

Convergence of some deterministic Mean Field Games to aggregation and flocking models

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1 Connecting MFGs to kinetic models ?

- ▶ Mean Field Games and their system of PDEs
- ▶ Agent-based models
- ▶ Large interest rate limit for stochastic MFG: Bertucci-Lasry-Lions
- ▶ The setting of Degond-Herty-Liu

2 Convergence of MFGs to nonlocal continuity equations

- ▶ a) MFG with controlled velocity \rightarrow aggregation equation
- ▶ b) MFG with controlled acceleration \rightarrow kinetic equations of flocking type
- ▶ Outline of the proof for controlled velocity
- ▶ Outline of the proof for controlled acceleration

1. Mean Field Games PDEs

$$(MFE) \quad \begin{cases} -\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} - \nu \Delta u + H(\nabla u) = F(x, m) & \text{in } (0, T) \times \mathbf{R}^d \\ \frac{\partial m}{\partial t} - \nu \Delta m - \operatorname{div}(m \nabla H(\nabla u)) = 0 & \text{in } (0, T) \times \mathbf{R}^d \\ u(T, x) = g(x), \quad m(0, x) = m_o(x), \end{cases}$$

$m(x, t)$ = equilibrium distribution of the agents at time t ;

$u(x, t)$ = value function of the representative agent

Data: $\nu \geq 0$, $H = L^*$, e.g., $H(p) = \frac{|p|^2}{2}$,

$F : \mathbf{R}^d \times \mathcal{P}_1(\mathbf{R}^d) \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ = running cost, g = terminal cost,

$m_o \geq 0$ = initial distribution of the agents, $\int_{\mathbf{R}^d} m_o(x) dx = 1$.

1st equation is backward H-J-B, 2nd equation is forward K-F-P eq.

Control interpretation of the MFE



$$u(x, t) = \inf E\left[\int_t^T L(\alpha(s)) + F(y(s), m(s))ds + g(y(T))\right]$$

over controls α and trajectories of

$$dy(s) = \alpha(s)ds + \sqrt{2\nu}dW(s), \quad y(t) = x$$

- $dy(s) = -\nabla H(\nabla u(y(s), s))ds + \sqrt{2\nu}dW(s)$
= optimal trajectory of the representative agent

- $m(x, t)$ = distribution of particles moving along optimal trajectories

- In particular, for $\nu = 0$ and $H(p) = |p|^2/2$ the dynamics with optimal feedback is $\dot{y}(s) = -\nabla u(y(s), s)$

and the KFP equation becomes

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Agent-based models

They typically are **nonlocal continuity equations** of the form

$$\partial_t m - \operatorname{div}(m Q[m]) = 0 \quad Q : \mathcal{P}_\rho(\mathbf{R}^d) \rightarrow C^1(\mathbf{R}^d, \mathbf{R}^d)$$

- The aggregation equation (Bertozzi, Carrillo, Laurent and many others):

$$Q[m](x, t) = \nabla \int_{\mathbf{R}^d} k(x - y) dm(y)$$

- ▶ $k(x) = -|x|e^{-a|x|}, \quad a > 0,$
- ▶ $k(x) = e^{-|x|} - Fe^{-|x|/L}, \quad 0 < F < 1, \quad L > 1$
- **Nonlinear friction equation** of granular flows (Toscani et al.): same form with

$$k(x) = |x|^\alpha / \alpha, \quad \alpha > 0$$

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- Models of crowd dynamics (Cristiani-Piccoli-Tosin)

- ▶ $\partial_t m - \operatorname{div}(m(\mathbf{v} + Q[m])) = 0$, $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}(x)$, $Q[m] = \nabla \int_{\mathbf{R}^d} k(x-y) dm(y)$

- $k = \phi(|x|)$ with compact support, ϕ decreasing for small $|x|$, then increasing

- ▶ models with "social forces", or mesoscopic, or kinetic: state variables: position and velocity $(x, \mathbf{v}) \in \mathbf{R}^{2d}$

- $\partial_t m + \mathbf{v} \cdot D_x m - \operatorname{div}_v(mQ[m]) = 0$ in $(0, T) \times \mathbf{R}^{2d}$

- $Q[m](x, \mathbf{v}) = \nabla_v \int_{\mathbf{R}^{2d}} k(x-y, \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_*) m(y, \mathbf{v}_*, t) dy d\mathbf{v}_*$

- Flocking models: as the last one with different k , e.g.

- Cucker-Smale : $k(x, \mathbf{v}) = \frac{|\mathbf{v}|^2}{(\alpha + |x|^2)^\beta}$, $\alpha > 0, \beta \geq 0$

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Question: connection among MFGs and ABMs?

For MFG with dynamics $\dot{y} = \alpha$ the equation for the density m is

$$\frac{\partial m}{\partial t} - \operatorname{div}(m \nabla H(\nabla u)) = 0$$

which is a **continuity equation** with $Q[m] = \nabla H(\nabla u)$ and u depends on m in a non-local way via the HJB equation, so the dependence is not explicit.

For MFG with dynamics $\ddot{y} = \alpha$ the density m solves

$$\partial_t m + v \cdot D_x m - \operatorname{div}_v(m \nabla_v H(\nabla u)) = 0$$

which is a **kinetic equation** with $Q[m] = \nabla_v H(\nabla u)$ and u depends on m via the HJB equation.

Q.: can one **connect in a rigorous way the classical ABMs to some MFGs ?**

$$(MF0) \quad \begin{cases} -\partial_t u_\lambda + \lambda u_\lambda - \Delta u_\lambda + Q[m_\lambda] \cdot Du_\lambda + \frac{|Du_\lambda|^2}{2} = F(x), \\ \partial_t m_\lambda - \Delta m_\lambda - \operatorname{div}(m_\lambda(Du_\lambda + Q[m_\lambda])) = 0 \quad \text{in } \mathbf{R}^d \times \mathbf{R}_+ \\ m_\lambda(0) = m_0, \quad \text{in } \mathbf{R}^d \end{cases}$$

λ = the discount factor in the cost functional associated to the HJB equation =

"inter temporal preference parameter that measures the weight of anticipation for a given agent",

the dynamics of an agent in the MFG is

$$dy(s) = (\alpha(s) - Q[m_\lambda])ds + \sqrt{2\nu}dW(s), \quad y(t) = x$$

The limit $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$

Theorem (Bertucci-Lasry-Lions)

$Q : \mathcal{P}_1(\mathbf{R}^d) \rightarrow Lip(\mathbf{R}^d)$, $\|Q[m]\|_\infty \leq C, \forall m \implies$

any solution (u_λ, m_λ) of (MF0) is bounded uniformly in λ and

for any $\lambda_n \rightarrow \infty$ such that $m_{\lambda_n} \rightarrow m$ the limit m is a solution of the continuity equation

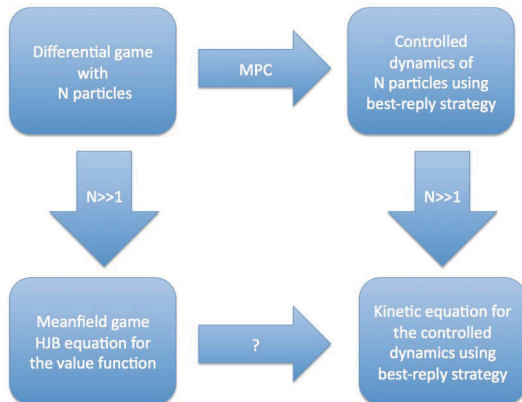
$$\partial_t m - \Delta m - \operatorname{div}(m Q[m]) = 0.$$

So "any" ABM model (with diffusion), defined by Q , has **at least one solution that is the limit of the solution of a MFG.**

The setting of Degond-Herty-Liu 2017

Here MPC = Model Predictive Control

We address the horizontal ? \implies ? with a different approach.



The control problem for a **single agent** is

$$\dot{y} = v(y) + \alpha, \quad y(t) = x, \quad \inf_{\alpha(\cdot)} \int_t^T \left[\frac{|\alpha|^2}{2} + F(y(s), m(s)) \right] ds$$

MPC approximation:

$$y(t + \Delta t) = x + \Delta t(v(x) + \alpha), \quad \min_{\alpha} \left[\Delta t \frac{|\alpha|^2}{2} + F(y(t + \Delta t), m(t)) \right]$$

Note that the scaling with Δt means that the control is cheap.

Taking the derivative w.r.t. α we get the **optimal control** $\bar{\alpha}$ if

$$\Delta t [\bar{\alpha} + DF(x, m(t))] = 0.$$

This suggests that, for **short horizon** T and **cheap control**, the optimal feedback should be approximated by the

steepest decent of the running cost $\bar{\alpha} \approx -DF(x, m(t))$.

2. Convergence: a) the basic model

$$(MF1) \quad \begin{cases} -\partial_t u_\lambda + \lambda u_\lambda - v(x) \cdot Du_\lambda + \frac{\lambda}{2} |Du_\lambda|^2 = F(x, m_\lambda(t)) \\ \partial_t m_\lambda - \operatorname{div}(m_\lambda(\lambda Du_\lambda - v(x))) = 0 & \text{in } \mathbf{R}^d \times \mathbf{R}_+ \\ m_\lambda(0) = m_0, \quad \text{in } \mathbf{R}^d \quad u_\lambda \text{ bounded.} \end{cases}$$

$$\lambda > 0, \quad v \in W^{2,\infty},$$

$m_0 \in \mathcal{P}_1(\mathbf{R}^d)$ has **bounded density** and compact support

$F : \mathbf{R}^d \times \mathcal{P}_1(\mathbf{R}^d) \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ continuous and

$$\|F(\cdot, m)\|_{C^2} \leq C \quad \forall m \in \mathcal{P}_1(\mathbf{R}^d), \quad \|DF(\cdot, m) - DF(\cdot, \bar{m})\|_\infty \leq C d_1(m, \bar{m})$$

Note: 1. no terminal condition for the HJB equation.

$$2. \quad H(p) = \lambda |p|^2 / 2 \quad \implies \quad DH(p) = \lambda p$$

Existence and representation of (u_λ, m_λ)

Theorem (see Cardaliaguet's Lect. Notes on Lions' lectures)

(MF1) has a solution (viscosity sense for HJB, distribution sense for KFP). Any solution satisfies

$$u_\lambda(x, t) = \inf \int_t^{+\infty} e^{-\lambda(s-t)} \left[\frac{1}{2\lambda} |\alpha(s)|^2 + F(y(s), m_\lambda(s)) \right] ds,$$

for $\dot{y}(s) = v(y(s)) + \alpha(s)$, $s > t$, $y(t) = x$.

Rmks.:

1. Meaning of λ large: high discount factor (the near future counts much more than the far future) and cheap control.
2. In general the solution of (MF1) is NOT UNIQUE, the monotonicity condition on F of Lasry and Lions is NOT satisfied for F modelling aggregation.

Convergence Theorem for (MF1)

Under the previous assumptions, as $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$, any solution of (MF1) satisfies

$$m_\lambda \rightarrow m \quad \text{in } C([0, T], \mathcal{P}_1) \text{ and weak}^* \text{ in } L^\infty([0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^d) \quad \forall T > 0,$$

m the unique solution (distribution sense) of the continuity equation

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t m - \operatorname{div}(m(DF(x, m) - v(x))) = 0 & \text{in } \mathbf{R}^d \times \mathbf{R}_+ \\ m(0) = m_0, & \text{in } \mathbf{R}^d. \end{cases}$$

$$\lambda u_\lambda(x, t) \rightarrow F(x, m(t)) \text{ loc. uniformly, } \lambda Du_\lambda(x, t) \rightarrow DF(x, m(t)) \text{ a.e..}$$

Remarks.

1. Thm. says that the optimal feedback $-Du_\lambda$ is close to the scaled gradient descent of the running cost $-\frac{1}{\lambda}DF$, which is perhaps new even for pure control problems with frozen m .

2. $F(x, m) = k * m(x)$ with $k \in C^2 \cap W^{2, \infty}$

fits the assumptions of the Theorem.

3. The MFG system (MF1) has many solutions in general, and **ALL of them converge** to the limit continuity equation that has a **unique solution** (by, e.g, Piccoli-Rossi 2013).

Applications and extensions

- The **aggregation** equation and model 1 of **crowd dynamics** are

$$\partial_t m - \operatorname{div}(m(Dk * m - v(x))) = 0$$

but $k = \phi(|x|)$ **NOT** C^1 in $x = 0$, but **semiconcave** if there is **repulsion at short distance**.

We can replace the condition $\|D^2 F(x, m)\|_\infty \leq C$ for all m with the **semiconcavity of F** uniformly in m

$$F(x + h, m) - 2F(x, m) + F(x - h, m) \leq C|h|^2 \quad \forall m \in \mathcal{P}_1.$$

- In the **nonlinear friction** equation $k \notin L^\infty$, so $\|F(x, m)\|_\infty \leq C$ for all m is false.

We have extensions to the case

$$-C_0 \leq F(x, m) \leq C_0(1 + |x|^2) \quad \text{for all } m.$$

N.B. Even existence of solutions to (MF1) is new in this case.

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N.B. Even existence of solutions to (MF1) is new in this case.

2. b) Convergence for controlled acceleration

$$(MF2) \quad \begin{cases} -\partial_t u_\lambda + \lambda u_\lambda - v \cdot D_x u_\lambda + \frac{\lambda}{2} |D_v u_\lambda|^2 = F(x, v, m_\lambda(t)) \\ \partial_t m_\lambda + v \cdot D_x m_\lambda - \operatorname{div}_v(m_\lambda \lambda D_v u_\lambda) = 0 \quad \text{in } \mathbf{R}^{2d} \times \mathbf{R}_+ \\ m_\lambda(0) = m_0, \quad \text{in } \mathbf{R}^{2d}. \end{cases}$$

$\lambda > 0$, $m_0 \in \mathcal{M}$, i.e., $m_0 \in \mathcal{P}_1(\mathbf{R}^{2d})$ with bounded density and compact support

$F : \mathbf{R}^d \times \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ continuous and $\forall x, v \in \mathbf{R}^d, m \in \mathcal{M}$,

$$-C_0 \leq F(x, v, m) \leq C_0(1 + |v|^2),$$

$$|D_x F(x, v, m(x, v))| \leq C, \quad |D_v F(x, v, m(x, v))| \leq C(1 + |v|)$$

$$|D^2 F(x, v, m)| \leq C$$

Representation of u_λ

Any solution (u_λ, m_λ) satisfies

$$u_\lambda(x, v, t) = \inf \int_t^{+\infty} e^{-\lambda(s-t)} \left[\frac{1}{2\lambda} |\alpha(s)|^2 + F(y(s), v(s), m_\lambda(s)) \right] ds,$$
$$\dot{y}(s) = v(s), \quad \dot{v}(s) = \alpha(s), \quad s > t, \quad y(t) = x, \quad v(t) = v.$$

There is no existence theory for (MF2) available in the literature:

we prove directly the existence of a solution satisfying the estimates we need, and show convergence for it.

See also ongoing work by Achdou-Mannucci-Marchi-Tchou.

Convergence Theorem for (MF2)

Under the previous assumptions **there is a solution** to (MF2) such that

$$m_\lambda \rightarrow m \quad \text{in } C([0, T], \mathcal{P}_1) \text{ and weak}^* \text{ in } L^\infty([0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^{2d}) \quad \forall T > 0,$$

as $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$, $m =$ unique solution of the **continuity equation**

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t m + v \cdot D_x m - \operatorname{div}(m D_v F(x, v, m)) = 0 & \text{in } \mathbf{R}^{2d} \times \mathbf{R}_+ \\ m(0) = m_0, & \text{in } \mathbf{R}^{2d}, \end{cases}$$

$$\lambda u_\lambda(x, v, t) \rightarrow F(x, v, m(t)) \text{ loc. uniformly,}$$

$$\lambda D_v u_\lambda(x, v, t) \rightarrow D_v F(x, v, m(t)) \text{ a.e..}$$

1. Thm. says that the **optimal feedback** $-D_v u_\lambda$ is close to the **scaled gradient descent of the running cost** $-\frac{1}{\lambda} D_v F$, which is perhaps new even for pure control problems with frozen m .

Examples

① $F(x, v, m) = k * m(x, v)$ with $k \in C^2 \cap L^\infty$.

② Same with **Cucker-Smale** kernel :

$$k(x, v) = \frac{|v|^2}{(\alpha + |x|^2)^\beta}, \quad \alpha > 0, \beta \geq 0.$$

③ in crowd dynamics with social forces $k = \phi(|x|)$ may be **not C^1** in $x = 0$, but it is **semiconcave** if there is **repulsion at short distance**: we can extend the result to this case.

Outline for the proof for (MF1): estimates for HJB

Step 1: Convergence in HJB

$$-\partial_t u_\lambda + \lambda u_\lambda - v(x) \cdot Du_\lambda + \frac{\lambda}{2} |Du_\lambda|^2 = F(x, m_\lambda(t))$$

For a suitable $C > 0$, $\frac{F(x, m_\lambda(t))}{\lambda} - \frac{C}{\lambda^2}$ is a subsolution and $\frac{F(x, m_\lambda(t))}{\lambda} + \frac{C}{\lambda^2}$ is a supersolution, so

$$\sup_{\mathbf{R}^d \times \mathbf{R}_+} |\lambda u_\lambda - F(\cdot, m_\lambda)| \leq \frac{C}{\lambda}, \quad \forall \lambda \geq 1.$$

Step 2: Semiconcavity estimate for u_λ :

$$u_\lambda(x+h, t) - 2u_\lambda(x, t) + u_\lambda(x-h, t) \leq \frac{C}{\lambda} |h|^2,$$

$\implies \lambda Du_\lambda(x, t) \rightarrow DF(x, m)$ a.e. if $F(x, m_\lambda) \rightarrow F(x, m)$ loc. unif.

Step 3: Lipschitz estimate for u_λ :

$$|u_\lambda(x, t) - u_\lambda(x + h, t)| \leq \frac{C|h|}{\lambda}$$

Step 4: can define a flow $\Phi(x, t, s)$ such that $m_\lambda(s) = \Phi(\cdot, 0, s) \# m_0$ and

$$|\Phi(x, 0, s) - \Phi(x, 0, s')| \leq \|\lambda Du_\lambda\|_\infty |s - s'| \leq C|s - s'|$$

Step 5: Estimates on the KFP equation:

- $\mathbf{d}_1(m_\lambda(s), m_\lambda(s')) \leq \int_{\mathbf{R}^d} |\Phi(x, 0, s) - \Phi(x, 0, s')| dm_0(x) \leq C|s - s'|$

where \mathbf{d}_1 is the Kantorovich-Rubinstein or 1-Wasserstein distance on $\mathcal{P}_1(\mathbf{R}^d)$.

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where \mathbf{d}_1 is the Kantorovich-Rubinstein or 1-Wasserstein distance on $\mathcal{P}_1(\mathbf{R}^d)$.

- $\|m_\lambda(t)\|_\infty \leq C_T \|m_0\|_\infty$
- $\int_{\mathbf{R}^d} |x|^2 m_\lambda(t) dx \leq C(M_2(m_0) + T).$

\implies compactness of $\{m_\lambda\}$ in $C([0, T], \mathcal{P}_1)$

and weak* in $L^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d \times [0, T])$, $\forall T > 0$.

For any sequence λ_n such that $m_{\lambda_n} \rightarrow m$ as above

$F(x, m_{\lambda_n}(t)) \rightarrow F(x, m(t))$ loc. uniformly by the continuity of F in \mathcal{P}_1 .

$\implies \lambda_n Du_{\lambda_n}(x, t) \rightarrow DF(x, m(t))$ a.e.

$\implies m$ solves $\partial_t m - \operatorname{div}(m(DF(x, m) - v(x))) = 0$.

DF Lip in $m \implies$ uniqueness for this equation, so $m_\lambda \rightarrow m$,

and then also $\lambda u_\lambda \rightarrow F(\cdot, m)$ and $\lambda Du_\lambda \rightarrow DF(\cdot, m)$. QED

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For any sequence λ_n such that $m_{\lambda_n} \rightarrow m$ as above

$F(x, m_{\lambda_n}(t)) \rightarrow F(x, m(t))$ loc. uniformly by the continuity of F in \mathcal{P}_1 .

$\implies \lambda_n Du_{\lambda_n}(x, t) \rightarrow DF(x, m(t))$ a.e.

$\implies m$ solves $\partial_t m - \operatorname{div}(m(DF(x, m) - v(x))) = 0$.

DF Lip in $m \implies$ **uniqueness** for this equation, so $m_\lambda \rightarrow m$,

and then also $\lambda u_\lambda \rightarrow F(\cdot, m)$ and $\lambda Du_\lambda \rightarrow DF(\cdot, m)$. QED

Outline for the proof for (MF2)

We use the **vanishing viscosity** approximation to (MF2) to build a solution satisfying all the estimates we need.

Estimates for **HJB**:

- L^∞ estimates $-\frac{C}{\lambda} \leq u_\lambda(x, v, t) \leq \frac{C}{\lambda}(1 + |v|^2)$
- **Lipschitz** estimates $|u_\lambda(x, v, t) - u_\lambda(x + h, v, t)| \leq C \frac{|h|}{\lambda},$
 $|u_\lambda(x, v, t) - u_\lambda(x, v + h, t)| \leq \frac{|h|}{\lambda} C(1 + |v|)$
- **Semiconcavity** estimate for (MF2)

$$u_\lambda(x + h, v + h_1, t) - 2u_\lambda(x, v, t) + u_\lambda(x - h, v - h_1, t) \leq \frac{C}{\lambda} (|h|^2 + |h_1|^2).$$

Estimates for **KFP**:

- $\mathbf{d}_1(m_\lambda(s), m_\lambda(s')) \leq C_T(1 + M_1(m_0))|s - s'|$
where \mathbf{d}_1 is the Kantorovich-Rubinstein on $\mathcal{P}_1(\mathbf{R}^{2d})$.
- $\|m_\lambda(t)\|_\infty \leq C_T \|m_0\|_\infty$
- $\int_{\mathbf{R}^d} (|x|^2 + |v|^2) m_\lambda(t) dx \leq C(M_2(m_0) + T)$.

After these estimates the proof is the same as for (MF1).

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Thanks for your attention !