

Creating a Sundial by Joaco Prandi - Mar 27th 2024

Speaker: Joaco Prandi, PhD Candidate, Department of Pure Mathematics, University of Waterloo

Title: Creating a Sundial

Abstract: In this talk, we will try to understand how to make a sundial. Not just any sundial, but a sundial that requires too much math and probably will never be built. At least it will give the time in a digital format.

2 New dimension. 2nd most helpful. Take a set like  draw a grid over it and count the amount of boxes. Call it $N_\delta(K) \approx \delta^3$

Box counting dimension $\dim_B(K) = \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log(N_\delta(K))}{-\log(\delta)}$ → \lim doesn't always exist

$$\overline{\dim}_B(K) = \limsup_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log(N_\delta(K))}{-\log(\delta)}$$

$$\underline{\dim}_B(K) = \liminf_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log(N_\delta(K))}{-\log(\delta)}$$

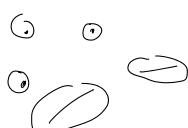
} these always exist

$N_\delta(K)$ can be replace to: Maximal Number of balls of radius δ centered in K with them being disjoint

or Minimal # of balls of radius δ centered at K covering the set.

What happens if the boxes are different sizes? We need a measure b/c counting is sufficient.

Define $H_\delta^s(K) = \inf \left\{ \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} |U_i|^s : \bigcup_{i=0}^{\infty} U_i \supseteq K \text{ and } |U_i| \leq \delta \right\}$

Ex  smallest is measure

as δ gets smaller _____?

$$\mathcal{H}^s(k) = \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \mathcal{K}_\delta^s(k) \quad \text{for most sets it's either } 0 \text{ or infinite}$$

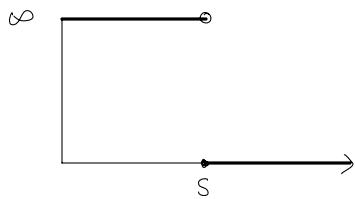
In \mathbb{R}^d and $n \leq d$ - When \mathcal{H}^n is measuring n -dimensionally.

$\mathcal{H}^1 = \text{length}$, $\mathcal{H}^2 = \text{area}$, $\mathcal{H}^3 = \text{Volume}$. So on.

$$(\mathcal{H}^r(k) > 0)$$

$\mathcal{H}^s(k)$ can think of as a function of s . If $s < t$, then if $\mathcal{H}^t(k)$ is positive then $\mathcal{H}^s(k) > \infty$

If $\mathcal{H}^s(k) < \infty$ (finite) then then $\mathcal{H}^r(k) = 0$



The Hausdorff dimension is $\dim_H = \sup \{s : \mathcal{H}^s(k) \text{ is infinite}\}$
 $= \inf \{s : \mathcal{H}^s(k) \text{ is zero}\}$.

Facts: If C is the ternary Cantor Set. then $\dim_B(C) = \dim_H(C) = \frac{\log(2)}{\log(3)}$

$F = \left\{ \frac{1}{n} \right\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ $\dim_B(F) = \frac{1}{2}$, $\dim_B(F) = \dim_B(\overline{F})$ $\xrightarrow{\text{closure of set}}$
 $\dim_H(F) = 0$, $\dim_H(F) \neq \dim_H(\overline{F})$
 \uparrow
 in general

Fact: If $\dim_H(F) < 1$ then the set is totally disconnected.

Fact the function f is Lipschitz with ratio C if $\mathcal{H}^s(f(k)) \leq C^s \mathcal{H}^s(k)$

\downarrow

like a contraction
 but the contraction
 constant doesn't have
 to be between 0 & 1

$$\Rightarrow \dim_H(f(K)) \leq \dim_H(K)$$

Projections: (orthogonal projections)

Let L_θ be the line through the origin with angle $\theta \in [0, \pi]$

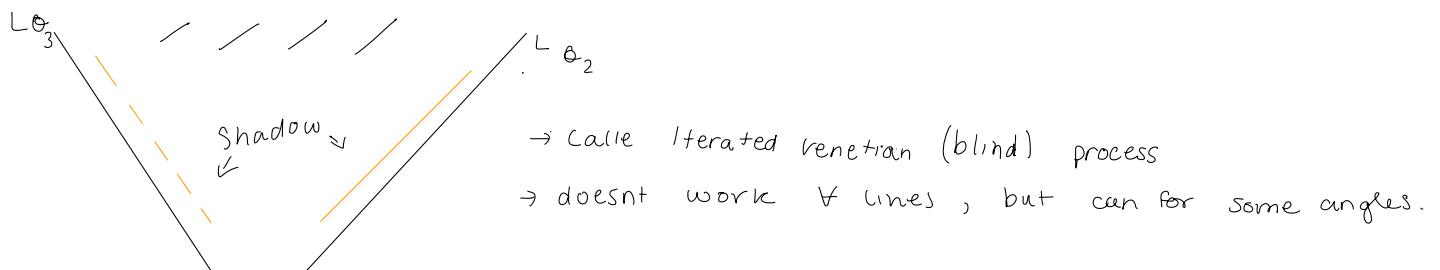
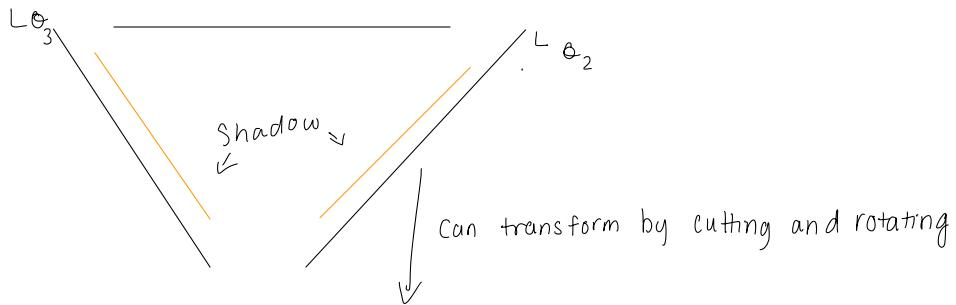
and $\text{Proj}_\theta(F)$ is the orthogonal projection to L_θ . In general the are Lipschitz.

Theorem: For almost all θ

\nearrow stronger than previous.

a) If $\dim_H(f) \leq 1$ then $\dim_H(\text{Proj}_\theta(f)) = \dim_H(f)$

b) if $\dim_H(f) > 1$ then $\dim_H(\text{Proj}_\theta(f)) = 1$ and $\mathcal{H}^1(\text{Proj}_\theta(f)) > 0$



Theorem Let $G_\theta \subset L_\theta$, $\theta \in [0, \pi)$ be a collection of sets s.t. $\bigcup_\theta G_\theta$ is measurable

in 2 dimensions. then there exists a set $F \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$ s.t. $G_\theta \subset \text{Proj}_\theta(F)$ and

$$\mathcal{H}^1(\text{Proj}_\theta(F) \setminus G_\theta) = 0 \quad \text{for almost all } \theta.$$

This is in \mathbb{R}^2

In theory we can use this to make a sundial.

Youtube video for Sundial

<http://mate.dm.uba.ar/~umolter/materias/referencias/2.pdf>

This talk was based on chapter 2, 3 and 6 of Fractal Geometry Mathematical Foundations and Applications by Kenneth Falconer (link about)

Sundial video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=78I-A7ikXYU>

Logistics

Q3 is ugly piazza is the way

and Course perception Survey out

Guest Speaker: Paul Fieguth - April 1st 2024

The role of bifurcation in Continuous-time and discrete time Dynamical Systems

Book:

Complex System: many elements, interacting, non linear.

Problem: all uni courses focus on linear, Gaussian and small.

all major world issues are non linear, non Gaussian, and large.
↳ black swan events

his aim is to teach ppl humility when approaching world issues

Bifurcations in non linear Dynamics

Continuous: $\dot{z}(t) = f(z(t), \theta)$ parameter

Very fascinating connections between the two.

Discrete: $z_{n+1} = \tilde{f}(z_n, \theta)$

Basic motivation for Discrete time is as time-discretization of continuous time.

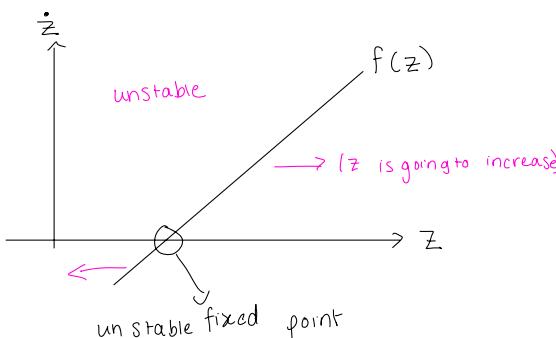
$$\text{cont} \quad \dot{z}(t) = \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \frac{z(t + \delta) - z(t)}{\delta}$$

$$\therefore \dot{z} = f(z) \quad \text{and} \quad z(t + \delta) = z(t) + \delta \cdot f(z)$$

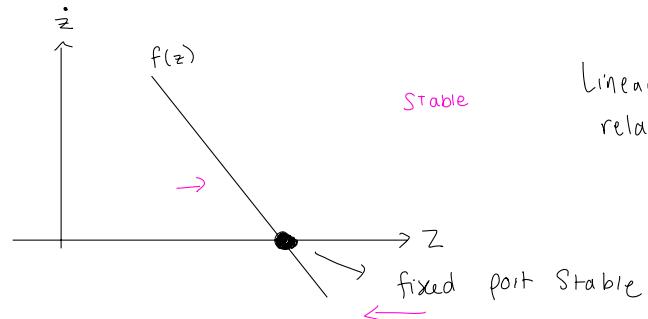
↓
Discrete time known as forward Euler

There are other C.T to D.T possibilities (later)

System Diagram



convention is unfilled if unstable



convention is filled when Stable

Linear b/c
relation of $f(z)$
is linear

Aside: D.T. uses $y = x$ to find fixed points

Linear System: Key Attributes.

① Super position : $x_1 \rightarrow \square \rightarrow y_1$ $x_2 \rightarrow \square \rightarrow y_2$

$$\text{then } \alpha x_1 + \beta y_1 \rightarrow \square \rightarrow \alpha y_1 + \beta y_2$$

Ex Stretching Spring obeys super position

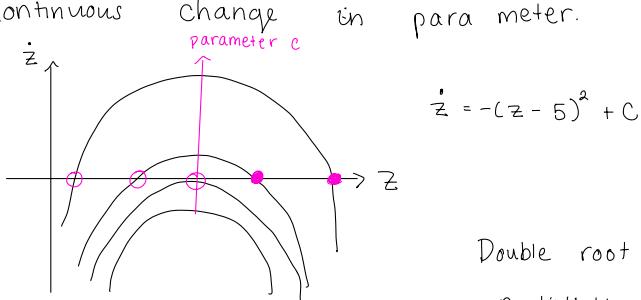
② Sine wave $A \sin(\omega t + \phi) \rightarrow \square \rightarrow B \sin(\omega t + \psi)$

Cannot change frequency.

\therefore Constant input cannot lead to oscillating output.

every electronic using a battery is non linear, b/c constant input but it buzzes, flashes

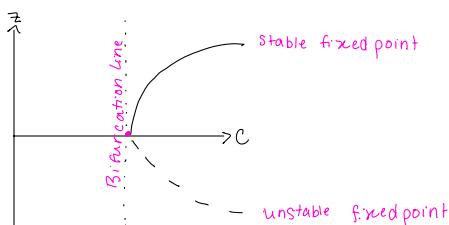
Defn: A bifurcation is a discontinuous change in attribute or behaviour in response to a continuous change in parameter.



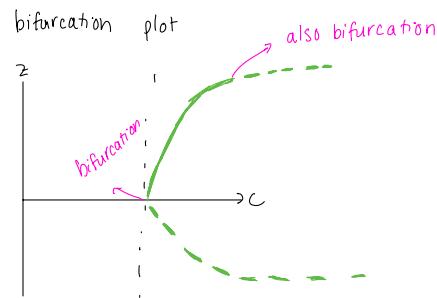
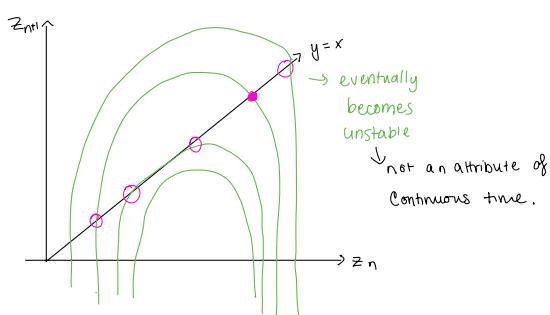
Double root is called degeneracy.
realistically never happen.

An example of bifurcation 0 fixed \rightarrow 2 fixed.

Bifurcation Plot

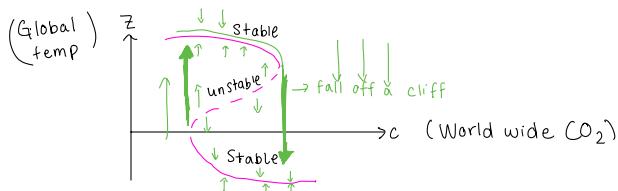


Also have bifurcations in D.T

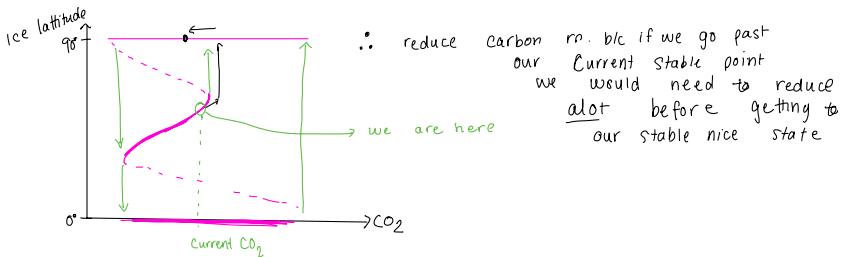


Two major bifurcations:

(1) Double - fold:

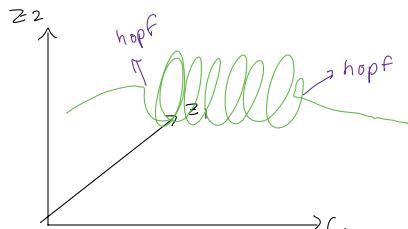


Bistable system another example light switch, temperature, of fridge. nearly all thermal.



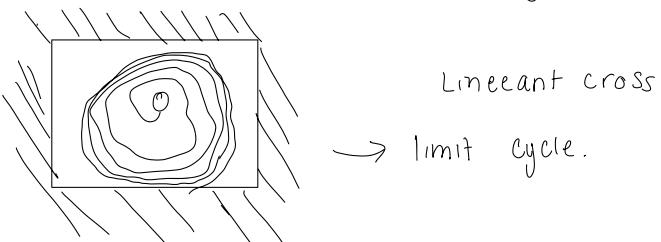
(2) Hopf bifurcation:

Transition between cycling and not cycling.



Why is cycling common?

Ex flag poles, guiser, sailboat mass. pouring water on live plants
b/c bounded unstable system.



Bifurcations that matter to us:

- Stick - slip. (Brakes locking, rude and unpleasant noises)

- covid : fizzling out vs. pandemic

- Bead on a hoop



- Toys: slap bracelet, jumping disc, candle boats

- Ecology: lake ecology

- Human brain, epileptic seizures,

- Chocolate production

Fixed point properties in topological Dynamics.

By Andy Zucker April 3rd 2024

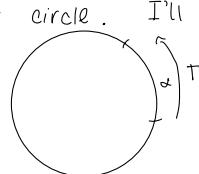
Let G be a group. Often countable & discrete or sometimes topological)
↑ integers
↑ Reals in addition
most he will talk about are this.

Defn: A G -flow is a compact Hausdorff space X equipped with a continuous action

$$\alpha: G \times X \rightarrow X$$

Satisfying (1) $\alpha(1_G, x) = x$ (identity) notation: typically α is understood. just write $g \cdot x$, or gx for $\alpha(gx)$
(2) $\alpha(g, \alpha(h, x)) = \alpha(gh, x)$

Ex 1) $G = \mathbb{Z}$, X is unit circle. I'll write $T: X \rightarrow X$ for the generating homeomorphism which here will be irrational rotation



an irrational multiple of 2π

→ no fixed points

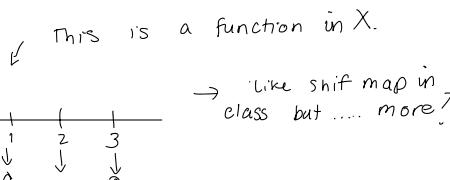
Since α is irrational, this action is called free, i.e., $\forall x \in X, \forall n \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\} T^n(x) \neq x$

Ex, $G = \mathbb{Z}$, $X = 2^{\mathbb{Z}} \rightarrow$ one way of talking about Cantor space (biinfinite sequences of 0's and 1's)

Again let $T: 2^{\mathbb{Z}} \rightarrow 2^{\mathbb{Z}}$ be the generating homeomorphism, (generator) we take

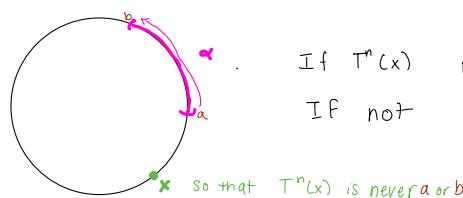
$$T(x)(n) = x(n-1) \quad \text{called the shift.}$$

This \mathbb{Z} -flow is sometime called Bernoulli shift. This action is not free. Consider $x = 0$. This is a fixed point (so vs 1). This is call essentially free. I.e. big open dense set that will move (orbits in X)



However, there is a closed, non- \emptyset , T -invariant subspace of $2^{\mathbb{Z}}$ which is free. We can do this by looking at irrational rotation

But some spaces we can't find free actions
↪ primes?



If $T^n(x)$ is in blue window = 1

If not = 0

This gives biinfinite string of 0's

Then under shift, it's free

For now, fix $X = \text{Cantor space}$

Def'n: $\text{Clop}(X) = \text{clopen subsets of } X$ (both open and closed)

Defn: A probability measure on X is a map $\mu: \text{Clop}(X) \rightarrow [0, 1]$ with $\mu(X) = 1$ and μ is finitely additive. [nice metric]

Regular barl? Algebras?? Up this good enough,

finately additive: $\forall A, B \in \text{Clop}(X)$ if $A \cap B = \emptyset \Rightarrow \mu(A \cup B) = \mu(A) + \mu(B)$ gives notation of size

Ex: View X as $2^{\mathbb{Z}}$, if $A \in \text{Clop}(X)$ is defined by $\{x: x(n) = i\}$ for some fixed n , $i < 2$.

then can set $\mu(A) = \frac{1}{2}$. Generate the rest independently: Imagine flipping a fair coin and (side is) / other 0

Ex: Fix $x \in X$. The Dirac Delta at x is the measure $\mu(A) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x \notin A \\ 1 & \text{if } x \in A \end{cases}$

very dependent on x .

in real # \emptyset is clopen
Cantor space is cool b/c a lot
of clopens

That was probability, now throw group action in the mix

If G is a countable group and G acts on X the G acts on $P(X)$, the space of probability measures on X :
 $(g \cdot \mu)(A) = \mu(g^{-1}A)$ using action on Cantor space, to get preimage and use μ to measure, introduces new measured mass

What space? topology on $P(X)$ via $\mu_n \rightarrow \mu$ iff $\forall A \in \text{Clop}(X) \quad \mu_n(A) \rightarrow \mu(A)$

is called "weak* - topology" on $P(X)$.

Fact: $P(X)$ is also compact who found this? \checkmark somebody infamous

Defn: Countable group G is amenable if for any finite $S \subseteq G$ and $\epsilon > 0$. $\exists F_{S,\epsilon} := F$ such that
generators of group
↑
$$\frac{|SF \setminus F|}{|F|} < \epsilon$$

throwaway starters $< \epsilon$
enlarge

Ex \mathbb{Z} is amenable. It's enough to consider $S = \{\pm 1\}$. Given $\epsilon > 0$, find $n \in \mathbb{N}$ with $\frac{2}{n} < \epsilon$. Let $F_{S,\epsilon}$ be any interval of length n .

$$\leftarrow \dots \circlearrowleft \circlearrowright \circlearrowleft \circlearrowright \rightarrow \Rightarrow |SF \setminus F| = 2 \text{ and } \frac{|SF \setminus F|}{n} = \frac{2}{n} < \epsilon$$

F is called a Følner set

Theorem: (Følner ^{verify}) A Countable Group G is amenable iff whenever G acts on counter space (X)

The induced action on $\ell^p(X)$ has a fixed points
 \downarrow
measures

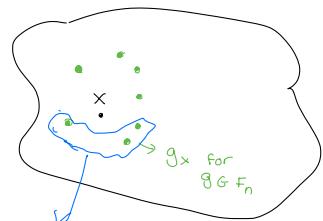
Proof: Assume G is amenable. Write $G = \bigcup_n S_n$ with $S_1 \subseteq S_2 \subseteq \dots$ finite. Let $F_n \subseteq G$ be

$(S_n, \frac{1}{n})$ - Følner. Given an action G on X which is Cantor. [use compactness]:

① pick $x \in X$ arbitrary

② For every $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $\mu(n) = \sum_{g \in F_n} \frac{1}{|F_n|} \delta_g$

\hookrightarrow taking avg
of δ -measure



Clopen, What proportion
is in clopen, that's
the measure

Idea: B/c $\langle F_n : n \in \mathbb{N} \rangle$ are more & more Følner
we have $\mu_n(A) - (g \cdot \mu_n)(A) \rightarrow 0$
for every $A \in \text{Clop}(X)$ and every $g \in G$.

- Eventually g is in S_n and $\frac{1}{n}$ is v. small.
- Pass to a convergent subsequence of μ_n [compactness of $\ell^p(X)$]
limit will be invariant