Lagrangian Descriptors: A powerful method for investigating the behavior and chaoticity of dynamical systems

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Outline

- Lagrangian descriptors (LDs)
- Smaller Alignment Index (SALI)
- Chaos diagnostics based on LDs:
  - ✓ the difference of LDs of neighboring orbits
  - ✓ the ratio of LDs of neighboring orbits
- Applications:
  - ✓ Hénon – Heiles system
  - ✓ 2D Standard map
  - ✓ Motion of a satellite
- Summary

Lagrangian descriptors (LDs)

The computation of LDs is based on the accumulation of some positive scalar value along the path of individual orbits.

Consider an *N* dimensional continuous time dynamical system

$$\dot{x} = \frac{dx(t)}{dt} = f(x,t)$$

The arclength definition [Madrid & Mancho, Chaos (2009) – Mendoza & Mancho, PRL (2010) – Mancho et al., Commun. Nonlin. Sci. Num. Simul. (2013)].

Forward time *LD*:

$$LD^f(x,\tau) = \int_0^{\tau} \|\dot{x}(t)\| dt$$

Backward time *LD*:

$$LD^b(x,\tau) = \int_{-\tau}^{0} \|\dot{x}(t)\| dt$$

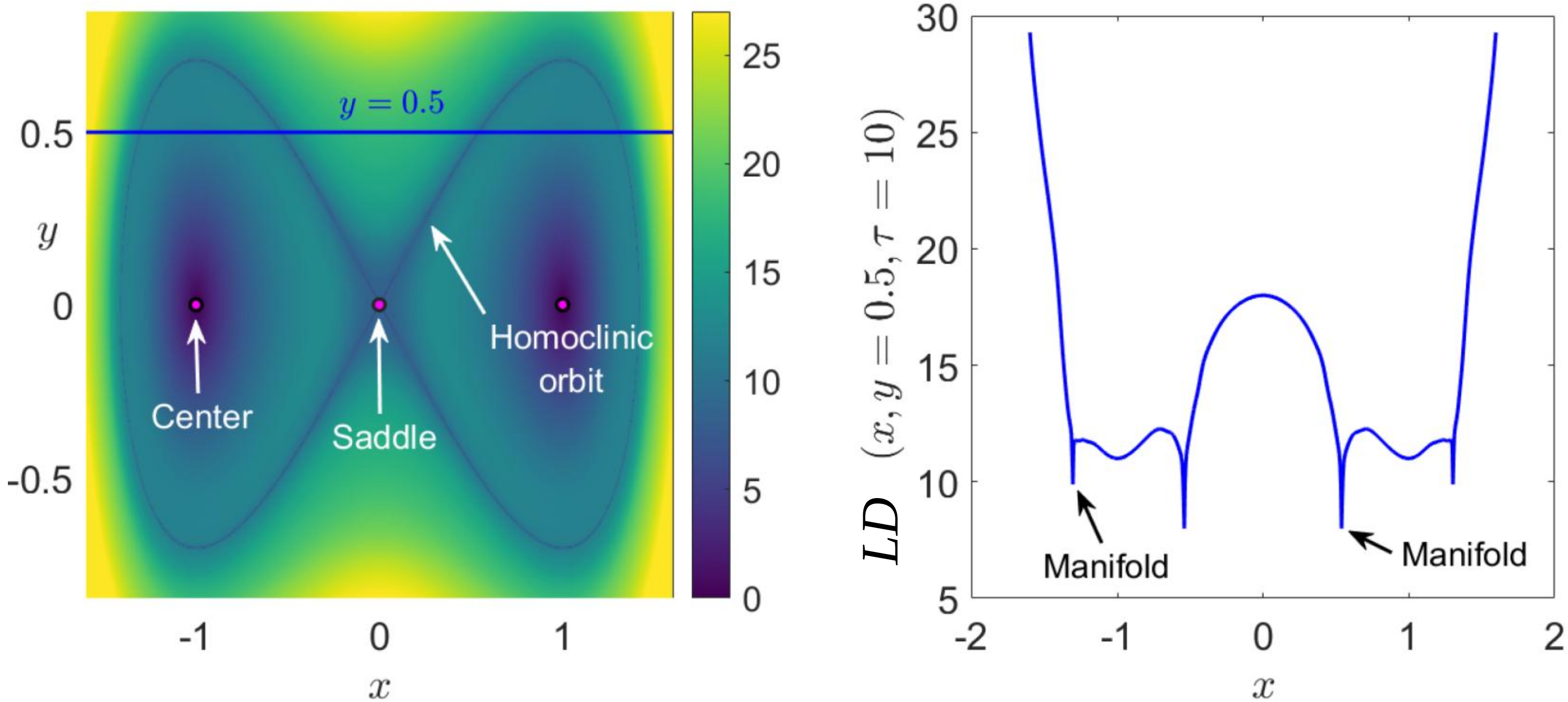
Combined *LD*:

$$LD(x,\tau) = LD^b(x,\tau) + LD^f(x,\tau)$$

LDs: 1 dof Duffing Oscillator

$$H(x, y) = \frac{1}{2}y^2 + \frac{1}{4}x^4 - \frac{1}{2}x^2$$

The system has three equilibrium points: a saddle located at the origin and two diametrically opposed centers at the points (± 1, 0).



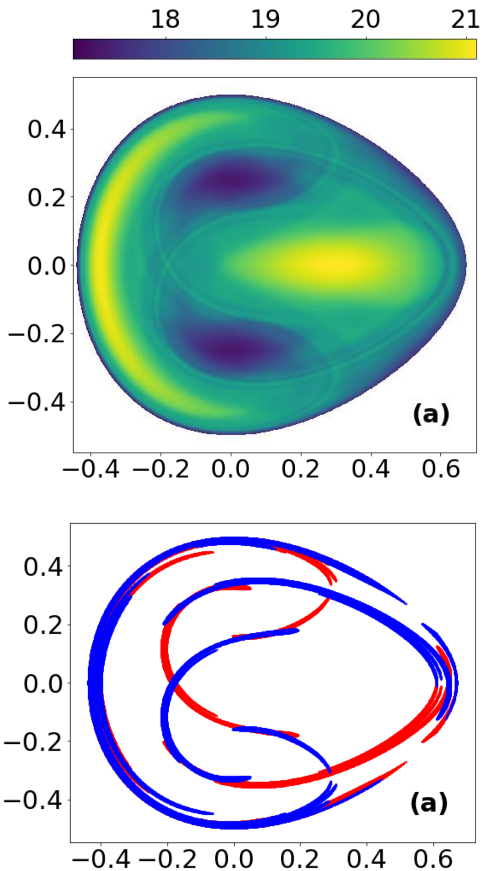
From Agaoglou et al. 'Lagrangian descriptors: Discovery and quantification of phase space structure and transport', 2020, https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3958985

The location of the stable and unstable manifolds can be extracted from the ridges of the gradient field of the LDs since they are located at points where the forward and the backward components of the LD are non-differentiable.

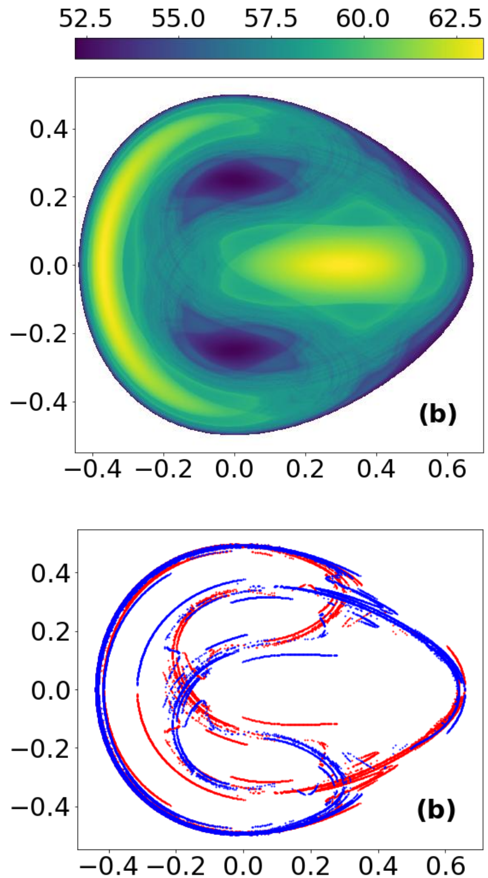
Lagrangian descriptors (LDs)

Hénon-Heiles system: $H = \frac{1}{2}\left(p_x^2 + p_y^2\right) + \frac{1}{2}\left(x^2 + y^2\right) + x^2 y - \frac{1}{3} y^3$

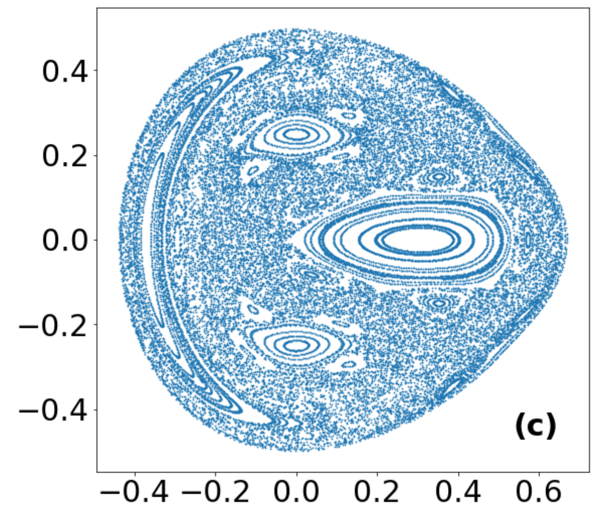
τ=20



τ=60



H=1/8



Stable and unstable manifolds

Lagrangian descriptors (LDs)

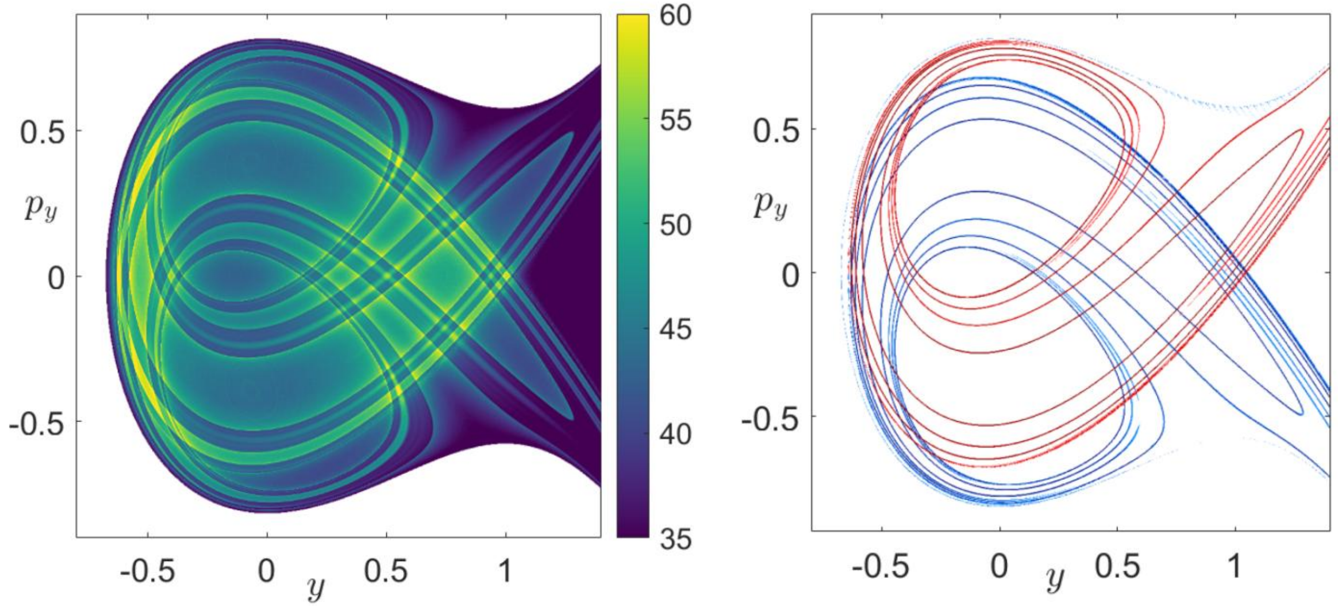
The '*p*-norm' definition [Lopesino et al., Commun. Nonlin. Sci. Num. Simul. (2015) – Lopesino et al., Int. J. Bifurc. Chaos (2017)].

Combined *LD* (usually *p*=1/2):

$$LD(x,\tau) = \int_{-\tau}^{\tau} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{N} |f_i(x,t)|^p \right) dt$$

Hénon-Heiles system: $H = \frac{1}{2}\left(p_x^2 + p_y^2\right) + \frac{1}{2}\left(x^2 + y^2\right) + x^2 y - \frac{1}{3} y^3$

Stable and unstable manifolds for H=1/3, τ=10.



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Maximum Lyapunov Exponent (MLE)

Chaos: sensitive dependence on initial conditions.

Roughly speaking, the MLE of a given orbit characterizes the mean exponential rate of divergence of trajectories surrounding it.

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

$$\text{MLE} = \lambda_1 = \lim_{t\to\infty} \Lambda(t) = \lim_{t\to\infty} \frac{1}{t} \ln \frac{\|v(t)\|}{\|v(0)\|}$$

$\lambda_1 = 0 \rightarrow$ Regular motion ($\Lambda \propto t^{-1}$)
$\lambda_1 > 0 \rightarrow$ Chaotic motion

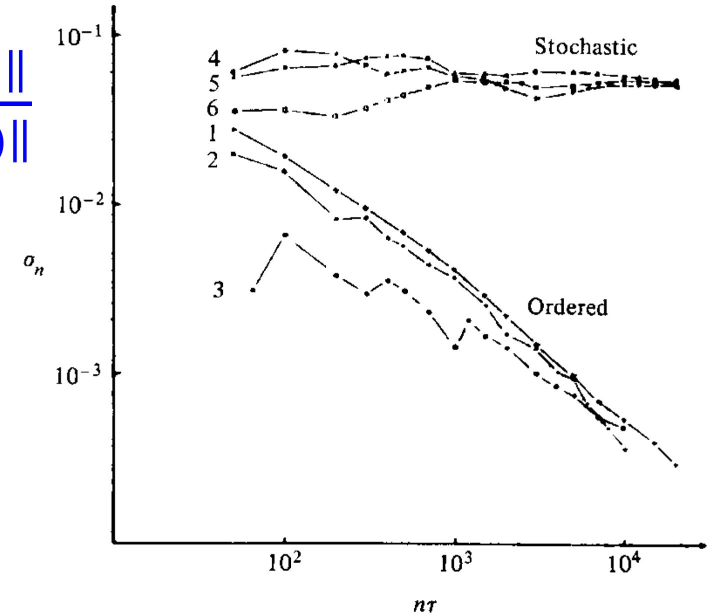


Figure 5.7. Behavior of σ_n at the intermediate energy $E = 0.125$ for initial points taken in the ordered (curves 1–3) or stochastic (curves 4–6) regions (after Benettin *et al.*, 1976).

The 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 :

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

and a deviation vector

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

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 the SALI

We follow the evolution in time of two different initial deviation vectors ($v_1(0)$, $v_2(0)$), and define SALI [S., J. Phys. A (2001) – S & Manos, Lect. Notes Phys. (2016)] as:

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

where

$$\hat{v}_1(t) = \frac{v_1(t)}{\|v_1(t)\|}$$

When the two vectors become collinear

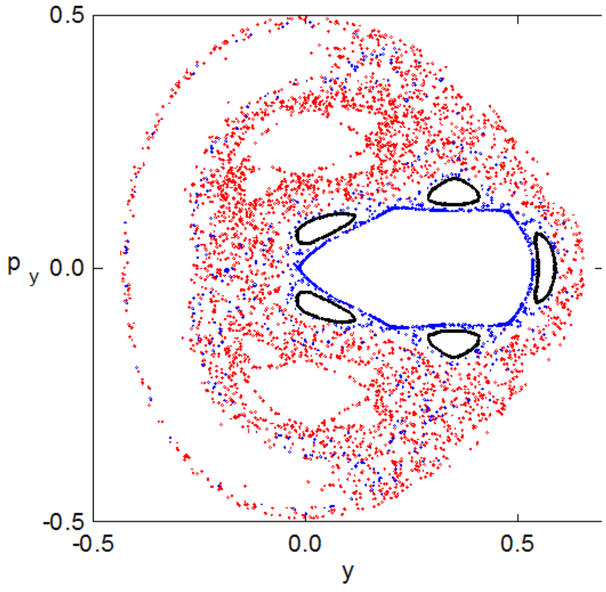
$$\mathbf{SALI}(t) \rightarrow 0$$

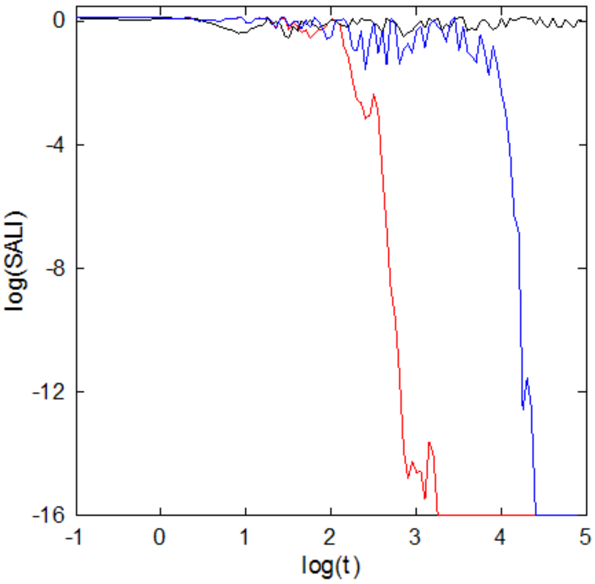
SALI – Hénon-Heiles system

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

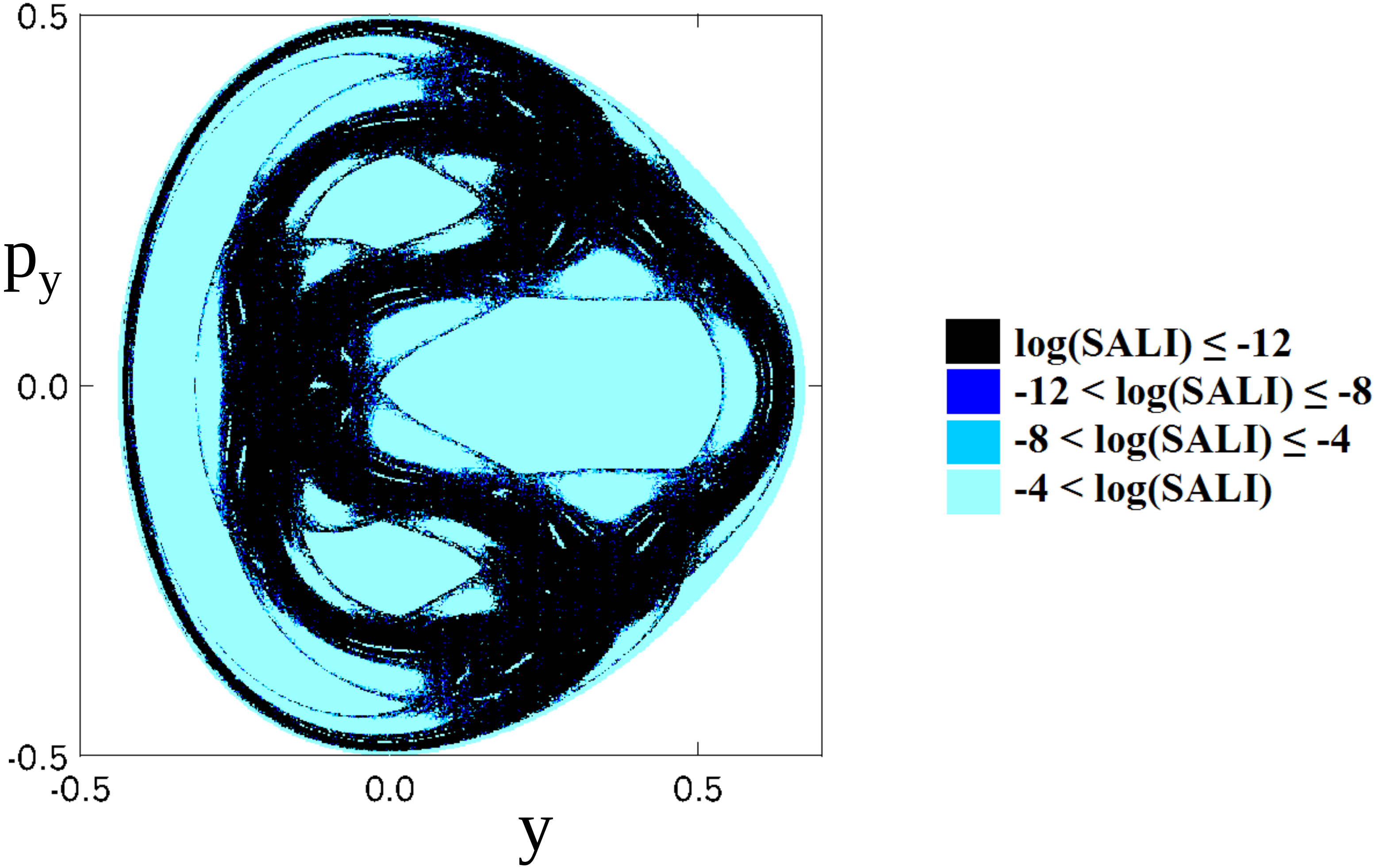
$$H = \frac{1}{2}\left(p_x^2 + p_y^2\right) + \frac{1}{2}\left(x^2 + y^2\right) + x^2 y - \frac{1}{3} y^3$$

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



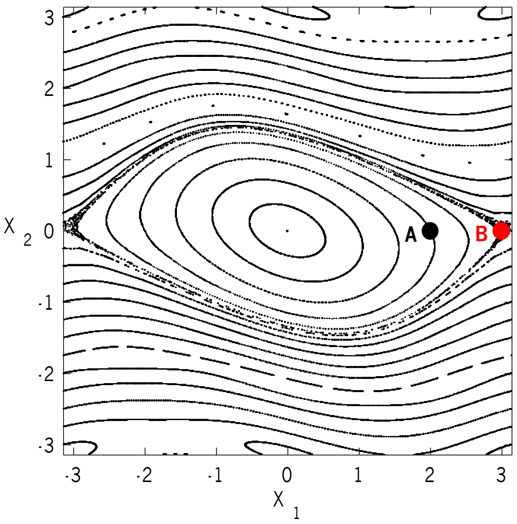


SALI – Hénon-Heiles system



Applications – 2D map

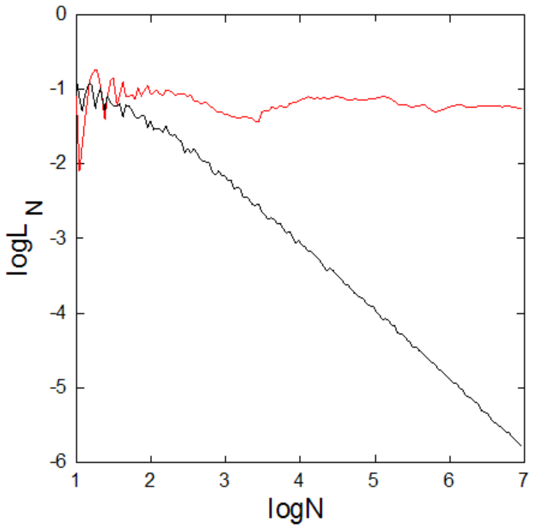
$$x_1' = x_1 + x_2$$
$$x_2' = x_2 - \nu \sin(x_1 + x_2) \quad (\mathrm{mod}\ 2\pi)$$

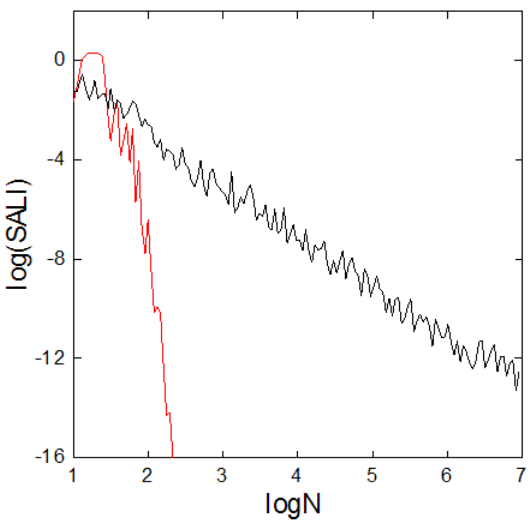


For ν=0.5 we consider the orbits:

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

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





S., J. Phys. A (2001)

Behavior of the SALI

2D maps

SALI→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→0 for chaotic orbits

SALI→constant ≠ 0 for regular orbits

Using LDs to quantify chaos

We consider orbits on a finite grid of an n(≥1)-dimensional subspace of the N(≥n)-dimensional phase space of a dynamical system and their LDs.
Any non-boundary point x in this subspace has 2n nearest neighbors

$$y_i^{\pm} = x \pm \sigma^{(i)} e^{(i)}, \qquad i = 1, 2, \ldots, n,$$

where $e^{(i)}$ is the ith usual basis vector in $\mathbb{R}^n$ and $\sigma^{(i)}$ is the distance between successive grid points in this direction.

The difference D_L^n of neighboring orbits' LDs:

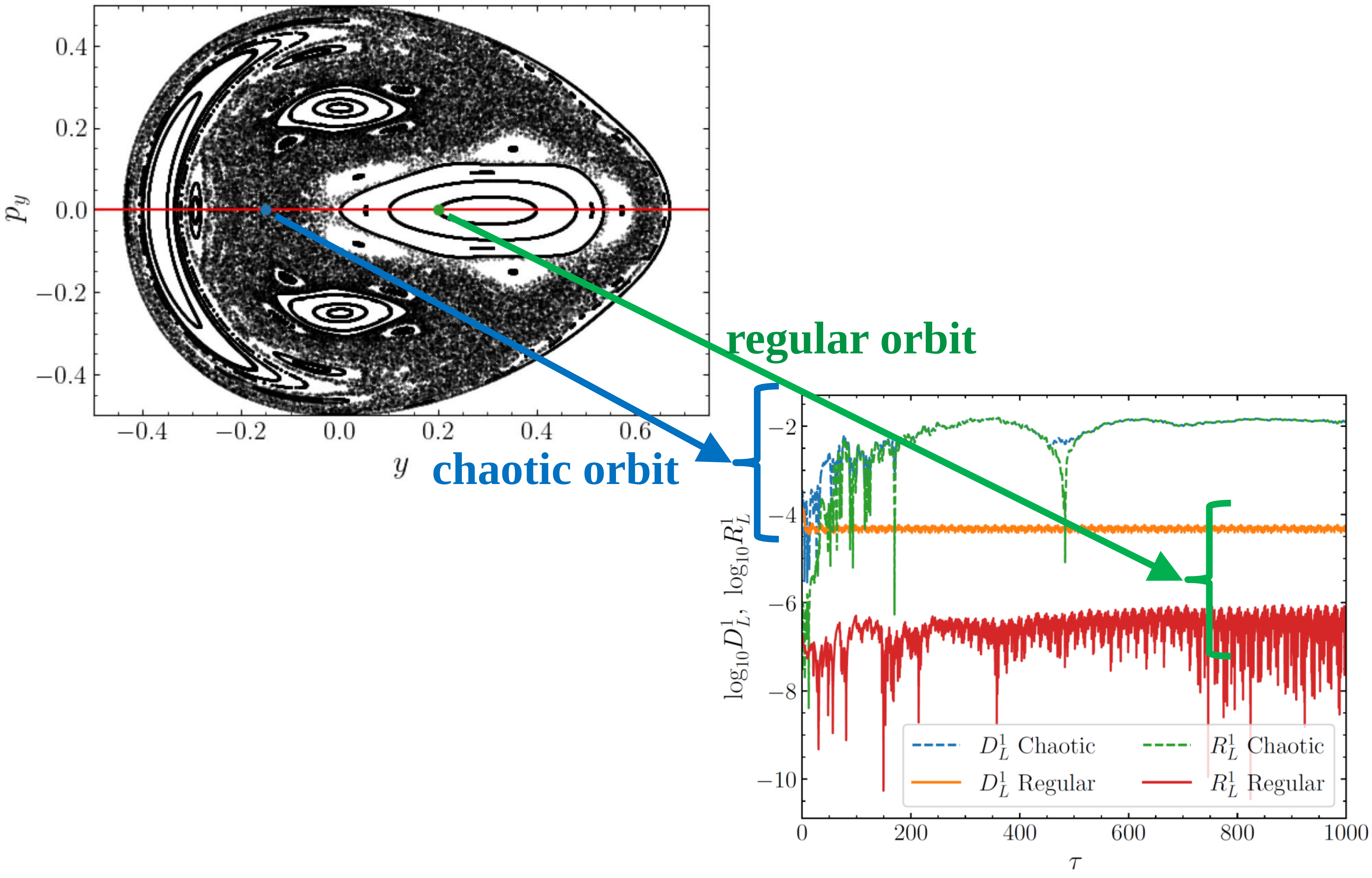
$$D_L^n(x) = \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\left|LD^f(x) - LD^f(y_i^+)\right| + \left|LD^f(x) - LD^f(y_i^-)\right|}{LD^f(x)}.$$

The ratio R_L^n of neighboring orbits' LDs:

$$R_L^n(x) = \left| 1 - \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{LD^f(y_i^+) + LD^f(y_i^-)}{LD^f(x)} \right|.$$

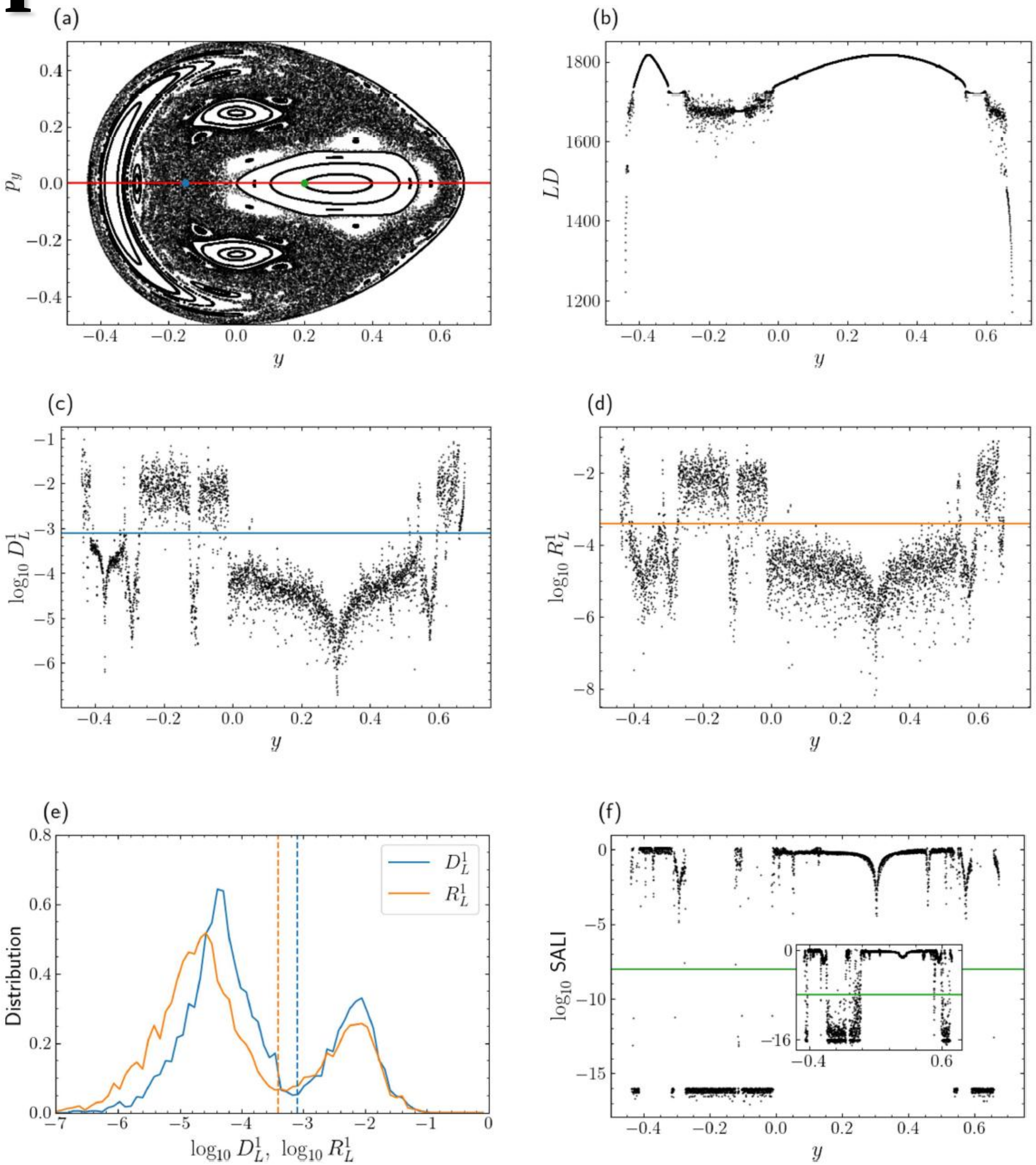
Hillebrand et al., Chaos (2022) – Zimper et al., Physica D (2023)

Application: Hénon-Heiles system



Application: Hénon-Heiles system

H=1/8



LDs for τ=10^3

Variation of LDs with regard to initial conditions.

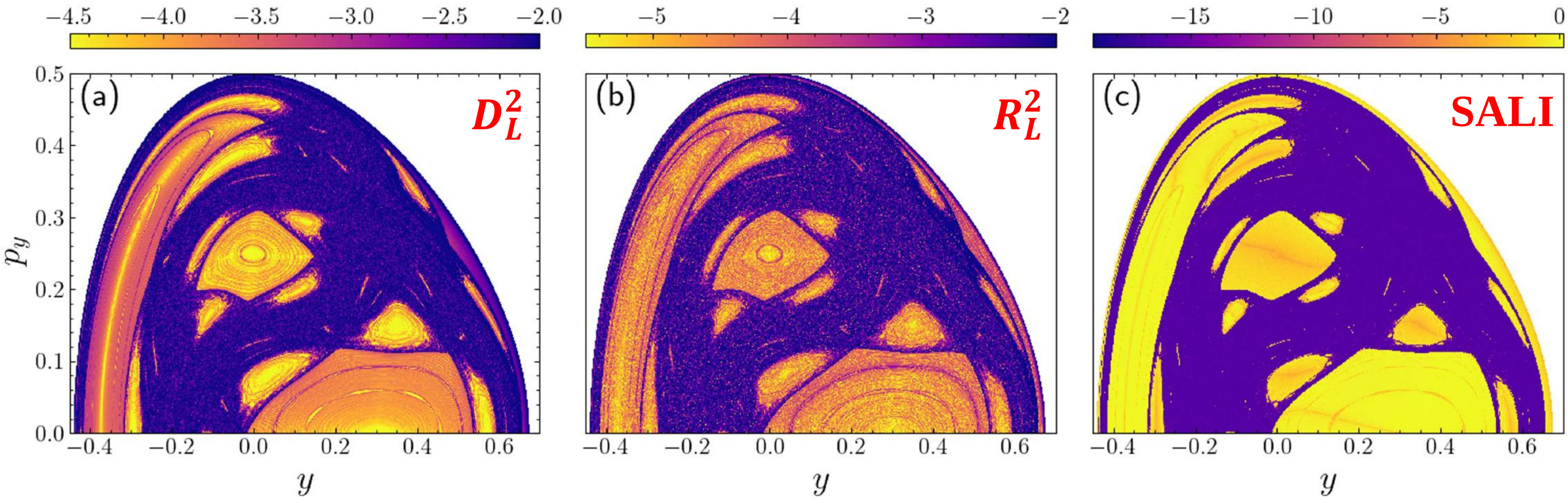
regular regions: smooth

chaotic regions: erratic

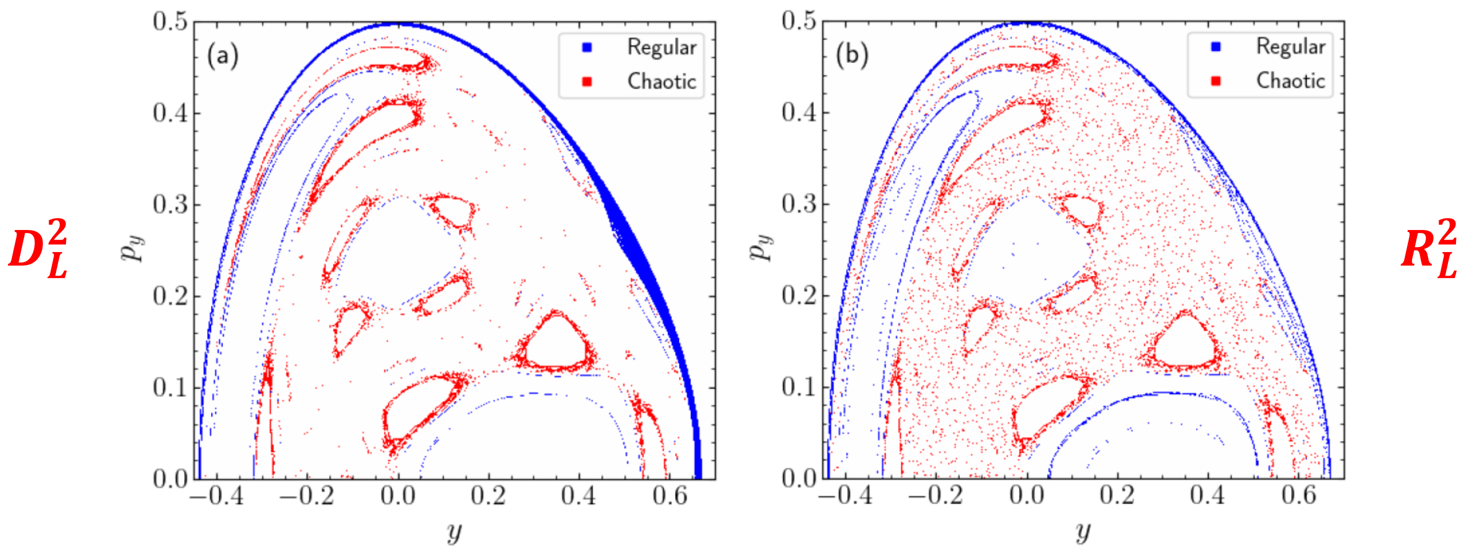
[also see Montes et al., Commun. Nonlin. Sci. Num. Simul. (2021)]

SALI for τ=10^6 (inset τ=10^3)

Application: Hénon-Heiles system



Misclassified orbits (< 10%)



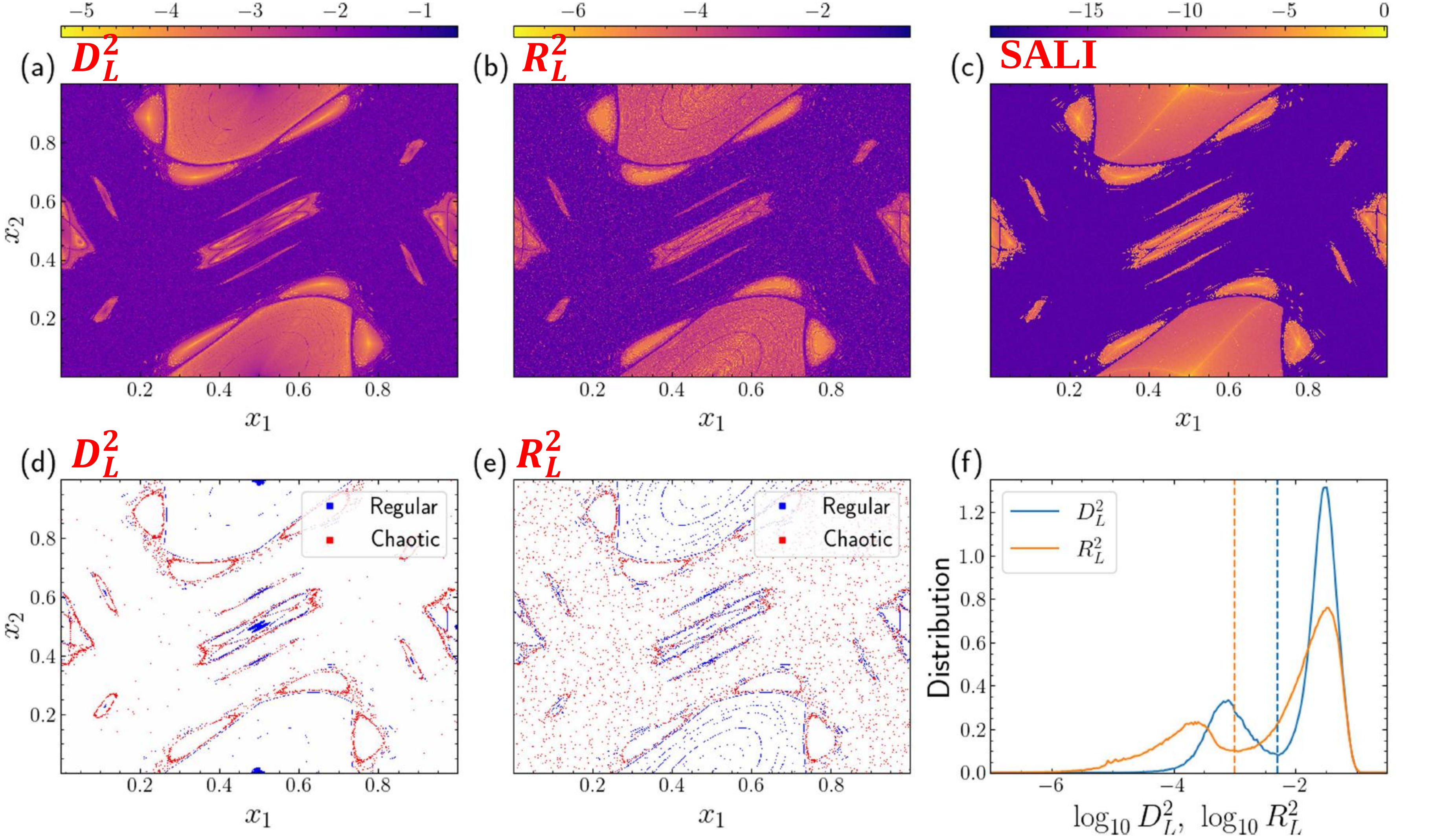
Application: 2D Standard map

$$x'_1 = x_1 + x'_2$$
$$x'_2 = x_2 + \frac{K}{2\pi}\sin(2\pi x_1) \quad (mod\ 1)$$

We set $K = 1.5$

Thresholds: $\log_{10} D_L^2 = -2.3$, $\log_{10} R_L^2 = -3$ ($T = 10^3$)

$\log_{10}$ SALI $= -12$ ($T = 10^5$)

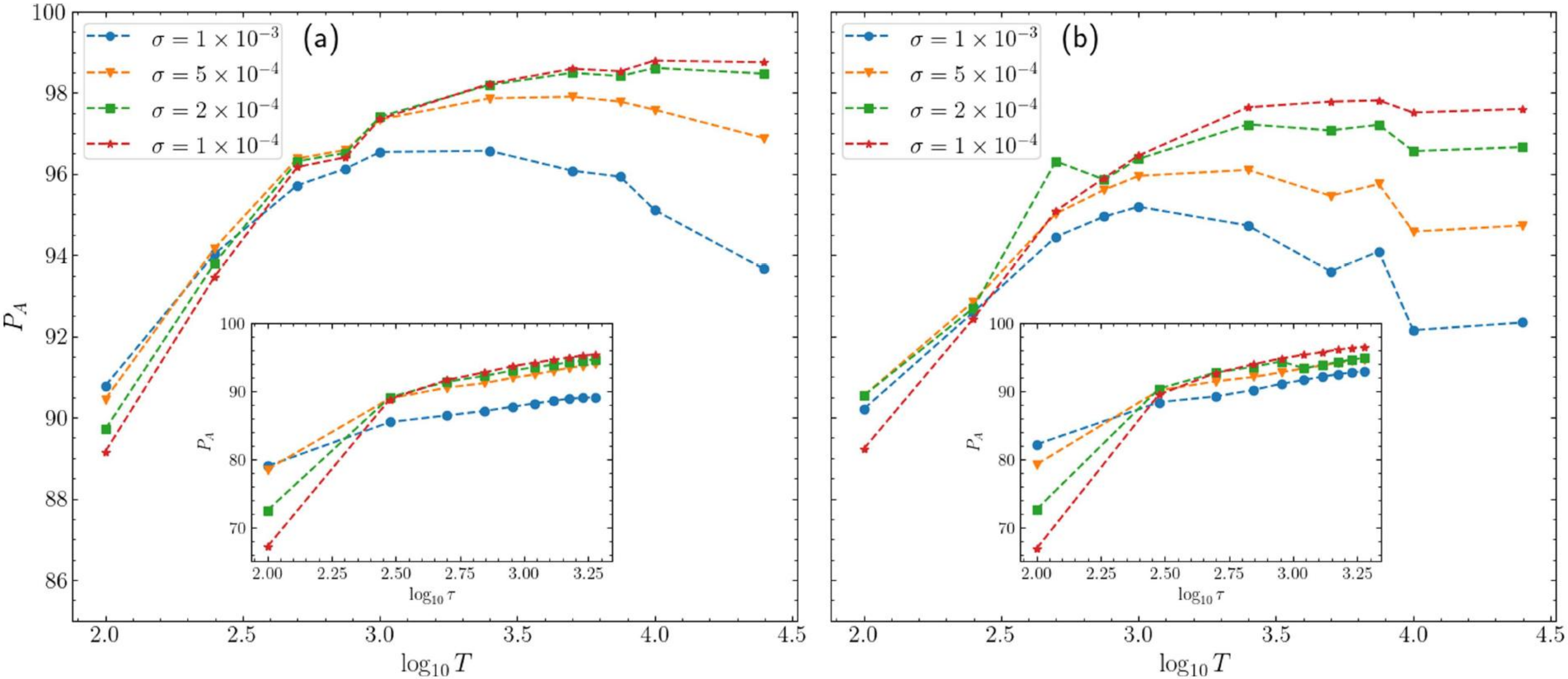


Effect of grid spacing (σ) and final integration time (T, τ)

P_A : percentage of correctly characterized orbits

Main plots: 2D Standard map
Insets: Hénon-Heiles system

D_L^2 **R_L^2**



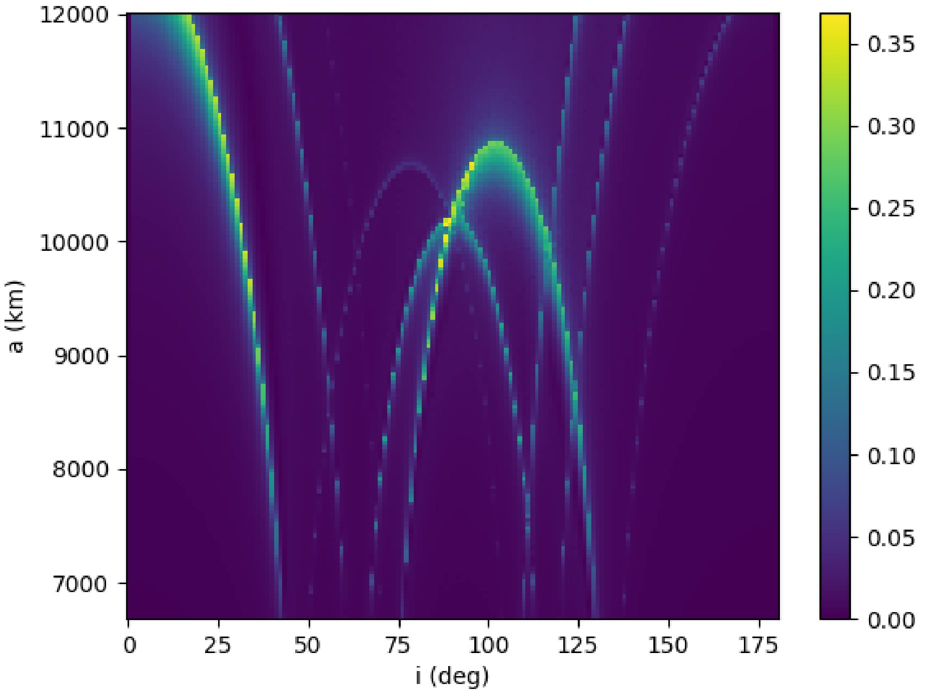
Current work

Investigation of the dynamics of a satellite around the Earth.

Following the work of Gkolias et al., Cel. Mech. Dyn. Astron. (2020), we consider a Hamiltonian system consisting of terms describing:

- ✓ **the two body problem (unperturbed, integrable part), and**
- ✓ **perturbation terms due to**
  - **the solar radiation pressure, and**
  - **Earth's oblateness**

a: semi-major axis



Difference between the maximum and the minimum value of eccentricity

i: inclination

Summary

- ✓ We introduced and successfully implemented computationally efficient ways to **effectively identify chaos** in conservative dynamical systems **from the values of LDs at neighboring initial conditions.**
- ✓ From the distributions of the indices' values we determine appropriate **threshold values,** which allow the characterization of orbits as regular or chaotic.
- ✓ All indices **faced problems** in correctly revealing the nature of some orbits mainly **at the borders of stability islands.**
- ✓ All indices show **overall very good performance,** as their classifications are in accordance with the ones obtained by **the SALI (which is a very efficient and accurate chaos indicator) at a level of at least 90% agreement.**
- ✓ **Advantages:**
  - Easy to compute (actually only the forward LDs are needed).
  - No need to know and to integrate the variational equations.

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