

## An alternative definition for a fractal set in a D-dimensional space

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In this article fractal set has been interpreted as a collection of fixed points of some functions. Hence the set remains invariant by the functions that defines the fractal set.

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Let us first define a mathematical notation as follows:

$$\bigcirc_{j=1}^k f_j = f_1 \circ f_2 \circ \dots \circ f_k = f_1( f_2( \dots ( f_k( ) ) \dots ))$$

Now,

Let us consider a D-dimensional space  $\mathbb{S}^D$ . [D being a positive integer.]

Let a point  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_D)$  in the space be  $\mathbf{p}$ .

Let ' $f_i$ ' be a function such that  $f_i: \mathbb{S}^D \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^D$

Let  $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n$  be  $n$  given functions.

And let,  $f_0(\mathbf{p}) = \mathbf{p}$

We define a set of fixed points of a function ' $g$ ' as  $F_g = \{\mathbf{p}: g(\mathbf{p}) = \mathbf{p}\}$

Hence, the set  $F_k$

$$F_k = \left\{ \mathbf{p} : \mathbf{p} = \left( \bigcirc_{j=1}^k f_{i_j} \right) (\mathbf{p}) \right\}, \text{ where } i_j \text{ is an integer between 0 and } n \text{ for any } j. \left. \right\}$$

is the set of fixed points of sequence of  $k$  functions  $f_{i_1}, f_{i_2}, \dots, f_{i_k}$ .

i.e. it is the set of fixed points of the function  $( f_{i_1} \circ f_{i_2} \circ \dots \circ f_{i_k} )$

Now, a fractal set is defined as the union of all possible  $F_k$  s for all possible values of  $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k$ , as  $k$  tends to infinity.

Hence,

Fractal set =

$$F = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \bigcup_{i_1=0}^n \bigcup_{i_2=0}^n \dots \bigcup_{i_k=0}^n \left\{ \mathbf{p} : \mathbf{p} = \left( \bigcirc_{j=1}^k f_{i_j} \right) (\mathbf{p}) \right\} \right]$$

The functions  $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n$  are called the 'transformations' that define the fractal set.

From this definition we note:

$f_i(F) = F$ , for  $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

That is, a fractal set (F) is invariant under any of the 'transformations' that define the fractal set.

## References:

1. Fractal Geometry by Mandelbrot.