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Hilbert's 16th problem for quadratic vector fields

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Find a maximum natural number $H(2)$ and relative position of limit cycles of a vector field

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} = p(x, y) &= \sum_{i+j=0}^2 a_{ij} x^i y^j \\ \dot{y} = q(x, y) &= \sum_{i+j=0}^2 b_{ij} x^i y^j\end{aligned}$$

[?].

As of now neither part of the problem (*i.e. the bound and the positions of the limit cycles*) are solved. Although R. Bamòn in 1986 showed [?] that a quadratic vector field has finite number of limit cycles. In 1980 Shi Songling [?] and also independently Chen Lan-Sun and Wang Ming-Shu [?] showed an example of a quadratic vector field which has four limit cycles (*i.e. $H(2) \geq 4$*).

Example by Shi Songling:

The following system

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= \lambda x - y - 10x^2 + (5 + \delta)xy + y^2 \\ \dot{y} &= x + x^2 + (-25 + 8\epsilon - 9\delta)xy\end{aligned}$$

has four limit cycles when $0 < -\lambda \ll -\epsilon \ll -\delta \ll 1$. [?]

Example by Chen Lan-sun and Wang Ming-Shu:

The following system

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= -y - \delta_2 x - 3x^2 + (1 - \delta_1)xy + y^2 \\ \dot{y} &= x(1 + \frac{2}{3}x - 3y)\end{aligned}$$

has four limit cycles when $0 < \delta_2 \ll \delta_1 \ll 1$. [?]

References

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- [ZTWZ] Zhang Zhi-fen, Ding Tong-ren, Huang Wen-zoa, Dong Zhen-xi. Qualitative Theory of Differential Equations. American Mathematical Society, Providence, 1992.