

Evidence for a new period-doubling sequence in four-dimensional symplectic maps

Jian-Min Mao* and Indubala I. Satija†

Center for Nonlinear Studies, MS B258, Los Alamos National Laboratory,
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

Bambi Hu

Department of Physics, University of Houston—University Park,
Houston, Texas 77004

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We have numerically investigated period-doubling bifurcations in four-dimensional symplectic maps. Our study indicates the existence of a universally self-similar period-doubling sequence. Unlike the two-dimensional case, the fixed-point map has two unstable directions under the period-doubling operator with two relevant eigenvalues 8.7210972 and -15.0786 . The four orbital scaling factors along and across the dominant symmetry surface are, respectively, 16.1449, -4.01807 , 16.36, and -7.5393 .

The discovery of universally self-similar period-doubling bifurcations in one-dimensional maps¹ aroused a great deal of interest in the study of period doubling in conservative maps.²⁻⁶ One-parameter family of two-dimensional area-preserving maps is found to exhibit an infinite sequence of period-doubling bifurcations analogous to one-dimensional dissipative maps. However, the critical exponents δ and α for two-dimensional area-preserving maps are different from their corresponding values in the dissipative case. Also, the universality results for period doubling in one-dimensional maps extend to higher-dimensional dissipative systems. An interesting, but still open question, is whether the self-similar period-doubling patterns of area-preserving maps carry over to higher-dimensional symplectic maps. Symplectic maps are of interest because they serve to describe the time evolution of Hamiltonian systems through a Poincaré surface of section.

In this paper, we report a numerical study of period-doubling bifurcations in two-parameter families of four-dimensional symplectic maps. These maps may be viewed as Poincaré sections of Hamiltonian systems with three degrees of freedom. Four-dimensional symplectic maps are also relevant to the study of crystal physics.⁵ We have found evidence for the existence of a complete period-doubling sequence with two universal δ 's: 8.7210972 and -15.0786 . This implies that the unstable manifold of the fixed-point function is two dimensional. We have also obtained four orbital scaling exponents: -4.01807 , 16.1449, 16.36, and -7.5393 , describing scaling along and across the dominant symmetry surface, respectively.

Consider the following class of conservative maps:

$$X_{i+1} = -Y_i + F(X_i), \quad Y_{i+1} = X_i, \quad (1)$$

where X , Y , and F denote

$$\begin{aligned} X &= (x, z), \\ Y &= (y, t), \\ F &= (f_1(x, z), f_2(z, x)). \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

This map is symplectic if the functions f_1 and f_2 satisfy the condition

$$\partial_z f_1 = \partial_x f_2. \quad (3)$$

For our study, f_1 and f_2 are chosen to have the following form:

$$\begin{aligned} f_1(x, z) &= f_a(x) - b(x + z), \\ f_2(z, x) &= f_a(z) - b(z - x), \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

where the function $f_a(x)$ depends on a parameter a . When b is equal to zero, these equations decouple into two area-preserving maps. This matrix equation is an obvious higher-dimensional generalization of the two-dimensional Hénon map. Also, this class of maps is reversible, i.e., they can be factorized into a product of two involutions I_1 and I_2 ($I_i^2 = 1$):

$$\begin{aligned} I_1: X_{i+1} &= X_i, \quad Y_{i+1} = -Y_i + F(X_i); \\ I_2: X_{i+1} &= Y_i, \quad Y_{i+1} = X_i. \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

Fixed points of I_1 and I_2 lie on a surface called the dominant symmetry surface. A 2^k -periodic point on the dominant symmetry surface will also have its 2^{k-1} iterate on it. This greatly simplifies the process of locating the periodic orbits.

The stability of a periodic orbit in a given dimension is determined by the Floquet multipliers which are the eigenvalues of the linearized map T . The matrix T is real and has determinant equal to unity. In two dimensions, this condition restricts the eigenvalues of T to be conjugate points $e^{i\theta}$ and $e^{-i\theta}$ on the unit circle, or reciprocal points ρ and ρ^{-1} on the real axis. The former case corresponds to stable orbits; the latter case, unstable orbits. Hence, the parameter that determines the stability of a two-dimensional periodic orbit is the trace of T . The generalization of this condition to four dimensions has been worked out.⁷ In this case, the eigenvalues of the matrix T are of the form $\rho e^{i\theta}$, $\rho e^{-i\theta}$, $\rho^{-1} e^{i\theta}$, and $\rho^{-1} e^{-i\theta}$. The stability regime is bounded by the following curve in the $(\text{Tr} T, \text{Tr} T_{12})$ plane:

$$B \geq -2 + 2A, \quad B \geq -2 - 2A, \quad B \leq \frac{A^2}{4} + 2, \quad (6)$$

where

$$A = \text{Tr} T = \sum_i \lambda_i, \quad B = \text{Tr} T_{12} = \sum_{i < j} \lambda_i \lambda_j. \quad (7)$$

Here, λ 's are the eigenvalues of the matrix T . Typically,

period doubling takes place when a pair of eigenvalues passes through -1 . This condition is satisfied along a line $2 \text{Tr} + \text{Tr} T_{12} + 2 = 0$ in the stability region.

We have carried out a two-parameter search for period-doubling sequences by simultaneously varying a and b . Hence, both pairs of eigenvalues can be moved independently on the unit circle. The period-doubling parameters are determined when the two pairs of eigenvalues pass through -1 and 1 , corresponding to $A = 0$. Results for the map corresponding to $f_a(x) = 1 - ax^2$ are shown in Table I. At first sight the period-doubling parameter values did not seem to exhibit any scaling property in an obvious fashion. To unravel a possible underlining self-similar structure, we will use a general method of testing for scaling developed by Guckenheimer, Hu, and Rudnick.⁸

Let $\Delta a_i = a_i - a_{i-1}$, $\Delta b_i = b_i - b_{i-1}$, and define

$$(\Delta a_i, \Delta b_i) = \tilde{\delta}(\Delta a_{i+1}, \Delta b_{i+1}) \quad (8)$$

The matrix $\tilde{\delta}$ was found to converge rapidly; moreover, its eigenvalues δ_1 and δ_2 were seen to obey very nice scaling relations (see Table II). The exponent $\delta_1 = 8.7210972$ is the same as the two-dimensional case, whereas $\delta_2 = -15.0786$ is new and signifies the existence of another unstable direction. [As a matter of fact, if we apply this scaling-matrix method to analyze the data presented in Table III(a) of Ref. 9(b), we obtain the same δ_1 and δ_2 , despite the fact that the form of the maps is completely different.]

To calculate the orbital scaling factors, we make the following coordinate change:

$$X \rightarrow 2X, \quad Y \rightarrow 2Y - F(X) \quad (9)$$

so that Eq. (1) is transformed to the generalized DeVogelare map

$$X_{i+1} = -Y_i + F(X_i), \quad Y_{i+1} = X_i - F(X_{i+1}) \quad (10)$$

The usefulness of this form of the map comes from the fact that $Y = 0$ is the dominant symmetry surface. Hence, the orbital scaling matrix \tilde{S} is decoupled:

$$\tilde{S} = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{\alpha} & 0 \\ 0 & \tilde{\beta} \end{pmatrix} \quad (11)$$

TABLE I. Convergence of the period-doubling parameters a and b for a four-dimensional symplectic map with $f_a(x) = 1 - ax^2$.

Period = 2^n		
n	a	b
1	1.551052531382147	0.88456613619324
2	3.154929859908943	0.28606885459849
3	3.310106308833480	0.24481362978080
4	3.302711501079377	0.24918667324767
5	3.303272425207032	0.24915805515425
6	3.303252894478886	0.24918586613081
7	3.303256133362466	0.24918702255987
8	3.303256140697924	0.24918729016715
9	3.303256165659491	0.24918731190723
10	3.303256166921683	0.24918731499339
11	3.303256167172515	0.24918731530792
12	3.303256167194420	0.24918731534659
13	3.303256167197197	0.24918731535086
14	3.303256167197506	0.24918731535136
15	3.303256167197543	0.24918731535141
16	3.303256167197547	0.24918731535142

where $\tilde{\alpha}$ and $\tilde{\beta}$ are 2×2 matrices describing, respectively, the self-similarity along and across the dominant symmetry surface. They are defined as

$$(X_0^i - X_{1/2}^i) = \tilde{\alpha}(X_0^{i+1} - X_{1/2}^{i+1}), \quad Y_{1/4}^i = \tilde{\beta} Y_{1/4}^{i+1} \quad (12)$$

Here (X_0, Y_0) , $(X_{1/2}, Y_{1/2})$, and $(X_{1/4}, Y_{1/4})$ are, respectively, the initial, halfway, and quarterway points of a limit cycle. This definition is the same as that used for two-dimensional area-preserving maps.²⁻⁶ The scaling exponents α_1, α_2 and β_1, β_2 are the eigenvalues of the matrices $\tilde{\alpha}$ and $\tilde{\beta}$, respectively. Again we notice that the exponents α_1 and β_1 are the same as those for the two-dimensional area-preserving case, whereas α_2 and β_2 are new. We have computed the exponents for various functions f_a , and universality is seen to be well obeyed.

In sum, we have succeeded in finding a complete period-doubling sequence in four-dimensional symplectic maps.

TABLE II. Period-doubling bifurcation rates δ_1 and δ_2 , and orbital scaling factors α_1, β_1 and α_2, β_2 along and across the dominant symmetry surface, respectively.

Period = 2^n						
n	δ_1	δ_2	α_1	α_2	β_1	β_2
3	6.3357300	-13.872058	-0.016689	-0.0033172	0.000005	-0.0000043
4	8.4554129	8.455412	0.006529	0.0065293	0.012851	0.0128518
5	9.3949690	-17.738353	-19.326037	-4.7279034	6.206889	6.2068898
6	8.8476256	-16.842358	16.965790	-4.0309988	13.169810	13.1698109
7	8.7235430	-15.303906	15.955490	-4.0173474	15.579237	-8.7437037
8	8.7222877	-15.049664	16.183370	-4.0182637	15.876244	-7.6938431
9	8.7211000	-15.092972	16.135221	-4.0180668	16.214081	-7.5395003
10	8.7211097	-15.075200	16.148114	-4.0180792	16.261098	-7.5457527
11	8.7210966	-15.079738	16.143809	-4.0180765	16.314274	-7.5380131
12	8.7210972	-15.078419	16.145397	-4.0180767	16.335769	-7.5398380
13	8.7210972	-15.078773	16.144747	-4.0180767	16.349052	-7.5392112
14	8.7210972	-15.078672	16.145025	-4.0180767	16.355799	-7.5393900
15	8.7210972	-15.078641	16.144902	-4.0180767	16.359544	-7.5393368
16	8.7210972	-15.078659	16.144957	-4.0180767	16.361541	-7.5393520

There exist two universal bifurcation rates δ_1 and δ_2 , which imply that the fixed-point function has two relevant eigenvalues under the renormalization transformation. Within numerical precision, we also found $\alpha_2 = \alpha_1^2$ and $\delta_2 = 2\beta_2$. The relation $\alpha_1^2 = \alpha_2$ is similar to the two-dimensional cases,² where α^2 rescaling emerges due to the curvature of the symmetry line. However, we have no clue as to why $\delta_2 = 2\beta_2$.

In the future, we would like to understand the universality of period doubling in four-dimensional symplectic maps by studying the fixed points of the renormalization transfor-

mation. Perhaps this study would shed more light on such new features as the existence of a new unstable direction, the commonality of exponents between two and four dimensions, and the relations among the exponents.

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*Permanent address: Department of Physics, University of Houston, Houston, TX 77004.

†Permanent address: Bartol Research Foundation, University of Delaware, Newark, DE 19716.

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