



# Driving and Response in Insect Swarms

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# Modeling of Aggregations

Modeling Ingredients

**Empirical Measurements** 

Individual, isolated behavior

Interaction range

Interaction form

Rule variability



??

Observe real animals

Solve inverse problem to determine rules

Characterize behavior of

individuals and groups

Primarily qualitative information

# Laboratory Experiments

Control of ambient conditions

Repeatable experiments

Simple, accurate imaging





#### IR lights

#### Swarm Marker

HOOWSZ

ener

#### Development tanks

1 megapixel, 100 fps

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# Tracking

Extract trajectories via 3D particle tracking

Multiframe, predictive algorithm

Measure position, velocity, acceleration, etc.

y (mm) NTO, H. Xu, & E. Bodenschatz, *Exp. Fluids* (2006) D.H. Kelley & NTO, *Sci. Rep.* (2013)

#### Kinematics



D.H. Kelley & NTO, *Sci. Rep.* (2013)

## Self-Propelled Particles



I.D. Couzin et al., J. Theor. Biol. (2002)

# Solving the Inverse Problem?

Ingredients:

- 1. Self-propulsion
- 2. Short-range repulsion
- 3. Long-range attraction
- 4. Intermediate-range alignment









# Effective Forces?



Model reproduces pattern but not statistics: Overall pattern is not sufficient



#### Swarm Structure



D.H. Kelley & NTO, Sci. Rep. (2013)

#### **Relative Positions**



## Effective Harmonic Trap



D.H. Kelley & NTO, *Sci. Rep.* (2013)

### Speed Statistics



## Swarm Properties



## Swarm Properties

Swarms are dilute

Swarms are disordered

Interactions are rare

Insects are weakly coupled

Insects are tightly bound Swarms are compact

What kind of object is a swarm?

# Moving Past Observations...









Drive swarms acoustically with amplitude-modulated wingbeat sounds; measure response -

Male sound 75 dB max amplitude 1 Hz modulation

# Effect of Driving



# CM Response



# Characterizing Response

U: phase-averaged response amplitude







# Fluctuation-Response?



# Summary

Empirical measurements of collective behavior allow quantitative model testing

Controlled perturbation/response experiments are key!

Challenge for experiments: Provide precise, nontrivial results

Challenge for theory: Explain more than pattern

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