

# Quantum chaotic thermalization

Fritz Haake

Alexander Altland

Hakenfest, Delmenhorst, 14.11.2012

to be exemplified for

**Dicke model:  
spin and oscillator coupled**

$$\hat{H} = \hbar \left\{ \omega_0 \hat{J}_z + \omega a^\dagger a + g \sqrt{\frac{2}{j}} (a + a^\dagger) \hat{J}_x \right\}$$

$$[a, a^\dagger] = 1 \quad [J_x, J_y] = iJ_z \quad \vec{J}^2 = j(j+1)$$

quantum phase transition at  $g = g_c = \frac{\sqrt{\omega\omega_0}}{2}$

in superradiant phase: \*  $\langle a \rangle \neq 0$  Hepp (1973) ...

\* chaos Graham (1984) ...

experiment with double condensate in optical resonator:

T. Esslinger 2010

phase transition observed

we propose extension for

chaos,

equilibration,

giant fluctuations

# oscillator coherent states

$$|\alpha\rangle$$

complex  $\alpha$  fixes mean displacement and momentum

$$\langle x \rangle \propto \alpha + \alpha^*, \quad \langle p \rangle \propto \alpha - \alpha^*$$

with minimal uncertainty: one Planck cell

# spin coherent states

$$|z\rangle$$

complex amplitude  $z = e^{i\phi} \tan \frac{\theta}{2}$  fixes spin orientation as

$$\langle z | \hat{J}_x | z \rangle = j \sin \theta \cos \phi$$

$$\langle z | \hat{J}_y | z \rangle = j \sin \theta \sin \phi$$

$$\langle z | \hat{J}_z | z \rangle = j \cos \theta$$

with minimum  
uncertainty:  
single Planck cell

# Glauber Q-function (Husimi)

$$Q(\alpha, z) \propto \langle \alpha, z | \rho | \alpha, z \rangle$$

exists for any  $\rho$ , real, non-negative

$$\langle a^m a^{\dagger n} \rangle = \int d^2\alpha d^2z \alpha^m \alpha^{*n} Q$$

converges to classical phase-space density as  $\hbar \rightarrow 0$

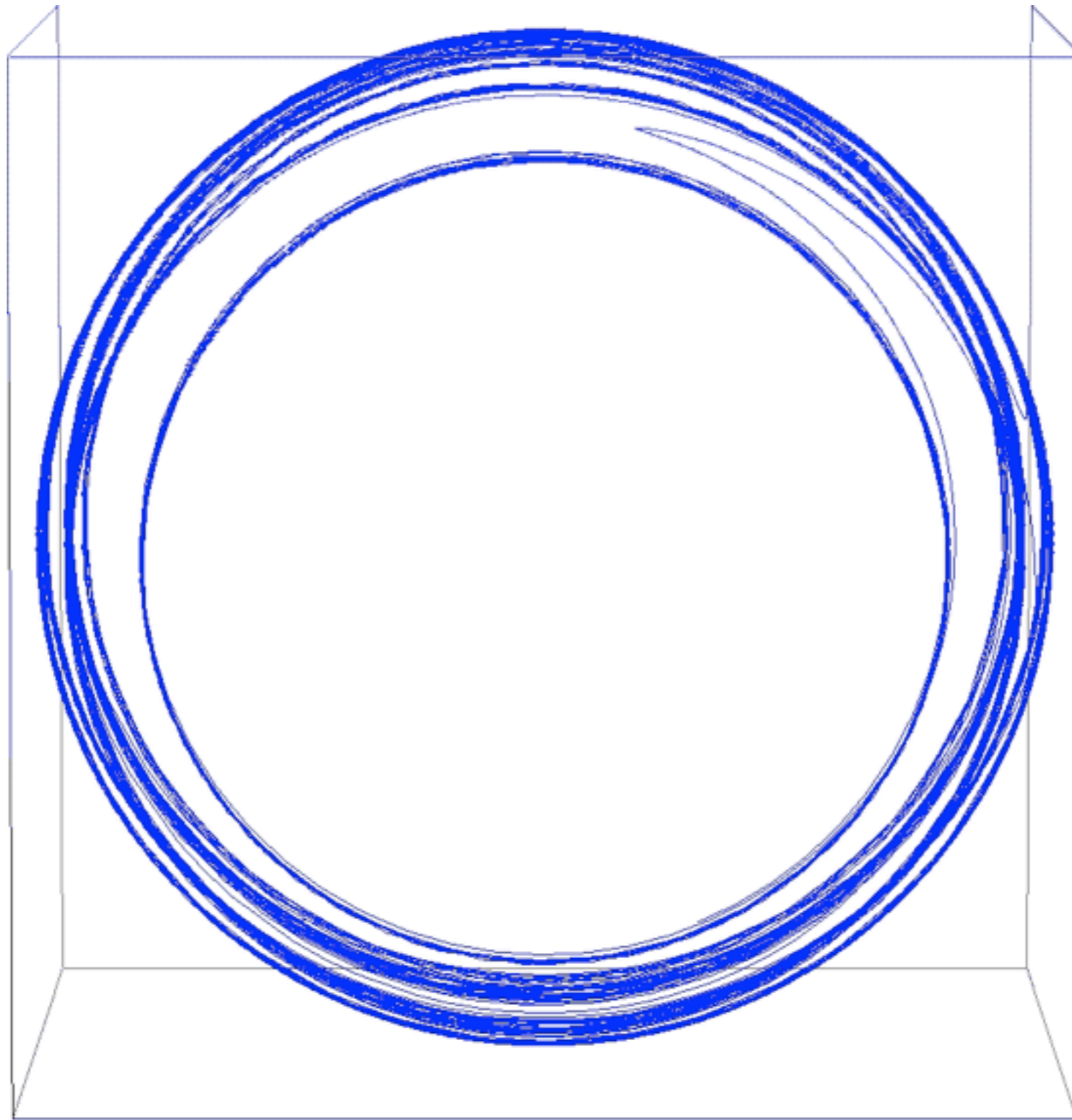
evolution equation is **Fokker-Planck**

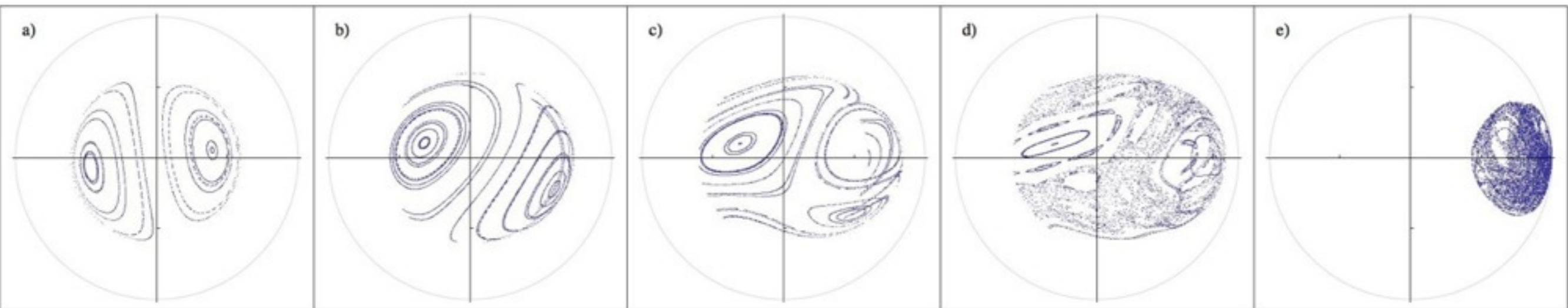
$$\dot{Q} = (\mathcal{L}_{\text{drift}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{diff}})Q$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{\text{drift}} = & i\partial_{\alpha} \left( \omega\alpha + g\sqrt{2j} \frac{z + z^*}{1 + |z|^2} \right) \\ & + i\partial_z \left( -\omega_0 z + \frac{g}{\sqrt{2j}} (1 - z^2)(\alpha + \alpha^*) \right) + \text{c.c.} \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{diff}} = \frac{ig}{\sqrt{2j}} \partial_{\alpha} \partial_z (1 - z^2) + \text{c.c.}$$







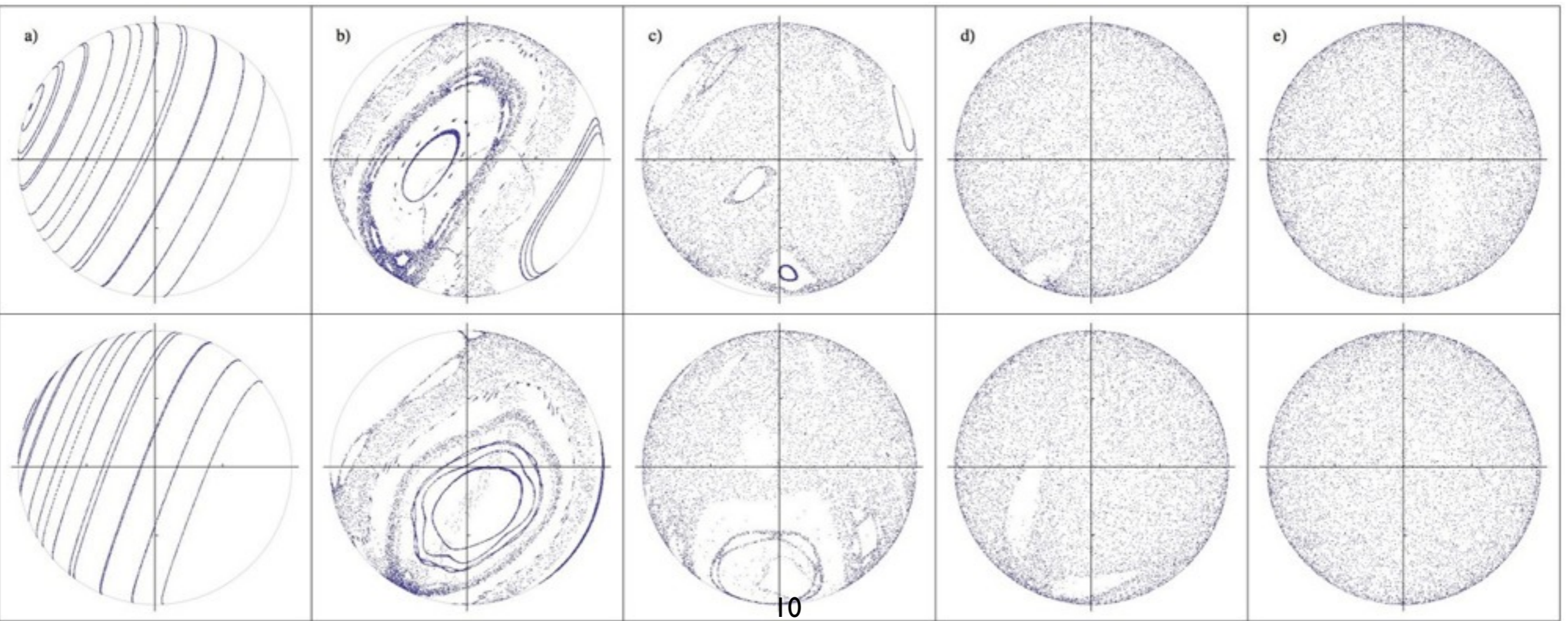
$$\frac{g}{g_c} = 0.2$$

0.7

0.9

1.01

1.5



drift of  $Q$  along classical trajectories (diffusion neglected):

assume initial coherent state  
(with 'tiny circular support' in energy shell)



swarm of initial points, gives rise to bundle of trajectories

initially circular support deforms while preserving 'area':

squeezes, stretches, bends, wriggles, without end,

visiting everywhere in the energy shell

until  
||

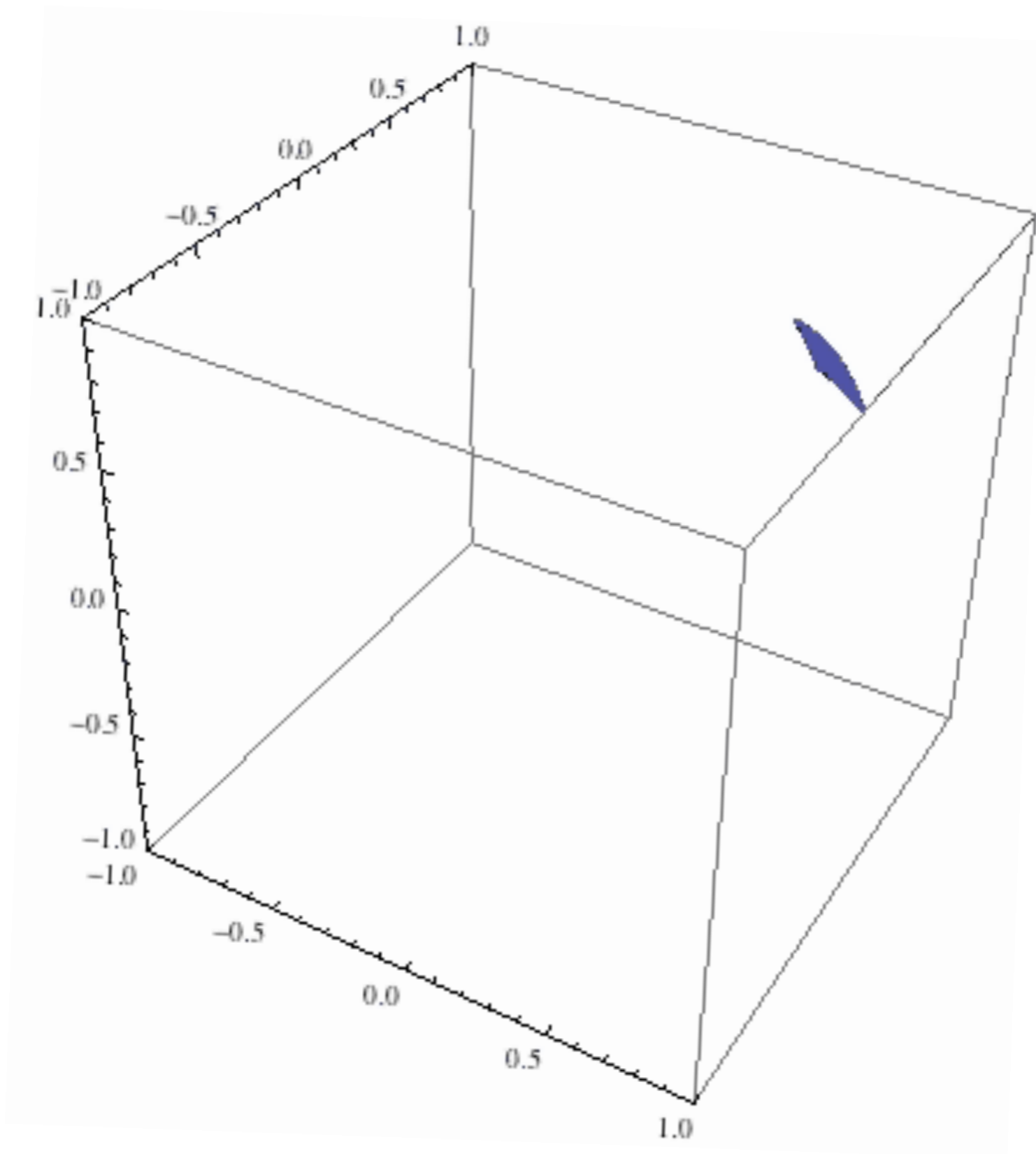
until

$Q$  forms an 'infinitely' fissured landscape,  
over its infinitely wriggling support,

finite resolution, however, suggests

constant  $Q$  over the energy shell,

microcanonical distribution



quantum mechanics

forbids

classical nonsense like infinitely fine structures

quantum diffusion washes out singular fissures in  $Q$

so as to corroborate microcanonical distribution

but how?

# quantum diffusion

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{diff}} = \frac{ig}{\sqrt{2j}} \partial_{\alpha} \partial_z (1 - z^2) + \text{c.c.}$$

$$D = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & d \\ d^{\dagger} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{real symmetric, chiral}$$

$$\lambda^4 - \lambda^2 \text{tr} dd^{\dagger} + \det dd^{\dagger} = 0$$

eigenvalues come as two real  $\pm$  pairs

2 eig'vec's of D `expansive'  $\longleftrightarrow \lambda > 0$  genuine diffusion

2 `contractive'  $\longleftrightarrow \lambda < 0$  antidiffusion

classical chaotic drift also has 4 distinguished directions:

2 neutral (along flow and transverse to energy shell),

1 expansive (unstable), 1 contractive (stable)



deterministic contraction and quantum diffusive expansion

balance at quantum scales  $\propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{j}}$

antidiffusive shrinking cannot become dominant  
in the classically stable direction ( $Q$  exists!)

this is how classically favored singular fissures are  
quantum mechanically prevented

exponential growth in the classically unstable direction,  
quantum diffusive/antidiffusive corrections unimportant

projection onto a coordinate plane Poincaré section

fix phase space point  $X_0$  and choose deflection  $\delta X$

write Fokker Planck eqn with  $\delta X$  as independent variables

$$\dot{Q} = \left( \partial_{\delta X_i} d_i(X_0 + \delta X) + \partial_{\delta X_i} \partial_{\delta X_j} D_{ij}(X_0 + \delta X) \right) Q$$

truncate wrt deflection, leading order

express deflection in terms of local coordinates along

classically stable, unstable, and neutral directions:  $s, u, \epsilon, \tau$

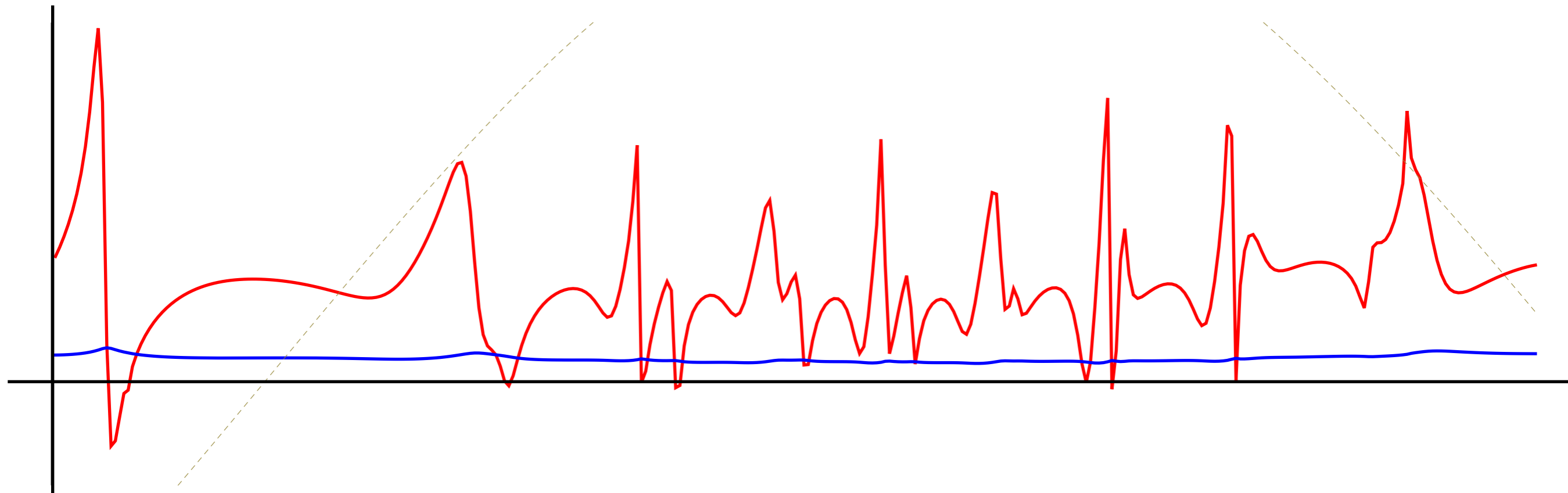
$$\dot{Q} = (\lambda \partial_s s - \lambda \partial_u u + \partial_s^2 D_{ss} + \partial_u^2 D_{uu} + 2\partial_s \partial_u D_{su}) Q$$

time dependent diffusion matrix

dynamics projected on comoving Poincaré section

$$\text{var}_t(s) = e^{-\lambda t} \text{var}_0(s) + \int_0^t dt' e^{-\lambda s} D_{ss}(t - t')$$

must be positive at all times since  $Q$  is

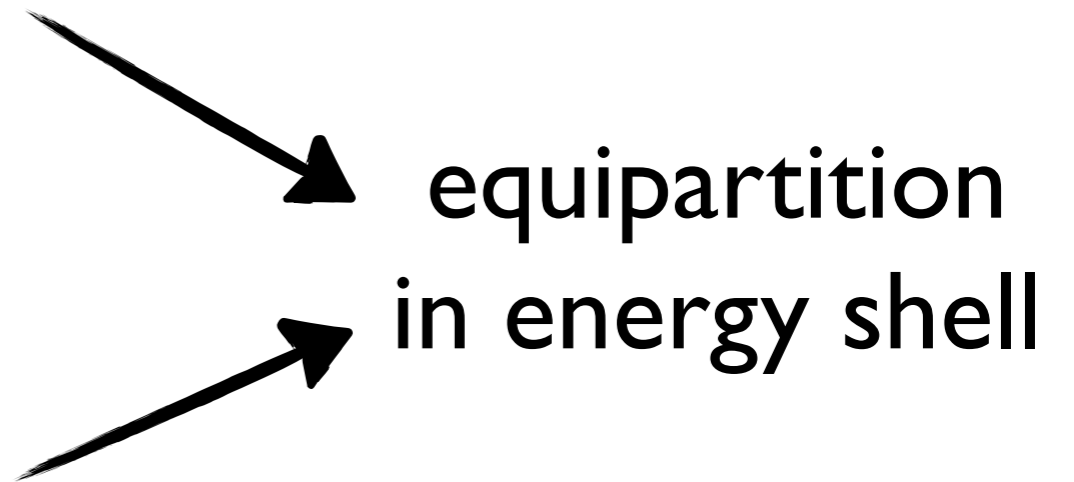


minimal scale for stable direction  $\propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{j}}$

# equilibration mechanism:

chaos provides endless stretching  
and folding in unstable direction

quantum diffusion smoothes  
in classically stable direction,  
to minimal scale  $\propto 1/\sqrt{j} \propto \sqrt{\hbar}$



how general?

Fokker-Planck equations often  $Q$  describe unitary dynamics

(kicked top,  $SU(3)$ -dynamics, Bose-Hubbard model)

given chaos, equilibration as above

in general, given chaos,

$$\dot{Q} = \mathcal{L}Q$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{n=1,2,\dots} \hbar^{n-1} \partial_X^n f_n(X)$$

for classically stable coordinates, along classical trajectory

$$\partial_{\tilde{s}} \lambda \tilde{s} + \sum_{n=2,3,\dots} \partial_{\tilde{s}}^n \hbar^{(n-2)/2} f_n(X_t)$$

suggests asymptotic validity of Fokker-Planck eqn

# summary

Q obeys Fokker-Planck equation

equilibration to microcanonical distribution,  
due to classically chaotic drift and quantum diffusion  
(stretching, folding, quantum smoothing)