

# INTRODUCTION TO ARNOLD DIFFUSION

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What is diffusion?

how small forces produce large effect after a long time

large changes in energy or action

if you apply a periodic perturbation to the system, will it average out or accumulate?

Have Hamiltonian system that depends on time.

if autonomous, Hamiltonian conserved  $\rightarrow$  apply results on an energy surface  
write system so unperturbed is in action-angle variables

$E=0$ : invariant tori - quasiperiodic in  $\phi$ 's

KAM: many tori remain after perturbation.

we will focus on ones that don't remain

Poincaré Map

take snapshot of the dynamics at each period of the Hamiltonian  
see if motion is changed to  $O(1)$  due to a perturbation which is  $O(\epsilon)$

time it takes for this to happen = Arnold diffusion time

GO's theory: perturbations average out for

most initial conditions (KAM), or long time

Arnold gives an example of different behavior

can we tell when accumulation will happen? can we design for/against this?

Role of dimension:

$d=1$  - ex. of swing

push at resonant frequency  $\rightarrow$  amplitude grows  $\rightarrow$  different resonant frequency

finite amplitude motion

KAM tori are preserved  $\rightarrow$  diffusion is not possible

there are gaps where chaos lives; size of gap  $O(\epsilon^{1/2})$

2 or more degrees of freedom

even though invariant tori still exist, you can move around them

new orbits that move  $O(1)$  for an  $O(\epsilon)$  perturbation.

What do we do?

(1) find geometric landmarks

(2) local analysis near them

(3) look for connections between them - homoclinic/heteroclinic orbits

(4) approximate orbits that shadow real orbits

Arnold's Example:

$d=2$ : 2 actions, 2 angles, time

2 parameters:  $\epsilon, \mu$ .

$$H = \frac{I_1^2}{2} + \frac{I_2^2}{2} + \epsilon(\cos \phi_1 - 1) + \epsilon \mu (\cos \phi_1 - 1)(\sin \phi_2 + \cos t)$$

Claim:  $\exists C, \forall \epsilon > 0$  sufficiently small,  $\exists$  an orbit  $(I(t), \phi(t))$ ,  $\exists$  time  $T$

such that  $|I_2(T) - I_2(0)| > C$

Finite motion from infinitesimal

$\epsilon = 0$  : integrable,  $I_1$  &  $I_2$  conserved

$\epsilon > 0, \mu = 0$  : degrees of freedom separable - pendulum & harmonic oscillator



Pick a 1-dim invariant torus of  $I_2$ , the separatrix of  $I_1$  means that the invariant torus has a homoclinic orbit  
stable & unstable manifolds coincide.

$\epsilon > 0, \mu \neq 0$  small:

doesn't affect invariant torus of  $I_2$ .

stable & unstable manifolds are changed

they now cross with each other and with the invariant manifolds  
of neighboring tori

make a chain of unstable manifolds of torus 0  $\rightarrow$  stable manifold of torus 1

$\rightarrow$  unstable manifold of torus 1  $\rightarrow$  stable manifold of torus 2

$\rightarrow$  unstable manifold of torus 2  $\rightarrow$  stable manifold of torus 3

this travels a long distance in  $I_2$ .

shadowing theorem to show that there is an orbit that does this

Q how general is this result?

Remark second parameter  $\mu$  must be chosen after  $\epsilon$ .

$\mu = O(e^{-c/\epsilon})$  exponentially smaller than  $\mu$ .

Open problem if there is only one parameter

↳ so neighboring manifolds  
cross

could take  $\mu = 1$  or  $\epsilon = 1$  or ...

$\epsilon = 1$ : Big Gaps Problem

regions of chaos between tori are larger than distance moved by  
the heteroclinic tangle

use geometric methods

tools transition whiskered tori

topological windows

local variation methods - and global

normally hyperbolic invariant manifolds

etc.

Sample models:

Mather model - two time scales

gaps are small, so Arnold's method works

Restricted elliptic 3-body problem

no gaps

Big Gaps

more general - most exs need some numerics

## Mather Problem

perturbed geodesics slow

energy preserved - even unperturbed, stable & unstable manifolds cross with neighbors  
add a time-periodic potential

for generic  $V$ , there are orbits whose energy  $\rightarrow \infty$

## Big Gaps Problem

pendulums + rotators + small periodic coupling

general - combination of arbitrary number of 2 kinds of things, any coupling  
assume:

functions uniformly  $C^1$

twist condition  $\partial^2 h_0 / \partial I^2$  (NO LONGER NEEDED)

homoclinic orbit at  $(0,0)$

prove result:  $\forall \varepsilon > 0$ ,  $\mathcal{O}(1)$  change in orbit

## Normally Invariant Hyperbolic Manifold (NIHM)

invariant manifold

dynamics near manifold is dominated by expansion/contraction normal to the manifold

these will be preserved by small perturbations

will  $\varepsilon = 0$ , stable & unstable manifolds coincide - homoclinic

collection of all invariant tori together form a NIHM - inside, motion is quasiperiodic  
for  $\varepsilon > 0$ , these manifold still exist

study dynamics inside manifold - almost integrable

if this function  $L$  has no critical points, stable & unstable manifolds  
will intersect transversally

## Scattering Map

when in NIHM, each point in intersection has one heteroclinic connection  
to another point in NIHM

use this to make a map - shows intersections of invariant manifolds

$\varepsilon = 0$ : scattering maps invariant tori to itself

only homoclinic connections - no heteroclinic connections

$\varepsilon > 0$ : find a tori that has heteroclinic connections

map is symplectic, etc,  $\rightarrow$  explicit formulas for it

so you can explicitly find heteroclinic connections

## Inner Dynamics

what happens inside NIHM?

consider Hamiltonian constrained inside NIHM

first do a bunch of averages, then apply KAM

far from resonance - KAM

at resonance - do KAM inside each island chain

Compute image of one of these new tori under scattering map - intersects others

Goal : Can we get a similar result without as much knowledge of inner dynamics?  
Don't bother showing tori exist.  
Just use shadowing lemma.

Make a pseudo orbit:

map in inner dynamics, then scattering map, then inner, then scattering, etc.  
if one of these moves  $O(\epsilon)$ , shadowing lemma guarantees an actual  
orbit also moves  $O(\epsilon)$

Make an orbit of the scattering map

repeatedly apply scattering map only - explicit formula

if the inner dynamics are recurrent, we can use shadowing lemma

Formula for a scattering map looks like Euler's method for a  
vector field - can solve using the vector field instead.

We have Arnold diffusion if:

NHIM  $\Lambda_\epsilon$

homoclinic channel  $T_\epsilon$  and scattering map  $\sigma_\epsilon$   
action-angle coords in  $\Lambda_\epsilon$

No conditions on inner dynamics = just Hamiltonian.

Either tori conserved  $\rightarrow$  earlier than works

or not conserved  $\rightarrow$  diffusion in inner dynamics too

Q Do you get  $\langle x^2 \rangle \sim t$ ?

the methods show that long orbits exist, not how common they are.

How long does it take this method to happen?  $O(1/\epsilon)$  in this case

Q Scattering map has a series in  $\epsilon$ . What if  $\epsilon$  isn't too small?

Better to compute scattering maps } stable & unstable manifolds crossings  
directly for your value of  $\epsilon$ .

# KE ZHANG

Same problem as before - but different approach - Variational Methods  
 deep connections to weak KAM theory

## Arnold Diffusion

$$H_\varepsilon(x, p, t) = H_0(p) + \varepsilon H_1(x, p, t) \quad x \in \mathbb{T}^d, p \in \mathbb{R}^d, t \in \mathbb{T}$$

We often look at the time-one map  $\Phi_H^t$  - Poincaré section at each period of  $t$ .

(Hypothesis) For typical  $H_0$  and  $\varepsilon H_1$ , there is topological instability in  $p$   
 $d \geq 2$  no topological barriers

This is sort of an anti-KAM theorem

KAM - most initial conditions' behavior remains on an invariant torus  
 this says that the system is dramatically changed anyway

Conditions on hypothesis - like conditions of KAM,

- $\partial_p^2 H_0$  nonsingular - so we have a lagrangian  
 restrict to  $\partial_p^2 H_0$  positive definite - this includes classical methods
- regularity  $C^\omega$  - hard = mostly open problems  
 $C^r$  - reachable theorems
- $H$  - Tonelli: convex in  $p$ , superlinear, generates a complete flow
- Consider the lagrangian

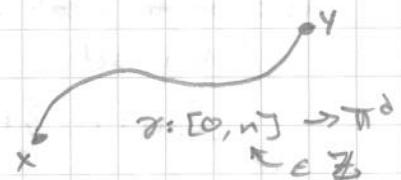
$$\mathcal{L}(x, v, t) = \sup \{ p \cdot v - H(x, p, t) \}$$

- ① Understand "elementary invariant sets"
- ② Understand the relations between them  
 i.e. homoclinic & heteroclinic orbits

Poincaré's approach  
 to dynamical systems

Look for curves that minimize the lagrangian action  
 with fixed endpoints & time

Curves are in configuration space -  $\mathbb{T}^d$



Define  $h^n(x, y) = \inf_{\substack{\gamma(t) = x \\ \gamma(n) = y}} \int_0^n \mathcal{L}(\gamma(t), \dot{\gamma}(t), t) dt$

Tonelli Thm minimizers exist

Call it η. η is  $C^2$ , solves Euler-Lagrange Equations

Connection to Hamiltonian mechanics:

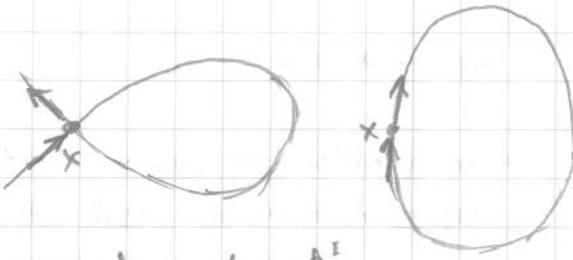
If  $h^n(x, \cdot)$  and  $h^n(\cdot, y)$  are differentiable at  $y$  and  $x$  respectively

$$\partial_y h^n(x, y) = -\partial_v \mathcal{L}(\eta(0), \dot{\eta}(0), 0), \quad \partial_x h^n(x, y) = \underline{\partial_v \mathcal{L}(\eta(n), \dot{\eta}(n), n)}$$

## Periodic orbits

must be a minimizer of  $h^n(x, x)$ .

$h^n(x, x)$  is not a periodic orbit since it may not return with the same velocity.



$x_0 \in \underset{x \in \mathbb{T}^d}{\operatorname{argmin}} h^n(x, x) \Rightarrow (x_0, \partial_x h^n(x_0, x_0))$  is periodic under  $\Phi_H^t$

Problem - this often gives the trivial periodic orbit that does not move

Penalize not going away from the initial position.

$$L_c(x, v, t) = \mathcal{L}(x, v, t) - c \cdot v$$

this is a Galilean boost

$$c \in \mathbb{R}^d \cong H^1(\mathbb{T}^d, \mathbb{R})$$

first cohomology group

Define  $h_c^n$  using  $L_c$

$$\text{Example } \mathcal{L}(x, v, t) = \frac{1}{2}v^2$$

$$L_c = \frac{1}{2}(v - c)^2 - \frac{1}{2}c^2$$



## ⑤ Larger Invariant Sets

$$\text{Define } h_c(x, y) = \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} (h_c^n(x, y) + n \alpha(c))$$

$\alpha(c) \in \mathbb{R}$  Mane's Critical Value - to keep liminf from being  $+\infty$

## Def (Aubry Set)

$$A_H(c) = \operatorname{argmin} h_c(x, x) = \{x : h_c(x, x) = 0\}$$

$$\tilde{A}_H(c) = \{(x, \partial_x h_c(x, x)) : x \in A_H(c)\}$$

family of periodic orbits in  $(x, p)$ .

this gives you a periodic orbit starting at  $x$  with initial velocity  $c$

$\tilde{A}$  compact, invariant under  $\Phi_H^t$

$\tilde{A}$  is Aubry Set,  $A$  is Aubry set projected onto configuration space

Relation to weak KAM:

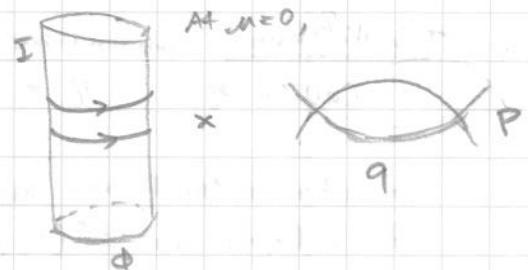
Aubry set is contained in

$$\tilde{A}_H(c) \subset \{(x, c + du(x)) : u \text{ is any weak KAM solution of } L_c\}$$

## Examples

$$(A) \text{ Arnold's Ex. } H_M(q, p, \phi, I, t) = \frac{1}{2}p^2 + (\cos q - 1)(1 - \mu(\cos \phi + \cos t)) + \frac{1}{2}I^2$$

$$\tilde{A}_H((0, c_2)) = \{(q = p = 0) \text{ global min} \\ (\phi \in \mathbb{T}, I = c_2) \text{ even if } \mu \neq 0\}$$



(B) Birkhoff's Ex  $H(q, p, t)$  get, PETR, + et al  
just map on a cylinder

$\tilde{A}_H(c)$  can be:

periodic  
invariant circle  
Cantor sets

lots of invariant sets  
found this way



• Mâne Sets and homoclinics to  $\tilde{A}$

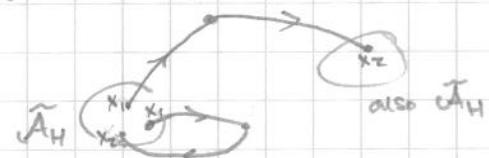
$$\tilde{N}_H(c) = \left\{ (x_0, \partial_x H_c(x_1, x_0)) : x_0 \in \arg\min_{x \in T^d} (H_c(x_1, x) + H_c(x, x_2)) \right\}$$

$$x_1, x_2 \in \tilde{A}_H(c)$$

We get a larger invariant set called Mâne.

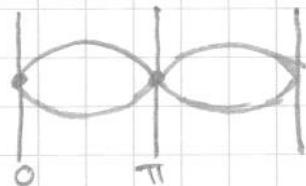
$$\tilde{N}_H(c) \supset \tilde{A}_H(c)$$

$$\tilde{N}_H(c) \setminus \tilde{A}_H(c) = \text{homoclinics to } \tilde{A}_H(c)$$



"true homoclinics"

$$\text{Arnold Example: } \hat{H} = H_m(q, \frac{P}{2}, \Phi, I, t)$$



Thm (Mather 93) Mather Mechanism (MM)

If you project the Mâne into  $T^d$ , suppose set is contractable,

$$T\mathbf{x} \tilde{N}_H(c) \subset T^d$$

then  $\tilde{A}_H(c)$  and  $\tilde{A}_H(c')$  are heteroclinically connected if  $\|c - c'\| \ll 1$

For  $d=1$ , ( $T\mathbf{x} \tilde{N}_H(c)$  is contractable)  $\approx$  ( $\tilde{A}_H(c)$  is not an invariant curve)  
diffusion only happens away from invariant curves.

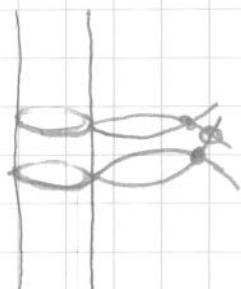
Thm (Mather 93  
Cheng-Yan 04, 09  
Bernard 08)

Suppose  $\tilde{N}_H(c) \setminus \tilde{A}_H(c)$  consists of isolated points.

Then the same conclusion holds.

Arnold: perturb the map

stable & unstable manifolds intersect transversally  
so it has to intersect something nearby



Similar result as yesterday, but totally different method.  
Doesn't have to be on a manifold - just closed, bounded.

Thm (Bernard, Kaloshin, Zhang 16)

$$H_\varepsilon(q, p, \theta, I, t) = \frac{1}{2} p^2 + \varepsilon(\cos q - 1) + \varepsilon \delta R + \frac{1}{2} I^2$$

and  $\delta \ll 1$  fixed

Then  $\exists$  residual set  $\|R\|_{C^2} < 1$  such that  $\forall \varepsilon \in (0, \varepsilon_0)$

$\tilde{A}_H((0, c_\varepsilon))$  and  $\tilde{A}_H((0, c'_\varepsilon))$  are connected  $\forall c_\varepsilon, c'_\varepsilon$

- Q How could you find these sets for more complicated dynamical systems?  
perhaps numerically find weak Hamilton-Jacobi solutions