Theory and applications of the systematic detection of unstable periodic orbits in dynamical systems

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A topological approach and understanding to the detection of unstable periodic orbits based on a recently proposed method [Phys. Rev. Lett. **78**, 4733 (1997)] is developed. This approach provides a classification of the set of transformations necessary for finding the orbits. Applications to the Ikeda and Hénon map are performed, allowing a study of the distributions of Lyapunov exponents for high periods. In particular, the properties of the least unstable orbits up to period 36 are investigated and discussed.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Unstable periodic orbits (UPO's) represent a skeleton of complex chaotic systems and allow the calculation of many characteristic quantities of the underlying dynamics like Lyapunov exponents, fractal dimensions, and entropies of the attractors [1,2]. For dissipative systems expansions in terms of periodic orbits are well established in the literature [1,3-6] and demonstrate the relevance of the cycles for understanding chaotic dynamics. Both low-dimensional model systems such as discrete maps [1,2] as well as experimental time series [7-10] have been studied. Furthermore the series expansion of semiclassical properties of classically chaotic Hamiltonian systems, with respect to the length and stability coefficients of the periodic orbits, is a fruitful and frequently applied technique: it allows the investigation of the energy level density as well as other quantum properties [11]. Much has been added to the importance of the UPO's by using them to control chaotic dynamical systems (see Ref. [12] and references therein).

More recently, cycle expansion techniques have been invented and shown to converge well, especially when the symbolic dynamics is well understood [4,13]. Series expansions over periodic orbits used for calculating dynamical averages are typically ordered according to the orbit length p [1,13–15]. Drawbacks of these expansions are the large number of orbits (increasing exponentially with p), the required completeness of the set of cycles for a given period, and the slow convergence [14,15]. A promising proposal was made [16,17] stating that series expansions could converge better if they are truncated according to the stability of the orbits [18]. What is more, stability ordering does not rely on the knowledge of the systems symbolic dynamics, which is unknown for generic dynamical systems.

Chaotic dynamics is intrinsic for many physical systems, which is why periodic orbit theory is not restricted to specific areas of physics. Much effort has been spent on developing efficient techniques for calculating UPO's of a given dynamical system. What makes this quest so difficult is the exponential proliferation of the number of cycles with increasing period and their increasing instability (in fully chaotic systems). Specifically the modified Newton-Raphson method is an all-purpose method, which does not require a special form of the underlying equations of motion. However, it needs a good initial guess for the starting points. Therefore this algorithm rapidly becomes expensive and is limited to relatively short periods and low-dimensional systems. A variety of other methods have been developed which focus either on time series analysis or on finding UPO's for given equations of motions [2,4,14,19-21]. For a special class of systems, a numerical technique for calculating arbitrarily long UPO's to any desired accuracy was introduced in Ref. [21] for the Hénon map [22] and later applied to a few other dynamical systems [15,23,24]. This method allows the systematic computation of all UPO's of any given order, each given by a unique binary symbol sequence.

Recently, we proposed an alternative method (in the following referred to as SD method) for the calculation of UPO's [25]. The basic idea is to transform the fully chaotic system to a new dynamical system with the periodic orbits keeping their positions but changing their stability properties: For a particular transformed system a certain fraction of the periodic cycles becomes stable and can be found by simply iterating the transformed system. This fraction depends on a tuning parameter that represents an upper stability cutoff for the fixed points (FP's) to be detected. In the following we will use the term "stabilization" and "stabilized fixed points" for the process and fact, respectively, that the unstable FP's of the original chaotic dynamical system have become stable in the corresponding transformed system. The reader is kindly asked to distinguish this use of the term "stabilization" from the one used in control theory of chaos via unstable periodic orbits. According to the above the SD method allows us the systematic calculation of the least unstable periodic orbits of any given order p [26]. The latter possibility meets the requirements of the series expansions using stability ordering, since they allow to derive properties of a physical system by exploring only the least unstable

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period orbits up to a given stability cutoff. The technique of the SD method is highly flexible and can be applied in a straightforward manner to a great variety of discrete dynamical systems of any dimension. Continuous dynamical systems can thereby be treated using properly chosen Poincaré surfaces of section. Therefore, it might open the way for employing the proposal of Refs. [16,17] for a great variety of dynamical systems.

The present work has a twofold purpose. The first goal is to enhance our understanding of and give insights into the SD method. To that end we provide a complete classification of the involved transformations. As a result we gain both topological as well as geometrical understanding and interpretation of the transformations. Corresponding invariant structures are thereby revealed and the FP's can be classified similarly to the stabilizing transformations. This opens the future perspective to selectively detect UPO's not "only" with respects to their stability but also with respect to certain desired geometrical properties. We will thereby learn how simple global operations on the dynamical system change the stability properties of fixed points. The second purpose of this work is to elucidate and extend the work in Ref. [25]. To this end we provide extensive results of applications of our approach to the Ikeda [28] and Hénon [22] maps. For the Ikeda map, we calculate the complete sets of FP's for periods up to p = 15. The number of orbits is large enough to investigate the distribution of Lyapunov exponents. This distribution is compared with the corresponding one of the Hénon map according to Ref. [21]. Next the algorithm of Ref. [26] to determine the least unstable orbits is slightly modified and applied to the Ikeda and Hénon map. The ten most stable orbits of a given length up to period p = 36 are studied for both maps. Their Lyapunov exponents vary in a characteristic way as a function of the period.

In detail we proceed as follows: In Sec. II A we briefly review the SD method for finding UPO's as described in Ref. [25]. The topological/geometrical classification and geometrical extension is presented and discussed in Sec. II B. In Sec. III A we show the results of complete sets of orbits and we present and analyze the distribution of Lyapunov exponents in Sec. III B. The extended method to stabilize the least unstable cycles is given in Sec. III C together with the corresponding results for the Hénon and Ikeda map. Section IV concludes with a summary.

II. THEORY OF THE STABILIZATION OF FIXED POINTS

A. Brief review of the underlying method

In order to be self-contained and for our further theoretical investigation we recall in the following the key ideas of the method developed in Ref. [25] to detect UPO's. Consider a discrete chaotic dynamical system $U:\mathbf{x}_{i+1} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_i)$ in *n* dimensions. The FP's of the *p*th iterate $\mathbf{f}^{(p)}$ are points of the UPO's of period *p*. To find the FP's of *U* the following strategy is employed: A set of transformations is specified which transforms *U* into new dynamical systems $\{S_{k\sigma}\}$ with the FP's keeping their original locations in space. The set $\{S_{k\sigma}\}$ is chosen such that for each unstable FP α_u of *U*, there exists a specific transformed system $S_{k'\sigma'}$ of the set $\{S_{k\sigma}\}$ for which this FP has become dissipatively stable [i.e.,

TABLE I. Multiplication table for the matrices $C_{k\sigma}$.

•	C_{0+}	\mathbf{C}_{1+}	C_{2+}	C_{3+}	C_{0-}	\mathbf{C}_{1-}	C_{2-}	C ₃₋
C_{0+}	C_{0+}	C_{1+}	C ₂₊	C ₃₊	C ₀ -	C ₁₋	C ₂₋	C ₃₋
C_{1+}	C_{1+}	C_{2+}	C_{3+}	C_{0+}	C_{3-}	\mathbf{C}_{0-}	C_{1-}	C_{2-}
C_{2+}	C_{2+}	C_{3+}	C_{0+}	\mathbf{C}_{1+}	C_{2-}	C_{3-}	C_{0-}	C_{1-}
C_{3+}	C_{3+}	C_{0+}	\mathbf{C}_{1+}	C_{2+}	C_{1-}	C_{2-}	C_{3-}	C_{0-}
C_{0-}	\mathbf{C}_{0-}	\mathbf{C}_{1-}	C_{2-}	C_{3-}	C_{0+}	\mathbf{C}_{1+}	C_{2+}	C_{3+}
C_{1-}	C_{1-}	C_{2-}	C_{3-}	C_{0-}	C_{3+}	C_{0+}	\mathbf{C}_{1+}	C_{2+}
C_{2-}	C_{2-}	C_{3-}	\mathbf{C}_{0-}	C_{1-}	C_{2+}	C_{3+}	\mathbf{C}_{0+}	\mathbf{C}_{1+}
C_{3-}	C_{3-}	C_{0-}	C_{1-}	C_{2-}	\mathbf{C}_{1+}	C_{2+}	C_{3+}	C_{0+}

Re(λ_i)<0 for continuous systems, $|\lambda_i| < 1$ for discrete systems, with eigenvalues λ_i] and can therefore be detected by simply iterating properly chosen starting points of the transformed system $S_{k'\sigma'}$. For each $S_{k'\sigma'}$ a different set of FP's of U is stabilized. Let us denote by I_{\min} the minimal set of pairs $(k\sigma)$ with the property that there exists for each unstable FP α_u at least one pair $(k'\sigma') \in I_{\min}$ for which $S_{k'\sigma'}$ transforms α_u into a stable FP α_s . This set holds for arbitrary period p. The search for the FP's of U is then straightforward: A starting point chosen in the global neighborhood (see below) of the FP α_u iterated with the transformed dynamical system $S_{k'\sigma'}$, $(k'\sigma') \in I_{\min}$ converges, due to the stability of α_s , to the position of α_s which is equal to that of α_u .

Propagating a set $\{\mathbf{x}_i\}$ of starting points and using all $(k\sigma) \in I_{\min}$ we end up with a set of FP of U whose completeness can be ensured by successively enlarging the set $\{\mathbf{r}_i\}$. Let us now specify the systems $S_{k\sigma}$:

$$S_{k\sigma}: \mathbf{x}_{i+1} = \mathbf{x}_i + \mathbf{\Lambda}_{k\sigma} [\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_i) - \mathbf{x}_i].$$
(1)

 $S_{k\sigma}$ are linear transformations of the original dynamical law U. $\Lambda_{k\sigma}$ are invertible constant $n \times n$ matrices. The definition of $S_{k\sigma}$ and U clearly shows that their FP's are one to one and at the same positions. Equation (1) implies the following relation for the stability matrices \mathbf{T}_U and $\mathbf{T}_{S_{k\sigma}}$ of U and $S_{k\sigma}$, respectively,

$$\mathbf{T}_{S_{k\sigma}} = \mathbf{1} + \mathbf{\Lambda}_{k\sigma} (\mathbf{T}_U - \mathbf{1}). \tag{2}$$

In Ref. [25] it was shown that $\Lambda_{k\sigma}$ can be cast in the form $\Lambda_k = \lambda \cdot \mathbf{C}_{k\sigma}$ with $0 < \lambda < 1$. The set of matrices $\{\mathbf{C}_{k\sigma}\}$ contains all orthogonal matrices with only one nonvanishing entry ± 1 per row or column, i.e., they represent a group of special reflections and permutations.

 $\sigma = \pm$ indicates the sign of the matrix determinant, and k is an additional label to uniquely specify the matrices. In two dimensions we have $\mathbf{C}_{0+} = -\mathbf{C}_{2+} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$, $\mathbf{C}_{0-} = -\mathbf{C}_{2-} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$, $\mathbf{C}_{1+} = -\mathbf{C}_{3+} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{C}_{1-} = -\mathbf{C}_{3-} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$. The matrices $\{\mathbf{C}_{k\sigma} | k = 0 \dots 3; \sigma = \pm\}$ form a group with $\{\mathbf{C}_{k+} | k = 0, \dots, 3\}$ (matrices with positive determinant) being a subgroup of order 4. Table I is the corresponding multiplication table. Obviously, the product of two matrices is

$$\mathbf{C}_{k''\sigma''} = \mathbf{C}_{k\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{C}_{k'\sigma'}$$

with

$$k'' = k' + \sigma' k \mod 4$$

and

$$\sigma'' = \sigma \sigma'. \tag{3}$$

The notation introduced above is different from the one used in Ref. [25] and will reveal its meaning in the course of the classification of all possible FP's (occurring in the original and transformed system), as provided later on. The arithmetic with respect to the first index (k, k', k'', ...) has always to be taken modulo 4. We remark that the minimal set I_{\min} is significantly smaller than the set of pairs $(k\sigma)$ belonging to the matrices $\{S_{k\sigma}\}$. Given a certain unstable FP α_u the above choice of linear transformations represented by the set $\{\mathbf{C}_{k\sigma}\}\$ of matrices allows us to find a particular $\mathbf{C}_{k'\sigma'}$ such that the real parts of the eigenvalues of $C_{k'\sigma'}(T_U-1)$ are negative at the position of the FP. As a consequence [see Eq. (2), if λ is chosen sufficiently small, the magnitude of the real parts of the eigenvalues of the FP α_s in the transformed system are smaller than one, and we therefore encounter a stable FP that can be detected as described above. The critical value of λ , which just suffices to make the FP stable, can immediately be read off from the quadratic equations relating the stability coefficients of the original system U and those of the transformed system $S_{k\sigma}$ [25]. The above procedure can easily be extended to higher iterates $\mathbf{f}^{(p)}(\mathbf{x})$ of U[by]replacing **f** with $\mathbf{f}^{(p)}$ in Eq. (1)] allowing us to determine all order p cycles of U.

The advantage of the SD method is clearly its global character in the sense that even points far from the linear neighborhood of a FP are attracted close to the FP after a finite number of iterations of the transformed dynamical law. The basin of attraction of a single stabilized FP is a simply connected area in phase space. The typical number of starting points needed to obtain the UPO's of a given length on the attractor is only slightly more than the expected number of cycle points themselves.

The parameter λ is a key quantity here. It is related to the stability of the desired cycle in the transformed system. With increasing period of the cycles, λ has to be reduced to achieve stabilization of all FP's. One may, however, also be interested in the most stable periodic orbits of a given period p [26] which is one of the key issues of the present work. In this context λ operates as a filter allowing the selective stabilization of only those UPO's that possess Lyapunov exponents smaller than a critical value. Therefore, by starting the search for UPO's within a certain period p with a value λ $\cong O(10^{-1})$ and gradually lowering λ we obtain the sequence of all unstable orbits of order p sorted with increasing values of their Lyapunov exponents. In Ref. [26] it was shown that for the specific choice $(k\sigma) = (0+) \in I_{\min}$ the relation between λ and the stability coefficients of the FP's of the original system U is a strict monotonous one. Transformed dynamical systems $S_{k\sigma}$ belonging to other pairs $(k'\sigma') \neq (0)$ +) do not obey such a strict behavior but show a rough ordering of the sequence of stability eigenvalues of the FP's of U stabilized in the course of decreasing values for λ .

B. Geometrical interpretation of the stabilizing transformations

 $S_{k\sigma}$

1. Classification scheme

The stability properties of the FP's of the dynamical systems $S_{k\sigma}$ have been investigated in Ref. [25] exclusively in the context of their relation to the stability coefficients of the original system U. To gain a deeper insight into the geometrical meaning and the interpretation of the transformations $S_{k\sigma}$, which turn unstable FP into stable ones, one has to go beyond the pure consideration of their eigenvalues at the positions of the FP's.

In the following we develop a geometrical approach allowing us to classify the FP's which are stabilized by different matrices $C_{k\sigma}$. We will hereby focus on systems with two degrees of freedom. Expectedly there should, however, be no major obstacles with respect to the generalization to arbitrary dimensions. When dealing with the stability transformations the natural problem arises: Restricting ourselves to the set of orthogonal $C_{k\sigma}$ matrices with exactly one nonvanishing entry (± 1) in each row and column and to the linearized dynamics around a FP, what can we say about the action of the matrices $C_{k\sigma}$ [see Eq. (1)] on this simple dynamical system? To approach this problem consider the following set of equations:

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}), \quad \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{f}^{(n)}(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{x}, \quad \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}) = (F_1(\mathbf{x}), F_2(\mathbf{x}))^T,$$
(4)

which describes a vector field around the FP located at \mathbf{x}_f , where $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}_f) = \mathbf{0}$ (the superscript ^{*T*} denotes the transposed). In the following sections we generally focus on the discussion of the system $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}_f)$, unless noted differently. Now we apply the transformation

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{F}_{k\sigma}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{C}_{k\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}), \quad \mathbf{F}_{k\sigma}(\mathbf{x}) = (F_{k\sigma,1}(\mathbf{x}), F_{k\sigma,2}(\mathbf{x}))^T.$$
(5)

It is important to note that the dynamical system $S_{k\sigma}$ in Eq. (1) represents a discretization of the continuous system, Eq. (5). Multiplication with $C_{k\sigma}$ intermingles the *x* and *y* coordinates of $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x})$, which in general changes the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of the corresponding stability matrix. One direction of the above problem is: Are there any points in the neighborhood of \mathbf{x}_f where this change of the dynamics is controllable? In fact let us consider the manifolds Z_1, Z_2 defined by [27]

$$Z_i = \{ \mathbf{x} | F_i(\mathbf{x}) = 0 \}, \quad i = 1, 2.$$
(6)

In the linear neighborhood of \mathbf{x}_f these sets clearly define straight lines. In the more general case of a nonlinear system they are implicitly defined continuous curves in an area of phase space where the Jacobian of the map is regular. Their intersection is $Z_1 \cap Z_2 = {\mathbf{x}_f}$. With $\mathbf{C}_{k\sigma}$ acting on Z_1, Z_2 , they either stay the same if $\mathbf{C}_{k\sigma}$ does not interchange the coordinates, or they are transferred one onto the other if $\mathbf{C}_{k\sigma}$ does interchange the coordinates. In this sense, the manifold $Z = Z_1 \cup Z_2$ is invariant with respect to application of the set of matrices $\mathbf{C}_{k\sigma}$, i.e., $\mathbf{C}_{k\sigma}(Z) = Z$ for all $(k\sigma)$.

In the following we derive a classification scheme for the linearized dynamics around a FP whose validity is, however, due to the global character of our approach, not limited to the linear regime. In order to elucidate the action of the stabilizing transformations and to distinguish between FP's with different stability properties, let us introduce two different ways of classifying the matrices of a two-dimensional dynamical system, each providing its own insights. The classifications are such that they reflect certain geometrical features of the flow around the FP. These features are the different invariant sets Z on the one hand and additional geometrical properties of the matrices, which have a particular Z in common, on the other hand.

The first classification introduces classes consisting of matrices which have the manifold $Z=Z_1\cup Z_2$ in common. They are labeled $C(\phi_{\min}, \phi_{\max})$, where ϕ_{\min} and ϕ_{\max} are the azimuthal angles of the manifolds Z_1 and Z_2 , respectively, being sorted with increasing order. ϕ_{\min} and ϕ_{\max} are related to the stability matrix of the FP in the following way: The linearized dynamics of Eq. (4) in the neighborhood of a FP reads $\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{x}$, where $\mathbf{B} = (a_{ij})_{\substack{1 \le i \le 2\\ 1 \le j \le 2}}$ is the stability matrix of **F**(\mathbf{x}) at the FP and \mathbf{x} is the displacement with respect to the FP. It can be shown that ϕ_{\min} and ϕ_{\max} are given by

$$(\phi_{\min}, \phi_{\max}) = (\min_{i} \{\phi_i\}, \max_{i} \{\phi_i\})$$

with

$$\phi_i = \arctan\left(-\frac{a_{i1}}{a_{i2}}\right), \quad i = 1, 2.$$
(7)

If a stability matrix **B** belongs to the class $C(\phi_{\min}, \phi_{\max})$ its products $\{C_{k\sigma} \cdot B\}$ also belong to this class.

For the later discussion we introduce here three sets of FP's each of which is an infinite unification of classes $C(\phi_{\min}, \phi_{\max})$:

$$\mathcal{C}^{1} = \{ \mathcal{C}(\phi_{\min}, \phi_{\max}) | 0 < \phi_{\min}, \phi_{\max} < \pi/2 \},$$

$$\mathcal{C}^{2} = \{ \mathcal{C}(\phi_{\min}, \phi_{\max}) | 0 < \phi_{\min} < \pi/2 < \phi_{\max} < \pi \}, \qquad (8)$$

$$\mathcal{C}^{3} = \{ \mathcal{C}(\phi_{\min}, \phi_{\max}) | \pi/2 < \phi_{\min}, \phi_{\max} < \pi \}.$$

A further classification of the matrices within each class $\mathcal{C}(\phi_{\min}, \phi_{\max})$ is needed for a more detailed identification of the geometrical properties of the flux around a particular FP. For this purpose, we assign a label $(l\tau)$ to each stability matrix $\mathbf{B}_{l\tau}$ of FP's with the following meaning: $\tau = \pm 1$ gives the sign of det($\mathbf{B}_{l\tau}$). To illustrate the meaning of *l*, we write $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}) = (r \cos \psi, r \sin \psi)^T$ in polar coordinates and consider the azimuthal angle ψ_{\min} of $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x})$ for $\mathbf{x} = (\cos \phi_{\min}, \sin \phi_{\min})^T$. By construction, ϕ_{\min} can take the values $m\pi/2$, $m=0,\ldots,3$. Now we define the index $l = m + \tau - 1 \mod 4$. Encircling the FP on a unit circle $\mathbf{x} = (\cos \phi, \sin \phi)^T$, the normalized flux $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x})/|\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x})|$ describes a circle in the local coordinate system centered in x, too. τ gives the orientation of this circular rotation of the flux ($\tau = +1$: anticlockwise, $\tau = -1$: clockwise), whereas l is directly related to the phase of the flux at ϕ_{\min} . This naturally introduces a subset $C_{l\tau}(\phi_{\min}, \phi_{\max})$ of the class $\mathcal{C}(\phi_{\min},\phi_{\max})$: those elements of $\mathcal{C}(\phi_{\min},\phi_{\max})$ belong to $C_{l\tau}(\phi_{\min}, \phi_{\max})$, which possess the indices $(l\tau)$, i.e., the sign τ for the rotation of the flux and the phase *l* of the flux at ϕ_{\min} . We can now allow ϕ_{\min}, ϕ_{\max} to vary while keeping the indices $(l\tau)$ of the matrices of this set fixed. For

TABLE II. Transition matrices $C_{k\sigma}$ necessary for transitions between different classes $A_{l\tau}$ of stability matrices of fixed points. The first three columns indicate the combination of classes occurring in a two-dimensional chaotic dynamical system.

\mathcal{C}^{1}	\mathcal{C}^{2}	\mathcal{C}^3	7	\mathcal{A}_{0^+}	\mathcal{A}_{1+}	\mathcal{A}_{2^+}	\mathcal{A}_{3+}	\mathcal{A}_{0-}	\mathcal{A}_{1-}	$\mathcal{A}_{2^{-}}$	\mathcal{A}_{3-}
			\mathcal{A}_{0+}	C ₀₊	C ₁₊	C ₂₊	C ₃₊	C ₀ -	C ₁₋	C ₂ -	C ₃₋
*		*	\mathcal{A}_{1+}	C_{3+}	C_{0+}	C_{1+}	C_{2+}	C_{1-}	C_{2-}	C ₃₋	C_{0-}
*	*	*	\mathcal{A}_{2+}	C_{2+}	C_{3+}	C_{0+}	\mathbf{C}_{1+}	C_{2-}	C_{3-}	C_{0-}	C_{1-}
	*		\mathcal{A}_{3+}	C_{1+}	C_{2+}	C_{3+}	C_{0+}	C_{3-}	C_{0-}	C_{1-}	C_{2-}
*	*	*	\mathcal{A}_{0-}	\mathbf{C}_{0-}	C_{1-}	C_{2-}	C_{3-}	C_{0+}	\mathbf{C}_{1+}	\mathbf{C}_{2^+}	C_{3+}
*	*	*	\mathcal{A}_{1-}	\mathbf{C}_{1-}	C_{2-}	C_{3-}	C_{0-}	C_{3+}	C_{0+}	\mathbf{C}_{1+}	C_{2+}
*	*	*	\mathcal{A}_{2-}	C_{2-}	C_{3-}	\mathbf{C}_{0-}	C_{1-}	C_{2+}	C_{3+}	C_{0+}	C_{1+}
*	*	*	\mathcal{A}_{3-}	\mathbf{C}_{3-}	\mathbf{C}_{0-}	\mathbf{C}_{1-}	$\mathbf{C}_{2^{-}}$	\mathbf{C}_{1+}	$\mathbf{C}_{2^{+}}$	\mathbf{C}_{3+}	C_{0+}

each $(l\tau)$ we thereby form a class $\mathcal{A}_{l\tau} = \{\mathcal{C}_{l\tau}(\phi_{\min}, \phi_{\max}) | 0 \leq \phi_{\min}, \phi_{\max} \leq 2\pi\}$. For fixed ϕ_{\min}, ϕ_{\max} , multiplication by the matrices $\mathbf{C}_{k\sigma}$ transfers one complete set $\mathcal{A}_{l\tau}$ into another set $\mathcal{A}_{l'\tau'}$. The corresponding transitions are given in Table II. The asterisks in the first three columns of Table II indicate the sets \mathcal{C}^i and $\mathcal{A}_{l\tau}$ to which stability matrices of a FP of a two-dimensional chaotic system can belong. This is of relevance when asking for the possible sets of matrices $\mathbf{C}_{k\sigma}$ which stabilize all FPs of a dynamical system (see below). As one can read off Table II, the matrix $\mathbf{C}_{k\sigma}$ necessary to transfer stability matrices of a class $\mathcal{A}_{l\tau}$ into matrices in another class $\mathcal{A}_{l'\tau'}$ is given by

$$\mathbf{C}_{k\sigma}: \mathcal{A}_{l\tau} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{l\tau}$$

with

 $l' = k + \sigma \mod 4$

and

$$\tau' = \sigma \tau. \tag{9}$$

It is important to note that Table II holds not only for the unified sets $A_{l\tau}$ but particularly also for the individual subsets $C_{l\tau}(\phi_{\min}, \phi_{\max})$. It is a remarkable result that the multiplication table of the matrices $C_{k\sigma}$, i.e., Table I, considered as a transition table, has the same entries as the transition Table II. The multiplication law Eq. (3) becomes a law for the transition of $C_{k\sigma}$ to $C_{k'\sigma''}$ via $C_{k'\sigma'}$ with the corresponding indices $k' = k'' - \sigma \sigma'' k$ and $\sigma' = \sigma \sigma''$. This suggests that the matrices in a class $A_{l\tau}$ are in a way similar to the matrices $C_{k\sigma}$ with k = l and $\sigma = \tau$ as far as the rules for multiplication with the matrices $C_{k\sigma}$ are concerned.

The class $C_{l\tau}(\phi_{\min}, \phi_{\max})$ still contains an infinite number of (stability) matrices. However, to gain relevant information on the stability properties of FP's it suffices, as we shall see in the following, to know to which of the sets $\{C^i | i = 1 \dots 3\}$ and additionally $A_{l\tau}$ the stability matrix of the FP corresponds.

2. Properties of the angular functions $\psi(\phi)$ of the flux and examples

Let us consider an arbitrary but fixed stability matrix $\mathbf{B}_{l\tau} \in \mathcal{C}(\phi_{\min}, \phi_{\max}), \ \mathbf{B}_{l\tau} \in \mathcal{A}_{l\tau}$, and form the matrices $\mathbf{C}_{k\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{B}_{l\tau}, \ k = 0, \dots, 3; \sigma = \pm 1$. Each of these matrices is element, i.e., representative of a different class $\mathcal{A}_{l'\tau'}$ and we therefore have

$$\mathbf{B}_{l'\,\tau'} = \mathbf{C}_{k\,\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{B}_{l\,\tau}$$

with

$$l' = k + \sigma l \mod 4$$

and

$$\tau' = \sigma / \tau. \tag{10}$$

In the following we will call the set $\{\mathbf{B}_{l\tau}|l=0,\ldots,3;\tau=\pm 1\}$ the family of the matrix $\mathbf{B}_{l\tau}$. A central issue is to analyze which members of the family of a FP are stable. Once the information on the stability of the members of a family becomes available this represents an important step toward the selective use of Eq. (1), i.e., the selective detection of FP's.

In the following we study the orientational properties of the flux for a family of stability matrices with fixed but arbitrary (ϕ_{\min}, ϕ_{\max}). For the matrices $\mathbf{B}_{l\tau} = (b_{ij}^{(l\tau)})_{1 \le i,j \le 2}$ $\in \mathcal{A}_{l\tau}$ we introduce the angular functions $\psi_{l\tau}(\phi)$ of the flux $\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{B}_{l\tau} \cdot \mathbf{x}$ at a point $\mathbf{x} = (\cos \phi, \sin \phi)^T$

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FIG. 1. Definition of the polar angles ϕ and $\psi_{l'\tau'}(\phi)$ of the displacement $\mathbf{x} = (\cos \phi, \sin \phi)^T$ relative to the FP at (0,0) and the flux $F_{k\sigma}(\mathbf{x}) = (\cos \psi_{l'\tau'}, \sin \psi_{l'\tau'})^T$. $(k\sigma)$ indicates the particular stability transformation applied according to Eq. (5). The indices $(l'\tau')$ are given by Eq. (9) using $(k\sigma)$ and the indices $(l\tau)$ of the class $\mathcal{A}_{l\tau}$ to which the stability matrix of the original FP belongs.

$$\psi_{l\tau}(\phi) = \arctan\frac{(\mathbf{B}_{l\tau} \cdot \mathbf{x})_2}{(\mathbf{B}_{l\tau} \cdot \mathbf{x})_1} + \pi \left(\frac{3}{2} - \operatorname{sgn}(\mathbf{B}_{l\tau} \cdot \mathbf{x})_2\right)$$
$$= \arctan\left(\frac{b_{21}^{(l\tau)}\cos\phi + b_{22}^{(l\tau)}\sin\phi}{b_{11}^{(l\tau)}\cos\phi + b_{12}^{(l\tau)}\sin\phi}\right)$$
$$+ \pi \left(\frac{3}{2} - \operatorname{sign}(b_{21}^{(l\tau)}\cos\phi + b_{22}^{(l\tau)}\sin\phi)\right). (11)$$

 $\psi_{l\tau}(\phi)$ is the azimuthal angle of the flux [given by $\mathbf{F}_{l\tau}(\mathbf{x})$] with respect to a local polar coordinate system centered at the displacement $\mathbf{x} = (\cos \phi, \sin \phi)^T$. This is illustrated in Fig. 1. Let us derive relevant properties of the angular flux functions $\psi_{l\tau}(\phi)$. $\psi_{l\tau}(\phi)$ is a continuous function of ϕ with $\psi_{l\tau}(\phi) \in [0,2\pi]$. Due to symmetry reasons it is sufficient to consider the range $0 < \phi < \pi$. Furthermore $\psi_{l\tau}(\phi)$ is defined mod 2π and $\psi_{l\tau}(0) - \psi_{l\tau}(\pi) = \pi$. Its derivative reads

$$\psi_{l\tau}'(\phi) = \frac{\det(\mathbf{B}_{l\tau})}{L_{l\tau}^2(\phi)},\tag{12}$$

with

$$L_{l\tau}(\phi) = |\dot{\mathbf{x}}| = \sqrt{(b_{11}^{(l\tau)}\cos\phi + b_{12}^{(l\tau)}\sin\phi)^2 + (b_{21}^{(l\tau)}\cos\phi + b_{22}^{(l\tau)}\sin\phi)^2}$$
(13)

being the "velocity" of the flux in **x**. Since multiplication with any $C_{k\sigma}$ affects complete rows of $\mathbf{B}_{l\tau}$ by interchanging them or inverting their signs, $L^2_{l\tau}(\phi)$ is invariant, i.e., the same for any of the resulting matrices $\mathbf{B}_{l\tau}$. Two functions $\psi_{l\tau}(\phi)$ and $\psi_{l'\tau}(\phi)$ therefore differ only by a shift: $\psi_{l\tau}(\phi)$ $-\psi_{l'\tau}(\phi) = (l-l' \mod 4) \cdot \pi/2$. *l* can be interpreted (see also Sec. II B) as the phase of the linearized flux around the FP

$$\psi_{l\tau}(\phi_{\min}) = (l+1-\tau) \cdot \frac{\pi}{2}.$$
 (14)

Accordingly we have $\det(\mathbf{C}_{k\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{B}) = \det(\mathbf{C}_{k\sigma}) \cdot \det(\mathbf{B})$, with $\det(\mathbf{C}_{k+}) = +1$ and $\det(\mathbf{C}_{k-}) = -1$ and therefore

$$\psi_{l\tau}'(\phi) = -\psi_{l-\tau}'(\phi), \tag{15}$$

which yields

$$\psi_{l\tau}(\phi) = 2 \psi_{l\tau}(\phi_{\min}) - \psi_{l-\tau}(\phi),$$
 (16)

where $\tau = \pm 1$ indicates the sign of det($\mathbf{B}_{l\tau}$) and determines whether $\psi_{l\tau}(\phi)$ is rising or falling, according to Eq. (12).

In the remaining part of this subsection we provide generic examples and illustrations of the linearised dynamics around a FP and the corresponding angular functions of the flux for the different elements of a family $\{\mathbf{B}_{lr}\}$.

The stability matrices $\mathbf{B}_{l\tau}$ in Figs. 2(a) and 3(a) are members of a family of the matrix $\mathbf{M}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -4 \\ 10 & -5 \end{pmatrix}$, corresponding to the class $\mathcal{C}(0.24, 1.10)$. Figures 4(a) and 5(a) are obtained in the same way, showing the family of $\mathbf{M}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -4 \\ 10 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$, which is in the class $\mathcal{C}(0.24, 2.03)$. Each subfigure shows the linear



FIG. 2. (a) Phase portraits of fixed points with det($\mathbf{B}_{l\tau}$)>0,0< ϕ_{\min} , ϕ_{\max} < $\pi/2$. (b) and (c) are the corresponding $\psi_{l\tau}(\phi)$ diagrams. In (a) the manifolds Z_1, Z_2 (long dashed lines), eigenvectors (lines with filled arrows), and some trajectories are shown. The areas shaded gray indicate the intervals of the locations of the eigenvectors. They correspond to the shaded boxes in diagram (c) which show these intervals for the four FPs discussed.

neighborhood of the corresponding FP. (x,y) are the coordinates of the displacement of a trajectory with respect to the FP. The manifolds Z_1, Z_2 are displayed as long dashed lines with the direction of the flux on the Z_1 , Z_2 lines being indicated with open arrows. The thick lines with filled arrows show the position and stability properties of the eigenvectors.

(For saddle points, $\vec{v_e}, \vec{v_c}$ are indicated by outward and inward looking arrows corresponding to the expanding and contracting manifolds, respectively. For sinks and sources the corresponding eigenvectors are labeled $\vec{v_{e,1}}, \vec{v_{e,2}}$, and $\vec{v_{c,1}}, \vec{v_{c,2}}$, respectively.) Additionally, some trajectories have



FIG. 3. Same as Fig. 2, but with det($\mathbf{B}_{l\tau}$) < 0, $0 < \phi_{\min}, \phi_{\max} < \pi/2$.

been included to visualize the direction of the flow around the FP. In Figs. 2(b)–5(b) the corresponding angular functions $\psi_{l\tau}(\phi)$ are plotted. It is important to note that these particular functions—as well as the phase portraits given in the corresponding figures—are merely examples to demonstrate the qualitative variation of the dynamics generated by members of a family of stability matrices. There exist in general other families in the same class $C(\phi_{\min}, \phi_{\max}) \cap A_{l\tau}$, whose phase portraits and functions $\psi_{l\tau}(\phi)$ look different from those displayed in the figures. However, the functions $\psi_{l\tau}(\phi)$ of all these matrices in $C(\phi_{\min}, \phi_{\max}) \cap \mathcal{A}_{l\tau}$ have the values of $\psi_{l\tau}(\phi)$ in $\phi = \phi_{\min}$ and $\phi = \phi_{\max}$ and the sign of $\psi'(\phi)_{l\tau}$ in common. The actual $\psi_{l\tau}(\phi)$ can vary inbetween according to the definition Eq. (11). Nevertheless the above information about the stability matrices is in fact sufficient to determine their stability properties.



FIG. 4. Same as Fig. 2, but with det($\mathbf{B}_{l\tau}$)>0, $0 < \phi_{\min} < \pi/2 < \phi_{\max}$.

Now, looking at the examples in Figs. 2(a)-5(a) except for the cases of spiral points \mathbf{B}_{1+} and \mathbf{B}_{3+} , we are already in the position to suggest a criterion for the stability and the approximate position of the eigenvectors of the FP. Consider the direction of the flux in each of the sectors which are determined by the manifolds Z_1, Z_2 and the coordinate axes. The manifolds Z_1, Z_2 are by definition the lines for which the first, respectively, second component of the flux vanishes. Since the flux $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x})$ is a continuous vector function of the angle ϕ there have to be certain values ϕ_e for which the flux **F**(**x**) is collinear with the position vector $\mathbf{x} = (\cos \phi, \sin \phi)^T$, i.e., $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}) = \pm c \cdot \mathbf{x}$, c > 0. These angles ϕ_e obviously are the polar angles of the eigenvectors of the corresponding stability matrix. The intervals where these angles ϕ_e are located are bounded by Z_1 and Z_2 . The manifolds Z_1 and Z_2 represent the boundaries of sectors in which the angle of the flux varies by $\pi/2$. For reasons of continuity of $\psi_{l\tau}(\phi)$ [see Figs. 2(a)– 5(a)] one or even two eigenvectors are located within these sectors, which are shaded gray in the figures. In specific cases parts of the sectors defined by Z_1 and Z_2 are



FIG. 5. Same as Fig. 2, but with $\det(\mathbf{B}_{l\tau}) < 0, 0 < \phi_{\min} < \pi/2$ $< \phi_{\max}$.

excluded for the localization of the eigenvectors since collinearity of **x** and $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x})$ is not possible. In these cases the outer coordinate system (x, y) represents the boundary of the sectors for the occurrence of collinearity.

The fact that ϕ_e is the polar angle of an eigenvector of the stability matrix **A** is equivalent to

$$\psi_{l\tau}(\phi_e) = \begin{cases} \phi_e: \operatorname{Re}(\lambda) > 0, & \text{unstable eigenvector} \\ \phi_e + \pi: \operatorname{Re}(\lambda) < 0, & \text{stable eigenvector.} \end{cases}$$
(17)

This means that a crossing of $\psi_{l\tau}(\phi)$ with

$$\chi_n(\phi) = \phi + n\pi, \quad n = 0,1 \tag{18}$$

indicates an unstable or stable eigenvector for the corresponding value of ϕ , respectively.

3. Stability properties of the classes and the alternative sets of stabilization transformations

We will show in the following that for fixed ϕ_{\min} and ϕ_{\max} two complete classes $\mathcal{A}_{l'\tau'}$ and $\mathcal{A}_{l'',\tau''}$ are related to stable FP's, i.e., the matrices in these classes have eigenvalues λ_1, λ_2 for which $\operatorname{Re}(\lambda_1), \operatorname{Re}(\lambda_2) \leq 0$ holds. To these two classes correspond two matrices $C_{k^{\,\prime}\sigma^{\prime}}$ and $C_{k^{\prime\prime}\sigma^{\prime\prime}}$ which transfer an original stability matrix in a class $A_{l\tau}$ into the desired stable matrices in $A_{l'\tau'}$ and $A_{l''\tau''}$. This corresponds to a transformation of the original FP into the desired stable ones in the transformed dynamical systems $S_{k'\sigma'}$ and $S_{k'\sigma''}$. The two matrices $C_{k'\sigma'}$ and $C_{k''\sigma''}$ which accomplish this transformation can be read off the transition Table II immediately. In particular, it will become evident that a minimal set of three $C_{k\sigma}$ matrices is sufficient to stabilize any FP of a two-dimensional fully chaotic system. What is more, this classification proves to be useful not only for saddle points but also for systems with repellors and spiral points, which can be transformed to stable FP's (sinks) via a certain matrix $\mathbf{C}_{k\sigma}$ (see below).

We now discuss the properties of all possible stability matrices according to their $\psi_{l\tau}(\phi)$ diagrams. To do this it is sufficient to consider the assignment of the matrices to the classes C^1 , C^2 , and C^3 as introduced in Eq. (8) and to the classes $\mathcal{A}_{l\tau}$. In the following we concentrate on the classes C^1 and C^2 since the argumentation for the class C^3 is analogous to that for C^1 . For the same reason we restricted the examples in Figs. 2–5 to the classes C^1 and C^2 . In Figs. 2(c)-5(c) we show the areas in the $\psi_{l\tau}(\phi)$ diagrams where a crossing of $\psi_{l\tau}(\phi)$ and $\chi_0(\phi)$ or $\chi_1(\phi)$ may occur as gray shaded boxes. They are derived by simple application of continuity arguments concerning $\psi_{l\tau}(\phi)$. The labels $l\tau$ in the boxes are the labels of the corresponding class $A_{l\tau}$ of matrices whose real eigenvectors have azimuthal angles in this range of ϕ . Two labels given in brackets indicate the possibility of either two real eigenvalues with eigenvectors in this range (sink or source) or complex eigenvalues without real eigenvectors of the corresponding matrix (spiral points). These two possibilities cannot be distinguished within our classification scheme of matrices. However, this fact does not affect the final selection of the minimal stabilising set of matrices $\mathbf{C}_{k\sigma}$.

We begin our discussion with stability matrices \mathbf{B} with negative determinants.

Matrices $\mathbf{B} \in \{\mathcal{A}_{l-} | l=0...3\}$ are stability matrices of saddle points. The stability properties of these FP's are easy to determine from the corresponding $\psi_{l\tau}(\phi)$ diagrams in Figs. 3(b) and 5(b). It is obvious from the monotonicity and continuity of the $\psi_{l\tau}(\phi)$ curve that they intersect the "unstable" and the "stable" lines $\chi_0(\phi), \chi_1(\phi)$, respectively, exactly once. The sectors where the corresponding eigenvectors are localized are shaded gray in the corresponding phase diagrams [Figs. 3(c) and 5(c)].

FP's with positive Jacobian **B** are a bit more subtle matter. They belong to the classes $\{\mathcal{A}_{l+}|l=0...3\}$ and include sinks and sources as well as spiral points for which the real part of the stability eigenvalues $\operatorname{Re}(\lambda_1)$. $\operatorname{Re}(\lambda_2)$ possess the same signs. Spiral FP's possess stability matrices **B** with eigenvalues $\operatorname{Im}(\lambda_1)$, $\operatorname{Im}(\lambda_2) \neq 0$. This implies $\det(\mathbf{B}) > 0$. As pointed out earlier the classification of the stability matrices with $\mathcal{C}(\phi_{\min}, \phi_{\max})$ and $\mathcal{A}_{l\tau}$ neither specifies the matrix nor its eigenvalues completely. In particular for stability matrices whose family contains spiral points an additional criterion is needed to analyze their stability since the corresponding $\psi_{l\tau}(\phi)$ functions do not cross the lines $\chi_0(\phi)$ or $\chi_1(\phi)$. For this analysis we suggest the following criterion (whose completeness we could not prove yet).

Consider the angles ϕ_t , t=1,2, for which $\psi'_{l\tau}(\phi_t)=1$, i.e., $\psi_{l\tau}(\phi)$ is tangential to $\chi_n(\phi)$, and define the distance to both lines $\chi_n(\phi)$

$$d_n = \min_{t=1,2} |\psi_{l\tau}(\phi_t) - \phi_t - n\pi|, \quad n = 0, 1.$$
(19)

Now the stability of the spiral point is suggested by

 $d_0 < d_1 \Rightarrow \operatorname{Re}(\lambda_e) > 0$, unstable spiral point, (20)

$$d_0 > d_1 \Rightarrow \operatorname{Re}(\lambda_e) < 0$$
, stable spiral point (21)

This implies that for spiral FP's the line $\chi_n(\phi)$ which is closest to $\psi_{l\tau}(\phi_t)$ determines the stability and this can be

seen as a generalization of the criterion of the crossing with $\chi_n(\phi)$ in the case of real eigenvalues.

It is an interesting property that the stability of matrices \mathbf{B}_{l+} of a family $\{\mathbf{B}_{l\tau}|l=0...3,\tau=\pm\}$ changes with $l \rightarrow l$ +2 mod 4, i.e., if \mathbf{B}_{1+} is stable, then \mathbf{B}_{3+} is unstable, if \mathbf{B}_{2+} is stable, then \mathbf{B}_{4+} is unstable and vice versa. If the eigenvalues are real the eigenvectors are not affected by the shift (only their stability changes). This property is obvious taking into account that the shift in *l* corresponds to a shift of $\psi_{l\tau}(\phi)$ by π , with π also being the shift between the lines $\chi_0(\phi), \chi_1(\phi)$. Physically, the shift by π is for any stability matrix equivalent to a time reversal [which corresponds to a reversal of the flux $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}) \rightarrow -\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x})$].

We now come back to the discussion of the stability properties of matrices \mathbf{B} possessing a positive determinant.

Matrices $\mathbf{B} \in \{\mathcal{A}_{l+} | l=0...3\}$ describe sinks and sources and spiral points. First we will address the sinks and sources and second the spiral points. The corresponding curve $\psi_{l\tau}(\phi)$ crosses one of the lines $\chi_0(\phi)$ (sink) or $\chi_1(\phi)$ (source) twice. It is obvious but nevertheless important to note that there cannot be more than two crossings, which can also formally be seen from Eq. (12). Having three or more cuts with $\chi_n(\phi)$, n=0,1 implies that $\psi_{l\tau}(\phi)$ has at least two turning points in any interval $[\phi_d, \phi_u]$ with $\phi_d - \phi_u$ $= \pi/2$. This means that $L^2_{l\tau}(\phi)$ has two or more extrema in $[\phi_d, \phi_u]$. Differentiating $L^2_{l\tau}(\phi)$ [see Eq. (13)] yields [for the sake of simplicity we omit the superscripts $(l\tau)$ in the entries $(b_{ij}^{(l\tau)})_{1 \le i,j \le 2}$ of **B**]

$$\frac{dL_{1\tau}^{2}(\phi)}{d\phi} = -(b_{21}^{2} + b_{11}^{2})2\cos\phi\sin\phi + (b_{22}^{2} + b_{12}^{2})2\sin\phi$$

$$\times\cos\phi + 2(\cos^{2}\phi - \sin^{2}\phi)(b_{21}b_{22} + b_{11}b_{12})$$

$$= (b_{22}^{2} + b_{12}^{2} - b_{21}^{2} - b_{11}^{2})\sin(2\phi)$$

$$+ 2(\cos^{2}\phi - \sin^{2}\phi)(b_{21}b_{22} + b_{11}b_{12})\cos(2\phi),$$
(22)

$$\frac{dL_{l_{\tau}}^{2}(\phi)}{d\phi} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \tan(2\phi) = \frac{b_{21}b_{22} + b_{11}b_{12}}{b_{22}^{2} + b_{12}^{2} - b_{21}^{2} - b_{11}^{2}}, \quad (23)$$

which has exactly one solution for ϕ in any interval $[\phi_d, \phi_u]$ with $\phi_d - \phi_u = \pi/2$, i.e., there is only one turning point in this interval.

(a) The class C^1 : As can be read off directly from the diagrams [Figs. 2(b) and 2(c)], matrices in $C^1 \cap A_{2+}$ and $C^1 \cap A_{2-}$ are sinks and sources, respectively. One of the eigenvectors is in the interval $[\phi_{\min}, \phi_{\max}]$, the other one is located in $[\pi/2,\pi]$. Matrices of the class $C^1 \cap A_{1+}$ and $C^1 \cap A_{3+}$ are either sinks and sources or spiral points. For real eigenvalues matrices of $C^1 \cap A_{1+}$ are sinks, whereas matrices in $C^1 \cap A_{3+}$ are sources. The orientation of the eigenvectors of both stability matrices are within the interval $[\phi_{\max}, \pi/2]$. Considering the latter case of spiral points, we can at least state that within one family $\{\mathbf{B}_{l_{\tau}}|l=0\ldots 3, \tau=\pm 1\}$ of matrices either \mathbf{B}_{1+} is a stable spiral and \mathbf{B}_{3+} is an unstable spiral point or vice versa.

(b) *The class* C^2 : Here more cases are possible. Looking at the matrices $\{\mathbf{B}_{l+}|l=0...3\}$ of the family $\{\mathbf{B}_{l\tau}|l=0...3, \tau=\pm\}$ there can be

(1) no spiral point, but two sinks and two sources (analogous to C^{1});

(2) two spiral points (one stable, one unstable), one sink and one source (analogous to in C^{1}); or

(3) four spiral points (two stable, two unstable).

Which of these cases occur is a question of the variation of $\psi_{l\tau}(\phi) - \phi$ and of the phase $\psi_{l\tau}(\phi_{\min})$. If real eigenvalues occur, the angles of the corresponding eigenvectors are within $[\pi/2, \phi_{\max}]$ for matrices in \mathcal{A}_{1+} and \mathcal{A}_{3+} . The position of eigenvectors of stability matrices in \mathcal{A}_{1+} and \mathcal{A}_{3+} is not determined within this classification scheme.

To determine the minimal sets S_i of matrices $C_{k\sigma}$ necessary for stabilization of *all* FP's of a two-dimensional chaotic dynamical system let us first consider the classes $A_{l\tau} \cap C^i$ whose representatives correspond to stable FP's. We herefore form pairs $(l\tau, l'\tau')$ abbreviating the two classes $A_{l\tau}$ and $A_{l'\tau'}$ for any C^i

$$C^{1}:(1+,2+)$$
 or $(2+,3+)$
 $C^{2}:(1+,2+)$ or $(2+,3+)$ or $(3+,0+)$ (24)
 $C^{3}:(1+,2+)$ or $(2+,3+).$

When looking for the minimal set of matrices $C_{k\sigma}$ necessary for stabilization one has to take into account that only certain kinds of FP's can occur in the system $\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x})$, Eq. (4), derived from the original dynamical system $\mathbf{x}_{i+1} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_i)$. In two dimensions $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$ can have saddle points only and the FP's of $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x})$ are therefore either saddle points also or sinks.

Let us discuss the set S_{saddle} of matrices $\mathbf{C}_{k\sigma}$ which stabilize saddle points first. Since the determinant of the stability matrix is negative for a saddle point and positive for any stable sink or spiral point, the corresponding stabilizing matrix $\mathbf{C}_{k\sigma}$ has the form \mathbf{C}_{k-} . Since the saddle points of all classes C^1 , C^2 , and C^3 have to be stabilized by S_{saddle} we have to determine S_{saddle} such that any class \mathcal{A}_{l-} of original matrices is transferred into at least one element in each of the pairs

(1+,2+) or (2+,3+) or (3+,0+), which is the union of the pairs of all three classes C^1 , C^2 , and C^3 in Eq. (24). The transition Table II shows that there are just two possibilities of minimal sets: $S_{\text{saddle}} = \{ \mathbf{C}_{0-}, \mathbf{C}_{2-} \}$ or $\{ \mathbf{C}_{1-}, \mathbf{C}_{3-} \}$. Each of these sets has to be combined with sets S_{sink} that stabilize the sinks of $\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x})$ to yield a possible set S. Since the latter are already stable, the identity transformation $S_{\text{sink}} = \{ \mathbf{C}_{0+} \}$ is sufficient. Indeed, it is easy to see that no other $C_{k\sigma}$ is able to achieve the same: Sinks can occur in both C^1 and C^3 for the classes \mathcal{A}_{1+} and \mathcal{A}_{2+} and in C^2 for the classes \mathcal{A}_{2+} and \mathcal{A}_{3+} . We therefore can list these different classes of sinks and sets S_{sink} of matrices $\mathbf{C}_{k\sigma}$ necessary to stabilize them as follows:

original classes	stable classes	sets of stabilising $C_{k\sigma}$	
$\mathcal{C}^1 \cap \mathcal{A}_{1+}$:	(1+,2+)	$\{\mathbf{C}_{0+}\}$ or $\{\mathbf{C}_{1+}\}$	
$\mathcal{C}^1 \cap \mathcal{A}_{2+}$:	(1+,2+) or $(2+,3+)$	$\{C_{0+}\}$ or $\{C_{1+}, C_{3+}\}$	
$\mathcal{C}^2 \cap \mathcal{A}_{2+}$:	(1+,2+) or $(2+,3+)$	$\{C_{0+}\} \ \text{or} \ \{C_{1+},C_{3+}\}$	
$\mathcal{C}^2 \cap \mathcal{A}_{3+}$:	(2+,3+) or $(0+,3+)$	$\{C_{0+}\}$ or $\{C_{1+}, C_{3+}\}$	(25)
$\mathcal{C}^3 \cap \mathcal{A}_{1+}$:	(1+,2+)	$\{\mathbf{C}_{0+}\}$ or $\{\mathbf{C}_{1+}\}$	
$\mathcal{C}^3 \cap \mathcal{A}_{2+}$:	(1+,2+) or $(2+,3+)$	$\{\mathbf{C}_{0+}\}$ or $\{\mathbf{C}_{1+},\mathbf{C}_{3+}\}$.	

So the smallest set that stabilizes any sink independent of the classes C^1 , C^2 , and C^3 is $S_{sink} = \{C_{0+}\}$. If we now form the unions $S_{saddle} \cup S_{sink}$ to get a set of matrices $C_{k\sigma}$ that stabilize all FP's of a two-dimensional fully chaotic dynamical system we end up with two "global" minimal sets:

$$S_1 = \{ \mathbf{C}_{0+}, \mathbf{C}_{0-}, \mathbf{C}_{2-} \}$$

and

$$S_2 = \{ \mathbf{C}_{0+}, \mathbf{C}_{1-}, \mathbf{C}_{3-} \}.$$
(26)

There are other sets which also do the job, but they contain at least four matrices and are therefore not minimal. In previous numerical investigations it was observed [25,26] that the transformation belonging to the matrix C_{0+} yields a particularly large number of stabilized fixed points. From the above discussion this now becomes understandable since C_{0+} is responsible for the stabilization of the sinks in Eq. (5) which occur in many different classes.

Let us remark that the above discussion also includes sinks of the original system **f** since they become sinks of **F** and can therefore be treated in the same way, i.e., are "stabilized" using the same minimal sets S_1 or S_2 .

The concept of characterizing FP's by sets of manifolds which are invariant with respect to the operations $C_{k\sigma}$ can be extended in a natural way. One can consider manifolds which are composed by not only two subsets Z_1 and Z_2 as above, but of four subsets $Z_1 \dots Z_4$. These subsets are defined implicitly by demanding a given ratio of the two components of the flux. For the linear regime they correspond to four angles { $\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3, \phi_4$ }, which are a generalization of the parameters { ϕ_{\min}, ϕ_{\max} } in the discussion above. This larger set of parameters leads to a finer partition of the space of all 2×2 matrices, which in turn allows a complete assignment of stability properties to the different matrices. The definition of the family of a given matrix is analogous to the corresponding definition, Eq. (10), and reflects the action of the group of matrices $\{C_{k\sigma}\}$. However, finding the proper partition is not straightforward and is left to a future investigation.

III. APPLICATIONS

In this section we apply the SD method whose theoretical background has been discussed so far. Furthermore we will discuss several improvements of its original algorithmic implementation to locate the UPO's [25,26]. With respect to the detection of the orbits our aim is twofold. First we are interested in complete sets of UPO's for higher periods of the above maps and in analyzing them with respect to the distributions of the corresponding Lyapunov exponents. Second we want to demonstrate the suitability of our method for detecting the least unstable orbits up to high periods. The latter is an extension of the work given in Ref. [26]. We remark that very recently an efficient algorithm for detecting UPO's in chaotic systems based on a combination of the SD method and a Newton–Raphson-like approach has been developed and successfully applied [29].

A. Finding the fixed points

Concerning the efficient algorithmic implementations of the SD method we face two main problems:

(1) the completeness of the detected set of UPO's which is of conceptual character, and

(2) separating closely neighbored UPO's which is an issue only for our particular implementation of the SD method, i.e., characteristic for our numerical approach.

Let us first address the completeness problem. Of course there is no exact proof of completeness for the detected UPO's within the SD method. However, a properly chosen sequence of sets of initial conditions, which cover the phase space of the dynamical system as neat as possible, can significantly lower the probability of missing any UPO's. Due to the presence of length scales which differ by many orders of magnitude induced by the fractal structure of the corresponding strange attractor we proceed here as follows.

We introduce a set of grids G_i , $i=1,2,\ldots$ of starting points which are cumulative in the way that the points of G_i fill gaps on the attractor that are larger than a given size in the union of the preceding grids $G_1 \cup G_2 \cup \ldots \cup G_{i-1}$. In the particular case of the Ikeda map (see below) we generate a sequence of six grids G_1, \ldots, G_6 with G_1 containing approximately 4500 points, while G_i , $i=2,\ldots,6$ contain approximately 1500 points each. The starting points of each set G_i are propagated with the transformed maps S_{0+} , S_{0-} , and S_{2-} , i.e., applying the matrices C_{0+} , C_{0-} , and C_{2-} according to Eq. (1). The propagation of a particular trajectory is stopped at the point **x** if $\delta = |f^{(p)}(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{x}| < \epsilon$, where ϵ is the desired resolution of the FP's. For periodic orbits of the Ikeda map with p=14 and 15, $\epsilon < 10^{-10}$ turned out to be sufficient to resolve the different cycles. Propagating the starting points of the grids G_i with S_{0+} , S_{0-} , and S_{2-} yields the sets $N_{i,0+}$, $N_{i,0-}$, and $N_{i,2-}$, $i=1,\ldots,6$, respectively, of points which to good accuracy approximate the FP's of the Ikeda map. The set $N_i = N_{i,0+} \cup N_{i,0-} \cup N_{i,2-}$ contains the FP's of the map found by propagating the points of G_i . Then we consider the number $n_{i,k\sigma}$ of FP's that ap-



FIG. 6. Distribution of the distances d_{xy} of the orbits of the Ikeda map for period p = 15 of the set N_1 . The abscissa of the figure covers the 16 076 pairs of FP's in N_1 .

pear in a particular $N_{i,k\sigma}$ (and therefore in N_i) with $(k\sigma) = (0+)$, (0-), (2-), but which are not contained in any other N_j , j < i. If $n_{i-1,k\sigma} = n_{i,k\sigma} = 0$, i.e., no additional FP's have been found when propagating two subsequent grids G_{i-1} , G_i , the set of FP's of the transformed system $S_{k\sigma}$ is considered to be complete and the procedure of constructing subsequent grids is stopped.

The second improvement concerns the separation of neighboring UPO's. Using however an appropriately defined distance d_{xy} between two orbits of period p, $\vec{x_i} = (x_{1i}, x_{2i})^T$, $\vec{y_i} = (y_{1i}, y_{2i})^T$, i = 1, ..., p:

$$d_{xy} = \min_{\substack{k=0,\dots,\\\dots,p-1}} \sum_{\substack{1 \le i \le p\\1 \le j \le 2}} (x_{ji} - y_{j(i+k \mod p)})^2.$$
(27)

This can be achieved as follows. We consider a set of FP's that belong to different periodic orbits. The FPs obtained in the procedure of propagating the transformed systems S_{0+} , S_{0-} , and S_{2-} as described above provide an example for such a set. By forming all possible pairs of any two FP's of this set and looking at the resulting distribution of values of d_{xy} (e.g., by plotting all d_{xy} in a logarithmic scale) one can distinguish three subsets, separated by gaps differing by several orders of magnitude (Fig. 6). The set with the largest values of d_{xy} contains all pairs formed with different orbits, whereas the second and third largest set is composed of pairs of identical orbits. A possible explanation for the appearance of the gap between the second and the third zone is the following: A trajectory of the transformed map approaches the FP on a curve, which in the local but still nonlinear neighborhood is close to the least stable of both stable manifolds of the FP. Two trajectories $\{\mathbf{y}_i\}$ and $\{\mathbf{z}_i\}$ can therefore evolve toward a FP \mathbf{x}_o along the same or opposite directions. The same holds for all other FPs of the orbit $\mathbf{f}^{(r)}(\mathbf{x}_o)$ with the trajectories $\{\mathbf{f}^{(r)}(\mathbf{y}_i)\}$ and $\{\mathbf{f}^{(r)}(\mathbf{z}_i)\}, r=1,\ldots,p-1$. In the case of an antiparallel approach to the FPs of a given cycle, the contributions to d_{xy} are much larger compared to the case of a parallel approach, which finally yields the gap between the second (parallel approach) and third (antiparallel approach) region in Fig. 6. If the first and the second zone happen to merge, the accuracy of the FP's is not sufficient to distinguish different orbits and has to be refined by further propagation with the corresponding transformed maps. What is more, this distinction can be used to derive an estimate for the absolute accuracy of the FPs derived by propagating the appropriately transformed system: The maximal separation of two points belonging to the same cycle is given by the square root of the value of d_{xy} at the upper edge of the lowest band in the distribution of values of d_{xy} .

With the above method we selected exactly one point of each periodic orbit we found. The other points are obtained by simply propagating the selected point with the original map.

B. Complete sets of orbits and Lyapunov distributions

In the following we first focus on the Ikeda map [28]. It is given by $x_{n+1} = \alpha + \beta(x_n \cos w_n - y_n \sin w_n)$, $y_{n+1} = \beta(x_n \sin w_n + y_n \cos w_n)$, where $w_n = \gamma - [\delta/(1 + x_n^2 + y_n^2)]$. The attractor to be investigated appears for $\alpha = 1.0$, $\beta = 0.9$, $\gamma = 0.4$, and $\delta = 6.0$. For the Ikeda map the periods p = 1, 2, ..., 13 have already been investigated in Ref. [25]. In order to indicate the applicability of the previously discussed algorithmic implementation of the SD method beyond those periods we calculate complete sets of orbits for p = 14, 15.

TABLE III. The number of prime cycles with period p, the total number of cycle points of order p, and the topological entropy h_p for Ikeda map, periods p = 12, ..., 15.

Period p	12	13	14	15
No. of prime cycles	110	194	317	566
No. of fixed points	1384	2523	4512	8518
Topol. entropy	0.603	0.603	0.601	0.603

A rough hint towards the completeness of the result is the convergence of the corresponding topological entropy $h = \lim_{p\to\infty} h_p$, with $h_p = \ln n(p)/p$, n(p) being the number of FPs of all cycles of period p (see Table III). h seems to be converged fairly well to a constant value. Our sets of orbits for the Ikeda map, together with the corresponding results for the Hénon map, allow us to study the distributions of the Lyapunov exponents of the UPO's for the two different systems (see below).

Before entering into this discussion we comment on some observations made by applying the SD method to the Ikeda map. As explained in Sec. II B, each point of a UPO is stabilized by two matrices, which both have either positive or negative determinant. Therefore, we can group the points of one UPO of period p into the sets

$$S_+(p)$$
:sinks, stabilized by either C_{0+} , C_{1+} , C_{2+} , or C_{3+} , (28)

$$S_{-}(p)$$
:saddles, stabilized by either C_{0-} , C_{1-} , C_{2-} , or C_{3-} . (29)

We found the surprising result that for all periods p=1-15both sets $S_{+}(p)$ and $S_{-}(p)$ contain the same number of points, $|S_+(p)|$ and $|S_-(p)|$, respectively. The values are $|S_{\pm}(p)| = 1,2,4,8,11,26,36,64,121,242,419,692,1262,$ and 2256 and 4259 for p = 1 - 15. Index theory [31] suggests that the equality $|S_+| = |S_-|$ is a general law. This implies a symmetry relation between the orbits of the map: Each orbit with a positive determinant of its stability matrix is related to exactly one orbit with negative determinant. In Sec. III, we will seek the most stable orbits of the Ikeda map for higher periods and we will find that a similar pairing of orbits, i.e., two orbits, one in S_+ and one in S_- , have nearly the same Lyapunov exponent. For all detected UPO's we calculate the Lyapunov exponent $\Lambda_{orb} = \log(|\rho|)/p$, where ρ is the largest eigenvalue of the matrix $M = M_p \cdot \ldots \cdot M_2 \cdot M_1$.

Figure 7 shows the normalized distributions $D(\Lambda)$ of Lyapunov exponents Λ of all orbits of order $p = 24, \ldots, 27$ for the Hénon map [22] given by $x_{n+1} = 1.4 - x_n^2 + 0.3y_n$, $y_{n+1} = x_n$, and for $p = 12, \ldots, 15$ of the Ikeda map (primitive orbits only). For both maps the Lyapunov exponents form a band and the distributions show a more and more pronounced peak as p increases. The peak of the distribution appears around $\Lambda = 0.5$ for the Hénon and around $\Lambda = 0.68$ for the Ikeda map. Around this peak, the

distribution is expected generally to be well approximated by a Gaussian [12,30]. However, globally the distributions of both maps clearly deviate from Gaussian behavior in some respects.

(i) Unlike symmetric distributions, both distributions exhibit an enhancement for small values of the Lyapunov exponent. This indicates that there are correlations within these orbits.

(ii) A second feature is the occurrence of peaks in the main bulk of the distribution. A characteristic peak of the Hénon map appears at $\Lambda = 0.551$ and a similar spike is visible for low values at $\Lambda = 0.435$.

Probably the Lyapunov distribution for the cycles of the Ikeda map displays similar features, though the number of cycles for period p = 15 is not enough to allow for a sufficient resolution of the distribution.

These features show that the Lyapunov distributions contain interesting information on the systems dynamics.

C. Stability ordering of cycles

Since the SD method is, by construction, changing the stability properties of a dynamical system, it is not surprising



FIG. 7. Normalized distributions of the Lyapunov exponents (prime cycles only) of the Ikeda and Hénon maps for various.

that the value of the tuning parameter λ is of relevance to the magnitude of the Lyapunov exponents $\Lambda_{orb}^{(j)}$ to be detected. The critical parameter $\lambda_{k\sigma,i}$ of a point \mathbf{x}_i of a cycle stabilized with $\mathbf{C}_{k\sigma}$ is defined as the largest value of λ for which both eigenvalues of the transformed stability matrix $\mathbf{T}_{S_{k\sigma}}$ in Eq. (2) have an absolute value less than unity, which marks the transition from instability to stability.

As introduced in Ref. [26], an approximately monotonous relation between $\Lambda_{\text{orb}}^{(j)}$ and the critical value $\lambda_{k\sigma,i}^{(j)}$ can be observed. For the orbits of the Hénon map, which are stabilized by a specific $C_{k\sigma}$ matrix, this monotonous relation can be clearly seen. However, when examining other maps, e.g., the Ikeda map, one finds that this relation is obeyed less strictly. However, a slightly different concept of ordering does the job: We consider all points $\mathbf{x}_i^{(j)}$, $i=1 \dots p$ of an orbit j of given period p, which in general are stabilized by different $\mathbf{C}_{k\sigma}$ matrices with different critical $\lambda_{k\sigma,i}^{(j)}$ values. In contrast to the approach chosen in Ref. [26] we now allow all eight $C_{k\sigma}$ matrices to be used as stabilizing transformations. As explained in Sec. II B, each point of the orbit j is stabilized by two matrices $\mathbf{C}_{k\sigma}$, $\mathbf{C}_{k'\sigma'}$, with a particular $\lambda_{k\sigma,i}^{(j)}$. To each orbit of period p there belongs a set of two, three, or four $C_{k\sigma}$ matrices stabilizing different cycle points and a set of 2n values $\lambda_{k\sigma,i}^{(j)}$. Now we ask for the largest λ_c out of this set and call it the $\lambda_{arb}^{(j)}$ of the corresponding orbit *j*. The corresponding plot for the Ikeda map is presented in Fig. 8 and shows a sufficient ordering of the stability coefficients of the detected UPOs with respect to the corresponding critical



FIG. 8. Distribution of the Lyapunov exponents of the stabilized orbits as a function of the critical stabilizing parameter $\lambda_{orb}^{(j)}$ for the Ikeda map, periods p = 10-15. The areas shaded gray show the approximate range of the distribution for p = 15.

values $\lambda_{orb}^{(j)}$. The area in each subfigure which is shaded gray indicates the approximate position of the points $\Lambda_{arb}^{(j)}(\lambda_{arb}^{(j)})$ for period p = 15. Obviously the distributions become increasingly flatter with increasing p, which corresponds to a better stability ordering of the respective periodic orbits. This allows us to calculate the least unstable orbits of a map in a systematic way. We decrease the value of λ used in Eq. (1) and register the stabilized points one by one. The main difference to the procedure in Ref. [26] is that we now have to consider the set of all $C_{k\sigma}$ matrices to find the $\Lambda^{(j)}$ as the largest $\lambda_{k\sigma,i}^{(j)}$ of all points \mathbf{r}_i of an orbit. To implement these ideas, we construct a successive number of cumulative grids G_1, G_2, G_3, \ldots leading to an increasingly finer covering of the attractor as described in Sec. III A. For our investigations of the Hénon and Ikeda map we used ten grids G_1, \ldots, G_{10} each with about 250 points. Then we perform the following steps (starting with $\lambda = 0.8$ and i = 1).

(1) Begin with an initial value of λ and a grid G_i of points. Propagate G_i eight times with the stabilized systems according to Eq. (1) for fixed λ , using a different $\mathbf{C}_{k\sigma}, k = 0, \ldots, 3, \ \sigma = \pm$ each time.

(2) If step (1) does not yield the desired number of orbits, replace $\lambda \Rightarrow r \cdot \lambda$, $r \approx 0.8$, and perform step (1) again.

(3) Replace $g_i \rightarrow g_{i+1}$, $\lambda \rightarrow r \cdot \lambda$ and go to step (1).

The procedure converges if the set of the *N* most stable cycles resulting from the grid $H_i = G_1 \cup G_2 \cup \ldots \cup G_i$ remains the same compared to the set obtained from the grid $H_{i+1} = G_1 \cup G_2 \cup \ldots \cup G_{i+1}$. As a result of this procedure we get a set of *N* orbits for each grid.



FIG. 9. The Lyapunov exponents of the ten least unstable orbits of Ikeda and Hénon map for $p = 1 \dots 36$. The inset shows the same distribution on a log-log scale.

For the two maps studied here we can clearly observe convergence. In Fig. 9 the Lyapunov exponents for the ten most stable orbits of each period are shown for both the Ikeda and Hénon map for periods p=1-36. These Lyapunov exponents correspond to the lower edge of the distribution of Lyapunov exponents as given in Fig. 7.

Two features in Fig. 9 are remarkable.

(i) The Lyapunov exponents of the least unstable orbits of a certain length p of both the Hénon and Ikeda map are approximately in the same range. This is valid for all periods p considered. They both decrease with increasing period. This corresponds to a shift of the lower edge of the Lyapunov distribution towards decreasing values of Λ with increasing period. The inset in Fig. 9 shows the same Lyapunov exponents in a log-log plot. The mean of the total distribution, i.e, of all UPO's for a certain period, is the average Lyapunov exponent $\overline{\Lambda}$ of the maps which is approximately constant. Therefore the linear decrease in Fig. 9 implies that the spreading W(p) of the tail of the distribution of the Lyapunov exponents, as displayed in Fig. 7 for period p, grows approximately as an algebraic function of the period, i.e., $W(p) \propto p^{\eta}$, $\eta > 0$.

(ii) Both maps show exceptionally small Lyapunov exponents (e.g., periods p=13,16,18 and p=26,28,30 for the Hénon map, periods p=19,21 and p=24,27,30 for the Ikeda map). These orbits seem to approach the main part of the distribution with increasing period.

IV. SUMMARY

This paper has two main objectives. First it presents a novel approach toward a better understanding of the SD method, thereby establishing a geometric interpretation and classification, and second it provides results of applications of the SD method to two dimensional maps.

In the first part we investigated the stability transformations as proposed in Ref. [25] by introducing two classifications of the corresponding stability matrices of all FP's. These are based on properties that change in a regular and well-defined way when the stability transformations are applied. The first classification is with respect to manifolds which are invariant to the stability transformations. The second one mirrors the change of the azimuthal angle of the flux in the neighborhood of the FP's. According to these classifications of the stability matrices we can assign to each set of corresponding FP's a certain dynamical behavior related to their stability properties. This provides new insights into the mathematical group structure which is impressed by the stability transformations onto the stability matrices and FP's. In particular this allows us to determine the minimal set of transformations necessary to detect all FP's of a given twodimensional system. We thereby learned how simple global operations on the dynamical system change the stability properties of fixed points. This point of view has the advantage that it does not rely on the analytic expressions for eigenvalues and is therefore more suited for the extension of the method to higher dimensions.

The second part of the present work deals with the algorithmic implementation of the SD method, its application to the finding of UPO's in strange attractors, as well as the evaluation and interpretation of the achieved results. In particlar we demonstrate that even longer cycles can be detected. This is achieved by using a special sequence of grids of initial points for the propagation and by an improved technique to separate distinct UPO's. Thus it becomes clear that the maximal period of orbits to be detected by the SD method is limited by the machine precision, not by failure of the method itself. As a result of our investigations of the Ikeda map we get distributions of Lyapunov exponents which show characteristic deviations from the first-order approximation by a Gaussian distribution. The distributions of the Hénon map show similar, but distinct characteristics. Analyzing the UPO's of the Ikeda map for the periods p =1-15, with respect to their stability in all different transformed systems, suggests an underlying symmetry relation for this map which implies a correlation between distinct UPO's of the same period. As a second numerical investigation we search for the ten periodic orbits with the smallest Lyapunov exponents for the Ikeda and Hénon maps. Since these orbits are the least unstable ones, it is possible to extend the investigation up to period p = 36 for both maps. The distributions of the cycles as a function of the period show a remarkably regular overall tendency with characteristic deviations for both maps. What is more, this part of the Lyapunov spectrum covers the section of small values of the Lyapunov distributions which differs most from the Gaussian approximation and might therefore provide valuable information on the dynamical systems.

Finally we remark on very recent developments concerning the detection of UPO's. In Ref. [29] the SD method has been combined with the Newton–Raphson method in order to speed up convergence in the linear neighborhood of the FP. Such hybrid algorithms are very desirable since they perform very efficiently, while preserving the desired global character of the SD method.

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