

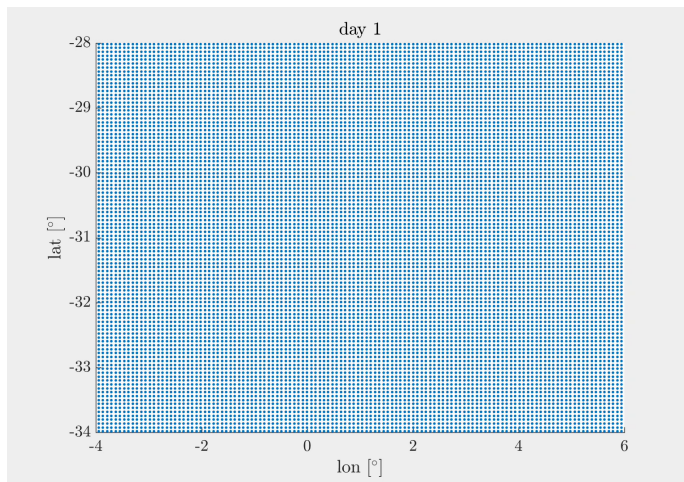
Data Based Computation of Coherent Sets in Fluids

Alvaro de Diego¹ joint work with Gary Froyland², Oliver Junge¹ & Peter Koltai³

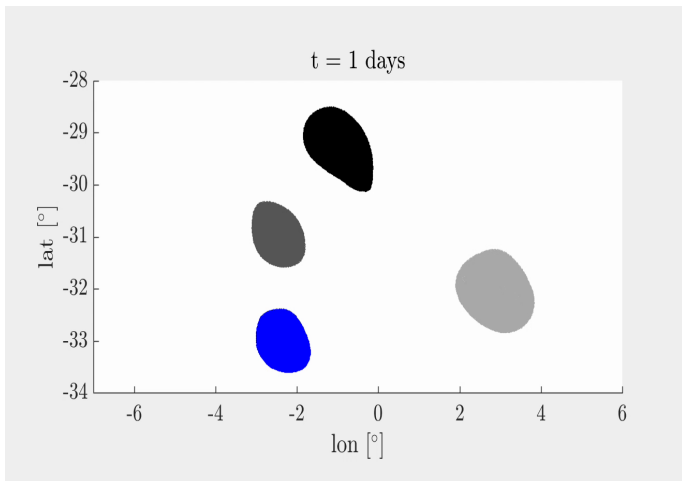
¹TU München ²UNSW Sydney ³Universität Bayreuth

March 29, 2023

Lagrangian Coherent Structures



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Roadmap

- Define Coherent sets as sets that exhibit little filamentation (Froyland 2015)

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- Approximate with a partial differential equation.

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- Solve the partial differential equation with only given trajectory data.

Cheeger ratio

Let $M \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ bounded and open and $D \subset M$.

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Good sets $D \subset M$ make the quantity

$$\frac{\ell_{d-1}(\partial D)}{\ell_d(D)}$$

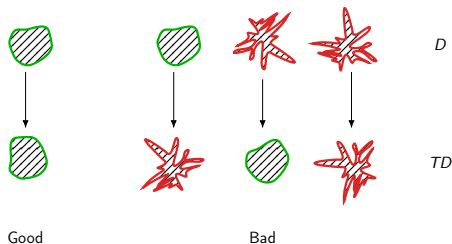
small.

Dynamic Cheeger ratio (Froyland 2015)

Let $M \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ (bounded and open) and $T: M \rightarrow M$ volume preserving diffeomorphism.

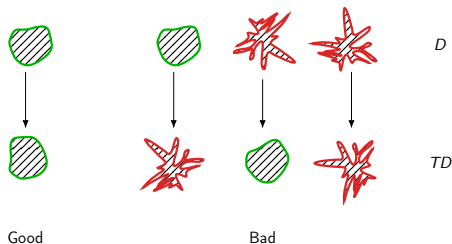
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Good sets $D \subset M$ make the quantity

$$\frac{\ell_{d-1}(\partial D) + \ell_{d-1}(\partial(TD))}{2\ell_d(D)}$$

small.

The geometric problem

Definition

Let $M \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ (bounded and open) and $T: M \rightarrow M$ volume preserving diffeomorphism. Define the *dynamic Cheeger ratio* of a set $D \subset M$ as

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Dynamic Cheeger Problem

Find a set $D \subset M$ of minimal dynamic Cheeger ratio.

An equivalent variational problem

L^1 Variational Problem

Find $u: M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with $u|_{\partial M} \equiv 0$ such that

$$\frac{\|\nabla u\|_1 + \|\nabla(u \circ T^{-1})\|_1}{2\|u\|_1}$$

is minimal (where $\|v\|_1 = \int_M |v|$)

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Theorem (Froyland 2015, Froyland & Junge 2019)

The minimal value of the variational problem coincides with the minimal value of the geometric problem.

Connection between the geometric and the L^1 variational problem

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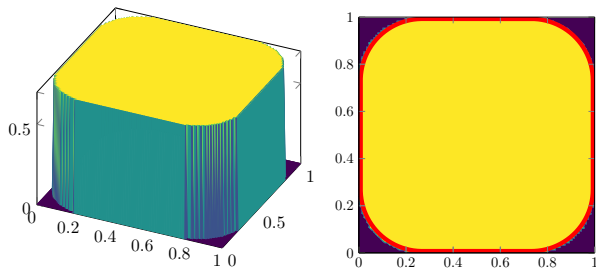
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Find $u : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with $u|_{\partial M} \equiv 0$ such that

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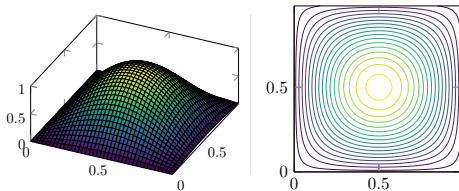
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- Minimizers are not characteristic functions



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- The classical *Cheeger inequality* (Cheeger 1970):

$$\inf_{D \subseteq M} \frac{\ell_{d-1}(\partial D)}{\ell_d(D)} \leq 2\sqrt{|\lambda|},$$

where λ is the eigenvalue of Δ with smallest magnitude, can be generalized to the dynamic case. (Froyland 2015).

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- Level sets are still good on average, even if not optimal.
- Problem much easier to solve.

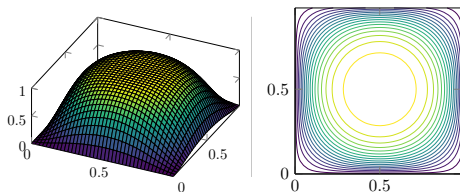
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Eigenfunctions get “flatter” again, but in experiments the best level set is already near the optimum for $p = 2$.

Reformulating to a PDE

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Theorem

Let $0 \neq u \in H_0^1(M)$ be a minimizer of the Rayleigh quotient

$$\frac{\|\nabla u\|_2^2}{\|u\|_2^2}.$$

Then u is the first eigenfunction of $-\Delta$, i.e. there is a $\lambda > 0$ such that

$$-\Delta u = \lambda u$$

and λ is minimal.

The dynamic Laplacian

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Definition (Froyland 2015)

Let T^* , T_* be defined by $T^*u = u \circ T^{-1}$ and $T_*u = u \circ T$. Define the *dynamic Laplacian* $\bar{\Delta}$ by

$$\bar{\Delta}u := \frac{1}{2}(\Delta u + T_*\Delta T^*u)$$

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Theorem

The solution of the L^2 variational problem is the first Dirichlet eigenfunction of $\bar{\Delta}$, i.e. it solves

$$-\bar{\Delta}u = \lambda u \text{ on } M, \quad u \equiv 0 \text{ on } \partial M$$

for minimal λ .

Computing eigenfunctions

Computing eigenfunctions

Weak formulation (Dirichlet boundary conditions): find $u \in H_0^1(M)$ and $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$\int_M \frac{1}{2} (\nabla u \cdot \nabla v + \nabla(T^* u) \cdot \nabla(T^* v)) = \lambda \int_M uv \quad \forall v \in H_0^1(M).$$

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We only want to use given trajectory data.

Collocation on adapted meshes (Froyland & Junge, 2019)

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Given x_i and $T(x_i)$ for $i \in \{1, \dots, N\}$, calculate two triangulations \mathcal{T}_0 and \mathcal{T}_1 with the x_i and the $T(x_i)$ as vertices respectively.

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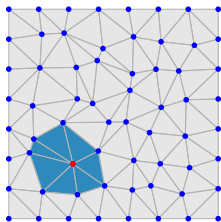
Let ϕ_k^0 and ϕ_k^1 be the piecewise linear hat functions on \mathcal{T}_0 and \mathcal{T}_1 . If

$$u = \sum_{k=1}^N \alpha_k \phi_k^0$$

is a piecewise linear function on \mathcal{T}_1 then approximate

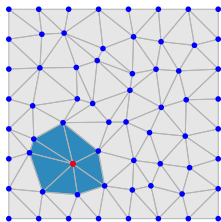
$$\mathcal{T}^* u \approx \sum_{k=1}^N \alpha_k \phi_k^1$$

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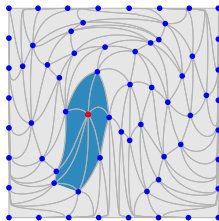
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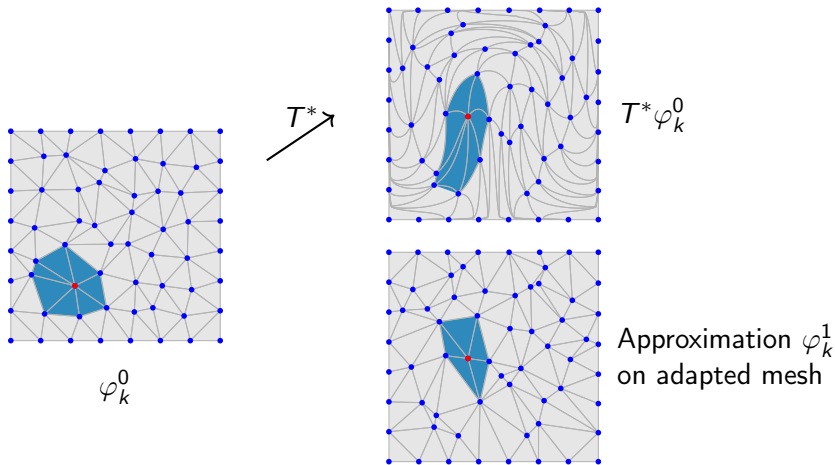
φ_k^0

T^*



$T^* \varphi_k^0$

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Multiple structures

- Different geometric problem: partition into two subsets. Measure

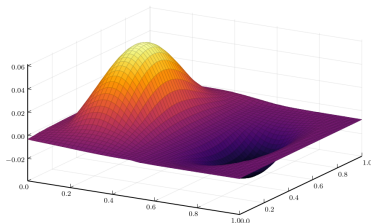
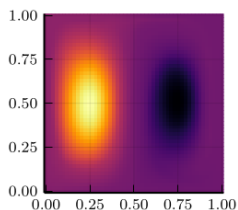
$$\frac{\ell_{d-1}(\partial D) + \ell_{d-1}(\partial(TD))}{2 \min(\ell_d(D), \ell_d(M \setminus D))}.$$

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Leads to Neumann boundary conditions in PDE.

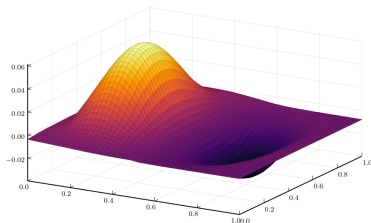
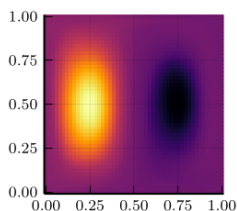


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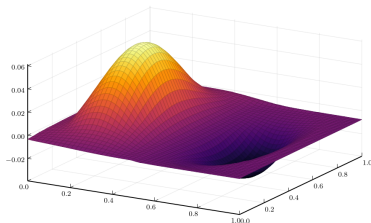
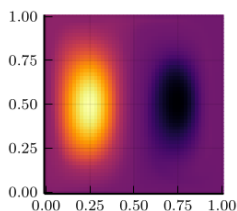
- For finding multiple structures: use higher eigenfunctions of $\bar{\Delta}$ and methods based on spectral clustering (Froyland & Delnitz 2003, Froyland 2005).

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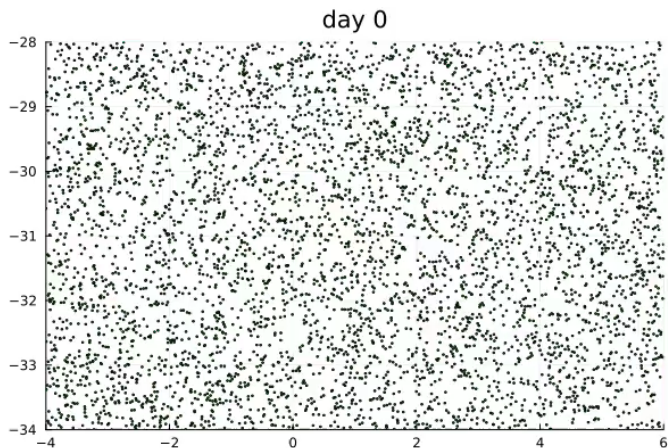


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Geostrophic ocean flow (SSALTO/DUACS, distributed by AVISO).

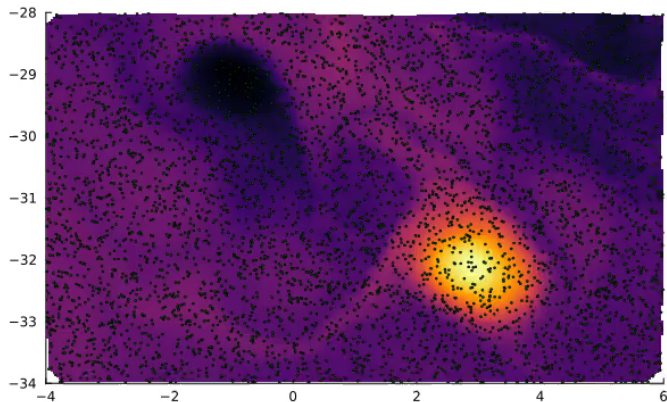


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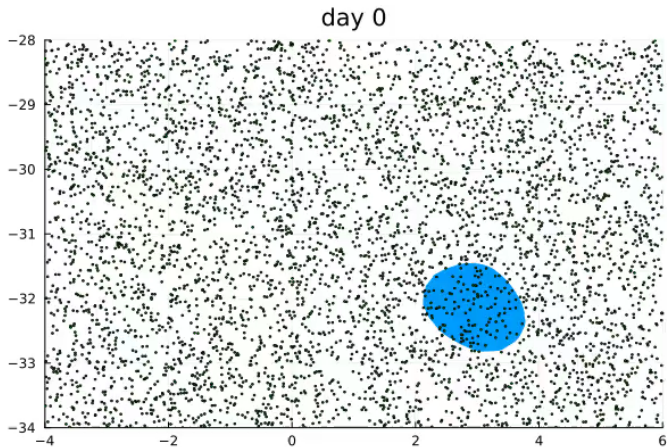
Example

First nontrivial eigenfunction (Neumann Boundary conditions)

day 0



Best superlevel set:



Julia package *CoherentStructures.jl* (Schilling, Karrasch, Junge, de Diego):

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- Graph Laplacian / diffusion maps based methods

Summary

- We defined coherence of a set by the amount of filamentation over the course of the dynamics.

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- The corresponding geometric problem can be approximated by an eigenvalue problem involving the dynamic Laplacian $\bar{\Delta}$.

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- The resulting partial differential equation can be solved using only given trajectory data.

Thank you