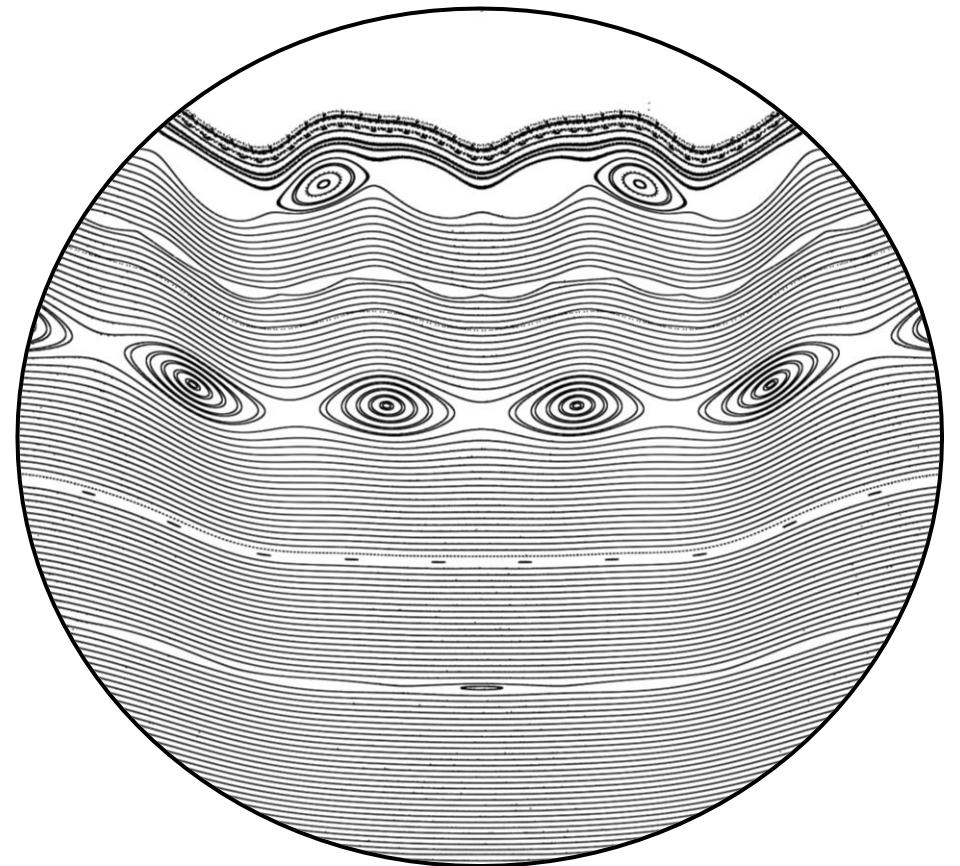
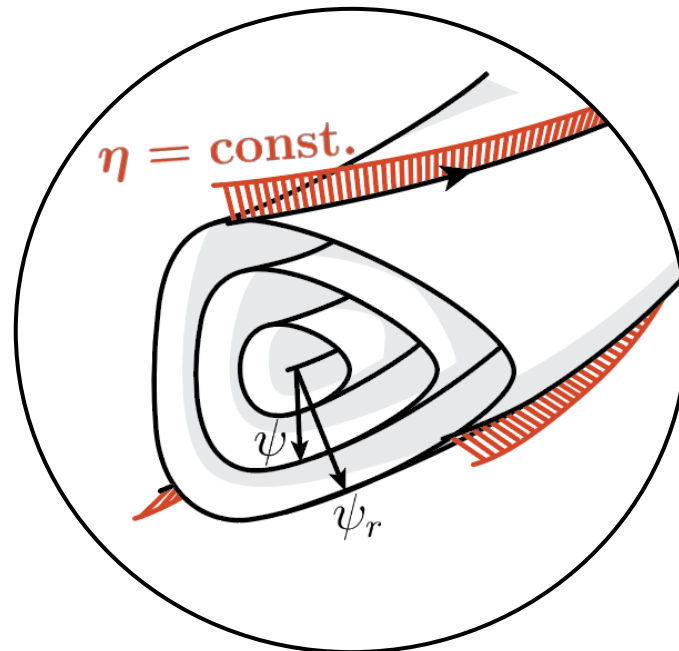
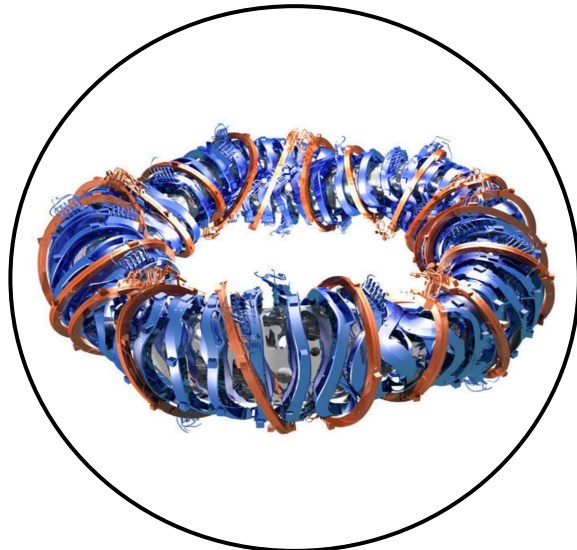


Orbits of energetic particles near rational flux surfaces in stellarators

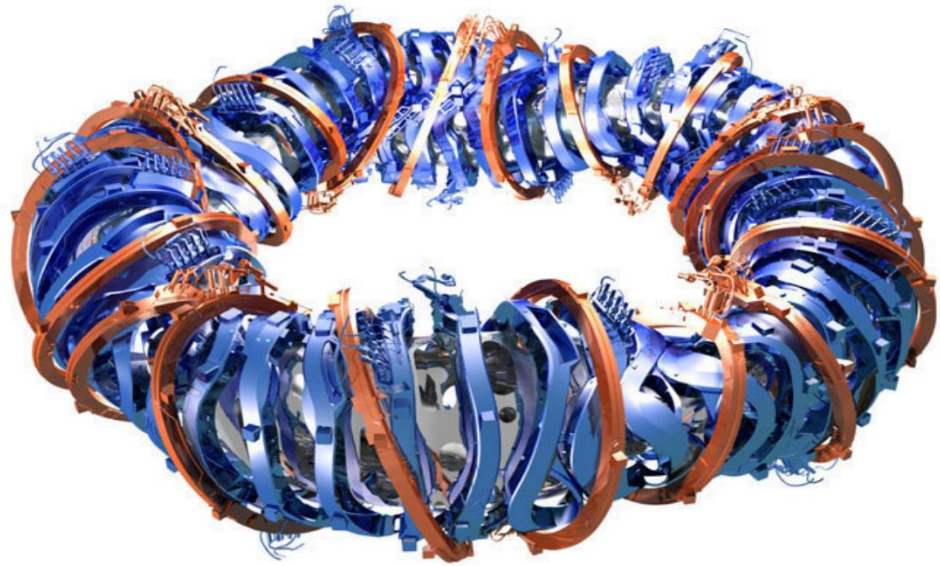
Thomas E. Foster | Princeton

with Felix I. Parra, Roscoe B. White,
José Luis Velasco



Motivation

- DT fusion produces 3.5 MeV alpha particles; speed is $\sim 10^7 \text{ ms}^{-1}$.
 - Collisional slowing-down time is $\sim 0.1 \text{ s}$.
 - In reactor, $\rho_\star = \rho/L \sim 0.03$.
- } Study collisionless orbits.
- } Use guiding-centre equations.

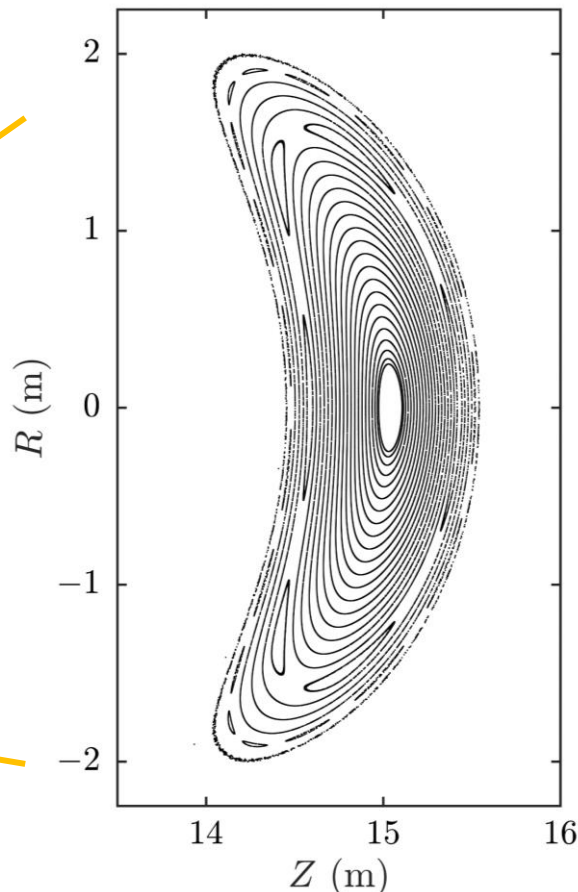
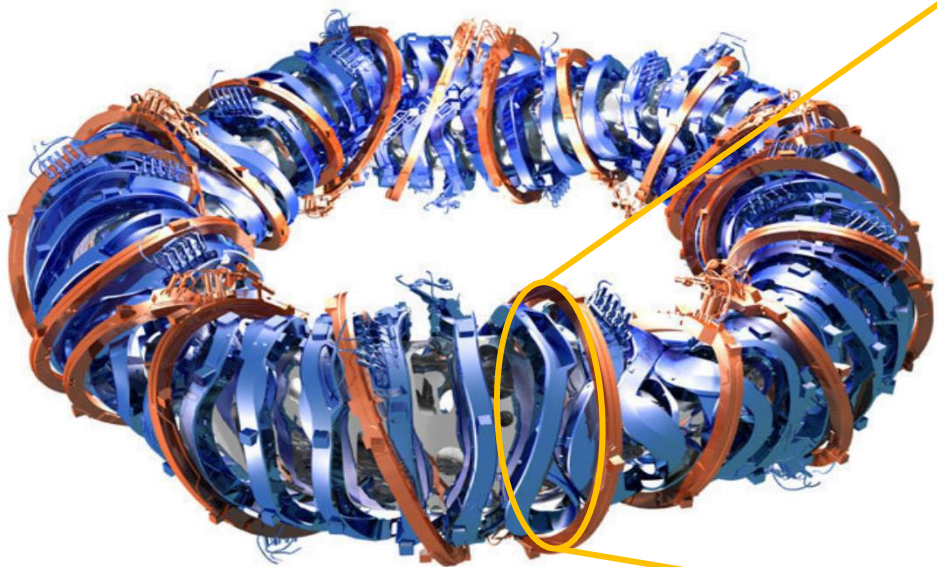


M. Nagel *et al* 2017

IOP Conf. Ser.: Mater. Sci. Eng.

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**White *et al* 2022,
White 2022:**

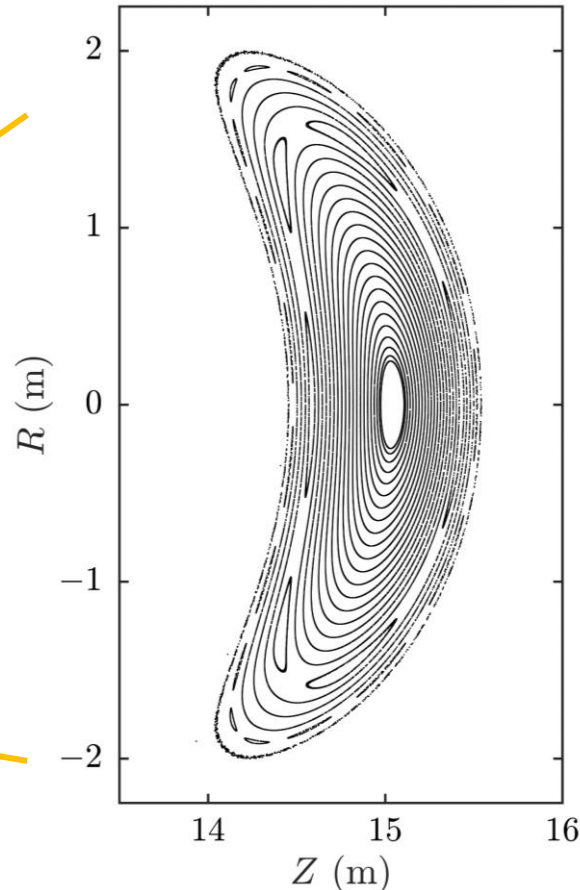
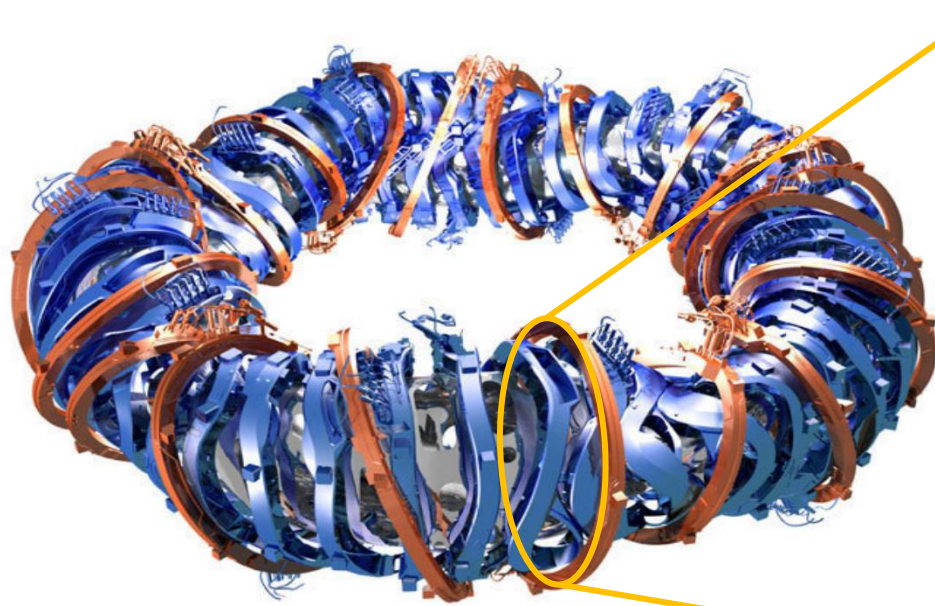
- Magnetic field has nested toroidal flux surfaces
- But Poincaré plot shows islands in particle orbits
- These ‘drift islands’ grow with energy

M. Nagel *et al* 2017

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Motivation

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Aims:

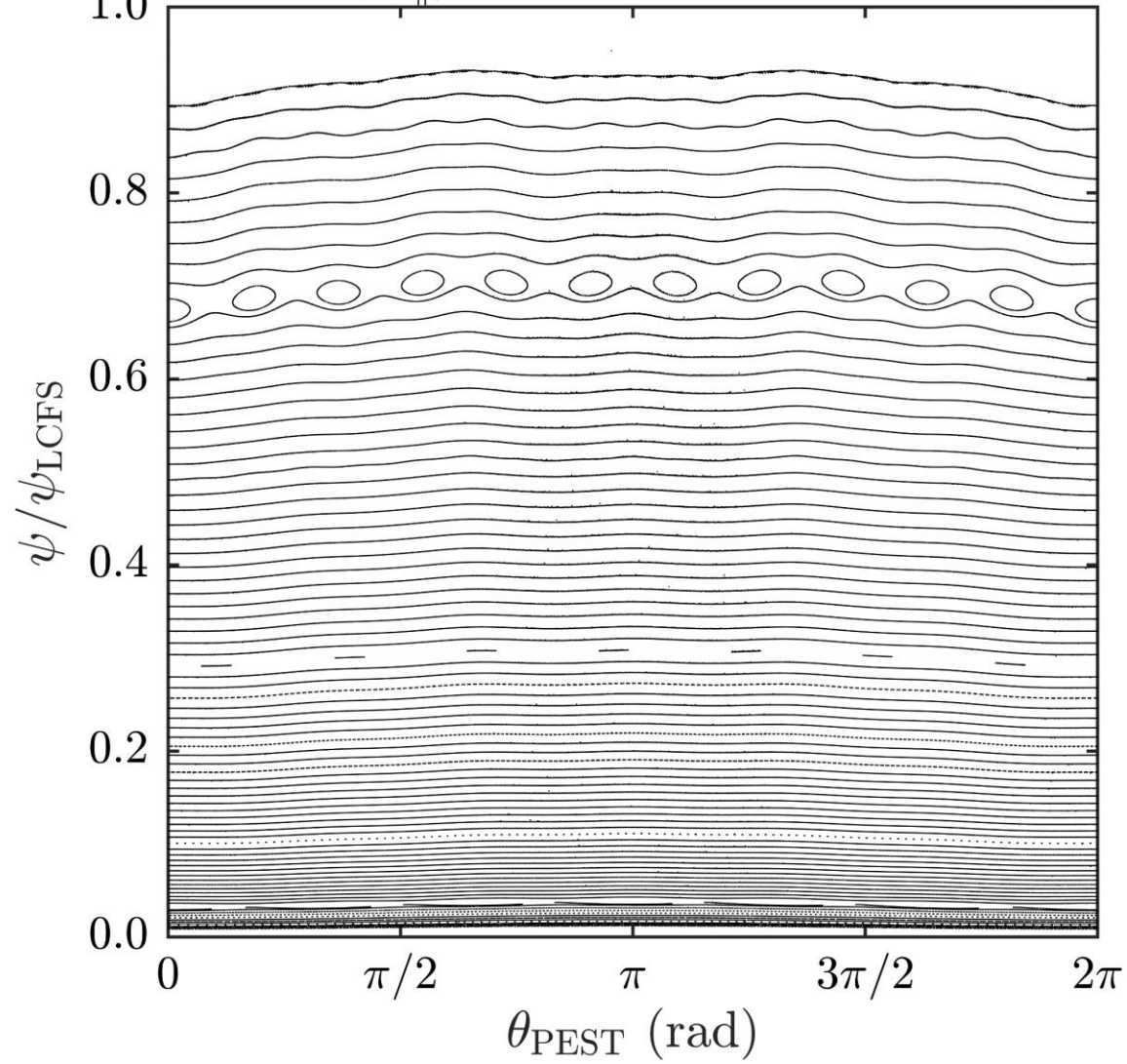
1. Understand drift islands
2. Calculate shapes of orbits in Poincaré plot
3. Which rational surfaces matter?

M. Nagel *et al* 2017

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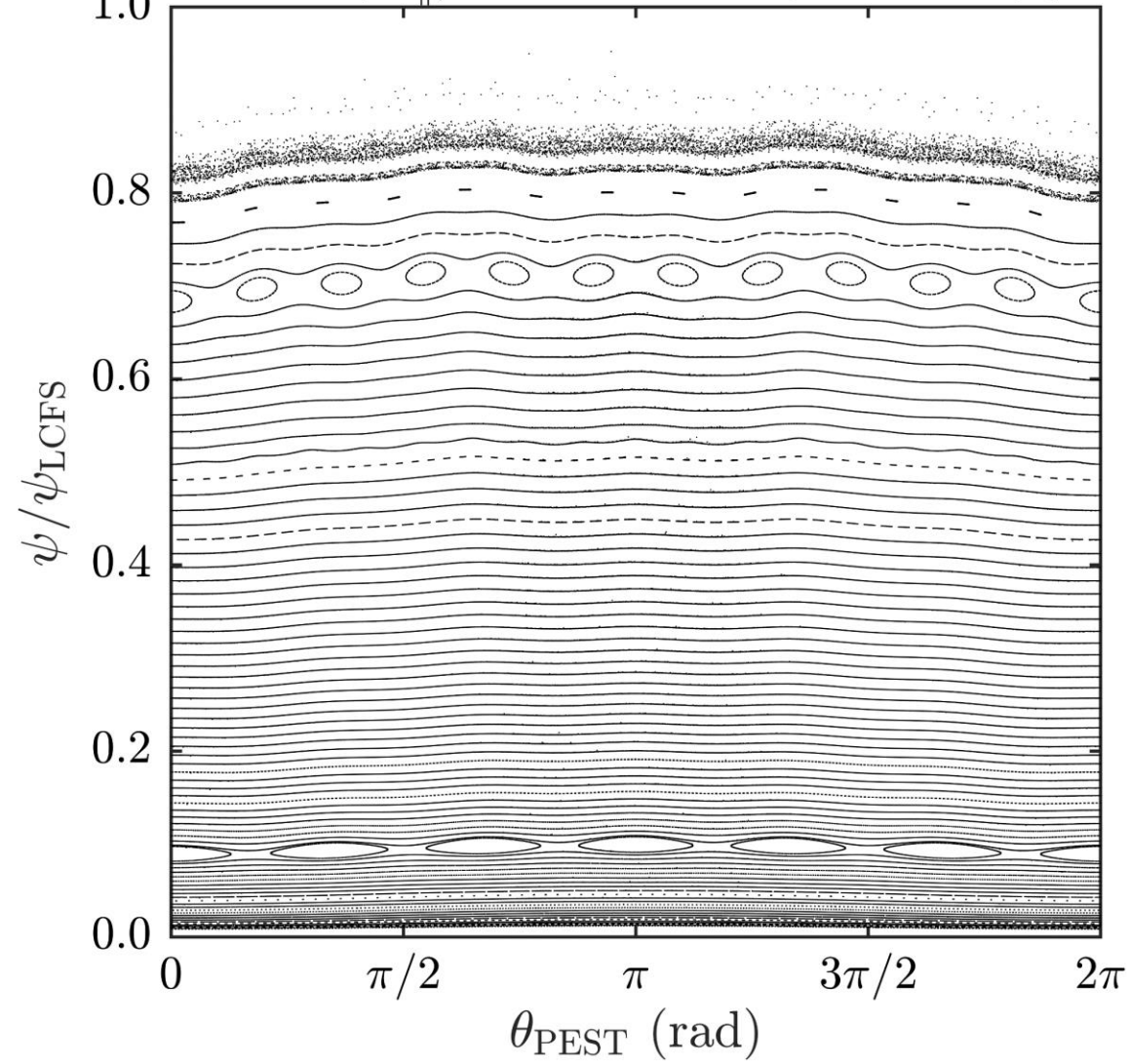
Alpha orbits in reactor-scale W7-X

$E = 1 \text{ MeV}$, $v_{\parallel}/v = +1.0$ at $B_0 = 6.5 \text{ T}$, $\phi = 0$



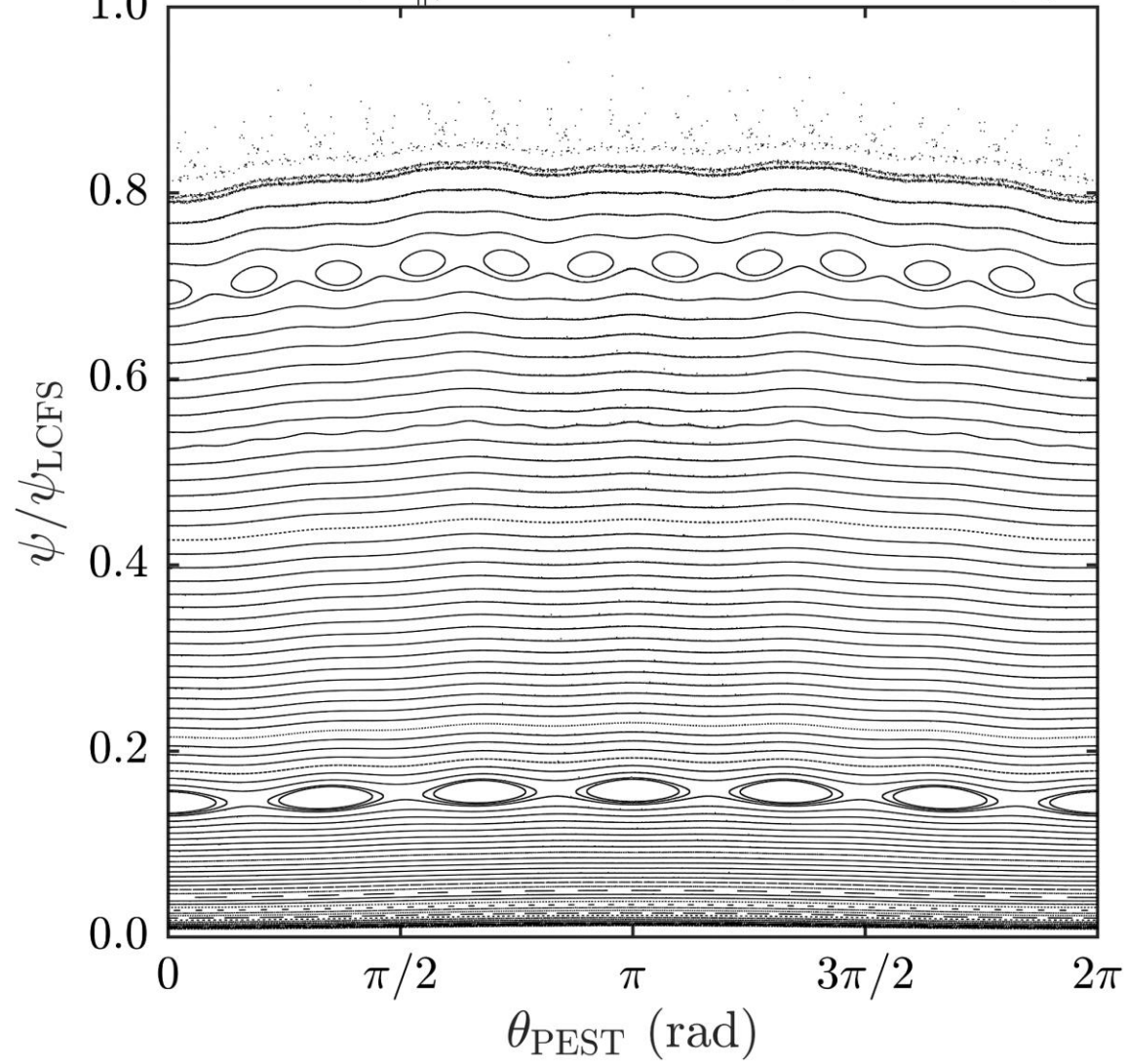
Alpha orbits in reactor-scale W7-X

$E = 1 \text{ MeV}$, $v_{\parallel}/v = +0.9$ at $B_0 = 6.5 \text{ T}$, $\phi = 0$



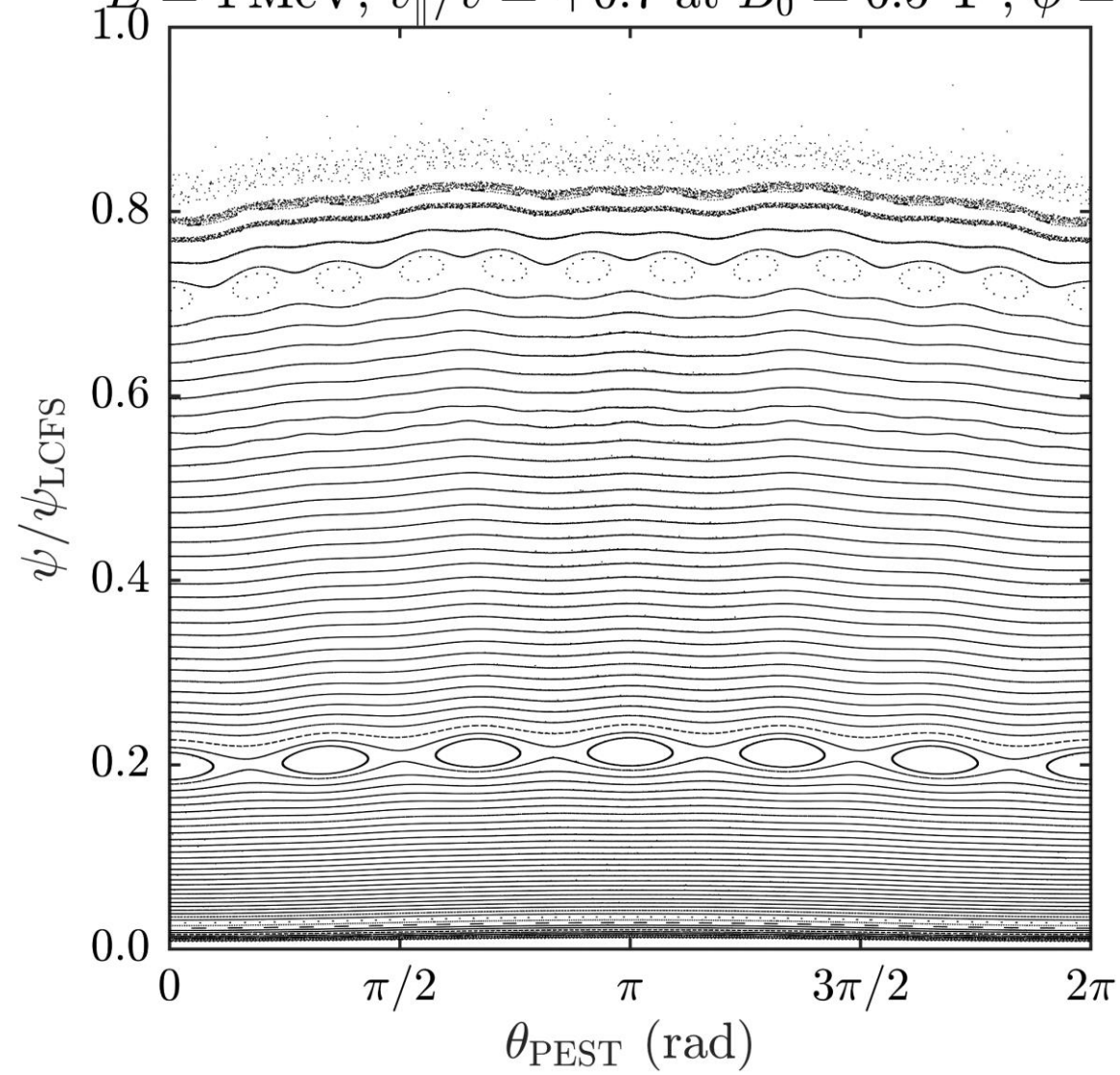
Alpha orbits in reactor-scale W7-X

$E = 1 \text{ MeV}$, $v_{\parallel}/v = +0.8$ at $B_0 = 6.5 \text{ T}$, $\phi = 0$



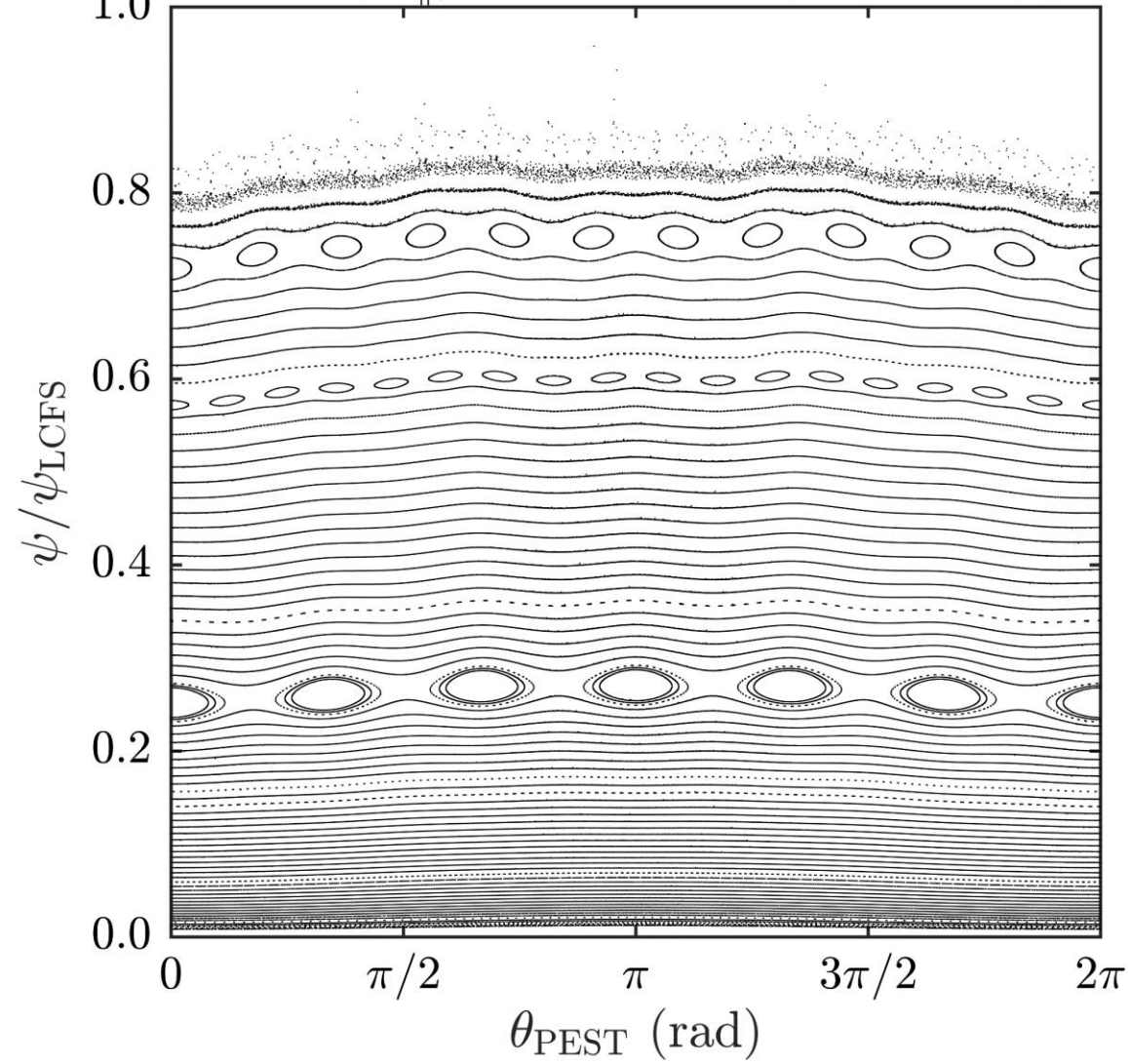
Alpha orbits in reactor-scale W7-X

$E = 1 \text{ MeV}$, $v_{\parallel}/v = +0.7$ at $B_0 = 6.5 \text{ T}$, $\phi = 0$



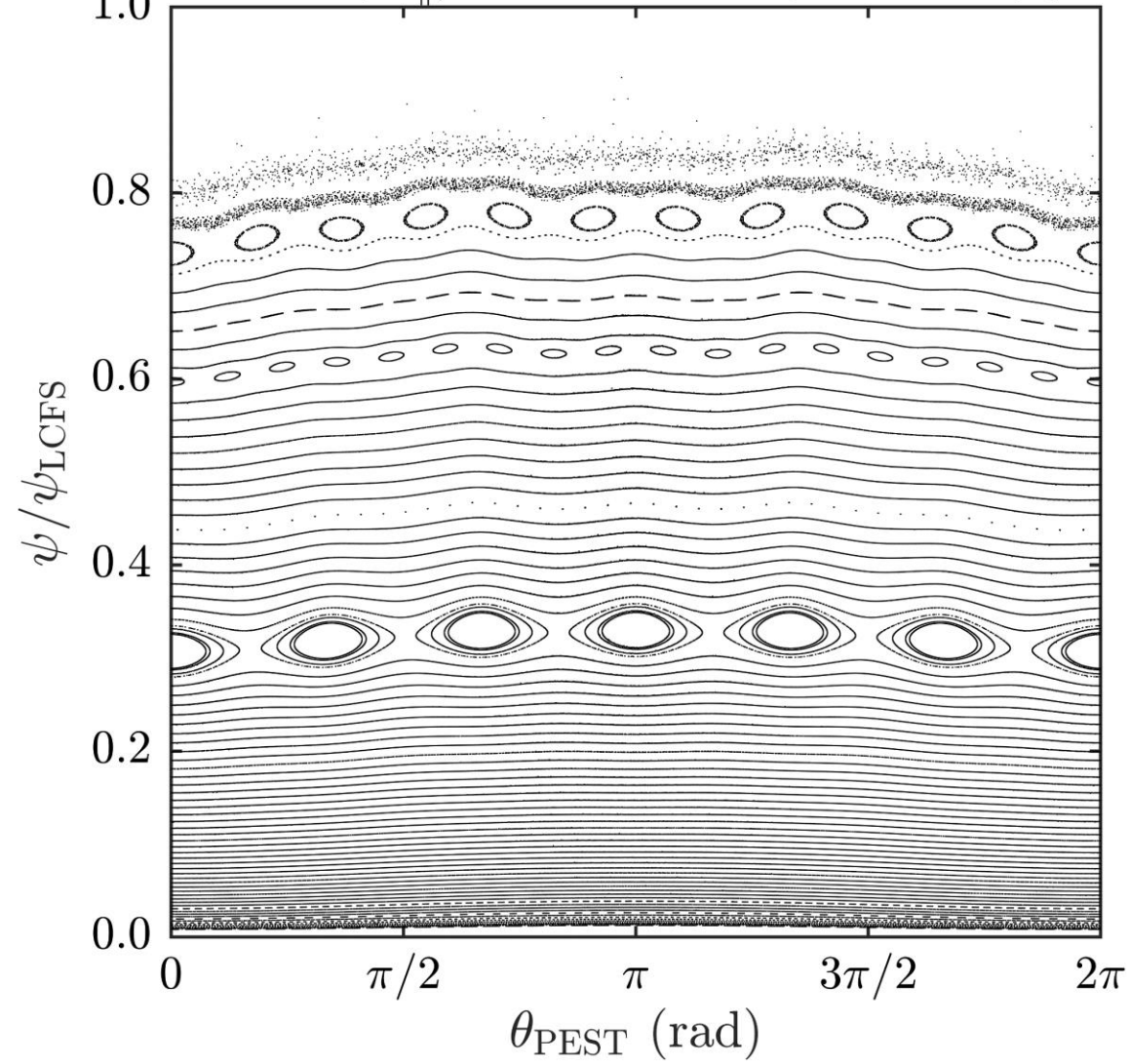
Alpha orbits in reactor-scale W7-X

$E = 1 \text{ MeV}$, $v_{\parallel}/v = +0.6$ at $B_0 = 6.5 \text{ T}$, $\phi = 0$



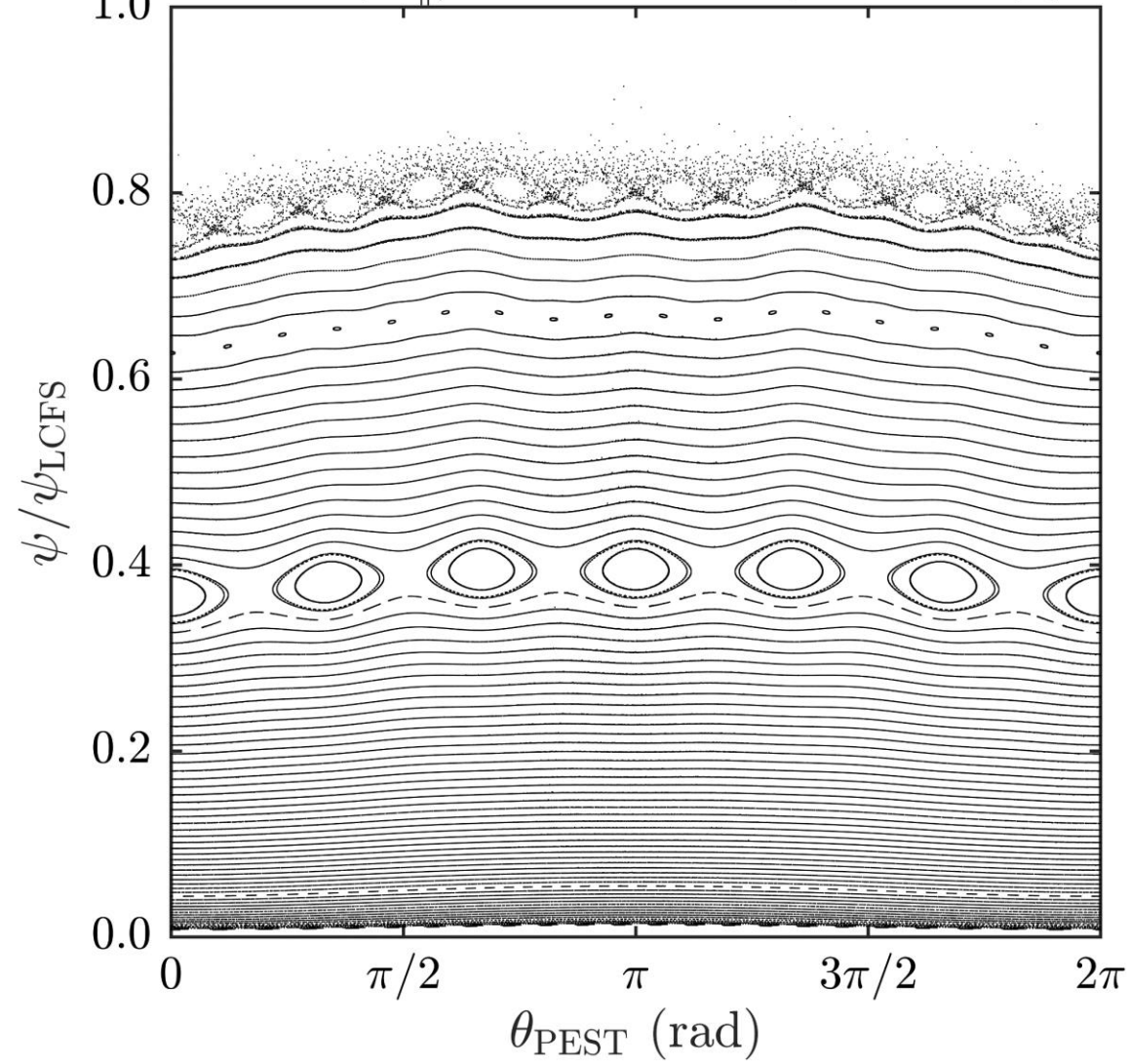
Alpha orbits in reactor-scale W7-X

$E = 1 \text{ MeV}$, $v_{\parallel}/v = +0.5$ at $B_0 = 6.5 \text{ T}$, $\phi = 0$



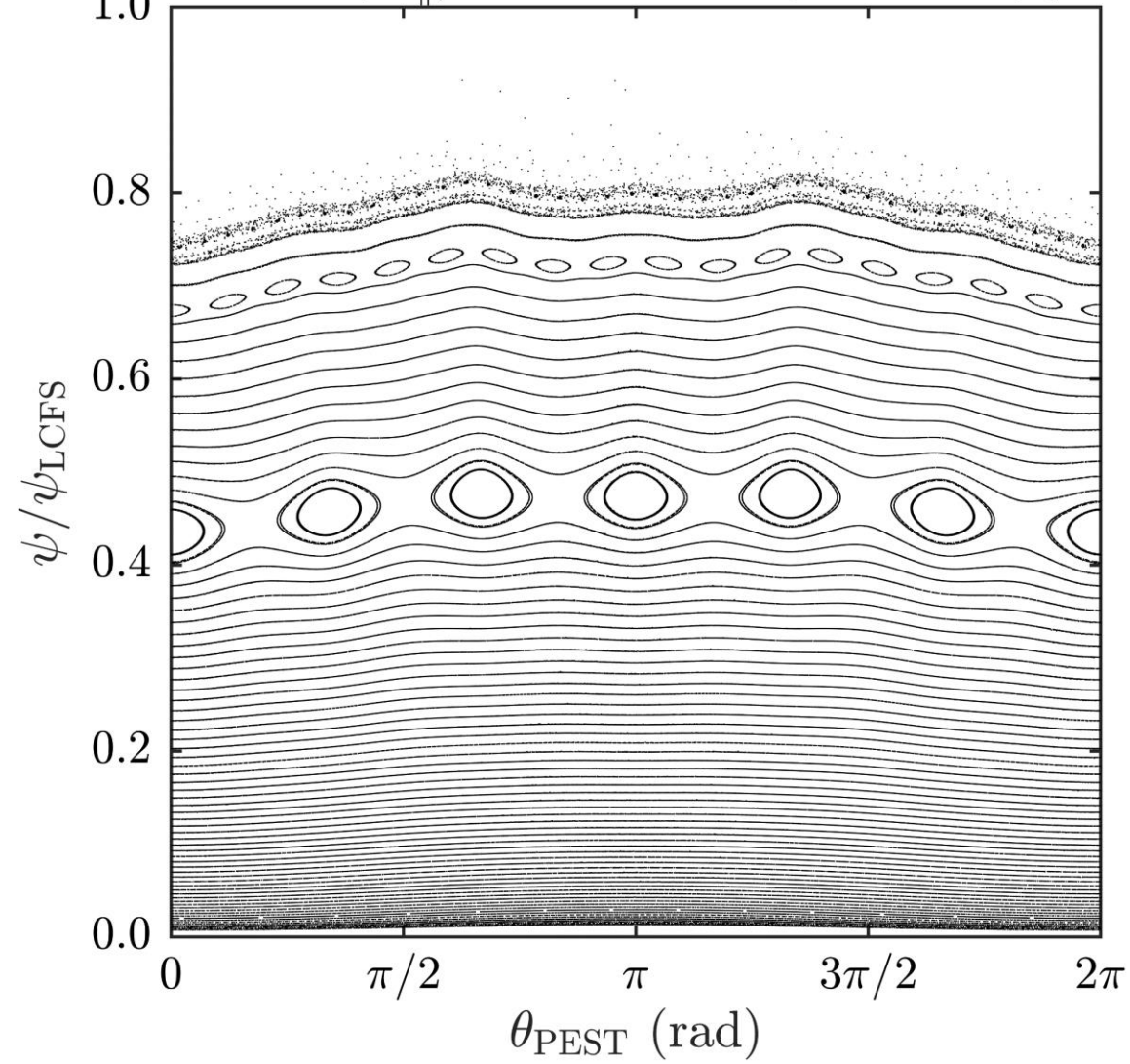
Alpha orbits in reactor-scale W7-X

$E = 1 \text{ MeV}$, $v_{\parallel}/v = +0.4$ at $B_0 = 6.5 \text{ T}$, $\phi = 0$



Alpha orbits in reactor-scale W7-X

$E = 1 \text{ MeV}$, $v_{\parallel}/v = +0.3$ at $B_0 = 6.5 \text{ T}$, $\phi = 0$



Why drift islands?

- Guiding-centre equation:

$$\frac{d\mathbf{x}}{dt} = \frac{v_{\parallel}}{B} \left(\mathbf{B} + \nabla \times \left(\frac{v_{\parallel} \mathbf{B}}{\Omega} \right) \right) \quad \text{where } v_{\parallel} = \pm \sqrt{2(\mathcal{E} - \mu B)}.$$

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- \mathbf{B}^* is a small perturbation to \mathbf{B} . In a general stellarator, this small perturbation creates islands: ‘drift islands’.

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Drift-island width:

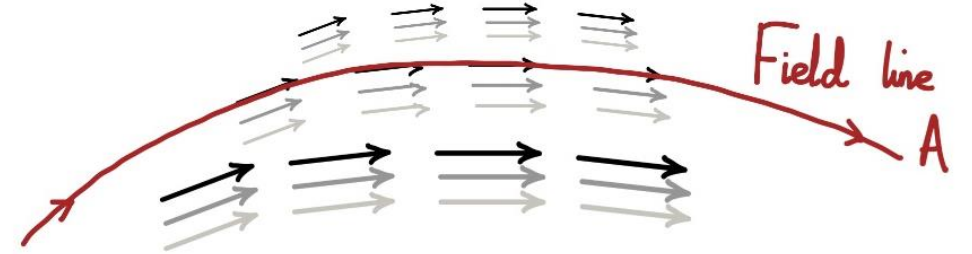
$$w \sim \sqrt{\frac{\rho_{\star}}{s}} L$$

- \mathbf{B}^* is a small perturbation to \mathbf{B} . In a general stellarator, this small perturbation creates islands: ‘drift islands’.

Field-line Lagrangian

- Variational principle for field-line equations:

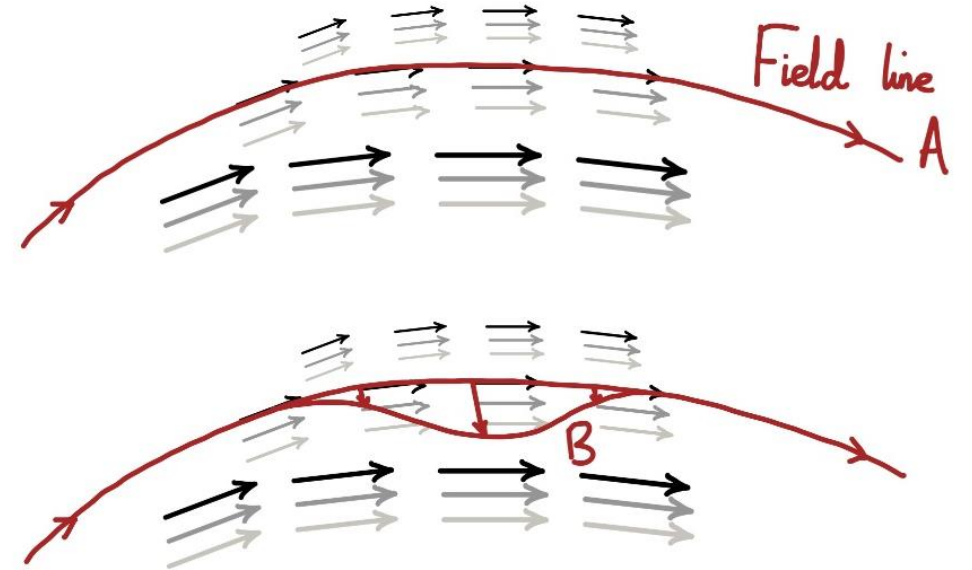
$$S[\mathbf{x}] = \int_{\lambda_1}^{\lambda_2} \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x}) \cdot \frac{d\mathbf{x}}{d\lambda} d\lambda = \int_1^2 \mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{x}$$



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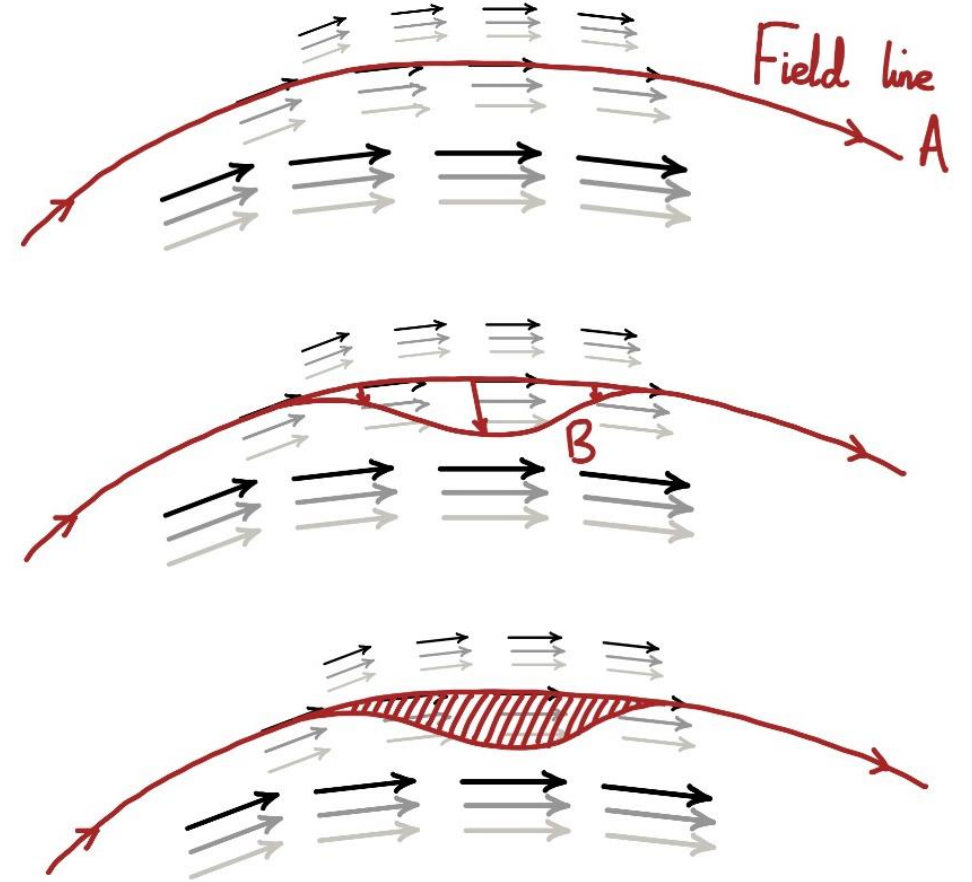
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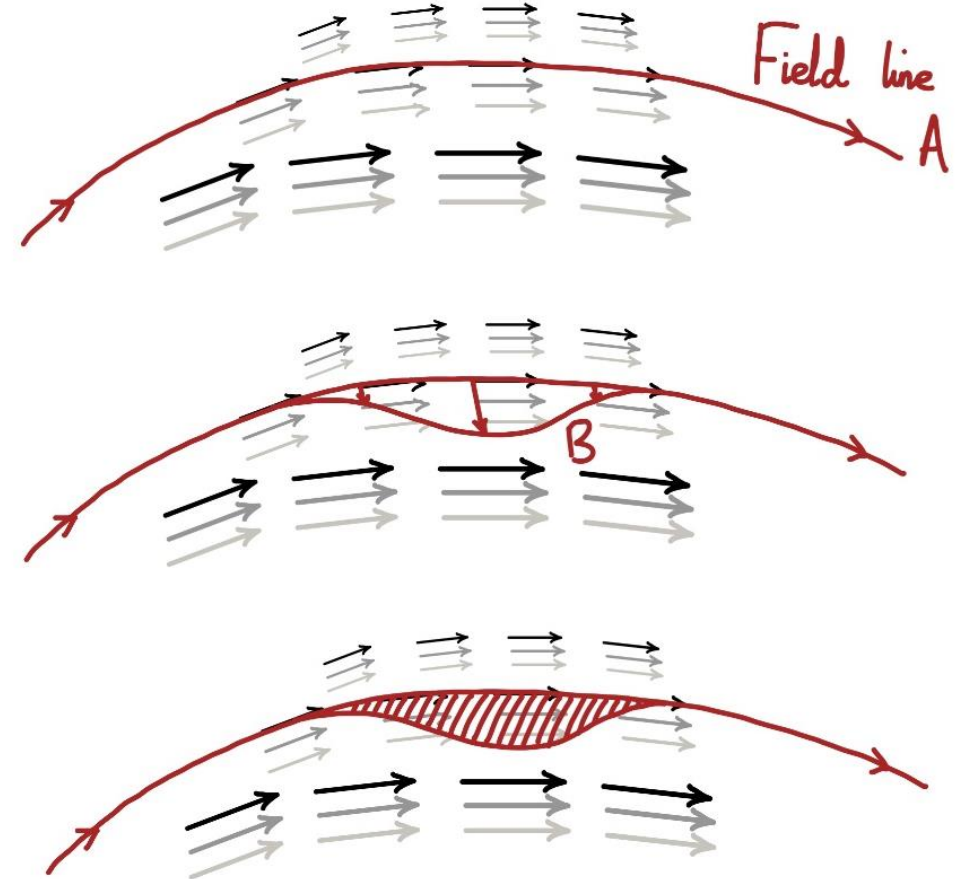
- Variational principle for field-line equations:

$$S[\mathbf{x}] = \int_{\lambda_1}^{\lambda_2} \underbrace{\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x}) \cdot \frac{d\mathbf{x}}{d\lambda}}_{\mathcal{L}} d\lambda = \int_1^2 \mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{x}$$

We use toroidal angle ζ to parameterise position along field line, so:

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathbf{A} \cdot \frac{d\mathbf{x}}{d\zeta}$$

- Field lines of \mathbf{B}^* : $\mathbf{A}^* = \mathbf{A} + \frac{v_{\parallel} \mathbf{B}}{\Omega}$



Unperturbed Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathbf{A} \cdot \frac{d\mathbf{x}}{d\zeta}$$

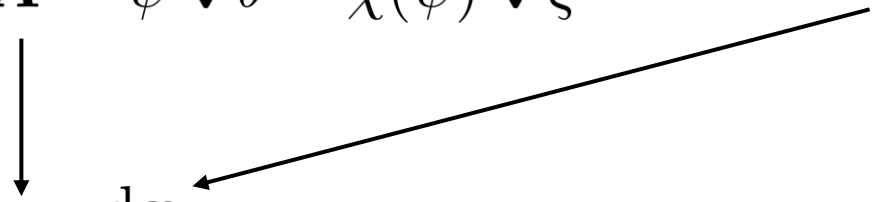
Unperturbed Lagrangian

$$\mathbf{A} = \psi \nabla \theta - \chi(\psi) \nabla \zeta$$

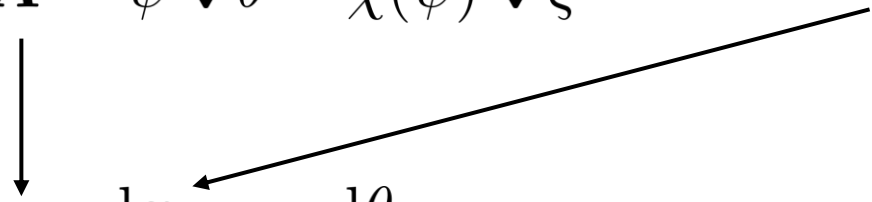


$$\mathcal{L} = \mathbf{A} \cdot \frac{d\mathbf{x}}{d\zeta}$$

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$$\mathbf{A} = \psi \nabla \theta - \chi(\psi) \nabla \zeta$$
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Equations of
motion trivial:

$$\frac{d\theta}{d\zeta} = \iota(\psi)$$

$$\frac{d\psi}{d\zeta} = 0$$

Perturbed Lagrangian

$$\mathbf{A}^* = \mathbf{A} + \frac{v_{\parallel} \mathbf{B}}{\Omega}$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathbf{A}^* \cdot \frac{d\mathbf{x}}{d\zeta} = \left(\psi + \frac{v_{\parallel}}{\Omega} \mathbf{B} \cdot \partial_{\theta} \mathbf{x} \right) \frac{d\theta}{d\zeta} + \left(\frac{v_{\parallel}}{\Omega} \mathbf{B} \cdot \partial_{\psi} \mathbf{x} \right) \frac{d\psi}{d\zeta} - \left(\chi(\psi) - \frac{v_{\parallel}}{\Omega} \mathbf{B} \cdot \partial_{\zeta} \mathbf{x} \right)$$

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Equations of motion suck:

$$\frac{d\theta}{d\zeta} = \iota(\psi) - \frac{mc}{Ze} \left[\partial_{\psi} (v_{\parallel} \hat{\mathbf{b}} \cdot \partial_{\zeta} \mathbf{x}) - \partial_{\zeta} (v_{\parallel} \hat{\mathbf{b}} \cdot \partial_{\psi} \mathbf{x}) \right] + O(\rho_{\star}^2)$$

$$\frac{d\psi}{d\zeta} = \frac{mc}{Ze} \left[\partial_{\theta} (v_{\parallel} \hat{\mathbf{b}} \cdot \partial_{\zeta} \mathbf{x}) - \partial_{\zeta} (v_{\parallel} \hat{\mathbf{b}} \cdot \partial_{\theta} \mathbf{x}) \right] + O(\rho_{\star}^2)$$

Near-identity change of coordinates

$$\mathcal{L} = \left(\psi + \frac{v_{\parallel}}{\Omega} \mathbf{B} \cdot \partial_{\theta} \mathbf{x} \right) \frac{d\theta}{d\zeta} + \left(\frac{v_{\parallel}}{\Omega} \mathbf{B} \cdot \partial_{\psi} \mathbf{x} \right) \frac{d\psi}{d\zeta} - \left(\chi(\psi) - \frac{v_{\parallel}}{\Omega} \mathbf{B} \cdot \partial_{\zeta} \mathbf{x} \right)$$

- Why do the equations of motion suck? Because the Lagrangian depends on both angles θ and ζ .
- Our mission: find new coordinates $(\bar{\psi}, \bar{\theta}, \zeta)$ in which Lagrangian does not depend on $\bar{\theta}$ or ζ .

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$$\psi = \bar{\psi} + \psi^{(1)}(\bar{\psi}, \bar{\theta}, \zeta)$$

$$\theta = \bar{\theta} + \theta^{(1)}(\bar{\psi}, \bar{\theta}, \zeta)$$

inspired by

$$\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x} + \boldsymbol{\rho}(\mathbf{x}, \mathcal{E}, \mu, \varphi)$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} = & \left(\bar{\psi} + \psi^{(1)} + \frac{v_{\parallel}}{\Omega} \mathbf{B} \cdot \partial_{\theta} \mathbf{x} - \partial_{\theta} R^{(1)} \right) \frac{d\bar{\theta}}{d\zeta} + \left(-\theta^{(1)} + \frac{v_{\parallel}}{\Omega} \mathbf{B} \cdot \partial_{\psi} \mathbf{x} - \partial_{\psi} R^{(1)} \right) \frac{d\bar{\psi}}{d\zeta} \\ & + \left(-\chi(\bar{\psi}) - \iota(\bar{\psi}) \psi^{(1)} + \frac{v_{\parallel}}{\Omega} \mathbf{B} \cdot \partial_{\zeta} \mathbf{x} - \partial_{\zeta} R^{(1)} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Also add total derivative:
$$+ \frac{dR^{(1)}}{d\zeta} = \partial_{\psi} R^{(1)} \frac{d\psi}{d\zeta} + \partial_{\theta} R^{(1)} \frac{d\theta}{d\zeta} + \partial_{\zeta} R^{(1)}$$

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$$\psi^{(1)} = -\frac{v_{\parallel}}{\Omega} \mathbf{B} \cdot \partial_{\theta} \mathbf{x} + \partial_{\theta} R^{(1)}$$

$$\theta^{(1)} = +\frac{v_{\parallel}}{\Omega} \mathbf{B} \cdot \partial_{\psi} \mathbf{x} - \partial_{\psi} R^{(1)}$$



$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi} \frac{d\bar{\theta}}{d\zeta} - \chi(\bar{\psi}) + \frac{v_{\parallel}}{\Omega} \mathbf{B} \cdot (\partial_{\zeta} \mathbf{x} + \iota \partial_{\theta} \mathbf{x}) - \left(\partial_{\zeta} R^{(1)} + \iota \partial_{\theta} R^{(1)} \right)$$

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$$\partial_{\zeta} R^{(1)} + \iota \partial_{\theta} R^{(1)} = V - \langle V \rangle$$

$$\langle f \rangle = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f \, d\theta \, d\zeta$$

Final result

$$\psi^{(1)} = -\frac{v_{\parallel}}{\Omega} \mathbf{B} \cdot \partial_{\theta} \mathbf{x} + \partial_{\theta} R^{(1)}$$

$$\theta^{(1)} = +\frac{v_{\parallel}}{\Omega} \mathbf{B} \cdot \partial_{\psi} \mathbf{x} - \partial_{\psi} R^{(1)} \longrightarrow$$

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$$\partial_{\zeta} R^{(1)} + \iota \partial_{\theta} R^{(1)} = V - \langle V \rangle$$

Conserved quantity: $\bar{\psi}$

$$\psi = \bar{\psi} + \psi^{(1)}(\bar{\psi}, \bar{\theta}, \zeta) \longrightarrow \bar{\psi} \simeq \psi - \psi^{(1)}(\psi, \theta, \zeta) = \psi + \frac{v_{\parallel}}{\Omega} \mathbf{B} \cdot \partial_{\theta} \mathbf{x} - \partial_{\theta} R^{(1)}$$

Problem :(

$$\bar{\psi} = \psi + \frac{v_{\parallel}}{\Omega} \mathbf{B} \cdot \partial_{\theta} \mathbf{x} - \partial_{\theta} R^{(1)}$$

- If all passing particles conserved $\bar{\psi}$, then they would all have orbit widths of size $w \sim \rho_{\star} L$.
- Must fail around rational surfaces!

Problem :(

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- Must fail around rational surfaces!
- Return to:

$$\partial_{\zeta} R^{(1)} + \iota \partial_{\theta} R^{(1)} = V - \langle V \rangle$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{b}} \cdot \nabla R^{(1)} = v_{\parallel} - \hat{\mathbf{b}} \cdot \nabla \zeta \left\langle \frac{v_{\parallel}}{\hat{\mathbf{b}} \cdot \nabla \zeta} \right\rangle := U$$

$$R^{(1)} = \int^l U dl'$$

Magnetic differential equation

$$\partial_{\zeta} R^{(1)} + \iota \partial_{\theta} R^{(1)} = V - \langle V \rangle$$

- Better idea is to Fourier expand:

$$R^{(1)} = \sum_{(p,q) \in \mathbb{Z}^2} R_{pq}^{(1)} e^{i(p\theta - q\zeta)}$$

$$V = \sum_{(p,q) \in \mathbb{Z}^2} V_{pq} e^{i(p\theta - q\zeta)}$$

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$$-i(q - \iota p) R_{pq}^{(1)} = \begin{cases} V_{pq} & \text{if } p, q \text{ not both zero,} \\ 0 & \text{if } (p, q) = (0, 0). \end{cases}$$

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$$-i(q - \iota p) R_{pq}^{(1)} = \begin{cases} V_{pq} & \text{if } p, q \text{ not both zero,} \\ 0 & \text{if } (p, q) = (0, 0). \end{cases}$$

$$R^{(1)} = \sum_{(p,q) \in \mathbb{Z}^2 \setminus \{(0,0)\}} \frac{iV_{pq}}{q - \iota p} e^{i(p\theta - q\zeta)}$$

When does this converge?

$$R^{(1)} = \sum_{(p,q) \in \mathbb{Z}^2 \setminus \{(0,0)\}} \frac{iV_{pq}}{q - \iota p} e^{i(p\theta - q\zeta)}$$

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- Clearly diverges when ι is rational: resonances. Does it converge anywhere?
- Two ways to make sum converge:
 1. Make numerators vanish whenever denominators do: omnigeneous stellarators
 2. Make ι ‘sufficiently irrational’ so that numerators decay faster with $|p|$ and $|q|$ than denominators

e.g. sum guaranteed to converge if V is analytic and ι is *Diophantine*: there exist $C, \sigma > 0$ such that, for all p, q ,

$$\left| \iota - \frac{p}{q} \right| > \frac{C}{q^{2+\sigma}}$$

Still problems :(

$$R^{(1)} = \sum_{(p,q) \in \mathbb{Z}^2 \setminus \{(0,0)\}} \frac{iV_{pq}}{q - \iota p} e^{i(p\theta - q\zeta)}$$

- This sum diverges for arbitrarily small deviation from omnigeneity – no stellarator is perfectly omnigeneous!
- Even though the sum converges for sufficiently irrational ι , we need it to be differentiable because we need its ψ -derivative in

$$\theta^{(1)} = + \frac{v_{\parallel}}{\Omega} \mathbf{B} \cdot \partial_{\psi} \mathbf{x} - \partial_{\psi} R^{(1)} .$$

- Must be a better way!

Dealing with resonances

- Two key ideas. First, we don't need to eliminate all angle-dependence from the Lagrangian: only to $O(\rho_\star^2)$. Second, give up on describing all of phase space at once.

Dealing with resonances

- Two key ideas. First, we don't need to eliminate all angle-dependence from the Lagrangian: only to $O(\rho_\star^2)$. Second, give up on describing all of phase space at once.

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\psi} \frac{d\bar{\theta}}{d\zeta} - \chi(\bar{\psi}) + V_{<n} + \overbrace{V_{\geq n}}^{\sim \rho_\star^2} - \left(\partial_\zeta R^{(1)} + \iota \partial_\theta R^{(1)} \right)$$

$$V_{<n} = \sum_{(p,q) \in \mathbb{Z}_{<n}^2} V_{pq} e^{i(p\theta - q\zeta)} \quad \mathbb{Z}_{<n}^2 = \{(p, q) \in \mathbb{Z}^2 : |p| + |q| < n\}$$

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Non-resonant case

- There are finitely many rational surfaces that resonate with modes of $V_{<n}$. Assume we are working in a region that doesn't contain any of them.

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$$\bar{\psi} = \psi + \frac{v_{\parallel}}{\Omega} \mathbf{B} \cdot \partial_{\theta} \mathbf{x} - \partial_{\theta} R^{(1)}$$

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Physical interpretation

$$\mathcal{I} = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} V_{kM, kN}(\bar{\psi}) e^{ik(M\bar{\theta} - N\zeta)} - \chi(\bar{\psi}) + \frac{N}{M} \bar{\psi} = \text{Invariant}$$

where
$$V = \frac{v_{\parallel}}{\Omega} \mathbf{B} \cdot (\partial_{\zeta} \mathbf{x} + \iota \partial_{\theta} \mathbf{x}) = \frac{mc}{Ze} \frac{v_{\parallel}}{\hat{\mathbf{b}} \cdot \nabla \zeta}.$$

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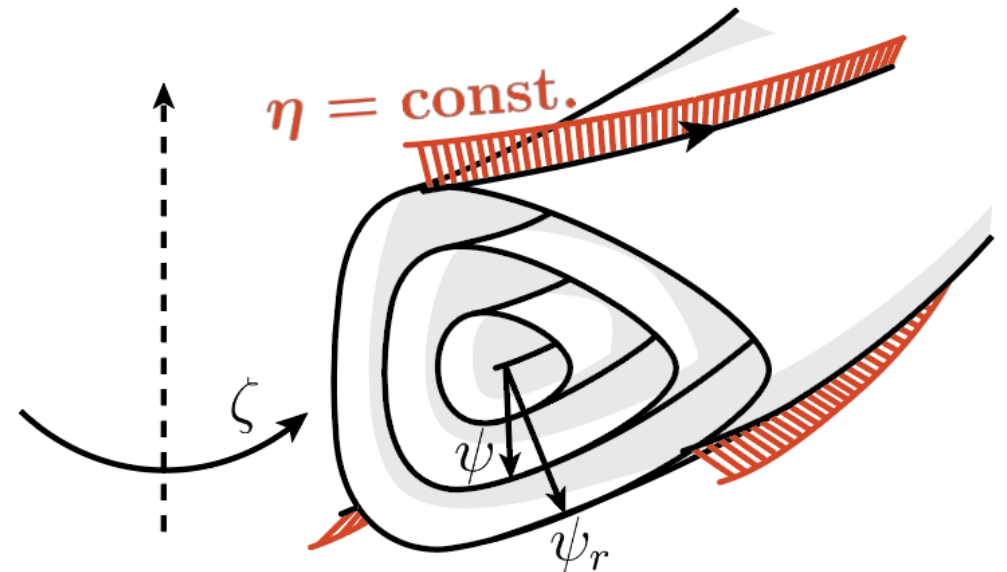
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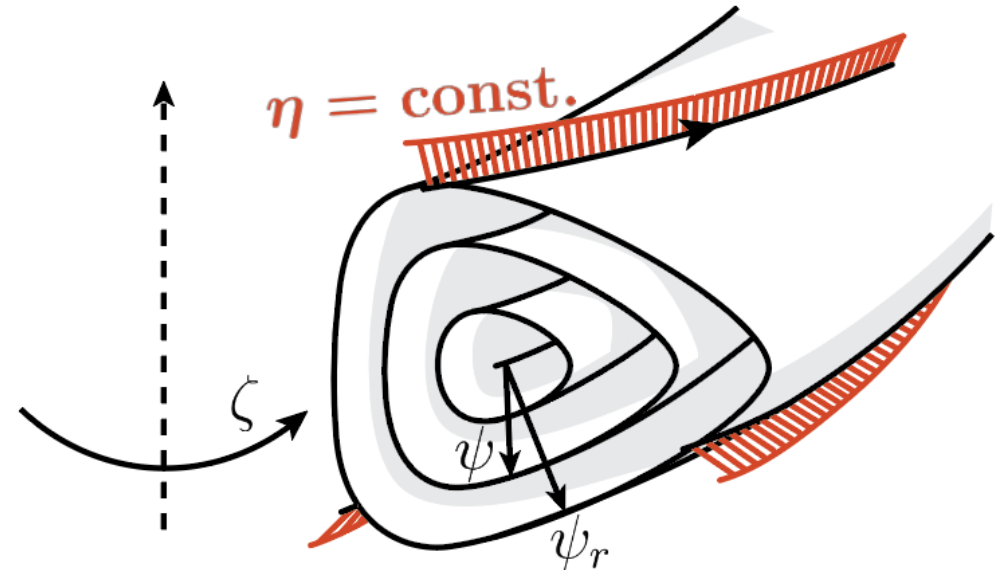
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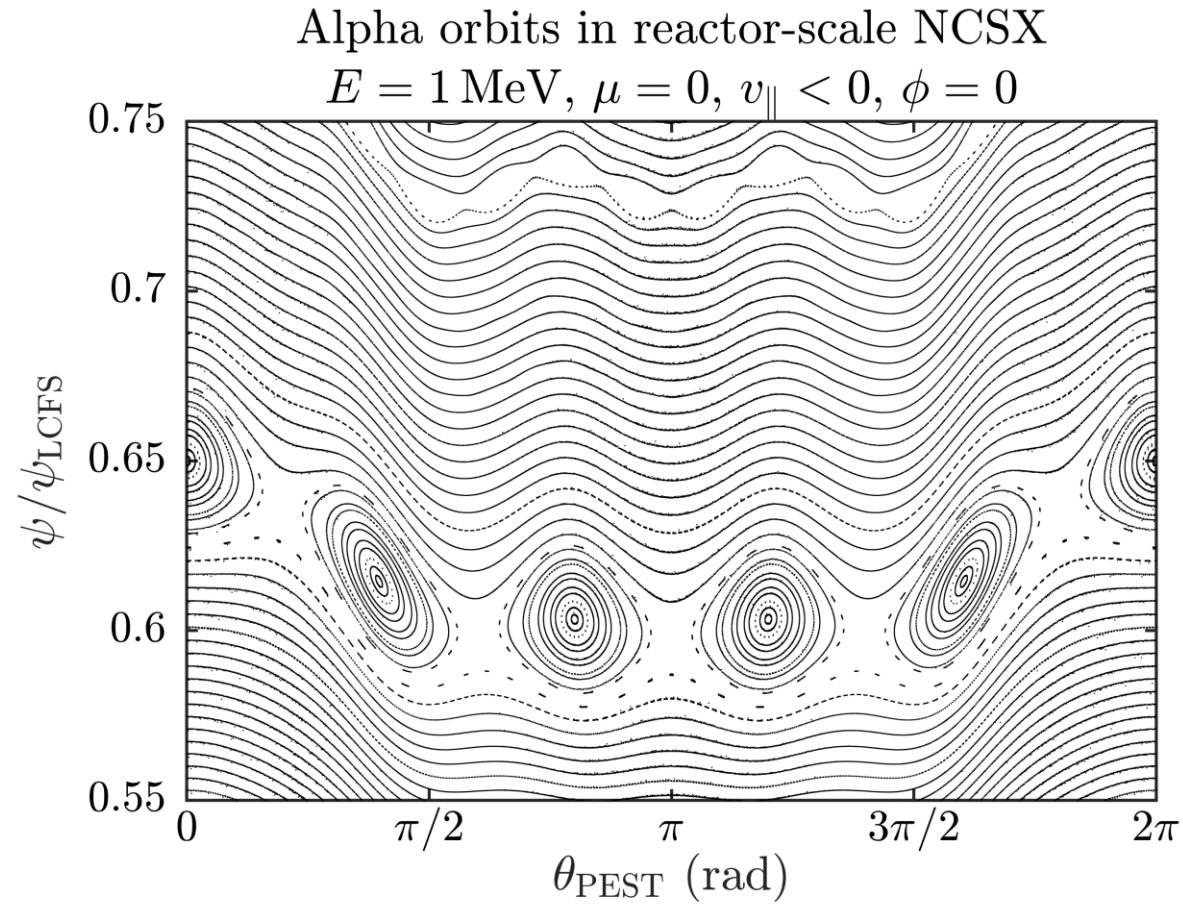
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$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{I} &= \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} V_{kM, kN}(\psi) e^{ik(M\theta - N\zeta)} - \chi(\psi) + \frac{N}{M} \psi \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi M} \frac{mc}{Ze} \oint \frac{v_{\parallel}}{\hat{\mathbf{b}} \cdot \nabla \zeta} d\zeta - \chi(\psi) + \frac{N}{M} \psi \\ &\propto \oint \left(v_{\parallel} \hat{\mathbf{b}} + \frac{Ze}{mc} \mathbf{A} \right) \cdot d\mathbf{x}. \end{aligned}$$



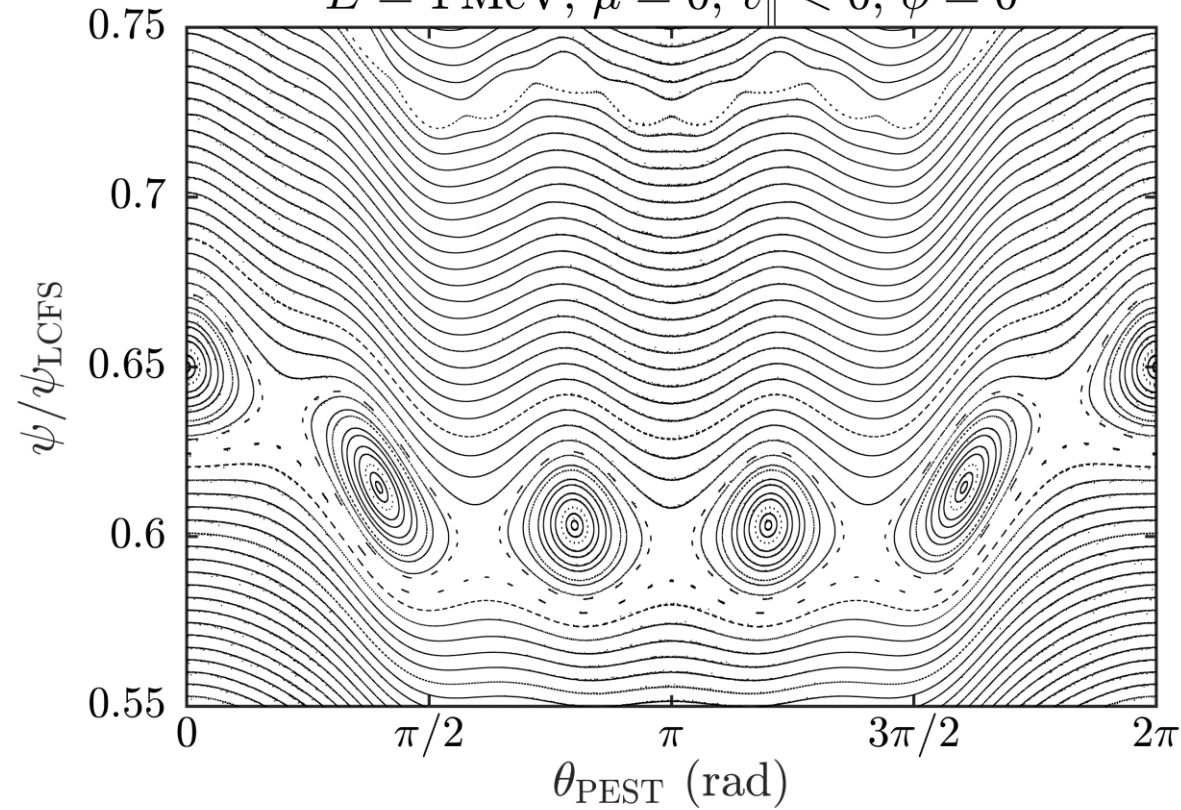
Comparison with simulation



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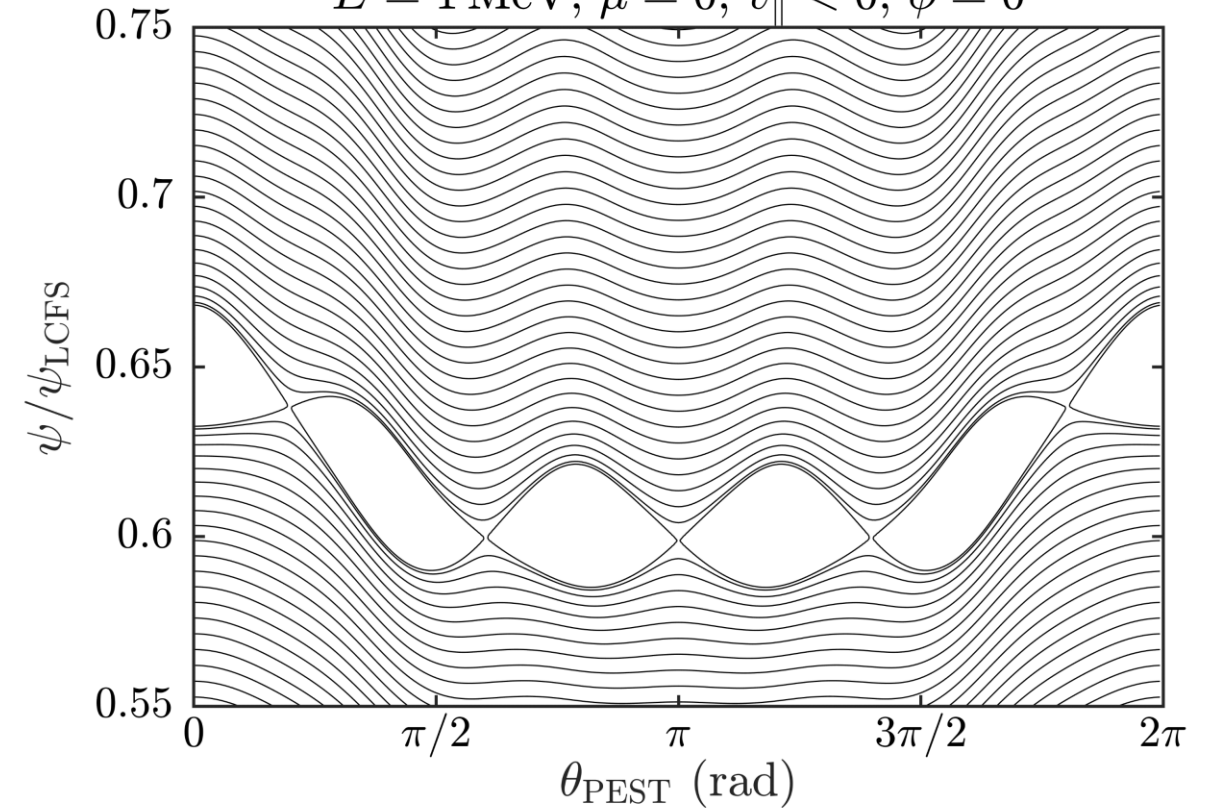
Alpha orbits in reactor-scale NCSX

$E = 1 \text{ MeV}$, $\mu = 0$, $v_{\parallel} < 0$, $\phi = 0$



\mathcal{I} for alphas in reactor-scale NCSX

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Aside: Going to higher order

$$\mathcal{L} = (\psi + O(\rho_\star)) \frac{d\theta}{d\zeta} + (O(\rho_\star)) \frac{d\psi}{d\zeta} - \chi(\psi) + O(\rho_\star)$$

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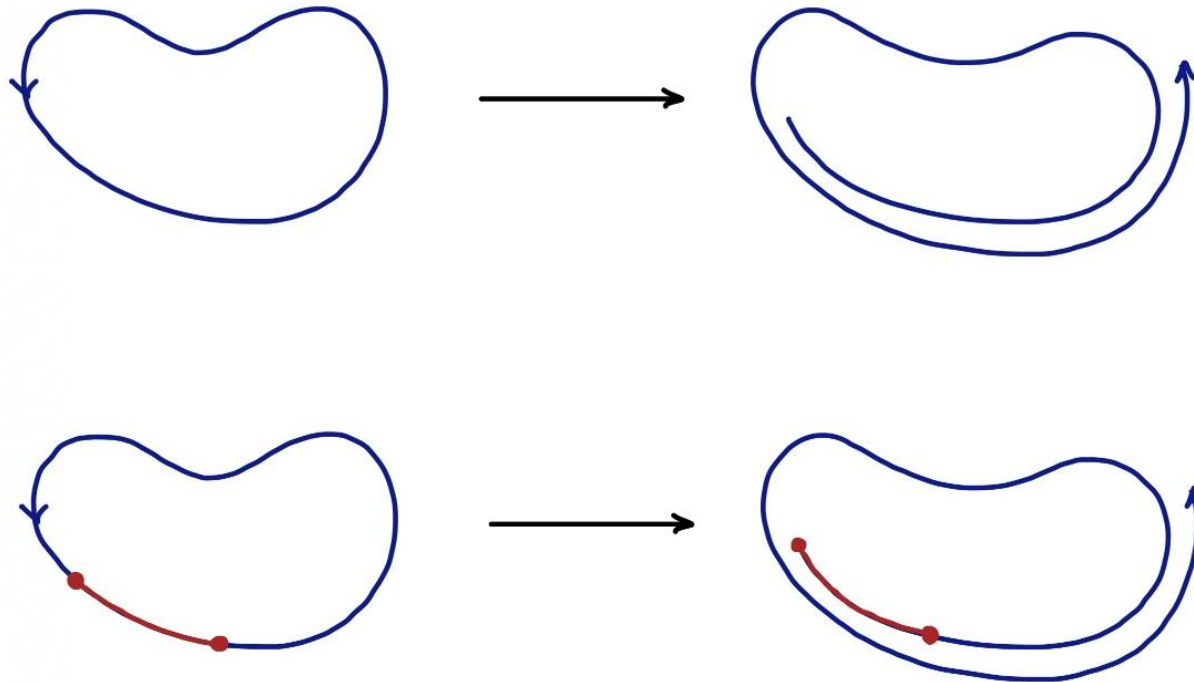
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Aside: Going to higher order

$$(\mathbf{J}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \longrightarrow (\bar{\mathbf{J}}, \bar{\boldsymbol{\theta}})$$



Summary

- Guiding-centre motion follows field lines of \mathbf{B}^* .
- Drift islands exist around rational surfaces, width $w \sim \sqrt{\rho_*/s}$.
- Island shape from adiabatic invariant:

$$\mathcal{I} \propto \oint \left(v_{\parallel} \hat{\mathbf{b}} + \frac{Ze}{mc} \mathbf{A} \right) \cdot d\mathbf{x}$$

- Whether a surface is ‘resonant’ (and therefore needs to be treated differently when calculating orbits) depends on the numerical value of ν , the size of resonant Fourier harmonics of the field, the values of \mathcal{E} and μ , and how high order we go. Not as simple as rational or irrational!