

# Agents Heterogeneity in Microscopic Models of Pedestrian Flow

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Machine Learning and Modelling Seminar  
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# Outline

- 1 Pedestrian and Evacuation Dynamics
- 2 Experiments
- 3 Cellular Models
- 4 Introduced Features
- 5 Non-cellular Model Heterogeneity

# Pedestrian and Evacuation Dynamics

Description, modelling, and analysis of  
Evacuation



Non-emergent egress



Pedestrian traffic



Application in safety management

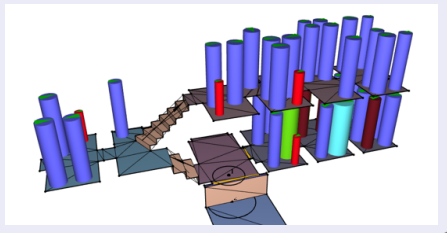
- Estimation of total evacuation time (TET).
- Estimation of space usage.
- Estimation of bottleneck capacity.
- Identification of problematic areas, bottlenecks, ...

# PED – a Multidisciplinary Field

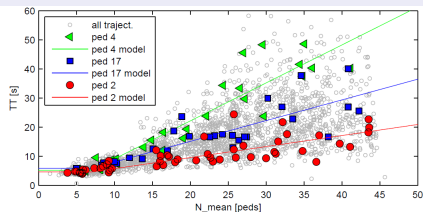
## Experimental studies and data-mining



## Agent-based modelling



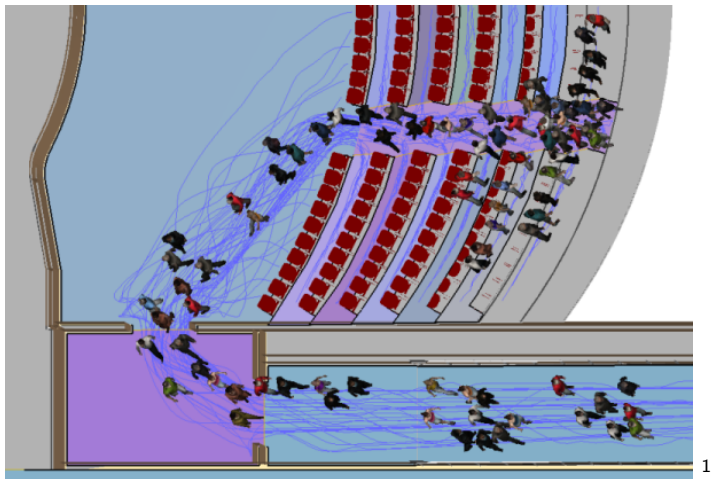
## Statistical analysis and modelling



## Statistical physics

-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	4
0	F	0	0	L	0	1	1	0
0	F	0	0	0	L	1	1	0
0	0	F	0	0	L	1	0	1
0	0	0	F	0	L	0	1	0
1	0	0	0	F	0	L	0	1
1	0	0	0	F	0	0	L	0
0	1	0	0	F	0	0	0	L
0	1	0	0	0	F	0	0	L

# Multi-Agent Models of Pedestrian Dynamics



<sup>1</sup>PathFinder, Thunderhead eng.

# Social Force Model for Pedestrian Dynamics

Dirk Helbing and Péter Molnár. Phys. Rev. E 51 (1995)

## Newtonian equations of motion

$$\ddot{\vec{x}}_{\alpha}(t) = \vec{F}_{\alpha}^{(\text{mot})} + \vec{F}_{\alpha}^{(\text{int})} + \vec{F}_{\alpha}^{(\text{env})} + \vec{F}_{\alpha}^{(\text{ext})}$$

- Attraction to the exit

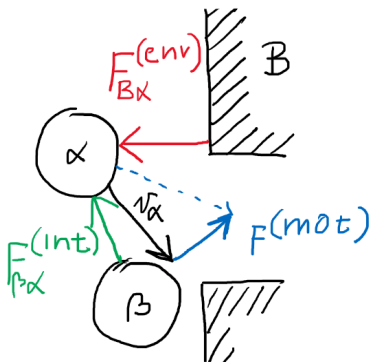
$$\vec{F}_{\alpha}^{(\text{mot})} \propto v_{\alpha}^0 \vec{e}_{\alpha} - \vec{v}_{\alpha}$$

- Repulsion from others

$$\vec{F}_{\alpha}^{(\text{int})} = \sum_{\beta \neq \alpha} \vec{F}_{\beta\alpha}^{(\text{int})}$$

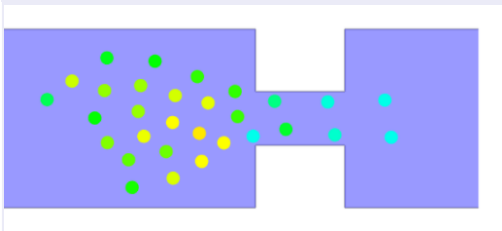
- Repulsion from obstacles

$$\vec{F}_{\alpha}^{(\text{env})} = \sum_B \vec{F}_{B\alpha}^{(\text{env})}$$



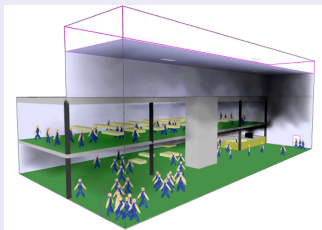
# Implementation of Social Force Concept

**JuPedSim** – open-source simulator from JSC



- Generalized Centrifugal Force Model
- Collision-free Speed Model
- Collision avoidance left to the “Forces”

**FDS+Evac** – commercial evacuation software

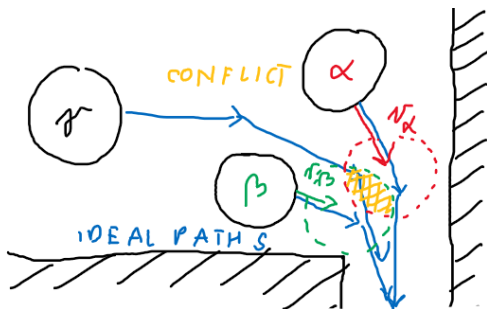


- Helping Social-Force model
- Collision avoidance rules added
- Fire and human interaction

# Path-Navigation and Floor-Field models

## Navigation + Avoiding collisions + Solving conflicts

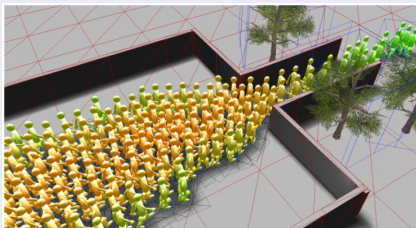
- Agent chooses direction along ideal path (navigation mesh, potential gradient).
- Agent adjusts its speed based on state of the neighbourhood (obstacles, density, other agents).
- Agents choosing to enter the same cell “negotiate”.





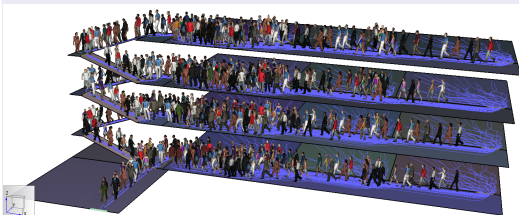
# Implementation of Path-Navigation Models

**VADERE** – open-source simulator from Munich University of Applied Sciences



- Optimal Steps Model
- Behavioral Heuristics Model
- Navigation using floorfield potential

**PathFinder** – commercial evacuation software from Thunderhead eng.

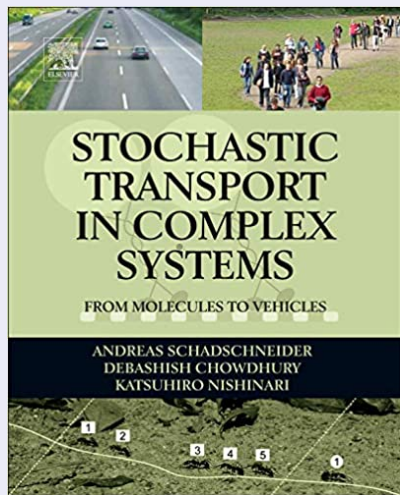


- Path navigating concept
- Navigation mesh
- Collision avoidance + conflict solution algorithm

# Cellular Models

- Particles/agents hopping along discrete lattice
- Related to cellular automata
- Inspired by 2D lattice-gas models
- Discrete configuration space
- Popular among statistical physicists
- Rule-based dynamics

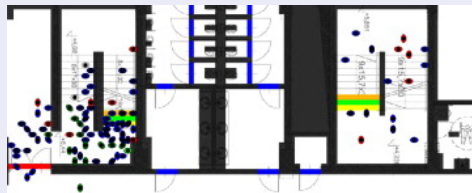
## Models and theory (2010)



Latest review: Li et al. A review of cellular automata models for crowd evacuation. Phys. A 526, 120752, 2019

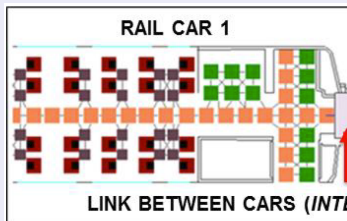
# Implementation of Cellular Models

## Social Distance Model – academic model from AGH University, Kraków



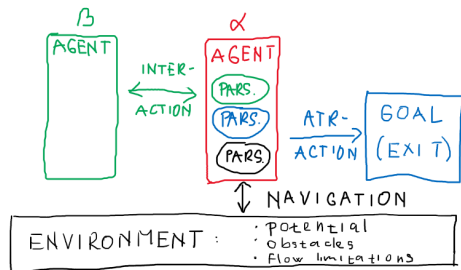
- Allianz Arena Munich, Wisla Krakow
- Finer lattice + Proxemics inspired repulsion

## Exodus – commercial evacuation software from University of Greenwich



- BuildingExodus, TrainExodus, PlainExodus, ...
- Strictly rule based
- Waiting times and similar from measurements

# Agent in the Model



- Spatial information
- Motivation to reach final destination
- Avoiding collisions
- Interaction
- Movement strategies
- Parameters

## Setup of agent-based model

- Consistent with observations
- Calibrated and validated by experimental/field studies
- Providing sufficiently detailed information
- Parameters dedicated to agents, not whole model

# Heterogeneity in Pedestrian Evacuation Model

## Variance of parameters

- Desired velocity

$$v_{\alpha}^0 \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_v, \sigma_v^2)$$

- Agent radius/shape

$$R_{\alpha} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_R, \sigma_R^2)$$

- Acceleration parameters

$$a_{\alpha} \sim \mathcal{U}(a_{\min}, a_{\max})$$

## Different abilities

- Adults, Children, Seniors
- Without or with limitation
- Needing assistance

- Heterogeneity of crowd often neglected
- Draws attention recently
- Focus on vulnerable evacuees

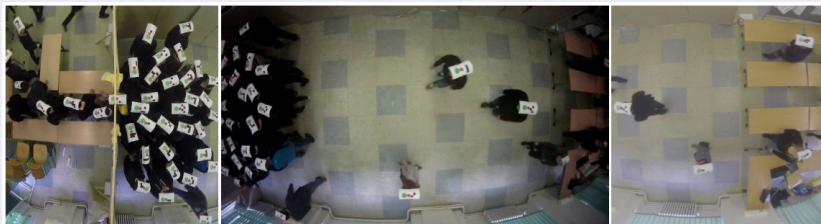
## Is heterogeneity important?

- Does it bring anything new?
- Crowd modelled by identical agents with average properties – is it the same?
- How to implement it?

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# Crowd Dynamics Experiment



- Alternative to empirical measurements
- Conducted experiments, field studies, evacuation drills
- Important to understand the human behaviour and interaction
- A lot of various experiments
- Still insufficient
- Some available online: <https://ped.fz-juelich.de/da/doku.php>

# Original Experiments at CTU

ID	Date	Num.	Video proc.	Note	Coorg.
E1	28/02/2012	86	manual	leaving room	MB
E2	10/12/2012	80	automatic (unreliable)	passing through	MB
E3	13/05/2013	80	automatic detection		MB
E4	29/04/2014	76	automatic identification		MB
E5	07/03/2016	54	semiautomatic	merging	MB
E6	20/12/2016	53	semiautomatic	streams	MB
T2	00/06/2018	91	semiautomatic	train	HN
H1	05/06/2023	??	planned	leaving room	HN

MB – Marek Bukáček (FNSPE), HN – Hana Najmanová (FCE)

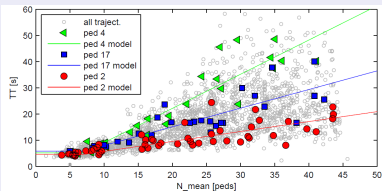
## Future plans

- Series of experiments focusing on heterogeneity planned in 2023-2026.
- Automatic data extraction in cooperation with ImproLab (FIT).
- Machine-learning methods for detecting heterogeneous behaviour.

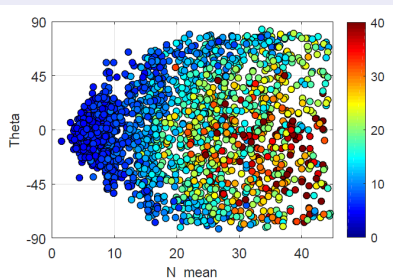


# E4 passing through – measured quantities

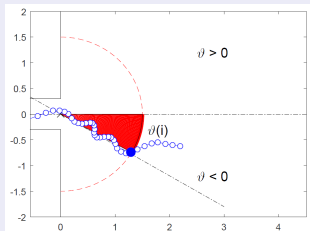
## Travel time (TT)



## N-angle-TT diagram

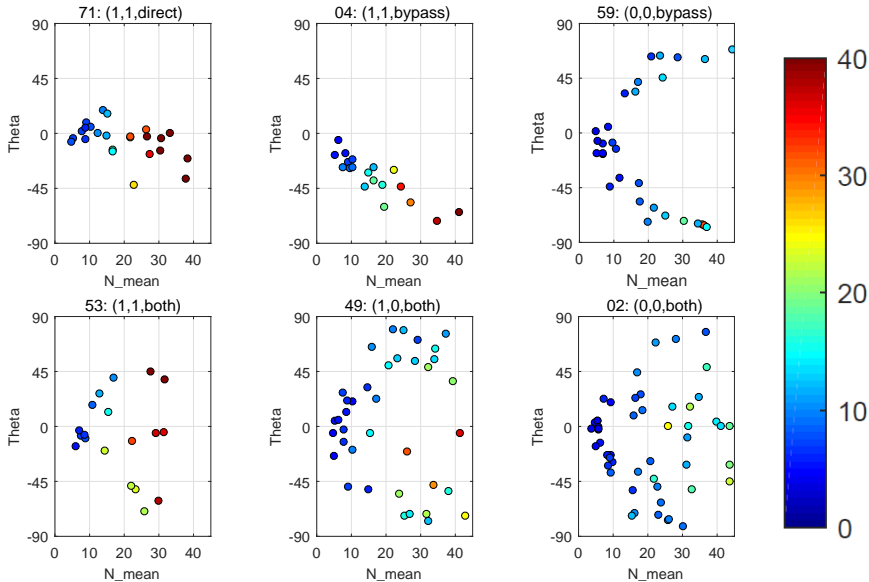


## Exit angle

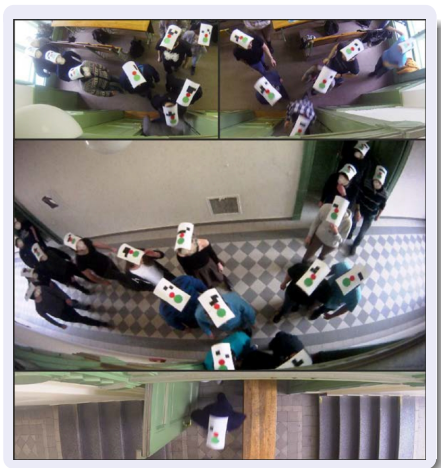


- Hats with ID enabled analysis of trajectories related to individual pedestrians.
- Internal heterogeneity revealed.

## E4 passing through – strategies



# E5+E6 merging streams

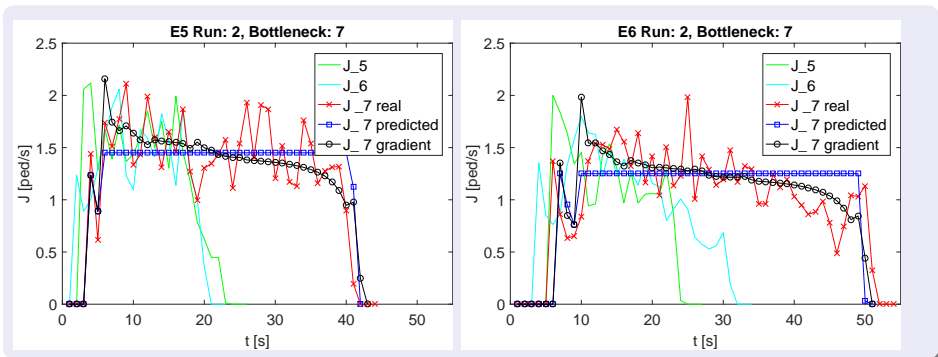


- Used for calibration of simple mass-transport process

$$\begin{aligned}
 J_i(t) &= \min(m_i(t), J_i^c) \\
 m_i(t+1) &= m_i(t) - J_i(t) + \\
 &\quad + \sum_{j|\exists e_{ji}} J_j(t - t_{ij})
 \end{aligned}$$

- Simultaneous experiment at AGH Kraków University of Technology

## E5+E6 merging streams – flow decrease



- Flow decreasing in time despite clogging in front of the bottleneck.
- Possible explanation by loss of motivation.
- Heterogeneity offers alternative explanation.

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# Cellular automata modelling complex behaviour

- Cell changing state according to states of neighbouring cells.
- Even simple rules can reproduce complex behaviour.
- Advantage: local interactions, computationally effective.

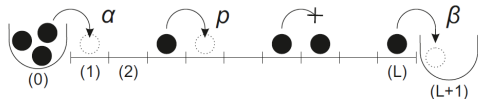
## Conway's Game of Life (1970)



- Any live cell with fewer than two live neighbours dies, as if by underpopulation.
- Any live cell with two or three live neighbours lives on to the next generation.
- Any live cell with more than three live neighbours dies, as if by overpopulation.
- Any dead cell with exactly three live neighbours becomes a live cell, as if by reproduction.

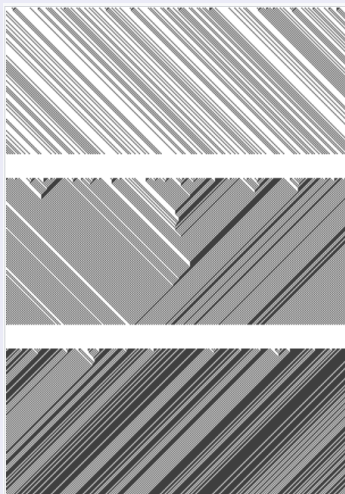
# Hopping Particle Systems and Cellular Automata

## TASEP (Derrida 1993)



- Probabilistic CA as traffic flow model
- Hopping particle random process
- Computer science meets statistical physics
- Cell state  $\leftrightarrow$  particle in lattice
- Simple rules lead to complex collective phenomena of 1D traffic flow

## Rule 184 (Wolfram 1984)









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# Our Contribution to FF model

## Acknowledged modifications

- 2012 Principle of bonds (line formation, compact crowd)
  - 2013 Adaptive time span (heterogeneity in speed, diagonal movement)
  - 2015 Aggressiveness (pushing through the crowd)
  - 2017 Heterogeneity in aggressiveness and  $k_O$  (strategies)
  - 2019 Spatially dependent friction (door width)
  - 2023 Heterogeneity explaining flow decrease
- 
- Keeping the advantage of CA
  - Leaning over conducted experiments
  - Focus on introduction of heterogeneity

## Collaborators and contribution

**Marek Bukáček** (bonds, time-span, aggressiveness, strategies).

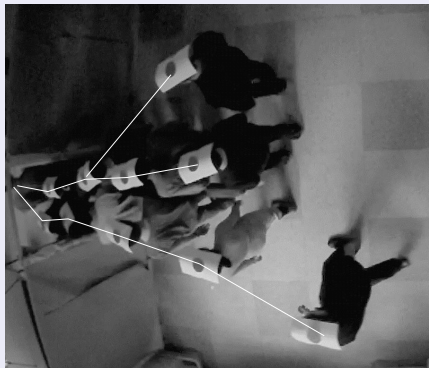
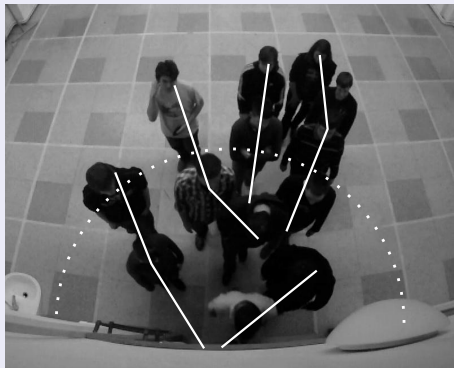
**František Gašpar** (spatially dependent friction).

**Matej Šutý** (target choice as probability mixture)

**Hotlib Mykola** (flow decrease)

# Principle of Bonds

## Spontaneous line formation observed in experiments



- The goal was to capture the motion in lines on microscopic bases.
- Floor-field models excluded occupied cells from targets.
- No lines formed.

# Principle of Bonds

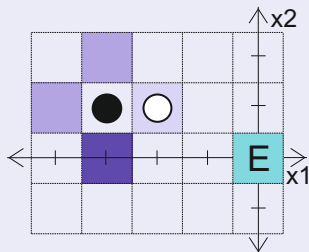
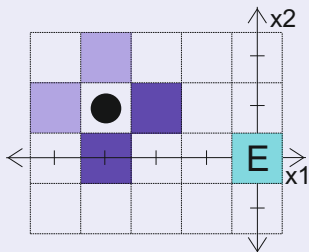
## Target cell choice, original (2013)

$$\Pr(x \rightarrow y) \propto \exp\{-k_S \cdot S(y)\}(1 - k_O \cdot O_x(y))(1 - k_D \cdot D_{xy})$$

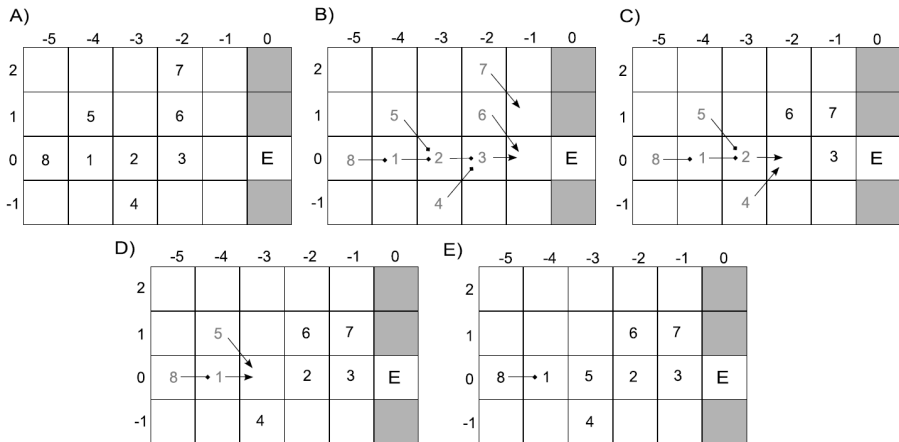
- Sensitivity to occupation  $k_O \in [0, 1]$ ,

$$O_x(y) = \begin{cases} 1 & y \neq x \wedge y \text{ occupied,} \\ 0 & y = x \vee y \text{ empty.} \end{cases}$$

- Sensitivity to potential  $k_S \in [0, +\infty)$ .
- Diagonal motion penalization  $k_D \in [0, 1]$ .



# Principle of Bonds

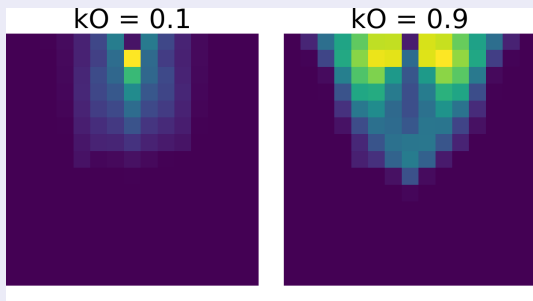


# Principle of Bonds - Heterogeneity

Target cell choice as distribution mixture (2021-23)

$$\Pr(x \rightarrow y) = (1 - k_O)P_S(x \rightarrow y) + k_OP_O(x \rightarrow y)$$

Heterogeneity in  $k_O$  leads to different path-choice strategies



# Adaptive time span

## Usual Updating scheme

- Parallel
- Ordered Sequential
- Random sequential
- Random shuffled

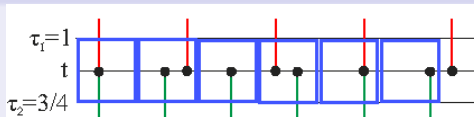
## Adaptive time span (2013) – heterogeneity in velocity

- Event driven update
- Own updating period  $\tau_i$
- Adapts to diagonal movement
- Adapts to bonds



## Partial synchronization (2014) – conflicts important

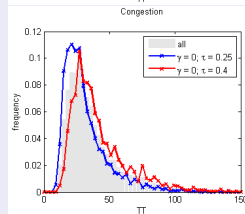
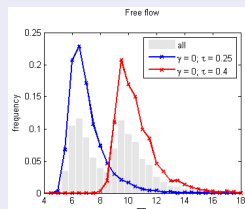
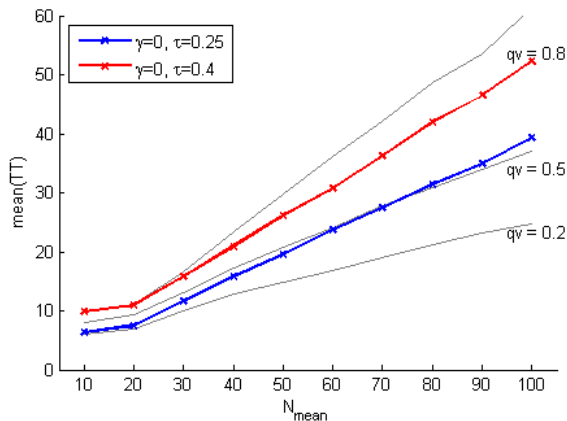
- Isochronous time interval
- Synchronous update of agents with activation time within interval





# Adaptive time span

$$\tau_1 = .4, \tau_2 = .25$$

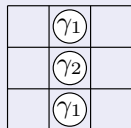
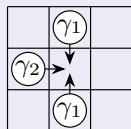


- Effect of heterogeneous velocity vanishes in crowd.
- Yet significant variance in motion in crowd experimentally observed.

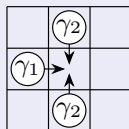
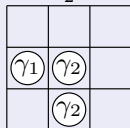
# Aggressiveness

- “Aggressiveness”  $\gamma \in [0, 1]$  represents the ability to win conflict.
- Conflict is won by the agents with higher  $\gamma$ .
- Friction  $\mu$  plays role only when aggressiveness equals.
- Dedicated property of the agent.

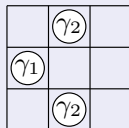
## Heterogeneity in ability to win conflicts



$$\frac{1-\mu(1-\gamma_2)}{2}$$



$$\mu(1 - \gamma_2)$$

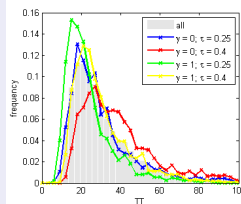
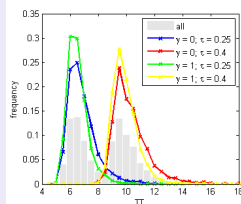
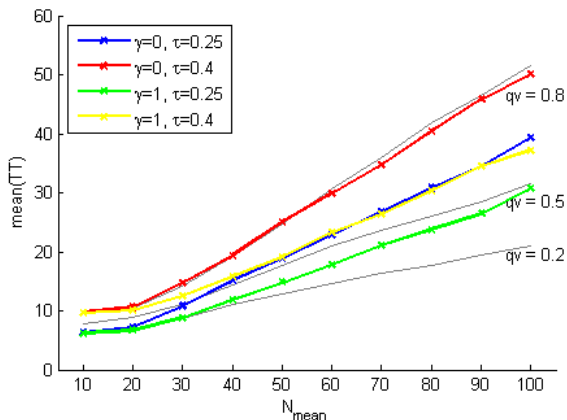


$$\frac{1-\mu(1-\gamma_2)}{2}$$



# Aggressiveness

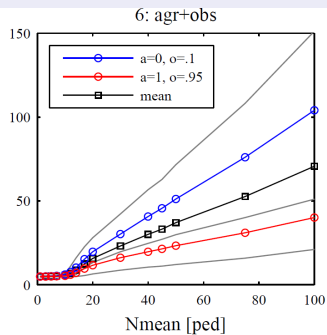
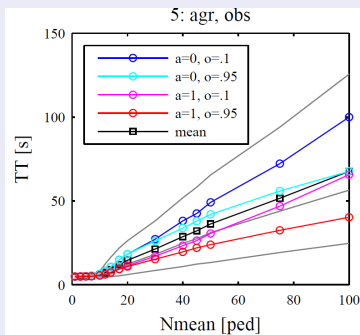
$$\tau_1 = .4, \tau_2 = .25, \gamma_1 = 0, \gamma_2 = 1$$



- Significant variance in congested crowd.
- Note: bonds principle still on  $\implies$  increases number of conflicts.

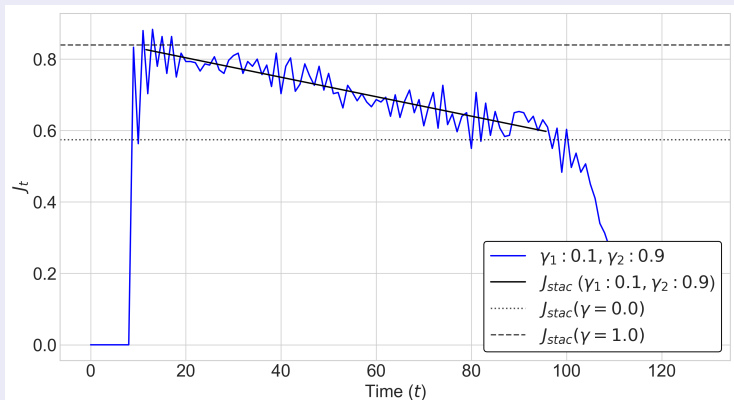
# Heterogeneity and Strategies

- Occupation sensitivity  $k_O$  affects the willingness to bypass the crowd or join the line.
- Aggressiveness  $\gamma$  affects the ability to win conflicts.
- Observed strategies can be revealed.



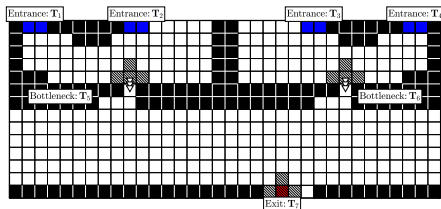
# Heterogeneity Explains Decrease of Flow

Simulated flow in Leave-the-room scenario



- More aggressive leaving earlier, less aggressive staying longer.
- May explain the observed decrease of flow.

# Spatially dependent friction

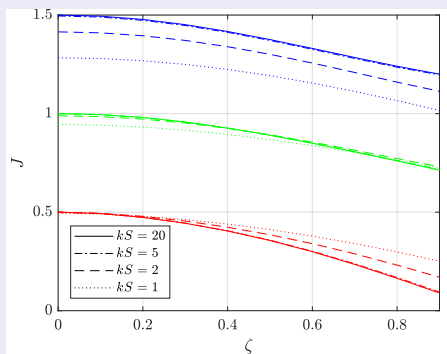


- Measured/estimated maximal flow through given bottleneck
- Local friction according to **model** friction-flow dependence
- How to find the dependence

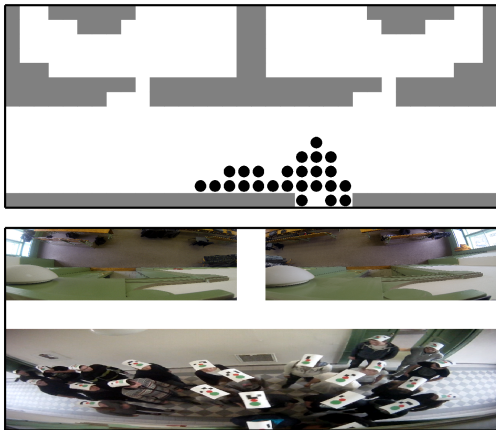
$$J = J(\zeta; k_S, \text{parameters})?$$

## Friction-flow dependence

$$J = J(\zeta; k_S, \dots)$$



# Spatially dependent friction



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# Train Evacuation

