

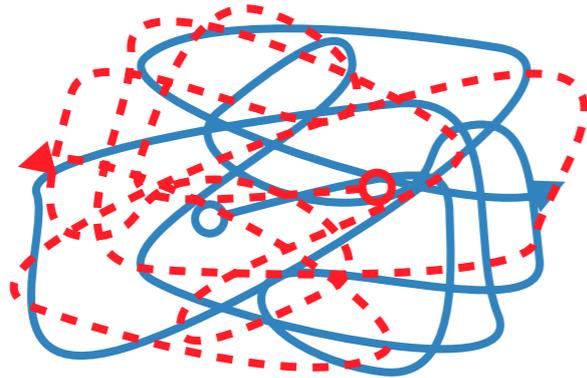
# DETECTING FLOW COARSE PATTERNS USING LAGRANGIAN AVERAGES



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**ONR MURI Ocean 3D+1**  
**May 1, 2013**

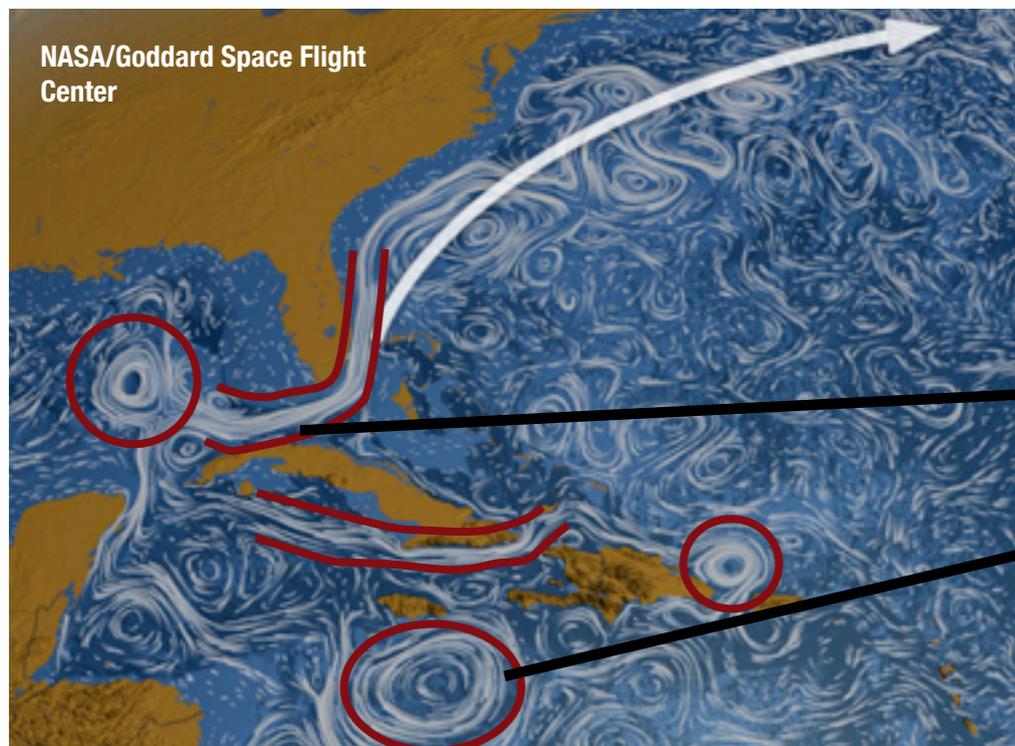
# Goal: detecting coarse-grained patterns in fluid flows.



Comparison of tracer paths can be misleading:  
Two trajectories in a mixing region  
can never be aligned pointwise,  
but **on average** they have the same behavior.

**Approach:** compare tracers according to averages  
of many different scalar fields.

**Result:** we can **quantify** when trajectories are **equal** on average,  
but also when they are **similar** on average.

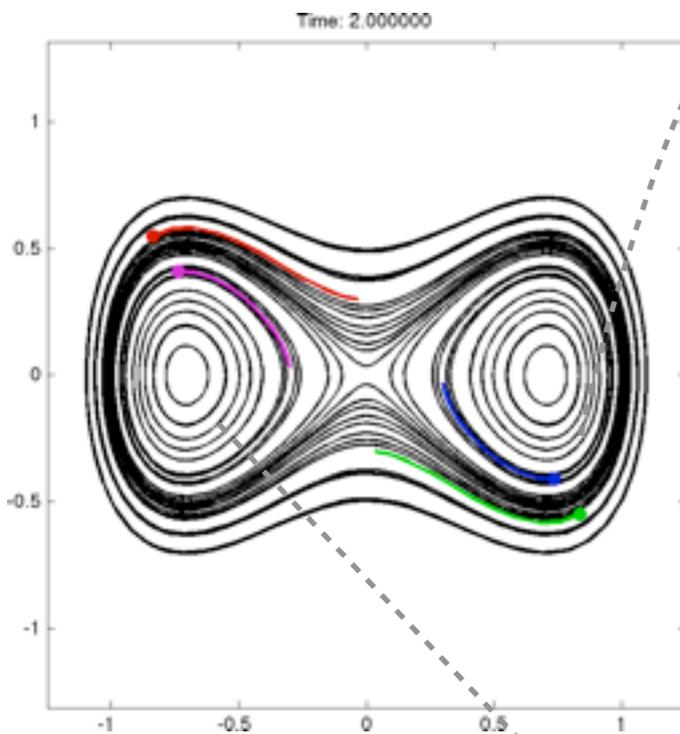


Layering: neighboring fluid  
parcels behave similarly

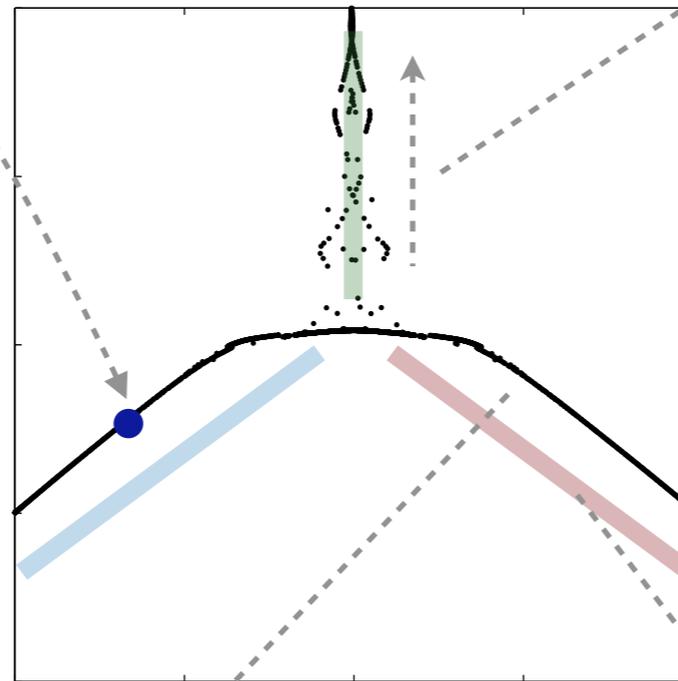
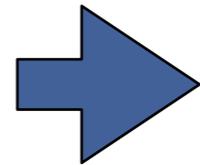
# Ergodic quotient can be used to detect similarities in a multi-scale fashion.

Entire trajectories mapped to single points.

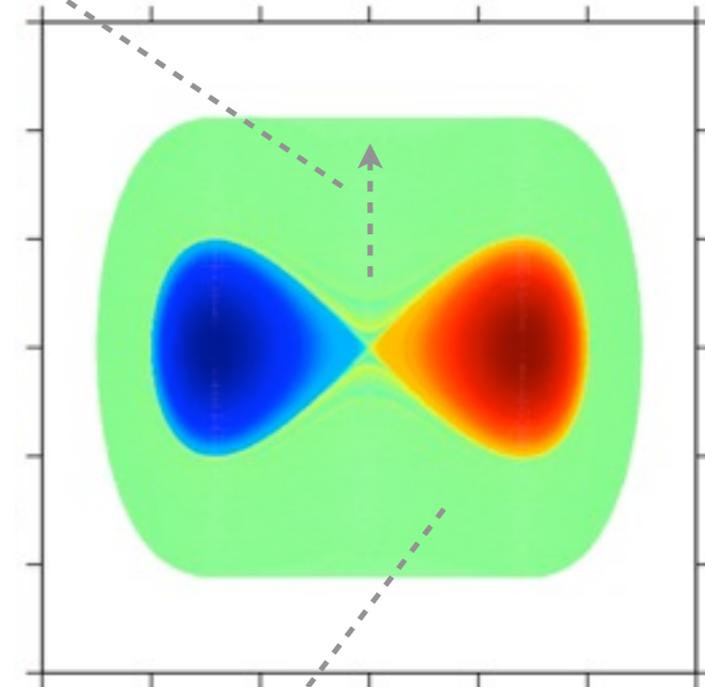
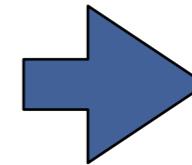
Axes in EQ act as generalized energies or stream functions.



**Tracer paths**



**Ergodic Quotient**



**Colored initial conditions**

Connected segments in EQ correspond to families of similar tracer paths.

Coloring initial conditions according to membership in connected segments visualizes coarse patterns.

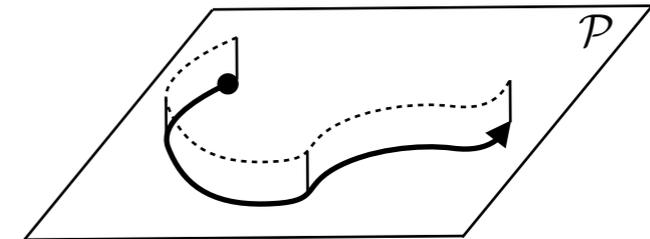
[Budisic, Mezić  
Physica D, 2012]

# Ergodic quotient replaces trajectory curves by vectors of Lagrangian averages.

**Curves:**

$$\dot{x}_p = u(t, x_p), \quad x_p(0) = p$$

$$(p, t) \mapsto x_p(t)$$



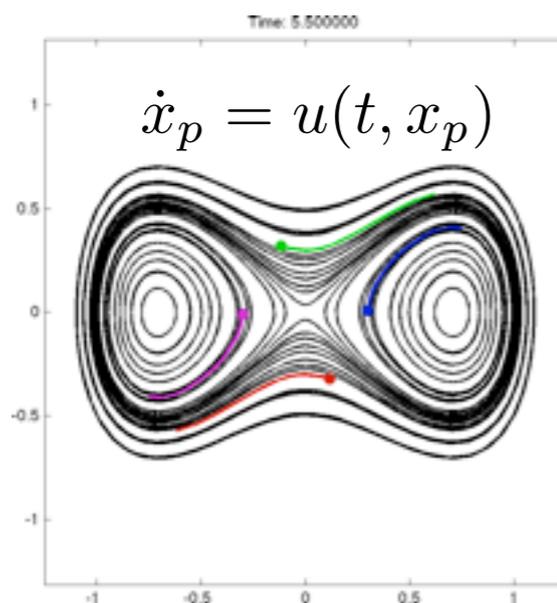
**Lagrangian averages of scalar fields:**

$$\tilde{f}(p, T) := \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T f_k(\tau, x_p(\tau)) d\tau$$

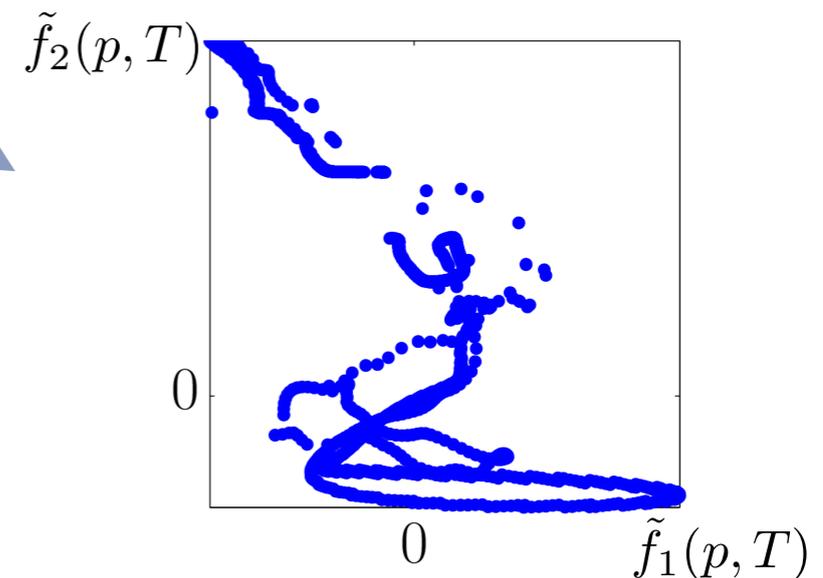
**Ergodic quotient map** is obtained by averaging a basis of continuous functions (scalar fields on the state space):

$$f_k(x) = e^{ik \cdot x}$$

$$(p, T) \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{f}_1(p, T) \\ \tilde{f}_2(p, T) \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$



Representation of the tracer path portrait using averages of scalar fields.



# The space of averages (finite-time quotient) naturally captures similarity.

## Discrete topology (theorem):

Two state points  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  are in the same ergodic set iff  $\pi(p_1, \infty) = \pi(p_2, \infty)$

minimal invariant set

## Continuous topology: Sobolev space norm.

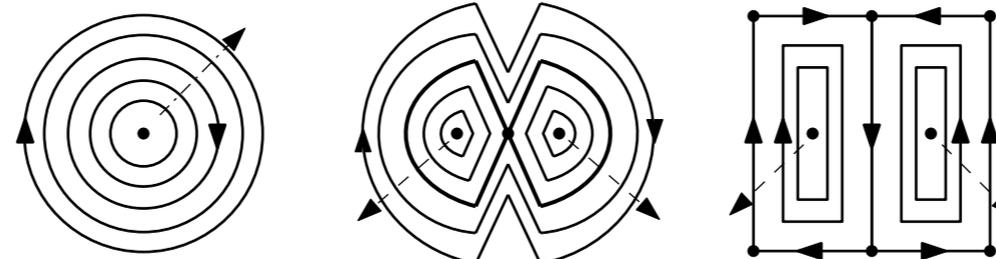
$$d_T(p_1, p_2)^2 = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \frac{|\tilde{f}_k(p_1) - \tilde{f}_k(p_2)|^2}{(1 + |k|^2)^s}$$

If scalar fields are chosen as Fourier harmonics, their averages are Fourier coefficients of averaging measures.

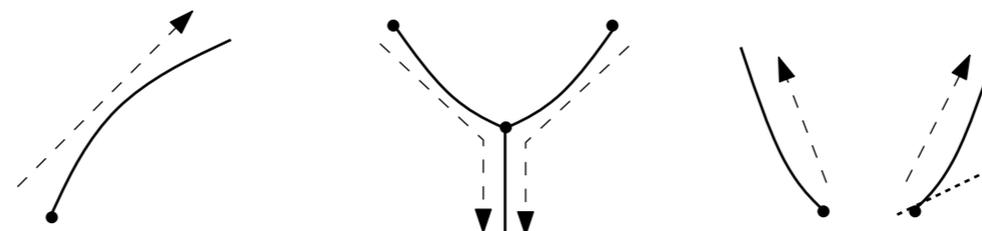
Acts as a low-pass filter: de-emphasizes small scale differences.

Ex.

Tracer trajectories

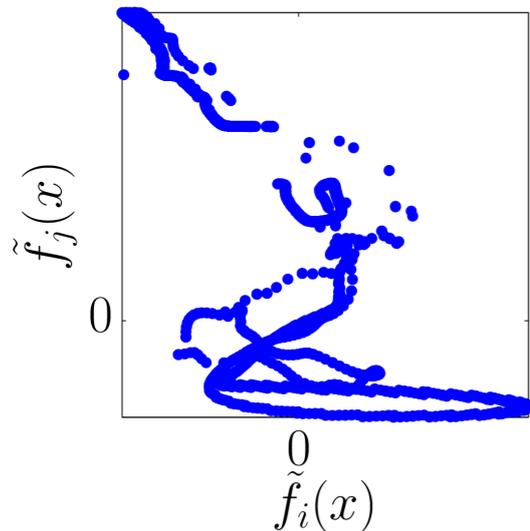


Ergodic Quotient (in cts. topology)



Stagnation points on separatrices prevent ergodic quotient from connecting.

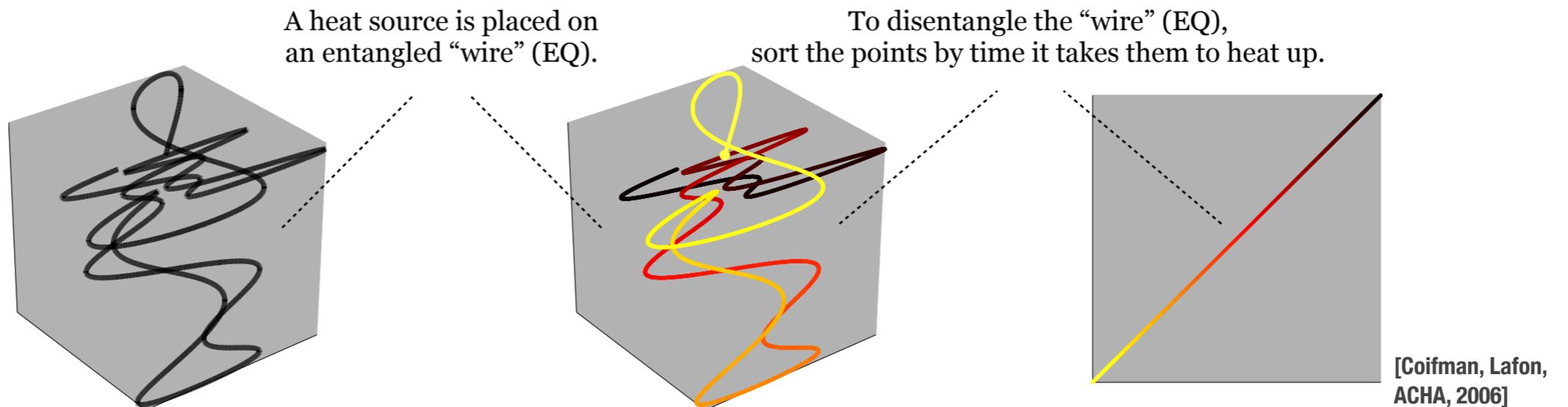
# Diffusion maps are a nonlinear coordinate reduction that preserves intrinsic geometry of Ergodic Quotient (EQ).



The **scalar fields used in averaging** were chosen regardless of dynamics, so they can yield a **high-dimensional space**.

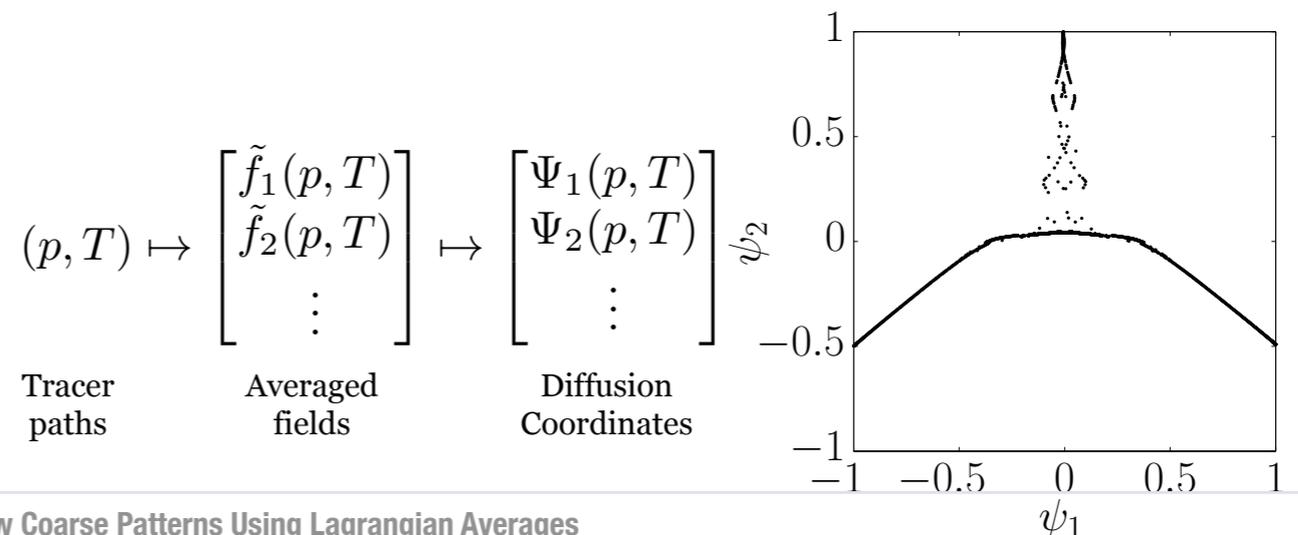
The dimension of EQ can be **very low**, if the dynamics is simple, e.g., when there is only a **single gyre**, or a **single mixing region**.

## Diffusion Maps:



Implementation requires only **deterministic matrix computations**.

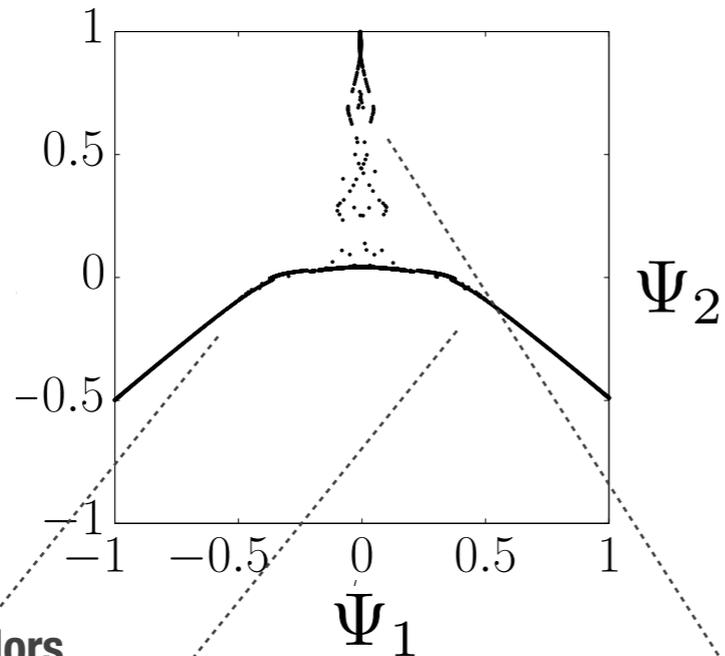
Topology and geometry are preserved, e.g., a continuous line is still a line, but the **number of coordinates is greatly reduced**.



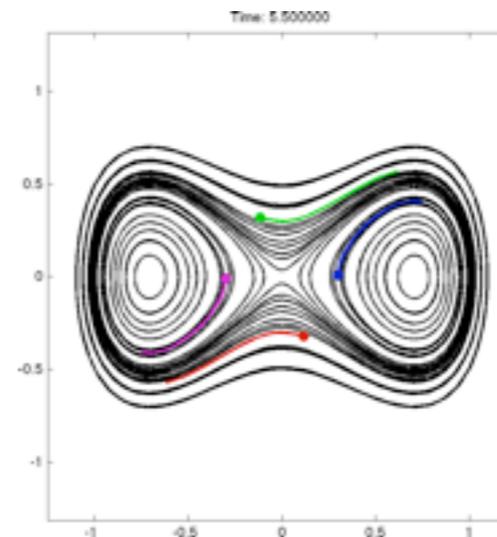
# Coloring state space by values of dominant diffusion maps reveals large scale features.

Number of diffusion coordinates depends on complexity of dynamics, **not dimension of the state space.**

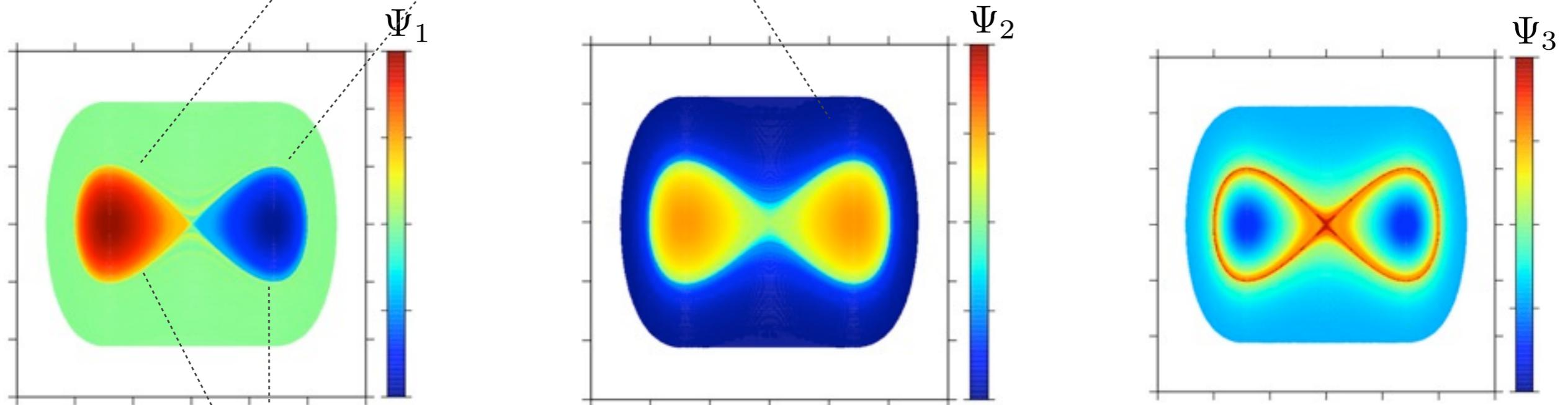
Diffusion Coordinates as axes



State Portrait



Diffusion Coordinates as colors



Different colors indicate there is no material transport between regions.

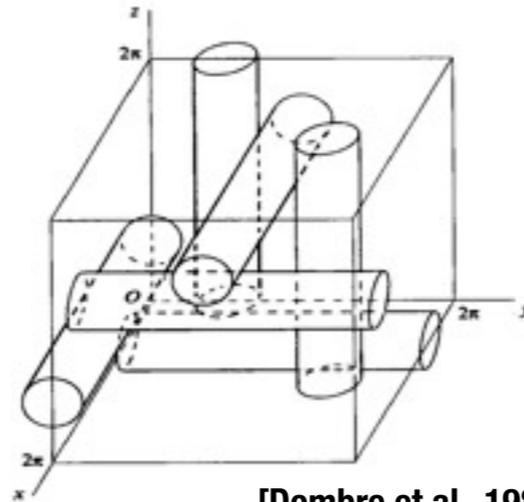
Coordinates of higher order distinguish between finer features.

# Steady state 3D flow: ABC system.

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \\ \dot{z} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A \sin z + C \cos y \\ B \sin x + A \cos z \\ C \sin y + B \cos x \end{bmatrix}$$

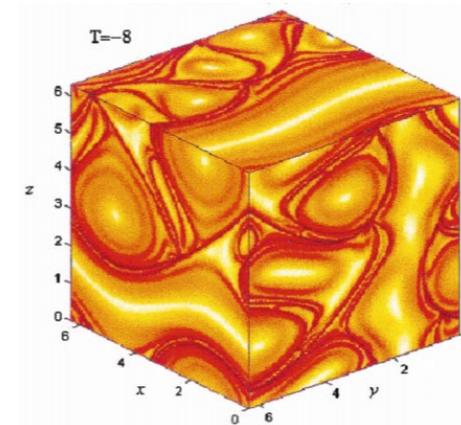
$$A^2 = 3, \quad B^2 = 2, \quad C^2 = 1$$

Analytic



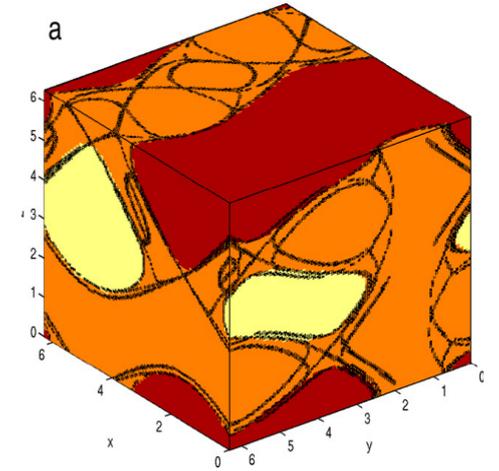
[Dombre et al., 1986]

LCS FTLE



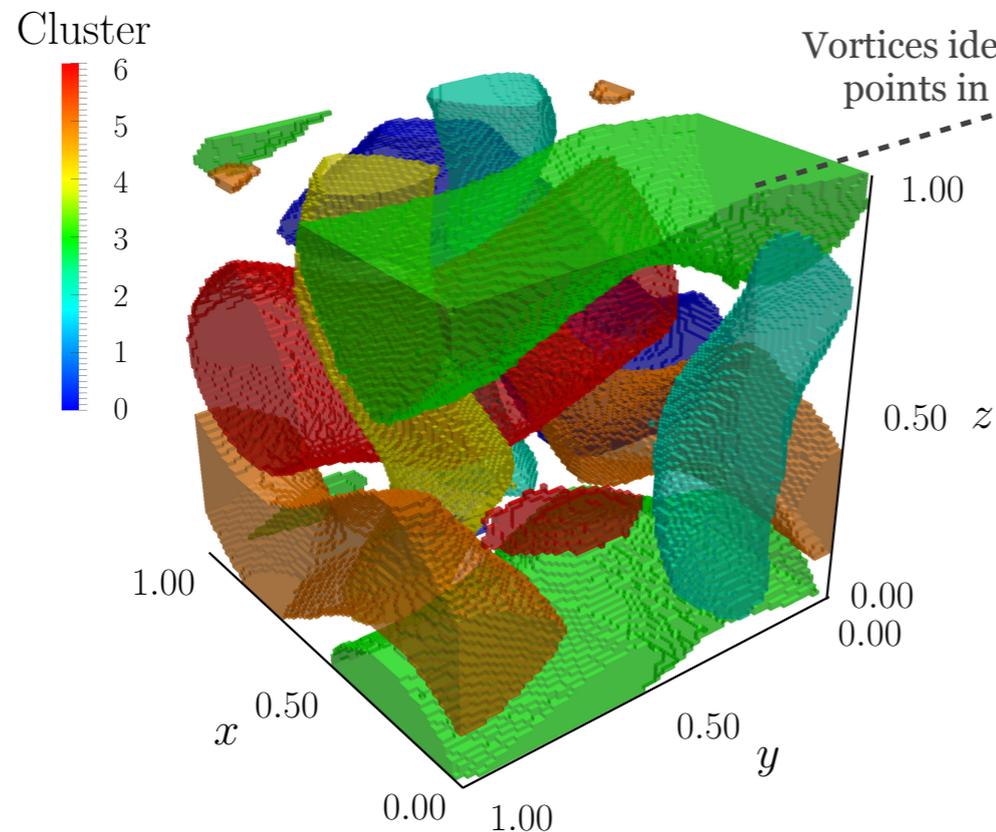
[Haller, 2001]

Almost-invariant sets



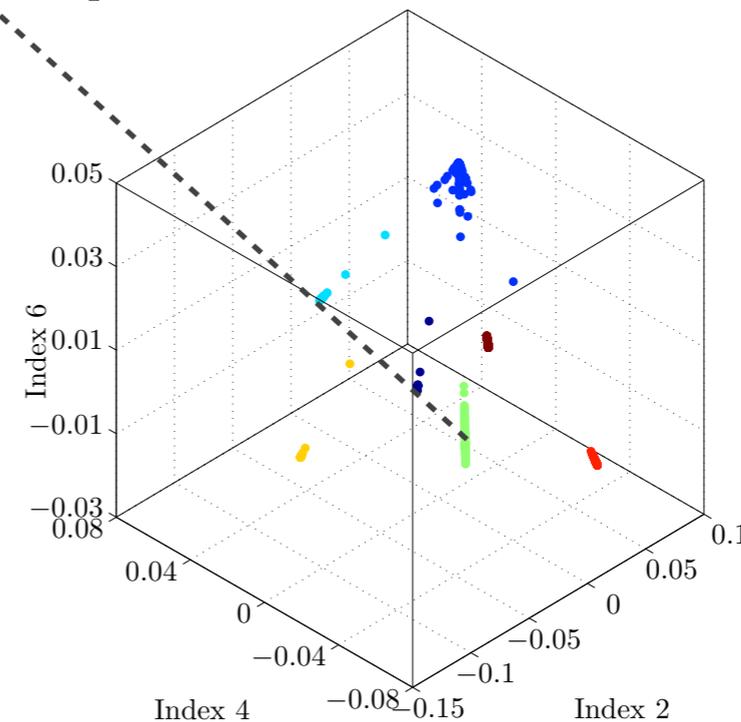
[Froyland et al., 2009]

State space coloring

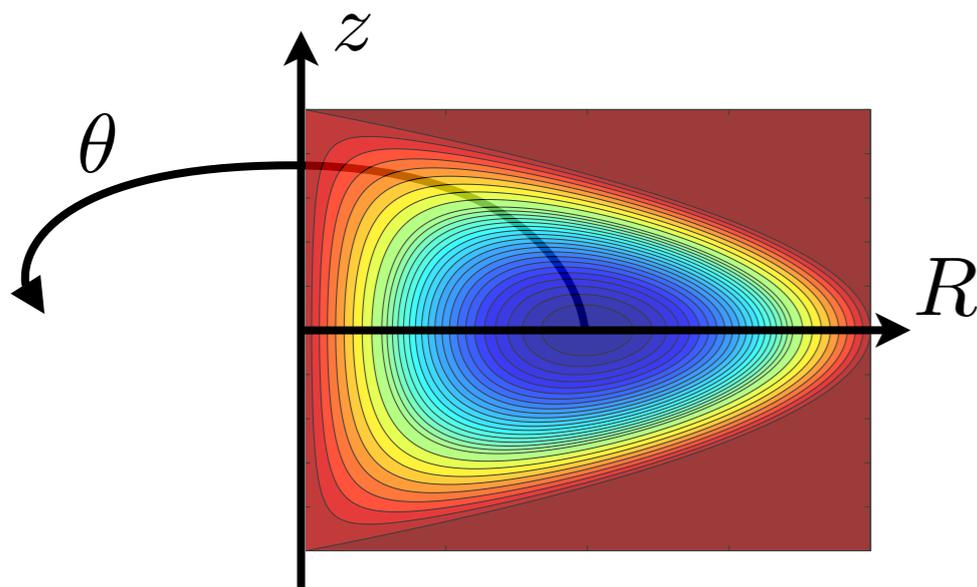


Vortices identified as clusters of points in diff. coord. space.

EQ in Diffusion Coordinates



# Periodic 3D+1 flow: perturbed Hill's vortex ring



$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{R} \\ \dot{z} \\ \dot{\theta} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \text{Hill's Vortex} \\ 2Rz \\ 1 - 4R - z^2 \\ \text{Swirl} \\ \frac{c}{2R} \end{bmatrix} + \varepsilon \begin{bmatrix} \text{Perturbation} \\ \sqrt{2R} \sin \theta \\ \frac{z}{\sqrt{2R}} \sin \theta \\ 2 \cos \theta \end{bmatrix} \sin 2\pi t$$

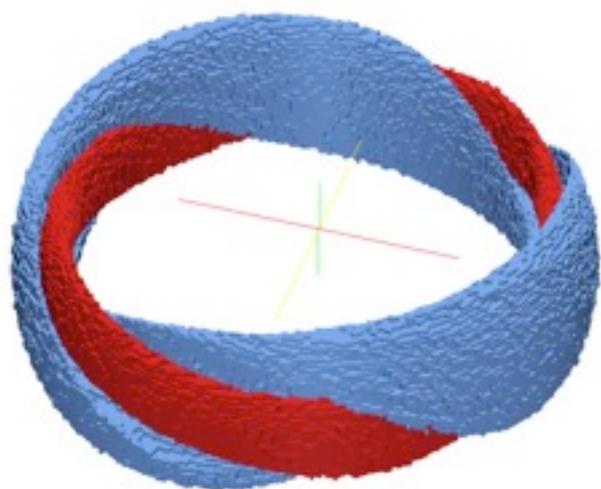
$(R, z, \theta) \in \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{T}$

Unperturbed flow is Hamiltonian at each angular slice.

KAM behavior at small magnitude of swirl and perturbation.

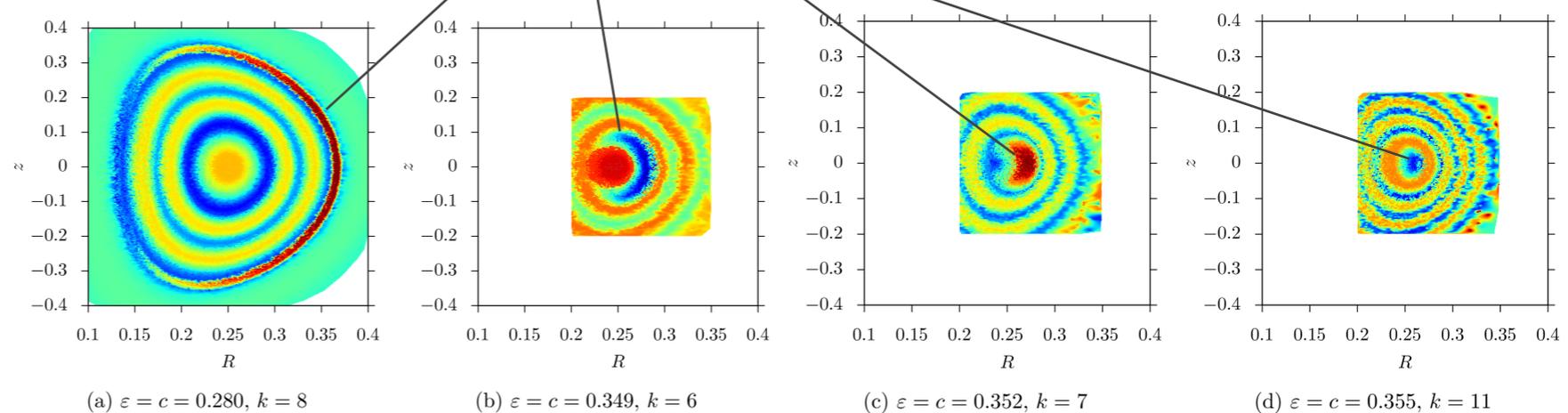
For large perturbations, flow is difficult to study analytically.

**Invariant tori in Poincaré section isolated using ergodic quotient:**



**New bifurcation identified:**

crescent shaped secondary torus appears and disappears



# Computational demands are driven by resolution desired, not dimension of the state space.

- 1. Select the subset of the basis of scalar fields.**
- 2. Seed  $N$  initial conditions on the state space.**
- 3. Integrate trajectories and averages along them.**
- 4. Evaluate Sobolev distance matrix.**
- 5. Compute diffusion coordinates.**
- 6. Visualize.**

The more initial conditions and scalar fields, the higher resolution of features.

Length driven by available data and application (finite time) or by a model (possibly infinite).

A numerical linear algebra computation: essentially an eigenvector computation for a matrix of size  $N \times N$ .