

## Bifurcation Analysis of a Mosquito Population Model with a Saturated Release Rate of Sterile Mosquitoes\*

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**Abstract.** Releasing sterile mosquitoes is a method of mosquito control that uses area-wide inundative releases of sterile male mosquitoes to reduce reproduction in a field population of wild mosquitoes. In this paper, we consider a mosquito population model with a nonlinear saturated release rate of sterile mosquitoes and study the complex dynamics and bifurcations of the model. It is shown that there are a weak focus of multiplicity 3 and a nilpotent cusp of codimension 4 for various parameter values and the model exhibits Hopf bifurcation of codimension 3 and Bogdanov–Takens bifurcation of codimension 2 as the parameter values vary. Our analysis also shows that there exists a critical release rate coefficient of sterile mosquitoes, above which the mosquito population can be eliminated and below which the interacting sterile and wild mosquitoes coexist in the form of multiple periodic oscillations and steady states for some initial populations. Numerical simulations are presented to demonstrate the coexistence of a homoclinic loop and a limit cycle, the existence of two limit cycles, and the existence of three limit cycles, respectively.

**Key words.** wild mosquitoes, sterile mosquitoes, release rate, Hopf bifurcation of codimension 3, nilpotent cusp of codimension 4, Bogdanov–Takens bifurcation

**AMS subject classifications.** 34C23, 34C25, 92D30

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**1. Introduction.** Mosquito-borne diseases such as chikungunya, dengue, malaria, yellow fever, Zika, etc., are transmitted to humans by blood-feeding mosquitoes. In tropical and subtropical areas, mosquito-borne diseases are still rampant and are becoming serious public health problems worldwide. Mosquito control, such as reducing the adult mosquito populations and controlling mosquito larvae, is a major measure to prevent mosquito-borne diseases. However, use of large amounts of insecticides will inevitably give rise to resistance of mosquitoes and some chemicals in pesticides affect human health (Blayneha and Mohammed-Awel [10], Lees et al. [34]). In recent years, the sterile insect technique has been proven to be useful and effective to reduce or eradicate mosquitoes (Alphey [2], Boete, Agusto, and Reeves [11], Dufourd and Dumont [17], Fister and McCarthy [23], Lees et al. [34], Li [38]).

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The sterile insect technique (SIT) (Knipling [32], Dyck, Hendrichs, and Robinson [21]) is a method of biological insect control, whereby overwhelming numbers of sterile insects are released into the wild. The sterile males compete with wild males to mate with the females, and females that mate with a sterile male produce no offspring, thus reducing their reproductive output. Sterile insects are not self-replicating and cannot become established in the environment. This approach has achieved some success in controlling several insect pest species, including screwworm, Mediterranean fruit flies, and tsetse flies (Krafsur [33], Benedict and Robinson [8]). Applying SIT (by irradiation) to mosquitoes is not as simple as it looks. First, it is necessary to have a very good knowledge of the biology of the mosquito species to be controlled. Second, the irradiation dose is not the same for an *Anopheles* mosquito as for an *Aedes* mosquito. If the irradiation dose is too strong it can greatly affect the lifespan and the competitiveness of the male (Benedict and Robinson [8], Dumont and Tchuenche [18]). It is generally agreed that classical SIT strategies have had sporadic success, leading to the recent development of transgenic technologies (Alphey [2], Carvalho, Costa-da-Silva, and Lees [14]).

One such transgenic strategy is the release of insects carrying a dominant lethal (RIDL) (Thomas et al. [45], Fu et al. [24]), in which the released male mosquitoes are homozygous for a repressible dominant lethal gene or genetic system. The repressors are something that could be provided during mass-rearing but are not found in the wild. These RIDL male mosquitoes mate with wild females and produce heterozygous progeny that die under predetermined conditions (Thomas et al. [45], Alphey [2]). Sterility can also be created by artificial infection with various strains of *Wolbachia*, a diverse group of intracellular bacteria (Werren, Baldo, and Clark [42]). *Wolbachia* are not infectious between insects on normal timescales; rather they are maternally transmitted, being passed from mother to her offspring. Infected males are useless to the maternally inherited *Wolbachia* for propagation; instead they produce modified sperm that produce viable zygotes only with eggs from infected females (Alphey [2]).

Mathematical models have been used extensively to gain insights into investigation and assessment of the impact of releasing sterile mosquitoes (Anguelov, Dumont, and Lubuma [3], Atkinson et al. [4], Barclay [5, 6], Berryman [9], Barclay and Mackauer [7], Dufourd and Dumont [17], Dumont and Tchuenche [18], Esteva and Yang [22], Fister and McCarthy [23], Knipling [32], Lewis and van den Driessche [35], Li [38], White, Rohani, and Sait [43]), and the development of appropriate mathematical models can potentially answer important ecological, epidemiological, and pest control problems more generally. Depending on the features under consideration, various types of models such as difference equation models (Knipling [32]), ordinary differential equation models (Anguelov, Dumont, and Lubuma [3], Barclay [5, 6], Berryman [9], Barclay and Mackauer [7], Dufourd and Dumont [17], Dumont and Tchuenche [18], Esteva and Yang [22], Li [38]), delay differential equation models (Atkinson et al. [4], White, Rohani, and Sait [43]), and partial differential equation models (Lewis and van den Driessche [35]) have been used to investigate the effects of releasing sterile mosquitoes on the population dynamics of mosquitoes and the transmission dynamics of some mosquito-borne diseases.

In the process of releasing sterile mosquitoes, whether SIT or transgenic, the most important and difficult problem is to determine suitable releasing strategies, since different releasing methods will produce different dynamic results of interactive wild and sterile mosquitoes as well as different transmission outcomes. So far various release rates of sterile/transgenic male

mosquitoes have been used in the literature, including (i) constant rate (Anguelov, Dumont, and Lubuma [3], Berryman [9], Barclay and Mackauer [7], Dufourd and Dumont [17], Dumont and Tchuenche [18], Esteva and Yang [22], Li [38]); (ii) periodic rate (Barclay [6]); (iii) pulsed rate (White, Rohani, and Sait [43]); (iv) proportional rate (Atkinson et al. [4]); (v) trajectory rate (Atkinson et al. [4]); and (vi) nonlinear saturated rate (Cai, Ai, and Li [13], Li, Cai, and Li [39]).

Let  $w(t)$  and  $g(t)$  be the number of wild mosquitoes and sterile mosquitoes at time  $t$ , respectively, and let  $N(t)(= w(t) + g(t))$  be the total number of wild mosquitoes and sterile mosquitoes. Assume that the dynamics of both wild and sterile mosquitoes, in the absence of interactions, follow logistic growth, and the birth rate of sterile mosquitoes is their release rate. After the sterile mosquitoes are released into the wild mosquito population, the interactive model takes the following form (Cai, Ai, and Li [13] and Li, Cai, and Li [39]):

$$(1.1) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{dw}{dt} &= \left[ C(N) \frac{aw}{w+g} - (\mu_1 + \xi_1(w+g)) \right] w, \\ \frac{dg}{dt} &= B(\cdot) - [\mu_2 + \xi_2(w+g)] g, \end{aligned}$$

where  $C(N)$  is the number of matings per individual per unit of time,  $a > 0$  is the number of wild offspring produced per mate,  $\mu_i > 0$  and  $\xi_i > 0$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) are the density independent and dependent death rates of the wild and sterile mosquitoes, respectively, and  $B(\cdot)$  is the release rate of the sterile mosquitoes. Considering the possible difficulty in finding mates when the mosquito population size is small, Cai, Ai, and Li [13] assumed an Allee effect such that the mating rate takes the form of  $C(N) = c_0 N / (1 + N)$ , where  $c_0$  is the maximum mating rate. In the meantime, Cai, Ai, and Li [13] supposed that the release rate  $B(\cdot)$  is a nonlinear saturated function such that it is proportional to the wild mosquito population size when the wild mosquito population size is small but is saturated and approaches a constant  $b$  when the wild mosquito population size is big enough, i.e.,  $B(\cdot) = \frac{bw}{1+w}$ , where  $b > 0$  is the release rate coefficient. Under these assumptions and writing  $c_0a$  as  $a$ , system (1.1) becomes a mosquito population model with nonlinear saturated releasing rate of sterile mosquitoes

$$(1.2) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{dw}{dt} &= \left[ \frac{aw}{1+w+g} - (\mu_1 + \xi_1(w+g)) \right] w, \\ \frac{dg}{dt} &= \frac{bw}{1+w} - [\mu_2 + \xi_2(w+g)] g, \end{aligned}$$

where all parameters are positive. Cai, Ai, and Li [13] and Li, Cai, and Li [39] provided some basic analysis on the dynamics and gave some numerical examples to reveal the rich dynamical features of model (1.2). While their findings seem exciting and promising, the model could exhibit much more complex dynamics than has been found and the model deserves further theoretical analysis on its complex dynamics and bifurcation phenomena. Moreover, under the hypothesis that the sterile and wild mosquitoes have the same fitness, or the same death rates, i.e.,

$$\mu_1 = \mu_2 \quad \text{and} \quad \xi_1 = \xi_2,$$

Cai, Ai, and Li [13] studied the existence and local stability of positive equilibria of system (1.2). They fulfilled a relatively complete analysis for this special case, obtained a threshold release value implicitly, and showed that if there exist two positive equilibria, one must be a

saddle point and the other is always an asymptotically stable node or spiral. Thus there are no complex bifurcations and dynamical phenomena for system (1.2) under the above hypothesis. However, in general, the sterile and wild mosquitoes should have different fitness, or different death rates, i.e.,

$$\mu_1 \neq \mu_2 \quad \text{and} \quad \xi_1 \neq \xi_2.$$

Hence, in this paper, in order to better understand the effect of a nonlinear saturated releasing rate of sterile mosquitoes to wild mosquitoes, we further consider system (1.2) with different fitnesses (i.e.,  $\mu_1 \neq \mu_2$  and  $\xi_1 \neq \xi_2$ ) for the sterile and wild mosquitoes and find some complex bifurcation phenomena, such as Hopf bifurcation of codimension 3, nilpotent cusp of codimension 4, and Bogdanov–Takens bifurcation of codimension 2. Numerical simulations are presented to demonstrate the coexistence of a homoclinic loop and a limit cycle, the existence of two limit cycles, and the existence of three limit cycles, respectively.

The paper is organized as follows. In section 2, we first show that there are at most two positive equilibria in system (1.2) with different fitnesses for the sterile and wild mosquitoes, one is a saddle, and the other may be a stable or an unstable focus when there are two positive equilibria; the unique positive equilibrium may be a cusp. Hopf bifurcation of codimension 3, nilpotent cusp of codimension 4, and Bogdanov–Takens bifurcation of codimension 2 are discussed in section 3. The paper ends with a brief discussion in section 4.

## 2. Equilibria and their stability.

Define

$$\Omega := \left\{ (w, g) : 0 \leq w \leq \frac{a}{\xi_1}, 0 \leq g \leq \frac{ba}{\xi_1 \mu_2} \right\},$$

which is a positively invariant and attracting set for the flows of (1.2) in the first quadrant.

In fact, first, it is easy to see that  $\{(w, g) : w \geq 0, g \geq 0\}$  is positively invariant since  $w = 0$  is an invariant line and  $\frac{dg}{dt}|_{g=0} = \frac{bw}{1+w} > 0$  if  $w > 0$ .

Second, from the first equation of system (1.2), we can get that

$$\frac{dw}{dt} < (a - \xi_1 w)w,$$

and a standard comparison argument shows that

$$\limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} w(t) \leq \frac{a}{\xi_1}.$$

Then we can observe that there exists a  $T > 0$  such that for  $t > T$ ,  $w(t) \leq \frac{a}{\xi_1}$ . From the second equation of system (1.2), we can see that for  $t > T$ , we have

$$\frac{dg}{dt} \leq \frac{ba}{\xi_1} - \mu_2 g,$$

which shows that

$$\limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} g(t) \leq \frac{ba}{\xi_1 \mu_2}.$$

The above arguments imply that  $\Omega$  is a positively invariant and attracting set for the flows of (1.2) in the positive quadrant.

We next introduce a new time variable  $\tau$  by  $dt = \frac{d\tau}{a}$  and still denote  $\tau$  by  $t$  for convenience; then system (1.2) can be rewritten as

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dw}{dt} &= \left[ \frac{w}{1+w+g} - \left( \frac{\mu_1}{a} + \frac{\xi_1}{a}(w+g) \right) \right] w, \\ \frac{dg}{dt} &= \frac{\frac{b}{a}w}{1+w} - \left[ \frac{\mu_2}{a} + \frac{\xi_2}{a}(w+g) \right] g.\end{aligned}$$

Still denoting  $\frac{\mu_1}{a}$ ,  $\frac{\xi_1}{a}$ ,  $\frac{b}{a}$ ,  $\frac{\mu_2}{a}$ ,  $\frac{\xi_2}{a}$  by  $\mu_1, \xi_1, b, \mu_2, \xi_2$ , respectively, we have the following system:

$$\begin{aligned}(2.1) \quad \frac{dw}{dt} &= \left[ \frac{w}{1+w+g} - (\mu_1 + \xi_1(w+g)) \right] w, \\ \frac{dg}{dt} &= \frac{bw}{1+w} - [\mu_2 + \xi_2(w+g)]g,\end{aligned}$$

where all parameters,  $b$ ,  $\mu_1$ ,  $\mu_2$ ,  $\xi_1$ , and  $\xi_2$  are positive.

**2.1. Existence of equilibria.** Note that the origin  $(0, 0)$  is always an equilibrium for system (2.1) and there is no other boundary equilibrium.

Let  $N = w + g$  at a positive equilibrium. We have

$$(2.2) \quad w = (1+N)(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N), \quad g = \frac{b(1+N)(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N)}{[1 + (1+N)(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N)](\mu_2 + \xi_2 N)}.$$

Then  $N$  satisfies

$$(2.3) \quad [N - (1+N)(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N)][1 + (1+N)(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N)](\mu_2 + \xi_2 N) = b(1+N)(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N),$$

that is,

$$(2.4) \quad [1 + (1+N)(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N)](\mu_2 + \xi_2 N) = \frac{b(1+N)(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N)}{N - (1+N)(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N)},$$

which is a polynomial equation of degree five and may have up to five positive roots. In fact, we will show that (2.3) has at most two positive roots.

Let  $G_1(N) = N - (1+N)(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N)$ . Then  $G_1(0) = -\mu_1 < 0$ , and it is easy to see that  $G_1(N) = 0$  has two positive roots

$$N_{1,2} = \frac{1}{2\xi_1} \left[ (1 - \mu_1 - \xi_1) \pm \sqrt{(1 - \mu_1 - \xi_1)^2 - 4\mu_1\xi_1} \right]$$

if

$$1 - \mu_1 - \xi_1 > 0 \quad \text{and} \quad (1 - \mu_1 - \xi_1)^2 - 4\mu_1\xi_1 > 0,$$

or, equivalently, if

$$(2.5) \quad \sqrt{\mu_1} + \sqrt{\xi_1} < 1.$$

Since  $G_1(N) > 0$  if  $N \in (N_1, N_2)$ , we consider (2.4) when  $N \in (N_1, N_2)$ . Let

$$F_1(N) = [1 + (1 + N)(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N)](\mu_2 + \xi_2 N), \quad F_2(N) = \frac{(1 + N)(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N)}{N - (1 + N)(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N)}.$$

Then (2.4) can be rewritten as

$$F_1(N) = bF_2(N).$$

By some trivial computation, we can get the asymptotic features of  $F_1(N)$  and  $F_2(N)$ .  $F_1(N)$  is a monotone increasing positive function when  $N > 0$  and  $\lim_{N \rightarrow +\infty} F_1(N) = +\infty$ .  $F_2(N)$  is positive and decreases first and then increases when  $N \in (N_1, N_2)$ ,  $\lim_{N \rightarrow N_1^+} F_2(N) = +\infty$ ,  $\lim_{N \rightarrow N_2^-} F_2(N) = +\infty$ . Furthermore, it is easy to see that  $F_1(N)$  and  $F_2(N)$  have no inflection points when  $N > 0$ . Then  $F_1(N) = bF_2(N)$  (i.e., (2.4)) has at most two positive roots.

We also rewrite (2.4) as

$$\frac{N - (1 + N)(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N)}{(1 + N)(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N)} [1 + (1 + N)(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N)](\mu_2 + \xi_2 N) = b,$$

that is,  $\frac{1}{F_2(N)} F_1(N) = b$ . Define  $F_3(N) = \frac{1}{F_2(N)}$ ; then (2.4) becomes

$$(2.6) \quad F_3(N)F_1(N) = b.$$

It can be seen that the positive equilibria of system (2.1) are determined by the positive roots of (2.6) when  $N \in (N_1, N_2)$ .

By some simple calculation, we can see that  $F_3(N_1) = F_3(N_2) = 0$  and  $F_3(N)$  increases first and then decreases when  $N \in (N_1, N_2)$ . Since (2.4) has at most two positive roots when  $N \in (N_1, N_2)$ , it follows that the curve for  $F_3(N)F_1(N)$  must have a shape similar to that for  $F_3(N)$ . Thus, the function  $F_3(N)F_1(N)$  has a unique maximum value on the interval  $(N_1, N_2)$ , which determines the threshold release value

$$(2.7) \quad b_0 := \max_{N \in (N_1, N_2)} F_3(N)F_1(N).$$

From the above analysis, we have the following result, which is similar to Theorem 4.1 in [13], in which only a special case that  $\mu_1 = \mu_2$  and  $\xi_1 = \xi_2$  was considered.

**Theorem 2.1.** *The origin  $(0, 0)$  is a unique boundary equilibrium for system (2.1). Moreover,*

- (i) *if  $b > b_0$  or  $\sqrt{\mu_1} + \sqrt{\xi_1} \geq 1$ , then system (2.1) has no positive equilibrium;*
- (ii) *if  $b = b_0$  and  $\sqrt{\mu_1} + \sqrt{\xi_1} < 1$ , then system (2.1) has a unique positive equilibrium  $E^*(w^*, g^*)$  with*

$$(2.8) \quad w^* = (1 + N^*)(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N^*), \quad g^* = \frac{b(1 + N^*)(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N^*)}{[1 + (1 + N^*)(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N^*)](\mu_2 + \xi_2 N^*)},$$

where  $N^*$  is the unique positive root of (2.6);

(iii) if  $b < b_0$  and  $\sqrt{\mu_1} + \sqrt{\xi_1} < 1$ , then system (2.1) has two positive equilibria  $E_1^*(w_1^*, g_1^*)$  and  $E_2^*(w_2^*, g_2^*)$  with

$$(2.9) \quad w_{1,2}^* = (1 + N_{1,2}^*)(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N_{1,2}^*), \quad g_{1,2}^* = \frac{b(1 + N_{1,2}^*)(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N_{1,2}^*)}{[1 + (1 + N_{1,2}^*)(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N_{1,2}^*)](\mu_2 + \xi_2 N_{1,2}^*)},$$

where  $N_1^* < N_2^*$  are the two positive roots of (2.6).

*Remark 2.2.* From Theorem 2.1, we can see that there exists a critical release rate coefficient of sterile mosquitoes, above which the mosquito population can be eliminated.

**2.2. Stability of the equilibria.** The Jacobian matrix of system (2.1) at the equilibrium  $(0, 0)$  has the form

$$\begin{bmatrix} -\mu_1 & 0 \\ b & -\mu_2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

It is easy to see that the eigenvalues of the above matrix are  $-\mu_1$  and  $-\mu_2$ , which are all negative, so the origin  $(0, 0)$  is locally asymptotically stable.

The Jacobian matrix of system (2.1) at a positive equilibrium has the form

$$J = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{w(1+g)}{(1+N)^2} - \xi_1 w & -\left(\frac{w}{(1+N)^2} + \xi_1\right)w \\ \frac{b}{(1+w)^2} - \xi_2 g & -\mu_2 - \xi_2 w - 2\xi_2 g \end{bmatrix},$$

from which we have

$$\text{tr}J = -\frac{w(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N)}{1 + N} + \mu_1 - \mu_2 + (\xi_1 - \xi_2)g - \xi_2 N.$$

Define

$$G_1(N) = N - (1 + N)(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N), \quad G_2(N) = \frac{F_1(N)}{(1 + N)(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N)} = Q_2 \frac{\mu_2 + \xi_2 N}{\mu_1 + \xi_1 N},$$

where  $Q_2 = \frac{1+(1+N)(\mu_1+\xi_1 N)}{1+N}$ ; then (2.3) can be rewritten as

$$(2.10) \quad G_1(N)G_2(N) = b.$$

Through some calculations, we can derive that

$$(2.11) \quad \det J = -\frac{w(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N)}{1 + w} \frac{d(G_1 G_2)}{dN};$$

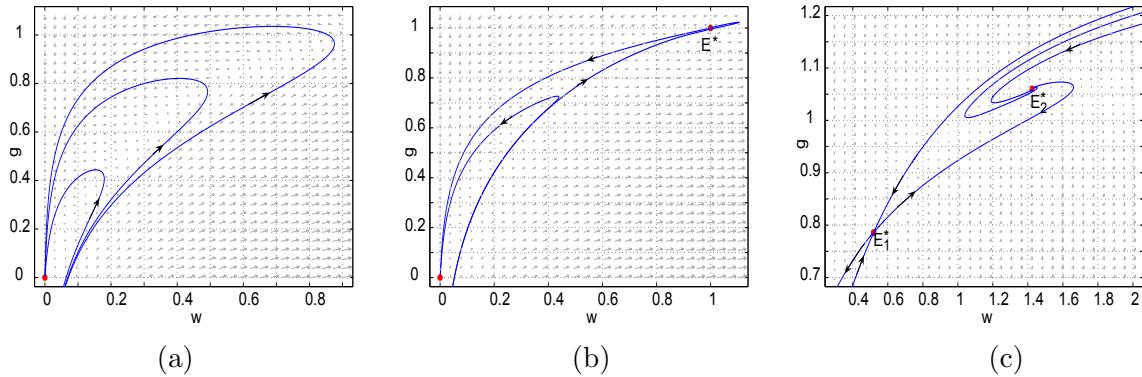
the detailed computations are given in Appendix A.

If there is a unique positive equilibrium  $E^*$  for system (2.1) associated with the unique positive root  $N^*$  of (2.10), then we have

$$\frac{d(G_1 G_2)}{dN} \Big|_{N=N^*} = 0,$$

which implies that

$$\det J \Big|_{N=N^*} = 0.$$



**Figure 2.1.** The phase portraits of system (2.1) with  $\mu_1 = \frac{1}{45}, \xi_1 = \frac{7}{45}, \mu_2 = \frac{1}{30}, \xi_2 = \frac{1}{90}$ . (a) No positive equilibrium when  $b = \frac{2}{15}$ . (b) A unique positive equilibrium which is a cusp when  $b = \frac{1}{9}$ . (c) Two positive equilibria when  $b = \frac{11}{100}$ ,  $E_1^*$  is a saddle,  $E_2^*$  is a stable node.

If there are two positive equilibria  $E_1^*$  and  $E_2^*$  for system (2.1) associated with the two positive roots  $N_1^* < N_2^*$  of (2.10), then we have

$$\left. \frac{d(G_1 G_2)}{dN} \right|_{N=N_2^*} < 0 < \left. \frac{d(G_1 G_2)}{dN} \right|_{N=N_1^*}.$$

Therefore, we have

$$\det J \Big|_{N=N_1^*} < 0 < \det J \Big|_{N=N_2^*}.$$

By the above analysis and Theorems 7.1–7.3 in Zhang et al. [50], we have the following result.

**Theorem 2.3.**

- (i) The origin  $(0, 0)$  is always locally asymptotically stable.
- (ii) If there exists a unique positive equilibrium  $E^*(w^*, g^*)$  for system (2.1), then it is a saddle-node if  $\text{tr}J|_{E^*} \neq 0$  and a cusp if  $\text{tr}J|_{E^*} = 0$ .
- (iii) If there exist two positive equilibria  $E_1^*(w_1^*, g_1^*)$  and  $E_2^*(w_2^*, g_2^*)$  for system (2.1), then  $E_1^*$  is a saddle;  $E_2^*$  is a locally asymptotically stable node or focus when  $\text{tr}J|_{E_2^*} < 0$ , an unstable node or focus when  $\text{tr}J|_{E_2^*} > 0$ , and a linear center when  $\text{tr}J|_{E_2^*} = 0$ .

The phase portraits are shown in Figure 2.1.

**3. Bifurcation analysis.** In this section, we are interested in various possible bifurcations in system (2.1). From Theorem 2.3, we know that system (2.1) may exhibit Hopf bifurcation around the equilibrium  $E_2^*$  and Bogdanov–Takens bifurcation around the equilibrium  $E^*$ . From (2.4), we can see that the positive equilibrium depends on a polynomial equation of degree five, which makes the full bifurcation analysis very difficult and challenging.

**3.1. Hopf bifurcation of codimension 3.** We first consider Hopf bifurcation. For convenience, introducing the time scaling  $t = (1 + w)(1 + w + g)\tau$  to system (2.1), we obtain

$$(3.1) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{dw}{d\tau} &= w(1 + w)[w - (1 + w + g)(\mu_1 + \xi_1(w + g))], \\ \frac{dg}{d\tau} &= (1 + w + g)[bw - (1 + w)(\mu_2 + \xi_2(w + g))g]. \end{aligned}$$

Solving  $\mu_1$  and  $\mu_2$  from the equations  $\frac{dw}{d\tau} = \frac{dg}{d\tau} = 0$ , we obtain

$$(3.2) \quad \mu_1 = \frac{w_2^*}{1 + w_2^* + g_2^*} - \xi_1(w_2^* + g_2^*), \quad \mu_2 = \frac{bw_2^*}{(1 + w_2^*)g_2^*} - \xi_2(w_2^* + g_2^*),$$

which requires (due to  $\mu_1 > 0$  and  $\mu_2 > 0$ )

$$(3.3) \quad 0 < \xi_1 < \frac{w_2^*}{(w_2^* + g_2^*)(1 + w_2^* + g_2^*)}, \quad 0 < \xi_2 < \frac{bw_2^*}{g_2^*(1 + w_2^*)(w_2^* + g_2^*)}.$$

To have a Hopf bifurcation at the equilibrium  $E_2^*(w_2^*, g_2^*)$ , we let  $\text{tr}J|_{E_2^*} = 0$  and get

$$(3.4) \quad \xi_1 = \xi_{1H} = \frac{1 + g_2^*}{(1 + w_2^* + g_2^*)^2} - \frac{bw_2^* + (1 + w_2^*)(g_2^*)^2 \xi_2}{w_2^* g_2^*(1 + w_2^*)},$$

which requires

$$(3.5) \quad 0 < \xi_2 < \frac{w_2^*}{g_2^*} \left[ \frac{1 + g_2^*}{(1 + w_2^* + g_2^*)^2} - \frac{b}{g_2^*(1 + w_2^*)} \right]$$

to guarantee  $\xi_{1H} > 0$ , which in turn requires

$$(3.6) \quad 0 < b < \frac{g_2^*(1 + w_2^*)(1 + g_2^*)}{(1 + w_2^* + g_2^*)^2}.$$

Then at the critical point  $\xi_1 = \xi_{1H}$ , the eigenvalues of the linearized system of (3.1) around  $(w_2^*, g_2^*)$  are  $\lambda_{1,2} = \pm i\omega_c$ , where

$$(3.7) \quad \omega_c = \left\{ \frac{w_2^*}{g_2^*} \left[ (1 + w_2^*)((1 + w_2^* + g_2^*)^2 \xi_1 - 1 - g_2^*) (bw_2^* + (g_2^*)^2(1 + w_2^*) \xi_2) \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. + g_2^*(w_2^* + (1 + w_2^* + g_2^*)^2 \xi_1) (b - g_2^*(1 + w_2^*)^2 \xi_2) \right] \right\}^{1/2}.$$

In addition to the conditions given in (3.3), (3.5), and (3.6), it is further required that  $w_2^*$ ,  $g_2^*$ , and  $b$  are chosen such that  $\omega_c$  is real and positive.

Now introducing the transformation

$$w = w_2^* + \frac{w_2^* [b(1 + w_2^*) + (b - 1 - w_2^*)g_2^*] + (g_2^*)^2(1 + w_2^*)(1 + w_2^* + g_2^*)\xi_2}{g_2^*} u, \\ g = g_2^* - \frac{(1 + w_2^* + g_2^*)[bw_2^* + (g_2^*)^2(1 + w_2^*)\xi_2]}{g_2^*} u + \omega_c v$$

and the time rescaling  $\tau_1 = \omega_c \tau$  into (3.1), we obtain

$$(3.8) \quad \frac{du}{d\tau_1} = v + \sum_{i+j=2}^4 a_{ij} u^i v^j, \quad \frac{dv}{d\tau_1} = -u + \sum_{i+j=2}^4 b_{ij} u^i v^j,$$

where the coefficients  $a_{ij}$  and  $b_{ij}$  are given in terms of  $b$ ,  $\xi_2$ ,  $w_2^*$ , and  $g_2^*$ . Next, using the formal series method (see p. 93 in Chapter 2 in [50]) and applying the Maple program for computing

the normal forms of Hopf and generalized Hopf bifurcations in Yu [47] we obtain the following normal form:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dr}{d\tau_1} &= r(v_0\mu + v_1r^2 + v_2r^4 + v_3r^6 + \dots), \\ \frac{d\theta}{d\tau_1} &= 1 + \nu_0\mu + \nu_1r^2 + \nu_2r^4 + \nu_3r^6 + \dots,\end{aligned}$$

where  $r$  and  $\theta$  represent the amplitude and phase of the periodic motions, respectively, and  $\mu = \xi_1 - \xi_{1H}$  is the unfolding.  $v_0$  and  $\nu_0$  are obtained from linear analysis, while  $v_k$  and  $\nu_k$  ( $k \geq 1$ ) must be derived using nonlinear analysis with the aid of a computer algebra system such as Maple or Mathematica. The  $v_k$ 's are usually called *focus values*, which can be used to determine the number of limit cycles bifurcating from the Hopf critical point as well as the center conditions on the singular point, while  $\nu_k$ 's can be applied to determine the critical periods of the bifurcating limit cycles. It should be noted that the formal series method [50] can be used to obtain only the focus values. However, the coefficients  $\nu_k$  are not needed in this paper. The Maple output of the focus values is given as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}v_1 &= -\frac{w_2^*[b(1+w_2^*+g_2^*)-g_2^*(1+w_2^*)]+(g_2^*)^2(1+w_2^*)(1+w_2^*+g_2^*)\xi_2}{8w_2^*(g_2^*)^4(1+w_2^*)^2(1+w_2^*+g_2^*)^3\omega_c^2} F_1, \\ v_2 &= \frac{\{w_2^*[b(1+w_2^*+g_2^*)-g_2^*(1+w_2^*)]+(g_2^*)^2(1+w_2^*)(1+w_2^*+g_2^*)\xi_2\}^2}{288(w_2^*)^3(g_2^*)^{10}(1+w_2^*)^6(1+w_2^*+g_2^*)^6\omega_c^6} F_2, \\ v_3 &= -\frac{1}{663552(w_2^*)^{10}(g_2^*)^{18}(1+w_2^*)^{14}(1+w_2^*+g_2^*)^8\omega_c^{12}\{w_2^*[b(1+w_2^*+g_2^*)-g_2^*(1+w_2^*)]+(g_2^*)^2(1+w_2^*)(1+w_2^*+g_2^*)\xi_2\}^6} F_3, \\ v_4 &= \dots,\end{aligned}$$

where  $F_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$ , and  $v_4$  are lengthy polynomials in  $b$ ,  $\xi_2$ ,  $w_2^*$ , and  $g_2^*$ .

It is extremely difficult or impossible to solve  $v_1 = v_2 = v_3 = v_4 = 0$  for the four parameters. We consider a slightly simpler case,  $w_2^* = g_2^*$ , which implies that the equilibrium  $(w_2^*, g_2^*)$  is restricted on the  $45^\circ$  straight line in the first quadrant of the  $w$ - $g$  plane. Biologically this means that the wild and sterile mosquitoes are balanced at the equilibrium. We will see that the system still exhibits very complex dynamics under this restriction. In fact, we have the following theorem.

**Theorem 3.1.** *If  $b < b_0$ ,  $\sqrt{\mu_1} + \sqrt{\xi_1} < 1$  and the equilibrium  $E_2^*(w_2^*, g_2^*)$  satisfies  $w_2^* = g_2^*$ , then system (3.1) (i.e., system (2.1)) undergoes a Hopf bifurcation of codimension 3 around the equilibrium  $E_2^*(w_2^*, w_2^*)$ , three limit cycles bifurcate from  $E_2^*(w_2^*, w_2^*)$ , and the outer bifurcating limit cycle is unstable.*

*Proof.* Let  $g_2^* = w_2^*$ . Then we use the three equations  $F_1 = F_2 = F_3 = 0$  to eliminate  $\xi_2$  and obtain a solution  $\xi_2 = \xi_2(b, w_2^*)$  and two resultants:

$$R_1 = R_1(b, w_2^*) \quad \text{and} \quad R_2 = R_2(b, w_2^*).$$

Solving  $R_1 = R_2 = 0$ , we obtain 10 real solutions  $w_2^* > 0$ ,  $b > 0$ . However, none of them yields all parameters being positive and  $\omega_c^2 > 0$ . Thus, it is not possible to have four small limit cycles arising from the Hopf bifurcation at the equilibrium  $(w_2^*, w_2^*)$  with the restrictions on the parameters.

The next best possibility is to have three limit cycles arising from the Hopf bifurcation at the equilibrium  $(w_2^*, w_2^*)$ , which requires that  $v_1 = v_2 = 0$  but  $v_3 \neq 0$ . Since there are three free parameters to be used, it may have an infinite number of solutions. We take the

special case  $w_2^* = g_2^* = 1$  to show that it indeed has three limit cycles around the equilibrium  $E_2^*(w_2^*, g_2^*) = (1, 1)$ .

When  $w_2^* = g_2^* = 1$ , the focus values  $v_1$ ,  $v_2$ , and  $v_3$  are reduced to

$$\begin{aligned} v_1 &= -\frac{3b + 6\xi_2 - 2}{432(9b^2 + 18b\xi_2 - 2b + 8\xi_2)} G_1, \\ v_2 &= -\frac{(3b + 6\xi_2 - 2)^2}{15116544(9b^2 + 18b\xi_2 - 2b + 8\xi_2)^3} G_2, \\ v_3 &= -\frac{(3b + 6\xi_2 - 2)^3}{33853318889472(9b^2 + 18b\xi_2 - 2b + 8\xi_2)^5} G_3, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} G_1 &= 58320b\xi_2^3 + 36(1053b^2 + 54b + 112)\xi_2^2 + 4(729b^3 + 162b^2 + 234b - 128)\xi_2 \\ &\quad - 3b(243b^3 - 594b^2 + 276b - 32), \\ G_2 &= 326517350400b(9b + 4)\xi_2^7 + (5652627555456b^3 + 1230154117632b^2 \\ &\quad - 233641304064b + 90296156160)\xi_2^6 + (5356772224992b^4 - 992646757440b^3 \\ &\quad - 494477270784b^2 + 122343229440b - 17951735808)\xi_2^5 + (2828380020336b^5 \\ &\quad - 1861727105088b^4 + 213989796864b^3 - 41088446208b^2 - 80167698432b \\ &\quad - 800243712)\xi_2^4 + (676120497840b^6 - 729715259808b^5 + 304777870560b^4 \\ &\quad - 187985142144b^3 + 3568810752b^2 + 10306787328b + 43646976)\xi_2^3 \\ &\quad + (14081060736b^7 + 30491958816b^6 - 14461808688b^5 - 62097293088b^4 \\ &\quad + 31379425920b^3 - 2248839936b^2 - 438829056b + 20971520)\xi_2^2 \\ &\quad - 2b(7179236469b^7 - 27051409782b^6 + 30140735364b^5 - 10457184240b^4 \\ &\quad - 290713536b^3 + 754523424b^2 - 118374912b + 4587520)\xi_2 \\ &\quad - 3b^2(307704339b^7 - 1511418204b^6 + 2493993564b^5 - 1772397288b^4 \\ &\quad + 627476544b^3 - 114646752b^2 + 10123008b - 327680), \\ G_3 &= \dots . \end{aligned}$$

Eliminating  $\xi_2$  from the two equations  $G_1 = G_2 = 0$  we obtain a solution  $\xi_2 = -3b\frac{\xi_{2n}}{\xi_{2d}}$ , where

$$\begin{aligned} \xi_{2n} &= 1215766545905692880100b^{19} + 11428355626148810072061b^{18} \\ &\quad + 97628666394693419367840b^{17} - 715997536568791235574768b^{16} \\ &\quad + 1211735866715961350229198b^{15} - 543559502882837078777304b^{14} \\ &\quad - 255989725512341271407604b^{13} + 220672480880794797942480b^{12} \\ &\quad + 12151290864296114845344b^{11} - 32574190919194325946816b^{10} \\ &\quad + 1417846145344926200064b^9 + 1733701690077190723584b^8 \\ &\quad + 324186225479331803136b^7 - 187110581980086190080b^6 \\ &\quad + 1301960277724004352b^5 + 875303182018805760b^4 \\ &\quad + 1478338776540905472b^3 - 282357186133229568b^2 \\ &\quad + 13910323048218624b - 85418309582848, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\xi_{2d} = & 7294599275434157280600b^{19} + 65328089634477679418766b^{18} \\
& + 2117001044703313476862344b^{17} - 9009507952299734170657740b^{16} \\
& + 7164657795528717547554108b^{15} + 3337639940500031251056024b^{14} \\
& - 4346676042279950693824344b^{13} - 238100078284948543469472b^{12} \\
& + 742326317332386717223872b^{11} + 90631919696220307980288b^{10} \\
& - 87560237078141623626240b^9 - 8465421839634461343744b^8 \\
& + 2900436732888236384256b^7 + 1650284701799561035776b^6 \\
& - 289108667701422784512b^5 - 26871389454145683456b^4 \\
& - 7078702070790881280b^3 + 3411874036366442496b^2 \\
& - 215293935168258048b + 1366692953325568,
\end{aligned}$$

and a resultant:

$$\begin{aligned}
R_1 = & b(405b^2 - 72b + 8)(2187b^3 - 81b^2 + 36b - 64)(8338590849833284500b^{15} \\
& + 106384977408965611545b^{14} - 851807047085209819260b^{13} \\
& + 2083240023585151729374b^{12} - 2328544331618373048240b^{11} \\
& + 1290985483343789350512b^{10} - 314786318806183991544b^9 \\
& - 6123658129675584336b^8 + 33488339014669159296b^7 \\
& - 25233272486194035456b^6 + 13708773822817963008b^5 \\
& - 4299563347822319616b^4 + 725893086283628544b^3 \\
& - 61341366413721600b^2 + 2107325685694464b - 12178782420992).
\end{aligned}$$

Solving  $R_1 = 0$  yields eight real positive solutions:

$$\begin{aligned}
b = & 0.00714474 \dots, \quad 0.07301690 \dots, \quad 0.15234730 \dots, \quad 0.19515215 \dots, \\
& 0.30247351 \dots, \quad 0.73356398 \dots, \quad 1.60445318 \dots, \quad 2.43448704 \dots.
\end{aligned}$$

Among these eight solutions, only the third one is a feasible solution under which all parameters and  $\omega_c$  are positive, as given below:

$$\begin{aligned}
w_2^* = g_2^* = 1, \quad b = 0.15234730 \dots, \quad \mu_1 = 0.04939357 \dots, \quad \mu_2 = 0.06801627 \dots, \\
\xi_1 = 0.14196988 \dots, \quad \xi_2 = 0.00407868 \dots, \quad \omega_c = 0.27926600 \dots,
\end{aligned}$$

under which

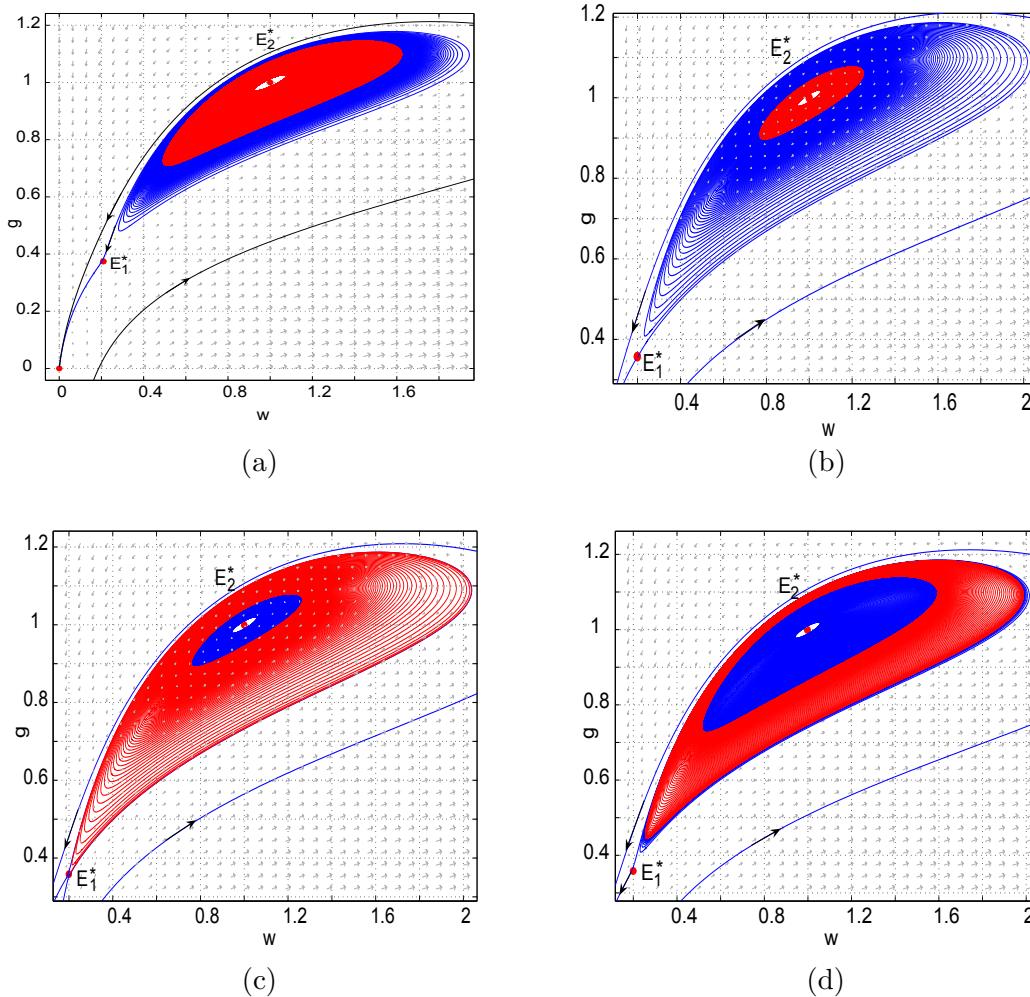
$$v_1 = v_2 = 0, \quad v_3 = 0.02803338 \dots.$$

Moreover, a direct computation shows that at the above critical point,

$$\det \left[ \frac{\partial(v_1, v_2)}{\partial(b, \xi_2)} \right] = 18.68187323 \dots \neq 0,$$

which implies that three small-amplitude limit cycles bifurcate from the Hopf critical point and the outer one is unstable since  $v_3 > 0$ . The proof is complete.  $\blacksquare$

Based on Theorem 3.1, we give some numerical simulations to illustrate the existence of multiple limit cycles.



**Figure 3.1.** (a) An unstable limit cycle in system (2.1) with  $\xi_2 = 0.0041$ ,  $b = 0.152$ ,  $\xi_1 = \frac{2}{9} - 0.080101$ ,  $\mu_1 = -\frac{1}{9} + 0.1602$ ,  $\mu_2 = 0.0678$ . (b) A stable limit cycle in system (2.1) with  $\xi_2 = 0.0038$ ,  $b = 0.152$ ,  $\xi_1 = \frac{2}{9} - 0.07979$ ,  $\mu_1 = -\frac{1}{9} + 0.1596$ ,  $\mu_2 = 0.0684$ . (c) The coexistence of one homoclinic loop and one stable limit cycle in system (2.1) with  $\xi_2 = 0.003821$ ,  $b = 0.152$ ,  $\xi_1 = \frac{2}{9} - 0.079811$ ,  $\mu_1 = -\frac{1}{9} + 0.159642$ ,  $\mu_2 = 0.068358$ . (d) Two limit cycles in system (2.1) with  $\xi_2 = 0.003812$ ,  $b = 0.152$ ,  $\xi_1 = 0.142412$ ,  $\mu_1 = 0.0485289$ ,  $\mu_2 = 0.06836$ .

(i) Two limit cycles. An unstable limit cycle and a stable limit cycle around  $E_2^*$  created from the subcritical and supercritical Hopf bifurcations are given in Figures 3.1(a) and 3.1(b), respectively. Figure 3.1(c) shows the coexistence of one homoclinic loop and one stable limit cycle in system (2.1) with  $\xi_2 = 0.003821$ ,  $b = 0.152$ ,  $\xi_1 = \frac{2}{9} - 0.079811$ ,  $\mu_1 = -\frac{1}{9} + 0.159642$ ,  $\mu_2 = 0.068358$ . Figure 3.1(d) presents the existence of two limit cycles in system (2.1) with  $\xi_2 = 0.003812$ ,  $b = 0.152$ ,  $\xi_1 = 0.142412$ ,  $\mu_1 = 0.0485289$ ,  $\mu_2 = 0.06836$ , where the outer limit cycle is unstable.

(ii) Three limit cycles. To numerically simulate the existence of three limit cycles in system (3.1), we use the normal form to determine the parameter values. First, we perturb the parameters  $b$  and  $\xi_2$  such that the perturbed focus values satisfy

$$v_1 \ll -v_2 \ll v_3 = 0.02803338 \dots,$$

and then we perturb  $\xi_1$  so that  $0 < -v_0\mu \ll v_1$ . The perturbed parameter values we obtained are

$$b = 0.151428459565, \quad \mu_1 = 0.048698952305, \quad \mu_2 = 0.0673326199307, \\ \xi_1 = 0.142317190514, \quad \xi_2 = 0.00419080492586,$$

under which the perturbed focus values are given by

$$v_0\mu = -0.9 \times 10^{-8}, \quad v_1 = 0.5790344618 \times 10^{-5}, \quad v_2 = -0.8572860349 \times 10^{-3}, \quad v_3 = 0.0244464229.$$

Next, from the truncated normal form equation

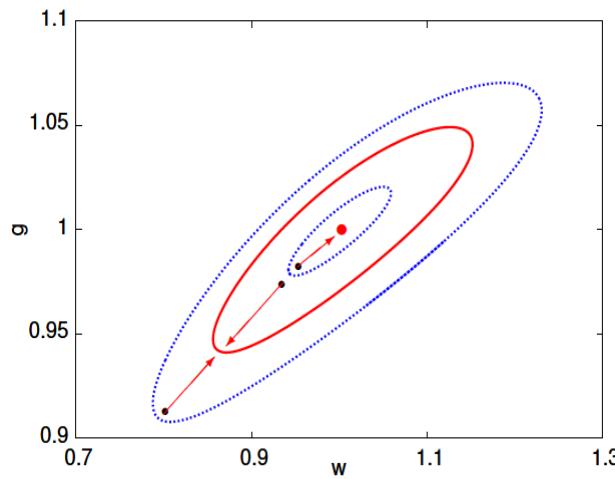
$$\dot{r} = r(v_0\mu + v_1r^2 + v_2r^4 + v_3r^6),$$

we obtain the approximated amplitudes for the three limit cycles as follows:

$$r_1 = 0.0476, \quad r_2 = 0.0780, \quad r_3 = 0.1635.$$

We use the fourth-order Runge–Kutta method to run the simulations on a PC machine. Since the model is a two-dimensional differential equation system, we apply negative time steps in the integration scheme to simulate the unstable limit cycles. Since  $v_1 > 0$ ,  $v_2 < 0$ , and  $v_3 > 0$ , the innermost and outermost limit cycles are unstable while the one between these two unstable limit cycles is stable. All three limit cycles enclose the equilibrium  $(1, 1)$ , which is stable since  $v_0 < 0$ , and convergence of trajectories to the equilibrium can be verified by simulations. Our simulations show that the convergent speed is extremely slow and the process is very time consuming. For each limit cycle, we choose two initial points, one lying outside the limit cycle and one lying inside the cycle, and have trajectories initiated from both points converging to the limit cycle. (Note that convergence also appears for the unstable limit cycles since negative time steps are used.) The two initial points for simulating the outermost unstable limit cycle are  $(1.3, 1.0)$  (outside) and  $(0.85, 0.93)$  (inside) with time step  $-0.05$ ; those for the middle stable limit cycle are  $(0.85, 0.93)$  (outside) and  $(1.0, 0.975)$  (inside) with time step  $0.2$ ; and those for the innermost unstable limit cycle are  $(1.0, 0.975)$  (outside) and  $(1.002, 1.002)$  (inside) with time step  $-0.2$ . Finally, the simulation of the trajectory starting from the point  $(1.002, 1.002)$  with time step  $0.2$  shows that it converges to the equilibrium  $(1, 1)$ . The simulations of three limit cycles are shown in Figure 3.2, where we only present the very last portion of each trajectory in order to avoid massive data plotting. The solid and dashed curves represent stable and unstable limit cycles, respectively. It is seen from Figure 3.2 that the simulations agree very well with the analytical predictions.

**Remark 3.2.** Finding a predator-prey or other interacting system in nature with at least two ecologically stable cycles is very challenging and “almost impossible” (Coleman [16]). Ecological stability means that a natural cycle persevering over a long period of time must be somewhat insensitive to the perturbations of the real world, so a system describing this situation must have at least three limit cycles (González-Olivares et al. [28]). There are very few papers presenting two-dimensional real-world biological models with three limit cycles. Aguirre, González-Olivares, and Sáez [1] showed that a Leslie–Gower predator-prey model



**Figure 3.2.** Simulations of three limit cycles where the inner most and outer most limit cycles (blue dotted curves) are unstable and the middle limit cycle (red solid curve) is stable. The initial points for the simulations are also shown with arrows indicating the spiral directions of trajectories toward the stable limit cycle and the stable focus (in red color). The unstable limit cycles are obtained using negative time steps.

with additive Allee effect and Holling type IV functional response has three limit cycles, two of which are infinitesimal ones generated by Hopf bifurcation, and the third one arises from homoclinic bifurcation. Here we provide a different ecological example which has three limit cycles.

**Remark 3.3.** From Theorem 3.1, we can see that the release rate coefficient of sterile mosquitoes is the most important and sensitive parameter in affecting the nonlinear dynamics of the model and in determining the success of the sterile mosquito release program. There exists a critical release rate coefficient of sterile mosquitoes, below which the interacting sterile and wild mosquitoes will coexist in the form of multiple periodic oscillations and steady states.

**3.2. Nilpotent cusp of codimension 4 and Bogdanov–Takens bifurcation.** Now we turn to consider Bogdanov–Takens bifurcation around the equilibrium  $E^*(w^*, g^*)$  in system (3.1) (i.e., system (2.1)). Again assume that  $w^* = g^*$ . Define

$$\begin{aligned}
 C_{20} &= (2 + w^*)^2(1 + 2w^*)^2(3w^{*3} + 6w^{*2} + 5w^* + 1)b^2 \\
 &\quad - w^*(2 + w^*)(1 + 2w^*)(1 + w^*)^2(3w^{*2} + 2w^* + 1)b \\
 &\quad + w^{*3}(1 + w^*)^3(w^{*3} + w^* + 1), \\
 (3.9) \quad C_{11} &= 2(2 + w^*)^2(1 + 2w^*)^5b^3 \\
 &\quad + w^*(2 + w^*)(1 + w^*)(1 + 2w^*)^2(4w^{*3} - w^{*2} - 5w^* - 1)b^2 \\
 &\quad + w^{*2}(1 + 2w^*)(1 + w^*)^3(2w^{*3} + w^{*2} - w^* + 1)b \\
 &\quad - 2w^{*4}(1 + w^*)^6,
 \end{aligned}$$

which are the key factors of the coefficients in the normal form for a nilpotent cusp with codimension 4 (see (3.15) and (3.16)). Note that  $C_{11}$  is a cubic polynomial in  $b$ . We can use

the discriminant of the polynomial to determine the number of real roots of the polynomial equation  $C_{11} = 0$ . In fact, the discriminant is obtained as

$$\text{Disc} = \frac{w^{*6}(1+w^*)^8}{1728(2+w^*)^6(1+2w^*)^{12}} \left[ (2224w^{*10} + 18008w^{*9} + 62343w^{*8} + 122528w^{*7} + 151642w^{*6} + 120900w^{*5} + 59089w^{*4} + 15044w^{*3} + \frac{1706}{7}w^{*2} + \frac{1}{7}(7 - 74w^*)^2) \right] > 0,$$

implying that the cubic polynomial equation  $C_{11} = 0$  has one real root. Moreover, since  $C_{11}$  has positive coefficient for the term  $b^3$  and a negative constant term, the unique real root is positive. Denote the unique positive root by  $b = b^*(w^*)$ . Further, define

$$(3.10) \quad \begin{aligned} b_L &= \frac{w^*(1+w^*)^2}{(2+w^*)(1+2w^*)(1+4w^*)}, & b_U &= \frac{w^*(1+w^*)}{(2+w^*)(1+2w^*)}, \\ w_L^* &= 0.15732625 \dots, & w_U^* &= \frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{3}-1) = 0.36602540 \dots, \\ w^{**} &= 0.19309073 \dots, & b^{**} &= 0.05936122 \dots. \end{aligned}$$

Then, we have the following result.

**Theorem 3.4.** *When the unique positive equilibrium  $E^*(w^*, g^*)$  of system (2.1) satisfies  $w^* = g^*$ , then  $E^*(w^*, w^*)$  is a nilpotent cusp with codimensions 2, 3, and 4, respectively, corresponding to the following conditions:*

(i) *codimension 2 if*

$$w^* \in (0, w_L^*] \cup [w_U^*, \infty), \quad \text{or} \quad w^* \in (w_L^*, w_U^*) \quad \text{and} \quad b \neq b^*(w^*);$$

(ii) *codimension 3 if*

$$w^* \in (w_L^*, w^{**}) \cup (w^{**}, w_U^*) \quad \text{and} \quad b = b^*(w^*);$$

(iii) *codimension 4 if*

$$w^* = w^{**} \quad \text{and} \quad b = b^{**},$$

where  $b^*(w^*)$  is the unique positive real root of  $C_{11} = 0$ .

**Proof.** When  $g^* = w^*$ , from the equilibrium equations for  $E^*(w^*, g^*)$ , i.e., equations (3.2), and the necessary conditions for  $(w^*, g^*)$  being a cusp, i.e.,  $\text{tr}(J(E^*)) = \det(J(E^*)) = 0$ , we obtain

$$(3.11) \quad \begin{aligned} \xi_1 &= \frac{w^* \xi_1^*}{(1+2w^*)^2 [w^*(1+w^*)^2 + b(2+w^*)(1+2w^*)]}, \\ \xi_2 &= \frac{b \xi_2^*}{w^*(1+w^*) [w^*(1+w^*)^2 + b(2+w^*)(1+2w^*)]}, \\ \mu_1 &= \frac{w^* \mu_1^*}{(1+2w^*)^2 [w^*(1+w^*)^2 + b(2+w^*)(1+2w^*)]}, \\ \mu_2 &= \frac{b \mu_2^*}{(1+w^*) [w^*(1+w^*)^2 + b(2+w^*)(1+2w^*)]}, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$(3.12) \quad \begin{aligned} \xi_1^* &= (1 + w^*)^3 - b(2 + w^*)(1 + 2w^*), \\ \xi_2^* &= w^*(1 + w^*) - b(2 + w^*)(1 + 2w^*), \\ \mu_1^* &= b(2 + w^*)(1 + 2w^*)(1 + 4w^*) - w^*(1 + w^*)^2, \\ \mu_2^* &= 3b(2 + w^*)(1 + 2w^*) + w^*(w^{*2} - 1). \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $\xi_1$ ,  $\xi_2$ ,  $\mu_1$ , and  $\mu_2$  have the same sign as that of  $\xi_1^*$ ,  $\xi_2^*$ ,  $\mu_1^*$ , and  $\mu_2^*$ , respectively.

To determine the conditions on  $b$  and  $w^*$  satisfying  $\xi_1^* > 0$ ,  $\xi_2^* > 0$ ,  $\mu_1^* > 0$ , and  $\mu_2^* > 0$ , first note that  $\xi_1^* > \xi_2^*$  for  $w^* > 0$ . So we may ignore  $\xi_1^* > 0$ . Then,  $\xi_2^* > 0$  and  $\mu_1^* > 0$  yield

$$(3.13) \quad b_L < b < b_U \quad \text{for } w^* > 0,$$

where  $b_L$  and  $b_U$  are given in (3.10). For  $\mu_2^* > 0$ , it is true for any  $b > 0$  if  $w^* \geq 1$ . If  $0 < w^* < 1$ , then

$$b > \frac{w^*(1 - w^{*2})}{3(2 + w^*)(1 + 2w^*)} \quad \text{for } 0 < w^* < 1.$$

Further, it is easy to show that

$$\frac{w^*(1 - w^{*2})}{3(2 + w^*)(1 + 2w^*)} < b_L \quad \text{for } w^* > 0.$$

Summarizing the above results shows that the necessary and sufficient conditions for  $\xi_1^* > 0$ ,  $\xi_2^* > 0$ ,  $\mu_1^* > 0$ , and  $\mu_2^* > 0$  are given in (3.13).

Next, introducing the transformation

$$\begin{aligned} w &= w^* - \frac{w^{*2}(1 + w^*)^2}{(1 + 2w^*)[b(2 + w^*)(1 + 2w^*) + w^*(1 + w^*)^2]} u, \\ g &= g^* - \frac{bw^*(2 + w^*)}{b(2 + w^*)(1 + 2w^*) + w^*(1 + w^*)^2} u + v \end{aligned}$$

into system (2.1) and then expanding the equations around the origin  $(u, v) = (0, 0)$  up to the fifth order, we obtain the following system:

$$(3.14) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{du}{dt} &= v + \sum_{i+j=2}^5 a_{ij} u^i v^j, \\ \frac{dv}{dt} &= \sum_{i+j=2}^5 b_{ij} u^i v^j, \end{aligned}$$

where  $a_{ij}$  and  $b_{ij}$  are expressed in terms of  $b$  and  $w^*$ .

Now we apply the normal form theory (e.g., see [48, 49, 25, 26, 27]) to system (3.14) with the transformations

$$u = x_1 + \sum_{i+j=2}^5 h_{1ij} x_1^i x_2^j, \quad v = x_2 + \sum_{i+j=2}^5 h_{2ij} x_1^i x_2^j, \quad t = (1 + t_{10} x_1) \tau,$$

and obtain the following normal form:

$$(3.15) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{dx_1}{d\tau} &= x_2, \\ \frac{dx_2}{d\tau} &= c_{20} x_1^2 + c_{11} x_1 x_2 + c_{31} x_1^3 x_2 + c_{41} x_1^4 x_2. \end{aligned}$$

Here, all the coefficients  $h_{1ij}$ ,  $h_{2ij}$ ,  $t_{10}$ , and  $c_{ij}$  are expressed in terms of  $b$  and  $w^*$ . In particular,

$$t_{10} = \frac{t_{10n}}{t_{10d}},$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} t_{10n} &= w^* [(2 + w^*)^3 (1 + 2w^*)^3 (w^{*3} + 3w^{*2} + 4w^* + 1) b^3 \\ &\quad - (1 + w^*) (2 + w^*)^2 (1 + 2w^*)^2 (3w^{*5} + 15w^{*4} + 19w^{*3} + 15w^{*2} + 7w^* + 1) b^2 \\ &\quad + w^* (1 + w^*)^3 (2 + w^*) (1 + 2w^*) (3w^{*5} + 10w^{*4} + 20w^{*3} + 13w^{*2} + 4w^* + 1) b \\ &\quad - w^{*3} (1 + w^*)^4 (w^{*5} + 8w^{*4} + 11w^{*3} + 10w^{*2} + 7w^* + 2)], \\ t_{10d} &= 2(1 + 2w^*)^2 [w^* (1 + w^*)^2 + b(2 + w^*) (1 + 2w^*)] \\ &\quad \times [(2 + w^*)^2 (1 + 2w^*)^2 (3w^{*3} + 6w^{*2} + 5w^* + 1) b^2 \\ &\quad - w^* (1 + w^*)^2 (2 + w^*) (1 + 2w^*) (3w^{*2} + 2w^* + 1) b \\ &\quad + w^{*3} (1 + w^*)^3 (w^{*3} + w^* + 1)], \end{aligned}$$

and

$$(3.16) \quad \begin{aligned} c_{20} &= \frac{bw^*}{(1 + w^*)^2 (1 + 2w^*)^4 [w^* (1 + w^*)^2 + b(2 + w^*) (1 + 2w^*)]^2} C_{20}, \\ c_{11} &= \frac{-1}{(1 + w^*) (1 + 2w^*)^4 [w^* (1 + w^*)^2 + b(2 + w^*) (1 + 2w^*)]^2} C_{11}, \\ c_{31} &= -\frac{bw^{*2}}{40(1 + w^*)^5 (1 + 2w^*)^{18} c_{20}^2 [w^* (1 + w^*)^2 + b(2 + w^*) (1 + 2w^*)]^9} C_{31}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $C_{20}$  and  $C_{11}$  are given in (3.9) and  $C_{31}$  is given in Appendix B, but  $C_{41}$  is very lengthy, so we omit it for the sake of brevity. Thus,  $c_{20} = 0$  and  $c_{11} = 0$  are equivalent to  $C_{20} = 0$  and  $C_{11} = 0$ , respectively.

First, we consider the possibility of  $C_{20} = 0$ . Since  $C_{20}$  is a quadratic polynomial in  $b$ , we solve  $C_{20} = 0$  for  $b$  to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} b_{\pm} &= \frac{w^* (1 + w^*)}{2(2 + w^*) (1 + 2w^*) (3w^{*3} + 6w^{*2} + 5w^* + 1)} \\ &\quad \times \left[ 3w^{*3} + 5w^{*2} + 3w^* + 1 \pm (1 + 2w^*) \sqrt{(1 + w^*) (1 - 3w^* - 2w^{*2} - 2w^{*3} - 3w^{*4} - 3w^{*5})} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

When

$$P(w^*) \equiv 1 - 3w^* - 2w^{*2} - 2w^{*3} - 3w^{*4} - 3w^{*5} \geq 0, \quad \text{i.e., } 0 < w^* \leq 0.26679924 \dots,$$

there are two positive solutions  $b_+ > b_- > 0$  ( $b_+ = b_-$  if  $w^* = 0.26679924 \dots$ ). Instead of directly verifying if  $b_\pm \in (b_L, b_U)$ , we compute  $\mu_1$  at  $b = b_\pm$  and obtain

$$\mu_{1\pm} = -\frac{w^{*2}(1+w^*)}{2(1+2w^*)(3w^{*3}+6w^{*2}+5w^*+1)[w^*(1+w^*)^2+b_\pm(2+w^*)(1+2w^*)]} \\ \times \left[ (1-w^{*2})(1+3w^*) \mp (1+4w^*)\sqrt{(1+w^*)P(w^*)} \right].$$

It is obvious that  $\mu_{1-} < 0$  for  $0 < w^* \leq 0.26679924 \dots$ . For  $b = b_+$ , it can be shown that

$$(1-w^{*2})(1+3w^*) - (1+4w^*)\sqrt{(1+w^*)P(w^*)} > 0 \\ \iff w^{*2}[2(1+w^*) + (1-2w^*)^2](3w^{*3}+6w^{*2}+5w^*+1) > 0.$$

Therefore,  $\mu_{1+} < 0$ , i.e.,  $b_\pm \notin (b_L, b_U)$ , then  $c_{20} \neq 0$  under the feasible condition  $b \in (b_L, b_U)$ .

Next, we discuss the possibility of  $C_{11} = 0$  (i.e.,  $c_{11} = 0$ ). As shown above,  $C_{11} = 0$  has a unique real positive solution  $b = b^*(w^*)$ . In order to have this solution in the interval  $(b_L, b_U)$ , it needs

$$C_{11}(b_L, w^*)C_{11}(b_U, w^*) < 0,$$

which is equivalent to

$$(2w^{*2} + 2w^* - 1)(16w^{*4} + 40w^{*3} + 21w^{*2} + 2w^* - 1) < 0.$$

Since

$$2w^{*2} + 2w^* - 1 \begin{cases} > 0 & \text{if } w^* > \frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{3} - 1) = 0.36602540 \dots, \\ < 0 & \text{if } w^* < \frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{3} - 1) = 0.36602540 \dots, \end{cases}$$

$$16w^{*4} + 40w^{*3} + 21w^{*2} + 2w^* - 1 \begin{cases} > 0 & \text{if } w^* > 0.15732625 \dots, \\ < 0 & \text{if } w^* < 0.15732625 \dots, \end{cases}$$

we know that for

$$(3.17) \quad w_L^* \triangleq 0.15732625 \dots < w^* < \frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{3} - 1) = 0.36602540 \dots \triangleq w_U^*,$$

$C_{11} = 0$  has a unique positive solution  $b^*(w^*) \in (b_L, b_U)$ . Hence, the nilpotent cusp  $E^*(w^*, w^*)$  is codimension 2 if

$$w^* \in (0, w_L^*] \cup [w_U^*, \infty), \quad \text{or} \quad w^* \in (w_L^*, w_U^*) \quad \text{and} \quad b \neq b^*(w^*).$$

So when  $w^* = 1$  (and so  $g^* = w^* = 1$ ), it is easy to see that the nilpotent cusp  $E^*(1, 1)$  is codimension 2, which will be used in the following unfolding process.

To study Bogdanov–Takens singularity of codimension 3, we first verify if there exist solutions such that  $c_{11}$  and  $c_{31}$  equal zero simultaneously. To achieve this, eliminating  $b$  from the two equations  $C_{11} = C_{31} = 0$  yields a solution  $b = \tilde{b}(w^*)$  and a resultant

$$\begin{aligned}
R_2 = & w^*(1+w^*)(1+2w^*)(19w^{12} + 160w^{11} + 695w^{10} + 1850w^9 + 3516w^8 + 5138w^7 \\
& + 5752w^6 + 4704w^5 + 2654w^4 + 944w^3 + 155w^2 - 12w^* - 6) \\
& \times (8772w^{29} + 146446w^{28} + 1084168w^{27} + 4727481w^{26} + 14441605w^{25} \\
& + 38087268w^{24} + 105837095w^{23} + 304927780w^{22} + 785978012w^{21} + 1665060927w^{20} \\
& + 2834444190w^{19} + 3867211998w^{18} + 4215316877w^{17} + 3619345869w^{16} \\
& + 2352432058w^{15} + 1027429156w^{14} + 144447875w^{13} - 191144790w^{12} \\
& - 183218482w^{11} - 80812223w^{10} - 12409164w^9 + 8160325w^8 + 6938467w^7 \\
& + 2713619w^6 + 617679w^5 + 58193w^4 - 11357w^3 - 4976w^2 - 756w^* - 46),
\end{aligned}$$

which has only one real solution  $w^* = w^{**} \in (w_L^*, w_U^*)$ , for which  $b = b^{**} \triangleq \tilde{b}(w^{**}) = b^*(w^{**})$ . When  $w^* = w^{**}$  and  $b = b^{**}$ , we can get that  $c_{41} = 0.00006181 \dots > 0$ .

Thus, the system (2.1) has a nilpotent cusp  $E^*(w^*, w^*)$  of codimension 3 if the following conditions hold:

$$w^* \in (w_L^*, w^{**}) \cup (w^{**}, w_U^*) \quad \text{and} \quad b = b^*(w^*);$$

the system has a nilpotent cusp  $E^*(w^*, w^*)$  of codimension 4 if

$$w^* = w^{**} \quad \text{and} \quad b = b^{**}.$$

This completes the proof. ■

Next we further investigate if system (2.1) can exhibit Bogdanov–Takens bifurcation around the unique positive equilibrium  $E^*(w^*, g^*)$  as the bifurcation parameters are chosen suitably. In order to simplify the calculation in the bifurcations analysis, we let  $E^*(w^*, g^*) = (1, 1)$  in the following analysis.

We prove the existence of Bogdanov–Takens bifurcation by following the process in Xiao and Ruan [46] (see also Huang et al. [31, 29]). The necessary conditions for Bogdanov–Takens bifurcation to occur are  $\det(J(E^*)) = 0$  and  $\text{tr}(J(E^*)) = 0$ .

Combining  $E^* = (1, 1)$  with  $\text{tr}(J(E^*)) = 0$ , we have

$$(3.18) \quad \xi_1 = \frac{2}{9} - \mu_2 - 3\xi_2, \quad \mu_1 = 2\mu_2 + 6\xi_2 - \frac{1}{9}, \quad \mu_2 = \frac{b}{2} - 2\xi_2,$$

and from  $\det(J(E^*)) = 0$ , we get

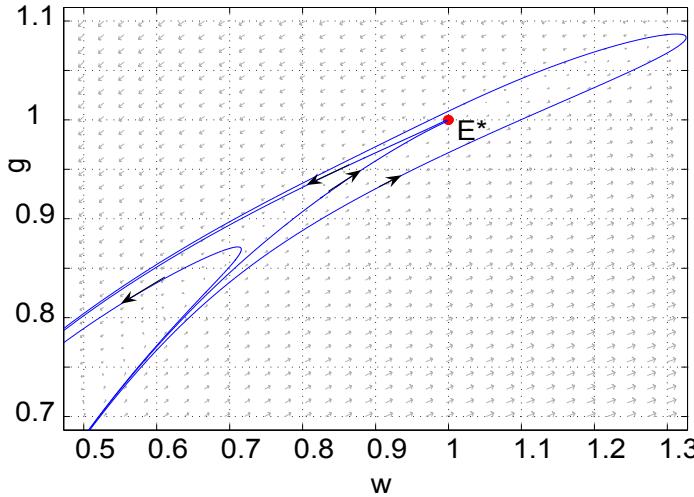
$$(3.19) \quad \xi_2 = \frac{2b - 9b^2}{2(9b + 4)},$$

then combining (3.18) and (3.19), we can represent parameters  $\xi_1$ ,  $\xi_2$ ,  $\mu_1$ , and  $\mu_2$  by  $b$  as follows:

$$(3.20) \quad \xi_1 = \frac{8 - 9b}{9(9b + 4)}, \quad \xi_2 = \frac{2b - 9b^2}{2(9b + 4)}, \quad \mu_1 = \frac{45b - 4}{9(9b + 4)}, \quad \mu_2 = \frac{27b^2}{2(9b + 4)},$$

where  $\frac{4}{45} < b < \frac{2}{9}$ .

First, it is easy to see that the nilpotent cusp  $E^*(1, 1)$  is codimension 2 from the proof of Theorem 3.4.



**Figure 3.3.** A codimension 2 cusp  $E^*$  of system (2.1) under the conditions (3.20) and  $b = \frac{7}{45}$ .

**Theorem 3.5.** Under the conditions (3.20), the unique positive equilibrium  $E^*(1, 1)$  of system (2.1) is a cusp of codimension 2 (i.e., the Bogdanov–Takens singularity). The phase portrait for a codimension 2 cusp is shown in Figure 3.3.

Thus system (2.1) may exhibit Bogdanov–Takens bifurcation under a small parameter perturbation if the bifurcation parameters are chosen suitably. In order to make sure such a bifurcation can be fully unfolded, for system (2.1) we choose  $\xi_1$  and  $\mu_1$  as bifurcation parameters. Actually we have the following theorem.

**Theorem 3.6.** Under conditions (3.20), system (2.1) undergoes repelling Bogdanov–Takens bifurcation of codimension 2 in a small neighborhood of the unique positive equilibrium  $E^*(1, 1)$  as  $(\xi_1, \mu_1)$  varies near  $(\frac{8-9b}{9(9b+4)}, \frac{45b-4}{9(9b+4)})$ , where  $\frac{4}{45} < b < \frac{2}{9}$ . Hence, there exist some parameter values such that system (2.1) has an unstable limit cycle, and there exist some other parameter values such that system (2.1) has an unstable homoclinic loop. The bifurcation portrait and corresponding phase portraits are shown in Figure 3.4.

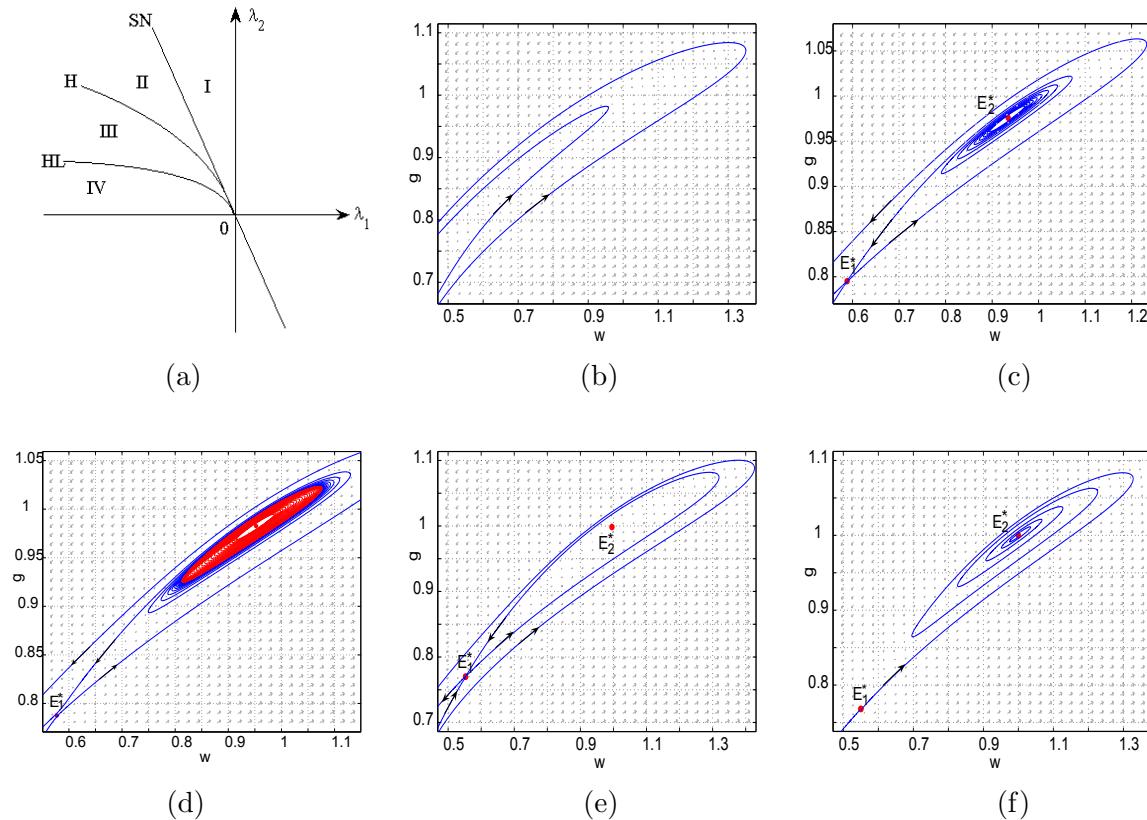
*Proof.* Under condition (3.20), we consider the following unfolding system:

$$(3.21) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{dw}{dt} &= w \left[ \frac{w}{1+w+g} - \left( \frac{45b-4}{9(9b+4)} + \lambda_1 \right) - \left( \frac{8-9b}{9(9b+4)} + \lambda_2 \right) (w+g) \right], \\ \frac{dg}{dt} &= \frac{bw}{1+w} - \left[ \frac{27b^2}{2(9b+4)} + \frac{2b-9b^2}{2(9b+4)} (w+g) \right] g, \end{aligned}$$

where  $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)$  is a parameter vector in a small neighborhood of  $(0, 0)$ .

We first let  $x = w - 1$ ,  $y = g - 1$ ; then system (3.21) becomes

$$(3.22) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{dx}{dt} &= a_0 + a_1x + a_2y + a_3x^2 + a_4xy + a_5y^2 + O(|(x, y)|^3), \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= b_1x + b_2y + b_3x^2 + b_4xy + b_5y^2 + \frac{b}{16}x^3 + O(|(x, y)|^4), \end{aligned}$$



**Figure 3.4.** The bifurcation diagram and the corresponding phase portraits of system (3.21) when  $b = \frac{7}{45}$ . (a) Bifurcation diagram. (b) No equilibria when  $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) = (-0.01, 0.0058)$  lies in region I. (c) An unstable focus  $E_2^*$  and a saddle  $E_1^*$  when  $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) = (-0.01, 0.0052)$  lies in region II. (d) An unstable limit cycle around a stable focus  $E_2^*$  when  $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) = (-0.01, 0.00515)$  lies in region III. (e) An unstable homoclinic loop when  $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) = (-0.01, 0.005015)$  lies on the curve  $HL$ . (f) A stable focus  $E_2^*$  and a saddle  $E_1^*$  when  $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) = (-0.01, 0.005)$  lies in region IV.

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_0 &= -\lambda_1 - 2\lambda_2, \quad a_1 = \frac{3b}{9b+4} - \lambda_1 - 3\lambda_2, \quad a_2 = -\frac{4}{3(9b+4)} - \lambda_2, \\
 a_3 &= \frac{63b-8}{27(9b+4)} - \lambda_2, \quad a_4 = -\frac{9b+40}{27(9b+4)} - \lambda_2, \quad a_5 = \frac{1}{27}, \quad b_1 = \frac{27b^2}{4(9b+4)}, \\
 b_2 &= -\frac{3b}{9b+4}, \quad b_3 = -\frac{b}{8}, \quad b_4 = b_5 = \frac{9b^2-2b}{2(9b+4)}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Next we let

$$x_1 = y, \quad x_2 = b_1 x + b_2 y + b_3 x^2 + b_4 x y + b_5 y^2 + \frac{b}{16} x^3 + O(|(x, y)|^4).$$

System (3.22) can be written as

$$(3.23) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{dx_1}{dt} &= x_2, \\ \frac{dx_2}{dt} &= \gamma_0 + \gamma_1 x_1 + \gamma_2 x_2 + \gamma_3 x_1^2 + \gamma_4 x_1 x_2 + \gamma_5 x_2^2 + O(|(x_1, x_2)|^3), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_0 &= -\frac{27b^2(\lambda_1 + 2\lambda_2)}{4(9b + 4)}, \\ \gamma_1 &= \frac{(4 - 18b)\lambda_1 + (8 - 63b)\lambda_2}{36}, \\ \gamma_2 &= \frac{(4 - 18b)\lambda_1 + (8 - 63b)\lambda_2}{27b}, \\ \gamma_3 &= \frac{1}{8748b^2(9b + 4)}[-27b^2(8 - 72b + 405b^2) + 4(32 + 180b - 81b^2 - 4374b^3 + 6561b^4)\lambda_1 \\ &\quad + 8(32 + 288b - 810b^2 - 6561b^3 + 6561b^4)\lambda_2], \\ \gamma_4 &= \frac{1}{6561b^3(9b + 4)}[27b^2(-64 + 36b - 81b^2 + 2187b^3) - 2(4 + 9b)^2(-8 - 9b + 81b^2)\lambda_1 \\ &\quad - 2(-256 - 2304b + 5832b^2 + 36450b^3 + 32805b^4)\lambda_2], \\ \gamma_5 &= \frac{1}{19683b^4}[(4 + 9b)(54b^2(-7 + 27b) + (32 + 36b - 81b^2)\lambda_1 - 32(-2 - 9b + 81b^2)\lambda_2)]. \end{aligned}$$

We next introduce a new time variable  $\tau$  by  $dt = (1 - \gamma_5 x_1)d\tau$  and let  $x = x_1$ ,  $y = x_2(1 - \gamma_5 x_1)$  (still denoting  $\tau$  as  $t$ ); then system (3.23) becomes

$$(3.24) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{dx}{dt} &= y, \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= \psi_1 + \psi_2 x + \psi_3 y + \psi_4 x^2 + \psi_5 xy + O(|(x, y)|^3), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\psi_1 = \gamma_0, \psi_2 = \gamma_1 - 2\gamma_5\gamma_0, \psi_3 = \gamma_2, \psi_4 = \gamma_3 - 2\gamma_1\gamma_5 + \gamma_5^2\gamma_0, \psi_5 = \gamma_4 - \gamma_2\gamma_5.$$

By simple calculation, we have

$$\psi_4 = \frac{-8 + 72b - 405b^2}{324(4 + 9b)} + h_1(\lambda_1, \lambda_2),$$

where  $h_1(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)$  is a function with respect to  $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ , whose coefficients depend smoothly on  $b$ , and we can see that  $\psi_4 < 0$  when  $\frac{4}{45} < b < \frac{2}{9}$  and  $\lambda_i$  are small. Let

$$x_1 = x, x_2 = \frac{y}{\sqrt{-\psi_4}}, \tau = \sqrt{-\psi_4}t,$$

and still denote  $\tau$  as  $t$ ; then system (3.24) becomes

$$(3.25) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{dx_1}{dt} &= x_2, \\ \frac{dx_2}{dt} &= -\frac{\psi_1}{\psi_4} - \frac{\psi_2}{\psi_4}x_1 + \frac{\psi_3}{\sqrt{-\psi_4}}x_2 - x_1^2 + \frac{\psi_5}{\sqrt{-\psi_4}}x_1x_2 + O(|(x_1, x_2)|^3). \end{aligned}$$

Under the transformation

$$x = x_1 + \frac{\psi_2}{2\psi_4}, y = x_2,$$

system (3.25) becomes

$$(3.26) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{dx}{dt} &= y, \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= -\frac{\psi_1}{\psi_4} + \frac{\psi_2^2}{4\psi_4^2} + \left( \frac{\psi_3}{\sqrt{-\psi_4}} - \frac{\psi_2\psi_5}{2\psi_4\sqrt{-\psi_4}} \right) y - x^2 + \frac{\psi_5}{\sqrt{-\psi_4}}xy + O(|(x, y)|^3). \end{aligned}$$

Notice that

$$\psi_5 = \frac{-64 + 36b - 81b^2 + 2187b^3}{243b(4 + 9b)} + h_2(\lambda_1, \lambda_2),$$

where  $h_2(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)$  is a function with respect to  $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ , and the coefficients of  $h_2$  depend smoothly on  $b$ ; we can see that  $\psi_5 < 0$  when  $\frac{4}{45} < b < \frac{2}{9}$  and  $\lambda_i$  are small.

Finally, making the change of variables

$$x_1 = \frac{\psi_5^2}{\psi_4}x, x_2 = \frac{\psi_5^3}{-\psi_4\sqrt{-\psi_4}}y, \tau = -\frac{\sqrt{-\psi_4}}{\psi_5}t,$$

and rewriting  $\tau$  as  $t$ , we obtain the universal unfolding of system (3.21)

$$(3.27) \quad \begin{aligned} \dot{x}_1 &= x_2, \\ \dot{x}_2 &= \tau_1 + \tau_2x_2 + x_1^2 + x_1x_2 + O(|(x_1, x_2)|^3), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\tau_1 = \frac{\psi_1\psi_5^4}{\psi_4^3} - \frac{\psi_2^2\psi_5^4}{4\psi_4^4}, \tau_2 = \frac{\psi_3\psi_5}{\psi_4} - \frac{\psi_2\psi_5^2}{2\psi_4^2}.$$

By a complex calculation, we obtain that

$$\left| \frac{\partial(\tau_1, \tau_2)}{\partial(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)} \right|_{\lambda=0} = \frac{32(-16 - 36b + 243b^2 + 729b^3)(-64 + 36b - 81b^2 + 2187b^3)^5}{243b^3(4 + 9b)^2(8 - 72b + 405b^2)^5} \neq 0$$

when  $\frac{4}{45} < b < \frac{2}{9}$ , then  $\tau_1$  and  $\tau_2$  are independent parameters, and the above parameter transformation is a homeomorphism in a small neighborhood of the origin.

Since the time transformations we have made are all positive, then by the results in Bogdanov [12] and Takens [44] (see also Chow, Li, and Wang [15] and Perko [41]), we know that system (3.21) is the versal unfolding of the repelling Bogdanov–Takens bifurcation of codimension 2, i.e., system (2.1) undergoes the repelling Bogdanov–Takens bifurcation of codimension

2 in a small neighborhood of  $E^*(1, 1)$  as  $(\xi_1, \mu_1)$  varies near  $(\frac{8-9b}{9(9b+4)}, \frac{45b-4}{9(9b+4)})$ , and the Hopf bifurcation within the Bogdanov–Takens bifurcation is subcritical. Moreover, we can obtain the following local representations of the bifurcation curves up to second-order approximations:

(i) the saddle-node bifurcation curve  $SN = \{(\tau_1, \tau_2) | \tau_1 = 0, \tau_2 \neq 0\}$ , i.e.,

$$\left\{ (\lambda_1, \lambda_2) \mid \frac{16(64 - 36b + 81b^2 - 2187b^3)^4(\lambda_1 + 2\lambda_2)}{243b^2(4 + 9b)^2(8 - 72b + 405b^2)^3} + \frac{4(-64 + 36b - 81b^2 + 2187b^3)^3}{59049b^4(4 + 9b)^2(8 - 72b + 405b^2)^4} \right. \\ [4(-425984 - 370944b + 11352960b^2 + 44521488b^3 - 171058392b^4 - 183524292b^5 - 301327047b^6 \\ + 2970223749b^7)\lambda_1^2 + 4(-1703936 + 4571136b + 54276480b^2 + 136515456b^3 - 1104190056b^4 \\ - 1656678744b^5 + 731794257b^6 + 16917361353b^7)\lambda_1\lambda_2 + (-6815744 + 42504192b + 259282944b^2 \\ \left. + 406233792b^3 - 6071077008b^4 - 10527491916b^5 + 9685512225b^6 + 86653049373b^7)\lambda_2^2] = 0 \right\};$$

(ii) the subcritical Hopf bifurcation curve  $H = \{(\tau_1, \tau_2) | \tau_2 = \sqrt{-\tau_1}, \tau_1 < 0\}$ , i.e.,

$$\left\{ (\lambda_1, \lambda_2) \mid \frac{16(64 - 36b + 81b^2 - 2187b^3)^4(\lambda_1 + 2\lambda_2)}{243b^2(4 + 9b)^2(8 - 72b + 405b^2)^3} + \frac{16(64 - 36b + 81b^2 - 2187b^3)^2}{2187b^4(4 + 9b)^2(8 - 72b + 405b^2)^4} \right. \\ [4(307200 - 272384b - 5446656b^2 - 35909568b^3 + 105734160b^4 + 276270588b^5 + 1090162638b^6 \\ - 4886068554b^7 - 3041968284b^8 - 9685512225b^9 + 62762119218b^{10})\lambda_1^2 + 4(1228800 - 4327424b \\ - 24565248b^2 - 127495296b^3 + 754380864b^4 + 1691793216b^5 + 2452777362b^6 - 28485237600b^7 \\ - 28740860721b^8 - 7360989291b^9 + 345191655699b^{10})\lambda_1\lambda_2 + (4915200 - 30261248b \\ - 111117312b^2 - 438690816b^3 + 4331962944b^4 + 8802237600b^5 + 1376077896b^6 - 147122000676b^7 \\ \left. - 166275134316b^8 + 113514203277b^9 + 1757339338104b^{10})\lambda_2^2] = 0 \right\};$$

(iii) the homoclinic bifurcation curve  $HL = \{(\tau_1, \tau_2) | \tau_2 = \frac{5}{7}\sqrt{-\tau_1}, \tau_1 < 0\}$ , i.e.,

$$\left\{ (\lambda_1, \lambda_2) \mid \frac{16(64 - 36b + 81b^2 - 2187b^3)^4(\lambda_1 + 2\lambda_2)}{243b^2(4 + 9b)^2(8 - 72b + 405b^2)^3} + \frac{16(64 - 36b + 81b^2 - 2187b^3)^2}{492075b^4(4 + 9b)^2(8 - 72b + 405b^2)^4} \right. \\ [4(80949248 - 136931328b - 991097856b^2 - 9151621056b^3 + 24989431824b^4 + 68215058172b^5 \\ + 232957162350b^6 - 1034393573754b^7 - 801443851578b^8 - 2472130140309b^9 \\ + 14686335897012b^{10})\lambda_1^2 + 4(323796992 - 1200605184b - 4491044352b^2 - 34465813632b^3 \\ + 170315161920b^4 + 398237793408b^5 + 518627957490b^6 - 5887911366504b^7 - 6527906099487b^8 \\ - 3706451818263b^9 + 78232981605237b^{10})\lambda_1\lambda_2 + (1295187968 - 7413940224b - 19978970112b^2 \\ - 123435353088b^3 + 960139469376b^4 + 1903091638176b^5 - 155805746616b^6 \\ \left. - 29637131715972b^7 - 31950051167178b^8 + 21733127171433b^9 + 395966210146362b^{10})\lambda_2^2] = 0 \right\}.$$

This completes the proof. ■

The Bogdanov–Takens bifurcation diagram and corresponding phase portraits of system (3.21) are given in Figure 3.4, where we let  $b = \frac{7}{45}$ . From Figure 3.4, we can see that

- (a) these bifurcation curves  $SN$ ,  $H$ , and  $HL$  divide the small neighborhood of the origin in the parameter  $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ -plane into four regions (see Figure 3.4(a));
- (b) when  $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) = (0, 0)$ , the unique positive equilibrium is a cusp of codimension 2 (see Figure 3.3);
- (c) there are no equilibria when the parameters lie in region I (see Figure 3.4(b));
- (d) when the parameters pass region I and lie on the curve  $SN$ , there is a positive equilibrium, which is a saddle-node;
- (e) when the parameters cross  $SN$  into region II, there are two positive equilibria through the saddle-node bifurcation, one an unstable focus and the other a saddle (see Figure 3.4(c));
- (f) when the parameters cross  $H$  into region III, an unstable limit cycle appears through the subcritical Hopf bifurcation (see Figure 3.4(d)), where the focus is stable, whereas the focus is an unstable one with multiplicity one when the parameters lie on the curve  $H$ ;
- (g) when the parameters pass region III and lie on the curve  $HL$ , an unstable homoclinic cycle appears through the homoclinic bifurcation (see Figure 3.4(e));
- (h) when the parameters cross III into region IV, the relative locations of one stable and one unstable manifold of the saddle  $E_1^*$  are reversed (compare Figures 3.4(c) and 3.4(f)).

*Remark 3.7.* From Theorem 3.4, we can see that system (2.1) may exhibit nilpotent cusp bifurcation of codimension 3 (usually called Bogdanov–Takens bifurcation of codimension 3) and nilpotent cusp bifurcation of codimension 4; for the bifurcation diagrams and corresponding phase portraits refer to Dumortier et al. [19, 20] and Li and Rousseau [37] (see also the applications of Bogdanov–Takens bifurcation of codimension 3 in predator-prey systems and epidemic models in Huang et al. [30], Li, Li, and Ma [36], and Zhu, Campbell, and Wolkowicz [51]). These results indicate that the dynamical behavior of the model is very sensitive to the initial densities of the wild and sterile mosquitoes. When the initial values lie inside the homoclinic loop, the densities of wild and sterile mosquitoes fluctuate periodically about the endemic levels. When the initial values lie outside the homoclinic loop, either wild mosquitoes or sterile mosquitoes will die out depending on their initial population densities.

**4. Discussion.** It is possible to reduce or eradicate some mosquito-borne diseases by making full use of the SIT (Alphey [2], Anguelov, Dumont, and Lubuma [3], Cai, Ai, and Li [13], Dumont and Tchuenche [18], Lees, Gilles, and Hendrichs [34]). In this paper, we revisited a mosquito population model with a nonlinear saturated release rate of sterile mosquitoes, which was proposed by Cai, Ai, and Li [13]. After removing the restriction that the sterile and wild mosquitoes have the same fitness, i.e.,  $\mu_1 = \mu_2$  and  $\xi_1 = \xi_2$ , assumed in [13], our qualitative and bifurcation analysis reveals that model (2.1) exhibits complex dynamics and bifurcations, such as Hopf bifurcation of codimension 3, nilpotent cusp of codimension 4, and Bogdanov–Takens bifurcation of codimension 2. Thus, there exist some parameter values such that model (2.1) exhibits multiple stable or unstable limit cycles, and there exist some other parameter values such that model (2.1) exhibits an unstable homoclinic cycle. We presented numerical examples which have two and three limit cycles, respectively. The limit cycles represent sustained oscillations for the interacting wild and sterile mosquitoes.

We also found that there exists a critical release rate of sterile mosquitoes, above which the mosquito population can be eliminated, and the constant  $b$  in the release rate plays an important role in determining the dynamics and bifurcations of system (2.1); it affects not only the number and the type of equilibria (Theorems 2.1, 2.3, and 3.4) but also the type of bifurcations (Hopf bifurcation of codimensions 1, 2, and 3 in Theorem 3.1 and Bogdanov–Takens bifurcation in Theorem 3.6). In detail, we obtained the threshold release value  $b_0$  in (2.7) implicitly. In Theorem 2.1, we showed that there is a unique equilibrium  $(0, 0)$  when the release parameter  $b$  is above the threshold  $b_0$ , and it is locally asymptotically stable such that the two interactional mosquito populations go extinct, which means that mosquito-borne diseases can be controlled or eradicated with enough release of sterile mosquitoes. However, releasing sterile mosquitoes in large quantities represents one of those great unknowns in the SIT and this will consume a lot of money and result in tremendous social impact, and so on (Okorie et al. [40]).

There are two positive equilibria  $E_1^*$  and  $E_2^*$  when the release parameter  $b$  is below the threshold  $b_0$ , and multiple unstable or stable limit cycles appear from the Hopf bifurcations of codimensions 1, 2, and 3. Especially, the stable limit cycle represents the sustained oscillations, which provides useful guidelines in mosquito control and disease prevention. There is only one positive equilibrium  $E^*$  when the release parameter  $b$  is equal to the threshold  $b_0$ , which is a cusp of codimension 4; we proved that an unstable limit cycle or unstable homoclinic loop arises from the Bogdanov–Takens bifurcation of codimension 2.

It is worth noting that we have assumed that the equilibrium  $(w^*, g^*)$  of system (2.1) satisfies  $w^* = g^*$  in the bifurcation analysis. The complete bifurcation analysis will be very interesting and challenging if we take this hypothesis away, and bifurcations with codimension more than 4 may occur. On the other hand, the model may undergo Bogdanov–Takens bifurcation of codimensions 3 and 4 for suitable bifurcation parameters; then for some various parameter values, the model may have the coexistence of limit cycles and homoclinic loops, the existence of two or three limit cycles, etc., which means that the nonlinear dynamics of the interactive wild and sterile mosquito population not only depend on more bifurcation parameters but also are very sensitive to parameter perturbations, which are important for the control of the wild population. In detail, in Figure 3.2, for example, when the initial mosquito population is outside the outer unstable limit cycle, both the interactive wild and the sterile mosquitoes will tend to extinction; when the initial mosquito population is inside the outer unstable limit cycle and outside the inner unstable limit cycle, the interactive wild and sterile mosquitoes will tend to periodic fluctuations (i.e., the inner stable limit cycle); when the initial mosquito population is inside the inner unstable limit cycle, the interactive wild and sterile mosquitoes will tend to a positive steady state. These results will be useful in designing reasonable sterile mosquito releasing policies.

**Appendix A. Computation of the determinant in (2.11).** By direct computation, we can get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{w} \det J &= \left[ \xi_1 - \frac{1+g}{(1+N)^2} \right] (\mu_2 + \xi_2 N + \xi_2 g) + \left[ \frac{w}{(1+N)^2} + \xi_1 \right] \left[ \frac{b}{(1+w)^2} - \xi_2 g \right] \\ &= \left[ \xi_1 - \frac{1+g}{(1+N)^2} \right] (\mu_2 + \xi_2 N) - \frac{\xi_2 g(1+g)}{(1+N)^2} + \left[ \frac{w}{(1+N)^2} + \xi_1 \right] \frac{b}{(1+w)^2} - \frac{\xi_2 gw}{(1+N)^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \left[ \xi_1 - \frac{1+g}{(1+N)^2} \right] (\mu_2 + \xi_2 N) + \left[ \frac{w}{(1+N)^2} + \xi_1 \right] \frac{b}{(1+w)^2} - \frac{\xi_2 g}{1+N} \\
&= \left[ \xi_1 - \frac{1+g}{(1+N)^2} \right] (\mu_2 + \xi_2 N) + \frac{b(\xi_1 \mu_2 - \xi_2 \mu_1) - b \xi_2 \mu_1 w - b \xi_1 \xi_2 N w}{(1+w)^2 (\mu_2 + \xi_2 N)} \\
&\quad + \frac{w}{(1+N)^2} \frac{b}{(1+w)^2} \\
&= \left[ \xi_1 - \frac{1+g}{(1+N)^2} \right] (\mu_2 + \xi_2 N) + \left[ \frac{1}{(1+N)^2} - \frac{\xi_2(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N)}{\mu_2 + \xi_2 N} \right] \frac{g(\mu_2 + \xi_2 N)}{1+w} \\
&\quad + \frac{b(\xi_1 \mu_2 - \xi_2 \mu_1)}{(1+w)^2 (\mu_2 + \xi_2 N)},
\end{aligned}$$

then

$$\frac{\det J}{(\mu_2 + \xi_2 N)w} = \xi_1 - \frac{1+g}{(1+N)^2} + \left[ \frac{1}{(1+N)^2} - \frac{\xi_2(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N)}{\mu_2 + \xi_2 N} \right] \frac{g}{1+w} + \frac{b(\xi_1 \mu_2 - \xi_2 \mu_1)}{(1+w)^2 (\mu_2 + \xi_2 N)^2}.$$

Next, it is easy to get that

$$1+w = (1+N)Q_2, \quad g = N-w = N - ((1+N)Q_2 - 1) = (1+N)(1-Q_2),$$

$$G_1 = N-w = (1+N)(1-Q_2) = (1+N) \left( 1 - \frac{\mu_1 + \xi_1 N}{\mu_2 + \xi_2 N} G_2 \right),$$

then

$$\begin{aligned}
\xi_1 - \frac{1}{(1+N)^2} &= \frac{dQ_2}{dN} = \frac{d}{dN} \left( \frac{\mu_1 + \xi_1 N}{\mu_2 + \xi_2 N} G_2 \right), \quad \frac{-g}{(1+N)^2} = \frac{(1+N)(Q_2 - 1)}{(1+N)^2} = \frac{Q_2 - 1}{1+N}, \\
\frac{g}{1+w} &= \frac{(1+N)(1-Q_2)}{(1+N)Q_2} = \frac{1-Q_2}{Q_2}.
\end{aligned}$$

Notice that

$$\frac{dG_2}{dN} = \xi_2 + \frac{(1+N)(\xi_2 \mu_1 - \xi_1 \mu_2)}{[(1+N)(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N)]^2} - \frac{(\mu_2 + \xi_2 N)(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N)}{[(1+N)(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N)]^2},$$

we have

$$\frac{1}{(1+N)^2} - \frac{\xi_2(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N)}{\mu_2 + \xi_2 N} = \frac{\xi_2 \mu_1 - \xi_1 \mu_2}{(1+N)(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N)(\mu_2 + \xi_2 N)} - \frac{\mu_1 + \xi_1 N}{\mu_2 + \xi_2 N} \frac{dG_2}{dN},$$

then

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{(1+w)\det J}{(\mu_2 + \xi_2 N)w} &= (1+w) \left[ \frac{dQ_2}{dN} + \frac{Q_2 - 1}{1+N} + \frac{b \xi_1 \mu_2 - b \xi_2 \mu_1}{(1+w)^2 (\mu_2 + \xi_2 N)^2} \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \frac{1-Q_2}{Q_2} \left( \frac{\xi_2 \mu_1 - \xi_1 \mu_2}{(1+N)(\mu_1 + \xi_1 N)(\mu_2 + \xi_2 N)} - \frac{\mu_1 + \xi_1 N}{\mu_2 + \xi_2 N} \frac{dG_2}{dN} \right) \right] \\
&= (1+w) \left[ \frac{dQ_2}{dN} + \frac{Q_2 - 1}{1+N} - \frac{1-Q_2}{Q_2} \frac{\mu_1 + \xi_1 N}{\mu_2 + \xi_2 N} \frac{dG_2}{dN} + \frac{b \xi_1 \mu_2 - b \xi_2 \mu_1}{(1+w)^2 (\mu_2 + \xi_2 N)^2} \right]
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + \frac{g}{1+w} \frac{\xi_2\mu_1 - \xi_1\mu_2}{(1+N)(\mu_1 + \xi_1N)(\mu_2 + \xi_2N)} \Big] \\
& = (1+w) \left[ \frac{dQ_2}{dN} + \frac{Q_2 - 1}{1+N} - \frac{1 - Q_2}{Q_2} \frac{\mu_1 + \xi_1N}{\mu_2 + \xi_2N} \frac{dG_2}{dN} \right] \\
& = (1+w) \left[ \frac{d}{dN} \left( \frac{\mu_1 + \xi_1N}{\mu_2 + \xi_2N} G_2 \right) + \frac{\frac{\mu_1 + \xi_1N}{\mu_2 + \xi_2N} G_2 - 1}{1+N} - \frac{1 - \frac{\mu_1 + \xi_1N}{\mu_2 + \xi_2N} G_2}{G_2} \frac{dG_2}{dN} \right] \\
& = (1+w) \left[ \frac{\xi_1\mu_2 - \xi_2\mu_1}{(\mu_2 + \xi_2N)^2} G_2 + \frac{\mu_1 + \xi_1N}{\mu_2 + \xi_2N} \frac{dG_2}{dN} + \frac{\frac{\mu_1 + \xi_1N}{\mu_2 + \xi_2N} G_2 - 1}{1+N} \right. \\
& \quad \left. - \frac{1 - \frac{\mu_1 + \xi_1N}{\mu_2 + \xi_2N} G_2}{G_2} \frac{dG_2}{dN} \right] \\
& = (1+w) \frac{\xi_1\mu_2 - \xi_2\mu_1}{(\mu_2 + \xi_2N)^2} G_2 + \frac{\mu_1 + \xi_1N}{\mu_2 + \xi_2N} \frac{dG_2}{dN} (1+N) \left[ 2 \frac{\mu_1 + \xi_1N}{\mu_2 + \xi_2N} G_2 - 1 \right] \\
& \quad + \frac{\mu_1 + \xi_1N}{\mu_2 + \xi_2N} G_2 \left[ \frac{\mu_1 + \xi_1N}{\mu_2 + \xi_2N} G_2 - 1 \right].
\end{aligned}$$

Finally we can compute that

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{d(G_1G_2)}{dN} &= \frac{d}{dN} \left[ (1+N) \left( 1 - \frac{\mu_1 + \xi_1N}{\mu_2 + \xi_2N} G_2 \right) G_2 \right] \\
&= \left[ 1 - \frac{\mu_1 + \xi_1N}{\mu_2 + \xi_2N} G_2 \right] G_2 + (1+N) \left[ 1 - 2 \frac{\mu_1 + \xi_1N}{\mu_2 + \xi_2N} G_2 \right] \frac{dG_2}{dN} \\
&\quad - (1+N) \frac{\xi_1\mu_2 - \xi_2\mu_1}{(\mu_2 + \xi_2N)^2} G_2^2
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\frac{\mu_2 + \xi_2N}{\mu_1 + \xi_1N} (1+w) \frac{\xi_1\mu_2 - \xi_2\mu_1}{(\mu_2 + \xi_2N)^2} G_2 = (1+N) \frac{\xi_1\mu_2 - \xi_2\mu_1}{(\mu_2 + \xi_2N)^2} G_2^2.$$

Hence, we have

$$\det J = - \frac{w(\mu_1 + \xi_1N)}{1+w} \frac{d(G_1G_2)}{dN}.$$

**Appendix B. The normal form coefficient  $C_{31}$  in (3.15).** We have

$$\begin{aligned}
C_{31} &= \frac{10935}{268435456} (2+w^*)^2 (1+2w^*)^2 (400w^{*2} + 532w^* + 157) b^7 \\
&\quad + \frac{405}{2147483648} (2+w^*)(1+2w^*) (2040164w^{*4} + 7345120w^{*3} + 8021037w^{*2} \\
&\quad + 3467155w^* + 519434) b^6 + \frac{15}{17179869184} (220872892w^{*6} + 2012558376w^{*5} \\
&\quad + 5427607587w^{*4} + 5882428747w^{*3} + 2964209802w^{*2} + 681948588w^* + 55434712) b^5 \\
&\quad + \frac{5}{549755813888} (90491108625547112816w^{*6} + 407209988621331167912w^{*5} \\
&\quad + 678683313909257473488w^{*4} + 565569427795063976610w^{*3} \\
&\quad + 254506242281420194099w^{*2} + 59384789813104703796w^*)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + 5655694263387712684) b^4 + \frac{5}{8796093022208} (8077328936067004964944 w^{*6} \\
& + 37448955366164530496632 w^{*5} + 63558632673438009403672 w^{*4} \\
& + 53710822049366789102646 w^{*3} + 24450015311293886534991 w^{*2} \\
& + 5757915734560851036324 w^{*} + 551963844104437159740) b^3 \\
& - \frac{5}{17592186044416} w^{*} (1 + w^{*}) (8655355533852672 w^{*38} + 199768068627365888 w^{*37} \\
& + 2159549963481120768 w^{*36} + 14582987096181440512 w^{*35} \\
& + 69206571313501569024 w^{*34} + 246153237170967543808 w^{*33} \\
& + 683156440426334912512 w^{*32} + 1520307706192552001536 w^{*31} \\
& + 2766134478953842212864 w^{*30} + 4175908204348337815552 w^{*29} \\
& + 5299626061744327098368 w^{*28} + 5744032827241217916928 w^{*27} \\
& + 5454910034146028945408 w^{*26} + 4738805020638991876096 w^{*25} \\
& + 3977925921437590224896 w^{*24} + 3323023712636786180096 w^{*23} \\
& + 2673422691564344836096 w^{*22} + 1918044394160951918592 w^{*21} \\
& + 1126269787115186421760 w^{*20} + 486845242821262114816 w^{*19} \\
& + 117907898900226703360 w^{*18} - 16138810339937550336 w^{*17} \\
& - 30125056780022939648 w^{*16} - 14517915728681869312 w^{*15} \\
& - 3953315709850659840 w^{*14} - 432976326466850304 w^{*13} \\
& - 111122577743033600 w^{*12} + 325306578545902208 w^{*11} \\
& - 592687303277461760 w^{*10} + 1193208278628159424 w^{*9} \\
& - 2385998862171245120 w^{*8} + 4771988508665800896 w^{*7} \\
& - 9543980176694203312 w^{*6} - 4562523153575594228836 w^{*5} \\
& - 3561104918995743382620 w^{*4} + 5298123749676963193727 w^{*3} \\
& + 6773237545745039974837 w^{*2} + 2453673595675322222989 w^{*} \\
& + 275981922052218579870) b^2 - \frac{5}{17592186044416} w^{*2} (w^{*} + 1)^3 (4860940906397696 w^{*36} \\
& + 106008588958302208 w^{*35} + 1116160776441167872 w^{*34} \\
& + 7499130598099779584 w^{*33} + 35958874053736923136 w^{*32} \\
& + 130752328119263166464 w^{*31} \\
& + 374521547118367211520 w^{*30} + 867353185622826156032 w^{*29} \\
& + 1654892060187629191168 w^{*28} + 2638276342638239023104 w^{*27} \\
& + 3552881543132586442752 w^{*26} + 4076474357220806492160 w^{*25} \\
& + 4011774879235838050304 w^{*24} + 3401707588884656816128 w^{*23}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + 2487877654355254444032w^{*22} + 1561255170333249896448w^{*21} \\
& + 826718954032604643328w^{*20} + 355261871049785606144w^{*19} \\
& + 112787860602429833216w^{*18} + 18612759991533502464w^{*17} \\
& - 4467543654664306688w^{*16} - 4455443629760708608w^{*15} \\
& - 2000166245611663360w^{*14} - 24654464790232064w^{*13} \\
& - 942135910358966784w^{*12} + 1777709168327884544w^{*11} \\
& - 367263878739421734w^{*10} + 7541881550721502208w^{*9} \\
& - 15481602030482666560w^{*8} + 31758563129409142336w^{*7} \\
& - 65107809065257493888w^{*6} + 133396955003178748192w^{*5} \\
& - 137419905964873192092w^{*4} - 529807387244153981484w^{*3} \\
& + 220562102355633587327w^{*2} - 65225017642507572415w^{*} \\
& - 137990961026109289935) b \\
& + \frac{5}{8796093022208} w^{*4} (w^{*} + 1)^6 (540684842958848w^{*32} + 11467974997180416w^{*31} \\
& + 112289738110533632w^{*30} + 677359202057846784w^{*29} + 2834784882230558720w^{*28} \\
& + 8781226322820071424w^{*27} + 20945216454665437184w^{*26} \\
& + 39429696594607341568w^{*25} \\
& + 59402844017289854976w^{*24} + 71903787981100548096w^{*23} \\
& + 69338317915118632960w^{*22} \\
& + 51657822937064407040w^{*21} + 27128234990123352064w^{*20} \\
& + 6430713621765947392w^{*19} \\
& - 4473822265756614656w^{*18} - 6551056013710196736w^{*17} - 4429594232603213824w^{*16} \\
& - 1986042127752691712w^{*15} - 641065886359126016w^{*14} - 137920606478221312w^{*13} \\
& - 53658929621835776w^{*12} + 47946203369582592w^{*11} - 109831747771763712w^{*10} \\
& + 225203595050309888w^{*9} - 465365226137065600w^{*8} + 960222030190801280w^{*7} \\
& - 1979368825414780096w^{*6} + 4076565316012812672w^{*5} - 8388782409167098432w^{*4} \\
& + 17248870746396534080w^{*3} - 35440356161179121600w^{*2} \\
& + 72765943383601717520w^{*} - 137990961026109289935),
\end{aligned}$$

where  $C_{11} = 0$  has been used to simplify  $C_{31}$ .

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