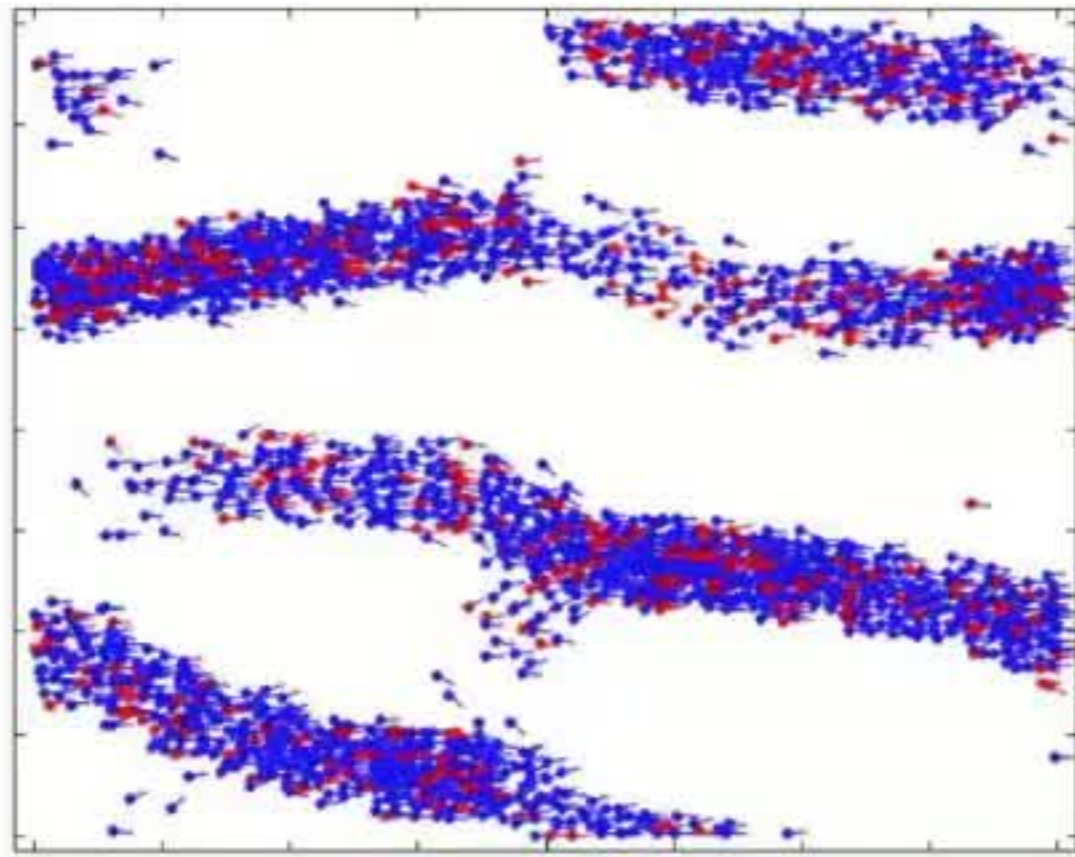


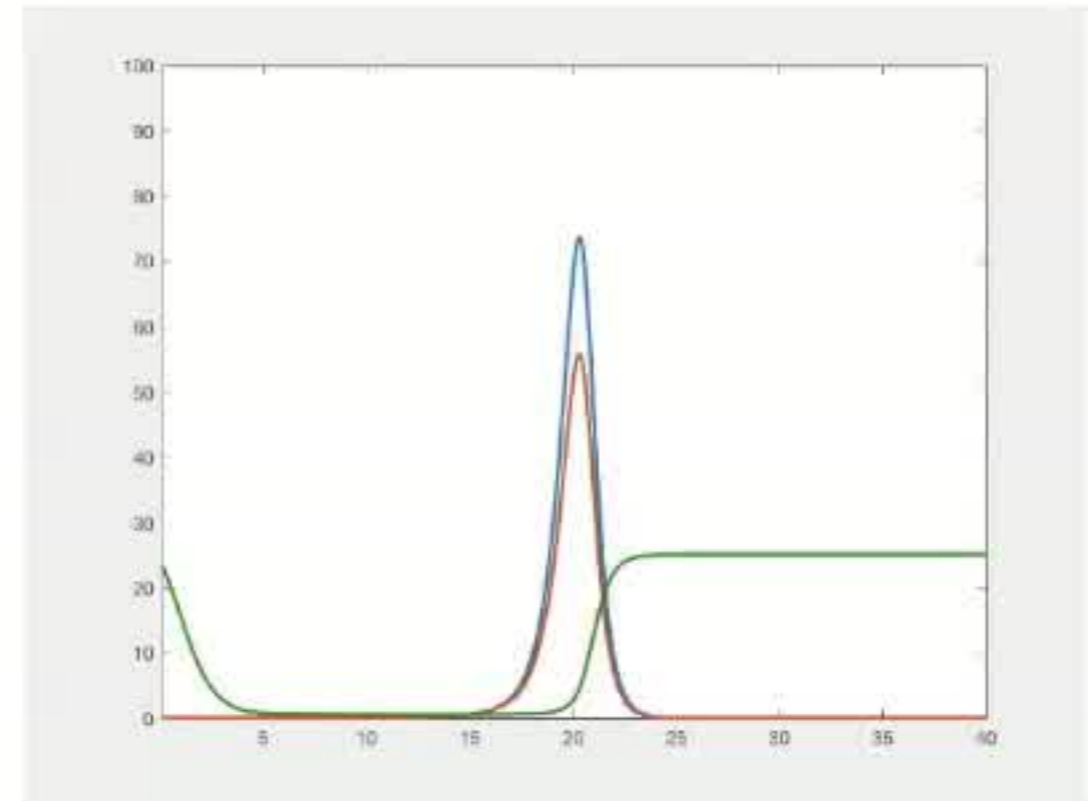
# Agent-Based and Continuous Models of Locust Hopper Bands: Insights Gained Through the Lens of Dynamical Systems

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[1] Supported in part by Simons Foundation #317319



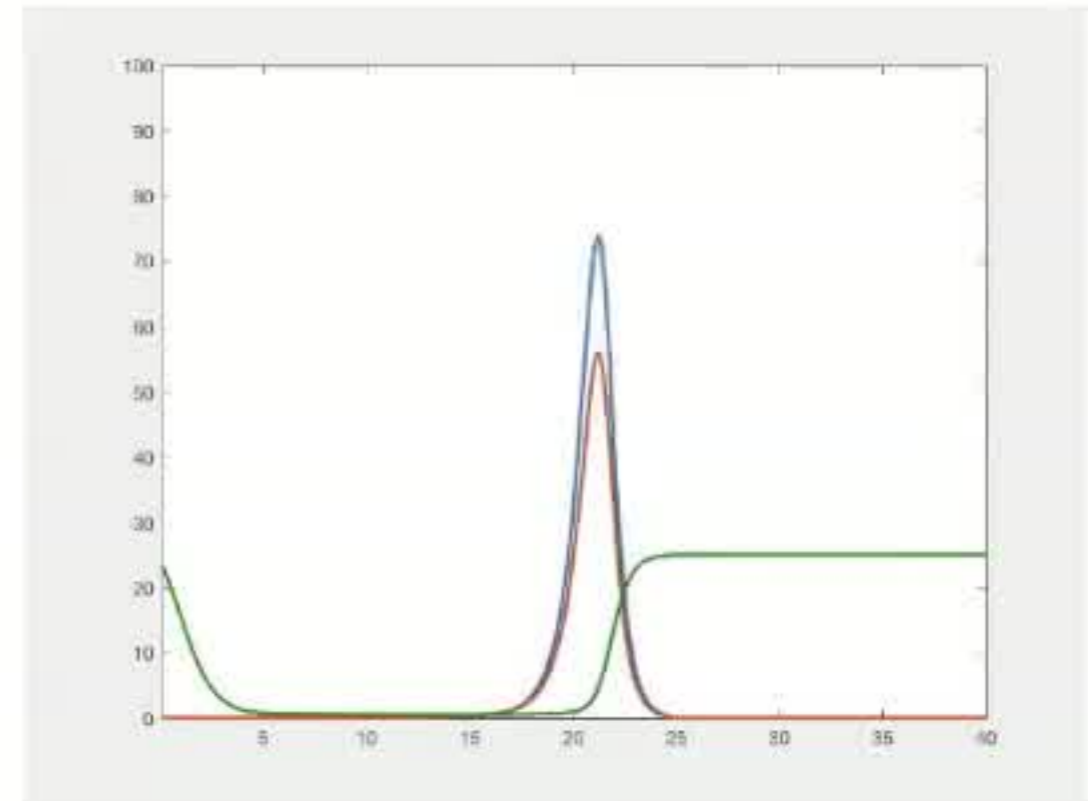
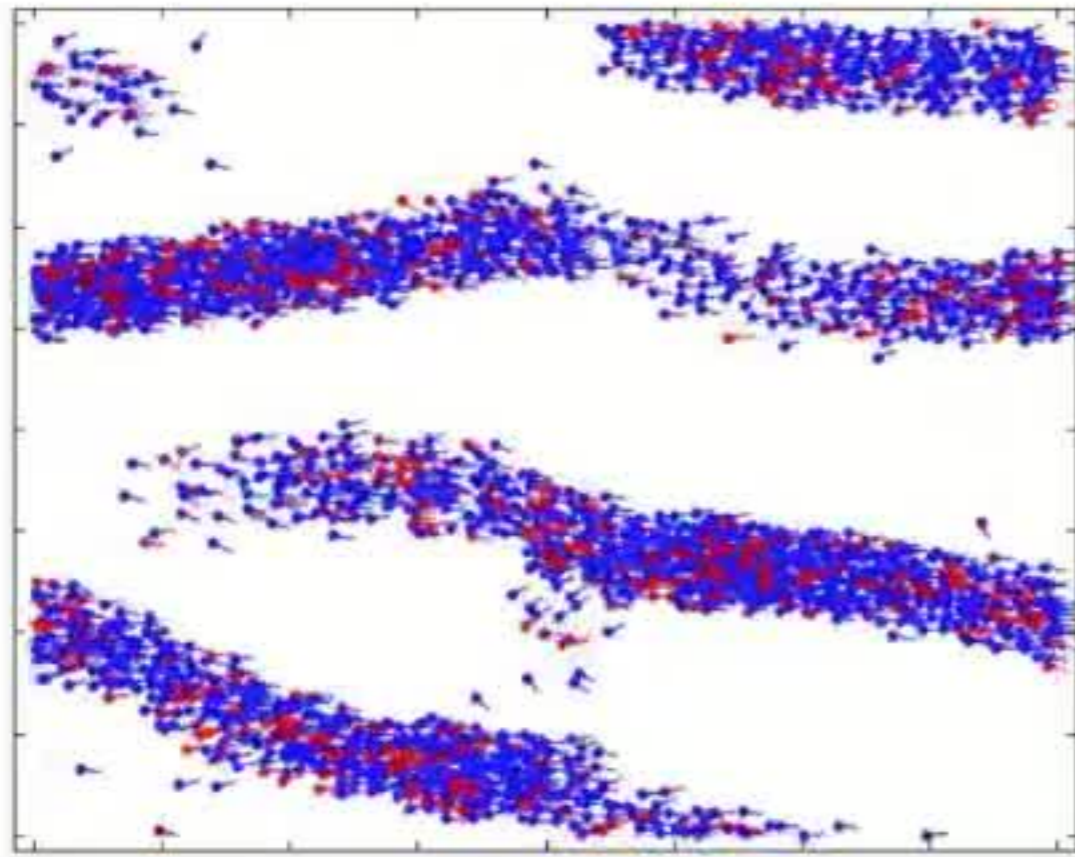
[2] Supported as part of an AMS MRC - NSF DMS 1641020



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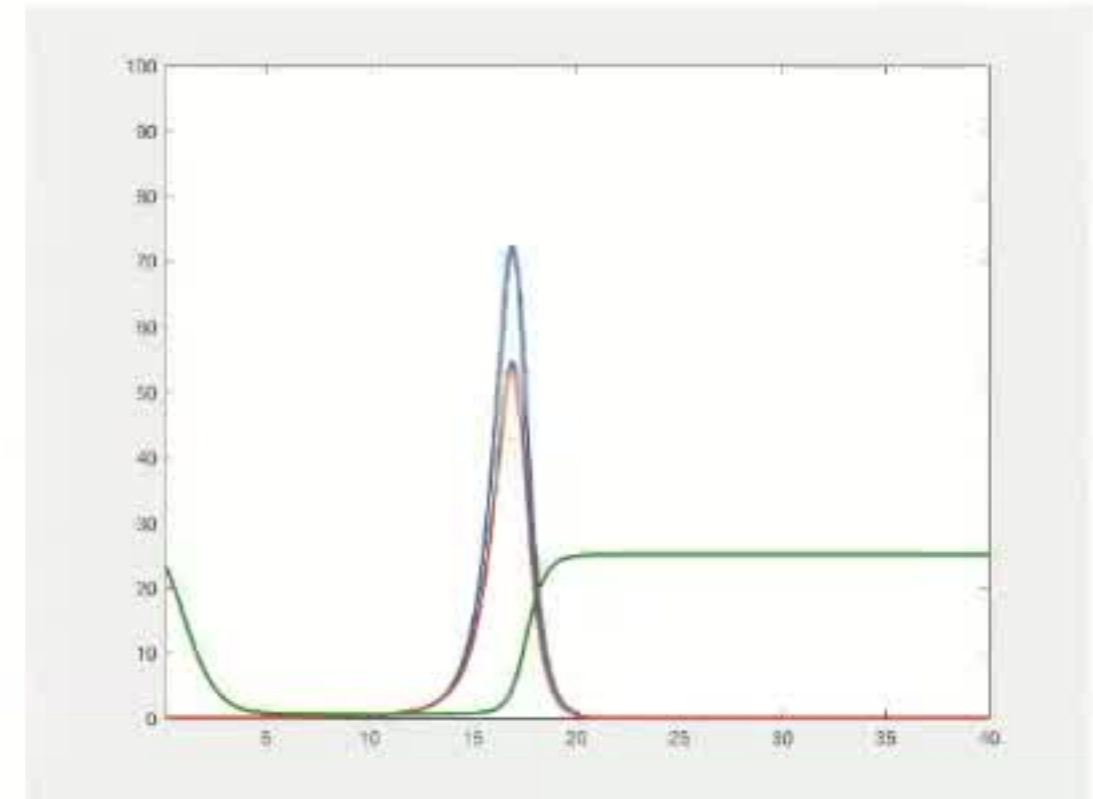
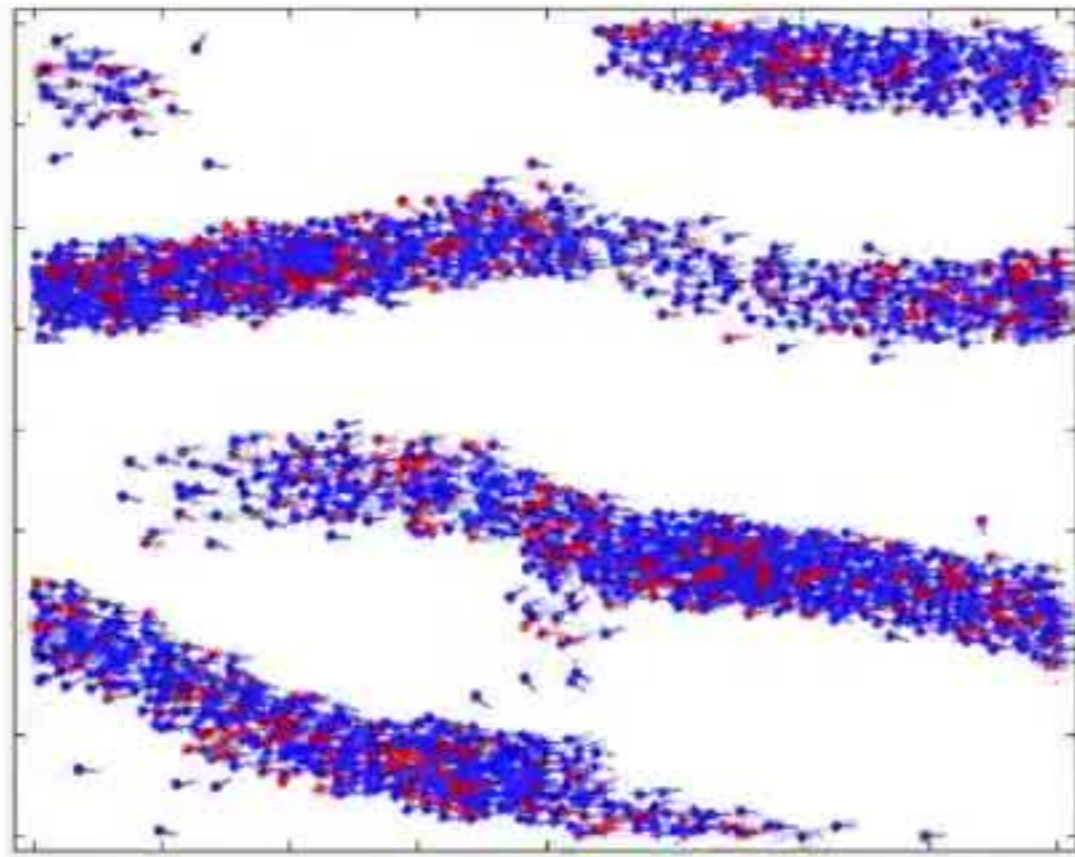
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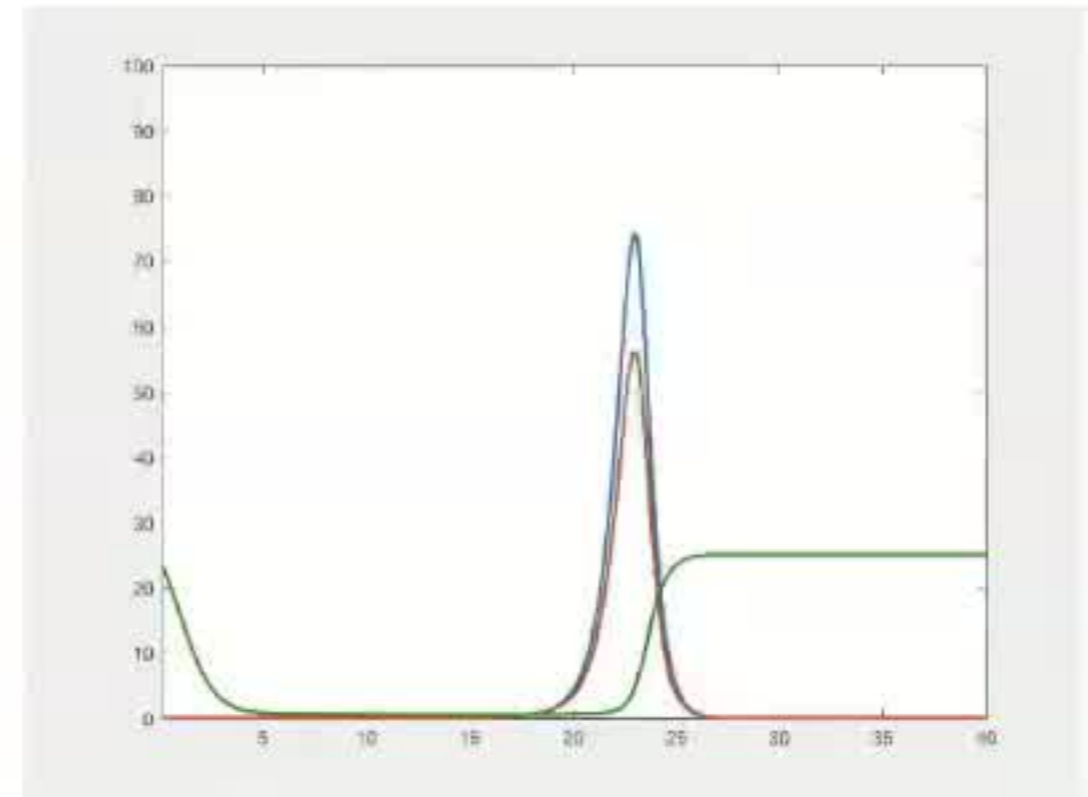
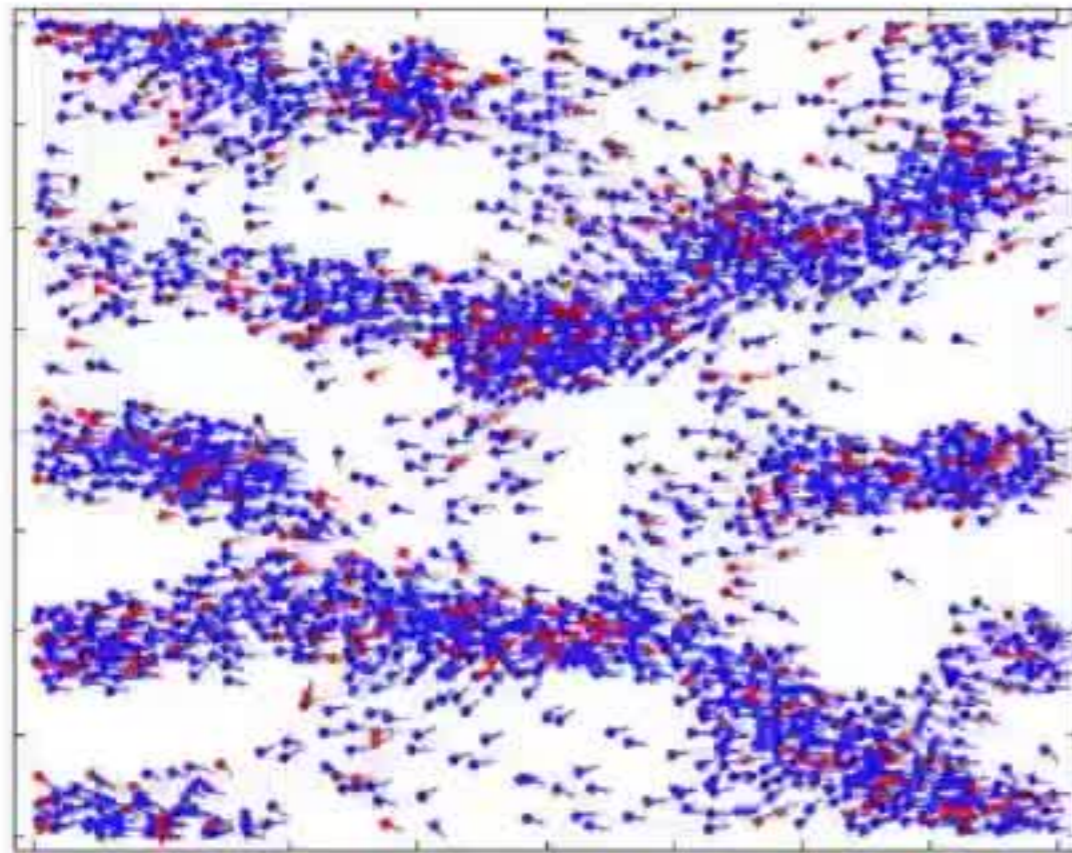




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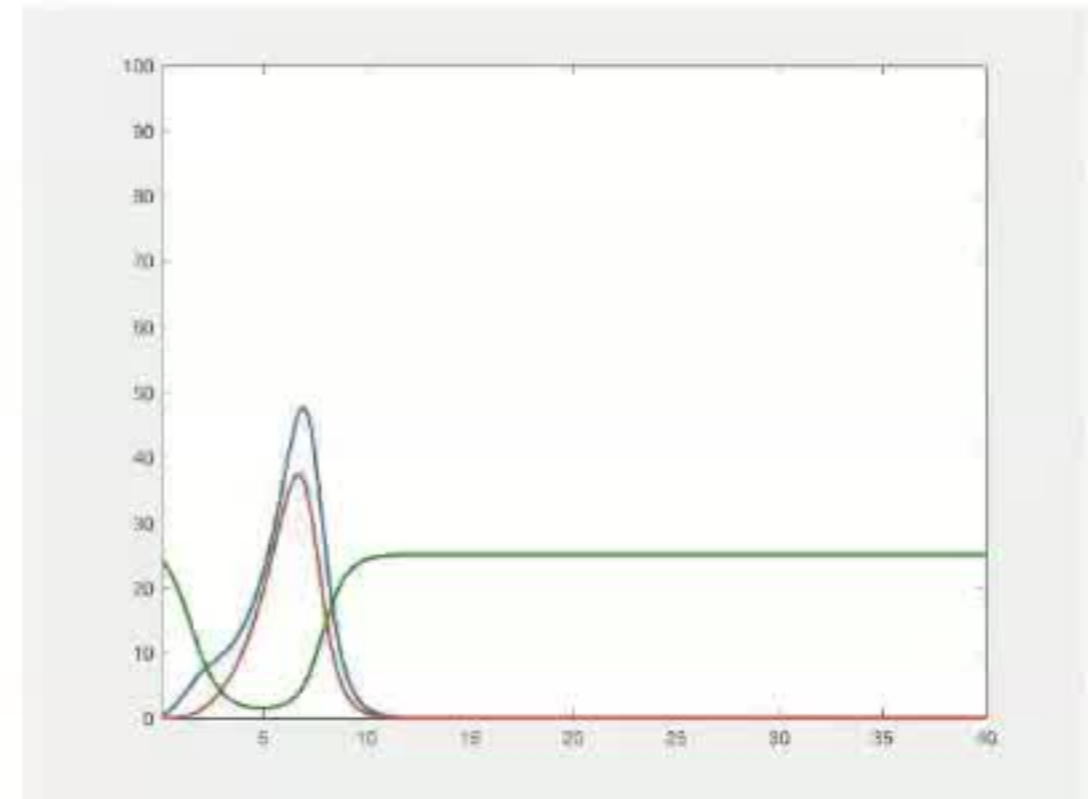
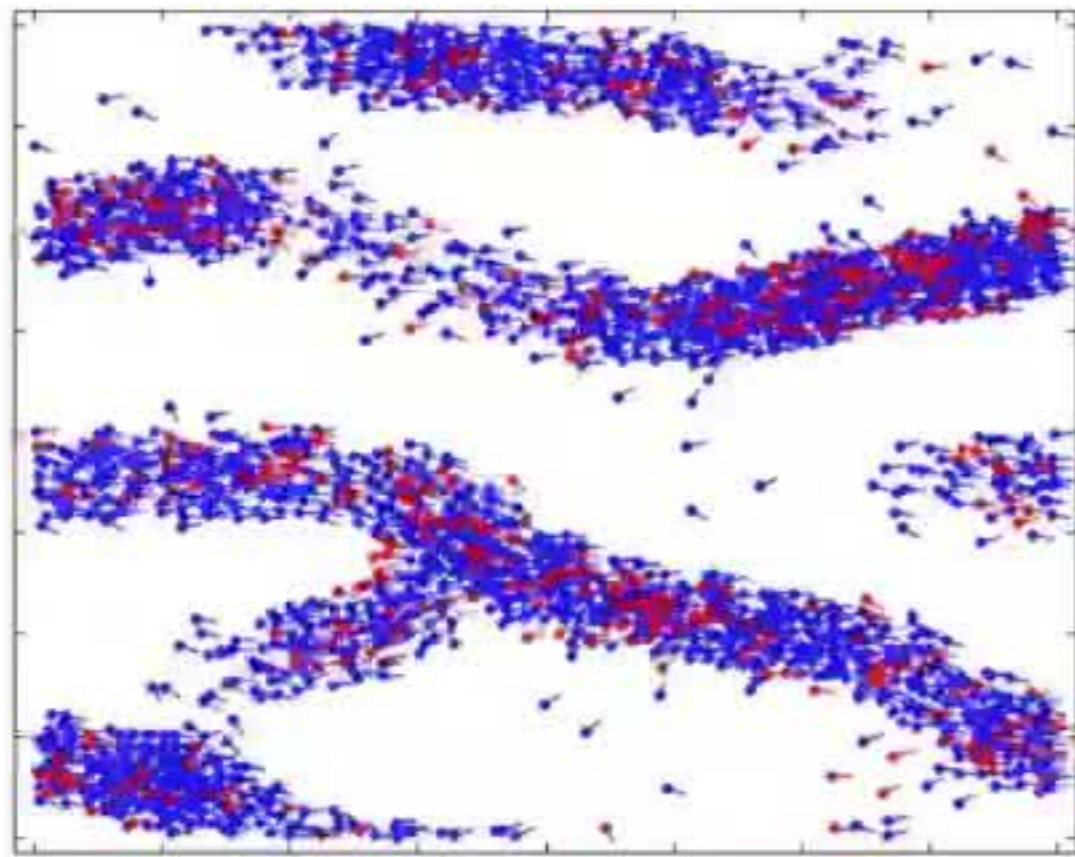




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# Locust Hopper Bands



Plagues of Locusts - Wild Africa - BBC  
Episode 3: Deserts. First Broadcast 11/21/2001

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# Locust Hopper Bands



Columnar Structure

Desert Locust  
*Schistocera gregaria*



Planar Front

Australian Plague Locust  
(*Chortoicetes terminifera*)

# Model I: Exploring Columnar Structure





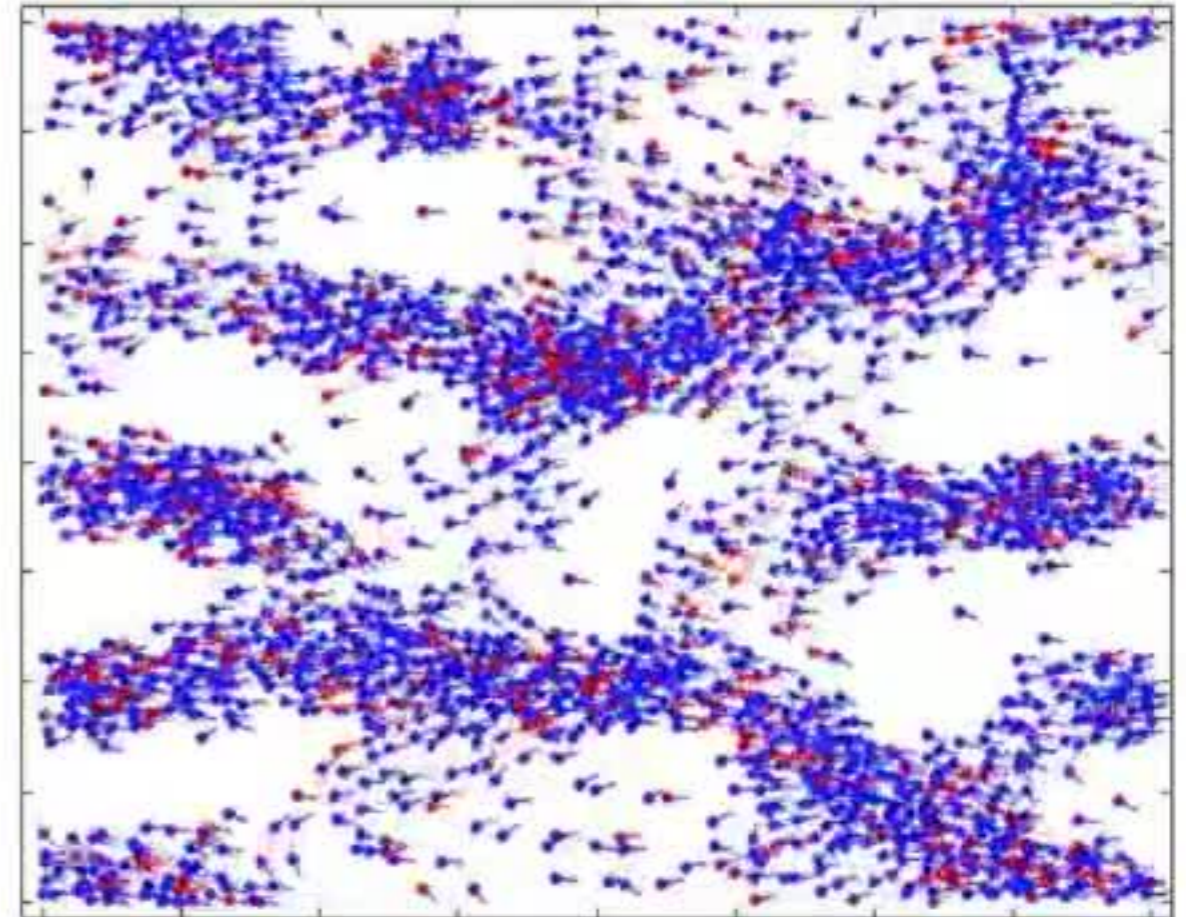
# Model I: Exploring Columnar Structure



# Agent- Based Model (ABM)



*When Locusts Swarm*  
Kit Yates (Bath) & Jerome Buhl (Adelaide)  
<https://vimeo.com/144014400>



Experiments/Observation



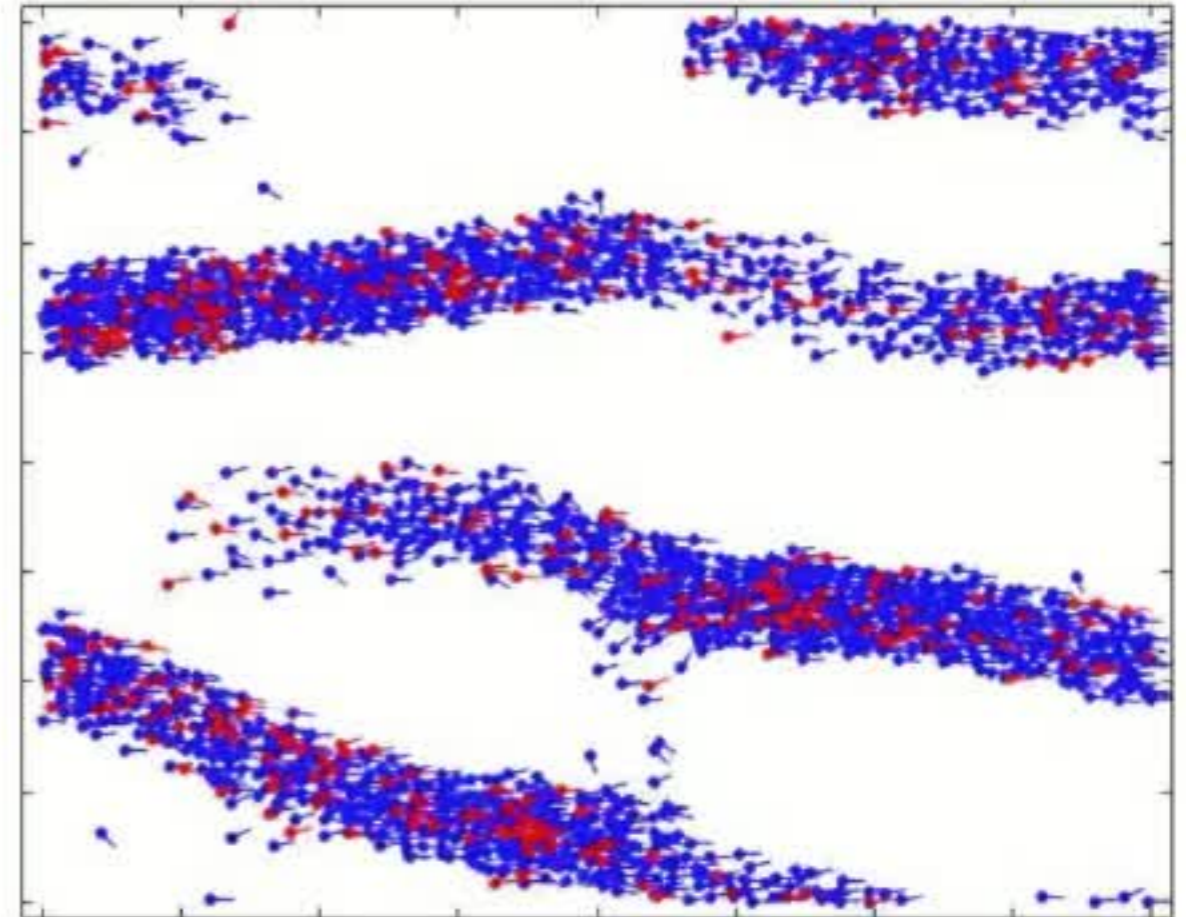
Agent-Based Model



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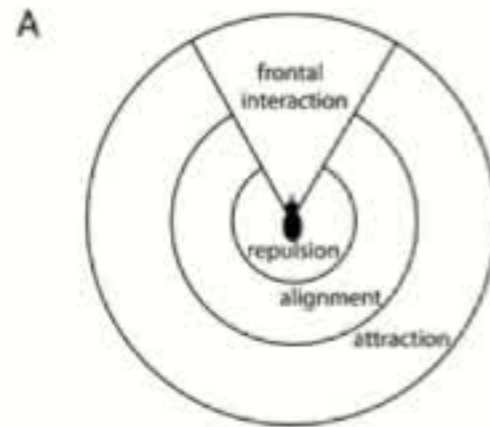
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Agent-Based Model

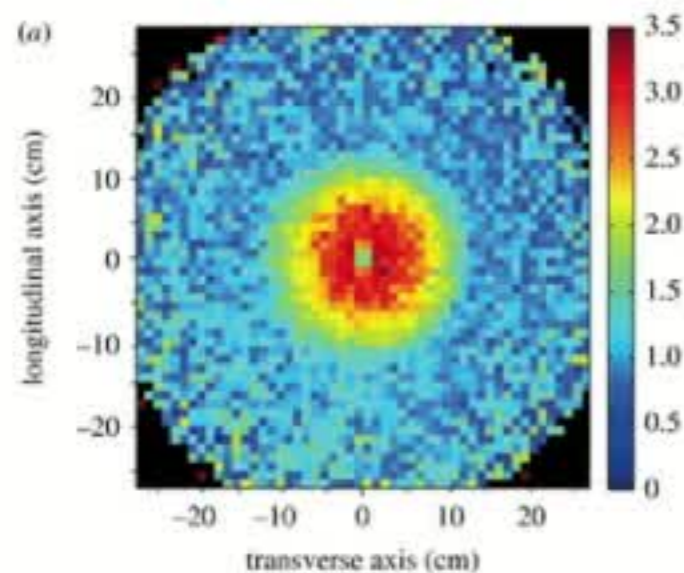
# Locust ABM - A Selective Review

## Three Zone Models:



- Lukeman, R., Li, Y.-X., & Edelstein-Keshet, L. (2010). Inferring individual rules from collective behavior. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*, 107(28), 12576–12580.
- Couzin, I., Krause, J., James, R., Ruxton, G., & Franks, N. (2002). Collective memory and spatial sorting in animal groups. *J. Theor. Biol.*, 218, 1–11.
- J. M. Miller, A. Koipaz, J. P. J. Neto, and L. F. Rossi, A continuum three-zone model for swarms, *Bulletin of mathematical biology*, 74 (2012), pp. 536–61.
- Aoki, I. (1982). A simulation study on the schooling mechanism in fish. *Bull. Jap. Soc. Sci. Fish.* 48, 1081–1088.
- Reynolds, C. W. (1987). Flocks, herds and schools: a distributed behavioral model. *Comput. Graph.* 21, 25–34.
- Huth, A. & Wissel, C. (1992). The simulation of the movement of fish schools. *J. Theor. Biol.* 156, 365–385.

Lukeman, Li & Edelstein-Keshet (2010)



Relative density of neighbors around a focal individual.

Buhl, Sword & Simpson (2012)

## Orientation Models:

- Vicsek, T., Czirók, A., Ben-Jacob, E., Cohen, I., & Shochet, O. (1995). Novel type of phase transition in a system of self-driven particles. *Physical review letters*, 75(6), 1226.
- Chaté, Hugues, et al. "Modeling collective motion: variations on the Vicsek model." *The European Physical Journal B* 64.3-4 (2008): 451-456.
- Grégoire, Guillaume, Hugues Chaté, and Yuhai Tu. "Moving and staying together without a leader." *Physica D: Nonlinear Phenomena* 181.3-4 (2003): 157-170.

## Pause & Go Models:

- Ariel G, Ophir Y, Levi S, Ben-Jacob E and Ayali A (2014) Individuals' intermittent motion is instrumental to the formation and maintenance of swarms of marching locust nymphs. *PLoS ONE* 9(7): e101636.
- Nilsen, C., Paige, J., Warner, O., Mayhew, B., Sutley, R., Lam, M., Bernoff, A.J. and Topaz, C.M., 2013. Social aggregation in pea aphids: experiment and random walk modeling. *PloS one*, 8(12), p.e83343.

## Locust ABM:

- Ariel, Gil, and Amir Ayali. "Locust collective motion and its modeling." *PLoS computational biology* 11.12 (2015): e1004522.
- Buhl, J., Gregory A. Sword, and Stephen J. Simpson. "Using field data to test locust migratory band collective movement models." *Interface focus* 2.6 (2012): 757-763.



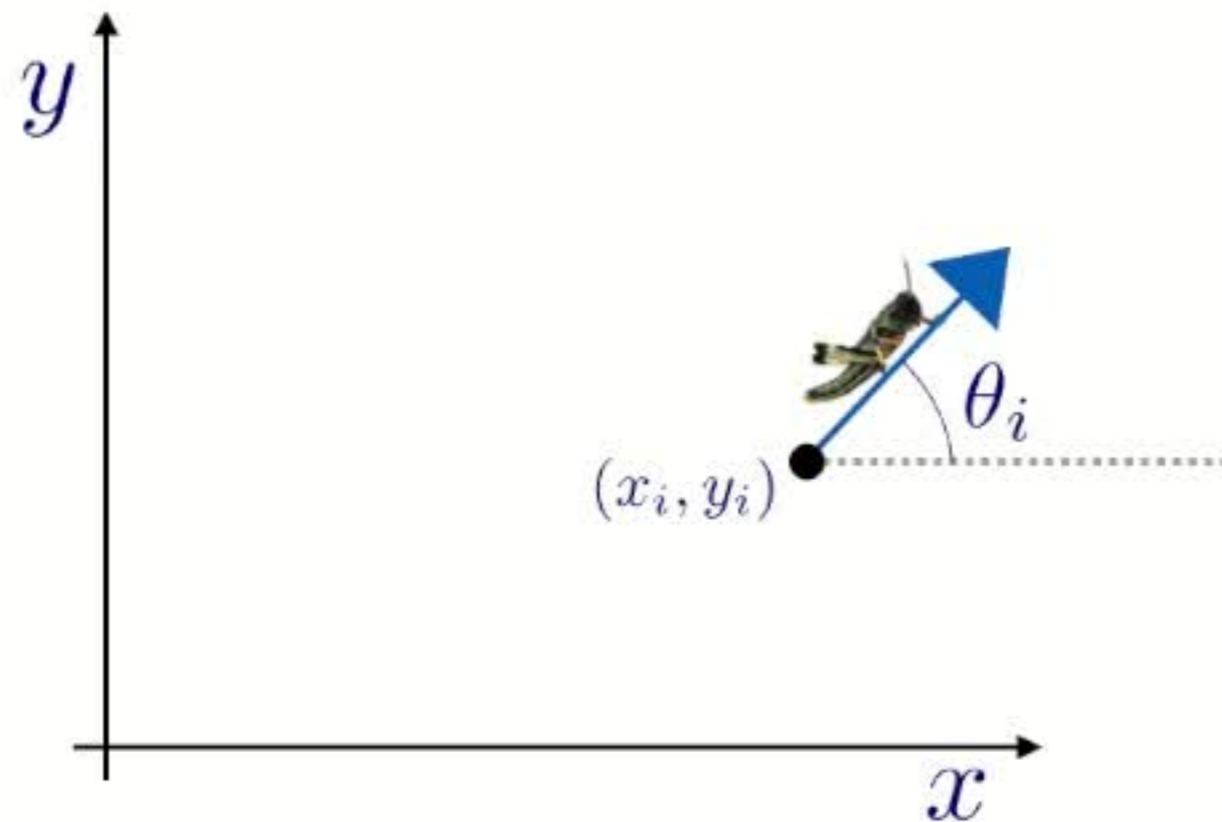
# ABM: State Variables

Consider  $N$  locusts indexed by the variable  $i = 1 \dots N$

Position:  $\vec{x}_i = (x_i, y_i)$   $\vec{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^2$

Orientation:  $\theta_i$   $\theta_i \in \mathbb{S}^1$

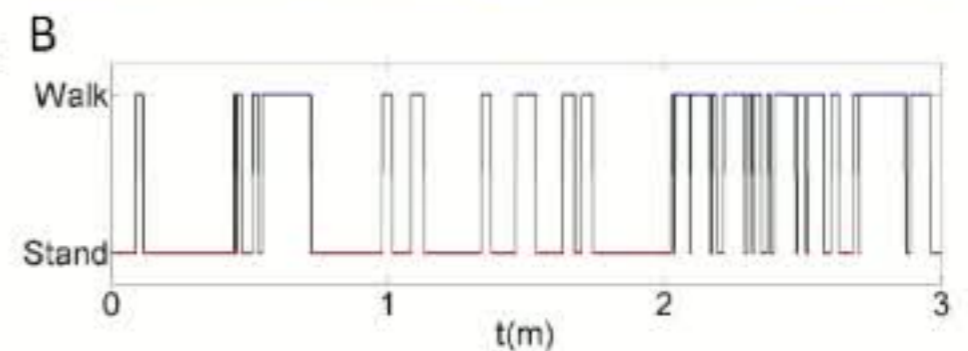
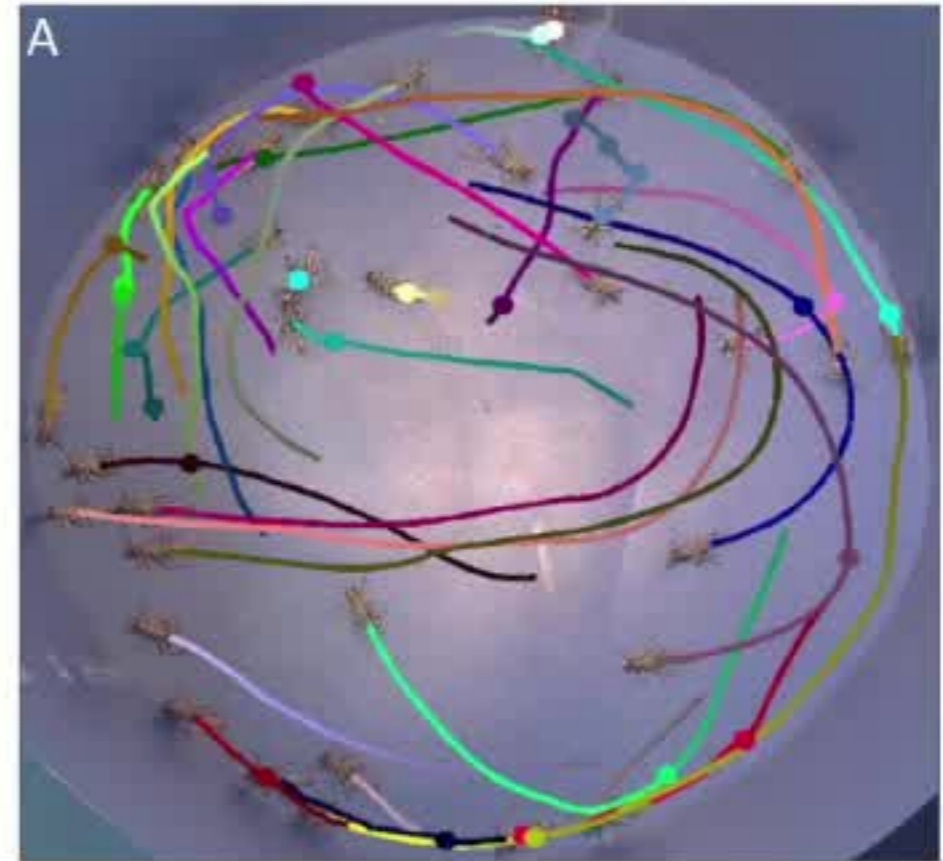
State (stationary/moving):  $s_i$   $s_i \in \{0, 1\}$



# ABM: Pause/Go Motion

Motion tracking of locusts yields:

- Locusts exhibit pause/go motion.
- Pausing is more likely when a locust is blocked.
- Motion is more likely when a locust is nudged from behind.
- Locust speed is roughly constant.



Ariel, Ophir, Levi, Ben-Jacob & Ayali (2014)

*Individuals' intermittent motion is instrumental to the formation and maintenance of swarms of marching locust nymphs.*

PLoS ONE 9(7): e101636



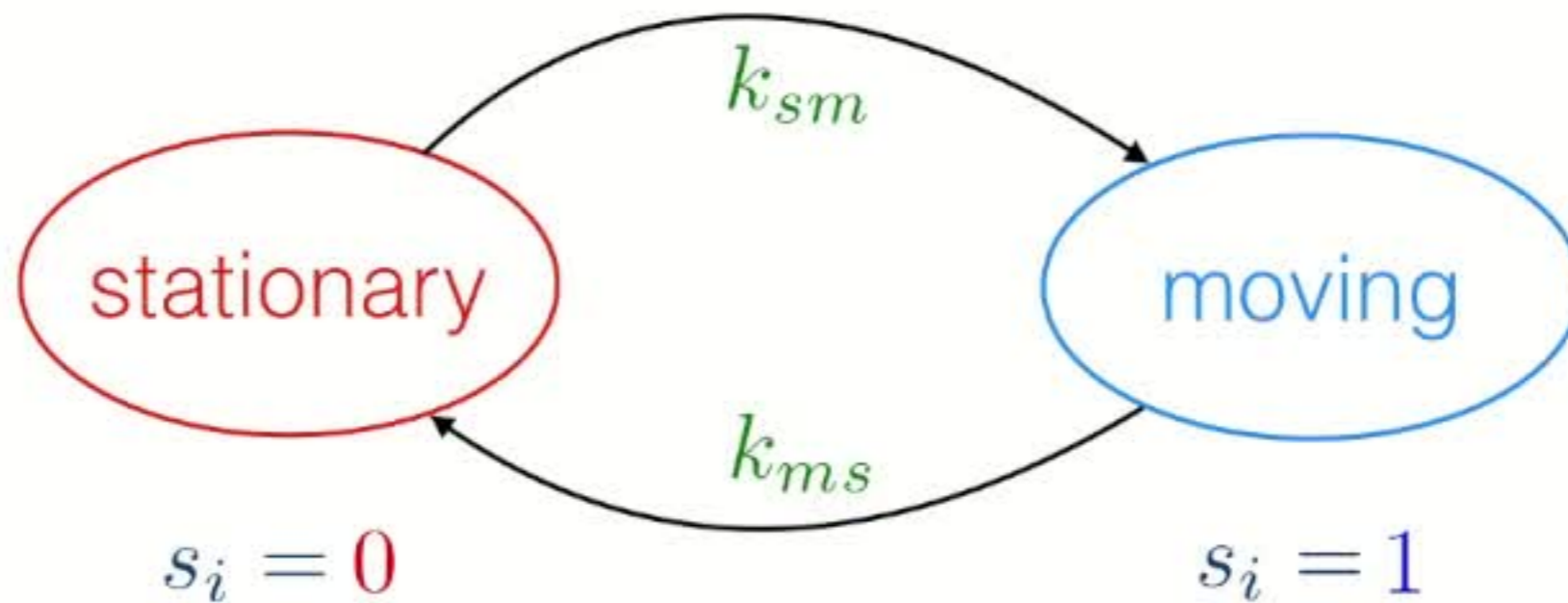
# ABM: Pause/Go Motion

$$\frac{d\vec{x}_i}{dt} = s_i v \hat{u}_i(\theta_i)$$

$$\hat{u}_i(\theta_i) = \langle \cos \theta_i, \sin \theta_i \rangle$$

$v$  = speed (constant)

Markov process for transition

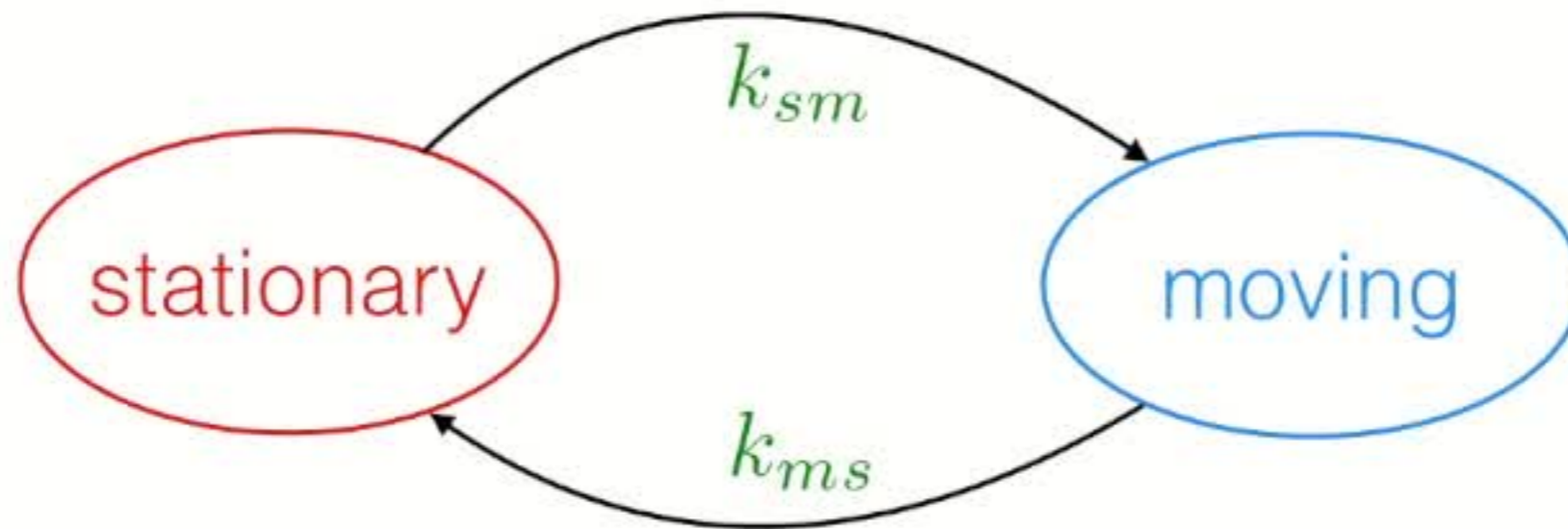


$$\frac{d\vec{x}_i}{dt} = 0$$

$$\frac{d\vec{x}_i}{dt} = v \hat{u}_i(\theta_i)$$

# ABM: Pause/Go Motion (blocking)

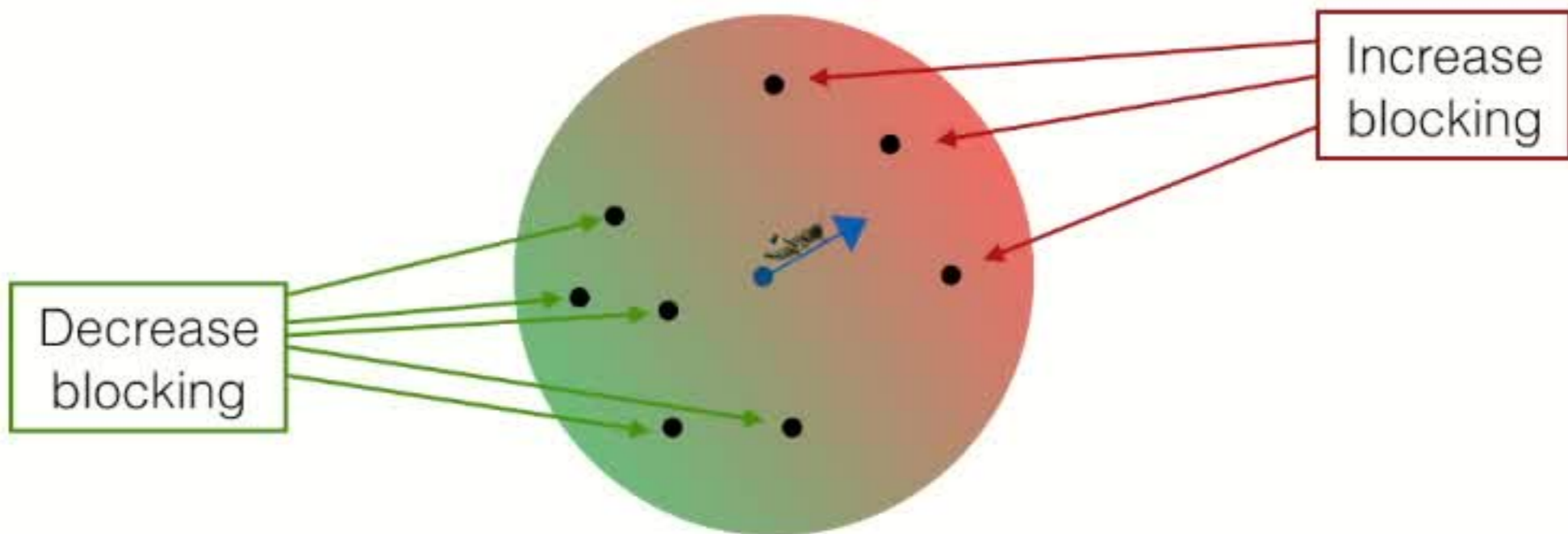
Markov process for transition



$$k_{ms} = \kappa_{ms} e^{\alpha_{ms}\beta}$$

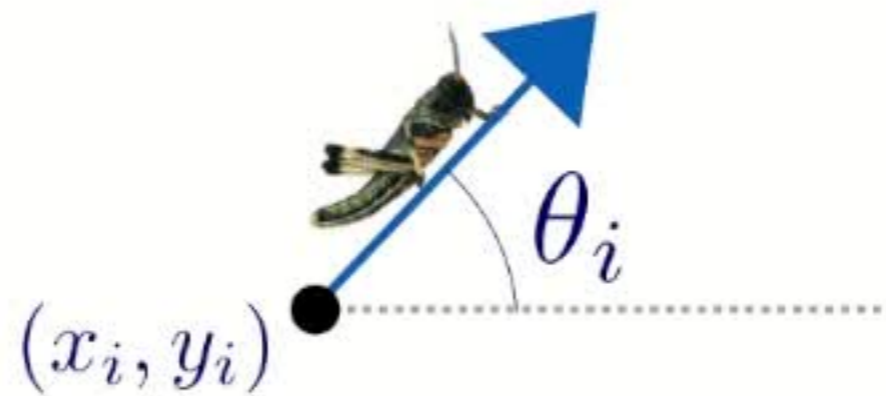
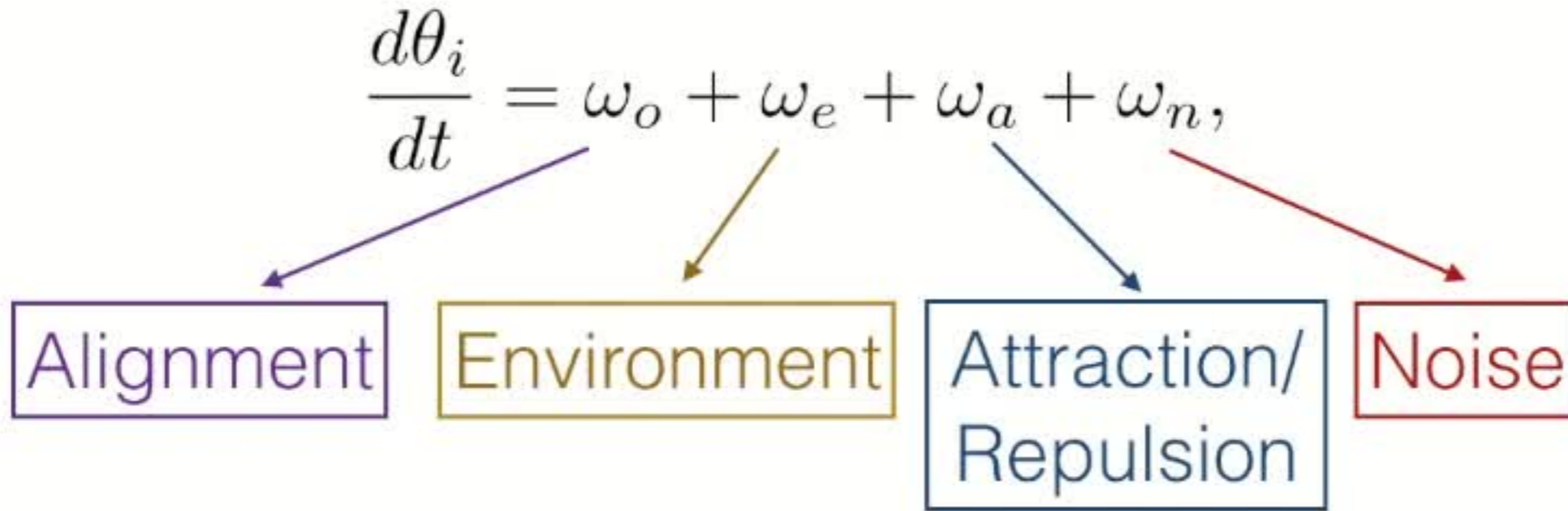
$$k_{sm} = \kappa_{sm} e^{-\alpha_{sm}\beta}$$

$\beta$  = blockscore (a weighted sum of neighbors)





# ABM: Orientation



# ABM: Orientation (Alignment)

$$\frac{d\theta_i}{dt} = \omega_o + \omega_e + \omega_a + \omega_n,$$

Alignment

Environment

Attraction/  
Repulsion

Noise

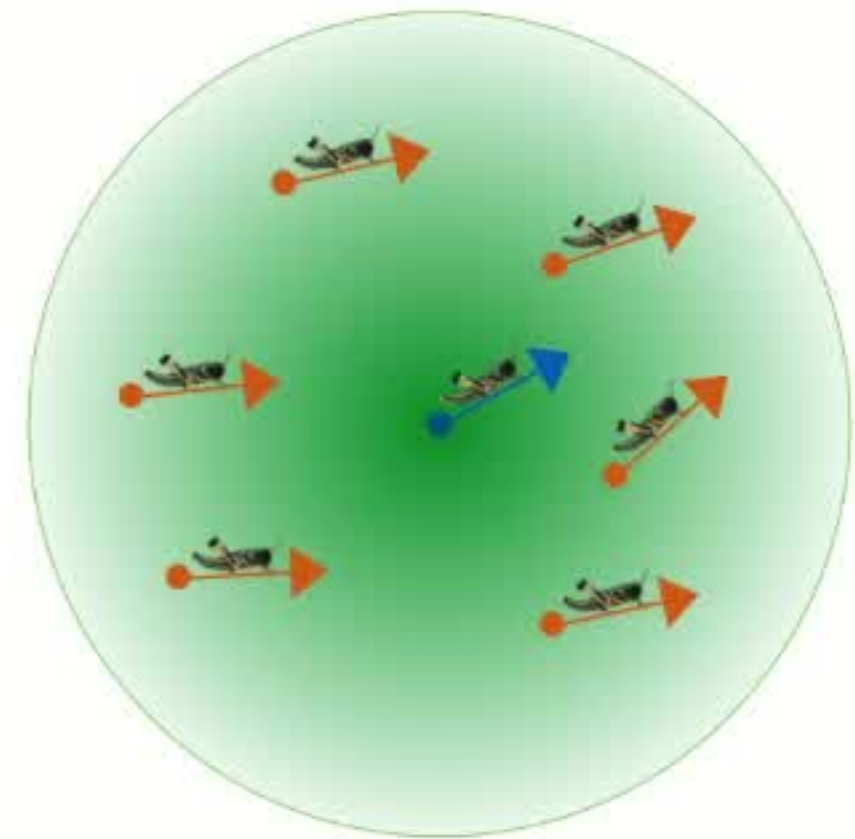
Kumamoto type coupling:

$$\omega_o = \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq i}}^n c_o f_o(d_{ij}) \sin(\theta_j - \theta_i).$$

Weighted by distance,  $d_{ij} = |\vec{x}_i - \vec{x}_j|$

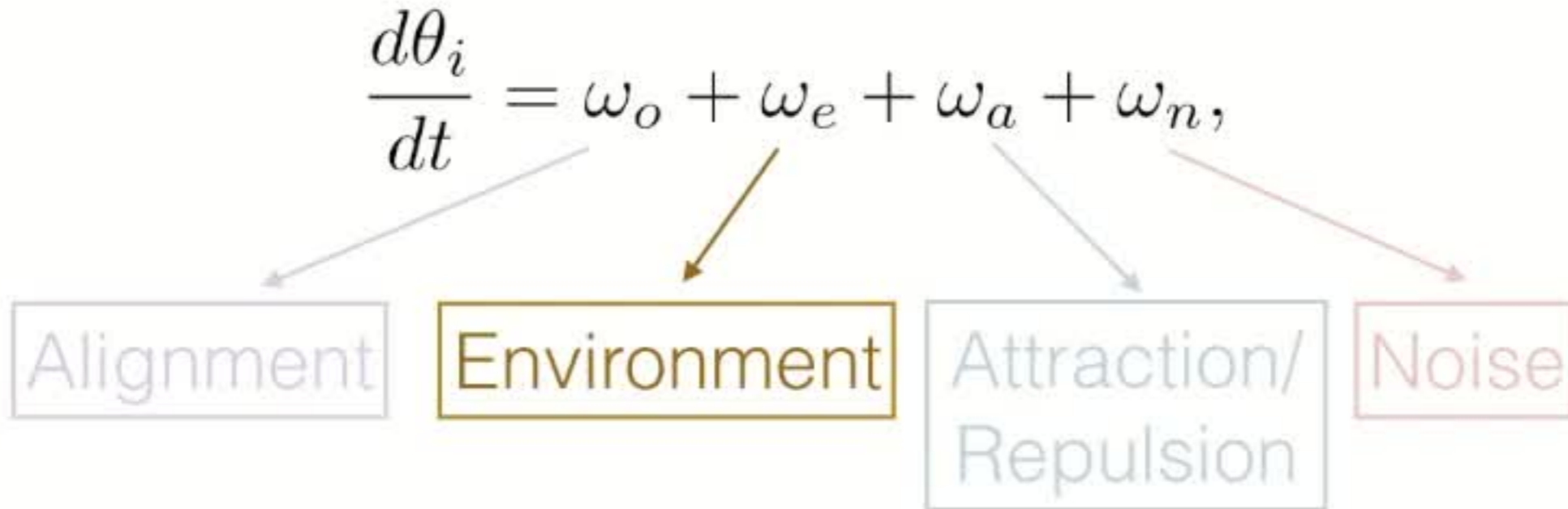
$$f_o(d) = \begin{cases} 1 - d/l_o & d < l_o \\ 0 & d \geq l_o \end{cases}$$

within a finite radius,  $l_o$ .





# ABM: Orientation (Environment)

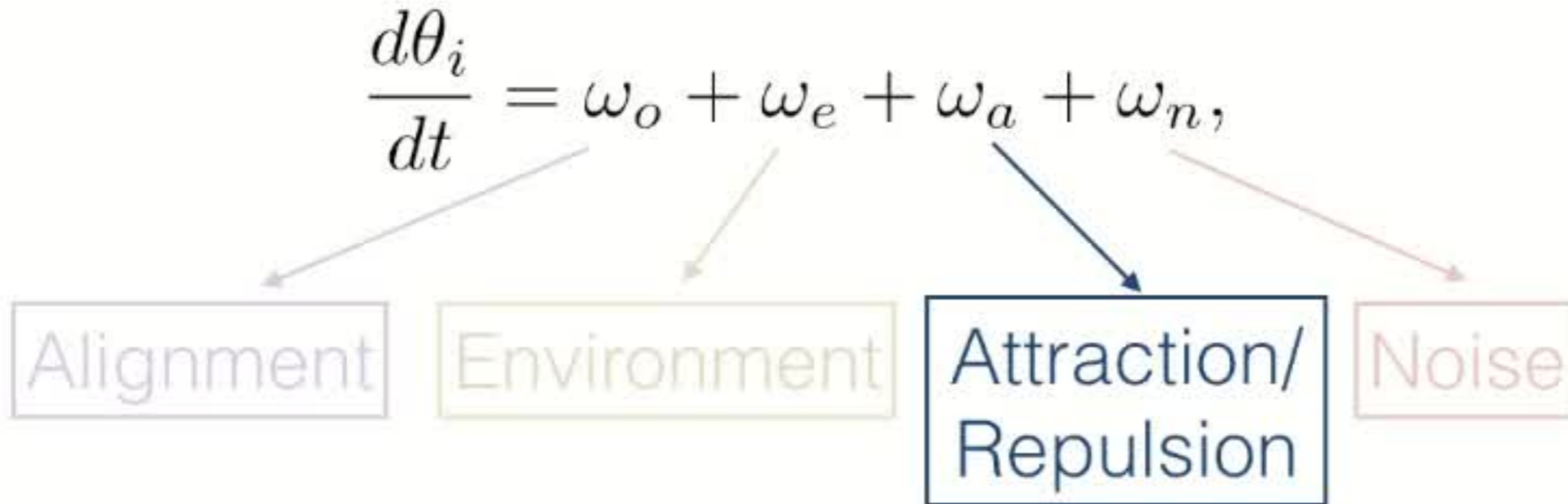


Locusts maintain a constant heading; usually downwind.

Environmental bias:  $\omega_e = c_e \sin(\theta_e - \theta_i)$



# ABM: Orientation (Attraction/Repulsion)

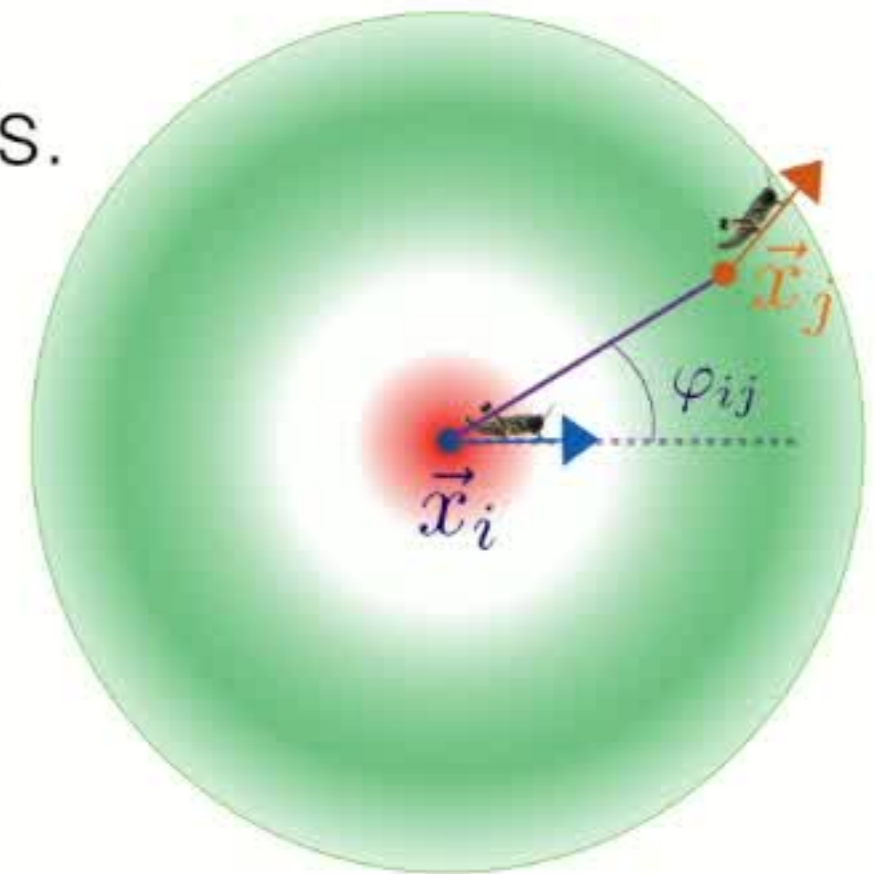


Locust turns **toward/away** the weighted centroid of adjacent locusts.

$$\omega_a = \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq i}}^n [c_r f_r(d_{ij}) - c_a f_a(d_{ij})] \sin(\phi_{ij}),$$

$$f_a(d) = \begin{cases} 1 - \frac{|d - l_w|}{|l_a - l_w|} & \text{for } |d - l_w| < |l_a - l_w| \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

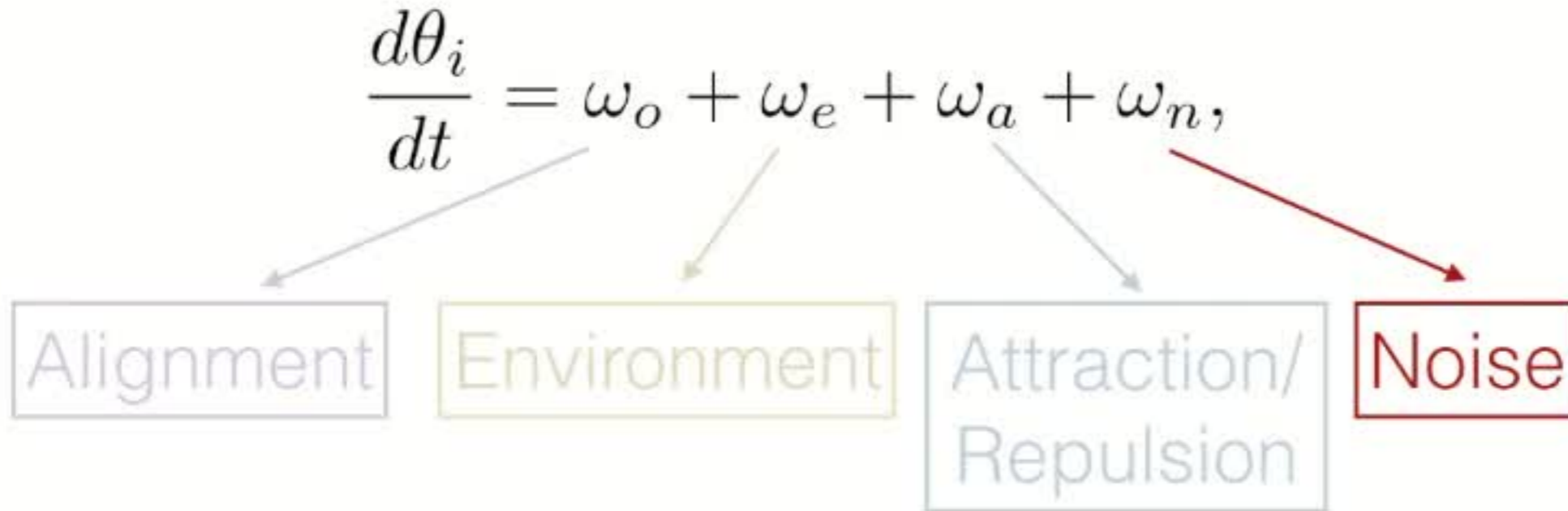
$$f_r(d) = \begin{cases} 1 - \frac{d}{l_r} & \text{for } d < l_r \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



$$d_{ij} = |\vec{x}_i - \vec{x}_j|$$



# ABM: Orientation (Noise)

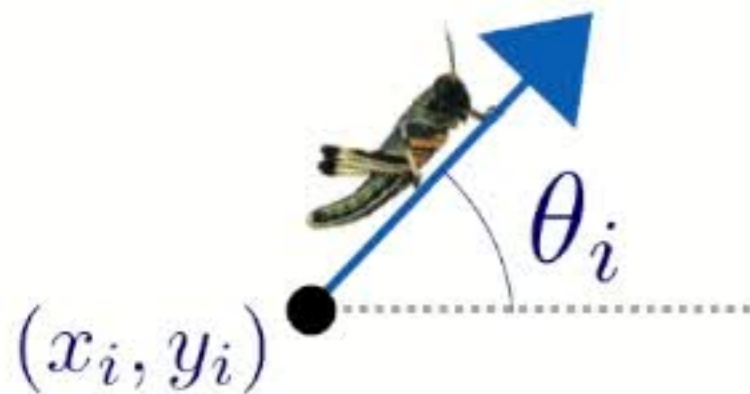


White Noise:  $\omega_n = \sqrt{c_n} \dot{W}$

Change in  $\theta_i(t)$  is normally distributed

$$\theta_i(t + \Delta t) - \theta_i(t) \sim \mathcal{N}(0, c_n \Delta t)$$

with variance  $c_n \Delta t$ .



# ABM: Numerical Simulation

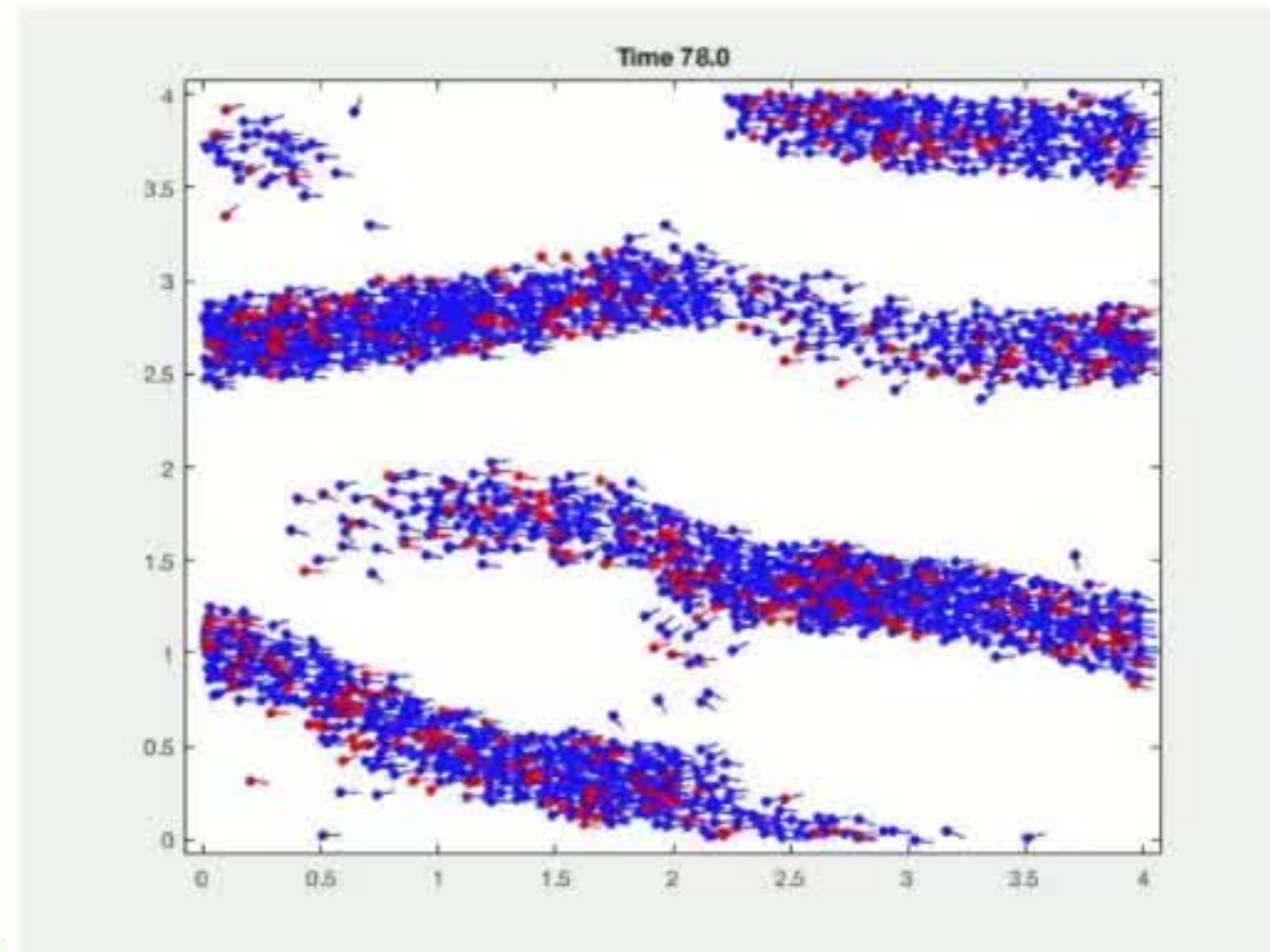
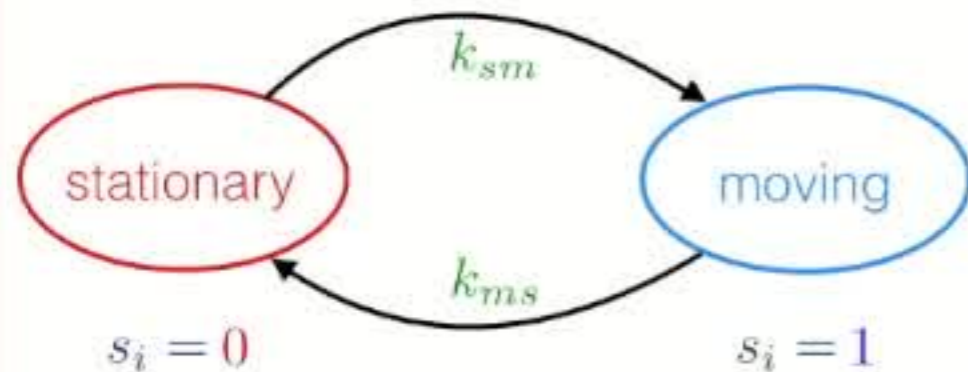
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Position:  $\vec{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^2$     Orientation:  $\theta_i \in \mathbb{S}^1$     State:  $s_i \in \{0, 1\}$

## Equations of Motion

$$\frac{d\vec{x}_i}{dt} = s_i v \hat{u}_i(\theta_i)$$

$$\frac{d\theta_i}{dt} = \omega_o + \omega_e + \omega_a + \omega_n$$



4000 agents

Integrate with a stochastic  
Modified Euler Method (Honeycutt, 1992)

14 Parameters (estimated from experimental data)



# ABM: Numerical Simulation

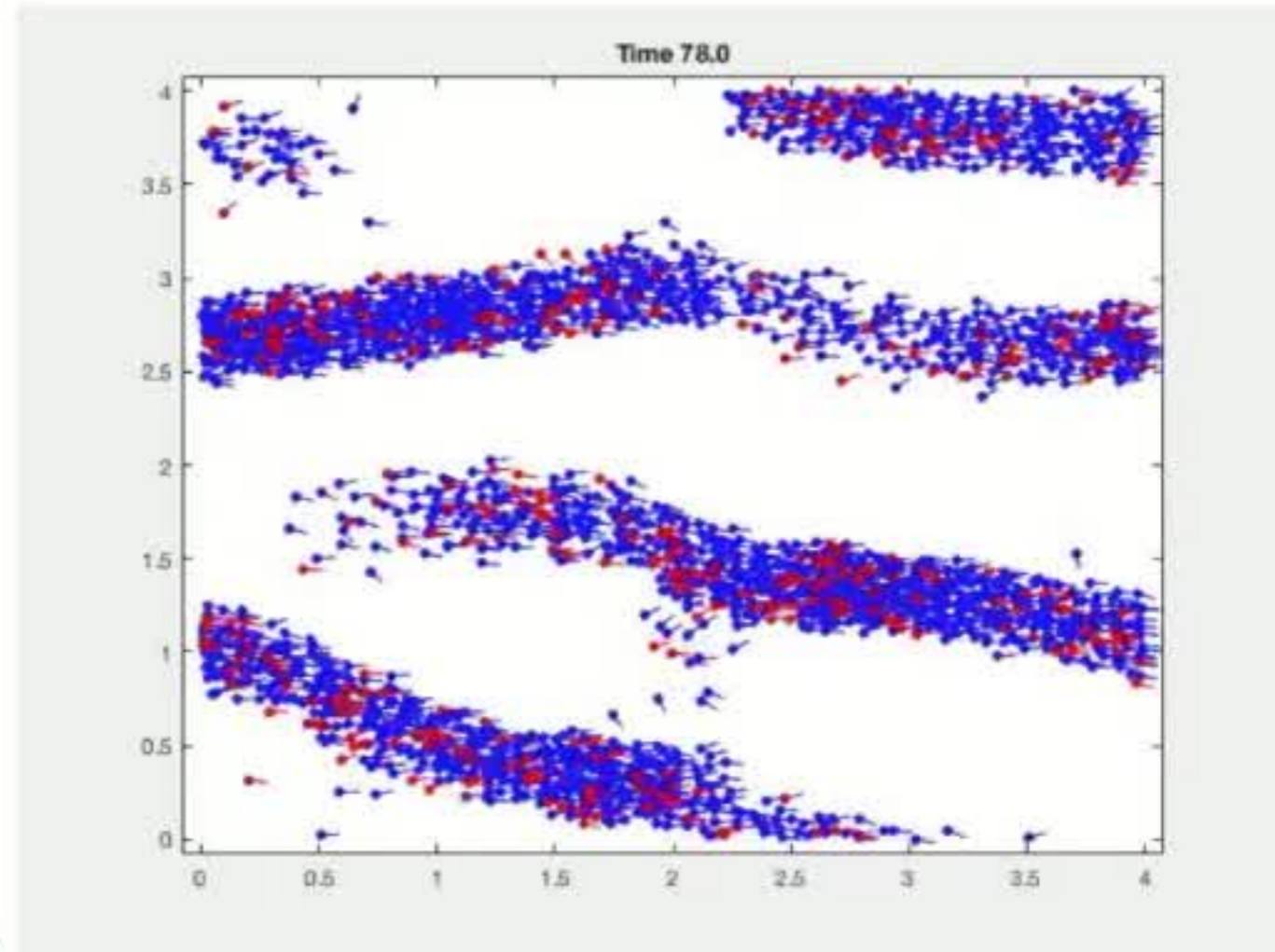
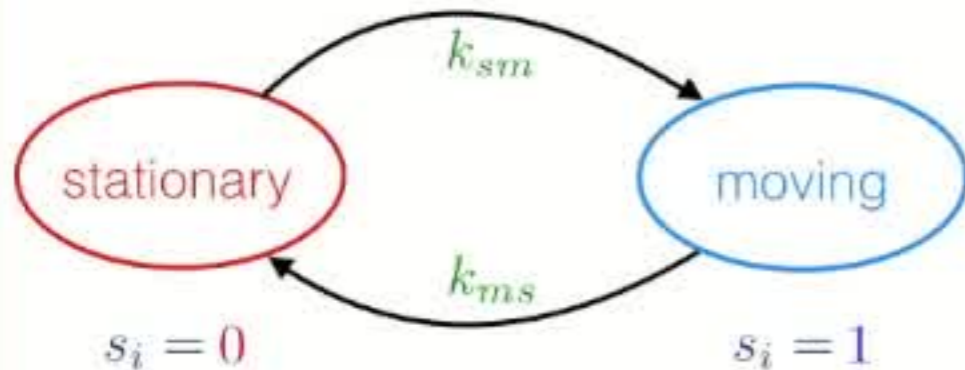
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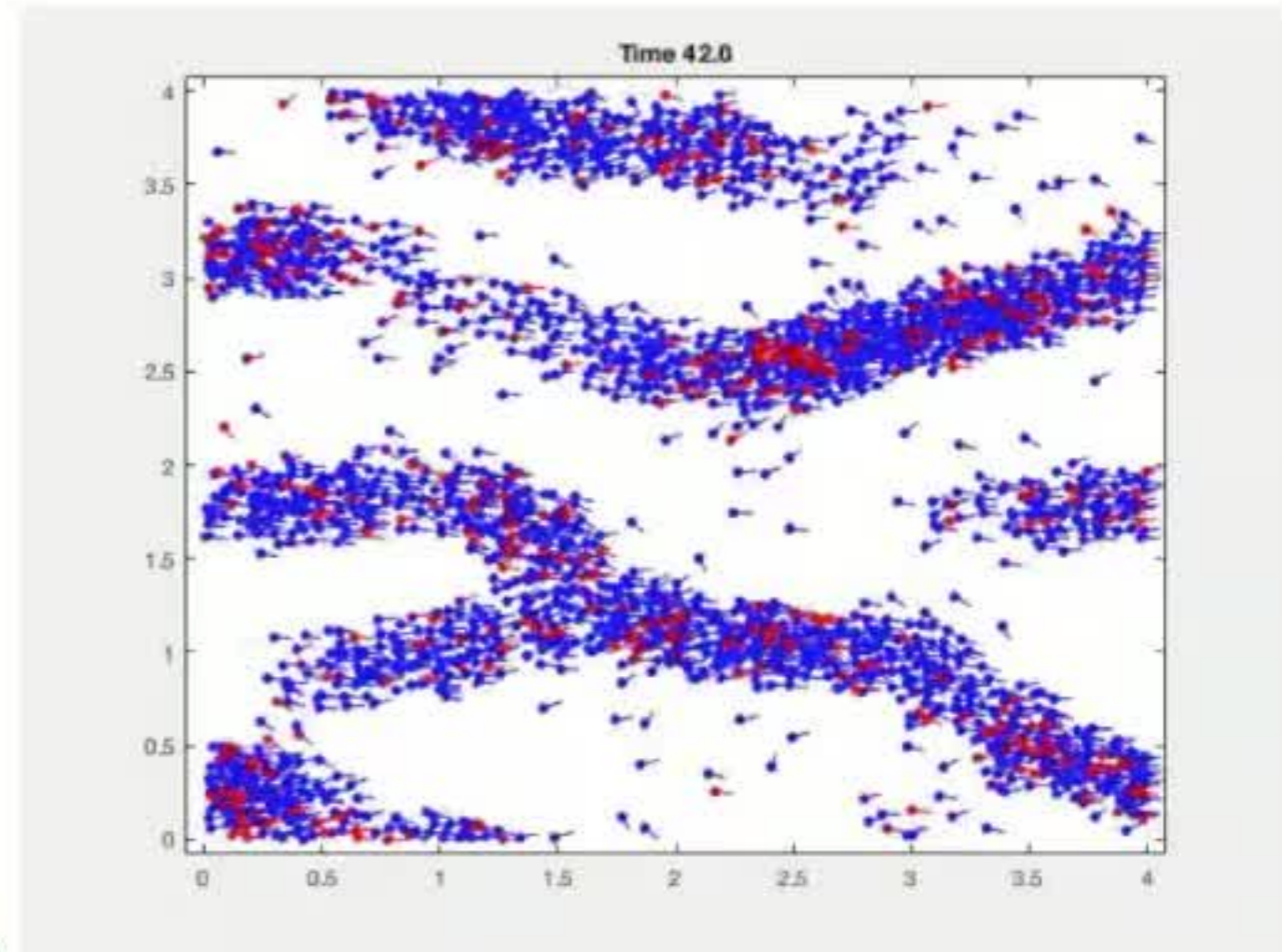
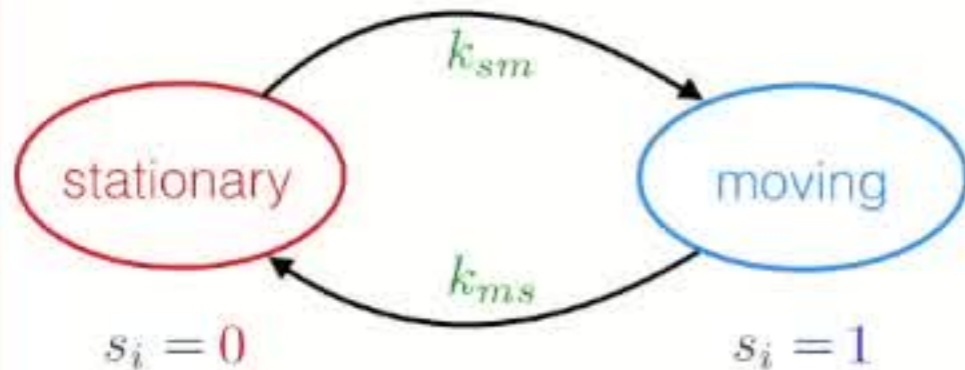
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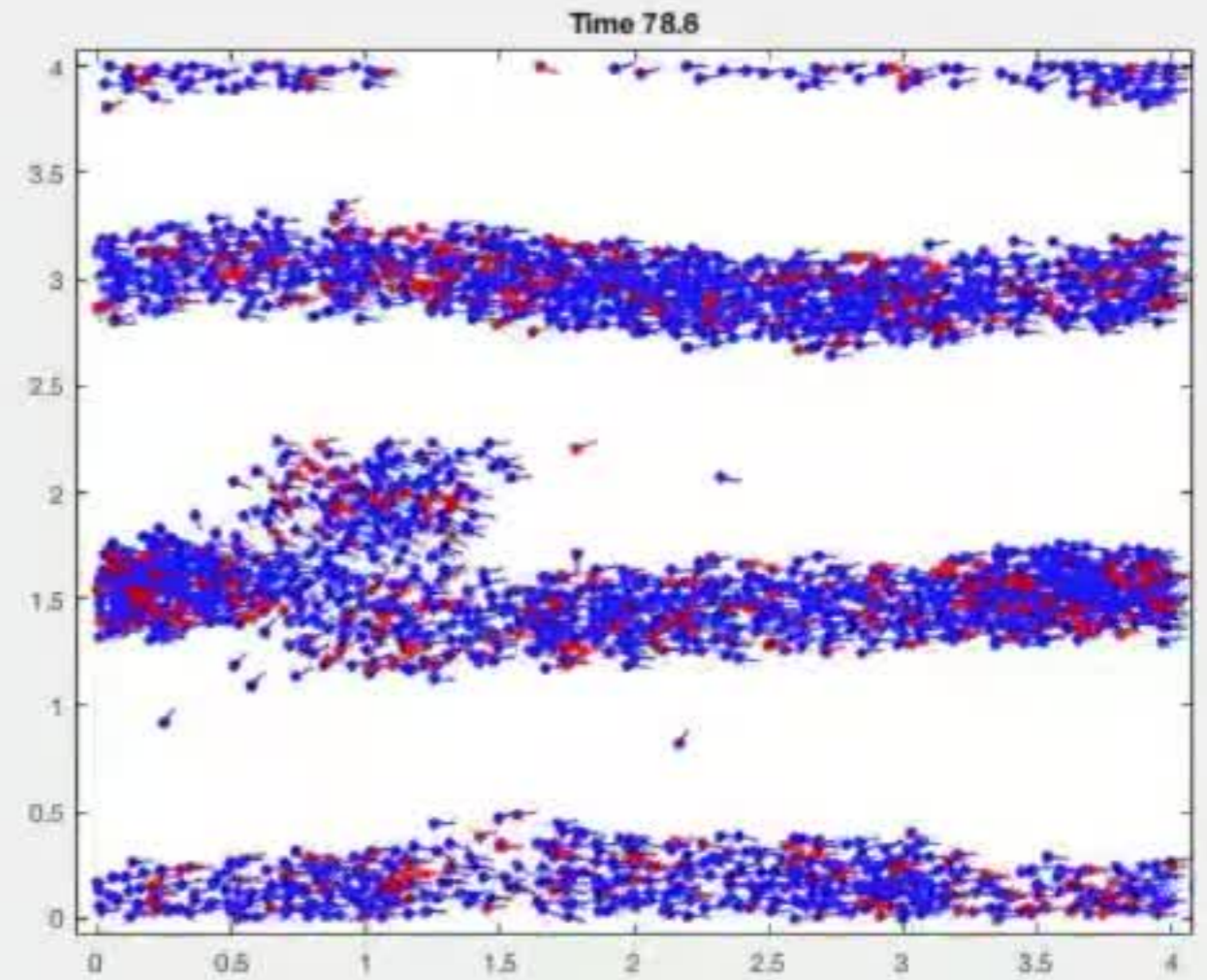
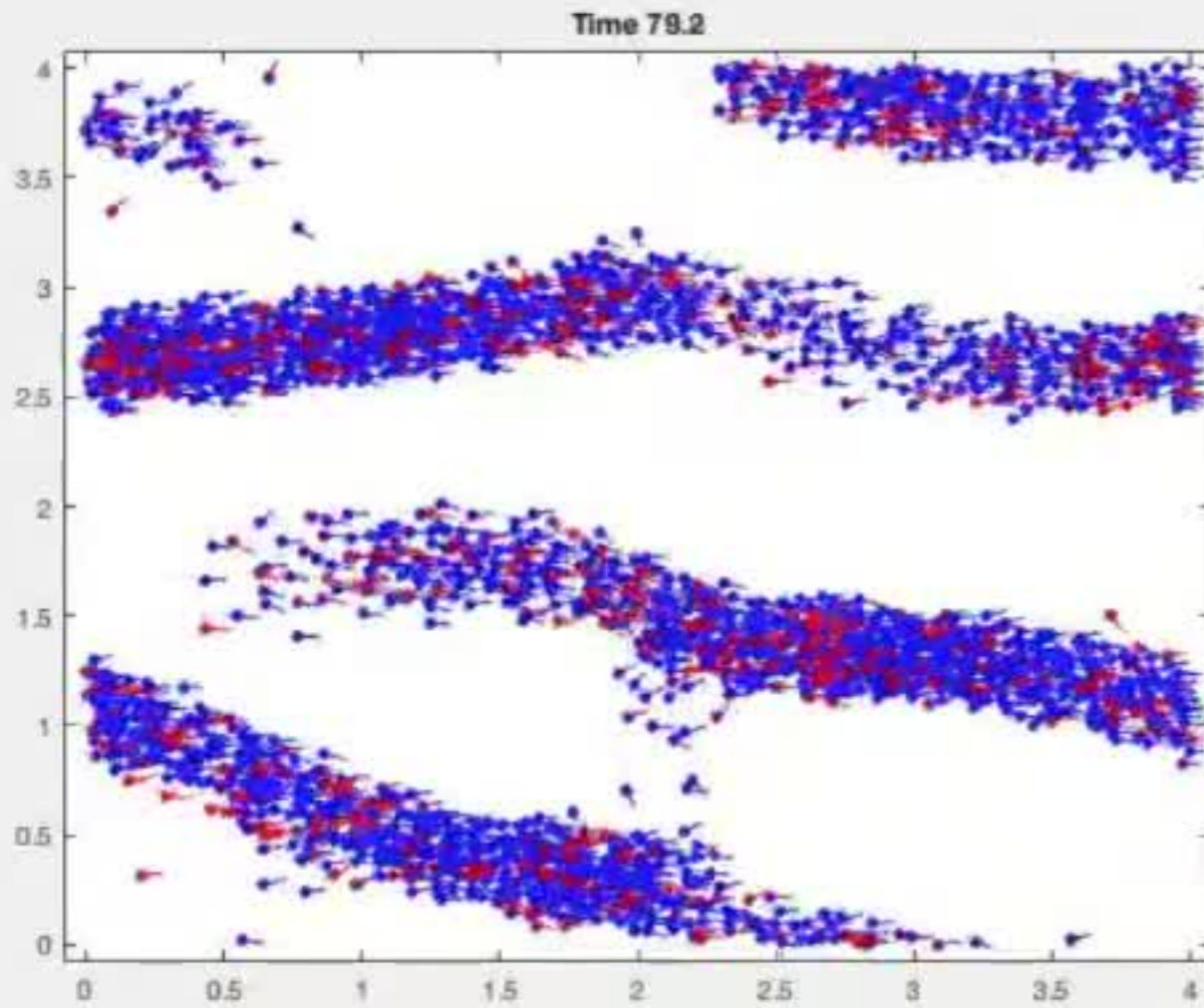
4000 agents

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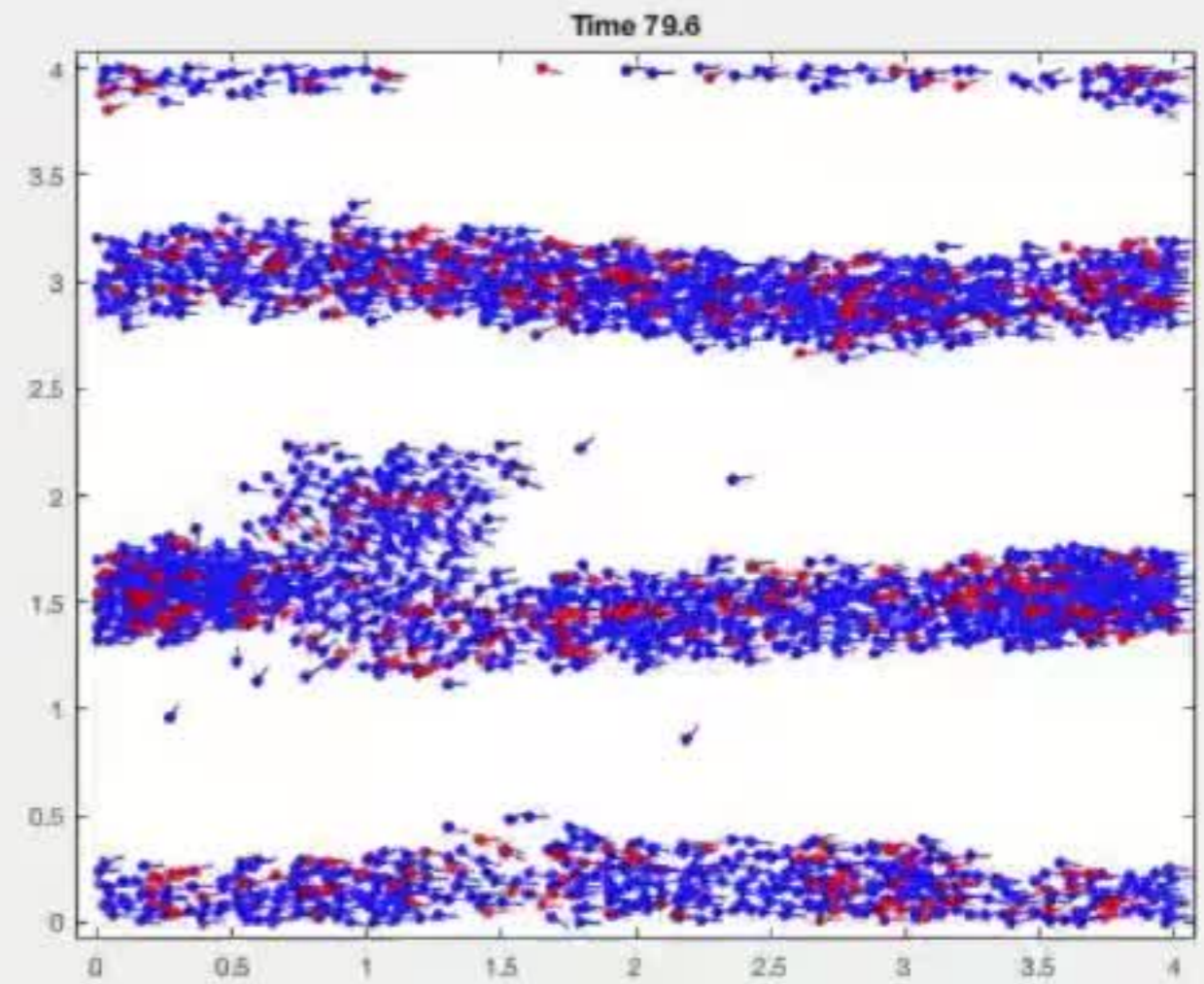
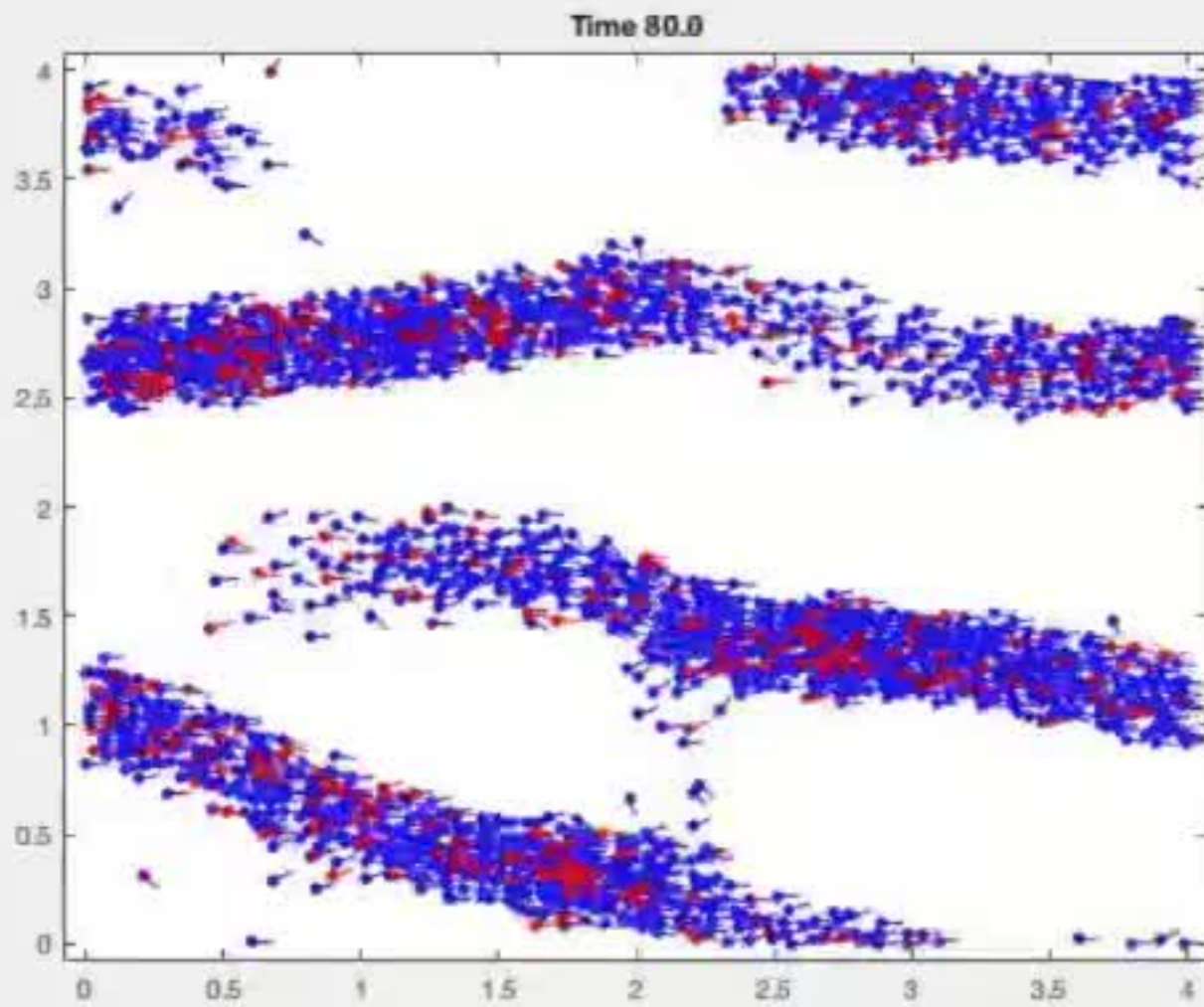


# Different Initial Conditions



Red = Stationary  
Blue = Moving

# Different Initial Conditions

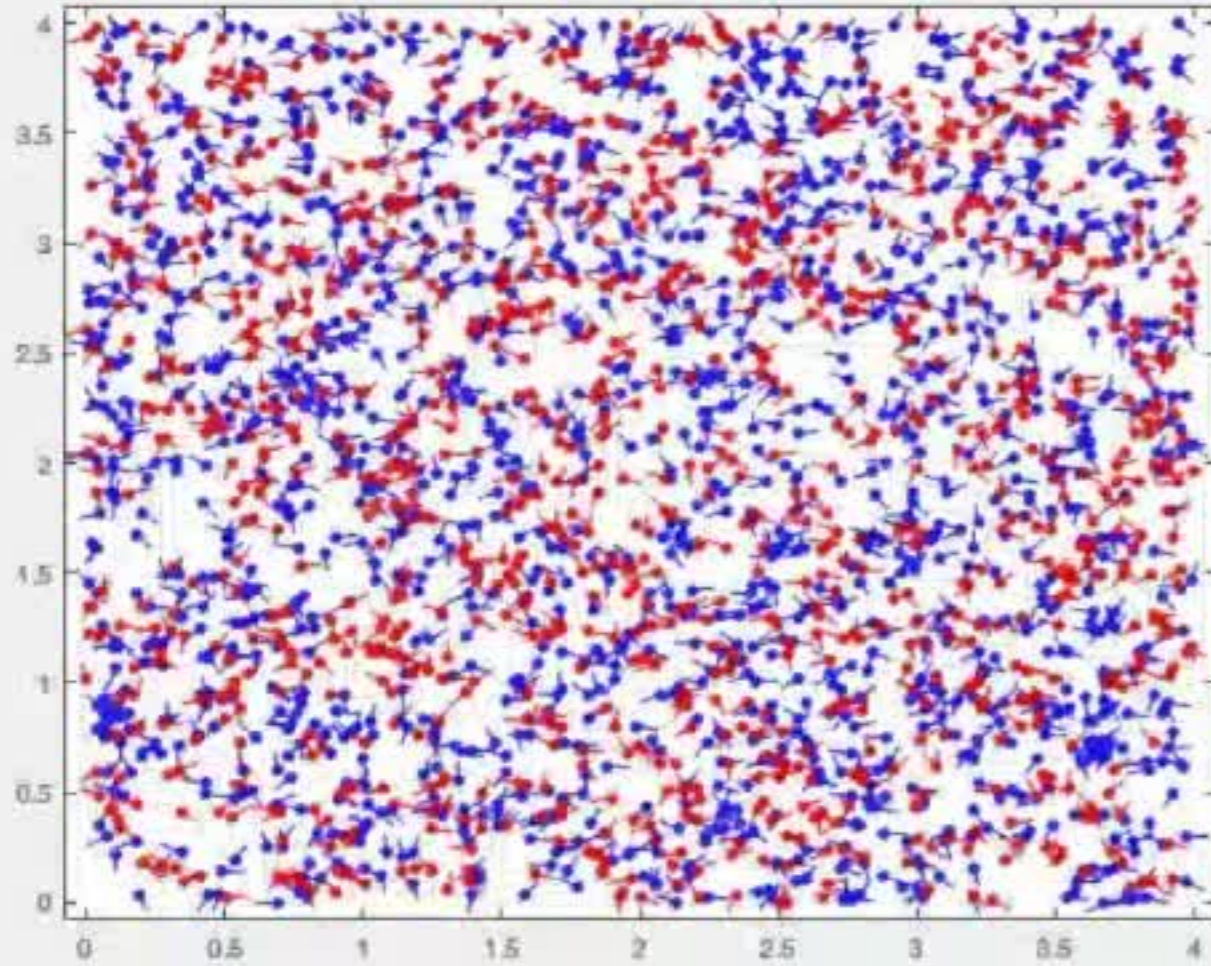


Red = Stationary  
Blue = Moving



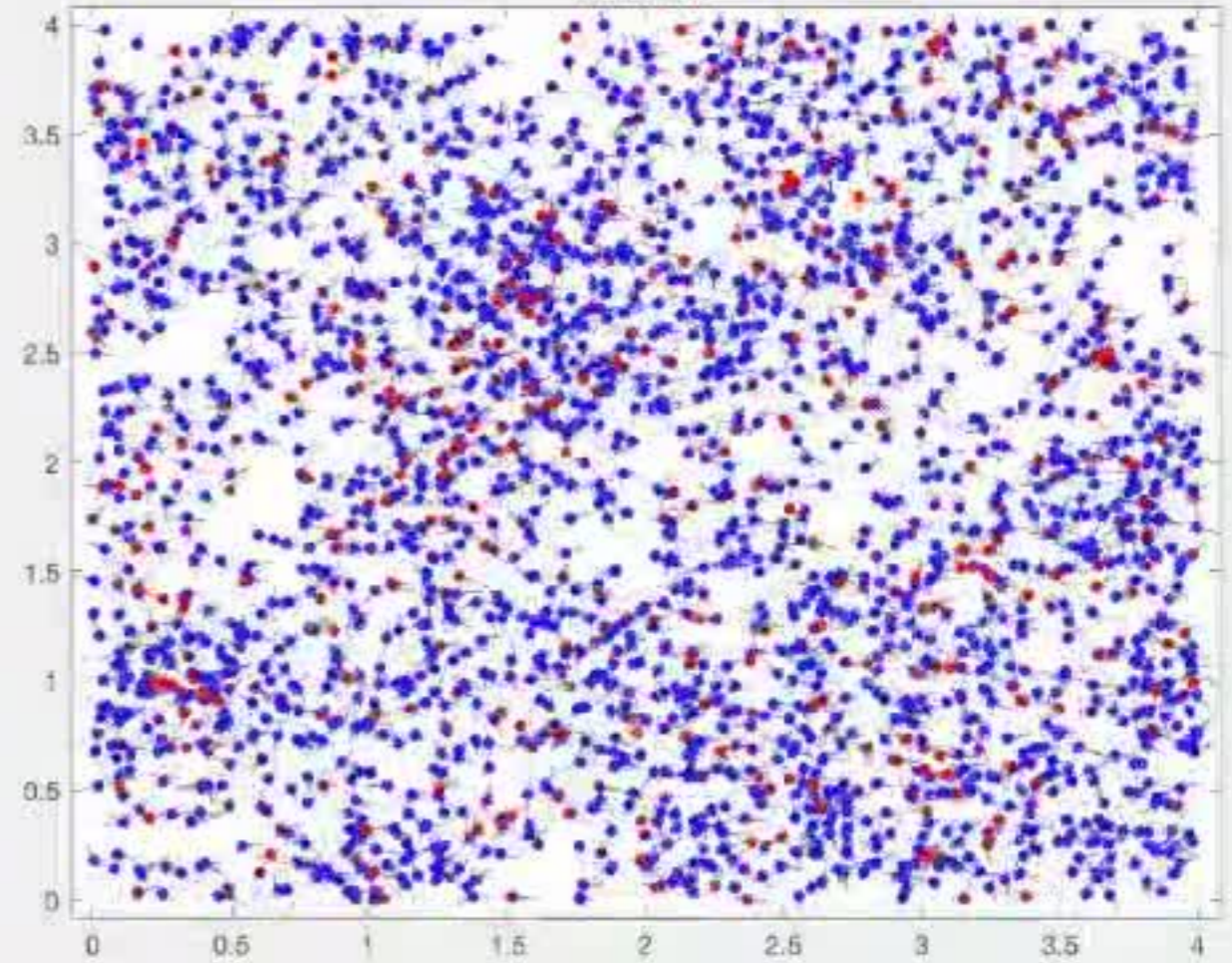
# Alignment

Time 0.2



Alignment

Time 18.2

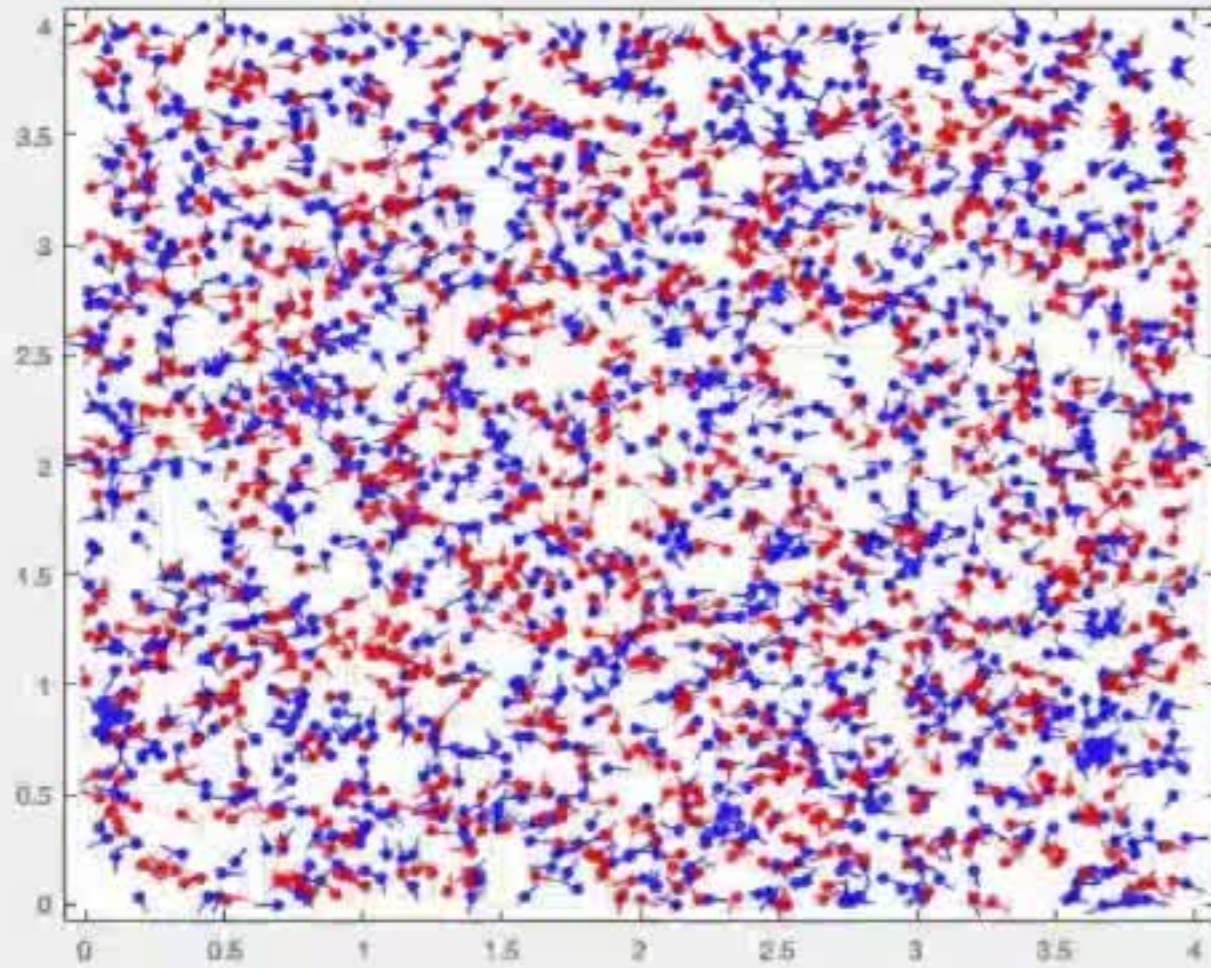


No Alignment



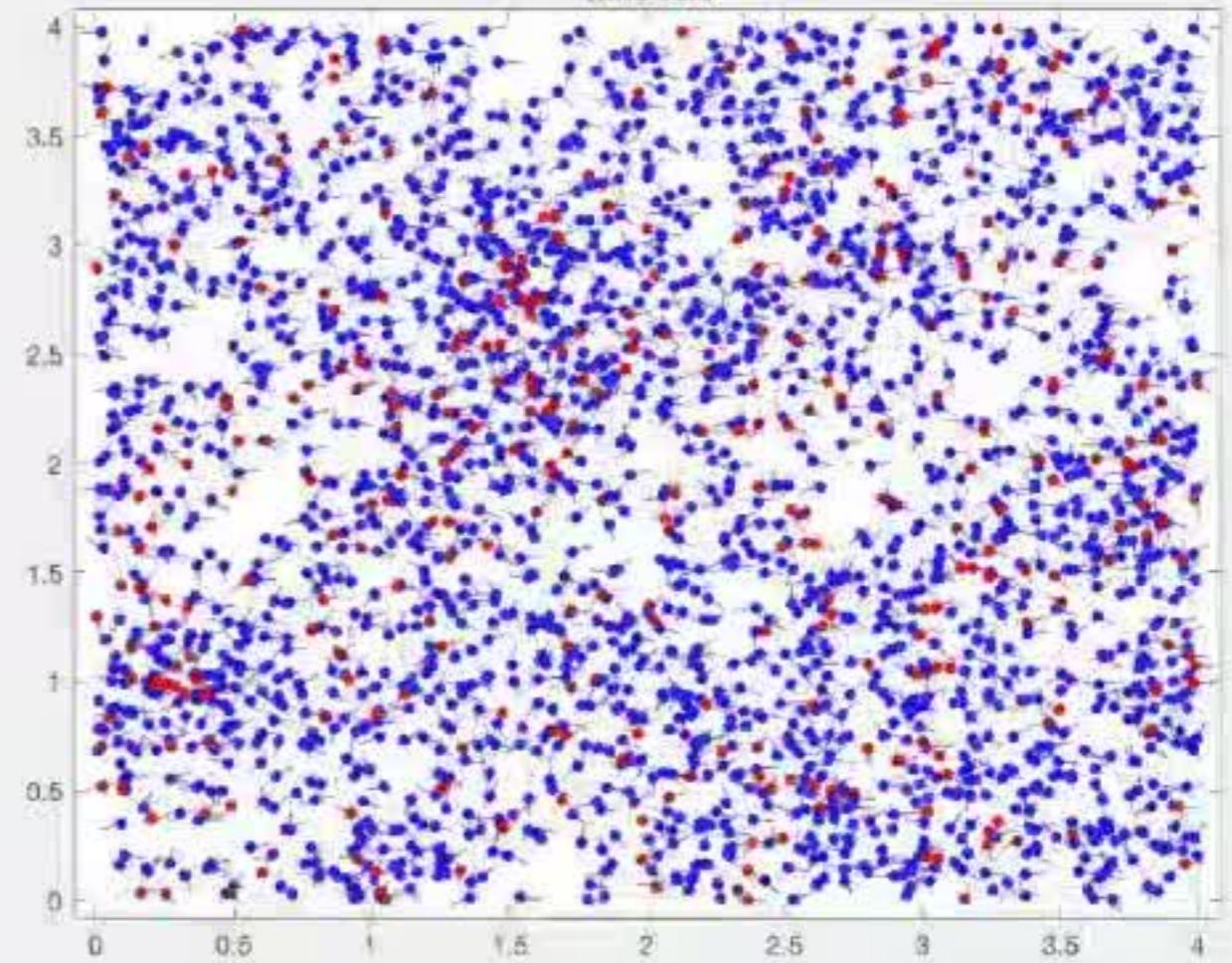
# Alignment

Time 0.2



Alignment

Time 19.6

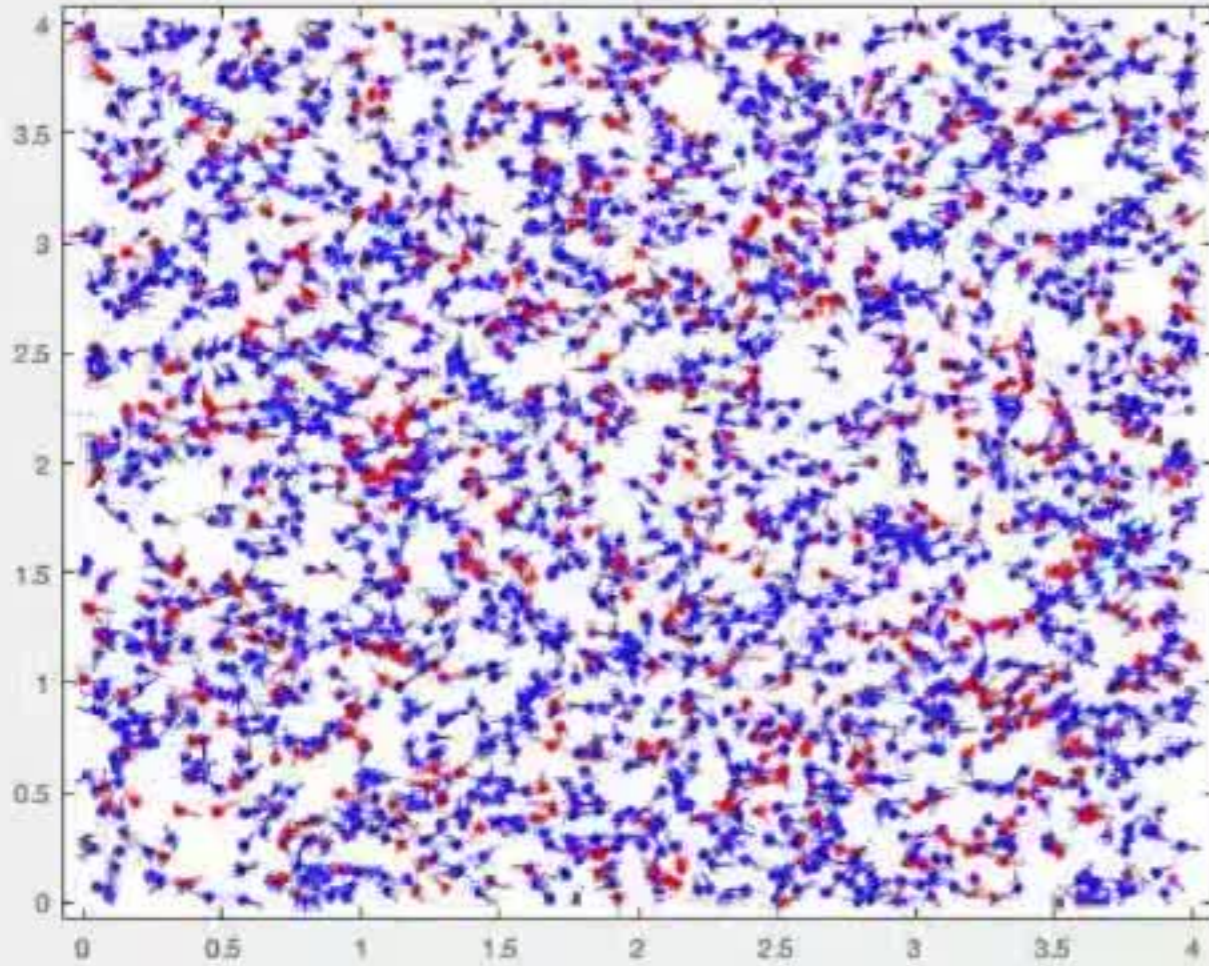


No Alignment



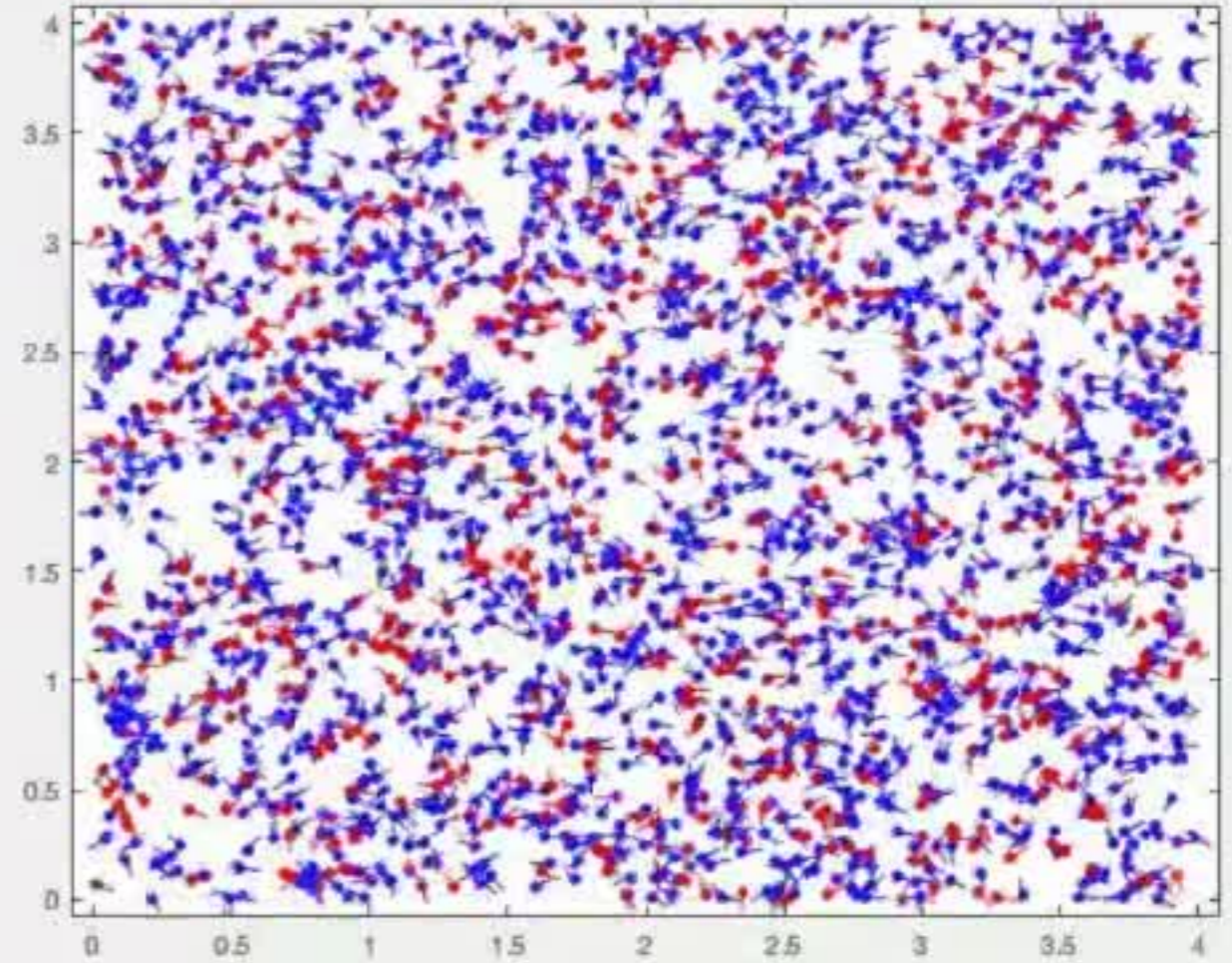
# Repulsion

Time 1.8



Repulsion

Time 1.0

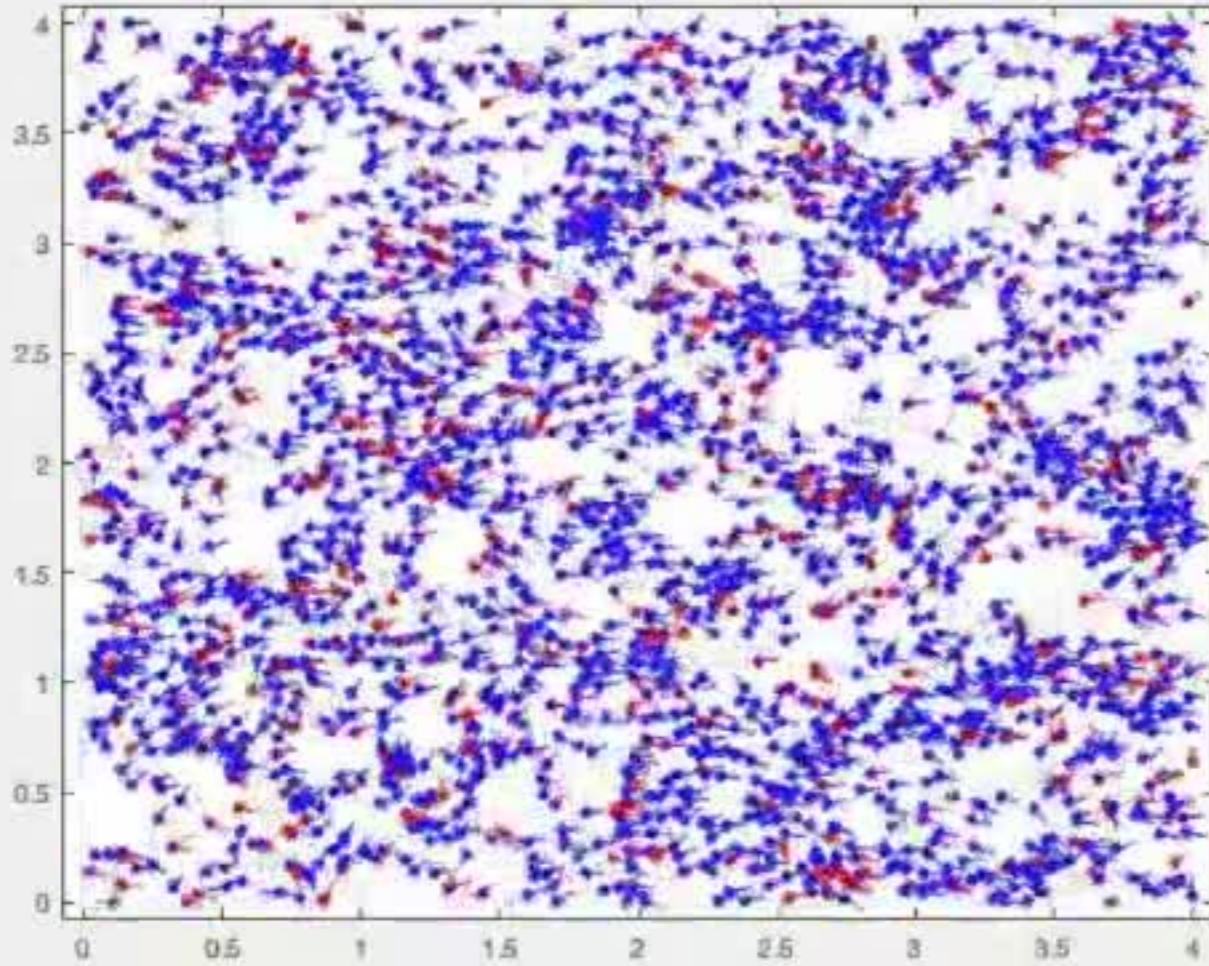


No Repulsion



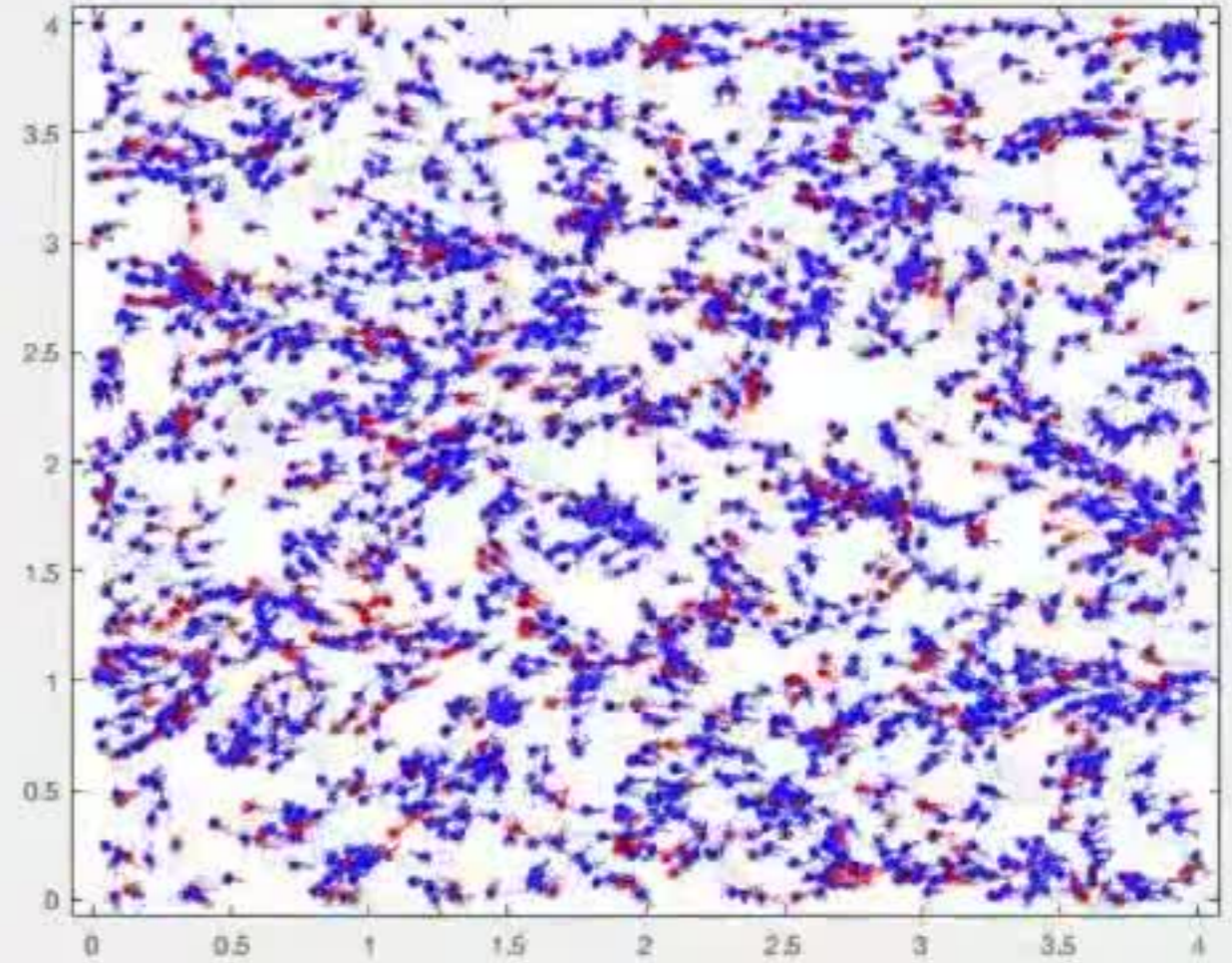
# Repulsion

Time 5.6



Repulsion

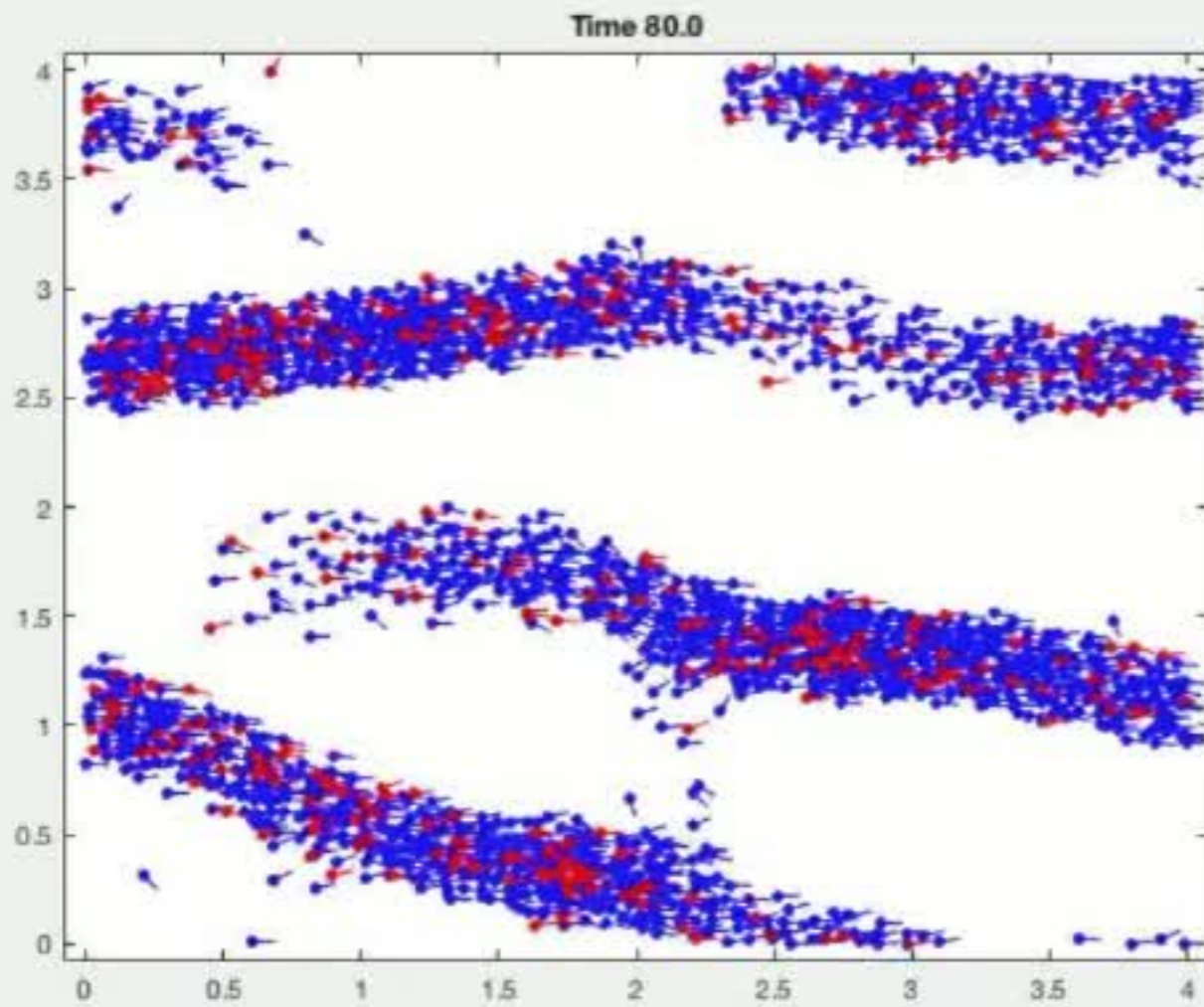
Time 5.0



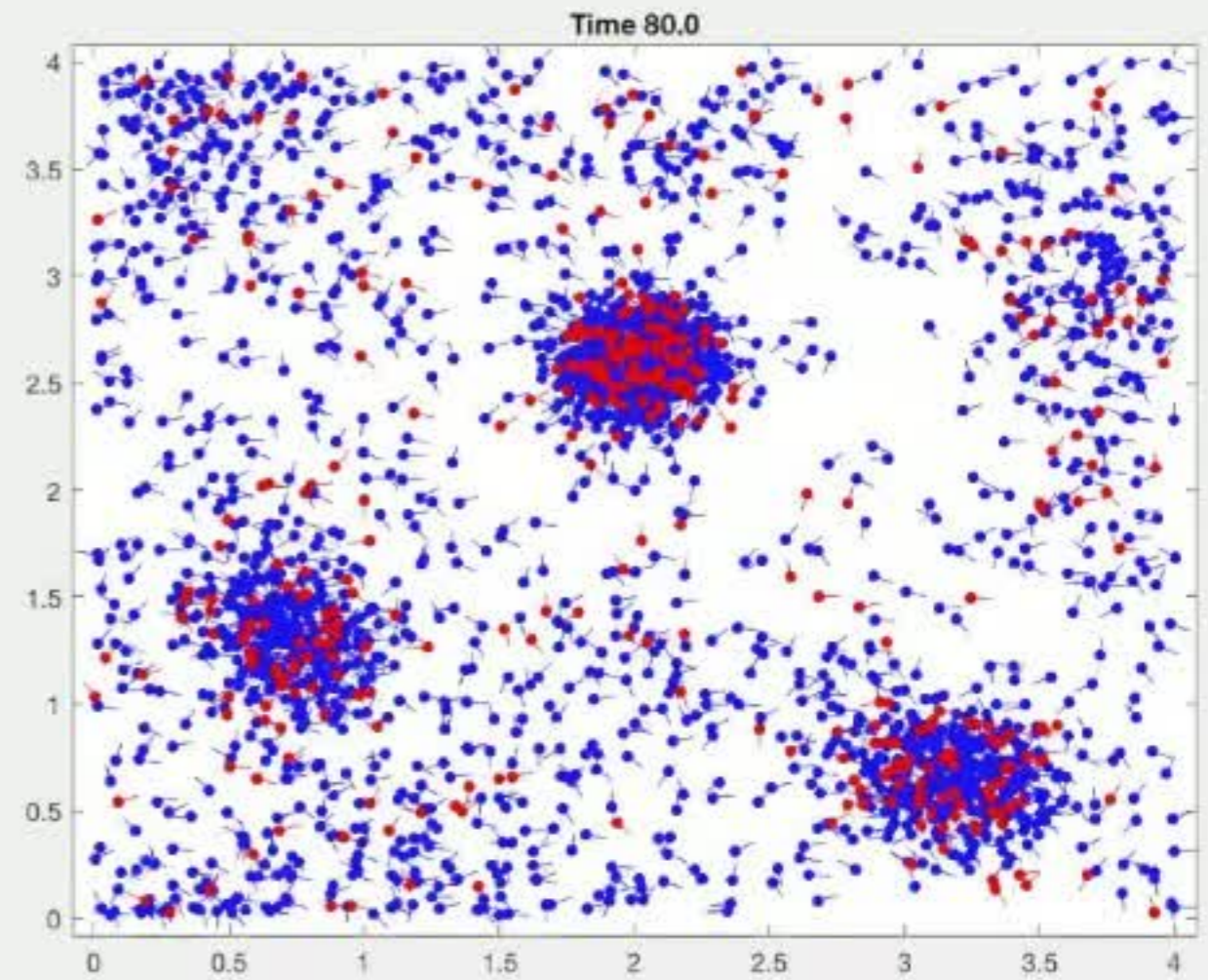
No Repulsion



# Alignment

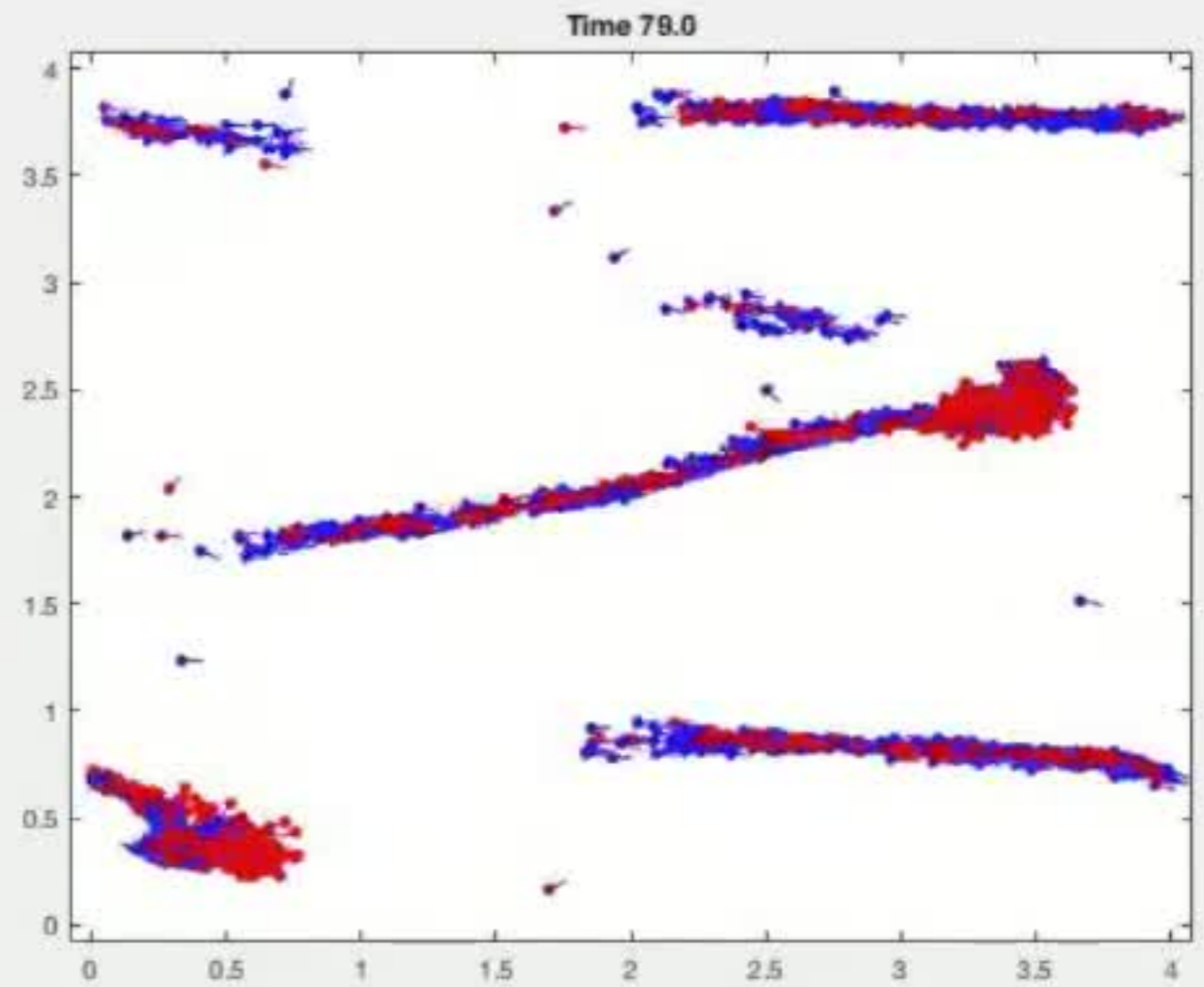
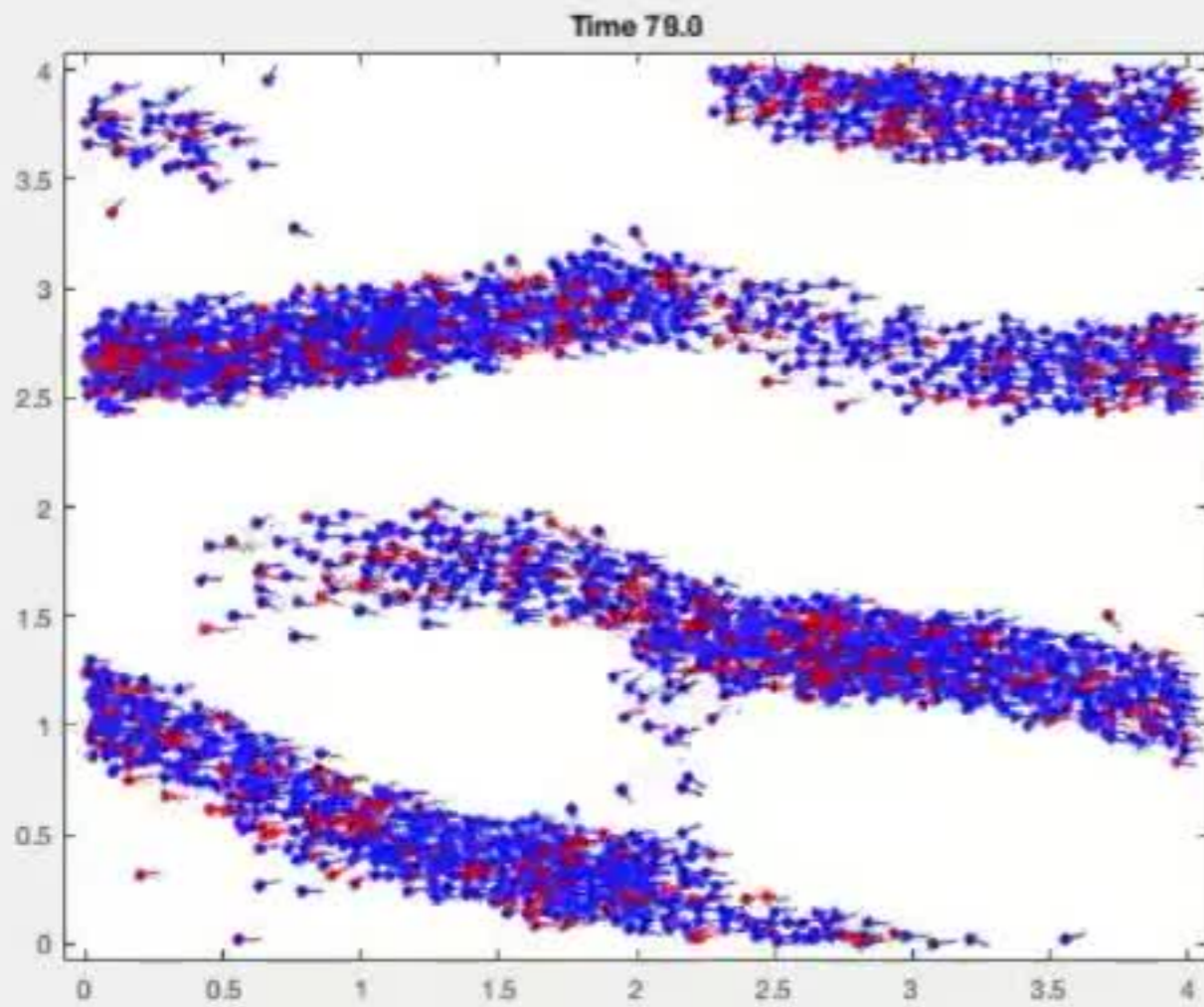


Alignment



No Alignment

# Repulsion



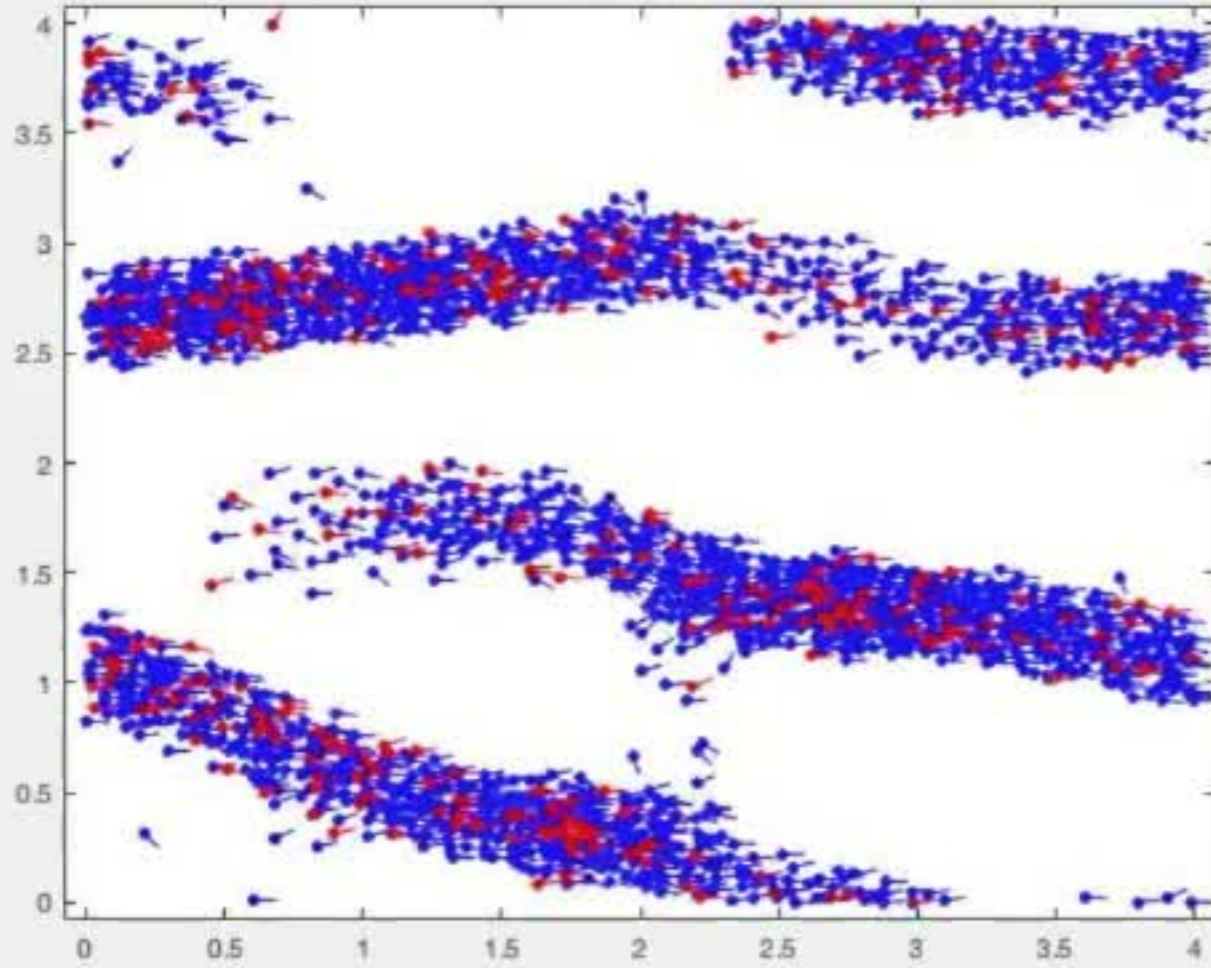
Repulsion

No Repulsion



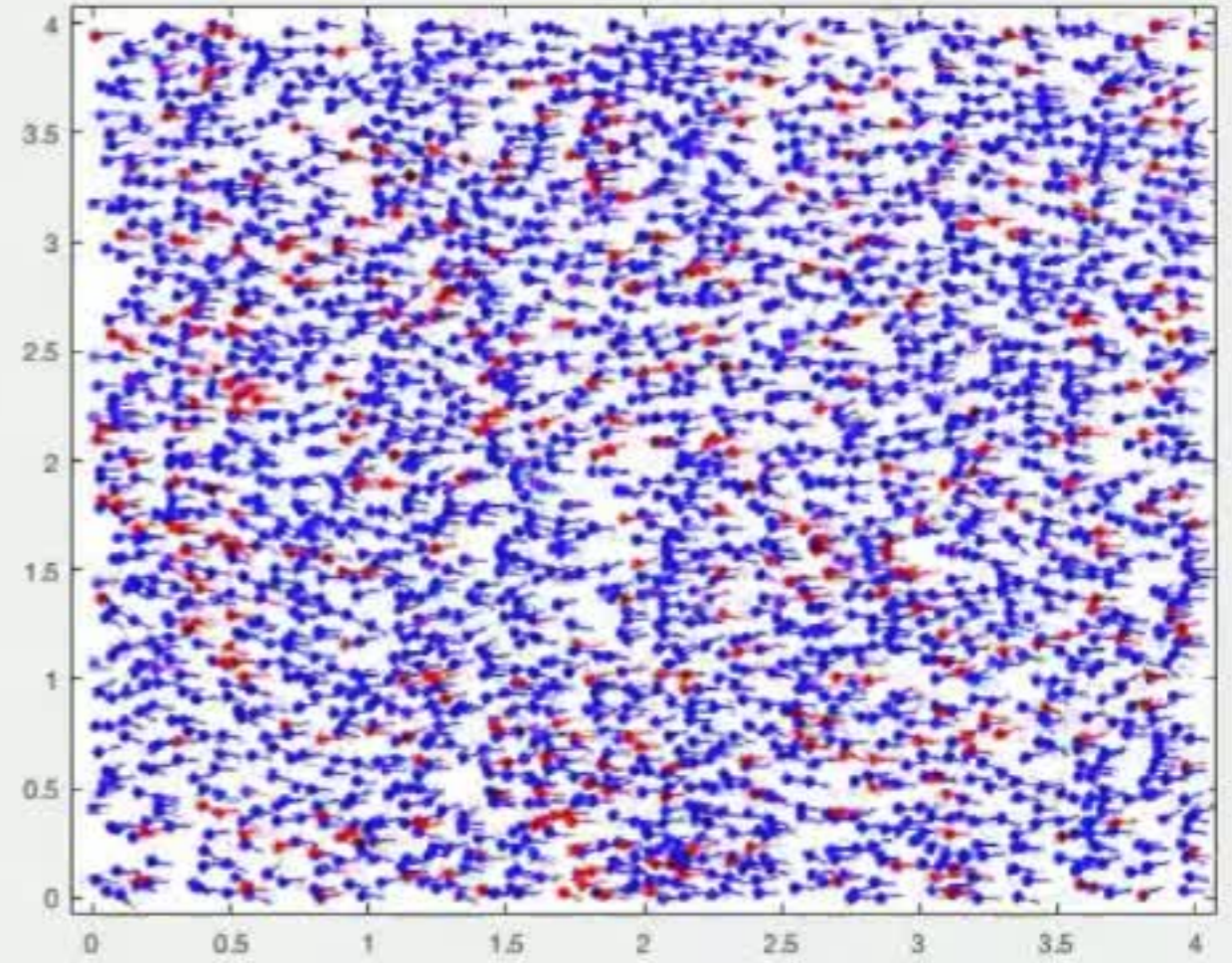
# Attraction

Time 80.0



Attraction

Time 79.8

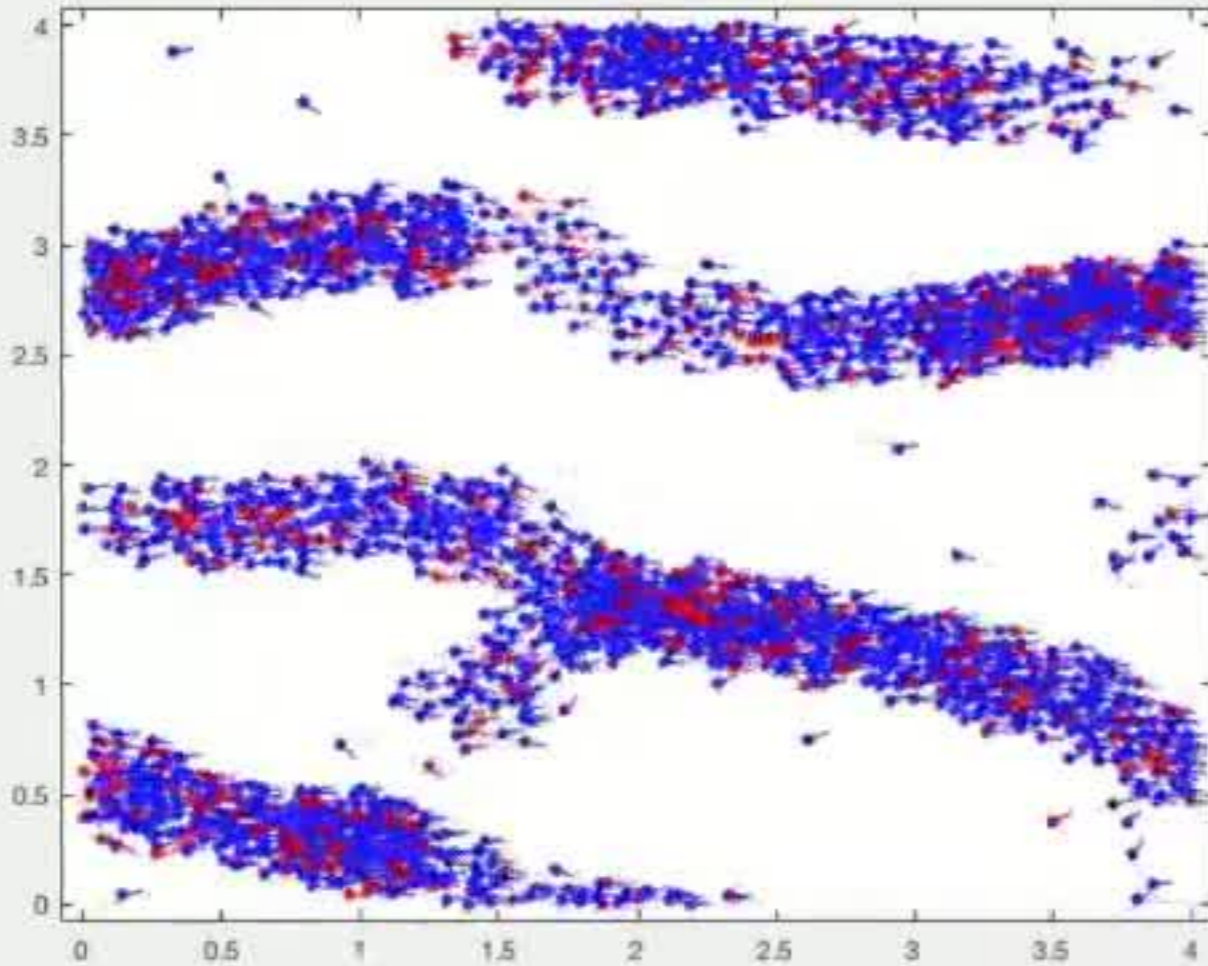


No Attraction

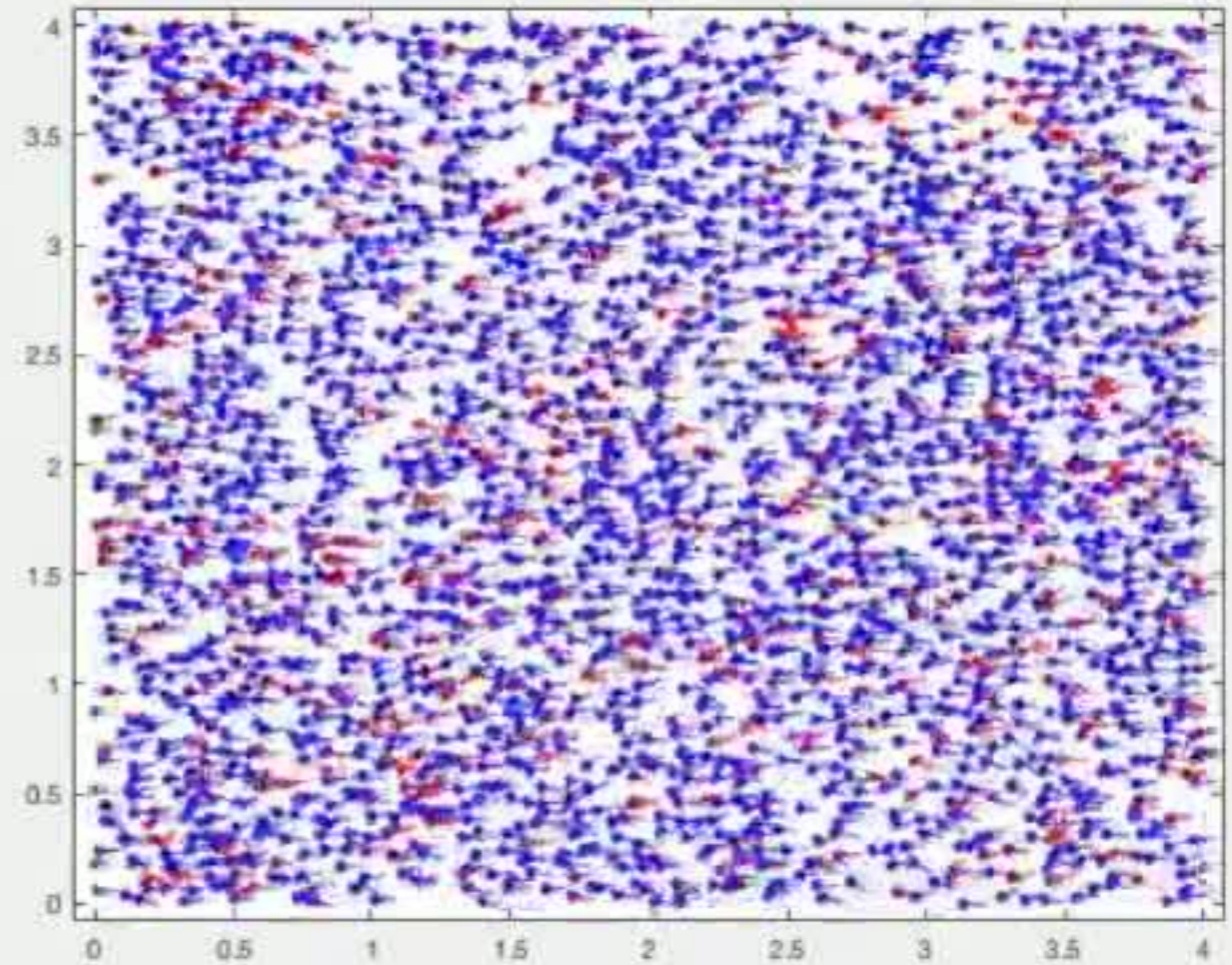


# Attraction/Repulsion

Time 60.4



Time 44.8



Can we explain the role of attraction/repulsion in creating columnar structures?



# Continuum Model

$$\frac{\partial S}{\partial t} = -k_{sm}S + k_{ms}M$$

$$\frac{\partial M}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\vec{v}M) = k_{sm}S - k_{ms}M$$

$$\frac{d\theta_s}{dt} = \omega_o^s + \omega_e^s + \omega_a^s$$

$$\frac{d\theta_m}{dt} + \nabla \cdot (\vec{v}\theta_m) = \omega_o^m + \omega_e^m + \omega_a^m$$

$S$  = Density of stationary locusts  
 $M$  = Density of moving locusts  
 $\theta_s$  = Angle of stationary locusts  
 $\theta_m$  = Angle of moving locusts  
 $\rho = S + M$  (Total density)

$$k_{sm} = \kappa_{sm} e^{-\alpha_{sm}\beta_s} \quad \beta_s = \hat{u}(\theta_s) \cdot \int_{\Omega} \frac{\vec{y} - \vec{x}}{|\vec{y} - \vec{x}|} f_b(|\vec{y} - \vec{x}|) \rho(\vec{y}) d\vec{y},$$

blocking

$$\omega_o^m = c_o \int_{\Omega} f_o(|\vec{y} - \vec{x}|) [S(\vec{y}) \sin[\theta_s(\vec{y}) - \theta_m(\vec{x})] + M(\vec{y}) \sin[\theta_m(\vec{y}) - \theta_m(\vec{x})]] d\vec{y},$$

$$\omega_e^m = c_e \sin[\theta_e - \theta_m(\vec{x})]$$

$$\omega_a^m = -c_a \hat{u}_{\perp}(\theta_m) \cdot \int_{\Omega} \frac{\vec{y} - \vec{x}}{|\vec{y} - \vec{x}|} f_a(|\vec{y} - \vec{x}|) \rho(\vec{y}) d\vec{y},$$

alignment  
 environment  
 attraction/repulsion

# Steady State

$S$  = Density of stationary locusts  
 $M$  = Density of moving locusts  
 $\theta_s$  = Angle of stationary locusts  
 $\theta_m$  = Angle of moving locusts  
 $\rho = S + M$  (Total density)

$$\frac{\partial S}{\partial t} = -k_{sm}S + k_{ms}M$$

$$\frac{\partial M}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\vec{v}M) = k_{sm}S - k_{ms}M$$

$$\frac{d\theta_s}{dt} = \omega_o^s + \omega_e^s + \omega_a^s$$

$$\frac{d\theta_m}{dt} + \nabla \cdot (\vec{v}\theta_m) = \omega_o^m + \omega_e^m + \omega_a^m$$

Orientation torques  
vanish by symmetry

$$S(\vec{x}, t) = \bar{S}, \quad M(\vec{x}, t) = \bar{M}, \quad \theta(\vec{x}, t) = \theta_e$$

$$k_{sm} = \kappa_{sm} e^{-\alpha_{sm}\beta_s} \quad \beta_s = \hat{u}(\theta_s) \cdot \int_{\Omega} \frac{\vec{y} - \vec{x}}{|\vec{y} - \vec{x}|} f_b(|\vec{y} - \vec{x}|) \rho(\vec{y}) d\vec{y}, = 0 \quad \text{blocking}$$

$$\omega_o^m = c_o \int_{\Omega} f_o(|\vec{y} - \vec{x}|) [S(\vec{y}) \sin[\theta_s(\vec{y}) - \theta_m(\vec{x})] + M(\vec{y}) \sin[\theta_m(\vec{y}) - \theta_m(\vec{x})]] d\vec{y}, = 0$$

$$\omega_e^m = c_e \sin[\theta_e - \theta_m(\vec{x})] = 0$$

$$\omega_a^m = -c_a \hat{u}_{\perp}(\theta_m) \cdot \int_{\Omega} \frac{\vec{y} - \vec{x}}{|\vec{y} - \vec{x}|} f_a(|\vec{y} - \vec{x}|) \rho(\vec{y}) d\vec{y}, = 0$$

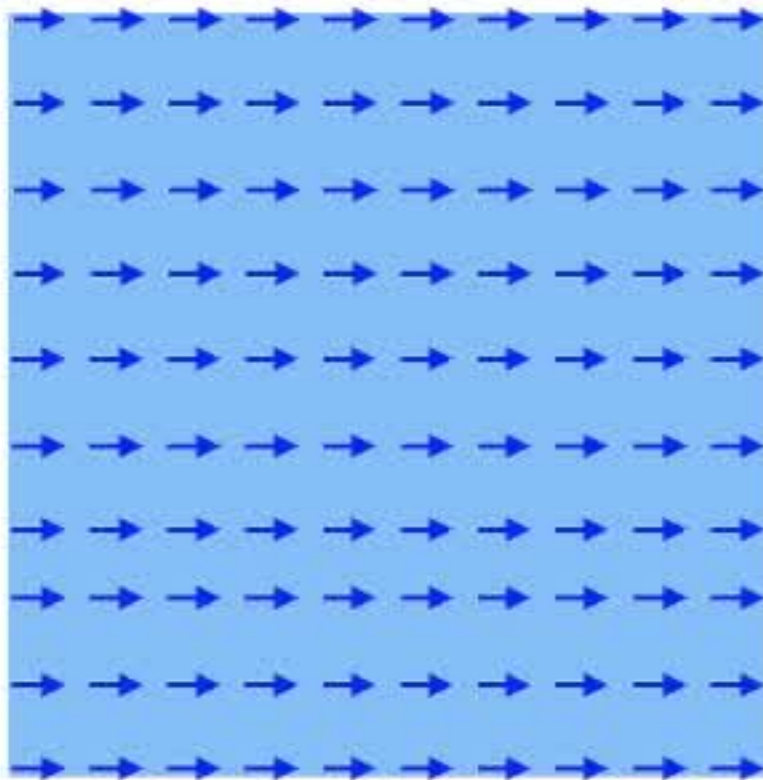
alignment  
 environment  
 attraction/repulsion



# Transverse Stability Theory

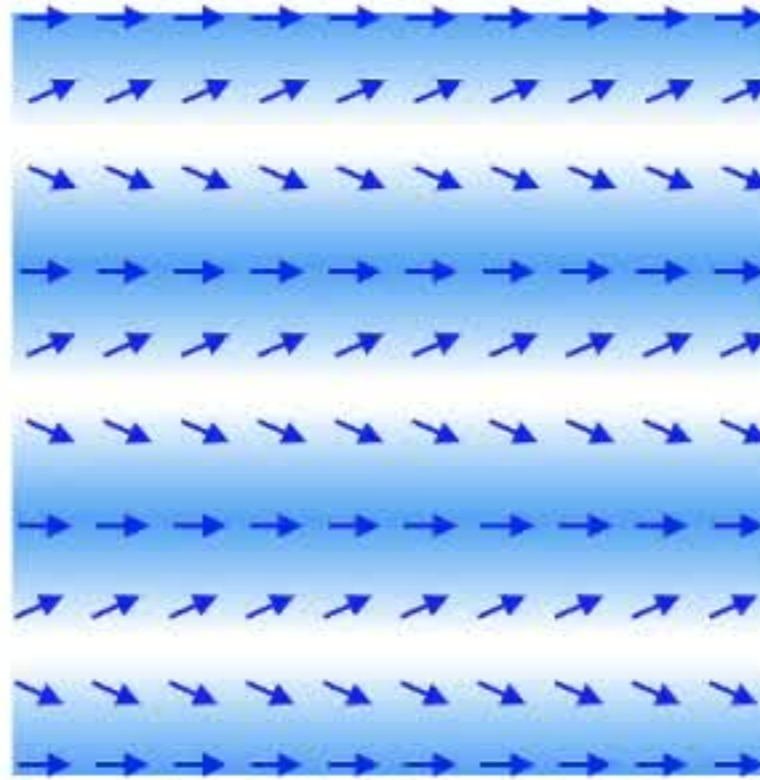
$$\begin{bmatrix} S(x, y, t) \\ M(x, y, t) \\ \theta_s(x, y, t) \\ \theta_m(x, y, t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{S} \\ \bar{M} \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \varepsilon \begin{bmatrix} \hat{S} \\ \hat{M} \\ \hat{\theta}_s \\ \hat{\theta}_m \end{bmatrix} e^{i\mu y + \lambda t},$$

$S$  = Density of stationary locusts  
 $M$  = Density of moving locusts  
 $\theta_s$  = Angle of stationary locusts  
 $\theta_m$  = Angle of moving locusts  
 $\rho = S + M$  (Total density)



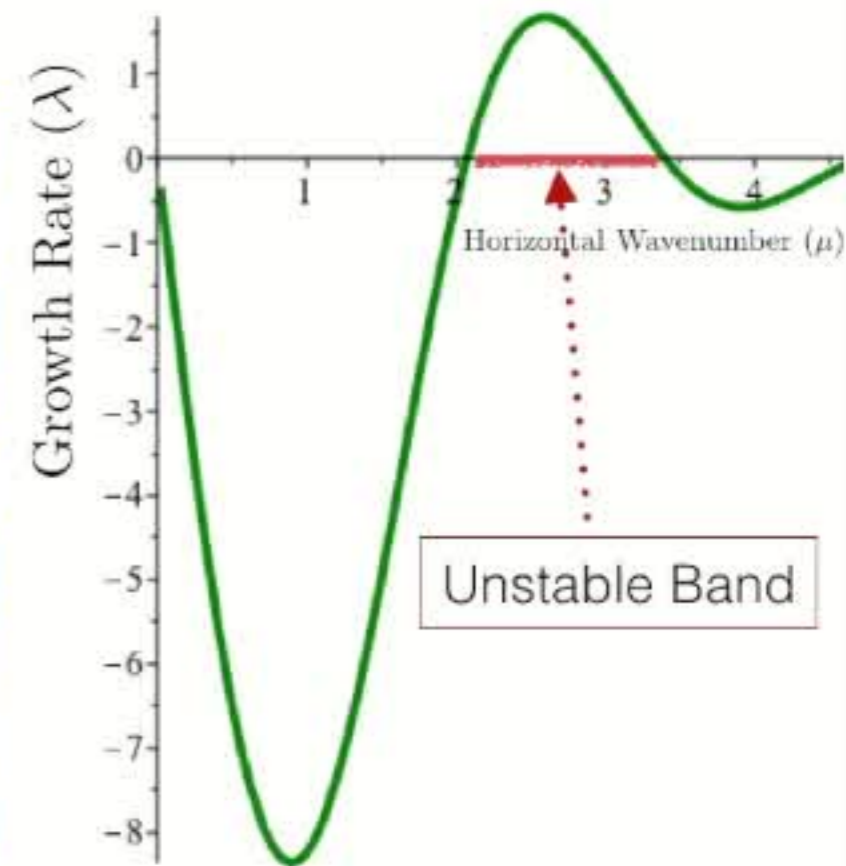
**No attraction**

Horizontal modulation  
is neutrally stable



**Attraction**

Horizontal modulation has  
**unstable** band of wavenumbers



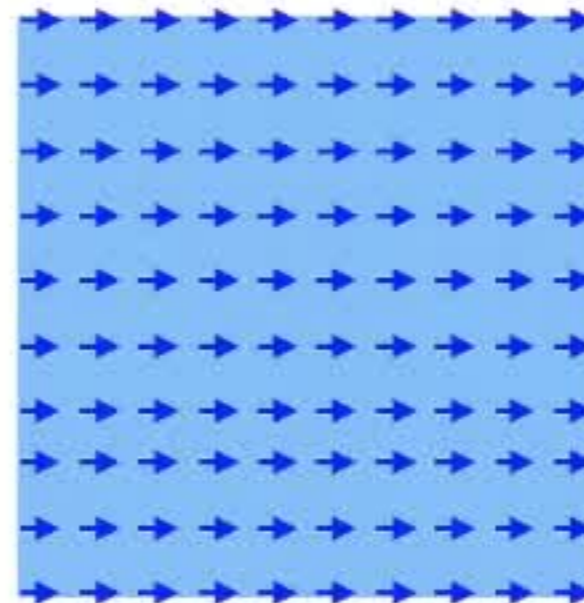
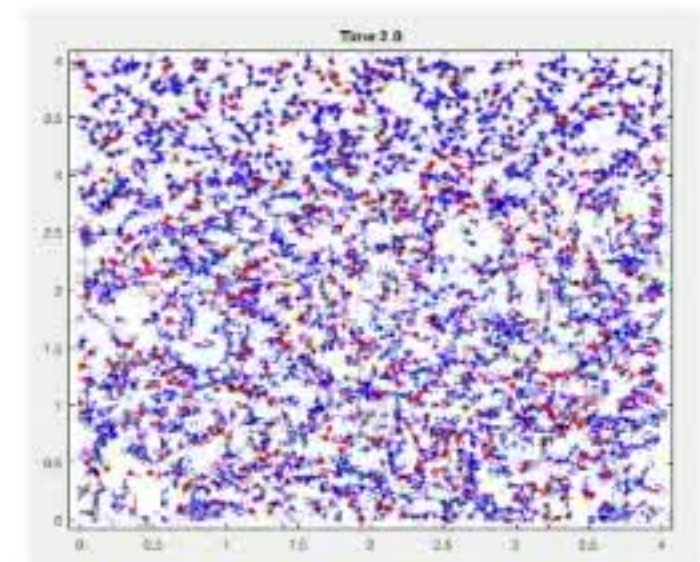
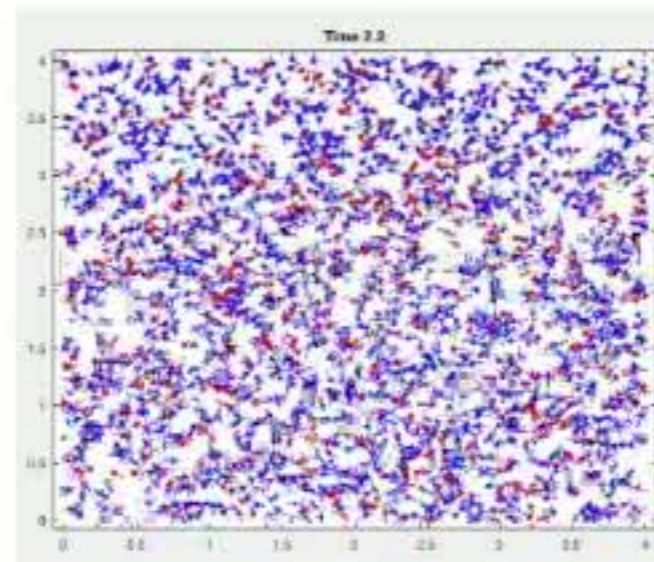
Growth Rate



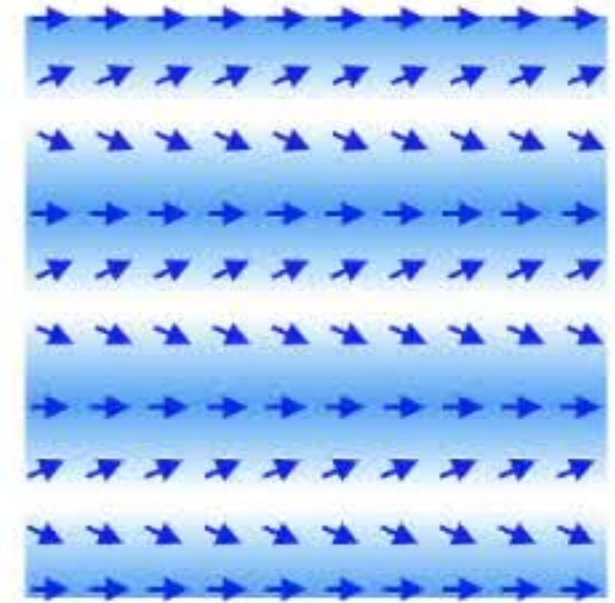
# Conclusions I



- Agent-Based Models, guided by biological observation, can capture hopper band formation.
- Homogenization yields a continuum model.
- Linear stability theory captures transition to band structured.
- Attraction and alignment are both necessary to obtain columns.



Alignment



Alignment  
+ Attraction



# Model II: Resources, Feeding, and Planar Fronts



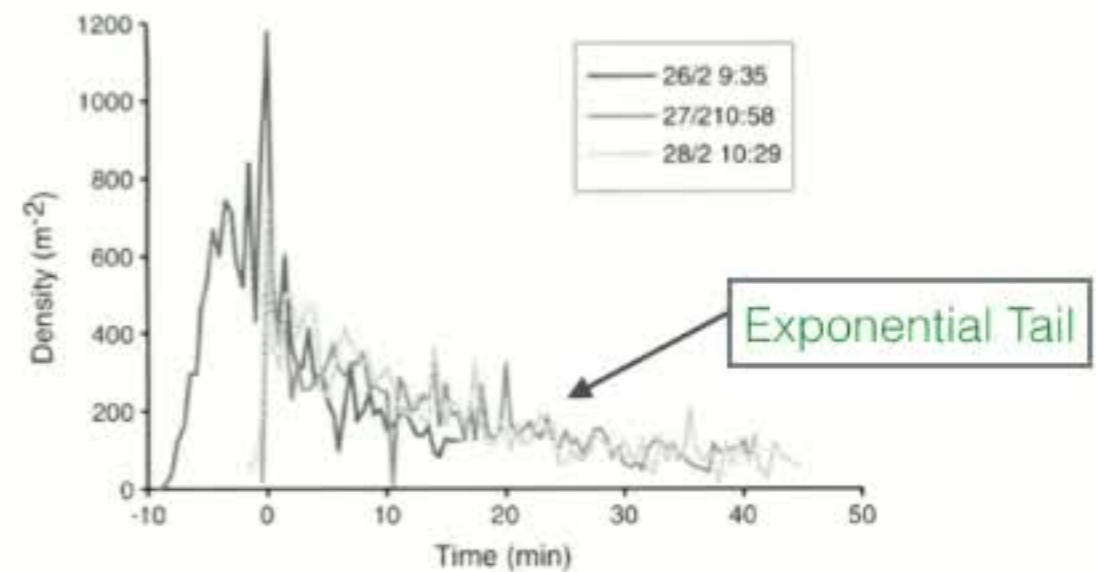
Planar fronts are observed for the Australian Plague Locust in resource rich environments

# Locust Distribution in a Planar Front



## Field Observation

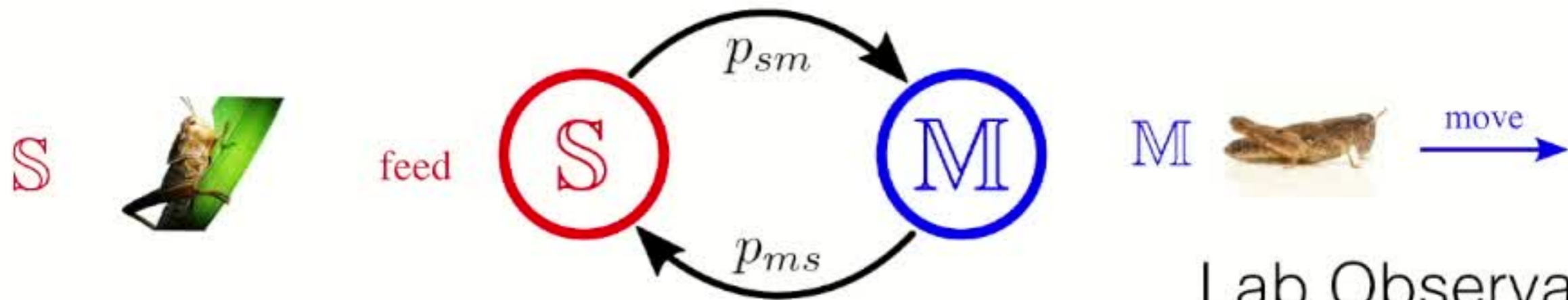
Buhl et al 2011



Locust density is pulse-like with a steep rising front and an exponentially decaying tail.



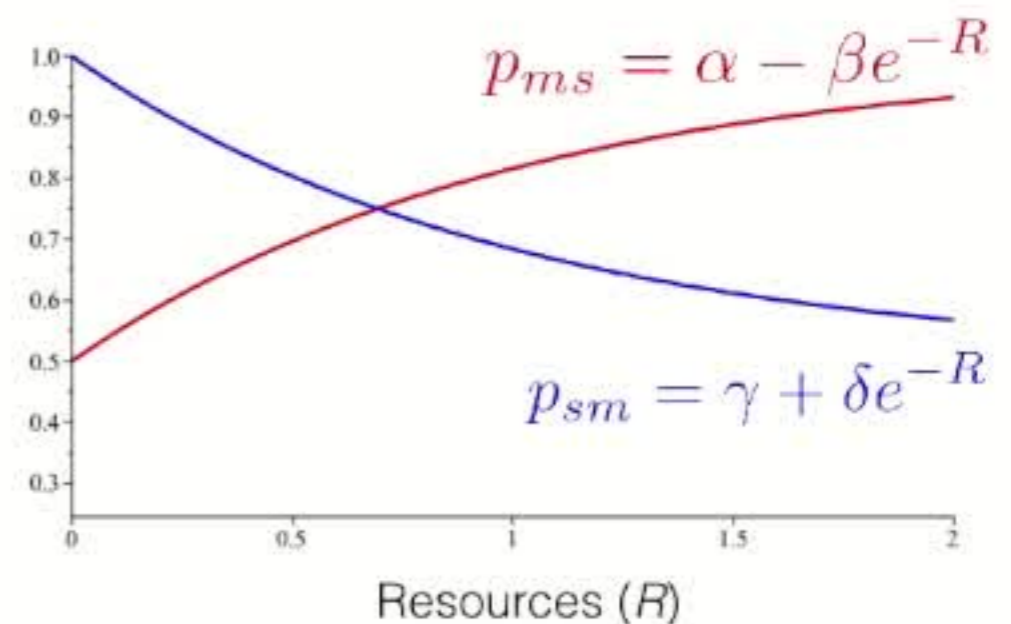
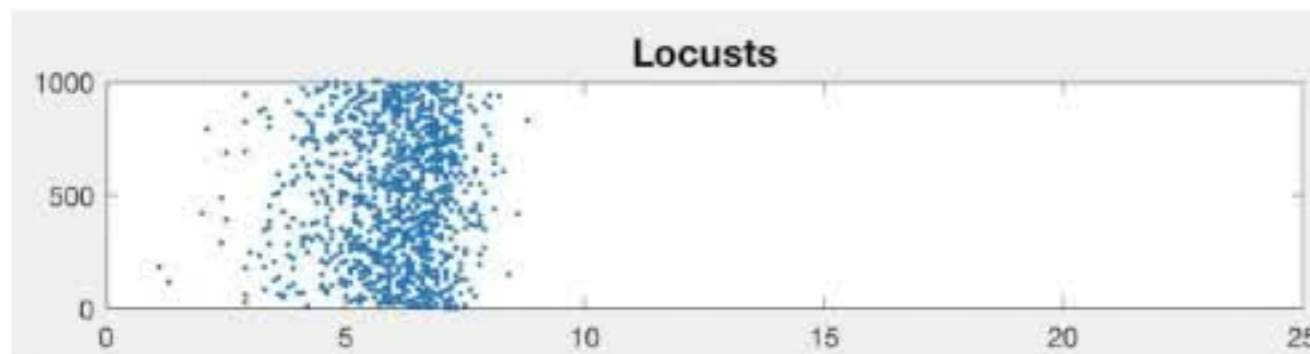
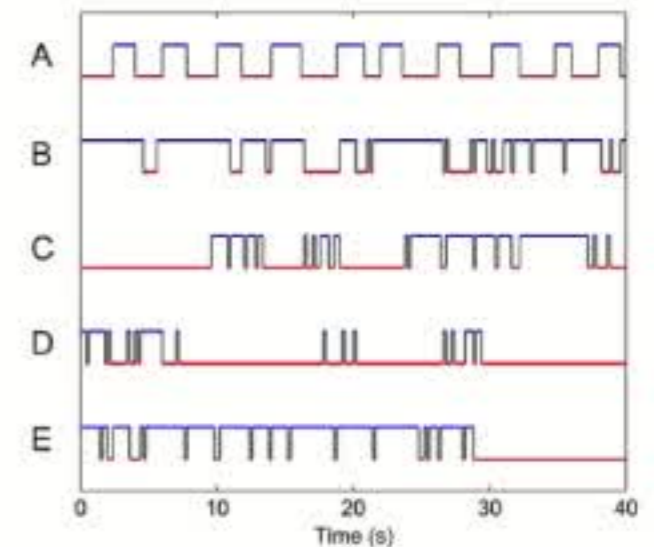
# Agent- Based Model



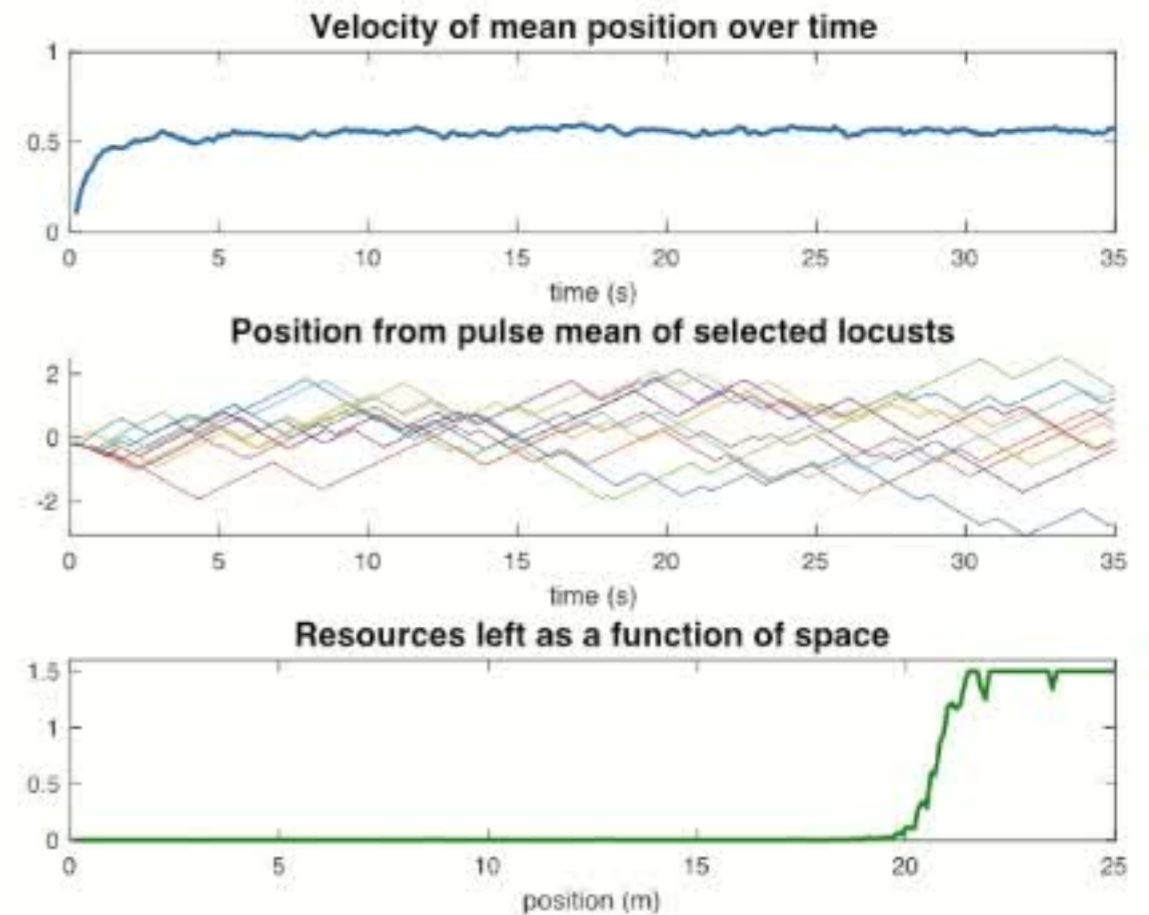
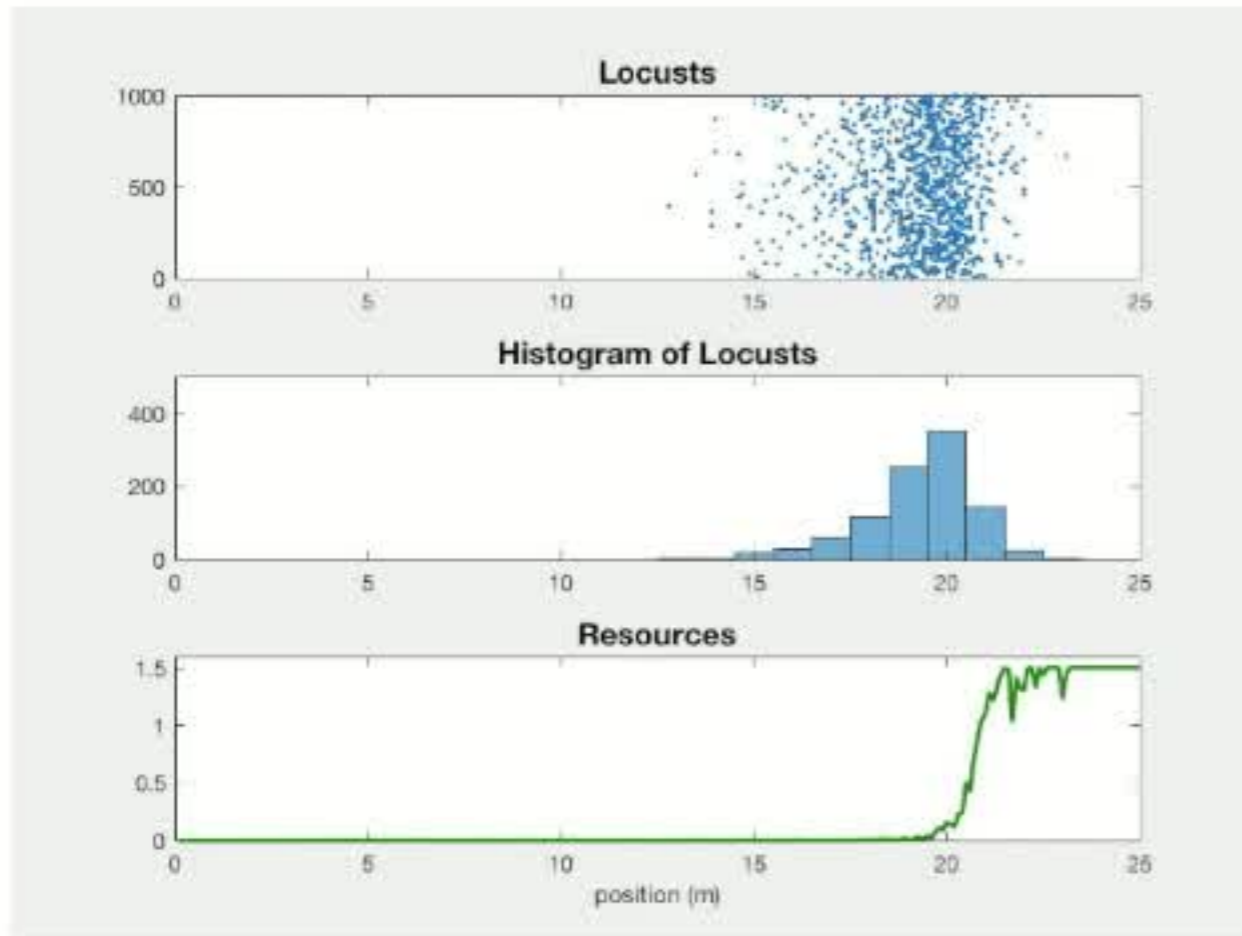
- Model is one-dimensional.
- Locusts all **move** in the same direction.
- Locusts **stop** when eating
- Transition probabilities depend on resource availability.

## Lab Observation

Bazazi et al 2011



# Numerics of ABM



Solution quickly relaxes to a traveling wave moving with roughly constant velocity.



# PDE Model

## Advection - Reaction Model

$$S_t = -k_{sm}(R)S + k_{ms}(R)M$$

$$M_t + vM_x = k_{sm}(R)S - k_{ms}(R)M$$

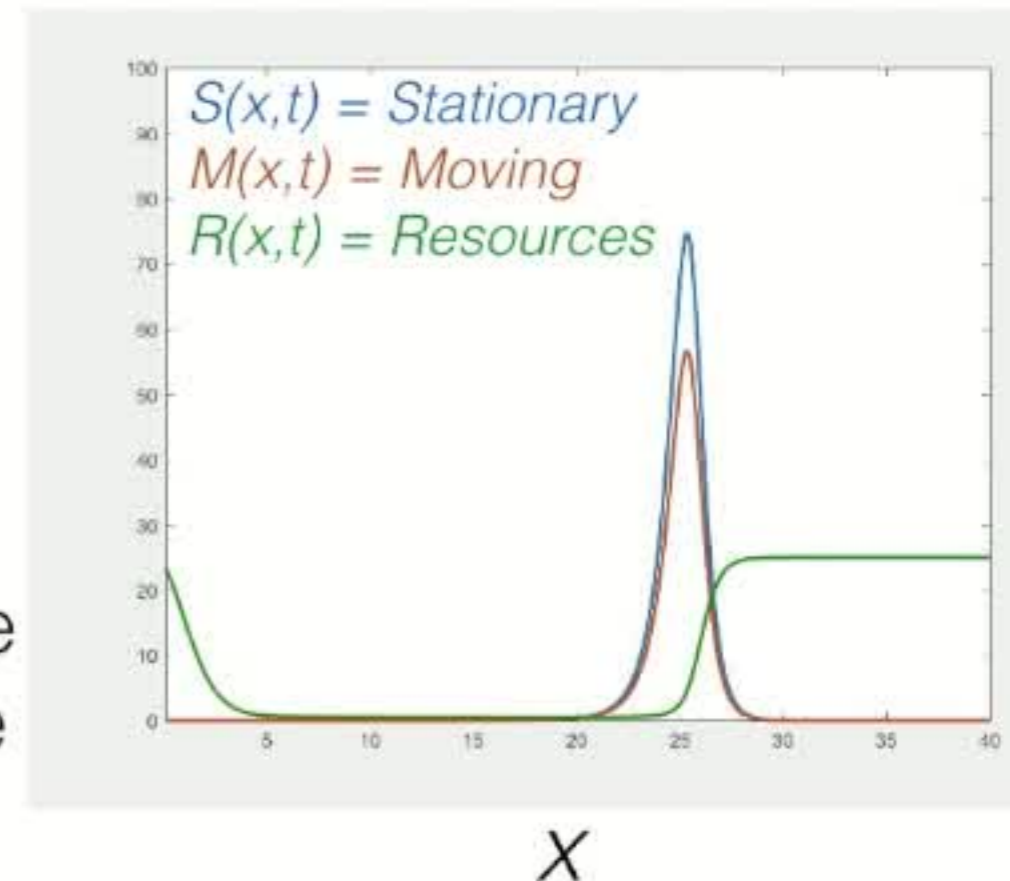
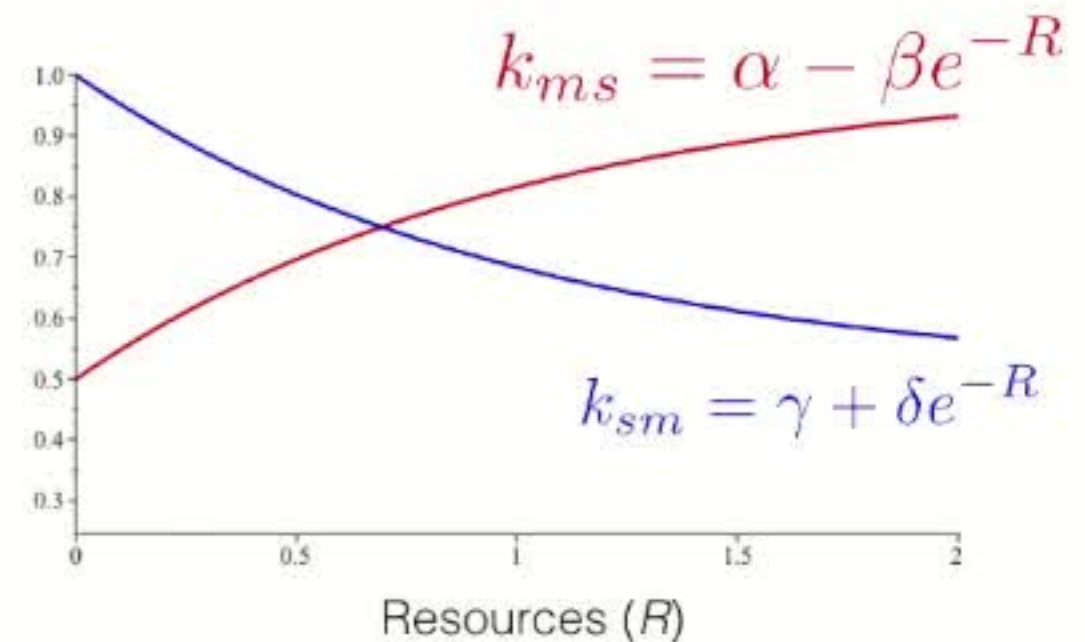
$$R_t = -\lambda SR$$

### Variables

- $S(x,t)$  = Stationary locust density
- $M(x,t)$  = Moving locust density
- $R(x,t)$  = Resource (food) density

### Parameters

- $v$  = Velocity of a moving locust
- $k_{sm}(R)$  = Stationary-to-moving transition rate
- $k_{ms}(R)$  = Moving-to-stationary transition rate
- $\lambda$  = Resource consumption rate

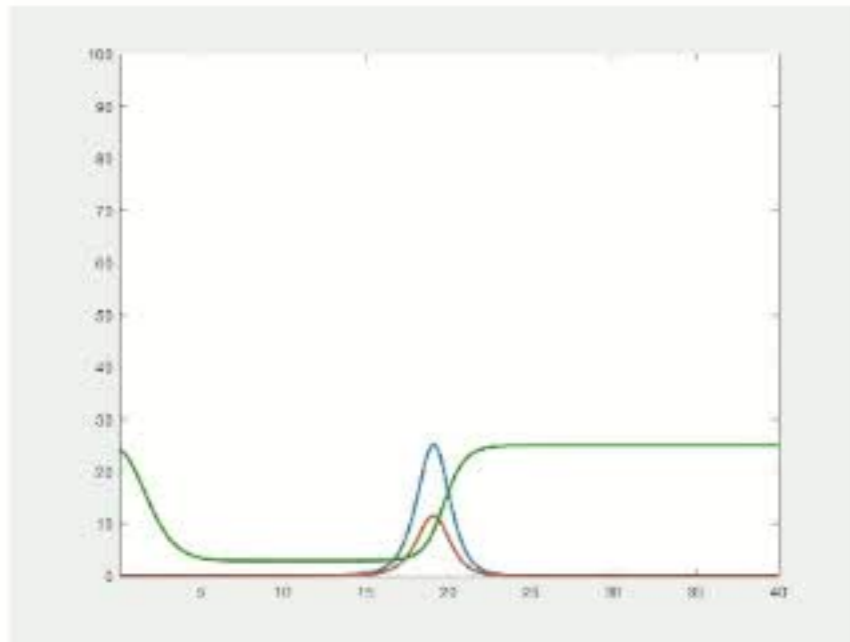


# Traveling Pulse Solution

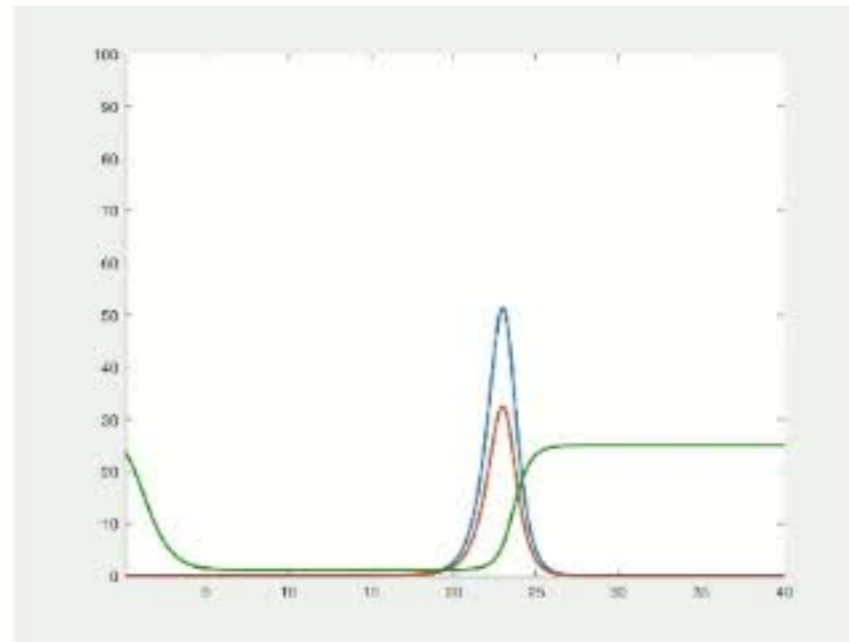
$S(x,t) = \text{Stationary}$

$M(x,t) = \text{Moving}$

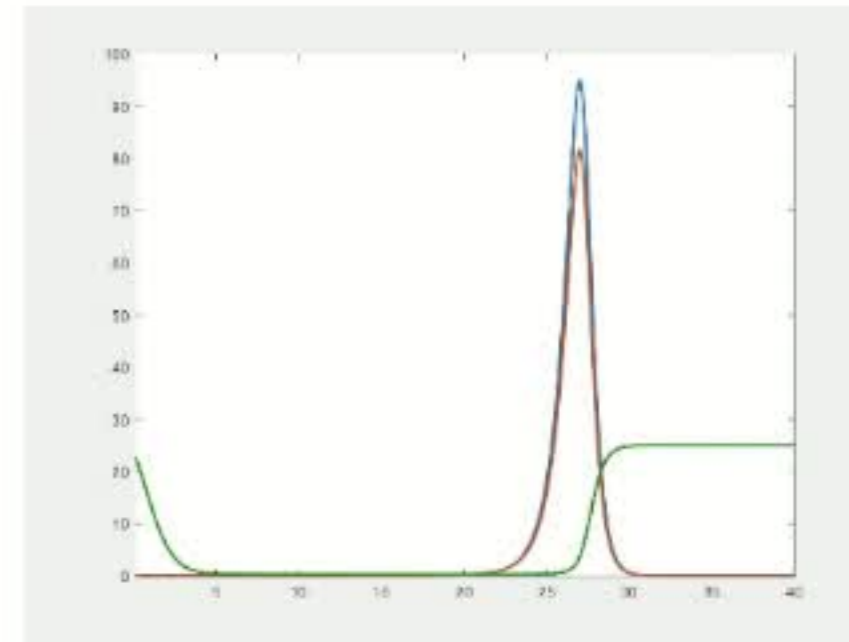
$R(x,t) = \text{Resources}$



Mass = 100



Mass = 200



Mass = 400



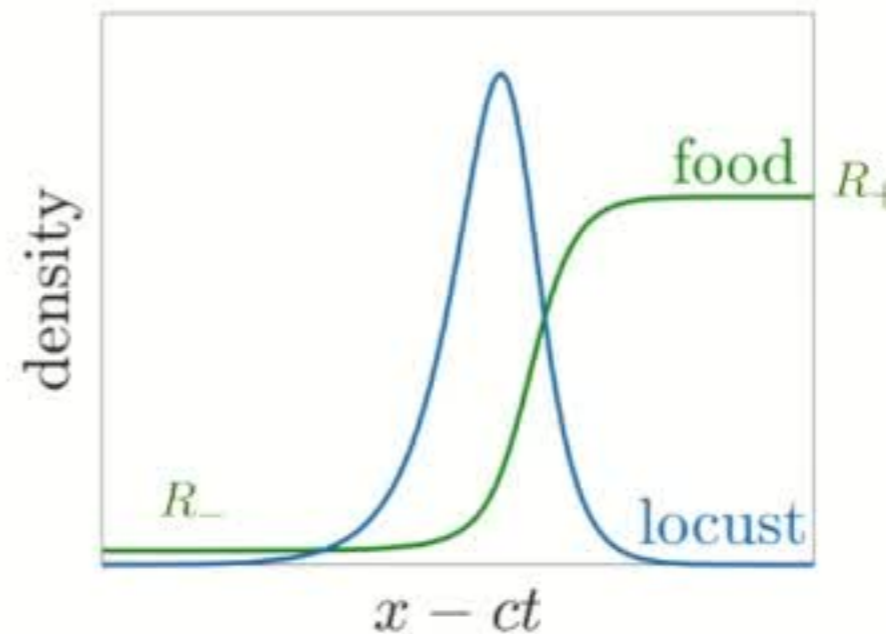
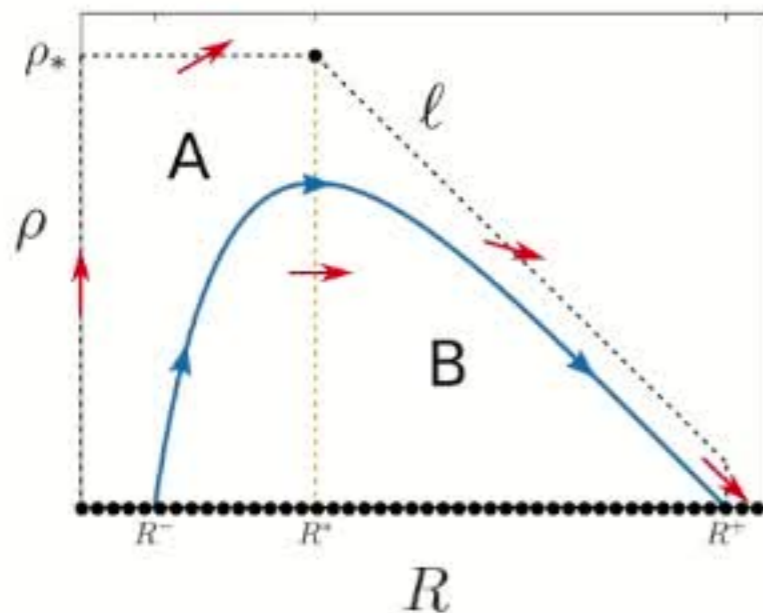
# Traveling Wave Analysis

Moving reference frame  $\xi = x - ct$  gives ordinary differential equation

$$R_\xi = \frac{1-c}{c} \rho R$$

$$\rho_\xi = \left( \frac{k_{sm}}{c} - \frac{k_{ms}}{1-c} \right) \rho$$

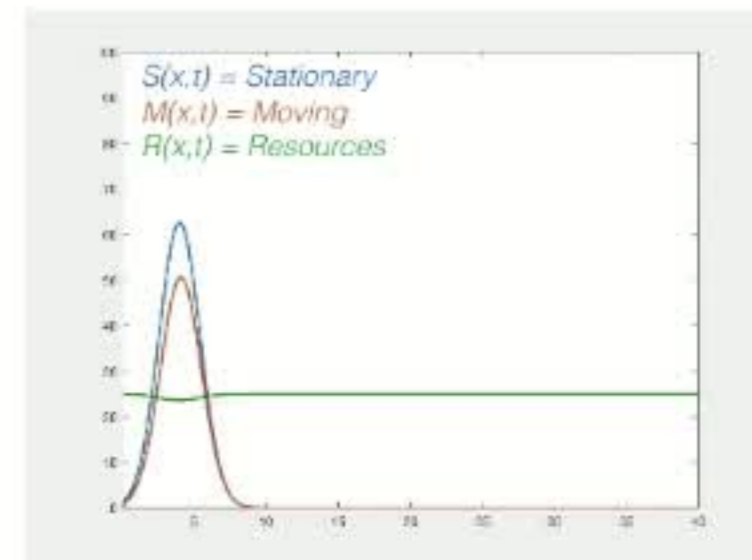
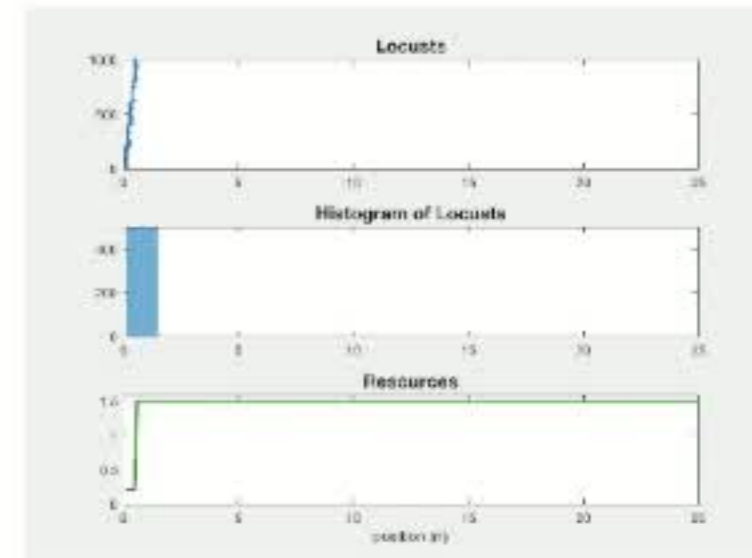
where  $\rho = S + M$ .



Total locust mass,  $M$ , and  $R_+$  determine wave speed,  $c$ , and  $R_-$

# Conclusions II

- Agent-Based Models, guided by biological observation, can capture hopper band formation.
- Homogenization yields a continuum model.
- Phase plane analysis yields a traveling pulse solution.
- Future research: Construct a 2D model that combines social interactions and foraging.



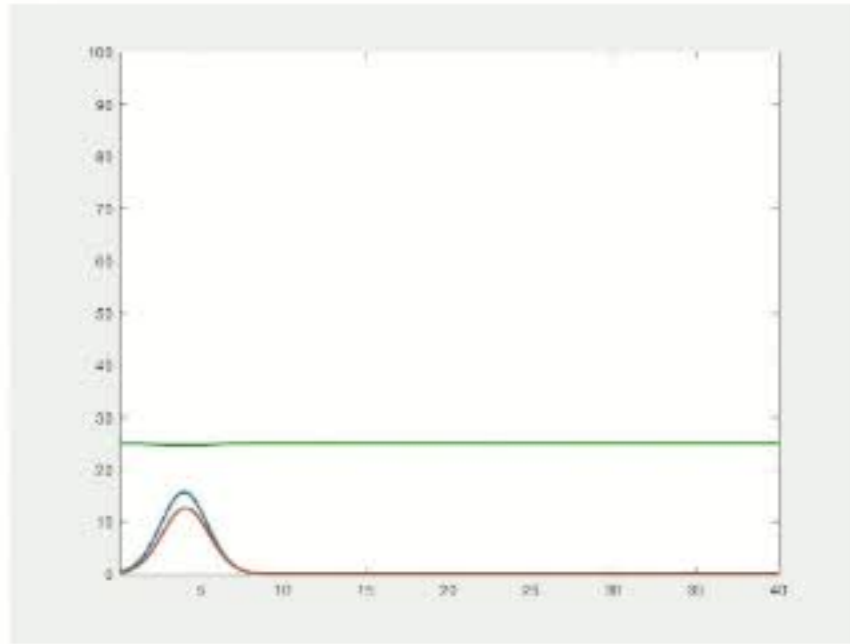


# Traveling Pulse Solution

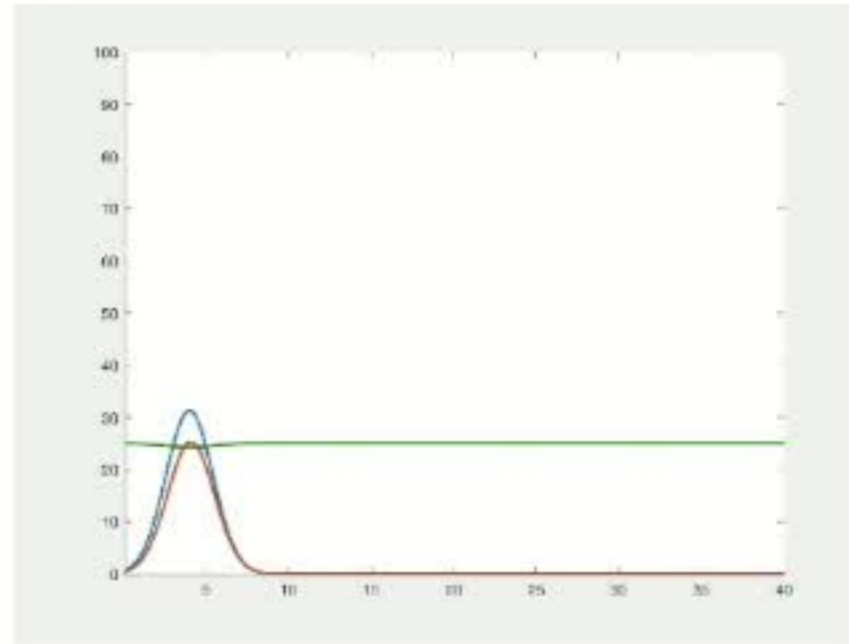
$S(x,t) = \text{Stationary}$

$M(x,t) = \text{Moving}$

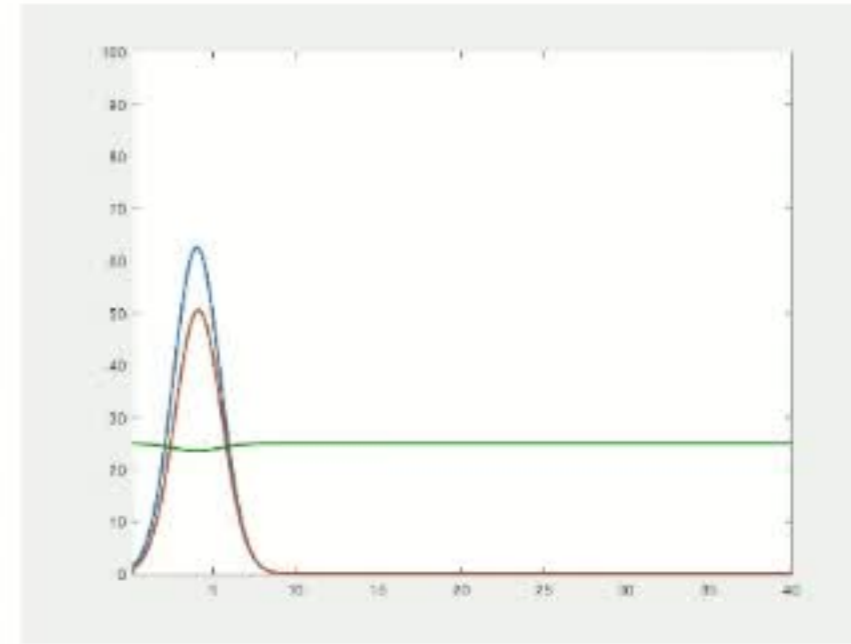
$R(x,t) = \text{Resources}$



Mass = 100



Mass = 200



Mass = 400