(-A + Y - X + O(c)),$$

$$\dot{Y} = Y^2 - X + O(c).$$

We find at A = 1/4 + O(c) a saddle-node in the slow dynamics, at A = 0 + O(c) a slow-fast Hopf point.

At the slow-fast Hopf point there is an extra singularity on the middle branch, giving rise to HOM-connections.

Furthermore, as the canard cycle grows towards the HOM connection, somewhere in between there is a zero of the slow divergence integral, giving rise to the SNPO.

 \implies the bifurcation diagram is complete!