

# **Three-Body Problem:**

Symbolic dynamics as a tool

I. PM and SD

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# Abstract

I stress the usefulness of **numerical symbolic dynamics**.

There are methods or tools standing between equations of motion and the target N-body systems.

The **Poincare maps** (PM) are between integration methods and systems with 2 degrees of freedom.

Symbol dynamics (SD) is in a similar position.

In the first talk, I compare the utilities of PM and SD.

Two methods are sometimes complementary.

In the second talk, I explain some techniques developed in SD in the three-body problem. Trying to extend to higher dimensions.

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Japan

(1868 - 1945)

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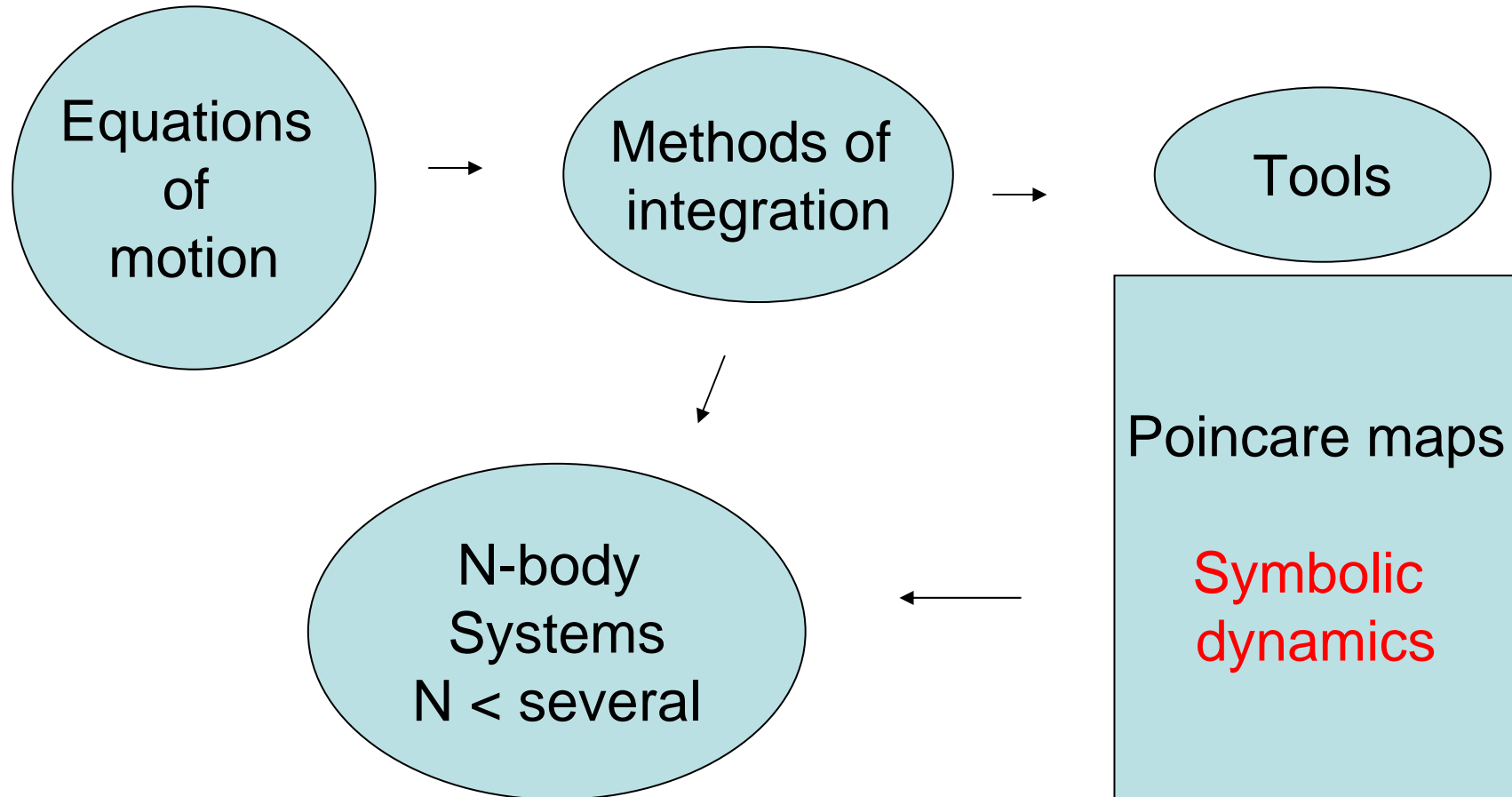
4. Comparison of PM and SD

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# 0. A brief history of celestial mechanics in Japan

- 1868, The Meiji Restoration.
- 1877, The university of Tokyo was established.
- 1878 – 1883, American astronomers were employed.
- H. Terao studied celestial mechanics in France (1879 – 1883).
- 1902, H. Kimura; The z-term in the latitude variations:  
$$\Delta\varphi = x \cos \varphi + y \sin \varphi + z.$$
- 1908, The Astronomical Society of Japan.
- 1918, K. Hirayama; Discovery of families of asteroids.
- 1920s, T. Matukuma; Periodic orbits in the Hill's case.
- 1931, Y. Hagihara; The relativistic one-body problem.

# 1. Introduction



The purpose of the talk:

to advertise the usefulness of numerical  
symbolic dynamics.

How?

Compare the utilities of

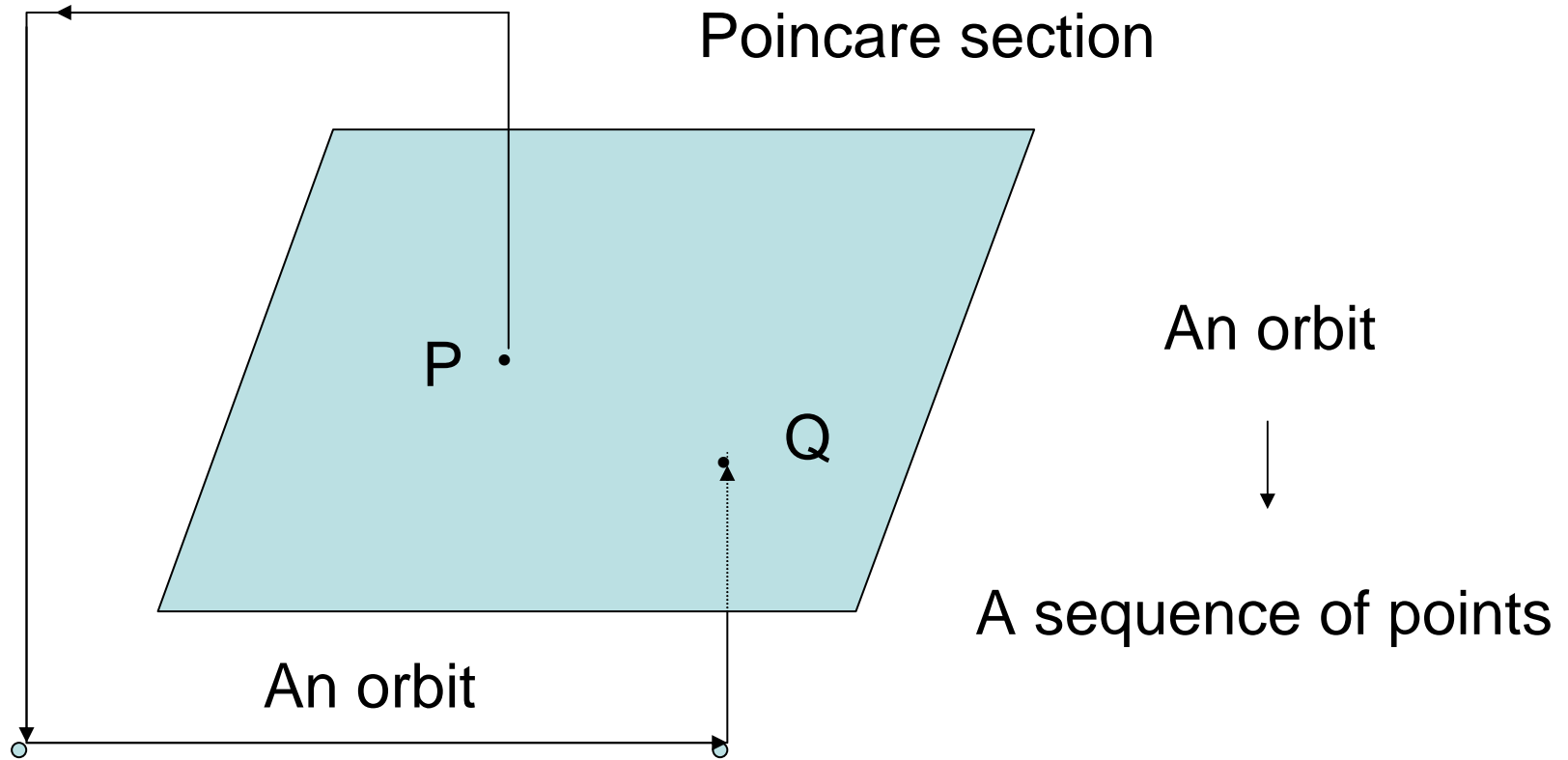
Poincare Maps and Symbolic Dynamics

See

- Similarity and difference
- Numerical examples

## 2. Poincare maps and TBP

### 2.1. Definition



Analyze the structure of the set of point sequences

## 2.2. Some of the works

Poincare maps are essentially for systems with 2 degrees of freedom.

RTBP: Poincare (1899), Henon(1960s), Jefferys(1971),  
Markellos(1974), Benest(1974)  
Wisdom(1982), ...

GTBP:

Hietarinta&Mikkola(1993); collinear problem.

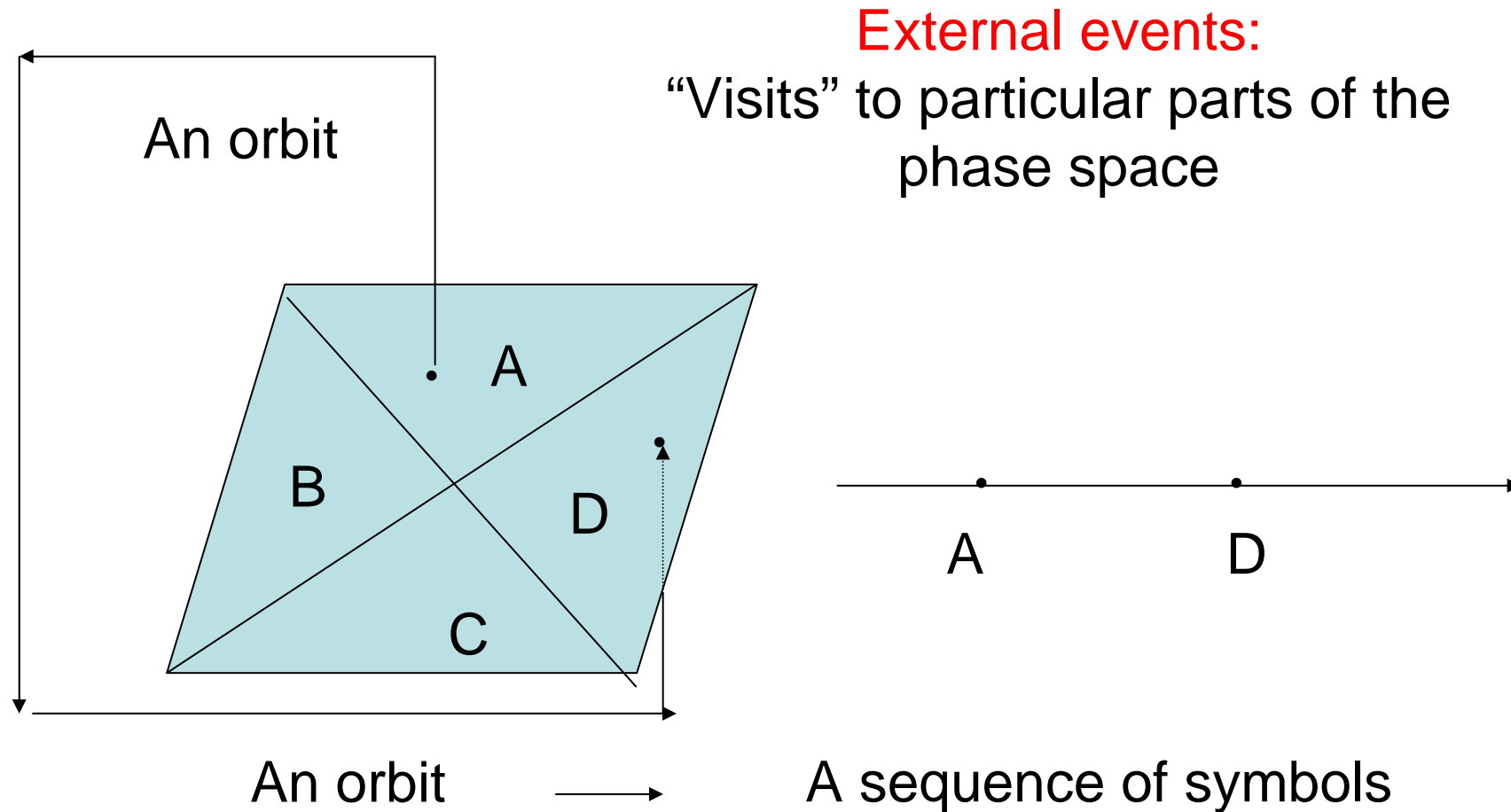
Galactic potential:Henon&Heiles(1964)

2-D Maps such as the Henon map, the standard map: many



# 3. Symbolic dynamics and TBP

## 3.1. Mark the external events along the orbit

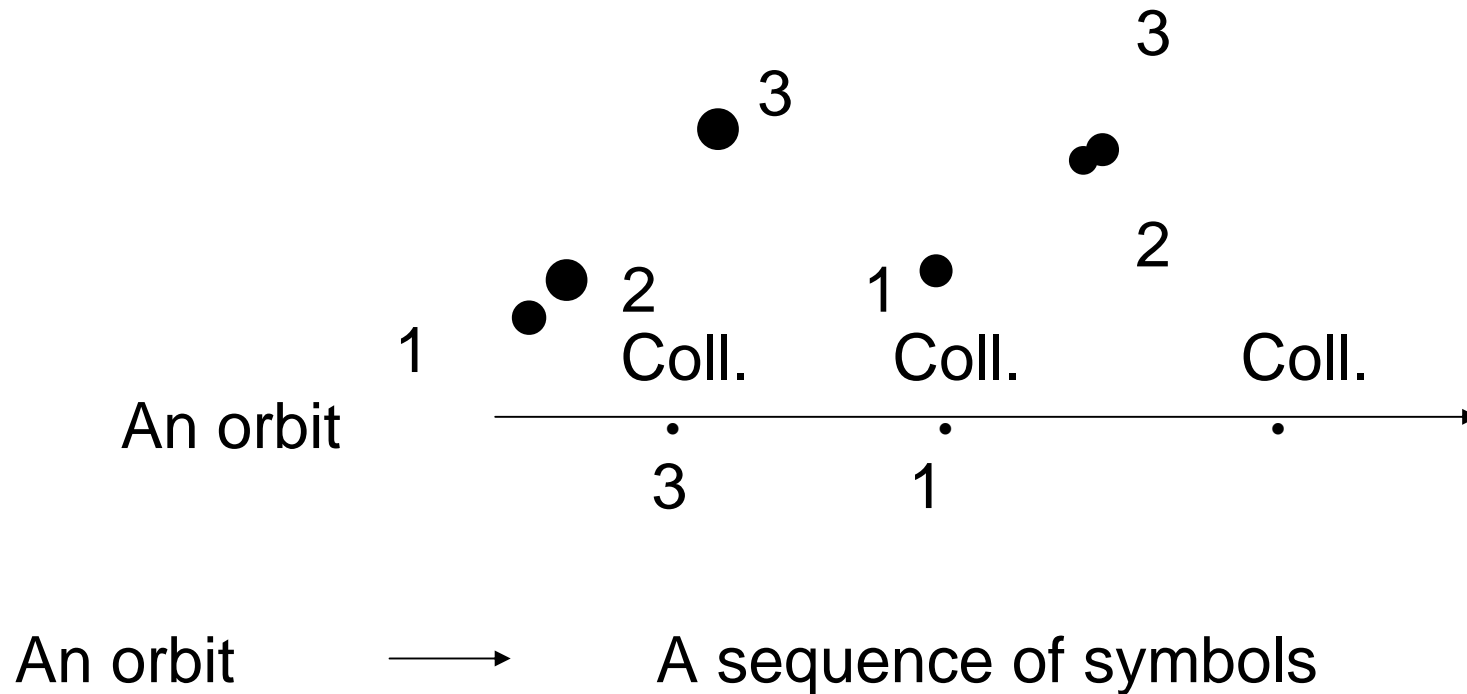


Analyze the structure of the set of symbol sequences

## 3.2. Mark the internal events along the orbit

### Internal events:

Collision (zero length), zero area, or zero volume



### 3.3. Some of the works

#### Isosceles GTBP:

Alekseev(1968,1969), Simo&Martinez(1988),  
Zare&Chesley(1998)

#### Rectilinear GTBP:

Tanikawa&Mikkola(2000a,b), Saito&Tanikawa(2007,2008),  
Orlov et al.(2008)

#### Planar GTBP:

Chernin et al.(2006), Tanikawa&Mikkola(2008),  
Sano&Tanikawa(2008)

# 4. Comparion of PM and SD

## 4.1 Poincare maps

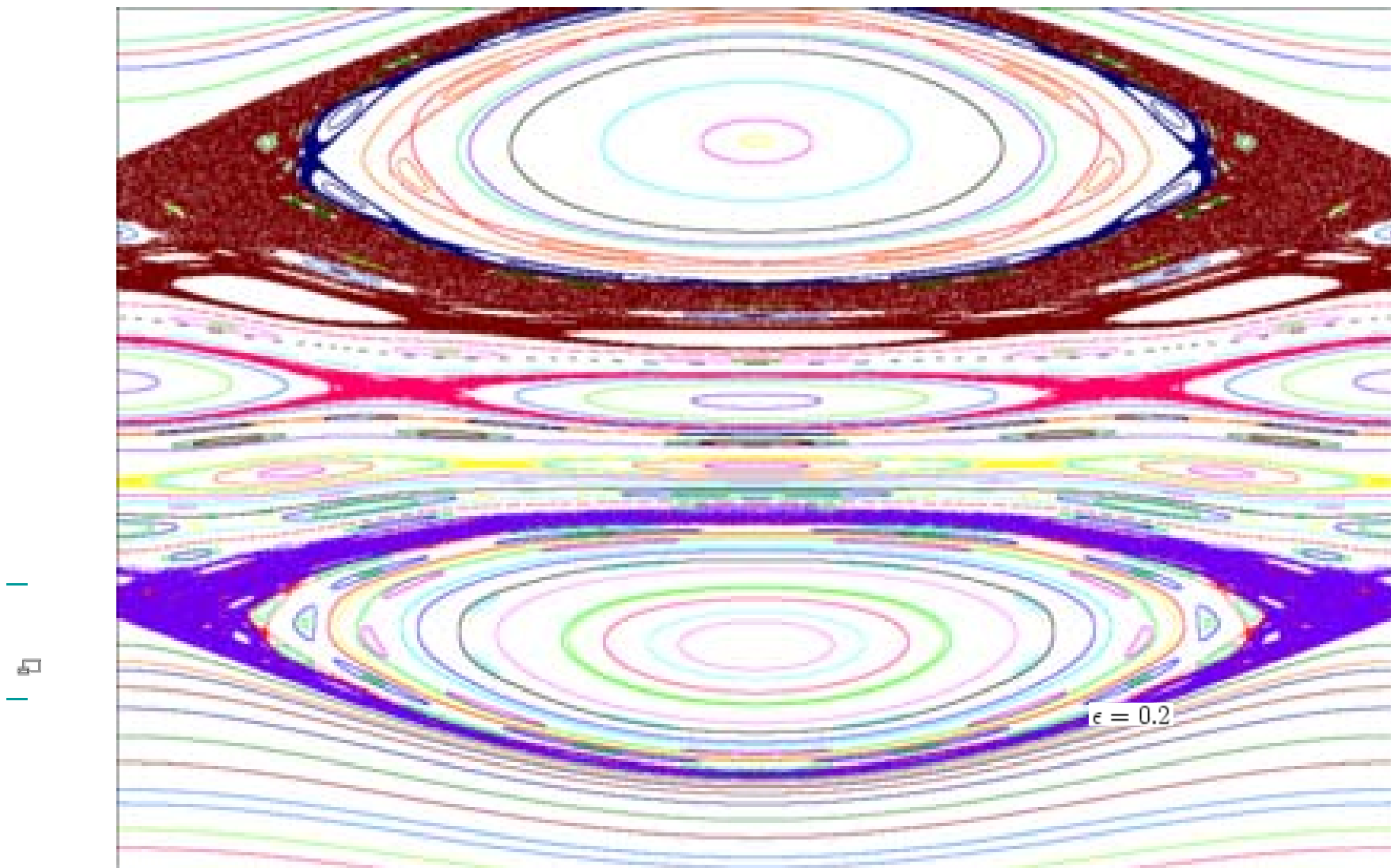
**Object systems:** Two degrees of freedom systems

The 3-dimensional equi-energy surface.

A 2-D surface divides the 3-D space.

**Results:** stable structures like

Stable periodic orbits, quasi-periodic orbits, separatrix structure, sea of chaos.



Taken from

[http://www.scholarpedia.org/article/Hamiltonian\\_systems](http://www.scholarpedia.org/article/Hamiltonian_systems)

## 4.2 Symbol dynamics

4.2.1. The case **external events** are used.

**Object systems:** similar to the PM cases

**Results**

the boundaries of the structure;

unstable periodic orbits;

The sea of chaos is resolved.

The structure inside the stable structure  
may be smeared out.

## 4.2 Symbol dynamics

4.2.2. The case **internal events** are used.

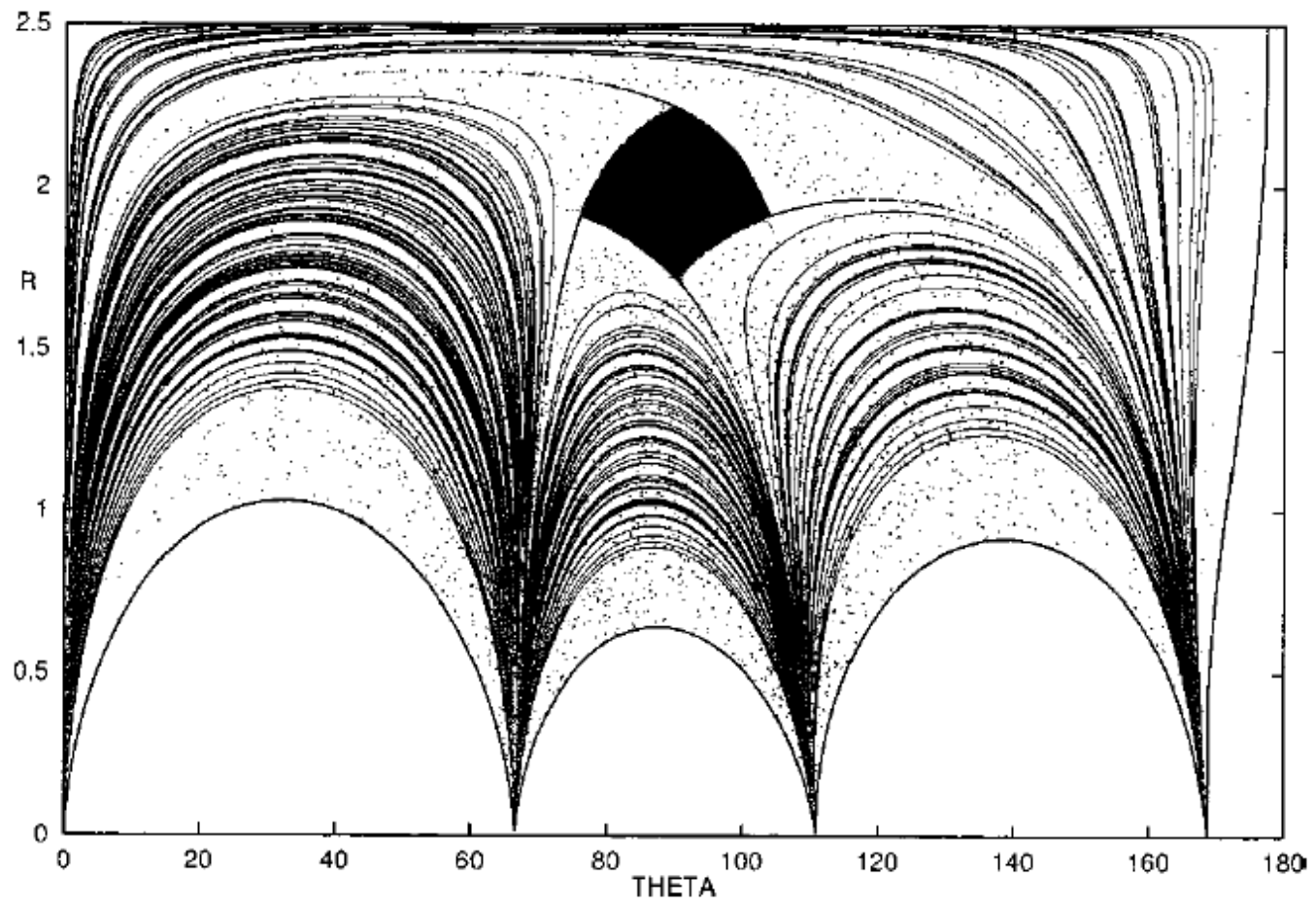
**Object systems:** systems with higher dimension  
not restricted to a 3D space.

Yet to be looked for.

### Results

Similar to the case of **external events**.

Not so much is obtained.





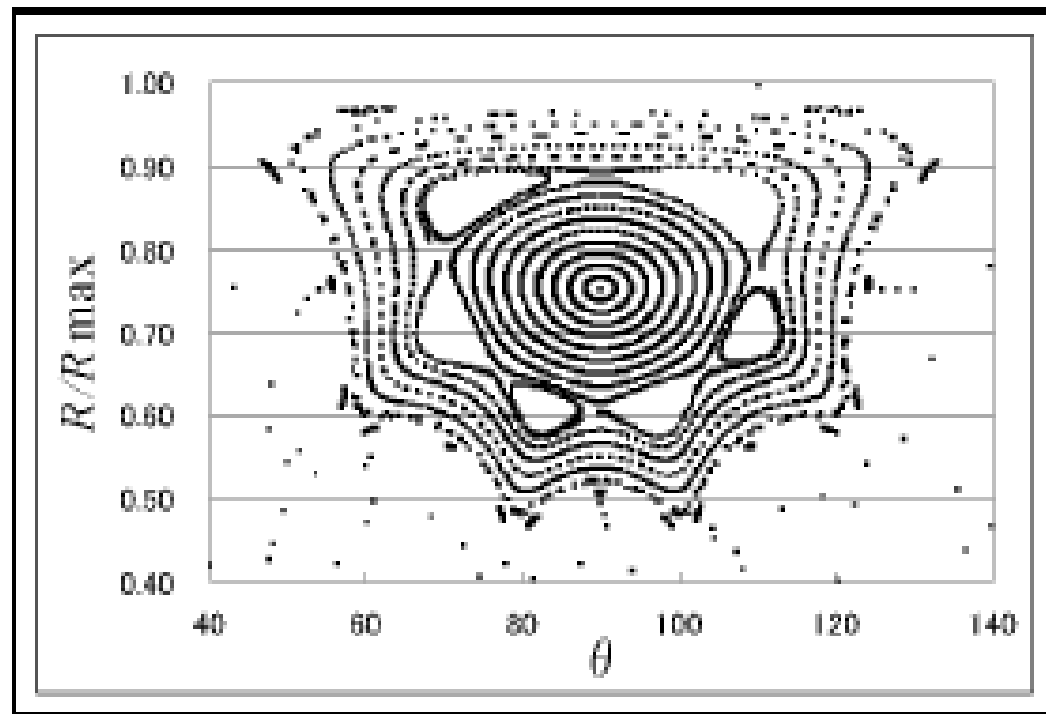
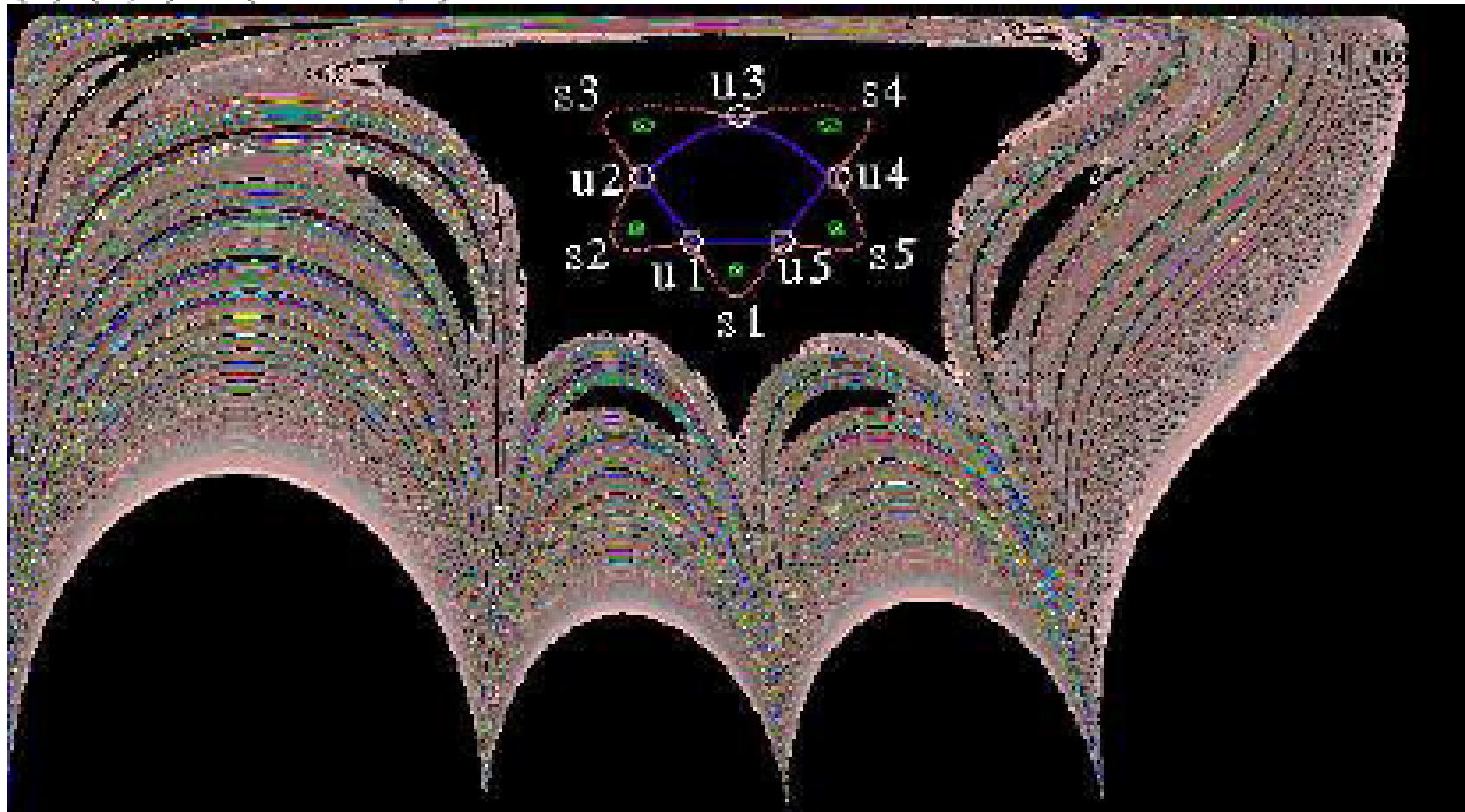


Figure 3: A Poincaré map in order to select candidates for periodic points. In this map,  $a = -0.25$ . The expected periodic points are those with  $\nu = 4/6$ . The centres of elliptic motions under the Poincaré map are the candidates.

(a)  $(a, b) = (-0.150, 0)$



## 5. Concluding remark

- (1) Symbolic dynamics is a tool with the same level of utility as Poincare maps.
- (2) The role of SD is sometimes complementary to that of PM.
- (3) SD is not yet fully developed in the three-body problem.

End



# 3. Comparion of PM and SD

## 3.1 Poincare maps

### Object systems

1. Two degrees of freedom – four dimensional space

RTBP, 2D maps

..Find stable objects like

stable periodic orbits,

quasi-periodic orbits, (stable structure)

### Limitations

1. more than 2 degrees of freedom
2. chaotic orbits

## 4. The rectilinear case of the Three-body problem

### 4.1 The rectilinear (collinear) problem

- 1) Masses  $m_{-1}$ ,  $m_0$ ,  $m_2$  are aligned on a fixed line.
- 2) Three masses repeat binary collision.

## 3. Importance of COs and POs

### 3.1 PO (periodic orbits)

- Poincare's conjecture;  
Any solution can be approximated arbitrarily by POs of arbitrarily long periods (Methodes Nouvelles).
- Counter examples
- In which systems, are periodic solutions dense?
- In which part of systems, are periodic solutions dense?
- How in the three-body problem?



# 3. Importance of COs and POs

## 3.2 CO (collision orbits)

- COs are not the solutions to the problem.
- COs divide the phase space into cells.
- Escapes are frequently related to COs
- Other phenomena like exchange, capture may have intimate relations with COs.

## 4. Symbolic representation

- Give a symbol at a particular instant along an orbit if some special event takes place:
  - (1) when the orbit visits a specified place of the phase space.
  - (2) when collision takes place.
- Replace orbits as continuous curves in the phase space by a sequence of symbols (symbol sequences)
- Apply techniques of symbol dynamics developed in mathematics

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- T.C. Mendenhall (1878 - 1881), H.M. Hall 1880 – 1883)
- H. Terao studied celestial mechanics in France (1879 – 1883).
- 1902, H. Kimura, The z-term in the latitude variations:  
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- 1918, K. Hirayama, Discovery of Families of asteroids.
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## 2.2. Symbolic dynamics

