# Semiconjugacy to a map of a constant slope - new results

J.B.

Czech Technical University in Prague

NTDS, 1-5 October, 2012 SALOU (Tarragona), Spain

#### References

- LI. Alsedá, J. Llibre, M. Misiurewicz, *Combinatorial dynamics and the entropy in dimension one*, Adv. Ser. in Nonlinear Dynamics **5**, 2nd Edition, World Scientific, Singapore, 2000.
- J. B., Semiconjugacy to a map of a constant slope, Studia Mathematica **208**(2012), 213–228.
- J. B., H. Bruin, Semiconjugacy to a map of a constant slope II, in preparation.
- J. B., M. Soukenka, *On piecewise affine interval maps with countably many laps*, Discrete and Continuous Dynamical Systems **31.3**(2011), 753–762.
- J. Milnor, W. Thurtston, *On iterated maps of the interval*, Dynamical Systems, 465-563, Lecture Notes in Math. **1342**, Springer, Berlin, 1988.
- W. Parry, *Symbolic dynamics and transformations of the unit interval*, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. **122**(1966), 368–378.
- D. Vere-Jones, *Ergodic properties of non-negative matrices-I*, Pacific J. of Math. **22**(2)(1967), 361–385.

# **Topological entropy**

X... c.m.sp.,  $f: X \to X$  continuous

-  $E \subset X$  is  $(n, \varepsilon)$ -separated (with respect to f) if

$$\forall x, y \in E, x \neq y: \max_{0 \leq i \leq n-1} d(f^i(x), f^i(y)) > \varepsilon$$

-  $s(n,\varepsilon)$  is the largest cardinality of any  $(n,\varepsilon)$ -separated subset of X (it is finite)

The topological entropy  $h_{top}(f)$  of a map f is the quantity

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \to 0_+} \limsup_{n \to \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log s(n, \varepsilon)$$

Let us consider continuous maps  $f\colon X\to X$  and  $g\colon Y\to Y$ , where X,Y are compact Hausdorff spaces and  $\varphi\colon X\to Y$  is continuous such that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{f} & X \\ \downarrow \varphi & & \downarrow \varphi \\ Y & \xrightarrow{g} & Y \end{array}$$

commutes, i.e.,  $\varphi \circ f = g \circ \varphi$ . When  $\varphi$  is surjective, we say that f is semiconjugated to g via a map  $\varphi$  and in that case the topological entropy  $h_{top}(\cdot)$  satisfies  $h_{top}(f) \geq h_{top}(g)$ .

M. Misiurewicz, W. Szlenk, Entropy of piecewise monotone mappings, Studia Math. 67(1) (1980), 45-63.

A continuous map  $f \colon [0,1] \to [0,1]$  is said to be piecewise monotone if there are  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and points  $0 = c_0 < c_1 < \cdots < c_{k-1} < c_k = 1$  such that f is monotone on each  $[c_i, c_{i+1}]$ ,  $i = 0, \ldots, k-1$ . We shall say that a piecewise monotone map g has a constant slope s if on each of its pieces of monotonicity it is affine with the slope of absolute value s.

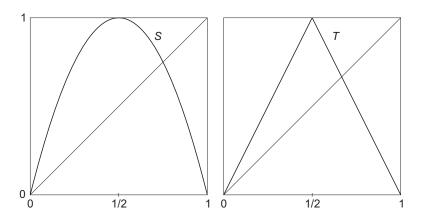
#### Theorem

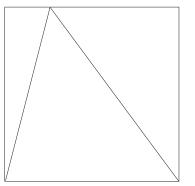
- If h(f) > 0 then  $h(f) = \lim_n \frac{1}{n} \log \ell(f^n)$ ,  $\ell(f^n)$  denotes the number of pieces of monotonicity of  $f^n$ .
- It is known that if g has a constant slope s then  $h_{top}(g) = \max(0, \log s)$ .

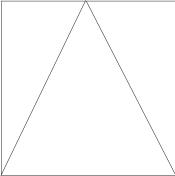
- W. Parry, Symbolic dynamics and transformations of the unit interval, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. 122 (1966), 368–378.
- J. Milnor, W. Thurston, *On iterated maps of the interval*, Dynamical Systems, 465-563, LNM 1342, Springer, Berlin, 1988.

#### Theorem

(Parry 66; Milnor, Thurston 88) If f is piecewise monotone and  $h_{top}(f) > 0$  then f is semiconjugated via a continuous non-decreasing map to some map g of constant slope  $e^{h_{top}(f)}$  (conjugated when f is transitive).







The conjugacy is not absolutely continuous.

We focus on the class of Markov *countably* piecewise monotone continuous interval maps and try to find large subclass(es) of it in which the conclusion of Theorem remains true.

an admissible set P . . . finite or countably infinite closed subset of [0,1] containing the points 0,1

an interval 
$$[a,b]\subset [0,1]$$
 is  $P ext{-basic}$  . . .  $a,b\in P$  and  $(a,b)\cap P=\emptyset$ 

B(P) . . . the set of all P-basic intervals

a continuous  $f \colon [0,1] \to [0,1]$  is in the class  $\mathcal{CPM}$  if and only if it corresponds to some admissible set P such that

- $f: P \rightarrow P$
- f is monotone (perhaps constant) on each P-basic interval

A map  $f \in \mathcal{CPM}$  which is not piecewise monotone will be called a *countably piecewise monotone map*.

#### For P admissible we denote

 $\mathcal{M}_P$  . . . the set of all (possibly generalized, multi-infinite) matrices indexed by P-basic intervals and with entries from  $[0,\infty]$ 

 $\ell_P^1$  . . . the Banach space of all real absolutely convergent (again possibly multi-infinite) sequences indexed by P-basic intervals

 $\mathcal{K}_{P}^{+}$  . . . the cone of all nonnegative sequences from  $\ell_{P}^{1}$ 

# Remark

For an admissible set P, a matrix  $M \in \mathcal{M}_P$  can be modeled as a table  $(P \times [0,1]) \cup ([0,1] \times (1-P))$ ; an entry of M is a number from  $[0,\infty]$  in one window indexed IJ, where  $I \in B(1-P)$  and  $J \in B(P)$ . Let us denote P' the set of all limit points of P. In accordance with the above model, a matrix  $M \in \mathcal{M}_P$  will be infinite in the usual sense if  $P' = \{1\}$ . We call it multi-infinite when card P' > 1. For example, for the choice  $P = \{0\} \cup \{\frac{1}{2^m} + \frac{1}{2^n}\}_{m,n \geq 1}$  we get  $Card P' = \infty$ .

## Definition

For an  $f \in \mathcal{CPM}$  we define its matrix  $M(f) \in \mathcal{M}_P$ : the  $m_{II}$  entry of M(f) is 1 if  $f(I) \supset J$ , and 0 otherwise.

In general, for f from  $\mathcal{CPM}$  its matrix M(f) does not represent a bounded operator on  $\ell_P^1$ .

# **Proposition**

Let  $M = (m_U) \in \mathcal{M}_P$ . Then

(i) M represents a bounded linear operator  $\mathbb{M}$  on the  $\ell_{P}^{1}$  defined as

$$(\mathbb{M}u)_I := \sum_{J \in B(P)} m_{IJ} u_J, \ u \in \ell_P^1, \tag{1}$$

if and only if  $(||\mathbb{M}|| =) \sup_{J \in B(P)} \sum_{I \in B(P)} |m_{IJ}| < \infty$ . In that case the operator  $\mathbb{M}$  is  $\mathcal{K}_{p}^{+}$ -positive.

The operator  $\mathbb{M}$  is compact if and only if its representing matrix M satisfies (ii)

> $\forall \varepsilon > 0 \ \exists \delta \ \forall J \in B(P): \ \sum |m_{U}| < \varepsilon.$ Semiconjugacy to a map of a constant slope

J. B. (CTU in Prague)

General observation - J. B., Semicojugacy to a map of a constant slope, Studia Mathematica 208 (2012), 213-228.

 $\mathcal{CPM}_{\lambda}$  . . . the class of all maps from  $\mathcal{CPM}$  of a constant slope  $\lambda$ , i.e.,  $f \in \mathcal{CPM}_{\lambda}$  if  $|f'(x)| = \lambda$  for all  $x \in [0,1]$ , possibly except at the points of P

# Theorem - Key Equation

Let  $f \in \mathcal{CPM}$  with  $M(f) = (m_{IJ}) \in \mathcal{M}_P$ . Then f is semiconjugated via a continuous non-decreasing map  $\psi$  to some map  $g \in \mathcal{CPM}_\lambda$ ,  $\lambda > 1$ , if and only if there is a nonzero vector  $v = (v_I)_{I \in B(P)}$  from  $\mathcal{K}_P^+$  such that

$$\forall I \in B(P): \sum_{J \in B(P)} m_{IJ} v_J = \lambda \ v_I. \tag{2}$$

We will need a genealogic tree  $(P_n)_{n=0}^{\infty}$  of P with respect to f. We set  $P_0 = P$ . By the previous, f is not constant on any  $P_0$ -basic interval.

Suppose that  $P_n$  is already defined and f is not constant on any  $P_n$ -basic intervals. Since f is countably piecewise monotone,  $f^{-1}(P_n) \cap [0,1]$  is a union of a (at most) countably many closed intervals (perhaps degenerate). Since f was not constant on any  $P_n$ -basic interval, no component of  $f^{-1}(P_n) \cap [0,1]$  contains more than one element of  $P_n$ . From each of these components we choose one point; if possible the element of  $P_n$ , and we define  $P_{n+1}$  to be the set of these chosen points. Thus  $P_n \subset P_{n+1}$  and  $P_{n+1}$  is invariant since  $f(P_{n+1}) \subset P_n$ . By the construction,  $P_{n+1}$  is a countable set and f is not constant on any  $P_{n+1}$ -basic interval. Denote  $\mathcal{J}_n$  the set of all  $P_n$ -basic intervals. In particular,  $\mathcal{J}_0 = B(P)$ . Let  $v = (v_I)_{I \in B(P)} \in \mathcal{K}_P^+$  be a normalized vector satisfying (2). In order to define the map  $\psi$ :  $Q = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n \to [0,1]$  we put  $\psi(0) = 0$ 

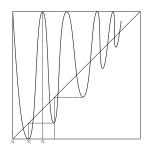
and for 
$$x \in P_n \cap (0,1]$$
 
$$\psi(x) = \lambda^{-n} \quad \sum \quad v_{f^n(J)}. \tag{3}$$

 $I \in \mathcal{T}_n$  I < x

# Example

In order to illustrate the Key Equation let  $P=\{1\}\cup\{x_n=1-\frac{1}{n}\}_{n\geq 1}\}$  with P-basic intervals  $I(n)=[x_n,x_{n+1}]$  and consider a map f from  $\mathcal{CPM}$  such that  $f(x_2)=x_1=0$  and

$$f(x_n) = \begin{cases} 1, & n \ge 1 \text{ odd,} \\ x_{n-2}, & n \ge 4 \text{ even.} \end{cases}$$



The Key Equation has a solution  $v=(v_{I(n)})_{I(n)\in B(P)}$  with  $v_{I(2k+1)}=v_{I(2k+2)}=\frac{k+1}{\lambda}(\frac{\lambda-1}{2\lambda})^k,\ k\geq 0$  for any  $\lambda\geq 3+\sqrt{8}$ . In particular, the map f is semiconjugated via a non-decreasing map  $\psi$  to some map  $g\in \mathcal{CPM}_{3+\sqrt{8}}$  (in fact one can show that  $h_{top}(f)=\log(3+\sqrt{8})$ ).

The matrix M(f) of f does not represent a bounded linear operator on the space  $\ell_P^1$ .

The Key Equation has a solution for each  $\lambda \geq 3 + \sqrt{8}$ .

J. B., M. Soukenka, *On* piecewise affine interval maps with countably many laps, Discrete and Continuous Dynamical Systems-A 31(3) (2011), 753-762.

# Example

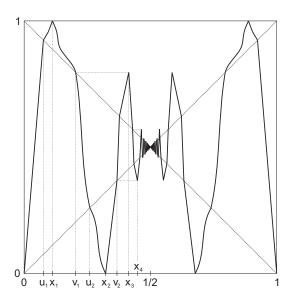
$$V = \{v_i\}_{i \ge -1}, X = \{x_i\}_{i \ge 1} \ V, X \text{ converge to } 1/2 \text{ and } 0 = v_{-1} = x_0 = v_0 < x_1 < v_1 < x_2 < v_2 < x_3 < v_3 < \cdots$$

$$f = f(V, X) : [0, 1] \to [0, 1]$$

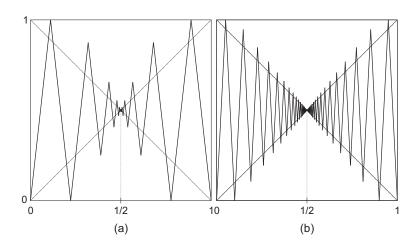
- (a)  $f(v_{2i-1}) = 1 v_{2i-1}, i \ge 1, f(v_{2i}) = v_{2i}, i \ge 0,$
- (b)  $f(x_{2i-1}) = 1 v_{2i-3}, i \ge 1, f(x_{2i}) = v_{2i-2}, i \ge 1,$
- (c)  $f_{u,v} = \left| \frac{f(u) f(v)}{u v} \right| > 1$  for each interval  $[u, v] \subset [x_i, x_{i+1}]$ ,
- (d) f(1/2) = 1/2 and f(t) = f(1-t) for each  $t \in [1/2, 1]$ .

(the property (c) can be satisfied since for our V,X by (a),(b),  $f_{x_i,x_{i+1}} > 2$  for each i > 0)

We denote by  $\mathcal{F}(V,X)$  the set of all continuous interval maps fulfilling (a)-(d) for a fixed pair V,X and  $\mathcal{F}:=\bigcup_{V,X}\mathcal{F}(V,X)$ .



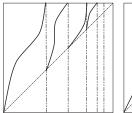
The Key Equation is solvable for each  $\lambda \geq 9$ .

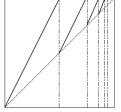


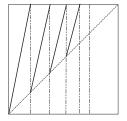
(a) The map  $f_9$ ; (b) the map  $f_{20}$ .

# Example

In the Key Equation we do not assume that the entropy of f is positive, but  $\lambda>1$  only. For example, all three maps have the same matrix  $M\in\mathcal{M}_P$ ; the corresponding Key Equation is solvable for any  $\lambda>1$  with the formula  $v_j=\left(1-\frac{1}{\lambda}\right)^j$ ,  $j\geq0$ .







(a) The maps from one conjugacy class. The Key Equation is solvable for any  $\lambda > 1$ .

M =

# Two cases

For  $f \in \mathcal{CPM}$ ,

- 1. either M(f) represents a bounded linear operator on  $\ell_P^1$  and we need to use extensions of Perron-Frobenius theorem for positive operators leaving invariant a cone in a real Banach space;
- **2.** or M(f) does not represent a bounded linear operator on  $\ell_P^1$  and we need to use the Vere-Jones classification of infinite positive matrices.

# Case of bounded operators

In order to use our theorem effectively we restrict our attention to a (still sufficiently rich) subclass of maps from  $\mathcal{CPM}$ .

To this end let us denote  $\mathcal{P}$  the set of all pairs  $(P,\varphi)$  such that

- (A1) P is admissible,
- (A2)  $\varphi \colon P \to P$  is continuous,
- (A3) continuous 'connect-the-dots' map  $\varphi_P\colon [0,1] \to [0,1]$  defined by  $\varphi_P|_P = \varphi, \ \varphi_P|_J$  affine for any interval  $J \subset \operatorname{conv}(P)$  such that  $J \cap P = \emptyset$ , satisfies

$$\exists L = L(P, \varphi) > 0 \ \forall I \in B(P) \ \forall y \in I^{\circ} \colon \operatorname{card} \varphi_{P}^{-1}(y) < L.$$

In this part we will deal with restrictively countably piecewise monotone continuous maps from the class  $\mathcal{RCPM}$ , where  $f \in \mathcal{RCPM}$  if and only if it corresponds to some pair  $(P,\varphi) \in \mathcal{P}$ , i.e.,  $f|P=\varphi$  and f is monotone on each P-basic interval.

# Proposition

Let  $M(f) \in \mathcal{M}_P$  be the matrix of  $f \in \mathcal{RCPM}$ . Then M(f) represents a bounded  $\mathcal{K}_P^+$ -positive linear operator on  $\ell_P^1$ .

Up to now we do not have any information on the relationship of the entropy of  $f \in \mathcal{RCPM}$  and its spectral radius  $r(\mathbb{M})$ . This gap will be partially filled in by the following theorem.

#### Theorem

Let  $M(f) \in \mathcal{M}_P$  be the matrix of  $f \in \mathcal{RCPM}$ , denote  $\mathbb{M}$  the operator on  $\ell_P^1$  represented by M(f) and assume that  $h_{top}(f) > 0$ . Then  $r(\mathbb{M}) \geq e^{h_{top}(f)}$ .

## S. Karlin, Positive operators, J. Math. Mech. 8 (1959), 907–937.

 $\mathcal{K}_{P}^{+}$  is reproducing:  $\mathcal{K}_{P}^{+} - \mathcal{K}_{P}^{+} = \ell_{P}^{1}$   $\mathcal{K}_{P}^{+}$  defines a partial ordering on  $\ell_{P}^{1}$ :  $x \leq y$  if  $y - x \in \mathcal{K}_{P}^{+}$   $\mathcal{K}_{P}^{+}$  is normal:  $\exists b > 0 \ \forall x, y \in \mathcal{I}_{P}^{1}$ :  $\theta \leq x \leq y \implies ||x|| \leq b||y||$  (even acute, b = 1)

For a bounded linear operator  $\mathbb A$  on a Banach space  $\mathcal E$  we will consider its spectrum  $\sigma(\mathbb A)=P_\sigma(\mathbb A)\cup R_\sigma(\mathbb A)\cup C_\sigma(\mathbb A)$  partitioned to the point, residual and continuous part respectively.

#### Theorem

(Krejn-Bonsall-Karlin) Let  $\mathcal K$  be a normal reproducing cone in a (real) Banach space  $\mathcal E$ . Then, for every bounded positive operator  $\mathbb A$  ( $\mathbb A\mathcal K\subset\mathcal K$ ), the spectral radius  $r(\mathbb A)$  of  $\mathbb A$  belongs to the spectrum.

I. Marek, On some spectral properties of Radon-Nicolski operations and their generalizations, Comm. Math. Univ. Carolinae 3 (1962), 20–30.

## Definition

A bounded linear operator  $\mathbb A$  defined on a (complex) Banach space  $\mathcal F$  will be called Radon-Nicolski if  $\mathbb A$  may be represented as  $\mathbb A=\mathbb C+\mathbb B$ , where

- (i) C is compact,
- (ii)  $r(\mathbb{A}) > r(\mathbb{B})$ .

#### Theorem

Let  $\tau$  be a function holomorphic in the neighborhood of the spectrum  $\sigma(\mathbb{A})$  of the operator  $\mathbb{A}$ . Let  $\mathbb{A}$  be  $\mathcal{K}$ -positive and assume that  $\tau(\mathbb{A})$  is a Radon-Nicolski operator on a real Banach space  $\mathcal{E}$ . Then  $r(\mathbb{A}) \in P_{\sigma}(\mathbb{A})$  with corresponding eigenvector in  $\mathcal{K}$ .

The previous results lead us to the following results:

#### Theorem

Let  $M(f) \in \mathcal{M}_P$  be the matrix of  $f \in \mathcal{RCPM}$ , denote  $\mathbb{M}$  the operator on  $\ell_P^1$  represented by M(f) and assume that  $h_{top}(f) > 0$ . If  $\tau(\mathbb{M})$  is a Radon-Nicolski operator on  $\ell_P^1$  for a suitable  $\tau$  holomorphic in the neighborhood of the spectrum  $\sigma(\mathbb{M})$ , then

- $-r(\mathbb{M})=e^{h_{top}(f)}=\beta$
- f is semiconjugated via a non-decreasing map  $\psi$  to some map  $g \in \mathcal{RCPM}_{\beta}$ ; in particular it is true when  $\mathbb M$  itself is a Radon-Nicolski operator

## **Definition**

A function  $f: [a, b] \to [a, b]$  is said to have a *d-horseshoe* if there exist *d* subintervals  $I_1, I_2, \ldots, I_d$  of [a, b] with disjoint interiors such that  $f(I_i) \supset I_j$  for all  $1 \le i, j \le d$ .

## **Definition**

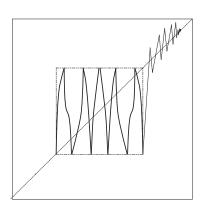
For an integer m > 1, we say that a pair  $(P, \varphi) \in \mathcal{P}$  is m-ruled, if there are P-basic intervals  $I_1, \ldots, I_m$  such that

- $\varphi_P \colon [0,1] \to [0,1]$  has an *m*-horseshoe created by the intervals  $I_1, \ldots, I_m$
- $\forall I \in B(P) \ \forall y \in I^{\circ} \colon \operatorname{card}[\varphi_{P}^{-1}(y) \cap ([0,1] \setminus \bigcup_{i=1}^{m} I_{i})] < m.$

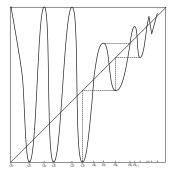
#### Theorem

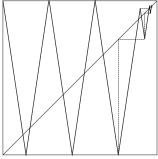
Let  $f \in \mathcal{RCPM}$  correspond to an m-ruled pair  $(P, \varphi) \in \mathcal{P}$ . Then f is semiconjugated via a non-decreasing map  $\psi$  to some map  $g \in \mathcal{RCPM}_{\beta}$  with  $\beta = e^{h_{top}(f)}$ .

# Example



Sketch of a map corresponding to a 10-ruled pair from  $\mathcal{P}$ .





$$f \in \mathcal{RCPM}$$
 transitive (left),  $g \in \mathcal{RCPM}_{r(\mathbb{M})}$ ,  $r(\mathbb{M}) = e^{h_{top}(f)} \sim 6.5616$ .

# Example

Let  $P=\{a_n\colon n=0,1,\ldots,\infty\}$  be an admissible set with the only limit point equal to 1. Assume that  $0=a_0< a_1<\cdots< a_\infty=1$  and define the map  $\varphi\colon P\to P$  by  $\varphi(a_0)=\varphi(a_2)=\varphi(a_4)=a_\infty$ ,  $\varphi(a_1)=\varphi(a_3)=\varphi(a_5)=a_0$ ,  $\varphi(a_6)=a_6$  and for each  $k\geq 0$ ,  $\varphi(a_{3k+7})=a_{3k+9}$ ,  $\varphi(a_{3k+8})=a_{3k+5}$ ,  $\varphi(a_{3k+9})=a_{3k+9}$ . Then  $(P,\varphi)\in \mathcal{P}$  and it is 6-ruled, where  $\varphi_P$  has a 6-horseshoe created by the P-basic intervals  $[a_0,a_1],\ldots,[a_5,a_6]$ . Let us consider a map  $f\in\mathcal{RCPM}$  that corresponds to  $(P,\varphi)$ . By our theorem the map f is semiconjugated via a non-decreasing map  $\psi$  to some map  $g\in\mathcal{RCPM}_\beta$  with  $\beta=e^{h_{top}(f)}$ . In particular, the maps f,g are conjugated when f is transitive.

# The matrices M(f), C, B from Example:

	/ 1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		. \	
M(f) =	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1			1
	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1			1
	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1			
	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1			
	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0			
	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0			İ
	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0			İ
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0			l
	Ō	Õ	Ō	Ō	Ō	Ō	ō	Ō	1	1	1	1	Õ	ō			İ
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0			1
	Ō	Õ	Ō	Ō	Ō	Ō	ō	Ō	0	0	0	0	1	1			=
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1			l
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1			
	lo	Õ	Ō	Ō	Ō	Ō	Ō	Ō	Ō	Ō	Ō	0	0	0			
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Ō	0	ō	0			
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
	.												·				ł
	١.																1
	١.																1
	١.																1
	١.																1
	١.																/

# Case of unbounded operators

#### Theorem

Let  $T=(t_{ij})$  be an infinite nonnegative irreducible aperiodic matrix. There exists a common value  $\lambda_M=\frac{1}{R}$  such that for each i,j

$$\lim_{n}(t_{ij}^{(n)})^{\frac{1}{n}}=\lambda_{M}.$$

#### Theorem

For any value r > 0 and all i, j

- (i) the series  $\sum_{n} t_{ij}^{(n)} r^{n}$  are either all convergent or all divergent;
- (ii) as  $n \to \infty$ , either all or none of the sequences  $\{t_{ij}^{(n)}r^n\}_n$  tend to zero.

D. Vere-Jones, *Ergodic properties of non-negative matrices-I*, Pacific J. of Math. **22**(2)(1967), 361–385.

### **Definition**

- (i) The matrix  $T = (t_{ij})$  is R-transient or R-recurrent according as the series  $\sum_{n} t_{ij}^{(n)} R^{n}$  are convergent or divergent;
- (ii) an R-recurrent matrix is R-null or R-positive according as all or none of the sequences  $\{t_{ii}^{(n)}R^n\}_n$  tend to zero.

J. B., H. Bruin, *Semiconjugacy to a map of a constant slope II*, in preparation.

#### Theorem

Let  $M(f) \in \mathcal{M}_P$  be the matrix of  $f \in \mathcal{CPM}$  which is R-transient. Then the Key Equation does not have any solution.

#### Theorem

There exists a map  $f \in \mathcal{CPM}$  such that  $M(f) \in \mathcal{M}_P$  is R-null with  $R \in (0,1)$  and the Key Equation does not have any solution.

#### Theorem

For  $f \in \mathcal{CPM}$  with  $h_{top}(f) > 0$ , assume that  $f^n$  has a full lap for some n. If  $M(f) \in \mathcal{M}_P$  is R-positive, then  $R \in (0,1)$  and f is semiconjugated via a non-decreasing map  $\psi$  to some map  $g \in \mathcal{CPM}_\beta$ , where  $\frac{1}{R} = \beta \geq e^{h_{top}(f)}$ .

# **CONJECTURE:**

Assume that for some  $f \in \mathcal{CPM}$  the Key Equation is solvable for some  $\lambda_0 > 1$ . Then it is also solvable for each  $\lambda > \lambda_0!$