

# Regularity for two models of chemotaxis and angiogenesis

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Rio, February 21, 2005

In collaboration with

L. Corrias (University of Evry) and B. Perthame (ENS).

## Outline of the talk

- An example: the Dictyostellium Discoideum
- the general Patlak / Keller-Segel model
- A first model: Chemotaxis (existence of  $L^p$  solutions)
- Chemotaxis : A blow-up criterion
- A second model: Angiogenesis (existence of  $L^p$  solutions)

**An example: chemotaxis. Case of the amoeba *Dic-*  
*tyostellium Discoideum***

Chemotaxis (definition): movement of bacteria, amoebas, cells, under the attraction of some chemical (the chemoattractant).

## **1st movie (source: dictybase.org)**

Aggregation of amoebas *D. Discoideum* towards a source point of the chemoattractant cAMP (cyclo Adenosine Monophosphate).

Time in minutes and seconds.

Experience by G. Gerisch, Max Planck Institut für Biochemie, Martinsried, Germany.

## **2nd movie (source: [dictybase.org](http://dictybase.org))**

Chemotaxis of one amoeba towards a source point of cAMP.

Time in minutes and seconds.

Experience by G. Gerisch, Max Planck Institut für Biochemie,  
Martinsried, Germany.

**3rd movie (source: dictybase.org)**

Aggregation of amoebas.

Time interval between two steps: 6 minutes.

Experience by P. Devreotes, Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, Baltimore, USA.

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- 3- One amoeba secretes cAMP which attracts the other amoebas.
- 4- Amoebas move towards the “founding” amoeba, and secrete cAMP (3rd movie).

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8- Formation of a fruiting body and spreading of spores,

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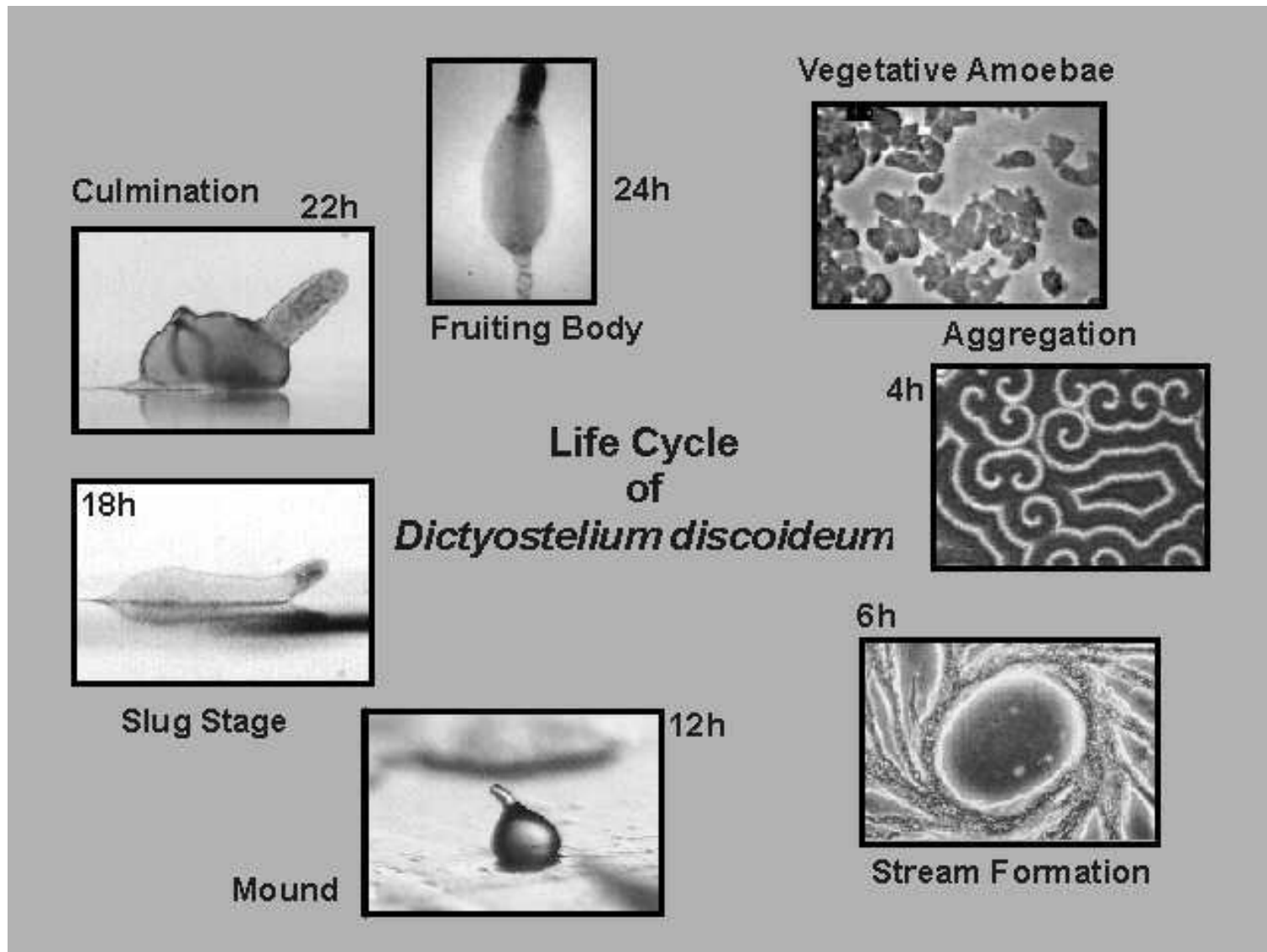
6- Formation of a pseudoplasmodium (multicellular body).

7- The pseudoplasmodium moves towards light sources.

8- Formation of a fruiting body and spreading of spores,

and the cycle restarts (birth of amoebae....).

# A summary





## **Interest of *D. Discoideum* for medical research**

It is a simple model for the study of chemotaxis, which is involved in many processes in superior organisms (differentiation, cancer, etc...)

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At the beginning, the tumor takes directly the nutriments across its boundary. At some point, this is no longer enough.

The tumor sends a chemical signal outside in order to attract endothelial cells (cells that make the interior of blood vessels), and then form a network of capillary vessels that will directly provide the tumor with nutriments.

## The classical model of Patlak / Keller-Segel

$$\partial_t n = \operatorname{div}[\kappa(n, c)\nabla n - \chi(n, c)\nabla c], \quad t > 0, \quad x \in \Omega,$$

$$\partial_t c = \eta\Delta c + \beta(n, c)n - \gamma(n, c)c, \quad t > 0, \quad x \in \Omega,$$

$$n(0, t) = n_0(x), \quad c(0, x) = c_0(x).$$

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$n$  = population density,  $c$  = density of the chemical.

$\chi$  = chemotactic sensitivity. Generally,  $\chi(n, c) = n\chi(c)$ .

$\chi(c) > 0$  (decreasing): attraction, positive chemotaxis.

$\chi(c) < 0$  (increasing): repulsion, negative chemotaxis.

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Boundary condition to have the mass conservation:

$$\int_{\Omega} n(x, t) dx \equiv \int_{\Omega} n_0(x) dx.$$

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Maximum principle:  $n_0 \geq 0, c_0 \geq 0 \implies n \geq 0, c \geq 0$ .



## References

- Patlak, *Bull. Math. Biophys.*, 1953.
- Keller and Segel, *J. Theor. Biol.*, 1970 and 1971 (aggregation of *Dictyostellium Discodeum*).
- Horstmann, *Jahresber. Deutsch. Math.-Verein*, 2004 (survey)
- Stevens, *SIAM J. Appl. Math.*, 2000.

## Other models

- hyperbolic models (Preziosi *et al.*, initiation of angiogenesis)
- kinetic models (Filbet, Laurençot, Perthame).

## A first model: a parabolic-elliptic system of chemotaxis

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} n = \kappa \Delta n - \chi \nabla \cdot [n \nabla c], & t > 0, x \in \mathbb{R}^d, \\ -\Delta c = n - \alpha c, & t > 0, x \in \mathbb{R}^d, \\ n(0, x) = n_0(x), & x \in \mathbb{R}^d. \end{array} \right.$$

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$E_d$  the fundamental solution of  $-\Delta + \alpha Id$ ,  $\alpha \geq 0$ :

$$c(x, t) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} E_d(x - y) n(y, t) dy.$$

If  $\alpha = 0$ , then

$$\nabla c(x, t) = -C(d) \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{(x - y)}{|x - y|^d} n(y, t) dy, \quad d \geq 2.$$

If  $\alpha \geq 0$ , then:  $n(t) \in L^p(\mathbb{R}^d)$ ,  $p > d \implies \nabla c(t) \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d)$ .

**A 2nd model : a parabolic-ode system of angiogenesis.**

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## How to obtain global weak solutions?

A classical idea: (for example), control the  $L^p$  norm of  $n$  for all  $t$ . Computation gives:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} n^p + 4\kappa \frac{p-1}{p} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla n^{p/2}|^2 = \chi p(p-1) \int_{\Omega} n^{p-1} \nabla n \cdot \nabla c .$$

If  $\nabla c(x, t)$  is uniformly bounded in  $x$  and  $t$ , then we are done (technique of Nagai and Hortsman). Indeed,

We simply estimate the RHS as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \chi p(p-1) \int_{\Omega} n^{p-1} \nabla n \cdot \nabla c &= 2\chi(p-1) \int_{\Omega} n^{p/2} \nabla n^{p/2} \cdot \nabla c \\ &\leq 2\kappa \frac{p-1}{p} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla n^{p/2}|^2 + \frac{\chi^2 p(p-1)}{2\kappa} \|\nabla c\|_{L_{t,x}^{\infty}}^2 \int_{\Omega} n^p, \end{aligned}$$

which gives

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} n^p + 2\kappa \frac{p-1}{p} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla n^{p/2}|^2 \leq \frac{\chi^2 p(p-1)}{2\kappa} \|\nabla c\|_{L_{t,x}^{\infty}}^2 \int_{\Omega} n^p,$$

$\implies$  control of all  $L^p$  norms of  $n$ ,  $1 \leq p \leq +\infty$ .

- This method worked only in 1 dimension or in the radial case in 2 dimensions, for Nagai (who obtained the  $L^\infty$  bound on  $\nabla c$ ).
- Generalization to other sensitivity functions (non handled by us) by Biler.

A new idea.  $\Omega = \mathbb{R}^d$ , dimension  $d \geq 2$ . I recall the system...

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} n = \kappa \Delta n - \chi \nabla \cdot [n \nabla c], & t > 0, x \in \Omega, \\ -\Delta c = n - \alpha c, & t > 0, x \in \Omega, \\ n(0, x) = n_0(x), & x \in \Omega. \end{array} \right.$$

... and the equation on the  $L^p$  norm:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \int n^p + 4\kappa \frac{p-1}{p} \int |\nabla n^{p/2}|^2 &= \chi(p-1) \int \nabla n^p \cdot \nabla c \\ &= -\chi(p-1) \int n^p \cdot \Delta c. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $-\Delta c = n - \alpha c$ , we have

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int n^p + 4\kappa \frac{p-1}{p} \int |\nabla n^{p/2}|^2 \leq \chi(p-1) \int n^{p+1}.$$

Gagliardo-Nirenberg (condition :  $p \geq \max\left(1, \frac{d}{2} - 1\right)$ ) :

$$\int n^{p+1} \leq C(d, p) \leq C(d) \|\nabla n^{p/2}\|_{L^2}^2 \|n\|_{L^{\frac{d}{2}}},$$

and

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int n^p \leq (p-1) \|\nabla n^{p/2}\|_{L^2}^2 \left[ \chi \tilde{C}(d) \|n\|_{L^{\frac{d}{2}}} - \frac{4\kappa}{p} \right].$$

**Dimension  $d = 2$  :**  $\|n\|_{L^{\frac{d}{2}}} = \|n\|_{L^1} \equiv \|n_0\|_{L^1}$ , therefore

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int n^p \leq (p - 1) \|\nabla n^{p/2}\|_{L^2}^2 \left[ \chi \tilde{C}(d) \|n_0\|_{L^1} - \frac{4\kappa}{p} \right] .$$

Hence, if

$$\chi \tilde{C}(d) \|n_0\|_{L^1} - \frac{4\kappa}{p^*} \leq 0 ,$$

then for all  $p \leq p^*$ ,  $\int n^p$  decreases and stays bounded.

**Dimension**  $d = 3$  :  $\|n\|_{L^{\frac{d}{2}}}$  is not conserved, but with  $p = \frac{d}{2}$ ,

we write

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int n^{\frac{d}{2}} \leq \left(\frac{d}{2} - 1\right) \|\nabla n^{\frac{d}{4} - \frac{1}{2}}\|_{L^2}^2 \left[ \chi \tilde{C}(d) \|n\|_{L^{\frac{d}{2}}} - \frac{4\kappa}{\frac{d}{2}} \right].$$

therefore, if

$$\chi \tilde{C}(d) \|n_0\|_{L^{\frac{d}{2}}} - \frac{4\kappa}{\frac{d}{2}} \leq 0,$$

then  $\|n\|_{L^{\frac{d}{2}}}$  decreases and we write for any other  $p$ :

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int n^p \leq (p - 1) \|\nabla n^{p/2}\|_{L^2}^2 \left[ \chi \tilde{C}(d) \|n_0\|_{L^{\frac{d}{2}}} - \frac{4\kappa}{p} \right] .$$

Therefore, (like in 2 dimensions, but with the  $L^{\frac{d}{2}}$  norm instead of the mass), if

$$\chi \tilde{C}(d) \|n_0\|_{L^{\frac{d}{2}}} \leq \min \left( \frac{4\kappa}{\frac{d}{2}}, \frac{4\kappa}{p^*} \right)$$

then, for all  $p \leq p^*$ ,  $\int n^p$  decreases and stays bounded.



We actually would like a uniform condition  $p \in [\max(1, \frac{d}{2} - 1), +\infty)$  without the restriction  $p \leq p^*$ . For this, we work with  $(n - K)_+$  instead of  $n$ , and we take  $K$  sufficiently large.

After that, we regularize the system by introducing

$$-\Delta c_\varepsilon = n_\varepsilon \star \rho_\varepsilon - \alpha c_\varepsilon$$

where  $\rho_\varepsilon$  is a regularizing kernel. We obtain the following theorem (I first recall the system):

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} n = \kappa \Delta n - \chi \nabla \cdot [n \nabla c], & t > 0, x \in \mathbb{R}^d, \\ -\Delta c = n - \alpha c, & t > 0, x \in \mathbb{R}^d, \\ n(0, x) = n_0(x), & x \in \mathbb{R}^d. \end{array} \right.$$

**Theorem (Existence for the chemotaxis system)** ( $d \geq 2$ )

If  $n_0 \geq 0$ ,  $n_0 \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$  and  $\|n_0\|_{L^{\frac{d}{2}}(\mathbb{R}^d)} \leq K_0(\kappa, \chi, d)$ , then the system has a global weak solution such that for all  $t > 0$

$$\|n(t)\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} = \|n_0\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)},$$

$$\|n(t)\|_{L^p(\mathbb{R}^d)} \leq \|n_0\|_{L^p(\mathbb{R}^d)}, \quad \max\{1; \frac{d}{2} - 1\} \leq p \leq \frac{d}{2},$$

$$\|n(t)\|_{L^p(\mathbb{R}^d)} \leq C \left( t, K_0, \|n_0\|_{L^p(\mathbb{R}^d)} \right) \quad \frac{d}{2} < p \leq \infty.$$

**Theorem (Blow-up criterion for the chemotaxis system)** For  $d \geq 3$  assume that

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{|x|^2}{2} n_0(x) dx \leq C(\chi, \kappa, d) \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} n_0 \right)^{\frac{d}{d-2}}$$

and for  $d = 2$  assume that  $\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{|x|^2}{2} n_0(x) dx$  is finite and that  $\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} n_0 \geq M_0$  for some  $M_0(\chi, \kappa, d) > 0$ . Then, the chemotaxis system has no global smooth solution with fast decay at infinity.

## The classical system of chemotaxis

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \partial_t n = \nabla \cdot [\kappa(n, c) \nabla n - \chi(n, c) \nabla c], & t > 0, x \in \Omega, \\ \partial_t c = \eta \Delta c + \beta(n, c) n - \gamma(n, c) c, & t > 0, x \in \Omega, \\ n(0, x) = n_0(x), \quad c(0, x) = c_0(x). & \end{array} \right.$$

+ boundary conditions,  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ ,

$n$  is the density of the population,

$c$  is the density of the chemo-attractant,

$\chi$  is the sensitivity of the the chemo-attractant.

## A 2nd model : a parabolic-ode system of angiogenesis.

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} n = \kappa \Delta n - \nabla \cdot [n \chi(c) \nabla c], & t > 0, x \in \mathbb{R}^d, \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial t} c = -c^m n, & t > 0, x \in \mathbb{R}^d, \\ n(0, x) = n_0(x), \quad c(0, x) = c_0(x), & x \in \mathbb{R}^d. \end{cases}$$

where  $m > 0$ ,

$n$ : endothelial cells,  $c$ : the tumor angiogenic factor,

and  $\chi(c) = c^{-\alpha}$ ,  $0 < \alpha < 1$  or  $\chi(c) = \frac{\beta}{\alpha + \beta c}$ ,

$c^{1-m}(x, t) = (m - 1) \int_0^t n(x, \tau) d\tau + c_0^{1-m}(x)$  if  $m \neq 1$  and

$c(x, t) = c_0(x) e^{-\int_0^t n(x, \tau) d\tau}$  if  $m = 1$ .

**Conservation of mass:**  $\int n(x, t) dx = \int n_0(x) dx$  .

**Maximum principle:**  $n(x, t) \geq 0$  and  $0 \leq c(x, t) \leq \|c_0\|_{L^\infty}$  .

**Divergence form:** Let  $v = \frac{n}{\phi(c)}$ , where  $\phi$  is defined by

$$\phi'(c) = \frac{1}{\kappa} \phi(c) \chi(c) \quad c > 0, \quad \phi(0) = 1.$$

Then,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \frac{n}{\phi(c)} \right) = \kappa \frac{1}{\phi(c)} \nabla \cdot \left[ \phi(c) \nabla \left( \frac{n}{\phi(c)} \right) \right] + \frac{1}{\kappa} \left( \frac{n}{\phi(c)} \right)^2 \phi(c) \chi(c) c^m.$$

**A fundamental differential inequality** ( $\Omega = \mathbb{R}^d$ ) :

For all  $p \geq \max(1, \frac{d}{2} - 1)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dt} \int \left( \frac{n}{\phi(c)} \right)^p \phi(c) \\ & \leq (p - 1) \|\nabla \left( \frac{n}{\phi(c)} \right)^{p/2}\|_{L^2}^2 \left[ \frac{1}{\kappa} \tilde{C}(d) K_1 \|\phi^{2/d}(c) \left( \frac{n}{\phi(c)} \right)\|_{L^{\frac{d}{2}}} - \frac{4\kappa}{p} \right] , \end{aligned}$$

analogous to the inequality for the parabolic-elliptic system:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int n^p \leq (p - 1) \|\nabla n^{p/2}\|_{L^2}^2 \left[ \chi \tilde{C}(d) \|n\|_{L^{\frac{d}{2}}} - \frac{4\kappa}{p} \right] .$$



We do as before, and we obtain the following theorem (I recall the system first):

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} n = \kappa \Delta n - \nabla \cdot [n \chi(c) \nabla c], & t > 0, x \in \mathbb{R}^d, \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial t} c = -c^m n, & t > 0, x \in \mathbb{R}^d, \\ n(0, x) = n_0(x), \quad c(0, x) = c_0(x), & x \in \mathbb{R}^d. \end{array} \right.$$

où  $m > 0$ .

**Theorem (Existence for the angiogenesis system).** *If  $d \geq 2$ ,  $m \geq 1$ ,  $n_0 \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ ,  $c_0 \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d)$ ,  $n_0 \geq 0$ ,  $c_0 \geq 0$  and  $\|n_0\|_{L^{\frac{d}{2}}(\mathbb{R}^d)} \leq K_0 \left( \kappa, \chi, d, \|c_0\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d)} \right)$ , then the angiogenesis system has a global weak solution  $(n, c)$  such that  $n \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^+, L^1 \cap L^{\frac{d}{2}}(\mathbb{R}^d))$ ,  $c \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^d)$  and for all  $p^* \geq \max\{1; \frac{d}{2} - 1\}$ ,*

$$\|n(t)\|_{L^p(\mathbb{R}^d)} \leq C(t, K_0, p^*, \|n_0\|_{L^p(\mathbb{R}^d)}),$$

$$\forall \max\{1; \frac{d}{2} - 1\} \leq p \leq p^*.$$