

# Optimal control problem for a repulsive chemotaxis system

María Ángeles Rodríguez-Bellido  
EDAN and IMUS, Universidad de Sevilla

Collaborators:

F. Guillén-González, Universidad de Sevilla, Spain,  
E. Mallea Zepeda, Universidad Tarapacá, Chile.

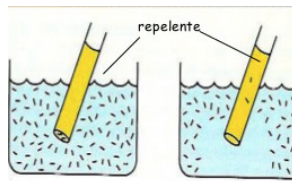
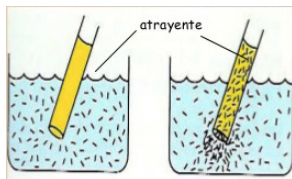
8th European Congress of Mathematics  
June, 21-25, 2021



- 1 Chemotaxis PDE models
  - Chemorepulsion - Production
- 2 Optimal control problem
  - Well-posedness of State problem.
  - Existence of global minimum
  - Lagrange multipliers
- 3 Conclusions and Work in progress
  - Conclusions
  - Work in progress

# Chemotaxis phenomenon

Chemotaxis is the biological process of the movement of living organisms in response to a chemical stimulus which can be given towards a higher (attractive) or lower (repulsive) concentration of a chemical substance. At the same time, the presence of living organisms can produce or consume chemical substance.



## Chemotaxis system [Keller-Segel, 1970-1971]

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u - \Delta u \pm \nabla \cdot (u \nabla v) = 0 & \text{in } \Omega, t > 0, \\ \partial_t v - \Delta v + v = g(u) & \text{in } \Omega, t > 0, \\ \frac{\partial v}{\partial n} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial n} = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega, t > 0, \\ v(x, 0) = v_0(x) \geq 0, u(x, 0) = u_0(x) \geq 0 & \text{in } \Omega, \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

- $u$  denotes the cell density,
- $v$  is the chemical concentration,
- The term  $\pm u \nabla v$  models the transport of cells by
  - **Chemo-attraction** (+)
  - **Chemo-repulsion** (-)
- The reaction term  $g(u) \geq 0$  models **Production**



## Some (general) properties

- **Positivity:**  $u \geq 0$  and  $v \geq 0$ .
- **$u$  conservation:** Integrating (1)<sub>1</sub> in  $\Omega$ ,

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \int_{\Omega} u \right) = 0, \quad \text{i.e.} \quad \int_{\Omega} u(t) = \int_{\Omega} u_0, \quad \forall t > 0.$$



## Theorem (Local classical solution and extensibility criteria)

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \mathbf{u} - \Delta \mathbf{u} \pm \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{u} \nabla \mathbf{v}) = f(t, x, \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) \\ \partial_t \mathbf{v} - \Delta \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{v} = g(t, x, \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}), \end{cases}$$

Hypotheses:  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$

- **Regularity:**  $f, g \in C^1([0, +\infty) \times \bar{\Omega} \times \mathbb{R}_+^2)$
- **Positivity:**  $f(t, x, 0, \mathbf{v}) \geq 0, g(t, x, \mathbf{u}, 0) \geq 0$  (if  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \geq 0$ )
- **ICs:**  $(u_0, v_0) \in C^0(\bar{\Omega}) \times W^{1,q}(\Omega)$  for some  $q > N$ .

Then

- **Local in time:**  $\exists T_{max} \in (0, +\infty], \exists! \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \geq 0$  a classical solution  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in C^{1,2}((0, T_{max}) \times \bar{\Omega})$ ,
- **Extensibility:** If  $T_{max} < \infty$ , then

$$\limsup_{t \rightarrow T_{max}} \left( \|\mathbf{u}(t, \cdot)\|_{L^\infty} + \|\mathbf{v}(t, \cdot)\|_{W^{1,q}} \right) \rightarrow +\infty$$

## Chemorepulsion with potential production

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u - \Delta u - \nabla \cdot (u \nabla v) = 0, \\ \partial_t v - \Delta v + v = u^p, \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

- $p = 1$ : linear term
- $1 < p \leq 2$ : superlinear term ( $p = 2$  quadratic).
- $p > 2$  (Open Problem)



Positivity:  $u \geq 0$  and  $v \geq 0$ .

$u$  conservation:  $\int_{\Omega} u(t) = \int_{\Omega} u_0$

Energy equality: Chemotaxis and Production cancel

Using test functions ( $F'(u) = \log(u)$  or  $u^{p-1}, -\frac{1}{p}\Delta v$ ):

$$\frac{d}{dt}\mathcal{E}(u, v) + \mathcal{D}(u, v) = 0,$$

where  $\mathcal{E}(u, v) = \int_{\Omega} F(u) + \frac{1}{2p} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla v|^2$

and  $\mathcal{D}(u, v) = \int_{\Omega} F''(u)|\nabla u|^2 + \frac{1}{p} \int_{\Omega} (|\nabla v|^2 + |\Delta v|^2)$

$F(u) = u \log(u) - u$  (linear),  $F(u) = \frac{1}{p}u^p$  (superlinear)





## Energy regularity

$$(\sqrt{u \log(u)} \text{ or } u^{p/2}, \nabla v) \in L^\infty L^2 \cap L^2 H^1,$$

Global in time estimate for  $(\int_\Omega v)$ :

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \int_\Omega v \right) + \int_\Omega v = \int_\Omega u^p \leq C \Rightarrow \int_\Omega v \leq C$$

## 3D Interpolation regularity

$$u^{p/2} \in L_{t,x}^{10/3} \Rightarrow u^p \in L_{t,x}^{5/3} \Rightarrow u \in L_{t,x}^{5p/3}$$

$$\nabla v \in L_{t,x}^{10/3} \Rightarrow u \nabla v \in L_{t,x}^q \quad q = 10p/(3p+6)$$

$$\nabla u = u^{1-p/2} \nabla(u^{p/2}) \in L_{t,x}^{5p/(3+p)} \quad (\text{ONLY for } p \leq 2)$$



Weak ( $L^p$ ) space:  $W_p := \{w : w^{p/2} \in L^\infty(L^2) \cap L^2(H^1)\}$ .

Strong ( $L^q$ ) space:

$$X_q := \{w \in C([0, T]; W^{2-2/q, q}) \cap L^q(W^{2, q}) : \partial_t w \in L^q(L^q)\}.$$

## Main results

- Global in time weak solution  $(u, v) \in W_p \times X_2$  and convergence to constant states  $(\oint u_0, \oint (u_0)^p)$  as  $t \rightarrow +\infty$
- Unique global in time strong solution (1D and 2D case).

$p = 1$ : [Cieslak et al, 2008]

$p = 2$ : [Guillén-González, RB, Rueda-Gomez. CAMWA 2020]

$1 < p < 2$ : [Guillén-González, RB, Rueda-Gomez. Submitted]

Open problem: In 3D, Blow-up or Global regularity ?



# Optimal control problem

$$\min J(u, v, f) = \frac{\gamma_u}{r} \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} |u - u_d|^r + \frac{\gamma_v}{2} \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} |v - v_d|^2 + \frac{\gamma_f}{q} \int_0^T \int_{\Omega_c} |f|^q$$

$$\text{with } r = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{in 2D,} \\ 20/7 & \text{in 3D,} \end{cases} \quad \text{and } q = \begin{cases} 2 + \varepsilon & \text{in 2D,} \\ 4 & \text{in 3D,} \end{cases}$$

subject to (control)  $f \in \mathcal{F}$  a closed convex of  $L^q((0, T) \times \Omega_c)$  and  
 (state)  $(u, v)$  the strong solution of

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u - \Delta u - \nabla \cdot (u \nabla v) = 0 \\ \partial_t v - \Delta v = u^p + f v 1_{\Omega_c} \end{cases}$$



## Results:

- 1 Existence of global optimal solution
- 2 First order optimality system.

## References:

$p = 1$  and 2D: [Guillén-González, Mallea-Zepeda, RB. COCV 20]

$p = 1$  and 3D: [Guillén-González, Mallea-Zepeda, RB. SICON 20]



## 2D: Well-posedness of State problem

$\forall f \in L^{2+\varepsilon}(Q_c)$ ,  $\exists!$   $(u, v) \in X_2 \times X_{2+\varepsilon}$  strong solution. Moreover,

$$\|(u, v)\|_{X_2 \times X_{2+\varepsilon}} \leq C(\|f\|_{L^{2+\varepsilon}(Q_c)})$$

Keys of the proof:

- 1 Leray-Schauder Theorem:  $R : (\bar{u}, \bar{v}) \rightarrow (u, v)$  solving
  - 1  $v : \quad \partial_t v - \Delta v = \bar{u}_+ + f \bar{v}_+ 1_{\Omega_c}$ ,
  - 2  $u : \quad \partial_t u - \Delta u = \nabla \cdot (\bar{u}_+ \nabla v)$

- 2 Energy estimates of (possible) fixed-points

$$(u, v) = \lambda R(u, v), \quad \lambda \in [0, 1]$$

- 3 Bootstrapping argument, via  $L^p$  regularity of the Heat-Neumann problem



### 3D: Existence of State problem. Regularity criterium (uniqueness)

$\forall f \in L^4(Q_c), \exists (u, v) \in W_2 \times X_2$  a weak solution.

If  $u \in L^{20/7}(Q)$  then  $(u, v) \in X_2 \times X_4$  is the unique strong solution

$$\|(u, v)\|_{X_2 \times X_4} \leq C(\|f\|_{L^4(Q_c)})$$

- ① Regularization.  $\forall \varepsilon > 0$ , let  $(u^\varepsilon, z^\varepsilon)$  the solution of

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u - \Delta u - \nabla \cdot (u \nabla v^\varepsilon(z)) = 0 \\ \partial_t z - \Delta z = u + f v^\varepsilon(z)_+ 1_{\Omega_c} \end{cases}$$

with  $v^\varepsilon(z)$  the solution of:  $v - \varepsilon \Delta v = z$ , + BCs

- ② Existence  $(u^\varepsilon, z^\varepsilon)$  via Leray-Schauder Theorem.  
 ③  $\varepsilon$ -independent energy estimates  
 ④ Passing to the limit as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  ( $z^\varepsilon - v(z^\varepsilon) \rightarrow 0$ ), one has existence of weak solution.  
 ⑤ Regularity criterium  $u \in L^{20/7}(Q)$ . Bootstrapping argument.



# Existence of Global minimum

Admissible set

$$\mathcal{U}_{ad} = \{(u, v, f) \in X_2 \times X_q \times \mathcal{F} : (u, v, f) \text{ strong solution}\}$$

Hypothesis:

- In 3D,  $\mathcal{U}_{ad}$  is not empty ( $u \in L^{20/7}(Q)$ ).  
OK if the control acts on the whole domain ( $\Omega_c = \Omega$ ) and  $v_0 \geq v_{0,min} > 0$  in  $\Omega$ .
- $\gamma_u > 0$  and, either  $\gamma_f > 0$  or  $\gamma_f = 0$  and  $\mathcal{F}$  bounded in  $L^q(Q_c)$ ,

Then, there exists global optimal solution (minimizing sequences).



## Step 1: Linearized problem

Any  $(\hat{u}, \hat{v}, \hat{f}) \in X_2 \times X_q \times L^q(Q_c)$  is a **“regular point”**,  
 i.e. for any data  $(g_1, g_2) \in L^2 \times L^q$ , the linearized problem around  
 $(\hat{u}, \hat{v}, \hat{f})$ :

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t U - \Delta U - \nabla \cdot (U \nabla \hat{v} + \hat{u} \nabla V) = g_1 \\ \partial_t V - \Delta V - U - \hat{f} V 1_{\Omega_c} - F \hat{v} 1_{\Omega_c} = g_2, \\ U(0) = 0 = V(0), \quad +BCs \end{cases}$$

has a solution  $(U, V, F) \in X_2 \times X_q \times \mathcal{C}(\mathcal{F})$   
 (with  $\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{F}) = \{\theta(f - \hat{f}) : f \in \mathcal{F}, \theta \geq 0\}$ ).





## Step 2: Lagrange Multipliers

Existence of Lagrange multipliers  $(\hat{\lambda}, \hat{\eta}) \in L^2(Q) \times L^{q'}(Q)$ , which is a (very-weak) solution of the variational problem:

$$\iint \hat{\lambda}(\partial_t U - \Delta U - \nabla \cdot (U \nabla \hat{v})) - \iint \hat{\eta} U = \iint \hat{J}_u U,$$

$$\iint \hat{\lambda}(-\nabla \cdot (\hat{u} \nabla V)) + \iint \hat{\eta}(\partial_t V - \Delta V - \hat{f} V 1_{\Omega_c}) = \iint \hat{J}_v V,$$

$$\iint_{\Omega_c} \hat{\eta}(-\hat{v}(F - \hat{f})) \geq \iint_{\Omega_c} \hat{J}_f(F - \hat{f}),$$

$\forall (U, V, F) \in X_2 \times X_q \times \mathcal{F}$  with  $U(0) = 0 = V(0)$



## Step 3: Regularity of Lagrange multipliers

- Existence of strong solution of the (linear and backward) adjoint problem  $(\lambda, \eta) \in X_2 \times X_{q'}$

$$\begin{cases} -\partial_t \lambda - \Delta \lambda + \nabla \hat{v} \cdot \nabla \lambda - \eta = \hat{J}_u \\ -\partial_t \eta - \Delta \eta - \hat{f} \eta \mathbf{1}_{\Omega_c} - \nabla \cdot (\hat{u} \nabla \lambda) = \hat{J}_v, \\ \lambda(T) = 0 = \eta(T), \quad +BCs \end{cases}$$

- Uniqueness of a very-weak  $(\hat{\lambda}, \hat{\eta})$  and a strong solution  $(\lambda, \eta)$  of the adjoint problem.

THEN, the Lagrange multiplier  $(\hat{\lambda}, \hat{\eta})$  is unique and has strong regularity.



## Optimality system

Coupled forward/backward optimality system:  $(u, v, f, \lambda, \eta)$  s.t.

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \partial_t u - \Delta u - \nabla \cdot (u \nabla v) = 0 \\ \partial_t v - \Delta v - u - f v 1_{\Omega_c} = 0, \\ -\partial_t \lambda - \Delta \lambda + \nabla v \cdot \nabla \lambda - \eta = J_u \\ -\partial_t \eta - \Delta \eta - f \eta 1_{\Omega_c} - \nabla \cdot (u \nabla \lambda) = J_v, \\ u(0) = u_0, v(0) = v_0, \lambda(T) = 0 = \eta(T), \quad +BCs \end{array} \right.$$

$$- \iint_{\Omega_c} (\eta v + J_f) (F - f) \geq 0, \quad \forall F \in \mathcal{F}$$



## Conclusions

- 1 Bilinear control introduces a non-regular term in the chemotaxis PDE problem. In particular, classical solutions (Amann's argument) cannot be used.  
Regularization + compactness  $\Rightarrow \exists$  weak solutions.
- 2 A regularity criterium must be deduced implying strong regularity for 3D domains (and continuous dependence).  
In 1D or 2D domains, any weak solution is the unique strong solution.
- 3 Existence of global optimal solution, via minimizing sequence
- 4 Existence of (very weak) Lagrange Multipliers
- 5 Regularity and uniqueness of Lagrange Multiplier;  
very-weak vs strong uniqueness.



## Work in progress

- ① Chemoattraction + production vs logistic reaction for  $u$ :

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u - \Delta u + \nabla \cdot (u \nabla v) = u(1 - u) \\ \partial_t v - \Delta v = u + f v 1_{\Omega_c} \end{cases}$$

- ② Chemoattraction vs Consumption:

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u - \Delta u + \nabla \cdot (u \nabla v) = 0 \\ \partial_t v - \Delta v = -u v + f v 1_{\Omega_c} \end{cases}$$



## References:

### References



T. Cieslak, P. Laurençot and C. Morales-Rodrigo, *Global existence and convergence to steady states in a chemorepulsion system*. Parabolic and Navier-Stokes equations. Part 1, Banach Center Publ., 81, Part 1, Polish Acad. Sci. Inst. Math., Warsaw, (2008) 105–117.



F. Guillén-González, M.A. Rodríguez-Bellido, D.A. Rueda-Gómez: Study of a chemo-repulsion model with quadratic production. Part I: Analysis of the continuous problem and time-discrete numerical schemes. CAMWA, 80 (2020) 692-713.



F. Guillén-González, M.A. Rodríguez-Bellido, D.A. Rueda-Gómez: A chemo-repulsion model with superlinear production: Analysis of the continuous problem and two approximately positive and energy stable schemes. Submitted.



F. Guillén-González, E. Mallea-Zepeda, M.A. Rodríguez-Bellido: Optimal bilinear control problem related to a chemo-repulsion system in 2D domains. ESAIM-COCV, 26 (2020) 29.



F. Guillén-González, E. Mallea-Zepeda, M.A. Rodríguez-Bellido: A regularity criterion for a 3D chemo-repulsion system and its application to a bilinear optimal control problem. SIAM J. Control and Optimization, 58 (2020), no. 3, 1457-1490.



## Acknowledgments

This research was partially supported by Ministerio de Ciencia e Innovación (Spain) grant PGC2018-098308-BI00, with the participation of FEDER.

Thank you very much for your  
attention!

