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7 Asymptotic Phase, Shadowing and Reaction-Diffusion Systems

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0 Introduction

It is with pleasure and gratitude that we honor Professor Larry Markus for his contributions to mathematics. In 1956 he published *Asymptotically autonomous differential systems* [6] in a series called *Contributions to the Study of Nonlinear Oscillations*—a subject which today would be called “Dynamical Systems”. The present article is a direct descendant of Markus’ influential paper, through Conway, Hoff and Smoller [2].

Consider a smooth flow $\{\Phi_t\}$ having an attracting limit cycle γ . It is well known that if γ is a hyperbolic attractor— all Floquet exponents having negative real parts— then every trajectory $\Phi_t x$ attracted to γ is asymptotic with the trajectory of a unique point of γ . If γ is parameterized by the interval $[0, 2\pi]$ then y can be interpreted as an angle, called the *asymptotic phase* of x .

I abstract this notion as follows. Consider a trajectory $\Phi_t x$ attracted to some positively invariant set A . If $y \in A$ is such that $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \|\Phi_t x - \Phi_t y\| = 0$ then I call y an *asymptotic phase* for x . (For clarity I use $\|a - b\|$ to denote the distance between points a, b in any metric space.) Notice that uniqueness of y is not required here.

If A is not negatively invariant it may happen that x does not have an asymptotic phase in A , but that $\Phi_s x$ does, for some $s > 0$. In this case I say x has an *eventual asymptotic phase* in A .

It is frequently incorrectly assumed that every orbit approaching an attractor has an eventual asymptotic phase in the attractor. A common situation is that of a cascade of two systems, that is, a system of the form:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dx}{dt} &= F(x, y) \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= G(y).\end{aligned}$$

If $(x(t), y(t))$ is a particular solution such that $y(t) \rightarrow c$, it is often asserted without justification that $x(t)$ is asymptotic to a solution of $dz/dt = F(z, c)$. A simple counterexample in the plane is:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dx}{dt} &= xy \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= -y^3.\end{aligned}$$

The goal of this paper is to find conditions ensuring existence of an eventual asymptotic phase.

1 Main Results

Let $a = a(q)$ denote a nonnegative real-valued function of a variable q whose domain is understood to be a terminal segment of either the positive reals or the positive integers. Define

$$\mathcal{R}a = \mathcal{R}_{q \rightarrow \infty} a(q) = \limsup_{q \rightarrow \infty} a(q)^{\frac{1}{q}}.$$

Then

$$\mathcal{R}(a + b) = \max(\mathcal{R}a, \mathcal{R}b),$$

and for any constant $\kappa > 0$:

$$\mathcal{R}(\kappa a) = \mathcal{R}(a).$$

Let $F = \{F_t\}_{t \geq 0}$ be a flow (more precisely, a partial semiflow) on a metric space X (usually, a Banach space). For clarity the distance between points $x, y \in X$ is denoted $\|x - y\|$. In applications X is usually a subset of a Banach space. I shall always assume the maps F_t have the following *local Lipschitz property*: For any $t_0 \geq 0, x_0 \in X$ there exist $L \geq 0$ and neighborhoods $N \in \mathbf{R}_+$ of t_0 and $U \in X$ of x_0 such that

$$\|F_t x - F_t y\| \leq L \|x - y\|$$

for all $t \in N, y \in U$.

Denote by $A \subset X$ a closed subspace having the following properties:

- (a) A is positively invariant under F .
- (b) A has the structure of a Riemannian manifold without boundary homeomorphically embedded in X . The norm of a tangent vector Y in the Riemannian metric is denoted by $\|Y\|$.
- (c) There is a smooth ($=C^1$) tangent vector field G on A whose flow $\Phi = \{\Phi_t\}_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$ coincides with $F_t|_A$ for $t \geq 0$.

Let $K \subset A$ denote a nonempty compact set positively invariant under F , so that K is also Φ -invariant. The *inset* of K under F is the set

$$In(K) = In(K, F) = \{x \in X : \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \text{dist}(F_t x, K) = 0\}.$$

For $x \in In(K)$ define the *rate of approach to K* of x to K under F to be the number

$$\mathcal{P}(x, K, F) = \mathcal{R}_{t \rightarrow \infty} \text{dist}(F_t x, K).$$

Evidently $0 \leq \mathcal{P}(x, K, F) \leq 1$. If $\mathcal{P}(x, K, F) < 1$ I say x is *exponentially attracted to K* .

Fix a Riemannian metric on A . The closed ball in A with radius $\rho \geq 0$ centered at $x \in A$ is denoted by $B(\rho, x)$.

For a diffeomorphism h between open subsets of A , the *expansion constant of h* at $x \in A$ is the positive number

$$EC(h, x) = \|T_x h^{-1}\|^{-1} = \min_{\|Y\|=1} \|T_x h(Y)\|.$$

Here Y denotes tangent vectors to A at x , and $\|T_x h\|$ denotes the operator norm of the differential of h at x (defined by the Riemannian metric). Thus $EC(h, x) \geq \mu$ iff $\|T_x z\| \geq \mu \|z\|$ for all $z \in T_x$.

Now for any compact subset $K \subset A$ define

$$EC(h, K) = \min_{x \in K} EC(h, x)$$

If $EC(h, K) > \nu > 0$ then it is not hard to see that there exists $\rho_* > 0$ such that if $x \in K$ and $0 < \rho \leq \rho_*$ then

$$hB(\rho, x) \supset B(\mu\rho, h(x));$$

see Hirsch and Pugh [4].

The expansion rate of Φ at K is the nonnegative number

$$\mathcal{E}(\Phi, K) = \sup_{t>0} EC(\Phi_t, K)^{\frac{1}{t}}.$$

Since $[T_x \Phi_t]^{-1} = T_{\Phi_t x} \Phi_{-t}$, we have

$$\mathcal{E}(\Phi, K) = \sup_{t>0} \min_{x \in K} \|T_{\Phi_t x} \Phi_{-t}\|^{-\frac{1}{t}}$$

The expansion rate is the largest $\mu > 0$ having the following property: If $0 < \nu < \mu$ then there exist $s > 0, \rho_* > 0$ such that

$$\Phi_s B(\rho, x) \supset B(\nu^s \rho, \Phi_s x)$$

provided $x \in K$ and $0 < \rho \leq \rho_*$.

The expansion rate depends on the dynamics and the Riemannian metric. In some cases it is possible to estimate it from a formula for the vector field, from the dynamics of its flow, or from estimates using other metrics. Here are several such estimates.

(i) Assume that $A = \mathbb{R}^n$ with the standard inner product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$, and denote $T_x \Phi_t$ by $D\Phi_t(x)$. The variational equation along orbits of the reversed time flow Φ_{-t} , generated by the vector field $-G$ on A , gives the following matrix differential equation:

$$\frac{d}{dt} D\Phi_{-t}(x) = -DG(\Phi_{-t}x) D\Phi_{-t}(x)$$

Therefore for every nonzero vector $Y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and every $t \geq 0, y \in K$ we have, setting $y = \Phi_t x \in K$:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \|D\Phi_{-t}(y)Y\| = \|D\Phi_{-t}(y)Y\|^{-1} \langle -DG(\Phi_{-t}y) D\Phi_{-t}(y)Y, D\Phi_{-t}(y)Y \rangle$$

The inner product on the right hand side is bounded above by $-\beta \|D\Phi_{-t}(y)Y\|^2$ where $\beta = \beta(G, K)$ denotes the minimum over $x \in K$ and unit vectors $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^n$ of $\langle DG(x)\xi, \xi \rangle$. Equivalently, β equals the smallest eigenvalue of the symmetric matrix $\frac{1}{2}[DG(x) + DG(x)^T]$ where T denotes the transpose of a matrix. Therefore

$$\frac{d}{dt} \|D\Phi_{-t}(x)\| \leq \beta \|D\Phi_{-t}(x)\|,$$

whence

$$\|D\Phi_{-t}(x)\| \leq e^{-t\beta}.$$

This proves $EC(\Phi_t, x) \geq e^{t\beta}$ for all $t \geq 0, x \in K$. We get the convenient estimate:

$$\mathcal{E}(\Phi, K) \geq e^{\beta(G, K)}. \quad (1)$$

(ii) Another estimate is obtained by noticing that

$$|\beta| \leq M = M(G, K) = \max_{x \in K} \|DG(x)\|$$

(using the Schwarz inequality) so that $\beta \geq -M$. This yields the estimate:

$$\mathcal{E}(\Phi, K) \geq e^{-M(G, K)}. \quad (2)$$

which will be used in Section 2.

(iii) A different estimate can be obtained in case all forward and backward trajectories in K are attracted to hyperbolic periodic orbit (possibly stationary). Suppose that the real parts of the Floquet exponents of these periodic orbits are all $\geq \gamma \in \mathbf{R}$. Then it can be proved that:

$$\mathcal{E}(\Phi, K) \geq e^\gamma \quad (3)$$

Suppose for example that the flow in A is the gradient flow of a function $g : A \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ having a finite set of critical points, and K is a compact attractor containing all the critical points. Then γ is the minimum of the eigenvalues of the Hessian of g at critical points in K .

(iv) More generally, it can be shown that if $L \subset K$ is a compact set containing all alpha and omega limit points in K , then $\mathcal{E}(\Phi, K) = \mathcal{E}(\Phi, L)$. The reason is that any semi-trajectory in K spends all but a finite amount of time in any given neighborhood of L .

(v) If K is a smooth submanifold and the flow in K is isometric for some Riemannian metric, then $\mathcal{E}(\Psi, K) = 1$. This is the case, for example, when K is a periodic orbit; when K is a smooth submanifold consisting of stationary points; or when the K is an n -dimensional torus and the flow is translation by a one parameter subgroup.

(vi) It seems reasonable to conjecture that if Ψ is generated by a vector field H on A of the form $H(x) = c(x)G(x)$ where c is a positive function on A , then $\mathcal{E}(\Phi, K) = \mathcal{E}(\Psi, K)$.

It would be very useful to know that $\mathcal{E}(\Phi, K)$ is preserved, or at least well controlled, by a smooth or continuous reparameterization of the trajectories, or by a topological conjugacy between flows. A key test case is a C^2 flow on a 2-torus without periodic orbits: Is the expansion rate equal to 1?

- (vii) Clearly $\mathcal{E}(\Phi, K) \geq \mathcal{R}_{t \rightarrow \infty} EC(\Phi_t, K)$. The latter number is easier to estimate and in some ways is more natural. For example it is easy to prove that it is independent of the Riemannian metric on A .

The main result says roughly that x is exponentially attracted to K at rate λ , while the expansion rate at K of the flow in A is $\mu > \lambda$, then x is eventually asymptotic at rate λ to a unique trajectory in A :

Theorem 1.1 Let $\mathcal{E}(\Phi, K) = \mu$. Suppose $x \in In(K)$ approaches K at rate

$$\mathcal{P}(x, K, F) = \lambda < \min(1, \mu).$$

Then:

- (a) There exists $r \geq 0, y \in A$ such that

$$\mathcal{R}_{t \rightarrow \infty} \|\Phi_{t+r}x - \Phi_t y\| = \lambda.$$

- (b) Let y be as in (a). Suppose $l > 0, z \in A$ are such that

$$\mathcal{R}_{t \rightarrow \infty} \|\Phi_{t+l}x - \Phi_t z\| \leq \lambda.$$

Then z and y are on the same orbit of Φ .

This is proved in Section 3 below. The same argument yields the analogous result for mappings.

The proof of the following corollary is left to the reader:

Corollary 1.2 If $\mathcal{P}(x, K, F) = \lambda < \min(1, \mathcal{E}(\Phi, K))$, then x has an eventual asymptotic phase $y \in K$. If $\mathcal{E}(\Phi, K) \geq 1$ then the Φ -trajectory of such a y is unique.

As a simple example illustrating Theorem 1.1, consider a smooth flow in some manifold A having an invariant n -torus $K = T^n = (\mathbf{R}/2\pi\mathbf{Z})^n$ in which the flow is quasiperiodic, the generating vector field G in T^n being covered by a constant vector field in \mathbf{R}^n . It is clear that $\mathcal{E}(\Phi, T^n) = 1$, using the Riemannian metric covered by the Euclidean metric on \mathbf{R}^n . Therefore by Theorem 1.1, any orbit attracted to T^n at a rate of approach less than 1 has an asymptotic phase in T^n . It is not hard to show that the same conclusion holds if the flow in T^n is generated by gG where g is any smooth real-valued function on T^n . The proof is based on the fact that orbits of the lifted flow in \mathbf{R}^n stay in parallel lines.

Remark 1.3 Suppose K is a normally hyperbolic submanifold, or a hyperbolic subset, for the flow in A (see [3, 4, 5, 7]). Then any point $x \in A$ attracted to K belongs to the strong stable manifold of some $y \in K$. Therefore x is exponentially asymptotic with y .

Remark 1.4 The main results apply equally to discrete-time systems, i. e. to a mapping f from an open subset $X_0 \subset X$ to X . Everything makes sense if t is restricted to the natural numbers, F_t is the t 'th iterate of f , and Φ is replaced by the iterates of the map $h = f|_{A \cap X_0}$, assumed to be a diffeomorphism from $A_0 = A \cap X_0$ onto a neighborhood of K in A . In fact the main part of the proof of the main theorem in Section 3 consists of a proof of the discrete-time case; this is applied to the mapping $f = F_s$ for suitable $s > 0$.

2 Reaction Diffusion Systems

Theorem 1.1 is applied to reaction diffusion systems of the following kind. Let $\bar{\Omega} \subset \mathbf{R}^n$ be a smooth (i. e. C^1) compact submanifold with interior Ω . We look for a continuous function $u(x, t)$, $x \in \bar{\Omega}$, $t \geq 0$ with values in \mathbf{R}^n satisfying for $t > 0$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = B\Delta u + \sum_{j=1}^m C_j(x, u) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_j} + f(u), \quad (4)$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial \nu} = 0. \quad (5)$$

Here Δ is the Laplacean in the spatial variable $x \in \bar{\Omega}$, operating on each component u_j of u ; B is a positive definite $n \times n$ matrix; each $n \times n$ matrix-valued function C_j is continuous in (x, u) ; f is a smooth vector field on \mathbf{R}^n ; ν is the inward pointing unit vector field normal to the boundary of Ω .

It is known that solutions to this system form a *solution semiflow* $S = \{S_t\}_{t \geq 0}$ in the Sobolev space $H^1(\bar{\Omega}, \mathbf{R}^n)$: The solution taking initial values $u(x, 0) = v(x)$ is $u(x, t) = (S_t v)(x)$.

Let $A \subset H^1(\bar{\Omega}, \mathbf{R}^n)$ denote the linear subspace of constant maps $\bar{\Omega} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^n$, and identify A with \mathbf{R}^n in the natural way. The form of Equation (4) shows A is positively invariant under S .

A trajectory of S in A defines a spatially homogeneous solution to Equations (4), (5). Such a solution has the form $u(x, t) = y(t)$ where y is a solution to the autonomous system $dy/dt = f(y)$.

The restriction to A of the solution flow S of (4), (5) coincides for $t \geq 0$ with the flow Φ obtained by integrating the vector field f .

Suppose from now on that $\Gamma \subset \mathbf{R}^n$ is a compact invariant rectangle¹ (the product of n nondegenerate compact intervals.) We identify Γ with a compact subset of A , namely the constant functions with values in Γ . *Invariance* means that if the initial

¹More generally, Γ can be an invariant region as defined in Conway, Hoff and Smoller [2].

map $v : \bar{\Omega} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^n$ takes values in Γ then the same holds for every map $S_t v$. When B is a diagonal matrix, invariance holds provided that for every y on the boundary of Γ , the vector $f(y)$ does not point out of Γ .

In [2] a condition is given ensuring that Γ attracts every initial $v \in H^1(\bar{\Omega}, \mathbf{R}^n)$ taking values in Γ , or in other words, that the set $X = H^1(\bar{\Omega}, \Gamma)$ lies in the inset of Γ . This condition is given in terms of the real parameter

$$\sigma = b\Lambda - M - c\sqrt{m\lambda} \quad (6)$$

defined in terms of the following constants: The positive number b is the smallest eigenvalue of the positive definite matrix B ; Λ (also positive) is the smallest eigenvalue of $-\Delta$ on Ω with homogeneous Neumann boundary conditions (5); c is the maximum matrix operator norm $\|C_j(x, y)\|$, ($1 \leq j \leq m$, $x \in \bar{\Omega}$, $y \in \Gamma$); and as before, $M = \max_{y \in \Gamma} \|Df(y)\|$.

It will also be convenient to consider the slightly different parameter:

$$\sigma_2 = \sigma - M = b\Lambda - 2M - c\sqrt{m\lambda} \quad (7)$$

For each $v \in X$ set $v_t = S_t v$, and denote by $\bar{v}_t \in \mathbf{R}^n$ the average of v_t over $\bar{\Omega}$. Notice that \bar{v}_t is a curve in X , but it need not be a trajectory of the flow S , that is, $\bar{v}_t(x)$ need not be a solution to Equations (4, 5).

Let $\|\cdot\|_\infty$ denote the $L_\infty(\bar{\Omega}, \mathbf{R}^n)$ norm.

The following result is a corollary of Theorem 3.1 of [2]²

Theorem 2.1 (CONWAY, HOFF, SMOLLER [2])

Assume $\sigma > 0$ and let $v \in X = H^1(\bar{\Omega}, \Gamma)$. Then:

- (a) There is a constant $c_1 > 0$ such that $\|v_t - \bar{v}_t\|_1 \leq c_1 e^{-\sigma t}$ for all $t \geq 0$.
- (b) If the matrices C_1, \dots, C_n are zero, or if C_1, \dots, C_n and B are diagonal, then there is a constant $c_2 > 0$ such that $\|v_t - \bar{v}_t\|_\infty \leq c_2 e^{-\frac{2\sigma}{m}t}$ for all $t \geq 0$.

This says that when σ is positive, in the appropriate norm trajectories of the reaction-diffusion system approach spatially homogeneous functions. In fact in [2] it is proved that the spatial averages \bar{v}_t satisfy a nonautonomous system $d\bar{v}_t/dt = f(\bar{v}_t) + g(t)$ with $\|g(t)\|_1 \leq c_3 e^{-\sigma t}$ for some constant $c_3 \geq 0$. Conway, Hoff and Smoller say that "because of a result of Markus [6] it follows that the asymptotic behavior of \bar{v}_t is determined only by f ".

In the terminology of Section 1 we have:

²The statements of Theorem 2.1 are proved but not stated in this form. The exponent in (b) is given as $-\frac{\sigma}{m}t$, I think incorrectly.

Corollary 2.2 *Under the same hypothesis as Theorem 2.1:*

- (a) $\mathcal{R}_{t \rightarrow \infty}(\|v_t - \bar{v}_t\|_1) \leq e^{-\sigma}$.
 (b) *If the matrices C_1, \dots, C_n are zero, or if C_1, \dots, C_n and B are diagonal, then also $\mathcal{R}_{t \rightarrow \infty}(\|v_t - \bar{v}_t\|_\infty) \leq e^{-\frac{2\sigma}{m}}$.*

While the Conway-Hoff-Smoller theorem provides much information about such systems, it leaves open the question of whether trajectories have an asymptotic phase in A . The following result gives a sufficient condition for this.

Let $\mu = \mathcal{E}(\Phi, \Gamma)$, the expansion rate in Γ of the flow in $A = \mathbb{R}^n$ defined by $dy/dt = f(y)$.

Theorem 2.3 *Assume $\sigma > 0$ and $e^{-\sigma} < \mu$. Let $v \in H^1(\bar{\Omega}, \mathbb{R}^n)$ take values in the invariant rectangle $\Gamma \subset \mathbb{R}^n$. Then the trajectory $S_t v$ in $In(\Gamma)$ of the solution flow in $H^1(\bar{\Omega}, \mathbb{R}^n)$ of the reaction-diffusion system (4), (5) has an eventual asymptotic phase in the space A of constant maps. More precisely, if $S_t v(x) = u(x, t)$ then for every sufficiently large $s \geq 0$ there is a unique solution to $dy/dt = f(y)$ such that:*

- (a) $\mathcal{R}_{t \rightarrow \infty}(\|u(\cdot, t+s) - y(t)\|_1) \leq e^{-\sigma}$.

Moreover, if the matrices C_1, \dots, C_n are zero, or if C_1, \dots, C_n and B are diagonal, then:

- (b) $\mathcal{R}_{t \rightarrow \infty}(\|u(\cdot, t) - y(t)\|_\infty) \leq e^{-\frac{2\sigma}{m}}$.

Corollary 2.4 *If $\sigma_2 > 0$ then the conclusions of Theorem 2.3 hold.*

Proof Corollary 2.2(a) implies v has rate of approach $\leq e^{-\sigma}$ to Γ . Therefore Theorem 2.3 follows from Theorem 1.1 (with $K = \Gamma$) and the assumption $e^{-\sigma} < \mu$.

To prove Corollary 2.4, assume $\sigma_2 > 0$. Then $\sigma > 0$ and $e^{-\sigma} < e^{-M}$ (see (7)). Since estimate (2) therefore implies $e^{-M} \leq \mathcal{E}(\Phi, \Gamma)$, the corollary is a consequence of Theorem 2.3.

QED

3 Shadowing

The main theorem will be derived from the results of this section. The same notations and assumptions as in Section 1 are in force, although at first the setting is quite general.

Let $X_0 \subset X$ be any subset and let $g : X_0 \rightarrow X$ be a map ($g =$ some F_t in the application). Let $0 \leq \lambda < 1$. I call a sequence $\{y_k\}$ in K a λ -pseudoorbit for g if

$$\mathcal{R}_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|g(y_{k-1}) - y_k\| \leq \lambda.$$

Lemma 3.1 Suppose g is α -Hölder, $0 < \alpha \leq 1$. Let $\{y_k\}$ be a sequence in X which is λ -shadowed by a point $u \in X_0$. Then $\{y_k\}$ is a λ^α -pseudoorbit for h . In particular if g is Lipschitz then $\{y_k\}$ is a λ -pseudoorbit.

Proof Fix $C > 0$ such that $\|g(a) - g(b)\| \leq C\|a - b\|^\alpha$. Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} \|g(y_{m+k-1}) - y_{m+k}\| &\leq \|g(y_{m+k-1}) - g^k u\| + \|g^k u - y_{m+k}\| \\ &\leq C\|y_{m+k-1} - g^{k-1} u\|^\alpha + \|g^k u - y_{m+k}\|. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore (see Section 1)

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}_{k \rightarrow \infty} C \|g(y_{k-1}) - y_k\| &\leq \max(\mathcal{R}_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|y_{m+k-1} - g^{k-1} u\|^\alpha, \mathcal{R}_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|g^k u - y_{m+k}\|) \\ &\leq \max(\lambda^\alpha, \lambda) = \lambda^\alpha. \end{aligned}$$

QED

Now set $A_0 = A \cap X_0$, assume $g(A_0) \subset A$ and $g(K) \subset K$. Set $g|_{A_0} = h$ and assume from now on that h is a C^1 diffeomorphism of A_0 onto some neighborhood of K in A .

A point $u \in A_0$ (or its orbit) is said to λ -shadow the sequence $\{y_k\}$ in case $h^k(u)$ is defined for all $k \in \mathbb{N}$, and:

$$\mathcal{R}_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|h^k(u) - y_{k+m}\| \leq \lambda$$

for some $m \geq 0$.

Theorem 3.2 Assume the expansion rate of h in K is $EC(h, K) = \mu > 0$. Let $\{y_k\}$ be a λ -pseudoorbit in K such that

$$0 < \lambda < \min(1, \mu).$$

Then:

- (a) There exists $z \in A_0$ which λ -shadows $\{y_k\}$.
- (b) If $z, w \in A_0$ both λ -shadow $\{y_k\}$ then there exist natural numbers l, r such that $h^l z = h^r w$.

Remark 3.3 The proof shows that z in the theorem can be chosen in K if K is a smooth compact submanifold without boundary, or if K is an attractor for h , or if the pseudoorbit $\{y_k\}$ is eventually bounded away from the boundary of K in A . In any case the forward orbit of z is attracted to K and its omega limit set is in K .

Remark 3.4 The theorem is valid under the more general hypothesis where μ denotes $\sup_{k>0} EC(h^k, K)^{\frac{1}{k}}$.

Proof Fix $\rho_* > 0$ so small that if $0 \leq \rho \leq \rho_*$ then

$$hB(\rho, x) \supset B(\mu\rho, h(x)) \quad (8)$$

for all $x \in K$, where B refers to closed balls in A . Then this also holds for all x in some neighborhood $N \subset A_0$ of K , since K is compact.

Choose ν such that

$$0 < \lambda < \nu < \min(1, \mu).$$

Pick δ such that

$$\nu < \delta < \min(1, \mu).$$

I claim that for all sufficiently large positive integers k we have:

$$hB(\delta^{k-1}, y_{k-1}) \supset B(\delta^k, y_k). \quad (9)$$

To see this observe that $\delta^j < \rho$ and $B(\delta^{k-1}, y_{k-1}) \subset N$ for large j . Therefore by (8) it suffices to prove for sufficiently large k that

$$B(\mu\delta^{k-1}, h(y_{k-1})) \supset B(\delta^k, y_k). \quad (10)$$

And this last will hold by the triangle inequality provided we show

$$\mu\delta^{k-1} \geq \delta^k + \|h(y_{k-1}) - y_k\|. \quad (11)$$

Because $\{y_k\}$ is a λ -pseudoorbit, for large k we have

$$\|h(y_{k-1}) - y_k\| < \nu^k. \quad (12)$$

Therefore it suffices to show

$$\mu\delta^{k-1} \geq \delta^k + \nu^k \quad (13)$$

or equivalently

$$\mu \geq \delta + \left(\frac{\nu}{\delta}\right)^{k-1} \nu \quad (14)$$

for sufficiently large k . This is true, say for $k \geq m$, because $\mu > \delta > \nu$.

Therefore estimate (9) holds for $k \geq m$. This implies that for $n \geq m$ the set

$$Q_n = \bigcap_{i \geq 0} (h|B(\delta^n, y_n))^{-i} B(\delta^{i+n}, y_{i+n})$$

is not empty, and the orbit of any point in Q_m λ -shadows $\{y_k\}$. This proves statement (a) of the theorem.

From the assumption $EC(h, K) > \lambda$ it follows easily that Q_n is a singleton for every $n \geq m$. This implies (b). **QED**

Proof of Theorem 1.1 With the notation and assumptions of Theorem 1.1, fix $r > 0$ so that

$$EC(\Phi_r, K) = \mu_0 > \lambda.$$

Set $h = \Phi_r : A_0 \rightarrow A$ where A_0 denotes the domain of Φ_r — a neighborhood of K in A . For $k \in \mathbf{N}$ let $y_k \in K$ be a point nearest to $h^k(x)$. It then follows from Lemma 3.1(a) with $u = x$ and $g = F_r$, and the standing assumption that each F_t is Lipschitz, that $\{y_k\}$ is a λ -pseudoorbit for h . By Theorem 3.2 $\{y_k\}$ is λ -shadowed by the orbit of some $z \in A_0$. It follows that for some $m \geq 0$ we have:

$$\mathcal{R}_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|\Phi_{k+m}x - \Phi_k z\| = \lambda \quad (k \in \mathbf{N}).$$

Continuity of the flow now implies:

$$\mathcal{R}_{t \rightarrow \infty} \|\Phi_{t+m}x - \Phi_t z\| = \lambda \quad (t \in \mathbf{R}).$$

This proves part (a) of Theorem 1.1.

Part (b) follows similarly from part (b) of Theorem 3.2. **QED**

Remark 3.5 The connection between asymptotic phase and shadowing is more extensive. For simplicity consider a diffeomorphism h . Suppose the orbit of some point x is attracted to a compact invariant set K , not necessarily at an exponential rate. By choosing $y_k \in K$ to be a point nearest to $h^k(x)$ we obtain a sequence $\{y_k\}$ in K with the property that $\|h(y_{k-1}) - y_k\| \rightarrow 0$. If $h|K$ has the property of *unique shadowing*, described below, then it is easy to see that $\{y_k\}$ is asymptotic to the orbit of a unique point $z \in K$. Such a z would therefore be an asymptotic phase for x .

To say the map $h|K$ has unique shadowing means the following. For $\delta > 0$, $\{y_k\}$ is an δ -pseudoorbit in case $\|h(y_{k-1}) - y_k\| < \delta$. "Unique shadowing" means that for every $\epsilon > 0$ there exists $\delta > 0$ such that for every δ -pseudoorbit $\{y_k\}$ there is a unique $z \in K$ such that $\|y_k - h^k(z)\| < \epsilon$, or in other words $\{y_k\}$ is ϵ -shadowed by z .

R. Bowen [1] showed that if K is a hyperbolic invariant set, then $h|K$ has unique shadowing. Suppose for example that V is a compact smooth invariant submanifold of A and that $h|V$ is an Axiom A diffeomorphism in the sense of Smale [7]. If $x \in A$ is attracted to V then it is easy to see that in fact x is attracted to what Smale calls a basic set K for $h|V$, which is by definition a hyperbolic invariant set. Therefore Bowen's theorem implies that x has an asymptotic phase in K , hence also in V .

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