

# Deterministic chaos

1. How it looks like  
(lec. 5.1 pp. 2-17)

in time-series  
in power spectra  
in state portraits  
on Poincaré sections  
self-similarity  
sensitivity to initial conditions

2. How it is defined  
(this page)

2.1: non-equilibrium, non-periodic, non quasiperiodic  
deterministic dynamics  
(dynamics on a strange attractor)

2.2: deterministic dynamics on a fractal attractor

2.3: deterministic dynamics sensitive to initial  
conditions (first Lyapunov exponent  $L_1 > 0$ )  
(dynamics on a chaotic attractor)

Note: there are also strange/fractal/chaotic  
saddles and repellers

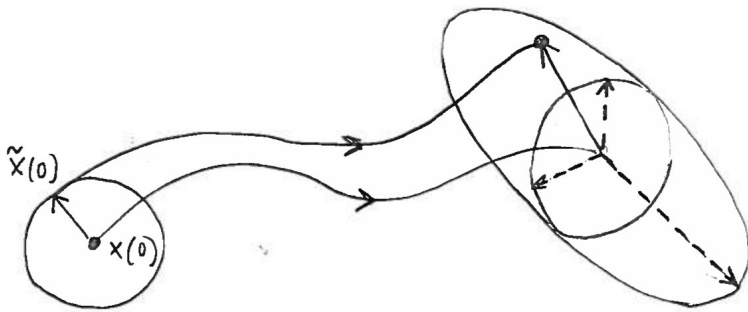
3. Lyapunov exponents:  $L_1 \geq L_2 \geq \dots \geq L_n$ . A generalization of the concept of  
(addendum + some pages in lec. 5.1 pp. 18-46) eigenvalues when linearizing around a non-stationary  
non-periodic trajectory.

4. Fractal geometry  
(some pages in lec 5.2 pp. 2-30)

5. The (typical) dynamical structure of a chaotic attractor

### 3. Lyapunov exponents

- ▶ Given a reference initial condition  $x(0)$  and an  $\varepsilon$ -sphere of perturbed initial conditions  $\tilde{x}(0)$ ,  $\|\delta x(0)\| = \|\tilde{x}(0) - x(0)\| = \varepsilon > 0$ , the linearized dynamics around the reference trajectory  $x(t)$  transform the sphere at time 0 into an ellipsoid at time  $t$ .



$$\begin{aligned} \text{c. t. } & \begin{cases} \dot{x}(t) = f(x(t)) \\ \dot{\delta x}(t) = J(x(t)) \cdot \delta x(t) \end{cases} \\ \text{d. t. } & \begin{cases} x(t+1) = f(x(t)) \\ \delta x(t+1) = J(x(t)) \cdot \delta x(t) \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Note: this result holds for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , but the effect of the h.o.t. is small only if  $\varepsilon$  is small

- ▶ Denoting with  $r_i(t)$  the lengths of the symmetry semi-axes of the ellipsoid,  $r_1(t) \geq r_2(t) \geq \dots \geq r_n(t)$ , the average rate of change of  $r_i$  is given by

$$\rho_i = \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \left( \frac{r_i(t)}{\varepsilon} \right)^{1/t} \quad (\text{geometric average})$$

- ▶ The  $i$ -th Lyapunov exponent is defined as

$$L_i = \ln \rho_i = \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{t} \ln r_i(t)$$

It is the average exponential rate of expansion (if  $> 0$ ) / contraction (if  $< 0$ ) of the  $i$ -th semi-axis, i.e.  $r_i(t) \approx \exp(L_i t)$

- ▶ Discrete-time:  $r_i(t) = \sigma_i [H_{x(0)}(t)]$ ,  $H_{x(0)}(t) = J(x(t-1)) \cdot \dots \cdot J(x(1)) \cdot J(x(0))$

a sign-equivalent approximation  $r_i(t) \approx |\lambda_i [H_{x(0)}(t)]|$

(useful to link LEs to equilibria's eigenvalues and cycles' multipliers)

$n=1$ : both formulas give  $r_1(t) = \prod_{k=0}^{t-1} |f'(x(k))|$ , so that  $L_1 = \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{t} \sum_{k=0}^{t-1} \ln |f'(x(k))|$

- ▶ Continuous-time:  $L_i = \frac{L_i^{(\tau)}}{\tau}$ , where  $L_i^{(\tau)}$  are the LEs of the  $\tau$ -stroboscopic map.

- ▶ Examples: see lec. 5.1 pp. 22-24, 28, 29

- ▶ Interpretations (see next p.)

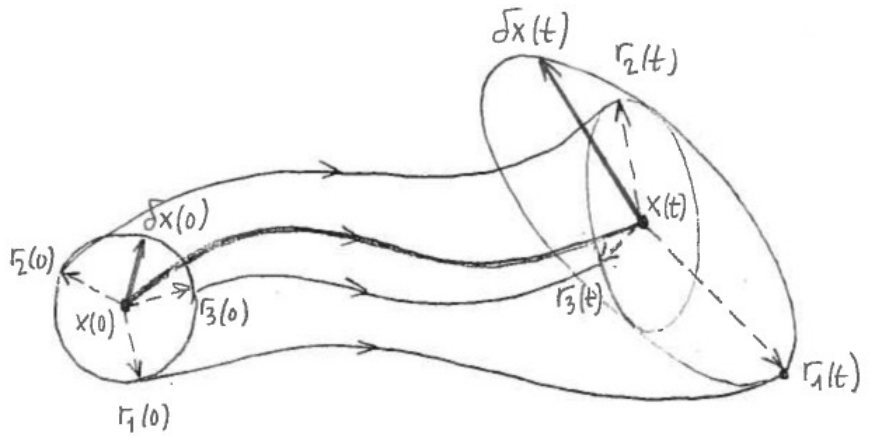
- ▶ Computation: see next lab and Matlab LET (Lyapunov Exponents Toolbox).

- ▶ LEs and attractors: see lec. 5.1 pp. 34-45

► Expansion/contraction of  $k$ -dimensional volumes

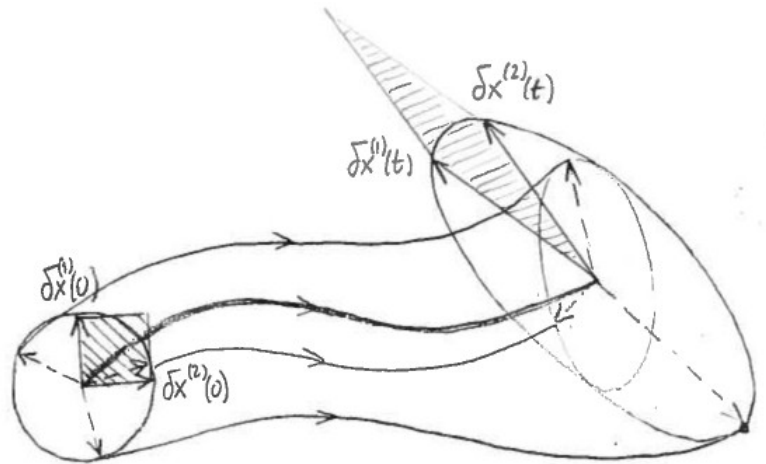
Note 1: for any  $t > 0$  there is an orthogonal base  $r_i(0)$  that is transformed into the ellipsoid's semi-axes at time  $t$ .

Note 2: generically, a perturbation  $\delta x(0)$  has nonzero components w.r.t. all axes  $r_i(0)$ .



$k=1$ : at time  $t$ , the component of  $\delta x(t)$  along  $r_1(t)$  dominates the components along  $r_i(t)$ ,  $i \geq 2$ , so that, on average and up to 1-st-order, the length of  $\delta x(t)$  grows/decays as  $\|\delta x(0)\| \exp(L_1 t)$

$k=2$ : at time  $t$ , the components of  $\delta x^{(1)}(t)$  and  $\delta x^{(2)}(t)$  along  $r_1(t)$  and  $r_2(t)$  dominate the others, so that, ..., the area of the parallelogram  $(\delta x^{(1)}(t), \delta x^{(2)}(t))$  grows/decays as  $\|\delta x^{(1)}(0)\| \|\delta x^{(2)}(0)\| \exp((L_1 + L_2)t)$



$k > 2$ : the  $k$ -dimensional (hyper-)volume of the parallelotope  $(\delta x^{(1)}(t), \dots, \delta x^{(k)}(t)) \dots$  grows/decays as  $\|\delta x^{(1)}(0)\| \dots \|\delta x^{(k)}(0)\| \exp((L_1 + \dots + L_k)t)$ .

► An experimental interpretation of the  $L_i$ 's

$L_1$ : take two nearby initial points (one reference, one perturbed) and follow their distance... For how long? For long to "feel"  $L_1$  (it's the average growth-rate); for short if  $L_1 > 0$  ( $L_1$  is defined through linearization). There are two ways to get around this problem:

- theoretical way: take the two points very close (theoretically infinitesimally close), so that they will remain close for long (theoretically forever) even if  $L_1 > 0$ .
- practical way: repeat the experiment many times; each time compute the short-time exponential growth-rate; then average (arithmetically) the results.

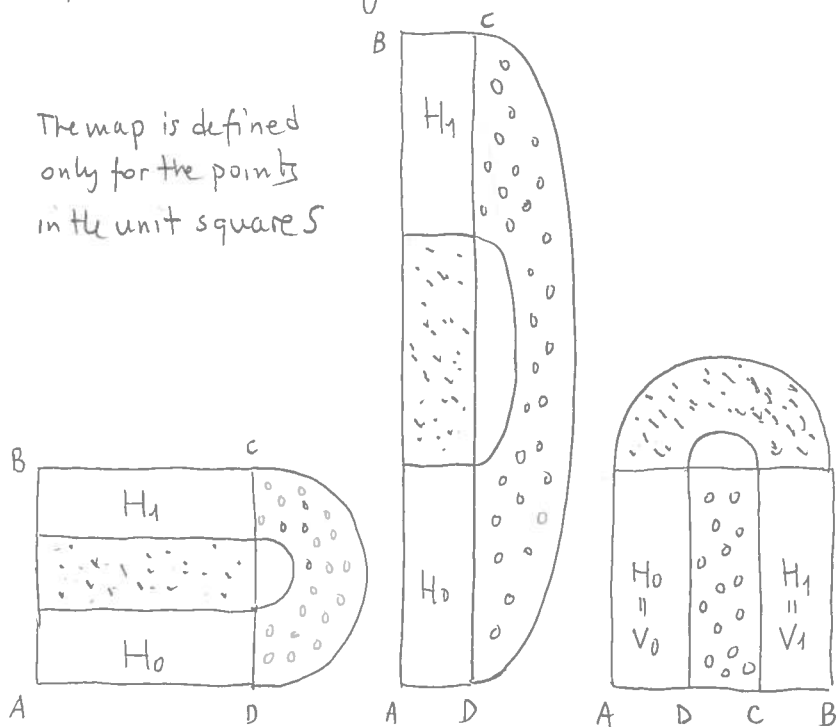
$L_1 + L_2$ : take three nearby initial points (one ref, two perturbed) and follow the area of their parallelogram.

$L_1 + \dots + L_k$ ,  $k > 2$ : take  $k+1$  nearby initial points (one ref.,  $k$  perturbed) and follow the  $k$ -dim (hyper-)volume of their parallelotope.

## 5. The (typical) dynamical structure of a chaotic attractor $A$

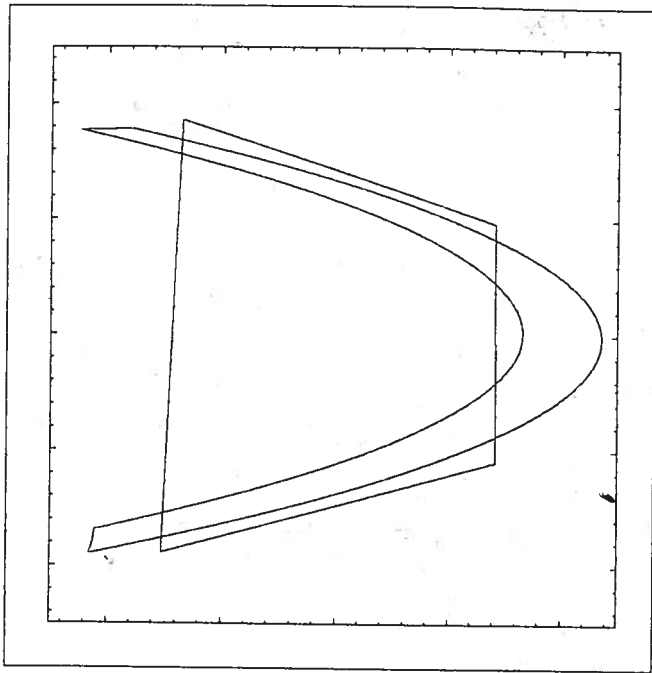
- ▶  $A$  (typically) contains a countable infinity of saddle cycles, the union of which densely fills  $A$ .  $A$  is thus the closure of the ensemble of cycles, that forms the "backbone" of  $A$ .
- ▶ The trajectory starting from a generic initial condition  $x(0) \in A$  densely visits  $A$ .
- ▶ The trajectories starting from two close initial conditions  $x'(0)$  and  $x''(0)$  on  $A$  diverge exponentially (at an average rate  $L_1 > 0$ ), but come back arbitrarily close ( $\|x'(t) - x''(t)\| < \epsilon$ ) at a later time.
- ▶ The dynamics on  $A$  is the result of a mechanism of stretching, responsible of local divergence ( $L_1 > 0$ ), and of a mechanism of folding, keeping  $A$  bounded.
- ▶ The typical example (in discrete time,  $n=2$ , reversible) of "stretching & folding" is the Smale horseshoe map.

"a thorough understanding of the Smale horseshoe map is absolutely essential for understanding what is meant by the term chaos" (Wiggins)



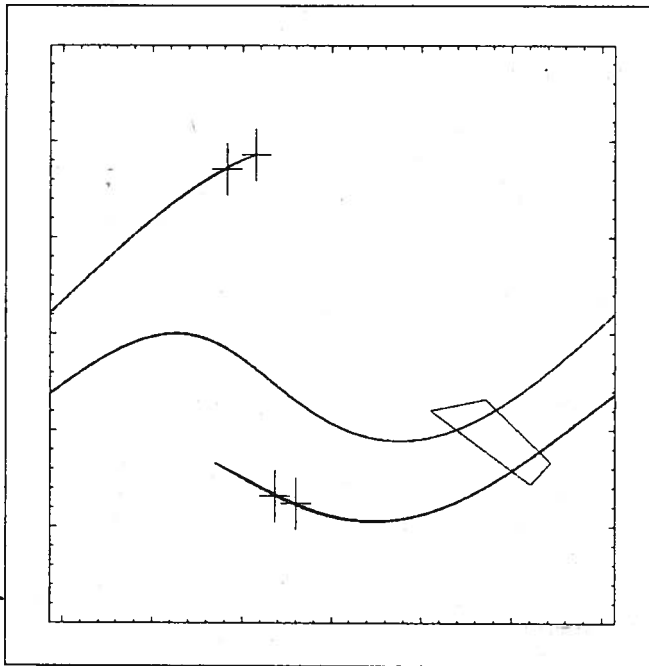
- There is an invariant set  $\Lambda$  of points that remain in  $S$  for ever (forward and backward in time)
- $\Lambda$  contains a finite number of cycles for any period (even period 1: equilibria)
- all cycles (and equilibria) are saddles (eigs =  $\frac{1}{3}, 3$ )
- $\Lambda$  contains aperiodic orbits densely visiting  $\Lambda$
- $L_1 = \log 3 > 0!$  (sensitivity to initial conditions)
- If the map is extended outside  $S$  and a domain  $\Omega \supset S$  is attractive, then  $\Omega$  contains a chaotic attractor.

A dynamics equivalent to a Smale horseshoe is typically seen in discrete-time chaotic systems or on the Poincaré (or stroboscopic) maps of continuous-time chaotic systems.



**Figure 5.14** A horseshoe in the Hénon map.

A quadrilateral and its horseshoe-shaped image are shown. Parameter values are  $a = 4.0$  and  $b = -0.3$ .



**Figure 5.19** Horseshoe in the forced damped pendulum.

The rectangular-shaped region is shown along with its first image under the time- $2\pi$  map. The image is stretched across the original shape, and is so thin that it looks like a curve, but it does have width. The crosses show the image of the corner points of the domain rectangle.