

Neuroscience applications: isochrons and isostables

Alexandre Mauroy
(joint work with I. Mezic)

Outline

Isochrons and phase reduction of neurons

Koopman operator and isochrons

Isostables of excitable systems

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Koopman operator and isochrons

Isostables of excitable systems

Effect of a stimuli on the phase of a neuron

(reduced) Hodgkin-Huxley neuron model

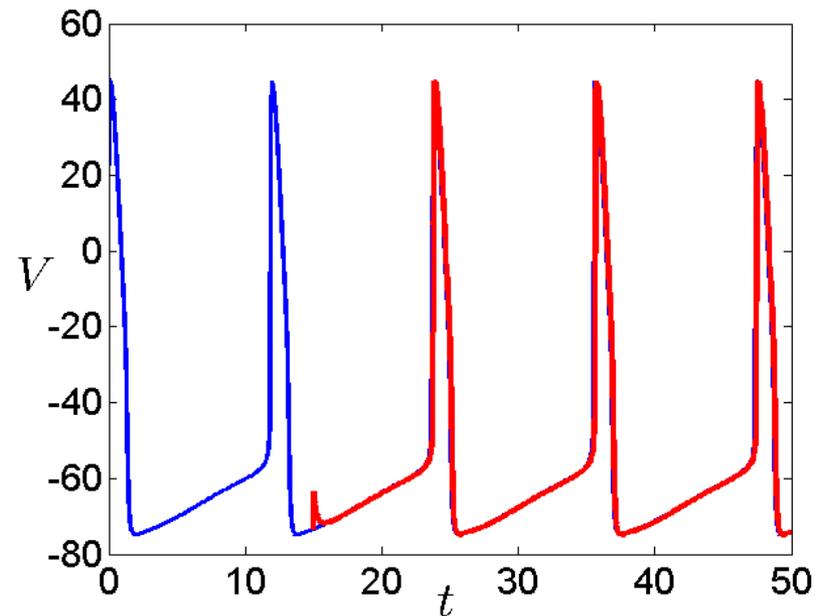
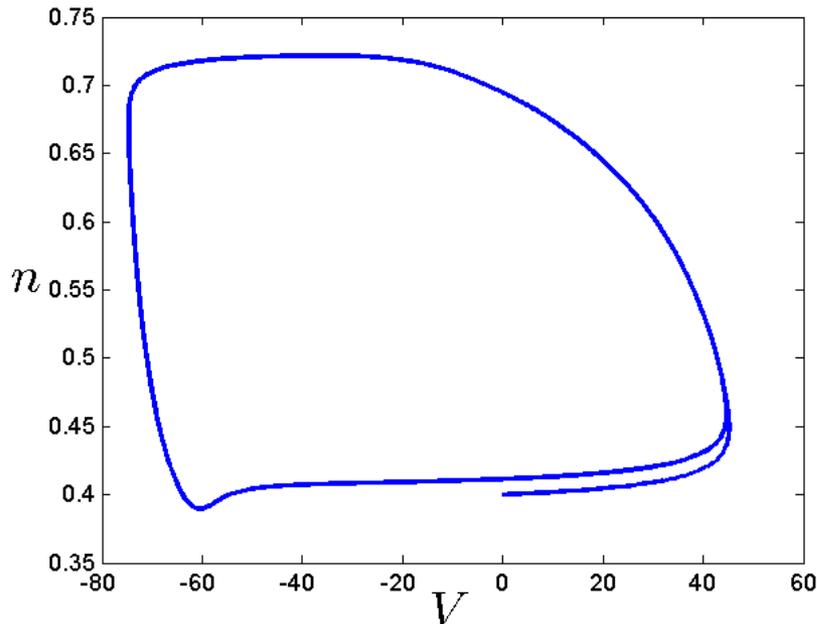
membrane potential

$$\dot{V} = \frac{1}{C} [I_{app} - \bar{g}_{Na} [m_{\infty}(V)]^3 (0.8 - n)(V - V_{Na}) - \bar{g}_K n^4 (V - V_K) - g_L (V - V_L) + u(t)]$$

gating variable for the conductance channel

$$\dot{n} = \alpha(V)(1 - n) - \beta(B)n$$

$$u(t) = 10 \delta(t - 15)$$



Effect of a stimuli on the phase of a neuron

(reduced) Hodgkin-Huxley neuron model

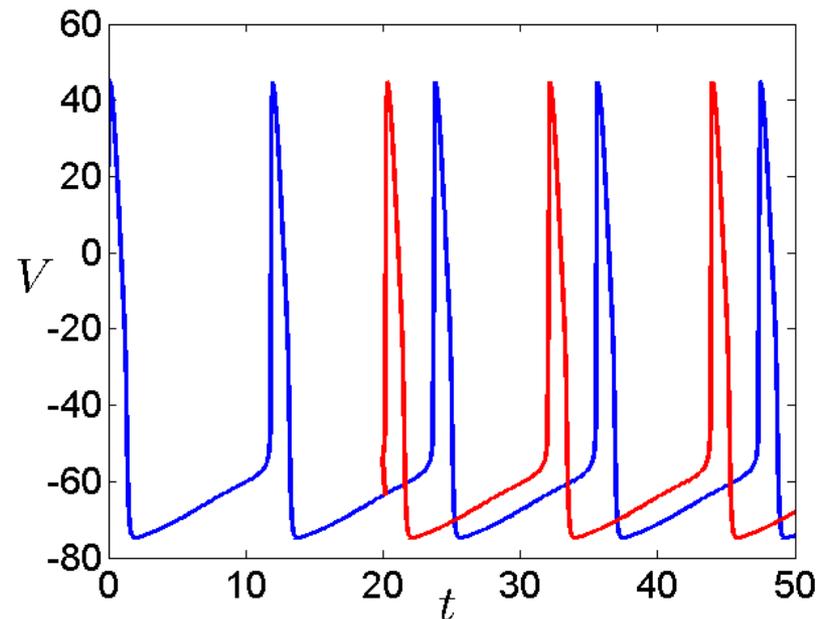
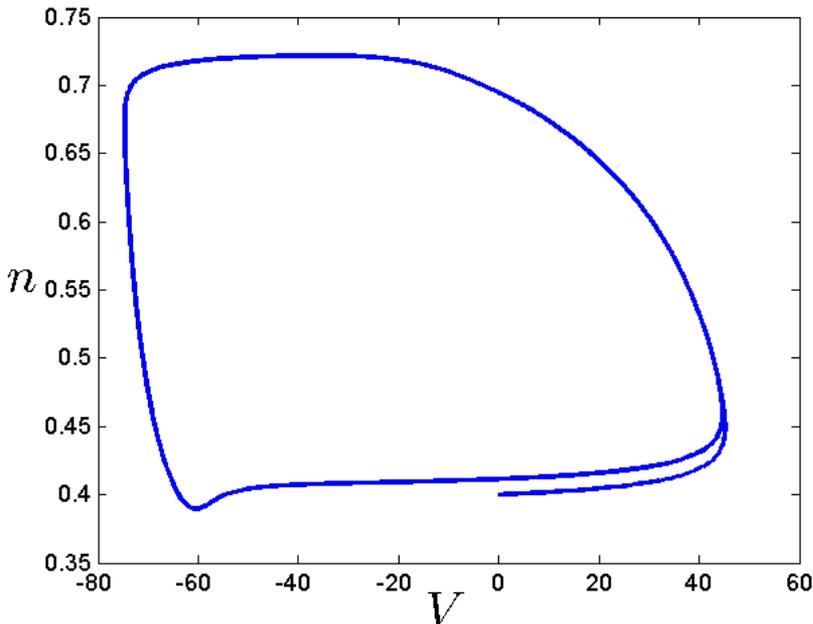
membrane potential

$$\dot{V} = \frac{1}{C} [I_{app} - \bar{g}_{Na} [m_{\infty}(V)]^3 (0.8 - n)(V - V_{Na}) - \bar{g}_K n^4 (V - V_K) - g_L (V - V_L) + u(t)]$$

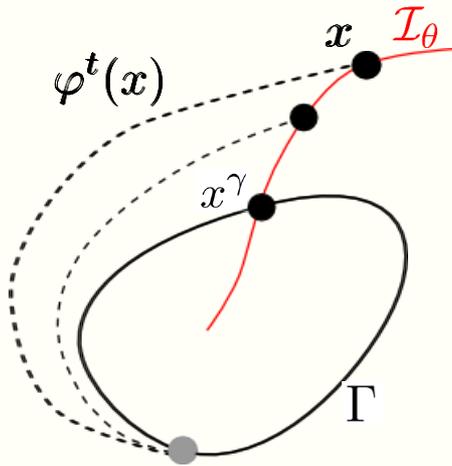
gating variable for the conductance channel

$$\dot{n} = \alpha(V)(1 - n) - \beta(B)n$$

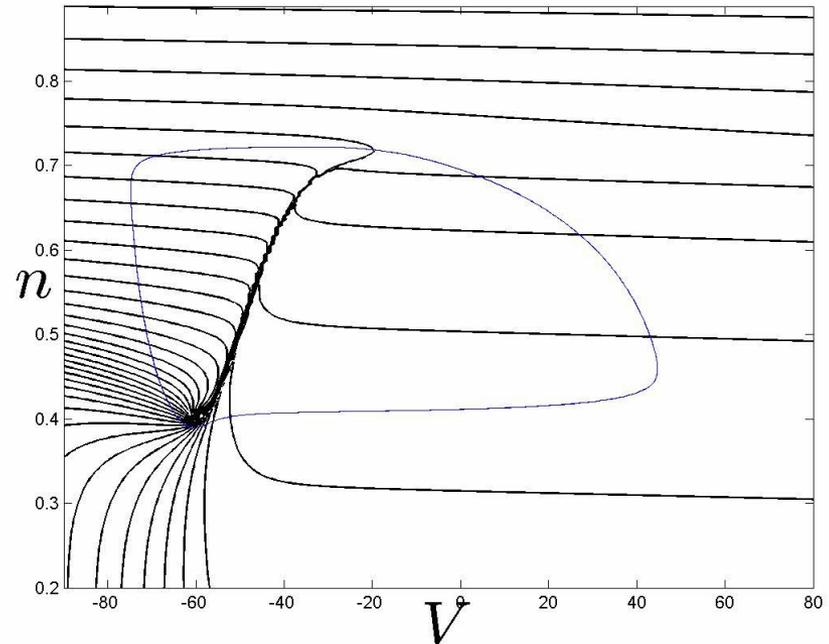
$$u(t) = 10 \delta(t - 20)$$



The isochrons are sets of initial conditions that share the same asymptotic behavior



$$\mathcal{I}_\theta = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \|\varphi^t(x) - \varphi^t(x^\gamma)\| = 0\}$$

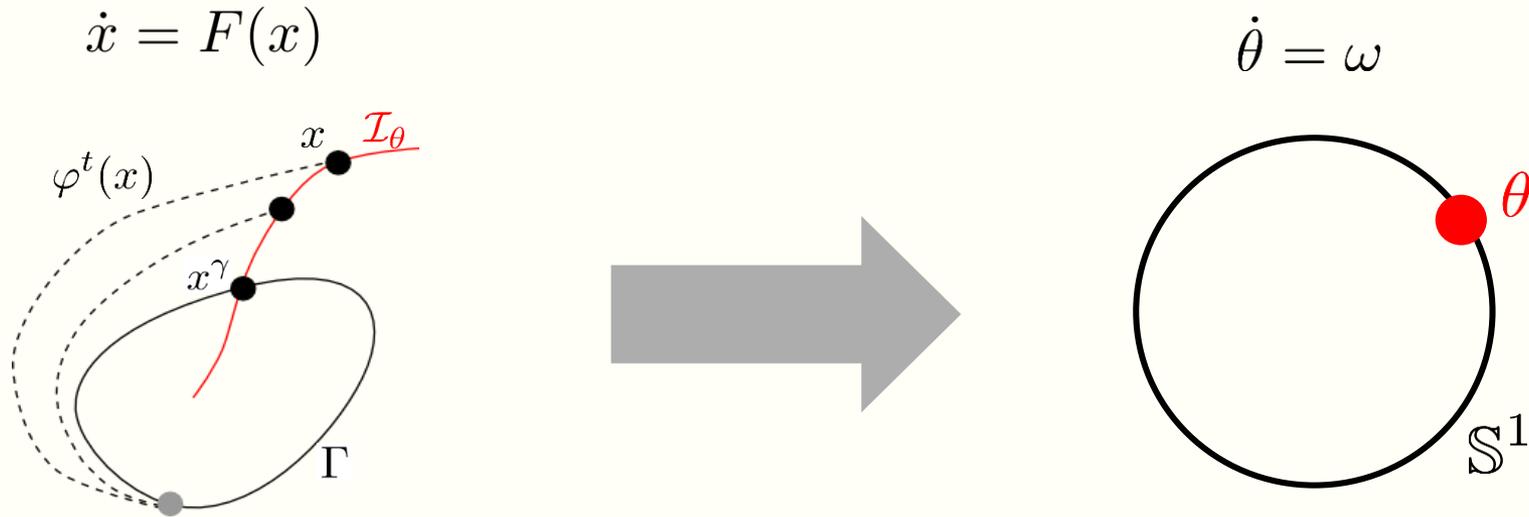


[Malkin, 1949]

[Winfree, *Journal Math Biol.*, 1974]

The isochrons yield a powerful phase reduction of high-dimensional limit-cycle oscillators

Powerful reduction from \mathbb{R}^N to \mathbb{S}^1



For weak input or coupling $u(t)$:

$$\dot{x} = F(x) + e_1 u(t) \quad \longrightarrow \quad \dot{\theta} = \omega + Z(\theta)u(t)$$

with the infinitesimal phase response (iPRC) $Z(\theta) = \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial x} \cdot e_1$

It is desirable but difficult to compute the global isochrons

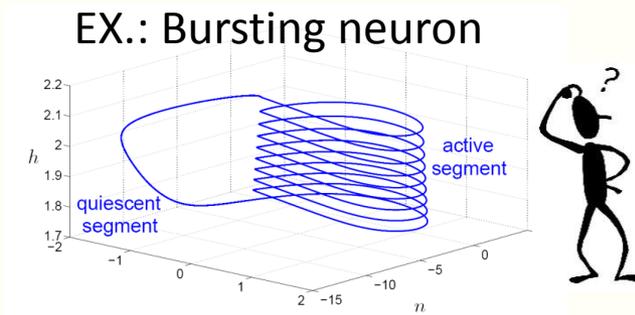
Computation of the isochrons in the entire basin of attraction of the limit cycle

- Why?**
- global knowledge of the asymptotic behavior
 - necessary for large inputs / strong couplings

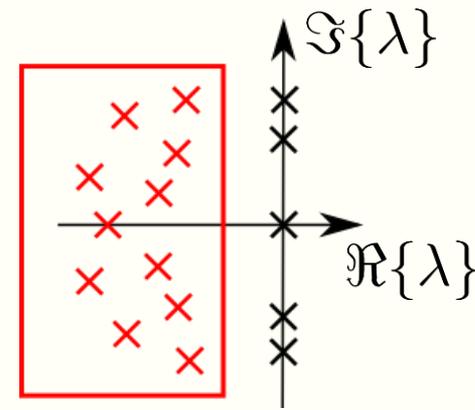
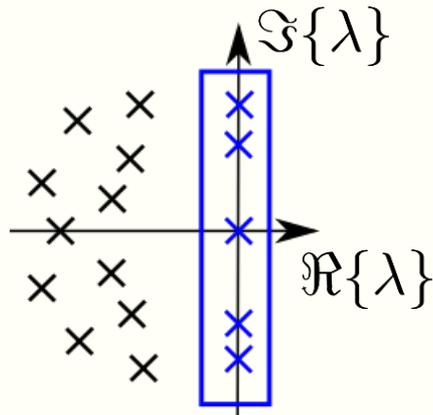
- How?**
- standard backward integration [e.g. *Izhikevich, 2007*]
 - solution of invariance equation + backward integration [*Guillamon & Huguet, 2009; Huguet & de la Llave, 2013*]
 - continuation-based method [*Osinga & Moehlis, 2010*]

But the computation of the isochrons is difficult for

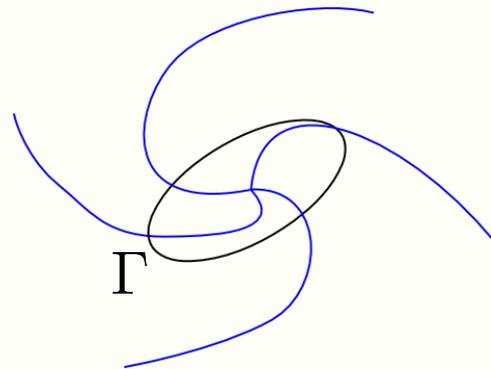
- high-dimensional systems
- slow-fast dynamics



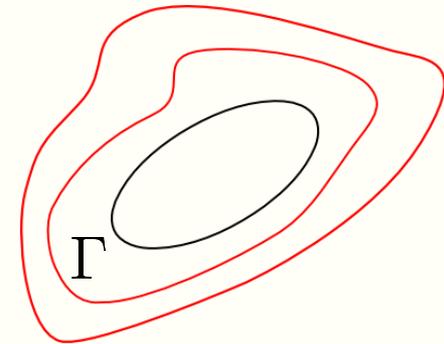
The Koopman eigenfunctions are tightly connected to the phase reduction of the systems



Level sets of ϕ_λ
 \equiv isochrons



Level sets of ϕ_λ
 \equiv isostables



phase reduction of limit cycles
and quasi-periodic tori

phase reduction of fixed points
(excitable systems)

Outline

Isochrons and phase reduction of neurons

Koopman operator and isochrons

Isoables of excitable systems

The isochrons are the level sets of a Koopman eigenfunction

limit cycle frequency ω

period $T = 2\pi/\omega$

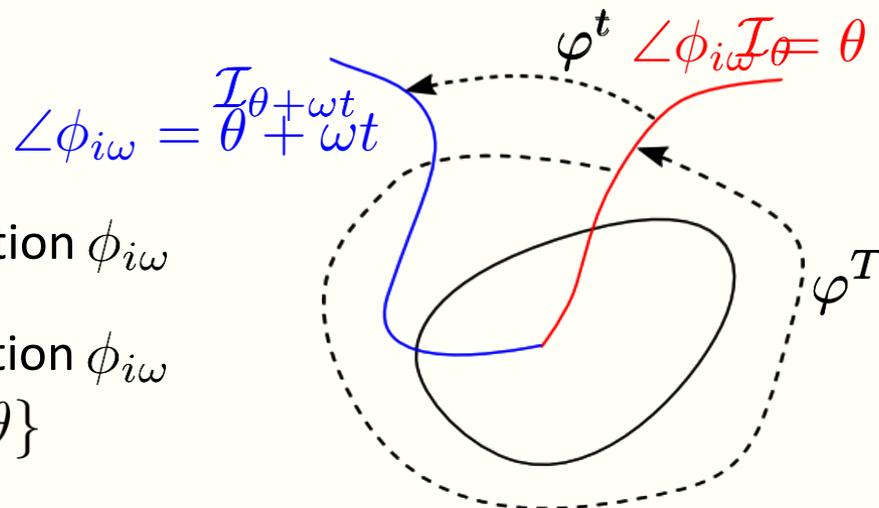
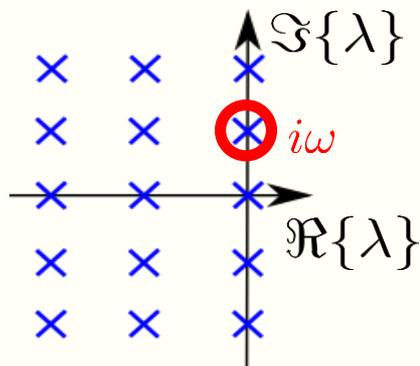


Koopman eigenvalue $i\omega \in \sigma(U)$

Koopman eigenfunction $\phi_{i\omega}$

$$U^t \phi_{i\omega}(x) = \phi_{i\omega} \circ \varphi^t(x) = e^{i\omega t} \phi_{i\omega}(x)$$

$$\Rightarrow \angle \phi_{i\omega} \circ \varphi^t(x) = \angle \phi_{i\omega}(x) + \omega t$$



The level sets of the Koopman eigenfunction $\phi_{i\omega}$ are the isochrons:

The level sets of the Koopman eigenfunction $\phi_{i\omega}$

define a periodic partition $\mathcal{I}_\theta = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \angle \phi_{\omega T}(x) = \theta\}$

We obtain a novel efficient method for computing the isochrons

The Fourier average

$$f_{i\omega}^*(x) = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T f \circ \varphi^t(x) e^{-i\omega t} dt$$

is a projection of f on $\phi_{i\omega}$ $\rightarrow f_{i\omega}^*(x) \equiv \phi_{i\omega}(x)$ if $f_{i\omega}^*(x) \neq 0$

$$\angle f_{i\omega}^*(x) = \theta \Leftrightarrow x \in \mathcal{I}_\theta$$

Algorithm: 1. Compute the Fourier averages on a (uniform/adaptive) grid
2. Compute the level sets of these values

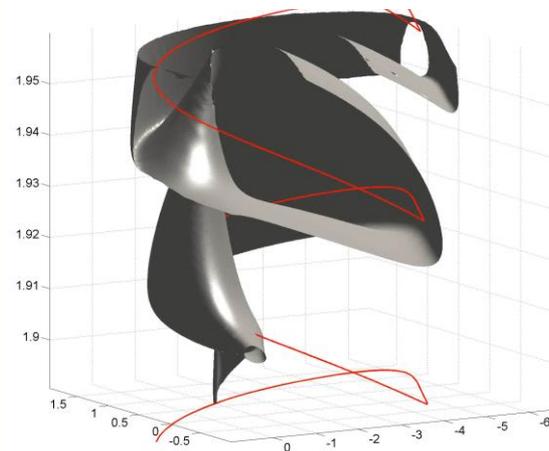
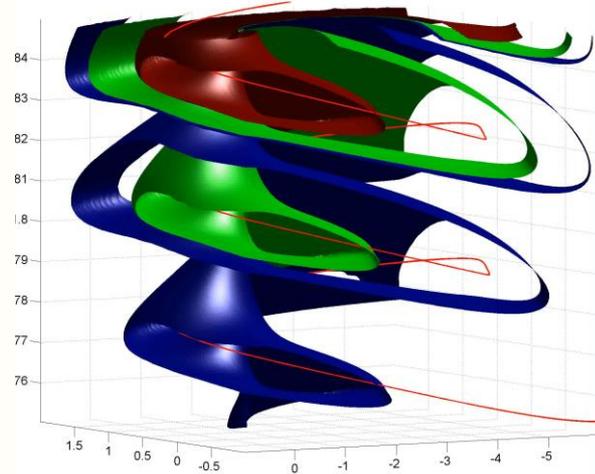
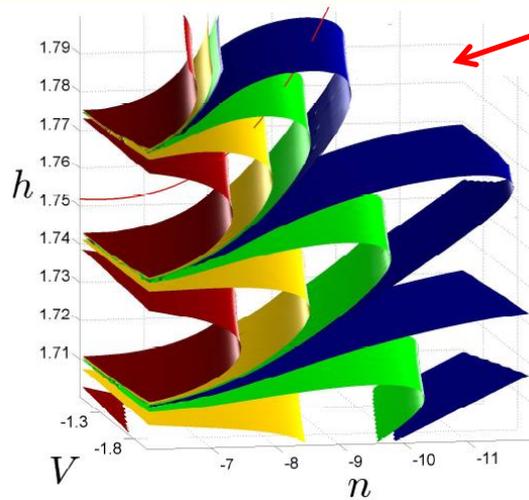
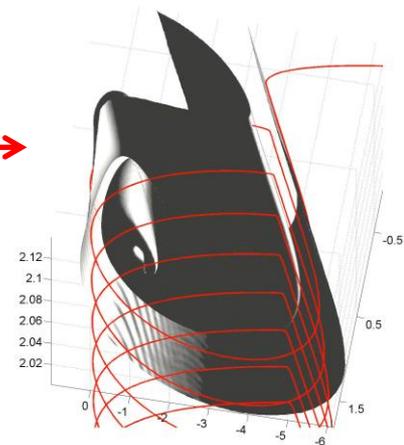
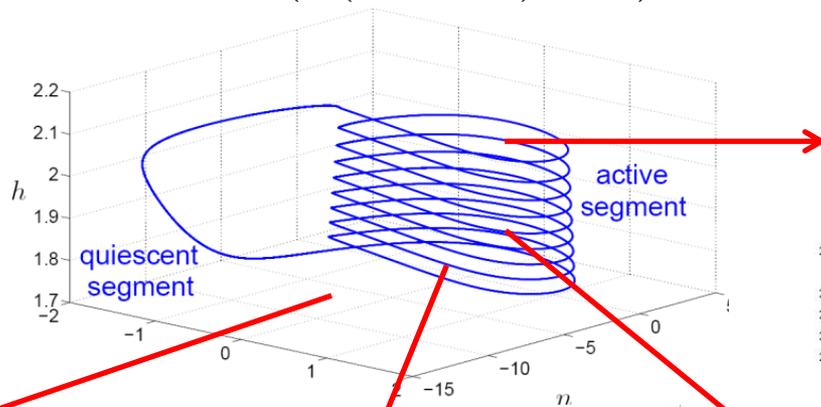
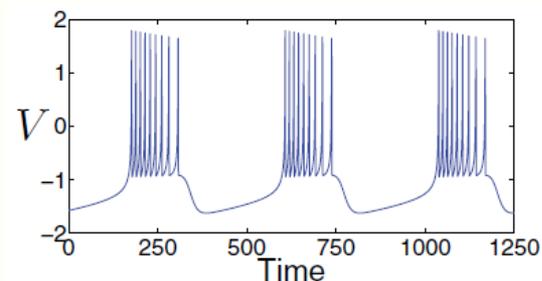
This is a forward integration method

\rightarrow well-suited to high-dimensional spaces and slow-fast dynamics

The Fourier average method is capable of computing the complex isochrons of bursting neurons

Hindmarsh-Rose model

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{V} &= n - aV^3 + bVr - h + I \\ \dot{n} &= c - dV^2 - n \\ \dot{h} &= r(\sigma(V - V_0) - h)\end{aligned}$$

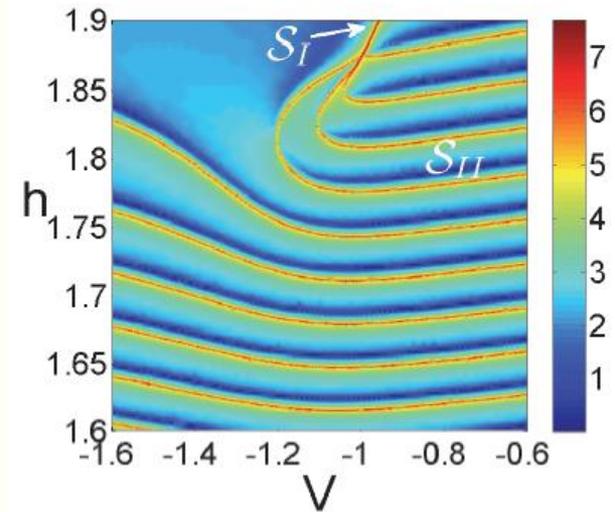


New phenomena were observed

Parabolic bursting neuron

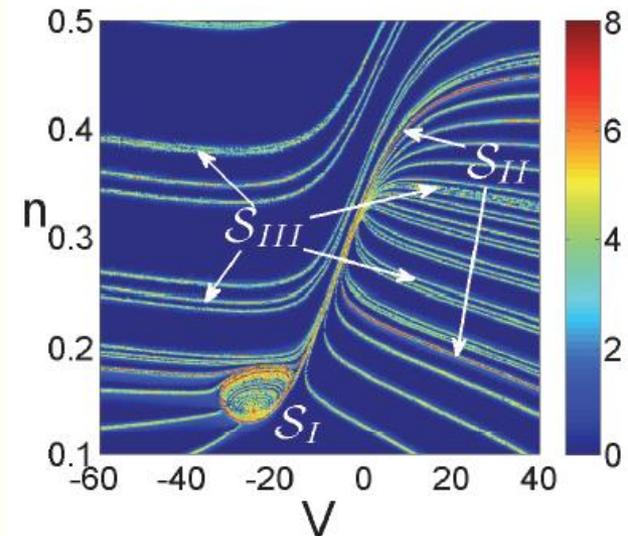
Existence of region of high phase variation (almost phaseless set)

→ explain addition/deletion of spikes under the effect of small perturbations



Elliptic bursting neuron

The isochrons are fractal



The infinitesimal phase response curve is computed with Fourier averages of the prolonged system

Prolonged system

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= F(x) \\ \delta\dot{x} &= \partial F(x)\delta x\end{aligned}\quad (x, \delta x) \mapsto (\varphi^t(x), \partial\varphi^t(x)\delta x)$$

Infinitesimal phase response curve $Z(\theta) = \frac{\partial\theta}{\partial x} \cdot e_1 = \partial\angle\phi_{i\omega}(x)e_1$

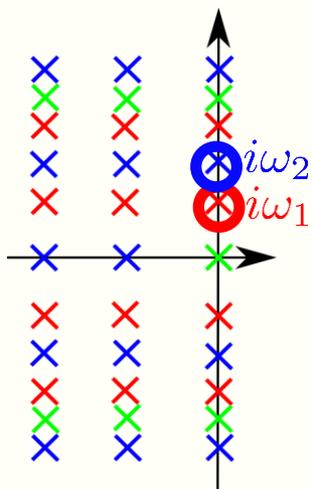
Fourier average of $\partial f(x)\delta x$ along the trajectories of the prolonged system

$$\partial f_{i\omega}^*(x)\delta x = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \partial f(\varphi^t(x))[\partial\varphi^t(x)\delta x] e^{-i\omega t} dt$$

We have $\partial\phi_{i\omega}(x)\delta x \equiv \partial f_{i\omega}^*(x)\delta x$ and

$$Z(\theta) = \frac{\partial f_{i\omega}^*(x)e_1}{if_{i\omega}^*(x)}$$

For quasi-periodic tori, the Koopman eigenfunctions lead to the notion of « generalized » isochrons



m -dimensional quasiperiodic torus (with frequencies ω_j)



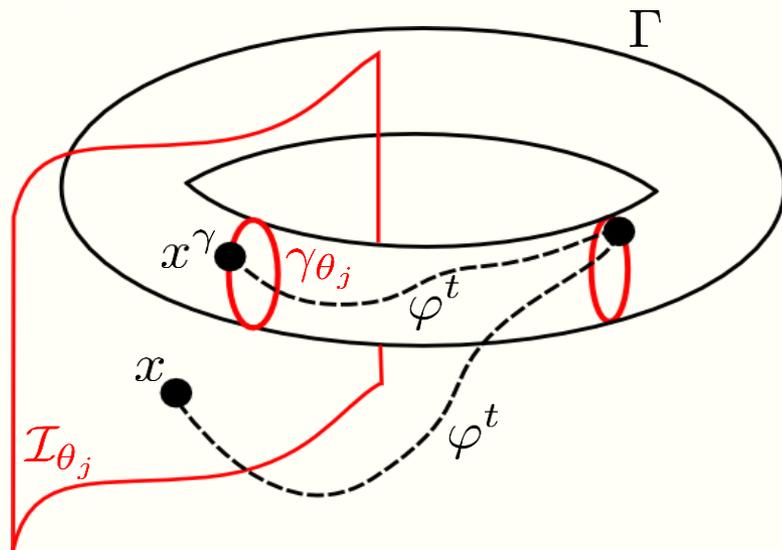
Koopman eigenvalues $i\omega_j \in \sigma(U)$

Koopman eigenfunctions $\phi_{i\omega_j}$

We define m families of generalized isochrons as the level sets

$$\mathcal{I}_{\theta_j} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \angle \phi_{\omega_j}(x) = \theta_j\} \quad j = 1, \dots, m$$

A generalized isochron converges to the same invariant curve γ_{θ_j}



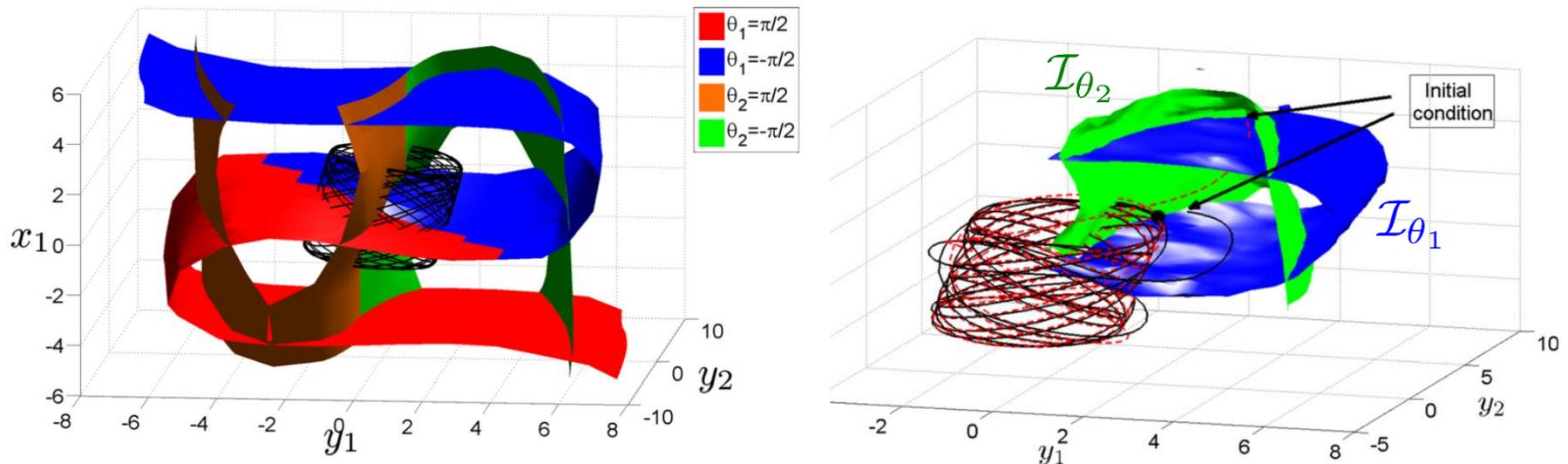
$$\mathcal{I}_{\theta_j} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \exists x^\gamma \in \gamma_{\theta_j} \text{ s.t. } \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \|\varphi^t(x) - \varphi^t(x^\gamma)\| = 0\}$$

The framework can be used to study synchronization in networks of « quasi-oscillators »

The intersection $\mathcal{I}_{\theta_1} \cap \dots \cap \mathcal{I}_{\theta_m}$ is assigned with the phases $(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_m)$

It is a fiber of the torus : every point of $\mathcal{I}_{\theta_1} \cap \dots \cap \mathcal{I}_{\theta_m}$ converges to the same trajectory on the torus

Example: two coupled Van der Pol oscillators



Outline

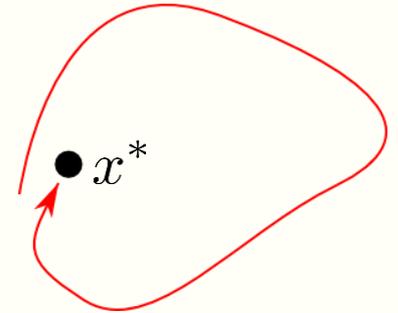
Isochrons and phase reduction of neurons

Koopman operator and isochrons

Isostables of excitable systems

Can we extend the notion of isochrons to stable fixed points?

Excitable system (neuron, cardiac cell): stable equilibrium x^*



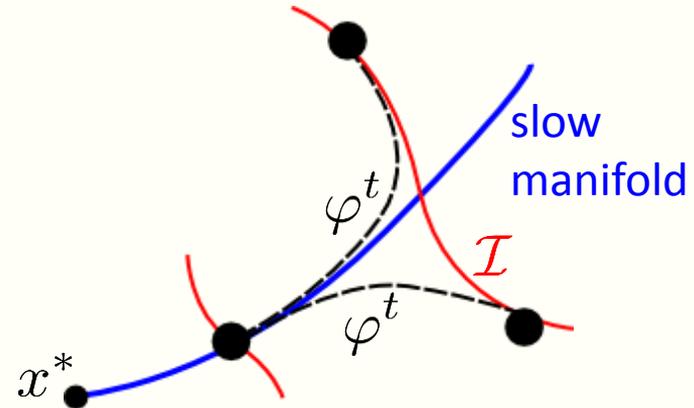
Phase reduction



sets of points that converge synchronously toward the equilibrium ?

Previous framework

- ☹ requires the existence of a slow manifold (slow-fast dynamics)
- ☹ no rigorous definition
- ☹ relies on backward integration



[Rabinovitch, 1999]

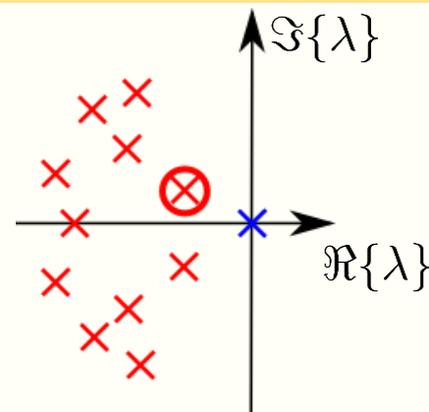
The Koopman operator provides a rigorous way to extend the notion of isochrons

$$\lambda_j \in \sigma \left(\left. \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} \right|_{x^*} \right)$$

\Rightarrow

Koopman eigenfunctions ϕ_{λ_j}

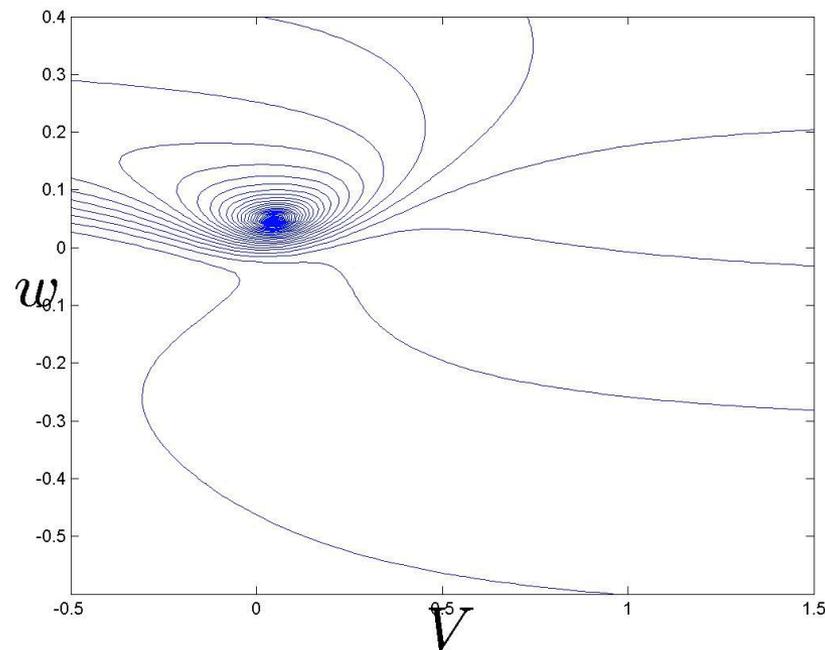
$$\lambda_j \in \sigma(U)$$



\rightarrow we define the « isostables » as the level sets of $|\phi_{\lambda_1}(x)|$

Example:

FitzHugh-Nagumo model (excitable neuron)

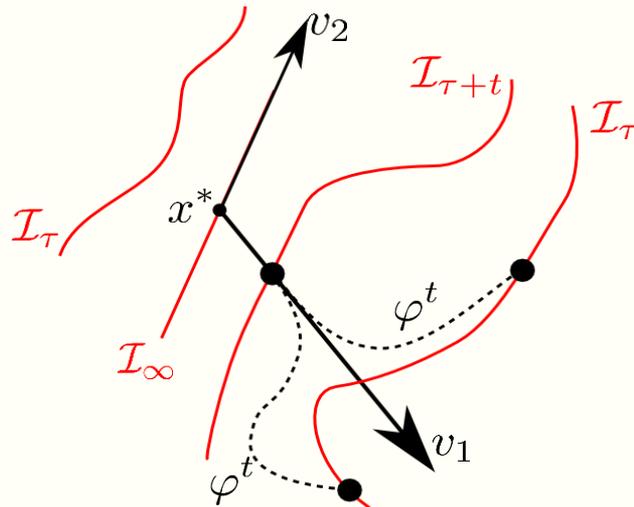


The isostables are the sets of points that converge synchronously toward the fixed point

$$\mathcal{I}_\tau = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid |\phi_{\lambda_1}(x)| = e^{\Re\{\lambda_1\}\tau}\}$$

Real eigenvalue λ_1 $x \in \mathcal{I}_\tau$ i.e. $|\phi_{\lambda_1}(x)| = e^{\tau\lambda_1}$

➔ $\varphi^t(x) \rightarrow x^* + v_1^\pm e^{\lambda_1(t+\tau)}$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$



The isostables are the fibers of an invariant manifold (tangent to v_1 at x^*)

The isostables are the sets of points that converge synchronously toward the fixed point

$$\mathcal{I}_\tau = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid |\phi_{\lambda_1}(x)| = e^{\Re\{\lambda_1\}\tau}\}$$

Complex eigenvalue $\lambda_1 = \sigma + i\omega$

$$x \in \mathcal{I}_\tau \text{ i.e. } |\phi_{\lambda_1}(x)| = e^{\tau\sigma} \quad \angle\phi_{\lambda_1}(x) = \theta$$

➔ $\varphi^t(x) \rightarrow x^* + 2(\Re\{v_1\} \cos(\omega t + \theta) - \Im\{v_1\} \sin(\omega t + \theta))e^{\sigma(t+\tau)}$

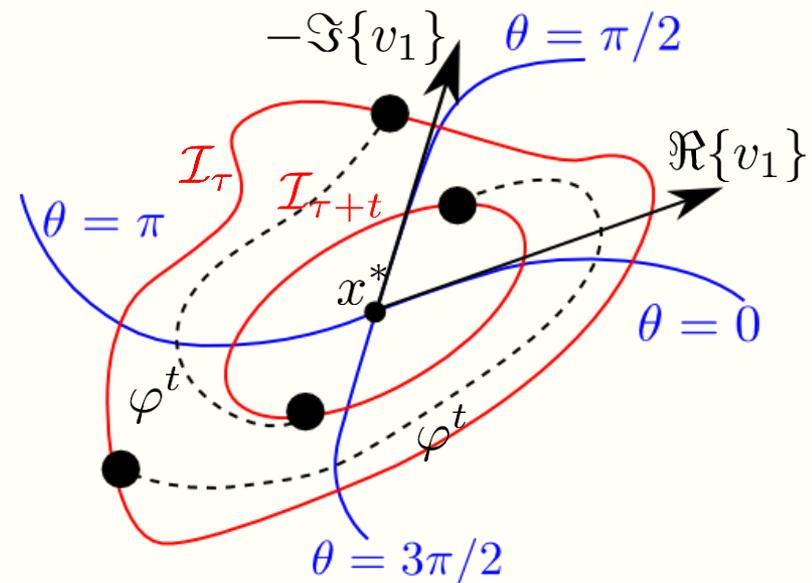
as $t \rightarrow \infty$

isostables

$$|\phi_{\lambda_1}(x)| = r \quad \dot{r} = \sigma r$$

isochrons

$$\angle\phi_{\lambda_1}(x) = \theta \quad \dot{\theta} = \omega$$



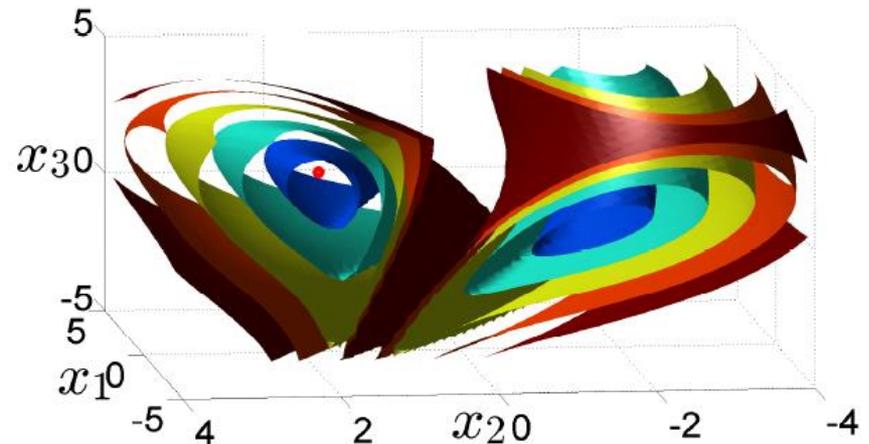
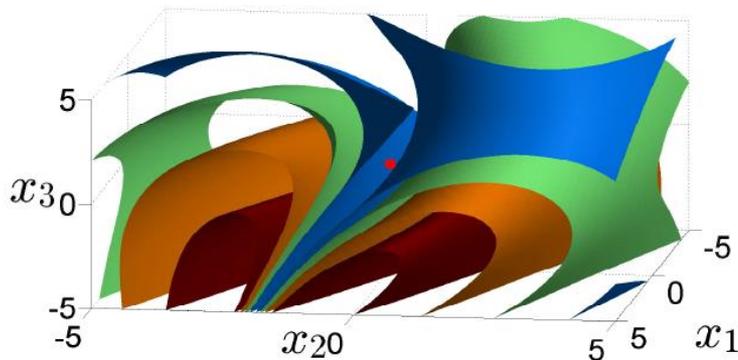
The isostables are computed with Laplace averages and used in several applications

The Laplace average

$$f_\lambda^*(x) = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T f \circ \varphi^t(x) e^{-\lambda t} dt$$

is a projection of f on $\phi_\lambda \rightarrow f_\lambda^*(x) \triangleq \phi_\lambda(x)$ if $f_\lambda^*(x) \neq 0$

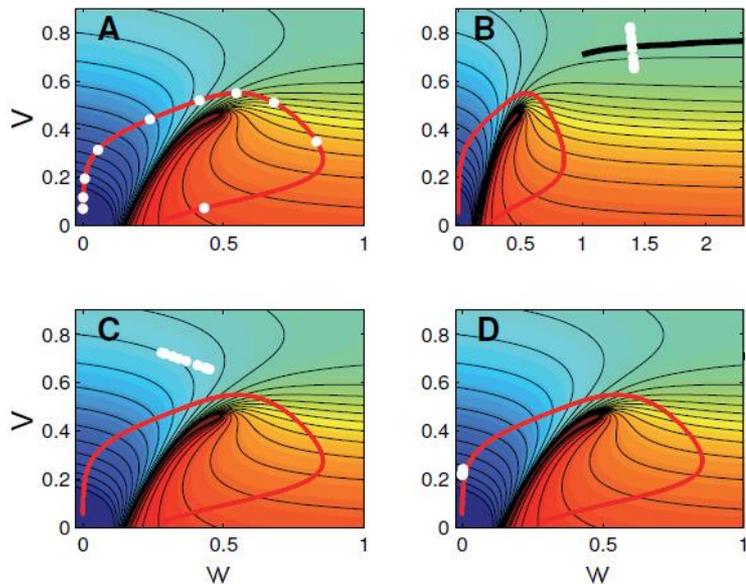
$$|f_\lambda^*(x)| = e^{\lambda\tau} \Leftrightarrow x \in \mathcal{I}_\tau$$



Several applications of the isostables

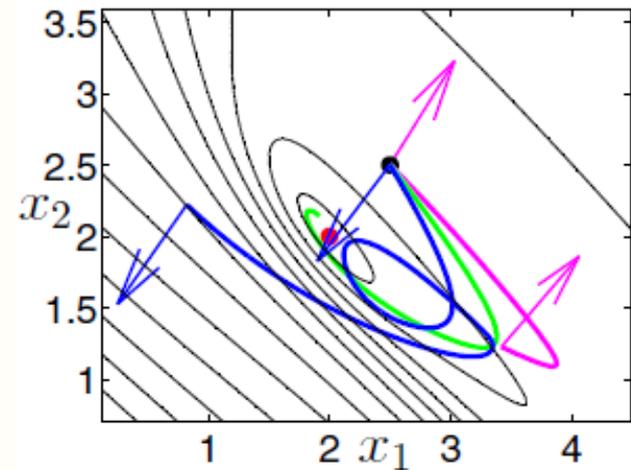
design of cardiac defibrillation techniques

[Wilson and Moehlis, *SIAM review*, 2015]



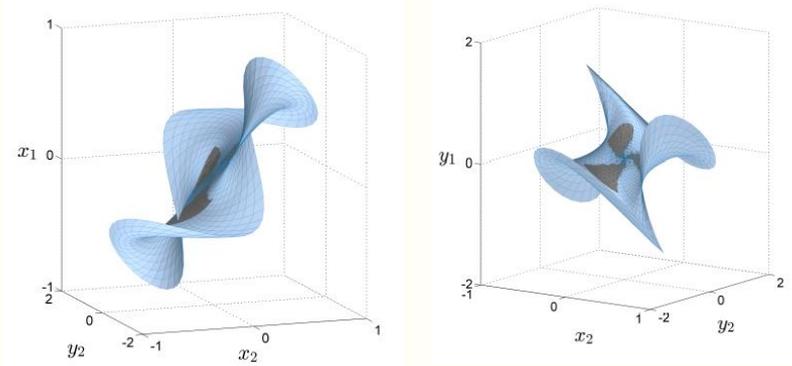
optimal escape - convergence

[Mauroy, *CDC* 2014]



nonlinear normal modes in vibration theory

[Cirillo et al., *ASME* 2015]



The spectral properties of the Koopman operator are related to phase reduction

The isochrons of limit cycle are the level sets of a Koopman eigenfunction

Phase reduction is generalized

to quasi-periodic tori → generalized isochrons

to equilibria (excitable systems) → isostables

Application to neuroscience (among others)

Perspectives:

Toward more general phase reductions (e.g. phase-amplitude)

Application to control theory (e.g. optimal control)

Bibliography

Phase reduction and isochrons

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Koopman operator and isochrons

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Koopman operator and isostables

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