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The distribution of Lyapunov exponents: Exact results for random matrices. (English)

Zbl 0593.58051

Commun. Math. Phys. 103, 121-126 (1986).

Author's summary: "Simple exact expressions are derived for all the Lyapunov exponents of certain N -dimensional stochastic linear dynamical systems. In the case of the product of independent random matrices, each of which has independent Gaussian entries with mean zero and variance $1/N$, the exponents have an exponential distribution as $N \rightarrow \infty$. In the case of the time-ordered product integral of $\exp[N^{-1/2}dW]$, where the entries of the $N \times N$ matrix $W(t)$ are independent standard Wiener processes, the exponents are equally spaced for fixed N and thus have a uniform distribution as $N \rightarrow \infty$."

Reviewer: [G. Warnecke](#)

MSC:

[58J70](#) Invariance and symmetry properties for PDEs on manifolds

[60G07](#) General theory of stochastic processes

Cited in **20** Documents

Keywords:

Lyapunov exponents; stochastic linear dynamical systems; independent random matrices; Wiener processes

Full Text: [DOI](#)

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- [8] It was pointed out to us by D. Ruelle that in Livi, R., Politi, A., Ruffo, S.: Distribution of characteristic exponents in the thermodynamic limit, submitted to J. Phys. A, there are numerical results concerning the high-dimensional limit for a certain nonlinear deterministic dynamical system (the "Fermi-Pasta-Ulam" model with the energy per particle fixed). They suggest, at least for large energy per particle, an asymptotically uniform distribution of Lyapunov exponents. On the other hand, a uniform distribution of exponents is valid exactly for the continuous time linear stochastic dynamical systems presented as "Model" in this paper [see Eq. (15)]. An asymptotically uniform distribution has also been obtained (numerically) for products of certain random symplectic matrices (G. Paladin and A. Vulpiani, 1985 preprint). The exact nature of the universality implicit in these "coincidences" deserves further investigation
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