### **Coherent structures and biological invasions**

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## Invasive species riding the atmosphere

Hurricane Ivan (2004) brought new crop disease (soybean rust) to U.S.



### From Rio Cauca region of Colombia

#### **Disease extent**

## Invasive species riding the atmosphere

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From Rio Cauca region of Colombia

#### **Disease extent**



Cost of invasive organisms is <u>\$137 billion</u> per year in U.S.

Airborne pathogen 20-300 μm

### Atmospheric transport network relevant for aeroecology

Skeleton of large-scale horizontal transport

relevant for large-scale spatiotemporal patterns of important biota e.g., plant pathogens

 $orange = repelling \ LCSs, \ blue = attracting \ LCSs$ 

# **Atmospheric transport of microorganisms**



#### e.g., Fusarium

- Spore production, release, escape from surface
- Long-range transport (time-scale hours to days)
- Deposition, infection efficiency, host susceptibility

Isard & Gage [2001]

# **Atmospheric transport of microorganisms**



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Isard & Gage [2001]

## Mesoscale to synoptic scale motion

- Consider first 2D motion, then fully 3D
- Quasi-2D motion (isobaric) over timescales of interest, < 12-24 hrs, limited by fungal spore viability</li>



## Aerial sampling: 40 m – 400 m altitude

Kentland Farm-

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Image © 2010 Commonwealth of Virginia Image © 2010 DigitalGlobe Image USDA Farm Service Agency Image U.S. Geological Survey







UAVs and ground-level sampler









PCR, sequencing, and BLAST searches against FUSARIUM-ID and GenBank





Morphology-based verification

Colonies of Fusarium







Living culture collection





Concentration of *Fusarium* spores (number/ $m^3$ ) for samples from 100 flights conducted between August 2006 and March 2010.



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## Punctuated changes: correlated to LCS passage?





## **Punctuated changes:** correlated to LCS passage?



location



time



Movement of a 'cloud' of relatively high concentration of *Fusarium* along an attracting LCSs (upper panel, three time snapshots going from left to right) and the corresponding abrupt changes in detected concentrations of *Fusarium* at a geographically fixed sampling location (below).



Time series of concentration  $\{(t_0, C_0), \ldots, (t_{N-1}, C_{N-1})\}$ 



LCS passage times: orange = repelling LCSs, blue = attracting



Compare: are there patterns?

### Statistical framework for hypotheses testing

- Time series of concentration  $\{(t_0, C_0), \ldots, (t_{N-1}, C_{N-1})\}$
- Consider concentration changes  $\Delta C_k \equiv C_k C_{k-1}$ if  $\Delta t_k \equiv t_k - t_{k-1} < T$ , where, e.g., T = 24 hr or T = 12 hr
- Categorize each  $\Delta C_k$  as (1) a punctuated change or (0) not
- Independently determine if LCS passed over sampling point during  $[t_{k-1}, t_k]$ , (1) yes or (0) no

### Statistical framework for hypotheses testing



### Statistical framework for hypotheses testing

- Can test hypotheses using contingency table for categorical variables. Looking for high *sensitivity* and high *statistical significance*.
- Sensitivity of 1 means that the LCS diagnostic test identifies all punctuated changes in the concentration of atmospheric *Fusarium*.
- Statistical significance? p < 0.05 suggest rejection of null hypothesis.

### Detecting LCS numerically: FTLE field approach

The finite-time Lyapunov exponent (FTLE),

$$\sigma_t^T(x) = \frac{1}{|T|} \ln \left\| \frac{d\phi_t^{t+T}(x)}{dx} \right\|$$

measures the maximum stretching rate over the interval T of trajectories starting near the point  $\boldsymbol{x}$  at time t

cf. Bowman, 1999; Haller & Yuan, 2000; Haller, 2001; Shadden, Lekien, Marsden, 2005



### Detecting LCS numerically: FTLE field approach

We can define the FTLE for Riemannian manifolds<sup>1</sup>  $\sigma_t^T(x) = \frac{1}{|T|} \ln \left\| D\phi_t^{t+T} \right\| \doteq \frac{1}{|T|} \ln \left( \max_{\substack{y \neq 0}} \frac{\left\| D\phi_t^{t+T}(y) \right\|}{\|y\|} \right)$ 

with y a small perturbation in the tangent space at x.



<sup>1</sup>Lekien & Ross [2010] Chaos

### **Atmosphere: Antarctic polar vortex**

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## Atmosphere: continental U.S.

### **Computation of LCS**



(a) Sample FTLE field over the eastern United State at 21:00 UTC 15 May 2007, using WRF NAM-218 velocity data set provided by NOAA. (b) Ridges extracted from the FTLE field in (a).

### **Summary of Hypothesis Testing**

- Of 100 samples, only 73 sample pairs within 24 hours
- Of those, 16 show punctuated changes in the concentration of *Fusarium*
- Punctuated change  $\Rightarrow$  repelling LCS passage 70% of the time (p=0.0017)
- Punctuated changes were significantly associated with the movement of a repelling LCS
- Correlation poor for attracting LCS: punctuated change  $\Rightarrow$  attracting LCS passage 37% of the time (p = 0.33)

#### **Example: Filament bounded by repelling LCS**



#### **Example: Filament bounded by repelling LCS**



12:00 UTC 1 May 2007

15:00 UTC 1 May 2007 18:00 UTC 1 May 2007

Relationship to lobe dynamics and almost-invariant sets?

 $\Box$  As our dynamical system, we consider a discrete map<sup>2</sup>

 $f: \mathcal{M} \longrightarrow \mathcal{M},$ 

e.g.,  $f = \phi_{t_0}^{t_0+T}$ , where  $\mathcal{M}$  is a differentiable, orientable, two-dimensional manifold e.g.,  $\mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $S^2$ 

□ To understand the transport of points under the map *f*, we consider the **invariant manifolds of unstable fixed points** 

 $\Box$  Let  $p_i, i = 1, ..., N_p$ , denote a collection of saddle-type hyperbolic fixed points for f.

<sup>2</sup>Following Rom-Kedar and Wiggins [1990]
# Partition phase space into regions

Natural way to partition phase space

• Pieces of  $W^u(p_i)$  and  $W^s(p_i)$  partition  $\mathcal{M}$ .







Unstable and stable manifolds in **red** and **green**, resp.

# Partition phase space into regions

• Intersection of unstable and stable manifolds define boundaries.



# Partition phase space into regions

• These boundaries divide the phase space into regions.



# Label mobile subregions: 'atoms' of transport

• Can label mobile subregions based on their past and future whereabouts under one iterate of the map, e.g.,  $(\ldots, R_3, R_3, [R_1], R_1, R_2, \ldots)$ 



### Primary intersection points (pips) and boundaries

□ Suppose  $W^u(p_i)$  and  $W^s(p_j)$  intersect in the pip q. Define  $\mathcal{B} \equiv U[p_i, q] \bigcup S[p_j, q]$  as a **boundary** between "two sides,"  $R_1$  and  $R_2$ .



#### Lobes: the mobile subregions

Let  $q_0, q_1 \in W^u(p_i) \cap W^s(p_j)$  be two adjacent pips, i.e., there are no other pips on  $U[q_0, q_1]$  and  $S[q_0, q_1]$ . The region interior to  $U[q_0, q_1] \bigcup S[q_0, q_1]$  is a lobe.



#### Lobe dynamics: transport across a boundary

 $\Box f^{-1}(q)$  is a pip (by lemma). f is orientation-preserving  $\Rightarrow$  there's at least one pip on  $U[f^{-1}(q), q]$  where the  $W^u(p_i), W^s(p_j)$  intersection is topologically transverse.

#### $R_2$



#### Lobe dynamics: transport across a boundary

Under one iteration of f, only points in L<sub>1,2</sub>(1) can move from R<sub>1</sub> into R<sub>2</sub> by crossing B, etc.
The two lobes L<sub>1,2</sub>(1) and L<sub>2,1</sub>(1) are called a turnstile.



□ In a complicated flow, can still identify manifolds ...



Unstable and stable manifolds in red and green, resp.

 $\Box$  ... and lobes



Significant amount of fine, filamentary structure.

- e.g., with three regions  $\{R_1, R_2, R_3\}$ , label lobe intersections accordingly.
- Denote the intersection  $(R_3, [R_2]) \bigcap ([R_2], R_1)$  by  $(R_3, [R_2], R_1)$





Longer itineraries...



... correspond to smaller pieces of phase space



cf. Sapsis & Haller [2009], Lekien & Ross [2010], Du Toit & Marsden [2010]









Sets behave as lobe dynamics dictates

# **Classification of motifs**



- Regions bounded by attracting and repelling curves
- Atmosphere is naturally parsed into discrete 'cells'

# Motion of 'cells'



• Packets have their own dynamics as consequence of repelling and attracting natures of boundaries

### Lobe dynamics: another fluid example

 $\Box$  Fluid example: time-periodic Stokes flow<sup>2</sup>



streamlines

tracer blob

### Lid-driven cavity flow

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Computations of Mohsen Gheisarieha and Mark Stremler (Virginia Tech)

# Lobe dynamics: another fluid example

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some invariant manifolds of saddles

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 $\Box$  Fluid example: time-periodic Stokes flow<sup>2</sup>



material blob at t = 0

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Computations of Mohsen Gheisarieha and Mark Stremler (Virginia Tech)

 $\Box$  Fluid example: time-periodic Stokes flow<sup>2</sup>



material blob at t = 5

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Computations of Mohsen Gheisarieha and Mark Stremler (Virginia Tech)

 $\Box$  Fluid example: time-periodic Stokes flow<sup>2</sup>



some invariant manifolds of saddles

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Computations of Mohsen Gheisarieha and Mark Stremler (Virginia Tech)

 $\Box$  Fluid example: time-periodic Stokes flow<sup>2</sup>



material blob at t = 10

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Computations of Mohsen Gheisarieha and Mark Stremler (Virginia Tech)

 $\Box$  Fluid example: time-periodic Stokes flow<sup>2</sup>



material blob at t = 15

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Computations of Mohsen Gheisarieha and Mark Stremler (Virginia Tech)

 $\Box$  Fluid example: time-periodic Stokes flow<sup>2</sup>



material blob and manifolds

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Computations of Mohsen Gheisarieha and Mark Stremler (Virginia Tech)

 $\Box$  Fluid example: time-periodic Stokes flow<sup>2</sup>



material blob at t = 20

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Computations of Mohsen Gheisarieha and Mark Stremler (Virginia Tech)

 $\Box$  Fluid example: time-periodic Stokes flow<sup>2</sup>



material blob at t = 25

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Computations of Mohsen Gheisarieha and Mark Stremler (Virginia Tech)

 $\Box$  Fluid example: time-periodic Stokes flow<sup>2</sup>



• Saddle manifolds and lobe dynamics provide template for motion

<sup>2</sup>Computations of Mohsen Gheisarieha and Mark Stremler (Virginia Tech)

 $\Box$  Fluid example: time-periodic Stokes flow<sup>2</sup>



#### • Homogenization has two exponential rates

<sup>2</sup>Computations of Mohsen Gheisarieha and Mark Stremler (Virginia Tech)

Almost-cyclic sets stirring the surrounding fluid like 'ghost rods' — provides fast homogenization time scale

— works even when periodic orbits are absent!



Can use with topological methods to estimate degree of mixing — braid word and Thurston-Nielsen classification theorem

• Stremler, Ross, Grover, Kumar [2011] Phys. Rev. Lett.
Partition phase space into loosely coupled regions "Leaky" regions with a long residence time<sup>3</sup>



The phase space is divided into several invariant and almost-invariant sets. <sup>3</sup>work of Dellnitz, Junge, Froyland, Padberg, et al

- Create a fine box partition of the phase space  $\mathcal{B} = \{B_1, \dots, B_q\}$ , where q could be  $10^7 +$
- Consider a (weighted) q-by-q transition matrix, P, for our dynamical system, where

$$P_{ij} = \frac{\mu(B_i \cap f^{-1}(B_j))}{\mu(B_i)},$$

the transition probability from  $B_i$  to  $B_j$  using, e.g.,  $f = \phi_{t_0}^{t_0+T}$ 



• P approximates our dynamical system via a finite state Markov chain.



If  $P_{ij} > 0$ , then there is an edge between nodes i and j in the graph with weight  $P_{ij}$ .

• A set B is called almost invariant over the interval  $[t_0, t]$  if

$$\rho_{\mu}(B) = \frac{\mu(B \cap \phi^{-1}(B))}{\mu(B)} \approx 1.$$
 (1)

Can maximize the value of  $\rho_{\mu}$  over all possible combinations of sets  $B \in \mathcal{B}$ .

- In practice, AIS identified via **eigenvectors** of *P* or graph-partitioning
- Appropriate for non-autonomous, aperiodic, finite-time settings



• Link between AIS boundaries and invariant manifolds of fixed points, and more generally, of normally hyperbolic invariant manifolds (NHIMs) $^4$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Similar to link between AIS and invariant manifolds: Dellnitz, Junge, Lo, Marsden, Padberg, Preis, Ross, Thiere [2005] Phys. Rev. Lett.; Dellnitz, Junge, Koon, Lekien, Lo, Marsden, Padberg, Preis, Ross, Thiere [2005] Int. J. Bif. Chaos



• See Piyush Grover's poster for more



Atmosphere: maximally coherent sets over 24 hours
— boundaries seem to coincide with LCSs

## Final words on chaotic transport

□ What are the robust descriptions of transport which work in aperiodic, finite-time settings?

Lobe dynamics, finite-time symbolic dynamics may work.

Is there a generalization of Melnikov's method which would work for LCSs to establish homoclinic and heteroclinic-like tangles?

Links between LCS, AIS/coherent sets, and topological methods?

## Final words on the biological side

 Airborne collections may encode recent atmospheric mixing events



- LCSs may reveal important transport / invasion events which are *unrelated* to obvious weather phenomena like storms or fronts
- What are the effects of climate change?

## Final words on the biological side

- Incorporate transport network into framework for modeling transport
  of biota
- With management, this becomes a *complex coupled natural and human system*
- Have organisms evolved to take advantage of the global transport network?



# The End

#### For papers, movies, etc., visit: www.shaneross.com

#### Main Papers:

- Schmale, Ross, Fetters, Tallapragada, Wood-Jones, Dingus [2011] Isolates of Fusarium graminearum collected 40-320 meters above ground level cause Fusarium head blight in wheat and produce trichothecene mycotoxins. Aerobiologia, published online.
- Stremler, Ross, Grover, Kumar [2011] Topological chaos and periodic braiding of almost-cyclic sets. *Physical Review Letters* 106, 114101.
- Senatore & Ross [2011] Detection and characterization of transport barriers in complex flows via ridge extraction of the finite time Lyapunov exponent field, International Journal for Numerical Methods in Engineering 86, 1163.
- Lekien & Ross [2010] The computation of finite-time Lyapunov exponents on unstructured meshes and for non-Euclidean manifolds. Chaos 20, 017505.
- Tallapragada & Ross [2008] Particle segregation by Stokes number for small neutrally buoyant spheres in a fluid, *Physical Review E* 78, 036308.