

# Modified Lotka-Volterra maps and their interior periodic points

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Consider the plane triangle

$$\Delta = \{ [x, y] : 0 \leq x, 0 \leq y, x + y \leq 4 \}$$

and the map

$$F : \Delta \rightarrow \Delta, [x, y] \mapsto [x(4 - x - y), xy] .$$

(We denote by  $[x, y]$  a point in the plane, while  $(\alpha, \beta)$  and  $\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle$  are open and closed intervals on the real line.) In [4] A. N. Sharkovskii formulated some problems about properties of a map which is conjugated with the map  $F$ . This map was studied in [1, 2, 3, 5] and is called a Lotka-Volterra map (in [1, 2, 3]). It is easy to show that a point  $P = [x, 0] \in \Delta$  is a periodic point of the map  $F$  if and only if  $x = 4 \sin^2 \frac{k\pi}{2^n \pm 1}$ , where  $n \geq 1$  and  $k$  are integers with  $0 \leq 2k < 2^n \pm 1$ . We are interested in *interior* periodic points of the map  $F$ . Our main result of [3] is a relation between lower and interior periodic points. Namely, if a point  $[4 \sin^2 \frac{k\pi}{2^n \pm 1}, 0]$  is a saddle point of the map  $F^n$  then there is a interior periodic point with the same itinerary with respect to the sets

$$\Delta_L = \{ [x, y] : 0 \leq x < 2, 0 \leq y \leq 4 - x \}$$

and

$$\Delta_R = \{ [x, y] : 2 < x \leq 4, 0 \leq y \leq 4 - x \} .$$

We extend this result for modifications of the map  $F$  which are defined as follows. Assume that for any  $x \in (0, 4)$  we have an increasing homeomorphism  $\varphi_x$  of the interval  $\langle 0, 4 - x \rangle$  onto itself. Moreover let the function  $\varphi(x, y) = \varphi_x(y)$  be continuous in the domain

$$\widehat{\Delta} = \{ [x, y] : 0 < x < 4, 0 \leq y \leq 4 - x \} .$$

Let  $G : \Delta \rightarrow \Delta$  be defined by

$$G[x, y] = \begin{cases} [0, 0] & \text{if } x = 0 \text{ or } x = 4, \\ [x(4 - x - \varphi(x, y)), x\varphi(x, y)] & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then the map  $G$  is called a modified Lotka-Volterra map. Note that  $F[x, 0] = G[x, 0]$  for all  $x \in \langle 0, 4 \rangle$ . We construct two modifications  $G$  for which all lower fixed points of the map  $G^n$  are repulsive and saddle points respectively. We give an example of a modification  $G$  such that for any  $n \geq 1$  all repulsive lower fixed points of the map  $F^n$  are saddle points of  $G^n$  and vice versa.

## References

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