

# Math 118r

# Introduction

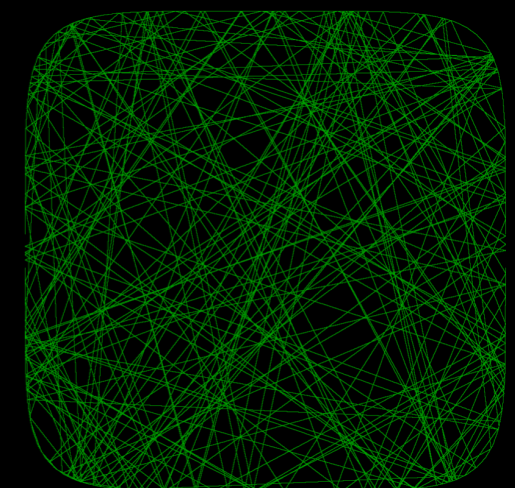
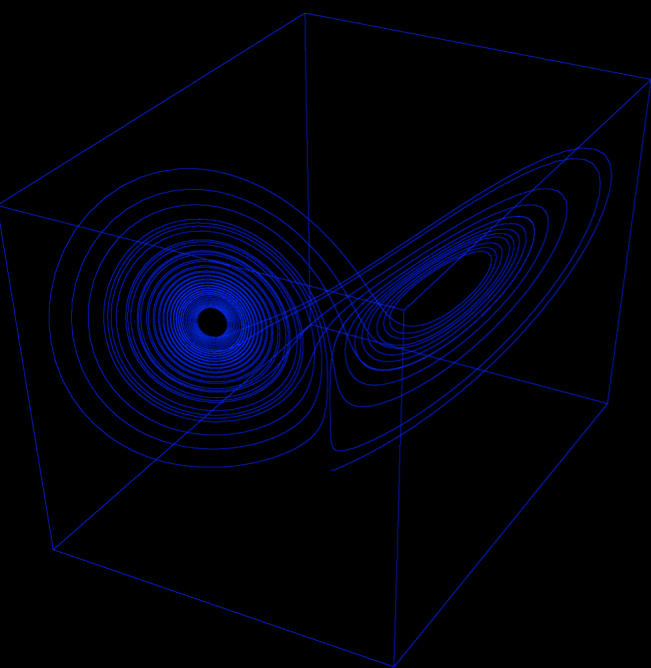
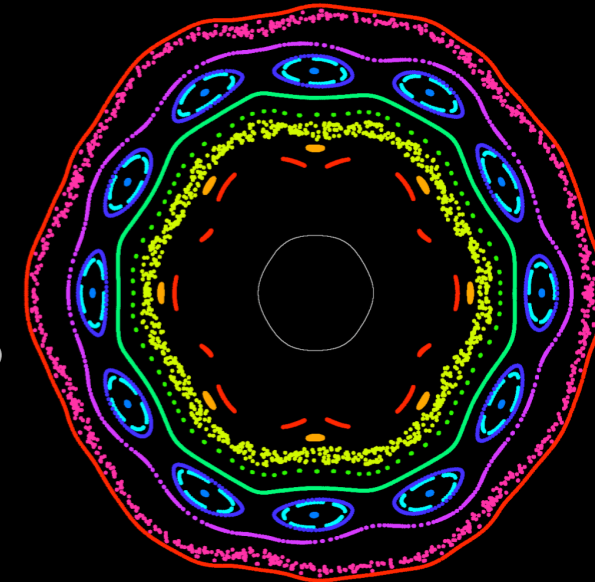
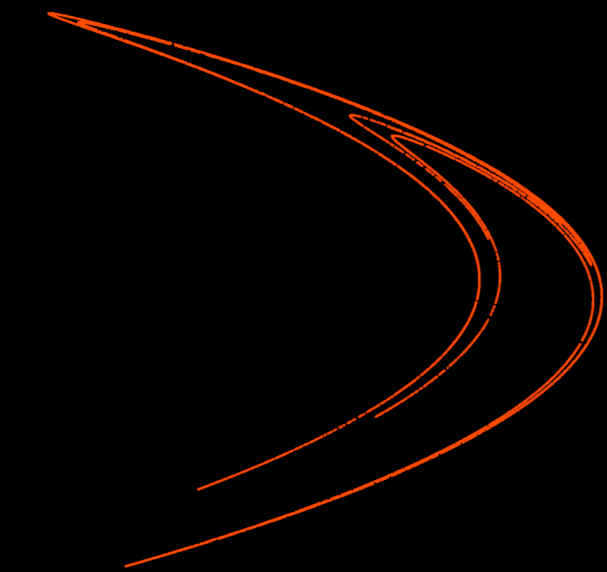
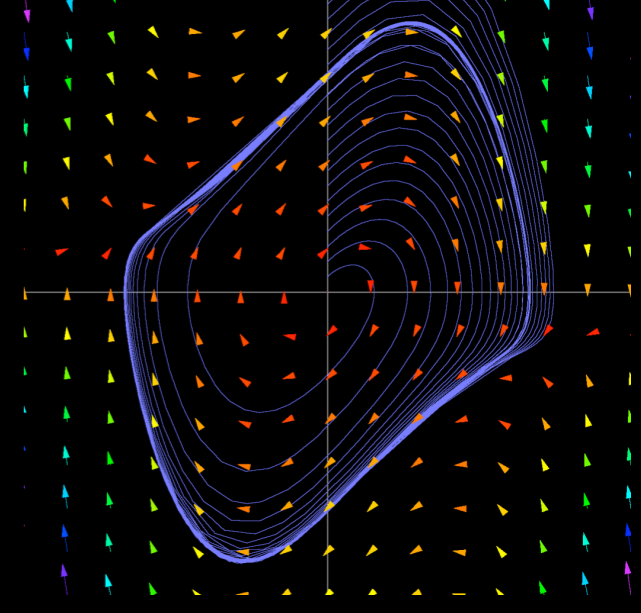
A: What is a dynamical system?

B: Relevance of predictability

C: Organization of the course.

D: Syllabus walk through

Oliver Knill, Feb. 2, 2004



# About Math 118r:

- one semester of linear algebra as well as one semester of multivariable calculus are required.
- while the book talks in the back about senior undergraduates or graduate students, this course is accessible for freshmen and sophomores.
- We focus on examples with occasional digression into generalities.

# A: What is dynamics?



- Model a concrete situation
- Predict future state of a system
- Understand the limitations of models
- Solve mathematical problems in other fields like geometry or number theory
- Mathematicians: semigroup

# Mathematical Fields

Algebra

Measure Theory

Analysis

Topology

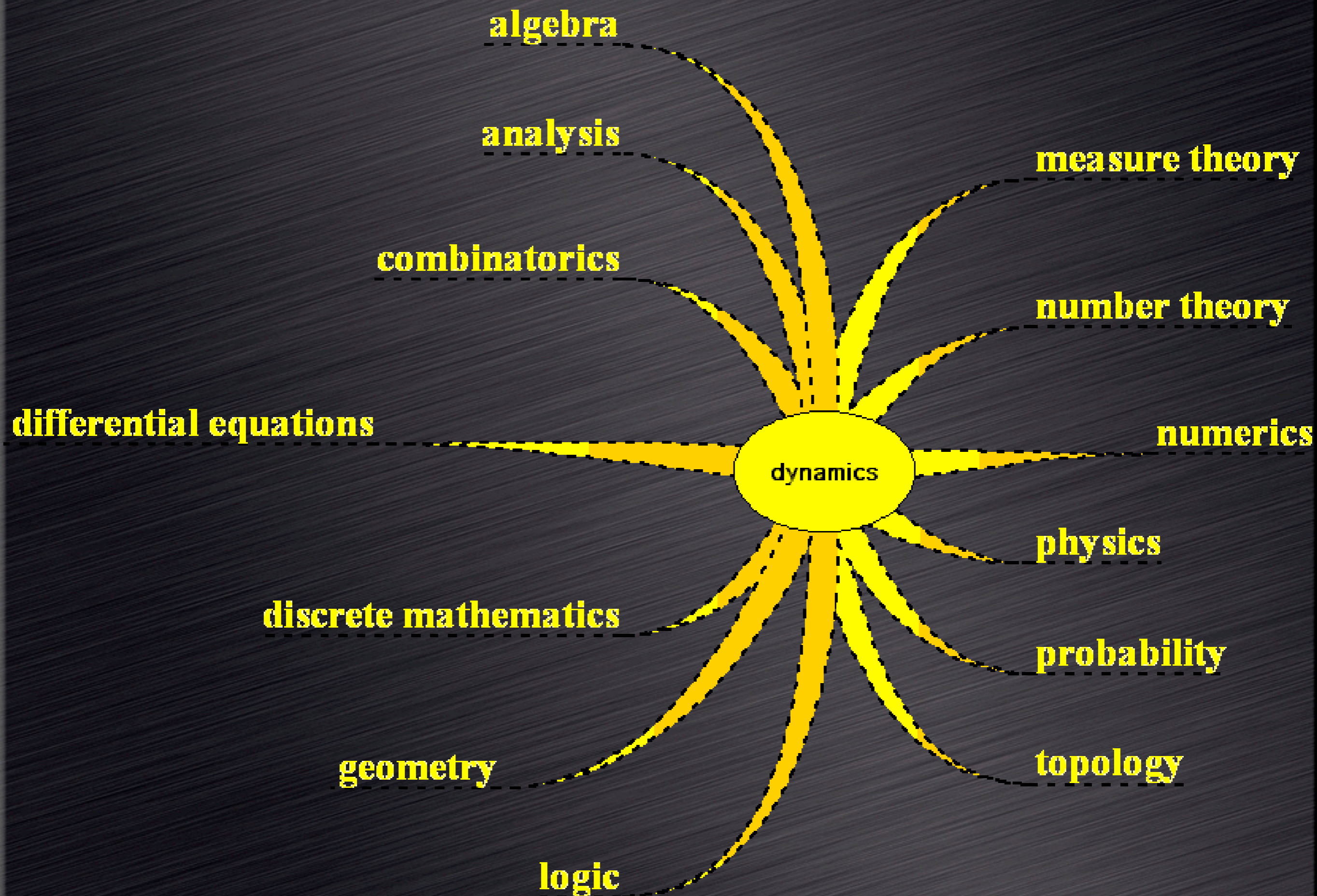
Probability

Geometry

Logic

Dynamics

Number Theory



# One of the main goals of dynamical system theory:

Predict the future of a specific  
system.

Let us look at some examples  
collected from news stories in  
the last few  
weeks (december 2004-  
january 2005)



Sybil Trelawney  
(Harry Potter and the  
prisoner from Azkaban)

# Mathematical definition:

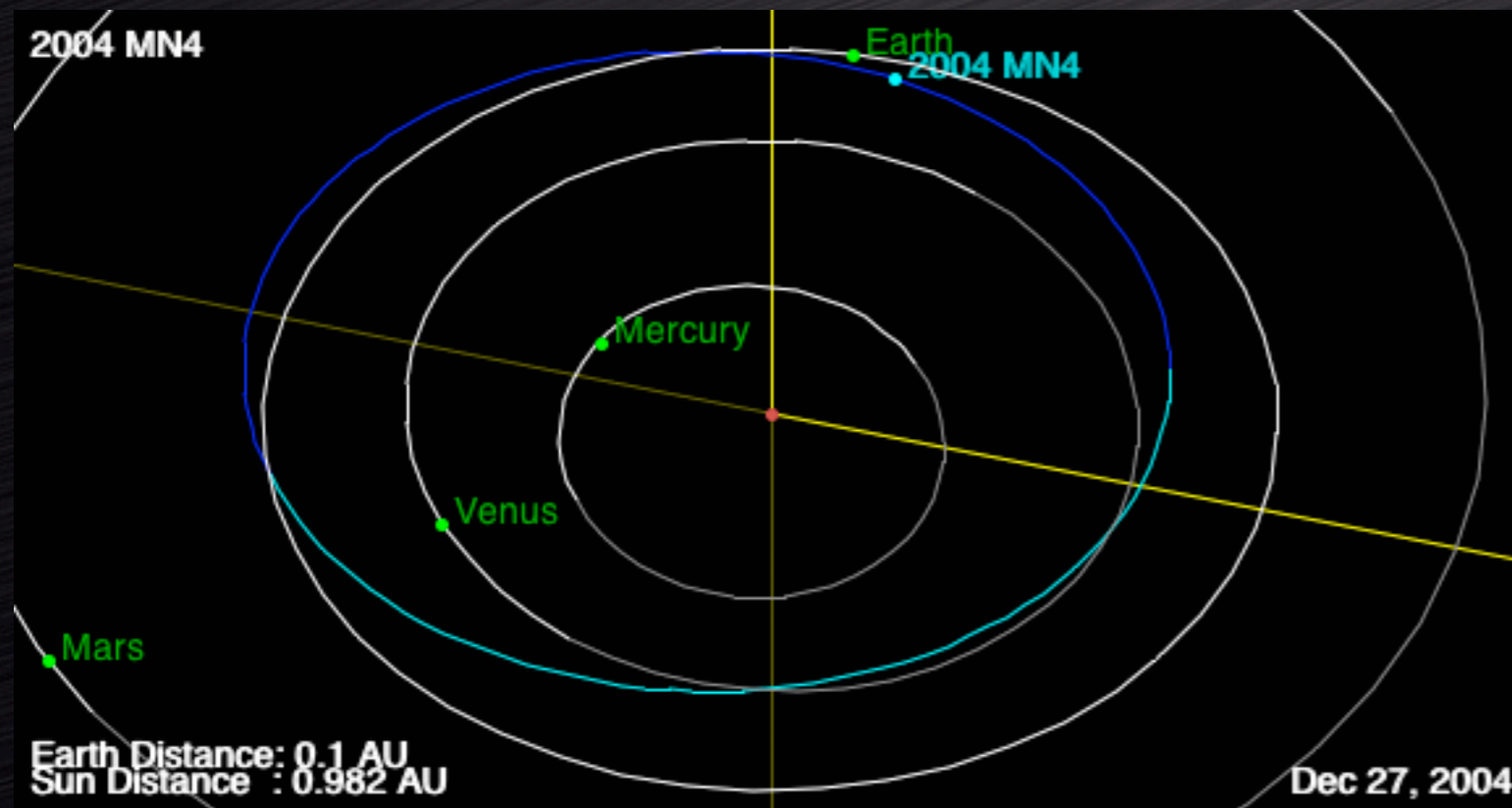
A semigroup is a set  $G$  with an operation  $*$  which is associative  $(u*v)*w=u*(v*w)$

A semigroup  $G$  acts on a set  $X$ , if for each  $t$  in  $G$ , there is a transformation  $T(t)$  on  $X$  such that  $T(t*s)(x) = T(t) T(s)(x)$

A dynamical system is a semigroup  $G$  acting on a set  $X$ .

While this is much too abstract and general for us and just about the contrary to the approach we use (focus on examples) it is useful to keep this in mind.

# Predictability I

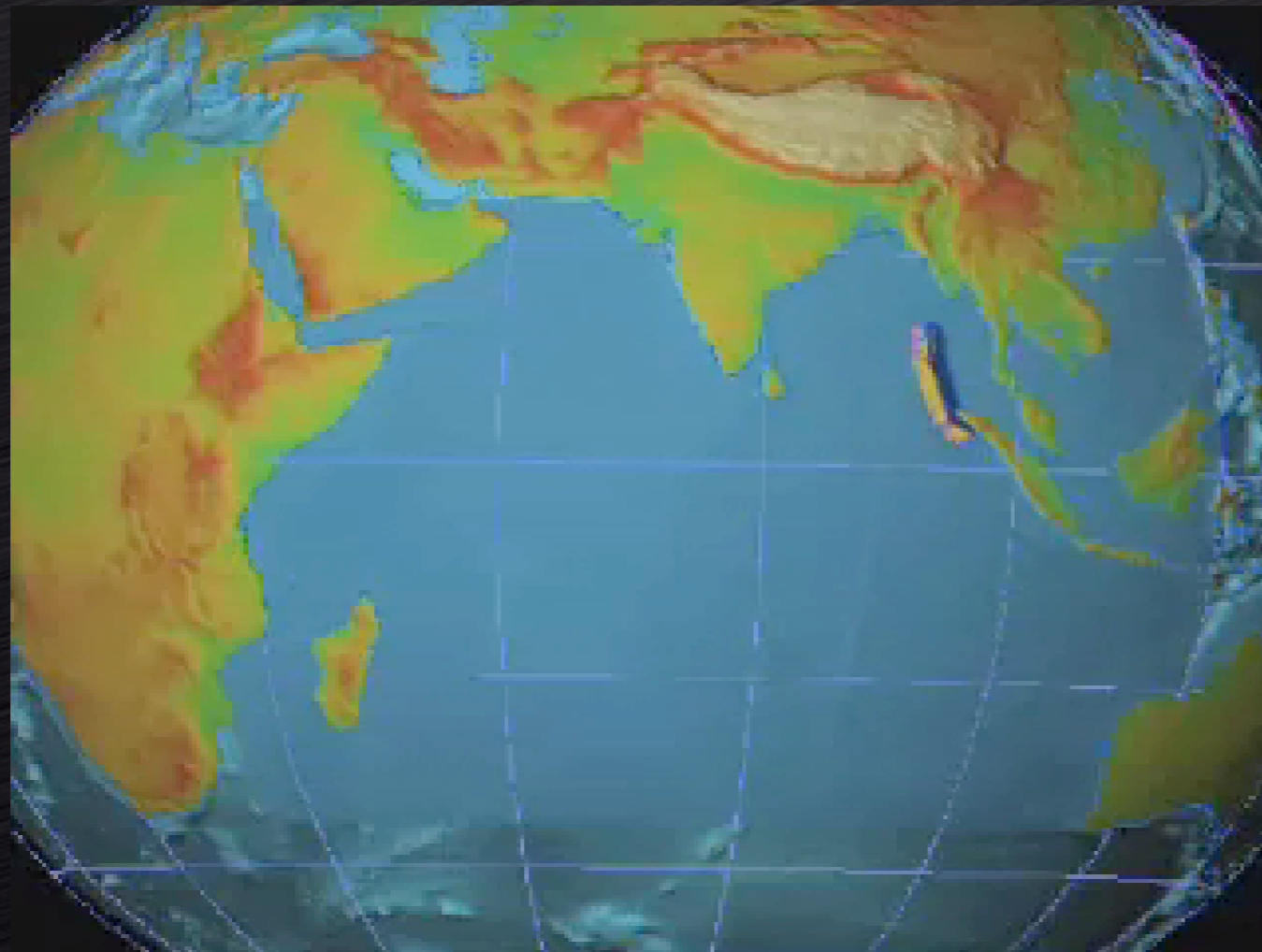


## Asteroid 2004 MN4

The recently rediscovered Near Earth Asteroid 2004 MN4 may represent an impact hazard in 2029. This asteroid has an estimated diameter of 400 meters, and the nominal orbit solution results in a close approach to the Earth at 520,000 Km minimum distance on April 13, 2029.

However, given the current knowledge of the orbit, we cannot exclude that there could be an impact in that date. We have every expectation that further monitoring and further analysis on this object will entirely eliminate its potential hazard.

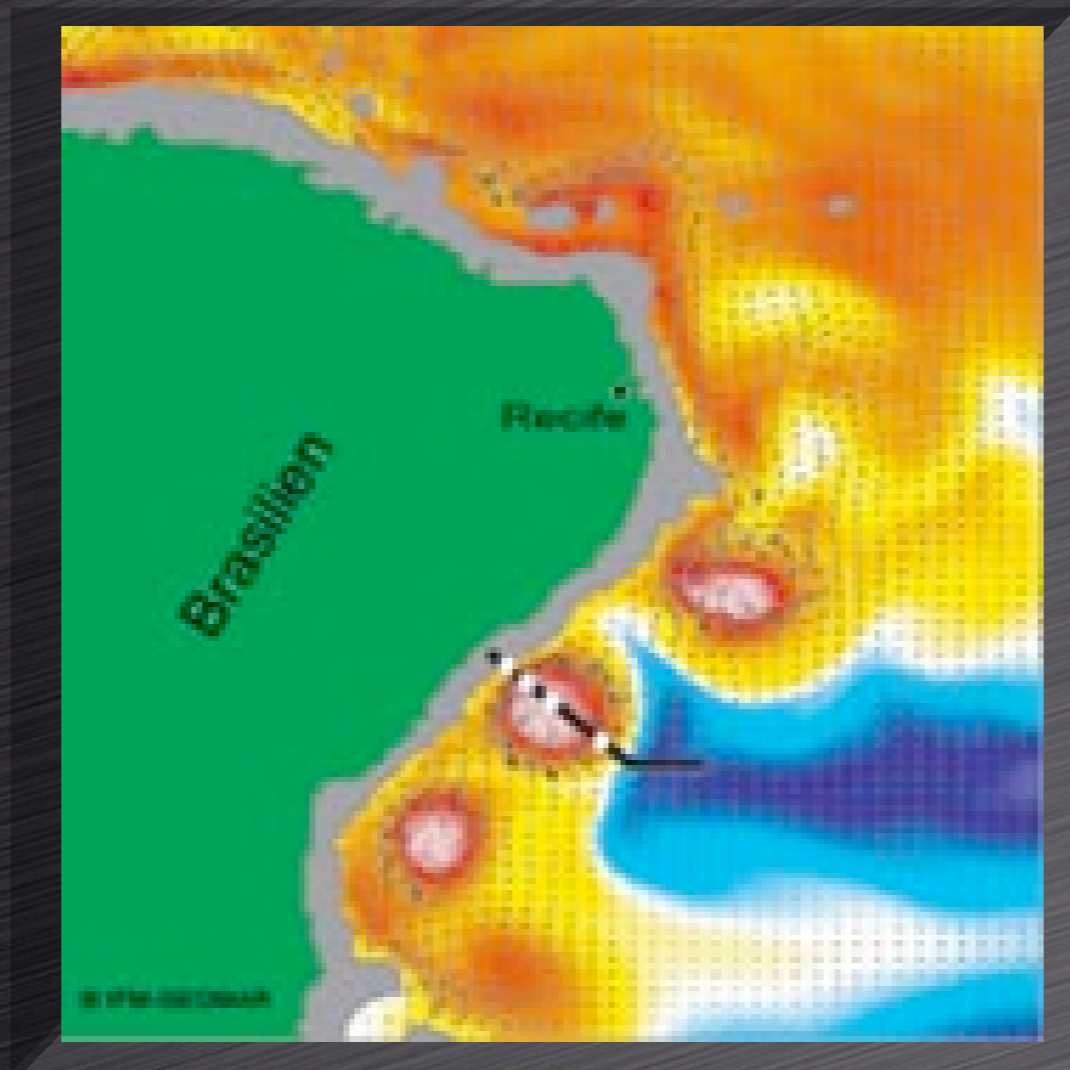
# Predictability II



Simulation of wave dynamics in the Indian ocean was done only after the devastating tsunami last December. It could have saved thousands of lives.

2 hours after the quake there was still no established model on what a tsunami might do in the Indian Ocean. 90 % happen in the Pacific. Vasily V. Titov in Seattle started computations. It was too late.

# Predictability III



Recently, large vortex storms had been discovered near the South American continent. Understanding them could predict for example changes in the Gulf stream which would have huge climatic consequences.

# Predictability IV

3.1415926535897932384626433832795028841971693993751058209749445923078  
164062862089986280348253421170679821480865132823066470938446095505822317  
253594081284811174502841027019385211055596446229489549303819644288109756  
659334461284756482337867831652712019091456485669234603486104543266482133  
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903600113305305488204665213841469519415116094330572703657595919530921861  
173819326117931051185480744623799627495673518857527248912279381830119491  
298336733624406566430860213949463952247371907021798609437027705392171762  
931767523846748184676694051320005681271452635608277857713427577896091736  
371787214684409012249534301465495853710507922796892589235420199561121290  
219608640344181598136297747713099605187072113499999983729780499510597317  
328160963185950244594553469083026425223082533446850352619311881710100031  
378387528865875332083814206171776691473035982534904287554687311595628638  
82353787593751957781857780532171226806613001927876611195909216420199

Digits of Pi: does every digit occur with the same frequency?

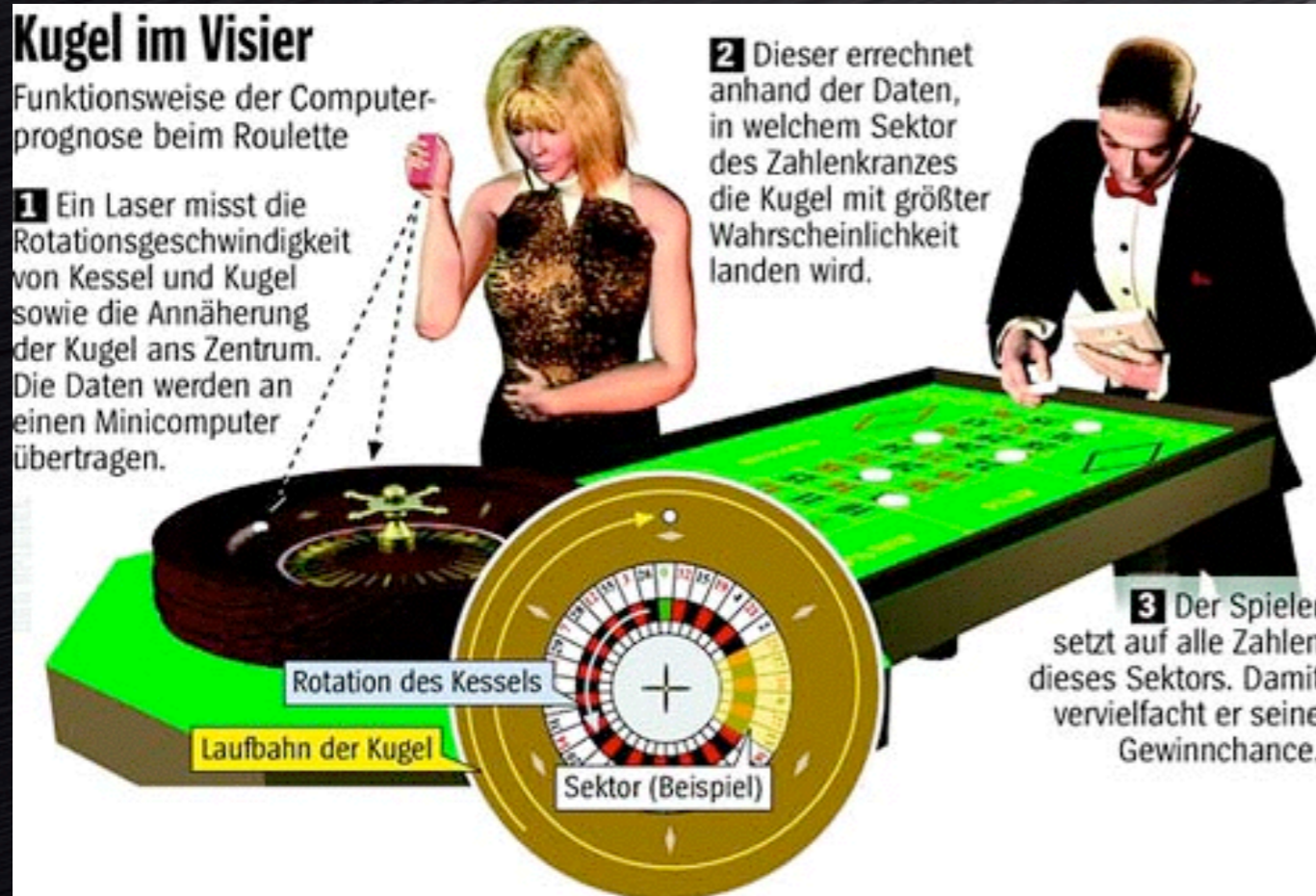
# Predictability V



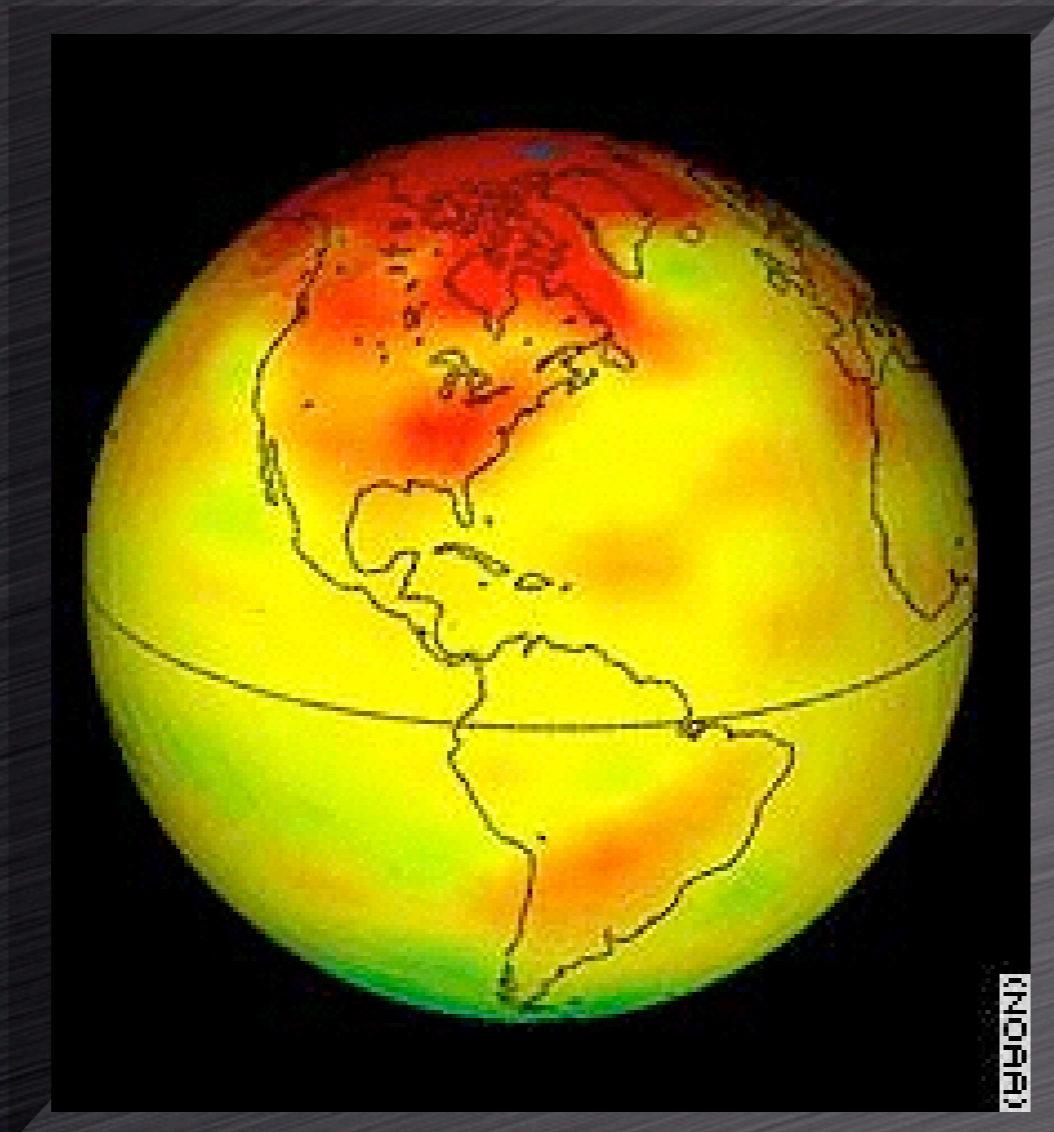
In January, a 100 mile long iceberg was found on collision course with a floating glacier.

# Predictability VI

Using a cellular phone and a computer, a group of people were able to predict the Roulette numbers in London: they won 1.3 Millon Pounds until they got arrested.

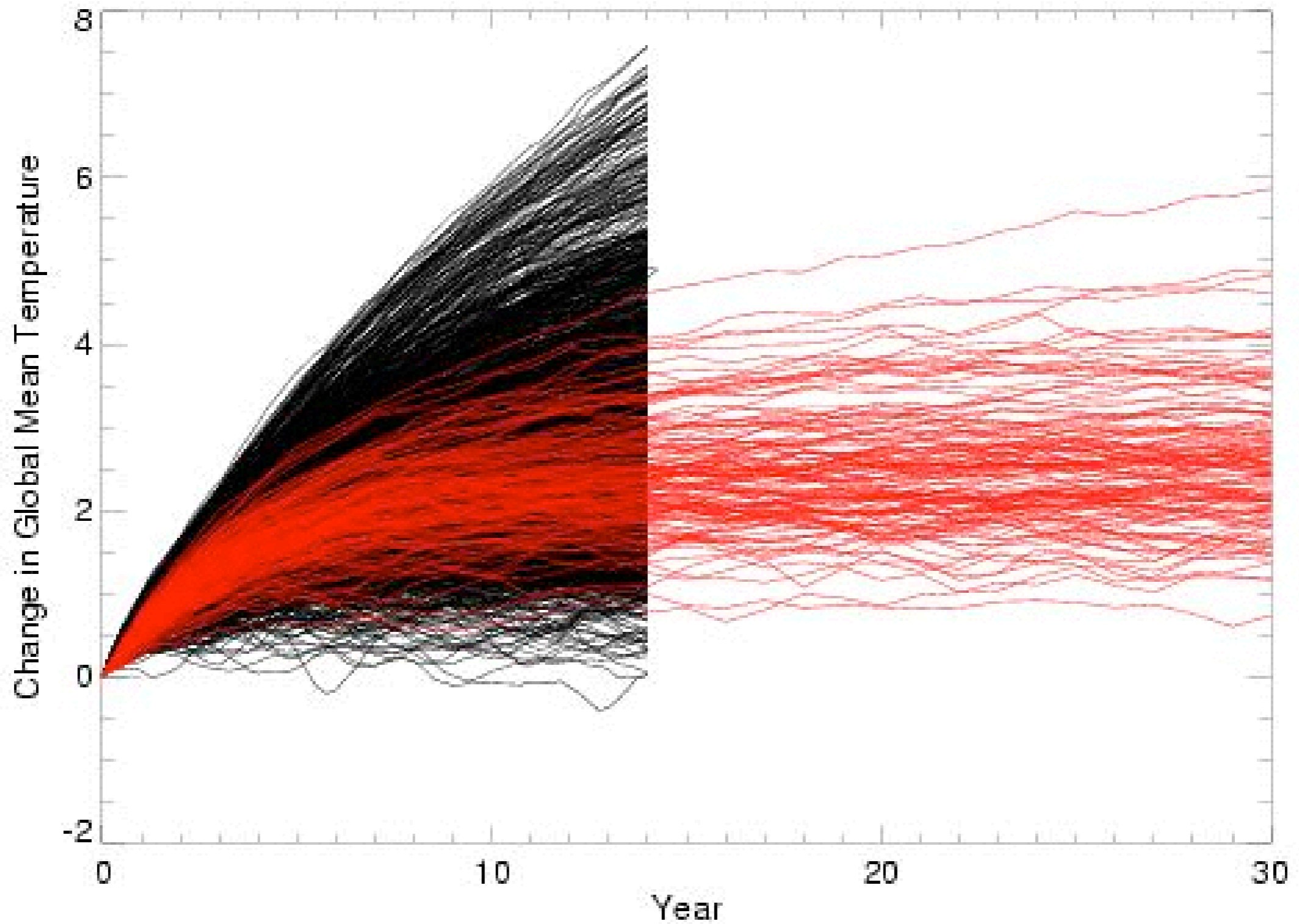


# Predictability VII

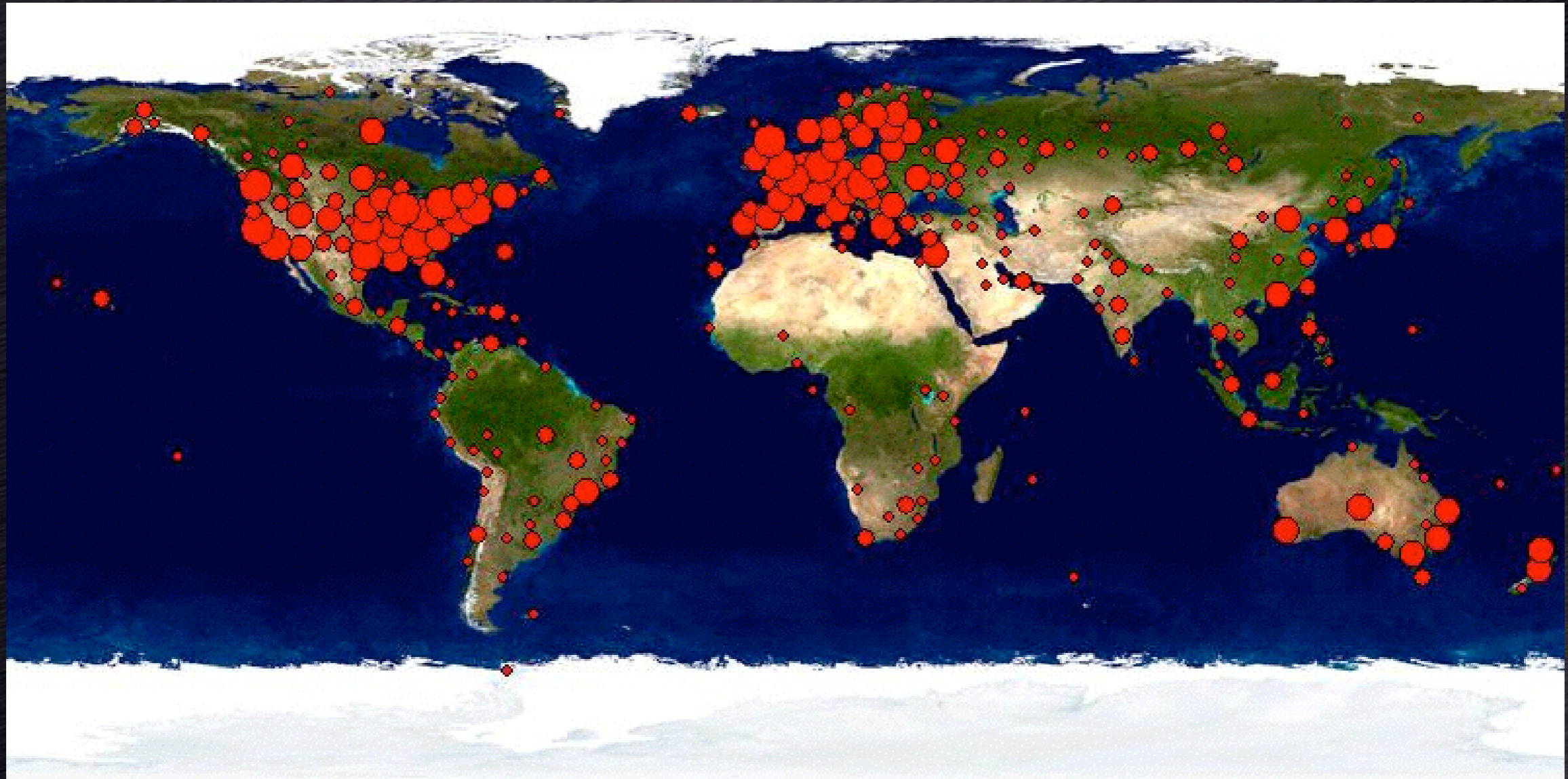


Does the earth heat up? Does This is an important question.  
Many computers around the world help with those  
computations using free CPU time. One of my computers  
helps too.

Here are some computation results (January 2005)



# Using many home computers:



⊞ distance in which individuals are clustered  
Total registered users visible above = 81828

Dot sizes:

● = 1000 +   ● = 100 - 999   ● = 10 - 99   ◊ = 1 - 9

News

Results 1 - 10 of about 4,750 for global warming. (0.13 seconds)

Sorted by relevance [Sort by date](#)

- Top Stories
- World
- U.S.
- Business
- Sci/Tech
- Sports
- Entertainment
- Health

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[Crichton best-seller stokes fire over global warming](#)

Japan Today, Japan - 3 hours ago

WASHINGTON — Michael Crichton, author of "Jurassic Park," and his newest book cast doubt the danger of **global warming**, an issue dividing scientists and ...

[Global warming row over Crichton thriller](#) Gulf Daily News

[David B. Sandalow: Michael Crichton and Global Warming](#) YubaNet (satire)

[New novel turns tables on global warming theory](#) Kansas City Star (subscription)

[Miami Herald \(subscription\) - Indianapolis Star - all 6 related »](#)



[Discovery Channel](#)

[African Poor to Bear Brunt of Global Warming Crisis](#)

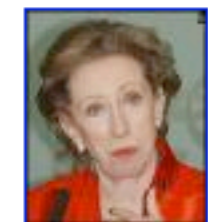
Reuters - 2 hours ago

EXETER (Reuters) - Africa's poor millions, already suffering grinding poverty and rampant disease, risk bearing the brunt of the **global warming** crisis unless ...

[Grim News Seen from Climate Meeting](#) Discovery Channel

[Study Bolsters Greenhouse Effect Theory, Solves Ice Age Mystery](#) Science Daily (press release)

[all 5 related »](#)



[Telegraph.co.uk](#)

[Global warming inevitable for decades to come, science conference ...](#)

Turkish Press, Turkey - 6 hours ago

EXETER, England (AFP) - A climate conference opened to renewed concern about the worsening threat of **global warming** and appeals from Britain to its ally, the ...

[Help tackle global warming: British call to US at climate ...](#) Hindustan Times

[Scientists in parlay on global warming crisis](#) ABC Online

[Seeking global warming's danger zone](#) International Herald Tribune

[Scotsman - ABC Online - all 79 related »](#)

[Speaking tirelessly of global warming](#)

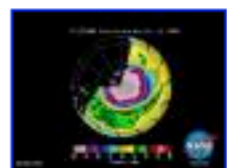
Ha'aretz, Israel - 2 hours ago

At the beginning of his speech at the Davos Conference last week, British Prime Minister Tony Blair cited **global warming** as one of the five most important ...

[Nuclear power given glowing approval to help curb global warming](#)

Sydney Morning Herald (subscription), Australia - 13 hours ago

By Stephanie Peatling. Nuclear energy should be considered as part of the solution to **global warming**, one of Australia's most senior scientists says. ...



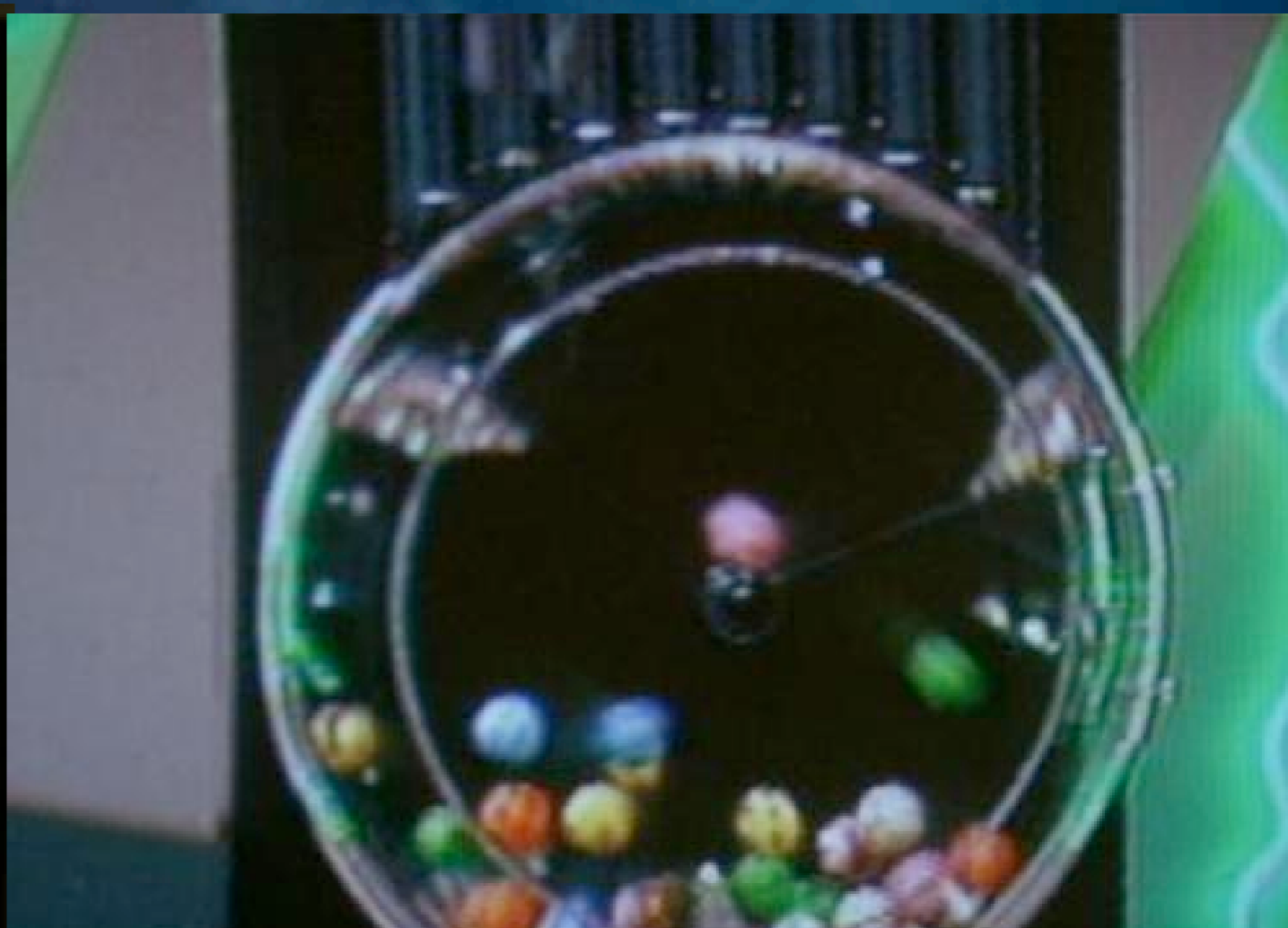
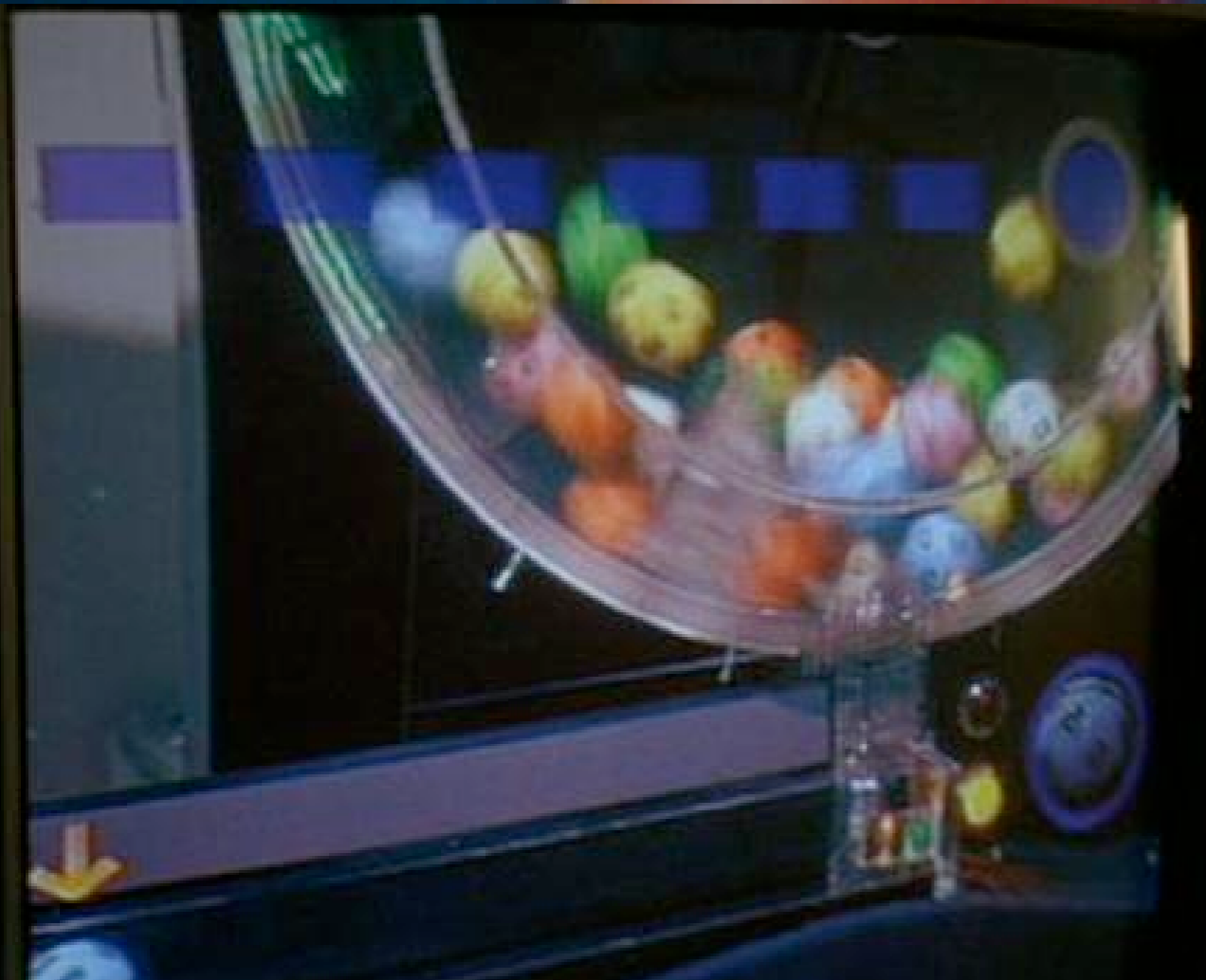
Turkish Press

[Global warming starts to disrupt world climate](#)

Bangkok Post, Thailand - 1 hour ago

Exeter, England \_ Evidence is growing that **global warming** is already starting to disrupt the world's delicately-balanced climate system, and the damage will ...

# Predictability IX

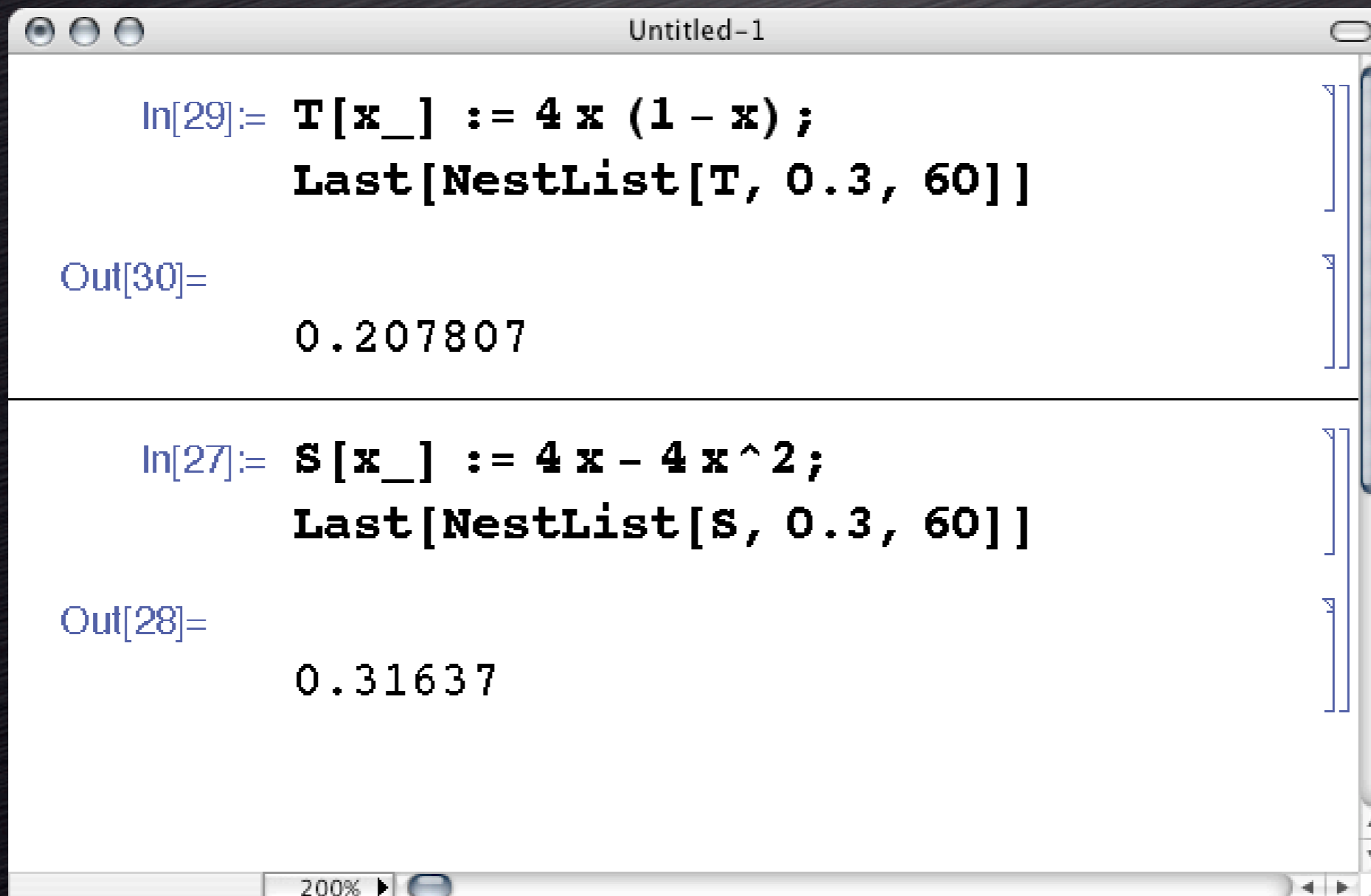




**From : Waking Ned Devine**

# Predictability X

Experiment: iterate the map  $T(x) = 4x(1-x)$   
as well as the map  $S(x) = 4x - 4x^2$



```
Untitled-1

In[29]:= T[x_] := 4 x (1 - x);  
Last[NestList[T, 0.3, 60]]

Out[30]=  
0.207807


In[27]:= S[x_] := 4 x - 4 x^2;  
Last[NestList[S, 0.3, 60]]

Out[28]=  
0.31637

200%
```

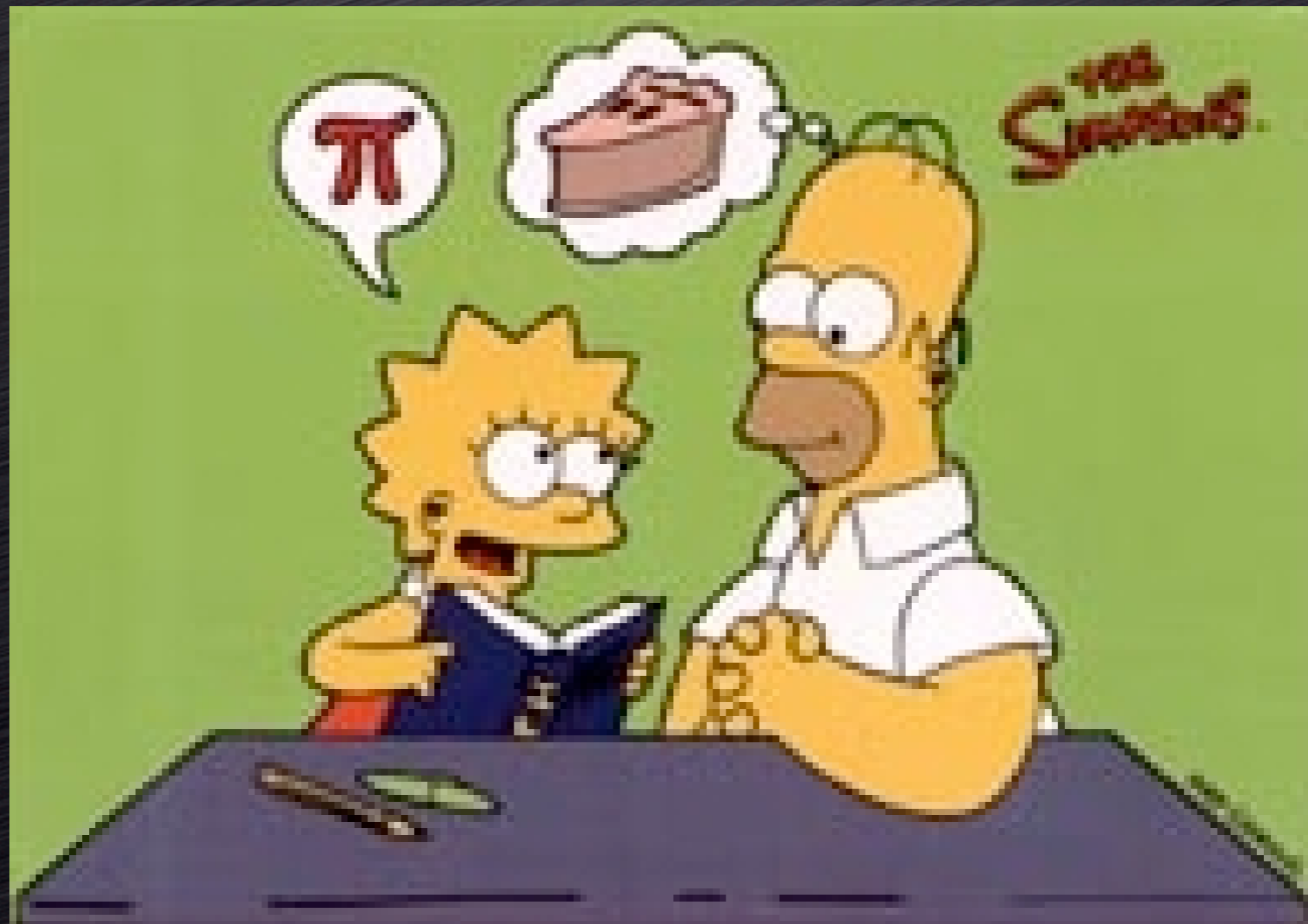


**A flapping of butterfly  
wings in Rio de Janeiro**



**can produce a tornado  
in Texas several weeks later.**

# The mathematicians notion of a dynamical system



# Back to the definition

A semigroup is a set  $G$  with an operation  $*$  which is associative  $(u*v)*w=u*(v*w)$

A semigroup  $G$  acts on a set  $X$ , if for each  $t$  in  $G$ , there is a transformation  $T(t)$  on  $X$  such that  $T(t*s)(x) = T(t) T(s)(x)$

A dynamical system  $(G, X)$  is a semigroup  $G$  acting on a set  $X$ .

While this is much too abstract and general for us and just about the contrary to the approach we use (focus on examples) it is useful to keep this in mind.

# Two cases which matter for us:

$G=0,1,2,3,4,\dots$

Maps like  $T(x)=2x(1-x)$   
define  $T^n(x)$

$G=[0, \text{infinity})$

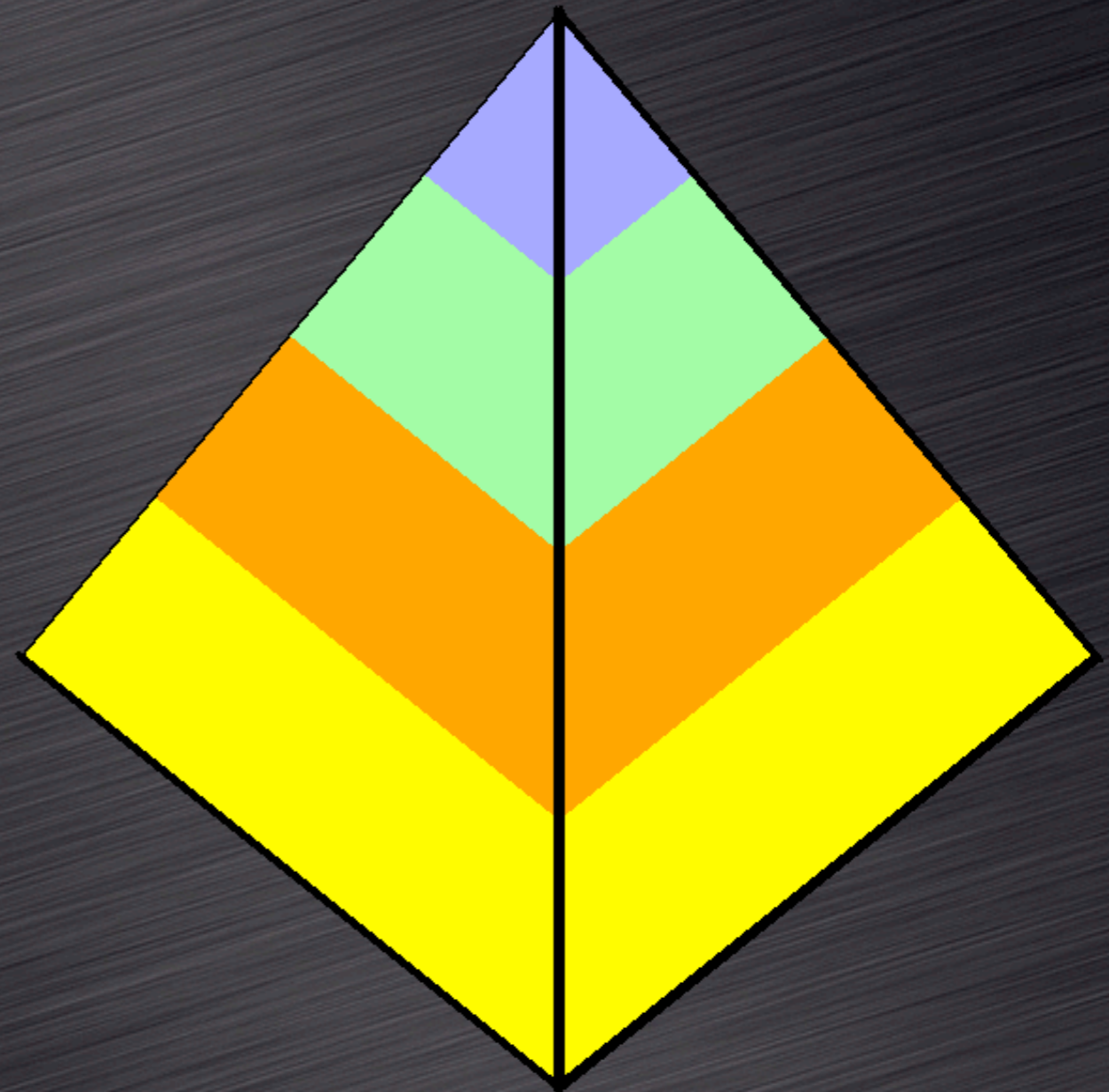
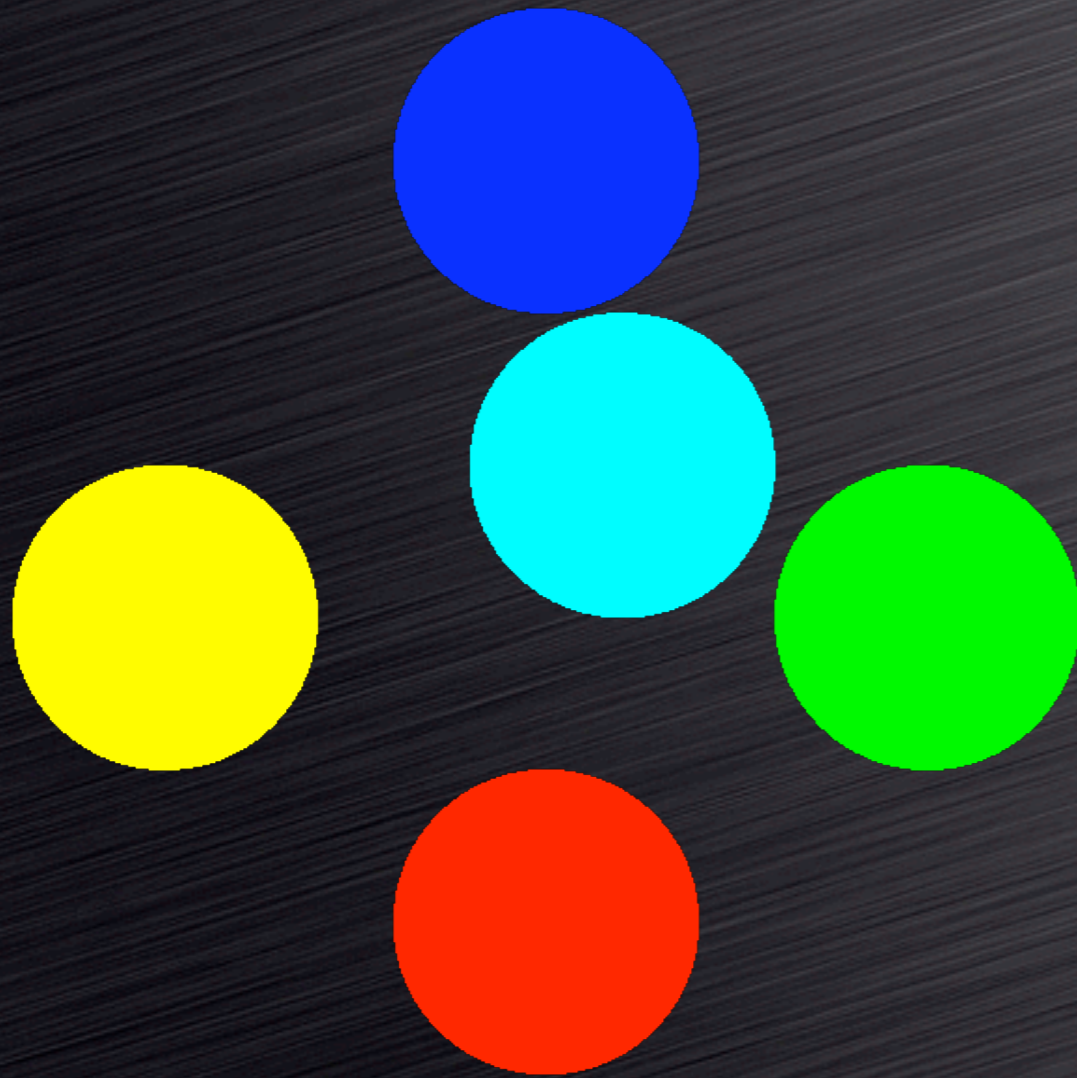
Differential equations  
like  $d/dt x = x(1-x)$   
define flows  $T^t(x)$

# C: Organization of the course

- Case method
- Frequent, straightforward quizzes
- Focus on examples
- Final quiz and project

# Case Method

# Traditional Method



# Quizzes

Instead of:



Homework



First Midterm



Second Midterm



Final



Q1



Q2



Q3



Q4



Q5



Q6



Q7



Q8



Final Quiz



Homework



Project of  
choice

# Focus on Examples

- A good example is worth a thousand theories.
- Many examples are universal. What you see in the Henon map for example, you see in many dynamical systems
- The universality principle shows that measurable quantities can be independent of the system.

# Final Project

- Suggestions are online
- You can also chose something on your own



# Reading text

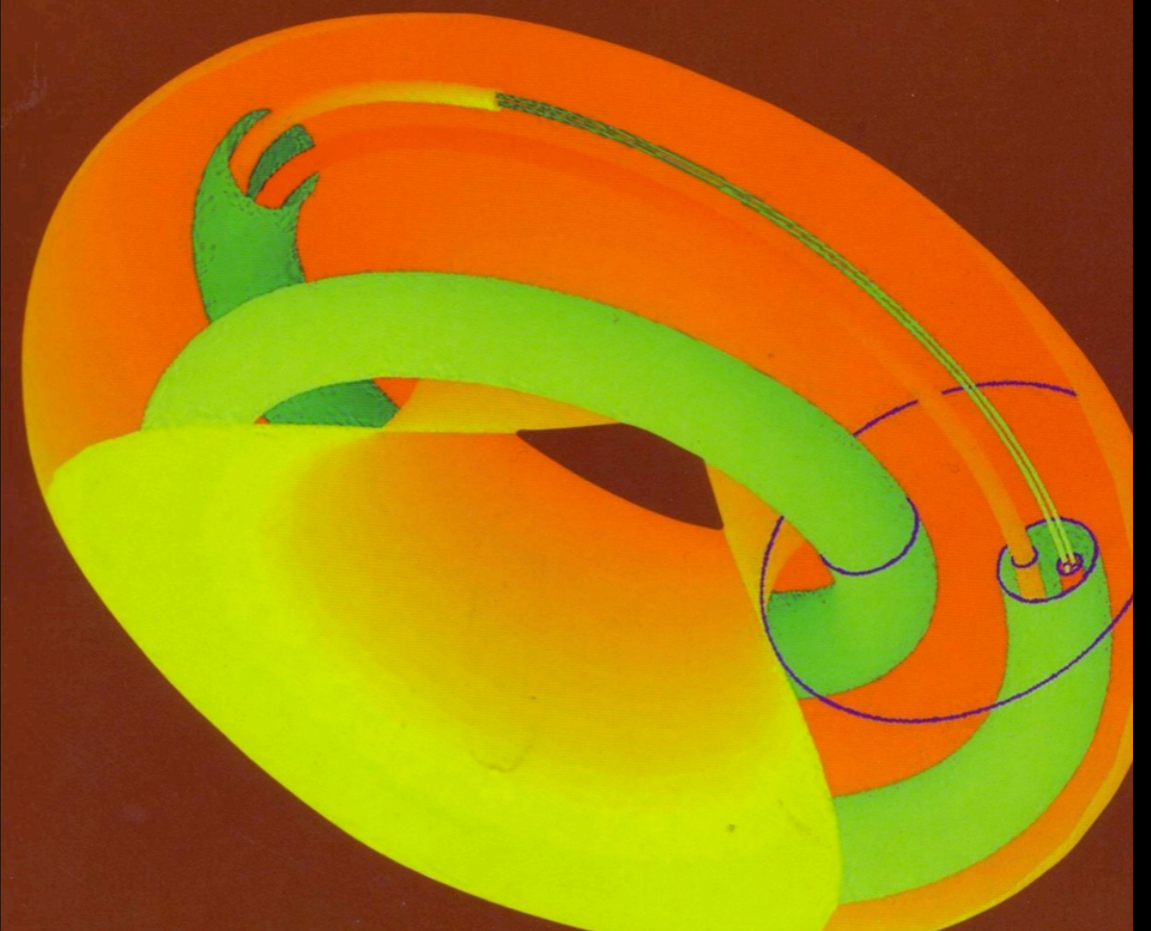
Paperback edition  
available at Coop

Besides the fact that it is an excellent book written by leading experts, the prize was also a reason to chose this book.

## *A First Course in Dynamics*

WITH A PANORAMA OF  
RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Boris Hasselblatt and Anatole Katok



# Software:

- If you want to redo some of the experiments done in class, download Mathematica, a computer algebra system. Harvard has a cite license.

The screenshot shows the Wolfram Research website homepage. The top navigation bar includes links for WOLFRAMRESEARCH, PRODUCTS, PURCHASING, SERVICES & RESOURCES, NEWS & EVENTS, COMPANY, and OTHER WOLFRAM SITES. A search bar is located on the right side of the navigation bar. The main content area features a large graphic of a stylized, golden, crystalline structure on the left. The text in the center reads: "Announcing MATHEMATICA<sup>®</sup>5.1" in a large, bold font. Below this, it says "Adding unmatched performance for handling data to unparalleled speed, scope, and scalability" and "(...and more than 50 other new features)". At the bottom left of the main content, it states "RELEASED: NOVEMBER 17, 2004". On the right side of the page, there is a sidebar with several sections: "FIND A PRODUCT" with a dropdown menu, "FEATURED PRODUCTS" listing webMATHEMATICA 2, gridMATHEMATICA, NKS EXPLORER MATHEMATICA KIT, and CALCULATIONCENTER 2, and "SITE HIGHLIGHTS" listing Documentation Center and Mathematica Information.

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**FIND A PRODUCT**  
Select from the list:

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- CALCULATIONCENTER 2

**SITE HIGHLIGHTS**

- Documentation Center
- Mathematica Information

# D: Syllabus

We have 13 weeks. We will cover about 10 topics.

# Mathematics 118r Dynamical Systems Spring 2005

Course Head: [Oliver Knill](#)  
 Office: SciCtr 434  
 Email: [knill@math.harvard.edu](mailto:knill@math.harvard.edu)

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## Syllabus

### calendar:

```

-----
Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa   week no and events
-----
      +-----+-----+
      |         |         |
30 31  1  2  3  4  5   1  2. february start of lectures
  6  7  8  9 10 11 12   2
13 14 15 16 17 18 19   3
20 21 22 23 24 25 26   4  21. february presidents day
27 28  1  2  3  4  5   5  march
  6  7  8  9 10 11 12   6
13 14 15 16 17 18 19   7
20 21 22 23 24 25 26   8
27 28 29 30 31  1  2   9  april           spring break
  3  4  5  6  7  8  9
10 11 12 13 14 15 16  10
17 18 19 20 21 22 23  11
24 25 26 27 28 29 30  12
  1  2  3  4  5  6  7  13 may           end of classes
      |         |         |
      +-----+-----+
  8  9 10 11 12 13 14   reading period
15 16 17 18 19 20 21   19. start of exam period
22 23 24 25 26 27 28
-----
  
```

### tentative syllabus:

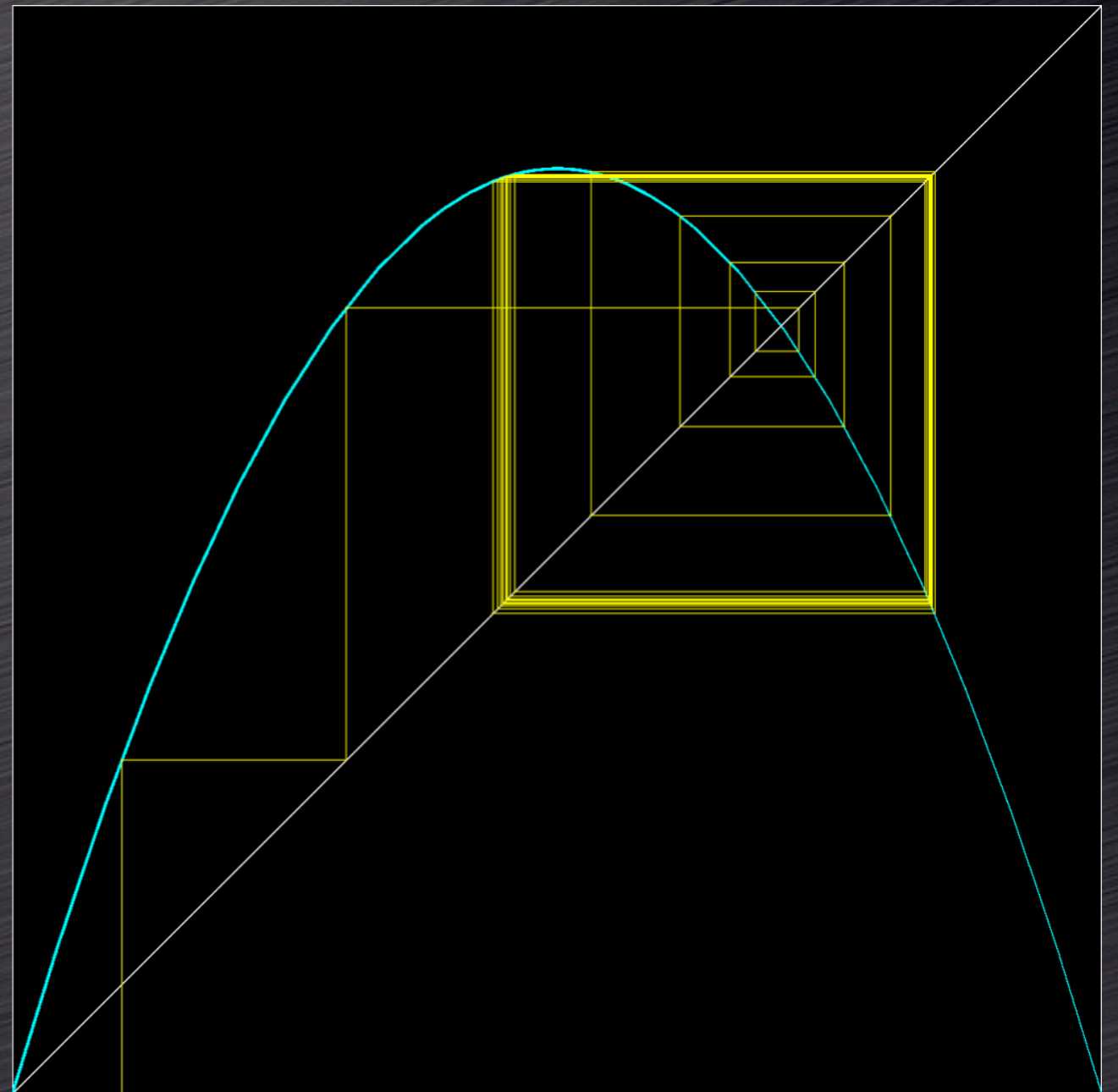
1. Week     **Introduction:**  
 Wed: Overview and organization of the course.  
 Fri: Examples of dynamical systems
2. Week     **Feigenbaum: maps in one dimensions**  
 Mon: Maps on the interval  
       Periodic points and their stability.  
 Wed: Bifurcation of periodic points

# Week 1 (this week):

- What are dynamical systems?
- Organization of the course.
- Syllabus
- Examples of dynamical systems

# Week 2: maps in 1D

- The logistic map
- Periodic points and bifurcations
- Lyapunov exponents and chaos
- Dynamical zeta function



# Lets just continue with pictures:

Next Friday, we will make an exhibition which is a bit more detailed. Right now, these are just pretty pictures.

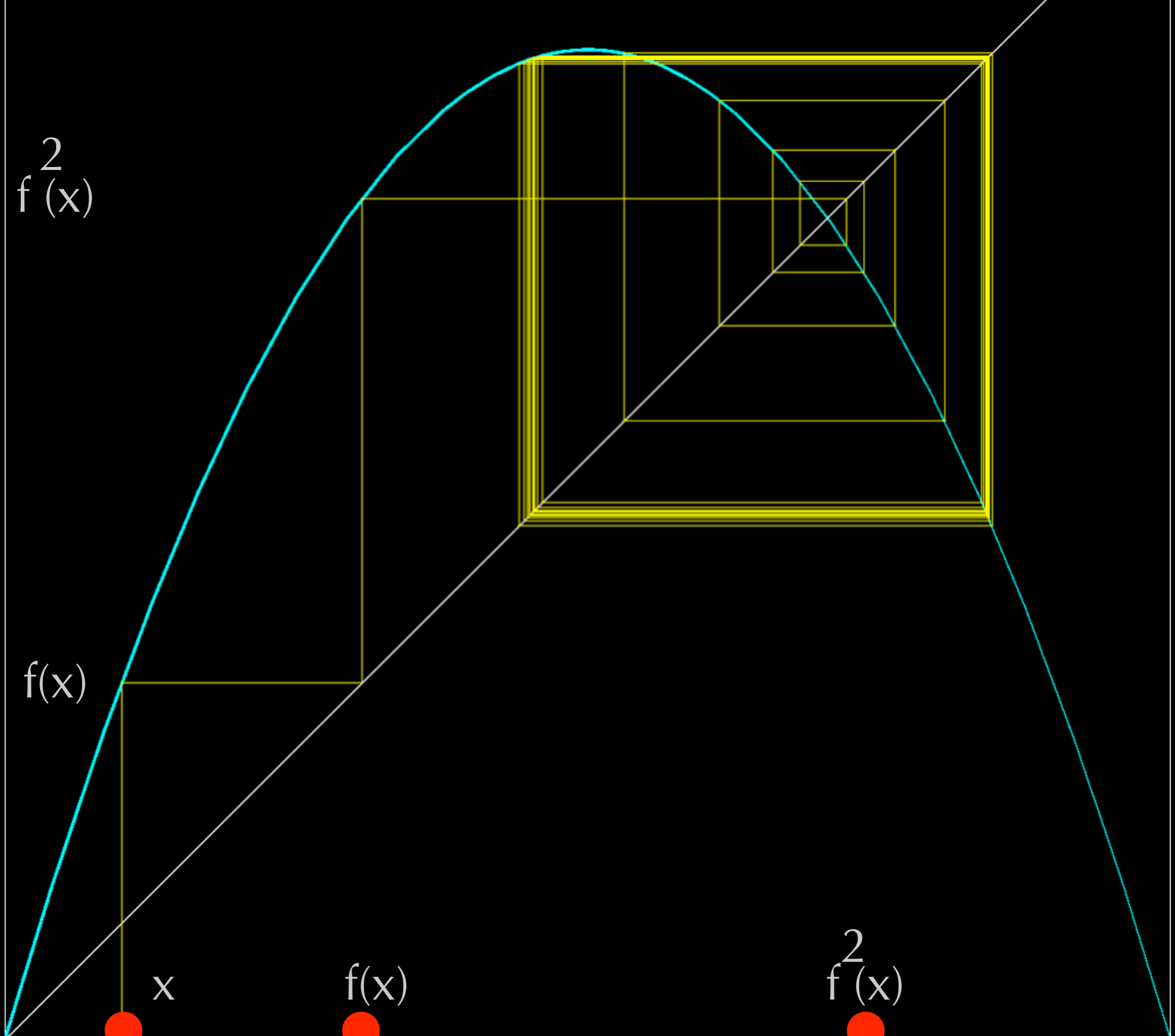
$f^2(x)$

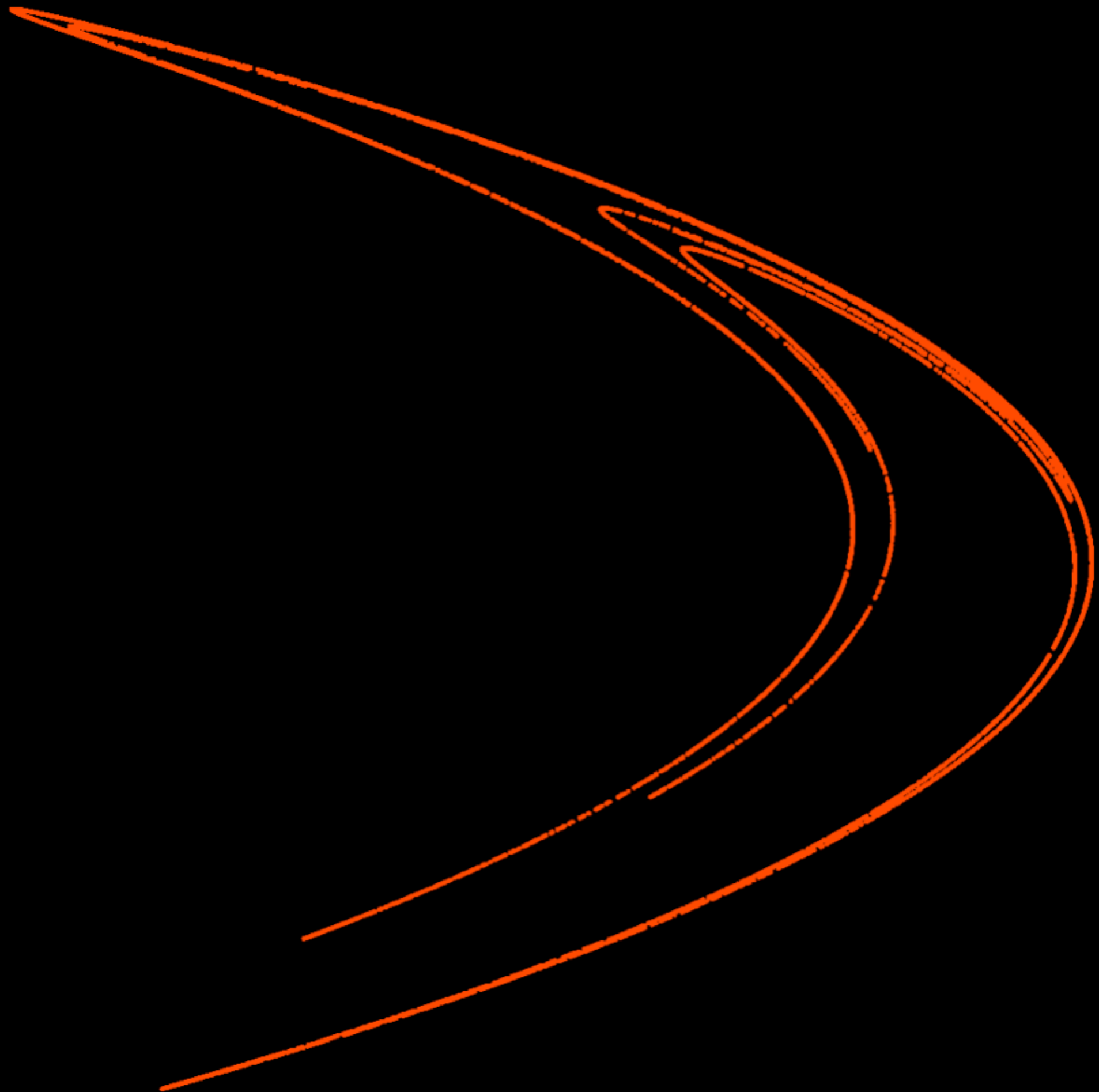
$f(x)$

$x$

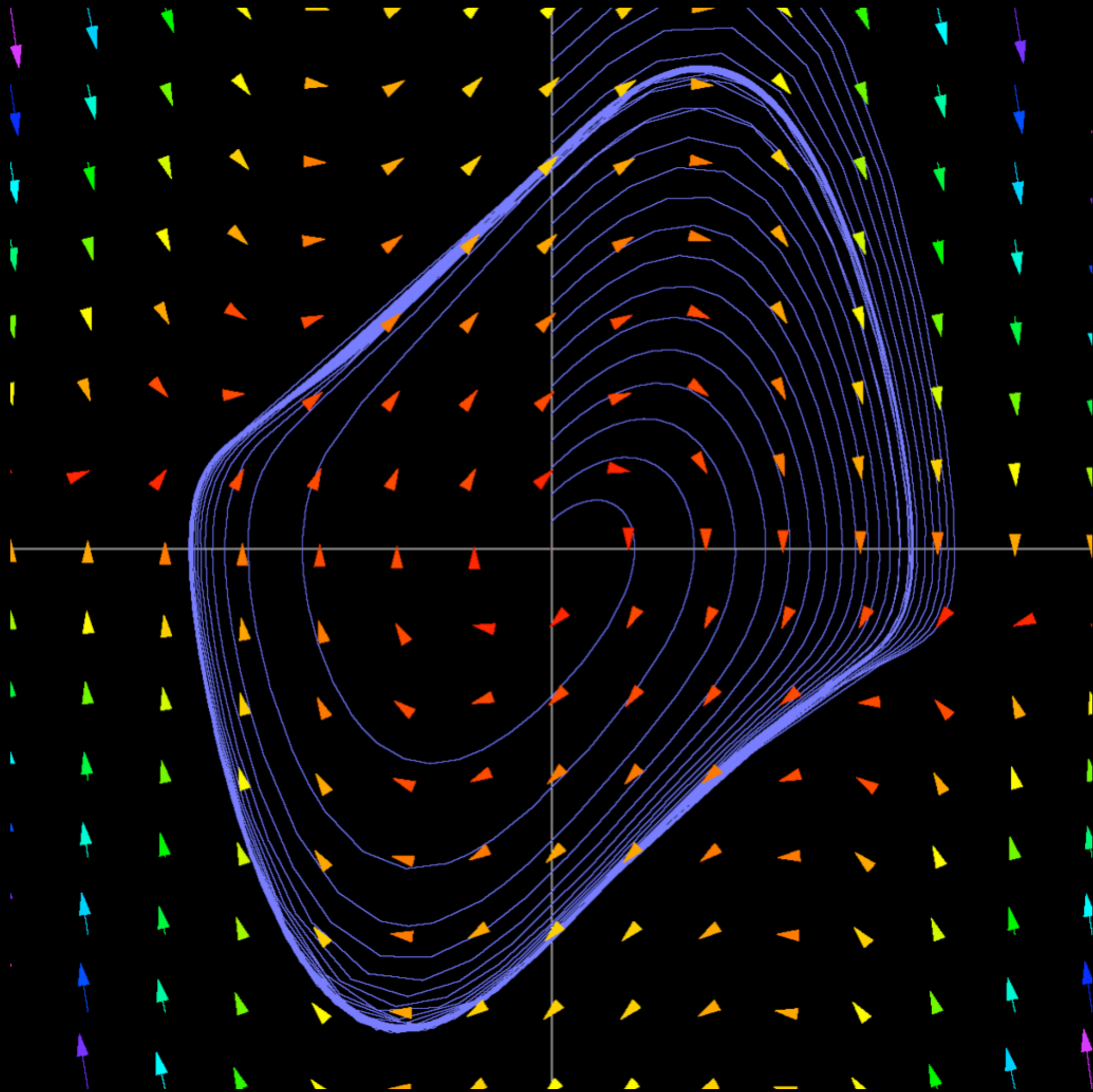
$f(x)$

$f^2(x)$

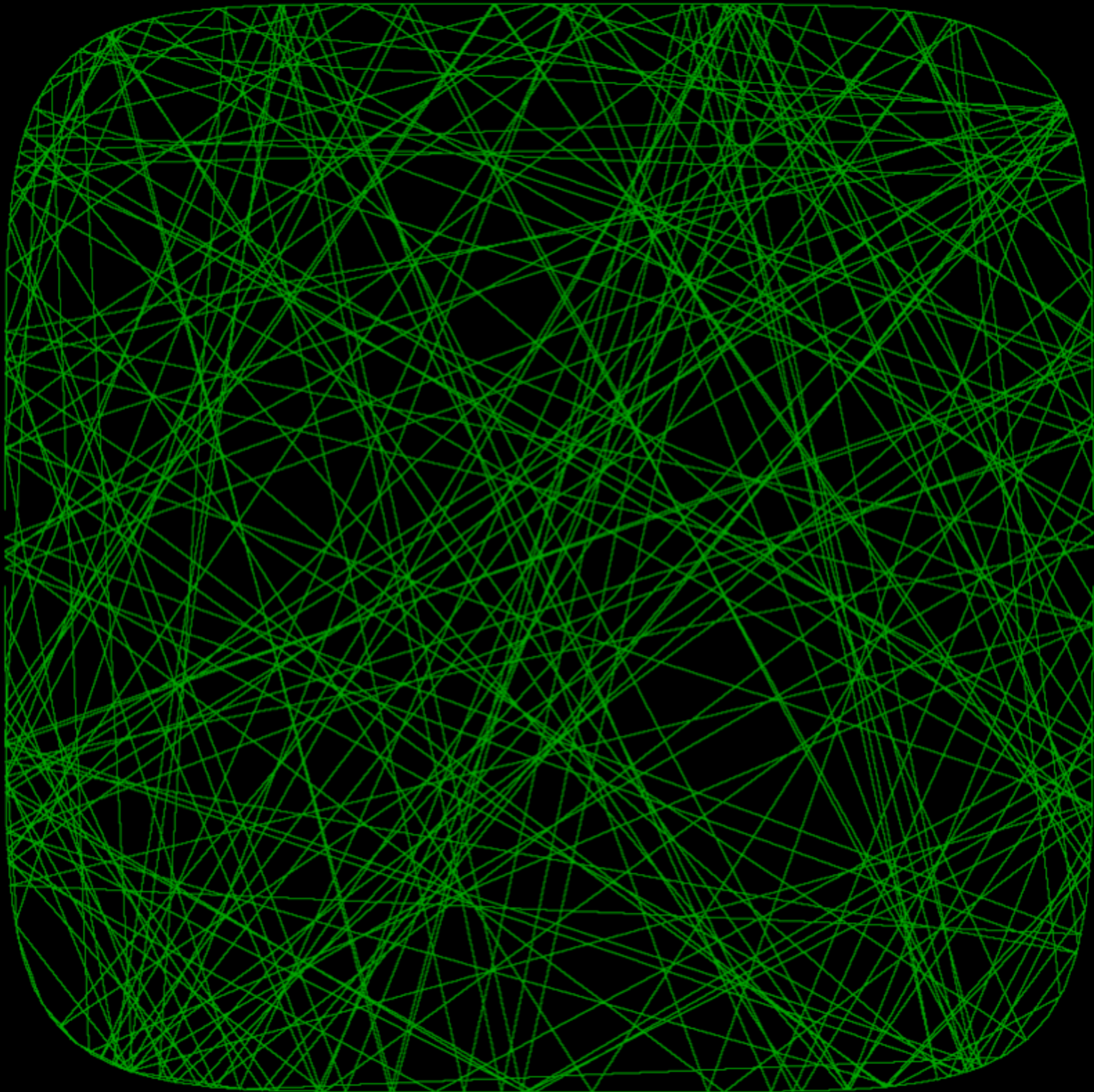


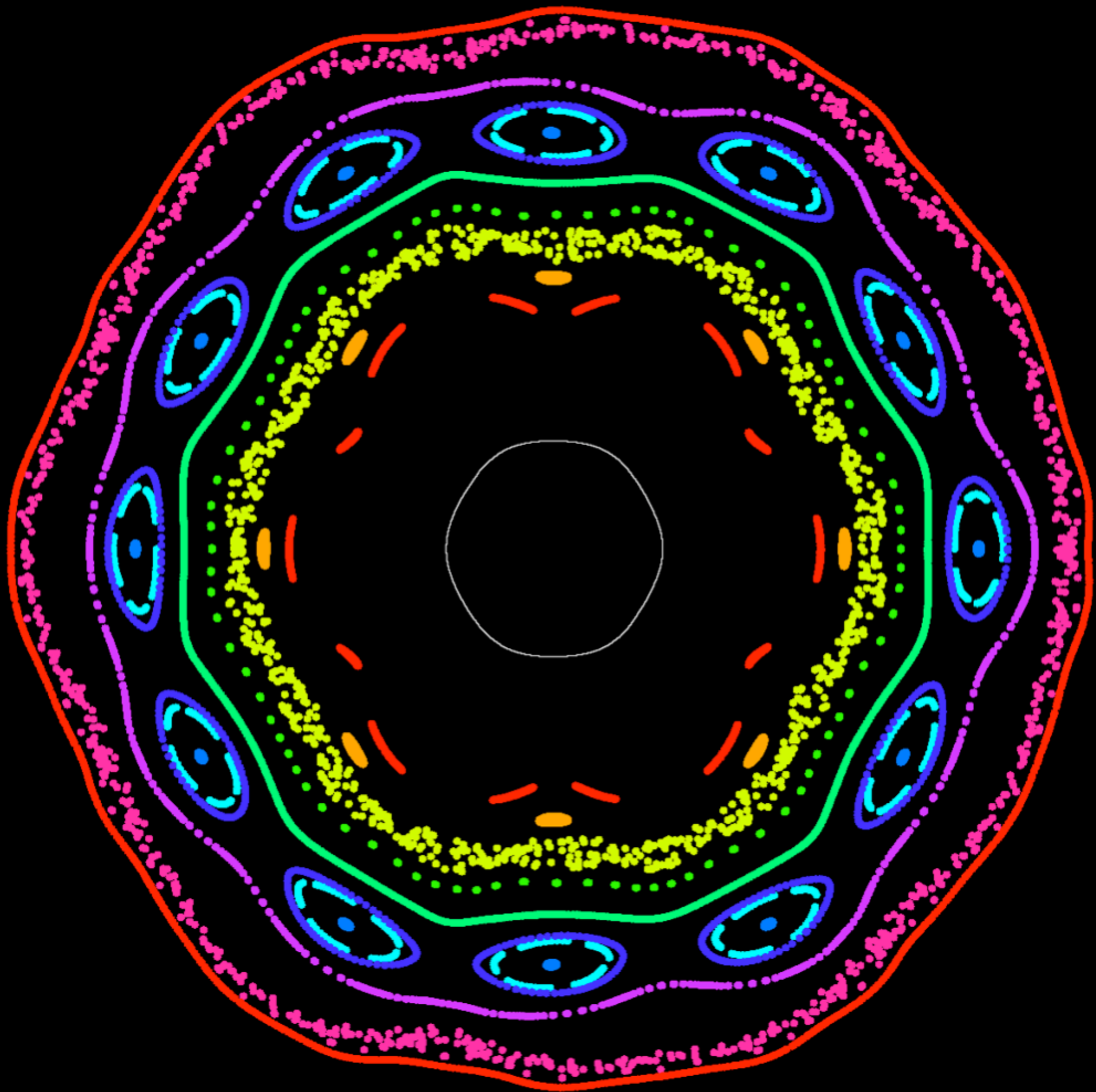


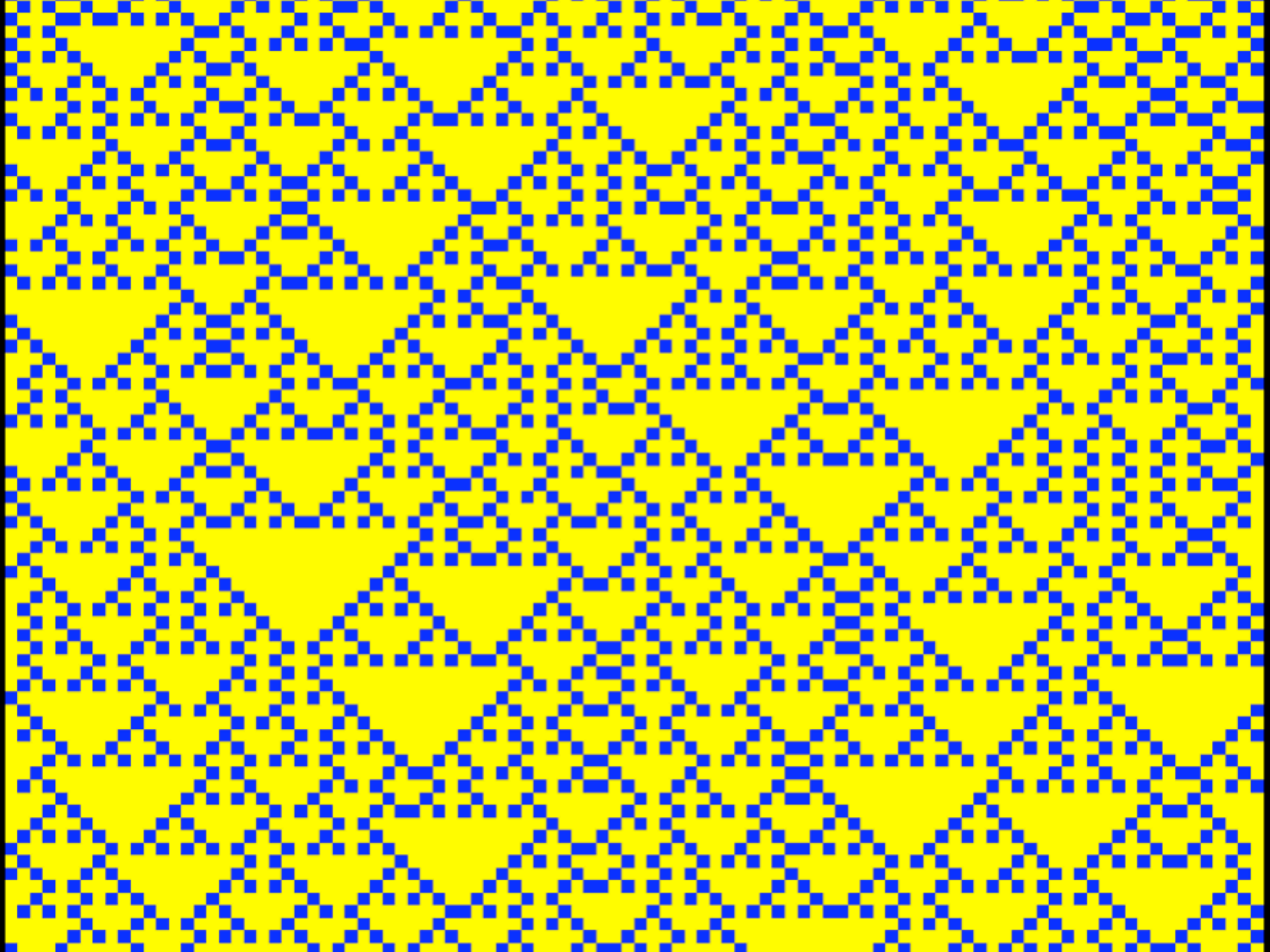


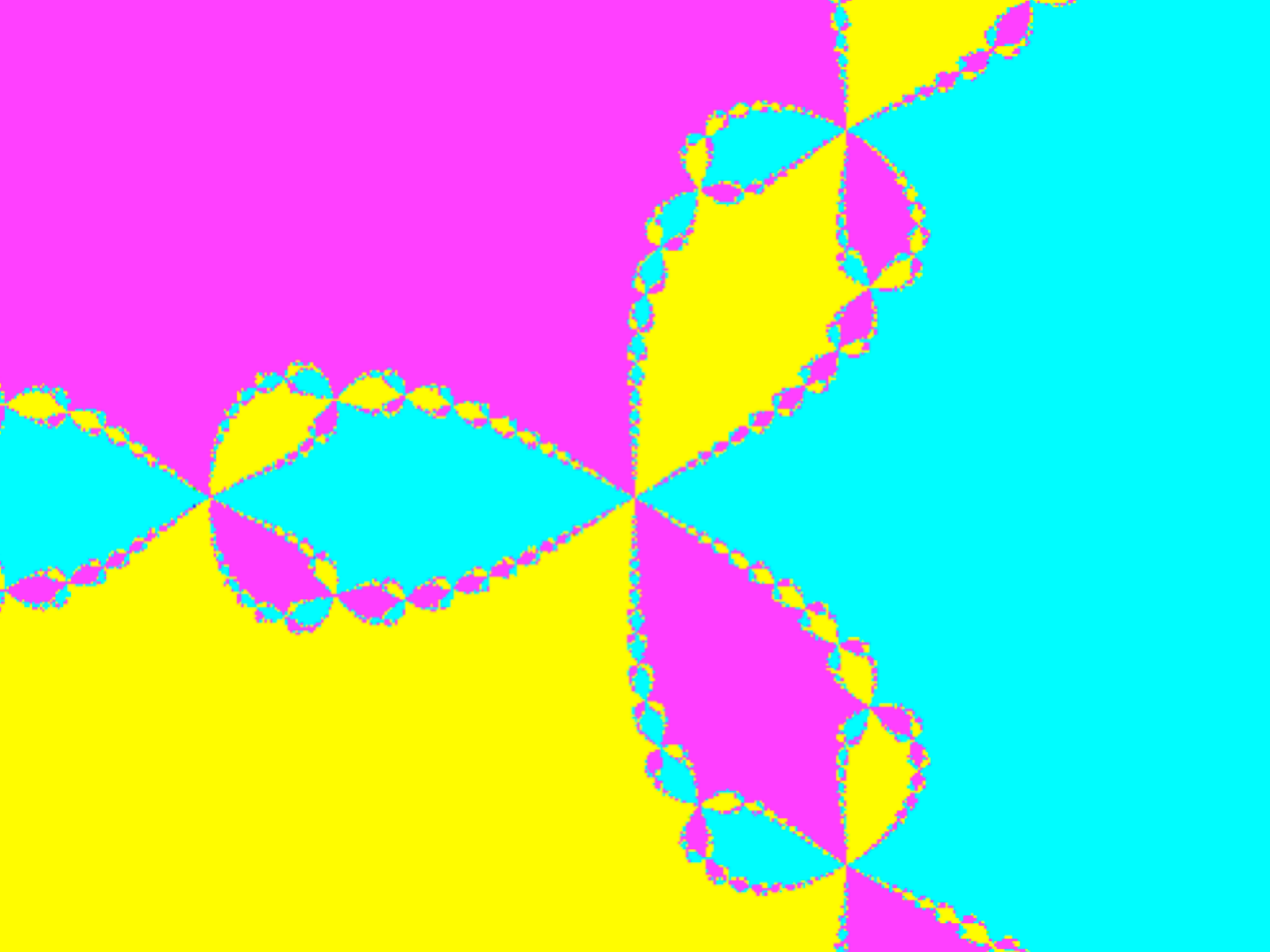




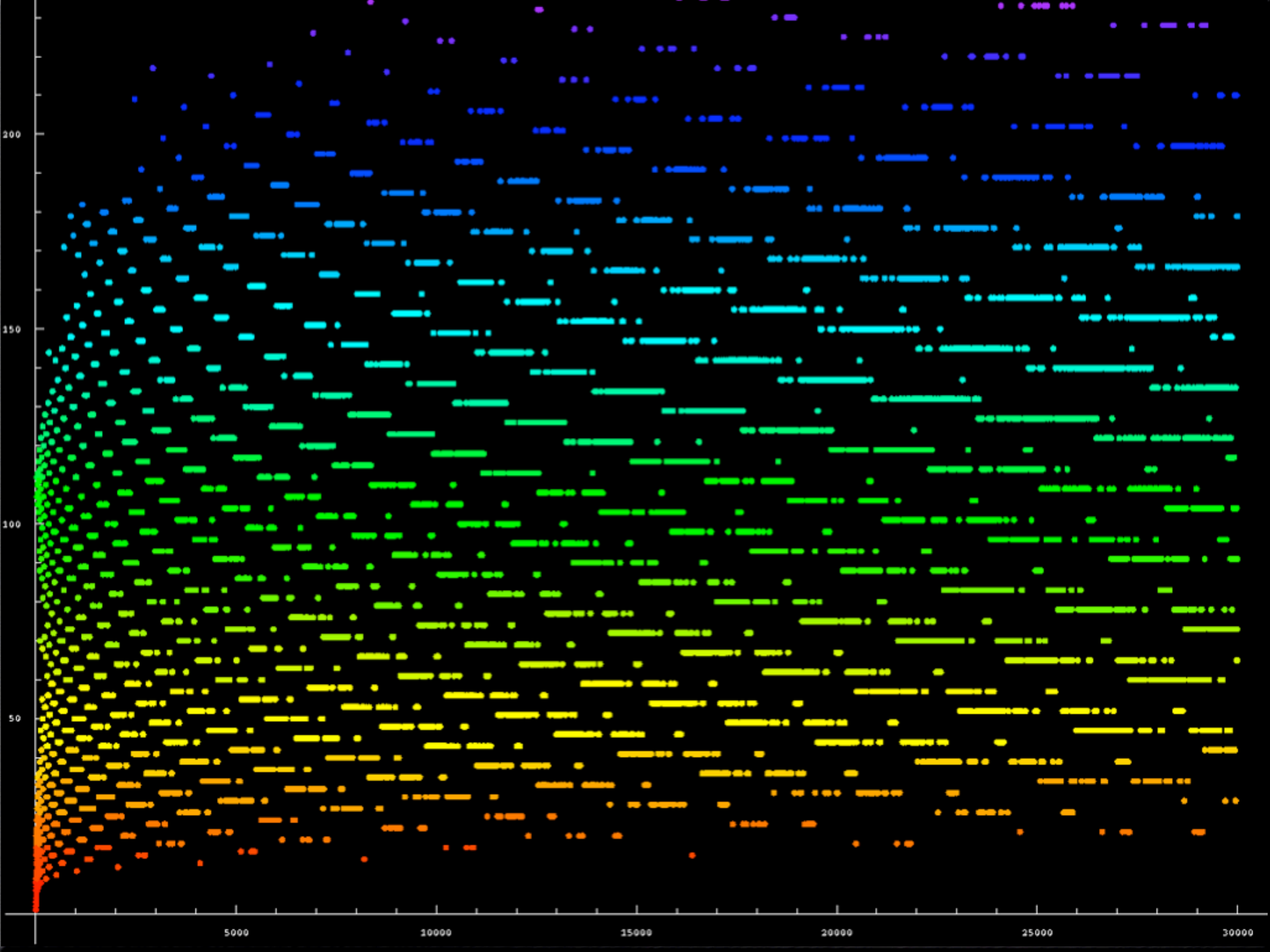


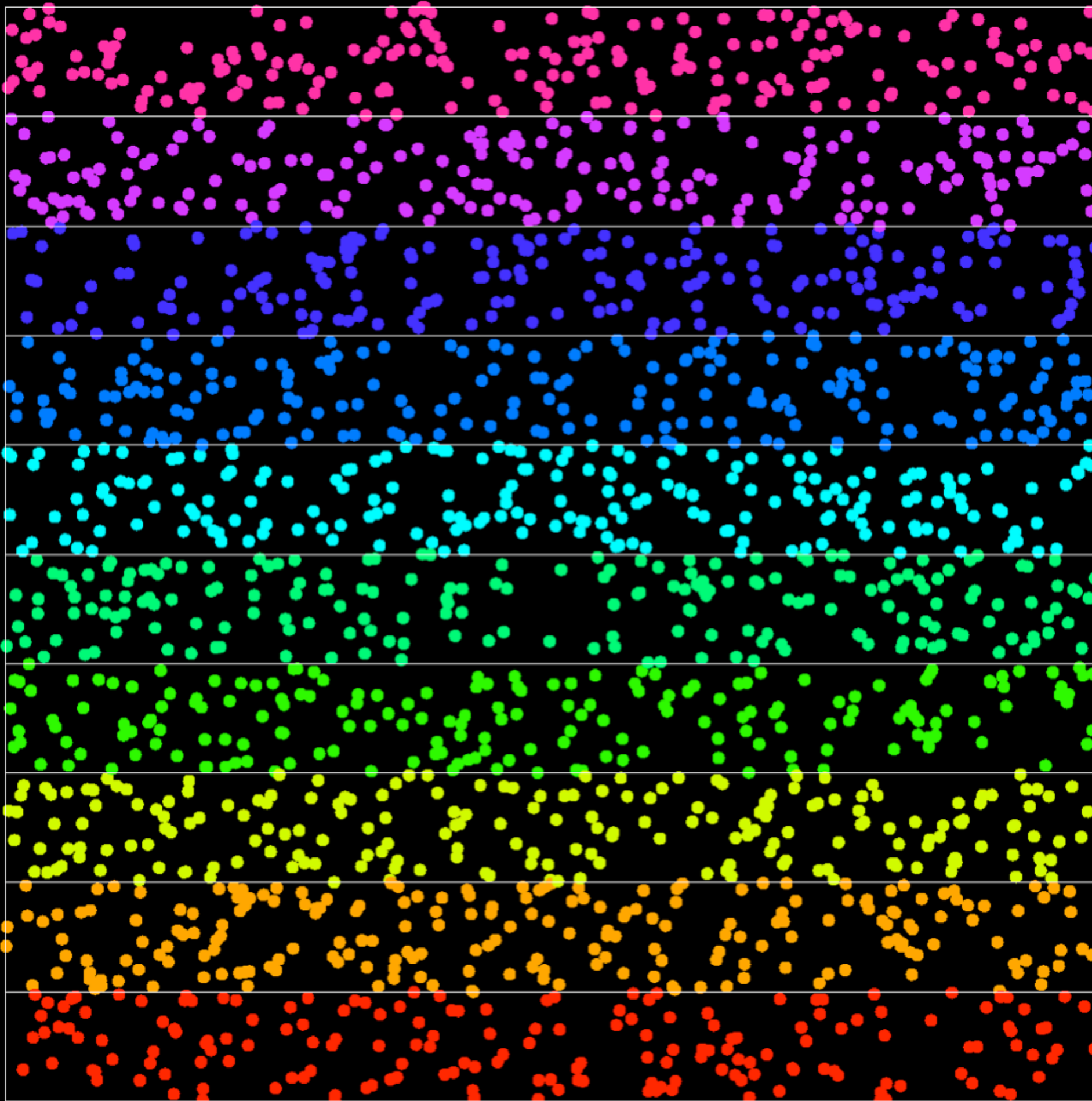


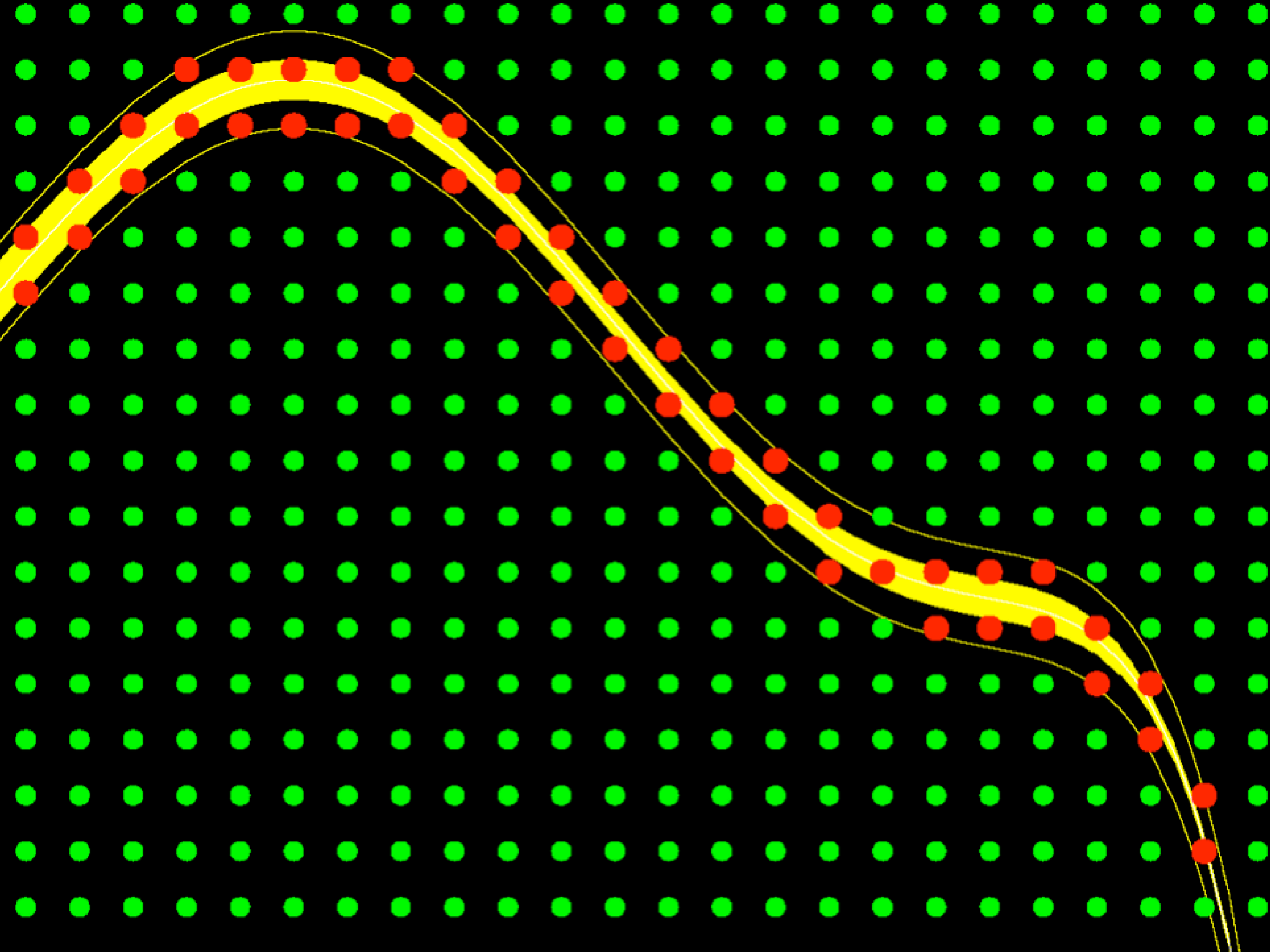


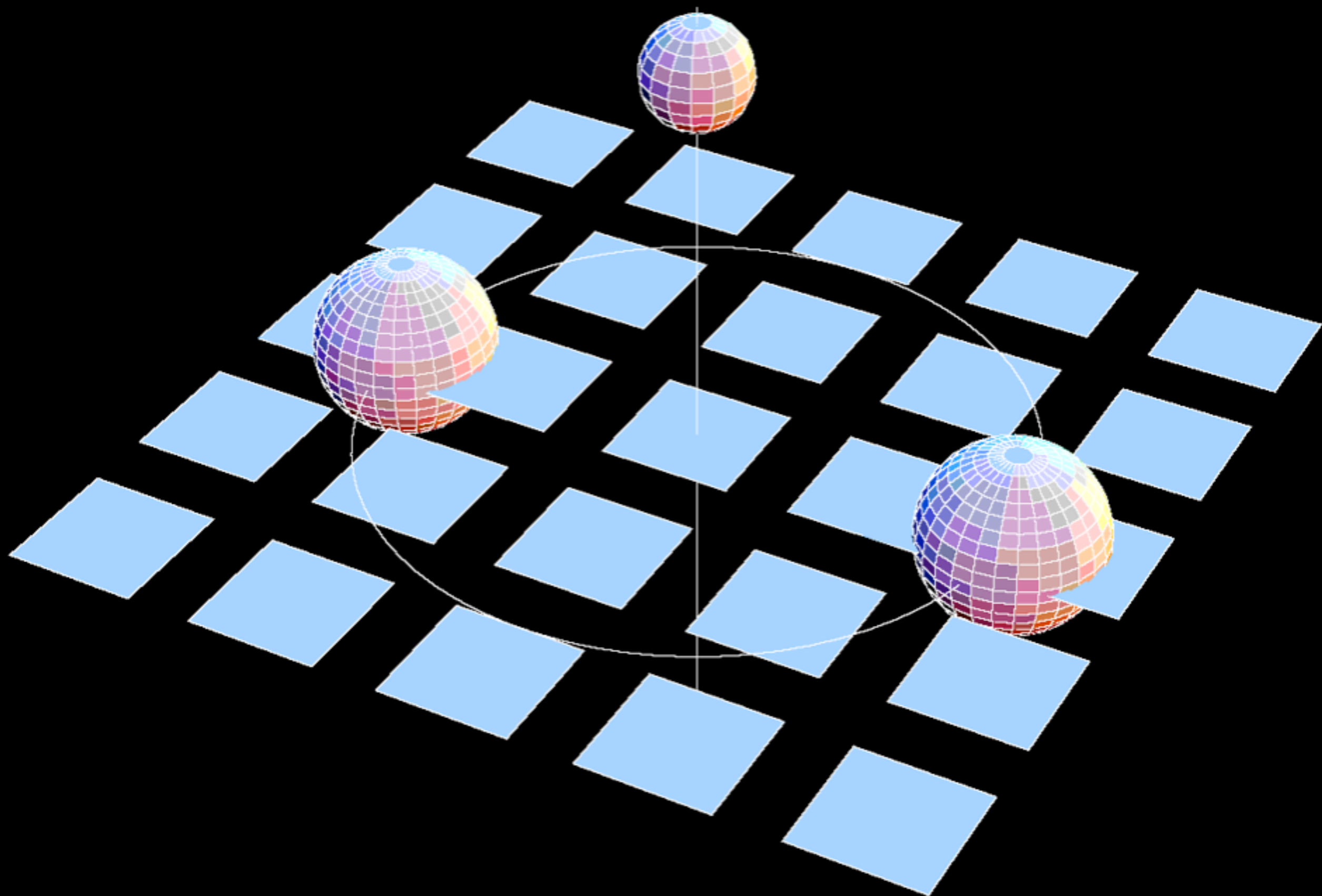


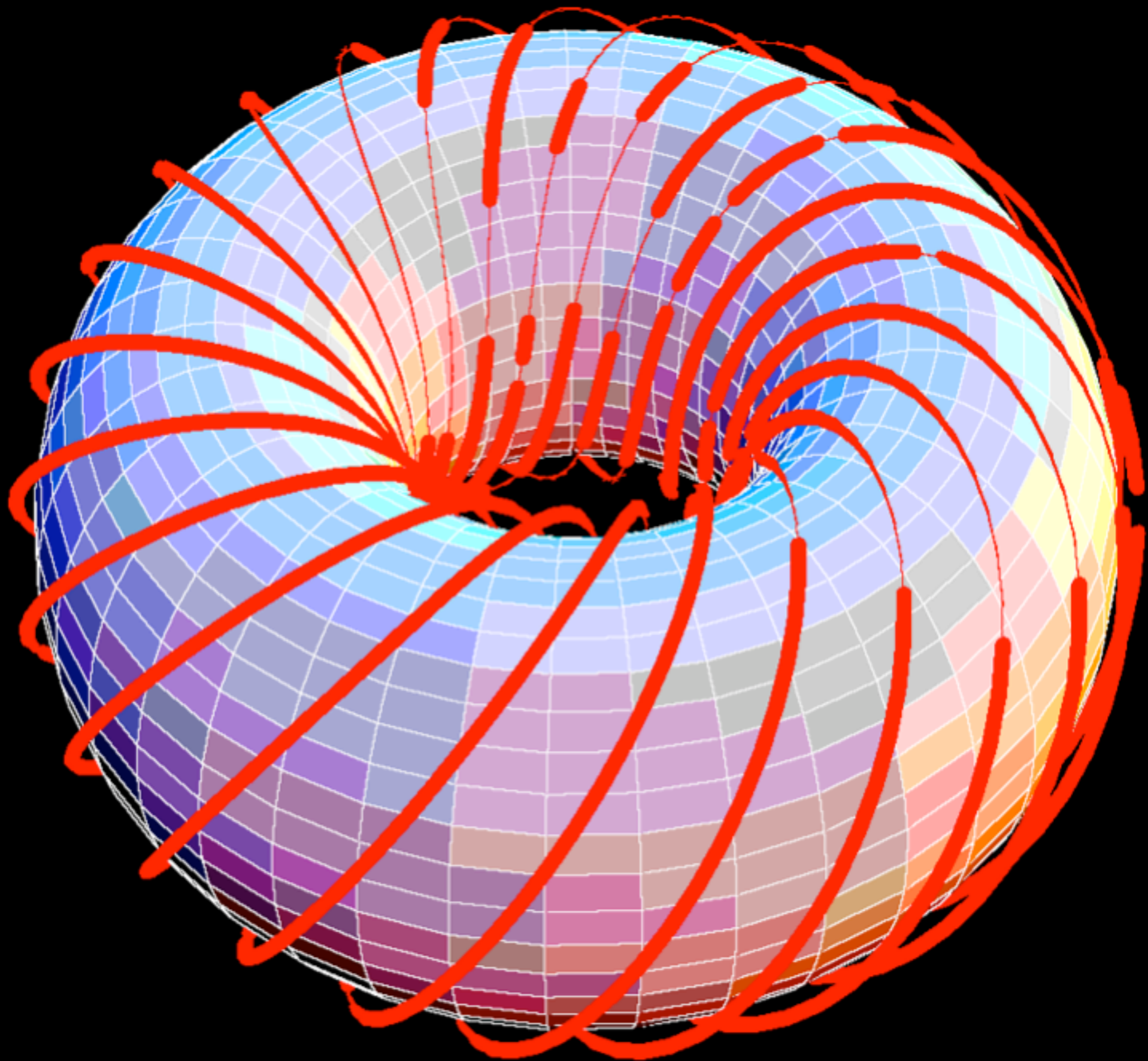












# Thats all for today.

If you have questions, talk to me right  
now after lecture, or then this  
afternoon at 3 PM in Sci Center 434