

# Discrete dynamical systems

We consider the non-linear difference equation in  $\mathbb{R}^n$

$$(1) \quad x_{n+1} = f(x_n), \text{ where } f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \text{ is continuous}$$

Rmk. 1) For an arbitrary  $\eta \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , the IVP  $x_{n+1} = f(x_n)$ ,  $x_0 = \eta$  has a unique solution  $\eta, f(\eta), f(f(\eta)), \dots, f^k(\eta), \dots$ , where  $f^k = \underbrace{f \circ f \circ \dots \circ f}_{k \text{ times}} \rightarrow$  iterate of  $f$

$$2) \text{ The flow of (1) is } f: \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n, f(k, \eta) = f^k(\eta)$$

Def. 1)  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is called the state space,  $\eta$ -initial state,  $f^k(\eta)$  - the state at time  $k$ .

$$2) \text{ The positive orbit of } \eta \text{ is } \mathcal{X}_\eta^+ = \{\eta, f(\eta), \dots, f^k(\eta), \dots\}$$

In the case that  $f$  is invertible, we define the orbit of  $\eta$

$$\mathcal{X}_\eta^- = \{-f^{-k}(\eta), \dots, -f^{-1}(\eta), \eta, f(\eta), \dots, f^k(\eta), \dots\}, \text{ where } f^{-1} \text{ is the inverse of } f$$

$$3) \text{ We say that } \eta^* \in \mathbb{R}^n \text{ is a fixed point of } f \text{ is } f(\eta^*) = \eta^*.$$

4) Let  $\eta^*$  be a fixed point of  $f$ . We say that  $\eta^*$  is stable when,  $\forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists \delta > 0$  s.t. whenever  $\|\eta - \eta^*\| < \delta$  we have that  $\|f^k(\eta) - \eta^*\| < \varepsilon$ ,

We say that  $\eta^*$  is an attractor when  $\exists r > 0$  s.t. whenever  $\forall k \geq 0$ .

$$\|\eta - \eta^*\| < r \text{ we have that } \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} f^k(\eta) = \eta^*.$$

The basin of attraction of an attractor  $\eta^*$  is  $A_{\eta^*} = \{\eta \in \mathbb{R}^n : \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} f^k(\eta) = \eta^*\}$

Rmk. 1) Let  $\eta^*$  be a fixed point of  $f$ . Then  $\eta^*$  is a fixed point of  $f^k$ ,  $\forall k \geq 1$ .

Proof by induction: i)  $\eta^*$  is a fixed point of  $f \Leftrightarrow f(\eta^*) = \eta^*$   
 I  $\Rightarrow f(f(\eta^*)) = f(\eta^*) \Rightarrow f^2(\eta^*) = \eta^* \Rightarrow \eta^*$  fixed point of  $f^2$

II Assume that  $f^k(\eta^*) = \eta^*$  and prove that  $f^{k+1}(\eta^*) = \eta^*$

2) The positive orbit of  $\eta^*$  is  $\mathcal{X}_{\eta^*}^+ = \{\eta^*\}$ .

Proposition 3) The unique solution of the IVP  $\begin{cases} x_n = f(x_n) \\ x_0 = \eta \end{cases}$  is the sequence

$$x_n = f^n(\eta^*) = \eta^*, \quad \forall n \geq 0.$$

If  $x_n$  is a solution of (1), which is a convergent sequence, then its limit is a fixed point of  $f$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\eta^* \in \mathbb{R}^n$  be s.t.  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = \eta^*$ .

By hypothesis, we have that  $x_{n+1} = f(x_n)$ ,  $\forall n \geq 0$ .

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{n+1} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) \Rightarrow \eta^* = f(\eta^*) \quad \text{q.e.d.}$$

**Def.** Let  $\eta^* \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $p \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $p \geq 2$ . We say that  $\eta^*$  is a  $p$ -periodic point of  $f$  when  $f^p(\eta^*) = \eta^*$  and  $\eta^*$  is not a fixed point of  $f, f^2, \dots, f^{p-1}$ .

**Rank:** 1) Let  $\eta^*$  be a  $p$ -periodic point of  $f$ . Then  $\delta_{\eta^*}^+ = \{ \eta^*, f(\eta^*), \dots, f^{p-1}(\eta^*) \} \rightarrow p$ -periodic cycle

The unique solution of the IVP  $x_{n+1} = f(x_n); x_0 = \eta^*$  is  $\eta^*, f(\eta^*), \dots, f^{p-1}(\eta^*), \dots, \eta^*, \dots, f(\eta^*)$ .

2)  $\eta^*$  is a  $p$ -periodic point  $\Rightarrow f(\eta^*), \dots, f^{p-1}(\eta^*)$  are also  $p$ -periodic points.

**Example:** Let  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $f(x) = 1 - 2x^2$ . Find it's fixed points and its 2-periodic points.

fixed points:  $f(x) = x, x = 1, x \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\Leftrightarrow 1 - 2x^2 = x \Leftrightarrow -2x^2 - x + 1 = 0 \Leftrightarrow -1 \text{ and } \frac{1}{2}$$

2-periodic points:  $f^2(x) = x, x \in \mathbb{R}, f(x) \neq x$

$$f^2(x) = (f \circ f)(x) = f(f(x)) = 1 - 2[f(x)]^2$$

$$= 1 - 2(1 - 2x^2)^2 = 1 - 2 + 8x^2 - 8x^4 = -8x^4 + 8x^2 - 1$$

$$8x^4 - 8x^2 + x + 1 = 0$$

We know  $-1, \frac{1}{2}$  are fixed points of  $f \Rightarrow$  also fixed points of  $f^2 \Rightarrow$  they are roots of  $8x^4 - 8x^2 + x + 1 = 0$ .

$$8x^4 - 8x^2 + x + 1 = \underbrace{(2x^2 + x - 1)}_{\text{f.p.}} (\underbrace{4x^2 - 2x - 1}_{})$$

$$5x^2 - 2x - 1 = 0 \Rightarrow f_p: \frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{5}, \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{5}$$

Def. Let  $\eta^*$  be a p-periodic point of  $f$ . We say that  $\mathcal{X}_{\eta^*}^+$  is stable is stable / attractor / unstable when  $\eta^*$  is stable / attractor / unstable fixed point of  $f_p$ .

Rmk Let  $\eta^*$  be a p-periodic point of  $f$  which is an attractor  $\Rightarrow \exists r > 0$  s.t. whenever  $\|\eta - \eta^*\| < r$  we have  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} (f^p)^k(\eta) = \eta^*$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{X}_{\eta^*}^+ = \{f^h(\eta) : h \geq 0\} &= \{\eta, f(\eta), \dots, f^{p-1}(\eta), f^p(\eta), \dots\} \\ &\downarrow h \rightarrow \infty \\ \eta^* &\quad f(f^h(\eta)) \dots \\ &\quad \downarrow h \rightarrow \infty \\ &\quad f(\eta^*) \quad \dots \quad f^{p-1}(\eta^*) \end{aligned}$$

This  $(f^h(\eta))_{h \geq 0}$  has p convergent subsequences with the limits  $\eta^*, f(\eta^*), \dots, f^{p-1}(\eta^*)$ .

The linearization method to study the stability of the fixed points of scalar maps

Let  $\eta^*$  be a fixed point of  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , which is  $C^1$ .

If  $|f'(\eta^*)| < 1$  then  $\eta^*$  is an attractor.

If  $|f'(\eta^*)| > 1$  then  $\eta^*$  is unstable.

Exercise: Study the stability of the fixed points and the 2-periodic orbit of  $f(x) = 1 - 2x^2$ .

fixed points of  $f$ :  $-1$  and  $\frac{1}{2}$

$$f'(x) = -4x$$

$$f'(-1) = 4 \Rightarrow |f'(-1)| > 1 \Rightarrow -1 \text{ is unstable f.p.}$$

$$f'\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = -2 \Rightarrow |f'\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)| > 1 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \text{ unstable f.p.}$$

$f$  has 2-periodic orbit  $\{ \frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}, \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \}$

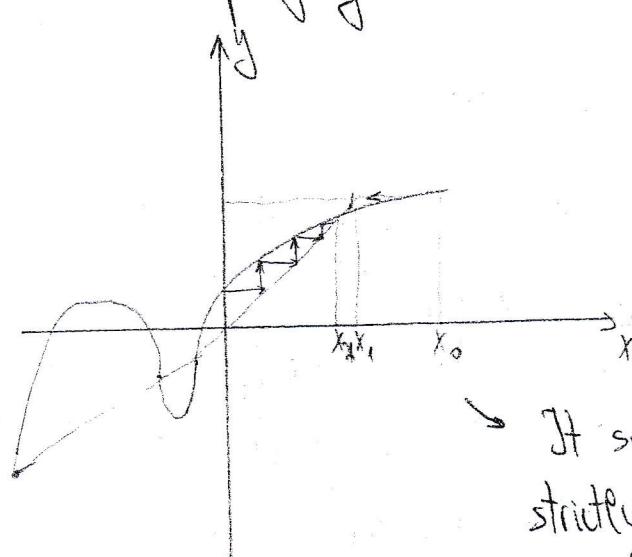
$$f^2(x) = -8x^4 + 8x^2 - 1$$

$$g = f^2$$

$$g'(x) = -32x^3 + 16x$$

$$g'\left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}\right) = \dots$$

The cob-web or stair step diagram to study the dynamic of a scalar map of  $f$ .

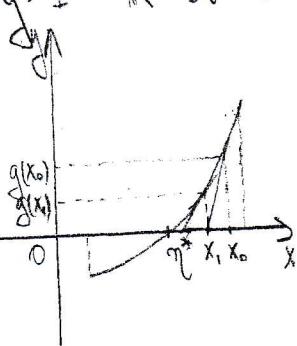


$$\begin{aligned}f(x) &= x \\x_1 &= f(x_0) \\x_2 &= f(x_1)\end{aligned}$$

→ It seems that the sequence is strictly decreasing, convergent to the fixed point nearby.

The Newton-Raphson's method to approximate the zeros of scalar maps

Let  $g: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a  $C^2$  map, where  $I \subset \mathbb{R}$  is nonempty, open interval.



$\exists \eta^* \in I$  s.t.  $g(\eta^*) = 0$  and  $g'(\eta^*) \neq 0$

the tangent line to the graph of  $g$  in  $(x_0, g(x_0))$

$$\text{has the eq: } y - g(x_0) = g'(x_0)(x - x_0)$$

$$\text{no } x \Rightarrow y = 0 \quad -g(x_0) = g'(x_0)(x_1 - x_0) \Rightarrow x_1 = x_0 - \frac{g(x_0)}{g'(x_0)}$$

We assume that  $x_0 \in V$ , where  $V \subset I$  is s.t.  $g'(x) \neq 0$ ,  $\forall x \in V$  (for example,  $V$  is a sufficiently small neighborhood of  $\eta^*$ ).

$$\Rightarrow x_{k+1} = x_k - \frac{g(x_k)}{g'(x_k)}, \quad \forall k \geq 0, \quad x_0 \in V \text{ fixed}$$

We intend to prove that  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} x_k = \eta^*$ , for any  $x_0$  sufficiently close to  $\eta^*$ .

$$\text{We define } f: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad f(x) = x - \frac{g(x)}{g'(x)}, \quad \forall x \in V$$

We find the fixed points of  $f$ , i.e.  $f(x) = x, x \in V$ .

$$x - \frac{g(x)}{g'(x)} = x \Leftrightarrow g(x) = 0 \Rightarrow \eta^* \text{ is the only fixed point of } f \text{ in } V$$

We want to prove that  $\eta^*$  is an attractor for  $f$ .

$$f'(x) = 1 - \frac{g'(x) \cdot g'(x) - g(x) \cdot g''(x)}{[g'(x)]^2} \Rightarrow f'(\eta^*) = 1 - 1 = 0 \Rightarrow |f'(\eta^*)| < 1$$

$\Leftrightarrow \eta^*$  is an attractor of  $f$  def.  $\exists r > 0$  s.t. whenever  $|\eta - \eta^*| < r$  we

$$\text{have } \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} f^k(\eta) = \eta^*$$

$$\eta = x_0, \quad f^k(\eta) = x_k$$

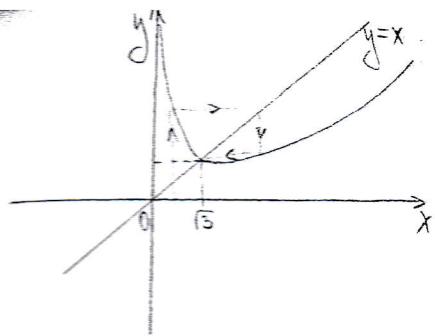
A particular case

$$g: (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad g(x) = x^2 - 3 \quad \text{with } \eta^* = \sqrt{3}, \text{ the only zero of } g$$

We intend to estimate the basin of attraction of  $\sqrt{3}$  in the Newton's method. (using the stair-step diagram).

$$f: (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad f(x) = x - \frac{x^2 - 3}{2x} = x - \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{x} = \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{x}$$

$$f(\sqrt{3}) = \sqrt{3}$$



$$f(x) > 0, \forall x > 0$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = +\infty, \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = 0$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{3}{2x^2} - \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{x^2 - 3}{x^2}$$

$y = \frac{1}{2}x$  is an oblique asymptote

x	0	$\sqrt{3}$	$\infty$
f(x)	- - -	0	+

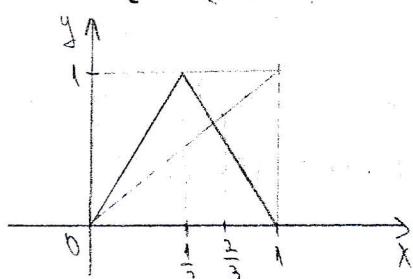
It seems that  $A_{Y_3} = (0, \infty)$

We consider the map  $T: [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, T(x) = 1 - |2x - 1|$ .

- Represent the graph of  $T$ . Find the fixed points of  $T$ .
- Compute the orbits corresponding to the initial values  $\eta = \frac{3}{2^n}, n \geq 2$ .
- Solve the equations  $T(x) = 0$ ;  $T(x) = 1$ ;  $T(x) = \frac{1}{2}$ ;  $T^2(x) = 0$ ;  $T^2(x) = 1$ ;  $T^2(x) = \frac{1}{2}$ .
- Compute  $T^2$ .
- Represent the graphs of  $T^2$  and  $T^3$ . How many fixed points they have?
- $T$  has a 2-periodic orbit?  $T$  has a 3-periodic orbit?

Fact: There is a result: "If a map has 3-periodic orbit, then it has a  $p$ -periodic orbit for any  $p \in \mathbb{N}$ ".

$$a) T(x) = \begin{cases} 1 - (2x - 1), & 2x - 1 > 0 \\ 1 + (2x - 1), & 2x - 1 \leq 0 \end{cases} = \begin{cases} 2(1-x), & x \in (\frac{1}{2}, 1] \\ 2x, & x \in [0, \frac{1}{2}] \end{cases}$$



$$\begin{aligned} T(0) &= 0 && \text{the fixed points of } T \text{ are: } 0 \text{ and } \frac{2}{3} \\ T(\frac{1}{2}) &= 1 \\ T(1) &= 0 \\ 2(1-x) &= x \\ 2 - 2x &= x \\ x &= \frac{2}{3} \end{aligned}$$

$$b) T^k\left(\frac{3}{2^n}\right) = ? \quad \frac{8}{3} \frac{3}{2^n} = ?$$

$$n=2: \eta = \frac{3}{4}, T(\eta) = T\left(\frac{3}{4}\right) = 2\left(1 - \frac{3}{4}\right) = \frac{1}{2}, T^2(\eta) = T\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = 1, T^3(\eta) = T(1) = 0, 0, 0, \dots$$

$$n=3: \eta = \frac{3}{8}, T(\eta) = T\left(\frac{3}{8}\right) = 2 \cdot \frac{3}{8} = \frac{3}{4}, T^2(\eta) = T\left(\frac{3}{4}\right) = \frac{1}{2}, 1, 0, 0, \dots, 0, \dots$$

$$n \geq 3: T\left(\frac{3}{2^n}\right) = \frac{3}{2^{n-1}}, \dots, \frac{3}{8}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{1}{2}, 1, 0, \dots, 0, \dots$$

Conclusion:  $\frac{3}{2^n}, (n \geq 2)$  is eventually the fixed point 0

$$c) T(x)=0 \Leftrightarrow x \in \{0, 1\}$$

$$T(x)=1 \Leftrightarrow x=\frac{1}{2}$$

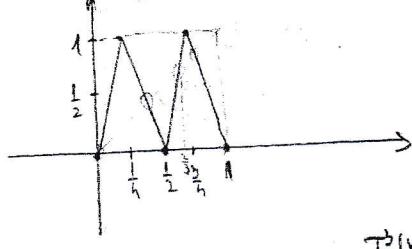
$$T(x)=\frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow x \in \left\{\frac{1}{n}, \frac{3}{n}\right\}$$

$$T^2(x)=0 \Leftrightarrow T(T(x))=0 \Leftrightarrow T(x) \in \{0, 1\} \Leftrightarrow x \in \{0, \frac{1}{2}, 1\}$$

$$T^2(x)=1 \Leftrightarrow T(T(x))=1 \Leftrightarrow T(x)=\frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow x \in \left\{\frac{1}{n}, \frac{3}{n}\right\}$$

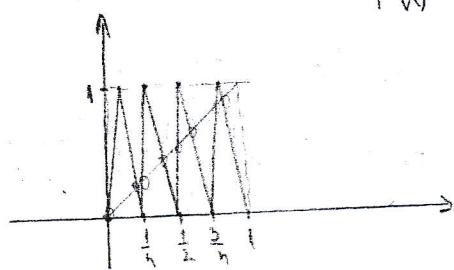
$$T^2(x)=\frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow T(T(x))=\frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow T(x) \in \left\{\frac{1}{n}, \frac{3}{n}\right\} \Leftrightarrow x \in \left\{\frac{1}{8}, \frac{7}{8}, \frac{3}{8}, \frac{5}{8}\right\}$$

$$d) T^2(x) = \begin{cases} 2(1-T(x)), & T(x) \in \left(\frac{1}{2}, 1\right] \\ 2T(x), & T(x) \in [0, \frac{1}{2}] \end{cases} = \begin{cases} 2(1-2+2x), & x \in \left(\frac{1}{2}, 1\right] \wedge T(x) \in \left(\frac{1}{2}, 1\right] \\ 2T(x), & T(x) \in [0, \frac{1}{2}] \end{cases}$$



$T^2$  has 4 fixed points

$$T^3(x)=0 \Leftrightarrow T(T^2(x))=0 \Leftrightarrow T^2(x) \in \{0, 1\} \Leftrightarrow x \in \left\{0, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{3}, 1\right\}$$



$T^3$  has 8 fixed points

f)  $T^2$  has 4 fixed points. 2 of them are 0 and  $\frac{2}{3}$ , the fixed points of  $T$ .

The other 2 fixed points of  $T^2$  form a 2-periodic orbit of  $T$ .

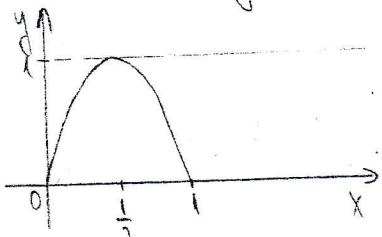
So,  $T$  has one 2-periodic orbit.

$T^3$  has 8 fixed points. 2 of them are 0 and  $\frac{2}{3}$ , the fixed points of  $T$ .

The other 6 fixed points of  $T^3$  form two 3-periodic orbits of  $T$ .

So,  $T$  has two 3-periodic orbits.

Remark. Let  $f: [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $f(x) = hx(1-x) = hx - hx^2$



$$f(x) = h - hx = h(1-x)$$

$$f\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = 1$$

## The Linearization Method

Let  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  be a  $C^1$ -map ( $n \geq 1$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ) and  $\eta^* \in \mathbb{R}^n$  be a fixed point of  $f$ .

If  $|\lambda| < 1$  for any eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of  $Df(\eta^*)$  then  $\eta^*$  is an attractor.

If there exists an eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of  $Df(\eta^*)$  such that  $|\lambda| > 1$  then  $\eta^*$  is unstable.

## Newton's method

Let  $g: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  be a  $C^2$ -map and  $V \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be open, nonempty such that  $\exists \eta^* \in V$  with  $g(\eta^*) = 0$ ,  $g'(\eta) \neq 0$ ,  $\forall \eta \in V \setminus \{\eta^*\}$  and  $Dg(\eta)$  is invertible  $\forall \eta \in V$ . We consider the sequence  $(x_k)_{k \geq 0}$  such that

$$x_{k+1} = x_k - [Dg(x_k)]^{-1} g(x_k), \quad \forall k \geq 0 \text{ with } x_0 \in V \text{ fixed.}$$

If  $V$  is sufficiently small, then  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} x_k = \eta^*$ .

Proof. Let  $f: V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $f(x) = x - [Dg(x)]^{-1} g(x)$

We have to prove that:  $\eta^*$  is the only fixed point of  $f$ :  $f(x) = x \Leftrightarrow x - [Dg(x)]^{-1} g(x) = x \Leftrightarrow g(x) = 0$

$\eta^*$  is an attractor for  $f$ :  $Df(\eta^*) = I_n - [Dg(\eta^*)]^{-1} Dg(\eta^*) = I_n - g(\eta^*)^{-1} g(\eta^*) = 0$

- derivative of  $Dg$ :  $Dg(\eta^*) \neq 0$

$\Rightarrow Df(\eta^*) = 0_n \Rightarrow Df(\eta^*)$  has the eigenvalue 0 of

multiplicity  $n \stackrel{LM}{\Leftrightarrow} \eta^*$  attractor