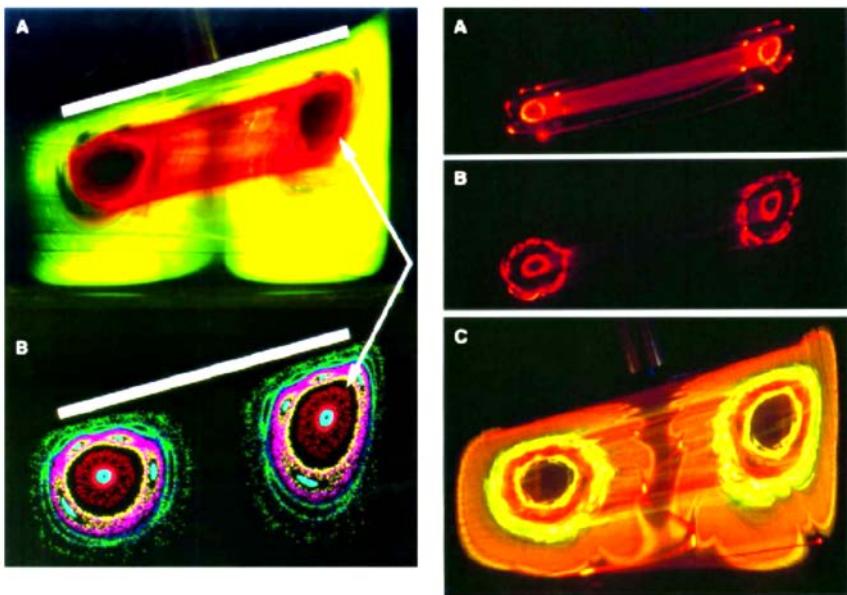


# Large-scale transport in oceans

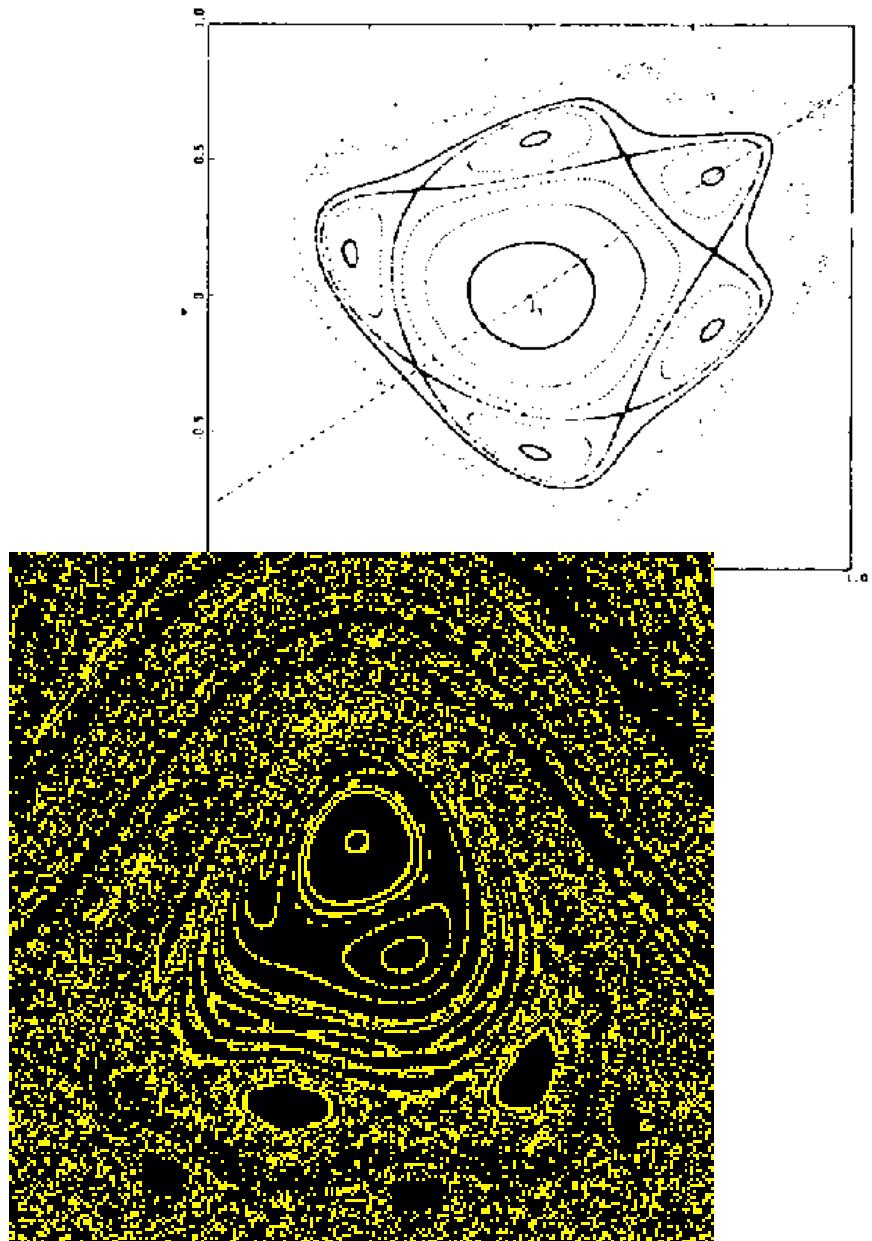
Emilio Hernández-García  
IFISC (CSIC-UIB), Palma de Mallorca, Spain

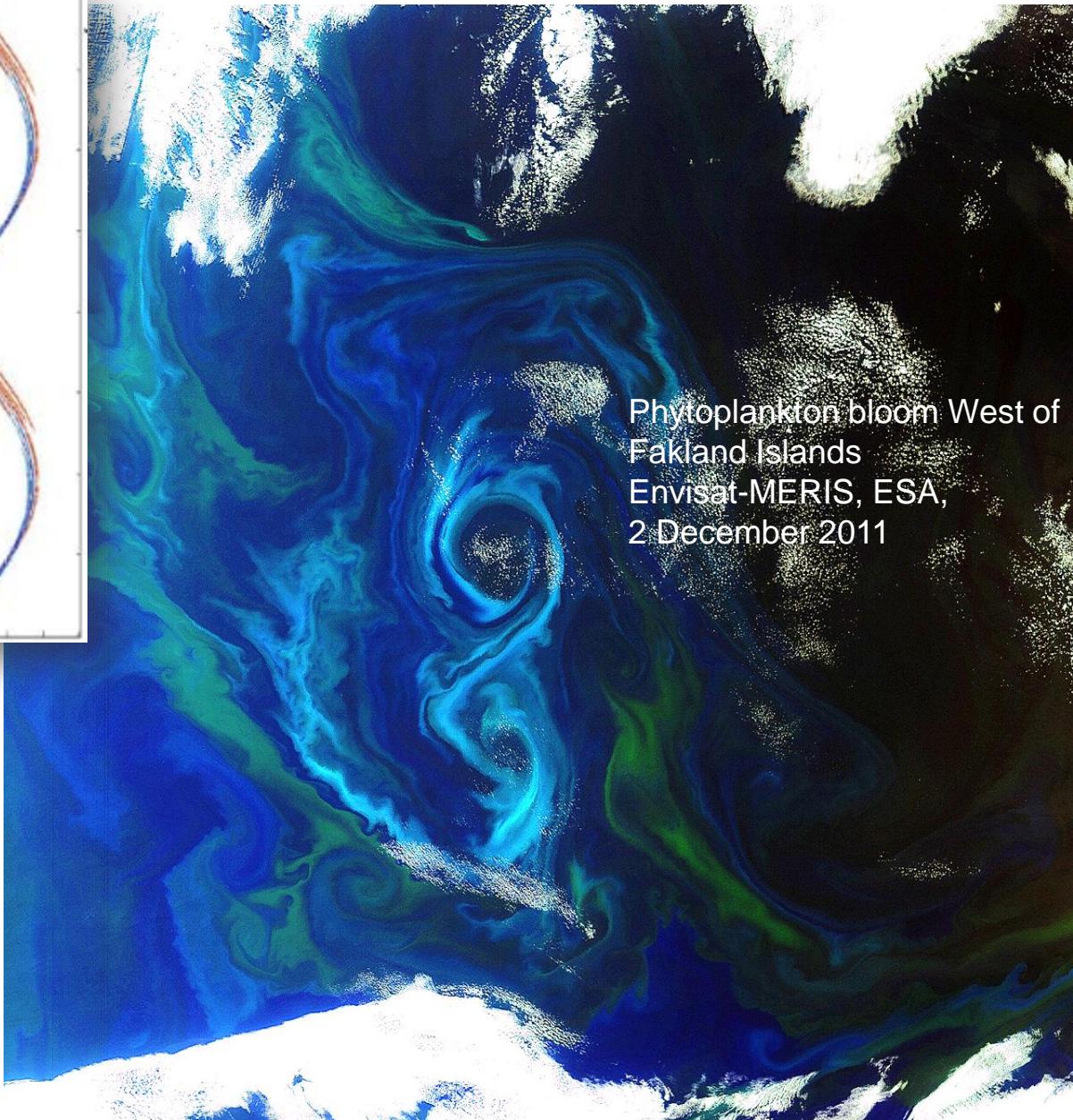
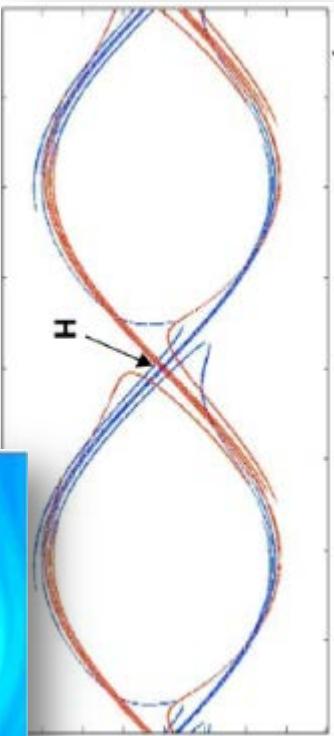
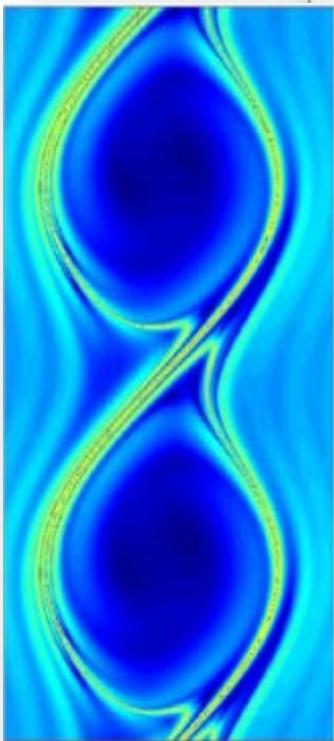
## Statistical Physics and Dynamical Systems approaches in Lagrangian Fluid Dynamics





Fountain et al, Science 281, 683 (1998)





# STATISTICAL PHYSICS AND DYNAMICAL SYSTEMS APPROACHES IN LAGRANGIAN FLUID DYNAMICS

## OUTLINE

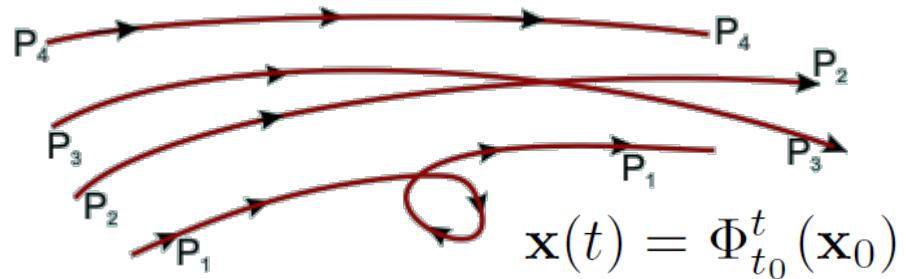
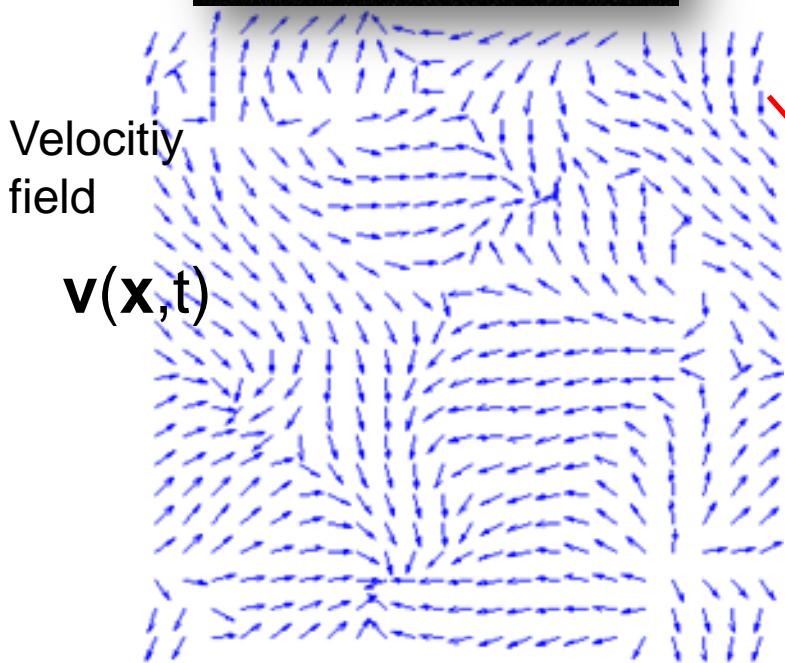
- 1.** Lagrangian fluid dynamics and introduction to chaotic advection. Hamiltonian dynamics, KAM tori, Lyapunov exponents, open flows
- 2.** Dispersion, diffusion and coherent structures in flows. Turbulent, pair and chaotic dispersion, gradient production, FTLE, FSLE, Lagrangian Coherent Structures
- 3.** Chemical and biological processes in flows. Fisher and excitable plankton waves, filamental transitions, lamellar approaches, burning manifolds
- 4.** Complex networks of fluid transport. Directed and weighted flow networks. Community detection

# STATISTICAL PHYSICS AND DYNAMICAL SYSTEMS APPROACHES IN LAGRANGIAN FLUID DYNAMICS

## REFERENCES

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- T. Bohr, M.H. Jensen, G. Paladin, A. Vulpiani, Dynamical systems approach to turbulence, Cambridge University Press (1998)
- S. Wiggins, The dynamical systems approach to Lagrangian transport in oceanic flows, *Annual Review of Fluid Dynamics* **37**, 295-328 (2005)
- T. Peacock, J. Dabiri, Introduction to focus issue: Lagrangian coherent structures. *Chaos* **20**(1), 017501 (2010).

## EULERIAN VS LAGRANGIAN DESCRIPTION OF FLUID DYNAMICS



Trayectories or  
material lines  
(in general, material  
transport and  
deformation)

$$\frac{d\mathbf{x}(t)}{dt} = \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x}(t), t)$$



A useful formula:  $\frac{D}{Dt} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla$

Entry #102318

**CLICK FOR MOVIE**

# The Hama Problem<sup>1</sup> revisited: essential mixing in a free shear flow

V. A. Miller<sup>†</sup> and M. G. Mungal<sup>†‡</sup><sup>†</sup>Stanford University, <sup>‡</sup>Santa Clara University

American Physical Society - Division of Fluid Dynamics  
2013 Gallery of Fluid Motion

<sup>1</sup>Hama, F. R., "Streaklines in a Perturbed Shear Flow," *The Physics of Fluids*, Vol. 5, No. 6, June 1962, pp. 644-650.

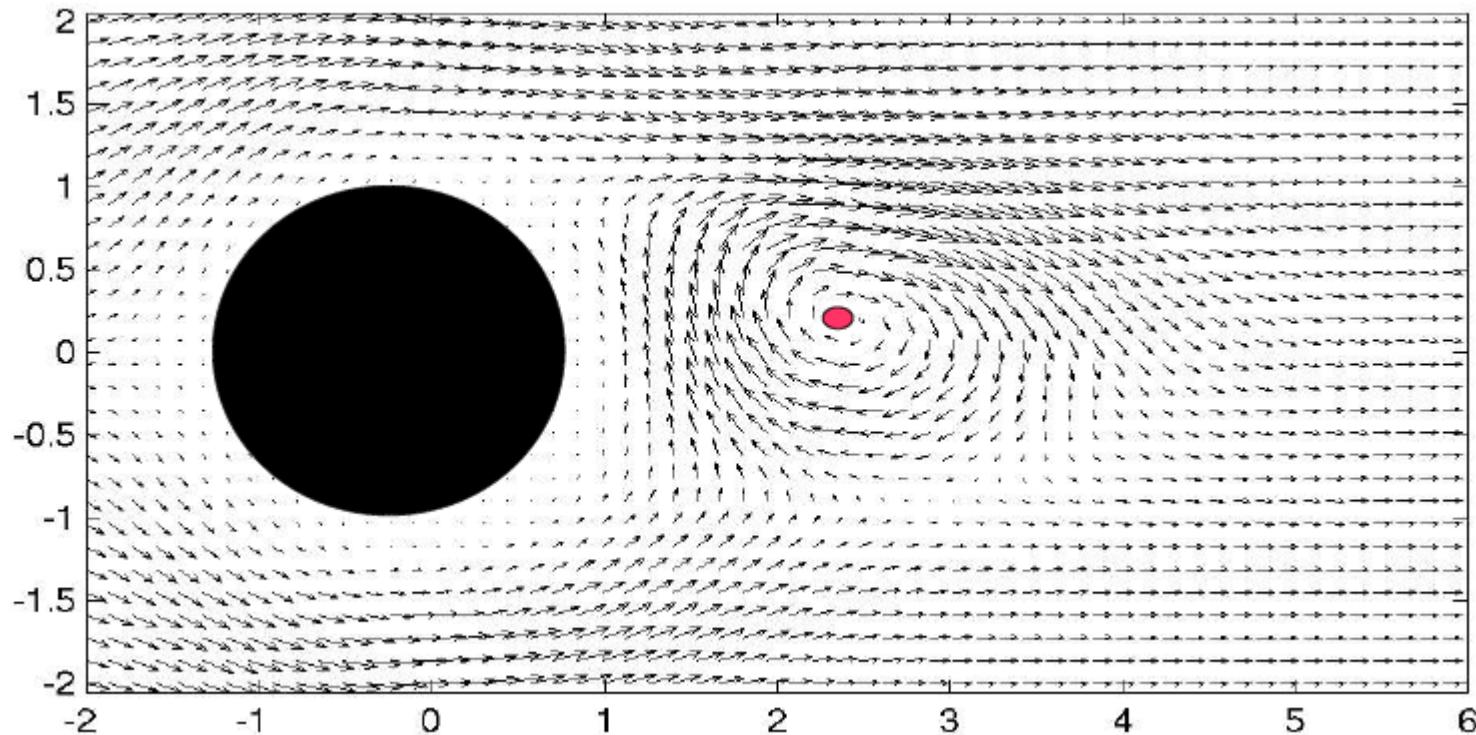
**From arXiv:1310.1644**



## EULERIAN VS LAGRANGIAN DESCRIPTION OF FLUID DYNAMICS



Example: von Kármán cylinder wake flow

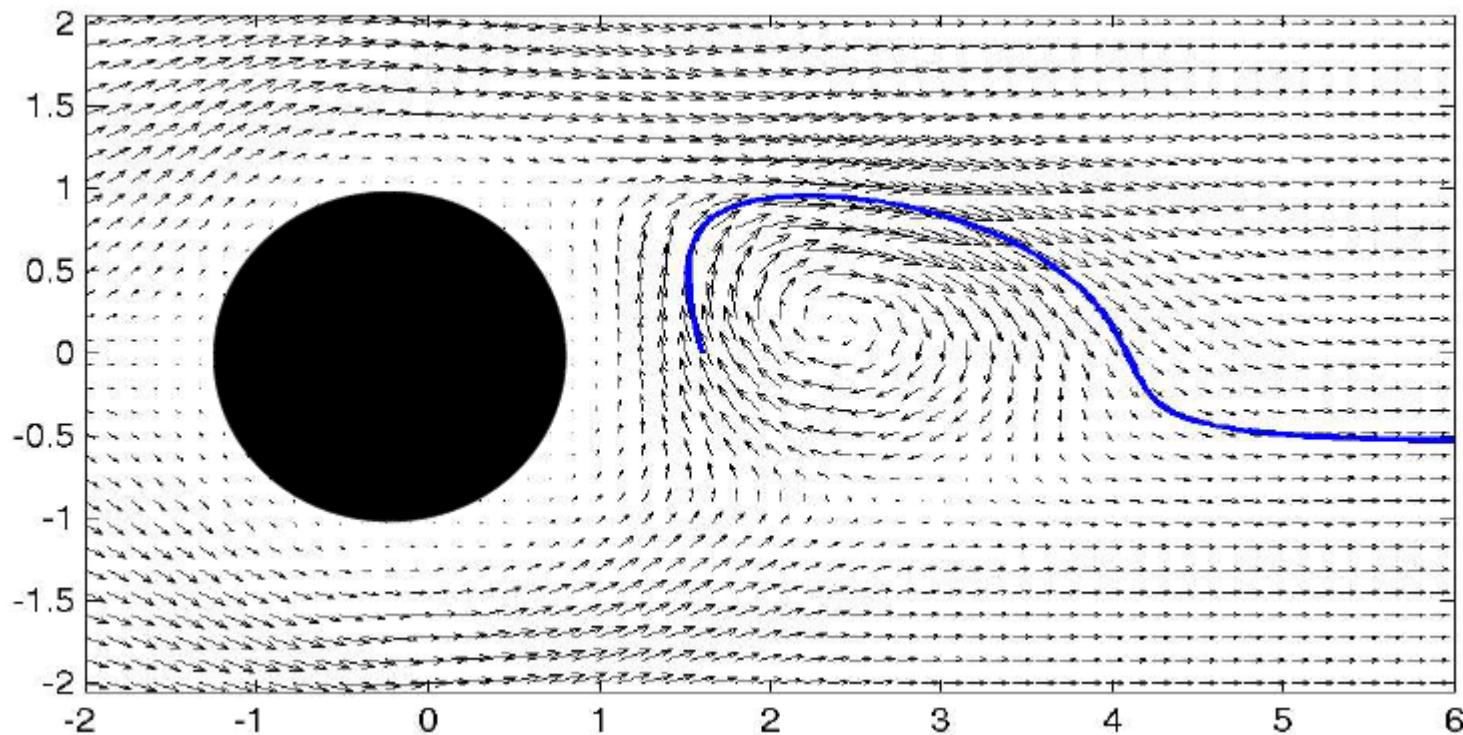




## EULERIAN VS LAGRANGIAN DESCRIPTION OF FLUID DYNAMICS



Example: von Kármán cylinder wake flow

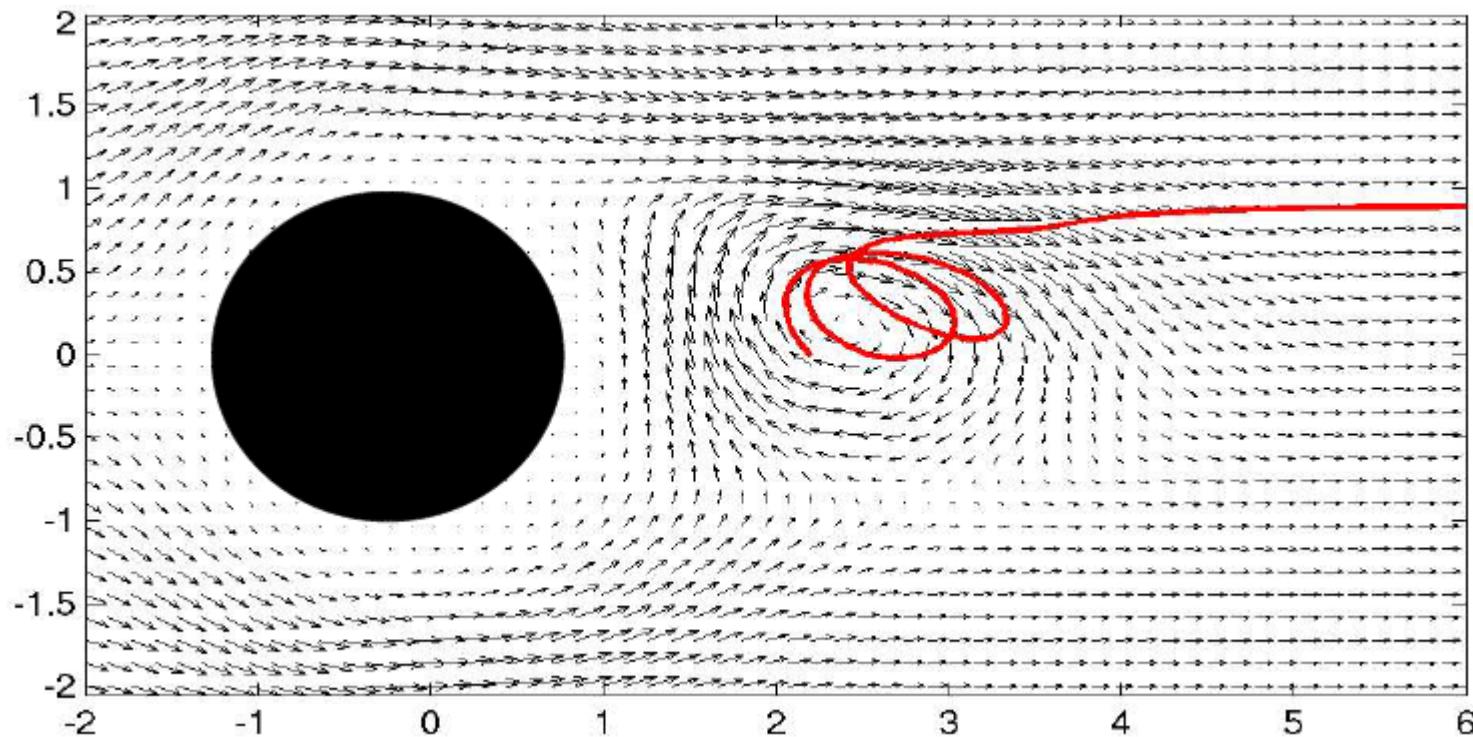




## EULERIAN VS LAGRANGIAN DESCRIPTION OF FLUID DYNAMICS



Example: von Kármán cylinder wake flow

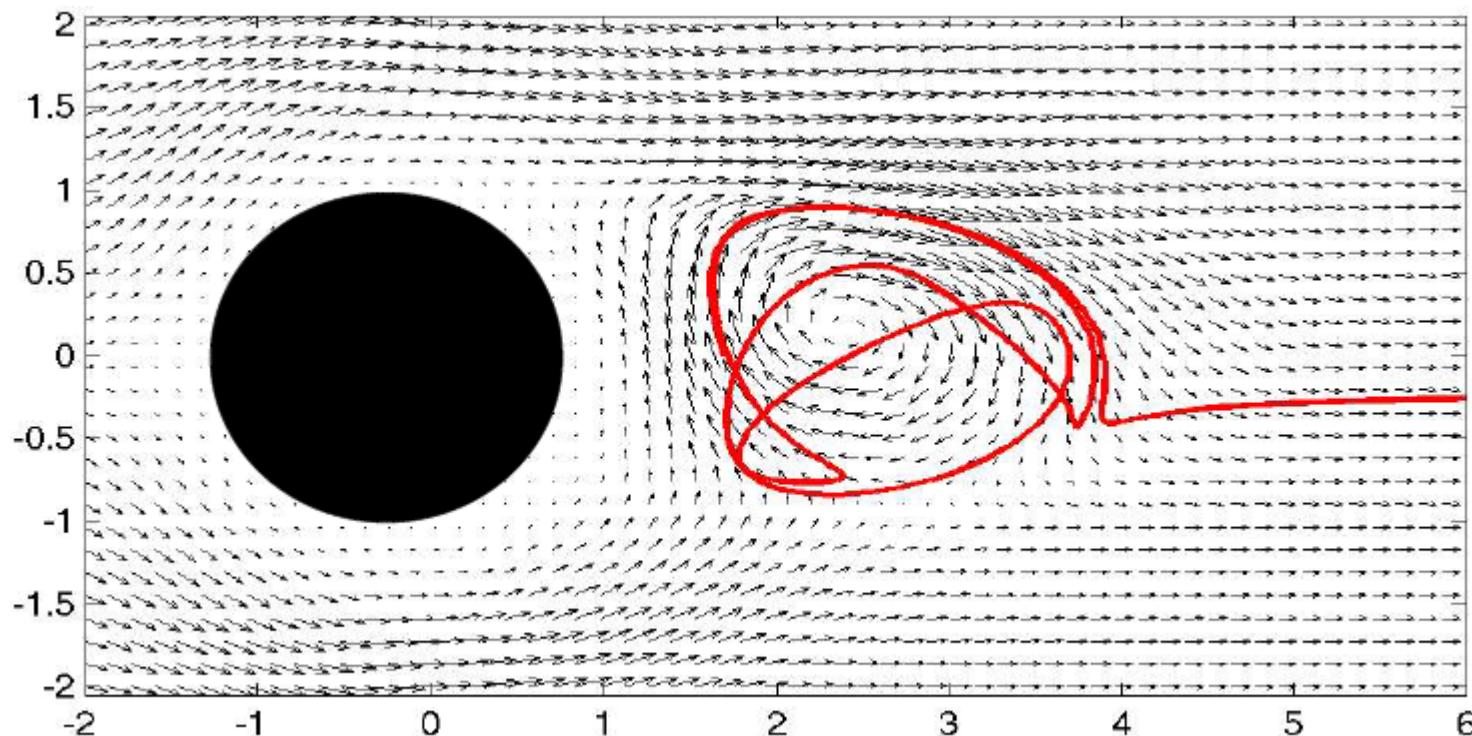




## EULERIAN VS LAGRANGIAN DESCRIPTION OF FLUID DYNAMICS



Example: von Kármán cylinder wake flow

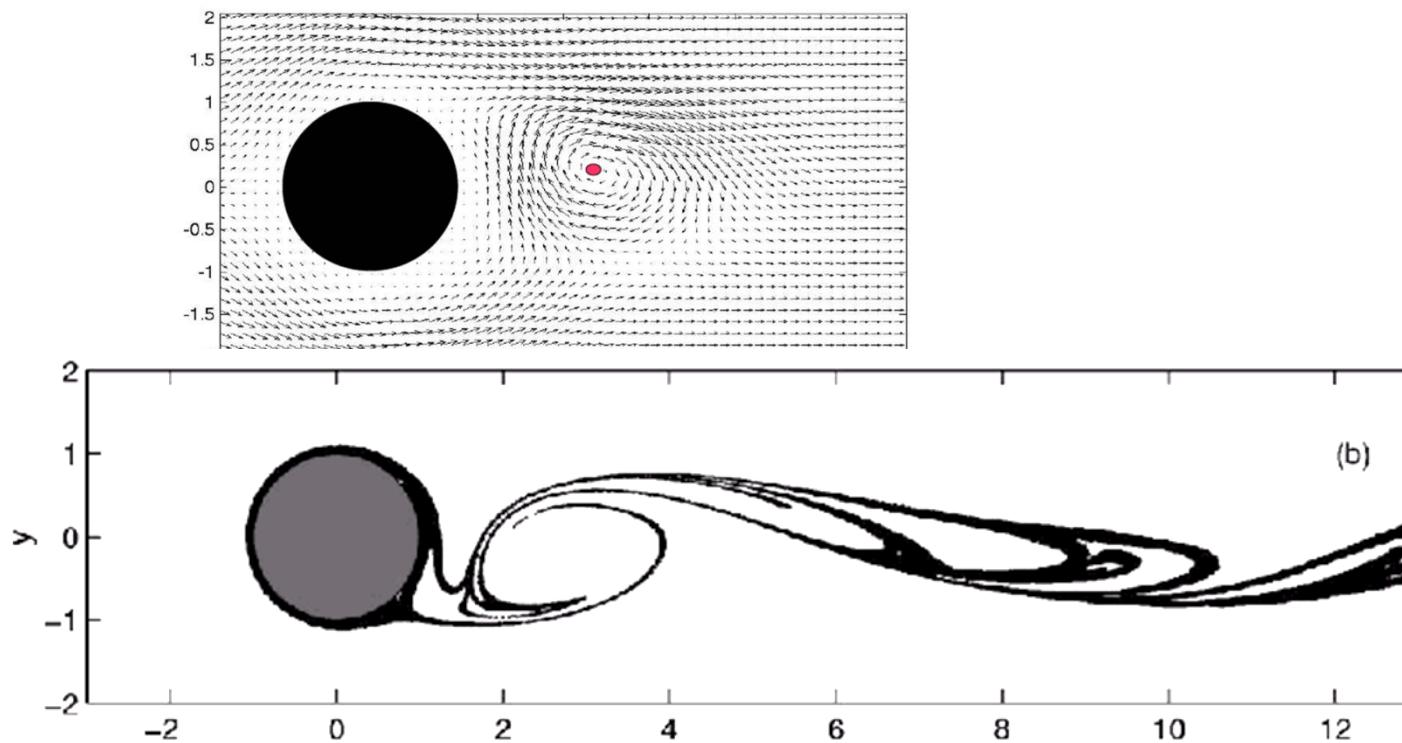


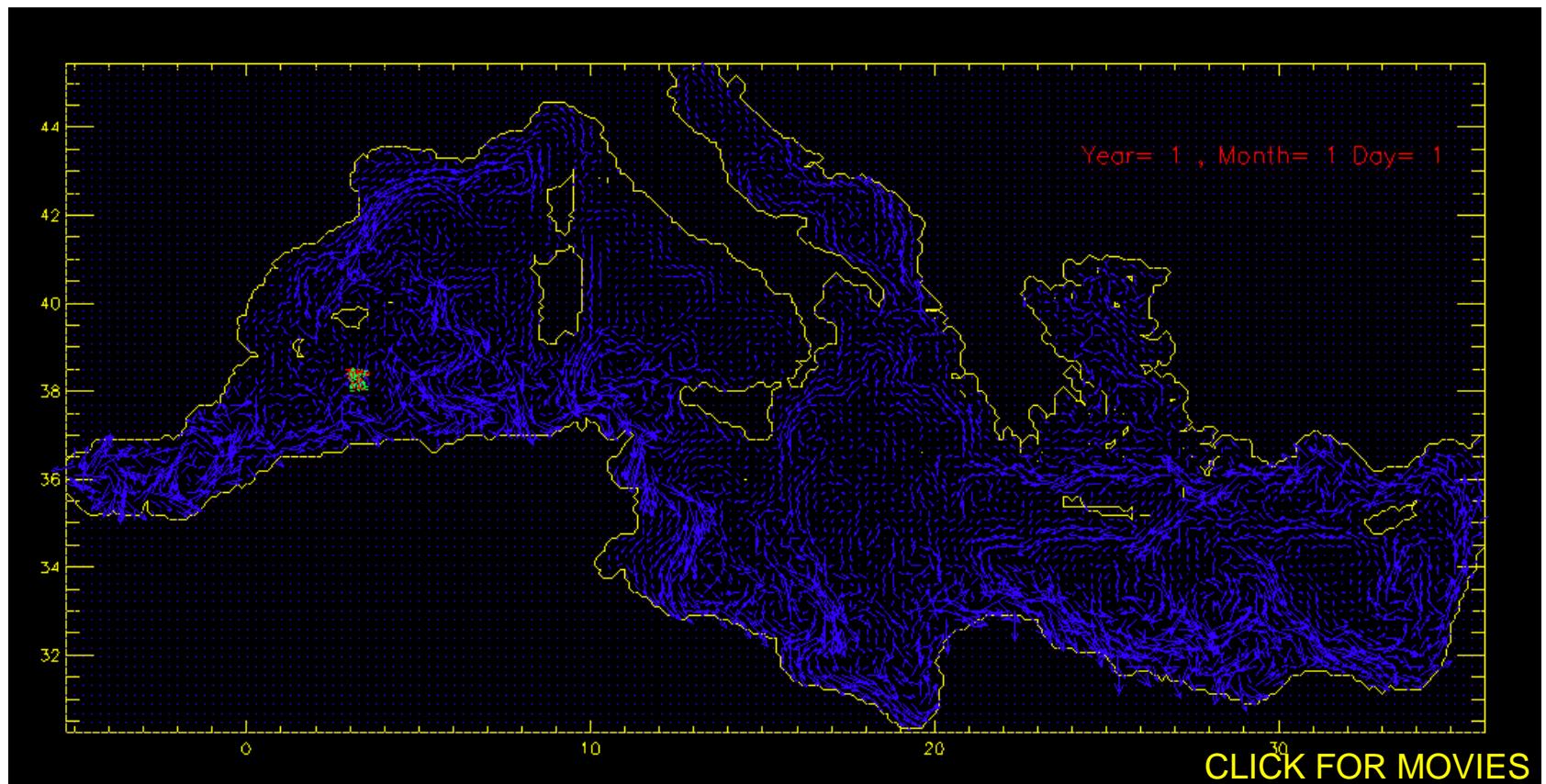


## EULERIAN VS LAGRANGIAN DESCRIPTION OF FLUID DYNAMICS



Example: von Kármán cylinder wake flow





**DieCAST** model for the full Mediterranean  
Primitive equations,  
48 vertical levels,  $1/8^\circ$  horizontal resolution,  
climatological forcings ...  $\rightarrow$  5 years of dayly velocity fields

VELOCITIES

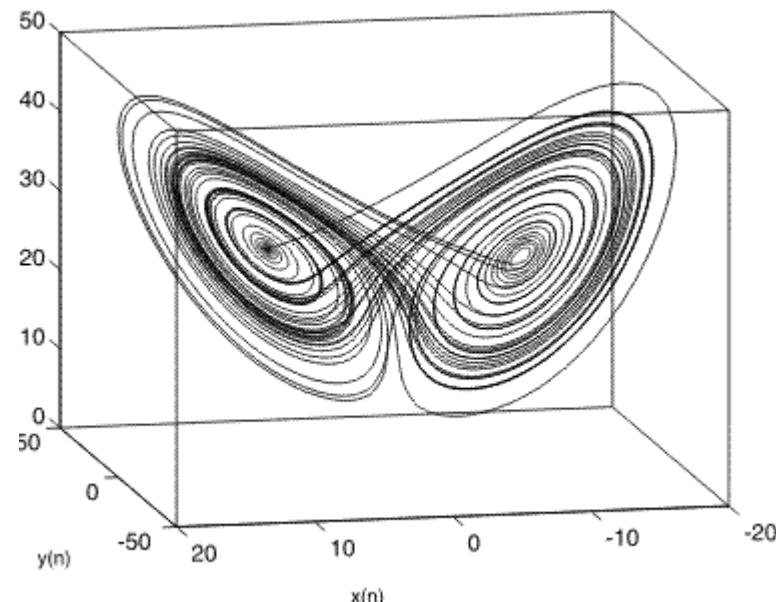
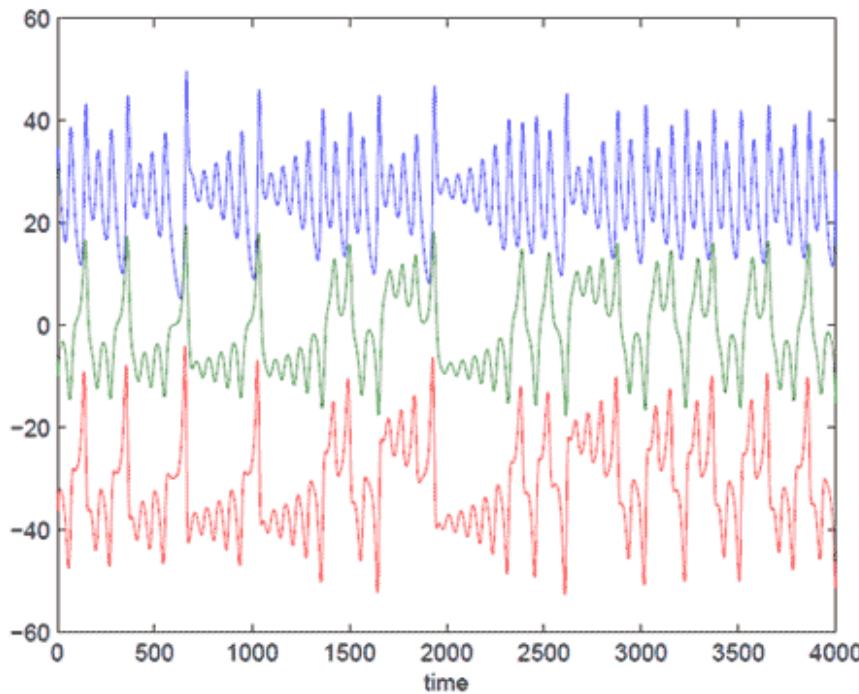


$$\frac{d\mathbf{x}(t)}{dt} = \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x}(t), t)$$

Motion in simple velocity fields produce very complex trajectories

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \sigma(y - x) \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = x(\rho - z) - y \quad \frac{dz}{dt} = xy - \beta z$$

Example: the Lorenz dynamical system



$$\frac{d\mathbf{x}(t)}{dt} = \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x}(t), t)$$

## Dynamical systems

ODEs

Autonomous system

KAM tori, stable/unstable manifolds

Chaotic sets



## Fluid transport

Fluid flow

Steady velocity field

Transport barriers and avenues

Mixing regions

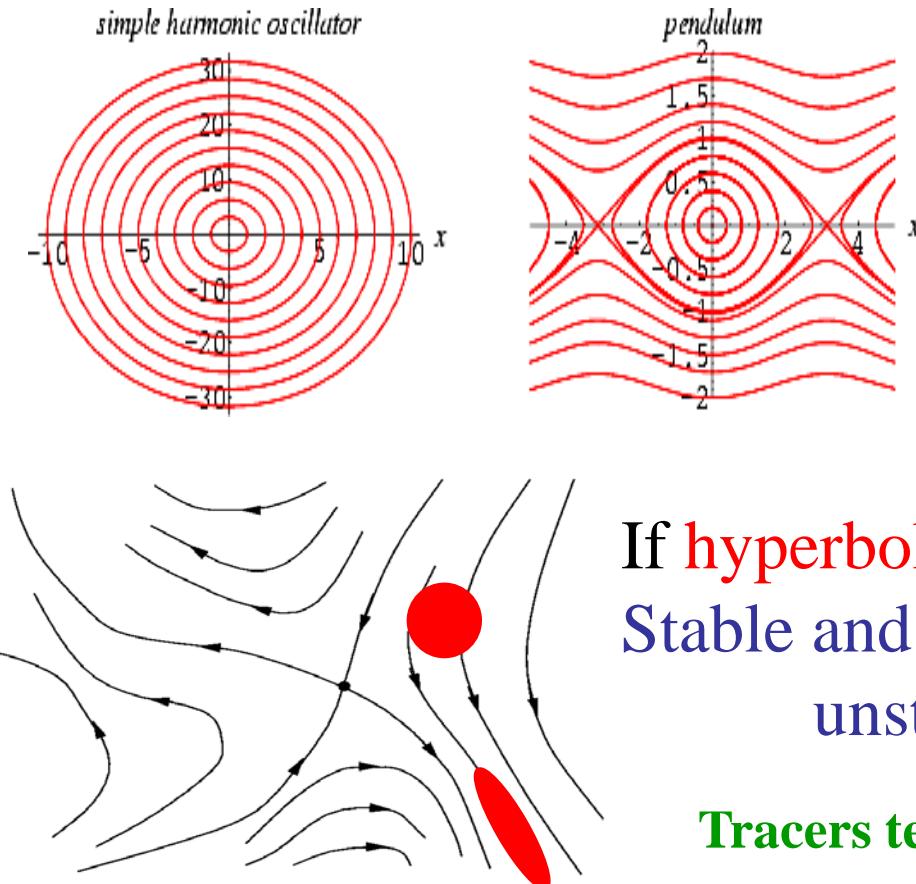
...

## Basics of dynamical systems (I)

$$\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x}(t), t) \quad \frac{d\mathbf{x}(t)}{dt} = \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x}(t), t)$$
$$\mathbf{x}(t) = \Phi_{t_0}^t(\mathbf{x}_0)$$

- Properties of a **non-autonomous**  $d$ -dimensional dynamical system are similar those of **autonomous**  $(d+1)$ -dimensional systems
- In autonomous one dimensional systems, motion can just remain, go to, or escape from **fixed points**
- In autonomous two dimensional systems, motion can just remain, go to or escape from **fixed points**, or remain, go to or escape from limit cycles (**oscillations**) [Poincaré-Bendixon theorem]
- Autonomous three-dimensional systems (and thus also non-autonomous 2d), in addition to all the above, can present **chaotic** trajectories

## In AUTONOMOUS 2D SYSTEMS (=STEADY 2D FLOWS)



Trajectories are organized by the **fixed points**, or **periodic orbits** of the dynamical system

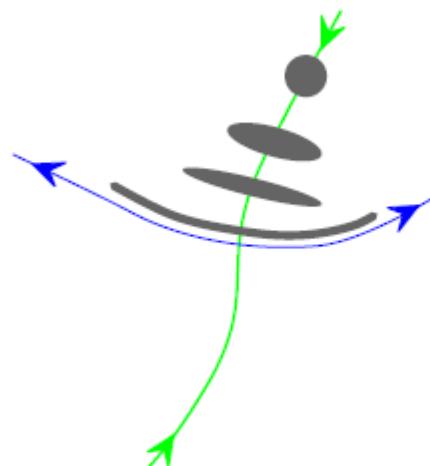
$$\frac{dx(t)}{dt} = \mathbf{v}(x(t))$$

If **hyperbolic**:  
Stable and

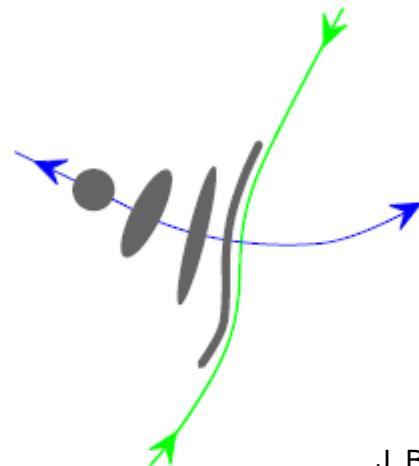
unstable manifolds → separatrices

**Tracers tend to approach unstable manifolds**

**A) Time forward evolution**



**B) Time backward evolution**



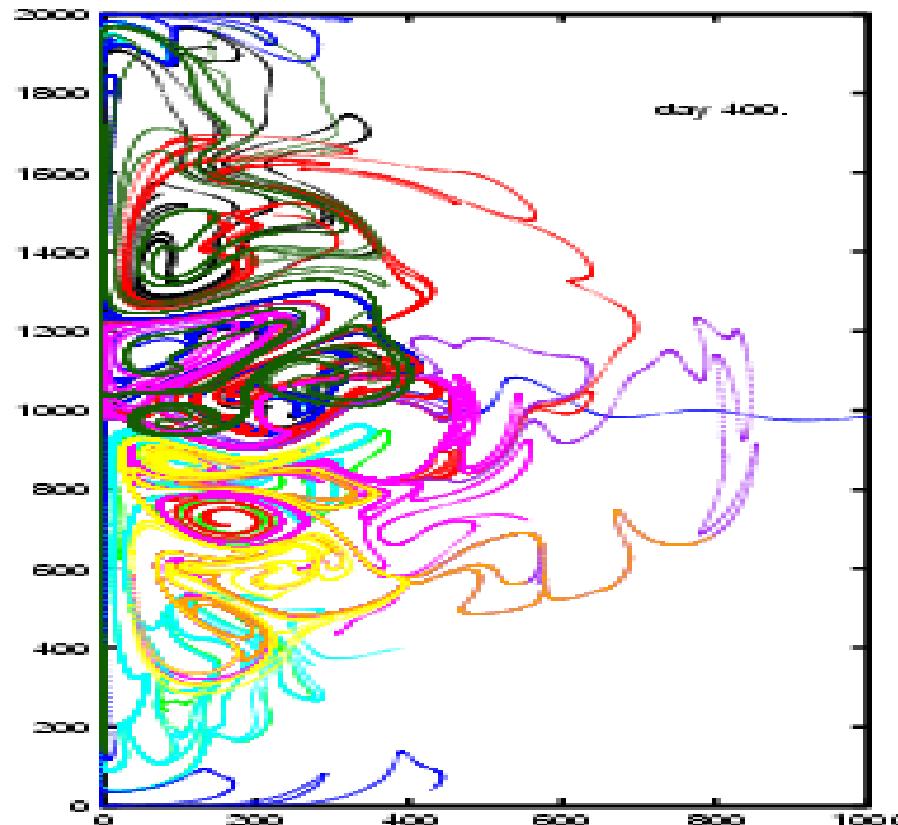
J. Bettencourt

**Figure 2.7:** Time evolution of a fluid patch (gray) in the vicinity of attracting (blue) and repelling (green) coherent structures. A) Forward in time. B) Backward in time. Arrows indicate forward in time direction of trajectories *on* the coherent structure.

In the forward-time direction (i.e.  $t > 0$ ), unstable manifolds ATTRACT material stable ones REPEL material.

The contrary happens in the backwards ( $t < 0$ ) time direction.

But  
unsteady flows ...  
is there anything  
similar?



From Mancho, Small and Wiggins, 2005

Is there any particular subset of hyperbolic points and manifolds organizing the dynamics (the equivalent to the fixed points in autonomous systems) ?  
How to select them among this mess ?

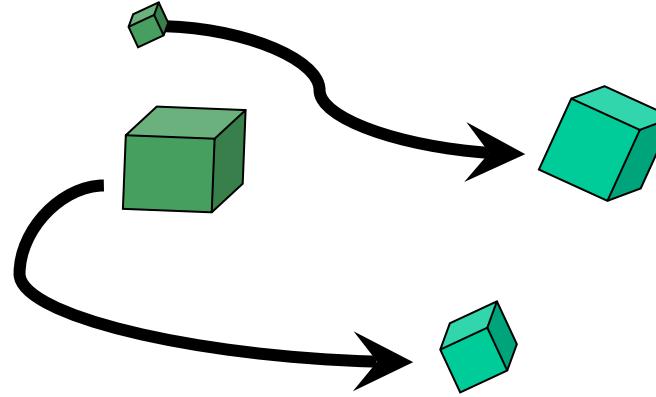
## Basics of dynamical systems (II)

$$\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x}(t), t) \quad \frac{d\mathbf{x}(t)}{dt} = \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x}(t), t)$$

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = \Phi_{t_0}^t(\mathbf{x}_0)$$

- The velocity divergence  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x}, t)$  gives the relative growth rate of the local volume element:

$$\frac{1}{V(t)} \frac{dV(t)}{dt} = \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}$$



Then, in incompressible velocity fields  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x}, t) = 0$  volume of phase space (or of fluid) is conserved

Many interesting fluid flows (for example when speeds are much smaller than the speed of sound) are INCOMPRESSIBLE

Any incompressible two-dimensional velocity field (steady or not) can be written in terms of a streamfunction:

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = v_x = \frac{\partial \Psi(x, y, t)}{\partial y}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = v_y = -\frac{\partial \Psi(x, y, t)}{\partial x}$$

Note that 2d incompressible Lagrangian fluid dynamics is fully isomorphic to Hamiltonian mechanics of 1 degree of freedom:

$$\frac{dq}{dt} = \frac{\partial H(p, q, t)}{\partial p}$$

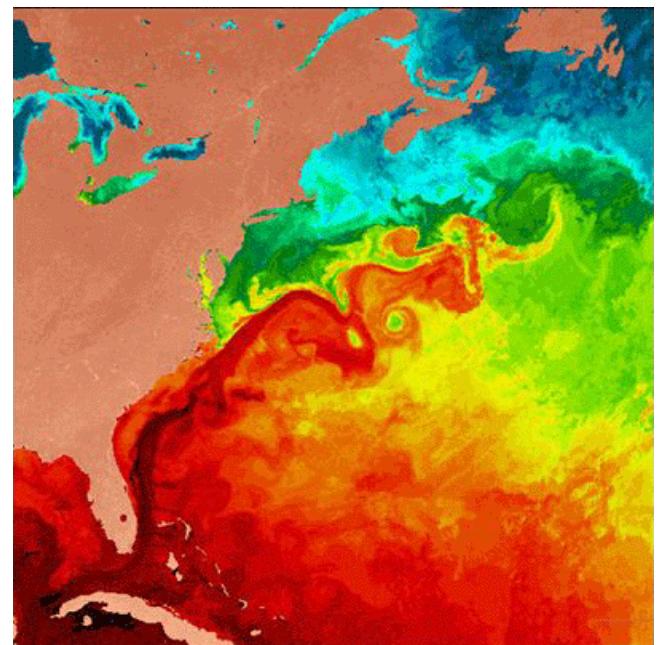
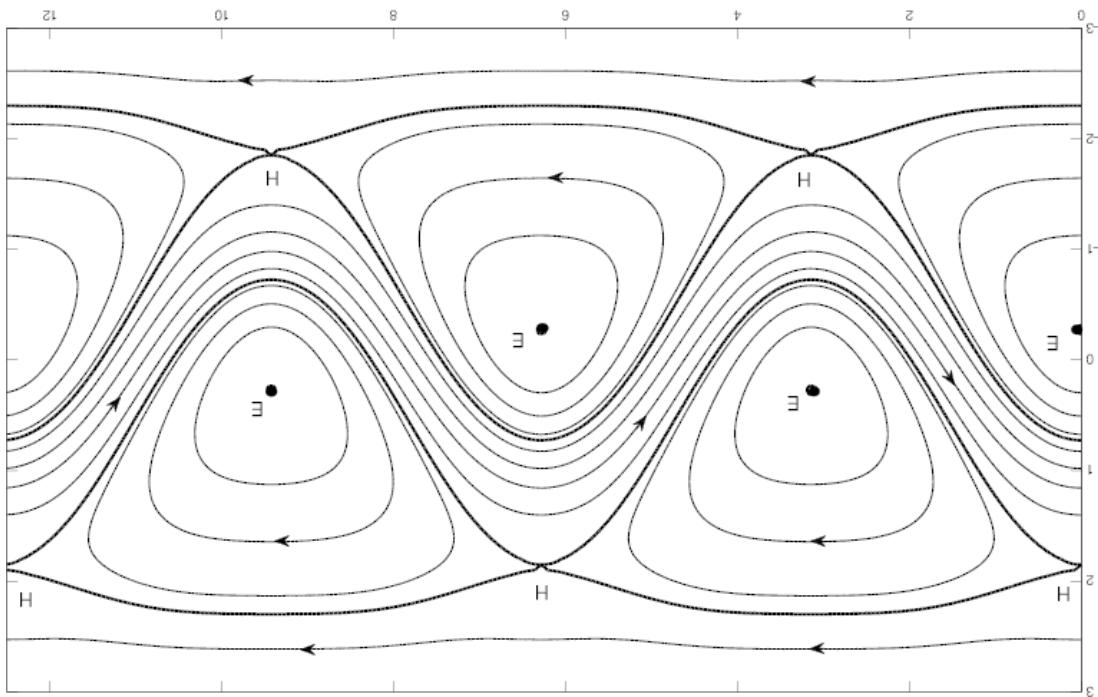
$$\frac{dp}{dt} = -\frac{\partial H(p, q, t)}{\partial q}$$

Rate of change of the streamfunction along the path of a fluid particle:

$$\frac{D\Psi}{Dt} = \frac{\partial\psi}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla\Psi = \frac{\partial\psi}{\partial t}$$

Thus, in a steady flow ( $\frac{\partial\Psi}{\partial t}=0$  ),  $\Psi$  is conserved in the fluid elements, so that trajectories are in the isolines of  $\Psi$

Example: a (steady) meandering jet kinematic model



Fixed points and their manifolds organize the flow

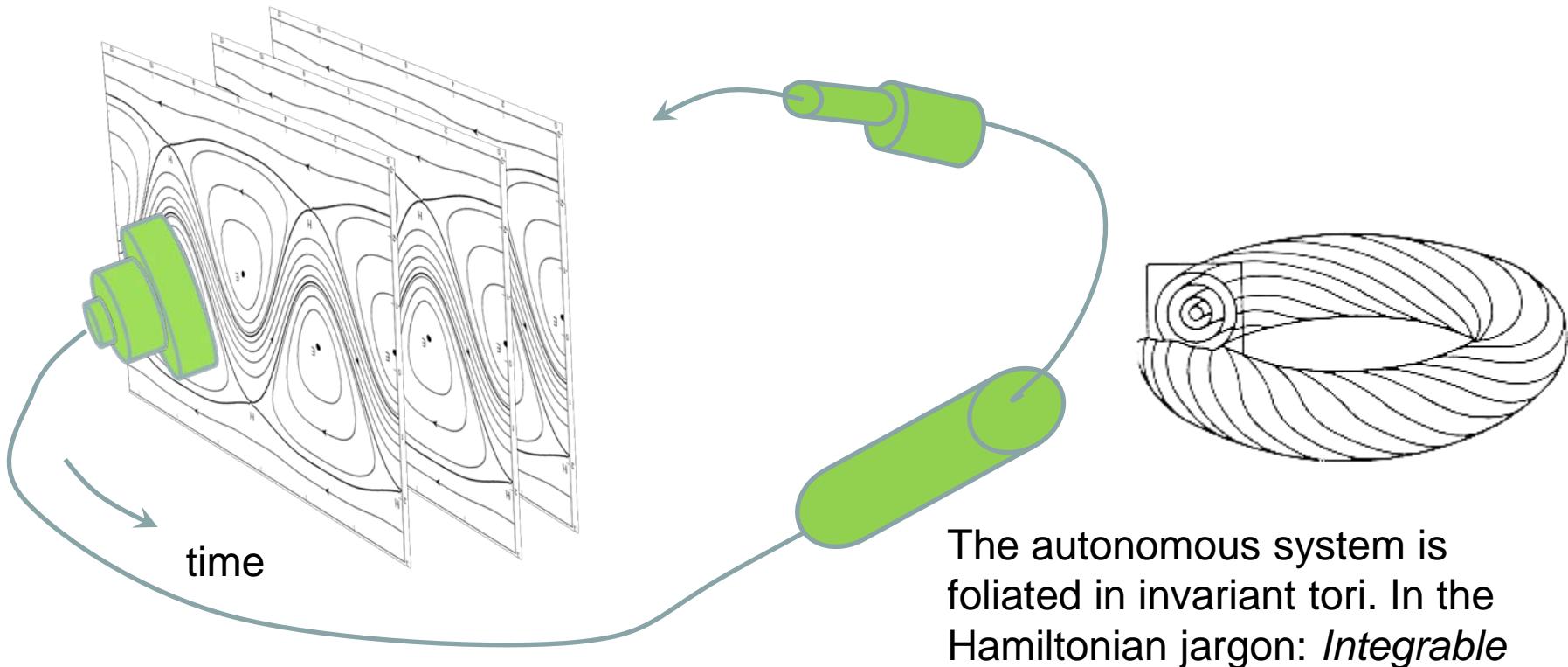
$$\psi(x, y) = Cy - \tanh[(y - A \cos x)/(L\sqrt{1 + A^2 \sin x^2})]$$

What happens if flow becomes unsteady?

$$\psi(x, y) = Cy - \tanh[(y - A \cos x)/(L\sqrt{1 + A^2 \sin x^2})]$$

$$A = A_0 + \epsilon \sin \omega t, \text{ period } T = 2\pi/\omega$$

Useful technique: The *Poincaré map* trick:  $\mathbf{x}(t + T) = \Phi_t^{t+T}(\mathbf{x}(t))$

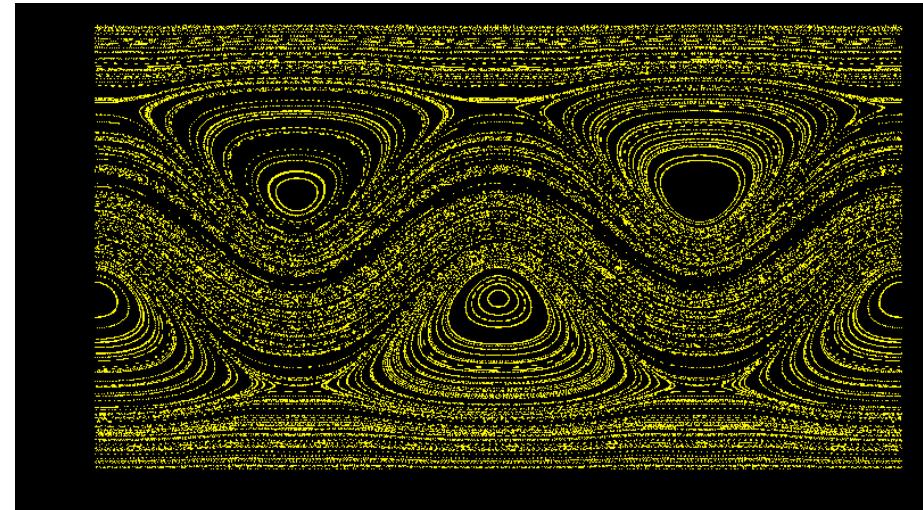


$$\psi(x, y) = Cy - \tanh[(y - A \cos x)/(L\sqrt{1 + A^2 \sin x^2})]$$

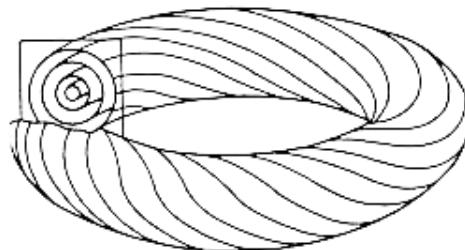
$$A = A_0 + \epsilon \sin \omega t, \text{ period } T = 2\pi/\omega$$

Poincaré map:  $\mathbf{x}(t + T) = \Phi_t^{t+T}(\mathbf{x}(t))$   $\epsilon = 0$ , steady flow

CLICK FOR MOVIE



300 particles initially



After 200 periods

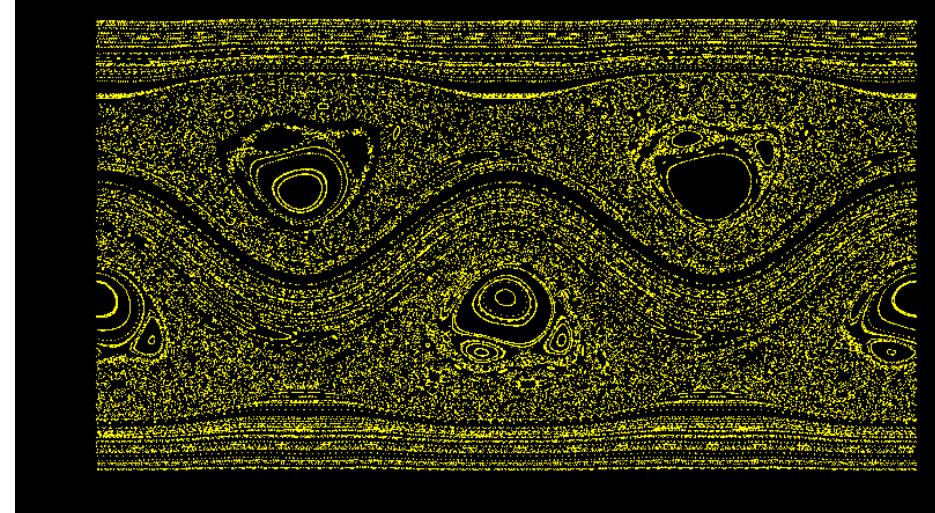
Invariant tori

$$\psi(x, y) = Cy - \tanh[(y - A \cos x)/(L\sqrt{1 + A^2 \sin x^2})]$$

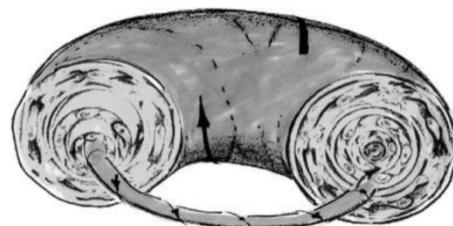
$$A = A_0 + \epsilon \sin \omega t, \text{ period } T = 2\pi/\omega$$

Poincaré map:  $\mathbf{x}(t + T) = \Phi_t^{t+T}(\mathbf{x}(t))$   $\epsilon = 0.02$ , unsteady flow

CLICK FOR MOVIE



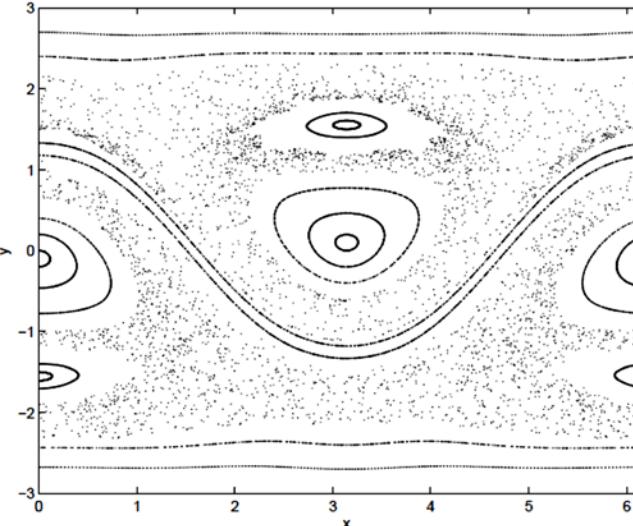
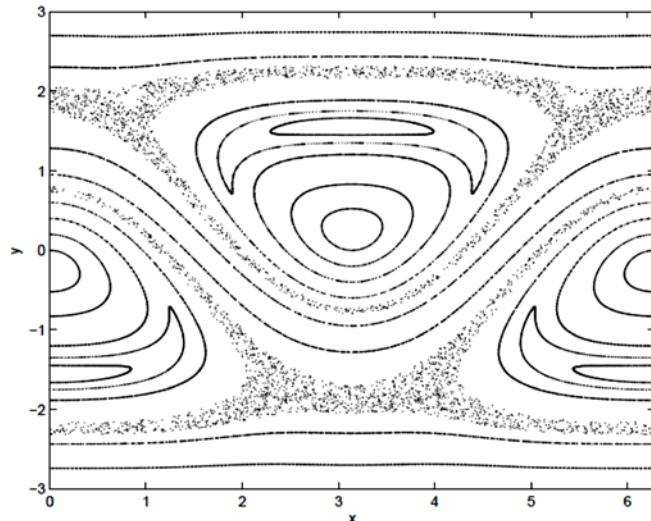
300 particles initially



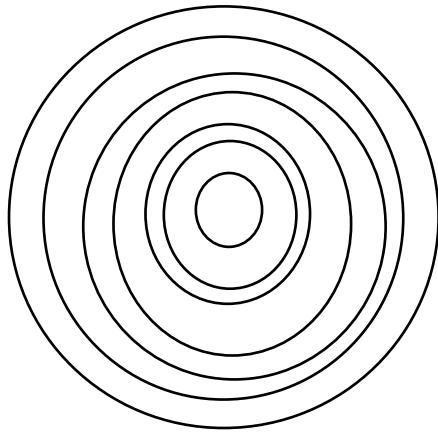
After 200 periods

Some invariant tori are broken

Increasing the time-dependent perturbation to the integrable case



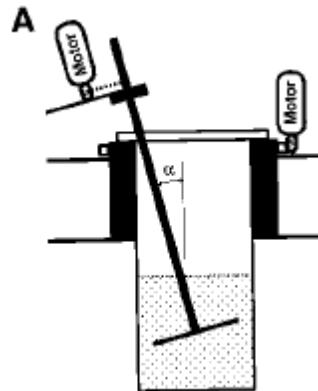
Remaining  
invariant tori +  
chaotic sea



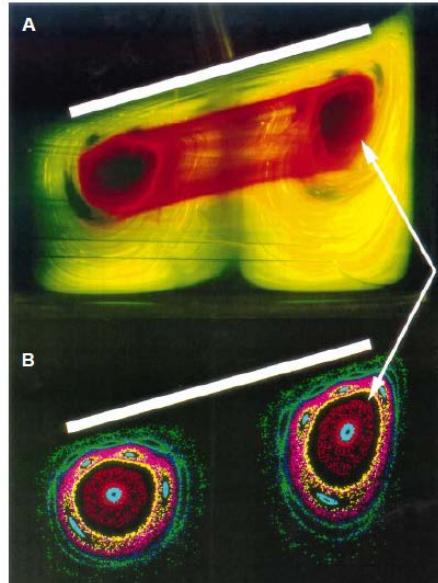
**VERY RELEVANT  
FOR FLUID  
TRANSPORT !**

Arnold, 1963

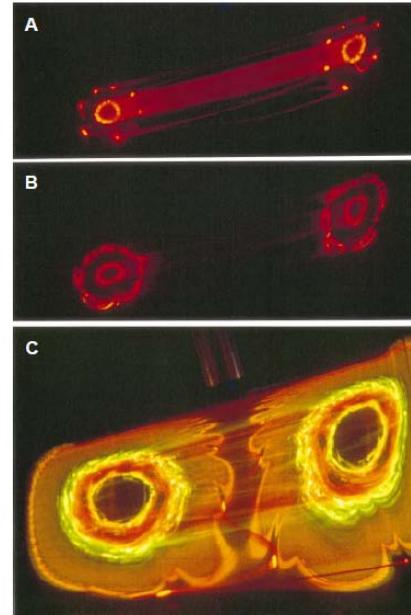
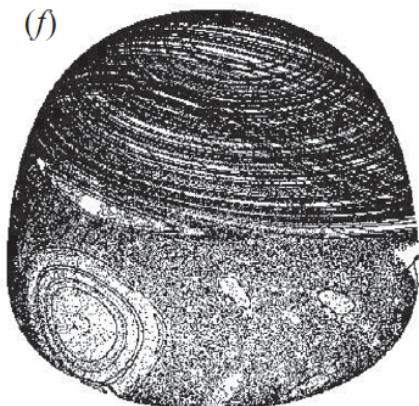
## Similar situation in 3D steady and periodically perturbed flows



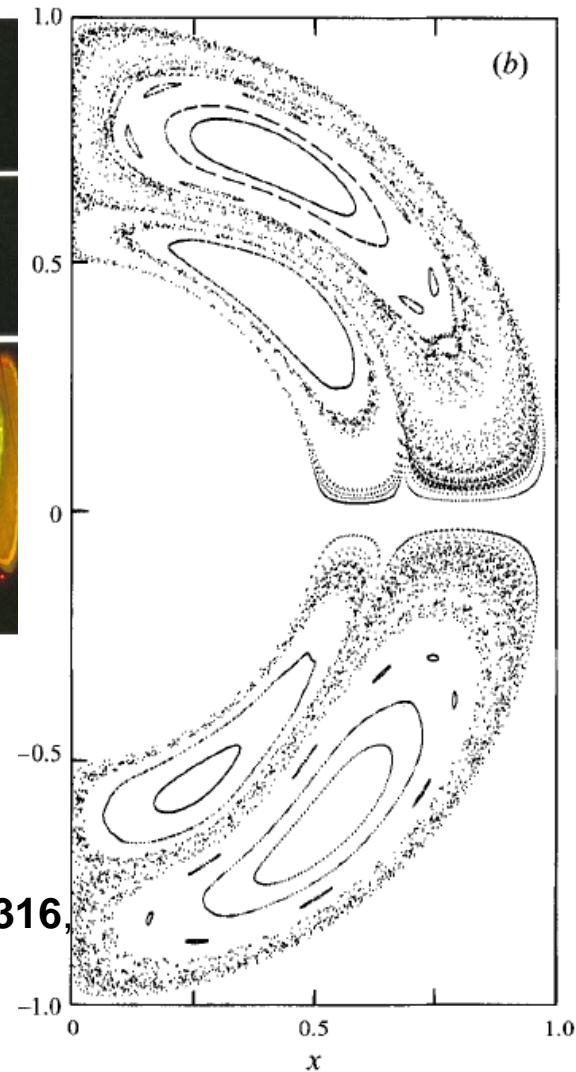
Fountain et al,  
Science 281, 683  
(1998)



Pouransari et al.  
J. Fluid. Mech. **654**,  
5-34 (2010)

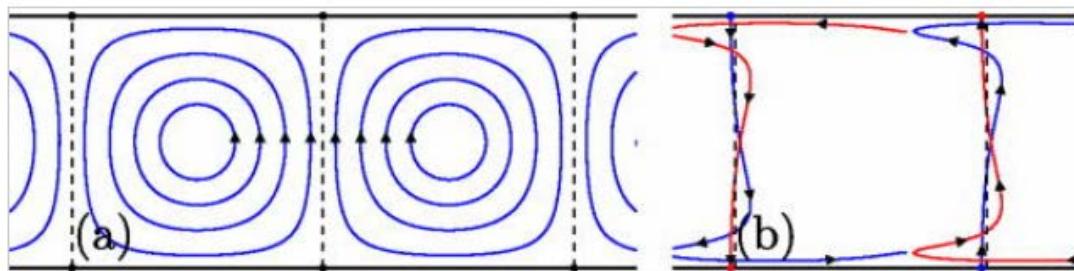


Cartwright et al.  
J. Fluid. Mech. **316**,  
259-284 (1996)

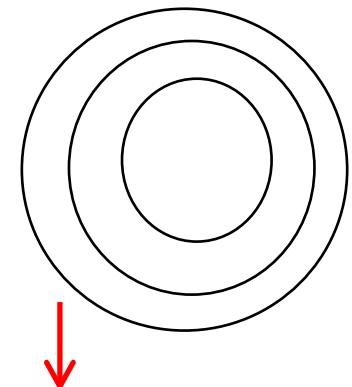


## Theory (Ott, Chos in Dynamical systems)

- After all, connection of the unstable manifold of a fixed point with the stable of another is really non-generic, except under the conditions of incompressibility AND steadiness. A perturbation produces separatrix crossing (Melnikov formula)

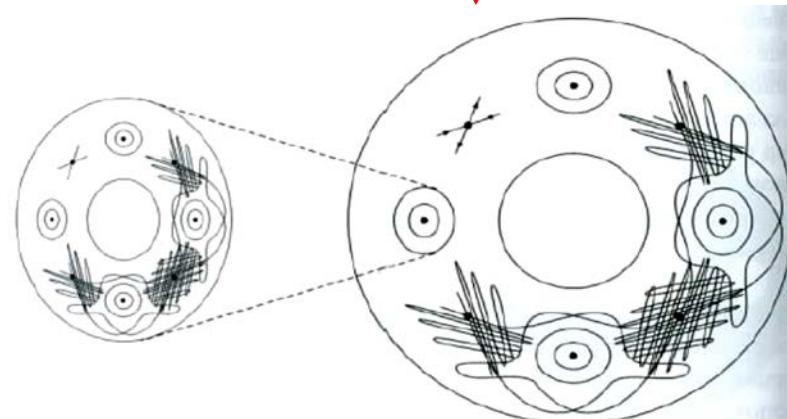


- Poincaré-Birkoff theorem:** ALL resonant tori (those with  $W = T_{\text{tori}}/T_{\text{perturbation}} = p/q$  rational) are destroyed and replaced by a chain of elliptic + hyperbolic islands + chaotic sea



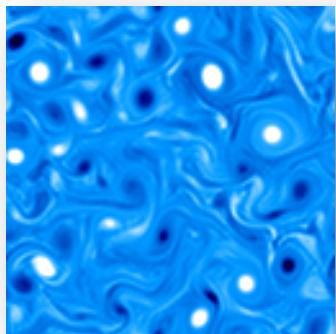
- Kolmogorov-Arnold-Moser (KAM) theorem:** Tori with  $W$  sufficiently irrational

$\left( \left| W - \frac{p}{q} \right| > \frac{K(\epsilon)}{q^{5/2}} \right)$  are deformed but not destroyed

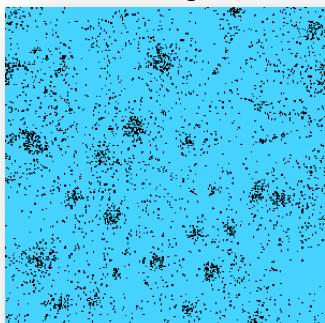


## What happens in non-periodically perturbed flows?

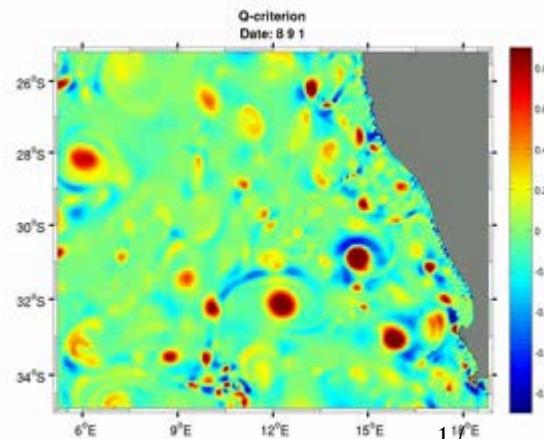
- In some cases KAM-like theorems are also valid (quasiperiodic perturbations)
- The idea is that there should be something like ‘travelling KAM tori’. But this is not rigorous in general, and in fact there is leaking from these structures. → LCSs



Vorticity in decaying turbulence  
from Cartwright et al.

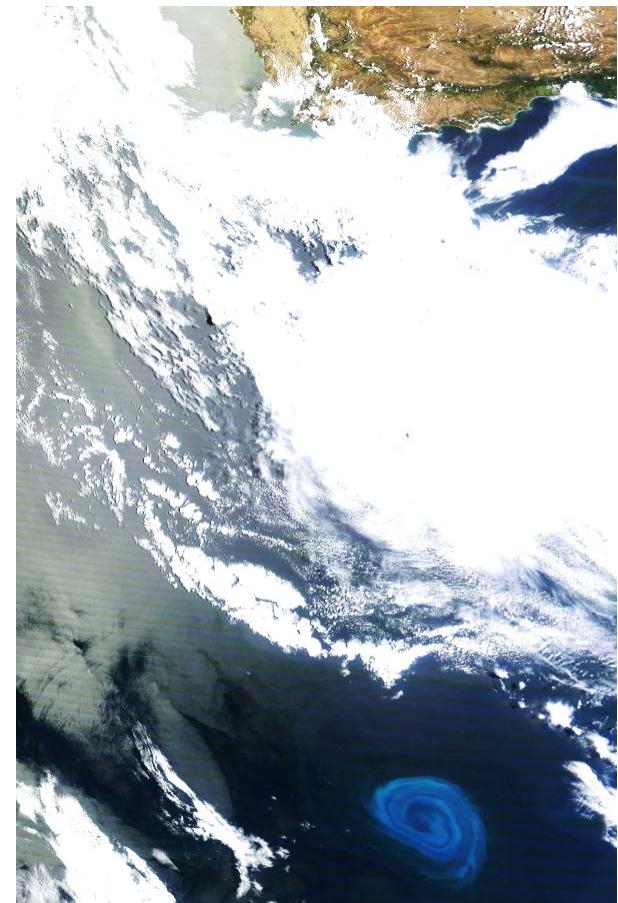
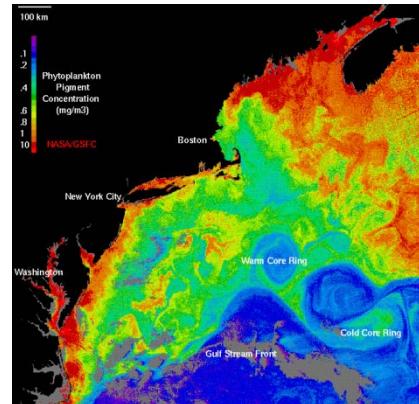


Temperature



$$\text{Q-criterion (Hunt et al, 1988): } Q = \frac{1}{2} (\|\Omega\|^2 - \|\mathbf{S}\|^2)$$

In Benguela (J. Bettencourt)

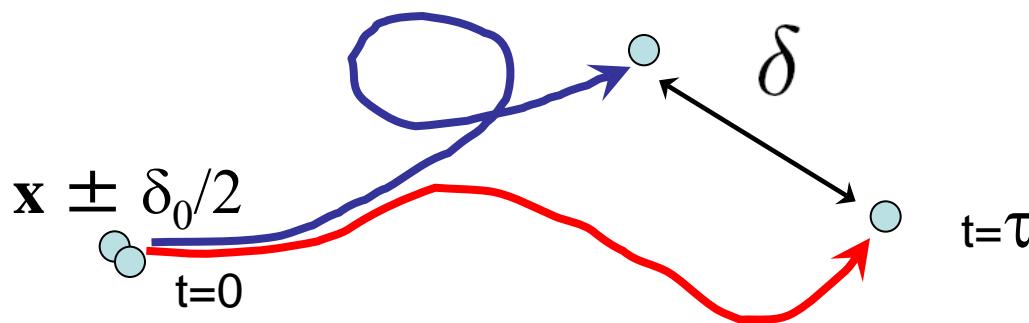


$$\lambda(t) = \lim_{\|\delta(0)\| \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{t} \ln \frac{\|\delta(t)\|}{\|\delta(0)\|}$$

Finite-time Lyapunov exponent  
FTLE

$$\lambda = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \lambda(t)$$

Lyapunov exponent



$$\lambda(\delta_0, \delta_f) \equiv \frac{1}{\tau} \log \frac{\delta_f}{\delta_0}$$

Finite-size Lyapunov exponent  
FSLE

All the quantities are also functions  
of the initial position and time:

$$\lambda(x, t, \delta_0, \delta_f)$$

## Lyapunov exponent

$\delta(t) = \mathbf{r}'(t) - \mathbf{r}(t)$  satisfies the equation

$$\dot{\delta} = \mathbf{v}[\mathbf{r}'(t), t] - \mathbf{v}[\mathbf{r}(t), t] \approx \nabla \mathbf{v}[\mathbf{r}(t), t] \delta$$

$$\delta(t) = \mathbf{M}_t(\mathbf{x}_0)\delta(0) \quad M_{ij} = \partial(\Phi_t)_i / \partial r_j$$

$$|\delta(t)|^2 = \delta_0^T \mathbf{M}_t^T \mathbf{M}_t \delta_0$$

$$\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \lambda_3 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_d$$

The Oseledec theorem (Eckmann and Ruelle, 1985) implies that under rather general conditions the eigenvectors of  $\mathbf{M}_t^T(\mathbf{x}_0)\mathbf{M}_t(\mathbf{x}_0)$  converge, as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , to a set of Lyapunov vectors  $\{\mathbf{v}_i\}$ . Since  $\mathbf{M}_t^T \mathbf{M}_t$  is symmetric and positive definite the Lyapunov vectors form an orthonormal set and the eigenvalues  $\Lambda_i^t$  are all positive. If the initial separation is chosen to be oriented along one of the Lyapunov vectors,  $\delta_0 = \delta_0 \mathbf{v}_i$  with  $\delta_0 \ll L$ , the distance between the particles at a later time  $t$  is

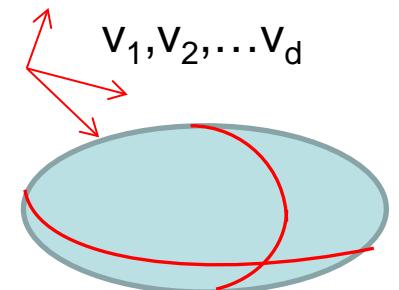
$$|\mathbf{M}_t \delta_0 \mathbf{v}_i| = (\delta_0 \mathbf{v}_i^T \mathbf{M}_t^T \mathbf{M}_t \delta_0 \mathbf{v}_i)^{1/2} = \delta_0 (\Lambda_i^t)^{1/2}. \quad (2.70)$$

$$\lambda_i = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{\delta_0 \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{t} \ln \left( \frac{|\mathbf{M}_t \delta_0 \mathbf{v}_i|}{\delta_0} \right) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln \Lambda_i^t}{2t}.$$

Incompressibility:  
 $\det(\mathbf{M}) = 1$   
 $\sum \lambda_i = 0$

2d incompressible:

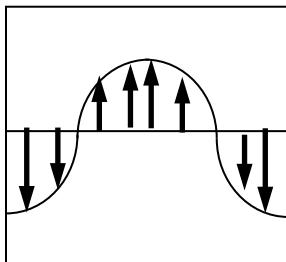
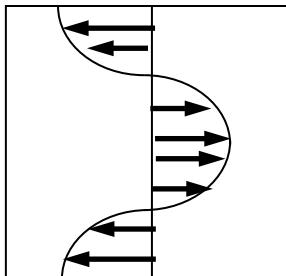
$$\lambda_2 = -\lambda_1$$



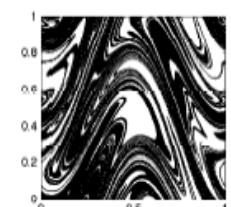
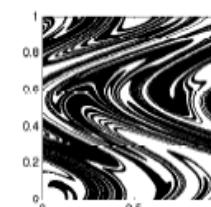
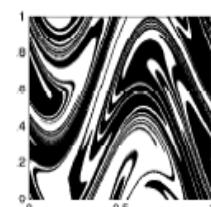
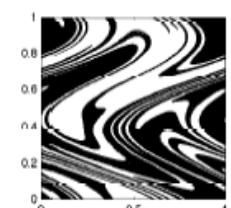
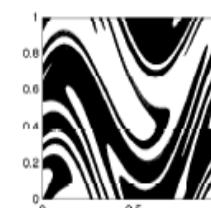
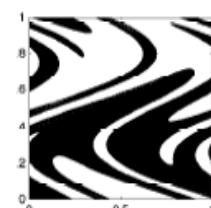
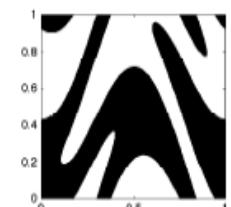
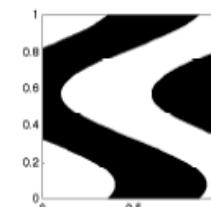
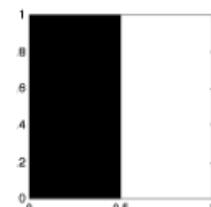
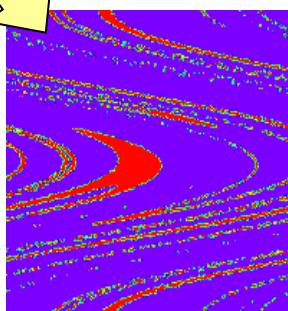
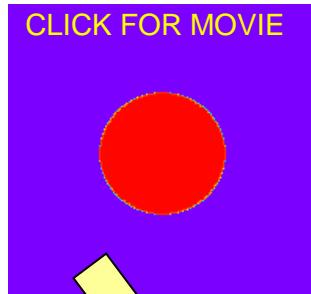
Arbitrary initial displacement:

$$\delta_0 = \sum c_i \mathbf{v}_i \quad \delta(t) = \sum_i c_i \mathbf{M}_t(\mathbf{x}_0) \mathbf{v}_i.$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{\delta_0 \rightarrow 0} \frac{|\delta(t)|}{|\delta_0|} \sim e^{\lambda_1 t},$$



$x, y \text{ MOD } 1$



Lyapunov vector fields define unstable (and stable) foliation

**Warning:** only in hyperbolic regions

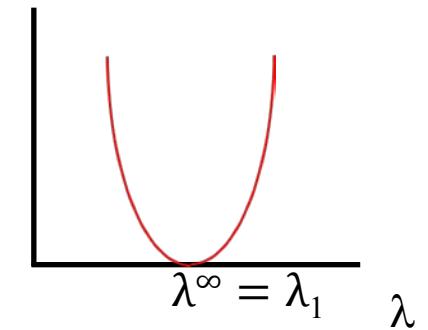
## Distribution of Lyapunov exponents at finite time

$$P(\lambda, t) \sim t^{1/2} e^{-G(\lambda)t}$$

Large deviation theory

$G(\lambda)$  Cramer function

$$P(\lambda, t)t^{1/2} \sim e^{-\frac{(\lambda - \lambda^\infty)^2}{2\Delta}t}, \text{ where } \Delta = \frac{1}{G''(\lambda^\infty)}$$



Values of  $\lambda$  are arranged in sets that become Fractal (multifractal) at infinite time

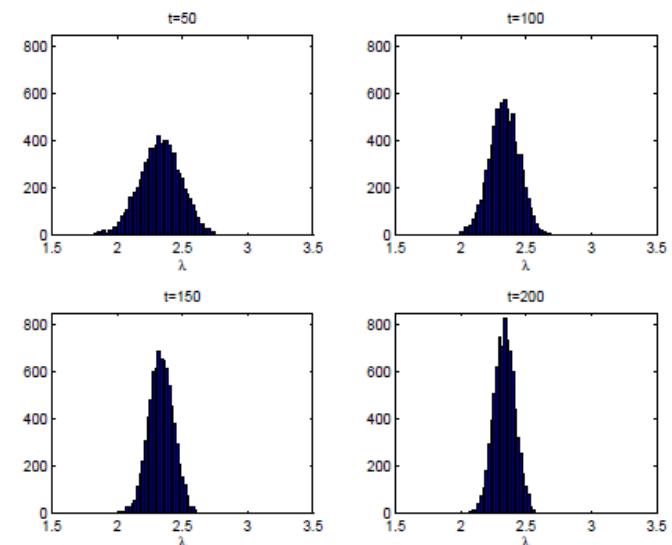
$$N(l) \sim l^{-D_f}$$

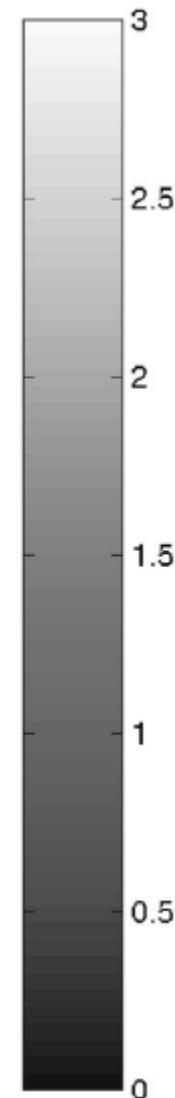
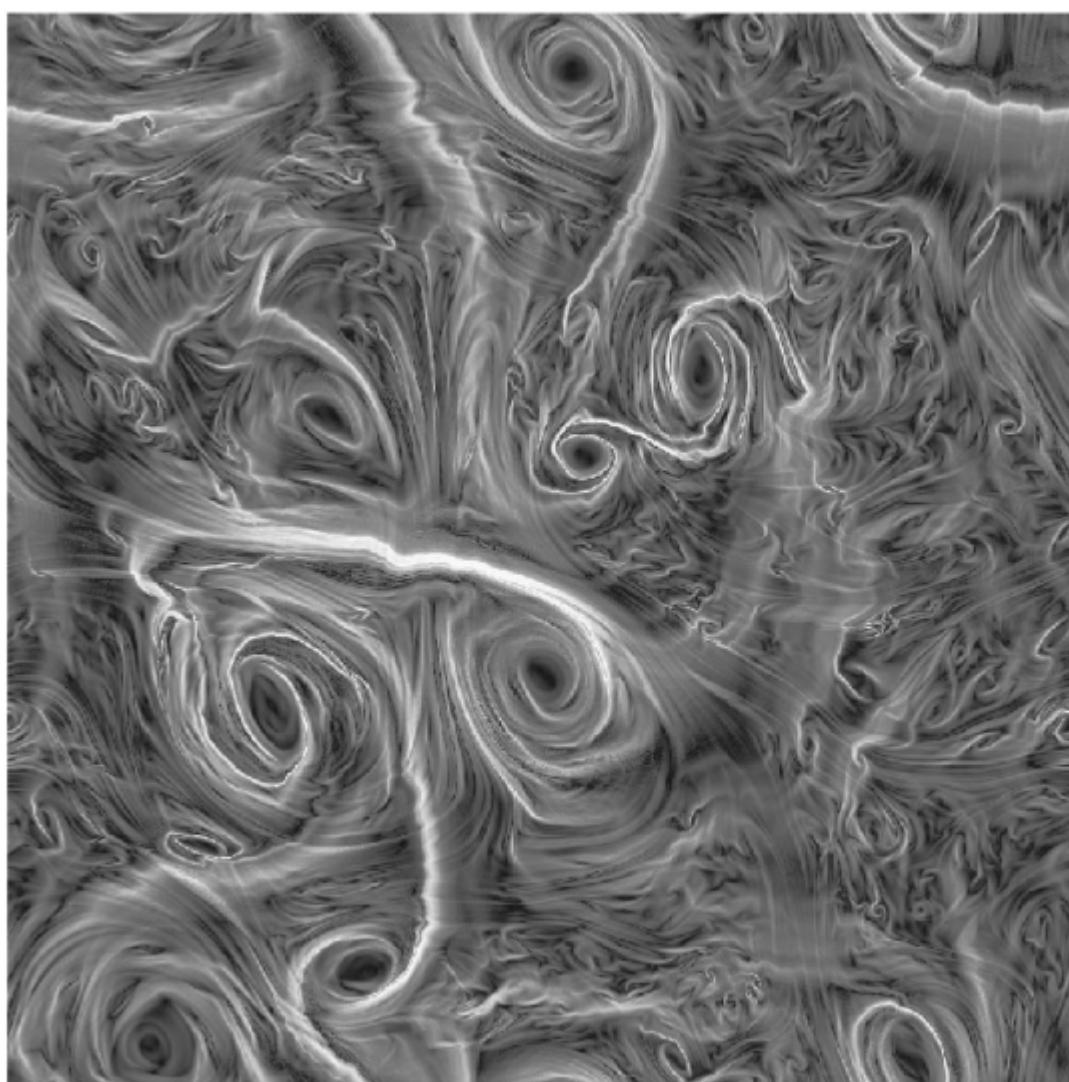
$$A_\lambda(t) \sim \exp(-G(\lambda)t)$$

$$w_\lambda(t) \sim \exp(-\lambda t)$$

$$N_\lambda(l) \simeq \frac{A_\lambda}{(w_\lambda)^2} \sim e^{[2\lambda - G(\lambda)]t} \sim l^{[G(\lambda)/\lambda] - 2}$$

$$D_f(\lambda) = 2 - \frac{G(\lambda)}{\lambda}$$

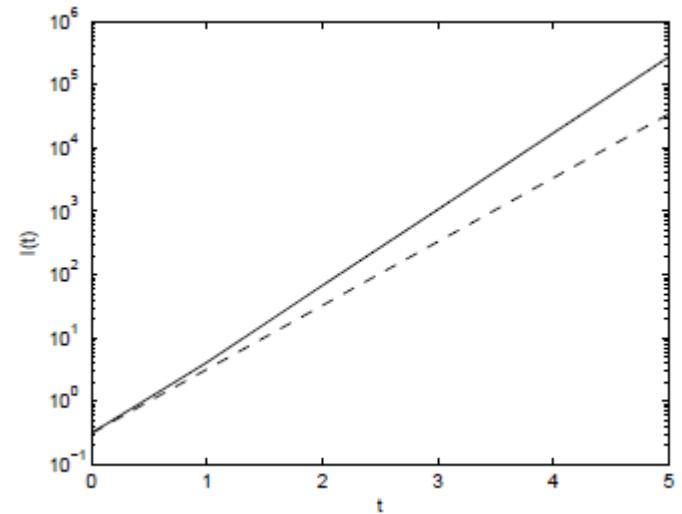
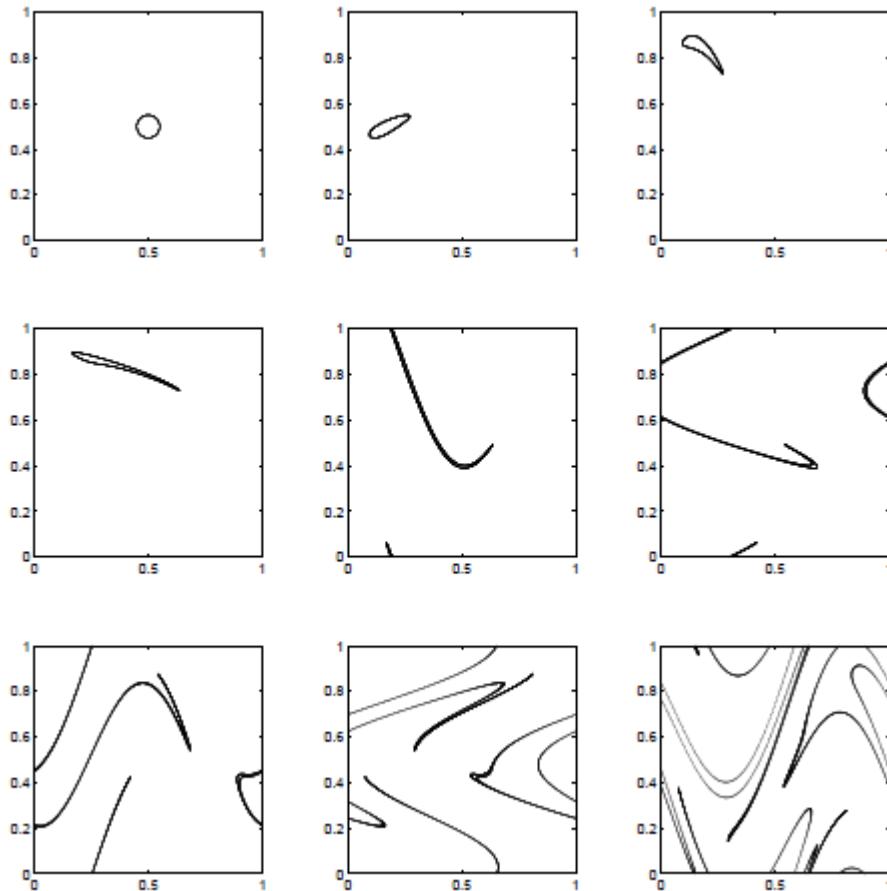




G. Lapeyre, Chaos, Vol. 12, 688 (2002)

Are sets of zero measure relevant for anything?

Length of a material line:



Length of a material line:

$$l(t) \sim l_0 \int e^{\lambda t} P(\lambda, t) d\lambda \sim l_0 \int e^{(\lambda - G(\lambda))t} d\lambda$$

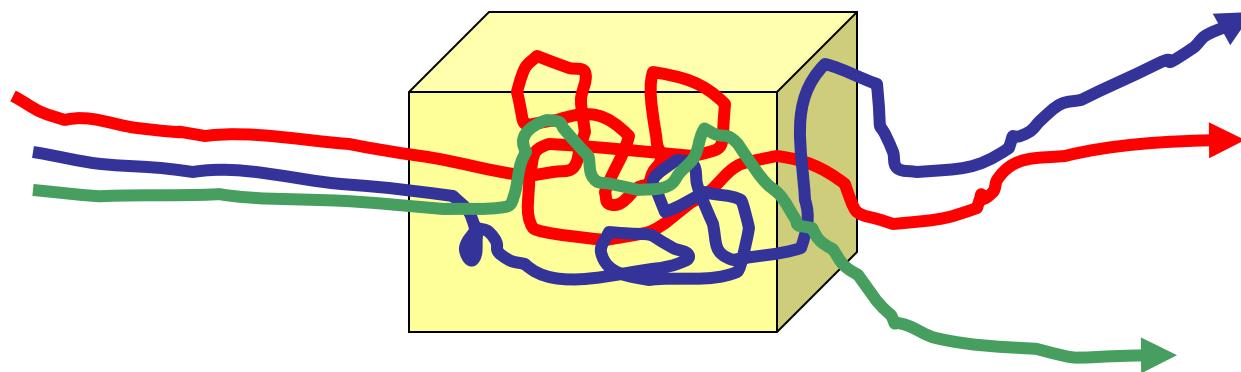
$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} l(t) \sim e^{\gamma t} \text{ where } \gamma = \max_{\lambda} [\lambda - G(\lambda)].$$

Topological entropy  $\gamma \geq \lambda^\infty$

Gaussian approximation:  $\lambda^* = \lambda^\infty + \Delta$        $\gamma = \lambda^* - G(\lambda^*) = \lambda^\infty + \frac{\Delta}{2}$ .

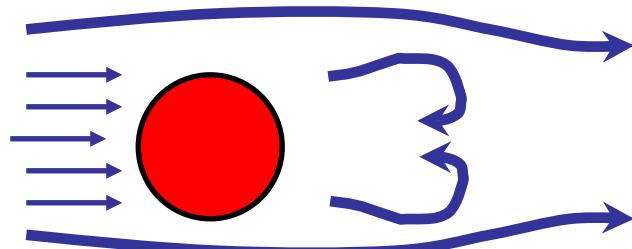
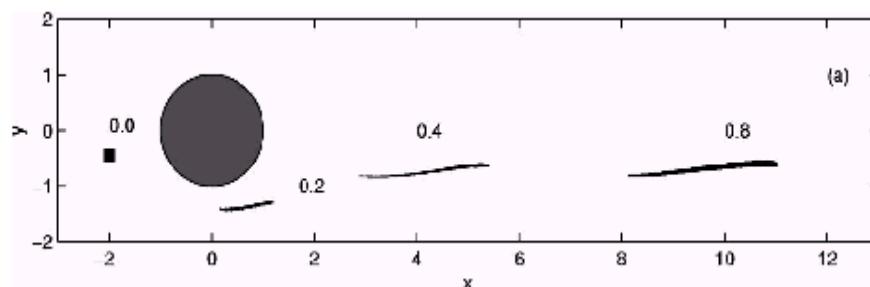
# OPEN CHAOTIC FLOWS

transient chaos (or chaotic scattering)

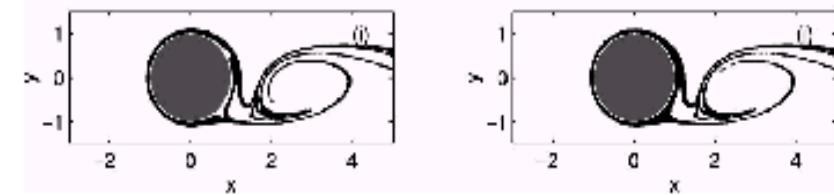
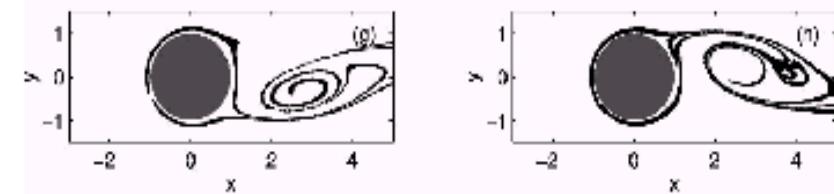
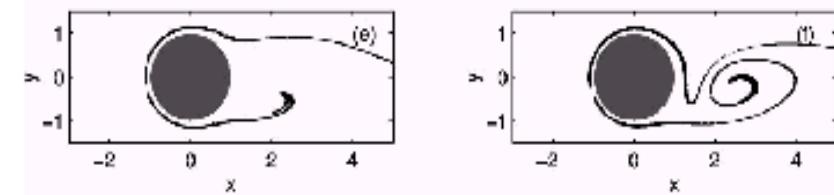
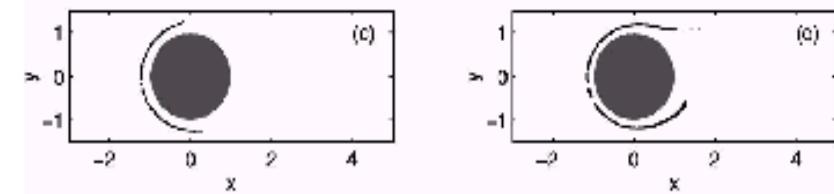
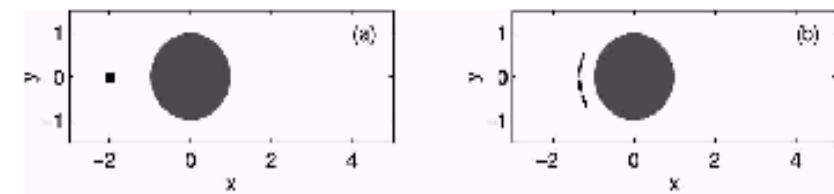
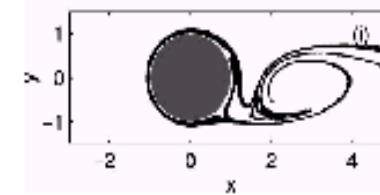
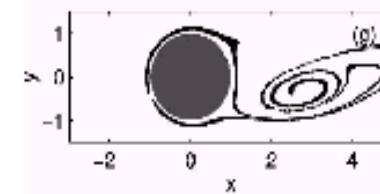
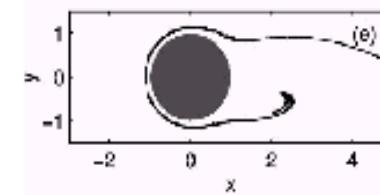
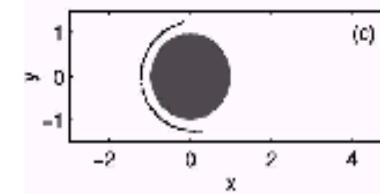
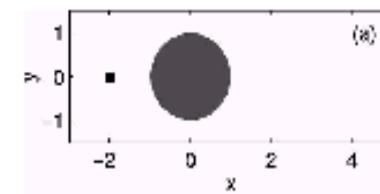
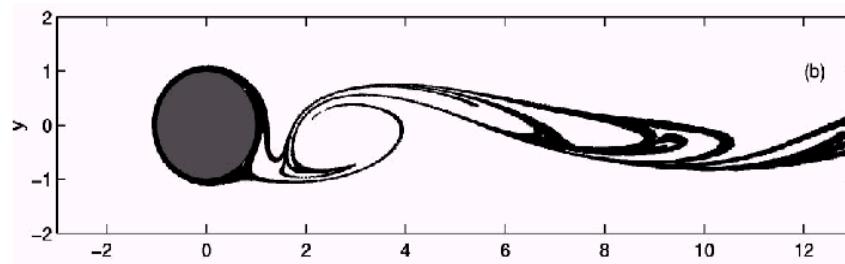


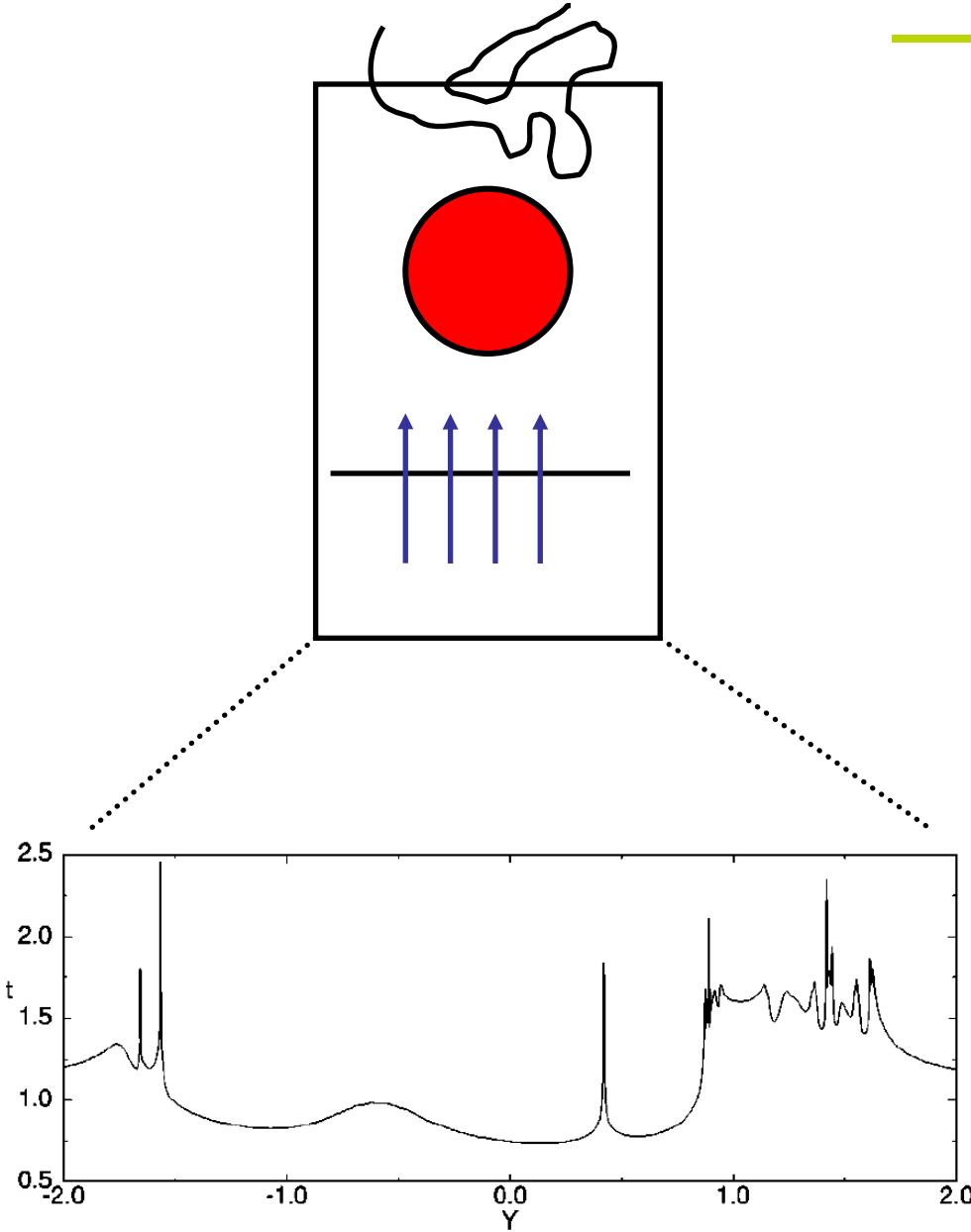
Ott & Tel, *An introduction to chaotic scattering*, CHAOS 3, 417 (1993)

Jung, Tel & Ziemniak, *Applications of scattering chaos to particle transport in a hydrodynamical flow*, CHAOS 3, 555 (1993)

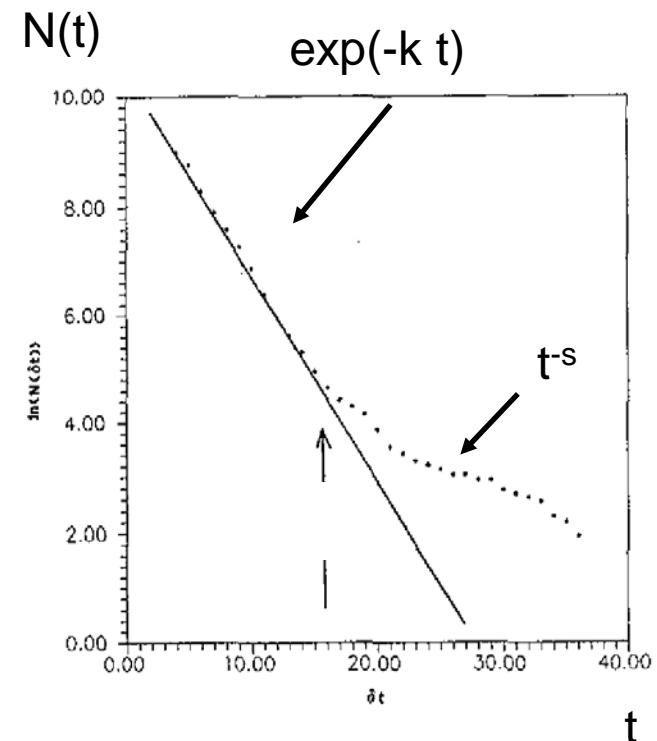


A von Karman vortex street flow





## Open chaotic flows



- Exponential escape of almost all trajectories
- Presence of a particular (fractal, zero measure) set of long remaining trajectories

## OPEN CHAOTIC FLOWS:

wakes, jets, sinks ...

Stable and unstable manifolds of the chaotic saddle

## CHAOTIC SADDLE:

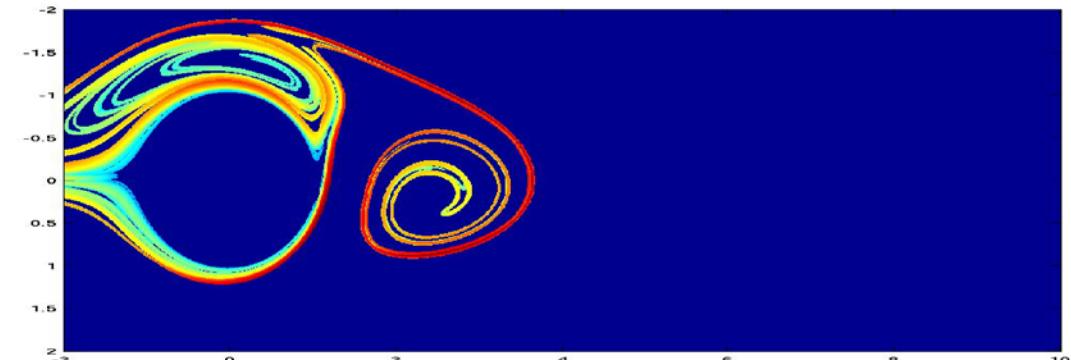
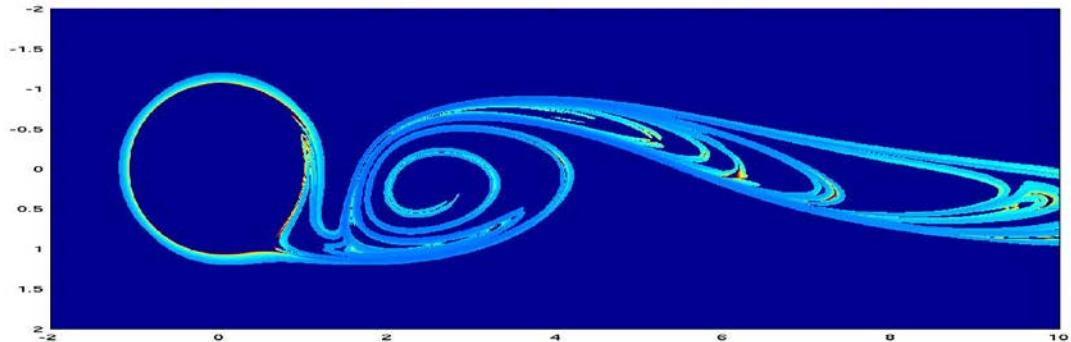
set of trajectories never living  
the chaotic area  $\Rightarrow \lambda > 0$

Close trajectories escape at  
a rate  $\kappa$

Fractal set of zero measure.

Dimension  $D=2(1-\kappa/\lambda)$

Tracers accumulate at its  
**unstable manifold** (dimension  
 $2-\kappa/\lambda$ )

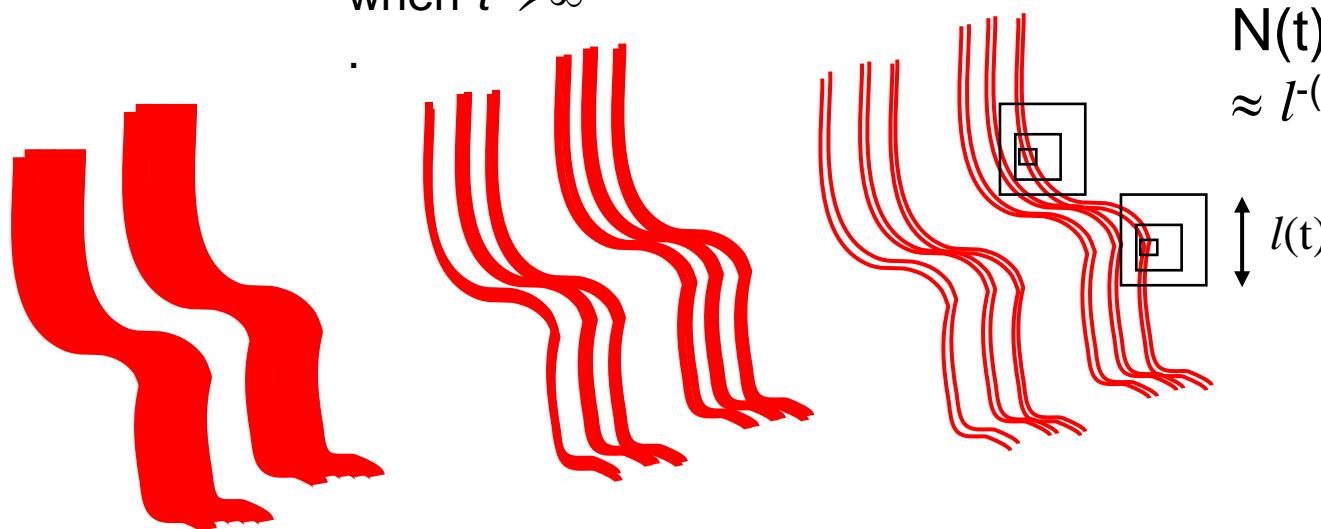


$$D_u = 2 - \kappa/\lambda$$

Dimension of the unstable manifold of the saddle (where particles are at long times)

$$N \approx l^{-D}, \text{ or } D = \lim_{l \rightarrow 0} -(\log N / \log l)$$

Perform the limit with boxes of size  $l(t) = l_0 \exp(-\lambda t)$ ,  
when  $t \rightarrow \infty$



$$N(t) = A_0 \exp(-\kappa t) / l(t)^2 \\ \approx l^{-(2-\kappa/\lambda)}.$$

Dynamics: area decreasing as  $A_0 \exp(-\kappa t)$ .  
Widths decreasing as  $l_0 \exp(-\lambda t)$ .

E. Barton et al./Progress in Oceanography 41 (1998) 455–504

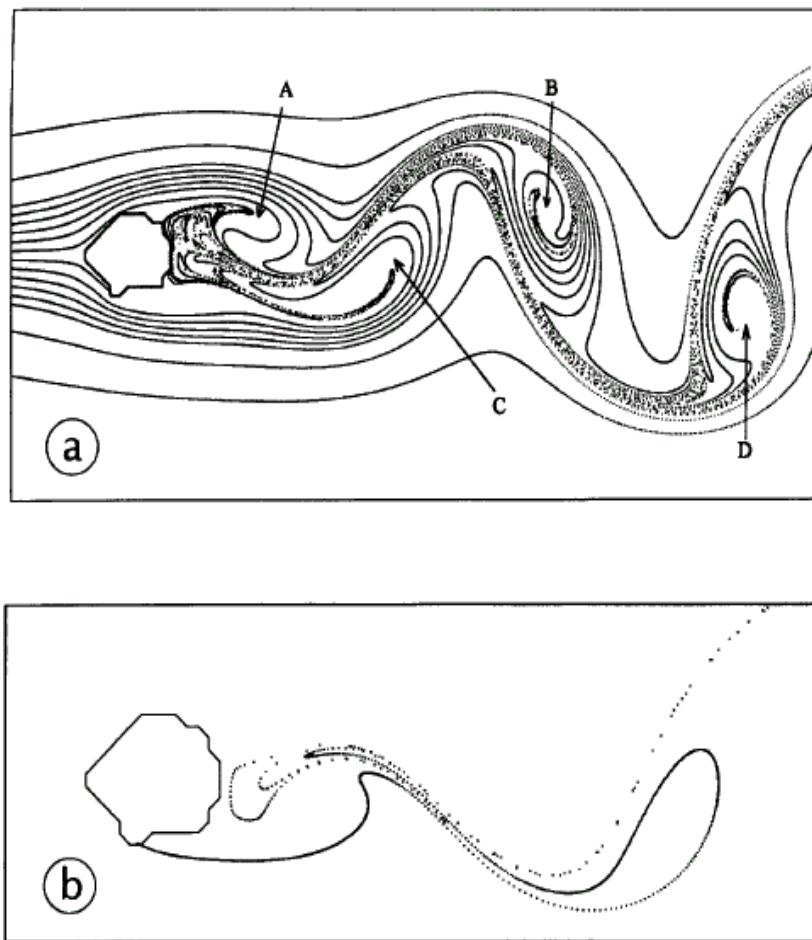
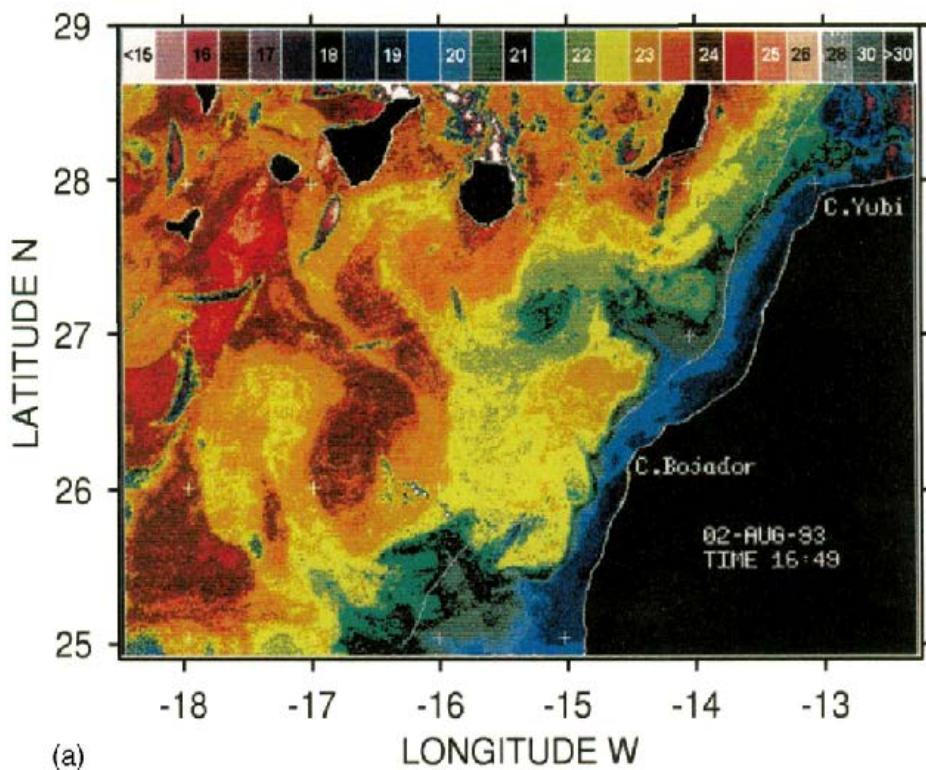


Fig. 10. (a) Simulated streak-line eddies street downstream of Gran Canaria for Reynolds number = 100. (A) Anticyclonic eddy in stage of formation; (B) mature anticyclonic eddy; (C) cyclonic eddy being shed by the obstacle; (D) mature cyclonic eddy. (b) Structure of one streak line that originated on the west side of the island at a different instant than in (a). The incident flow comes from the left side of the picture (northeast). The density of dots is a function of the residence time of the tracer. Regions with dispersion of dots indicate shorter residence times (after Sangrà, 1995).