

The Smaller (SALI) and the Generalized (GALI) Alignment Indices: Efficient methods of chaos detection

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 - ✓ **Variational equations**
 - ✓ **Lyapunov exponents**
- **Smaller ALignment Index – SALI**
 - ✓ **Definition**
 - ✓ **Behavior for chaotic and regular motion**
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 - ✓ **Global dynamics**
 - ✓ **Motion on low-dimensional tori**
- **Conclusions**

Autonomous Hamiltonian systems

Consider an **N degree of freedom** autonomous Hamiltonian system having a Hamiltonian function of the form:

$$H(\overbrace{q_1, q_2, \dots, q_N}^{\text{positions}}, \overbrace{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_N}^{\text{momenta}})$$

The time evolution of an orbit (trajectory) with initial condition

$$P(0) = (q_1(0), q_2(0), \dots, q_N(0), p_1(0), p_2(0), \dots, p_N(0))$$

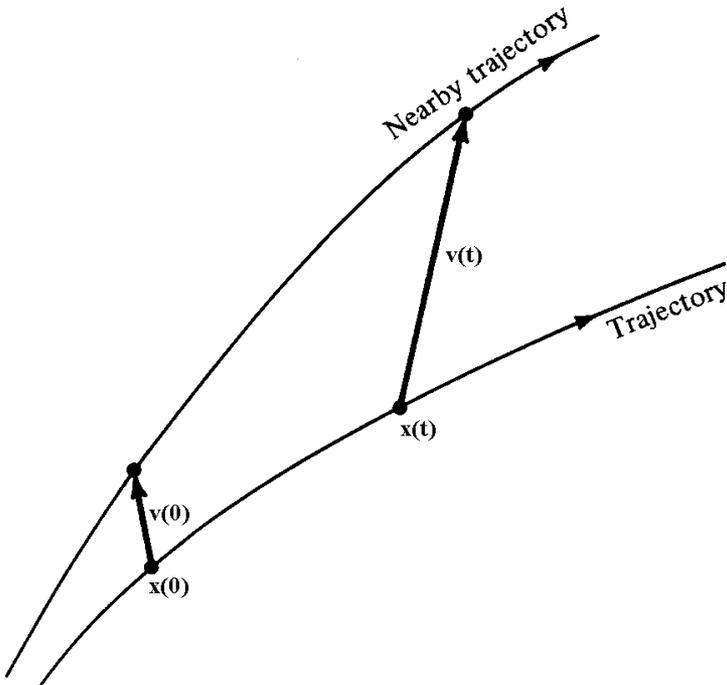
is governed by the **Hamilton's equations of motion**

$$\frac{dp_i}{dt} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial q_i}, \quad \frac{dq_i}{dt} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_i}$$

Variational Equations

We use the notation $\mathbf{x} = (q_1, q_2, \dots, q_N, p_1, p_2, \dots, p_N)^T$. The **deviation vector** from a given orbit is denoted by

$$\mathbf{v} = (\delta x_1, \delta x_2, \dots, \delta x_n)^T, \text{ with } n=2N$$



The time evolution of \mathbf{v} is given by the so-called **variational equations**:

$$\frac{d\mathbf{v}}{dt} = -\mathbf{J} \cdot \mathbf{P} \cdot \mathbf{v}$$

where

$$\mathbf{J} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{0}_N & -\mathbf{I}_N \\ \mathbf{I}_N & \mathbf{0}_N \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{P}_{ij} = \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{H}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_i \partial \mathbf{x}_j} \quad i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

Symplectic Maps

Consider an **2N-dimensional symplectic map T**. In this case we have **discrete time**.

This is an area-preserving map whose Jacobian matrix

$$\mathbf{M} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{T}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial \mathbf{T}_1}{\partial \mathbf{x}_1} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{T}_1}{\partial \mathbf{x}_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial \mathbf{T}_1}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{2N}} \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{T}_2}{\partial \mathbf{x}_1} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{T}_2}{\partial \mathbf{x}_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial \mathbf{T}_2}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{2N}} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{T}_{2N}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_1} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{T}_{2N}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial \mathbf{T}_{2N}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{2N}} \end{bmatrix}$$

satisfies

$$\mathbf{M}^T \cdot \mathbf{J}_{2N} \cdot \mathbf{M} = \mathbf{J}_{2N}$$

Symplectic Maps

The evolution of an **orbit** with initial condition

$$\mathbf{P}(0) = (\mathbf{x}_1(0), \mathbf{x}_2(0), \dots, \mathbf{x}_{2N}(0))$$

is governed by the **equations of map T**

$$\mathbf{P}(i+1) = \mathbf{T} \mathbf{P}(i) \quad , \quad i=0,1,2,\dots$$

The evolution of an initial **deviation vector**

$$\mathbf{v}(0) = (\delta\mathbf{x}_1(0), \delta\mathbf{x}_2(0), \dots, \delta\mathbf{x}_{2N}(0))$$

is given by the corresponding **tangent map**

$$\mathbf{v}(i+1) = \left. \frac{\partial \mathbf{T}}{\partial \mathbf{P}} \right|_i \cdot \mathbf{v}(i) \quad , \quad i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

Lyapunov Exponents

Roughly speaking, the Lyapunov exponents of a given orbit characterize the **mean exponential rate of divergence** of trajectories surrounding it.

Consider an orbit in the $2N$ -dimensional phase space with **initial condition $\mathbf{x}(0)$** and an **initial deviation vector from it $\mathbf{v}(0)$** . Then the mean exponential rate of divergence is:

$$\text{mLCE} = \sigma_1 = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} \ln \frac{\|\vec{\mathbf{v}}(t)\|}{\|\vec{\mathbf{v}}(0)\|}$$

Maximum Lyapunov Exponent

$\sigma_1=0 \rightarrow$ Regular motion
 $\sigma_1 \neq 0 \rightarrow$ Chaotic motion

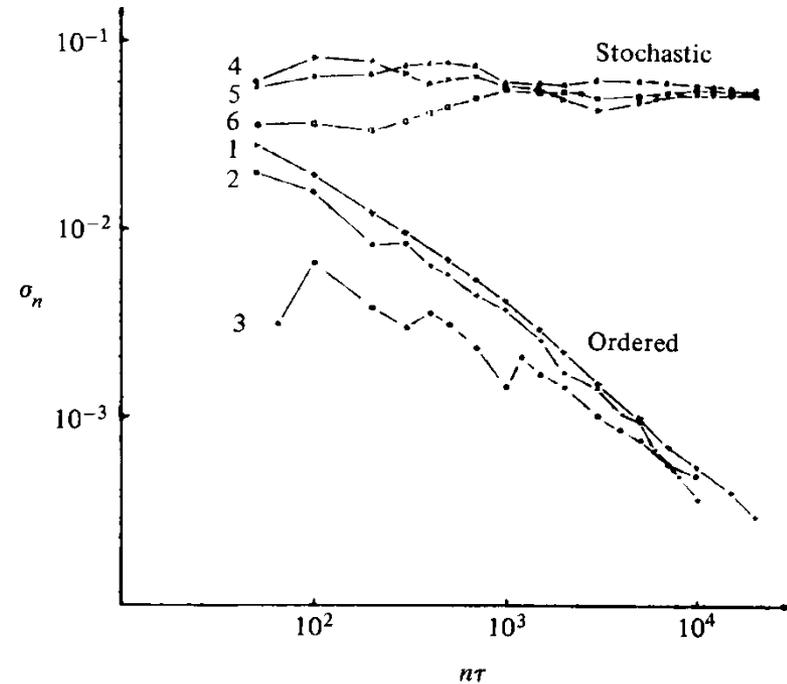


Figure 5.7. Behavior of σ_n at the intermediate energy $E = 0.125$ for initial points taken in the ordered (curves 1–3) or stochastic (curves 4–6) regions (after Benettin *et al.*, 1976).

If we start with more than one linearly independent deviation vectors they will **align to the direction defined by the largest Lyapunov exponent** for chaotic orbits.

**The
Smaller ALignment Index
(SALI)
method**

Definition of Smaller Alignment Index (SALI)

Consider the $2N$ -dimensional phase space of a conservative dynamical system (**symplectic map or Hamiltonian flow**).

An orbit in that space with initial condition :

$$P(0) = (x_1(0), x_2(0), \dots, x_{2N}(0))$$

and a deviation vector

$$v(0) = (\delta x_1(0), \delta x_2(0), \dots, \delta x_{2N}(0))$$

The evolution in time (in maps the time is discrete and is equal to the number n of the iterations) of a deviation vector is defined by:

- the **variational equations** (for Hamiltonian flows) and
- the equations of the **tangent map** (for mappings)

Definition of SALI

We follow the evolution in time of two different initial deviation vectors ($\mathbf{v}_1(\mathbf{0})$, $\mathbf{v}_2(\mathbf{0})$), and define SALI (**Ch.S. 2001, J. Phys. A**) as:

$$\text{SALI}(\mathbf{t}) = \min \left\{ \left\| \hat{\mathbf{v}}_1(\mathbf{t}) + \hat{\mathbf{v}}_2(\mathbf{t}) \right\|, \left\| \hat{\mathbf{v}}_1(\mathbf{t}) - \hat{\mathbf{v}}_2(\mathbf{t}) \right\| \right\}$$

where

$$\hat{\mathbf{v}}_1(\mathbf{t}) = \frac{\mathbf{v}_1(\mathbf{t})}{\|\mathbf{v}_1(\mathbf{t})\|}$$

When the two vectors become **collinear**

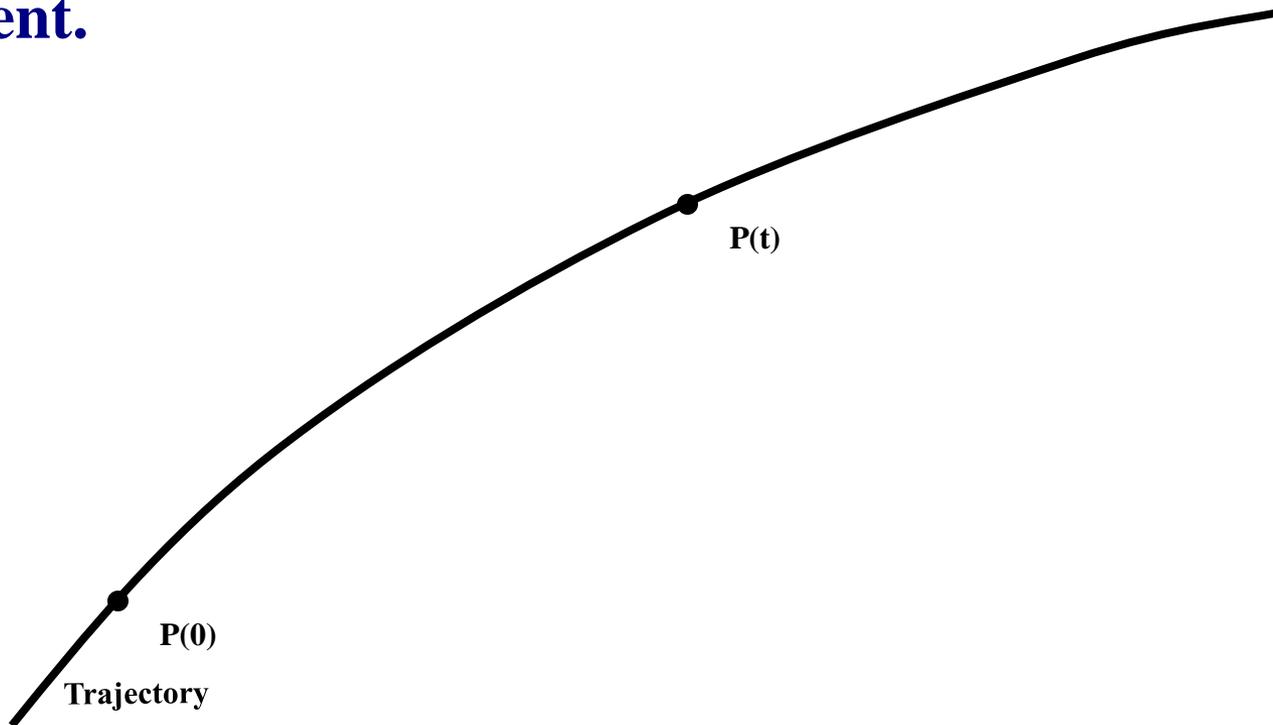
$$\text{SALI}(\mathbf{t}) \rightarrow \mathbf{0}$$

Behavior of SALI for chaotic motion

For chaotic orbits the two initially different deviation vectors tend to coincide with the direction defined by the maximum Lyapunov exponent.

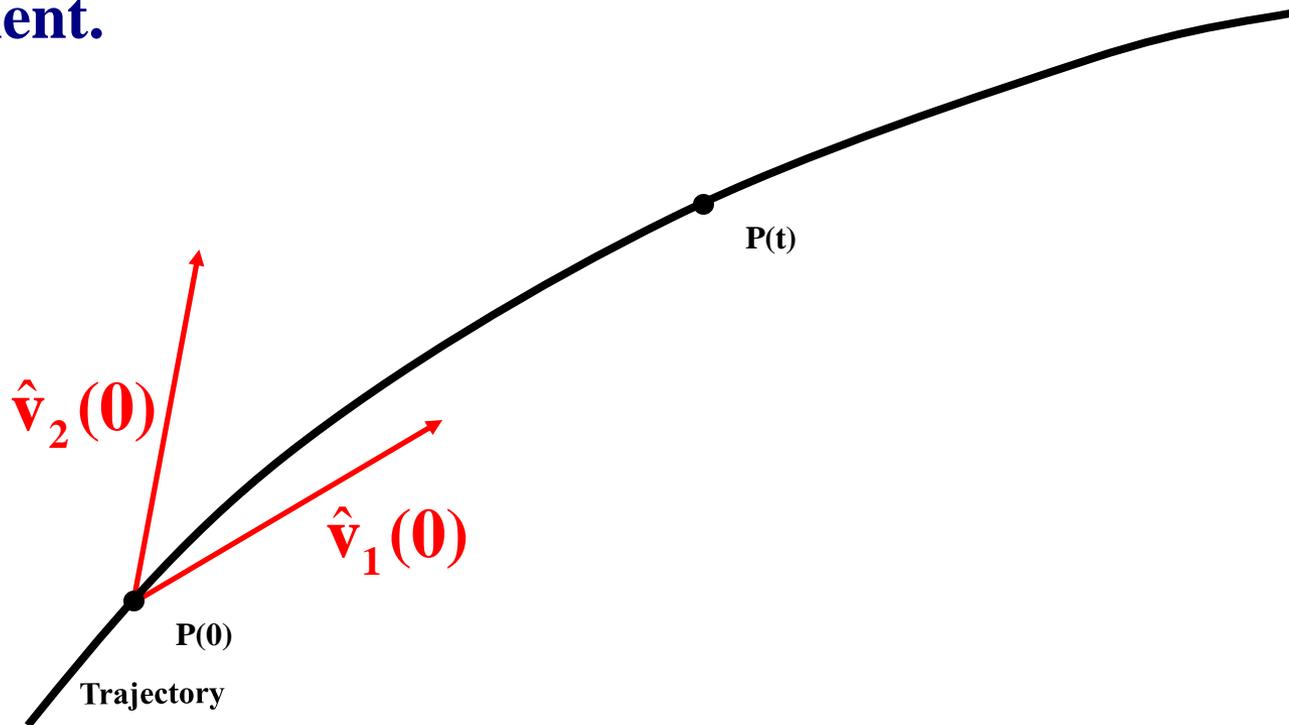
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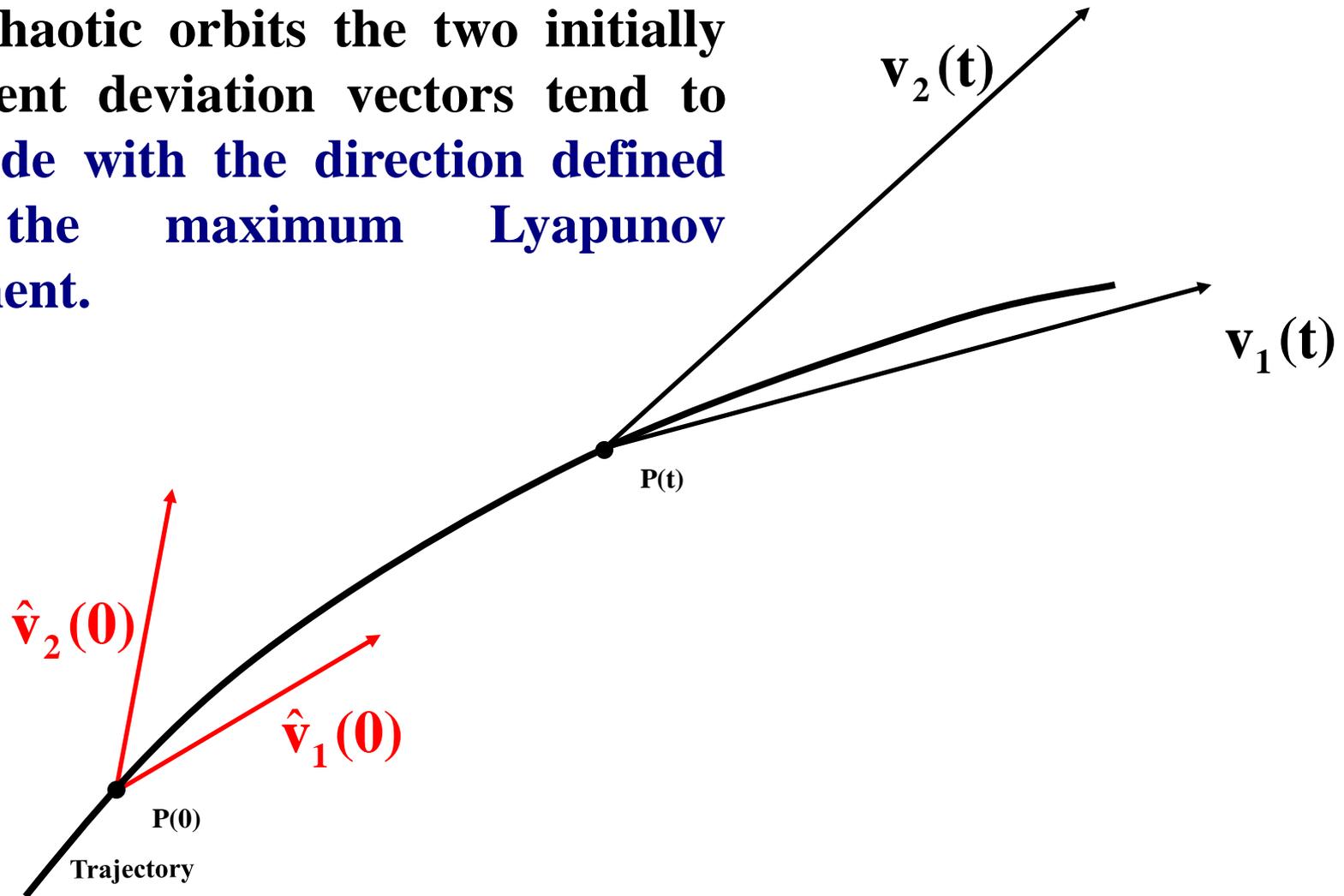
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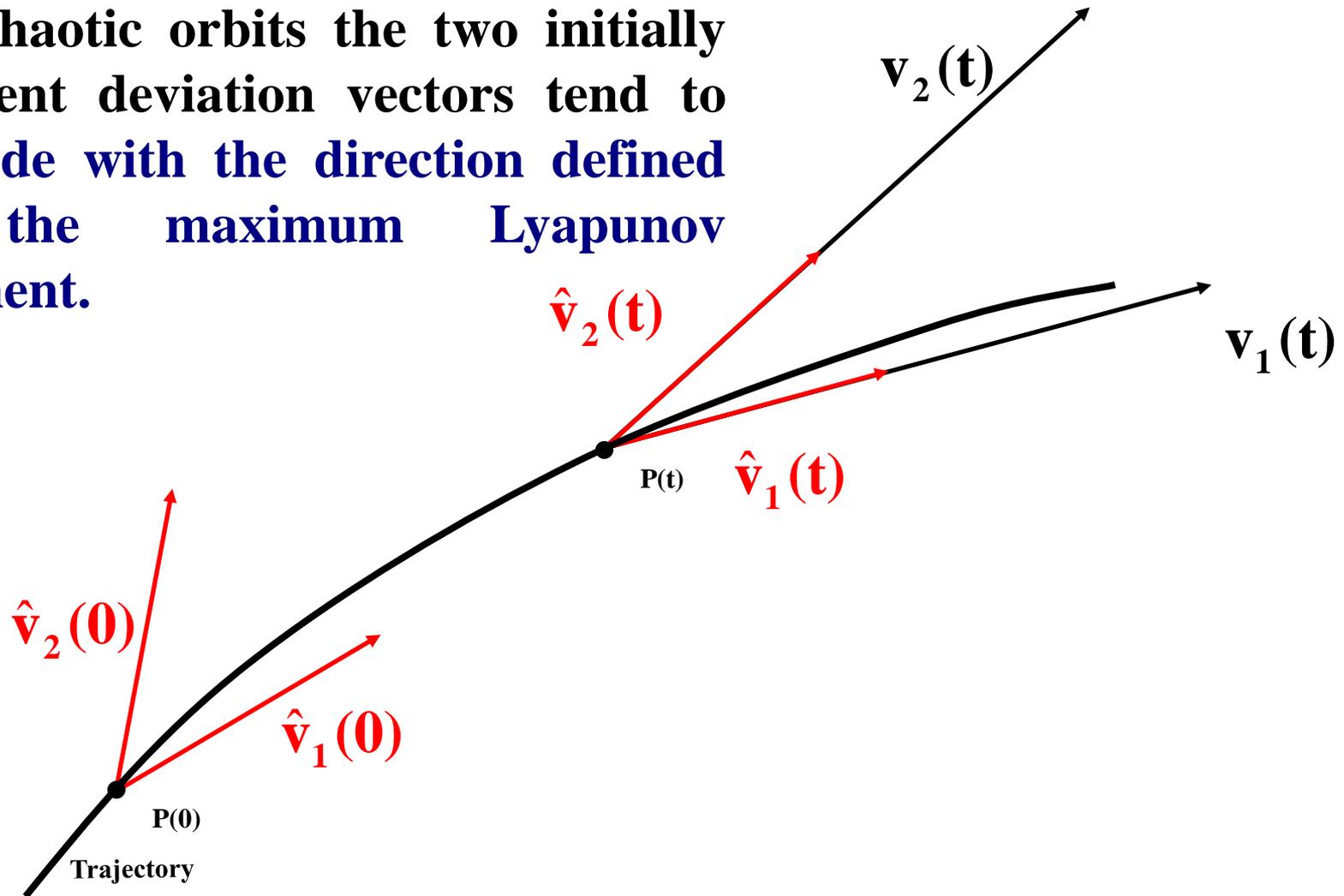
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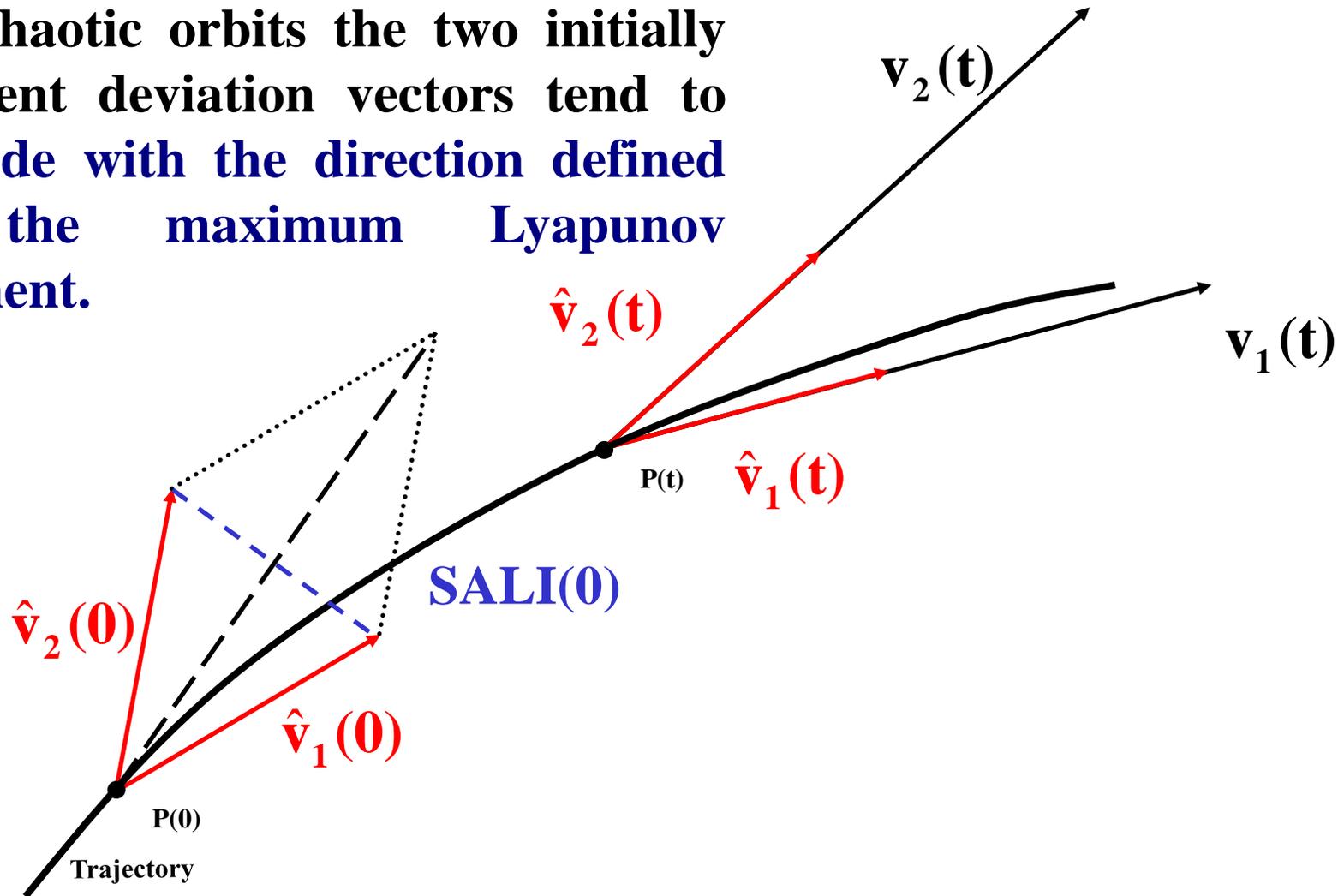
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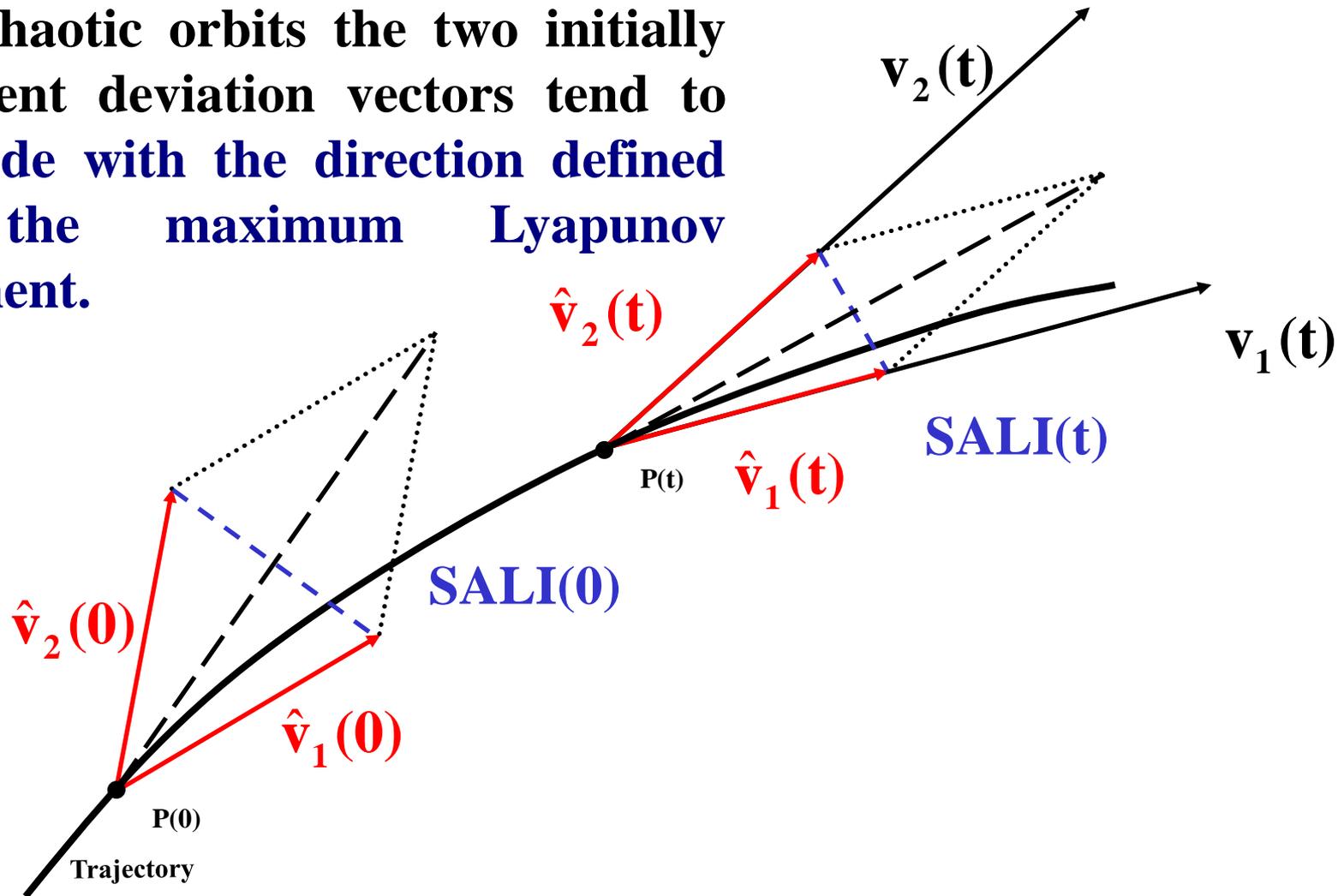
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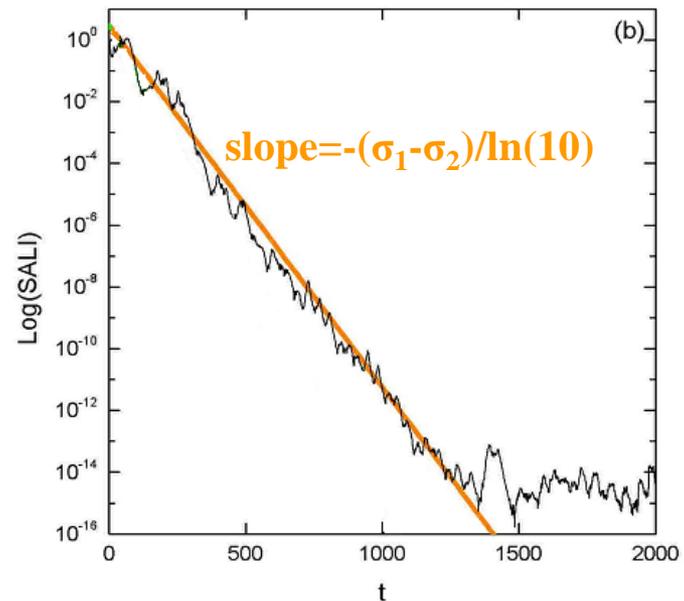
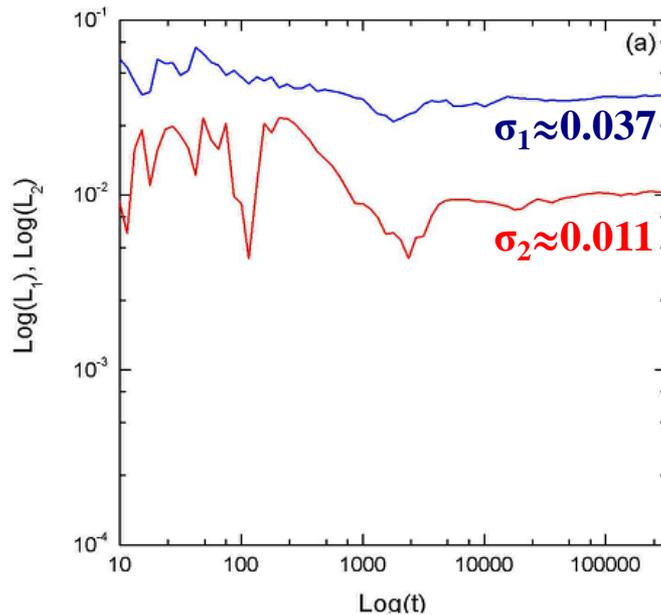


Behavior of SALI for chaotic motion

We test the validity of the approximation $\text{SALI} \propto e^{-(\sigma_1 - \sigma_2)t}$ (Ch.S., Antonopoulos, Bountis, Vrahatis, 2004, J. Phys. A) for a chaotic orbit of the 3D Hamiltonian

$$H = \sum_{i=1}^3 \frac{\omega_i}{2} (q_i^2 + p_i^2) + q_1^2 q_2 + q_1^2 q_3$$

with $\omega_1=1$, $\omega_2=1.4142$, $\omega_3=1.7321$, $H=0.09$

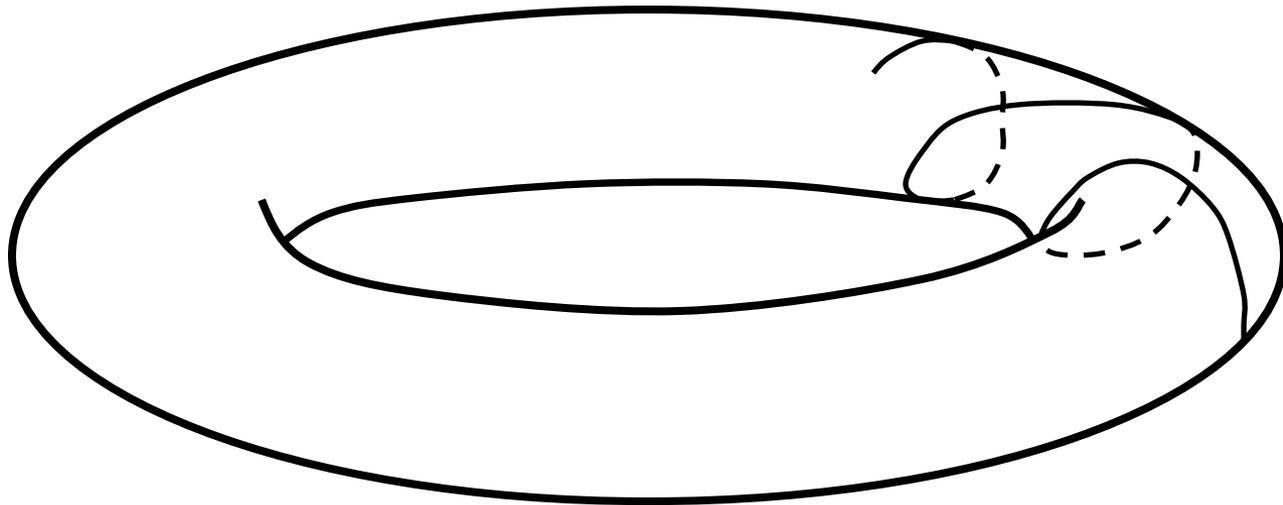


Behavior of SALI for regular motion

Regular motion occurs on a torus and two different initial deviation vectors become tangent to the torus, generally having different directions.

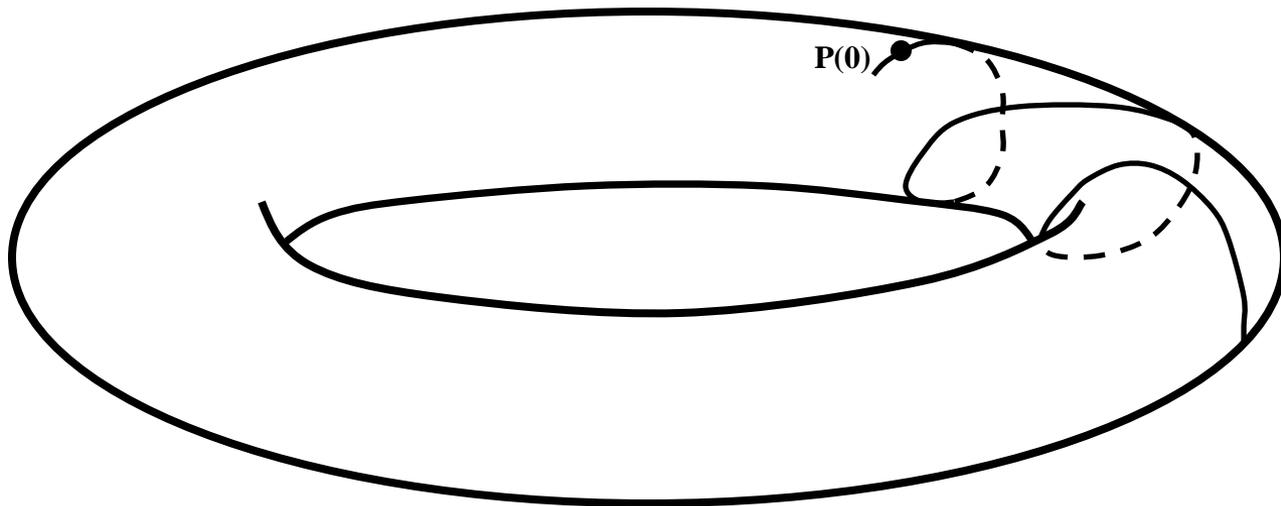
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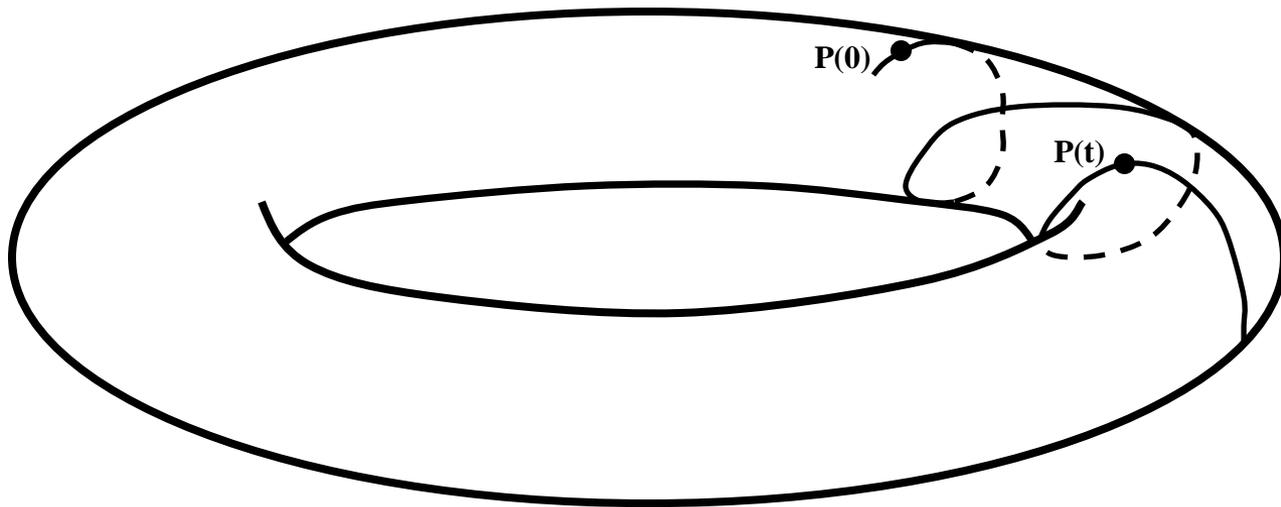
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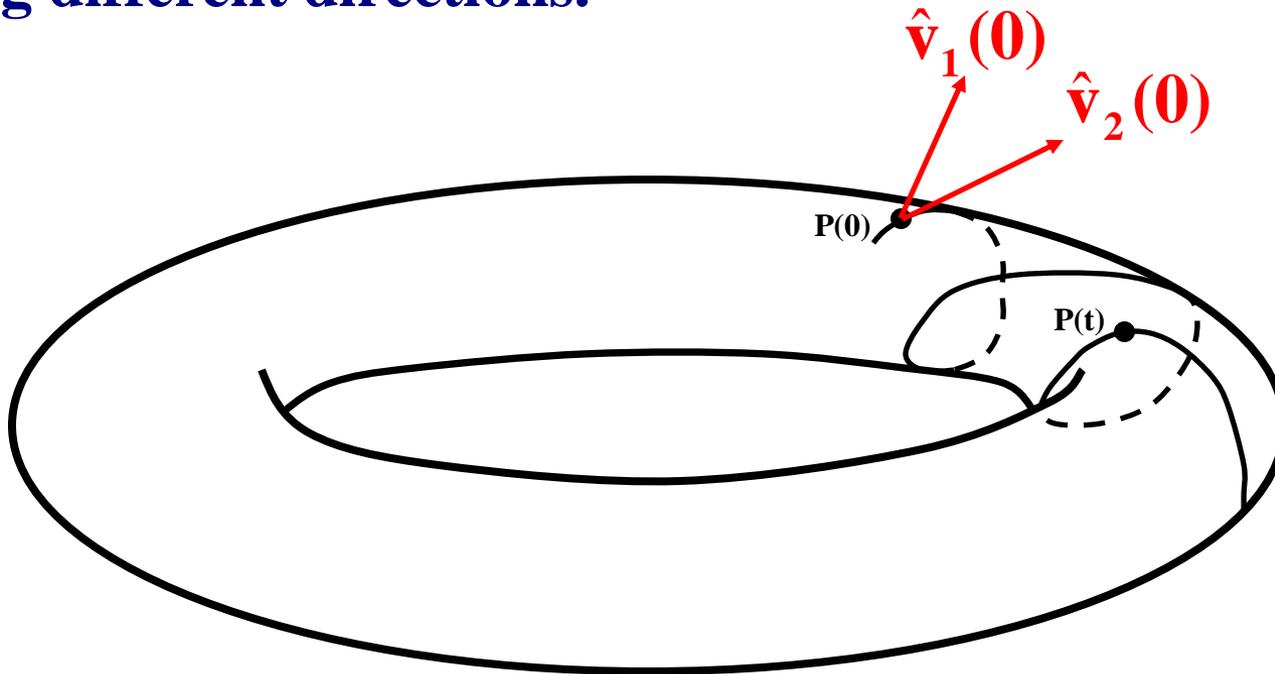
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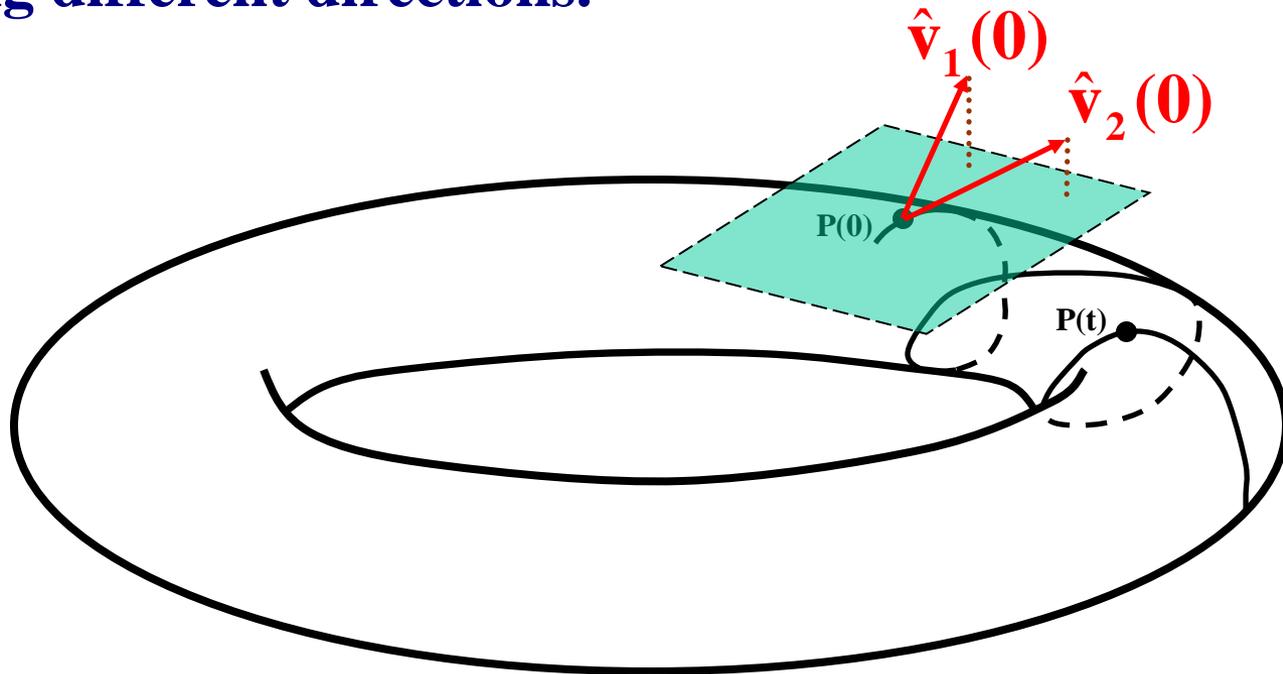
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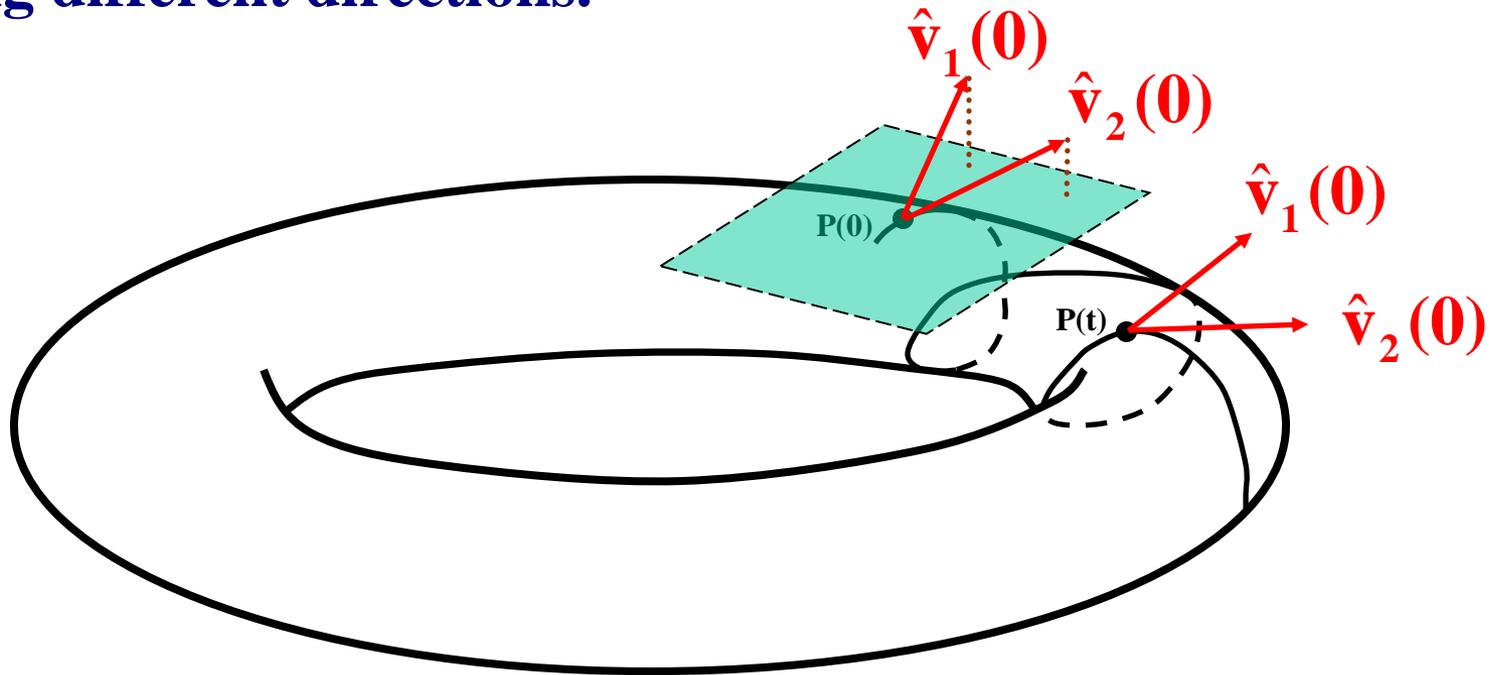
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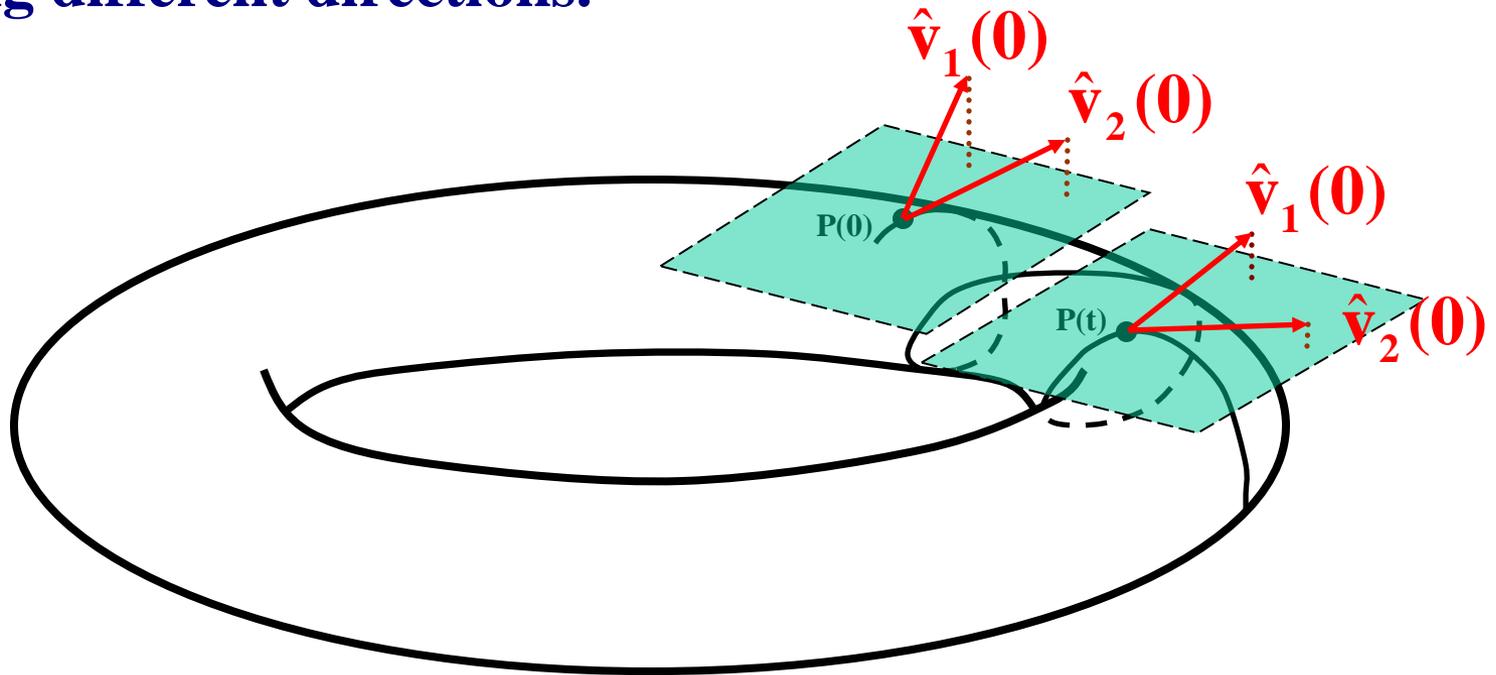
Behavior of SALI for regular motion

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Behavior of SALI for regular motion

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Applications – Hénon-Heiles system

As an example, we consider the 2D Hénon-Heiles system:

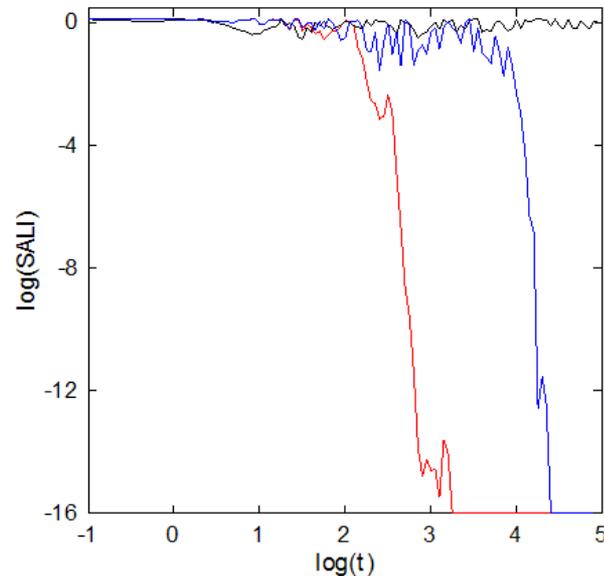
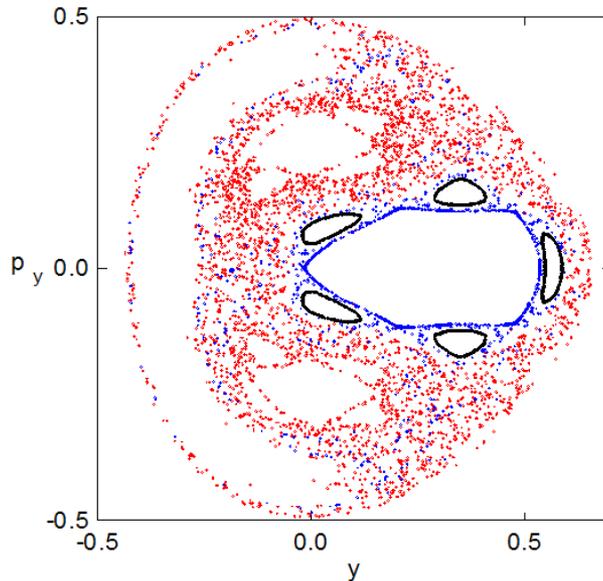
$$H_2 = \frac{1}{2}(p_x^2 + p_y^2) + \frac{1}{2}(x^2 + y^2) + x^2y - \frac{1}{3}y^3$$

For $E=1/8$ we consider the orbits with initial conditions:

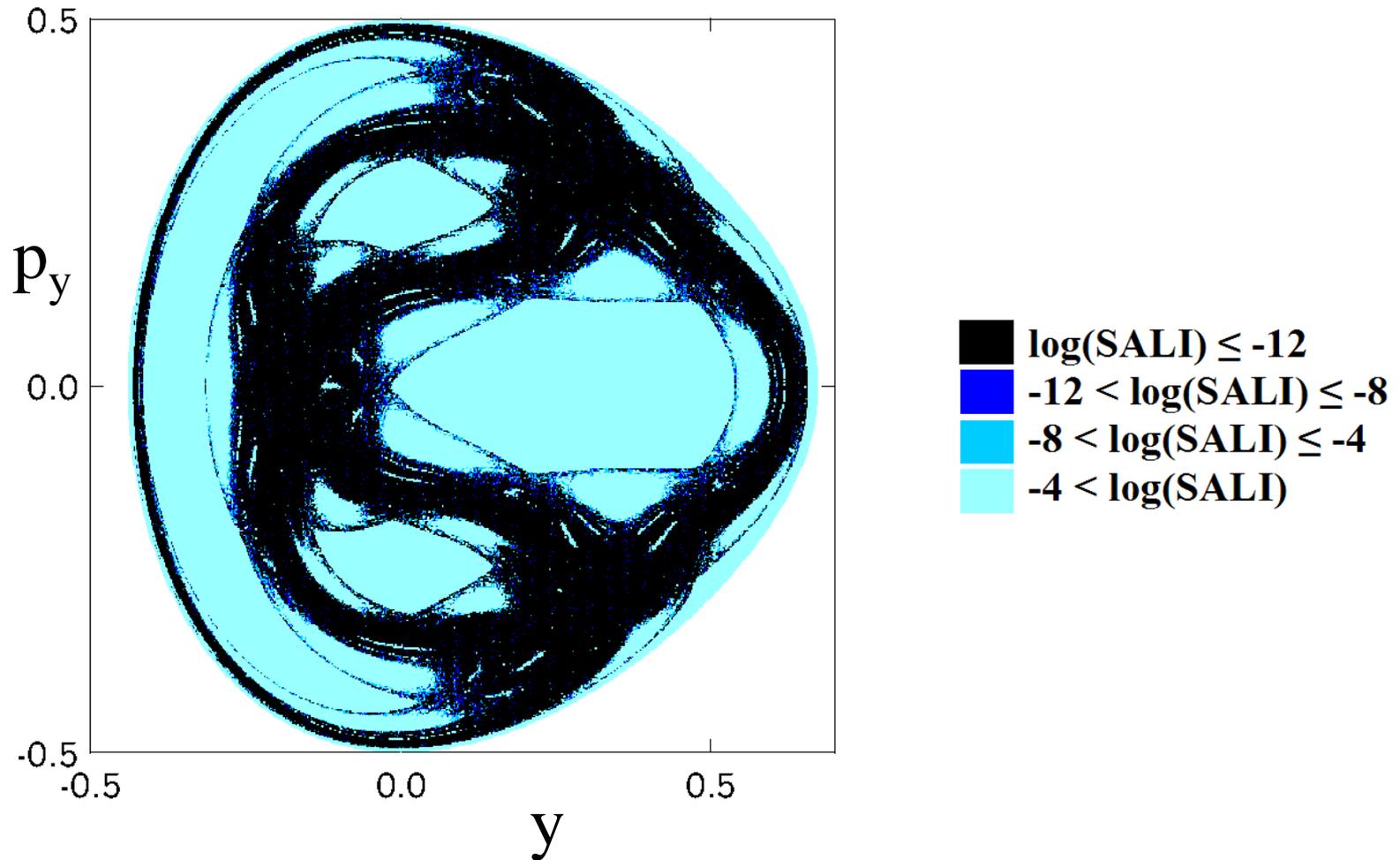
Regular orbit, $x=0$, $y=0.55$, $p_x=0.2417$, $p_y=0$

Chaotic orbit, $x=0$, $y=-0.016$, $p_x=0.49974$, $p_y=0$

Chaotic orbit, $x=0$, $y=-0.01344$, $p_x=0.49982$, $p_y=0$



Applications – Hénon-Heiles system



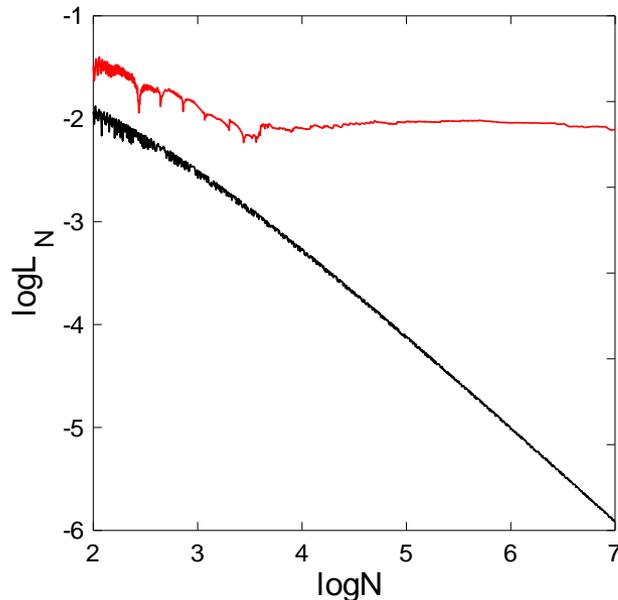
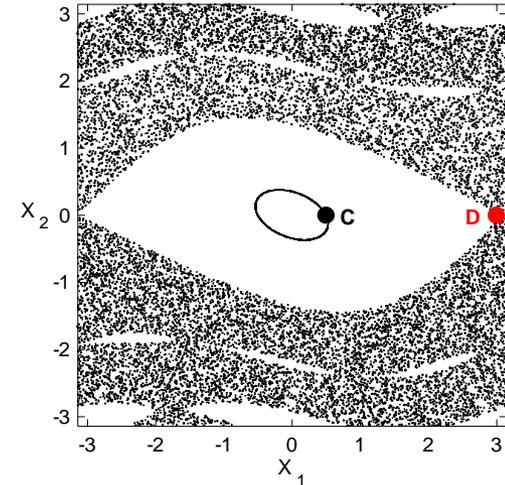
Applications – 4D map

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}'_1 &= \mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{x}_2 \\ \mathbf{x}'_2 &= \mathbf{x}_2 - \nu \sin(\mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{x}_2) - \mu [1 - \cos(\mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{x}_2 + \mathbf{x}_3 + \mathbf{x}_4)] \\ \mathbf{x}'_3 &= \mathbf{x}_3 + \mathbf{x}_4 \\ \mathbf{x}'_4 &= \mathbf{x}_4 - \kappa \sin(\mathbf{x}_3 + \mathbf{x}_4) - \mu [1 - \cos(\mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{x}_2 + \mathbf{x}_3 + \mathbf{x}_4)] \end{aligned} \quad (\text{mod } 2\pi)$$

For $\nu=0.5$, $\kappa=0.1$, $\mu=0.1$ we consider the orbits:

regular orbit C with initial conditions $x_1=0.5$, $x_2=0$, $x_3=0.5$, $x_4=0$.

chaotic orbit D with initial conditions $x_1=3$, $x_2=0$, $x_3=0.5$, $x_4=0$.



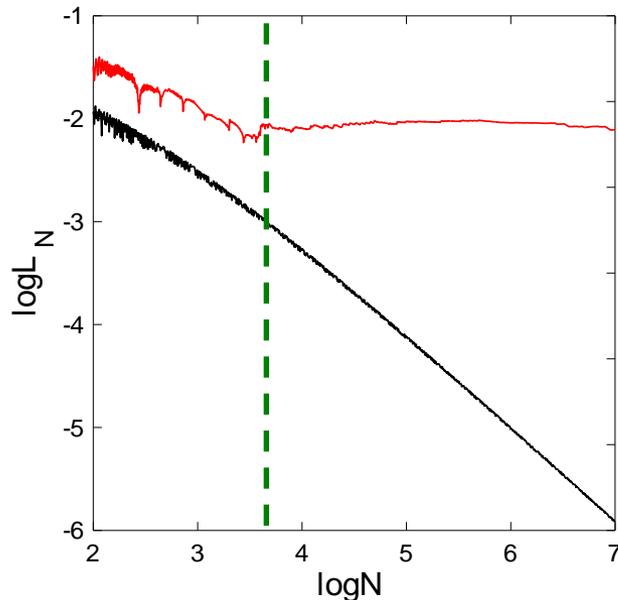
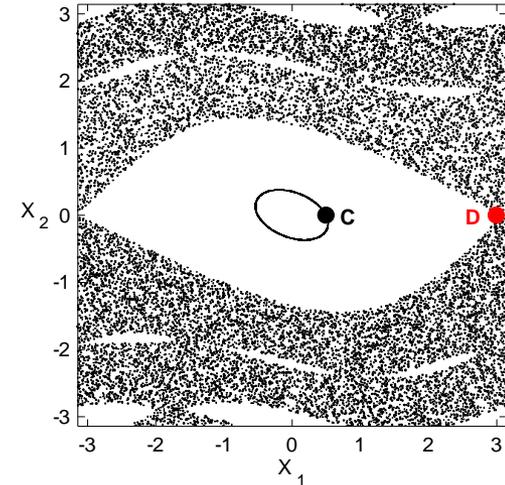
Applications – 4D map

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 \mathbf{x}'_1 &= \mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{x}_2 \\
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 \mathbf{x}'_3 &= \mathbf{x}_3 + \mathbf{x}_4 \\
 \mathbf{x}'_4 &= \mathbf{x}_4 - \kappa \sin(\mathbf{x}_3 + \mathbf{x}_4) - \mu [1 - \cos(\mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{x}_2 + \mathbf{x}_3 + \mathbf{x}_4)]
 \end{aligned} \pmod{2\pi}$$

For $\nu=0.5$, $\kappa=0.1$, $\mu=0.1$ we consider the orbits:

regular orbit C with initial conditions $x_1=0.5$, $x_2=0$, $x_3=0.5$, $x_4=0$.

chaotic orbit D with initial conditions $x_1=3$, $x_2=0$, $x_3=0.5$, $x_4=0$.



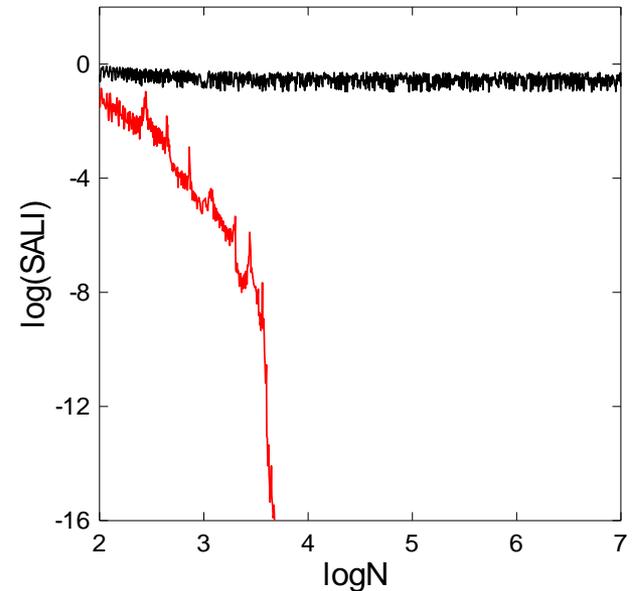
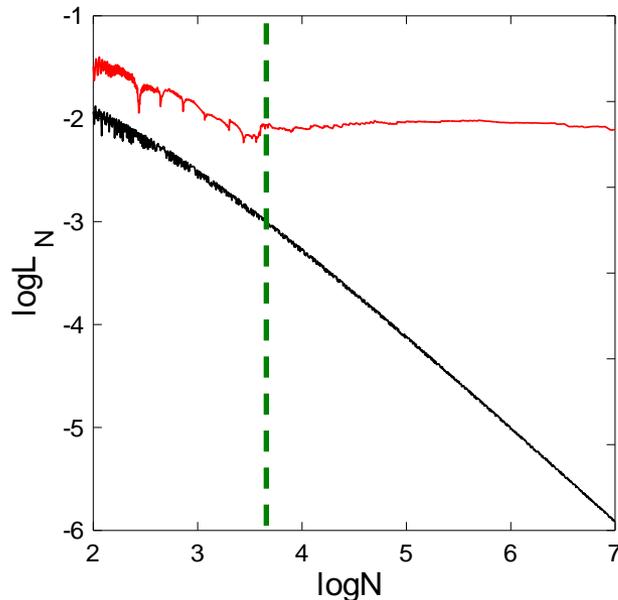
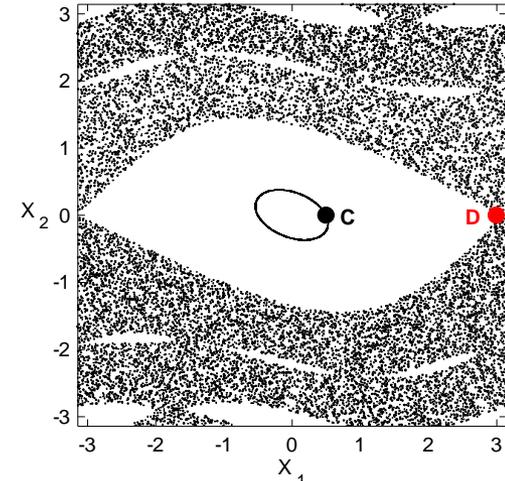
Applications – 4D map

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 \mathbf{x}'_3 &= \mathbf{x}_3 + \mathbf{x}_4 \\
 \mathbf{x}'_4 &= \mathbf{x}_4 - \kappa \sin(\mathbf{x}_3 + \mathbf{x}_4) - \mu [1 - \cos(\mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{x}_2 + \mathbf{x}_3 + \mathbf{x}_4)]
 \end{aligned} \pmod{2\pi}$$

For $\nu=0.5$, $\kappa=0.1$, $\mu=0.1$ we consider the orbits:

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chaotic orbit D with initial conditions $x_1=3$, $x_2=0$, $x_3=0.5$, $x_4=0$.



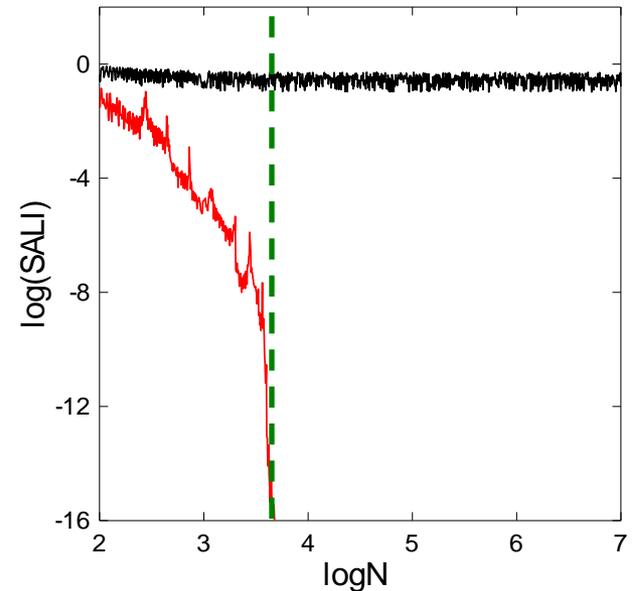
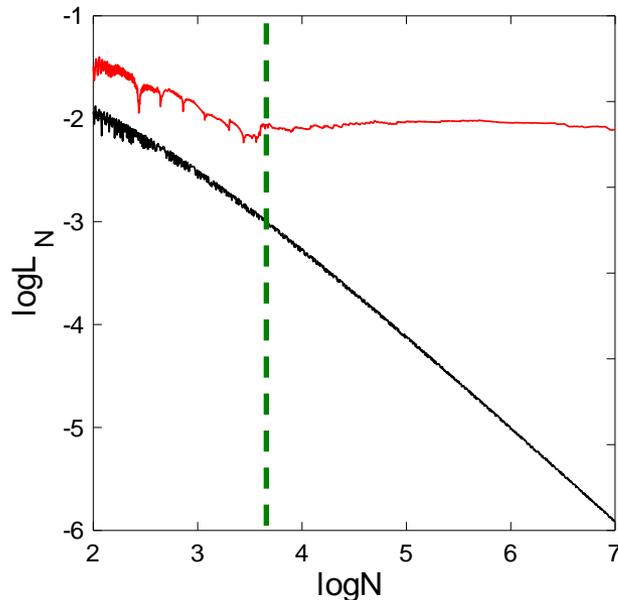
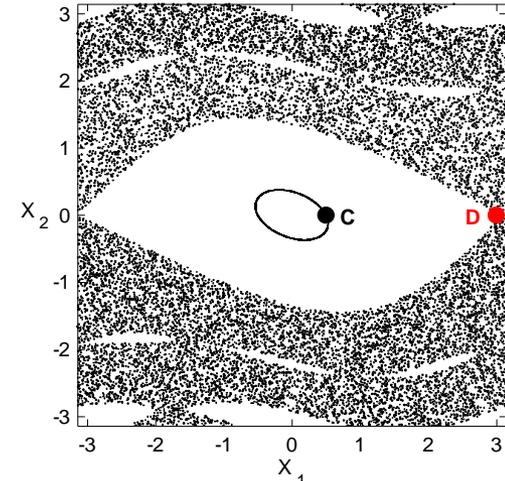
Applications – 4D map

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 \end{aligned} \pmod{2\pi}$$

For $\nu=0.5$, $\kappa=0.1$, $\mu=0.1$ we consider the orbits:

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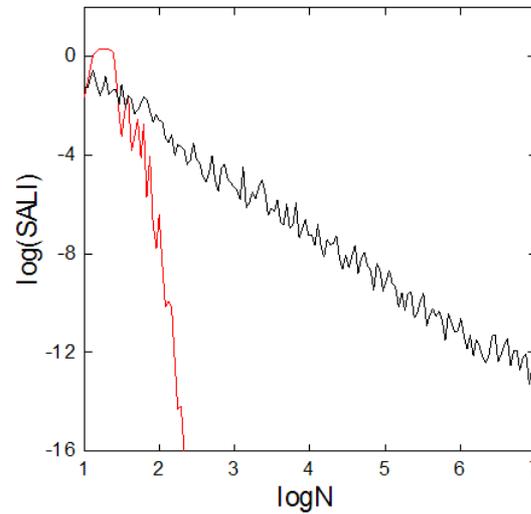
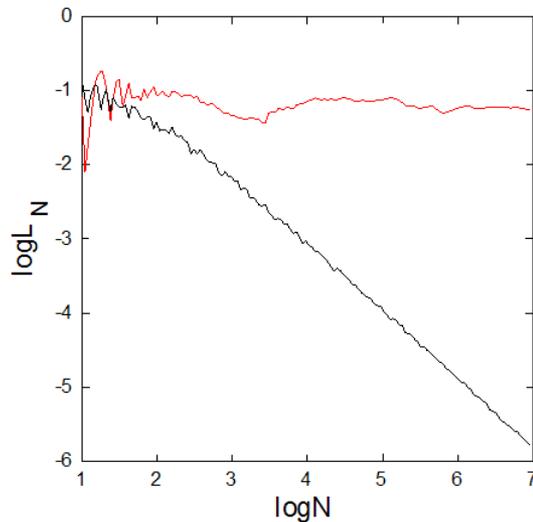
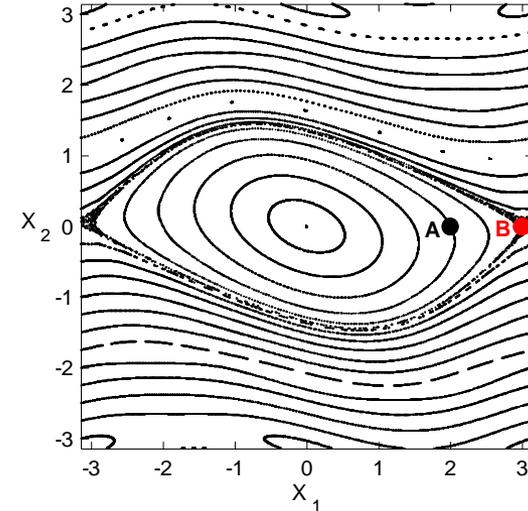
Applications – 2D map

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}'_1 &= \mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{x}_2 \\ \mathbf{x}'_2 &= \mathbf{x}_2 - \nu \sin(\mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{x}_2) \end{aligned} \quad (\text{mod } 2\pi)$$

For $\nu=0.5$ we consider the orbits:

regular orbit A with initial conditions $x_1=2, x_2=0$.

chaotic orbit B with initial conditions $x_1=3, x_2=0$.



Behavior of SALI

2D maps

SALI $\rightarrow 0$ both for regular and chaotic orbits

following, however, completely different time rates which allows us to distinguish between the two cases.

Hamiltonian flows and multidimensional maps

SALI $\rightarrow 0$ for chaotic orbits

SALI \rightarrow constant $\neq 0$ for regular orbits

Questions

Can we generalize SALI so that the new index:

- Can rapidly reveal the nature of chaotic orbits with $\sigma_1 \approx \sigma_2$ ($\text{SALI} \propto e^{-(\sigma_1 - \sigma_2)t}$)?
- Depends on several Lyapunov exponents for chaotic orbits?
- Exhibits power-law decay for regular orbits depending on the dimensionality of the tangent space of the reference orbit as for 2D maps?

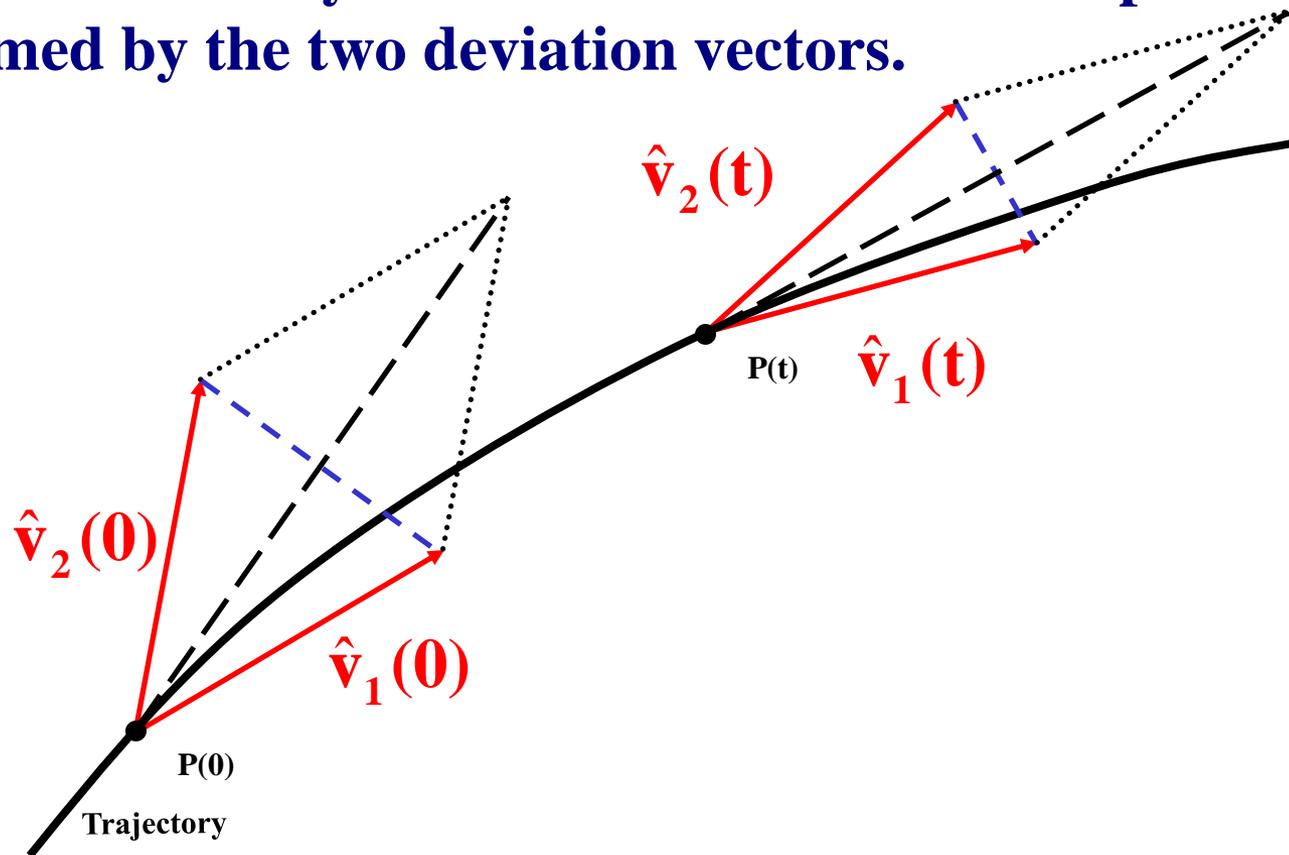
**The
Generalized ALignment Indices
(GALIs)
method**

Definition of Generalized Alignment Index (GALI)

SALI effectively measures the 'area' of the parallelogram formed by the two deviation vectors.

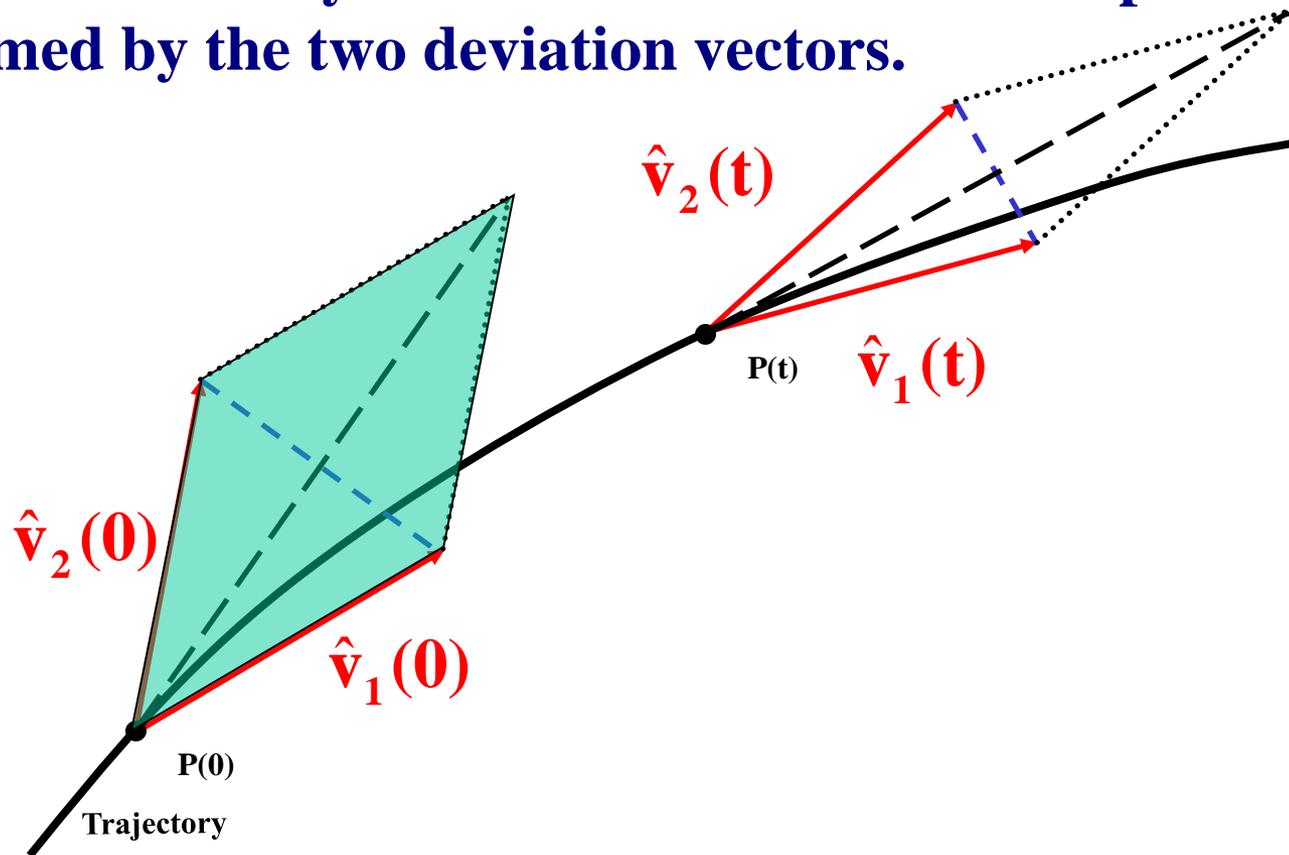
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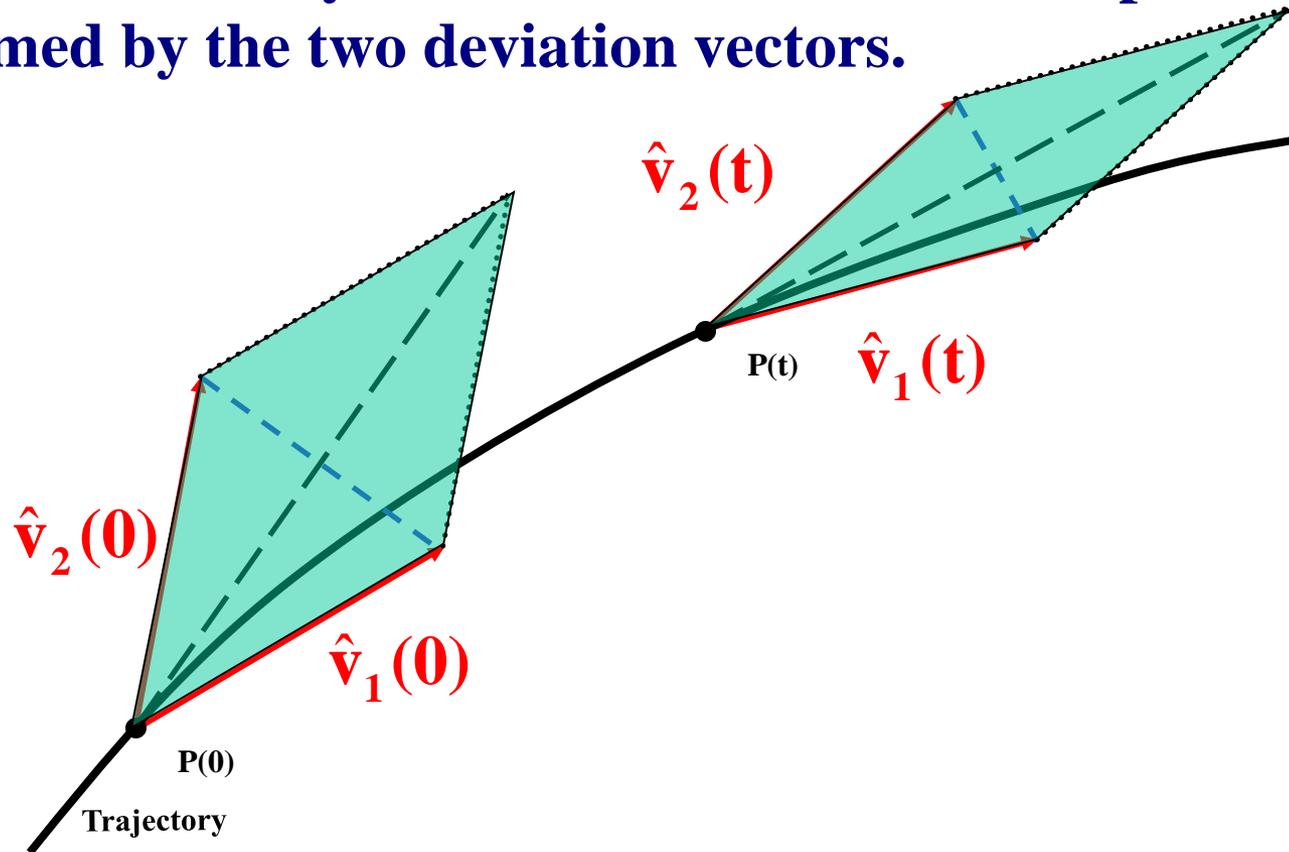
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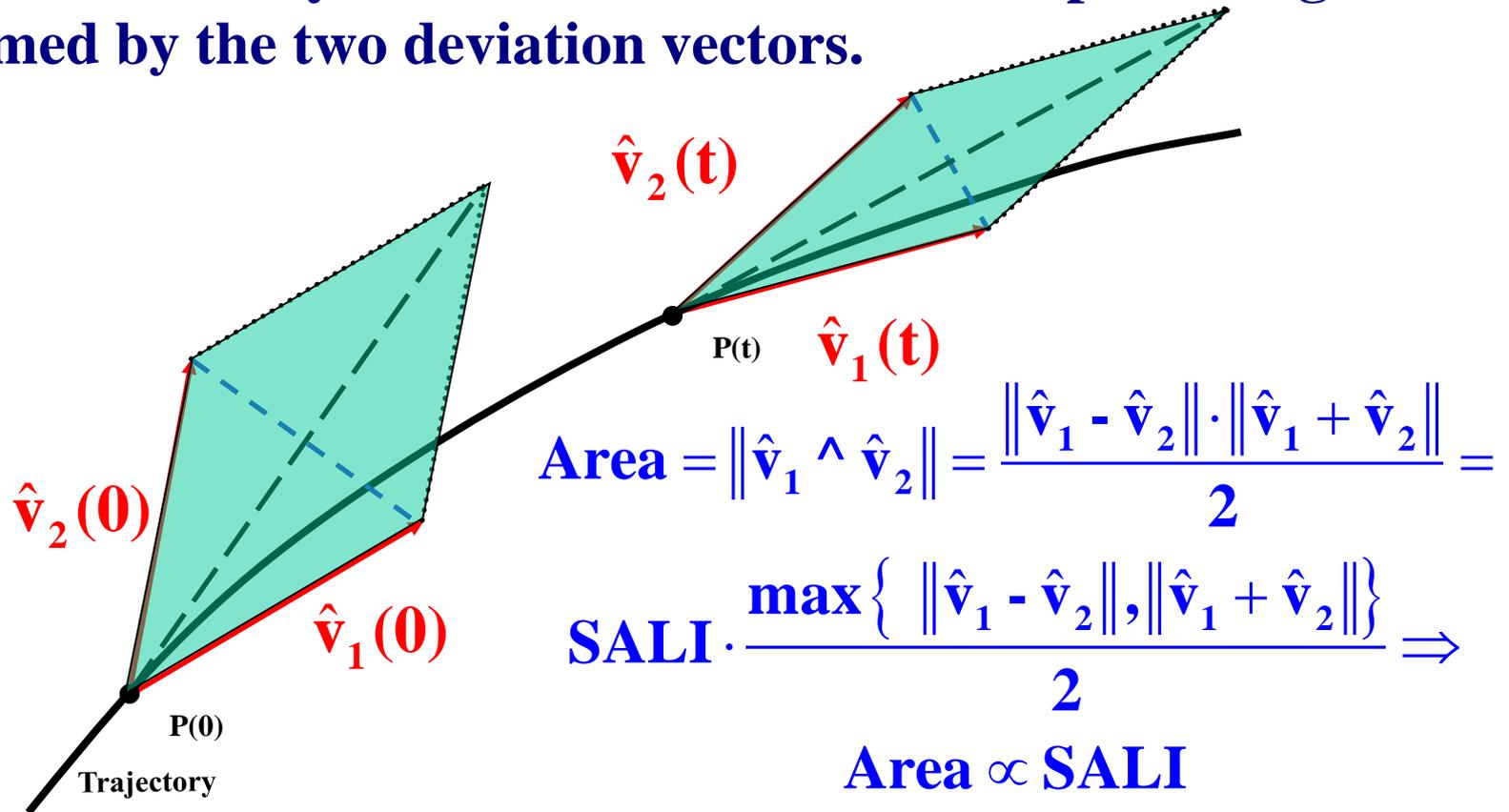
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Definition of Generalized Alignment Index (GALI)

SALI effectively measures the 'area' of the parallelogram formed by the two deviation vectors.



Definition of GALI

In the case of an N degree of freedom Hamiltonian system or a $2N$ symplectic map we follow the evolution of

k deviation vectors with $2 \leq k \leq 2N$,

and define (Ch.S., Bountis, Antonopoulos, 2007, Physica D) the Generalized Alignment Index (GALI) of order k :

$$\text{GALI}_k(\mathbf{t}) = \left\| \hat{\mathbf{v}}_1(\mathbf{t}) \wedge \hat{\mathbf{v}}_2(\mathbf{t}) \wedge \dots \wedge \hat{\mathbf{v}}_k(\mathbf{t}) \right\|$$

where

$$\hat{\mathbf{v}}_1(\mathbf{t}) = \frac{\mathbf{v}_1(\mathbf{t})}{\|\mathbf{v}_1(\mathbf{t})\|}$$

Behavior of $GALI_k$ for chaotic motion

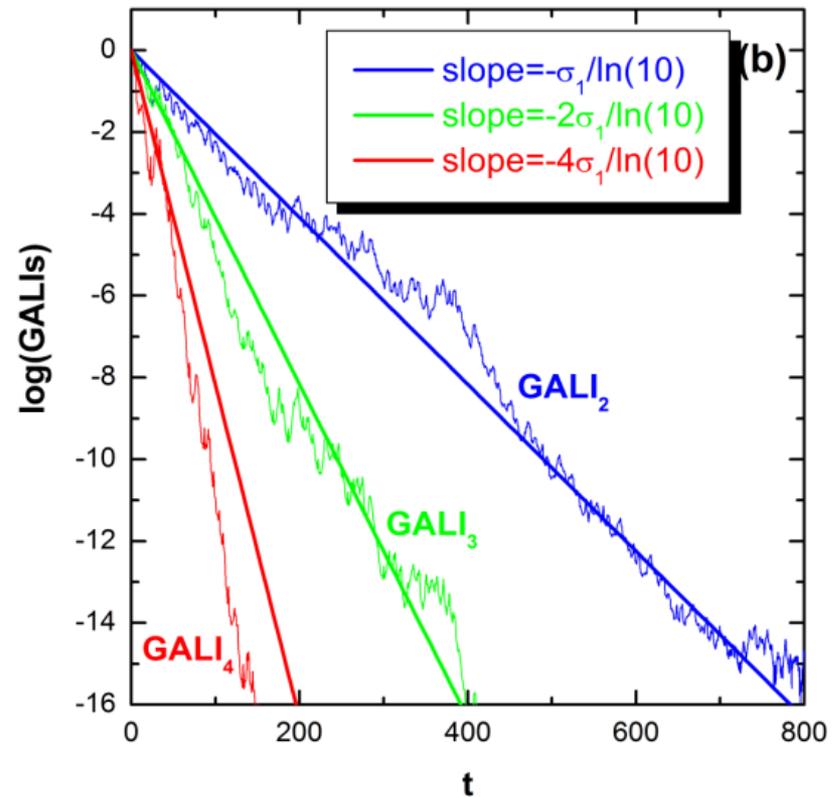
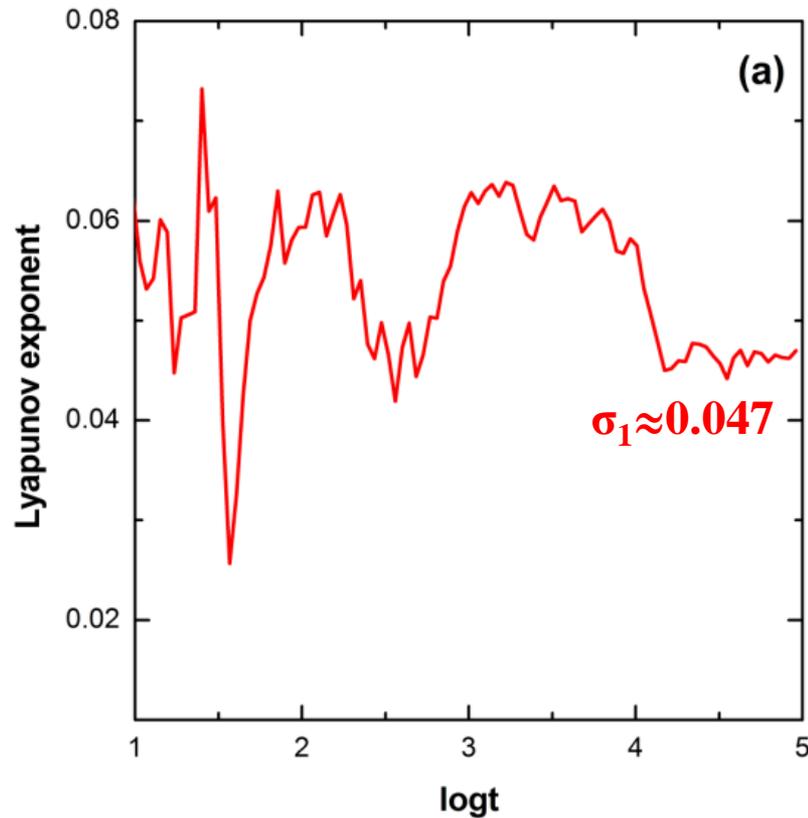
$GALI_k$ ($2 \leq k \leq 2N$) tends exponentially to zero with exponents that involve the values of the first k largest Lyapunov exponents $\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots, \sigma_k$:

$$GALI_k(t) \propto e^{-[(\sigma_1 - \sigma_2) + (\sigma_1 - \sigma_3) + \dots + (\sigma_1 - \sigma_k)]t}$$

The above relation is valid even if some Lyapunov exponents are equal, or very close to each other.

Behavior of $GALI_k$ for chaotic motion

2D Hamiltonian (Hénon-Heiles system)

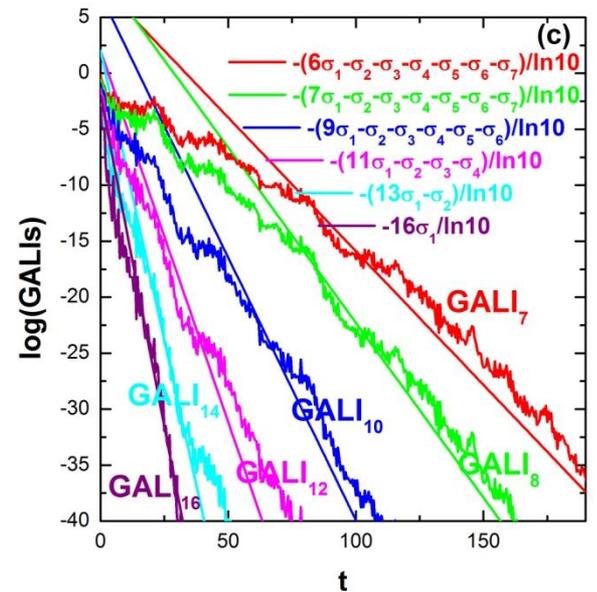
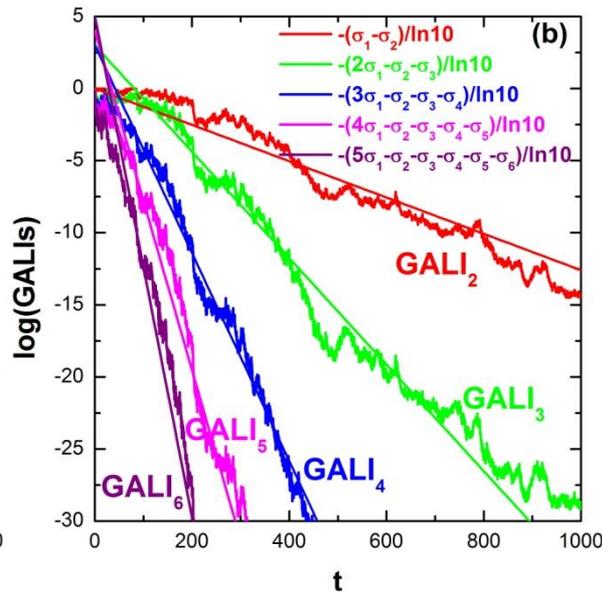
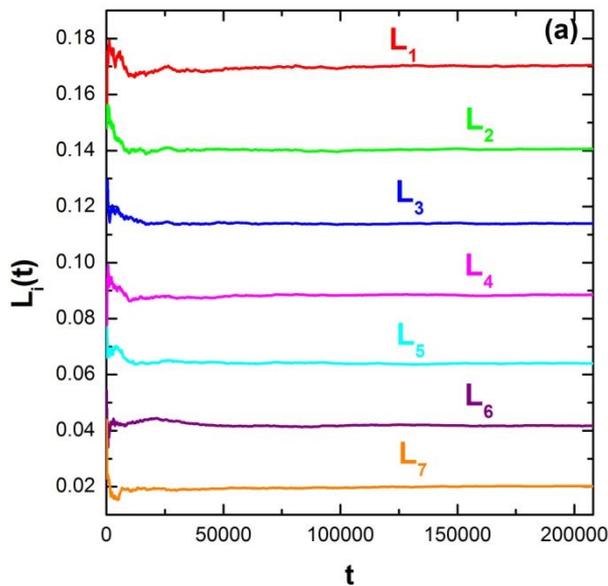


Behavior of $GALI_k$ for chaotic motion

N particles Fermi-Pasta-Ulam (FPU) system:

$$H = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N p_i^2 + \sum_{i=0}^N \left[\frac{1}{2} (q_{i+1} - q_i)^2 + \frac{\beta}{4} (q_{i+1} - q_i)^4 \right]$$

with fixed boundary conditions, $N=8$ and $\beta=1.5$.



Behavior of $GALI_k$ for regular motion

If the motion occurs on an s -dimensional torus with $s \leq N$ then the behavior of $GALI_k$ is given by (Ch.S., Bountis, Antonopoulos, 2008, Eur. Phys. J. Sp. Top.):

$$GALI_k(t) \propto \begin{cases} \text{constant} & \text{if } 2 \leq k \leq s \\ \frac{1}{t^{k-s}} & \text{if } s < k \leq 2N - s \\ \frac{1}{t^{2(k-N)}} & \text{if } 2N - s < k \leq 2N \end{cases}$$

while in the common case with $s=N$ we have :

$$GALI_k(t) \propto \begin{cases} \text{constant} & \text{if } 2 \leq k \leq N \\ \frac{1}{t^{2(k-N)}} & \text{if } N < k \leq 2N \end{cases}$$

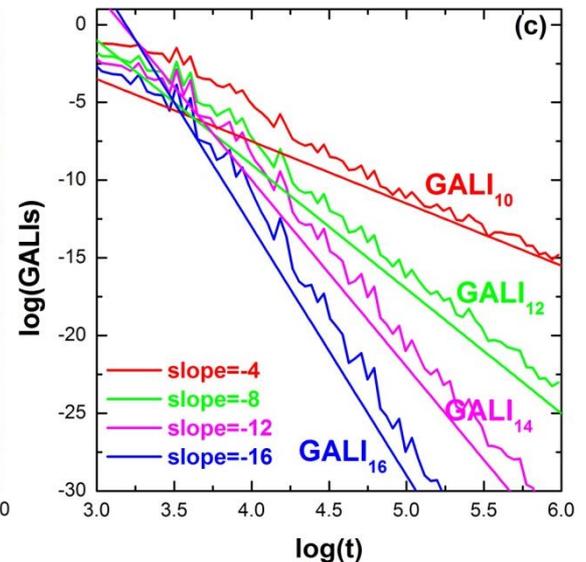
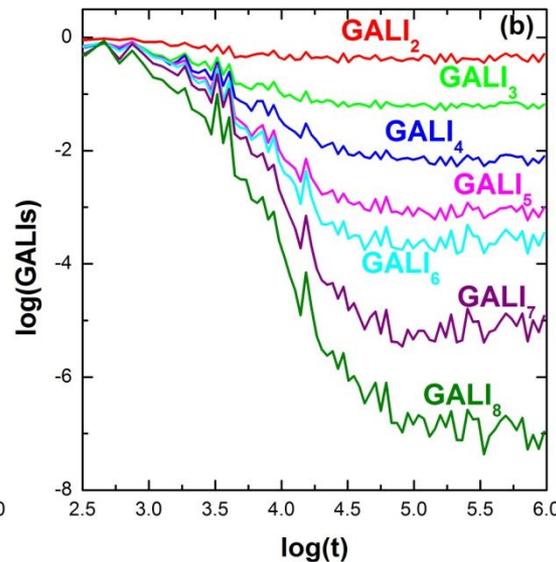
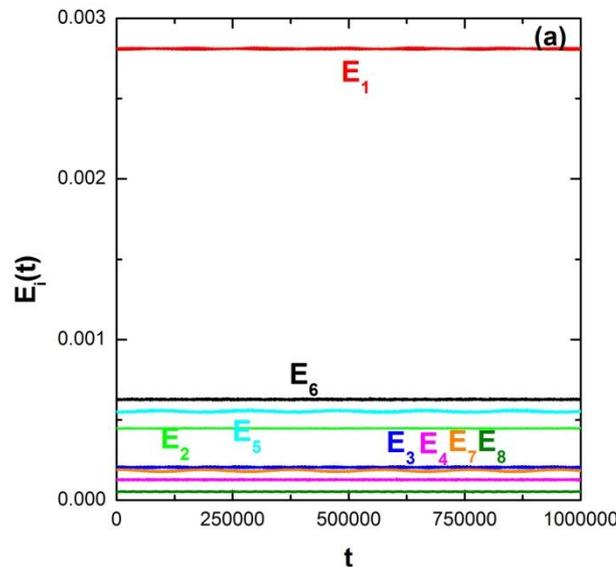
Behavior of $GALI_k$ for regular motion

N=8 FPU system: The unperturbed Hamiltonian ($\beta=0$) is written as a sum of the so-called **harmonic energies** E_i :

$$E_i = \frac{1}{2} (P_i^2 + \omega_i^2 Q_i^2), \quad i = 1, \dots, N$$

with:

$$Q_i = \sqrt{\frac{2}{N+1}} \sum_{k=1}^N q_k \sin\left(\frac{ki\pi}{N+1}\right), \quad P_i = \sqrt{\frac{2}{N+1}} \sum_{k=1}^N p_k \sin\left(\frac{ki\pi}{N+1}\right), \quad \omega_i = 2 \sin\left(\frac{i\pi}{2(N+1)}\right)$$



Global dynamics

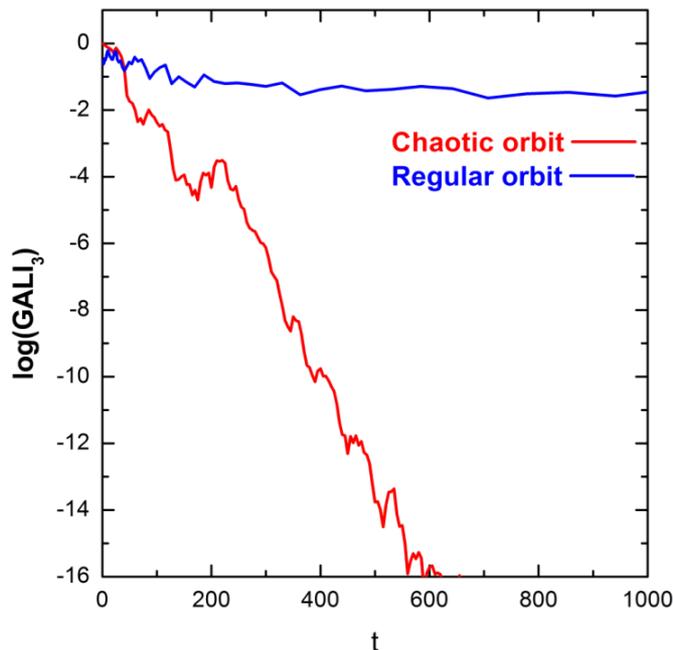
- $GALI_2$ (practically equivalent to the use of SALI)

- $GALI_N$

Chaotic motion: $GALI_N \rightarrow 0$
(exponential decay)

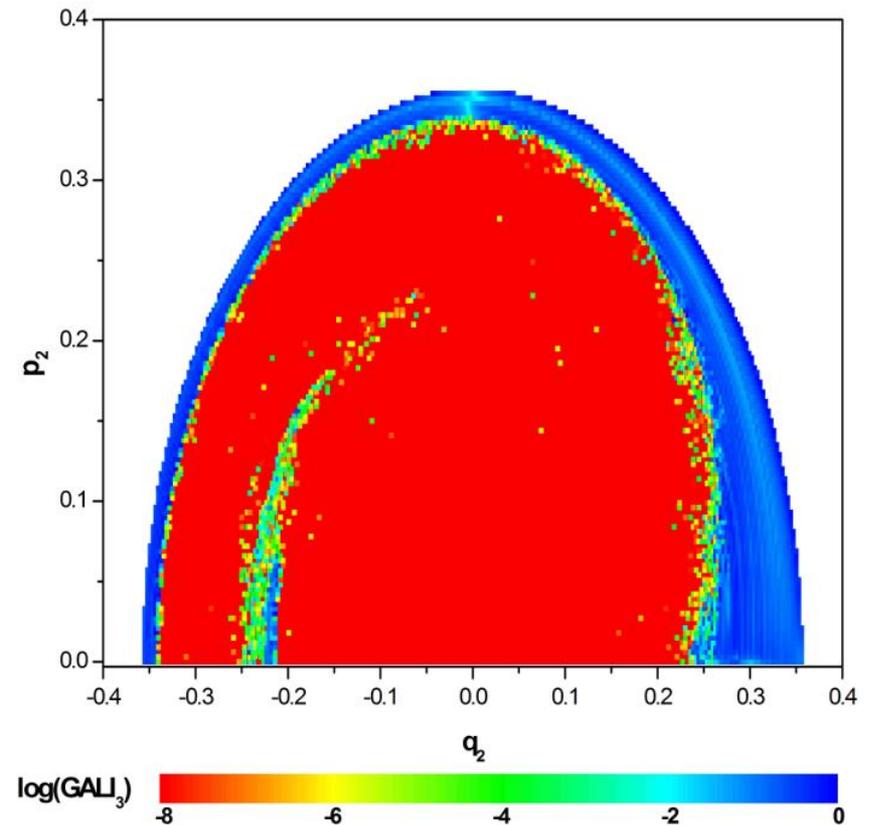
Regular motion:

$GALI_N \rightarrow \text{constant} \neq 0$



3D Hamiltonian

Subspace $q_3=p_3=0$, $p_2 \geq 0$ for $t=1000$.



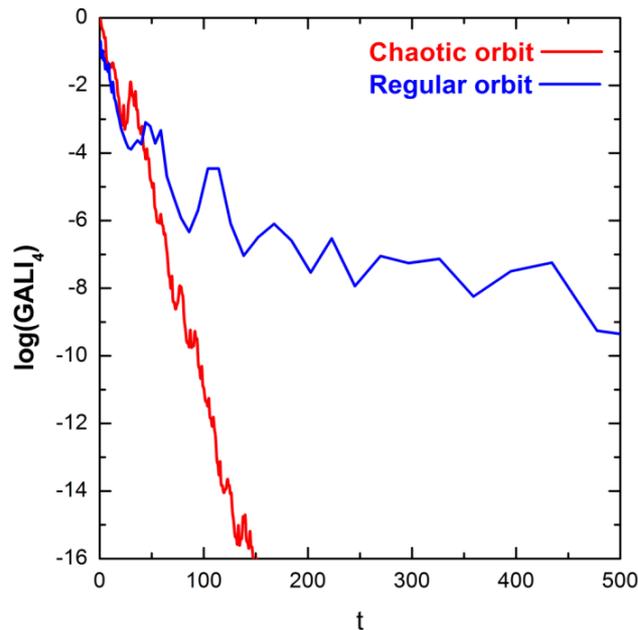
Global dynamics

$GALI_k$ with $k > N$

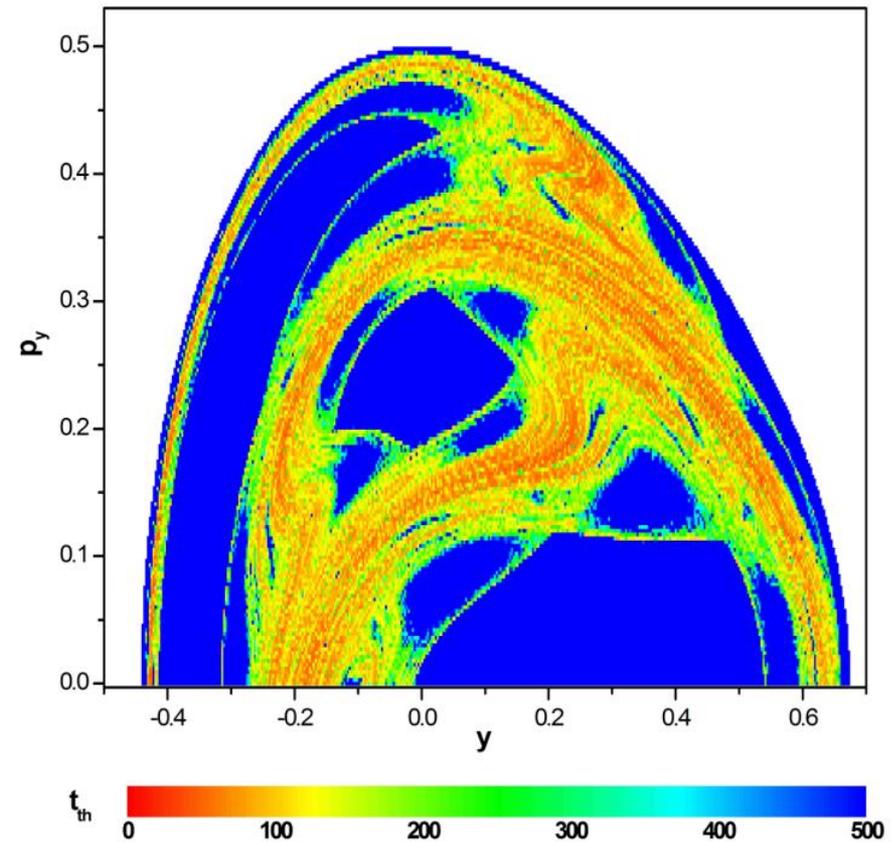
The index tends to zero both for regular and chaotic orbits but with completely different time rates:

Chaotic motion: exponential decay

Regular motion: power law



2D Hamiltonian (Hénon-Heiles) Time needed for $GALI_4 < 10^{-12}$



Behavior of $GALI_k$

Chaotic motion:

$GALI_k \rightarrow 0$ exponential decay

$$GALI_k(t) \propto e^{-[(\sigma_1 - \sigma_2) + (\sigma_1 - \sigma_3) + \dots + (\sigma_1 - \sigma_k)]t}$$

Regular motion:

$GALI_k \rightarrow \text{constant} \neq 0$ or $GALI_k \rightarrow 0$ power law decay

$$GALI_k(t) \propto \begin{cases} \text{constant} & \text{if } 2 \leq k \leq s \\ \frac{1}{t^{k-s}} & \text{if } s < k \leq 2N - s \\ \frac{1}{t^{2(k-N)}} & \text{if } 2N - s < k \leq 2N \end{cases}$$

Symmary

- The Smaller ALignment Index (SALI) method is a **fast, efficient and easy to compute chaos indicator**.
- Generalizing the SALI method we define the Generalized ALignment Index of order k ($GALI_k$) as **the volume of the generalized parallelepiped, whose edges are k unit deviation vectors**.
- Behaviour of $GALI_k$:
 - ✓ **Chaotic motion**: it tends exponentially to zero with exponents that involve the values of several Lyapunov exponents.
 - ✓ **Regular motion**: it fluctuates around non-zero values for $2 \leq k \leq s$ and goes to zero for $s < k \leq 2N$ following power-laws, with s being the dimensionality of the torus.
- $GALI_k$ indices :
 - ✓ can distinguish rapidly and with certainty between regular and chaotic motion.
 - ✓ can be used to characterize individual orbits as well as "chart" chaotic and regular domains in phase space.

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