

# THE SADDLE-NODE SEPARATRIX-LOOP BIFURCATION\*

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**Abstract.** We study vector field  $\dot{x} = f(x)$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}^2$ , having at some point an equilibrium of saddle-node type with a separatrix loop. Such vector fields fill a codimension two submanifold  $\Sigma$  of an appropriate Banach space. We give analytic conditions that determine whether a two-parameter perturbation of  $\dot{x} = f(x)$  is transverse to  $\Sigma$ . The new condition is a version of Melnikov's integral around the separatrix loop. If it is nonzero, then as one perturbs away from  $\dot{x} = f(x)$  in the direction in which an equilibrium of saddle-node type persists, the separatrix loop breaks in a nondegenerate manner. This integral is shown to be nonzero for the two-parameter pendulum equation  $\beta\dot{\phi} + \dot{\phi} + \sin \phi = \rho$  at its organizing center.

**Key words.** saddle-node separatrix-loop bifurcation, Melnikov integral, pendulum, Josephson junction

**AMS(MOS) subject classification.** 58F14

## 1. Introduction. We shall be concerned with vector fields

$$(1) \quad \dot{x} = f(x), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^2$$

having at some  $p \in \mathbb{R}^2$  an equilibrium of saddle-node type with a separatrix loop  $\Gamma$  (see Fig. 1). We assume that the saddle-node has one negative eigenvalue and, of course, one zero eigenvalue. Such vector fields fill a codimension two submanifold  $\Sigma$  of an appropriate Banach space of planar vector fields. Consider a two-parameter unfolding of (1),

$$(2) \quad \dot{x} = \tilde{f}(x, \nu_1, \nu_2), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^2, \quad \nu_1, \nu_2 \in \mathbb{R}$$

where  $\tilde{f}(x, 0, 0) = f(x)$ . We shall give a computable condition that determines whether the family (2) is transverse to  $\Sigma$  at  $(\nu_1, \nu_2) = (0, 0)$ .

If the transversality condition is satisfied, there is a smooth nonsingular change of coordinates in parameter space,

$$(\nu_1, \nu_2) \leftrightarrow (\mu_1, \mu_2), \quad (0, 0) \leftrightarrow (0, 0),$$

such that

$$\dot{x} = \tilde{f}(x, \nu_1(\mu_1, \mu_2), \nu_2(\mu_1, \mu_2)) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} f(x, \mu_1, \mu_2)$$

has the bifurcation diagram of Fig. 2 in a neighborhood of  $(\mu_1, \mu_2) = (0, 0)$ . The curve  $C$  lies in  $\{(\mu_1, \mu_2): \mu_1 \leq 0, \mu_2 \geq 0\}$ . It has a quadratic tangency with the  $\mu_2$ -axis at

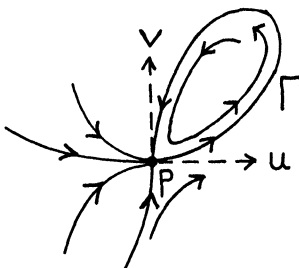


FIG. 1

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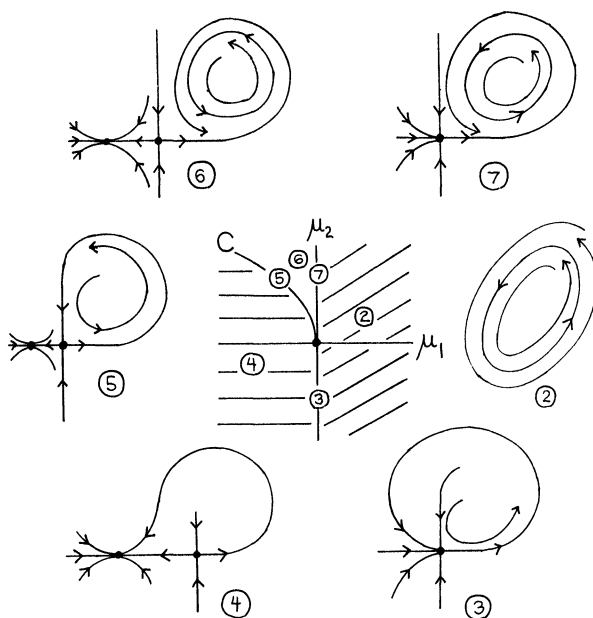


FIG. 2

$(0, 0)$ . The phase portrait of  $\dot{x} = f(x, \mu_1, \mu_2)$  in a fixed neighborhood of  $\Gamma$  that is positively invariant for each vector field  $\dot{x} = f(x, \mu_1, \mu_2)$  is as follows (see Fig. 2):

- 1)  $\mu_1 = 0, \mu_2 = 0$ ; a saddle-node and a separatrix loop.
- 2)  $\mu_1 > 0$ ; no equilibria, a unique stable closed orbit near  $\Gamma$ .
- 3)  $\mu_1 = 0, \mu_2 < 0$ ; a saddle-node.
- 4)  $\mu_1 < 0, (\mu_1, \mu_2)$  below  $C$ ; a saddle and a node.
- 5)  $\mu_1 < 0, (\mu_1, \mu_2)$  on  $C$ ; a saddle and a node; the saddle has a separatrix loop.
- 6)  $\mu_1 < 0, (\mu_1, \mu_2)$  above  $C$ ; a saddle and a node; there is a unique stable closed orbit near  $\Gamma$ .
- 7)  $\mu_1 = 0, \mu_2 > 0$ ; a saddle-node and a unique stable closed orbit near  $\Gamma$ .

This bifurcation diagram is developed in [4], except that it is mistakenly stated there that the curve  $C$  is transverse to the  $\mu_2$ -axis.

Perhaps the best known example of this bifurcation diagram occurs in the study of the differential equation for a pendulum with linear damping and constant applied torque, which are the two parameters (see [3], in which the same equation arises in the study of the DC current-driven point Josephson junction). In § 5 we show that the pendulum equation satisfies our transversality condition at its organizing center. Thus the pendulum equation is a generic two-parameter unfolding of the saddle-node separatrix-loop bifurcation.

The heart of this paper is the study, in § 3, of Melnikov's integral (see [2]) around a saddle-node separatrix loop. The same method allows one to study time-periodic perturbations of a saddle-node separatrix loop. This subject is treated in the companion paper [6]. There the motivating example is the pendulum equation with, in addition, sinusoidal applied torque (or, equivalently, the AC-DC current-driven point Josephson junction).

**2. Statement of results.** We shall consider vector fields  $\dot{x} = f(x)$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}^2$ , satisfying the following conditions at some  $p \in \mathbb{R}^2$ :

- (i)  $f(p) = 0$ .

(ii)  $Df(p)$  has eigenvalues 0 and  $-\lambda$ , where  $\lambda > 0$ .

Let  $u$  be a right eigenvector and  $w$  a left eigenvector of the eigenvalue 0, with  $w$  chosen so that  $wu > 0$ .

(iii)  $wD^2f(p)(u, u) > 0$ .

(iv)  $\dot{x} = f(x)$  has a separatrix loop  $\Gamma$  at  $p$ .

Assumptions (i)–(iii) say that  $\dot{x} = f(x)$  has a saddle-node at  $p$  with one negative eigenvalue (see [7]). Moreover, the assumptions imply that  $u$  (not  $-u$ ) is one tangent vector to  $\Gamma$  at  $p$  (see Fig. 1). Let  $v$  be a right eigenvector of  $Df(p)$  for the eigenvalue  $-\lambda$ , chosen so that  $v$  is also tangent to  $\Gamma$  at  $p$  as in Fig. 1.

Let  $\dot{x} = \tilde{f}(x, \nu_1, \nu_2)$  be a two-parameter family of vector fields on  $\mathbb{R}^2$  such that  $\dot{x} = \tilde{f}(x, 0, 0)$  satisfies (i)–(iv), and

(v)  $\tilde{f}(x, \nu_1, \nu_2)$  is  $C^{k+1}$ ,  $k \geq 5$ .

(vi)  $wD_{\nu_1}\tilde{f}(p, 0, 0) > 0$ .

Assumptions (iii) and (vi) imply that perturbation in the positive  $\nu_1$  direction eliminates the equilibrium  $p$ , while perturbation in the negative  $\nu_1$  direction splits the equilibrium in two (see [7]).

According to [7] there is a  $C^k$  function  $\alpha(\nu_2)$ , with  $\alpha(0) = 0$ , such that  $\dot{x} = \tilde{f}(x, \nu_1, \nu_2)$  has an equilibrium of saddle-node type near  $p$  if and only if  $\nu_1 = \alpha(\nu_2)$ . Let  $f(x, \mu_1, \mu_2) = \tilde{f}(x, \nu_1, \nu_2)$ , where  $(\mu_1, \mu_2)$  and  $(\nu_1, \nu_2)$  are related by

$$\mu_1 = \nu_1 - \alpha(\nu_2), \quad \mu_2 = \nu_2.$$

Then

$$(3) \quad \dot{x} = f(x, \mu_1, \mu_2)$$

is  $C^k$ , and has an equilibrium of saddle-node type near  $p$  if and only if  $\mu_1 = 0$ . Let  $p(\mu_2)$  denote the saddle-node equilibrium near  $p$  of  $\dot{x} = f(x, 0, \mu_2)$ ;  $p(\mu_2)$  is  $C^k$ . If  $\mu_1 < 0$ , there are a saddle and a sink of (3) near  $p$ ; if  $\mu_1 > 0$ , there are no equilibria of (3) near  $p$ .

If  $w$  and  $z$  are vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , let  $w \wedge z = w_1z_2 - w_2z_1$ . Let  $q(t)$  be a solution of  $\dot{x} = f(x, 0, 0)$  with  $q(0) \in \Gamma$ . Consider the expression

$$(4) \quad I = \frac{dp}{d\mu_2}(0) \wedge \lim_{t_1 \rightarrow \infty} f(q(t_1), 0, 0) \exp \left[ - \int_0^{t_1} \operatorname{div} f(q(s), 0, 0) ds \right] \\ + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp \left[ - \int_0^t \operatorname{div} f(q(s), 0, 0) ds \right] f(q(t), 0, 0) \wedge \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mu_2}(q(t), 0, 0) dt.$$

**THEOREM 1.** *The limit in (4) exists and is a negative multiple of  $v$ . The improper integral in (4) converges. If  $I \neq 0$ , then there is a  $C^{k-2}$  curve  $\mu_1 = \psi(\mu_2) = -\ell^2\mu_2^2 + o(\mu_2^2)$ ,  $\ell \neq 0$ , such that for  $(\mu_1, \mu_2)$  sufficiently small, (3) has a separatrix loop near  $\Gamma$  if and only if  $\mu_1 = \psi(\mu_2)$  and  $I \cdot (u \wedge v) \cdot \mu_2 \geq 0$ .*

The integral in (4) is just the usual Melnikov integral used to study perturbations of a separatrix loop at a hyperbolic saddle (see [2], [5]). The limit in (4) is zero in the case of a hyperbolic saddle, but must be retained in the case of a saddle-node.

The bifurcation diagram presented in § 1 holds if  $I \cdot (u \wedge v) > 0$ , in which case separatrix loops occur for  $\mu_1 = \psi(\mu_2)$  and  $\mu_2 \geq 0$ . If  $I \cdot (u \wedge v) < 0$ , this bifurcation diagram holds after the further change of parameter  $\mu_2 \rightarrow -\mu_2$ .

We remark that in order to compute  $I$  in applications, the only knowledge of the function  $\alpha(\nu_2)$  that is needed is  $\alpha'(0)$ .

We shall now give a precise interpretation of the condition  $I \neq 0$  as a transversality condition. Let  $E$  denote the space of  $C^{k+1}$  vector fields,  $k \geq 5$ , on a closed disk  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ ,

with the  $C^{k+1}$  topology. Let  $\Sigma' = \{f \in E: f \text{ satisfies, at a unique } p \in \text{Int } D, \text{ conditions (i)–(iii); and all other equilibria of } f \text{ in } D \text{ are hyperbolic}\}$ .  $\Sigma'$  is a  $C^k$  codimension one submanifold of  $E$  [7]. Let  $\Sigma = \{f \in \Sigma': f \text{ satisfies condition (iv), and } \Gamma \subset \text{Int } D\}$ . We shall show in § 3 that  $\Sigma$  is a  $C^k$  codimension two submanifold of  $E$ , in fact a codimension one submanifold of  $\Sigma'$ . Let  $\dot{x} = \tilde{f}(x, \nu_1, \nu_2)$  be a two-parameter family of vector fields in  $E$  with  $\dot{x} = \tilde{f}(x, 0, 0) \in \Sigma$ . Assume in addition that  $\dot{x} = \tilde{f}(x, \nu_1, \nu_2)$  satisfies conditions (v) and (vi). Make the change of parameters  $\mu_1 = \nu_1 - \alpha(\nu_2)$ ,  $\mu_2 = \nu_2$  described earlier.

**THEOREM 2.** *The family  $\dot{x} = \tilde{f}(x, \nu_1, \nu_2)$  is transverse to  $\Sigma$  at  $(\nu_1, \nu_2) = (0, 0)$  if and only if  $I \neq 0$ .*

### 3. Proof of Theorem 1. The equilibrium $(p, 0, 0)$ of

$$(5) \quad \dot{x} = f(x, \mu_1, \mu_2), \quad \dot{\mu}_1 = 0, \quad \dot{\mu}_2 = 0$$

has a 3-dimensional neutral subspace. The center manifold theorem [1, § 9.2] yields a 3-dimensional  $C^k$  local center manifold  $N_{\text{loc}}$  of (5), tangent at  $(p, 0, 0)$  to this subspace.  $N_{\text{loc}}$  meets each plane  $\mathbb{R}^2 \times \{(\mu_1, \mu_2)\}$ ,  $(\mu_1, \mu_2)$  small, in a curve.  $N_{\text{loc}} \cap \mathbb{R}^2 \times \{(0, 0)\}$  contains a portion of  $\Gamma \times \{(0, 0)\}$  that is tangent at  $(p, 0, 0)$  to  $(u, 0, 0)$ .

Let  $N$  denote the global center manifold that contains  $N_{\text{loc}}$ , i.e., the union of all integral curves of (5) that meet  $N_{\text{loc}}$ .  $N$  meets each plane  $\mathbb{R}^2 \times \{(\mu_1, \mu_2)\}$  in a curve, which we denote  $N(\mu_1, \mu_2) \times \{(\mu_1, \mu_2)\}$ . Thus  $N(\mu_1, \mu_2)$  is a curve in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . Let  $L$  be a line segment in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  perpendicular to  $\Gamma$  at  $q(0)$ . Then for  $(\mu_1, \mu_2)$  small,  $N(\mu_1, \mu_2)$  meets  $L$  transversally near  $q(0)$ . Therefore for  $(\mu_1, \mu_2)$  small there is a  $C^k$  function  $x(\mu_1, \mu_2)$  such that  $x(0, 0) = q(0)$  and  $x(\mu_1, \mu_2) \in N(\mu_1, \mu_2) \cap L$ . Since a  $C^k$  vector field has a  $C^k$  flow, there is a  $C^k$  family of solutions of (3)

$$q^c(\mu_1, \mu_2, t), \quad (\mu_1, \mu_2) \text{ small},$$

such that  $q^c(\mu_1, \mu_2, 0) = x(\mu_1, \mu_2)$ . Then  $q^c(0, 0, t) = q(t)$ , and each curve  $q^c(\mu_1, \mu_2, t)$  lies in  $N(\mu_1, \mu_2)$ . For  $\mu_1 < 0$ ,  $q^c(\mu_1, \mu_2, t)$  is a branch of the unstable manifold of the saddle of (3) near  $p$ . Similarly,  $q^c(0, \mu_2, t)$  is the unstable separatrix of the saddle-node of  $\dot{x} = f(x, 0, \mu_2)$  near  $p$  (see Fig. 3).

We shall now define a  $\mu$ -dependent change of coordinates on  $\mathbb{R}^2$  that will make possible our computations. According to [1, § 9.2] there is a  $C^k$  change of coordinates

$$(6) \quad y(x, \mu_1, \mu_2) = (y_1(x, \mu_1, \mu_2), y_2(x, \mu_1, \mu_2)),$$

defined for  $(x, \mu_1, \mu_2)$  near  $(p, 0, 0)$ , such that (1)  $y(p, 0, 0) = 0$ ; (2)  $N_{\text{loc}} \cap \mathbb{R}^2 \times \{(\mu_1, \mu_2)\}$  is transformed into the line  $y_2 = 0$ , which is therefore invariant; (3) the lines  $y_1 = \text{constant}$  are mapped into each other by the flow. In other words, in the new coordinates we have a  $C^k$  differential equation of the form

$$\dot{y}_1 = a(y_1, \mu_1, \mu_2), \quad \dot{y}_2 = y_2 b(y_1, y_2, \mu_1, \mu_2).$$

Since  $p(\mu_2)$ , defined in § 2, is  $C^k$ , we may assume that  $p(\mu_2)$  is transformed to  $(0, 0)$  for all  $\mu_2$ . In other words,  $a(0, 0, \mu_2) \equiv 0$ . Since the stable manifold of  $\dot{x} = f(x, 0, 0)$  at  $p$  is necessarily transformed into the line  $y_1 = 0$ , it is easy to arrange that

$$(7) \quad D_x y(p, 0, 0)u = (1, 0), \quad D_x y(p, 0, 0)v = (0, 1).$$

Taking into account assumptions (i)–(iii) and (vi), we have

$$(8) \quad \begin{aligned} \dot{y}_1 &= \eta(\mu_2)y_1^2(1 + y_1 g(y_1, \mu_2)) + \mu_1 h(y_1, \mu_1, \mu_2), \\ \dot{y}_2 &= -\lambda(y_1, \mu_1, \mu_2)y_2(1 + y_2 k(y_1, y_2, \mu_1, \mu_2)), \end{aligned}$$

with  $\eta > 0$ ,  $h(0, 0, 0) > 0$ ,  $\lambda(0, 0, 0) = \lambda$ .

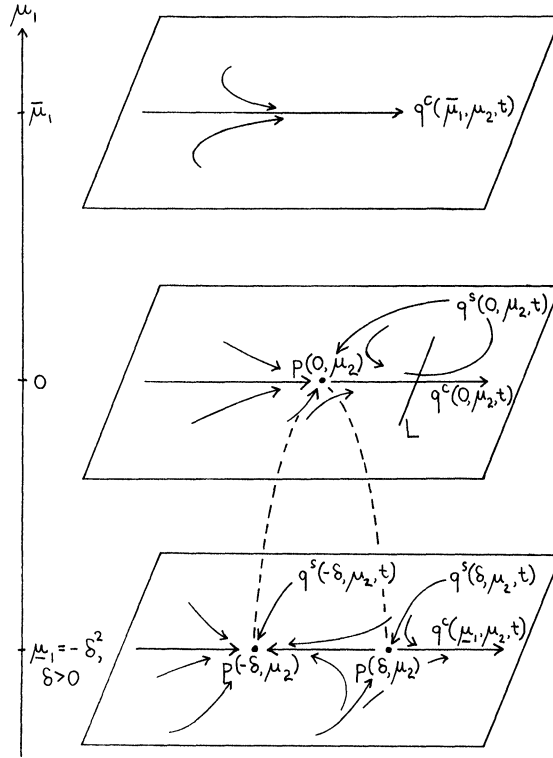


FIG. 3

LEMMA 1. *There is a  $C^{k-2}$  mapping  $p(\delta, \mu_2)$ , defined for  $(\delta, \mu_2)$  near  $(0, 0)$ , with values in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , such that  $p(0, 0) = p$ , and*

$$p(\delta, \mu_2) \text{ is } \begin{cases} \text{a saddle-node of } \dot{x} = f(x, 0, \mu_2) & \text{if } \delta = 0, \\ \text{a saddle of } \dot{x} = f(x, -\delta^2, \mu_2) & \text{if } \delta > 0, \\ \text{a sink of } \dot{x} = f(x, -\delta^2, \mu_2) & \text{if } \delta < 0. \end{cases}$$

Moreover, the mapping  $(\delta, \mu_2) \rightarrow (p(\delta, \mu_2), -\delta^2, \mu_2)$  is a  $C^{k-2}$  diffeomorphism of a neighborhood of  $(0, 0)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  onto a neighborhood of  $(p, 0, 0)$  in the set of equilibria of (5) near  $(0, 0, 0)$  (see Fig. 3).

We remark that  $p(0, \mu_2)$  equals  $p(\mu_2)$  defined in § 2.

*Proof.* The equilibria of the system

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{y}_1 &= \eta(\mu_2)y_1^2(1 + y_1g(y_1, \mu_2)) + \mu_1h(y_1, \mu_1, \mu_2), \\ \dot{y}_2 &= -\lambda(y_1, \mu_1, \mu_2)y_2(1 + y_2k(y_1, y_2, \mu_1, \mu_2)), \\ \dot{\mu}_1 &= 0, \\ \dot{\mu}_2 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

near  $(0, 0, 0, 0)$  comprise a set of the form

$$\{(y_1, 0, \mu_1, \mu_2): \mu_1 = \mu_1(y_1, \mu_2)\},$$

where

$$\mu_1(0, \mu_2) = \frac{\partial \mu_1}{\partial y_1}(0, \mu_2) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial^2 \mu_1}{\partial y_1^2}(0, \mu_2) < 0.$$

Therefore,

$$\mu_1 = -y_1^2(A(\mu_2) + y_1 B(y_1, \mu_2)),$$

where  $A(\mu_2) > 0$  and  $A(\mu_2) + y_1 B(y_1, \mu_2)$  is  $C^{k-2}$ . For  $\mu_1 \leq 0$ , let  $\mu_1 = -\delta^2$ . Then

$$(9) \quad \delta = y_1(A(\mu_2) + y_1 B(y_1, \mu_2))^{1/2}.$$

(Taking into account the negative square root gives no additional information.) By the implicit function theorem, we can solve (9) for  $y_1$  near  $y_1 = 0$ ,  $\delta = 0$ ,  $\mu_2 = 0$ . We obtain

$$(10) \quad y_1 = \hat{p}(\delta, \mu_2) \quad \text{with } \hat{p}(0, \mu_2) = 0, \quad \frac{\partial \hat{p}}{\partial \delta}(0, \mu_2) > 0.$$

Then  $\eta > 0$  and (10) imply that the equilibrium  $(\hat{p}(\delta, \mu_2), 0)$  of (8) with  $\mu_1 = -\delta^2$  is a saddle-node if  $\delta = 0$ , a saddle if  $\delta > 0$ , and a sink if  $\delta < 0$ .

Let

$$(11) \quad x = x(y, \mu_1, \mu_2)$$

be the change of coordinates inverse to (6). Define

$$(12) \quad p(\delta, \mu_2) = x((\hat{p}(\delta, \mu_2), 0), -\delta^2, \mu_2).$$

Then  $p(\delta, \mu_2)$  satisfies the assertions of the lemma.  $\square$

For future use, we note that

$$(13) \quad \frac{\partial p}{\partial \delta}(0, 0) \text{ is a positive multiple of } u.$$

To see this, we compute from (12)

$$(14) \quad \frac{\partial p}{\partial \delta}(0, 0) = D_y x((0, 0), 0, 0) \left( \frac{\partial \hat{p}}{\partial \delta}(0, 0), 0 \right).$$

Since  $(\partial \hat{p} / \partial \delta)(0, 0) > 0$  by (10), (14) is a positive multiple of  $u$  by (7).

System (8) with  $\mu_1 = -\delta^2$  has at the equilibrium  $(\hat{p}(\delta, \mu_2), 0)$  the invariant manifold  $\{(y_1, y_2): y_1 = \hat{p}(\delta, \mu_2)\}$ , a line. For  $\delta = 0$  this line is the stable manifold of the saddle-node  $(0, 0)$ ; for  $\delta > 0$  it is the stable manifold of the saddle  $(\hat{p}(\delta, \mu_2), 0)$ ; and for  $\delta < 0$  it is the strong stable manifold of the sink  $(\hat{p}(\delta, \mu_2), 0)$ . These lines correspond to invariant manifolds of  $\dot{x} = f(x, -\delta^2, \mu_2)$  at  $p(\delta, \mu_2)$ . Let  $v(\delta, \mu_2) = D_y x((\hat{p}(\delta, \mu_2), 0), -\delta^2, \mu_2)(0, 1)$ . Then  $\dot{x} = f(x, -\delta^2, \mu_2)$  has at  $p(\delta, \mu_2)$  an invariant curve tangent to  $v(\delta, \mu_2)$  and these invariant curves vary in a  $C^{k-2}$  manner with  $(\delta, \mu_2)$ . For  $(\delta, \mu_2) = (0, 0)$ , this invariant curve contains  $\Gamma$ . Now a construction similar to that of  $q^c(\mu_1, \mu_2, t)$  yields a  $C^{k-2}$  family

$$q^s(\delta, \mu_2, t), \quad (\delta, \mu_2) \text{ small},$$

each a solution of  $\dot{x} = f(x, -\delta^2, \mu_2)$ , such that  $q^s(\delta, \mu_2, t) \rightarrow p(\delta, \mu_2)$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$  along the negative  $v(\delta, \mu_2)$  direction. Again we require  $q^s(\delta, \mu_2, 0) \in L$ ; thus  $q^s(0, 0, t) = q(t)$ . Note that  $q^s(0, \mu_2, t)$  is a branch of the stable manifold of the saddle-node  $p(0, \mu_2)$  of  $\dot{x} = f(x, 0, \mu_2)$ ; and if  $\delta > 0$ ,  $q^s(\delta, \mu_2, t)$  is a branch of the stable manifold of the saddle  $p(\delta, \mu_2)$  of  $\dot{x} = f(x, -\delta^2, \mu_2)$  (see Fig. 3).

For any vector  $w = (w_1, w_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ , let  $w^\perp = (-w_2, w_1)$ . Define  $d^c(\mu_1, \mu_2)$  and  $d^s(\delta, \mu_2)$  by

$$q^c(\mu_1, \mu_2, 0) = q(0) + [d^c(\mu_1, \mu_2) / \|f(q(0), 0, 0)\|^2] f^\perp(q(0), 0, 0),$$

$$q^s(\delta, \mu_2, 0) = q(0) + [d^s(\delta, \mu_2) / \|f(q(0), 0, 0)\|^2] f^\perp(q(0), 0, 0).$$

Then  $d^c$  is  $C^k$  and  $d^s$  is  $C^{k-2}$ . The number  $d^c(\mu_1, \mu_2)$  (resp.  $d^s(\delta, \mu_2)$ ) determines where on  $L$  the curve  $q^c(\mu_1, \mu_2, t)$  (resp.  $q^s(\delta, \mu_2, t)$ ) starts. We have

$$\begin{aligned} d^c(\mu_1, \mu_2) &= f^\perp(q(0), 0, 0) \cdot [q^c(\mu_1, \mu_2, 0) - q(0)] \\ &= f(q(0), 0, 0) \wedge [q^c(\mu_1, \mu_2, 0) - q(0)]. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$d^s(\delta, \mu_2) = f(q(0), 0, 0) \wedge [q^s(\delta, \mu_2, 0) - q(0)].$$

There is a separatrix loop of  $\dot{x} = f(x, -\delta^2, \mu_2)$  through  $p(\delta, \mu_2)$  if and only if  $\delta \geq 0$  and

$$(15) \quad d(\delta, \mu_2) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} d^c(-\delta^2, \mu_2) - d^s(\delta, \mu_2) = 0.$$

Here  $d(\delta, \mu_2)$  is  $C^{k-2}$ .

We shall show that  $(\partial d / \partial \delta)(0, 0)$  is a negative multiple of  $u \wedge v$  (hence is nonzero), and  $(\partial d / \partial \mu_2)(0, 0) = I$ . Given these facts, the proof of Theorem 1 is completed as follows: if  $I \neq 0$ , then  $\{(\delta, \mu_2) : d(\delta, \mu_2) = 0\}$  is a  $C^{k-2}$  curve through  $(0, 0)$  of the form

$$(16) \quad \delta = \ell \mu_2 + o(\mu_2), \quad \ell = -I \Big/ \frac{\partial d}{\partial \delta}(0, 0).$$

Squaring both sides of (16) yields

$$\mu_1 = -\ell^2 \mu_2^2 + o(\mu_2^2).$$

The condition  $\delta \geq 0$ , applied to (16), shows that  $\mu_2 = 0$  or  $\ell$  and  $\mu_2$  have the same sign. But  $\ell$  has the sign of  $I \cdot (u \wedge v)$ .

We now turn to the computation of  $(\partial d / \partial \delta)(0, 0)$  and  $(\partial d / \partial \mu_2)(0, 0)$ . We shall need the following variational equations for  $q^c(-\delta^2, \mu_2, t)$  and  $q^s(\delta, \mu_2, t)$ :

$$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial q^c}{\partial \mu_2}(0, 0, t) = D_x f(q(t), 0, 0) \frac{\partial q^c}{\partial \mu_2}(0, 0, t) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mu_2}(q(t), 0, 0),$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial q^s}{\partial \delta}(0, 0, t) = D_x f(q(t), 0, 0) \frac{\partial q^s}{\partial \delta}(0, 0, t),$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial q^s}{\partial \mu_2}(0, 0, t) = D_x f(q(t), 0, 0) \frac{\partial q^s}{\partial \mu_2}(0, 0, t) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mu_2}(q(t), 0, 0).$$

As in [2], we define

$$\Delta_{\mu_2}^c(t) = f(q(t), 0, 0) \wedge \frac{\partial q^c}{\partial \mu_2}(0, 0, t)$$

and define  $\Delta_\delta^s(t)$  and  $\Delta_{\mu_2}^s(t)$  analogously.

For  $d^c(-\delta^2, \mu_2)$  and  $d^s(\delta, \mu_2)$  we have the derivative formulas

$$(17) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{\partial d^c}{\partial \delta}(0, 0) &= \frac{\partial d^c}{\partial \mu_1}(0, 0) \cdot \frac{d\mu_1}{d\delta}(0) = 0, & \frac{\partial d^c}{\partial \mu_2}(0, 0) &= \Delta_{\mu_2}^c(0), \\ \frac{\partial d^s}{\partial \delta}(0, 0) &= \Delta_\delta^s(0), & \frac{\partial d^s}{\partial \mu_2}(0, 0) &= \Delta_{\mu_2}^s(0). \end{aligned}$$

Using the variational equations for  $q^c$  and  $q^s$ , we compute as in [2]:

$$(18) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \Delta_{\mu_2}^c(t) = \operatorname{div} f(q(t), 0, 0) \Delta_{\mu_2}^c(t) + f(q(t), 0, 0) \wedge \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mu_2}(q(t), 0, 0),$$

$$(19) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \Delta_{\delta}^s(t) = \operatorname{div} f(q(t), 0, 0) \Delta_{\delta}^s(t),$$

$$(20) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \Delta_{\mu_2}^s(t) = \operatorname{div} f(q(t), 0, 0) \Delta_{\mu_2}^s(t) + f(q(t), 0, 0) \wedge \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mu_2}(q(t), 0, 0).$$

Solving these linear differential equations, we obtain, for any  $t_1$ ,

$$(21) \quad \begin{aligned} \Delta_{\mu_2}^c(0) &= \Delta_{\mu_2}^c(t_1) \exp \int_{t_1}^0 \operatorname{div} f(q(t), 0, 0) dt \\ &\quad + \int_{t_1}^0 \exp \left[ - \int_0^t \operatorname{div} f(q(s), 0, 0) ds \right] \\ &\quad \cdot f(q(t), 0, 0) \wedge \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mu_2}(q(t), 0, 0) dt, \end{aligned}$$

$$(22) \quad -\Delta_{\delta}^s(0) = -\Delta_{\delta}^s(t_1) \exp \left[ - \int_0^{t_1} \operatorname{div} f(q(t), 0, 0) dt \right],$$

$$(23) \quad \begin{aligned} -\Delta_{\mu_2}^s(0) &= -\Delta_{\mu_2}^s(t_1) \exp \left[ - \int_0^{t_1} \operatorname{div} f(q(t), 0, 0) dt \right] \\ &\quad + \int_0^{t_1} \exp \left[ - \int_0^t \operatorname{div} f(q(s), 0, 0) ds \right] \\ &\quad \cdot f(q(t), 0, 0) \wedge \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mu_2}(q(t), 0, 0) dt. \end{aligned}$$

We shall first evaluate (22) in the limit  $t_1 \rightarrow \infty$ . Using the definition of  $\Delta_{\delta}^s$ , we write

$$(24) \quad -\Delta_{\delta}^s(0) = \frac{\partial q^s}{\partial \delta}(0, 0, t_1) \wedge f(q(t_1), 0, 0) \exp \left[ - \int_0^{t_1} \operatorname{div} f(q(s), 0, 0) ds \right].$$

LEMMA 2.

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\partial q^s}{\partial \delta}(0, 0, t) = \frac{\partial p}{\partial \delta}(0, 0), \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\partial q^s}{\partial \mu_2}(0, 0, t) = \frac{\partial p}{\partial \mu_2}(0, 0).$$

*Proof.* We shall use the coordinates (6). Define

$$(25) \quad \begin{aligned} \tilde{q}^s(\delta, \mu_2, t) &= y(q^s(\delta, \mu_2, t), -\delta^2, \mu_2) \\ &= (\hat{p}(\delta, \mu_2), y_2(\delta, \mu_2, t)), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\hat{p}(\delta, \mu_2)$  is given by (10) and  $y_2(\delta, \mu_2, t)$  is defined by (25). Since  $q^s(\delta, \mu_2, t) \rightarrow p(\delta, \mu_2)$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , for each  $(\delta, \mu_2)$  near  $(0, 0)$ ,  $\tilde{q}^s(\delta, \mu_2, t)$  and hence  $y_2(\delta, \mu_2, t)$  are defined for sufficiently large  $t$ . It follows from (7) that  $y_2(\delta, \mu_2, t) > 0$  for large  $t$ . From (8),  $y_2(\delta, \mu_2, t)$  satisfies a differential equation of the form

$$(26) \quad \frac{dz}{dt} = -\lambda(\delta, \mu_2)z(1 + zG(z, \delta, \mu_2)),$$

where  $\lambda(0, 0) = \lambda$ . Here  $\lambda$  and  $zG$  are  $C^{k-3}$ .

In order to prove the lemma, we shall study the asymptotic behavior of solutions of (26) as  $t \rightarrow \infty$  by solving (26) by separation of variables. Let

$$(27) \quad z^{-1}[1 + zG(z, \delta, \mu_2)]^{-1} = z^{-1} + H(z, \delta, \mu_2).$$



Then  $H$  is  $C^{k-4}$ . Fix  $z_0 > 0$ . Let

$$J(z, \delta, \mu_2) = \int_{z_0}^z H(s, \delta, \mu_2) ds.$$

Then  $J$  is  $C^{k-4}$ . Solving (26) by separation of variables using (27) yields

$$\ln z + J(z, \delta, \mu_2) = -\lambda(\delta, \mu_2)t + A(\delta, \mu_2),$$

or

$$z \exp J(z, \delta, \mu_2) = B(\delta, \mu_2) \exp(-\lambda(\delta, \mu_2)t).$$

Here  $B(\delta, \mu_2)$  is determined by the value of  $y_2(\delta, \mu_2, t)$  at some  $t = t_0$ . Hence  $B$  is  $C^{k-4}$  and  $B > 0$ . Since

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial z} [z \exp J(z, \delta, \mu_2)](0, \delta, \mu_2) \neq 0,$$

by the implicit function theorem we can solve the equation

$$z \exp J(z, \delta, \mu_2) = v$$

for  $z$  when  $z$  and  $v$  are near 0. We obtain

$$z = K(v, \delta, \mu_2),$$

where  $K$  is  $C^{k-4}$  and

$$(28) \quad K(0, \delta, \mu_2) \equiv 0.$$

Putting  $z = y_2$  and  $v = B(\delta, \mu_2) \exp(-\lambda(\delta, \mu_2)t)$ , we obtain

$$(29) \quad y_2 = K(B(\delta, \mu_2) \exp(-\lambda(\delta, \mu_2)t), \delta, \mu_2).$$

From (29) and (28) it follows that  $(\partial y_2 / \partial \delta)(\delta, \mu_2, t)$  and  $(\partial y_2 / \partial \mu_2)(\delta, \mu_2, t)$  approach 0 as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . Therefore (25) implies that as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$(30) \quad \frac{\partial \tilde{q}^s}{\partial \delta}(\delta, \mu_2, t) \rightarrow \left( \frac{\partial \hat{p}}{\partial \delta}(\delta, \mu_2), 0 \right), \quad \frac{\partial \tilde{q}^s}{\partial \mu_2}(\delta, \mu_2, t) \rightarrow \left( \frac{\partial \hat{p}}{\partial \mu_2}(\delta, \mu_2), 0 \right).$$

Now

$$\frac{\partial q^s}{\partial \delta}(\delta, \mu_2, t) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \delta} x(\tilde{q}^s(\delta, \mu_2, t), -\delta^2, \mu_2),$$

where  $x(y, \mu_1, \mu_2)$  is given by (11). Therefore

$$\frac{\partial q^s}{\partial \delta}(0, 0, t) = D_y x(\tilde{q}^s(0, 0, t), 0, 0) \frac{\partial \tilde{q}^s}{\partial \delta}(0, 0, t).$$

By (30) and (14),

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\partial q^s}{\partial \delta}(0, 0, t) &= D_y x((0, 0), 0, 0) \left( \frac{\partial \hat{p}}{\partial \delta}(0, 0), 0 \right) \\ &= \frac{\partial p}{\partial \delta}(0, 0). \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, the second formula of the lemma follows from (30) and the following formula derived from (12):

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial \mu_2}(0, 0) = D_y x((0, 0), 0, 0) \left( \frac{\partial \hat{p}}{\partial \mu_2}(0, 0), 0 \right) + \frac{\partial x}{\partial \mu_2}((0, 0), 0, 0). \quad \square$$

We shall now use the computations we have done in proving Lemma 2 to study the other terms of (24). By (25),

$$(31) \quad \dot{q}^s(\delta, \mu_2, t) = D_x y(q^s(\delta, \mu_2, t), -\delta^2, \mu_2) \dot{q}^s(\delta, \mu_2, t).$$

Let  $\delta = \mu_2 = 0$  in (31). Since  $\dot{q}^s(0, 0, t) = \dot{q}(t) = f(q(t), 0, 0)$ , we obtain

$$f(q(t), 0, 0) = [D_x y(q(t), 0, 0)]^{-1} \dot{q}^s(0, 0, t).$$

It follows easily from (25), (28) and (29) that

$$(32) \quad \begin{aligned} q(t) &= p + \mathcal{O}(\exp(-\lambda t)), \\ \dot{q}^s(t) &= (0, -C \exp(-\lambda t) + o(\exp(-\lambda t))), \end{aligned}$$

where  $C > 0$ . Therefore, setting  $t = t_1$ ,

$$(33) \quad \begin{aligned} f(q(t_1), 0, 0) &= \{[D_x y(p, 0, 0)]^{-1} + \mathcal{O}(\exp(-\lambda t_1))\} \\ &\quad \cdot (0, -C \exp(-\lambda t_1) + o(\exp(-\lambda t_1))). \end{aligned}$$

From (32) we also have

$$\operatorname{div} f(q(t), 0, 0) = -\lambda + \mathcal{O}(\exp(-\lambda t)).$$

Therefore

$$(34) \quad \exp \left[ - \int_0^{t_1} \operatorname{div} f(q(s), 0, 0) ds \right] = \exp(\lambda t_1) \cdot \exp \int_0^{t_1} \mathcal{O}(\exp(-\lambda s)) ds.$$

Then (33) and (34) give

$$(35) \quad \begin{aligned} \lim_{t_1 \rightarrow \infty} f(q(t_1), 0, 0) \exp \left[ - \int_0^{t_1} \operatorname{div} f(q(s), 0, 0) ds \right] \\ = [D_x y(p, 0, 0)]^{-1} \cdot \left( 0, -C \exp \int_0^\infty \mathcal{O}(\exp(-\lambda s)) ds \right), \end{aligned}$$

where the integral clearly converges.

Now (24), Lemma 2 and (35) imply that

$$(36) \quad -\Delta_\delta^s(0) = \frac{\partial p}{\partial \delta}(0, 0) \wedge \lim_{t_1 \rightarrow \infty} f(q(t_1), 0, 0) \exp \left[ - \int_0^{t_1} \operatorname{div} f(q(s), 0, 0) ds \right],$$

where the limit exists.

Notice that (7) implies that (35) is a negative multiple of  $v$ . Then (13) implies that  $-\Delta_\delta^s(0)$  is a negative multiple of  $u \wedge v$ . By (15) and (17),  $(\partial d / \partial \delta)(0, 0)$  is also a negative multiple of  $u \wedge v$ .

We now turn to (23). We claim that

$$(37) \quad \begin{aligned} -\Delta_{\mu_2}^s(0) &= \frac{\partial p}{\partial \mu_2}(0, 0) \wedge \lim_{t_1 \rightarrow \infty} f(q(t_1), 0, 0) \exp \left[ - \int_0^{t_1} \operatorname{div} f(q(s), 0, 0) ds \right] \\ &\quad + \int_0^\infty \exp \left[ - \int_0^t \operatorname{div} f(q(s), 0, 0) ds \right] f(q(t), 0, 0) \\ &\quad \wedge \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mu_2}(q(t), 0, 0) dt. \end{aligned}$$

The proof is modeled on that of (36). Using Lemma 2, we first show that the first summand of (23) approaches, as  $t_1 \rightarrow \infty$ , the first summand of (37), where the limit

exists. Then, since  $-\Delta_{\mu_2}^s(0)$  is finite, the second summand of (23), the integral, must approach a limit as  $t_1 \rightarrow \infty$ .

Finally we turn to (21).

LEMMA 3.

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{\partial q^c}{\partial \mu_2}(0, 0, t) = 0.$$

*Proof.* Again we shall use the coordinates (6). Define

$$\tilde{q}^c(\mu_2, t) = y(q^c(0, \mu_2, t), 0, \mu_2) = (y_1(\mu_2, t), 0).$$

Since  $q^c(0, \mu_2, t) \rightarrow p(0, \mu_2)$  as  $t \rightarrow -\infty$ , for each  $\mu_2$  near 0,  $\tilde{q}^c(\mu_2, t)$ , and hence  $y_1(\mu_2, t)$ , is defined for sufficiently negative  $t$ . From (7),  $y_1(\mu_2, t) > 0$  for sufficiently negative  $t$ . From its definition,  $y_1(\mu_2, t)$  satisfies a differential equation of the form

$$(38) \quad \frac{dz}{dt} = \eta(\mu_2)z^2(1 + zG(z, \mu_2)).$$

Here  $\eta$  and  $zG$  are  $C^{k-2}$ .

Let

$$(39) \quad z^{-2}(1 + zG(z, \mu_2))^{-1} = z^{-2} + A(\mu_2)z^{-1} + H(z, \mu_2).$$

Here  $A$  is  $C^{k-3}$  and  $H$  is  $C^{k-4}$ . Fix  $z_0 > 0$ . Let

$$J(z, \mu_2) = \int_{z_0}^z H(s, \mu_2) ds.$$

$J$  is  $C^{k-4}$ . Then solving (38) by separation of variables using (39) yields

$$-z^{-1} + A(\mu_2) \ln z + J(z, \mu_2) = \eta(\mu_2)t + B(\mu_2).$$

Here  $B(\mu_2)$  is determined by the value of  $y_1(\mu_2, t)$  at some  $t = t_0$ . Hence  $B$  is  $C^{k-4}$ . Rearranging yields

$$(40) \quad z[1 - A(\mu_2)z \ln z - zJ(z, \mu_2)]^{-1} = -[\eta(\mu_2)t + B(\mu_2)]^{-1}.$$

Let  $\Phi(z, \mu_2)$  equal the left-hand side of (40).  $\Phi(z, \mu_2)$  is a  $C^1$  function of  $z$  and  $\mu_2$  on a neighborhood of  $(0, 0)$  in  $\{(z, \mu_2): z \geq 0\}$ ;  $\Phi(0, \mu_2) \equiv 0$ , and  $(\partial/\partial z)\Phi(0, \mu_2) \equiv 1$ . By the implicit function theorem, we can solve the equation  $\Phi(z, \mu_2) = v$  for  $z$  when  $z$  and  $v$  are near 0,  $v \geq 0$  (in which case  $z \geq 0$ ). We obtain

$$z = v + R(v, \mu_2),$$

where  $R$  is  $C^1$ ,  $R(0, \mu_2) \equiv 0$  and  $R$  is  $\mathcal{O}(v)$ . Putting  $z = y_1$  and  $v = -[\eta(\mu_2)t + B(\mu_2)]^{-1}$ ,  $t$  large negative, we obtain

$$y_1 = -[\eta(\mu_2)t + B(\mu_2)]^{-1} + R(-[\eta(\mu_2)t + B(\mu_2)]^{-1}, \mu_2).$$

It follows that  $(\partial y_1/\partial \mu_2)(\mu_2, t) \rightarrow 0$  as  $t \rightarrow -\infty$ , so

$$(41) \quad \frac{\partial \tilde{q}^c}{\partial \mu_2}(\mu_2, t) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } t \rightarrow -\infty.$$

Lemma 3 follows from (41) the way Lemma 2 follows from (30).  $\square$

To evaluate (21) in the limit  $t_1 \rightarrow -\infty$ , we use the definition of  $\Delta_{\mu_2}^c$  to write (21) as

$$(42) \quad \Delta_{\mu_2}^c(0) = -\frac{\partial q^c}{\partial \mu_2}(0, 0, t_1) \wedge f(q(t), 0, 0) \exp \int_{t_1}^0 \operatorname{div} f(q(s), 0, 0) ds \\ + \int_{t_1}^0 \exp \left[ -\int_0^t \operatorname{div} f(q(s), 0, 0) ds \right] f(q(t), 0, 0) \wedge \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mu_2}(q(t), 0, 0) dt.$$

Of course

$$(43) \quad f(q(t), 0, 0) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } t_1 \rightarrow -\infty.$$

Moreover,

$$(44) \quad \operatorname{div} f(q(t), 0, 0) = -\lambda + \mathcal{O}([\eta(0)t + c(0)]^{-1}) \quad \text{as } t \rightarrow -\infty.$$

By Lemma 3, (43) and (44), we have

$$\lim_{t_1 \rightarrow -\infty} -\frac{\partial q^c}{\partial \mu_2}(0, 0, t_1) \wedge f(q(t_1), 0, 0) \exp \int_{t_1}^0 \operatorname{div} f(q(s), 0, 0) ds = 0.$$

Therefore the second summand of (42), the integral, approaches a limit as  $t_1 \rightarrow -\infty$ , so

$$(45) \quad \Delta_{\mu_2}^c(0) = \int_{-\infty}^0 \exp \left[ -\int_0^t \operatorname{div} f(q(s), 0, 0) ds \right] f(q(t), 0, 0) \wedge \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mu_2}(q(t), 0, 0) dt.$$

Finally, we complete the proof of Theorem 1 by calculating

$$\frac{\partial d}{\partial \mu_2}(0, 0) = \frac{\partial d^c}{\partial \mu_2}(0, 0) - \frac{\partial d^s}{\partial \mu_2}(0, 0) = \Delta_{\mu_2}^c(0) - \Delta_{\mu_2}^s(0) = (45) + (37) = I.$$

**4. Proof of Theorem 2.** First we show that  $\Sigma$  is a  $C^k$  codimension one submanifold of  $\Sigma'$ . Let  $f \in \Sigma$  with saddle-node  $p$  and let  $L$  be a line segment perpendicular to the separatrix loop  $\Gamma$  as in § 3. For  $g$  near  $f$  in  $\Sigma'$ , there is a unique saddle-node  $p_g$  near  $p$ ;  $p_g$  is a  $C^k$  function of  $g \in \Sigma'$ . The stable and center manifolds of  $p_g$  also depend  $C^k$  on  $g$  [1, § 9.2]. Thus their intersections with  $L$  are  $C^k$  functions of  $g$ . Therefore the function  $d(0, \mu_2)$  from § 2 extends to a  $C^k$  function  $d(g)$  defined for  $g \in \Sigma'$  near  $f$ ;  $d(g)$  measures the separation of these points of intersection. (We remark that  $d(0, \mu_2)$  is  $C^k$  although  $d(\delta, \mu_2)$  is only  $C^{k-2}$ .) Then  $d(g) = 0$  if and only if  $g \in \Sigma$ . Since it is easy to find a perturbation  $f + \varepsilon h$  in  $\Sigma'$  such that  $d/\varepsilon|_{\varepsilon=0} d(f + \varepsilon h) \neq 0$ ,  $\Sigma$  is a  $C^k$  codimension one submanifold of  $\Sigma'$ .

To prove Theorem 2, it suffices to show that  $f(\cdot, \mu_1, \mu_2)$  is transverse to  $\Sigma$  at  $(\mu_1, \mu_2) = (0, 0)$  if and only if  $I \neq 0$ . Since  $f(\cdot, 0, \mu_2) \in \Sigma'$  for all small  $\mu_2$ ,  $(\partial f / \partial \mu_2)(\cdot, 0, 0)$  is tangent to  $\Sigma'$  (see Fig. 4). But  $(\partial \tilde{f} / \partial \nu_1)(\cdot, 0, 0) = (\partial f / \partial \mu_1)(\cdot, 0, 0) - (\partial f / \partial \mu_2)(\cdot, 0, 0)\alpha'(0)$ . Since  $(\partial \tilde{f} / \partial \nu_1)(\cdot, 0, 0)$  is transverse to  $\Sigma'$  by

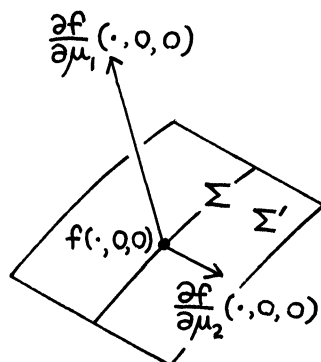


FIG. 4

assumption (vi) (see [7]), and  $(\partial f/\partial \mu_2)(\cdot, 0, 0)$  is tangent to  $\Sigma'$ ,  $(\partial f/\partial \mu_1)(\cdot, 0, 0)$  is transverse to  $\Sigma'$ . Thus we need to show that  $(\partial f/\partial \mu_2)(\cdot, 0, 0)$  is transverse to  $\Sigma$  if and only if  $I \neq 0$ . But this follows from the formula  $(\partial d/\partial \mu_2)(0, 0) = I$ .

**5. The pendulum equation.** We consider the differential equation for the damped pendulum with constant applied torque, in the dimensionless form studied in [5]:

$$\beta \ddot{\phi} + \dot{\phi} + \sin \phi = \rho.$$

Putting  $y = \dot{\phi}$ , we have

$$(46) \quad \dot{\phi} = y, \quad \dot{y} = \frac{1}{\beta}(-y - \sin \phi + \rho).$$

We identify  $\phi$  and  $\phi + 2\pi$ , so that (46) defines a vector field on a cylinder;  $\rho$  and  $\beta$  are parameters, which we shall assume positive. We remark that Theorem 1 applies equally well to vector fields on the compact set  $\{(\phi, y): |y| \leq d\}$ .

Let  $x = (\phi, y)$ ,

$$f(x, \beta, \rho) = (f_1((\phi, y), \beta, \rho), f_2((\phi, y), \beta, \rho)) = \left(y, \frac{1}{\beta}(-y - \sin \phi + \rho)\right).$$

If  $\rho < 1$ ,  $\dot{x} = f(x, \rho, \beta)$  has two equilibria, one a saddle and one a sink;  $\dot{x} = f(x, 1, \beta)$  has one equilibrium, at  $(\pi/2, 0)$  independent of  $\beta$ ; if  $\rho > 1$ ,  $\dot{x} = f(x, \rho, \beta)$  has no equilibria. We note that

$$D_x f\left(\left(\frac{\pi}{2}, 0\right), 1, \beta\right) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -1/\beta \end{bmatrix},$$

which has eigenvalues  $0, -1/\beta$ . Corresponding right eigenvectors are  $u = (1, 0)$  and  $v = (-\beta, 1)$ ; a left eigenvector for the eigenvalue  $0$  is  $(1, \beta)$ .

To show that  $\dot{x} = f(x, 1, \beta)$  has a saddle-node at  $(\pi/2, 0)$ , we compute (assumption (iii)):

$$\begin{aligned} (1, \beta) \cdot D_x^2 f\left(\left(\frac{\pi}{2}, 0\right), 1, \beta\right) \cdot ((1, 0), (1, 0)) &= (1, \beta) \cdot \left(0, \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial \phi^2}\left(\left(\frac{\pi}{2}, 0\right), 1, \beta\right)\right) \\ &= (1, \beta) \cdot \left(0, \frac{1}{\beta}\right) = 1. \end{aligned}$$

We also note (assumption (iv)):

$$(1, \beta) \cdot D_\rho f\left(\left(\frac{\pi}{2}, 0\right), 1, \beta\right) = (1, \beta) \cdot \left(0, \frac{1}{\beta}\right) = 1.$$

It is shown in [3] that there is a unique positive  $\beta_0$  such that  $\dot{x} = f(x, 1, \beta_0)$  has a separatrix loop at the saddle-node  $(\pi/2, 0)$ . The separatrix loop, considered as a curve in  $\phi y$ -space with  $\phi$  and  $\phi + 2\pi$  not yet identified, can be expressed as  $y = y(\phi)$ ,  $\pi/2 < \phi < 5\pi/2$ ;  $y(\phi) > 0$  for all  $\phi$ . As  $\phi \rightarrow \pi/2$ ,  $y \rightarrow 0$  and  $y/(\phi - \pi/2) \rightarrow 0$ ; as  $\phi \rightarrow 5\pi/2$ ,  $y \rightarrow 0$  and  $y/(\phi - 5\pi/2) \rightarrow -1/\beta$  (see Fig. 5).

Thus assumptions (i)–(vi) are verified if we put  $\tilde{f} = f$ ,  $\nu_1 = \rho - 1$ ,  $\nu_2 = \beta - \beta_0$ . The change of variables from  $\nu$  to  $\mu$  is not necessary here, i.e., we may put  $\mu_1 = \nu_1$ ,  $\mu_2 = \nu_2$ . For simplicity we shall continue to use the parameters  $\rho$  and  $\beta$ .

To compute  $I$ , we first note that the saddle-node  $p(\beta)$  of  $\dot{x} = f(x, 1, \beta)$  is identically  $(\pi/2, 0)$ , so that the first summand of  $I$  is 0. Now  $\operatorname{div} f(x, \rho, \beta) = -1/\beta$ , and

$$f((\phi, y), \rho, \beta) \wedge \frac{\partial f}{\partial \beta}((\phi, y), \rho, \beta) = -\frac{1}{\beta^2} y(-y - \sin \phi + \beta) = -\frac{1}{\beta} y \dot{y}.$$

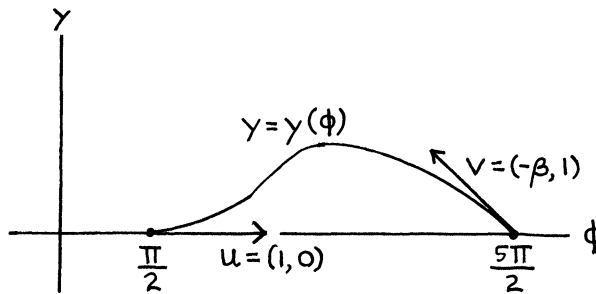


FIG. 5

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} I &= -\frac{1}{\beta_0} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{t/\beta_0} y \dot{y} dt \\ &= \lim_{s, T \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ -\frac{1}{\beta_0} e^{t/\beta_0} \cdot \frac{y^2}{2} \Big|_{-s}^T + \frac{1}{\beta_0^2} \int_{-s}^T e^{t/\beta_0} \cdot \frac{y^2}{2} dt \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

From (29), as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $(\phi(t) - (5\pi/2), y(t)) = c e^{-t/\beta_0}(-\beta_0, 1) + o(e^{-t/\beta_0})$  for some positive constant  $c$ . Therefore  $[y(t)]^2 = c^2 e^{-2t/\beta_0} + o(e^{-2t/\beta_0})$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . Hence

$$\lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} -\frac{1}{\beta_0} e^{T/\beta_0} \cdot \frac{[y(T)]^2}{2} = 0.$$

Of course,

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} -\frac{1}{\beta_0} e^{-s/\beta_0} \cdot \frac{[y(-s)]^2}{2} = 0,$$

since  $y(t) \rightarrow 0$  as  $t \rightarrow -\infty$ . Therefore

$$I = \frac{1}{\beta_0^2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{t/\beta_0} \cdot \frac{y^2}{2} dt > 0.$$

Since  $u \wedge v > 0$ , Theorem 1 implies that for  $(\rho, \beta)$  near  $(1, \beta_0)$ ,  $\dot{x} = f(x, \rho, \beta)$  has a separatrix loop if and only if  $\rho = 1 - \ell^2(\beta - \beta_0)^2 + \dots$ , with  $\ell \neq 0$ , and  $\beta - \beta_0 \geq 0$  (see Fig. 6). This result is in agreement with statements in [5].

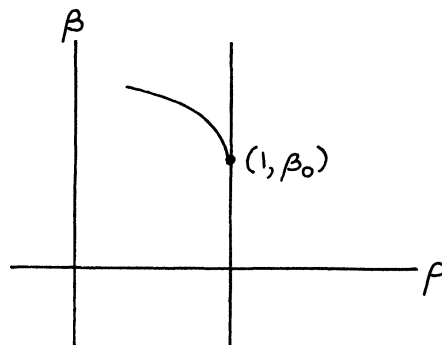


FIG. 6

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