

# Stable Swarming Using Adaptive Long-range Interactions

Dan Gorbonos

Based on:

- DG, Reuven Ianconescu , James Puckett, Rui Ni,  
Nicholas T. Ouellette and Nir S. Gov, NJP, 2016
- DG and Nir S. Gov, in preparation

Transport phenomena in collective dynamics: from micro to social hydrodynamics  
03/11/16 ETH Zürich



מכון ויצמן למדע  
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CHEMICAL PHYSICS Department

# Outline

- Motivation
  - The midges and the swarm
  - The adaptive gravity model
- Stable Swarming with Adaptivity
  - Adaptivity as a self-stabilization mechanism
  - Jeans Instability
- Conclusions



## The midges and the swarm

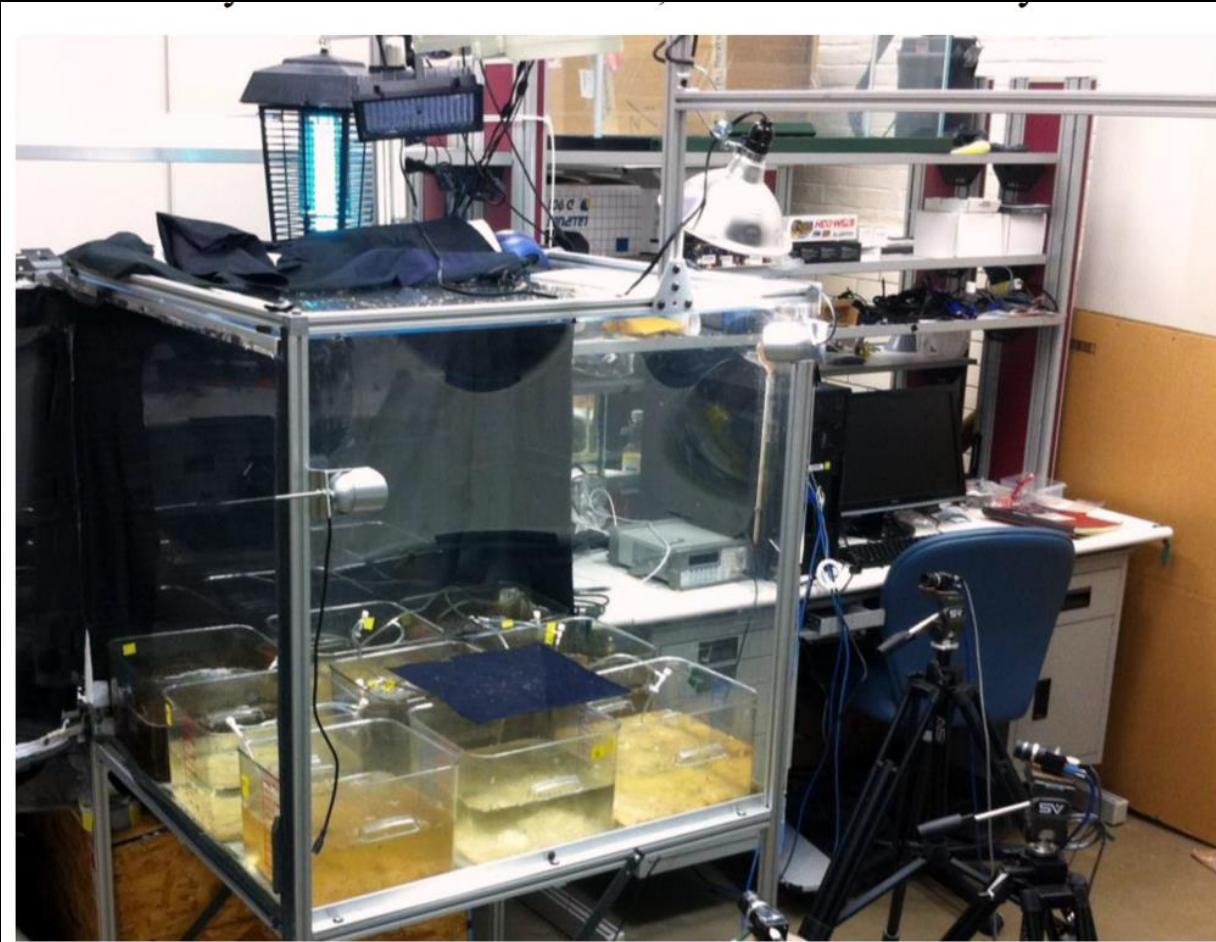


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**Chironomid Midge Fly Swarm  
(Small White Spots in Image)**

The midges and the swarm

# In the lab (Stanford U.) :



Nick Ouellette - PI



James Puckett



Rui Ni

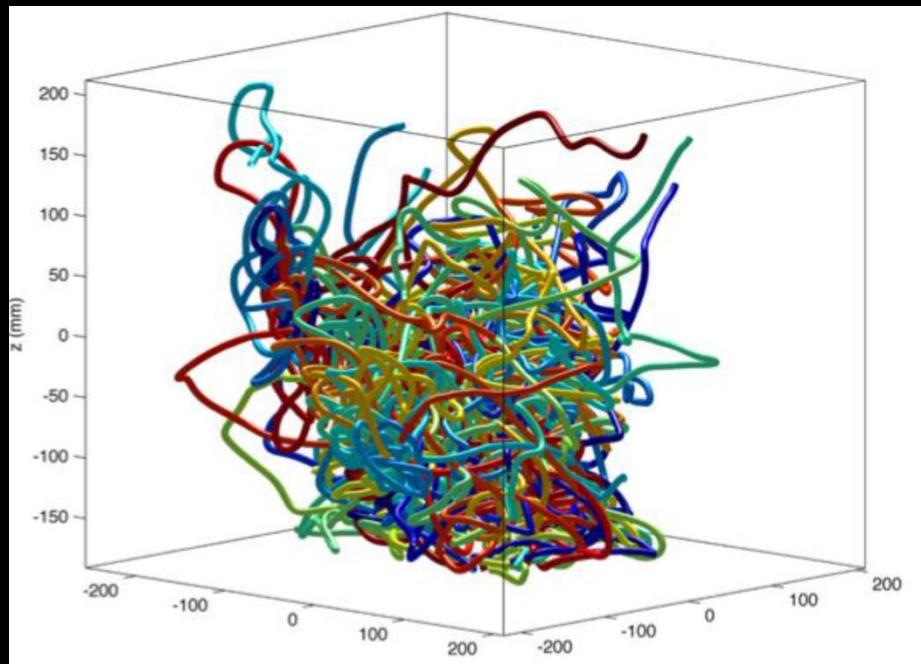
# The midges (Chironomidae)

- Non-biting midges
- Only male swarm (mating ritual)



	nature	lab
• How many ?	$10-10^4$	1–100
• Where ?	stream edges	Black felt “swarm markers”
• When ?	dawn and dusk	Overhead light source – ON/OFF

# In the lab (Stanford U.) : Trajectories of midges vs. time



## Method:

- High-speed stereo-imaging using three synchronized cameras (100 fps)
- Automated motion tracking algorithm

## Measurement:

### **Kinematics –**

$$\vec{r}(t), \vec{v}(t), \vec{a}(t)$$

# In the lab (Stanford U.) :

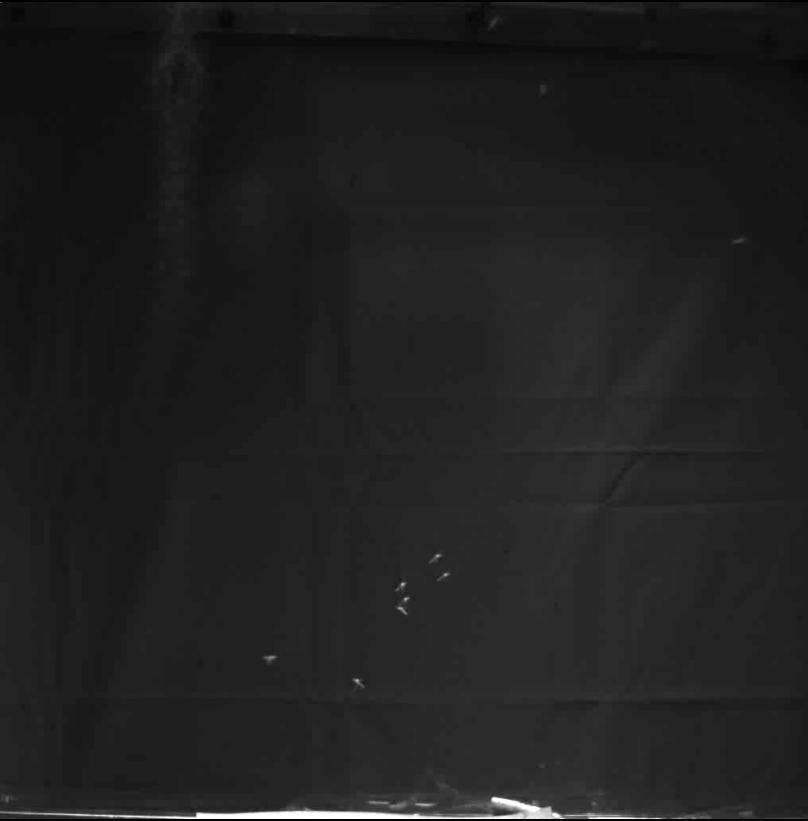


Nick Ouellette - PI

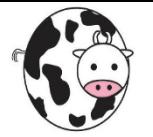


James Puckett  
(Post-doc)

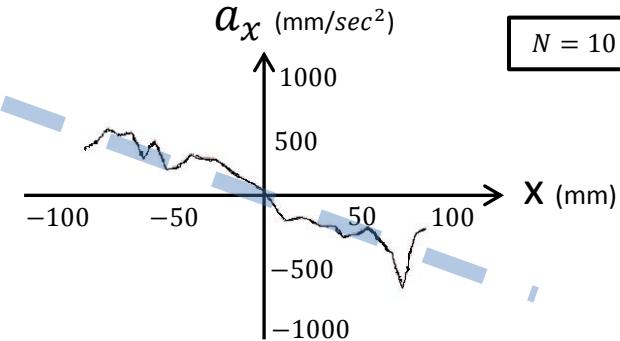
- Long-range interaction (“force”)
- Swarm in the dark
- Not influenced by chemical signals



Rui Ni  
(Post-doc)



# Isotropic Harmonic Oscillator



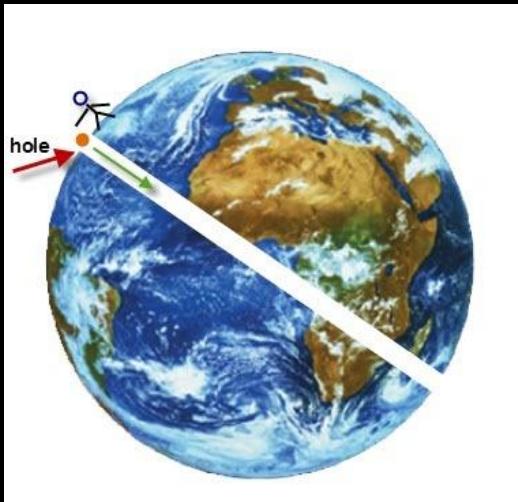
$$\sum \vec{F} = -K\vec{r}$$

Linear restoring force  
– effective spring constant



**Assumptions:**

- Long range interaction
- Pairwise interaction
- uniform density
- spherical symmetry



**The only possible force:**

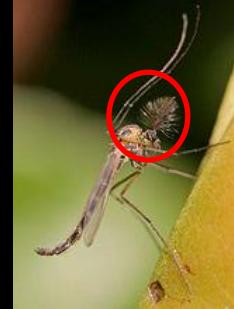
$$F \propto \frac{1}{r^2}$$

$$\sum \vec{F} \propto \int \frac{d^3r}{r^2} \hat{r} \propto \vec{r}$$

## The Adaptive Gravity Model

# The Model

- Acoustic attraction – Johnston's organ

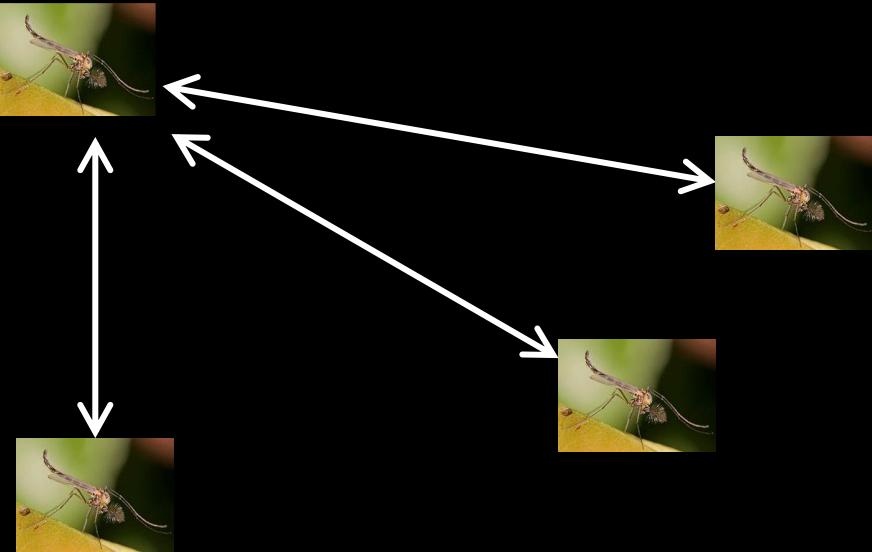
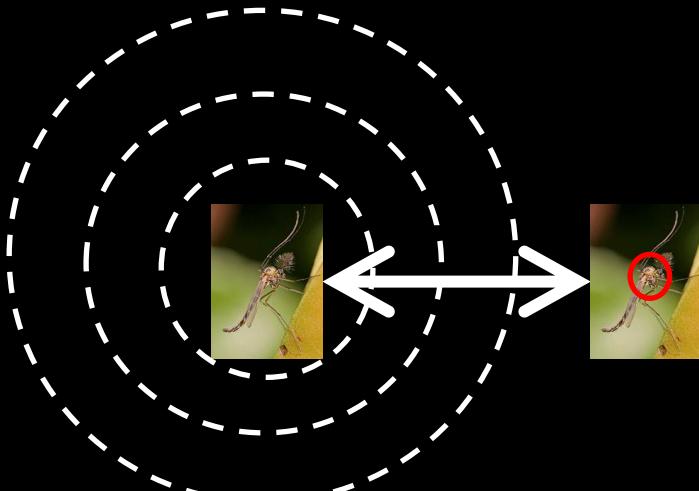


- Flight sound intensity decays as  $\frac{1}{r^2}$

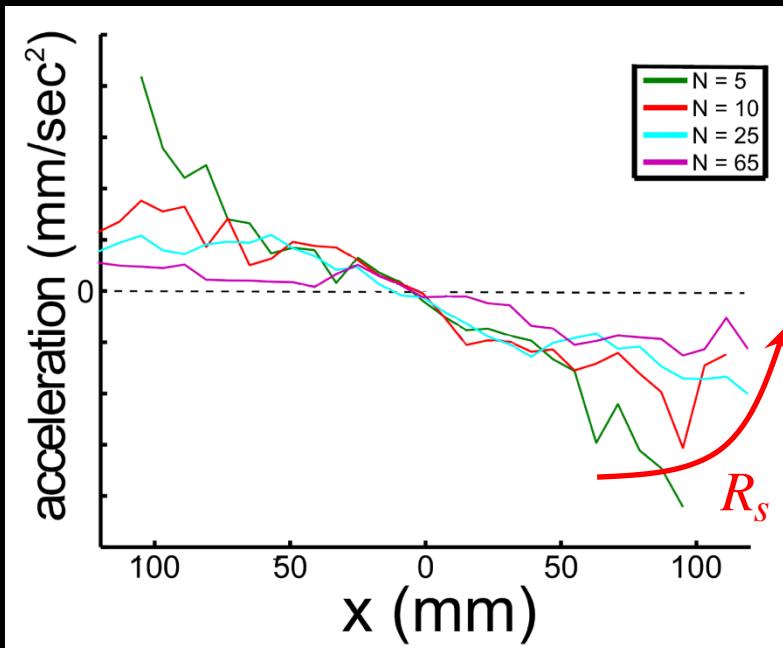
→ Acceleration towards the source  $a \sim \frac{1}{r^2}$

- “Acoustic Gravity”

$$\vec{F}_{eff}^i = C \sum_j \hat{r}_{ij} \frac{1}{|\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j|^2}$$



## Another feature (in the lab):

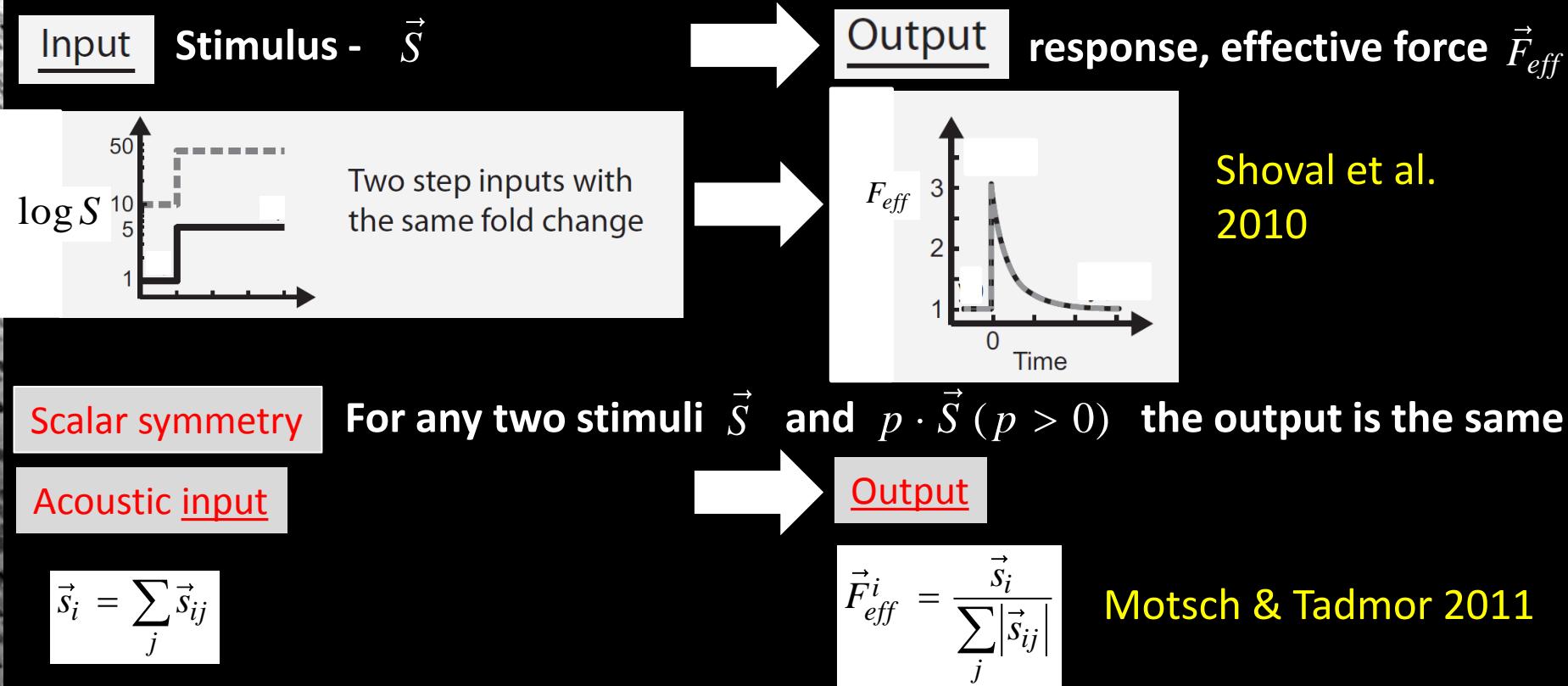


The linear force decreases for larger swarms

What is missing ?

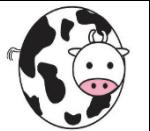
# Adaptivity (as a part of the Fold Change Detection Mechanism)

- A typical feature of sensory systems



$$\vec{F}_{eff}(p \cdot \vec{s}_{11}, \dots, p \cdot \vec{s}_{ij}, \dots) = \vec{F}_{eff}(\vec{s}_{11}, \dots, \vec{s}_{ij}, \dots)$$

Sensitive to directionality but not to the overall amplitude !

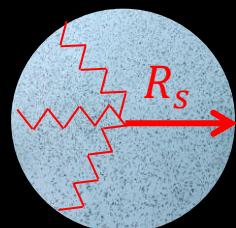


# Isotropic Harmonic Oscillator with adaptivity

$$\vec{F}_{eff}^i = C \frac{\sum_j \frac{\hat{r}_{ij}}{|\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j|}}{\sum_j \frac{1}{|\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j|}}$$

Uniform density  
& spherical symmetry

$$\sum_j \frac{1}{|\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j|^2} \rightarrow \int_{R_s}^{R_s} \frac{d^3 r}{|\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j|^2} \sim R_s$$



$$\vec{F} = K\vec{r}$$

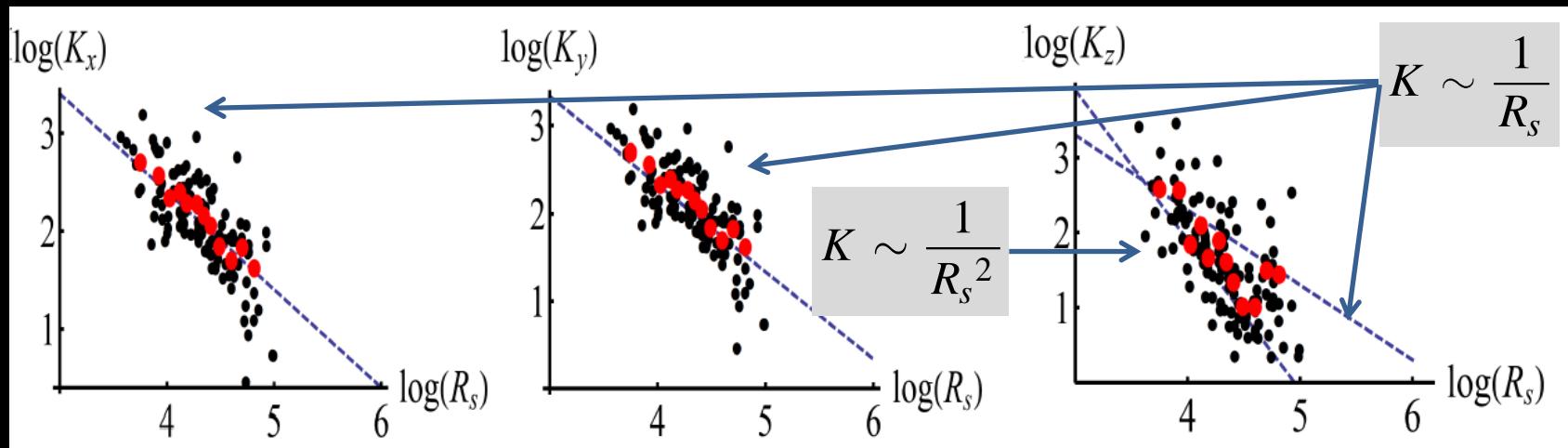
effective spring constant

$$K \sim \frac{1}{R_s}$$



# Adaptive Gravity – Evidence

Supported by data – 122 swarms !



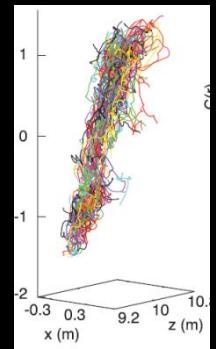
Black – raw data

Red – Binned average

Blue – (-1) slope (spherical) /(-2) slope (cylindrical)



Large swarms  
are elongated  
along the vertical  
axis



# Dependence of The Effective Force on The Density (Uniform)

Regular gravity

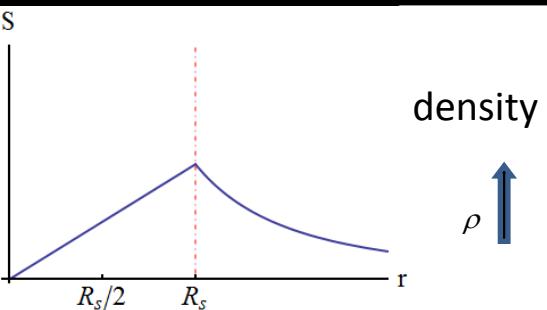
$$\frac{1}{r^2}$$

$$\vec{s}_{ij} = C \frac{\hat{r}_{ij}}{r_{ij}^2}$$

$$\vec{s}_i = \sum_j \vec{s}_{ij}$$

At the center:

$$S(r) = -\frac{4\pi C \rho}{3} r$$



Increasing density



Stronger pull

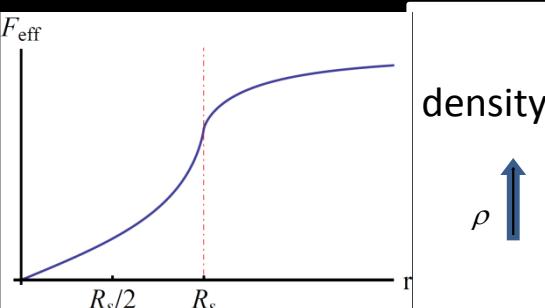
Adaptive gravity

$$\frac{1}{r^2}$$

$$\vec{F}_{eff}^i = \frac{\vec{s}_i}{\sum_j |\vec{s}_{ij}|}$$

At the center:

$$F_{eff}(r) = -\frac{\tilde{C}}{3R_s} r + O(\frac{r^2}{R_s^2})$$



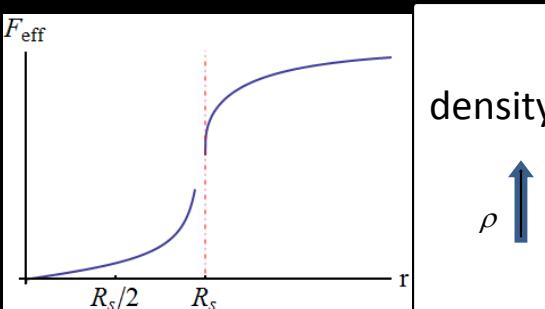
Marginal

Adaptive forces

$$\frac{1}{r^n} \quad (n > 2)$$

$$\vec{s}_{ij} = C \frac{\hat{r}_{ij}}{r_{ij}^n}$$

$$\vec{F}_{eff}^i = \frac{\vec{s}_i}{\sum_j |\vec{s}_{ij}|}$$



Increasing density

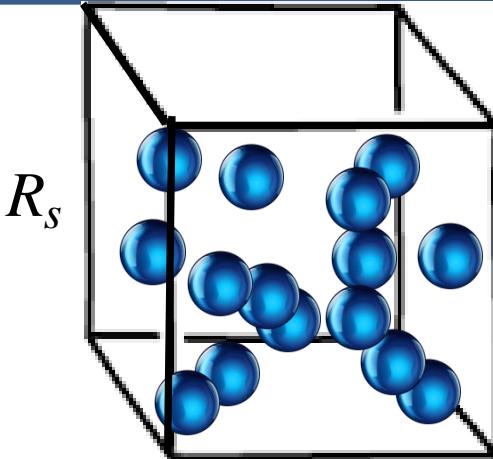


Weaker pull

$$At the center: \quad F_{eff}(r) = -\frac{2\tilde{C}}{R_s \ln(R_s^6 \rho^2)} r + O(\frac{r^2}{R_s^2}) \quad n = 3$$

$$F_{eff}(r) = -\frac{\tilde{C} |n-3|}{3R_s (\rho^{-\frac{n-3}{3}} R_s^{n-3} - 1)} r + O(\frac{r^2}{R_s^2}) \quad n > 3$$

# Jeans Instability (Gravity)



- Balance: gravitational pull  $\leftrightarrow$  random velocities
- $\rho > \rho_{Jeans}^G \Rightarrow$  collapse (minimal density for collapse)

• If  $t_{esc} > t_{col}$

Escape time  
(random  
velocities)

$$t_{esc} = \frac{R_s}{\sqrt{v^2}}$$

$$\vec{F} = -k\vec{r}$$

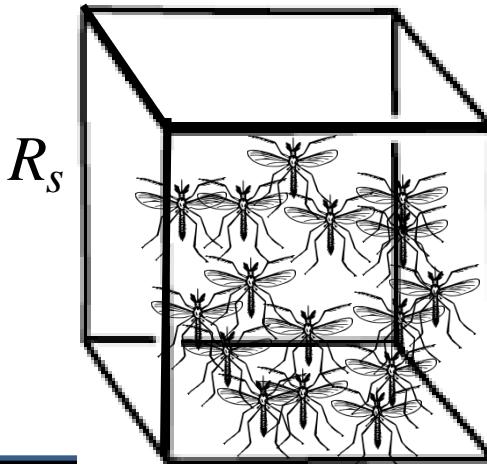
Time for  
collapse

$$t_{col} = \frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{k}}$$

$$k = \frac{4\pi C}{3} \rho \Rightarrow$$

$$\rho_{Jeans}^G = \frac{3\pi \bar{v}^2}{16R_s^2 C}$$

# Jeans Instability ( Adaptive Gravity)



- No critical density  $\rho_{Jeans}^G$  !
- If  $t_{esc} > t_{col}$

Escape time  
(random  
velcoities)

$$t_{esc} = \frac{R_s}{\sqrt{\mathbf{v}^2}}$$

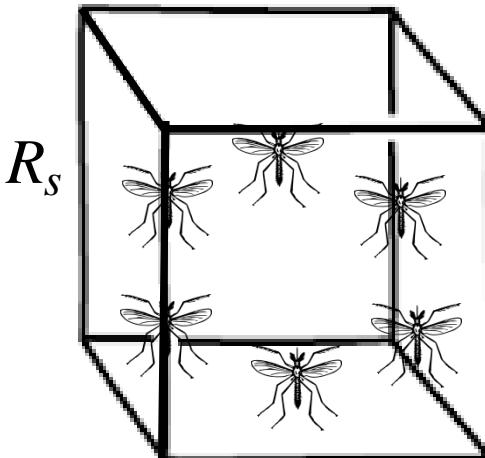
$$\vec{F} = -k\vec{r}$$

Time for  
collapse

$$t_{col} = \frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{k}}$$

$$k = \frac{\bar{C}}{3R_s} \Rightarrow \frac{4R_s\bar{C}}{3\pi^2} > \mathbf{v}^2$$

# Jeans Instability ( Adaptive Forces $\frac{1}{r^n}$ ( $n > 2$ ) )



- Stabilization at a particular density  $\rho_{Jeans}^A$

- If  $t_{esc} > t_{col}$

Escape time  
(random velocities)

$$t_{esc} = \frac{R_s}{\sqrt{\mathbf{v}^2}}$$

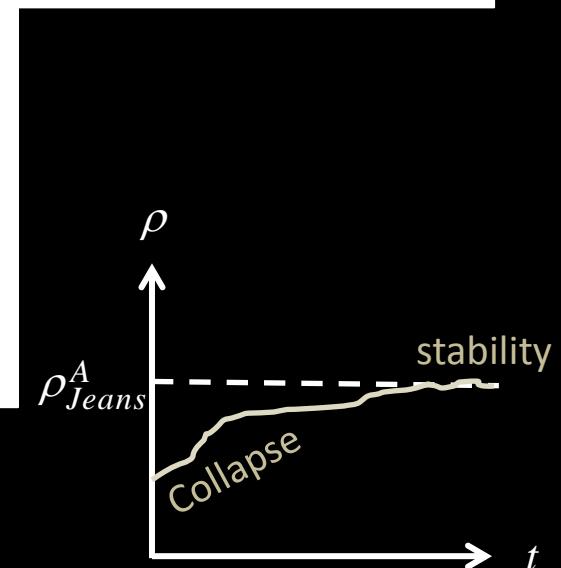
$$\vec{F} = -k\vec{r}$$

Time for collapse

$$t_{col} = \frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{k}}$$

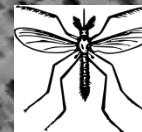
$$n = 3 \quad k = \frac{2\bar{C}}{R_s \ln(R_s^6 \rho^2)} \Rightarrow \rho_{Jeans}^A = \frac{1}{R_s^3} \text{Exp}\left(\frac{4\bar{C}R_s}{\pi^2 \mathbf{v}^2}\right)$$

$$n > 3 \quad k = \frac{\bar{C}|n-3|}{3R_s(\rho^{\frac{n-3}{3}} R_s^{n-3} - 1)} \Rightarrow \rho_{Jeans}^A = \frac{1}{R_s^3} \left(1 + \frac{4\bar{C}|n-3|R_s}{3\pi^2 \mathbf{v}^2}\right)^{\frac{3}{n-3}}$$



## Conclusions

- Midge swarm dynamics is dominated by long range acoustic interactions
- The interactions are adaptive - weaker when the background intensity is higher.
- Adaptivity, for general power-law interactions, stabilizes the swarm against collapse
- A prediction: A Selection of a particular density for higher power law interactions ( $n > 2$ )



# Acknowledgements



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## Experimental group (Yale U.):



Nick Ouellette - PI



James Puckett



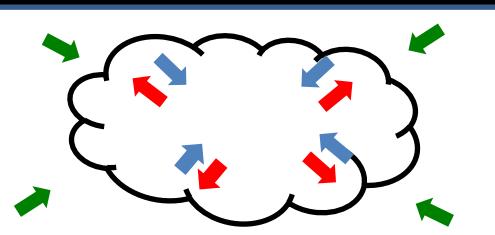
Rui Ni

**THE END**

## Some Results...

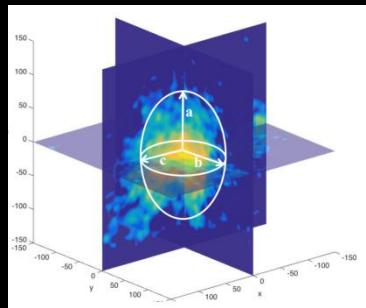
Extended Virial Theorem

$$2T + W - \oint p\vec{r} \cdot d\vec{s} = 0$$



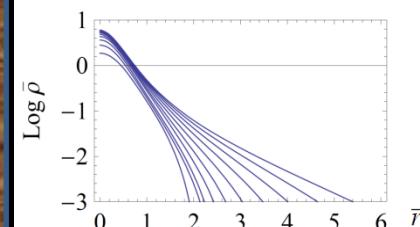
Poisson-Boltzmann equation  
w/ cut-off

Ellipsoidal Approximation

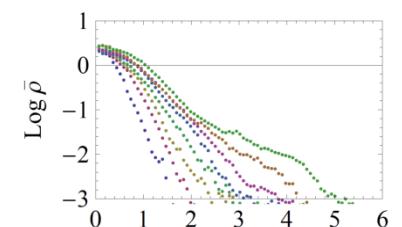


Surface Pressure  
– keeps the swarm together

Density profile



Theoretical



Data

Boundary closer to the center  
– Stiffer effective spring

