

# Finite Size Lyapunov Exponents: Background Theory and Direct Observations

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# OUTLINE



1. Mathematical Background:
  - Dynamical Systems
  - Lyapunov Stability
  - Stable/Unstable Manifolds
  - ...

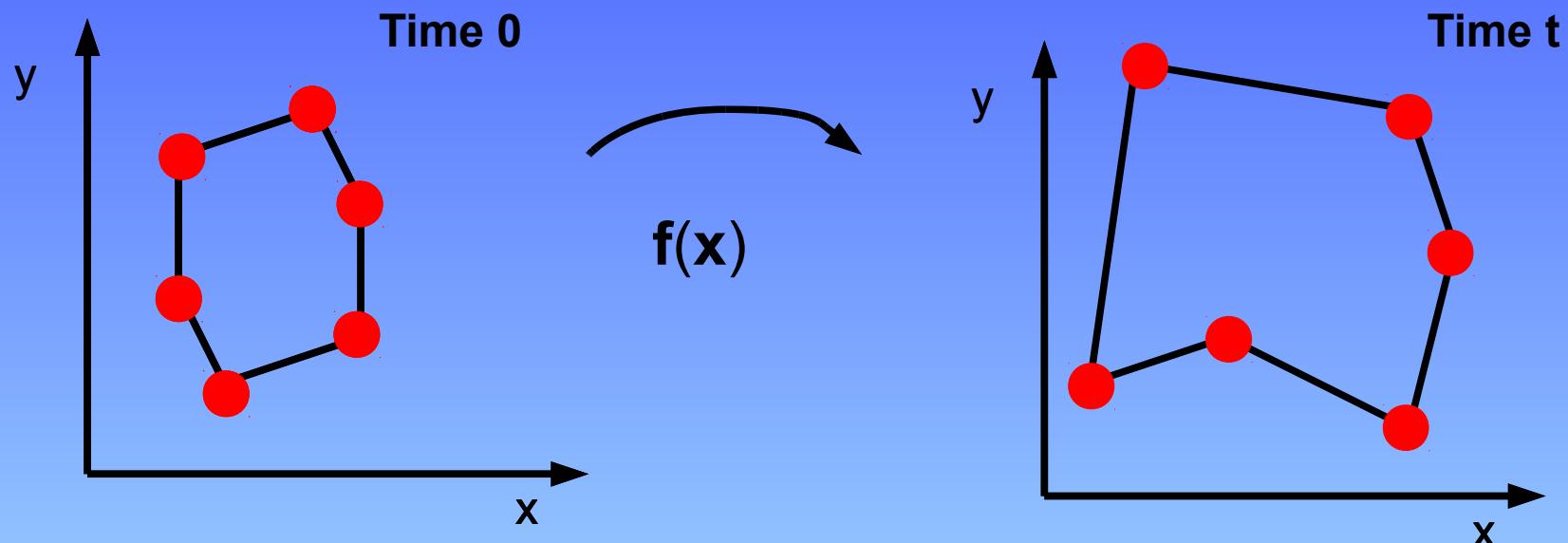
2. FSLE from satellite derived velocities
3. In-Situ Measurements (Latex10)

# Basic Definitions

## Dynamical System :

Mathematical formalization for any fixed "rule" which describes the time dependence of a point's position in its ambient space

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{pmatrix} f_1 = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \\ \vdots \\ f_n = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}$$



# Basic Definitions

## Map/Flow :

Rule determining the evolution of the points with time

## Space State :

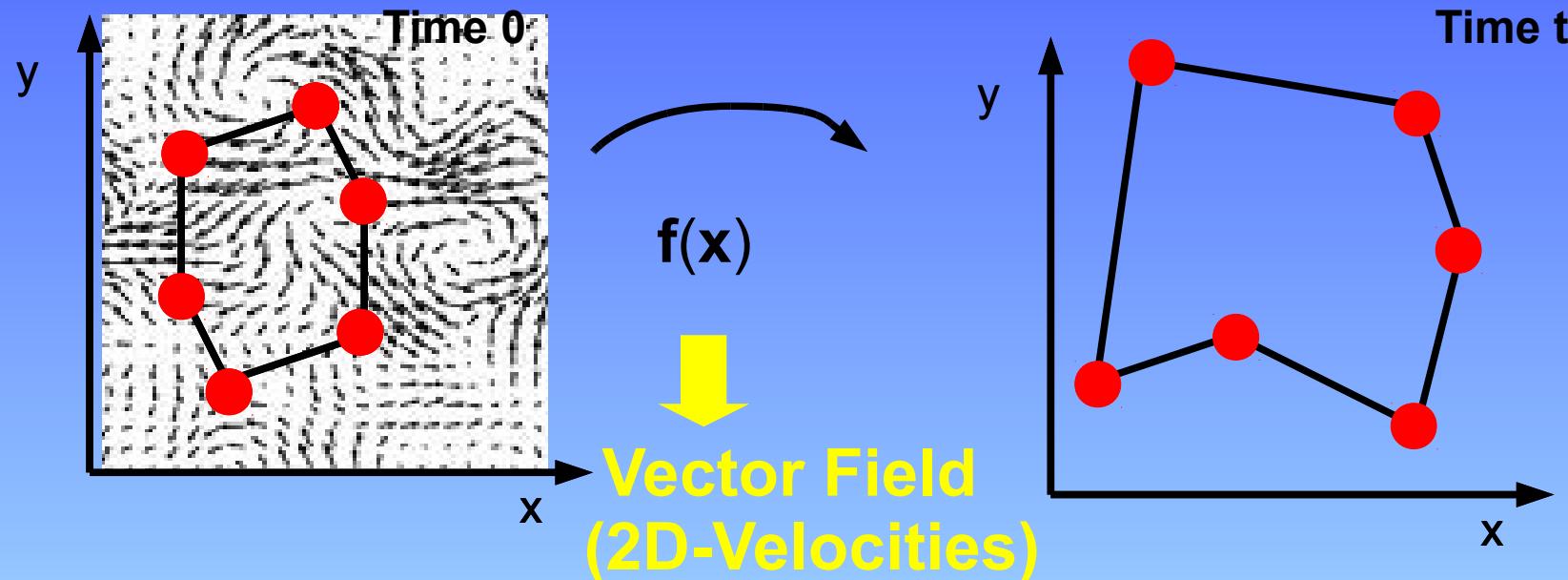
All possible states of the system

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = f(x)$$

$$x(t) = x(0) + \int_0^t f(x) dt$$

## Trajectory :

Temporal ordered collection of successive states



# Basic Definitions

- Velocity field  $\rightarrow$  Turbulence  $\rightarrow$  Chaotic Flow



Important structures/informations on the characteristics  
(mixing) of the flow from stability analysis of the  
dynamical system around fixed points

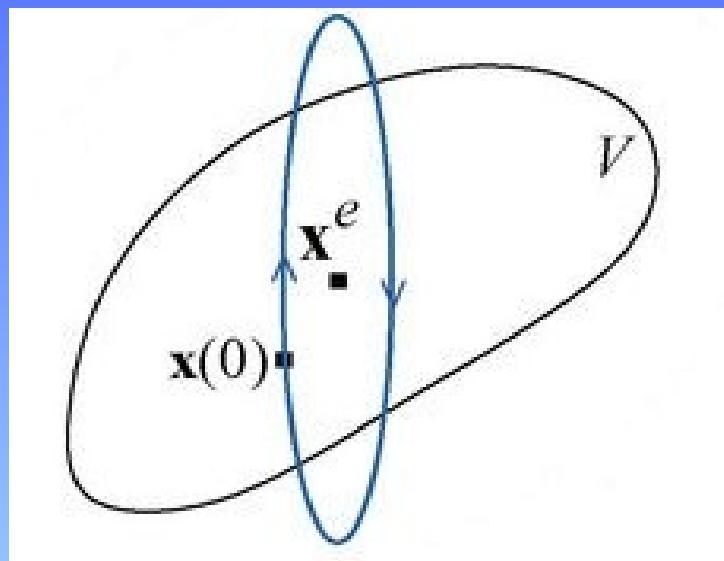
# Basic Definitions

Fixed or Equilibrium point :  $\mathbf{x}^e$

- Constant position in time  $\mathbf{x}(t) = \mathbf{x}^e$
- Vector field is 0  $\frac{d\mathbf{x}^e}{dt} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}^e) = 0$

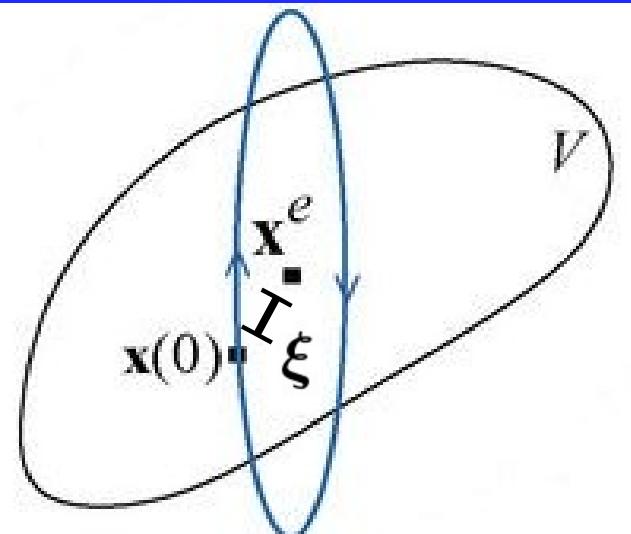
Lyapunov Stability :

- Fixed point is a stable equilibrium point if trajectories of any point around it remain close to it with time
- Asymptotic stable
- Exponentially stable
- Unstable



# Stability Analysis

## Linearization :



$$\frac{d\mathbf{x}}{dt} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$$

$$\frac{d(\mathbf{x}^e + \boldsymbol{\xi})}{dt} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}^e + \boldsymbol{\xi})$$

$$\frac{d\mathbf{x}^e}{dt} + \frac{d\boldsymbol{\xi}}{dt} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}^e) + J(\mathbf{x}^e)\boldsymbol{\xi} + \mathcal{O}(|\boldsymbol{\xi}|^2)$$

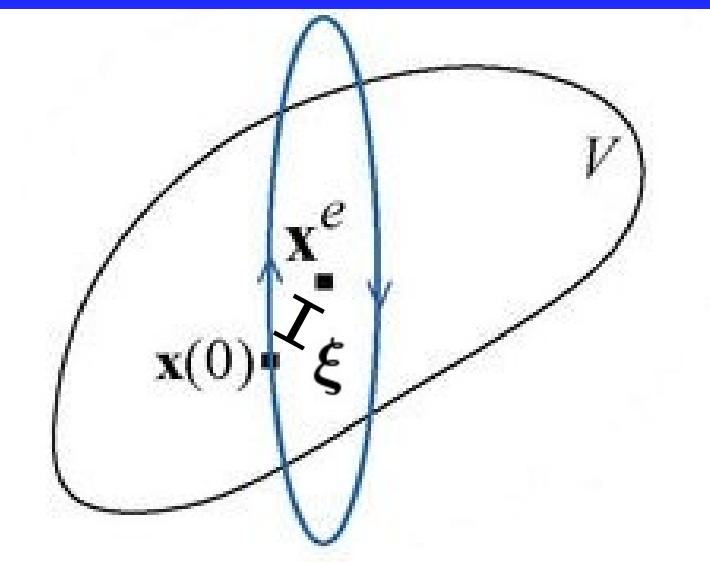
$$\frac{d\boldsymbol{\xi}}{dt} = J(\mathbf{x}^e)\boldsymbol{\xi}$$

$$J(\mathbf{x}^e) = \left( \frac{\partial f_i}{\partial x_j} \right) \bigg|_{\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{x}^e} = \left( \begin{array}{cccc} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_n} \\ \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x_n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f_n}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial f_n}{\partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_n}{\partial x_n} \end{array} \right) \bigg|_{\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{x}^e}$$

**Jacobian  
matrix**

# Stability Analysis

## Linearization :



$$\frac{d\xi}{dt} = J(\mathbf{x}^e)\xi$$

## Solution to ODE

$$\xi(t) = \xi(0) \exp^{\lambda t}$$

Eigenvalues of  $J$  can tell if the fixed point is stable or not

$$\det[J(\mathbf{x}^e) - \lambda I] = 0$$

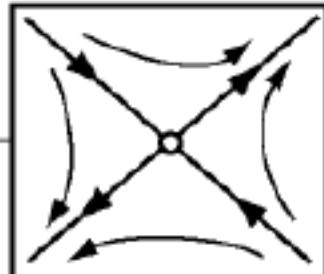
- Real or imaginary
- Positive or negative

# Stability Analysis

eigenvalues

## Hyperbolic

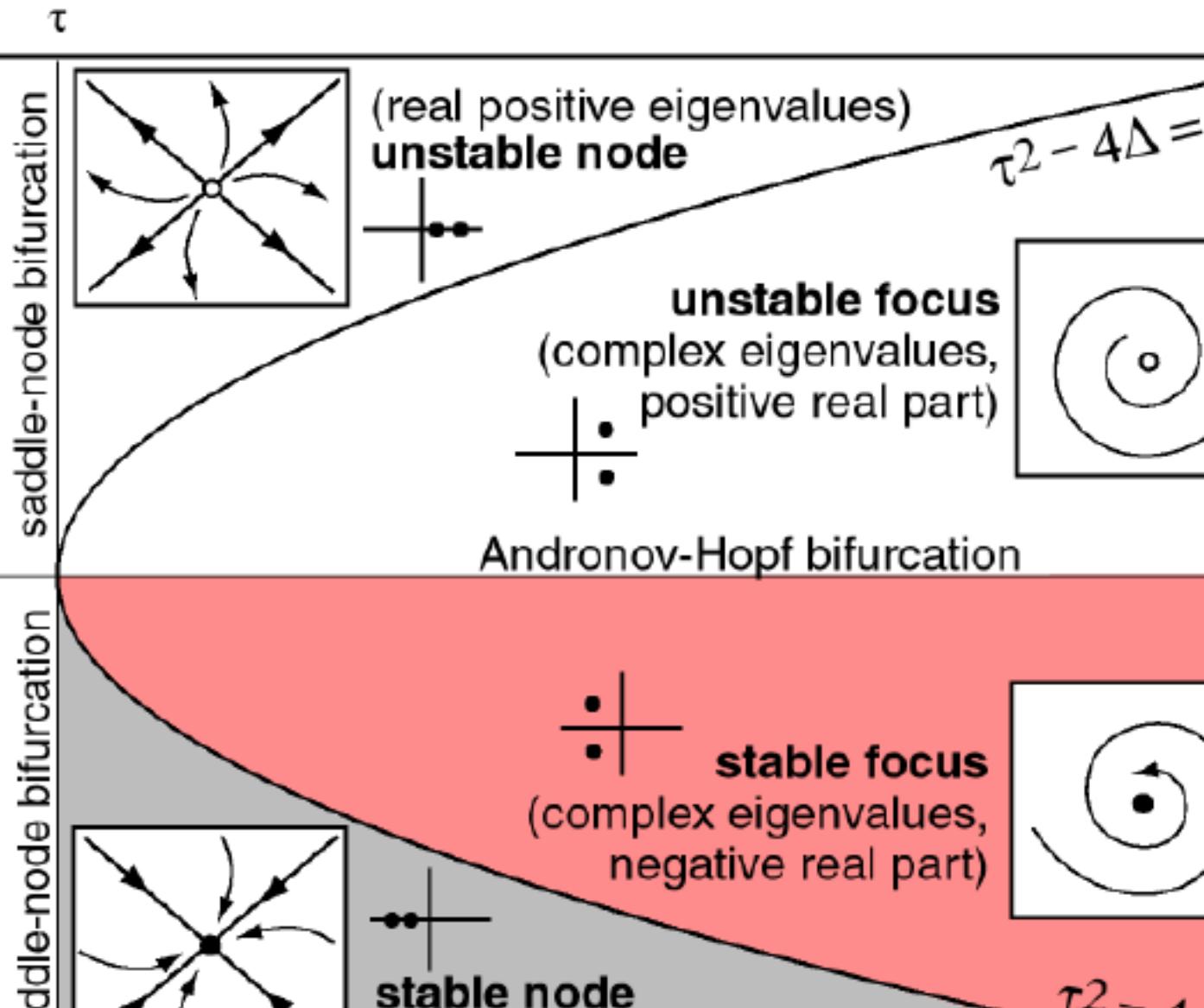
$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$$



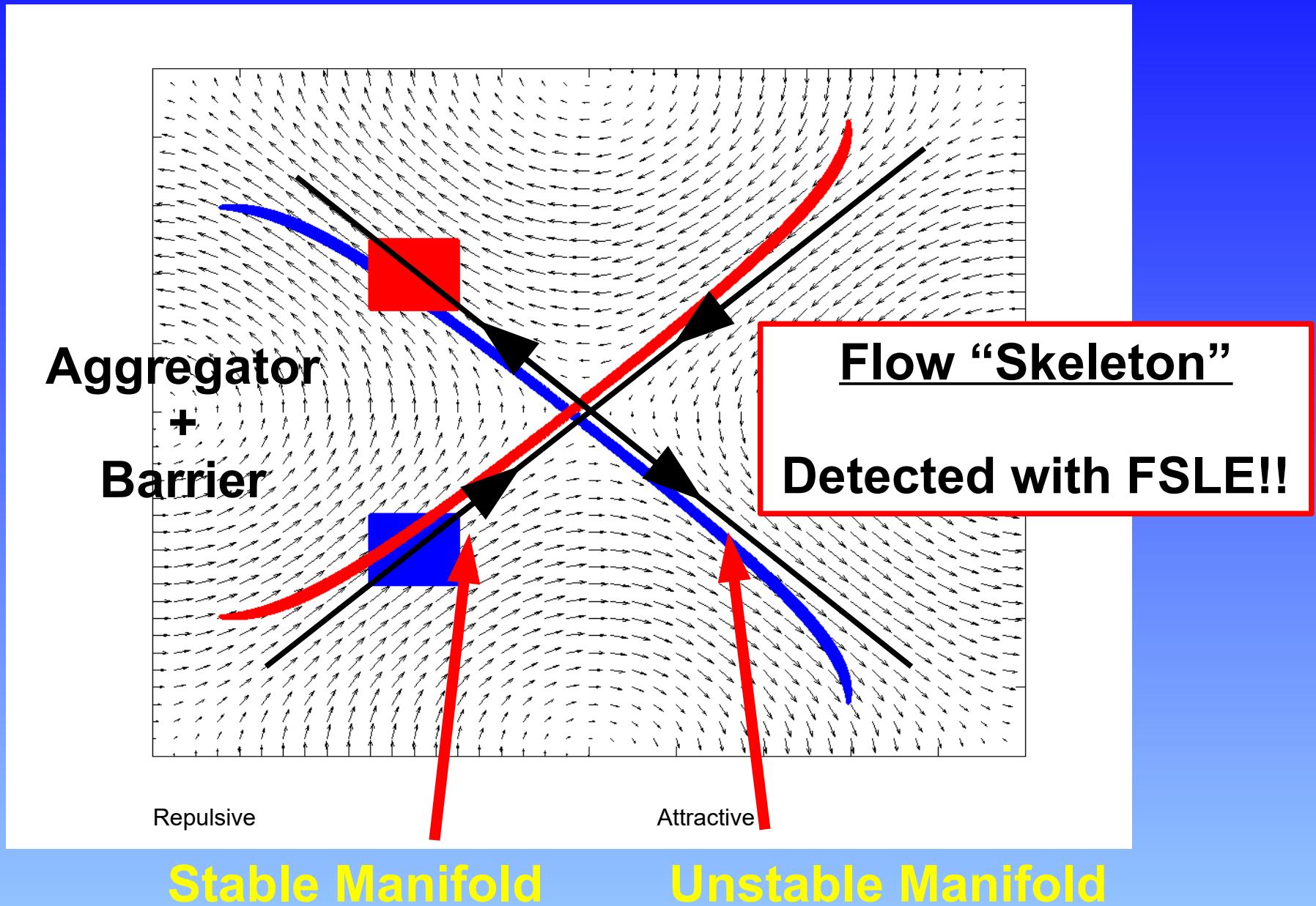
**saddle**

eigenvalues, different signs)

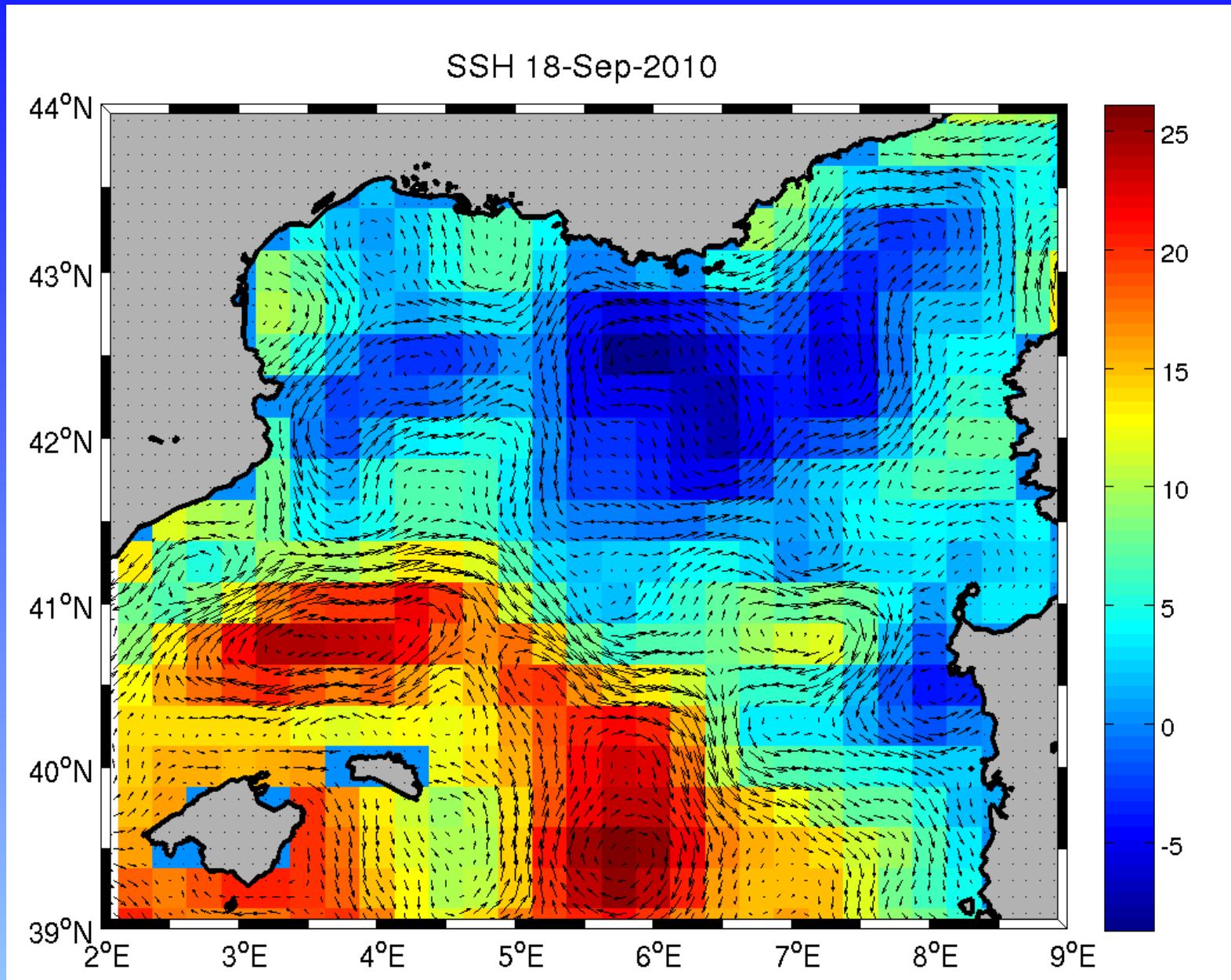




# Hyperbolic Points



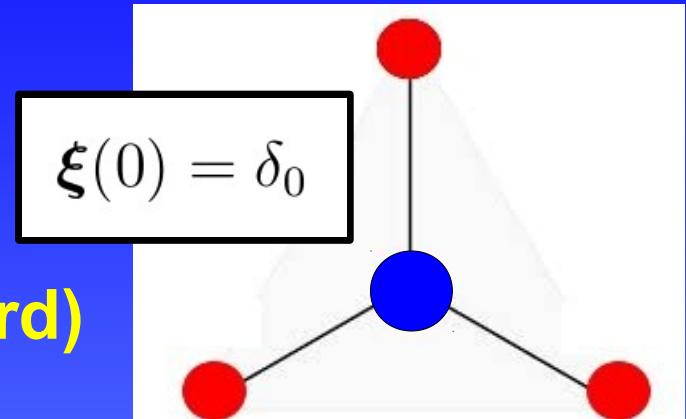
# Finite Size Lyapunov Exponents



# Finite Size Lyapunov Exponents



- At each grid point deployed an array of four floats
- Advected in time (forward or backward) with a Runge-Kutta 4<sup>th</sup> order (linear spatial and temporal interpolation)
- Recorded the time ( $\tau$ ) at which one of the distances becomes larger than a fixed spatial threshold (fixed size)
- Lyapunov exponent is the inverse of that time



$$\xi(0) = \delta_0$$

$$\xi(\tau) = \delta_\tau$$

$$\xi(t) = \xi(0) \exp^{\lambda t}$$

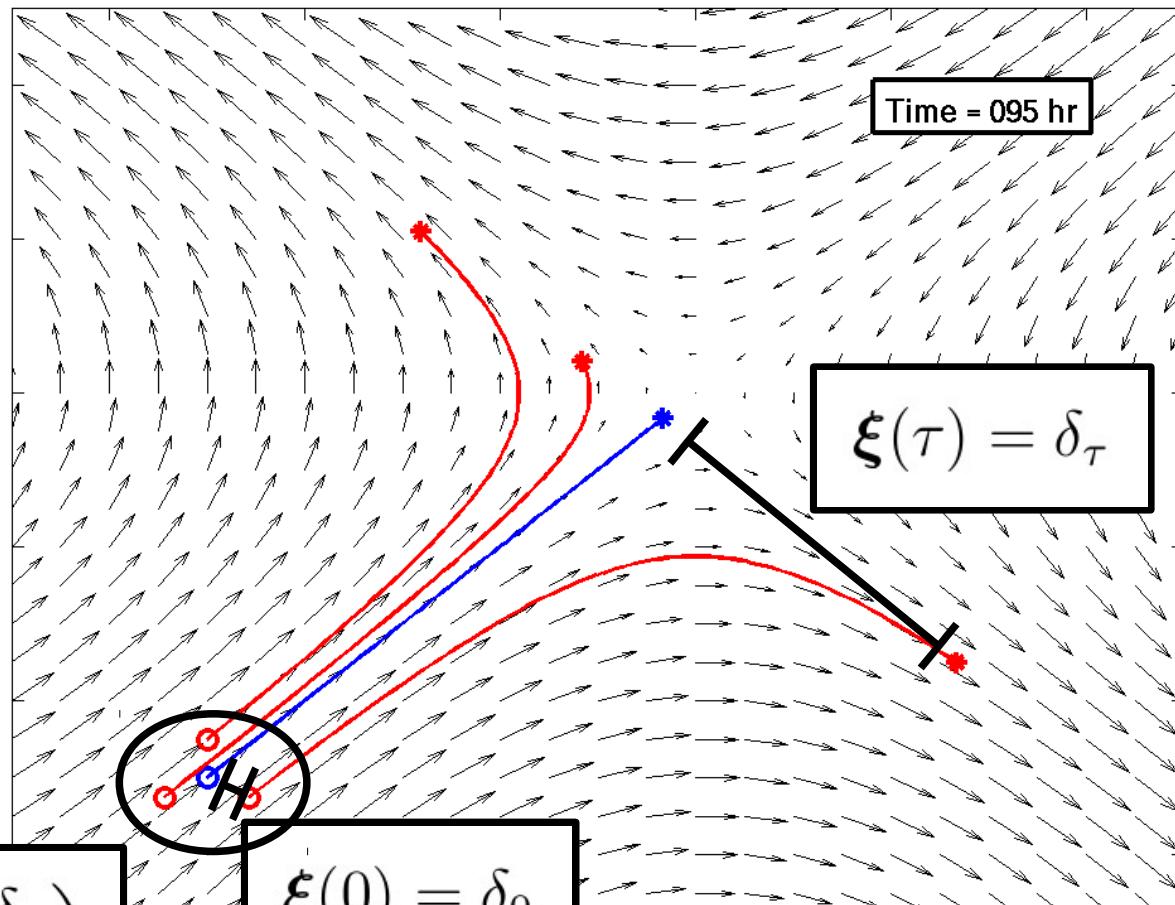


$$\delta_\tau = \delta_0 \exp^{\lambda \tau}$$



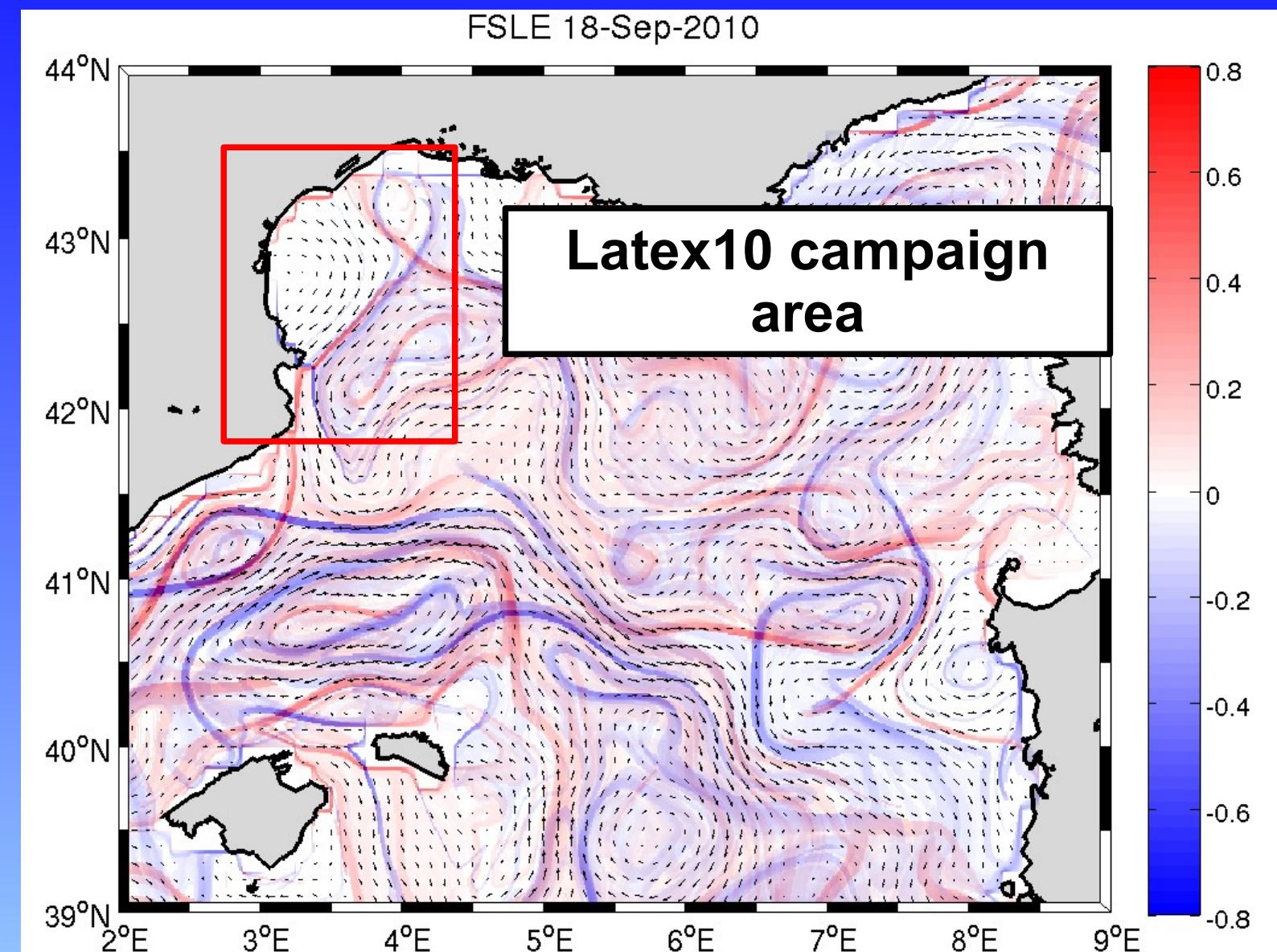
$$\lambda = \frac{1}{\tau} \log \left( \frac{\delta_\tau}{\delta_0} \right)$$

# Finite Size Lyapunov Exponents



$$\lambda = \frac{1}{\tau} \log \left( \frac{\delta_\tau}{\delta_0} \right)$$

# Finite Size Lyapunov Exponents



Blue:  
- Unstable  
- Backward  
(from saddle)

Red:  
- Stable  
- Forward  
(to saddle)

# Latex10 Campaign

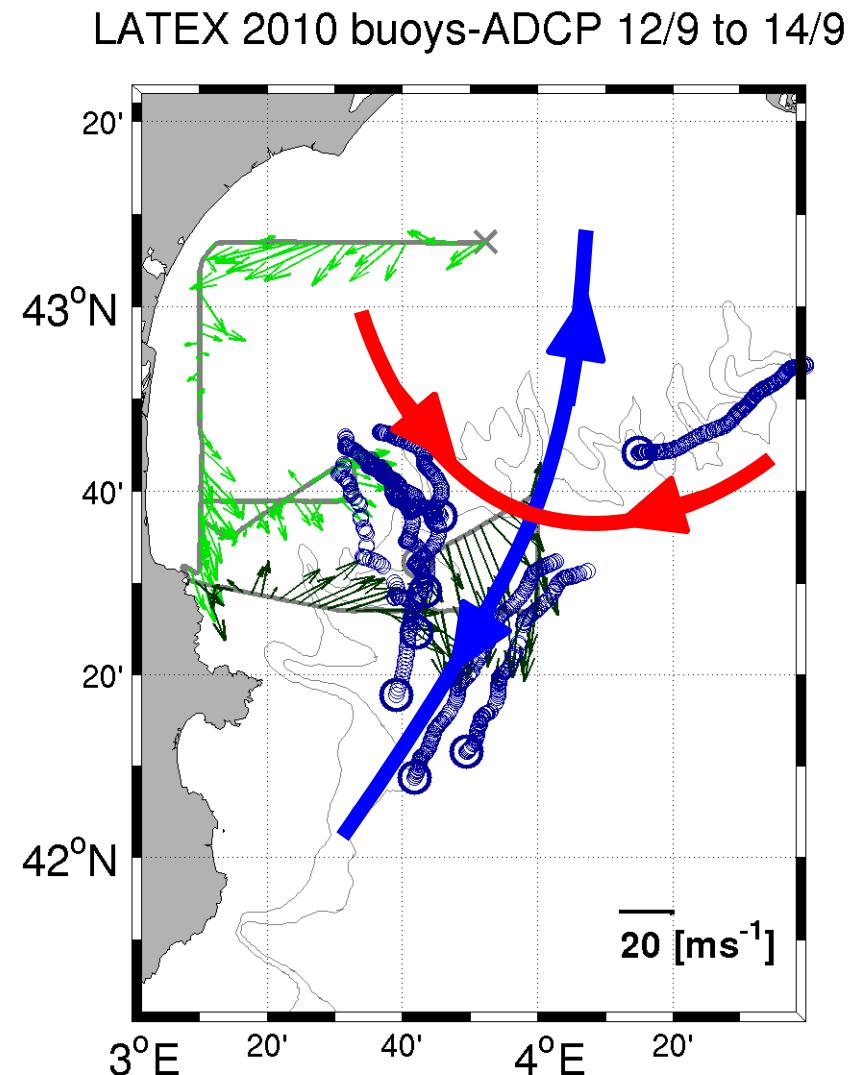
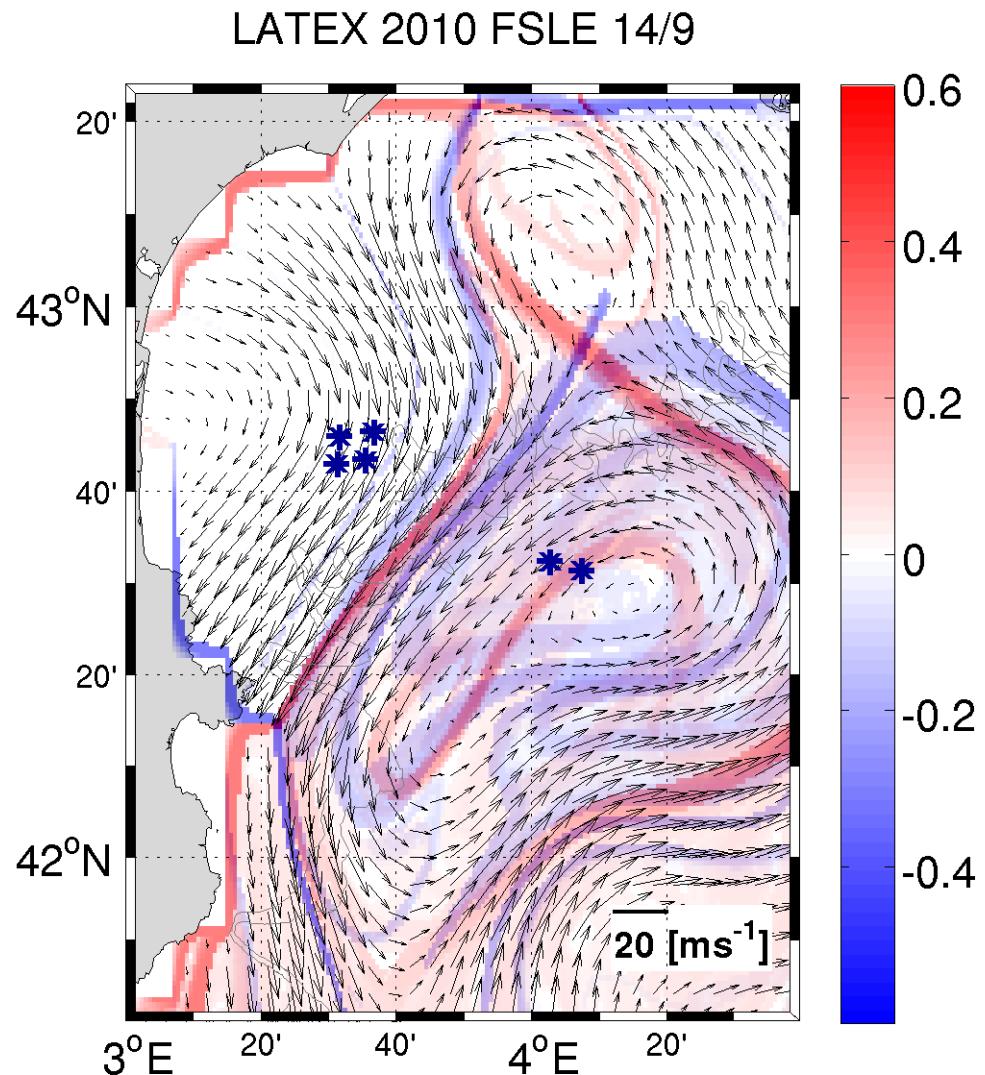
September 2010 “Lyap” experiments:

Direct observations of the manifolds computed from satellite velocities:

- Lagrangian drifters (15 m; ARGO GPS)
- ADCP velocities (Real time)



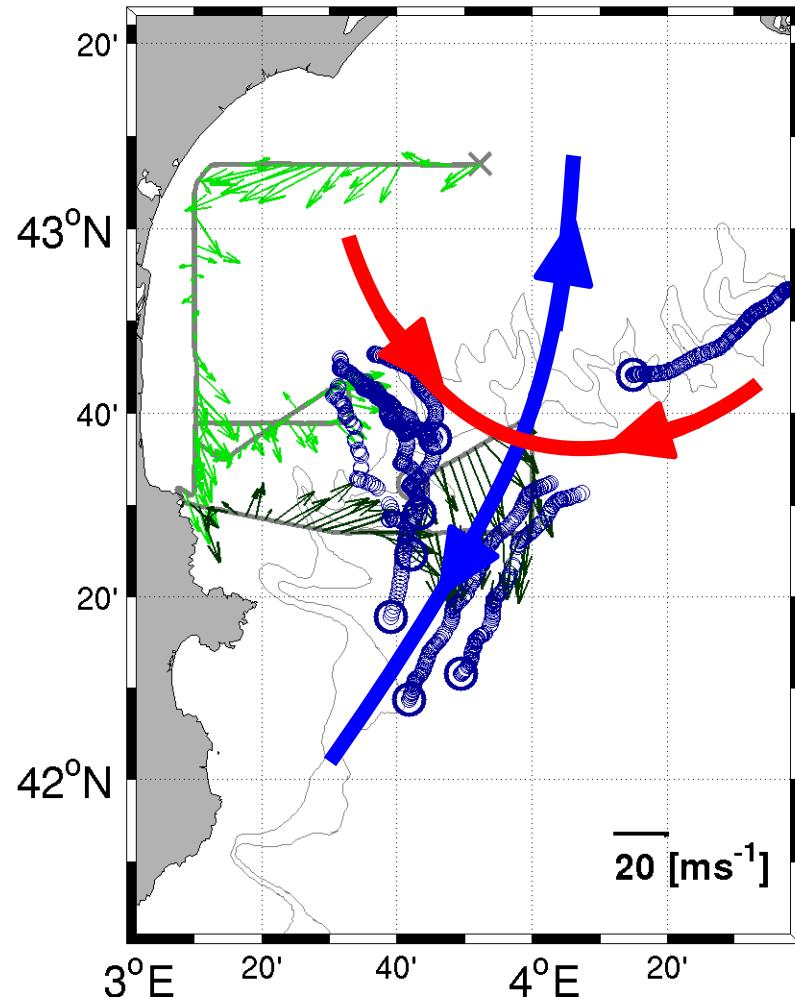
## Lyap01 in LATEX



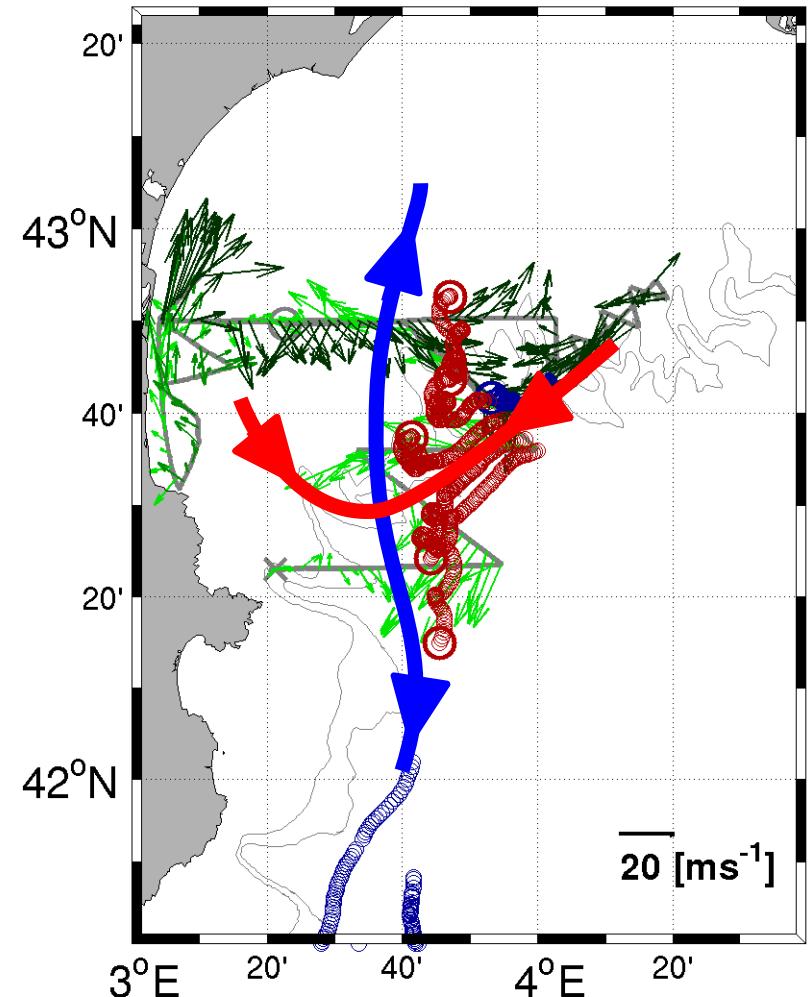
## Lyap02 in LATEX



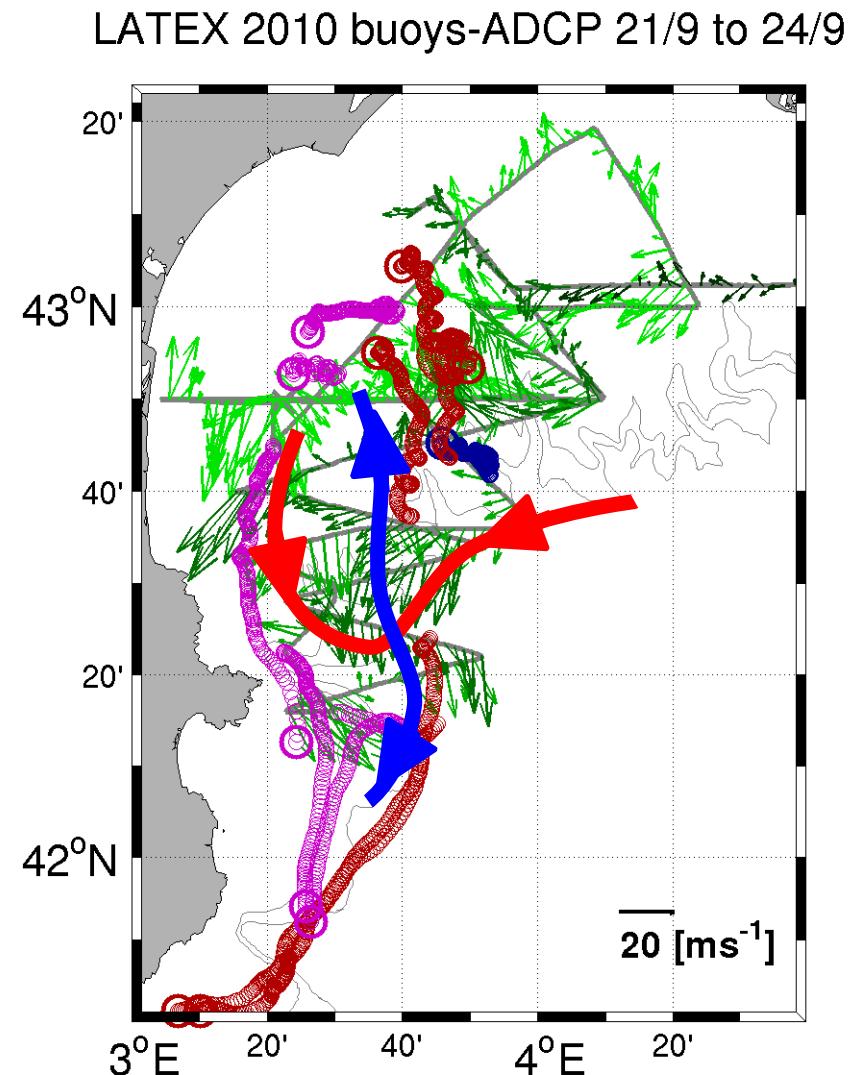
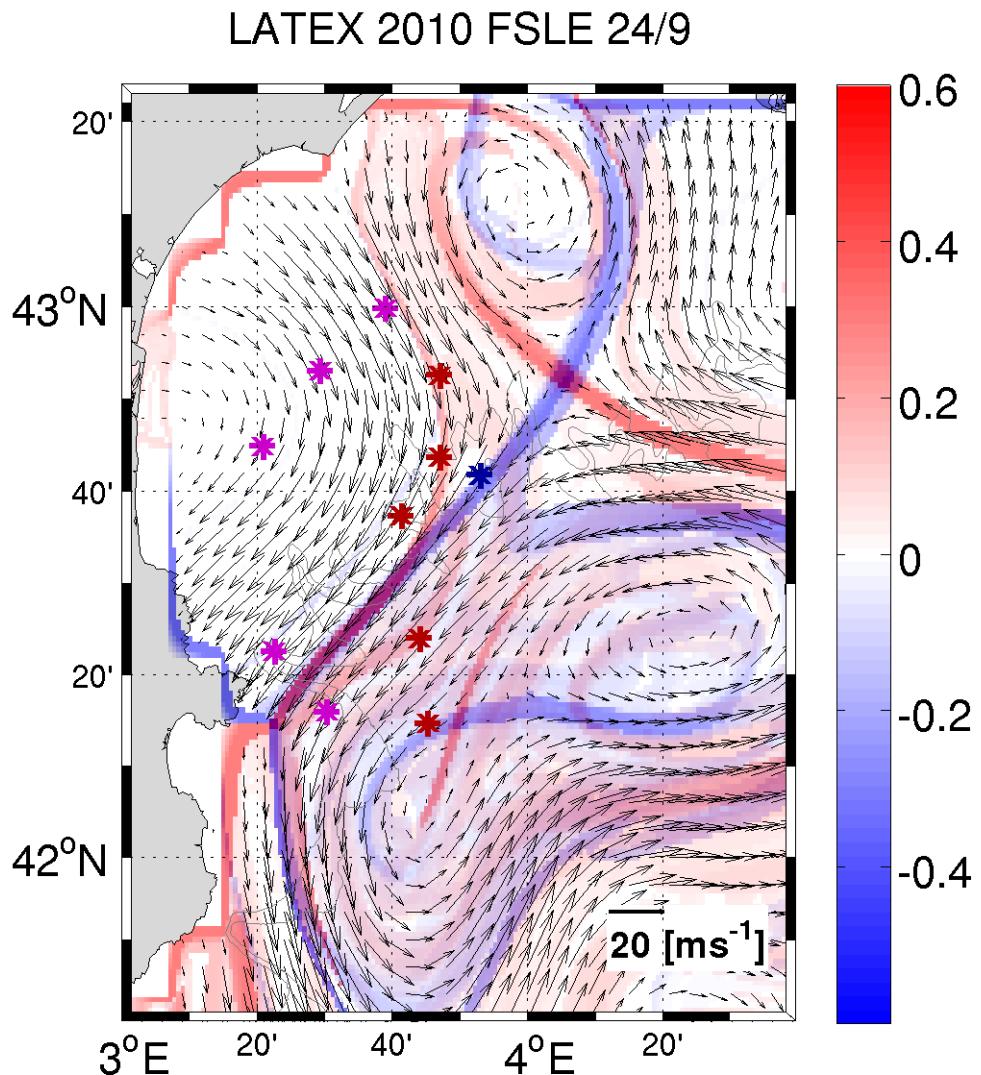
LATEX 2010 buoys-ADCP 12/9 to 14/9



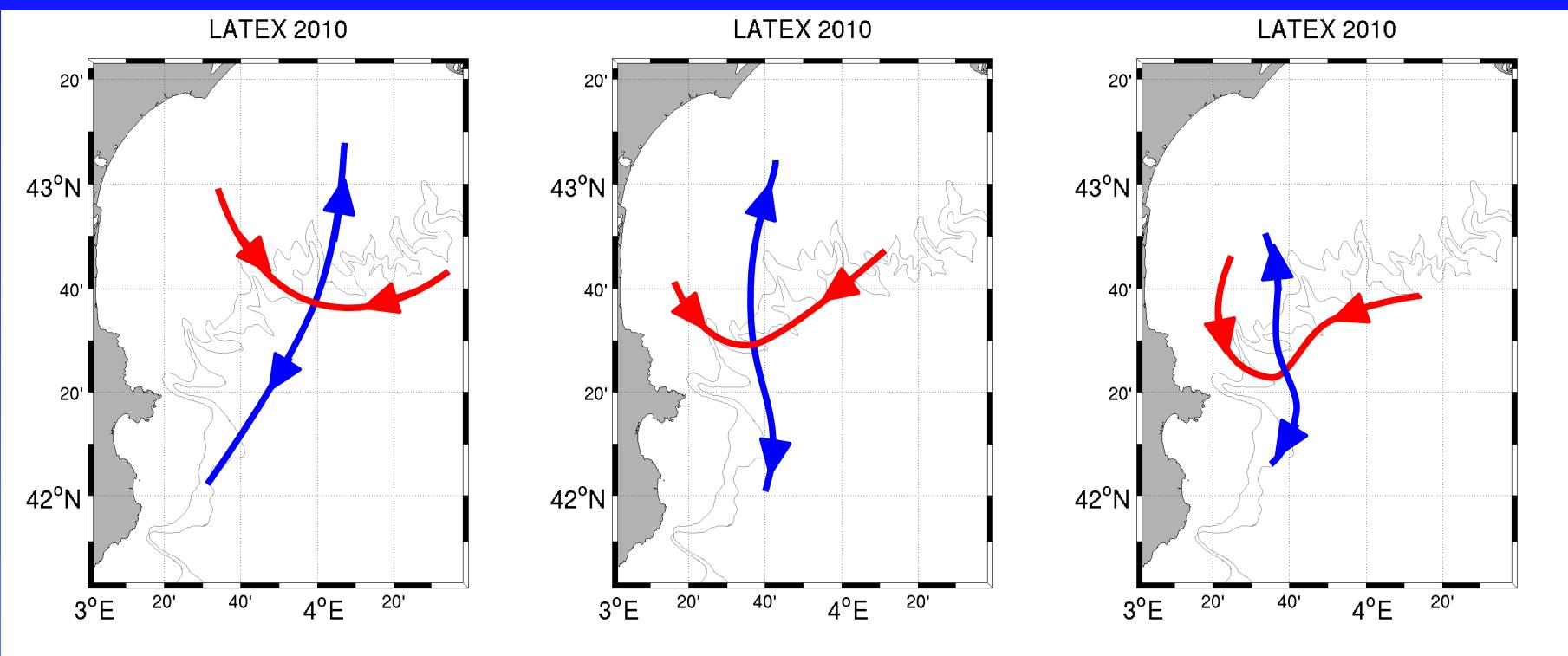
LATEX 2010 buoys-ADCP 18/9 to 20/9



## Lyap03 in LATEX

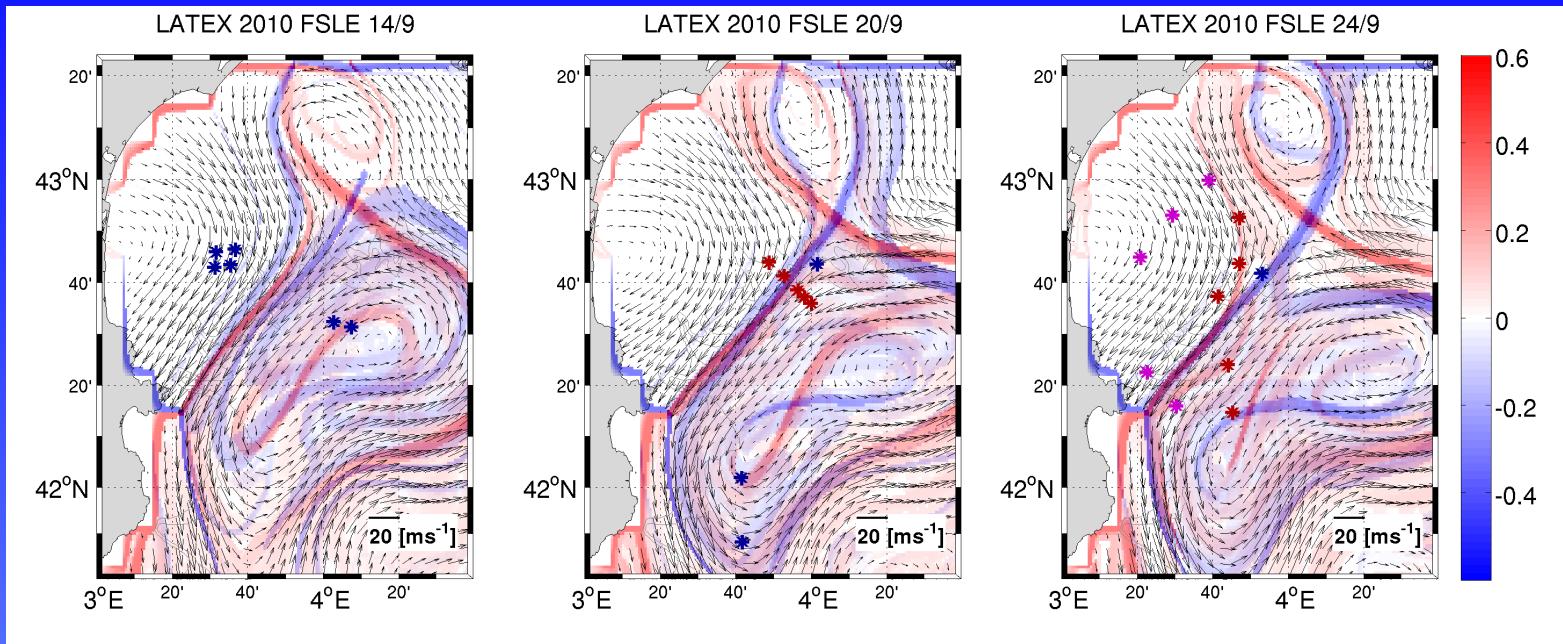


# Conclusions



- Persistent manifolds on continental shelf
- Hyperbolic point migration  
(1/3 Deg in 6 days  $\Rightarrow$   $\sim 5$  cm/sec)
- Detectable with drifters + ADCP

# Conclusions



## Satellite velocities:

- **Good for large scale**
- **Not so good in the coastal region**
- **Largest limitation for the method**



# Future Work

- Improve satellite velocity field:
  - Different processing schemes for raw data
  - Add ageostrophic components (Ekman, NIO...)
  - HF Radar velocities??
- Numerical models:
  - Test corrections
  - Verify hypotheses
  - Forecast models??
- Analysis of previous Latex datasets
- Further Lyap experiments???

## Final goal

Method for estimate and predict transport/exchanges  
(pollutants, oil spill, larval transport, fisheries)



**Alexandr Lyapunov**  
*(June 6 1857 – November 3 1918)*

**FIN**