

#### F. Dumortier Joint work with P. De Maesschalck and R. Roussarie

Mallorca, 06.02.2023

### Definition (Slow-fast family of vector fields)

(In this talk) a slow-fast family of vector fields on the plane, with singular parameter  $\varepsilon$ , is a smooth family of vector fields  $X_{\varepsilon,\lambda}$ , with:

$$X_{\varepsilon,\lambda} = X_{0,\lambda} + \varepsilon Q_{\lambda} + O(\varepsilon^2), \qquad (1)$$

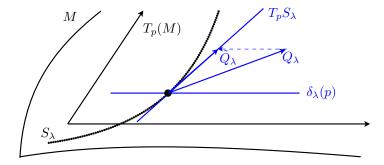
and

$$X_{0,\lambda}=F_{\lambda}Z_{\lambda},$$

for some smooth family of functions  $F_{\lambda}$  and a smooth family of vector fields  $Z_{\lambda}$ , where for each  $\lambda$  the following properties hold:

- $Z_{\lambda}$  is a vector field without singularities,

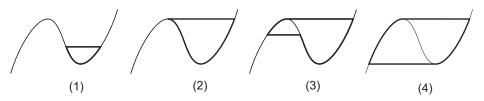
# Slow vector field on $S_{\lambda} \setminus C_{\lambda}$



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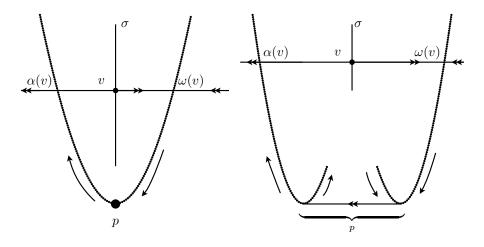
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# Dodging layer (D) and terminal layer (T)

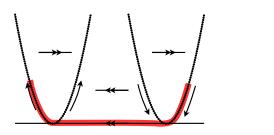


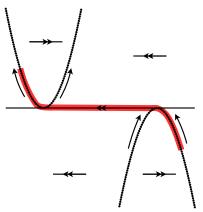
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# Breaking mechanisms: Hopf (H) and Jump (J)



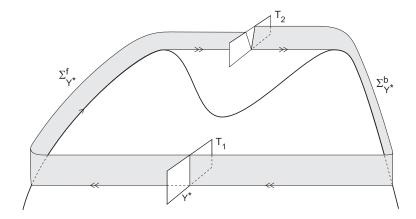
# Jump breaking mechanism





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### Use of sections: layer section and target section



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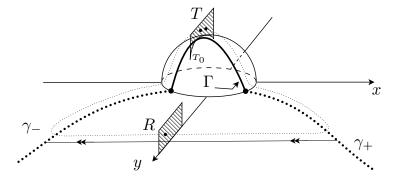
Normal form:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = y - x^2 + x^3 h_1(x, \lambda) \\ \dot{y} = \varepsilon (a - x + x^2 h_2(x, \varepsilon, \lambda) + y h_3(x, y, \varepsilon, \lambda)). \end{cases}$$
(2)

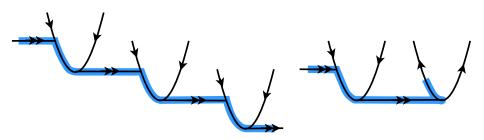
Rescaled breaking parameter:

$$a = \sqrt{\varepsilon} \bar{a}.$$

## Rescaled breaking parameter in Hopf case (2)

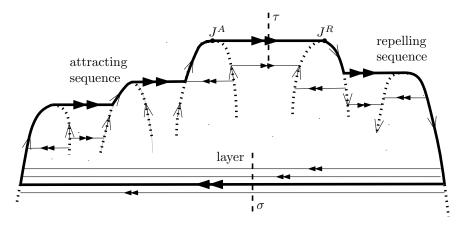


## Attracting sequence



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### Attracting sequence and repelling sequence



#### Technical elaboration in study of transition map

- Blow-up of contact points
- Center manifolds
- Normal forms
- Smooth functions on Admissible Monomials

## Transition map form layer section to target section

### Technical elaboration in study of transition map

- Blow-up of contact points
- Center manifolds
- Normal forms
- Smooth functions on Admissible Monomials



#### Canard cycles

- Part II Technical tools, pp. 97-212
- Ch 12: Local transition maps, pp. 215-265

Consider a closed interval  $\gamma_{\lambda} \subset S_{\lambda} \setminus C_{\lambda}$ . Parameterize it by r and write the slow vector field  $\tilde{Q}_{\lambda}$  as  $q_{\lambda}(r)\frac{\partial}{\partial r}$ , for some smooth family of functions  $q_{\lambda}$ . The differential equation of  $\tilde{Q}_{\lambda}$  in the coordinate r is

$$rac{\mathrm{d}r}{\mathrm{d}s}=q_\lambda(r).$$

Suppose now that  $\gamma_{\lambda}$  does not contain zeros of  $\tilde{Q}_{\lambda}$ , then the slow divergence integral along  $\gamma_{\lambda}$  is defined as

$$I(\gamma_{\lambda}) = \int_{\gamma_{\lambda}} V_{\lambda} ds, \qquad (3)$$

where  $V_{\lambda}$  at a point  $p \in S_{\lambda}$  is the trace of  $D(X_{0,\lambda})(p)$ .

$$F_{\varepsilon,\lambda}^{J}(v) = z^{A}(\lambda) + \varepsilon^{\frac{2}{3}} \Psi^{A}(\lambda,\varepsilon) + \theta_{\Sigma_{A}} \exp\left(\frac{I^{A}(v,\lambda) + O(\varepsilon^{\frac{1}{3}})}{\varepsilon}\right), \quad (4)$$

where  $I^A$  is the SDI of the attracting sequence A. The function  $\Psi^A$  is smooth in  $(\varepsilon^{\frac{1}{3}}, \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{3}} \ln \varepsilon, \lambda)$ ; the term  $O(\varepsilon^{\frac{1}{3}})$  is smooth in  $(\nu, \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{3}}, \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{3}} \ln \varepsilon, \lambda)$ and  $\theta_{\Sigma_A} = \pm 1$  (depending on the chosen orientation at the target section.)

$$F_{\varepsilon,\lambda}^{J}(v) = z^{A}(\lambda) + \varepsilon^{\frac{2}{3}} \Psi^{A}(\lambda,\varepsilon) + \theta_{\Sigma_{A}} \exp\left(\frac{I^{A}(v,\lambda) + O(\varepsilon^{\frac{1}{3}})}{\varepsilon}\right), \quad (4)$$

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$$F_{\varepsilon,\lambda}^{H}(v) = z^{A}(\lambda) + \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{2}} \Psi^{A}(\lambda,\varepsilon) + \theta_{\Sigma_{A}} exp\left(\frac{I^{A}(v,\lambda) + O(\varepsilon^{\frac{1}{3}})}{\varepsilon}\right), \quad (5)$$

where  $I^A$  is the SDI of the attracting sequence A and  $\lambda = (\bar{a}, \mu)$ . The function  $\Psi^A$  is smooth in  $(\varepsilon^{\frac{1}{2}}, \lambda)$ , while  $O(\varepsilon^{\frac{1}{3}})$  is smooth in  $(v, \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{2}}, \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{3}}, \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{3}} \ln \varepsilon, \lambda)$  and  $\theta_{\Sigma_A} = \pm 1$  (depending on the chosen orientation at the target section.)

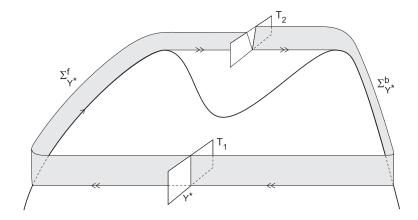
$$\Delta_{\varepsilon,\lambda}(\nu) = \alpha(\lambda,\varepsilon) + e^{\frac{l^A(\nu,\lambda) + o_{\varepsilon}(1)}{\varepsilon}} - \theta_C e^{\frac{l^R(\nu,\lambda) + o_{\varepsilon}(1)}{\varepsilon}}$$
(6)

where  $\alpha$  and the remainder terms  $o_{\varepsilon}(1)$  are smooth in an appropriate set  $\Omega$  of  $\varepsilon$ -monomials and in the other variables  $(v, \lambda)$ .  $\theta_C = \pm 1$ , depending on  $\theta_{\Sigma_A}$  and  $\theta_{\Sigma_{\bar{R}}}$  (and an appropriate choice of orientation at the target section.)

We can take  $\lambda = (b, \mu)$  so that the function  $\alpha$  verifies

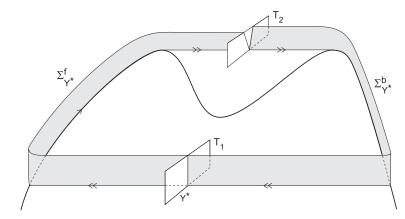
 $\alpha((b,\mu),0)=b.$ 

## Intrinsic meaning of $\theta_C$



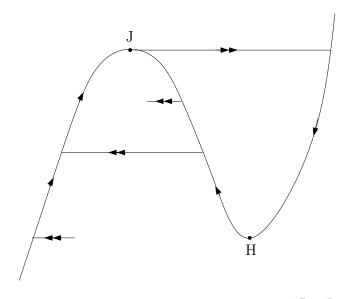
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### Intrinsic meaning of $\theta_C$



- Side preserving connection (P) :  $\theta_C = 1$
- Side reversing connection (R) :  $\theta_C = -1$

# Single dodging layer



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### Single dodging layer: looking for limit cycles

The connection is side reversing. Limit cycles are given by zeroes of

$$\Delta_{\varepsilon,\lambda}(\mathbf{v}) = \alpha(\lambda,\varepsilon) + e^{\frac{I^{A}(\mathbf{v},\lambda) + o_{\varepsilon}(1)}{\varepsilon}} + e^{\frac{I^{\overline{R}}(\mathbf{v},\lambda) + o_{\varepsilon}(1)}{\varepsilon}} = 0$$
(7)

The connection is side reversing. Limit cycles are given by zeroes of

$$\Delta_{\varepsilon,\lambda}(\nu) = \alpha(\lambda,\varepsilon) + e^{\frac{I^{A}(\nu,\lambda) + o_{\varepsilon}(1)}{\varepsilon}} + e^{\frac{I^{\overline{R}}(\nu,\lambda) + o_{\varepsilon}(1)}{\varepsilon}} = 0$$
(7)

Important remark:

Since  $\frac{\partial I^A}{\partial v}(v,\lambda)$  and  $\frac{\partial I^{\bar{R}}}{\partial v}(v,\lambda)$  have opposite signs we get:

$$\frac{\partial (I^A - I^{\bar{R}})}{\partial v}(v, \lambda) \neq 0,$$

so that  $I^A - I^{\bar{R}} = I^A + I^R$  has at most one zero, which is simple.

#### Main aim of his talk

Studying multilayer canard cycles, as much as possible in the context of polynomial (generalized) Liénard equations

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = y - F_{\lambda}(x) \\ \dot{y} = \varepsilon g_{\lambda}(x) \end{cases}$$

Here  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$  are parameters that are used for the individual canard breaking mechanisms.

#### Benefits of Liénard setting: easy basic understanding

- The critical curve is a graph  $y = F_{\lambda}(x)$
- The fast dynamics, for  $\varepsilon = 0$ , is trivial:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = y - F_{\lambda}(x) \\ \dot{y} = 0 \end{cases}$$

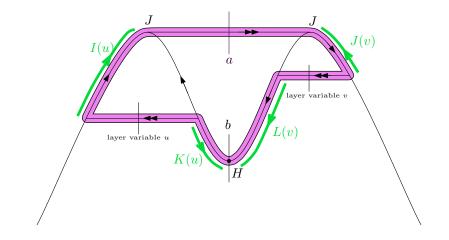
• The slow vector field can be expressed as:

$$y' = g_{\lambda}(x)|_{x = F_{\lambda}^{-1}(y)}$$

(and 
$$x' = y'/F'_{\lambda}(x)$$
)

The contact points are found at the local extremes of F<sub>λ</sub>(x). The singular ones are those at which g<sub>λ</sub> = 0

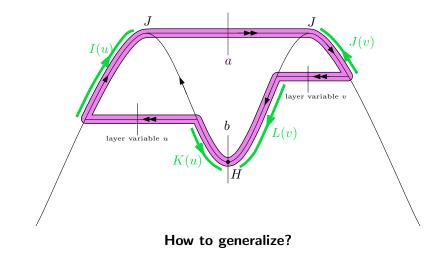
### 2-layer cycle: DPDP -case



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### 2-layer cycle: DPDP -case



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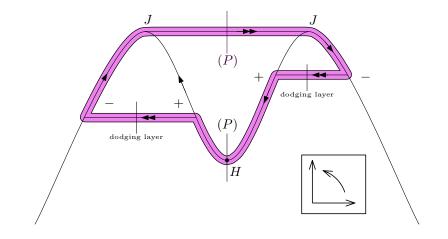
Canard cycles p.256:

We define a coefficient  $\theta_A$  for the whole sequence A by

$$\theta_{\mathcal{A}} = \prod_{i=2}^{k} \theta_{J_i} \prod_{j=1}^{k-1} \theta_f^j.$$
(8)

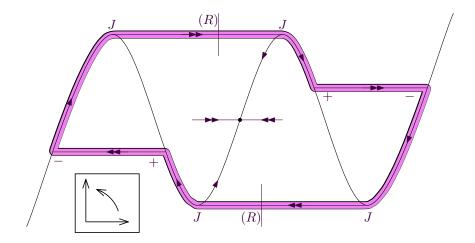
Moreover, independently of the previous coefficients associated to A itself, we will use the  $\theta_{\Sigma_1}$  associated to the position of the starting section  $\Sigma$  in relation to  $\gamma_s^1$ .

# DPDP -cycle



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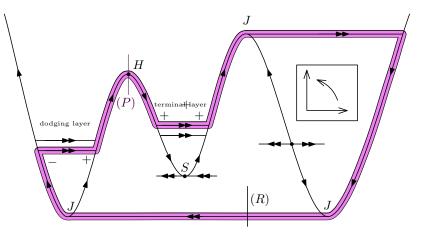
Choose an orientation along the canard cycle under consideration. In a plane take e.g. ((1,0), (0,1)) as positive, and represent it counterclockwise. Check whether the passages from slow to fast, when entering a layer, and those from fast to slow, when leaving a layer, are positive or negative and put a + or a -. A connection between two + or between two - is side preserving. A connection between + and -, or - and + is side reversing.



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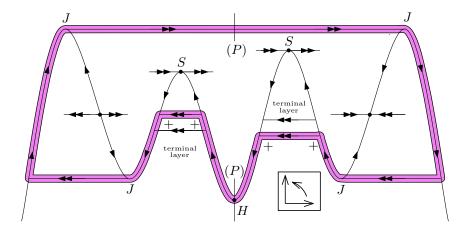
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# DPTR-cycle



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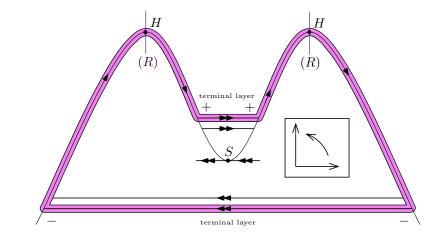
# **TPTP-cycle**



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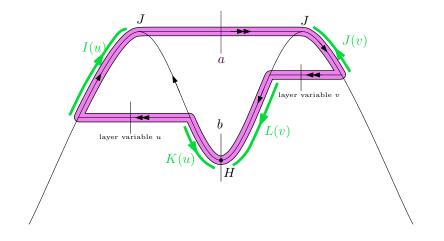
# TRTR-cycle



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# Results on DPDP-cycle



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# Theorem for DPDP-cycle

Let D(u, v) = I(u) - J(v) + L(v) - K(u) be the (total) SDI of  $\Gamma_{uv}$  and choose some  $(u, v) = (u_0, v_0)$ .

#### Theorem

- If D(u<sub>0</sub>, v<sub>0</sub>) ≠ 0, then a hyperbolic relaxation oscillation bifurcates from Γ<sub>u<sub>0</sub>v<sub>0</sub>.
  </sub>
- If D(u<sub>0</sub>, v<sub>0</sub>) = 0 and I(u<sub>0</sub>) − J(v<sub>0</sub>) ≠ 0, then a codimension 1 semi-stable relaxation oscillation bifurcates from Γ<sub>u<sub>0</sub>v<sub>0</sub>. This semi-stable limit cycle is generically unfolded by the parameter (a, b), for ε > 0 small enough, producing a pair of hyperbolic limit cycles.
  </sub>
- If D(u<sub>0</sub>, v<sub>0</sub>) = 0 and I(u<sub>0</sub>) J(v<sub>0</sub>) = 0 and I'(u<sub>0</sub>)L'(v<sub>0</sub>) - K'(u<sub>0</sub>)J'(v<sub>0</sub>) ≠ 0, then a codimension 2 relaxation oscillation bifurcates from Γ<sub>u<sub>0</sub>v<sub>0</sub>. This degenerate limit cycle is generically unfolded by the parameter (a, b), for ε > 0 small enough, producing systems having three hyperbolic limit cycles in the vicinity of Γ<sub>u<sub>0</sub>v<sub>0</sub>.
  </sub></sub>

We have to deal with

$$\begin{cases} \exp(\frac{\tilde{I}(u,\lambda,\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon}) - \theta_1 \exp(\frac{\tilde{J}(v,\lambda,\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon}) = \mathbf{a} \cdot F(\lambda,\varepsilon) \\ \exp(\frac{\tilde{K}(u,\lambda,\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon}) - \theta_2 \exp(\frac{\tilde{L}(v,\lambda,\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon}) = \mathbf{b} \cdot G(\lambda,\varepsilon). \end{cases}$$
(9)

with  $F(\lambda_0,0) \neq 0$  and  $G(\lambda_0,0) \neq 0$ . This can be written as :

$$\begin{cases} \exp(\frac{\tilde{I}(u,\lambda,\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon}) - \theta_1 \exp(\frac{\tilde{J}(v,\lambda,\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon}) = a\\ \exp(\frac{\tilde{K}(u,\lambda,\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon}) - \theta_2 \exp(\frac{\tilde{L}(v,\lambda,\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon}) = b. \end{cases}$$
(10)

with new functions  $\tilde{I}, \tilde{J}, \tilde{K}$  and  $\tilde{L}$ , which differ from the previous ones by terms of order  $o_{\epsilon}(1)$ .

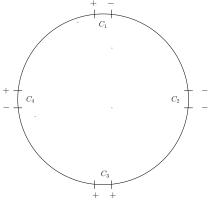
The equations can be changed to a similar system in which  $\lambda = (a, b)$  disappears from the left hand side of the equations.

Let us consider the mapping

$$\Phi_{\varepsilon} : \begin{cases} a = exp(\frac{\tilde{I}(u,v,\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon}) - \theta_1 exp(\frac{\tilde{J}(u,v,\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon}) \\ b = exp(\frac{\tilde{K}(u,v,\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon}) - \theta_2 exp(\frac{\tilde{L}(u,v,\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon}). \end{cases}$$
(11)

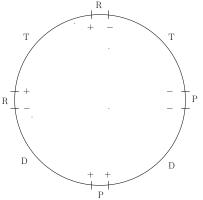
We can see  $\Phi_{\varepsilon}$  as a family of maps from a plane with coordinates  $(u, v) \in [\alpha, \beta]^2$ , to another plane with coordinates (a, b) near  $(u_0, v_0)$  depending on a parameter  $\varepsilon$ . For each (a, b) in the image of  $\Phi_{\varepsilon}$ , with  $\varepsilon > 0$  small enough, each counter-image (u, v) corresponds to a limit cycle  $\Gamma_{uv}^{\varepsilon}$  for the value  $\varepsilon$  cutting the layer sections in resp. u and v.

Primary data: represent on a circle (in cyclic order) the connections  $(C_1, ..., C_n)$  by small segments and add, at the end points of each segment, the incoming and outgoing signs near the connection.

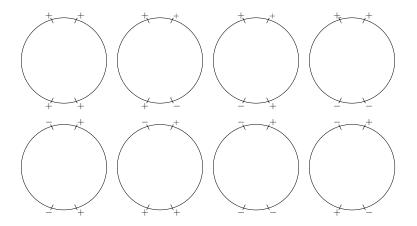


## Connection diagram (2)

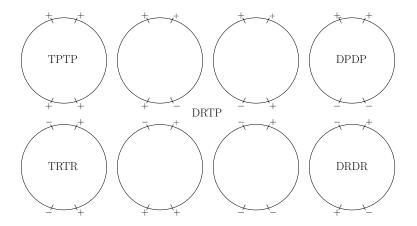
Complete the connection diagram by indicating the kind of connections (P or R) and the kind of layers (D or T) we encounter between the connections.



# Connection diagram with 2 layers

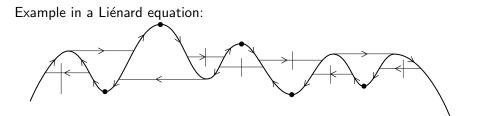


## Connection diagram with 2 layers

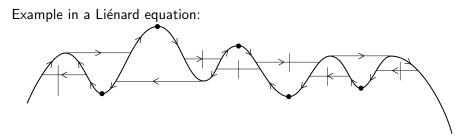


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## Realisation of connection diagrams in general



## Realisation of connection diagrams in general



Question 1: can all connection diagrams be realized in Liénard equations?

Question 2: can all connection diagrams be realized by a polynomial vector field?

We introduce a layer variable  $u_i$  for the layer  $L_i$  coming after  $C_i$ . We hence have  $u_{i-1}$  for the layer  $L_{i-1}$  preceding  $C_i$ . We take  $i \in \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ .

We suppose to have canard cycles  $\Gamma_{u,0}$ , given by  $u = (u_1, ..., u_n)$  and  $\lambda = (a_1, ..., a_n) = (0, ..., 0)$ . In each layer  $L_i$  we consider (and calculate) the SDI's  $I_{i,i}(u_i)$ , linked to  $C_i$ , and  $I_{i+1,i}(u_i)$  linked to  $C_{i+1}$ , of the canard cycle  $\Gamma_{u,0}$ .

$$- \underbrace{|}_{C_{i-1}} \underbrace{I_{i-1,i-1}(u_{i-1})}_{C_i} + \underbrace{I_{i,i-1}(u_{i-1})}_{C_i} + \underbrace{I_{i,i}(u_i)}_{C_{i+1}} + \underbrace{I_{i+1,i}(u_i)}_{C_{i+1}} + \underbrace{I_{i+1,i}(u_i)}$$

## System of equations to be solved

$$\begin{cases} \exp(\frac{\tilde{h}_{1,n}(u_{n},\lambda,\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon}) - \theta_{1}\exp(\frac{\tilde{h}_{1,1}(u_{1},\lambda,\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon}) = a_{1} \\ \vdots \\ \exp(\frac{\tilde{h}_{i,i-1}(u_{i-1},\lambda,\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon}) - \theta_{i}\exp(\frac{\tilde{h}_{i,i}(u_{i},\lambda,\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon}) = a_{i} \\ \vdots \\ \exp(\frac{\tilde{h}_{n,n-1}(u_{n-1},\lambda,\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon}) - \theta_{n}\exp(\frac{\tilde{h}_{n,n}(u_{n},\lambda,\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon}) = a_{n}. \end{cases}$$
(12)

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#### System of equations to be solved

$$\begin{cases} \exp\left(\frac{\tilde{I}_{1,n}(u_{n},\lambda,\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon}\right) - \theta_{1}\exp\left(\frac{\tilde{I}_{1,1}(u_{1},\lambda,\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon}\right) = a_{1} \\ \vdots \\ \exp\left(\frac{\tilde{I}_{i,i-1}(u_{i-1},\lambda,\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon}\right) - \theta_{i}\exp\left(\frac{\tilde{I}_{i,i}(u_{i},\lambda,\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon}\right) = a_{i} \\ \vdots \\ \exp\left(\frac{\tilde{I}_{n,n-1}(u_{n-1},\lambda,\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon}\right) - \theta_{n}\exp\left(\frac{\tilde{I}_{n,n}(u_{n},\lambda,\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon}\right) = a_{n}. \end{cases}$$
(12)

The system can be adapted to eliminate  $\lambda$  from the  $\tilde{l}_{i,j}(u_j, \lambda, \varepsilon)$ , in a way that  $\tilde{l}_{i,j}(u, 0) = l_{i,j}(u_i)$ .

The  $a_i$  can be supposed to be the original (rescaled) breaking parameters by choosing in a good way the orientation on the target sections.

There is still a freedom to choose an orientation on the different layer sections. We can e.g. suppose that, for all *i*:

$$\frac{\partial I_{i,i}}{\partial u_i}(u_i) > 0.$$

It implies

• for a dodging layer:

$$\frac{\partial I_{i+1,i}}{\partial u_i}(u_i) < 0,$$

• for a terminal layer:

$$\frac{\partial I_{i+1,i}}{\partial u_i}(u_i) > 0.$$

## Introducing a map from $\mathbb{R}^n$ to $\mathbb{R}^n$

Like in the 2-layer case the system of equations defines a map  $\Phi_{\varepsilon}$  from the  $(u_1, ..., u_n)$ -space to the  $(a_1, ..., a_n)$ -space. For  $\varepsilon > 0$ , counter-images of  $(a_1, ..., a_n)$  correspond to limit cycles.

To find the singularities of  $\Phi_{\varepsilon}$ , for  $\varepsilon > 0$  but small, we consider  $d\Phi_{\varepsilon}$  and calculate  $\Delta(u, \varepsilon) = \det d\Phi_{\varepsilon}(u)$ , with  $u = (u_1, ..., u_n)$ .

The rows of the Jacobian matrix of  $d\Phi_{\varepsilon}$  (essentially) contain two entries:

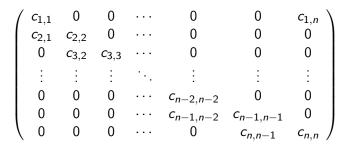
$$-rac{ heta_i}{arepsilon} ilde{l}'_{i,i} ext{exp} rac{ ilde{l}_{i,i}}{arepsilon}$$

on the diagonal, and

$$\frac{1}{\varepsilon} \tilde{l}'_{i,i-1} \exp \frac{\tilde{l}_{i,i-1}}{\varepsilon}$$

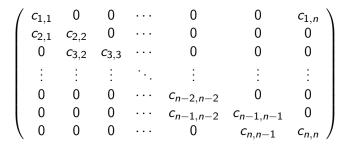
on the sub diagonal ( except for i = 1, in which case it is situated in the right upper corner).

## Matrix of det $d\Phi_{\varepsilon}(u)$



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## Matrix of det $d\Phi_{\varepsilon}(u)$



$$(c_{i,i-1}, c_{i,i}) = (\frac{1}{\varepsilon} \tilde{l}'_{i,i-1} \exp \frac{\tilde{l}_{i,i-1}}{\varepsilon}, -\frac{\theta_i}{\varepsilon} \tilde{l}'_{i,i} \exp \frac{\tilde{l}_{i,i}}{\varepsilon})$$

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## Calculating $\Delta(u,\varepsilon) = \det d\Phi_{\varepsilon}(u)$

Seen the structure of the matrix, it is easy to get:

$$(-1)^{n} \varepsilon^{n} \Delta(u, \varepsilon) = (-1)^{n} \varepsilon^{n} \det d\Phi_{\varepsilon}(u) =$$
$$\prod_{i}^{n} \theta_{i} \tilde{l}'_{i,i} \exp \frac{\tilde{l}_{i,i}}{\varepsilon} - \prod_{i}^{n} \tilde{l}'_{i,i-1} \exp \frac{\tilde{l}_{i,i-1}}{\varepsilon} =$$
$$(\prod_{i}^{n} \theta_{i} \tilde{l}'_{i,i}) \cdot \exp \frac{\sum_{i}^{n} \tilde{l}_{i,i}}{\varepsilon} - (\prod_{i}^{n} \tilde{l}'_{i,i-1}) \cdot \exp \frac{\sum_{i}^{n} \tilde{l}_{i,i-1}}{\varepsilon} =$$

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$$(\prod_{i}^{n} \theta_{i} \tilde{l}'_{i,i}) \cdot \exp \frac{\sum_{i}^{n} \tilde{l}_{i,i}}{\varepsilon} - (\prod_{i}^{n} \tilde{l}'_{i,i-1}) \cdot \exp \frac{\sum_{i}^{n} \tilde{l}_{i,i-1}}{\varepsilon} =$$
$$(\prod_{i}^{n} \theta_{i} \tilde{l}'_{i,i}) \cdot \exp \frac{\sum_{i}^{n} \tilde{l}_{i,i-1}}{\varepsilon} \cdot (\exp \frac{\tilde{D}}{\varepsilon} - \prod_{i}^{n} \frac{\tilde{l}'_{i,i-1}}{\theta_{i} \tilde{l}'_{i,i}}),$$

with

$$\tilde{D} = \sum_{i}^{''} (\tilde{I}_{i,i} - \tilde{I}_{i,i-1}).$$

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## Reducing the equation $\Delta = 0$

We get that  $\Delta(u,\varepsilon) = 0$  if and only if

$$\exp \frac{\tilde{D}}{\varepsilon} - \prod_{i}^{n} \frac{\tilde{l}'_{i,i-1}}{\theta_{i}\tilde{l}'_{i,i}} = 0,$$

#### where

$$\tilde{D}(u,\varepsilon) = \sum_{i}^{n} (\tilde{I}_{i,i} - \tilde{I}_{i,i-1})$$

and

$$D(u) = \tilde{D}(u, 0) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (I_{i,i} - I_{i,i-1}),$$

expresses the total SDI of the canard cycles  $\Gamma_u$ .

We will now show that

$$\prod_{i}^{n}\frac{\tilde{l}_{i,i-1}^{\prime}}{\theta_{i}\tilde{l}_{i,i}^{\prime}}>0,$$

implying that we can regularize the equation  $\Delta(u, \varepsilon) = 0$  to

$$\tilde{D}(u,\varepsilon) - \varepsilon \log \prod_{i}^{n} \frac{\tilde{I}'_{i,i-1}}{\theta_{i}\tilde{I}'_{i,i}} = 0,$$

i.e.

$$D(u) + o_{\varepsilon}(1) = 0,$$
  
with  $o_{\varepsilon}(1)$  smooth in  $(u, \Omega, \lambda)$ , and  $\Omega = (\varepsilon^{\frac{1}{2}}, \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{3}}, \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{3}} \ln \varepsilon).$ 

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## Checking that the product is positive

Consider

$$\prod_{i}^{n} \frac{\tilde{l}'_{i,i-1}}{\theta_{i}\tilde{l}'_{i,i}} = \prod_{i}^{n} \frac{\tilde{l}'_{i+1,i}}{\theta_{i}\tilde{l}'_{i,i}}.$$

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Proving that the product is positive amounts to prove that, for each connection diagram, we have

$$n_D + n_R = 0 \pmod{2},$$

where  $n_D$  is the number of dodging layers and  $n_R$  is the number of side-reversing connections.

The connection diagram is divided in 2n segments and at each of the 2n endpoints there is a sign (+ or - ).

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Starting at some point (e.g. with a +) we come back to that point after a full turn, implying that the number of switches has to be even.

At canard cycles where the total SDI D(u) is different from zero we already know that Hausdorff-close to the canard cycle there can be at most one limit cycle and it is necessarily hyperbolic.

P. De Maesschalck, F. Dumortier, R.Roussarie: Cyclicity of common slow-fast cycles. Indag. Math. (N.S.) 22 (2011), no. 3-4, 165–206.

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Thanks to the breaking parameters we see, with the help of  $\Phi_{\varepsilon}$ , that there is a limit cycle.

We can rely on the theory of singularities of maps from n-space to n-space. Like in the 2-layer case we work at points of

$$S = \{\Delta(u,\varepsilon) = 0\},\$$

and analyse the relative position between  $T_pS$  and  $\operatorname{Ker}(\mathrm{d}\Phi_{\varepsilon})$ . It can easily be seen that  $\operatorname{Ker}(\mathrm{d}\Phi_{\varepsilon})$  is 1-dimensional.

The equations are given by:

$$u_i = \theta_i \frac{\tilde{l}'_{i,i-1}}{\tilde{l}'_{i,i}} \exp(\frac{\tilde{l}_{i,i-1} - \tilde{l}_{i,i}}{\varepsilon}) u_{i-1}.$$

We get a saddle-node bifurcation of limit cycles at the points where  $\Phi_{\varepsilon}$  has a fold. This happens under the condition that for all *i*:

• 
$$I_{i,i-1} - I_{i,i} \neq 0$$
, and  
•  $\tilde{I}'_{i+1,i} - \tilde{I}'_{i,i} \neq 0$ .

The first conditions are related to the connections, the second ones to the layers.

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We can violate up to n-1 conditions, seen that we have n parameters.

#### Elementary catastrophes of limit cycles

The only stable singularities of the map  $\Phi_{\varepsilon}$  are singularities of type  $\Sigma^{1,..,1,0} = \Sigma^{1_r,0}$ .

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Up to smooth right-left equivalence they have a normal form:

$$\begin{cases} X_{1} = x_{1} \\ \vdots \\ X_{n-1} = x_{n-1} \\ Y = y^{r+1} + x_{1}.y^{r-1} + x_{2}.y^{r-2} + \dots + x_{r-1}.y, \end{cases}$$
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Up to smooth right-left equivalence they have a normal form:

$$\begin{cases} X_1 = x_1 \\ \vdots \\ X_{n-1} = x_{n-1} \\ Y = y^{r+1} + x_1 \cdot y^{r-1} + x_2 \cdot y^{r-2} + \dots + x_{r-1} \cdot y, \end{cases}$$
(13)

with  $1 \leq r \leq n$ .

The codimension is r, leading to elementary catastrophes of limit cycles and phase portraits with r + 1 limit cycles. Most degenerate is r = n.

A canard cycle  $\Gamma_{u_0,0}$  is called (totally) balanced if, for all *i*:

$$I_{i,i} = I_{i,i-1}$$

Under the generic condition that

$$\prod_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\tilde{l}'_{i,i-1}}{\tilde{l}'_{i,i}} \neq 1,$$

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F. Dumortier & R. Roussarie, Multi-layer canard cycles and translated power functions. J. Differential Equations 244 (2008), no. 6, 1329–1358.

If the canard cycle  $\Gamma_{u_0}$  is balanced and generic, then there exists an application :  $\varepsilon \to u(\varepsilon) = (u_1(\varepsilon), \cdots, u_n(\varepsilon))$ , with  $u(0) = u_0$  such that

$$\tilde{l}_{i,i}(u_i(\varepsilon),\varepsilon) = \tilde{l}_{i,i-1}(u_{i-1}(\varepsilon),\varepsilon),$$
(14)

for all  $\varepsilon > 0$  small enough. The application is smooth in  $(u, \Omega, \lambda)$ .

We write:

$$I_i^0(\varepsilon) = \tilde{I}_{i,i}(u_i(\varepsilon), \varepsilon) = \tilde{I}_{i,i-1}(u_{i-1}(\varepsilon), \varepsilon)$$

We consider the rescaled layer variables  $U_i$ , defined by

$$u_i = u_i(\varepsilon) + \varepsilon U_i.$$

where  $U_i \in [-K_i, K_i]$ , with  $K_i > 0$ . The constants  $K_i$  can be chosen arbitrarily large, but must verify some compatibility conditions. We introduce  $V_i = \exp U_i$  and  $\tilde{a}_i = a_i \exp(-\frac{I_i^0(\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon})$  and continue working in a rescaled layer with these new parameters  $\tilde{a}_i$  as exponentially rescaled parameters. The equations to solve take the form :

$$L_{i} : \tilde{a}_{i} = V_{i}^{\tau_{i}(\varepsilon)} (1 + \varepsilon \psi_{i,i}(V_{i},\varepsilon)) - V_{i-1}^{\nu_{i-1}(\varepsilon)} (1 + \varepsilon \psi_{i,i-1}(V_{i-1},\varepsilon))$$
(15)

where the functions  $\psi_{i,i}(V_i, \varepsilon)$  and  $\psi_{i,i-1}(V_{i-1}, \varepsilon)$  are smooth in  $(V, \Omega, \tilde{a}_i)$ , with  $V = (V_1, \cdots, V_n)$ .

If  $\varepsilon$  is small enough one can solve the equation  $L_i$  as a  $\tilde{a}_i$ -parametrized map  $\varphi^i_{\varepsilon}(V_{i-1}, \tilde{a}_i)$ :

$$\varphi_{\varepsilon,\tilde{a}_{i}}^{i}(\cdot) = \varphi_{\varepsilon}^{i}(\cdot,\tilde{a}_{i}) : V_{i-1} \to V_{i} = (\tilde{a}_{i} + V_{i-1}^{\nu_{i-1}})^{\frac{1}{\tau_{i}}} + \varepsilon \theta_{i-1}(V_{i-1},\tilde{a}_{i},\varepsilon)$$
(16)

defined on an appropriate domain and with  $\theta_{i-1}(V_{i-1}, \tilde{a}_i, \varepsilon)$  smooth in  $(V_{i-1}, \Omega, \tilde{a}_i)$ .

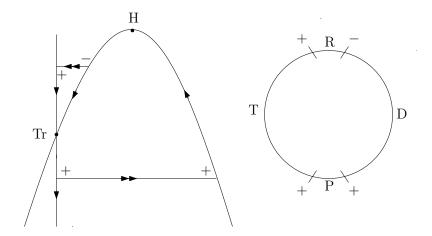
The composition of these maps, for  $\varepsilon = 0$  is:

$$\varphi_{0,\tilde{a}} : V_n \to (\tilde{a}_n + (\tilde{a}_{n-1} + (\tilde{a}_{n-2} + \ldots + (\tilde{a}_1 + V_n^{\nu_n})^{\frac{\nu_1}{\tau_1}}) \ldots)^{\frac{\nu_{n-1}}{\tau_{n-1}}})^{\frac{1}{\tau_n}}.$$

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- 1. Other breaking mechanisms , besides the Hopf- and jump breaking mechanisms, can also be accepted. An example is the transcritical breaking mechanism.
- 2. To the attracting and repelling sequences can be added passages along some persistent slow curves with contact points.

## Transcritical breaking mechanism





#### Thank you for your attention.

#### What are the most important results about slow-fast systems?

What are the most important results about slow-fast systems?

Answer of ChatGPT:

Slow-fast systems refer to dynamical systems that have both slow and fast variables. Some important results about slow-fast systems include:

1. The existence of multiple time scales in the system can lead to the formation of "canards," which are special solutions that behave differently from typical solutions.

 Slow-fast systems can exhibit bifurcations, or qualitative changes in behavior, as a parameter in the system is varied. This can lead to the appearance of new types of behavior, such as periodic orbits or chaos.
 The presence of a slow variable can lead to the emergence of a reduced or "averaged" system, which captures the essential dynamics of the full system but is simpler to analyze.

4. In some cases, slow-fast systems can exhibit "geometric singular perturbations," where the fast variables behave like a perturbation of the slow variables, leading to the development of geometric and topological methods to study such systems.

5. Slow-fast systems can exhibit a phenomenon known as "relaxation oscillations", which is characterized by slow, large amplitude oscillations that are superimposed on a fast, small amplitude oscillation.

6. In the context of neuroscience, slow-fast systems are used to model the dynamics of neural circuits, and have been used to explain phenomena such as the generation of rhythmic patterns of activity in the brain.