

Chaos in a Pendulum

**Simulation,
Experimental Characterization,
and Prediction of
Deterministic Periodic and Chaotic States**

Galileo's Apocryphal Chandelier

$$\mathbf{T = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{L}{g}}}$$

The Plane Pendulum

Newton's Second Law:

(Torque about support axis) =
(Moment of inertia) * (Angular acceleration)

$$\text{Torque} = L F = I \left(\frac{d^2 \theta}{dt^2} \right) = (m L^2) \left(\frac{d^2 \theta}{dt^2} \right)$$

Important -- The restoring force is nonlinear:

$$F = -m g \sin \theta$$

The Damped and Driven Pendulum

Swinging under the influence of:

- gravity (restoring force, "-")
- velocity-proportional damping (resisting force, "-")
- sinusoidal driver ("+")

The equation of motion (relating the above torques):

$$(mL^2) \left(\frac{d^2 \theta}{dt^2} \right) = -mgL \sin \theta - b \left(\frac{d\theta}{dt} \right) + T \sin(\omega_f t)$$

After some intense algebra:

$$\left(\frac{d^2 \theta}{dt^2} \right) = - \left(\frac{g}{L} \right) \sin \theta - \left(\frac{b}{mL^2} \right) \left(\frac{d\theta}{dt} \right) + \left(\frac{T}{mL^2} \right) \sin(\omega_f t)$$

The Damped and Driven Pendulum

(continued)

Natural units for the pendulum:

$$t' = \omega_0 t \implies dt' = \omega_0 dt$$

$$\omega_d = \omega_f / \omega_0$$

$$\omega_0^2 \equiv g / L$$

Then fiddling with derivatives and constants turns this

$$\left(\frac{d^2 \theta}{dt^2} \right) = - \left(\frac{g}{L} \right) \sin \theta - \left(\frac{b}{m L^2} \right) \left(\frac{d\theta}{dt} \right) + \left(\frac{T}{m L^2} \right) \sin (\omega_f t)$$

into that

$$\left(\frac{d^2 \theta}{dt'^2} \right) = - \sin \theta - \left(\frac{1}{q} \right) \left(\frac{d\theta}{dt'} \right) + (g) \sin (\omega_d t')$$

where

$$\frac{1}{q} = \left(\frac{1}{\omega_0} \right) \left(\frac{b}{I} \right)$$

$$g = \frac{T}{\omega_0^2 I} = \frac{T}{T_{\text{critical}}}$$

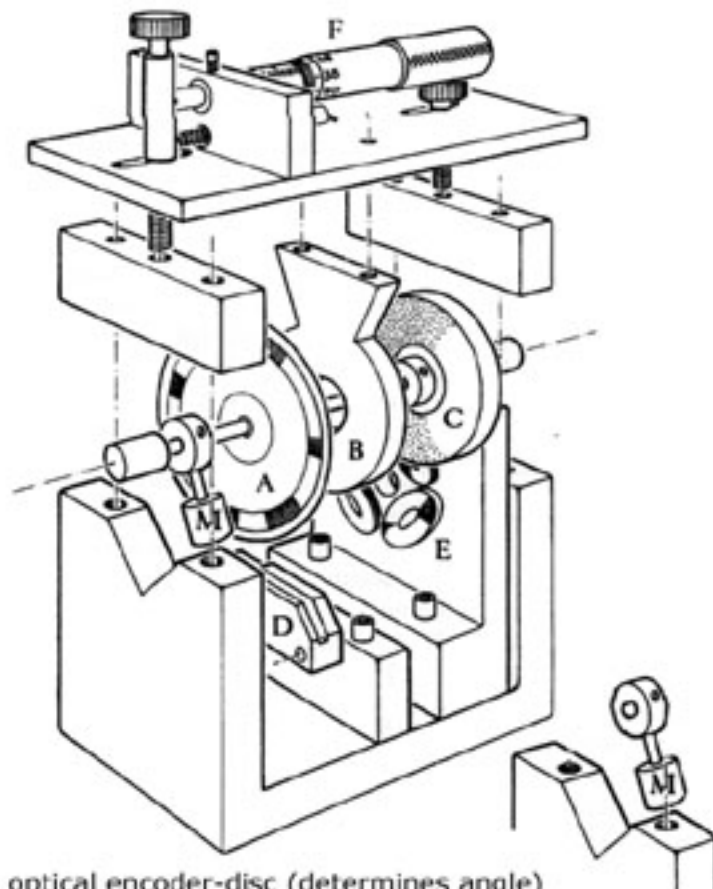
$$\omega_d = \frac{\omega_f}{\omega_0}$$

The Real (Physical) Pendulum

Getting physical:

- pendulum: length = 2 cm; eddy-current damping (controlled by a micrometer); optical encoding of angular position; brushless slotless linear AC/DC motor
- driver: sinusoidal torque; frequency = 0.3 - 3.0 Hz, +/- 0.001 Hz; output voltage = 0 - 7 V
- PC card and software

"Exploded" View of the Chaotic Pendulum



- A - optical encoder-disc (determines angle)
- B - stationary copper plate (used for damping)
- C - ring magnet (used for damping)
- D - light emitter-detector assembly (reads angle)
- E - two pairs of drive coils (parts of AC/DC motor)
- F - micrometer (used to control damping)
- M - pendulum mass (+ short rod = our "pendulum")

The Physical Pendulum

(continued)

Seen that already:

$$\left(\frac{d^2 \theta}{dt'^2} \right) = - \sin \theta - \left(\frac{1}{q} \right) \left(\frac{d\theta}{dt'} \right) + (g) \sin(\omega_d t')$$

The good old dimensionless parameters:

$$\frac{1}{q} = \left(\frac{1}{\omega_0} \right) \left(\frac{b}{I} \right)$$

$$g = \frac{T}{\omega_0^2 I} = \frac{T}{T_{\text{critical}}}$$

$$\omega_d = \frac{\omega_f}{\omega_0}$$

But what about ω_0 , and b , and I , and T , and T_{critical} ?

Parameterization of the Pendulum

Determining the **Natural Frequency**, ω_0 :

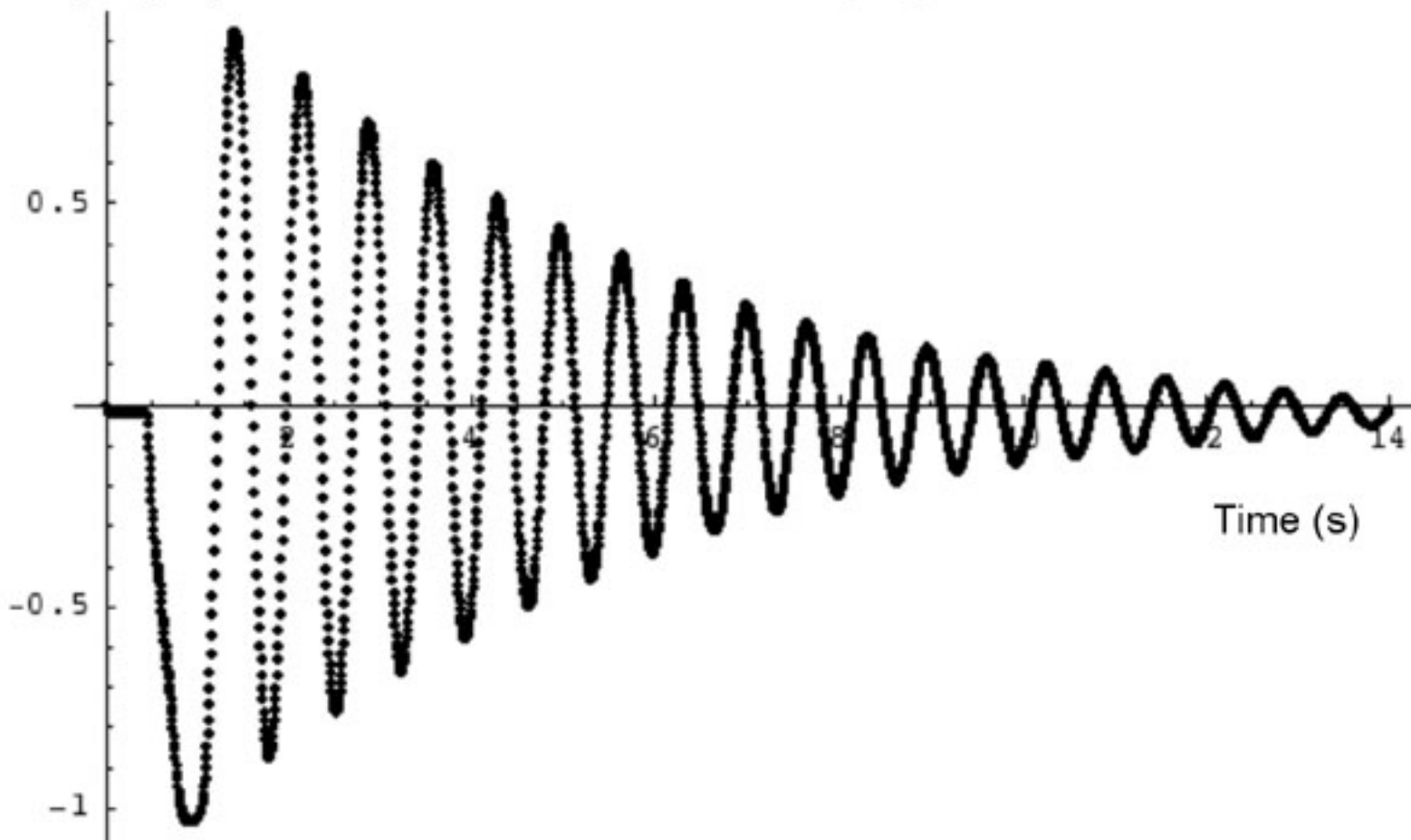
- collecting **time series** of angular displacement, θ , at minimum damping
- performing **nonlinear fitting** of damping equation to part of the time series
- calculating ω_0 from the obtained ω and α , damping parameter:
$$\omega_0 = \sqrt{\omega^2 + \alpha^2}$$

Now the driving frequency parameter can be calculated and varied →

$$\omega_d = \frac{\omega_f}{\omega_0}$$

Angular Displacement time series at minimum damping

Angle (rad)

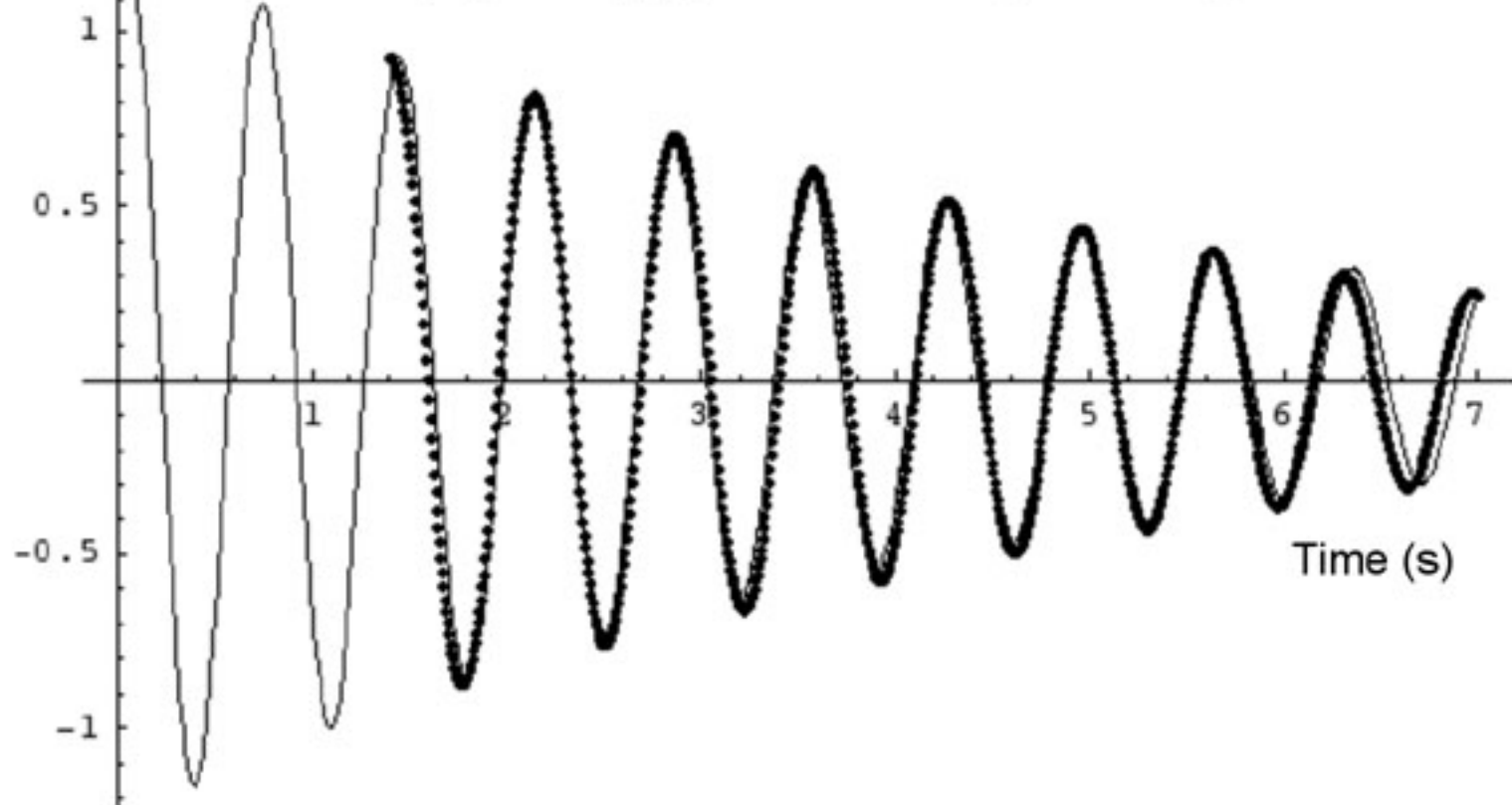


Time (s)

Data and nonlinear fit for minimum damping

Angle (rad)

$$\theta(t) = \theta_{\max} e^{-\alpha t} \cos(\omega t - \delta)$$



Parameterization of the Pendulum

(continued)

b/I as a function of **Micrometer Setting**, S :

- collecting time series of angular displacement, θ , at various values of S
- performing nonlinear fitting of damping equation to part of the time series for each S

$$(b / I) = 2 \alpha$$

- obtaining calibration curve for various micrometer settings

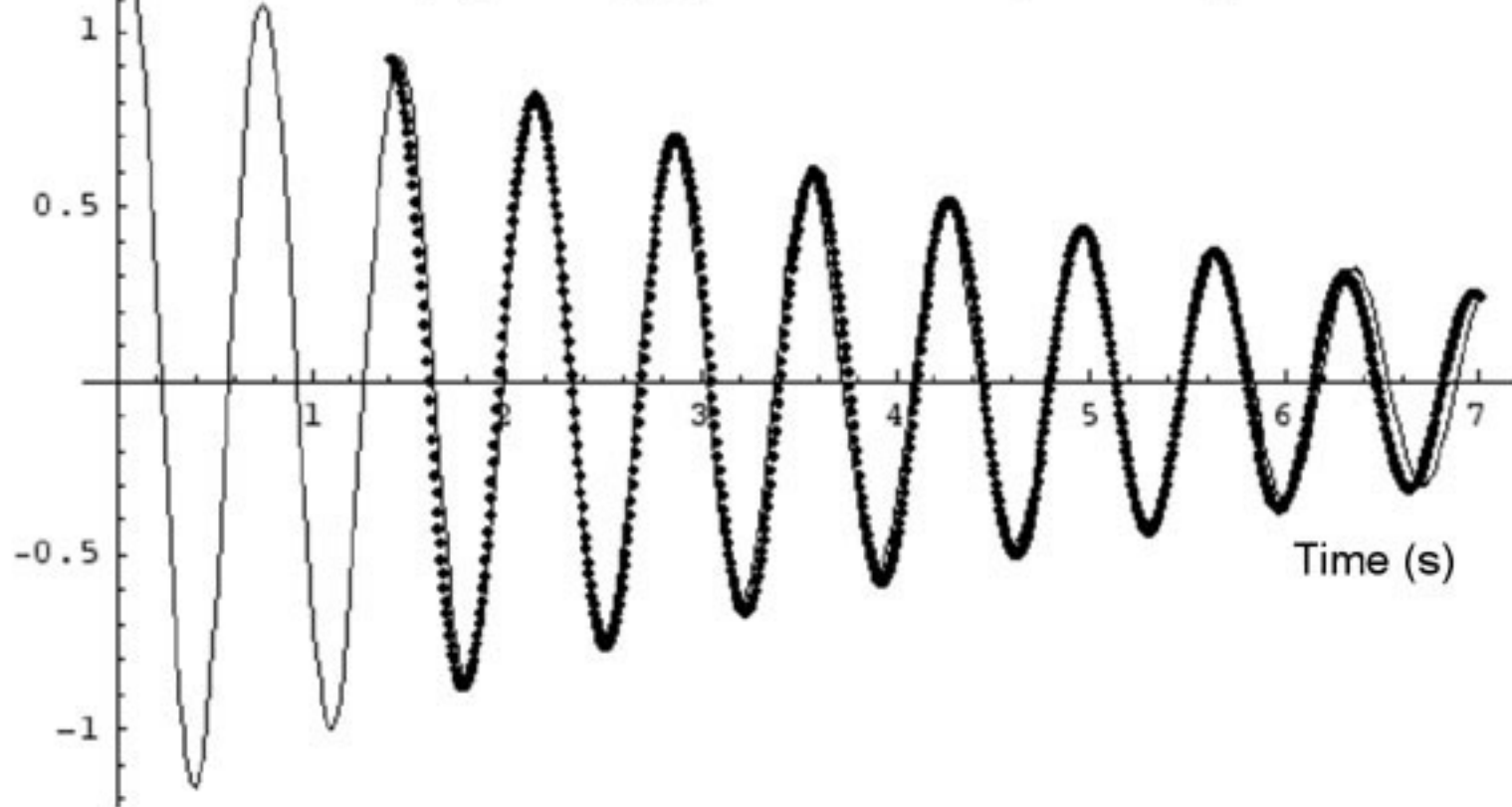
Now the damping parameter can be calculated and varied →

$$\frac{1}{q} = \left(\frac{1}{\omega_0} \right) \left(\frac{b}{I} \right)$$

Data and nonlinear fit for minimum damping

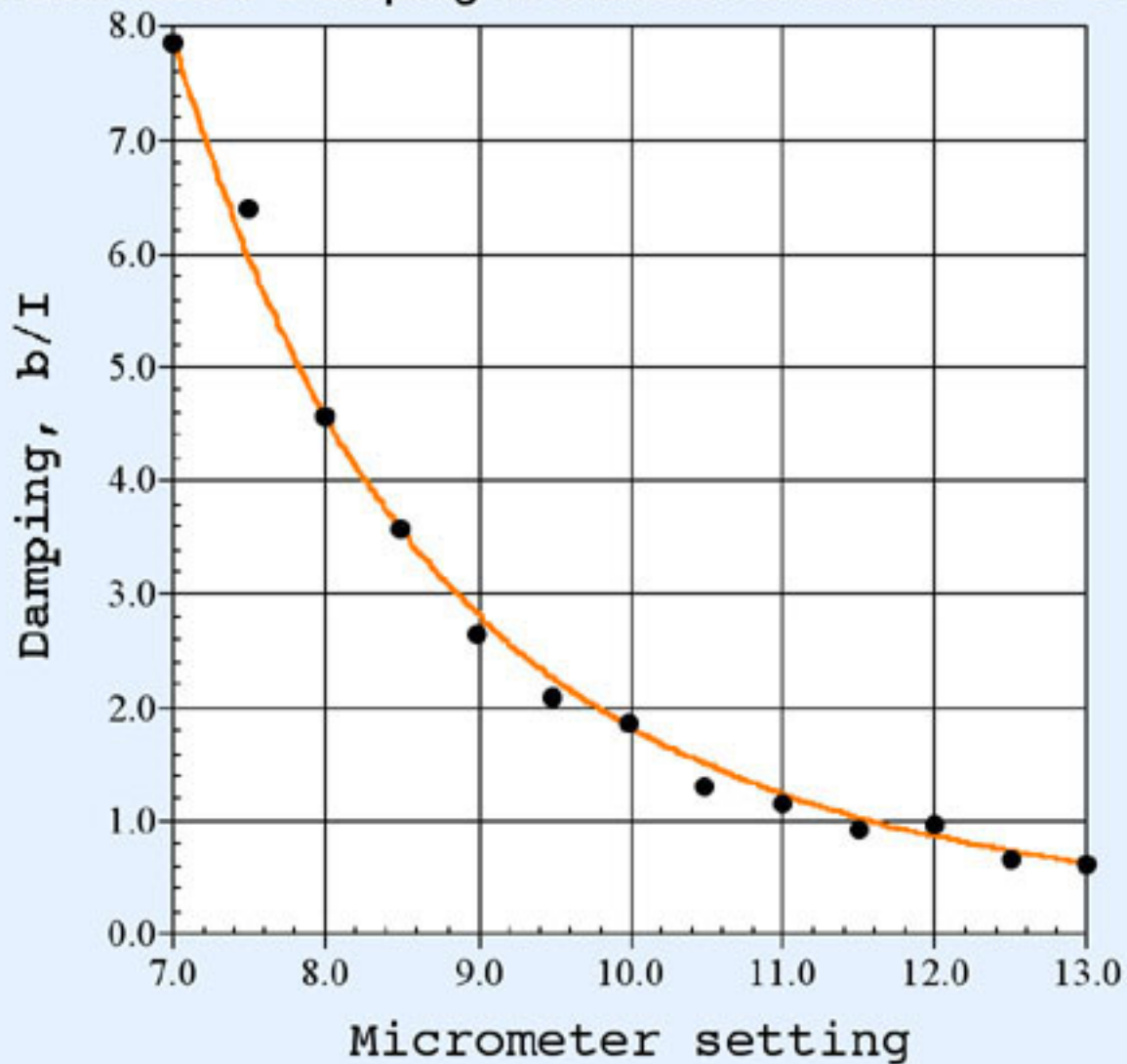
Angle (rad)

$$\theta(t) = \theta_{\max} e^{-\alpha t} \cos(\omega t - \delta)$$



Time (s)

Normalized Damping as a function of Micrometer Setting



Parameterization of the Pendulum

(continued)

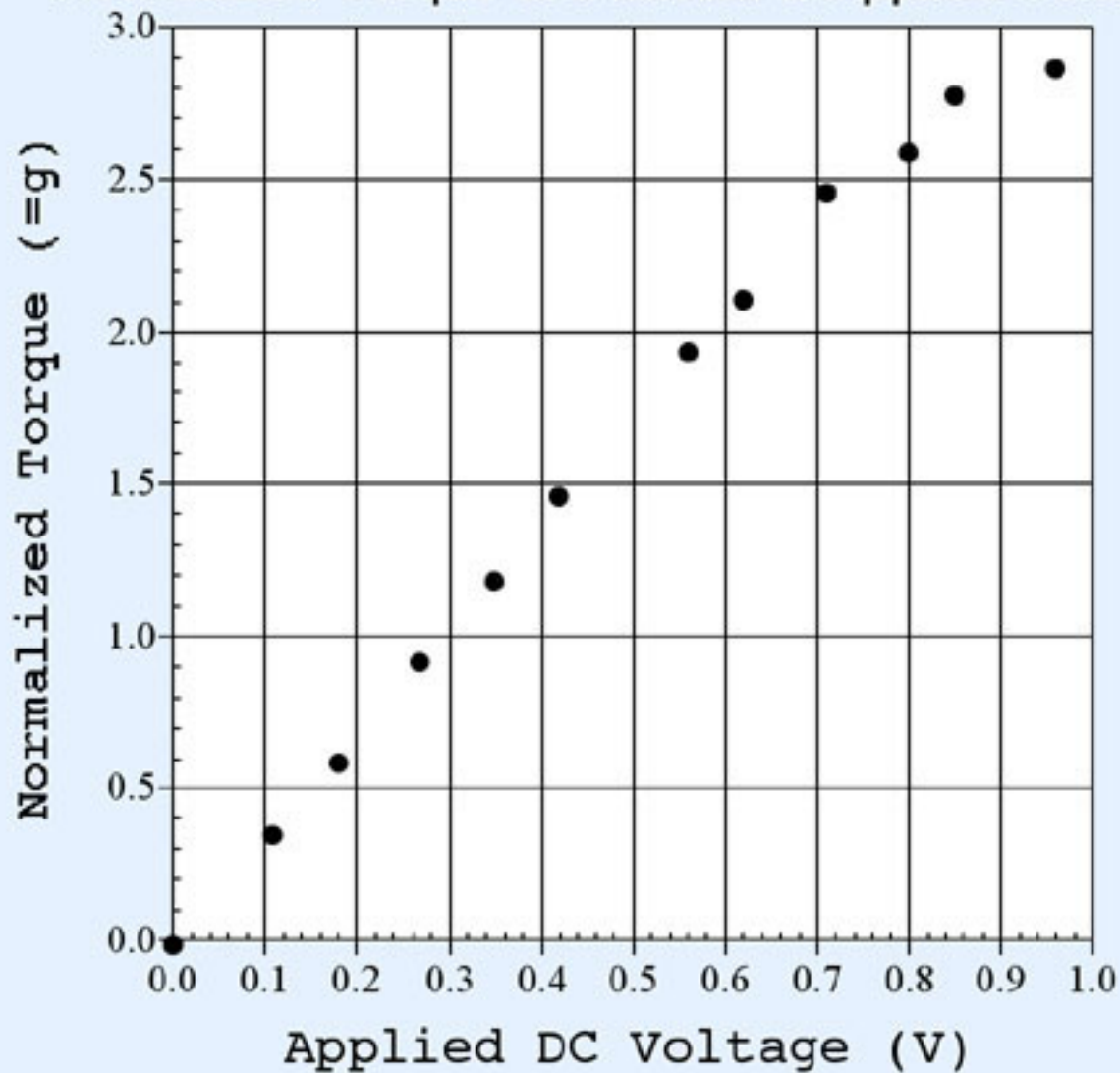
Normalized Torque as a function of Driving Voltage (DC):

- pendulum turned “on-edge” to eliminate gravitational restoring force
- measuring terminal angular velocity, ω_{term} , at constant damping and varying drive voltage
- obtaining calibration curve for normalized torque, T/T_{critical} , as a function of voltage (DC)

Now the driving amplitude parameter can be calculated and varied →

$$g = \frac{T}{\omega_0^2 I} = \frac{T}{T_{\text{critical}}}$$

Normalized Torque as a function of Applied Voltage



Tweaking the Parameters

Driving frequency

(kept constant,

$$\omega_d = 2/3)$$

$$\omega_d = \frac{\omega_f}{\omega_0}$$

Micrometer damping

(two different settings,

$$q = 2 \text{ and } q = 4)$$

$$\frac{1}{q} = \left(\frac{1}{\omega_0} \right) \left(\frac{b}{I} \right)$$

Driving amplitude

(a range of settings)

$$g = \frac{T}{\omega_0^2 I} = \frac{T}{T_{\text{critical}}}$$

$$g = 0.92$$

Period 1

$$g = 1.44$$

Period 2

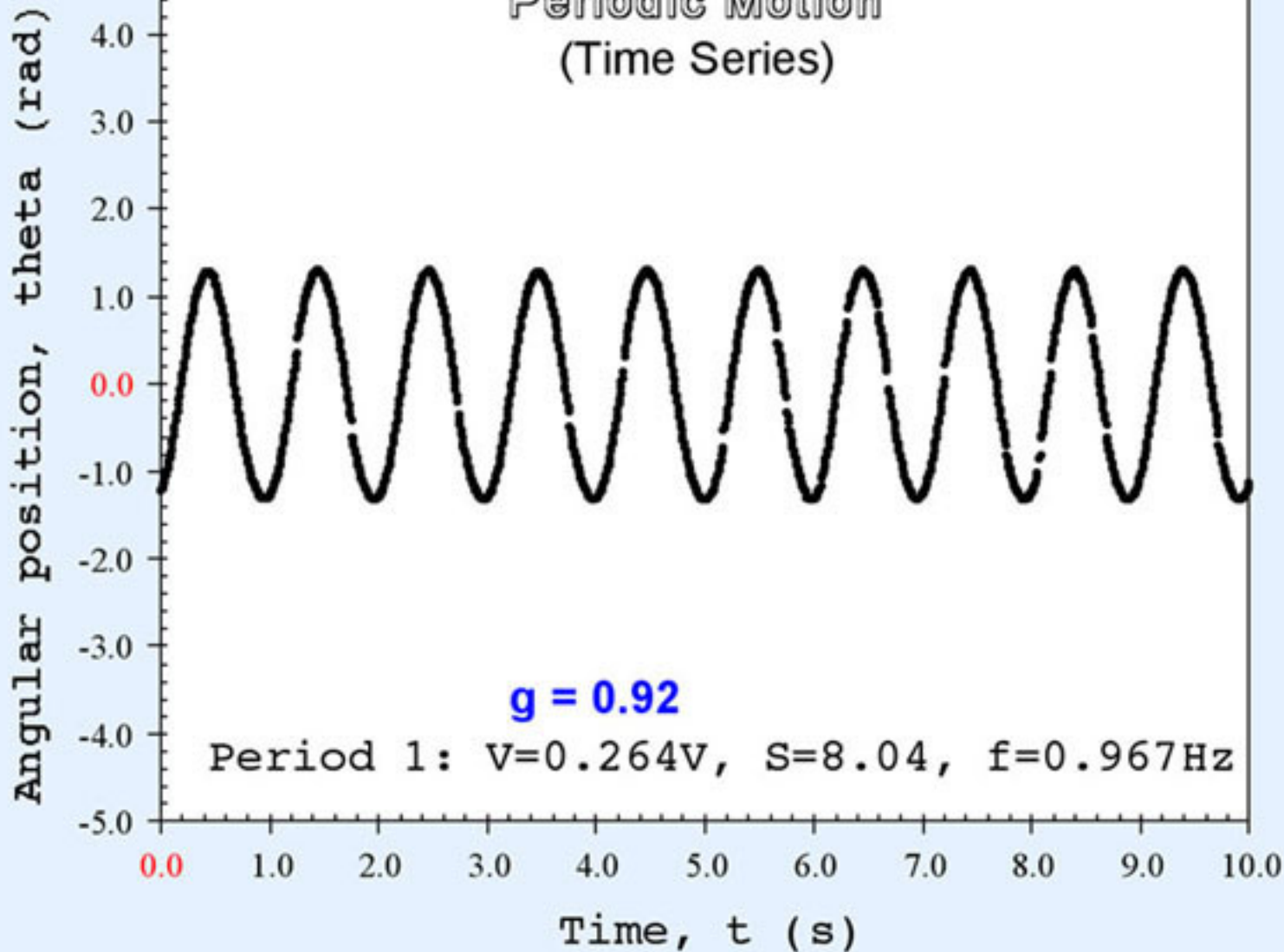
$$g = 1.61$$

Period 3

$$g = 1.75$$

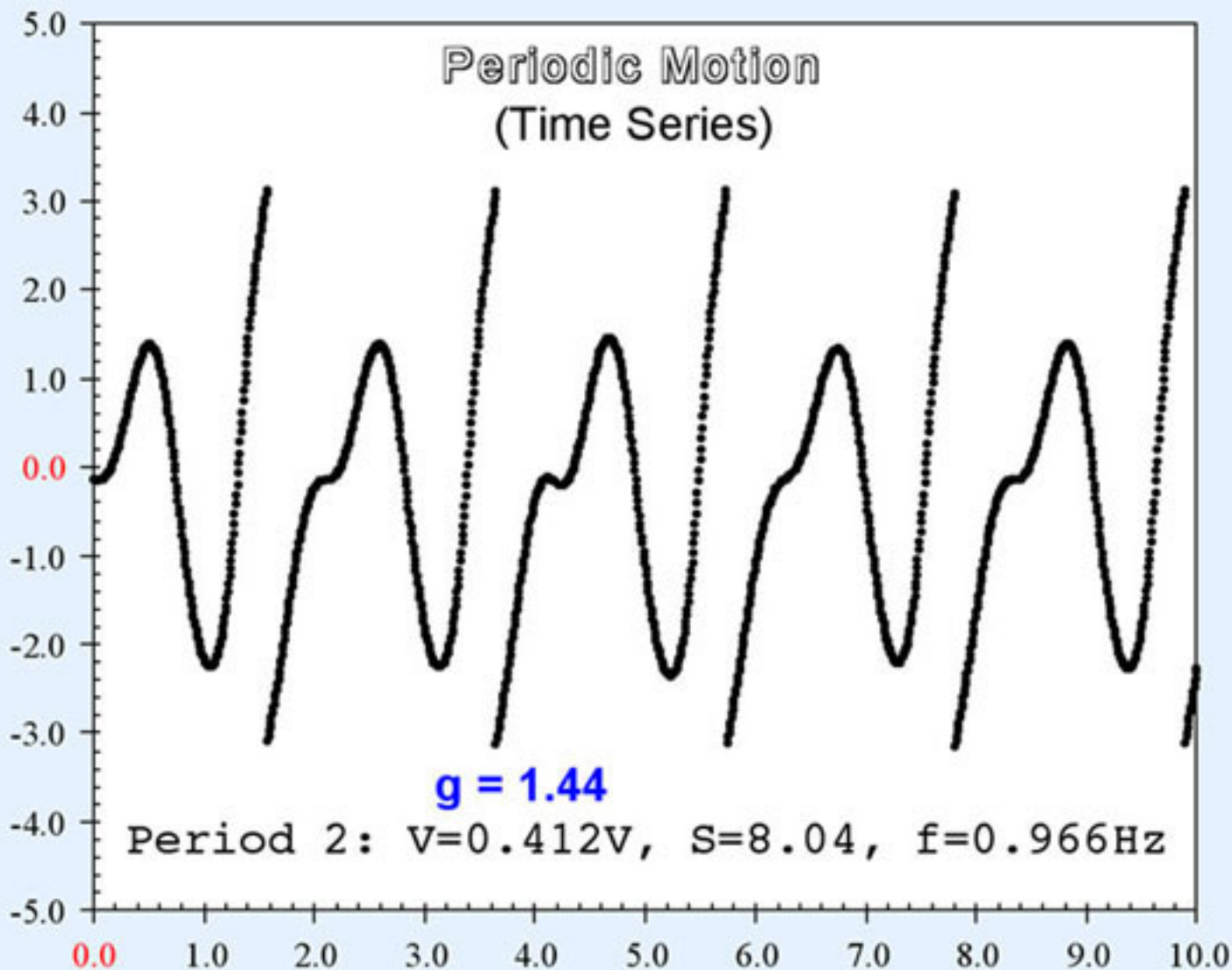
Chaos

Periodic Motion
(Time Series)



Periodic Motion (Time Series)

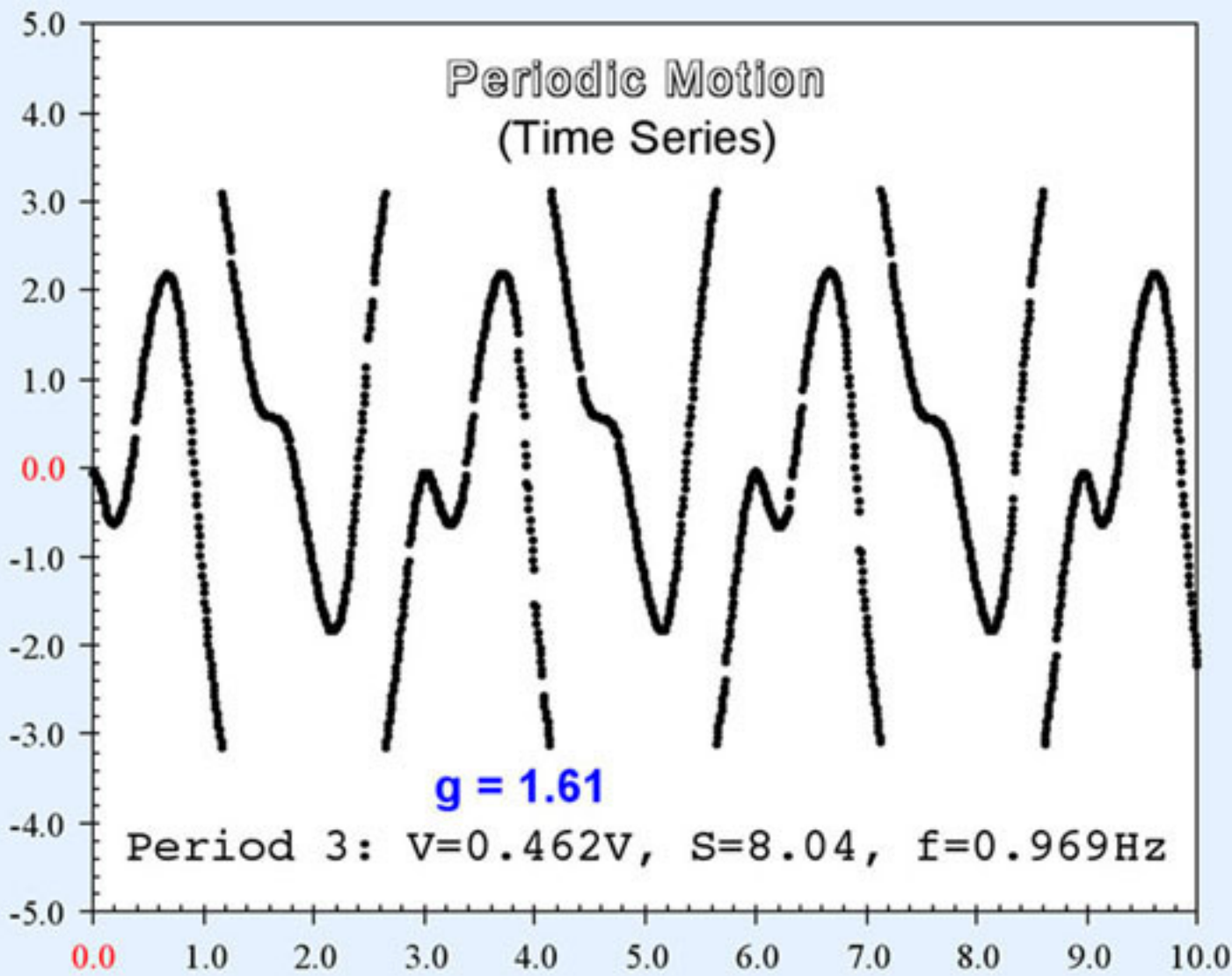
Angular position, theta (rad)



Time, t (s)

Periodic Motion (Time Series)

Angular position, theta (rad)



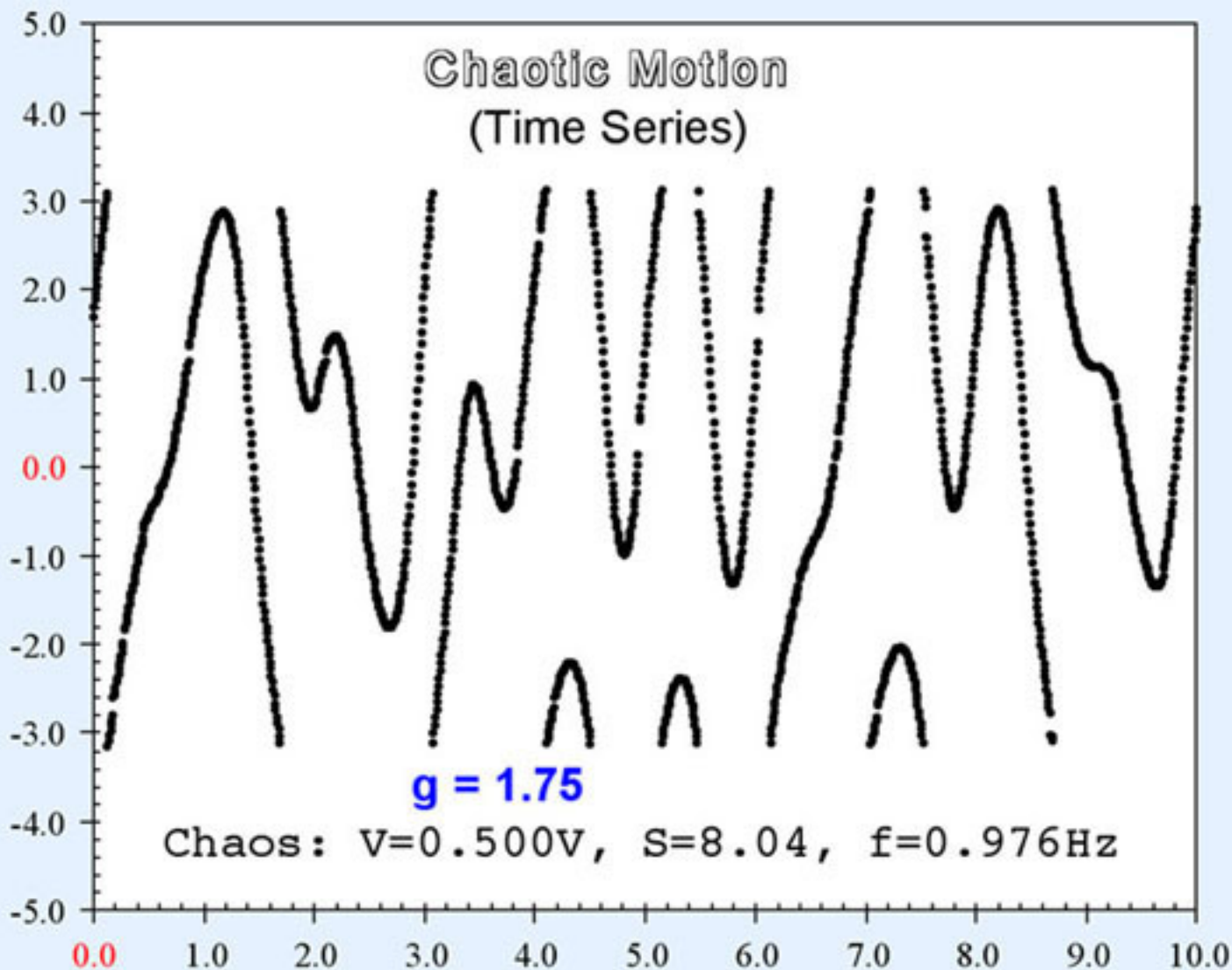
$g = 1.61$

Period 3: $V=0.462V$, $S=8.04$, $f=0.969Hz$

Time, t (s)

Chaotic Motion (Time Series)

Angular position, theta (rad)

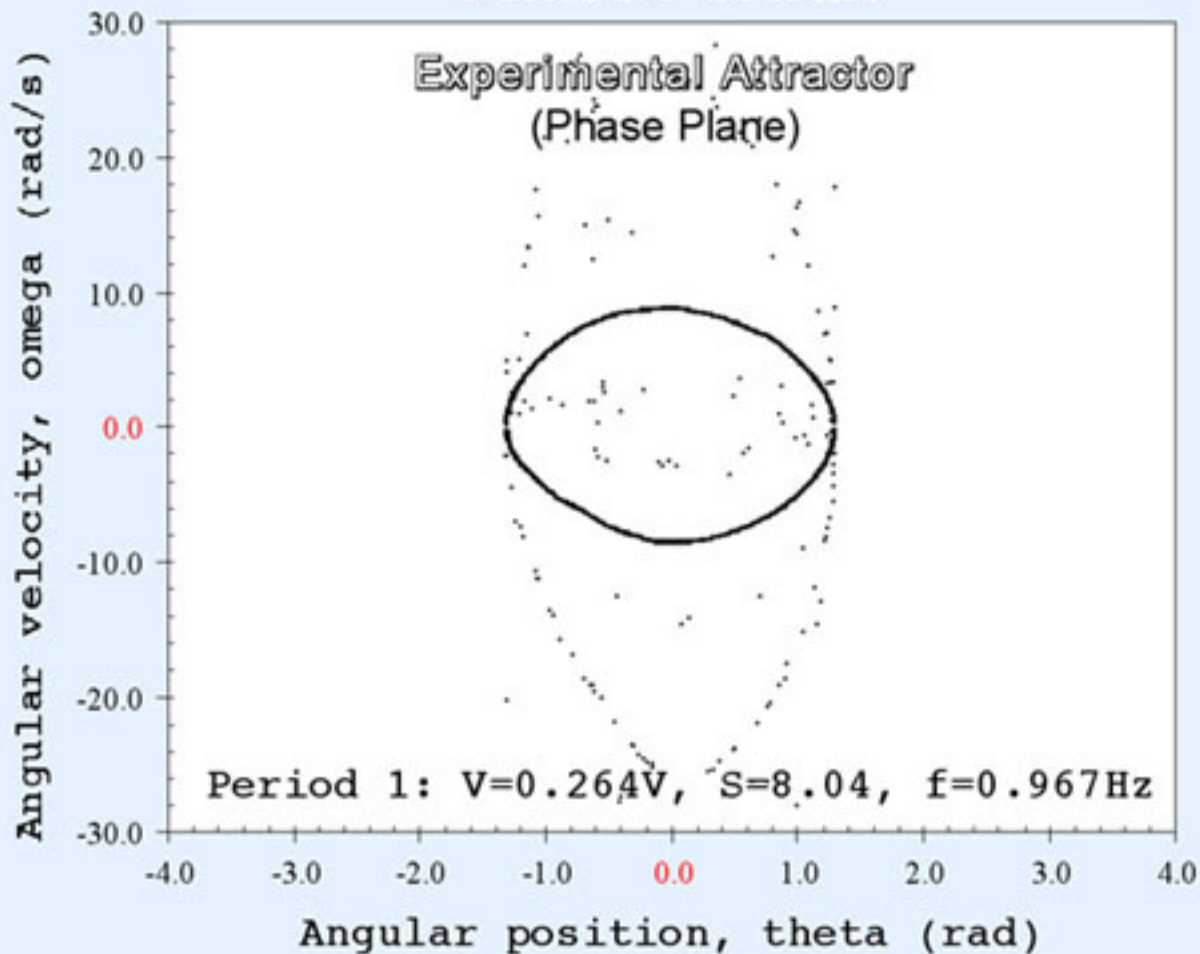


Time, t (s)

CHAOS

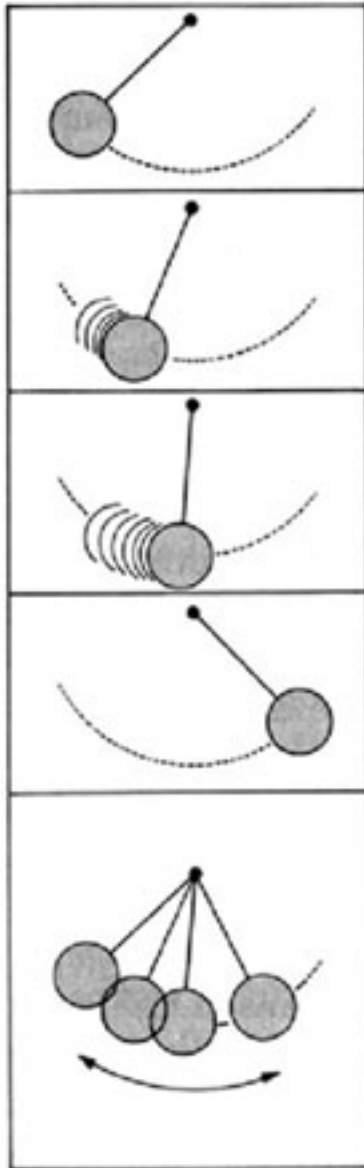
Aperiodic long-term behavior in a
deterministic system that exhibits
sensitivity to initial conditions.

Phase Portrait



[How do we read the Phase Portrait ?](#)

How to read the Phase Plane diagram

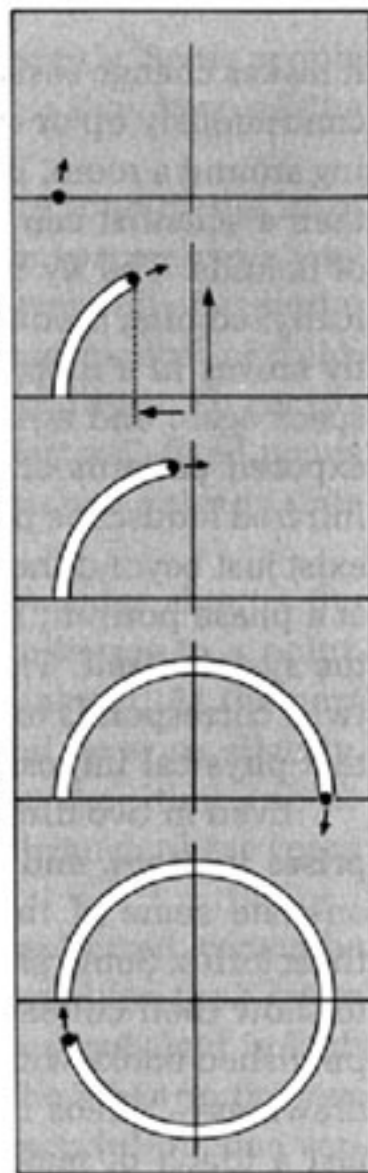


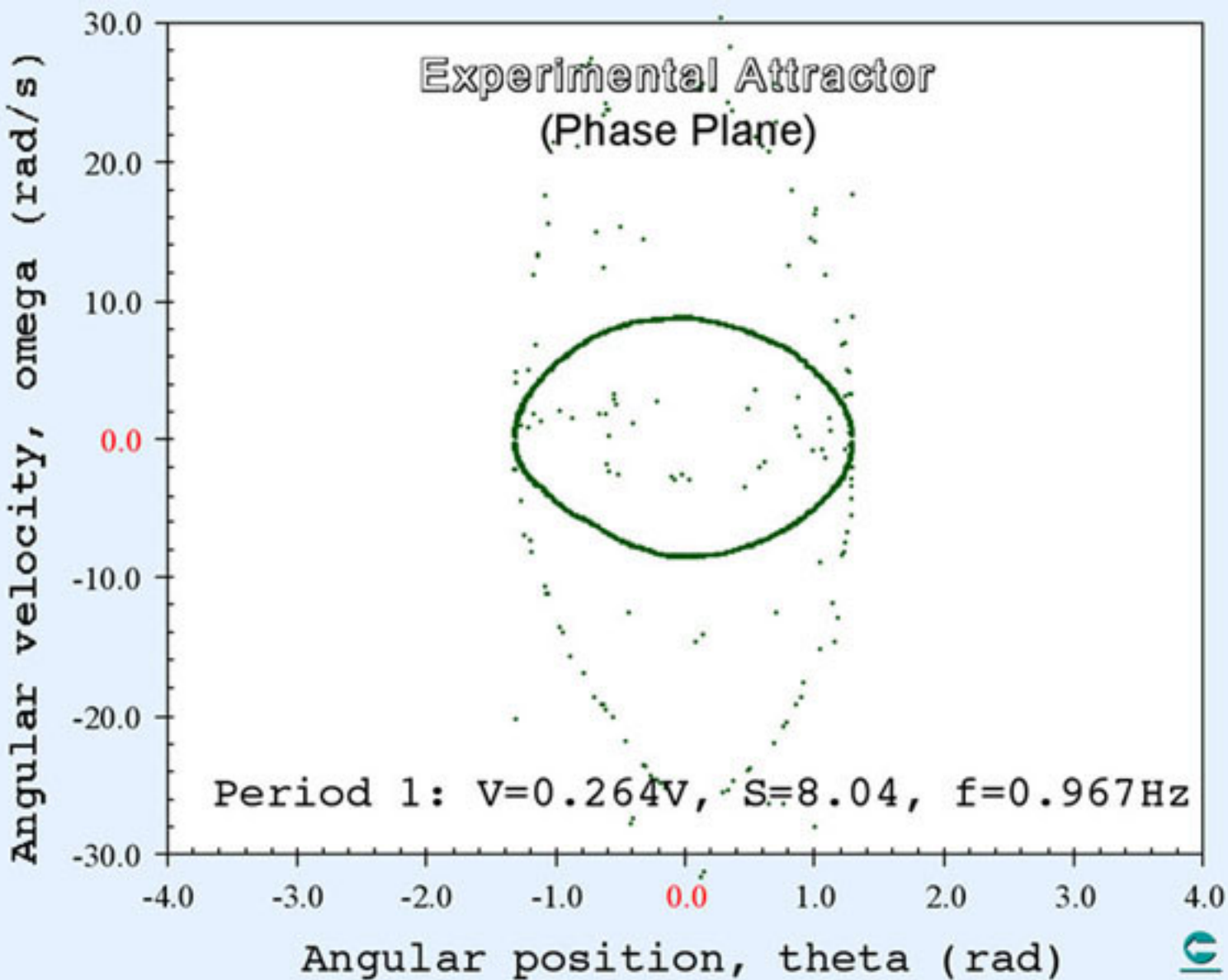
Velocity is zero as the pendulum starts its swing. Position is a negative number, the distance to the left of the center.

The two numbers specify a single point in two-dimensional phase space.

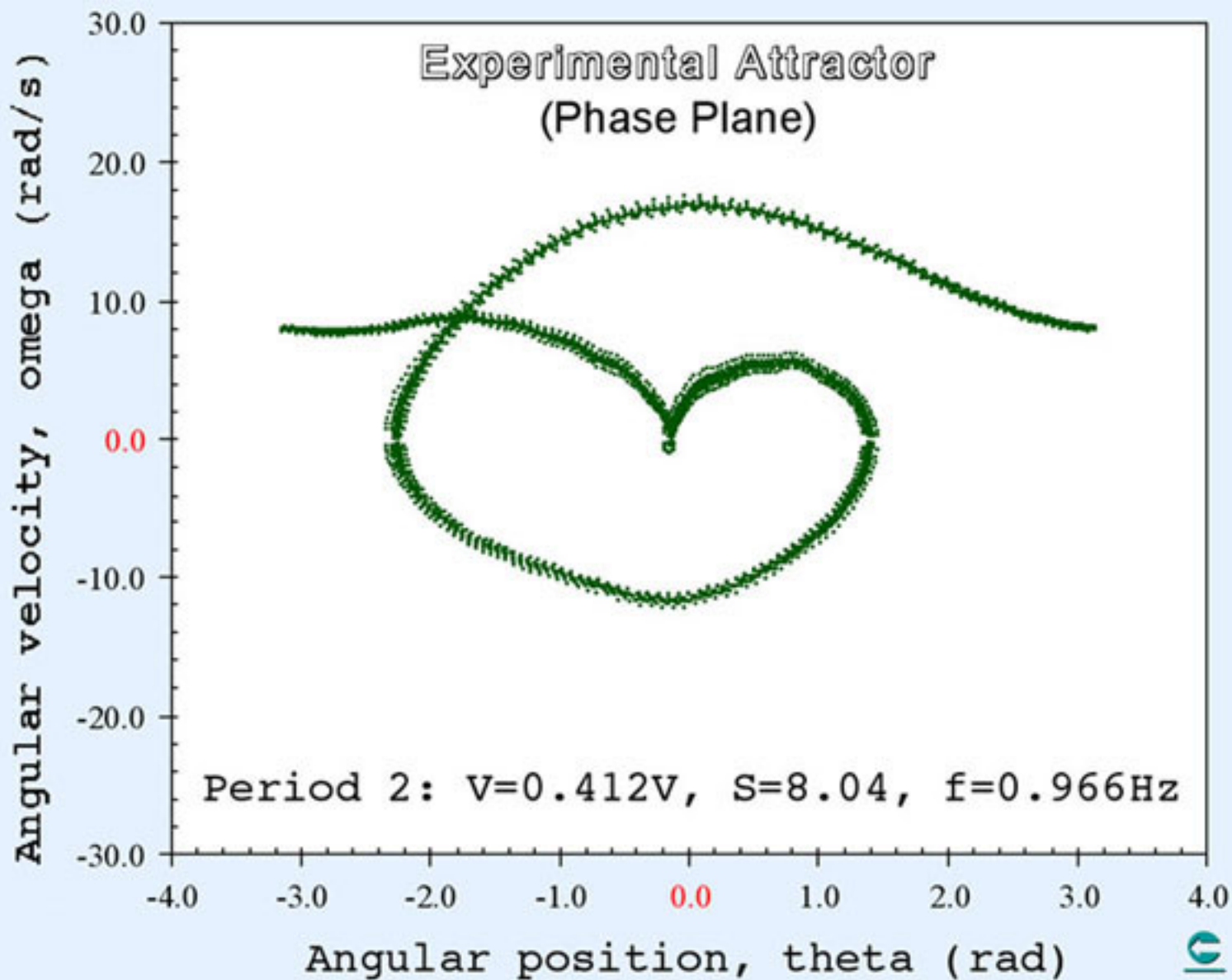
Velocity reaches its maximum as the pendulum's position passes through zero.

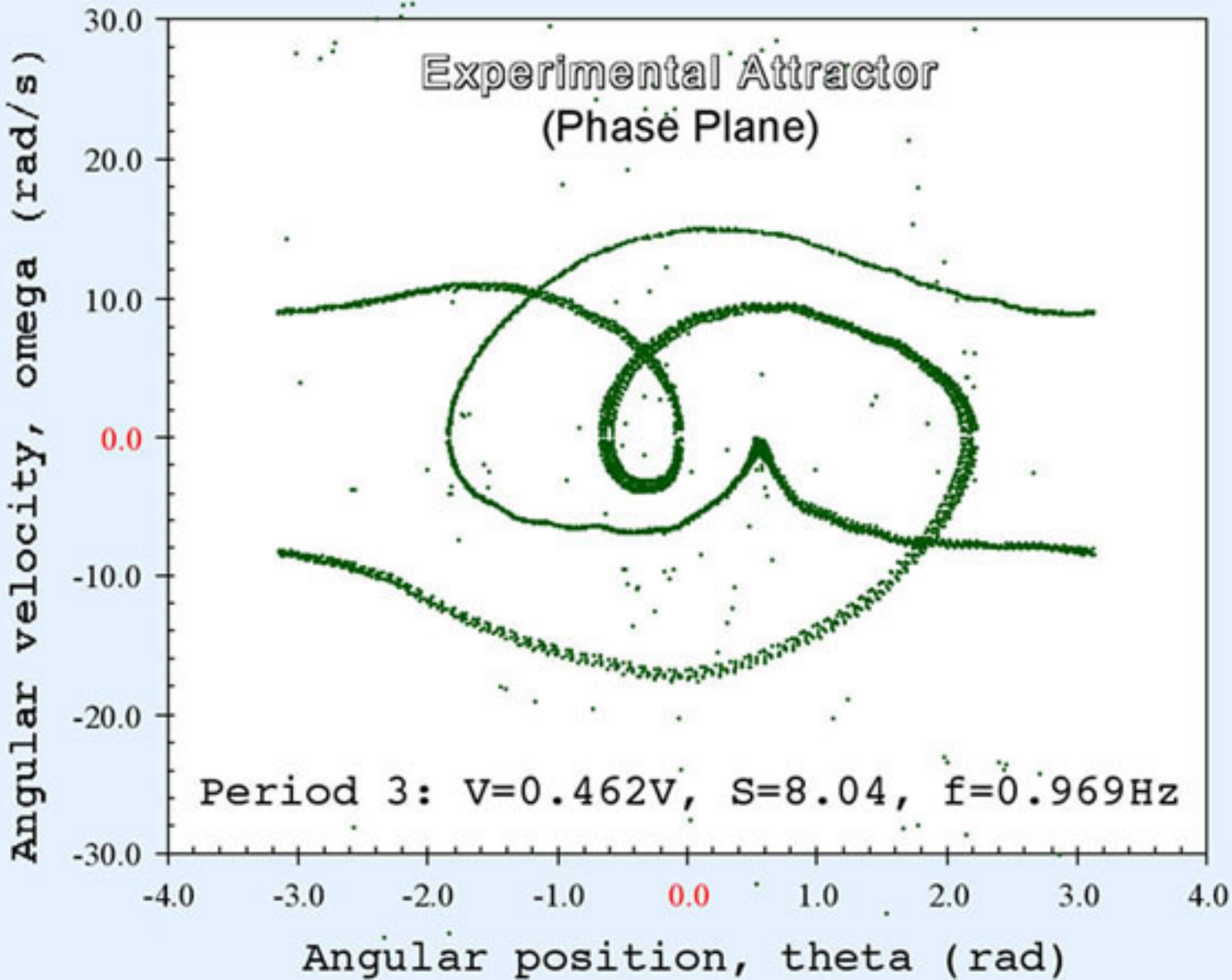
Velocity declines again to zero, and then becomes negative to represent leftward motion.





Experimental Attractor (Phase Plane)





Pendulum Bifurcation Diagrams

Solving the differential equation of motion numerically:

$$\left(\frac{d^2 \theta}{dt'^2} \right) = - \sin \theta - \left(\frac{1}{q} \right) \left(\frac{d\theta}{dt'} \right) + (g) \sin (\omega_d t')$$

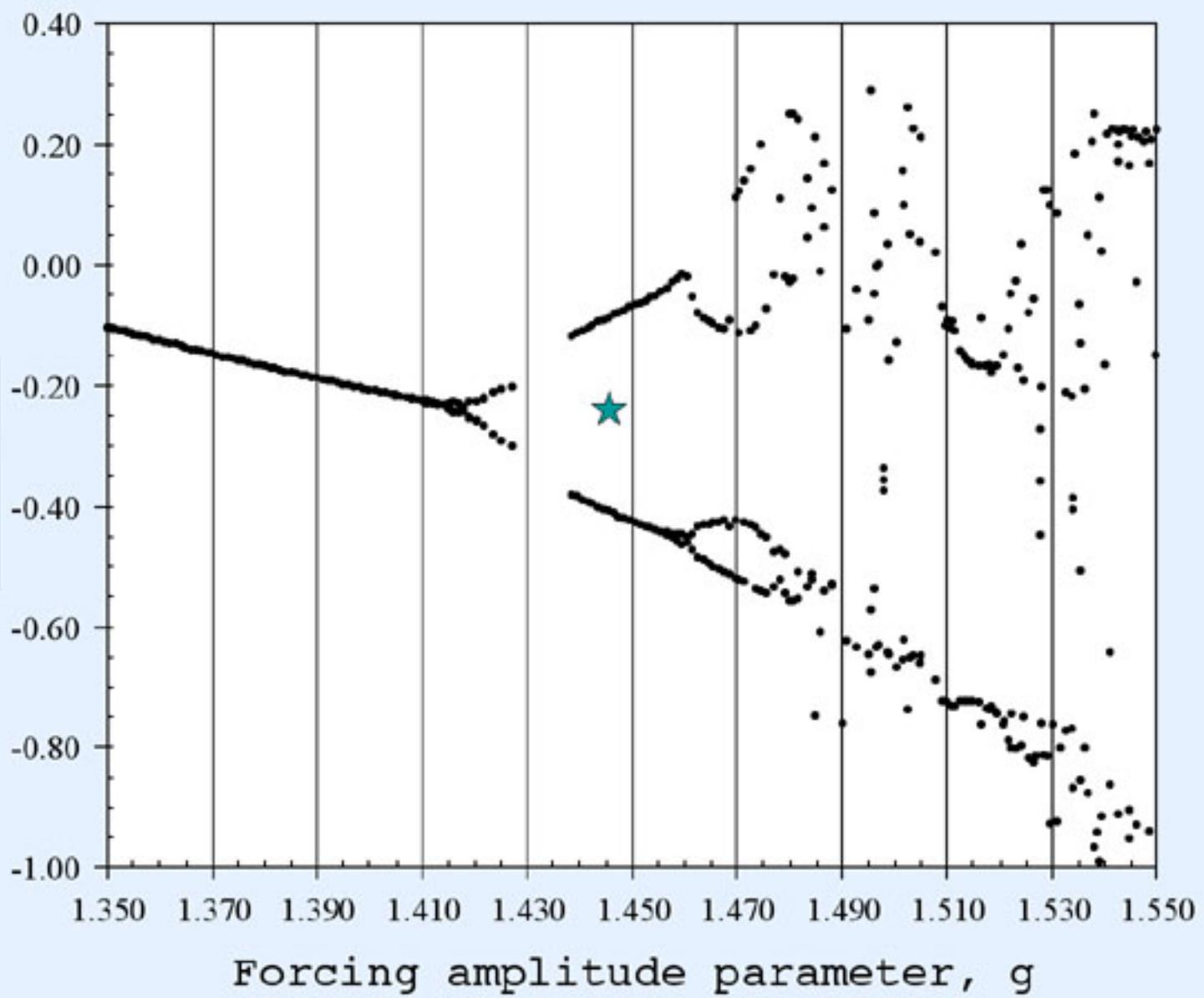
becomes

$$\text{accel} = - \sin x - \left(\frac{1}{q} \right) v + g \sin (w t')$$

I have used the fourth-order *Runge-Kutta* method, with an adjustable time increment.

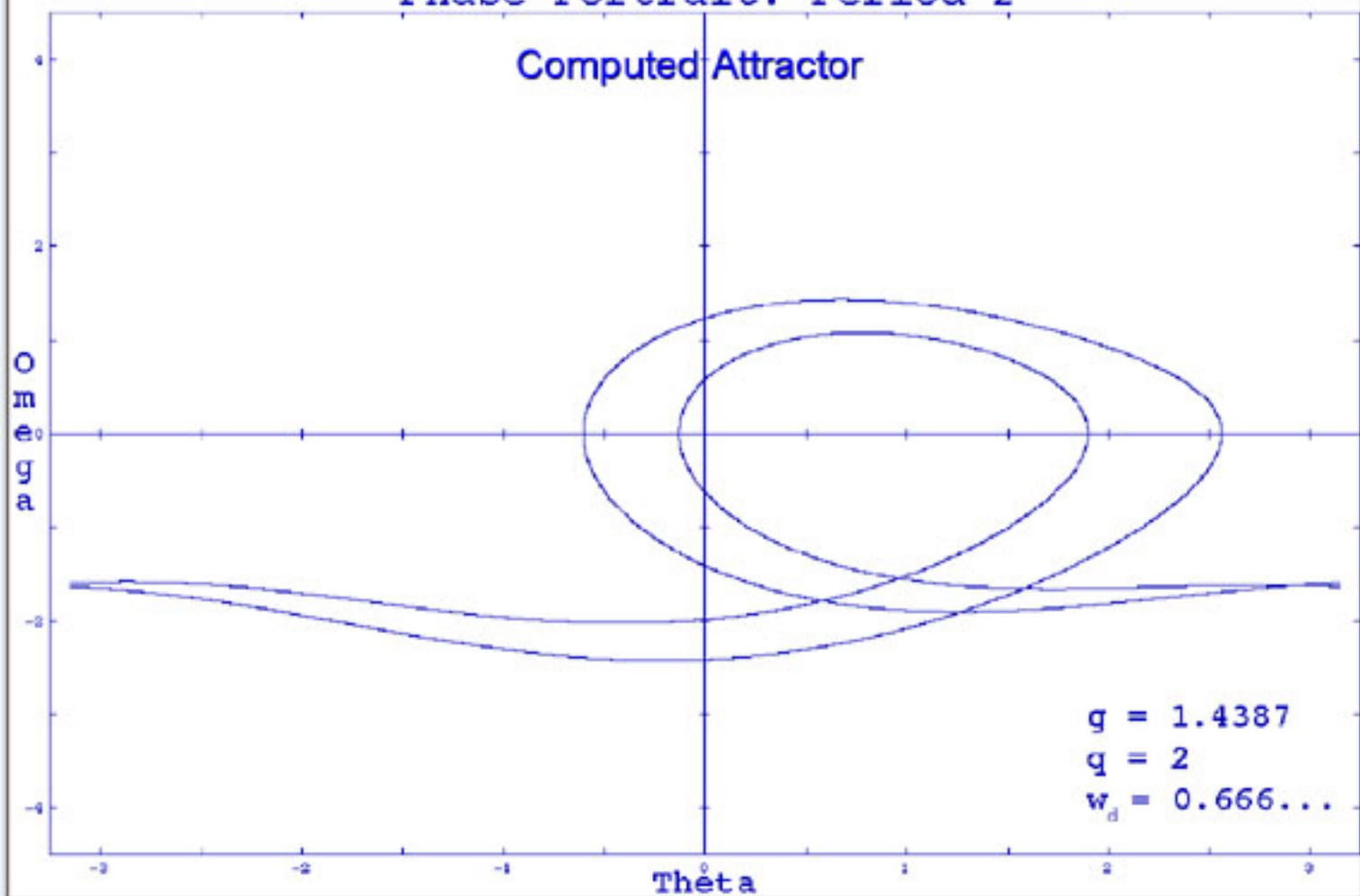
Solving numerically for x and for v , at small increments of g .

Omega

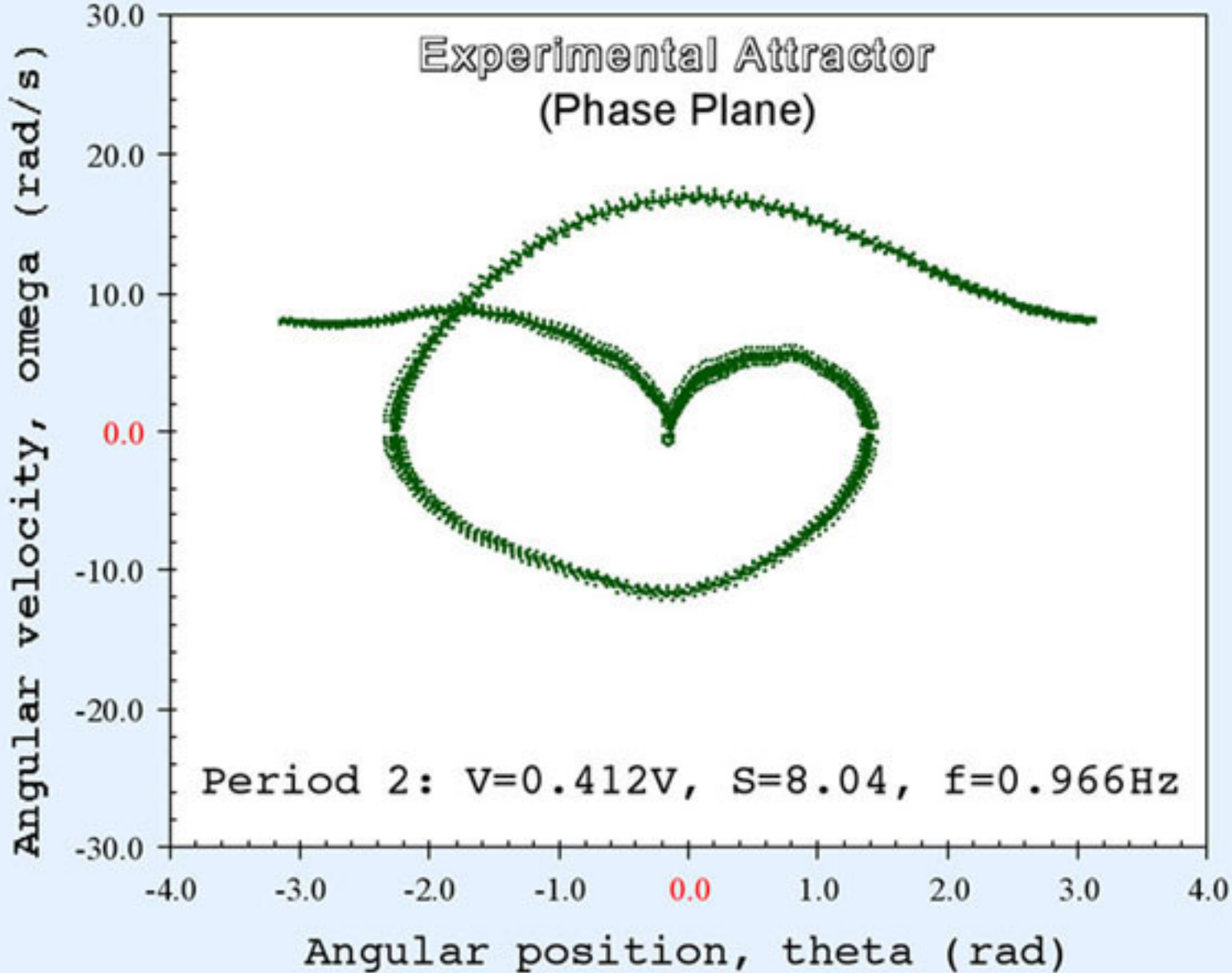


Phase Portrait: Period 2

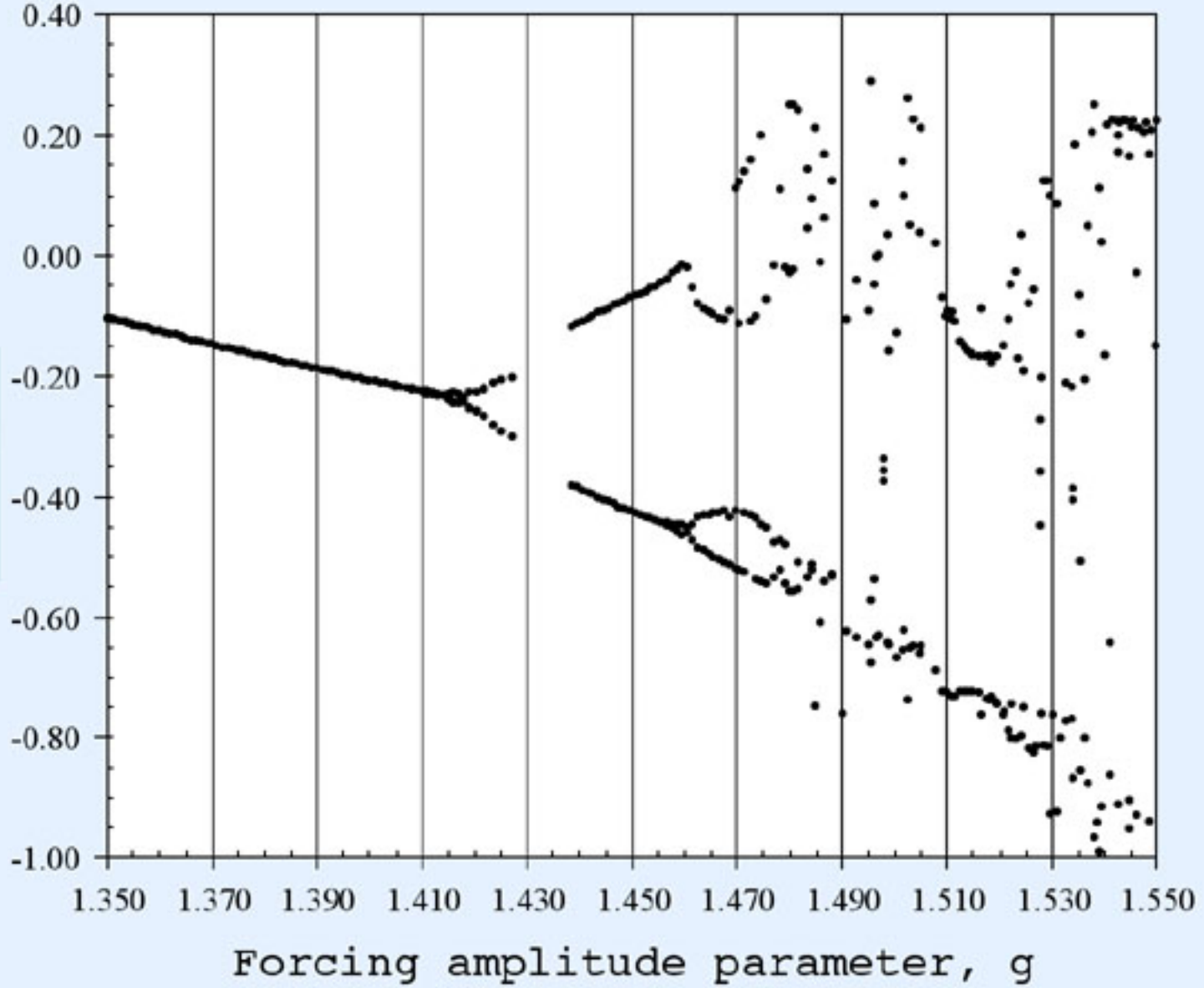
Computed Attractor



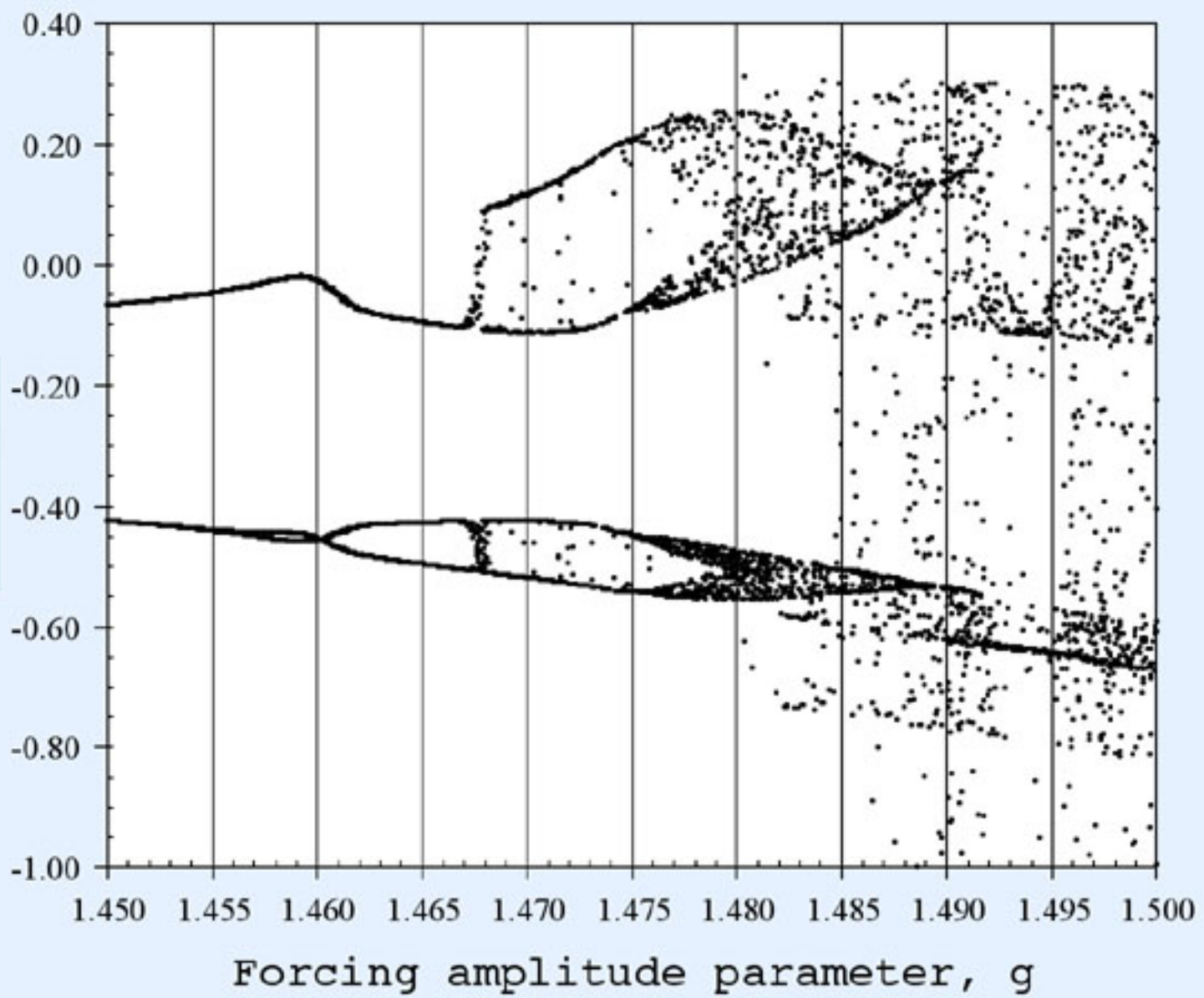
Experimental Attractor (Phase Plane)



Omega



Omega



Prerequisites for Chaotic Behavior in a Physical System

1. at least three independent dynamical variables
2. nonlinearity in the equations of motion
3. appropriate values for the parameters

The Chaotic Pendulum (again...)

$$\left(\frac{d^2 \theta}{dt'^2} \right) = - \sin \theta - \left(\frac{1}{q} \right) \left(\frac{d\theta}{dt'} \right) + (g) \sin (\omega_d t')$$

1. at least three independent dynamical variables

$$\frac{d\omega}{dt} = -\frac{\omega}{q} - \sin \theta + g \sin \varphi$$

$$\frac{d\theta}{dt} = \omega$$

$$\frac{d\varphi}{dt} = \omega_d$$

2. nonlinearity in the equations of motion

$$\sin \theta, \quad \sin (\omega_d t')$$

3. appropriate values for the parameters

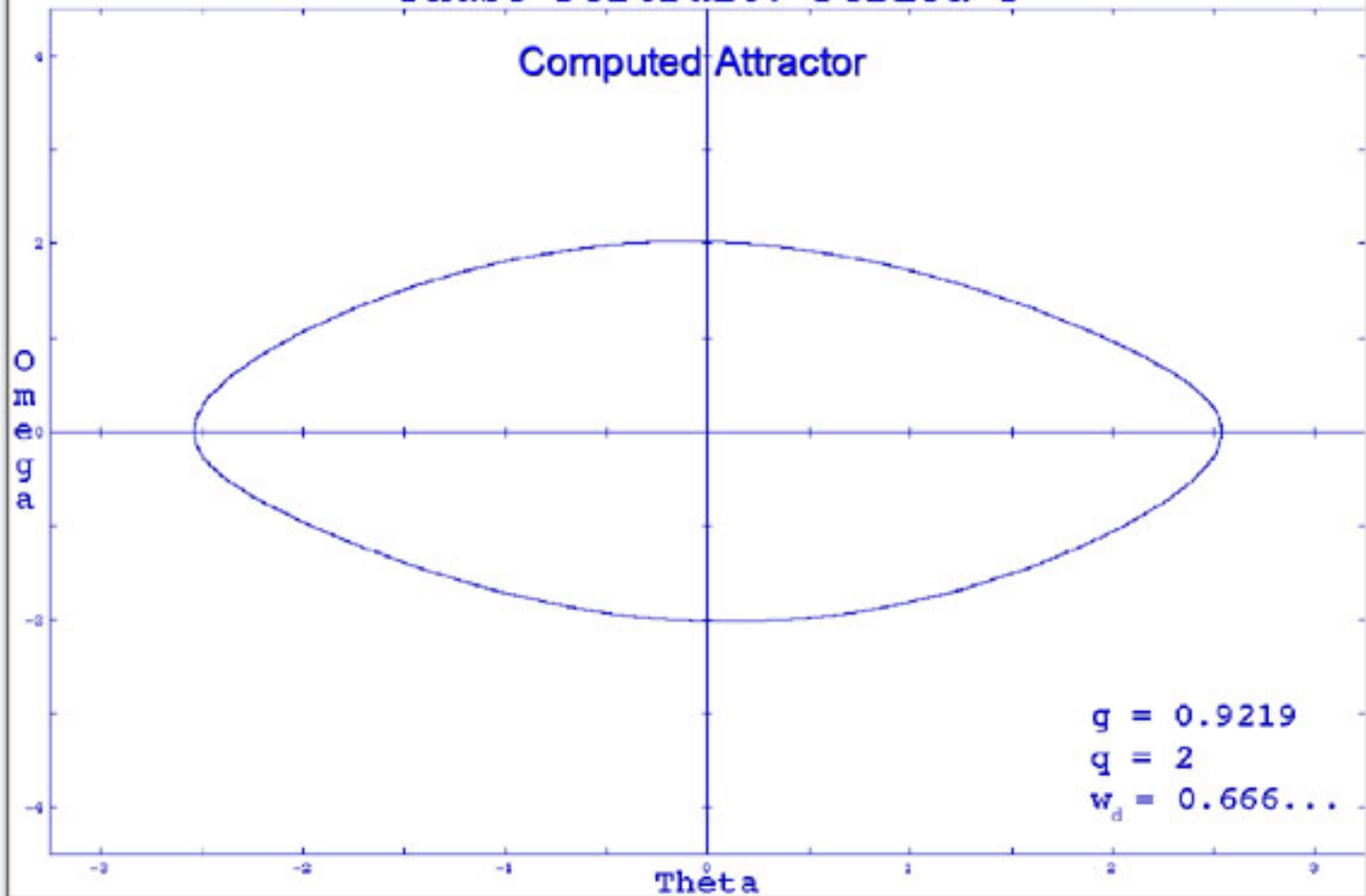
$$\frac{1}{q} = \left(\frac{1}{\omega_0} \right) \left(\frac{b}{I} \right)$$

$$g = \frac{T}{\omega_0^2 I} = \frac{T}{T_{\text{critical}}}$$

$$\omega_d = \frac{\omega_f}{\omega_0}$$

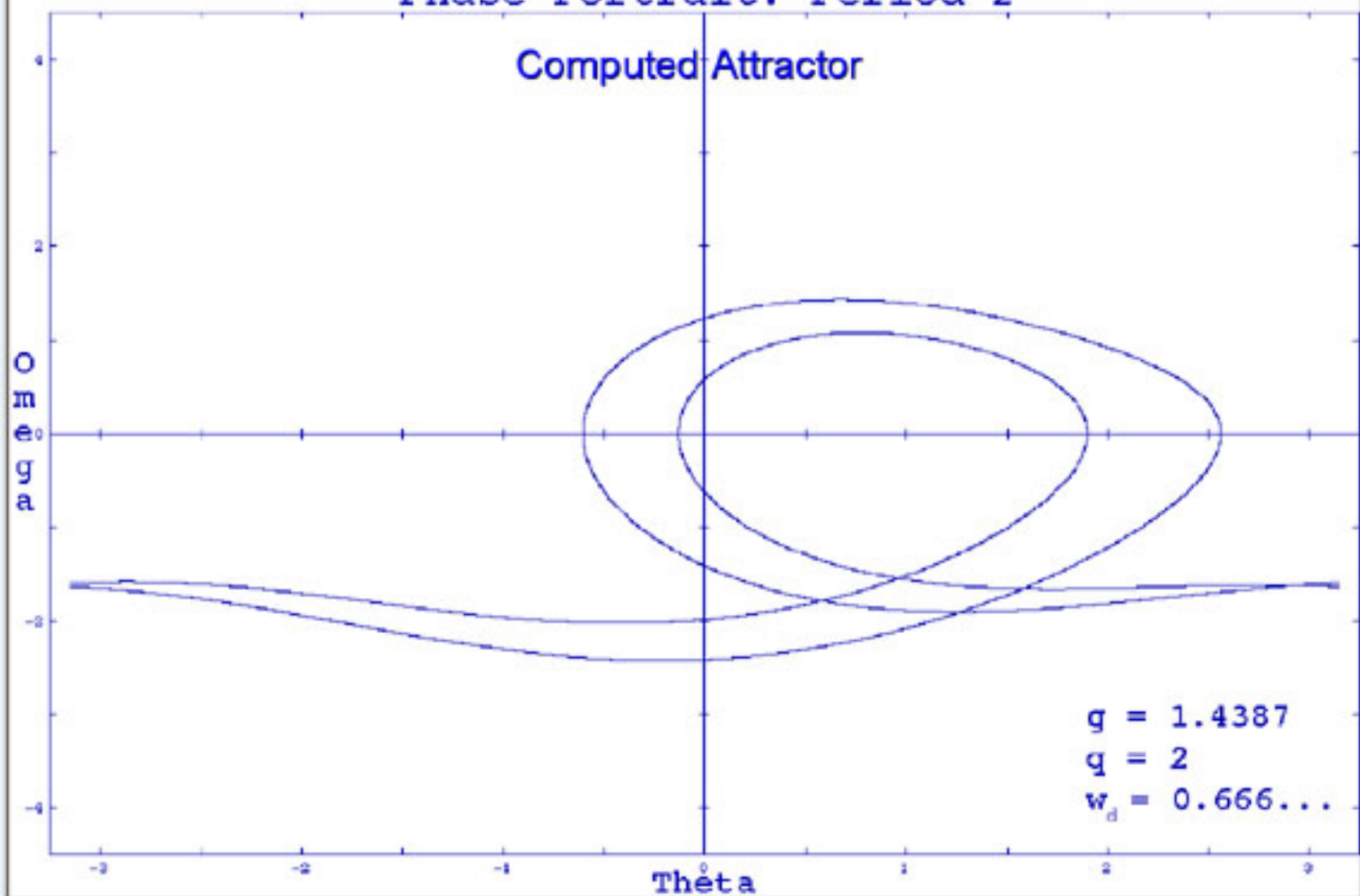
Phase Portrait: Period 1

Computed Attractor



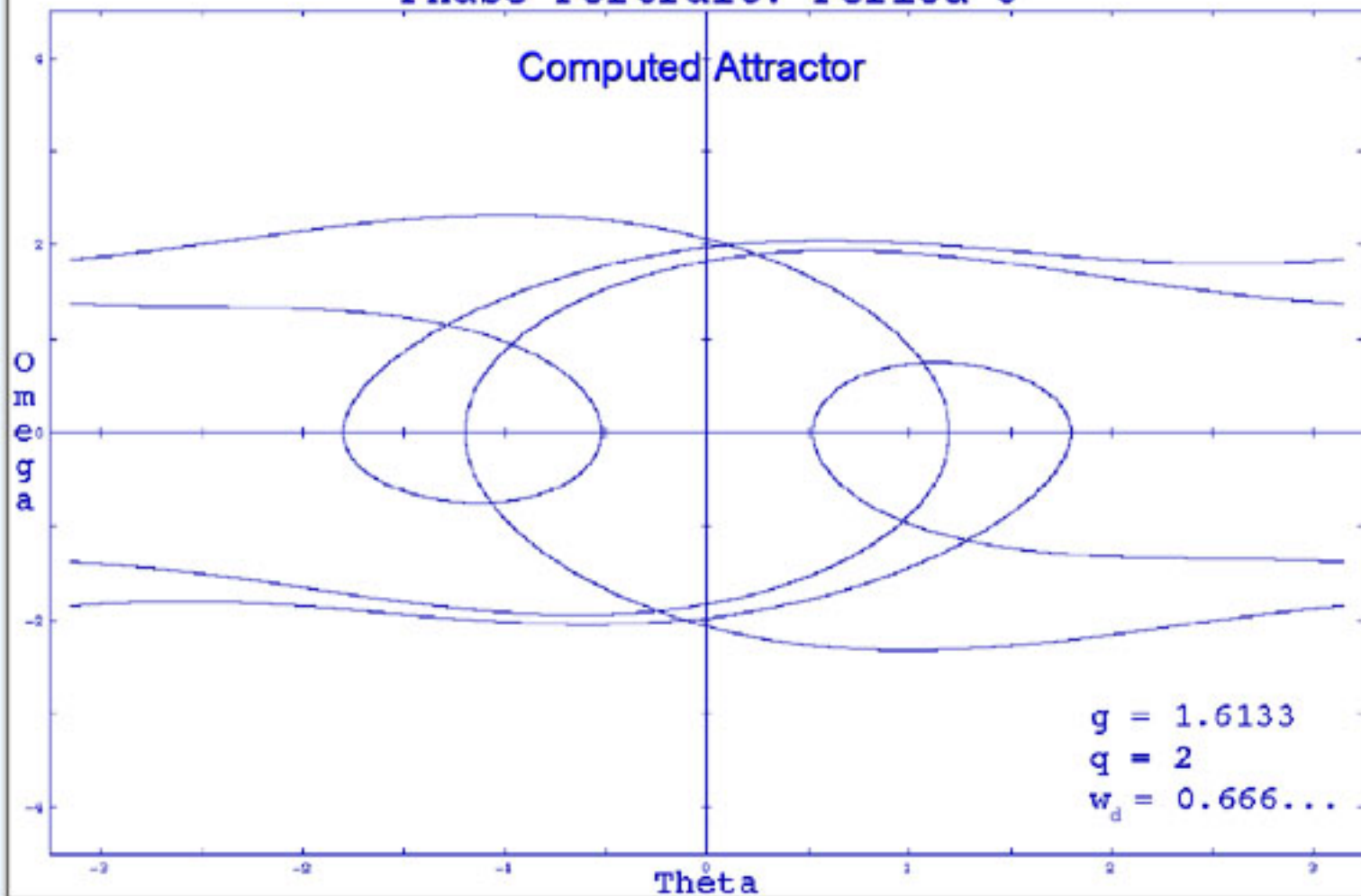
Phase Portrait: Period 2

Computed Attractor

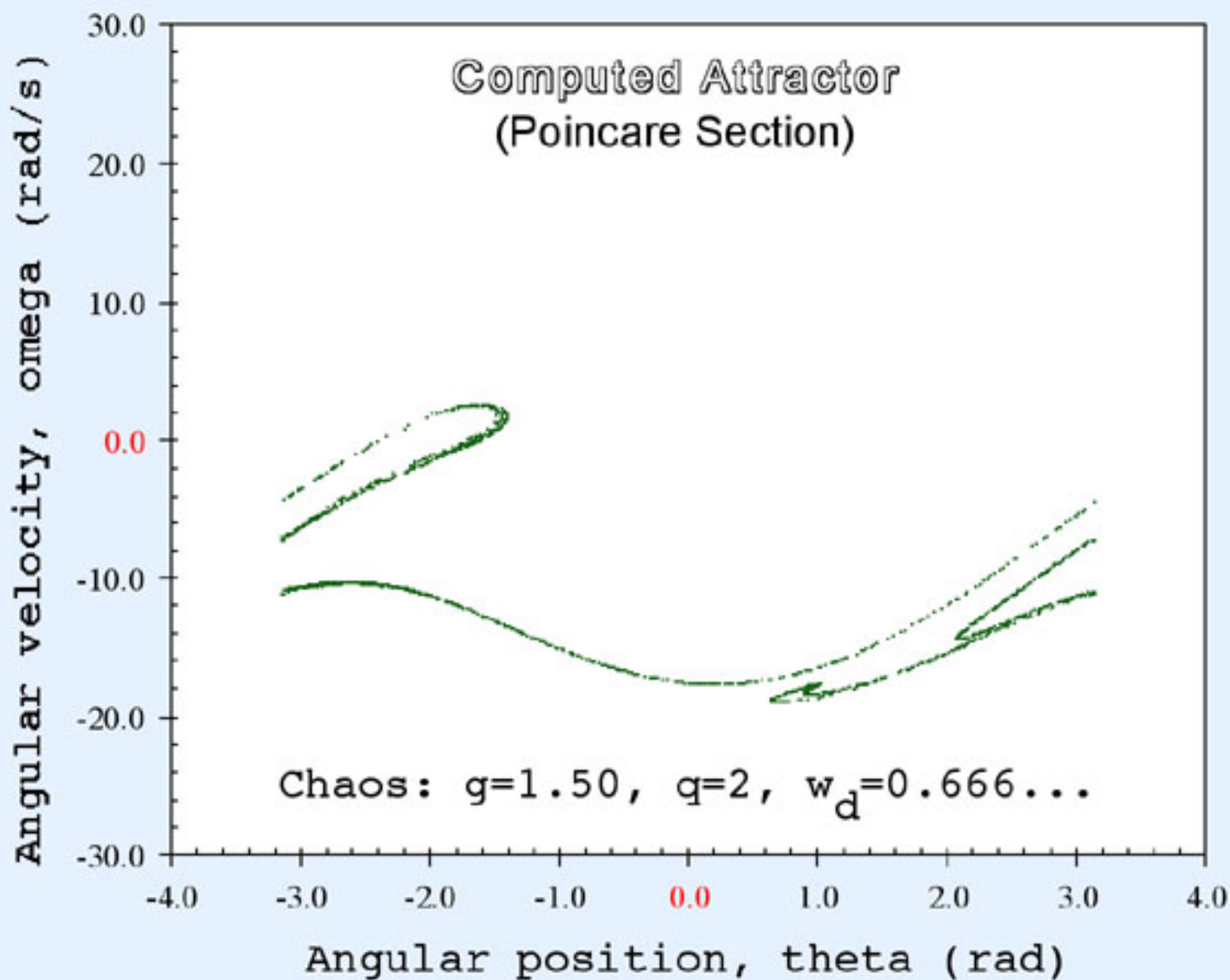


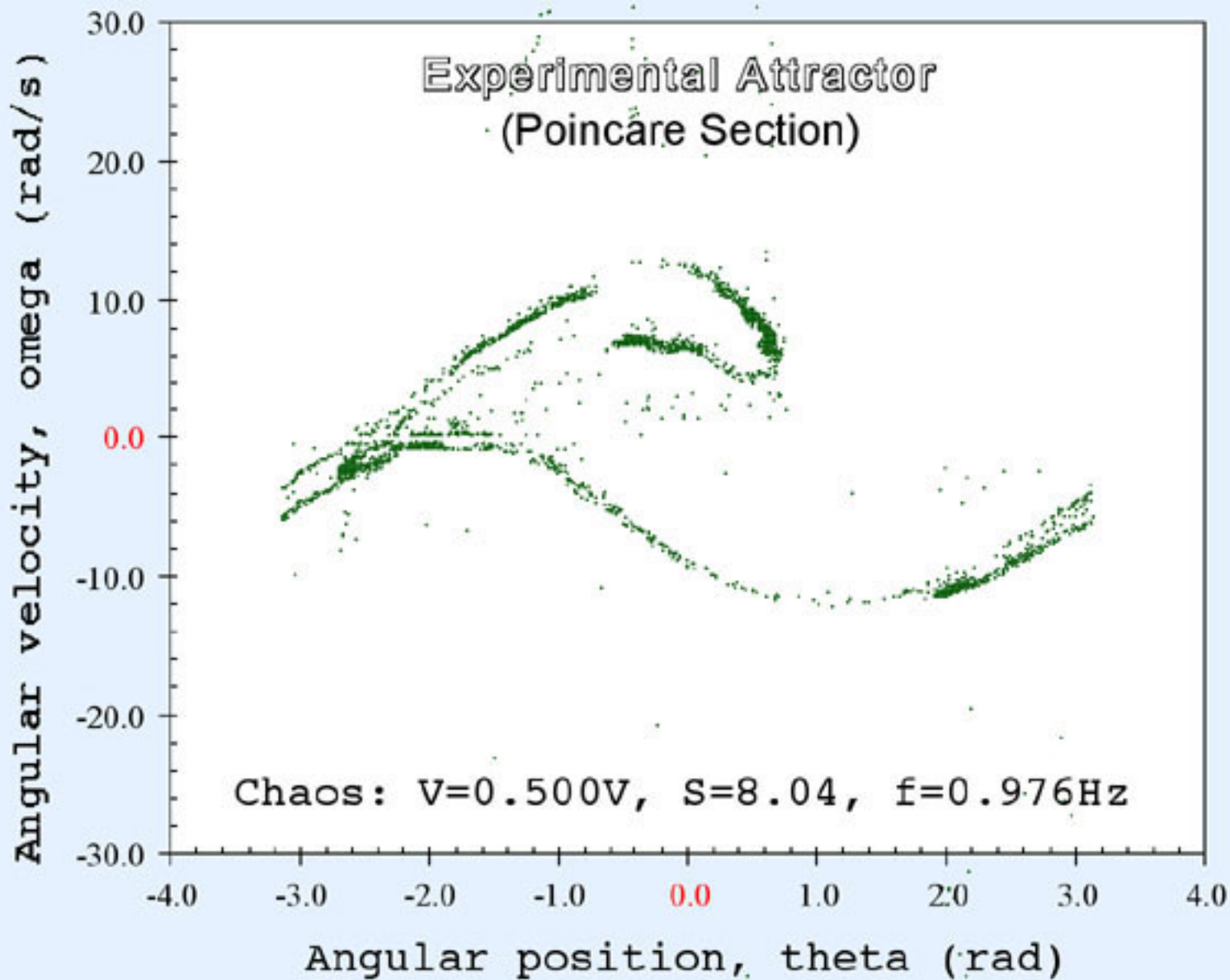
Phase Portrait: Period 3

Computed Attractor

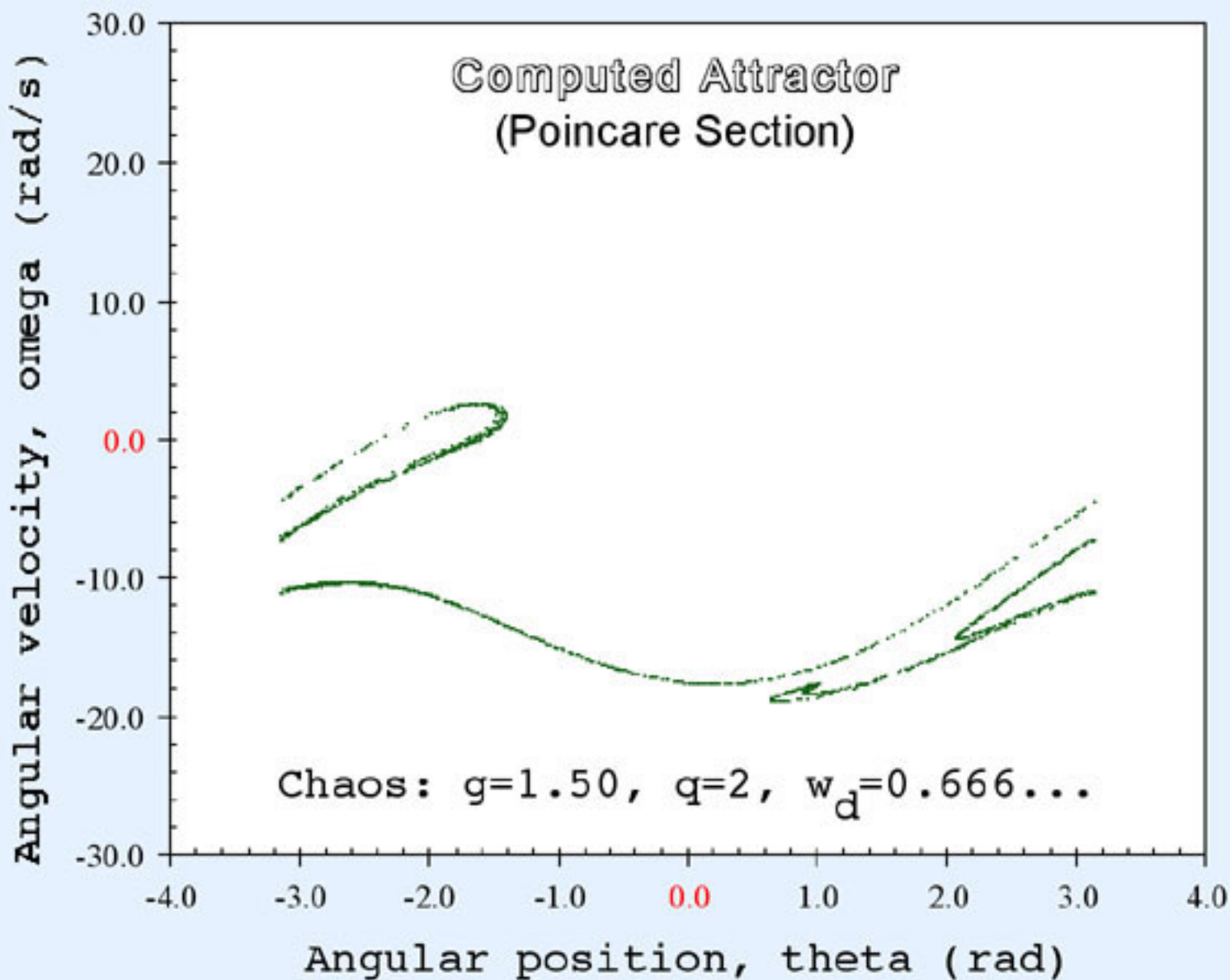


Computed Attractor
(Poincare Section)

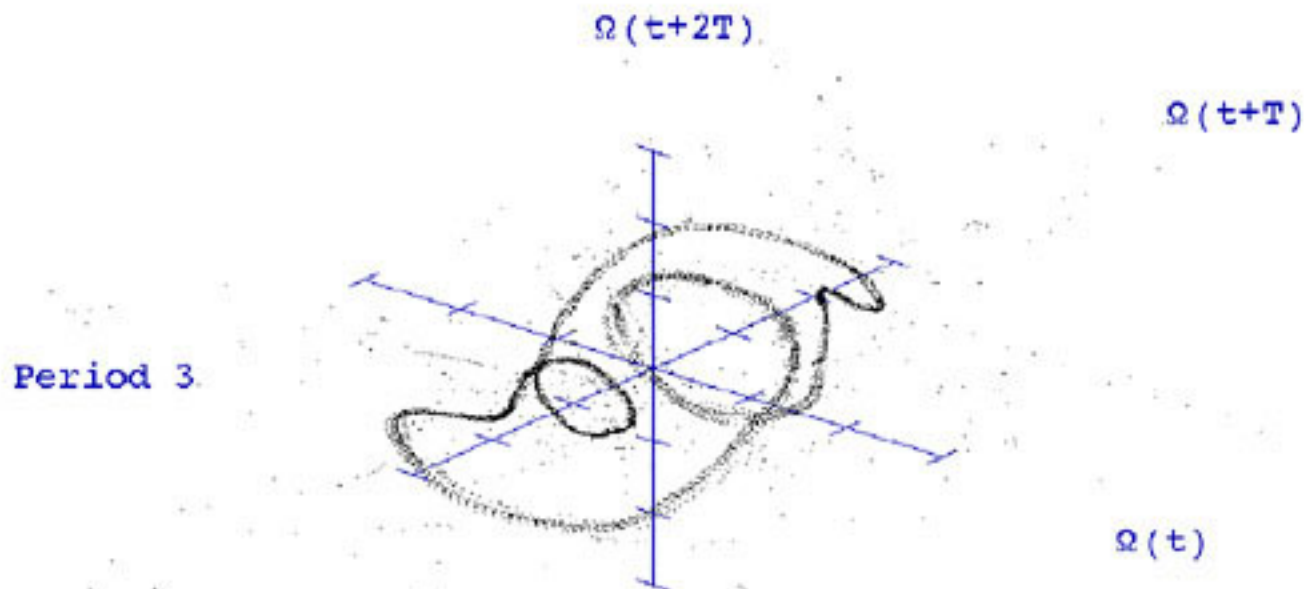




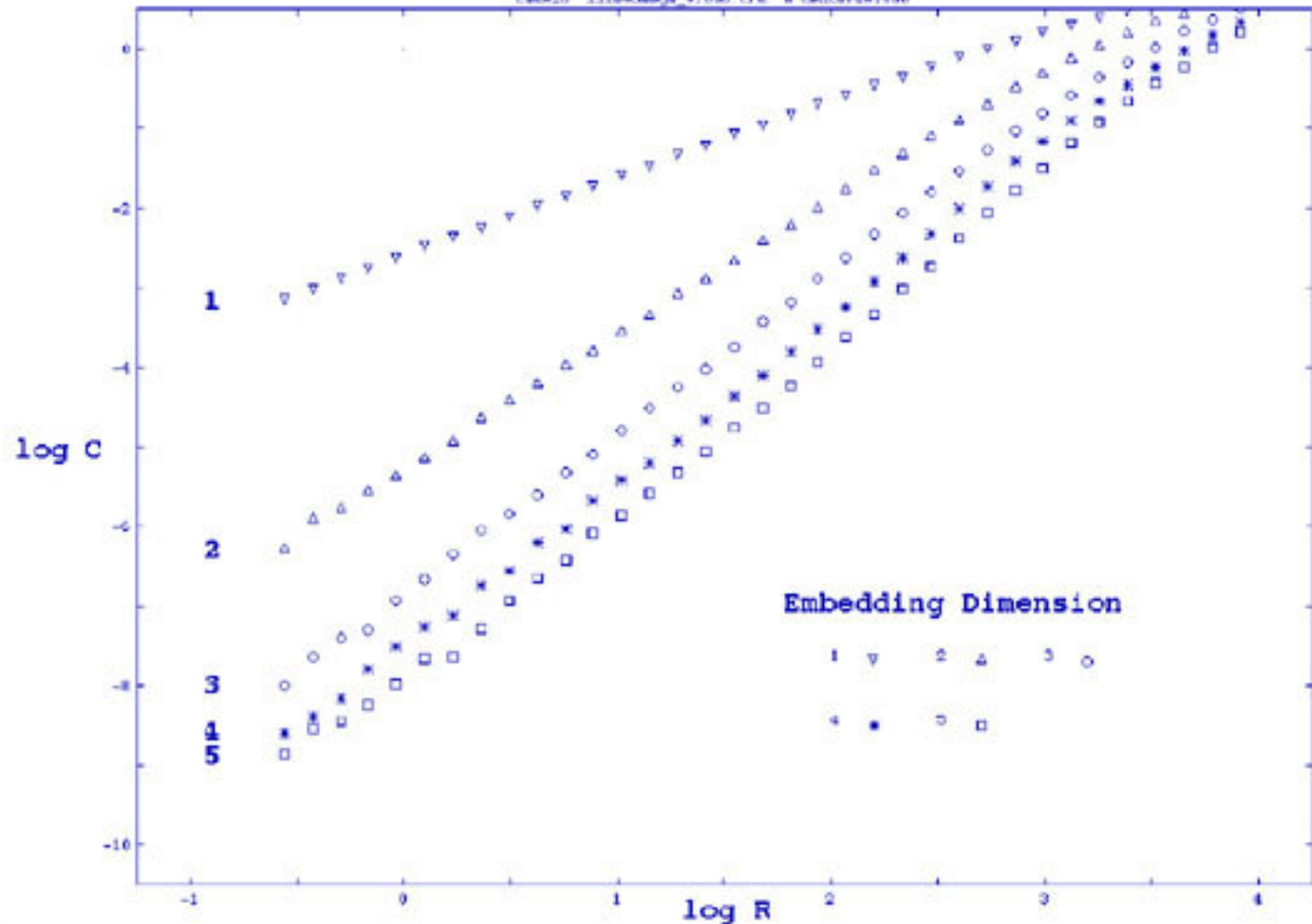
Computed Attractor
(Poincare Section)

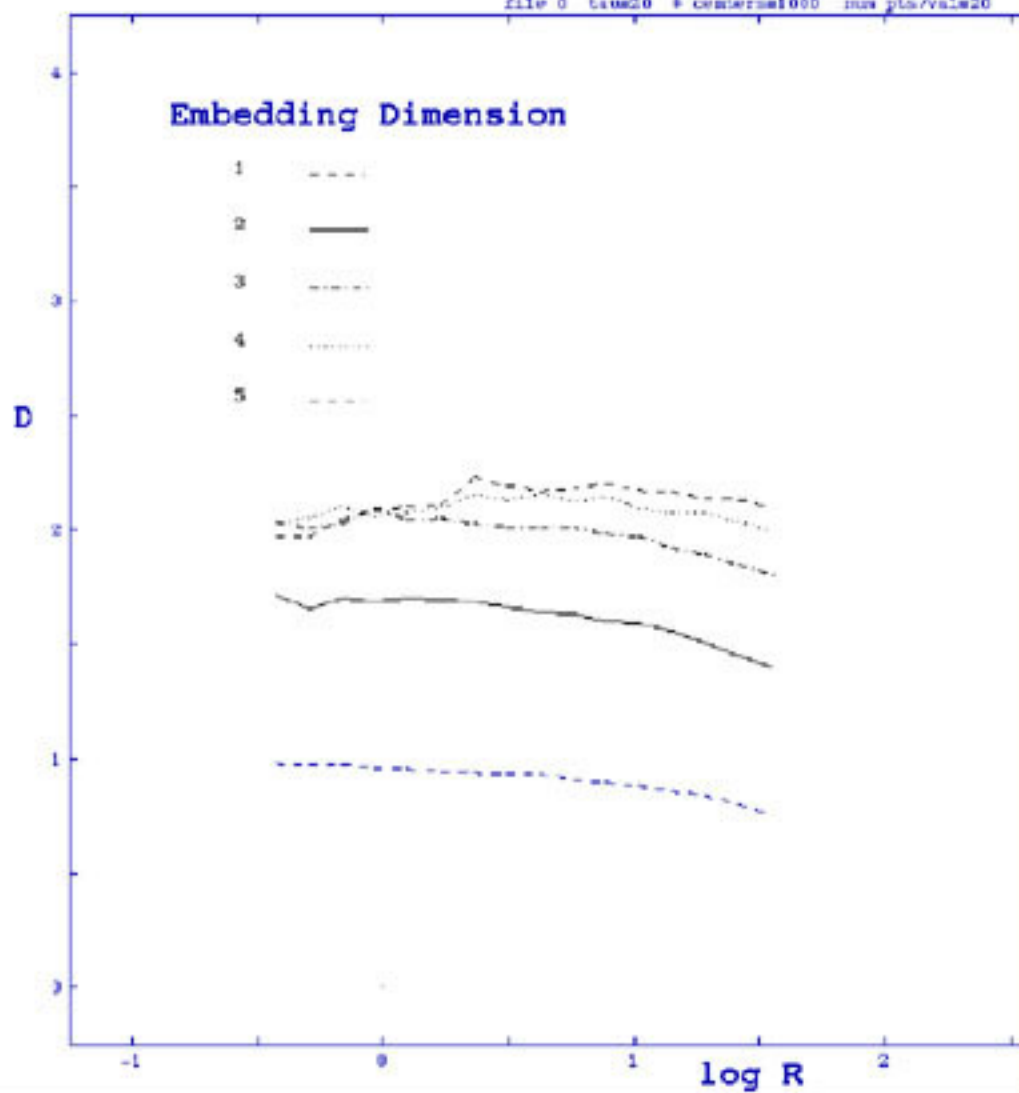


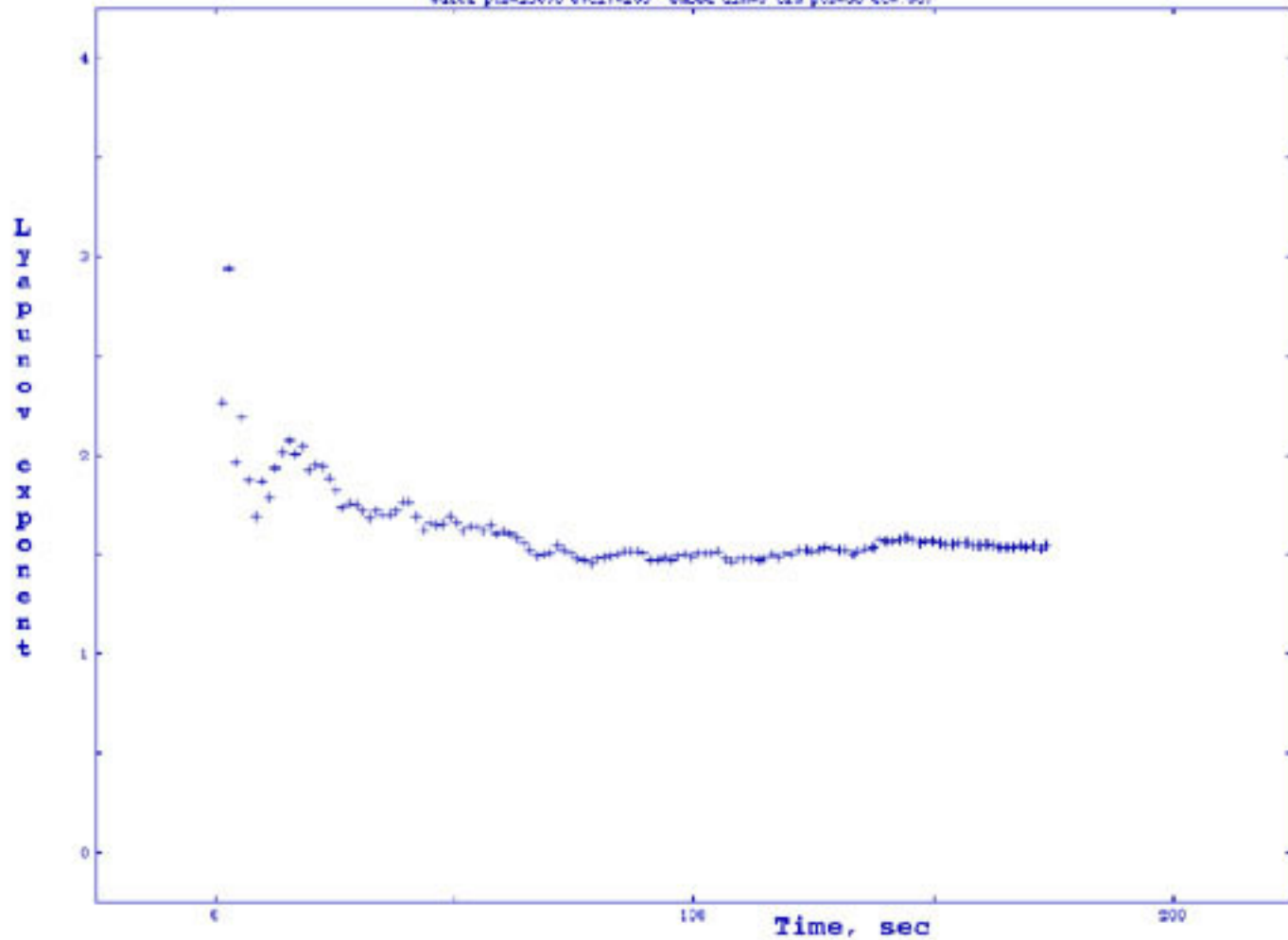
Phase-Space Reconstruction of Experimental Attractor



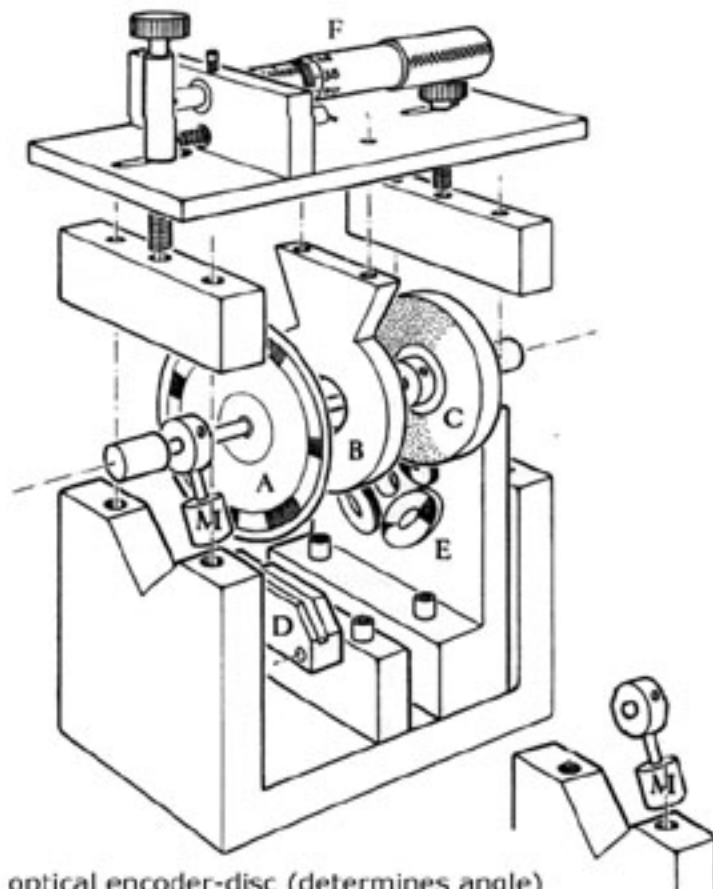
$V = 0.462 \text{ V}$
 $S = 8.04$
 $f = 0.976 \text{ Hz}$







"Exploded" View of the Chaotic Pendulum



- A - optical encoder-disc (determines angle)
- B - stationary copper plate (used for damping)
- C - ring magnet (used for damping)
- D - light emitter-detector assembly (reads angle)
- E - two pairs of drive coils (parts of AC/DC motor)
- F - micrometer (used to control damping)
- M - pendulum mass (+ short rod = our "pendulum")

Chaos in a Pendulum

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and

Dr. Randy Peterson

for all their support throughout this project.