

Physical measures of discretizations of generic diffeomorphisms

PIERRE-ANTOINE GUIHÉNEUF

Université Paris-Sud, Universidade Federal Fluminense, Niterói, Brazil
(e-mail: pierre-antoine.guiheneuf@math.u-psud.fr)

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Abstract. What is the ergodic behaviour of numerically computed segments of orbits of a diffeomorphism? In this paper, we try to answer this question for a generic conservative C^1 -diffeomorphism and segments of orbits of Baire-generic points. The numerical truncation is modelled by a spatial discretization. Our main result states that the uniform measures on the computed segments of orbits, starting from a generic point, accumulate on the whole set of measures that are invariant under the diffeomorphism. In particular, unlike what could be expected naively, such numerical experiments do not see the physical measures (or, more precisely, cannot distinguish physical measures from the other invariant measures).

Contents

1	Introduction	1422
2	Statement of the theorem and sketch of proof	1426
3	Discretizations of sequences of linear maps	1430
4	An improved ergodic closing lemma	1432
5	Proof of the perturbation lemma (Lemma 9)	1434
6	Numerical simulations	1442
	Acknowledgements	1447
A	Appendix. A more general setting where the theorems are still true	1447
B	Appendix. Proof of Lemma 14	1450
	References	1457

1. *Introduction*

This paper is devoted to the study of the physical measures of the discretizations of a generic conservative diffeomorphism. Recall the classical definition of a physical measure for a map f .

Definition 1. Let X be a compact manifold equipped with a Lebesgue measure Leb , and $f : X \rightarrow X$. A Borel probability measure μ is called *physical* (also called Sinai–Ruelle–Bowen) for the map f if its basin of attraction has positive Lebesgue measure, where the *basin of attraction* of μ for f is the set

$$\left\{ x \in X \mid \frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=0}^{M-1} \delta_{f^m(x)} \xrightarrow{M \rightarrow +\infty} \mu \right\}$$

of points whose Birkhoff limit coincides with μ (where the convergence of measures is taken in the sense of weak-* topology).

Heuristically, the physical measures are the ones that can be observed in practice, because they are ‘seen’ by a ‘large’ set of points x .

The questions of existence, stochastic stability, dependence with respect to parameters etc have been extensively studied (see for example the quite old surveys [You02] and [Via97]). Here, our aim is to study similar concepts in the view of discretizations: which measures can be seen by the discretizations of generic conservative C^1 -diffeomorphisms?

In this paper we will consider that the phase space is the torus \mathbb{T}^n endowed with Lebesgue measure. We will model the numerical truncation made by a computer by a spatial discretization. Thus, we define the uniform grids

$$E_N = \left\{ \left(\frac{i_1}{N}, \dots, \frac{i_n}{N} \right) \in \mathbb{R}^n / \mathbb{Z}^n \mid 1 \leq i_1, \dots, i_n \leq N \right\}.$$

In particular, if $N = 10^k$, then E_N represents the set of points whose coordinates are decimal numbers with a most k decimal places. We then take $P_N : \mathbb{T}^n \rightarrow E_N$, a projection on the nearest point of E_N ; in other words, $P_N(x)$ is (one of) the point(s) of E_N which is the closest from x . This allows us to define the discretizations of f .

Definition 2. The *discretization* $f_N : E_N \rightarrow E_N$ of f on the grid E_N is the map $f_N = P_N \circ f|_{E_N}$.

In particular, if $N = 10^k$, then f_N models the map which is iterated by the computer when it works with k digits.

We will see in Appendix A that the quite restrictive framework of the torus \mathbb{T}^n equipped with the uniform grids can be generalized to arbitrary manifolds, provided that the discretization grids behave locally (and almost everywhere) like the canonical grids on the torus.

We denote by $\mu_x^{f_N}$ the limit of the Birkhoff sums

$$\frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=0}^{M-1} \delta_{f_N^m(x_N)}.$$

More concretely, $\mu_x^{f_N}$ is the f_N -invariant probability measure supported by the periodic orbit on which the positive orbit of $x_N = P_N(x)$ falls after a while. We would like to know the answer the following question: for a generic conservative C^1 -diffeomorphism f , does the sequence of measures $\mu_x^{f_N}$ tend to a physical measure of f for most of the points x as N goes to infinity?

Definition 3. We denote by $\text{Homeo}(\mathbb{T}^n, \text{Leb})$ the space of conservative (i.e. that preserve Lebesgue measure) homeomorphisms of \mathbb{T}^n , and by $\text{Diff}^1(\mathbb{T}^n, \text{Leb})$ the space of

conservative C^1 -diffeomorphisms of \mathbb{T}^n , both endowed with their classical topologies. A property on one of these spaces is said to be *generic* if it is satisfied on at least an intersection of open and dense subsets of the space[†].

The corresponding C^0 case has already been treated in [Gui15c].

THEOREM 4. *For a generic homeomorphism $f \in \text{Homeo}(\mathbb{T}^n, \text{Leb})$, for any f -invariant probability measure μ , there exists a subsequence $(N_k)_k$ of discretizations such that for any point $x \in \mathbb{T}^n$,*

$$\mu_x^{f_{N_k}} \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow +\infty} \mu.$$

It implies in particular that for a generic homeomorphism $f \in \text{Homeo}(\mathbb{T}^n, \text{Leb})$ and every $x \in \mathbb{T}^n$, the measures $\mu_x^{f_N}$ accumulate on the whole set of f -invariant measures when N goes to infinity (moreover, given an f -invariant measure μ , the sequence $(N_k)_{k \geq 0}$ such that $\mu_x^{f_{N_k}}$ tends to μ can be chosen independently of x). In a certain sense, this theorem in the case of homeomorphisms expresses that from the point of view of the discretizations, all the f -invariant measures are physical.

In the C^1 case, it can be easily obtained that for a generic conservative C^1 -diffeomorphism f , any f -invariant measure is the limit of a sequence of f_N -invariant measures [Gui15b, Corollary 10.9]. This is a consequence of an ergodic closing lemma of Mañé [Man82] which was improved by Abdenur, Bonatti and Crovisier (see [ABC11]); however it does not say anything about the basin of attraction of these discrete measures.

In this paper, we improve this statement for generic conservative C^1 -diffeomorphisms, in order to describe the basin of attraction of the discrete measures. In particular, we prove the following result (Theorem 5).

THEOREM A. *For a generic diffeomorphism $f \in \text{Diff}^1(\mathbb{T}^n, \text{Leb})$, for a generic point $x \in \mathbb{T}^n$ and for any f -invariant probability measure μ , there exists a subsequence $(N_k)_k$ of discretizations such that*

$$\mu_x^{f_{N_k}} \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow +\infty} \mu.$$

Notice that given an f -invariant measure μ , the sequence $(N_k)_k$ such that $\mu_x^{f_{N_k}}$ converges to μ depends on the point x , contrary to what happens in the C^0 case.

We remark that in Theorem A, the generic set of points x depends on the diffeomorphism. However, we will also prove that if we fix a countable subset $D \subset \mathbb{T}^n$, then for a generic conservative C^1 -diffeomorphism f and for any $x \in D$, the measures $\mu_x^{f_N}$ accumulate on the whole set of f -invariant measures (Addendum 6). This is a process that is usually applied in practice to detect the f -invariant measures: fix a finite set $D \subset \mathbb{T}^n$ and compute the measure $\mu_x^{f_N}$ for $x \in D$ and for a large order of discretization N . Our theorem expresses that it is possible that the measure that we observe in numerical experiments is very far away from the physical measure.

Note that in the space $\text{Diff}^1(\mathbb{T}^n, \text{Leb})$, there are open sets where generic diffeomorphisms are ergodic: the set of Anosov diffeomorphisms is open in $\text{Diff}^1(\mathbb{T}^n, \text{Leb})$, and a generic Anosov conservative C^1 -diffeomorphism is ergodic (it is a consequence of the fact

[†] And in this case, Baire’s theorem ensures that this property is satisfied on a dense set.

that any C^2 Anosov conservative diffeomorphism is ergodic (see for instance [AS67]), together with the theorem of regularization of conservative diffeomorphisms of Avila [Avi10]). More generally, Avila *et al* have set recently in [ACW14] a generic dichotomy for a conservative diffeomorphism f : either f is ergodic or all the Lyapunov exponents of f vanish. In short, there are open sets where generic conservative diffeomorphisms have only one physical measure; in this case, our result asserts that this physical measure is not detected on discretizations by computing the measures $\mu_x^{f_N}$.

Recall that results of stochastic stability are known to be true in various contexts (for example, expanding maps [Kif86a, Kif86b, Kel82], uniformly hyperbolic attractors [Kif86b, You86] etc). These theorems suggest that the physical measures can always be observed in practice, even if the system is noisy. Theorem A indicates that the effects of discretizations (i.e. numerical truncation) might be quite different from those of a random noise.

However, we shall remark that the arguments of the beginning of the proof of Theorem A imply that for a generic diffeomorphism $f \in \text{Diff}^1(\mathbb{T}^n, \text{Leb})$ and a generic point $x \in \mathbb{T}^n$ (or, equivalently, for any $x \in \mathbb{T}^n$ and for a generic $f \in \text{Diff}^1(\mathbb{T}^n, \text{Leb})$), the measures

$$\mu_{x,m}^f = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} f_*^i \delta_x$$

accumulate on the whole set of f -invariant measures. Thus, it would be nice to obtain a statement similar to Theorem A, but where the hypothesis ‘for a Baire-generic set of points x ’ would be replaced by ‘for Lebesgue almost all points x ’.

This theorem can seem to contradict the empirical observations made by Boyarsky in 1986 (see [Boy86] or [GB88]): when a homeomorphism f has only one ergodic measure μ which is absolutely continuous with respect to Lebesgue measure, ‘most of’ the measures $\mu_x^{f_N}$ tend to the measure μ . However, the author does not specify in what sense he means ‘most of the points’, or if his remark is based on a tacit assumption of high regularity for f . For more bibliographical information on the subject of discretizations, see the introduction of [Gui15b].

Note that Theorem A does not say anything about the measures $\mu_{\mathbb{T}^n}^{f_N}$, defined as follows. Consider Leb_N , the uniform measure on the grid E_N , and set

$$\mu_{\mathbb{T}^n}^{f_N} = \lim_{M \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=0}^{M-1} (f_N^m)_*(\text{Leb}_N).$$

The limit in the previous equation is well defined: the measure $\mu_{\mathbb{T}^n}^{f_N}$ is supported by the union of periodic orbits of f_N , and the total measure of each of these periodic orbits is proportional to the size of its basin of attraction under f_N . For now, the theoretical study of the measures $\mu_{\mathbb{T}^n}^{f_N}$ for generic conservative C^1 -diffeomorphisms seems quite hard, as this kind of question is closely related to the still open problem of genericity of ergodicity among these maps (see [ACW14] for the most recent advances on this topic).

On numerical simulations of these measures $\mu_{\mathbb{T}^n}^{f_N}$, it is not clear whether they converge towards Lebesgue measure or not (see Figures 12, 13 and 14). However, one can hope that their behaviour is not as erratic as for generic conservative homeomorphisms,

where they accumulate on the whole set of f -invariant measures (see [Gui15c, §4.6]). Indeed, [Gui15a] shows that a simple dynamical invariant associated to each discretization f_N (the degree of recurrence) converges to 0 as N tends to $+\infty$ for a generic conservative C^1 -diffeomorphism, while it accumulates on the whole segment $[0, 1]$ for generic conservative homeomorphisms; this shows that the discretizations of generic conservative C^1 -diffeomorphisms and homeomorphisms might have quite different dynamical characteristics.

At the end of this paper, we also present numerical experiments simulating the measures $\mu_x^{f_N}$ for some examples of conservative C^1 -diffeomorphisms f of the torus. The results of these simulations are quite striking for an example of f C^1 -close to Id (see Figure 7): even for very large orders N , the measures $\mu_x^{f_N}$ do not converge to Lebesgue measure at all, and depend quite dramatically on the integer N . This illustrates perfectly Theorem 5 (more precisely, Addendum 6), which states that if x is fixed, then for a generic $f \in \text{Diff}^1(\mathbb{T}^2, \text{Leb})$, the measures $\mu_x^{f_N}$ accumulate on the whole set of f -invariant measures, but does not say anything about, for instance, the frequency of orders N such that $\mu_x^{f_N}$ is not close to Lebesgue measure. Moreover, the same phenomenon (although less pronounced) occurs for diffeomorphisms close to a linear Anosov automorphism (Figure 9).

The proof of Theorem A uses crucially results about the dynamics of discretizations of generic sequences of linear maps: the discretization of a linear map $A \in \text{SL}_n(\mathbb{R})$ is a map $\widehat{A} : \mathbb{Z}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^n$, such that $\widehat{A}(x)$ is the point of \mathbb{Z}^n which is the closest of Ax . In particular, Lemma 13 (whose proof is in the appendix, because it is already done in [Gui15a]) expresses that the preimage of some points of \mathbb{Z}^n by a generic sequence of discretizations has a big cardinality. This will allow us to merge some orbits of the discretizations. The proof of Theorem A also uses two connecting lemmas (the connecting lemma for pseudo-orbits of [BC04] and an improvement of the ergodic closing lemma of [ABC11]) and a statement of local linearization of a C^1 -diffeomorphism (Lemma 23) involving the regularization result due to Avila [Avi10].

2. *Statement of the theorem and sketch of proof*

We recall the statement of the main theorem of this paper (stated as Theorem A in the introduction).

THEOREM 5. *For a generic diffeomorphism $f \in \text{Diff}^1(\mathbb{T}^n, \text{Leb})$, for a generic point $x \in \mathbb{T}^n$ and for any f -invariant probability measure μ , there exists a subsequence $(N_k)_k$ of discretizations such that*

$$\mu_x^{f_{N_k}} \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow +\infty} \mu.$$

We remark that the theorem in the C^0 case (Theorem 4) is almost the same, except that here the starting point $x \in \mathbb{T}^n$ is no longer arbitrary but has to be chosen in a generic subset of the torus, and that the sequence $(N_k)_k$ depends on the starting point x . The proof of this theorem will also lead to the two following statements.

ADDENDUM 6. *For a generic diffeomorphism $f \in \text{Diff}^1(\mathbb{T}^n, \text{Leb})$, for any $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists a ε -dense subset $\{x_1, \dots, x_m\}$ of \mathbb{T}^n such that for any f -invariant probability*

measure μ , there exists a subsequence $(N_k)_k$ of discretizations such that for every j ,

$$\mu_{x_j}^{f_{N_k}} \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow +\infty} \mu.$$

Also, for any countable subset $D \subset \mathbb{T}^n$, for a generic diffeomorphism $f \in \text{Diff}^1(\mathbb{T}^n, \text{Leb})$, for any f -invariant probability measure μ and for any finite subset $E \subset D$, there exists a subsequence $(N_k)_k$ of discretizations such that for every $x \in E$, we have

$$\mu_x^{f_{N_k}} \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow +\infty} \mu.$$

The first statement asserts that if f is a generic conservative C^1 -diffeomorphism, then for any f -invariant measure μ , there exists an infinite number of discretizations f_N which possess an invariant measure which is close to μ , and whose basin of attraction is ε -dense. Basically, for an infinite number of N any f -invariant will be seen from any region of the torus.

In the second statement, a countable set of starting points of the experiment is chosen ‘by the user’. This is quite close to what happens in practice: we take a finite number of points x_1, \dots, x_m and compute the measures $\mu_{x_m, T}^{f_{N_k}}$ for all m , for a big $N \in \mathbb{N}$ and for ‘large’ times T (we can expect that T is large enough to have $\mu_{x_m, T}^{f_{N_k}} \simeq \mu_{x_m}^{f_{N_k}}$). In this case, the result expresses that it may happen (in fact, for arbitrarily large N) that the measures $\mu_{x_m, T}^{f_{N_k}}$ are not close to the physical measure of f but are rather chosen ‘at random’ among the set of f -invariant measures.

We also have a dissipative counterpart of Theorem 5, whose proof is easier.

THEOREM 7. *For a generic dissipative diffeomorphism $f \in \text{Diff}^1(\mathbb{T}^n)$, for any f -invariant probability measure μ such that the sum of the Lyapunov exponents of μ is negative (or equal to 0) and for a generic point x belonging to the same chain recurrent class as μ , there exists a subsequence $(N_k)_k$ of discretizations such that*

$$\mu_x^{f_{N_k}} \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow +\infty} \mu.$$

We remark that if we also consider the inverse f^{-1} of a generic diffeomorphism $f \in \text{Diff}^1(\mathbb{T}^n)$, we can recover any invariant measure μ of f by looking at the measures $\mu_x^{f_{N_k}}$ for generic points x in the chain recurrent class of μ .

The proof of this result is obtained by applying Lemma 25 during the proof of Theorem 5.

We also have the same statement as Theorem 5 but for expanding maps of the circle. We denote by $\mathcal{E}_d^1(\mathbb{S}^1)$ the set of C^1 -expanding maps of the circle of degree d .

PROPOSITION 8. *For a generic expanding map $f \in \mathcal{E}_d^1(\mathbb{S}^1)$, for any f -invariant probability measure μ and for a generic point $x \in \mathbb{S}^1$, there exists a subsequence $(N_k)_k$ of discretizations such that*

$$\mu_x^{f_{N_k}} \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow +\infty} \mu.$$

The proof of this statement is far easier than that of Theorem 5, as it can be obtained by coding any expanding map of class C^1 (that is, any $f \in \mathcal{E}_d^1(\mathbb{S}^1)$ is homeomorphic to a full shift on a set with d elements).

We will use the connecting lemma for pseudo-orbits (see [BC04]), together with an ergodic closing lemma (adapted from [ABC11]) and the results of the appendix on the fact that the asymptotic rate is null (in particular Lemma 13) to prove that any invariant measure of the diffeomorphism can be observed by starting at any point of a generic subset of \mathbb{T}^n .

By the Baire theorem and the fact that for a generic conservative diffeomorphism, a generic invariant measure is ergodic, non-periodic and has no zero Lyapunov exponent (see [ABC11, Theorem 3.5]), the proof of Theorem 5 can be reduced easily to that of the following approximation lemma.

LEMMA 9. *For every $f \in \text{Diff}^1(\mathbb{T}^n, \text{Leb})$, for every f -invariant measure μ which is ergodic, not periodic and has no zero Lyapunov exponent, for every open subset $U \subset \mathbb{T}^n$, for every C^1 -neighbourhood \mathcal{V} of f , for every $\varepsilon > 0$ and every $N_0 \in \mathbb{N}$, there exists $g \in \text{Diff}^1(\mathbb{T}^n, \text{Leb})$ such that $g \in \mathcal{V}$ and there exist $y \in U$ and $N \geq N_0$ such that $\text{dist}(\mu, \mu_y^{g^N}) < \varepsilon$. Moreover, we can suppose that this property remains true on a whole neighbourhood of g .*

First of all, we explain how to deduce Theorem 5 from Lemma 9.

Proof of Theorem 5. We consider a sequence $(\nu_\ell)_{\ell \geq 0}$ of Borel probability measures, which is dense in the whole set of probability measures. We also consider a sequence $(U_i)_{i \geq 0}$ of open subsets of \mathbb{T}^n which spans the topology of \mathbb{T}^n . This allows us to set

$$\mathcal{S}_{N_0, k_0, \ell, i} = \left\{ f \in \text{Diff}^1(\mathbb{T}^n, \text{Leb}) \mid \begin{array}{l} \exists \mu \text{ } f\text{-inv.} : \text{dist}(\mu, \nu_\ell) \leq 1/k_0 \implies \\ \exists N \geq N_0, y \in U_i : d(\mu_y^{f^N}, \nu_\ell) < 2/k_0 \end{array} \right\}.$$

We easily see that the set

$$\bigcap_{N_0, k_0, \ell, i \geq 0} \mathcal{S}_{N_0, k_0, \ell, i}$$

is contained in the set of diffeomorphisms satisfying the conclusions of the theorem.

It remains to prove that each set $\mathcal{S}_{N_0, k_0, \ell, i}$ contains an open and dense subset of $\text{Diff}^1(\mathbb{T}^n, \text{Leb})$. Actually, the interior of each set $\mathcal{S}_{N_0, k_0, \ell, i}$ is dense. This follows from the upper semi-continuity of the set of f -invariant measures with respect to f and from the combination of Lemma 9 with the fact that for a generic diffeomorphism, a generic invariant measure is ergodic, non-periodic and has no zero Lyapunov exponent (see [ABC11, Theorem 3.5]). □

It remains to prove Lemma 9. We now outline the main arguments of this quite long and technical proof.

Sketch of proof of Lemma 9. First of all, we take a point $x \in \mathbb{T}^n$ which is typical for the measure μ . In particular, by an ergodic closing lemma derived from that of Abdenur *et al* [ABC11] (Lemma 17), there is a perturbation of f (still denoted by f) so that the orbit ω of x is periodic of period τ_1 ; moreover, ω can be supposed to bear an invariant measure close to μ , to have an arbitrary large length and to have Lyapunov exponents and Lyapunov subspaces close to those of μ under f . Applying the (difficult) connecting lemma for pseudo-orbits of Bonatti and Crovisier [BC04], we get another perturbation of

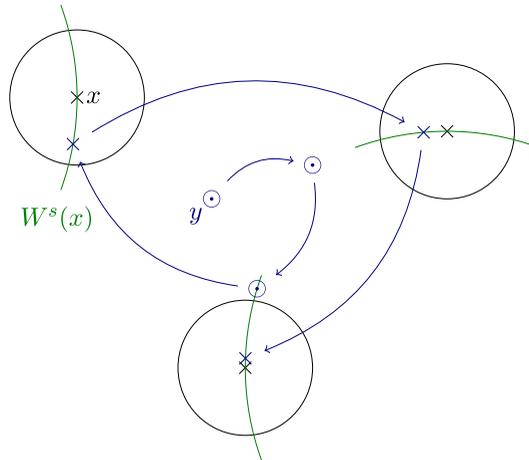


FIGURE 1. During the proof of Lemma 9, it is easy to perturb the first points of the orbit of y (small disks) until the orbit meets the neighbourhoods of the orbits of x where the diffeomorphism is linear (inside of the circles). The difficulty of the proof is to make appropriate perturbations in these small neighbourhoods.

the diffeomorphism (still denoted by f), such that the stable manifold of x under f meets the open set U at a point that we denote by y .

So, we need to perturb the diffeomorphism f so that:

- the periodic orbit x is stabilized by f_N . This can be easily made by a small perturbation of f ;
- the positive orbit of y under f_N falls on the periodic orbit of x under f_N . This is the difficult part of the proof: we can apply the previous strategy to put every point of the positive orbit of y on the grid only during a finite time. It becomes impossible to perform perturbations to put the orbit of y on the grid (see Figure 1)—without perturbing the orbit of x —as soon as this orbit comes into a C/N -neighbourhood of the orbit of x (where C is a constant depending on \mathcal{V}).

To solve this problem, we need the results about the linear case we prove in the appendix. If n is large enough, at the scale of the grid E_N , the diffeomorphism f is linear. Thus, iterating the discretization of f is equivalent to iterating a discretization of the linear cocycle given by the differentials of f . We can thus apply the results of the linear case (Lemma 13), which allow us to merge the positive orbits of x and y under the discretization.

In more detail, we use Lemma 23 to linearize locally the diffeomorphism in the neighbourhood of the periodic orbit of ω . In particular, the positive orbit of y eventually belongs to this linearizing neighbourhood, from a time T_1 . We denote $y' = f^{T_1}(y)$. To summarize, the periodic orbit ω bears a measure close to μ , its Lyapunov exponents are close to those of μ and its Lyapunov linear subspaces are close to those of μ (maybe not all along the periodic orbit, but at least for the first iterates of x). The diffeomorphism f is linear around each point of ω . Finally, the stable manifold of ω meets U at y , and the positive orbit of y is included in the neighbourhood of ω where f is linear from the point $y' = f^{T_1}(y)$.

We then choose an integer N large enough, and perturb the orbit of x such that it is stabilized by the discretization f_N . We want to make another perturbation of f such that the backward orbit of x by f_N also contains y' (recall that f_N is not necessarily one-to-one). This is done by a perturbation supported in the neighbourhood of ω where f is linear. First of all, during a time $t_4 \geq 0$, we apply Lemma 13 to find a point z in the neighbourhood of $f^{-t_4}(x)$ where f is linear, but far enough from $f^{-t_4}(x)$ compared to $1/N$ such that the t_4 th image of z by the discretization f_N is equal to x . Next, we perturb the orbit of z under f^{-1} during a time $t_3 \geq 0$ such that $f^{-t_3}(z)$ belongs to the stable subspace of $f^{-t_4-t_3}(x)$. Note that the support of this perturbation must be disjoint from ω ; this is the reason why z must be ‘far enough from x ’. Finally, we find another time t_2 such that the negative orbit $\{f^{-t}(z')\}_{t \geq 0}$ of $z' = f^{-t_3-t_2}(z)$ has an hyperbolic behaviour. We then perturb each point of the negative orbit of z' (within the stable manifold of ω) so that it contains an arbitrary point of the stable manifold of ω , far enough from ω . This allows us to meet the point y' , provided that the order of discretizations N is large enough.

To complete the proof, we consider the segment of f -orbit joining y to z ; we perturb each one of these points to put them on the grid E_N (with a perturbation whose support size is proportional to $1/N$).

Notice that we shall have chosen carefully the parameters of the first perturbations in order to make this final perturbation possible. Also, we remark that the length of the periodic orbit ω must be very large compared to the times t_2, t_3 and t_4 . This is why we will perform the proof in the opposite direction: we will begin by choosing the times t_i and make the perturbations of the dynamics afterwards.

Note that Addendum 6 can be proved by using a small variation on Lemma 9, which we will explain at the end of §5.

3. Discretizations of sequences of linear maps

We begin by the study of the corresponding linear case, corresponding to the ‘local behaviour’ of C^1 maps. We first define the linear counterpart of the discretization.

Definition 10. The map $P : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ is defined as a projection from \mathbb{R} onto \mathbb{Z} . More precisely, for $x \in \mathbb{R}$, $P(x)$ is the unique† integer $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $k - 1/2 < x \leq k + 1/2$. This projection induces the map

$$\begin{aligned} \pi : \mathbb{R}^n &\longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}^n \\ (x_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n} &\longmapsto (P(x_i))_{1 \leq i \leq n}, \end{aligned}$$

which is a Euclidean projection on the lattice \mathbb{Z}^n . Let $A \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$. We denote by \widehat{A} the discretization of the linear map A , defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{A} : \mathbb{Z}^n &\longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}^n \\ x &\longmapsto \pi(Ax). \end{aligned}$$

This definition allows us to define the rate of injectivity for sequences of linear maps.

† We remark that the choice of where the inequality is strict and where it is not is arbitrary.

Definition 11. Let $A_1, \dots, A_k \in \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{R})$. The rate of injectivity of A_1, \dots, A_k is the quantity †‡

$$\tau^k(A_1, \dots, A_k) = \limsup_{R \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\text{Card}(\widehat{A_k} \circ \dots \circ \widehat{A_1}(\mathbb{Z}^n) \cap B_R)}{\text{Card}(\mathbb{Z}^n \cap B_R)} \in]0, 1]$$

and, for an infinite sequence $(A_k)_{k \geq 1}$ of invertible matrices, as the previous quantity is decreasing in k , we can define the asymptotic rate of injectivity

$$\tau^\infty((A_k)_{k \geq 1}) = \lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \tau^k(A_1, \dots, A_k) \in [0, 1].$$

Finally, we define a topology on the set of sequences of linear maps.

Definition 12. We fix once and for all a norm $\|\cdot\|$ on $M_n(\mathbb{R})$. For a bounded sequence $(A_k)_{k \geq 1}$ of matrices of $\text{SL}_n(\mathbb{R})$, we set

$$\|(A_k)_k\|_\infty = \sup_{k \geq 1} \|A_k\|.$$

In other words, we consider the space $\ell^\infty(\text{SL}_n(\mathbb{R}))$ of uniformly bounded sequences of matrices of determinant 1, endowed with the metric $\|\cdot\|_\infty$.

We can now state the result we are interested in.

LEMMA 13. For every $R_0 > 0$ and $\delta > 0$, there exists $k_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ such that the set $\mathcal{O}_\varepsilon^{k_0}$ of sequences $(A_k)_{k \geq 1} \in \ell^\infty(\text{SL}_n(\mathbb{R}))$ such that there exist a sequence $(w_k)_{k \geq 1}$ of translation vectors belonging to $[-1/2, 1/2]^n$, and a vector $\tilde{y}_0 \in \mathbb{Z}^n$, with norm bigger than R_0 , such that $\widehat{A + w}$ denotes the discretization of the affine map $A + w$

$$(\widehat{A_{k_0} + w_{k_0}} \circ \dots \circ \widehat{A_1 + w_1})(\tilde{y}_0) = (\widehat{A_{k_0} + w_{k_0}} \circ \dots \circ \widehat{A_1 + w_1})(0) = 0.$$

Moreover, the point \tilde{y}_0 being fixed, this property can be supposed to remain true on a whole neighbourhood of the sequence $(A_k)_{k \geq 1} \in \mathcal{O}_\varepsilon^{k_0}$.

This lemma will be deduced from the following one.

LEMMA 14. For a generic sequence of matrices $(A_k)_{k \geq 1}$ of $\ell^\infty(\text{SL}_n(\mathbb{R}))$, we have

$$\tau^\infty((A_k)_{k \geq 1}) = 0.$$

Moreover, for every $\varepsilon > 0$, the set of $(A_k)_{k \geq 1} \in \ell^\infty(\text{SL}_n(\mathbb{R}))$ such that $\tau^\infty((A_k)_{k \geq 1}) < \varepsilon$ contains an open and dense subset of $\ell^\infty(\text{SL}_n(\mathbb{R}))$.

Remark 15. The second part of this statement is easily deduced from the first by applying the continuity of τ^k on a generic subset (Remark B3).

Remark 16. The same statement holds for generic sequences of isometries; this leads to nice applications to image processing (see [Gui16]).

To prove Lemma 14, we take advantage of the rational independence between the matrices of a generic sequence to obtain geometric formulas for the computation of the

† By definition, $B_R = B_\infty(0, R) \cap \mathbb{Z}^n$.

‡ In the sequel we will see that the lim sup is in fact a limit.

rate of injectivity. The tool used to do that is the formalism of *model sets*† (see for example [Moo00] or [Mey12] for surveys about model sets, see also [Gui15d] for the application to the specific case of discretizations of linear maps). Lemma 14 is proved in [Gui15a]. However, we have chosen to include a condensed proof in the appendix for the sake of completeness. For more details and comments about the linear case, see also [Gui15b].

We now explain how to deduce Lemma 13 from Lemma 14.

Proof of Lemma 13. We set

$$\mathcal{O}_\varepsilon^k = \{(A_k)_{k \geq 1} \in \ell^\infty(\text{SL}_n(\mathbb{R})) \mid \tau^k(A_1, \dots, A_k) < \varepsilon\}.$$

Lemma 14 states that for every $\varepsilon > 0$, the set $\bigcup_{k \geq 0} \mathcal{O}_\varepsilon^k$ contains an open and dense subset of $\ell^\infty(\text{SL}_n(\mathbb{R}))$. Together with the continuity of τ^k at every generic sequence (Remark B3), this implies that for every $\delta > 0$, there exists $k_0 > 0$ such that $\mathcal{O}_\varepsilon^{k_0}$ contains an open and δ -dense subset of $\ell^\infty(\text{SL}_n(\mathbb{R}))$.

Then, if $\tau^{k_0}(A_1, \dots, A_k) < \varepsilon$, there exists a point $x_0 \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ such that

$$\text{Card}((A_{k_0} \circ \dots \circ A_1)^{-1}(x_0)) \geq \frac{1}{\varepsilon}$$

(and moreover if the sequence $(A_k)_{k \geq 1}$ is generic, then this property remains true on a whole neighbourhood of the sequence). The lemma follows from this statement by remarking that on the one hand, if we choose $w_k \in [-1/2, 1/2]^n$ such that

$$w_k = A_k^{-1}((\widehat{A_{k_0}} \circ \dots \circ \widehat{A_{k-1}})^{-1}(x_0)) \pmod{\mathbb{Z}^n},$$

then the properties of the cardinality of the inverse image of x_0 are transferred to the point 0, and that on the other hand, for every $R_0 > 0$, there exists $m \in \mathbb{N}$ such that every subset of \mathbb{Z}^n with cardinality bigger than m contains at least one point with norm bigger than R_0 . □

4. An improved ergodic closing lemma

The proof of Theorem 5 begins by the approximation of any invariant ergodic measure μ of any conservative C^1 -diffeomorphism by a periodic measure of a diffeomorphism g close to f . This is done by Mañé’s ergodic closing lemma, but we will need the fact that the obtained periodic measure inherits some of the properties of the measure μ . More precisely, given a C^1 -diffeomorphism f , we will have to approach any non-periodic ergodic measure of f with non-zero Lyapunov exponent by a periodic measure of a diffeomorphism g close to f , such that the Lyapunov exponents and the Lyapunov subspaces of the measure are close to those of f by μ . We will obtain this result by modifying slightly the proof of a lemma obtained by Abdenur *et al* [ABC11, Proposition 6.1].

LEMMA 17. (Ergodic closing lemma) *Let $f \in \text{Diff}^1(\mathbb{T}^n, \text{Leb})$. We consider*

- a number $\varepsilon > 0$;
- a C^1 -neighbourhood \mathcal{V} of f ;
- a time $\tau_0 \in \mathbb{N}$;
- an ergodic measure μ without zero Lyapunov exponent;
- a point $x \in \mathbb{T}^n$ which is typical for μ (see the beginning of [ABC11, paragraph 6.1]);

† Also called *cut-and-project sets*.

moreover, we denote by λ the smallest absolute value of the Lyapunov exponents of μ , by F_x^f the stable subspace at x and by G_x^f the unstable subspace[†] at x . Then there exist a diffeomorphism $g \in \text{Diff}^1(\mathbb{T}^n, \text{Leb})$ and a time $\tilde{t}_0 > 0$ (depending only in f, μ and x) such that:

- (1) $g \in \mathcal{V}$;
- (2) the point x is periodic for g of period $\tau \geq \tau_0$;
- (3) for any $t \leq \tau$, we have $d(f^t(x), g^t(x)) < \varepsilon$;
- (4) x has no zero Lyapunov exponent for g and the smallest absolute value of the Lyapunov exponents of x is bigger than $\lambda/2$. We denote by F_x^g the stable subspace and G_x^g the unstable subspace;
- (5) the angles between F_x^f and F_x^g , and between G_x^f and G_x^g , are smaller than ε ;
- (6) for any $t \geq \tilde{t}_0$, for any vectors of unit norm $v_F \in F_x^g$ and $v_G \in G_x^g$, we have

$$\frac{1}{t} \log(\|Dg_x^{-t}(v_F)\|) \geq \frac{\lambda}{4} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{1}{t} \log(\|Dg_x^t(v_G)\|) \geq \frac{\lambda}{4}.$$

We remark that the proof of [ABC11, Proposition 6.1] yields a similar lemma but with the weaker conclusion

- (5) ‘the angle between G_x^f and G_x^g is smaller than ε ’.

Indeed, the authors obtain the linear space G_x^g by a fixed-point argument: Lemma 6.5 of [ABC11] states that the cone $C_{j,4C}^s$ is invariant by $Df_n^{-t_n}$, and thus contains both G_x^f and G_x^g . Taking C as big as desired, the cone $C_{j,4C}^s$ is as thin as desired and thus the angle between G_x^f and G_x^g is as small as desired. Unfortunately, in the original proof of [ABC11, Proposition 6.1], the linear space F_x^g is not defined in the same way; it is an invariant subspace which belongs to $C_{j,4C}^u$, which is an arbitrarily thick cone. Thus, the angle between F_x^f and F_x^g is not bounded by this method of proof. Our goal here is to modify the proof of [ABC11, Proposition 6.1] to have simultaneously two thin cones $C_{j,4C}^u$ and $C_{j,4C}^s$ which are invariant under respectively $Df_n^{t_n}$ and $Df_n^{-t_n}$.

We begin by modifying [ABC11, Lemma 6.2]: we replace its fourth point

- a sequence of linear isometries $P_n \in O_d(\mathbb{R})$ such that $\|P_n - \text{Id}\| < \varepsilon$
- by the point
- two sequences of linear isometries $P_n, Q_n \in O_d(\mathbb{R})$ such that $\|P_n - \text{Id}\| < \varepsilon$ and $\|Q_n - \text{Id}\| < \varepsilon$

and its fourth conclusion

- (d) For every $i \leq j \in \{1, \dots, k\}$, the inclination[‡] of $Df_n^{t_n} \cdot E_{i,j}$ with respect to $E_{i,j}$ is less than C .

by the conclusion

- (d) For every $i \leq j \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ the inclination of $Df_n^{t_n} \cdot E_{i,j}$ with respect to $E_{i,j}$ is less than C , and the inclination of $Df_n^{-t_n} \cdot E_{i,j}$ with respect to $E_{i,j}$ is less than C .

[†] Stable and unstable in the sense of Oseledets’ splitting.

[‡] The inclination of a linear subspace $E \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ with respect to another subspace $E' \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ with the same dimension is the minimal norm of the linear maps $f : E \rightarrow E^\perp$ whose graphs are equal to E .

These replacements in the lemma are directly obtained by replacing [ABC11, Claim 6.4] by the following lemma.

LEMMA 18. *For any $\eta > 0$, there exists a constant $C > 0$ such that for any matrix $A \in \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{R})$ and any linear subspace $E \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, there exist two orthogonal matrices $P, Q \in O_n(\mathbb{R})$ satisfying $\|P - \text{Id}\| < \eta$ and $\|Q - \text{Id}\| < \eta$, such that the inclinations of $(PAQ)(E)$ and $(PAQ)^{-1}(E)$ with respect to E are smaller than C .*

Proof of Lemma 18. Given $\eta > 0$, there exist a constant $C > 0$ and a matrix $P_0 \in O_n(\mathbb{R})$ such that $\|P_0 - \text{Id}\| < \eta$, satisfying: for any linear subspace $E' \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, one of the two inclinations of E' and of $P_0(E')$ with respect to E is smaller than C .

We then choose an orthogonal matrix $Q \in O_n(\mathbb{R})$ such that $\|Q - \text{Id}\| < \eta$ and that (taking a bigger C if necessary) both inclinations of $Q^{-1}(A^{-1}(E))$ and $Q^{-1}((A^{-1}P_0^{-1})(E))$ with respect to E are smaller than C . There are two cases: either the inclination of $(AQ)(E)$ with respect to E is smaller than C , and in this case we choose $P = \text{Id}$, or the inclination of $(AQ)(E)$ with respect to E is bigger than C , and in this case we choose $P = P_0$. In both cases, the lemma is proved. \square

The rest of the proof of Lemma 17 can be easily adapted from the proof of [ABC11, Proposition 6.1].

5. Proof of the perturbation lemma (Lemma 9)

We now come to the proof of Lemma 9. We first do this proof in dimension 2, to simplify some arguments and to be able to make pictures.

Proof of Lemma 9. Let f be a conservative C^1 -diffeomorphism, \mathcal{V} a C^1 -neighbourhood of f , $\varepsilon > 0$ and $N_0 \in \mathbb{N}$. We denote $M = \max(\|Df\|_\infty, \|Df^{-1}\|_\infty)$. We also choose an f -invariant measure μ which is ergodic, not periodic and has no zero Lyapunov exponent, and an open set $U \subset \mathbb{T}^2$. We will make several successive approximations of f in \mathcal{V} ; during the proof we will need to decompose this neighbourhood: we choose $\delta > 0$ such that the open δ -interior \mathcal{V}' of \mathcal{V} is non-empty.

Step 0: elementary perturbation lemmas. During the proof of Lemma 9, we will use three different elementary perturbation lemmas.

The first one is the elementary perturbation lemma in C^1 topology.

LEMMA 19. (Elementary perturbation lemma in C^1 topology) *For every diffeomorphism $f \in \text{Diff}^1(\mathbb{T}^n, \text{Leb})$ and every $\delta > 0$ and $r_0 > 0$ such that the following property holds: for every $x, y \in \mathbb{T}^n$ such that $d(x, y) < r_0$, there exists a diffeomorphism $g \in \text{Diff}^1(\mathbb{T}^n, \text{Leb})$ satisfying $d_{C^1}(f, g) < \delta$, such that $g(x) = f(y)$ and that f and g are equal out of the ball $B((x + y)/2, (1 + \eta)/2d(x, y))$.*

This lemma allows us to perturb locally the orbit of a diffeomorphism; a proof of it can be found for example in [Arn98, Proposition 5.1.1].

The second one is an easy corollary of the first one. We will use it to perturb a segment of orbit such that for any N large enough, each point of this segment of orbit belongs to the grid E_N .

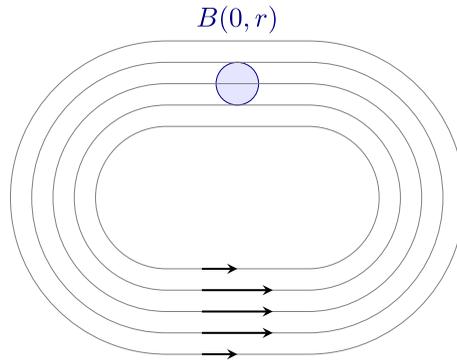


FIGURE 2. Flow of the Hamiltonian used to prove Lemma 21 ('stadium').

LEMMA 20. (Perturbation of a point such that it belongs to the grid) *For every open set \mathcal{V}' of $\text{Diff}^1(\mathbb{T}^n, \text{Leb})$, there exists $\eta' > 0$ such that for N large enough and every $x \in \mathbb{T}^n$, there exists $g \in \text{Diff}^1(\mathbb{T}^n, \text{Leb})$ such that:*

- $g \in \mathcal{V}'$;
- $g(x_N) = (f(x))_N$;
- $f = g$ outside of $B(x, (1 + \eta')/N)$.

Applying this lemma to several points $x_i \in \mathbb{T}^n$ which are far enough one from the others (for $i \neq j$, $d(x_i, x_j) \geq 2(1 + \eta')/N$), it is possible to perturb f into a diffeomorphism g such that for every i , $g((x_i)_N) = (f(x_i))_N$.

These two perturbations will be applied locally.

The third perturbation lemma is an improvement of Lemma 19; it states that the perturbation can be supposed to be a translation in a small neighbourhood of the perturbed point.

LEMMA 21. (Elementary perturbation with local translation) *For every open set \mathcal{V}' of $\text{Diff}^1(\mathbb{T}^n, \text{Leb})$ and every $r > 0$, there exists $N_1 > 0$ such that for every $N \geq N_1$ and every $\|v\|_\infty \leq 1/(2N)$, there exists $g \in \text{Diff}^1(\mathbb{R}^n, \text{Leb})$ such that:*

- $g \in \mathcal{V}'$;
- $\text{Supp}(g) \subset B(0, 10r)$;
- for every $x \in B(0, r)$, $g(x) = x + v$.

Proof of Lemma 21. Take an appropriate Hamiltonian; see Figure 2. □

Step 1: choice of the starting point x of the orbit. Let λ be the smallest absolute value of the Lyapunov exponents of μ (in particular, $\lambda > 0$).

We choose a point x which is regular for the measure μ : we suppose that it satisfies the conclusions of Oseledets' and Birkhoff's theorems, and Mañé's ergodic closing lemma (see [ABC11, paragraph 6.1]). We denote by F_x^f the stable subspace and G_x^f the unstable subspace for the Oseledets' splitting at the point x . By Oseledets' theorem, the growth of the angles $\angle(F_{f^i(x)}^f, G_{f^i(x)}^f)$ between the stable and unstable subspaces is subexponential (in both positive and negative times).

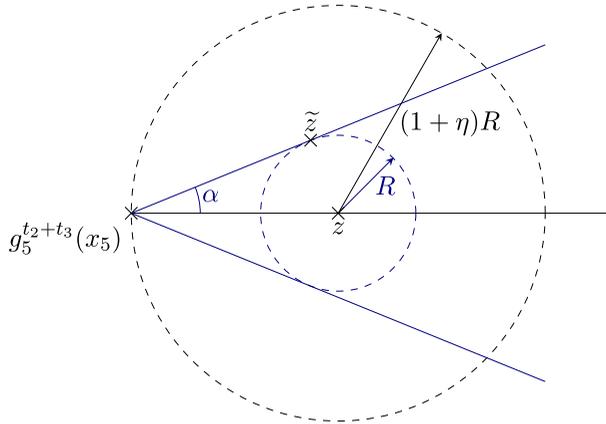


FIGURE 3. Perturbation we make to apply Lemma 22 (see also Figure 4): we make an elementary perturbation in a neighbourhood of z mapping z into \tilde{z} , such that the angle between the lines $(g_5^{t_2+t_3}(x_5) \tilde{z})$ and $(g_5^{t_2+t_3}(x_5) z)$ is bigger than $\alpha = \arcsin(1/(1 + \eta))$, and such that the support of the perturbation does not contain $g_5^{t_2+t_3}(x_5)$.

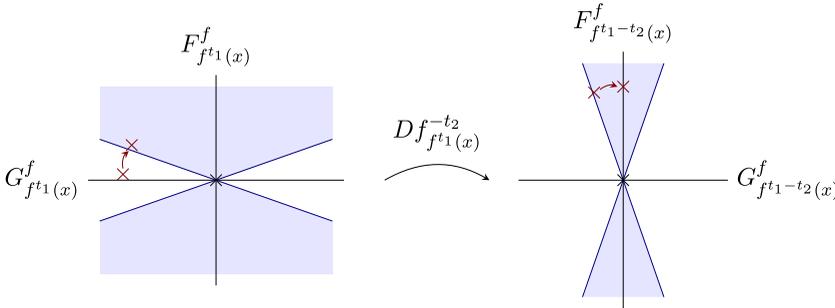


FIGURE 4. Proof of Lemma 22: make a small perturbation at times t_1 and $t_1 - t_2$ (in red), the hyperbolic-like behaviour of f does the rest of the work for you. In red: the perturbation that we will make during step 7.

Step 2: choice of the parameters we use to apply the ergodic closing lemma. In this second step, we determine the time during which we need an estimation of the angle between the stable and unstable subspaces of f and its perturbations, and the minimal length of the approximating periodic orbit.

We first use the ‘hyperbolic-like’ behaviour of f near the orbit of x : for well-chosen times t_1 and t_2 , each vector which is not too close to $G_{f^{t_1}}^f(x)$ is mapped by Df^{-t_2} into a vector which is close to $F_{f^{t_1-t_2}}^f(x)$. Given a vector $v \in T\mathbb{T}_{f^{t_1}}^n(x)$, it will allow us to perturb f into g such that an iterate of v under Dg^{-1} belongs to $F_{f^{t_1-t_2}}^f(x)$.

LEMMA 22. *For every $\alpha > 0$, there exist two times t_1 and $t_2 \geq 0$ such that if $v \in T\mathbb{T}_{f^{t_1}}^n(x)$ is such that the angle between v and $G_{f^{t_1}}^f(x)$ is bigger than α , then the angle between $Df_{f^{t_1}}^{-t_2} v$ and $F_{f^{t_1-t_2}}^f(x)$ is smaller than α (see Figure 4).*

Proof of Lemma 22. It easily follows from Oseledets’ theorem, and more precisely from the fact that the function $\exp(t\lambda)/\angle(F_{f^t(x)}, G_{f^t(x)})$ goes to $+\infty$ when t goes to $+\infty$. \square

So, we fix two times t_1 and $t_2 \geq 0$, obtained by applying Lemma 22 to $\alpha = \arcsin(1/(1 + \eta))$, where η is the parameter obtained by applying the elementary perturbation lemma (Lemma 19) to $\delta/2$ (see Figure 3).

We also choose a time $t_3 \geq \tilde{t}_0$ (\tilde{t}_0 being given by Lemma 17) such that

$$e^{\lambda(t_3+t_2)/4} \geq M^{t_2}.$$

This estimation will be applied to point 6 of Lemma 17. It will imply that for every $v \in F_{f^{t_1}(x)}^f$ and for every $t \geq t_2 + t_3$, we have

$$\|Df_{f^{t_1}(x)}^{-t}(v)\| \geq \|Df_{f^{t_1}(x)}^{-t_2}(v)\| \geq \frac{1}{M^{t_2}} \|v\|. \tag{1}$$

We then apply Lemma 13 to

$$R_0 = M^{t_2+t_3}(1 + \eta'), \tag{2}$$

where η' is given by Lemma 20 applied to the parameter $\delta/2$. This gives us a parameter $k_0 = t_4$. Note that R_0 is chosen so that if $v \in T_{f^{t_1}(x)}\mathbb{T}^n$ is such that $\|v\| \geq R_0/N$, then for any $t \in \llbracket 0, t_2 + t_3 \rrbracket$, we have

$$\|Df_{f^{t_1}(x)}^{-t}(v)\| \geq (1 + \eta')/N. \tag{3}$$

Thus, we will be able to apply Lemma 20 to the points $f^{-t}(f^{t_1}(x) + v)$, with $t \in \llbracket 0, t_2 + t_3 \rrbracket$, without perturbing the points of the orbit of x .

Step 3: global perturbation of the dynamics. We can now apply the ergodic closing lemma we have stated in the previous section (Lemma 17) to the neighbourhood \mathcal{V}' , the measure μ , the point $x_1 = f^{t_1-t_2-t_3}(x)$ and $\tau_0 \geq t_2 + t_3 + t_4$ large enough so that $\tau_0\lambda/4 \geq 3$. We also need that the expansion of vectors F^{g_1} along the segment of orbit $(x_2, g_2(x_2), \dots, g_2^{\tau_0-t_2-t_3-t_4}(x_2))$ is bigger than 3, but it can be supposed true by taking a bigger τ_0 if necessary. This gives us a first perturbation g_1 of the diffeomorphism f , such that the point x_1 is periodic under g_1 with period $\tau_1 \geq \tau_0$, and such that the Lyapunov exponents of x_1 for g_1 are close to those of x_1 under f , and the stable and unstable subspaces of g_1 at the point $g_1^t(x_1)$ are close to those of f at the point $g_1^t(x_1)$ for every $t \in \llbracket 0, t_3 + t_2 \rrbracket$.

We remark that by the hypothesis on τ_0 , the Lyapunov exponent of $g_1^{\tau_1}$ at x_1 is bigger than 3; thus, we will be able to apply Lemma 20 to every point of the orbit belonging to $F_{x_1}^{g_1}$, even when the orbit returns several times near x_1 . Also note that these properties are stable under C^1 perturbation.

We then use the connecting lemma for pseudo-orbits of Bonatti and Crovisier (see [BC04]), which implies that the stable manifolds of the periodic orbits of a generic conservative C^1 -diffeomorphism are dense. This allows us to perturb the diffeomorphism g_1 into a diffeomorphism $g_2 \in \mathcal{V}'$ such that there exists a point x_2 close to x_1 such that:

- (1) x_2 is periodic for g_2 with the same period as that of x_1 under g_1 , and moreover the periodic orbit of x_2 under g_2 shadows that of x_1 under g_1 ;
- (2) the Lyapunov exponents and the Lyapunov subspaces of x_2 for g_2 are very close to those of x_1 for g_1 (see the conclusions of Lemma 17; in particular, the Lyapunov subspaces are close during a time $t_3 + t_2$);
- (3) the stable manifold of x_2 under g_2 meets the set U at a point denoted by y_2 .

Step 4: linearization near the periodic orbit. We then use Franks’ lemma (see [Fra71]) to perturb slightly the differentials of g_2 at the points $g_2^{t_2+t_3}(x_2), \dots, g_2^{t_2+t_3+t_4}(x_2)$, such that these differentials belong to the open set of matrices defined by Lemma 13. This gives us another diffeomorphism $g_3 \in \mathcal{V}'$ close to g_2 , such that the point x_2 still satisfies the nice properties (1), (2) and (3).

We then use a lemma of [ACW14], which allows us to linearize locally a conservative diffeomorphism.

LEMMA 23. (Avila, Crovisier and Wilkinson) *Let C be the unit ball of \mathbb{R}^n for $\|\cdot\|_\infty$ and $\varepsilon > 0$. Then there exists $\delta > 0$ such that for every $g_1 \in \text{Diff}^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n, \text{Leb})$ such that $d_{C^1}(g_1|_C, \text{Id}|_C) < \delta$, there exists $g_2 \in \text{Diff}^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n, \text{Leb})$ such that:*

- (i) $d_{C^1}(g_2|_C, g_1|_C) < \varepsilon$;
- (ii) $g_2|_{(1-\varepsilon)C} = \text{Id}|_{(1-\varepsilon)C}$;
- (iii) $g_2|_{C^c} = g_1|_{C^c}$.

The proof of this lemma involves a result of Moser [Mos65]. The reader may refer to [ACW14, Corollary 6.9] for a complete proof. By a regularization result due to Avila [Avi10], it is possible to weaken the hypothesis of regularity in the lemma ‘ $g_1 \in \text{Diff}^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n, \text{Leb})$ ’ into the hypothesis ‘ $g_1 \in \text{Diff}^1(\mathbb{R}^n, \text{Leb})$ ’.

By Lemma 23, there exists a parameter $r > 0$ such that it is possible to linearize g_3 in the r -neighbourhood of the periodic orbit of x_2 , without changing the nice properties (1), (2) and (3) of the periodic orbit of x_2 . We can choose r small enough so that the $10r$ -neighbourhoods of the points of the periodic orbit of x_2 are pairwise disjoint. This gives us a diffeomorphism g_4 , to which are associated two points x_4 and y_4 , such that x_4 satisfies the properties (1), (2) and (3), and such that:

- (4) the differentials of f at the points $g_4^{t_2+t_3}(x_4), \dots, g_4^{t_2+t_3+t_4}(x_4)$ lie in the open dense set of matrices of Lemma 13;
- (5) g_4 is linear in the r -neighbourhood of each point of the periodic orbit of x_4 .

Step 5: choice of the order of discretization. We choose a neighbourhood $\mathcal{V}'' \subset \mathcal{V}'$ of g_4 such that properties (1) to (3) are still true for every diffeomorphism $g \in \mathcal{V}''$. We denote by ω_{x_4} the periodic orbit of x_4 under g_4 , and by $B(\omega_{x_4}, r)$ the r -neighbourhood of this periodic orbit. We also denote by T_1 the smallest integer such that $g_4^t(y_4) \in B(\omega_{x_4}, r/2)$ for every $t \geq T_1$, and set $y'_4 = g_4^{T_1}(y_4)$. Thus, the positive orbit of y'_4 will stay forever in the linearizing neighbourhood of ω_{x_4} . Taking T_1 bigger if necessary, we can suppose that y'_4 belongs to the linearizing neighbourhood of the point x_4 . We can also suppose that for every $t \in \llbracket 0, \tau_1 \rrbracket$,

$$3d(g_4^{T_1-t}(y_4), g_4^{-t}(x_4)) \leq \min_{\tau_1 \leq t' \leq T_1} d(g_4^{T_1-t'}(y_4), g_4^{-t'}(x_4)). \tag{4}$$

We can now choose the order N of the discretization, such that:

- (i) $N \geq N_0$ (N_0 has been chosen at the very beginning of the proof);
- (ii) applying Lemma 21 to the parameter r and the neighbourhood \mathcal{V}'' to get an integer N_1 , we have $N \geq N_1$, so that it is possible to choose the value of the points of ω_{x_4} modulo E_N without changing the properties (1) to (5);

- (iii) the distance between two distinct points of the segment of orbit $y_4, g_4(y_4), \dots, g_4^{T_1}(y_4) = y_4'$ is bigger than $2(1 + \eta')/N + 2/N$, so that it will be possible to apply Lemma 20 simultaneously to each of these points, even after the perturbation made during the point (ii), such that these points belong to E_N ;
- (iv) every $\sqrt{2}/N$ -pseudo-orbit[†] starting at a point of the periodic orbit ω_{x_4} stays during a time $T'\tau_1$ in the $d(y_4', \omega_{x_4})$ -neighbourhood of the periodic orbit, where T' is the smallest integer such that

$$\left(1 + \frac{1}{3(1 + \eta)}\right)^{T'} \geq \nu \tag{5}$$

and ν is the maximal modulus of the eigenvalues of $(Dg_4)_{x_4}^{T_1}$. A simple calculation shows that this condition is true if for example

$$N \geq \frac{2\sqrt{n}(M^{T'\tau_1} - 1)}{r(M - 1)}.$$

This condition will be used to apply the process described by Lemma 24.

Step 6: application of the linear theorem. By the hypothesis (ii) on N , we are able to use Lemma 21 (elementary perturbation with local translation) to perturb each point of the periodic orbit ω_{x_4} such that we obtain a diffeomorphism $g_5 \in \mathcal{V}''$ and points x_5, y_5 and y_5' satisfying properties (1) to (5) and moreover:

- (6) for every $t \in [t_2 + t_3, t_2 + t_3 + t_4]$, the value of $g_5^t(x_5)$ modulo E_N is equal to w_k/N , where w_k is given by Lemma 13;
- (7) for any other t , $g_5^t(x_5)$ belongs to E_N .

In particular, the periodic orbit of x_5 under g_5 is stabilized by the discretization $(g_5)_N$ (indeed, recall that $w_k \in [-1/2, 1/2]^k$).

By construction of the diffeomorphism g_5 (more precisely, the hypotheses (4), (5), (6) and (7)), it satisfies the conclusions of Lemma 13; thus, there exists a point $z \in B(g_5^{t_2+t_3}(x_5), r)$ such that $(g_5)_N^{t_4}(z) = (g_5)_N^{t_2+t_3+t_4}(x_5)$ and that $\|z - g_5^{t_2+t_3}(x_5)\| \geq R_0/N$ (where R_0 is defined by equation (2)). We remark that hypothesis (iv) implies that $\|z - g_5^{t_2+t_3}(x_5)\| \ll r$.

Step 7: perturbations in the linear world. In this step, our aim is to perturb the negative orbit of z under g_5 such that it meets the point y_5' . We remark that by hypothesis (iv), every point of $z, g_5^{-1}(z), \dots, g_5^{-t_2}(z)$ is in the linearizing neighbourhood of ω_{x_5} .

From now, all the perturbations we will make will be local, and we will only care about the positions of a finite number of points. Thus, it will not be a problem if these perturbations make hypotheses (3) and (5) become false, provided that they have a suitable behaviour on this finite set of points.

First, if necessary, we make a perturbation in the way of Figure 3, so that the angle between the lines $(g_5^{t_2+t_3}(x_5)z)$ and $G_{g_5^{t_2+t_3}(x_5)}^{g_5}$ is bigger than α ; this gives us a diffeomorphism g_6 . More precisely, the support of the perturbation we apply is contained in a ball centred at z and with radius $d(z, x_6)$, so that this perturbation does not change

[†] The constant \sqrt{n}/N comes from the fact that an orbit of the discretization is a $\sqrt{2}/N$ -pseudo-orbit.

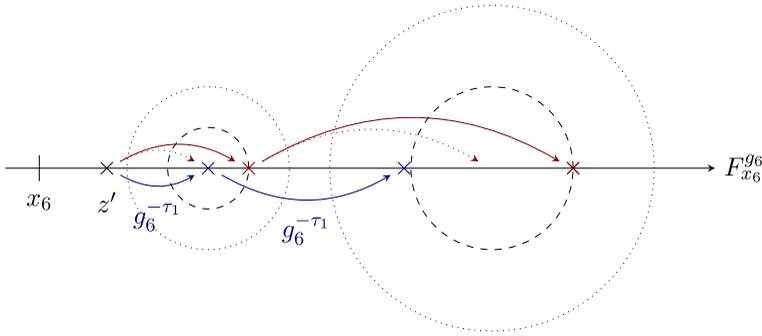


FIGURE 5. Perturbation such that the point y'_6 belongs to the negative orbit of z' : the initial orbit is drawn in blue (below) and the perturbed orbit in red (above). From a certain time, the red orbit overtakes the blue orbit.

the orbit of x_6 . Under these conditions, we satisfy the hypotheses of Lemma 22; thus, the angle between $(g_6^{t_3}(x_6)g_6^{-t_2}(z))$ and $F_{g_6^{t_3}(x_6)}^{g_6}$ is smaller than α . Another perturbation, described by Figure 3, allows us to suppose that $g_6^{-t_2}(z)$ belongs to $F_{g_6^{t_3}(x_6)}^{g_6}$. This gives us a diffeomorphism that we still denote by g_6 . We remark that it was possible to make these perturbations independently because the segment of negative orbit of the point z we considered does not enter twice in the neighbourhood of a point of ω_{x_6} where the diffeomorphism is linear.

Thus, the points $z' = g_6^{-t_2}(z)$ and $y'_6 = y'_5$ both belong to the local stable manifold of the point $x_6 = x_5$ for g_6 (which coincides with the Oseledets' linear subspace $F_{x_6}^{g_6}$ since g_6 is linear near x_6).

The next perturbation takes place in the neighbourhood of the point x_6 (and not in all the linearizing neighbourhoods of the points of ω_{x_6}).

LEMMA 24. *For every $y' \in F_{x_6}^{g_6}$ such that $d(y', x_6) > d(z', x_6)v^{T'\tau_1}$ (T' being defined by equation (5)), there exists a diffeomorphism g_7 close to g_6 and $T'' \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $g_7^{-T''T''}(z') = y'$. Moreover, the perturbations made to obtain g_7 are contained in the linearizing neighbourhood of ω_{x_6} , do not modify the images of ω_{x_6} , nor those of the negative orbit of z' by the discretization or those of the positive orbit of y' in the linearizing neighbourhood of ω_{x_6}*

Proof of Lemma 24. During this proof, if r and s are two points of $W^s(x_6)$, we will denote by $[r, s]$ the segment of $W^s(x_6)$ between r and s . We remark that if r and s lie in the neighbourhood of x_6 where g_6 is linear, then $[r, s]$ is a real segment, included in $F_{x_6}^{g_6}$. Moreover, we will denote by $[r, +\infty[$ the connected component of $W^s(x_6) \setminus \{r\}$ which does not contain x_6 .

Consider the point $z' \in F_{x_6}^{g_6}$, and choose a point

$$p \in \left[g_6^{-\tau_1}(z'), \left(1 + \frac{1}{2(1+\eta)} \right) g_6^{-\tau_1}(z') \right].$$

By applying an elementary perturbation (Lemma 19) whose support is contained in $B(g_6^{-\tau_1}(z'), d(x_6, g_6^{-\tau_1}(z'))/2)$, it is possible to perturb g_6 into a diffeomorphism g_7 such

that $g_6^{\tau_1}(z') = p$ (see Figure 5). Applying this process t times, for every

$$p \in \left[g_6^{-\tau_1 t}(z'), \left(1 + \frac{1}{2(1+\eta)} \right)^t g_6^{-\tau_1 t}(z') \right]$$

it is possible to perturb g_6 into a diffeomorphism g_7 such that $g_7^{-\tau_1 t}(z') = p$ (the supports of the perturbations are disjoint because the expansion of $g_6^{-\tau_1}$ on $F_{x_6}^{g_6}$ is bigger than 3). But, as T' satisfies equation (5), the union

$$\bigcup_{t \geq 0} \left[g_6^{-\tau_1 t}(z'), \left(1 + \frac{1}{2(1+\eta)} \right)^t g_6^{-\tau_1 t}(z') \right]$$

covers all the interval $[g_6^{-\tau_1 T'}(z'), +\infty[$. By the hypothesis made on y' , we also have $y' \in [g_6^{-\tau_1 T'}(z'), +\infty[$; this proves the lemma. □

Thus, by hypothesis (iv), it is possible to apply Lemma 24 to our setting. This gives us a diffeomorphism g_7 .

Step 8: final perturbation to put the segment of orbit on the grid. To summarize, we have a diffeomorphism $g_7 \in \mathcal{V}$ and a periodic orbit ω_{x_7} of g_7 , stabilized by $(g_7)_N$, which bears a measure close to μ . We also have a segment of real orbit of g_7 which links the points $y_7 \in U$ and z , where z is such that $(g_7)^{t_4}(z) \in (\omega_{x_7})_N$. To finish the proof of the lemma, it remains to perturb g_7 so that the segment of orbit which links the points y_7 and z is stabilized by the discretization $(g_7)_N$.

We now observe that by the construction we have made, the distance between two different points of the segment of orbit under g_7 between y_7 and z is bigger than $2(1 + \eta')/N$, and the distance between one point of this segment of orbit and a point of ω_{x_7} is bigger than $(1 + \eta')/N$.

Indeed, if we take one point of the segment of forward orbit $z, g_7^{-1}(z), \dots, g_7^{-t_2-t_3}(z)$, and one point in the periodic orbit ω_{x_7} , this is due to the hypothesis $\|z - x_7\| \geq R_0/N$ (R_0 being defined by equation (2)) combined with equation (3). If we take one point in this segment $z, g_7^{-1}(z), \dots, g_7^{-t_2-t_3}(z)$, and one among the rest of the points (that is, the segment of orbit between y_7 and z), this is due to the fact that the Lyapunov exponent of $g_7^{\tau_1}$ in x_7 is bigger than 3, and to equation (4).

If we take one point of the form $g_7^{-t}(z)$, with $t > t_2 + t_3$, but belonging to the neighbourhood of ω_{x_7} where g_7 is linear, and one point of ω_{x_7} , this follows from the estimation given by equation (1) applied to $\|v\| \geq R_0/N$. If, for the second point, instead of considering a point of ω_{x_7} , we take an element of the segment of orbit between y_7 and z , this follows from the fact that the Lyapunov exponent of $g_7^{\tau_1}$ in x_7 is bigger than 3.

Finally, for the points of the orbit that are not in the neighbourhood of ω_{x_7} where g_7 is linear, the property arises from hypothesis (iii) made on N .

Thus, by Lemma 20, we are able to perturb each of the points of the segment of orbit under g_7 between y_7 and z , such that each of these points belongs to the grid. This gives us a diffeomorphism $g_8 \in \mathcal{V}$.

To conclude, we have a point $y_8 \in U$ whose orbit under $(g_8)_N$ falls on the periodic orbit $(\omega_{x_7})_N$, which bears a measure ε -close to μ . The lemma is proved.

The proof in higher dimensions is almost identical. The perturbation lemmas are still true[†], and the arguments easily adapt by considering the ‘super-stable’ manifold of the orbit ω_x , that is, the set of points $y \in \mathbb{T}^n$ whose positive orbit is tangent to the Oseledets’ subspace corresponding to the maximal Lyapunov exponent. In particular, Lemma 17 is still true in this setting, and the connecting lemma for pseudo-orbits [BC04] implies that, generically, this ‘super-stable’ manifold is dense in \mathbb{T}^n . □

The proofs of the two statements of the addendum are almost identical.

For the first statement (the fact that for every $\varepsilon > 0$, the basin of attraction of the discrete measure can be supposed to contain a ε -dense subset of the torus), we apply exactly the same proof as that of Lemma 9: making smaller perturbations of the diffeomorphism if necessary, we can suppose that the stable manifold of y_8 is ε -dense. Thus, there exists a segment of backward orbit of y_8 which is ε -dense, and we apply the same strategy of proof consisting of putting this segment of orbit on the grid.

For the second statement, it suffices to apply the strategy of the first statement, and to conjugate the obtained diffeomorphism g_9 by an appropriate conservative diffeomorphism with small norm (this norm can be supposed to be as small as desired by taking ε small), so that the image of the ε -dense subset of \mathbb{T}^2 by the conjugation contains the set E .

To obtain Theorem 7 (dealing with the dissipative case), it suffices to replace the use of Lemmas 22 and 13 by the following easier statement.

LEMMA 25. *For every $\alpha > 0$ and every $R_0 > 0$, there exist three times $t_1, t_2 \geq 0$ and $t_4 \geq 0$ such that:*

- *there exists $v \in T\mathbb{T}^n_{f^{t_1}(x)} \cap \mathbb{Z}^n$ such that $\|v\| \geq R_0$ and*

$$(\widehat{Df}_{f^{t_1+t_4}(x)} \circ \cdots \circ \widehat{Df}_{f^{t_1}(x)})(v) = 0;$$
- *if $v \in T\mathbb{T}^n_{f^{t_1}(x)}$ is such that the angle between v and $G_{f^{t_1}(x)}$ is bigger than α , then the angle between $Df_{f^{t_1}(x)}^{-t_2} v$ and $F_{f^{t_1-t_2}(x)}$ is smaller than α (see Figure 4).*

Proof of Lemma 25. This comes from Oseledets’ theorem and the hypotheses made on the Lyapunov exponents of x , and in particular that their sum is strictly negative. □

6. Numerical simulations

In this section, we present the results of the numerical simulations we have conducted in connection with Theorem 5. For more simulations, see [Gui15b].

6.1. *Simulations of the measures $\mu_x^{f^N}$ for conservative torus diffeomorphisms.* We have computed numerically the measures $\mu_x^{f^N}$ for conservative diffeomorphisms $f \in \text{Diff}^1(\mathbb{T}^2, \text{Leb})$, for the uniform grids

$$E_N = \left\{ \left(\frac{i}{N}, \frac{j}{N} \right) \in \mathbb{T}^2 \mid 0 \leq i, j \leq N - 1 \right\},$$

[†] In particular, Lemma 21 can be obtained by considering a plane (P) containing both x and y and taking a foliation of \mathbb{R}^n by planes parallel to (P). The desired diffeomorphism is then defined on each leaf by the time $\psi(t)$ of the Hamiltonian given in the proof of the lemma, with ψ a smooth compactly supported map on the space $\mathbb{R}^n/(P)$, equal to 1 in 0 and with small C^1 norm.

and for starting points x either equal to $(1/2, 1/2)$ or chosen at random. We present images of sizes 128×128 pixels representing in logarithmic scale the density of the measures $\mu_x^{f_N}$: each pixel is coloured according to the measure carried by the set of points of E_N it covers. Blue corresponds to a pixel with very small measure and red to a pixel with very high measure. Scales on the right of each image correspond to the measure of one pixel on the log 10 scale: if green corresponds to -3 , then a green pixel will have measure 10^{-3} for $\mu_x^{f_N}$. For information, when Lebesgue measure is represented, all the pixels have a value of about -4.2 .

We have carried out the simulations on two different diffeomorphisms.

- The first conservative diffeomorphism f_1 is of the form $f_1 = Q \circ P$, where both P and Q are homeomorphisms of the torus that modify only one coordinate:

$$P(x, y) = (x, y + p(x)) \quad \text{and} \quad Q(x, y) = (x + q(y), y),$$

with

$$p(x) = \frac{1}{209} \cos(2\pi \times 17x) + \frac{1}{471} \sin(2\pi \times 29x) - \frac{1}{703} \cos(2\pi \times 39x),$$

$$q(y) = \frac{1}{287} \cos(2\pi \times 15y) + \frac{1}{403} \sin(2\pi \times 31y) - \frac{1}{841} \sin(2\pi \times 41y).$$

This kind of diffeomorphism is called a *linked twist map*. We have chosen this definition because a simple twist map (i.e. a map like P or Q) is somehow the simplest example of a conservative non-trivial diffeomorphism of the torus, but possesses an invariant foliation and thus cannot exhibit sufficiently complicated behaviour. Note that this C^∞ -diffeomorphism is C^1 -close to the identity; this allows f_1 to admit some periodic orbits with small periods. Note that f_1 is also chosen so that it is not C^2 -close to the identity.

- The second conservative diffeomorphism f_2 is the composition $f_2 = f_1 \circ A$, with A the linear Anosov map

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

As f_1 is C^1 -close to Id, the diffeomorphism f_2 is C^0 -conjugated to the linear automorphism A , which is a well-known paradigm of a chaotic system. In particular, f_2 acts differently on the fundamental group to f_1 , and ‘contains’ some complicated behaviours as subdynamics (mixing for example). Thus, one could expect the behaviour of the discretizations of f_2 being more chaotic than that of f_1 .

To compute these measures, we used Floyd’s algorithm (or the ‘tortoise and hare algorithm’). It has appeared that in the examples of diffeomorphisms we have tested, we were able to test orders of discretization $N \simeq 2^{20}$. Thus, the first figures represent the measures $\mu_x^{f_N}$ for $N \in \llbracket 2^{20} + 1, 2^{20} + 9 \rrbracket$. We have also computed the distance between the measure $\mu_x^{f_N}$ and Lebesgue measure (see Figure 6). The distance we have chosen is given by the formula

$$d(\mu, \nu) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^k} \sum_{i,j=0}^{2^k-1} |\mu(C_{i,j,k}) - \nu(C_{i,j,k})| \in [0, 2],$$

where

$$C_{i,j,k} = \left[\frac{i}{2^k}, \frac{i+1}{2^k} \right] \times \left[\frac{j}{2^k}, \frac{j+1}{2^k} \right].$$

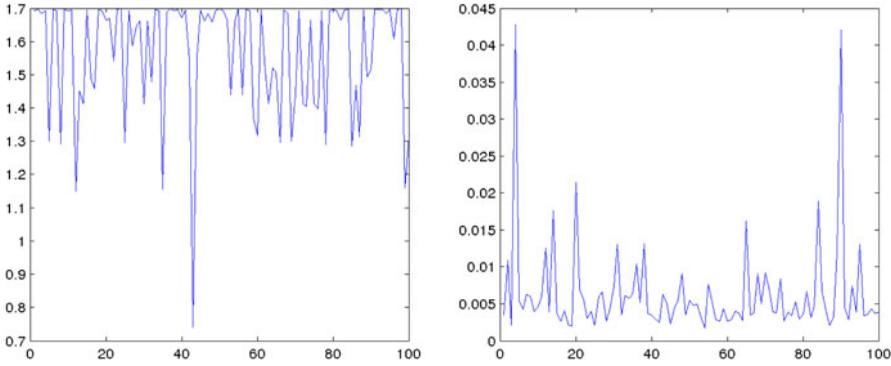


FIGURE 6. Distance between Lebesgue measure and the measure $\mu_{(1/2, 1/2)}^{(f_i)_N}$ (vertical axis) depending on N (horizontal axis) for f_1 (left) and f_2 (right), on the grids E_N with $N = 2^{20} + n, n = 1, \dots, 100$.

In practice, we have computed an approximation of this quantity by summing only on the $k \in \llbracket 0, 7 \rrbracket$.

In the case of the diffeomorphism f_1 , which is close to the identity, we observe a strong variation of the measure $\mu_x^{(f_1)_N}$ depending on N (left of Figures 6 and 7). More precisely, for seven on the nine orders of discretization represented in Figure 7, these measures seem to be supported by a small curve; for $N = 2^{20} + 3$, this measure seems to be supported by a figure-8 curve and, for $N = 2^{20} + 5$, the support of the measure is quite complicated and looks like an interlaced curve. The fact that the measures $\mu_x^{(f_1)_N}$ strongly depend on N reflects the behaviour predicted by Theorem 5: in theory, for a generic C^1 -diffeomorphism, the measures $\mu_x^{f_N}$ should accumulate on the whole set of f -invariant measures; here we see that these measures strongly depend on N (moreover, we can see in Figure 6 that on the orders of discretization we have tested, these measures are never close to Lebesgue measure). We have no satisfying explanation to the specific shape of the supports of the measures. When we fix the order of discretization and vary the starting point x , the behaviour is very similar: the measures $\mu_x^{(f_1)_N}$ widely depend on the point x (see Figure 8). We also remark that increasing the order of discretizations does not make the measures $\mu_x^{(f_1)_N}$ evolve more smoothly.

For f_2 (a small C^1 -perturbation of the linear Anosov map A), most of the time, the measures $\mu_x^{(f_2)_N}$ are close to Lebesgue measure, but for one order of discretization N (here, $N = 2^{20} + 4$), the measure becomes very different from Lebesgue measure (we can see on the right of Figure 6 that this phenomenon appears twice when $N \in \llbracket 2^{20} + 1, 2^{20} + 100 \rrbracket$). The same phenomenon holds when we fix the order of discretization but change the starting point x (see Figure 10), except that the number of appearances of measures that are singular with respect to Lebesgue measure is smaller than in Figure 9. Again, we think that this follows from the fact that the orders of discretizations tested are bigger. In this case, the simulations suggest the following behaviour: when the order of discretization N increases, the frequency of appearances of measures $\mu_x^{(f_2)_N}$ far away from Lebesgue measure tends to 0.

Recall that Addendum 6 states that if x is fixed, then for a generic $f \in \text{Diff}^1(\mathbb{T}^2, \text{Leb})$, the measures $\mu_x^{f_N}$ accumulate on the whole set of f -invariant measures, but does not

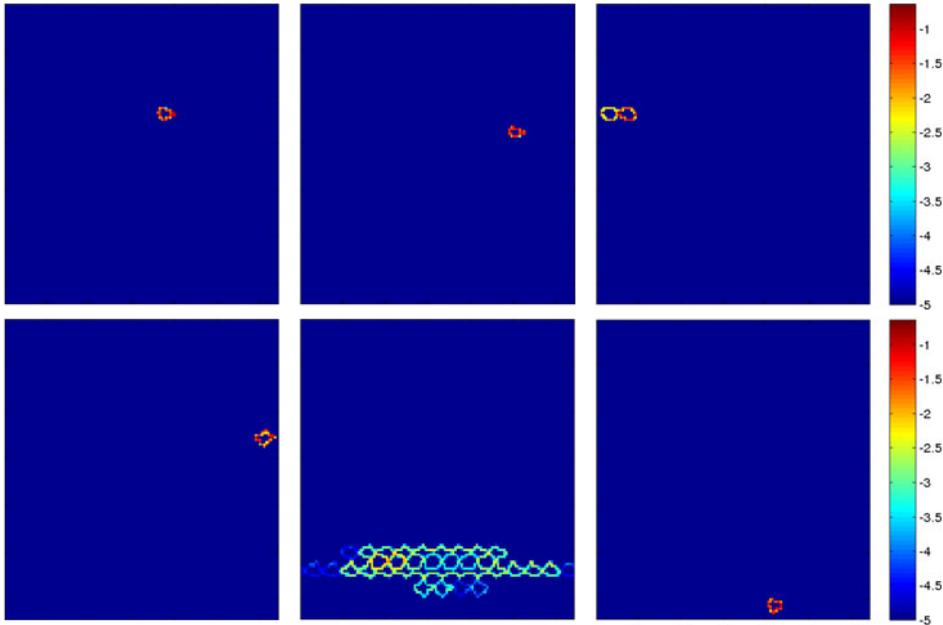


FIGURE 7. Simulations of invariant measures $\mu_x^{(f_1)^N}$ on the grids E_N , with $N = 2^{20} + i$, $i = 1, \dots, 6$, and $x = (1/2, 1/2)$ (from left to right and top to bottom).

say anything about, for instance, the frequency of orders N such that $\mu_x^{f_N}$ is not close to Lebesgue measure. It is natural to think that this frequency depends a lot on f ; for example that such N are very rare close to an Anosov diffeomorphism and more frequent close to an ‘elliptic’ dynamics like the identity. The results of numerical simulations seem to confirm this heuristic.

6.2. *Simulations of the measures $\mu_{\mathbb{T}^2}^{f_N}$ for conservative torus diffeomorphisms.* We now present the results of numerical simulations of the measures $\mu_{\mathbb{T}^2}^{f_N}$. Recall that the measure $\mu_{\mathbb{T}^2}^{f_N}$ is supported by the union of periodic orbits of f_N , and is such that the total measure of each periodic orbit is equal to the cardinality of its basin of attraction.

First, we simulate a conservative diffeomorphism g_1 which is close to the identity in the C^1 topology. We have chosen $g_1 = Q \circ P$, where

$$P(x, y) = (x, y + p(x)) \quad \text{and} \quad Q(x, y) = (x + q(y), y),$$

with

$$p(x) = \frac{1}{209} \cos(2\pi \times 17x) + \frac{1}{271} \sin(2\pi \times 27x) - \frac{1}{703} \cos(2\pi \times 35x),$$

$$q(y) = \frac{1}{287} \cos(2\pi \times 15y) + \frac{1}{203} \sin(2\pi \times 27y) - \frac{1}{841} \sin(2\pi \times 38y).$$

We have also simulated the conservative diffeomorphism $g_2 = g_1 \circ A$, with A the standard Anosov automorphism

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix};$$

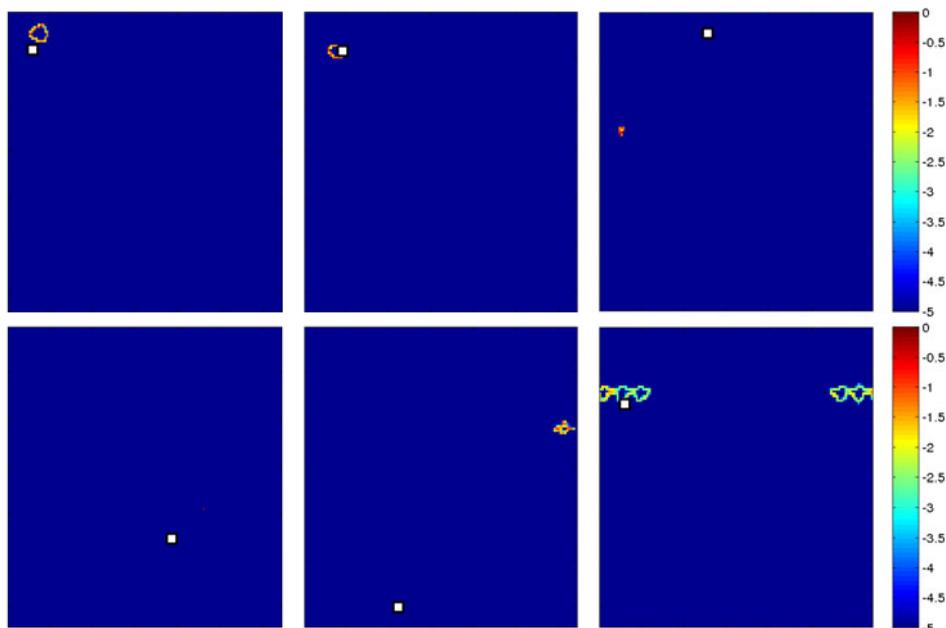


FIGURE 8. Simulations of invariant measures $\mu_x^{(f_1)^N}$ on the grid E_N , with $N = 2^{23}$, and x a random point of \mathbb{T}^2 , represented by the black and white box. The behaviour observed in the top left picture is the most frequent, but we also observe other kinds of measures: for example, the measures have a very small support like on the bottom left picture on about 10 of the 100 random draws we have made; we even see appearing the strange behaviour of the last picture once.

thus, g_2 is a small C^1 perturbation of A : in particular, the theory asserts that it is topologically conjugated to A . We can test whether this property can be observed in simulations or not.

For g_1 , the distance $d(\mu_{\mathbb{T}^2}^{f_N}, \text{Leb})$ is quite quickly smaller than 0.1, and oscillates between 0.05 and 0.1 from $N = 128 \times 30$. It is not clear in this case whether the sequence of measures $(\mu_{\mathbb{T}^2}^{f_N})_N$ converges towards Lebesgue measure or not (while, for the C^0 perturbation of the identity, it is clear that these measures do not converge to anything; see [Gui15c]). The distance $d(\mu_{\mathbb{T}^2}^{f_N}, \text{Leb})$ even seems to increase slowly (on average—there are a lot of oscillations) from $N = 50 \times 128$. We have the same kind of conclusion for g_2 : by looking at Figure 11, we cannot decide if the sequence of measures $(\mu_{\mathbb{T}^2}^{f_N})$ seems to tend to Lebesgue measure or not.

The behaviour of the computed invariant measures $\mu_{\mathbb{T}^2}^{(g_1)^N}$, where g_1 is a small C^1 perturbation of the identity, is way smoother than in the C^0 case (compare Figure 12 with [Gui15c]). Indeed, the measure $\mu_{\mathbb{T}^2}^{(g_1)^N}$ quickly has a big component which is close to Lebesgue measure: the images contain a lot of light blue. Thus, we could be tempted to conclude that these measures converge to Lebesgue measure. However, there are still little regions that have a big measure: in the example of Figure 12, it seems that there are invariant curves that attract a lot of the points of the grid (as can also be observed in Figure 7). We have no explanation to this phenomenon, and we do not know if it still occurs when the order of discretization is very large.

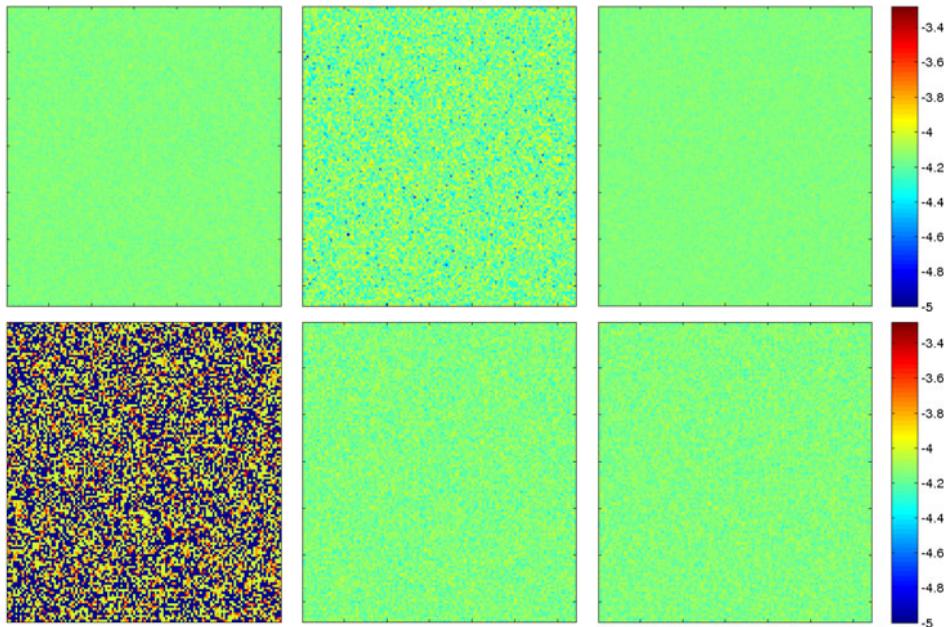


FIGURE 9. Simulations of invariant measures $\mu_x^{(f_2)^N}$ on the grids E_N , with $N = 2^{20} + i$, $i = 1, \dots, 6$, and $x = (1/2, 1/2)$ (from left to right and top to bottom).

For the discretizations of g_2 , the simulations on grids of size $2^k \times 2^k$ might suggest that the measures $\mu_{\mathbb{T}^2}^{(g_2)^N}$ tend to Lebesgue measure (Figure 13). Actually, when we perform a lot of simulations, we realize that there are also big variations of the behaviour of the measures (Figure 14): the measure is often well distributed in the torus, and sometimes quite singular with respect to Lebesgue measure (as can be seen in Figure 11). This behaviour is almost identical to that observed in the C^0 case in the neighbourhood of A (see [Gui15c]).

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A. Appendix. A more general setting where the theorems are still true

Here, we give weaker assumptions under which the theorems of this paper are still true: the framework ‘torus \mathbb{T}^n with grids E_N and Lebesgue measure’ could be seen as a little too restrictive.

So, we take a compact smooth manifold M (possibly with boundary) and choose a partition M_1, \dots, M_k of M into closed sets[†] with smooth boundaries, such that for every i , there exists a chart $\varphi_i : M_i \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$. We endow \mathbb{R}^n with the Euclidean distance, which defines a distance on M via the charts φ_i (this distance is not necessarily continuous). From now on, we study what happens on a single chart, as what happens in the

[†] That is, $\bigcup_i M_i = M$ and, for $i \neq j$, the intersections between the interiors of M_i and M_j are empty.

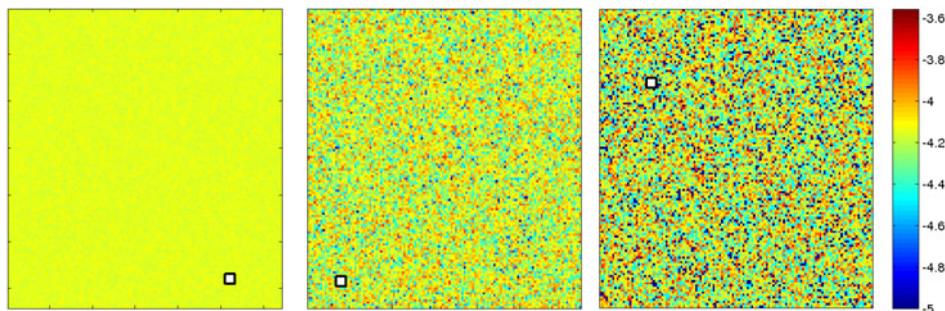


FIGURE 10. Simulations of invariant measures $\mu_x^{(f_2)^N}$ on the grid E_N , with $N = 2^{23} + 1$ (left) and $N = 2^{23} + 17$ (middle and right), and x a random point of \mathbb{T}^2 , represented by the black and white box. The behaviour observed in the left-hand picture is the most frequent (for 17 of the 20 orders $N = 2^{23} + i$, $i = 0, \dots, 19$, all the 100 random draws we have made gave a measure very close to Leb), but seldom we also observe measures further from Lebesgue measure, like what happens for $N = 2^{23} + 17$ (middle and right), where 99 of the 100 random draws of x produce a measure identical to the pictures in the middle, and the other random draw gives a measure a bit more singular with respect to Lebesgue measure (right).

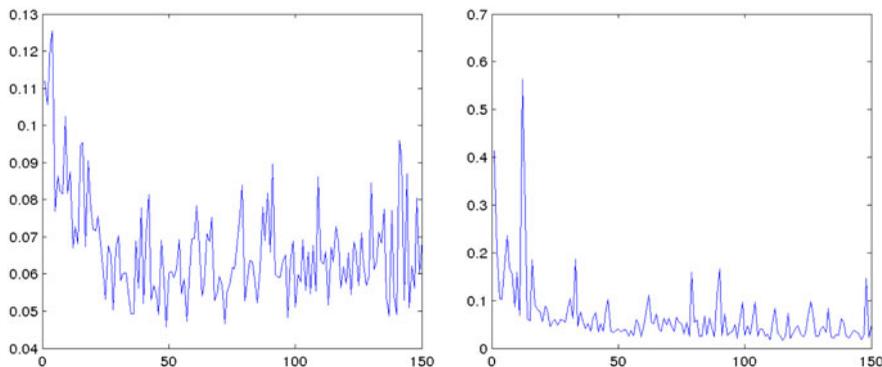


FIGURE 11. Distance between Lebesgue measure and the measure $\mu_{\mathbb{T}^2}^{(g_i)^N}$ depending on N for g_1 (left) and g_2 (right), on the grids E_N with $N = 128k$, $k = 1, \dots, 150$.

neighbourhoods of the boundaries of these charts ‘counts for nothing’ from the Lebesgue measure viewpoint.

Finally, we suppose that the uniform measures on the grids $E_N = \bigcup_i E_{N,i}$ converge to a smooth measure λ on M when N goes to infinity.

We also need that the grids behave locally as the canonical grids on the torus.

For every i , we choose a sequence $(\kappa_{N,i})_N$ of positive real numbers such that $\kappa_{N,i} \xrightarrow{N \rightarrow +\infty} 0$. This defines a sequence $E_{N,i}$ of grids on the set M_i by $E_{N,i} = \varphi_i^{-1}(\kappa_{N,i}\mathbb{Z}^n)$. Also, the canonical projection $\pi : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^n$ (see Definition 10) allows us to define the projection $\pi_{N,i}$, defined as the projection on $\kappa_{N,i}\mathbb{Z}^n$ in the coordinates given by φ_i :

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_{N,i} : M_i &\longrightarrow E_{N,i} \\ x &\longmapsto \varphi_i^{-1}(\kappa_{N,i}\pi(\kappa_{N,i}^{-1}\varphi_i(x))). \end{aligned}$$

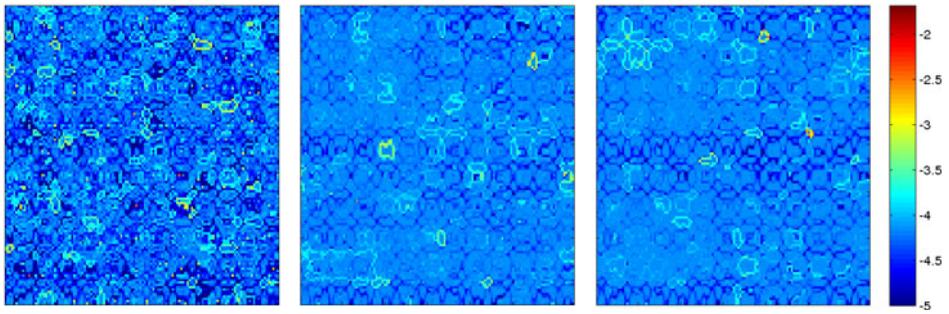


FIGURE 12. Simulations of invariant measures $\mu_{\mathbb{T}^2}^{(g_1)N}$ on the grids E_N , with $N = 2^k$, $k = 10, 14, 15$ (from left to right and top to bottom).

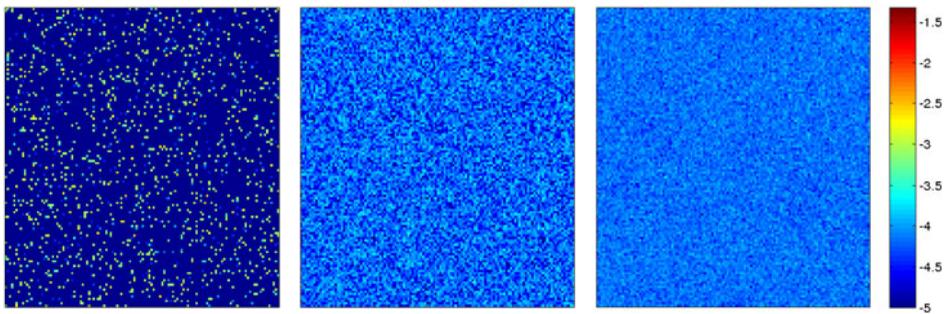


FIGURE 13. Simulations of invariant measures $\mu_{\mathbb{T}^2}^{(g_2)N}$ on the grids E_N , with $N = 2^k$, $k = 10, 14, 15$ (from left to right and top to bottom).

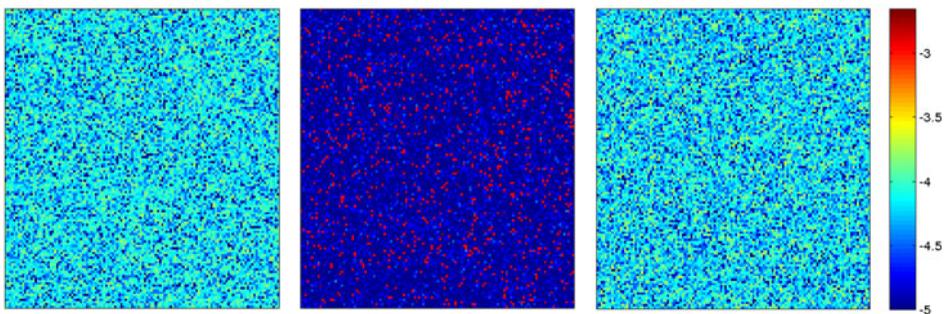


FIGURE 14. Simulations of invariant measures $\mu_{\mathbb{T}^2}^{(g_2)N}$ on the grids E_N , with $N = 11\,516, \dots, 11\,524$ (from left to right and top to bottom).

We easily check that under these conditions, Theorem A is still true, that is, if we replace the torus \mathbb{T}^m by M , the uniform grids by the grids E_N , the canonical projections by the projections $\pi_{N,i}$ and Lebesgue measure by the measure λ .

B. *Appendix. Proof of Lemma 14*

Let us summarize the different notations we will use throughout this section. We will denote by 0^k the origin of the space \mathbb{R}^k , and $W^k =]-1/2, 1/2]^{nk}$ (unless otherwise stated). In this section, we will denote $B_R = B_\infty(0, R)$ and by $D_c(E)$ the density of a ‘continuous’ set $E \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, defined as (when the limit exists)

$$D_c(E) = \lim_{R \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\text{Leb}(B_R \cap E)}{\text{Leb}(B_R)},$$

while, for a discrete set $E \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, the notation $D_d(E)$ will indicate the discrete density of E , defined as (when the limit exists)

$$D_d(E) = \lim_{R \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\text{Card}(B_R \cap E)}{\text{Card}(B_R \cap \mathbb{Z}^n)}.$$

We will consider $(A_k)_{k \geq 1}$, a sequence of matrices of $\text{SL}_n(\mathbb{R})$, and denote

$$\Gamma_k = (\widehat{A}_k \circ \dots \circ \widehat{A}_1)(\mathbb{Z}^n).$$

Also, Λ_k will be the lattice $M_{A_1, \dots, A_k} \mathbb{Z}^{n(k+1)}$, with

$$M_{A_1, \dots, A_k} = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 - \text{Id} & & & & & \\ & A_2 - \text{Id} & & & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & & \\ & & & & A_k - \text{Id} & \\ & & & & & \text{Id} \end{pmatrix} \in M_{n(k+1)}(\mathbb{R}), \tag{B1}$$

and $\widetilde{\Lambda}_k$ will be the lattice $\widetilde{M}_{A_1, \dots, A_k} \mathbb{Z}^{nk}$, with

$$\widetilde{M}_{A_1, \dots, A_k} = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 - \text{Id} & & & & & \\ & A_2 - \text{Id} & & & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & & \\ & & & & A_{k-1} - \text{Id} & \\ & & & & & A_k \end{pmatrix} \in M_{nk}(\mathbb{R}).$$

Finally, we will denote by

$$\bar{\tau}^k(A_1, \dots, A_k) = D_c(W^{k+1} + \Lambda_k)$$

the *mean rate of injectivity in time k* of A_1, \dots, A_k .

B.1. *A geometric viewpoint to compute the rate of injectivity in arbitrary times.* We begin by motivating the introduction of model sets by giving an alternative construction of the image sets $(\widehat{A}_k \circ \dots \circ \widehat{A}_1)(\mathbb{Z}^n)$ using this formalism.

Let $A_1, \dots, A_k \in \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{R})$; then

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_k &= (\widehat{A}_k \circ \dots \circ \widehat{A}_1)(\mathbb{Z}^n) \\ &= \{p_2(\lambda) \mid \lambda_k \in \Lambda_k, p_1(\lambda) \in W^k\} \\ &= p_2(\Lambda \cap (p_1^{-1}(W^k))), \end{aligned} \tag{B2}$$

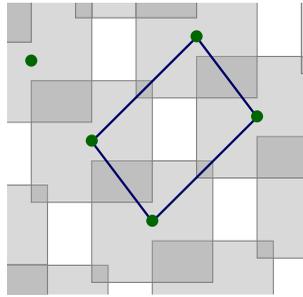


FIGURE B1. Geometric construction to compute the rate of injectivity: the green points are the elements of Λ , the blue parallelogram is a fundamental domain of Λ and the grey squares are centred on the points of Λ and have radii $1/2$. The rate of injectivity is equal to the area of the intersection between the union of the grey squares and the blue parallelogram.

with p_1 the projection on the nk first coordinates and p_2 the projection on the n last coordinates. This allows us to see the set Γ_k as a model set.

Here, we suppose that the set $p_1(\Lambda_k)$ is dense (thus, equidistributed) in the image set $\text{im } p_1$ (note that this condition is generic among the sequences of invertible linear maps). In particular, the set $\{p_2(\gamma) \mid \gamma \in \Lambda_k\}$ is equidistributed in the window W^k .

The following property makes the link between the density of Γ_k —that is, the rate of injectivity of A_1, \dots, A_k —and the density of the union of unit cubes centred on the points of the lattice Λ_k (see Figure B1). This formula seems to be very specific to the model sets defined by the matrix M_{A_1, \dots, A_k} and the window W^k ; it is unlikely that it can be generalized to other model sets.

PROPOSITION B1. *For a generic sequence of matrices $(A_k)_k$ of $\text{SL}_n(\mathbb{R})$, we have*

$$D_d(\Gamma_k) = D_c(W^k + \tilde{\Lambda}_k) = \bar{\tau}^k(A_1, \dots, A_k).$$

Remark B2. The density on the left of the equality is the density of a discrete set (that is, with respect to counting measure), whereas the density on the right of the equality is that of a continuous set (that is, with respect to Lebesgue measure). The two notions coincide when we consider discrete sets as sums of Dirac masses.

Remark B3. Proposition B1 asserts that for a generic sequence of matrices, the rate of injectivity τ^k in time k coincides with the mean rate of injectivity $\bar{\tau}^k$, which is a continuous and piecewise polynomial of degree $\leq nk$ in the coefficients of the matrix.

Proof of Proposition B1. We want to determine the density of Γ_k . By equation (B2), we have

$$x \in \Gamma_k \iff x \in \mathbb{Z}^n \quad \text{and} \quad \exists \lambda \in \Lambda_k : x = p_2(\lambda), p_1(\lambda) \in W^k.$$

But, if $x = p_2(\lambda)$, then we can write $\lambda = (\tilde{\lambda}, 0^n) + (0^{(k-1)n}, -x, x)$ with $\tilde{\lambda} \in \tilde{\Lambda}_k$. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} x \in \Gamma_k &\iff x \in \mathbb{Z}^n \quad \text{and} \quad \exists \tilde{\lambda} \in \tilde{\Lambda}_k : (0^{(k-1)n}, -x) - \tilde{\lambda} \in W^k \\ &\iff x \in \mathbb{Z}^n \quad \text{and} \quad (0^{(k-1)n}, x) \in \bigcup_{\tilde{\lambda} \in \tilde{\Lambda}_k} \tilde{\lambda} - W^k. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, $x \in \Gamma_k$ if and only if the projection of $(0^{(k-1)n}, x)$ on $\mathbb{R}^{nk} / \tilde{\Lambda}_k$ belongs to $\bigcup_{\tilde{\lambda} \in \tilde{\Lambda}_k} \tilde{\lambda} - W^k$. Then the proposition follows directly from the fact that the points of the form $(0^{(k-1)n}, x)$, with $x \in \mathbb{Z}^n$, are equidistributed in $\mathbb{R}^{nk} / \tilde{\Lambda}_k$.

To prove this equidistribution, we compute the inverse matrix of $\tilde{M}_{A_1, \dots, A_k}$:

$$\tilde{M}_{A_1, \dots, A_k}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} A_1^{-1} & A_1^{-1}A_2^{-1} & A_1^{-1}A_2^{-1}A_3^{-1} & \dots & A_1^{-1} & \dots & A_k^{-1} \\ & A_2^{-1} & A_2^{-1}A_3^{-1} & \dots & A_2^{-1} & \dots & A_k^{-1} \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & & & \\ & & & & A_{k-1}^{-1} & A_{k-1}^{-1}A_k^{-1} & \\ & & & & & & A_k^{-1} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus, the set of points of the form $(0^{(k-1)n}, x)$ in $\mathbb{R}^{nk} / \tilde{\Lambda}_k$ corresponds to the image of the action

$$\mathbb{Z}^n \ni x \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} A_1^{-1} \dots A_k^{-1} \\ A_2^{-1} \dots A_k^{-1} \\ \vdots \\ A_{k-1}^{-1}A_k^{-1} \\ A_k^{-1} \end{pmatrix} x$$

of \mathbb{Z}^n on the canonical torus $\mathbb{R}^{nk} / \mathbb{Z}^{nk}$. But this action is ergodic (even in restriction to the first coordinate) when the sequence of matrices is generic. □

B.2. Proof of Lemma 14: generically, the asymptotic rate is zero. We now come to the proof of Lemma 14. We will use an induction to decrease the rate step by step. Recall that $\bar{\tau}^k(A_1, \dots, A_k)$ indicates the density of the set $W^{k+1} + \Lambda_k$.

More precisely, we will prove that for a generic sequence $(A_k)_{k \geq 1}$, if $\bar{\tau}^k(A_1, \dots, A_k) > 1/\ell$, then $\bar{\tau}^{k+\ell-1}(A_1, \dots, A_{k+\ell-1})$ is strictly smaller than $\bar{\tau}^k(A_1, \dots, A_k)$. More precisely, we consider the maximal number of disjoint translates of $W^k + \tilde{\Lambda}_k$ in \mathbb{R}^{nk} : we easily see that if the density of $W^k + \tilde{\Lambda}_k$ is bigger than $1/\ell$, then there cannot be more than ℓ disjoint translates of $W^k + \tilde{\Lambda}_k$ in \mathbb{R}^{nk} (Lemma B4). At this point, Lemma B7 states that if the sequence of matrices is generic, then either the density of $W^{k+1} + \tilde{\Lambda}_{k+1}$ is smaller than that of $W^k + \tilde{\Lambda}_k$ (Figure B2), or there cannot be more than $\ell - 1$ disjoint translates of $W^{k+1} + \tilde{\Lambda}_{k+1}$ in $\mathbb{R}^{n(k+1)}$ (see Figure B3). Applying this reasoning (at most) $\ell - 1$ times, we obtain that the density of $W^{k+\ell-1} + \tilde{\Lambda}_{k+\ell-1}$ is smaller than that of $W^k + \tilde{\Lambda}_k$. For example, if $D_c(W^k + \tilde{\Lambda}_k) > 1/3$, then $D_c(W^{k+2} + \tilde{\Lambda}_{k+2}) < D(W^k + \tilde{\Lambda}_k)$ (see Figure B4). To apply this strategy in practice, we have to obtain quantitative estimates about the loss of density we get between times k and $k + \ell - 1$.

We remark that with this strategy, we do not need to make ‘clever’ perturbations of the matrices: provided that the coefficients of the matrices are rationally independent, the perturbation of each matrix is made independently from those of the others. However, this reasoning does not tell when exactly the rate of injectivity decreases (likely, in most of the cases, the speed of decreasing of the rate of injectivity is much faster than the one obtained by this method), and does not say either where exactly the loss of injectivity occurs in the image sets.

We will indeed prove a more precise statement of Lemma 14.

Lemma 14. For a generic sequence of matrices $(A_k)_{k \geq 1}$ of $\ell^\infty(\text{SL}_n(\mathbb{R}))$, for every $\ell \in \mathbb{N}$, there exists $\lambda_\ell \in]0, 1[$ such that for every $k \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$\tau^{\ell k}(A_1, \dots, A_{\ell k}) \leq \lambda_\ell^k + \frac{1}{\ell}. \tag{B3}$$

Thus, the asymptotic rate of injectivity $\tau^\infty((A_k)_{k \geq 1})$ is equal to zero.

The following lemma expresses that if the density of $W^k + \tilde{\Lambda}_k$ is bigger than $1/\ell$, then there cannot be more than ℓ disjoint translates of $W^k + \tilde{\Lambda}_k$, and gives an estimation of the size of these intersections.

LEMMA B4. Let $W^k =]-1/2, 1/2]^k$ and $\Lambda \subset \mathbb{R}^k$ be a lattice with covolume 1 such that $D_c(W^k + \Lambda) \geq 1/\ell$. Then, for every collection $v_1, \dots, v_\ell \in \mathbb{R}^k$, there exists $i \neq i' \in \llbracket 1, \ell \rrbracket$ such that

$$D_c((W^k + \Lambda + v_i) \cap (W^k + \Lambda + v_{i'})) \geq 2 \frac{\ell D_c(W^k + \Lambda) - 1}{\ell(\ell - 1)}.$$

Proof of Lemma B4. For every $v \in \mathbb{R}^k$, the density $D_c(W^k + \Lambda + v)$ is equal to the volume of the projection of W^k on the quotient space \mathbb{R}^k/Λ . As this volume is greater than $1/\ell$, and as the covolume of Λ is 1, the projections of the $W^k + v_i$ overlap, and the volume of the points belonging to at least two different sets is bigger than $\ell D_c(W^k + \Lambda) - 1$. As there are $\ell(\ell - 1)/2$ possibilities of intersection, there exists $i \neq i'$ such that the volume of the intersection between the projections of $W^k + v_i$ and $W^k + v_{i'}$ is bigger than $2(\ell D_c(W^k + \Lambda) - 1)/(\ell(\ell - 1))$. Returning to the whole space \mathbb{R}^k , we get the conclusion of the lemma. □

We will also need the following lemma, whose proof consists of a simple counting argument.

LEMMA B5. Let Λ_1 be a subgroup of \mathbb{R}^m , Λ_2 be such that $\Lambda_1 \oplus \Lambda_2$ is a lattice of covolume 1 of \mathbb{R}^m and C be a compact subset of \mathbb{R}^m . Let C_1 be the projection of C on the quotient \mathbb{R}^m/Λ_1 , and C_2 be the projection of C on the quotient $\mathbb{R}^m/(\Lambda_1 \oplus \Lambda_2)$. We denote

$$a_i = \text{Leb}\{x \in C_1 \mid \text{Card}\{\lambda_2 \in \Lambda_2 \mid x \in C_1 + \lambda_2\} = i\}$$

(in particular, $\sum_{i \geq 1} a_i = \text{Leb}(C_1)$). Then

$$\text{Leb}(C_2) = \sum_{i \geq 1} \frac{a_i}{i}.$$

In particular, the area of C_2 (the projection on the quotient by $\Lambda_1 \oplus \Lambda_2$) is smaller than (or equal to) that of C_1 (the projection on the quotient by Λ_1). The loss of area is given by the following corollary.

COROLLARY B6. With the same notation as for Lemma B5, if we denote

$$D_1 = \text{Leb}\{x \in C_1 \mid \text{Card}\{\lambda_2 \in \Lambda_2 \mid x \in C_1 + \lambda_2\} \geq 2\},$$

then

$$\text{Leb}(C_2) \leq \text{Leb}(C_1) - \frac{D_1}{2}.$$

Recall that we denote by $\tilde{\Lambda}_k$ the lattice spanned by the matrix

$$\tilde{M}_{A_1, \dots, A_k} = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 - \text{Id} & & & & \\ & A_2 - \text{Id} & & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & & A_{k-1} - \text{Id} & \\ & & & & A_k \end{pmatrix} \in M_{nk}(\mathbb{R}),$$

and W^k the cube $] -1/2, 1/2]^{nk}$. The proof of Lemma 14 will reduce to the following technical lemma.

LEMMA B7. *For every $\delta > 0$ and every $M > 0$, there exist $\varepsilon > 0$ and an open set of matrices $\mathcal{O} \subset \text{SL}_n(\mathbb{R})$, which is δ -dense in the set of matrices of norm $\leq M$, such that if $\ell \geq 2$ and $D_0 > 0$ are such that for every collection of vectors $v_1, \dots, v_\ell \in \mathbb{R}^n$, there exist $j, j' \in \llbracket 1, \ell \rrbracket$ such that*

$$D_c((W^k + \tilde{\Lambda}_k + (0^{(k-1)n}, v_j)) \cap (W^k + \tilde{\Lambda}_k + (0^{(k-1)n}, v_{j'}))) \geq D_0,$$

then, for every $B \in \mathcal{O}$, if we denote by $\tilde{\Lambda}_{k+1}$ the lattice spanned by the matrix $\tilde{M}_{A_1, \dots, A_k, B}$:

- (1) either $D_c(W^{k+1} + \tilde{\Lambda}_{k+1}) \leq D_c(W^k + \tilde{\Lambda}_k) - \varepsilon D_0 / (4\ell)$;
- (2) or, for every collection of vectors $w_1, \dots, w_{\ell-1} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, there exist $i \neq i' \in \llbracket 1, \ell - 1 \rrbracket$ such that

$$D_c((W^{k+1} + \tilde{\Lambda}_{k+1} + (0^{kn}, w_i)) \cap (W^{k+1} + \tilde{\Lambda}_{k+1} + (0^{kn}, w_{i'}))) \geq \varepsilon D_0 / \ell^2.$$

In a certain sense, the conclusion (1) corresponds to an hyperbolic case, and the conclusion (2) expresses that there is a diffusion between times k and $k + 1$.

Proof of Lemma B7. Let \mathcal{O}_ε be the set of the matrices $B \in \text{SL}_n(\mathbb{R})$ satisfying: for any collection of vectors $w_1, \dots, w_{\ell-1} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, there exists a set $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n / B\mathbb{Z}^n$ of measure $> \varepsilon$ such that every point of U belongs to at least ℓ different cubes of the collection $(Bv + w_i + W^1)_{v \in \mathbb{Z}^n, 1 \leq i \leq \ell-1}$. In other words, every $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ whose projection \bar{x} on $\mathbb{R}^n / B\mathbb{Z}^n$ belongs to U satisfies

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\ell-1} \sum_{v \in \mathbb{Z}^n} \mathbf{1}_{x \in Bv + w_i + W^1} \geq \ell. \tag{B4}$$

We easily see that the sets \mathcal{O}_ε are open and that the union of these sets over $\varepsilon > 0$ is dense (it contains the set of matrices B whose entries are all irrational). Thus, if we are given $\delta > 0$ and $M > 0$, there exists $\varepsilon > 0$ such that $\mathcal{O} = \mathcal{O}_\varepsilon$ is δ -dense in the set of matrices of $\text{SL}_n(\mathbb{R})$ whose norm is smaller than M .

We then choose $B \in \mathcal{O}$ and a collection of vectors $w_1, \dots, w_{\ell-1} \in \mathbb{R}^n$. Let $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ be such that $\bar{x} \in U$. By hypothesis on the matrix B , x satisfies equation (B4), so there exist $\ell + 1$ integer vectors v_1, \dots, v_ℓ and ℓ indices i_1, \dots, i_ℓ such that the couples (v_j, i_j) are pairwise distinct and that

$$\text{for all } j \in \llbracket 1, \ell \rrbracket, \quad x \in Bv_j + w_{i_j} + W^1. \tag{B5}$$

The following formula makes the link between what happens in the n last and in the n penultimate coordinates of $\mathbb{R}^{n(k+1)}$:

$$W^{k+1} + \tilde{\Lambda}_{k+1} + (0^{(k-1)n}, 0^n, w_{i_j}) = W^{k+1} + \tilde{\Lambda}_{k+1} + (0^{(k-1)n}, -v_j, w_{i_j} + Bv_j) \tag{B6}$$

(we add a vector belonging to $\tilde{\Lambda}_{k+1}$).

We now apply the hypothesis of the lemma to the vectors $-v_1, \dots, -v_{\ell+1}$: there exist $j \neq j' \in \llbracket 1, \ell \rrbracket$ such that

$$D_c((W^k + \tilde{\Lambda}_k + (0^{(k-1)n}, -v_j)) \cap (W^k + \tilde{\Lambda}_k + (0^{(k-1)n}, -v_{j'}))) \geq D_0. \tag{B7}$$

Let y be a point belonging to this intersection. Applying equations (B5) and (B7), we get that

$$(y, x) \in W^{k+1} + (\tilde{\Lambda}_k, 0^n) + (0^{(k-1)n}, -v_j, w_{i_j} + Bv_j) \tag{B8}$$

and the same for j' .

Two different cases can occur.

- (i) Either $i_j = i_{j'}$ (that is, the translation vectors w_{i_j} and $w_{i_{j'}}$ are equal). As a consequence, applying equation (B8), we have

$$(y, x) + (0^{(k-1)n}, v_j, -Bv_j - w_{i_j}) \in (W^{k+1} + (\tilde{\Lambda}_k, 0^n)) \cap (W^{k+1} + (\tilde{\Lambda}_k, 0^n) + v'),$$

with

$$v' = (0^{(k-1)n}, -(v_{j'} - v_j), B(v_{j'} - v_j)) \in \tilde{\Lambda}_{k+1} \setminus \tilde{\Lambda}_k.$$

This implies that the set $W^{k+1} + \tilde{\Lambda}_{k+1}$ auto-intersects (see Figure B2).

- (ii) Or $i_j \neq i_{j'}$ (that is, $w_{i_j} \neq w_{i_{j'}}$). Combining equations (B8) and (B6) (note that $(\tilde{\Lambda}_k, 0^n) \subset \tilde{\Lambda}_{k+1}$), we get

$$(y, x) \in (W^{k+1} + \tilde{\Lambda}_{k+1} + (0^{kn}, w_{i_j})) \cap (W^{k+1} + \tilde{\Lambda}_{k+1} + (0^{kn}, w_{i_{j'}})).$$

This implies that two distinct vertical translates of $W^{k+1} + \tilde{\Lambda}_{k+1}$ intersect (see Figure B3).

We now look at the global behaviour of all the x such that $\bar{x} \in U$. Again, we have two cases.

- (1) Either for more than the half of such \bar{x} (for Lebesgue measure), we are in the case (i). To each of such \bar{x} corresponds a translation vector w_i . We choose w_i such that the set of corresponding \bar{x} has the biggest measure; this measure is bigger than $\varepsilon/(2(\ell - 1)) \geq \varepsilon/(2\ell)$. Using the notation of Corollary B6, we get that the density D_1 of the auto-intersection of $W^{k+1} + \tilde{\Lambda}_{k+1} + (0, w_i)$ is bigger than $D_0\varepsilon/(2\ell)$. This leads to (using Corollary B6)

$$D_c(W^{k+1} + \tilde{\Lambda}_{k+1}) < D_c(W^k + \tilde{\Lambda}_k) - \frac{D_0\varepsilon}{4\ell}.$$

In this case, we get the conclusion (1) of the lemma.

- (2) Or, for more than the half of such \bar{x} , we are in the case (ii). Choosing the couple $(w_i, w_{i'})$ such that the measure of the set of corresponding \bar{x} is the greatest, we get

$$D_c((W^{k+1} + \tilde{\Lambda}_{k+1} + (0^{kn}, w_i)) \cap (W^{k+1} + \tilde{\Lambda}_{k+1} + (0^{kn}, w_{i'}))) \geq \frac{D_0\varepsilon}{(\ell - 1)(\ell - 2)}.$$

In this case, we get the conclusion (2) of the lemma. □

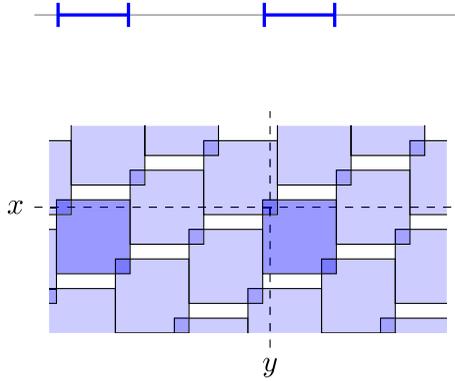


FIGURE B2. First case of Lemma B7, in the case $\ell = 3$: the set $W^{k+1} + \tilde{\Lambda}_{k+1}$ auto-intersects.

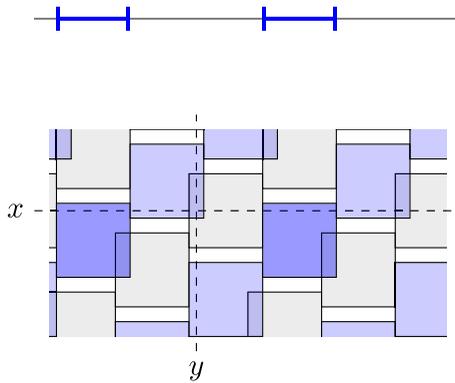


FIGURE B3. Second case of Lemma B7, in the case $\ell = 3$: two distinct vertical translates of $W^{k+1} + \tilde{\Lambda}_{k+1}$ intersect (the first translate contains the dark blue thickening of $W^k + \tilde{\Lambda}_k$, the second is represented in grey).

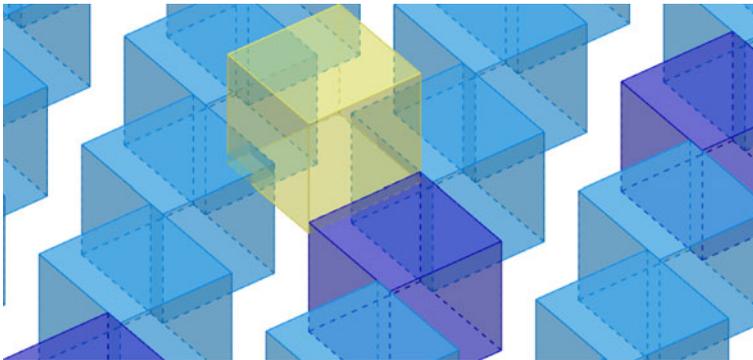


FIGURE B4. Intersection of cubes in the case where the rate is bigger than $1/3$. The thickening of the cubes of $W^k + \tilde{\Lambda}_k$ is represented in dark blue and the thickening of the rest of the cubes of $W^{k+1} + \tilde{\Lambda}_{k+1}$ is represented in light blue; we have also represented another cube of $W^{k+2} + \tilde{\Lambda}_{k+2}$ in yellow. We see that if the projection on the z -axis of the centre of the yellow cube is smaller than 1, then there is automatically an intersection between this cube and one of the blue cubes.

We can now prove Lemma 14.

Proof of Lemma 14. We proceed by induction on k . Suppose that $\tilde{\Lambda}_k$ is such that $D_c(W^k + \tilde{\Lambda}_k) > 1/\ell$. Then Lemma B4 ensures that it is not possible to have ℓ disjoint translates of $W^k + \tilde{\Lambda}_k$. Applying Lemma B7, we obtain that either $D_c(W^{k+1} + \tilde{\Lambda}_{k+1}) < D_c(W^k + \tilde{\Lambda}_k)$, or it is not possible to have $\ell - 1$ disjoint translates of $W^{k+1} + \tilde{\Lambda}_{k+1}$. And so on, applying Lemma B7 at most $\ell - 1$ times, there exists $k' \in \llbracket k + 1, k + \ell - 1 \rrbracket$ such that $W^{k'} + \tilde{\Lambda}_{k'}$ has additional auto-intersections. Quantitatively, combining Lemmas B4 and B7, we get

$$D_c(W^{k+\ell-1} + \tilde{\Lambda}_{k+\ell-1}) \leq D(W^k + \tilde{\Lambda}_k) - \frac{\varepsilon}{4\ell} \left(\frac{\varepsilon}{\ell^2}\right)^{\ell-1} 2 \frac{\ell D_c(W^k + \tilde{\Lambda}_k) - 1}{\ell(\ell - 1)};$$

thus,

$$D_c(W^{k+\ell-1} + \tilde{\Lambda}_{k+\ell-1}) - 1/\ell \leq \left(1 - \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\varepsilon}{\ell^2}\right)^\ell\right) (D_c(W^k + \tilde{\Lambda}_k) - 1/\ell);$$

in other words, if we denote $\bar{\tau}^k = \bar{\tau}^k(B_1, \dots, B_k)$ and $\lambda_\ell = 1 - (\varepsilon/\ell^2)^\ell$,

$$\bar{\tau}^{k+\ell-1} - 1/\ell \leq \lambda_\ell (\bar{\tau}^k - 1/\ell). \tag{B9}$$

This implies that for every $\ell > 0$, the sequence of rates $\bar{\tau}^k$ is smaller than a sequence converging exponentially fast to $1/\ell$: we get equation (B3). In particular, the asymptotic rate of injectivity is generically equal to zero. \square

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