

## EXPANSIVE FLOWS AND THEIR CENTRALIZERS

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### 1. Introduction and preliminaries

R. Bowen and P. Walters [2] have defined expansive flows on metric spaces which generalized the similar notion by D. Anosov [1]. On the other hand, P. Walters [4] investigated continuous transformations of metric spaces with discrete centralizers and unstable centralizers and proved that expansive homeomorphisms have unstable centralizers.

$M$  will denote a compact connected  $C^\infty$  manifold without boundary. We assume that we have some fixed Riemannian metric  $|\cdot|$  on  $M$ . We denote by  $d(x, y)$  the distance between  $x, y \in M$  given by this Riemannian metric.  $C^1(M)$  (resp.  $C^0(M)$ ) will denote the set of all  $C^1$  (resp. continuous) functions on  $M$ .

$X$  will denote a compact connected metric space with metric function  $d(x, y)$  which denotes the distance between  $x, y \in X$ .

$\mathbf{R}$  denote the additive group of real numbers.

A map  $F: \mathbf{R} \times X \rightarrow X$  is called a continuous flow on  $X$  if  $F$  is continuous and  $F(t + s, x) = F(t, F(s, x)), F(0, x) = x$  for every  $t, s \in \mathbf{R}$  and  $x \in X$ . We shall sometimes use the notation  $f_t(x) = F(t, x)$  and write  $\{f_t\}$  for the flow instead of  $F$ .

**DEFINITION 1.** A continuous flow  $F$  on  $X$  is called an expansive flow if it has the following property (\*);

(\*) For any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists  $\delta > 0$  with the property that if there exist a pair of points  $x, y \in X$  and a continuous map  $s: \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  with  $s(0) = 0$  such that  $d(f_t(x), f_{s(t)}(y)) < \delta$  for every  $t \in \mathbf{R}$ , then  $y = f_t(x)$  for some  $|t| < \varepsilon$ .

Let  $v$  be a  $C^1$ -vector field on  $M$  and  $\{f_t\}$  be the one-parameter group of  $C^1$ -diffeomorphisms  $f_t$  of  $M$  generated by  $v$ . We shall sometimes use the notation  $f(t, x) = f_t(x)$  for every  $t \in \mathbf{R}$  and  $x \in M$ . A  $C^1$ -vector field

$v$  (or  $\{f_t\}$ ) on  $M$  is sometimes called a  $C^1$ -flow on  $M$ .

$v$  (or  $\{f_t\}$ ) is called a  $C^1$ -expansive flow on  $M$  if  $\{f_t\}$  satisfies the property (\*).

**DEFINITION 2.** Let  $v$  be a  $C^1$ -vector field on  $M$ . A  $C^1$ -vector field  $w$  on  $M$  is called  $C^1$ -commutative with  $v$  if  $[v, w] = 0$ , where  $[ ]$  is Lie bracket. Let  $\{f_t\}$  be a continuous flow on  $X$ , then a continuous flow  $\{g_s\}$  on  $X$  is called commutative with  $\{f_t\}$  if  $f_t \circ g_s = g_s \circ f_t$  for every  $t, s \in \mathbf{R}$ .

$\text{Cent}(F)$  (resp.  $\text{Cent}(v)$ ) will denote the centralizer of  $F$  (resp.  $v$ ), i.e. the set of all continuous flows (resp.  $C^1$ -vector fields)  $C^1$ -commutative with  $F$  (resp.  $v$ ).

**DEFINITION 3.** Let  $v$  be a  $C^1$ -flow on  $M$ .  $v$  is said to have an unstable centralizer if it satisfies the property that  $w \in \text{Cent}(v)$  if and only if  $w = h \cdot v$  with  $h \in C^1(M)$ ,  $v(h) = 0$ .

**DEFINITION 4.** A continuous flow  $F$  on  $X$  is said to have an unstable centralizer if it satisfies the property that  $G$  is in  $\text{Cent}(F)$  if and only if there exists a continuous function  $A$  on  $X$  such that

$$G(t, x) = F(A(x)t, x), \quad A(x) = A(F(t, x))$$

for every  $t \in \mathbf{R}$  and  $x \in X$ .

For a continuous flow  $F$  on  $X$ , we put

$$\varepsilon_0(F) = \inf \{t > 0; F(t, x) = x \text{ for some } x \in X\}$$

in the case when there exists a periodic (or fixed) point of  $F$ . When there is no periodic point we put  $\varepsilon_0(F) = +\infty$ .

In this paper, as an analogue of the case of expansive homeomorphisms, we shall prove that expansive flows have unstable centralizers. K. Kato and A. Morimoto [3] proved the above fact for the case of Anosov flows by using the topological stability.

Next, we shall prove that the set of all expansive flows in  $\text{Cent}(F)$ , where  $F$  is an expansive flow on  $X$ , is an open subset of  $\text{Cent}(F)$  with respect to  $C^0$ -topology.

In the section 4, we shall prove that a flow commutative with an Anosov flow is an Anosov flow if it is a  $C^1$ -expansive flow on  $M$ .

The idea of the proof of Lemma 3 was inspired by that of Theorem B [3].

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## 2. Unstable centralizers

In this section, we shall prove the following Theorem 1.

**THEOREM 1.** *Expansive flows on  $X$  have unstable centralizers.*

To prove Theorem 1, first, we shall prove the following Lemma 1 and Lemma 2.

*Remark.* An expansive flow  $F$  on a connected metric space  $X$  has no fixed points (cf. [2]). Further, if a continuous flow  $F$  on  $X$  has no fixed points, then  $\varepsilon_0(F) > 0$ .

**LEMMA 1.** *Let  $F$  be an expansive flow on  $X$  and  $G \in \text{Cent}(F)$ . Then for any  $0 < \varepsilon < \varepsilon_0(F)/3$ , we can find  $\mu > 0$  such that there exists uniquely a function  $z$  on  $[-\mu, \mu] \times X$  satisfying*

$$G(s, x) = F(z(s, x), x), \quad |z(s, x)| < \varepsilon,$$

for any  $(s, x) \in [-\mu, \mu] \times X$ .

*Proof.* For any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , we have  $\delta > 0$  such that if  $d(f_t(x), f_t(y)) < \delta$  for every  $t \in \mathbf{R}$ , then  $y = f_t(x)$  for some  $|t| < \varepsilon$ . Since  $M$  is a compact manifold, there exists sufficiently small  $\mu > 0$  with

$$\max \{d(g_0(x), g_t(x)); t \in [-\mu, \mu], x \in M\} < \delta.$$

Since  $f_t \circ g_s = g_s \circ f_t$  for every  $t, s \in \mathbf{R}$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} d(f_t(x), f_t(g_s(x))) &= d(f_t \circ g_0(x), f_t \circ g_s(x)) \\ &= d(g_0(f_t(x)), g_s(f_t(x))) < \delta \end{aligned}$$

for any  $x \in M$  and every  $t, s \in \mathbf{R}$  with  $|s| \leq \mu$ .

Therefore we get

$$g_s(x) = F(z(s, x), x), \quad |z(s, x)| < \varepsilon.$$

Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  be sufficiently small and  $\varepsilon < \varepsilon_0(F)/3$ , then

$$F(z_1(s, x), x) = F(z_2(s, x), x)$$

implies  $z_1(s, x) = z_2(s, x)$ . Hence, we know that  $z(s, x)$  is unique.

Q.E.D.

LEMMA 2. Let  $F$  be a continuous flow on  $X$  without fixed points. Let  $G$  be a continuous flow on  $X$  such that for fixed  $\mu > 0$ , there exists a function  $z$  on  $[-\mu, \mu] \times X$ , and

$$G(s, x) = F(z(s, x), x), \quad |z(s, x)| < \varepsilon,$$

where  $0 < \varepsilon < \varepsilon_0(F)/3$ . Then we get (i), (ii);

(i)  $z$  is continuous on  $[-\mu, \mu] \times X$ ,

(ii) if  $t, s, t + s \in [-\mu, \mu]$ , then

$$z(t + s, x) = z(t, x) + z(s, G(t, x))$$

for any  $x \in X$ .

*Proof.* We shall prove (i). If  $z$  is not continuous, there exist  $(s, x) \in [-\mu, \mu] \times X$  and  $\{(s_n, x_n)\}_{n=1}^{\infty} \subset [-\mu, \mu] \times X$  such that  $(s_n, x_n) \rightarrow (s, x)$  and  $\{z(s_n, x_n)\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  does not converge to  $z(s, x)$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Therefore, we have  $\delta_0 > 0$  and subsequence  $\{(s_m, x_m)\}$  with  $|z(s_m, x_m) - z(s, x)| \geq \delta_0$  for any positive integer  $m$ .  $\{z(s_m, x_m)\}$  is bounded, hence there exists  $\delta_1 > 0$  such that

$$\delta_1 \leq d(F(z(s_m, x_m), x), F(z(s, x), x))$$

for any  $m$ .

Whence we get

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_1 &\leq d(F(z(s_m, x_m), x_m), F(z(s_m, x_m), x)) \\ &\quad + d(F(z(s_m, x_m), x_m), F(z(s, x), x)). \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

From  $G(s_m, x_m) \rightarrow G(s, x)$  as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , we get

$$d(F(z(s_m, x_m), x_m), F(z(s, x), x)) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } m \rightarrow \infty.$$

Since  $\{z(s_m, x_m)\}$  is bounded, there exist  $t_0 \in \mathbf{R}$  and subsequence  $\{z(s_k, x_k)\}$  with  $\lim z(s_k, x_k) = t_0$ . Therefore

$$d(F(z(s_k, x_k), x_k), F(z(s_k, x_k), x)) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } k \rightarrow \infty.$$

This contradicts to (1).

Next, we prove (ii). We can calculate as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} G(t + s, x) &= G(t, G(s, x)) \\ &= F(z(t, g_s(x)), g_s(x)) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= F(z(t, g_s(x)), F(z(s, x), x)) \\
&= F(z(t, g_s(x)) + z(s, x), x) ,
\end{aligned}$$

on the other hand

$$G(t + s, x) = F(z(t + s, x), x) .$$

Hence we have

$$z(t + s, x) = z(t, g_s(x)) + z(s, x)$$

for  $t, s, t + s \in [-\mu, \mu]$  and  $x \in X$ .

Q.E.D.

Using Lemma 2, we shall prove the following:

**LEMMA 3.** *Let  $F$  be a continuous flow on  $X$  without fixed points. Let  $G$  be a continuous flow on  $X$  such that for fixed  $\mu > 0$ , there exists a continuous function  $z$  on  $[-\mu, \mu] \times X$ , and*

$$G(s, x) = F(z(s, x), x) , \quad |z(s, x)| < \varepsilon ,$$

for every  $s \in [-\mu, \mu]$  and  $x \in X$ , where  $0 < \varepsilon < \varepsilon_0(F)/3$ . Then there exists a unique continuous function  $p: \mathbf{R} \times X \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  such that

$$G(t, x) = F(p(t, x), x)$$

for  $(t, x) \in \mathbf{R} \times X$ , and  $p = z$  on  $[-\mu, \mu] \times X$ .

*Proof.* Take a positive integer  $N$  so large as  $1/2^N \leq \mu$ .

First, we define a continuous function  $z_1$  on  $[1/2^N, 2/2^N] \times X$  by

$$z_1(t, x) = z(t - 1/2^N, x) + z(1/2^N, G(t - 1/2^N, x))$$

for  $(t, x) \in [1/2^N, 2/2^N] \times X$ .

We shall prove the following equalities;

- (a)  $z_1(1/2^N, x) = z(1/2^N, x)$  for any  $x \in X$ ,
- (b)  $G(t, x) = F(z_1(t, x), x)$

for any  $(t, x) \in [1/2^N, 2/2^N] \times X$ .

(a) is clear from the definition of  $z_1$ .

To prove (b), first, we can calculate from Lemma 2 as follows;

$$\begin{aligned}
O &= z(1/2^N - 1/2^N, g_t(x)) \\
&= z(1/2^N, G(t - 1/2^N, x)) + z(-1/2^N, g_t(x)) .
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore we get

$$z(-1/2^N, g_t(x)) = -z(1/2^N, G(t - 1/2^N, x))$$

for  $t \in [1/2^N, 2/2^N]$  and  $x \in X$ . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} F(-z(1/2^N, G(t - 1/2^N, x)), F(z_1(t, x), x)) \\ &= F(z(t - 1/2^N, x), x) \\ &= G(t - 1/2^N, x) \\ &= G(-1/2^N, g_t(x)) \\ &= F(z(-1/2^N, g_t(x)), g_t(x)) . \end{aligned}$$

Whence we get

$$G(t, x) = F(z_1(t, x), x)$$

for  $(t, x) \in [1/2^N, 2/2^N] \times X$ .

Next, we define a continuous function  $\bar{z}_1$  on  $[-2/2^N, -1/2^N] \times X$  by

$$\bar{z}_1(t, x) = z(t + 1/2^N, x) + z(-1/2^N, G(t + 1/2^N, x))$$

for  $(t, x) \in [-2/2^N, -1/2^N] \times X$ .

We shall prove the following equalities;

- (c)  $\bar{z}_1(-1/2^N, x) = z(-1/2^N, x)$  for  $x \in X$ ,
- (d)  $G(t, x) = F(\bar{z}_1(t, x), x)$

for  $(t, x) \in [-2/2^N, -1/2^N] \times X$ .

(c) is clear from the definition of  $\bar{z}_1$ .

To prove (d), we can obtain the following equality from Lemma 2,

$$z(1/2^N, g_t(x)) = -z(-1/2^N, G(t + 1/2^N, x))$$

for  $t \in [-2/2^N, -1/2^N]$  and  $x \in X$ . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} F(-z(-1/2^N, G(t + 1/2^N, x)), F(\bar{z}_1(t, x), x)) \\ &= F(z(t + 1/2^N, x), x) \\ &= G(t + 1/2^N, x) \\ &= G(1/2^N, g_t(x)) \\ &= F(z(1/2^N, g_t(x)), g_t(x)) . \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we get

$$G(t, x) = F(\bar{z}_1(t, x), x)$$

for  $(t, x) \in [-2/2^N, -1/2^N] \times X$ .

Now, for any positive integer  $k$  we define a continuous function  $z_k$  on  $[k/2^N, (k+1)/2^N] \times X$  by

$$z_k(t, x) = z(t - k/2^N, x) + \sum_{i=1}^k z(1/2^N, G(t - i/2^N, x)) .$$

We shall prove the following equalities;

(e)  $z_k((k+1)/2^N, x) = z_{k+1}((k+1)/2^N, x)$  for  $x \in X$ ,

(f)  $z_k(t, x) = z_{k-1}(t - 1/2^N, x) + z(1/2^N, G(t - 1/2^N, x))$

for  $(t, x) \in [k/2^N, (k+1)/2^N] \times X$ ,

(g)  $G(t, x) = F(z_k(t, x), x)$

for  $t \in [k/2^N, (k+1)/2^N]$  and  $x \in X$ .

In fact, the right-hand side of (e) is  $\sum_{i=0}^k z(1/2^N, G(i/2^N, x))$ , while left-hand side of (e) is

$$\begin{aligned} z_k((k+1)/2^N, x) &= z(1/2^N, x) + \sum_{i=1}^k z(1/2^N, G((k+1-i)/2^N, x)) \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^k z(1/2^N, G(i/2^N, x)) . \end{aligned}$$

Next, we shall prove (f) as follows;

$$\begin{aligned} z_k(t, x) &= z(t - 1/2^N - (k-1)/2^N, x) \\ &\quad + \sum_{i=1}^k z(1/2^N, G(t - 1/2^N - (i-1)/2^N, x)) \\ &= z(1/2^N, G(t - 1/2^N, x)) + z(t - 1/2^N - (k-1)/2^N, x) \\ &\quad + \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} z(1/2^N, G(t - 1/2^N - i/2^N, x)) \\ &= z(1/2^N, G(t - 1/2^N, x)) + z_{k-1}(t - 1/2^N, x) . \end{aligned}$$

We shall show (g) by induction. We have already proved (g) for  $k = 1$ . From (f),

$$\begin{aligned} &F(-z(1/2^N, G(t - 1/2^N, x)), F(z_k(t, x), x)) \\ &= F(z_{k-1}(t - 1/2^N, x), x) \\ &= G(t - 1/2^N, x) \\ &= G(-1/2^N, g_t(x)) \\ &= F(z(-1/2^N, g_t(x)), g_t(x)) \\ &= F(-z(1/2^N, G(t - 1/2^N, x)), g_t(x)) . \end{aligned}$$

Whence we get

$$G(t, x) = F(z_k(t, x), x)$$

for  $t \in [k/2^N, (k+1)/2^N]$  and  $x \in X$ .

Next, we define a continuous function  $\bar{z}_k$ , where  $k$  is a positive integer, on  $[-(k+1)/2^N, -k/2^N] \times X$  by

$$\bar{z}_k(t, x) = z(t + k/2^N, x) + \sum_{i=1}^k z(-1/2^N, G(t + i/2^N, x)).$$

We can verify the following (h), (i), (j) in the same way as the proof of (e), (f), (g).

$$(h) \quad \bar{z}_k(-(k+1)/2^N, x) = \bar{z}_{k+1}(-(k+1)/2^N, x) \quad \text{for } x \in X,$$

$$(i) \quad \bar{z}_k(t, x) = \bar{z}_{k-1}(t + 1/2^N, x) + z(-1/2^N, G(t + 1/2^N, x))$$

for  $(t, x) \in [-(k+1)/2^N, -k/2^N] \times X$

$$(j) \quad G(t, x) = F(\bar{z}_k(t, x), x)$$

for  $t \in [-(k+1)/2^N, -k/2^N]$  and  $x \in X$ .

Consequently, we can define the function  $p(t, x)$  on  $\mathbf{R} \times X$  by

$$p(t, x) = \begin{cases} z_k(t, x) & \text{if } t \in [k/2^N, (k+1)/2^N] \\ \bar{z}_k(t, x) & \text{if } t \in [-(k+1)/2^N, -k/2^N] \end{cases}$$

for  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ , where  $z_0 = z$ . Using (e), (h), we see that  $p$  is a continuous function on  $\mathbf{R} \times X$  and from (g), (j), we know

$$G(t, x) = F(p(t, x), x)$$

for every  $t \in \mathbf{R}$  and  $x \in X$ .

It is clear that  $p(t, x) = z(t, x)$  for every  $t \in [-\mu, \mu]$  and  $x \in X$ .

Finally, we shall prove the uniqueness. We assume that there exist two functions  $p_1, p_2$  such that

$$G(t, x) = F(p_i(t, x), x)$$

for  $(t, x) \in \mathbf{R} \times X$  and  $p_i = z$  on  $[-\mu, \mu] \times X$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ). Put  $\alpha(t, x) = p_1(t, x) - p_2(t, x)$  and  $T_x = \{t \in \mathbf{R}; \alpha(t, x) = 0\}$  for fixed  $x \in X$ . Then, since  $F(\alpha(t, x), x) = x$  holds for  $(t, x) \in \mathbf{R} \times X$ , we see that  $T_x$  is a non-empty, open and closed subset of  $\mathbf{R}$ . Therefore we get  $T_x = \mathbf{R}$  for any  $x \in X$  which implies  $p_1 = p_2$ . Q.E.D.



*Proof of Theorem 1.* Let  $F$  be an expansive flow on  $X$  and let  $G \in \text{Cent}(F)$ . By Lemma 3, we can calculate as follows;

$$\begin{aligned} G(t, F(s, x)) &= g_t \circ f_s(x) = f_s \circ g_t(x) \\ &= F(s, G(t, x)) = F(s + p(t, x), x) , \end{aligned}$$

on the other hand

$$G(t, F(s, x)) = F(p(t, f_s(x)), f_s(x)) = F(p(t, f_s(x)) + s, x) .$$

Therefore, for sufficiently small  $\mu > 0$ , we have

$$p(t, x) = p(t, f_s(x))$$

for every  $t \in [-\mu, \mu]$  and  $s \in \mathbf{R}$ . From the uniqueness of the function  $p$  and using (f), (i) in the proof of Lemma 3, we can prove by induction that

$$p(t, x) = p(t, f_s(x))$$

for every  $t, s \in \mathbf{R}$ .

Now, we get

$$G(t + s, x) = G(t, G(s, x)) = F(p(t, g_s(x)) + p(s, x), x) ,$$

on the other hand

$$G(t + s, x) = F(p(t + s, x), x) .$$

Hence, for sufficiently small  $\mu > 0$ , we get

$$p(t + s, x) = p(t, x) + p(s, x)$$

for every  $t, s, t + s \in [-\mu, \mu]$  and  $x \in X$ . From the uniqueness of the function  $p$  and using (f), (i), we can prove that

$$p(t + s, x) = p(t, x) + p(s, x)$$

for every  $t, s \in \mathbf{R}$  and  $x \in X$ . Therefore, we can write

$$p(t, x) = A(x) \cdot t$$

for  $t \in \mathbf{R}$  and  $x \in X$ , where  $A(x)$  is a continuous function on  $X$ . Since  $p(t, x) = p(t, f_s(x))$  for any  $s \in \mathbf{R}$ , we get  $A(x) = A(F(s, x))$  for every  $s \in \mathbf{R}$ .

Conversely, if  $G$  is a continuous flow on  $X$  and there exists a continuous function  $A(x)$  on  $X$  such that

$$G(t, x) = F(A(x)t, x), \quad A(x) = A(F(s, x))$$

for every  $t, s \in \mathbf{R}$ , then it is clear that  $G$  is in  $\text{Cent}(F)$ . Q.E.D.

**COROLLARY 2.**  *$C^1$ -expansive flows on  $M$  have unstable centralizers.*

Proof is omitted.

**COROLLARY 3** (K. Kato and A. Morimoto). *Anosov flows on  $M$  have unstable centralizers.*

### 3. Expansive flows in $\text{Cent}(F)$

For continuous maps  $f, g: X \rightarrow X$ ,  $d_0(f, g)$  is defined by

$$d_0(f, g) = \max \{d(f(x), g(x)); x \in X\}.$$

First, we state the following:

**LEMMA 4** (R. Bowen and P. Walters). *Let  $F$  be an expansive flow on  $X$  and let  $G$  be a continuous flow on  $X$ . If there exists a continuous function  $p: \mathbf{R} \times X \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  such that  $G(t, x) = F(p(t, x), x)$  for every  $t \in \mathbf{R}$  and  $x \in X$ , and  $p_x: \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  is a homeomorphism of  $\mathbf{R}$  with  $p_x(0) = 0$  for any  $x \in X$ , where  $p_x(t) = p(t, x)$ . Then  $G$  is an expansive flow on  $X$ .*

For the proof, see [2] Corollary 4.

**THEOREM 4.** *Let  $F$  be an expansive flow on  $X$ , and let  $G \in \text{Cent}(F)$ . Then there exist  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $\delta > 0$  such that if  $d_0(f_t, g_t) < \varepsilon$  for any  $t \in [0, \delta]$ , then  $G$  is an expansive flow on  $X$ .*

*Proof.* Put  $\delta = \varepsilon_0(F)/2$ , and

$$Q(x) = \max \{d(x, f_t(x)); t \in [0, \delta]\}$$

for any  $x \in X$ . Since  $F$  has no fixed points,  $Q(x) > 0$  for every  $x \in X$ . Moreover, for any  $x \in X$ , there exist  $\delta_1(x) > 0$  and a neighborhood  $U$  of  $x$  with  $Q(y) \geq \delta_1(x)$  for  $y \in U$ . Therefore, we get  $\varepsilon = \inf \{Q(x); x \in X\} > 0$ .

Now, if  $d_0(f_t, g_t) < \varepsilon$  for every  $t \in [0, \delta]$ , then  $G$  is an expansive flow. In fact, if  $G$  is not an expansive flow, then by Lemma 4 there exists  $x_0 \in X$  with  $A(x_0) = 0$ , where  $A$  is a continuous function on  $X$  such that  $G(t, x) = F(A(x)t, x)$  for every  $t \in \mathbf{R}$  and  $x \in X$ . Hence,  $G(t, x_0) = x_0$  for  $t \in \mathbf{R}$ . We can estimate as follows;

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon &\leq Q(x_0) = d(x_0, f_s(x_0)) = d(g_s(x_0), f_s(x_0)) \\ &\leq d_0(g_s, f_s) < \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

for some  $s \in [0, \delta]$ . This is a contradiction. Therefore,  $G$  is an expansive flow on  $X$ . Q.E.D.

**THEOREM 5.** *Let  $F$  be an expansive flow on  $X$ . In  $\text{Cent}(F)$ , the set of all expansive flows on  $X$  is open with respect to  $C^0$ -topology.*

*Proof.* Let  $G$  be an expansive flow on  $X$  such that  $G \in \text{Cent}(F)$ . Let  $H$  (or  $\{h_t\}$ ) be a continuous flow in  $\text{Cent}(F)$  and  $d_0(g_t, h_t) < \varepsilon(G)$  for every  $t \in [0, \delta(G)]$ , where  $\varepsilon(G)$  and  $\delta(G)$  are positive numbers which are obtained in Theorem 4. By Theorem 1, there exists a continuous function  $B$  on  $X$  such that

$$H(t, x) = F(B(x)t, x), \quad B(x) = B(F(t, x))$$

for  $t \in \mathbf{R}$  and  $x \in X$ . On the other hand, we can write

$$G(t, x) = F(A(x)t, x), \quad A(x) = A(F(t, x))$$

for  $t \in \mathbf{R}$  and  $x \in X$ , where  $A$  is a continuous function on  $X$ . Therefore, we get

$$\begin{aligned} h_t \circ g_s(x) &= h_t(F(A(x)s, x)) \\ &= F(B(x)t, F(A(x)s, x)) \\ &= F(A(x)s, F(B(x)t, x)) \\ &= g_s(F(B(x)t, x)) \\ &= g_s \circ h_t(x) \end{aligned}$$

for every  $t, s \in \mathbf{R}$  and  $x \in X$ . Hence, by Theorem 4  $H$  is an expansive flow on  $X$ . So we see that in  $\text{Cent}(F)$  the set of all expansive flows on  $X$  is an open set with respect to  $C^0$ -topology. Q.E.D.

**EXAMPLE.** Let  $S^1$  be the unit circle. We consider  $S^1$  as a compact connected  $C^\infty$  manifold by polar coordinates. Let a Riemannian metric  $d(e^{it}, e^{is})$  on  $S^1$ , where  $i = \sqrt{-1}$ , be defined by

$$d(e^{it}, e^{is}) = |t - s|, \quad -\pi < t - s < \pi \pmod{2n\pi}.$$

A continuous flow  $F(t, e^{is}) = e^{i(t+s)}$  is an expansive flow on  $S^1$ .

By Theorem 1, we get that for any continuous flow on  $S^1$   $G \in \text{Cent}(F)$ , there exists a unique constant  $a \in \mathbf{R}$  with  $G(t, x) = F(a \cdot t, x)$  for

$t \in \mathbf{R}$  and  $x \in S^1$ . Consequently, we know that  $G \in \text{Cent}(F)$  is not an expansive flow on  $S^1$  if and only if  $G(t, x) = x$  for every  $t \in \mathbf{R}$  and  $x \in S^1$ .

#### 4. Anosov flows

$TM$  will denote the tangent bundle of  $M$  and  $V^1(M)$  (resp.  $V^0(M)$ ) the vector space of all  $C^1$  (resp. continuous) vector fields on  $M$ . A diffeomorphism  $f$  of  $M$  induces a linear automorphism  $F = F(f)$  of  $V^0(M)$  defined by  $F(v) = df \circ v \circ f^{-1}$  for  $v \in V^0(M)$ , where  $df$  denotes the differential of  $f$ .

**DEFINITION 5.** A vector field  $v \in V^1(M)$  or the flow  $\{f_t\}$  generated by  $v$  is called an Anosov flow on  $M$  if  $v(x) \neq 0$  for  $x \in M$  and if there exist a Riemannian metric  $|\cdot|$  on  $M$ , constants  $C > 0$ ,  $0 < \lambda < 1$  and a decomposition of the tangent space  $T_x M = E_x^0 \oplus E_x^s \oplus E_x^u$  into three subspaces, which vary continuously with  $x$  on  $M$  satisfying the following conditions;

$$(0) \quad E_x^0 = \mathbf{R} \cdot v(x),$$

(i)  $df_t$  leaves invariant the subbundles  $E^s$  and  $E^u$  respectively, where  $E^\alpha = \bigcup_{x \in M} E_x^\alpha$ ,  $\alpha = s, u$ ,

$$(ii) \quad \begin{aligned} |df_t w| &\leq C\lambda^t |w| \text{ for } w \in E^s, t \geq 0 \\ |df_t w| &\leq C\lambda^{-t} |w| \text{ for } w \in E^u, t \leq 0. \end{aligned}$$

The splitting  $TM = E^0 \oplus E^s \oplus E^u$ ,  $E^0 = \bigcup_{x \in M} E_x^0$ , is the continuous Whitney sum.

Now, the vector space  $V^0(M)$  becomes a Banach space with the norm

$$\|v\| = \sup \{|v(x)|; x \in M\}$$

for  $v \in V^0(M)$ . An equivalent way of defining an Anosov flow is as follows;  $v$  or  $\{f_t\}$  is an Anosov flow if there exist a Riemannian metric  $|\cdot|$  on  $M$  and constants  $C > 0$ ,  $0 < \lambda < 1$ , such that  $V^0(M) = V^0 \oplus V^s \oplus V^u$  (vector space direct sum), where we have put  $V^0 = \{h \cdot v; h \in C^0(M)\}$ ,  $F^t V^\alpha = V^\alpha$  ( $t \in \mathbf{R}$ ),  $\alpha = s, u$ , and the restriction  $F_\alpha^t = F^t|_{V^\alpha}$ ,  $\alpha = s, u$ , satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} \|F_s^t\| &\leq C\lambda^t & t \geq 0 \\ \|F_u^t\| &\leq C\lambda^{-t} & t \leq 0, \end{aligned}$$

where we define  $F^t(w) = df_t \circ w \circ f_{-t}$  for  $w \in V^0(M)$  and the norm

$$\|F_\alpha^t\| = \sup \{\|F^t(w)\|; w \in V^\alpha, \|w\| \leq 1\}, \quad \alpha = s, u.$$

LEMMA 5. Let  $v$  (or  $\{f_t\}$ ) be an Anosov flow on  $M$  and let  $\{g_t\}$  be a  $C^1$ -flow on  $M$  such that  $\{g_t\} \in \text{Cent}(v)$ . Let  $V^0(M) = V^0 \oplus V^s \oplus V^u$  be the decomposition of  $V^0(M)$  with respect to  $v$ . We decompose the operator  $G^t(w) = dg_t \circ w \circ g_{-t}$  into

$$G^t = \begin{pmatrix} G_{00}^t & G_{0s}^t & G_{0u}^t \\ G_{s0}^t & G_{ss}^t & G_{su}^t \\ G_{u0}^t & G_{us}^t & G_{uu}^t \end{pmatrix}$$

according to its components in  $V^0, V^s$  and  $V^u$ . Then

$$G_{\alpha\beta}^t = 0 \quad \text{if } \alpha \neq \beta.$$

*Proof.* Since  $f_r \circ g_t = g_t \circ f_r$  for  $t, r \in \mathbf{R}$ , we get

$$\begin{pmatrix} G_{00}^t & G_{0s}^t & G_{0u}^t \\ G_{s0}^t & G_{ss}^t & G_{su}^t \\ G_{u0}^t & G_{us}^t & G_{uu}^t \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} F_0^r & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & F_s^r & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & F_u^r \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} F_0^r & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & F_s^r & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & F_u^r \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} G_{00}^t & G_{0s}^t & G_{0u}^t \\ G_{s0}^t & G_{ss}^t & G_{su}^t \\ G_{u0}^t & G_{us}^t & G_{uu}^t \end{pmatrix}$$

for every  $t, r \in \mathbf{R}$ . Hence we have

$$G_{s0}^t \circ F_0^r = F_s^r \circ G_{s0}^t \tag{1}$$

$$G_{u0}^t \circ F_0^r = F_u^r \circ G_{u0}^t \tag{2}$$

$$G_{0s}^t \circ F_s^r = F_0^r \circ G_{0s}^t \tag{3}$$

$$G_{0u}^t \circ F_u^r = F_0^r \circ G_{0u}^t \tag{4}$$

$$G_{us}^t \circ F_s^r = F_u^r \circ G_{us}^t \tag{5}$$

$$G_{su}^t \circ F_u^r = F_s^r \circ G_{su}^t \tag{6}.$$

By (5), we can estimate as follows;

$$\|G_{us}^t\| \leq \|F_u^{-r}\| \cdot \|G_{us}^t\| \cdot \|F_s^r\| \leq C^2 \lambda^{2r} \|G_{us}^t\|$$

for every  $t, r \in \mathbf{R}$ . Since  $C^2 \lambda^{2r} < 1$  for sufficiently large  $r > 0$ , we get  $G_{us}^t = 0$  for every  $t \in \mathbf{R}$ . Similarly from (6), we get  $G_{su}^t = 0$  for  $t \in \mathbf{R}$ .

Now, put  $M_1 = \max\{|v(x)|; x \in M\}$ ,  $m_1 = \min\{|v(x)|; x \in M\}$ . Then since  $F^r(v) = v$  and  $F^r(h \cdot v) = h \circ f_{-r} \cdot v$  for  $h \in C^0(M)$  and  $r \in \mathbf{R}$ , we get  $\|F_0^r\| \leq M_1/m_1$ . Therefore, from (1), (2), (3), (4), we have  $G_{0\alpha}^t = 0$  and  $G_{\alpha 0}^t = 0$ ,  $\alpha = s, u$ , for  $t \in \mathbf{R}$ . Q.E.D.

THEOREM 6. Let  $v$  (or  $\{f_t\}$ ) be an Anosov flow on  $M$  and let  $\{g_t\}$  be a  $C^1$ -flow on  $M$  such that  $\{g_t\} \in \text{Cent}(v)$ . Then  $\{g_t\}$  is a  $C^1$ -expansive flow on  $M$  if and only if  $\{g_t\}$  is an Anosov flow on  $M$ .

*Proof.* Since “if” has been proved by D. Anosov [1] (cf. [2]), we shall prove “only if”. From Theorem 1 and  $v(x) \neq 0$  for any  $x \in M$ , there exists a  $C^1$ -function  $A$  on  $M$  such that

$$g(t, x) = f(A(x)t, x), \quad A(x) = A(f(t, x))$$

for  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $x \in M$ . Since  $M$  is connected and  $\{g_t\}$  has no fixed points,  $A(x) > 0$  for any  $x \in M$  or  $A(x) < 0$  for any  $x \in M$ .

We assume that  $A(x) > 0$  for  $x \in M$  and put  $M_2 = \max \{A(x); x \in M\}$  and  $m_2 = \min \{A(x); x \in M\}$ .

Now, let  $V^0(M) = V^0 \oplus V^s \oplus V^u$  be the decomposition of  $V^0(M)$  with respect to  $v$ . To get the norm of  $G_{ss}^t, G_{uu}^t$ , we calculate as follows. Fix  $x_0 \in M, w \in V^s, t \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $h \in C^1(M)$ , then we get

$$(G^t(w)h)(x_0) = dg_t(w(g_{-t}(x_0)))h = w(g_{-t}(x_0))(h \circ g_t).$$

Take a neighborhood of  $g_{-t}(x_0)$  with local coordinate system  $\{y_1, \dots, y_n\}$ , and put

$$w(g_{-t}(x_0)) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i (\partial/\partial y_i)_{g_{-t}(x_0)},$$

where  $n = \dim M$  and  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  are  $C^1$ -functions defined on the neighborhood of  $g_{-t}(x_0)$ . We put  $y_0 = g_{-t}(x_0)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} w(y_0)(h \circ g_t) &= \sum_{i=1}^n a_i (\partial/\partial y_i)_{y_0} (h \circ f(A(y_0)t, y_0)) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \left[ \frac{dh \circ f(s, y_0)}{ds} \right]_{s=A(y_0)t} \cdot \left[ \frac{\partial A(y_0)t}{\partial y_i} \right]_{y=y_0} \\ &\quad + \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \left[ \frac{\partial h \circ f(A(y_0)t, y)}{\partial y_i} \right]_{y=y_0} \\ &= t \cdot w(A)(y_0) \cdot v(f(A(y_0)t, y_0))h + w(y_0)(h \circ f(A(y_0)t, y_0)) \\ &= t \cdot w(A)(y_0) \cdot v(f(A(y_0)t, y_0))h + df_{A(y_0)t}(w(y_0))h \\ &= t \cdot (w(A) \circ g_{-t})(x_0) \cdot v(x_0)h + df_{A(y_0)t} \circ w \circ f(A(x_0)(-t), x_0)h \\ &= [(t \cdot w(A) \circ g_{-t}) \cdot v + F^{A(x_0)t}(w)](x_0)h. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore we get

$$G_{ss}^t w(x) = F^{A(x)t} w(x), \quad w(A) = 0$$

for  $x \in M$  and  $w \in V^s$ . For any  $w \in V^s, \|w\| \leq 1, t \geq 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\|G_{ss}^t w\| &= \sup \{|G_{ss}^t w(x)|; x \in M\} \\
&= \sup \{|F^{A(x)t} w(x)|; x \in M\} \\
&\leq \sup \{C\lambda^{A(x)t} |w(x)|; x \in M\} \\
&\leq \sup \{C\lambda^{m_2 t} |w(x)|; x \in M\} \\
&\leq C(\lambda^{m_2})^t .
\end{aligned}$$

Hence we get

$$\|G_{ss}^t\| \leq C(\lambda^{m_2})^t \quad t \geq 0 .$$

Similarly we get

$$G_{uu}^t w(x) = F^{A(x)t} w(x) , \quad w(A) = 0$$

for  $x \in M$  and  $w \in V^u$ . Whence we have

$$\|G_{uu}^t\| \leq C(\lambda^{m_2})^{-t} \quad t \leq 0 .$$

In the case of  $A < 0$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned}
\|G_{ss}^t\| &\leq C(\lambda^{-M_2})^{-t} \quad t \leq 0 , \\
\|G_{uu}^t\| &\leq C(\lambda^{-M_2})^t \quad t \geq 0 .
\end{aligned}$$

Consequently, in either case, using Lemma 5 we see that  $\{g_t\}$  is an Anosov flow on  $M$ . Q.E.D.

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