## Collective Motion in Populations of Colloidal Bots



## Denis Bartolo

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$\mathbf{C}$ oherent directed motion


Sardines: 7km-long school
$\mathbf{C}$ oherent directed motion


Sardines: 7km-long school

Coherent directed motion


Locusts: 14km-long swarm

Coherent directed motion


Locusts: 14km-long swarm

## Similar large-scale behavior



Steve Dunleavy


National geographic
National geographic

Different interactions at the individual level


Steve Dunleavy


National geographic


National geographic

## Physicists' comfort zone


$\mathbf{V i}_{\mathbf{i}} \quad$ Emergence of directed motion?
$\mathbf{r i}_{\mathbf{i}}$ Self-organization into "localized" groups?
How is the translational symmetry broken?

$\mathbf{V}_{\mathbf{i}}$
Emergence of directed motion? How is the rotational symmetry broken?
$\mathbf{r i}_{\mathbf{i}}$ Self-organization into "localized" groups?
How is the translational symmetry broken?

$$
\mathbf{v}_{i}=v_{0} \mathbf{p}_{i}
$$

$$
\theta_{i}(t+1)=\left\langle\theta_{i}(t)\right\rangle_{R}+\xi_{i}(t)
$$



Polar active matter

## Hallmarks of polar active matter



## Hallmarks of polar active matter



## Hallmarks of polar active matter


$N_{\text {Theories }} \gg N_{\text {Experiments }}$

## The hallmarks of active matter

3
$N_{\text {Theories }} \gg N_{\text {Experiments }}$


## The hallmarks of active matter

3

## $N_{\text {Theories }} \gg N_{\text {Experiments }}$

~0 model system until 2010


Polar-liquid phase?

## Large-scale population dynamics

## Requirements

- $N \ggg 1$ Small (Paris: 12000 efm)
- Quantitative measurements (tracking)
- Known polar interactions


# Quincke Rotation 



## Quincke Rotation

G. Quincke, Ann. Phys. Chem. 59, 417 (1896).



$\boldsymbol{\Omega} \sim \mathbf{P} \times \mathbf{E}$

Self-propelled particles: 2nd trick


Self-propelled particles: 2nd trick


PMMA colloids
Hexadecane oil+AOT salt

Microfluidic channel:
TO coated glass


Colloidal rolling robots


Colloidal rolling robots


Colloidal rolling robots



$\checkmark$

Collective motion?

## Periodic boundary conditions



Collective motion?

## Periodic boundary conditions



Flocking


Flocking


Focking


Bricard, Caussin, Desreumaux, Dauchot, and Bartolo, Nature (2013)

Focking


Bricard, Caussin, Desreumaux, Dauchot, and Bartolo, Nature (2013)





Does NOT depend on the field amplitude

Colloidal swarms: Polar bands



Exponential tail

$$
\phi_{\infty} \sim \phi_{c}
$$

$$
L_{\text {band }} \nearrow \phi_{0} \nearrow
$$

Colloidal swarms: Polar bands



Exponential tail

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No intrinsic length scale

«Phase coexistence»


Spontaneously flowing liquid


Spontaneously flowing liquid


Weakly correlated "Iliquid"

Polar liquid: Density fluctuations


No Giant-Number Fluctuations !

## Equations of motion

Stokes equation

+ Maxwell equation
+ outstanding student



## Equations of motion



$$
\dot{\mathbf{r}}_{j}=v_{0} \hat{\mathbf{p}}_{j}
$$

constant speed
$\dot{\theta}_{j}=-\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_{j}} \sum_{i \neq j} \mathcal{H}_{\text {eff }}\left(\mathbf{r}_{j}-\mathbf{r}_{i}, \hat{\mathbf{p}}_{i}, \hat{\mathbf{p}}_{j}\right)+\xi_{j}(t)$ effective potential interaction

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \dot{\mathbf{r}}_{j}=v_{0} \hat{\mathbf{p}}_{j} \\
& \dot{\theta}_{j}=-\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_{j}} \sum_{i \neq j} \mathcal{H}_{\mathrm{eff}}\left(\mathbf{r}_{j}-\mathbf{r}_{i}, \hat{\mathbf{p}}_{i}, \hat{\mathbf{p}}_{j}\right)+\xi_{j}(t)
\end{aligned}
$$

## Alignement interactions

$$
\mathcal{H}_{\mathrm{eff}}\left(\mathbf{r}, \hat{\mathbf{p}}_{i}, \hat{\mathbf{p}}_{j}\right)=-A(r) \hat{\mathbf{p}}_{i} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{p}}_{j}-B(r) \hat{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{p}}_{j}-C(r) \hat{\mathbf{p}}_{i} \cdot(2 \hat{\mathbf{r}} \hat{\mathbf{r}}-\mathbb{I}) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{p}}_{j}
$$



## Hydrodynamics does matter

## Suppression of the giant number fluctuations

$$
\mathcal{H}_{\mathrm{eff}}\left(\mathbf{r}, \hat{\mathbf{p}}_{i}, \hat{\mathbf{p}}_{j}\right)=-A(r) \hat{\mathbf{p}}_{i} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{p}}_{j}-B(r) \hat{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{p}}_{j}-C(r) \hat{\mathbf{p}}_{i} \cdot(2 \hat{\mathbf{r}} \hat{\mathbf{r}}-\mathbf{I}) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{p}}_{j}
$$

Destroying the polar liquid phase


Destroying the polar liquid phase


Destroying the polar liquid phase


Destroying the polar liquid phase




