



Marine Physical Laboratory

Topics in Pattern Formation and Chaotic Systems

H. D. I. Abarbanel

Final Report to the
Office of Naval Research
Contract N00014-89-D-0142 (DO#23)
for the Period 08-26-91 - 03-31-93

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JUN 17 1993
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MPL-U-24/93
May 1993

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University of California, San Diego
Scripps Institution of Oceanography

93-13590



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REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE

Form Approved
OMB No. 0704-0188

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Washington Headquarters Services, Directorate for Information Operations and Reports, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302, and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0704-0188), Washington, DC 20503.

1. Agency Use Only (Leave Blank).	2. Report Date. May 1993	3. Report Type and Dates Covered. Final Report	
4. Title and Subtitle. TOPICS IN PATTERN FORMATION AND CHAOS DYNAMICS		5. Funding Numbers. N00014-89-D-0142 (DO#23)	
6. Author(s). H. D. I. Abarbanel		Project No. Task No.	
7. Performing Monitoring Agency Name(s) and Address(es). University of California, San Diego Marine Physical Laboratory Scripps Institution of Oceanography San Diego, California 92152		8. Performing Organization Report Number. MPL-U-24/93	
9. Sponsoring/Monitoring Agency Name(s) and Address(es). Office of Naval Research Department of the Navy 800 North Quincy Street Arlington, VA 22217-5000		10. Sponsoring/Monitoring Agency Report Number.	
11. Supplementary Notes.			
12a. Distribution/Availability Statement. Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.		12b. Distribution Code.	
13. Abstract (Maximum 200 words). This project was an exchange program with the Institute for Applied Physics (IPFAN) in Nizhni Novgorod, Russia			
14. Subject Terms. chaotic dynamics, dynamics in spatio-temporal systems		15. Number of Pages. 2	
		16. Price Code.	
17. Security Classification of Report. Unclassified	18. Security Classification of This Page. Unclassified	19. Security Classification of Abstract. Unclassified	20. Limitation of Abstract. None

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DTIC QUALITY INSPECTED 2

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NTIS CRA&I	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DTIC TAB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Unannounced	<input type="checkbox"/>
Justification	
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Availability Codes	
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Abstract

This project was a Joint Research Project in the study of Pattern Formation and Chaotic Dynamics by members of the Institute for Applied Physics (IPFAN) in Gorky, USSR and the Marine Physical Laboratory, at the University of California, San Diego, USA. This project involved both experimental and theoretical research in the topic of interest.

Objectives and Benefits of the Research

At both IPFAN and UCSD the scientists named have investigated the creation of patterns in spatio-temporal systems and the chaotic dynamics of these systems in several specific examples:

- Dynamics of Surface Waves. Variations on the classical Faraday Experiment
- Surface tension induced convection. Benard-Marangoni Convection
- Vortex generation in the wakes of bluff bodies
- Boundary Layer Chaos and Transition in Turbulence

Our goals, enlarged upon below, combined the experience and expertise developed in the study of coherent phenomena and the characterization

Research Summary

of the chaotic dynamics of phenomena in these fluid flows. The benefits of creating cooperative efforts of these groups comes in several ways:

- the Soviet group had explored many more flow situations than the US side because of their larger complement of participating scientists and their longer working period in the field. The US side had both extensive experience in the flow situations it had analyzed and had developed many new and innovative ways to instrument and analyze the data from these experiments. The combination of these qualities illuminated the research on both sides in a clear fashion.
- the analysis of the data from these experiments was carried out in a quite different fashion on the US side since there existed more extensive computer power for simply asking a larger variety of questions on the US side.
- the US side had developed several information theoretic techniques for analyzing data from experiments of this variety. Extending their analysis to many of the more complex situations already started in the USSR enabled the refinement of the US methods for use in oceanographic and meteorological data.
- The US side had extensive contacts (and joint appointments) within the US meteorological and oceanographic communities and this enhanced the pursuit of both sides in the application of their methods to geophysical field problems--of interest to members of both groups.

Research Summary

The Principal Investigators for this effort were M.I. Rabinovich in Gorky and H.D.I. Abarbanel in San Diego. The senior scientific personnel who participated on the USSR side were A.V. Gaponov-Grekhov, I.S. Aronson, A. Zobnin, A. Ezersky, V. Afraimovich, V. Reutov, M. Suschik, L. Tsimring, and Y. Stepanyantz. On the US side the senior participants were H. Abarbanel and E. A. Novikov.

To provide strong mutual contact between the groups, one postdoctoral level person (post Candidate in the USSR) from each location worked at the cooperative site. A Gorky researcher came to UCSD for one year, and a UCSD researcher went to Gorky for 3 months. In addition, we had a one month long visit from two senior researchers from Gorky to UCSD. On each occasion scientific lectures were delivered and scientific research in spatio-temporal chaos was performed. This helped keep each side informed of the new developments, both theoretical and experimental in the joint program and assured the widest dissemination of the ongoing research progress.

This project was sponsored by another agency which sent the funds through ONR. A full reporting to that agency has been completed.

ONR/MPL REPORT DISTRIBUTION

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