Let z = z(t) and y = y(t) denote n- and m-dimensional vectors respectively, and the (autonomous) system be

$$\mu \frac{dz}{dt} = F(z, y, \mu), \qquad z(t_0) = z_0,$$
 (2.7a)

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = f(z, y, \mu), \qquad y(t_0) = y_0.$$
 (2.7b)

Let $z = \phi(y)$ be a root of the equation F(z, y, o) = 0 defined in some closed and bounded domain $D \subset R^m$. Consider the degenerate system

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = f(\phi(y), y, 0), \qquad y(t_0) = y_0, \tag{2.8}$$

and denote by $\bar{y}(t)$ its solution. If:

(a) $z = \phi(y)$ is an isolated root in D, positively stable with respect to the adjoined system

$$\frac{dz}{d\sigma} = F(z, y, 0), \qquad \sigma = \frac{t}{\mu}, \tag{2.9}$$

uniformly in $y \in D$;

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- (b) the initial point (z_0, y_0) lies within the domain of influence of $\phi(y)$;
- (c) the solution $\bar{y} = \bar{y}(t)$ of (2.8) belongs to D for all $t \in [t_0, T]$,

then the solution $(z(t, \mu), y(t, \mu))$ of the overall system (2.7) tends to the degenerate solution $(\bar{z}(t) = \phi(\bar{y}(t)), \bar{y}(t))$ as $\mu \to 0$, in the sense that, for any $T_0 \in (t_0, T)$,

$$\lim_{\mu \to 0} z(t, \mu) = \bar{z}(t) \tag{2.10a}$$

for $t_0 < t \le T_0 < T$, and

$$\lim_{\mu \to 0} y(t, \mu) = \bar{y}(t)$$
 (2.10b)

for $t_0 \le t \le T_0 < T$.