# No Semiconjugacy to a Map of Constant Slope

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# Kepler's Third Law



# Kepler's Third Law









## Theorem (Parry, 1966)

Let  $f : [0,1] \rightarrow [0,1]$  be continuous, piecewise monotone, and topologically transitive. Then f is conjugate to an interval map of constant slope.



## Theorem (Milnor-Thurston, 1988)

Let  $f:[0,1] \rightarrow [0,1]$  be continuous, piecewise monotone, and have positive topological entropy. Then f is semiconjugate to an interval map of constant slope. This semiconjugating map is nondecreasing.





## Countably Piecewise Monotone

Research Question: What about maps with infinitely many turning points?



A continuous map  $f: [0,1] \rightarrow [0,1]$  is called *countably piecewise* monotone if the closure of the set of turning points is countable. Notation: P - a closed countable set containing the turning points.

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## Countably Piecewise Monotone and Markov

Markov Condition: P can be chosen such that  $f(P) \subseteq P$ 

## Theorem (Bobok, 2012)

Suppose f is countably piecewise monotone and Markov w.r.t. P. Then

There exists a nondecreasing semiconjugacy of f with a map of constant slope  $\lambda$ 

The 0-1 transition matrix for (f, P) admits a summable, nonnegative eigenvector of eigenvalue  $\lambda$ 

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Research Goals:

- Produce non-trivial examples that violate the criterion.
- Tackle the non-Markov case.

# Countably Piecewise Monotone Piecewise Continuous



We study the class C of maps f such that

- there exists a closed, countable set P such that f is continuous and strictly monotone on each P-basic interval.
- $f:[0,1]\smallsetminus P \to [0,1]$
- $\bullet$  two maps in  ${\mathcal C}$  are considered equal if they differ only on a countable, closed set.

## The Pullback Operator $f^*$

 ${\mathcal M}$  - the set of nonatomic, Borel measures on [0,1].

### Definition

To each  $f \in \mathcal{C}$  associate the operator  $f^*: \mathcal{M} \to \mathcal{M}$  given by

$$(f^*\mu)(A) = \sum_I \mu(f(I \cap A))$$



Example:

f - piecewise linear, constant slope 2

m - Lebesgue measure

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$$A = (.1, .2)$$
  
 $m(A) = .1$   
 $(f^*m)(A) = m(f(A)) = .2$ 

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$$B = (.4, 1)$$
  
 $m(B) = .6$   
 $(f^*m)(B) = .4 + .8 = 1.2$ 

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#### Lemma

The map  $f \in C$  has constant slope  $\lambda$  iff the Lebesgue measure m satisfies  $f^*m = \lambda m$ .

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 $\Leftrightarrow$ 

## Theorem (Criterion for Semiconjugacy)

Let  $f \in \mathcal{C}$  and fix  $\lambda > 0$ . Then

There exists a nondecreasing semiconjugacy of f with a map of constant slope  $\lambda$ 

There exists a probability measure  $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$  such that  $f^*\mu = \lambda \mu$ 

#### Lemma

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### Sketch of Proof.

$$\begin{array}{l} (\Rightarrow) \text{ Define } \mu = \psi^* m. \\ (\Leftarrow) \text{ Define } \psi \text{ by } \psi(x) := \mu([0,x]). \text{ Then } \psi_* \mu = m. \end{array}$$

## Theorem (Main Technical Theorem)

Let  $f \in \mathcal{C}$  and fix  $\lambda > 2$ .

Suppose there is an infinite measure  $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$  such that  $f^*\mu = \lambda \mu$ .

- + technical hypothesis
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Then there is no probability measure  $\nu \in \mathcal{M}$  such that  $f^*\nu = \lambda \nu$ .

### Theorem (Main Technical Theorem)

Let  $f \in C$  and fix  $\lambda > 2$ .

Suppose there is an infinite measure  $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$  such that  $f^*\mu = \lambda \mu$ .

Assume f is substantially transitive.

Assume  $\exists P, \exists \delta > 0$ ,  $\forall P$ -basic interval I,  $\delta \leq \mu(I) < \infty$ .

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## Proof - Part I.

We show the ergodicity of the measure  $\mu$ .

Assume E is invariant,  $\mu(E) > 0$ .

"Lebesgue Density Theorem"  $\Rightarrow E$  has a  $\mu$ -density point x.

Technical Hypothesis 2  $\Rightarrow$  3 successively smaller intervals  $L_k \ni x$  with

"large" monotone continuous images  $f^{n_k}(L_k)$ , each of measure  $\delta$ . E has the same density in these images as in the sets  $L_k$ . We find an open interval U (of measure  $\delta$ ) in which the density of E is 1. "Substantial Transitivity"  $\Rightarrow E = [0, 1] \pmod{0}$ .

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Then there is no probability measure  $\nu \in \mathcal{M}$  such that  $f^*\nu = \lambda \nu$ .

## Proof - Part II.

Now assume that  $\nu$  exists.

After replacing  $\mu$  by  $\mu + \nu$ , we obtain absolute continuity  $\nu \ll \mu$ .

Let  $\xi = d\nu/d\mu$  be the Radon-Nikodym derivative.

$$\xi \circ f = df^* \nu / df^* \mu = (\lambda d\nu) / (\lambda d\mu) = \xi.$$

Ergodicity  $\Rightarrow \xi$  is constant.

Thus, a probability measure is a constant multiple of an infinite measure. Absurd!

## Theorem (Main Theorem)

Assume that  $F : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$  is continuous, topologically transitive, has constant slope  $\lambda > 1$ , and is the lifting of a degree one circle map  $f : \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z} \to \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}$ .

Assume also that f is piecewise monotone with finitely many pieces.

Take any homeomorphism  $h : \mathbb{R} \to (0,1)$  and let  $g : [0,1] \to [0,1]$  be the continuous interval map  $h \circ F \circ h^{-1}$  (with additional fixed points at 0, 1).

Then there does not exist any nondecreasing semiconjugacy of g to an interval map of constant slope.

Example



## Proof - Part I.



Suppose there is a semiconjugacy of q to an interval map of constant slope  $\lambda'$ .  $\exists \nu_a \in \mathcal{M}, \ g^* \nu_a = \lambda' \nu_a.$ Push down to the circle.  $\nu_f := \pi_* h_* \nu_q$ .  $f^*\nu_f = \lambda'\nu_f.$ There is a nondecreasing semiconjugacy of f to a circle map of constant slope  $\lambda'$ . By transitivity, that semiconjugacy is a conjugacy. Entropy (=  $\log$  of constant slope) is a conjugacy invariant. Therefore  $\lambda' = \lambda$ . This rules out any slope except  $\lambda$ .

## Proof - Part II.



Let  $\mu = h^*m$ . Thus,  $\mu([0,1]) = \infty$ . The technical hypotheses are met and  $g^*\mu = \lambda\mu$ . Therefore there is no probability measure  $\nu \in \mathcal{M}$  such that  $g^*\nu = \lambda\nu$ . Therefore there is no semiconjugacy to a map of constant slope  $\lambda$ .



How are we using the extra structure from the underlying circle map?

- When  $F^*$  acts on prob. measures, the only possible eigenvalue is  $\lambda$ .
- Markov vs non-Markov ...
- Additional tools for studying entropy ...

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