

Chaotic Contagion: The Idealized Hipster Effect

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Principles of Complex Systems, Vols. 1, 2, & 3D
CSYS/MATH 300, 303, & 394, 2022–2023 | @pocsvox

Prof. Peter Sheridan Dodds | @peterdodds

Computational Story Lab | Vermont Complex Systems Center
Santa Fe Institute | University of Vermont



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 On Instagram at [pratchett_the_cat](https://www.instagram.com/pratchett_the_cat) 

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Chaotic Contagion on Networks:



"Limited Imitation Contagion on random networks: Chaos, universality, and unpredictability" [↗](#)

Dodds, Harris, and Danforth,
Phys. Rev. Lett., **110**, 158701, 2013. ^[1]



"Dynamical influence processes on networks: General theory and applications to social contagion" [↗](#)

Harris, Danforth, and Dodds,
Phys. Rev. E, **88**, 022816, 2013. ^[2]

A. Mandel, conference at Urbana-Champaign,
2007:

"If I was a younger man, I would have stolen this from you."

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What if individual response functions are not monotonic?

Chaotic contagion:

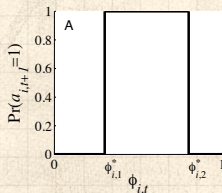
What if individual response functions are not monotonic?

Consider a simple deterministic version:

Node i has an 'activation threshold'

$$\phi_{i,1}$$

...and a 'de-activation threshold' $\phi_{i,2}$



Chaotic contagion:

What if individual response functions are not monotonic?

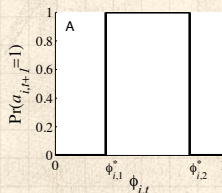
Consider a simple deterministic version:

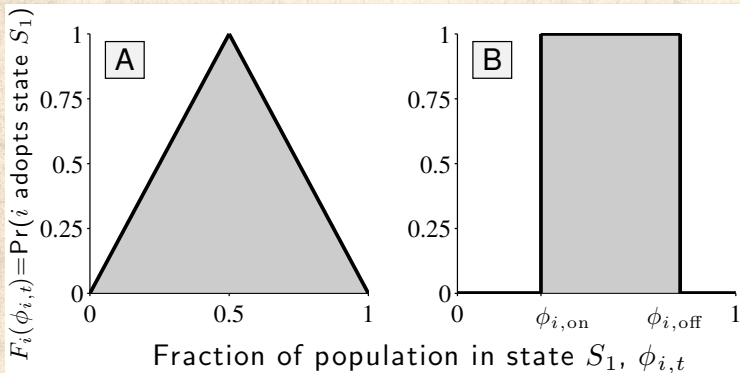
Node i has an 'activation threshold'

$$\phi_{i,1}$$

...and a 'de-activation threshold' $\phi_{i,2}$


Nodes like to imitate but only up to a limit—they don't want to be like everyone else.





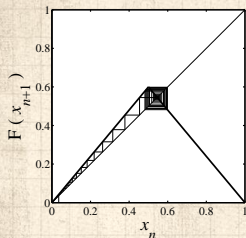
Definition of the tent map:

$$F(x) = \begin{cases} rx & \text{for } 0 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{2}, \\ r(1-x) & \text{for } \frac{1}{2} \leq x \leq 1. \end{cases}$$

 The usual business: look at how F iteratively maps the unit interval $[0, 1]$.

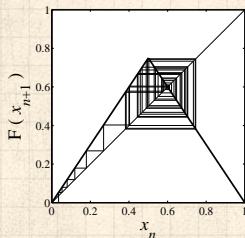
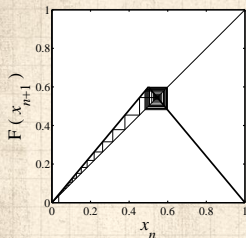
The tent map

Effect of increasing r from 1 to 2.



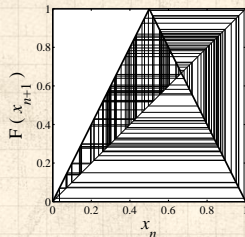
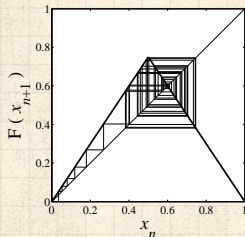
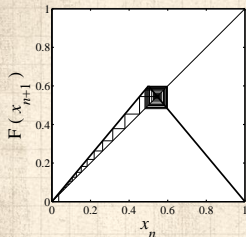
The tent map

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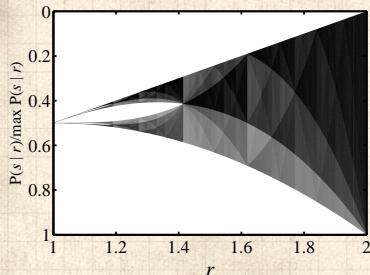
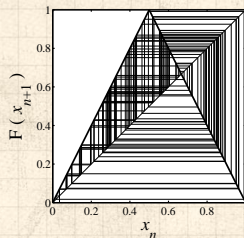
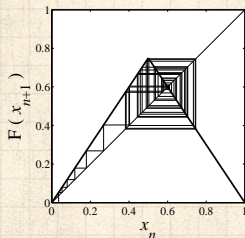
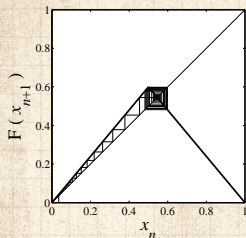
The tent map

Effect of increasing r from 1 to 2.



The tent map

Effect of increasing r from 1 to 2.



Orbit diagram:

Chaotic behavior increases as map slope r is increased.

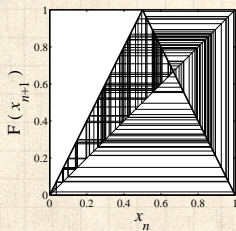
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Chaotic behavior

Take $r = 2$ case:



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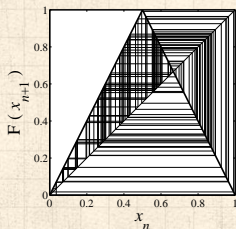
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Chaotic behavior

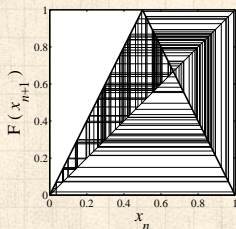
Take $r = 2$ case:



 What happens if nodes have limited information?

Chaotic behavior

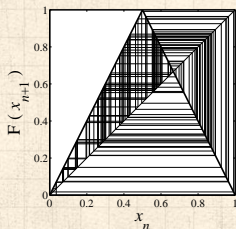
Take $r = 2$ case:



- What happens if nodes have limited information?
- As before, allow interactions to take place on a sparse random network.

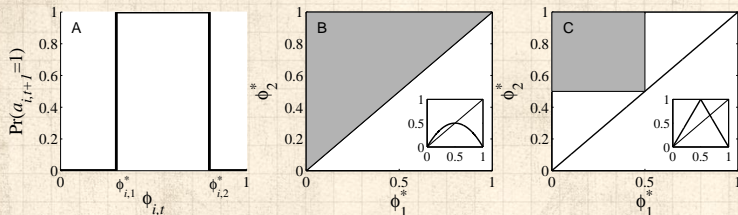
Chaotic behavior


Take $r = 2$ case:




- What happens if nodes have limited information?
- As before, allow interactions to take place on a sparse random network.
- Vary average degree $z = \langle k \rangle$, a measure of information

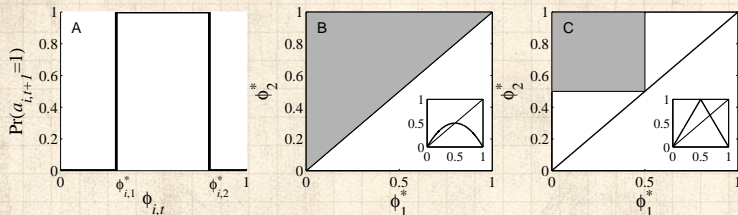
Two population examples:



 Randomly select $(\phi_{i,1}, \phi_{i,2})$ from gray regions shown in plots B and C.

 Insets show composite response function averaged over population.

Two population examples:



- Randomly select $(\phi_{i,1}, \phi_{i,2})$ from gray regions shown in plots B and C.
- Insets show composite response function averaged over population.
- We'll consider plot C's example: [the tent map](#).

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Invariant densities—stochastic response functions

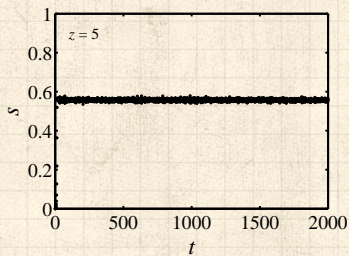
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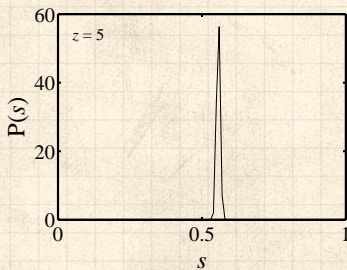
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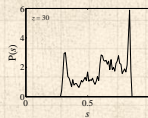
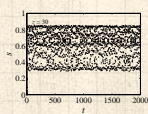
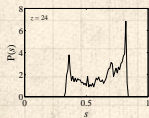
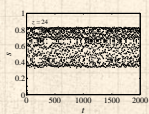
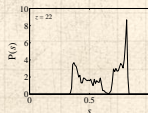
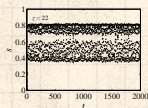
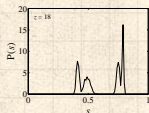
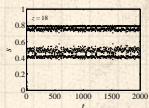
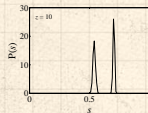
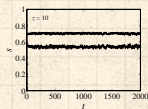
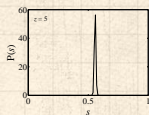
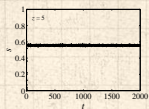


activation time series

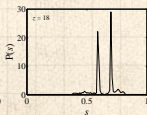
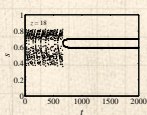
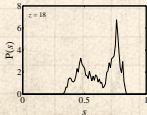
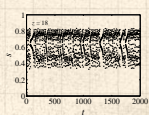
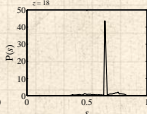
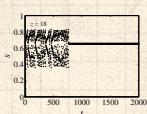
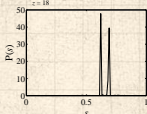
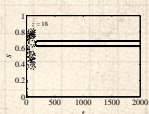
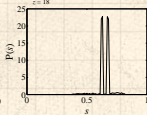
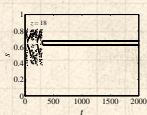
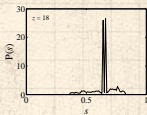
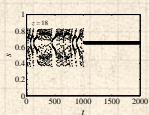


activation density

Invariant densities—stochastic response functions



Invariant densities—deterministic response functions for one specific network with $\langle k \rangle = 18$

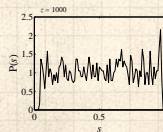
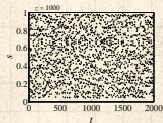
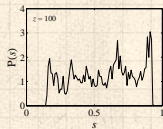
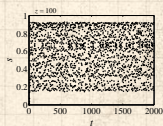


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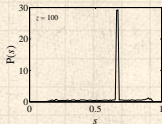
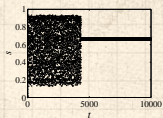
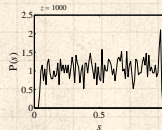
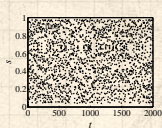
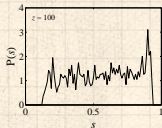
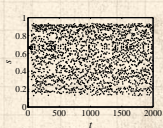
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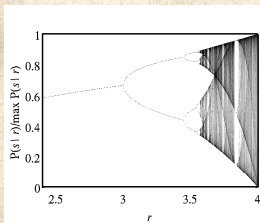
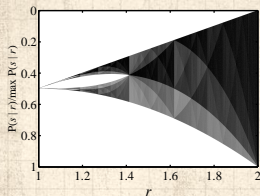
Trying out higher values of $\langle k \rangle$...

Invariant densities—deterministic response functions

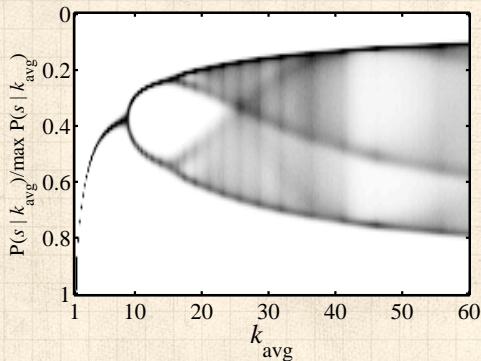


Trying out higher values of $\langle k \rangle$...

Connectivity leads to chaos:



Stochastic response functions:



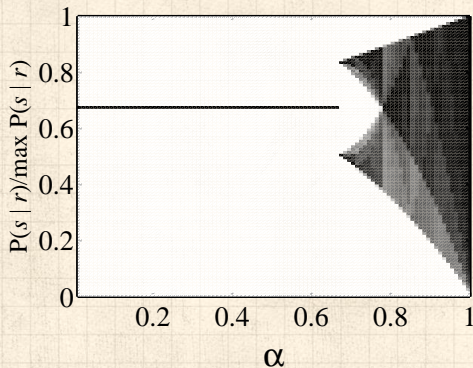
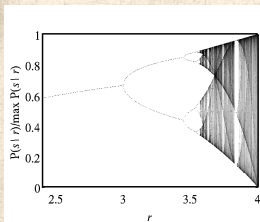
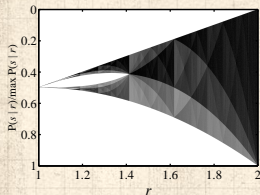
Bifurcation diagram: Asynchronous updating

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Bifurcation diagram: Asynchronous updating

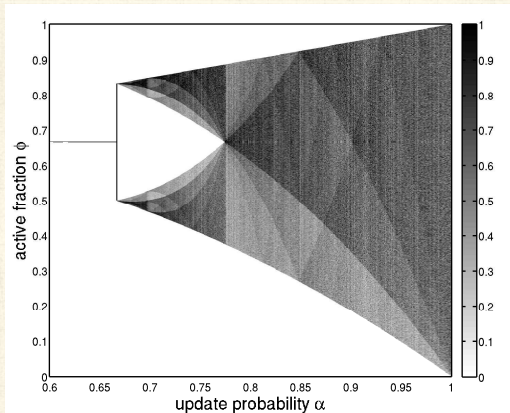



FIG. 3. Bifurcation diagram for the dense map $\Phi(\phi; \alpha)$, Eqn. (18). This was generated by iterating the map at 1000 α values between 0 and 1. The iteration was carried out with 3 random initial conditions for 10000 time steps each, discarding the first 1000. The ϕ -axis contains 1000 bins and the invariant density, shown by the grayscale value, is normalized by the maximum for each α . With $\alpha < 2/3$, all trajectories go to the fixed point at $\phi = 2/3$.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7JHrZyyq870?rel=0>


How the bifurcation diagram changes with increasing average degree $\langle k \rangle$ as a function of the synchronicity parameter α for the stochastic response (tent map) case.



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_zwK6polBvc?rel=0 


How the bifurcation diagram changes with increasing α , the synchronicity parameter as a function of average degree $\langle k \rangle$ for the stochastic response (tent map) case.




<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3bo4fzp4Snw?rel=0> 

LIC dynamics on a fixed graph with a shared stochastic (tent map) response function. Average degree = 6, update synchronicity parameter $\alpha = 1$. The macroscopic behavior is period-1, plus noisy fluctuations.





https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7UCula_ktmw?rel=0 
LIC dynamics on a fixed graph with a shared stochastic (tent map) response function. Average degree = 11, update synchronicity parameter $\alpha = 1$. The macroscopic behavior is period-2, plus noisy fluctuations.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oWKt8Zj1Ccw?rel=0> 
LIC dynamics on a fixed graph with a shared stochastic (tent map) response function. $\langle k \rangle = 30$, update synchronicity parameter $\alpha = 1$. The macroscopic behavior is chaotic.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AfhUlklOiOU?rel=0> 
LIC dynamics on a fixed graph with fixed, deterministic response functions. Average degree = 30, update synchronicity parameter $\alpha = 1$. Shown are nodes which continue changing (703/1000) after the transient chaotic behavior has "collapsed."

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZwY0hTstj2M?rel=0> 

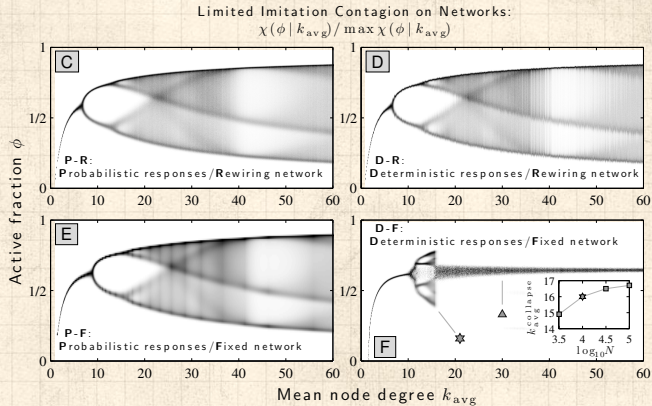
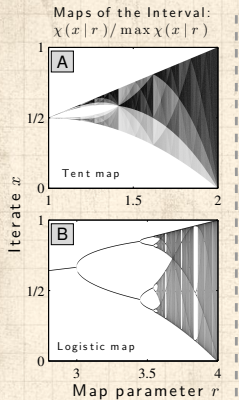
LIC dynamics on a fixed graph with fixed, deterministic response functions. Average degree = 30, update synchronicity parameter $\alpha = 1$. The dynamics exhibit transient chaotic behavior before collapsing to a fixed point.

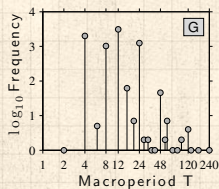
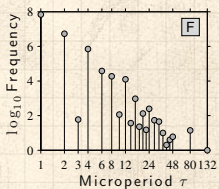
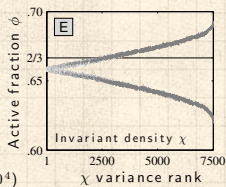
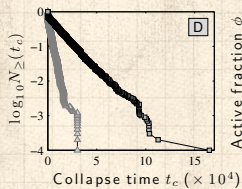
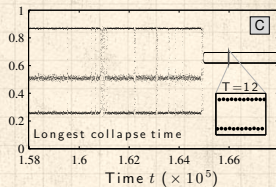
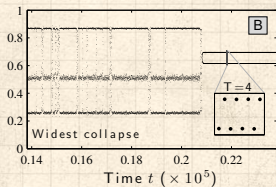
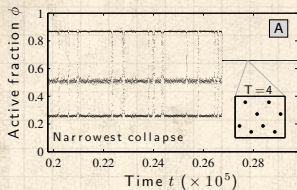



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YDhjmFyBSn4?rel=0>

LIC dynamics on a fixed graph with fixed, deterministic response functions. Average degree = 17, update synchronicity parameter $\alpha = 1$. The dynamics exhibit transient chaotic behavior before collapsing to a period-4 orbit.







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