

# Canards and mixed mode oscillations

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## Canard Solutions

- **Slow/fast** systems often have strongly attracting, locally invariant **slow manifolds**
- Slow manifolds sometimes end abruptly and trajectories must follow fast directions.
- **Canards** are exceptional trajectories which cross over to the repelling slow manifold and continue moving on the slow scale.
- Some very interesting dynamical phenomena, like **mixed mode oscillations** or **localization** may arise due to the presence of canards.

## Mixed Mode Oscillations

In singular perturbations one encounters two basic types of periodic solutions: *small oscillations* and *relaxation oscillations*. **Mixed mode oscillations** are a oscillatory solutions combining both types.

### Example equation

$$\varepsilon \dot{x} = -y + \frac{1}{2}x^2 - \frac{1}{3}x^3$$

$$\dot{y} = x - z$$

$$\dot{z} = \varepsilon(\mu - z + \varphi(x)).$$

- The presence and type of mixed mode oscillations depends on the function  $\varphi$ .

## Selected references

### Canards::

Benoit

Wechselberger

Guckenheimer and Haiduc

### Mixed mode oscillations:

Millik, Szmolyan, Löffelman and Gröller

Moehlis

Drover, Rubin, Su ...

## Singular Perturbation Theory

$$\varepsilon \dot{x} = f(x, y)$$

$$\dot{y} = g(x, y)$$

slow equation

$$x \in \mathbb{R}^n, y \in \mathbb{R}^m$$

$$x' = f(x, y)$$

$$y' = \varepsilon g(x, y),$$

fast equation

0th order approximations are given by:

$$f(x, y) = 0$$

$$\dot{y} = g(x, y)$$

reduced equation

$$x' = f(x, y)$$

$$y' = 0,$$

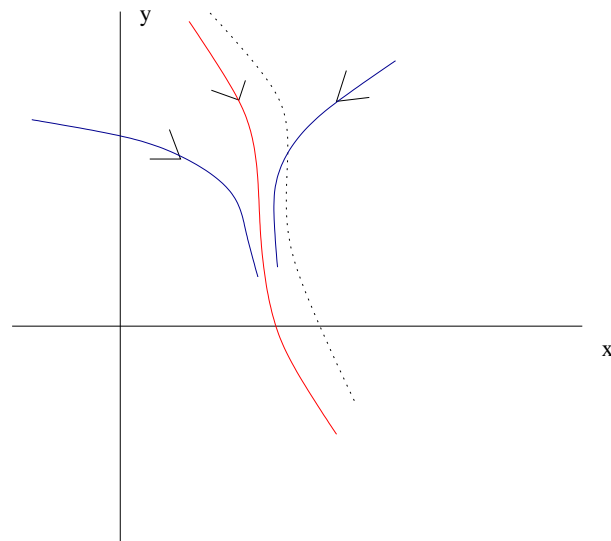
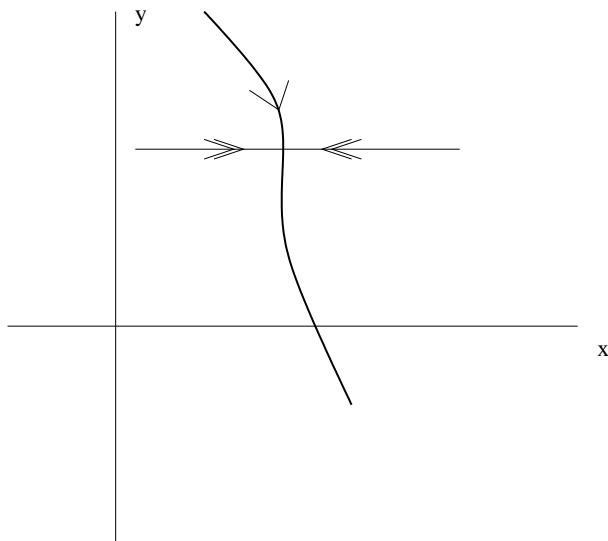
layer equation

- The set  $S_0 = \{(x, y) : f(x, y) = 0\}$  is called the reduced manifold.
- $S_0$  is the phase space for the reduced problem and the set of equilibria for the layer problem.

## Fenichel Theorem

$$\begin{aligned}x' &= f(x, y) \\ y' &= \varepsilon g(x, y).\end{aligned}\tag{1}$$

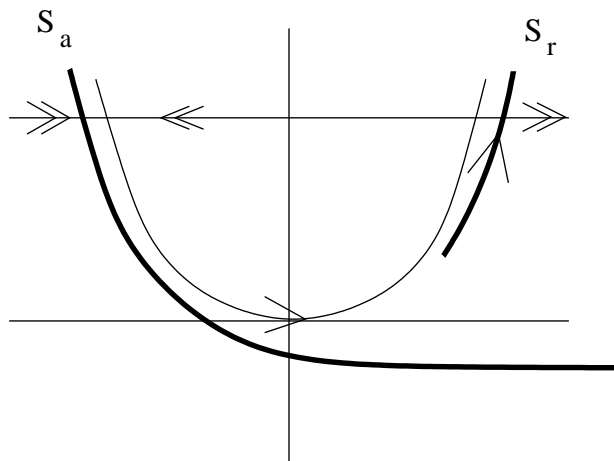
**Theorem** (Fenichel) Suppose  $\tilde{S}_0$  is an open subset of  $S_0$  such that for every  $(x, y) \in \tilde{S}_0$  the matrix  $D_x f$  has no eigenvalues on the imaginary axis. Then, for  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists a locally invariant manifold for (1)  $S_\varepsilon$  close to  $\tilde{S}_0$  and the flow on  $S_\varepsilon$  is close to the flow of the reduced equation on  $S_0$ .



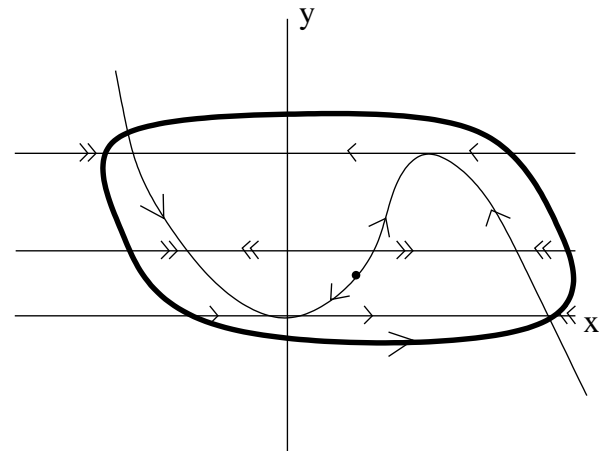
## Non-hyperbolic points

Interesting dynamics involving jumps between different locally invariant slow manifolds is related to the loss of normal hyperbolicity of  $S_0$ . Simplest example: *fold*. The following equations give an example:

$$\begin{aligned}\varepsilon \dot{x} &= -y + x^2 \\ \varepsilon y &= g(x, y), \quad g(0, 0) < 0.\end{aligned}$$



(a) simple fold



(a) relaxation oscillation



## Fold in Systems with Two Slow Variables

$$x' = -y + x^2$$

$$y' = \varepsilon g_1(x, y, z)$$

$$z' = \varepsilon g_2(x, y, z)$$

- $S_0 = \{(x, y, z) : y = x^2\}$  is a parabolic cylinder
- Fold line  $\mathcal{F} = \{0, 0, z\} : z \text{ is arbitrary} \}$
- reduced equation can be obtained in variables  $(x, z)$  by setting  $y = x^2$

$$2x\dot{x} = g_1(x, y, z)$$

$$\dot{z} = g_2(x, y, z)$$

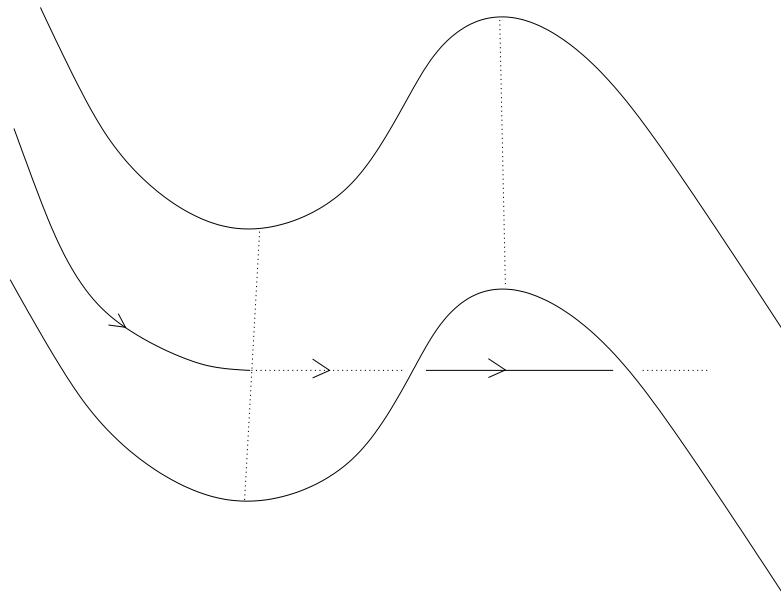
- Fold line  $\mathcal{F} = \{x = 0\}$  corresponds to the set of singularities of the reduced equation.

## Simple fold

$$2x\dot{x} = g_1(x, y, z)$$

$$\dot{z} = g_2(x, y, z)$$

Consider  $p_0 = (0, 0, z_0) \in \mathcal{F}$ . If  $g_1(p_0) \neq 0$  then  $p_0$  is like a simple fold point in a system with one slow variable.



**Folded singularities** correspond to the case of  $g_1(p_0) = 0$ .

## Folded node

$$\varepsilon \dot{x} = -y + x^2$$

$$\dot{y} = x - z$$

$$\dot{z} = (\mu - x - z), \quad \mu > 0.$$

Reduced equation:

$$2x\dot{x} = x - z$$

$$\dot{z} = (\mu - x - z).$$

We desingularize (rescale time by  $-2x$ ):

$$2x\dot{x} = -2x(x - z)$$

$$\dot{z} = -2x(\mu - x - z),$$

or, after cancelation:

$$\dot{x} = z - x$$

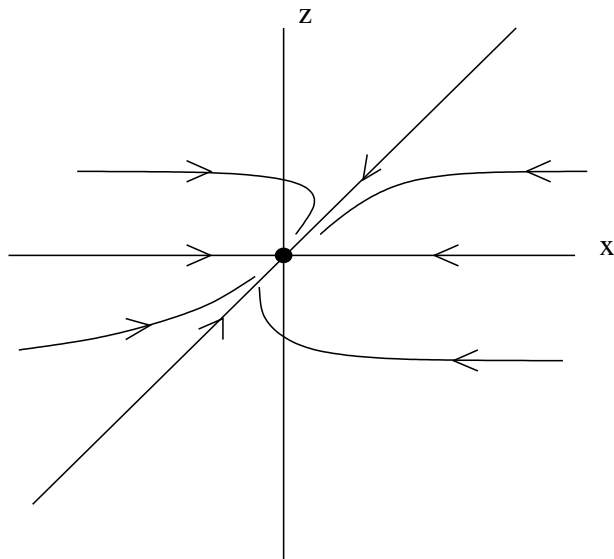
$$\dot{z} = -2x(\mu - x - z),$$

## Folded node cont.

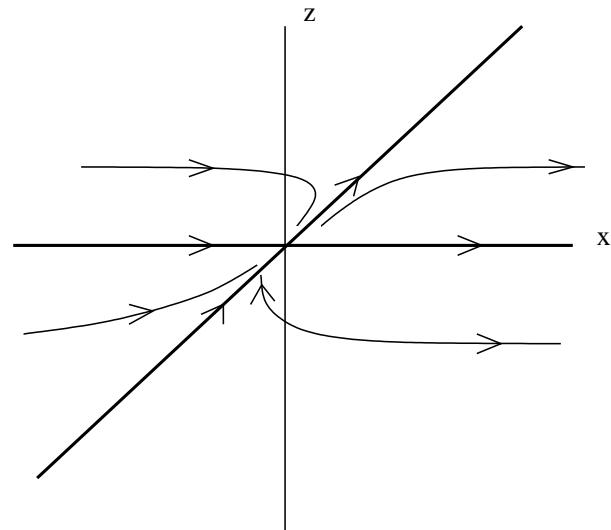
$$\dot{x} = z - x$$

$$\dot{z} = -2x(\mu - x - z),$$

- Away from the fold line  $\{x = 0\}$  the trajectories of the reduced and desingularized system are equal, up to time parametrization. Time direction has to be reversed for  $x > 0$ .
- $(0, 0)$  is an equilibrium of node type.



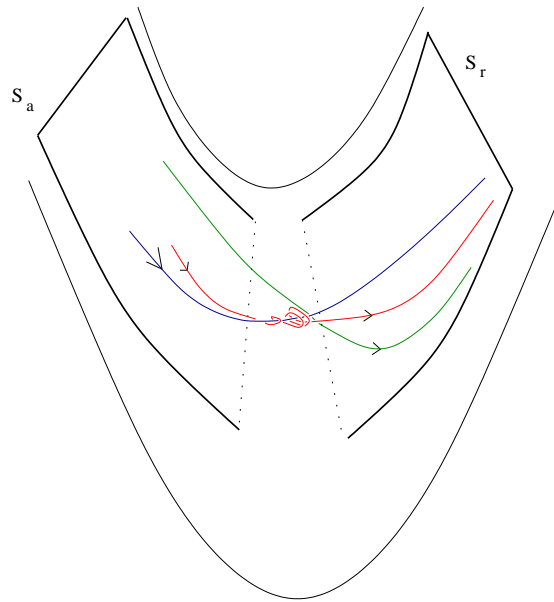
(a)



(b)

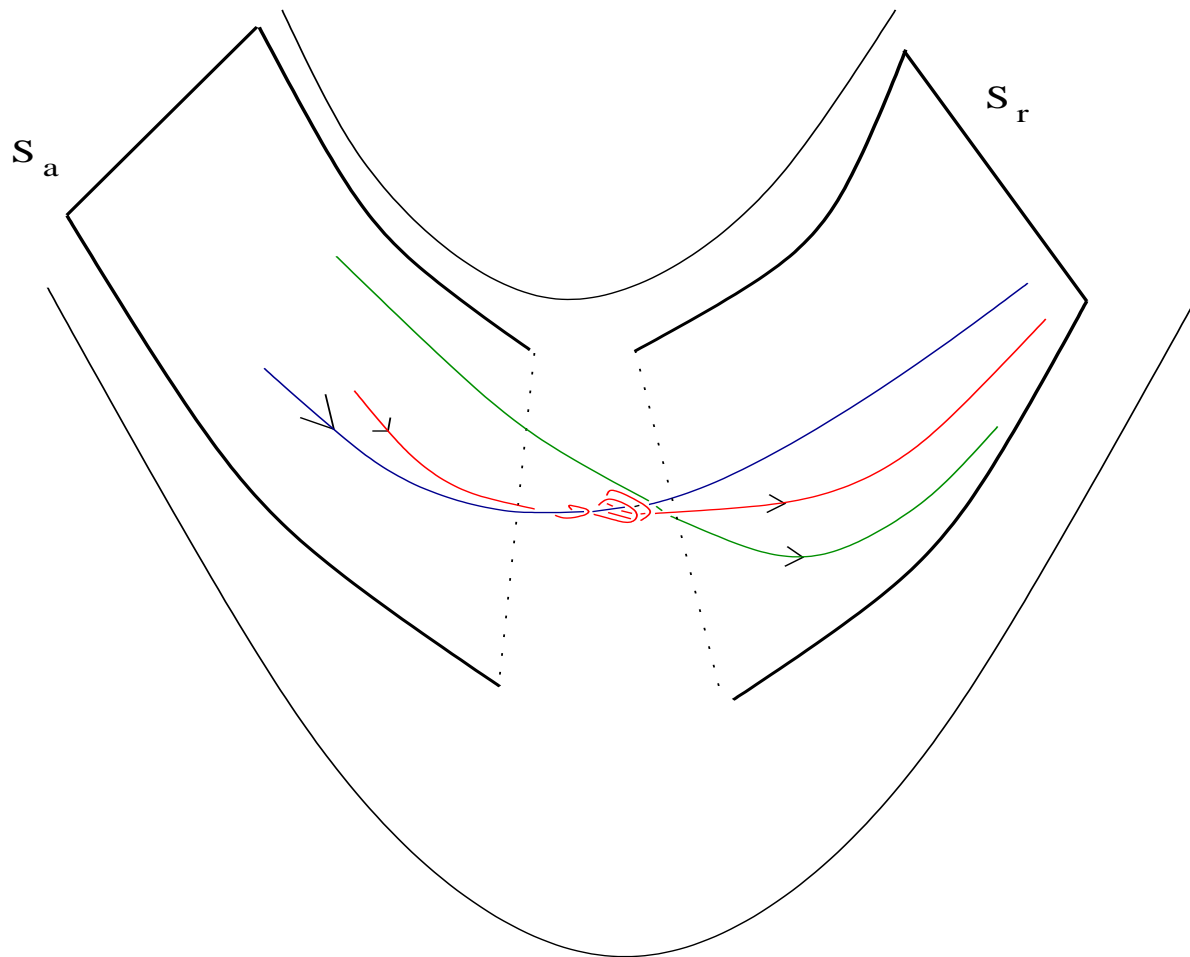
## Canard solutions

- By Fenichel theory away from  $\mathcal{F}$  there exist two dimensional slow manifolds  $S_a$  and  $S_r$ . **Canard solutions** are solutions that pass from  $S_a$  to  $S_r$ .
- Near folded node there are two primary canards corresponding to principal directions. We call them **weak canard** and **strong canard**.
- Let  $\mu$  be the ratio of the weak to the strong eigenvalue of the desingularized system and let  $m$  be such that  $m - 1 \leq \mu \leq m$ . For each  $1 \leq k \leq m - 1$  there exists a **secondary canard** which winds  $k$  times around the weak canard.



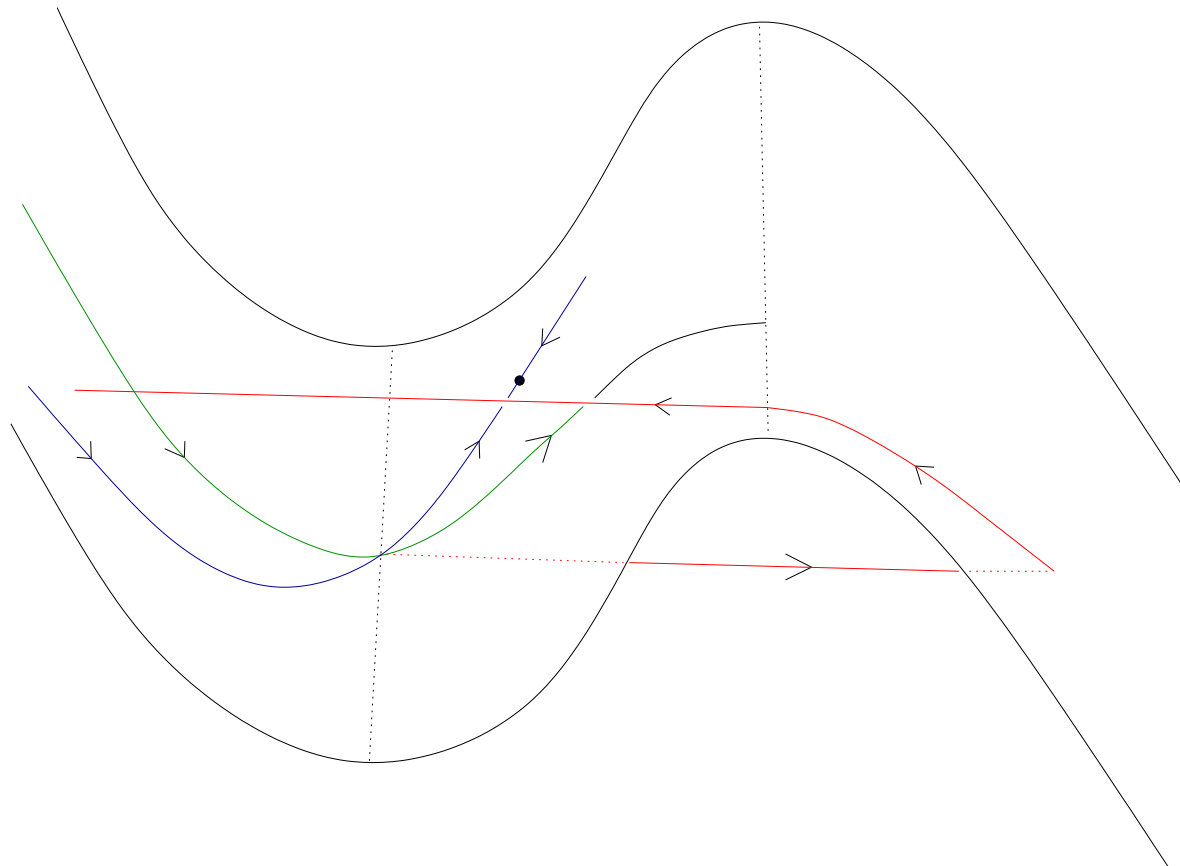
## Dynamics near Folded Node

- Trajectories on  $S_a$  to the left of the strong canard (in the sense of the figure) are attracted to the weak canard. They rotate about the weak canard as they pass near the fold. They may leave the neighborhood either through a relaxation mechanism or following one of the canards.
- Trajectories right of the strong canard follow the relaxation mechanism.



## Global problem

**Mechanism of complicated dynamics:** The trajectories following the relaxation route come back to  $S_{a-}$  to the left of the strong canard and subsequently converge to the weak canard.



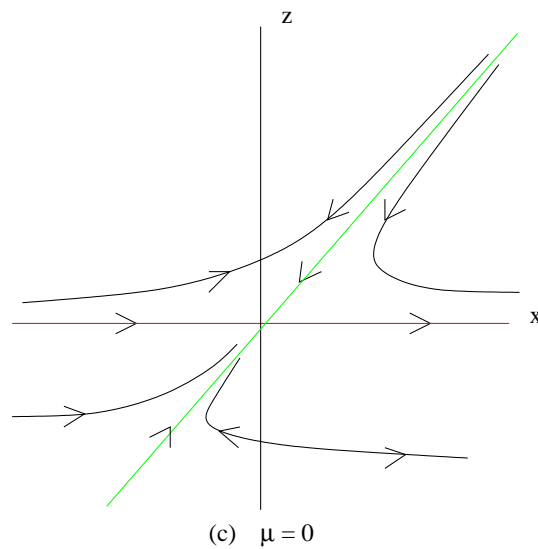
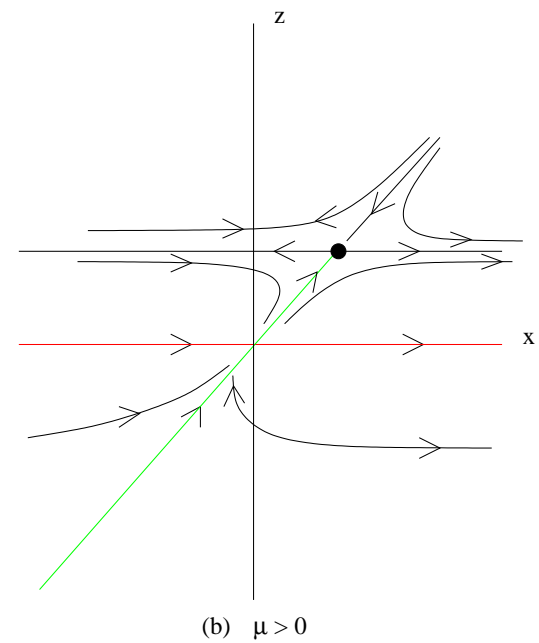
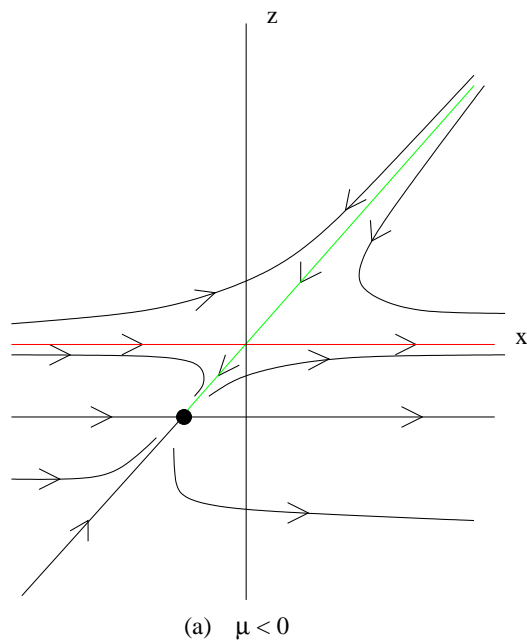
## Folded saddle-node (easier?!)

$$\varepsilon \dot{x} = -y + x^2$$

$$\dot{y} = x - z$$

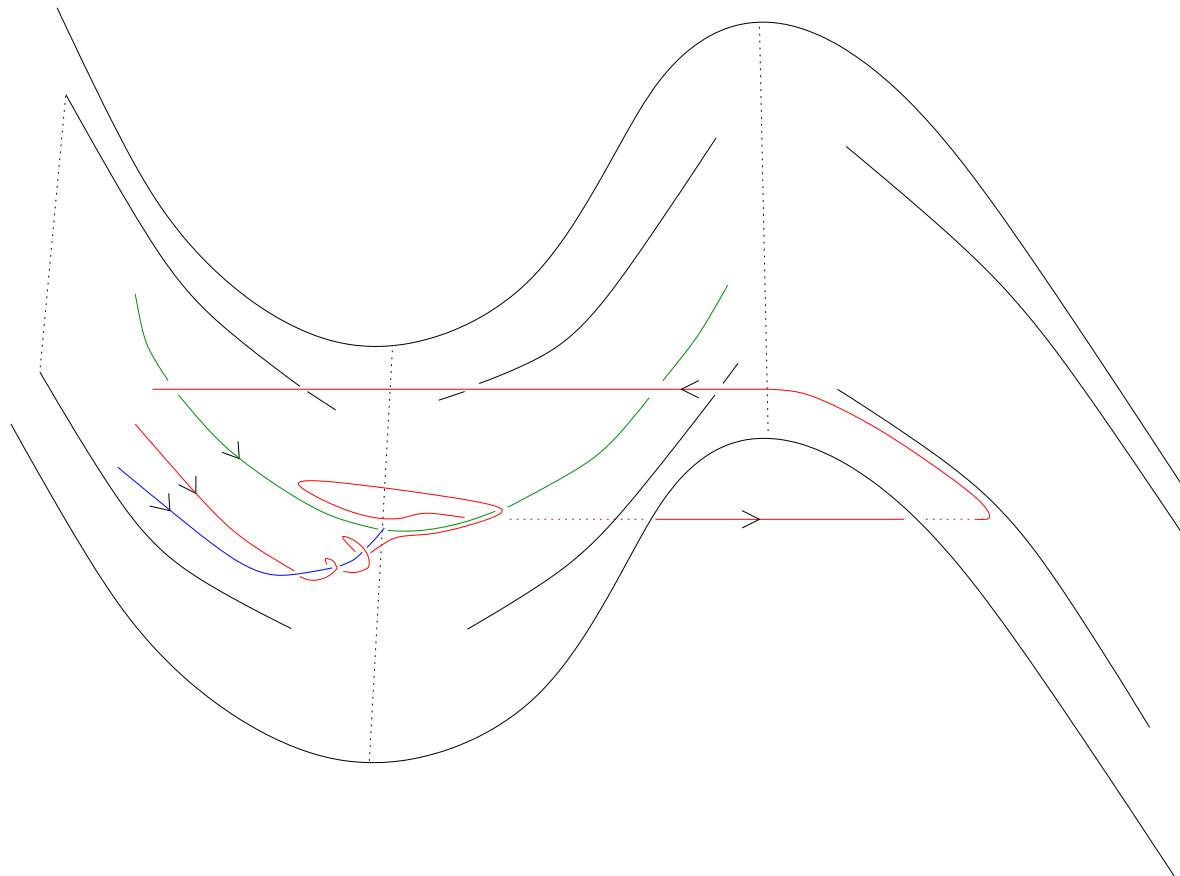
$$\dot{z} = (\mu - x - z), \quad \mu \approx 0.$$

Phase portraits for reduced system:





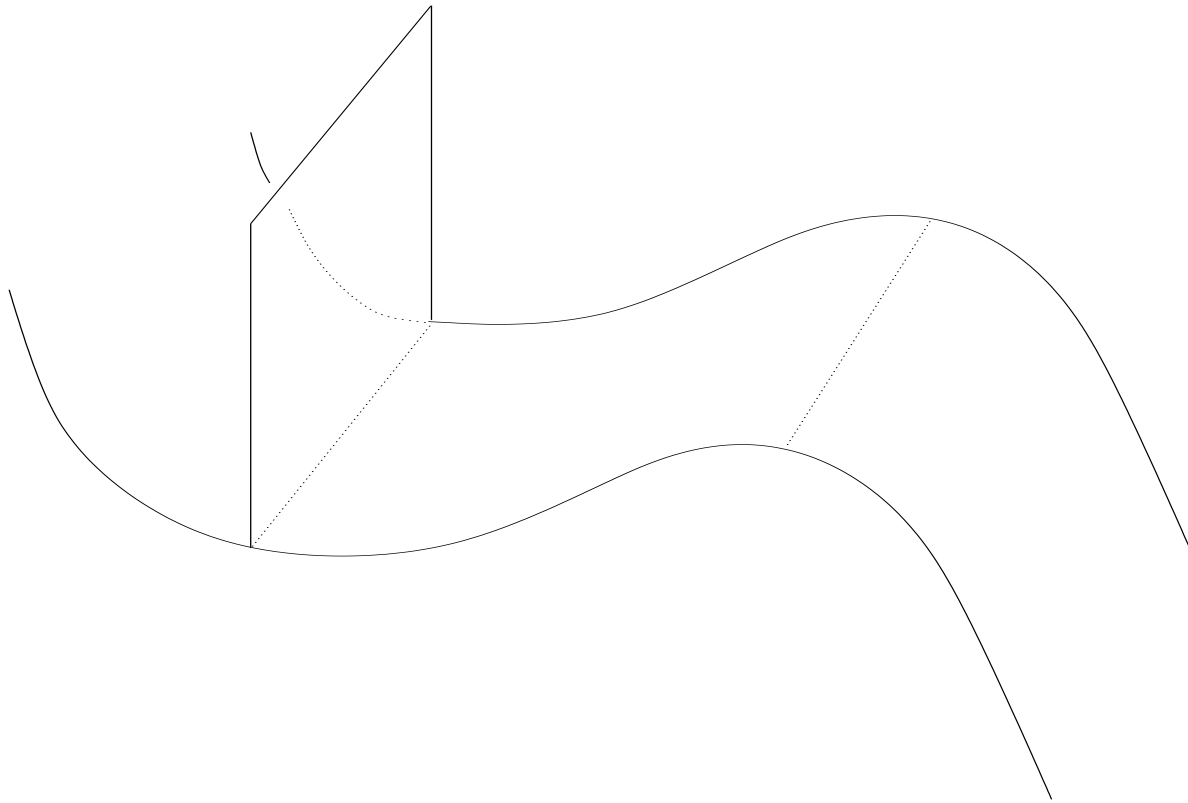
**Dynamics near folded saddle-node** There is no weak canard. There are infinitely many secondary canards, all very close to the strong canard. Most of the trajectories spiral as they pass near the fold and exit either along the strong canard or follow the relaxation mechanism.



## Section of the flow

We define our return map  $\pi$  on the hyperplane

$$\Delta = \{(0, y, z), (y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^2\}.$$

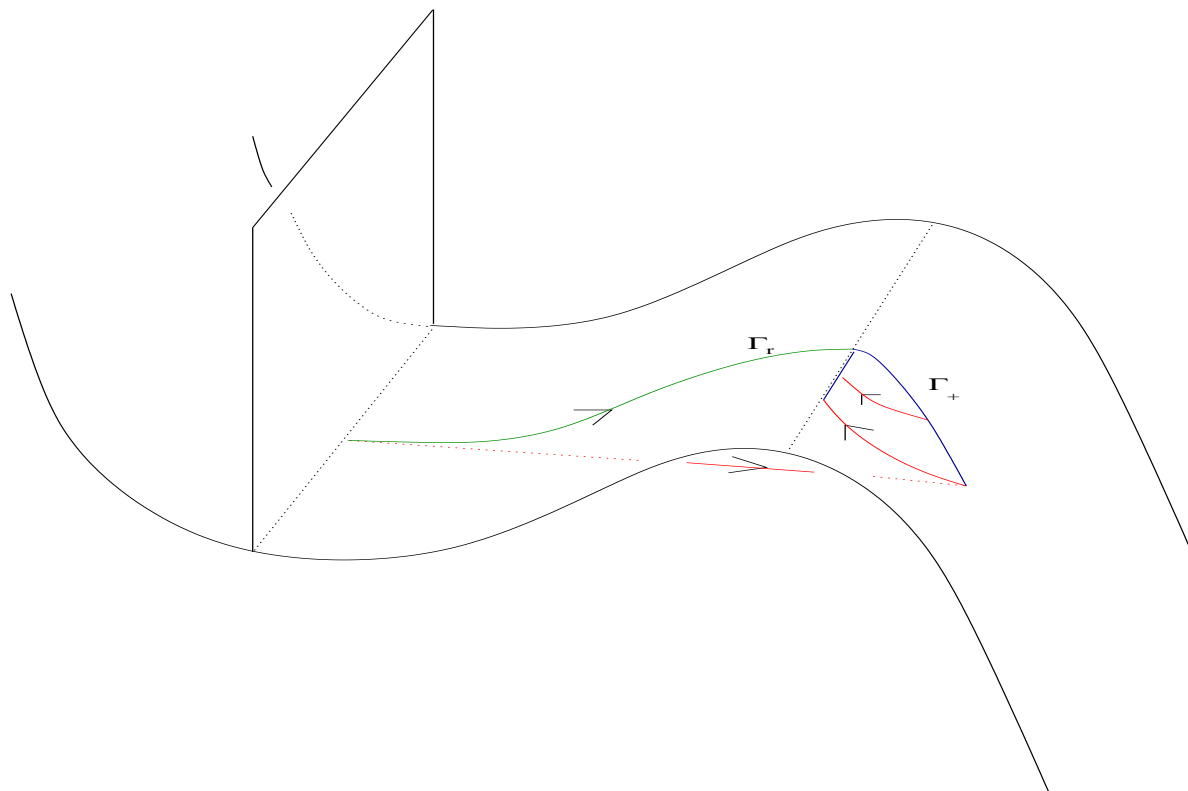


- Although  $\Delta$  may fail to be a section for some trajectories it is still the best candidate.

## Return map

Notation:

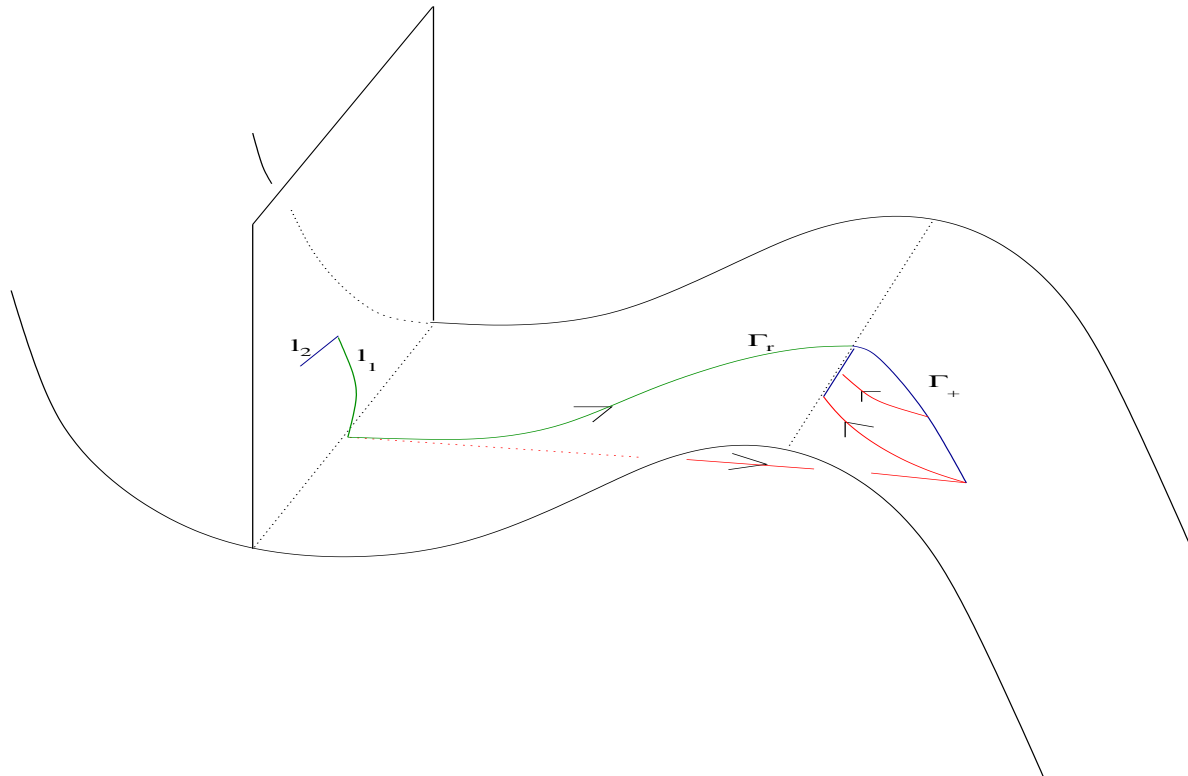
- $\Gamma$  is the strong canard
- $\Gamma_r = \Gamma \cap S_r$
- $\Gamma_+$  is the projection of  $\Gamma_r$  onto  $S_{a+}$ .



## Return map cont.

**Proposition** The part of the attractor outside of a small neighborhood of the folded saddle node is close the union of two curves  $l_1 \cup l_2$ , where:

- $l_1$  is the orthogonal projection along  $x$  of  $\Gamma_r$  onto  $\Delta$ ,
- $l_2$  is the projection by the flow of  $\Gamma_+$  onto  $\Delta$ .



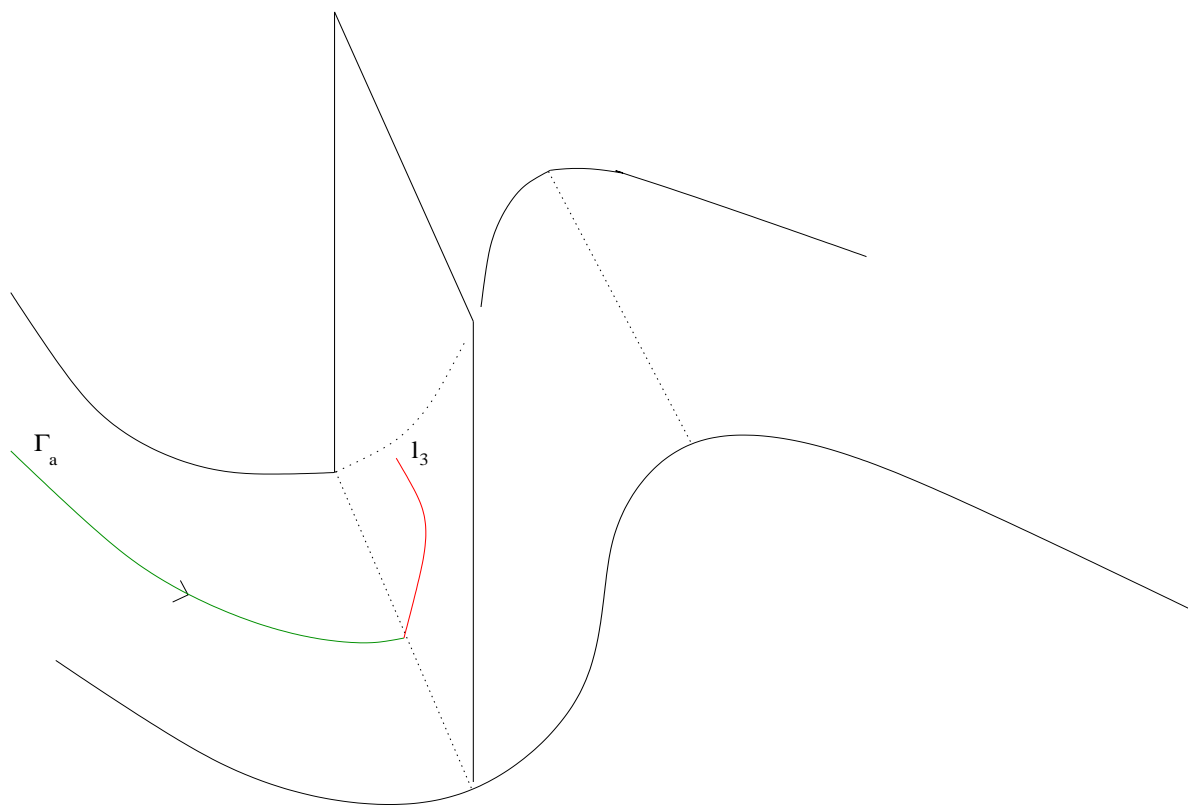
## The curve $\tilde{W}$

Let  $\tilde{W}$  be the set of points in  $\Delta$  whose forward trajectories end up in  $S_r$  after one passage near the fold.

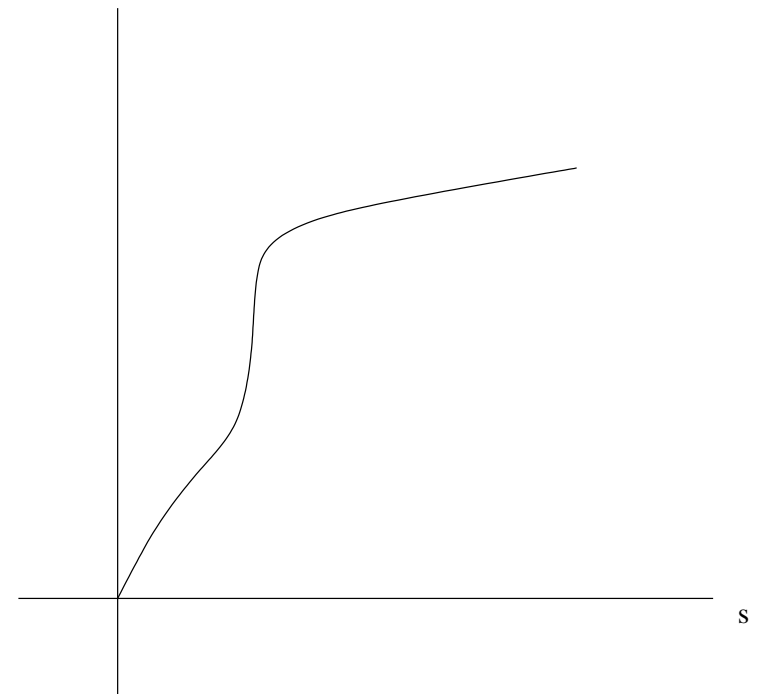
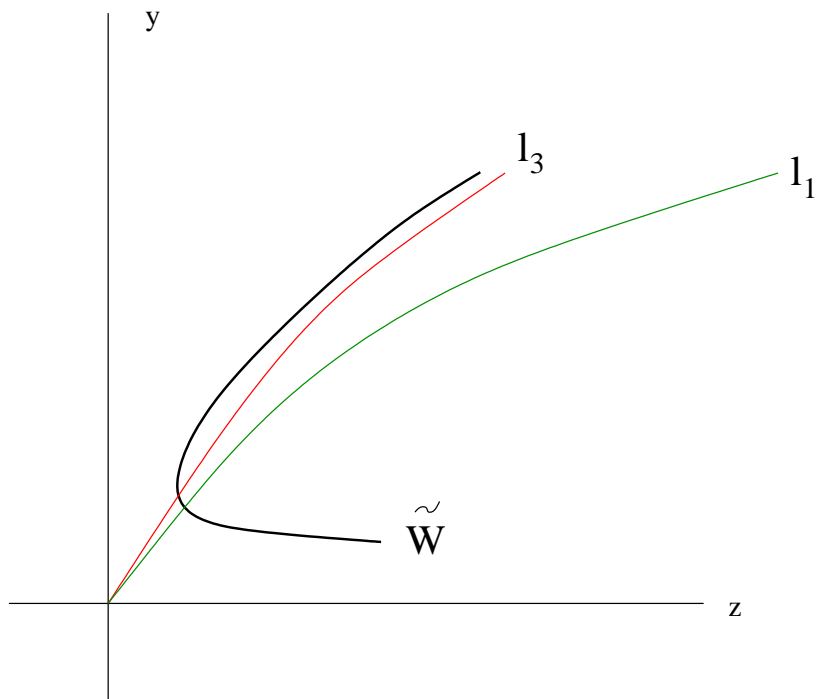
- $\tilde{W}$  divides  $\Delta$  into points whose trajectories jump to  $S_{a+}$  before returning to  $\Delta$  and trajectories that remain close to  $S_{a-} \cup S_r$  and then jump to  $\Delta$ .

- Let  $\Gamma_a = \Gamma \cap S_{a-}$  and let  $l_3$  be the orthogonal projection of  $\Gamma_a$  onto  $\Delta$ .

Outside a small neighborhood of the fold  $\tilde{W}$  is close to  $l_3$

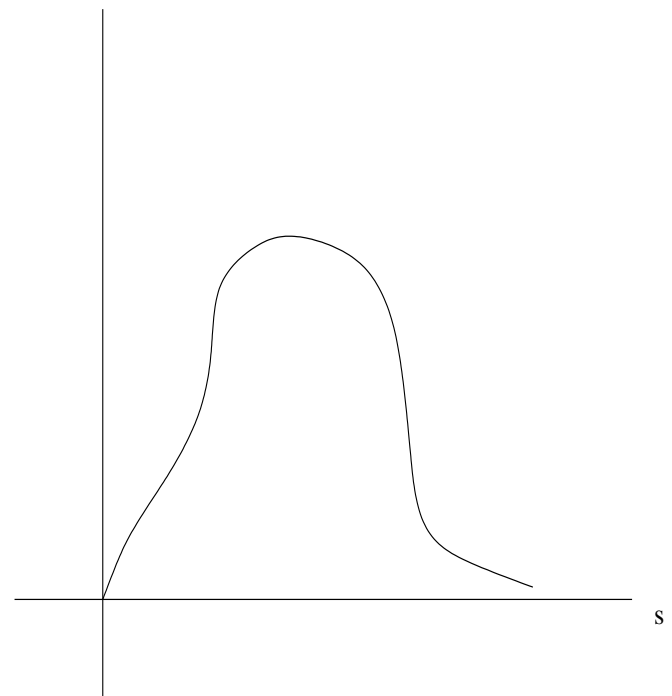
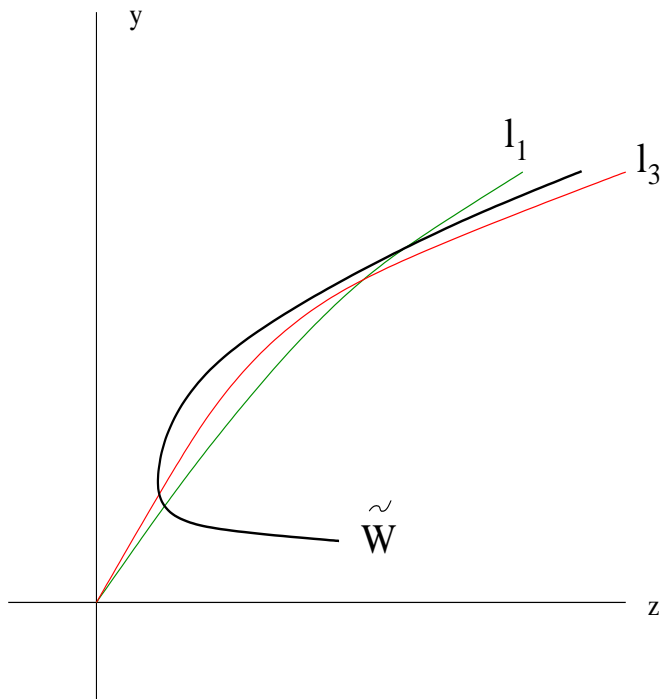


## Return map - scenario 1



$s$  = arclength of the attractor

## Return map - scenario 2



## Conclusions

- Canard induced mixed mode oscillations can happen in a large parameter regime ( $\Delta\mu = O(1)$ )
- In the interval of mixed mode oscillations there are infinitely many canard explosions
- Geometric approach is well suited for the analysis of this problem.