

# Sobre a dimensão fractal de atratores em equações de evolução

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# Semigroups (or Dynamical Systems)

- Let  $(X, \|\cdot\|_X)$  be a Banach space and  $S(t) : X \rightarrow X$  be an application for each  $t \geq 0$ .
- We say that a family  $\{S(t) : t \geq 0\} \subset \mathcal{C}(X)$  is a **semigroup** if
  - i)  $S(0) = Id_X$ ;
  - ii)  $S(t+s) = S(t)S(s)$ , for all  $t, s \geq 0$ ;
  - iii) The map  $S : X \times [0, \infty) \rightarrow X$  given by  $S(t)x$  is **continuous**.

# How to obtain dynamical systems?

Suppose that

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d}{dt}u(t, x) = F(u(t, x)), & t > 0, & x \in \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N \\ u(0, x) = u_0(x) \in X \end{cases}$$

has a **unique global solution**  $u(t)$  for each initial data  $u_0 \in X$  which is continuous with respect to the initial data.

Defining  $S(t) : X \longrightarrow X$  by

$$S(t)u_0 := u(t, 0; u_0)$$

we have that  $\{S(t) : t \geq 0\}$  is a **semigroup**.

- A set  $\mathcal{A} \subset X$  is the **global attractor** for  $\{S(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$  if

- $\mathcal{A}$  is **compact**;
- $\mathcal{A}$  is **invariant** by  $\{S(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$ , i.e.,

$$S(t)\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}, \quad \forall t \geq 0.$$

- $\mathcal{A}$  is an **attracting set** for  $\{S(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$ , i.e., for all  $D \subset X$  bounded we have

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \text{dist}_H(S(t)D, \mathcal{A}) = 0,$$

where

$$\text{dist}_H(B, A) := \sup_{b \in B} \inf_{a \in A} \|b - a\|_X.$$

# The discrete setting

- A set  $\mathcal{A} \subset X$  is the **global attractor** for a map  $S : X \rightarrow X$  if
  - i)  $\mathcal{A}$  is **compact**.
  - ii)  $\mathcal{A}$  is **invariant** by  $S$ , i.e.,  $S(\mathcal{A}) = \mathcal{A}$ .
  - iii)  $\mathcal{A}$  is an **attracting set** for  $S$ , i.e., for all  $D \subset X$  bounded we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{dist}_H(S^n(D), \mathcal{A}) = 0.$$

- If  $S := S(t_0)$  for some  $t_0$ , the global attractors of  $S$  and  $\{S(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$  coincide.

- **Question 1:** If  $\mathcal{A}$  is the attractor of a compact map  $S$ , is it a finite-dimensional set?
- **Question 2:** Among the methods to estimate the fractal dimension of attractors, is it possible to make a comparison (in some sense) between them?

# A bit of the path to get some answers for last questions...

- It started at ICMC - USP in 2016 when I first had to choose the problem I would investigate in my PhD.



ICMC and Alexandre Nolasco de Carvalho (Advisor)

- In 2018 I arrived to Seville and discussed with Alexandre and Langa, obtaining the first partially answers for the problem.



Seville-Spain and José Langa (Coadvisor)

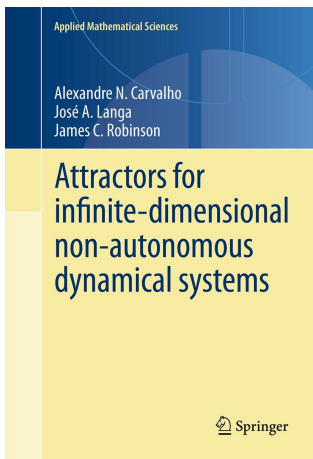


- Yet in 2018 I met James Robinson at the University of Seville, one of the greatest researchers in dimension theory.



James Robinson

- They were the writers of my main reference for the thesis...



- In 2019 I went to Coventry-UK and we finally finished this work.



- **Question 1:** If  $\mathcal{A}$  is the attractor of a compact map  $S$ , is it a finite-dimensional set?
- **Question 2:** Among the methods to estimate the **fractal dimension** of attractors, is it possible to make a comparison (in some sense) between them?

- Answer 1: In general, no!!

For example the map  $S : \ell^2 \rightarrow \ell^2$  given by

$$(S\mathbf{x})_j = \begin{cases} j^{-1} \frac{x_j}{|x_j|} & , |x_j| > j^{-1} \\ x_j & , |x_j| \leq j^{-1}. \end{cases}$$

This map is **compact**, but its attractor is the set

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A} &= \{\mathbf{x} \in \ell^2 : |x_j| \leq 1/j\} \\ &= [-1, 1] \times \left[-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right] \times \left[-\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}\right] \times \dots \end{aligned}$$

which is an infinite-dimensional subset of  $\ell^2$ .

# Going a bit deeper on the problem

However, the answer to this question is *yes* if as well as being compact  $S$  is **differentiable**:

$$S \text{ compact} + \text{differentiable} \implies DS \text{ compact} \xrightarrow{\text{Mañé}} \dim_F(\mathcal{A}) < \infty.$$



R. Mañé, *On the dimension of the compact invariant sets of certain non-linear maps*. Lecture Notes in Mathematics **898**, Springer-Verlag, New York, pp. 230-242, 1981.



A.N. Carvalho, J.A. Langa & J.C. Robinson, *Finite-dimensional global attractors in Banach spaces*. Journal of Differential Equations **249**, pp. 3099-3109, 2010.

# On the fractal dimension of attractors

Theorem (New proof by Carvalho, Cunha, Langa, Robinson - JMAA, 2022)

Let  $X$  be a Banach space and  $\mathcal{A}$  a compact subset of  $X$  that is invariant for a *continuously differentiable* map  $S : X \rightarrow X$ . Suppose that

$$DS(x) = C_x + L_x, \quad x \in \mathcal{A},$$

where

- $C_x$  and  $L_x$  are both *linear*,
- $C_x : X \rightarrow X$  is *compact* for each  $x \in \mathcal{A}$ ,
- $C_x$  is *continuous* in  $x$  (on  $\mathcal{A}$ ),
- there exists  $0 < \lambda < 1/4$  such that  $\|L_x\|_{\mathcal{L}(X)} \leq \lambda$  for every  $x \in \mathcal{A}$ .

Then  $\dim_F(\mathcal{A}) < \infty$ .

# The first results on the dimensionality of global attractors



John Mallet-Paret and Ricardo Mañé



- Let  $(X, \|\cdot\|_X)$  be a Banach space and  $\mathcal{A} \subseteq X$  be a **compact** set.
- Given  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,

$$N_X[\mathcal{A}; \varepsilon]$$

denotes the **minimum number** of  $\varepsilon$ -balls with centres at points of  $\mathcal{A}$  which are necessary to cover  $\mathcal{A}$ .

- The **fractal dimension** of  $\mathcal{A}$  is defined as

$$\dim_F(\mathcal{A}) := \limsup_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\log N_X[\mathcal{A}; \varepsilon]}{\log 1/\varepsilon}.$$

# But why the fractal dimension?

- One possible answer can be:

## Embedding Theorem:

"If

$$\dim_{\mathcal{F}}(\mathcal{A}) < \frac{n}{2},$$

then  $\mathcal{A}$  can be embedded into  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ."

(Mañé (1981), Hunt/Kaloshin (1999), Robinson (2009) , ... )

# Obtaining estimates: smoothing method

- Let  $Z$  be a Banach space **compactly embedded** in  $X$ .
- Let

$$N_\varepsilon := N_X[B_Z(0, 1); \varepsilon].$$

## Theorem (Carvalho, Cunha, Langa, Robinson - JMAA, 2022)

Let  $Z$  and  $X$  be Banach spaces with  $Z$  compactly embedded in  $X$  and  $\mathcal{A}$  a compact subset of  $X$  that is invariant for a continuously differentiable map  $S : X \rightarrow X$ . Suppose that

$$DS(x) = C_x + L_x, \quad x \in \mathcal{A},$$

where

- $C_x \in \mathcal{L}(X, Z)$  and  $L_x \in \mathcal{L}(X)$ ,
- $C_x$  is continuous in  $x$  (on  $\mathcal{A}$ ),

Continue...

## Theorem (...)

- $C_x : X \rightarrow Z$  satisfies the **smoothing property** for each  $x \in \mathcal{A}$ , i.e., there is  $\kappa > 0$  such that

$$\|C_x u\|_Z \leq \kappa \|u\|_X, \quad \text{for all } u \in X,$$

- there exists  $0 < \lambda < 1/4$  such that

$$\|L_x\|_{\mathcal{L}(X)} \leq \lambda, \quad \forall x \in \mathcal{A},$$

i.e., it holds an **(uniformly contraction)**.

Then for each  $\nu \in (0, \frac{1}{4} - \lambda)$

$$\dim_F(\mathcal{A}; X) \leq \frac{\log N_{(\nu+\lambda)/2\kappa}}{-\log 4(\nu + \lambda)}.$$

# A bit about Question 2

**Question 2:** Among the methods to estimate the fractal dimension of attractors, is it possible to make a comparison (in some sense) between them?

**Answer 2:** Yes, at least for two of them!

- Carvalho, Langa, Robinson (based on [Mañé's method](#), 2010):

$$\dim_F(\mathcal{A}) \leq d \sim N \log N.$$

- Carvalho, Cunha, Langa, Robinson (based on the [smoothing for derivatives](#), 2022):

$$\dim_B(\mathcal{A}) \leq d \sim \log N.$$

## Abstract semilinear parabolic problem

$$\begin{cases} u_t + Tu = F(u), & t > 0 \\ u(0) = u_0 \in X^\alpha \end{cases},$$

where

- $T : D(T) \subset X \rightarrow X$  is a **sectorial operator** with **compact resolvent**;
- $F : X^\alpha \rightarrow X$  is **continuously differentiable** and **Lipschitz on bounded subsets** of  $X^\alpha$ .



## 2D-Navier Stokes equation on a periodic domain $Q$

$$u_t + \mu Tu + B(u, u) = f,$$

where

- $T = -P\Delta$  is the **Stokes operator** ( $P$  is the orthogonal projection onto divergence-free fields);
- $B(u, u) = P[(u \cdot \nabla)u]$  and  $\mu > 0$ .

In this case,

$$\dim_F(\mathcal{A}; H) \leq cG^4,$$

with

$$G = |f|/\mu^2\lambda_1$$

the [Grashof number](#).

For all the details see:



A.N. Carvalho, A.C. Cunha, J.A. Langa & J.C. Robinson, *Finite-dimensional negatively invariant subsets of Banach spaces*. Journal of Mathematical Analysis and Applications **509**, 2022.

For other papers on the fractal dimension see:



A.N. Carvalho, H. Cui, A.C. Cunha & J.A. Langa, *Smoothing and finite-dimensionality of uniform attractors in Banach spaces*. Journal of Differential Equations **285**, pp. 383-428, 2021.






H. Cui, A.C. Cunha & J.A. Langa, *Finite-dimensionality of tempered random uniform attractors*. Journal of Nonlinear Science **32**, 2022.



V.T. Azevedo, E.M. Bonotto, A.C. Cunha & M.J.D. Nascimento, *Existence and stability of pullback exponential attractors for a non-autonomous semi-linear evolution equation of second order*. Journal of Differential Equations **365**, p. 521-559, 2023.

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XVIII

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Análise Matemática e Aplicações

**05 a 07 de Novembro de 2025**

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Salvador - Bahia

**Submissão de trabalhos:**

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