The work of Artur Avila



Étienne Ghys, CNRS ENS Lyon, France



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You are not given an ordinary differential equation and your task is to say something about its solutions.

What does a typical dynamical system look like?





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Deux nouveaux docteurs de notre institut, Daniel HOEHENER et Miquel OLU-BARTON (encadrés respectivement par Hélène Frankowska, par Sylvain Sorin) viennent d'obtenir les deux prix de thèse de PGMO (Programme Gaspard Monge pour l'optimisation et la recherche opérationnelle).

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Dynamics in dimension 1



Unimodal map



Orbit $\{f^n(x)\}$

Theorem (Avila, de Melo, Lyubich, 2003 + Avila, Moreira, 2005) :

In a non-trivial real analytic family f_{λ} ($\lambda \in \Lambda \subset \mathbb{R}^{N}$) of unimodal maps, there is a dichotomy :

For almost every λ , the map f_{λ} is either Regular or Stochastic.

Regular : Almost every orbit (w.r.t. Lebesgue) converges to an attracting cycle.



Stochastic : there is an absolutely continuous invariant measure μ such that almost every orbit in [0, 1] (w.r.t. Lebesgue) is distributed according to μ , or converges to a cycle.



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or

— Stochastic : there is an absolutely continuous invariant measure μ such that almost every orbit in [0,1] (w.r.t. Lebesgue) is distributed according to μ , or converges to a cycle.

Misha Lyubich :

"We have reached a full probabilistic understanding of real analytic unimodal dynamics, and Artur Avila has been the key player in the final stage of the story".









Adrien Douady : "We first plough in the dynamical plane and then harvest in parameter plane"



Dynamical plane (Van Gogh)



Parameter plane (Pissaro)













Renormalization on the space of unimodal maps

Billiards













Theorem (Avila, Forni, 2007) : Almost all (irreducible) interval exchange transformations are weakly mixing.



 $f: X \to X$ preserves a probability measure μ .

- Mixing : $\lim_{n\to\infty} \mu(A \cap f^n(B)) = \mu(A)\mu(B)$.

— Weakly mixing : $\lim_{n \in E \to \infty} \mu(A \cap f^n(B)) = \mu(A)\mu(B)$.

 $(E \subset \mathbb{Z} \text{ has density 1, i.e. } \lim_{k \to \infty} \frac{1}{k} \sharp(\{1, ..., k\} \cap E) = 1).$

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Quasi-periodic Schrödinger operators

$$l^2(\mathbf{Z}) = \left\{ \psi : \mathbf{Z} o \mathbf{C} \mid \sum_n |\psi(n)|^2 < \infty
ight\}$$

Schrödinger equation : $i\frac{\partial\psi}{\partial t} = H\psi$

 $H\psi(n) = \psi(n+1) + \psi(n-1) + V(n)\psi(n)$

Spectrum : $\sigma(H) = \{ E \in \mathbb{R} \mid (H - E.Id)^{-1} \text{ does not exist} \}$ Spectral measure : $\langle \psi, g(H)\psi \rangle = \int g \, d\mu_{\psi}$

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Spectral measure

- \blacksquare absolutely continuous \implies the particle travels freely.
- singular continuous \implies the particle travels somewhat.
- pure point \implies does not travel.

Almost Mathieu operator :

$$V(n) = 2\lambda \cos\left(2\pi n\alpha\right)$$



Hofstadter's butterfly

Theorem (Avila, Jitomirskaya, 2009) : Ten Martini conjecture.

For all $\lambda \neq 0$, and all irrational α , the spectrum $\sigma_{\lambda,\alpha}$ is a Cantor set.

Theorem (Avila, Krikorian, 2006) : Aubry André's conjecture.

 $Leb(\sigma_{\lambda,\alpha}) = 4|1 - |\lambda||$

Theorem (Avila-Jitomirskaya 2009, Avila-Damanik 2008, Avila 2009) :

For all irrational α and $|\lambda| < 1$, the spectrum is purely absolutely continuous.



Conservative dynamics

On a compact C^{∞} manifold.

Well known and easy : Any C^1 diffeomorphism can be C^1 approximated by C^∞ diffeomorphisms.



On a compact C^{∞} manifold equipped with a C^{∞} volume form.

Theorem (Avila, 2010) :

Any C^1 volume preserving diffeomorphism can be C^1 approximated by C^{∞} diffeomorphisms which are volume preserving.



