



Cyclicity of a fake saddle inside the quadratic vector fields

P. De Maesschalck^a, S. Rebollo-Perdomo^b, J. Torregrosa^{c,*}

^a Hasselt University, Martelarenlaan 42, B-3500 Hasselt, Belgium

^b Centre de Recerca Matemàtica, 08193 Bellaterra, Barcelona, Spain

^c Departament de Matemàtiques, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Edifici C, 08193 Bellaterra, Barcelona, Spain

Received 20 May 2014; revised 21 September 2014

Available online 16 October 2014

Abstract

This paper concerns the study of small-amplitude limit cycles that appear in the phase portrait near an unfolded fake saddle singularity. This degenerate singularity is also known as an impassable grain. The canonical form of the unperturbed vector field is like a degenerate flow box. Near the singularity, the phase portrait consists of parallel fibers, all but one of which have no singular points, and at the singular fiber, there is one node. We demonstrate different techniques in order to show that the cyclicity is bigger than or equal to two when the canonical form is quadratic.

© 2014 Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

MSC: 34C07; 37G10; 37G15; 34D15

Keywords: Cyclicity; Fake saddle; Impassable grain; Limit cycle; Bifurcation; Singularity unfolding

* Corresponding author.

E-mail addresses: peter.demaesschalck@uhasselt.be (P. De Maesschalck), srebollo@crm.cat (S. Rebollo-Perdomo), torre@mat.uab.cat (J. Torregrosa).