

# Temporal Recursion in the UNNS Substrate and Its Klein Surface Realization

UNNS Working Note

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## Abstract

We refine the notion of *temporal recursion* in the UNNS substrate (Unbounded Nested Number Sequences) by relating the global geometry of time-depth evolution to a non-orientable quotient: the Klein surface (Klein bottle). Locally, forward recursion is governed by a time-step map  $F$ , while (partial) reverse recursion is encoded by local inverses  $F^{-1}$  on stability domains. Globally, the presence of a *time-reversal involution*  $S$  that conjugates  $F$  to  $F^{-1}$  and a periodic stroboscopic section produces an identification of a time-phase cylinder with a *glide reflection*, yielding a Klein surface when quotiented. This formalizes when temporal backtracking is locally consistent but globally obstructed by non-orientability (captured by  $w_1 \neq 0$ ). We give diagnostic criteria in terms of Floquet monodromy, parity of orientation, and UNNS operator symmetries, and we provide two TikZ diagrams: (i) forward/reverse recursion cones and (ii) the Klein identification rectangle.

## 1 Preliminaries: Temporal Recursion in UNNS

Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be a state space (finite- or infinite-dimensional, discrete or continuous), and let a UNNS evolution be given by

$$x_{n+1} = F(x_n; \Theta), \quad n \in \mathbb{Z}, \quad (1)$$

where  $\Theta$  collects UNNS operators (e.g. damping  $\alpha$ , drift  $\delta$ , collapse threshold  $\varepsilon$ , inlaying lattice scale  $h$ , etc.). We interpret the *depth*  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  as the UNNS notion of time.

**Definition 1** (Local reversibility domain). *A subset  $U \subset \mathcal{X}$  is a reversibility domain if there exists a map  $F^{-1} : F(U) \rightarrow U$  such that  $F^{-1}(F(x)) = x$  for all  $x \in U$ . We say temporal recursion is locally invertible on  $U$ .*

**Remark 1** (Global obstructions). *Global invertibility may fail because of (i) non-injective  $F$  (many-to-one collapse), (ii) absorbing sets (e.g.  $\varepsilon$ -collapse to 0), or (iii) topological obstructions introduced by symmetry operations that reverse orientation in a periodic stroboscopic section, as developed below.*

## 2 Stroboscopic Sections, Symmetries, and Time Reversal

Assume there is a periodic section of depth  $T \in \mathbb{N}$  and an internal phase variable  $\theta \in S^1$  (e.g. a normalized iteration phase, angle on a Poincaré section, or a UNNS echo-phase) such that the pair  $(n, \theta)$  coordinatizes a *time-phase cylinder*  $C = S_\theta^1 \times \mathbb{Z}_n$  modulo period  $T$ :

$$(n, \theta) \sim (n + T, \theta).$$

Suppose further there is an involution  $S : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  with  $S^2 = \text{id}$  that implements a *time-reversal* symmetry in the sense

$$S \circ F \circ S = F^{-1} \quad \text{on a reversibility domain.} \quad (2)$$

This captures the idea that applying  $S$  “flips” the local temporal arrow.

**Definition 2** (Orientation parity of the monodromy). *Let  $M$  denote the Floquet (depth- $T$ ) monodromy on a tangent (or linearized) space along a periodic UNNS orbit. We say the stroboscopic section is orientation preserving if  $\det M > 0$  and orientation reversing if  $\det M < 0$ .*

### 3 From Cylinder to Klein: The Gluing That Obstructs Global Reversal

The classical Klein bottle  $K$  arises from the rectangle  $[0, 1] \times [0, 1]$  with identifications

$$(x, 0) \sim (x, 1), \quad (0, y) \sim (1, 1 - y).$$

Equivalently, it is a cylinder with a *glide reflection* on the second identification.

In our UNNS time–phase cylinder, the depth- $T$  identification  $(n, \theta) \sim (n + T, \theta)$  always holds. If, in addition, the time-reversal symmetry (2) acts as

$$(n, \theta) \sim (n, 1 - \theta) \quad \text{upon traversing the } S\text{-edge}, \quad (3)$$

then the composite quotient produces a non-orientable surface. When the first identification is purely periodic in  $n$  and the second identification flips  $\theta \mapsto 1 - \theta$ , the quotient is (topologically) a Klein bottle.

**Proposition 1** (Klein regime). *Assume:*

1. *There exists a stroboscopic period  $T$  (depth- $T$  return).*
2. *The time-reversal map  $S$  satisfies (2) on a reversibility domain that intersects the stroboscopic orbit.*
3. *The induced action on the phase coordinate is an involution  $\theta \mapsto 1 - \theta$  (orientation reversal in phase).*

*Then the global time–phase quotient of the UNNS evolution under  $\{(n, \theta) \sim (n + T, \theta), (n, 0) \sim (n, 1), (0, \theta) \sim (T, 1 - \theta)\}$  is a Klein surface. In particular, the first Stiefel–Whitney class  $w_1$  is nonzero, and the time bundle is non-orientable.*

**Remark 2** (Interpretation). *Locally, a reverse step  $F^{-1}$  exists (on the domain of reversibility), but globally any attempt to patch a single-valued time orientation across the quotient fails. Thus, local time travel exists (reversible steps), yet global time orientation is obstructed by non-orientability. The obstruction is topological (captured by  $w_1 \neq 0$ ), not merely metric.*

### 4 A Criterion via Floquet Monodromy and UNNS Operators

Let  $DF$  denote the linearization of  $F$  along a periodic UNNS orbit and  $M := DF^T$  its  $T$ -step product.

**Theorem 1** (Orientation diagnostic). *If  $\det M < 0$  (orientation reversing monodromy) and the UNNS operator set  $\Theta$  admits an involution  $S$  with  $S^2 = \text{id}$  and  $SFS = F^{-1}$  on the reversibility domain, then the stroboscopic time–phase quotient is non-orientable. If, moreover, the phase identification is  $\theta \mapsto 1 - \theta$ , the quotient is topologically a Klein bottle.*

*Sketch.*  $\det M < 0$  implies an orientation reversal over one period in the linearized dynamics. The existence of  $S$  satisfying (2) provides the conjugacy to backward evolution in the local domain. The two identifications together implement the cylinder gluing in  $n$  and a glide reflection in  $\theta$ , generating the Klein quotient. Non-orientability follows from standard topology of the Klein surface ( $w_1 \neq 0$ ).  $\square$

## 5 Local Inversion vs. Global Obstruction

We connect to the local-inverse existence from the prior UNNS temporal recursion paper.

**Proposition 2** (Local  $F^{-1}$  with global obstruction). *Suppose  $F$  is locally invertible on  $U$  and  $S$  satisfies (2) on  $U$ . Then for any  $x \in U$  the backward orbit is locally defined. However, if the global time-phase quotient is Klein, there is no global continuous choice of time orientation along a loop homologous to the glide-reflection cycle, hence no globally consistent backward evolution that preserves a single time arrow around that loop.*

## 6 Two Figures

Figure 1: Forward/Reverse Recursion Cones

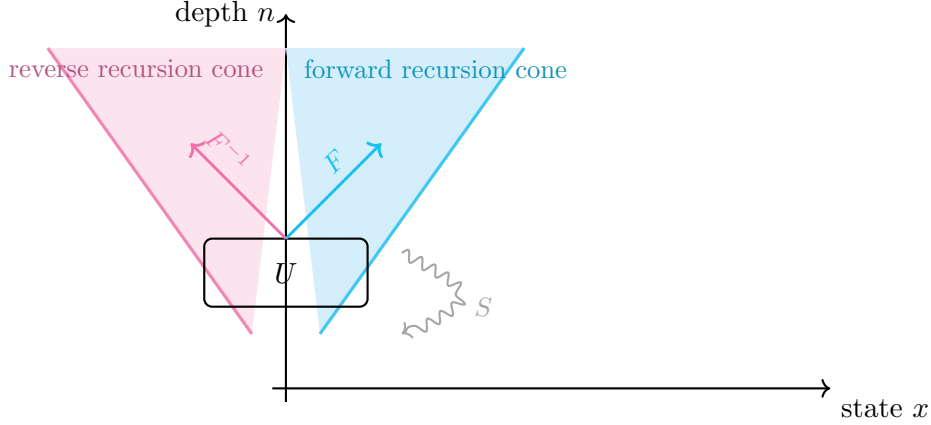
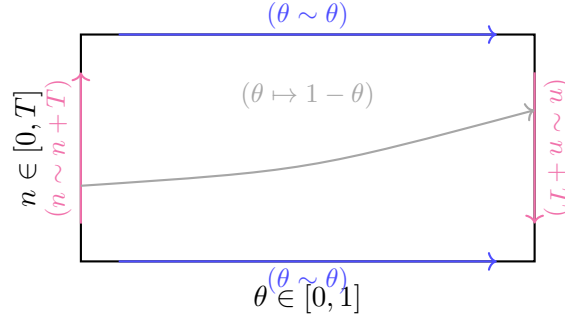


Figure 2: Klein Identification in Time-Phase



## 7 Examples and Diagnostics

### Example A: UNNS Fibonacci-with-Flip

Consider a 2D lifted state  $z_n = (x_n, x_{n-1})$  with

$$z_{n+1} = A z_n, \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

and an involution  $S(z) = (x_{n-1}, x_n)$  (swap coordinates) composed with a sign flip on one component. Over two steps the monodromy may become orientation reversing (depending on the sign convention), i.e.  $\det(A^2) < 0$  in the signed lift. When paired with a phase  $\theta$  that flips under  $S$ , the stroboscopic quotient is Klein. Locally,  $A$  is invertible, so reverse recursion exists; globally the time bundle is non-orientable.

## Example B: Damped UNNS rotator with phase flip

Let  $F$  act on  $(r, \theta)$  by  $r \mapsto \alpha r$ ,  $\theta \mapsto \theta + \omega \bmod 1$ , with  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  and an involution  $S(r, \theta) = (r, 1 - \theta)$ . If the  $T$ -step angle gain is  $\omega T \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$ , the  $n$ -direction is periodic; the  $S$ -gluing flips the phase edge, yielding a Klein quotient. Again, local back-steps exist but a global time arrow cannot be chosen consistently.

## Simulation diagnostics

In discrete simulations:

- Compute the  $T$ -step Jacobian product  $M$  along a periodic (or near-periodic) orbit; check  $\det M$ .
- Verify a symmetry  $S$  (e.g. exchange of UNNS nests, sign/reflection in an inlaying lattice) such that  $SFS = F^{-1}$  on a numerically detected reversibility domain.
- If  $\det M < 0$  and the phase is observed to flip under  $S$ , expect non-orientable global behavior: loops in time–phase space return with reversed local arrow.

## 8 Implications

**Local vs global time travel.** UNNS supports *local* reverse recursion whenever  $F^{-1}$  exists on a domain, enabling stepwise backtracking. The Klein regime shows why *global* reversal can fail: non-orientability prevents a consistent time arrow around closed loops. Thus, the question “Can we travel back in time?” becomes: *locally yes, globally constrained by topology*.

**Topological invariants.** The obstruction is captured by the first Stiefel–Whitney class  $w_1$  of the time–phase quotient;  $w_1 \neq 0$  implies non-orientability (Klein/Möbius-type regimes). UNNS operators that implement flips (merge/collapse with sign, inlaying reflections, gauge-like involutions) can generate such regimes.

**Relation to repair/normalization.** UNNS repair rules that force orientation-preserving updates (e.g. forbidding sign-flip symmetries in stroboscopic closure) can *restore* orientability (cylinder/torus quotient). Conversely, adopting flip symmetries invites Klein/Möbius phases.

## 9 Conclusion

Temporal recursion in UNNS is naturally *local*: it relies on the existence of  $F^{-1}$  on reversibility domains. The *global* structure—determined by stroboscopic periodicity and symmetry gluing—can be non-orientable, with the Klein surface as the canonical quotient. This provides a crisp criterion for when “time reversal” is mathematically permitted locally yet globally obstructed, and it ties UNNS operator design directly to topological phases of time.

**Add-on to the original paper.** This note slots after the section on invertibility conditions: it identifies the precise geometric circumstance (orientation-reversing monodromy + phase flip) that yields a Klein surface time–phase bundle, explains the status of  $F^{-1}$ , and clarifies what “time travel” means in UNNS: local reversibility vs. global topological obstruction.