

Homework #8

#8.1.5.

Prove that any zero-eigenvalue bifurcation in two dimensions, the null-clines intersect tangentially.

Solution:

Consider the system

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = f(x, y, \mu) \\ \dot{y} = g(x, y, \mu) \end{cases}$$

and suppose a zero bifurcation occurs at μ^* . Let N_1, N_2 denote the null-clines satisfying:

$$N_1 = \{(x, y) : f(x, y, \mu) = 0\},$$

$$N_2 = \{(x, y) : g(x, y, \mu) = 0\},$$

which are the zero level sets for the functions f and g . Now, at μ^* it follows that the vectors (f_x, f_y) and (g_x, g_y) are parallel on the set $\bar{X}^* = N_1 \cap N_2$. Since (f_x, f_y) and (g_x, g_y) are normal to level sets of f, g it follows that the null-clines intersect tangentially at μ^* .

#8.1.6

Complete a bifurcation analysis for the system:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = y - 2x \\ \dot{y} = \mu + x^2 - y \end{cases}$$

Solution:

The null-clines are given by

$$y = 2x, \quad \frac{dx}{dt} = 0$$

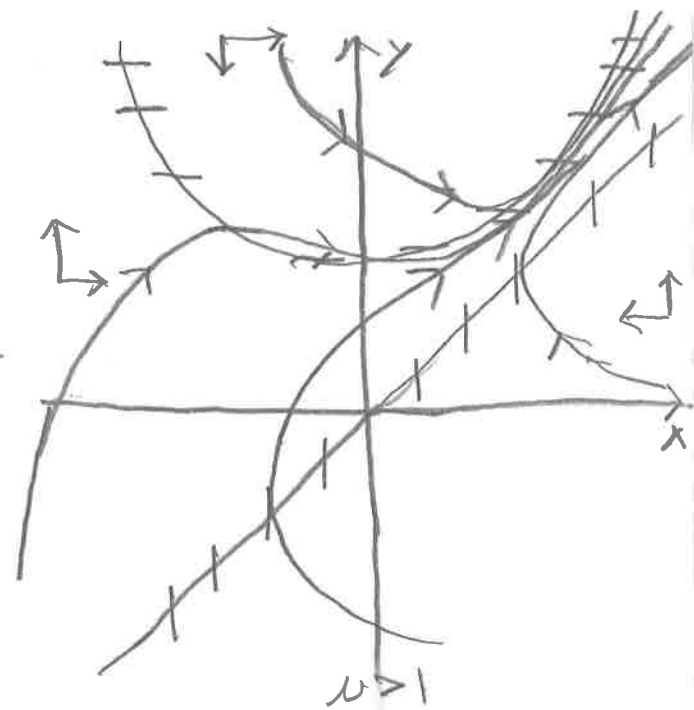
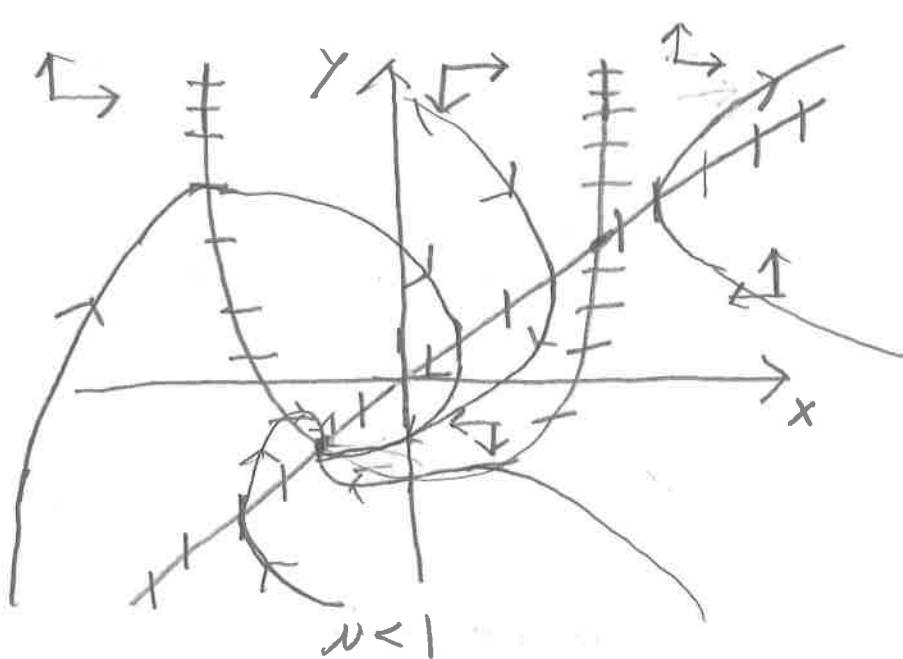
$$y = x^2 + \mu, \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = 0$$

We will clearly have a saddle-node bifurcation. On the next page we plot the phase portraits. The fixed points are given by:

$$x^2 + \mu = 2x$$

which has discriminant:

$$4 - 4\mu \Rightarrow \text{bifurcation at } \mu = 1.$$



#8.1.11

Show that a saddle-node bifurcation occurs for the system

$$\begin{cases} \dot{u} = a(1-u) - uv^2 \\ \dot{v} = uv^2 - (a+k)v \end{cases}$$

Solution:

The null-clines are given by:

$$\begin{cases} u = a/(a+v^2) \\ v = \frac{a+k}{v} \end{cases}$$

Therefore a fixed point (u^*, v^*) satisfies

$$av^* = (a+k)(a+v^{*2}).$$

The discriminant of this quadratic equation is given by:

$$\begin{aligned} D &= a^2 - 4(a+k)(a^2 + ak) \\ &= a^2 - 4a^3 - 4a^2k - 4a^2k - 4ak^2 \end{aligned}$$

Solving $D=0$ we have

$$0 = k^2 - 2ak + a^2 - a^3/4.$$

$$\Rightarrow k = \frac{2a \pm \sqrt{4a^2 - 4(a^2 - a^3/4)}}{2}$$

$$= a \pm \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}.$$

The saddle-node bifurcation occurs at $a = \pm \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$.

#8.2.1

Consider the biased van-der Pol oscillator:

$$\ddot{x} + \nu(x^2 - 1)\dot{x} + x = a.$$

Find the curves in (ν, a) space at which Hopf bifurcations occur.

Solution:

The fixed point occurs at $\dot{x} = 0, x = a$. The Jacobian is given by

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & -\nu(a^2 - 1) \end{pmatrix}.$$

Now,

$$\text{Tr}(J) = -\nu(a^2 - 1), \quad \det(J) = 1.$$

Therefore, a Hopf-bifurcation occurs when

$$a = 1 \text{ or } \nu = 0.$$

#8.2.8.

Analyze the system

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = x[x(1-x) - y] \\ \dot{y} = y(x-a) \end{cases}$$

Solution:

The null-clines are given by:

1. $x = 0, \frac{dx}{dt} = 0$

2. $y = x(1-x), \frac{dx}{dt} = 0$

3. $y = 0, \frac{dy}{dt} = 0$

4. $x = a, \frac{dx}{dt} = 0$

The fixed points are then

$$(0, 0), (1, 0), (a, a - a^2).$$

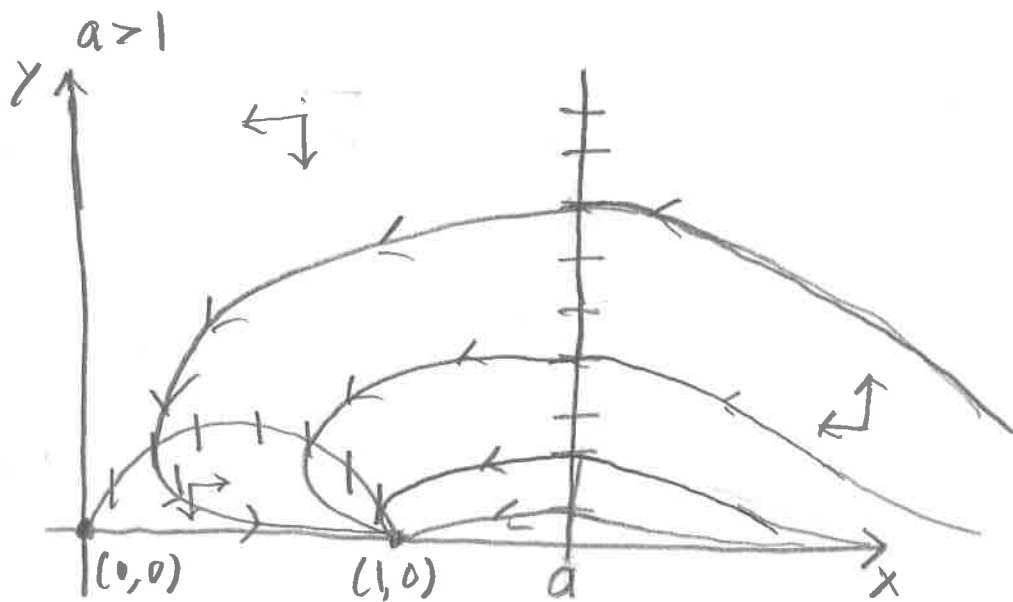
$$J(0, 0) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 0 & -a \end{pmatrix}, \quad J(1, 0) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1-a \end{pmatrix}, \quad J(a, 1-a) = \begin{pmatrix} -2a^2 + a & -a \\ a - a^2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

unclassified
(saddle)

stable node/saddle.

saddle/stable node/spirals.

Case 1:



Now, we see that

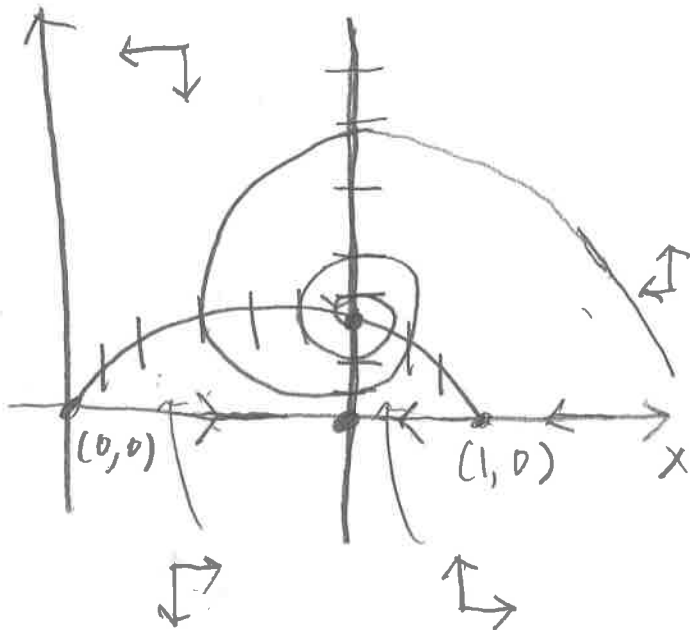
$$\text{Tr}(J(a, 1-a)) = -2a^2 + a$$

$$\text{Det}(J(a, 1-a)) = a^2(1-a)$$

Therefore, we have a Hopf-bifurcation at $a = \frac{1}{2}$.

Case 2:

$$\frac{1}{2} < a < 1$$



$$\text{Tr}(-2a^2 + a) > 0 \Rightarrow \text{stable spiral.}$$

Case 3:

$$0 < a < \frac{1}{2}$$

