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Accessibility is an important property of partially hyperbolic diffeomorphisms. It means that any two points are joined by a piecewise smooth curve whose legs are tangent to stable or unstable leaves. Pugh and Shub have conjectured that volume preserving partially hyperbolic diffeomorphisms with the accessibility property are ergodic.

They have also conjectured that the accessibility property holds for a set of partially hyperbolic diffeomorphisms that is  $C^1$  open and  $C^r$  dense in the set of all  $C^r$  partially hyperbolic diffeomorphisms for any  $r \geq 1$ . Hertz, Hertz and Ures proved this conjecture for partially hyperbolic diffeomorphisms that are volume preserving and have one dimensional center subbundle.

The talk presents a refinement of their argument that does not require volume preservation. (Received February 13, 2006)