

Mathematical models of self-organization

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1. Introduction
2. Directional coordination: the Vicsek model
3. Body attitude coordination
4. Reflection: network formation models
5. Conclusion

1. Introduction

Emergence is the phenomenon by which:
interacting **many-particle** (or agent) systems
exhibit **large-scale self-organized structures**
not explicitly encoded in the agents' interaction rules

Typical emergent phenomena are

pattern formation

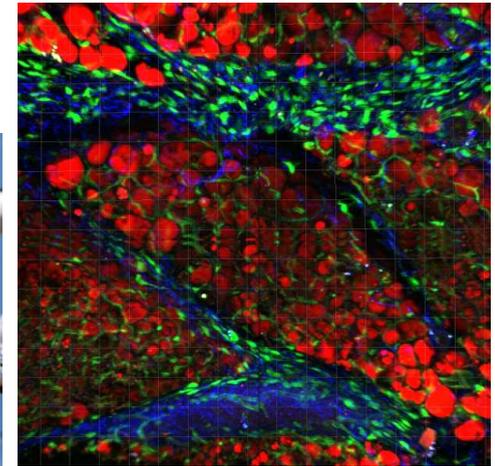
ex: a biological tissue

coordination

ex: a bird flock

self-organization

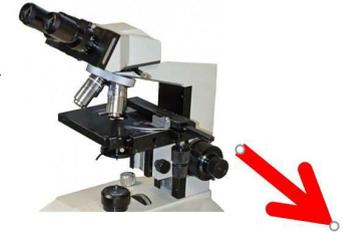
ex: pedestrian lanes



Emergence is a **key process**
of life and social systems by which
they self-organize into **functional systems**



Questions



Understand link between:

individual behavior (micro model: ODE or SDE)
& **large-scale structure** (macro model: PDE)

Requires **rigorous passage** “micro \rightarrow macro”

Why macro models ?

Computational time

Analysis: stability, bifurcations, ...

Data (images) inform on the macro scale

What is **special** about emergent systems ?

“micro \rightarrow macro” Boltzmann, Hilbert, ...

Lions (94), Villani (10), Hairer (14), Figalli (18) ...

Unusual features

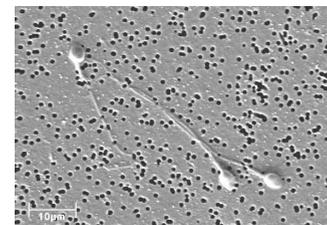
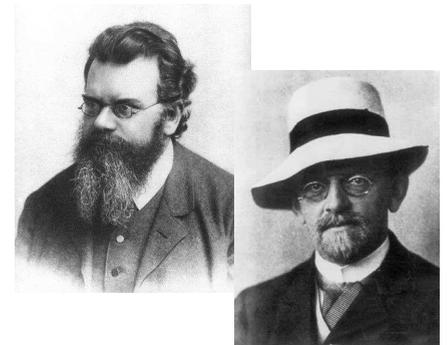
Lack of **propagation of chaos**

Lack of **conservations:** particles are “active”

Coexistence of \neq **phases**

Complex underlying **geometrical structures**

\Rightarrow **revisit classical concepts**



2. Directional coordination: the Vicsek model

2.1 Presentation

2.2 Space-homogeneous case: phase transitions

2.3 Space-inhomogeneous case: macroscopic limit

Directional coordination: the Vicsek model

2.1 Presentation



Tamàs Vicsek (Budapest)

Individual-Based (i.e. particle) model

self-propelled \Rightarrow all particles have same constant speed = 1
align with their neighbors up to some noise

Particle q : position $X_q(t) \in \mathbb{R}^n$, velocity direction $V_q(t) \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$

$$\dot{X}_q(t) = V_q(t)$$

$$dV_q(t) = P_{V_q^\perp} \circ (kU_q dt + \sqrt{2} dB_t^q)$$

$$U_q = \frac{J_q}{|J_q|}, \quad J_q = \sum_{j, |X_j - X_q| \leq R} V_j$$

R = interaction range

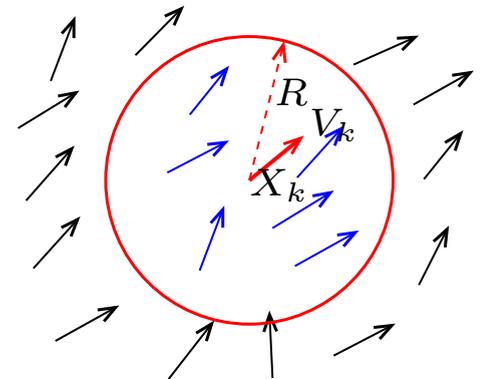
$k = k(|J_q|)$ = alignment frequency

J_q = local particle flux in interaction disk

U_q = neighbors' average direction

$P_{V_q^\perp} = \text{Id} - V_q \otimes V_q$ = orth. proj. on V_q^\perp

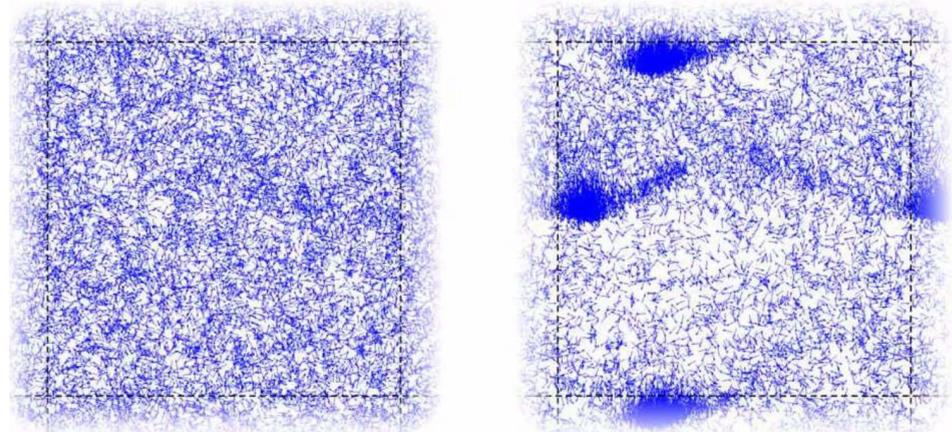
\circ = Stratonovitch: guarantees $|V_q(t)| = 1, \forall t$



“Minimal model” for collective dynamics

Phase transition

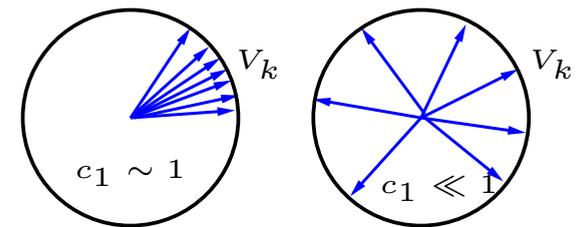
symmetry breaking
disordered \rightarrow aligned



small k large k
Simulations by A. Frouvelle

Order parameter measures alignment

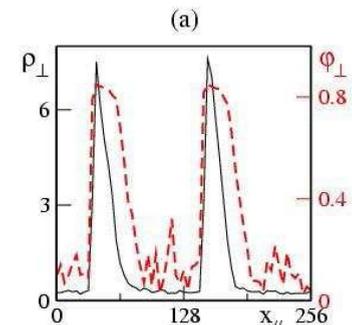
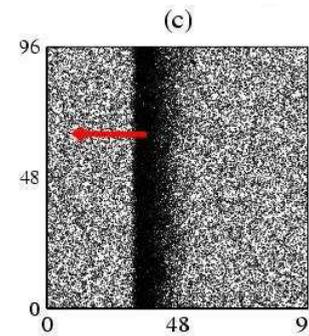
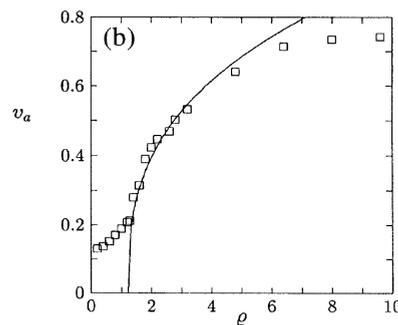
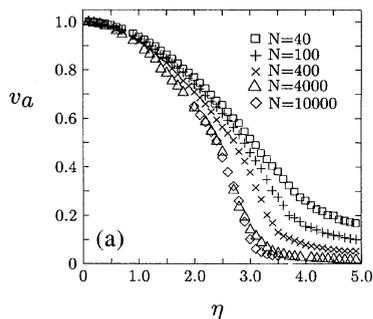
$$c_1 = \left| N^{-1} \sum_q V_q \right|, \quad 0 \leq c_1 \leq 1$$



c_1 vs $1/k$

c_1 vs density

band formation



after [Chaté et al, PRE 2008]

$f(x, v, t)$ = particle **probability density** with $(x, v) \in \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$
satisfies a **Fokker-Planck** equation

$$\partial_t f + v \cdot \nabla_x f + \nabla_v \cdot (F_f f) = \Delta_v f$$

$$F_f(x, v, t) = P_{v^\perp}(k u_f(x, t)), \quad P_{v^\perp} = \text{Id} - v \otimes v$$

$$u_f(x, t) = \frac{J_f(x, t)}{|J_f(x, t)|}, \quad J_f(x, t) = \int_{|y-x| < R} \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} f(y, w, t) w \, dw \, dy$$

$J_f(x, t)$ = particle flux in a neighborhood of x

$u_f(x, t)$ = direction of this flux

$k u_f(x, t)$ = alignment force (with $k = k(|J_f|)$)

$F_f(x, v, t)$ = projection of alignment force on $\{v\}^\perp$

$P_{v^\perp} = \text{Id} - v \otimes v$ = projection on $\{v\}^\perp$

$\nabla_{v^\cdot}, \nabla_v$: div and grad on \mathbb{S}^{n-1} ; Δ_v = Laplace-Beltrami on \mathbb{S}^{n-1}

From particle to mean-field

Requires **number of particles** $N \rightarrow \infty$

Define **empirical measure**:

$$f^N(x, v, t) = N^{-1} \sum_{q=1}^N \delta_{(X_q(t), V_q(t))}(x, v)$$

$f^N \rightarrow f$ where f satisfies **Fokker-Planck**

Formal derivation in [D., Motsch: M3AS 18 (2008) 1193]

Rigorous convergence proof:

Classical: particle models with smooth interaction e.g. [Spohn]

Difficulty here is **handling constraint** $|v| = 1$

Done for $k(|J_f|) = |J_f|$ in [Bolley Canizo Carrillo: AML 25 (2012) 339]

Open for $k(|J_f|) = 1$ (difficulty: controlling singularity at $J_f = 0$)

Existence and uniqueness of solutions to Fokker-Planck

[Gamba, Kang: ARMA 222 (2016) 317]

Other collective dynamics models **do not normalize velocities**

e.g. Cucker-Smale, Motsch-Tadmor \rightarrow huge literature

Directional coordination: the Vicsek model

2.2 Space-homogeneous case: phase transitions

[A. Frouvelle, Jian-Guo Liu, SIMA 44 (2012) 791]

[PD., A. Frouvelle, Jian-Guo Liu, JNLS 23 (2013), 427]

[PD., A. Frouvelle, Jian-Guo Liu, ARMA 216 (2015) 63-115]



Amic Frouvelle (Dauphine)



Jian-Guo Liu (Duke)

Forget the space-variable: $\nabla_x \equiv 0$: $f(v, t)$, $v \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$

$\partial_t f = -\nabla_v \cdot (F_f f) + \Delta_v f := Q(f) =$ collision operator

$$F_f = k(|J_f|) P_{v^\perp} u_f, \quad u_f = \frac{J_f}{|J_f|}, \quad J_f = \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} f(v', t) v' dv'$$

Set: $\rho(t) = \int f(v, t) dv$. Then $\partial_t \rho = 0$. So, $\rho(t) = \rho =$ Constant

Global existence results

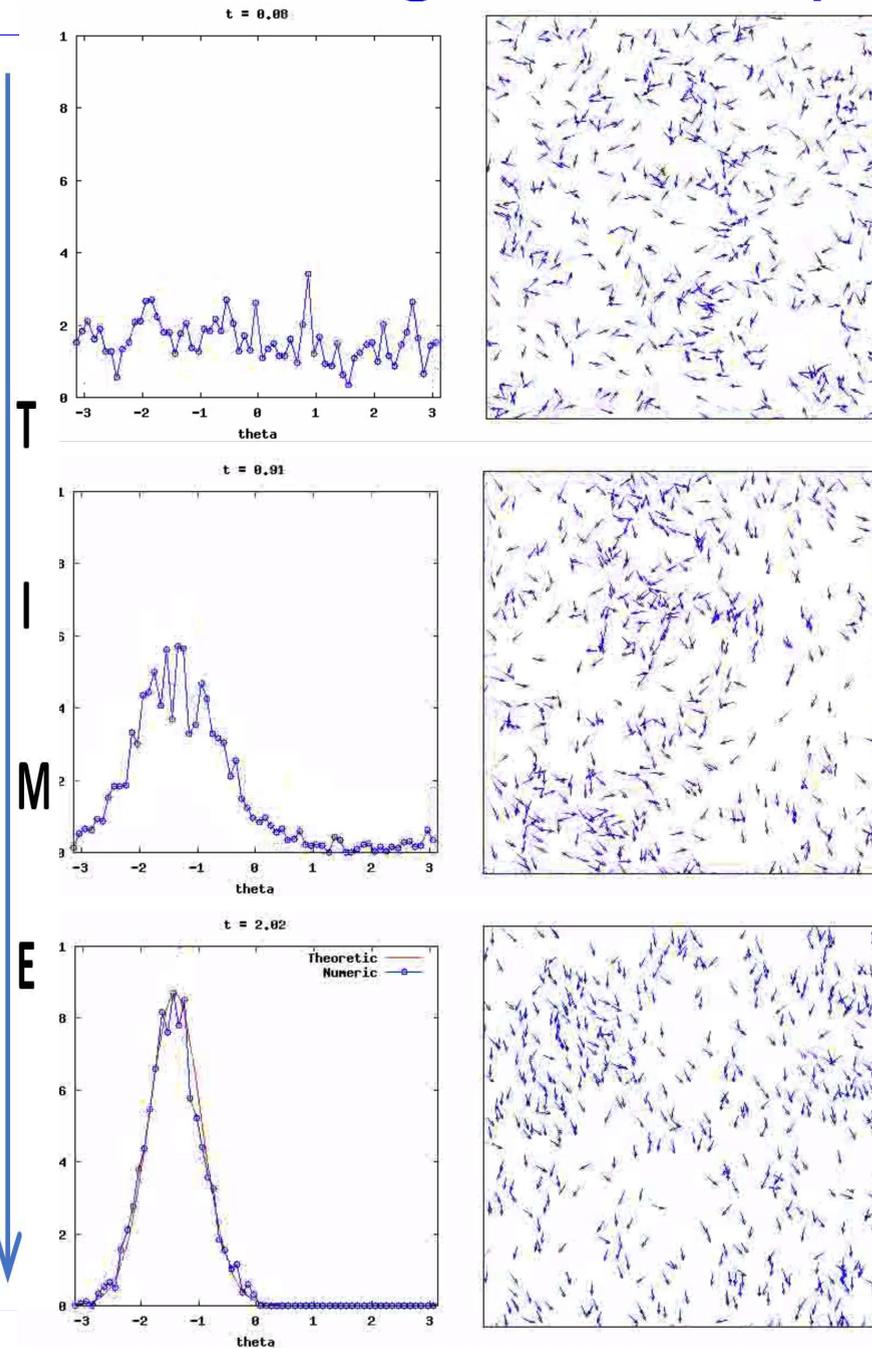
for $k(|J_f|)/|J_f|$ smooth: [Frouvelle Liu: SIMA 44 (2012) 791]

& [D. Frouvelle Liu: JNLS 23 (2013) 427 & ARMA 216 (2015) 63]

for $k(|J_f|) = 1$: [Figalli Kang Morales: ARMA 227 (2018) 869]

Equilibria: solutions of $Q(f) = 0$

Histogram of velocity directions in $(-\pi, \pi)$



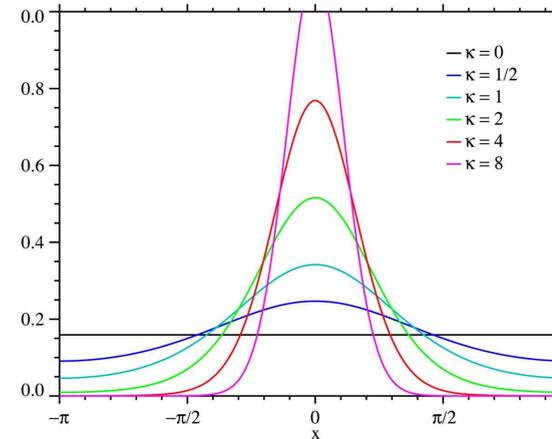
positions and velocity vectors of particles in periodic box

Simulation by
S. Motsch

(VMF = Von Mises-Fisher) given by

$$f(v) = \rho M_{\kappa u}(v), \quad M_{\kappa u}(v) = \frac{e^{\kappa u \cdot v}}{\int e^{\kappa u \cdot v} dv}$$

where **orientation** $u \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$ is **arbitrary**
and **concentration parameter** $\kappa = k(|J_f|)$



Order parameter: $c_1(\kappa) = \int M_{\kappa u}(v) u \cdot v dv \in [0, 1]$, $c_1(\kappa) \nearrow$

Compatibility equation: $|J_f| = \rho c_1(\kappa) = \rho c_1(k(|J_f|))$

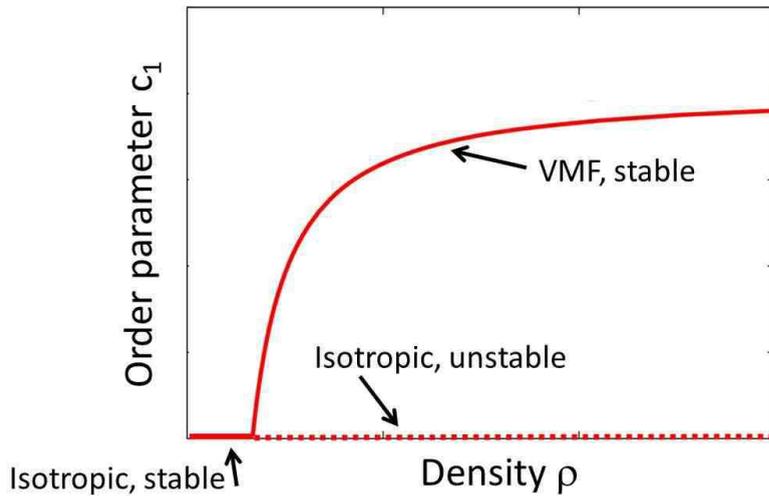
introducing $j(\kappa) =$ inverse function of $k(|J_f|)$, can be recast in

$$\kappa = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad \rho = \frac{j(\kappa)}{c_1(\kappa)}$$

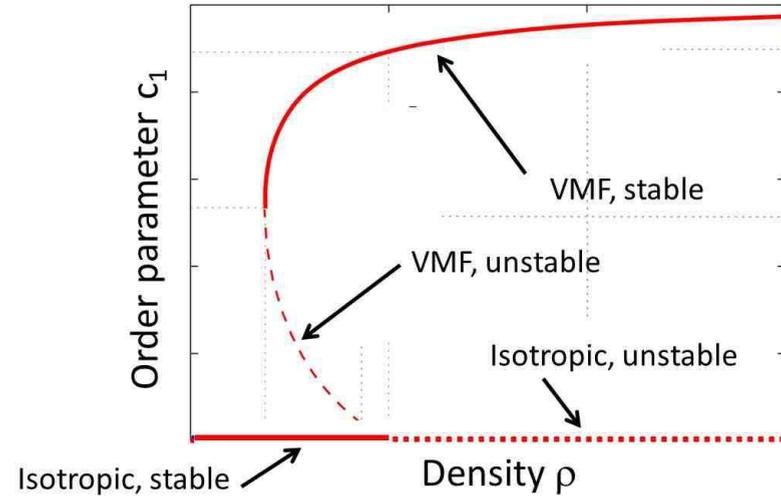
Number of roots and **local monotony** of $\frac{j(\kappa)}{c_1(\kappa)}$ determine
number of equilibria and their **stability**

Ex. 1: $k(|J|) = \frac{|J|}{1+|J|}$: continuous phase transition

Ex. 2: $k(|J|) = |J| + |J|^2$: discontinuous phase transition



Ex. 1



Ex.2

Free energy: $\mathcal{F}(f) = \int f \ln f \, dv - \Phi(|J_f|)$ with $\Phi' = k$

Free energy dissipation: $\frac{d}{dt} \mathcal{F}(f) = -\mathcal{D}(f) \leq 0$

$$\mathcal{D}(f) = \tau(|J_f|) \int f |\nabla_v f - k(|J_f|)(v \cdot u_f)|^2 \, dv$$

f is an **equilibrium** iff $\mathcal{D}(f) = 0$

Free energy **decays** with time **towards an equilibrium**

Unstable VMF are local **max or saddle-points** of \mathcal{F}

Stable VMF are local **min** of \mathcal{F}

\mathcal{F} estimates **L^2 -distance to local equilibrium**:

$$\|f(t) - \rho M_{\kappa u_f(t)}\|_{L^2}^2 \sim \mathcal{F}(f(t)) - \mathcal{F}(\rho M_{\kappa u_f(t)}) \searrow$$

Convergence to equilibrium with **explicit rate**

relies on **entropy-entropy dissipation estimates**: cf Villani, ...

$$\mathcal{D}(f) \geq 2\lambda_\kappa (\mathcal{F}(f) - \mathcal{F}(M_{\kappa u})) + \text{“small”}$$

Directional coordination: the Vicsek model

2.3 Space-inhomogeneous case: macroscopic limit

[PD, S. Motsch: M3AS 18 Suppl. (2008) 1193]

[PD., A. Frouvelle, Jian-Guo Liu, JNLS 23 (2013), 427]

[PD., A. Frouvelle, Jian-Guo Liu, ARMA 216 (2015) 63-115]



Sebastien Motsch (Arizona State)

Restore x -dependence:

$$\partial_t f + v \cdot \nabla_x f + \nabla_v \cdot (F_f f) = \Delta_v f, \quad F_f(x, v, t) = P_{v^\perp}(k u_f(x, t)),$$

$$u_f(x, t) = \frac{J_f(x, t)}{|J_f(x, t)|}, \quad J_f(x, t) = \int_{|y-x| < R} \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} f(y, w, t) w \, dw \, dy$$

Macroscopic scaling: change variables to $x' = \varepsilon x, t' = \varepsilon t$

(x', t') = macroscopic space and time variables

Scaled model (dropping primes): $\partial_t f^\varepsilon + v \cdot \nabla_x f^\varepsilon = \frac{1}{\varepsilon} Q(f^\varepsilon)$

where $Q(f)$ **collision operator studied above**

limit $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ leads to **macroscopic model**

When $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$, $f^\varepsilon \rightarrow f$ s. t. $Q(f) = 0 \Rightarrow f$ is an **equilibrium**

Hypothesis: $k = \text{Constant} \Rightarrow$ **only** equilibria are **VMF** ρM_{ku}

\exists unique VMF equilibrium ; \nexists isotropic equilibrium

No phase transition

When $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ $f^\varepsilon(x, v, t) \rightarrow \rho(x, t) M_{ku(x, t)}(v)$

space non-homogeneous $\Rightarrow \rho(x, t)$ and $u(x, t)$ are **not constant**
 ρ and u **determined by macroscopic equations**

Resulting system is **Self-Organized Hydrodynamics (SOH)**

$$\partial_t \rho + c_1 \nabla_x \cdot (\rho u) = 0$$

$$\rho (\partial_t u + c_2 (u \cdot \nabla_x) u) + P_{u^\perp} \nabla_x \rho = 0$$

$$|u| = 1$$

Classically: use **collision invariants**: $\psi(v) \mid \int Q(f) \psi dv = 0, \forall f$

Requires dimension $\{ \text{CI} \} = \text{number of equations}$

Here dimension $\{ \text{CI} \} = 1 < \text{number of equations} (= n)$

Generalized collision invariants (GCI) overcome the problem

first proposed in [PD, S. Motsch: M3AS 18 Suppl. (2008) 1193]

GCI ψ satisfies CI property with **smaller class of f**

Finding ψ involves **inverting the “adjoint” of Q**

c_2 is found as a **moment of GCI ψ** ; $c_1 = \text{order parameter}$

SOH is similar to Compressible Euler eqs. of gas dynamics

Continuity eq. for ρ

Material derivative of u balanced by pressure force $-\nabla_x \rho$

But with major differences:

geometric constraint $|u| = 1$ (ensured by projection operator P_{u^\perp})

$c_2 \neq c_1$: loss of Galilean invariance

Hyperbolic system

but not in conservative form: shock solutions not well-defined

Local existence of smooth solutions in 2D and 3D

[PD Liu Motsch Panferov, MAA 20 (2013) 089]

Existence / uniqueness of non-smooth solutions open

Rigorous limit $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ proved:

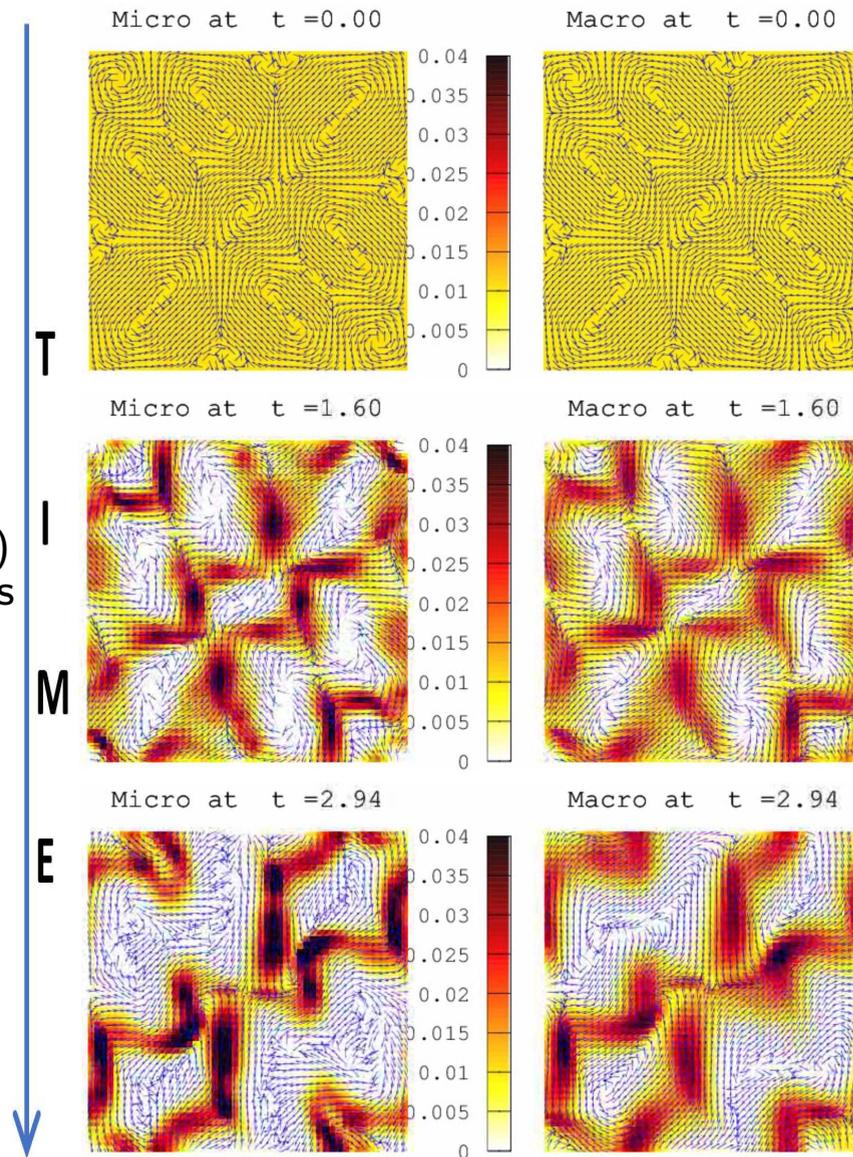
[N Jiang, L Xiong, T-F Zhang, SIMA 48 (2016) 3383]

Differences (but also similarities) with the Toner-Tu model

[J Toner, Y Tu, PRL 75 (1995) 4326]

built on symmetry considerations

Micro (Vicsek)
Density (color code)
& velocity directions



Macro (SOH)

Density (color code)
& velocity directions

Simulation by
G. Dimarco,
TBN. Mac,
N. Wang

3. Body attitude coordination

[PD, A. Frouvelle, S. Merino-Aceituno, M3AS 27 (2017) 1005]

[PD, A. Frouvelle, S. Merino-Aceituno, A. Trescases, MMS 16 (2018) 28]

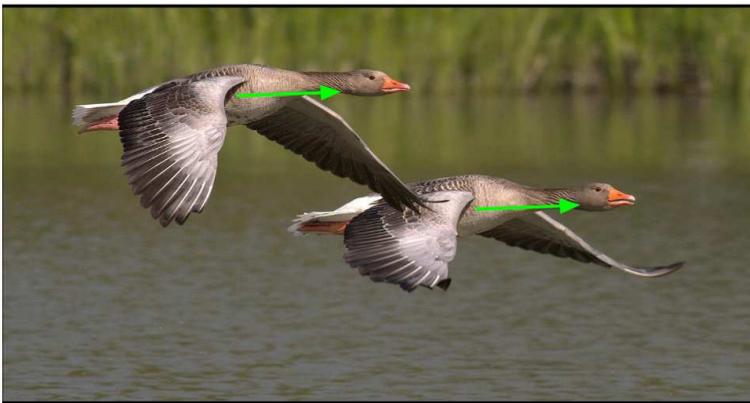


Arianne Trescases (Toulouse) & Sara Merino-Aceituno (Sussex & Vienna)

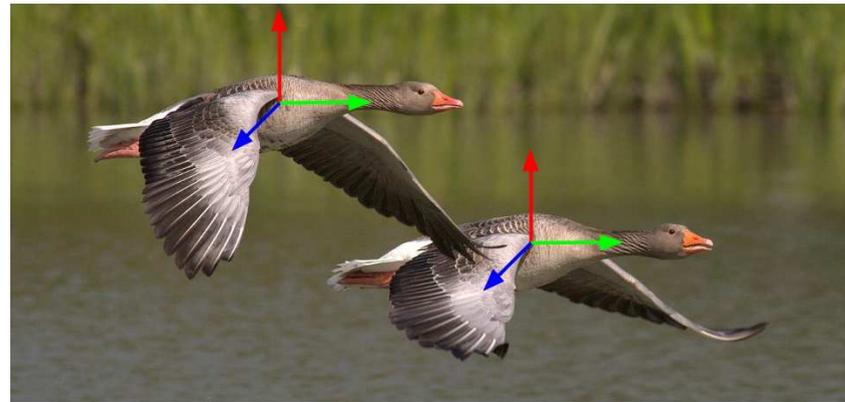
Self-propelled agents which align with their neighbors

Vicsek model: Alignment of their **directions of motion**

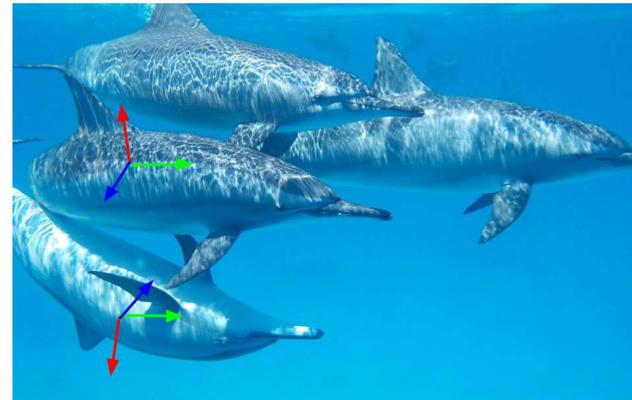
New model: Alignment of their **full body attitude**



Vicsek model



Body attitude alignment



$X_q(t) \in \mathbb{R}^n$: **position** of the q -th subject at time t . $q \in \{1, \dots, N\}$

$A_q(t) \in \text{SO}(n)$: **rotation** mapping reference frame (e_1, \dots, e_n) to subject's body frame

$A_q(t)e_1 \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$: **propulsion direction**

$$\dot{X}_q(t) = A_q(t)e_1$$

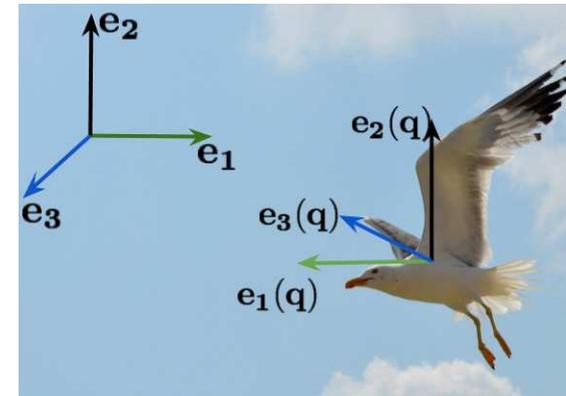
$$dA_q(t) = P_{T_{A_q(t)}\text{SO}(n)} \circ (k\bar{A}_q dt + \sqrt{2} dB_t^q),$$

$$\bar{A}_q = \text{PD}(M_q(t)), \quad M_q(t) = \sum_{j, |X_j - X_q| \leq R} A_j(t)$$

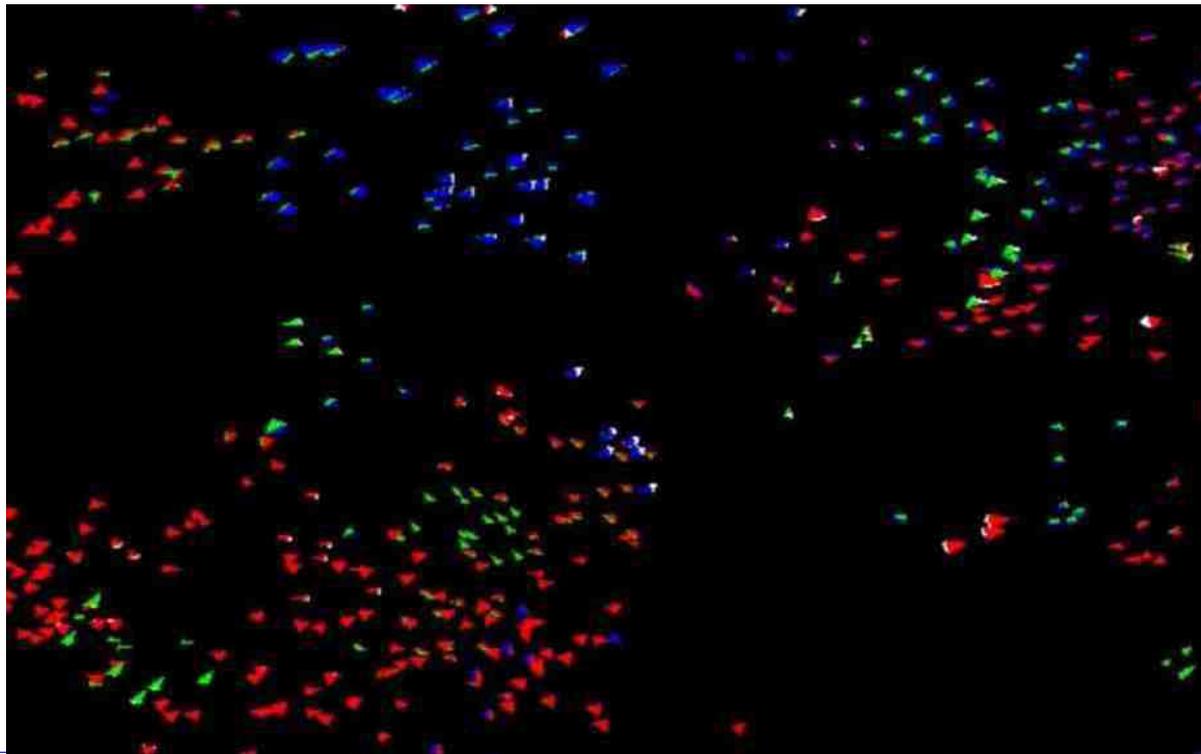
M_q arithmetic mean of neighbors' A matrices

$\bar{A}_q = \text{PD}(M_q) \Leftrightarrow \exists S_q$ symmetric s.t. $M_q = \bar{A}_q S_q$ (polar decomp.)

$P_{T_{A_q(t)}\text{SO}(n)}$ projection on the tangent $T_{A_q(t)}\text{SO}(n)$,
maintains $A_q(t) \in \text{SO}(n)$



Sperm observed through microscope



positions and body attitudes of particles in periodic cube

Simulation by
M. Biskupiak

Understand the differences between Vicsek and body alignment
do gradients of body frames genuinely influence motion ?
→ use macroscopic model to shed light on this question

Main steps of derivation of macroscopic model:

- (i) take $N \rightarrow \infty$ and obtain mean-field model
- (ii) rescale mean-field model by ε (micro to macro scales ratio)
- (iii) take $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ and obtain macro model

Step (iii): $f^\varepsilon = f^\varepsilon(x, A, t)$ with $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $A \in \text{SO}(n)$ solves

$$\partial_t f^\varepsilon + (Ae_1) \cdot \nabla_x f^\varepsilon = \frac{1}{\varepsilon} Q(f^\varepsilon); \quad Q(f) = -\nabla_A \cdot (F_f f) + \Delta_A f$$

$$F_f = k P_{T_A} B_f, \quad B_f = \text{PD}(M_f), \quad M_f = \int_{\text{SO}(n)} f(x, A', t) A' dA'$$

Equilibria are VMF-like: $Q(f) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \exists \rho > 0, B \in \text{SO}(n)$ s.t.

$$f(A) = \rho M_{kB}(A), \quad M_{kB}(A) = \frac{e^{k B \cdot A}}{\int e^{k B \cdot A} dA}$$

ρ : density; B : mean body-frame. Depend on (x, t) . Satisfy macro Eqs.

Self-Organized Hydrodynamics for Body orientation (SOHB)

provide Eqs for density $\rho > 0$ and mean body-frame $B \in \text{SO}(3)$

$$\partial_t \rho + \nabla \cdot (c_1 \rho B_1) = 0$$

$$\partial_t B + c_2 (B_1 \cdot \nabla) B + [c_3 B \times \nabla \log \rho + c_4 (B_1 \times \text{curl} B + (\text{div} B) B_1)]_{\times} B = 0.$$

with $B_1 = B e_1$ mean propagation direction

$\forall w \in \mathbb{R}^3$, $[w]_{\times}$ is the matrix of $x \mapsto w \times x$.

Define matrix $\mathcal{D}(B)$ by $(w \cdot \nabla) B = [\mathcal{D}(B) w]_{\times} B$, $\forall w \in \mathbb{R}^3$

$\text{div} B = \text{Tr}\{\mathcal{D}(B)\}$; $\text{curl} B$ is s.t. $[\text{curl} B]_{\times} = \mathcal{D}(B) - \mathcal{D}(B)^T$

Derivation uses generalized collision invariants

c_2, \dots, c_4 are moments of GCI. $c_1 =$ “order parameter”

use of special parametrization of $\text{SO}(3) \sim$ quaternions

Remarks: formal derivation still unknown in dimension ≥ 4

derivation in 3D is formal; mathematical theory is empty

available: phase transitions in simpler model (w. A. Diez)
using quaternions, model \equiv polymer model in 4D

Define local frame $B = [B_1, B_2, B_3]$ Then, SOHB is written

$$\partial_t \rho + \nabla_x \cdot (c_1 \rho B_1) = 0$$

$$\rho (\partial_t B_1 + c_2 (B_1 \cdot \nabla_x) B_1) + P_{B_1^\perp} (c_3 \nabla_x \rho - c_4 \rho \operatorname{curl} B) = 0$$

$$\rho (\partial_t B_2 + c_2 (B_1 \cdot \nabla_x) B_2) - [B_2 \cdot (c_3 \nabla_x \rho - c_4 \rho \operatorname{curl} B)] B_1 + c_4 \rho (\operatorname{div} B) B_3 = 0$$

$$\rho (\partial_t B_3 + c_2 (B_1 \cdot \nabla_x) B_3) - [B_3 \cdot (c_3 \nabla_x \rho - c_4 \rho \operatorname{curl} B)] B_1 - c_4 \rho (\operatorname{div} B) B_2 = 0$$

with

$$\operatorname{curl} B = (B_1 \cdot \nabla_x) B_1 + (B_2 \cdot \nabla_x) B_2 + (B_3 \cdot \nabla_x) B_3$$

$$\operatorname{div} B = [(B_1 \cdot \nabla_x) B_2] \cdot B_3 + [(B_2 \cdot \nabla_x) B_3] \cdot B_1 + [(B_3 \cdot \nabla_x) B_1] \cdot B_2$$

If $c_4 = 0$, reduces to **Vicsek-SOH** model for ρ and $u = B_1$:

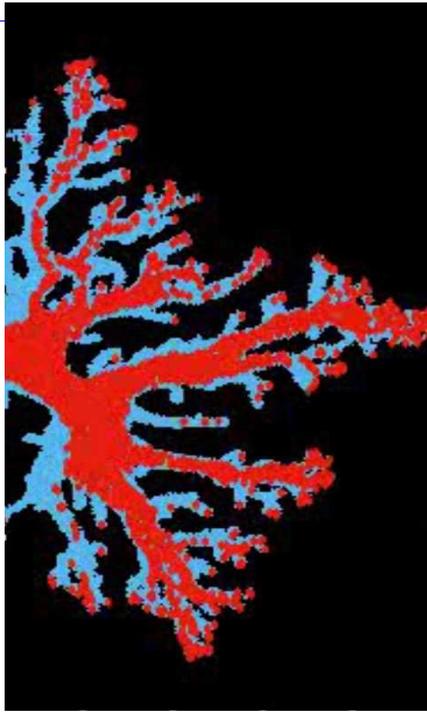
$$\partial_t \rho + \nabla_x \cdot (c_1 \rho u) = 0$$

$$\rho (\partial_t u + c_2 (u \cdot \nabla_x) u) + P_{u^\perp} (c_3 \nabla_x \rho) = 0$$

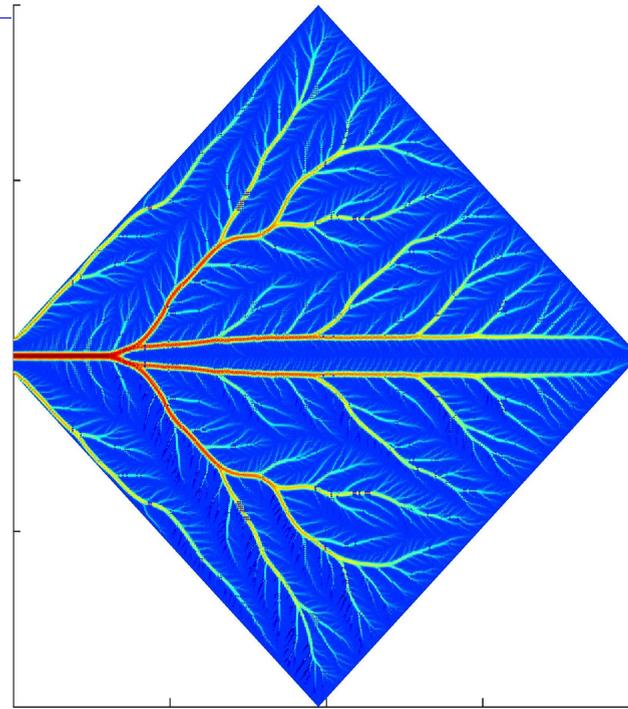
But $c_4 \neq 0$ in general

gradients of body frames genuinely **influence motion**

4. Reflection: network formation models



Micro¹



Macro²

Main difference: in order to produce the network structure:
macro (right) requires the presence of a **nonlinear decay term**
micro (left) **does not require**

¹ [arxiv 1812.09992] with P. Aceves-Sanchez, B. Aymard (Nice), D. Peurichard (INRIA Paris), L. Casteilla & A. Lorisgnol (Stromalab, Toulouse), P. Kennel & F. Plouraboué (Fluid Mech. Toulouse)

² [Hu & Cai, PRL 111 (2013) 138701], [Haskovec, Markowich, Perthame, Schlottbom, NLA 138 (2016) 127]

Macro models seem less prone to **pattern formation** than **micro models** and require **additional mechanisms**

Are macroscopic models **too deterministic** ?

May require **additional stochastic terms**, leading to SPDE

How to **rigorously derive** such terms ?

Why is **ability to pattern formation lost at coarse-graining** ?

Breakdown of propagation of chaos **at large time scales** ?

Suggestion that **this may be the case** in

[E. Carlen, PD, B. Wennberg, M3AS 23 (2013) 1339]

5. Conclusion

Emergence = development of large-scale structures
by agents interacting **locally without leader**

Modelling emergence presents **new challenges**:

- **lack of conservations** due to agents' active character
- possible **breakdown of propagation of chaos**

Emergence = **phase transition** from disorder to patterns
analyzed through **bifurcation theory**

Agents may carry **inner geometrical structures**
which **influence the large-scale structures**

New models constructed by **combining** various
inner **geometrical structures** and **interactions**

Needed to describe **living and social systems complexity**
and are source of **new fascinating mathematical questions**