A COMPUTER–ASSISTED PROOF OF $\Sigma_3$-CHAOS IN THE FORCED DAMPED PENDULUM EQUATION

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Abstract. The present paper is devoted to studying Hubbard’s pendulum equation
\[ \ddot{x} + 10^{-1}\dot{x} + \sin(x) = \cos(t). \]
Using rigorous/interval methods of computation, the main assertion of Hubbard on chaos properties of the induced dynamics is raised from the level of experimentally observed facts to the level of a theorem completely proved. A special family of solutions is shown to be chaotic in the sense that, on consecutive time intervals $(2k\pi, 2(k+1)\pi)$ ($k \in \mathbb{Z}$), individual members of the family can freely “choose” between the following possibilities: the pendulum either crosses the bottom position exactly once clockwise or does not cross the bottom position at all or crosses the bottom position exactly once counterclockwise. The proof follows the topological index/degree approach by Mischaikow, Mrozek, and Zgliczynski. The new feature of this paper is a definition of the transition graph for which the periodic orbit lemma – the key technical result of the approach mentioned above – turns out to be a consequence of Brouwer’s fixed point theorem. The role of wholly automatic versus ‘trial-and-error with human overheads’ computer procedures in detecting chaos is also discussed.

Key words. forced damped pendulum, $\Sigma_3$-chaos, computer-aided proof, transition graph, interval arithmetic

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1. Introduction and the main results. The complexity of the solutions to the forced damped pendulum equation
\[ m\ell\ddot{x} + b\dot{x} + mg\sin(x) = A\cos(\omega t) \]
and of related systems is one of the most frequently studied problems in dynamics. For certain values of the parameters, small perturbation theory can be applied to prove chaotic behaviour.

However, a purely theoretical approach can hardly lead to a proof for chaos if small perturbation methods break down such as in the case where
\[ (1.1) \quad \ddot{x} + 10^{-1}\dot{x} + \sin(x) = \cos(t) \]
(i.e., for parameters $m\ell = mg = A = \omega = 1$ and $b = 10^{-1}$) investigated by Hubbard [24]. Based on numerical experiments and the accompanying abstract considerations mimicking Smale’s geometric horseshoe construction, Hubbard [24] made the existence
of $\Sigma_3$-chaos—both on Poincaré sections of the $2\pi$-solution mapping and also in more natural terms of the dynamics—quite plausible. His main result can be stated as follows:

\textbf{Theorem H (J.H. Hubbard [24])}. Suppose we are given a biinfinite sequence \( \{\varepsilon_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \in \{-1; 0; 1\}^\mathbb{Z} \), arbitrarily chosen. Then the pendulum governed by equation (1.1) has at least one motion that corresponds to the biinfinite sequence \( \{\varepsilon_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \) in the sense that, during the time interval \((2k\pi, 2(k+1)\pi)\), the pendulum bob

- crosses the bottom position exactly once clockwise if and only if \( \varepsilon_k = -1 \),
- does not cross the bottom position at all if and only if \( \varepsilon_k = 0 \),
- crosses the bottom position exactly once counterclockwise if and only if \( \varepsilon_k = 1 \),
- and does not point downwards at the time instants \( t = 2k\pi \), \( k \in \mathbb{Z} \).

The first aim of this paper is to interpret Hubbard’s observation within the Mischaikow-Mrozek framework of computer-assisted proofs for horseshoe-type chaos. We use the word ‘observation’ because, as is written on page 755 of [24], “no statement is proved anywhere”. Hubbard arranges numerical evidence according to the framework of symbolic dynamics. We complete his work by filling in the gaps via refinements of some of his theoretical arguments (in particular, by introducing the small quadrangles \( L_\ell \) and \( M_\ell \), \( \ell \in \mathbb{Z} \)) and performing the necessary rigorous interval arithmetics computations. We will show that Theorem H is a consequence of a technical result based on Figure 10 in Hubbard [24], which shows images and preimages of three large quadrangles, the convex hulls of the smaller sets \( L_\ell \cap M_\ell \cap R_\ell \), \( \ell = -1, 0, 1 \). In short, the observation is turned into a theorem.

\textbf{Theorem 1.1}. There exist compact pairwise disjoint quadrangles

\[ L_0, M_0, R_0 \subset \{(x, \dot{x}) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid 0 < x < 2\pi \} \]

with the following properties. Given a biinfinite sequence \( \{\varepsilon_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \in \{-1; 0; 1\}^\mathbb{Z} \), there exists a solution \( x = x(\{\varepsilon_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}}) : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \) to equation (1.1) such that

\[ (x(2k\pi), \dot{x}(2k\pi)) \in \begin{cases} 
L_{\sigma_k} & \text{if } \varepsilon_k = -1 \\
M_{\sigma_k} & \text{if } \varepsilon_k = 0 \\
R_{\sigma_k} & \text{if } \varepsilon_k = 1 
\end{cases} \]

where \( \sigma_{k+1} = \sigma_k + \varepsilon_k \), \( k \in \mathbb{Z} \) with \( \sigma_0 = 0 \) and

\[ \ell \in \mathbb{Z} \]

Quadrangles \( L_0, M_0, R_0 \) are shown in Figure 2.2. Property (1.2) means that the horizontal \( 2\ell\pi \)-translates \( L_\ell \), \( M_\ell \), \( R_\ell \) of the carefully-chosen quadrangles \( L_0, M_0, R_0 \) are visited by trajectories of the Poincaré mapping

\[ \Pi : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \; , \; (x(0), \dot{x}(0)) \rightarrow (x(2\pi), \dot{x}(2\pi)) \]

in the given order prescribed by the biinfinite sequence \( \{\varepsilon_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \). The underlying circle of abstract topological results on transition graphs and iterates of continuous mappings are the key parts of the landmark paper by Mischaikow and Mrozek [30] and of the great number of contributions that followed. The essence of the Mischaikow-Mrozek approach is to prove the existence of an abundance of combinatorially different periodic orbits and then, by using the density of periodic orbits in the shift dynamics, to pass to the existence of horseshoe-type chaos. The main technical tool is represented
by what we call Lemma 2.1 in Section 2 below. Lemma 2.1 relates to transition graphs and periodic orbits in two dimensions and constitutes the main step in proving Theorem 1.1.

The second aim of this paper is to provide an elementary proof of a higher-dimensional generalization of Lemma 2.1. Higher dimensional versions of Lemma 2.1 were given by Gidea and Zgliczynski [21] and Pireddu and Zanolin [37]. The underlying definitions of the transition graphs in [21] and [37] (the latter being motivated by [25]) are different. However, both proofs are based on Brouwer degree arguments. Here we will give a third definition of the transition graph in higher dimensions—the two-dimensional case having been settled by Papini and Zanolin [34]—where a simple application of Brouwer’s fixed point theorem suffices. This implies, in particular, that in some of the earliest computer-assisted proofs for horseshoe-type chaos [30], [52], [53], [54], Conley index and/or Brouwer degree arguments can be replaced by applications of Brouwer’s fixed point theorem. See also Remark 1.

The computer-aided parts of the proofs of Theorems 1.1 and H were performed in the LINUX and Cygwin environments, on a typical modern PC. We used the PROFIL/BIAS [27] programming environment which supports interval arithmetics and the Validated Numerical ODE (VNODE) package by Ned Nedialkov [32], [33]. Our basic references for rigorous/interval computation and set-valued numerics are [1] and [13], respectively.

The computer program used for the proof can be downloaded from the web page www.inf.u-szeged.hu/~banhelyi/FDP together with a short introduction and screenshots of the installation procedure.

This paper is organized as follows. Section 2 begins with a definition of the transition graph in two dimensions, goes on to state Lemma 2.1, and ends with a proof of Theorem 1.1. Theorem H and a higher dimensional generalization of Lemma 2.1 are proved in Sections 4 and 5, respectively. Connections to a 4D neural networks model are investigated in Section 6. Section 3 is devoted to a discussion of the role of the computer in chaos detection.

The results on symbolic dynamics and various forms of the pendulum equation can be found in a variety of papers. Two early results in this direction concern the standard pendulum equation with damping and variable length (but without an external forcing term) \( \ddot{x} + b \dot{x} + (1 + c \sin(\mu t)) \sin(x) = 0 \). They were obtained by applying Melnikov’s approach [48] and a computer-assisted version of the shooting method [23], respectively. The concept of a chaotic oscillation for the case \( b = 0 \) was defined in [17]. For the singularly perturbed van der Pol equation \( \varepsilon \ddot{x} + \varphi(x) \dot{x} + \varepsilon x = p(t) \), where \( \varphi \) and \( p \) are piecewise constant, the existence of embedded symbolic dynamics was proved by Mark Levi [28] in 1981. He used Newhouse’s abstract results on homoclinic bifurcations.

From the enormous (and still mathematically sound) literature on chaos in electrical circuits, we refer to the computer-assisted proofs of Galias [18] for chaos in Chua’s circuit as well as to the computer-assisted proof of Yang and Li [47] for chaos in Josephson junctions.

Chaos results for the time-periodic nonlinear Hill equation \( \ddot{x} + q(t)g(x) = 0 \) were obtained by topological and variational methods. The slightly more general time-periodic equations \( \ddot{x} + b \dot{x} + q(t)g(x) = 0 \) and \( \ddot{x} + \partial W(t, x)/\partial x = h(t) \) were investigated in [7] and [6], respectively. For details, generalizations, and more references, see the forthcoming survey by Papini and Zanolin [35]. Note that Hubbard’s pendulum equation (1.1) is not included in their discussions of theoretical and computational
results, however.

2. Transition graph and chaos associated. For $j \in \mathbb{Z}$, define

$$Q_j = \{(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid 3j + 1 \leq x_1 \leq 3j + 2, 0 \leq x_2 \leq 1\},$$

$$\lambda_j = \{x \in Q_j \mid x_1 = 3j + 1\}, \quad \rho_j = \{x \in Q_j \mid x_1 = 3j + 2\},$$

$$E_j = \{(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid 3j + 1 \leq x_1 \leq 3j + 2, |2x_2 - 1| > 1\}.$$

Let $X = \cup_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} Q_j \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ and consider a continuous mapping $\varphi : X \to \mathbb{R}^2$ with coordinate functions $\varphi_1, \varphi_2$. The transition graph $\mathcal{G}(\varphi)$ of $\varphi$ is defined as a directed graph with vertex set $V(\mathcal{G}) = \mathbb{Z}$. For $j, \tilde{j} \in V(\mathcal{G})$, the pair $(j, \tilde{j})$ belongs to the edge set $E(\mathcal{G})$ of $\mathcal{G}(\varphi)$ if

$$\varphi(Q_j) \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \text{cl}(E_j) \quad (2.1)$$

and one of the following conditions holds true:

$$\varphi_1(x) < 3\tilde{j} + 1 \text{ for } x \in \lambda_j \quad \text{and} \quad \varphi_1(x) > 3\tilde{j} + 2 \text{ for } x \in \rho_j \quad (2.2)$$

or

$$\varphi_1(x) > 3\tilde{j} + 2 \text{ for } x \in \lambda_j \quad \text{and} \quad \varphi_1(x) < 3\tilde{j} + 1 \text{ for } x \in \rho_j. \quad (2.3)$$

Sets $Q_j, \lambda_j, \rho_j, E_j \ (j = 0, 1, 2)$ as well as relation $(0, 2) \in E(\mathcal{G})$ are shown in Figure 2.1. We write $V = V(\mathcal{G}) = \mathbb{Z}$ and $E = E(\mathcal{G})$ in the following. For $N \in \mathbb{N}$, the directed graph $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{C}(j_0, j_1, \ldots, j_N)$ is a directed $(N + 1)$-circle in $\mathcal{G}(\varphi)$ if $V(\mathcal{C}) = \{j_0, j_1, \ldots, j_N\} \subset \mathbb{Z}$ and, with the convention $j_{N+1} = j_0$, $E(\mathcal{C}) = \{(j_k, j_{k+1})\}_{k=0}^N \subset E$. The directed graph $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{P}(\{j_k \mid k \in \mathbb{Z}\})$ is a directed bidirectional path in $\mathcal{G}(\varphi)$ if $V(\mathcal{P}) = \{j_k \mid k \in \mathbb{Z}\} \subset \mathbb{Z}$ and $E(\mathcal{P}) = \{(j_k, j_{k+1})\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \subset E$. The definition of directed finite and infinite paths (i.e. paths having a root vertex) in $\mathcal{G}(\varphi)$ follows a similar pattern and will not be included here.

**Lemma 2.1.** Let $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{C}(j_0, j_1, \ldots, j_N)$ be a directed circle in the transition graph $\mathcal{G}(\varphi)$. Then there is a finite sequence of points $\{q_k\}_{k=0}^N \subset X$ such that, with the

**Fig. 2.1. Notation used to define the transition graph in two dimensions**
convention $q_{N+1} = q_0$, 

$$q_{k+1} = \varphi(q_k) \quad \text{and} \quad q_k \in Q_{j_k}, \quad k = 0, 1, \ldots, N.$$ 

Actually, Lemma 2.1 comes from the paper by Mischaikow and Mrozek [30]. As stated above, it is a version of the main result in Zgliczynski [52]. The formulation and the proof of a higher-dimensional generalization of Lemma 2.1 will be postponed until Section 5.

**Corollary 2.2.** Let $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{P}\{j_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}}$ be a directed biinfinite path in the transition graph $\mathcal{G}(\varphi)$. Assume that either

(A) every directed infinite path in $\mathcal{P}$ has infinitely many different vertices

or

(B) $\mathcal{G}$ (as a directed graph) is connected.

Then there is a biinfinite sequence of points $\{q_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \subset X$ with the property that

$$q_{k+1} = \varphi(q_k) \quad \text{and} \quad q_k \in Q_{j_k}, \quad k \in \mathbb{Z}.$$ 

**Proof.** Case (A). Choose a positive integer $\ell = L$ and consider the finite path with consecutive vertices $(j_{-L}, j_{-L+1}, \ldots, j_L) \in \mathbb{Z}^{2L+1}$. Next, choose an integer $M > L$ such that $j_M \neq j_k$ for $k = -L, \ldots, L$. Redefining $\varphi$ on $Q_{j_M}$, we may assume that $(j_M, j_{-L}) \in E$. Thus the extended finite sequence $(j_{-L}, \ldots, j_L, j_{L+1}, \ldots, j_M) \in V^{L+1+M}$ forms the set of consecutive vertices of a directed circle in $\mathcal{G}(\varphi)$. Applying Lemma 2.1, we conclude there must exist a finite sequence of points $\{q^\ell_k\}_{|k| \leq L} \subset X$ such that

$$q^\ell_{k+1} = \varphi(q^\ell_k) \quad \text{for} \quad k = -L, \ldots, L - 1 \quad \text{and} \quad q^\ell_k \in Q_{j_k} \quad \text{for} \quad k = -L, \ldots, L.$$ 

Repeating the previous considerations for $\ell = L + 1, L + 2, \ldots$, a standard Bolzano-Weierstrass subsequence argument in the limiting process $\ell \to \infty$ leads to the desired result.

Case (B). The connectedness of $\mathcal{G}$ is equivalent to the property that every directed finite path in $\mathcal{P}$ is contained in a directed circle of $\mathcal{G}(\varphi)$. Consequently, with some minor modifications, the argument we applied in proving case (A) can be repeated here.

Corollary 2.2 asserts the existence of a $\varphi$-trajectory which visits the $Q_j$’s in the prescribed order: a directed biinfinite path of type (A) or (B) of the transition graph is shadowed by a $\varphi$-trajectory. Directed $(N + 1)$-circles in $\mathcal{G}(\varphi)$ are shadowed by $(N + 1)$-periodic $\varphi$-trajectories. This is the essence of Lemma 2.1.

**Remark 1.** If $N = 0$, then Lemma 2.1 simplifies to the Colorado fixed point theorem in [3]. If the vertical coordinate is missing, then Lemma 2.1 simplifies to a well-known result in one-dimensional dynamics (see, for example Lemma III.1.4 in [40]) whose proof is based solely on the intermediate value theorem. The proof of a higher dimensional generalization of Lemma 2.1 in Section 5 mimics the standard derivation of the Miranda theorem from Brouwer’s fixed point theorem [36]. Note that the Miranda theorem is nothing else but the higher dimensional counterpart of the intermediate value theorem. It is known to be equivalent to Brouwer’s fixed point theorem and to many other important results in topology [51]. Its history can be traced back to Poincaré and Bohl. Not long ago, the Miranda theorem appeared as a root test in numerical analysis and interval computation [16], [15], [42] as well as in
chaos theory for two-dimensional mappings [34], [4]. The ‘rectangular nature’ of the Miranda theorem fits in beautifully with the rectangles used to define the transition graph as well as the rectangles used in rigorous/interval computation.

Remark 2. Observe that Lemma 2.1 remains valid if the right hand side of inclusion (2.1) is weakened to $\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus E_j$ and the strict inequalities in (2.2) and (2.3) are replaced by their nonstrict counterparts. (In fact, for $\ell = 1, 2, \ldots$, it is elementary to construct a modified map $\varphi^\ell : X \to \mathbb{R}^2$ satisfying $|\varphi^\ell - \varphi| < 1/\ell$ for which Lemma 2.1 (as stated above) applies. Allowing $\ell \to \infty$, the existence of the desired $\varphi$-periodic trajectory follows from the Bolzano-Weierstrass argument.) The reason for stating Lemma 2.1 in the form presented above is to make the result stable with respect to small perturbations. Actually, if the conditions of Lemma 2.1 are met, and a continuous mapping $\tilde{\varphi} : \bigcup_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} Q_j \to \mathbb{R}^2$ satisfies $\max\{|\varphi(q) - \tilde{\varphi}(q)| : q \in \bigcup_{k=0}^{N-1} Q_k\} \leq \eta$ with $\eta$ sufficiently small, then the $(N + 1)$-tuple $(j_0, j_1, \ldots, j_N) \in \mathbb{Z}^{N+1}$ forms a directed circle in $\mathcal{G}(\tilde{\varphi})$ as well. As we shall see below, it is exactly this robustness property of the transition graph which makes Lemma 2.1 so suitable in computer-assisted proofs for horseshoe-type chaos. Stability in small perturbations in turn ensures stability in numerical approximations, including those with rounding errors.

Now we shall return to equation (1.1) studied by Hubbard [24].

In what follows we will demonstrate how Corollary 2.2 applies and how it leads to a complete proof of Theorem 1.1. The strategy is to find a biinfinite sequence of pairwise disjoint compact sets $\{K_j\}_{j \in \mathbb{Z}}$ in the Poincaré plane $\{(x, \dot{x}) \in \mathbb{R}^2\}$ such that, up to a coordinate transformation $h$, Corollary 2.2 applies to the associated Poincaré mapping $\Pi : (x(0), \dot{x}(0)) \to (x(2\pi), \dot{x}(2\pi))$ of equation (1.1). We need a homeomorphism $h$ of the Poincaré plane onto the standard plane $\{(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2\}$ such that, for

$$\varphi = h\Pi h^{-1} | X : X \to \mathbb{R}^2 \text{ with } Q_j = h(K_j), \ j \in \mathbb{Z},$$

Corollary 2.2 directly applies. Here, of course, $X = \bigcup_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} Q_j$ and $h\Pi h^{-1} | X$ means the restriction of $h\Pi h^{-1}$ to $X$. Since $\Pi$ is $2\pi$-periodic in the $x$ variable and the number of different $\varepsilon$‘s is three, the biinfinite sequence $\{K_j\}_{j \in \mathbb{Z}}$ is sought as a collection of the horizontal $2\ell\pi$-translates of the three specially-chosen quadrangles $L_0, M_0, R_0$ (compare the notation in (1.3) and see Figure 2.2) with

$$K_{3\ell} = L_0 + (2\ell\pi, 0), \ K_{3\ell+1} = M_0 + (2\ell\pi, 0), \ K_{3\ell+2} = R_0 + (2\ell\pi, 0), \ \ell \in \mathbb{Z}.$$ 

Given a biinfinite sequence $\{\varepsilon_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \in \{-10; 0; 1\}^\mathbb{Z}$, it is essential that the directed biinfinite path $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{P}(\{j_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}})$ with $j_k = 3\sigma_k + 1 + \varepsilon_k$ (where—as defined in Theorem 1.1—$\sigma_0 = 0$ and $\sigma_{k+1} = \sigma_k + \varepsilon_k$ for $k \in \mathbb{Z}$) be a subgraph of $\mathcal{G}(\varphi)$. Applying Corollary 2.2, trajectories satisfying (1.2) correspond to the directed biinfinite path $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{P}(\{j_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}})$ and vice versa.

Proof. [Proof of Theorem 1.1.] The successful realization of the strategy outlined above depends on the careful choice of the quadrangles $L_0, M_0, R_0$ and of the coordinate transformation $h$. Noting the horizontal $2\pi$-translation invariance property of the collection $\{K_j\}_{j \in \mathbb{Z}}$, the continuous mapping $\varphi = h\Pi h^{-1} | X$ is prescribed to be $9$-periodic with respect to the $x_1$ variable. This can be guaranteed by requiring that the coordinate functions of homeomorphism $h : \{(x, \dot{x}) \in \mathbb{R}^2\} \to \{(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2\}$ satisfy

$$h_1(x + 2\pi, \dot{x}) = 9 + h_1(x, \dot{x}) \text{ and } h_2(x + 2\pi, \dot{x}) = h_2(x, \dot{x}).$$

(2.4)
A computer-assisted proof for \( \Sigma_3 \)-chaos in the forced damped pendulum equation

The existence of quadrangles \( L_0, M_0, R_0 \) that lead to a transition graph suitably complex depends on the inner structure of the Poincaré mapping.

Following Hubbard [24], define quadrangles \( K_0 = L_0, K_1 = M_0, K_2 = R_0 \) as

\[
K_j = \text{conv}\{V_{ul}^K, V_{ur}^K, V_{ll}^K, V_{lr}^K\}, \quad j = 0, 1, 2,
\]

which are the closed convex hulls of their respective upper left, upper right, lower left, lower right vertices. (The letters \( L, M, \) and \( R \) stand for left, middle, and right, respectively.) The coordinates of these vertices are

\[
\begin{align*}
V_{ul}^{L_0} &= (1.000, -0.985) \quad V_{ul}^{R_0} = (1.970, -0.208) \\
V_{ll}^{L_0} &= (1.226, -1.350) \quad V_{ll}^{R_0} = (2.226, -0.516),
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
V_{ul}^{M_0} &= (2.436, 0.166) \quad V_{ul}^{M_0} = (2.481, 0.201) \\
V_{ll}^{M_0} &= (2.758, -0.123) \quad V_{ll}^{M_0} = (2.796, -0.092),
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
V_{ul}^{R_0} &= (3.197, 0.775) \quad V_{ul}^{R_0} = (3.800, 1.258) \\
V_{ll}^{R_0} &= (3.398, 0.389) \quad V_{ll}^{R_0} = (4.412, 1.202).
\end{align*}
\]
See Figure 2.2. For details on how the individual vertices were found, see the third paragraph of Section 3 below.

Next consider the broken line in Figure 2.2, namely

\[ \mathcal{L}_1 = \{ \text{the vertical half-line below } W_1^1 \} \cup [W_1^1, W_1^2] \cup \{ \text{the vertical half-line above } W_1^2 \} \]

where

\[ W_1^1 = (w_1^1, w_2^1) = V_{lr}^{L_0} + (0.2, 0) \]
\[ W_1^2 = (w_1^2, w_2^2) = (7.5, 2) \]

and \([W_1^1, W_1^2]\) stands for the closed line segment between \(W_1^1\) and \(W_1^2\). The open strip between \(\mathcal{L}_1\) and the translated broken line \(\mathcal{L}_0 = \mathcal{L}_1 + (-2\pi, 0)\) shall be denoted by \(\mathcal{S}_0\). Now with \(\text{`conv'}\) standing for the closed convex hull of the points in braces, define

\[ \mathcal{D}_0 = \{ \text{the vertical half-line below } V_{lr}^{L_0} \} \cup L_0 \cup \text{conv}\{V_{ur}^{L_0}, V_{al}^{M_0}, V_{il}^{M_0}, V_{lr}^{L_0}\} \]
\[ \cup M_0 \cup \text{conv}\{V_{ur}^{M_0}, V_{al}^{R_0}, V_{il}^{R_0}, V_{lr}^{M_0}\} \cup R_0 \cup \{ \text{the vertical half-line above } V_{ul}^{R_0} \}. \]

The open strips between \(\mathcal{D}_0\) and \(\mathcal{L}_0\) (resp. \(\mathcal{L}_1\)) will be denoted by \(\mathcal{O}_0^L\) (resp. \(\mathcal{O}_0^R\)). The union of the right-hand side boundary of the strip \(\mathcal{O}_0^L\) and the left-hand side boundary of the strip \(\mathcal{O}_0^R\) will be denoted by \(\mathcal{B}_0\). Finally, we let

\[ \mathcal{E}_0 = B_0 \setminus \{ (V_{ul}^{L_0}, V_{il}^{L_0}) \cup (V_{al}^{R_0}, V_{lr}^{R_0}) \}, \]

where, for example, \((V_{ul}^{L_0}, V_{il}^{L_0})\) stands for the open line segment connecting \(V_{ul}^{L_0}\) and \(V_{il}^{L_0}\). (The closed line segment connecting \(V_{ul}^{L_0}\) and \(V_{il}^{L_0}\), for example, will be denoted by \([V_{ul}^{L_0}, V_{il}^{L_0}]\). Note that \(\mathcal{E}_0\) is the union of ten closed line segments and two closed half-lines. See Figure 2.2 again.)

The crucial properties responsible for the edge structure of the transition graph are

\[ \Pi(R_{-1}) \cup \Pi(M_0) \cup \Pi(L_1) \subset \mathcal{S}_0 \setminus \mathcal{E}_0, \]
\[ \Pi([V_{ul}^{R_1}, V_{il}^{R_1}]) \cup \Pi([V_{al}^{M_0}, V_{il}^{M_0}]) \cup \Pi([V_{al}^{L_1}, V_{lr}^{L_1}]) \subset \mathcal{O}_0^L, \]
\[ \Pi([V_{ul}^{R_1}, V_{il}^{R_1}]) \cup \Pi([V_{al}^{M_0}, V_{il}^{M_0}]) \cup \Pi([V_{al}^{L_1}, V_{lr}^{L_1}]) \subset \mathcal{O}_0^R. \]

See Figure 2.3 showing the sets \(\Pi(L_0)\) (a translated copy of \(\Pi(L_1)\)), \(\Pi(M_0)\), \(\Pi(R_0)\) (a translated copy of \(\Pi(R_{-1})\)). The subset relations (2.5), (2.6), (2.7) will be checked by computer. Note that the sets \(\mathcal{S}_0 \setminus \mathcal{E}_0, \mathcal{O}_0^L, \mathcal{O}_0^R\) are open and all the nine sets \(\Pi(R_{-1}), \ldots, \Pi([V_{al}^{L_1}, V_{lr}^{L_1}])\) on the respective left-hand sides are compact. Hence inclusions (2.5), (2.6), (2.7) remain valid if the entire construction is repeated with the sets \(\mathcal{D}_0, \mathcal{B}_0, \mathcal{E}_0\) slightly thicker; that is, if \(\mathcal{D}_0, \mathcal{B}_0, \mathcal{E}_0\) are replaced by their closed neighborhoods \(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{E}\), suitably chosen.

Next we will start constructing a homeomorphism \(h\) subject to condition (2.4). We also require that \(Q_j = h(K_j)\) with

\[ (3j + 1, 1) = h(V_{al}^{K_j}), \quad (3j + 2, 1) = h(V_{ur}^{K_j}), \quad j = 0, 1, 2 \]
\[ (3j + 1, 0) = h(V_{il}^{K_j}), \quad (3j + 2, 0) = h(V_{lr}^{K_j}), \quad j = 0, 1, 2 \]

(i.e., the corresponding vertices are mapped to each other) and

\[ \text{cl}(E_0 \cup E_1 \cup E_2) \subset h(\mathcal{E}), \quad \{(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x_1 = 0\} = h(\mathcal{L}_0). \]
Due to the piecewise linear boundaries of the sets involved, the construction of $h$ is elementary. We have a fair amount of freedom in choosing $h$. Advanced results of two-dimensional topology are not needed for this. Note that, by translation symmetry, the broken line $L_1$ is mapped onto the line of equation $x_1 = 9$.

Recall that $X = \bigcup_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} Q_j$. Then property (2.5) and the inclusion in (2.8) imply that

$$\varphi(X) \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \text{cl}(\bigcup_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} E_j) .$$

Using (2.6), (2.7), we conclude that the transition graph of $\varphi$ is as follows. The vertex set of $G(\varphi)$ is obviously $V = \mathbb{Z}$ and $G(\varphi)$ is three-periodic in the sense that $(j, \tilde{j}) \in E$ if and only if $(j + 3, \tilde{j} + 3) \in E$. The edges starting from the vertex subset $\{0, 1, 2\}$ are like those shown in Figure 2.4(a):

$$(0, -3); (0, -2); (0, -1); (1, 0); (1, 1); (1, 2); (2, 3); (2, 4); (2, 5) .$$

Thus we arrive at the schematic phase portrait of the Poincaré mapping depicted in Figure 2.4(b).

Given a biinfinite sequence $\{\varepsilon_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \in \{-1; 0; 1\}^\mathbb{Z}$, a quick analysis of the transition graph $G(\varphi) = G(h \Pi h^{-1} | X)$ shows that the directed biinfinite path $P = P(\{j_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}})$ with $j_k = 3\sigma_k + 1 + \varepsilon_k$ (where—as defined in Theorem 1.1—$\sigma_0 = 0$ and $\sigma_{k+1} = \sigma_k + \varepsilon_k$ for $k \in \mathbb{Z}$) is a subgraph of $G(\varphi)$. Trajectories satisfying (1.2) correspond to the directed biinfinite path $P = P(\{j_k \mid k \in \mathbb{Z}\})$ and vice versa.

This provides all the necessary points for proving Theorem 1.1: apply Corollary 2.2 then we are done.

The derivation of Theorem 1.1 follows the main argument in the Mischaikow-Mrozek framework for computer-assisted proofs. (Note that the invertibility of $\Pi$ was not exploited, but it will be needed for the backward invariance of the set $A$ in Corollary 2.3 below). For the geometric background and details on the role of the computer, see Section 3.

It is not hard to reformulate Theorem 1.1 in the language of symbolic dynamics [49], [40]. In fact, recall that $Q_j = h(K_j)$ and let $\Theta \subset X$ be the closure of all periodic points of $\varphi$ that shadow the directed circles of $G(\varphi)$. The set $\Theta$ is backward and
forward invariant under $\varphi$. For $x \in \Theta$, the formula

$$(c(x))_k = j_k, \quad \text{whenever } \varphi^k(x) \in Q_{j_k} \text{ and } k \in \mathbb{Z},$$

defines a continuous itinerary mapping $c : \Theta \to \mathbb{Z}^2$. The inverse of a homeomorphism $h$ lifts everything to the Poincaré plane. Clearly $\Lambda = h^{-1}(\Theta)$ is backward and forward invariant under the Poincaré mapping $\Pi$ and, for $\lambda = (x, \dot{x}) \in \Lambda$ with $d(\lambda) = c(h(\lambda))$,

$$(d(\lambda))_k = j_k \quad \text{whenever } \Pi^k(\lambda) \in K_{j_k}, \; k \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

Letting $S$ denote the shift operator on $\mathbb{Z}^2$, we may conclude that

$$c(\varphi(x)) = Sc(x) \quad \text{for each } x \in \Theta \quad \text{and} \quad d(\Pi(\lambda)) = Sd(\lambda) \quad \text{for each } \lambda \in \Lambda.$$

The entire construction is based on the horizontal $2\pi$-translation symmetry of $\Pi$. The respective quotient maps are continuous and satisfy

$$\bar{d}(\bar{\Pi}(\bar{\lambda})) = S\bar{d}(\bar{\lambda}) \quad \text{for each } \bar{\lambda} \in \bar{\Lambda}.$$

The quotient transition graph $\mathcal{G}(\bar{\varphi})$ is the complete directed graph on three vertices and thus the modulo 3 itinerary map $\bar{d} : \bar{\Lambda} \to \{0, 1, 2\}^\mathbb{Z}$ is onto. In particular, note that

$$(\bar{d}(\bar{\lambda}))_k = 1 + \varepsilon_k \quad \text{for } \bar{\lambda} \in \bar{\Lambda} = \Lambda \cap \{(x, \dot{x}) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid 0 < x < 2\pi\}, \; k \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

The quotient results can be expressed in compact form as a corollary.

**Corollary 2.3** (A continuation of Theorem 1.1). The modulo $2\pi$ Poincaré mapping $\bar{\Pi}$ on $\bar{\Lambda}$ is semiconjugate to the shift operator $\bar{S}$ on $\Sigma_3$, the space of three symbols.

In fact, as suggested by Hubbard [24], $\bar{d}$ is plausibly one-to-one and thus $\bar{\Pi}|\bar{\Lambda}$ and $\bar{S}$ are conjugate. See Figure 2.3 again and compare it with Figure 2.4(a) and Figure 2.4(b).
3. Chaos detection by computer. What the computer is used for in the Mischaikow–Mrozek framework of computer–assisted proofs for chaos is to check certain subset relations (like (2.5), (2.6), (2.7)) and above all, to find the subset relations to be checked — in essence, to find a collection of ‘rectangular’ subsets of the phase space like $L_0$, $M_0$, $R_0$ such that the associated transition graph has at least two different, but intersecting circles. The hard part is to find the subset relations to be checked. If small perturbation arguments do not help, one cannot get by without a computer. The checking part is much easier and sometimes, in exceptional cases, like the equation $\ddot{x} + x = \sin(\sqrt{2}t) + 2^{-1}(|5x + 1| - |5x - 1|)$, it can be done by hand. Still, the proof in [38] is computer–assisted. The successful collection of ‘rectangular’ subsets is the result of trial-and-error computer experimentation with human overheads.

It is natural to ask to what extent the task of finding the successful subset relations can be left to the computer. The required subset relations determine a constrained satisfaction problem [10] and techniques of global optimization [39] apply. If we want to look for three quadrangles, the search domain of the optimization procedure is a subset of a 24–dimensional parameter space (8 dimensions for each quadrangle based on the coordinate pairs of the four vertices; the search for a successful collection of the ‘forbidden sets’ $L_0$, $L_1$, and $E_0$ requires the introduction of some additional parameters). And the smaller the search domain, the better. However, a ‘small’ search domain corresponds to a ‘good’ initial guess which can only be obtained from some a priori known theoretical or numerical results on the details of the dynamics. Typical candidates for members of a successful collection are quadrangles situated on the unstable manifold of a transversal homoclinic saddle.

In an interesting paper devoted to Hénon mapping with the classical parameters $a = 1.4$ and $b = 0.3$, Galias [19] describes the configuration of 29 polygons which leads to the rigorous entropy estimate $h(H) > 0.430\ldots$, which is quite close to the generally accepted value of $h(H) = 0.465\ldots$. All the 29 polygons are narrow quadrangles—or quadrangles with some vertices ‘chopped off’—situated along the unstable manifold of the homoclinic saddle. They were found by hand, based on an earlier search for periodic points of low periods. The well–known and highly automatized GIAO package [12], [13] is used to construct 247 GIAO polygons in a forthcoming paper by Day, Frongillo and Trevino [11] proving the slightly better estimate of $h(H) > 0.4318\ldots$. (If a global search is performed just on finding 29 or 247 segments of the unstable manifold, one needs 58 or 494 parameters, respectively. The second number is far too much for optimization methods currently available for this type of problem.) Nevertheless, it remains open whether a bootstrap application of global optimization procedures, keeping the number of parameters under 10 say, at each step of the gradual improvements along the consecutive local searches, can achieve a better estimate. We feel it is not inappropriate here to call to the attention of the reader a forthcoming paper [5] of ours where, within a 17–dimensional parameter space, the full power of the optimization method [4] is exploited. The main result is that $H^k$, the $k$–th iterate of Hénon’s mapping with the classical parameters $a = 1.4$ and $b = 0.3$ has an embedded copy of the $\Sigma_2$ dynamics if and only if $k \geq 2$, $k = 4$, or $k \geq 6$. This is guaranteed by Smale’s abstract theory of transversal homoclinic saddles only for $k \geq k_0$, sufficiently large. (Incidentally, all existence proofs (like [31], [14], [20]) for a transversal homoclinic saddle in the dynamics of $H$ are, to the best of our knowledge, in some way or other, computer–assisted.)

In proving Theorem 1.1, the vertices of quadrangles $L_0$, $M_0$, $R_0$ (as well as of the
Luzzato, Melbourne, and Paccaut [29])—remain open. The Lorenz equation by Tucker [46]) and mixing (found for the Lorenz equation by [24] or fine ergodic properties like the existence of a unique SRB measure (found for the pendulum equation (1.1)–like the Wada property experimentally observed by Hubbard and which has bifurcated from the upward/top equilibrium position) contains less information about the dynamics than a transition graph with carefully chosen ‘rectangular’ subsets. The next logical step forward should be, rather, the verification of the Conley-Moser invariant cone field conditions [49] leading (if it is really the case) to transversality as well as to the existence of a topological horseshoe, which is zero. (This is clear because \( \bar{\Lambda} \) is just as complex as the one belonging to \( \bar{\Lambda} \).)

In conclusion, we note that the existence of a transition graph with two different unstable and stable manifolds of \( P \) intersect each other outside \( P \). Apparently, this is a transversal intersection. But we did not verify transversality by rigorous computation. The reason is that transversality by itself, though guaranteeing the existence of a topological horseshoe, contains less information about the dynamics than a transition graph with carefully chosen ‘rectangular’ subsets. The next logical step forward should be, rather, the verification of the Conley-Moser invariant cone field conditions [49] leading (if it is really the case) to transversality as well as to the existence of a topological horseshoe, which is just as complex as the one belonging to \( \bar{\Lambda} \).

What can be shown is that \( m(\Lambda) \), the Lebesgue measure of \( \bar{\Lambda} \), is zero. (This is clear because \( \Pi(\bar{C}) \subset \bar{C} \) for \( \bar{C} = \{(x, \dot{x}) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid 0 \leq x < 2\pi, |\dot{x}| \leq 12\}, \bar{\Lambda} \subset \cap_{k=0}^{\infty} \Pi^k(\bar{C}), \) and \( \Pi \) contracts areas by a factor of \( e^{-\pi/5} \), due to damping and the Liouville theorem [24].) Questions on additional chaos properties in Hubbard’s pendulum equation (1.1)–like the Wada property experimentally observed by Hubbard [24] or finite ergodic properties like the existence of a unique SRB measure (found for the Lorenz equation by Tucker [46]) and mixing (found for the Lorenz equation by Luzzato, Melbourne, and Paccaut [29])—remain open.

In conclusion, we note that the existence of a transition graph with two different but intersecting circles is implicit in a paper by Stoffer and Palmer [44] on shadowing. In essence, they prove that the existence of two hyperbolic periodic orbits which come
A computer-assisted proof for $\Sigma_3$-chaos in the forced damped pendulum equation

4. Chaos in natural terms of the dynamics. The one-to-one correspondence between a set of the solutions to Hubbard’s pendulum equation (1.1) and the set of all biinfinite sequences on three symbols manifests itself in natural terms of the dynamics.

Focusing on the pendulum, the quadrangles $L_0$, $M_0$, $R_0$ remain hidden, even to the most observant viewer. What can be easily seen, are high speeds or low speeds, the number of consecutive clockwise or counterclockwise returns, changes in the direction of swing and/or rotation, and movements across the upper and/or the lower vertical position. When systematizing a range of dynamical behaviour, the mind has a tendency to consider the consecutive occurrences of alternative, easily discernible events like a heads-or-tails sequence in coin-tossing.

Theorems H and 1.1 should be interpreted from this point of view. Any possible order of the mutually exclusive alternatives can occur. Both observations describe the same combinatorial aspect of $\Sigma_3$-chaos, the existence of ‘coin-tossing’ (coins with three sides) label sequences [26] for itineraries. However, the alternatives in Theorem 1.1 are hard to observe whereas the alternatives in Theorem H are quite transparent. There exist uncountably many solutions of Hubbard’s pendulum equation which can be distinguished from each other based on their combinatorially different qualitative behaviour. This is what we might call combinatorial chaos in natural terms of the dynamics. Previous examples include symbolic dynamics in terms of consecutive return times in Alekseev’s three-body system [2], [24]; consecutive maxima and minima in the Lorenz systems [22]; the number of sign changes in consecutive time intervals of equal length [7], [45]; and multibumps in bursting oscillations [41]. Their natural place is in the vicinity of bifurcating homoclinic/heteroclinic orbit connections.

Proof. [Proof of Theorem H.] In order to prove Theorem H we need to examine what the solution map $(x(0), \dot{x}(0)) \mapsto (x(t), \dot{x}(t))$ does between the Poincaré sections at $t_0 = 0$ and $t_1 = 2\pi$.

First, consider the collection of motions of the forced damped pendulum with initial position $(x(0), \dot{x}(0)) \in R_0$ and final position $(x(2\pi), \dot{x}(2\pi)) \in L_1 \cup M_1 \cup R_1$. It
is not hard to check by rigorous/interval computation that $0 < x(t) < 4\pi$, whenever $0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$, and
\[ \{(x(t), \dot{x}(t)) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid 0 \leq t \leq 2\pi\} \cap \{(x, \dot{x}) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x = 2\pi \text{ and } \dot{x} \leq 0\} = \emptyset. \]

Applying the intermediate value theorem, it follows that $x(t^*) = 2\pi$ for some $t^* \in (0, 2\pi)$, $x(t) \in (0, 2\pi)$ for $t \in [0, t^*)$, and $x(t) \in (2\pi, 4\pi)$ for $t \in (t^*, 2\pi)$. In other words, during the time interval $(0, 2\pi)$, the pendulum bob crosses the bottom position exactly once counterclockwise and does not point downwards at the time instants $t_0 = 0$ and $t_1 = 2\pi$. This holds true for motions of the pendulum with initial position $(x(0), \dot{x}(0)) \in R_0$ and final position $(x(2\pi), \dot{x}(2\pi)) \in L_1 \cup M_1 \cup R_1$ (but not for all motions with initial position $(x(0), \dot{x}(0)) \in R_0$). This holds true especially for all $\sigma_0 = 0$, $\varepsilon_0 = 1$ (and, a fortiori, $\sigma_1 = 1$, $\varepsilon_1 \in \{-1, 0, 1\}$) motions of the pendulum described by Theorem 1.1. Parts of the necessary computations in subcase $\sigma_0 = 0$, $\varepsilon_0 = 1$, $\sigma_1 = 1$, $\varepsilon_1 = -1$ are shown in Figure 4.1(b).

The remaining cases $\sigma_0 = 0$, $\varepsilon_0 = 0$ and $\sigma_0 = 0$, $\varepsilon_0 = -1$ were settled in a similar way. The total CPU time requested was under two minutes on a typical modern PC.

The connection between symbolic dynamics and oscillation patterns in equation (1.1) is worth further investigation. We would like to know whether symbolic dynamics appears regarding the crossing the bottom and the top equilibrium position.

5. Lemma 2.1 in a higher dimension. A simple proof. Let $m, n$ be fixed nonnegative integers, and let $V \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$ be a finite or countably infinite indexing set. Next, let the boundary and interior of a compact set $S$ in a Euclidean space $\mathbb{R}^k$ be denoted by $\partial S$ and $\text{int}(S)$, respectively. The closed neighborhood of radius $R > 0$ of a point $p$ and a set $S$ in $\mathbb{R}^k$ will be denoted by $B^k[p, R]$ and $B^k[S, R]$, respectively. The norm and scalar product in $\mathbb{R}^k$ shall be denoted by $\|\cdot\|$ and $\langle\cdot, \cdot\rangle$.

Now consider the collection of rectangular sets of the form
\[ Q_j = \{x = (u, s) \in \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^n \mid u \in U_j, s \in S_j\}, \quad j \in \mathbf{V}, \]
where $\{U_j\}_{j \in \mathbf{V}}$ and $\{S_j\}_{j \in \mathbf{V}}$ are compact topological balls in $\mathbb{R}^m$ and in $\mathbb{R}^n$, respectively. Note that $S_j$ is a retract of $\mathbb{R}^n$. Let $r_j : \mathbb{R}^n \to S_j$ be a retraction, where $j \in \mathbf{V}$.

Next, let $X = \bigcup_{j \in \mathbf{V}} Q_j \subset \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^n$ and consider a continuous mapping $\varphi : X \to \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^n$ with coordinate functions $\varphi_u, \varphi_s$. After, suppose that $Q_j \cap Q_k = \emptyset$ for $j \neq k$ and that $\{j \in \mathbf{V} \mid Q_j \cap \{(u, s) \in \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^n \mid \|u\| + \|s\| < R\} \neq \emptyset\}$ is finite for any $R > 0$.

The transition graph $\mathcal{G}(\varphi)$ of $\varphi$ is defined as a directed graph with vertex set $\mathbf{V}$. For $j, \bar{j} \in \mathbf{V}$, the pair $(j, \bar{j})$ belongs to the edge set $\mathbf{E}$ of $\mathcal{G}(\varphi)$ if
\[ \varphi(Q_j) \subset \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^n \setminus U_j \times (\mathbb{R}^n \setminus S_j) \]
and, for some positive constants $\eta_0 = \eta_0(j, \bar{j})$ and $\kappa_0 = \kappa_0(j, \bar{j})$, one of the following two conditions holds true:
\[ v_j + \kappa(u_j - \varphi_u(v_j, s_j)) \in U_j \quad \text{whenever} \]
\[ v_j \in U_j, \quad d(v_j, \partial U_j) \leq \eta_0, \quad s_j \in S_j, \quad u_j \in U_{\bar{j}} \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \leq \kappa \leq \kappa_0 \]
or
\[ v_j - \kappa(u_j - \varphi_u(v_j, s_j)) \in U_j \quad \text{whenever} \]
\[ v_j \in U_j, \quad d(v_j, \partial U_j) \leq \eta_0, \quad s_j \in S_j, \quad u_j \in U_{\bar{j}} \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \leq \kappa \leq \kappa_0. \]
The definition of the transition graph in Section 2 is more restrictive. If \( m = n = 1 \), then condition (5.1) is equivalent to \( \varphi(Q_j) \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus E_j \), a weakening of condition (2.1) discussed in Remark 2. Similarly, with \( \eta_0 = 1 - \vartheta_0 \) and \( \kappa_0 \) suitably chosen (it is enough to make both \( \vartheta_0 > 0 \) and \( \kappa_0(\vartheta_0) > 0 \) sufficiently small), conditions (5.2) and (5.3) are implied by conditions (2.2) and (2.3), respectively.

With the notion of the transition graph redefined in \( \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^n \), \( m, n \geq 1 \), the wording of Lemma 2.1 in higher dimension coincides with that of the original Lemma 2.1 verbatim. Now we turn to the proof of this generalization. Conditions (5.2) and (5.3) will be clarified and analyzed later on.

**Proof.** [Proof of Lemma 2.1 in \( \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^n \).] The strategy is to rewrite the system of equations

\[
x_{k+1} = \varphi(x_k) \quad \text{and} \quad x_k \in Q_{j_k}, \quad k = 0, 1, \ldots, N
\]

as a fixed point equation \((x_0, x_1, \ldots, x_N) = \mathcal{F}(x_0, x_1, \ldots, x_N)\) in the product space \( \prod_{k=0}^{N} Q_{j_k} \subset (\mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^n)^{N+1} \) and to check that all conditions of Brouwer’s fixed point theorem are satisfied.

Choose a positive constant \( \kappa^* \leq \min_{k=0,1,\ldots,N} \kappa_0(j_k, j_{k+1}) \) such that \( \kappa^* C^* \leq \min_{k=0,1,\ldots,N} \eta_0(j_k, j_{k+1}) \),

where

\[
C^* = \max_{k=0,1,\ldots,N} \left\{ \left\| u_{k+1} - \varphi_u(x_k) \right\| \mid u_{k+1} \in U_{j_{k+1}}, x_k \in Q_{j_k} \right\}.
\]

For \((x_0, x_1, \ldots, x_N) \in \prod_{k=0}^{N} Q_{j_k}\), coordinatewise we set

\[
(\mathcal{F}(x_0, x_1, \ldots, x_N))_k = (u_k + \varepsilon_k \kappa^*(u_{k+1} - \varphi_u(x_k)), r_k(\varphi_u(x_{k-1}))) \in \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^n.
\]

Here \( \varepsilon_k \) depends on the pair \((j, j') = (j_k, j_{k+1}) \) taking \( \varepsilon_k = 1 \) if condition (5.2) applies and \( \varepsilon_k = -1 \) if condition (5.3) applies, where \( k = 0, 1, \ldots, N \).

Since \( x_{N+1} = x_0, x_{N-1} = x_N \) by convention, we shift the index values in the \( \mathbb{R}^n \)-coordinate, and see that the fixed point equation \((x_0, x_1, \ldots, x_N) = \mathcal{F}(x_0, x_1, \ldots, x_N)\) in \( \prod_{k=0}^{N} Q_{j_k} \) is equivalent to the system of equations

\[
u_{k+1} = \varphi_u(x_k) \quad \text{and} \quad s_{k+1} = r_{j_{k+1}}(\varphi_u(x_k)), \quad k = 0, 1, \ldots, N.
\]
In view of condition (5.1), the first identity in (5.4) implies that \( \varphi_u(x_k) \in S_{j_{k+1}} \). Hence \( r_{j_{k+1}}(\varphi_u(x_k)) = \varphi_u(x_k) \), and system (5.4) simplifies to
\[
  u_{k+1} = \varphi_u(x_k) \quad \text{and} \quad s_{k+1} = \varphi_u(x_k), \quad \text{i.e.,} \quad x_{k+1} = \varphi(x_k), \quad k = 0, 1, \ldots, N.
\]

It is clear that \( \prod_{k=0}^N Q_{j_k} \) is a compact topological ball in \( (\mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^n)^{N+1} \) and \( \mathcal{F} : \prod_{k=0}^N Q_{j_k} \to (\mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^n)^{N+1} \) is a continuous function. Here all that remains is for us to prove that
\[
  (\mathcal{F}(x_0, x_1, \ldots, x_N))_k \in Q_{j_k} \quad \text{whenever} \quad (x_0, x_1, \ldots, x_N) \in \prod_{k=0}^N Q_{j_k},
\]

\( k = 0, 1, \ldots, N \). Since \( r_{j_k}(\varphi_u(x_{k-1})) \in S_{j_k} \), we can go to the \( \mathbb{R}^m \)-coordinate and just check that
\[
  (5.5) \quad u_k + \varepsilon_k \kappa^* (u_{k+1} - \varphi_u(x_k)) \in U_{j_k} \quad \text{if} \quad x_k = (u_k, s_k) \in Q_{j_k} \quad \text{and} \quad u_{k+1} \in U_{j_{k+1}}.
\]

If \( u_k \in U_{j_k} \) with \( d(u_k, \partial U_{j_k}) \leq \eta_0(j_k, j_{k+1}) \), then—depending on the value of \( \varepsilon_k \)—(5.5) reduces to (5.2) or (5.3) with \( \kappa = \kappa^* \). On the other hand, if \( u_k \in U_{j_k} \) with \( d(u_k, \partial U_{j_k}) > \eta_0(j_k, j_{k+1}) \), then (5.5) follows from the inequality \( \kappa^* \| u_{k+1} - \varphi_u(x_k) \| \leq \kappa^* C^* \leq \eta_0(j_k, j_{k+1}) \), \( k = 0, 1, \ldots, N \). \( \square \)

From a geometric point of view, both condition (5.2) and the alternative condition (5.3) imply that \( U_j \) is 'surrounded by' \( \varphi_u(\partial U_j \times S_j) \). In the special case \( U_j = U_j^* = \mathcal{B}^m[0, 1] \) and \( S_j = \mathcal{B}^m[0, 1] \) (compact unit balls in the respective Euclidean spaces), so condition (5.2) is a consequence of the inequality
\[
  \langle \varphi_u(u, s) - \bar{u}, u \rangle > 0 \quad \text{whenever} \quad u, \bar{u} \in \mathbb{R}^m, \quad s \in \mathbb{R}^n, \quad \|u\| = 1, \quad \|\bar{u}\|, \|s\| \leq 1
\]

which resembles certain geometric conditions in various versions of Brouwer’s fixed point theorem [51].

The remaining part of this section will be devoted to a technical analysis of conditions (5.2) and (5.3). By a symmetry argument, this analysis reduces to investigating (5.2). Condition (5.2) will be replaced by the slightly stronger condition (5.6), which is stable with respect to small perturbations of \( \varphi_u \), including numerical approximations with rounding errors. A second advantage of (5.6) over (5.2) is that condition...
(5.6) can be readily checked. To see this, compare Figure 5.2 with Figure 5.1. Overall, condition (5.6) is better suited to computer-assisted proofs than (5.2). The section ends with the somewhat more convenient and transparent condition (5.8), where uniformity with respect to \( \lambda \) is not required.

**Proposition 5.1.** Condition (5.2) is a consequence of a simpler requirement. It is that there exist positive constants \( \lambda_0 = \lambda_0(j, j) \) and \( \Delta = \Delta(j, j) \) such that

\[
\begin{align*}
\tau = \lambda_j(u_j, s_j) \in U_j & \quad \text{whenever} \quad u_j + \lambda_j w_j \in \partial U_j, \quad w_j \in B^m[U_j, \Delta] \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \leq \lambda \leq \lambda_0.
\end{align*}
\]

**Proof.** We omit indices \( j, j \) in the following and write \( U = U_j, S = S_j, \) and \( W = U_j \).

Now suppose that condition (5.6) is satisfied, but (5.2) is not. Then there are sequences \( \{v_\ell\} \subset U, \{s_\ell\} \subset S, \{w_\ell\} \subset W, \{\kappa_\ell\} \subset \mathbb{R}^+ \) which have the following properties:

\[
\begin{align*}
\kappa_\ell &= \kappa_\ell(w_\ell) \not\in U, \quad \text{for} \quad \ell = 1, 2, \ldots
\end{align*}
\]

and both \( v_\ell \to \partial U \) and \( \kappa_\ell \to 0 \) as \( \ell \to \infty. \)

Since \( v_\ell \in U \) and \( p_\ell \not\in U \), there exists a \( \kappa_\ell^* \in [0, \kappa_\ell) \) such that

\[
\begin{align*}
z_\ell &= v_\ell + \kappa_\ell^*(w_\ell - \varphi_u(v_\ell, s_\ell)) \in \partial U, \quad \text{for} \quad \ell = 1, 2, \ldots.
\end{align*}
\]

With the construction, \( 0 < \kappa_\ell - \kappa_\ell^* \leq \lambda_0 \) and (by using the uniform continuity of mapping \( \varphi_u \)) on the compact set \( U \times S \) \( \|\varphi_u(z_\ell, s_\ell) - \varphi_u(v_\ell, s_\ell)\| \leq \Delta \) for \( \ell \) large.

With (5.6), we conclude that

\[
\begin{align*}
p_\ell = z_\ell + (\kappa_\ell - \kappa_\ell^*)[w_\ell - \varphi_u(z_\ell, s_\ell) - \varphi_u(v_\ell, s_\ell)] \not\in U
\end{align*}
\]

for large enough \( \ell \), which contradicts (5.7). \( \square \)

**Proposition 5.2.** Actually, condition (5.6) is a consequence of a simpler requirement. It is that there exists a positive constant \( \delta = \delta(j, j) \) such that

\[
\begin{align*}
\tau = \lambda_j(u_j, s_j) \in \text{int}(U_j) \quad \text{whenever} \quad u_j + \mu w_j \in B^m[U_j, \delta] \quad \text{and} \quad 0 < \mu \leq \mu_0 \quad \text{with some} \quad \mu_0 = \mu_0(u_j, s_j, w_j).
\end{align*}
\]

**Proof.** As before, we write \( U = U_j, S = S_j, \) and \( W = U_j. \)

Fix \( u^* \in \partial U, s^* \in S \) and \( w^* \in W. \) By compactness, it is sufficient to demonstrate the existence of two positive constants \( \tau = \tau(u^*, s^*, w^*) \) and \( \tau^* = \tau^*(u^*, s^*, w^*) \) such that, given \( u \in \partial U, s \in S \) and \( w \in B^m[W, \delta] \) with \( \|u - u^*\| \leq \tau, \|s - s^*\| \leq \tau, \|w - w^*\| \leq \tau, \) the following holds true:

\[
\begin{align*}
u + \lambda(w - \varphi_u(u, s)) \in U \quad \text{whenever} \quad 0 \leq \lambda \leq \lambda^*.
\end{align*}
\]

By continuity, there is a \( \sigma \in (0, \delta) \) such that, for arbitrary \( w \in B^m[w^*, \sigma] \) and \( q \in U \cap B^m[w^*, \sigma], \)

\[
\begin{align*}
\tilde{w} = \varphi_u(q, s^*) = w - \varphi_u(u^*, s^*) \quad \text{for some} \quad \tilde{w} \in B^m[w^*, \delta].
\end{align*}
\]

In view of condition (5.8) with \( (u^*, s^*, w^*) = (u_j, s_j, w_j) \), we may assume that

\[
\begin{align*}
u^* + \alpha_j^*(w^* - \varphi_u(u^*, s^*)) \in \text{int}(U) \cap \partial B^m[u^*, \sigma] \quad \text{for some} \quad \alpha_j^* > 0.
\end{align*}
\]
As a corollary, a simple geometric argument implies the existence of a constant \( \eta \in (0, \sigma) \) such that, for arbitrary \( p \in B^m[u^*, \eta] \) and \( w \in B^m[w^*, \eta] \),

\[
p + \alpha_+ (w - \varphi_u(u^*, s^*)) \in \mathrm{int}(U) \cap \partial B^m[u^*, \sigma]
\]

for some \( \alpha_+ = \alpha_+(p, w) > 0 \), where \( \alpha_+ \) is unique, the function \( (p, w) \mapsto \alpha_+(p, w) \) is continuous, and \( \alpha_+(u^*, w^*) = \alpha_+^* \). For future use, we note that

\[
\alpha_* = \inf\{\alpha_+(p, w) \mid p \in B^m[u^*, \eta], w \in B^m[w^*, \eta]\} > 0
\]

by compactness. Now consider the straight line segment

\[
L_{p, w} = \{p + \lambda (w - \varphi_u(u^*, s^*)) \mid \lambda \geq 0 \} \cap B^m[u^*, \sigma]
\]

and assume that \( q = p + \gamma_0 (w - \varphi_u(u^*, s^*)) \in \partial U \cap L_{p, w} \) for some \( \gamma_0 < \alpha_+ \). Applying property (5.9), condition (5.8) (with \( (q, s^*, w^*) = (u_j, s_j, w_j^*) \)) implies that

\[
p + \gamma (w - \varphi_u(u^*, s^*)) = q + (\gamma - \gamma_0) (w - \varphi_u(q, s^*)) \in \mathrm{int}(U)
\]

for \( \gamma > \gamma_0 \), where \( |\gamma - \gamma_0| \) is small. By an elementary connectedness argument in one dimension, we infer that \( L_{p, w} \cap U \) is a compact interval with an endpoint on \( \partial B^m[u^*, \sigma] \). See Figure 5.3.

Similarly, observe that there exists a constant \( \tau \in (0, \eta) \) such that, for arbitrary \( w \in B^m[w^*, \tau] \), \( u \in U \cap B^m[u^*, \tau] \) and \( s \in S \cap B^m[s^*, \tau] \),

\[
(5.10) \quad \tilde{w} - \varphi_u(u^*, s^*) = w - \varphi_u(u, s) \quad \text{for some} \quad \tilde{w} \in B^m[w^*, \eta].
\]

If, in particular, \( u \in \partial U \cap B^m[u^*, \tau] \), \( s \in S \cap B^m[s^*, \tau] \) and \( w \in B^m[w^*, \tau] \), then by property (5.10)

\[
\{u + \lambda (w - \varphi_u(u, s)) \mid \lambda \geq 0 \} \cap B^m[u^*, \sigma] = L_{u, \tilde{w}}
\]

for some \( \tilde{w} \in B^m[w^*, \eta] \). Since \( u \in \partial U \subset U \) and \( L_{u, \hat{w}} \cap U \) is a compact interval with an endpoint on \( \partial B^m[u^*, \sigma] \), we conclude that \( L_{u, \hat{w}} \subset U \). Hence \( u + \lambda (w - \varphi_u(u, s)) \in U \) for \( 0 \leq \lambda \leq \alpha_+(u, \hat{w}) \), and thus \( \lambda^* = \lambda^*(u^*, s^*, w^*) \) can be chosen for \( \alpha_* > 0 \).

We do not know whether \( \mathrm{int}(U_j) \) in (5.8) can actually be replaced by \( U_j \). On the other hand, simple examples confirm that Proposition 5.1 does not hold true for \( \Delta = 0 \).

6. Lemma 2.1 and a recent 4D example of Yang and Li [50]. As we mentioned earlier, conditions (5.2) and (5.3) can be readily checked for \( m = 1 \), but they are more complicated for \( m > 1 \). Regardless of the value of the positive integer \( n \), condition (5.1) remains rather simple. It follows that for small, multidimensional perturbations of one-dimensional mappings which ‘contract’ in the new directions, the \( m = 1, n \geq 1 \) case of Lemma 2.1 can be applied without difficulty. For example, Lemma 2.1 can be applied for the family of mappings investigated in [54] and simplifies the proofs therein.

As for the \( m > 1 \) case, it is reasonable to suppose that a twofold application of Lemma 2.1 leads to a rigorous proof of the existence of chaotic behaviour in a recent four-dimensional neural network example of Xiao-Song Yang and Qingdu Li [50]. Our conjecture is supported by analyzing the figures in that paper.
A computer-assisted proof for $\Sigma_3$-chaos in the forced damped pendulum equation

We will now consider the autonomous system of ordinary differential equations [50]

\begin{align*}
\dot{x}_1 &= -x_1 + 2.10 f(x_1) + 2.50 f(x_2) \\
\dot{x}_2 &= -x_2 - 2.60 f(x_1) + 1.00 f(x_2) + 3.00 f(x_3) \\
\dot{x}_3 &= -x_3 - 2.80 f(x_2) + 0.50 f(x_3) - 1.10 f(x_4) \\
\dot{x}_4 &= -100x_4 + 100 f(x_3) + 160 f(x_4)
\end{align*}

(6.1)

which models a cellular neural network of Chua–Roska type [8] with $f(x_i) = 2^{-1}(|x_i + 1| - |x_i - 1|)$, $x_i \in \mathbb{R}$, $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$. A horseshoe in an appropriate Poincaré mapping $\Pi$ was found by Yang and Li [50] numerically, via non-rigorous computation. Their paper does not say how the 14 coefficients/weights on the right-hand side of the above system of ordinary differential equations were chosen. The nice Figure 4 in [50] suggests that the successful Poincaré section was chosen by a trial and error process with human overheads.

Now we would like to show that, with the underlying sets properly chosen, the transition graph $G(\Pi)$ is the complete directed graph on two vertices. The argument will be based on case $m = 2$, $n = 1$ of the higher-dimensional generalization of Lemma 2.1 and, of course, on the geometric information contained in [50].

Simplified and schematic variants of Figures 7, 5, and 8 of [50] are presented here as Figures 6.1, 6.2, and 6.3, respectively. The two vertical prisms with quadrilateral base in [50] correspond to our cylinders $C_U = U \times S$ and $C_W = W \times S$, while the vertical edges of the prisms correspond to the points $A_\ell$ and $B_\ell$, $\ell = 1, 2, 3, 4$, respectively. The prisms are strongly contracted in the vertical direction. As for the two horizontal directions within, mapping $\Pi$ is a modest expansion. Applied to our situation, the crucial observation in [50] is that vertical segments on the jacket of $C_U$ and of $C_W$ (i.e., segments of the form $\{A\} \times S$ and $\{B\} \times S$ with $A \in \partial U$ and $B \in \partial W$) are mapped onto ‘almost vertical’ curves on $\partial \Pi(C_U)$, and on $\partial \Pi(C_W)$, respectively. This explains why $\Pi(C_U)$ and $\Pi(C_W)$ can be regarded as cylinders and implies that condition (5.6)
or its alternative counterpart (i.e., there exist positive constants $\lambda_0$ and $\Delta$ such that
\begin{equation}
\begin{aligned}
\left. u_j - \lambda(w_j - \varphi_u(u_j, s_j)) \right|_{\partial U_j} & \in U_j \\
\left. u_j \in \partial U_j, \ s_j \in S_j, \ w_j \in B^m[U_j, \Delta] \right\} \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \leq \lambda \leq \lambda_0
\end{aligned}
\end{equation}
has to be checked only for a single $s = s^* \in S$. There is no loss of generality in assuming that
\[ S = [-1, 1] \subseteq \mathbb{R} \] and $s^* = 0$. For brevity, we write $A'_{\ell} = \Pi_u(A_{\ell}, 0)$ and
\[ B'_{\ell} = \Pi_u(B_{\ell}, 0), \quad \ell = 1, 2, 3, 4. \] The relative position of the four cylinders and the $2 \times 8$
special points in Figures 6.1, 6.2, and 6.3 are exactly like the computer pictures in [50].

In what follows we will show that Lemma 2.1 applies in this situation. We do this by examining if and how, with $U_j = U, W$ and $U_j = U, W$, the alternative pair of conditions (5.6) and (6.2) is satisfied. The final result will be that, with
\[ V(G) = \{ C_U, C_W \}, \] the edge set of the transition graph $G(\Pi)$ is
\[ E(G) = \{ (C_U, C_U), (C_U, C_W), (C_W, C_U), (C_W, C_W) \}. \]

For a fixed $\ell \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$, the angular sector at $A_{\ell}$ in Figure 6.2 describes the two cones
\[ \{ A_{\ell} + \lambda(u - A'_{\ell}) \in \mathbb{R}^2 | \ u \in B^2[U, \Delta] \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \leq \lambda \leq \lambda_0 \} \]
and
\[ \{ A_{\ell} + \lambda(w - A'_{\ell}) \in \mathbb{R}^2 | \ w \in B^2[W, \Delta] \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \leq \lambda \leq \lambda_0 \}. \]
Fig. 6.3. The upper view of the cylinders $C_W = W \times S$, $\Pi(C_W)$, and $C_U = U \times S$

(For the sake of simplicity, these two cones have been drawn in Figure 6.2 as a single angular sector with vertex $A_\ell$ for every $\ell$. And like all of figures in this section, the small positive constants $\Delta$ and $\lambda_0$ remain unspecified.) Based on the direction of these angular sectors, it seems plausible that condition (6.2) is satisfied for $\varphi = \Pi$, $S_j = [-1, 1]$, $U_j = U$ and $U_j = U, W$. As regards the proof of Lemma 2.1, Proposition 5.1 implies that condition (5.5) is satisfied for $\varphi = \Pi$, $S_j \kappa = [-1, 1]$, $U_j = U$, $\varepsilon_k = -1$ and $U_{j_k+1} = U, W$.

Similarly, for $\ell = 1, 2, 3, 4$, the angular sector at $B_\ell$ in Figure 6.3 describes the two cones (or the union of the two cones)

$$\{ B_\ell + \lambda (u - B')_\ell \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid u \in B^2[U, \Delta] \text{ and } 0 \leq \lambda \leq \lambda_0 \}$$

and

$$\{ B_\ell + \lambda (w - B')_\ell \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid w \in B^2[W, \Delta] \text{ and } 0 \leq \lambda \leq \lambda_0 \} .$$

Unfortunately, neither condition (5.6) nor (6.2) is satisfied and, if left unchanged, the proof of Lemma 2.1 breaks down in the present situation. However, the direction of the four angular sectors in Figure 6.3 suggests a simple way-out.

Together with a combinatorial modification, the proof of Lemma 2.1 still holds true. The $\mathbb{R}^m = \mathbb{R}^2$ coordinate

$$u_k + \varepsilon_k \kappa^*(u_{k+1} - \varphi_u(x_k)) = u_k + \varepsilon_k \kappa^*(u_{k+1} - \Pi_u(x_k)) \in \mathbb{R}^2$$

of $(F(x_0, x_1, \ldots, x_N))_k$, $k = 0, 1, \ldots, N$ is to be replaced by

$$(u^1_k + \varepsilon^1_k \kappa^*(u^1_{k+1} - \Pi^1_u(x_k)), u^2_k + \varepsilon^2_k \kappa^*(u^2_{k+1} - \Pi^2_u(x_k))) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R},$$

where superscripts 1 (resp. 2) stand for the first(=horizontal) (resp. second(=vertical)) coordinate in Figures 6.2 and 6.3, and

$$\varepsilon^1_k = \varepsilon^2_k = -1 \quad \text{if } U_{j_k} = U \text{ and } U_{j_k+1} = U, W$$

and

$$\varepsilon^1_k = 1, \varepsilon^2_k = -1 \quad \text{if } U_{j_k} = W \text{ and } U_{j_k+1} = U, W.$$
No other changes are needed for the proof. After this refinement of the choice of parameter $\varepsilon_k$ condition (5.5) will be satisfied again.

We feel justified to conclude that, eventually, the argument outlined above leads to a rigorous proof for the existence of embedded $\Sigma_2$ dynamics in equation (6.1). At present, several details are missing. It is not enough to check the alternative conditions for two times four points in a simplified and schematic situation. The relation between the original dynamics creating Figures 7, 5, and 8 of [50] and its simplified representation in Figures 6.1, 6.2, and 6.3 has to be analyzed rigorously. This task is parallel to the one we performed in Section 2 for Hubbard’s forced damped pendulum equation (1.1).

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REFERENCES

A computer-assisted proof for $\Sigma_3$-chaos in the forced damped pendulum equation


