Hindawi Publishing Corporation
Abstract and Applied Analysis
Volume 2011, Article ID 931484, 9 pages
doi:10.1155/2011/931484

Research Article

Stability of Rotation Pairs of Cycles for the Interval Maps

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Received 31 October 2010; Accepted 18 January 2011

Academic Editor: Stefan Siegmund

Let $C^0(I)$ be the set of all continuous self-maps of the closed interval I, and $\mathbf{P}(u,v) = \{f \in C^0(I) : f$ has a cycle with rotation pair $(u,v)\}$ for any positive integer $v > u$. In this paper, we prove that if $(2^m ns, 2^m nt) \dashv (\gamma,\lambda)$, then $\mathbf{P}(2^m ns, 2^m nt) \subset \operatorname{int} \mathbf{P}(\gamma,\lambda)$, where $m \geq 0$ is integer, $n \geq 1$ odd, $1 \leq s < t$ with s,t coprime, and $1 \leq \gamma < \lambda$.

1. Introduction

Let $C^0(I)$ be the set of all continuous self-maps of the closed interval I. For any $f, g \in C^0(I)$, we define the distance between f and g by

$$d(f,g) = \sup_{x \in I} |f(x) - g(x)|. \tag{1.1}$$

Then $(C^0(I), d)$ becomes a metric space. For any subset M of $C^0(I)$, we use $\operatorname{int} M$ to denote the interior of M. A point $x \in I$ is called a *periodic point* of f with period n if $f^n(x) = x$ and $f^i(x) \neq x$ for $1 \leq i \leq n-1$, and $\{f^i(x) : 0 \leq i \leq n-1\}$ is called a *cycle* with period n. Write $F(f) = \{x : f(x) = x\}$, which is called the set of fixed points of f. For any subset $A \subset I$, we use $\#A$ and $[A]$ to denote the cardinal number of A and the smallest closed subinterval of I containing A, respectively. Write $[A] = [a; b]$ if $A = \{a, b\}$. For any positive integer n, write $\mathbf{P}(n) = \{f \in C^0(I) : f$ has a cycle with period $n\}$.

One of the remarkable results in one-dimensional dynamics is the *Sharkovskii theorem*. To state it, let us first introduce the *Sharkovskii ordering* for positive integers:

$$3 \triangleright 5 \triangleright 7 \triangleright \cdots \triangleright 2\cdot 3 \triangleright 2\cdot 5 \triangleright 2\cdot 7 \triangleright \cdots \triangleright 2^k\cdot 3 \triangleright 2^k\cdot 5 \triangleright 2^k\cdot 7 \triangleright \cdots \triangleright 2^3 \triangleright 2^2 \triangleright 2 \triangleright 1. \tag{1.2}$$

Theorem A (see [1]). *For any positive integers m and n, $\mathbf{P}(n) \subset \mathbf{P}(m)$ if $n \triangleright m$.*

Block [2] studied stability of cycles in the theorem of Sarkovskii and obtained the following theorem.

Theorem B (see [2]). *For any positive integers m and n, $\mathbf{P}(n) \subset \operatorname{int}\mathbf{P}(m)$ if $n \triangleright m$.*

Blokh [3] introduced the following ordering among all pairs of positive integers (k,l) with $k < l$.

(1) *If $u/v \neq 1/2$ and $k/l \in [1/2, u/v)$ or $k/l \in (u/v, 1/2]$, then $(u,v) \dashv (k,l)$.*

(2) *If $u/v = k/l = m/n$, where m,n are coprime, then $(u,v) \dashv (k,l)$ if and only if $u/m \triangleright k/m$.*

He also defined the rotation pair and the rotation number of cycles with period $n > 1$ for the interval maps.

Definition 1.1 (see [3]). Let $f \in C^0(I)$, P be a cycle of f with period $n > 1$, and $m = \#\{y \in P : f(y) < y\}$. Then (m,n) is called the *rotation pair* of P and m/n the *rotation number* of P.

For any positive integer $v > u$, write $\mathbf{P}(u,v) = \{f \in C^0(I) : f$ has a cycle with rotation pair $(u,v)\}$.

Theorem C (see [3]). *For any positive integers $v > u$ and $l > k$, $\mathbf{P}(u,v) \subset \mathbf{P}(k,l)$ if $(u,v) \dashv (k,l)$.*

In this paper, we will study stability of rotation pairs of cycles for the interval maps. Our main result is the following theorem.

Theorem 1.2. *If $(2^m ns, 2^m nt) \dashv (\gamma,\lambda)$, then*

$$\mathbf{P}(2^m ns, 2^m nt) \subset \operatorname{int}\mathbf{P}(\gamma,\lambda), \tag{1.3}$$

where $m \geq 0$ is integer, $n \geq 1$ odd, $1 \leq s < t$ with s, t coprime, and $1 \leq \gamma < \lambda$.

2. Some Lemmas

In this section, we prove Theorem 1.2. To do this, we need the following definitions and lemmas.

Lemma 2.1 (see [4, Lemma 1.4]). *Let $f \in C^0(I)$. If $I_0, I_1, \ldots, I_m$ are compact subintervals of I with $I_m = I_0$ such that $f(I_{k-1}) \supset I_k$ for $1 \leq k < m$, then there exists a point y such that $f^m(y) = y$ and $f^k(y) \in I_k$ for every $0 \leq k < m$.*

Lemma 2.2. *Let $f \in C^0(I)$. If there are points a, b, and c such that $f(c) \leq a = f(a) < b < c \leq f(b)$ (resp., $f(c) \geq a = f(a) > b > c \geq f(b)$), then for any integers m and n with $m/n \leq 1/2$ (resp. $1/2 < m/n < 1$), f has a cycle $Q = \{y_1 < y_2 < \cdots < y_n\}$ with rotation pair (m,n) satisfying $f(y_i) > y_i$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n-m$ and $f(y_i) < y_i$ for all $n-m+1 \leq i \leq n$.*

Proof. We only prove the case $f(c) \leq a = f(a) < b < c \leq f(b)$ (the proof for the case $f(c) \geq a = f(a) > b > c \geq f(b)$ is similar).

We may assume that $(a,b) \cap F(f) = \emptyset$, then $f(x) > x$ for all $x \in (a,b)$. Choose $p \in (b,c) \cap F(f)$. Then there exist points $a < e_1 < e_2 < \cdots < e_{n-2m+1} < b$ such that $f(e_k) = e_{k+1}$ for every $1 \leq k \leq n-2m$ and $f(e_{n-2m+1}) = p$. Let

$$\begin{gathered} I_k = [e_k, e_{k+1}] \quad \text{if } 1 \leq k \leq n-2m, \\ I_{n-2m+2r+1} = [e_{n-2m+1}, b] \quad \text{if } \ 0 \leq r \leq m-2, \\ I_{n-2m+2r+2} = [p, c] \quad \text{if } \ 0 \leq r \leq m-1, \\ I_{n-1} = [b, p]. \end{gathered} \tag{2.1}$$

Then $f(I_i) \supset I_{i+1}$ for $i \in \{1, 2, \ldots, n-1\}$ and $f(I_n) \supset I_1$. By Lemma 2.1, there exists a cycle $Q = \{x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n\}$ such that $x_i \in I_i (1 \leq i \leq n)$. Furthermore, Q can be renumbered so that $Q = \{y_1 < y_2 < \cdots < y_n\}$ with the desirable properties. □

Lemma 2.3. *Let $f \in \mathbf{P}(m,n)$; then f has a cycle $Q = \{y_1 < y_2 < \cdots < y_n\}$ with rotation pair (m,n) such that $f(y_i) > y_i$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n-m$ and $f(y_i) < y_i$ for all $n-m+1 \leq i \leq n$.*

Proof. Let $P = \{x_1 < x_2 < \cdots < x_n\}$ be a cycle of f with rotation pair (m,n). We may assume that $m/n \leq 1/2$ (the proof for the case $1/2 < m/n < 1$ is similar). Let $s = \min\{k : f(x_k) < x_k\}$; then $s \geq 2$, $(x_{s-1}, x_s) \cap F(f) \neq \emptyset$, and $f(x_i) > x_i$ for each $1 \leq i \leq s-1$. We may also assume that there exists some $s < j \leq n$ such that $f(x_j) > x_j$ otherwise; let $Q = P$ which completes the proof of Lemma 2.3.

Let $t = \min\{k : k > s \text{ and } f(x_k) > x_k\}$ and $p = \max\{(x_s, x_t) \cap F(f)\}$. Then $f(x) > x$ for all $x \in (p, x_t)$. Let $j = \min\{k : f^{k+1}(x_t) \leq p\}$ and $i = \min\{k : k \leq j \text{ and } f^{k+1}(x_t) \geq f^j(x_t)\}$. Then $f^{j+1}(x_t) < p < f^i(x_t) < f^j(x_t) \leq f^{i+1}(x_t)$. It follows from Lemma 2.2 that f has a cycle $Q = \{y_1 < y_2 < \cdots < y_n\}$ such that Q with the desirable properties. □

Definition 2.4 (see [4]). Let $f \in C^0(I)$. A cycle P of f with odd period $n > 1$ is called a cycle of Stefan type if

$$P = \left\{ f^{n-1}(c) < \cdots < f^2(c) < c < f(c) < \cdots < f^{n-2}(c) \right\} \tag{2.2}$$

or

$$P = \left\{ f^{n-2}(c) < \cdots < f(c) < c < f^2(c) < \cdots < f^{n-1}(c) \right\}. \tag{2.3}$$

Definition 2.5 (see [4, 5]). Let $f \in C^0(I)$ and $P = \{x_1 < x_2 < \cdots < x_{n2^m}\}$ be a cycle with period $n2^m$, where $n \geq 1$ is odd and $m \geq 0$ is an integer. For each $0 \leq i \leq m$ and each $1 \leq j \leq 2^i$, write $A_{2^i}^j = \{x_{(j-1)2^{m-i}n+1} < x_{(j-1)2^{m-i}n+2} < \cdots < x_{j2^{m-i}n}\}$. We call P a strongly simple cycle if one of the following three conditions hold.

(1) If $m = 0$, then either $n = 1$ or $n > 1$ and P is a cycle of f of Stefan type, that is,

$$P = \left\{ f^{n-1}(c) < \cdots < f^2(c) < c < f(c) < \cdots < f^{n-2}(c) \right\} \tag{2.4}$$

or

$$P = \left\{ f^{n-2}(c) < \cdots < f(c) < c < f^2(c) < \cdots < f^{n-1}(c) \right\}. \tag{2.5}$$

(2) If $n = 1$ and $m > 0$, then for each $1 \le i \le m$ and each $1 \le 2k \le 2^i$, $f^{2^{i-1}}(A_{2^i}^{2k-1}) = A_{2^i}^{2k}$ and $f^{2^{i-1}}(A_{2^i}^{2k}) = A_{2^i}^{2k-1}$.

(3) If $n > 1$ and $m > 0$, then the following three conditions hold.

(i) For each $1 \le i \le m$ and each $1 \le 2k \le 2^i$, $f^{2^{i-1}}(A_{2^i}^{2k-1}) = A_{2^i}^{2k}$, and $f^{2^{i-1}}(A_{2^i}^{2k}) = A_{2^i}^{2k-1}$.

(ii) For each $1 \le j \le 2^m$, $A_{2^m}^j$ is a cycle of f^{2^m} of Stefan type.

(iii) f maps each $A_{2^m}^i$ monotonically onto another $A_{2^m}^j$, with one exception.

Lemma 2.6 (see [4, 5]). *If $f \in C^0(I)$ has a cycle with period n, then f has a strongly simple cycle with period n.*

Let $P = \{x_1 < x_2 < \cdots < x_n\}$ be a cycle of f with period $n > 1$. Then there is a unique map $g : [x_1, x_n] \to [x_1, x_n]$, which is called the linearization of P, satisfying

(1) *$g(x_i) = f(x_i)$ for all $1 \le i \le n$,*

(2) *$g|_{[x_i, x_{i+1}]}$ is linear for all $1 \le i \le n-1$.*

By Theorem 7.5 of [4], we know that if g has a strongly simple cycle with rotation pair (p, q), then f has also a strongly simple cycle with rotation pair (p, q).

Lemma 2.7. *Let $f \in \mathbf{P}(ks, kt)$, where s, t are coprime, $k = n2^m$, $n \ge 1$ is odd, and $m \ge 0$ is an integer. Then f has a cycle $P = \{z_1 < z_2 < \cdots < z_{kt}\}$ with rotation pair (ks, kt) satisfying*

(1) *$f(y) < y$ if $y \in B_i = \{z_{(i-1)2^m n+1}, \ldots, z_{i2^m n}\}$ for $t - s + 1 \le i \le t$ and $f(y) > y$ if $y \in B_i = \{z_{(i-1)2^m n+1}, \ldots, z_{i2^m n}\}$ for $1 \le i \le t - s$;*

(2) *B_1 is a strongly simple cycle of f^t;*

(3) *f cyclically permutes the sets B_i ($i = 1, 2, \ldots, t$).*

Proof. By Lemma 2.3, we may assume that $R = \{x_1 < x_2 < \cdots < x_{kt}\}$ is a cycle of f with rotation pair (ks, kt) satisfying

$$\begin{aligned} f(y) > y \quad & \forall y \in \{x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_{kt-ks}\}, \\ f(y) < y \quad & \forall y \in \{x_{kt-ks+1}, \ldots, x_{kt}\}. \end{aligned} \tag{2.6}$$

Furthermore, we may assume that f is the linearization of R, $I = [x_1, x_{kt}]$, and p be the unique fixed point of f. Obviously, we have that $f(x) > x$ for all $x \in [x_1, p)$ and $f(x) < x$ for all $x \in (p, x_{kt}]$.

We may assume that $s/t \le 1/2$ (the proof for the case $1/2 < s/t < 1$ is similar). If $s/t = 1/2$, then it follows from Theorem 7.18 of [4] that Lemma 2.7 holds. Now we assume $s/t < 1/2$.

By Theorem C, f has a cycle $Q = \{y_1 < y_2 < \cdots < y_t\}$ $(t > 2)$ with rotation pair (s,t) satisfying $f(y) > y$ for all $y \in \{y_1, \dots, y_{t-s}\}$ and $f(y) < y$ for all $y \in \{y_{t-s+1} \dots, y_t\}$.

We can assume $k \geq 2$ since otherwise there is nothing to prove. Furthermore, we may assume $\#\{x \in Q : x > p\} \geq 2$ (the proof for the case $\#\{x \in Q : x < p\} \geq 2$ is similar). Write $x = \max Q$; then $f^t(x) = x$.

Claim 1. We may assume that there exists a positive number $\varepsilon > 0$ such that $f^t(y) > y$ for all $y \in (x, x+\varepsilon)$.

Proof of Claim 1. Since $x \notin R$, there exists a positive number $\varepsilon > 0$ such that $(f^t(y)-y)(y-x) > 0$ for all $y \in (x-\varepsilon, x+\varepsilon) - \{x\}$ or $(f^t(y)-y)(y-x) < 0$ for all $y \in (x-\varepsilon, x+\varepsilon) - \{x\}$. If $(f^t(y)-y)(y-x) > 0$ for all $y \in (x-\varepsilon, x+\varepsilon) - \{x\}$, then Claim 1 holds. Now we assume $(f^t(y)-y)(y-x) < 0$ for all $y \in (x-\varepsilon, x+\varepsilon) - \{x\}$. Write $u = \max\{y \in (p, x) : f^t(y) = y\}$ since $\#\{x \in Q : x > p\} \geq 2$.

We claim that for all $1 \leq i \leq t$, $(f^i(u)-p)(f^i(x)-p) > 0$. Indeed, if $(f^i(u)-p)(f^i(x)-p) < 0$ for some $1 \leq i \leq t$, then there exists a point $v \in (u, x)$ such that $f^i(v) = p$; thus $f^t(v) = p$, which implies $(u, v) \cap F(f^t) \neq \emptyset$. This is a contradiction.

We also claim $u = \max\{f^i(u) : 0 \leq i \leq t\}$. Indeed, if $f^i(u) > u$ for some $1 \leq i \leq t-1$, then there exists a point $v \in (u, x)$ such that $f^i(v) = v$ since $x = \max Q$. Let $w = \max\{v \in (u, x) : f^i(v) = v\}$; then $f^{t-i}(w) = f^t(w) > w$. Since $f^{t-i}(x) < x$, there exists a point $e \in (w, x)$ such that $f^{t-i}(e) = e$, which implies $f^i(e) = f^t(e) > e$ and $(e, x) \cap F(f^i) \neq \emptyset$. This is a contradiction.

By using u to replace x, we know that Claim 1 holds. Claim 1 is proven. □

Write $S = \{y : f^t(y) = x\} \cap (x, x_{kt}]$. Let $T = \min S$ if $S \neq \emptyset$ and $T = x_{kt}$; otherwise. Put $J = (x, T)$.

Claim 2. $J, f(J), \dots, f^{t-1}(J)$ are pairwise disjoint and $p \notin \bigcup_{i=0}^{t-1} f^i(J)$.

Proof of Claim 2. We first prove that $J, f(J), \dots, f^{t-1}(J)$ are pairwise disjoint. Suppose that there exist $0 \leq i < j \leq t-1$ and $u, v \in J$ such that $f^i(u) = f^j(v)$, then $f^{t-j+i}(u) = f^t(v) > x$. Since $f^{t-j+i}(x) < x$, there exists a point $y \in (x, u)$ such that $f^{t-j+i}(y) = x$, which implies $x > f^{j-i}(x) = f^t(y) > x$. This is a contradiction.

Now we prove $p \notin \bigcup_{i=0}^{t-1} f^i(J)$. Suppose that there exist some $0 \leq i \leq t-1$ and $u \in J$ such that $f^i(u) = p$, then $f^t(u) = p$, hence $x \in f^t((x, u))$, which contradicts definition of T. Claim 2 is proven. □

By definition of T, it follows that $R \cap (\bigcup_{i=0}^{t-1} f^i(J)) \neq \emptyset$ since otherwise we have $f^t(T) > T$, which is impossible.

If $f^t(J) \subset J$, then $f^t|_J$ has a cycle with period k. It follows from Claim 2 and Lemma 2.6 that f has a cycle $P = \{z_1 < z_2 < \cdots < z_{kt}\}$ with rotation pair (ks, kt) satisfying conditions (1), (2), and (3) of Lemma 2.7.

If $f^t(J) \not\subset J$, then $f^t(T) = x$ and there exists a point $y \in J$ such that $f^t(y) \geq T$. Thus $f^t([x, y]) \cap f^t([y, T]) \supset [x, T]$. By Lemma 2.3 of [4], f^t has a cycle of period 3 on J. It follows from Claim 2, Theorem A, and Lemma 2.6 that f has a cycle $P = \{z_1 < z_2 < \cdots < z_{kt}\}$ with rotation pair (ks, kt) satisfying conditions (1), (2), and (3) of Lemma 2.7. Lemma 2.7 is proven. □

3. Proof of Theorem 1.2

In this section, we will give the proof of Theorem 1.2.

Proof of Theorem 1.2. We may assume $s/t \leq 1/2$ (the proof for the case $1/2 < s/t < 1$ is similar). Let $f \in \mathbf{P}(2^m ns, 2^m nt)$. We wish to show that there exists a neighbourhood U of f in $C^0(I)$ such that every $g \in U$ has a cycle with rotation pair (γ, λ). The proof will be carried out in a number of stages. □

Claim 3. If $m \geq 0$ and $n \geq 3$, then there exists a neighbourhood U of f in $C^0(I)$ such that every $g \in U$ has a cycle with rotation pair $(2^m(n+2)s, 2^m(n+2)t)$.

Proof of Claim 3. By Lemma 2.7, we know that f has a cycle $\{z_1 < z_2 < \cdots < z_{2^m nt}\}$ with rotation pair $(2^m ns, 2^m nt)$ satisfying

(1) $f(y) < y$ if $y \in B_i = \{z_{(i-1)2^m n+1}, \ldots, z_{i2^m n}\}$ for $t - s + 1 \leq i \leq t$ and $f(y) > y$ if $y \in B_i = \{z_{(i-1)2^m n+1}, \ldots, z_{i2^m n}\}$ for $1 \leq i \leq t - s$;

(2) B_1 is a strongly simple cycle of f^t;

(3) f cyclically permutes the sets B_i $(i = 1, 2, \ldots, t)$.

For each $1 \leq l \leq 2^m$, let $z_1(l)$ denote the midpoint of the n points in $C_l = \{x_{(l-1)n+1} < \cdots < x_{ln}\}$ and $z_j(l) = f^{2^m t(j-1)}(z_1(l))$ $(1 < j \leq n)$. Then for each $1 \leq l \leq 2^m$, we have either

$$z_n(l) < z_{n-2}(l) < \cdots < z_3(l) < z_1(l) < z_2(l) < \cdots < z_{n-3}(l) < z_{n-1}(l) \tag{3.1}$$

or

$$z_n(l) > z_{n-2}(l) > \cdots > z_3(l) > z_1(l) > z_2(l) > \cdots > z_{n-3}(l) > z_{n-1}(l). \tag{3.2}$$

Furthermore, the blocks C_l can be renumbered so that $f^t(z_1(l)) = z_1(l+1)$ for $1 \leq l < 2^m$. Then

$$\begin{gathered} f^t(z_j(l)) = z_j(l+1) \quad \text{if } 1 \leq l < 2^m,\ 1 \leq j \leq n, \\ f^t(z_j(2^m)) = z_{j+1}(1) \quad \text{if } 1 \leq j < n, \\ f^t(z_n(2^m)) = z_1(1). \end{gathered} \tag{3.3}$$

Since $f^t([z_1(l); z_2(l)]) \supset [z_1(l+1); z_2(l+1)]$ for $1 \leq l < 2^m$ and $f^t([z_1(2^m); z_2(2^m)]) \supset [z_3(1); z_2(1)]$, there exist points $z_{-3}, z_{-2}, z_{-1}, z_0$ such that $f^{2^m t}(z_{-i}) = z_{-i+1}$ $(i = 0, 1, 2, 3)$ satisfying

(1) for $1 \leq l \leq 2^m$ either

$$z_1(l) < f^{(l-1)t}(z_{-1}) < f^{(l-1)t}(z_{-3}) < f^{(l-1)t}(z_{-2}) < f^{(l-1)t}(z_0) < z_2(l) \tag{3.4}$$

or

$$z_1(l) > f^{(l-1)t}(z_{-1}) > f^{(l-1)t}(z_{-3}) > f^{(l-1)t}(z_{-2}) > f^{(l-1)t}(z_0) > z_2(l); \tag{3.5}$$

(2) $f^{(l-1)t+i}(z_{-j}) \in [f^i(B_1)]$ for $1 \le l \le 2^m$ and $0 \le i < t$ and $j = 0, 1, 2, 3$.

Let

$$\varepsilon = \frac{\min\{|f^i(z_{-3}(1)) - f^j(z_{-3}(1))| : 0 \le i < j < 2^m(n+2)t\}}{10} \tag{3.6}$$

and $U = \{g \in C^0(I) : d(f^i, g^i) < \varepsilon$ for all $1 \le i \le 2^m(n+2)t\}$. Then for every $g \in U$ and $0 \le i < j \le 2^m(n+2)t-1$, we have $f^i(z_{-3}(1)) < f^j(z_{-3}(1))$ if and only if $g^i(z_{-3}(1)) < g^j(z_{-3}(1))$, and $g^{2^m(n+4)t}(z_{-3}(1)) \in [g^{2^m 2t}(z_{-3}(1)); g^{2^m 6t}(z_{-3}(1))]$. Put

$$I_l = \left[g^{l-1}(z_{-3}(1)); g^{2^m 2t+l-1}(z_{-3}(1))\right] \quad \text{for } 1 \le l \le 2^m(n+2)t. \tag{3.7}$$

Then we have

$$\begin{gathered} g(I_l) \supset I_{l+1}, \quad \text{if } 1 \le l \le 2^m(n+2)t-1, \\ g\left(I_{2^m(n+2)t}\right) \supset I_1. \end{gathered} \tag{3.8}$$

This yields a cycle $O = \{y, g(y), \ldots, g^{2^m(n+2)t}(y)\}$ such that $g^{i-1}(y) \in I_i$ for $i = 1, 2, \ldots, 2^m(n+2)t$. it is easy to verify that the rotation pair of O is $(2^m(n+2)s, 2^m(n+2)t)$. Claim 3 is proven. □

Claim 4. If $m \ge 1$ and $n = 1$, then there exists a neighourhood U of f in $C^0(I)$ such that every $g \in U$ has a cycle with rotation pair $(2^{m-1}s, 2^{m-1}t)$.

Proof of Claim 4. By Lemma 2.7, we know that f has a cycle $\{x_1 < x_2 < \cdots < x_{2^m t}\}$ with rotation pair $(2^m s, 2^m t)$ satisfying

(1) if $y \in B_i = \{x_{(i-1)2^m+1}, \ldots, x_{i2^m}\}$ and $t-s+1 \le i \le t$, then $f(y) < y$; if $y \in B_i = \{x_{(i-1)2^m+1}, \ldots, x_{i2^m}\}$ and $1 \le i \le t-s$, then $f(y) > y$;

(2) B_1 is a strongly simple cycle of f^t;

(3) f cyclically permutes the sets B_i $(i = 1, 2, \ldots, t)$.

Since $f^{2^{m-1}t}(x_1) = x_2$ and $f^{2^{m-1}t}(x_2) = x_1$, there exist points $x_1 \le a < b \le x_2$ such that $f^{2^{m-1}t}(b) = x_1 < x_2 = f^{2^{m-1}t}(a)$ and $f^i(a), f^i(b) \in [f^i(x_1); f^i(x_2)]$ for $0 \le i \le 2^{m-1}t-1$. Let

$$\varepsilon = \frac{\min\{b-a, \min\{|f^i(x_1) - f^j(x_1)| : 0 \le i < j < 2^m t\}\}}{10} \tag{3.9}$$

and $U = \{g \in C^0(I) : d(f^i, g^i) < \varepsilon$ for all $1 \le i \le 2^{m-1}t\}$. Then for every $g \in U$, we have

$$g^{2^{m-1}t}(a) > a, \qquad g^{2^{m-1}t}(b) < b. \tag{3.10}$$

This yields a cycle $O = \{y, f(y), \ldots, f^{2^{m-1}t-1}(y)\}$ such that $g^i(y) \in [g^i(a); g^i(b)]$ for $i = 0, 1, \ldots, 2^{m-1}t-1$. it is easy to verify that the rotation pair of O is $(2^{m-1}s, 2^{m-1}t)$. Claim 4 is proven. □

Claim 5. If $m = 0$ and $n = 1$, then there exists a neighourhood U of f in $C^0(I)$ such that every $g \in U$ has a cycle with rotation pair (γ, λ).

Proof of Claim 5. By Lemma 2.7, f, has a cycle $P = \{x_1 < x_2 < \cdots < x_t\}$ with rotation pair (s, t) such that $f(x_i) > x_i$ for all $1 \leq i \leq t - s$ and $f(x_i) < x_i$ for all $t - s + 1 \leq i \leq t$.

Choose two integers u, v with u, v coprime such that $s/t < u/v < \gamma/\lambda$. Without loss of generality, we can assume $f(x_{t-s+1}) < x_{t-s}$. Take $w \in F(f) \cap (x_{t-s}, x_{t-s+1})$. Put $1 \leq l = tu - sv$, then there exist points $y_i \in (x_{t-s}, x_{t-s+1})$ $(i = 0, 1, \ldots, 2l-1)$ such that $x_{t-s} < y_{2l-2} < y_{2l-4} < \cdots < y_2 < y_0 < w < y_1 < y_3 < \cdots < y_{2l-3} < y_{2l-1} < x_{t-s+1}$ with $f(y_i) = y_{i+1}$ $(i = 0, 1, \ldots, 2l-2)$ and $f(y_{2l-1}) = x_{t-s}$. Let

$$\varepsilon = \frac{\min\{|f^i(y_0) - f^j(y_0)| : 0 \leq i < j < 2l + t\}}{10} \tag{3.11}$$

and $U = \{g \in C^0(I) : d(f^i, g^i) < \varepsilon \text{ for all } 1 \leq i \leq (t-2s)v\}$. Then for every $g \in U$, we have $g^{(t-2s)v}(y_0) < y_0 < g(y_0)$ and $g^2(y_0) < g(y_0)$.

Let $z = \max\{x \in I : x < y_0 \text{ and } g^{(t-2s)v}(x) = x\}$, $\alpha = \min\{z, g(z), \ldots, g^{(t-2s)v-1}(z)\}$, and $w_1 \in (y_0, g(y_0)) \cap F(g)$. □

Claim 6. $(g^i(z) - w_1)(g^i(y_0) - w_1) > 0$ for any $i \in \{0, 1, \ldots, (t-2s)v\}$.

Proof of Claim 6. Assume on the contrary that $(g^i(z) - w_1)(g^i(y_0) - w_1) \leq 0$ for some $i \in \{0, 1, \ldots, (t-2s)v\}$; then there exists a point $c \in [z, y_0)$ such that $g^i(c) = w_1$; thus $g^{(t-2s)v}(c) = w_1$, which implies $(z, y_0) \cap F(g^{(t-2s)v}) \neq \emptyset$, a contradiction. □

Claim 7. If $[\alpha, y_0] \cap F(g) \neq \emptyset$, then g has a cycle with rotation pair (γ, λ).

Proof of Claim 7. Indeed, if $[\alpha, y_0] \cap F(g) \neq \emptyset$, let $z_0 = \max\{[\alpha, y_0] \cap F(g)\}$, then $z_0 \in [\alpha, z)$. Since $g(y_0) > y_0$ and $[z, y_0] \cap F(g) = \emptyset$, we have $g(z) > z$. Let $j = \min\{k : f^{k+1}(z) \leq z_0\}$ and $i = \min\{k : k \leq j \text{ and } f^{k+1}(z) \geq f^j(z)\}$. Then $f^{j+1}(z) \leq z_0 < f^i(z) < f^j(z) \leq f^{i+1}(z)$. It follows from Lemma 2.2 that g has a cycle with rotation pair (γ, λ). □

In the following, we assume that $[\alpha, y_0] \cap F(g) = \emptyset$.

Claim 8. $g^{i+1}(z) \in [g^i(z); w_1]$ or $w_1 \in [g^{i+1}(z); g^i(z)]$ for any $i \in \{0, 1, \ldots, (t-2s)v\}$.

Proof of Claim 8. Assume on the contrary that $g^i(z) \in [g^{i+1}(z); w_1]$ for some $i \in \{0, 1, \ldots, (t-2s)v\}$; then $g^i(z) > y_0$. Since $g^{i+1}(y_0) \in [g^i(y_0); w_1]$, we have $[g^i(z); g^i(y_0)] \cap F(g) \neq \emptyset$. Let $w_2 \in [g^i(z); g^i(y_0)] \cap F(g)$; then $w_2 > y_0$ and there exists a point $d \in [z, y_0]$ such that $g^{(t-2s)v}(d) = w_2$; thus, $(d, y_0] \cap F(g^{(t-2s)v}) \neq \emptyset$, a contradiction.

By Claims 7 and 8, we know that g has a cycle with rotation number u/v. It follows from Theorem C that g has a cycle with rotation pair (γ, λ), which completes the proof of Claim 5. □

Theorem 1.2 now follows immediately from Claim 3, Claim 4, Claim 5, and Theorem C.

Acknowledgments

The project was supported by NSF of China (10861002), NSF of Guangxi (2010GXNSFA013106, 2011GXNSFA014781), SF of Education Department of Guangxi (200911MS212), and Innovation Project of Guangxi Graduate Education 105931003060.

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