

# Explicitly computable flock and mill states of self-propelled particles systems

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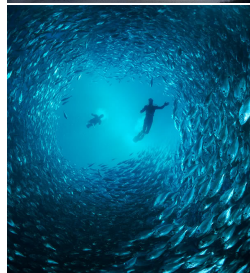
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Banff International Research Station

"Emergent behavior in multi-particle systems with non-local interactions"

# Collective animal behavior

- Motivation: Understand the dynamics of emerging patterns in animal groups, such as swarms of birds, schools of fish, herds of sheep and many other.
- Similarity: Macroscopic structures arise from seemingly local interactions of individuals and in absence of leaders or global information.
- Our model type: Newtonian particles, pairwise interaction, short-range repulsion vs. long-range attraction. Able to reproduce aligned flocks and rotating mills.
- In this talk: Introduce *Quasi-Morse* interaction potentials, whose stationary states are explicitly computable up to linear coefficients



# Table of contents

- 1 Introduction
- 2 The self-propelled interacting particle model
- 3 Quasi-Morse potentials
- 4 Explicit solvability
- 5 Numerical method and results

## Self-propelled second-order interacting particle model

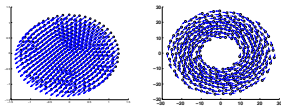
$$\frac{dx_i}{dt} = v_i,$$

$$\frac{dv_i}{dt} = \alpha v_i - \beta v_i |v_i|^2 - \nabla_{x_i} \sum_{i \neq j} W(x_i - x_j).$$

$i \in \{1, \dots, N\}$ ,  $\alpha$ : propulsion force,  $\beta$ : friction force

$W(r) = U(|r|)$  interaction potential (with a local minimum)

- Standard choice: Morse potential  $U(r) = -C_A e^{-r/l_A} + C_R e^{-r/l_R}$   
 $C_A, C_R$  attractive / repulsive strengths,  $l_A, l_R$  resp. length scales
- Aligned flocks and rotating mills are obtained



# Kinetic equations

- Letting  $N \rightarrow \infty$ , with the weak-coupling scaling, the associated mean-field equation reads

## Vlasov-like kinetic equation

$$\partial_t f + v \cdot \nabla_x f + F[\rho] \cdot \nabla_v f + \operatorname{div} \left( (\alpha - \beta |v|^2) v f \right) = 0,$$

$f(t, x, v) : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ : (one-particle) probability distribution function

$\rho(t, x) := \int f(t, x, v) dv$  : macroscopic density

$F[\rho] = -\nabla_x W \star \rho$ : interaction force

- Monokinetic ansatz:  $f(t, x, v) = \rho(t, x) \delta(v - u(t, x))$ , leads to

## Hydrodynamic equations

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \operatorname{div}_x(\rho u) = 0, \\ \rho \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \rho(u \cdot \nabla_x)u = \rho(\alpha - \beta |u|^2)u - \rho(\nabla_x W \star \rho). \end{cases}$$

# Characteristic equations

- Relevant radially symmetric stationary states of the system are written as

$$\text{Flock: } f_F(t, x, v) = \rho_F(x - tu_0) \delta(v - u_0), \quad |u_0| = \sqrt{\frac{\alpha}{\beta}}$$

$$\text{Mill: } f_M(t, x, v) = \rho_M(x) \delta\left(v - \pm \sqrt{\frac{\alpha}{\beta}} \frac{x^\perp}{|x|}, \right)$$

- Inserting into kinetic equations, we get the characteristic equations

$$\text{Flock: } W \star \rho_F = C \quad \text{in } B(0, R_F) = \text{supp}(\rho_F)$$

$$\text{Mill: } W \star \rho_M = D + \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \log |x| \quad \text{in } B(R_m, R_M) = \text{supp}(\rho_M),$$

where the support is a-priori unknown.

- Bertozzi, A.L. et. al.: State transitions and the continuum limit for a 2D interacting, self-propelled particle system.
- Carrillo, J.A. et. al. : Double milling in self-propelled swarms from kinetic theory.
- Levine, H. et. al. : Self-organization in systems of self-propelled particles.
- D'Orsogna et. al. Self-propelled particles with soft-core interactions.

# Quasi-Morse potentials

## Definition

Let  $C, l, \lambda, k \in \mathbb{R}$  be positive parameters, then the Quasi-Morse potential is

$$U(r) := \lambda \left( V(r) - C V \left( \frac{r}{l} \right) \right),$$

where  $V$  is chosen dependent of the space dimension as

$$\begin{cases} n = 1 : & V(r) = -\frac{1}{2k} e^{-kr} \\ n = 2 : & V(r) = -\frac{1}{2\pi} K_0(kr) \\ n = 3 : & V(r) = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{e^{-kr}}{r} \end{cases}$$

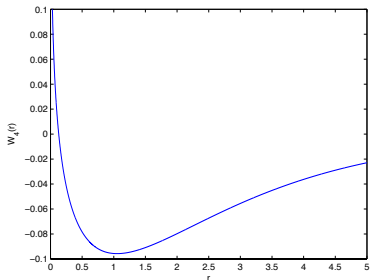
$K_0$  is the modified Bessel function of second kind.  $V$  are chosen as the radially symmetric, monotone fundamental solution of the *screened Poisson equation*

$$\Delta u - k^2 u = \delta_0,$$

that vanish at infinity. For  $n = 1$ , we re-obtain the Morse potential.

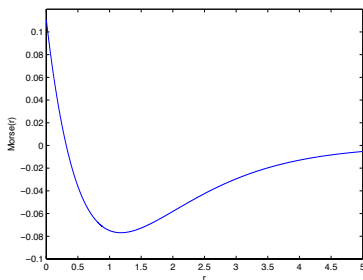
# An exemplary configuration

We illustrate the Quasi-Morse potential in comparison to Morse potential for  $n = 2$ :



(a) Quasi-Morse potential,

$$C = \frac{10}{9}, l = 0.75, k = \frac{1}{2}, \lambda = 4$$



(b) Morse potential,

$$C = \frac{10}{9}, l = 0.75, k = 1, \lambda = 2$$

- ⇒ Attraction-repulsion setting in both potentials. Different singularity at zero.
- ⇒ From modeling point-of-view, there is no reason to prefer one over the other.



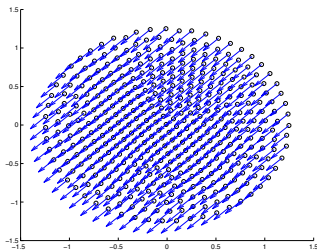
# Properties

- The Quasi-Morse potential is H-stable for  $Cl^n > 1$  and catastrophic for  $Cl^n < 1$ .
- Biologically relevant shapes, i.e. a unique minimum of the potential, are obtained for the following range of parameters:

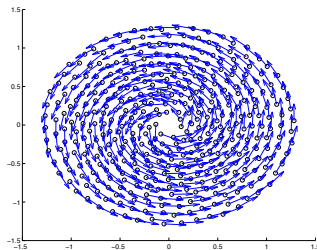
$$\begin{cases} n = 1 : & l < 1, l < C \\ n = 2 : & l < 1, C > 1 \\ n = 3 : & l < 1, Cl > 1 \end{cases}$$

# Emerging patterns (2D)

Quasi-Morse potentials have the ability to produce coherent patterns just as the standard Morse potential:



Example 1: Flock,  $N = 400$



Example 2: Mill,  $N = 400$

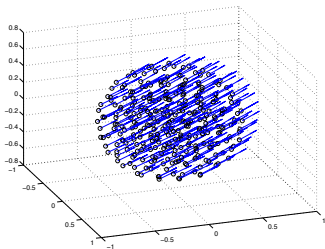
Movies will be available on my [website](#)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} C = \frac{10}{9} & k = \frac{1}{2} & l = \frac{3}{4} \\ \alpha = 1 & \beta = 5 & \lambda = 1000 \end{array}$$

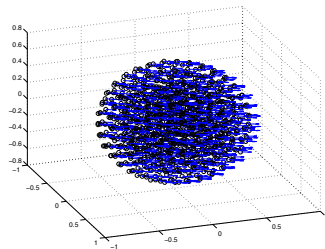
$N =$  number of particles

# Emerging patterns (3D)

We observe the emergence of aligned flocks for the three-dimensional Quasi-Morse potential:



Example 1: Flock,  $N = 200$



Example 2: Flock,  $N = 1000$

Movies will be available on my [website](#)

$C = 1.255$	$k = 0.2$	$l = 0.8$
$\alpha = 1$	$\beta = 5$	$\lambda = 1000$

$N =$  number of particles

# Computation

Define the operators  $\mathcal{L}_1 := \Delta - k^2 I$ ,  $\mathcal{L}_2 := \Delta - \frac{k^2}{l^2} I$  and consider the characteristic equation  $(W \star \rho)(r) = s(r)$  on  $\text{supp}(\rho)$  with some radial  $s(r)$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_2 \mathcal{L}_1 (W \star \rho) &= (\mathcal{L}_2 \mathcal{L}_1 W) \star \rho = \lambda \left( -C \mathcal{L}_1 \mathcal{L}_2 V \left( \frac{r}{l} \right) + \mathcal{L}_2 \mathcal{L}_1 V(r) \right) \star \rho \\ &= \lambda \left( -C l^{n-2} \Delta \delta + C k^2 l^{n-2} \delta + \Delta \delta - \frac{k^2}{l^2} \delta \right) \star \rho \\ &= \lambda (1 - C l^{n-2}) \Delta \rho + \lambda \left( C k^2 l^{n-2} - \frac{k^2}{l^2} \right) \rho = \mathcal{L}_2 \mathcal{L}_1 s. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $\rho$  should satisfy the following equation in its support

$$\Delta \rho \pm a^2 \rho = \frac{1}{\lambda} \frac{1}{1 - C l^{n-2}} \mathcal{L}_2 \mathcal{L}_1 s$$

must hold with  $a^2 = |A|$  and  $A = \frac{C k^2 l^{n-2} - \frac{k^2}{l^2}}{1 - C l^{n-2}} = k^2 \frac{C l^n - 1}{l^2 - C l^n}$ .

This is the Helmholtz equation for  $A > 0$ , the screened Poisson equation for  $A < 0$  and the Poisson equation for  $A = 0$ .

## Computations (II)

Right-hand side:

- Flock in any dimension:  $s(r) = D \Rightarrow \frac{1}{\lambda(1-C^{n-2})} \mathcal{L}_2 \mathcal{L}_1 D = \tilde{D}$   
 $\Rightarrow$  inhomogeneous solution:  $\rho(r) = \frac{\tilde{D}}{A} = \tilde{D}$  for  $A \neq 0$
- Mill in 2D:  $s(r) = D + \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \log(r)$   
 $\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\lambda(1-C)} \mathcal{L}_2 \mathcal{L}_1 \left[ D + \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \log(r) \right] = \frac{k^4}{\lambda A^2 (1-C)} \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \log(r) + \tilde{D}$   
 $\Rightarrow$  inhomogeneous solution:  $\rho_{\text{inhom}, A}(r) = \frac{k^4}{\lambda A^2 (1-C)} \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \log(r) + \frac{\tilde{D}}{A}$  for  $A \neq 0$ .

Homogeneous & fundamental solutions:

- Helmholtz equation: 
$$\begin{cases} n = 1: & \sin(ar), \cos(ar) \\ n = 2: & J_0(ar), Y_0(ar) \\ n = 3: & \frac{\sin(ar)}{r}, \frac{\cos(ar)}{r} \end{cases}$$
- Screened Poisson equation: 
$$\begin{cases} n = 1: & \exp(ar), \exp(-ar) \\ n = 2: & I_0(ar), K_0(ar) \\ n = 3: & \frac{\sinh(ar)}{r}, \frac{\cosh(ar)}{r} \end{cases}$$
- Poisson equation: (in)-homogeneous solution explicitly known

## Explicit solution space

Given that flock/mill densities are radially symmetric and flock solutions do not possess a singularity at zero, we get that if stationary solutions to  $W \star \rho = s$  exist, they have to be of the following form:

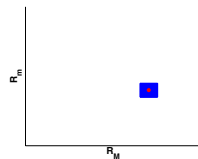
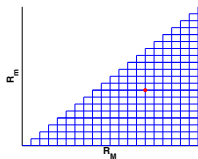
**Theorem: Quasi-Morse potential solution space**

$n = 2:$	flock	$A > 0$	$\rho_F = \mu_1 J_0(ar) + \mu_2$
		$A = 0$	$\rho_F = \mu_1 r^2 + \mu_2$
		$A < 0$	$\rho_F = \mu_1 I_0(ar) + \mu_2$
	mill	$A > 0$	$\rho_M = \rho_{\text{inhom}} + \mu_1 J_0(ar) + \mu_2 Y_0(ar) + \mu_3$
		$A = 0$	$\rho_M = \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \frac{k^4}{4\lambda^2(1-C)} r^2 (\log(r) - 1) + \mu_1 r^2 + \mu_2 \log(r) + \mu_3$
		$A < 0$	$\rho_M = \rho_{\text{inhom}} + \mu_1 I_0(-ar) + \mu_2 \cdot K_0(ar) + \mu_3$
$n = 3:$	flock	$A > 0$	$\rho_F = \mu_1 \frac{\sin(ar)}{r} + \mu_2$
		$A = 0$	$\rho_F = \mu_1 r^2 + \mu_2$
		$A < 0$	$\rho_F = \mu_1 \frac{\sinh(ar)}{r} + \mu_2$

Ref: A. Bernoff and C. Topaz: "A primer of swarm equilibria"

# Numerical challenge

- Task: Find  $\text{supp } \rho$  and coefficients  $\mu_i$ , such that  $\int \rho dx = 1, \rho > 0$ .
- Remark: Multi-d convolution of radially symmetric functions are a linear operator of radial functions:  $(W \star \bar{\rho})(r) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^+} \Psi(r, s) \bar{\rho}(s) ds$ , where  $\Psi$  has to be computed.
- Strategy: support optimization  
 Vary support  $\Rightarrow$  "inverse" best fit approximation for  $\rho \Rightarrow$  positivity and unit mass hard constraints for feasibility  $\Rightarrow$  penalize  $(W \star \rho)(r) - s(r)$   
 select support with minimal penalty
- Discretization refinement:



# Search algorithm (for mills)

**Input** : fixed support  $B(R_m, R_M)$ , discretization size  $\Delta r$

(0): Define radial grid  $\bar{r} = \{r_0, \dots, r_N\}$  s.t.  $r_0 = r_l, r_N = R_r, r_{i+1} - r_i = \Delta r \forall i$

Denote  $\bar{\rho}$  the approximation of  $\rho$  on  $\bar{r}$  (likewise for other functions).

Compute a matrix  $H$  s.t.  $\overline{W \star \rho} = H\bar{\rho}$

(1): Evaluate  $\rho_{\text{inhom},A}$  on  $\text{supp } \rho$  and convolve  $\bar{s}_{\text{inhom}} := H\bar{\rho}_{\text{inhom},A}$ .

Define  $\bar{s}_{\text{rem}} := \bar{s} - \bar{s}_{\text{inhom}}$ .

(2): Evaluate  $J_0(ar), Y_0(ar), 1$  on  $\text{supp } \rho$  and convolve

$g^1 := H\bar{J}_0, g^2 := H\bar{Y}_0, g^3 := H\bar{1}$ .

(3): Fix three points  $r_1, r_j, r_N$  ( $j = \lfloor N/2 \rfloor$ ) and interpolate  $\bar{s}_{\text{rem}}$  with  $g_1, g_2, g_3 \Rightarrow$ .

$$\text{Solve } \mu_{\text{rem}} := \begin{pmatrix} g_1^1 & g_1^2 & g_1^3 \\ g_j^1 & g_j^2 & g_j^3 \\ g_N^1 & g_N^2 & g_N^3 \end{pmatrix} \setminus \begin{pmatrix} \bar{s}_{\text{rem},1} \\ \bar{s}_{\text{rem},j} \\ \bar{s}_{\text{rem},N} \end{pmatrix} \text{ with } j := \lfloor N/2 \rfloor.$$

(4): Likewise, interpolate the constant  $D = 1$  temp. choice  $\Rightarrow$

$$\text{Solve } \mu_{\text{const}} := \begin{pmatrix} g_1^1 & g_1^2 & g_1^3 \\ g_j^1 & g_j^2 & g_j^3 \\ g_N^1 & g_N^2 & g_N^3 \end{pmatrix} \setminus \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

(5): Set  $\bar{\rho}_{\text{rem}} := \mu_{\text{rem},1}\bar{J}_0 + \mu_{\text{rem},2}\bar{Y}_0 + \mu_{\text{rem},3}$  and  $\bar{\rho}_{\text{const}} := \mu_{\text{const},1}\bar{J}_0 + \mu_{\text{const},2}\bar{Y}_0 + \mu_{\text{const},3}$ .

(6): Set  $\bar{\rho} := \bar{\rho}_{\text{inhom},A} + \bar{\rho}_{\text{rem}} + \gamma\bar{\rho}_{\text{const}}$  with  $\gamma := \frac{1 - m(\bar{\rho}_{\text{rem}}) - m(\bar{\rho}_{\text{inhom},A})}{m(\bar{\rho}_{\text{temp}})}$  (unit mass).

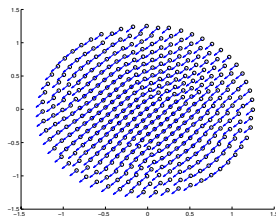
(7): Measure deviation from  $\bar{s}$ :  $e_1 := \frac{1}{R_M - R_m} \int \left[ H\bar{\rho} - \bar{s} - \frac{1}{R_M - R_m} \int (H\bar{\rho} - \bar{s}) d\bar{r} \right] d\bar{r}$ .

(8): Penalize convexity of  $\bar{s}$  by  $e_2 := \int \chi_{[\bar{s}'' > 0]} \bar{s} d\bar{r}$

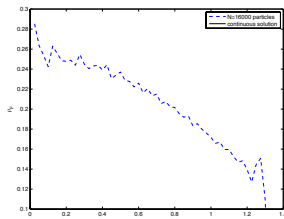
**Output** :  $e = e_1 + e_2, \bar{\rho}, \bar{s}$  if  $\bar{\rho} \geq 0$



# Results: 2D flock



Flock,  $N=400$

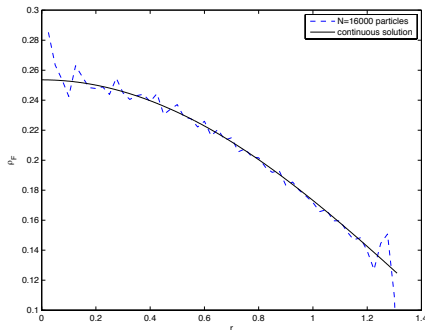


Empirical radial density,  $N=16000$   $\rho(r)$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} C = \frac{10}{9} & k = \frac{1}{2} & l = \frac{3}{4} \\ \alpha = 1 & \beta = 5 & \lambda = 100 \end{array}$$

$N =$  number of particles

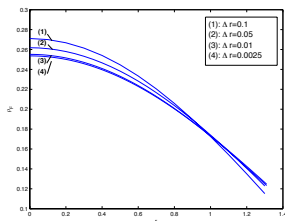
# Results: 2D flock



Stationary flock solution:  $\rho_F = \mu_1 J_0(ar) + \mu_2$   
 with  $\mu_1 \approx 0.2356$ ,  $\mu_2 \approx 0.018$ ,  $A = 1.5$ ,  $R_F \approx 1.31$

$C = \frac{10}{9}$	$k = \frac{1}{2}$	$l = \frac{3}{4}$
$\alpha = 1$	$\beta = 5$	$\lambda = 100$

# Results: 2D flock

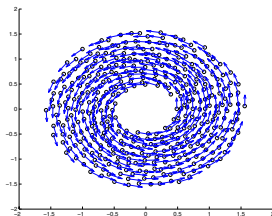


Continuous solution  $\rho_F$  for varying  $\Delta r$

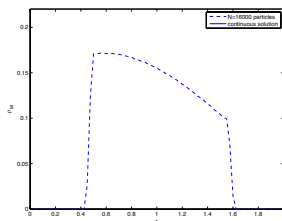
$\Delta r$	error $e$	computation time
0.1	3.54e-05	0.76s
0.05	1.36e-05	2.85s
0.01	3.99e-06	69.1s
0.0025	9.97e-07	1125s

Computation times & error convergence

# Results: 2D mill



Mill,  $N=400$

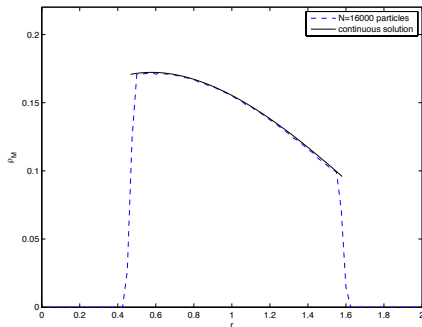


Empirical radial density,  $N=16000$   $\rho(r)$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} C = \frac{10}{9} & k = \frac{1}{2} & l = \frac{3}{4} \\ \alpha = 1 & \beta = 5 & \lambda = 100 \end{array}$$

$N$  = number of particles

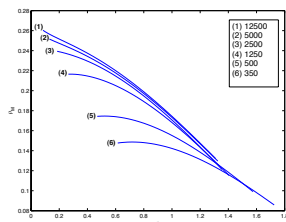
# Results: 2D mill



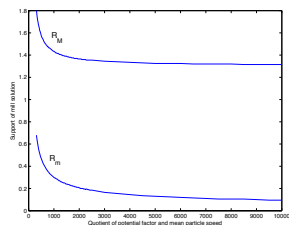
Stationary mill solution:  $\rho_M = \frac{k^4}{\lambda a^2 l^2 (1-C)} \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \log(r) + \mu_1 J_0(ar) + \mu_2 Y_0(ar) + \mu_3$   
 $\mu_1 \approx 0.1708, \mu_2 \approx 0.0468, \mu_3 = 0.0320, a^2 = A = 1.5, \text{supp}_{\rho_M} \approx B(0.47, 1.57)$

$C = \frac{10}{9}$	$k = \frac{1}{2}$	$l = \frac{3}{4}$
$\alpha = 1$	$\beta = 5$	$\lambda = 100$

# Result: 2D mill parameter dependence $\lambda, \alpha, \beta$



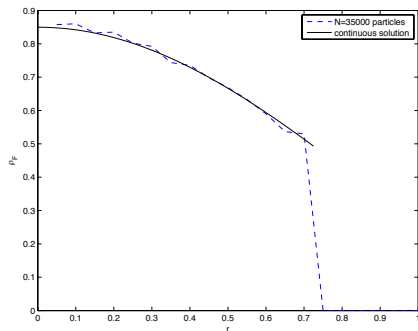
Density shapes



Support sizes

Mill solutions with identical shape parameters  $C, l, k$  and varying ratio  $\beta\lambda/\alpha$ .

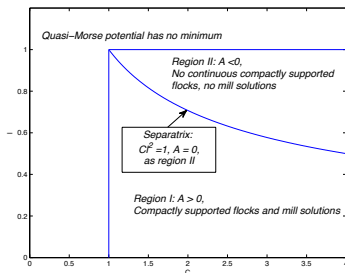
# Results: 3D flock



Stationary flock solution:  $\rho_F = \mu_1 \cdot \sin(ar)_r^{\frac{1}{r}} + \mu_2 \cdot 1$   
 with  $\mu_1 \approx 0.3574$ ,  $\mu_2 \approx 0.0052$ ,  $R_F \approx 0.725$ ,  $A = 5.585$ .

$C = 1.255$	$k = 0.2$	$l = 0.8$
$\alpha = 1$	$\beta = 5$	$\lambda = 100$

# Result: Parameter dependencies for Quasi-Morse

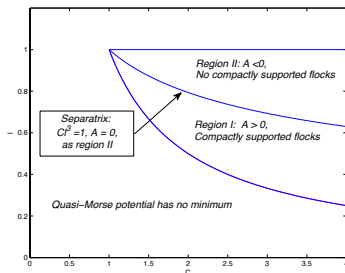


2D parameter phase diagram

Region I:  $A > 0$ : compactly supported flocks (and mills in 2D) are found

Region II:  $A < 0$ : no compactly supported solutions are found

Separatrix:  $A = 0$ : no compactly supported solutions are found



3D parameter phase diagram



# Conclusions

- Introduced and defined Quasi-Morse potentials.
- All relevant coherent patterns of motions have been observed (micro).
- Flock and mill solutions have been explicitly derived.
- Numerical algorithm to determine linear coefficients has been introduced.
- Coherent match between our result and microscopics.
- Catastrophic potentials  $A > 0$ : compactly supported solutions are found, H-stable  $A \leq 0$ : no solutions are found (in accordance to microscopics).
- $\sum$ : Quasi-Morse potentials allow computationally cheap explicit computation of stationary flock and mill solutions without simulating any time evolution, offering essentially the same modeling.

# Thanks

Thank you for your attention!