# Symbolic dynamics analysis of the Lorenz equations 

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#### Abstract

Recent progress of symbolic dynamics of one- and especially two-dimensional maps has enabled us to construct symbolic dynamics for systems of ordinary differential equations (ODEs). Numerical study under the guidance of symbolic dynamics is capable of yielding global results on chaotic and periodic regimes in systems of dissipative ODEs, which cannot be obtained either by purely analytical means or by numerical work alone. By constructing symbolic dynamics of one- and two-dimensional maps from the Poincaré sections all unstable periodic orbits up to a given length at a fixed parameter set may be located and all stable periodic orbits up to a given length may be found in a wide parameter range. This knowledge, in turn, tells much about the nature of the chaotic limits. Applied to the Lorenz equations, this approach has made it possible to assign absolute periods and symbolic names to stable and unstable periodic orbits in this autonomous system. Symmetry breakings and restorations as well as coexistence of different regimes are also analyzed by using symbolic dynamics. [S1063-651X(98)13205-1]


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## I. INTRODUCTION

Many interesting nonlinear models in physical sciences and engineering are given by systems of ordinary differential equations (ODEs). When studying these systems it is desirable to have a global understanding of the bifurcation and chaos 'spectrum'': the systematics of periodic orbits, stable as well as unstable ones at fixed and varying parameters, the types of chaotic attractors that usually occur as limits of sequences of periodic regimes, etc. However, this is by far not a simple job to accomplish either by purely analytical means or by numerical work alone. In an analytical aspect, just recollect the long-standing problem of the number of limit cycles in planar systems of ODEs. As chaotic behavior may appear only in systems of more than three autonomous ODEs, it naturally leads to problems much more formidable than counting the number of limit cycles in planar systems. As far as numerical study is concerned, one can never be confident that all stable periodic orbits up to a certain length have been found in a given parameter range or no short unstable orbits in a chaotic attractor have been missed at a fixed parameter set, not to mention that it is extremely difficult to draw global conclusions from numerical data alone.

On the other hand, a properly constructed symbolic dynamics, being a coarse-grained description, provides a powerful tool to capture global, topological aspects of the dynamics. This has been convincingly shown in the development of symbolic dynamics of one-dimensional (1D) maps, see, e.g., [1-5]. Since it is well known from numerical observations that chaotic attractors of many higherdimensional dissipative systems with one positive Lyapunov exponent reveal 1D-like structure in some Poincaré sections, it has been suggested to associate the systematics of numeri-

[^0]cally found periodic orbits in ODEs with symbolic dynamics of 1D maps [6]. While this approach has had some success (see, e.g., Chapter 5 of [4]), many new questions arose from the case studies. Some examples are as follows.
(1) The number of stable periodic orbits found in ODEs is usually less than that allowed by the admissibility conditions of the corresponding 1D symbolic dynamics. Within the 1D framework it is hard to tell whether a missing period was caused by insufficient numerical search or was forbidden by the dynamics.
(2) In the Poincare sections of ODEs, at closer examination, the attractors often reveal two-dimensional features such as layers and folds. One has to explain the success of the 1D description, which sometimes even turns out much better than expected. At the same time, the limitation of the 1D approach has to be analyzed as the Poincare maps are actually two-dimensional.
(3) Early efforts were more or less concentrated on stable orbits, while unstable periods play a fundamental role in organizing chaotic motion. One has to develop symbolic dynamics for ODEs that would be capable of treating stable and unstable periodic orbits alike, to indicate the structure of some, if not all, chaotic orbits at a given parameter set.

The elucidation of these problems has to await significant progress of symbolic dynamics of 2D maps. Now the time is ripe for an in-depth symbolic dynamics analysis of a few typical ODEs. This kind of analysis has been carried out on several nonautonomous systems [7-9], where the stroboscopic sampling method [10] greatly simplifies the calculation of Poincaré maps. In this paper we consider an autonomous system, namely, the Lorenz model in which one of the first chaotic attractors was discovered [11].

The Lorenz model consists of three equations

$$
\begin{equation*}
\dot{x}=\sigma(y-x), \quad \dot{y}=r x-y-x y, \quad \dot{z}=x y-b x . \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

It is known that several hydrodynamical, mechanical, dy-
namo, and laser problems may be reduced to this set of ODEs. The system (1) contains three parameters $r, \sigma$, and $b$, representing respectively the Rayleigh number, the Prandtl number, and a geometric ratio. We will study the system in a wide $r$ range at fixed $\sigma=10$ and $b=8 / 3$.

We put together a few known facts on Eq. (1) to fix the notation. For detailed derivations one may refer Ref. [12]. For $0<r<1$ the origin $(0,0,0)$ is a globally stable fixed point. It loses stability at $r=1$. A 1D unstable manifold and a 2 D stable manifold $\mathcal{W}^{s}$ come out from the unstable origin. The intersection of the $2 \mathrm{D} \mathcal{W}^{s}$ with the Poincare section will determine a demarcation line in the partition of the 2 D phase plane of the Poincare map. For $r>1$ there appears a pair of fixed points:

$$
C_{ \pm}=[ \pm \sqrt{b(r-1)}, \pm \sqrt{b(r-1)}, r-1] .
$$

These two fixed points remain stable until $r$ reaches 24.74. Their eigenvalues undergo some qualitative changes at $r$ $=1.345617$ and a strange invariant set (not an attractor yet) comes into life at $r=13.926$. It is at $r=24.74$ where a subcritical Hopf bifurcation takes place and chaotic regimes commence. Our $r$ range extends from 28 to very big values, e.g., 10000 , as nothing qualitatively new appears at, say, $r$ $>350$.

Before undertaking the symbolic dynamics analysis we summarize briefly what has been done on the Lorenz system from the viewpoint of symbolic dynamics. Guckenheimer and Williams introduced the geometric Lorenz model [13] for the vicinity of $r=28$, which leads to symbolic dynamics of two letters, proving the existence of chaos in the geometric model. However, as Smale [14] pointed out, whether the geometric Lorenz model means the real Lorenz system remains an unsolved problem. Though it does not use symbolic dynamics at all, the paper by Tomita and Tsuda [15] studying the Lorenz equations at a different set of parameters $\sigma$ $=16$ and $b=4$ is worth mentioning. They noticed that the quasi-1D chaotic attractor in the $z=r-1$ Poincaré section outlined by the upward intersections of the trajectories may be directly parametrized by the $x$ coordinates. A 1D map was devised in [15] to numerically mimic the global bifurcation structure of the Lorenz model. Sparrow [12] used two symbols $x$ and $y$ to encode orbits without explicitly constructing symbolic dynamics. In Appendix J of [12] Sparrow described a family of 1D maps as "an obvious choice if we wish to try to model the behavior of the Lorenz equations in the parameter range $\sigma=10, b=8 / 3$, and $r>24.06$. In what follows we will call this family the Lorenz-Sparrow map. References [15] and [12] have been instrumental for the present study. In fact, the 1D maps to be obtained from the 2D upward Poincare maps of the Lorenz equations after some manipulations belong precisely to the family suggested by Sparrow. In [16] the systematics of stable periodic orbits in the Lorenz equations was compared with that of a 1D antisymmetric cubic map. The choice of an antisymmetric map was dictated by the invariance of the Lorenz equations under the discrete transformation

$$
\begin{equation*}
x \rightarrow-x, \quad y \rightarrow-y, \text { and } z \rightarrow z \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

Indeed, most of the periods known to [16] are ordered in a 'cubic" way. However, many short periods present in the 1D map have not been found in the Lorenz equations. It was realized in [17] that a cubic map with a discontinuity in the center may better reflect the ODEs and many of the missing periods are excluded by the 2D nature of the Poincare map. Instead of devising model maps one should generate all related 1D or 2D maps directly from the Lorenz equations and construct the corresponding symbolic dynamics. This makes the main body of the present paper.

For physicists symbolic dynamics is nothing but a coarse grained description of the dynamics. The success of symbolic dynamics depends on how the coarse graining is performed, i.e., on the partition of the phase space. From a practical point of view we can put forward the following requirements for a good partition. (1) It should assign a unique name to each unstable periodic orbit in the system; (2) an ordering rule of all symbolic sequences should be defined; (3) admissibility conditions as to whether a given symbolic sequence is allowed by the dynamics should be formulated; (4) based on the admissibility conditions and ordering rule one should be able to generate and locate all periodic orbits, stable and unstable, up to a given length. Symbolic dynamics of 1D maps has been well understood [1-5]. Symbolic dynamics of 2D maps has been studies in [18-27]. We will explain the main idea and technique in the context of the Lorenz equations.

A few words on the research strategy may be in order. We will first calculate the Poincare maps in suitably chosen sections. If necessary, some forward contracting foliations (FCFs, to be explained later) are superimposed on the Poincare map, the attractor being part of the backward contracting foliations (BCFs). Then a one-parameter parametrization is introduced for the quasi-1D attractor. For our choice of the Poincare sections the parametrization is simply realized by the $x$ coordinates of the points. In terms of these $\left\{x_{i}\right\}$ a first return map $x_{n} \mapsto x_{n+1}$ is constructed. Using the specific property of first return maps that the set $\left\{x_{i}\right\}$ remains the same before and after the mapping, some parts of $\left\{x_{i}\right\}$ may be safely squeezed and swapped to yield a new map $x_{n}^{\prime} \mapsto x_{n+1}^{\prime}$, which precisely belongs to the family of Lorenz-Sparrow map. In so doing, all 2D features (layers, folds, etc.) are kept. However, one can always start from the symbolic dynamics of the 1D Lorenz-Sparrow map to generate a list of allowed periods and then check them against the admissibility conditions of the 2D symbolic dynamics. Using the ordering of symbolic sequences all allowed periods may be located easily. This applies to unstable periodic orbits at a fixed parameter set. The same method can be adapted to treat stable periods either by superimposing the orbital points on a nearby chaotic attractor or by keeping a sufficient number of transient points.

## II. CONSTRUCTION OF POINCARÉ AND RETURN MAPS

The Poincare map in the $z=r-1$ plane captures most of the interesting dynamics as it contains both fixed points $C_{ \pm}$. The $z$ axis is contained in the stable manifold $\mathcal{W}^{s}$ of the origin $(0,0,0)$. All orbits reaching the $z$ axis will be attracted to the origin, thus most of the homoclinic behavior may be tracked in this plane. In principle, either downward or up-


FIG. 1. An upward Poincaré section at $r=118.15$. The dashed curve is one of the forward contracting foliations and the diamond a tangent point between the FCF and BCF.
ward intersections of trajectories with the $z=r-1$ plane may be used to generate the Poincaré map. However, upward intersections with $d z / d t>0$ have the practical merit to yield 1D-like objects that may be parametrized by simply using the $x$ coordinates.

Figure 1 shows a Poincaré section at $r=118.15$. The dashed curves and diamonds represent one of the FCFs and its tangent points with the BCF. These will be used later in Sec. V. The 1D-like structure of the attractor is apparent. Only the thickening in some part of the attractor hints on its 2D nature. If we ignore the thickening for the time being, the 1D attractor may be parametrized by the $x$ coordinates only.


FIG. 2. The first return map $x_{n} \mapsto x_{n+1}$ constructed from Fig. 1 by using the $x$ coordinates.

Collecting successive $x_{i}$, we construct a first return map $x_{n} \mapsto x_{n+1}$ as shown in Fig. 2. It consists of four symmetrically located pieces with gaps on the mapping interval. For a first return map a gap belonging to both $x_{n}$ and $x_{n+1}$ plays no role in the dynamics. If necessary, we can use this specificity of return maps to squeeze some gaps in $x$. Furthermore, we can interchange the left subinterval with the right one by defining, e.g.,

$$
\begin{equation*}
x^{\prime}=x-36 \text { for } x>0 ; x^{\prime}=x+36 \text { for } x<0 \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

The precise value of the numerical constant is not essential; it may be estimated from the upper bound of $\left\{\left|x_{i}\right|\right\}$ and is so chosen as to make the final figure look nicer. The swapped first return map, as we call it, is shown in Fig. 3. The corresponding tangent points between FCF and BCF (the diamonds) are also drawn on these return maps for later use.

It is crucial that the parametrization and swapping do keep the 2D features present in the Poincare map. This is important when it comes to take into account the 2D nature of the Poincaré maps.

In Fig. 4 Poincaré maps at 9 different values from $r=28$ to 203 are shown. The corresponding swapped return maps are shown in Fig. 5. Generally speaking, as $r$ varies from small to greater values, these maps undergo transitions from 1D-like to 2D-like, and then to 1D-like again. Even in the 2D-like range the 1D backbones still dominate. This partly explains our early success $[16,17]$ in applying purely 1D symbolic dynamics to the Lorenz model. We will learn how to judge this success later on. Some qualitative changes at varying $r$ will be discussed in Sec. III. We note also that the return map at $r=28$ complies with what follows from the geometric Lorenz model. The symbolic dynamics of this Lorenz-like map has been completely constructed [28].


FIG. 3. The swapped return map $x_{n}^{\prime} \mapsto x_{n+1}^{\prime}$ constructed from Fig. 2. The gaps may be further squeezed, see text.


FIG. 4. Upward Poincaré maps at 9 different $r$ values.

## III. SYMBOLIC DYNAMICS OF THE 1D LORENZ-SPARROW MAP

All the return maps shown in Fig. 5 fit into the family of Lorenz-Sparrow map. Therefore, we take a general map from the family and construct the symbolic dynamics. There is no need to have analytical expression for the map. Suffice it to define a map by the shape shown in Fig. 6. This map has four monotone branches, defined on four subintervals labeled by the letters $M, L, N$, and $R$, respectively. We will also use these same letters to denote the monotone branches themselves, although we do not have an expression for the mapping function $f(x)$. Among these branches $R$ and $L$ are increasing; we say $R$ and $L$ have an even or + parity. The decreasing branches $M$ and $N$ have odd or - parity. Between the monotone branches there are two "turning points" ('"critical points'") $D$ and $C$ as well as a "breaking point" $B$, where a discontinuity is present. Any numerical trajectory
$x_{1} x_{2} \cdots x_{i} \cdots$ in this map corresponds to a symbolic sequence

$$
\Sigma=\sigma_{1} \sigma_{2} \cdots \sigma_{i} \cdots,
$$

where $\sigma_{i} \in\{M, L, N, R, C, D, B\}$, depending on where the point $x_{i}$ falls in.

## Ordering and admissibility of symbolic sequences

All symbolic sequences made of these letters may be ordered in the following way. First, there is the natural order

$$
\begin{equation*}
N<C<R<B<L<D<M \tag{4}
\end{equation*}
$$

on the interval. Next, we compare two symbolic sequences $\Sigma_{1}$ and $\Sigma_{2}$ with a common leading string $\Sigma^{*}$, i.e.,

$$
\Sigma_{1}=\Sigma * \sigma \cdots, \quad \Sigma_{2}=\Sigma * \tau \cdots, \quad \sigma \neq \tau
$$



FIG. 5. Swapped first return maps obtained from the Poincaré maps shown in Fig. 4.

Since $\sigma$ and $\tau$ are different, they must have been ordered according to Eq. (4). The ordering rule is as follows: if $\Sigma$ is even, i.e., it contains an even number of $N$ and $M$, the order of $\Sigma_{1}$ and $\Sigma_{2}$ is given by that of $\sigma$ and $\tau$; if $\Sigma^{*}$ is odd, the order is the opposite to that of $\sigma$ and $\tau$. The ordering rule may be put in the following form:

$$
\begin{align*}
E N \cdots & <E C \cdots<E R \cdots<E B \cdots<E L \cdots<E D \cdots \\
& <E M \cdots,  \tag{5}\\
O N \cdots> & O C \cdots>O R \cdots>O B \cdots>O L \cdots>O D \cdots \\
& >O M \cdots,
\end{align*}
$$

where $E(O)$ represents a finite string of $M, L, N$, and $R$ containing an even (odd) number of letters $M$ and $N$. We call $E$ and $O$ an even and odd string, respectively.

In order to incorporate the discrete symmetry, we define a transformation $\mathcal{T}$ of symbols:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathcal{T}=\{M \leftrightarrow N, L \leftrightarrow R, C \leftrightarrow D\}, \tag{6}
\end{equation*}
$$

keeping $B$ unchanged. Sometimes we distinguish the left and right limit of $B$, then we add $B_{-} \leftrightarrow B_{+}$. We often denote $\mathcal{T} \Sigma$ by $\bar{\Sigma}$ and say $\Sigma$ and $\bar{\Sigma}$ are mirror images to each other.

Symbolic sequences that start from the next iterate of the turning or breaking points play a key role in symbolic dynamics. They are called kneading sequences [3]. Naming a symbolic sequence by the initial number, which corresponds to its first symbol, we have two kneading sequences from the turning points:

$$
K=f(C), \quad \bar{K}=f(D)
$$



FIG. 6. A generic Lorenz-Sparrow map. The symbols $M, L, R$, and $N$ label the monotone branches as well as the subintervals. $C$, $D$, and $B$ are turning or breaking points. For $H$ and $\bar{H}$ see text.

Since they are mirror images to each other, we take $K$ as the independent one.

For first return maps the rightmost point in $\left\{x_{i}\right\}$ equals the highest point after the mapping. Therefore, $f\left(B_{-}\right)=H$ and $f\left(B_{+}\right)=\bar{H}$, see Fig. 6. We take $H$ as another kneading sequence. Note that $B_{-}$and $B_{+}$are not necessarily the left and right limits of the breaking point; a finite gap may exist in between. This is associated with the flexibility of choosing the shift constant, e.g., the number 36 in Eq. (3). Since a kneading sequence starts from the first iterate of a turning or breaking point, we have

$$
\begin{array}{lll}
C_{-}=N K, & C+=R K, & B_{-}=R H,  \tag{7}\\
B_{+}=L \bar{H}, & D_{-}=L \bar{K}, & D_{+}=M \bar{K} .
\end{array}
$$

A 1D map with multiple critical points is best parametrized by its kneading sequences. The dynamical behavior of the Lorenz-Sparrow map is entirely determined by a kneading pair $(K, H)$. Given a kneading pair $(K, H)$, not all symbolic sequences are allowed in the dynamics. In order to formulate the admissibility conditions we need a new notion. Take a symbolic sequence $\Sigma$ and inspect its symbols one by one. Whenever a letter $M$ is encountered, we collect the subsequent sequence that follows this $M$. The set of all such sequences is denoted by $\mathcal{M}(\Sigma)$ and is called a $M$-shift set of $\Sigma$. Similarly, we define $\mathcal{L}(\Sigma), \mathcal{R}(\Sigma)$, and $\mathcal{N}(\Sigma)$.

The admissibility conditions, based on the ordering rule (5), follow from Eq. (7):

$$
\begin{align*}
& \bar{H} \leqslant N \mathcal{N}(\Sigma) \leqslant N K, \quad K \leqslant \mathcal{R}(\Sigma) \leqslant H  \tag{8}\\
& \bar{H} \leqslant \mathcal{L}(\Sigma) \leqslant \bar{K}, \quad M \bar{K} \leqslant M \mathcal{M}(\Sigma) \leqslant H
\end{align*}
$$

Here in the two middle relations we have canceled the leading $R$ or $L$.

The twofold meaning of the admissibility conditions should be emphasized. On one hand, for a given kneading pair these conditions select those symbolic sequences that may occur in the dynamics. On the other hand, a kneading pair $(K, H)$, being symbolic sequences themselves, must also satisfy conditions (8) with $\Sigma$ replaced by $K$ and $H$. Such ( $K, H$ ) is called a compatible kneading pair. The first meaning concerns admissible sequences in the phase space at a fixed parameter set while the second deals with compatible


FIG. 7. A piecewise linear map used to introduce metric representation for the Lorenz-Sparrow map.
kneading pairs in the parameter space. In accordance with these two aspects there are two pieces of work to be done. First, generate all compatible kneading pairs up to a given length. This is treated in Appendix A. Second, generate all admissible symbolic sequences up to a certain length for a given kneading pair $(K, H)$. The procedure is described in Appendix B.

## Metric representation of symbolic sequences

It is convenient to introduce a metric representation of symbolic sequences by associating a real number $0 \leqslant \alpha(\Sigma)$ $\leqslant 1$ to each sequence $\Sigma$. To do so let us look at the piecewise linear map shown in Fig. 7. It is an analog of the surjective tent map in the sense that all symbolic sequences made of the four letters $M, L, R$, and $N$ are allowed. It is obvious that the maximal sequence is $(M N)^{\infty}$ while the minimal one is $(N M)^{\infty}$. For this map one may further write

$$
\begin{array}{lll}
C_{-}=N(N M)^{\infty}, & C+=R(N M)^{\infty}, & B_{-}=R(M N)^{\infty} \\
B_{+}=L(N M)^{\infty}, & D_{-}=L(M N)^{\infty}, & D_{+}=M(M N)^{\infty} .
\end{array}
$$

To introduce the metric representation we first use $\epsilon=1$ to mark the even parity of $L$ and $R$, and $\epsilon=-1$ to mark the odd parity of $M$ and $N$. Next, the number $\alpha(\Sigma)$ is defined for a sequence $\Sigma=s_{1} s_{2} \cdots s_{i} \cdots$ as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\alpha=\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mu_{i} 4^{-i} \tag{9}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\mu_{i}=\left\{\begin{array}{l}
0 \\
1 \\
2 \\
3
\end{array} \text { for } s_{i}=\left\{\begin{array}{l}
N \\
R \\
L \\
M
\end{array} \text { if } \epsilon_{1} \epsilon_{2} \cdots \epsilon_{i-1}=1\right.\right.
$$

or,

$$
\mu_{i}=\left\{\begin{array}{l}
3 \\
2 \\
1 \\
0
\end{array} \text { for } s_{i}=\left\{\begin{array}{l}
N \\
R \\
L \\
M
\end{array} \text { if } \epsilon_{1} \epsilon_{2} \cdots \epsilon_{i-1}=-1\right.\right.
$$

It is easy to check that

$$
\begin{gathered}
\alpha\left((N M)^{\infty}\right)=0, \quad \alpha\left(C_{ \pm}\right)=1 / 4, \quad \alpha\left(B_{ \pm}\right)=1 / 2, \\
\alpha\left(D_{ \pm}\right)=3 / 4, \quad \alpha\left((M N)^{\infty}\right)=1 .
\end{gathered}
$$

The following relations hold for any symbolic sequence $\Sigma$ :

$$
\begin{gather*}
\alpha(\bar{\Sigma})=1-\alpha(\Sigma), \quad \alpha(L \Sigma)=[2+\alpha(\Sigma)] / 4  \tag{10}\\
\alpha(R \Sigma)=[1+\alpha(\Sigma)] / 4
\end{gather*}
$$

One may also formulate the admissibility conditions in terms of the metric representations.

## One-parameter limits of the Lorenz-Sparrow map

The family of the Lorenz-Sparrow map includes some limiting cases.
(1) The $N$ branch may disappear, and the minimal point of the $R$ branch moves to the left end of the interval. This may be described as

$$
\begin{equation*}
C=\bar{H}=R K \quad \text { or } H=L \bar{K} \tag{11}
\end{equation*}
$$

It defines the only kneading sequence $K$ from the next iterate of $C$.
(2) The minimum at $C$ may rise above the horizontal axis, as is evident in Fig. 5 at $r=203$. The second iterate of either the left or right subinterval then is retained in the same subinterval. Consequently, the two kneading sequences are no longer independent and they are bound by the relations

$$
\begin{equation*}
K=L \bar{H} \text { or } \bar{K}=R H . \tag{12}
\end{equation*}
$$

Both one parameter limits appear in the Lorenz equations as we shall see in the next section.

## IV. 1D SYMBOLIC DYNAMICS OF THE LORENZ EQUATIONS

Now we are well prepared to carry out a 1D symbolic dynamics analysis of the Lorenz equations using the swapped return maps shown in Fig. 5. We take $r=118.15$ as a working example. The rightmost point in $\left\{x_{i}\right\}$ and the minimum at $C$ determine the two kneading sequences:

$$
\begin{gathered}
H=M R L N R L R L R L R L N R L \cdots, \\
K=R L R L R L R R L R L R L R R \cdots
\end{gathered}
$$

Indeed, they satisfy Eq. (8) and form a compatible kneading pair. Using the propositions formulated in Appendix B, all admissible periodic sequences up to period 6 are generated. They are $L C, L N L R, L N L R L C, R M R L R, R M L N L C$, $R M L N, R L L C, R L L N L C, R L R M L C$, and $R L R L L C$. Here the letter $C$ is used to denote both $N$ and $R$. Therefore, there are altogether 17 unstable periodic orbits with period equal to or less than 6. Relying on the ordering of symbolic sequences and using a bisection method, these unstable periodic orbits may be quickly located in the phase plane.

It should be emphasized that we are dealing with unstable periodic orbits at a fixed parameter set. There is no such
thing as a superstable periodic sequence or a periodic window that would appear when one considers kneading sequences with varying parameters.

Similar analysis may be carried out for other $r$. In Table I we collect some kneading sequences at different $r$ values. Their corresponding metric representations are also included. We first note that they do satisfy the admissibility conditions (8), i.e., $K$ and $H$ at each $r$ make a compatible kneading pair. An instructive way of presenting the data consists in drawing the plane of metric representation for both $\alpha(K)$ and $\alpha(H)$; see Fig. 8. The compatibility conditions require, in particular, $K \leqslant H$, therefore only the upper left triangular region is accessible.

As we have indicated at the end of the last section, the Lorenz-Sparrow map has two one-parameter limits. The first limit (11) takes place somewhere at $r<36$, maybe around $r=30.1$, as estimated by Sparrow [12] in a different context. In Table I there is only one kneading pair $K=R^{15}$ and $H$ $=L^{15}$, i.e., practically $K=R^{\infty}$ and $H=L^{\infty}$, which satisfies $H=L \bar{K}$. In terms of the metric representations the condition (11) defines a straight line (line $a$ in Fig. 8)

$$
\alpha(H)=[3-\alpha(K)] / 4
$$

[We have used Eq. (10).] The point $r=28$ drops down to this line almost vertically from the $r=36$ point. This is the region where "fully developed chaos"' has been observed in the Lorenz model and perhaps it outlines the region where the geometric Lorenz model may apply.

The other limit (12) happens at $r>$ 197.6. In Table I all 6 kneading pairs in this range satisfy $K=L \bar{H}$. They fall on another straight line (line $b$ in Fig. 8)

$$
\alpha(K)=[3-\alpha(H)] / 4,
$$

but can hardly be resolved. The value $r=197.6$ manifests itself as the point where the attractor no longer crosses the horizontal axis. In the 2D Poincare map this is where the chaotic attractor stops to cross the stable manifold $\mathcal{W}^{s}$ of the origin. The kneading pair at $r=203$ is very close to a limiting pair $K=L N(L R)^{\infty}$ with a precise value $\alpha=21 / 40$ $=0.525$ and $H=M(R L)^{\infty}$ with exact $\alpha=0.9$.

For any kneading pair in Table I one can generate all admissible periods up to length 6 inclusively. For example, at $r=125$ although the swapped return map shown in Fig. 5 exhibits some 2D feature as a few points off the 1D attractor, the 1D Lorenz-Sparrow map still works well. Besides the 17 orbits listed above for $r=118.15$, five new periods appear: $L L N, L N L R M R, L N L L C$, and $R M R L N$. All these 22 unstable periodic orbits have been located with high precision in the Lorenz equations. Moreover, if we confine ourselves to short periods not exceeding period 6, then from $r=28$ to 59.40 there are only symbolic sequences made of the two letters $R$ and $L$. In particular, From $r=28$ to 50.50 there exist the same 12 unstable periods: $L R, R L R, R L L R, R R L R$, RLRLR, RRLLR, RRRLR, RLRLLR, RRLLLR, $R R L R L R, R R R L L R$, and $R R R R L R$. This may partly explain the success of the geometric Lorenz model leading to a symbolic dynamics on two letters. On the other hand, when $r$ gets larger, e.g., $r=136.5$, many periodic orbits 'admissible'" to the 1D Lorenz-Sparrow map cannot be found in the

TABLE I. Kneading pairs ( $K, H$ ) at different $r$ values.

| $r$ | K | $\alpha(K)$ | H | $\alpha(H)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 203.0 | LNLRLRLRLRLRLRL | 0.525000 | MRLRLRLRLRLRLRL | 0.900000 |
| 201.0 | LNLRLRLRMRLRLRM | 0.524995 | MRLRLRLNLRLRLNL | 0.900018 |
| 199.04 | LNLRLRMRLRLNLRL | 0.524927 | MRLRLNLRLRMRLRL | 0.900293 |
| 198.50 | LNLRMRMRLRMRMRL | 0.523901 | MRLNLNLRLNLNLRL | 0.904396 |
| 197.65 | LNLRMRLRLNLRLRM | 0.523827 | MRLNLRLRMRLRLNL | 0.904692 |
| 197.58 | LNLRMRRMRMRLRMR | 0.523796 | MRRMRMRLNLNLRLR | 0.908110 |
| 196.20 | LNLLNLRLNLRLRLN | 0.523042 | MRRLRLRLRLRLNLR | 0.912500 |
| 191.0 | RMRLNLNLLRLRLRM | 0.476096 | MNRLRLRMRLRMLNL | 0.962518 |
| 166.2 | RMLNRMLNRMLNRML | 0.466667 | MNRLNRMRLRLLNRM | 0.961450 |
| 136.5 | RLRMLRRLRMRLLRL | 0.403954 | MNRRLLNLRRLRMLR | 0.959498 |
| 125.0 | RLRLLNLRLRRLRLL | 0.400488 | MRRLRMLRLRRLRLL | 0.912256 |
| 120.0 | RLRLRLRLRLRLRML | 0.400000 | MRRMLRLRLRLRLRR | 0.908594 |
| 118.15 | RLRLRLRRLRLRLRR | 0.399988 | MRLNRLRLRLRLNRL | 0.903906 |
| 117.7 | RLRLRLNRLLRLRLR | 0.399938 | MRLRRLRLRLNRLLR | 0.900781 |
| 107.7 | RLRRLLRRLRRLLRR | 0.397058 | MRLLRRLLRLLNRLR | 0.897058 |
| 104.2 | RLRRLRLRRLRRLRL | 0.396872 | MRLLRLLRLRRLLNR | 0.896826 |
| 99.0 | RLNRLRRLRRLRRLR | 0.384425 | MLNRLRRLNRLRRLN | 0.865572 |
| 93.4 | RRMLLNRRMLLNRLL | 0.365079 | MLRRLLRRRMLRLLR | 0.852944 |
| 83.5 | RRLLRRRLLRRRLLR | 0.352884 | MLRLLRLRRRLLLRR | 0.849233 |
| 71.7 | RRLRRRLRRRLRRLR | 0.349020 | MLLRLRRLLRRLLLR | 0.837546 |
| 65.0 | RRRLLRRRRLLRLLR | 0.338217 | MLLLRRRLRRRLLRL | 0.834620 |
| 59.4 | RRRLRRRRLRRRLLL | 0.337243 | MLLLRLLRLRRLRLL | 0.834326 |
| 55.9 | RRRRLLRRRRLRLLR | 0.334554 | MLLLLRRLRRLLLLR | 0.833643 |
| 50.5 | RRRRRLLRRRLRLRL | 0.333639 | MLLLLLRRLLRRLRR | 0.833410 |
| 48.3 | RRRRRLRRRRRLLLL | 0.333578 | MLLLLLRLLLLRLLR | 0.833394 |
| 46.0 | RRRRRRLRLRRRRLL | 0.333398 | MLLLLLLRLRLLLLN | 0.833350 |
| 36.0 | RRRRRRRRRRRRRLR | 0.333333 | MLLLLLLLLLLLLLR | 0.833333 |
| 28.0 | RRRRRRRRRRRRRRR | 0.333333 | LLLLLLLLLLLLLLL | 0.666667 |

original Lorenz equations. This can only be analyzed by invoking 2D symbolic dynamics of the Poincare map.

## V. SYMBOLIC DYNAMICS OF THE 2D POINCARÉ MAPS

## Essentials of 2D symbolic dynamics

The extension of symbolic dynamics from 1D to 2D maps is by no means trivial. First of all, the 2D phase plane has to be partitioned in such a way as to meet the requirements of a "good'" partition that we put forward in Sec. I. Next, as 2D maps are in general invertible, a numerical orbit is encoded into a bi-infinite symbolic sequence

$$
\cdots s_{m}^{-} \cdots s_{2}^{-s_{1}^{-}} \cdot s_{1} s_{2} \cdots s_{n} \cdots,
$$

where a heavy dot • denotes the '"present,'' and one iteration forward or backward corresponds to a right or left shift of the present dot. The half-sequence $\cdot s_{1} s_{2} \cdots s_{n} \cdots$ is called a forward symbolic sequence and $\cdots s_{m}^{-} \cdot s_{2} s_{1}^{-}$. a backward symbolic sequence. One should assign symbols to both forward and backward sequences in a consistent way by partitioning the phase plane properly. In the context of the Hénon map Grassberger and Kantz [29] proposed to draw the partition line through tangent points between the stable and unstable manifolds of the unstable fixed point in the attractor. Since preimages and images of a tangent point are also tan-
gent points, it was suggested to take 'primary"' tangencies where the sum of curvatures of the two manifolds is minimal [20].

A natural generalization of the Grassberger-Kantz idea is to use tangencies between forward contracting foliations (FCFs) and backward contracting foliations (BCFs) of the dynamics to determine the partition line [24]. Points on one and the same FCF approach each other with the highest speed under forward iterations of the map. Therefore, one may introduce an equivalence relation: points $p_{1}$ and $p_{2}$ belong to the same FCF if they eventually approach the same destination under forward iterations of the map:

$$
p_{1} \sim p_{2} \text { if } \lim _{n \rightarrow \infty}\left|f^{n}\left(p_{1}\right)-f^{n}\left(p_{2}\right)\right|=0
$$

The collection of all FCFs forms the forward contracting manifold of the dynamics. Points in one and the same FCF have the same future.

Likewise, points on one and the same BCF approach each other with the highest speed under backward iterations of the map. One introduces an equivalence relation: points $p_{1}$ and $p_{2}$ belong to the same BCF if they eventually approach the same destination under backward iterations of the map:

$$
p_{1} \sim p_{2} \text { if } \lim _{n \rightarrow \infty}\left|f^{-n}\left(p_{1}\right)-f^{-n}\left(p_{2}\right)\right|=0
$$



FIG. 8. The $\alpha(H)$ vs $\alpha(K)$ plane shows kneading pairs (solid circles) corresponding to the Lorenz equations from $r=28$ to 203. Only the upper left triangular region is accessible for compatible pairs in the Loren-Sparrow map. The two straight lines $a$ and $b$ represent the two one-parameter limits of the Lorenz-Sparrow map.

The collection of all BCFs forms the backward contracting manifold of the dynamics. Points in one and the same BCF have the same history. When the phase space is partitioned properly, points in a FCF acquire the same forward symbolic sequence while points in a BCF acquire the same backward symbolic sequence. This has been shown analytically for the Lozi map [24] and Tél map [25]. There has been good numerical evidence for the Hénon map [19,20,26,27]. We mention in passing that the forward contracting and backward contracting manifolds contain the stable and unstable manifolds of fixed and periodic points as invariant submanifolds.

The generalization to use FCFs and BCFs is necessary at least for the following reasons. (1) It is not restricted to the attractor only. The attractor may experience abrupt changes, but the FCF and BCF change smoothly with parameter. This is a fact unproven but supported by much numerical evidence. (2) A good symbolic dynamics assigns unique symbolic names to all unstable orbits, not only those located in the attractor. One needs partition lines outside the attractor as well. (3) Transient processes also take place outside the attractor. They are part of the dynamics and should be covered by the same symbolic dynamics.

In practice, contours of BCFs and especially FCFs are not difficult to calculate from the dynamics. This has been shown for BCFs by Greene [30] and for FCFs by Gu [31]. Once a mesh of BCFs and FCFs are drawn in the phase plane, FCFs may be ordered along some BCF and vice versa. No ambiguity in the ordering occurs as long as no tangency between the two foliations is encountered. A tangency signals that one should change to a symbol of a different parity after crossing a tangency. A tangency in a 2D map plays a role similar to a kneading sequence in a 1 D map in the sense that it prunes away some inadmissible sequences. As there are infinitely many tangencies between the FCFs and BCFs, one may say that there is an infinite number of kneading sequences in a 2D map even at a fixed parameter set. However, as one deals with symbolic sequences of finite length only a finite number of tangencies will matter.


FIG. 9. An upward Poincaré section at $r=136.5$ showing the chaotic attractor, a few FCFs (dashed lines), and segments of the partition lines for forward symbolic sequences (dotted lines).

## Partitioning of the Poincaré section

Lorenz equations at $r=136.5$ provide a typical situation where 2D symbolic dynamics must be invoked. Figure 9 shows an upward $z=r-1$ Poincaré section of the chaotic attractor. The dashed lines indicate the contour of the FCFs. The two symmetrically located families of FCFs are demarcated by the intersection of the stable manifold $\mathcal{W}^{s}$ of the $(0,0,0)$ fixed point with the $z=r-1$ plane. The actual intersection located between the dense dashed lines is not shown. The BCFs are not shown either except for the attractor itself, which is a part of the BCFs.

The 1D symbolic dynamics analysis performed in Sec. IV deals with forward symbolic sequences only. However, the partition of the 1D interval shown in Fig. 3 may be traced back to the 2D Poincare section to indicate the partition for assigning symbols to the forward symbolic sequences. Two segments of the partition lines are shown in Fig. 9 as dotted lines. The labels $\cdot C$ and $\cdot D$ correspond to $C$ and $D$ in the Lorenz-Sparrow map, see Fig. 3. The ordering rule (5) should now be understood as

$$
\begin{aligned}
\cdot E N \cdots & <\cdot E C \cdots<\cdot E R \cdots<\cdot E B \cdots<\cdot E L \cdots \\
& <\cdot E D \cdots<\cdot E M \cdots \\
\cdot O N \cdots & >\cdot O C \cdots>\cdot O R \cdots>\cdot O B \cdots>\cdot O L \cdots \\
& >\cdot O D \cdots>\cdot O M \cdots,
\end{aligned}
$$

with $E$ and $O$ being even and odd strings of $M, L, R$, and $N$. In fact, from Fig. 3 one could only determine the intersection point of the partition line with the 1D-like attractor. To determine the partition line in a larger region of the phase plane one has to locate more tangencies between the FCFs and the BCFs. However, it is more convenient to use another set of tangent points to determine the partition line for backward symbolic sequences. To this end 6 tangent points and their


FIG. 10. The same as Fig. 9 showing 12 tangent points (diamonds) and the partition lines for backward symbolic sequences (dotted lines).
mirror images are located and indicated as diamonds in Fig. 10. The tangencies in the first quadrant are
(3.833630661151,5.915245399002),
(13.34721714210,27.06932440906),

$$
T_{1}:(16.50130604850,33.81425621518)
$$

$T_{4}:(21.24012850767,40.56850842796)$,
(23.86757424970,58.00925911937),
(26.73829676387,79.37583837912).
(We have not labeled the tangent points that are not in the attractor.) The partition lines $C$. and $D$. are obtained by threading through the diamonds. The two partition lines and the intersection with $\mathcal{W}^{s}$ of the origin divide the phase plane into four regions, marked with the letters $R, N, M$, and $L$. Among these 6 tangencies only $T_{1}$ and $T_{4}$ are located on the attractor. Furthermore, they fall on two different sheets of the attractor, making a 2D analysis necessary.

In order to decide admissibility of sufficiently long symbolic sequences more tangencies on the attractor may be needed. These tangencies are taken across the attractor. For example, on the partition line $C$. we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
T_{1}: L^{\infty} R M C \cdot R R L R L L R L N R L L R L N \cdots \tag{13}
\end{equation*}
$$

(16.501306048503, 33.814256215181)
$T_{2}: R^{\infty} R M C \cdot R R L L R R L L N R L R M L N \cdots$
(16.567206430154, 34.823691929770)
$T_{3}: R^{\infty} R L C \cdot R L R M L R R L L N R L R M L \cdots$


FIG. 11. The swapped return map at $r=136.5$.
(21.246853832518, 40.525036662442)
$T_{4}: L^{\infty} L L C \cdot R L R M L R R L R M R L L R L \cdots$
(21.240128507672, 40.568508427961)

Due to insufficient numerical resolution in Fig. 10 the diamond on the main sheet of the attractor represents $T_{3}$ and $T_{4}$, while the diamond on the secondary sheet represents $T_{1}$ and $T_{2}$. The mirror images of these tangencies are located on the $D$. partition line:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \bar{T}_{1}: R^{\infty} L N D \cdot L L R L R R L R M L R R L R M \cdots \\
& \bar{T}_{2}: L^{\infty} L N D \cdot L L R R L L R R M L R L N R M \cdots \\
& \bar{T}_{3}: L^{\infty} L R D \cdot L R L N R L L R R M L R L N R \cdots \\
& \bar{T}_{4}: R^{\infty} R R D \cdot L R L N R L L R L N L R R L R \cdots
\end{aligned}
$$

We denote the symbolic sequence of the tangency $T_{i}$ as $Q_{i} C \cdot K_{i}$, keeping the same letter $K$ as the kneading sequence $K$ in the 1D Lorenz-Sparrow map, because $K_{i}$ complies with the definition of a kneading sequence as the next iterate of $C$. If one is interested in forward sequences alone, only these $K_{i}$ will matter. Moreover, one may press together different sheets seen in Fig. 10 along the FCFs, as points on one and the same FCF have the same forward symbolic sequence. Here lies a deep reason for the success of 1D symbolic dynamics at least when only short periodic orbits are concerned. Therefore, before turning to the construction of 2D symbolic dynamics let us first see what a 1D analysis would yield.

## 1D symbolic analysis at $\boldsymbol{r}=\mathbf{1 3 6 . 5}$

Figure 11 is a swapped return map obtained from the first return map by letting the numerical constant be 41 in Eq. (3).

TABLE II. Admissible periodic sequences up to period 6 under the kneading pair $\left(K_{1}, H\right)$ at $r=136.5$. Only the nonrepeating shiftminimal strings with respect to $N$ or $R$ are given. An asterisk marks those forbidden by 2D tangencies; see text and Table III.

| Period | Sequence | Period | Sequence |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 | $L C$ | 6 | $R L R R M R$ |
| 4 | $L N L R$ | 3 | $R L C^{*}$ |
| 6 | $L N L R L C$ | 6 | $R L N R L R^{*}$ |
| 6 | $L N L R M R$ | 6 | $R L N R M R$ |
| 5 | $L N L L C$ | 5 | $R L N L C^{*}$ |
| 3 | $R M R$ | 6 | $R L N L L C^{*}$ |
| 5 | $R M R L C$ | 4 | $R R M R$ |
| 6 | $R M L N L C$ | 6 | $R R M R L C^{*}$ |
| 4 | $R M L N$ | 6 | $R R M R M R$ |
| 4 | $R L L C$ | 5 | $R R M L C^{*}$ |
| 6 | $R L L N L C$ | 6 | $R R M L L N^{*}$ |
| 6 | $R L R M L C$ | 6 | $R R L L L C^{*}$ |
| 6 | $R L R L L C^{*}$ | 5 | $R R L L C^{*}$ |
| 5 | $R L R L C^{*}$ | 6 | $R R L R M^{*}$ |

The 2D feature manifests itself as layers near $C$ and $D$. The four tangencies are plotted as two diamonds in the figure, since $T_{1}$ is very close to $T_{2}$ and $T_{3}$ to $T_{4}$. As no layers can be seen away from the turning points one could only get one $H$ from the set $\left\{\left|x_{i}^{\prime}\right|\right\}$. Now there are 4 kneading sequences $K_{i}$ ordered as

$$
K_{1}<K_{2}<K_{3}<K_{4}
$$

according to Eq. (5). From the admissibility conditions (8) it follows that if two $K_{-}<K_{+}$are both compatible with $H$, then any symbolic sequence admissible under $\left(K_{+}, H\right)$ remains admissible under ( $K_{-}, H$ ) but not the other way around. In our case, $\left(K_{4}, H\right)$ puts the most severe restriction on admissibility while ( $K_{1}, H$ ) provides the weakest condition. We start with the compatible kneading pair

$$
\begin{equation*}
K_{1}=R R L R L L R L N R L L R L N \cdots, \tag{14}
\end{equation*}
$$

$$
H=M N R R L L N L R R L R M L R \cdots .
$$

We produce all periodic symbolic sequences admissible under $\left(K_{1}, H\right)$ up to period 6 using the procedure described in Appendix B. The results are listed in Table II. Only shiftminimal sequences with respect to $N$ and $R$ are given. Their mirror images, i.e., shift-maximal sequences ending with $M$ or $L$, are also admissible. There are in total 46 periods in Table II, where a $C$ stands for both $N$ and $R$. The kneading pair $\left(K_{2}, H\right)$ forbids 2 from the 46 periods. The two pairs $\left(K_{3}, H\right)$ and $\left(K_{4}, H\right)$ lying on the main sheet of the attractor have the same effect on short periodic orbits. They reduce the allowed periods to 20, keeping those from $L C$ to $R L R M L C$ in Table II. The actual number of unstable periodic orbits up to period 6 may be less than 46 , but more than 20. A genuine 2D symbolic dynamics analysis is needed to clarify the situation.

## 2D symbolic dynamics analysis at $\boldsymbol{r}=\mathbf{1 3 6 . 5}$

In order to visualize the admissibility conditions imposed by a tangency between FCF and BCF in the 2D phase plane we need metric representations both for the forward and backward symbolic sequences. The metric representation for the forward sequences remains the same as defined by Eq. (9).

The partition of phase plane shown in Fig. 10 leads to a different ordering rule for the backward symbolic sequences. Namely, we have

$$
L<D<M<B<N<C<R,
$$

with the parity of symbols unchanged. (The unchanged parity is related to the positiveness of the Jacobian for the flow.) The ordering rule for backward sequences may be written as

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \cdots L E \cdot<\cdots M E \cdot<\cdots N E \cdot<\cdots R E \cdot \\
& \cdots L O \cdot>\cdots M O \cdot>\cdots N O \cdot>\cdots R O \cdot
\end{aligned}
$$

where $E(O)$ is a finite string containing an even (odd) number of $M$ and $N$. From the ordering rule it follows that the maximal sequence is $R^{\infty}$. and the minimal is $L^{\infty} \cdot$. To introduce a metric representation for backward symbolic sequences, we associate each backward sequence $\cdots s_{m}^{-} \cdots s_{2}^{-} s_{1}^{-}$. with a real number $\beta$ :

$$
\beta=\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \nu_{i}^{-} 4^{-i},
$$

where

$$
\nu_{i}^{-}=\left\{\begin{array}{l}
0 \\
1 \\
2 \\
3
\end{array} \text { for } s_{i}=\left\{\begin{array}{l}
L \\
M \\
N \\
R
\end{array} \text { and } \prod_{j=1}^{i-1} \epsilon_{\bar{j}}^{-}=1,\right.\right.
$$

or

$$
\nu_{i}^{-}=\left\{\begin{array}{l}
3 \\
2 \\
1 \\
0
\end{array} \text { for } s_{i}=\left\{\begin{array}{l}
L \\
M \\
N \\
R
\end{array} \text { and } \prod_{j=1}^{i-1} \epsilon_{\bar{j}}^{-}=-1 .\right.\right.
$$

According to the definition we have

$$
\begin{gathered}
\beta\left(L^{\infty} \cdot\right)=0, \quad \beta\left(D_{ \pm} \cdot\right)=1 / 4, \quad \beta\left(B_{ \pm} \cdot\right)=1 / 2, \\
\beta\left(C_{ \pm} \cdot\right)=3 / 4, \quad \beta\left(R^{\infty} \cdot\right)=1 .
\end{gathered}
$$

In terms of the two metric representations a bi-infinite symbolic sequence with the present dot specified corresponds to a point in the unit square spanned by $\alpha$ of the forward sequence and $\beta$ of the backward sequence. This unit square is called the symbolic plane [19]. In the symbolic plane forward and backward foliations become vertical and horizontal lines, respectively. The symbolic plane is an image of the whole phase plane under the given dynamics. Regions in the phase plane that have one and the same forward or backward sequence map into a vertical or horizontal


FIG. 12. The symbolic plane at $r=136.5$. A total of 60000 points representing real orbits are drawn together with the FFZ outlined by the 4 tangencies and the forbidden zone caused by $H$.
line in the symbolic plane. The symbolic plane should not be confused with the $\alpha(H) \sim \alpha(K)$ plane (Fig. 8), which is the metric representation of the kneading plane, i.e., the parameter plane of a 1D map.

As long as foliations are well ordered, a tangency on a partition line puts a restriction on allowed symbolic sequences. Suppose that there is a tangency $Q C \cdot K$ on the partition line $C \cdot$. The rectangle enclosed by the lines $\beta(Q R \cdot)$, $\beta(Q N \cdot), \alpha(\cdot K)$, and $\alpha\left((N M)^{\infty}\right)=0$ forms a forbidden zone (FZ) in the symbolic plane. In the symbolic plane a forbidden sequence corresponds to a point inside the FZ of $Q C \cdot K$. A tangency may define some allowed zones as well. However, in order to confirm the admissibility of a sequence all of its shifts must fall in the allowed zones, while one point in the FZ is enough to exclude a sequence. This "all or none" alternative tells us that it is easier to exclude than to confirm a sequence by a single tangency. Similarly, a tangency $\bar{Q} D \cdot \bar{K}$ on the partition line $D \cdot$ determines another FZ, symmetrically located to the FZ mentioned above. Due to the anti-symmetry of the map one may confine oneself to the first FZ and to shift-minimal sequences ending with $N$ and $R$ only when dealing with finite periodic sequences. The union of FZs from all possible tangencies forms a fundamental forbidden zone (FFZ) in the $\alpha-\beta$ symbolic plane. A necessary and sufficient condition for a sequence to be allowed consists in that all of its shifts do not fall in the FFZ. Usually, a finite number of tangencies may produce a fairly good contour of the FFZ for checking the admissibility of finite sequences. In Fig. 12 we have drawn a symbolic plane with 60000 points representing real orbits generated from the Poincare map at $r=136.5$ together with a FFZ outlined by the four tangencies (13). The other kneading sequence $H$ in the 1D LorenzSparrow map bounds the range of the 1D attractor. In the 2D Poincare map the sequence $H$ corresponds to the stable manifold of the origin, which intersects with the attractor and bounds the subsequences following $R$. In the symbolic plane

TABLE III. Location of admissible periodic orbits left from Table II by 2D analysis. The coordinates $(x, y)$ are those of the first symbol in a sequence.

| Period | Sequence | $x$ | $y$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 | $L R$ | -26.789945953 | -51.732394996 |
| 2 | $L N$ | -33.741639204 | -79.398248620 |
| 4 | $L N L R$ | -34.969308137 | -84.807257714 |
| 6 | $L N L R L N$ | -34.995509382 | -84.923968314 |
| 6 | $L N L R L R$ | -35.378366481 | -86.639695512 |
| 6 | $L N L R M R$ | -36.614469777 | -92.269654794 |
| 5 | $L N L L N$ | -36.694480374 | -92.638862207 |
| 5 | $L N L L R$ | -37.362562975 | -95.744924312 |
| 3 | $R M R$ | 36.628892834 | 92.335783415 |
| 5 | $R M R L N$ | 36.548092868 | 91.963380870 |
| 5 | $R M R L R$ | 35.927763416 | 89.123769188 |
| 6 | $R M L N L R$ | 33.541019900 | 78.514904719 |
| 6 | $R M L N L N$ | 33.465475168 | 78.187866239 |
| 4 | $R M L N$ | 33.432729468 | 78.045902429 |
| 4 | $R L L R$ | 29.500017415 | 61.545331390 |
| 4 | $R L L N$ | 28.800493901 | 58.709002527 |
| 6 | $R L L N L N$ | 28.566126025 | 57.759480656 |
| 6 | $R L L N L R$ | 28.548686604 | 57.682625650 |
| 6 | $R L R M L N$ | 28.310187611 | 56.723089485 |
| 6 | $R L R M L R$ | 28.299181162 | 56.676646246 |
| 6 | $R L R R M R$ | 26.376239173 | 48.942140325 |
| 6 | $R L N R M R$ | 25.282520197 | 44.566367330 |
| 4 | $R R M R$ | 25.163031306 | 44.088645613 |
| 6 | $R R M R M R$ | 25.047268287 | 43.625877472 |
| 6 | $R R L R M N$ | 24.055406683 | 39.708285078 |
| 6 | $R R L R M R$ | 24.064390385 | 39.704320864 |

the rectangle formed by $\alpha=\alpha(H), \alpha=1, \beta=0.5$, and $\beta$ $=1$ determines the forbidden zone caused by $H$. It is shown in Fig. 12 by dashed lines. Indeed, no real orbital points fall in the forbidden zones.

In order to check the admissibility of a period $n$ sequence one calculates $n$ points in the symbolic plane by taking the cyclic shifts of the nonrepeating string. All symbolic sequences listed in Table II have been checked in this way and 20 out of 46 words are forbidden by $T_{3}$. This means among the 26 sequences forbidden by $K_{4}$ in a 1D analysis actually 6 are allowed in 2D. We list all admissible periodic sequences of length 6 and less in Table III. The 6 words at the bottom of the table are those forbidden by 1D but allowed in 2D. All the unstable periodic orbits listed in Table III have been located with high precision in the Lorenz equations. The knowledge of symbolic names and the ordering rule significantly facilitates the numerical work. The coordinates $(x, y)$ of the first symbol of each sequence are also given in Table III.

## Chaotic orbits

Symbolic sequences that correspond to chaotic orbits also obey the ordering rule and admissibility conditions. However, by the very definition these sequences cannot be exhaustively enumerated. Nevertheless, it is possible to show the existence of some chaotic symbolic sequences in a constructive way.

We first state a proposition similar to the one mentioned in the paragraph before Eq. $(\mathrm{V})$. If $\left(K, H_{-}\right)$and $\left(K, H_{+}\right)$are two compatible kneading pairs with $H_{-}<H_{+}$, then all admissible sequences under ( $K, H_{-}$) remain so under ( $K, H_{+}$), but not the other way around. It is seen from Table I that from $r=120.0$ to 191.0 all $K$ starts with $R$ while the minimal $H$ starts with $M R R$. Let $K=R \cdots$ and $H=M R R \cdots$. It is easy to check that any sequence made of the two segments $L R$ and $L N L R$ satisfies the admissibility conditions (8). Therefore, a random combination of these segments is an admissible sequence in the 1D Lorenz-Sparrow map. A similar analysis can be carried out in 2D using the above tangencies. Any combination of the two segments remains an admissible sequence in 2D. Therefore, we have indicated the structure of a class of chaotic orbits in the parameter range.

## VI. STABLE PERIODIC ORBITS IN LORENZ EQUATIONS

So far we have only considered unstable periodic orbits at fixed $r$. A good symbolic dynamics should be capable of dealing with stable orbits as well. One can generate all compatible kneading pairs of the Lorenz-Sparrow map up to a certain length by using the method described in Appendix A. Although there is no way to tell the precise parameter where a given periodic orbit will become stable, the symbolic sequence does obey the ordering rule and may be located on the $r$ axis by using a bisection method. Another way of finding a stable period is to follow the unstable orbit of the same name at varying parameters by using a periodic orbit tracking program. Anyway, many periodic windows have been known before or encountered during the present study. We collect them in Tables IV and V [32]. Before making further remarks on these tables, we indicate how to find symbolic sequences for stable periods.

When there exists a periodic window in some parameter range, one cannot extract a return map of the interval from a small number of orbital points so there may be ambiguity in assigning symbols to numerically determined orbital points. Nonetheless, there are at least two ways to circumvent the difficulty. First, one can take a nearby parameter where the system exhibits chaotic behavior and superimpose the periodic points on the chaotic attractor. In most cases the $(K, H)$ pair calculated from the chaotic attractor may be used to generate unstable periods coexisting with the stable period. Second, one can start with a set of initial points and keep as many as possible transient points before the motion settles down to the final stable periodic regime (a few points near the randomly chosen initial points have to be dropped anyway). From the set of transient points one can construct return maps as before. Both methods work well for short enough periods, especially in narrow windows.

Figure 13 shows a stable period 6 orbit $R L R R M R$ at $r$ $=183.0435$ as diamonds. The background figure looks much like a chaotic attractor, but it is actually a collection of its own transient points. The last symbol $X$ in $R L R R M X$ corresponds to a point $(20.945699,45.391029)$ lying to the right of a tangency at $(20.935971,45.393162)$. Therefore, it acquires the symbol $R$, not $N$. This example shows once more how the $x$ parametrization helps in accurate assignment of symbols.

In a periodically driven system the period of the external force serves as a unit to measure other periods in the system. Therefore, it makes sense to refer to, for instance, a period 5 orbit. However, this is not the case in an autonomous system like the Lorenz model, since the fundamental frequency drifts with the varying parameter. A byproduct of the symbolic dynamics analysis consists in telling the absolute periods of various orbits. It is remarkable that periods assigned in this way coincide with that determined from a calibration curve of the fundamental frequency obtained by direct Fourier analysis of numerically observed orbits [33].

## Symmetry breakings and restorations

In a dynamical system with discrete symmetry the phenomena of symmetry breaking and symmetry restoration come into play. In the Lorenz equations periodic orbits are either symmetric or asymmetric with respect to the transformation (2); asymmetric orbits appear in symmetrically located pairs. Some essential features of symmetry breaking and restoration have been known [34]. For example, in many dissipative systems when studied in the properly chosen direction of the parameter space symmetry breakings usually precede period doubling - no symmetric orbits can undergo period doubling directly without the symmetry being broken first. Furthermore, while symmetry breakings take place in the periodic regime, symmetry restorations occur in the chaotic regime. All these features may be explained by using symbolic dynamics [35]. Although the analysis performed in [35] was based on the antisymmetric cubic map, it is applicable to the Lorenz equations via the Lorenz-Sparrow map.

A doubly 'superstable" symmetric orbit must be of the form $\Sigma D \bar{\Sigma} C$, therefore its period is even and only even periods of this special form may undergo symmetry breaking. The shortest such orbit is $D C$. To keep the symmetry when extending this superstable period into a window, one must change $D$ and $C$ in a symmetric fashion, i.e., either replacing $D$ by $M$ and $C$ by $N$, or replacing $D$ by $L$ and $C$ by $R$ at the same time, see Eqs. (4) and (6). Thus we get a window $(M N, D C, L R)(M N$ does not appear in the Lorenz equations while $L R$ persists to very large $r$ ). This is indeed a symmetric window, as the transformation (6) brings it back after cyclic permutations. Moreover, this window has a signature $(+, 0,+)$ according to the parity of the symbols (we assign a null parity to $C$ and $D$ ). It cannot undergo period doubling as the latter requires a $(+, 0,-)$ signature. By continuity $L R$ extends to an asymmetric window ( $L R, L C, L N$ ) with signature $(+, 0,-)$ allowing for period doubling. It is an asymmetric window as its mirror image $(R L, R D, R M)$ is different. They represent the two symmetrically located asymmetric period 2 orbits. The word $(L R)^{\infty}$ describes both the second half of the symmetric window and the first half of the asymmetric window. The precise symmetry breaking point, however, depends on the mapping function and cannot be told by symbolic dynamics.

In general, a word $\lambda^{\infty}$ representing the second half of the symmetric window continues to become the first half of the asymmetric window $(\lambda, \tau C, \rho)$. The latter develops into a period-doubling cascade described by the general rule of symbolic dynamics. The cascade accumulates and turns into a period-halving cascade of chaotic bands. The whole struc-

TABLE IV. Some stable periodic orbits in the Lorenz equations associated with the main sheet of the dynamical foliations.

| Period | Sequence | $r^{\text {a }}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 | $D C^{\text {b }}$ | 315-10000 |
| 2 | LN | 229.42-314 |
| $4^{\text {c }}$ | $L N L C{ }^{\text {d }}$ | 218.3-229.42 |
| 8 | LNLRLNLC | 216.0-218.3 |
| 16 | LNLRLNLNLNLRLNLC | 215.5-216.0 |
| 24 | LNLRLNLNLNLRLNLRLNLRLNLC | 215.07-215.08 |
| 12 | LNLRLNLNLNLC | 213.99-214.06 |
| 6 | LNLRLC | 209.06-209.45 |
| 10 | LNLRLRLNLC | 207.106-207.12 |
| 8 | LNLRLRLC | 205.486-206.528 |
| 10 | LNLRLRLRLC | 204.116-204.123 |
| 12 | LNLRLRLRLRLC | 203.537 |
| 14 | LNLRLRLRLRLRLC | 203.2735 |
| 16 | LNLRLRLRLRLRLRLC | 203.1511 |
| 18 | LNLRLRLRLRLRLRLRLC | 203.093332 |
| 30 | LNLRLRLRLRLRLRLRLRLRLRLRLRLRLC | 203.04120367965 |
| 14 | LNLRLRDRMRLRLC | 200.638-200.665 |
| 10 | LNLRDRMRLC | 198.97-198.99 |
| 5 | LNLLC | 195.576 |
| 5 | RMRLC | 190.80-190.81 |
| 7 | RMRLRLC | 189.559-189.561 |
| 9 | RMRLRLRLC | 188.863-188.865 |
| 16 | RMRLRLRDLNLRLRLC | 187.248-187.25 |
| 12 | RMRLRDLNLRLC | 185.74-185.80 |
| 8 | RMRDLNLC | 181.12-181.65 |
| 10 | RMRMRMLNLC | 178.0745 |
| 12 | RMRMRDLNLNLC | 177.78-177.81 |
| 6 | RMLNLC | 172.758-172.797 |
| 16 | RMLNRMRDLNRMLNLC | 169.902 |
| 10 | RMLNRMLNLC | 168.58 |
| 4 | RDLC | 162.1-166.07 |
| 4 | RLLC | 154.4-162.0 |
| 4 | RLLN | 148.2-154.4 |
| 8 | RLLNRLLC | 147.4-147.8 |
| 16 | RLLNRLLRRLLNRLLC | 147 |
| 12 | RLLNRLLRRLLC | 145.94-146 |
| 20 | RLLNRLLRRDLRRMLRRLLC | 144.35-144.38 |
| 12 | RLLNRDLRRMLC | 143.322-143.442 |
| 6 | RLLNLC | 141.247-141.249 |
| 6 | RLRMLC | 136.800-136.819 |
| 10 | RLRMLRRLLC | 136.210-136.2112 |
| 16 | RLRMLRRDLRLNRLLC | 135.465-135.485 |
| 8 | RLRDLRLC | 132.06-133.2 |
| 16 | RLRLLRRDLRLRRLLC | 129.127-129.148 |
| 6 | RLRLLC | 126.455-126.52 |
| 12 | RLRLRDLRLRLC | 123.56-123.63 |
| 8 | RLRLRLLC | 121.687-121.689 |
| 7 | RLRLRLC | 118.128-118.134 |
| 14 | RLRLRRDLRLRLLC | 116.91-116.925 |
| 5 | RLRLC | 113.916-114.01 |
| 10 | RLRRDLRLLC | 110.57-110.70 |
| 9 | RLRRLLRLC | 108.9778 |
| 7 | RLRRLLC | 107.618-107.625 |
| 14 | RLRRLRDLRLLRLC | 106.746-106.757 |

TABLE IV. (Continued).

| Period | Sequence | $r^{\text {a }}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 8 | RLRRLRLC | 104.185 |
| 16 | RLRRLRRDLRLLRLLC | 103.632-103.636 |
| 3 | RLC | 99.79-100.795 |
| 6 | RLNRLC | 99..629-99.78 |
| 9 | RLNRLRRLC | 99.275-99.285 |
| 12 | RRMLRDLLNRLC | 94.542-94.554 |
| 6 | RRDLLC | 92.51-93.20 |
| 6 | RRLLLC | 92.155-92.5 |
| 12 | RRLLRDLLRRLC | 90.163-90.20 |
| 8 | RRLLRLLC | 88.368 |
| 7 | RRLLRLC | 86.402 |
| 14 | RRLLRRDLLRRLLC | 85.986-85.987 |
| 8 | RRLLRRLC | 84.3365 |
| 5 | RRLLC | 83.36-83.39 |
| 10 | RRLRDLLRLC | 82.040-82.095 |
| 8 | RRLRLLLC | 81.317 |
| 6 | RRLRLC | 76.818-76.822 |
| 12 | RRLRRDLLRLLC | 76.310-76.713 |
| 8 | RRLRRLLC | 75.1405 |
| 7 | RRLRRLC | 73.712 |
| 14 | RRLRRRDLLRLLLC | 73.457 |
| 4 | RRLC | 71.452-71.52 |
| 8 | RRLNRRLC | 71.410-71.451 |
| 8 | RRRDLLLC | 69.724-69.839 |
| 8 | RRRLLRLC | 66.2046 |
| 9 | RRRLLRRLC | 65.5025 |
| 6 | RRRLLC | 64.895-64.898 |
| 12 | RRRLRDLLLRLC | 64.572-64.574 |
| 7 | RRRLRLC | 62.069 |
| 14 | RRRLRRDLLLRLLC | 61.928 |
| 9 | RRRLRRLLC | 61.31497 |
| 8 | RRRLRRLC | 60.654 |
| 5 | RRRLC | 59.242-59.255 |
| 10 | RRRRDLLLLC | 58.700-58.715 |
| 9 | RRRRLLLLC | 58.0763 |
| 9 | RRRRLLRLC | 56.53315 |
| 7 | RRRRLLC | 55.787 |
| 14 | RRRRLRDLLLLRLC | 55.675 |
| 6 | RRRRLC | 52.457-52.459 |
| 12 | RRRRRDLLLLLC | 52.245-52.248 |
| 8 | RRRRRLLC | 50.3038-50.3240 |
| 7 | RRRRRLC | 48.1188-48.1194 |
| 14 | RRRRRRMMLLLLLLN | 48.027 |

${ }^{\text {a }}$ The numbers indicate where the symbolic sequence has been observed. They are not necessarily the range of the windows.
${ }^{\mathrm{b}}$ The letters $D$ and $C$ are used to indicate a symmetric window.
${ }^{\text {c }}$ The indented numbers indicate members of a period-doubling cascade.
${ }^{\mathrm{d}}$ The letter $C$ stands for both $R$ and $N$.
ture is asymmetric. Finally, the chaotic attractor collides with the symmetric unstable periodic orbit $\lambda^{\infty}$ and takes back the symmetry to become a symmetric chaotic attractor. This is a symmetry restoration crisis, taking place at the limit described by the eventually periodic kneading sequence $\rho \lambda^{\infty}$. In our period 2 example this happens at $L N(L R)^{\infty}$. In Table

IV this limit has been traced by $L N(L R)^{n-2} L C$ up to $n=15$. The only period 30 sequence in Table IV indicates closely the location of the symmetry restoration point corresponding to the asymmetric period $2^{n}$ cascade. All other symmetric orbits in Table IV are put conditionally in the form $\Sigma D \bar{\Sigma} C$ as the parameters given can hardly match a doubly super-

TABLE V. Some stable periodic orbits in the Lorenz equations associated with secondary sheets of the dynamical foliations (see footnotes in Table IV).

| Period | Sequence | $r$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| 3 | $R M N$ | 328.0838 |
| 3 | $R M C$ | $327.58-327.88$ |
| 6 | $R M R R M C$ | $327.3-327.5$ |
| 12 | $R M R R M N R M R R M C$ | 327.26 |
| 24 | $R M R R M N R M R R M R R M R R M N R M R R M C$ | 327.2 |
| 10 | $R M R R D L N L L C$ | $191.982-191.985$ |
| 20 | $R M R R M L N L L R R M R R M L N L L C$ | 191.9795 |
| 6 | $R L R R M C$ | 183.0435 |
| 12 | $R L R R M R R L R R M C$ | 183.0434 |
| 24 | $R L R R M R R L R R M N R L R R M R R L R R M C$ | 183.04338 |
| 6 | $R L N R M C$ | 168.2492 |
| 12 | $R 2 N R M N R L N R M C$ | 168.249189 |
| 4 | $R R M R$ | 162.1381 |
| 8 | $R R M R R R M R R R M C$ | 162.13806 |
| 16 | $R R M R M C$ | 162.13804 |
| 6 | $R R M R M N R R M R M C$ | 157.671066 |
| 12 | $R R M R M N R R M R M R R R M R M N R R M R M C$ | 157.6710656 |
| 24 | $R R L R M C$ | 157.6710654 |
| 6 | $R R L R M R R R L R M C$ | 139.9238433 |
| 12 | $R R L R M R R R L R M N R R L R M R R R L R M C$ | 139.9238430 |
| 24 |  | 139.9238428 |

stable orbit. For example, the three consecutive period 4 from $r=148.2$ to 166.07 in Table IV actually mean

$$
\begin{gathered}
(R M L N, R D L C, R L L R) \rightarrow(R L L R, R L L C, R L L N), \\
(+, 0,+) \rightarrow(+, 0,-),
\end{gathered}
$$

followed by an asymmetric period-doubling cascade. The symmetry restores at $R L L N(R L L R)^{\infty}$ whose parameter may easily be estimated.


FIG. 13. A stable period 6 orbit at $r=183.0435$ on the background of its own transient points.

Symbolic dynamics also yields the number of periodic orbits that are capable of undergoing symmetry breaking. In the parameter range of the Lorenz equations there are one period 2 , one period 4 , and two period 6 such orbits, all listed in Table IV.

## " 2 D " orbits and coexisting attractors

Now we return to Tables IV and V. Table IV is a list of stable periods associated with the main sheet of the dynamical foliations. When there is an attracting stable period these sheets are not readily seen, but they resemble the main sheets seen in Fig. 5 or Fig. 11. In fact, one may insert all the kneading sequences $K_{i}$ listed in Table I into Table IV according to their $r$ values. They all fit well into the overall ordering. The ordered list of stable periods plus that of kneading sequence $K_{i}$ determined from the main sheets of the chaotic attractor makes an analogue of the MSS sequence [1] in the symbolic dynamics of unimodal maps. It is a surprising fact the 1D Lorenz-Sparrow map captures so much of the real Lorenz equations. Then where are the manifestly 2D features? As long as stable periods are concerned, some orbits showing 2D features are collected in Table V. As a rule, they are very narrow windows in the parameter space with orbits living on some secondary sheets of the dynamical foliations. It is remarkable that they may be named according to the same rule of the Lorenz-Sparrow map; they form a different ordered list as compared with Table IV. Among them there are a few orbits coexisting with a periodic orbit from the main sheet especially when the latter forms a wide window. For instance, $R M N$ and $L R$ coexist in the vicinity of $r=328.0838$. This period 3 orbit develops a perioddoubling cascade, traced to period 24 in Table V. The period

2 orbit $(L R)^{\infty}$ may even be seen to coexist with a tiny chaotic attractor from the same $3^{n}$ cascade at $r=327.16755$. Other cases, given in Table V, include $R R M R$ and $R R M R M C$ as well as their period-doubled regimes, both coexisting with the symmetric period $4 R L L R$ below $r$ $=162.1381$ and 157.671066 , respectively. In addition, there are orbits involving both sheets. We attribute all these orbits to the manifestation of 2 D features.

## VII. CONCLUDING REMARK

Fairly detailed global knowledge of the Lorenz equations in the phase space as well as in the parameter space has been obtained by numerical work under the guidance of symbolic dynamics. Two-dimensional symbolic dynamics of the Poincaré map may provide, in principle, a complete list of stable and unstable periodic orbits up to a given length and a partial description of some chaotic orbits. However, 1D symbolic dynamics extracted from the 2D Poincare map is simpler and instructive. The 2D features seen in the Poincare and first return maps may safely be circumvented by shrinking along the FCFs in a 1D study, which deals with forward symbolic sequences only. Whether 1D or 2D symbolic dynamics is needed and how many tangencies to keep in a 2D study is a matter of precision. Even in a seemingly 'pure" onedimensional situation 2D features may need to be taken into account when it comes to coping with very long symbolic sequences. This has to be decided in practice. Therefore, what has been described in this paper remains a physicist's approach for the time being. However, it may provide food for thought to mathematicians. We mention in passing that there are some technical subtleties in carrying out the program that we could not touch upon due to limited space, but there also has been hope to automate the process and to apply it to more systems of physical importance.

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## APPENDIX A: GENERATION OF COMPATIBLE KNEADING PAIRS FOR THE LORENZ-SPARROW MAP

We first make a proviso relevant to both Appendices. In a 2 D setting it is difficult to say that a symbolic sequence is included 'between'" some other sequences without further specifying how the order is defined. In a phase space a number of FCFs may be ordered along a BCF that intersects with some FCFs transversely. In the parameter space of the Lorenz equations we are working along the $r$ axis and there is a 1D ordering of all symbolic sequences according to the Lorenz-Sparrow map. We hope this is clear from the context in what follows.

Two kneading sequences $K$ and $H$ must satisfy the admissibility conditions (8) in order to become a compatible
kneading pair $(K, H)$. This means, in particular, two sequences with $H<K$ cannot make a compatible pair. Moreover, from the admissibility conditions one can deduce that the minimal $H$ that is compatible with a given $K$ is determined by

$$
K \leqslant H_{\min }=\max \{\mathcal{R}(K), \mathcal{R}(\bar{K}), \mathcal{N}(K), \mathcal{N}(\bar{K})\}
$$

where $\mathcal{R}(K)$ is the $R$-shift set of $K$, etc.
According to the ordering rule (5) the greatest sequence is $(M N)^{\infty}$, and the smallest $(N M)^{\infty}$. A sequence $H=(M N)^{\infty}$ will be compatible with any $K$. The admissibility conditions also require that $K$ must be shift minimal with respect to $R$ and $N$. Both $(M N)^{\infty}$ and $(N M)^{\infty}$ meet this requirement. Taking the extreme sequences $K_{1}=(M N)^{\infty}, K_{2}=(N M)^{\infty}$, and $H=(M N)^{\infty}$, one can generate all compatible kneading pairs up to a certain length by making use of the following propositions. Denote by $\Sigma=s_{0} s_{1} \cdots s_{n}$ a finite string of $M, L, R$, and $N$, and assume that $\mu, \nu \in\{M, L, R, N\}, \mu \neq \nu$ :
(1) If $K_{1}=\Sigma \mu \cdots$ and $K_{2}=\Sigma \nu \cdots$ are both compatible with a given $H$, then $K=\Sigma \tau$ is also compatible with $H$, where $\tau \in\{C, B, D\}$ is included between $\mu$ and $\nu$, i.e., either $\nu<\tau<\mu$ or $\nu>\tau>\mu$ holds.
(2) For $\tau=C$, under the conditions of $1, K=(\Sigma t)^{\infty}$ is also compatible with $H$, where $t$ stands for either $R$ or $N$.
(3) For $\tau=D$, under the conditions of $1, K=\left(\Sigma t^{\prime} \bar{\Sigma} t^{\prime}\right)^{\infty}$ is compatible with $H$, where $t^{\prime}$ stands for either $M$ or $L$.
(4) For $\tau=B$, under the conditions of $1, K_{1}=\Sigma R H$ and $K_{2}=\Sigma L \bar{H}$ are both compatible with $H$.

Without going into the proofs we continue with the construction. By means of the above propositions we have the median words $K=D, B, C$ between $K_{1}$ and $K_{2}$. At this step we have the following words in ascending order:

$$
\begin{gathered}
(N M)^{\infty} N^{\infty}, C, R^{\infty} \quad R(M N)^{\infty}, B, L(N M)^{\infty} \\
(L R)^{\infty}, D C,(M N)^{\infty} \quad(M N)^{\infty} .
\end{gathered}
$$

Inside any group centered at $C, B$, or $D$ there exists no median sequence. Furthermore, no median sequence exists between the group $D$ and $(M N)^{\infty}$. By taking any two nearby different sequences between the groups, the procedure may be continued. For example, between $R^{\infty}$ and $R(M N)^{\infty}$ we get

$$
\begin{gathered}
R^{\infty} \quad R R(M N)^{\infty}, \quad R B, \quad R L(N M)^{\infty} \\
(R L L R)^{\infty}, R D L C,(R M L N)^{\infty} \quad R(M N)^{\infty} .
\end{gathered}
$$

This process is repeated to produce all possible $K$ up to a certain length. For each $K$ one determines a $H_{\text {min }}$. In this way we construct the entire kneading plane for the LorenzSparrow map. Figure 8 shows that only a small part of this plane is related to the Lorenz equations. This is caused mainly by the set of $H$ that may occur in the system.

The above method may be applied to the Lorenz equations to generate and locate median words included between two known stable periods. For example, between $R R R L C$ at $r_{1}^{\prime}=59.247$ and $R R R R L L C$ at $r_{2}^{\prime}=55.787$ two period 9 words $R R R R L L L L C$ and $R R R R L L R L C$ can be produced as follows. At first, take $r_{1}=59.40$ and $r_{2}=55.90$ near the two $r^{\prime}$ values and determine the corresponding maximal se-
quences $H$ from the chaotic attractors as we did above at $r$ $=181.15$ or 136.5. They turn out to be $H_{1}$ $=M L L L R L L R L \cdots$ for the former and $\mathrm{H}_{2}$ $=M L L L L R R L R \cdots$ for the latter. Then take their common string to be a new $H=M L L L$. Finally we can use $K_{1}$ $=R R R L C, K_{2}=R R R R L L C$, and $H=M L L L$ to form compatible kneading pairs and to generate $R R R R L L L L C$ and $R R R R L L R L C$, which are included in between $R R R L C$ and $R R R R L L C$. In order to have this procedure working well, the difference $\left|r_{1}-r_{2}\right|$ should be small to guarantee that $H$ is long enough to be usable. In addition, $r_{1}$ and $r_{2}$ should be chosen close enough to $r_{1}^{\prime}$ and $r_{2}^{\prime}$ so that $K_{r_{1}}$ $=R R R L R R R R L R R R L L L \cdots$ at $r_{1}$ and $K_{r_{2}}$ $=R R R R L L R R R R L R L L R \cdots$ at $r_{2}$ are very close to $R R R L C$ and $R R R R L L C$, respectively.

## APPENDIX B: GENERATION OF ADMISSIBLE SEQUENCES FOR A GIVEN KNEADING PAIR

Given a compatible kneading pair $(K, H)$, one can generate all admissible periodic symbolic sequences up to a given length, e.g., 6. Usually, we are interested in having a list of symbolic names of all short periodic orbits. This can be done by brute force, i.e., first generate all $6^{4}$ possible symbolic sequences then filter them against the admissibility conditions (8). In so doing one should avoid repeated counting of words. Therefore, we always write the basic string of a periodic sequence in the shift-minimal form with respect to $N$ or $R$. The shift-maximal sequences with respect to $M$ or $L$ may be obtained by applying the symmetry transformation $\mathcal{T}$.

However, one can formulate a few rules to generate only
the admissible sequences. These rules are based on continuity in the phase plane. To simplify the writing we introduce some notation. Let $\Sigma_{n}=s_{1} s_{2} \cdots s_{n}$ be a finite string of $n$ symbols; let symbols $\mu, \nu$, and $s_{i}, i=1,2, \ldots, n$ be all taken from the set $\{M, L, R, N\}$; and let the symbol $\tau$ denote one of $\{C, B, D\}$. Recollect, moreover, that at any step of applying the rules a $C$ at the end of a string is to be continued as $C K$, a $D$ as $D \bar{K}$, and a $B$ as $R H$ or $L \bar{H}$, see Eq. (7).

We have the following propositions:
(1) If both $\Sigma_{n} \mu \cdots$ and $\Sigma_{n} \nu \cdots$ are admissible, then $\Sigma_{n} \tau \cdots$ is admissible provided $\tau$ is include between $\mu$ and $\nu$, i.e., either $\nu<\tau<\mu$ or $\nu>\tau>\mu$ takes place.
(2) If $\Sigma_{n} B$ and $\Sigma_{n} C$ are admissible then so does $\left(\Sigma_{n} R\right)^{\infty}$.
(3) If $\Sigma_{n} C$ and $\Sigma_{n} \mu \cdots$ are admissible and, in addition, $\Sigma_{n} t K<\left(\Sigma_{n} t\right)^{\infty}<\Sigma_{n} \mu \cdots$, where $t \in\{R, N\}$, then $\left(\Sigma_{n} t\right)^{\infty}$ is admissible.
(4) If $\Sigma_{n} \mu \cdots, \Sigma_{n} D$ and $\Sigma_{n} \nu \cdots$ are admissible, $\Sigma_{n} t$ and $\Sigma_{n} w$ are respectively the greater and the smaller of $\Sigma_{n} L$ and $\Sigma_{n} M$, then $\Sigma_{n} t \bar{K}<\left(\Sigma_{n} t \overline{\Sigma_{n}} w\right)^{\infty}<\Sigma_{n} \mu$ implies the admissibility of $\left(\Sigma_{n} t \overline{\Sigma_{n}} w\right)^{\infty}$ or $\Sigma_{n} \nu \cdots<\left(\Sigma_{n} w \overline{\Sigma_{n}} t\right)^{\infty}<\Sigma_{n} w \bar{K}$ implies the admissibility of $\left(\Sigma_{n} w \overline{\Sigma_{n}} t\right)^{\infty}$.
(5) If $I_{1}=u_{1} u_{2} \cdots u_{n} B \equiv U B$ and $I_{2}=U R \cdots$ are admissible and the leading string of $I_{2}$ turns out to be $u_{1} u_{2} \cdots u_{k} \tau$ with $k<n$ and $\tau \in\{C, B, D\}$, then $(U R)^{\infty}$ is admissible if it is included between $I_{1}$ and $I_{2}$, otherwise it is inadmissible. Similarly, If $I_{1}=U B$ and $I_{2}=U L \cdots$ are admissible, then $(U L \bar{U} R)^{\infty}$ is admissible if it is included between $I_{1}$ and $I_{2}$, otherwise it is inadmissible.

We omit the proofs [36] of these propositions, which are based on continuity in the phase plane and on explicit checking of the admissibility conditions (8).
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