

# Stranger Things

An Analysis of the Lorenz system  
CS 304 – Nonlinear Science

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# Lorenz System

## Introduction

The Lorenz system represents a simplified version of atmospheric convection. It is governed by a set of 3 ordinary differential equations <sup>[2] [1]</sup>:

$$\dot{x} = \sigma(y - x)$$

$$\dot{y} = x(r - z) - y$$

$$\dot{z} = xy - bz$$

$\sigma$  (Prandtl number),  $\rho$  is the Rayleigh number and  $b$  is some geometrical descriptor of the system



# Lorenz System

## Fixed points

Fixed points calculated by  $\dot{x} = \dot{y} = \dot{z} = 0$ :

$$O \quad (0, 0, 0)$$

$$C^+ \quad (\sqrt{b(r-1)}, \sqrt{b(r-1)}, r-1)$$

$$C^- \quad (-\sqrt{b(r-1)}, -\sqrt{b(r-1)}, r-1)$$

The Jacobian for this system is: 
$$\begin{bmatrix} -\sigma & \sigma & 0 \\ r-z & -1 & -x \\ y & x & -b \end{bmatrix}$$

and on linearization about the origin it becomes: 
$$\begin{bmatrix} -\sigma & \sigma \\ r & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$



# Lorenz System

## Analysis

- For origin  $O$ :

$$r < 1 \implies \text{Stable fixed point}$$

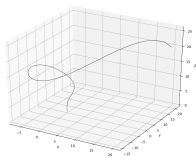
$$r > 1 \implies \text{Saddle point}$$

- Subcritical Hopf's bifurcation (*Marsden and McCracken, 1976*) for value of  $r > r_H$  where  $r_H = \sigma \frac{(\sigma+b+3)}{(\sigma-b-1)}$  at  $C^+$  and  $C^-$ .
- Hence, no stable fixed point or a limit cycle for  $r > r_H$  which implies that there is no attractor exists at  $r > r_H$ .

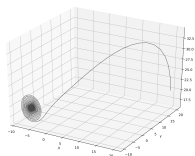


# Lorenz system

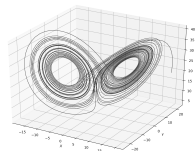
## Analysis



**Figure:** Phase portrait for  $r = 0.5, \sigma = 10, b = \frac{8}{3}$ .  $O$  is a global stable fixed point.



**Figure:** Phase portrait for  $r = 20, \sigma = 10, b = \frac{8}{3}$ .

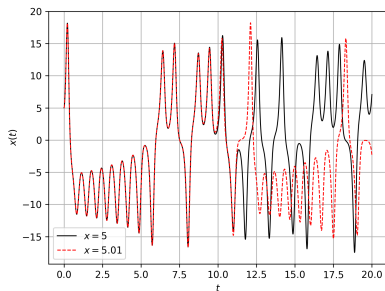


**Figure:** Phase portrait for  $r = 25, \sigma = 10, b = \frac{8}{3}$ . Chaos begins.

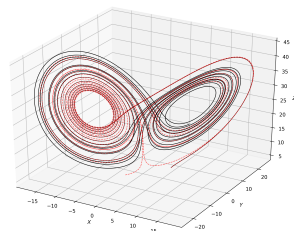


# Lorenz System

## Strange Attractors



**Figure:** Variation of  $x(t)$  for  $l_1$  and  $l_2$ ,  $\rho = 28, \sigma = 10, b = \frac{8}{3}$ .

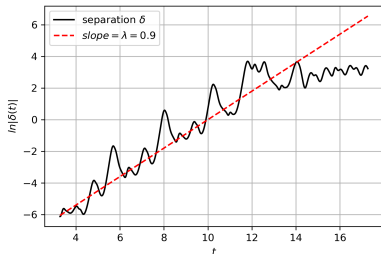


**Figure:** Variation of trajectories for  $l_1$  and  $l_2$ ,  $\rho = 28, \sigma = 10, b = \frac{8}{3}$ .



# Lorenz System

## Lyapunov Exponent



$$\delta(t) \sim \delta_0 e^{\lambda t}$$

$$t_{horizon} \sim O\left(\frac{1}{\lambda} \ln \frac{a}{\delta_0}\right)$$

**Figure:**  $\ln \delta(t)$  has a slope of  $\lambda = 0.9$   
for parameters same as those in 5



# Lorenz System

## Lorenz map

$$z_{n+1} = f(z_n)$$

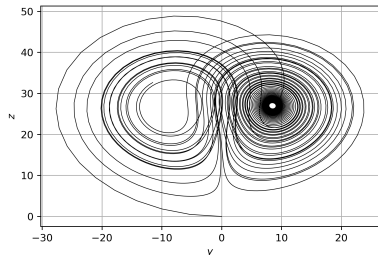


Figure: ZY view of a typical Lorenz Attractor

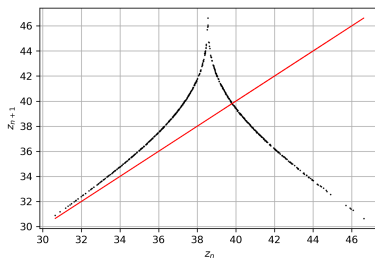


Figure: Lorenz Map







Edward Lorenz, *Deterministic Nonperiodic Flow*, [http://eaps4.mit.edu/research/Lorenz/Deterministic\\_63.pdf](http://eaps4.mit.edu/research/Lorenz/Deterministic_63.pdf)



Steven Strogatz, *Nonlinear Dynamics and Chaos: With Applications to Physics, Biology, Chemistry, and Engineering*, Sarat Book House.



William Boyce, *Elementary differential equations*

