

1. For the following dynamical systems  $(X, f)$ , does  $f$  have sensitive dependence on all of  $X$ ? If not, does it have sensitive dependence at any individual points in  $X$ ? (Give some justification.)

(a)  $X = [0, 1]$ ,  $f(x) = x^3$ .

- This map does not have sensitive dependence on  $X$ , because all points in  $[0, 1)$  are attracted to the attracting fixed point at  $x = 0$ .
- It does have sensitive dependence at  $x = 1$ , since points with  $x < 1$  will be attracted to 0 but the orbit of 1 remains fixed at 1.

(b)  $X = \mathbb{R}$ ,  $f(x) = 2x + 3$ .

- This map does have sensitive dependence on  $X$ : for any points  $x$  and  $y$  we have  $|f(x) - f(y)| = 2|x - y|$ , so the distance between any two points doubles with each application of  $f$ .

(c)  $X = \mathbb{R}$ ,  $f(x) = \cos(x)$ .

- This map does not have sensitive dependence on  $X$ , or at any point of  $X$ , because the attracting basin of the attracting fixed point at  $x \approx 0.739$  is  $(-\infty, \infty)$ .
- Every orbit will be (very rapidly) attracted to this attracting fixed point, so there is no dependence at all on the starting value.

(d)  $X = \Sigma_2$ ,  $f(d_0d_1d_2d_3d_4d_5 \cdots) = (d_2d_3d_4d_5 \cdots)$ .

- This map does have sensitive dependence on  $X$ : it is the second iterate of the shift map, and essentially the same argument as used for the shift map will demonstrate that it has sensitive dependence with  $\beta = 1/2$ .
- Explicitly, suppose  $x = (d_0d_1d_2d_3 \cdots)$  and  $\epsilon > 0$  are given, and choose  $n$  such that  $2^{-2n} < \epsilon$ .
- Then choose  $y = (d_0d_1 \cdots d_{2n-1}e_{2n}000 \cdots)$  where  $e_{2n} = 1 - d_{2n}$ . Since  $x$  and  $y$  agree in the 0th through  $(2n - 1)$ st coordinates,  $d(x, y) \leq 2^{-2n} < \epsilon$ .
- Also,  $f^n(x) = (d_{2n}d_{2n+1}d_{2n+2} \cdots)$  while  $f^n(y) = (e_{2n}00 \cdots)$  so  $d(f^n(x), f^n(y)) \geq 1$ .
- Thus the orbits of  $x$  and  $y$  eventually move a distance at least 1 away from each other, so  $f$  has sensitive dependence as claimed.

2. Find exact expressions for the three 4-cycles of  $q_{-2}(x) = x^2 - 2$ .

- From in class, we know that  $q_{-2}(2 \cos t) = 2 \cos 2t$ , and the points of period dividing  $n$  for  $q_{-2}$  are the  $2^{n-1}$  values  $x = 2 \cos \frac{2k\pi}{2^n+1}$  for  $1 \leq k \leq 2^{n-1}$  along with the  $2^{n-1}$  values  $x = 2 \cos \frac{2k\pi}{2^n-1}$  for  $0 \leq k \leq 2^{n-1} - 1$ .
- So the points of period dividing 2 are  $2 \cos \frac{2\pi}{5}$ ,  $2 \cos \frac{4\pi}{5}$ ,  $2 \cos 0$ ,  $2 \cos \frac{2\pi}{3}$ .
- Then the points of period dividing 4 are  $2 \cos \frac{2\pi}{15}$ ,  $2 \cos \frac{4\pi}{15}$ ,  $2 \cos \frac{6\pi}{15} = 2 \cos \frac{2\pi}{5}$ ,  $2 \cos \frac{8\pi}{15}$ ,  $2 \cos \frac{10\pi}{15} = 2 \cos \frac{2\pi}{3}$ ,  $2 \cos \frac{12\pi}{15} = 2 \cos \frac{4\pi}{5}$ ,  $2 \cos \frac{14\pi}{15}$ , along with  $2 \cos 0$ ,  $2 \cos \frac{2\pi}{17}$ ,  $2 \cos \frac{4\pi}{17}$ ,  $2 \cos \frac{6\pi}{17}$ ,  $2 \cos \frac{8\pi}{17}$ ,  $2 \cos \frac{10\pi}{17}$ ,  $2 \cos \frac{12\pi}{17}$ ,  $2 \cos \frac{14\pi}{17}$ ,  $2 \cos \frac{16\pi}{17}$ .
- As cycles these are  $2 \cos \frac{2\pi}{15} \rightarrow 2 \cos \frac{4\pi}{15} \rightarrow 2 \cos \frac{8\pi}{15} \rightarrow 2 \cos \frac{14\pi}{15}$ ,  $2 \cos \frac{2\pi}{17} \rightarrow 2 \cos \frac{4\pi}{17} \rightarrow 2 \cos \frac{8\pi}{17} \rightarrow 2 \cos \frac{16\pi}{17}$ ,  
and  $2 \cos \frac{6\pi}{17} \rightarrow 2 \cos \frac{12\pi}{17} \rightarrow 2 \cos \frac{10\pi}{17} \rightarrow 2 \cos \frac{14\pi}{17}$ .

3. Suppose  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a continuous function. Answer the following:

- (a) If  $f$  has a point of exact period 11, does it necessarily have a point of exact period 32? 26? 17? 9? 4?
- By Sarkovskii's theorem and its converse, we need only determine which of these integers appear after 11 in the Sarkovskii ordering  $3 \triangleright 5 \triangleright 7 \triangleright \dots \triangleright 2 \cdot 3 \triangleright 2 \cdot 5 \triangleright 2 \cdot 7 \triangleright \dots \triangleright 2^2 \cdot 3 \triangleright 2^2 \cdot 5 \triangleright \dots \triangleright 2^n \triangleright 2^{n-1} \triangleright \dots \triangleright 4 \triangleright 2 \triangleright 1$ .
  - The only integers appearing before 11 are 3, 5, 7, and 9. So it does have points of period 32, 26, 17, 4 but not necessarily 9.
- (b) If  $f$  has a point of exact period 22, does it necessarily have a point of exact period 32? 26? 17? 9? 4?
- Again by Sarkovskii's theorem and its converse, we need only determine which of these integers appear after 26 in the Sarkovskii ordering.
  - All the odd integers along with 6, 10, 14 appear before 22. So it does have points of period 32, 26, 4 but not necessarily 9 or 17.
- (c) If  $f$  has a point of exact period 16, does it necessarily have a point of exact period 32? 26? 17? 9? 4?
- Again, we need only determine which of these integers appear after 16 in the Sarkovskii ordering.
  - The only integers after 16 are 8, 4, 2, and 1, so  $f$  is only required to have a point of period 4 but not any of the others.

4. Recall the definition of the tripling map  $T(x) = \begin{cases} 3x & \text{for } 0 \leq x < 1/3 \\ 3x - 1 & \text{for } 1/3 \leq x < 2/3 \\ 3x - 2 & \text{for } 2/3 \leq x < 1 \end{cases}$  on the interval  $[0, 1)$ . Equivalently,  $T(x) = 3x$  modulo 1. The goal of this problem is to prove that  $T$  is chaotic.

- (a) Suppose  $\alpha = 0.d_1d_2d_3d_4\dots$  in base 3, where, if  $\alpha$  has a terminating expansion, we use that expansion instead of the non-terminating one. Show that  $T(\alpha) = 0.d_2d_3d_4\dots$
- If  $\alpha = 0.d_1d_2d_3d_4\dots$ , then  $3\alpha = d_1.d_2d_3d_4\dots$ , so  $3\alpha$  is congruent to  $0.d_2d_3d_4\dots \pmod{1}$ , and  $0.d_2d_3d_4\dots$  lies in the interval  $[0, 1]$ .
  - The only potential ambiguity is if  $\alpha$  has two base-3 representations where the digit  $d_1$  can have two different possible values.
  - There are only three such  $\alpha$ :  $\alpha = 0.1 = 0.0\bar{2}$ ,  $\alpha = 0.2 = 0.1\bar{2}$ , and  $\alpha = 1.0 = 0.\bar{2}$ , and it is straightforward to check that the statement also holds for these three values. So  $T(\alpha) = 0.d_2d_3d_4\dots$  in all cases.
- (b) Show that the periodic points for  $T$  in  $[0, 1)$  are precisely the points with a periodic base-3 decimal expansion. Conclude that the set of periodic points for  $T$  is dense in  $[0, 1)$ .
- Suppose that  $T^n(\alpha) = \alpha$ , where  $\alpha = 0.d_1d_2d_3\dots$  is a non-terminating base-3 expansion.
  - By part (a), we know that  $T^n(\alpha) = 0.d_{n+1}d_{n+2}d_{n+3}\dots$ , meaning that  $d_i = d_{n+i}$  for each  $i \geq 1$ .
  - In other words, the base-3 expansion of  $\alpha$  repeats every  $n$  digits.
  - Conversely, it is immediate that if the base-3 expansion of  $\alpha$  repeats every  $n$  digits, and if  $\alpha$  does not have a terminating base-3 expansion, then  $T^n(\alpha) = \alpha$ .
  - If  $\alpha \in [0, 1)$  does have a terminating base-3 expansion, then it cannot be periodic unless  $\alpha = 0$  (since the digits in the expansion are eventually all zeroes), and 0 is a fixed point of  $T$ .
  - For the last statement, observe that if  $x = 0.x_1x_2x_3x_4\dots$ , then there is a sequence of periodic points converging to  $x$ , namely:  $0.\bar{x}_1$ ,  $0.\bar{x}_1x_2$ ,  $0.\bar{x}_1x_2x_3$ ,  $0.\bar{x}_1x_2x_3x_4$ , ....

(c) Let  $\gamma = 0.\underbrace{012}_{\text{length 1}}\underbrace{00010210\cdots 22}_{\text{length 2}}\cdots$  be the real number obtained by listing all length-1 sequences in base 3, then all length-2 sequences, then all length-3 sequences, and so forth. Show that the orbit of  $\gamma$  is dense in  $[0, 1)$ , and conclude  $T$  is transitive on  $[0, 1)$ .

- By part (a),  $T^k(\gamma)$  deletes the first  $k$  digits of the base-3 decimal expansion of  $\gamma$ .
- So in particular, for any sequence of digits, there is some  $k$  such that the decimal expansion of  $T^k(\gamma)$  that begins with that sequence of digits.
- Thus for any  $x \in [0, 1)$  and any  $n \geq 1$ , there is an element  $x_n$  in the orbit of  $\gamma$  under  $T$  that agrees with  $x$  to  $n$  decimal places.
- Then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x$ , since  $|x_n - x| \leq \sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} \frac{2}{3^k} \leq 3^{-n}$ .
- Since there is a sequence of points in the orbit of  $\gamma$  converging to  $x$  for any  $x \in [0, 1)$ , this means  $\gamma$  has a dense orbit, and therefore in particular  $T$  is transitive on  $[0, 1)$ .

(d) Suppose  $x$  and  $y$  are in  $[0, 1)$  with  $y > x$ . If both  $x$  and  $y$  lie in the same interval  $[0, 1/3)$ ,  $[1/3, 2/3)$ , or  $[2/3, 1)$ , show that  $|T(y) - T(x)| = 3|y - x|$ . If they lie in different intervals, show that at least one of  $|y - x|$  and  $|T(y) - T(x)|$  must be  $\geq 1/4$ .

- If  $x$  and  $y$  are both in  $[0, 1/3)$ ,  $[1/3, 2/3)$ , or  $[2/3, 1)$  then  $T(y) = 3y - a$  and  $T(x) = 3x - a$  for  $a \in \{0, 1, 2\}$  so  $|T(y) - T(x)| = 3|y - x|$  in each case.
- Now suppose  $y$  and  $x$  lie in different intervals. If  $y - x \geq 1/4$  then we are already done.
- Otherwise, assume  $y - x < 1/4$ . If  $x \in [0, 1/3)$  then  $y \in [1/3, 2/3)$ , so  $T(y) = 3y - 1$  and  $T(x) = 3x$ . Then  $|T(y) - T(x)| = |1 - 3(y - x)| > 1/4$ , as required.
- If  $x \in [1/3, 2/3)$  then  $y \in [2/3, 1)$  so  $T(y) = 3y - 2$  and  $T(x) = 3x - 1$ . then  $|T(y) - T(x)| = |1 - 3(y - x)| > 1/4$  once again.

(e) Suppose  $x$  and  $y$  are in  $[0, 1)$  and that  $y \neq x$ . Show that there is some  $k \geq 0$  for which  $|T^k(y) - T^k(x)| \geq 1/4$ . Conclude that  $T$  has sensitive dependence on  $[0, 1)$ .

- Let  $n \geq 1$  and consider the iterates  $T^n(x)$  and  $T^n(y)$ . If they lie in different intervals  $[0, 1/3)$ ,  $[1/3, 2/3)$ ,  $[2/3, 1)$ , then by part (d) then it is either true that  $|T^n(x) - T^n(y)| \geq 1/4$  or  $|T^{n+1}(x) - T^{n+1}(y)| \geq 1/4$ , so we are done.
- We only need to eliminate the possibility that  $T^n(x)$  and  $T^n(y)$  always lie in the same interval. By part (d), if this is true then  $|T^n(x) - T^n(y)| = 3^n|x - y|$ . However, because  $x \neq y$ , eventually  $3^n|x - y|$  will exceed  $1/3$ : but this is impossible by the assumption that  $T^n(x)$  and  $T^n(y)$  both lie in an interval of length  $1/3$ .
- Finally, if we take any  $\beta < 1/4$ , then our results show that the definition of sensitive dependence is satisfied for that value of  $\beta$ .

(f) Show that  $T$  is chaotic on  $[0, 1)$ .

- By parts (b), (c), and (e),  $T$  has a dense set of periodic points,  $T$  is transitive, and  $T$  has sensitive dependence. Therefore, by definition,  $T$  is chaotic.

5. Let  $g : [0, 2] \rightarrow [0, 2]$  be defined via  $g(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 - 3x + 2 & \text{for } 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ x - 1 & \text{for } 1 < x \leq 2 \end{cases}$ . Show that  $g$  has a point of exact period  $n$  for each  $n \geq 1$ .

- Since  $g$  is continuous (as both component functions are continuous and they are both equal to 0 at  $x = 1$ ), by Sarkovskii's theorem the statement that  $g$  has a point of exact period  $n$  for each  $n \geq 1$  is equivalent to the statement that  $g$  has a point of order 3.
- So we look for a 3-cycle. A tiny amount of searching reveals the 3-cycle  $\{0, 2, 1\}$ , as  $g(0) = 2$ ,  $g(2) = 1$ , and  $g(1) = 0$ . Thus by Sarkovskii's theorem,  $g$  has a point of exact period  $n$  for each  $n \geq 1$ .

6. Suppose  $f : I \rightarrow I$  is a continuous function on a closed interval  $I \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ .

- (a) Suppose that the set of fixed points of  $f$  is dense in  $I$ . Prove that  $f$  must be the identity function (i.e., that  $f(x) = x$  for all  $x \in I$ ). [Hint: If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = a$  is any convergent sequence, then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(a_n) = f(a)$ .]
- Let  $a \in I$ . By the assumption that the set of fixed points is dense, there is some sequence of fixed points  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = a$ .
  - Then since  $f$  is continuous and  $f(a_n) = a_n$  for all  $n$ , we see that  $a = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(a_n) = f(a)$ .
  - So  $f(a) = a$ . This is true for any  $a \in I$ , so  $f$  is the identity function.
- (b) Suppose that the set of periodic points of period  $\leq n$  for  $f$  is dense in  $I$ . Prove that some iterate of  $f$  must be the identity function. [Hint: Consider  $g = f^{n!}$ .]
- Let  $g(x) = f^{n!}(x)$ . Then since  $k$  divides  $n!$  for each  $1 \leq k \leq n$  we see that the set of periodic points of period  $\leq n$  for  $f$  are all fixed points for  $f^{n!}$ .
  - Thus, the set of fixed points of  $f^{n!}$  is dense in  $I$ , so by part (a) we conclude that  $f^{n!}$  is the identity function, and so every point of  $I$  is a periodic point for  $f$ .
- (c) [Optional] Suppose that some iterate of  $f$  is the identity function. Show that  $f$  cannot have sensitive dependence. [Hint: If  $f^n$  is the identity, then given  $x \in I$ , show that there exists a positive constant  $\epsilon_k$  such that  $|y - x| < \epsilon_k$  implies  $|f^k(y) - f^k(x)| < \beta/2$ . Then let  $\epsilon = \min(\epsilon_0, \epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_{n-1})$ .]
- Suppose  $x \in I$  and that  $f$  had sensitive dependence with a given value  $\beta > 0$ .
  - Then since  $f$  (hence  $f^k$ ) is continuous, we see that  $\lim_{y \rightarrow x} f^k(y) = f^k(x)$ .
  - In particular, there is some  $\epsilon_k$  such that  $|y - x| < \epsilon_k$  implies  $|f^k(y) - f^k(x)| < \beta/2$ , by the definition of the limit.
  - Now, if we let  $\epsilon = \min(\epsilon_0, \epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_{n-1})$ , then  $|y - x| < \epsilon$  implies  $|f^k(y) - f^k(x)| < \beta/2$  for all  $0 \leq k \leq n - 1$ . But since  $f^n$  is the identity, this inequality actually holds for all  $k \geq 0$ .
  - But this contradicts sensitive dependence, because by hypothesis, for the given value of  $\epsilon$ , there should exist  $y$  and  $k$  with  $|y - x| < \epsilon$  such that  $|f^k(y) - f^k(x)| > \beta$ . (But there cannot be such  $y$  and  $k$  because  $|f^k(y) - f^k(x)|$  is always less than  $\beta/2$ .)
- (d) Suppose that  $f$  is chaotic on  $I$ . Show that  $f$  must have periodic points of arbitrarily large exact period.
- By hypothesis,  $f$  has a dense set of periodic points. If  $f$  only had periodic points of period at most  $n$ , then by part (b), some iterate of  $f$  would be the identity.
  - Then by part (c),  $f$  would not have sensitive dependence. But  $f$  is chaotic, so it does have sensitive dependence. This is a contradiction, so  $f$  must have periodic points of arbitrarily large exact period.
- (e) Suppose that  $f$  is chaotic on  $I$ . Show that  $f$  must have a point of exact order  $2^d$  for every positive integer  $d$ .
- By part (d),  $f$  has points of arbitrarily large exact period. If any of these periods is not a power of 2, then by Sarkovskii's theorem we would immediately get the result, since every integer not a power of 2 precedes every power of 2 in the Sarkovskii ordering.
  - If all of these periods are powers of 2, then since they become arbitrarily large,  $f$  must have a point of exact order  $2^{d_i}$  for some sequence  $d_i \rightarrow \infty$ . But then, again by Sarkovskii's theorem,  $f$  also has points of order  $2^k$  for each integer  $k \leq d_i$  and each  $i$ , so since the  $d_i \rightarrow \infty$  we still get the desired result.
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