

# Self-organization of bacterial mixtures using motility regulation

J. Tailleur



Laboratoire MSC  
CNRS - Université Paris Diderot

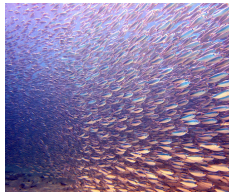


active20@KITP

[A. I. Curatolo, N. Zhou, Y. Zhao, C. Liu, A. Daerr, J. Tailleur, J.-D. Huang, BioRxiv:798827, Nat. Phys. in Press.]

# Active matter

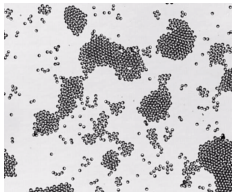
*Drive at the microscopic level* → *Strongly out of equilibrium* → *Fundamentally new physics*



- Biological relevance
- Explore new dynamical phenomenology

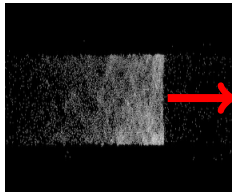
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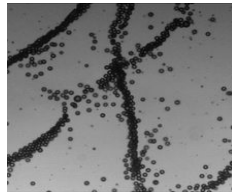
Clusters without attractive interactions

[van der Linden, PRL 2019]



Solitonic waves

[Bricard, Nature 2013]

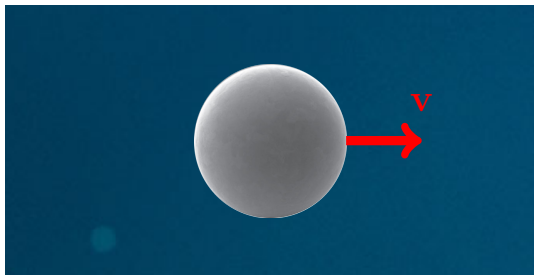


Filaments

[Thutupalli, PNAS 2018]

- Biological relevance
- Active Soft Materials
- Explore new dynamical phenomenology
- Build generic framework for Active Matter

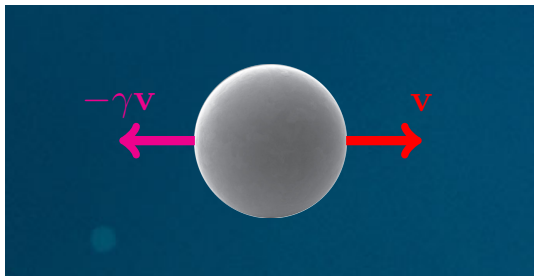
## Active vs Passive particles



$$m\dot{v} = -V'_{\text{ext}}(x) - \gamma v + \sqrt{2\gamma kT}\eta$$

- Colloid in a fluid at equilibrium:

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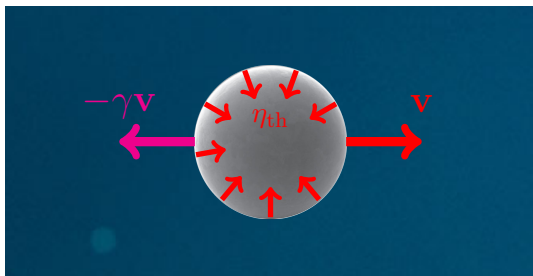


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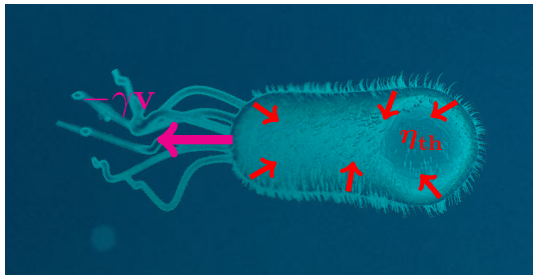
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- Colloid in a fluid at equilibrium: **Fluctuation-Dissipation theorem**  $D = kT/\gamma$

→ **Dissipation**: mean (drag) force from the fluid  $\propto \gamma$

→ **Injection of energy**: fluctuating force from the fluid  $\propto \gamma kT$

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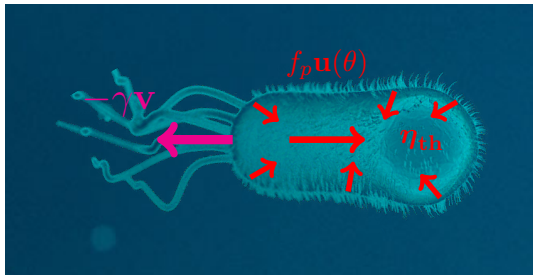
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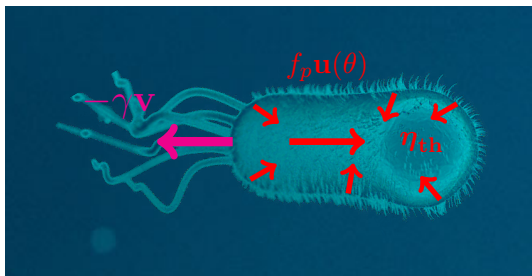
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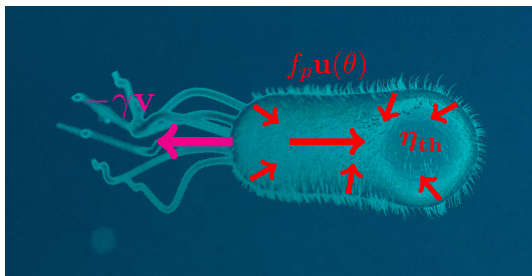
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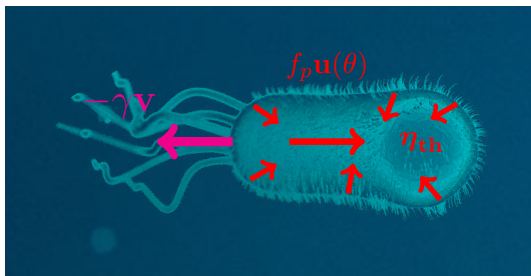
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- Breakdown of detailed-balance  $\rightarrow$  Steady-state not easily inferred from dynamics

# Passive vs active dynamics

$$\dot{\mathbf{r}} = -\nabla V(\mathbf{r}) + \sqrt{2D}\boldsymbol{\eta}$$

Gaussian white noise  $\boldsymbol{\eta}$

Equilibrium Stat. Mech.

$$\dot{\mathbf{r}} = -\nabla V(\mathbf{r}) + \mathbf{v}_p$$

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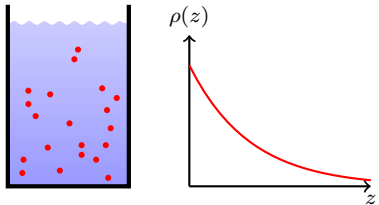
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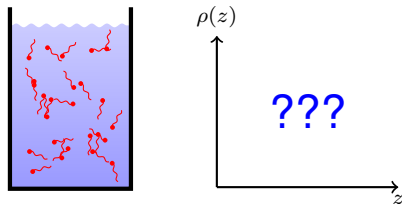
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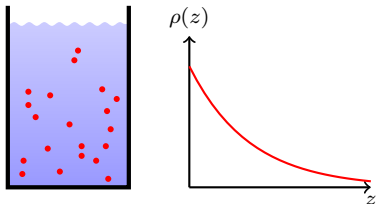


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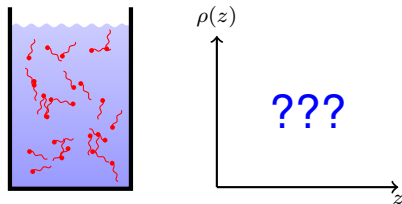
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→ Rather frustrating situation: what can be saved from (near-) equilibrium methods?

Outside the limit in which  $\mathbf{v}_p$  amounts to a Gaussian white noise

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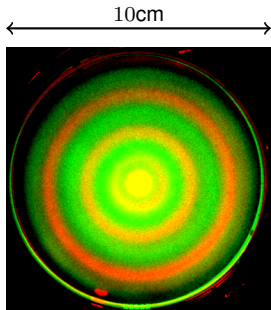
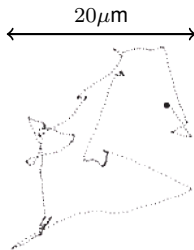
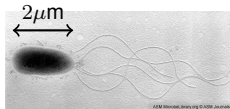
- Outside equilibrium

- No generic formula for steady-state distribution

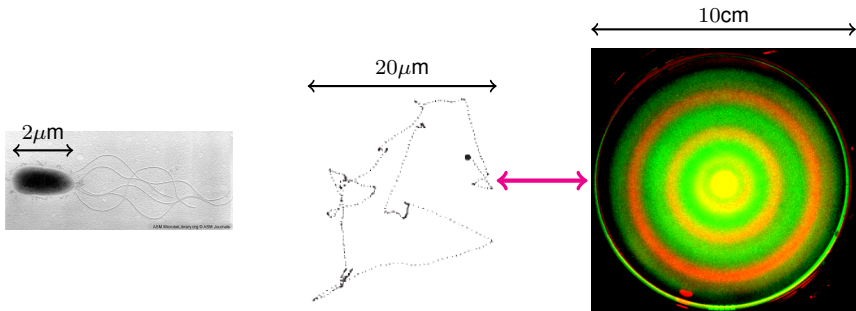
- Little basis upon which to build intuition

- Few guiding principles for self-assembly

# A statistical-mechanics framework for Active Matter

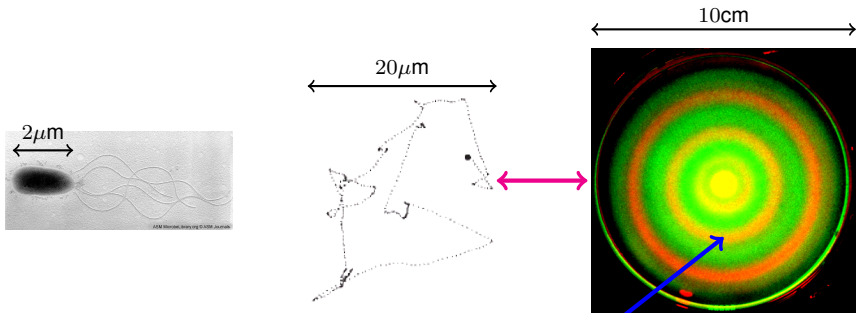


# A statistical-mechanics framework for Active Matter



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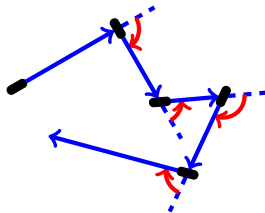
- How to go from micro to macro ?
- To understand and control (self-)organization ?

## Run-and-tumble bacteria [Berg & Brown, Nature, 1972]

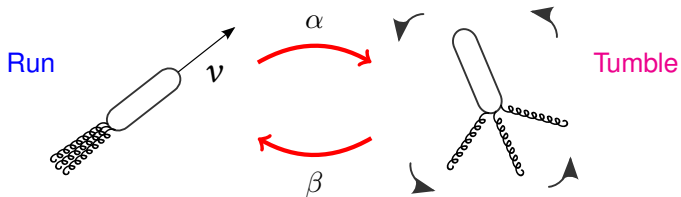


- **Run**: straight line (velocity  $v \simeq 20 \mu\text{m}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ )
- **Tumble**: new direction (rate  $\alpha \simeq 1 \text{ s}^{-1}$ , duration  $\tau \simeq 0.1 \text{ s}$ )

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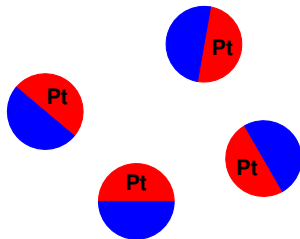


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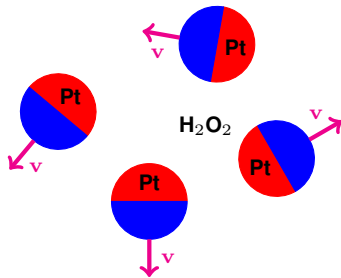
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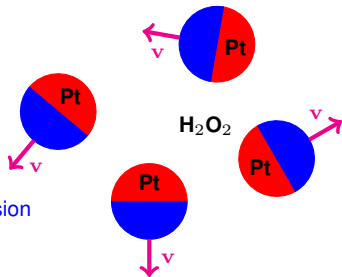
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- Active Brownian Particles: continuous rotational diffusion

$$\dot{\mathbf{r}}(t) = v\mathbf{u}(\theta) + \sqrt{2D_t}\boldsymbol{\eta}; \quad \dot{\theta}(t) = \sqrt{2D_r}\xi$$

$$v \simeq 1\mu.s^{-1}; \quad D_t \simeq .3\mu^2.s^{-1}; \quad D_{\text{eff}} \simeq 1 - 4\mu^2.s^{-1}$$



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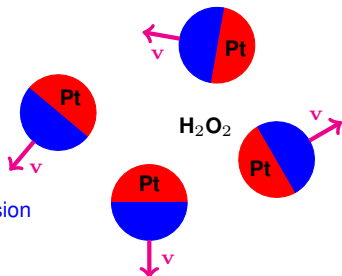
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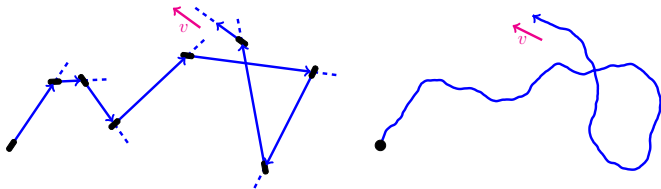
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- **Many other types of self-propelled colloids...**

- **Light-controlled** [Palacci *et al.* Science **339**, 936 (2013)] •

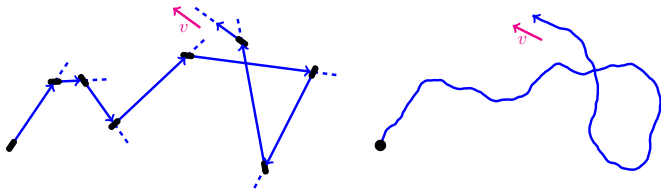


# Motility-control as a self-organization principle



- Self-propelled particles with propelling speed  $v$
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  - I. Non-interacting particles with spatially varying speed  $v(\mathbf{r})$
  - II. Quorum-sensing: density-dependent speed  $v(\rho)$
  - III. Application to bacterial pattern formation
  - IV. Multi-component systems

## Position-dependent self-propulsion speed $v(\mathbf{r})$

- Master-equation for the probability density  $P(\mathbf{r}, \theta)$

$$\partial_t P(\mathbf{r}, \theta; t) = -\nabla \cdot [v(\mathbf{r})\mathbf{u}(\theta)P(\mathbf{r}, \theta)] + \Theta P$$

- $\Theta P$ : Randomization of orientation

$$\Theta_{ABP}P = D_r \Delta_\theta P(\mathbf{r}, \theta); \quad \Theta_{RTP}P = -\alpha P(r, \theta) + \int d\theta' \frac{\alpha}{2\pi} P(\mathbf{r}, \theta')$$

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- (A bit of) translational diffusion only changes this quantitatively

$$P_{\text{stat}} \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{D + v^2\tau}}; \quad \tau^{-1} = d(d-1)D_r + d\alpha$$

# Experiments with bacteria

- Flagellar rotor can be controlled using light (proteorhodopsin)
- Quantitative check that  $\rho(\mathbf{r}) \propto \frac{1}{v(\mathbf{r})}$  [Arlt et al., arxiv:1902.10083]



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- Accumulation can be triggered by  $v(\mathbf{r}), \alpha(\mathbf{r}), \beta(\mathbf{r})$  → Many ways of slowing down

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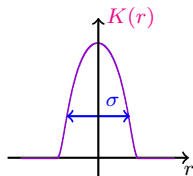
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$$\dot{\mathbf{r}}_i = v[\tilde{\rho}(\mathbf{r}_i)]\mathbf{u}(\theta_i); \quad \dot{\theta}_i = [\dots]$$

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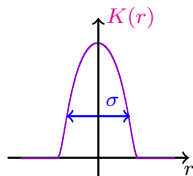
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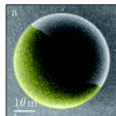


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- In reality, much more complex (*taxis*, time-delay, etc.)

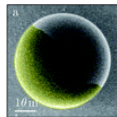
- Janus colloids in water-lutidine mixture with  $T \leq T_c$

[Volpe *et al*, Soft Mat. 2011]

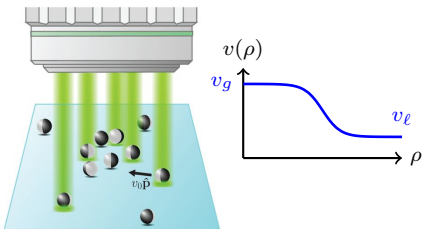


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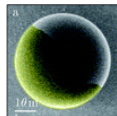


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- $v(\bar{\rho})$  through feedback mechanism

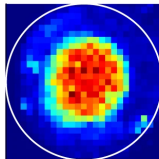
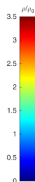
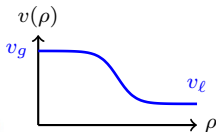
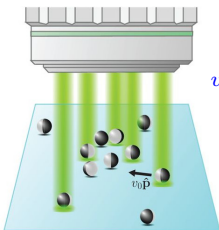




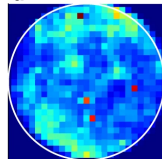
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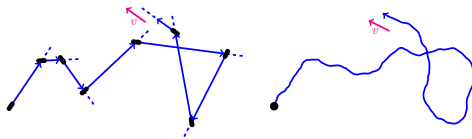


$$v = v_0 \in \mathbb{R}$$

- Can we understand this using our simple model?

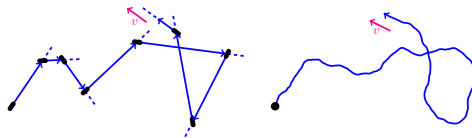
# Quorum-sensing *in silico*

- Consider RTPs and ABPs with QS interactions:  $\dot{\mathbf{r}}_i = v[\tilde{\rho}(\mathbf{r}_i)]\mathbf{u}(\theta_i)$ ;  $\dot{\theta}_i = [\dots]$   
[JT & M. Cates; PRL 2008, EPL 2013; Solon *et al.* EPJST 2015, PRE 2016, NJP 2018]

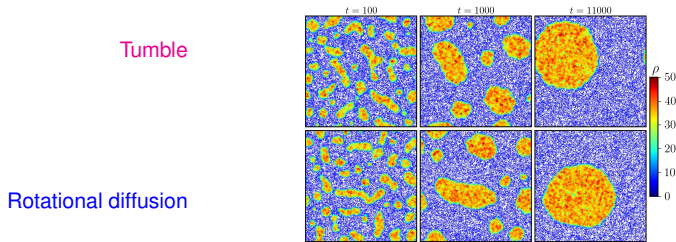


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- $v(\rho)$  decreases as  $\rho$  increases  $\longrightarrow$  Generic phase separation



# Hand-waving explanation

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$$\dot{P}(\mathbf{r}, \theta) = -\nabla_{\mathbf{r}} \cdot [v(\mathbf{r})P(r, \theta)\mathbf{u}(\theta)] + D_{\mathbf{r}}\partial_{\theta}^2 P(\mathbf{r}, \theta)$$

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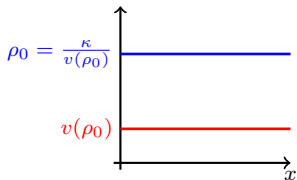
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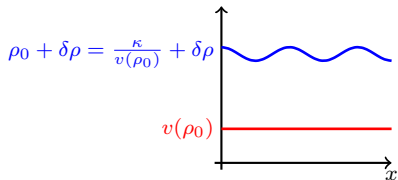
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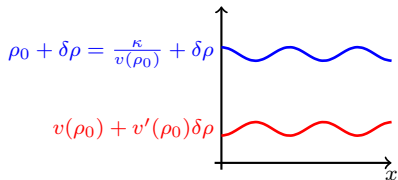
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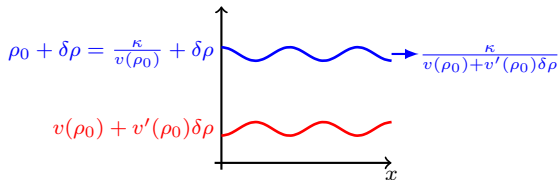
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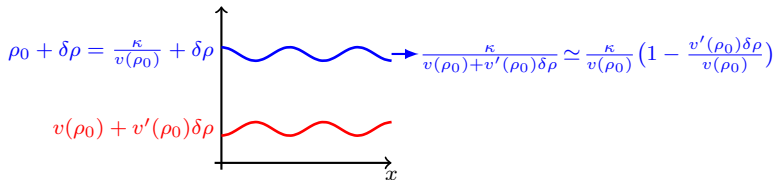
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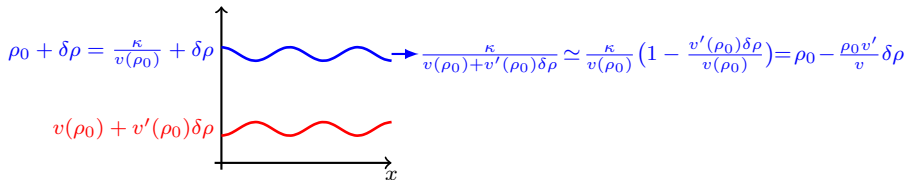
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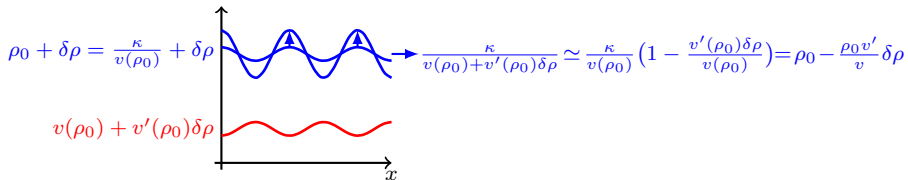
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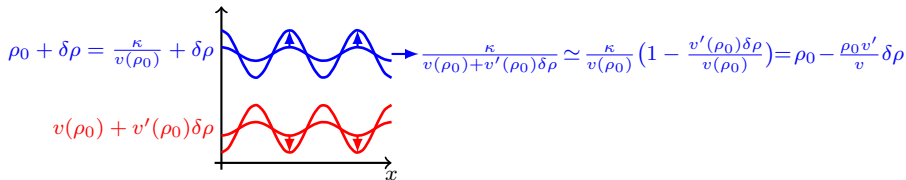
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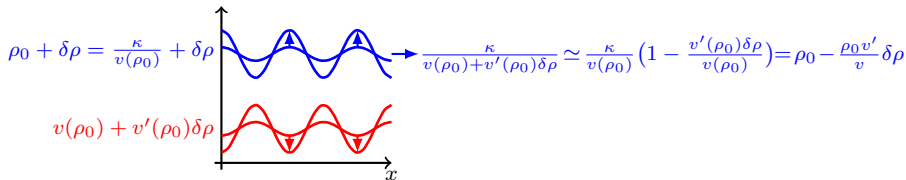
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- How can we characterize this phase separation?

# Hydrodynamics of Equilibrium Phase-Separation

- Large-scale dynamics of phase-separating scalar systems away from criticality

$$\dot{\rho} = -\nabla \cdot J[\rho] \quad \text{where} \quad J[\rho] = -M[\rho] \nabla \frac{\delta \mathcal{F}}{\delta \rho}$$

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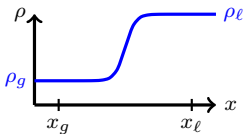
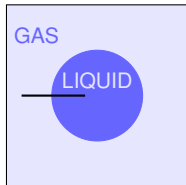
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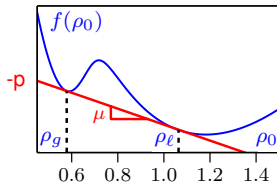
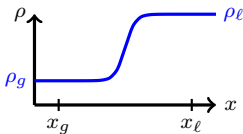
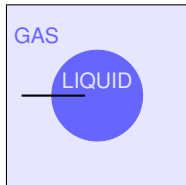
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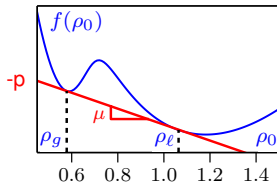
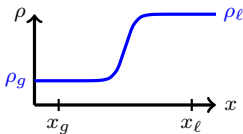
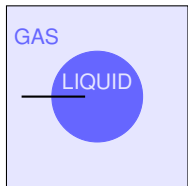
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- $F \simeq V \rho_0$  and  $\rho_0 = \frac{N}{V} \longrightarrow$  Chemical potential  $\mu = \frac{\partial F}{\partial N} = f'(\rho_0)$  and Pressure  $p = -\frac{\partial F}{\partial V} = \rho f'(\rho) - f(\rho)$

## Quorum sensing self-propelled particles

- $\dot{\mathbf{r}}_i = v[\tilde{\rho}(\mathbf{r}_i)]\mathbf{u}(\theta_i)$ ;  $\tilde{\rho}(\mathbf{r}_i) = \sum_j K(|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|)$ ;  $\sigma^2 = \int dr K(r)r^2$
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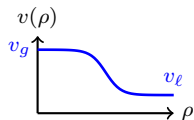
$\longrightarrow$  Common-tangent on  $f(\rho)$  leads to a wrong phase diagram

[Wittkowski *et al.* Nat. Com. 5, 4351 (2014)]

# Hydrodynamics of Quorum-sensing active particles

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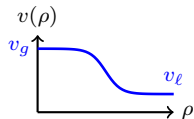


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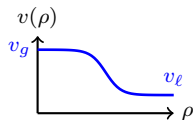
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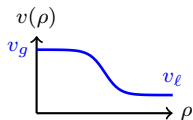
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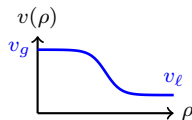
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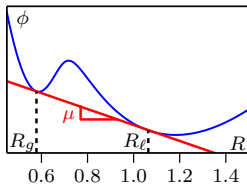


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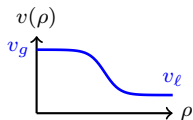
Common-tangent construction on the effective free energy density  $\phi(R)$



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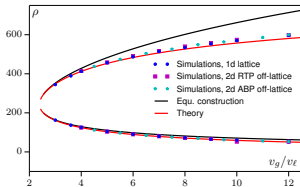
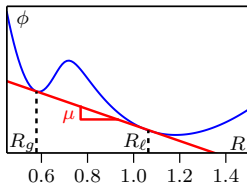


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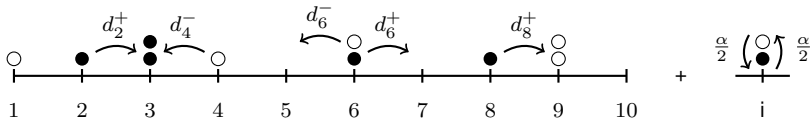
→ (Almost) quantitative agreement ☺️



# Be wise, discretize !

- Lattice-gas model of run & tumble particles (RTP)

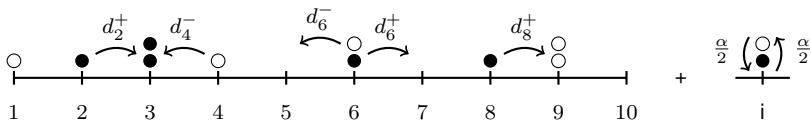
[Thompson et al. JSTAT 2011; Soto & Golestanian PRE 2014; Whitelam JCP 2018]



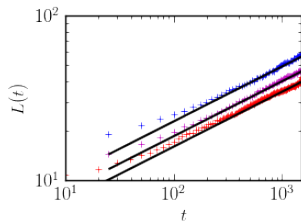
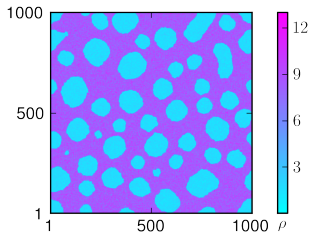
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- Exclusion:  $d_i^\pm = v_0 \left(1 - \frac{n_{i \pm 1}}{n_M}\right)$



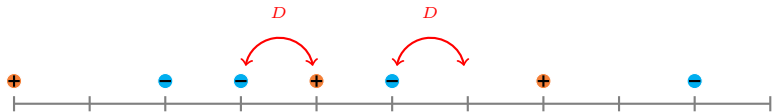
## An exactly solvable case

- Lattice of  $\alpha L$  sites with at most one particle per site



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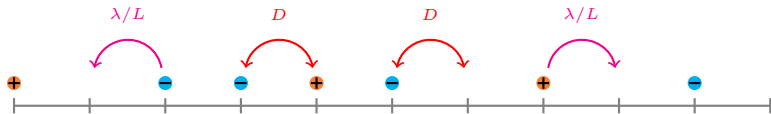
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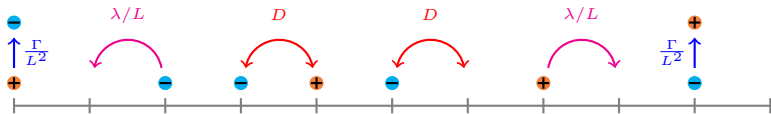
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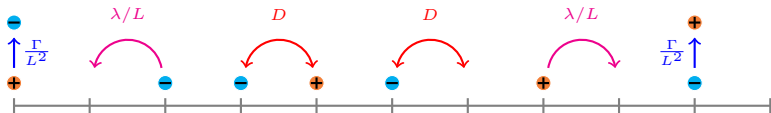
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- **Undergoes MIPS** if  $\rho_0 = N/L^d$  and  $\lambda$  are large enough

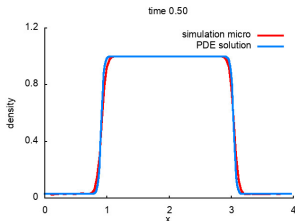
# Phase equilibrium

- Exact hydrodynamic equations for density and magnetisation

$$x = \frac{i}{L}, t = \frac{t_{\text{micro}}}{L^2}$$

[M. Kourbane-Houssene *et al*, PRL (2018); C. Érigoux, arXiv:1608.04937]

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_t \rho(x, t) &= D\Delta\rho + \lambda\nabla[m(1 - \rho)] \\ \partial_t m(x, t) &= D\Delta m + \lambda\nabla[\rho(1 - \rho)] - 2\Gamma m\end{aligned}$$





# Phase equilibrium

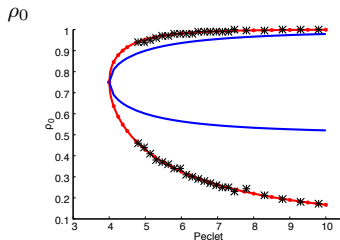
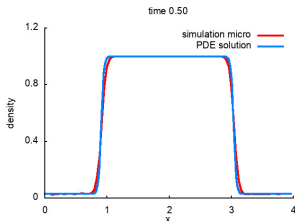
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- More complicated but can still be solved using the same transform



$$\frac{\lambda}{\sqrt{D\gamma}}$$

- Exact, parameter-free result

# MIPS from repulsive forces

- Self-propelled particles with pairwise forces (PFAPs)

[Fily & Marchetti PRL 2012, Redner et al. PRL 2013, Stenhammar et al. PRL 2013, Bialké et al. PRL 2013, ...]

$$\dot{\mathbf{r}}_i = v\mathbf{u}(\theta_i) - \mu \sum_j F_{ij}(\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j) + \sqrt{2D_t}\eta_i; \quad \dot{\theta}_i = \sqrt{2D_r}\xi_i$$

- Interactions yields decreasing  $v(\rho) \equiv \sum_i \dot{\mathbf{r}}_i \cdot \mathbf{u}(\theta_i)$  [Fily et al PRL (2012)]

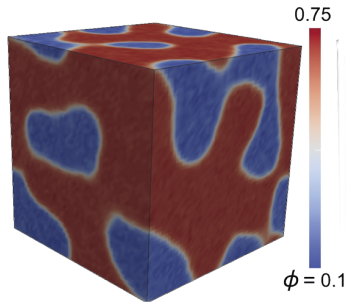
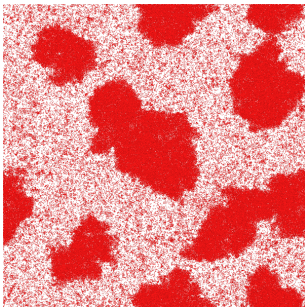
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→ Same phenomenology as QSAPs

- Interesting qualitative & quantitative differences [Tjhung et al, PRX 2018; Caporusso et al, arxiv:2005.06893]

# Pressure-driven instability

- Hydrodynamic description [Solon *et al.*, PRE 2016, NJP 2018]

$$\dot{\rho}(\mathbf{r}) = -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} \quad \text{where} \quad \mathbf{J} = \mu \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}; \quad \boldsymbol{\sigma} = [\text{Bunch of bulk correlators}]$$

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$$P(\rho) = P_D + P_A \quad \text{where} \quad P_A = \rho \frac{v_0 v(\rho)}{2\mu D_r}; \quad v(\rho) = \left\langle \sum_i \hat{\mathbf{r}}_i \cdot \mathbf{u}(\theta_i) \right\rangle$$

- $P_D$  passive pressure: mean force exerted through a plane
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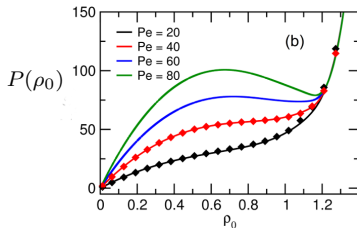
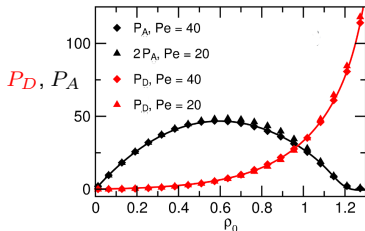
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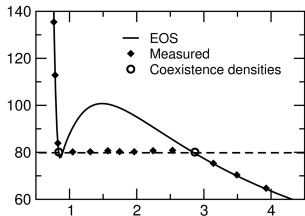
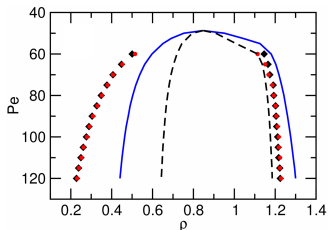
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- $P'(\rho) < 0$  predicts linear instability



# Pairwise forces—Summary

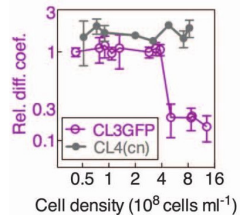
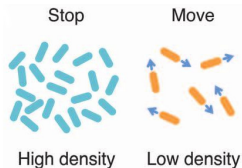
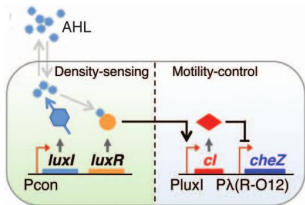
- Phase diagram in quantitative agreement with generalized thermodynamical construction



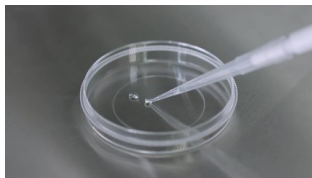
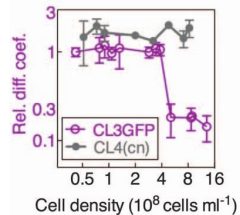
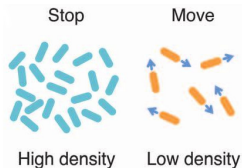
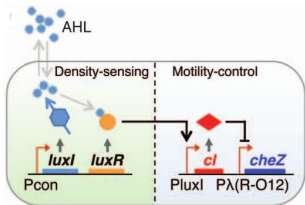
- Equal mechanical pressure in coexisting phases
- Can do isobaric ensemble
- Failure of Maxwell construction
- Quite rich physics still to be explored (surface tension, bubbles, etc.)



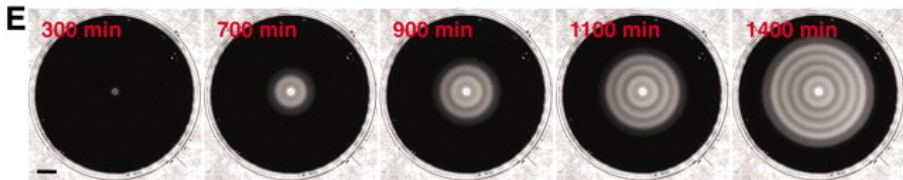
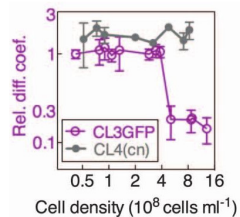
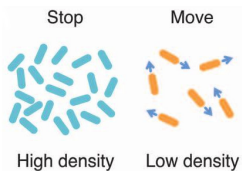
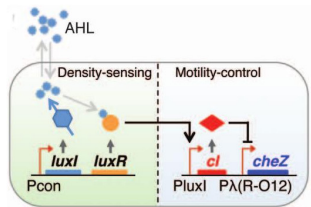
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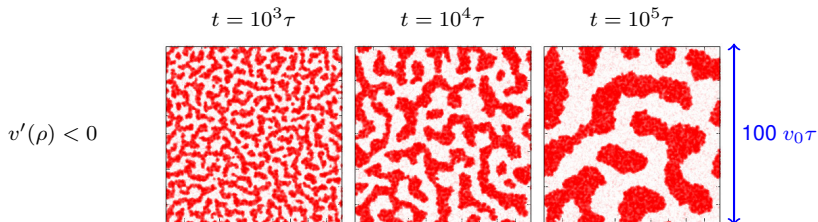
Patterns instead of MIPS [Liu et al., Science (2011)]. Nice, but why ?

## Interplay between density and mobility: Quorum-sensing interactions

- Particle slow down at high density (slower, more tumbles, longer tumbles . . .)
- Instability mechanism: feedback loop [Cates, Tailleur, Ann. Rev. of Cond. Mat. Phys. 2015]
  - Bacteria accumulate where they are less motile
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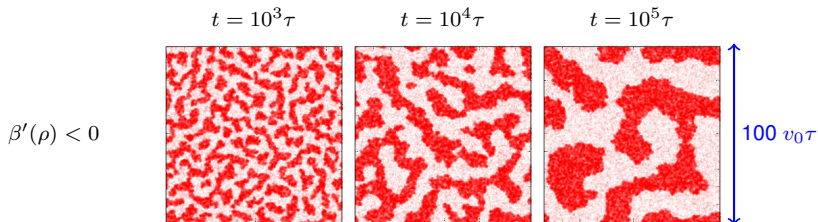
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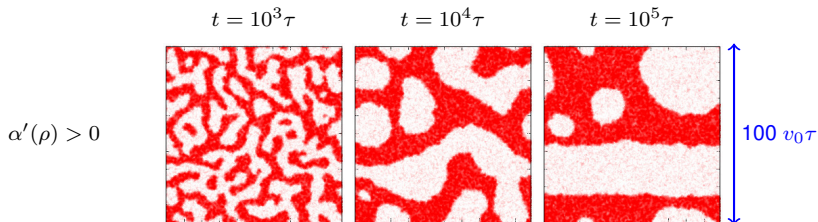
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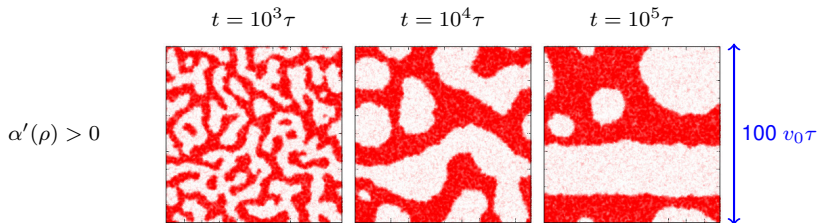
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- Slow coarsening leads to complete motility-induced phase separation
- No finite-size patterns: What is the missing ingredient?



# Pattern formation in bacterial colonies: a simple mechanism

- Coarsening is slow → Long-time dynamics (24 hours)
- Large-scale description of run & tumble dynamics:

$$\dot{\rho} = \nabla \left[ \frac{v^2 \beta}{d\alpha(\beta+\alpha)} \nabla \rho + \frac{v\rho}{d\alpha} \nabla \frac{v\beta}{\alpha+\beta} \right]$$

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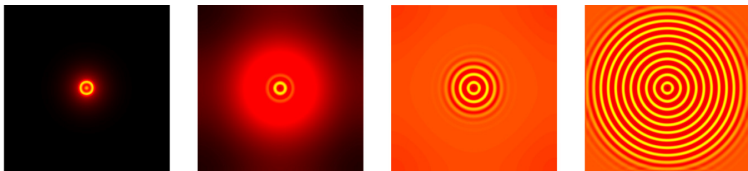
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→ Qualitatively accounts for the experiments

- What happened to the phase-separation ?

# Birth & death vs phase separation

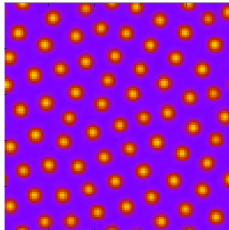
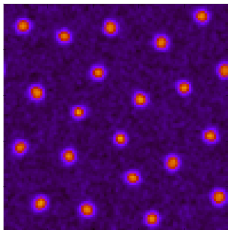
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- **Competition**  $\rightarrow$  Micro-phase separation •



- **Motility-induced phase separation + population dynamics**  $\rightarrow$  Finite-size patterns

[Cates *et al.* PNAS 2010; Liu *et al.* Science 2011]

## Mathematically: linear stability analysis

- Simplified model: 
$$\partial_t \rho = \nabla \cdot [D_c(\rho) \nabla \rho + \rho \nabla D_c(\rho)] - \kappa \Delta^2 \rho + \alpha \rho \left(1 - \frac{\rho}{\rho_0}\right)$$

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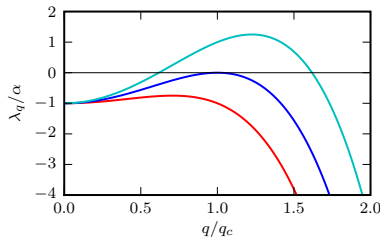


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- Transition at finite  $q_c$  when  $D_c(\rho_0) + \rho_0 D'_c(\rho_0)$  strongly negative  $\rightarrow$  Patterns

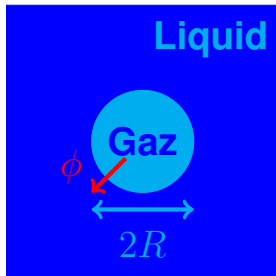


## Selection of a lengthscale



- Droplet of radius  $R$

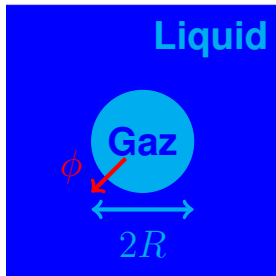
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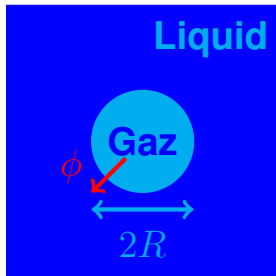
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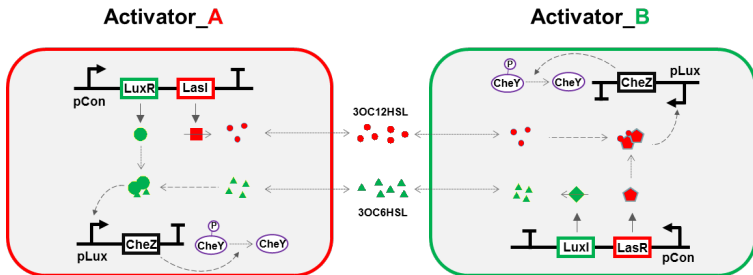
$\rightarrow$  Steady-state radius  $R \sim 2\phi/\alpha$

# Multi-component bacterial colonies (with J. Huang, HKU)

- Idea: two strains *A* and *B*
- Reciprocal motility control

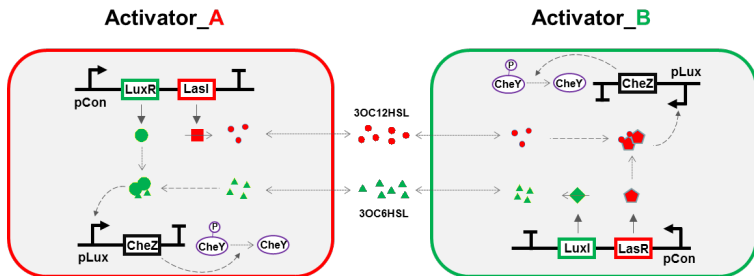
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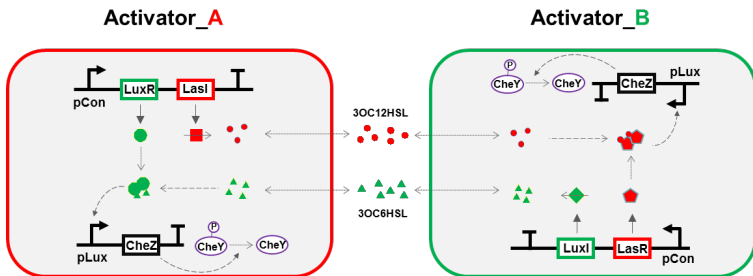


- Constant production of **3OC12HSL** → Enhance expression of CheZ in **B**
- Enhance expression of CheZ in **A** ← Constant production of **3OC6HSL**



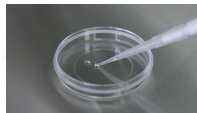
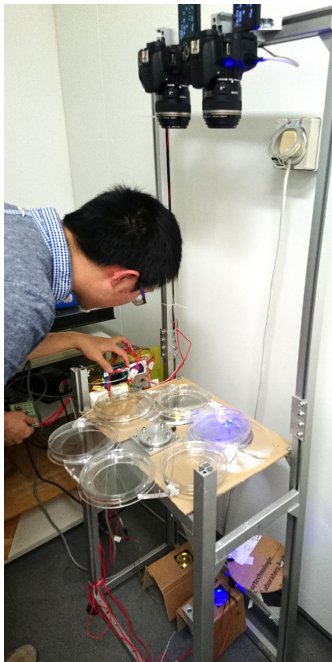
# Multi-component bacterial colonies (with J. Huang, HKU)

- Idea: two strains *A* and *B*
- Reciprocal motility control

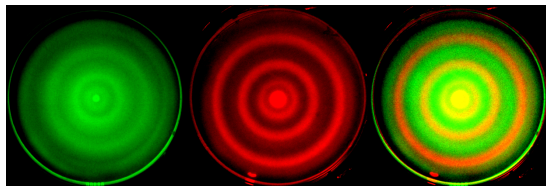


- Constant production of **3OC12HSL** → Enhance expression of CheZ in **B**
- Enhance expression of CheZ in **A** ← Constant production of **3OC6HSL**
- Reciprocal enhancement or inhibition of motility can be implemented

# Experimental results [N. Zhou, Y. Zhao, A. Daerr]



Mutual activation of motility

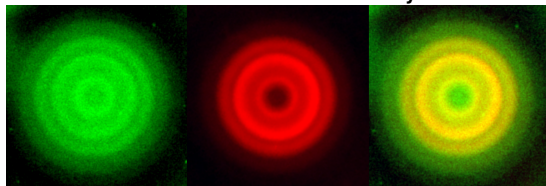


B

A

A+B

Mutual inhibition of motility



A

B

A+B

# Macroscopic dynamics (Agnese Curatolo)

Time evolution of the density fields

- $\rho_A(\mathbf{r}, t) = \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_A} \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_\ell^A(t))$
- $\rho_B(\mathbf{r}, t) = \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_B} \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_\ell^B(t))$

Run-and-tumble dynamics + density-dependent swimming rate  $\beta_A(\rho_B), \beta_B(\rho_A)$

$$\dot{\rho}_A(\mathbf{r}, t) = \nabla \cdot \left( D_A(\rho_B) \nabla \rho_A - \mathbf{F}_A(\rho_B) \rho_A + \sqrt{2D_A(\rho_B)\rho_A} \Lambda_A \right)$$

$$\dot{\rho}_B(\mathbf{r}, t) = \nabla \cdot \left( D_B(\rho_A) \nabla \rho_B - \mathbf{F}_B(\rho_A) \rho_B + \sqrt{2D_B(\rho_A)\rho_B} \Lambda_B \right)$$

$$D_x(\rho_y) = \frac{v^2}{2\alpha \left( 1 + \frac{\alpha}{\beta_x(\rho_y)} \right)} ; \quad \mathbf{F}_x(\rho_y) = -\frac{v^2}{2\alpha} \nabla \frac{1}{1 + \frac{\alpha}{\beta_x(\rho_y)}}$$

# The origin of the patterns

Linear analysis of the hydrodynamic equations around homogeneous profiles  $\rho_A^0$  and  $\rho_B^0$ :

$$\rho_A = \rho_A^0 + \delta\rho_A \quad \rho_B = \rho_B^0 + \delta\rho_B$$

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**Mutual activation of the motility**

$$\beta'_A > 0 \quad \beta'_B > 0$$

**Mutual inhibition of the motility**

$$\beta'_A < 0 \quad \beta'_B < 0$$

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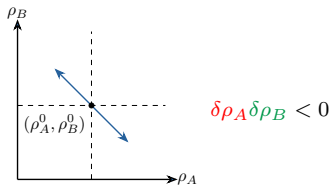
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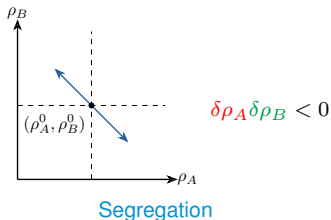
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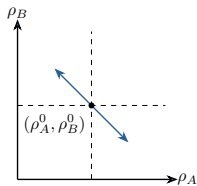
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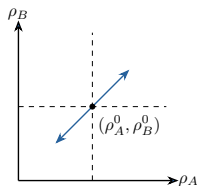


$$\delta\rho_A\delta\rho_B < 0$$

Segregation

Mutual inhibition of the motility

$$\beta'_A < 0 \quad \beta'_B < 0$$



$$\delta\rho_A\delta\rho_B > 0$$

# The origin of the patterns

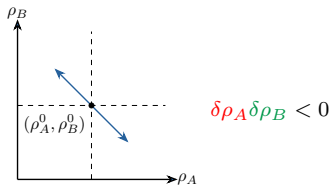
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**Mutual activation of the motility**

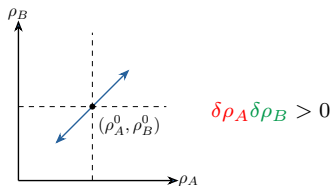
$$\beta'_A > 0 \quad \beta'_B > 0$$



**Segregation**

**Mutual inhibition of the motility**

$$\beta'_A < 0 \quad \beta'_B < 0$$



**Colocalization**

# Overall dynamics

At longer time-scales: population growth

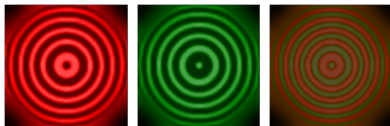
$$\dot{\rho}_A(\mathbf{r}, t) = \nabla \cdot [D_A(\rho_B)\nabla\rho_A - \mathbf{F}_A(\rho_B)\rho_A] - \kappa\Delta^2\rho_A + \mu\rho_A \left(1 - \frac{\rho_A + \rho_B}{\rho_0}\right)$$

$$\dot{\rho}_B(\mathbf{r}, t) = \nabla \cdot [D_B(\rho_A)\nabla\rho_B - \mathbf{F}_B(\rho_A)\rho_B] - \kappa\Delta^2\rho_B + \mu\rho_B \left(1 - \frac{\rho_A + \rho_B}{\rho_0}\right)$$

Quorum-sensing interactions

Population dynamics

Mutual activation of motility

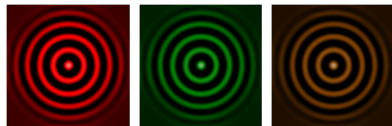


A

B

A+B

Mutual inhibition of motility



A

B

A+B

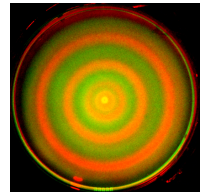
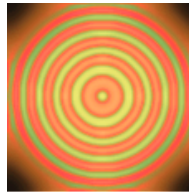
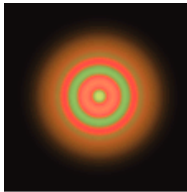
# N-species MIPF

- $N$  populations of interacting active particles
- Mutual inhibition  $\rightarrow$  Phase separation with colocalization
- Mutual activation  $\rightarrow$  Phase separation with demixing
- Population dynamics arrest growth: MIPS  $\rightarrow$  MIPF

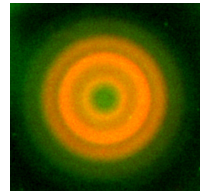
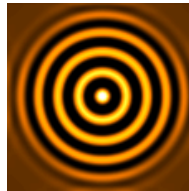
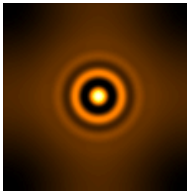
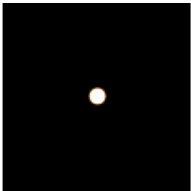
Simulations: spreading of the bacterial mixture

experiments

activation



inhibition



time

# Summary

- A LOT can be achieved using motility-control to self-organize SPPs
- *In silico* & In experiments
- Theory starts to be well established

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Thanks to: R. Blythe, T. Bodineau, M. Cates, A. Curatolo, A. Daerr, C. Erignoux, Y. Fily, J. Huang, Y. Kafri, M. Kardar, M. Kourbane-Houssenne, C. Liu, D. Marenduzzo, N. Zhou, J. O'Byrne, I. Pagonabarraga, A. Solon, J. Stenhammar, A. Thompson, R. Wittkowsky, Y. Zhao

# A biased, unfair, restricted and incomplete view on MIPS & bacteria

- MIPS

- **Quorum sensing:** [Tailleur Cates PRL 100, 218103 (2008); Cates Tailleur EPL 101, 20010 (2013); Solon Cates Tailleur, EPSJT 224, 1231 (2015); ...]
- **Pairwise forces:** [Fily Marchetti PRL 108, 235702 (2012); Redner, Baskaran, Hagan PRL 110, 055701 (2013); Solon et al, PRL 114, 198301 (2015); ...]
- **On lattice:** [Thompson et al, JSM P02029 (2011); Soto & Golestanian, PRE 89, 012706 (2014); Manacorda & Puglisi, PRL 119, 208003 (2017); Whitelam et al, JCP 148, 154902 (2018); ...]
- **Generalized thermodynamics:** [Solon et al., NJP 2018]

- Pattern formation in single-strain bacterial colonies

- **Theory:** [Cates et al, PNAS 2010]
- **Experiments:** [Liu et al, Science 2011]

- Pattern formation in two-strain bacterial colonies: [Curatolo et al, bioarxiv:2019]