

4. [15 points] In lab 2 we considered the van der Pol oscillator, modeled by the equation,  $x'' + \mu(x^2 - 1)x' + x = 0$ . Recall that there is a single critical point for this system,  $x = 0$ , near which we may model the behavior of the oscillator with the linear equation  $x'' - \mu x' + x = 0$ .

a. [5 points] Suppose that  $\mu = -1$ . Find the amplitude of the solution to the linear problem with initial condition  $x(0) = 2$ ,  $x'(0) = 3$ . What is the time after which this amplitude never exceeds some value  $a_0$ ?

b. [5 points] Suppose we force the linear system with an oscillatory input, so that we are considering  $x'' - \mu x' + x = \cos(\omega t)$  (and  $\omega \neq 0$ ). For what values of  $\mu$  will the system have an oscillatory steady-state solution with frequency  $\omega$ ?

c. [5 points] Suppose that, for some choice of  $\mu$ , the system  $x'' - \mu x' + x = \cos(\omega t)$  has an oscillatory steady-state solution, and that the gain function  $G(\omega)$  for this solution is shown to the right, below. If the steady-state solution to the problem is  $y_{ss} = R \cos(t - \pi/2)$ , what are the  $R$  in the solution, and  $\omega$  in the forcing term? Why?

