

# Part I: Mean field game models in pedestrian dynamics

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Graduate Summer School on 'Mean field games and applications'

# Mean field games and applications

## *Mean field games - general assumptions*

- *Agents are indistinguishable.*
- *Agents are perfectly rational individuals.*
- *Every agent knows the distribution of all others for all times.*

# Mean field games and applications

## *Mean field games - general assumptions*

- *Agents are indistinguishable.*
- *Agents are perfectly rational individuals.*
- *Every agent knows the distribution of all others for all times.*

*Mean field game theory provides a **powerful mathematical framework** to analyze the dynamics of large interacting agent systems, but the underlying **assumptions are often only partially consistent with reality.***

## ① Pedestrian dynamics

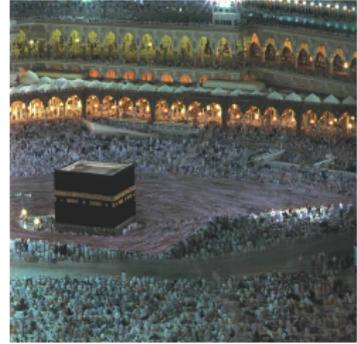
- Individual trajectories, the fundamental diagram, .....
- Microscopic models
- Kinetic models
- Macroscopic approaches

## ② On a mean field model for fast exit scenarios

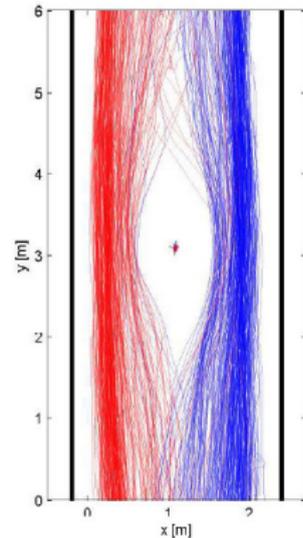
- Mathematical modeling
- Analysis of the optimal control model
- Understanding the Hughes model for pedestrian dynamics
- Including local vision

## Pedestrian dynamics

- *Empirical studies of human crowds started about 50 years ago.*
- *Nowadays there is a large literature on different micro- and macroscopic approaches available.*
- *Challenges: microscopic interactions not clearly defined, multiscale effects, finite size effects,.....*



# Individual trajectories - obtained from cameras<sup>1</sup>



(a) Kinect sensors mounted on the ceiling. (b) Density map obtained from sensors. (c) Extracted trajectories.

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<sup>1</sup>Seer et al., *Validating social force based models with comprehensive real world motion data*, Transportation Research Procedia, 2014

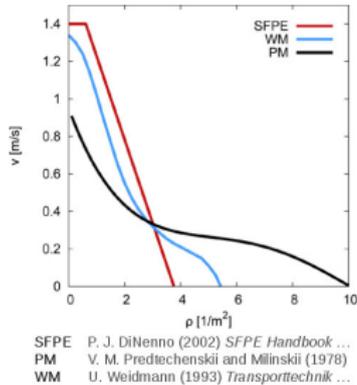
Or from sensors placed on the head ...<sup>2</sup>



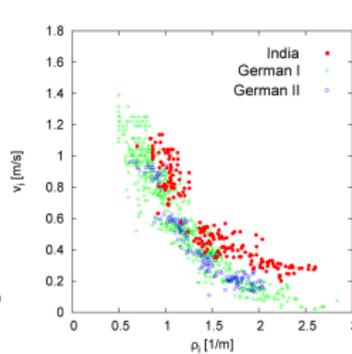
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<sup>2</sup>Courtesy of Armin Seyfried (Forschungszentrum Jülich), BaSiGo experiments (5 days, 31 experiments, 200 runs, 28 industrial cameras, 2200 participants in total)

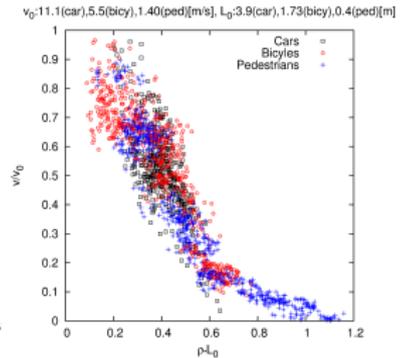
# Fundamental diagram<sup>3</sup>



(d) Fundamental diagram.



(e) Germany vs. India



(f) Cars vs. pedestrians vs. bikes.

<sup>3</sup>Courtesy of Armin Seyfried (Forschungszentrum Jülich), BaSiGo experiments (5 days, 31 experiments, 200 runs, 28 industrial cameras, 2200 participants in total)

## Force based models

*Newton's laws of motion:* Let  $x_i = x_i(t)$  and  $v_i = v_i(t)$  denote the position and velocity of the  $i$ -th individual with mass  $m_i$ . Then

$$dx_i = v_i dt$$
$$m_i dv_i = F_i(x_1, \dots, x_N, v_1, \dots, v_N) dt + \sigma_i dB_i^t.$$

describes the dynamics driven by the forces  $F_i$  and some additive noise  $dB_i$ .

*Stochastic optimal control* Let's assume that all pedestrians are perfectly rational and that the  $i$ -th individual wants to minimize a cost functional

$$\mathbb{E} \left( \int_0^T L_i(x_1, \dots, x_i, \dots, x_N, v_1, \dots, v_i, \dots, v_N) + g(x_i, (T), T) dt \right)$$

under the constraint that

$$dx_i = v_i dt + \sigma_i dB_i^t.$$

where  $L$  and  $\Phi$  denote the running and terminal cost.

## Example: Social force model <sup>4</sup>

### Assumptions:

- Each pedestrian wants to move at a desired velocity  $v_i^0$  in a desired direction  $e_i^0$ ..
- Pedestrians avoid collisions with others and obstacles (walls, ...).
- Individuals follow each other ....

Equation of motion is given by

$$m_i \frac{dv_i}{dt} = m_i \frac{v_i^0 e_i^0 - v_i}{\tau_i} + \underbrace{\sum_{j \neq i} f_{ij}}_{\text{interactions with others}} + \underbrace{\sum_W f_{i,W}}_{\text{Don't run into walls !}},$$

where  $\tau_i$  is the relaxation time.

### Interaction forces:

$$f_{ij} = \underbrace{A_i \exp\left(\frac{R_{ij} - d_{ij}}{B_i}\right) \cdot \mathbf{n}_{ij}}_{\text{repulsion}} + \underbrace{k(R_{ij} - d_{ij}) \cdot \mathbf{n}_{ij}}_{\text{body force}} - \underbrace{c_{ij} \mathbf{n}_{ij}}_{\text{attraction}} + \dots$$

where  $R_{ij} = R_i + R_j$ ,  $d_{ij} = \|x_i - x_j\|$  and  $\mathbf{n}_{ij}$  is the normalized vector pointing from pedestrian  $j$  to  $i$ .

<sup>4</sup>D. Helbing and P. Molnar, *Social force model for pedestrian dynamics*, Phys. Rev. E. 51, 1995

## Microscopic optimal control approaches<sup>5</sup>

Consider an individual with position  $x = x(t)$  (state) and velocity  $v = v(t)$  (control).  
Then

$$dx(t) = vdt + \sigma dB(t), \text{ subject to } x(t) = \hat{x}$$

Constraints on the velocity:  $v(t) \in \mathcal{V}(x, t) = \{v \text{ such that } \|v\| \leq v_0(x, t)\}$ .

Individuals are perfectly rational and want to minimize

$$\mathbb{E} \left( \int_t^T L(s, x(s), v(s)) ds + g(T, x(T)) \right)$$

where  $L$  is the running cost and  $g$  is the terminal cost.

**Terminal cost:** Penalty if an individual does not make it to a target  $A$  at the final time, that is

$$g(T, x(T)) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x(T) \in A \\ \bar{g} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

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<sup>5</sup>S.P. Hoogendorn, P.H.L. Bovy, *Pedestrian route-choice and activity scheduling theory and models*, Transportation Research B 38, 2004

## Microscopic optimal control approaches<sup>6</sup>

### Running costs

- 1 Expected travel time  $L_1 = c$ , where  $c$  is the time pressure
- 2 Don't get too close to obstacles and walls  $L_2 = ae^{-d(O,x)/b}$ , where  $d$  is the distance between the pedestrian and the obstacle.
- 3 Kinetic energy  $L_3 = \frac{1}{2}\|v\|^2$
- 4 Expected number of pedestrian interactions - discomfort due to crowding Let  $\zeta = \zeta(x(t), t)$  denote the expected number of interactions with others. They assume that

$$L_4 = \zeta(\rho(x(t)))$$

where  $\rho$  is the *pedestrian density*.

- 5 Benefit of walking in certain area:  $L_5 = \gamma(x(t), t)$

### Optimal velocity

$$v^* = \operatorname{argmin} \mathbb{E} \left( \int_t^T L(s, x(s), v(s), \rho) ds + g(T, x(T)) \right)$$

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<sup>6</sup>S.P. Hoogendorn, P.H.L. Bovy, *Pedestrian route-choice and activity scheduling theory and models*, Transportation Research B 38, 2004

## Let's go back to stochastic OC

Expected value of costs, the so-called **value function**

$$V(\hat{x}, t) = \mathbb{E}\left(\int_t^T L(s, x^*(s), v^*(s))ds + g(x^*(T), T)\right)$$

subject to the constraint that  $dx^*(t) = v^* dt + \sigma dB(t)$ ,  $x^*(t) = \hat{x}$ .

Using Bellman's principle we calculate the **Hamilton-Jacobi-Bellman** equation for  $V$

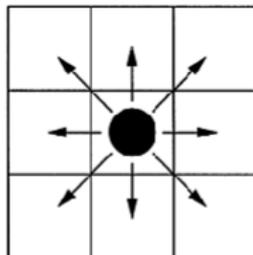
$$-\frac{\partial V}{\partial t}(x, t) = H(x, \nabla V, \Delta V)$$

where  $H := \min_{v \in \mathcal{V}} (L(x, v) + \sum_i v_i \frac{\partial V}{\partial x_i} + \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \sum_{ij} \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial_i x \partial_j x})$  and terminal condition  $V(x, T) = \bar{g}$ .

**Optimal velocity and direction:**

$$v^* = \min(\|\nabla V\|, v_0) \text{ and } e^* = \frac{\nabla V}{\|\nabla V\|}.$$

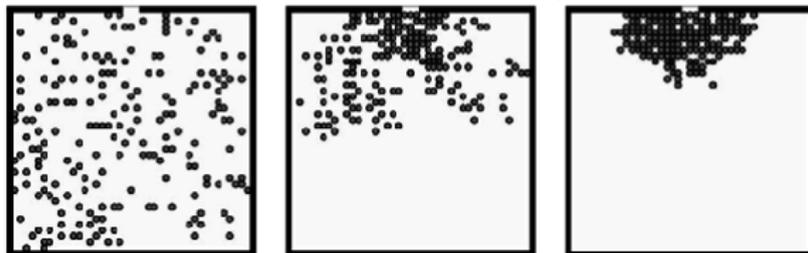
## Cellular automata model



(A) A particle (individual) with possible transitions

$M_{-1,-1}$	$M_{-1,0}$	$M_{-1,1}$
$M_{0,-1}$	$M_{0,0}$	$M_{0,1}$
$M_{1,-1}$	$M_{1,0}$	$M_{1,1}$

(B) Matrix of transition probabilities



(C) Simulation of pedestrians leaving room with single door

Figure: From C. Burstedde, K. Klauk, A. Schadschneider, J. Zittartz, *Simulation of pedestrian dynamics using a two-dimensional cellular automaton*, Physica A, 2001

## Kinetic models

*Aim: Describe the evolution of pedestrians with respect to their position  $x$  in space and their velocity  $v$ .*

*Let  $f = f(x, v, t)$  denote the distribution of individuals with respect to their position and velocity. Then  $f$  solves a Boltzmann type equation of the form*

$$\partial_t f(x, v, t) + v \cdot \nabla_x f(x, v, t) = Q(f, f)$$

*where  $Q$  is the so-called **collision operator**.*

The collision operator can include

- velocity changes due to possible collisions (individuals may step aside).
- adjustment of the velocity to move towards a target.
- noise, since people usually don't walk in straight lines.

## PDE models for pedestrian dynamics

In the macroscopic limit  $N \rightarrow \infty$  one usually obtains a *nonlinear transport-diffusion equation* of the form

$$\partial_t \rho = \operatorname{div}(D(\rho) \underbrace{\nabla(E'(\rho) - V + W * \rho)}_{:=v}).$$

- $V = V(x)$  is an external potential energy (e.g. confinement,...),
- $D = D(\rho)$  denotes the nonlinear diffusion/mobility
- $E = E(\rho)$  an entropy/internal energy.
- $W = W(x)$  is an interaction energy.

- General PDE models for pedestrian flows are *conservation laws*.
- *Highly nonlinear* - for example nonlocal model by Colombo et al

$$\partial_t \rho + \operatorname{div}(\rho v(\rho)(v(x) + \mathcal{I}(\rho))) = 0, \text{ where } \mathcal{I} = -\varepsilon \frac{\nabla(\rho * \eta)}{\sqrt{1 + \|\nabla(\rho * \eta)\|^2}}$$

## The Hughes model for pedestrian flow <sup>7</sup>

- 1 Speed of pedestrians depends on the density of the surrounding pedestrian flow

$$v = f(\rho)u, \quad |u| = 1.$$

- 2 Pedestrians have a common sense of the task (called potential  $\phi$ )

$$u = -\frac{\nabla\phi}{|\nabla\phi|}.$$

- 3 Pedestrians try to minimize their travel time, but want to avoid high densities

$$|\nabla\phi| = \frac{1}{f(\rho)}.$$

*Hughes' model for pedestrian flow:*

$$\partial_t \rho - \operatorname{div}(\rho f^2(\rho) \nabla \phi) = 0$$

$$|\nabla \phi| = \frac{1}{f(\rho)}$$

*People slow down as they approach the maximum density  $\rho_{\max}$ :  $f(\rho) = (\rho_{\max} - \rho)$ .*

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<sup>7</sup>Hughes, R. A continuum theory for the flow of pedestrians, Transportation Research Part B, 36, 507-535, 2002

## The Hughes model for pedestrian flow

Analytic issues:

- fully coupled system; nonlinear hyperbolic conservation law.
- density dependent stationary Hamilton Jacobi equation  $\Rightarrow \phi \in C^{0,1}$  only.

Let us consider the regularized system:

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_t \rho^\varepsilon - \operatorname{div}(\rho^\varepsilon f^2(\rho^\varepsilon) \nabla \phi^\varepsilon) &= \varepsilon \Delta \rho^\varepsilon \\ -\delta_1 \Delta \phi^\varepsilon + |\nabla \phi^\varepsilon| &= \frac{1}{f(\rho^\varepsilon) + \delta_2}.\end{aligned}$$

1D : solution  $\rho^\varepsilon$  converges to an entropy solution for  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ , but  $\delta_1 > 0, \delta_2 > 0$  !

*Microscopic model**N-player stochastic differential game*

$$\inf_{V_i \in \mathcal{A}} \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T f(t, X_i, V_i, \rho) dt + g(\rho, X_i, t = T) \right]$$

$$dX_i = V_i dt + \sigma dB_i, X_i(t = 0) = x.$$

*Transient macroscopic model*

Calculate Nash equilibrium, limiting equations as  $N \rightarrow \infty$  gives time dependent mean field game: Find  $(\phi, \rho)$  such that

$$\partial_t \phi + \nu \Delta \phi - H(x, \nabla \phi) = 0$$

$$\partial_t \rho - \nu \Delta \rho - \operatorname{div} \left( \frac{\partial H}{\partial p}(x, \nabla \phi) \rho \right) = 0,$$

with the initial and end conditions  $\phi(x, T) = g[\rho(x, T)]$ ,  $\rho(x, 0) = \rho_0(x)$ , where  $H$  is the Legendre transform of the running cost  $f$ .

<sup>8</sup>P.-L. Lions, J.-M. Lasry, *Mean field games*, Japan. J. Math., 2, 229-260, 2007

## Connection to parabolic optimal control

If the running cost  $f$  has the form

$$f(x, t, v, \rho) = L(x, t, v)\rho(x, t),$$

then the MFG can be written as an optimal control problem. For example let us consider the kinetic energy  $f(x, t, v) = \frac{1}{2}\rho|v|^2$ , then

$$\inf_v \left[ \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \rho(x, t) |v(x, t)|^2 dx dt + g(\rho(T), T) \right]$$

under the constraint that

$$\partial_t \rho = \nu \Delta \rho - \operatorname{div}(\rho v), \quad \rho(x, 0) = \rho_0(x).$$

The formal optimality condition is  $v = \nabla \phi$  and therefore the adjoint equation reads as

$$\partial_t \phi + \nu \Delta \phi - \frac{1}{2} |\phi|^2 = 0$$

with the terminal condition  $\phi(x, T) = g'(\rho(T))$ .

## An optimal control approach for fast exit scenarios

- *Let us consider an evacuation or fast exit scenario, i.e. a room with one or several exits from which a groups wants to leave as fast*
- *Each individual tries to find the optimal trajectory to the exit, taking into account the distance to the exit, the density of people and other costs.*



Figure: Fast-exit experiment conducted at the TU Delft

## Fast exit of particles

- Let  $x(t)$  denote the trajectory of a particle, the exit time is defined as:

$$T_{\text{exit}}(x) = \sup\{t > 0 \mid x(t) \in \Omega\}.$$

- Fastest path is chosen such that

$$\frac{1}{2} \int_0^{T_{\text{exit}}} |v(t)|^2 dt + \frac{\alpha}{2} T_{\text{exit}}(x(t)) \rightarrow \min_{(x(t), v(t))}.$$

subject to  $\dot{x}(t) = v(t)$ ,  $x(0) = \hat{x}$ .

- Let  $\mu = \delta_{x(t)}$  denote a Dirac measure and the final time  $T$  be sufficiently large:

$$T_{\text{exit}} = \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} d\delta_{x(t)} dt.$$

- Equivalence of continuum formulation and particle formulation, i.e.

$$\int_0^T \int_{\Omega} |v(y, t)|^2 d\mu dt = \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} |v(y, t)|^2 d\delta_{x(t)} dt = \int_0^{T_{\text{exit}}} |v(x(t), t)|^2 dt.$$

$\Rightarrow$  map Eulerian to Lagrangian coordinates.

## Fast exit of particles

- Hence the minimization for the particle problem can be written as a continuum problem

$$I_T(\mu, \nu) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} |\nu(y, t)|^2 d\mu dt + \frac{\alpha}{2} \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} d\mu dt,$$

subject to  $\partial_t \mu + \operatorname{div}(\mu \nu) = 0$ ,  $\mu|_{t=0} = \delta_{\hat{x}}$ .

*If  $d\mu = \rho dy$  and the final time  $T$  sufficiently large, the minimization can be written as*

$$I_T(\rho, \nu) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \rho(y, t) |\nu(y, t)|^2 dy dt + \frac{\alpha}{2} \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \rho(y, t) dy dt,$$

*subject to  $\partial_t \rho + \operatorname{div}(\rho \nu) = \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \Delta \rho$ ,  $\rho(x, 0) = \rho_0(x)$ .*

## Optimality conditions

- Lagrangian with dual variable  $\phi$ :

$$L_T(\rho, v, \phi) = I_T(\rho, v) + \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} (\partial_t \rho + \operatorname{div}(v\rho) - \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \Delta \rho) \phi \, dy \, dt.$$

- Optimality solutions

$$0 = \partial_v L_T(\rho, v, \phi) = \rho v - \rho \nabla \phi$$

$$0 = \partial_\rho L_T(\rho, v, \phi) = \frac{1}{2} |v|^2 + \frac{\alpha}{2} - \partial_t \phi - v \cdot \nabla \phi - \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \Delta \phi,$$

plus the terminal condition  $\phi(x, T) = 0$ .

- Inserting  $v = \nabla \phi$  we obtain the following system (with MFG structure):

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t \rho + \operatorname{div}(\rho \nabla \phi) - \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \Delta \rho &= 0 \\ \partial_t \phi + \frac{1}{2} |\nabla \phi|^2 + \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \Delta \phi &= \frac{\alpha}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

## Mean field games and crowding

We consider the following generalization of the optimal control problem:

$$I_T(\rho, v) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} F(\rho) |v(y, t)|^2 dy dt + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} E(\rho) dy dt,$$

subject to

$$\partial_t \rho + \operatorname{div}(G(\rho)v) = \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \Delta \rho, \text{ with initial condition } \rho(y, t = 0) = \rho_0(y).$$

*Motivation:*

- $G = G(\rho)$  is *nonlinear mobility*, e.g.  $G(\rho) = \rho(\rho_{\max} - \rho)$ . Hence people slow down as the density increases.
- $F = F(\rho)$  correspond to transport costs created by large densities. For example:

$$F(\rho) \rightarrow \infty \text{ as } \rho \rightarrow \rho_{\max}.$$

- $E = E(\rho)$  can model *active avoidance of jams*, in particular by penalizing large density regions.

## First MFG version of Hughes

Let  $H(\rho) = \frac{G^2}{F} = \rho f(\rho)^2$ ,  $E(\rho) = \rho$  and  $\sigma = 0$ .

*Optimality conditions:*

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_t \rho + \operatorname{div}(\rho f(\rho)^2 \nabla \phi) &= 0 \\ \partial_t \phi + \frac{f(\rho)}{2} (f(\rho) + 2\rho f'(\rho)) |\nabla \phi|^2 &= \frac{\alpha}{2}\end{aligned}$$

**Hand-waving argument:** If  $T$  is large, we expect equilibration of  $\phi$  backward in time.

'MFG Hughes system' vs. 'classical Hughes model':

$$\begin{array}{ll}\partial_t \rho + \operatorname{div}(\rho f(\rho)^2 \nabla \phi) = 0 & \partial_t \rho + \operatorname{div}(\rho f(\rho)^2 \nabla \phi) = 0 \\ (f(\rho) + 2\rho f'(\rho)) |\nabla \phi|^2 = \frac{\alpha}{f(\rho)} & |\nabla \phi| = \frac{1}{f(\rho)}.\end{array}$$

If  $f(\rho) = \rho_{\max} - \rho$  and  $\alpha = 1$ :

$$f(\rho) + 2\rho f'(\rho) = \rho_{\max} - 3\rho \Rightarrow \text{additional singular point if } \rho = \frac{\rho_{\max}}{3}.$$

## Analysis of the optimal control model

Let  $\rho_{\max} > 0$  denote the maximum density and  $\Upsilon = [0, \rho_{\max}]$ . Let  $F = G = H^{-1}$  which satisfy the following assumptions:

(A1)  $F = F(\rho) \in C^1(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $F$  bounded,  $E = E(\rho) \in C^1(\mathbb{R})$  and  $F(\rho) \geq 0$ ,  $E(\rho) \geq 0$  for  $\rho \in \Upsilon$ .

Existence of minimizers is guaranteed if

(A2)  $E = E(\rho)$  is convex.

To ensure that the minimizers satisfy  $\rho \in \Upsilon = [0, \rho_{\max}]$ , we need the following assumption on  $F$ :

(A3)  $F(0) > 0$  if  $\rho \in \Upsilon$  and  $F = 0$  otherwise.

Uniqueness holds for:

(A4)  $F = F(\rho)$  is concave.

We consider the optimization problem on the set  $V \times Q$ , i.e.  $I_T(\rho, v) : V \times Q \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , where  $V$  and  $Q$  are defined as follows

$$V = L^2(0, T; H^1(\Omega)) \cap H^1(0, T; H^{-1}(\Omega)) \text{ and } Q = L^2(\Omega \times (0, T)).$$

## Alternative formulation

We introduce another formulation based on

$$w = \sqrt{F(\rho)}v.$$

Then

$$J(\rho, w) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} (|w|^2 + E(\rho)) \, dydt,$$

and the optimization problem formally becomes

$$\min_{(\rho, w) \in V \times Q} J(\rho, w) \text{ such that } \partial_t \rho = \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \Delta \rho - \operatorname{div}(\sqrt{F(\rho)}w).$$

To make the relation rigorous, we need to extend the domain of the velocity  $v$  to

$$\tilde{Q}_\rho := \{v \text{ measurable} \mid \sqrt{F(\rho)}v \in Q\}.$$

Moreover, for given  $\rho$  we define an extension mapping  $w \in Q$  to  $v \in \tilde{Q}_\rho$  via

$$R_\rho(w)(x) := \begin{cases} \frac{w(x)}{\sqrt{F(\rho(x))}} & \text{if } F(\rho(x)) \neq 0 \\ 0 & \text{else.} \end{cases}$$

## Weak solutions

### Definition (Weak formulation of the alternative formulation)

Let  $\rho_0 \in L^2(\Omega)$ . A pair  $(\rho, w) \in V \times Q$  is a weak solution with initial condition  $\rho_0$ , if  $\rho(0) = \rho_0$  and

$$\langle \partial_t \rho, \psi \rangle_{H^{-1}, H^1} + \int_{\Omega} \left( \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \nabla \rho - \sqrt{F(\rho)} w \right) \cdot \nabla \psi \, dy = - \int_{\Gamma_E} \beta \rho \psi \, ds,$$

for all  $\psi \in H^1(\Omega)$ , and if

$$J_T(\rho, w) = \min \{ J_T(\rho, w), : (\bar{\rho}, \bar{w}) \in V \times Q, (\bar{\rho}, \bar{w}) \text{ satisfy the FPE} \}.$$

### Lemma (A-priori estimates)

Let  $\rho_0 \in L^2(\Omega)$ . Let (A1) and (A2) be satisfied and let  $\sigma > 0$ ,  $\beta \geq 0$ . Let  $w \in Q$  and let  $\rho \in V$  be a weak solution of

$$\langle \partial_t \rho, \psi \rangle_{H^{-1}, H^1} + \int_{\Omega} \left( \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \nabla \rho - \sqrt{F(\rho)} w \right) \cdot \nabla \psi \, dy = - \int_{\Gamma_E} \beta \rho \psi \, ds,$$

for all  $\psi \in H^1(\Omega)$ . Then there exist constants  $C_1, C_2 > 0$  depending on  $F, \sigma, \Omega$  and  $T$  only, such that

$$\|\rho\|_V \leq C_1 \|w\|_Q + C_2.$$

## Existence of weak solutions

### Lemma

Assume  $\rho$  and  $w$  are as before and let (A3) be satisfied. Then,  $\rho(\cdot, t) \in \Upsilon = [0, \rho_{\max}]$  for all  $t \in (0, T]$  if  $\rho_0(x) \in \Upsilon$ .

### Theorem (Existence in the general case)

Let  $\rho_0 \in L^2(\Omega)$ . Let (A1) and (A2) be satisfied,  $\sigma > 0$  and  $w = \sqrt{F(\rho)}v$ . Then the variational problem has at least a weak solution  $(\rho, w) \in V \times Q$  with initial condition  $\rho_0$ . If in addition (A3) is satisfied, then  $\rho \in \Upsilon$ .

## Uniqueness of solutions for the optimality system

### Proposition

Let assumption (A1) and (A2) be satisfied and let  $\rho$  be such that  $H(\rho) \geq \gamma$  for some  $\gamma > 0$ . Then the adjoint system

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_t \phi + \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \Delta \phi &= \frac{1}{2} E'(\rho) - \frac{1}{2} |j|^2 \frac{F'}{F^2} \\ \phi(x, T) &= 0\end{aligned}$$

with the appropriate adjoint boundary conditions has a unique solution  $\phi \in L^q(0, T; W^{1,q}(\Omega))$  with  $q < \frac{N+2}{N+1}$ .

### Theorem (Uniqueness for the optimality system)

For a fixed initial condition  $\rho_0 \in L^2(\Omega)$ , there exists a unique weak solution

$$(\rho, \phi) \in L^2(0, T; H^1(\Omega)) \times L^2(0, T; H^1(\Omega))$$

to the optimality system.

## Understanding the Hughes model

- Let us consider  $N$  particles with position  $x_k = x_k(t)$  and the empirical density  $\rho^N(t) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \delta(y - x_k(t))$ .
- To define the cost functional in a proper way we introduce the smoothed approximation  $\rho_g^N$  by

$$\rho_g^N(t) = (\rho^N * g)(y, t) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N g(y - x_k(t)),$$

where  $g$  is a sufficiently smooth positive kernel.

Let us 'freeze' the empirical density  $\rho^N$  and look for the optimal trajectory of each particle, i.e.

$$C(X; \rho_g^N(t)) = \min_{(\xi(t), v(t))} \frac{1}{2} \int_t^{T+t} \frac{|v(s)|^2}{G(\rho_g^N(\xi(s); t))} ds + \frac{1}{2} T_{\text{exit}}(x(t), v(t)),$$

subject to  $\frac{d\xi}{ds} = v(s)$  and  $\xi(0) = x(t)$ .

## Understanding the Hughes model

Let's assume that the macroscopic (rescaled) version of  $\rho^N(t)$  converges to the mean field  $\rho(t)$ , we replace it by  $\rho(t)$  and obtain:

$$C(X; \rho(t)) = \min_{(\xi, w)} J(\mu, w) = \frac{1}{2} \int_t^{T+t} \int_{\Omega} \left( \frac{w^2(x, s)}{G(\rho(\xi(s; t)))} + 1 \right) d\mu ds,$$

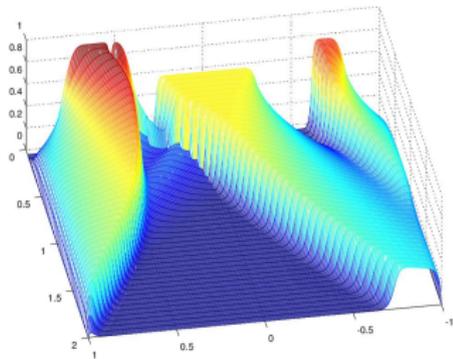
subject to  $\partial_s \mu + \operatorname{div}(\mu w) = 0$  with  $\mu(t=0) = \delta_X$ .

- The formal optimality conditions can be calculated via the Lagrange functional.
- For  $T \rightarrow 0$  the behavior at  $s = t$  represents the long-time behavior of the HJE.

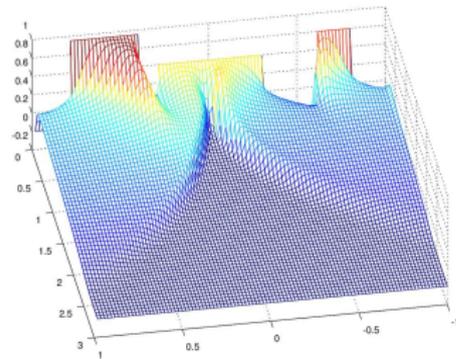
Then we recover the Hughes model by choosing  $G(\rho) = f(\rho)^2$  i.e.

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t \rho + \operatorname{div}(\rho f(\rho)^2 \nabla \phi) &= 0, \\ |\nabla \phi| &= \frac{1}{f(\rho)}. \end{aligned}$$

## Fast exit for three groups

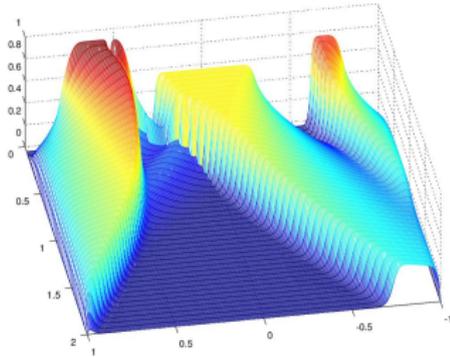


(a) Solution of the classical Hughes model

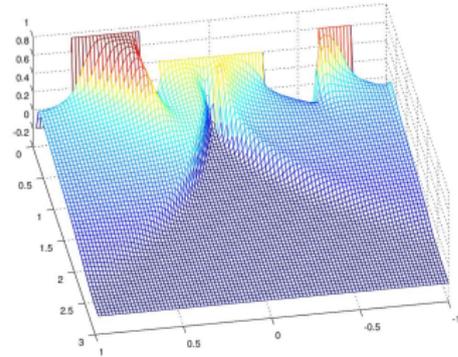


(b) Solution of the mean field optimal control approach

## Fast exit for three groups



(c) Solution of the classical Hughes model



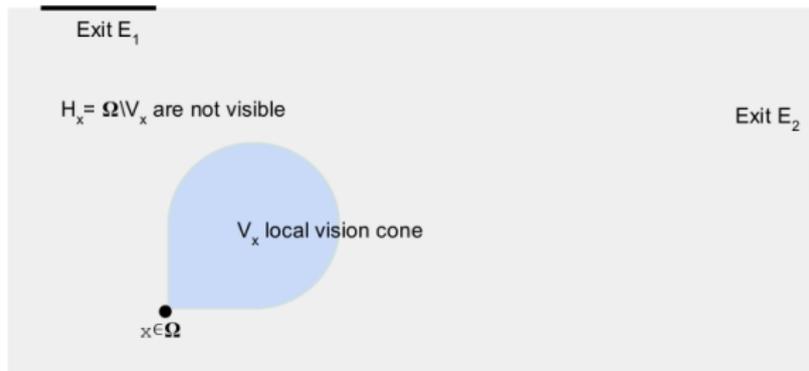
(d) Solution of the mean field optimal control approach

*Thanks to collaborators: M. Burger (WWU Münster), M. Di Francesco (L'Aquila), P.A. Markowich (Kaust and Cambridge), J.-F. Pietschmann (WWU Münster)*

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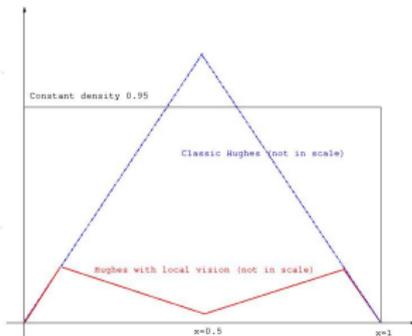
## Including local vision



### Modeling assumptions:

- If a point  $y \in \Omega$  is visible, i.e.  $y \in V_x$ , then  $\rho = \rho(y, t)$ .
- If a point is outside the visibility cone, i.e.  $y \in H_x$  then  $\rho(y, t) = \rho_H$  with  $\rho_H \in \mathbb{R}^+$ .  
Example: assume that the area is empty, i.e.  $\rho_H = 0$ .
- Angular dependent vision cone  $\Rightarrow$  velocity dependence of the model.  
Contradiction to the first-order character of the continuity equation.

## Eikonal equation with discontinuous RHS



### *Potential $\phi$ calculated with and without vision cone*

- Consider the constant density  $\rho = 0.95$  in the domain
- Classic model of Hughes: potential  $\phi$  has a single turning point at  $x = 0.5$ .
- Two local vision cones ( $0 \leq x \leq 0.5$  and  $0.5 \leq x \leq 1$ ): the potential  $\phi$  has three turning points  $\Rightarrow$  shock formation.

*Low regularity of the potential  $\phi \Rightarrow$  considerable problems in the numerical simulation of the nonlinear conservation law.*

## Exit strategy

- Exit strategy is determined by **estimating the evacuation cost for each exit separately**:

$$\|\nabla_y \phi_k(x, \cdot)\| = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\bar{f}(\rho(y,t))\bar{g}(\rho(y,t))} & \text{for all } y \in V_x \\ \frac{1}{\bar{f}(\rho_H)\bar{g}(\rho_H)} & \text{for all } y \in H_x \end{cases}$$
$$\phi_k = 0 \text{ for } x \in \partial\Omega_k.$$

- It corresponds to the **direction towards the exit with the minimal exit cost** (weighted by the difference in the costs to the 2<sup>nd</sup> best strategy):

$$u = \frac{\nabla \phi_{k^{\text{opt}}}}{\|\nabla \phi_{k^{\text{opt}}}\|} (\phi_{k^{\text{opt}+1}} - \phi_{k^{\text{opt}}}),$$
$$k^{\text{opt}} = \operatorname{argmin}_k \phi_k,$$
$$k^{\text{opt}+1} = \operatorname{argmin}_{k \neq k^{\text{opt}}} \phi_k.$$

- The **actual direction** is determined by **averaging the directions in the close neighborhood** (weighted by the density  $\rho$ ):

$$\varphi = \frac{\rho u * K}{\rho * K}$$

for a sufficiently smooth convolution kernel  $K$ .

## Modified Hughes model

For every exit  $\partial\Omega_k$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, M$  calculate

$$\|\nabla\phi_k\| = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{f(\rho(y,t))g(\rho,t)} \\ \frac{1}{f(\rho_H)g(\rho_H)}. \end{cases} \Rightarrow \text{costs to each exit based on the vision cone}$$

$$\phi_k|_{\partial\Omega_{E_k}} = 0$$

$$k^{\text{opt}}(x) = \operatorname{argmin}_k \phi_k(x) \Rightarrow \text{choose exit with the lowest costs}$$

$$k^{\text{opt}+1}(x) = \operatorname{argmin}_{k \neq k^{\text{opt}}} \phi_k(x) \Rightarrow \text{determine exit with the 2}^{\text{nd}} \text{ lowest costs}$$

$$u = \frac{\nabla\phi_{k^{\text{opt}}}}{\|\nabla\phi_{k^{\text{opt}}}\|} \cdot (\phi_{k^{\text{opt}+1}} - \phi_{k^{\text{opt}}}) \Rightarrow \text{weigh optimal direction}$$

$$\varphi = \frac{\rho u \star \mathcal{K}}{\rho \star \mathcal{K}} \Rightarrow \text{smooth direction to avoid oscillations}$$

$$\partial_t \rho - \nabla_x \cdot \left( \rho f(\rho) \frac{\varphi}{\|\varphi\|} \right) = 0$$