

# Creating a Sundial by Joaco Prandi - Mar 27<sup>th</sup> 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. 2<sup>nd</sup> most helpful. Take a Set like  draw a grid over it and count the amount of boxes  
Call it  $N_\delta(K) \approx \delta^s$

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

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

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

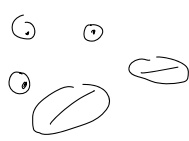
} these always exist

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

or Minimal # of balls of radius  $\delta$  centered at  $K$  covering the set.

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

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

Ex  smallest is measure

as  $\delta$  gets smaller \_\_\_\_\_?

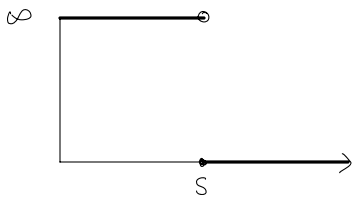
$\mathcal{H}^s(k) = \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \mathcal{H}_\delta^s(k)$  for most sets its either 0 or infinite

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

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

$\mathcal{H}^s(k)$  can think of as a function of  $s$ . If  $s < t$ , then if  $\mathcal{H}^t(k)$  is positive then  $\mathcal{H}^s(k) > \infty$  ( $\mathcal{H}^t(k) > 0$ )

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



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

Facts: If  $C$  is the ternary Cantor Set. then  $\dim_{\mathcal{B}}(C) = \dim_{\mathcal{H}}(C) = \frac{\log(2)}{\log(3)}$

$F = \{\frac{1}{n}\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$   $\dim_{\mathcal{B}}(F) = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\dim_{\mathcal{B}}(F) = \dim_{\mathcal{B}}(\overline{F})$   $\nearrow$  closure of set  
 $\dim_{\mathcal{H}}(F) = 0$ ,  $\dim_{\mathcal{H}}(F) \neq \dim_{\mathcal{H}}(\overline{F})$   
 $\uparrow$   
in general

Fact: If  $\dim_{\mathcal{H}}(F) < 1$  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  $L_\theta$  be the line through the origin with angle  $\theta \in [0, \pi]$

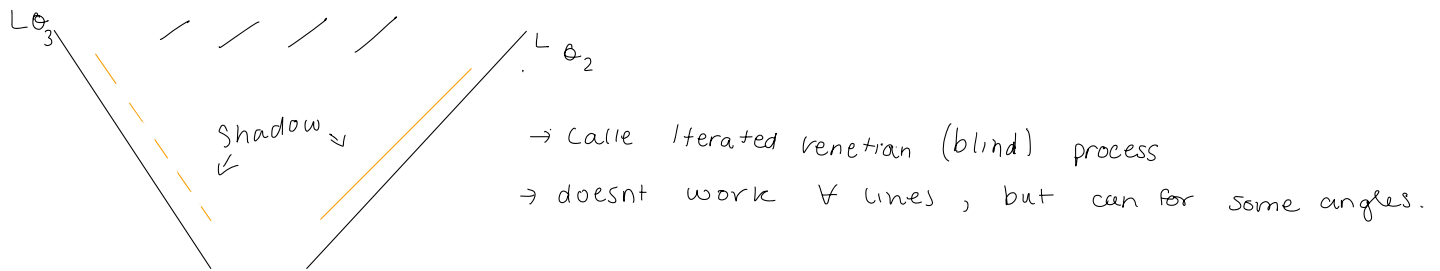
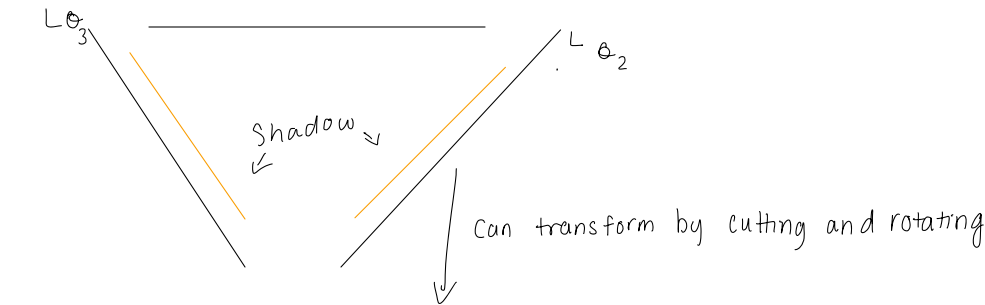
and  $\text{Proj}_\theta(F)$  is the orthogonal projection to  $L_\theta$ . In general the are Lipschitz.

Theorem: For almost all  $\theta$

→ 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  $\mathcal{H}'(\text{Proj}_\theta(f)) > 0$



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  $\mathcal{H}'(\text{Proj}_\theta(F) \setminus G_\theta) = 0$  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 1<sup>st</sup> 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:  $\dot{z}(t) = f(z(t), \theta)$  <sup>parameter</sup>

very fascinating connections between the two.

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

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

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

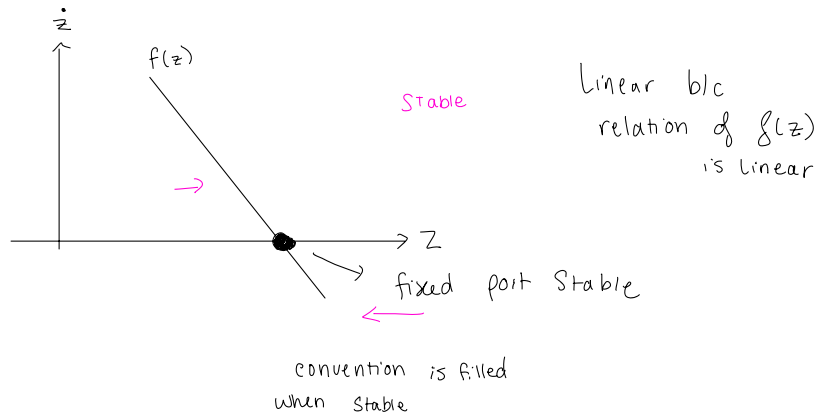
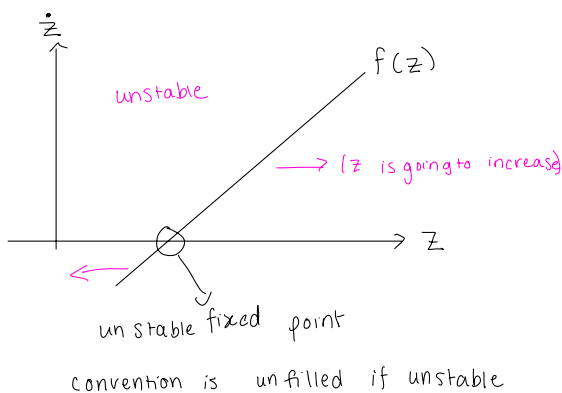
$$\therefore \dot{z} = f(z) \quad \text{and} \quad z(t+\delta) = z(t) + \delta \cdot f(z)$$

↓

Discrete time known as forward Euler

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

System Diagram



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

Linear System: Key Attributes.

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

then  $\alpha x_1 + \beta y_1 \rightarrow \square \rightarrow \alpha y_1 + \beta y_2$

Ex Stretching Spring obeys super position

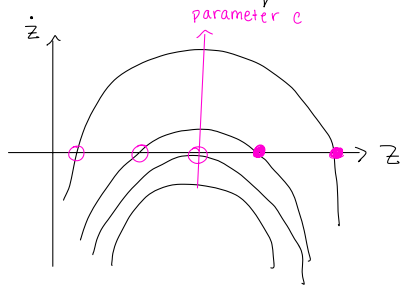
② Sine wave  $A \sin(\omega t + \phi) \rightarrow \square \rightarrow \beta \sin(\omega t + \phi)$

Cannot change frequency.

$\therefore$  Constant input cannot lead to oscillating output.

every electronic using a battery is nonlinear, 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.

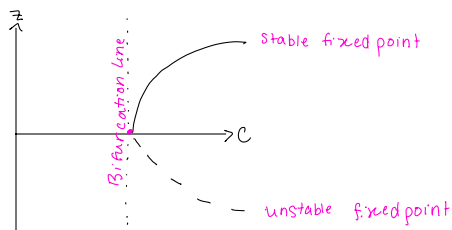


$$\dot{z} = -(z-5)^2 + c$$

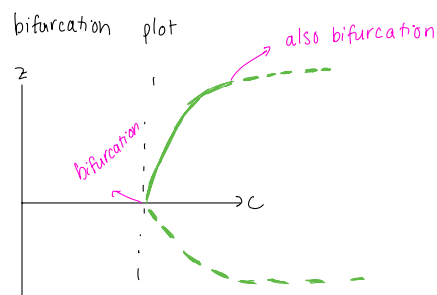
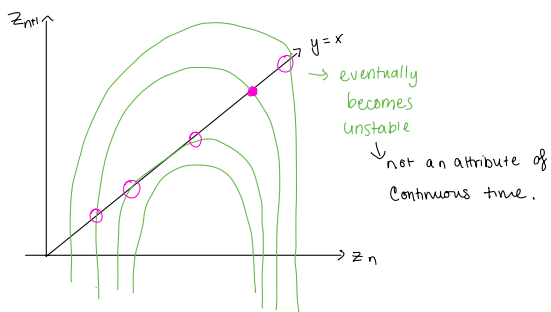
Double root is called degeneracy.  
realistically never happen.

An example of bifurcation 0 fixed to 2 fixed.

Bifurcation Plot

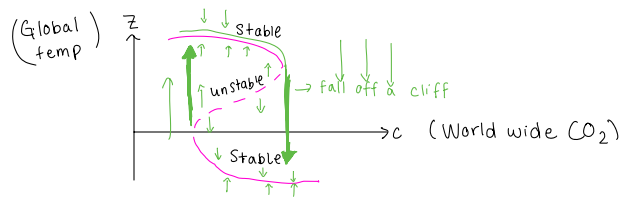


Also have bifurcations in D.T

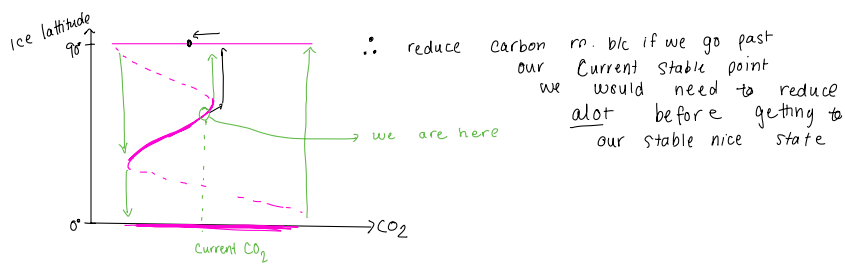


Two major bifurcations:

① Double - fold:

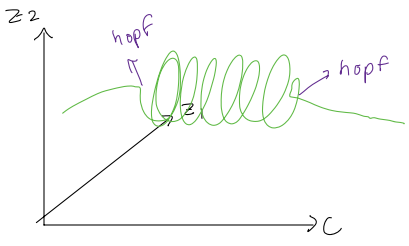


Bistable system another example light switch, temperature, of fridge. nearly all thermal.



② Hopf bifurcation:

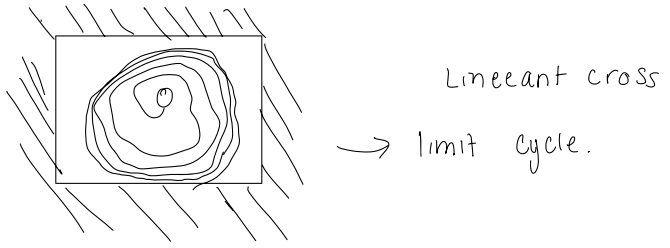
Transition between cycling and not cycling.



Why is cycling common?

Ex flag pole, 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