

Symbolic Dynamics in Pseudospectral Projection of Delay Differential Equations

Robert Szczelina

Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland
ROBERT.SZCZELINA@UJ.EDU.PL

Abstract

We study the following class of Delay Differential Equations (DDEs):

$$\begin{aligned}x'(t) &= f(x(t), x(t - \tau)) & t &\geq 0 \\x(t) &= \psi(t) & t &\in [-\tau, 0],\end{aligned}$$

with $\tau > 0$ fixed, $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$, $\psi \in \mathcal{C}^0([-\tau, 0], \mathbb{R}^d) =: \mathcal{C}$. While significant work has been done on understanding the dynamics of such systems—most notably regarding chaos in the Mackey-Glass equation[1]—the infinite-dimensional nature of DDEs presents some challenges for carrying out the rigorous computations and obtaining estimates good enough for computer-assisted proofs remains a challenge, see [2] and references therein.

This talk will present a recent attempt to reduce the number of unknown factors affecting the quality of rigorous numerics by using a pseudospectral approximation [3], which reduces the DDE to a relatively small system of ODEs while preserving numerically observed dynamical features. Due to the low-dimensionality of the resulting approximation and its great theoretical accuracy, the computations are less demanding and can be done using known tools, such as CAPD [4], to efficiently verify some dynamical phenomena that closely mirror those of the full system. We present a proof of existence of symbolic dynamics in the ODE approximating DDE and we discuss lessons learned that might be used to guide a similar proof for the full DDE system. **Acknowledgments:** the author acknowledge the support of Polish National Science Center (NCN) grant no. 2023/49/B/ST6/02801.

References

- [1] M. C. Mackey and L. Glass. Oscillation and chaos in physiological control systems. *Science*, 197(4300), pp. 287–289, 1977.
- [2] A. Gierzkiewicz, R. Szczelina. Sharkovskii theorem for infinite dimensional dynamical systems. *Commun. Nonlinear Sci. Numer. Simul.*, Vol. 146, 108770, 2025.
- [3] D. Breda, O. Diekmann, M. Gyllenberg, F. Scarabel, and R. Vermiglio. Pseudospectral Discretization of Nonlinear Delay Equations: New Prospects for Numerical Bifurcation Analysis. *SIAM J. Appl. Dyn. Sys.*, Vol. 15(1), pp. 1–23, 2016.
- [4] T. Kapela, M. Mrozek, D. Wilczak, and P. Zgliczyński. CAPD::DynSys: A flexible C++ toolbox for rigorous numerical analysis of dynamical systems. *Commun. Nonlinear Sci. Numer. Simul.*, 101:105578, 2021.