

Homoclinic Bifurcations to Equilibria

II. Numerical continuation

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Outline: Lecture 2

1. HomCont: continuation of homoclinic orbits in AUTO
 - projection boundary conditions for homoclinics
 - heteroclinic orbits
 - 4 ways start
 - conservative systems
2. Codimension-two homoclinic bifurcations
 - eigenvalue degeneracies
 - non-hyperbolic equilibria
 - orientation flips
 - other cases
3. HomCont implementation of codim-2 cases

Homoclinic orbit continuation

C. Kuznetsov, Sandstede 95

Consider the BVP on an infinite interval

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}(t) &= f(x(t), \alpha), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n, \quad \alpha \in \mathbb{R}^p, \quad f \in C^r \\ f(x_0, \alpha) &= 0, \\ x(t) &\rightarrow x_0 \quad \text{as } t \rightarrow \pm\infty. \end{aligned}$$

Plus phase condition $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \dot{\tilde{x}}^T(t)[x(t) - \tilde{x}(t)]dt = 0$ which minimises L_2 distance from reference solution \tilde{x} (previous solution on branch).

Well posed provided equilibrium $x_0(\alpha)$ is hyperbolic:

$A := D_x f(x_0, \alpha)$ has n_s stable and n_u unstable eigs:
 $n_s + n_u = n$.

Basic idea

Beyn 1990, Friedman & Doedel 91

- Truncate to a finite interval $t \in [-T, T]$, $2T = \text{par}(11)$
- pose projection boundary conditions:

$$L_s(x_0, \alpha)(x(-T) - x_0) = 0, \quad L_u(x_0, \alpha)(x(+T) - x_0) = 0.$$

where rows of $L_{s,u}(x_0, \alpha) \in \mathbb{R}^{n_{s,u} \times n}$ forms basis of stable/unstable eigenspace of A^T

& truncated phase condition $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \dot{\tilde{x}}^T(t)[x(t) - \tilde{x}(t)]dt = 0$

- $n_s + n_u = n + 1$ side conditions for n unknowns $x(t) \Rightarrow$ continuation problem for two pars: α_1, α_2
- Convergence as $T \rightarrow \infty \sim e^{-2T|\lambda_d|}$, where $\lambda_d =$ determining eigenvalue (Sandstede 95).

[Other linear (e.g. periodic) B.C.'s converge $\sim e^{-T|\lambda_d|}$]

Heteroclinic case

$$x(t) \rightarrow x_0 \text{ as } t \rightarrow -\infty, \quad x(t) \rightarrow x_1 \text{ as } t \rightarrow +\infty$$

Truncate to $[-T, T]$. Can treat x_0, x_1 as unknowns in \mathbb{R}^n defined by $2n$ algebraic conditions

$$f(x_0, \alpha) = 0, \quad f(x_1, \alpha) = 0.$$

Well posed provided $Df(x_0)$ and $Df(x_1)$ hyperbolic. Pose

$$L_s(x_0, \alpha)(x(-T) - x_0) = 0,$$

$$L_u(x_1, \alpha)(x(+T) - x_1) = 0.$$

+ same integral phase condition.

Need $p = n_s + n_u - n + 2$ free parameters. where $n_s = \dim(W^s(x_0))$ and $n_u = \dim(W^u(x_1))$.

AUTO implementation

Re-scale to $\tau \in [0, 1]$ $\tau = (t - T)/2T \in [0, 1]$. Solve

$$\dot{x} = T f(x, \alpha), \quad \text{WLOG} \quad \cdot = d/d\tau$$

subject to boundary conditions

$$L_s(x_0, \alpha)(x(0) - x_0) = 0,$$

$$L_u(x_1, \alpha)(x(1) - x_1) = 0.$$

$$f(x_0, \alpha) = 0$$

$$f(x_1, \alpha) = 0$$

and integral condition $\int_0^1 \dot{\tilde{x}}^T(t)[x(t) - \tilde{x}(t)]dt = 0$

for $3n$ unknowns $x(t), x_0, x_1$, $n_s + n_u + 2n + 1$ side conditions and p continuation parameters

HomCont

- AUTO sets up these boundary conditions (and rescaling to $\tau \in [0, 1]$) automatically
- User should specify $n_s = \text{NSTAB}$, $n_u = \text{NUNSTAB}$, and $\text{IEQUIB} = 0$ or -1 for explicit equilibria OR $\text{IEQUIB} = 1$ or -2 for continued equilibria
- Actually NSTAB and NUNSTAB can be automatically detected using eigenvalues of $Df(x_0)$ in homoclinic case.
- Several ways to start, using $\text{ISTART} \dots$

Ways to start

ISTART=1 Data from a previous numerical integration is read into AUTO using the `@fc` command. This data should be in multicolumn format $T, [U(i), i = 1 \dots n]$. See e.g. `demo cir`.

ISTART=2 An explicit homoclinic solution is stored in `STPNT`. See e.g. `demo san`.

ISTART=3 The “homotopy method” ... see e.g. `demo kpr`

ISTART=4 Data from a large-period periodic orbit. AUTO first performs a computation to “rotate” the data so that the equilibrium is at $\tau = 0$ and $\tau = 1$.

Starting using homotopy

(for homoclinic case with real eigenvalues λ_i , eigenvechts v_i)

- Start with small solution tangent to $W^u(x_0)$:

$$x(0) = x_0 + \epsilon_0 \sum_{i=1}^{n_u} \xi_i v_i e^{\lambda_i T \tau}, \quad T \ll 1, \quad \sum_{i=1}^{n_u} \xi_i^2 = 1$$

- Continue in $T = PAR(11)$, and one ξ_i . monitor test functions $\omega_i = w_i^T(x(1) - x(0))$, $i = 1, \dots, n_u$ where $Df^T w_i = \lambda_i w_i$.
- Freeze T , successively free up ξ_i and α to look for zeros of $\omega_j = 0$.
- Continue in T again, freeing up a parameter but freezing all $\omega_i = 0$ until $x(1) - x_0 = O(\epsilon_0)$
- Recommend to use only in case $n_u = 1$.

Conservative case

(including Hamiltonian)

- Suppose $\dot{x} = f(x, \alpha)$ conserves a integral $H(x, \alpha)$.
- Then homoclinic orbits are codim 0, since $W^u(x_0)$ and $W^s(x_0)$ are contained in level set $H(x) = \text{const.}$
- Use the conserved quantity $H = \text{const.}$ to include a dummy free parameter,

$$\dot{x} = f(x, \alpha) + \alpha_0 \nabla H(x)$$

and use regular algorithm to continue in two free parameters α_1, α_0 where α_1 is a regular problem parameter. True solution has $\alpha_0 = 0 \Rightarrow$ accuracy test.

- See [Doedel's lectures](#) for extensions ...

2. Codim 2 homoclinic bifurcations

Interesting as ‘organising centres’ for parameter space; birth of multi-pulse homoclinics etc.

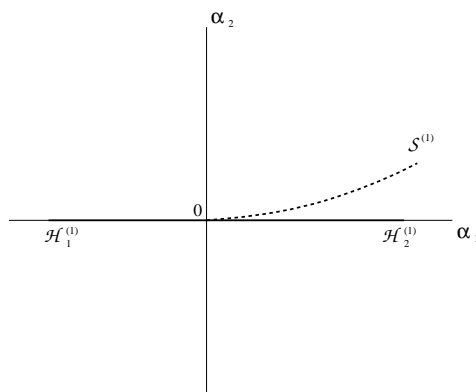
sources of degeneracy in codim 1 bifurcation:

- eigenvalue degeneracy (hyperbolic cases)
- non-hyperbolic equilibrium (**saddle-node**, **Hopf**)
- (for real saddle) **orientable** → **twisted** transition
- other cases

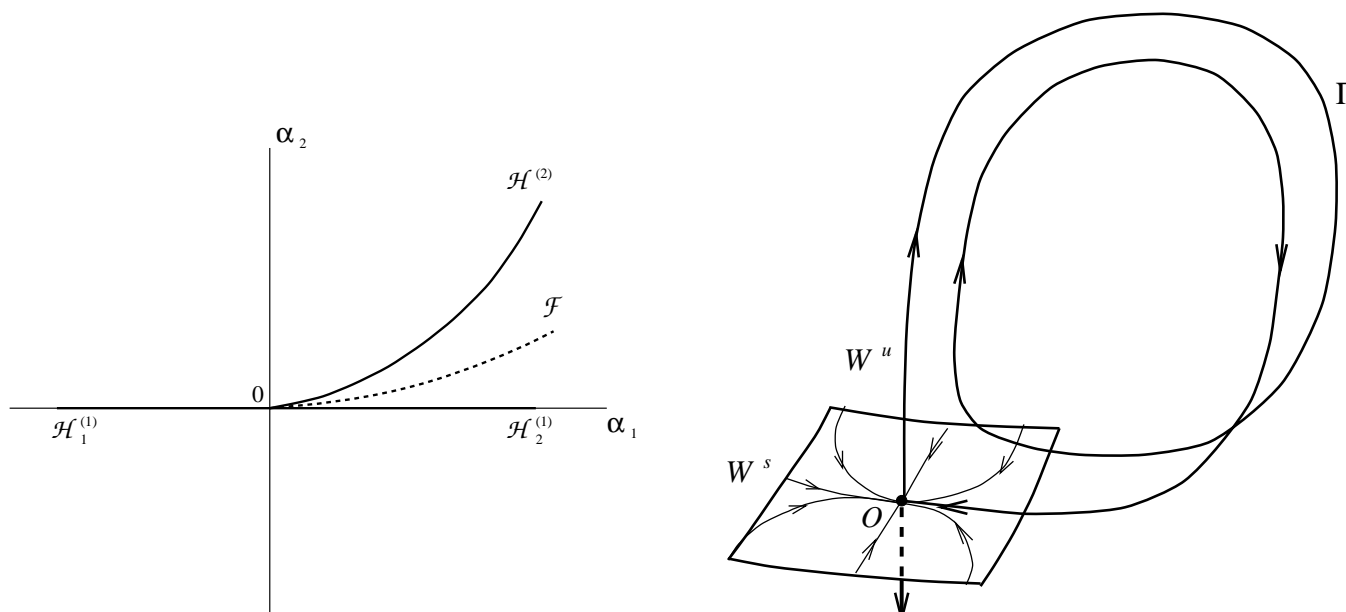
2.1 Eigenvalue transitions; Belyakov cases

A. Resonant eigenvalues: $\lambda_1 = \mu_1$

\Rightarrow 'side-switching' of periodic orbit + saddle-node

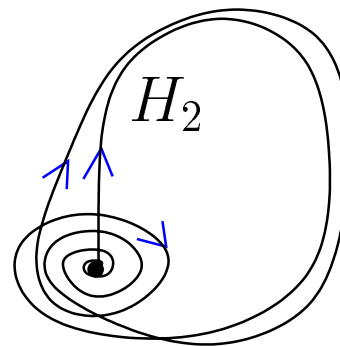
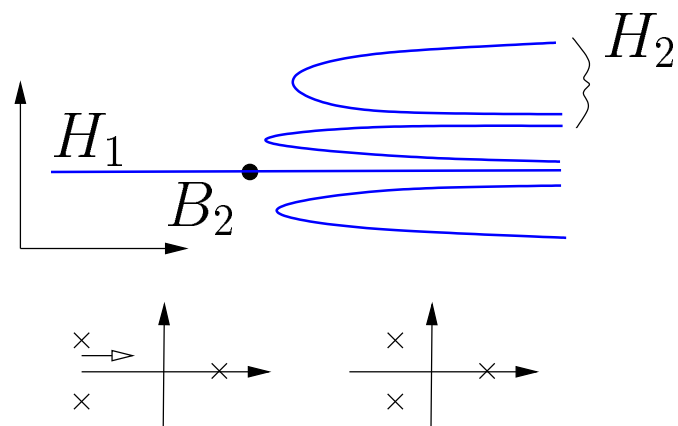
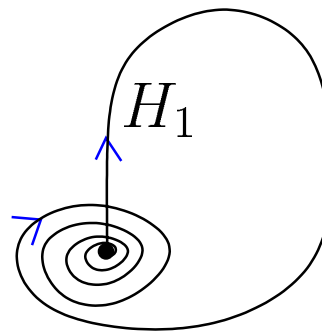
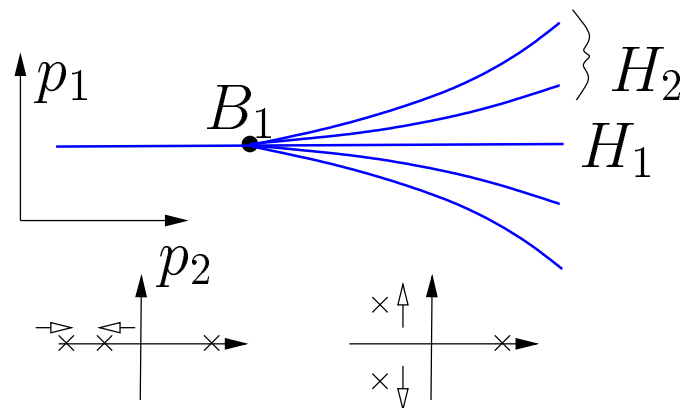


OR (if **twisted**) bifurcation of a 2-pulse homoclinic orbit



B_1 Double real determining eigenvalue: e.g. $\mu_1 = \mu_2 \Rightarrow$
 'broom handle' bifurcation

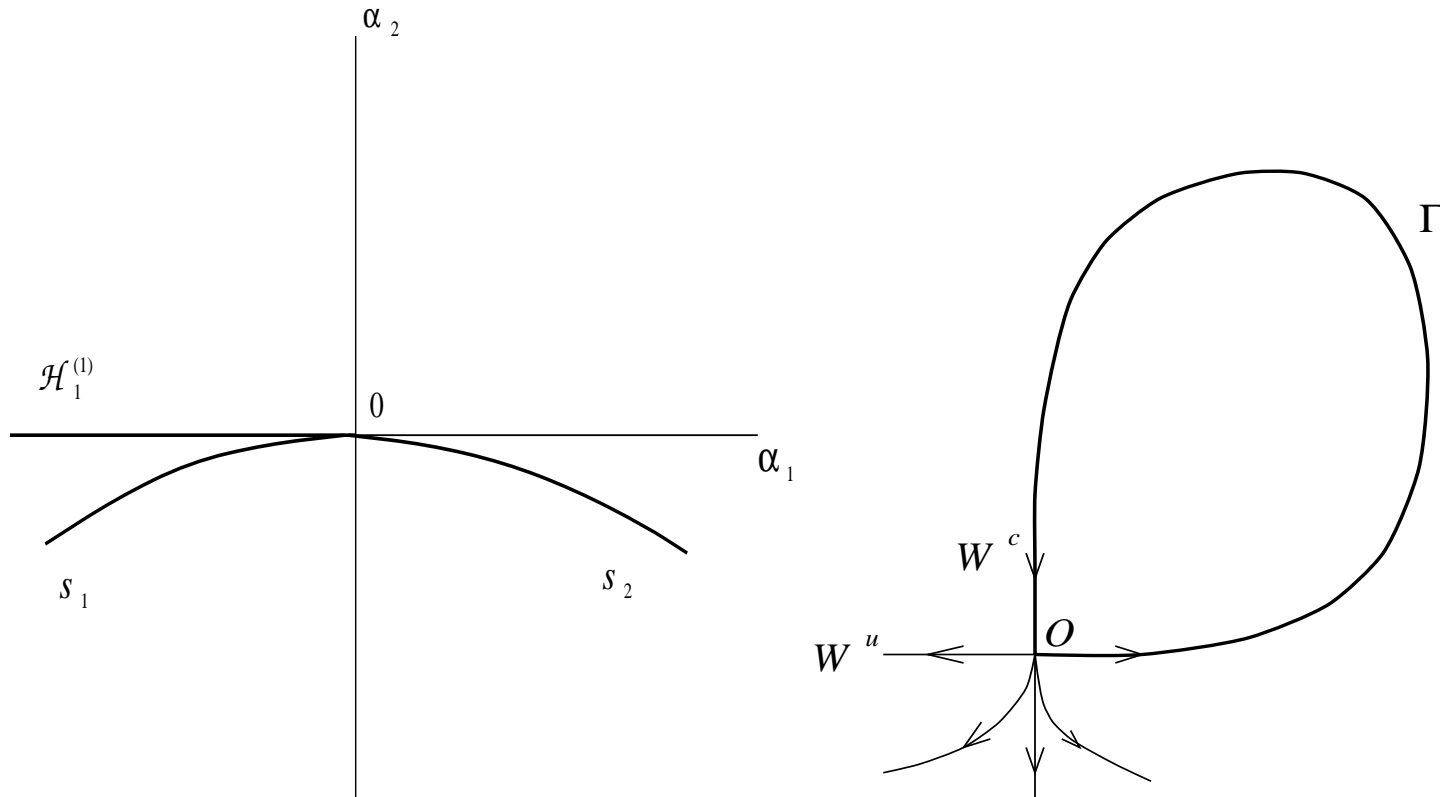
B_2 . Resonant saddle-focus \Rightarrow 'geological fold' bifurcation



2.2 Non-hyperbolic equilibria

A. Saddle-node homoclinic (Deng, Schecter)

\Rightarrow hom H gets 'glued' to saddle-node curve S :



\Rightarrow homoclinic to saddle-node along S_2

[no extra codimension to add 2 or more homs to

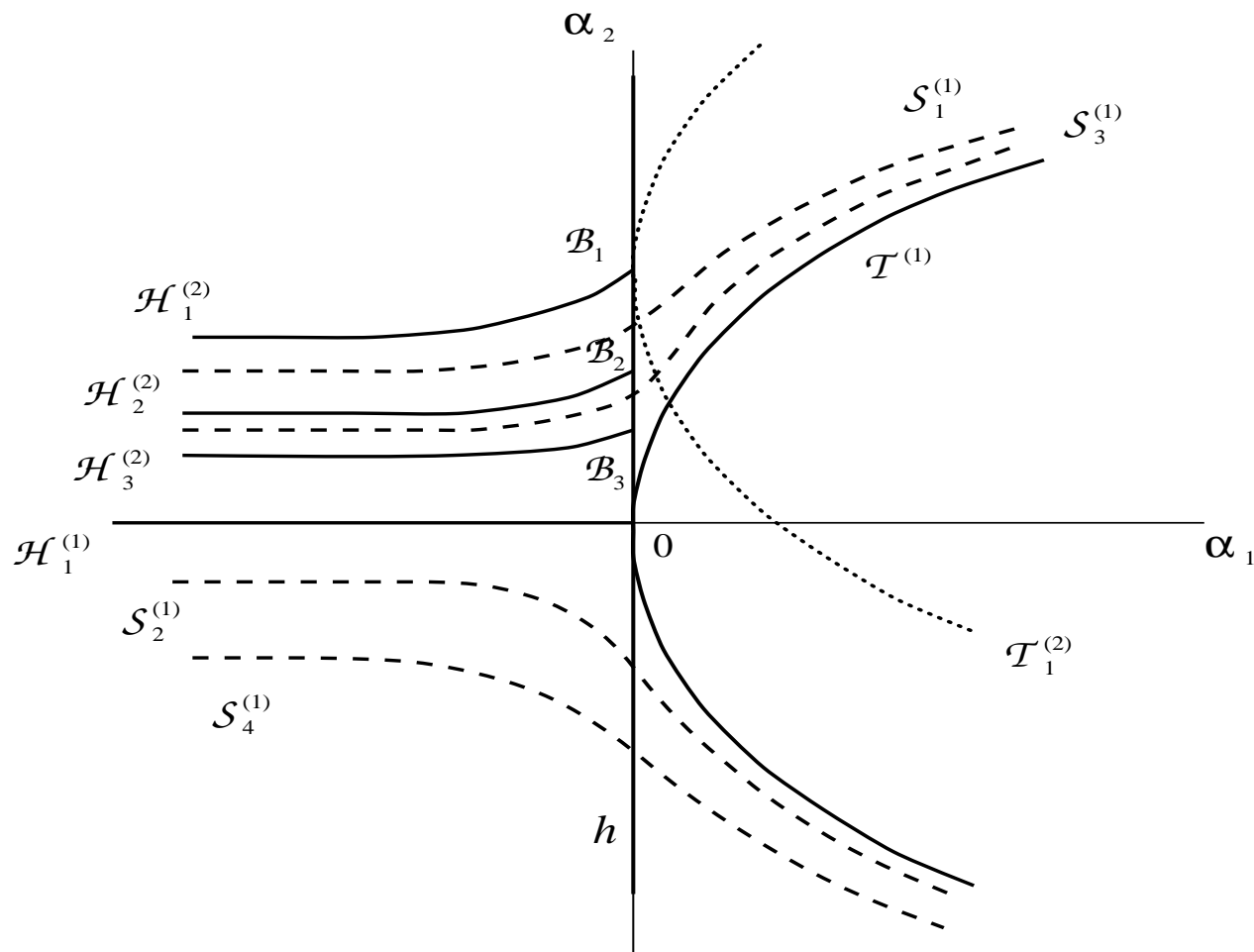
saddle-node \Rightarrow horseshoe dynamics; see [Kuznetsov 2004](#)]

B. Shil'nikov-Hopf bifurcation

(Belyakov, Hirschberg & Knobloch)

⇒ 'wine glass bifurcation' homoclinic to 0

→ homoclinic tangency to periodic orbit

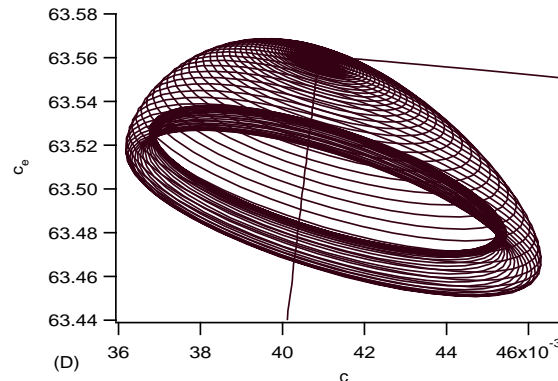
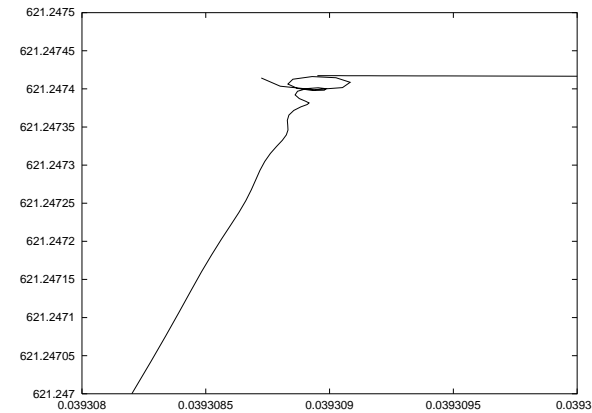
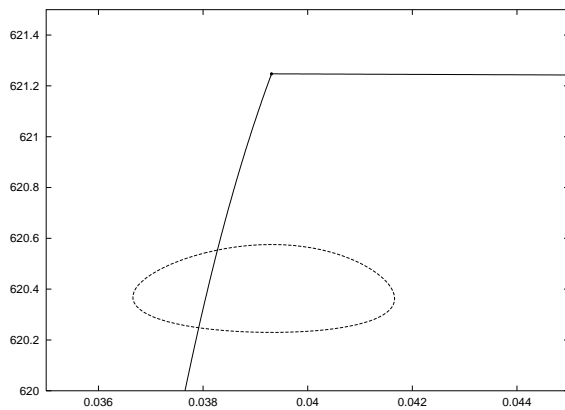


example: ‘anomolous’ Shil’nikov-Hopf

return to 8-variable Ca^{2+} model (from **lecture 1**)

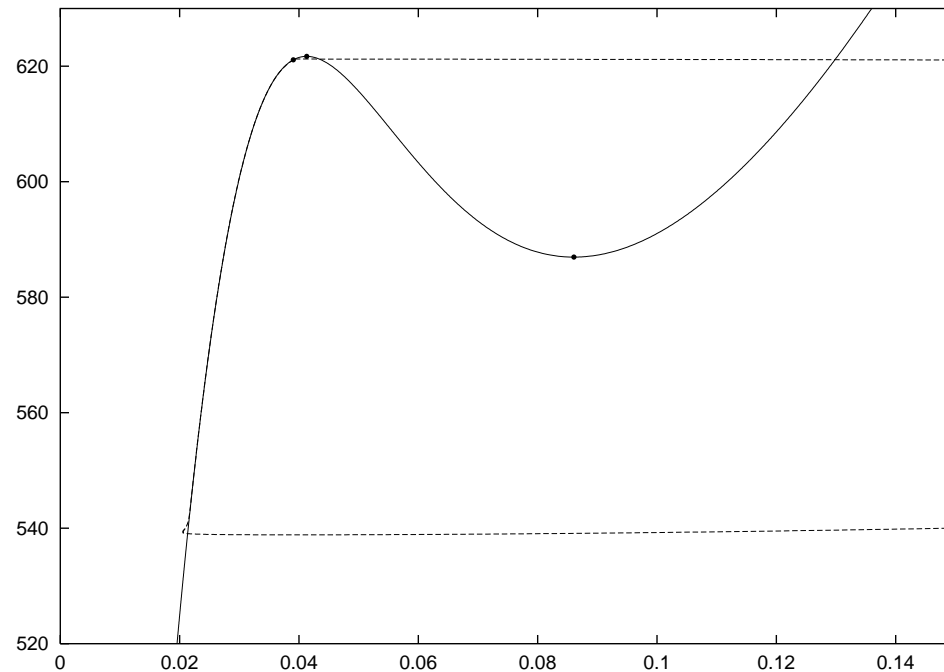
why does homoclinic “not see” the Hopf bifurcation?

In fact: numerical artifact due to slow-fast nature of system.
zoom of homoclinic + periodic for $\text{PAR}(11) = 10^2, 10^4, 10^6$



Explanation by slow-fast analysis

- Slow manifold + 'homoclinic' orbit



- No true homoclinic exists beyond the Hopf bifurcation \Rightarrow , just regular Shil'nikov-Hopf scenario.
- **BUT**, this is region where pulse is stable. So could see pulse with 'flat' tail for exponentially long time.

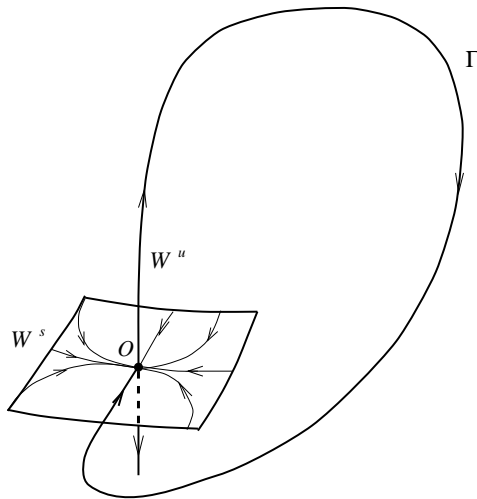
2.3 Orientation flips

Deng, Homberg, Kokubu, Sandstede ...

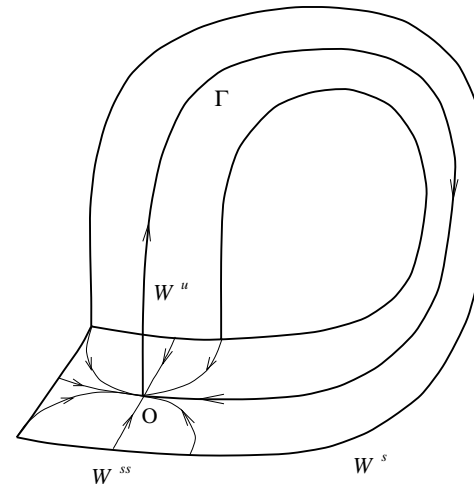
e.g. \mathbb{R}^3 x_0 is real saddle.

How can $W^s(x_0)$ change from **orientable** (cylinder) to **twisted** (Möbius strip)?

A. Inclination flip



B. Orbit flip

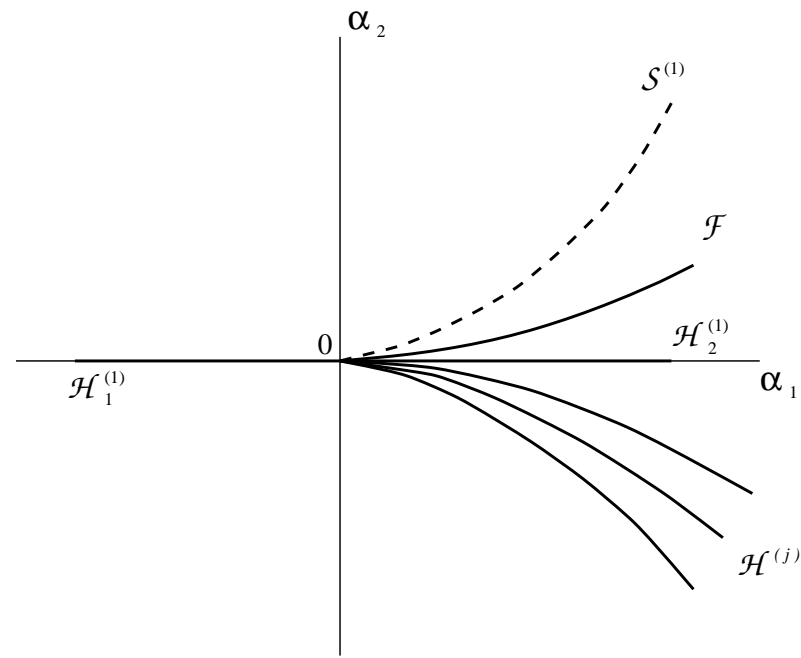
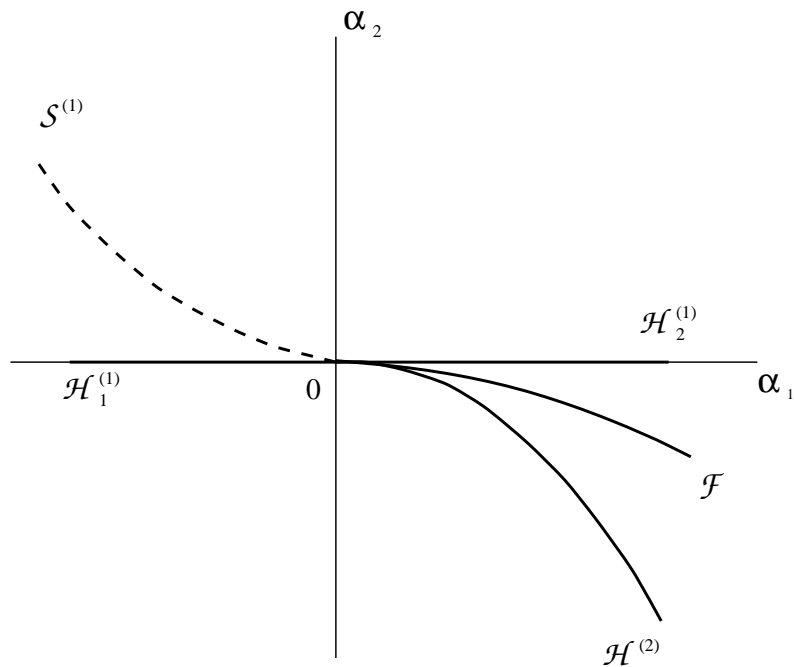


extensions to \mathbb{R}^n if leading eigenvalues real.

Unfolding inclination and orbit flips

Three cases (all found in applications)

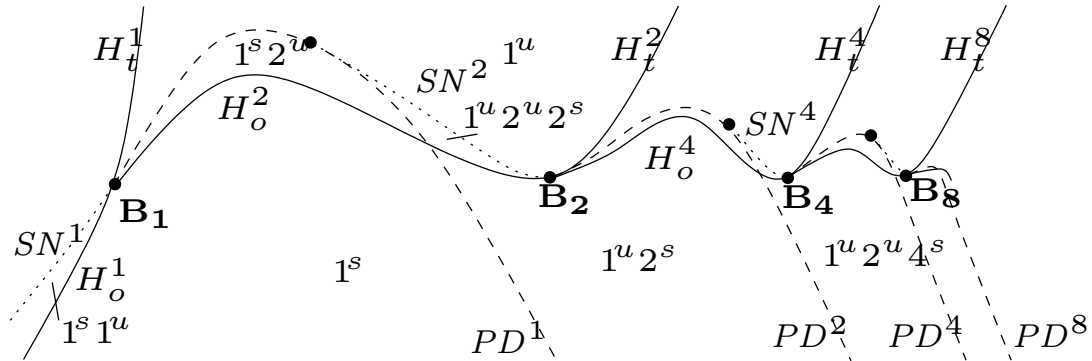
- No change
- homoclinic doubling (left plot)
- 'broom handle' (finite N -pulses $\forall N$) (right plot)



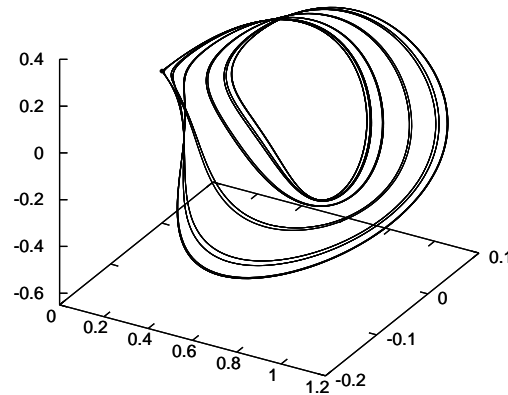
'Death of period doubling'

Oldeman, Krauskopf, C. 2000

Accumulation of homoclinic doublings



Renormalisation \Rightarrow different Feigenbaum constant



hom₃₂:

Other kinds of codimension-two homoclinic

Not covered in these lectures

- Local birth of homoclinic orbits e.g.
 - from Takens-Bogdanov (implemented in MatCont!)
 - or Saddle-node Hopf (see e.g. [C. & Kirk 2004](#))
- Forming heteroclinic cycle with other equilibrium (T -points)
- Forming a heteroclinic cycle with a periodic orbit (see e.g. [C., Kirk et al 2009](#))
- ...

3. Codim 2 homoclinics in HomCont

Concept: find a test function $\psi(x(t), \alpha)$

- Defined and smooth in a neighbourhood of the true curve of codim 1 homoclinic orbits \mathcal{H} in function and parameter space.
- Has a regular zero in theory at the codim 2 point in question
- Has a regular zero for the truncated problem \mathcal{H}_T for sufficiently large $T > 0$
- its zero tends to the true one as $T \rightarrow \infty$
- can append $\psi = 0$ to continuation problem to continue codim 2 points in three pars.

3.1 Eigenvalue degeneracies

Compute eigenvalues of $A(x_0, \alpha) = D_x f(x_0, \alpha)$ and order according to real part.

Negative real part: $\mu_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, n_s$

zero real part: $\gamma_j, j = 1, 2, \dots, n_0$

positive real part: $\lambda_k, k = 1, 2, \dots, n_u$

$$\mathbf{Re} \mu_{n_s} \leq \dots \leq \mathbf{Re} \mu_1 < 0 < \mathbf{Re} \lambda_1 \leq \dots \leq \mathbf{Re} \lambda_{n_u}.$$

real leading eigenvalue cases

Resonant eigenvalues :

$$\psi_1 = \mu_1 + \lambda_1$$

Double leading eigenvalues (node to focus transition):

$$\psi_2 = \begin{cases} (\operatorname{Re}\{\mu_1\} - \operatorname{Re}\{\mu_2\})^2, & \operatorname{Im}\{\mu_1\} = 0, \\ -(\operatorname{Im}\{\mu_1\} - \operatorname{Im}\{\mu_2\})^2, & \operatorname{Im}\{\mu_1\} \neq 0. \end{cases}$$

$$\psi_3 = \begin{cases} (\operatorname{Re}\{\lambda_1\} - \operatorname{Re}\{\lambda_2\})^2, & \operatorname{Im}\{\lambda_1\} = 0, \\ -(\operatorname{Im}\{\lambda_1\} - \operatorname{Im}\{\lambda_2\})^2, & \operatorname{Im}\{\lambda_1\} \neq 0. \end{cases}$$

Complex leading eigenvalue cases

neutral saddle-focus or bi-focus ($\delta = 1$ from **lecture 1**)

$$\psi_4 = \operatorname{Re}\{\mu_1\} + \operatorname{Re}\{\lambda_1\}.$$

neutrally divergent saddle-focus (stability change of dynamics)

$$\psi_5 = \operatorname{Re}\{\mu_1\} + \operatorname{Re}\{\mu_2\} + \operatorname{Re}\{\lambda_1\},$$

$$\psi_6 = \operatorname{Re}\{\lambda_1\} + \operatorname{Re}\{\lambda_2\} + \operatorname{Re}\{\mu_1\}.$$

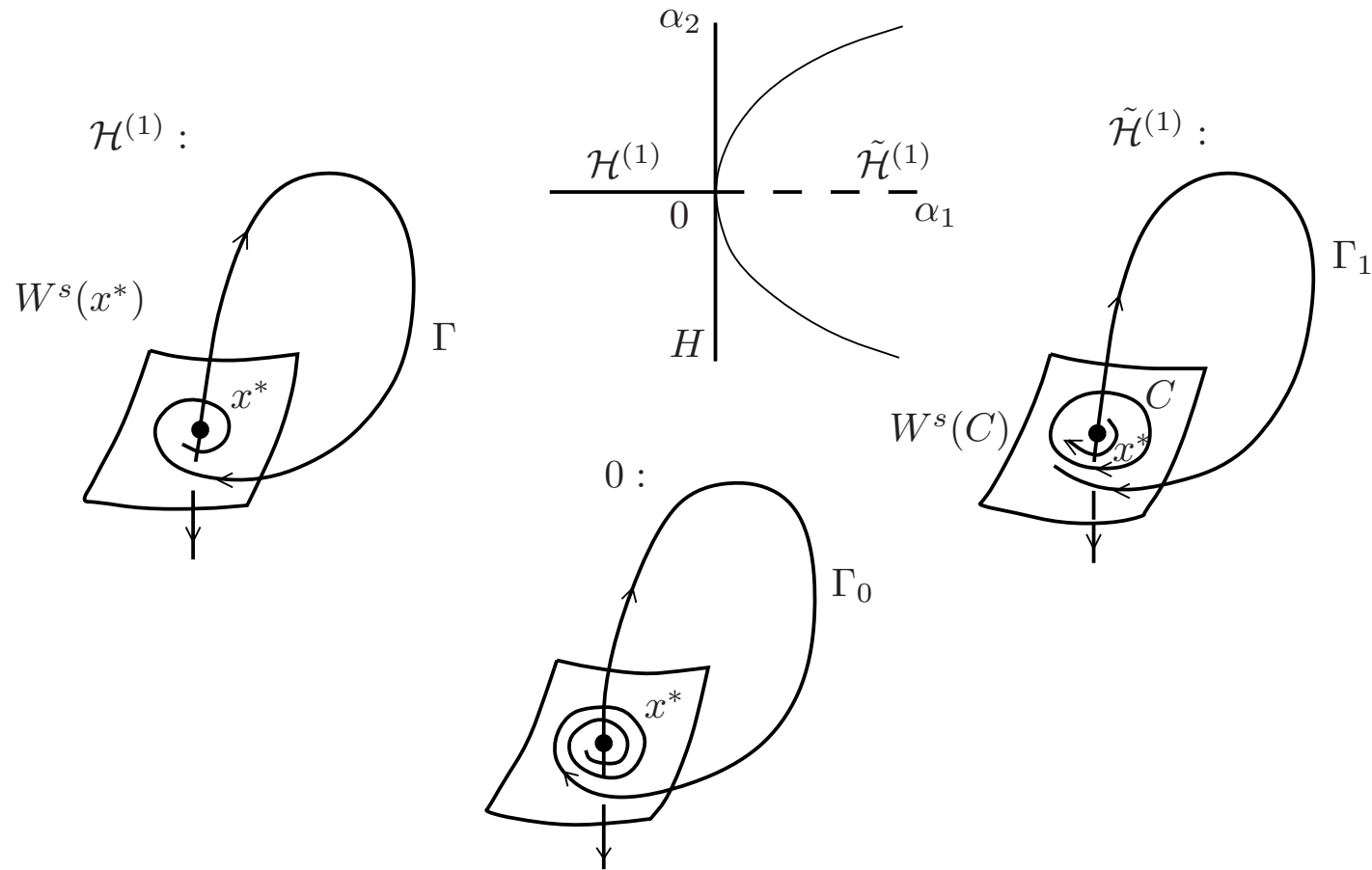
3.2 Non-hyperbolic equilibria

- Suppose that as we follow a homoclinic orbit along a path we find the equilibrium x_0 ceases to be hyperbolic.
- Relabel such that μ_i are the n_s leftmost eigenvalues and λ_i the n_u rightmost eigenvalues.
- Then a good test functions for either Hopf or fold bifurcation is

$$\psi_9 = \operatorname{Re}\{\mu_1\}, \quad \psi_{10} = \operatorname{Re}\{\lambda_1\}$$

- Important to show truncated problem well-defined through the bifurcation ...

Shil'nikov-Hopf bifurcation

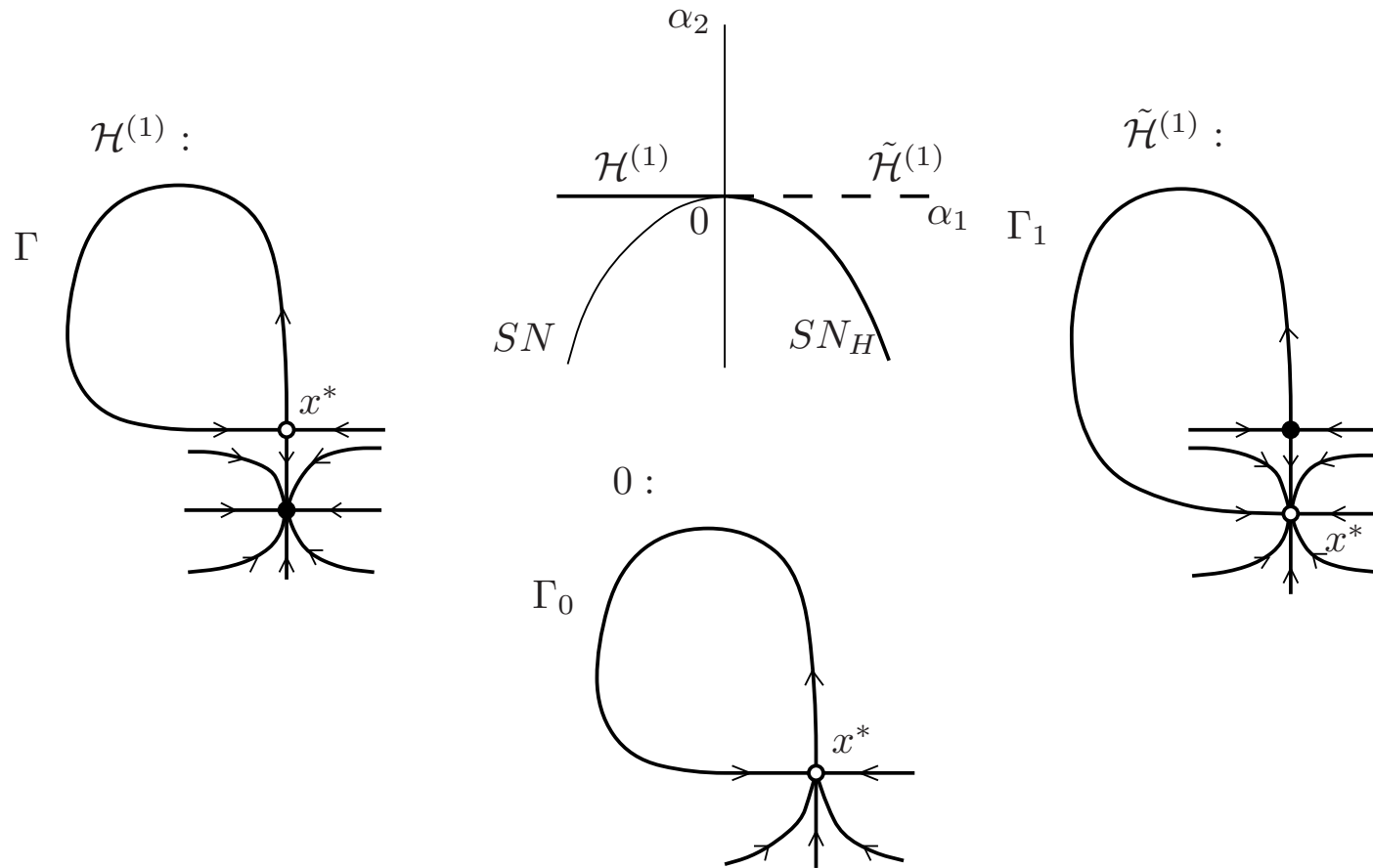


Numerical problem approximates $\mathcal{H}^{(1)} \cup \tilde{\mathcal{H}}^{(1)}$:

$\mathcal{H}^{(1)}$ is curve of homoclinics

$\tilde{\mathcal{H}}^{(1)}$ is curve of point-periodic connections

Non-central saddle-node homoclinics



Truncated problem computes $\mathcal{H}^{(1)} \cup \tilde{\mathcal{H}}^{(1)}$:

$\tilde{\mathcal{H}}^{(1)}$ is a non-central heteroclinic orbit

In HomCont can switch branches to central saddle-node homoclinic SN_H at this point.

Continuation of saddle-node homoclinics

(central case - tangent to centre eigenspace as $t \rightarrow \pm\infty$)

- Consider equilibrium x_0 precisely at fold point with 1D centre manifold: $n_c = 1$, $n_u + n_s = n - 1$
- At fold point homoclinic is in intersection of W^{cs} and $W^{cu} \Rightarrow$ no extra codimension.
- The usual projection B.C.'s now give $n - 1$ equations

$$L_s(x_0, \alpha)(x(0) - x_0) = 0, \quad L_u(x_0, \alpha)(x(1) - x_0) = 0.$$

- + phase condition, but need constraint to stay on fold curve:

$$\det A(x_0, \alpha) = 0$$

3.3. Orientation flips

- Suppose leading eigenvalues are real $\mu_1 < 0 < \lambda_1$
- let $w_1^s(\alpha)$ and $w_1^u(\alpha)$ be normalised adjoint eigenvectors

$$A^T(x_0, \alpha) w_1^s = \mu_1 w_1^s \quad A^T(x_0, \alpha) w_1^u = \lambda_1 w_1^u.$$

which are chosen to depend smoothly on α

- similarly let $v_1^s(\alpha)$ and $v_1^u(\alpha)$ be normalised eigenvectors

$$A(x_0, \alpha) v_1^s = \mu_1 v_1^s \quad A(x_0, \alpha) v_1^u = \lambda_1 v_1^u.$$

chosen to vary smoothly with α

Orbit flip

- Generically homoclinic orbit $x(t) - x_0 \approx K v_1 e^{\mu t}$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$. Where

$$K = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} e^{-\mu_1 t} \langle w_1^s, x(t) - x_0 \rangle$$

- Orbit flip w.r.t. W^s occurs if $K = 0$ at codim two point.
- Similarly, orbit flip w.r.t. W^u occurs if

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} e^{\lambda_1 t} \langle w_1^u, x(t) - x_0 \rangle = 0$$

- Therefore test functions for orbit flip:

$$\psi_{11} = e^{-\mu_1 T} \langle w_1^s, x(+T) - x_0 \rangle$$

$$\psi_{12} = e^{\lambda_1 T} \langle w_1^u, x(-T) - x_0 \rangle$$

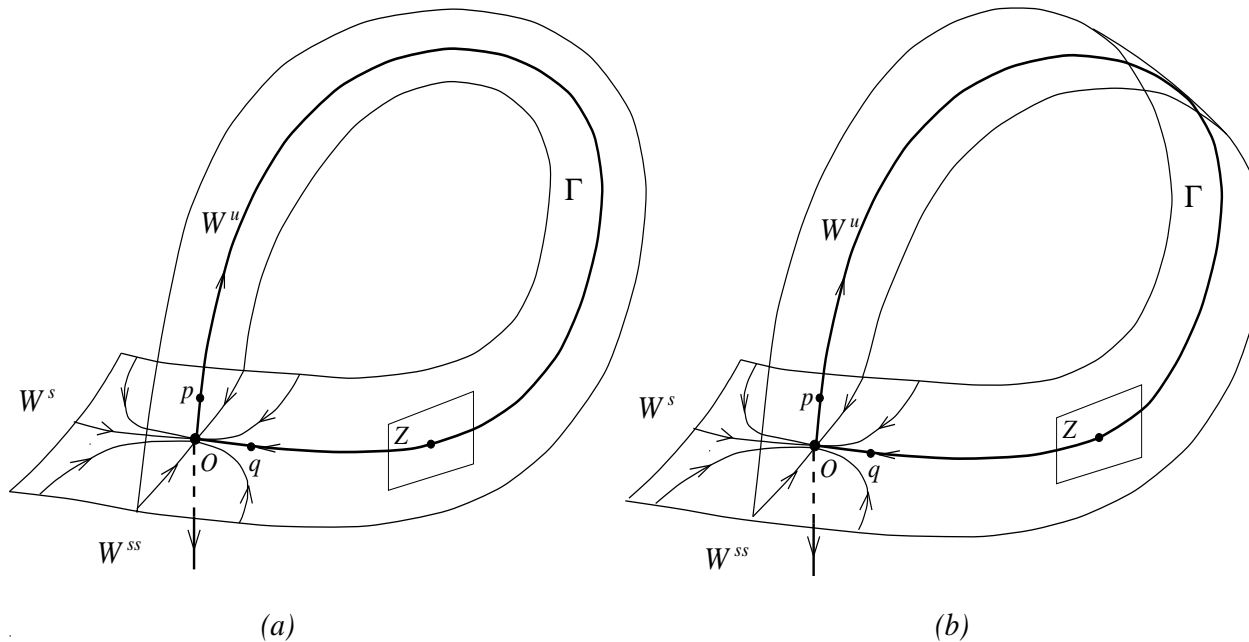
Inclination flip

At each point $x(t)$ along homoclinic orbit define:

$$X(t) = T_{x(t)}W^s(x_0), \quad Y(t) = T_{x(t)}W^u(x_0)$$

Generically $X(t) \cap Y(t)$ is 1D = $\text{span}\{\dot{x}(t)\}$.

The *twistedness* is the orientability of $Z(t) = X(t) + Y(t)$



At inclination flip twistedness changes without orbit flip

- Consider adjoint variational problem:

$$\dot{\varphi} = -(D_x f)^T(x(t), \alpha) \varphi,$$

- Nondegenerate homoclinic \Rightarrow unique (up to scale) bounded solution $\varphi(t) \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow \pm\infty$
- $\varphi(t)$ is normal vector to $Z(t)$.
- Generically, $\varphi(t) \approx K w_1^s e^{-\mu_1 t}$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$, where

$$K = \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} e^{\mu_1 t} \langle v_1^s, \varphi(t) \rangle$$

Inclination flip w.r.t. stable manifold occurs when $K = 0$ at codim 2 point along homoclinic branch.

How to compute $\varphi(t)$

- truncate to $[-T, T]$ and compute (along with $x(t)$)

$$\dot{\varphi} = -(D_x f)^T(x(t), \alpha) \varphi + \varepsilon f(x(t), \alpha),$$

$$P_s(x_0, \alpha) \varphi(+T) = 0,$$

$$P_u(x_0, \alpha) \varphi(-T) = 0,$$

$$\int_{-T}^T \tilde{\varphi}^T(t) [\varphi(t) - \tilde{\varphi}(t)] dt = 0$$

- $P_{s,u}(x_0, \alpha) \in \mathbb{R}^{n_{s,u} \times n}$ forms basis of stable/unstable eigenspace of A .
- ε is regularising parameter ($= 0$ in theory) because of amplitude degeneracy. Amplitude fixed by ‘phase condition’.
- $\Rightarrow n + 1$ unknowns and $n + 1$ side conditions.

- HomCont has flag `ITWIST=1` which turns on the computation of $\varphi(t)$
- Since the adjoint variational equations (with $\varepsilon = 0$) are linear, AUTO converges in one Newton step)
- Test functions for inclination flips:

$$\psi_{13} = e^{-\mu_1 T} \langle v_1^s, \varphi(-T) \rangle$$

$$\psi_{14} = e^{\lambda_1 T} \langle v_1^u, \varphi(+T) \rangle.$$

- examples in demos `san` and `kpr`
- Finally, test function for non-central saddle-node homoclinic while continuing central saddle-node homoclinic

$$\psi_{15} = \frac{1}{T} \langle w_1, x(+T) - x_0 \rangle,$$

What we have learnt

- How to continue homo/heteroclinic orbits directly in AUTO
- Special cases for homoclinics to saddle-node equilibria
- Certain kinds of codimension-two homoclinic orbits
- How to detect and continue them in AUTO using HomCont
- Important in applications for tame to chaotic transitions and bifurcation of multi-pulses.

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