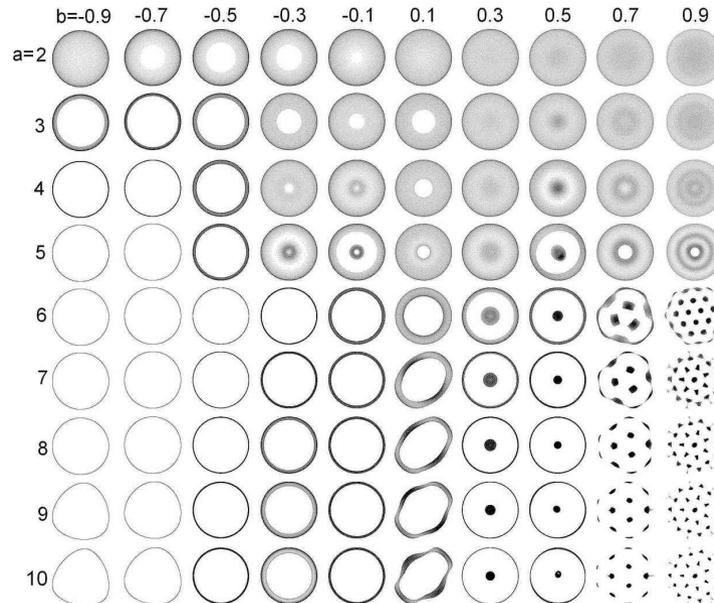


Complex patterns in patricle aggregation models of biological formation



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Dalhousie



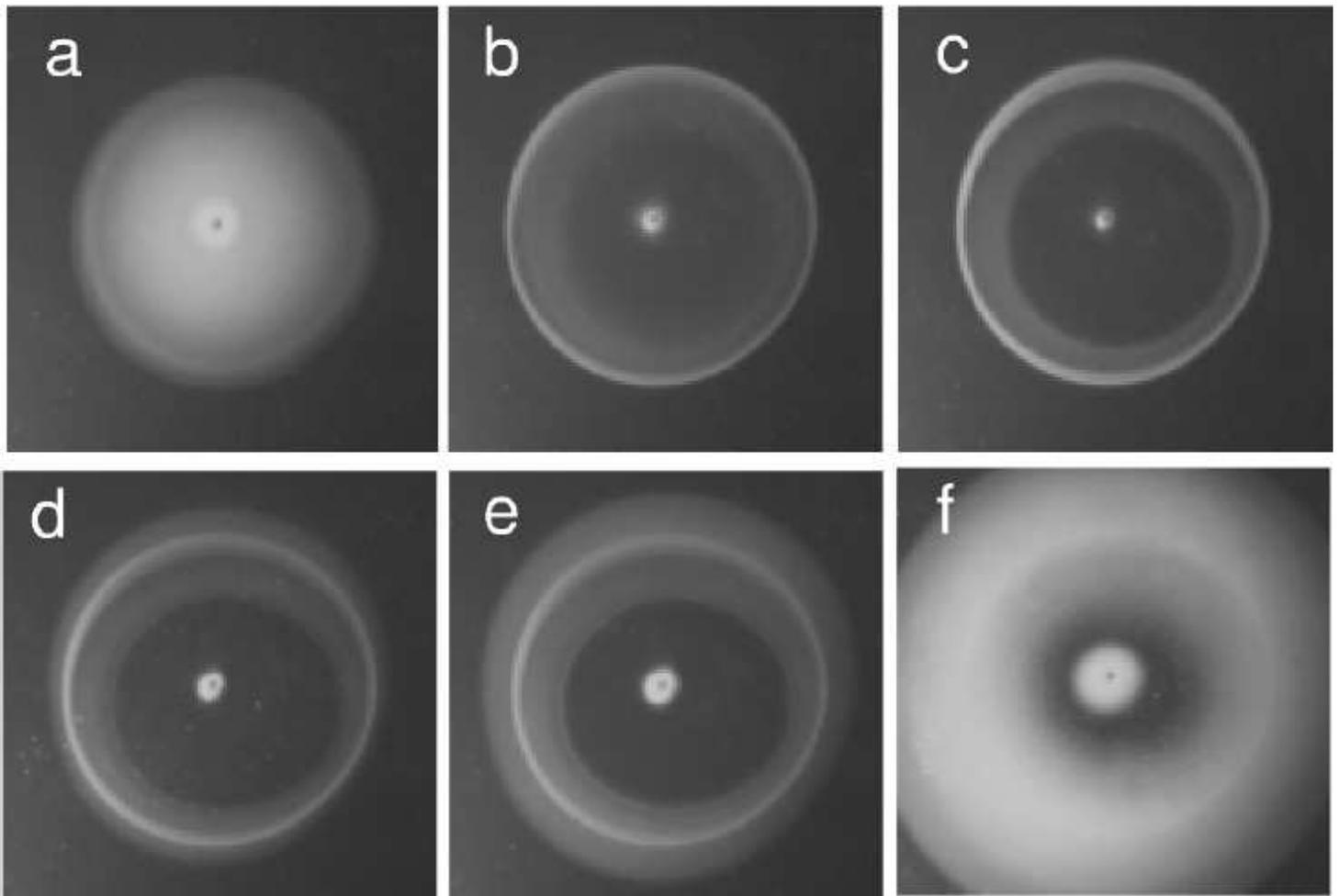
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Introduction

- Animals often aggregate in groups
- Biologically, it can provide protection from predators; conserve heat, act without an apparent leader, enable collective behaviour
- Examples include bacteria, ants, fish, birds, bees....









Aggregation model

We consider a simple model of particle interaction,

$$\frac{dx_j}{dt} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{\substack{k=1, \dots, N \\ k \neq j}} F(|x_j - x_k|) \frac{x_j - x_k}{|x_j - x_k|}, \quad j = 1 \dots N \quad (1)$$

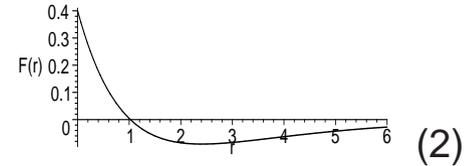
- Models insect aggregation [Edelstein-Keshet et al, 1998] such as locust swarms [Topaz et al, 2008]; robotic motion [Gazi, Passino, 2004].
- Interaction force $F(r)$ is of attractive-repelling type: the insects repel each other if they are too close, but attract each-other at a distance.
- Note that acceleration effects are ignored as a first-order approximation.
- Mathematically $F(r)$ is positive for small r , but negative for large r .
- Alternative formulation: (1) is a gradient flow of the minimization problem

$$\min E(x_1, \dots, x_N) \quad \text{where} \quad E = \sum \sum P(|x_i - x_j|) \quad \text{with} \quad F(r) = -P'(r).$$

Confining vs. spreading

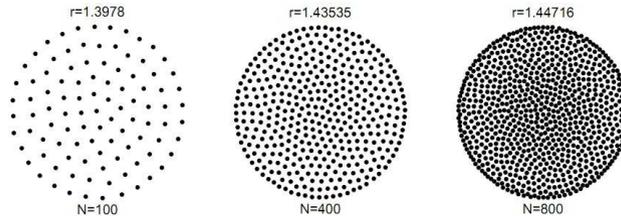
- Consider a **Morse interaction force**:

$$F(r) = \exp(-r) - G \exp(-r/L); \quad G < 1, L > 1$$



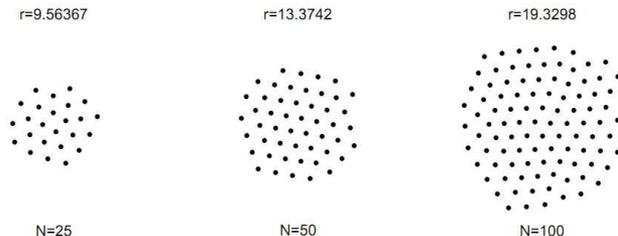
- If $GL^3 > 1$, the morse potential is **confining** (or catastrophic): doubling N doubles the density but cloud volume is unchanged:

$$G = 0.5, \quad L = 2$$



- If $GL^3 < 1$, the system is **non-confining** (or h-stable): doubling N doubles the cloud volume but density is unchanged:

$$G = 0.5, \quad L = 1.2$$



Continuum limit

- For confining potentials, we can take the continuum limit as the number of particles $N \rightarrow \infty$.

- We define the **density** ρ as

$$\int_D \rho(x) dx \approx \frac{\text{\#particles inside domain } D}{N}$$

- The flow is then characterized by density ρ and velocity field v :

$$\rho_t + \nabla \cdot (\rho v) = 0; \quad v(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} F(|x - y|) \frac{x - y}{|x - y|} \rho(y) dy. \quad (3)$$

- Variational formulation: Let

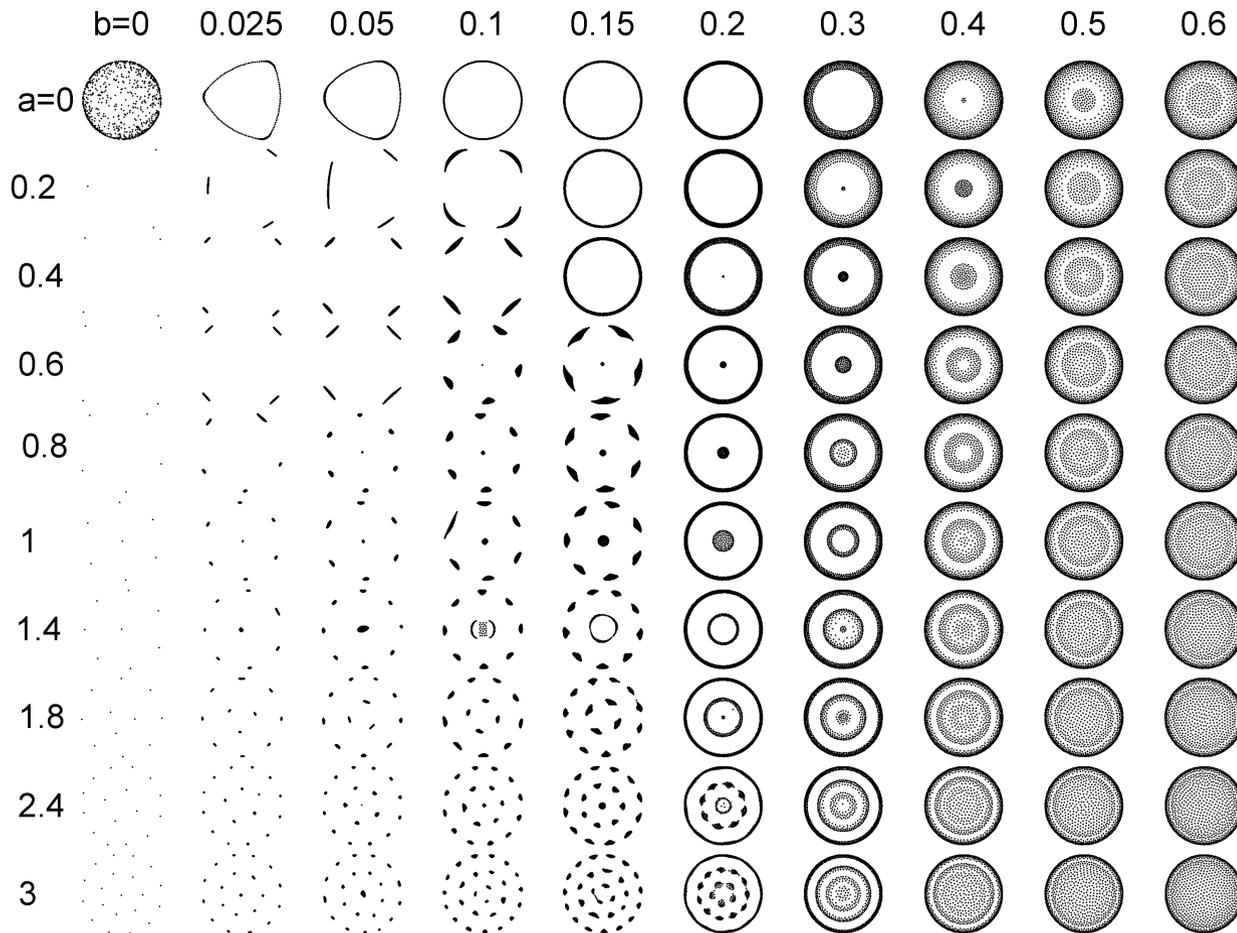
$$E[\rho] := \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \rho(x) \rho(y) P(|x - y|) dx dy; \quad P'(r) = -F(r) \quad (4)$$

Then (3) is the gradient flow of E ; minima of E are stable equilibria of (3).

- Questions

1. Describe the equilibrium cloud shape in the limit $t \rightarrow \infty$
2. What about dynamics?

Linear force: $F(r) = \min(ar + b, 1 - r)$



Ring-type steady states

- Seek steady state of the form $x_j = r (\cos (2\pi j/N), \sin (2\pi j/N))$, $j = 1 \dots N$.
- In the limit $N \rightarrow \infty$ **the radius of the ring must be the root of**

$$I(r) := \int_0^{\pi/2} F(2r \sin \theta) \sin \theta d\theta = 0. \quad (5)$$

- For Morse force $F(r) = \exp(-r) - G \exp(-r/L)$, such root exists whenever $GL^2 > 1$ [coincides with 1D catastrophic regime]
- For general repulsive-attractive force $F(r)$, a ring steady state exists if $F(r) \leq C < 0$ for all large r .
- Even if the ring steady-state exists, the time-dependent problem can be ill-posed!

Continuum limit for curve solutions

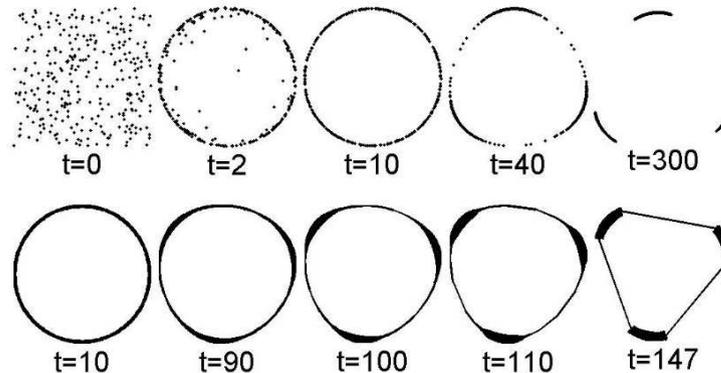
- If particles concentrate on a curve, in the limit $N \rightarrow \infty$ we obtain

$$\rho_t = \rho \frac{\langle z_\alpha, z_{\alpha t} \rangle}{|z_\alpha|^2}; \quad z_t = K * \rho \quad (6)$$

where $z(\alpha; t)$ is a parametrization of the solution curve; $\rho(\alpha; t)$ is its density and

$$K * \rho = \int F(|z(\alpha') - z(\alpha)|) \frac{z(\alpha') - z(\alpha)}{|z(\alpha') - z(\alpha)|} \rho(\alpha', t) dS(\alpha'). \quad (7)$$

- Depending on $F(r)$ and initial conditions, the curve evolution may be **ill-defined!**
 - For example a circle can degenerate into an annulus, gaining a dimension.
- We used a Lagrange particle-based numerical method to resolve (6).
 - Agrees with direct simulation of the ODE system (1):



Local stability of a ring

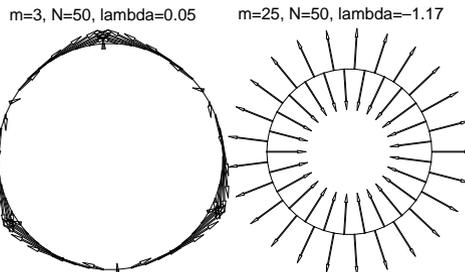
- Linearize: $x_k = r_0 \exp(2\pi ik/N) (1 + \exp(t\lambda)\phi_k)$ where $\phi_k \ll 1$.
- Ring is stable if $\text{Re}(\lambda) \leq 0$ for all pair (λ, ϕ) . There are three zero eigenvalues corresponding to rotation and translation invariance; all other eigenvalues come in pairs due to rotational invariance.
- λ is the eigenvalue of

$$M(m) := \begin{bmatrix} I_1(m) & I_2(m) \\ I_2(m) & I_1(-m) \end{bmatrix}; \quad m = 2, 3, \dots \quad (8)$$

$$I_1(m) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi/2} \left[\frac{F(2r \sin \theta)}{2r \sin \theta} + F'(2r \sin \theta) \right] \sin^2((m+1)\theta) d\theta; \quad (9a)$$

$$I_2(m) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi/2} \left[\frac{F(2r \sin \theta)}{2r \sin \theta} - F'(2r \sin \theta) \right] [\sin^2(m\theta) - \sin^2(\theta)] d\theta. \quad (9b)$$

- Eigenfunction is a pure Fourier mode when projected to the curvilinear coordinates of the circle.



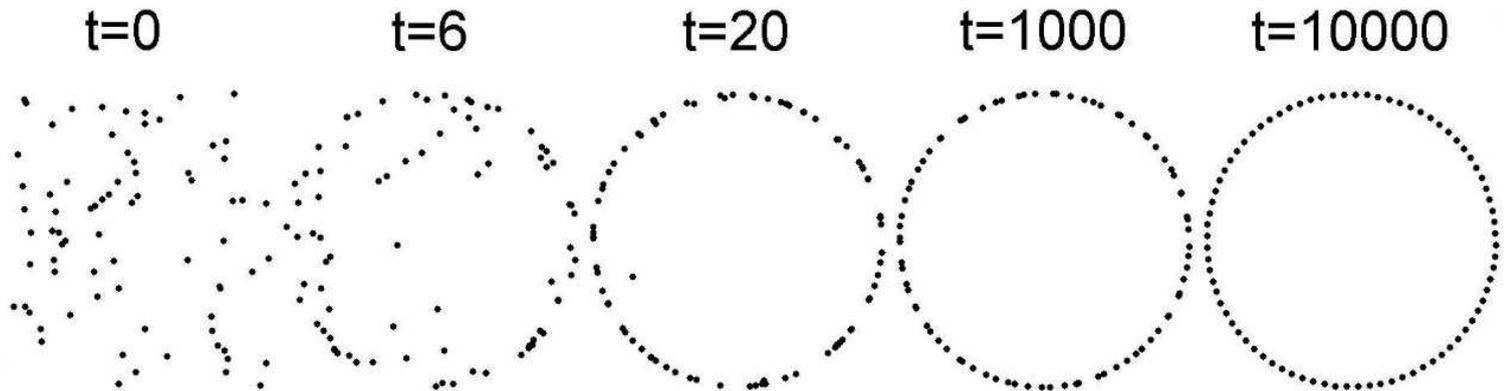
Quadratic force $F(r) = r - r^2$

- Computing explicitly,

$$\text{tr } M(m) = -\frac{(4m^4 - m^2 - 9)}{(4m^2 - 1)(4m^2 - 9)} < 0, \quad m = 2, 3, \dots$$

$$\det M(m) = \frac{3m^2(2m^2 + 1)}{(4m^2 - 9)(4m^2 - 1)^2} > 0, \quad m = 2, 3, \dots$$

- Conclusion: **ring pattern corresponding to $F(r) = r - r^2$ is locally stable**
- For large m , the two eigenvalues are $\lambda \sim -\frac{1}{4}$ and $\lambda \sim -\frac{3}{8m^2} \rightarrow 0$ as $m \rightarrow \infty$. The presence of arbitrary small eigenvalues implies the existence of very slow dynamics near the ring equilibrium.

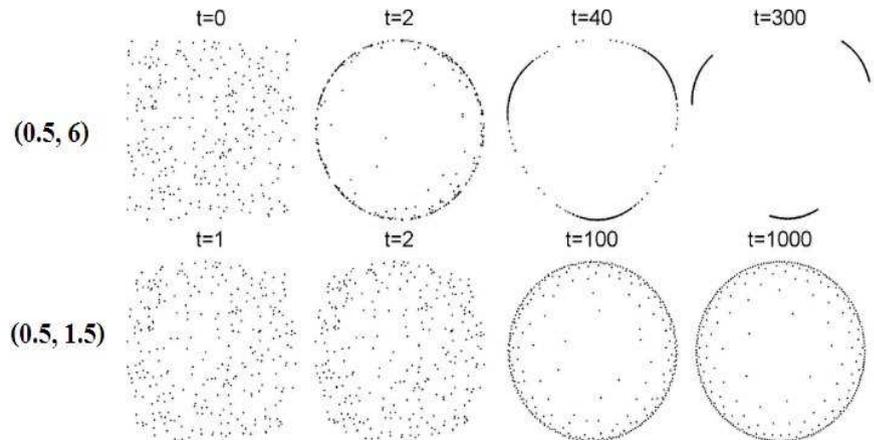
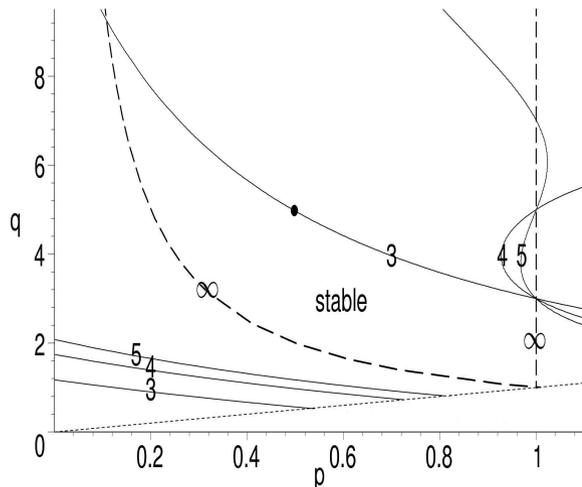


General power force

$$F(r) = r^p - r^q, \quad 0 < p < q$$

- The mode $m = \infty$ is stable if and only if $pq > 1$ and $p < 1$.
- Stability of other modes can be expressed in terms of Gamma functions.
- The dominant unstable mode corresponds to $m = 3$; the boundary is given by

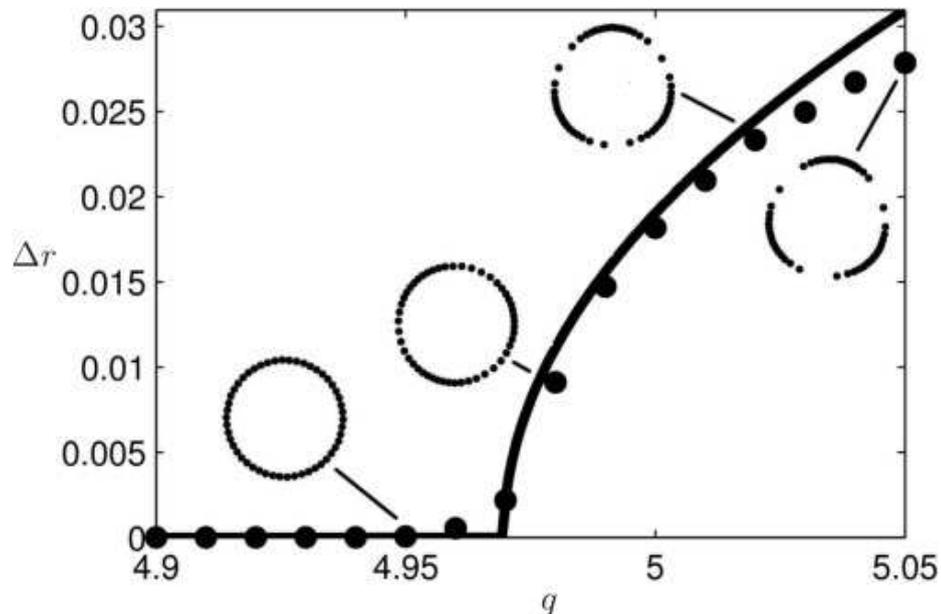
$$0 = 723 - 594(p + q) - 27(p^2 + q^2) - 431pq + 106(pq^2 + p^2q) + 19(p^3q + pq^3) + 10(p^3q^2 + p^2q^3) + 6(p^3 + q^3) + p^3q^3;$$
- Boundaries for $m = 4, 5, \dots$ are similarly expressed in terms of higher order polynomials in p, q .



Weakly nonlinear analysis

- Near the instability threshold, higher-order analysis shows a **supercritical pitchfork bifurcation**, whereby a ring solution bifurcates into an m -symmetry breaking solution
- This shows existence of nonlocal solutions.
- Example: $F(r) = r^{1.5} - r^q$; bifurcation $m = 3$ occurs at $q = q_c \approx 4.9696$; nonlinear analysis predicts

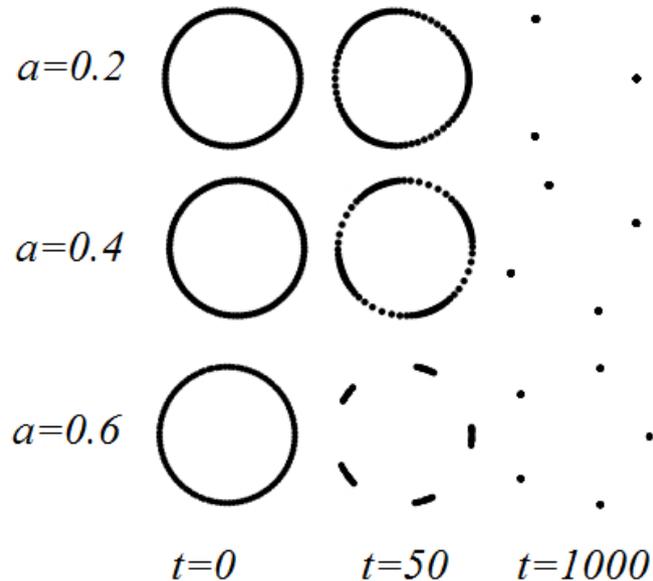
$$\max_i |x_i| - \min_i |x_i| = \sqrt{\max(0, \tau(q - q_c))}; \quad \tau \approx 0.109.$$



Point-concentration (hole) solutions

$$F(r) = \min(ar, r - r^2)$$

Solutions consist of K “clusters”, where each cluster has N/K points inside. The number K depends on a :



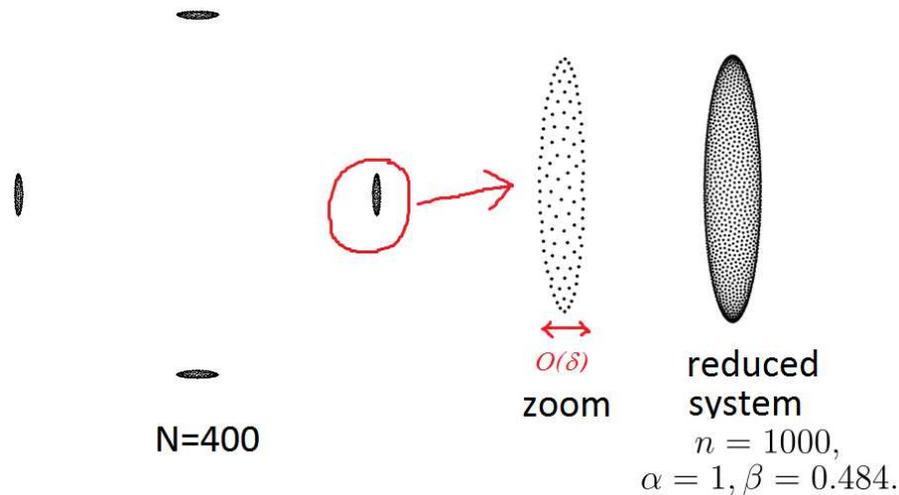
Theorem: K hole solution is guaranteed to be stable if $a \in (a_1, a_2)$ whose values are summarized in the following table:

| K | r | a_1 | a_2 | |
|---------|---------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------|
| 3 | $3^{-1/2} \approx 0.5773$ | 0 | 0.5 | |
| 4 | 0.585786 | 0.171573 | 0.656851 | |
| 5 | 0.587785 | 0.309017 | 0.736067 | |
| 6 | 0.588457 | 0.411543 | 0.788636 | |
| 7 | 0.588735 | 0.489115 | 0.819194 | |
| 8 | 0.588867 | 0.549301 | 0.841735 | |
| $\gg 1$ | $\frac{3}{16}\pi$ | $1 - \frac{3\pi^2}{8K}$ | $1 - \frac{\pi^2}{8K}$ | (10) |

Spots: “degenerate” holes

$$F(r) = \min(ar + \delta, 1 - r); \quad \delta \ll 1$$

- Points degenerate into spots of size $O(\delta)$. eg. $a = 0.3, \delta = 0.05$:



- Inside each of the cluster, the **reduced** problem is:

$$\phi'_l = \sum_{j \neq l}^n \frac{\phi_l - \phi_j}{|\phi_l - \phi_j|} - n \begin{bmatrix} \alpha & 0 \\ 0 & \beta \end{bmatrix} \phi_l$$

- α, β depend only on $F(r)$ not on N .

Reduced problem: stripe or blob??

$$\phi_l' = \sum_{j \neq l}^n \frac{\phi_l - \phi_j}{|\phi_l - \phi_j|} - n \begin{bmatrix} \alpha & 0 \\ 0 & \beta \end{bmatrix} \phi_l$$

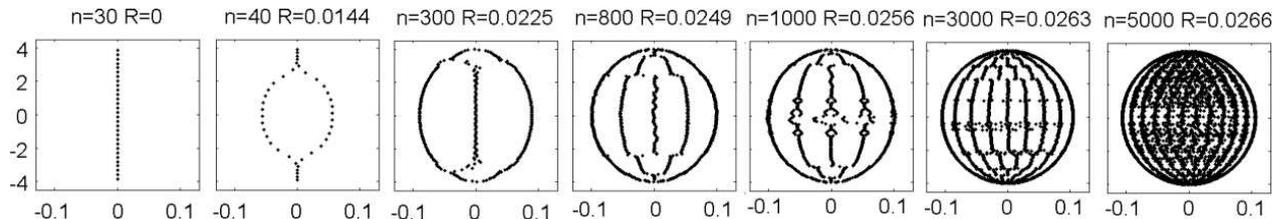
- Admits the steady state consisting of particles located uniformly along a vertical line of length $2/\beta$, centered at the origin.
- Such “one-dimensional” equilibrium is **stable** if

$$1 + \frac{1}{2} + \dots + \frac{1}{n-1} < \frac{\alpha}{\beta}; \quad (11)$$

unstable otherwise.

- For large n , (11) becomes

$$n < \exp(\alpha/\beta - \gamma) \approx 0.5614 \exp(\alpha/\beta) \quad (12)$$



Take $\alpha = 1, \beta = 0.25$; then rhs(12)=30.6. Line is stable when $n = 30$; unstable for $n = 40$.

Stability of vertical "stripe": key steps

- Perturbations in vertical direction are stable
- In horizontal direction, stability reduces to study of

$$\lambda\psi_l = \sum_{\substack{j=1\dots n \\ j \neq l}} \frac{\psi_l - \psi_j}{|l - j|}, \quad l = 1 \dots n. \quad (13)$$

- **Lemma:** The n eigenvalues of (13) are given by $\lambda_k = 2 \sum_{j=1}^k \frac{1}{j}$, $k = 0 \dots n - 1$.
- **Proof:** Continuum limit yields

$$\lambda\psi(x) = \int_0^1 \frac{\psi(x) - \psi(y)}{|x - y|} dy$$

eigenvalues are **polynomials** of the form $\psi(x) = x^k + \dots$; with $\lambda_k = 2 \sum_{j=1}^k \frac{1}{j}$, $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$. The discrete problem is the same except $k = 0 \dots n - 1$.

(In)stability of $m \gg 1$ modes

- If $\lambda(m) > 0$ for all sufficiently large m , then we call the ring solution **ill-posed**. Otherwise we call it **well-posed**.
- For ill-posed problems, the ring can degenerate into either an annulus (eg. $F(x) = 0.5 + x - x^2$) or discrete set of points (eg $F(x) = x^{1.3} - x^2$)
- , if $F(r)$ is C^4 on $[0, 2r]$, then the necessary and sufficient conditions for well-posedness of a ring are:

$$F(0) = 0, \quad F''(0) < 0 \quad \text{and} \quad (14)$$

$$\int_0^{\pi/2} \left(\frac{F(2r \sin \theta)}{2r \sin \theta} - F'(2r \sin \theta) \right) d\theta < 0. \quad (15)$$

- Ring solution for the morse force $F(r) = \exp(-r) - G \exp(-r/L)$ is always ill-posed since $F(0) > 0$.

Bifurcation to annulus:

Consider

$$F(r) = r - r^2 + \delta, \quad 0 \leq \delta \ll 1.$$

- A ring is stable of radius $R \sim \frac{3\pi}{16} + \frac{2}{\pi}\delta + O(\delta^2)$ if $\delta = 0$ but **high modes** become unstable for $\delta > 0$
- The most unstable mode in the **discrete** system is $m = N/2$ and can be stable even if the continuous model is ill-posed!

- **Proposition: Let**

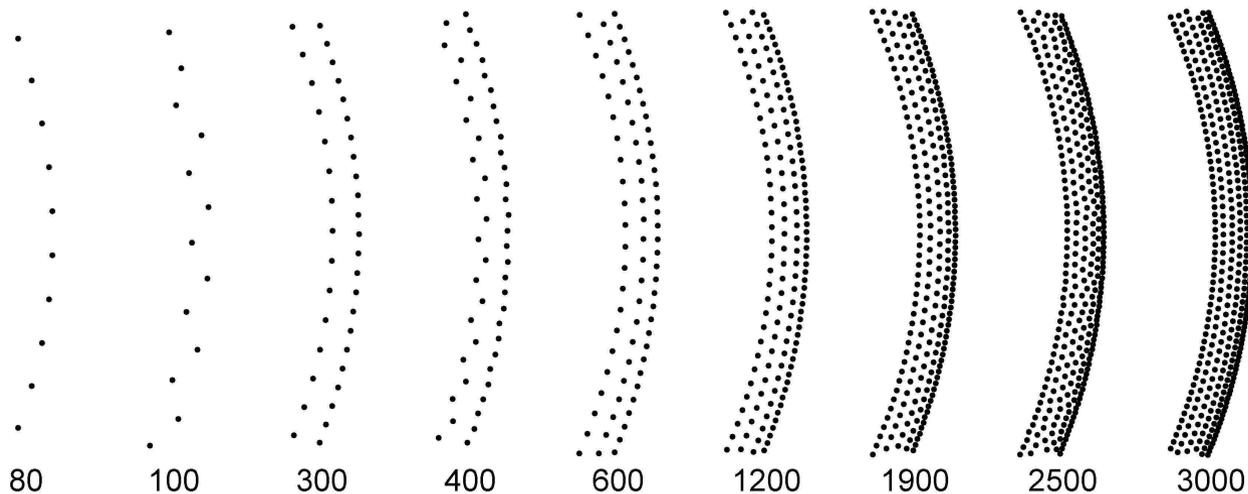
$$N_c \sim \frac{\pi}{4} e^{4-\gamma} \exp\left(\frac{3\pi^2}{64\delta}\right).$$

The ring is stable if $N < N_c$.

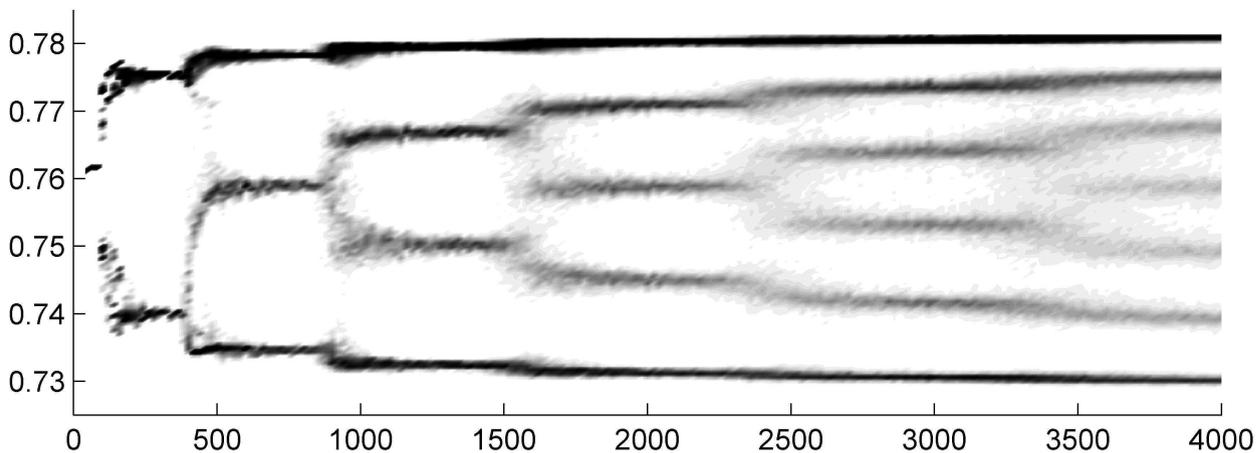
- For $N > N_c$ but $N \sim N_c$, solution consists of two radii $R \pm \varepsilon$ where

$$R = \frac{3\pi}{32} \left(1 + \sqrt{1 + \frac{128}{3\pi^2}\delta} \right); \quad \beta \sim 4Re^{-2} \exp\left(\frac{-4R^2 + R\pi/2}{\delta}\right)$$

- Example: $\delta = 0.35 \implies N_c \sim 90, 2\beta \sim 0.033$. Numerically, we obtain $2\beta \approx 0.036$. Good agreement!



- Increasing N further, more rings appear until we get a thin annulus of width $O(\beta)$.



Annulus: continuum limit $N \gg N_c$:

- $F(r) = r - r^2 + \delta$, $0 < \delta \ll 1$
- **Main result:** In the limit $\delta \rightarrow 0$, the annulus inner and outer radii R_1, R_2 are given by

$$R \sim \frac{3\pi}{16} + \frac{2}{\pi}\delta; \quad R_1 \sim R - \beta, \quad R_2 \sim R + \beta$$

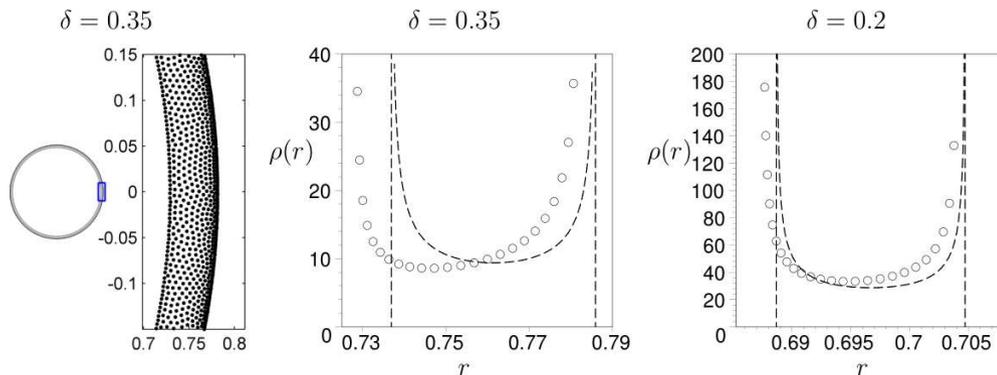
where

$$\beta \sim 3\pi e^{-5} \exp\left(-\frac{3\pi^2}{64} \frac{1}{\delta}\right) \ll \delta \ll 1.$$

The radial **density profile** inside the annulus is

$$\rho(x) \sim \begin{cases} \frac{c}{\sqrt{\beta^2 - (R - |x|)^2}}, & |R - x| < \beta \ll 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Annulus is **exponentially thin in** δ ... note the 1/sqrt singularity near the edges!



Key steps for computing annulus profile

- For radially symmetric density, the velocity field reduces to a 1D problem:

$$v(r) = \int_0^\infty K(s, r) \rho(s) s ds;$$

$$K(s, r) := \int_0^{2\pi} (r - s \cos \theta) f \left(\sqrt{r^2 + s^2 - 2rs \cos \theta} \right) d\theta; \quad f(r) = 1 - r + \frac{\delta}{r}$$

- Assume thin annulus; expand all integrals:

$$r = R + \xi; \quad s = R + \eta; \quad \xi, \eta \ll \delta \ll 1$$

- The singular part " δ/r " yields a log:

$$g(t) = 2 \int_0^\pi (t - \cos \theta) (1 + t^2 - 2t \cos \theta)^{-1/2} d\theta;$$

$$g(1 + \varepsilon) \sim 4 - 2\varepsilon \ln |\varepsilon| + \varepsilon (6 \ln 2 - 2) + O(\varepsilon^2 \ln |\varepsilon|)$$

- **It boils down to** integral equation

$$\int_{-\beta}^{\beta} \ln |\eta - \xi| \varrho(\eta) d\eta = 1 \quad \text{for all } \xi \in (\alpha, \beta)$$

- **Explicit solution** is a special case of Formula 3.4.2 from “Handbook of integral equations” A.Polyanin and A.Manzhirov:

$$\varrho(\xi) = \frac{C}{\sqrt{\beta^2 - \xi^2}}$$

- The inverse root law blowup near the boundaries is the same as computed for “radial blobs” by Bernoff et.al. [preprint]

Annulus for Newtonian repulsion

$$f(r) = \frac{F(r)}{r} = 1 - r + \frac{\delta}{r^2}, \quad \delta \ll 1 \quad (16)$$

$$v(r) = \int_0^\infty K(s, r) \rho(s) s ds;$$

$$K(s, r) := \int_0^{2\pi} (r - s \cos \theta) f\left(\sqrt{r^2 + s^2 - 2rs \cos \theta}\right) d\theta.$$

Expand

$$r = R_0 + \xi; \quad s = R_0 + \eta; \quad \xi, \eta = O(\delta); \quad R_0 = \frac{3}{16}\pi$$

Annulus inner/outer radii:

$$R_1 \sim R_0 + \alpha; \quad R_2 \sim R_0 + \beta; \quad \alpha, \beta = O(\delta) \ll 1$$

then

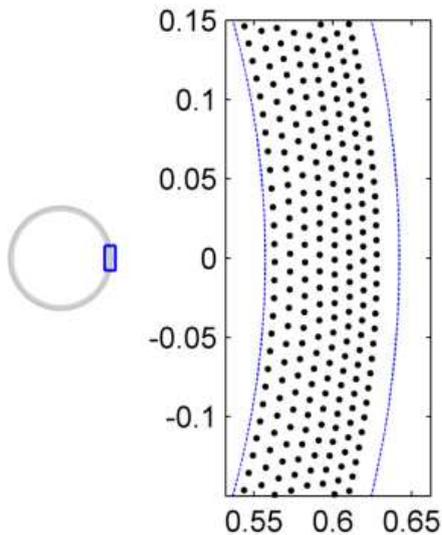
$$4\delta \int_\alpha^\xi \varrho(\eta) d\eta \sim R_0 \int_\alpha^\beta (\xi + 3\eta) \varrho(\eta) d\eta, \quad \xi \in (\alpha, \beta); \quad (17)$$

$$4\delta \varrho(\xi) \sim R_0 \int_\alpha^\beta \varrho$$

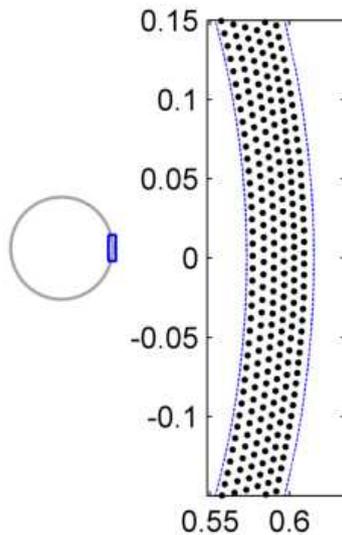
$$\rho(x) \sim \begin{cases} 1, & |x| \in (R_0 + \alpha, R_0 + \beta) \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$R_0 = \frac{3}{16}\pi; \quad \alpha = -\frac{8}{\pi}\delta; \quad \beta = \frac{40}{3\pi}\delta$$

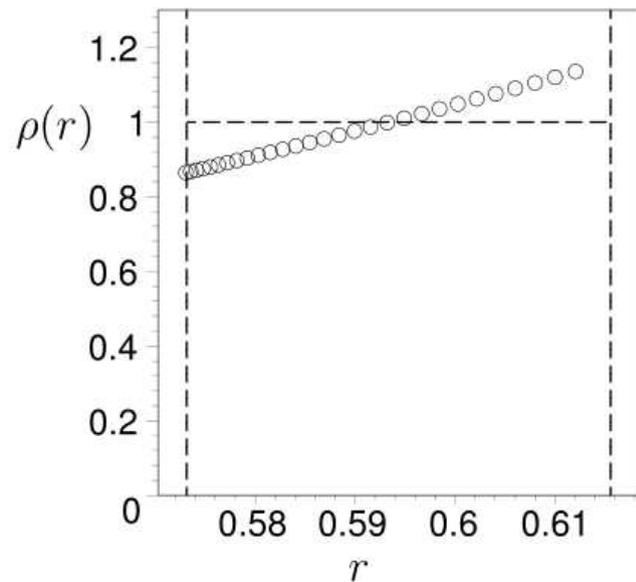
$\delta = 0.0125$



$\delta = 0.00625$



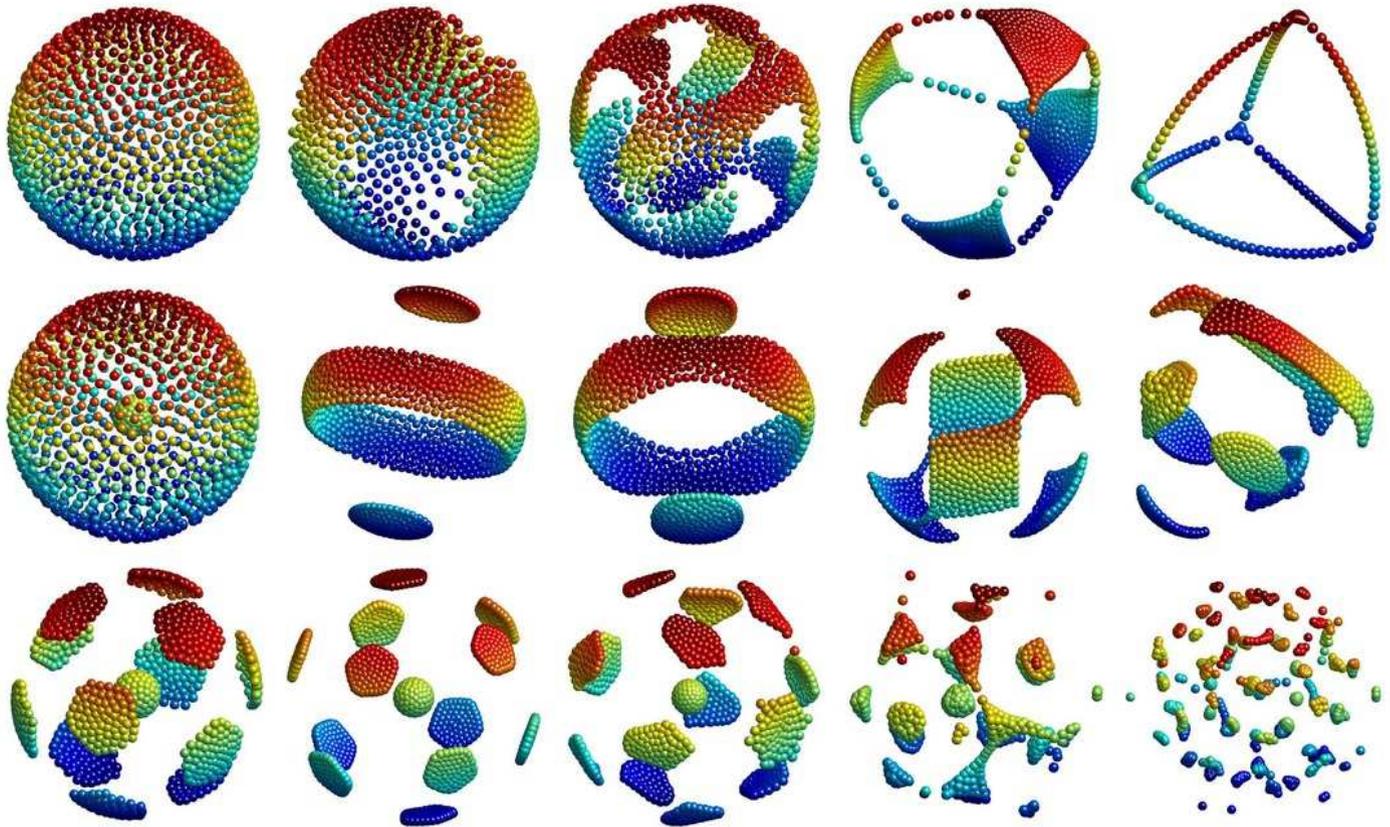
$\delta = 0.00625$



$N = 3000$

3D sphere instabilities

- Radius satisfies: $\int_0^\pi F(2r_0 \sin \theta) \sin \theta \sin 2\theta = 0$
- Instability can be done using spherical harmonics



Stability of a spherical shell

Define

$$g(s) := \frac{F(\sqrt{2s})}{\sqrt{2s}};$$

The spherical shell has a radius given implicitly by

$$0 = \int_{-1}^1 g(R^2(1-s))(1-s) ds.$$

Its stability is given by a sequence of 2x2 eigenvalue problems

$$\lambda \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha + \lambda_l(g_1) & l(l+1)\lambda_l(g_2) \\ \lambda_l(g_2) & \frac{l(l+1)}{R^2}\lambda_l(g_3) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad l = 2, 3, 4, \dots$$

where

$$\lambda_l(f) := 2\pi \int_{-1}^1 f(s)P_l(s) ds;$$

with $P_l(s)$ the Legendre polynomial and

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha &:= 8\pi g(2R^2) + \lambda_0(g(R^2(1-s^2))) \\ g_1(s) &:= R^2 g'(R^2(1-s))(1-s)^2 - g(R^2(1-s))s \\ g_2(s) &:= g(R^2(1-s))(1-s); & g_3(s) &:= \int_0^{R^2(1-s)} g(z) dz. \end{aligned}$$

Well-posedness in 3D

Suppose that $g(s)$ can be written in terms of the generalized power series as

$$g(s) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} c_i s^{p_i}, \quad p_1 < p_2 < \dots \quad \text{with } c_1 > 0.$$

Then the ring is **well-posed** [i.e. $\lambda < 0$ for all sufficiently large l] if

$$(i) \alpha < 0 \quad \text{and} \quad (ii) p_1 \in (-1, 0) \cup (1, 2) \cup (3, 4) \dots$$

The ring is **ill-posed** [i.e. $\lambda > 0$ for all sufficiently large l] if either $\alpha > 0$ or $p_1 \notin [-1, 0] \cup [1, 2] \cup [3, 4] \dots$

Key identity to prove well-posedness:

$$\int_{-1}^1 (1-s)^p P_l(s) \, ds = \frac{2^{p+1} \Gamma(l-p)\Gamma(p+2)}{p+1 \Gamma(l+p+2)\Gamma(-p)}$$

$$\sim -\frac{1}{\pi} \sin(\pi p) \Gamma^2(p+1) 2^{p+1} l^{-2p-2} \quad \text{as } l \rightarrow \infty.$$

Proof:

- Use hypergeometric representation: $P_l(s) = {}_2F_1 \left(\begin{matrix} l+1, -l \\ 1 \end{matrix} ; \frac{1-s}{2} \right)$.

- Use **generalized Euler transform**:

$${}_{A+1}F_{B+1} \left(\begin{matrix} a_1, \dots, a_A, c \\ b_1, \dots, b_B, d \end{matrix} ; z \right) = \frac{\Gamma(d)}{\Gamma(c)\Gamma(d-c)} \int_0^1 t^{c-1} (1-t)^{d-c-1} {}_A F_B \left(\begin{matrix} a_1, \dots, a_A, c \\ b_1, \dots, b_B, d \end{matrix} ; z \right) dt$$

to get $\int_{-1}^1 (1-s)^p P_l(s) \, ds = \frac{2\pi 2^{p+1}}{p+1} {}_3F_2 \left(\begin{matrix} p+1, l+1, -l \\ p+2, 1 \end{matrix} ; 1 \right)$.

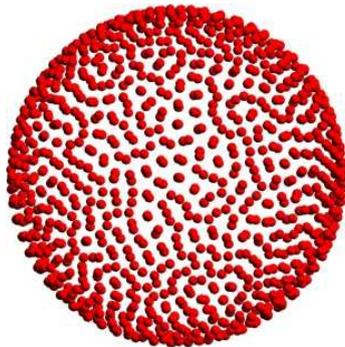
- Apply the **Saalschütz Theorem** to simplify

$${}_3F_2 \left(\begin{matrix} p+1, l+1, -l \\ p+2, 1 \end{matrix} ; 1 \right) = \frac{\Gamma(l-p)\Gamma(p+2)}{\Gamma(l+p+2)\Gamma(-p)}.$$

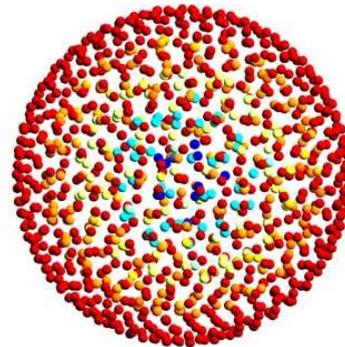
Generalized Lennard-Jones interaction

$$g(s) = s^{-p} - s^{-q}; \quad 0 < p, q < 1; \quad p > q$$

- Well posed if $q < \frac{2p-1}{2p-2}$; ill-posed if $q > \frac{2p-1}{2p-2}$.



(a)



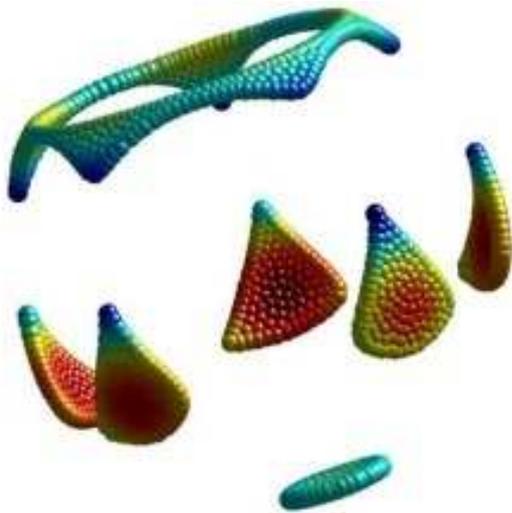
(b)

Example: steady state with $N = 1000$ particles. (a) $(p, q) = (1/3, 1/6)$. Particles concentrate uniformly on a surface of the sphere, with no particles in the interior. (b) $(p, q) = (1/2, 1/4)$. Particles fill the interior of a ball. The particles are color-coded according to their distance from the center of mass.

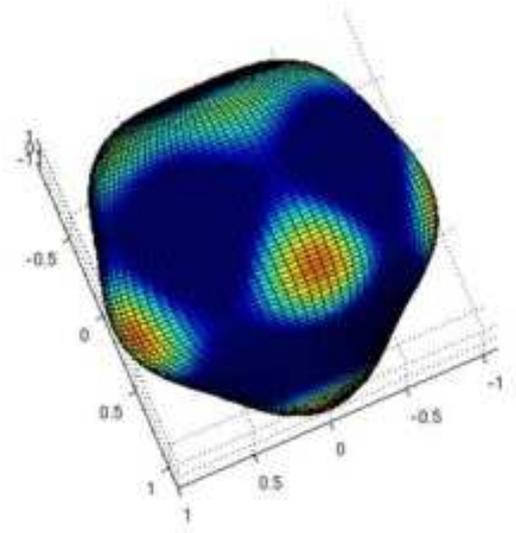
Custom-designed kernels

- In 3D, we can design force $F(r)$ which is stable for all modes except specified mode.
- EXAMPLE: Suppose we want only mode $m = 5$ to be unstable. Using our algorithm, we get

$$F(r) = \left\{ 3 \left(1 - \frac{r^2}{2}\right)^2 + 4 \left(1 - \frac{r^2}{2}\right)^3 - \left(1 - \frac{r^2}{2}\right)^4 \right\} r + \varepsilon; \quad \varepsilon = 0.1.$$



Particle simulation



Linearized solution

Constant-density swarms

- Biological swarms have sharp boundaries, relatively **constant internal population**.
- Question: *What interaction force leads to such swarms?*
- More generally, can we deduce an interaction force from the swarm density?



Bounded states of constant density

Claim. Suppose that

$$F(r) = \frac{1}{r^{n-1}} - r, \quad \text{where } n \equiv \text{dimension}$$

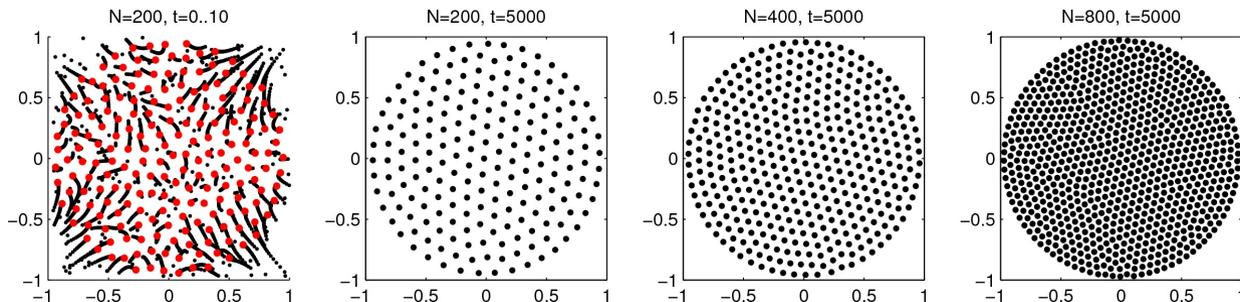
Then the aggregation model

$$\rho_t + \nabla \cdot (\rho v) = 0; \quad v(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} F(|x - y|) \frac{x - y}{|x - y|} \rho(y) dy.$$

admits a steady state of the form

$$\rho(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & |x| < R \\ 0, & |x| > R \end{cases}; \quad v(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & |x| < 1 \\ -ax, & |x| > 1 \end{cases}.$$

where $R = 1$ for $n = 1, 2$ and $a = 2$ in one dimension and $a = 2\pi$ in two dimensions.



Proof for two dimensions

Define

$$G(x) := \ln |x| - \frac{|x|^2}{2}; \quad M = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \rho(y) dy$$

Then we have:

$$\nabla G = F(|x|) \frac{x}{|x|} \quad \text{and} \quad \Delta G(x) = 2\pi\delta(x) - 2.$$

so that

$$v(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \nabla_x G(x - y) \rho(y) dy.$$

Thus we get:

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \cdot v &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (2\pi\delta(x - y) - 2)\rho(y) dy \\ &= 2\pi\rho(x) - 2M \\ &= \begin{cases} 0, & |x| < R \\ -2M, & |x| > R \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

The steady state satisfies $\nabla \cdot v = 0$ inside some ball of radius R with $\rho = 0$ outside such a ball but then $\rho = M/\pi$ inside this ball and $M = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \rho(y) dy = MR^2 \implies R = 1$.

Dynamics in 1D with $F(r) = 1 - r$

Assume WLOG that

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x\rho(x) dx = 0; \quad M := \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \rho(x) dx$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} v(x) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F(|x-y|) \frac{x-y}{|x-y|} \rho(y) dy \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (1 - |x-y|) \operatorname{sign}(x-y) \rho(y) dy \\ &= 2 \int_{-\infty}^x \rho(y) dy - M(x+1). \end{aligned}$$

and continuity equations become

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_t + v\rho_x &= -v_x\rho \\ &= (M - 2\rho)\rho \end{aligned}$$

Define the characteristic curves $X(t, x_0)$ by

$$\frac{d}{dt} X(t; x_0) = v; \quad X(0, x_0) = x_0$$

Then along the characteristics, we have $\rho = \rho(X, t)$;

$$\frac{d}{dt}\rho = \rho(M - 2\rho)$$

Solving we get:

$$\rho(X(t, x_0), t) = \frac{M}{2 + e^{-Mt}(M/\rho_0 - 2)}; \quad \rho(X(t, x_0), t) \rightarrow M/2 \text{ as } t \rightarrow \infty$$

Solving for characteristic curves

Let

$$w := \int_{-\infty}^x \rho(y) dy$$

then

$$v = 2w - M(x + 1); \quad v_x = 2\rho - M$$

and integrating $\rho_t + (\rho v)_x = 0$ we get:

$$w_t + vw_x = 0$$

Thus w is constant along the characteristics X of ρ , so that characteristics $\frac{d}{dt}X = v$ become

$$\frac{d}{dt}X = 2w_0 - M(X + 1); \quad X(0; x_0) = x_0$$

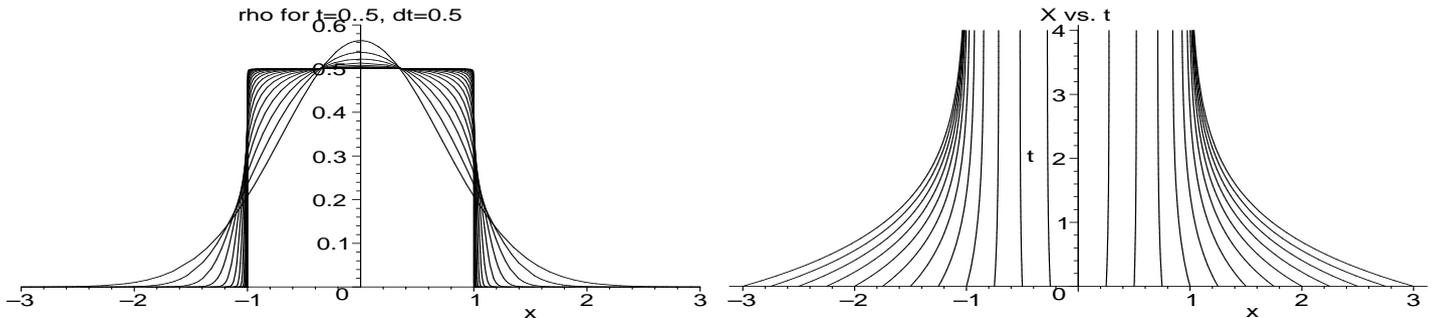
Summary for $F(r) = 1 - r$ in 1D:

$$X = \frac{2w_0(x_0)}{M} - 1 + e^{-Mt} \left(x_0 + 1 - \frac{2w_0(x_0)}{M} \right)$$

$$w_0(x_0) = \int_{-\infty}^{x_0} \rho_0(z) dz; \quad M = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \rho_0(z) dz$$

$$\rho(X, t) = \frac{M}{2 + e^{-tM}(M/\rho_0(x_0) - 2)}$$

Example: $\rho_0(x) = \exp(-x^2) / \sqrt{\pi}$; $M = 1$:



Global stability

In limit $t \rightarrow \infty$ we get:

$$X = \frac{2w_0}{M} - 1; \quad w_0 = 0 \dots M; \quad \rho(X, \infty) = \frac{M}{2}$$

We have shown that as $t \rightarrow \infty$, the steady state is

$$\rho(x, \infty) = \begin{cases} M/2, & |x| < 1 \\ 0, & |x| > 1 \end{cases} \quad (18)$$

- This proves the global stability of (18)!
- Characteristics intersect at $t = \infty$; solution forms a shock at $x = \pm 1$ at $t = \infty$.

Dynamics in 2D, $F(r) = \frac{1}{r} - r$

- Similar to 1D,

$$\nabla \cdot v = 2\pi\rho(x) - 4\pi M;$$

$$\begin{aligned}\rho_t + v \cdot \nabla \rho &= -\rho \nabla \cdot v \\ &= -\rho(\rho - 2M)2\pi\end{aligned}$$

- Along the characteristics:

$$\frac{d}{dt}X(t; x_0) = v; \quad X(0, x_0) = x_0$$

we still get

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dt}\rho &= 2\pi\rho(2M - \rho); \\ \rho(X(t; x_0), t) &= \frac{2M}{1 + \left(\frac{2M}{\rho(x_0)} - 1\right) \exp(-4\pi Mt)}\end{aligned}\tag{19}$$

- Continuity equations yield:

$$\rho(X(t; x_0), t) \det \nabla_{x_0} X(t; x_0) = \rho_0(x_0)$$

- Using (19) we get

$$\det \nabla_{x_0} X(t; x_0) = \frac{\rho_0(x_0)}{2M} + \left(1 - \frac{\rho_0(x_0)}{2M}\right) \exp(-4\pi M t).$$

- If ρ is **radially symmetric**, characteristics are also radially symmetric, i.e.

$$X(t; x_0) = \lambda(|x_0|, t) x_0$$

then

$$\det \nabla_{x_0} X(t; x_0) = \lambda(t; r) (\lambda(t; r) + \lambda_r(t; r)r), \quad r = |x_0|$$

so that

$$\lambda^2 + \lambda_r \lambda r = \frac{\rho_0(x_0)}{2M} + \left(1 - \frac{\rho_0(x_0)}{2M}\right) \exp(-4\pi M t)$$

$$\lambda^2 r^2 = \frac{1}{M} \int_0^r s \rho_0(s) ds + 2 \exp(-4\pi M t) \int_0^r s \left(1 - \frac{\rho(s)}{2M}\right) ds$$

So characteristics are fully solvable!!

- This proves **global stability in the space of radial initial conditions** $\rho_0(x) = \rho_0(|x|)$.
- More general global stability is still open.

The force $F(r) = \frac{1}{r} - r^{q-1}$ in 2D

- If $q = 2$, we have explicit ode and solution for characteristics.
- For other q , no explicit solution is available but we have **differential inequalities**:

Define

$$\rho_{\max} := \sup_x \rho(x, t); \quad R(t) := \text{radius of support of } \rho(x, t)$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\rho_{\max}}{dt} &\leq (aR^{q-2} - b\rho_{\max})\rho_{\max} \\ \frac{dR}{dt} &\leq c\sqrt{\rho_{\max}} - dR^{q-1}; \end{aligned}$$

where a, b, c, d are some [known] positive constants.

- It follows that if $R(0)$ is sufficiently big, then $R(t), \rho_{\max}(t)$ remain bounded for all t .
[using bounding box argument]
- **Theorem:** For $q \geq 2$, there exists a bounded steady state [uniqueness??]

Inverse problem: Custom-designer kernels: 1D

Theorem. In one dimension, consider a radially symmetric density of the form

$$\rho(x) = \begin{cases} b_0 + b_2x^2 + b_4x^4 + \dots + b_{2n}x^{2n}, & |x| < R \\ 0, & |x| \geq R \end{cases} \quad (20)$$

Define the following quantities,

$$m_{2q} := \int_0^R \rho(r)r^{2q}dr. \quad (21)$$

Then $\rho(r)$ is the steady state corresponding to the kernel

$$F(r) = 1 - a_0r - \frac{a_2}{3}r^3 - \frac{a_4}{5}r^5 - \dots - \frac{a_{2n}}{2n+1}r^{2n+1} \quad (22)$$

where the constants a_0, a_2, \dots, a_{2n} , are computed from the constants b_0, b_2, \dots, b_{2n} by solving the following linear problem:

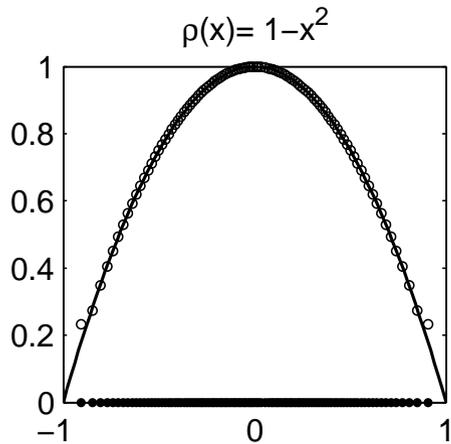
$$b_{2k} = \sum_{j=k}^n a_{2j} \binom{2j}{2k} m_{2(j-k)}, \quad k = 0 \dots n. \quad (23)$$

Example: custom kernels 1D

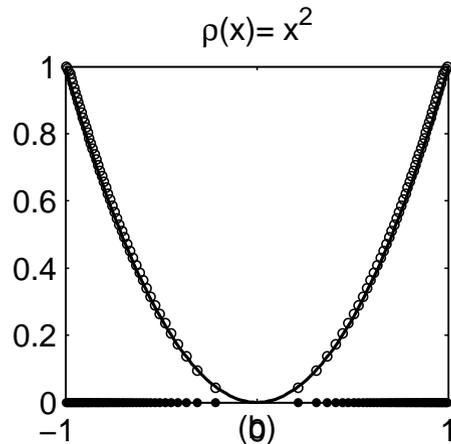
Example 1: $\rho = 1 - x^2$, $R = 1$, then $F(r) = 1 - 9/5r + 1/2r^3$.

Example 2: $\rho = x^2$, $R = 1$, then $F(r) = 1 + 9/5r - r^3$.

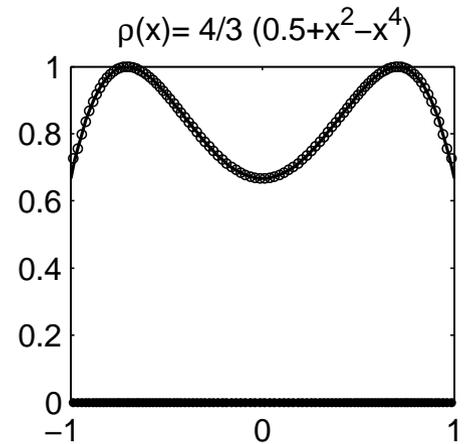
Example 3: $\rho = 1/2 + x^2 - x^4$, $R = 1$; then $F(r) = 1 + \frac{209425}{336091}r - \frac{4150}{2527}r^3 + \frac{6}{19}r^5$.



Ex.1



Ex.2



Ex.3

Inverse problem: Custom-designer kernels: 2D

Theorem. In **two dimensions**, consider a radially symmetric density $\rho(x) = \rho(|x|)$ of the form

$$\rho(r) = \begin{cases} b_0 + b_2 r^2 + b_4 r^4 + \dots + b_{2n} r^{2n}, & r < R \\ 0, & r \geq R \end{cases} \quad (24)$$

Define the following quantities,

$$m_{2q} := \int_0^R \rho(r) r^{2q} dr. \quad (25)$$

Then $\rho(r)$ is the steady state corresponding to the kernel

$$F(r) = \frac{1}{r} - \frac{a_0}{2} r - \frac{a_2}{4} r^3 - \dots - \frac{a_{2n}}{2n+2} r^{2n+1} \quad (26)$$

where the constants a_0, a_2, \dots, a_{2n} , are computed from the constants b_0, b_2, \dots, b_{2n} by solving the following linear problem:

$$b_{2k} = \sum_{j=k}^n a_{2j} \binom{j}{k}^2 m_{2(j-k)+1}; \quad k = 0 \dots n. \quad (27)$$

This system always has a unique solution for provided that $m_0 \neq 0$.

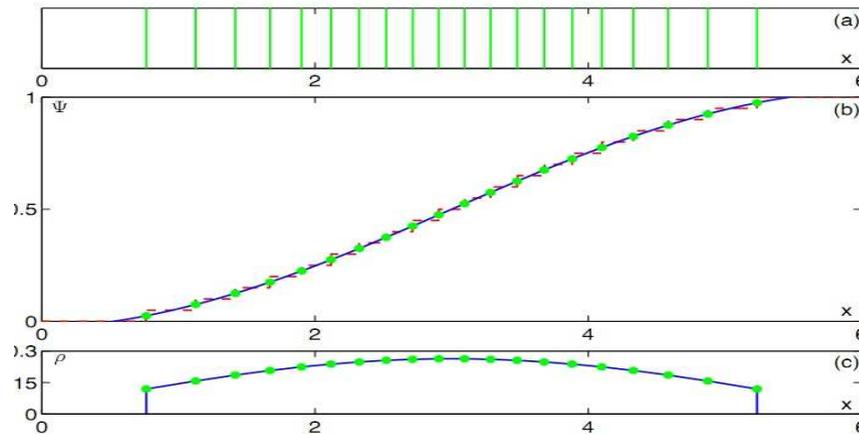
Numerical simulations, 1D

- First, use standard ODE solver to integrate the corresponding discrete particle model,

$$\frac{dx_j}{dt} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{\substack{k=1, \dots, N \\ k \neq j}} F(|x_j - x_k|) \frac{x_j - x_k}{|x_j - x_k|}, \quad j = 1 \dots N.$$

- How to compute $\rho(x)$ from x_i ? [Topaz-Bernoff, 2010]

- Use x_i to approximate the cumulative distribution, $w(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x \rho(z) dz$.
- Next take derivative to get $\rho(x) = w'(x)$



[Figure taken from Topaz+Bernoff, 2010 preprint]

Numerical simulations, 2D

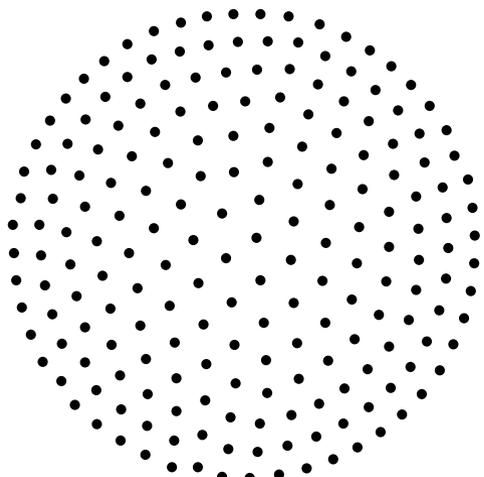
- Solve for x_i using ODE particle model as before [$2N$ variables]
- Use x_i to compute **Voronoi diagram**;
- Estimate $\rho(x_j) = 1/a_j$ where a_j is the area of the voronoi cell around x_j .
- Use **Delanay triangulation** to generate smooth mesh.
- **Example:** Take

$$\rho(r) = \begin{cases} 1 + r^2, & r < 1 \\ 0, & r > 0 \end{cases}$$

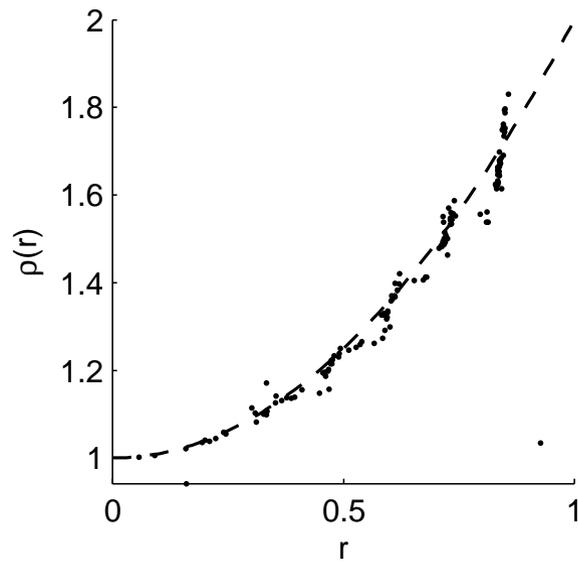
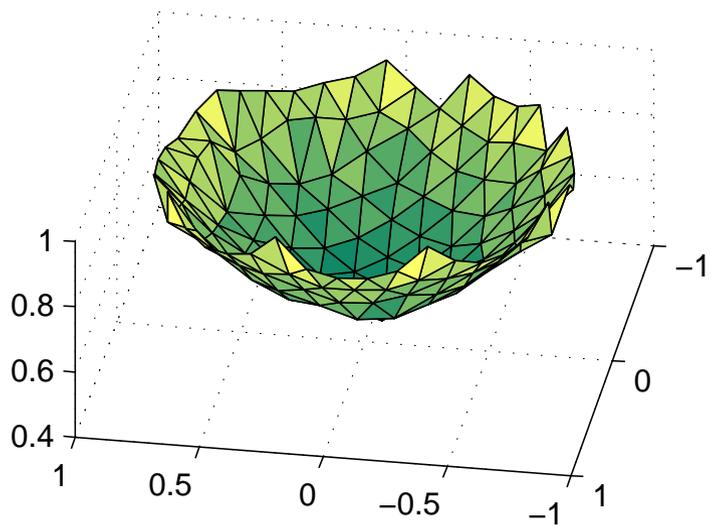
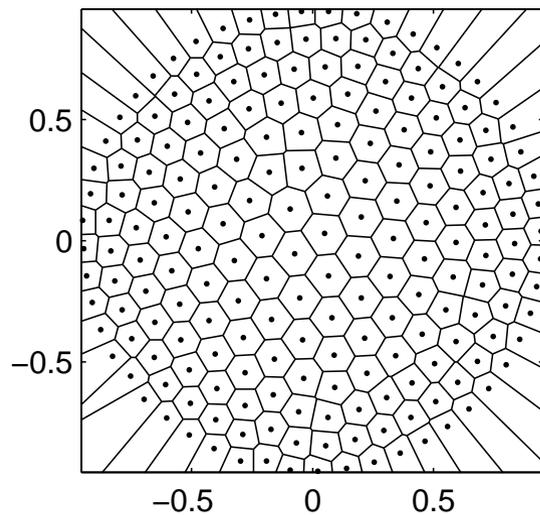
Then by Custom-designed kernel in 2D is:

$$F(r) = \frac{1}{r} - \frac{8}{27}r - \frac{r^3}{3}.$$

Running the particle method yeids...

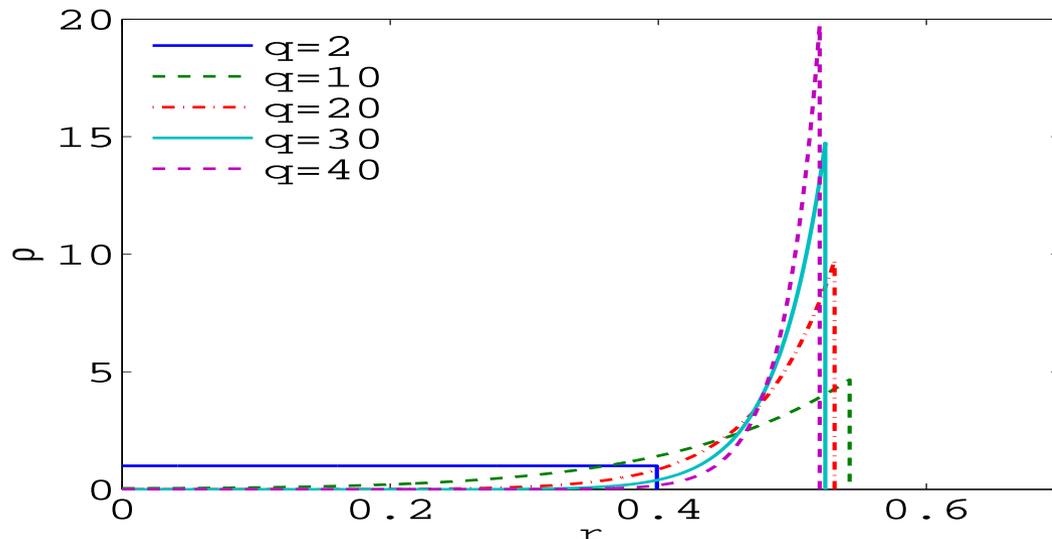


$R=0.955484$



Numerical solutions for radial steady states for $F(r) = \frac{1}{r} - r^{q-1}$

- Radial steady states of radius R satisfy $\rho(r) = 2q \int_0^R (r' \rho(r') I(r, r') dr'$
 where $c(q)$ is some constant and $I(r, r') = \int_0^\pi (r^2 + r'^2 - 2rr' \sin \theta)^{q/2-1} d\theta$.
- To find ρ and R , we adjust R until the operator $\rho \rightarrow c(q) \int_0^R (r' \rho(r') K(r, r') dr'$ has eigenvalue 1; then ρ is the corresponding eigenfunction.



Swarming on random networks

- Particles are nodes in a graph; two nodes communicate iff they are connected by an edge:

$$\frac{dx_i}{dt} = \sum_k c_{i,j} F(|x_i - x_j|) \frac{x_i - x_j}{|x_k - x_j|}, \quad j = 1 \dots N;$$
$$c_{i,j} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if vertices } i, j \text{ are connected by an edge} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Consider the case of **Erdős–Rényi random graph**:

$$c_{i,j} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{with probability } p \\ 0, & \text{with probability } 1 - p \end{cases}$$

- **Question:** How does the connectivity affect **the cohesion of the swarm??**

- Erdős–Rényi (≈ 1960): a p -random graph is connected with high probability if $p > \frac{\ln n}{n} + o(1)$; disconnected if $p < \frac{\ln n}{n} - \frac{c}{n}$.
- The swarm will lose cohesion if $p < \frac{\ln n}{n} - \frac{c}{n}$.
- This bound is too lax for most swarms!

- Simplest (non-trivial) case: a 1D swarm consisting of two equal clusters:

$$F(r) = \min(ar, 1 - r), \quad a > 0;$$

$$x_1 \dots x_{n/2} = 0; \quad x_{n/2+1} \dots x_n = 1$$

- Linearized problem: $n = N/2$;

$$\begin{cases} \lambda \phi_i = \sum_{j=1}^n a c_{ij} (\phi_j - \phi_i) + \sum_{j=1}^n c_{i,j+n} (\psi_j - \phi_i) \\ \lambda \psi_i = \sum_{j=1}^n a c_{i+n,j+n} (\psi_j - \psi_i) + \sum_{j=1}^n c_{i+n,j} (\phi_j - \psi_i) \end{cases} \quad (28)$$

- If $p = 1$ (full connectivity), then $\lambda = 0$, $-n(1 - a)$ [multiplicity $2n - 2$] and $-2n$, eigenvalues of

$$L_{full} = \begin{bmatrix} 2a - 3 & -a & -a & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ -a & 2a - 3 & -a & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ -a & -a & 2a - 3 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 2a - 3 & -a & -a \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & -a & 2a - 3 & -a \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & -a & -a & 2a - 3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad N = 6.$$

\implies two clusters are stable if $0 < a < 1$ when $p = 1$.

- **Main result:** Consider the two-cluster solution for $F(r) = \min(ar, 1 - r)$, $0 < a < 1$. Let $S(p)$ be the probability that such solution is stable. Suppose that

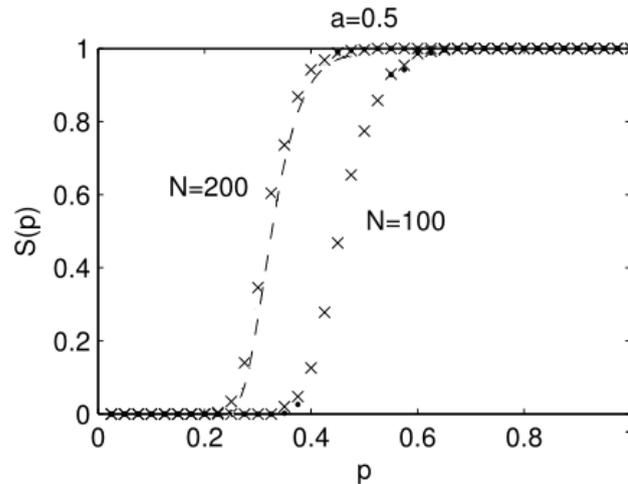
$$p = p_0 \frac{\ln N}{N}$$

and define

$$p_{0c} := 4 \frac{a^2 + 1}{(1 - a)^2}$$

Then

$$S(p) \sim \exp \left\{ - \left(\frac{p_{0c}}{p_0} \frac{1}{4\pi \ln N} \right)^{1/2} N \left(1 - \frac{p_0}{p_{0c}} \right) \right\}$$

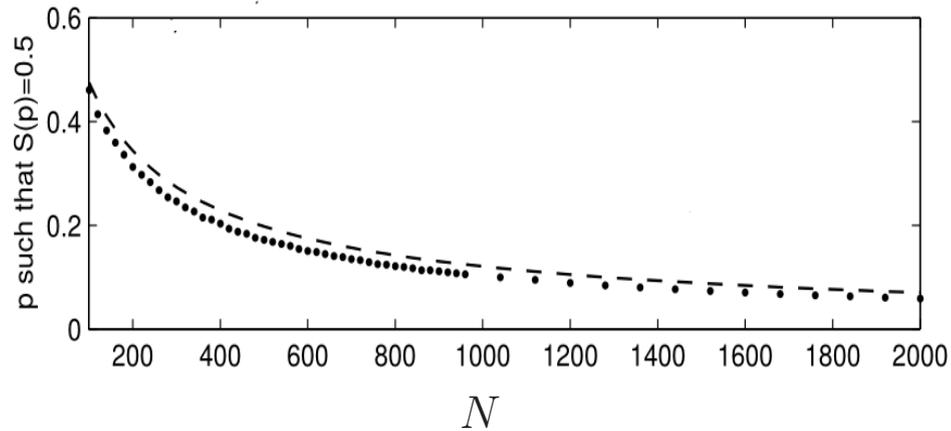


Corollary: The transition of a two-cluster swarm from instability to stability occurs when

$$p = p_c = 4 \frac{a^2 + 1}{(1 - a)^2} \frac{\ln N}{N}.$$

It is unstable (resp. stable) if $p < p_c$ (resp. $p > p_c$) with very high probability.

$$a = 0.5$$



- Ingredients in proof:

- Estimate Bernoulli by Normal distribution (C.L.T.): $c_{i,j} \sim p + \sqrt{p(1-p)}\mathcal{N}$;
- Decompose linear problem as $L = L_{full} + \sqrt{p(1-p)}NA + \sqrt{p(1-p)}ND$ where L_{full} is a deterministic matrix corresponding to $p = 1$; A is full random matrix; D is a diagonal random matrix
- Use elementary probability to bound spectrum of D
- Use random matrix theory (Wigner's circle law) to bound spectrum of A . It turns out the A term can be thrown out!

- **Consensus model** on graph is a well-studied model in IEEE literature; corresponds to $F(r) = r$:

$$\lambda\phi_i = \sum_{j=1}^n c_{ij} (\phi_j - \phi_i)$$

- Aggregation is the nonlinear generalization of consensus model; **multiple consensus possible!**

Discussions/open problems

- Spots+annuli form basic building blocks from which it is possible to construct more complex solutions...
- Stability?? Multiple rings???
- Conjecture:
- Swarms on networks: more complex swarms; small-world networks?
- Connection to Thompson problem and ball-packing problems:
 - Equilibrium is a hexagonal lattice with “defects”. Can we study these??
- **Constant density states with $F(r) = r^{1-n} - r$. What is the **biological mechanism** to minimize overcrowding?**
- Forces with sharp transition can produce exotic patterns for example:
 - Flower: $F(x) = \max(\min(1.6, (1-x)^4), -0.1)$
 - Exotic fish: $F(x) = \max(\min(1.6, (1-x)^6), -0.3)$
 - Fuzzball: $F(x) = \max(\min(1.6, (1-x)^{10}), -0.05)$
- This talk and related papers are downloadable from my website
<http://www.mathstat.dal.ca/~tkolokol/papers>

Thank you!