

PHYS 5210  
Graduate Classical Mechanics  
Fall 2024

Lecture 37  
Logistic map

November 20

Chaotic systems:

① Hénon - Heiles  
t-ind. Hamiltonian  
4D Phase space

② kicked rotor  
t-dep. Hamiltonian  
2D phase space

↓  
discrete map  
 $J_{n+1} = f(J_n, \phi_n)$

③ logistic map:  
chaotic map for  
one variable.  
NOT Hamiltonian  
↳ dissipative

Logistic map:  $x_{n+1} = f(x_n) = r x_n (1 - x_n)$  ↖ const.  
What is behavior of  $\{x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n, \dots\}$

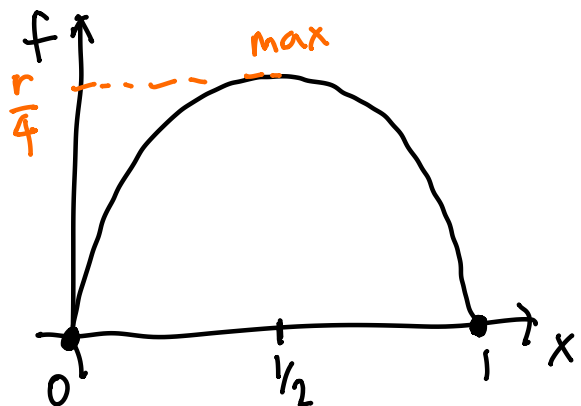
Demand:  $0 \leq x_n \leq 1$

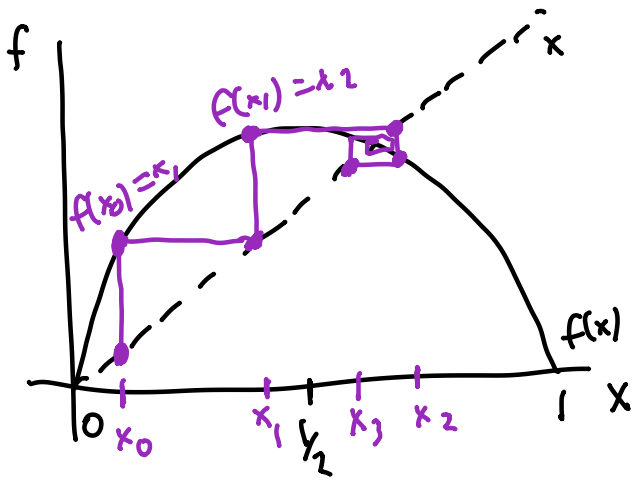
$r > 0$

So if  $f(x_n) \leq 1$

↑ including  $f(\frac{1}{2})$

need  $0 \leq r \leq 4$



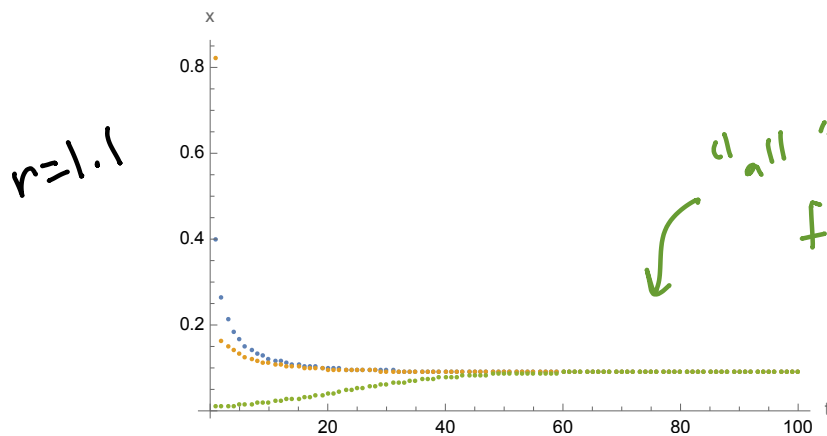


"Cobweb diagram"

For this value of  $r$ ,  
dynamics approaching  $\swarrow$  <sup>stable</sup> fixed  
point:  $x_* = f(x_*)$ .

As before  $\rightarrow$  numerical simulation

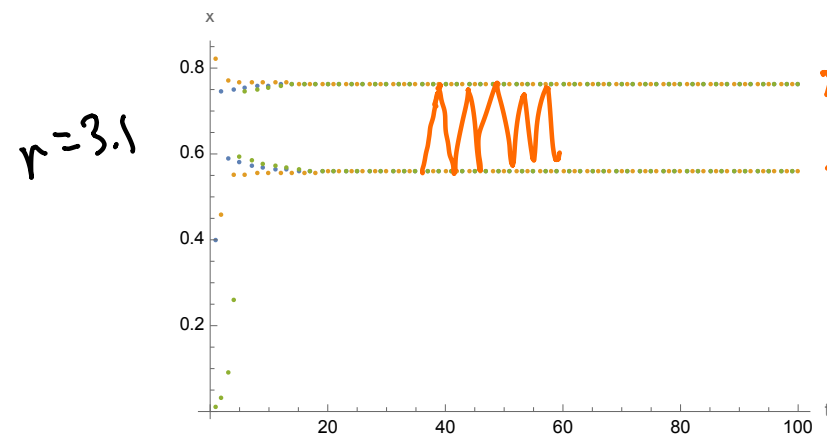
First: 3 different ICs at same  $r$



all "trajectories approach same  
fixed point  $\nwarrow$  stable

$$x_* = f(x_*) = rx_*(1-x_*)$$

$$x_*=0 \text{ or } x_* = 1 - 1/r$$



$x_{*2}$  } stable period-2 cycle:  
 $x_{*1}$  }  $f(x_{*1}) = x_{*2}$   
 $f(x_{*2}) = x_{*1}$

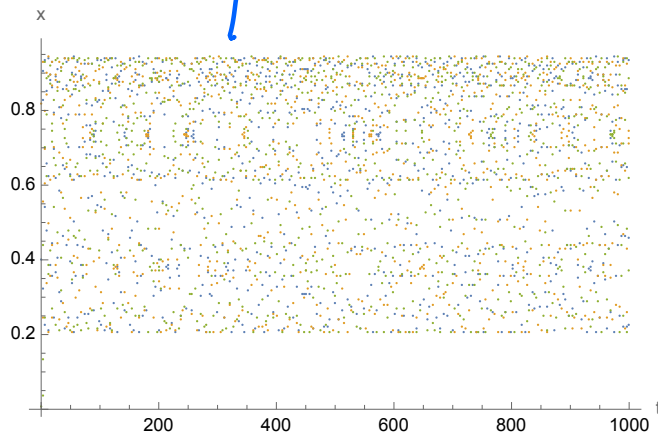
Definition: period- $n$  cycle has

$$x_{*1} \xrightarrow{f} x_{*2} \xrightarrow{f} \dots \xrightarrow{f} x_{*n} \xrightarrow{f} x_{*1}$$

$$f(x_{*1}) = x_{*2}$$

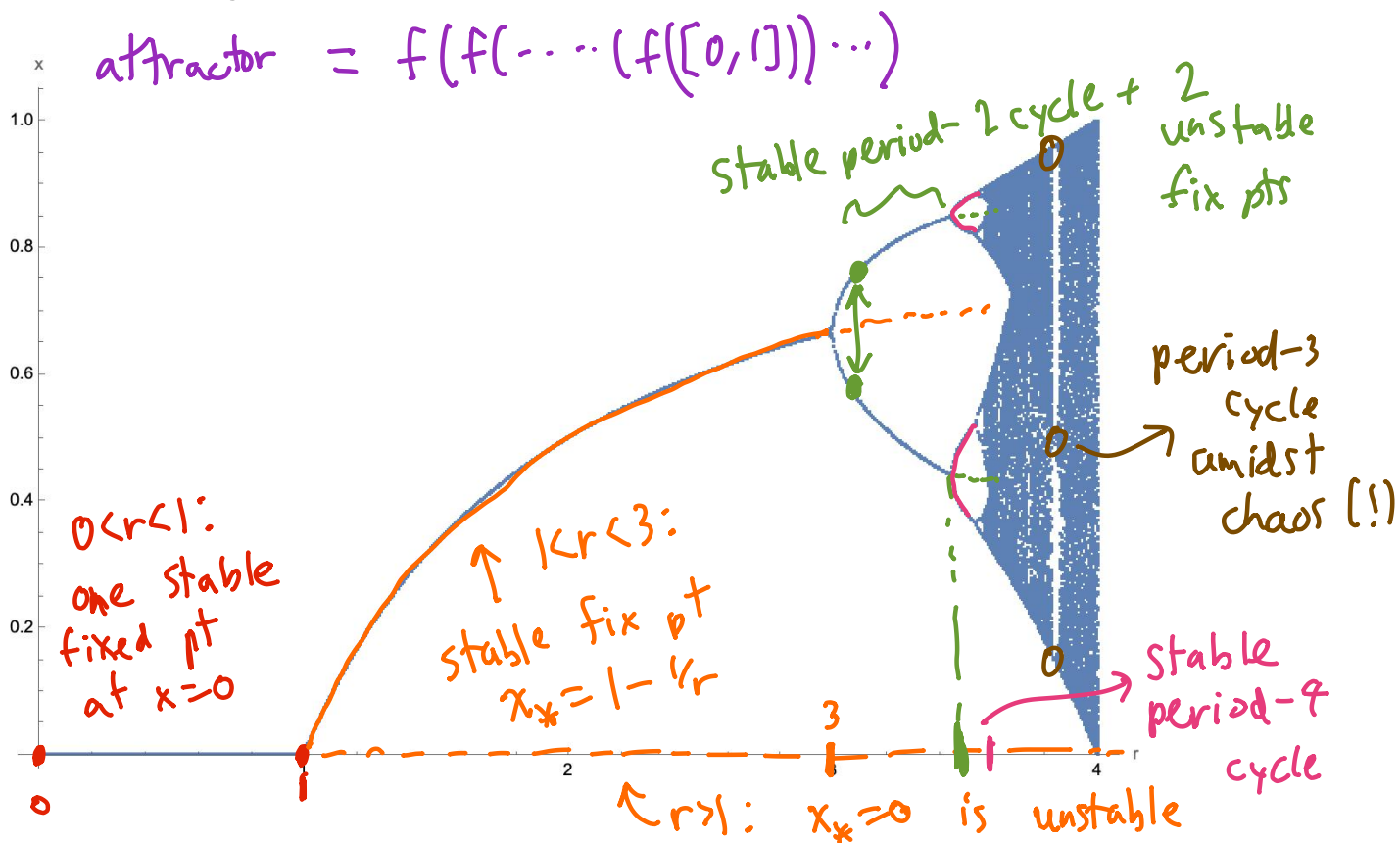
all ICs explore "a lot" of phase space

→ chaos: initial condition tells us little about  $x_n \dots$  (butterfly effect)



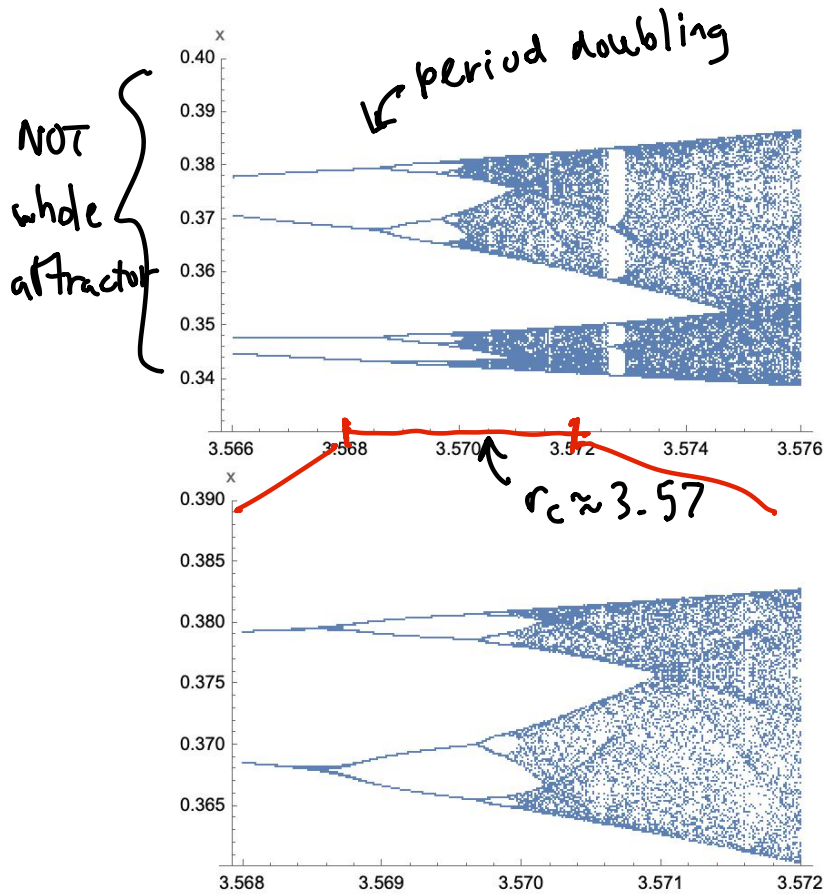
Note: dissipative map, less clear how to properly "dimension count"

Plot of "large  $n$ " values of  $x_n$  for various ICs



HW12:  $r=4$  = chaos + exact solvability!

Onset of chaos:



A attractor "geometry"

has "self-similar" structure near  $r_c$ .

(w/o axis labels you can't deduce scale)

$\Rightarrow$  fractal (Lec 41),  
object w/ non-integer dimension  
structure at all scales...

General lessons (for 1d dissipative maps...)

$\rightarrow$  onset of chaos: period doubling "cascade" (Lec 39)

$\rightarrow$  fractal structure of attractor  $\rightarrow$  quantitatively universal  
self-similar