ter the field somewhat, but for moderate plasma pressures the magnetic field lines will tend to remain close to nested tori. Because the magnetic field causes plasma properties to be highly anisotropic, it is desirable to use a curvilinear coordinate system, with level surfaces of one of the coordinates corresponding to the approximately interior functions for the magnetic field systemtype for Hamiltonian systems more susceptible to numerical experimentation than continuous time systems, and are consequently already well explored, especially the standard map (see e.g. MacKay et al. [4]). Since these maps are much simpler than full Hamiltonian systems (especially those corresponding to magnetic field lines in plasma confinement problems) their



strained variations in appendix C.

is stationary for all variations of  $(x_0, x_1, \ldots, x_n)$  with  $x_0$  and  $x_n$  held fixed. This yields the Euler-

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| , <u>(.</u>                   | ~                                | · · _ ·                          | en-     | gous to K in eq.                            | (2.10) or eq. $(2.7)$ .                                      | (2.11) analo-   |  |
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cal system as the properties that, given any orbit segment  $(x_0, x_1, \ldots, x_n)$ , the sequences  $(x_n, x_{n-1}, \ldots, x_0)$  and  $(-x_0, -x_1, \ldots, -x_n)$ , respectively, are also orbit segments. In terms of the properties the properties bet

$$F(x, x^*) = F(-x^*, -x) + R(x) - R(x^*),$$
(2.12)

## 2.6. Examples

where k is the nonlinearity parameter. This is an even function so the map

|                 | As an example, c<br>dard map | onsider the generalized | stan-<br><i>x</i> * = | $= x + y - \frac{k}{2\pi} \sin 2\pi$ | х,                  |                            |
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|                 | This satisfies eq. (         | 2.10) with $Q(x) = -V$  | V(x),                 |                                      | ansible. For the st | andoud                     |
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Theorem 1. True intersections of  $\varphi_2$ -extremizing rotational curves C and C<sup>\*</sup> generated by an invertible circle map  $\rho$  belong to families which are orbits under the area-preserving map T. (6.7) and  $x_n \equiv x_0 + m$ . Then the first variation of the action

$$W_{m,n} \equiv \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} F(x_j, x_{j+1})$$
(6.8)

To see this, let there be a true intersection at  $\theta = \theta_0$ . That is, let  $\Delta Y(\theta_0) = 0$ . Then the

is zero because  $\Delta Y(\theta_i)$  is zero. Calculating the

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|              | We can now calculate $\Delta Y^{>}(x) = -(k/2\pi) \times$ | (the correspondence between orbits and inter-     |   |
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