

Lab 4: The Logistic Map

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November 7, 2020

Abstract

In this lab, we expose some simulations with the logistic equation. Verhulst invented this equation in 1838 [1] and since then several researchers have used it to understand the basic aspects of the exponential growth with a limit [2].

1 The Logistic Equation

Researchers have applied the logistic to many areas. For instance, in population dynamics, they describe the population growth; in sociology the spreading of a rumor and in Economics, the relationship between commodity, quantity and price [2]. In this equation, the ratio of existing population to the maximum possible population at time two is equal to a constant times the ratio of existing population to the maximum possible population at time one, which in turn is multiplied by the 1 minus the same ratio at time one. The letter r designates that constant.

$$x_{n+1} = rx_n(1 - x_n) \quad (1)$$

2 When r increases...

After many iterations of the previous equation, something strange happens. When r exceeds 3.8, regular bifurcations occur until the system goes to chaos. Figure 1 shows the consequences of having $r = 2.8$ and figure 2 shows the consequences of having $r = 3.8$. Interestingly, after r passes a particular value, bifurcations start happening that makes and at after the $r = 3.8$ the system becomes chaotic.

3 Vectorized logistic map

It is possible to vectorize the logistic map. Here I will show the code for the system under different r s

```
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
n = 10
r = np.linspace(2.5, 4.0, n)
x = 1e-5 * np.ones(n)
iterations = 30
X = np.zeros((iterations, n))
for i in range(1, iterations):
    x = logistic(r, x)
    X[i, :] = x
    plt.plot(X[:, [1]], 'b')
    plt.plot(X[:, 3], 'r')
for i in range(n):
    plt.plot(X[:, i], 'b')
plt.title('r = ' + str(r[i]))
plt.show()
```

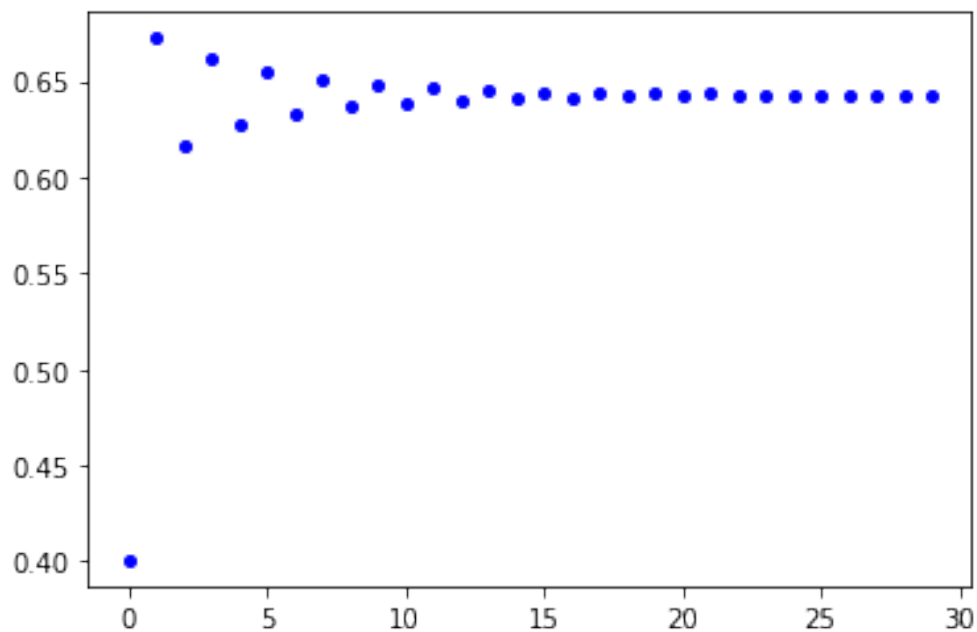


Figure 1: Behavior dependent on r , $r = 2.8$.

References

- [1] R. May, "Simple Mathematical Models With Very Complicated Dynamics," *Nature* **26** (5560), 457 (1993).

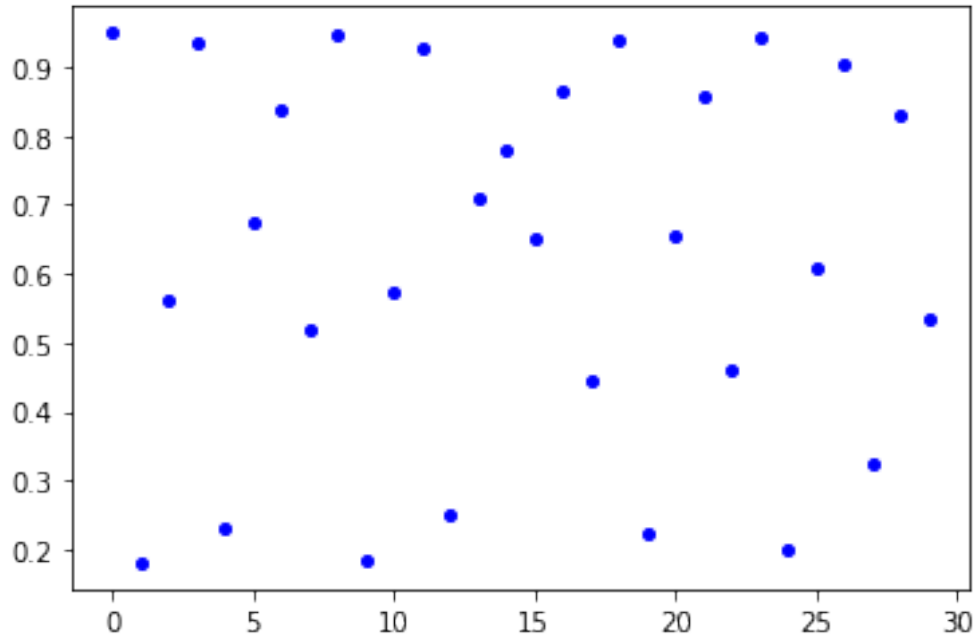


Figure 2: Behavior dependent on r , $r = 3.8$.

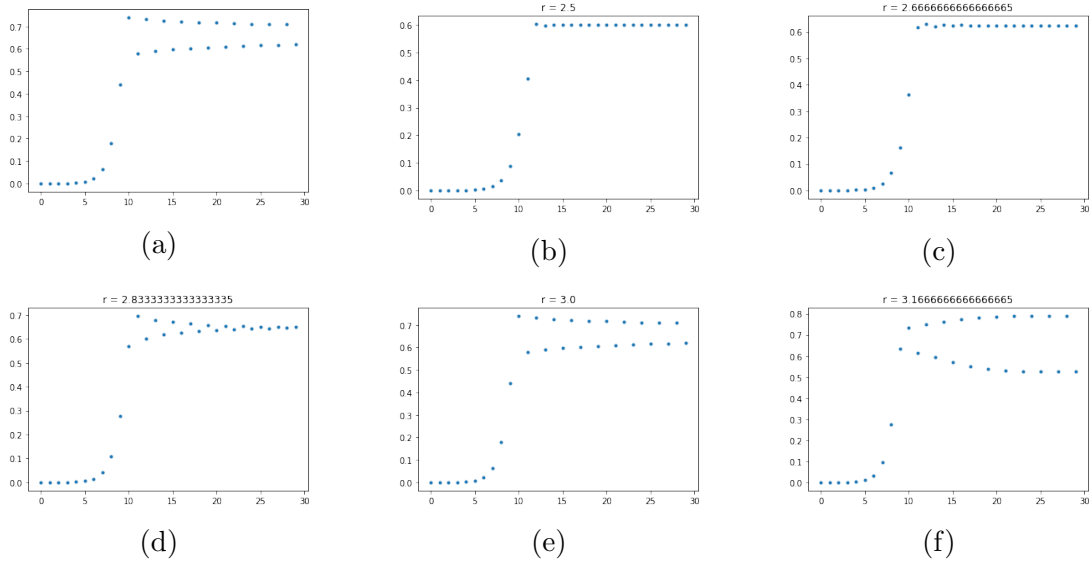


Figure 3: Vectorized logistic map