

MIXED DYNAMICS OF 2-DIMENSIONAL REVERSIBLE MAPS
WITH A SYMMETRIC COUPLE OF QUADRATIC
HOMOCLINIC TANGENCIES

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ABSTRACT. We study dynamics and bifurcations of 2-dimensional reversible maps having a symmetric saddle fixed point with an asymmetric pair of non-transversal homoclinic orbits (a symmetric nontransversal homoclinic figure-8). We consider one-parameter families of reversible maps unfolding the initial homoclinic tangency and prove the existence of infinitely many sequences (cascades) of bifurcations related to the birth of asymptotically stable, unstable and elliptic periodic orbits.

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1. **Introduction.** In his seminal works in 1974 and 1979, Newhouse [27, 28] developed the concept of *structural instability*. This notion set up a cornerstone in Bifurcation Theory since it provided “large” domains in the space of dynamical systems where “chaotic non-hyperbolic” behaviour was robust.

Newhouse proved [26, 28] that, near any 2-dimensional diffeomorphism with a homoclinic tangency there exist open regions consisting of diffeomorphisms exhibiting nontransversal intersections between stable and unstable manifolds of hyperbolic basic sets. Such sets were called *wild hyperbolic* by Newhouse. The original formulation of his result reads as follows:

Newhouse Theorem [28]. *Let M^2 be a C^∞ compact 2-dimensional manifold and let $r \geq 2$. Assume that $f \in \text{Diff}^r(M^2)$ has a hyperbolic set whose stable and unstable manifolds are tangent at some point x . Then f may be C^r perturbed inside an open set $U \subset \text{Diff}^r(M^2)$ so that each $g \in U$ has a wild hyperbolic set near the orbit of x .*

Several consequences, derived from this theorem, have become crucial in the theory of dynamical systems:

- There exist open regions in the space of 2-dimensional diffeomorphisms (3-dimensional flows), with the C^r -topology, $r \geq 2$, called *Newhouse regions*, where the systems having a homoclinic tangency form a dense subset.
- These Newhouse regions exist in any neighbourhood of any 2-dimensional diffeomorphism having a homoclinic tangency.

Newhouse Theorem was extended to a general multidimensional context [11, 29, 30] and later on to area-preserving diffeomorphisms [4, 5, 6]. In the context of general parameter unfoldings [28, 11], Newhouse regions are also regarded as open domains in the parameter space such that the values of the parameters which give rise to homoclinic tangencies form a dense subset. In the case of 1-parameter families, they are usually called *Newhouse intervals*.

One of the most known and fundamental dynamical property of Newhouse regions is *the coexistence of infinitely many hyperbolic periodic orbits of different types*. This happens in planar systems where the initial quadratic homoclinic tangency is associated to a fixed (periodic) point O with multipliers λ, γ , where $|\lambda| < 1 < |\gamma|$ and saddle value $\sigma = |\lambda| \cdot |\gamma|$ less than 1. Notice that such situation implies area contraction. This property is known as *Newhouse phenomenon*:

- The set \mathcal{B} of parameter values μ in any Newhouse interval I giving rise to the coexistence of infinitely many periodic sinks and saddles form a residual subset¹.

This result was first obtained in [27]. Its proof is based essentially on the Newhouse theory of “thickness”. It states the existence of an infinite sequence of intervals of values of a (splitting) parameter for which there exists a single stable periodic orbit². Since Newhouse regions exist near any system presenting a homoclinic tangency, they can be found in the space of parameters of many dynamical

¹ This set \mathcal{B} can have positive measure for a dense set of suitable families [33] and also for generic families of multidimensional (with $\dim \geq 3$) diffeomorphisms [1].

²Multidimensional versions of this result and criteria of birth of periodic sinks at homoclinic bifurcations were established in [8, 29, 12, 18]

models exhibiting chaotic behaviour in the absence of uniform hyperbolicity. Their extreme richness makes a complete description an unreachable task: tangencies of arbitrarily high order as well as highly degenerate periodic orbits are dense in these regions [10, 14].

In [18] it was suggested, as one important feature in Newhouse regions, the coexistence of infinitely many periodic orbits with any kind of stability, leading to the so-called *mixed dynamics* phenomenon. This property can be generic. It is also persistent in the case of a type of dynamical chaos [22], which is characterised by the fundamental property that the intersection of an attractor \mathcal{A} and a repeller \mathcal{R} is non-empty and $\mathcal{A} \neq \mathcal{R}$. This is neither the situation in the dissipative chaos (strange attractor), when $\mathcal{A} \cap \mathcal{R} = \emptyset$, nor in the conservative chaos, when $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{R}$.

Indeed (see [13]), there exist Newhouse regions with mixed dynamics near any 2-dimensional diffeomorphism with a nontransversal heteroclinic cycle containing at least two saddle periodic points O_1, O_2 whose Jacobians satisfy that $|J(O_1)| > 1$ and $|J(O_2)| < 1$. This kind of cycles is commonly referred as *contracting-expanding* and it appears to be rather usual in 2-dimensional reversible diffeomorphisms.

Recall that a diffeomorphism f is called *reversible* if it is smoothly conjugated to its inverse by means of an involution R (a *reversor*), that is, $R \circ f = f^{-1} \circ R$, with $R^2 = \text{Id}$, $R \neq \text{Id}$. The involution R does not need to be linear. It is often assumed to have the same smoothness as the diffeomorphism f . Equivalently, f is reversible if and only if it can be written as the product of two involutions, $f = g \circ h$ with $g^2 = h^2 = \text{Id}$. The points which are invariant by the involution R form the symmetry manifold $\text{Fix } R = \{(x, y) \mid R(x, y) = (x, y)\}$. Along this work we will consider planar R -reversible diffeomorphisms f with R such that $\dim \text{Fix } R = 1$, that is, a curve.

We say that an object Λ is *symmetric* when $R(\Lambda) = \Lambda$. To put more emphasis, the notation self-symmetric may be used. By a *symmetric couple of objects* Λ_1, Λ_2 , we mean two different objects which are symmetric one to each other, i.e., $R(\Lambda_1) = \Lambda_2$ and, thus, $\Lambda_1 = R(\Lambda_2)$.

Two examples of contracting-expanding heteroclinic cycle for a R -reversible diffeomorphism are shown in Fig. 1. In case (a) the diffeomorphism has a symmetric couple of saddle periodic (fixed) points O_1 and $O_2 = R(O_1)$, as well as two heteroclinic orbits $\Gamma_{12} \subset W^u(O_1) \cap W^s(O_2)$ and $\Gamma_{21} \subset W^u(O_2) \cap W^s(O_1)$ such that $R(\Gamma_{21}) = \Gamma_{21}$, $R(\Gamma_{12}) = \Gamma_{12}$. The orbit Γ_{12} is nontransversal: the manifolds $W^u(O_1)$ and $W^s(O_2)$ have a quadratic tangency along that orbit. Since $R(O_1) = O_2$, their Jacobians verify $J(O_1) = J^{-1}(O_2)$ and, provided that $J(O_i) \neq \pm 1$, $i = 1, 2$, the heteroclinic cycle is contracting-expanding.

Reversible diffeomorphisms can present rich dynamics and it is worth studying them by themselves. Moreover, when they are not conservative (this is an open property) they can possess the so-called *reversible mixed dynamics*. We define this phenomenon as follows:

Definition 1.1. We say that a 2-dimensional reversible diffeomorphism f exhibits *reversible mixed dynamics* if the following two conditions hold:

- f has simultaneously infinitely many symmetric couples of periodic sinks-sources, periodic saddles with Jacobians greater and less than 1 as well as infinitely many symmetric periodic elliptic orbits and periodic saddles with Jacobian equal to 1.
- The closures of periodic orbits of different types have non-empty intersections.

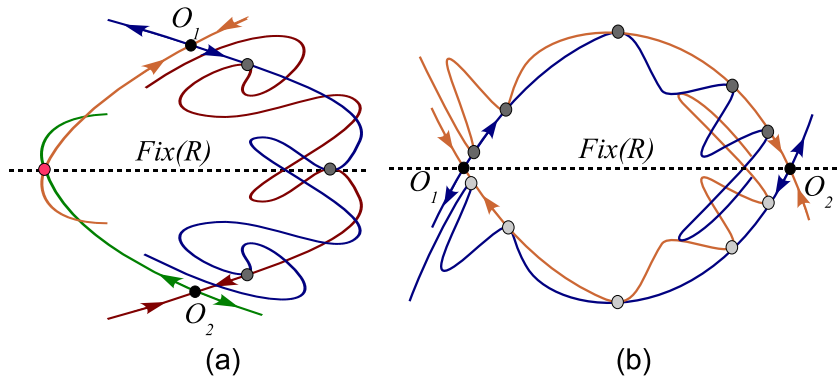


FIGURE 1. Two different examples of planar reversible maps with symmetric nontransversal (quadratic tangency) heteroclinic cycles: (a) with a nontransversal symmetric heteroclinic orbit to a symmetric couple of saddle points, and (b) with a symmetric couple of nontransversal heteroclinic orbits to symmetric saddle points.

These properties seem to be universal when symmetric homoclinic tangencies and symmetric nontransversal heteroclinic cycles are involved in the dynamics. Indeed, the following assertion was formulated in [2].

Reversible Mixed Dynamics Conjecture (RMD). *2-dimensional reversible diffeomorphisms with reversible mixed dynamics are generic in Newhouse regions where diffeomorphisms with symmetric homoclinic or/and heteroclinic tangencies are dense.*

This RMD conjecture is true when Newhouse regions with C^r -topology ($2 \leq r \leq \infty$) are considered (see [21]). However, in the real analytic case and for parameter families, it has been proved for a general 1-parameter unfolding only in two cases – for 2-dimensional reversible diffeomorphisms with nontransversal heteroclinic cycles, as shown in Fig. 1. The cycle of Fig. 1(a) was considered in [23]: such a cycle contains a symmetric couple of saddle fixed (periodic) points (with Jacobians less and greater than 1, respectively) and a pair of symmetric transverse and nontransversal heteroclinic orbits. The cycle of Fig. 1(b) was considered in [2]: such a cycle contains a symmetric couple of nontransversal heteroclinic orbits to symmetric saddle fixed (periodic) points.

One of the targets concerning RMD conjecture is its proof for 2-dimensional reversible diffeomorphisms which have a homoclinic tangency to a symmetric fixed (periodic) point. There are three main cases, as illustrated in Fig. 2. Figure 2(a) and Figure 2(b) relate to the case when the orbit of the homoclinic tangency is also symmetric and the tangency is either (a) quadratic or (b) cubic. In Fig. 2(c) we have the case of a symmetric fixed point and a symmetric couple of orbits with quadratic homoclinic tangencies.

This paper is devoted to this *third case* displayed in Fig. 2(c). Roughly speaking, it will be shown that in a general (and symmetrical) unfolding of 1-parameter families of reversible maps with homoclinic tangencies, there exist Newhouse intervals with reversible mixed dynamics. We notice that the results of this paper will not only concern orientable planar reversible maps, as the one showed in Fig. 2(c).

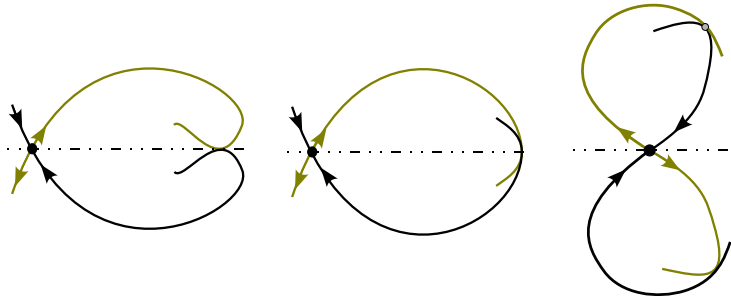


FIGURE 2. Three examples of planar reversible maps with symmetric non-transversal homoclinic tangencies: (a) a symmetric quadratic homoclinic tangency; (b) a symmetric cubic homoclinic tangency; (c) a symmetric couple of nontransversal homoclinic (figure-8) orbits to the same symmetric saddle point.

They will be also valid for maps defined on 2-dimensional non-orientable manifolds allowing a similar structure. For example, on a manifold constructed as a disc surrounding the saddle point with two glued symmetric Möbius bands.

The paper is structured as follows. Section 2 contains the statement of the problem, the main hypotheses and the description of the principal results: Theorems 2.1–2.4. Section 3 deals with the construction of the local and global maps. Theorem 2.1 and Theorem 2.2 are proved in Section 4 and Section 5, respectively. Section 6 is devoted to the proof of Theorems 2.3 and 2.4. Finally, in Section 7 we present some examples of periodically perturbed reversible vector fields giving rise to reversible maps with quadratic hetero/homoclinic tangencies as considered above.

2. Setting and main results.

2.1. **The framework.** Let f_0 be a C^r -smooth ($r \geq 4$) reversible diffeomorphism of a 2-dimensional manifold M^2 with reversor R satisfying $\dim \text{Fix } R = 1$. Assume that the following hypotheses hold:

- [A] The diffeomorphism f_0 has a (symmetric) saddle fixed point $O \in \text{Fix } R$ with multipliers λ, λ^{-1} and $0 < \lambda < 1$.
- [B] f_0 has a symmetric couple of homoclinic orbits Γ_1 and Γ_2 such that $\Gamma_2 = R(\Gamma_1)$ (and, thus, $\Gamma_1 = R(\Gamma_2)$) and satisfies that the invariant manifolds $W^u(O)$ and $W^s(O)$ have quadratic tangencies at the points of Γ_1 and Γ_2 .

Let us be more precise with the latter hypothesis. Take U a small fixed neighbourhood of the contour $O \cup \Gamma_1 \cup \Gamma_2$. U is formed by the union of a small neighbourhood U_0 of the point O and several neighbourhoods U_1^j and U_2^j , $j = 1, \dots, n$, of those points of the orbits Γ_1 and Γ_2 which do not lie in U_0 (see Fig. 3(b)). Thus, $\Gamma_1 \subset U_0 \cup U_1$ and $\Gamma_2 \subset U_0 \cup U_2$, where $U_i = U_0 \cup U_i^1 \dots \cup U_i^n$ is a neighbourhood of the homoclinic orbit Γ_i , for $i = 1, 2$. It is not restrictive to assume that U is symmetric, that is $R(U) = U$. Indeed, this comes from assuming that $R(U_0) = U_0$ and $R(U_1^j) = U_2^j$ (and so $R(U_2^j) = U_1^j$).

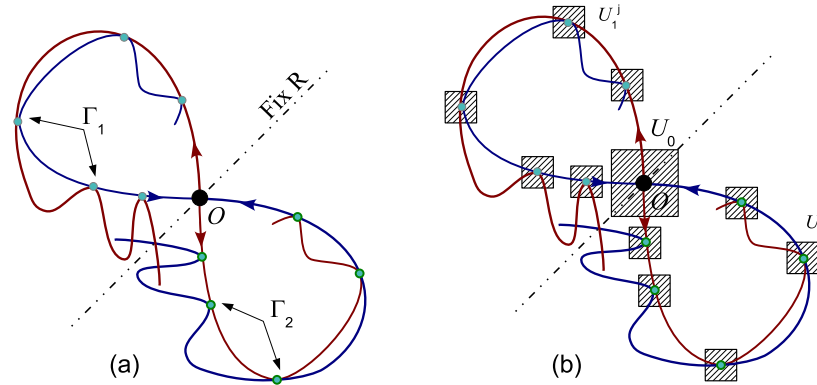


FIGURE 3. (a) An example of reversible map with a couple of symmetric homoclinic tangencies (homoclinic figure-8). (b) A neighbourhood of the contour $O \cup \Gamma_1 \cup \Gamma_2$.

Consider the orbit Γ_1 and take a pair of its points, say, $M_1^- \in W_{\text{loc}}^u(O) \cap U_0$ and $M_1^+ := f_0^q(M_1^-) \in W_{\text{loc}}^s(O) \cap U_0$, for a suitable positive integer value q . Denote by $\Pi_1^- \subset U_0$ a small neighbourhood of M_1^- and define the map $T_1 := f_0^q : \Pi_1^- \rightarrow U_0$. Assume that the following hypothesis is also satisfied:

[C] The Jacobian $J_1 = J(T_1)|_{M_1^-}$ of the map T_1 at the point M_1^- is different from ± 1 . Without loss of generality we can assume that $|J_1| < 1$.

It is not difficult to check that condition [C] does not depend on the choice of the points M_1^- and M_1^+ . Moreover, it implies that the map T_1 , defined in a neighbourhood of M_1^- is not conservative.

- Remark 1.**
1. We do not consider the case when the fixed point O has multipliers λ, λ^{-1} with $-1 < \lambda < 0$. This is a much more complicated case, since f_0 would have an additional symmetry due to the negativity of the two multipliers of O .
 2. In condition [C], the case $0 < J_1 < 1$ corresponds to f_0 orientable while the case $-1 < J_1 < 0$ relates to f_0 non-orientable. The latter means that the manifold M^2 is non-orientable (the orbit behaves near the global pieces of Γ_1 and Γ_2 , geometrically, like on a Möbius band).
 3. Our assumptions also cover the case of reversible maps like in Fig. 4, i.e. when only one pair of stable and unstable separatrices of O create the homoclinic orbits Γ_1 and Γ_2 . Fig. 4(b) shows how such nontransversal heteroclinic cycle can be created by perturbation of a reversible map with a symmetric transverse homoclinic orbit.

Consider two points $M_2^- \in W_{\text{loc}}^u(O)$ and $M_2^+ \in W_{\text{loc}}^s(O)$ of the orbit Γ_2 being the symmetric images of the homoclinic points M_1^+ and M_1^- , i.e. $M_2^- = R(M_1^+)$ and $M_2^+ = R(M_1^-)$. Since f_0 is (R) -reversible it follows that $f_0^q(M_2^+) = M_2^-$. Let T_2 denote the restriction of the map f_0^q onto a small neighbourhood of the point M_2^- . Moreover, we can consider T_2 defined from $\Pi_2^- = R(\Pi_1^+)$ onto $\Pi_2^+ = R(\Pi_1^-)$

(see Fig. 8). Since $T_2 = R(T_1^{-1})$ we have that $J(T_2)|_{M_2^-} = (J(T_1)|_{M_1^-})^{-1}$ and from [C] it follows that $|J_2| = |J(T_2)|_{M_2^-}| > 1$. As it will be properly defined later, iterations of f_0 in the neighbourhood U_0 around O will be represented by the map T_0^k , for positive integer k .

Observe that, for close to f_0 maps, one can subdivide nonwandering orbits in U (except for O) into three different types: 1-orbits that stay only in $U_0 \cap U_1$; 2-orbits that stay only in $U_0 \cap U_2$; and 1-2-orbits that visit both $U_0 \cap U_1$ and $U_0 \cap U_2$. From these types of orbits, we select the so-called single-round periodic orbits, that is those which pass only once inside U . We will refer to them, respectively, as single-round periodic 1-, 2- and 1-2-orbits.

For 1-orbits, we will consider points $x \in \Pi_1^+$, take its image under suitable iterates k of T_0 , reaching Π_1^- and studying $\bar{x} = T_1 T_0^k(x) \in \Pi_1^+$ as its return point. If $\bar{x} = x$ we say that x is a fixed point of the first return map $T_{1k} = T_1 T_0^k$. Analogously, the first return maps for single-round periodic 2-orbits may be represented in the form $T_{2k} = T_2 T_0^k$, from Π_2^+ onto itself. And finally, we will also look for single-round periodic 1-2-orbits or, equivalently, fixed points of $T_{2m1k} = T_2 T_0^m T_1 T_0^k$ from Π_2^+ onto itself, for large enough integers k and m . For more details, see Section 3 and Figs. 5 and 6.

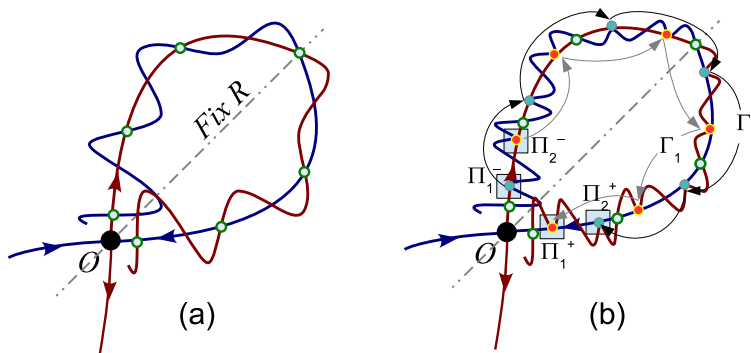


FIGURE 4. (a) A reversible diffeomorphism with a symmetric transversal homoclinic orbit; (b) creation of a symmetric couple of nontransversal homoclinic orbits Γ_1 and Γ_2 (a “fish” configuration).

2.2. The results. Let $\{f_\mu\}$ be a 1-parameter family of (R -)reversible diffeomorphisms that unfolds at $\mu = 0$ the initial homoclinic tangencies of the diffeomorphism f_0 defined above. Assume that f_0 satisfies conditions [A,B,C]. Then, the following theorem shows the global symmetry-breaking bifurcations undergone in this case:

Theorem 2.1. *For the family $\{f_\mu\}$, in any segment $[-\mu_0, \mu_0]$ with $\mu_0 > 0$ small, there are infinitely many intervals n_k , with boundaries $\mu = \mu_k^+$ and μ_k^- where $\mu_k^\pm \rightarrow 0$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$, satisfying:*

- *Symmetric (and simultaneous) single round 1-orbits and 2-orbits of period $k + q$ undergo non-degenerate saddle-node and period-doubling bifurcations at the values $\mu = \mu_k^+$ and $\mu = \mu_k^-$, respectively.*

- The first return maps T_{1k} and T_{2k} have at $\mu \in n_k$ two fixed points: a sink and a saddle for T_{1k} and a source and a saddle for T_{2k} .

This theorem can be seen as an extension of the theorem on cascade of periodic sinks in [7, 27] for the case when the saddle fixed point is conservative and the global dynamics near the homoclinic orbit is dissipative. In general, these intervals n_k will be non-intersecting (see Remark 3 for a wider explanation on that).

In contrast to Theorem 2.1, the following theorem deals with the global bifurcations giving rise to symmetric conservative dynamics, that is, the bifurcations of birth of symmetric single-round elliptic 1-2-orbits.

Theorem 2.2. *For the family $\{f_\mu\}$ under consideration, in any segment $[-\mu_0, \mu_0]$ with $\mu_0 > 0$ small, there exist infinitely many intervals n_{km}^c accumulating at $\mu = 0$ as $k, m \rightarrow \infty$ such that the first-return map T_{2m1k} has at $\mu \in n_{km}^c$ symmetric elliptic and saddle fixed points.*

Next result is a Newhouse-type theorem for the case under consideration.

Theorem 2.3. *For the family $\{f_\mu\}$, in any segment $[-\mu_0, \mu_0]$ with $\mu_0 > 0$ small, there exist open intervals n_i such that the set of values $\mu \in n_i$ for which the corresponding map f_μ satisfying the following two properties (a) and (b) form a dense subset of n_i :*

- (a) f_μ has a symmetric couple of homoclinic orbits $\Gamma_{1\mu} \subset U_1$ and $\Gamma_{2\mu} = R(\Gamma_{1\mu}) \subset U_2$ to the symmetric saddle fixed point O_μ .
- (b) The manifolds $W^u(O_\mu)$ and $W^s(O_\mu)$ of f_μ have quadratic tangencies at the points of $\Gamma_{1\mu}$ and $\Gamma_{2\mu}$.

Summarising, from Theorems 2.1– 2.3 the following result on existence of mixed dynamics is obtained.

Theorem 2.4. *Let $\{f_\mu\}$ be a 1-parameter family of 2-dimensional reversible maps which unfolds at $\mu = 0$ a couple of homoclinic tangencies satisfying conditions [A,B,C]. Then, for any $\mu_0 > 0$, the intervals $n_i \subset [-\mu_0, \mu_0]$ from Theorem 3 are Newhouse intervals with reversible mixed dynamics, i.e., there exists a residual subset $b_i \subset n_i$ such that if $\mu \in b_i$ the diffeomorphism f_μ exhibits reversible mixed dynamics (see Definition 1.1).*

The proof of Theorems 2.1 and 2.2 extends along Sections 3– 5. In contrast, the proofs of Theorems 2.3 and 2.4 are quite standard and are deferred to the end of the paper: Theorem 2.3 is proved in Section 6.1 and Theorem 2.4 in Section 6.2.

3. Preliminary geometric and analytic constructions. Let us consider a map f_μ from our 1-parameter family and let denote by $T_0 \equiv f_\mu|_{U_0}$ its restriction onto a neighbourhood U_0 of the fixed point O . This μ -dependent map T_0 is called the *local map*. We introduce the so-called *global maps* T_1 and T_2 through the following relations: $T_1 \equiv f_\mu^q : \Pi_1^- \rightarrow \Pi_1^+$ and $T_2 \equiv f_\mu^q : \Pi_2^- \rightarrow \Pi_2^+$. They are well defined for small values of μ since $f_0^q(M_1^-) = M_1^+$ and $f_0^q(M_2^-) = M_2^+$. Then the *first-return maps* $T_{1k} : \Pi_1^+ \mapsto \Pi_1^+$, $T_{2k} : \Pi_2^+ \mapsto \Pi_2^+$ and $T_{2m1k} : \Pi_1^+ \mapsto \Pi_1^+$ can be defined by the following composition of maps:

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi_1^+ &\xrightarrow{T_0^k} \Pi_1^- \xrightarrow{T_1} \Pi_1^+ , \\ \Pi_2^+ &\xrightarrow{T_0^k} \Pi_2^- \xrightarrow{T_2} \Pi_2^+ , \\ \Pi_2^+ &\xrightarrow{T_0^k} \Pi_1^- \xrightarrow{T_1} \Pi_1^+ \xrightarrow{T_0^m} \Pi_2^- \xrightarrow{T_2} \Pi_2^+ , \end{aligned}$$

(see Fig. 5 and 6). In short, we will denote these compositions by $T_{1k} = T_1T_0^k$, $T_{2k} = T_2T_0^k$ and $T_{2m1k} = T_2T_0^mT_1T_0^k$. As it is usual in this kind of problems, one

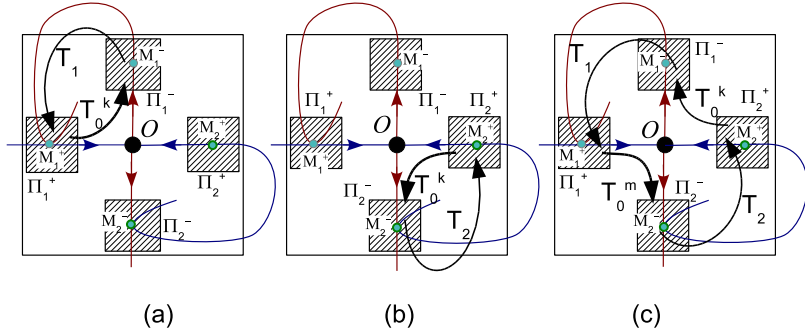


FIGURE 5. A geometric structure of the homoclinic points M_1^+ , M_1^- , M_2^+ and M_2^- and their neighbourhoods in the figure-8 homoclinic configuration. Schematic actions of the first return maps: (a) $T_{1k} = T_1T_0^k$, (b) $T_{2k} = T_2T_0^k$ and (c) $T_{2m1k} = T_2T_0^mT_1T_0^k$.

seeks for suitable local coordinates on U_0 in which the map T_0 exhibits its simplest form. The following lemma introduces C^{r-1} -coordinates that allow our local map T_0 to be written in the so-called (saddle) normal form or first order (saddle) normal form.

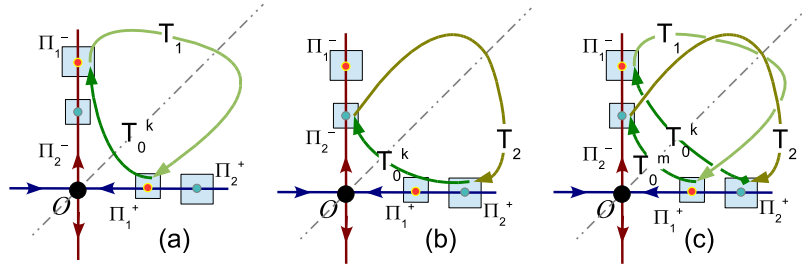


FIGURE 6. A geometric structure of the homoclinic points M_1^+ , M_1^- , M_2^+ and M_2^- and their neighbourhoods in the “fish” homoclinic configuration. Several schematic actions of the first return maps are represented: (a) $T_{1k} = T_1T_0^k$, (b) $T_{2k} = T_2T_0^k$ and (c) $T_{2m1k} = T_2T_0^mT_1T_0^k$.

Lemma 3.1 (Saddle Normal Form [9, Lemma 1]). *Assume $r \geq 4$ and let T_0 be a C^r -smooth reversible planar map with reversing (nonlinear in general) involution R satisfying that $\dim \text{Fix } R = 1$. Suppose that T_0 has a saddle fixed (periodic) point O at the origin which belongs to $\text{Fix } R$ and has multipliers λ and λ^{-1} , with $|\lambda| < 1$. Then there exist C^{r-1} -smooth local coordinates near O in which the map T_0 can be written in the so-called Shilnikov cross-form:*

$$T_0 : \begin{cases} \bar{x} &= \lambda x + h(x, \bar{y})x^2\bar{y}, \\ \bar{y} &= \lambda\bar{y} + h(\bar{y}, x)x\bar{y}^2. \end{cases} \tag{1}$$

Remark 2. In these local coordinates the map T_0 is reversible under the linear involution $L(x, y) = (y, x)$. Indeed (see [2], for instance), it is enough to check that $(LT_0L)^{-1} = T_0$. Observe that

$$LT_0L : \begin{cases} \bar{y} &= \lambda y + h(y, \bar{x})y^2\bar{x}, \\ x &= \lambda\bar{x} + h(\bar{x}, y)y\bar{x}^2 \end{cases}$$

and thus $(LT_0L)^{-1}$, which corresponds to interchange $(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \leftrightarrow (x, y)$, gives rise to the expression for T_0 .

From Bochner theorem [25] one can ensure a simultaneous conjugacy of both the map and the reversor. That is, there exists a change of variables such that simultaneously conjugates a reversible map T_0 to its linear part and the involution R to its linear part L (also an involution) around a symmetric fixed point [31, 24].

Next lemma provides a suitable expression for the iterates of T_0 . Namely,

Lemma 3.2 (see [9]). *Let T_0 be a C^r -smooth R -reversible map written in (local) normal form (1) in a neighbourhood V of a saddle fixed point O . Let us consider iterates of T_0 in V : $(x_0, y_0), \dots, (x_\ell, y_\ell)$ such that $(x_{\ell+1}, y_{\ell+1}) = T_0(x_\ell, y_\ell)$, $\ell = 0, \dots, j - 1$. Then, one has that*

$$\begin{aligned} x_j &= \lambda^j x_0 (1 + j\lambda^j h_j(x_0, y_j)), \\ y_0 &= \lambda^j y_j (1 + j\lambda^j h_j(y_j, x_0)), \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

where the functions $h_j(x_0, y_j)$ are $\mathcal{O}_2(x_0, y_j)$ and satisfy that they and all their derivatives up to order $r - 2$ are uniformly bounded with respect to j .

Lemmas 3.1 and 3.2 are also valid if T_0 depends on parameters. Moreover, if T_0 is C^r with respect to both coordinates and parameters, it can be seen that the normal form (1) is C^{r-1} with respect to the coordinates and C^{r-2} with respect to the parameters. Moreover, the derivatives in (2) with respect to the parameters and up to order $r - 2$ have order $O((\lambda + \epsilon)^j)$ for any $\epsilon > 0$ (we refer the reader to [18], Lemmas 6 and 7, for more details).

3.1. Construction of the local and global maps. We choose in U_0 the local coordinates (x, y) given in Lemma 3.1. In these coordinates, the local stable and unstable invariant manifolds of the point O are straightened: $W_{\text{loc}}^u(O)$ can be represented by $x = 0$ and $W_{\text{loc}}^s(O)$ by $y = 0$. Moreover, the previously chosen homoclinic points read as follows: $M_1^+ = (x_1^+, 0)$, $M_1^- = (0, y_1^-)$, $M_2^+ = (x_2^+, 0)$ and $M_2^- = (0, y_2^-)$. Since $R(M_1^+) = M_2^-$ and $R(M_1^-) = M_2^+$, we have that they are L -symmetric and therefore $x_1^+ = y_2^-$ and $y_1^- = x_2^+$. From the geometry of the figure-8 homoclinic case (see Fig. 5) we can assume that

$$x_1^+ = y_2^- = -\alpha < 0, \quad y_1^- = x_2^+ = \beta > 0 \tag{3}$$

Analogously, in the “fish” configuration we have that $\alpha < 0$ and $\beta > 0$ (see Fig. 6).

It is not restrictive to assume that $T_0(\Pi_i^-) \cap \Pi_i^- = \emptyset$, $i = 1, 2$ (if not, one can reduce the size of Π_i^-). Therefore, the domains of definition of the transfer map from Π_i^+ into Π_j^- , $i, j = 1, 2$, under iterations of T_0 consist of infinitely many non-intersecting strips σ_k^{0ij} which belong to Π_i^+ and accumulate at $W_{\text{loc}}^s(O) \cap \Pi_i^+$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$. On its turn, the range of the transfer map consists of infinitely many strips $\sigma_k^{1ij} = T_0^k(\sigma_k^{0ij})$ belonging to Π_i^- and accumulating at $W_{\text{loc}}^u(O) \cap \Pi_i^-$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$ (see Figure 7). So, our first return maps are defined on those strips in the following

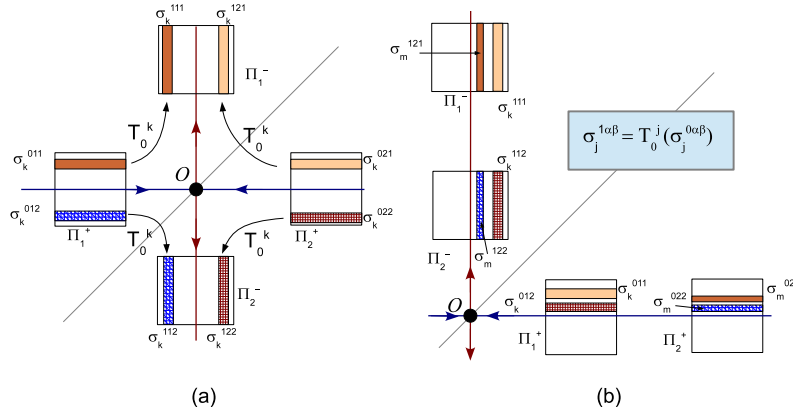


FIGURE 7. Domains of definition and range of the successor map from Π_i^+ into Π_j^- , $i, j = 1, 2$, under iterations of T_0 in the cases of (a) homoclinic figure-8; (b) homoclinic “fish”.

way:

$$\begin{aligned}
 T_{1k} &= T_1 T_0^k : \sigma_k^{011} \xrightarrow{T_0^k} \sigma_k^{111} \xrightarrow{T_1} \sigma_k^{011} , \\
 T_{2k} &= T_2 T_0^k : \sigma_k^{022} \xrightarrow{T_0^k} \sigma_k^{122} \xrightarrow{T_2} \sigma_k^{022} , \\
 T_{2m1k} &= T_2 T_0^m T_1 T_0^k : \sigma_k^{021} \xrightarrow{T_0^k} \sigma_k^{121} \xrightarrow{T_1} \sigma_m^{012} \xrightarrow{T_0^m} \sigma_m^{112} \xrightarrow{T_2} \sigma_m^{021} .
 \end{aligned}$$

For large enough values of k , Lemma 3.2 asserts that the map $T_0^k : \sigma_k^{0ij} \{(x_0, y_0)\} \mapsto \sigma_k^{1ij} \{(x_k, y_k)\}$ can be written in the form

$$T_0^k : \begin{cases} x_k = \lambda^k x_0 (1 + k \lambda^k h_k(x_0, y_k)) , \\ y_0 = \lambda^k y_k (1 + k \lambda^k h_k(y_k, x_0)) \end{cases}$$

where $(x_0, y_0) \in \sigma_k^{0ij}$, $(x_1, y_1) \in \sigma_k^{1ij}$, $i, j = 1, 2$. In the “fish” configuration case this corresponds to $T_0^k : \Pi_1^+ \{(x_{01}, y_{01})\} \mapsto \Pi_1^- \{(x_{11}, y_{11})\}$ while in the figure-8 situation this becomes $T_0^k : \Pi_2^+ \{(x_{02}, y_{02})\} \mapsto \Pi_1^- \{(x_{11}, y_{11})\}$ and $T_0^m : \Pi_1^+ \{(x_{01}, y_{01})\} \mapsto \Pi_2^- \{(x_{12}, y_{12})\}$ (see Fig. 8). The global map $T_1 : \Pi_1^- \rightarrow \Pi_1^+$ admits the following form

$$T_1 : \begin{cases} x_{01} - x_1^+ &= F_1(x_{11}, y_{11} - y_1^-, \mu) \\ &\equiv ax_{11} + b(y_{11} - y_1^-) + \varphi_1(x_{11}, y_{11}, \mu), \\ y_{01} &= G_1(x_{11}, y_{11} - y_1^-, \mu) \\ &\equiv \mu + cx_{11} + d(y_{11} - y_1^-)^2 + \varphi_2(x_{11}, y_{11}, \mu), \end{cases} \tag{4}$$

where $F_1(0) = G_1(0) = 0$ (since $T_1(M_1^-) = M_1^+$ at $\mu = 0$) and

$$\varphi_1 = \mathcal{O}((y_{11} - y_1^-)^2 + x_{11}^2), \quad \varphi_2 = \mathcal{O}(x_{11}^2 + |y_{11} - y_1^-|^3 + |x_{11}||y_{11} - y_1^-|) .$$

Since $W_{loc}^u(O)$ and $W_{loc}^s(O)$ have (local) expressions $\{x_{11} = 0\}$ and $\{y_{01} = 0\}$ and $T_1(W_{loc}^u(O))$ and $W_{loc}^s(O)$ undergo a quadratic tangency at $\mu = 0$, this implies that

$$\frac{\partial G_1(0)}{\partial y_{11}} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial^2 G_1(0)}{\partial y_{11}^2} = 2d \neq 0.$$

Its Jacobian $J(T_1)$ has the form

$$J(T_1) = -bc + \mathcal{O}(|x_{11}| + |y_{11} - y_1^-|), \tag{5}$$

and so $J_1 = J(T_1)|_{M^-} = -bc$ where $0 < |bc| < 1$ by condition [C].

Concerning the global map T_2 , its expression is closely related to that of T_1 . Indeed, reversibility implies that $T_2 = R T_1^{-1} R$ or, equivalently, $T_1 = R T_2^{-1} R$. Then, by expression (4) and having in mind the local L -reversibility on the domains Π_2^- (Bochner's theorem ensures its conjugation with the non-linear reversor R) we obtain that the map $T_2^{-1} : \Pi_2^+ \{(x_{02}, y_{02})\} \mapsto \Pi_2^- \{(x_{12}, y_{12})\}$ can be written as

$$T_2^{-1} : \begin{cases} x_{12} = G_1(y_{02}, x_{02} - x_2^+, \mu) = \\ \mu + cy_{02} + d(x_{02} - x_2^+)^2 + \varphi_2(y_{02}, x_{02}, \mu), \\ y_{12} - y_2^- = F_1(y_{02}, x_{02} - x_2^+, \mu) = \\ ay_{02} + b(x_{02} - x_2^+) + \varphi_1(y_{02}, x_{02}, \mu), \end{cases}$$

which means to write $x_1^+ = y_2^-$, $y_1^- = x_2^+$ in (4) and to swap $x \leftrightarrow y$ variables, i.e. $x_{01} \leftrightarrow y_{12}$ and $x_{11} \leftrightarrow y_{02}$. As it was done in a previous remark, this expression defines the map $T_2 : \Pi_2^- \{(x_{12}, y_{12})\} \mapsto \Pi_2^+ \{(x_{02}, y_{02})\}$ in the implicit form: $x_{12} = G_1(\bar{y}_{02}, \bar{x}_{02} - x_2^+, \mu)$, $y_{12} - y_2^- = F_1(\bar{y}_{02}, \bar{x}_{02} - x_2^+, \mu)$ by swapping bar and no-bar variables.

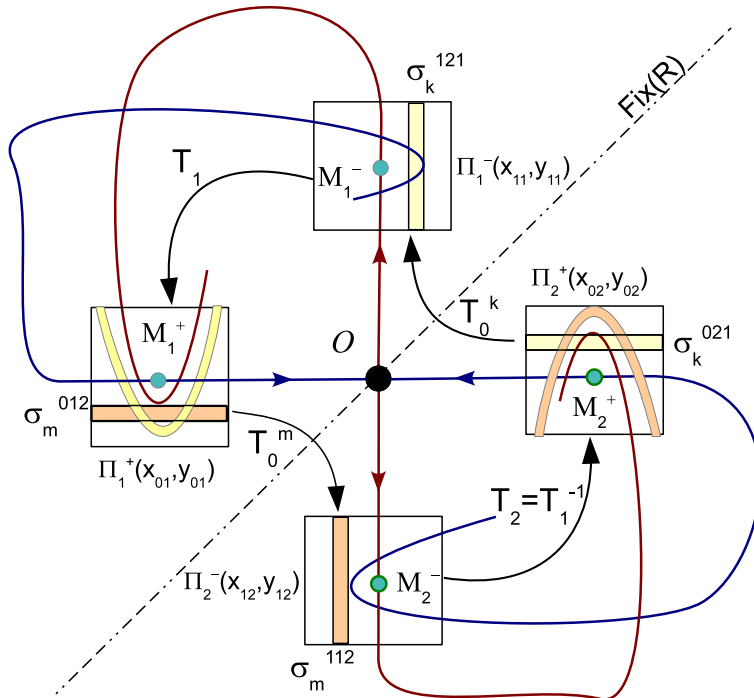


FIGURE 8. Domains of definitions and associated coordinates for the first return map $T_{2m1k} = T_2 T_0^m T_1 T_0^k$.

4. **Proof of Theorem 2.1.** This proof is mainly based on Theorem 4.1 which provides, by computing the corresponding equations and performing a suitable rescaling, an asymptotic expression for the first return map for large enough values of k . Rescaling method has become, since the work of Tedeschini-Yorke [32], a very useful tool when dealing with homoclinic connections (see also [12, 16, 17, 18, 20] and references therein for many examples of such use).

Theorem 4.1. *Let $\{f_\mu\}$ be the family under consideration satisfying conditions [A], [B], and [C]. Then, for large enough values of k , the first return map $T_{1k} : \sigma_k^0 \rightarrow \sigma_k^0$ can be brought by an affine change of coordinates and of parameter to the following form*

$$\bar{X} = Y + k\lambda^k h_k^1(X, Y), \quad \bar{Y} = M_1 + M_2 X - Y^2 + k\lambda^k h_k^2(X, Y),$$

with

$$M_1 = -d\lambda^{-2k} (\mu - \lambda^k (y_1^- - cx^+) + \tilde{\rho}_k), \quad M_2 = bc, \tag{6}$$

where $\tilde{\rho}_k = \mathcal{O}(k\lambda^k)$ is a small constant and the functions h_k^j have all their derivatives uniformly bounded up to order $(r - 2)$.

Proof. To ease its reading we give first a “lightweight” proof of the lemma for a simpler case, i.e. when the local map T_0 is linear, $\bar{x} = \lambda x, \bar{y} = \lambda^{-1} y$, and the global map has the form:

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{x}_0 - x^+ &= ax_1 + b(y_1 - y^-), \\ \bar{y}_0 &= \mu + cx_1 + d(y_1 - y^-)^2 + f_{11}x_1(y_1 - y^-). \end{aligned}$$

We have only considered linear terms in the first equation and up to quadratic terms in the second one. We use also (only for a simplification of formulas) the notation $x^+ = x_1^+, y^- = y_1^-$ and denote the coordinates on Π_1^+ as (x_0, y_0) and on Π_1^- as (x_1, y_1) . Then the first return map $T_{1k} = T_1 T_0^k$ is written as

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{x}_0 - x^+ &= a\lambda^k x_0 + b(y_1 - y^-), \\ \lambda^k \bar{y}_1 &= \mu + c\lambda^k x_0 + d(y_1 - y^-)^2 + f_{11}\lambda^k x_0(y_1 - y^-), \end{aligned}$$

This (first) highly simplified case will serve the reader (we hope) to be familiar with the different transformations we apply to get the asymptotic Hénon map. The general case (that is included rear after this one) will follow the same ideas and procedure.

Introduce the coordinates $\xi = x_0 - x^+, \eta = y_1 - y^-$. Then T_{1k} reads

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\xi} &= a\lambda^k \xi + b\eta + a\lambda^k x^+, \\ \lambda^k \bar{\eta} &= m_1 + c\lambda^k \xi + d\eta^2 + f_{11}\lambda^k \xi \eta + f_{11}\lambda^k x^+ \eta, \end{aligned}$$

where $m_1 = \mu + c\lambda^k x^+ - \lambda^k y^-$.

Further, we make one more coordinate shift, $\xi = x + \alpha_k, \eta = y + \beta_k$ with small coefficients $\alpha_k = \mathcal{O}(\lambda^k)$ and $\beta_k = \mathcal{O}(\lambda^k)$, in order to vanish the constant terms in the first equation and the linear in y terms in the second one. Then we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{x} &= a\lambda^k x + by + [b\beta_k - \alpha_k + a\lambda^k x^+ + a\lambda^k \alpha_k], \\ \lambda^k \bar{y} &= m_2 + (c + f_{11}\beta_k)\lambda^k x + dy^2 + f_{11}\lambda^k xy + (2d\beta_k + f_{11}\lambda^k x^+ + f_{11}\lambda^k \alpha_k) y, \end{aligned}$$

where $m_2 = m_1 + \lambda^k(c\alpha_k - \beta_k + f_{11}x^+\beta_k + f_{11}\alpha_k\beta_k) + d\beta_k^2 = m_1 + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^{2k})$. The expressions in square brackets are nullified at

$$\alpha_k = \left(ax_1^+ - \frac{bf_{11}x^+}{2d} \right) \lambda^k + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^{2k}), \quad \beta_k = -\frac{f_{11}x^+}{2d} \lambda^k + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^{2k}).$$

For such choice of α_k and β_k , the map T_{1k} takes the form

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{x} &= a\lambda^k x + by, \\ \bar{y} &= \lambda^{-k}m_2 + (c + \phi_k)x + d\lambda^{-k}y^2 + f_{11}xy, \end{aligned}$$

where $\phi_k = \mathcal{O}(\lambda^k)$ is a small coefficient. Now, by rescaling the coordinates,

$$x = -\frac{b}{d}\lambda^k X, \quad y = -\frac{1}{d}\lambda^k Y,$$

we bring the map T_{1k} to the claimed form:

$$\bar{X} = Y + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^k), \quad \bar{Y} = M + bcX - Y^2 + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^k),$$

where $M = -d\lambda^{-2k}m_2 = -d\lambda^{-2k} [\mu + (cx_1^+ - y_1^-)\lambda^k + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^{2k})]$.

Let us now deal with the *general case*, that is, with T_0^k given by

$$\begin{aligned} x_k &= \lambda^k x_0 (1 + k\lambda^k h_k(x_0, y_k)) \\ y_0 &= \lambda^k y_k (1 + k\lambda^k h_k(y_k, x_0)) \end{aligned}$$

and the global map T_1 given by

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{x}_0 - x^+ &= ax_1 + b(y_1 - y^-) + \mathcal{O}((y_1 - y^-)^2, x_1^2, (y_1 - y^-)x_1), \\ \bar{y}_0 &= \mu + cx_1 + d(y_1 - y^-)^2 + f_{11}x_1(y_1 - y^-) + \mathcal{O}(x_1^2, (y_1 - y^-)^3). \end{aligned}$$

Consider the map $T_{1k} = T_1 T_0^k$ and apply the change of coordinates: $\xi = x_0 - x^+$, $\eta = y_k - y^-$. Then, T_{1k} admits the expression

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\xi} &= a\lambda^k \xi + b\eta + (\lambda^k ax^+ + \mathcal{O}(k\lambda^k)) + \gamma_1 \eta^2 + \gamma_2 \lambda^k \xi \eta + \lambda^k \eta, \\ \lambda^k \bar{\eta}(1 + \mathcal{O}(k\lambda^k)) &= (\mu + c\lambda^k x^+ + c\lambda^k (\xi + x^+)k\lambda^k h_k + f_{11}k\lambda^{2k}(\xi + x^+)\eta h_k + \\ &\quad \gamma_1 \lambda^{2k}(\xi + x^+)^2(1 + k\lambda^k h_k)) + c\lambda^k \xi + d\eta^2 + \\ &\quad f_{11} \lambda^k \xi \eta + f_{11} \lambda^k x^+ \eta. \end{aligned} \tag{7}$$

Following the same steps as for the simplified case, we consider the following *shift*:

$$\xi = x + \alpha_k, \quad \eta = y + \beta_k$$

with α_k, β_k to be determined in such a way that the constant term in the equation for \bar{x} and the coefficient of y in \bar{y} both vanish. After performing this shift, equations (7) become

$$\bar{x} = a\lambda^k x + by + ((a\lambda^k - 1)\alpha_k + b(1 + \lambda^k)\beta_k + \lambda^k ax^+ + \mathcal{O}(k\lambda^k))$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda^k \bar{y} &= (\mu + c\lambda^k(x^+ - y^-) + ck\lambda^{2k}(\alpha_k + x^+)h_k^0 + f_{11}k\lambda^{2k}(\alpha_k + x^+)\beta_k h_k^0 + \\ &\quad \gamma_1 \lambda^{2k}(\alpha_k + x^+)^2 + \gamma_2 \beta_k^3 + c\lambda^k \alpha_k + d\beta_k^2 + f_{11} \lambda^k \alpha_k \beta_k + f_{11} \lambda^k x^+ \beta_k - \lambda^k \beta_k + \\ &\quad \mathcal{O}(k\lambda^{4k})) + (c\lambda^k + f_{11} \lambda^k \beta_k + ck\lambda^{2k} h_k^0 + f_{11} k \lambda^{2k} \beta_k h_k^0) x + \\ &\quad (f_{11} \lambda^k (1 + k\lambda^k h_k^0) \alpha_k + 2d\beta_k + 3\gamma_2 \beta_k^2 + f_{11} k \lambda^{2k} x^+ h_k^0 + f_{11} \lambda^k x^+) y + \\ &\quad (d + 3\gamma_2 \beta_k) y^2 + (f_{11} k \lambda^{2k} h_k^0 + f_{11} \lambda^k) xy + \mathcal{O}_3(x, y), \end{aligned}$$

where h_k^0 stands for the constant term of $h_k(x^+ + \xi, y^- + \eta)$ in (ξ, η) -variables and we have taken into account that $(1 + \mathcal{O}(k\lambda^k))^{-1} = \mathcal{O}(k\lambda^k)$. Thus, we determine α_k, β_k to satisfy

$$\begin{aligned} (a\lambda^k - 1)\alpha_k + b(1 + \lambda^k)\beta_k &= -\lambda^k ax^+ + \mathcal{O}(k\lambda^k) \\ f_{11} \lambda^k (1 + k\lambda^k h_k^0) \alpha_k + 2d\beta_k + 3\gamma_2 \beta_k^2 &= -f_{11} k \lambda^{2k} x^- h_k^0 - f_{11} \lambda^k x^+. \end{aligned} \tag{8}$$

It is straightforward to check that $\alpha_k, \beta_k = \mathcal{O}(\lambda^k)$. Now, consider the linear system

$$\begin{aligned} (a\lambda^k - 1)\alpha_k + b(1 + \lambda^k)\beta_k &= -\lambda^k ax^+ + \mathcal{O}(k\lambda^k) \\ f_{11}\lambda^k(1 + k\lambda^k h_k^0)\alpha_k + 2d\beta_k &= -f_{11}k\lambda^{2k}x^- h_k^0 - f_{11}\lambda^k x^+. \end{aligned}$$

This linear system has solutions

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_k^0 &= \left(ax^+ + \frac{bf_{11}}{2d} \right) \lambda^k + \mathcal{O}(k\lambda^k) \\ \beta_k^0 &= -\frac{f_{11}x^+}{2d} \lambda^k + \mathcal{O}(k\lambda^k). \end{aligned}$$

Since $d \neq 0$, the determinant

$$\begin{vmatrix} a\lambda^k - 1 & b(1 + \lambda^k) \\ f_{11}\lambda^k + \mathcal{O}(k\lambda^{2k}) & 2d \end{vmatrix} = -2d + (2ad - bf_{11})\lambda^k - bf_{11}\lambda^{2k} + \mathcal{O}(k\lambda^{2k}) \neq 0,$$

and so by the Implicit Function Theorem, there exist $\alpha_k = \alpha_k^0 + \mathcal{O}(k\lambda^k)$ and $\beta_k = \beta_k^0 + \mathcal{O}(k\lambda^k)$ solutions of (8), which are $\mathcal{O}(k\lambda^k)$ -close to α_k^0, β_k^0 . Thus, considering the shift $\xi = x + \alpha_k, \eta = y + \beta_k$, with the already determined $\alpha_k, \beta_k = \mathcal{O}(\lambda^k)$, one gets the following equations for T_{1k} :

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{x} &= a\lambda^k x + by + \gamma_1 y^2 \\ \lambda^k \bar{y} &= m_2 + (c\lambda^k + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^{2k}))x + (d + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^k))y \\ &\quad + (f_{11}\lambda^k + \mathcal{O}(k\lambda^{2k}))xy + \mathcal{O}_3(x, y), \end{aligned}$$

where $m_2 := \mu + c\lambda^k x^+ - \lambda^k y^- + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^{2k})$. And last, we perform the *scaling*

$$x = -\frac{b}{d}\lambda^k X, \quad y = -\frac{1}{d}\lambda^k Y,$$

under which the previous system becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{X} &= Y + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^k) \\ \bar{Y} &= M_1 + M_2 X - Y^2 \mathcal{O}(\lambda^k), \end{aligned}$$

with $M_1 = -d\lambda^{-2k}m_2 = -d\lambda^{-2k}(\mu + (cx^+ - y^-)\lambda^k + \mathcal{O}(k\lambda^k))$ and $M_2 = bc$, as it was claimed. \square

Theorem 4.1 shows that the limit form (that is, for large enough values of k or, in other words, for close-enough orbits to $W_{\text{loc}}^s(O)$) for the first return map $T_{1k} = T_1 T_0^k$ (and similarly for T_{2m}) is the standard Hénon map \mathcal{H} :

$$\bar{x} = y, \quad \bar{y} = M_1 + M_2 x - y^2,$$

with Jacobian $J = -M_2 = -bc$. Recall that by (5) and condition [C] we have $0 < J < 1$. Bifurcations of fixed points of the standard Hénon map are well known. In the (M_1, M_2) -parameter plane, there are two bifurcation curves, namely

$$\begin{aligned} L^{+1} &:= \{(M_1, M_2) : 4M_1 = -(1 + M_2)^2\}, \\ L^{-1} &:= \{(M_1, M_2) : 4M_1 = 3(1 + M_2)^2\}, \end{aligned}$$

corresponding to the existence of a fixed point with a multiplier $+1$ (saddle-node fixed point) and a fixed point with a multiplier -1 (period doubling bifurcation), respectively. For $-1 < M_2 < 0$, the Hénon map has no fixed points below the curve L^{+1} , has a stable (sink) fixed point in the region between the bifurcation curves L^{+1} and L^{-1} , while at L^{-1} a period doubling bifurcation takes place and a stable 2-periodic orbit appears above the curve L^{-1} .

Thus, using the relation (6) between the rescaled and the initial parameters we find that

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_k^+ &= \lambda^k(c\alpha + \beta + \rho_k) + \frac{(1-bc)^2}{4d}\lambda^{2k}, \\ \mu_k^- &= \lambda^k(c\alpha + \beta + \rho_k) - \frac{3(1-bc)^2}{4d}\lambda^{2k}, \end{aligned}$$

where $\rho_k = \mathcal{O}(k\lambda^k)$ is small, α, β have been defined in (3) and b, c, d are Taylor coefficients of the map T_1 (see (4)). This completes the proof of Theorem 2.1. \square

Remark 3. In general, the intervals n_k do not intersect each other for different sufficiently large k . However, when $c\alpha + \beta = 0$, they can intersect and even appear nested. In the latter case, this implies that the diffeomorphism f_0 can possess simultaneously infinitely many periodic sinks and sources of all successive periods beginning from some (sufficiently) large number. This is a more delicate problem and it is out of the scope of this work. We recall that such phenomenon of “global resonance” with elliptic points was introduced in [15] for area-preserving maps with homoclinic tangencies (see also [19, 3]).

5. Proof of Theorem 2.2. This proof will follow similar ideas and techniques as those employed in the proof of Theorem 2.1. We begin by taking on U_0 the local C^{r-1} -coordinates (x, y) provided by Lemma 3.1. Recall that in these local coordinates the homoclinic points are denoted by $M_1^+ = (x_1^+, 0)$, $M_1^- = (0, y_1^-)$ in Γ_1 and $M_2^+ = (x_2^+, 0)$ and $M_2^- = (0, y_2^-)$ in Γ_2 . They satisfy that $L(M_1^+) = M_2^-$ and $L(M_1^-) = M_2^+$ (locally) since $R(M_1^+) = M_2^-$, $R(M_1^-) = M_2^+$, respectively. Now we consider the first return map $T_{2m1k} = T_2 T_0^m T_1 T_0^k$ for single-round periodic 1-2-orbits. Thus, the following result holds:

Theorem 5.1. *Let us consider the family $\{f_\mu\}$ of Theorem 2.2, satisfying conditions [A,B,C]. Then, for large enough values of k, m , with $k \simeq m$, the first return map $T_{2m1k} : \sigma_k^0 \rightarrow \sigma_k^0$ can be brought, by a linear change of coordinates and a suitable rescaling, to a reversible map asymptotically close as $k, m \rightarrow \infty$ to an area-preserving (symplectic) map of the form (see also [2]):*

$$H : \begin{cases} \bar{x} &= \widetilde{M} + \bar{c}x - y^2, \\ \bar{c}\bar{y} &= -\widetilde{M} + y + \bar{x}^2, \end{cases} \tag{9}$$

where

$$\bar{c} = \frac{c}{b}\lambda^{k-m}, \quad \widetilde{M} = -\frac{d}{b^2}\lambda^{-2m} (\mu + c\lambda^k\beta + \lambda^m\alpha + \mathcal{O}(k\lambda^k + m\lambda^m)). \tag{10}$$

The constants α, β are defined in (3) and b, c, d in expression (4).

From hypotheses [A] and [C] it follows that $\lambda > 0$ and also $\bar{c} < 0$ in the orientable case (if T_1 is orientable) and $\bar{c} > 0$ in the non-orientable case (if T_1 is non-orientable). *Proof.* First, let us remind how coordinates are denoted on each domain around the homoclinic points $M_{1,2}$. Thus, (x, y) -coordinates on Π_i^+ are denoted by (x_{0i}, y_{0i}) and by (x_{1i}, y_{1i}) on Π_i^- , for $i = 1, 2$. From Lemma 3.2, the map $T_0^k : \Pi_2^+ \rightarrow \Pi_1^-$ will be defined on the strip $\sigma_k^{021} \subset \Pi_2^+$ and $T_0^k(\sigma_k^{021}) = \sigma_k^{121} \subset \Pi_1^-$. Analogously, there exist strips $\sigma_k^{011}, \sigma_k^{012} \subset \Pi_1^+$, and $\sigma_k^{022} \subset \Pi_2^+$ such that $T_0^k(\sigma_k^{011}) = \sigma_k^{111} \subset \Pi_1^-$, $T_0^k(\sigma_k^{012}) = \sigma_k^{112} \subset \Pi_2^-$ and $T_0^k(\sigma_k^{022}) = \sigma_k^{122} \subset \Pi_2^-$ (see Fig. 7 for a comprehensive plot). The first return map T_{2m1k} is given by the following chain of compositions:

$$\sigma_k^{021} \xrightarrow{T_0^k} \sigma_k^{121} \xrightarrow{T_1} \sigma_m^{012} \xrightarrow{T_0^m} \sigma_m^{112} \xrightarrow{T_2} \sigma_k^{021}$$

(for a geometrical illustration see Fig. 8). These relations can be expressed in coordinates through the following set of equations (T_0^k , T_1 , T_0^m , and T_2 , respectively):

$$\begin{aligned} x_{11} &= \lambda^k x_{02}(1 + k\lambda^k h_k(x_{02}, y_{11})) \\ y_{02} &= \lambda^k y_{11}(1 + k\lambda_1^k h_k(y_{11}, x_{02})), \\ x_{01} - x_1^+ &= F_1(x_{11}, y_{11} - y_1^-, \mu) \equiv \\ &ax_{11} + b(y_{11} - y_1^-) + \varphi_1(x_{11}, y_{11}, \mu), \\ y_{01} &= G_1(x_{11}, y_{11} - y_1^-, \mu) \equiv \\ &\mu + cx_{11} + d(y_{11} - y_1^-)^2 + \varphi_2(x_{11}, y_{11}, \mu), \\ x_{12} &= \lambda^m x_{01}(1 + m\lambda^m h_m(x_{01}, y_{12})) \\ y_{01} &= \lambda^m y_{12}(1 + m\lambda^m h_m(y_{12}, x_{01})), \\ x_{12} &= G_1(\bar{y}_{02}, \bar{x}_{02} - x_2^+, \mu) = \\ &\mu + c\bar{y}_{02} + d(\bar{x}_{02} - x_2^+)^2 + \varphi_2(\bar{y}_{02}, \bar{x}_{02}, \mu), \\ y_{12} - y_2^- &= F_1(\bar{y}_{02}, \bar{x}_{02} - x_2^+, \mu) = \\ &a\bar{y}_{02} + b(\bar{x}_{02} - x_2^+) + \varphi_1(\bar{y}_{02}, \bar{x}_{02}, \mu). \end{aligned} \tag{11}$$

Observe that these formulas are presented in two different forms. Indeed, the local maps $T_0^{k,m}$ are given in cross-form while the global maps $T_{1,2}$ are written in explicit form. Thus, our first-return map T_{2m1k} can be defined, in cross-variables, as $T_{2m1k} : (x_{02}, y_{11}) \mapsto (\bar{x}_{02}, \bar{y}_{11})$, through the equation $\bar{y}_{02} = \lambda^k \bar{y}_{11}(1 + k\lambda_1^k h_k(\bar{y}_{11}, \bar{x}_{02}))$ which plays an intermediate rôle. As we did in Theorem 4.1, we introduce new variables

$$x_1 = x_{01} - x_1^+, \quad x_2 = x_{02} - x_2^+, \quad y_1 = y_{11} - y_1^-, \quad y_2 = y_{12} - y_2^-$$

and rewrite system (11) as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= by_1 + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^k) + \mathcal{O}(y_1^2), \\ \lambda^m y_2(1 + m\lambda^{2m} \mathcal{O}(|x_1| + |y_2|)) &= \\ &(\mu + c\lambda^k x_2^+ - \lambda^m y_2^- + \mathcal{O}(k\lambda^{2k} + m\lambda^{2m})) + c\lambda^k x_2 + dy_1^2 + \\ &\mathcal{O}(\lambda^{2k}|x_2| + \lambda^k|x_2y_1| + |y_1|^3), \\ \lambda^m x_1(1 + m\lambda^{2m} \mathcal{O}(|x_1| + |y_2|)) &= \\ &(\mu + c\lambda^k y_1^- - \lambda^m x_1^+ + \mathcal{O}(k\lambda^{2k} + m\lambda^{2m})) + c\lambda^k \bar{y}_1 + d\bar{x}_2^2 + \\ &\mathcal{O}(\lambda^{2k}|\bar{x}_2| + \lambda^k|\bar{x}_2\bar{y}_1| + |\bar{y}_1|^3) \\ y_2 &= b\bar{x}_2 + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^k) + \mathcal{O}(\bar{x}_2^2), \end{aligned} \tag{12}$$

Take x_1 and y_2 from the first and fourth equations of (12) and substitute them in the second and third ones. After this, we obtain the map $T_{2m1k} : (x_2, y_1) \mapsto (\bar{x}_2, \bar{y}_1)$ given in the following implicit form

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda^m b\bar{x}_2(1 + m\lambda^m \mathcal{O}(\bar{x}_2)) &= \\ M + dy_1^2 + c\lambda^k x_2 + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^{2k}|x_2| + \lambda^k|x_2y_1| + |y_1|^3), \\ \lambda^m by_1(1 + m\lambda^m \mathcal{O}(y_1)) &= \\ M + c\lambda^k \bar{y}_1 + d\bar{x}_2^2 + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^{2k}|\bar{x}_2| + \lambda^k|\bar{x}_2\bar{y}_1| + |\bar{y}_1|^3), \end{aligned}$$

where $M = \mu + c\lambda^k y_1^- - \lambda^m x_1^+ + O(k\lambda^{2k} + m\lambda^{2m})$ or, equivalently,

$$M = \mu + c\lambda^k \beta + \lambda^m \alpha + O(k\lambda^{2k} + m\lambda^{2m}).$$

Formulas $x_1^+ = -\alpha < 0$ and $y_1^- = \beta$ (see (3)) have been used. Notice that up to this point, the procedure is symmetric. That is, we could have started our first-return map with T_0^m instead of T_0^k and the formulas would have been the same. This is reflected in the fact that all the equations up to now, including the definition of the constant M , are invariant under $k \leftrightarrow m$. Following the same procedure performed in the proof of Theorem 2.1, we rescale the coordinates. Indeed, consider

$$x_2 = -\frac{b}{d}\lambda^m x, \quad y_1 = -\frac{b}{d}\lambda^m y,$$

which bring the first return map T_{12k} into the following rescaled form

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{x} &= \widetilde{M} + \tilde{c}x - y^2 + O(\lambda^k + \lambda^{2k-m}), \\ y &= \widetilde{M} + \tilde{c}y - \bar{x}^2 + O(\lambda^k + \lambda^{2k-m}), \end{aligned}$$

where \tilde{c} and \widetilde{M} satisfy (10). This ends the proof of the theorem. □

To complete the proof of Theorem 2 we need to detect the bifurcation boundaries of the intervals n_{km}^c . Since at $\mu \in n_{km}^c$ the first return map T_{2m1k} has two symmetric fixed points, one elliptic and another saddle, such boundaries can be found from the corresponding analysis of the map (9). The bifurcation diagram for the symmetric fixed points of map (9) is shown in Fig. 9. We notice that it is essentially as the one in [2, page 16]. However, for the goals of [2], searching only for symmetric fixed points was not sufficient, since the main problem there was to study symmetry breaking bifurcations (leading to the birth of a symmetric couple sink-source fixed points). This is not necessary here because the symmetric breaking bifurcations have been already determined in Theorem 1.

Like in [2, page 16], the equations of the bifurcation curves F (symmetric fold bifurcation), PD_1 and PD_2 (symmetric period doubling) and PF (symmetry breaking pitch-fork) are the following:

$$\begin{aligned} F_0 : \quad \widetilde{M} &= -\frac{1}{4}(\tilde{c} - 1)^2, \\ PD_1 : \quad \widetilde{M} &= 1 - \frac{1}{4}(\tilde{c} - 1)^2, \\ PD_2 : \quad \widetilde{M} &= \frac{(\tilde{c} + 1)(3\tilde{c} - 1)}{4}, \\ PF : \quad \widetilde{M} &= \frac{3}{4}(\tilde{c} - 1)^2. \end{aligned} \tag{13}$$

These curves have the same equations for the orientable case, corresponding to the half-plane $\mathcal{P}_1 = \{\tilde{c} < -\varepsilon\}$ of the $(\tilde{c}, \widetilde{M})$ -parameter plane, and for the non-orientable case, corresponding to the half-plane $\mathcal{P}_2 = \{\tilde{c} > \varepsilon\}$, with an arbitrary small $\varepsilon > 0$. Note that if $\tilde{c} = 0$, then $c = 0$ and therefore T_1 is not a diffeomorphism. So we exclude from the analysis a thin strip along the axes $\tilde{c} = 0$ (the dashed strip in Fig. 9).

The curves (13) divide the half-plane \mathcal{P}_1 in 6 domains I_ℓ, \dots, VI_ℓ and the half-plane \mathcal{P}_2 in 9 domains I_r, \dots, IX_r . From these domains, we select two domains II_ℓ and V_ℓ belonging to \mathcal{P}_1 and four domains II_r, IV_r, VI_r and $VIII_r$ belonging to \mathcal{P}_2 which correspond to those values of the rescaled parameters $(\tilde{c}, \widetilde{M})$ at which the

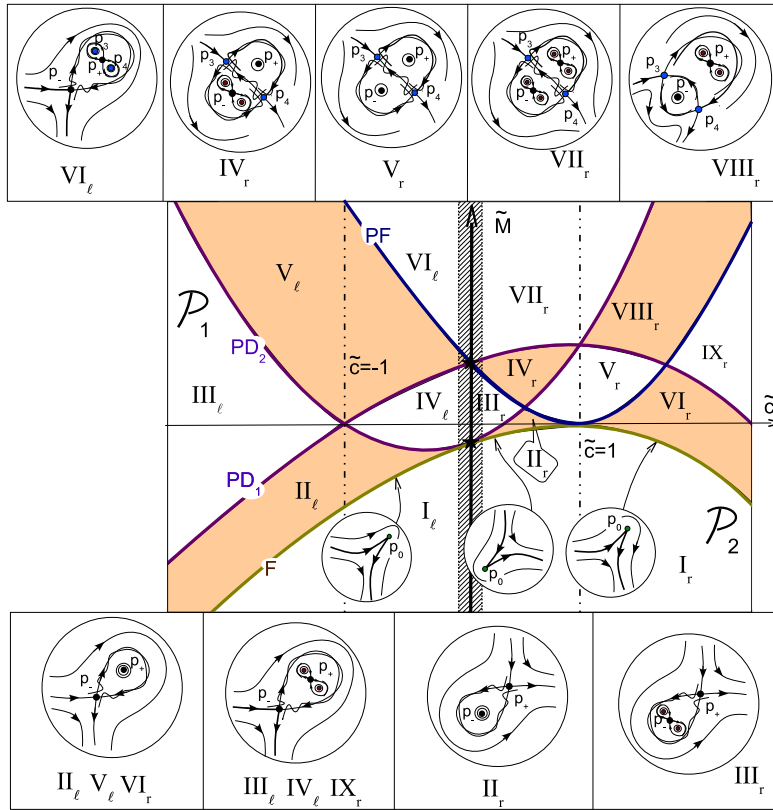


FIGURE 9. Elements of the bifurcation diagram for the map H : painted regions correspond to the existence of symmetric elliptic and saddle fixed points of H .

map H (and also the corresponding first return map T_{2m1k}) has two symmetric fixed points: one saddle and another elliptic. Note that for a given map T_{2m1k} the value of the parameter \tilde{c} is uniquely determined.

Then, the interval n_{km}^c of values of the parameter μ corresponds to one of the intervals $\Delta_{\tilde{c}}|\tilde{c} = \text{const}$ of values of \tilde{M} that intersects some of the selected domains from its lower to its upper boundaries.

For instance, let us compute in the orientable case ($\tilde{c} < 0$) the corresponding intervals n_{km}^c of values of \tilde{M} for the domain II_ℓ :

$$n_{km}^c = \left(-\frac{1}{4}(\tilde{c} - 1)^2, 1 - \frac{1}{4}(\tilde{c} - 1)^2 \right) \quad \text{for } \tilde{c} \leq -1, \quad (14)$$

and

$$n_{km}^c = \left(-\frac{1}{4}(\tilde{c} - 1)^2, \frac{1}{4}(\tilde{c} + 1)(3\tilde{c} - 1) \right) \quad \text{for } -1 < \tilde{c} < -\varepsilon.$$

In both cases, the lower boundary corresponds to the symmetric fold bifurcation and the upper one to the symmetric period doubling.

Analogously, let us compute in the non-orientable case ($\tilde{c} > \varepsilon$) the corresponding intervals n_{km}^c for the domains II_r and VI_r :

$$\begin{aligned} n_{km}^c &= \left(-\frac{1}{4}(\tilde{c} - 1)^2, \frac{1}{4}(\tilde{c} + 1)(3\tilde{c} - 1)\right) && \text{for } \tilde{\varepsilon} < c \leq 1/2; \\ n_{km}^c &= \left(-\frac{1}{4}(\tilde{c} - 1)^2, \frac{3}{4}(\tilde{c} - 1)^2\right) && \text{for } 1/2 < \tilde{c} < 2 \text{ and } \tilde{c} \neq 1; \\ n_{km}^c &= \left(-\frac{1}{4}(\tilde{c} - 1)^2, 1 - \frac{1}{4}(\tilde{c} - 1)^2\right) && \text{for } \tilde{c} \geq 2. \end{aligned}$$

In all three cases, the lower boundary corresponds to a symmetric fold bifurcation. However, the upper boundary corresponds to a symmetric period doubling for the first and the third case and to a symmetry breaking pitch-fork bifurcation for the intervals in the second case.

We clearly will skip values of k and m such that $\tilde{c} = 1$, that is, $\frac{c}{b}\lambda^{k-m} = 1$. This is equivalent to say that $k - m = \frac{1}{\ln \lambda} \ln \frac{b}{c}$. Finally, we represent the intervals n_{km}^c as intervals of values of μ using the relations (10). For example, for the intervals n_{km}^c with $\tilde{c} \leq -1$ (see (14)), we obtain the following expressions for their bifurcation boundaries $\mu_{km}^{c+} \in F$ and $\mu_{km}^{c-} \in PD_1$:

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{km}^{c+} &= -c\lambda^k\beta - \lambda^m\alpha + \frac{b^2}{4d}(\tilde{c} - 1)^2\lambda^{2m} \\ \mu_{km}^{c-} &= -c\lambda^k\beta - \lambda^m\alpha + \frac{b^2}{d}\left(1 - \frac{1}{4}(\tilde{c} - 1)^2\right)\lambda^{2m}, \end{aligned}$$

and so on. Analogous explicit formulas can be obtained for the rest of the cases. \square

6. Proof of Theorems 3 and 4.

6.1. Proof of Theorem 3. Its proof is quite standard (see, for instance, [28, 11, 14]). Namely, consider a single orbit Γ_1 and its neighbourhood U_1 . From [14] it is known that there exist $\{\mu_k\}$, satisfying $\mu_k \rightarrow 0$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$, such that the map f_{μ_k} presents in U_1 a hyperbolic invariant set Λ_k (a Smale horseshoe) such that (i) $W^u(\Lambda_k)$ is quadratically tangent to $W^s(O_\mu)$ and (ii) simultaneously, $W^u(O_{\mu_k})$ intersects transversally with $W^s(O_{\mu_k})$ (see Fig. 10). Since all periodic points in Λ_k have Jacobian less than 1 (by condition [C]) and, by the λ -Lemma, their stable and unstable manifolds accumulate (in a C^r -sense) to $W^s(O_\mu)$ and $W^u(O_\mu)$, it follows that Λ_k is a wild hyperbolic set (see [28]). The latter assertion implies that, arbitrary close to $\mu = 0$, there exist intervals of values of μ for which $W^u(\Lambda_k)$ and $W^s(\Lambda_k)$ have points with quadratic tangency. Thus, one obtains that the values of μ for which the map f_μ has a nontransversal homoclinic orbit $\Gamma_{1\mu} \subset U_1$ are dense in these intervals. \square

6.2. Proof of Theorem 4. The proof of this theorem follows from Theorems 2.1 and 2.2 and a standard procedure of embedding intervals applied to any arbitrary point belonging to any interval n_i from Theorem 3. Indeed, take any $\bar{\mu} \in n_i$. Arbitrary close to $\bar{\mu}$ there is $\bar{\mu}_1 \in n_i$ such that $f_{\bar{\mu}_1}$ has a couple of homoclinic tangencies of the initial type. Hence, by Theorem 2.1, near $\bar{\mu}_1$ there exists an interval $I_1 \subset n_i$ such that at $\mu \in I_1$ the diffeomorphism f_μ has a periodic couple “sink-source”. In turn, since n_i is the Newhouse interval, in I_1 we find an interval I_2 such that the diffeomorphism f_μ at $\mu \in I_2$ has simultaneously, a periodic couple

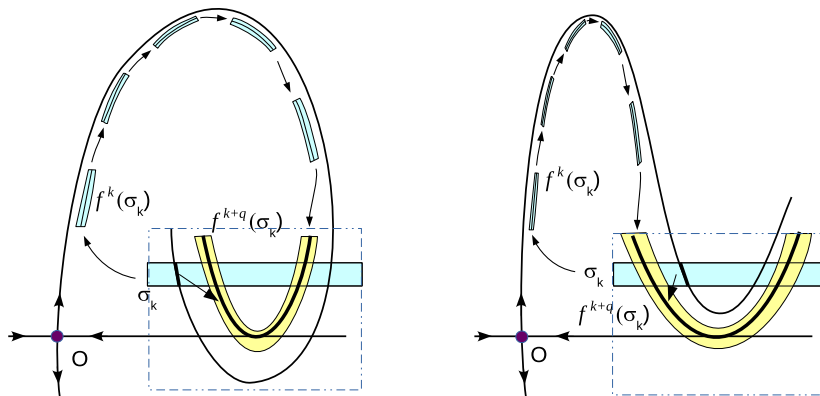


FIGURE 10. Two examples of creation of secondary homoclinic tangencies to the point O together with their Smale horseshoes

“sink-source” (as $\mu \in I_1$) and a symmetric elliptic periodic orbit. Repeating this procedure beginning from the interval I_2 we obtain a sequence I_2, I_4, \dots of embedding intervals such that at $\mu \in I_{2j}$ the diffeomorphism f_μ has j periodic couples “sink-source” and j symmetric elliptic periodic orbits, etc. \square

7. Some examples. In this section we provide some simple examples of planar reversible maps undergoing a “fish” or figure-8 quadratic homoclinic tangency. They are Poincaré maps of periodically perturbed planar reversible differential systems. By construction hypotheses [A,B] will be straightforwardly satisfied, and condition [C] is then simply checked, analytically or numerically. The *basic* systems will be the well-known *Duffing equation* and the *Cubic potential* (the “fish”), both Hamiltonian and reversible. A similar approach was performed by Duarte in [5].

7.1. Perturbed Duffing equation. Let us consider the vertical Duffing equation

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = y - y^3 + \varepsilon f(x, y, t) \\ \dot{y} = x + \varepsilon g(x, y, t). \end{cases} \tag{15}$$

For $\varepsilon = 0$, system (15) is Hamiltonian, reversible (with respect to linear involutions, $R(x, y) = (x, -y)$ and $S(x, y) = (-x, y)$) and presents a couple of (R -)symmetric homoclinic solutions to the origin. These figure-8 homoclinic curves (single-round 1-2-orbits) can be parameterized by $\Gamma_h^-(t) = (x_h(t), \pm y_h(t))$, where

$$x_h(t) = -\sqrt{2}\operatorname{sech}(t) \tanh(t), \quad y_h(t) = \sqrt{2}\operatorname{sech}(t)$$

for $t \in (-\infty, +\infty)$. Moreover, the following properties hold: (i) $x_h(t) = \dot{y}_h(t)$; (ii) $(x_h(0), y_h(0)) = (0, \sqrt{2})$; (iii) $y_h(t)$ has a pole of order 1 at the points $\pm\pi i/2$ (and, therefore, $x_h(t)$ has poles of order 2 at the same points).

Our aim is to provide some examples of periodic perturbation of (15), preserving R -reversibility and not in general the Hamiltonian character, such that the homoclinic invariant curves of the origin undergo a quadratic tangency (and, therefore, infinitely many of them). It is straightforward to check that, for $\varepsilon \neq 0$,

system (15) is R -(time) reversible if and only if $f(x, -y, -t) = -f(x, y, t)$ and $g(x, -y, -t) = g(x, y, t)$. The existence of (tangent) quadratic homoclinic points will be carried out by selecting a simple suitable perturbation and parameters ω_j, t_0^* such that the corresponding *Melnikov function* $M(t_0)$ has a double-zero at $t_0 = t_0^*$. Melnikov function is given by

$$M(t_0) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} (F \wedge G)(x_h(t), y_h(t), t + t_0) dt,$$

where

$$F(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} y - y^3 \\ x \end{pmatrix}, \quad G(x, y, t) = \begin{pmatrix} f(x, y, t) \\ g(x, y, t) \end{pmatrix}$$

and $F \wedge G = (y - y^3)g(x, y, t) - xf(x, y, t)$. To produce such example, we restrict ourselves to the case where $g \equiv 0$ and $f(x, y, t)$ a (periodic) linear combinations of *odd* functions of the form $x \sin \omega t$, that is,

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} &= y - y^3 + \varepsilon x \sum_{j=0}^N a_j \sin \omega_j t \\ \dot{y} &= x \end{cases}$$

with commensurable $\omega_0, \omega_1, \dots, \omega_N$. Having in mind that $x_h^2(t) \sin \omega_j t$ is an odd function in t (and, therefore, its integral over $(-\infty, +\infty)$ vanishes) it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} M(t_0) &= - \sum_{j=0}^N a_j \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x_h^2(t) \sin \omega_j(t + t_0) dt = \\ &= - \sum_{j=0}^N a_j \left(\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x_h^2(t) \cos \omega_j t dt \right) \sin(\omega_j t_0) = - \frac{\pi}{3} \sum_{j=0}^N a_j \frac{\omega_j(\omega_j^2 - 2)}{\sinh(\pi\omega_j/2)} \sin(\omega_j t_0), \end{aligned}$$

where *residues* formula has been used to get

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x_h^2(t) \cos(\omega_j t) dt &= \\ \frac{2\pi i}{1 - \cosh(\pi\omega_j)} \operatorname{Res} \left(x_h^2(t) \cos \omega_j t, t = \frac{\pi i}{2} \right) &= - \frac{\pi}{3} \frac{\omega_j(\omega_j^2 - 2)}{\sinh(\pi\omega_j/2)}. \end{aligned}$$

From this general result, we can provide suitable examples of nontransversal homoclinic points. Indeed, let consider the following case:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} &= y - y^3 + \varepsilon x (\alpha \sin t + \beta \sin 2t + \gamma \sin 3t) \\ \dot{y} &= x. \end{cases}$$

where

$$\alpha = \frac{9}{4\pi} \sinh(\pi/2), \quad \beta = \frac{3}{4\sqrt{2}\pi} \sinh \pi, \quad \gamma = -\frac{1}{28\pi} \sinh(3\pi/2).$$

With this choice, the corresponding Melnikov function reads

$$M(t_0) = \frac{3}{4} \sin t_0 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sin 2t_0 + \frac{1}{4} \sin 3t_0,$$

which satisfies $M(\pi/4) = M'(\pi/4) = 0$ and $M''(\pi/4) = 1/\sqrt{2} \neq 0$.

7.2. **Perturbed “fish” equation.** This example of single-round 1- and 2-orbits, based on the *fish* equation, is given by

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} &= y & +\varepsilon f(x, y, t) \\ \dot{y} &= x - x^2 & +\varepsilon g(x, y, t). \end{cases}$$

For $\varepsilon = 0$ this fish equation is (time) R -reversible, with R the involution $(x, y) \mapsto (x, -y)$, and presents a (R)-symmetric homoclinic solution to the origin, namely, $\Gamma_h(t) = (x_h(t), y_h(t))$, where

$$x_h(t) = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \operatorname{sech}^2\left(\frac{t}{2}\right), \quad y_h(t) = \dot{x}_h(t) = -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \operatorname{sech}^2\left(\frac{t}{2}\right) \tanh\left(\frac{t}{2}\right)$$

Function $x_h(t)$ has a pole of order 2 at $\pm\pi i$ and, therefore, $y_h(t)$ has them of order 3. If we ask the perturbation (f, g) to preserve the R -reversibility, it must satisfy that $f(x, -y, -t) = -f(x, y, t)$ and $g(x, -y, -t) = g(x, y, t)$. Proceeding like in the previous example, the Melnikov function for a general reversible perturbation (f, g) reads as follows

$$\begin{aligned} M(t_0) &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} (F \wedge G)(x_h(t), y_h(t), t + t_0) dt = \\ &\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} y_h(t)g(x_h(t), y_h(t), t + t_0) dt - \\ &\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} (x_h(t) - x_h^2(t))f(x_h(t), y_h(t), t + t_0) dt. \end{aligned}$$

As before, we restrict ourselves to a simpler case, namely,

$$f \equiv 0, \quad g(x, y, t) = g(y, t) = y \sum_{j=0}^N b_j \sin \omega_j t,$$

again with $\omega_0, \omega_1, \dots, \omega_N$ commensurables. As we did for the Duffing equation, we select a simple example giving rise to a homoclinic quadratic point. Indeed, we choose $\omega_0 = 2, \omega_1 = 6$ (they are the smallest satisfying it), $t_0 = \pi/4$ and denote $b_0 = \alpha, b_1 = \beta$ (with $\alpha\beta \neq 0$). Indeed,

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} &= y \\ \dot{y} &= x - x^2 & +\varepsilon y (\alpha \sin 2t + \beta \sin 6t). \end{cases}$$

Thus, our Melnikov function reads

$$\begin{aligned} M(t_0) &= \frac{4}{5}\pi (\alpha \sinh(2\pi) \cdot (2^4 - 1) \cdot 2 \cdot \sin(2t_0) \\ &\quad +\beta \sinh(6\pi) \cdot (6^4 - 1) \cdot 6 \cdot \sin(6t_0)), \end{aligned}$$

which can be written as $A \sin 2t_0 + B \sin 6t_0$ with

$$A = \frac{4}{5}\pi\alpha \sinh(2\pi) \cdot (2^4 - 1) \cdot 2, \quad B = \frac{4}{5}\pi\beta \sinh(6\pi) \cdot (6^4 - 1) \cdot 6.$$

Taking $A = B$ it follows that $M(\pi/4) = M'(\pi/4) = 0$ and $M''(\pi/4) = 32B \neq 0$, which provides the condition

$$\beta = \frac{(2^4 - 1) \sinh(2\pi)}{3(6^4 - 1) \sinh(6\pi)} \alpha.$$

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