



Research paper

The zero-Hopf bifurcations in the Kolmogorov systems of degree 3 in \mathbb{R}^3 Érika Diz-Pita^{a,*}, Jaume Llibre^b, M. Victoria Otero-Espinar^a, Claudia Valls^c^a Departamento de Estatística, Análise Matemática e Optimización, Universidade de Santiago de Compostela, Santiago de Compostela 15782, Spain^b Departament de Matemàtiques, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Bellaterra, Barcelona 08193, Spain^c Center for Mathematical Analysis, Geometry and Dynamical Systems, Departamento de Matemática, Instituto Superior Técnico, Universidade de Lisboa, Lisboa, 1049-001, Portugal

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ABSTRACT

In this work we study the periodic orbits which bifurcate from all zero-Hopf bifurcations that an arbitrary Kolmogorov system of degree 3 in \mathbb{R}^3 can exhibit. The main tool used is the averaging theory.

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1. Introduction and statement of the main results

Lotka–Volterra systems were initially proposed, independently, by Lotka in 1925 [1] and Volterra in 1926 [2], both in the context of competing species. These Lotka–Volterra systems are differential systems of the form

$$\dot{x} = xP(x, y), \quad \dot{y} = yQ(x, y),$$

where P and Q are polynomials of degree 1. Later on the *Lotka–Volterra systems* were generalized and considered on arbitrary dimension $n \geq 2$, i.e.

$$\dot{x}_i = x_i P_i(x_1, \dots, x_n),$$

where P_i are polynomials of degree 1. Finally in 1936 Kolmogorov [3] extended those systems to arbitrary degree, i.e. the polynomials P_i can have any degree. These last systems are now called *Kolmogorov systems*.

The Lotka–Volterra and Kolmogorov systems have been used for modelling many natural phenomena, such as the time evolution of conflicting species in biology [4], chemical reactions [5], plasma physics [6], hydrodynamics [7], and many other phenomena as social science and economics [8].

We want to study the limit cycles of the Kolmogorov systems of degree 3 in \mathbb{R}^3 which bifurcate in the zero-Hopf bifurcations of the singular points (a, b, c) which are not on the invariant planes $x = 0$, $y = 0$ and $z = 0$ of the Kolmogorov

* Corresponding author.

E-mail addresses: erikadiz.pita@usc.es (É. Diz-Pita), jllibre@mat.uab.cat (J. Llibre), mvectoria.otero@usc.es (M.V. Otero-Espinar), cvalls@mat.tecnico.ulisboa.pt (C. Valls).