

**Computability and physical
predictability**
the discrete and the continuum

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Laplace's determination

General attitudes:

determination \Rightarrow predictability

and

determination \neq randomness

[Laplace, Philosophie des Probabilités, 1786]

[J. Monod, Le hasard et la nécessité, 1970]

Key idea and conjecture:

a fine *analysis of perturbations* may justify the stability of the Solar system

(Newton; ... Laplace: “nuances presque insensibles”)

Poincaré's geometry of dynamical systems

- **Three Body Problem** (three physical bodies in their gravitational field)

$$\{ D^2x_{ij} = \text{non linear}(m_{i/j}, r_{ij}) \quad i,j \in \{1,2,3\} \quad (9 \text{ equations})$$

Poincaré's analysis (1880-1890):

It has no integral (analytic) solution

Lindstedt-Fourier series diverge: **small divisors**

[Barrow-Green J. "Poincaré and the three body Problem", AMS, 1997]

Thus, minor variations may imply (cause) major changes in the evolution
[Poincaré, II version, published, 1890]

Determinism *does not imply* **Predictability**

Dramatic change: Crucial role of physical measure and interval (access and closeness)

Geometry of **Dynamical Systems** (Poincaré):

Poincaré *confirms* by *broadening* the role of *classical determinism* (causality):

1.1 measure in Physics: an *interval*

1.2 “local \neq global” causality: local **perturbations** and **fluctuations** at the core of the *causal relations* (major future events depend on - are caused by - perturbations and fluctuations; this *changes the causal structure* w.r. to Laplace physics)

1.3 **classical randomness** *as* (deterministic) chaos
(random = not iterable in the "same context")

By this, determinism *no more implies* **predictability**

- **Crucial: no absolute scale of measure** (as under a discrete grid)

Hints to: Dynamical unpredictability vs. computational undecidability

- **Poincaré's theorem as a (strong) form of undecidability:**
given the 9 equations of the three bodies problem, decide an assertion F on the future of the system
(a finite time can be given beyond which F is undecidable)
- **Gödel-Turing undecidability (halting problem):**
at *infinity* (eventually)

Hoyrup M., Kolcak A., Longo G.. Computability and the Morphological Complexity of some dynamics on Continuous Domains. *Invited survey, to appear.*

Summary: Poincaré and deterministic randomness

- **Determinism** (by a set of equations) *does not imply* **Predictability**

Poincaré's Memoire (last chapter, first unpublished, 1889): **Résultats négatifs**

Poincaré's **section**: a geometric paradigm for *dynamical systems*

[Poincaré, Méthodes Nouvelles, 1892]

The **Geometry** of Dynamical systems, *recent results*:

- **Laskar, Sussman....**, 1990's: chaotic nature of the Solar System:

Concrete Impredictibility: Pluto: > 1 Mil. Years;
Earth: > 100 Mil. Years.

[J. Laskar "Large scale chaos in the Solar System", Astron. Astrophys., 287, 1994]

The issue of “access to data” (*measure*)

Physical “access” (measure):

- In Dynamical Systems: *not exact* (and this is crucial)
- In (Relativistic) Physics: *not absolute* (and this is crucial)
- (In Quantum Physics: *indetermination, non-locality, non-separability, exact but as probability... linearity - Shroedinger*)

Discrete (the *natural* topology) data type:

- *Sequential*: **exact** and **absolute**
- *Networks* (concurrency, in physical space and time): **exact**, not absolute.

Iteration at the core of Computing:

1. primitive recursion
2. portability of software (*very important!*)
3. Iterate also in networks.

More on : relevance of Measure (in Physics)

- **Classical dynamics** (non-linear; sensitive): initial measure
- **Quantum Physics**: deterministic evolution, but measure as probability value
(Shroedinger equations - linear! *in Hilbert space* - state spaces - complex variables! *Measure* based on absolute *real* values).
- The invention of **Discrete State Machines** (exact access to data)

In order to go from a physical process to a (numeric!) computation one has to perform a measure.

Double pendulum

Chaos in a metric space

- **Definition** A function $f : X \rightarrow X$ is said to be **topologically transitive** if for every pair of open subsets U and V of X , there exists $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$f^n(U) \cap V \neq \emptyset$$

Notes:

A map is topologically transitive if there will always be points that are *eventually mapped* from *any* open set to *any* other open set.

No way to separate the whole set into two disjoint subsets both invariant with respect to this map.

- **Definition** A function $f : X \rightarrow X$ has a **sensitive dependence** on initial conditions if there exist $d > 0$ such that, for all $x \in X$ and for all neighborhood V of x , there exist $y \in V$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$|f^n(x) - f^n(y)| > d.$$

Note: A map is sensitive if for any point it is possible to find other points as near as possible so that they will eventually be apart by a distance more than d .

Chaos in a metric space

Definition

A function $f : X \rightarrow X$ is **chaotic** if

1. f has *sensitive dependence* on initial conditions.
2. f is *topologically transitive*.
3. the set of periodical points is *dense* in X .

- **Physical meaning:** unpredictability (1), undecomposability (2) and regularity (3);
- **Physical consequence:** non-iterability (under physical measure).

An example in one dimension (the **logistic function**, a model of antagonistic processes):

$$f_4(x) = 4x(1-x)$$

Discrete-time-trajectories are given by iterating f :

- $x_0, x_1 = f(x_0), x_2 = f(x_1), \dots$

Discrete approximations ?

- **Laplace's analysis of determinism:**

small perturbation implies small consequence

(except “rare” critical cases)

- In **Newton-Laplace** (*or linear*) systems:

Discretization still possible, as *approximation is preserved*

– (*exception*: critical states and singularities: badly described in a discrete frame)

Claim: discrete mathematical structures yield an intrinsic laplacian determination

([Turing, 1950] see [Longo: Laplace, Turing and the impossible geometry... , 2007]).

Undecidability = unpredictability ? = randomness ?

- Existing partial connections between decidability and predictability:

It is possible to **encode** Turing Machine into *some* dynamical systems;
Then, for a given trajectory, “*passing by a point*” is undecidable/unpredictable.

[Smale, ...]

Technically similar to:

Matiyasevich’s undecidability for Diophantine Equations (1970)
(it uses the “algebraic richness”)

The approach says nothing on the *intended physical dynamics*.
(**Anthills** and Turing Machines...)

Modelling is the *other way round* (from the system into TMs)

Randomness *as* unpredictability

- **Physical definition (classical):**

A process is *random* when iterated in the “*same*” *initial conditions* (interval) it follows a “different trajectory”.

(for a comparison to Quantum Mechanics: [Bailly, Longo, 2007])

- **Mathematical definition(s)** (deterministic systems):

Equational: non-linear models of physical processes thus:

1 - chaotic (e.g. non-linearity: *mixing*)

2 - unpredictability (physical measure)

1. *Chaotic Iterated Systems:* $(X, \tau(d), f)$, $f: X \rightarrow X$.

2. *Recursion Theoretic:* Martin-Löf (for *infinite* sequences)

3. *Note:* there is no randomness in computing!

More on: Unpredictability as Randomness (Hoyrup, Rojas)

2 - Martin-Löf randomness (*infinite* sequences):

(it uses decreasing *effective open coverings* on Cantor's set:

Random = not being contained in any *effective covering*
= it stays “eventually outside it”)

Consequence:

- No effectively generated *subsequence*
(unpredictable = random \Rightarrow not rec. enum. (not decidable))

Recall: Poincaré's unpredictability *implies* undecidability

But it is stronger, since

there exist *non rec. enum.* sequences which are *not* Martin-Löf random
(e.g. $x_1 e_1 x_2 e_2 x_3 \dots$ x ML-random, e effective)

An application (with Kolcak, Hoyrup):

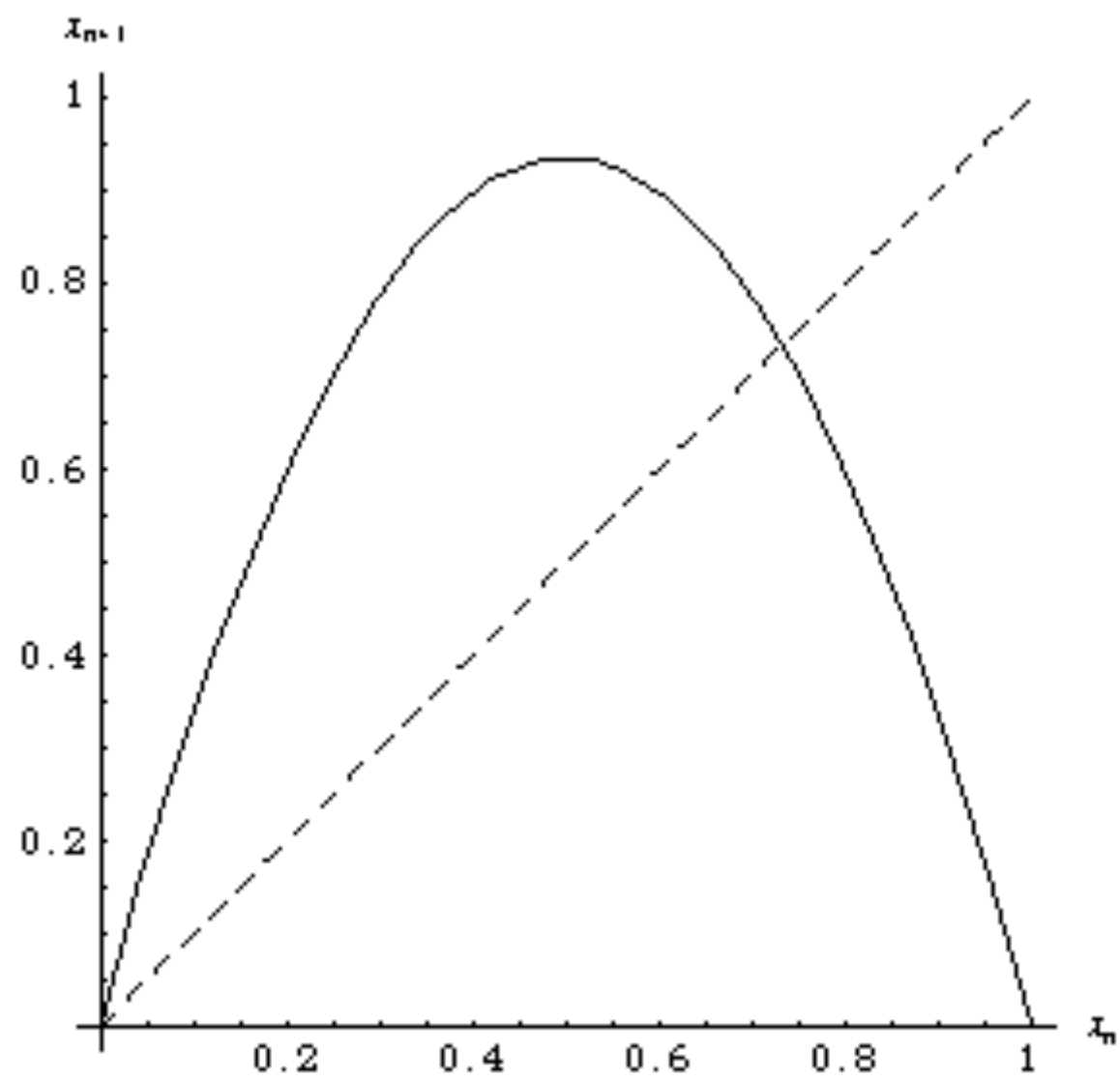
Non-linear unidimensional dynamics
the logistic functions

$$F(x) = kx(1-x)$$

Motivation:

reducibility of many several dimensions problems to one dimension

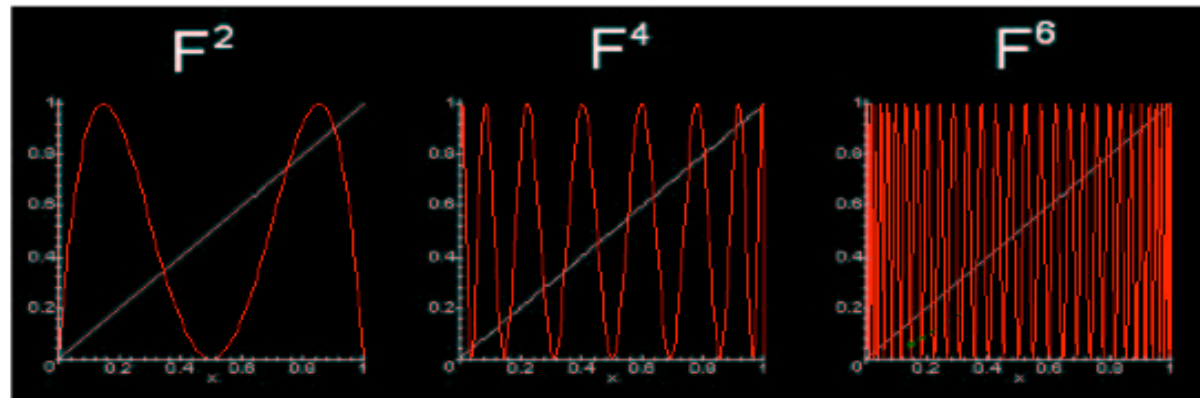
e.g. Solar system: the distance from the Sun



$$F(x) = kx(1-x)$$

- Trajectory: x_0 , $x_1 = F(x_0)$, $x_2 = F(x_1)$...

$$x_{n+1} = F(x_n) = F^n(x_0)$$



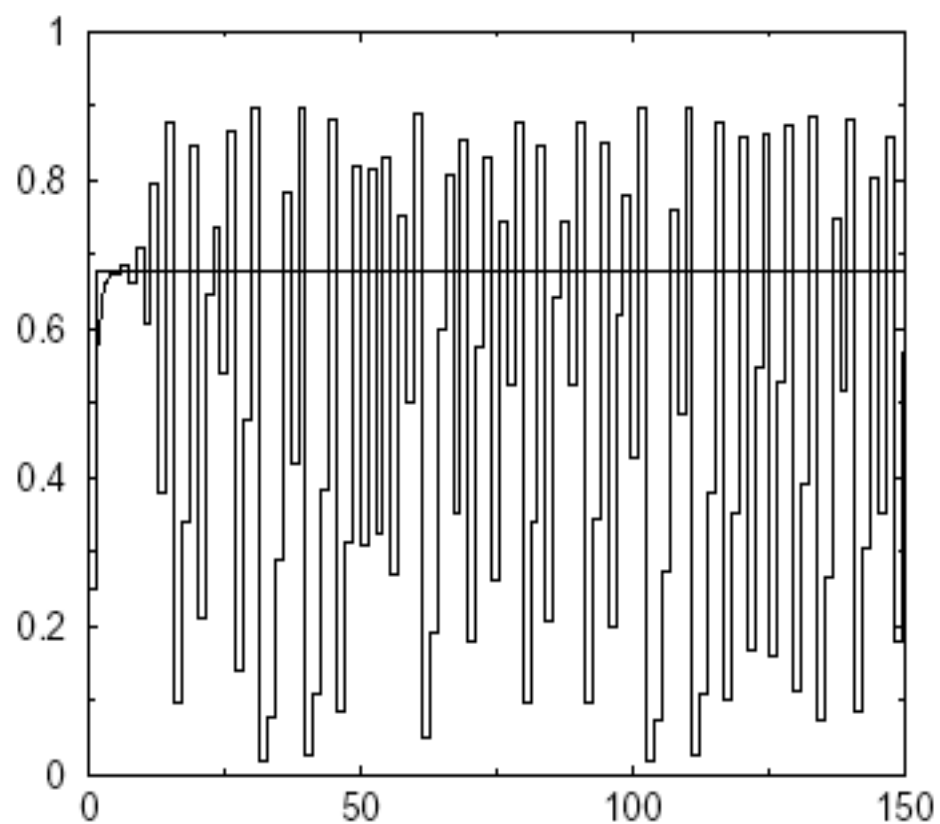
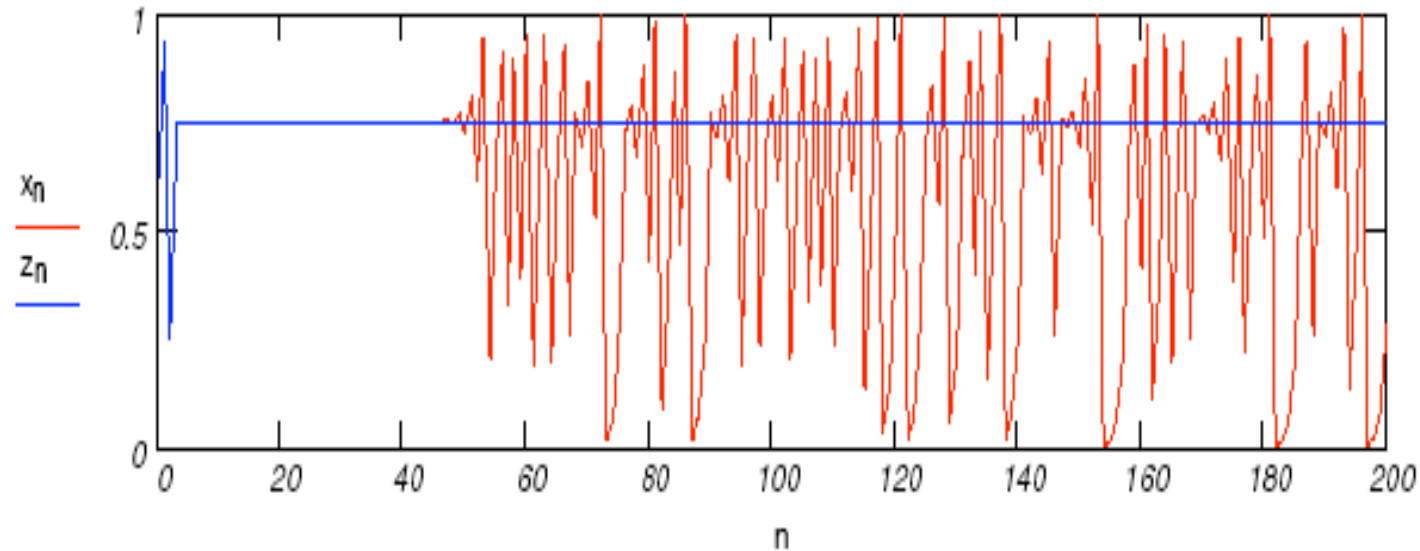
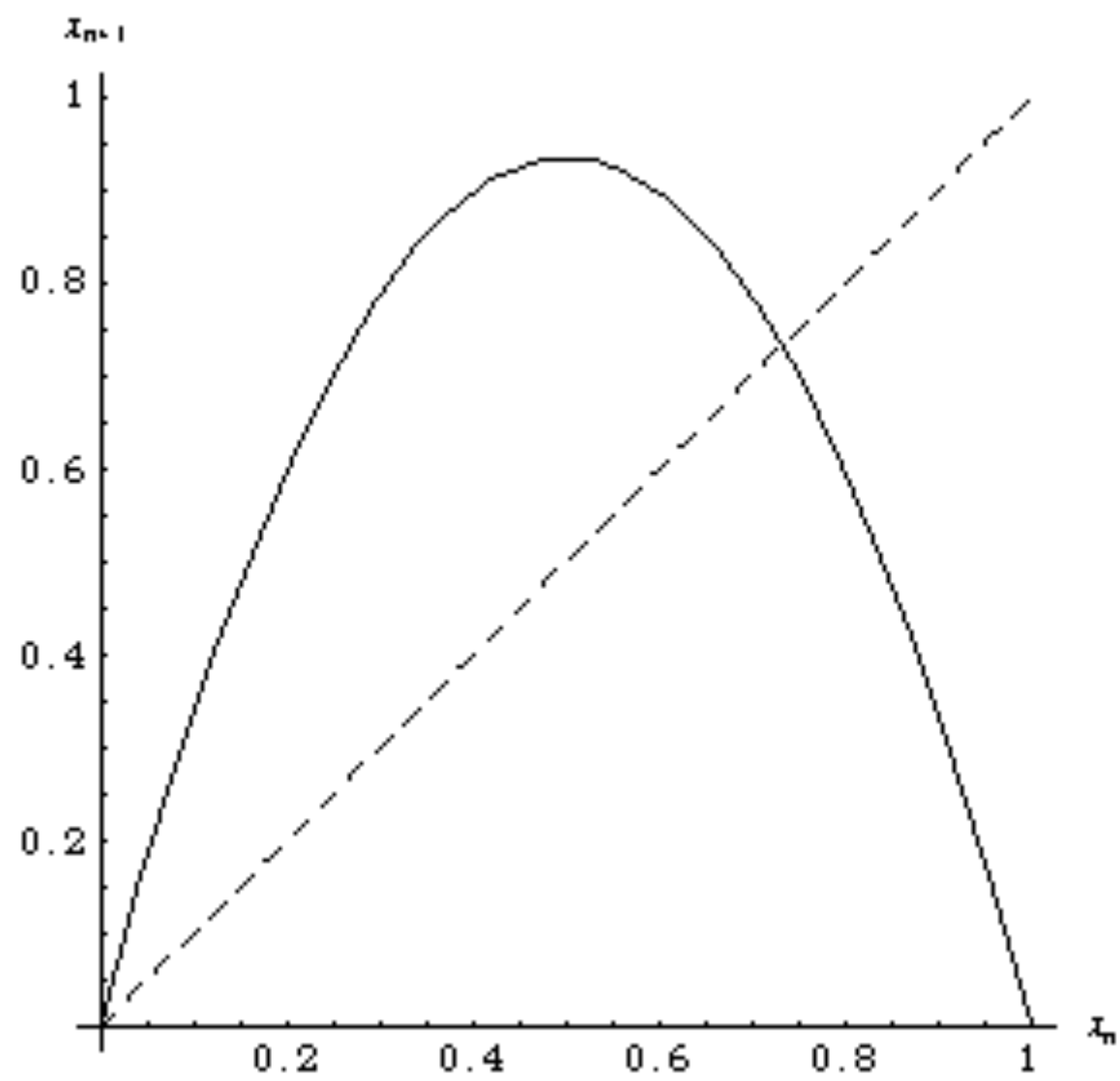


Figure 3: Discretization of the logistic equation (2) with $a = 3.1$, using a time step $h = 3/(a - 1) = 1.424$ corresponding to the fully chaotic case $A = 4$, see text, Sec. 2.3.

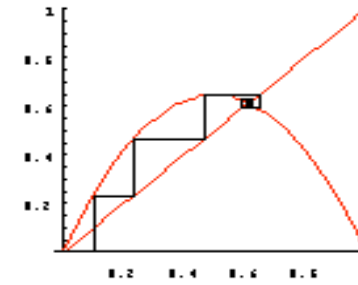
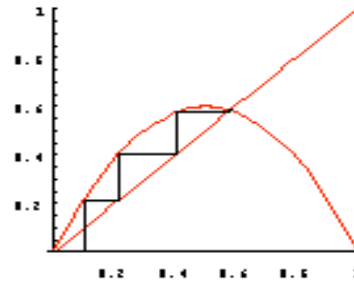
Logistic function, chaotic case



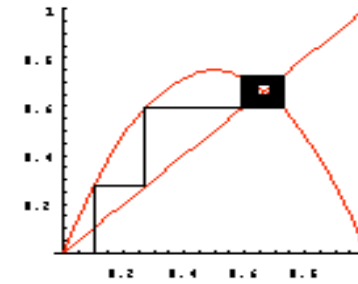
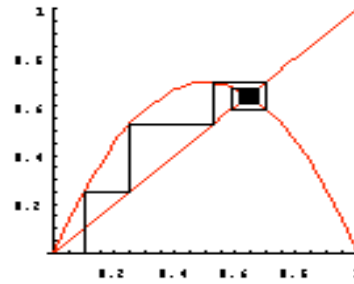
In red, the *difference* between two input values (x_0) which differ at 10^{-16} (i.e. identical up to the 15th decimal). The about 50th iteration can be deduced from the *exponent* in the analytic solution $y_n = -\cos(2^n(\pi - k\cos(y_0)))$



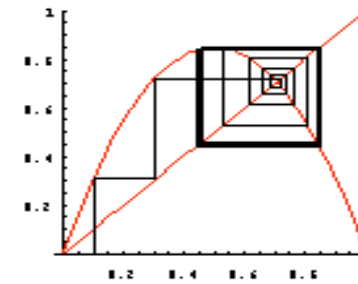
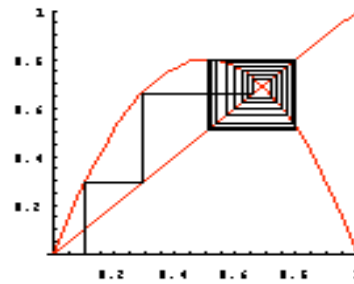
- $K = 2.2; 2.4$
One fix-point



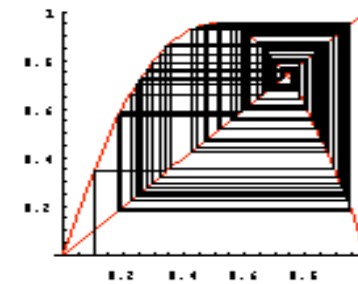
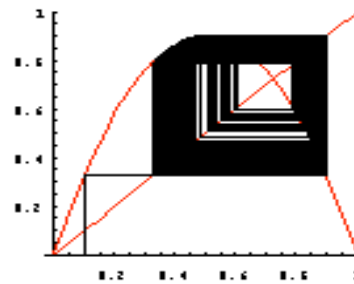
- $K = 2.5; 2.7$
One fix-point
(slow converge)



- $K = 3.2; 3.4$
Stable period 2 and 6 orbits



- $K = 3.7; 4$
towards chaos



Non-linear unidimensional dynamics

the logistic functions

$$x_{n+1} = f(x_n) = kx_n(1 - x_n) \quad 2 \leq k \leq 4 \quad (\text{ago-antagonistic coupling})$$

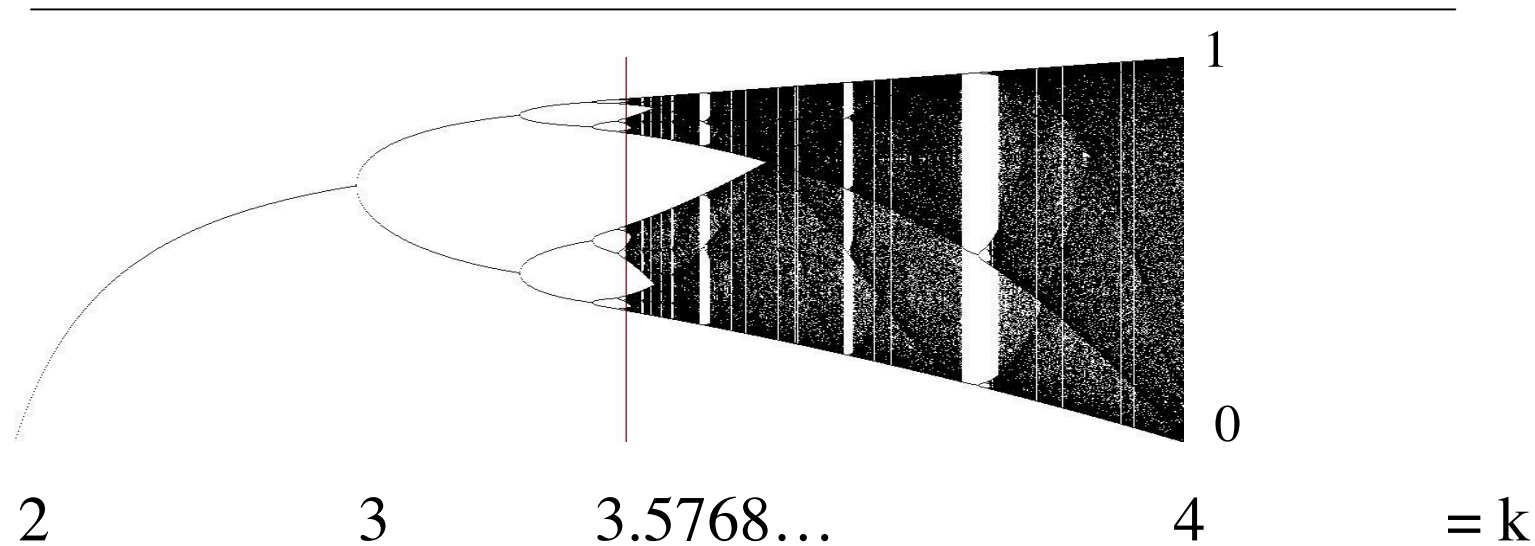
- Very **low algebraic** complexity.
 - Very **high geometric** (*morphological*) complexity:
-

Non-linear unidimensional dynamics

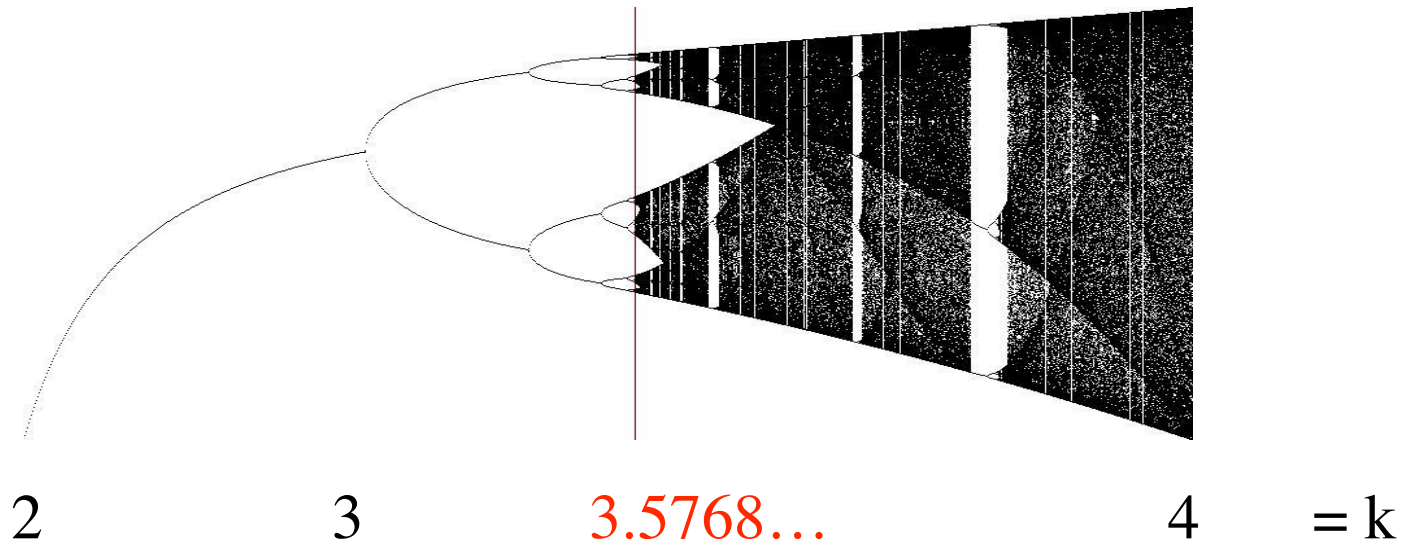
the logistic functions

$$x_{n+1} = f(x_n) = kx_n(1 - x_n) \quad 2 \leq k \leq 4 \quad (\text{ago-antagonistic coupling})$$

- Very **low algebraic** complexity.
- Very **high geometric** (*morphological*) complexity:



Non-linear unidimensional dynamics: *the logistic functions*



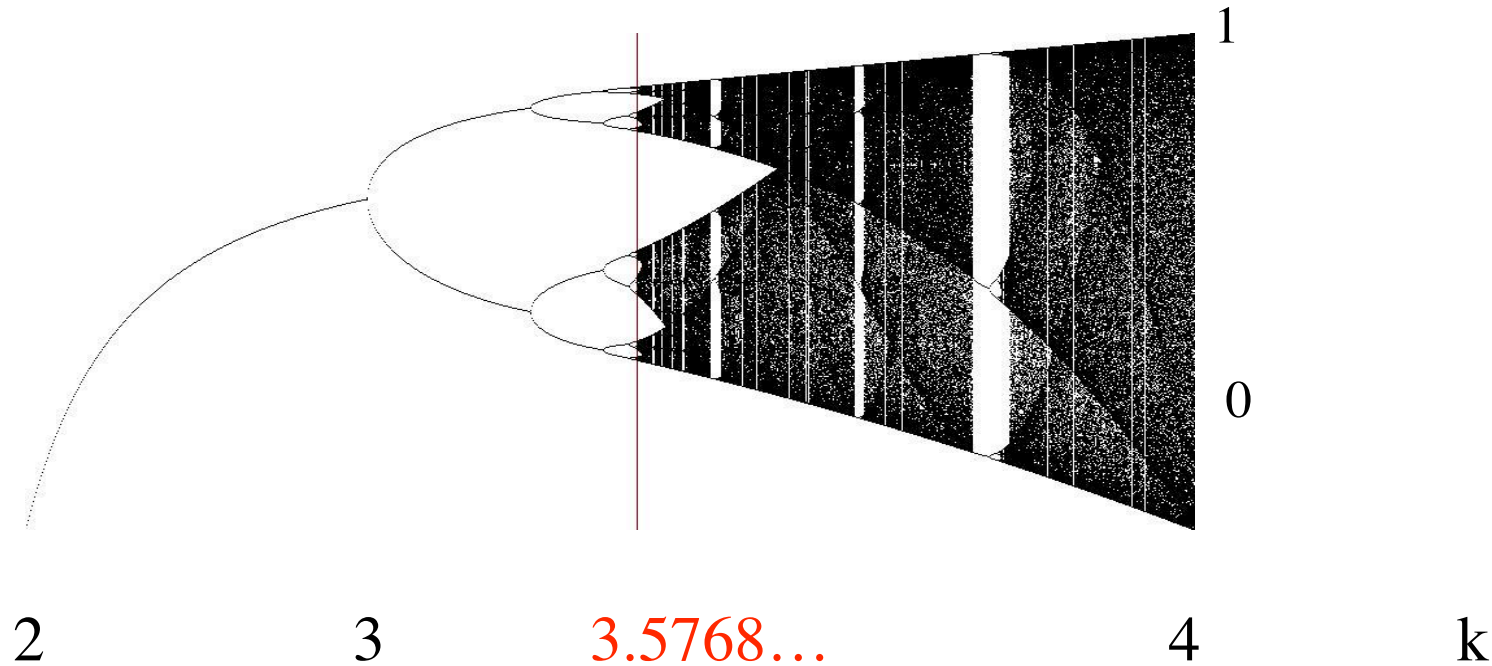
Stable fixed point;

from left: period 2 \rightarrow period n (stable)...

∞ at $k_\infty = 3.5768...$

Cantor(-Julia) *from right*

Non-linear unidimensional dynamics: *the logistic functions*



Critical transition at $k_\infty = 3.5768\dots$ *Feigenbaum value*
All unstable periodic orbits of period n , for all n , up to countable infinity

From countable infinity to continuum (Cantor-Julia set)

Transition to Chaos (A. Kolcák)

Theor. 1

For any ε there exist k_1, k_2 with $4 - \varepsilon < k_1, k_2 < 4$

1. f_{k_2} is a *Feigenbaum*
2. For any $k \in [k_1, k_2[$, f_k has a *stable periodic orbit*.

Theor. 2

$\{k \in [0,4] / f_k \text{ has a stable periodic orbit}\}$ is *locally connected* and *dense* in $[0,4]$.

2 - Predictability in unidimensional dynamics

The logistic function: $f_k(x) = kx(1-x)$ $k_\infty = 3.5768... \leq k \leq 4$

Measure is an interval **U**:

Question: given a **target** zone **V**, *whether* and *when* **U** is taken, by iterating f_k , into **V** ?

Predictability Theorem (A. Kolcák)

(*Continuous case*: real intervals U, V):

“For any interval U, V in $[0,1]$, whether there exists an m such that $f_k^m(U) \subseteq V$ may be reduced to a finite number of cases”

Three cases:

1 - f_k has stable fixed points ($k < k_\infty$):

2 - f_k is chaotic (e. g. $k = 4$)

3 - f_k is critical (no stable periodic orbits nor sensitivity to initial conditions)

“For any interval U, V in $[0,1]$, is there an m such that $\mathbf{f}_k^m(U) \subseteq V$?”

1 - \mathbf{f}_k has stable fixed points ($k < k_\infty$):

- if k is rational, m can be uniformly effectively computed
- if k is a computable real (and not rational), the non-existence of m is semi-decidable

2 - \mathbf{f}_k is chaotic:

- $k = 4$: the problem is decidable (easy: wait for m such that $\mathbf{f}_k^m(U) = [0,1]$)
- $k_\infty < k < 4$:
 - if k is rational, m can be uniformly effectively computed
 - if k is a computable real (and not rational), the existence of m is not semi-decidable

3 - \mathbf{f}_k is critical (no stable periodic orbits nor sensitivity to initial conditions, e.g. $k = k_\infty$):

- if k is rational, m can be uniformly effectively computed
- if k is a computable real (and not rational), the existence of m is not semi-decidable

Periodic orbits “organize” the dynamics

On computable reals (M. Hoyrup) :

Theorem 1

The set of periodic points of a chaotic dynamical system is *not semi-decidable nor co-semi-decidable*.

Theorem 2

The set of points of a chaotic dynamical system whose orbits never fall into a given closed interval is *not semi-decidable*.

Theorem 3

k_∞ is a computable real.

The shadowing lemma

Computational problem: the round-off

- **Mathematically:** “*shadowing lemma*” for hyperbolic dynamical systems (D, f)

For any x_0 and δ there is an ε such that, for any ε -approximated (or rounded-off $\leq \varepsilon$) trajectory, there is one in the continuum which goes δ -close to it, at each step.

(M. Hoyrup: on the Logistic function)

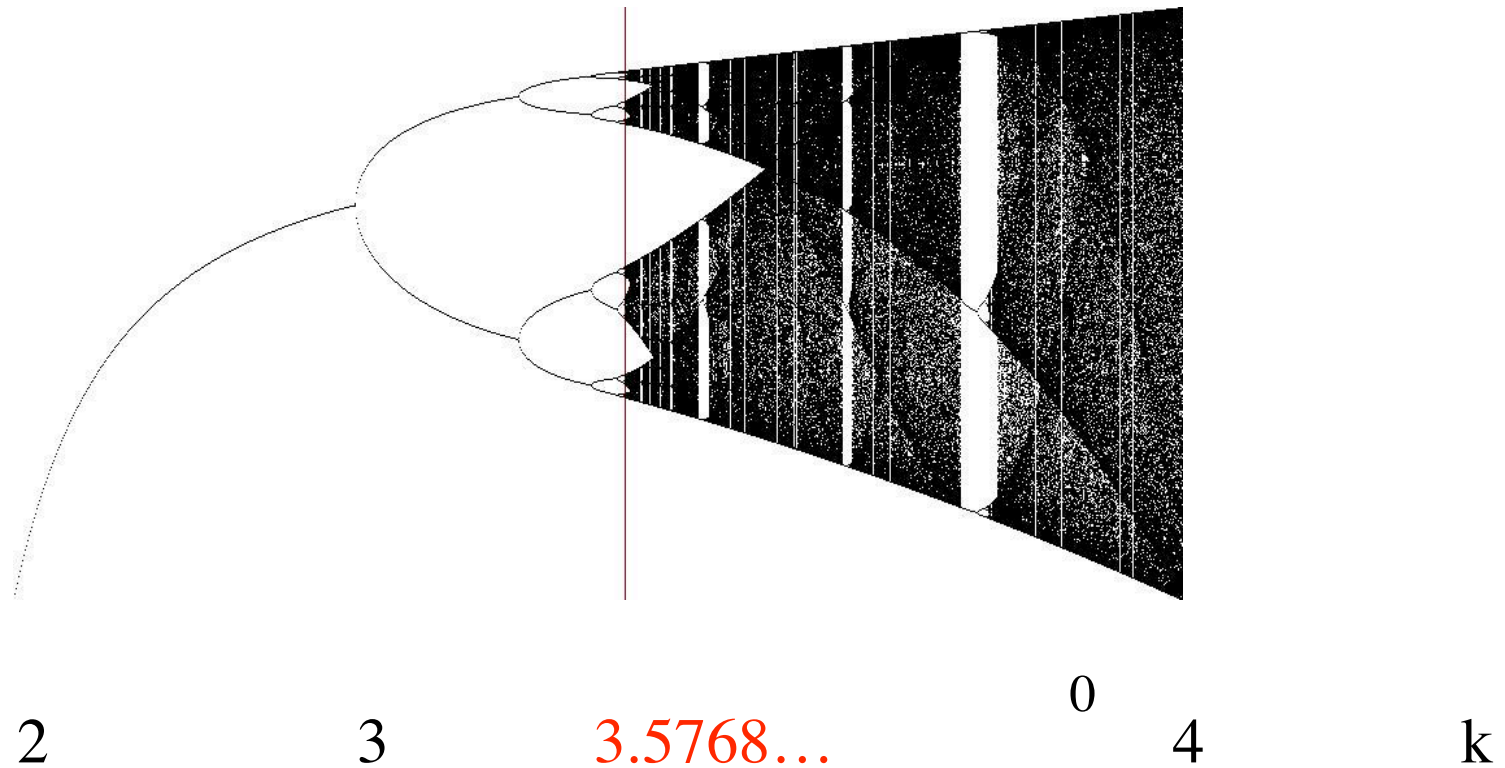
- **Informally:**

Given a “sufficiently regular” non-linear iterated function system, *any digital sequences* can be actually approximated by a continuous one (**but, in general not the converse!**)

Or ... there are so many continuous trajectories, that, given a discrete one, you can find a continuous sequence which goes close to it, see the reflection of the *double pendulum* in [Longo, 2002; 2003].

Ongoing work: extend Shadowing; relevant counterexamples

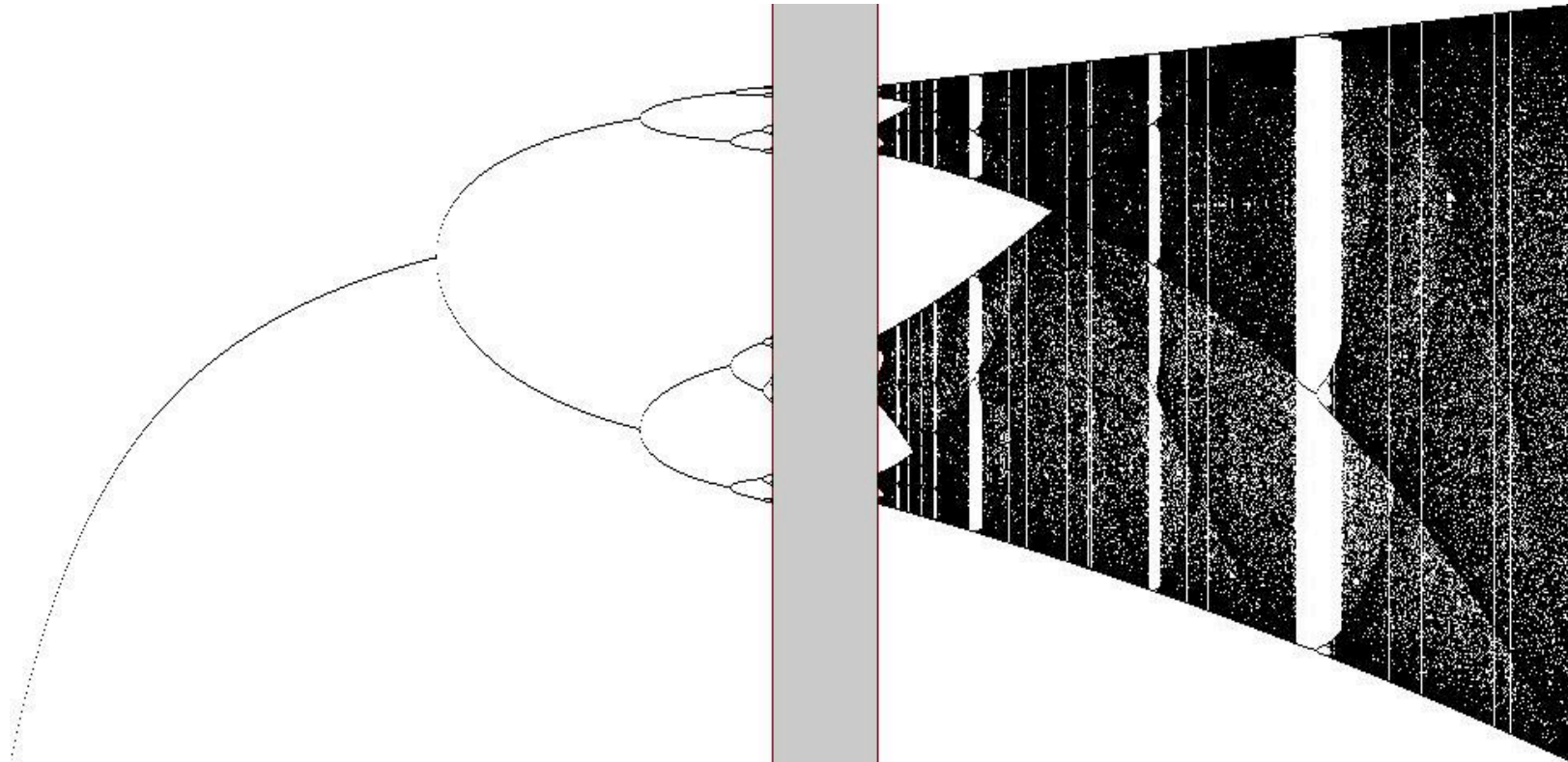
A critical point in Physics: a singularity, one point-parameter



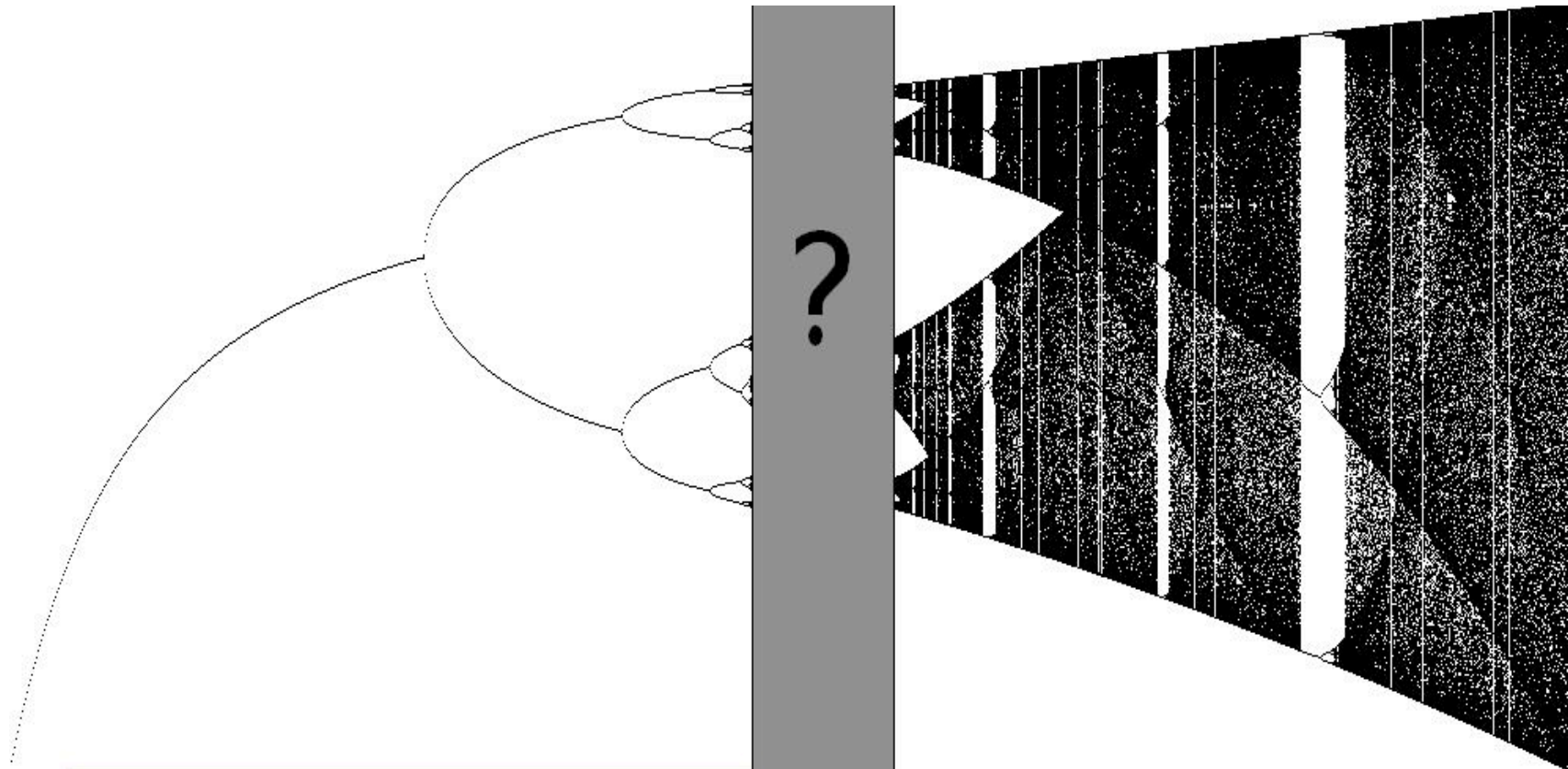
Logistic function: Critical transition at $k_{\infty} = 3.5768\dots$
from countable infinity to continuum (Cantor-Julia multifractal)

Extending criticality

An “infinitary” transition: *countable infinite* \rightarrow *continuum*
(no CH)



Extending criticality



Physical Singularity of Life Phenomena

- Physical variation vs. **Variability** (individuation)
- Physics: *Specific* trajectoires (geodetics) and *generic* objects
Biology: *generic trajectories* (compatible) and *specific objects*
- Physics: *deterministic unpredictability* or *indetermination* within a given phase space
Biology: **Intrinsic indetermination** due to change of the phase space - phylogenesis (ontogenesis?)
- **Biology**: **Extended critical situations** (from *physical criticality*)
- Physics: **energy** as operator, **time** as parameter;
Biology: *time as operator, energy as parameter*

Bailly F., Longo G. **Mathématiques et sciences de la nature. La singularité physique du vivant**, Hermann, Paris, 2006.

Some references

<http://www.di.ens.fr/users/longo>

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