

# Locally maximal homoclinic classes for generic diffeomorphisms

Manseob Lee

**Abstract.** Let  $M$  be a closed smooth  $d(\geq 2)$  dimensional Riemannian manifold and let  $f : M \rightarrow M$  be a diffeomorphism. For  $C^1$  generic  $f$ , a locally maximal homogeneous homoclinic class is hyperbolic.

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## 1 Introduction

Let  $M$  be a closed smooth  $d(\geq 2)$  dimensional Riemannian manifold and let  $f : M \rightarrow M$  be a diffeomorphism. Denote by  $\text{Diff}(M)$  the set of all diffeomorphisms of  $M$  endowed with the  $C^1$  topology. Let  $\Lambda$  be a closed  $f$  invariant set. We say that  $\Lambda$  is *hyperbolic* if the tangent bundle  $T_\Lambda M$  has a  $Df$ -invariant splitting  $E^s \oplus E^u$  and there exist constants  $C > 0$  and  $0 < \lambda < 1$  such that

$$\|D_x f^n|_{E_x^s}\| \leq C\lambda^n \quad \text{and} \quad \|D_x f^{-n}|_{E_x^u}\| \leq C\lambda^n$$

for all  $x \in \Lambda$  and  $n \geq 0$ . If  $\Lambda = M$  then  $f$  is said to be *Anosov*. A point  $p \in M$  is *periodic* if there is  $n > 0$  such that  $f^n(p) = p$ . Denote by  $P(f)$  the set of all periodic points of  $f$ . It is well known that if  $p$  is a hyperbolic periodic point of  $f$  with period  $\pi(p)$  then the sets

$$W^s(p) = \{x \in M : f^{\pi(p)n}(x) \rightarrow p \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty\} \quad \text{and} \\ W^u(p) = \{x \in M : f^{-\pi(p)n}(x) \rightarrow p \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty\}$$

are  $C^1$  injectively immersed submanifolds of  $M$ . A point  $x \in W^s(p) \cap W^u(p)$  is called a *homoclinic point* of  $f$  associated to  $p$ . The closure of the homoclinic points of  $f$  associated to  $p$  is called the *homoclinic class* of  $f$  associated to  $p$ , and it is denoted by  $H_f(p)$ . It is known that  $H_f(p)$  is closed, transitive and  $f$ -invariant sets. Let  $p$  and  $q$  be hyperbolic periodic points. We write  $p \sim q$  if  $W^s(p) \cap W^u(q) \neq \emptyset$  and  $W^u(p) \cap W^s(q) \neq \emptyset$ . We say that  $p, q \in P(f)$  are *homoclinically related* if  $p \sim q$ . It

is clear that if  $q \sim p$  then  $\text{index}(p) = \text{index}(q)$ , where  $\text{index}(p) = \dim W^s(p)$ . Note that a hyperbolic  $p \in P(f)$ , there are a  $C^1$  neighborhood  $\mathcal{U}(f)$  of  $f$  and a neighborhood  $U$  of  $p$  such that for any  $g \in \mathcal{U}(f)$ ,  $p_g = \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} g^n(U)$ , where  $p_g$  is said to be *continuation* of  $p$ .

We say that the homoclinic class  $H_f(p)$  is *homogeneous* if  $\text{index}(p) = \text{index}(q)$ , for any hyperbolic  $q \in H_f(p) \cap P(f)$ . We say that  $\Lambda$  is *locally maximal* if there is a neighborhood  $U$  of  $\Lambda$  such that  $\Lambda = \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} f^n(U)$ . Here the neighborhood  $U$  is called *locally maximal neighborhood* of  $\Lambda$ .

We say that a subset  $\mathcal{G} \subset \text{Diff}(M)$  is *residual* if  $\mathcal{G}$  contains the intersection of a countable family of open and dense subsets of  $\text{Diff}(M)$ . In this case  $\mathcal{G}$  is dense in  $\text{Diff}(M)$ . A property "P" is said to be  $(C^1)$  *generic* if "P" holds for all diffeomorphisms which belong to some residual subset of  $\text{Diff}(M)$ .

We say that  $\Lambda$  admits a *dominated splitting* if the tangent bundle  $T_\Lambda M$  has a continuous  $Df$ -invariant splitting  $E \oplus F$  and there exist constants  $C > 0$  and  $0 < \lambda < 1$  such that

$$\|D_x f^n|_{E(x)}\| \cdot \|D_x f^{-n}|_{F(f^n(x))}\| \leq C\lambda^n$$

for all  $x \in \Lambda$  and  $n \geq 0$ . An invariant closed set  $\Lambda$  is called a *chain transitive* if for any  $\delta > 0$  and  $x, y \in \Lambda$ , there is  $\delta$ -pseudo orbit  $\{x_i\}_{i=0}^n (n \geq 1) \subset \Lambda$  such that  $x_0 = x$  and  $x_n = y$ . Abdenur *et al* [1] proved that  $C^1$  generically, any chain-transitive set  $\Lambda$  of  $f$ , then either (a) there is a dominated splitting over  $\Lambda$  or (b) the set  $\Lambda$  is contained in the Hausdorff limit of a sequence of periodic sinks/sources of  $f$ . Recently, Lee [9] proved that  $C^1$  generically, if a chain transitive set  $\Lambda$  is locally maximal then it admits a dominated splitting. We say that  $\Lambda$  is *Lyapunov stable* for  $f$  if for every neighborhood  $U$  of  $\Lambda$  there is another neighborhood  $V$  of  $\Lambda$  such that  $f^n(V) \subset U$  for any  $n \geq 1$ . We say that  $\Lambda$  is *bi-Lyapunov stable* if it is Lyapunov stable for  $f$  and for  $f^{-1}$ . Potrie and Sambarino [12] proved that  $C^1$  generic diffeomorphisms with a homoclinic class with non empty interior and in particular those admitting a codimension one dominated splitting. Potrie [13] proved that for  $C^1$  generic  $f \in \text{Diff}(M)$ , a Lyapunov stable homoclinic class  $H_f(p)$  admits a dominated splitting. Wang [14] proved that for  $C^1$  generic  $f \in \text{Diff}(M)$ , where  $M$  is connected, if a homoclinic class  $H_f(p)$  is bi-Lyapunov stable, then we have: either  $H_f(p)$  is hyperbolic, and so,  $H_f(p) = M$  and  $f$  is Anosov, or  $f$  can be  $C^1$  approximated by diffeomorphisms that have a heterodimensional cycle. From the results, we prove the following.

**Theorem A** *For  $C^1$  generic  $f \in \text{Diff}(M)$ , a locally maximal homogeneous homoclinic class  $H_f(p)$  is hyperbolic, for some hyperbolic  $p \in P(f)$ .*

From Theorem A, we directly obtained the previous results ([3, 7, 8]). More detail,  $C^1$  generically, if a diffeomorphism  $f$  has the shadowing or limit shadowing property on a locally maximal  $H_f(p)$  then  $H_f(p)$  is homogeneous. Thus we can easily show that  $C^1$  generically, if a diffeomorphism  $f$  has the shadowing property ([3, 7]), or the limit shadowing property ([8]) on a locally maximal homoclinic class then it is hyperbolic.

## 2 Proof of Theorem A

Let  $M$  be as before, and let  $f \in \text{Diff}(M)$ . For  $\delta > 0$ , a sequence of points  $\{x_i\}_{i=0}^n$  ( $n \geq 1$ ) in  $M$  is called a  $\delta$ -pseudo orbit of  $f$  if  $d(f(x_i), x_{i+1}) < \delta$  for  $i = 0, \dots, n$ . For given  $x, y \in M$ , we write  $x \rightsquigarrow y$  if for any  $\delta > 0$ , there is a  $\delta$ -pseudo orbit  $\{x_i\}_{i=0}^n$  ( $n \geq 1$ ) of  $f$  such that  $x_0 = x$  and  $x_n = y$ . The set  $\{x \in M : x \rightsquigarrow x\}$  is called the *chain recurrent set* of  $f$  and is denoted by  $\mathcal{CR}(f)$ . The relation  $\rightsquigarrow$  induces an equivalence relation on  $\mathcal{CR}(f)$  whose classes are called *chain recurrence classes* of  $f$ . For any hyperbolic periodic point  $p$ , denote by  $C_f(p) = \{x \in M : x \rightsquigarrow p \text{ and } p \rightsquigarrow x\}$ . The chain recurrent class  $C_f(p)$  is a closed and invariant set. In general, the homoclinic class  $H_f(p)$  contained in the chain recurrence class  $C_f(p)$ .

**Lemma 2.1.** *There is a residual set  $\mathcal{G}_1 \subset \text{Diff}(M)$  such that for any  $f \in \mathcal{G}_1$ ,*

- (a)  *$f$  is Kupka-Smale, that is, any element of  $P(f)$  is hyperbolic, and its invariant manifolds intersect transversely (see [11]).*
- (b) *the chain recurrence class  $C_f(p)$  is the homoclinic class  $H_f(p)$ , for some hyperbolic periodic point  $p$  (see [4]).*
- (c) *an isolated chain recurrence class  $C_f(p)$  is robustly isolated, that is, there are a  $C^1$  neighborhood  $\mathcal{U}(f)$  of  $f$  and a neighborhood  $U$  of  $C_f(p)$  such that for every  $g \in \mathcal{U}(f)$ ,  $\mathcal{CR}(g) \cap U = C_g(p_g)$  (see [5]).*
- (d) *if for any  $C^1$  neighborhood  $\mathcal{U}(f)$  of  $f$  there is  $g \in \mathcal{U}(f)$  such that  $g$  has two periodic points  $p$  and  $q$  with  $\text{index}(p) \neq \text{index}(q)$  then  $f$  has two periodic points  $p_f$  and  $q_f$  with  $\text{index}(p_f) \neq \text{index}(q_f)$  (see [10]).*

For any  $\delta > 0$ , we say that a hyperbolic  $p \in P(f)$  has a  $\delta$  weak eigenvalue if there is an eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of  $D_p f^{\pi(p)}$  such that

$$(1 - \delta)^{\pi(p)} < |\lambda| < (1 + \delta)^{\pi(p)},$$

where  $\pi(p)$  is the period of  $p$ . The following lemma was proved by Wang [14].

**Lemma 2.2.** *There is a residual set  $\mathcal{G}_2 \subset \text{Diff}(M)$  such that for any  $f \in \mathcal{G}_2$ , if a homoclinic class  $H_f(p)$  is not hyperbolic then there is a hyperbolic periodic point  $q \in H_f(p)$  with  $q \sim p$  such that  $q$  has a Lyapunov exponent arbitrarily close to 0.*

By Lemma 2.2, the hyperbolic periodic point  $q \in H_f(p)$  is said to be a *weak hyperbolic periodic point* if the hyperbolic periodic point  $q \in H_f(p)$  has a Lyapunov exponent arbitrarily close to 0. The notion of weak hyperbolic periodic point is a  $\delta$  weak eigenvalue for the hyperbolic periodic point. We say that a periodic point  $p$  is said to be *weak hyperbolic* if  $p$  has a  $\delta$  weak eigenvalue. We rewrite the result of Wang as the following.

**Lemma 2.3.** *There is a residual set  $\mathcal{G}_2 \subset \text{Diff}(M)$  such that for any  $f \in \mathcal{G}_2$ , any hyperbolic periodic point  $p$  of  $f$ , if a homoclinic class  $H_f(p)$  is not hyperbolic then there are  $\delta > 0$ , and a hyperbolic periodic point  $q \in H_f(p)$  with  $q \sim p$  such that  $q$  is a weak hyperbolic.*

The following Franks' lemma [6] will play essential roles in our proofs.

**Lemma 2.4.** *Let  $\mathcal{U}(f)$  be any given  $C^1$  neighborhood of  $f$ . Then there exist  $\epsilon > 0$  and a  $C^1$  neighborhood  $\mathcal{V}(f) \subset \mathcal{U}(f)$  of  $f$  such that for given  $g \in \mathcal{V}(f)$ , a finite set  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k\}$ , a neighborhood  $U$  of  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k\}$  and linear maps  $L_i : T_{x_i}M \rightarrow T_{g(x_i)}M$  satisfying  $\|L_i - D_{x_i}g\| \leq \epsilon$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq k$ , there exists  $\tilde{g} \in \mathcal{U}(f)$  such that  $\tilde{g}(x) = g(x)$  if  $x \in \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k\} \cup (M \setminus U)$  and  $D_{x_i}\tilde{g} = L_i$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq k$ .*

**Lemma 2.5.** *Let  $\mathcal{U}(f)$  be a  $C^1$  neighborhood of  $f$  and let  $U$  be a locally maximal neighborhood of  $H_f(p)$ . If a weak periodic point  $q \in H_f(p)$  then there are  $g \in \mathcal{U}(f)$  and  $q_1 \in \Lambda_g(U) = \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} g^n(U)$  such that  $\text{index}(q_1) \neq \text{index}(p_g)$ , where  $\Lambda_g(U)$  is the continuation of  $H_f(p)$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{U}(f)$  be a  $C^1$  neighborhood of  $f$  and let  $U$  be a locally maximal neighborhood of  $H_f(p)$ . Suppose that there is a periodic point  $q \in H_f(p)$  with the period  $\pi(q)$  such that  $q$  is a weak hyperbolic. For simplicity, we may assume that  $f^{\pi(q)}(q) = f(q) = q$ . Since  $q \in H_f(p)$  is a weak hyperbolic periodic point, for any  $\delta > 0$  there is an eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of  $D_q f$  such that

$$(1 - \delta) < |\lambda| < (1 + \delta) \text{ and } q \sim p.$$

By Lemma 2.4, there is  $g \in \mathcal{U}(f)$  close to  $f$  such that  $g(p) = f(p) = p$  and  $D_p g$  has an eigenvalue  $\lambda$  such that  $|\lambda| = 1$ . Note that by Lemma 2.4, there is  $g_1 \in \mathcal{U}(f)$  close to  $f$  such that  $D_p g_1$  has only one eigenvalue  $\lambda$  with  $|\lambda| = 1$ . Denote by  $E_p^c$  the eigenspace corresponding to  $\lambda$ . In the proof we consider two cases : (i)  $\lambda$  is real, and (ii)  $\lambda$  is complex.

First, we may assume that  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  (other case is similar). By Lemma 2.4, there are  $\alpha > 0$ ,  $B_\alpha(p) \subset U$  and  $h \in \mathcal{U}(f)$  close to  $g$  ( $h \in \mathcal{U}(f)$ ) such that

- $h(p) = g(p) = p$ ,
- $h(x) = \exp_p \circ D_p g \circ \exp_p^{-1}(x)$  for  $x \in B_\alpha(p)$ , and
- $h(x) = g(x)$  for  $x \notin B_{4\alpha}(p)$ .

Let  $\eta = \alpha/4$ . Take a nonzero vector  $v \in \exp_p(E_p^c(\alpha))$  which is corresponding to  $\lambda$  such that  $\|v\| = \eta$ . Here  $E_p^c(\alpha)$  is the  $\alpha$ -ball in  $E_p^c$  with its center at  $\vec{0}_p$ . Then we have

$$h(\exp_p(v)) = \exp_p \circ D_p g \circ \exp_p^{-1}(\exp_p(v)) = \exp_p(v).$$

Put  $\mathcal{J}_p = \exp_p(\{tv : -\eta/4 \leq t \leq \eta/4\})$ . Then  $\mathcal{J}_p$  is center at  $p$  and  $h(\mathcal{J}_p) = \mathcal{J}_p$ . Since  $B_\alpha(p) \subset U$  we know that  $\mathcal{J}_p \subset \Lambda_h(U) = \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} h^n(U)$ . Since  $h(\mathcal{J}_p) = \mathcal{J}_p$ , take two end points  $q, r$  of  $\mathcal{J}_p$ . Then we know that

$$D_q h|_{E_p^c} = D_r h|_{E_p^c} = 1.$$

By Lemma 2.4, there is  $\phi \in \mathcal{U}(f)$  close to  $h$  ( $\phi \in \mathcal{U}(f)$ ) such that  $\text{index}(q_\phi) \neq \text{index}(r_\phi)$ , where  $q_\phi$  and  $r_\phi$  are hyperbolic points with respect to  $\phi$ .

Finally, we consider  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ . For simplicity, we assume that  $f(p) = p$ . As in the proof of the case of  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ , by Lemma 2.4, there are  $\alpha > 0$ ,  $B_\alpha(p) \subset U$  and  $g \in \mathcal{U}(f)$  such that

$$g(p) = f(p) = p \text{ and } g(x) = \exp_p \circ D_p g \circ \exp_p^{-1}(x)$$

for  $x \in B_\alpha(p)$ . Since  $\lambda = 1$ , there is  $n > 0$  such that  $D_p g^n(v) = v$  for any  $v \in \exp_p^{-1}(E_p^c(\alpha))$ . Let  $v \in \exp_p(E_p^c(\alpha))$  such that  $\|v\| = \alpha/4$ . Then we have a small arc

$$\exp_p(\{tv : 0 \leq t \leq 1 + \alpha/4\}) = \mathcal{I}_p \subset \Lambda_g(U) = \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} g^n(U)$$

such that

- (i)  $g^i(\mathcal{I}_p) \cap g^j(\mathcal{I}_p) = \emptyset$  if  $0 \leq i \neq j \leq n-1$ ,
- (ii)  $g^n(\mathcal{I}_p) = \mathcal{I}_p$ , and
- (iii)  $g^n|_{\mathcal{I}_p} : \mathcal{I}_p \rightarrow \mathcal{I}_p$  is the identity map.

Then we take two point  $q, r \in \mathcal{I}_p$  such that the points are the end points of  $\mathcal{I}_p$ . As in the previous arguments, there is  $g_1$   $C^1$  close to  $g$  such that  $\text{index}(q_{g_1}) \neq \text{index}(r_{g_1})$  where  $q_{g_1}$  and  $r_{g_1}$  are hyperbolic with respect to  $g_1$ .  $\square$

**Proof of Theorem A.** Let  $f \in \mathcal{G} = \mathcal{G}_1 \cap \mathcal{G}_2$  and let  $p$  be a hyperbolic periodic point of  $f$ . Suppose, by contradiction, that a homogeneous homoclinic class  $H_f(p)$  is not hyperbolic. Since  $H_f(p)$  is homogeneous, we assume that  $\text{index}(p) = j$ . Let  $U$  be a locally maximal neighborhood of  $H_f(p)$ . Since  $H_f(p)$  is not hyperbolic, by Lemma 2.3 there is a periodic point  $q \in H_f(p)$  with  $q \sim p$  such that  $q$  is a weak hyperbolic point. Since  $H_f(p)$  is locally maximal in  $U$ , by Lemma 2.5 there is  $g$   $C^1$  close to  $f$  such that  $g$  has two hyperbolic periodic points  $r, s \in \Lambda_g(U) = \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} g^n(U)$  with  $\text{index}(r) \neq \text{index}(s)$ . Since  $f \in \mathcal{G}_1$ ,  $H_f(p) = C_f(p)$  and it is robust isolated, we have that

$$(2.1) \quad \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} g^n(\mathcal{CR}(g) \cap U) = \mathcal{CR}(g) \cap \Lambda_g(U) \subset \mathcal{CR}(g) \cap U = C_g(p_g) = H_g(p_g),$$

where  $p_g$  is the continuation of  $p$ .

Since  $r, s \in \Lambda_g(U)$  as hyperbolic periodic points of  $g$ , we know that  $r, s \in \mathcal{CR}(g) \cap U$ . Then by (1) we have

$$r, s \in \mathcal{CR}(g) \cap \Lambda_g(U) \subset \mathcal{CR}(g) \cap U = H_g(p_g) = C_g(p_g).$$

Thus we have  $r, s \in H_g(p_g)$  with  $\text{index}(s) \neq \text{index}(r)$ . By Lemma 2.1, we have two hyperbolic periodic points  $r_f, s_f \in H_f(p)$  with  $\text{index}(r_f) \neq \text{index}(s_f)$ . Since  $\text{index}(p) = j$ , we know that either  $\text{index}(r_f) \neq j$  or  $\text{index}(s_f) \neq j$ . This is a contradiction since  $H_f(p)$  is homogeneous.  $\square$

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*Author's address:*

Manseob Lee  
Department of Mathematics,  
Mokwon University, Daejeon, 302-729, Korea.  
E-mail: lmsds@mokwon.ac.kr