

# Robust linear quadratic mean-field games in crowd-seeking social networks

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Padua, 5 Sept. 2013

# Outline

Introduction and literature

Our perspective

Results

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A tech revolution in schools, at last  
Why we need more property taxes  
Of mice and Manet

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14 August 2013 Last updated at 15:16



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# opinion dynamics

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## CONTINUOUS-TIME AVERAGE-PRESERVING OPINION DYNAMICS WITH OPINION-DEPENDENT COMMUNICATIONS\*

VINCENT D. BLONDEL<sup>†</sup>, JULIEN M. HENDRICKX<sup>†</sup>, AND JOHN N. TSITSIKLIS<sup>‡</sup>

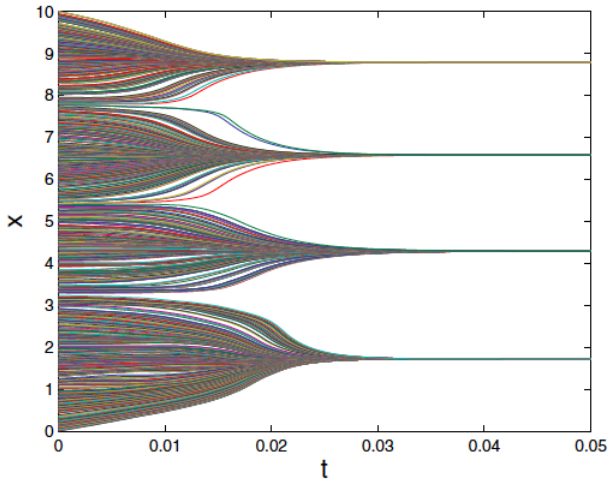
**Abstract.** We study a simple continuous-time multiagent system related to Krause's model of opinion dynamics: each agent holds a real value, and this value is continuously attracted by every other value differing from it by less than 1, with an intensity proportional to the difference. We prove convergence to a set of clusters, with the agents in each cluster sharing a common value, and provide a lower bound on the distance between clusters at a stable equilibrium, under a suitable notion of multiagent system stability. To better understand the behavior of the system for a large number of agents, we introduce a variant involving a continuum of agents. We prove, under some conditions, the existence of a solution to the system dynamics, convergence to clusters, and a nontrivial lower bound on the distance between clusters. Finally, we establish that the continuum model accurately represents the asymptotic behavior of a system with a finite but large number of agents.

**Key words.** multiagent systems, consensus, opinion dynamics

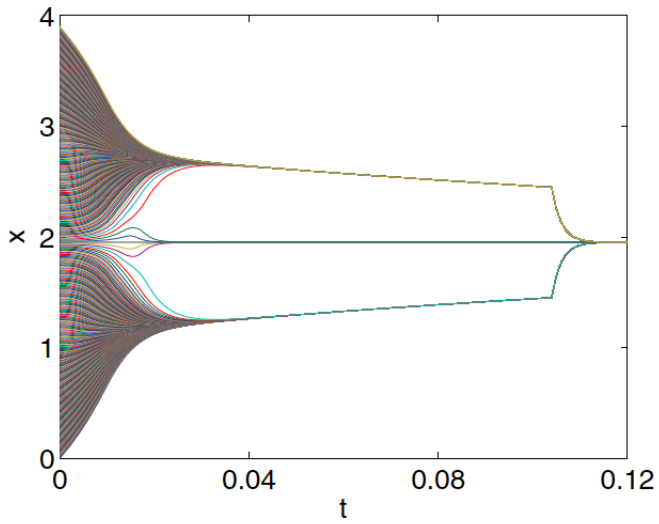
**AMS subject classifications.** 93A14, 91C20, 91D99, 45K05, 45G10, 37F99



# Clusters



# Stability



# Hegselmann-Krause model

*Journal of Artificial Societies and Social Simulation (JASSS) vol.5, no. 3, 2002*

<http://jasss.soc.surrey.ac.uk/5/3/2.html>

## OPINION DYNAMICS AND BOUNDED CONFIDENCE MODELS, ANALYSIS, AND SIMULATION\*

Rainer Hegselmann

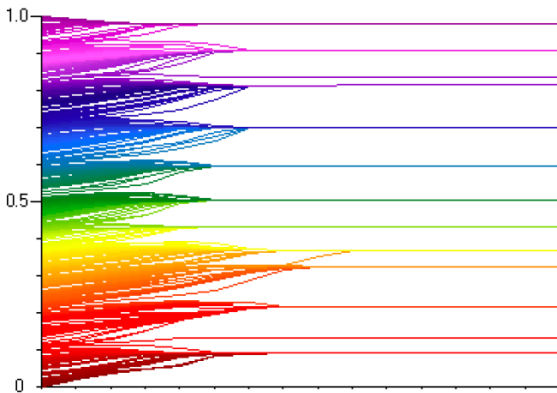
Department of Philosophy, University Bayreuth

Ulrich Krause

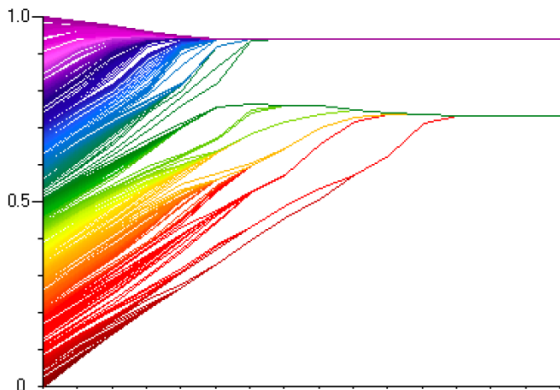
Department of Mathematics, University Bremen

**Abstract** When does opinion formation within an interacting group lead to consensus, polarization or fragmentation? The article investigates various models for the dynamics of continuous opinions by analytical methods as well as by computer simulations. Section 2 develops within a unified framework the classical model of consensus formation, the variant of this model due to Friedkin and Johnsen, a time-dependent version and a nonlinear version with bounded confidence of the agents. Section 3 presents for all these models major analytical results. Section 4 gives an extensive exploration of the nonlinear model with bounded confidence by a series of computer simulations. An appendix supplies needed mathematical definitions, tools, and theorems.

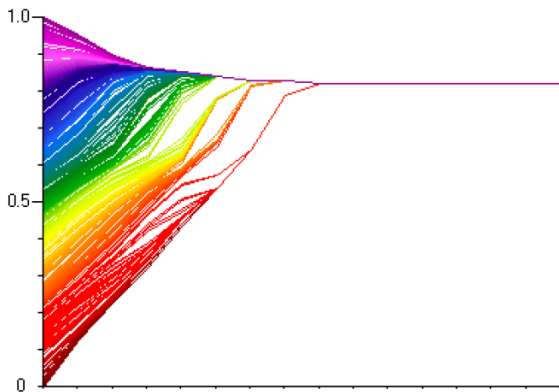
# plurality



# polarization



# consensus



# random matching and stubbornness

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## Opinion fluctuations and disagreement in social networks

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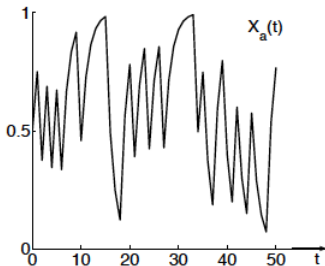
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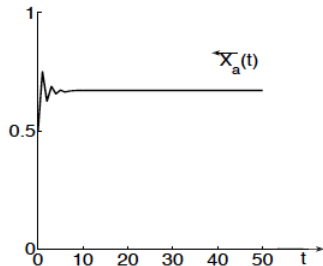
# convergence in probability



(a)



(b)



(c)



# How can MFG theory help?

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## Opinion dynamics in social networks through mean field games

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## Stubborn agents as disturbances


$$\begin{cases} dX(t) = f(X(t), u(t), w(t))dt + \sigma dB(t), & t > 0 \\ X(0) = x, \end{cases}$$

- ▶  $X : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $t \mapsto X(t)$ , group's opinion at time  $t$ ,
- ▶  $x$  its initial opinion at time  $t = 0$ ;
- ▶  $u : [0, T] \rightarrow U$ ,  $t \mapsto u(t)$ , control at time  $t$ ;
- ▶  $w : [0, T] \rightarrow W$ ,  $t \mapsto w(t)$ , disturbance at time  $t$ ;
- ▶  $B(t)$  is a standard vector Brownian motion

## averaging opinions

- ▶ running cost

$$g(x, \bar{m}, u, w) = \frac{1}{2} \left[ (\bar{m} - x)^T Q (\bar{m} - x) + u^T C u + w^T \Gamma w \right]$$

where  $Q > 0$ ,  $C > 0$ ,  $\Gamma < 0$  and all symmetric.

- ▶  $\bar{m}$  is average opinion
- ▶ terminal cost

$$\Psi(x, \bar{m}) = \frac{1}{2} (\bar{m} - x)^T S (\bar{m} - x)$$

where  $S > 0$

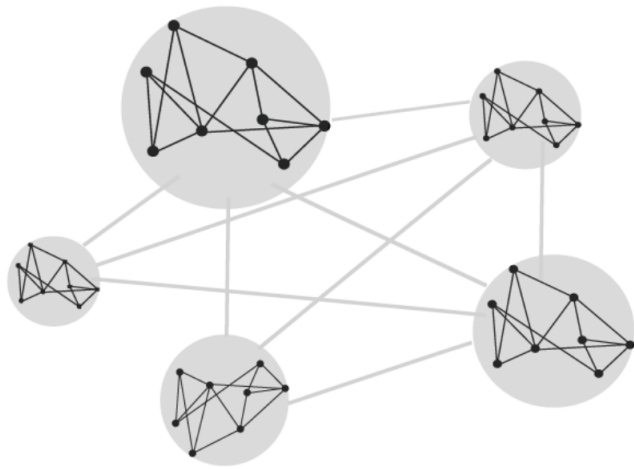
- ▶ cost functional

$$\inf_{u(\cdot) \in \mathcal{U}} \sup_{w(\cdot) \in \mathcal{W}} \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T g(X(t), \bar{m}(t), u(t), w(t)) dt + \Psi(X(T), \bar{m}(T)) \right]$$

## Robust mean field game

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \partial_t v(x, t) + \inf_{u \in U} \sup_{w \in W} \{f(x, u, w) \partial_x v(x, t) + g(x, \bar{m}, u, w)\} \\ + \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \text{Tr}(\partial_{xx}^2 v(x, t)) = 0 \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^n \times [0, T[, \\ v(x, T) = \Psi(x, \bar{m}) \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n, \\ \partial_t m(x, t) + \text{div}(m(x, t) \cdot f(x, u^*, w^*)) - \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \text{Tr}(\partial_{xx}^2 m(x, t)) = 0, \\ m(0) = m_0, \\ u^*(t, x) \in \arg \min_{u \in U} \{f(x, u, w^*) \partial_x v(x, t) + g(x, \bar{m}, u, w^*)\}, \\ w^*(t, x, u) \in \arg \max_{w \in W} \{f(x, u, w) \partial_x v(x, t) + g(x, \bar{m}, u, w)\}. \end{array} \right.$$

# Network of (homogeneous) networks



# Politopic bounds

- ▶ control set  $U = \Delta(\mathbb{R}^p)$ , ( $\Delta(\mathbb{R}^p)$  is simplex in  $\mathbb{R}^p$ ,  $p > 0$ )
- ▶ disturbance set  $W = \Delta(\mathbb{R}^q)$ ,  $q > 0$
- ▶ function  $f : U \times W \rightarrow [-1, 1]^n$  is bilinear
- ▶ function  $g : \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow [0, +\infty[$  independent of  $u, w$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \inf_{u(\cdot) \in \mathcal{U}} \sup_{w(\cdot) \in \mathcal{W}} \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T g(X(t), \bar{m}(t)) dt + \Psi(X(T), \bar{m}(T)) \right] \\ dX(t) = f(u(t), w(t)) dt + \sigma d\mathcal{B}(t), \quad X(0) = x. \end{array} \right.$$

$\mathcal{L}_2$ -gain bounds

- ▶ the control set  $U = \mathbb{R}^p$ ,  $p > 0$ ,
- ▶ the disturbance set  $W = \mathbb{R}^q$ ,  $q > 0$ ,
- ▶ function  $f : U \times W \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is linear and of the form,

$$f(u, w) = Fu + Ew,$$

where  $F \in \{-1, 0, 1\}^{n \times p}$  and  $E \in \{-1, 0, 1\}^{n \times q}$

- ▶ the running cost

$$g(x, \bar{m}, u, w) = \frac{1}{2} \left[ (\bar{m} - x)^T Q (\bar{m} - x) + u^T C u - \gamma^2 w^T w \right],$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \inf_{u(\cdot) \in \mathcal{U}} \sup_{w(\cdot) \in \mathcal{W}} \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T \frac{1}{2} [(\bar{m} - X(t))^T Q (\bar{m} - X(t)) \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. + u(t)^T C u(t) - \gamma^2 w(t)^T w(t)] dt + \Psi(X(T), \bar{m}(T)) \right] \right\}, \\ \\ dX(t) = Fu(t) + Ew(t)dt + \sigma dB(t), \quad X(0) = x. \end{array} \right.$$

## consensus error stochastically bounded

- ▶  $e_i(t) :=$  “average opinion” - “ $i$ th opinion”
- ▶ For each  $\pi > 0$  there exists an  $\varepsilon(\pi) > 0$  such that

$$\mathbb{P}(\|e_i(t)\|_\infty \leq \varepsilon(\pi)) > 1 - \pi \quad (1).$$

- ▶ **Necessary and sufficient condition for (1):**

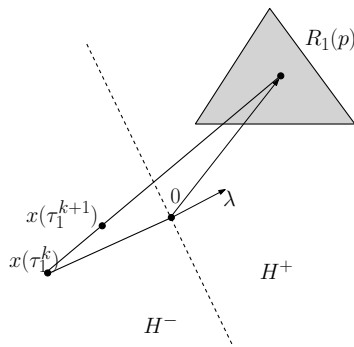
$$\text{val}[\lambda] := \inf_{u \in \Delta(U)} \sup_{w \in \Delta(W)} \{ \langle f(u, w), \lambda \rangle \} > 0, \quad \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$



# value of projected game

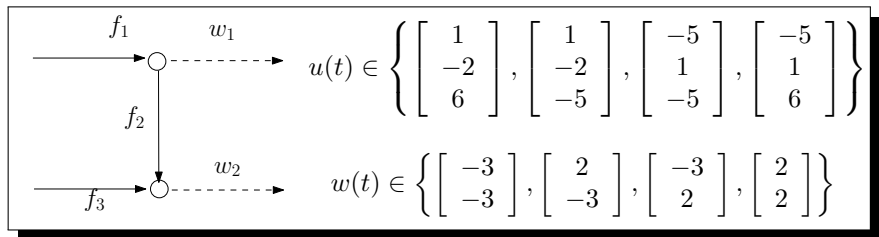
- **Necessary and sufficient condition for (1):**

$$val[\lambda] := \inf_{u \in \Delta(U)} \sup_{w \in \Delta(W)} \{ \langle f(u, w), \lambda \rangle \} > 0, \quad \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$



$$\left( \begin{array}{cc} (\#, \#) & (\#, \#) \\ (\#, \#) & (\#, \#) \end{array} \right) \Rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{cc} \langle \lambda, (\#, \#) \rangle & \langle \lambda, (\#, \#) \rangle \\ \langle \lambda, (\#, \#) \rangle & \langle \lambda, (\#, \#) \rangle \end{array} \right)$$

# Example



$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1(t) \\ \dot{x}_2(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_1(t) \\ u_2(t) \\ u_3(t) \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} w_1(t) \\ w_2(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} (6, 7) & (1, 7) & (6, 2) & (1, 2) \\ (6, -4) & (1, -4) & (6, -9) & (1, -9) \\ (-3, -1) & (-8, -1) & (-3, -6) & (-8, -6) \\ (-3, 10) & (-8, 10) & (-3, 5) & (-8, 5) \end{pmatrix}$$

# Monte Carlo simulations

## resulting MFG

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \partial_t v(x, t) + \|\partial_x v\| \text{val}[\partial_x v] + \frac{1}{2}(\bar{m}(t) - x)^T Q(\bar{m}(t) - x) \\ + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \text{Tr}(\partial_{xx}^2 v(x, t)) = 0, \quad \text{in } \mathbb{R}^n \times [0, T], \\ \\ v(x, T) = \Psi(\bar{m}(T), x), \quad \text{in } \mathbb{R}^n, \\ \\ \partial_t m(x, t) + \text{div}(m(x, t) \cdot A_{i^* j^*}) - \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \text{Tr}(\partial_{xx}^2 m) = 0, \quad \text{in } \mathbb{R}^n \times [0, T], \\ \\ m(x, 0) = m_0(x) \quad \text{in } \mathbb{R}^n. \end{array} \right.$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} u^*(x, t) = i^* = \arg \min_{i \in I} \sup_{j \in J} \lambda(\partial_x v)^T A_{ij} \\ w^*(x, t) = j^* = \arg \max_{j \in J} \lambda(\partial_x v)^T A_{ij}. \end{array} \right.$$

$\mathcal{L}_2$ -gain bounds

- ▶ the control set  $U = \mathbb{R}^p$ ,  $p > 0$ ,
- ▶ the disturbance set  $W = \mathbb{R}^q$ ,  $q > 0$ ,
- ▶ function  $f : U \times W \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is linear and of the form,

$$f(u, w) = Fu + Ew,$$

where  $F \in \{-1, 0, 1\}^{n \times p}$  and  $E \in \{-1, 0, 1\}^{n \times q}$

- ▶ the running cost

$$g(x, \bar{m}, u, w) = \frac{1}{2} \left[ (\bar{m} - x)^T Q (\bar{m} - x) + u^T C u - \gamma^2 w^T w \right],$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \inf_{u(\cdot) \in \mathcal{U}} \sup_{w(\cdot) \in \mathcal{W}} \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T \frac{1}{2} [(\bar{m} - X(t))^T Q (\bar{m} - X(t)) \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. + u(t)^T C u(t) - \gamma^2 w(t)^T w(t)] dt + \Psi(X(T), \bar{m}(T)) \right] \right\}, \\ \\ dX(t) = Fu(t) + Ew(t)dt + \sigma dB(t), \quad X(0) = x. \end{array} \right.$$

## consensus error stochastically bounded

- ▶  $e_i(t) :=$  “average opinion” - “ $i$ th opinion”
- ▶ For each  $\pi > 0$  there exists an  $\varepsilon(\pi) > 0$  such that

$$\mathbb{P}(\|e_i(t)\|_\infty \leq \varepsilon(\pi)) > 1 - \pi. \quad (1)$$

- ▶ **Necessary and sufficient condition for (1):**

$$-FC^{-1}F^T + \frac{1}{\gamma^2}EE^T \leq 0$$

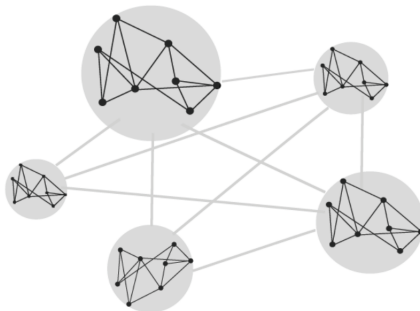
- ▶ interpretation (if  $C = I$ ): relation between *algebraic connectivity* of the Laplacian matrix  $FF^T$  and the maximal eigenvalue of the Laplacian matrix  $EE^T$ .

## resulting MFG

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \partial_t v(x, t) + \frac{1}{2} \partial_x v(x, t)^T \left( -FC^{-1}F^T + \frac{1}{\gamma^2} EE^T \right) \partial_x v(x, t) \\ + \frac{1}{2} (\bar{m}(t) - x)^T Q (\bar{m}(t) - x) + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \text{Tr}(\partial_{xx}^2 v(x, t)) = 0, \\ \quad \text{in } \mathbb{R}^n \times [0, T[, \\ \\ v(x, T) = \Psi(\bar{m}(T), x), \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^n, \\ \\ \partial_t m(x, t) + \text{div} \left( m(x, t) \left( -\frac{1}{2} C^{-1} F F^T + \frac{1}{2\gamma^2} E E^T \right) \partial_x v(x, t) \right) \\ - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \text{Tr}(\partial_{xx}^2 m(x, t)) = 0, \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^n \times [0, T[, \\ \\ m(x, 0) = m_0(x) \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^n. \\ \\ \left\{ \begin{array}{l} u^*(x, t) = -C^{-1} F^T \partial_x v(x, t) \\ w^*(x, t) = \frac{1}{\gamma^2} E^T \partial_x v(x, t). \end{array} \right. \end{array} \right.$$

# Conclusions

- ▶ Network of networks

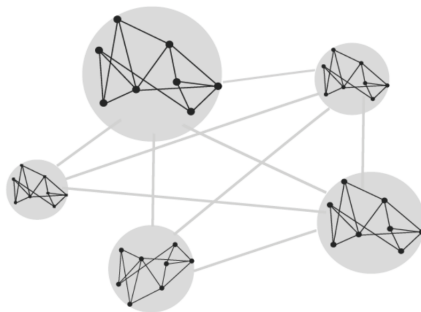






# Conclusions

- ▶ Network of networks and “disturbed” opinion dynamics



- ▶ Mean field game formulation for polytopic and  $\mathcal{L}_2$  bounds
- ▶ Stochastic boundedness

# No man is an island

*No man is an Iland, intire of itselſe;  
every man is a peece of the Continent, a  
part of the maine ...*

MEDITATION XVII Devotions upon  
Emergent Occasions John Donne



# Questions?



Thank you!