



Naimark–Sacker bifurcations in linearly coupled quadratic maps

Paulo C. Rech^{a,b,*}, Marcus W. Beims^b, Jason A.C. Gallas^{b,c,d}

^a*Departamento de Física, Universidade do Estado de Santa Catarina, 89223-100 Joinville, Brazil*

^b*Departamento de Física, Universidade Federal do Paraná, 81531-990 Curitiba, Brazil*

^c*Instituto de Física, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, 91501-970 Porto Alegre, Brazil*

^d*Institut für Computer Anwendungen, Universität Stuttgart, Pfaffenwaldring 27,
D-70569 Stuttgart, Germany*

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Abstract

We report exact analytical expressions locating the $0 \rightarrow 1$, $1 \rightarrow 2$ and $2 \rightarrow 4$ bifurcation curves for a prototypical system of two linearly coupled quadratic maps. Of interest is the precise location of the parameter sets where Naimark–Sacker bifurcations occur, starting from a non-diagonal period-2 orbit. This result is the key to understand the onset of synchronization in networks of quadratic maps.

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An essential clue to understand how dynamical systems synchronize and the origin of their riddled basins of attraction is provided by the mechanisms underlying the transverse destabilization of low periodic orbits embedded in chaotic attractors [1–4]. So far, these mechanisms have been investigated only via direct numerical simulation of the dynamics. The purpose of this paper is to report exact analytical results for a prototypic model, two linearly coupled quadratic maps, defined by the following pair

* Corresponding author. Departamento de Física, Universidade Federal do Paraná, 81531-990 Curitiba, Brazil.

E-mail address: rech@fisica.ufpr.br (P.C. Rech).

of equations:

$$x_{t+1} = a - x_t^2 + b(x_t - y_t), \quad y_{t+1} = a - y_t^2 + b(y_t - x_t). \quad (1)$$

Here x_t, y_t represent dynamical variables, a is the local nonlinearity, b the coupling, and $t = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ is the discrete time. Systems of coupled nonlinear oscillators are nowadays used in practical applications, e.g., in the investigation of coupled p–n junctions [5] and of Josephson-junction arrays [6]. They also serve as useful approximations of nonlinear partial differential equations describing, for example, the onset of fluid turbulence [7] and reaction diffusion systems [8]. Previous analytical results were obtained using linear stability analysis [9–11], and renormalization theory [12]. Here we go well beyond this presenting (i) the algebraic varieties delimiting stability domains for motions of periods 1 and 2, and, (ii) the Naimark–Sacker line (also called Hopf bifurcation line) showing where quasiperiodicity stabilizes following a period-2 oscillation. The motivation for considering this problem anew is our interest in using more realistic and flexible maps as local oscillators in applications dealing with diffusive–advective effects like, e.g., in ocean convection [13–15]. For additional discussion of problems involving coupled systems we refer the reader to the excellent tutorials in Refs. [1–4].

As is well-known [16,17], there are three ways in which a fixed point p of a discrete map f may fail to be hyperbolic: $Df(p)$ may have an eigenvalue $+1$, an eigenvalue -1 , or a pair of complex eigenvalues, say λ and $\bar{\lambda}$, with $|\lambda|=1$. The first two situations are familiar from period-doubling cascades and appear much more frequently than the last one. But it is precisely this last situation, characteristic of a Naimark–Sacker bifurcation, that is of great interest for coupled systems and that we consider here.

Eq. (1) has four fixed points, two *diagonal* and two *non-diagonal*

$$D_1 \equiv (x_1, x_1), \quad D_2 \equiv (x_2, x_2), \quad N_1 \equiv (x_3, x_4), \quad N_2 \equiv (x_4, x_3), \quad (2)$$

where $x_1 = (-1 + \zeta)/2$, $x_2 = (-1 - \zeta)/2$, $x_3 = (2b - 1 + \eta)/2$, $x_4 = (2b - 1 - \eta)/2$, and $\zeta = \sqrt{1 + 4a}$ and $\eta = \sqrt{1 + 4a - 4b^2}$. The stability of these points is ruled by the equation $|J - \lambda I| = 0$, where λ is the eigenvalue, I is the identity matrix and J is the Jacobian matrix of the mapping. The eigenvalues of these four fixed points are always real, with D_2, N_1 and N_2 being always unstable since at least one of their eigenvalues is larger than 1. The remaining fixed point, D_1 , is stable in the region delimited by $-1/4 < a < 3/4$ and $\sqrt{1 + 4a}/2 - 1 < b < \sqrt{1 + 4a}/2$, bounded by the curves

$$a = -\frac{1}{4}, \quad a = \frac{3}{4}, \quad c_1 \equiv 4a - 4b^2 + 1 = 0, \quad c_2 \equiv 4a - 4b^2 - 3 - 8b = 0,$$

shown in Fig. 1.

The stable fixed point bifurcates into two quite different period-2 orbits when one increases a , depending on the value of b . When crossing the line $a = \frac{3}{4}$ one finds *diagonal* period-2 orbits with signature $(u, u) \rightarrow (v, v) \rightarrow (u, u) \rightarrow \dots$, where $u = (1 + \sqrt{-3 + 4a})/2$ and $v = (1 - \sqrt{-3 + 4a})/2$. We denote such orbits by *P2D*. Beyond the curve $c_2 = 0$ one finds *non-diagonal* orbits with a signature $(s, t) \rightarrow (t, s) \rightarrow (s, t) \rightarrow \dots$

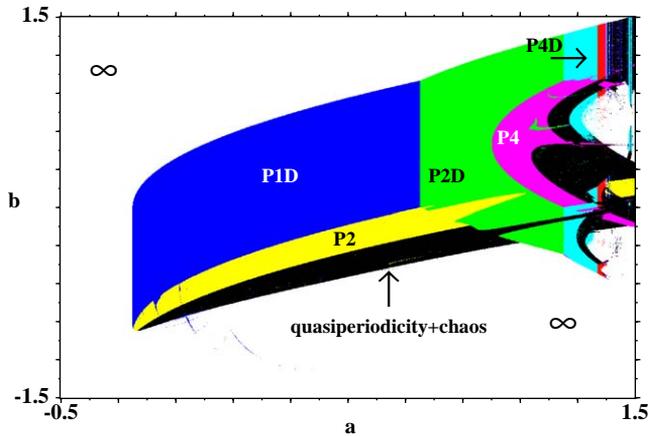


Fig. 2. Stability domains obtained by discretizing the parameter interval in a mesh of 1200×600 points. Different gray shadings represent stability domains of attractors with different periods.

The stability domains for the coupled quadratic maps can be generated numerically, using the method described in Ref. [18], and they are shown in Fig. 2, displaying the richness of the several coexisting motions in parameter space. In this figure the basin of unbounded (diverging) attractors is indicated by ∞ . The lower border line seen between the $P2$ domain and black domain is defined by the Naimark–Sacker line. This means that inside the black domain, immediately below the $P2$ region, we have quasiperiodic motion with two limit cycles originated from $P2$ trajectories. As we penetrate more and more into this black region, we reach a region of chaos. The same happens for $P4$ oscillations, the difference in this latter case being that the region of quasiperiodic motions has four limit cycles originated from $P4$ orbits.

Fig. 3 shows the birth and evolution of the Naimark–Sacker bifurcation in phase space when we walk along the vertical line $a = 0.5$ in parameter space. Here we plotted the amplitudes of the maps for four representative values of the parameter b . For b close to the Naimark–Sacker line the motion covers a closed curve and is quasiperiodic. For smaller values of b , a quasiperiodic transition to chaos takes place. Periodic windows, not visible in Fig. 3, appear in this route to chaos via quasiperiodicity.

We demonstrated that two linearly coupled quadratic maps can show quasiperiodic motion arising from a Naimark–Sacker bifurcation of a $P2$ orbit. This was shown analytically and corroborated through a numerical simulation, as may be seen from the similarity between Figs. 1 and 2. The first figure was obtained analytically while the second numerically. The precise analytical determination of the Naimark–Sacker road to stable quasiperiodic motions opens the possibility of several numerical experiments, in particular, to applications connected with synchronization in networks of maps [13–15]. Another interesting application is to investigate how a mismatch in the parameters would affect the bifurcation structure. These applications will be reported elsewhere.

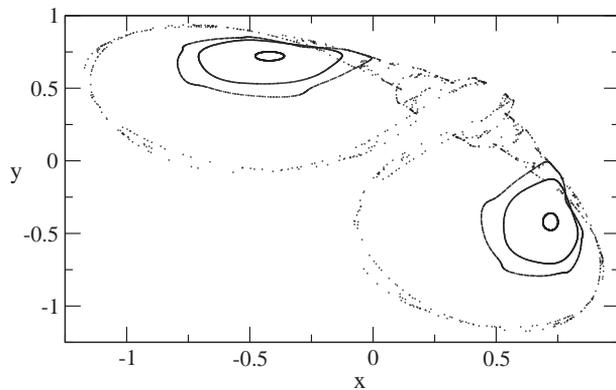


Fig. 3. Quasiperiodicity and chaos seen in the phase space of two linearly coupled quadratic maps. For $a=0.5$ and $(x_0, y_0) = (0.1234, 0.005)$, 1000 points have been plotted, after a transient of 400 iterations. Shown are three quasiperiodic solutions, for $b = -0.35, -0.38, -0.40$. Here, smaller b corresponds to larger radius. A frequency-locked solution with period-6 appears at $b = -0.41$ (not shown in the figure). The complicated dotted structure is a chaotic orbit for $b = -0.46$.

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