

# On a traffic problem: Filippov system formulation for $N$ cars

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PANM 14

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# Outline

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- Follow-the-leader Model of the Traffic Flow
- Non Physical Solutions and Overtaking Model

## 2 Overtaking model as a Filippov System

- Filippov Systems
- Equivalent Formulation of Follow-the-leader Model
- Overtaking Model as a Filippov System for  $N$  Cars

## 3 Numerical Simulations

# Follow-the-leader Model of the Traffic Flow I

- Consider the **microscopic follow-the-leader** model of the traffic flow on the circular road of length  $L$

$$x'_i = y_i, \quad (1a)$$

$$y'_i = \frac{1}{\tau} [V(x_{i+1} - x_i) - y_i], \quad x_{N+1} = x_1 + L, \quad (1b)$$

$i = 1, \dots, N$ , where  $N$  is a number of cars on the road.

- $(x_i, y_i)$  – position and velocity of the  $i$ -th car,
- $\tau$  – reaction time of a driver,
- $V : r \mapsto V(r)$  – **optimal velocity (OV) function**,
  - Choice of  $V$  imposes a driving law.
  - We consider a hyperbolic OV function

$$V(r) = V^{\max} \frac{\tanh(a(r-1)) + \tanh a}{1 + \tanh a}. \quad (2)$$

# Follow-the-leader Model of the Traffic Flow II

- The difference

$$h_i = x_{i+1} - x_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, N$$

is called **headway** of the  $i$ -th car.

- Given an initial condition  $[x^0, y^0] \in \mathbb{R}^N \times \mathbb{R}^N$ , the system (1) defines a flow on  $\mathbb{R}^N \times \mathbb{R}^N$

$$[x^0, y^0] \mapsto [x(t), y(t)] \equiv \Phi(t, [x^0, y^0]), \quad t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

# Follow-the-leader Model of the Traffic Flow III

- Without loss of generality, we may order  $x^0$  as

$$s \leq x_1^0 \leq x_2^0 \leq \dots \leq x_{N-1}^0 \leq x_N^0 \leq L + s,$$

where  $s \in \mathbb{R}$  is an arbitrary phase shift.

- We also assume that all initial velocity components are positive,

$$y^0 = (y_1^0, \dots, y_N^0), \quad y_i^0 > 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, N.$$

# Non Physical Solutions I

- It is well known that solutions of the follow-the-leader model may become **non physical**.
- The model breaks down at the time instant when two cars **collide**.

## Collision

The collision occurs at the time  $t_E$  for which there exists  $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, N\}$  such that,

$$h_k(t_E) = x_{k+1}(t_E) - x_k(t_E) = 0, \quad y_k(t_E) > y_{k+1}(t_E).$$

By continuity argument,  $h_k(t)$  becomes **negative** for  $t_E < t < T$ .

## Remark

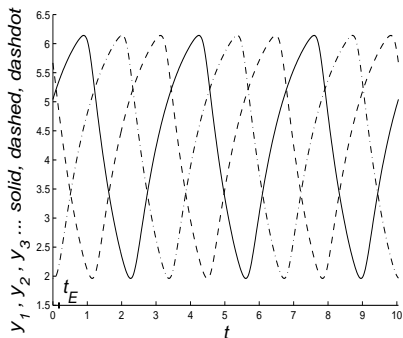
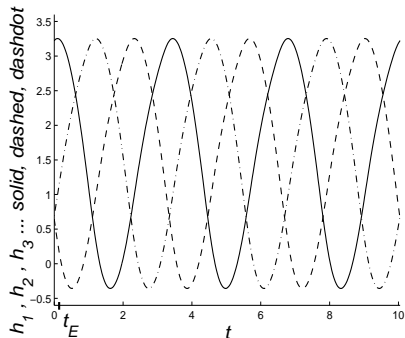
The inequality  $y_k(t_E) > y_{k+1}(t_E)$  holds generically.

# Non Physical Solutions II

## Example (Periodic non physical solution)

Consider  $N = 3$ ,  $L = 4.56281$ ,  $V^{max} = 7$ ,  $a = 2$ ,  $\tau = 1$  and

$$x^0 = [0, 3.2189, 3.8664], \quad y^0 = [5.0324, 5.6519, 1.9646].$$



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One can observe that at  $t = t_E = 0.2074$ ,

$$h_2(t_E) = 0, \quad y_2(t_E) > y_3(t_E).$$

The natural interpretation is that at  $t = t_E$  the car No 2 is about to **overtake** the car No 3.



# Overtaking Model

## Overtaking Model

- 1 Given an initial condition, system (1) is solved numerically.
  - 2 Locate the least time  $t_E$  for which there is  $k \in \{1, \dots, N\}$  such that  $h_k(t_E) = 0$ .
  - 3 Create new initial condition by swapping  $[x_k(t_E), y_k(t_E)]$  and  $[x_{k+1}(t_E), y_{k+1}(t_E)]$ .
  - 4 Recursively repeating steps 1–3 we get **event sequence**  $\{t_E(j)\}$ .
  - 5 Reconstructing car permutations, the trajectory of each car is assembled from pieces defined on intervals  $[t_E(j-1), t_E(j))$ .
- The resulting trajectory is **piecewise smooth**.

L. B., Vladimír Janovský, *On pattern formation in a class of traffic models*, Physica D 237 (2008), 28–49.

# Event Map

- Our main interest is to analyze long-time behavior of Overtaking Model.
- For given event sequence  $\{t_E(j)\}_{j=1}^Z$  we construct a sequence of symbols called **event map**

$$G_E = \{[i_s \rightarrow j_s]\}_{s=1}^Z.$$

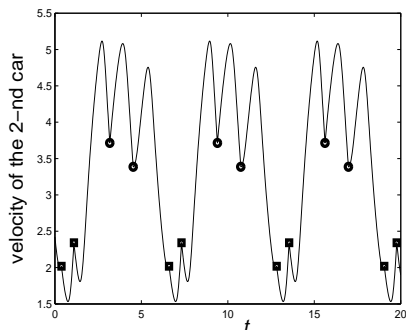
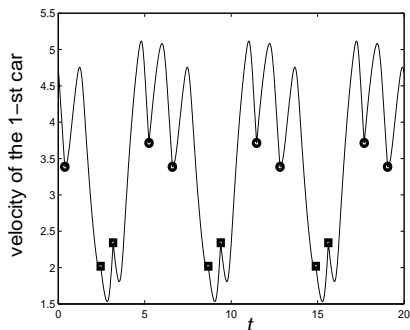
- Car No  $i_k$  **overtakes** the car No  $j_k$  at  $t = t_E(k)$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, Z$ .
- Event map proves to be useful to identify and classify invariant objects of Overtaking Model, in particular **oscillatory patterns**.
- For  $N = 3$ , we managed to identify five types of oscillatory patterns.

# Rotating Wave of Class 1

## Example (Rotating wave of class 1)

Consider  $N = 3$ ,  $L = 3.093725$ ,  $V^{max} = 7$ ,  $a = 2$ ,  $\tau = 1$  and

$$x^0 = [0, 0.7440, 0.9102], \quad y^0 = [4.7421, 2.4211, 3.6912].$$

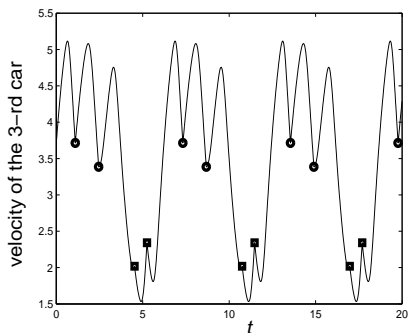


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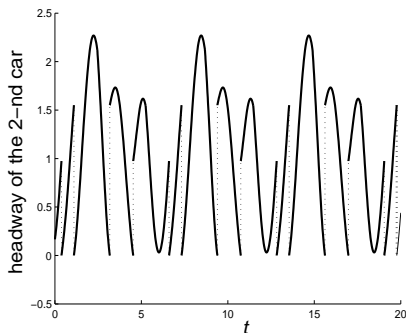
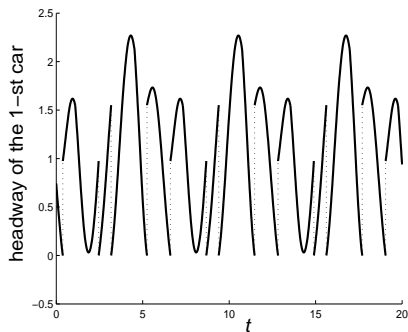


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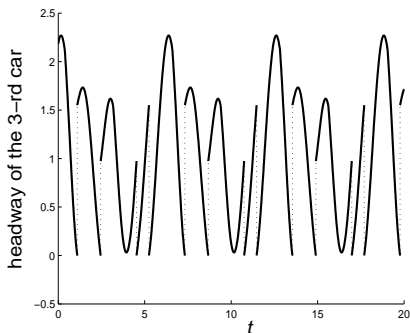


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$$x^0 = [0, 0.7440, 0.9102], \quad y^0 = [4.7421, 2.4211, 3.6912].$$

- The trajectory is periodic with period  $T = 6.2226$ .
- The event map reads

$$G_E = \{[1 \rightarrow 2], [3 \rightarrow 2], [3 \rightarrow 1], [2 \rightarrow 1], [2 \rightarrow 3], [1 \rightarrow 3], \dots\}.$$

- The event map  $G_E$  is periodic with period  $p_E = 6$ .

# Filippov Systems

Given a partition  $\{S_\alpha\}$  of the state space  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , the Filippov system of differential equations is generally defined by

$$x' = f^{(\alpha)}(x), \quad x \in S_\alpha. \quad (3)$$

Hence, system (3) has different right-hand sides in different subsets of the phase space. The right-hand side of (3) may be discontinuous in  $x$ . In our model, the subsets  $S_\alpha$  are determined in an adaptive way by the current car ordering on the circuit.

A. F. Filippov, *Differential Equations with Discontinuous Righthand Sides*, Kluwer, Dordrecht, 1988.

M. Di Bernardo, C. J. Budd, A. R. Champneys, P. Kowalczyk, *Piecewise-smooth Dynamical Systems. Theory and Applications*, Springer, London, 2008.



# Equivalent Formulation of Follow-the-leader Model

- Follow-the-leader model in headway–velocity coordinates

$$h'_i = y_{i+1} - y_i, \quad y_{N+1} = y_1 \quad (4a)$$

$$y'_i = \frac{1}{\tau} [V(h_i) - y_i], \quad (4b)$$

$$i = 1, \dots, N$$

- System (4) is equivalent to (1) up to a shift in  $x$  variable.
- To handle the overtaking without creating new initial conditions at  $t = t_E(j)$  we need to
  - ▶ generalize the notion of headway,
  - ▶ modify the OV function.

# Overtaking Model as a Filippov System I

Gap variable

## Definition (Gap variable)

The quantity  $h_{i,j}$ ,  $i \neq j$ , defined as

$$h_{i,j} = x_j - x_i, \quad i < j, \quad h_{i,j} = L - h_{j,i}, \quad i > j$$

is called **gap** between car No  $i$  and car No  $j$ .

## Proposition

$$h_{i,j} = \sum_{k=i}^{j-1} h_{k,k+1}, \quad i < j, \quad h_{i,j} = L - \sum_{k=j}^{i-1} h_{k,k+1}, \quad i > j \quad (5)$$

## Remark

It is essential that we allow  $h_{i,j} < 0$  and  $h_{i,j} > L$ .

# Overtaking Model as a Filippov System II

## $L$ -periodic discontinuous OV function

- The driving law imposed by the OV function depends on the current headway of each car, it does not depend on how many laps the leader is ahead / behind.
- Therefore, to make the gap variables acceptable as the OV function arguments we need to modify the OV function to be:
  - ▶  $L$ -periodic,
  - ▶ and consequently discontinuous.

### Definition ( $L$ -periodic discontinuous OV function)

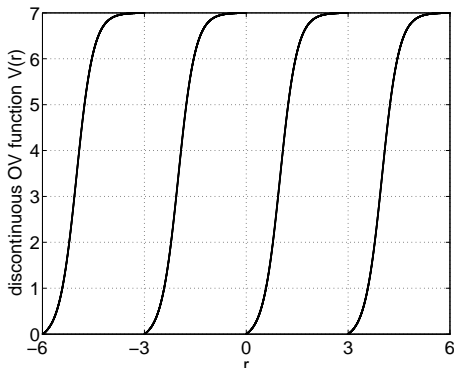
$L$ -periodic discontinuous OV function  $\tilde{V} : r \mapsto \tilde{V}(r)$  is defined via the formula (2) on the interval  $[0, L)$  and extended periodically on the whole  $\mathbb{R}$ .

# Overtaking Model as a Filippov System III

$L$ -periodic discontinuous OV function

## Example

Let  $L = 3$ ,  $a = 2$ ,  $V^{max} = 7$ .



# Overtaking Model as a Filippov System IV

## Differential equations

The Overtaking Model in gap–velocity coordinates reads

$$h'_{i,i+1} = y_{i+1} - y_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, N - 1, \quad (6a)$$

$$y'_i = \frac{1}{\tau} \left[ \tilde{V}(h_{i,v(i)}) - y_i \right], \quad i = 1, \dots, N. \quad (6b)$$

Index  $v(i)$  is a number of the car which is the current **leader** of the  $i$ -th car. Note that  $h_{i,v(i)}$  is computed by relation (5).

# Overtaking Model as a Filippov System V

## Detection of overtaking

- Overtaking occur at the time  $t_E$  if there exist  $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, N\}$ ,  $i \neq j$ , such that  $h_{i,j}(t_E) = kL$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .
  - ▶ If  $h'_{i,j}(t_E) < 0$  then the car No  $i$  **overtakes** the car No  $j$ .
  - ▶ If  $h'_{i,j}(t_E) > 0$  then the car No  $i$  **is overtaken** by the car No  $j$ .
- Since any car can overtake only its leader, it is sufficient to look for roots of equations

$$f_i(t) = h_{i,v(i)}(t) - \left\lfloor \frac{h_{i,v(i)}(t_E(j))}{L} \right\rfloor L = 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, N,$$

where

$$\lfloor x \rfloor = \max_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \{n < x\},$$

$t_E(j)$  stands for the last instant at which the overtaking occurred.

# Overtaking Model as a Filippov System VI

Update of  $v(i)$

- Let the cars are running ordered

$$\dots, p, i, j, q, \dots$$

Then

$$v(p) = i, \quad v(i) = j, \quad v(j) = q.$$

- Let  $[i \rightarrow j]$  at the time  $t_E$ .
- For  $t > t_E$ , the running order is

$$\dots, p, j, i, q, \dots$$

- Therefore we need to update  $v(p)$ ,  $v(i)$  and  $v(j)$  as follows

$$v^{new}(p) = j = v(i), \quad v^{new}(i) = q = v(j), \quad v^{new}(j) = i = v(p)$$

# Simulation Procedure I

## Initialization

- 1 Set initial condition

$$h_{i,i+1}(t_0) = h_{i,i+1}^0 \in \mathbb{R}, \quad i = 1, \dots, N-1,$$

$$y_i(t_0) = y_i^0 > 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, N.$$

Set  $t_E(0) = t_0, j = 0$ .

- 2 Set  $x_1 = 0$  and

$$x_i = \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} h_{k,k+1}(t_0), \quad i = 2, \dots, N.$$

- 3 Compute initial leaders via formula

$$v(i) = \arg \min_{j \neq i \text{ mod } L} (x_j - x_i, L).$$



# Simulation Procedure II

## Simulation

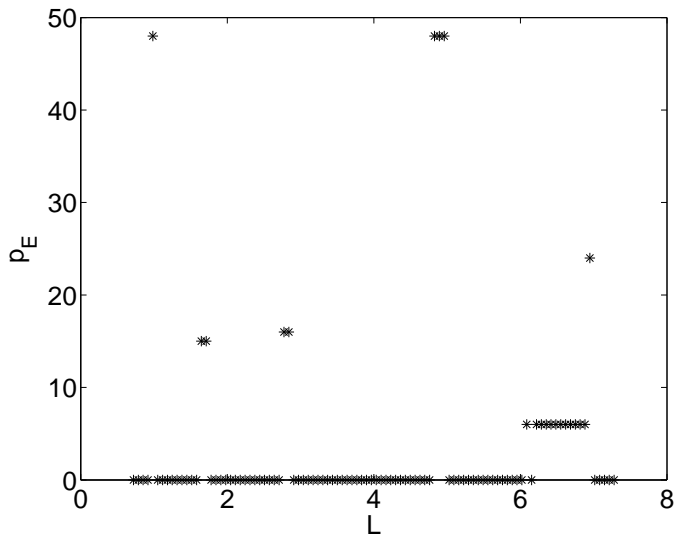
- 1 Integrate system (6) and monitor test functions

$$f_i(t) = h_{i,v(i)}(t) - \left\lfloor \frac{h_{i,v(i)}(t_E(j))}{L} \right\rfloor L, \quad i = 1, \dots, N.$$

- 2 Locate least  $t_E$  for which there is  $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, N\}$  such that  $f_k(t_E) = 0$ .
- 3  $j = j + 1$ ,  $t_E(j) = t_E$ ,  $G_E(j) = [k \rightarrow v(k)]$ , update  $v(i)$ .
- 4 Repeat steps 1-3.

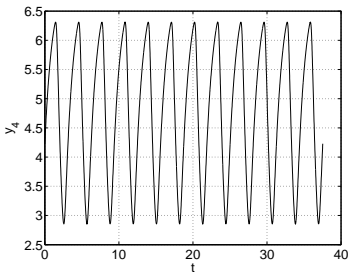
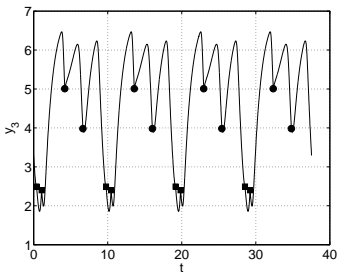
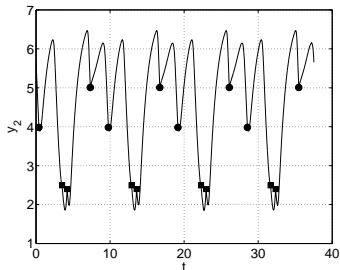
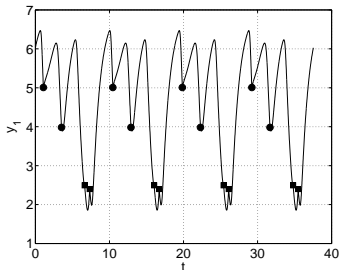
# "Bifurcation Diagram"

$N = 4$ ,  $V^{max} = 7$ ,  $a = 2$ ,  $\tau = 1$ ,  $L \in [0.72, 7.28]$



$L = 6.4186$ ,  $T = 9.3842$ ,  $\rho_E = 6$

$N = 4$ ,  $V^{max} = 7$ ,  $a = 2$ ,  $\tau = 1$



$$L = 6.4186, T = 9.3842, p_E = 6$$

$$N = 4, v^{max} = 7, a = 2, \tau = 1$$

- Event map:

$$G_E = \{[2 \rightarrow 3], [1 \rightarrow 3], [1 \rightarrow 2], [3 \rightarrow 2], [3 \rightarrow 1], [2 \rightarrow 1], \dots\}$$

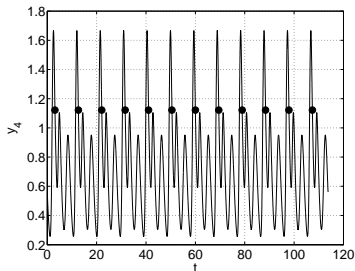
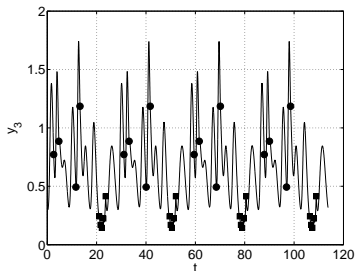
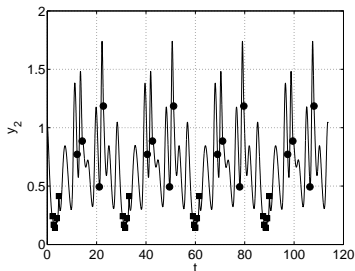
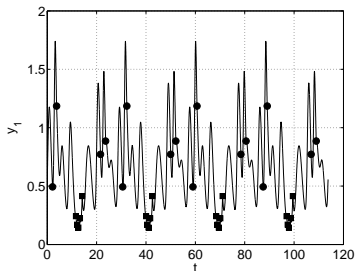
- Car No 4 neither overtakes nor is being overtaken.
- $G_E$  is identical (up to a shift) to the Event Map corresponding to rotating wave of class 1 for  $N = 3$ .
- The pattern satisfies

$$y_i(t + T) = y_i(t), \quad i = 1, 2, 3, 4,$$

$$h_{i,j}(t + T) = h_{i,j}(t), \quad i, j = 1, 2, 3, 4, i \neq j,$$

$L = 1.6477, T = 28.4403, \rho_E = 15$

$N = 4, V^{max} = 7, a = 2, \tau = 1$



$$L = 1.6477, T = 28.4403, p_E = 15$$

$$N = 4, V^{\max} = 7, a = 2, \tau = 1$$

- Event map:

$$G_E = \{[1 \rightarrow 2], [3 \rightarrow 2], [4 \rightarrow 2], [1 \rightarrow 2], [3 \rightarrow 2], \\ [3 \rightarrow 1], [2 \rightarrow 1], [4 \rightarrow 1], [3 \rightarrow 1], [2 \rightarrow 1], \\ [2 \rightarrow 3], [1 \rightarrow 3], [4 \rightarrow 3], [2 \rightarrow 3], [1 \rightarrow 3], \dots\}$$

- Car No 4 is never overtaken.
- The pattern satisfies

$$y_i(t + T) = y_i(t), \quad i = 1, 2, 3, 4,$$

$$h_{i,j}(t + T) = h_{i,j}(t), \quad i, j = 1, 2, 3, i \neq j,$$

$$h_{4,j}(t + T) = h_{4,j}(t) - L, \quad j = 1, 2, 3,$$

$$h_{i,4}(t + T) = h_{i,4}(t) + L, \quad i = 1, 2, 3.$$

# Conclusion and Outlook

- Formulation of the Overtaking Model as a Filippov system was proposed.
- Preliminary simulation results:
  - ▶ several oscillatory patterns identified,
  - ▶ construction of the “bifurcation diagram”.
- The main advantage of the Filippov system formulation is the possibility of using standard software (AUTO97, MATCONT, etc.) to continue these patterns with respect to a parameter.