

# Data-Driven Optimal Targeting Control of Chaotic Dynamical Systems

MAE 546 Optimal Control and Estimation

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# Chaotic Dynamical Systems

- Found throughout nature, science, and engineering
  - Biology: Atrial fibrillation and epilepsy
  - Lightly damped nonlinear structural vibrations
  - Multi-body orbits perhaps encountered in asteroid mining
  - Turbulence, passive and active flow control devices
- Chaotic systems are characterized by
  - Sensitivity to initial conditions
  - Mixing of trajectories in phase space
  - Behavior can appear random or exhibit intermittent quasi-periodicity
- Technically: presence of a chaotic attractor with
  - No stable embedded orbits
  - Topological transitivity (mixing) → ergodic

# Controlling Chaos

- Ott, Grebogi, and Yorke (OGY) seminal 1990 paper
  - Unstable periodic orbits embedded in the chaotic attractor can be stabilized with arbitrarily small control
  - Simply wait until trajectory enters sufficiently small neighborhood of desired orbit and activate stabilizing control system.
- Oftentimes, chaos is undesirable, but control over the system is limited
  - Low-power device to stabilize atrial fibrillation
  - Low thrust control of chaotic asteroid orbit for mining
- Chaos may actually be desirable if it can be controlled
  - Enables diverse behavior of the system
  - Low power covert communication

# Targeting Control

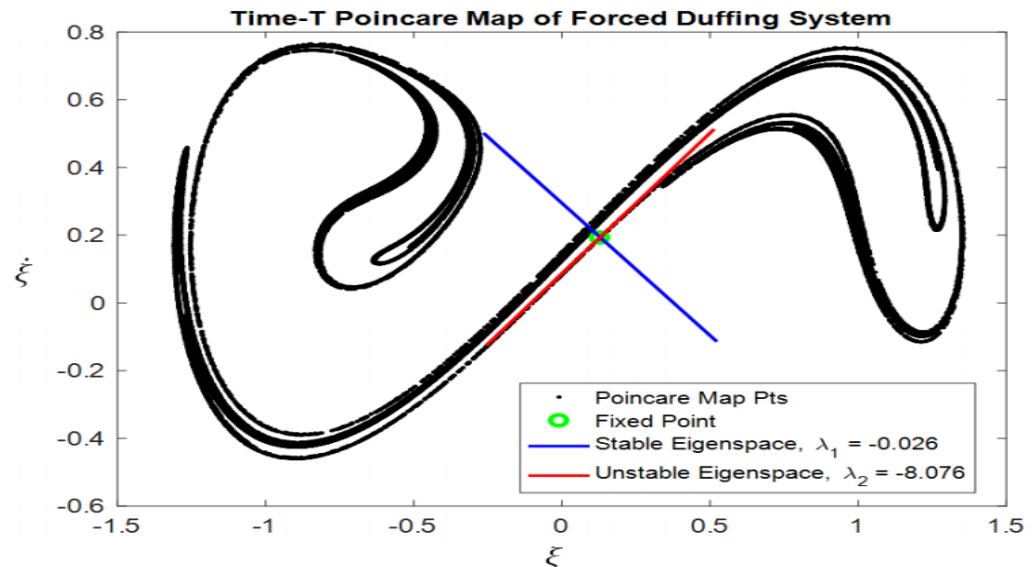
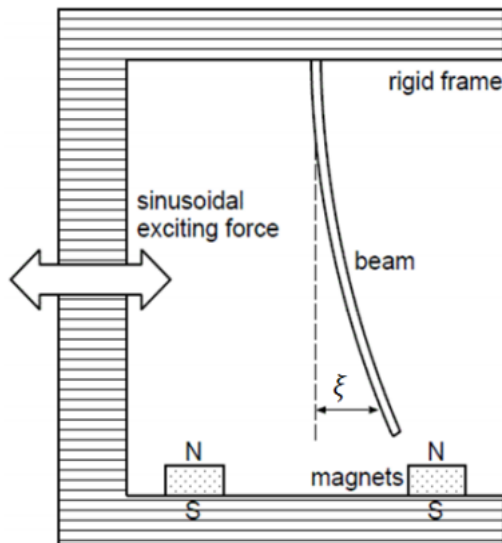
- Problem: We may have to wait an extremely long time before a chaotic trajectory enters a sufficiently small neighborhood of the desired orbit
- Solution: (Targeting) use small perturbations to guide trajectories toward the desired orbit -- reducing time to stabilize it
- Two methods considered here:
  1. Neighboring optimal control near a nominal targeting path or tree leading to the desired orbit
  2. Reinforcement learning to construct optimal targeting controller over the entire attractor

# Example Problem: Forced Duffing Eqn.

$$\ddot{\xi} + \delta \dot{\xi} + \alpha \xi + \beta \xi^3 = \gamma \cos(\omega t) + p(t), \quad \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \xi \\ \dot{\xi} \end{bmatrix}$$

- Forced oscillator with cubic nonlinear stiffness
- Exhibits transverse homoclinic tangle of stable and unstable manifolds in time  $T = 2\pi/\omega$  Poincare map
- Discrete time control  $\mathbf{u}_n = [u(1), \dots, u(5)]^T, t \in [nT, (n+1)T]$

$$p(t) = u(1) + u(2) \cos \omega t + u(3) \sin \omega t + u(4) \cos 2\omega t + u(5) \sin 2\omega t$$



# Entirely Data-Driven Approach

- Oftentimes, we do not have access to a model of the system's dynamics which can be evaluated quickly enough to design control systems
- We will infer accurate and efficient models of highly nonlinear chaotic dynamics using data alone.
  - **All controllers designed using the learned dynamics model only!**
- Challenges with Chaotic Poincare maps
  - Highly nonlinear discrete time dynamics
  - Filamented, fractal structure of data manifolds in Poincare map
- Global models with enough terms to capture nonlinearity are inefficient and tend to over-fit
- Local nonlinear modeling is preferable
  - Each model has fewer terms → efficient predictions
  - Arbitrarily complex dynamics are represented by adding more models, not by increasing model complexity.

# Local Nonlinear Models in Bayesian Framework

- Novel approach to system modeling and analysis

- Each simple model  $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$  takes the form

$$\mathbf{X}_{n+1}^i = \hat{\mathbf{f}}^i(\mathbf{x}_n, \mathbf{u}_n) + \mathbf{V}^i, \quad \mathbf{V}^i \sim p_{V^i}(\mathbf{v}^i) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{v}^i, \mathbf{0}, R^i)$$

- Latent random variable  $Z \in \{1, 2, \dots, N\}$  indicating the model. Categorical prior distribution

$$P(Z = i) = \phi^i, \quad \phi^1 + \phi^2 + \dots + \phi^N = 1$$

- Each model is associated with a region of validity defined by a Gaussian density

$$p_{X|Z=i}(\mathbf{x}|Z = i) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\mu}_x^i, \Sigma^i)$$

- Bayes rule to infer model probabilities at  $\mathbf{x}$

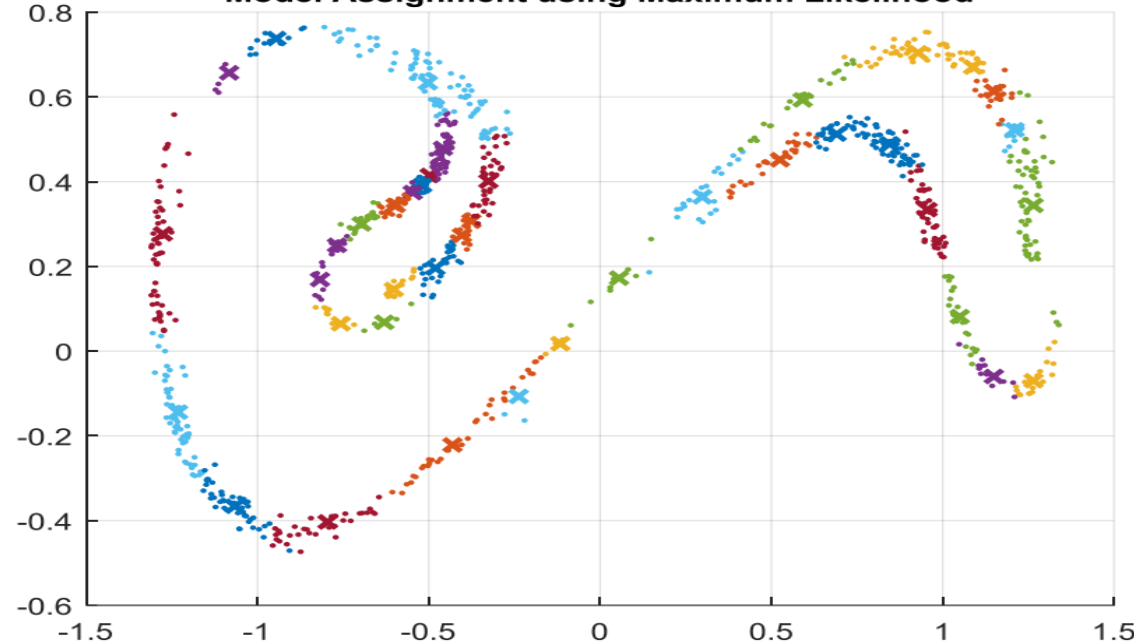
$$P(Z = i | \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}) = \left[ \sum_{k=1}^N p_{X|Z=k}(\mathbf{x}|Z = k) P(Z = k) \right]^{-1} p_{X|Z=i}(\mathbf{x}|Z = i) P(Z = i)$$

# Local Nonlinear Models in Bayesian Framework

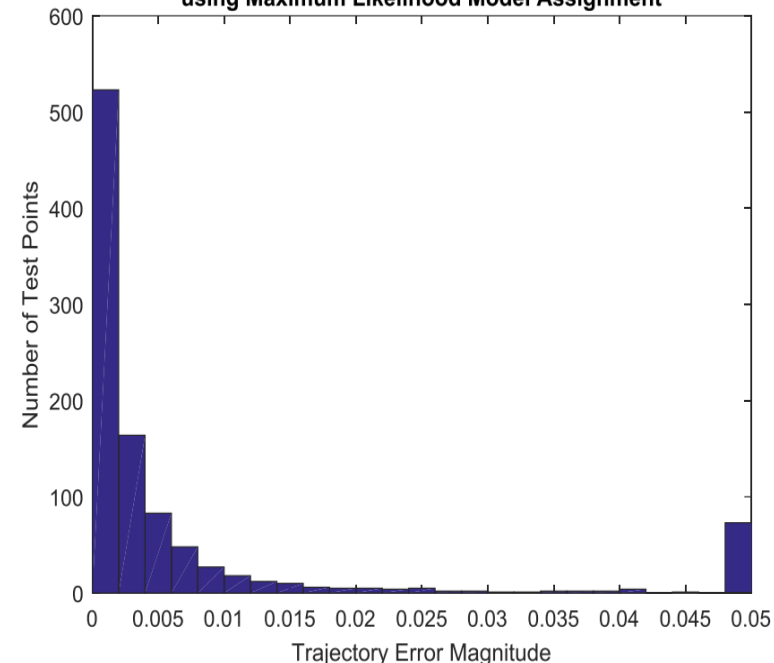
- All parameters trained according to maximum likelihood criterion (min cross entropy) using the Expectation Maximization (EM) algorithm
- Nonlinear kernel regression used to build local models
- Maximum likelihood model assignment

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n+1} = \hat{\mathbf{f}}(\mathbf{x}_n, \mathbf{u}_n) = \hat{\mathbf{f}}^{i^*}(\mathbf{x}_n, \mathbf{u}_n), \quad i^* = \underset{i \in \{1, \dots, N\}}{\operatorname{argmax}} P(Z = i | \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}_n)$$

**Final EM Clusters and Centroids**  
**Model Assignment using Maximum Likelihood**



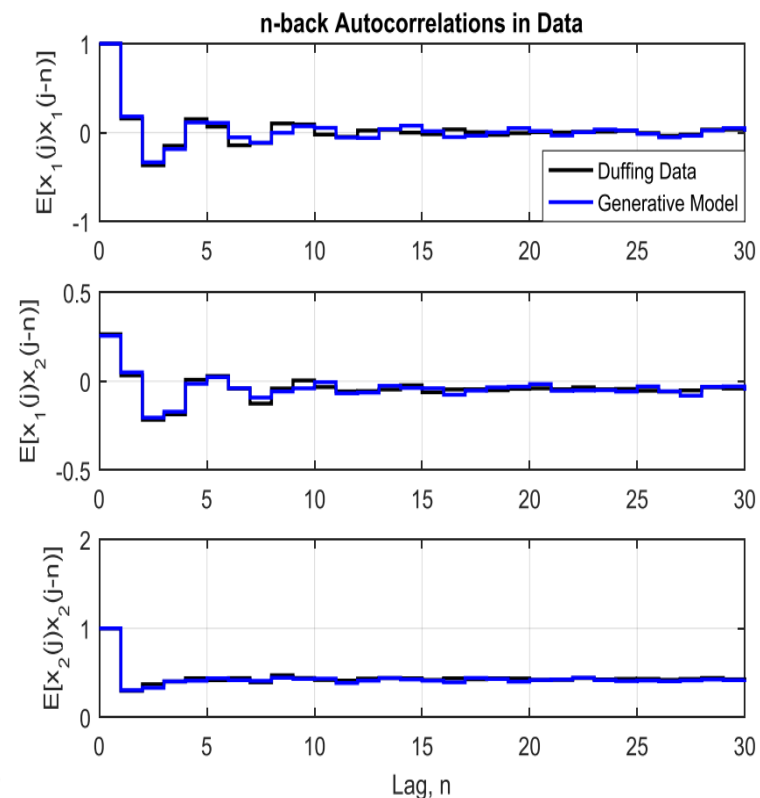
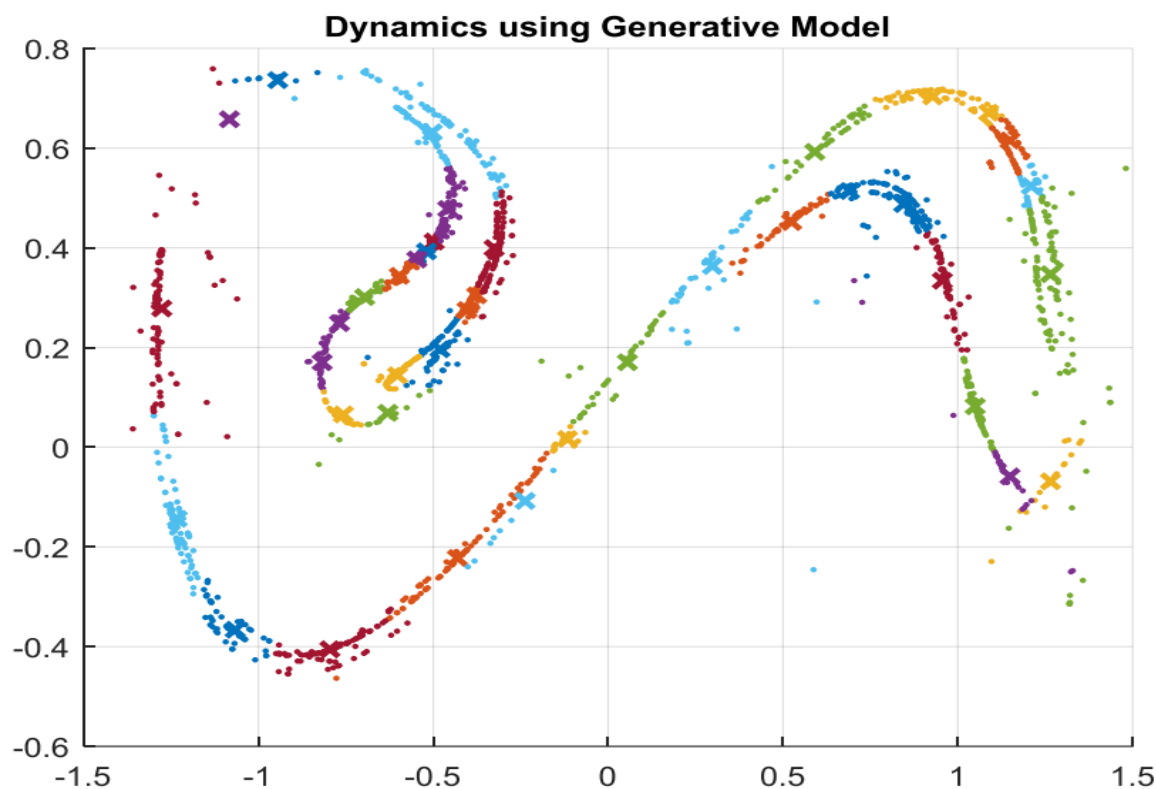
**Distribution of Testing Error Magnitudes**  
**using Maximum Likelihood Model Assignment**





# Performance as Generative Model

- Does the learned model approximate the statistical behavior of the real system?
  - Look at (unforced) Poincare map generated by the model
  - Look at autocorrelations for real and modeled system



# OGY Control using LQR

- A fixed point of the Poincare map is located and linearized using the learned model

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{FP} &= \hat{\mathbf{f}}(\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{FP}, \mathbf{0}), & \Delta \mathbf{x}_n &= \mathbf{x}_n - \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{FP}, \\ \hat{\Phi}_{FP} &= D_{\mathbf{x}} \hat{\mathbf{f}}(\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{FP}, \mathbf{0}), & \hat{\Gamma}_{FP} &= D_{\mathbf{u}} \hat{\mathbf{f}}(\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{FP}, \mathbf{0})\end{aligned}$$

- A Linear Quadratic Regulator was designed to stabilize the unstable periodic orbit and minimize the following cost

$$J^{FP} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [\Delta \mathbf{x}_n^T Q_{FP} \Delta \mathbf{x}_n + \mathbf{u}_n^T R_{FP} \mathbf{u}_n], \quad \Delta \mathbf{x}_{n+1} = \hat{\Phi}_{FP} \Delta \mathbf{x}_n + \hat{\Gamma}_{FP} \mathbf{u}_n$$

- The optimal feedback gain  $C_{FP}$  is found and OGY control is implemented

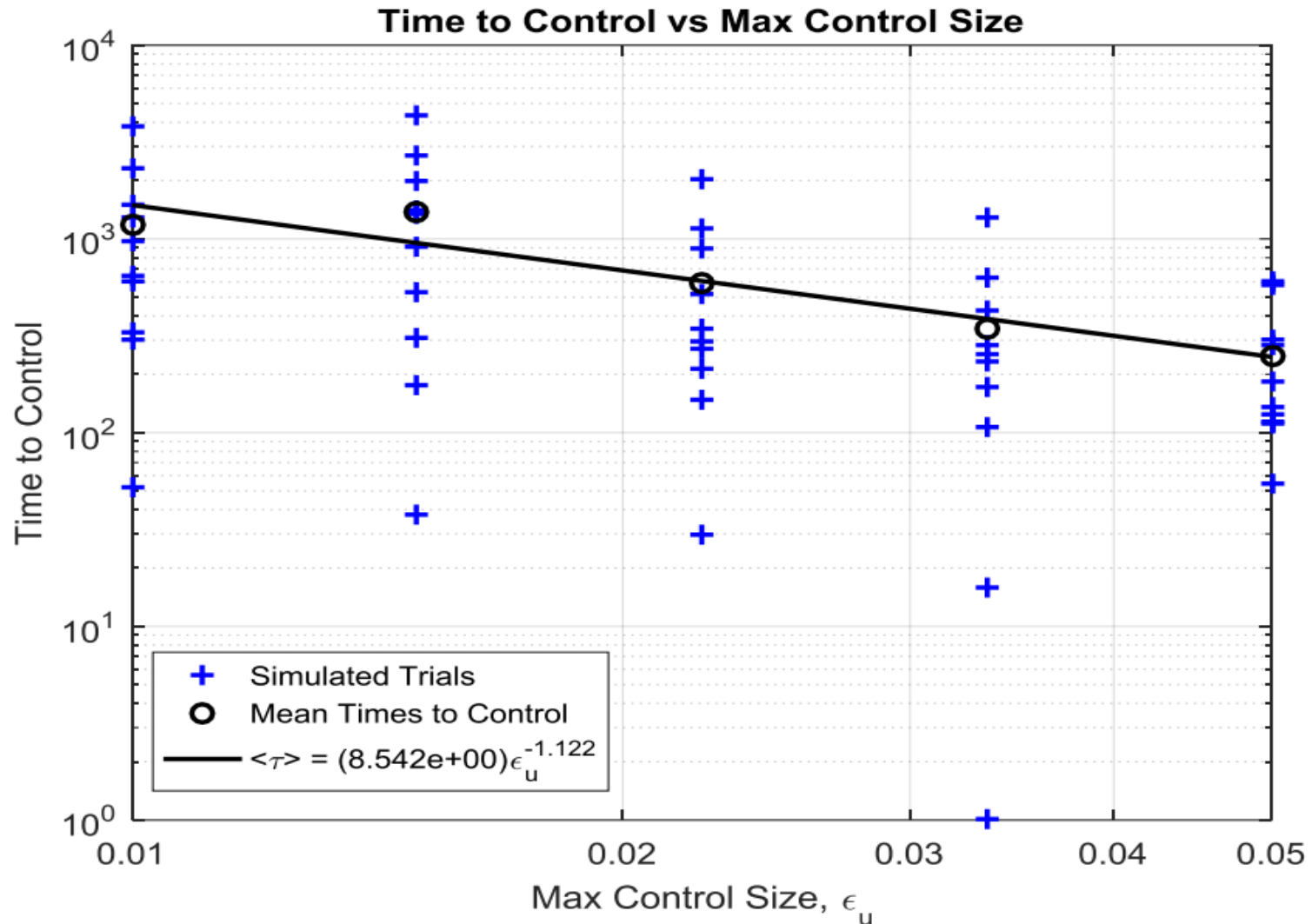
$$\mathbf{u}_n^{(OGY)} = \begin{cases} \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_n & \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_n^T G_W \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_n \leq \epsilon_u^2 \\ \mathbf{0} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}, \quad \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_n = -C_{FP} \Delta \mathbf{x}_n$$

- Design choices:

$$Q_{FP} = (0.1)I_2, \quad R_{FP} = G_W = \text{diag}[2\pi, \pi, \pi, \pi, \pi]$$

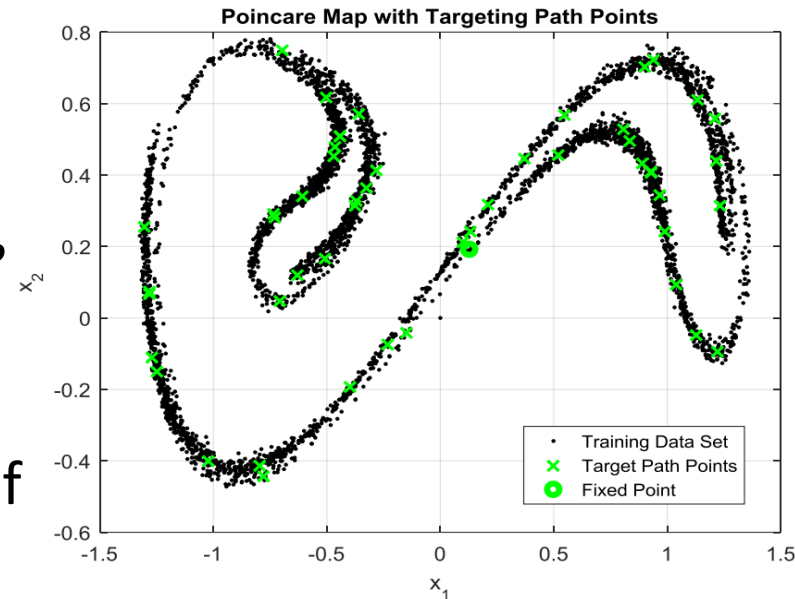
# Time to Stabilize Scaling with Control Size

- Numerical experiments performed to determine scaling of expected time to control using the OGY method and LQR at  $\hat{x}_{FP}$



# Neighboring Optimal Control using Targeting Path

- A path consisting of  $M = 50$  unforced training points  $\{\bar{\mathbf{x}}_n\}_{n=1}^M$  leading to the neighborhood of  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{FP}$  was selected as the nominal targeting path
  - Fast mixing time  $\rightarrow$  good coverage of attractor
- A neighboring optimal controller was designed to capture points near the targeting path  $\Delta \mathbf{x}_n = \mathbf{x}_n - \bar{\mathbf{x}}_n$
- The following cost function with geometric weighting of the state was minimized with model-linearized dynamics



$$J = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^M [\gamma^{n-M} \Delta \mathbf{x}_n^T Q \Delta \mathbf{x}_n + \mathbf{u}_n^T R \mathbf{u}_n] + \frac{1}{2} \Delta \mathbf{x}_M^T Q \Delta \mathbf{x}_M, \quad \gamma \geq 1$$

$$\Delta \mathbf{x}_{n+1} = \hat{\Phi}_n \Delta \mathbf{x}_n + \hat{\Gamma}_n \mathbf{u}_n, \quad \hat{\Phi}_n = D_x \hat{\mathbf{f}}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}_n, \mathbf{0}), \quad \hat{\Gamma}_n = D_u \hat{\mathbf{f}}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}_n, \mathbf{0})$$

# Neighboring Optimal Control using Targeting Path

- Bellman's equations were solved to perform the minimization

$$V_n^*(\Delta \mathbf{x}_n) = \min_{\mathbf{u}_n} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \gamma^{n-m} \Delta \mathbf{x}_n^T Q \Delta \mathbf{x}_n + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{u}_n^T R \mathbf{u}_n + V_{n+1}^*(\hat{\Phi}_n \Delta \mathbf{x}_n + \hat{\Gamma}_n \mathbf{u}_n) \right]$$

- The optimal value function takes the form

$$V_n^*(\Delta \mathbf{x}_n) = \frac{1}{2} \Delta \mathbf{x}_n^T P_n \Delta \mathbf{x}_n \text{ with } P_M = Q. \text{ This gives optimal control}$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_n^* = -(R + \hat{\Gamma}_n^T P_{n+1} \hat{\Gamma}_n)^{-1} \hat{\Gamma}_n^T P_{n+1} \hat{\Phi}_n \Delta \mathbf{x}_n = -C_n \Delta \mathbf{x}_n$$

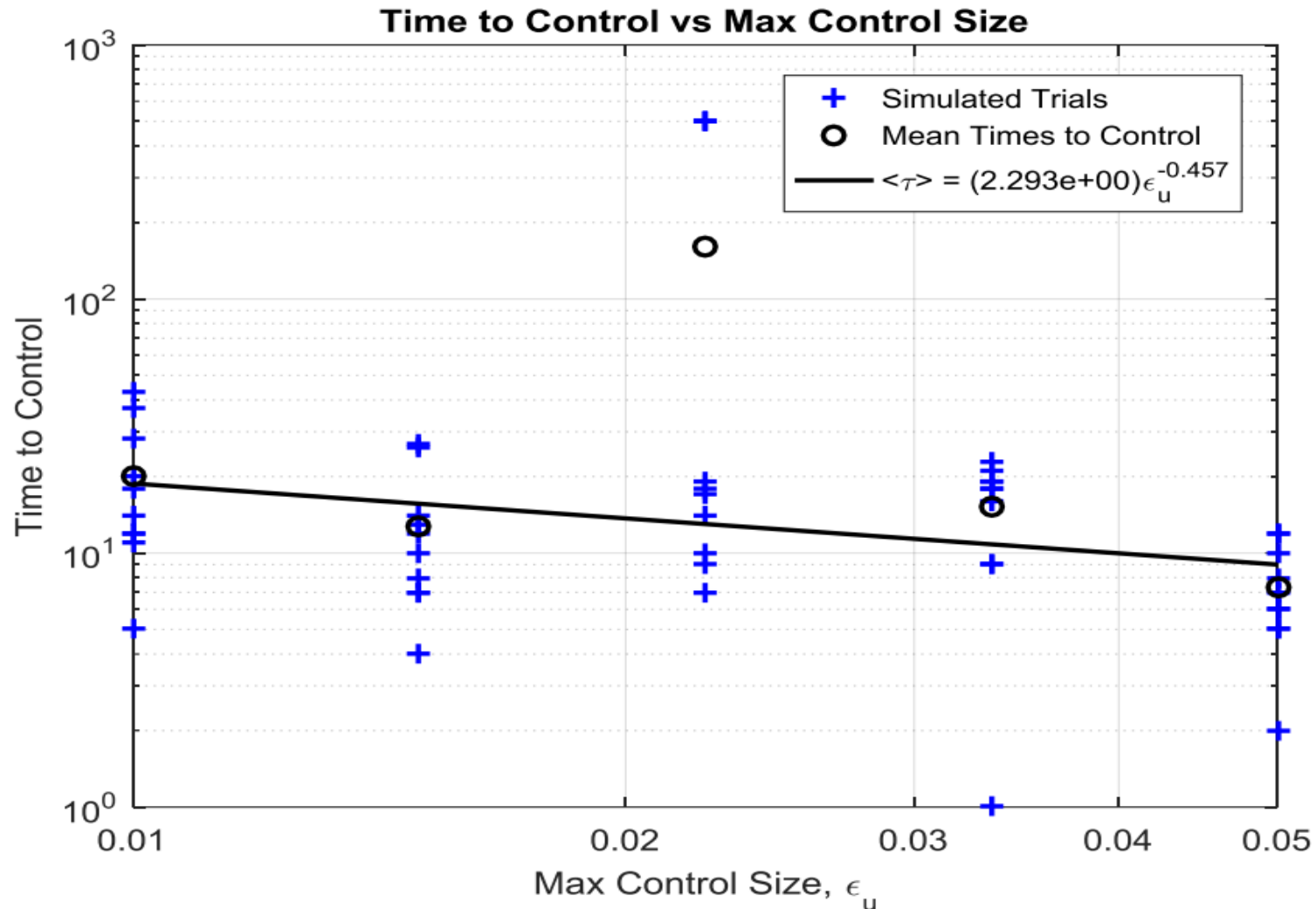
- And the discrete time algebraic Riccati equation

$$P_n = \gamma^{n-M} Q + \hat{\Phi}_n^T P_{n+1} \hat{\Phi}_n - \hat{\Phi}_n^T P_{n+1} \hat{\Gamma}_n (R + \hat{\Gamma}_n^T P_{n+1} \hat{\Gamma}_n)^{-1} \hat{\Gamma}_n^T P_{n+1} \hat{\Phi}_n$$

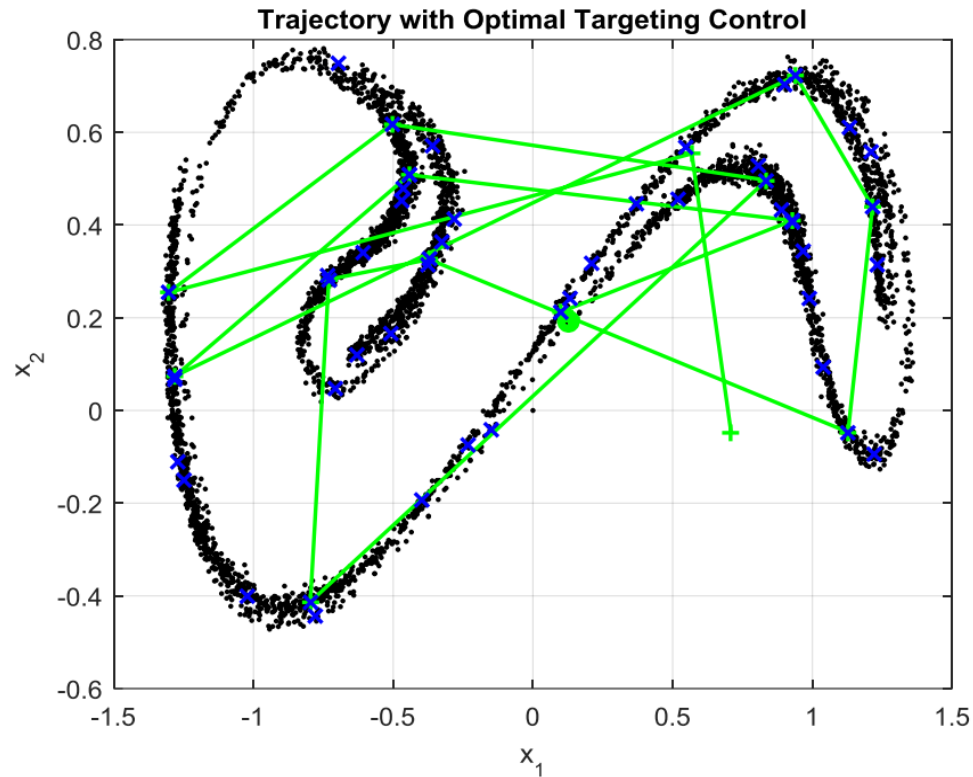
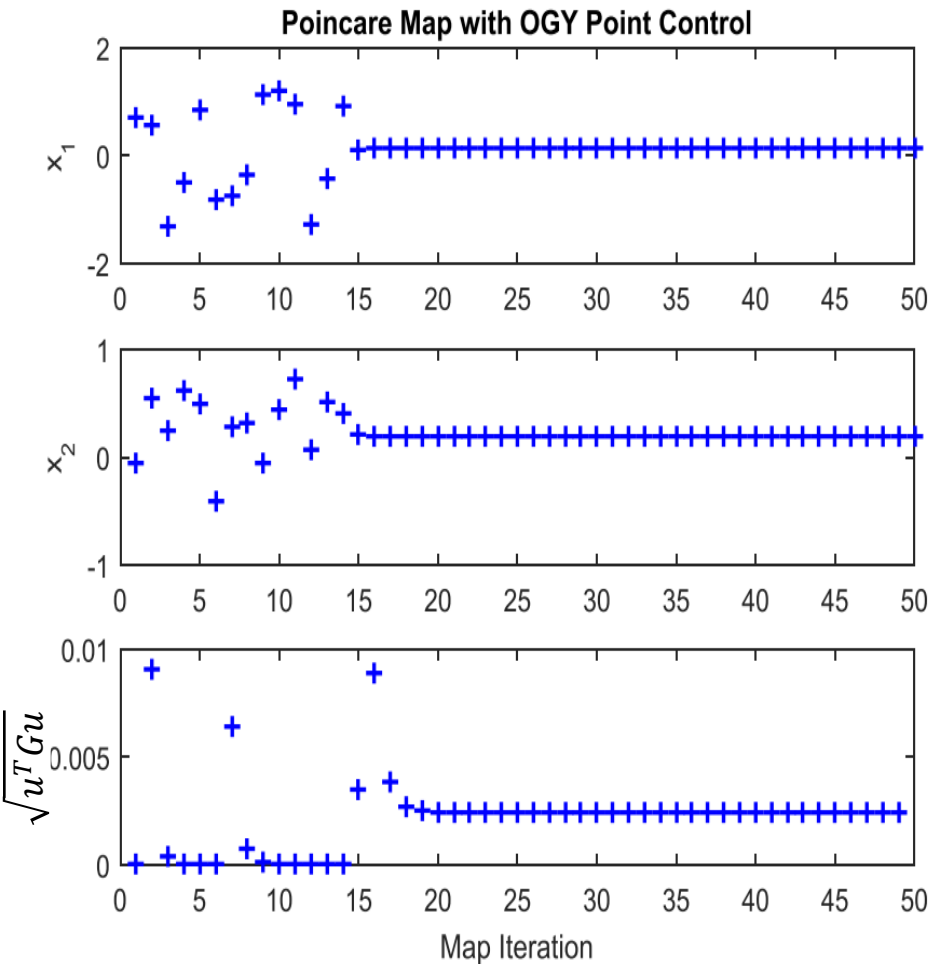
# Time to Stabilize Scaling with Control Size

- The following design choices were made:

$$\gamma = 1.1, \quad Q = C_{FP}^T G_W C_{FP} + (0.7)I_2, \quad R = (10^{-3})I_5$$



# An Example Trajectory with $\epsilon_u = 0.01$



# Optimal Control using Reinforcement Learning

- The following constrained optimization problem was posed over the entire attractor with  $\Delta \mathbf{x}_n = \mathbf{x}_n - \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{FP}$

$$\text{minimize } J = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \beta^{n-1} [\Delta \mathbf{x}_n^T Q \Delta \mathbf{x}_n + \mathbf{u}_n^T R \mathbf{u}_n] \quad s. t. \quad \mathbf{u}_n^T G_W \mathbf{u}_n \leq \epsilon_u^2$$

- Subject to the nonlinear modeled dynamics  $\mathbf{x}_{n+1} = \hat{\mathbf{f}}(\mathbf{x}_n, \mathbf{u}_n)$  and geometric decay  $0 < \beta \leq 1$
- The optimal value function over the attractor is introduced and Bellman's equations are formulated

$$V^*(\mathbf{x}) = \min_{\mathbf{u}^T G_W \mathbf{u} \leq \epsilon_u^2} \frac{1}{2} [\Delta \mathbf{x}^T Q \Delta \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{u}^T R \mathbf{u}] + \beta V^*(\hat{\mathbf{f}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}))$$



# Fitted Value Iteration

- A subset of the training points  $\{\bar{\mathbf{x}}_j\}_{j=1}^M$  are chosen and used to define the value function globally by interpolation (or regression).
  - Natural neighbor interpolation with 500 points was used
- The value function at each point  $V_j^* = V^*(\bar{\mathbf{x}}_j)$  is updated by performing the following minimization
$$V_j^* \leftarrow \min_{\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{G}_W \mathbf{u} \leq \epsilon_u^2} \frac{1}{2} \left[ (\bar{\mathbf{x}}_j - \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{FP})^T Q (\bar{\mathbf{x}}_j - \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{FP}) + \mathbf{u}^T R \mathbf{u} \right] + \beta V^* \left( \hat{\mathbf{f}}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}_j, \mathbf{u}) \right)$$
  - Matlab's `fmincon()` was used for minimization
- Iterate until the value function converges

# Optimal Value Function and Control

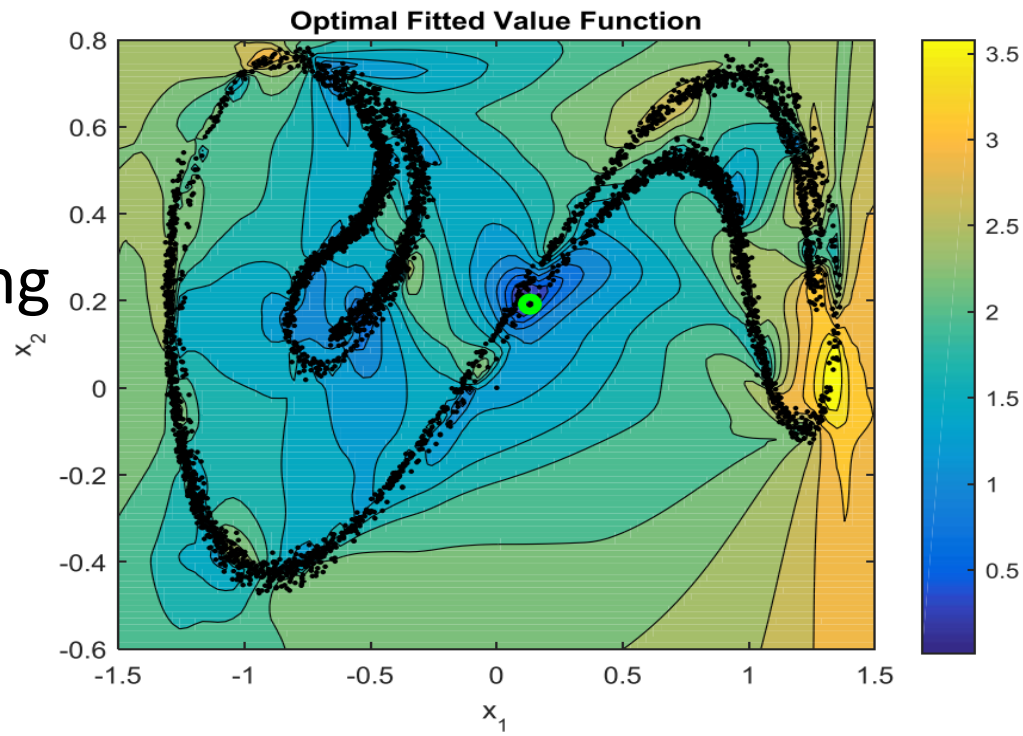
- The following design choices were made

$$\beta = 1, \quad Q = C_{FP}^T G_W C_{FP} + (0.1)I_2, \quad R = (0.1)I_5, \quad \epsilon_u = 0.01$$

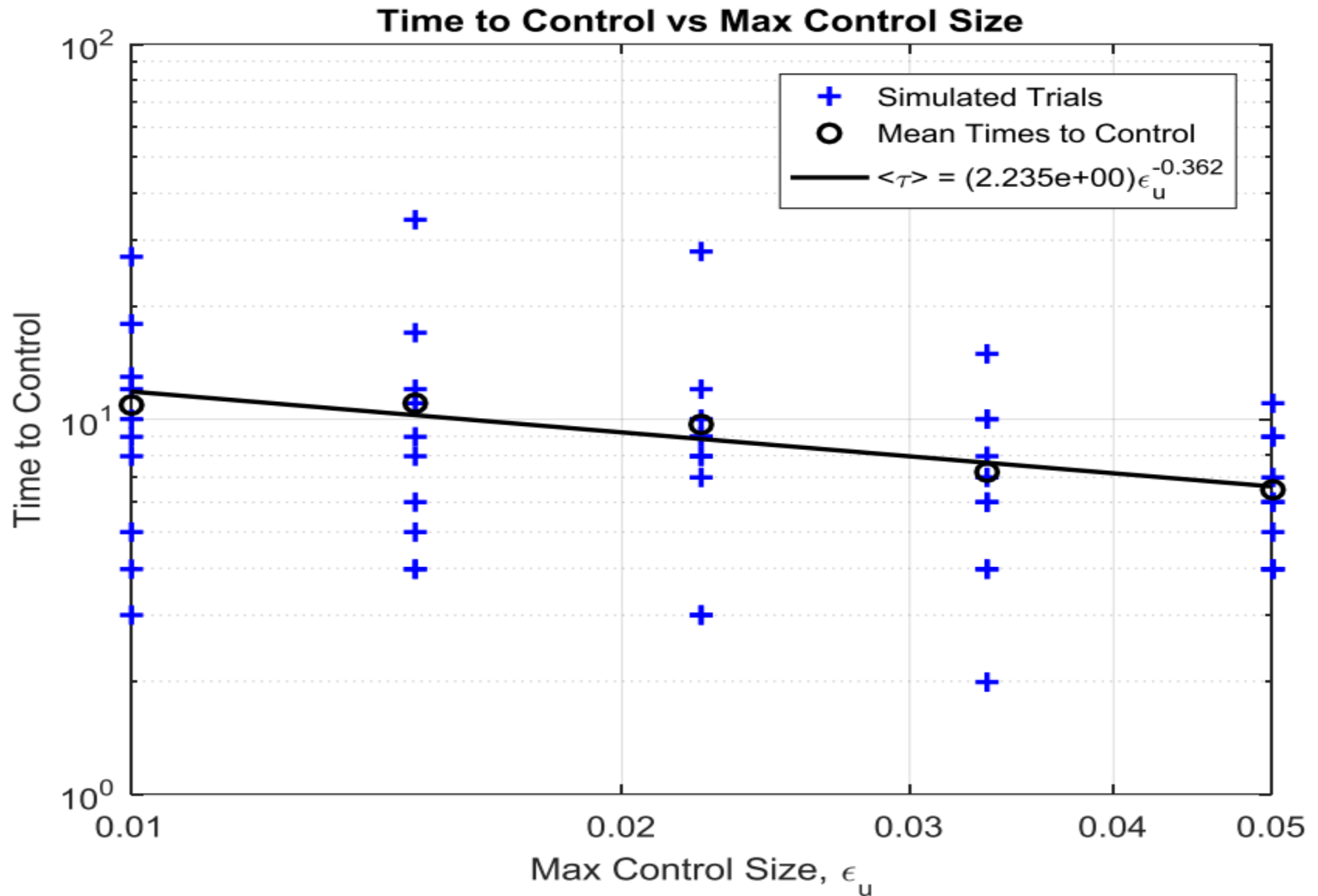
- The optimal control at each step was determined by performing a minimization

$$\mathbf{u}^* = \underset{\mathbf{u}^T G_W \mathbf{u} \leq \epsilon_u^2}{\operatorname{argmin}} \frac{1}{2} [(\mathbf{x} - \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{FP})^T Q (\mathbf{x} - \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{FP}) + \mathbf{u}^T R \mathbf{u}] + \beta V^* \left( \hat{\mathbf{f}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}) \right)$$

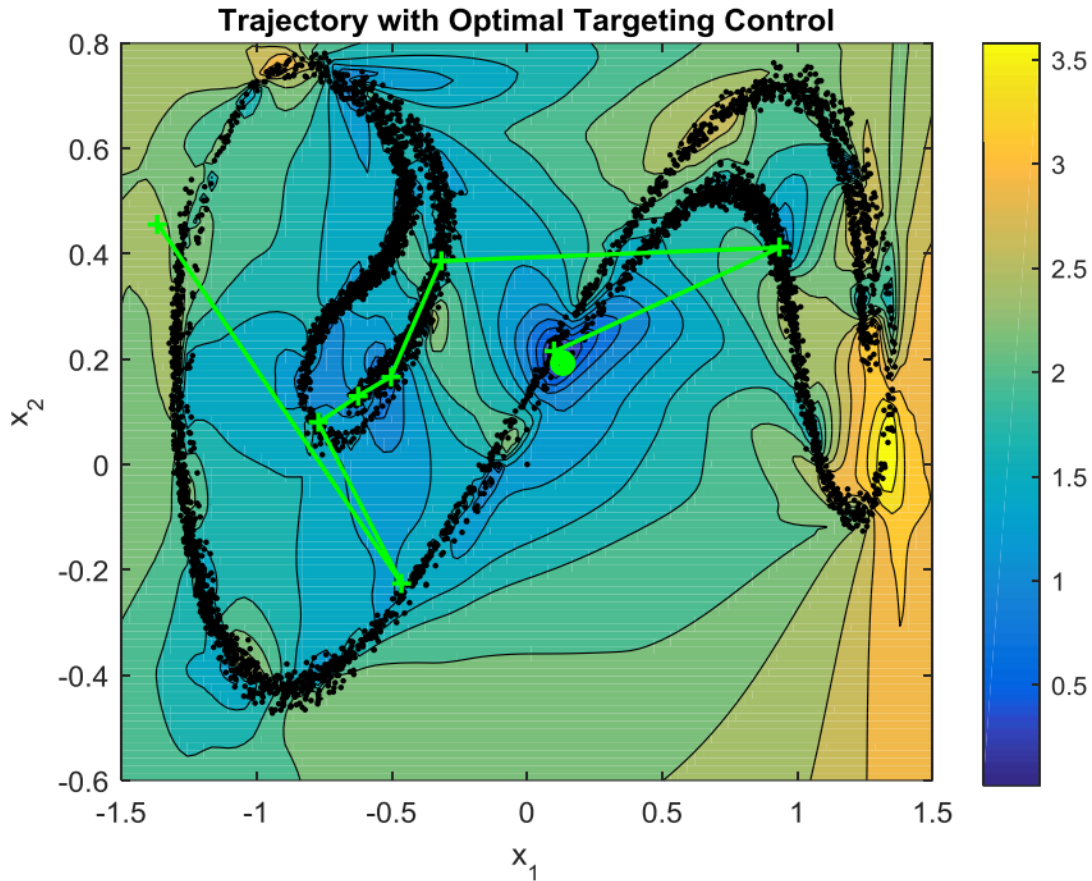
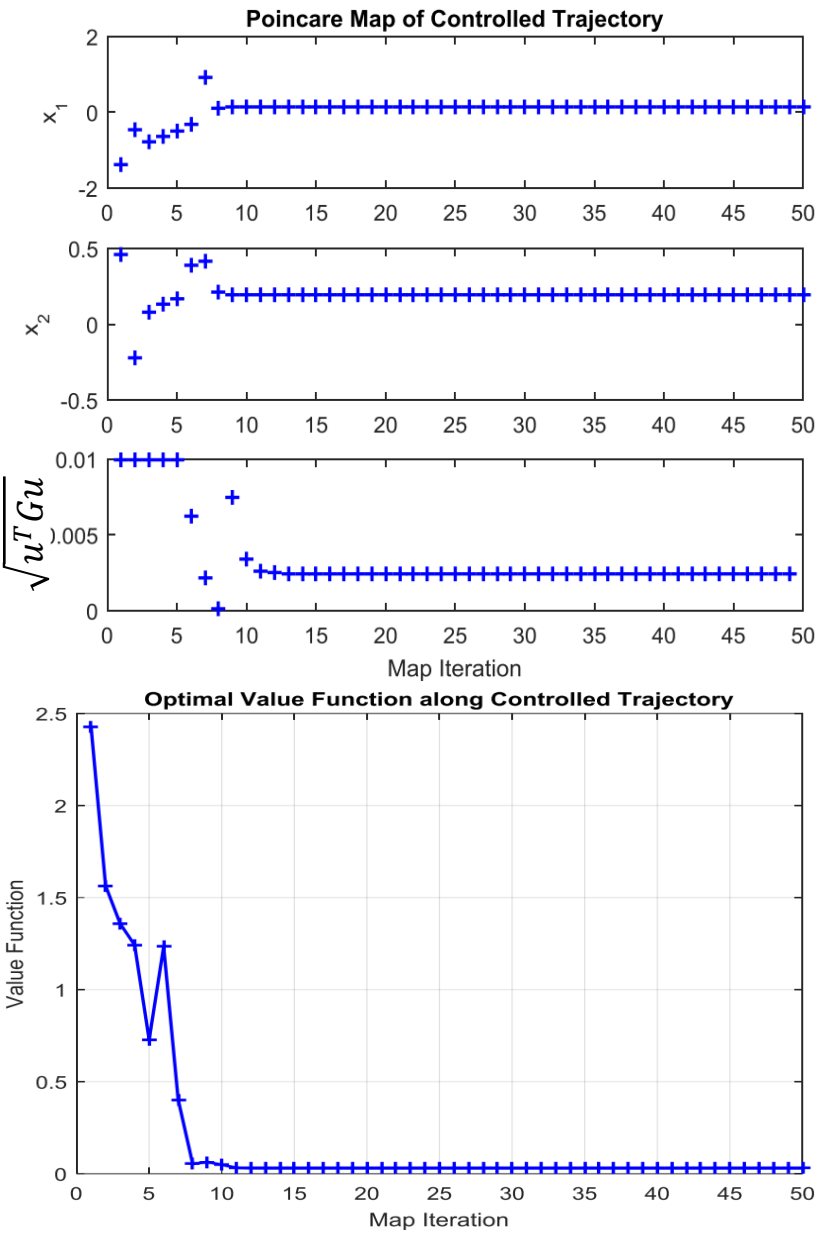
- (Note: It is possible to find the control at many points and *build a model for the optimal control directly* using a collection of nonlinear models and EM as with the dynamics)



# Time to Stabilize Scaling with Control Size



# An Example Trajectory with $\epsilon_u = 0.01$



# Conclusion

- Novel data-driven modeling technique was introduced
- Accurate and efficient representation of nonlinear dynamics enabled the design of optimal targeting controllers
- Both targeting controllers show almost two orders of magnitude reduction in time to control over OGY only.
- In its current implementation, the reinforcement learning approach is expensive
  - this cost can be reduced by learning a model for the optimal control
- Future work includes using the local nonlinear modeling technique for state estimation
  - Multiple model estimation with extended or quasilinear Kalman filter

Questions?