

# On unimodal inverse limit spaces

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partially based on joint work with

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# Unimodal maps

Unimodal maps are maps of the interval with a single critical point, and increasing/decreasing at the left/right of the critical point. The best known examples are quadratic (logistic) maps and tent-maps

$$T_a : x \mapsto 1 - a|x|,$$

$$Q_a : x \mapsto 1 - ax^2.$$

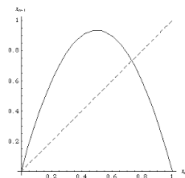
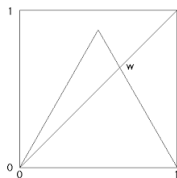


Figure: A tent map and a quadratic map

## Lozi and Hénon

A simple way to  $T_a$  and  $Q_a$  them invertible is by introducing a second coordinate, and **thicken** the map:

$$T_a : x \mapsto 1 - a|x|,$$

$$L_{a,b} : (x, y) \mapsto (1 - a|x| + by, x),$$

$$Q_a : x \mapsto 1 - ax^2,$$

$$H_{a,b} : (x, y) \mapsto (1 - ax^2 + by, x),$$

and obtain the Lozi map and the Hénon map.

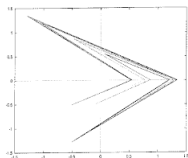


Figure: The Lozi and Hénon attractor

The Lozi-attractor (resp. Hénon-attractor) obtained as  $\bigcap_{n \geq 0} L_{a,b}^n(U)$  for some well-chosen, forward invariant open disk  $U$ .

# Definitions

Let  $f = T_a$  or  $Q_a$ . The **critical** point is  $c := 1/2$ . Write  $c_k := f^k(c)$ . The closed  $f$ -invariant interval  $[c_2, c_1]$  is called the **core**.

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The **inverse limit space**  $\varprojlim([0, 1], f)$  is the collection of all backward orbits

$$\{x = (\dots, x_{-2}, x_{-1}, x_0) : f(x_{-i-1}) = x_{-i} \in [0, 1] \text{ for all } i \in \mathbb{N}_0\},$$

equipped with metric  $d(x, y) = \sum_{i \leq 0} 2^i |x_i - y_i|$ . The map  $f$  is called the **bonding map** of  $X := \varprojlim([0, 1], f)$ .

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Define the **induced**, or **shift homeomorphism** on  $\varprojlim([0, 1], f)$  as

$$\sigma(x) := \sigma_f(\dots, x_{-2}, x_{-1}, x_0) = (\dots, x_{-2}, x_{-1}, x_0, f(x_0)).$$

Let  $\pi_i : \varprojlim([0, 1], f) \rightarrow [0, 1]$ ,  $\pi_i(x) = x_{-i}$  be the  $i$ -th projection map.

## Examples



Figure: The  $\sin \frac{1}{x}$  continuum and the Knaster continuum.

Simple examples of such unimodal inverse limit spaces are the  $\sin \frac{1}{x}$ -continuum and the Knaster continuum (bucket handle).

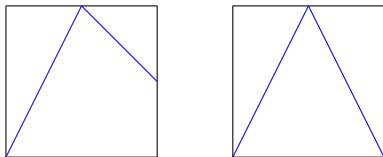
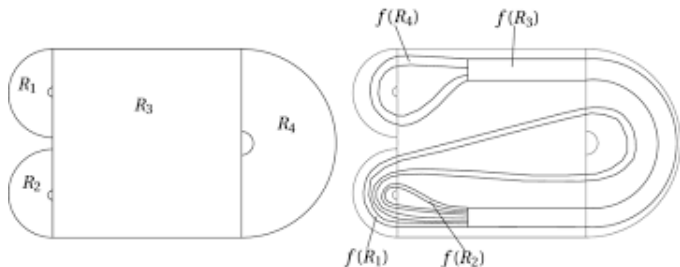


Figure: Maps with  $\sin \frac{1}{x}$  continuum and the Knaster continuum as ILs



In 1967, Bob Williams [W] proved that hyperbolic one-dimensional attractors can be represented as inverse limits of maps on branched manifolds and that every point has a neighbourhood homeomorphic to the product of a Cantor set and an open arc.

A standard example of this is the Plykin attractor.



# Inverse limits and Hénon attractors

The similarity between a Hénon attractors and the Knaster continuum may suggest that inverse limit spaces are homeomorphic to Hénon attractors in some generality, but in fact, the generality is very limited.

Theorem (Barge & Holte [BH])

*If  $a$  is such that  $0$  is a periodic for  $Q_a(x) = 1 - ax^2$ , then for  $|b|$  sufficiently small, then the attractor of  $H_{a,b}$  and the inverse limit space of  $Q_a$  are homeomorphic.*

Barge [B1] showed that under fairly general assumptions, Hénon attractors (and homoclinic tangle emerging from a homoclinic bifurcations) are **not** homeomorphic to unimodal inverse limit spaces, not even if you allow varying bonding maps.

# Embedding ILs in the plane

All unimodal inverse limit spaces are chainable, and all chainable continua can be **embedded** in the plane, i.e., there is a continuous injection  $h : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  (called **embedding**) such that  $h(X)$  and  $X$  are homeomorphic.

# Embedding ILs in the plane

## Definition

A point  $a \in X \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  is **accessible** if there exists an arc  $A = [x, y] \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  such that  $a = x$  and  $A \cap X = \{a\}$ .

Unimodal inverse limit spaces can therefore be embedded in the plane, but in general there are many (in fact uncountably non-homotopic) ways to do so.

There are two **standard ways** that yield an embedding very much like the Lozi-attractor (or Hénon-attractor) with  $b > 0$  (orientation reversing, making the composant  $\mathfrak{A}$  of the fixed point  $p = (\dots, r, r, r)$  accessible, see [B2]) and  $b < 0$  (orientation preserving, making the zero-composant accessible, see [BD]) respectively.

# Embedding ILs in the plane

The result of Anušić et al. gives an idea how much variety there is in embeddings:

## Theorem ([ABC1])

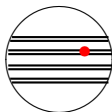
*For every point  $a$  in the core UIL  $X'$  there exists an embedding of  $X$  in the plane such that  $a$  is accessible.*

As a corollary, there are uncountably many nonequivalent embeddings of  $X'$  in the plane.

## Folding points

A point  $x \in \varprojlim \{I, T\}$  is

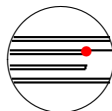
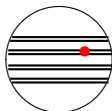
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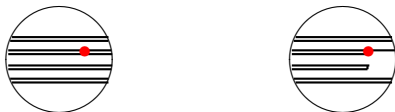


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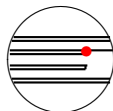
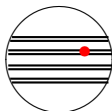
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  - ▶ non-end folding point ( $x \in \mathcal{F} \setminus \mathcal{E}$ ) if  $x \in A^\circ$  for some arc.

# Endpoints

Further classification of the end-points  $\mathcal{E}$ :

- ▶ **Flat end-points**  $\mathcal{E}_F$ :  $x$  is the end-point of a **non-degenerate basic arc**:

$A(x)$  = largest continuum  $A \ni x$  such that  $\pi_0 : X \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is bijective.



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- ▶ **Nasty (= solitary) end-points**  $\mathcal{E}_N$ :  $x$  is not contained in any arc.

# General results

- ▶  $\mathcal{F} \neq \emptyset$  and  $\#\mathcal{F} = \#\omega(c) < \infty$  if  $c$  is (pre-)periodic.

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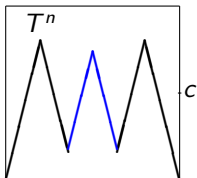
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**Proposition [AABC]:** For  $Y = \mathcal{E}_F, \mathcal{E}_S, \mathcal{E}_N$  or  $\mathcal{F} \setminus \mathcal{E}$  holds:

*If  $Y \neq \emptyset$ , then  $Y$  is dense in  $\mathcal{F}$ .*

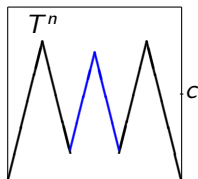
# Cutting times and the kneading map

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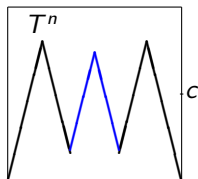
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**Lemma:** The difference of two consecutive cutting times is a cutting time.

Therefore define the **kneading map**  $Q : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$ :

$$S_k - S_{k-1} = S_{Q(k)}.$$

# Properties of $\mathcal{E}$

## Definition (Blokh & Lyubich)

The critical point  $c$  is **reluctantly recurrent** if there is  $\varepsilon > 0$  and an arbitrary long (but finite!) backward orbit  $\bar{y} = (y_{-j}, \dots, y_{-1}, y)$  in  $\omega(c)$  such that the  $\varepsilon$ -neighbourhood of  $y \in I$  has monotone pull-back along  $\bar{y}$ . Otherwise,  $c$  is **persistently recurrent**.

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## Theorem ( $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{E}$ )

*All folding points are end-points iff  $c$  is **persistently recurrent**.*

## Flat end-points $\mathcal{E}_F$

**Definition:** The map  $T$  is **longbranched** (i.e.,  
 $\exists \delta > 0 \forall n \geq 0 \forall J$  branch domain of  $T^n : |T^n(J)| \geq \delta$ ).

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**Proposition:** If  $T$  is long-branched and  $c$  is recurrent, then  $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{E}_F$ .

**Question:** Give a necessary and sufficient condition for  $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{E}_F$ .

# Spiral end-points $\mathcal{E}_S$

Lemma ( $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{E}_S$ )

If  $Q(k) \rightarrow \infty$  and

$$Q(k+1) > Q(Q(k)+1) + 1 \quad \text{for all sufficiently large } k,$$

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Conjecture:  $Q(k) \rightarrow \infty$  implies (and is equivalent to?)  $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{E}_S$ .

## Nasty end-points $\mathcal{E}_N$

**Known:** If  $f$  is an **infinitely renormalizable** unimodal (e.g. quadratic) map, then  $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{E} = \mathcal{E}_N$ , but there are **no** infinitely renormalizable tent maps.

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Theorem (after Barge, Brucks & Diamond 1996)

*If  $\{c_{S_k} : k \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is dense in  $[c_2, c_1]$ , then every neighbourhood in  $\varprojlim\{I, T\}$  contains a subcontinua homeomorphic to  $\varprojlim\{I, \tilde{T}\}$  for every tent map  $\tilde{T}$ .*

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**Corollary:** If  $\{f^{S_k}(c) : k \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is dense in  $[c_2, c_1]$ , then

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**Question:** Give a necessary and sufficient condition for  $\mathcal{E}_N \neq \emptyset$  and  $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{E}_N$ .



# Arc-components and composants

## Definition

Let  $X$  be a continuum and  $x \in X$ . The **arc-component**  $A(x)$  of  $x$  is the union of points  $y$  such that there is an arc in  $X$  connecting  $x$  and  $y$ . The **composant**  $C(x)$  of a point  $x$  is the union of all proper subcontinua of  $X$ .

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For example, if  $X = [0, 1]$  then  $A(0) = [0, 1]$  but  $C(0) = [0, 1)$  (it doesn't contain 1 because  $[0, 1]$  is not a **proper** subcontinuum of  $X$ ). Also  $A(\frac{1}{2}) = C(\frac{1}{2}) = [0, 1]$  because  $[0, 1] = [0, \frac{1}{2}] \cup [\frac{1}{2}, 1]$ .

If an indecomposable continuum has uncountably many composants, which may or may not be arc-components.

## Asymptotic arc-components

Two arc-components  $A$  and  $\tilde{A}$  are asymptotic if there are parametrizations

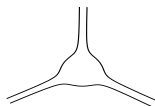
$$\varphi, \tilde{\varphi} : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow A, \tilde{A} \quad \text{such that} \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} d(\varphi(t), \tilde{\varphi}(t)) = 0.$$

The trivial case when  $A = \tilde{A}$  is excluded, but  $A$  is **self-asymptotic** if there is a parametrization  $\varphi$  such that

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} d(\varphi(t), \tilde{\varphi}(-t)) = 0.$$



5-fan



3-cycle



two linked 2-fans

**Figure:** Configurations of asymptotic arc-components.

## Asymptotic arc-components

Figure 6 give the UIL of a tent map with  $f^3(c) = c$ , for which the fixed composant  $\mathfrak{A}$  is self-asymptotic. There is a single infinite Wada channel for which the entire shore is equal to  $\mathfrak{A}$ .

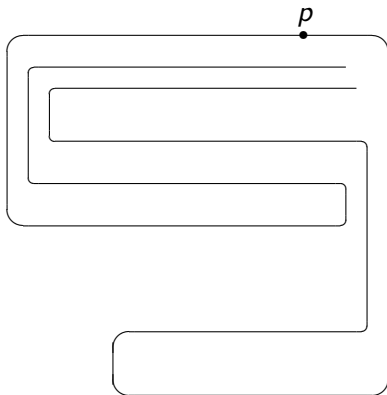


Figure: This representation has a single infinite Wada channel.

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*Every UIL with periodic critical point has at least one asymptotic arc-component.*

Proof.

The proof relies on substitution tilings and the fact that these spaces act as 2-to-1 coverings of inverse limit spaces. In fact, if the period is  $N$ , then there are at least  $N - 1$  and at most  $2(N - 1)$  “halves” of arc-components asymptotic to some other “halves” of an arc-components. □

# Asymptotic arc-components

Theorem (Barge, Diamond & Holton [BDH])

*Every UIL with periodic critical point has at least one asymptotic arc-component.*

Proof.

The proof relies on substitution tilings and the fact that these spaces act as 2-to-1 coverings of inverse limit spaces. In fact, if the period is  $N$ , then there are at least  $N - 1$  and at most  $2(N - 1)$  “halves” of arc-components asymptotic to some other “halves” of an arc-components. □

Conjecture

*The upper bound is in fact  $2(N - 2)$ . Given any two “halves” of arc-components  $H$  and  $H'$ ,  $H$  is asymptotic to or coincides with  $\sigma^n(H')$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .*

# Asymptotic arc-components

If  $c$  is non-recurrent, then there are no asymptotic arc-components, see [B3], but:

## Question

*What is the situation with asymptotic arc-components when  $c$  is non-periodic but recurrent?*



## Asymptotic arc-components

	$\nu$	type	periodic tail(s)
1	101	1-cycle	1
2	1001	3-fan	101
3	10001	4-fan	1001
4	10010	3-cycle	101
5	10111	three 2-fans	101110
6	100001	5-fan	10001
7	100010	4-cycle	1001
8	100111	four 2-fans	10010011
9	101110	two linked 3-fans	10, 1
10	1000001	6-fan	100001
11	1000010	5-cycle	10001
12	1000111	five 2-fans	1000100011
13	1000100	four 2-fans (l.i.p.)	10, 1001
14	1001101	four 2-fans	10011010
15	1001110	five 2-fans	10010, 10111
16	1001011	five 2-fans	1001011011

## Asymptotic arc-components

17	1011010	5-cycle	10111
18	1011111	five 2-fans	1011111110
19	10000001	7-fan	1000001
20	10000010	6-cycle	100001
21	10000111	six 2-fans	100001110000
22	10000100	five 2-fans	10001, 10010
23	10001101	five 2-fans	1000110100
24	10001110	six 2-fans	100010, 100111
<hr/>			
25	10001011	six 2-fans	100010110011
26	10011010	six 2-fans (l.i.p.)	101, 100111
27	10011111	six 2-fans	100111110110
28	10011100	five 2-fans	10010, 10111
29	10010101	five 2-fans	1001010111
30	10010110	six 2-fans (l.i.p.)	100, 101110
31	10110111	three 3-cycles	101101110
32	10111110	two linked 4-fans	101110, 1

(l.i.p = linked in pairs.)

# Arc-components

Bandt [B] for the Knaster continuum that every two arc-components not containing the endpoint are homeomorphic.

## Question

*Given two arc-components without endpoints, are they homeomorphic? In particular, can a self-asymptotic arc-component be homeomorphic to a non-self-asymptotic arc-component?*

In contrast, Fokkink (in his thesis and in [F]) showed that among all **matchbox manifolds** (i.e., continua that locally look like Cantor set of open arcs) there are uncountably many non-homeomorphic arc-components.

# Aarts' Question







## Question







*Are two lines with irrational slopes wrapping for ever around the torus be homeomorphic as spaces?*







This question is due to Aarts almost half a century ago, but beyond the fact that if the slopes  $\theta$  and  $\theta'$  have continued fraction expansion with the same tail then the lines are indeed homeomorphic, nothing is known.

Thank you for your attention.














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