

# Simulation of the Belousov-Zhabotinsky Chemical Oscillator using Python

By: Steven Selverston

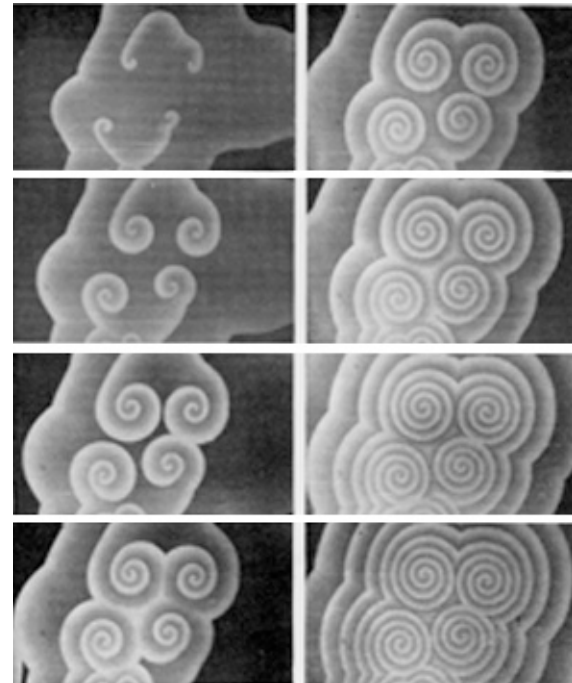
For: Prof. Jim Crutchfield

PHY-150

University of California, Davis

6/2/2009

The famous B-Z reaction creates fantastic designs in small dishes





Belousov

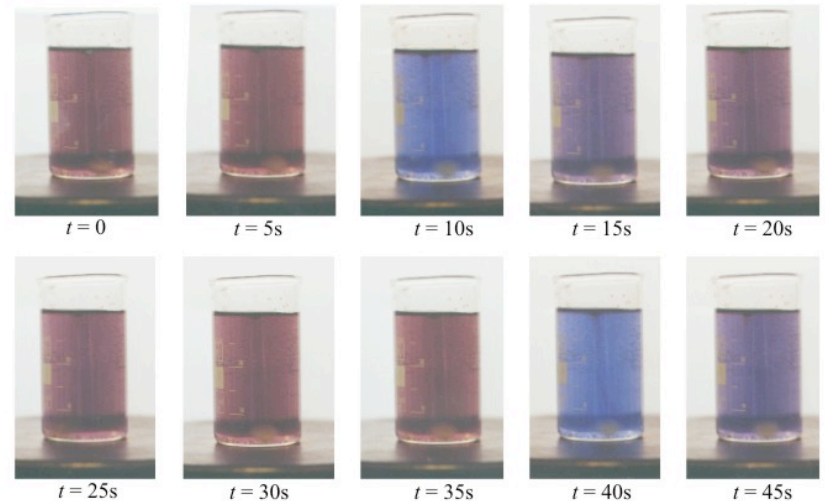
# Background:



Zhabotinsky

- Originally found by Boris Belousov sometime in the 1950s- could not get the work published initially
- Study was continued in 1961 by Anatol Zhabotinsky

Simple oscillatory behavior like that shown to the right, can last for several hours before equilibrium is reached\*



\* Scott, S.K. 1992. Chemical Chaos

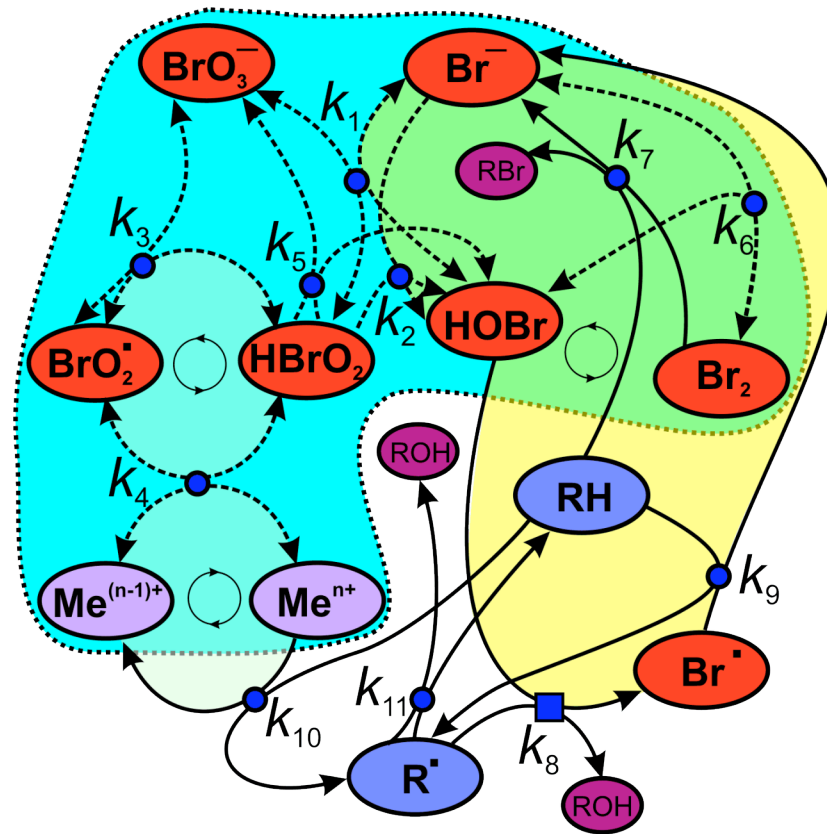
# 80-step mechanisms have been proposed

1. Неорганическая часть					
1	$\text{HOBr} + \text{Br}^- + \text{H}^+ \rightarrow \text{Br}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	$2.3 \cdot 10^9$	8	$\text{BrO}_2 + \text{HOBr} + \text{H}^+ \rightarrow 2\text{HBrO}_2$	$7.5 \cdot 10^6$
2	$\text{Br}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{HOBr} + \text{Br}^- + \text{H}^+$	2.0	9	$\text{BrO}_2 + \text{HBrO}_2 + \text{H}^+ \rightarrow \text{Br}_2\text{O}_4 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	33.0
3	$\text{Br}^- + \text{HBrO}_2 + \text{H}^+ \rightarrow 2\text{HOBr}$	$2.0 \cdot 10^6$	10	$\text{Br}_2\text{O}_4 + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{BrO}_2 + \text{HBrO}_2 + \text{H}^+$	2200
4	$2\text{HOBr} \rightarrow \text{Br}^- + \text{HBrO}_2 + \text{H}^+$	$2.0 \cdot 10^5$	11	$\text{Br}_2\text{O}_4 \rightarrow 2\text{BrO}_2$	$7.4 \cdot 10^4$
5	$\text{Br}^- + \text{HBrO}_2 + 2\text{H}^+ \rightarrow \text{HOBr} + \text{HBrO}_2$	2.0	12	$2\text{BrO}_2 \rightarrow \text{Br}_2\text{O}_4$	$1.4 \cdot 10^3$
6	$\text{HOBr} + \text{HBrO}_2 \rightarrow \text{Br}^- + \text{HBrO}_2 + 2\text{H}^+$	3.3	13	$\text{Ce}^{IV} + 2\text{BrO}_2 + \text{H}^+ \rightarrow \text{HBrO}_2 + \text{Ce}^{IV}$	$5.2 \cdot 10^4$
7	$2\text{HBrO}_2 \rightarrow \text{BrO}_2 + \text{HOBr} + \text{H}^+$	$3.0 \cdot 10^3$	14	$\text{HBrO}_2 + \text{Ce}^{IV} \rightarrow \text{Ce}^{IV} + 2\text{BrO}_2 + \text{H}^+$	$7.0 \cdot 10^3$
2. Реакции с участием органических веществ					
а) Реакции без участия и образования радикалов					
15	$\text{MA} \rightarrow \text{ENOL}$	$3.0 \cdot 10^3$	20	$\text{TTA} + \text{HOBr} \rightarrow \text{BrTTA} + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	5.0
16	$\text{ENOL} \rightarrow \text{MA}$	200.0	21	$\text{BrO}_2\text{MA} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{HBrO}_2 + \text{TTA}$	1.0
17	$\text{ENOL} + \text{Br}_2 \rightarrow \text{BrMA} + \text{Br}^- + \text{H}^+$	$1.91 \cdot 10^6$	22	$\text{BrO}_2\text{MA} \rightarrow \text{HOBr} + \text{MOA}$	1.0
18	$\text{MA} + \text{HOBr} \rightarrow \text{Br}_2\text{MA} + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	8.2	23	$\text{BrO}_2\text{TTA} \rightarrow \text{HBrO}_2 + \text{MOA}$	1.0
19	$\text{Br}_2\text{MA} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{MA} + \text{HOBr}$	0.1	24	$\text{BrTTA} \rightarrow \text{Br}^- + \text{MOA} + \text{H}^+$	1.0
б) Реакции с образованием радикалов					
25	$\text{Ce}^{IV} + \text{BrMA} \rightarrow \text{Ce}^{IV} + \text{BrMA} + \text{H}^+$	0.09	29	$\text{Ce}^{IV} + \text{MOA} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{Ce}^{IV} + \text{OA} + \text{COOH} + \text{H}^+$	10.0
26	$\text{Ce}^{IV} + \text{MA} \rightarrow \text{Ce}^{IV} + \text{MA} + \text{H}^+$	0.23	30	$\text{HOBr} + \text{OA} \rightarrow \text{Br}^- + \text{COOH} + \text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	140.0
27	$\text{Ce}^{IV} + \text{TTA} \rightarrow \text{Ce}^{IV} + \text{TTA} + \text{H}^+$	0.66	31	$\text{Ce}^{IV} + \text{OA} \rightarrow \text{Ce}^{IV} + \text{COOH} + \text{H}^+ + \text{CO}_2 + \text{H}^+$	10.0
28	$\text{HOBr} + \text{MOA} \rightarrow \text{Br}^- + \text{OA} + \text{COOH}$	140.0	32	$\text{BrO}_2 + \text{OA} + \text{H}^+ \rightarrow \text{BrO}_2 + \text{COOH} + \text{CO}_2 + \text{H}^+$	$1.6 \cdot 10^3$
в) Реакции гибели радикалов					
33	$2\text{Br}^\cdot \rightarrow \text{Br}_2$	$1.0 \cdot 10^9$	44	$\text{MA}^\cdot + \text{Br}^\cdot \rightarrow \text{BrMA}$	$1.0 \cdot 10^9$
34	$\text{Br}^\cdot + \text{BrMA}^\cdot \rightarrow \text{Br}_2\text{MA}$	$1.0 \cdot 10^9$	45	$\text{MA}^\cdot + \text{Ce}^{IV} + \text{H}^+ \rightarrow \text{MA} + \text{Ce}^{IV}$	$1.7 \cdot 10^4$
35	$2\text{BrMA}^\cdot + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{BrMA} + \text{BrTTA}$	$1.0 \cdot 10^9$	46	$\text{MA}^\cdot + \text{BrO}_2 \rightarrow \text{BrO}_2\text{MA}$	$5.0 \cdot 10^3$
36	$\text{BrMA}^\cdot + \text{MA} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{MA} + \text{BrTTA}$	$1.0 \cdot 10^9$	47	$2\text{TTA}^\cdot \rightarrow \text{TTA} + \text{MOA}$	$1.0 \cdot 10^9$
37	$\text{BrMA}^\cdot + \text{TTA}^\cdot + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{TTA} + \text{BrTTA}$	$1.0 \cdot 10^9$	48	$\text{TTA}^\cdot + \text{COOH} \rightarrow \text{TTA} + \text{CO}_2$	$2.0 \cdot 10^9$
38	$\text{BrMA}^\cdot + \text{Ce}^{IV} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{Ce}^{IV} + \text{BrTTA} + \text{H}^+$	$1.0 \cdot 10^7$	49	$\text{TTA}^\cdot + \text{Br}^\cdot \rightarrow \text{BrTTA}$	$1.0 \cdot 10^9$
39	$\text{BrMA}^\cdot + \text{BrO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{HBrO}_2 + \text{BrTTA}$	$5.0 \cdot 10^9$	50	$\text{TTA}^\cdot + \text{Ce}^{IV} + \text{H}^+ \rightarrow \text{TTA} + \text{Ce}^{IV}$	$1.7 \cdot 10^4$
40	$\text{BrMA}^\cdot + \text{COOH} \rightarrow \text{BrMA} + \text{CO}_2$	$5.0 \cdot 10^8$	51	$\text{TTA}^\cdot + \text{BrO}_2 \rightarrow \text{BrO}_2\text{TTA}$	$5.0 \cdot 10^9$
41	$2\text{MA}^\cdot + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{MA} + \text{TTA}$	$3.2 \cdot 10^9$	52	$2^\cdot\text{COOH} \rightarrow \text{OA}$	$1.2 \cdot 10^9$
42	$\text{MA}^\cdot + \text{TTA}^\cdot + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow 2\text{TTA}$	$1.0 \cdot 10^9$	53	$^\cdot\text{COOH} + \text{Ce}^{IV} \rightarrow \text{Ce}^{IV} + \text{CO}_2 + \text{H}^+$	$1.0 \cdot 10^3$
43	$\text{MA}^\cdot + \text{COOH} \rightarrow \text{MA} + \text{CO}_2$	$2.0 \cdot 10^9$	54	$^\cdot\text{COOH} + \text{Br}^\cdot \rightarrow \text{Br}^- + \text{CO}_2 + \text{H}^+$	$1.0 \cdot 10^9$
			55	$^\cdot\text{COOH} + \text{BrO}_2 \rightarrow \text{HBrO}_2 + \text{CO}_2$	$5.0 \cdot 10^9$
г) Реакции продолжения цепи					
56	$\text{MA}^\cdot + \text{Br}_2 \rightarrow \text{BrMA} + \text{Br}^\cdot$	$1.5 \cdot 10^5$	69	$\text{BrMA}^\cdot + \text{HOBr} \rightarrow \text{BrTTA} + \text{Br}^\cdot$	$1.0 \cdot 10^3$
57	$\text{MA}^\cdot + \text{HOBr} \rightarrow \text{TTA} + \text{Br}^\cdot$	$1.0 \cdot 10^3$	70	$\text{BrMA}^\cdot + \text{BrO}_2 + \text{H}^+ \rightarrow \text{BrTTA} + \text{BrO}_2$	40.0
58	$\text{MA}^\cdot + \text{BrO}_2 + \text{H}^+ \rightarrow \text{TTA} + \text{BrO}_2$	40.0	71	$^\cdot\text{COOH} + \text{BrMA} \rightarrow \text{Br}^\cdot + \text{MA} + \text{CO}_2 + \text{H}^+$	$1.0 \cdot 10^3$
59	$\text{MA}^\cdot + \text{TTA} \rightarrow \text{MA} + \text{TTA}$	$1.0 \cdot 10^3$	72	$^\cdot\text{COOH} + \text{Br}_2 \rightarrow \text{Br}^\cdot + \text{Br}^\cdot + \text{CO}_2 + \text{H}^+$	$1.5 \cdot 10^8$
60	$\text{TTA}^\cdot + \text{MA} \rightarrow \text{MA} + \text{TTA}$	$1.0 \cdot 10^3$	73	$^\cdot\text{COOH} + \text{HOBr} \rightarrow \text{Br}^\cdot + \text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	$2.0 \cdot 10^3$
61	$\text{MA}^\cdot + \text{BrMA} \rightarrow \text{MA} + \text{BrMA}^\cdot$	$1.0 \cdot 10^3$	74	$^\cdot\text{COOH} + \text{BrO}_2 + \text{H}^+ \rightarrow \text{BrO}_2 + \text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	$2.1 \cdot 10^3$
62	$\text{BrMA}^\cdot + \text{MA} \rightarrow \text{BrMA} + \text{MA}^\cdot$	$5.0 \cdot 10^3$	75	$\text{Br}^\cdot + \text{MA} \rightarrow \text{Br}^- + \text{MA}^\cdot + \text{H}^+$	$1.0 \cdot 10^3$
63	$\text{TTA}^\cdot + \text{BrMA} \rightarrow \text{TTA} + \text{BrMA}^\cdot$	$2.0 \cdot 10^3$	76	$\text{Br}^\cdot + \text{TTA} \rightarrow \text{Br}^- + \text{TTA}^\cdot + \text{H}^+$	$1.0 \cdot 10^9$
64	$\text{BrMA}^\cdot + \text{TTA} \rightarrow \text{BrMA} + \text{TTA}^\cdot$	$5.0 \cdot 10^3$	77	$\text{Br}^\cdot + \text{BrMA} \rightarrow \text{Br}^- + \text{BrMA}^\cdot + \text{H}^+$	$5.0 \cdot 10^6$
65	$\text{TTA}^\cdot + \text{Br}_2 \rightarrow \text{BrTTA} + \text{Br}^\cdot$	$1.0 \cdot 10^3$	78	$\text{Br}^\cdot + \text{MOA} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{Br}^- + \text{OA} + \text{COOH} + \text{H}^+$	$2.0 \cdot 10^3$
66	$\text{TTA}^\cdot + \text{HOBr} \rightarrow \text{MOA} + \text{Br}^\cdot + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	$1.0 \cdot 10^3$	79	$\text{Br}^\cdot + \text{OA} \rightarrow \text{Br}^- + \text{COOH} + \text{CO}_2 + \text{H}^+$	$2.0 \cdot 10^3$
67	$\text{TTA}^\cdot + \text{BrO}_2 + \text{H}^+ \rightarrow \text{MOA} + \text{BrO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	40.0	80	$\text{BrO}_2 + \text{OA} \rightarrow \text{HBrO}_2 + \text{COOH} + \text{CO}_2$	$1.0 \cdot 10^3$
68	$\text{BrMA}^\cdot + \text{Br}_2 \rightarrow \text{Br}_2\text{MA} + \text{Br}^\cdot$	$1.0 \cdot 10^6$			

Moral of the story:  
The chemistry details are extremely complicated

(GNU Publicly Licensed Image)

Simpler mechanisms are better for modeling: here, an 11-step mechanism



(GNU Publicly Licensed Image)

# ODEs: the “Oregonator”

Field-Noyes Version:

$$dX/dt = k_3AY - k_2XY + k_5BX - 2k_4X^2$$

$$dY/dt = -k_3AY - k_2XY + f k_j Z$$

$$dZ/dt = 2k_5BX - k_j Z$$

$$A = B \equiv [\text{BrO}_3^-]$$

$$X \equiv [\text{HBrO}_2]$$

$$Y \equiv [\text{Br}^-]$$

$$Z \equiv [\text{Ce}^{4+}]$$

All rate constants estimated from  
empirical experiments

Field and Noyes. 1974. Oscillations in chemical systems.

# Tyson's Version

- Convenient non-dimensionalization
- Simplest three-variable BZ model

$$dx/dt = (qy - xy + x(1-x))/\varepsilon$$

$$dy/dt = (-qy - xy + fz)/\varepsilon'$$

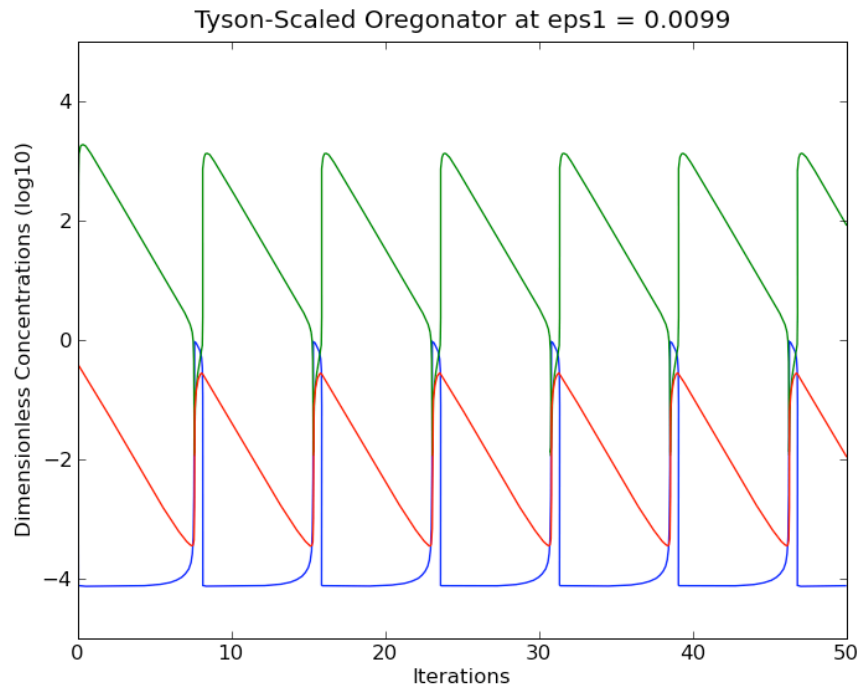
$$dz/dt = x - z$$

J.J. Tyson, 1985

Oscillations and Traveling Waves in Chemical Systems

Edited by Field & Burger pp. 111-112

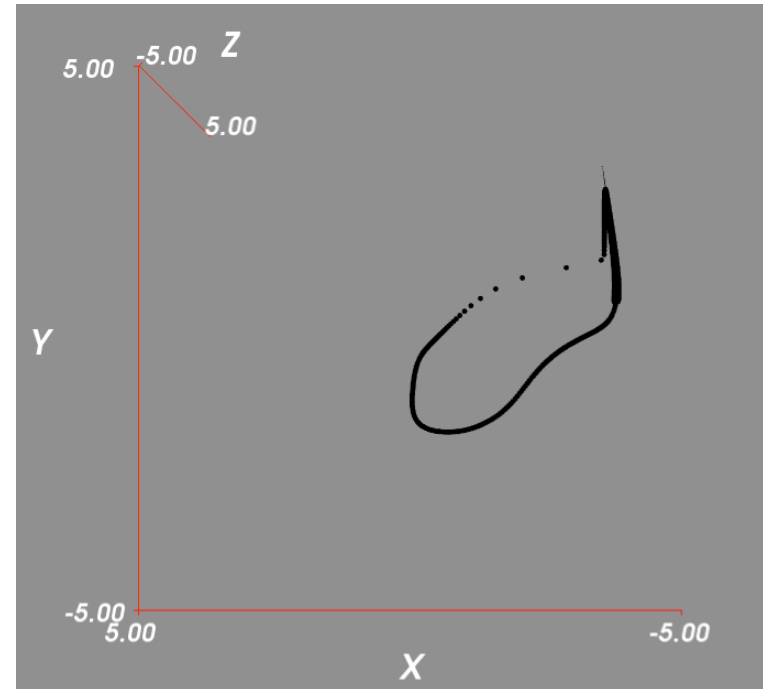
# Limit cycles, but no chaos



Green =  $\log_{10}(\text{scaled Ce}^{4+})$

Red =  $\log_{10}(\text{scaled Br}^-)$

Blue =  $\log_{10}(\text{scaled HBrO}_2)$



Corresponding 3D Attractor

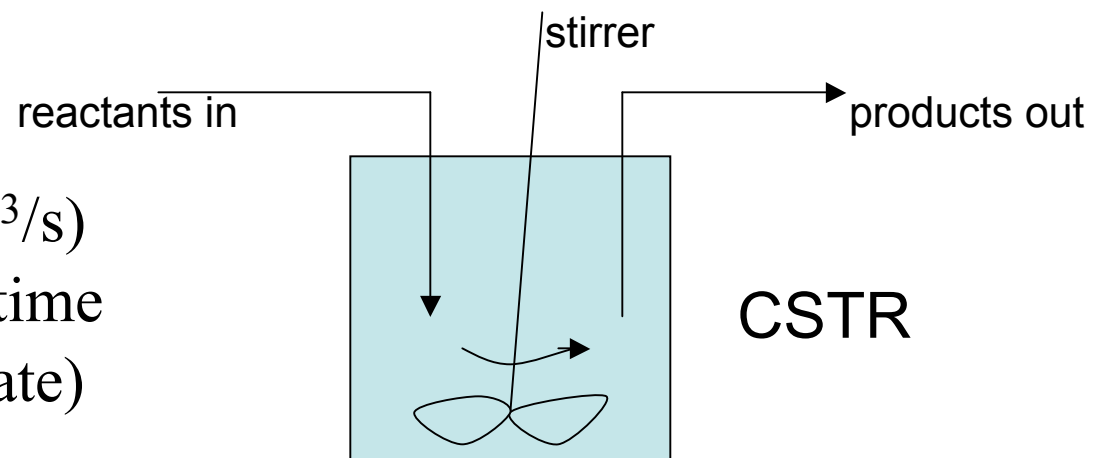
- \* 2D Plot made by matplotlib
- \* 3D Plot made by MayaVi
- \* Enthought Python Distribution



# Continuous-flow Stirred Tank Reactors (CSTR)

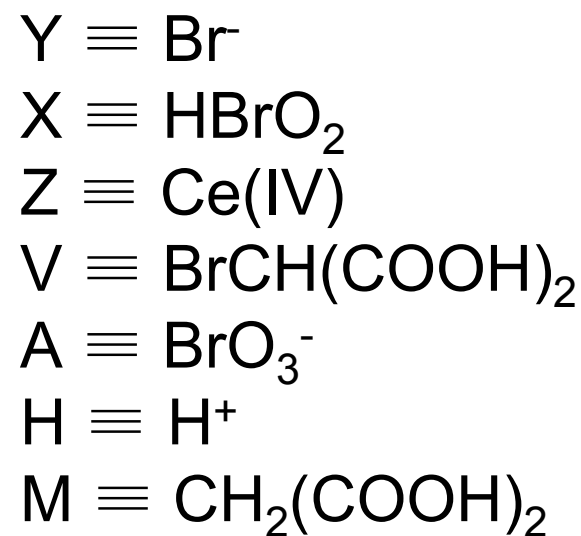
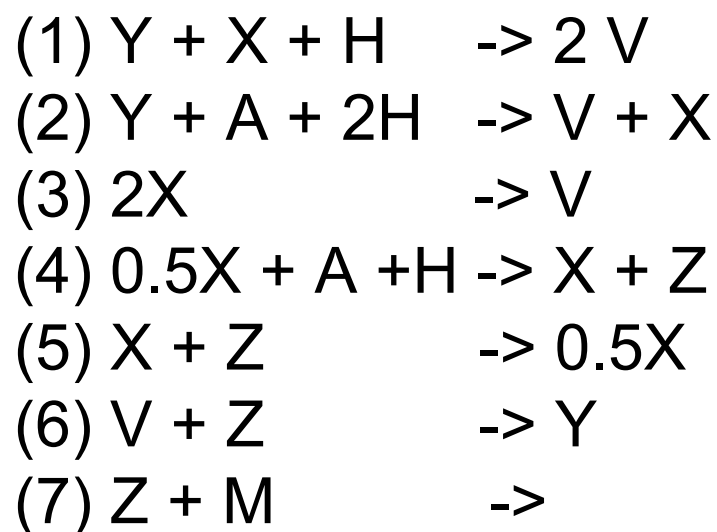
- Avoids equilibrium by using an open system
- Chaos results from interactions from two frequencies on different timescales\*
- frequency1: BZ limit cycle
- frequency2: BrMA cycling concentration

$\tau = \text{volume (m}^3\text{)}/\text{flowrate (m}^3\text{/s)}$   
 $k_f = 1/\tau = \text{inverse residence time}$   
(similar to flowrate)



\*Gyorgyi & Field, 1992 Nature 355 pp. 808-810

# 7-step mechanism



# chaotic three-variable model based on a 7-parameter rate equation

\*  $k_f$  term represents the inverse residence time in a CSTR

Scaled  
Differential  
Equations:

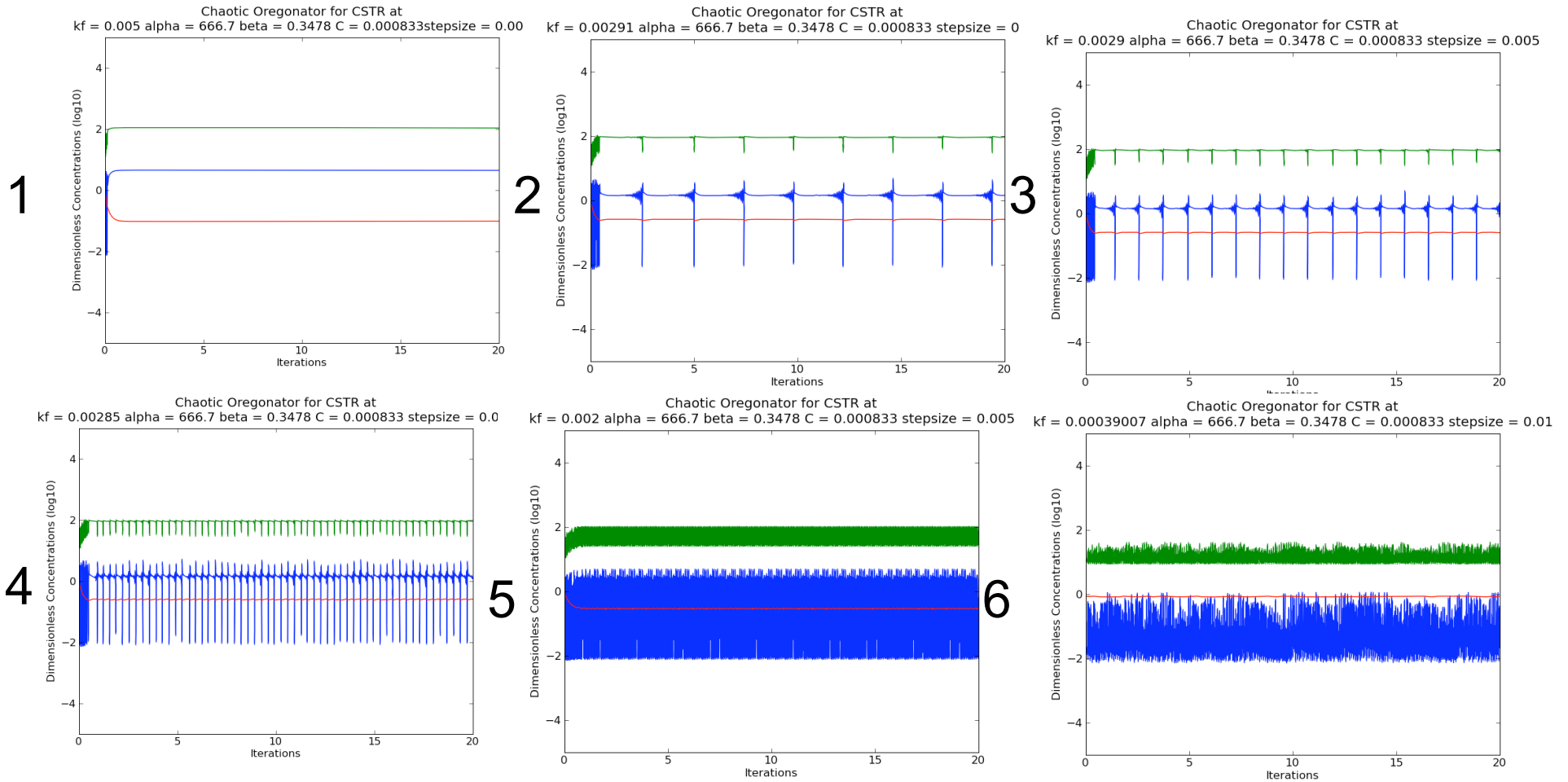
$$\begin{aligned} dx/dt = To\{ & -k_1HY_0xy + k_2AH^2Y_0/X_0y - 2k_3X_0x^2 \\ & + 0.5k_4A^{0.5}H^{1.5}X_0 - 0.5(C - Z_0z)x^{0.5} \\ & - 0.5k_5Z_0xz - \mathbf{k_fx}\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} dz/dt = To\{ & k_4A^{0.5}H^{1.5}X_0^{0.5}(C/Z_0 - z)x^{0.5} - k_5X_0xz \\ & - \alpha k_6V_0zv - \beta k_7Mz - \mathbf{k_fz}\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} dv/dt = To\{ & 2k_1HX_0Y_0/V_0xy + k_2AH^2Y_0/V_0y \\ & + k_3X_0^2/V_0x^2 - \alpha k_6Z_0zv - \mathbf{k_fz}\} \end{aligned}$$

Gyorgyi & Field, 1992 Nature 355 pp. 808-810

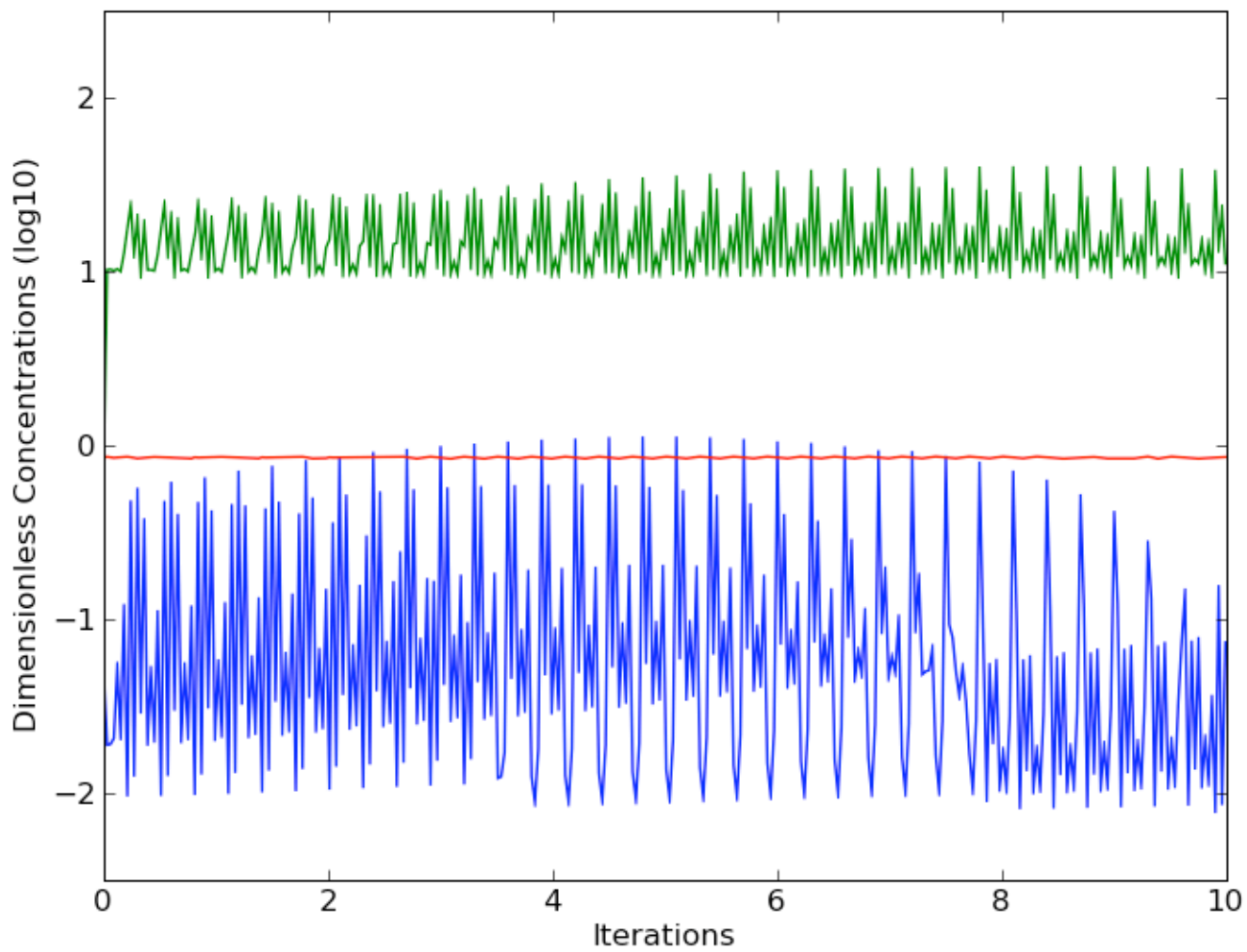
# Period Doubling to Chaos



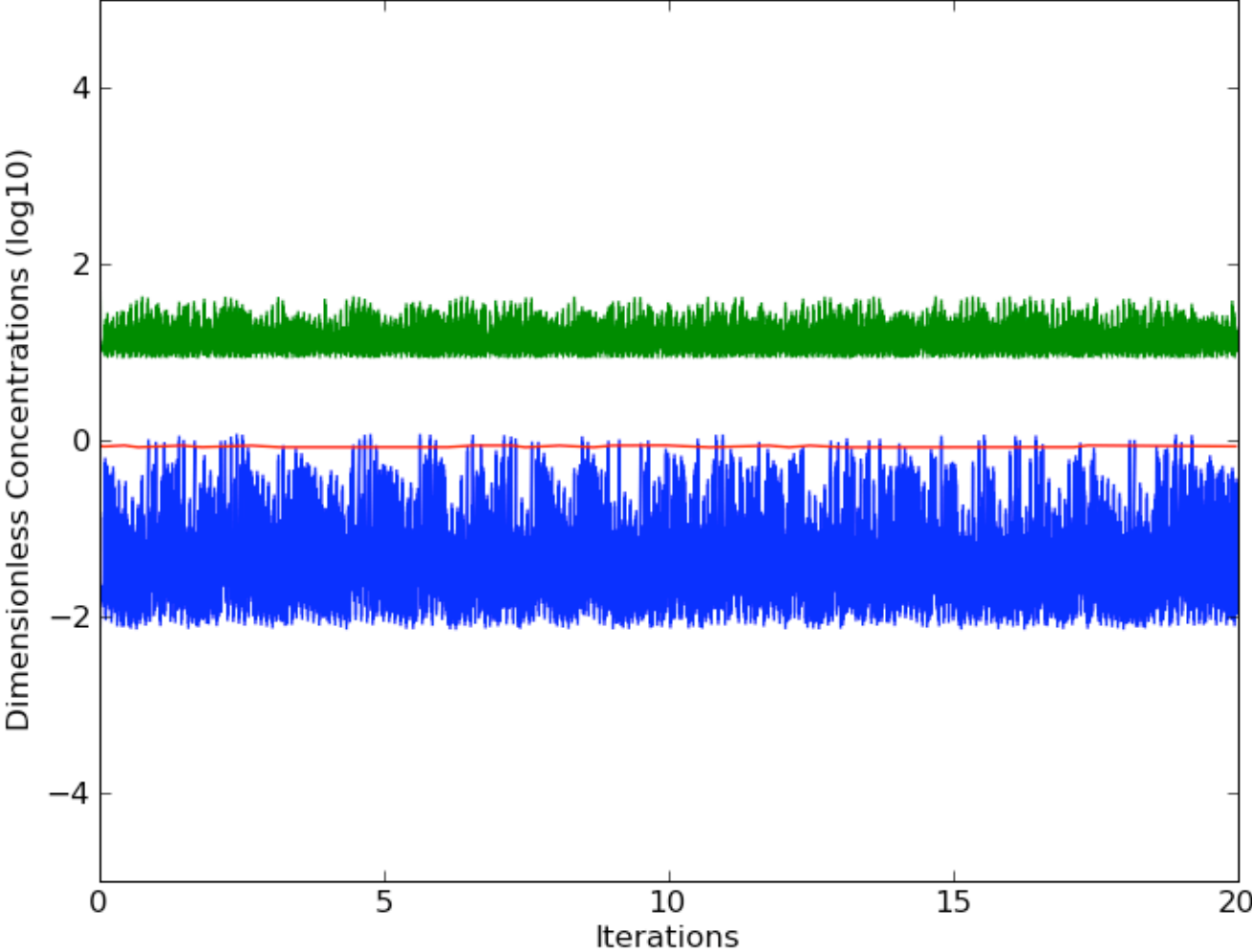
Decreasing flow rate parameter  $k_f$



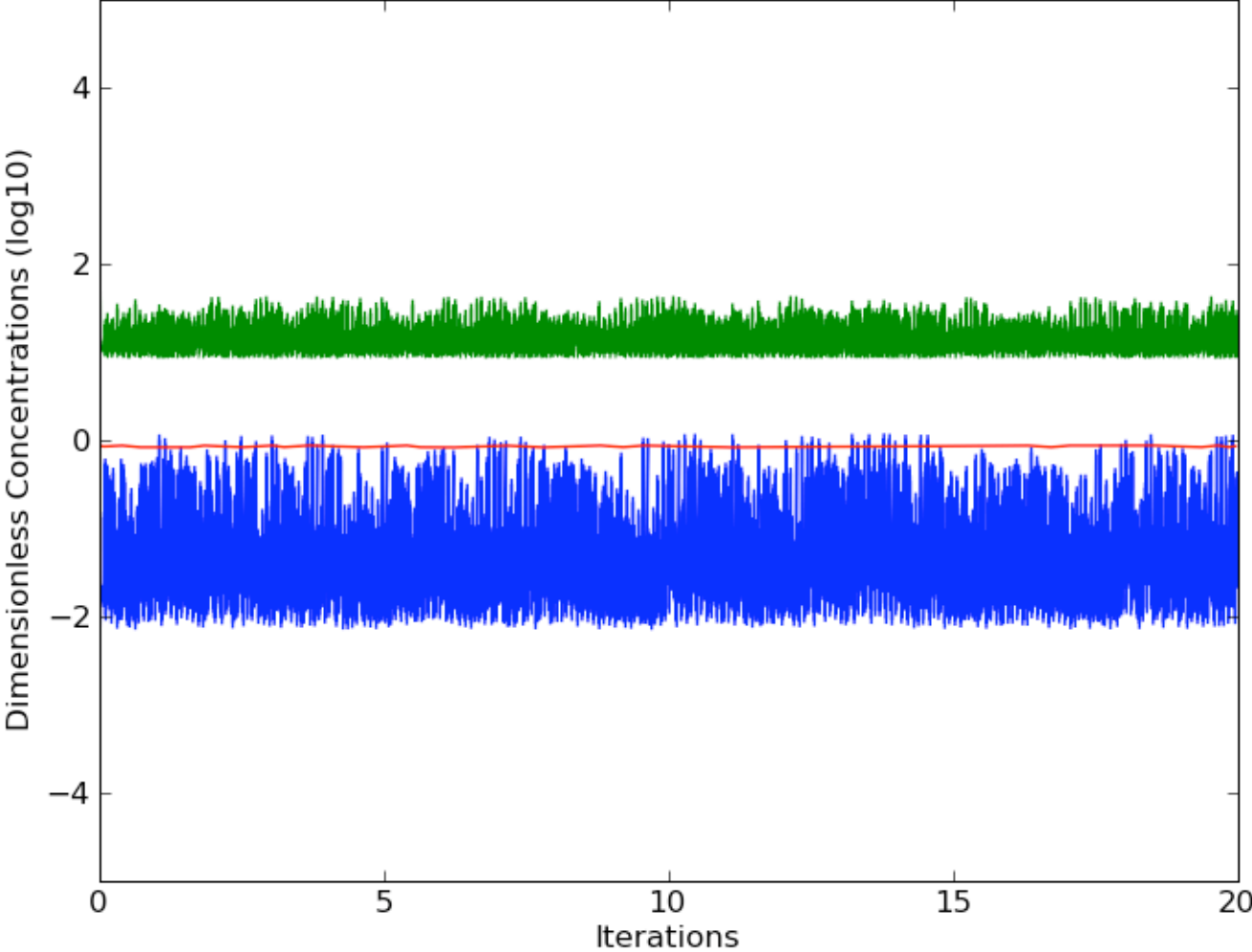
Chaotic Oregonator for CSTR at  
kf = 0.00039 alpha = 666.7 beta = 0.3478 C = 0.000833 stepsize = 0.03



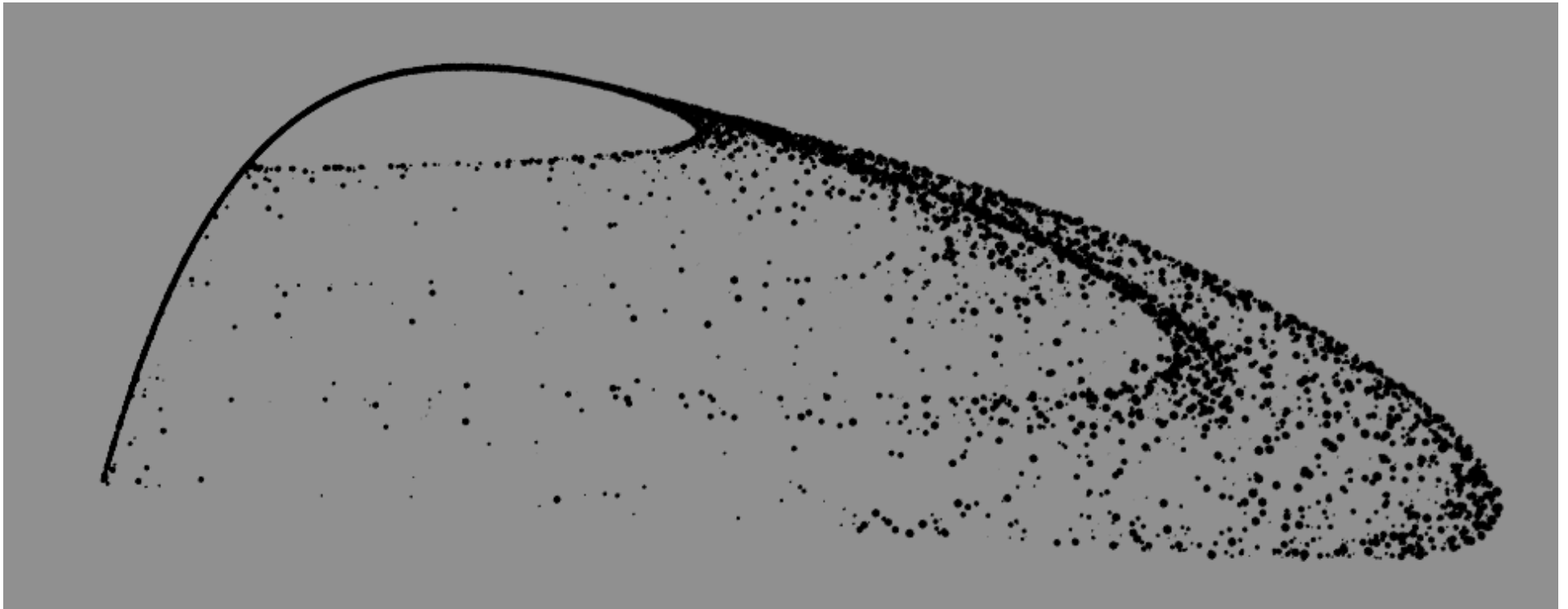
Chaotic Oregonator for CSTR at  
kf = 0.00039005 alpha = 666.7 beta = 0.3478 C = 0.000833 stepsize = 0.01



Chaotic Oregonator for CSTR at  
kf = 0.00039007 alpha = 666.7 beta = 0.3478 C = 0.000833 stepsize = 0.01



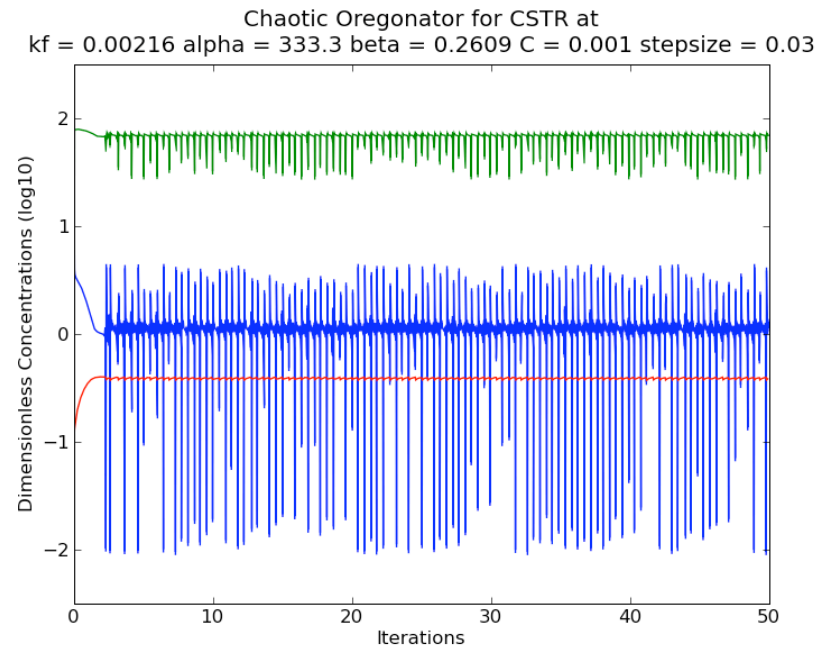
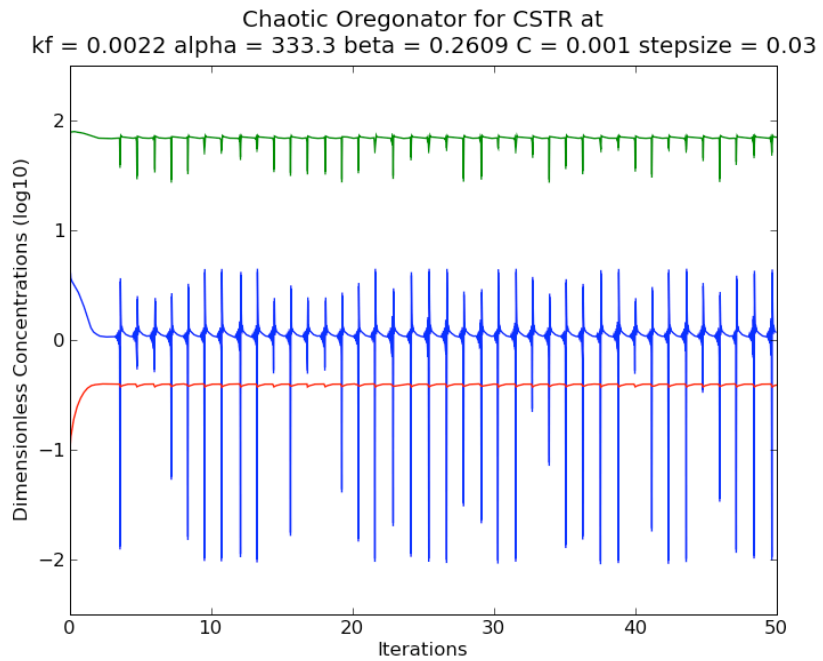
attractor formed at low 'flowrate' conditions



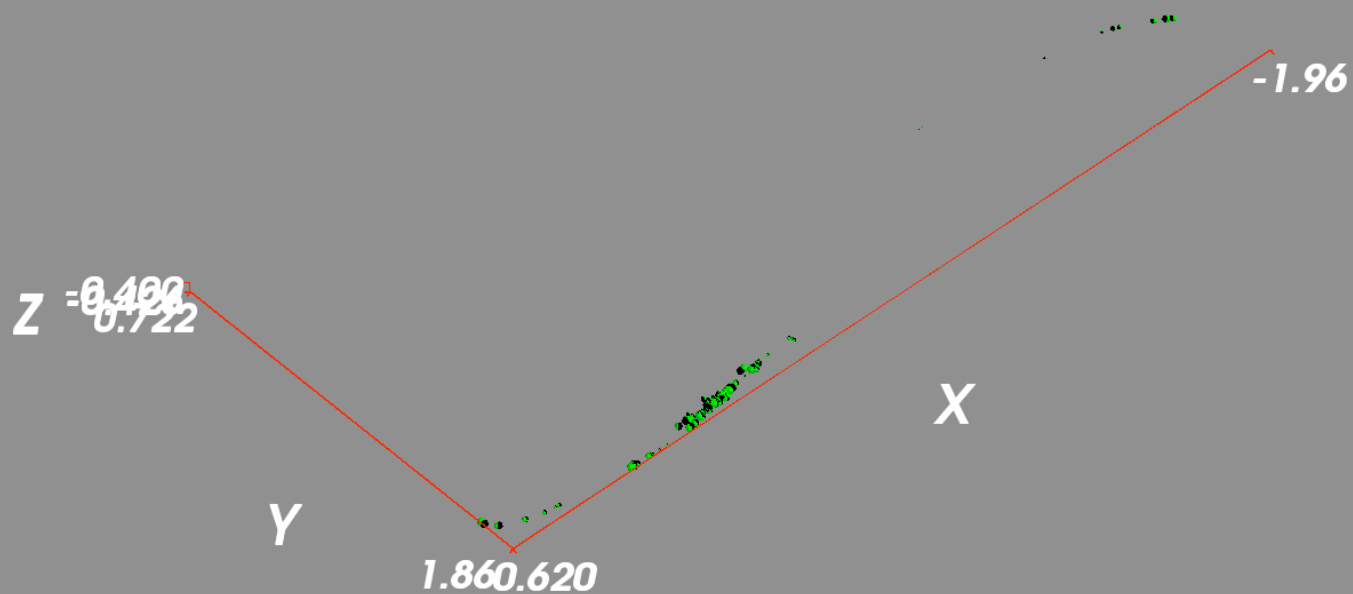
the attractor is virtually 2D



# Higher Flow Rate Conditions



# sensitive dependence on initial conditions

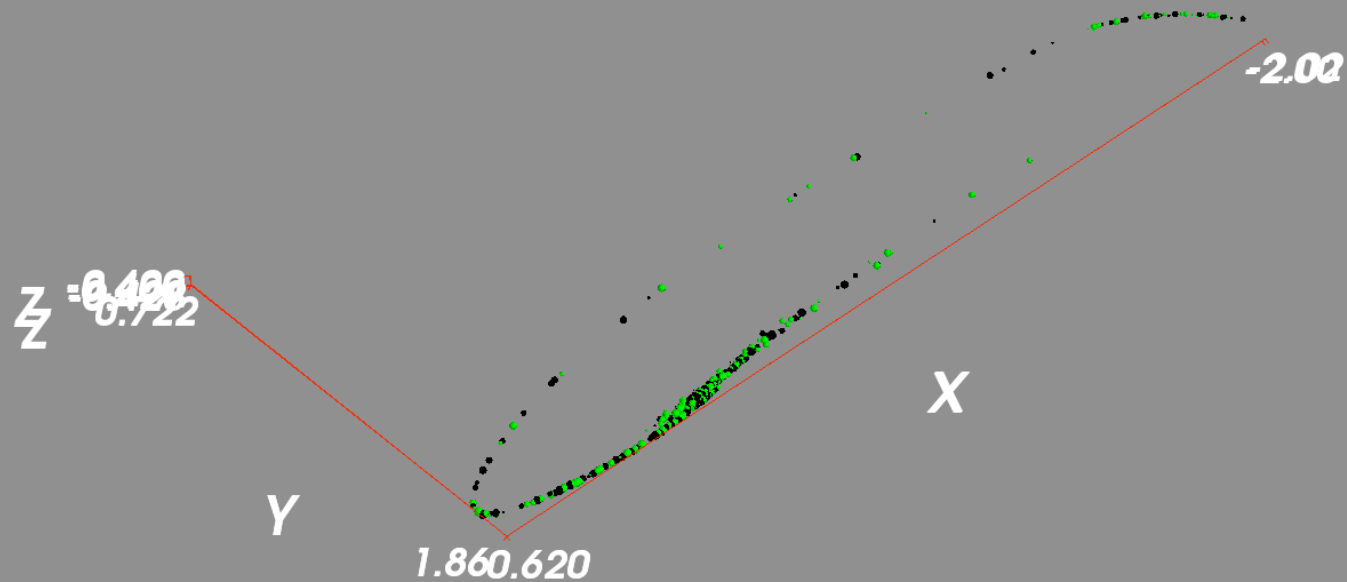


320 steps  $k_f = 0.00216$

Green: IC = (0.446751, 5.275282, 0.393890)

Black: IC = (0.446780, 5.275270, 0.393895)

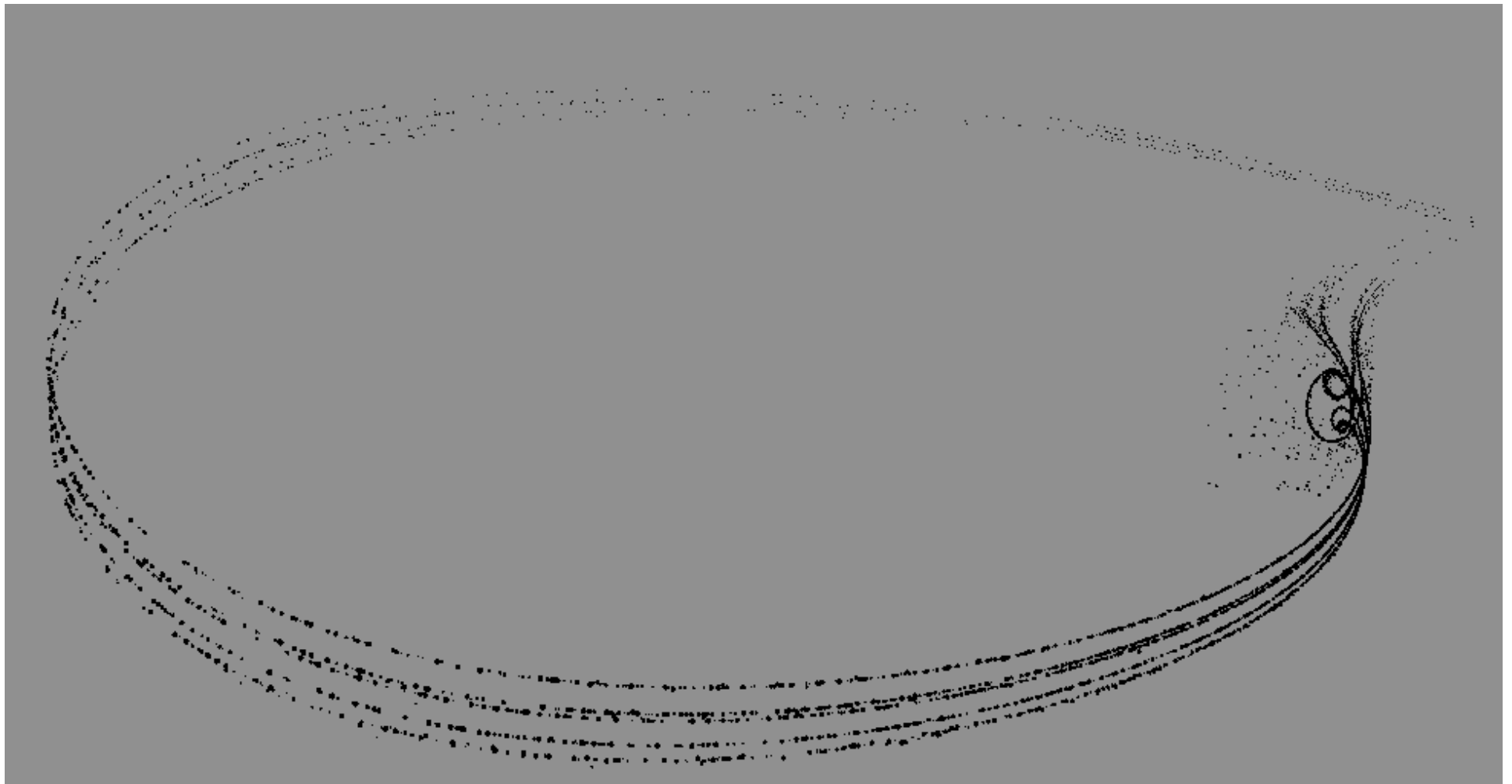
# sensitive dependence on initial conditions



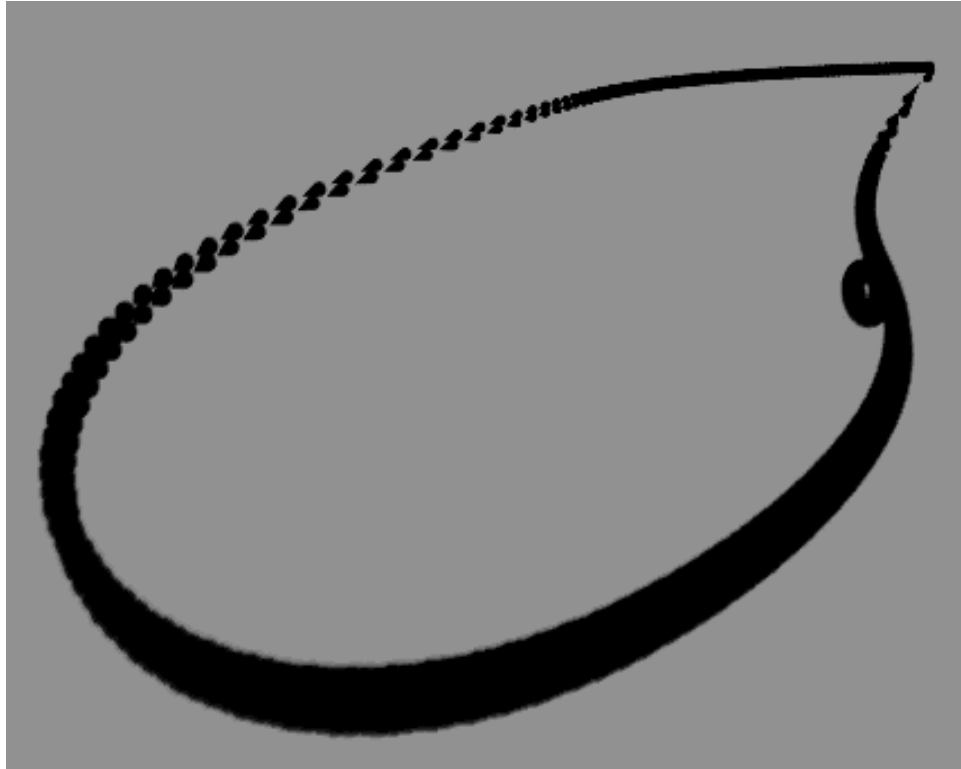
640 steps  $k_f = 0.00216$

Green: IC = (0.446751, 5.275282, 0.393890)

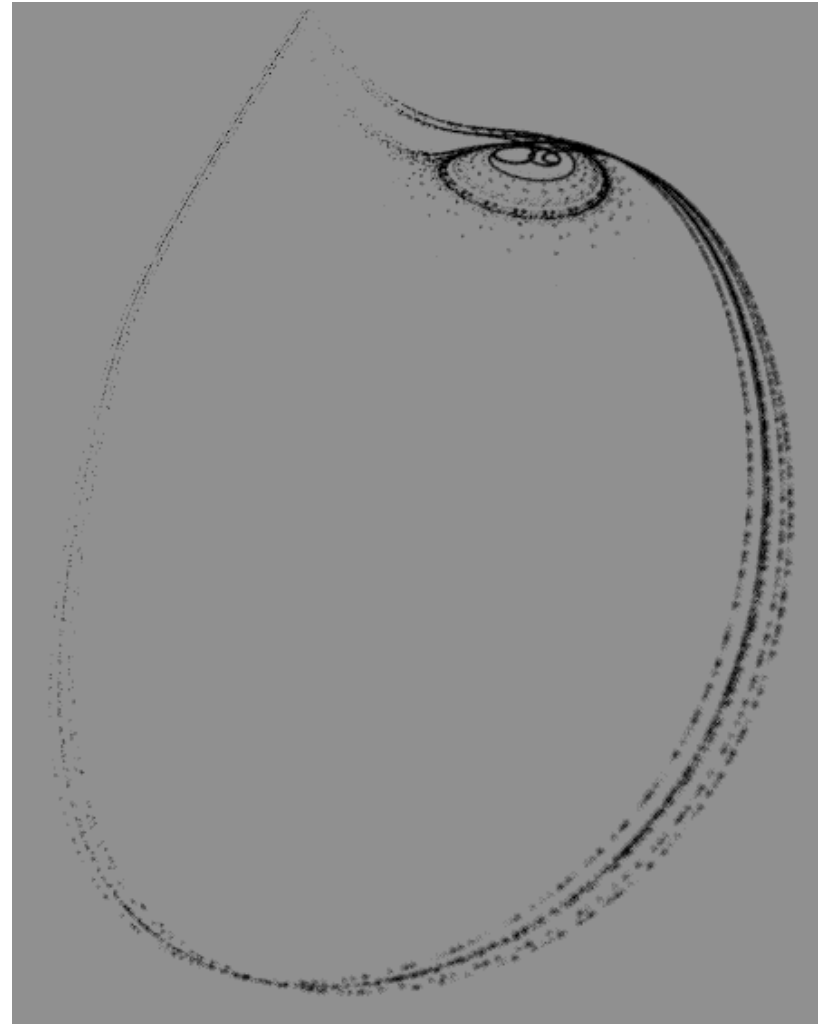
Black: IC = (0.446780, 5.275270, 0.393895)



$$k_f = 0.0020798$$

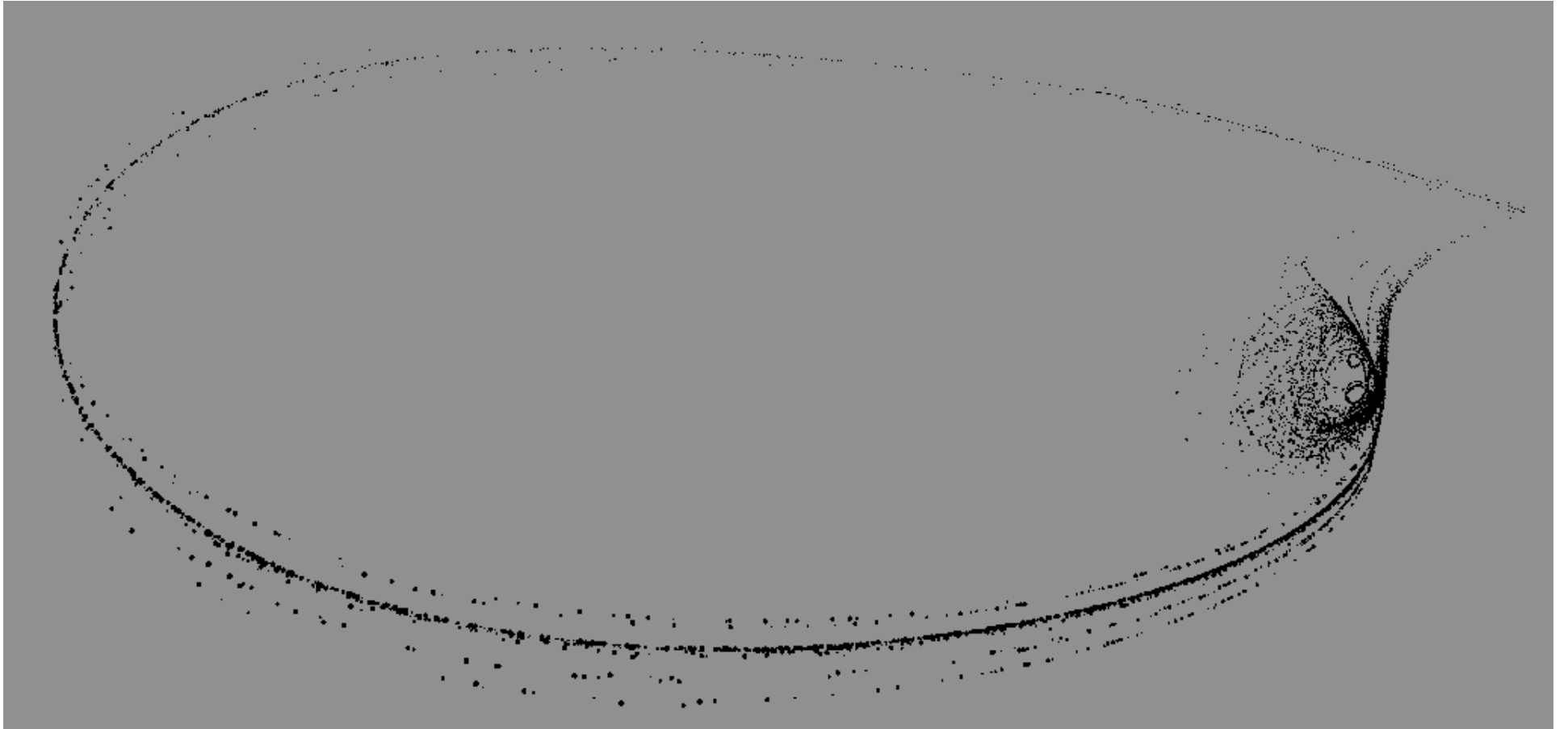


~ 1000 iterations

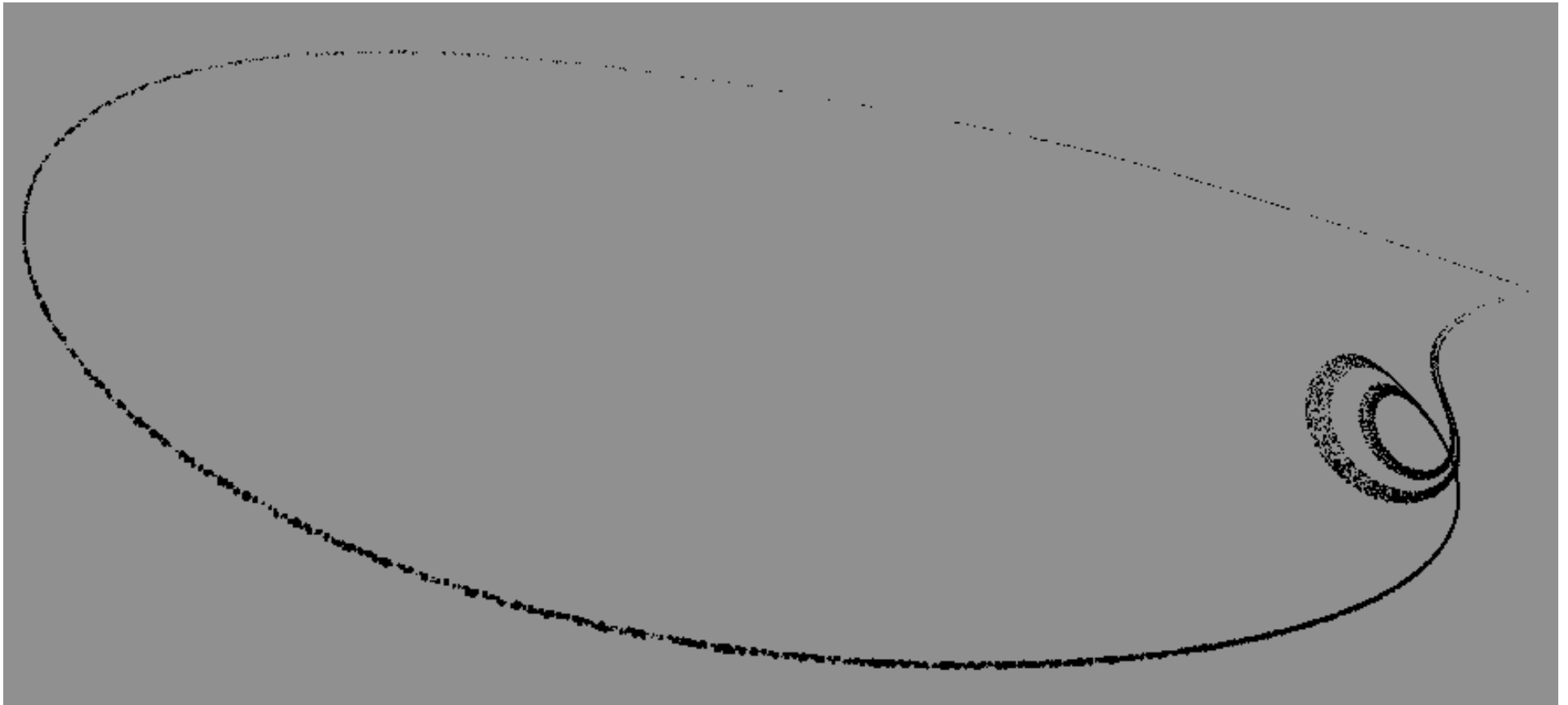


~ 20000 iterations

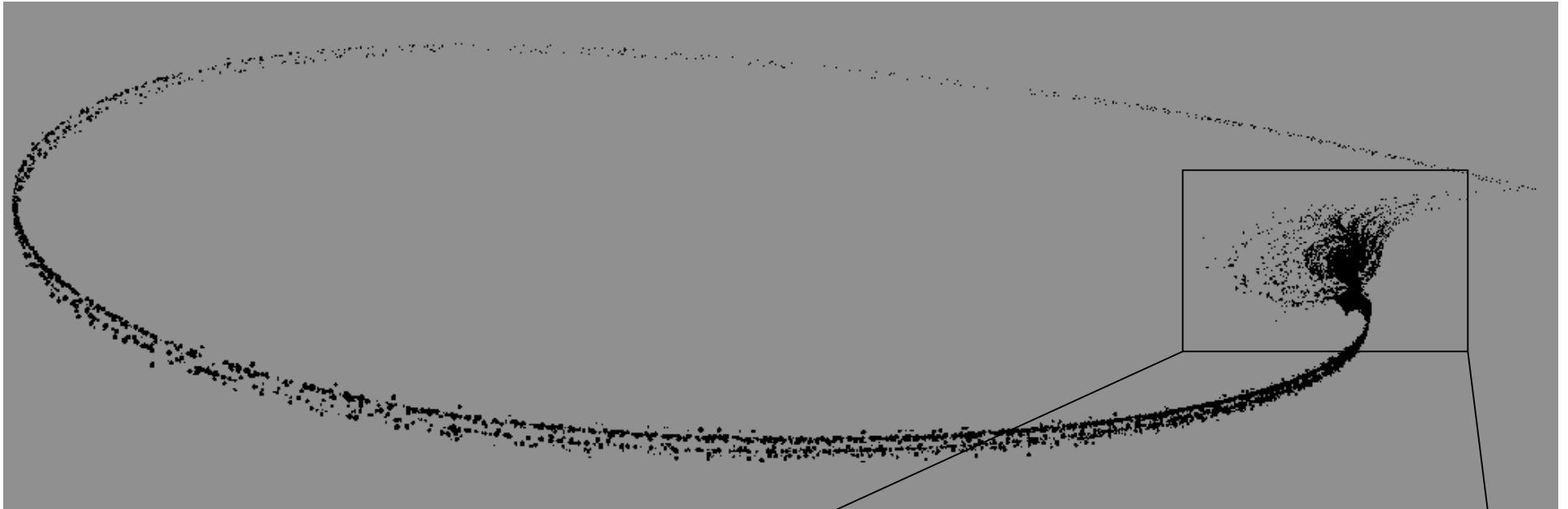
$$k_f = 0.00208$$



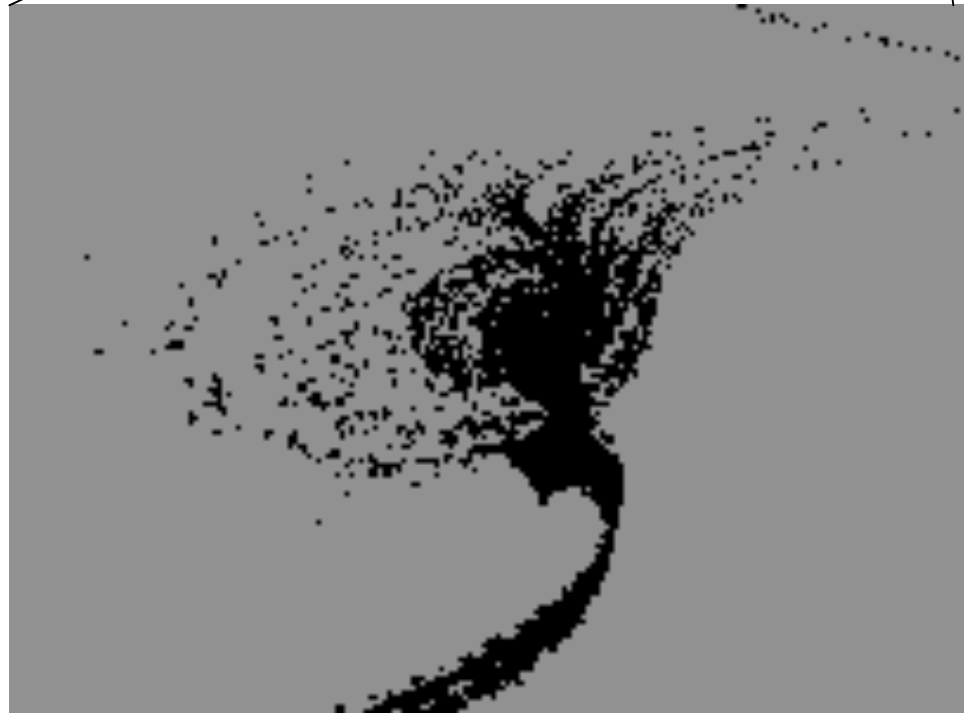
$$k_f = 0.002081$$



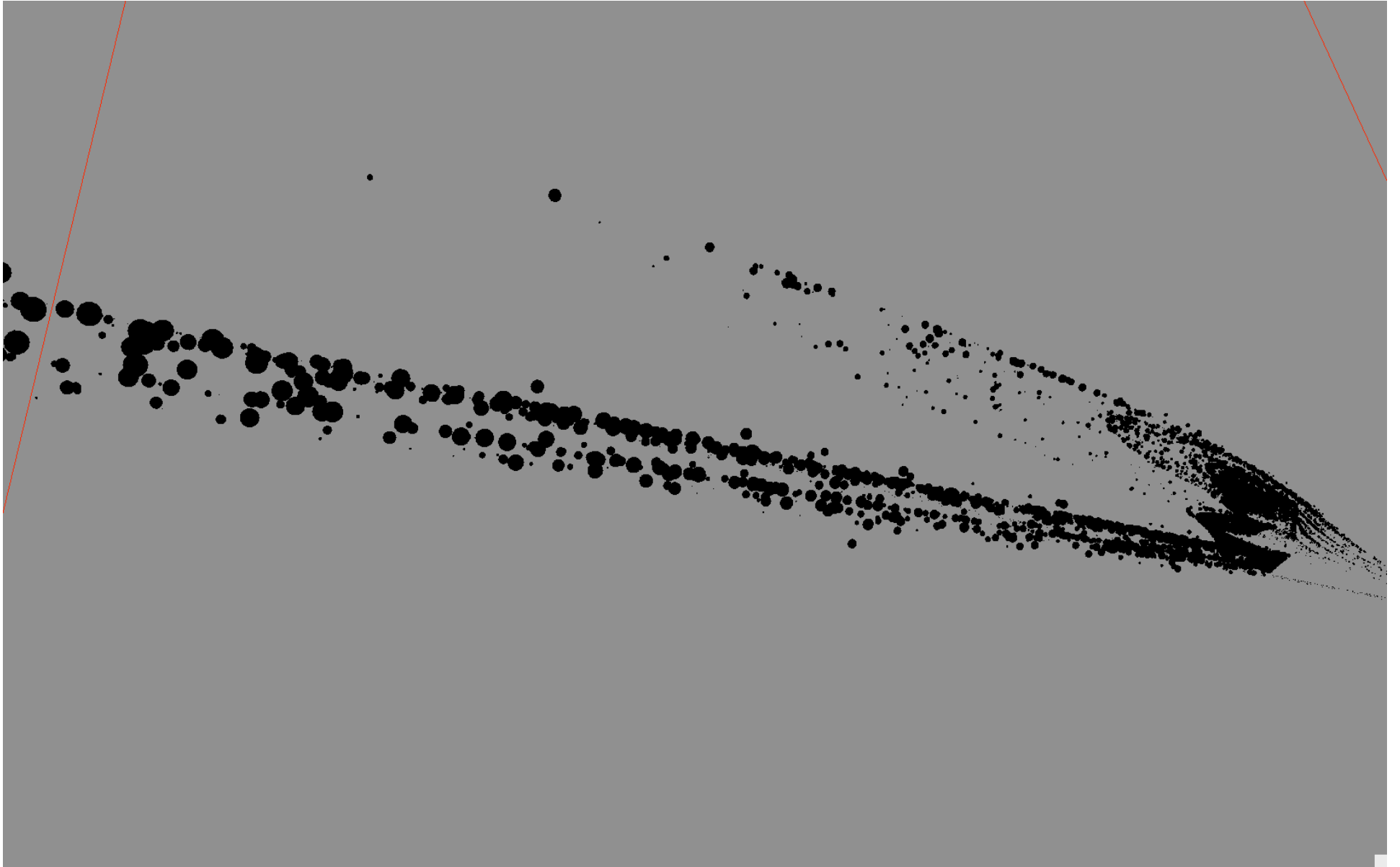
$$k_f = 0.00208105$$



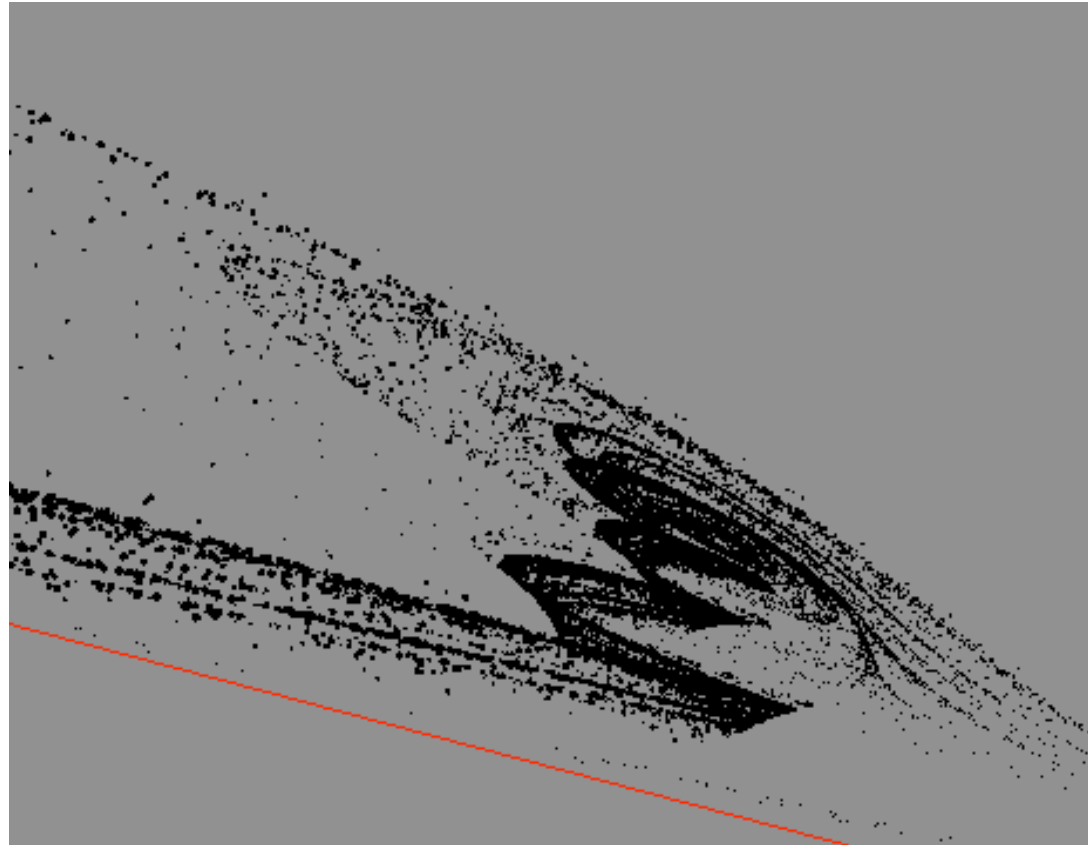
$$k_f = 0.00216$$







$$k_f = 0.00216$$



$$k_f = 0.00216$$

# Caution: Stiff ODEs

- Runge-Kutta fails (At least without a variable step-size)
- Popular method for integrating these ODE's is known as the GEAR method
- In Python, one can use SciPy's `integrate.odeint()`
- Orbit Diagrams in MayaVi can take a very long time

Thanks

Questions?