

# The Effect of Gaussian White Noise on Dynamical Systems

## Part III: Bifurcations in Slow–Fast Systems

Barbara Gentz  
University of Bielefeld, Germany

Department of Mathematical Sciences, Seoul National University  
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# Slowly driven systems in dimension $n = 1$

# Slowly driven systems

Recall from Monday's lecture

Parameter dependent ODE, perturbed by small Gaussian white noise

$$dx_s = \tilde{f}(x_s, \lambda) ds + \sigma dW_s \quad (x_s \in \mathbb{R}^1)$$

Assume parameter varies slowly in time:  $\lambda = \lambda(\varepsilon s)$

$$dx_s = \tilde{f}(x_s, \lambda(\varepsilon s)) ds + \sigma dW_s$$

Rewrite in slow time  $t = \varepsilon s$

$$dx_t = \frac{1}{\varepsilon} f(x_t, t) dt + \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{\varepsilon}} dW_t$$

# Assumptions on Monday

Existence of a uniformly asymptotically stable equilibrium branch  $x^*(t)$

$$\exists! x^* : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \text{ s.t. } f(x^*(t), t) = 0$$

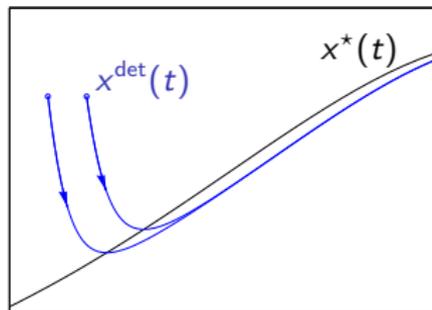
and

$$a^*(t) = \partial_x f(x^*(t), t) \leq -a_0 < 0$$

[Tihonov 1952]: Then there exists an adiabatic solution  $\bar{x}(t, \varepsilon)$

$$\bar{x}(t, \varepsilon) = x^*(t) + \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon)$$

and  $\bar{x}(t, \varepsilon)$  attracts nearby solutions exp. fast



## Defining the strip describing the typical spreading

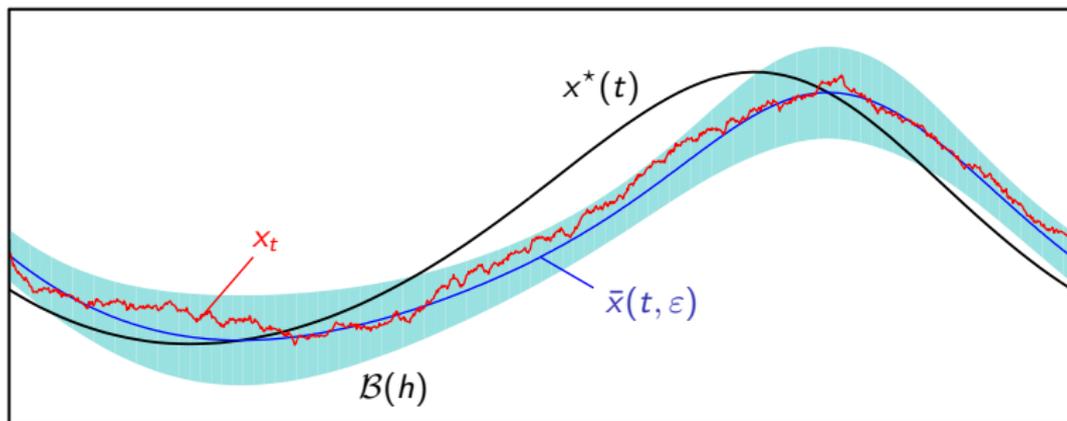
- ▶ Let  $v(t)$  be the variance of the solution  $z(t)$  of the linearized SDE for the deviation  $x_t - \bar{x}(t, \varepsilon)$
- ▶  $v(t)/\sigma^2$  is solution of a deterministic slowly driven system admitting a uniformly asymptotically stable equilibrium branch
- ▶ Let  $\zeta(t)$  be the adiabatic solution of this system
- ▶  $\zeta(t) \approx 1/|a(t)|$ , where  $a(t) = \partial_x f(\bar{x}(t, \varepsilon), t) \leq -a_0/2 < 0$

Define a strip  $\mathcal{B}(h)$  around  $\bar{x}(t, \varepsilon)$  of width  $\simeq h\sqrt{\zeta(t)}$  and the first-exit time  $\tau_{\mathcal{B}(h)}$

$$\mathcal{B}(h) = \{(x, t) : |x - \bar{x}(t, \varepsilon)| < h\sqrt{\zeta(t)}\}$$

$$\tau_{\mathcal{B}(h)} = \inf\{t > 0 : (x_t, t) \notin \mathcal{B}(h)\}$$

## Concentration of sample paths



**Theorem** [Berglund & G 2002, 2006]

$$\mathbb{P}\{\tau_{B(h)} < t\} \leq \text{const} \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left| \int_0^t a(s) ds \right| \frac{h}{\sigma} e^{-h^2[1-\mathcal{O}(\epsilon)-\mathcal{O}(h)]/2\sigma^2}$$

# Next goal

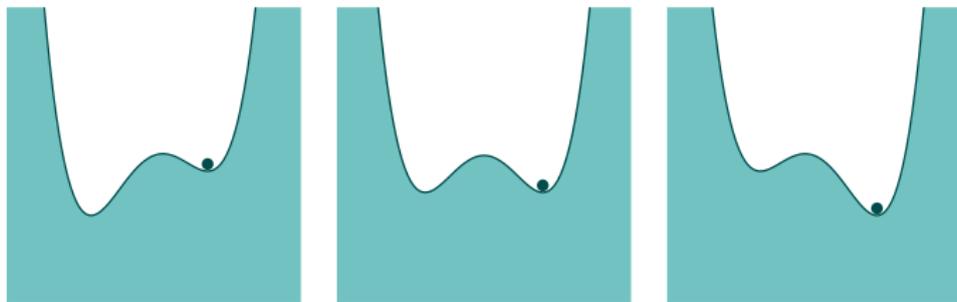


# Avoided bifurcation: Stochastic Resonance

# Overdamped motion of a Brownian particle in a periodically modulated potential

$$dx_t = -\frac{1}{\varepsilon} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} V(x_t, t) ds + \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{\varepsilon}} dW_t$$

$$V(x, t) = -\frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{1}{4}x^4 + (\lambda_c - a_0) \cos(2\pi t)x$$

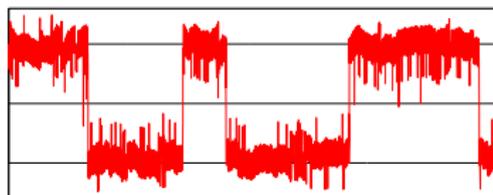


## Sample paths

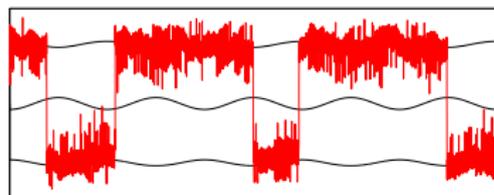
Amplitude of modulation  $A = \lambda_c - a_0$

Speed of modulation  $\varepsilon$

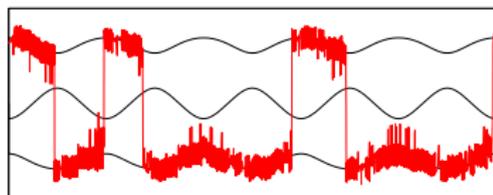
Noise intensity  $\sigma$



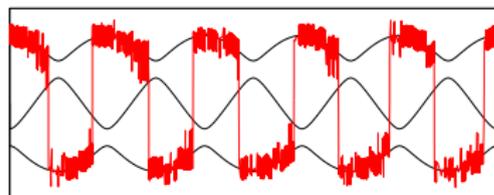
$A = 0.00, \sigma = 0.30, \varepsilon = 0.001$



$A = 0.10, \sigma = 0.27, \varepsilon = 0.001$



$A = 0.24, \sigma = 0.20, \varepsilon = 0.001$



$A = 0.35, \sigma = 0.20, \varepsilon = 0.001$

# Different parameter regimes and stochastic resonance

## Synchronisation I

- ▶ For matching time scales:  $2\pi/\varepsilon = T_{\text{forcing}} = 2 T_{\text{Kramers}} \asymp e^{2H/\sigma^2}$
- ▶ Quasistatic approach: Transitions twice per period likely (Physics' literature; [Freidlin 2000], [Imkeller *et al*, since 2002])
- ▶ Requires **exponentially long forcing periods**

## Synchronisation II

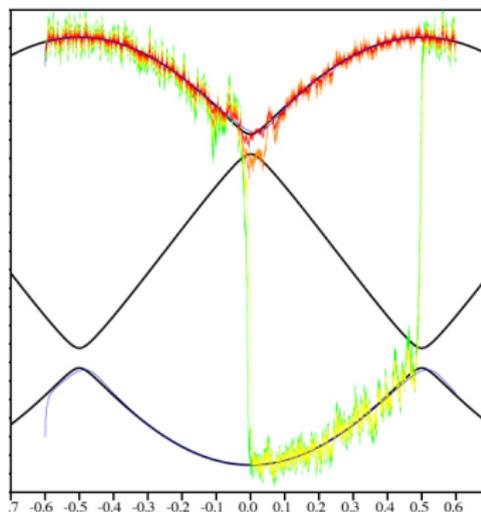
- ▶ For intermediate forcing periods:  $T_{\text{relax}} \ll T_{\text{forcing}} \ll T_{\text{Kramers}}$  and **close-to-critical** forcing amplitude:  $A \approx A_c$
- ▶ Transitions twice per period with high probability
- ▶ Subtle dynamical effects: **Effective barrier heights** [Berglund & G 2002]

## SR outside synchronisation regimes

- ▶ Only occasional transitions
- ▶ But transition times localised within forcing periods

## Synchronisation regime II

Characterised by 3 small parameters:  $0 < \sigma \ll 1$ ,  $0 < \varepsilon \ll 1$ ,  $0 < a_0 \ll 1$



| System    | Stochastic resonance |       |             |       |       |
|-----------|----------------------|-------|-------------|-------|-------|
| Epsilon   | 0.005                | 0.005 | 0.005       | 0.005 | 0.005 |
| Sigma     | 0                    | 0.03  | 0.06        | 0.09  | 0.12  |
| Gap       | 0.005                | 0.005 | 0.005       | 0.005 | 0.005 |
| Time step | 0.001                |       |             |       |       |
| Seeds     | 0.534154541          |       | 0.355564852 |       |       |

# Effective barrier heights and scaling of small parameters

**Theorem** [Berglund & G 2002] (informal version; exact formulation via first-exit times)

$$\exists \text{ threshold value } \sigma_c = (a_0 \vee \varepsilon)^{3/4}$$

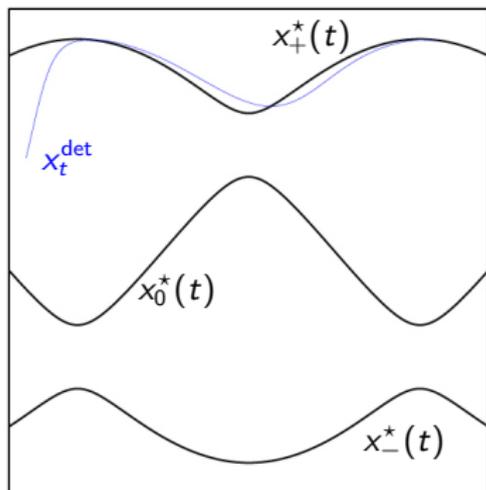
Below:  $\sigma \leq \sigma_c$

- ▶ Transitions unlikely; sample paths concentrated in one well
- ▶ Typical spreading  $\asymp \frac{\sigma}{(|t|^2 \vee a_0 \vee \varepsilon)^{1/4}} \asymp \frac{\sigma}{(\text{curvature})^{1/2}}$
- ▶ Probability to observe a transition  $\leq e^{-\text{const } \sigma_c^2 / \sigma^2}$

Above:  $\sigma \gg \sigma_c$

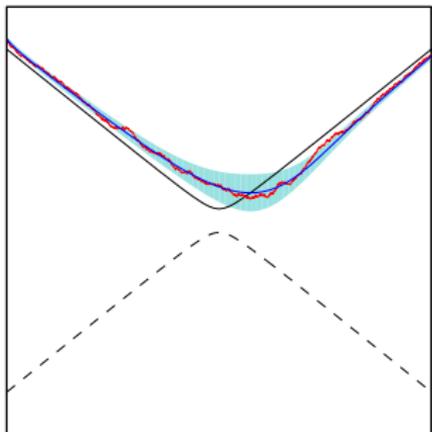
- ▶ 2 transitions per period likely (back and forth)
- ▶ with probability  $\geq 1 - e^{-\text{const } \sigma^4 / \varepsilon |\log \sigma|}$
- ▶ Transitions occur near instants of minimal barrier height; window  $\asymp \sigma^2 / 3$

# Deterministic dynamics



- ▷ For  $t \leq -const$  :  
 $x_t^{det}$  reaches  $\varepsilon$ -nbhd of  $x_+^*(t)$   
 in time  $\asymp \varepsilon |\log \varepsilon|$  [Tihonov 1952]
- ▷ For  $-const \leq t \leq -(a_0 \vee \varepsilon)^{1/2}$  :  
 $x_t^{det} - x_+^*(t) \asymp \varepsilon / |t|$
- ▷ For  $|t| \leq (a_0 \vee \varepsilon)^{1/2}$  :  
 $x_t^{det} - x_0^*(t) \asymp (a_0 \vee \varepsilon)^{1/2} \geq \sqrt{\varepsilon}$   
 (effective barrier height)
- ▷ For  $(a_0 \vee \varepsilon)^{1/2} \leq t \leq +const$  :  
 $x_t^{det} - x_+^*(t) \asymp -\varepsilon / |t|$
- ▷ For  $t \geq +const$  :  
 $|x_t^{det} - x_+^*(t)| \asymp \varepsilon$

Below threshold:  $\sigma \leq \sigma_c = (a_0 \vee \varepsilon)^{3/4}$



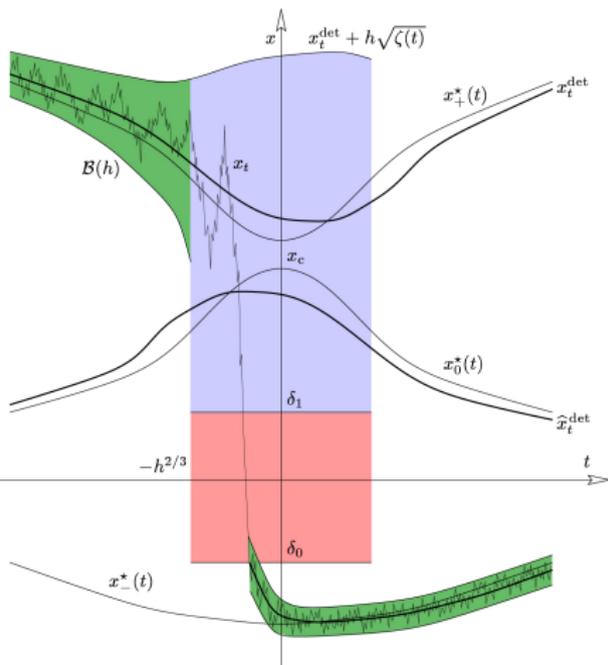
$$v(t) \sim \frac{\sigma^2}{\text{curvature}} \sim \frac{\sigma^2}{(|t|^2 \vee a_0 \vee \varepsilon)^{1/2}}$$

Approach for stable case can still be used

$$C(h/\sigma, t, \varepsilon) e^{-\kappa_- h^2/2\sigma^2} \leq \mathbb{P}\{\tau_{B(h)} < t\} \leq C(h/\sigma, t, \varepsilon) e^{-\kappa_+ h^2/2\sigma^2}$$

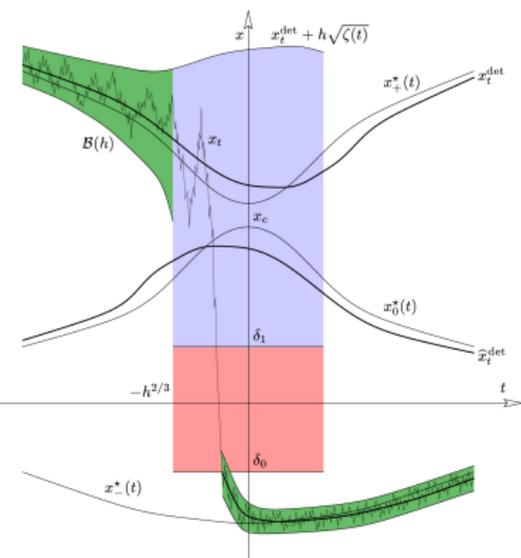
with  $\kappa_+ = 1 - \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon) - \mathcal{O}(h)$ ,  $\kappa_- = 1 + \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon) + \mathcal{O}(h) + \mathcal{O}(e^{-c_2 t/\varepsilon})$

Above threshold:  $\sigma \gg \sigma_c = (a_0 \vee \varepsilon)^{3/4}$



- ▶ Typical paths stay below  $x_t^{\text{det}} + h\sqrt{\zeta(t)}$
- ▶ For  $t \ll -\sigma^{2/3}$  :  
Transitions unlikely; as below threshold
- ▶ At time  $t = -\sigma^{2/3}$  :  
Typical spreading is  $\sigma^{2/3} \gg x_t^{\text{det}} - x_0^*(t)$   
Transitions become likely
- ▶ Near saddle:  
Diffusion dominated dynamics
- ▶  $\delta_1 > \delta_0$  with  $f \simeq -1$  ;  
 $\delta_0$  in domain of attraction of  $x_-^*(t)$   
Drift dominated dynamics
- ▶ Below  $\delta_0$ : behaviour as for small  $\sigma$

Above threshold:  $\sigma \gg \sigma_c = (a_0 \vee \varepsilon)^{3/4}$



## Idea of the proof

With probability  $\geq \delta > 0$ , in time  $\asymp \varepsilon |\log \sigma| / \sigma^{2/3}$ , the path reaches

- ▷  $x_t^{\text{det}}$  if above
- ▷ then the saddle
- ▷ finally the level  $\delta_1$

In time  $\sigma^{2/3}$  there are  $\frac{\sigma^{4/3}}{\varepsilon |\log \sigma|}$  attempts possible

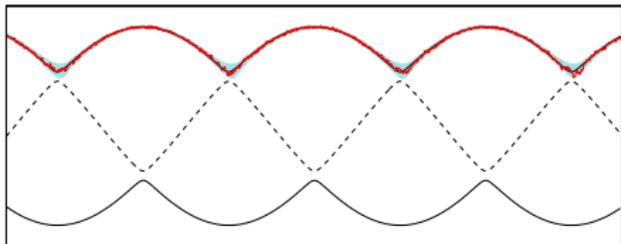
During a subsequent timespan of length  $\varepsilon$ , level  $\delta_0$  is reached (with probability  $\geq \delta$ )

Finally, the path reaches the new well

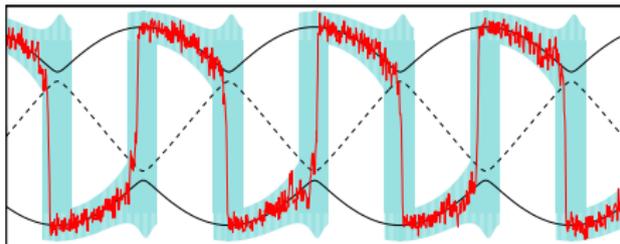
## Result

$$\mathbb{P}\{x_s > \delta_0 \quad \forall s \in [-\sigma^{2/3}, t]\} \leq e^{-\text{const} \sigma^{4/3} / \varepsilon |\log \sigma|} \quad (t \geq -\gamma \sigma^{2/3}, \gamma \text{ small})$$

# Space-time sets for stochastic resonance

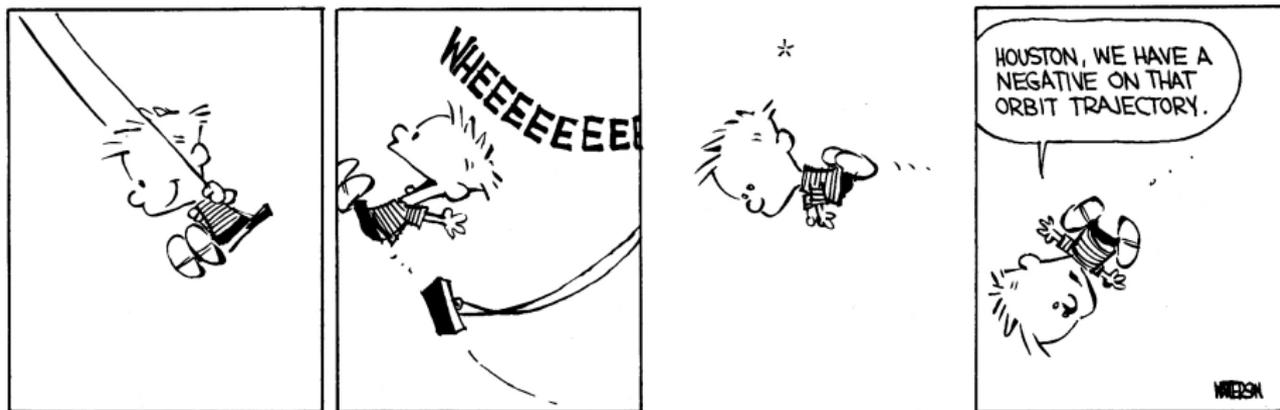


Below threshold



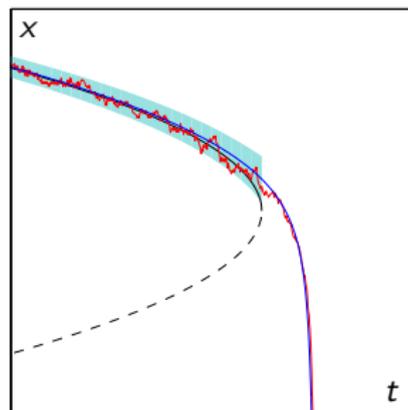
Above threshold

## Saddle-node bifurcation

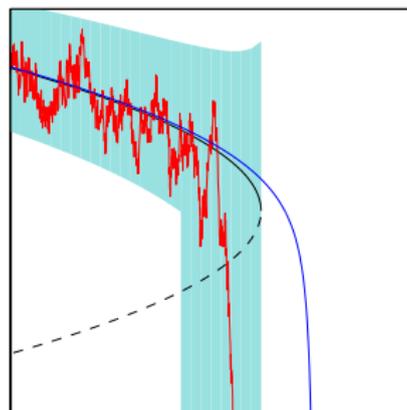


# Saddle-node bifurcation (e.g. $f(x, t) = -t - x^2$ )

$$\sigma \ll \sigma_c = \varepsilon^{1/2}$$



$$\sigma \gg \sigma_c = \varepsilon^{1/2}$$



$\sigma = 0$ : Solutions stay at distance  $\varepsilon^{1/3}$  above bif. point until time  $\varepsilon^{2/3}$  after bif.

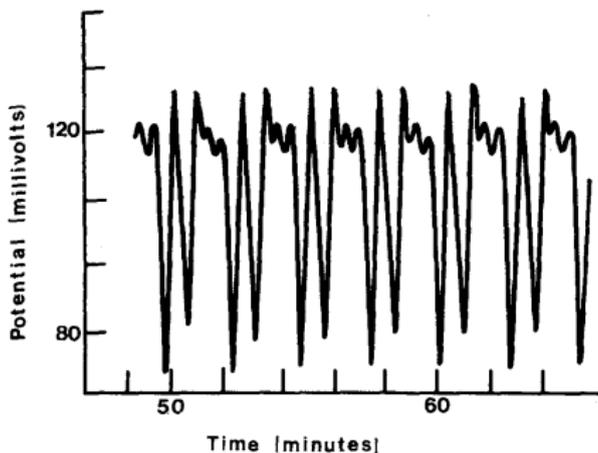
**Theorem** [Berglund & G 2002]

- ▶ If  $\sigma \ll \sigma_c$ : Paths likely to stay in  $\mathcal{B}(h)$  until time  $\varepsilon^{2/3}$  after bifurcation; maximal spreading  $\sigma/\varepsilon^{1/6}$ .
- ▶ If  $\sigma \gg \sigma_c$ : Transition happens typically for  $t \asymp -\sigma^{4/3}$  (early transitions); transition probability  $\geq 1 - e^{-c\sigma^2/\varepsilon|\log \sigma|}$

# Mixed-mode oscillations

# Mixed-mode oscillations (MMOs)

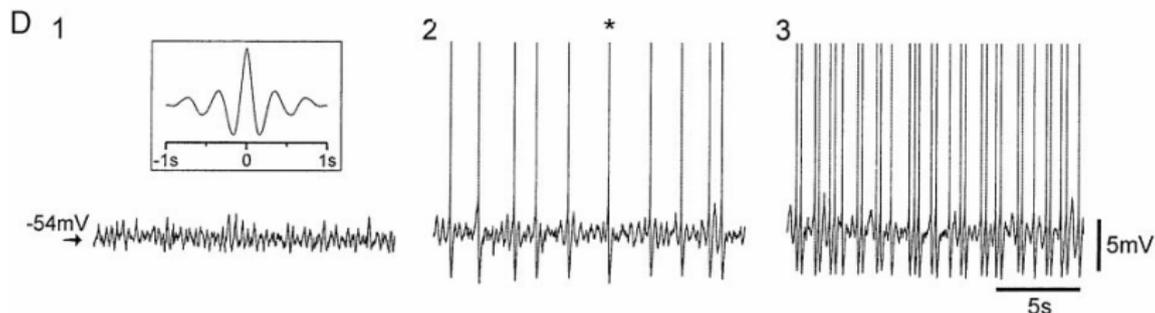
## Belousov–Zhabotinsky reaction



Recording from bromide ion electrode;  $T=25^{\circ}\text{C}$ ; flow rate = 3.99 ml/min;  $\text{Ce}^{+3}$  catalyst [Hudson, Hart, Marinko '79]

# MMOs in Biology

## Layer II Stellate Cells



D: subthreshold membrane potential oscillations (1 and 2) and spike clustering (3) develop at increasingly depolarized membrane potential levels positive to about  $-55$  mV. Autocorrelation function (*inset* in 1) demonstrates the rhythmicity of the subthreshold oscillations [Dickson *et al* 2000]

**Questions:** Origin of small-amplitude oscillations?  
Source of irregularity in pattern?

# MMOs & slow-fast systems

## Observation

MMOs can be observed in slow-fast systems undergoing a folded-node bifurcation (1 fast, 2 slow variables)

Normal form of folded-node [Benoît, Lobry 1982; Szmolyan, Wechselberger 2001]

$$\begin{aligned}\epsilon \dot{x} &= y - x^2 \\ \dot{y} &= -(\mu + 1)x - z \\ \dot{z} &= \frac{\mu}{2}\end{aligned}$$

**Questions** Dynamics for small  $\epsilon > 0$  ?

# MMOs & slow-fast systems

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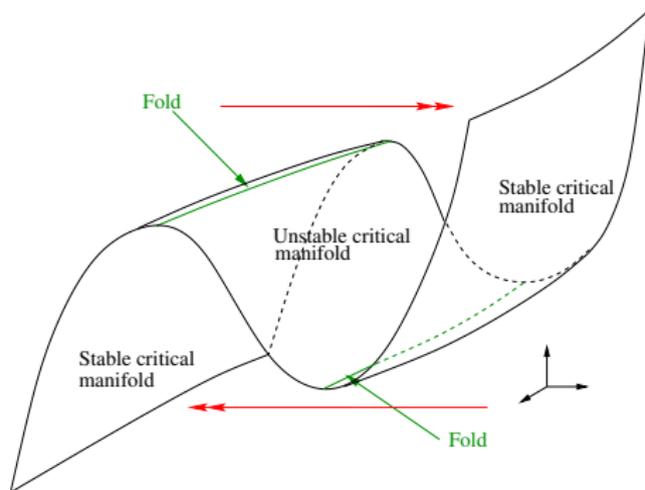
Normal form of folded-node [Benoît, Lobry 1982; Szmolyan, Wechselberger 2001]

$$\begin{aligned}\epsilon \dot{x} &= y - x^2 + \text{noise} \\ \dot{y} &= -(\mu + 1)x - z + \text{noise} \\ \dot{z} &= \frac{\mu}{2}\end{aligned}$$

**Questions** Dynamics for small  $\epsilon > 0$  ?  
Effect of noise?

# Folded-node bifurcation: Critical manifold and canard solutions

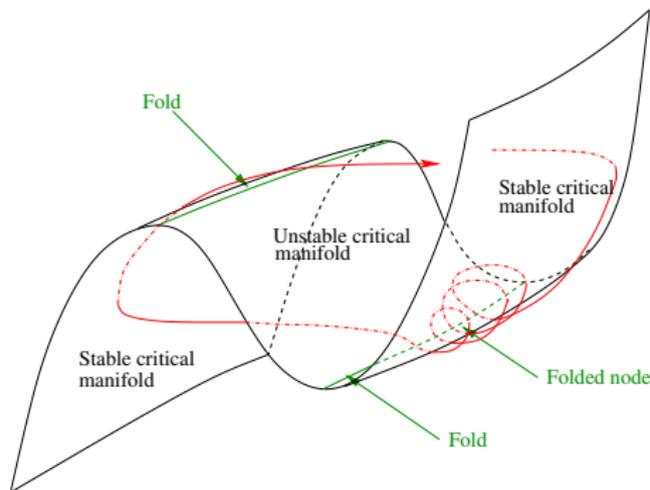
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- ▶  $\epsilon = 0$ : Critical manifold decomposes into stable and unstable parts + fold line

## Folded-node bifurcation: Critical manifold and canard solutions

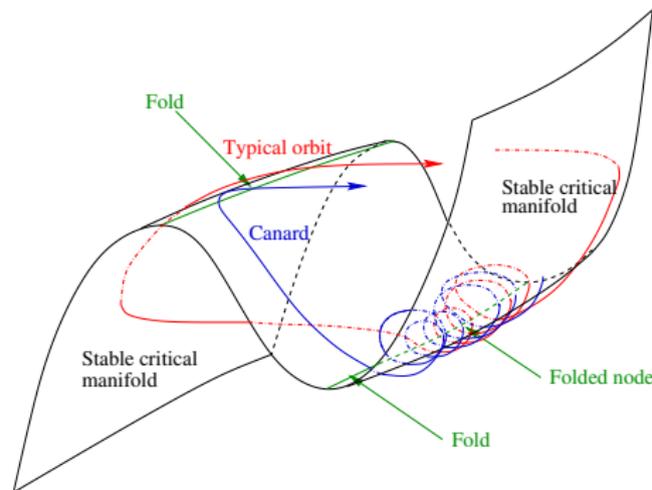
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- ▶  $\epsilon = 0$ : Critical manifold decomposes into stable and unstable parts + fold line
- ▶ Typical solution exhibits small amplitude oscillations

## Folded-node bifurcation: Critical manifold and canard solutions

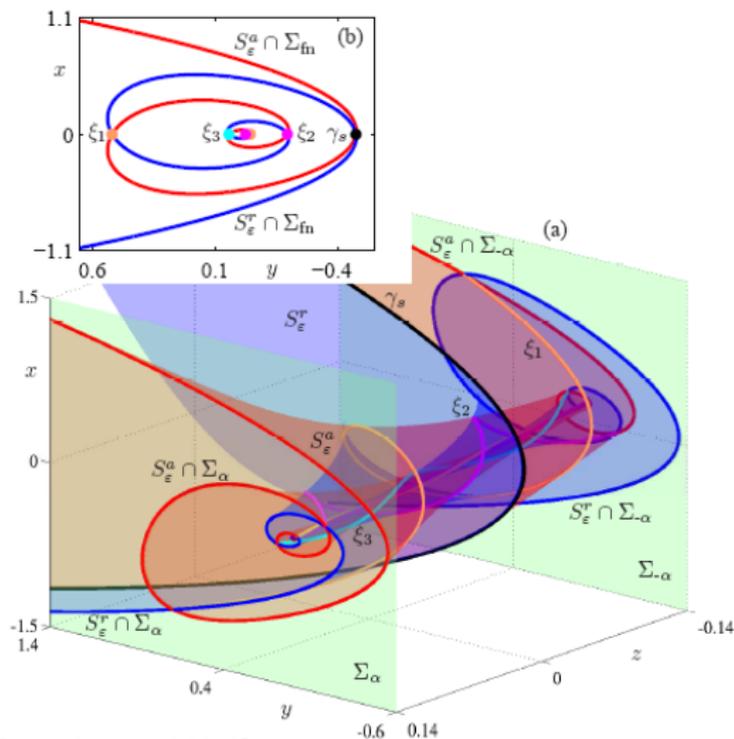
$$\begin{aligned}\epsilon \dot{x} &= y - x^2 \\ \dot{y} &= -(\mu + 1)x - z \\ \dot{z} &= \frac{\mu}{2}\end{aligned}$$



- ▶  $\epsilon = 0$ : Critical manifold decomposes into stable and unstable parts + fold line
- ▶ Typical solution exhibits small amplitude oscillations
- ▶ Existence of canard solutions tracking critical manifold



# Folded-node: Adiabatic manifolds and canard solutions



## Assume

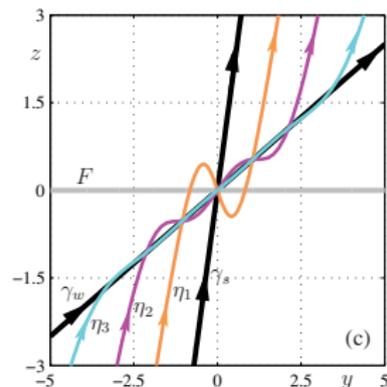
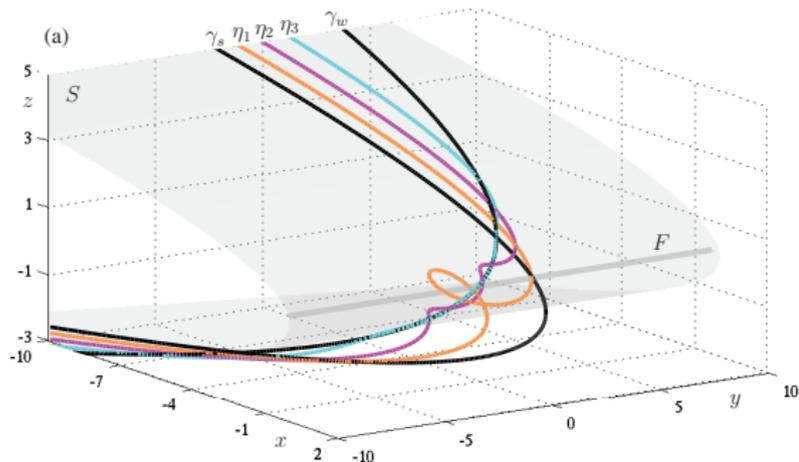
- ▷  $\varepsilon$  sufficiently small
- ▷  $\mu \in (0, 1)$ ,  $\mu^{-1} \notin \mathbb{N}$

## Theorem

- ▷ Existence of *strong* and *weak* (maximal) canard  $\gamma_\varepsilon^{s,w}$
- ▷  $2k + 1 < \mu^{-1} < 2k + 3$ :  
 $\exists k$  *secondary* canards  $\gamma_\varepsilon^j$
- ▷  $\gamma_\varepsilon^j$  makes  $(2j + 1)/2$  oscillations around  $\gamma_\varepsilon^w$

[Desroches *et al* 2012]

# Folded-node: Canard spacing



[Desroches, Krauskopf, Osinga 2008]

## Lemma

For  $z = 0$ : Distance between canards  $\gamma_\epsilon^k$  and  $\gamma_\epsilon^{k+1}$  is  $\mathcal{O}(e^{-c_0(2k+1)^2\mu})$

## Stochastic folded nodes: Rescaling

$$\begin{aligned} dx_t &= \frac{1}{\varepsilon} (y_t - x_t^2) dt + \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{\varepsilon}} dW_t^{(1)} \\ dy_t &= [-(\mu + 1)x_t - z_t] dt + \sigma' dW_t^{(2)} \\ dz_t &= \frac{\mu}{2} dt \end{aligned}$$

Rescaling (blow-up transformation):  $(x, y, z, t) = (\sqrt{\varepsilon}\bar{x}, \varepsilon\bar{y}, \sqrt{\varepsilon}\bar{z}, \sqrt{\varepsilon}\bar{t})$

In addition:  $(\sigma, \sigma') = (\varepsilon^{3/4}\bar{\sigma}, \varepsilon^{3/4}\bar{\sigma}')$  and consider  $z$  as “time”

$$\begin{aligned} dx_z &= \frac{2}{\mu} (y_z - x_z^2) dz + \frac{\sqrt{2}\sigma}{\sqrt{\mu}} dW_z^{(1)} \\ dy_z &= -\frac{2}{\mu} [(\mu + 1)x_z + z] dz + \frac{\sqrt{2}\sigma'}{\sqrt{\mu}} dW_z^{(2)} \end{aligned}$$

For small  $\mu$ : Slowly driven system with two fast variables

# Deviation from the adiabatic manifold due to noise

## Main idea

- ▷ Deterministic reference process  $(x_z^{\text{det}}, y_z^{\text{det}})$
- ▷ Linearize SDE for  $\xi_z := x_z - x_z^{\text{det}}$

## Key observation

- ▷ Resulting process  $\xi_z^0$  is mean-zero Gaussian
- ▷ Covariance matrix  $\sigma^2 \bar{X}(z, \varepsilon)$  determines behaviour

## We're in business ...

- ▷ Calculate asymptotic size of the covariance tube

$$\mathcal{B}(h) = \{(x, y) : \langle [x - \bar{x}(y, \varepsilon)], \bar{X}(y, \varepsilon)^{-1} [x - \bar{x}(y, \varepsilon)] \rangle < h^2, y \in \mathcal{D}_0\}$$

using Neishtadt's theorem on delayed Hopf bifurcations

- ▷ Use general result on concentration of sample paths for  $\xi_z$  in  $\mathcal{B}(h)$

# Stochastic folded nodes: Concentration of sample paths

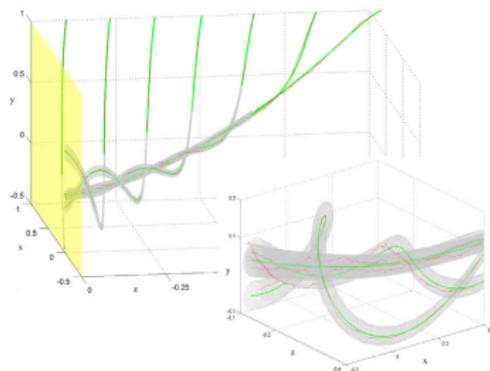
**Theorem** [Berglund, G & Kuehn 2012]

$$\mathbb{P}\{\tau_{\mathcal{B}(h)} < z\} \leq C(z_0, z) \exp\left\{-\kappa \frac{h^2}{2\sigma^2}\right\} \quad \forall z \in [z_0, \sqrt{\mu}]$$

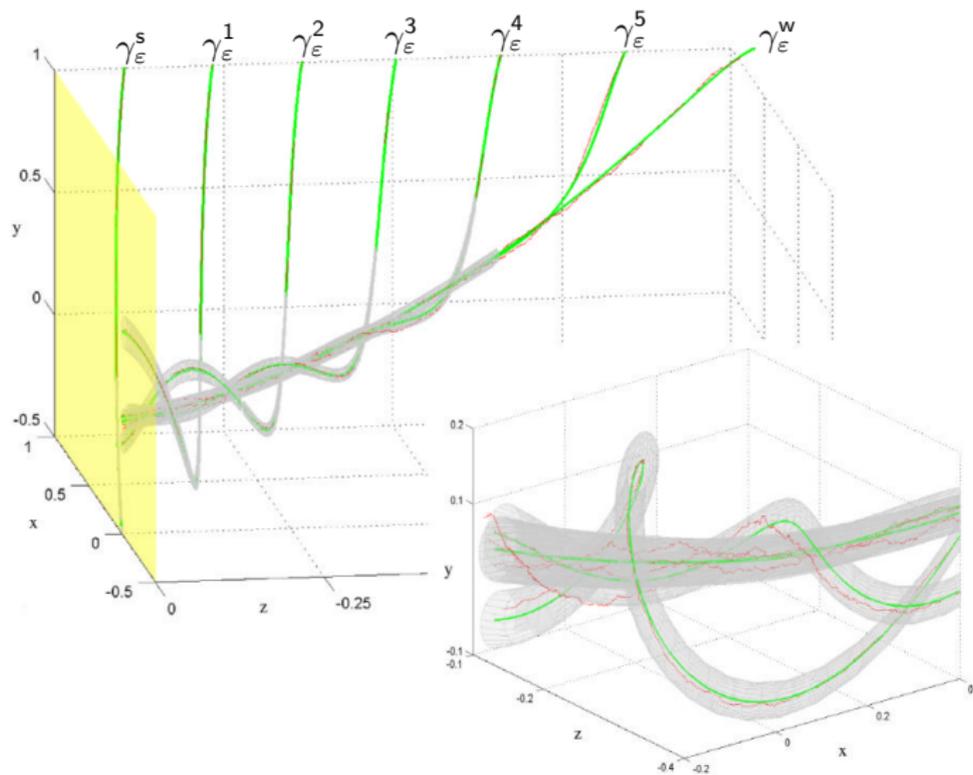
where  $\tau_{\mathcal{B}(h)} = \inf\{s > 0: (x_s, y_s) \notin \mathcal{B}(h)\}$

For  $z = 0$ :

- ▷ Distance between canards  $\gamma_\epsilon^k$  and  $\gamma_\epsilon^{k+1}$  is  $\mathcal{O}(e^{-c_0(2k+1)^2\mu})$
- ▷ Section of  $\mathcal{B}(h)$  is close to circular with radius  $\mu^{-1/4}h$
- ▷ Noisy canards become indistinguishable when typical radius  $\mu^{-1/4}\sigma \approx$  distance



# Canards or pasta ... ?

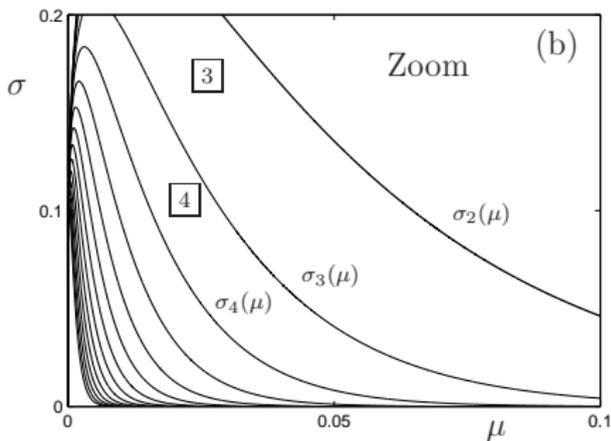
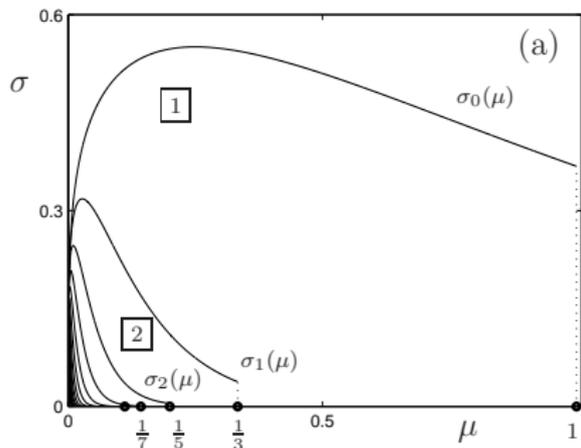


# Noisy small-amplitude oscillations

**Theorem** [Berglund, G & Kuehn 2012]

Canards with  $\frac{2k+1}{2}$  oscillations become indistinguishable from noisy fluctuations for

$$\sigma > \sigma_k(\mu) = \mu^{1/4} e^{-(2k+1)^2 \mu}$$



# Early escape

## Model allowing for global returns

- ▷ Consider  $z > \sqrt{\mu}$
- ▷  $\mathcal{D}_0 =$  neighbourhood of  $\gamma^w$ , growing like  $\sqrt{z}$

## Theorem [Berglund, G & Kuehn 2012]

$\exists \kappa, \kappa_1, \kappa_2, C > 0$

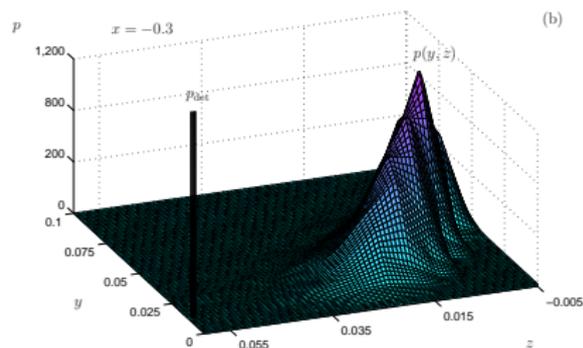
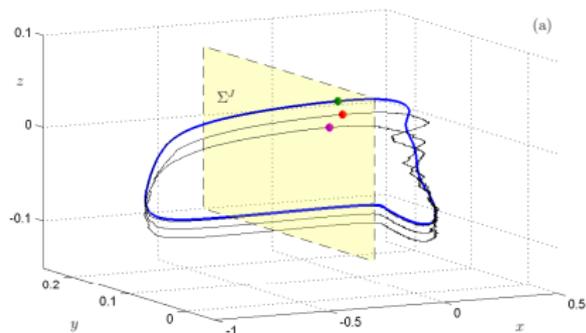
s.t.

for  $\sigma |\log \sigma|^{\kappa_1} \leq \mu^{3/4}$

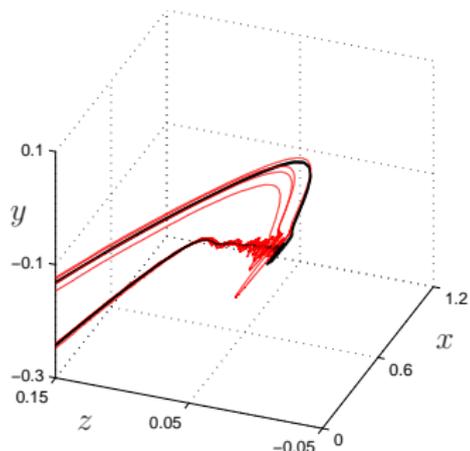
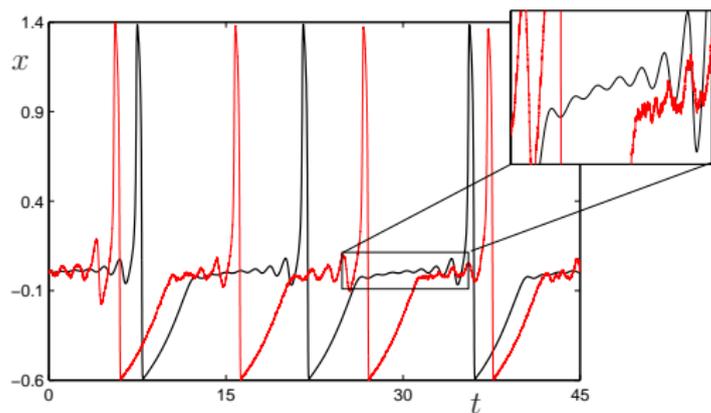
$\mathbb{P}\{\tau_{\mathcal{D}_0} > z\} \leq C |\log \sigma|^{\kappa_2} e^{-\kappa(z^2 - \mu)/(\mu |\log \sigma|)}$

Note:

r.h.s. small for  $z \gg \sqrt{\mu |\log \sigma| / \kappa}$



# Mixed-mode oscillations in the presence of noise



## Observations

- ▷ Noise smears out small-amplitude oscillations
- ▷ Early transitions modify the mixed-mode pattern
- ▷ Which kind of patterns can arise?

Partial answer: [Berglund, G & Kuehn, submitted]

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# Collaborators



Nils Berglund  
(Orléans)



Bastien Fernandez  
(Marseille)



Christian Kuehn  
(Vienna)

# Thank you for your attention !



University of Bielefeld