Computing turbulent processes in physics, chemistry & biology

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I. Spontaneous pattern formation in reaction-diffusion media



Reaction-diffusion media (mass action kinetics)

$$\partial_t \vec{c}(\vec{r}) = \vec{R}(\vec{c}(\vec{r})) + D\nabla^2 \vec{c}(\vec{r})$$

$$A_1 + X_1 \stackrel{k_1}{\underset{k_{-1}}{\rightleftharpoons}} 2X_1 \qquad X_1 + X_2 \stackrel{k_2}{\underset{k_{-2}}{\rightleftharpoons}} 2X_2 \qquad A_5 + X_2 \stackrel{k_3}{\underset{k_{-3}}{\rightleftharpoons}} A_2$$
$$X_1 + X_3 \stackrel{k_4}{\underset{k_{-4}}{\rightleftharpoons}} A_3 \qquad A_4 + X_3 \stackrel{k_5}{\underset{k_{-5}}{\rightleftharpoons}} 2X_3 .$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\mathrm{d}c_1}{\mathrm{d}t} &= k_1 c_{A_1} c_1 - k_{-1} c_1^2 - k_2 c_1 c_2 + k_{-2} c_2^2 - k_4 c_1 c_3 + k_{-4} \\ \frac{\mathrm{d}c_2}{\mathrm{d}t} &= k_2 c_1 c_2 - k_{-2} c_2^2 - k_3 c_{A_5} c_2 + k_{-3} c_{A_2} \\ \frac{\mathrm{d}c_3}{\mathrm{d}t} &= -k_4 c_1 c_3 + k_{-4} c_{A_3} + k_5 c_{A_4} c_3 - k_{-5} c_3^2 . \end{aligned}$$

 A_1, \ldots, A_5 pool chemical of fixed concentration; model constructed phenomenologically

August 26th 2010

II. Non-equilibrium dynamics: (Bio-)Chemical oscillations

Example: Peroxidase-oxidase reaction

Destruction of bacteria by white blood cells (metabolic process):

$$2\mathsf{NADH} + \mathsf{O}_2 + 2\mathsf{H}^+ \xrightarrow{\operatorname{Per}} 2\mathsf{NAD}^+ + 2\mathsf{H}_2\mathsf{O}$$

NADH: nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide

reaction catalyzed by enzyme (horseradish peroxidase), its concentration acts as the control parameter

oscillations and more complex dynamics

Simple model of peroxidase-oxidase reaction (Steinmetz et al. '91)

$$\dot{A} = k_7 - k_1 ABX - k_3 ABY - k_9 A$$

$$\dot{B} = k_8 - k_1 ABX - k_3 ABY$$

$$\dot{X} = k_6 + k_1 ABX + 2k_3 ABY - 2k_2 X^2 - k_4 X$$

$$\dot{Y} = 2k_2 X^2 - k_3 ABY - k_5 Y$$





Chemical chaos in Belousov-Zhabotinsky reaction (Roux et al. '81)



III. Nonlinear wave patterns: Spiral waves

Spiral waves in 2d media (Scott '91)



Examples



CO oxidation



heart tissue



calcium waves in frog eggs



glycolysis in yeast

Topological definition of spirals



time

Periodic signal in 2d phase space (e.g., excitable or oscillatory media): phase description ϕ with $\frac{d\phi}{dt} = \omega_0$

charge)

Phase locking: $|\phi_1(t) - \phi_2(t)| < const$

$$I_t = \frac{1}{2\pi} \oint \nabla \phi(\mathbf{r}, t) \cdot d\mathbf{l}$$
 (index, topological

Topological theorem for spirals

$$\Sigma_A I_t = 0$$

Implications:

- In the bulk, single-armed spirals are created and annihilated pairwise with opposite index I
- Single spirals can be created and annihilated at the boundaries

For oscillatory media (Hagan '82):

$$I_t = \pm 1$$

IV. Spirals in complex-oscillatory media

"Broken" spirals (Yoneyama et al. '95)



Period-2 media: Synchronization defect line (Goryachev et al. '00)



Rössler model (Davidsen et al. '04)

$$\partial_t \mathbf{c}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \mathbf{R}[\mathbf{c}(\mathbf{r}, t)] + D\nabla^2 \mathbf{c}(\mathbf{r}, t),$$

 $R_x = -c_y - c_z, R_y = c_x + 0.2c_y, R_z = c_x c_z - C c_z + 0.2$ with $C \in [2.0, 6.0]$



 $v \propto (C-C_2)^\gamma$ with $C_2 pprox 3.03$, $\gamma pprox 1.5$

Multi-spiral pattern: Novel vortex liquid



(a): P1 regime (C = 2.5, L = 1024). (b,c): P2 regime (C = 3.5, L = 512). (d): Trajectories of spiral cores leading to the configuration shown in (b).

V. Defect-mediated turbulence



spiral break-up induced by change in control parameter

August 26th 2010

Examples



taken from Rehberg et al. '89, Morris et al. '93, Ouyang et al. '00, Daniels et al. '02

$$\partial_t A = A + (1 + i\alpha) \nabla^2 A - (1 + i\beta) |A|^2 A$$
 (Complex Ginzburg Landau)

August 26th 2010

Definition

defects are created and annihilated to give a statistically stationary number of defects pairs in the system (caused by far-field or core instabilities, for example (Bär *et al.* '04))



experimental results for CO oxidation on Pt (110) (Beta et al. '06)

Reduced description: Markov model (Gil et al. '90)

- Assumptions: Solution Defect pairs are statistically independent entities
 - rightarrow Creation rate: c(n) = c = const
 - $rac{1}{2}$ Annihilation rate: $a(n) = an^2$

Predictions:

$$\stackrel{dp(n,t)}{=} = c(n-1)p(n-1,t) + a(n+1)p(n+1,t) - [a(n) + c(n)]p(n,t)$$

$$\stackrel{(r)}{=} p(n) = [c(n-1)/a(n)]p(n-1)$$

$$\stackrel{(r)}{=} p(n) \propto (c/a)^n / (n!)^2$$

modifications apply if boundary effects, strong correlations and/or induced nucleation have to be taken into account



Loops of defect trajectories



Cardiac arrhythmia: Ventricular fibrillation (Fenton et al. '02)



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In-vivo episode of human VF (ten Tusscher et al. '09)







В

Geometry of the heart



thin atria (2d) vs thick ventricles (3d)

VI. Scroll waves & filaments



Scroll wave break-up (Luengviriya et al. '08)



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Negative line tension instability (Winfree '94; Alonso et al. '03)



Scroll wave dynamics in cardiac tissue (ten Tusscher et al. '09)



in cardiac tissue models of realistic heart geometries, nature of filament turbulence depends on size and action potential duration

VII. Filament-induced surface spiral turbulence (Davidsen '08)



Is it possible to distinguish between the negative line tension instability and 2D spiral breakup mechanisms if observations are constrained to the turbulent dynamics of spiral waves on the surface?

August 26th 2010

Filament turbulence: Complex Ginzburg-Landau (Reid et al. '10)

$$\partial_t A = A + (1+ib)\nabla^2 A - (1+ic)|A|^2 A$$

NLT regime: b = 5, c = 0

AT regime: b = 1, c = -1.5





CGLE: Amplitude turbulence regime



 $c(n) = \beta_1 \qquad \qquad a(n) = \alpha_3 n^2$

CGLE: Negative line tension regime



 $c(n) = \beta_1 + \beta_2 n \qquad \qquad a(n) = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 n$

Creation of filaments



Annihilation of filaments



VIII. Summary & Outlook

- pattern formation is an exciting and highly-interdisciplinary field
- chemical systems are prime examples for chaotic and turbulent dynamics
- topological defects (spirals, synchronization defect lines, filaments) allow a reduced description of complex spatiotemporal dynamics and their behavior characterizes the underlying instabilities/bifurcations
- surface dynamics can tell it all
- important applications include cardiac arrhythmia and ventricular fibrillation

Thanks!

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J. Chem. Phys. 133, 044909; Phys. Rev. Lett. 101, 208302; Phys. Rev. Lett. 93, 018305; Phys. Rev. Lett. 91, 058303

"Stationary" chemical patterns: CIMA reaction (Ouyang et al. '91)



Turing patterns: Activator-inhibitor scheme (Gierer & Meinhardt '72) Autocatalysis Diffusion Degradation Activator +Inhibitor

local self-enhancement & long-range inhibition ($D_a \ll D_h$)

Gierer-Meinhardt model

$$\frac{\partial a}{\partial t} = D_a \nabla^2 a + \rho_a \frac{a^2}{(1 + \kappa_a a^2)h} - \mu_a a + \sigma_a$$
$$\frac{\partial h}{\partial t} = D_h \nabla^2 h + \rho_h a^2 - \mu_h h + \sigma_h$$

Turing patterns: $D_a \ll D_h$ and $\mu_h > \mu_a$

Turing patterns in the Gierer-Meinhardt model





Quasiperiodicity: Torus attractor (St-Yves et al. '10)





Turbulent synchronization defect lines



Diffusive motion of spiral cores



(a): Mean squared displacement $\langle |\Delta \mathbf{r}(t)|^2 \rangle = \langle |\mathbf{r}_{\mathbf{v}}(t) - \mathbf{r}_{\mathbf{v}}(0)|^2 \rangle$ for different values of C in the turbulent regime. Here, $\mathbf{r}_{\mathbf{v}}(t)$ is the position of the core at time t. (b): The core diffusion coefficient D_v — defined by $\langle |\Delta \mathbf{r}_{\mathbf{v}}(t)|^2 \rangle = 4D_v t$ — as a function of C.

Chaotic media

Definition. A chaotic oscillator is a chaotic dynamical system with the property that a well-defined phase variable (monotonically growing quantity on the attractor) exists. Two non-identical chaotic oscillators are said to be phase synchronized if their phases are locked but their "amplitudes" are not (\neq complete synchronization).





$$\tan\phi(\mathbf{r},t) = \frac{x_2(\mathbf{r},t)}{x_1(\mathbf{r},t)}$$

Chemical model: Willamowski-Rössler (WR)

$$\partial_t \mathbf{c}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \mathbf{R}[\mathbf{c}(\mathbf{r}, t)] + D\nabla^2 \mathbf{c}(\mathbf{r}, t),$$

$$R_1 = 31.2c_1 - 0.2c_1^2 - 1.45c_1c_2 + \kappa_{-2}c_2^2 - 1.02c_1c_3 + 0.01,$$

$$R_2 = 1.45c_1c_2 - \kappa_{-2}c_2^2 - 10.8c_2 + 0.12 \text{ and } R_3 = -1.02c_1c_3 + 0.01 + 16.5c_3 - 0.5c_3^2.$$



Medium with local deterministic chaos (Davidsen et al. '03)



Pair correlation function



Normalized pair correlation function $h(|\Delta \mathbf{r}|/r_0)$ with $r_0 = \sqrt{L^2/\langle n \rangle}$ for WR and CGLE.

$$h(|\mathbf{\Delta r}|) = \frac{\langle n_+(\mathbf{r},t)n_-(\mathbf{r}+\mathbf{\Delta r},t) \rangle_{\mathbf{r},t}}{\langle n \rangle^2} - 1$$

Power spectrum of WR



Power spectrum $S_L(f) = \lim_{T\to\infty} 1/2T \mid \int_{-T}^{T} dt \ n(t) \exp^{-i2\pi ft} \mid^2$. The thick lines are to guide the eye. $S_L(f) \propto 1/f^{1.43}$ for the thick solid line, and $\gamma = 1.60$ for the thick dotted line.

Power spectrum of CGLE



Power spectrum of n(t) for different parameters in the CGLE and L = 128. The thick line is to guide the eye and decays with $\gamma = 1.9$. Note that $\overline{T} = 12.7, 8.40, 5.43$ from highest to lowest α .

Negative line tension instability (Winfree '94; Alonso et al. '03)



Filament turbulence: Excitable Barkley model in 3D

$$\partial_t u = D_u \nabla^2 u + \frac{1}{\epsilon} u(1-u)(u - \frac{v+b}{a}),$$

$$\partial_t v = D_v \nabla^2 v + u - v,$$

$$\epsilon = 0.02, a = 1.1, b = 0.21, D_u = 1, D_v = 0$$

center of rotation: $u = 0.5, v = a/2 - b$



Creation of filaments



Annihilation of filaments



Creation rates



Annihilation rates



Markov model for filament turbulence

$$c(n) = \beta_1 + \beta_2 n, \qquad a(n) = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 n.$$

$$p(n) = p(n_0) \frac{z^{n-n_0} \Gamma(n+z_1) \Gamma(n_0+z_2+1)}{\Gamma(n+z_2+1) \Gamma(n_0+z_1)}$$

$$z_1 = \beta_1/\beta_2$$
, $z_2 = \alpha_1/\alpha_2$, $z = \beta_2/\alpha_2$.

Distribution of surface defects



Average surface density & average volume



stronger interactions for small system sizes

CGLE: Average densities



turbulence is extensive for $L \to \infty$

Action potential via patch clamp



- threshold of excitation
- amplification of stimulus
- refractory period
- action potential travels down the axon as a voltage spike
- excitatory signals
- inhibitory signals
- "negative" resting state maintained by ion pumps

Ion flow in action potential



- I. Na⁺ channels open, inflow of sodium ions, membrane potential becomes positive
- II. K⁺ channels open, outflow of potassium ions
- III. Na⁺ channels close, membrane potential decays
- IV. K^+ channels close
- V. ion pumps restore rest state by transporting sodium out of the cell and potassium into the cell

Excitation dynamics



threshold of excitation: rest state is stable, sufficiently strong perturbation is required

Simple model: activator-inhibitor kinetics

$$\frac{du}{dt} = -u^3 + u - v = R_u(u, v)$$
$$\frac{dv}{dt} = \epsilon(u - \gamma v + \beta) = R_v(u, v)$$

rightarrow u: concentration of fast activator ("sodium")

- v: concentration of slow inhibitor or controller ("potassium")
- \Im slow means $\epsilon \ll 1$
- $rightarrow \gamma$, β are constants determined by "chemical kinetics"
- generic vs. specific behavior

Nullclines ($\dot{u} = 0$; $\dot{v} = 0$) for FitzHugh Nagumo model



$$\frac{du}{dt} = -u^3 + u - v = R_u(u, v)$$
$$\frac{dv}{dt} = \epsilon(u - \gamma v + \beta) = R_v(u, v)$$

Stable equilibrium solutions of the FitzHugh Nagumo model



$$\frac{du}{dt} = -u^3 + u - v = R_u(u, v)$$
$$\frac{dv}{dt} = \epsilon(u - \gamma v + \beta) = R_v(u, v)$$

Instabilities



pitchfork bifurcation

Hopf bifurcation