





problem of finding solutions of the equation

$$z - \mu \approx \beta z^\delta \cos \left[ \frac{\omega_1}{\nu} (\log h - \log z) + \phi_2 \right], \quad (2)$$

where  $\beta (> 0)$ ,  $h$  and  $\phi_2$  are constants relating to the exact geometry of the flow and  $\delta = |\lambda/\nu|$  (see for example [13] for a derivation of this result).

Each root of this equation approximately corresponds to a periodic orbit in the flow, the approximation getting better as the homoclinic orbit is approached.

In the following we assume that  $\delta$  and  $\nu$  are fixed, impose the condition that there is a saddle node bifurcation







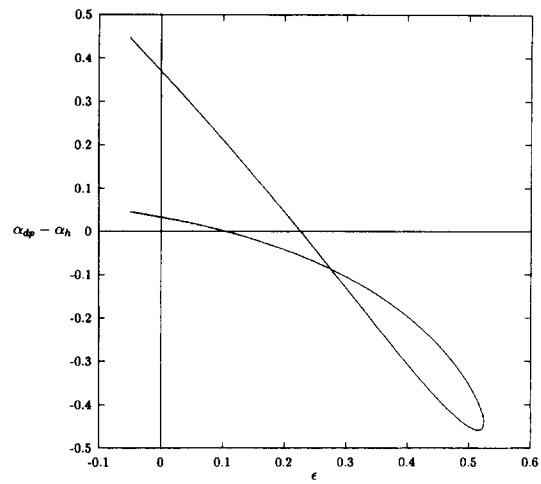


Fig. 3. The relative positions of two curves of double-pulse homoclinic bifurcations and the curve of primary homoclinic bifurcations

for Eq. (16). The horizontal axis is  $\epsilon$  and the vertical one is the difference between the  $\alpha$ -values for the two curves ( $\alpha_{dp}$ ) and  $\alpha_h$ . Two crossings are clearly seen as  $\epsilon$  increases. Note that in this case the two curves of double-pulse homoclinic bifurcations join together as  $\epsilon$  increases.

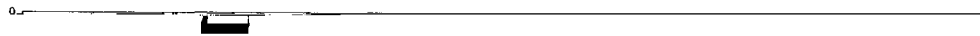
91

92

93

94

95



0.5 1 1.5  $\frac{2}{1/\sqrt{\epsilon}}$  2.5 3 3.5

-1/2 e s s s s s s s s

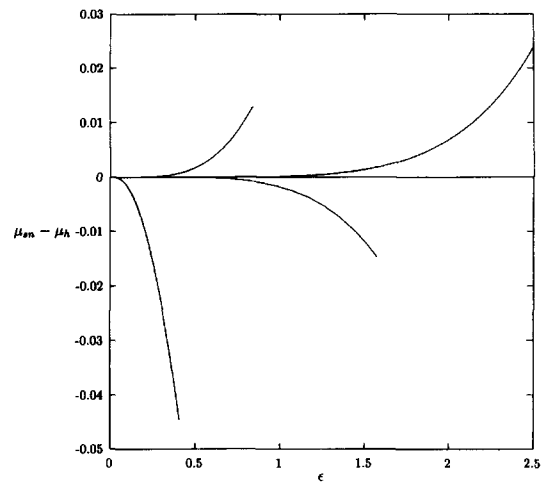


Fig. 7. A plot of the difference in  $\mu$ -values for four curves of saddle-node bifurcations of periodic orbits and the curve of homoclinic bifurcations as a function of  $\epsilon$  for system (19).

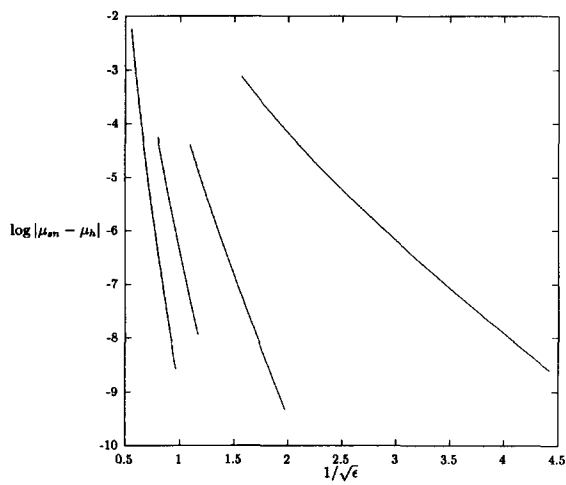


Fig. 8. A plot of  $\log |\mu_{sn} - \mu_h|$  versus  $1/\sqrt{\epsilon}$  for the curves in Fig. 7.

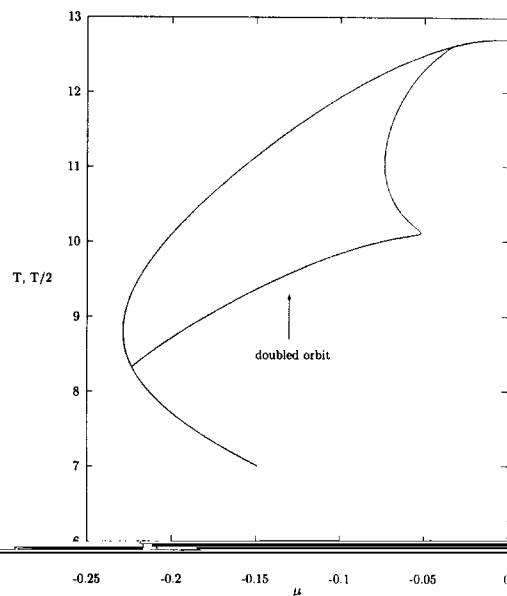


Fig. 9. A plot of period  $T$  (of the basic orbit) and half-period  $\frac{1}{2}T$  (of the period-doubled orbit) versus  $\alpha$  for Eq. (16), showing the bifurcation sequence “period-doubling, saddle-node, reverse period-doubling”. The value of  $\epsilon$  is 0.22346, and  $\gamma$  is 0.5.

## 5. Conclusion and comments

We did not discuss path 1 of Fig. 2 in this paper. The bifurcations that occur along here are expected to be of interest because when  $\delta = 1$ , the sum of the eigenvalues of the Jacobian is zero and the flow is then locally “conservative” in some sense. There are expected to be some similarities with the  $|\lambda/\nu| = 0.5$  case for the saddle-focus, as the flow in this case is also “divergence-free” at the stationary point. This last case is mentioned in [6], but does not seem to

One other avenue open for investigation is the application of the technique discussed in Section 2 to systems

