# **Perturbations (and boundaries) in Flocking systems**

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# **Introduction: active matter**

Active particles are able to extract and dissipate energy from their surroundings to produce systematic and coherent motion

- Energy enters and exits the system  $\rightarrow$  out of equilibrium
- Energy is spent to perform actions, typically move (self-propel) in a non-thermal way
- In active systems, energy is injected and dissipated in the bulk, not from the boundaries, in a way that does not explicitly breaks any simmety

# **Flocking active matter**

# spontaneous symmetry breaking to collective motion

Wildbeasts



#### **Fish schooling**





**Starlings flocks** 

#### **Cellular migration**

The Vicsek universality class: a paradigma for collective motion

Which essential ingredients you find in the VM?

- 1. Conservation of particles number
- 2. Dry systems (no hydro interactions)
- 3. Particles are self propelled, i.e. they move and exchange interacting neighbours
  The system is far from equilibrium !!

 4. A continuous symmetry can be spontaneously broken (to polar order) by aligning interactions



# The Vicsek model ("moving XY spins")

- Off lattice self propelled particles that move with constant speed  $v_0$
- Local *ferromagnetic (or polar)* alignment with local neighbors (inside a metric range  $R_0$ .)
- Environmental white noise

#### In d=2 one may write the VM as



# Vicsek phase diagram



# Toner and Tu field theory

Spontaneous symmetry breaking of a continuous symmetry + non-equilibrium effects

In the symmetry-broken state, large wavelength velocity fluctuations are easily excited and decay slowly (Nambu-Goldstone modes)

$$\partial_t \rho + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{v}) = 0,$$

 $\partial_t \mathbf{v} + \lambda_1 (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{v} + \lambda_2 (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}) \mathbf{v} + \lambda_3 \nabla |\mathbf{v}|^2 = [\alpha - \beta |\mathbf{v}|^2] \mathbf{v}$  $- \nabla P + D_0 \nabla^2 \mathbf{v} + D_1 \nabla (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}) + D_2 (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla)^2 \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{f}.$ 



Giant number fluctuations

**Density fluctuations** 

**Velocity fluctuations** 

# Toner & Tu Hydrodynamic theory predicts universal longranged correlations

E.g.: equal time correlation functions of velocity and density fluctuations

Density structure factor  $\delta 
ho(x) = 
ho(x) - 
ho$ 

$$S(\mathbf{q},t) \equiv \langle \delta \hat{\rho}(\mathbf{q},t) \delta \hat{\rho}(-\mathbf{q},t) \rangle \sim \frac{1}{q^{\sigma}} \quad \text{for } q \to 0$$

Scaling exponents can be determined

By numerical simulation of microscopic models (HPC)

By RG under certain conjectures

$$\sigma = \frac{2}{5}(d+1)$$

 $\sigma = 1.33(2)$  d = 2

$$\sigma \sigma = 1.75(5)$$
  $d = 3$ 

#### **Giant Number Fluctuations**

• Fluctuations in average number of particles are anomalously large:



# **Experimental validation: qualitative and quantitative**



Human mammary epithelial MCF-10A cells over-expressing RAB5A protein



RAB5A



#### **1. Long range correlations in starlings flocks**

2 points (connected) real space correlation function 
$$C_s(r) = \left\langle \frac{\sum_{ij} \delta \mathbf{s}_i \cdot \delta \mathbf{s}_j \, \delta(r - r_{ij})}{\sum_{ij} \delta(r - r_{ij})} \right\rangle$$

$$\delta \mathbf{s}_i = \mathbf{s}_i - \frac{1}{N} \sum_i \mathbf{s}_i.$$

In finite systems we define a correlation length by

А

$$C(r=\xi)=0$$



Cavaga et al. PNAS **107** 11865 (2010)

#### 2. In vitro cell migration experiment

#### **Cell tissue** Lab grown human mammary epithelial MCF-10A cells.

Seeded in well plates and cultured to obtain a large (~  $10^6$  cells) hyperconfluent monolayer



Maliverno C et al Nat. Mater. 16, 587 (2017)



F. Giavazzi, FG et al. J. Phys D 50 384003 (2017).



F. Giavazzi, FG et al. J. Phys D 50 384003 (2017).

# **Beyond Bulk, unperturbed theory**

- Flocks are finite
- Flocks are interacting with the rest of the world external stimuli



#### **1. Problem:** observed flocks correlations are **surprisingly** long ranged



**Dynamic perturbations localized on the flock boundary** 

The origin of these anomalous correlations is not in the SPP, out-of-equilibrium nature of flocks...

..but in the interaction – through the boundary – with the external world



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#### An equilibrium set up:

Heisenberg model with a dynamical boundary magnetic field

$$\mathbf{s}_{i}^{t+1} = \Theta \left[ \Theta [\mathbf{s}_{i}^{t} + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_{i}} \mathbf{s}_{j}^{t} + \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{r}_{i}, \mathbf{h}^{t})] + \eta \boldsymbol{\zeta}_{i}^{t} \right] \qquad \Theta [\mathbf{v}] = \mathbf{v} / ||\mathbf{v}||$$

$$\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{r}_i, \mathbf{h}^t) = \mathbf{h}^t \text{ if } \mathbf{r}_i \in \mathcal{B} \text{ and } (\mathbf{h}^t \cdot \mathbf{r}_i) > 0$$
$$\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{r}_i, \mathbf{h}^t) = 0 \text{ otherwise}$$

Spherical domain in a cubic lattice

T<<1 (flocks are very ordered)



Fields only affects part of the boundary

#### An equilibrium set up:

Heisenberg model with a dynamical boundary magnetic field

$$\mathbf{s}_{i}^{t+1} = \Theta \left[ \Theta [\mathbf{s}_{i}^{t} + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_{i}} \mathbf{s}_{j}^{t} + \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{r}_{i}, \mathbf{h}^{t})] + \eta \boldsymbol{\zeta}_{i}^{t} \right] \qquad \Theta [\mathbf{v}] = \mathbf{v} / ||\mathbf{v}||$$

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$$\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{r}_i, \mathbf{h}^t) = 0 \text{ otherwise}$$

Spherical domain in a cubic lattice

T<<1 (flocks are very ordered)

Field **h**<sup>*t*</sup> performs a random walk on the spherical surface with typical inversion time

$$\tau_h = R^{\alpha}$$



# $au_h \sim R^2$ (Diffusive timescale)



#### Hints of a theory -- Heisenberg hamiltonian in spin-wave approximation

Velocity correlation functions are expressed as **a superposition of eigenmodes** (plane waves on cubic lattice) (eigenvalues weighted) of the Discrete Laplacian matrix A (closely related to local connectivity)

$$C_{ij}^{\rm eq} = \langle \boldsymbol{\pi}_i \cdot \boldsymbol{\pi}_j \rangle = \sum_{a>1} w_i^a w_j^a \frac{2}{\beta \lambda_a} \qquad \qquad A_{ij} = \delta_{ij} \sum_k n_{ik} - n_{ij}$$

Scale free behavior reflects in a gapless eigenspectrum of A

A **localized external field** (e.g. on the **boundary**) does not open a gap and does not create a mass



#### **Dynamical field effect**

Dynamical correlation function for t >> 1

$$C_{ij}(t) = C_{ij}^{eq} + 2\sum_{a,b} w_i^a w_j^b \int_0^t ds e^{-(\lambda_a + \lambda_b)(t-s)} \mathbf{m}_a^{\perp}(s) \cdot \mathbf{h}_b^{\perp}(s), \quad = C_{ij}^{EQ} + C_{ij}^{NEQ}$$
$$\mathbf{m}_a^{\perp}(t) = \mathbf{m}_a^{\perp}(0) e^{-\lambda_a t} + \int_0^t dt' e^{-\lambda_a(t-t')} \mathbf{h}_a^{\perp}(t').$$

Decay timescale for the contributions of each eigenmode *a* to the nonequilibrium term

$$au_a \sim 1/\lambda_a$$

$$\tau_h >> \tau_a = 1/\lambda_a$$

If the field **h** is slow changing, all nonequilibrium contribution decays fast and nothing changes, correlations are similar to equilibrium

$$\tau_h \leq \tau_a = 1/\lambda_a$$

If the field dynamics is fast enough, the field keeps exciting low modes contributions, which may change the correlations, provided that

Slowest mode timescale  $1/\dot{\lambda}_a \sim R^2$ 

#### Numerical simulations in flocking models



# **2. Linear Response theory in Flocking systems**

- Linear response in symmetry breaking systems is a classical problem in equilibrium statistical field-theory,
- Response to external threats and biological significance of group response mechanisms.
- Control of biological and synthetic flocks



e.g. Vicsek model in an external field

$$\mathbf{r}_{i}^{t+1} = \mathbf{r}_{i}^{t} + v_{m} \mathbf{v}_{i}^{t}$$
Global field induces
$$\mathbf{v}_{i}^{t+1} = (\mathcal{R}_{\eta} \circ \vartheta) \left( \sum_{j \in S_{i}} \mathbf{v}_{j}^{t} + \mathbf{h} \right)$$
Global field induces
symmetry breaking

Asymptotic response of the **order parameter**  $\Phi$  when a constant infinitesimal field is applied in the bulk



$$\Phi = \frac{1}{N} \left| \sum_{i=1}^{N} \mathbf{v}_i \right|$$

**Transversal susceptibility** 

$$\chi_{\perp} = \frac{\Phi(0)}{h} \sim \frac{1}{h}$$

 $\chi_{\perp}^{eq} \sim \frac{1}{h}$ 

Longitudinal susceptibility

$$\chi_{II} = \frac{\Phi(h) - \Phi(0)}{h} \xrightarrow{h \to 0} ?$$

At equilibrium also the longitudinal component diverges

$$\chi_{\parallel}^{eq} \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{h}}$$
 (d=3)

$$\partial_t \rho + \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{v}\rho) = 0 \quad (\text{continuity eq.})$$
$$\partial_t \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{\Lambda} [\nabla \mathbf{v} \mathbf{v}] = U(\rho, |\mathbf{v}|)\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{D} [\nabla \nabla \mathbf{v}] + \mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{P}} + \mathbf{f} + \mathbf{h}$$

External field: fix a direction in space and drives the motion accordingly

#### Can be derived either by:

- 1. Phenomenological hydrodynamics
- 2. Direct coarse-graining: e.g. Kinetic approaches (Boltzmann-Ginzburg-Landau approach)

J. Toner, Y. Tu, Phys Rev Lett 75 4326 (1995); , Phys Rev E 58 4828 (1998).

$$\partial_t \rho + \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{v}\rho) = 0$$
continuity eq.
$$\partial_t \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{\Lambda} [\nabla \mathbf{v} \mathbf{v}] = U(\rho, |\mathbf{v}|) \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{D} [\nabla \nabla \mathbf{v}] + \mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{P}} + \mathbf{f} + \mathbf{h}$$
advective
$$\mathbf{\Lambda} [\nabla \mathbf{v} \mathbf{v}] = \lambda_1 (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{v} + \lambda_2 (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}) \mathbf{v} + \lambda_3 \nabla (|\mathbf{v}|^2)$$

Some kind of material derivative (time + convective derivatives), but with extra terms since Galileian invariance is broken

 $\partial_t \rho + \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{v}\rho) = 0$  $\partial_t \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{\Lambda} [\nabla \mathbf{v} \mathbf{v}] = U(\rho, |\mathbf{v}|) \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{D} [\nabla \nabla \mathbf{v}] + \mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{P}} + \mathbf{f} + \mathbf{h}$ Diffusive, viscous terms  $\mathbf{D} [\nabla \nabla \mathbf{v}] = D_1 \nabla (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}) + D_2 (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla)^2 \mathbf{v} + D_3 \nabla^2 \mathbf{v};$ 



 $\partial_t \rho + \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{v}\rho) = 0$ 

$$\partial_t \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{\Lambda} \left[ \nabla \mathbf{v} \mathbf{v} \right] = U(\rho, |\mathbf{v}|) \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{D} \left[ \nabla \nabla \mathbf{v} \right] + \mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{P}} + \mathbf{f} + \mathbf{h}$$

$$\langle f_i(\mathbf{r},t)f_j(\mathbf{r}',t')\rangle = \Delta\delta_{ij}\delta^d(\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{r}')\delta(t-t')$$

order parameter  $\Phi(h) \equiv |\langle \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{r},t) \rangle|$ 

# No fluctuations (mean field):

$$\rho(\mathbf{r},t) = \rho_0, \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{r},t) = \mathbf{v}_0(\mathbf{h}).$$

$$U(v_0(h), \rho_0) \approx -\frac{h}{v_0} \neq 0$$

$$\Phi(h) \equiv |\langle \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{r},t) \rangle| = v_0(0) + O(h)$$

At mean field level, response is linear in h

#### **Consider fluctuations:**

$$\begin{split} \rho(\mathbf{r},t) &= \rho_0 + \delta \rho(h;\mathbf{r},t) \\ \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{r},t) &= \mathbf{v}_0(h) + \delta v_{\parallel}(h;\mathbf{r},t) \,\mathbf{e}_{\parallel} + \mathbf{v}_{\perp}(h;\mathbf{r},t) \end{split}$$

$$\langle \delta 
ho 
angle = \langle {f v}_{ot} 
angle = {f 0}$$

 $\Phi(h) = v_0(h) + \langle \delta v_{\parallel} \rangle = v_0(0) + \langle \delta v_{\parallel} \rangle + O(h)$ 

Longitudinal fluctuations affect response

#### Longitudinal fluctuations are enslaved to slow modes:

J. Toner, Phys. Rev. E 86 , 031918 (2012). 
$$\partial_t \delta \rho = [\partial_t \delta \rho]_{h=0}$$
  
 $\partial_t \mathbf{v}_\perp = [\partial_t \mathbf{v}_\perp]_{h=0} - h_v \mathbf{v}_\perp$   
 $\mathbf{v}_\perp = [\partial_t \mathbf{v}_\perp]_{h=0} - h_v \mathbf{v}_\perp$   
 $\mathbf{v}_\perp = h/v_0$ 



A. Z. Patashinskii and V. L. Pokrovskii, Zh. Eksp. Teor. Fiz. 64, 1445 (1973).

# Order parameter depends on transversal fluctuations

$$\Phi(h) \approx v_0(0) - \frac{\langle |\mathbf{v}_{\perp}(h)|^2 \rangle}{2v_0(0)} + O(h)$$

Linear response is given by the correlation function C...

$$\delta\Phi(h) \equiv \Phi(h) - \Phi(0) \approx \frac{\langle |\mathbf{v}_{\perp}(0)|^2 \rangle - \langle |\mathbf{v}_{\perp}(h)|^2 \rangle}{2\nu_0(0)} + O(h).$$
  
$$\langle |\mathbf{v}_{\perp}(0)|^2 \rangle - \langle |\mathbf{v}_{\perp}(h)|^2 \rangle \equiv C(L_{\perp}, L_{\parallel}, \{\mu_i^0\}, h_v)$$

 $\mathbf{v}_{\perp}$ 

... whose scaling can be determined by DRG techniques

$$\begin{split} \delta \Phi &= h^{1-\nu} f\left(Lh^{\frac{1}{z}}\right) \propto \begin{cases} h^{1-\nu}, & h \gg L^{-z} \\ hL^{\gamma}, & h \ll L^{-z} \end{cases} \\ \nu &= 1 + 2\alpha/z \\ \gamma &= \nu z \end{cases} \quad \begin{array}{l} \alpha(d=2) \approx -0.3 & z(d=2) \approx 1.33 \\ \alpha(d=3) \approx -0.6 & z(d=3) \approx 1.75 \end{cases} \\ \hline \text{RG conjecture} \quad \nu &= \frac{4-d}{d+1}, & z = \frac{2(d+1)}{5}, & \gamma = \frac{2(4-d)}{5} \end{cases} \end{split}$$

#### Diverging longitudinal susceptibility in the thermodynamic limit

$$\chi_{\prime\prime} = \frac{\delta \Phi(h)}{h} \sim h^{-\nu}$$

Early works overlooked this, e.g.

A. Czirok, H. E. Stanley, and T. Vicsek, J. Phys. A 30 , 1375 (1997).

At and above the upper critical dimension  $d_c$ =4 the susceptibility is finite

•N. Kyriakopoulos, FG, J. Toner, New Journal of Physics, 18, 073039 (2016).

#### Numerical simulatios for response – VM + field

![](_page_37_Figure_1.jpeg)

# **Experiment: Longitudinal response and susceptibility**

![](_page_38_Figure_1.jpeg)

•A. Morin, D. Bartolo, Phys. Rev. X 8, 021037 (2018)

#### What about correlation functions ?

 $L_c(h) \sim h^{-1/z}$  Intrinsic, field dependent length scale

 $r \sim L_c(h)$  Exponential cut off ~  $L_c$  in real space correlations

 $q \ll \Lambda(h) \sim \frac{1}{L_c(h)}$ 

 $S_{\rho}(q) \sim \frac{1}{\langle \bar{b} \rangle q^z + h}$ 

Small q divergence is suppressed in Fourier

At leading order in q and h

 $z = \frac{6}{5} \ (d = 2)$   $z = \frac{8}{5} \ (d = 3)$   $z = 2 \ (d \ge 4)$ 

[ Probably, under some RG conjecture ]

# **TT equations for fluctuations**

$$\begin{split} \rho(\mathbf{r},t) = \rho_0 + \delta \rho(h;\mathbf{r},t) & \text{Slow modes} \\ \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{r},t) = \mathbf{v}_0(h) + \delta v_{\parallel}(h;\mathbf{r},t) \,\mathbf{e}_{\parallel} + \mathbf{v}_{\perp}(h;\mathbf{r},t) \end{split}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t \delta \rho &= -\rho_0 \nabla_{\!\!\perp} \cdot \mathbf{v}_{\!\!\perp} - w_1 \nabla_{\!\!\perp} \cdot (\mathbf{v}_{\!\!\perp} \delta \rho) - v_2 \partial_{\!\!\parallel} \delta \rho + D_{\rho_{\!\!\parallel}} \partial_{\!\!\parallel}^2 \delta \rho + D_{\rho_{\!\!\perp}} \nabla_{\!\!\perp}^2 \delta \rho \\ &+ D_{\rho v} \partial_{\!\!\parallel} (\nabla_{\!\!\perp} \cdot \mathbf{v}_{\!\!\perp}) + \rho_0 \mu_2 \partial_t \partial_{\!\!\parallel} \delta \rho - \mu_1 \partial_{\!\!\parallel} (\delta \rho^2) + \mu_5 \partial_{\!\!\parallel} (|\mathbf{v}_{\!\!\perp}|^2), \end{aligned}$$

$$\partial_{t} \mathbf{v}_{\perp} = -\lambda_{1}^{0} \nu_{0} \partial_{\parallel} \mathbf{v}_{\perp} - \lambda_{1}^{0} (\mathbf{v}_{\perp} \cdot \mathbf{\nabla}_{\perp}) \mathbf{v}_{\perp} - g_{1} \delta \rho \partial_{\parallel} \mathbf{v}_{\perp} - g_{2} \mathbf{v}_{\perp} \partial_{\parallel} \delta \rho - \frac{c_{0}^{2}}{\rho_{0}} \mathbf{\nabla}_{\perp} \delta \rho$$
$$- g_{3} \mathbf{\nabla}_{\perp} (\delta \rho^{2}) + D_{B} \mathbf{\nabla}_{\perp} (\mathbf{\nabla}_{\perp} \cdot \mathbf{v}_{\perp}) + D_{3} \mathbf{\nabla}_{\perp}^{2} \mathbf{v}_{\perp} + D_{\parallel} \partial_{\parallel}^{2} \mathbf{v}_{\perp} + g_{t} \partial_{t} \mathbf{\nabla}_{\perp} \delta \rho$$
$$+ g_{\parallel} \partial_{\parallel} \mathbf{\nabla}_{\perp} \delta \rho + \mathbf{f}_{\perp} - h_{\nu} \mathbf{v}_{\perp}$$
$$h_{\nu} \equiv \frac{h}{\nu_{0}(0)}$$

Solve linearized dynamics in Fourier (both space and time)

Retain leading orders in (small) q and h

Integrate in  $\boldsymbol{\omega}$  to get equal time structure factor

$$S_{\rho}(\mathbf{q}) = \langle \delta \hat{\rho}(\mathbf{q}) \delta \hat{\rho}(-\mathbf{q}) \rangle \approx \frac{\Delta \rho_0^2 v_0}{2c_0^2} \frac{1}{b(\theta_q)q^2 + h} \qquad \text{Linear theory SF}$$

Nonlinear effects can be accounted for by RG arguments

 $q^2 \to q^z$ 

Average over spatial directions, to get the « isotropic » structure factor

$$S_{\rho}(q) \sim \frac{1}{\langle \bar{b} \rangle q^z + h}$$

Numerical results (Vicsek model, d=2)

$$S_{\rho}(q) \sim \frac{1}{\langle \bar{b} \rangle q^z + h}$$

Density Structure factor

![](_page_42_Figure_3.jpeg)

# **Driven, not spontaneous collective motion**

(how to tell the difference with short timeseries)

# A simple (universal) recipe for discriminating spontaneous from driven collective motion

- 1. Hope your moving system is large enough
- 2. Compute the structure factor
- 3. Check low *q* behavior.

*Diverging* (spontaneous) or *constant* (driven)

$$S_{\rho}(\mathbf{q}) = \frac{1}{N} \left\langle \left| \sum_{j=1}^{N} e^{-i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}_{j}} \right|^{2} \right\rangle$$

- $S_{\rho}(q \ll 1) \qquad q > \frac{1}{L}$
- 4. Criteria may be sufficient but not necessary for establishing directed collective motion

# **Perspectives: a controlled experiment**

Cellular tissue migrating on a micrograted substrate

![](_page_44_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_44_Picture_3.jpeg)

#### **Perspectives: into the wild?**

![](_page_44_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_45_Picture_0.jpeg)

# Thank you for your attention!

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**Collaborations:** 

#### (former) Aberdeen group:

PhD students:

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#### C. Zancok

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S. Ngo (former):

#### **Financial support:**

![](_page_45_Picture_12.jpeg)

![](_page_45_Picture_13.jpeg)

![](_page_45_Picture_14.jpeg)

![](_page_45_Picture_15.jpeg)

![](_page_46_Figure_0.jpeg)

# Large system size (thermodynamic behavior)

![](_page_47_Figure_1.jpeg)

# Data collapse tests all 3 response exponents

![](_page_48_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### Numerical results (Vicsek model, d=2)

![](_page_49_Figure_1.jpeg)

# Flocking -- Conclusions ...

- Active matter: Fundametal class of non-equilibrium system. Biologically inspired
- Some reasonable theoretical understanding especially for low density, dry systems. Hydrodynamic behavior based on symmetry and conservation laws
- Relevant experiments exist (animal groups, motility assays, driven granular matter, cellular tissues, etc.)

# ... & Perspectives

- Biological relevance: can active matter help explain biologically relevant problems
- Synthetic active matter: swarming nanoparticles (medical applications), biomimetic materials, funtionalized colloids

Response to perturbations (linear and finite regimes) and control

- Genericity of mesoscale behavior in high density active matter/flocks
- Thermodynamic approaches
- Finite systems, boundary effects, etc.
- Long range hydrodynamic interactions in active suspensions

Adding a cohesive interaction

$$\mathbf{s}_{i}^{t+1} = \Theta \left[ \alpha \sum_{k \in V_{i}} \mathbf{s}_{k}^{t} + \beta \sum_{k \in V_{i}} f_{ik} \mathbf{e}_{ik}^{t} + \eta \ m_{i}^{t} \ \vec{\xi}_{i}^{t} \right]$$

*Orientation* + *attraction-repulsion* + *noise* 

$$\begin{vmatrix} \vec{\xi}_i^t \\ \vec{\xi}_i^t \end{vmatrix} = 1 \quad \left\langle \vec{\xi}_i^t \cdot \vec{\xi}_j^{t'} \right\rangle \sim \delta_{ij} \delta_{tt'}$$
  
 $V_j \quad \text{are Voronoi neigbours}$   
 $\Theta[\mathbf{v}] = \frac{\mathbf{v}}{\|\mathbf{v}\|}$ 

![](_page_51_Figure_4.jpeg)

G. Grégoire, H. Chaté & Y. Tu Physica D 181, 157 (2003)

![](_page_52_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_53_Picture_0.jpeg)

# **Border fluctuations in d=3**

![](_page_54_Figure_1.jpeg)

## **Border fluctuations in d=3**

*Equilibrium droplet fluctuation frequency* 

$$\omega_{eq}^2 \sim \frac{\sigma_s}{N}$$

*Flocks fluctuation frequency* 

![](_page_55_Figure_4.jpeg)

**Faster fluctuations in active flocks** 

#### Conclusions

First **experimental measure of GNF and structure** in biological active matter showing long range polar order

A simple mechanical model of soft self-propelled disks reproduces fairly well a wide range of scale, at the local, mesoscopic and hydrodynamic range.

At the experimental level, the flocking transition is accompanied by local fluidization. In simulations, this can be achieved by a large increase of self-propulsion speed. This suggests that an (indirect ?) effect of RAB5A expression is to reduce the mechanical feedbacks (contact inhibition of locomotion) that suppress cellular motility in the disordered control

# Perspectives

- 1. Use larger FOVs, measure velocity fluctuations,
- 2. Interaction of local stresses and elastic modes w. velocity fluctuations
- 3. Boundary instability/unjamming induced by activity

![](_page_57_Picture_4.jpeg)

Wound healing in-vitro experiments L. Sepulveda et al. Plos Comp. Bio (2013)

#### finite flock model

![](_page_57_Picture_7.jpeg)

# Hydrodynamic theory predicts universal long-ranged properties

Due to symmetry breaking (i.e.: there is a preferential directions) correlations are anisotropic Velocity (connected) correlations

$$S(\mathbf{q}) \sim \begin{cases} q_{\perp}^{1-d-\zeta-2\chi}, & C_v(\vec{R}) = \langle \delta \vec{v}(\vec{r}+\vec{R},t) \cdot \delta \vec{v}(\vec{r},t) \rangle = |R_{\perp}|^{2\chi} f_v \\ q_{\parallel}^{-2} q_{\perp}^{3-d-\zeta-2\chi}, & q_{\perp}^{*} \gg q_{\parallel} \gg q_{\perp} \\ q_{\parallel}^{-3+(1-d-2\chi)/\zeta} q_{\perp}^2, & q_{\perp}^{\zeta} \ll q_{\parallel} \end{cases}$$

$$C_v(\vec{R}) = \langle \delta \vec{v}(\vec{r} + \vec{R}, t) \cdot \delta \vec{v}(\vec{r}, t) \rangle = |R_\perp|^{2\chi} f_v \left( \frac{|R_\parallel|/l_0}{(|R_\perp|/l_0)^{\xi}} \right)$$

Toner & Tu Hydrodynamic theory predicts universal longranged correlations

Anysotropic structure

![](_page_59_Figure_2.jpeg)

# A better model at short scales: Collisional Vicsek model (CVM)

$$\dot{\mathbf{r}}_{i} = v_{0}\hat{\mathbf{n}}(\theta_{i}) + \beta \sum_{j}^{N_{0}} \mathbf{F}_{ij}$$
$$\dot{\theta}_{i} = \frac{1}{\tau}(\theta_{i} - \psi_{i}) + \xi_{i}$$

![](_page_60_Figure_2.jpeg)

$$\mathbf{v_i} \equiv \dot{\mathbf{r}}_i = v_i \left(\cos\psi_i, \sin\psi_i\right)$$

$$\mathbf{F}_{ij} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } r_{ij} \equiv |\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j| \ge (\sigma_i + \sigma_j) \\ [r_{ij} - (\sigma_i + \sigma_j)] \hat{\mathbf{r}}_{ij} & \text{if } r_{ij} < (\sigma_i + \sigma_j) \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \langle \xi_i \rangle = 0 \\ \langle \xi_i(t) \xi_j(t') \rangle = \eta^2 \delta_{ij} \delta(t - t') \, . \end{array}$$

Rescale time and space  $\beta = \langle \sigma \rangle = 1$ 

Szabo B, Szollosi GJ, Gonci B, Juranyi Z, Selmeczi D and Vicsek T 2006 Phys. Rev. E 74(6) 061908 Henkes S, Fily Y and Marchetti M C 2011 Phys. Rev. E 84(4) 040301

### A better model at short scales: Collisional Vicsek model (CVM)

$$\dot{\mathbf{r}}_{i} = v_{0}\hat{\mathbf{n}}(\theta_{i}) + \beta \sum_{j}^{N_{0}} \mathbf{F}_{ij}$$
$$\dot{\theta}_{i} = \frac{1}{\tau}(\theta_{i} - \psi_{i}) + \xi_{i}$$

![](_page_61_Figure_2.jpeg)

$$\mathbf{v_i} \equiv \dot{\mathbf{r}}_i = v_i \left(\cos\psi_i, \sin\psi_i\right),$$

Realignment timescale au

Noise  $\eta = 0.45$ .

Self-propulsion speed  $v_0$ 

Polydispersivity = 20%

Packing fraction  $\phi = \rho \pi \langle \sigma_i^2 \rangle = 1.2$ 

Szabo B, Szollosi GJ, Gonci B, Juranyi Z, Selmeczi D and Vicsek T 2006 Phys. Rev. E 74(6) 061908 Henkes S, Fily Y and Marchetti M C 2011 Phys. Rev. E 84(4) 040301