

The Garden of Eden Theorem: from Conway's Game of Life to Arnold's Cat

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This is joint work with Tullio Ceccherini-Silberstein.





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is called the set of **configurations**.

The **shift** on A^G is the left action of G on A^G given by

$$\begin{aligned} G \times A^G &\rightarrow A^G \\ (g, x) &\mapsto gx \end{aligned}$$

where

$$gx(h) = x(g^{-1}h) \quad \forall h \in G.$$



Cellular Automata



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$$(\tau(x))(g) = \mu((g^{-1}x)|_M) \quad \forall x \in A^G, \forall g \in G,$$

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Such a set M is called a **memory set** and μ is called a **local defining map** for τ .



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τ is a cellular automaton with memory $M = \{0, 1\}$ and local defining map $\mu: A^M = A^2 \rightarrow A$ given by

$$00 \mapsto 0, \quad 01 \mapsto 1, \quad 10 \mapsto 1, \quad 11 \mapsto 0.$$



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is a cellular automaton with memory set $M = \{-1, 1\}$.



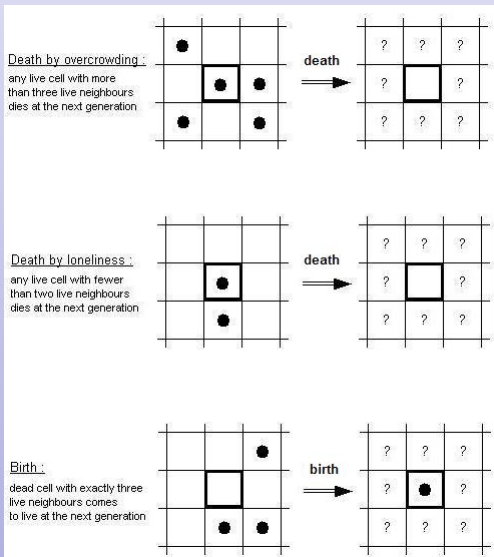
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with memory set $M = \{-1, 0, 1\}^2 \subset \mathbb{Z}^2$

and local defining map $\mu: A^M \rightarrow A$ given by

$$\mu(y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \sum_{m \in M} y(m) = 3 \\ \text{or } \sum_{m \in M} y(m) = 4 \text{ and } y((0,0)) = 1 \end{array} \right. \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\forall y \in A^M.$$



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One says that τ is **pre-injective** if it has no diamonds.



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- Example 2 is injective and hence pre-injective;
- Example 3 is not pre-injective and hence non-injective;



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A group G with finite generating set S has **subexponential growth** if

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log N_S(k)}{k} = 0,$$

where $N_S(k)$ is the number of elements of G that can be written as a product of at most k elements in $S \cup S^{-1}$.



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Every f.g. virtually nilpotent group has subexponential growth but there are f.g. groups of subexponential growth that are not virtually nilpotent. The first examples of such groups were given by Grigorchuk [Gri-1984].



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Bartholdi [B-2010] proved that if G is a non-amenable group then G does not satisfy Moore's implication, i.e., there exist a finite set A and a cellular automaton $\tau: A^G \rightarrow A^G$ that is surjective but not pre-injective.



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Bartholdi and Kielak [BK-2016] proved that if G is a non-amenable group then G does not satisfy Myhill's implication either, i.e., there exist a finite set A and a cellular automaton $\tau: A^G \rightarrow A^G$ that is pre-injective but not surjective.



What Gromov Said



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“... the Garden of Eden theorem can be generalized to a suitable class of hyperbolic actions ...”





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If $f: X \rightarrow X$ is a homeomorphism, the d.s. **generated** by f is the d.s. (X, \mathbb{Z}) , where \mathbb{Z} acts on X by

$$(n, x) \mapsto f^n(x) \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{Z}, x \in X.$$

This d.s. is also denoted (X, f) .



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Example (Arnold's cat)

This is the d.s. (\mathbb{T}^2, f) , where f is the automorphism of the 2-torus $\mathbb{T}^2 = \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}$ given by

$$f(x) = \begin{pmatrix} x_2 \\ x_1 + x_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \forall x = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{T}^2.$$



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Thus we have $f(x) = Ax$, where $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ is the **cat matrix**.



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Homoclinicity is an equivalence relation on X . This relation does not depend on the choice of d .



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Two configurations $x, y \in A^G$ are homoclinic if and only if they are almost equal.



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The homoclinicity class of a point $x \in \mathbb{T}^2$ is $D \cap D'$, where D is the line passing through x whose slope is the golden mean $\frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} = 1.618\dots$ and D' is the line passing through x and orthogonal to D .



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(**Curtis-Hedlund-Lyndon theorem**).



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The kernel of τ consists of four points:

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The endomorphism τ is pre-injective but not injective.

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Arnold's cat (\mathbb{T}^2, f) satisfies the GOE theorem. Indeed, it is easy to show, using spectral analysis, that any endomorphism τ of the cat is of the form $\tau = m \text{Id} + nf$, for some $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$.



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One says that f is **Anosov** if the tangent bundle TM of M continuously splits as a direct sum $TM = E_s \oplus E_u$ of two df -invariant subbundles E_s and E_u such that, with respect to some (or equivalently any) Riemannian metric on M , the differential df is exponentially contracting on E_s and exponentially expanding on E_u , i. e., there are constants $C > 0$ and $0 < \lambda < 1$ such that

- $\|df^n(v)\| \leq C\lambda^n\|v\|$,
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for all $x \in M$, $v \in E_s(x)$, $w \in E_u(x)$, and $n \geq 0$.



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If we identify the tangent space at $x \in \mathbb{T}^2$ with \mathbb{R}^2 , the two eigenlines of the cat matrix yield $E_u(x)$ and $E_s(x)$.



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Consider a matrix $A \in \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{Z})$ with no eigenvalue of modulus 1. Then the map

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One says that f is the **hyperbolic toral automorphism** associated with A .



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Theorem (CC-2016)

Let f be an Anosov diffeomorphism of the n -dimensional torus \mathbb{T}^n . Then the d.s. (\mathbb{T}^n, f) satisfies the GOE theorem.



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Result 1 (Franks [Fra-1970], Manning [Man-1974]) Every Anosov diffeomorphism of \mathbb{T}^n is topologically conjugate to a hyperbolic toral automorphism.

Result 2 (Walters [Wal-1968]) Every endomorphism of a hyperbolic toral automorphism on \mathbb{T}^n is affine, i. e., of the form $x \mapsto Bx + c$, where B is an integral $n \times n$ matrix and $c \in \mathbb{T}^n$.



General Anosov Diffeomorphisms



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A homeomorphism f of a topological space X is **topologically mixing** if, given any two non-empty open subsets $U, V \subset X$, one has $U \cap f^n(V) \neq \emptyset$ for all but finitely many $n \in \mathbb{Z}$.

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Let f be a topologically mixing Anosov diffeomorphism of a smooth compact manifold M . Then (M, f) has the Myhill property, i.e., every pre-injective continuous map $\tau: M \rightarrow M$ commuting with f is surjective.



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Remark

All known examples of Anosov diffeomorphisms are topologically mixing.





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Every a.d.s. can be obtained in this way (see [Sch-1995]).



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In the case $M = \mathbb{Z}[G]/(f)$, where $(f) = \mathbb{Z}[G]f$ denotes the left ideal generated by $f \in \mathbb{Z}[G]$, one writes $X_f := \widehat{M}$ and one says that (X_f, G) is the **principal a.d.s.** associated with f .



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For $\eta \in \ell^1(G)$ and $\xi \in \ell^\infty(G)$, define $\eta \star \xi$ by

$$(\eta \star \xi)(g) := \sum_{\substack{g_1, g_2 \in G: \\ g_1 g_2 = g}} \eta(g_1) \xi(g_2) = \sum_{h \in G} \eta(gh^{-1}) \xi(h).$$



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- \star extends the group operation on G ;
- $(\ell^1(G), \star)$ is a Banach algebra.



GOE Theorems for Principal Algebraic Dynamical Systems



Theorem (Li-2017)

Let G be a countable amenable group and let $f \in \mathbb{Z}[G]$ such that f is invertible in $\ell^1(G)$.



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The fact that $f \in \mathbb{Z}[G]$ is invertible in $\ell^1(G)$ is equivalent to the expansiveness of (X_f, G) . A sufficient condition for $f \in \mathbb{Z}[G]$ to be invertible in $\ell^1(G)$ is that f is **lopsided**, i.e., there exists $g_0 \in G$ such that

$$|f(g_0)| > \sum_{g \neq g_0} |f(g)|.$$



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Definition

An element $f \in \mathbb{Z}[G]$ is **weakly expansive** if it satisfies:

(C1) $\forall \xi \in \mathcal{C}_0(G), \quad f \star \xi = 0 \implies \xi = 0;$

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Let G be a countable abelian group and let $f \in \mathbb{Z}[G]$ such that f is weakly expansive and X_f is connected.



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Take $g := \mathbb{Z}^3$, so that $\mathbb{Z}[G] = \mathbb{Z}[u^\pm, v^\pm, w^\pm]$ is the ring of Laurent polynomials on 3 indeterminates.

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An element $f \in \mathbb{Z}[G]$ is **weakly expansive** if it satisfies:

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$$(C2) \quad \exists \omega \in \mathcal{C}_0(G) \text{ such that } f \star \omega = 1_G.$$

f invertible in $\ell^1(G)$ \implies f weakly expansive.

Theorem (CCL-2018)

Let G be a countable abelian group and let $f \in \mathbb{Z}[G]$ such that f is weakly expansive and X_f is connected. Then the p.a.d.s. (X_f, G) satisfies the GOE theorem.

Example

Take $g := \mathbb{Z}^3$, so that $\mathbb{Z}[G] = \mathbb{Z}[u^\pm, v^\pm, w^\pm]$ is the ring of Laurent polynomials on 3 indeterminates. Then $f := 6 - u - u^{-1} - v - v^{-1} - w - w^{-1}$ satisfies the hypotheses of the previous theorem but is not invertible in $\ell^1(G)$. Thus (X_f, G) satisfies the GOE theorem.

GOE Theorems for Principal Algebraic Dynamical Systems (continued)

$$\mathcal{C}_0(G) := \{\xi : G \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : \lim_{g \rightarrow \infty} \xi(g) = 0\} \subset \ell^\infty(G).$$

Definition

An element $f \in \mathbb{Z}[G]$ is **weakly expansive** if it satisfies:

$$(C1) \quad \forall \xi \in \mathcal{C}_0(G), \quad f \star \xi = 0 \implies \xi = 0;$$

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