FEEDBACK-MEDIATED COEXISTENCE AND OSCILLATIONS IN THE CHEMOSTAT

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(Communicated by )

Abstract. We consider a mathematical model that describes the competition of three species for a single nutrient in a chemostat in which the dilution rate is assumed to be controllable by means of state dependent feedback. We consider feedback schedules that are affine functions of the species concentrations. In case of two species, we show that the system may undergo a Hopf bifurcation and oscillatory behavior may be induced by appropriately choosing the coefficients of the feedback function. When the growth of the species obeys Michaelis-Menten kinetics, we show that the Hopf bifurcation is supercritical in the relevant parameter region, and the bifurcating periodic solutions for two species are always stable. Finally, we show that by adding a third species to the system, the two-species stable periodic solutions may bifurcate into the coexistence region via a transcritical bifurcation. We give conditions under which the bifurcating orbit is locally asymptotically stable.

1. Introduction. We study the mathematical model of a chemostat:

\[
\begin{align*}
\dot{S} &= D(S_0 - S) - \sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i f_i(S)/\gamma_i, \\
\dot{x}_i &= x_i (f_i(S) - D), \quad i = 1, \ldots, n, \quad n \geq 2
\end{align*}
\]

where \(S\) is the nutrient concentration and \(x_i\) are the concentrations of the competing species. The \(f_i\) are the growth functions of the species and they are assumed to be monotonically increasing. The yield constants, denoted by \(\gamma_i\), reflect that only a fraction of the nutrient of what the different species consume, leads to new biomass.

The two natural control parameters are the input nutrient concentration \(S_0\) and the dilution rate \(D\). If these are constant, then at most one species survives as dictated by the principle of competitive exclusion [17, 5, 29, 25]. But in practice, it often happens that \(S_0\) and/or \(D\) change over time, and a well-established literature
exists in case these variations are periodic. For results in the case $S_0$ is periodic, see [23, 13, 22], and for periodic variations in $D$ see [4, 25]. In both cases coexistence is possible under certain conditions, contrasting the competitive exclusion principle. The case when $S_0$ is a general time-dependent function has been studied in [11].

More recently a program of feedback control in the chemostat has been initiated in [9], where the dilution rate is treated as a feedback variable and made dependent on the concentrations of the competitors in the following simple way:

$$D(x) = \epsilon + \sum_{i=1}^{n} k_i x_i,$$

where $\epsilon$ and the $k_i$ are non-negative design parameters. The feedback approach is perhaps most natural in the lab setting. For instance, optical sensors can be used to measure turbidity, giving a rough estimate of the concentrations of the species. An alternative way to measure concentrations is to use GFP’s (Green Fluorescence Proteins), especially since nowadays GFP’s can emit light of different color, thus allowing to distinguish between different species. These concentration estimates can be processed by a computer to (online) calculate the dilution rate. The result then determines the speed of the pump - the device that is being actuated - which supplies the reactor with fresh medium.

The introduction of feedback controls can lead to significant changes in the asymptotic behavior of solutions when compared to the case in which the control parameters are fixed. These changes have been well documented for the case $n = 2$. For example, it was shown in [9] that the system may be rendered coexistent for suitable choices of the feedback parameters. This result was generalized in [12] to include chemostat models with non-monotone growth functions. In both cases, coexistence takes its simplest form: a globally asymptotically stable positive steady state. For other choices of the feedback parameters – but still assuming $n = 2$ – it was shown in [10] that bistability can occur, meaning that the single-species boundary steady states are stable and attract almost all solutions starting in the interior, with the exception of solutions on the stable manifold of a saddle point in the interior.

Unfortunately, it was pointed out in [9] that feedback-mediated-coexistence using the feedback law above typically does not occur if $n > 2$. In fact, it was shown in [10] that if there are three competitors, no interior solution is persistent and at least one species disappears.

Here we wish to investigate another type of feedback law for the dilution rate, and see whether or not coexistence is possible when there are more than two competitors. We will show that this is indeed the case when $n = 3$, using the following feedback law:

$$D(x) = \epsilon - \sum_{i=1}^{n} k_i x_i,$$

for certain values of the non-negative parameters $\epsilon$ and $k_i$. Notice the subtle difference between the latter and former feedback law, expressed merely by the sign change, and that the concentration of the third species is not used in the feedback law. Now, coexistence will take the form of an interior periodic solution, bifurcating from a periodic solution on the boundary through what is traditionally referred to as a transcritical bifurcation of the associated Poincaré map. Transcritical bifurcations of limit cycles leading to coexistence have been reported in [2], [3] (see also Chapter 3 in [25]), and in [20, 1] for different chemostat models. In general, it is not
difficult to establish the existence of the transcritical bifurcation. It considerably more difficult to determine the stability of the bifurcating periodic orbit because the precise location of the boundary periodic solution is typically unknown. In the present case, the stability determination is based upon a perturbation technique used by Smith [24] in the study of a system with two predators and one prey. For a chemostat with three species, it is shown that local asymptotically stable periodic orbits result when the growth functions intersect in a specified manner.

As we already alluded to in the last paragraph, we will show along the way that in a chemostat with \( n = 2 \) species and controlled by a feedback law of the new type, asymptotically stable periodic solutions are possible (these will be the boundary periodic solutions mentioned in the previous paragraph). Perhaps this result is of interest by itself because this type of dynamical behavior does not occur in chemostats with 2 species which are controlled by the former feedback law, see [10] which will be briefly reviewed in the next section for convenient reference.

Finally, this report also investigates the relationship between the divergence criteria [21] and the vague attractor property [19] in determining the stability of a Hopf bifurcation. Specifically, it is shown that the sign of the quadratic form for the divergence coincides with the sign of \( V''(0) \). This result is used in the study of coexistence for three organisms.

2. Coexistence and bistability for two species. Consider the following chemostat which is an appropriately scaled version of the model presented in the Introduction:

\[
\begin{align*}
\dot{S} &= D(x,y)(1-S) - xf(S) - yg(S) \\
\dot{x} &= x(f(S) - D(x,y)) \\
\dot{y} &= y(g(S) - D(x,y)),
\end{align*}
\]

where \((S, x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^3_+\). It is assumed that \( f \) and \( g \) are nonnegative \( C^1 \) functions on \( \mathbb{R}_+ \) with \( f(0) = g(0) = 0 \) and \( f', g' > 0 \). Moreover we assume the existence of \( \lambda \in (0,1) \) and \( D^* > 0 \) such that \( f(\lambda) = g(\lambda) = D^* \), \( f'(\lambda) < g'(\lambda) \) and \( f(S) > g(S) \) for \( S \in (0, \lambda) \) and \( f(S) < g(S) \) for \( S > \lambda \). We assume that \( D(x,y) \) is affine:

\[
D(x,y) = k_1 x + k_2 y + \epsilon,
\]

where \( k_1, k_2 \) and \( \epsilon \) are nonnegative parameters. Notice that (1)-(2) is well-posed since \( \mathbb{R}^3_+ \) is a forward invariant set.

The following coexistence result was obtained in [9].

**Theorem 1.** Fix \( \epsilon \in [0, D^*] \) and let \( \tilde{k} := \frac{D^*-\epsilon}{1-\lambda} \). Suppose that the \( k_i \) satisfy

\[
k_2 < \tilde{k} < k_1,
\]

and \( k_2 > 0 \) in case \( \epsilon = 0 \).

Then system (1) with feedback (2), has a unique steady state

\[
\left( \lambda, \frac{(1-\lambda)(\tilde{k} - k_2)}{k_1 - k_2}, \frac{(1-\lambda)(k_1 - \tilde{k})}{k_1 - k_2} \right)
\]

in \( \text{int}(\mathbb{R}^3_+) \), which is globally asymptotically stable with respect to initial conditions in \( \text{int}(\mathbb{R}^3_+) \).

We wish to complete the picture of the dynamical behavior for all ranges of the parameters \( k_i \) and start with the most interesting case of bistability, see [10].
Theorem 2. Fix $\epsilon \in [0, D^*)$ and let $\tilde{k} := \frac{D^* - \epsilon}{D^*}$. Suppose that the $k_i$ satisfy
\[ k_1 < \tilde{k} < k_2, \]
and $k_1 > 0$ in case $\epsilon > 0$. Then system (1) with feedback (2), has a unique steady state
\[ E = \left( \lambda, \frac{(1 - \lambda)(k_2 - \tilde{k})}{k_2 - k_1}, \frac{(1 - \lambda)(\tilde{k} - k_1)}{k_2 - k_1} \right) \]
in $\text{int}(\mathbb{R}_+^3)$, which is a saddle. In addition to the washout steady state at $E_0 = (1, 0, 0)$, there are two asymptotically stable single-species boundary steady states
\[ E_1 = (\lambda_1, 1 - \lambda_1, 0) \quad \text{and} \quad E_2 = (\lambda_2, 0, 1 - \lambda_2), \]
where $\lambda_1 \in (0, 1)$ is the unique solution of $f(\lambda_1) = k_1(1 - \lambda_1) + \epsilon$ and $\lambda_2 \in (0, 1)$ is the unique solution of $g(\lambda_2) = k_2(1 - \lambda_2) + \epsilon$. Almost all solutions starting in $\text{int}(\mathbb{R}_+^3)$ converge to either $E_1$ or $E_2$, except for those solutions starting on the two-dimensional (and hence zero-measure) stable manifold of $E$.

To complete the global picture we indicate the parameter region for the $k_i$ which gives rise to competitive exclusion, see [10] as well.

Theorem 3. Fix $\epsilon \in [0, D^*)$ and let $\tilde{k} := \frac{D^* - \epsilon}{D^*}$. We distinguish the following cases:

Case 1: $k_1, k_2 < \tilde{k}$, and $k_1$ or $k_2 > 0$ in case $\epsilon > 0$.

Case 2: $k_1, k_2 > \tilde{k}$.

System (1) with feedback (2), has no steady states in $\text{int}(\mathbb{R}_+^3)$. In addition to the washout steady state at $E_0 = (1, 0, 0)$, there are two single-species boundary steady states
\[ E_1 = (\lambda_1, 1 - \lambda_1, 0) \quad \text{and} \quad E_2 = (\lambda_2, 0, 1 - \lambda_2), \]
where $\lambda_1 \in (0, 1)$ is the unique solution of $f(\lambda_1) = k_1(1 - \lambda_1) + \epsilon$ and $\lambda_2 \in (0, 1)$ is the unique solution of $g(\lambda_2) = k_2(1 - \lambda_2) + \epsilon$. In case 1, $E_1$ is a stable node, while $E_2$ is a saddle with two-dimensional stable manifold contained in $\{(S, x, y) \in \mathbb{R}_+^3 \mid x = 0\}$. In case 2, $E_1$ is a saddle with two-dimensional stable manifold contained in $\{(S, x, y) \in \mathbb{R}_+^3 \mid y = 0\}$, while $E_2$ is a stable node.

In case 1, all solutions of (1)-(2) starting in $\text{int}(\mathbb{R}_+^3)$ converge to $E_1$, while in case 2 they converge to $E_2$.

The results of Theorems 1, 2 and 3 are summarized in Figure 1.

3. Oscillations in the chemostat.

3.1. Two species. Consider the following chemostat model:
\begin{align*}
\dot{S} &= D(x, y)(1 - S) - xf(S) - yg(S), \\
\dot{x} &= x(f(S) - D(x, y)), \\
\dot{y} &= y(g(S) - D(x, y)),
\end{align*}
where
\[(S, x, y) \in T := \{(S, x, y) \in \mathbb{R}_+^3 \mid S + x + y \leq 1\}.
We assume that the $f$ and $g$ are nonnegative $C^3$ functions on $\mathbb{R}_+$ with $f(0) = g(0) = 0$ and $f', g' > 0$. As before we assume the existence of $\lambda \in (0, 1)$ and $D^* > 0$ such that $f(\lambda) = g(\lambda) = D^*$, $f'(\lambda) < g'(\lambda)$ and $f(S) > g(S)$ for $S \in (0, \lambda)$ and $f(S) < g(S)$ for $S > \lambda$. Moreover we assume that $f''(S), g''(S) < 0$ and $f'''(S), g'''(S) > 0$ for all $S \geq 0$. 
Figure 1. Coexistence I, bistability II, competitive exclusion III-1: species 1 wins, III-2: species 2 wins.

Notice that all these assumptions hold if \( f \) and \( g \) are of Michaelis-Menten form \( \frac{mS}{a+S} \).

The function \( D(x, y) \) is a positive \( C^3 \) function to be determined later.

The model is well-posed since for \( V := S+x+y \), we have that \( \dot{V} = D(x, y)(1-V) \), and so \( T \) is forward invariant. Moreover, an obvious reduction argument suggests the study of the following two-dimensional system:

\[
\begin{align*}
\dot{x} &= x(f(1-x-y)-D(x,y)) \\
\dot{y} &= y(g(1-x-y)-D(x,y))
\end{align*}
\]  

(4)

where \((x, y) \in \Delta = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}_+^2 | x + y \leq 1\} \).

Denoting the right-hand side of system (4) by \((F(x, y), G(x, y))\) and suppressing the argument of \( D \) and its partial derivatives, we find that the Jacobian matrix is:

\[
J = \begin{pmatrix}
F_x & F_y \\
G_x & G_y
\end{pmatrix},
\]

where

\[
\begin{align*}
F_x &= (f(1-x-y)-D) - x(f'(1-x-y) + D_x), \\
F_y &= -x(f'(1-x-y) + D_y), \\
G_x &= -y(g'(1-x-y) + D_x), \\
G_y &= (g(1-x-y)-D) - y(g'(1-x-y) + D_y).
\end{align*}
\]
guarantee that determinant of the variational matrix in the feedback (5), then \( \text{tr}(\cdot) \) and hence the occurrence of a Hopf bifurcation becomes plausible.

Assuming that an interior steady state \((x, y)\) of system (4)-(5) is a solution \((x, y) \in \text{int}(\Delta)\) of:

\[
\begin{align*}
F_{xx} &= -2(f'(1-x-y) + D_x) - x(-f''(1-x-y) + D_{xx}) \\
F_{xy} &= F_{yx} = -(f'(1-x-y) + D_y) - x(-f''(1-x-y) + D_{xy}), \\
F_{yy} &= -x(-f''(1-x-y) + D_{yy}), \\
G_{xx} &= -y(g'(1-x-y) + D_{xx}) \\
G_{xy} &= -(g'(1-x-y) + D_x) - y(-g''(1-x-y) + D_{xy}), \\
G_{yy} &= -2(g'(1-x-y) + D_y) - y(-g''(1-x-y) + D_{yy}),
\end{align*}
\]

and some of their third order derivatives:

\[
\begin{align*}
F_{xxx} &= -3(-f'''(1-x-y) + D_{xx}) - x(f'''(1-x-y) + D_{xxx}), \\
F_{xxy} &= F_{xyx} = -(f'''(1-x-y) + D_{yy}) - x(f'''(1-x-y) + D_{yxy}), \\
G_{xxy} &= G_{xyx} = -(g'''(1-x-y) + D_{xx}) - y(g'''(1-x-y) + D_{xxy}), \\
G_{yyx} &= G_{yxy} = -3(-g'''(1-x-y) + D_{yy}) - y(g'''(1-x-y) + D_{yyx}).
\end{align*}
\]

From now on we will assume that \( D(x, y) \) is affine:

\[
D(x, y) = -k_1 x - k_2 y + \epsilon, \tag{5}
\]

where \( k_1, k_2 \) and \( \epsilon \) are non-negative parameters to be determined later.

An interior steady state of system (4)-(5) is a solution \((x^*, y^*) \in \text{int}(\Delta)\) of:

\[
\begin{align*}
x^* + y^* &= 1 - \lambda \\
k_1 x^* + k_2 y^* &= \epsilon - D^*.
\end{align*}
\]  

Assuming that an interior steady state \((x^*, y^*)\) exists, we evaluate the trace and determinant of the variational matrix \( J(x^*, y^*) \):

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{tr}(J(x^*, y^*)) &= -x^*(f'(\lambda) - k_1) - y^*(g'(\lambda) - k_2), \\
\text{det}(J(x^*, y^*)) &= x^* y^*(f'(\lambda) - g'(\lambda))(k_1 - k_2)
\end{align*}
\]

Notice that if we set \( k_1 = \bar{k}_1 \) and \( k_2 = \bar{k}_2 \) where

\[
f'(\lambda) := \bar{k}_1 < \bar{k}_2 := g'(\lambda) \tag{7}
\]

in the feedback (5), then \( \text{tr}(J(x^*, y^*)) = 0 \) and \( \text{det}(J(x^*, y^*)) = x^* y^*(\bar{k}_2 - \bar{k}_1)^2 > 0 \), and hence the occurrence of a Hopf bifurcation becomes plausible.

This suggests treating \((k_1, k_2)\) as a bifurcation parameter, while using \( \epsilon > 0 \) to guarantee that

1. \((x^*, y^*) \in \text{int}(\Delta)\).
2. \( D(x, y) > 0 \) in \( \Delta \).

Explicitly solving (6) for \((x^*, y^*)\) shows that

\[
(x^*, y^*) = \frac{1}{\bar{k}_2 - \bar{k}_1} (\bar{k}_2 (1-\lambda) - (\epsilon - D^*), (\epsilon - D^*) - \bar{k}_1 (1-\lambda)), \tag{8}
\]

and so the first condition is satisfied if

\[
\epsilon \in (\bar{k}_1 (1-\lambda) + D^*, \bar{k}_2 (1-\lambda) + D^*), \tag{9}
\]

a nonempty interval since \( \bar{k}_1 < \bar{k}_2 \).

The affine function \( D(x, y) = -\bar{k}_1 x - \bar{k}_2 y + \epsilon \) reaches its minimum in \( \Delta \) at the point \((0, 1)\), and so the second condition holds if

\[
\epsilon > \bar{k}_2. \tag{10}
\]
Notice that both constraints (9) and (10) for \( \epsilon \) are compatible only if
\[
\tilde{k}_2 < \tilde{k}_2(1 - \lambda) + D^*,
\]
or equivalently, \( \tilde{k}_2 < D^*/\lambda \). The latter inequality is satisfied: by the mean value theorem there is some \( c \in (0, \lambda) \) such that \( g'(c) = D^*/\lambda \) and since \( g' \) is decreasing as \( g'' < 0 \), this implies that \( \tilde{k}_2 \equiv g'(\lambda) < g'(c) \).

Therefore, if we fix an \( \epsilon \) in the nonempty interval
\[
I := (\max(\tilde{k}_1(1 - \lambda) + D^*, \tilde{k}_2(1 - \lambda) + D^*),
\]
then there is some open neighborhood \( \mathcal{N} \) of \( (\tilde{k}_1, \tilde{k}_2) \), such that for all \( (k_1, k_2) \in \mathcal{N} \), \( D(x, y) > 0 \) in \( \Delta \), and system (4)-(5) has an interior steady state \( (x^*, y^*) \) (this is because both \( D(x, y) \) and the point \( (x^*, y^*) \) depend continuously on \( (k_1, k_2) \)). Moreover, the interior steady state \( (x^*, y^*) \) undergoes a Hopf bifurcation at the bifurcation value \( (\tilde{k}_1, \tilde{k}_2) \). To be more precise, a Hopf bifurcation occurs along any smooth parametric path \( (k_1, k_2) = (k_1(\sigma), k_2(\sigma)) \) such that \( (\tilde{k}_1, \tilde{k}_2) = (k_1(0), k_2(0)) \) and \( x^*(k_1(0)) + y^*(k_2(0)) \neq 0 \). The first condition ensures that the eigenvalues of \( J(x^*, y^*) \) are purely imaginary at \( \sigma = 0 \). The second condition implies that this pair of complex conjugate eigenvalues of \( J(x^*, y^*) \) crosses the imaginary axis transversally. Hence, a Hopf bifurcation occurs at \( \sigma = 0 \). In what follows, we will make use of one particular parametric path \( (k_1, k_2) = (\tilde{k}_1 + \sigma, \tilde{k}_2) \) where the value of \( k_2 \) is fixed, and \( k_1 \) alone is treated as the bifurcation parameter. Such a path clearly satisfies the above conditions for the Hopf bifurcation. To determine the nature of the bifurcation (supercritical or subcritical), we follow the procedure outlined in [21]. There it is shown that if the sign of the quantity
\[
\phi_{xx}^* = \frac{1}{2}(Q^{xx} - Q^{yy}G^*_x F^*_y) - Q^{xy} F^*_x F^*_y,
\]
is negative (positive), then a supercritical (subcritical) Hopf bifurcation occurs. Here
\[
Q^{xx} = (F^*_{xxx} + G^*_{yxx}) + a_x^*(3F^*_x + 2G^*_xy) + a_y^* G^*_xx,
\]
and
\[
Q^{yy} = (F^*_{yxy} + G^*_{yy}) + a_x^* F^*_y + a_y^*(2F^*_xy + 3G^*_yy)
\]
(two need to calculate \( Q^{xy} \) since it is multiplied by \( F^*_x \) in (12), and the latter is 0 in our case). The quantities \( a_x^* \) and \( a_y^* \) are given by:
\[
a_x^* = \frac{(F^*_x + G^*_x F^*_y)}{-\det(J(x^*, y^*))},
\]
and
\[
a_y^* = \frac{-(F^*_x + G^*_y F^*_y)}{-\det(J(x^*, y^*))}.
\]
We start by evaluating the first, second and third order derivatives mentioned above at the interior steady state \( (x^*, y^*) \), using the particular form of the feedback (5) and the choices for \( k_1 \) and \( k_2 \), given in (7) (we suppress the argument \( \lambda \) of the derivatives of the functions \( f \) and \( g \)):
\[
F^*_x = 0, \\
F^*_y = x^*(\tilde{k}_2 - \tilde{k}_1) > 0, \\
G^*_x = -y^*(\tilde{k}_2 - \tilde{k}_1) < 0, \\
G^*_y = 0,
\]
Adding the last two equalities, we obtain
\[ a_x^* = -\frac{x^* f'' + y^* g'' + (\bar{k}_2 - \bar{k}_1)}{x^*(\bar{k}_2 - \bar{k}_1)}, \]
and
\[ a_y^* = \frac{x^* f'' + y^* g'' - (\bar{k}_2 - \bar{k}_1)}{y^*(\bar{k}_2 - \bar{k}_1)} < 0. \]

Substituting the quantities
\[ \frac{G^*}{F_y} = \frac{y^* (-\bar{k}_2 + \bar{k}_1)}{x^*(-\bar{k}_1 + \bar{k}_2)} = -\frac{y^*}{x^*}, \]
and \( F_x = 0 \)

into (12), it follows that \( \phi_{xx}^* < 0 \) if and only if \( x^* Q^{xx} + y^* Q^{yy} < 0 \). Define
\[ A := x^* f'' + y^* g'' < 0, \quad \delta := \bar{k}_2 - \bar{k}_1 > 0, \]
to see that
\[ x^* Q^{xx} = x^* (3f'' + g'' - x^* f''' - y^* g''') - \frac{(A + \delta)}{\delta}(2(A - \delta) + x^* f'') + \frac{(A - \delta)}{\delta}(x^* g''), \]
and
\[ y^* Q^{yy} = y^* (f'' + 3g'' - x^* f''' - y^* g''') - \frac{(A + \delta)}{\delta}(y^* f'') + \frac{(A - \delta)}{\delta}(2(A + \delta) + y^* g'''). \]

Adding the last two equalities, we obtain
\[ x^* Q^{xx} + y^* Q^{yy} = (1 - \lambda)(f'' + g'') + 2A - (1 - \lambda)(x^* f''' + y^* g''') - \frac{(A + \delta)}{\delta}(2(A - \delta) + (1 - \lambda)f'') + \frac{(A - \delta)}{\delta}(2(A + \delta) + (1 - \lambda)g'''), \]
where we used the fact that \( x^* + y^* = 1 - \lambda \). This can be simplified to
\[ x^* Q^{xx} + y^* Q^{yy} = (1 - \lambda)(f'' + g'') + 2A - (1 - \lambda)(x^* f''' + y^* g''') + \frac{1 - \lambda}{\delta}A(g'' - f'') - (1 - \lambda)(f'' + g'''). \]

Notice that the first and last term in the above sum cancel each other, so we conclude that
\[ x^* Q^{xx} + y^* Q^{yy} = -(1 - \lambda)(x^* f''' + y^* g''') + A(2 + (1 - \lambda)\frac{g'' - f''}{g' - f'}). \]
The first term is negative since \( f''', g''' < 0 \) by assumption. We see that if
\[ g'' - f'' \geq 0, \]
then the second term is negative as well, and hence a supercritical Hopf bifurcation occurs.
We also find that

\[ \frac{m_1 \lambda}{a_1 + \lambda} = \frac{m_2 \lambda}{a_2 + \lambda} = D^* \]

Equivalently, we have simplified to

Lemma 1. Let \( f(s) = \frac{m_1 s}{a_1 + s} \) and \( g(s) = \frac{m_2 s}{a_2 + s} \). Suppose that there exists \( \lambda \in (0, 1) \) and \( D^* > 0 \) such that \( f'(\lambda) = g(\lambda) = D^* \) and \( g'(\lambda) > f'(\lambda) \). Then \( x^* Q^{xx} + y^* Q^{yy} < 0 \) for all \( x^*, y^* > 0 \).

Proof. Since \( \frac{m_1 \lambda}{a_1 + \lambda} = \frac{m_2 \lambda}{a_2 + \lambda} = D^* \), it follows that \( D^*_m = 1 \), \( i = 1, 2 \). Furthermore, the conditions

\[ f'(\lambda) = \frac{m_1 a_1}{(a_1 + \lambda)^2} < \frac{m_2 a_2}{(a_2 + \lambda)^2} = g'(\lambda), \]

\[ \frac{m_1}{a_1 + \lambda} = \frac{m_2}{a_2 + \lambda} \]

together imply that \( a_2 > a_1 \) and thus

\[ \gamma = \frac{m_2}{m_1} = a_2 + \frac{\lambda}{a_1 + \lambda} > 1. \]

Using the relations \( \frac{1}{a_1 + \lambda} = \frac{D^*}{m_1 \lambda} \) and \( \gamma = \frac{m_2}{m_1} \), we find that

\[ \frac{f''}{f'} = -3D^* \frac{\lambda}{m_1 \lambda}, \]

\[ \frac{g''}{g'} = -3D^* \frac{\lambda}{m_1 \gamma \lambda}. \]

We also find that

\[ \frac{g'' - f''}{g' - f'} = 2 \frac{m_1 a_1}{(a_1 + \lambda)^2} - \frac{m_2 a_2}{(a_2 + \lambda)^2} = 2 \frac{D^*}{\lambda} \frac{a_1}{m_1} - \frac{a_2}{m_2} - \frac{a_1}{m_1}, \]

which can be further simplified substituting the expressions \( a_i = \lambda \left( \frac{m_i}{D^*} - 1 \right) \), so that

\[ \frac{g'' - f''}{g' - f'} = 2 \frac{D^*}{\lambda} \frac{1}{m_1} \left( \frac{m_1}{D^*} - 1 \right) - \frac{1}{m_2} \left( \frac{m_2}{D^*} - 1 \right) - \frac{1}{m_1} \left( \frac{m_1}{D^*} - 1 \right) = 2 \frac{1}{\lambda} \left( 1 - D^* \left( \frac{1}{m_1} + \frac{1}{m_2} \right) \right). \]

Replacing \( m_2 \) with \( \gamma m_1 \), we obtain the final expression

\[ \frac{g'' - f''}{g' - f'} = 2 \frac{1}{\lambda} \left( 1 - \frac{D^*}{m_1} \frac{1 + \gamma}{\gamma} \right). \]

The quantity \( x^* Q^{xx} + y^* Q^{yy} \) can be rewritten as \( x^* f'M_f + y^* g'M_g \), where

\[ M_f = -(1 - \lambda) \frac{f''}{f'} + 2 + (1 - \lambda) \frac{g'' - f''}{g' - f'}, \]

\[ M_g = -(1 - \lambda) \frac{g''}{g'} + 2 + (1 - \lambda) \frac{g'' - f''}{g' - f'}. \]

Equivalently, we have

\[ M_f = (1 - \lambda) \frac{3D^*}{m_1 \lambda} + 2 + (1 - \lambda) \frac{2}{\lambda} \left( 1 - \frac{D^*}{m_1} \frac{1 + \gamma}{\gamma} \right), \]

\[ M_g = (1 - \lambda) \frac{3D^*}{m_1 \gamma m_1} + 2 + (1 - \lambda) \frac{2}{\lambda} \left( 1 - \frac{D^*}{m_1} \frac{1 + \gamma}{\gamma} \right). \]

Observe that \( \gamma > 1 \) implies \( M_f > M_g \). The expression for \( M_g \) can be further simplified to

\[ M_g = \frac{(1 - \lambda) D^*}{\lambda \gamma m_1} + \frac{2}{\lambda} \left( 1 - (1 - \lambda) \frac{D^*}{m_1} \right). \]
and since $0 < 1 - \lambda < 1$ and $\frac{D'_s}{M_s} < 1$, it is immediate that $M_g > 0$. Hence, both quantities $M_f$ and $M_g$ are positive, and the quantity $x^* f'' M_f + y^* g'' M_g$ is negative as long as $x^*, y^* > 0$.

Summarizing,

**Theorem 4.** Fix $\epsilon \in I$, and let $\mathcal{N}$ be a (sufficiently small) open neighborhood of $(\bar{k}_1, \bar{k}_2)$. Assume that either (13) holds, or that $f(s)$ and $g(s)$ are of Michaelis-Menten type. Fixing $k_2 = \bar{k}_2$, a supercritical Hopf bifurcation occurs at the interior steady state of system (4)-(5) when $k_1$ passes through $\bar{k}_1$. There exists a $\delta > 0$ such that for all $k_1 \in (\bar{k}_1, \bar{k}_1 + \delta)$, (4)-(5) has an asymptotically stable periodic solution having a Floquet multiplier in $(0,1)$.

Since the set $\{(S, x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^3 | S + x + y = 1\}$ is forward invariant for (3)-(5), we immediately have:

**Corollary 1.** Under the conditions of Theorem 4, system (3)-(5) has an interior steady state in $T$ which undergoes a supercritical Hopf bifurcation when $k_1$ passes through $\bar{k}_1$. There exists a $\delta > 0$ such that for all $k_1 \in (\bar{k}_1, \bar{k}_1 + \delta)$, (3)-(5) has an asymptotically stable periodic solution having two Floquet multipliers inside the unit circle.

**Proof.** The statements regarding the occurrence of the Hopf bifurcation are straightforward. Let $p(t) = (p_1(t), p_2(t))$ denote the periodic solution of (4)-(5) of period $T$, and $J_r(t)$ the $T$-periodic linearization at $p(t)$. Notice that (3)-(5) is equivalent to the following system:

\[
\begin{align*}
\dot{V} &= D(x,y)(1 - V), \\
\dot{x} &= x(f(V - x - y) - D(x,y)), \\
\dot{y} &= y(g(V - x - y) - D(x,y)).
\end{align*}
\]

This system has a periodic solution $(1, p_1(t), p_2(t))$, and the linearized system along this periodic solution has the following matrix

\[
J(t) = \begin{pmatrix}
-D(p_1(t), p_2(t)) & 0 \\
* & J_r(t)
\end{pmatrix}
\]

The fundamental matrix solution associated with $J(t)$ takes the form

\[
\begin{pmatrix}
e^{-T(D)} & 0 \\
* & \Phi_r(T)
\end{pmatrix}
\]

where

\[
\langle D \rangle := \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T D(p_1(t), p_2(t)) dt,
\]

and $\Phi_r(T)$ is the fundamental matrix associated with $J_r(t)$. By Theorem 4 the eigenvalues of $\Phi_r(T)$ are 1 and $r_1 \in (0,1)$. This implies that two of the Floquet multipliers of $(1, p_1(t), p_2(t))$ are inside the unit circle. \qed

3.2. The divergence criterion and the vague attractor property. In this section, we establish a formal connection between the divergence criterion [20] and the classical method for analyzing the Hopf bifurcation [16, 19, 6, 14]. In the classical approach, the direction of the Hopf bifurcation is determined by checking the vague attractor property at the point of bifurcation. Specifically, if the quantity $V''(0)$ is negative then the Hopf bifurcation is supercritical, and if $V''(0)$ is positive then the Hopf bifurcation is subcritical. The divergence criterion allows to transform the
original system into one with sign definite divergence near the Hopf point without changing the geometry of the nearby orbits [21]. Knowing that the divergence remains of one sign allows to apply the Dulac criterion and conclude that the Hopf point is a weak attractor/repellor [15, 20]. The resulting conclusion is typically weaker than the classical result: one can only infer the existence of periodic solutions with small amplitude on either side of the bifurcation value. In contrast, the fact that $V'''(0) \neq 0$ implies the existence of the uniquely determined family of bifurcating limit cycles. The bifurcating limit cycles are stable if $V'''(0) < 0$ and unstable if $V'''(0) > 0$.

The transformation that preserves the orbits generically results in a system whose divergence is asymptotic to a sign definite or semi-definite quadratic form [21]. In the following Theorem, we establish that for such systems the sign of the quadratic form for the divergence coincides with the sign of $V'''(0)$. This result closes the existing gap between the divergence criterion and the classical analysis of the Hopf bifurcation.

**Theorem 5.** Consider a sufficiently smooth system
\[
\dot{x} = q(x, y), \quad \dot{y} = r(x, y),
\] (14)
that has an equilibrium at $(0, 0)$, such that the variational matrix
\[
\frac{\partial (q, r)}{\partial (x, y)}(0, 0) = \begin{pmatrix}
q_x^0 & q_y^0 \\
0 & r_y^0
\end{pmatrix}
\] has pure imaginary eigenvalues. Denote the map of the first return to the positive $x$-axis as $V$. Suppose that the divergence of (14) has the form
\[
q_x(x, y) + r_y(x, y) = ax^2 + 2bxy + cy^2 + O(r^3), \quad r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}.
\]
Then the following implications hold

(i) If the quadratic form $ax^2 + 2bxy + cy^2 \neq 0$ is negative semi-definite, then $V'''(0) > 0$;

(ii) If the quadratic form $ax^2 + 2bxy + cy^2 \neq 0$ is positive semi-definite, then $V'''(0) < 0$.

**Proof.** We will only prove the implication (i). The proof of (ii) is similar. By interchanging the roles of $x$ and $y$ if necessary, we may assume that $r_y^0 > 0$. Denote the vector field of the system (14) as $\vec{F} = (q, r)$. Consider the orbit of (14) starting at $(r, 0)$. Let $(V(r), 0)$ be the point of the first return of this orbit to the positive $x$-axis (see Fig. 2). Let $A(r)$ denote the region enclosed by this orbit as described in Fig. 2. The Green’s Theorem implies that
\[
\int_{\partial A(r)} \vec{F} \cdot \vec{n} \, ds = \int_A \text{div} \vec{F} \, dx \, dy,
\] (15)
where the boundary $\partial A(r)$ is treated as a positively oriented contour with the unit outward normal $\vec{n}$ and arclength measure $ds$. Since $\vec{F} \cdot \vec{n} = 0$ along any orbit of the full system, we can express the integral on the l.h.s of (15) as
\[
\int_{\partial A(r)} \vec{F} \cdot \vec{n} \, ds = \int_r^{V(r)} r(x, 0) \, dx.
\]
Figure 2. The function $V(r)$ is the map of the first return to the positive $x$-axis. The elliptical region $E(r)$ represents the interior of the orbit of the linearized system that passes through $(r, 0)$. The region $A(r)$ represents the interior of the region bounded by the part of the orbit of the full system starting at $(r, 0)$ and ending at $(V(r), 0)$, and the part of the $x$-axis between $x = r$ and $x = V(r)$.

Substituting the Taylor expansions $r(x, 0) = r_0 x + O(x^2)$, and $V(r) = r + \frac{1}{6} V'''(0) r^3 + O(r^4)$ [19], and applying the Intermediate Value Theorem, we find that

$$\int_r^{V(r)} r(x, 0) \, dx = r_0^0 (r + o(r^2))(V(r) - r) = \frac{r_0^0 V'''(0)}{6} r^4 + O(r^5), \quad r \to 0.$$ 

Now we evaluate the leading term of the integral on the r.h.s of (15). Expanding the system near $(0, 0)$, we find that

$$\begin{pmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} q_x^0 & q_y^0 \\ \frac{q_x^0}{x} & \frac{q_y^0}{y} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} + \vec{F}_2(x, y), \quad \vec{F}_2(x, y) = O(r^2).$$

Let $\vec{z}(t) = (x(t), y(t))$ denote the solution of the full system with the initial condition $z(0) = (r, 0)$. Let $\vec{z}_1(t) = (x_1(t), y_1(t))$ denote the corresponding solution of the linearized system

$$\begin{pmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{y}_1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} q_x^0 & q_y^0 \\ \frac{q_x^0}{x} & \frac{q_y^0}{y} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} x_1(0) \\ y_1(0) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} r \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$ 

Since the eigenvalues of the variational matrix are pure imaginary, the orbit of $\vec{z}_1(t)$ is an ellipse. We denote the interior elliptical region by $E(r)$. For any fixed $T > 0$, we have the following estimate:

$$|\vec{z}(t) - \vec{z}_1(t)| = O(r^2), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T.$$ 

Since the length of the elliptical orbit $\partial E(r)$ is proportional to $r$, and the distance between the boundaries $\partial E(r)$ and $\partial A(r)$ is at most $O(r^2)$, we conclude that the
Therefore, we conclude that the integral on the r.h.s. can be evaluated explicitly. Indeed, let \( E(r) = \{(x, y) : \alpha x^2 + 2\beta xy + \gamma y^2 \leq r^2\} \), in fact the coefficients \( \alpha, \beta, \gamma \) can be obtained explicitly from the variational matrix. Now we introduce auxiliary matrices

\[
U = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \beta & \gamma \end{pmatrix}, \quad W = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ b & c \end{pmatrix},
\]

where \( U > 0 \) and \( W \geq 0 \). Let \( Q \) be an orthogonal matrix such that \( Q^T U Q = \text{diag}(e_1, e_2) \), and let \( H = \text{diag}(1/\sqrt{e_1}, 1/\sqrt{e_2}) \). Changing the coordinates \( (x, y)^T = QH(u, v)^T \) transform the ellipse \( E(r) = \{(x, y) U(x, y)^T \leq r^2\} \) into the circle \( u^2 + v^2 \leq r^2 \). Hence, we have that

\[
\int \int_{E(r)} (ax^2 + 2bxy + cy^2) \, dx \, dy = \frac{1}{\sqrt{e_1 e_2}} \int \int_{u^2 + v^2 \leq r^2} (u, v) H^T Q^T W Q H(u, v)^T \, du \, dv.
\]

Let \( \Delta = Q^T W Q \), then \( \Delta = (\delta_{ij}) \) is also positive semi-definite. The Sylvester criterion implies that the trace

\[
\text{tr}(H^T Q^T W Q H) = \frac{\delta_{11}}{e_1} + \frac{\delta_{22}}{e_2}
\]

is strictly positive. Finally, we use the polar coordinates to evaluate the integral

\[
\int \int_{u^2 + v^2 \leq r^2} (u, v) H^T Q^T W Q H(u, v)^T \, du \, dv = \frac{\pi r^4}{4 \sqrt{e_1 e_2}} \left( \frac{\delta_{11}}{e_1} + \frac{\delta_{22}}{e_2} \right).
\]

Therefore, we conclude that

\[
\int \int_{A(r)} \text{div} \bar{F} \, dx \, dy = \frac{\pi r^4}{4 \sqrt{e_1 e_2}} \left( \frac{\delta_{11}}{e_1} + \frac{\delta_{22}}{e_2} \right) + O(r^5),
\]

which immediately implies that

\[
V''(0) = \frac{3\pi}{2r^2 \sqrt{e_1 e_2}} \left( \frac{\delta_{11}}{e_1} + \frac{\delta_{22}}{e_2} \right) > 0.
\]

This observation concludes the proof. \( \Box \)

3.3. **Three species.** Having established the necessary conditions for the existence of stable periodic orbits for two species, we now examine a system with three organisms. Consider the following chemostat model:

\[
\begin{align*}
\dot{S} &= D(x, y)(1 - S) - x f(S) - y g(S) - z h(S), \\
\dot{x} &= x(f(S) - D(x, y)), \\
\dot{y} &= y(g(S) - D(x, y)), \\
\dot{z} &= z(h(S) - D(x, y)),
\end{align*}
\]

where

\[
(S, x, y, z) \in T := \{(S, x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}_+^4 | S + x + y + z \leq 1\},
\]

\[\text{(16)}\]
$D(x, y)$ is given by (5) and $f, g, h$ are Michaelis Menten growth functions given by:

\[
\begin{align*}
  f(S) &= \frac{m_1 S}{a_1 + S}, \\
  g(S) &= \frac{m_2 S}{a_2 + S}, \\
  h(S) &= \frac{m_3 S}{a_3 + S}.
\end{align*}
\]

We assume that there exists substrate concentrations $\bar{S}$ and $\dot{S}$ such that $0 < \bar{S}, \dot{S} < 1$; $f(\bar{S}) = g(\bar{S})$; and $f(\dot{S}) = h(\dot{S})$. For this system the set $T$ is clearly forward invariant and hence (16) is well-posed. As in section 3.1, we introduce the variable $V = S + x + y + z$ and use a reduction argument to study the system

\[
\begin{align*}
  \dot{x} &= x(f(1 - x - y - z) - D(x, y)), \\
  \dot{y} &= y(g(1 - x - y - z) - D(x, y)), \\
  \dot{z} &= z(h(1 - x - y - z) - D(x, y)).
\end{align*}
\]

The main result to be derived is given by the following theorem

**Theorem 6.** For a system of the form (18) with $D(x, y)$ given by (5) and where $k_1 = f'(\bar{S}) + \kappa = k_1 + \kappa$ and $k_2 = g'(\bar{S}) = k_2$, then for $\dot{S}$ sufficiently close to $\bar{S}$ and $\kappa$ a sufficiently small positive number, there exists a locally asymptotically stable periodic orbit in the interior of the first orthant if $h'(\bar{S}) < \min\{f'(\bar{S}), g'(\bar{S})\}$ or $h'(\bar{S}) > \max\{f'(\bar{S}), g'(\bar{S})\}$, while an unstable periodic orbit results for $\min\{f'(\bar{S}), g'(\bar{S})\} < h'(\bar{S}) < \max\{f'(\bar{S}), g'(\bar{S})\}$.

The basic idea of the proof is to first obtain a periodic Hopf orbit in the $xy$ plane and then to bifurcate from this orbit to a limit cycle in the first octant. While this statement of intent is concise, the actual methodology is quite tedious and lengthy. To guide the reader, we first outline the approach and then fill in the necessary details to complete the proof. The development begins with a limiting system for two organisms (3) with growth functions $f(S)$ and $g(S)$ and a diluter rate $D(x, y)$ as described above. By Theorem 4, for sufficiently small positive $\kappa$ there exists an asymptotically stable Hopf orbit in the $x, y$ plane. This orbit is approximated by a perturbation technique and the system is then expanded by adding a third organism with a growth function $h(S, \eta)$ where $\eta$ is the second bifurcation parameter and $h(S, 0) = f(S)$. Next we determine a neutral stability condition for the Hopf orbit with respect to the third organism and establish a neutral stability curve by obtaining a relation between $\eta$ and the Poincaré-Lindstedt perturbation parameter $\varepsilon$. We define a Poincaré map in a plane parallel to the $yz$ coordinate plane and for the fixed point corresponding to the Hopf orbit test the conditions for a bifurcation from a simple eigenvalue. This bifurcation result provides the existence of parametric family of periodic orbits in the first octant yet does not provide information on the stability of these orbits. We express the new orbits as an expansion in the parameter $s$. We also expand $\eta$ as a function of $s$, $\eta = \eta^s + \eta_1 s + O(s^2)$, and demonstrate that the stability of the orbits are determined by the sign of $\eta_1$. To find this sign we substitute the $s$-based parameter expansions into the neutral stability equation and calculate it’s derivative with respect to $s$ at $s = 0$. By combining like-terms of $\varepsilon$ in the resulting equations an expression for $\eta_1$ is found. Finally, the dependence of the sign of $\eta_1$ on the relative positions of the growth functions is determined.

**Proof.**
3.3.1. A planar Hopf orbit and its approximation. We begin by establishing the existence of a periodic Hopf orbit in the $x, y$ plane and approximating the orbit using a perturbation technique. For the system (3) and the conditions given in the statement of the above theorem, Theorem (4) provides the existence of the Hopf orbit for sufficiently small positive values of the bifurcation parameter $\kappa$. An approximation to the orbit is obtained by first varying the parameter $\kappa$ which shifts the original equilibrium $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$ (for $\kappa = 0$) to the point $(\hat{x}, \hat{y})$. Next, this new system and its equilibrium are perturbed as follows

\[
    x = \hat{x} + x_1 \varepsilon + x_2 \varepsilon^2 + x_3 \varepsilon^3 + \cdots,
\]
\[
    y = \hat{y} + y_1 \varepsilon + y_2 \varepsilon^2 + y_3 \varepsilon^3 + \cdots,
\]
\[
    \omega = \omega_0 + \omega_1 \varepsilon + \omega_2 \varepsilon^2 + \omega_3 \varepsilon^3 + \cdots,
\]
\[
    \kappa = \kappa_1 \varepsilon + \kappa_2 \varepsilon^2 + \kappa_3 \varepsilon^3 + \cdots.
\]

Substituting the above perturbed variables into the system and writing $t = \omega \tau$ we obtain a sequence of equations by collecting and equating powers of $\varepsilon$. The $\varepsilon^0$ terms correspond to equilibrium and vanish. The $\varepsilon^1$ terms yield

\[
    \begin{pmatrix}
        \dot{x}_1 \\
        \dot{y}_1
    \end{pmatrix} =
    \begin{pmatrix}
        0 & \omega_0 \bar{x}(\bar{k}_2 - \bar{k}_1) \\
        -\omega_0 \bar{y}(\bar{k}_2 - \bar{k}_1) & 0
    \end{pmatrix}
    \begin{pmatrix}
        x_1 \\
        y_1
    \end{pmatrix}.
\]

In order for this system to have a solution of period $2\pi$ we choose $\omega_0$ so that $\omega_0 = (\sqrt{\bar{x} \bar{y}(\bar{k}_2 - \bar{k}_1)})^{-1}$. Utilizing this new value, a fundamental matrix solution for the above is given by

\[
    \Psi(\tau) = \begin{pmatrix}
        \sqrt{\bar{x}} \cos \tau & \sqrt{\bar{y}} \sin \tau \\
        -\sin \tau & \cos \tau
    \end{pmatrix}.
\]

We are free to choose an arbitrary initial value for $(x_1, y_1)$ and choose one such that

\[
    \begin{pmatrix}
        x_1 \\
        y_1
    \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix}
        \sqrt{\bar{x}} \cos \tau \\
        -\sin \tau
    \end{pmatrix}.
\]

The $\varepsilon^2$ terms are of the form

\[
    \begin{pmatrix}
        \dot{x}_2 \\
        \dot{y}_2
    \end{pmatrix} =
    \begin{pmatrix}
        0 & \omega_0 \bar{x}(\bar{k}_2 - \bar{k}_1) \\
        -\omega_0 \bar{y}(\bar{k}_2 - \bar{k}_1) & 0
    \end{pmatrix}
    \begin{pmatrix}
        x_2 \\
        y_2
    \end{pmatrix} +
    \begin{pmatrix}
        f_1(\omega_1, \kappa_1, x_1, y_1) \\
        f_2(\omega_1, \kappa_1, x_1, y_1)
    \end{pmatrix}
\]

where $f_1$ are quadratic functions of $x_1$ and $y_1$ with nontrivial coefficients. In order for the $x_2$ and $y_2$ to be $2\pi$ periodic, the following secularity condition must be satisfied

\[
    \begin{pmatrix}
        0 \\
        0
    \end{pmatrix} = \int_0^{2\pi} \Psi^{-1}(\tau) \begin{pmatrix}
        f_1(\omega_1, \kappa_1, x_1, y_1) \\
        f_2(\omega_1, \kappa_1, x_1, y_1)
    \end{pmatrix} d\tau.
\]

After integrating and simplifying it is found that the secularity conditions can be fulfilled if and only if $\kappa_1 = \omega_1 = 0$. Thus we may modify the expansions of $\omega$ and $\kappa$ as follows

\[
    \omega = \omega_0 + \omega_2 \varepsilon^2 + \omega_3 \varepsilon^3 + \cdots,
\]
\[
    \kappa = \kappa_2 \varepsilon^2 + \kappa_3 \varepsilon^3 + \cdots.
\]
and write the parameterization of the Hopf orbit as
\[
x(t, \varepsilon) = \hat{x}(\tau, \varepsilon) = \hat{x} + \varepsilon \sqrt{\frac{x}{y}} \cos(\tau) + \varepsilon^2 x_2(\tau) + \cdots,
\]
\[
y(t, \varepsilon) = \hat{y}(\tau, \varepsilon) = \hat{y} - \varepsilon \sin(\tau) + \varepsilon^2 y_2(\tau) + \cdots.
\]

In addition to the \(\varepsilon^1\) terms, the constant terms of the functions \(x_2(\tau)\) and \(y_2(\tau)\) will also be required in the next step of method. The general form for these functions is given by
\[
\begin{pmatrix}
x_2 \\
y_2
\end{pmatrix} = \Psi(\tau) \left( \begin{pmatrix}
p_2 \\
q_2
\end{pmatrix} + \int_0^\tau \Psi^{-1}(s) \begin{pmatrix}
f_1(\omega_1, \kappa_1, x_1, y_1) \\
f_2(\omega_1, \kappa_1, x_1, y_1)
\end{pmatrix} \, ds \right).
\]
The constant terms are obtained as follows
\[
\begin{pmatrix}
c_{x2} \\
c_{y2}
\end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \Psi(\tau) \left( \int_0^\tau \Psi^{-1}(s) \begin{pmatrix}
f_1(\omega_1, \kappa_1, x_1, y_1) \\
f_2(\omega_1, \kappa_1, x_1, y_1)
\end{pmatrix} \, ds \right) \, d\tau.
\]
Performing this calculation we find
\[
\begin{pmatrix}
c_{x2} \\
c_{y2}
\end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix}
-(\hat{x} + \hat{y})k_2^2 (2\sqrt{a_2m_2(k_2 - \bar{k}_1)}\hat{y})^{-1} \\
(\hat{x} + \hat{y})k_1^2 (2\sqrt{a_1m_1(k_2 - \bar{k}_1)}\hat{y})^{-1}
\end{pmatrix}.
\]

3.3.2. **Neutral stability.** We now consider the system represented by (18) and note that the Hopf orbit obtained in the previous section exists in the present system when \(z = 0\). The present focus will be to determine the conditions for the neutral stability of this orbit with respect to the third species. Following the development in Smith [24], by examining the variational equation of (18), the neutral stability condition can be expressed by
\[
G(\varepsilon) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{m_3(1 - \hat{x}(\tau, \varepsilon) - \hat{y}(\tau, \varepsilon))}{a_3 + 1 - \hat{x}(\tau, \varepsilon) - \hat{y}(\tau, \varepsilon)} - \varepsilon + k_1\hat{x}(\tau, \varepsilon) + \bar{k}_2\hat{y}(\tau, \varepsilon) \, d\tau = 0.
\]
Expanding the integrand with respect to \(\varepsilon\), performing the integration, and rewriting the result in terms of the growth functions we obtain
\[
G(\varepsilon) = \frac{\hat{S}(m_3 - m_1)(\bar{S} - \hat{S})}{(a_3 + \bar{S})(a_1 + \hat{S})} + \varepsilon^2 \left( \frac{\hat{x} + \hat{y}}{2\hat{y}(k_2 - \bar{k}_1)} \right) \left( \hat{h}''(\bar{S})(g'(\bar{S}) - f'(\bar{S})) + g''(\bar{S})(h'(\bar{S}) - f'(\bar{S})) + f''(\bar{S})(g'(\bar{S}) - h'(\bar{S})) \right) + o(\varepsilon^2).
\]
Based on the \(\varepsilon^0\) term in \(G(\varepsilon)\) we define \(\eta = \bar{S} - \hat{S}\). From the fact that \(f(\bar{S}) = \hat{h}(\bar{S})\), it is possible to define \(m_3\) as a function of \(\eta\) and write
\[
m_3(\eta) = \frac{m_1(a_3 + \bar{S})}{a_1 + \hat{S}} = \frac{m_1(a_3 + \hat{S} - \eta)}{a_1 + \hat{S} - \eta}.
\]
It is assumed that \(m_3(0) \neq m_1\), so that by continuity, the sign of \((m_3(\eta) - m_1)\) is constant in some neighborhood of \(\eta = 0\). The \(\varepsilon^0\) term is therefore rewritten as
\[
\frac{\hat{S}(m_3(\eta) - m_1)\eta}{(a_3 + \bar{S})(a_1 + \hat{S})}.
\]
results are established

a family of periodic orbits which bifurcate from the planar Hopf orbit into first octant.

We begin by modifying the third equation in (18) to reflect its dependence on \( \eta \).

We define a new function

\[ H(\varepsilon, \eta) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{m_3(\eta)(1 - \dot{x}(\tau, \varepsilon) - \dot{y}(\tau, \varepsilon))}{a_3 + 1 - \dot{x}(\tau, \varepsilon) - \dot{y}(\tau, \varepsilon)} - \varepsilon + k_1 \dot{x}(\tau, \varepsilon) + \bar{k}_2 \dot{y}(\tau, \varepsilon) \, d\tau \]

and recognize that \( H(\varepsilon, \eta) = 0 \) gives the neutral stability criteria. Using the previous results and definitions, the following are derived

\[
\begin{align*}
H(0, 0) &= 0, \\
\frac{\partial H}{\partial \varepsilon}(0, 0) &= 0, \\
\frac{\partial H}{\partial \eta}(0, 0) &= \frac{S(m_3(0) - m_1)}{(a_3 + S)(a_1 + S)}.
\end{align*}
\]

From the implicit function theorem \( \eta \) can be defined as a function of \( \varepsilon, \eta(\varepsilon) \), in some neighborhood of \( \varepsilon = 0 \) with \( \eta(0) = 0 \). By implicit differentiation the following results are established

\[ \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial \varepsilon}(0) = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial \varepsilon}(0, 0), \quad \frac{\partial^2 \eta}{\partial \varepsilon^2}(0) = 0, \]

where \( \bar{h}(S) \) is the growth function with \( m_3 = m_3(0) \). Summarizing, the neutral stability criteria near \( \varepsilon = 0 \) may be expressed as \( H(\varepsilon, \eta(\varepsilon)) = 0 \) where \( \eta(\varepsilon) = \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial \varepsilon}(0)\varepsilon + O(\varepsilon^2) \).

3.3.3. A bifurcation result. The next step in the technique is to obtain a parametric family of periodic orbits which bifurcate form the planar Hopf orbit into first octant. We begin by modifying the third equation in (18) to reflect its dependence on \( \eta \).

\[
\dot{z} = z \left( \frac{m_3(\eta)(1 - x - y - z)}{a_3 + (1 - x - y - z)} - \varepsilon + k_1 x + \bar{k}_2 y \right)
\]

and assume that \( k_1 \) and all other parameters are fixed. Letting \( x(t) = p(t) \) correspond to the Hopf periodic orbit of the above system with \( z = 0 \), it is noted that the orbit is asymptotically stable in the \( xy \) plane. By the appropriate translation of variables the Hopf orbit has the form \( p(0) = 0 \) and \( p'(0) = (p_1(0), 0) \). Next, \( \phi(t, (x, y, z); \eta) \) is defined as a solution to the above system in the translated coordinates with \( \phi(0, (x, y, z); \eta) = (x, y, z) \). A Poincaré map \( P \) is established in a neighborhood \( U \) of \( 0 \) in the plane \( H = \{ x = 0 \} \) where \( P \) maps \( U \) into \( V \), with \( V \) another neighborhood of \( 0 \) in \( H \). Corresponding to \( P \) is a smooth function \( \tau(y, z; \eta) \) which gives the first return time for any point in \( U \) to \( V \). It follows that \( \tau(0, 0; \eta) = \tau_0 \), the period of the Hopf orbit \( p(t) \). Thus \( P(y, z; \eta) \) may be regarded as a projection of \( \phi(\tau(y, z; \eta), 0, y, z; \eta) \) onto the \( yz \) plane with \( P(0, 0; \eta) = (0, 0) \).

We define the displacement map \( \bar{F} : U \times \mathbb{R} \to H \) by \( \bar{F}(y, z; \eta) = (y, z) - P(y, z; \eta) \) and note that periodic solutions to (18) will be zeros of \( \bar{F} \). Expressing the component functions of \( P \) as \( P_1 \) and \( P_2 \) and using the invariance of the \( xy \) plane for the above
system we may write \( P_2(y,0;\eta) = 0 \) so that the Jacobian of the Poincaré map is given by
\[
D_{(y,z)}P(0,0;\eta) = \begin{pmatrix}
\frac{\partial P_2}{\partial y}(0,0;\eta) & \frac{\partial P_2}{\partial z}(0,0;\eta) \\
0 & 0
\end{pmatrix}.
\]
Note that since \( p(t) \) is asymptotically stable and independent of \( \eta \), the inequality
\[
0 < \frac{\partial P_2}{\partial y}(0,0;\eta) < 1
\]
holds for all \( \eta \). Expressing the component functions of \( \phi \) as \( \phi_1, \phi_2, \) and \( \phi_3 \), gives \( P_2(0,z;\eta) = \phi_3(\tau(0,z;\eta),0,0,z;\eta) \), and taking derivatives yields
\[
\frac{\partial P_2}{\partial z}(0,0;\eta) = \frac{\partial \phi_3}{\partial \tau}(\tau(0,0;\eta),0,0,0;\eta) \cdot \frac{\partial \tau}{\partial z}(0,0;\eta) + \frac{\partial \phi_3}{\partial z}(\tau(0,0;\eta),0,0,0;\eta)
\]
and since \( \phi_3(t,0,0,0;\eta) = 0 \), the above simplifies to
\[
\frac{\partial P_2}{\partial z}(0,0;\eta) = \frac{\partial \phi_3}{\partial z}(\tau(0,0;\eta),0,0,0;\eta).
\]
Expressing the third equation in (18) as \( \dot{z} = G(x,y,z;\eta) \) and integrating the variational equation of the system along \( p(t) \), we find
\[
\frac{\partial \phi_3}{\partial z}(\tau(0,0;\eta),0,0,0;\eta) = e^{\int_0^\tau \frac{\partial P_2}{\partial z}(y,z;\eta) \, ds}.
\]
If \( \eta \) is an element of the neutral stability curve, then the integral evaluates to zero and \( \frac{\partial P_2}{\partial z}(0,0;\eta) = 1 \). Next we seek a particular branch of solutions of \( \bar{F}(y,z;\eta) = 0 \) (i.e., a collection of periodic solutions) and begin by noting
\[
D_{(y,z)}\bar{F}(0,0;\eta) = \begin{pmatrix}
1 - \frac{\partial P_2}{\partial y}(0,0;\eta) & -\frac{\partial P_2}{\partial z}(0,0;\eta) \\
0 & 1 - \frac{\partial P_2}{\partial z}(0,0;\eta)
\end{pmatrix}.
\]
For \( \eta = \eta^* \) the above Jacobian becomes
\[
D_{(y,z)}\bar{F}(0,0;\eta^*) = \begin{pmatrix}
1 - \frac{\partial P_2}{\partial y}(0,0;\eta^*) & -\frac{\partial P_2}{\partial z}(0,0;\eta^*) \\
0 & 0
\end{pmatrix}
\]
which has a one-dimensional null space spanned by the vector
\[
u = \begin{pmatrix}
\frac{\partial P_2}{\partial y}(0,0;\eta^*) \\
1 - \frac{\partial P_2}{\partial y}(0,0;\eta^*)
\end{pmatrix}^T.
\]
Observing that the column space of \( D_{(y,z)}\bar{F}(0,0;\eta^*) \) has dimension one, we seek to verify the condition
\[
D_{(y,z),\eta}\bar{F}(0,0;\eta^*) \nu \not\in \text{Range } D_{(y,z)}\bar{F}(0,0;\eta^*).
\]
Since the range of \( D_{(y,z)}\bar{F}(0,0;\eta^*) \) is of the form \( (a,0)^T \) with \( a \in \mathbb{R} \), the bifurcation condition is satisfied if the second element of the column vector \( D_{(y,z),\eta}\bar{F}(0,0;\eta^*) \nu \) is nonzero. Calculating we find that since \( \frac{\partial P_2}{\partial y} \) is independent of \( \eta \)
\[
D_{(y,z),\eta}\bar{F}(0,0;\eta^*) \nu = \begin{pmatrix}
0 & \frac{\partial P_2}{\partial z}(0,0;\eta^*) \\
0 & 0
\end{pmatrix}
\]
so that the bifurcation condition is satisfied if \( \frac{\partial^2 P_2}{\partial z \partial \eta}(0,0;\eta^*) \neq 0 \). Combining equations (19), (20) and the observation following (20) provides the equation
\[
\frac{\partial^2 P_2}{\partial z \partial \eta}(0,0;\eta^*) = \int_0^{\tau_0} \frac{\partial^2 G}{\partial z \partial \eta}(p_1(r),p_2(r),0;\eta^*) \, dr = m_3(\eta^*) \int_0^{\tau_0} \frac{S(r)}{a_3 + S(r)} \, dr.
\]
Note that $S(r)$ is strictly positive and since $m_3'(\eta^*) = \frac{m_1(a_2 - a_1)}{(a_1 + S - \eta^*)^2} \neq 0$, (it is assumed $a_1 \neq a_3$), this implies $\frac{\partial^2 F_y}{\partial x^2}(0, 0; \eta^*) < 0$ so that (21) is satisfied. This development verifies the conditions for Theorem 1.7 from Crandall and Rabinowitz [7] and as a result establishes the existence of a branch of solutions of $\hat{F}(y, z; \eta) = 0$ of the form

\begin{align*}
\begin{pmatrix} y \\ z \end{pmatrix} &= s u + o(s), \\
\eta &= \eta^* + s \eta_1 + o(s)
\end{align*}

where $s$ is a real scalar.

3.3.4. An expansion for the bifurcating orbit. In order to determine the stability of the periodic solutions resulting from this branch, it is necessary to study the interactions of the terms $\eta_1$, $\frac{\partial^2 F_y}{\partial x^2}(0, 0)$, and $\frac{S(m_3 - m_1)\eta}{(a_1 + S)(a_3 + S)}$. Near the origin of the $\varepsilon, \eta$ plane, the curve $\eta(\varepsilon) = \frac{\partial^2 F_y}{\partial x^2}(0, 0)\varepsilon^2$ approximates the neutral stability curve and locally partitions the plane into a region of stability and instability with respect to the third organism for the planar Hopf orbit. The relative positions of the stable and unstable regions can be determined by the term $\frac{S(m_3 - m_1)\eta}{(a_1 + S)(a_3 + S)}$ since it governs the sign of $G(\varepsilon)$ at $\varepsilon = 0$. As the parameter $s$ increases from zero, the bifurcating orbits advance into the first octant and $\eta$ increases if $\eta_1$ is positive and decreases otherwise. Therefore, once the relative positions of the stable and unstable regions are known, the direction that $\eta$ travels from the neutral stability curve as $s$ is varied will determine the stability of Hopf orbit and therefore of the bifurcating orbits since they are opposite. Thus the problem is understood once the sign of $\eta_1$ is determined (see Fig. 2). To find the sign of $\eta_1$, we begin by representing the branch of periodic solutions as an expansion in $s$ as follows

\begin{align*}
\eta &= \eta^* + s \eta_1 + \cdots, \\
x(t) &= x_0(t) + sx_1(t) + \cdots, \\
y(t) &= y_0(t) + sy_1(t) + \cdots, \\
z(t) &= z_2(t) + \cdots
\end{align*}

(23)

where $\eta^*$ is on the neutral stability curve and $(x_0(t), y_0(t))$ are time translates of the Hopf periodic solution to (18) which satisfy $y_0'(0) = 0$. We use the previous results obtained in the bifurcation discussion by translating the origin to the point $(x_0(0), y_0(0), 0)$. For the orbits described by (23) we require $(y(0), z(0)) \in H = \{x = x_0(0)\}$ so that the periods may be given by $\tau = \tau(y(0), z(0); \eta) \equiv \tau(s)$. Since the orbits are all periodic, from (18) it is deduced that

\begin{align*}
g(s) &= \int_0^{\tau(s)} \left\{ \frac{m_3(\eta)(1 - x(t) - y(t) - z(t))}{a_3 + (1 - x(t) - y(t) - z(t))} - \epsilon + k_1x(t) + \bar{k}_2y(t) \right\} dt \equiv 0.
\end{align*}

Differentiating $g(s)$ with respect to $s$ at $s = 0$ gives

\begin{align*}
0 &= \left( \frac{m_3(\eta^*)(1 - x_0(0) - y_0(0))}{a_3 + (1 - x_0(0) - y_0(0))} - \epsilon + k_1x_0(0) + \bar{k}_2y_0(0) \right) \frac{d\tau}{ds}(0) + \\
&
\int_0^{\tau(0)} \left\{ -\frac{a_3m_3(\eta^*)(x_1(t) + y_1(t) + z_1(t))}{(a_3 + (1 - x_0(t) - y_0(t)))^2} + k_1x_1(t) + \bar{k}_2y_1(t) \right\} dt + \\
&
\int_0^{\tau(0)} \left\{ \epsilon + k_1x_1(t) + \bar{k}_2y_1(t) \right\} dt +
\end{align*}
value of 

Thus by combining all of the above and displaying only the time dependence we 

A similar approach also yields 

By definition 

and thus 

Because the Poincaré map is defined in the plane \( x = x_0(0) \) with the fixed point at 

Next we need to calculate the expansions of 

and rewriting in terms of the expanded variables gives 

This equation will be used to calculate the sign of \( \eta_1 \). Recalling the definition of 

we observe that the period of the planar Hopf orbit is independent of the 

value of \( \eta \); thus \( \frac{d\tau}{d\eta} (y_0(0), 0; \eta^*) = 0 \) and using the chain rule we calculate 

Because the Poincaré map is defined in the plane \( x = x_0(0) \) with the fixed point at 

\( y = y_0(0) \) and \( z = 0 \) corresponding to the Hopf orbit, the bifurcation result (22) is 

used to conclude that 

\( y_1(0) = \frac{\partial P_1}{\partial z} (y_0(0), 0; \eta^*) \) and \( z_1(0) = 1 \). Since \( P_1(y, z; \eta) = \phi_2(\tau(y, z; \eta), x_0(0), y, z; \eta) \), by taking derivatives the following equation results 

the point \( (x_0(0), y_0(0), 0) \) was defined so that \( 0 = y_0(0) = \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial \tau} (\tau(0), x_0(0), y_0(0), 0; \eta^*) \) 

and thus 

A similar calculation yields 

and so 

By definition \( \phi_1(\tau(y, z; \eta), x_0(0), y, z; \eta) \equiv x_0(0) \), so by differentiating this expression with respect to \( y \) and evaluating at \( s = 0 \) we find 

or upon rearrangement and suppressing dependent variables 

A similar approach also yields 

Thus by combining all of the above and displaying only the time dependence we obtain 

Next we need to calculate the expansions of \( x(t), y(t), \) and \( z(t) \) in (23). Beginning with 

\( x(t) = \phi_1(t, x(0), y(0), z(0); \eta) \) 

and rewriting in terms of the expanded variables gives 

\( x(t) = \phi_1(t, x_0(0), y_0(0) + sy_1(0) + \cdots, sz_1(0) + \cdots; \eta^* + s\eta_1 + \cdots) \)
\[ x(t) = \phi_1(t, x_0(0), y_0(0)) + \sum_{i=0}^s \left( \frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial x} (\tau(0), x_0(0), y_0(0), 0; \eta^*) \left( 1 - \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial y} (\tau(0), x_0(0), y_0(0), 0; \eta^*) \right) \right)^i + \cdots, \quad s = 0 \]

Performing a Taylor series expansion of the above about \( s = 0 \) provides the equation

\[ x(t) = x_0(t) + \sum_{i=0}^s \left( \frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial y} (t, x_0(0), y_0(0), 0; \eta^*) \left( 1 - \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial y} (t, x_0(0), y_0(0), 0; \eta^*) \right) \right)^i + \frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial z} (t, x_0(0), y_0(0), 0; \eta^*) + o(s). \]

A similar expansion for the remaining two variables yields

\[ y(t) = y_0(t) + \sum_{i=0}^s \left( \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial y} (t, x_0(0), y_0(0), 0; \eta^*) \left( 1 - \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial y} (t, x_0(0), y_0(0), 0; \eta^*) \right) \right)^i + \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial z} (t, x_0(0), y_0(0), 0; \eta^*) + o(s), \]

\[ z(t) = s \left( \frac{\partial \phi_3}{\partial y} (t, x_0(0), y_0(0), 0; \eta^*) \right) + o(s). \]

From the above series expansions we find the following expressions in which all variables except \( t \) have been suppressed for ease of notation

\[ x_1(t) = \frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial y} (t) \left( \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial x} (\tau(0), x_0(0), y_0(0), 0; \eta^*) \left( 1 - \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial y} (\tau(0), x_0(0), y_0(0), 0; \eta^*) \right) \right) + \frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial z} (t), \]

\[ y_1(t) = \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial y} (t) \left( \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial x} (\tau(0), x_0(0), y_0(0), 0; \eta^*) \left( 1 - \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial y} (\tau(0), x_0(0), y_0(0), 0; \eta^*) \right) \right) + \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial z} (t), \]

\[ z_1(t) = 1. \]

Substituting (25) and (26) into (24) yields after simplification

\[ 0 = -\left( \frac{m_3(\eta^*)}{a_3 + (1 - x_0(\tau_0) - y_0(\tau_0))) - \epsilon + k_1 x_0(\tau_0) + \bar{k}_2 y_0(\tau_0) \right) \times \left( \frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial y} (\tau_0) \left( \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial x} (\tau_0) + \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial z} (\tau_0) \left( 1 - \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial y} (\tau_0) \right) \right) + \left( 1 - \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial y} (\tau_0) \right) \left( \frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial t} (\tau_0) \right) \int_0^{\tau_0} \frac{a_3 m_3(\eta^*) \left( \frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial t} (t) + \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial t} (t) + \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial z} (t) \right)}{(a_3 + (1 - x_0(t) - y_0(t)))^2} \ dt + \frac{-\partial \phi_1}{\partial t} (\tau_0) \int_0^{\tau_0} \frac{a_3 m_3(\eta^*) \left( \frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial t} (t) + \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial t} (t) + \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial z} (t) \right)}{(a_3 + (1 - x_0(t) - y_0(t)))^2} \ dt + \left( 1 - \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial y} (\tau_0) \right) \left( \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial t} (\tau_0) \right) \int_0^{\tau_0} k_1 \left( \frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial z} (t) + \bar{k}_2 \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial y} (t) \right) \ dt + \frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial t} (\tau_0) \int_0^{\tau_0} k_1 \left( \frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial z} (t) + \bar{k}_2 \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial y} (t) \right) \ dt + \left( 1 - \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial y} (\tau_0) \right) \left( \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial z} (\tau_0) \right) \int_0^{\tau_0} \eta_1 m_2^2(\eta^*) (1 - x_0(t) - y_0(t)) \ dt, \]

\[ 27 \]
3.3.5. Additional expansions. In order to use (27) to determine the sign of \( \eta_1 \), the following perturbation expansions are required (note \( x_0(t) \) and \( y_0(t) \) are chosen so that \( y'_0(0) = 0 \):

\[
\begin{align*}
\eta^* &= \frac{1}{2} \epsilon^2 N + \cdots, \\
x_0(t) &= \bar{x} + \epsilon \sqrt{\frac{\bar{y}}{\bar{z}}} \sin \left( \frac{t}{\omega_0} \right) + \cdots, \\
y_0(t) &= \bar{y} + \epsilon \cos \left( \frac{t}{\omega_0} \right) + \cdots,
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial t}(\tau_0) = \frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial t}(0) = x'_0(0) = \epsilon \sqrt{\frac{\bar{x}}{\bar{y}}} \left( \frac{1}{\omega_0} \right) + \cdots,
\]

\[
\frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial y}(t) = \psi_0(t) + \epsilon \psi_1(t) + \cdots,
\]

\[
\frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial z}(t) = \gamma_0(t) + \epsilon \gamma_1(t) + \cdots,
\]

\[
\frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial y}(t) = \delta_0(t) + \epsilon \delta_1(t) + \cdots,
\]

\[
\frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial z}(t) = \rho_0(t) + \epsilon \rho_1(t) + \cdots,
\]

\[
\frac{\partial \phi_3}{\partial z}(t) = 1 + \epsilon \left( \omega_0(\bar{k}_2 - \bar{h}'(\bar{S})) \sin \left( \frac{t}{\omega_0} \right) + \omega_0(\bar{k}_1 - \bar{h}'(\bar{S})) \sqrt{\frac{\bar{x}}{\bar{y}}} \right) + \cdots
\]

(28)

where the constant \( N \) is given by

\[
N = \left( \frac{a_1 m_3(0)(\bar{x} + \bar{y})}{2\bar{y} h(\bar{S}) f'(\bar{S})(a_1 - a_3)(g'(\bar{S}) - f'(\bar{S}))} \right) \left( \bar{h}''(\bar{S})(g'(\bar{S}) - f'(\bar{S})) + g''(\bar{S})(\bar{h}'(\bar{S}) - f'(\bar{S})) + f''(\bar{S})(g'(\bar{S}) - \bar{h}'(\bar{S})) \right).
\]

Note that the expansion for \( \frac{\partial \phi_3}{\partial z}(t) \) results from taking the partial derivative with respect to \( z \) of a term in the variational equation for system (18):

\[
\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial \phi_3}{\partial z}(t) \right) = \frac{\partial \phi_3}{\partial z}(t) \left( \frac{m_3(1 - x_0(t) - y_0(t))}{a_3 + 1 - x_0(t) - y_0(t)} - \epsilon + k_1 x_0(t) + \bar{k}_2 y_0(t) \right)
\]

where \( \phi_3(0) = 0 \) and \( \frac{\partial \phi_3}{\partial t}(0) = 1 \).

To evaluate the integrals in (27), we must perform some calculations on certain quantities in the expansions given by (28). First the functions \( \psi_0(t), \delta_0(t), \gamma_0(t), \) and \( \rho_0(t) \) must be determined. Considering \( (\phi_1(t), \phi_2(t), \phi_3(t)) \) as a solution to the system (18) and taking the derivative of the first two equations with respect to \( y \) gives

\[
\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial y}(t) \right) = \frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial y}(t) \left( \frac{m_1(1 - \phi_1(t) - \phi_2(t) - \phi_3(t))}{a_1 + (1 - \phi_1(t) - \phi_2(t) - \phi_3(t))} - \epsilon + k_1 \phi_1(t) + \bar{k}_2 \phi_2(t) \right) + \phi_1(t) \left( - \frac{m_1 a_1 (\frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial y}(t) + \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial y}(t) + \frac{\partial \phi_3}{\partial y}(t))}{(a_1 + (1 - \phi_1(t) - \phi_2(t) - \phi_3(t)))^2} + k_1 \frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial y}(t) + \bar{k}_2 \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial y}(t) \right),
\]
\[
\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial y}(t) \right) = \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial y}(t) \left( \frac{m_2(1 - \phi_1(t) - \phi_2(t) - \phi_3(t))}{a_2 + (1 - \phi_1(t) - \phi_2(t) - \phi_3(t))} - \epsilon + k_1 \phi_1(t) + \bar{k}_2 \phi_2(t) \right) \\
+ \phi_2(t) \left( - \frac{m_2 a_2 \phi_1}{(a_2 + (1 - \phi_1(t) - \phi_2(t) - \phi_3(t)))^2} + k_1 \phi_1(t) + \bar{k}_2 \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial y}(t) \right).
\]

Letting \( \phi_1(t) = x_0(t), \phi_2(t) = y_0(t), \phi_3(t) = 0 \), substituting from (28), and collecting the \( \varepsilon^0 \) terms gives the system

\[
\begin{pmatrix}
\psi_0'(t) \\
\delta_0'(t)
\end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\
-y(\bar{k}_2 - \bar{k}_1)
\end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix}
\psi_0(t) \\
\delta_0(t)
\end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix}
\psi_0(0) \\
\delta_0(0)
\end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\
1
\end{pmatrix}
\]

with the solution given by

\[
\begin{pmatrix}
\psi_0(t) \\
\delta_0(t)
\end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix}
\sqrt{\frac{y}{\bar{x}}} \sin\left(\frac{t}{\omega_0}\right) \\
\cos\left(\frac{t}{\omega_0}\right)
\end{pmatrix}.
\]

The initial conditions result from the fact that \( \phi_1(0, x_0(0), y_0(0), 0; \eta) = x_0(0) \) and \( \phi_2(0, x_0(0), y_0(0), 0; \eta) = y_0(0) \), which in turn implies \( \frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial y}(0) = 0 \) and \( \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial y}(0) = 1 \) so that we conclude \( \psi_0(0) = 0 \) and \( \delta_0(0) = 1 \). Similarly, taking the derivative with respect to \( \eta \) of the first two equations of system (18), substituting the \( \varepsilon \) expansions, using \( \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial y} = 1 + O(\varepsilon) \), and collecting the \( \varepsilon^0 \) terms gives a system with the following solution

\[
\begin{pmatrix}
\gamma_0(t) \\
\rho_0(t)
\end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\bar{k}_2 - \bar{k}_1} \begin{pmatrix}
\bar{k}_2 \cos\left(\frac{t}{\omega_0}\right) - \bar{k}_1 \\
\bar{k}_1 - \bar{k}_1 \cos\left(\frac{t}{\omega_0}\right) - \bar{k}_2 \sqrt{\frac{y}{\bar{x}}} \sin\left(\frac{t}{\omega_0}\right)
\end{pmatrix}.
\]

Additionally certain quantities involving \( \psi_1(t), \delta_1(t), \gamma_1(t) \) and \( \rho_1(t) \) are needed. Proceeding as above we collect the \( \varepsilon^1 \) terms of the expansions and find a system of the form

\[
\begin{pmatrix}
\psi_1'(t) \\
\delta_1'(t)
\end{pmatrix} = A \begin{pmatrix}
\psi_1(t) \\
\delta_1(t)
\end{pmatrix} + D(t)
\]

Letting \( \Phi(t) \) be the fundamental matrix for the homogeneous problem, then the following equations are developed

\[
\int_0^{2\pi \omega_0} \begin{pmatrix}
\psi_1(t) \\
\delta_1(t)
\end{pmatrix} dt = \int_0^{2\pi \omega_0} \Phi(t) \left( \int_0^t \Phi(s)^{-1} D(s) \; ds \right) dt.
\]

which when solved yields \( \psi_1(\tau_0) = \delta_1(\tau_0) = 0 \) and

\[
\int_0^{2\pi \omega_0} \begin{pmatrix}
\psi_1(t) \\
\delta_1(t)
\end{pmatrix} dt = \begin{pmatrix}
\omega_0^2 \pi (\bar{x} + \bar{y}) g''(\bar{S}) \sqrt{\frac{\bar{x}}{\bar{y}}} \\
\omega_0^2 \pi (\bar{x} + \bar{y}) f''(\bar{S}) \sqrt{\frac{\bar{x}}{\bar{y}}}
\end{pmatrix}.
\]

A similar system is obtained for \( \gamma_1(t) \) and \( \rho_1(t) \) and using the previous techniques gives \( \rho_1(\tau_0) = -\omega_0 \pi \bar{h}(\bar{S}) \). As a final preparatory step, we note that in their text, Marsden and McCracken define a displacement function by \( V(\eta) = P_1(\eta, 0) - \eta \). They demonstrate that \( V(0) = V''(0) = V''(0) \) so that by using a Taylor expansion it is possible to write \( V(\eta) = \frac{1}{2} V''(0) \eta^2 + \cdots \). (Note that the dependence of \( V \) on the bifurcation parameter has been suppressed.) The above implies

\[
1 - \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial y}(\tau_0) = 1 - \frac{\partial P_1}{\partial y}(y, 0) = -\frac{1}{2!} V''(0) y^2 + \cdots = -\frac{1}{2!} V''(0) \varepsilon^2 + \cdots
\]
where $y$ has been replaced by $\varepsilon$ since they agree to the first order. (Recall the fixed point of the Poincare map corresponds to $(0,0)$.). This gives
\[ 1 - \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial y}(\tau_0) = \bar{N}\varepsilon^2 + O(\varepsilon^3) \]

where $\bar{N} = -\frac{1}{3\omega} V'''(0) > 0$.

3.3.6. The sign of $\eta_1$. Having performed all of the above calculations, we are in a position to solve (27) for $\eta_1$. We begin by expanding this equation with respect to $\varepsilon$, performing the integrations, simplifying, collecting the like powers of $\varepsilon$, and equating their coefficients to zero. The result of these operations will be an expression for $\eta_1$ in terms of the system variables, the growth functions, and their derivatives. To aid in the simplification of (27), we perform some preliminary computations. Based upon (28) and the discussion at the end on section 3.3.5 the following equality holds
\[ \left(1 - \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial y}(\tau_0)\right) \left(\frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial \tau}(\tau_0)\right) = \bar{N} \sqrt{\frac{x}{y}} \varepsilon^3 + O(\varepsilon^4). \] (30)

Using the definition of $m_3(\eta)$ and $\eta^*$, one can easily derive the expansions
\[
\begin{align*}
    m_3(\eta^*) &= \frac{m_1(a_3 + \bar{S} - \eta^*)}{a_3 + \bar{S} - \eta^*} = \frac{m_1(a_3 + \bar{S})}{a_3 + \bar{S}} + O(\varepsilon^2) = m_3 + O(\varepsilon^2), \\
    m_3'(\eta^*) &= \frac{m_1(a_3 - a_1)}{(a_3 + \bar{S} - \eta^*)^2} = \frac{m_1(a_3 - a_1)}{(a_3 + \bar{S})^2} + O(\varepsilon^2). \quad (31)
\end{align*}
\]

For the first term of (27), using (28) and (31) the first factor may be expanded as
\[
\begin{align*}
    m_3(\eta^*)(1 - x_0(\tau_0) - y_0(\tau_0)) - \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial y}(\tau_0) &= \varepsilon^0 \left( \frac{m_3(1 - \bar{x} - \bar{y})}{a_3 + (1 - \bar{x} - \bar{y})} \right) + \varepsilon^1 \left( \frac{m_3(1 - \bar{x} - \bar{y})}{a_3 + (1 - \bar{x} - \bar{y})^2} - \frac{\bar{N}}{a_3 + (1 - \bar{x} - \bar{y})} \right) + O(\varepsilon^2).
\end{align*}
\]

From the development of $h(S)$, if $m_3(\eta) = m_3$, then $h(S) = f(S)$ so that the $\varepsilon^0$ term vanishes in the above expression. For the second factor, we deduce from section 3.3.5 that $\psi_0(\tau_0) = \rho_0(\tau_0) = \gamma_0(\tau_0) = \psi_1(\tau_0) = 0$ and upon expansion obtain
\[
\begin{align*}
    \frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial y}(\tau_0) &= \varepsilon^0 (\psi_0(\tau_0)\rho_0(\tau_0)) + \varepsilon^1 (\psi_0(\tau_0)\rho_1(\tau_0) + \psi_2(\tau_0)\rho_0(\tau_0)) + \varepsilon^2 (\psi_1(\tau_0)\rho_1(\tau_0) + \psi_2(\tau_0)\rho_2(\tau_0) + \psi_2(\tau_0)\rho_0(\tau_0)) + O(\varepsilon^3) = O(\varepsilon^3), \\
    \frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial z}(\tau_0) &= \varepsilon^0 (\gamma_0(\tau_0) + \varepsilon^1 (\gamma_1(\tau_0) + O(\varepsilon^2))\varepsilon^2 (\bar{N} + O(\varepsilon^3)) = O(\varepsilon^4).
\end{align*}
\]

Combining all of this information, the first term is found to be of order $O(\varepsilon^4)$. For the second term of (27), the numerator of the integrand can be expanded as
\[
a_3(\varepsilon^0 \bar{m}_3 + O(\varepsilon^2)) = \varepsilon^0 \gamma_0(t) + \varepsilon^1 (\gamma_1(t) + \varepsilon^0 (t) + \varepsilon^1 (t)) + 1,
\]

and the denominator can be written as
\[
\begin{align*}
    \varepsilon^0 \frac{1}{(a_3 + 1 - \bar{x} - \bar{y})^2} + \varepsilon^1 \frac{2}{(a_3 + 1 - \bar{x} - \bar{y})^3} \left( \sqrt{\frac{x}{y}} \sin \left( \frac{t}{\omega_0} \right) + \cos \left( \frac{t}{\omega_0} \right) \right) + O(\varepsilon^2).
\end{align*}
\]

Combining these expressions with (30) yields
\[
\begin{align*}
    \left( \frac{\bar{N}}{\omega_0} \sqrt{\frac{x}{y}} \int_{\tau_0}^{\tau_0 + 2\pi \omega_0} \frac{a_3 \bar{m}_3(t) + \rho_0(t) + 1}{(a_3 + 1 - \bar{x} - \bar{y})^2} \, dt \right) \varepsilon^3 + O(\varepsilon^4).
\end{align*}
\]
From (29) it is clear that $\gamma_0(t) + \rho_0(t) + 1$ will integrate to zero so the above expression is of order $O(\varepsilon^4)$. The numerator of the integrand in the third term may be written as

$$a_3(\varepsilon^0 m_3 + O(\varepsilon^2))(\varepsilon^0 \psi_0(t) + \varepsilon^1 \psi_1(t) + \varepsilon^0 \delta_0(t) + \varepsilon^1 \delta_1(t) + O(\varepsilon^2))(\varepsilon^1 \rho_1(t) + \varepsilon^2 \rho_2(t) + O(\varepsilon^3))$$

while the denominator may be expanded as

$$\varepsilon^0 \frac{1}{(a_3 + 1 - \bar{x} - \bar{y})^2} + \varepsilon^1 \frac{2}{(a_3 + 1 - \bar{x} - \bar{y})^3} \left( \sqrt{\frac{x}{y}} \sin \left( \frac{t}{\omega_0} \right) + \cos \left( \frac{t}{\omega_0} \right) \right) + O(\varepsilon^2).$$

Combining this information, the integrand may be expressed as

$$\varepsilon^1 \frac{a_3 m_3 \rho_1(\tau_0)(\psi_0(t) + \delta_0(t))}{(a_3 + 1 - \bar{x} - \bar{y})^2} + \varepsilon^2 \frac{a_3 m_3 \rho_2(\tau_0)(\psi_0(t) + \delta_0(t))}{(a_3 + 1 - \bar{x} - \bar{y})^2} +$$

$$\varepsilon^2 \left( \frac{2a_3 m_3 \rho_1(\tau_0)(\psi_0(t) + \delta_0(t))}{(a_3 + 1 - \bar{x} - \bar{y})^3} \right) \left( \sqrt{\frac{x}{y}} \sin \left( \frac{t}{\omega_0} \right) + \cos \left( \frac{t}{\omega_0} \right) \right) + \frac{a_3 m_3 \rho_1(\tau_0)(\psi_1(t) + \delta_1(t))}{(a_3 + 1 - \bar{x} - \bar{y})^2} + O(\varepsilon^3).$$

It is clear that the first two terms will integrate to zero while the remaining $\varepsilon^2$ term may be written as

$$\varepsilon^2 \left( \frac{2a_3 m_3 \rho_1(\tau_0)}{(a_3 + 1 - \bar{x} - \bar{y})^3} \right) \left( \sqrt{\frac{x}{y}} \sin \left( \frac{t}{\omega_0} \right) + \cos \left( \frac{t}{\omega_0} \right) \right)^2 + \frac{a_3 m_3 \rho_1(\tau_0)(\psi_1(t) + \delta_1(t))}{(a_3 + 1 - \bar{x} - \bar{y})^2}.$$

After integration and using (28) the third term is given by

$$\varepsilon^3 \left[ \frac{2\pi a_3 m_3 \rho_1(\tau_0)}{(a_3 + 1 - \bar{x} - \bar{y})^3} \sqrt{\frac{x}{y}} \left( \bar{x} \frac{t}{\omega_0} + 1 \right) + \sqrt{\frac{x}{y}} \omega_0 (a_3 + 1 - \bar{x} - \bar{y})^2 \int_0^{\tau(0)} \frac{d}{dt} \psi_0(t) + \delta_1(t) dt \right] + O(\varepsilon^4).$$

In the fourth term, we note that for the integral, the coefficient of $\varepsilon^0$ is given by

$$\int_0^{2\pi \omega_0} \bar{K}_1 \gamma_0(t) + \bar{K}_2 \rho_0(t) dt.$$
Using these expansions for the individual terms, we may rewrite (27) as
\[
0 = \eta_1 \left( \frac{2\pi N f'(\bar{S}) \bar{h}(\bar{S})(a_3 - a_1)}{a_1 m_3} \right) + \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \frac{\rho_1(\tau_0)}{\omega_0} \right) \int_0^{2\pi/\omega_0} \bar{k}_1 \psi_1(t) + \bar{k}_2 \delta_1(t) \, dt
- \frac{2\pi a_3 m_3 \rho_1(\tau_0)}{(a_3 + \bar{S})^3} \left( \frac{\bar{x}}{\bar{y}} (\bar{x}^2 + 1) \right) + \frac{2\pi a_3 m_3 \rho_1(\tau_0)}{(a_3 + \bar{S})^2} \int_0^{2\pi/\omega_0} \psi_1(t) + \delta_1(t) \, dt.
\]
Rearranging this equation, evaluating integrals, and substituting we obtain
\[
\eta_1 = \rho_1(\tau_0) \left( \frac{m_1}{N} \right) \left( \frac{a_1(\bar{x} + \bar{y})}{2\bar{y}h(\bar{S})f'(\bar{S})(a_1 - a_3)(g'(\bar{S}) - f'(\bar{S}))} \right) \left( \bar{h}''(\bar{S})(g'(\bar{S}) - f'(\bar{S})) + g''(\bar{S})(f'(\bar{S}) - \bar{h}'(\bar{S})) + f''(\bar{S})(\bar{h}'(\bar{S}) - g'(\bar{S})) \right).
\]

3.3.7. The stability of bifurcating orbits. As discussed previously, the stability of the bifurcating orbits depends on \(\eta_1 \frac{\partial^2 \eta}{\partial \epsilon^2}(0)\), and \(\bar{S}(\bar{m}_3 - m_1) \eta_1(0)\). By defining
\[
P = \frac{a_1(\bar{x} + \bar{y})}{2\bar{y}h(\bar{S})f'(\bar{S})(a_1 - a_3)(g'(\bar{S}) - f'(\bar{S}))}
Q = \bar{h}''(\bar{S})(g'(\bar{S}) - f'(\bar{S})) + g''(\bar{S})(f'(\bar{S}) - \bar{h}'(\bar{S})) + f''(\bar{S})(\bar{h}'(\bar{S}) - g'(\bar{S}))
\]

it is possible to write
\[
\frac{\partial^2 \eta}{\partial \epsilon^2}(0) = m_3 P Q
\]
\[
\eta_1 = \rho_1(\tau_0) \left( \frac{m_1}{N} \right) P Q.
\]

We observe from the statement of the problem as well as the definition of the growth functions that \(P\) has the same sign as \((a_1 - a_3)\) and since \(\rho_1(\tau_0)\) is strictly negative, the two terms in (32) are of opposite sign. Having established the above identities we wish to examine \(Q\) and to determine the sign of \(Q\) as a function of \(a_3\). Using the fact that \(f(\bar{S}) = g(\bar{S}) = \bar{h}(\bar{S})\) when \(\eta = 0\), it follows that \(a_3 = a_i\) gives \(m_3(0) = m_i\) for \(i \in \{1, 2\}\). Thus \(a_3 = a_1\) implies \(\bar{h}(\bar{S}) = f(\bar{S})\) and \(a_3 = a_2\) implies \(\bar{h}(\bar{S}) = g(\bar{S})\) (recall \(\bar{h}(\bar{S})\) is the growth function with \(m_3 = m_3(0)\)), so that in either case, \(Q = 0\). Using the definitions of the uptake functions it is possible to express \(Q\) as a third degree polynomial in \(a_3\) as follows
\[
Q = \left( \frac{2m_1 m_2(a_2 - a_1)}{(a_1 + \bar{S})^3(a_2 + \bar{S})^3(a_3 + \bar{S})^3} \right) \times
\]
\[
\left( (m_2 - m_1)^2 \bar{S}^2 a_3^3 + \bar{S}[2(m_1 a_2 - m_2 a_1) + m_1 a_1 - m_2 a_2]a_3^2 + (m_2 - m_1)\bar{S}^2[(m_2 - m_1)(a_1 + a_2)^2 + m_1 a_1^2 - m_2 a_2^2]a_3 + a_1 a_2 \bar{S}^3(m_2 - m_1)^2 \right).
\]

Since, as previously discussed, \(a_2 > a_1\), the term \(\frac{2m_1 m_2(a_2 - a_1)}{(a_1 + \bar{S})^3(a_2 + \bar{S})^3(a_3 + \bar{S})^3}\) is positive, which means that the constant term in the polynomial as well as the coefficient of \(a_3^3\) are both positive. This implies \(Q\) has one negative root and the two positive roots given by \(a_1\) and \(a_2\). From this information it is possible to deduce that \(Q > 0\) for \(a_3 \in (0, a_1) \cup (a_2, +\infty)\) and \(Q < 0\) for \(a_3 \in (a_1, a_2)\).

We are now in a position to determine how the interactions of the three growth functions affect the bifurcation. First, Table 1 is constructed based upon the results derived above. From the information in this table as well as the locally quadratic.
Table 1. The Signs of Essential Quantities as a Function of $a_3$.

| $a_3$ | $a_1$ | $a_3$ | $a_2$ | $a_3$ |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| $\eta_1$ | -- | -- | + |
| $\frac{\partial^2 \eta}{\partial \varepsilon^2}(0)$ | + | + | - |
| $\frac{\dot{S}(\tilde{m}_3 - m_1)}{(a_1 + S)(a_3 + S)}$ | -- | + | + |

nature of $G(\varepsilon)$ it is possible to construct the following graphs of the neutral stability curves where $U$ represents the region of instability for the planar Hopf orbit, $S$ represents the region of stability for the planar Hopf orbit, and the arrow points in the direction of the change of $\eta$ as the value of $s$ becomes positive in the expansion $\eta = \eta^* + s\eta_1 + O(s^2)$. These graphs demonstrate that for $a_3 < a_1$ or $a_2 < a_3$, the Hopf orbit loses its stability and the bifurcating orbit in the first octant becomes asymptotically stable. The opposite is true for the case $a_1 < a_3 < a_2$.

The Figure 4 indicates the relative positions of the growth functions as the value of $a_3$ is varied. (Recall that $g'(\tilde{S}) > f'(\tilde{S})$ implies that $f(S) > g(S)$ for $S \in (0, \tilde{S})$.)

Correlating the information in Figures 3 and 4, we deduce that a stable periodic orbit in the first octant results from a bifurcation when $h'(0)$ is either greater than or less than both $f'(0)$ and $g'(0)$ while the bifurcating orbit is unstable otherwise. Thus our initial claim is verified. The proof of Theorem 6 is now complete.

4. A numerical example. To illustrate the results obtained in Theorem 6, we performed a numerical study of the model (18) with a specific choice of growth
functions
\[ f(S) = \frac{1.4S}{0.2 + S}, \quad g(S) = \frac{2.5S}{0.75 + S}, \quad h(S) = \frac{m_3(\eta)S}{0.1 + S} \quad (m_3(0) = 1.2). \]

The graphs of all three growth functions intersect at the point \((0.5, 1)\) when \(m_3 = 1.2\), in which case there exists an entire line of equilibria passing through the positive octant. The derivatives of \(f\) and \(g\) are given by \(\dot{k}_1 = f'(0.5) = 0.5714\), and \(\dot{k}_2 = g'(0.5) = 1.2\) respectively. We set \(D(x, y) = 1.45 - k_1x - k_2y\) with \(k_1 = \dot{k}_1 + 0.05\) and \(k_2 = \dot{k}_2\) so that Lemma 1 warrants the existence of a limit cycle in the \((x, y)\) plane which is asymptotically stable in this plane.

Varying the value of the parameter \(m_3\) between 1.1998 and 1.1978, we located the stable periodic solutions by forward numerical integration in Mathematica 5.2 [27]. The orbits of these periodic solutions are shown in Fig. 5. Numerical estimates of the periods \(T\) and the Floquet multipliers \(\mu_i\) corresponding to these periodic solutions are presented in Table 2. Near the value \(m_3^* \approx 1.1976\), the limit cycle in the \((x, y)\) plane undergoes a transcritical bifurcation, and stable positive periodic solutions exist for \(m_3 > m_3^*\). As \(m_3\) increases towards the critical value 1.2, the periods and amplitudes of the periodic solutions decrease monotonically. Another bifurcation occurs at \(m_3 = 1.2\) where the periodic solutions interact with the line of equilibria. The analysis of this bifurcation is a subject for a future study.

5. Discussion. In this paper, we have analyzed the dynamics of microbial competition in the chemostat which is controlled by means of state dependent feedback. We have considered the class of feedbacks where the dilution rate is a positive affine function of the microbial concentrations. In case of two species competing in the chemostat, we showed that the parameters of the feedback function may be varied in such a way that the system undergoes a Hopf bifurcation. We have proved that only supercritical Hopf bifurcations occur when the growth rates of both species

Figure 4. Relative positions of the growth functions as determined by \(a_3\).
are governed by Michaelis-Menten kinetics (Theorem 4). Thus we established the existence of stable periodic solutions in the two species case. In addition, we demonstrated that under certain conditions on the growth functions, adding a third species results in a transcritical bifurcation of limit cycles, where a periodic solution bifurcates into the region of coexistence for all three species (Theorem 6). We analyzed the direction of the transcritical bifurcation and the stability of the bifurcating periodic solutions. We presented a numerical example illustrating the conclusion of Theorem 6. The importance of the present study is to point the range of dynamic possibilities for the coexistence of species by means of state-dependent control where coexistence is impossible in the absence of such control.
The theoretical question of the existence and stability of stable periodic solutions for growth functions with less stringent constraints remains open. Another open and interesting question is the global dynamics in the two species case. In the present report, we have left out several interesting details such as the existence of multiple saddles on the boundary, possible existence of heteroclinic connections, and resulting multistability. These questions will be addressed in the future reports.

Acknowledgements. This work is a part of the doctoral thesis of W.S.K. Research of P.D.L. is partially supported by NSF grant DMS-0614651. Research of W.S.K. and S.S.P. is partially supported by NSF grant DMS-0517954. We are grateful to the anonymous referee for valuable comments and the suggestion to include a numerical simulation.

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