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# On the Dynamics of *n*-Dimensional Quadratic Endomorphisms

# N. Romero<sup>1</sup>, A. Rovella<sup>2</sup>, F. Vilamajó<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Decanato de Ciencias, Universidad Centro Occidental Lisandro Alvarado, Apdo. 400, Barquisimeto, Venezuela. E-mail: nromero@delfos.ucla.edu.ve

<sup>2</sup> Centro de Matemática, Universidad de la República, Ed. Acevedo 1139, Montevideo, Uruguay. E-mail: leva@cmat.edu.uy

<sup>3</sup> Departament de Matemática Aplicada 2, Escola Tecnica Superior d'Enginyers Industrials, Colom 11, 08222 Terrassa, Barcelona, Espanya. E-mail: vilamajor@ma2.upc.es

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Dedicated to the memory of Ricardo Mañé and Wieslav Szlenk.

Abstract: Considering a convex endomorphism F (its n coordinates are convex functions) and the one parameter family  $F_{\mu} = F - \mu\nu$ , where  $\nu$  is any vector of  $\mathbb{R}^{n}$ , we find sufficient conditions in order that for large values of the parameter, the dynamical behavior of  $F_{\mu}$  is completely described: either the nonwandering set  $\Omega(F_{\mu})$  is empty or  $F_{\mu}$  restricted to  $\Omega(F_{\mu})$  is an expanding map. These conditions are shown to be generic in the space of quadratic endomorphisms.

#### 1. Introduction

Convexity seems to be a condition which when imposed on higher dimensional endomorphisms permits generalization of some parts of the theory of one dimensional dynamics. This occurs for delay equations (see [RV]) and in a more general context will be the subject of this work.

A real function f defined on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is  $C^2$ -convex if it is  $C^2$  and there exists  $\alpha > 0$ such that  $q_x(v) = \langle H_f(x)v, v \rangle \geq \alpha$  for every unit vector  $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , where  $H_f(x)$  denotes the Hessian matrix of f at the point x and  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  denotes the usual scalar product in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . An endomorphism of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is called  $C^2$ -convex when all its coordinates are  $C^2$ -convex functions. The set of  $C^2$ -convex functions defined on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  will be denoted by  $CC^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ .

Next define the class  $\mathcal{H}_0$  of  $C^1$  endomorphisms of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  containing the maps F which satisfy the following properties:

- 1.  $\infty$  is an attractor for F (i.e. there exists R > 0 such that ||x|| > R implies that  $F^k(x) \to \infty$  when  $k \to \infty$ ). Denote by  $B_\infty$  the basin of attraction of  $\infty$ .
- 2. The nonwandering set  $\Omega(F)$  is either empty or a Cantor set which coincides with the complement of the basin of  $\infty$ , and F restricted to  $\Omega(F)$  is an expanding map.

Endomorphisms in  $\mathcal{H}_0$  are always Axiom A (see Mañé and Pugh [MP]); by a theorem of Przytycki (see [P]) adapted to this case of noncompact manifolds, the structural stability of the endomorphisms in  $\mathcal{H}_0$  also follows.

Let  $F = (f_1, \dots, f_n)$  be a  $C^2$ -convex endomorphism; for  $\nu \in \mathbb{R}^n$  fixed, consider the one parameter family  $F_{\mu} = F - \mu \nu$ . We will find sufficient conditions on the geometry of intersections of the level sets of the functions  $f_i$  such that for large values of  $\mu$ , the map  $F_{\mu}$  belongs to  $\mathcal{H}_0$  (see Proposition 1 in Sect. 3). We define  $\mathcal{G}_{\nu}$  as the set of  $C^2$  endomorphisms F of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  for which there exists  $\mu_0 \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $F_{\mu}$  belongs to  $\mathcal{H}_0$  for every  $|\mu| > \mu_0$ . We will show in Sect. 3 that the intersection of  $\mathcal{G}_{\nu}$  with the space of  $C^2$ -convex endomorphisms is open in the  $C^2$ -strong topology. However, in Example 3 of the last section we will show that there exists  $F \in \mathcal{G}_{\nu}$  (F is not  $C^2$ -convex) which is not an interior point of  $\mathcal{G}_{\nu}$  in the  $C^r$ -strong topology for any  $r \geq 2$ .

Observe that if  $f : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$  is a  $C^2$ -convex function then  $f_{\mu}$  belongs to  $\mathcal{H}_0$  for every  $\mu$  large. We are trying to understand the situation in higher dimensions. Actually the same result does not hold in dimension  $n \ge 2$ ; in fact, we will show in Sect. 5 that there are open sets of  $C^2$ -convex endomorphisms for which the families  $\{F_{\mu} : \mu > 0\}$  do not intersect  $\mathcal{H}_0$ . (See Examples 1 and 2 of the last section). However, the situation for quadratic maps is quite different. Any quadratic endomorphism in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is determined by symmetric matrices  $A_1, \dots, A_n$ , vectors of  $\mathbb{R}^n v_1, \dots, v_n$ , and real numbers  $a_1, \dots, a_n$ , and given by

$$F(x) = (\langle A_1 x, x \rangle + \langle v_1, x \rangle + a_1, \cdots, \langle A_n x, x \rangle + \langle v_n, x \rangle + a_n)$$

Obviously the endomorphism F is  $C^2$ -convex if and only if each of the matrices  $A_i$  is positive. We will show that if at least one of the matrices  $A_i$  is positive, then  $\infty$  is an attractor for F. There are quadratic endomorphisms for which this does not occur, as will soon become clear. In the space of quadratic endomorphisms it is more natural to consider the weak (compact-open) topology since the strong topology becomes discrete when induced in this space. Moreover, the weak topology coincides with the natural topology given by the immersion (via coefficients) of the quadratic space in euclidean space. With this topology, we will prove the following result:

**Theorem 1.** For every  $\nu \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $\mathcal{G}_{\nu}$  is open and dense in the space of quadratic endomorphisms of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

These kind of situations are also found in [BSV] and [RV], where delay endomorphisms were studied; these endomorphisms, which fail to be  $C^2$ -convex because they have n - 1 linear coordinates, "generically" display hyperbolic dynamics (including that of  $\mathcal{H}_0$ ) when one parameter families are considered. In this sentence, "generically" has a different meaning, because the delay is required to be maintained. This will be explained in the first example of the last section.

#### 2. Preliminaries

In this section we will describe some properties of a single  $C^2$ -convex function  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$ .

For each  $i, j = 1, \dots, n$  we denote the partial derivatives  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}$  and  $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i \partial x_j}$  by  $\partial_i f$ and  $\partial_{ij} f$  respectively, the gradient vector of f at x by  $\nabla f(x)$ , and we define the sets

$$C_i(f) = \{ x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \partial_j f(x) = 0 \text{ for } j \neq i \}, i \in \{1, \cdots, n\}$$

Let  $\alpha > 0$  be such that for every  $v, x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ :

$$q_x(v) = \langle H_f(x)v, v \rangle \ge \alpha ||v||^2;$$

where  $H_f(x)$  is the Hessian matrix of f at x.

Next we comment on the fundamental properties:

1. There exists R > 0 such that  $f(x) \ge \frac{\alpha}{3} ||x||^2$  if  $||x|| \ge R$ . *Proof:* Fix  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  with norm 1 and define  $\varphi_x(t) = f(tx)$  for positive t. Then

$$\varphi_x''(t) = \langle H_f(tx)x, x \rangle \ge \alpha$$

for every  $t \ge 0$ . It follows that

$$\varphi_x(t) \ge \frac{\alpha}{2}t^2 + \varphi'_x(0)t + \varphi_x(0).$$

As  $|\varphi'_x(0)|$  is bounded above independently of x, this implies the assertion. It also follows that f is a proper function: preimages of bounded sets are bounded.

2. We claim that f has a unique critical point.

*Proof.* The first item implies that f has an absolute minimum in the region  $||x|| \leq R$ , that must be a critical point. Let  $x_0$  be a point where f takes its absolute minimum, fix x with  $||x - x_0|| = 1$ , and define  $\psi_x(t) = f(x_0 + t(x - x_0))$  for  $t \geq 0$ . Then, as above,  $\psi''_x(t) \geq \alpha$  for t > 0, which implies that  $\psi_x(t) \geq \frac{\alpha}{2}t^2 + f(x_0)$  for t > 0, and the claims follows.

3. For s ∈ ℝ the level sets f<sup>-1</sup>(s) are always compact; furthermore, when s < min f, f<sup>-1</sup>(s) = Ø; when s = min f, f<sup>-1</sup>(s) is the critical point of f and if s > min f, then f<sup>-1</sup>(s) is a compact set that separates ℝ<sup>n</sup> into two components, the bounded one being the strictly convex set {x ∈ ℝ<sup>n</sup> : f(x) < s}, denoted in the sequel by i(f<sup>-1</sup>(s)). The unbounded component will be denoted by e(f<sup>-1</sup>(s)).

Another simple consequence of the convexity is that every nonempty level set  $f^{-1}(s)$  with  $s > \min f$ , has exactly two points of tangency with hyperplanes  $x_i = \text{constant}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ ; these are the points of intersection of  $f^{-1}(s)$  and  $C_i(f)$ .

4. The set  $C_i(f)$  is the graph of a function defined in the *i*<sup>th</sup> axis, that is, we claim that there exists  $\tilde{x}_i : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}^{n-1}$  such that  $\partial_j f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = 0$  for every  $j \neq i$  if and only if there exists  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  satisfying  $x_i = t$  and  $(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n) = \tilde{x}_i(t)$ .

*Proof.* Take i = n to simplify the notation, and consider the map  $g_n(x) = (\partial_1 f(x), \dots, \partial_{n-1} f(x))$ , where  $x = (\tilde{x}, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\tilde{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_{n-1})$ . It is easy to verify that  $\partial_{\tilde{x}}g_n(\tilde{x}, x_n) = \hat{H}_f(x)$ , with  $\hat{H}_f(x)$  the matrix obtained from  $H_f(x)$  if the last row and column are taken off. Since  $H_f(x)$  is a positive matrix,  $\hat{H}_f(x)$  is nonsingular. As  $g_n(x^0) = 0$ , where  $x^0 = (x_1^0, \dots, x_n^0)$  is the critical point of f, then the implicit function theorem implies that there is a neighborhood V of  $x_n^0$  and a function  $\tilde{x}_n$  defined on V such that

$$g_n(\tilde{x}_n(x_n), x_n) = 0$$

for every  $x_n \in V$ . Moreover,

$$\widehat{H}_f(\widetilde{x}_n(x_n), x_n)\widetilde{x}'_n(x_n) = -\widehat{\nabla}\partial_n f(\widetilde{x}_n(x_n), x_n), \tag{1}$$

where  $\widehat{\nabla}\partial_n f = (\partial_{1n}f, \cdots, \partial_{(n-1)n}f).$ 

As  $C_n(f)$  is the set of points where the level sets of f are tangent to the hyperplanes  $x_n = const$ , it follows that the domain of  $\tilde{x}$  is all  $\mathbb{R}$ . The sets  $C_i(f)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , are called the *critical lines of* f.

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Now we separate in a lemma the main result of this section; it says that if  $\mu$  is sufficiently large, then for each  $1 \le i \le n$  there is a level set  $S_i$  of  $f_{\mu} = f - \mu$ , tangent to the hyperplane  $x_i = f_{\mu}(S_i)$ .

**Lemma 1.** Let  $f_{\mu} = f - \mu$ , where  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$  is a  $C^2$ -convex function and  $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then there exists  $\mu_0$  such that for any  $i = 1, \dots, n$  and  $\mu \ge \mu_0$  there are defined functions  $s_i(\mu)$  and  $\tilde{s}_i(\mu)$  with the following properties:

1.  $f_{\mu}^{-1}(s_i(\mu))$  is tangent to  $x_i = s_i(\mu)$  and to  $x_i = \tilde{s}_i(\mu)$ . 2.  $s_i(\mu) \to +\infty$ ,  $\tilde{s}_i(\mu) \to -\infty$ ,  $\frac{s_i(\mu)}{\mu} \to 0$  and  $\frac{\tilde{s}_i(\mu)}{\mu} \to 0$  as  $\mu \to +\infty$ . 3.  $f_{\mu}^{-1}(s) \subset \{(x_1, \dots, x_n) : x_i < s\}$  if  $s > s_i(\mu)$ .  $f_{\mu}^{-1}(s) \cap \{(x_1, \dots, x_n) : x_i > s\} \neq \emptyset$ if  $s < s_i(\mu)$  and  $f_{\mu}^{-1}(s)$  is not empty.

*Proof.* We assume i = n, the proof for i < n is similar; we denote by  $x^0 = (x_1^0, \dots, x_n^0)$  the point where f takes its minimum a. Fix  $\mu$  large enough and define  $\varphi_{\mu}(t) = f_{\mu}(\tilde{x}_n(t), t)$ , where  $(\tilde{x}_n(t), t) = (u_1(t), \dots, u_{n-1}(t), t)$  is the parametrization of  $C_n(f)$  given above. Observe that

$$\varphi'_{\mu}(t) = \partial_n f(\tilde{x}_n(t), t),$$

because for  $1 \le j < n$ ,  $\partial_j f = 0$  at points in  $C_n(f)$ . It follows that

$$\varphi_{\mu}^{\prime\prime}(t) = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \partial_{in} f_{\mu}(\tilde{x}_n(t), t) u_i^{\prime}(t) + \partial_{nn} f_{\mu}(\tilde{x}_n(t), t)$$

Next we prove that  $\varphi''_{\mu}$  is bounded below from 0. Developing the determinant of  $H_f(\tilde{x}_n(t), t)$  by adjoints of the last row gives

$$det(H_f(\tilde{x}_n(t), t)) = \sum_{i=1}^n (-1)^{n-i} \partial_{in} f(\tilde{x}_n(t), t) A_i(t),$$
(2)

where  $A_n(t) = det(\hat{H}_f(\tilde{x}_n(t), t))$  and  $A_i(t)$ , for  $i = 1, \dots, n-1$ , is the determinant of the matrix obtained from  $H_f(\tilde{x}_n(t), t)$  taking off the *i*<sup>th</sup> column and *n*<sup>th</sup> row. Equation (1) says that

$$\widehat{H}_f(\widetilde{x}_n(t), t)\widetilde{x}'_n(t) = -\widehat{\nabla}\partial_n f(\widetilde{x}_n(t), t).$$

Consider this a linear system with unknowns  $\tilde{x}'_n(t) = (u'_1(t), \cdots, u'_n(t))$ . By

Cramer's rule,  $u'_i(t)$  times the determinant of  $\hat{H}_f(\tilde{x}_n(t), t)$  is equal to the determinant of the matrix obtained substituting the  $i^{\text{th}}$  column of  $\hat{H}_f(\tilde{x}_n(t), t)$  by  $-\hat{\nabla}\partial_n f(\tilde{x}_n(t), t) = -(\partial_{1n}f(\tilde{x}_n(t), t), \cdots, \partial_{(n-1)n}f(\tilde{x}_n(t), t))$ . This last matrix is obtained from  $H_f(\tilde{x}_n(t), t)$  taking off the last row and the  $i^{\text{th}}$  column and interchanging the last column with the  $i^{\text{th}}$  one. It follows that

$$A_{i}(t) = (-1)^{i-1} u'_{i}(t) det(\widehat{H}_{f}(\tilde{x}_{n}(t), t)).$$

In this way, from (2) we have

$$det(H_f(\tilde{x}_n(t),t)) = det(\widehat{H}_f(\tilde{x}_n(t),t)) \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \partial_{in} f(\tilde{x}_n(t),t) u_i'(t) + \partial_{nn} f(\tilde{x}_n(t),t)\right) = det(\widehat{H}_f(\tilde{x}_n(t),t)) \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \partial_{in} f(\tilde{x}_n(t),t) u_i'(t) + \partial_{nn} f(\tilde{x}_n(t),t)\right) = det(\widehat{H}_f(\tilde{x}_n(t),t)) \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \partial_{in} f(\tilde{x}_n(t),t) u_i'(t) + \partial_{nn} f(\tilde{x}_n(t),t)\right) = det(\widehat{H}_f(\tilde{x}_n(t),t)) \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \partial_{in} f(\tilde{x}_n(t),t) u_i'(t) + \partial_{nn} f(\tilde{x}_n(t),t)\right)$$

therefore  $\varphi_{\mu}^{\prime\prime}(t) = \frac{det(H_f(\tilde{x}_n(t), t))}{det(\hat{H}_f(\tilde{x}_n(t), t))}$ ; it is an exercise of linear algebra to prove that then  $\varphi_{\mu}^{\prime\prime} \ge \alpha$ .

On the other hand, it is clear that  $\varphi'_{\mu}(x_n^0) = 0$  and  $\varphi_{\mu}(x_n^0) = a - \mu$ . From this we conclude that for every large value of  $\mu$  there exists  $s_n(\mu) > 0$  and  $\tilde{s}_n(\mu) < 0$  with  $x_n^0 \in (\tilde{s}_n(\mu), s_n(\mu))$  such that  $\varphi_{\mu}(s_n(\mu)) = s_n(\mu), \varphi_{\mu}(\tilde{s}_n(\mu)) = s_n(\mu), \varphi_{\mu}(s) < s$  if  $x_n^0 < s < s_n(\mu)$  and  $\varphi_{\mu}(s) > s$  if  $s > s_n(\mu)$ . The lemma follows easily.  $\Box$ 

Remark 1. – As an immediate consequence of the above lemma we have the following fact: if  $F_{\mu} : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^n$  is any endomorphism such that at least one of its coordinates (suppose the last one) is  $f_{\mu} = f - \mu$ , where  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$  is a  $C^2$ -convex function, then  $\infty$  is an attractor for  $F_{\mu}$  if  $\mu$  is large enough. (This is also a consequence of the first property of  $C^2$ -convex functions stated above.) Moreover, if we define

$$C_n(\mu) = \{ x \in \mathbb{R}^n : f_\mu(x) \in [\tilde{s}_n(\mu), s_n(\mu)] \},\$$

 $\tilde{s}_n(\mu)$  and  $s_n(\mu)$  being as in the lemma and if  $B_\infty$  is the basin of infinity, then  $B_\infty = \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \bigcap_{k \ge 0} F_{\mu}^{-k}(C_n(\mu))$ . Now suppose that each coordinate  $f_i$  is  $C^2$ -convex and let

 $\tilde{s}_i(\mu), s_i(\mu)$  be as in the previous lemma when the  $i^{\text{th}}$  coordinate is considered.

If 
$$C_i(\mu) = \{x : f_i(x) - \mu \in [\tilde{s}_i(\mu), s_i(\mu)]\}$$
 and  $C(\mu) = \bigcap_{i=1}^{k} C_i(\mu)$ , then  $B_{\infty}(\mu) = \mathbb{R}^{n} \setminus O_i = \mathbb{R}^{n} \setminus O_i = \mathbb{R}^{n}$ 

- $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \bigcap_{k \ge 0} F_{\mu}^{-k}(C(\mu)).$
- Observe that diminishing  $\mu$  we can find a value  $\tilde{\mu}$  such that  $s_n(\tilde{\mu}) = \tilde{s}_n(\tilde{\mu})$ . If  $\mu < \tilde{\mu}$ , then the basin of infinity for  $F_{\mu}$  is equal to  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Therefore, if for the one parameter family of  $C^2$ -convex endomorphisms  $F_{\mu} = (f_1, \ldots, f_n) - \mu \nu$ , if any of the entries of the vector  $\nu$  is negative, then for every large positive  $\mu$ , the  $F_{\mu}$ -orbit of any point goes to  $\infty$ .

#### 3. $\epsilon$ -Transversality

Now we will find conditions expressed in terms of the intersections of the level curves of  $f_1, \dots, f_n$  which will be sufficient to obtain that  $F_{\mu}$  belongs to  $\mathcal{H}_0$  for large values of  $\mu$ . The precise statement is Proposition 1.

First we introduce some notation. By  $[\{v_1, \dots, v_k\}]$  we denote the linear subspace generated by  $\{v_1, \dots, v_k\} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $P_V$  (resp.  $P_V^{\perp}$ ) denote the orthogonal projection of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  onto the linear subspace V (resp. onto the orthogonal complement of V).

**Lemma 2.** If  $\{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$  is a linearly independent set of vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $V = [\{v_1, \dots, v_k\}]$ , then for every  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that if  $w_1, \dots, w_k$  are linearly independent vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $W = [\{w_1, \dots, w_k\}]$  and  $||w_i - v_i|| < \delta$  for every  $i = 1, \dots, k$ , then for any unit vector  $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$  it holds that

$$\|P_V(v) - P_W(v)\| < \epsilon.$$

*Proof.* Let  $\{v'_1, \dots, v'_k\}$  and  $\{w'_1, \dots, w'_k\}$  be orthonormal basis of the linear subspaces V and W obtained from  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  and  $w_1, \dots, w_n$  by the Gram Schmidt orthogonalization method. So for every vector  $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$  we can write

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$$P_V(v) = \sum_{i=1}^k \langle v, v'_i \rangle v'_i \text{ and } P_W(v) = \sum_{i=1}^k \langle v, w'_i \rangle w'_i.$$

By continuity of scalar product,  $||w'_j - v'_j||$  is small if  $||w_i - v_i||$  is small for every  $i \leq j$ ; so the lemma follows.  $\Box$ 

**Definition 1.** Given  $\epsilon > 0$  we say that  $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\} \subset \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$  is  $\epsilon$ -transverse if for each  $V_i = [\{v_1, \dots, v_n\} \setminus \{v_i\}]$  with  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , it holds that

 $\|P_{V_i}^{\perp} v_i\| \ge \epsilon \|v_i\|.$ 

**Definition 2.** For any  $\epsilon > 0$  we say that a set of n smooth hypersurfaces  $S_1, \dots, S_n$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is **transverse** if at each point of intersection  $x \in \bigcap_{i=1}^n S_i$  the set of n normal vectors to the tangent spaces of the hypersurfaces is linearly independent.

The set  $\{S_1, \dots, S_n\}$  is  $\epsilon$ -transverse if at each point  $x \in \bigcap_{i=1}^n S_i$ , the set of n normal vectors at x to the respective tangent spaces is  $\epsilon$ -transverse.

The following is an immediate corollary of Lemma 2.

**Corollary 1.** If  $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$  is a set of unit vectors of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  which is not  $\epsilon$ -transverse, then there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that if  $w_1, \dots, w_n$  are unit vectors satisfying  $||w_i - v_i|| < \delta$  for every  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , then  $\{w_1, \dots, w_n\}$  is not  $\epsilon$ -transverse.

The following lemma is the basic tool to obtain expansivity.

**Lemma 3** ( $\epsilon$ -transversality). Given  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists  $c(\epsilon) > 0$  such that if the set of unit vectors  $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is  $\epsilon$ -transverse, then the  $n \times n$  matrix A whose rows are the vectors  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  satisfies:

$$||Av|| \ge c(\epsilon) ||v||,$$

for every  $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

*Proof.* Suppose by contradiction that there exists  $\epsilon > 0$  such that for every positive integer k and all  $i = 1, \dots, n$  there exist unit vectors  $v_i^k$  and  $v^k$  such that the set  $\{v_1^k, \dots, v_n^k\}$  is  $\epsilon$ -transverse and if  $A_k$  is the matrix whose rows are the vectors  $v_1^k, \dots, v_n^k$ , then:

$$\|A_k v^k\| \le \frac{1}{k}.\tag{3}$$

We can assume without loss of generality that the sequences  $\{v_i^k : k \ge 1\}$  with  $i = 1, \dots, n$  and  $\{v_k : k \ge 1\}$  converge to the unit vectors  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  and v. From the corollary above it follows that  $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$  is  $\epsilon$ -transverse, hence linearly independent, but, on the other hand, if A is the matrix whose rows are the vectors  $v_1, \dots, v_n$ , then pasing to the limit in Eq. (3) we have Av = 0. This contradiction proves the lemma.  $\Box$ 

*Remark* 2. It can be proved that the number  $c(\epsilon)$  in the preceding lemma can be chosen as a constant depending only on the dimension n times  $\epsilon^{n-1}$ . We will not need this stronger version.

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**Proposition 1.** Let  $F_{\mu} = (f_1 - \mu\nu_1, \dots, f_n - \mu\nu_n)$  (each  $\nu_i > 0$ ) be a  $C^2$ -convex endomorphism of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  satisfying the following: Given  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists  $\mu_0$  such that, if  $\mu > \mu_0$  then

$$\{f_i^{-1}(\mu\nu_i+s_i) : i=1,\cdots,n\}$$

is  $\epsilon$ -transverse whenever  $s_i \in [\tilde{s}_i(\mu\nu_i), s_i(\mu\nu_i)]$  for each  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . Then  $F_{\mu}$  belongs to  $\mathcal{H}_0$  for every  $\mu$  sufficiently large.

*Proof.* Suppose first that  $\nu_i = 1$  for each  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . Since each component of  $F_{\mu}$  is a  $C^2$ -convex function, Remark 1 implies that

$$\mathbb{R}^n \setminus B_{\infty} = \bigcap_{k \ge 0} F_{\mu}^{-k}(C(\mu)).$$

Take any  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus B_\infty$ . For each  $i = 1, \dots, n$  there exist  $s_i \in [\tilde{s}_i(\mu), s_i(\mu)]$  such that  $x \in \bigcap_{i=1}^{n} f_i^{-1}(s_i + \mu)$ . The normal vector to  $f_i^{-1}(s_i + \mu)$  at x is  $\nabla f_i(x)$ , so the hypothesis

implies that the set  $\{\nabla f_1(x), \dots, \nabla f_n(x)\}$  is  $\epsilon$ -transverse. On the other hand, it is clear that

$$\|(DF_{\mu})_{x}(v)\|^{2} = \langle \nabla f_{1}(x), v \rangle^{2} + \dots + \langle \nabla f_{n}(x), v \rangle^{2}$$
  
$$\geq \min_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|\nabla f_{i}(x)\|^{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \langle \frac{\nabla f_{i}(x)}{\|\nabla f_{i}(x)\|}, v \rangle^{2}.$$

The sum in the last member is equal to the square of the norm of A(x)v, where A(x) is the matrix which rows are the vectors  $\frac{\nabla f_i(x)}{\|\nabla f_i(x)\|}$ . These are  $\epsilon$ -transverse, so the  $\epsilon$ -transversality lemma implies that

$$||(DF_{\mu})_{x}(v)||^{2} \ge c(\epsilon)^{2} \min_{1 \le i \le n} ||\nabla f_{i}(x)||^{2} ||v||^{2}.$$

Therefore, if we prove that for every  $\mu$  large  $c(\epsilon) \min_{1 \le i \le n} \|\nabla f_i(x)\| > 1$  for every  $x \in C(\mu)$ , then the result follows.

Let  $x \in C_i(\mu)$ , then  $f_i(x) - \mu \geq \tilde{s}_i(\mu)$  and Lemma 1 implies that when  $\mu \to \infty$ ,  $\mu + \tilde{s}_i(\mu) \to \infty$ . Then it follows that  $||x|| \to \infty$  and as  $f_i$  is a  $C^2$ -convex function,  $||\nabla f_i(x)|| \to \infty$  as  $\mu \to \infty$ . This proves the proposition in case  $\nu_i = 1$  for each  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . For the general case, define, instead of  $C(\mu)$  the set

$$C_{\nu}(\mu) = \bigcap_{i=1}^{n} \{x : f_i(x) - \mu \nu_i \in [\tilde{s}_i(\mu \nu_i), s_i(\mu \nu_i)]\},\$$

and then proceed as above.  $\Box$ 

*Remark 3.* – Observe that if any  $\nu_i \leq 0$  then for every  $\mu$  large the nonwandering set of  $F_{\mu}$  is empty. This is a consequence of Lemma 1.

- To give a simple example in which the conditions of the above proposition hold, take any  $C^2$ -convex endomorphisms  $F = (f_1, f_2)$  of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , such that, for any  $i \in \{1, 2\}$  and  $x \in \mathbb{R}^2$ ,

$$\partial_{ii} f_i(x) > \partial_{jj} f_i(x)$$

for every  $j \neq i$ .

Then the level curves of  $f_1$  are more vertical than horizontal, and those of  $f_2$  are more horizontal than vertical. This gives an idea why the level curves have to be transverse. The proof is similar to the one we give in the next section.

Now we make a digression to discuss some topologies in the space of  $C^2$ -convex functions of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . The  $C^2$ -weak topology given by uniform convergence on compact subsets seems to be not useful because any  $C^2$ -convex function has arbitrary small perturbations which are not even convex functions. This represents a difficulty since we are dealing with the behaviour at infinity. A  $C^2$ -Whitney or strong neighborhood of a function f is given by continuous functions  $\epsilon_i(x) > 0$ , i = 0, 1, 2 and is defined by:

$$\mathcal{V}(f;\epsilon_0,\epsilon_1,\epsilon_2) = \{g \in C^2(\mathbb{R}^n) : \|H_f(x) - H_g(x)\| \le \epsilon_2(x); \\ \|\nabla f(x) - \nabla g(x)\| \le \epsilon_1(x) \text{ and} \\ |f(x) - g(x)| < \epsilon_0(x) \text{ for every } x \}.$$

It is clear that  $CC^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  is open in  $C^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  when the strong topology is considered. This makes this topology more interesting in  $CC^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . Moreover, as  $C^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  is a Baire space (see [H]), it follows that also  $CC^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  is a Baire space. However, induced in the set of quadratic convex functions the Whitney topology is discrete, while the weak topology induces the natural topology of the norm which we will use in the next section. In the space of  $C^2$ -convex endomorphisms of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  we will use product topologies. This means that a strong small perturbation of an endomorphism F of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is an endomorphism G such that each coordinate is close to the corresponding coordinate of F.

*Remark 4.*  $\mathcal{G}_{\nu}$  is open under strong topology in the space of  $C^2$ -convex endomorphisms of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

*Proof.* Let F be a  $C^2$ -convex endomorphism in  $\mathcal{G}_{\nu}$ . Then  $F_{\mu} = F - \mu\nu$  belongs to  $\mathcal{H}_0$  for every  $|\mu| > \mu_0$ . By Remark 1, there is a continuous and increasing function  $b(\mu)$  such that  $b(\mu) \to +\infty$  as  $\mu \to +\infty$  and the nonwandering set of  $F_{\mu}$  is contained in the complementary set of the ball centered at 0 and with radius  $b(\mu)$ . As  $\mathcal{H}_0$  is open, each  $F_{\mu}$  has a neighborhood contained in  $\mathcal{H}_0$ . The family  $\{F_{\mu} : \mu \ge \mu_0\}$  is not compact, but the nonwandering set of  $F_{\mu}$  is determined by the restriction of F to a set of the form  $\{x : b(\mu) \le ||x|| \le const.\sqrt{\mu}\}$ , and there the values of a  $C^2$ -strong perturbation G can be chosen close to F. Then the nonwandering set of  $G_{\mu}$  must be conjugated to that of  $F_{\mu}$ . It is important to note that the  $C^2$ -convexity is crucial, because it makes the nonwandering set to go to  $\infty$ , when F and G are arbitrarily close. Compare this with the situation in Example 3 of the last section, where the distance from the nonwandering set of  $F_{\mu}$  to 0 tends to 0 when  $\mu \to +\infty$ .

In the following sections we will need to describe some perturbations of  $C^2$ -convex endomorphisms and the effect of these perturbations on the level sets of the functions. Recall that if L is the level set of a  $C^2$ -convex function, then i(L) denotes the convex bounded region of the complementary set of L. If a is any point in i(L) and  $S^{n-1}$  denotes the unit sphere of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , then there exists a function  $\varphi_L : S^{n-1} \to \mathbb{R}^+$  such that

$$\{a + \varphi_L(\theta)\theta : \theta \in S^{n-1}\} = L.$$

To prove the above, observe that each ray starting at  $a \in i(L)$  must intersect L because L is compact. This intersection must be unique because i(L) is strictly convex. We will call this function  $\varphi_L$  the parametrization of L. In this way it is clear that for each  $g \in CC^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ ,  $t_0 > \min g$  and  $a \in i(g^{-1}(t_0))$  there exists a function

$$\varphi^g : S^{n-1} \times (t_0, \infty) \to \mathbb{R}^+$$

such that for each  $t > t_0$ , the function  $\varphi_t^g$ :  $S^{n-1} \to \mathbb{R}^+$  given by  $\varphi_t^g(\theta) = \varphi^g(\theta, t)$  defines the parametrization of  $g^{-1}(t)$ .

In other words,  $\varphi^g$  is the unique function satisfying  $g(a + \varphi^g(\theta, t)\theta) = t$  for every  $\theta \in S^{n-1}$  and  $t > t_0$ . (Here we used polar coordinates in the domain of g.)

Suppose that g is as above and take a strong  $C^2$ -neighborhood  $\mathcal{V}$  of g such that every  $h \in \mathcal{V}$  is  $C^2$ -convex and satisfies  $a \in i(h^{-1}(t_0))$ . Then, for every  $t > t_0$ , we can define the parametrization  $\varphi_t^h$  of  $h^{-1}(t)$ . This defines an operator  $\varphi$  from  $\mathcal{V}$  into  $C^2(S^{n-1} \times (t_0, +\infty))$ ; i.e.  $\varphi(h) = \varphi^h$ . Considering the  $C^2$ -strong topology also in this space of functions we have:

**Lemma 4.** The operator  $\varphi : \mathcal{V} \to C^2(S^{n-1} \times (t_0, +\infty))$  is continuous.

*Proof.* Let d be the distance from a to  $h^{-1}(t_0)$  and define

$$\Phi_h: S^{n-1} \times (d, +\infty) \times (t_0, +\infty) \to \mathbb{R}$$

by

$$\Phi_h(\theta, s, t) = h(a + s\theta) - t.$$

Observe that

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial s^2}h(a+s\theta) = \langle H_h(a+s\theta)\theta, \theta \rangle \ge \alpha,$$

where  $H_h(a + s\theta)$  is the Hessian matrix of h at the point  $a + s\theta$ . It follows that

$$\frac{\partial \Phi_h}{\partial s}(\theta, s, t) = \frac{\partial h}{\partial s}(a + s\theta) > 0$$

for every s > d. (Geometrically,  $\frac{\partial h}{\partial s}(a + s\theta)$  is positive because for s > d and any  $\theta$  the line  $a + s\theta$  is transverse to the level sets of h, and when s increases,  $a + s\theta$  cuts higher level sets of h.) Thus the implicit function theorem provides a  $C^2$  function  $\varphi_h : S^{n-1} \times (t_0, +\infty) \to \mathbb{R}^+$  such that

$$\Phi_h(\theta,\varphi_h(\theta,t),t) = 0$$

and the dependence of  $\varphi_h$  on h is continuous because  $\Phi_h$  depends continuously on h, by the parametrized implicit function theorem. (This follows from the parametrized version of the Inverse Mapping Theorem: Let X be a topological space, M a manifold and  $\psi : X \times M \to M$  such that for each  $x \in X$ ,  $\psi_x$  is  $C^r$  and the map  $x \to \psi_x$  is continuous. Fix  $x \in X$ ,  $p \in M$  and suppose that the differential  $D_p\psi_x$  is invertible. Then there is a neighborhood N of x in X, such that for every  $y \in N$ ,  $\psi_y$  is locally  $C^r$ -invertible and the inverses depend continuously on y.) This proves the lemma.

The advantage in considering  $\varphi^g$  instead of g is that the high level sets of g are images of the compact set  $S^{n-1}$  under  $\varphi^g_t$ , simplifying the work with level curves.

**Corollary 2.** Let  $g_1, \dots, g_n$  be  $C^2$ -convex functions such that the set  $\{g_i^{-1}(\mu) : i = 1, \dots, n\}$  is  $\epsilon(\mu)$ -transverse for every  $\mu > \mu_0$ , where  $\epsilon(\mu)$  is a continuous function of  $\mu$  with range contained in an open interval I bounded away from 0. Then there exists a small neighborhood of  $(g_1, \dots, g_n)$  in the  $C^2$ -strong topology, such that for every  $(h_1, \dots, h_n)$  in that neighborhood, the set  $\{h_i^{-1}(\mu) : 1 \le i \le n\}$  is  $\epsilon'(\mu)$ -transverse for every  $\mu$ .

*Proof.* Let  $h = (h_1, \dots, h_n)$  be a small  $C^2$ -strong perturbation of  $g = (g_1, \dots, g_n)$ ; each level curve  $g_i^{-1}(\mu)$  of  $g_i$  is the image under  $\varphi_{\mu}^g$  of  $S^{n-1}$ . By continuity of  $\varphi$ , the functions  $h_i$  can be chosen so that  $\varphi^{h_i}(S^{n-1} \times \{\mu\})$  and  $\varphi^{g_i}(S^{n-1} \times \{\mu\})$  are located at a distance that converges to 0 arbitrarily fast when  $\mu \to \infty$ . Therefore, as  $\epsilon$ -transversality for  $\epsilon \in I$  is open, the result follows.  $\Box$ 

#### 4. Proof of Theorem 1

Consider  $F = (f_1, \dots, f_n)$  where each component is given by

$$f_i(x) = \langle A_i x, x \rangle + L_i(x) + a_i,$$

with  $A_i$  a symmetric matrix,  $L_i$  a linear function and  $a_i \in \mathbb{R}$ . We are not supposing that the matrices  $A_i$  are positive, so F is not convex necessarily.

Assume first that

- 1.  $\{\langle A_i x, x \rangle = 0 : i = 1, \cdots, n\} \cap S^{n-1} = \emptyset$ ,
- 2.  $\{\langle A_i x, x \rangle = \pm \nu_i\}, i = 1, \dots, n \text{ is transverse for all possible choices of } + \text{ and } -,$
- 3.  $A_i$  is invertible,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .

Under these conditions (that will be shown to be open and dense), we will show that:

- (a)  $\infty$  is an attractor for *F*.
- (b)  $F_{\mu} = F \mu \nu$  belongs to  $\mathcal{H}_0$  for every large value of  $|\mu|$ .

*Proof of (a).* Condition 1 and continuity imply that there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that

$$\bigcap_{i=1}^{n} \{x : |\langle A_i x, x \rangle| < \delta\} \cap S^{n-1} = \emptyset.$$

Using Condition 1 we see that for every  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  there exists some index i such that  $|\langle A_i \frac{x}{||x||}, \frac{x}{||x||} \rangle| \ge \delta$ , then we will have:

$$||F(x)||^{2} = \sum_{j=1}^{n} (\langle A_{j}x, x \rangle + B_{j}(x))^{2} \ge (||x||^{2}\delta - |B_{i}(x)|)^{2}.$$

As each  $B_i = L(x) + a_i$  is a polynomial of degree  $\leq 1$ , it follows that there exist constants  $b_1, b_2$  such that:  $|B_i(x)| \leq b_1 ||x|| + b_2$ , for every x. Then there exists  $\delta_0 > 0$  such that:

$$\|F(x)\| \ge \delta_0 \|x\|^2 \tag{4}$$

for every ||x|| large; this implies (a).

*Proof of (b).* Observe first that in the proof of (a) we use only Condition 1 and not the others, so  $\infty$  is an attractor for every  $F_{\mu}$ .

Let D(r) be the open ball in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  of radius r and centered at the origin.

**Claim.** There exist numbers  $0 < r_1 < r_2$  such that

$$\mathbb{R}^n \setminus B_{\infty}(\mu) \subset D(r_2\sqrt{|\mu|}) \setminus D(r_1\sqrt{|\mu|})$$

for every  $|\mu|$  large.

*Proof of the Claim.* Take  $x \notin D(r_2\sqrt{|\mu|})$ ,  $r_2$  to be fixed. Then using Condition 1 as in the proof of (a) we find that for some  $1 \le i \le n$ :

$$\begin{split} \|F_{\mu}(x)\| &\geq \delta_0 \|x\|^2 - |\mu\nu_i| \geq \delta_0 \|x\|^2 - |\mu| \max |\nu_i| \\ &\geq \delta_0 \|x\|^2 - \max |\nu_i| \frac{\|x\|^2}{r_2^2} \geq \delta_1 \|x\|^2 \end{split}$$

for some  $\delta_1 > 0$  and every x large, if  $r_2^2$  is taken  $\geq \max |\nu_i|/\delta_0$ . (We used (4), where ||x|| was required to be large; so begin taking  $|\mu|$  large to assure this condition.) This implies that  $||F_{\mu}(x)|| \geq 2||x||$  if  $x \notin D(r_2\sqrt{|\mu|})$  and  $\mu$  is large. Now suppose that  $x \in D(r_1\sqrt{|\mu|})$ ,  $r_1$  to be fixed. It is clear that  $||f_i(x)| \leq K_1 ||x||^2 + K_2$  for some positive constants  $K_1, K_2$ , every  $1 \leq i \leq n$  and  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . Then

$$||F_{\mu}(x)||^{2} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (f_{i}(x) - \mu\nu_{i})^{2} \ge (f_{i}(x) - \mu\nu_{i})^{2}$$

for each  $1 \le i \le n$ , in particular,

$$||F_{\mu}(x)|| \ge \max |\nu_i||\mu| - K_1 r_1^2 |\mu| - K_2 \ge r_2 \sqrt{|\mu|},$$

if  $r_1$  is small and  $|\mu|$  large.

Then, by the first part of the proof of the claim, it follows that  $F_{\mu}(x) \in B_{\infty}(\mu)$ and so  $x \in B_{\infty}(\mu)$ . The claim is proved.

Consequently, if  $C(\mu) = D(r_2\sqrt{|\mu|}) \setminus D(r_1\sqrt{|\mu|})$ , then:

$$\mathbb{R}^n \setminus B_{\infty}(\mu) = \bigcap_{k=1}^{\infty} F_{\mu}^{-k}(C(\mu)).$$

As each  $A_i$  is invertible by Condition 3, there exists a constant d > 0 such that  $||A_ix|| \ge d||x||$  for every  $1 \le i \le n$  and  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . Now fix  $x_0 \notin B_{\infty}(\mu)$  and let's prove that  $(DF_{\mu})_{x_0}$  expands every nonzero vector v uniformly in  $x_0$ . For every  $1 \le i \le n$  the level  $s_i$  defined by  $s_i := f_i(x_0) - \mu v_i$  belongs to  $(-r_2 \sqrt{|\mu|}, r_2 \sqrt{|\mu|})$  because the contrary assumption implies  $||F_{\mu}(x_0)|| \ge r_2 \sqrt{|\mu|}$  and then  $x_0 \in B_{\infty}(\mu)$ . By Condition 2 plus continuity, it follows that there exists  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $\{x : \langle A_ix, x \rangle = \nu_i\}$  for  $1 \le i \le n$  is an  $\epsilon$ -transverse set. Also, the intersection of these sets is compact, by Condition 1 and the proof of (a). This gives the ingredients necessary to apply the transversality lemma, as we did in Proposition 1. First observe that the level sets

$$\{x : f_i(x) = \mu \nu_i + s_i\}$$
 for  $1 \le i \le n$ 

form an  $\epsilon/2$ -transverse set if  $\mu$  is large, and

$$\{ x : f_i(x) - \mu \nu_i = s_i \} = \{ x : f_i(x) - s_i = \mu \nu_i \} = \{ x : \frac{f_i(x) - s_i}{\mu} = \nu_i \}$$

$$= \{ x : sgn(\mu) \left( \frac{\langle A_i x, x \rangle}{|\mu|} + \frac{L_i(x)}{|\mu|} + \frac{a_i - s_i}{|\mu|} \right) = \nu_i \}$$

$$= \sqrt{|\mu|} \{ x : \langle A_i x, x \rangle + \frac{L_i(x)}{\sqrt{|\mu|}} + \frac{a_i - s_i}{|\mu|} = sgn(\mu)\nu_i \}$$

where  $sgn(\mu)$  is the sign of  $\mu$ . As the functions  $x \to \frac{1}{\sqrt{|\mu|}}L_i(x) + \frac{a_i - s_i}{|\mu|}$  are very

small in  $C^2$ -topology in compact sets when  $|\mu|$  is large (recall that  $\frac{\tilde{s}_i(\mu)}{\mu}$  and  $\frac{s_i(\mu)}{\mu}$  go to 0 as  $\mu$  goes to  $+\infty$ ), and the level sets  $\{\langle A_i x, x \rangle = \nu_i\}$  are regular and  $\epsilon$ -transverse, then the family of level sets  $\{f_i(x) = \mu\nu_i + s_i\}$  is  $\epsilon/2$ -transverse for every  $\mu$  large, as was claimed.

Finally, for  $x \notin B_{\infty}(\mu)$  and  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $||A_i(x)|| \geq dr_1 \sqrt{|\mu|}$ ; then, as a consequence of the  $\epsilon$ -transversality lemma,  $F_{\mu}$  is expanding outside  $B_{\infty}(\mu)$ . This proves (b).

It remains to prove that Conditions 1, 2 and 3 are open and dense in the topology of the norm of the matrices (which corresponds with the weak topology). The first and third condition come from the fact that eigenvalues and eigenvectors depend continuously on the matrix, and for the second, take first generically a matrix  $A_2$  such that the level sets corresponding to  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are transverse (thus the intersection will be a manifold of dimension n - 2 or else the empty set). Then proceed by induction.

### 5. Examples

*Example 1 (Delay endomorphisms).* An endomorphism of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  of the form F(x, y) = (y, f(x, y)), is called a delay endomorphism. Suppose that  $f(x, y) = ax^2 + by^2$ , with a, b > 0, and let  $\nu = (0, 1)$ . The function f is  $C^2$ -convex, so  $\infty$  is an attractor for every  $F_{\mu} = F - \mu(0, 1)$ . If b >> a, it follows from [RV] that for every large  $\mu > 0$ ,  $F_{\mu}$  has 2 saddle type fixed points. The stable manifolds of these fixed points play an important rôle in the understanding of the dynamics of  $F_{\mu}$ . (For a recent work on invariant manifolds of endomorphisms see [S].) Moreover the complemen of  $B_{\infty}$  is the closure of the stable manifold of these fixed points, which turns out to be homeomorphic to the product of a Cantor set and a circle. These endomorphisms are hyperbolic, and satisfy the conditions of Przytycki [P], so are also structurally stable. It follows that for every strong perturbation G of F, the family  $G_{\mu}$  has the same dynamical behavior as  $F_{\mu}$ . This shows that  $\mathcal{G}_{\nu}$  is not dense in the strong topology. In addition, if only the second coordinate of F is perturbed within the quadratic functions, then the same results of [RV] can be applied, and the family perturbed is again not in  $\mathcal{H}_0$ . In sight of theorem 1 we conclude that both coordinates should be perturbed to obtain an endomorphism in  $\mathcal{G}_{\nu}$ . Moreover, Theorem 1 gives also sufficient conditions (1 to 3) at the beginning of Sect. 4 that are easy to check in general. For example,  $G(x, y) = (y + \epsilon_1 x^2 + \epsilon_2 y^2, ax^2 + by^2)$  belongs to  $\mathcal{G}_{\nu}$  whenever  $\frac{\epsilon_1}{\epsilon_2} \neq \frac{a}{b}$ .

*Example 2.* Next we will construct an example of a  $C^2$ -convex endomorphism such that the level curves have not transversality enough to obtain expansivity. Furthermore, every  $C^2$ -strong perturbation of this transformation gives rise to a one parameter family which is also nonexpanding for all parameters  $\mu$  large. This should be compared with the situation in quadratic endomorphisms where the genericity holds but when other topology is considered.

There exists a  $C^2$ -convex endomorphism F in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  such that for every small  $C^2$ -strong perturbation G of F, the family  $\{G_{\mu}; \mu > \mu_0\}$  does not intersect  $\mathcal{H}_0$ .

In fact, let  $b : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$  be any  $C^2$  function satisfying:

1. b(0) = b'(0) = 0, 2. b''(x) > 1 for every  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , and 3. 1/2 < 2x - b'(x) < 3/4 for every  $x \ge 1$ .

First we show some function b satisfying the conditions above. Take b such that b(0) =b'(0) = 0, b''(x) = 3/2 for  $|x| \le 1, b''(x) = 2$  for  $|x| \ge 3/2$  and  $b''(x) \in (1/2, 3/4)$  for  $|x| \in (1, 3/2).$ 

Then

$$2x - b'(x) = \int_0^x 2 - b''(t)dt \in (1/2, 3/4)$$

for every x > 1.

Define  $f_{\mu}(x, y) = x^2 + b(y) - \mu$  and  $g_{\mu}(x, y) = f_{\mu}(y, x)$ . It follows that each element of the family  $F_{\mu} = (f_{\mu}, g_{\mu})$  is a C<sup>2</sup>-convex endomorphism of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

The functions  $x \to \phi_{\mu}(x) = x^2 + b(x) - \mu$  verify  $\phi_{\mu}(0) = -\mu$ ,  $\phi'_{\mu}(0) = 0$  and  $\phi''_{\mu}(0) \geq 3$  for every x. It follows that  $\phi_{\mu}$  has a fixed point  $x_{\mu} > 0$  such that  $x_{\mu} \to +\infty$ when  $\mu \to +\infty$ . It is clear that the point  $P_{\mu} = (x_{\mu}, x_{\mu})$  is fixed for  $F_{\mu}$ .

Observe that  $\{\nabla f(P_{\mu}), \nabla g(P_{\mu})\}$  is  $\epsilon$ -transverse if and only if

$$\epsilon < \frac{4x_{\mu}^2 - b'^2(x_{\mu})}{4x_{\mu}^2 + b'^2(x_{\mu})}.$$

Using the third condition of the definition of b it comes that  $4x_{\mu}^2 - b'^2(x_{\mu}) < 4x_{\mu} - 1$ . Thus it follows that the set  $\{\nabla f(P_{\mu}), \nabla g(P_{\mu})\}$  is not  $\frac{4x_{\mu}-1}{4x_{\mu}^2+b'^2(x_{\mu})}$ -transverse.  $P_{\mu}$  is a saddle type fixed point, with one eigenvalue in (0, 1).

Now consider the  $C^2$ -convex functions given by

$$\tilde{f}(x, y) = f(x, y) - x$$
 and  $\tilde{g}(x, y) = g(x, y) - y$ 

Observe that  $\tilde{f}^{-1}(\mu) \cap \tilde{g}^{-1}(\mu)$  is the set of fixed points of  $F_{\mu}$ . In addition, if  $\tilde{F} = (\tilde{f}, \tilde{g})$ , then  $D\tilde{F}_{P_{\mu}} = DF_{P_{\mu}} - Id$  has an eigenvalue in (-1, 0); so it follows that the transversality of  $\{\tilde{f}^{-1}(\mu), \tilde{g}^{-1}(\mu)\}$  is

$$\epsilon(\mu) \in \left(0, \frac{|\det D\tilde{F}_{P_{\mu}}|}{\|\nabla \tilde{f}\| \|\nabla \tilde{g}\|}\right)$$

This, by Corollary 2 is preserved by small perturbations, and it follows that the family perturbating  $F_{\mu}$  must have a saddle type fixed point  $P'(\mu)$  for every  $\mu$ . This enables the new family to belong to  $\mathcal{H}_0$ .

*Example 3.*  $\mathcal{G}_{\nu}$  is not open in  $C^{r}(\mathbb{R},\mathbb{R})$  with the strong  $C^{r}$ -topology.

Let f be an even function having derivative f'(x) > 2 for every x > 1, having a unique critical point at x = 0, f(0) = 0 and negative Schwarzian derivative. Suppose also that for the family  $f_{\mu} = f - \mu$ , the following conditions hold:

(i)  $x_{\mu} > 1$  is a fixed point of  $f_{\mu}$ , (ii)  $f_{\mu}^2(0) > x_{\mu}$  and  $f_{\mu}^2(0) - x_{\mu} \to 0$  as  $\mu \to \infty$ .

Then, as f has negative Schwarzian derivative and the critical orbit intersects  $(x_{\mu}, +\infty) \subset$  $B_{\infty}$ , it follows that  $f \in \mathcal{G}_1$ . Now, if g is a small perturbation of f such that f = g outside  $|x| \leq 1$ , g has it unique critical point at 0 and  $g(0) = f(0) + \epsilon$ , then  $g^2_{\mu}(0) < x_{\mu}$  for every  $\mu > 0$  large. This implies that the whole interval  $[-x_{\mu}, x_{\mu}]$  is invariant and  $g \notin \mathcal{G}_1$ . To construct f, begin with  $f(x) = 2x^2$  in [-1, 1] and choose f' decreasing to 2 at infinity. It is easy to see that f can be taken  $C^{\infty}$  with negative Schwarzian  $(f''' \le 0 \text{ for } x > 0)$ . The items are satisfied if a careful choice of the first derivative of f is made outside [-1, 1]. Observe that if f' were constant equal to 2 the first item does not hold, and if

f' is constant > 2 then the second one is not true. Take for example  $f(x) = 2x + \frac{1}{x}$  for  $x > \beta > 1$ .

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