

# Analysis of instabilities in simple mechanical experiments

[L. Renson, JS, DAW Barton, ADS Shaw, SA Neild, arxiv:1901.06970]

identified and tracked tipping points

- without tipping
- "without" mathematical model

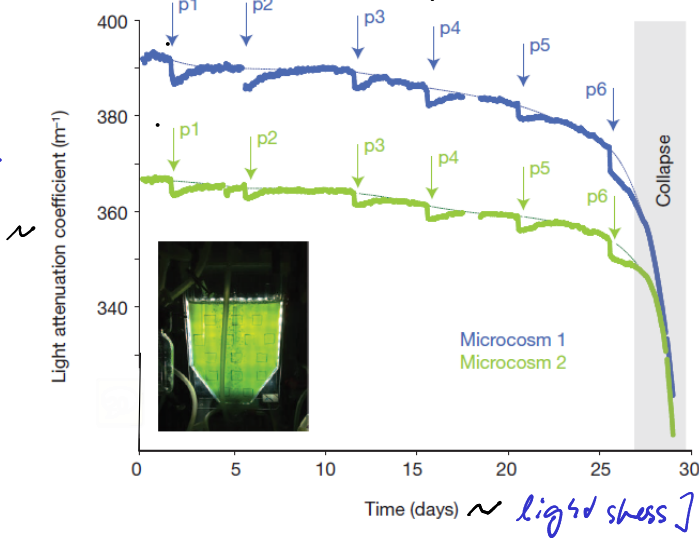
addressed "noise"/uncertainty problems with Gaussian process

tipping point simplest case ~ mathematically. passage through a fold

## Example from M. Scheffer's group (Verweij et al 2012)

(cyanobacteria under increasing light stress)

concentration of c.b.



rough model

$A$  = attenuation (dynamic)

$I$  = light intensity incoming (parameter)

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = \underbrace{P_{max} \cdot P(I, A)}_{\text{productivity}} A - l \cdot A =: F(A, I)$$

$$P(I, A) = \frac{1}{h} \int_0^h P_2(I_2(A, I, z)) dz$$

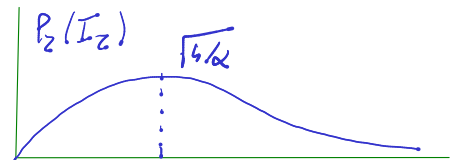
average over height

$$I_2(A, I, z) = I \exp(-(\lambda_A A + \lambda_A)z)$$

light intensity at height  $z$

$$P_2(I_2) = \frac{I_2}{k_A + I_2 + I_2^2}$$

productivity at level  $z$



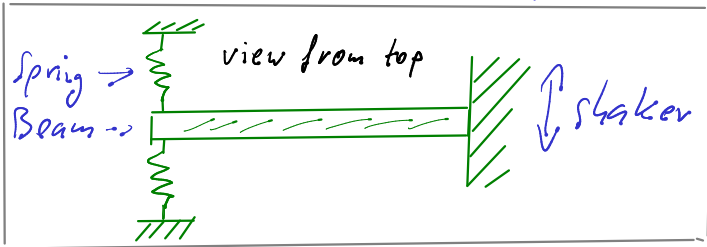
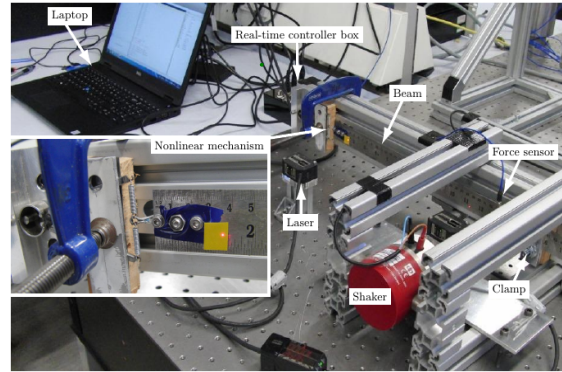
Finding critical values of  $A, I$  (=fold) in equations:

$$0 = F(A, I)$$

$$0 = \frac{\partial F}{\partial A}(A, I) = \det \frac{\partial F}{\partial A}(A, I)$$

if  $F$  is uncertain then  $\frac{\partial F}{\partial A}$  is even more uncertain

# L Resonance experiment



Without springs mostly



are 'in resonance' 1:3

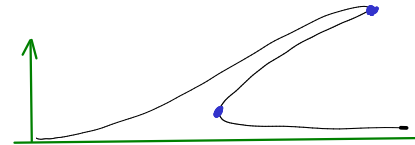
With springs, balanced with



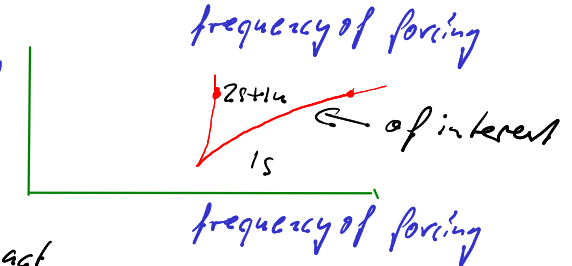
If (I) only occurs, pair of folds

is two parameters

amplitude of response



amplitude of forcing



response becomes much more complicated if (I) & (II) interact

## Feedback in Experiment $\rightarrow$ Equation

usually, forcing  $f \rightarrow$  response  $x(f)$

Equation

introduce feedback loop: modify forcing to  $f = f_{ref} - K \cdot (x - x_{ref})$

control gains

reference (variable in 'equation')

response, depends on  $f_{ref}, x_{ref}$  &  $x(f_{ref}, x_{ref})$

turns experiment into equation

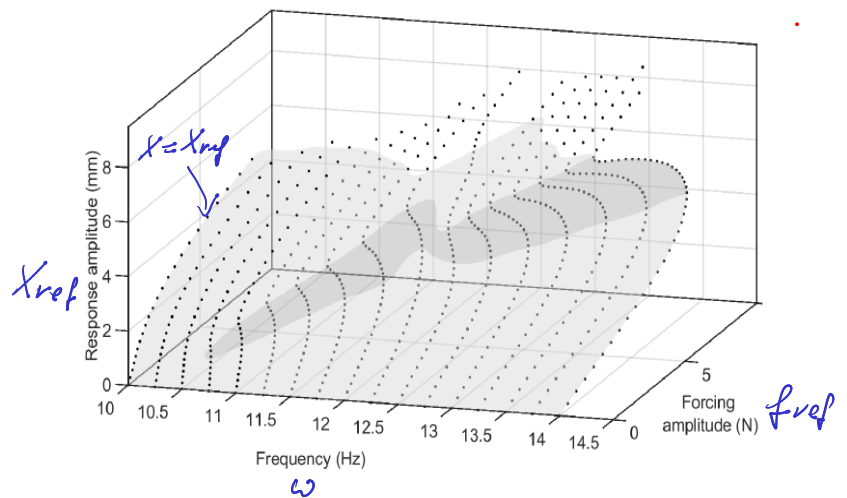
$$x(f_{ref}, x_{ref}, \omega) - x_{ref} = 0$$

high level of noise / uncertainty

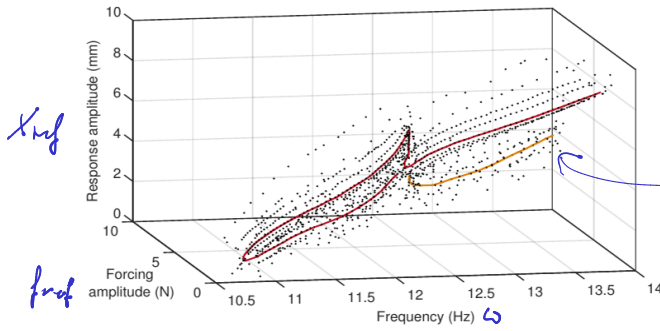
Foresh:

$$\frac{\partial x}{\partial x_{ref}}(f_{ref}, x_{ref}, \omega) = 1$$

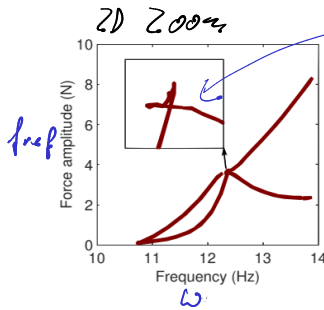
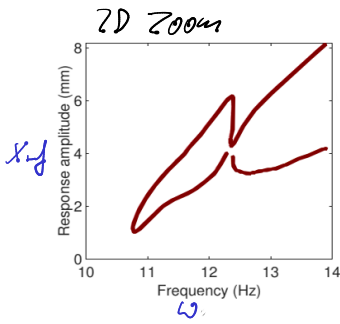
worse



# Result



black dot = experiment performed  
 $f_{ref}, \omega, x_{ref}$  are all inputs



swallow tail

## Standard numerical procedure

### Solve equation

$$F(f_{ref}, x_{ref}, \omega) := \begin{cases} x(f_{ref}, x_{ref}, \omega) - x_{ref} \\ \frac{\partial x(f_{ref}, x_{ref}, \omega)}{\partial x_{ref}} - 1 \\ \text{+ one more condition} \end{cases}$$

Solve with Newton-Raphson iteration

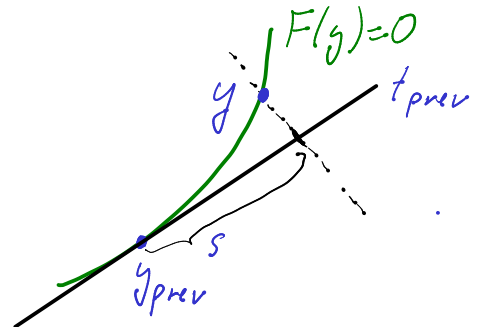
$$y^{k+1} = y^k - \frac{\partial F(y^k)}{\partial y} F(y^k)$$

requires another derivative

[Schilder et al. 2015]

### Continuation

Along curve:  $y_{prev}$  previous solution  
 $t_{prev}$  approx. tangent to curve in  $y_{prev}$   
 extra condition  $t_{prev}^T (y - y_{prev}) - s = 0$   
 $s$  stepsize along curve



# Gaussian Process = linear interpolation / regression

past measurements at  $\hat{y}^1, \dots, \hat{y}^n$ :  $x^1, \dots, x^n$  , noisy:  $x^i = \bar{x}^i + \varepsilon_i$ ,  $\varepsilon_j \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_m^2)$   
 ( $f, \omega, x_{ref}$ ) at  $n$  points responses normal dist. noise

choose correlation function,  $\kappa(\hat{y}^i, \hat{y}^j) = \sigma_f^2 \exp\left(-\frac{\|\hat{y}^i - \hat{y}^j\|^2}{d^2}\right)$ .

covariance matrix  $\hat{K}_{ij} = \kappa(\hat{y}^i, \hat{y}^j)$ ,  $j, i = 1 \dots n$   $+ \sigma_m^2$  if  $i=j$

mean vector  $\hat{x} = (x^1, \dots, x^n)^T$

for arbitrary  $y$  we can compute vector  $\hat{k}_*(y) = (\kappa(\hat{y}^1, y), \dots, \kappa(\hat{y}^n, y))^T$   
 number  $k_{**}(y) = \kappa(y, y)$

↳ estimate for  $x$  at  $y$  is:  $\text{mean}(x) = \hat{k}_*(y)^T \hat{K}^{-1} \hat{x}$  ← linear in  $\hat{x}, y$

$\text{var}(x) = k_{**}(y) - \hat{k}_*(y)^T \hat{K}^{-1} \hat{k}_*(y)$  ← quadratic in  $y$

differentiable  
functions of  
input  $y$

$$\begin{aligned} m_y(y) &= \hat{k}_*(y)^T \hat{K}^{-1} \hat{x}, \\ \text{var}_y(y) &= k_{**}(y) - \hat{k}_*(y)^T \hat{K}^{-1} \hat{k}_*(y) \end{aligned}$$

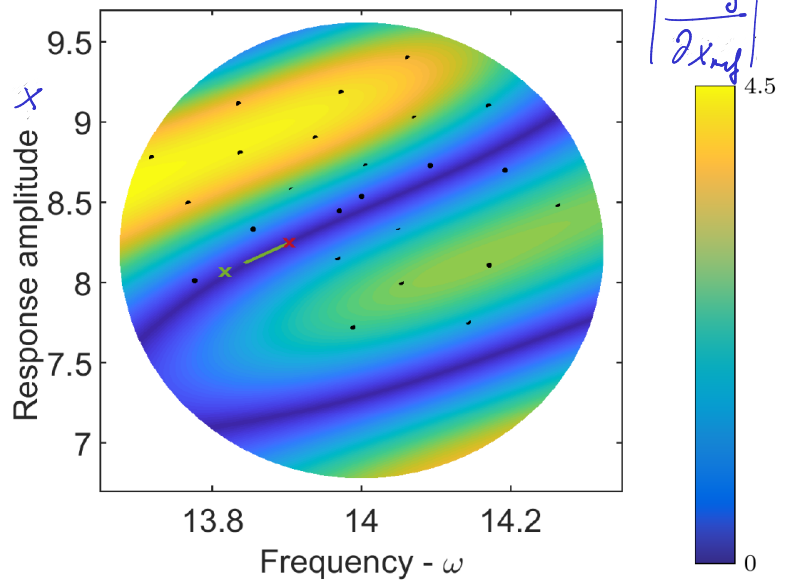
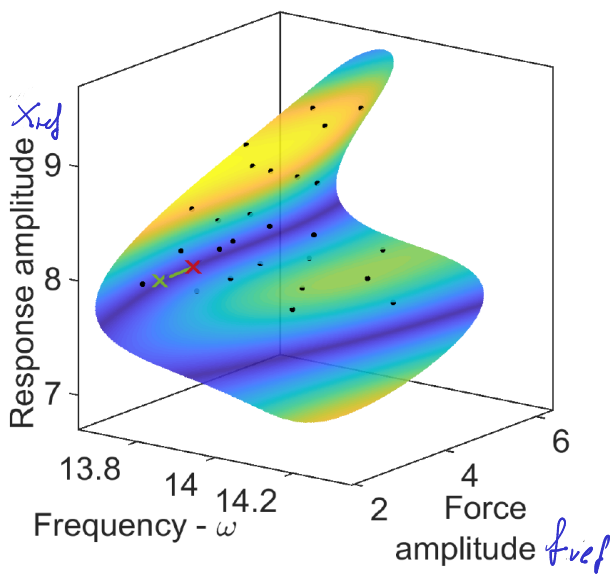
$\hat{x} = (x^1, \dots, x^n)$  past measurements  
 $(\hat{y}^1, \dots, \hat{y}^n)$  past measurement points  
 $\hat{K}, k_{**}$

So  $m_y(f_{ref}, x_{ref}, \omega)$  is current mean guess of response  $x$  at  $(f, \omega, x_{ref})$ .  
 $\text{var}_y(f_{ref}, x_{ref}, \omega)$  is uncertainty of this guess.

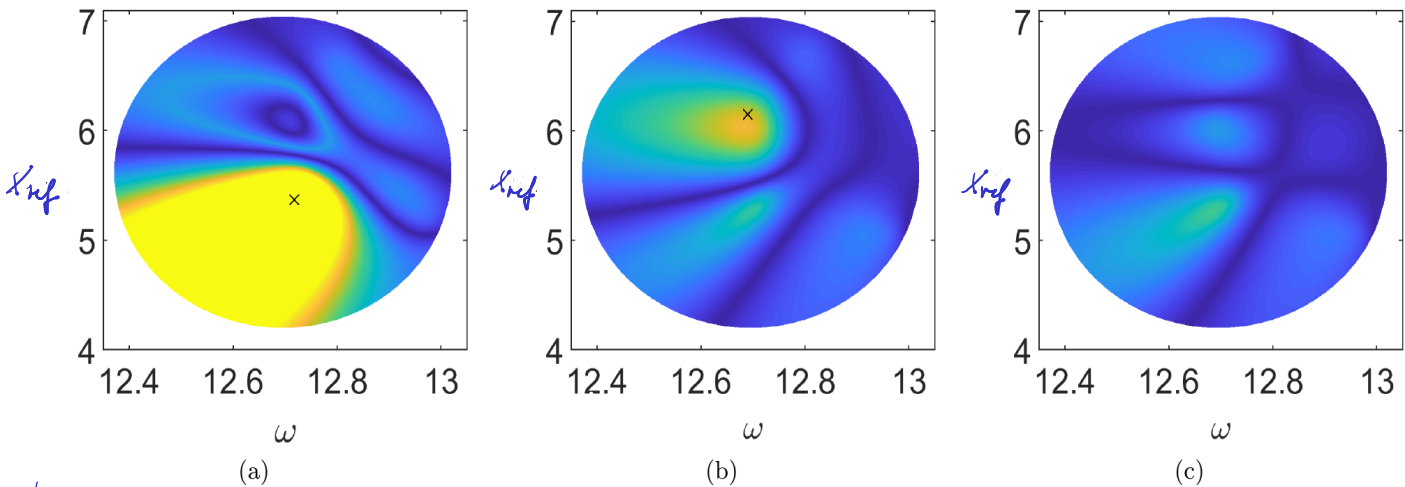
$$\left. \begin{aligned} m_y(f_{ref}, x_{ref}, \omega) - x_{ref} &= 0 \\ \frac{\partial m_y}{\partial x_{ref}}(f_{ref}, x_{ref}, \omega) - 1 &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \text{ is easy to solve numerically,}$$

- gives fold curve,
- $\text{var}_y$  helps estimate how uncertain fold curve is
- find best point to make new measurement, to reduce uncertainty of fold curve at its boundaries.

# 2D Illustration



## Choosing a new measurement point



$m_g$  if measurement at new point is taken and equals  $m_g(y) + \sqrt{v_{m_g}(y)}$ .  
 at current estimate for fold,  $y_* = (f_*, \omega_*, x_{ref*})$

## Conclusion

- finding folds is usually a numerical problem
- large levels of uncertainty make methods from statistics & experimental design more appropriate
- useful for simulations that involve tipping in random or chaotic behaviour