

# Conditional propagation of chaos for mean field systems of interacting neurons

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## 1 Introduction

## 2 Model

- Definitions of the systems
- Well-posedness of the limit system

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- Convergence of  $(\mu^N)_N$

## 4 McKean-Vlasov model

- Model
- Limit system

# Modeling in neuroscience

Neural activity = Set of spike times

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- $Z_t^{N,i} =$  number of spikes of neuron  $i$  emitted in  $[0, t]$   
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Here,  $X^{N,i}$  solves an SDE directed by  $(Z^{N,j})_{1 \leq j \leq N}$

# Mean field limit

$N$ -particle system :

- $Z_t^{N,i} = \int_0^t \int_0^\infty 1_{\{z \leq f(X_{s-}^{N,i})\}} d\pi^i(s, z)$
- $dX_t^{N,i} = b(X_t^{N,i})dt + \sum_{j=1}^N \int_0^\infty u^{ji}(t)1_{\{z \leq f(X_{t-}^{N,j})\}} d\pi^j(t, z)$

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- linear scaling  $N^{-1}$  (LLN) :
  - [Delattre et al. (2016)] (Hawkes process,  $u^{ji}(t) = 1$ ),
  - [Chevallier et al. (2017)] ( $u^{ji}(t) = w(j, i)$ )

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- diffusive scaling  $N^{-1/2}$  (CLT) :
  - [E. et al. (2019)] random and centered  $u^{ji}(s)$

# Linear scaling

$$dX_t^{N,i} = -\alpha X_t^{N,i} dt + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq i}}^N \int_0^\infty 1_{\{z \leq f(X_{t-}^{N,j})\}} d\pi^j(t, z) - \int_0^\infty X_{t-}^{N,i} 1_{\{z \leq f(X_{t-}^{N,i})\}} d\pi^i(t, z)$$

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Intepretation :

- drift :  $-\alpha x$  models an exponential loss of the potential
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[De Masi et al. (2015)] and [Fournier & Löcherbach (2016)]

Generalization to McKean-Vlasov frame [Andreis et al. (2018)]

# Diffusive scaling

$$dX_t^{N,i} = -\alpha X_t^{N,i} dt + \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq i}}^N \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}} u 1_{\{z \leq f(X_{t-}^{N,j})\}} d\pi^j(t, z, u) - \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}} X_{t-}^{N,i} 1_{\{z \leq f(X_{t-}^{N,i})\}} d\pi^i(t, z, u)$$

$\pi^j$  iid Poisson measures with intensity  $dt \cdot dz \cdot d\nu(u)$

$\nu$  probability measure on  $\mathbb{R}$  centered with  $\int_{\mathbb{R}} |u|^3 d\nu(u) < \infty$

$$\sigma^2 = \int_{\mathbb{R}} u^2 d\nu(u)$$

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Dynamic of  $X^{N,i}$  :

- $X_t^{N,i} = X_s^{N,i} e^{-\alpha(t-s)}$  if the system does not jump in  $[s, t]$
- $X_t^{N,i} = X_{t-}^{N,i} + \frac{U}{\sqrt{N}}$  if a neuron  $j \neq i$  emits a spike at  $t$
- $X_t^{N,i} = 0$  if neuron  $i$  emits a spike at  $t$

# Limit system : heuristic (1)

$$\begin{aligned} dX_t^{N,i} = & -\alpha X_t^{N,i} dt + \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq i}}^N \int_{\mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}} u 1_{\{z \leq f(X_{t-}^{N,j})\}} d\pi^j(t, z, u) \\ & - X_{t-}^{N,i} \int_{\mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}} 1_{\{z \leq f(X_{t-}^{N,i})\}} d\pi^i(t, z, u) \end{aligned}$$

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$$d\bar{X}_t^i = -\alpha \bar{X}_t^i dt + d\bar{M}_t$$

$$- \bar{X}_{t-}^i \int_{\mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}} 1_{\{z \leq f(\bar{X}_{t-}^i)\}} d\pi^i(t, z, u)$$

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$$\langle \bar{M} \rangle_t = \lim_N \langle M^N \rangle_t = \lim_N \sigma^2 \int_0^t \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N f'(X_s^{N,j}) ds$$

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Then  $\bar{M}$  should satisfy

$$\bar{M}_t = \sigma \int_0^t \sqrt{\lim_N \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N f'(\bar{X}_s^j) dW_s} = \sigma \int_0^t \sqrt{\lim_N \bar{\mu}_s^N(f)} dW_s$$

with  $\bar{\mu}^N := \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N \delta_{\bar{X}^j}$

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$\mu$  is the limit of empirical measures of  $(\bar{X}^i)_{i \geq 1}$  exchangeable by Proposition (7.20) of [Aldous (1983)]  $\mu$  is the directing measure of  $(\bar{X}^i)_{i \geq 1}$  (conditionally on  $\mu$ ,  $\bar{X}^i$  i.i.d.  $\sim \mu$ )

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Problems :

- conditional expectation in the Brownian term  
(McKean-Vlasov frame)
- unbounded jumps (non-Lipschitz compensator  $x \mapsto -xf(x)$ )
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Solution : consider  $a : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  increasing, bounded, lower-bounded,  $C^2$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} &|a''(x) - a''(y)| + |a'(x) - a'(y)| \\ &+ |xa'(x) - ya'(y)| + |f(x) - f(y)| \leq C|a(x) - a(y)| \end{aligned}$$

## Well-posedness of the limit equation (2)

$$\begin{aligned}
 a(\bar{X}_t^i) = & a(\bar{X}_0^i) - \alpha \int_0^t \bar{X}_s^i a'(\bar{X}_s^i) ds + \sigma \int_0^t a'(\bar{X}_s^i) \sqrt{\mathbb{E}[f(\bar{X}_s^i)|W]} dW_s \\
 & + \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \int_0^t a''(\bar{X}_s^i) \mathbb{E}[f(\bar{X}_s^i)|W] ds \\
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To prove trajectoryal uniqueness :

- $u(t) = \mathbb{E}[|a(\hat{X}_s^i) - a(\check{X}_s^i)|]$  (problem with Brownian term)
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$$\forall t \geq 0, u(t) \leq C(t + \sqrt{t})u(t)$$

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- $u(t) = \mathbb{E}[|a(\hat{X}_s^i) - a(\check{X}_s^i)|^2]$  (problem with jump term)

Idea of [Graham (1992)] :  $u(t) = \mathbb{E} \left[ \sup_{0 \leq s \leq t} |a(\hat{X}_s^i) - a(\check{X}_s^i)| \right]$

$$\forall t \geq 0, u(t) \leq C(t + \sqrt{t})u(t) \implies \exists t_0 > 0, u(t_0) = 0$$

## Well-posedness of the limit equation (2)

$$\begin{aligned}
 a(\bar{X}_t^i) = & a(\bar{X}_0^i) - \alpha \int_0^t \bar{X}_s^i a'(\bar{X}_s^i) ds + \sigma \int_0^t a'(\bar{X}_s^i) \sqrt{\mathbb{E}[f(\bar{X}_s^i)|W]} dW_s \\
 & + \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \int_0^t a''(\bar{X}_s^i) \mathbb{E}[f(\bar{X}_s^i)|W] ds \\
 & + \int_{[0,t] \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}} [a(0) - a(\bar{X}_{s-}^i)] 1_{\{z \leq f(\bar{X}_{s-}^i)\}} d\pi^i(s, z, u)
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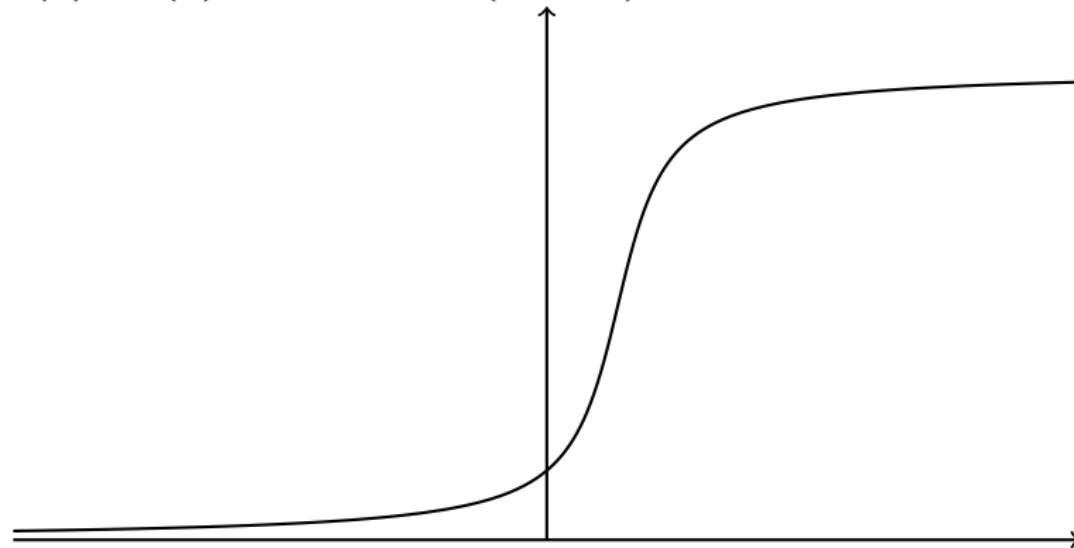
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Iteratively  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, u(nt_0) = 0$ , whence  $\forall t > 0, u(t) = 0$

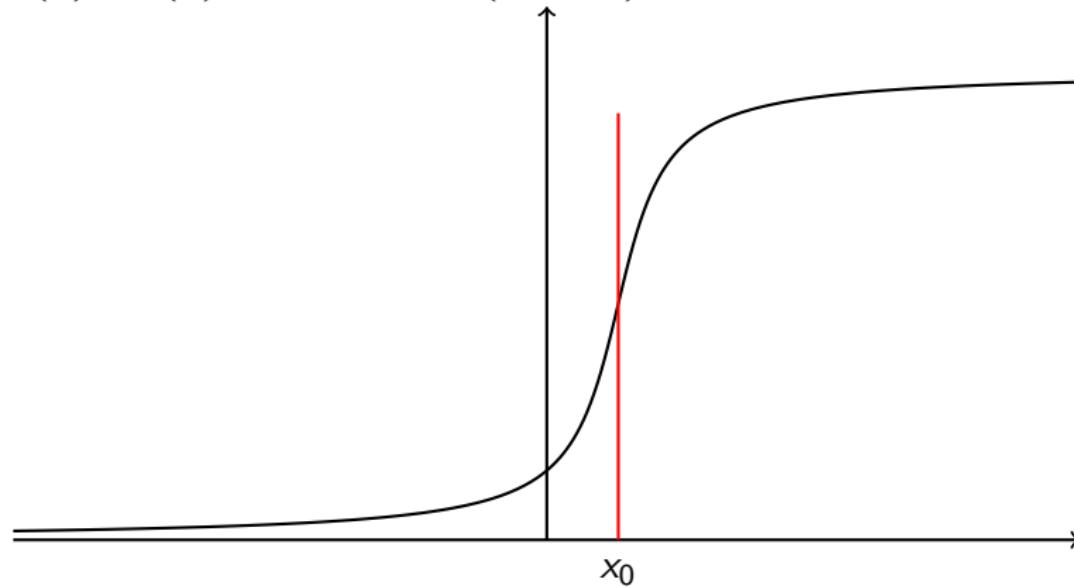
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$f(x) = a(x) = c + d \arctan(\alpha + \beta x)$  satisfy the hypothesis



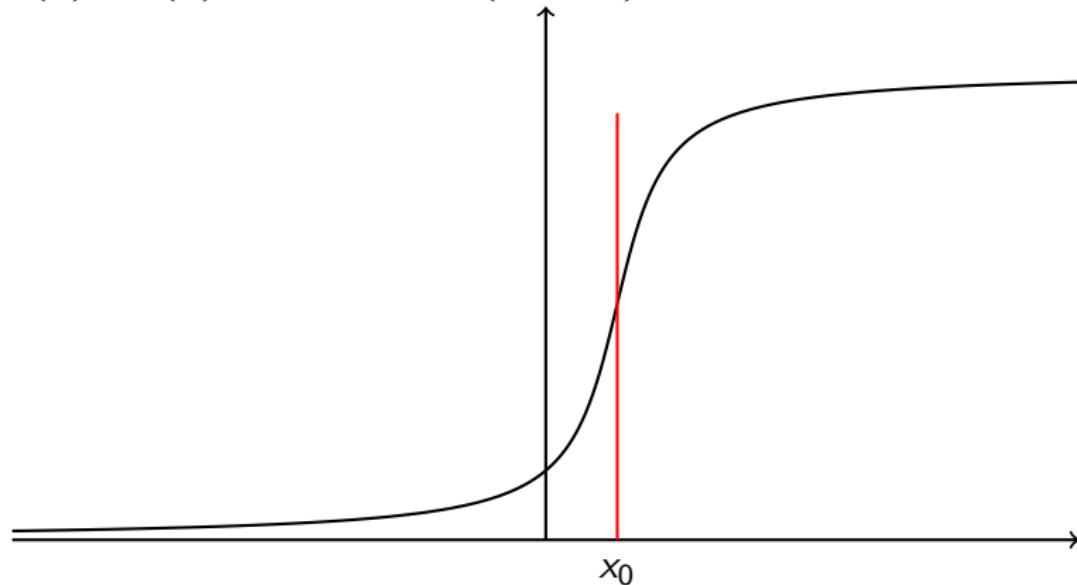
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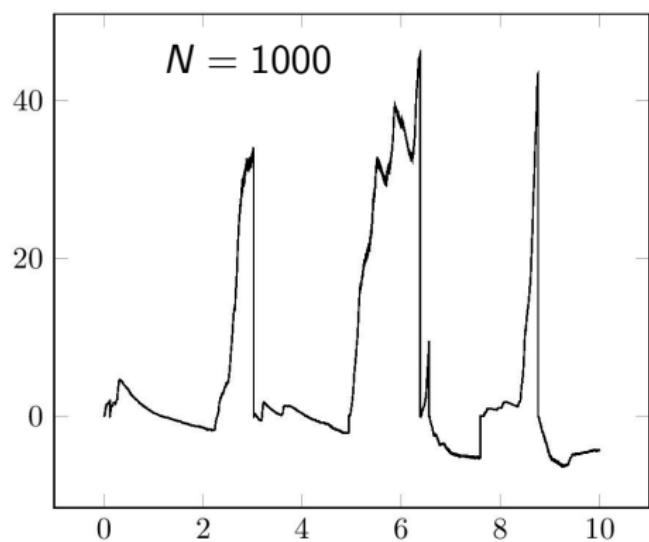
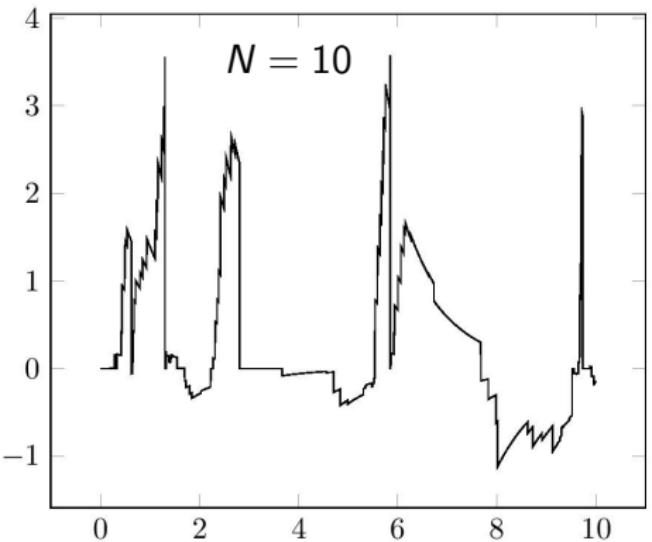
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"Neuron  $i$  active / inactive"  $\approx$  " $X^{N,i} > x_0$  /  $X^{N,i} < x_0$ "

# Simulations of $X^{N,1}$



# Another version of the limit system

The strong limit system :

$$\begin{aligned} d\bar{X}_t^i &= -\alpha \bar{X}_t^i dt + \sigma \sqrt{\mathbb{E}[f(\bar{X}_t^i)|W]} dW_t \\ &\quad - \bar{X}_{t-}^i \int_{\mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}} 1_{\{z \leq f(\bar{X}_{t-}^i)\}} d\pi^i(t, z, u) \end{aligned}$$

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The weak limit system :

$$\begin{aligned} d\bar{Y}_t^i &= -\alpha \bar{Y}_t^i dt + \sigma \sqrt{\mu_t(f)} dW_t \\ &\quad - \bar{Y}_{t-}^i \int_{\mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}} 1_{\{z \leq f(\bar{Y}_{t-}^i)\}} d\pi^i(t, z, u) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\mu_t = \mathcal{L}(\bar{Y}_t^1 | \mu_t)$  is the directing measure of  $(\bar{Y}_t^i)_{i \geq 1}$

# Equivalence between the two systems

An auxiliary system :

$$\begin{aligned} d\tilde{X}_t^{N,i} = & -\alpha \tilde{X}_t^{N,i} dt + \sigma \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N f(\tilde{X}_t^{N,j})} dW_t \\ & - \tilde{X}_{t-}^{N,i} \int_{\mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}} 1_{\{z \leq f(\tilde{X}_{t-}^{N,j})\}} d\pi^i(t, z, u) \end{aligned}$$

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For  $0 \leq t \leq T$  (small enough)

$$u_N(t) \leq CN^{-1/2} \xrightarrow[N \rightarrow \infty]{} 0$$

# Convergence of $(X^{N,i})_{1 \leq i \leq N}$

$$dX_t^{N,i} = -\alpha X_t^{N,i} dt + \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{j \neq i} \int_{\mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}} u 1_{\{z \leq f(X_{t-}^{N,j})\}} d\pi^j(t, z, u)$$

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Equivalent condition (Proposition (7.20) of [Aldous \(1983\)](#)) :

$\mu^N := \sum_{j=1}^N \delta_{X^{N,j}}$  converges to  $\mu := \mathcal{L}(\bar{X}^1 | W)$  in  $\mathcal{P}(D)$

# Outline of the proof

**Step 1.**  $(\mu^N)_N$  is tight on  $\mathcal{P}(D)$

Equivalent condition :  $(X^{N,1})_N$  is tight on  $D$

Proof : Aldous' criterion

**Step 2.** Identifying the limit distribution of  $(\mu^N)_N$

Proof : any limit of  $\mu^N$  is solution of a martingale problem

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$Q$  is solution of  $(\mathcal{M})$  if for all  $g \in C_b^2(\mathbb{R}^2)$ ,

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$$Lg(m, x^1, x^2) = -\alpha x^1 \partial_1 g(x) - \alpha x^2 \partial_2 g(x) + \frac{\sigma^2}{2} m(f) \sum_{i,j=1}^2 \partial_{i,j}^2 g(x)$$

$$+ f(x^1)(g(0, x^2) - g(x)) + f(x^2)(g(x^1, 0) - g(x))$$

# Uniqueness for the martingale problem

Let  $Q$  be a solution of  $(\mathcal{M})$ . Write  $Q = \mathcal{L}(\mu)$  where  $\mu$  is the directing measure of some exchangeable system  $(\bar{Y}^i)_{i \geq 1}$

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Representation theorems imply (admitted)

$$\begin{aligned} \forall i \in \{1, 2\}, d\bar{Y}_t^i &= -\alpha \bar{Y}_t^i dt + \sqrt{\mu_t(f)} dW_t \\ &\quad - \bar{Y}_{t-}^i \int_{\mathbb{R}_+} 1_{\{z \leq f(\bar{Y}_{t-}^i)\}} d\pi^i(t, z) \end{aligned}$$

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Then the law of  $\mu = \mathcal{L}(\bar{Y}^1 | W)$  is uniquely determined

# Convergence of $\mu^N$ to the solution of $(\mathcal{M})$

Let  $\mu$  be the limit of (a subsequence of)  $\mu^N$

$\mathcal{L}(\mu)$  is solution of  $(\mathcal{M})$  if

$$\mathbb{E}[F(\mu)] = 0$$

for any  $F$  of the form

$$\begin{aligned} F(m) := & \int_{D^2} m \otimes m(d\gamma) \phi_1(\gamma_{s_1}) \dots \phi_k(\gamma_{s_k}) [\phi(\gamma_t) - \phi(\gamma_s) \\ & + \alpha \int_s^t \gamma_r^1 \partial_1 \phi(\gamma_r) dr + \alpha \int_s^t \gamma_r^2 \partial_2 \phi(\gamma_r) dr \\ & - \int_s^t f(\gamma_r^1)(\phi(0, \gamma_r^2) - \phi(\gamma_r)) dr - \int_s^t f(\gamma_r^2)(\phi(\gamma_r^1, 0) - \phi(\gamma_r)) dr \\ & - \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \int_s^t m_r(f) \sum_{i_1, i_2=1}^2 \partial_{i_1, i_2}^2 \phi(\gamma_r) dr] \end{aligned}$$

# The expression of $F(\mu^N)$

$$F(\mu^N) :=$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{D^2} \mu^N \otimes \mu^N(d\gamma) \phi_1(\gamma_{s_1}) \dots \phi_k(\gamma_{s_k}) \left[ \phi(\gamma_t) - \phi(\gamma_s) \right. \\ & + \alpha \int_s^t \gamma_r^1 \partial_1 \phi(\gamma_r) dr + \alpha \int_s^t \gamma_r^2 \partial_2 \phi(\gamma_r) dr \\ & - \int_s^t f(\gamma_r^1) (\phi(0, \gamma_r^2) - \phi(\gamma_r)) dr \\ & \left. \int_s^t f(\gamma_r^2) (\phi(\gamma_r^1, 0) - \phi(\gamma_r)) dr \right. \\ & \left. - \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \int_s^t \mu_r^N(f) \sum_{i_1, i_2=1}^2 \partial_{i_1, i_2}^2 \phi(\gamma_r) dr \right] \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{N^2} \sum_{i,j=1}^N \phi_1(X_{s_1}^{N,i}, X_{s_1}^{N,j}) \dots \phi_k(X_{s_k}^{N,i}, X_{s_k}^{N,j}) \left[ \phi(X_t^{N,i}, X_t^{N,j}) - \phi(X_s^{N,i}, X_s^{N,j}) \right. \\ & + \alpha \int_s^t X_r^{N,i} \partial_1 \phi(X_r^{N,i}, X_r^{N,j}) dr + \alpha \int_s^t X_r^{N,j} \partial_2 \phi(X_r^{N,i}, X_r^{N,j}) dr \\ & - \int_s^t f(X_r^{N,i})(\phi(0, X_r^{N,j}) - \phi(X_r^{N,i}, X_r^{N,j})) dr \\ & - \int_s^t f(X_r^{N,j})(\phi(X_r^{N,i}, 0) - \phi(X_r^{N,i}, X_r^{N,j})) dr \\ & \left. - \int_s^t \int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{u^2}{2} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N f(X_r^{N,k}) \sum_{i_1, i_2=1}^2 \partial_{i_1, i_2}^2 \phi(X_r^{N,i}, X_r^{N,j}) \textcolor{blue}{d\nu(u)} dr \right] \end{aligned}$$

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# The expression of $\phi(X^{N,i}, X^{N,j})$

By Ito's formula,

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E}\phi(X_t^{N,i}, X_t^{N,j}) - \phi(X_s^{N,i}, X_s^{N,j}) = \\ & \mathbb{E} - \alpha \int_s^t X_r^{N,i} \partial_1 \phi(X_r^{N,i}, X_r^{N,j}) dr - \alpha \int_s^t X_r^{N,j} \partial_2 \phi(X_r^{N,i}, X_r^{N,j}) dr \\ & + \int_s^t \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(X_r^{N,i}) (\phi(0, X_r^{N,j} + \frac{u}{\sqrt{N}}) - \phi(X_r^{N,i}, X_r^{N,j})) d\nu(u) dr \\ & + \int_s^t \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(X_r^{N,j}) (\phi(X_r^{N,i} + \frac{u}{\sqrt{N}}, 0) - \phi(X_r^{N,i}, X_r^{N,j})) d\nu(u) dr \\ & + \int_s^t \int_{\mathbb{R}} \sum_{\substack{k=1 \\ k \neq i,j}}^N f(X_r^{N,k}) (\phi(X_r^{N,i} + \frac{u}{\sqrt{N}}, X_r^{N,j} + \frac{u}{\sqrt{N}}) - \phi(X_r^{N,i}, X_r^{N,j})) d\nu(u) dr \end{aligned}$$

# Vanishing of $\mathbb{E} [F(\mu^N)]$

The **reset jump term**

$$\left| \phi(0, X_r^{N,j}) - \phi\left(0, X_r^{N,j} + \frac{u}{\sqrt{N}}\right) \right|$$

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$$CN^{-1/2} \geq \mathbb{E} [F(\mu^N)] \xrightarrow{N \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E} [F(\mu)] = 0$$

# Convergence of $(\mu^N)_N$

$$dX_t^{N,i} = -\alpha X_t^{N,i} dt + \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{j \neq i} \int_{\mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}} u 1_{\{z \leq f(X_{t-}^{N,j})\}} d\pi^j(t, z, u)$$

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- $\mathcal{L}(\mu)$  is the unique solution of  $(\mathcal{M})$
- $\mu = \mathcal{L}(\bar{X}^1|W)$  is the only limit of  $(\mu^N)_N$

# McKean-Vlasov model

$$dX_t^{N,i} = b(X_t^{N,i}, \mu_t^N)dt + \sigma(X_t^{N,i}, \mu_t^N)d\beta_t^i$$

$$+ \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{k=1}^N \int_{\mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}^{N^*}} \Psi(X_{t-}^{N,k}, X_{t-}^{N,i}, \mu_{t-}^N, u^k, u^i) 1_{\{z \leq f(X_{t-}^{N,k}, \mu_{t-}^N)\}} d\pi^k(t, z, u)$$

with  $\mu^N := \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \delta_{X^{N,i}}$ , and  $\pi^k$  has intensity  $dt \cdot dz \cdot \nu(du)$   
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Dynamic of  $X^{N,i}$  :

- while there is no jump, the dynamic is given by the drift and Brownian terms
- if there is a jump at time  $t$ , created by neuron  $k$ , each neuron  $i$  creates a r.v.  $U^i$  (the  $U^i$  are i.i.d.),

$$X_t^{N,i} = X_{t-}^{N,i} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \Psi(X_{t-}^{N,k}, X_{t-}^{N,i}, \mu_{t-}^N, U^k, U^i)$$

# Heuristics for the limit system

$$dX_t^{N,i} = b(X_t^{N,i}, \mu_t^N)dt + \sigma(X_t^{N,i}, \mu_t^N)d\beta_t^i$$

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## Heuristics for the limit system

$$dX_t^{N,i} = b(X_t^{N,i}, \mu_t^N)dt + \sigma(X_t^{N,i}, \mu_t^N)d\beta_t^i \\ + \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{k=1}^N \int_{\mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}^{N^*}} \Psi(X_{t-}^{N,k}, X_{t-}^{N,i}, \mu_{t-}^N, u^k, u^i) 1_{\{z \leq f(X_{t-}^{N,k}, \mu_{t-}^N)\}} d\pi^k(t, z, u)$$

$$J_t^{N,i} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{k=1}^N \int \Psi(X_{s-}^{N,k}, X_{s-}^{N,i}, \mu_{s-}^N, u^k, u^i) 1_{\{z \leq f(X_{s-}^{N,k}, \mu_{s-}^N)\}} d\pi^k(s, z, u)$$

$$\langle J^{N,i}, J^{N,j} \rangle_t = \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{N^*}} \\ \Psi(x, X_s^{N,i}, \mu_s^N, u^{\textcolor{blue}{1}}, u^i) \Psi(x, X_s^{N,j}, \mu_s^N, u^{\textcolor{blue}{1}}, u^j) f(x, \mu_s^N) \nu(du) \mu_s^N(dx) ds$$

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$$\bar{J}_t^i = \kappa \int_0^t \sqrt{\int_{\mathbb{R}} f(x, \mu_s) \mu_s(dx)} dW_s + \sqrt{\varsigma^2 - \kappa^2} \int_0^t \sqrt{\int_{\mathbb{R}} f(x, \mu_s) \mu_s(dx)} dW_s^i$$

with  $W, W^i$  i.i.d. Brownian motions and  $\mu = \mathcal{L}(\bar{X}^i | W)$

## General case

$$\langle J^{N,i}, J^{N,j} \rangle_t = \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}^*}} \Psi(x, X_s^{N,i}, \mu_s^N, u^1, u^i) \Psi(x, X_s^{N,j}, \mu_s^N, u^1, u^j) f(x, \mu_s^N) \nu(du) \mu_s^N(dx) ds$$

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Solution : let  $M(dt, dz) = M_t(dz)$  be a martingale measure on  $\mathbb{R}_+ \times E$  with intensity  $dt \cdot m_t(dz)$ ,

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Here :  $E = \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}^*} \times \mathbb{R}$  and  $m_s(du, dx) = \nu(du) \cdot \mu_s(dx)$

# Limit system (1)

$$\begin{aligned} d\bar{X}_t^i = & b(\bar{X}_t^i, \mu_t)dt + \sigma(\bar{X}_t^i, \mu_t)d\beta_t^i \\ & + \int \tilde{\Psi}(x, \bar{X}_t^i, \mu_t, v)\sqrt{f(x, \mu_t)}dM(t, x, v) \\ & + \int \kappa(x, \bar{X}_t^i, \mu_t)\sqrt{f(x, \mu_t)}dM^i(t, x) \end{aligned}$$

with

$$\tilde{\Psi}(x, y, m, v) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^{N^*}} \Psi(x, y, m, v, u^1) \nu(du)$$

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Interpretation of  $\tilde{\Psi}$  :

$$\int \tilde{\Psi}(x, y, m, u^1)^2 \nu(du) = \int \Psi(x, y, m, u^1, u^2) \Psi(x, y, m, u^1, u^3) \nu(du)$$

## Limit system (2)

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$M$  and  $M^i$  are orthogonal (not independent) :

$$\begin{aligned} M_t^i(A) &= \int_0^t \int_0^1 1_A(F_s^{-1}(p))dW^i(s, p) \\ M_t(A \times B) &= \int_0^t \int_0^1 \int_{\mathbb{R}} 1_A(F_s^{-1}(p))1_B(v)dW(s, p, v) \end{aligned}$$

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Thank you for your attention !

Questions ?