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Stability and Bifurcation in Rotors with permanent Shaft Bow on Nonlinear Supports

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- **Bifurcation:** means "**splitting into two branches**"
 - A **point where** a system **shifts behavior qualitatively**:
 - Important to **model dynamics and instability at variation of control parameters**
 - Often seen in **nonlinear systems**:
 - Superposition property, states that, for all **linear systems**, net **response caused by two or more stimuli is sum of responses** that would have been caused by **each stimulus** individually
 - In **nonlinear systems no proportional relationship between cause and effect**
 - **Instability and unpredictability: small changes can lead to big effects**
 - Bifurcation **occurs at some parameters values** so called **bifurcation points**
 - Stable and unstable **fixed points: solid line for stable** points and a **broken line for unstable** ones
 - When a **parameter** in model is **changed and trajectory quality varies than** parameter is of **bifurcation**
 - If **new solutions appear direct bifurcation**, in case of **disappearing of solutions bifurcation is inverse**

Some abbreviations: DoF, Degree of Freedom; MDoF, Multi-Degree of Freedom; PD, Period Doubling bifurcation; FE, Finite Element; NL, Nonlinear; SN, Saddle Node bifurcation; LC, Limit Cycle; NS, Neimark-Sacker bifurcation; LPC, Limit Point of Cycles; ODE, Ordinary Diff. Equation.

- Stability of fixed points:

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, \mu)$$

- Fixed points (equilibria) $\mathbf{x}^\star(\mu)$:

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}^\star, \mu) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial f_i}{\partial x_j}(\mathbf{x}^\star, \mu) = A_{ij}$$

- let $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}^\star + \delta\mathbf{x}$, \mathbf{A} Jacobian matrix

$$\dot{\delta\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{A}\delta\mathbf{x}$$

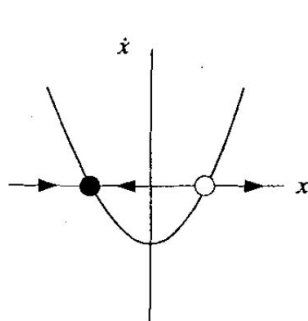
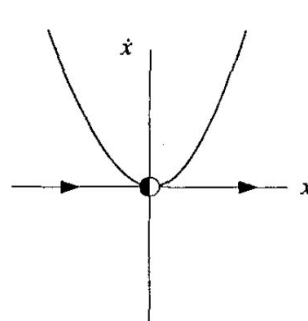
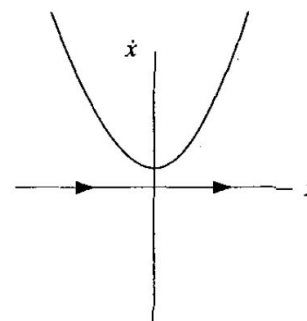
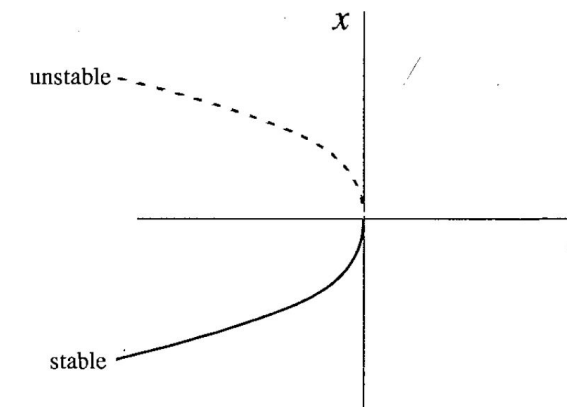
- Eigenvalues \mathbf{a}_j of \mathbf{A} determine stability of equilibria:
 - if $\text{Re}(\mathbf{a}_j) > 0$ point is unstable
 - It changes **from stable regime to unstable regime when eigenvalue becomes positive**
- Bifurcation occurs** when a **small smooth change to bifurcation parameter causes a qualitative change in dynamics**
- $\mathbf{x}^\star(\mu)$ depend continuously on μ as long as \mathbf{A} has eigenvalues \mathbf{a}_j with non-zero real parts (implicit function theorem)
- If $\text{Re}(\mathbf{a}_j) = 0$ at $\mu = \mu_c$, then $(\mathbf{x}^\star, \mu_c)$ is a bifurcation point
- Branches of solution merge at bifurcation point

- **Saddle-Node Bifurcation**

- Basic mechanism by which **fixed points are created and destroyed**. As a parameter is varied, two fixed points move toward each other, collide and disappear, **example of a first order system**:

$$\dot{x} = r + x^2$$

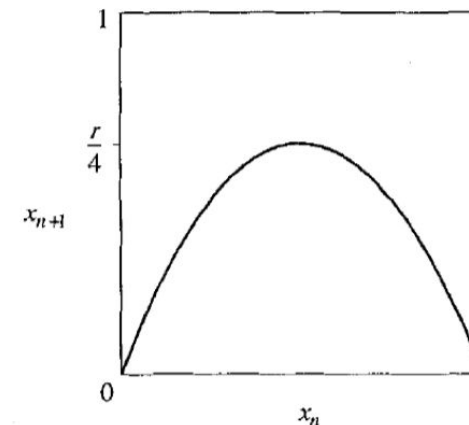
- Where **r** is a **parameter**, which may be positive, negative or zero
- When **r** is **negative**, there are **two fixed points, one stable and one unstable**
- As **r** **approaches 0** from below, **parabola moves up** and **two fixed points move toward** each other
- When **$r = 0$** , fixed points coalesce into a **half-stable fixed point** at **$x^* = 0$** , which is delicate
- With **$r > 0$** when **there are no fixed points**, equilibrium disappears
- **Bifurcation occurred at $r = 0$** : vector fields for **$r < 0$** and **$r > 0$** are **qualitatively different**

(a) $r < 0$ (b) $r = 0$ (c) $r > 0$ 

- **Period Doubling Bifurcation**

- System transits **from stable behavior to oscillatory: period of oscillations doubles with each bifurcation**
- A parameter **r is gradually increased**, system might exhibit **stable behavior, converging towards a fixed point**
- At a **critical value of r** , system **transitions from a single stable fixed point to a stable oscillation with period 2**
 - System now alternates between **two distinct values in a repeating pattern**
- As **r continues to increase**, system can undergo further **leading to periods 4, 8, 16 and so on**
- This series of period doubling bifurcations **often leads system towards chaotic behavior**

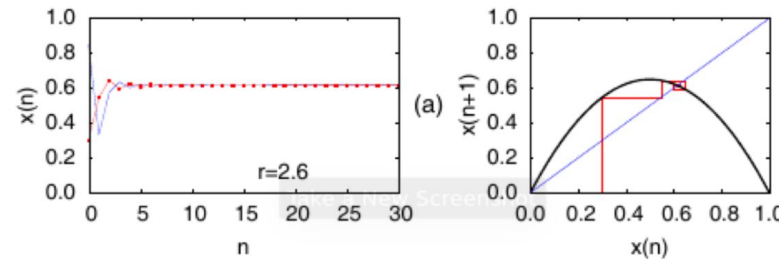
- Example with **discrete population dynamics, the logistic map**: $x_{n+1} = rx_n(1 - x_n)$



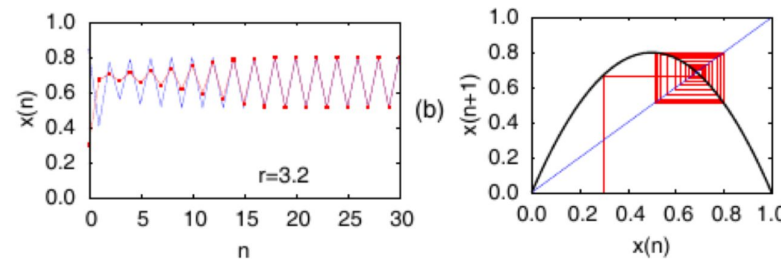
- **Period Doubling Bifurcation:**

- For each value of r , **control parameter**, **iterate equation** many times, **discarding initial transient**, **reach a steady-state**, system **converge in a single fixed point (stable behavior)**

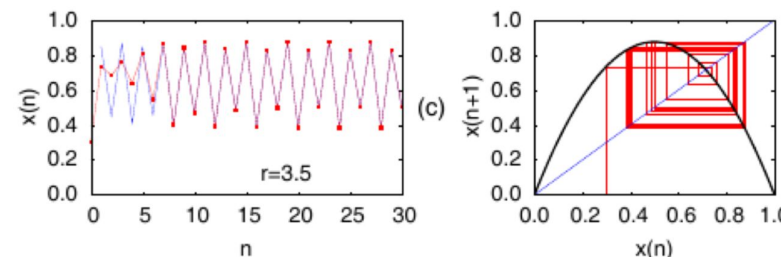
- With $r < 1 \rightarrow 0$



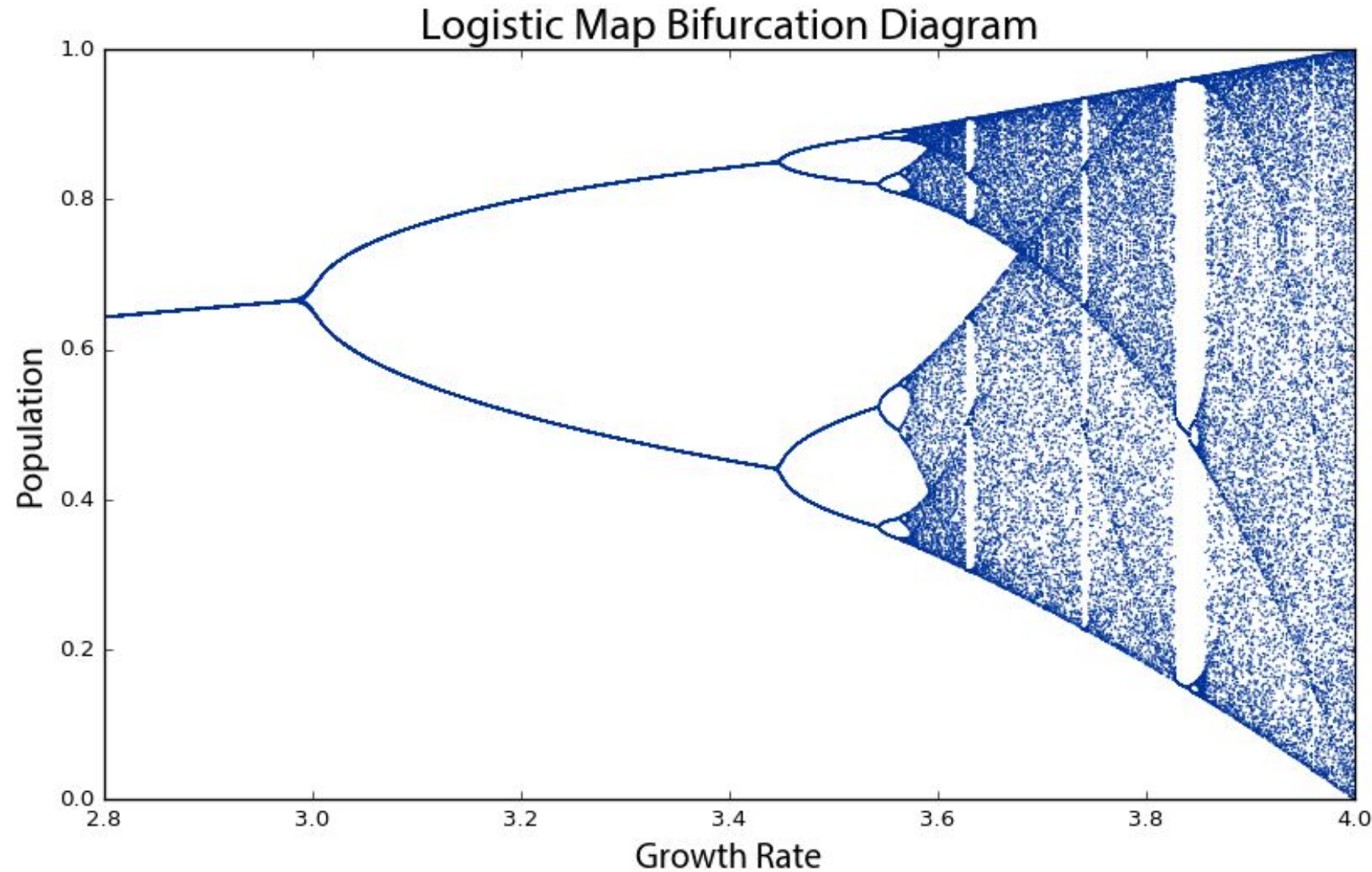
- r increases at a point where system bifurcates into a stable oscillation with period 2



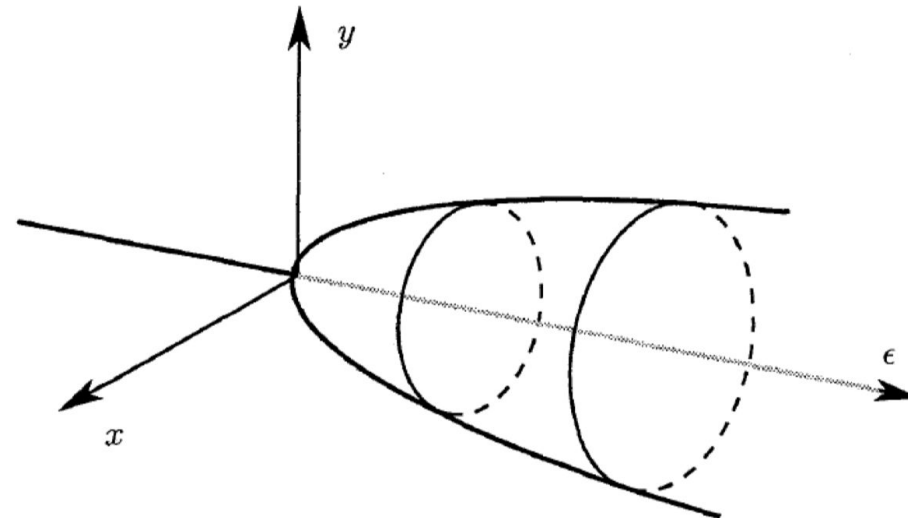
- Further **increasing r** will lead to **subsequent bifurcations**, with period of oscillations doubling each time



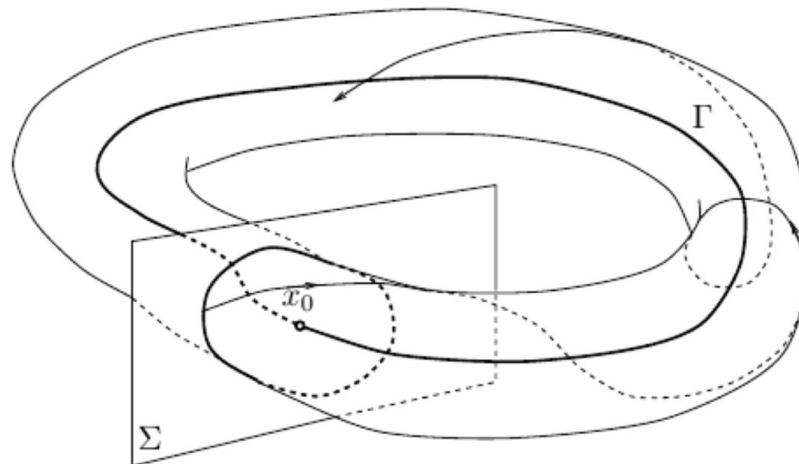
- **Chaotic behaviour** with $r > \sim 3.57$, with **windows of stable period behaviour** for greater values



- **Hopf Bifurcation:** oscillatory behavior emerges
 - **Stable equilibrium point of a system transitions into a stable limit cycle** as a control **parameter is varied**
 - Equilibrium point can become unstable at critical value of parameter, it can "loses stability" in a special way:
 - Instead of moving to chaos or remaining unstable, **system settles in a stable periodic orbit, a limit cycle**
 - This limit cycle **represents a regular, repeating pattern of behavior** in system, which **admits stable or unstable periodic orbits close to a circle** with radius $\propto \sqrt{\epsilon}$ **supercritical** or $\sqrt{-\epsilon}$ **subcritical case**
 - Hopf bifurcation can describe phenomena like self-sustained oscillations in electronic circuits or behavior of certain chemical reactions



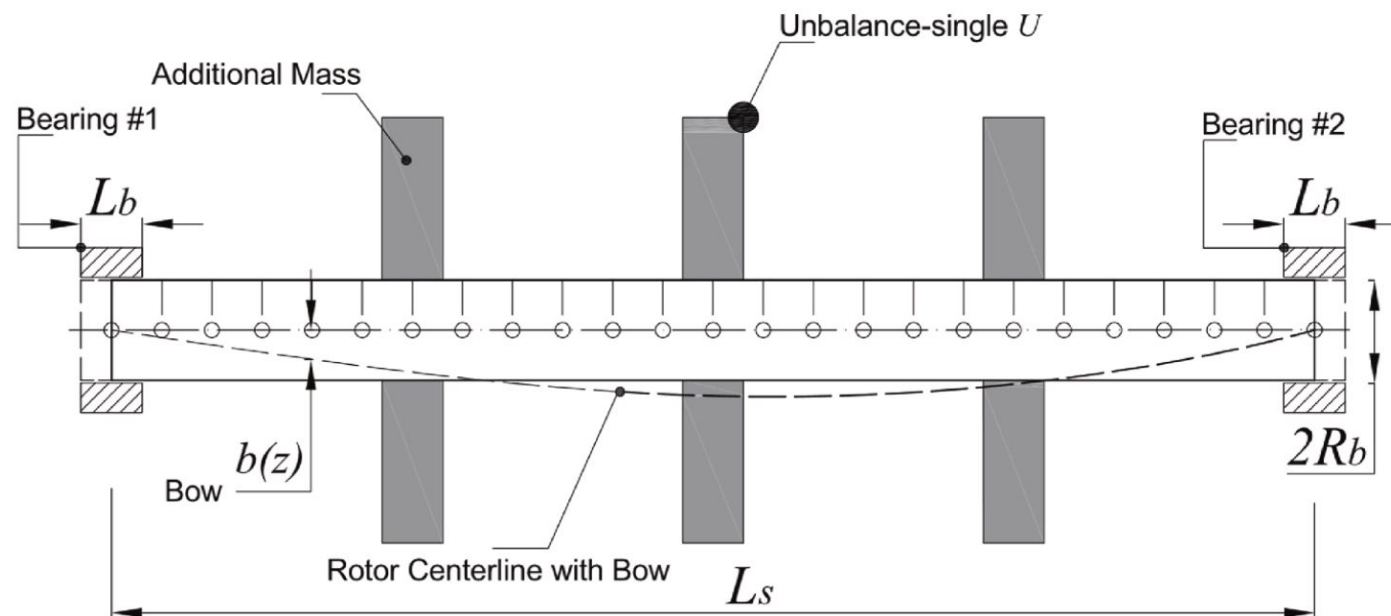
- **Neimark-Sacker Bifurcation:** when a dynamical **system loses stability, leading to a stable torus behavior**
 - System **moves from a stable periodic orbit**, with a predictable pattern, **to an oscillatory state on a stable torus**:
 - Different from doughnut shape, **it's a higher-dimensional structure, like a twisted loop**
 - System orbits around this torus in a complex, yet stable, manner
 - It can describe systems like a forced oscillator with certain resonance conditions
- To **detect Neimark-Sacker bifurcation**, often used **Poincaré sections**:
 - Poincaré section is a method in which **system's trajectory is intersected with a specific hyperplane in phase space**
 - Example of T^2 torus:



- Paper investigates **rotors dynamics stability** through finite element models for **various bow values**:
 - With **permanent bow** and a generic rotor system of a uniform **rotor with three masses**
 - Realistic **rotor of complex geometry** as 2° application
 - **Permanent shaft bow exists in most rotors**: gas turbines, turbopumps and geared shafts
 - Rotors are **mounted on two plain short bearings to include nonlinearity of impedance forces**
- Rotating machines must work within specific **margins of vibration amplitudes for efficiency and reliability**
- **Residual shaft bow** is one of most common rotor faults which may **cause excessive vibration**:
 - E.g. caused by a thermal gradient during start-up-shutdown
- **Aim: study** potential of **motion under combined effect of bow and nonlinear journal bearings** in rotor-bearing system
- **Collocation method** is preferred to **evaluate periodic limit cycles** of motion and respective **solution branches of limit** are evaluated using **numerical continuation methods**:
 - **Numerical continuation** with embedded **collocation method** to study **nonlinear dynamics** of rotor systems
 - **Potential of motion** and **bifurcation** set **evaluated as rotating speed** of system changes, **bifurcation parameter**
 - Even using **pseudo-arc length continuation methods**, it's hard to guarantee identification of full bifurcation sets

- **System 1:** FE model of **generic elastic rotor with bow**
- **System 2:** Dynamic system of a **real turbine rotor mounted on nonlinear journal bearings with bow**
- **Condensed systems** applying model order reduction are **subjected to numerical methods to:**
 - **Evaluate stable or unstable periodic limit cycles** utilizing a collocation type method
 - **Evaluate their branches applying pseudo arc length continuation**
 - **Locate bifurcations of solution branches and identify type of bifurcation:**
 - **Period doubling, Neimark-Sacker, Saddle node**
 - **Respective quality (supercritical or subcritical) utilizing normal form coefficients**
 - Complete bifurcation set and respective solution branches of limit cycles are **evaluated for:**
 - **A specific speed range:** bifurcation parameter
 - **Various combinations of unbalance:** magnitude and distribution
 - **Rotor bow:** magnitude and phase angle

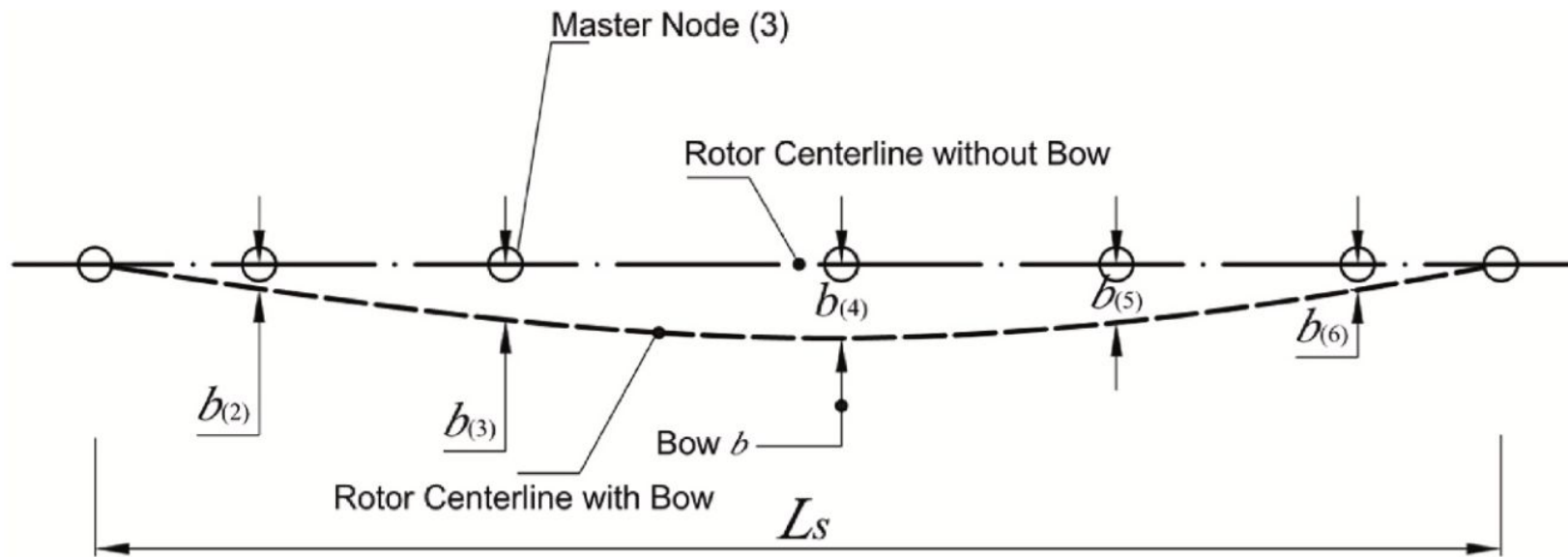
- **Uniform rotor carrying three identical masses placed in symmetry** to model a generic rotor bearing system:
 - Dynamics is modelled with 1D finite beam elements and its mass, gyroscopic and stiffness matrices are composed
 - **Mounted on two identical bearings** which follow short bearing approximation



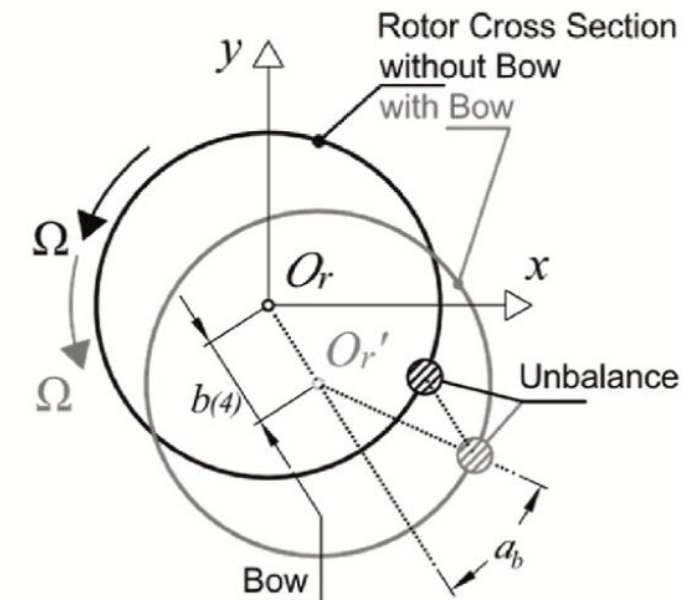
| | | | |
|---------------------------|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Bearing span | $L_s = 6 \text{ m}$ | Bearing diameter | $2R_b = 500 \text{ mm}$ |
| Rotor diameter | $D = 500 \text{ mm}$ | Bearing length | $L_b = 250 \text{ mm}$ |
| Rotor mass | $M_{tot} = 12000 \text{ kg}$ | Bearing oil dynamic viscosity | $\mu = 0.02 \text{ Pa}\cdot\text{s}$ |
| Operating speed | $\Omega_r = 300 \text{ rad/s}$ | Bearing radial clearance | $c_r = 500 \mu\text{m}$ |
| Young's modulus of shaft | $E = 210 \text{ GPa}$ | | |
| Density of shaft material | $\rho = 7860 \text{ kg/m}^3$ | | |
| Unbalance G2.5 | $U \approx 0.1 \text{ kg}\cdot\text{m}$ | | |

- **Physical coordinates** are expressed by \mathbf{x}_i for each degree of freedom (DoF)
- **Bearing forces $\{f_i^B\}$ introduce nonlinearity in system**, as all of them are nonlinear functions of journal kinematics
- Full model matrices are 100×100 : 24 finite elements, 25 nodes, 4 DoFs per node
- **Most elements in vectors $\{f_i^B\}$ bearing forces, $\{f_i^U\}$ unbalance forces, $\{f_i^G\}$ gravity forces in rotor, are zeros**

$$\mathbf{M}\{\ddot{x}_i\} + (\mathbf{C} + \Omega\mathbf{G})\{\dot{x}_i\} + \mathbf{K}\{x_i\} = \{f_i^B\} + \{f_i^U\} + \{f_i^G\}$$



(a)



(b)

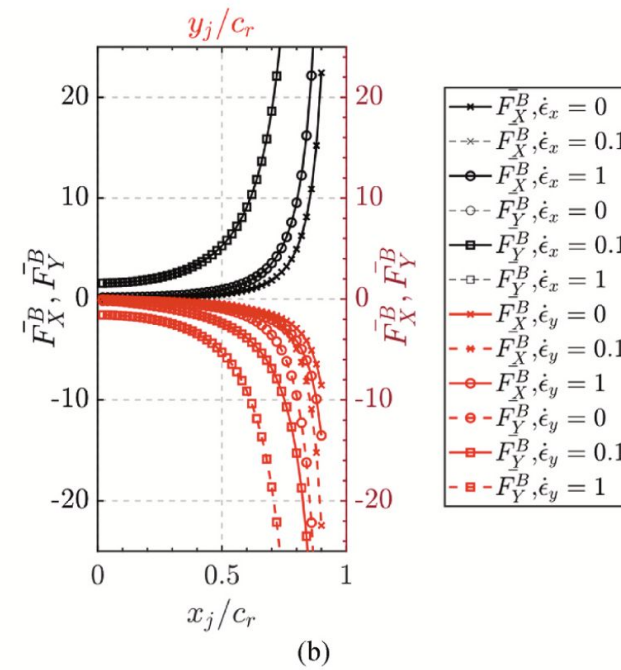
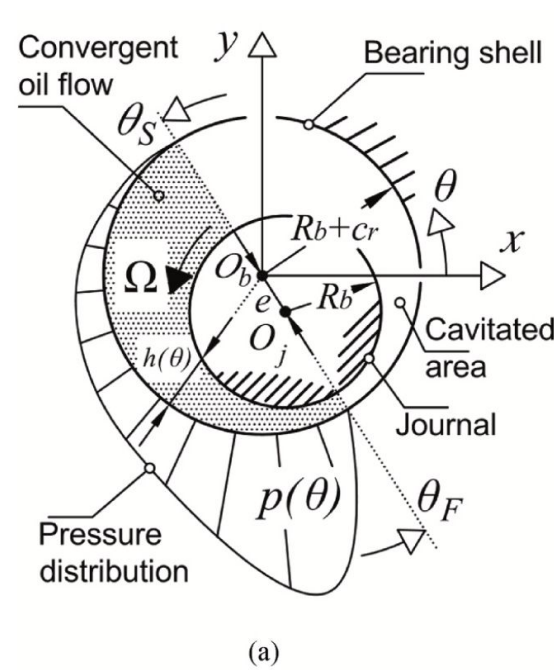
- **Full model is reduced via approximations and matrix manipulation**
- Total number of DoFs included in vector $\{x_{r,i}\}$ is 9, so reduced matrices \mathbf{M}_r , \mathbf{C}_r , \mathbf{G}_r , \mathbf{K}_r are of size 9×9

$$[\mathbf{M}_r] \left\{ \ddot{x}_{r,i} \right\} + ([\mathbf{C}_r] + \Omega[\mathbf{G}_r]) \left\{ \dot{x}_{r,i} \right\} + [\mathbf{K}_r] \left\{ x_{r,i} \right\} = \left\{ f_{r,i}^B \right\} + \left\{ f_{r,i}^U \right\} + \left\{ f_{r,i}^G \right\}$$

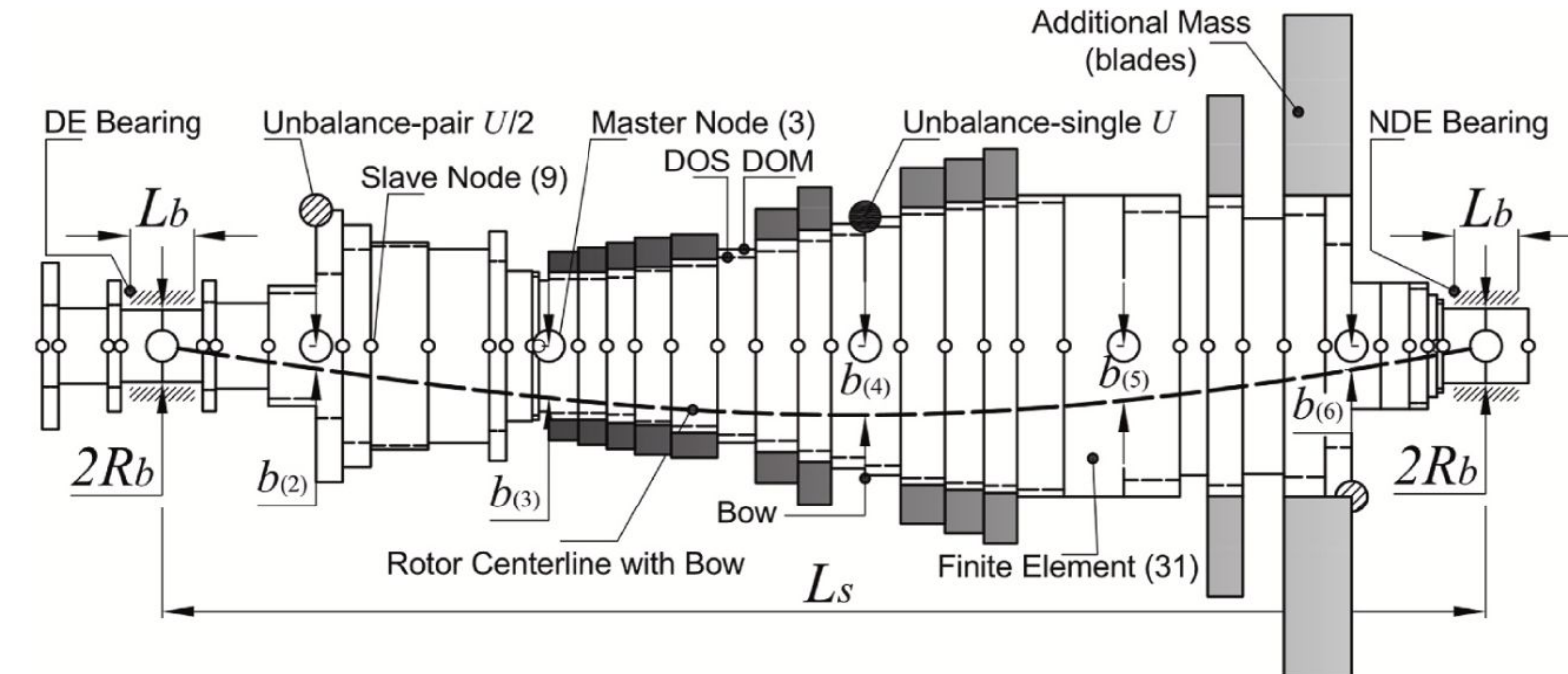
- **Rotor bow:**
 - Applied a **constant displacement $b_{(i)}$ in respective nodes**, with respect to undeformed rotor centerline
 - At **bearing positions (boundary nodes) is equal to zero**, thus $b_{(1)} = b_{(7)} = 0$
 - b is **maximum bow magnitude** and this is assumed to exist **in bearing mid-span**
 - **Bow magnitude b will be expressed as a percentage of bearing radial clearance c_r**
 - Considering forces generated by bow:

$$\left\{ f_{r,i} \right\} = \left\{ f_{r,i}^B \right\} + \left\{ f_{r,i}^U \right\} + \left\{ f_{r,i}^G \right\} + \left\{ f_{r,i}^{BOW} \right\}$$

- **Journal bearings applied follow short bearing approximation**, incorporating design and operating characteristics of bearings: diameter $2R_b$, bearing length L_b , radial clearance c_r , dynamic viscosity of lubricant μ , operating speed Ω and applied radial load F^B , any combination of these **shows same quality of impedance force nonlinearity**
- **Fluid film impedance forces are nonlinear functions of journal center position $O_b(x_j, y_j)$ and of translational velocity**
- Journal kinematics are **expressed in dimensionless forms as x_j/c_r**

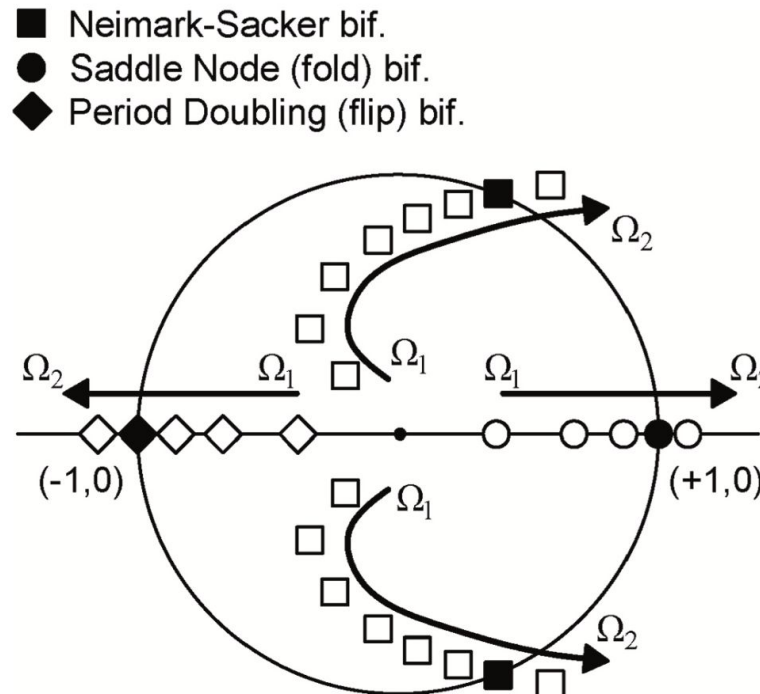


- **System 2: Multi-segment rotor to model a steam turbine**, but any complex geometry can be implemented
- Unbalance eccentricity e_u follows ISO G-grade definition with service speed of shaft at $\Omega_r = 420 \text{ rad/s}$ in such systems
- G-grade 2.5 as reference, therefore $e_u = G/\Omega_r \approx 6.0 \text{ } [\mu\text{m}]$
- Motion **equations of System 2** are defined, where reduced matrices **Mr**, **Cr**, **Gr**, **Kr** are of size 11×11

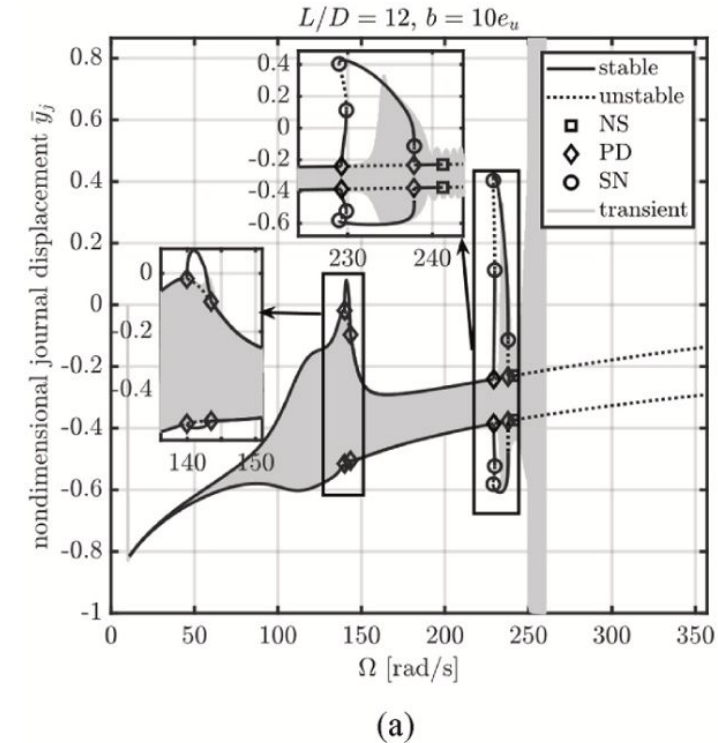


| | | | |
|---------------------------|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Bearing span | $L_S \approx 4.7 \text{ m}$ | Bearing diameter | $2R_b = 300 \text{ mm}$ |
| Rotor equiv. diameter | $D_{eq} \approx 700 \text{ mm}$ | Bearing length | $L_b = 150 \text{ mm}$ |
| Rotor mass | $M_{tot} \approx 18000 \text{ kg}$ | Bearing oil dynamic viscosity | $\mu = 0.03 \text{ Pa}\cdot\text{s}$ |
| Operating speed | $\Omega_r = 420 \text{ rad/s}$ | Bearing radial clearance | $c_r = 300 \text{ } \mu\text{m}$ |
| Young's modulus of shaft | $E = 210 \text{ GPa}$ | | |
| Density of shaft material | $\rho = 7860 \text{ kg/m}^3$ | | |
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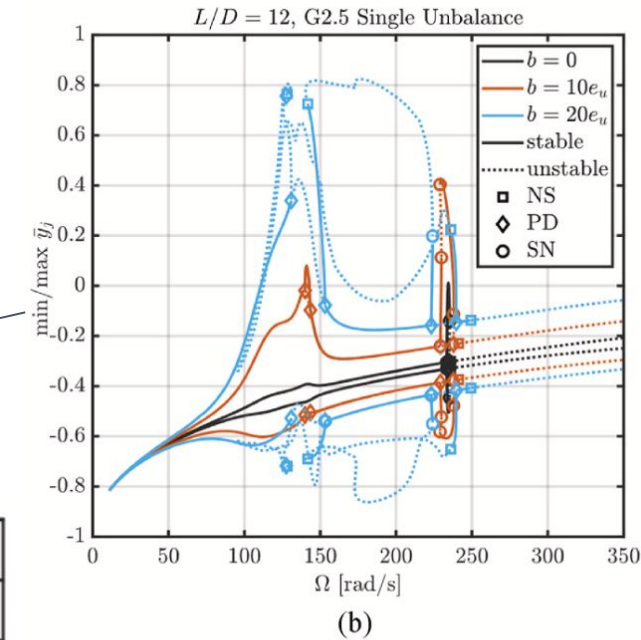
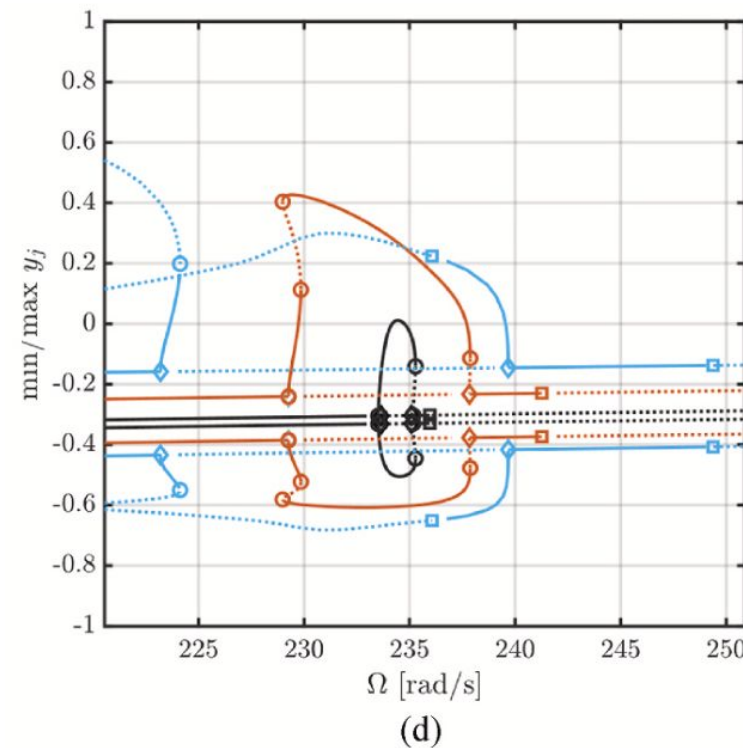
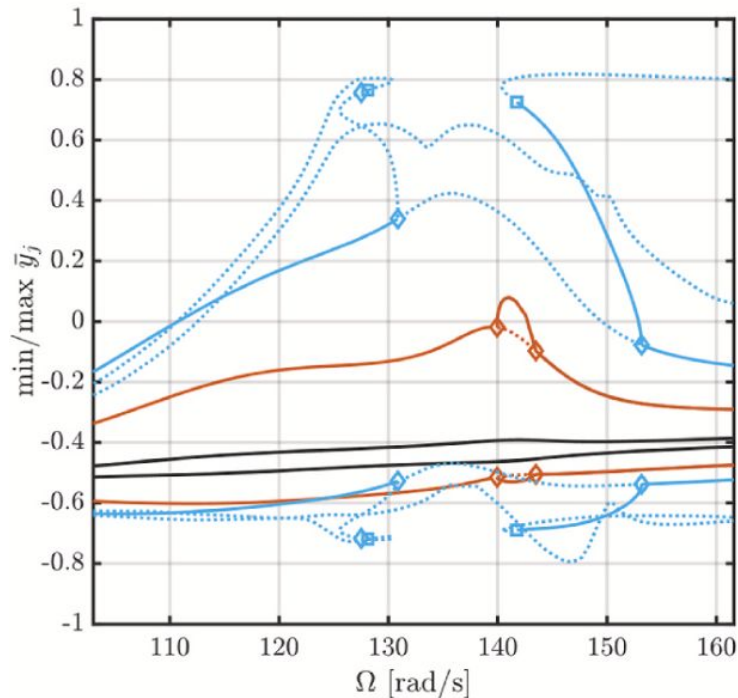
- These systems can have **asymptotically stable solutions around a fixed point, limit cycle** or also chaotic motions
- A collocation method to compute of periodic limit cycles produced by ODE system, at constant Ω
- **Iterative solution of collocation method return eigenvalues which are directly related to Floquet multipliers of periodic motion.** In this way, **three types of limit cycle bifurcations are found:**
 - **Period doubling bifurcation (PD)**, when a **Floquet multiplier crosses unit circle at $(-1, 0)$**
 - **Saddle Node bifurcation (SN)** when a **Floquet multiplier crosses unit circle at $(+1, 0)$**
 - **Secondary Hopf bifurcation, or Neimark-Sacker bifurcation (NS)** when **two complex conjugate Floquet multipliers cross unit circle**



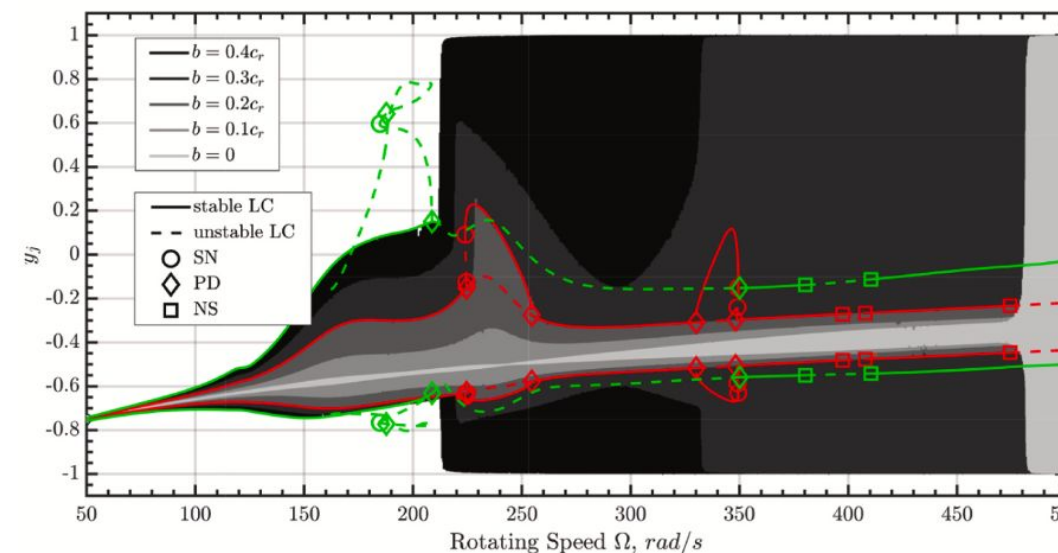
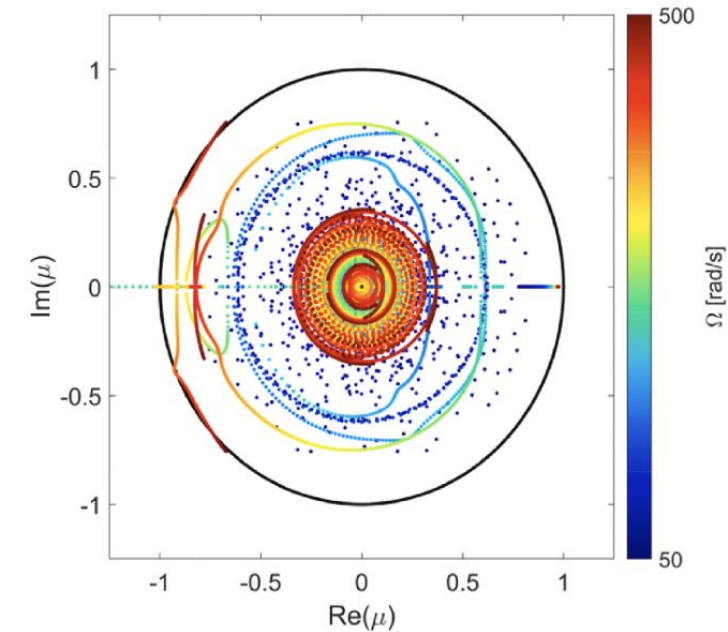
- With $\mathbf{b} = 10 \mathbf{e}_u$
- As **rotor speed approaches** speed of **~140 rad/s**, **system undergoes** a **supercritical period-doubling bifurcation**
- Synchronous **response loses stability** and **double-period** (sub-synchronous) **stable limit cycle emerges** from bifurcation
 - Then returns to synchronous limit cycle which **regains stability** and **closes double-period solution branch** in a period-doubling bifurcation at **~148 rad/s**
- Yet **another set of period-doubling bifurcations occur** on synchronous limit cycle
- As speed increases further, **response becomes synchronous**, before undergoing a **Neimark-Sacker bifurcation** at which point it is **not possible to evaluate quasi-periodic torus** that bifurcates from this point with current formulation
- Containing **3 saddle-node bifurcations** where bifurcating double-period cycle **switches stability** every time
- Generated limit cycles of double period are of much higher amplitude, compared to synchronous response



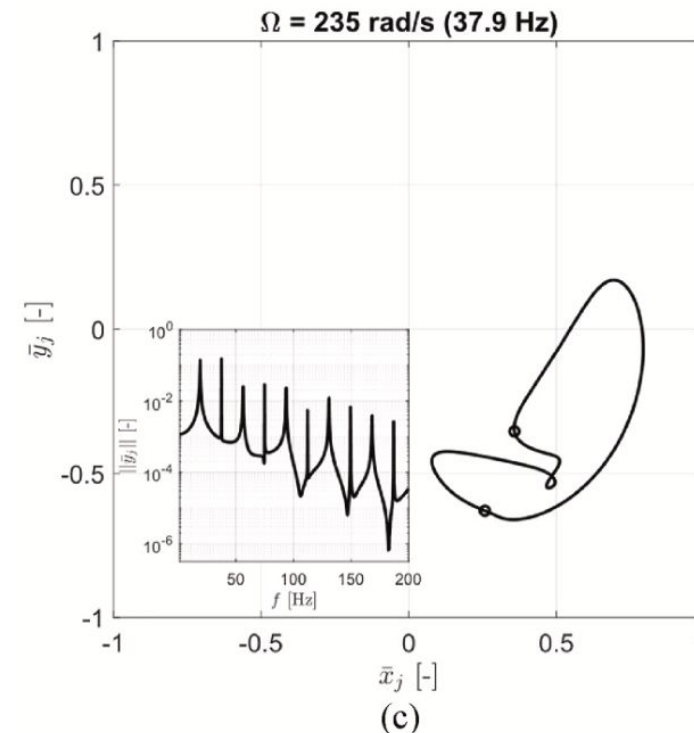
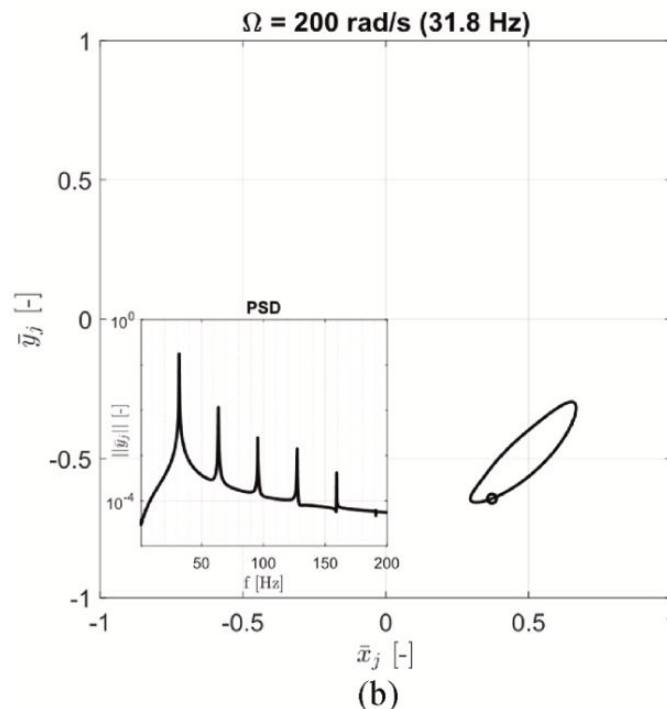
- With $\mathbf{b} = 20 \mathbf{e}_u$, system can **lose stability before first critical speed** and **not recover**
- **Solution branches change continuously as shaft bow varies**
- System can lose stability even at low speeds with sufficient perturbation



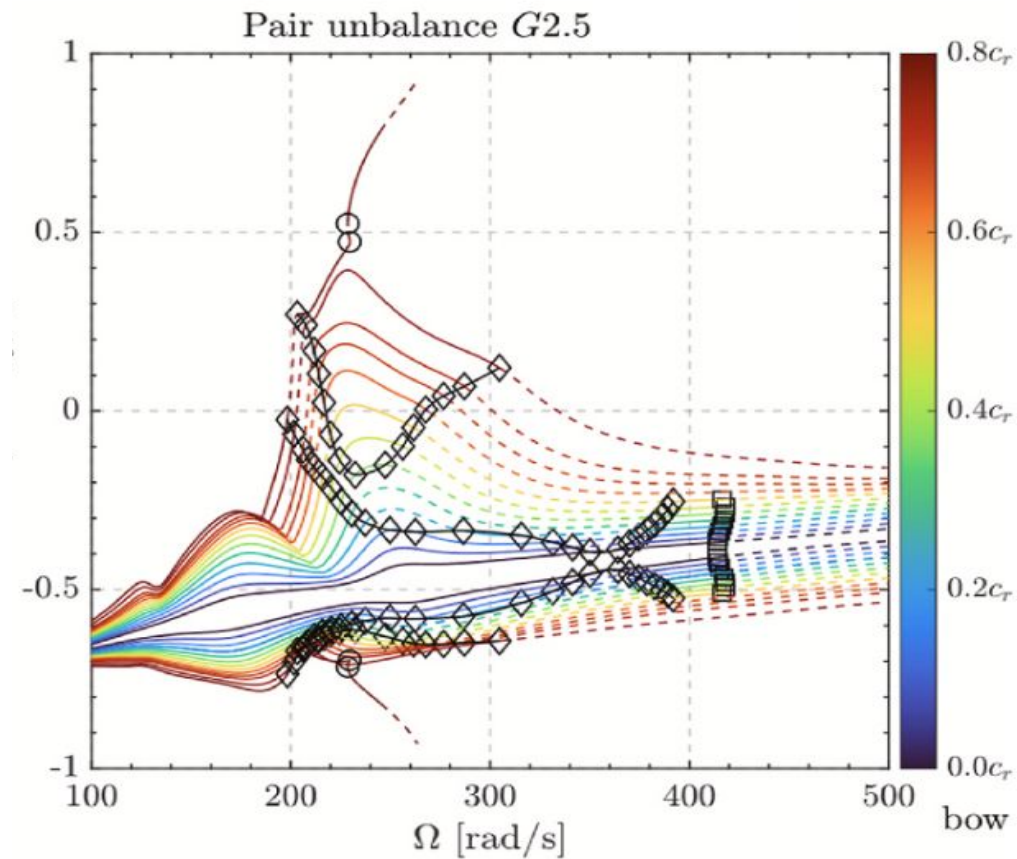
- **Realistic rotor model:** with rotor bow deformation $b = b/cr = 0, 0.1, 0.2, 0.3$
- **Progress of Floquet multipliers of periodic solutions** for $b = 0.2 cr$ in figure, initially some period doubling bifurcation takes place:
 - One exceeds unit circle in $(-1, 0)$ at 225 rad/s and return at 255 rad/s
 - Similarly and at 330 rad/s and 350 rad/s
 - **Then** system is governed by **stable elastic response**
 - Until 395 rad/s where a Neimark-Sacker bifurcation takes place, when a conjugate pair of Floquet multipliers cross unit circle
 - At 410 rad/s conjugate pair of Floquet multipliers cross back unit circle and **system recovers global stability through a Neimark-Sacker bifurcation; then, elastic response dominates** its motion again
 - Between $395\text{--}410 \text{ rad/s}$ system executes **stable periodic limit cycle motions close to radial clearance**



- **Trajectories of journal center** at selected speeds with **power spectral density** and **Poincaré map**
- Trajectories correspond to solutions with bifurcation set for **$b = 0.2 \text{ cr}$** . **All trajectories are found to be periodic**
- At **speed $< \Omega = 200 \text{ rad/s}$** , motion is led by **elastic response of system** and **no bifurcation has been taken place** in system
- At **$\Omega = 235 \text{ rad/s}$** , system has a **period doubling bifurcation**:
 - **Period of motion is $2T$** , where **T** is synchronous period and **Poincaré map includes two discrete points**



- Additional solution branches appearing due to existence of bow are initiated at rotating speeds near critical speeds
- At most cases investigated, first (lower speed) **bifurcation** occurs as **elastic response** of system experiences **resonance**



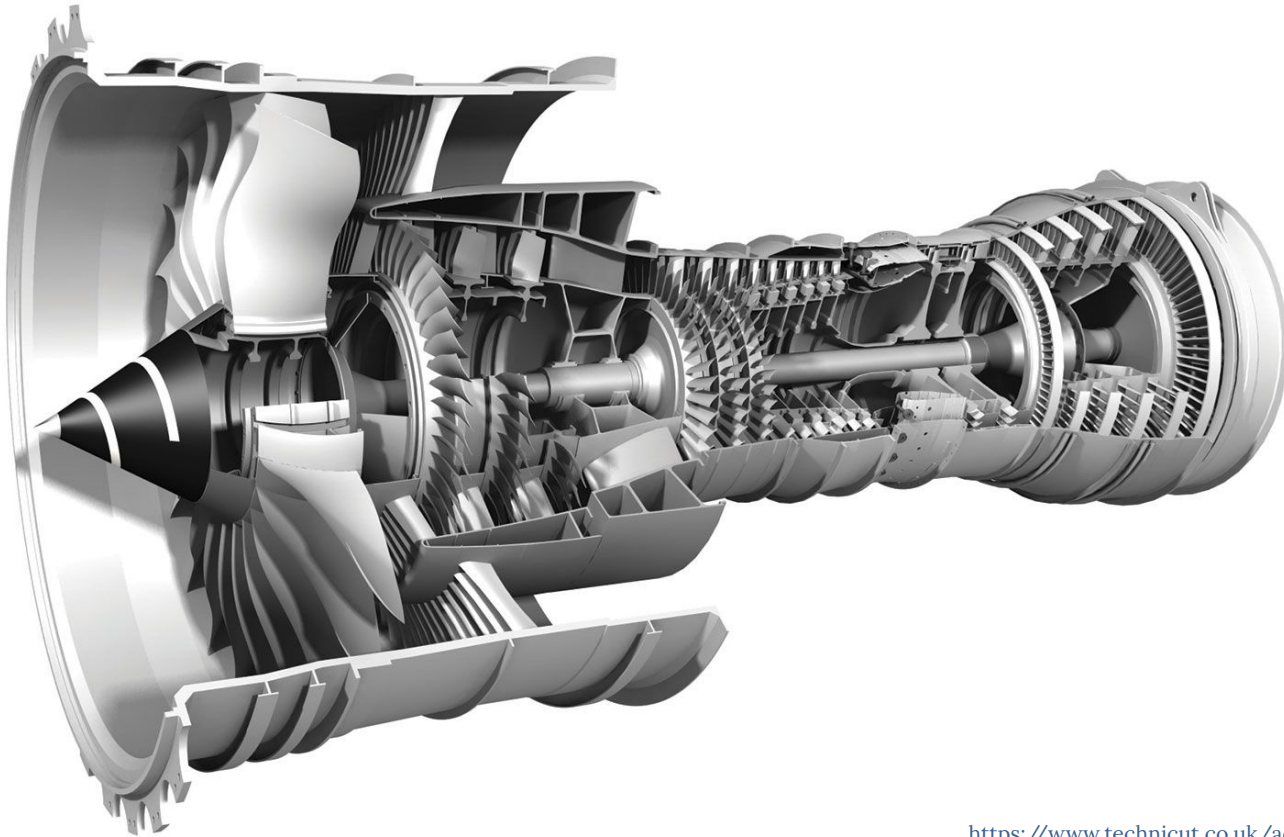
- **Generic and realistic rotor models** have been studied **on stability and bifurcations** sets when **permanent shaft bow** is introduced
 - Unique source of nonlinearity in systems was nonlinear impedance forces of journal bearings
- **All rotor configurations presented potential to trigger instability when rotor bow exceeded specific values**
 - This was a local instability of synchronous (to rotating speed) branches of limit cycle solutions excited by unbalance
- At most cases, **unstable response** was at **rotating speeds close or higher than critical speed**
- **Periodic or quasi periodic motions were found to evolve after respective bifurcations:** these were attracted by stable solution branches established due to high nonlinear forces of journal bearings
 - When bearing eccentricity is increased and due to physical constraint of bearing radial clearance



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