

Control of 3D micro-swimmers

Benasque 2015

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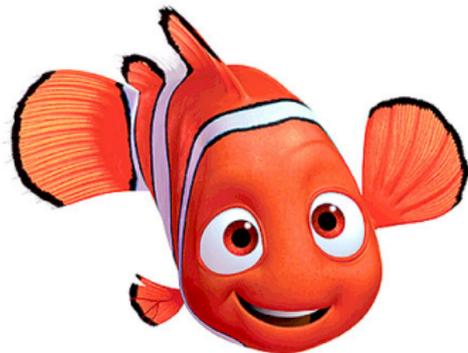
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Motivations

Swimming is seen as a control problem.

Given two points in space, can the swimmer go from one point to the other?

The motion of the swimmer is due to **fluid-structure interactions**.



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The fluid

Reynolds number: $Re = \frac{\rho UL}{\mu}$



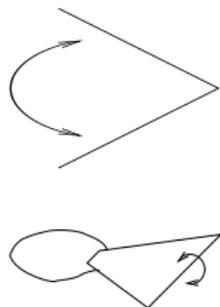
	L (cm)	U (cm.s ⁻¹)	T (s)	Re
Bacteria	10^{-5}	10^{-3}	10^{-4}	10^{-5}
Spermatozoon	10^{-3}	10^{-2}	10^{-2}	10^{-3}
Fish	50	100	0.5	$5 \cdot 10^4$
Pigeon	25	10^3	$5 \cdot 10^{-1}$	10^5

The deformations I

All the deformations are not interesting in order to swim.

Theorem (Scallop theorem, **Purcell, 1977**)

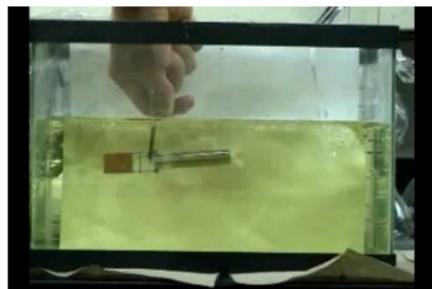
Given a time periodic deformation described by one physical geometric parameter, the net motion of the swimmer over one period is null.



No net motion

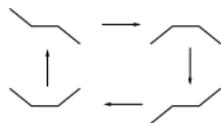


in Stokes fluid



Taylor's experiences

The deformations II



Purcell's swimmer

Net motion
 \Rightarrow
 in Stokes fluid



Helical deformation



Taylor's experiences

State of art

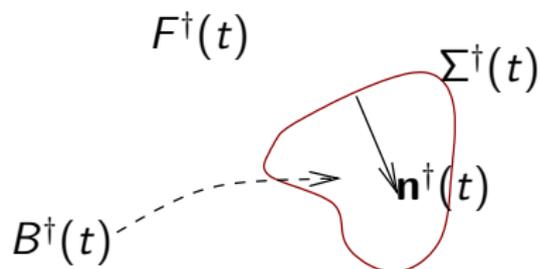
- Swimmer description and modelling:
 - [G. Taylor's experiences, 1951](#)
 - Low Reynolds swimmers modelling, [E. M. Purcell, 1977](#), and [S. Childress, 1981](#)
 - Foundations of Low Reynolds swimming, [A. Shapere and F. Wilczek, 1989](#)
- Controllability results:
 - In perfect fluid, [T. Chambrion and A. Munnier, 2010](#)
 - In Stokes fluid, for a n -sphere swimmer, [F. Alouges, A. DeSimone and A. Lefebvre, 2009](#)
 - In Stokes fluid, for a ciliated organism, [J. San Martin, T. Takahashi and M. Tucsnak, 2007](#)

- 1 Modelling
- 2 Low Reynolds number specificities
- 3 Controllability
- 4 Conclusion

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Domains

Let $B^\dagger(t)$ be the domain occupied by the swimmer, $\Sigma^\dagger(t)$ its boundary and $F^\dagger(t) = \mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \overline{B^\dagger(t)}$ the fluid domain.



The fluid

Stokes equations:

$$\begin{aligned} -\Delta \mathbf{u}^\dagger + \nabla p^\dagger &= 0 && \text{in } F^\dagger(t) \\ \operatorname{div} \mathbf{u}^\dagger &= 0 && \text{in } F^\dagger(t) \end{aligned}$$

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Velocity continuity:

$$\mathbf{u}^\dagger = \mathbf{v}_s \quad \text{on } \Sigma^\dagger(t),$$

with \mathbf{v}_s is the swimmer velocity.

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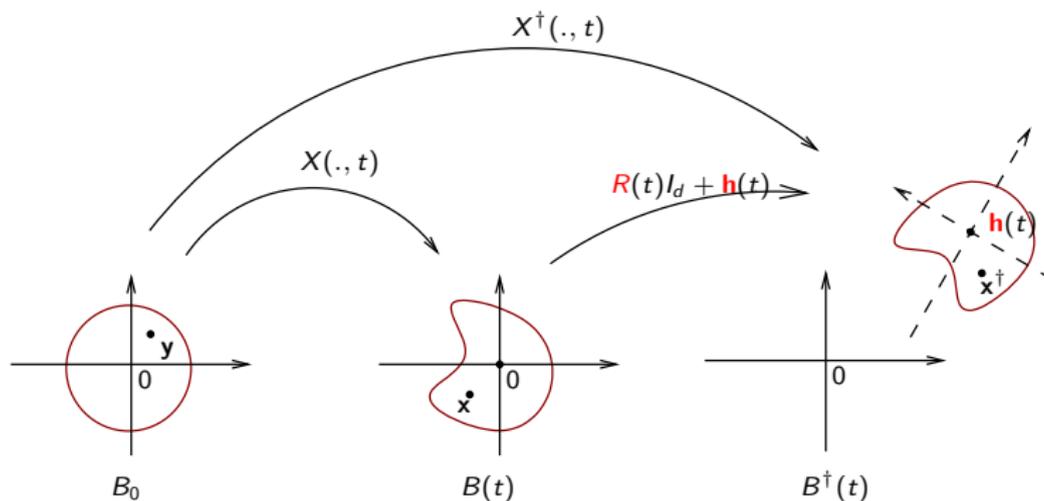
Set $\sigma(\mathbf{u}^\dagger, p^\dagger) = (\nabla \mathbf{u}^\dagger + (\nabla \mathbf{u}^\dagger)^T) - p^\dagger I_3 \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3}$, the Cauchy-stress tensor, the force exerted by the fluid on a part $d\Gamma$ of $\Sigma^\dagger(t)$ is $\sigma \mathbf{n}^\dagger d\Gamma$.

The swimmer

Deformations

The swimmer is located by:

- its mass center $\mathbf{h} \in \mathbb{R}^3$ and
- its orientation $R \in O^+(3)$.



The swimmer

Velocity of deformation

The velocity of a point $x^\dagger = X^\dagger(y, t) = RX(y, t) + \mathbf{h}$ of $B^\dagger(t)$ is:

$$\mathbf{v}_S = \dot{\mathbf{h}} + R\boldsymbol{\omega} \times (x^\dagger - \mathbf{h}) + R\mathbf{w}(x^\dagger, t),$$

with:

- \mathbf{w} the non-rigid deformation velocity of the swimmer,

$$\mathbf{w}(x^\dagger, t) = \dot{X}(X(\cdot, t)^{-1}(R^T(x^\dagger - \mathbf{h}(t))), t).$$

- $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ the angular velocity of the swimmer in a referential attached to him,

$$\dot{R} = R\hat{\boldsymbol{\omega}},$$

where, $\hat{\boldsymbol{\omega}}$, a 3×3 -skew symmetric matrix, is such that $\hat{\boldsymbol{\omega}}\mathbf{x} = \boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{x}$.

The swimmer

Deformations constraints

The deformation $X(t)$ shall be:

- a C^1 -diffeomorphism of \mathbb{R}^3

and shall keep constant:

- the mass

$$\longrightarrow \rho(\cdot, t) = \frac{1}{|\det(\text{Jac}X(\cdot, t))|}$$

- the mass center position

$$0 = \int_{B(t)} \rho(x, t)x \, dx$$

- the angular momentum

$$0 = \int_{B(t)} \rho(x, t)x \times \dot{X}(X(\cdot, t)^{-1}(x), t) \, dx$$

The swimmer

Equations of motion

Newton's principle leads to:

$$\begin{aligned}
 m\ddot{\mathbf{h}} &= \int_{\Sigma^\dagger(t)} \sigma(\mathbf{u}^\dagger, \mathbf{p}^\dagger) \mathbf{n}^\dagger \, d\Gamma \\
 \frac{dJ\boldsymbol{\omega}}{dt} &= \int_{\Sigma^\dagger(t)} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{h}) \times \sigma(\mathbf{u}^\dagger, \mathbf{p}^\dagger) \mathbf{n}^\dagger \, d\Gamma
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{PFD}$$

The swimmer

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The coupled problem I

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} 0 = \nabla p^\dagger - \Delta \mathbf{u}^\dagger, & \text{in } F^\dagger(t) \\ 0 = \operatorname{div} \mathbf{u}^\dagger, & \text{in } F^\dagger(t) \\ \lim_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{u}^\dagger(x) = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

$$\mathbf{u}^\dagger = \dot{\mathbf{h}} + R\boldsymbol{\omega} \times (x - \mathbf{h}) + R\mathbf{w}, \quad \text{on } \Sigma^\dagger(t)$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 0 = \int_{\Sigma^\dagger(t)} \sigma(\mathbf{u}^\dagger, p^\dagger) \mathbf{n}^\dagger \, d\Gamma \\ 0 = \int_{\Sigma^\dagger(t)} (x - \mathbf{h}) \times \sigma(\mathbf{u}^\dagger, p^\dagger) \mathbf{n}^\dagger \, d\Gamma \end{array} \right.$$

The coupled problem II

Let us make the change of variables $\mathbf{u}(x) = R^\top \mathbf{u}^\dagger(Rx + \mathbf{h})$, $p(x) = p^\dagger(Rx + \mathbf{h})$,

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} 0 = \nabla p - \Delta \mathbf{u}, & \text{in } F(t) \\ 0 = \operatorname{div} \mathbf{u}, & \text{in } F(t) \\ \lim_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{u}(x) = 0 \end{array} \right. \quad (\text{S})$$

$$\mathbf{u} = R^\top \dot{\mathbf{h}} + \boldsymbol{\omega} \times x + \mathbf{w}, \quad \text{on } \Sigma(t) \quad (\text{BC})$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 0 = \int_{\Sigma(t)} \sigma(\mathbf{u}, p) \mathbf{n} \, d\Gamma \\ 0 = \int_{\Sigma(t)} x \times \sigma(\mathbf{u}, p) \mathbf{n} \, d\Gamma \end{array} \right. \quad (\text{CM})$$

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Drag and Momentum

Given (\mathbf{u}, p) and (\mathbf{v}, q) two solutions of the homogeneous Stokes problem.
By Green formula,

$$\int_{\Sigma} \sigma(\mathbf{u}, p) \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{v} \, d\Gamma = 2 \int_F \mathbf{D}(\mathbf{u}) : \mathbf{D}(\mathbf{v}) \, dx,$$

with $\mathbf{D}(\mathbf{u}) = \frac{1}{2} (\nabla \mathbf{u} + (\nabla \mathbf{u})^T)$.

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Let us then define $(\mathbf{u}_i, p_i) \in W_0^1(F)^3 \times L^2(F)$, the solutions of the homogeneous Stokes problem with boundary condition:

$$\mathbf{u}_i = \begin{cases} \mathbf{e}_i & \text{if } i \in \{1, 2, 3\}, \\ x \times \mathbf{e}_{i-3} & \text{if } i \in \{4, 5, 6\} \end{cases} \quad \text{on } \Sigma.$$

Then,

$$\begin{pmatrix} \int_{\Sigma} \sigma(\mathbf{u}, p) \mathbf{n} \, d\Gamma \\ \int_{\Sigma} x \times \sigma(\mathbf{u}, p) \mathbf{n} \, d\Gamma \end{pmatrix} = 2 \left(\int_F \mathbf{D}(\mathbf{u}) : \mathbf{D}(\mathbf{u}_i) \, dx \right)_{i=1, \dots, 6}.$$

An ODE system I

Assume now that X is given by:

$$X(t, x) = D_0(x) + \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{s}_i(t) D_i(x).$$

Then the geometry of the problem can be only described by the parameter $\mathbf{s} = (\mathbf{s}_1, \dots, \mathbf{s}_n)$ and the set of deformations $\mathcal{D} = (D_0, (D_1, \dots, D_n))$. Thus, $X(t, \cdot)$ can be recast as $X_{\mathcal{D}}(\mathbf{s}) = D_0 + \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{s}_i D_i$.

The boundary condition (BC) is then:

$$\mathbf{u} = R^{\top} \dot{\mathbf{h}} + \boldsymbol{\omega} \times x + \sum_{i=1}^n \dot{\mathbf{s}}_i D_i \circ X_{\mathcal{D}}(\mathbf{s})^{-1}, \quad \text{on } \Sigma_{\mathcal{D}}(\mathbf{s}).$$

Let us write (\mathbf{v}_i, q_i) the solution of the homogeneous Stokes problem with the boundary condition $\mathbf{v}_i = D_i \circ X_{\mathcal{D}}(\mathbf{s})^{-1}$ on $\Sigma_{\mathcal{D}}(\mathbf{s})$.

An ODE system II

Let us define the matrices:

$$M_{\mathcal{D}}(\mathbf{s}) = 2 \left(\int_{F_{\mathcal{D}}(\mathbf{s})} \mathbf{D}(\mathbf{u}_i) : \mathbf{D}(\mathbf{u}_j) \, dx \right)_{i,j=1,\dots,6} \in M_6(\mathbb{R})$$

and

$$N_{\mathcal{D}}(\mathbf{s}) = 2 \left(\int_{F_{\mathcal{D}}(\mathbf{s})} \mathbf{D}(\mathbf{u}_i) : \mathbf{D}(\mathbf{v}_j) \, dx \right)_{\substack{i=1,\dots,6 \\ j=1,\dots,n}} \in M_{6,n}(\mathbb{R}).$$

Using the linearity of the homogeneous Stokes problem with respect to the boundary condition, (CM) is:

$$M_{\mathcal{D}}(\mathbf{s}) \begin{pmatrix} R^{\top} \dot{\mathbf{h}} \\ \boldsymbol{\omega} \end{pmatrix} = N_{\mathcal{D}}(\mathbf{s}) \dot{\mathbf{s}}.$$

An ODE system III

And hence, the full coupled system (S)-(BC)-(CM) can be written as:

$$\dot{\mathbf{h}} = R\ell \quad (1a)$$

$$\dot{R} = R\hat{\omega} \quad (1b)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{s}} = \lambda \quad (1c)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \ell \\ \omega \end{pmatrix} = M_{\mathcal{D}}(\mathbf{s})^{-1} N_{\mathcal{D}}(\mathbf{s}) \lambda \quad (1d)$$

This fits the form of geometric control problems, with control variable $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and state variable $(\mathbf{h}, R, \mathbf{s}) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \times O^+(3) \times \mathbb{R}^n$,

$$(\dot{\mathbf{h}}, \dot{R}, \dot{\mathbf{s}}) = \sum_{i=1}^n f_i(R, \mathbf{s}) \lambda_i.$$

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A controllability result, Chow Theorem

On a manifold \mathcal{M} , we consider the dynamical system:

$$\dot{z} = \sum_{i=1}^n f_i(z) u_i, \quad (2)$$

We associate to this system the Lie algebra $\text{Lie}\{f_1, \dots, f_n\}$ which is the smallest algebra stable for the Lie bracket:

$$\begin{aligned} [f, g] : \mathcal{M} &\rightarrow \text{T}\mathcal{M} \\ z &\mapsto D_z g \cdot f(z) - D_z f \cdot g(z). \end{aligned}$$

Theorem (Chow)

If for every $z_0 \in \mathcal{M}$ we have $\dim \text{Lie}_{z_0}\{f_1, \dots, f_m\} = \dim \text{T}_{z_0}\mathcal{M}$, then the system is controllable.

Corollary

For any trajectory $\bar{z} : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ and any $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists a control u such that the solution z of (2) with $z(0) = \bar{z}(0)$ satisfies:

$$\sup_{t \in [0, T]} |z(t) - \bar{z}(t)| \leq \varepsilon.$$

Self-propelling conditions

For $X_{\mathfrak{D}}(\mathbf{s}) = D_0 + \sum \mathbf{s}_i D_i$, the conditions:

$$\int_B D \, dx = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \int_B D \times D' \, dx = 0 \quad (D, D' \in \{D_0, \dots, D_n\}),$$

ensure the self-propelling conditions.

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ensure the self-propelling conditions.

We define $\mathcal{C}(n)$ the set of $\mathfrak{D} = (D_0, (D_1, \dots, D_n)) \in \mathcal{D}_0^1(\mathbb{R}^3) \times C_0^1(\mathbb{R}^3)^n$ satisfying those conditions.

And for $\mathfrak{D} \in \mathcal{C}(n)$, given, we set $\mathcal{S}(\mathfrak{D})$ the connected component of

$$\left\{ \mathbf{s} \in \mathbb{R}^n, D_0 + \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{s}_i D_i \in \mathcal{D}_0^1(\mathbb{R}^3) \right\} \text{ containing } 0.$$

Finally, we define:

$$\mathfrak{S}(n) = \{(\mathfrak{D}, \mathbf{s}), \mathfrak{D} \in \mathcal{C}(n), \mathbf{s} \in \mathcal{S}(\mathfrak{D})\}.$$

Lemma

$\mathfrak{S}(n)$ is a connected and analytic sub-manifold of $C_0^1(\mathbb{R}^3) \times C_0^1(\mathbb{R}^3)^n \times \mathbb{R}^n$.

Analyticity of $M_{\mathcal{D}}$ and $N_{\mathcal{D}}$

Lemma

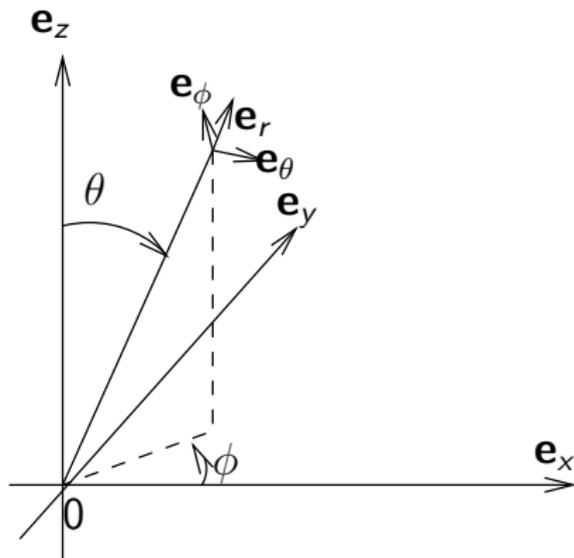
The maps

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mathfrak{S}(n) & \rightarrow M_6(\mathbb{R}) \\ (\mathcal{D}, \mathbf{s}) & \mapsto M_{\mathcal{D}}(\mathbf{s}) \end{array} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{array}{ll} \mathfrak{S}(n) & \rightarrow M_{6,n}(\mathbb{R}) \\ (\mathcal{D}, \mathbf{s}) & \mapsto N_{\mathcal{D}}(\mathbf{s}) \end{array}$$

are analytic.

Stokes solution in exterior domains I

We use spherical coordinates,



Stokes solution in exterior domains II

Solutions of the homogeneous Stokes system take the form (c.f. [Lamb, 1993](#)):

$$\mathbf{u} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\text{rot}(\chi_{-(n+1)} \mathbf{r} \mathbf{e}_r) + \nabla \varphi_{-(n+1)} - \frac{n-2}{2n(2n-1)} r^2 \nabla \pi_{-(n+1)} + \frac{n+1}{n(2n-1)} \pi_{-(n+1)} \mathbf{r} \mathbf{e}_r \right),$$

$$p = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \pi_{-(n+1)},$$

with $\pi_{-(n+1)}$, $\chi_{-(n+1)}$ and $\varphi_{-(n+1)}$ rigid spherical harmonics,

$$(r, \theta, \phi) \mapsto r^{-(n+1)} \sum_{m=-n}^n \gamma_m Y_{n,m}(\cos \theta, \phi).$$

We have:

$$\int_{\Sigma} \sigma(\mathbf{u}, p) \mathbf{n} \, d\Gamma = -4\pi \nabla(r^3 \pi_{-2}) \quad \text{and} \quad \int_{\Sigma} \mathbf{x} \times \sigma(\mathbf{u}, p) \mathbf{n} \, d\Gamma = -8\pi \nabla(r^3 \chi_{-2}).$$

Lie algebra evaluated at a particular point

Lemma

The dimension of the Lie Algebra at the point $(\mathbf{h}, R, \mathbf{s})$ is independent of \mathbf{h} and R .

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Let us chose the deformations $\mathcal{D} = (\text{Id}, (D_1, \dots, D_4))$,

$$D_1(r, \theta, \phi) = r^{-4} \Re Y_{3,1}(\cos \theta, \phi) \mathbf{e}_r,$$

$$D_2(r, \theta, \phi) = r^{-4} \Im Y_{3,1}(\cos \theta, \phi) \mathbf{e}_r,$$

$$D_3(r, \theta, \phi) = r^{-4} \Re Y_{3,2}(\cos \theta, \phi) \mathbf{e}_r,$$

$$D_4(r, \theta, \phi) = r^{-5} \Re Y_{4,2}(\cos \theta, \phi) \mathbf{e}_r.$$

and compute the evaluation of the Lie algebra at point $\mathbf{s} = 0 \in \mathbb{R}^4$, $R = I_3$ and $\mathbf{h} = 0$.

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Using `maxima`, we obtain that the Lie algebra evaluated at this point is of dimension $10 = 3 + 3 + 4$.

Result

Using analyticity together with Chow theorem,

Theorem

Set $\bar{D}_0 \in D_0^1(\mathbb{R}^3)$ such that $\int_B \bar{D}_0 \, dx = 0$ and set an absolutely continuous function $t \in [0, T] \rightarrow (\bar{\mathbf{h}}(t), \bar{R}(t)) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \times SO(3)$.

Then for every $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists $D_0 \in \mathcal{D}_0^1(\mathbb{R}^3)$ such that:

- 1 $\|\bar{D}_0 - D_0\|_{C_0^1(\mathbb{R}^3)^3} \leq \varepsilon$;
- 2 for almost every $(D_0, (D_1, \dots, D_4)) \in \mathcal{C}(4)$, there exists a function: $t \in [0, T] \mapsto \mathbf{s}(t) \in \mathbb{R}^4$ such that the solution (\mathbf{h}, R) of the dynamical system satisfies:

$$\sup_{t \in [0, T]} (\|\bar{R}(t) - R(t)\|_{M_3(\mathbb{R})} + \|\bar{\mathbf{h}}(t) - \mathbf{h}(t)\|_{\mathbb{R}^3}) \leq \varepsilon.$$

Remark

It is also possible approximatively follow a prescribed non rigid deformation, $t \in [0, T] \mapsto \bar{X}(t, \cdot) \in \mathcal{D}_0^1(\mathbb{R}^3)$.

Conclusion

- What is the minimal number of controls?
- Swimming in a bounded domain? (work in progress with T. Takahashi)
- Collective swimming?
- Controllability in the presence of inertia?

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Thank you for your attention.