





A research team funded by five research organisms



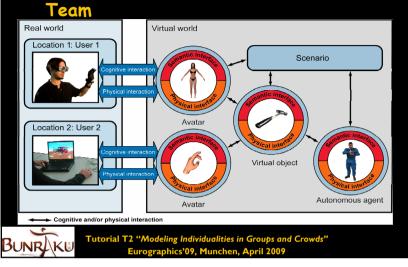
A joint scientific objective

Perception, decision and action of real and virtual humans in virtual environments and impact on real environments





Overall Objective of our Research



Our challenges

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- Increase cross fertilization between two complementary research thematics
 - Virtual Reality and Virtual Humans
- Allow Real and Virtual Humans to naturally interact in a shared virtual world

Combine two kinds of interaction of different nature: cognitive and physical

Tutorial T2 "Modeling Individualities in Groups and Crowds" Eurographics'09, Munchen, April 2009

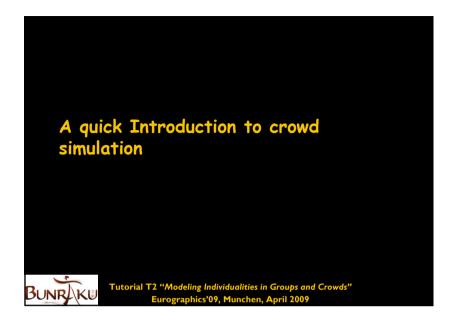
Complementary Research Thematics

- Multimodal Interaction with objects within the world
 - A generic multilevel model of an object
 - Multimodal rendering
 - visual, haptic, audio, cognitive
 - Acting on the objects of the world
 language, gesture, mind
- Expressive Autonomous Characters
 - Complex and believable movements for human-like characters
 - Unified architecture to model individual and collective human behaviors
- Interactive scenario languages



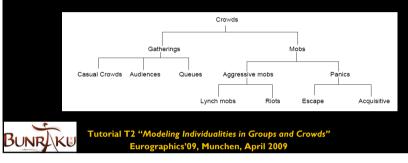




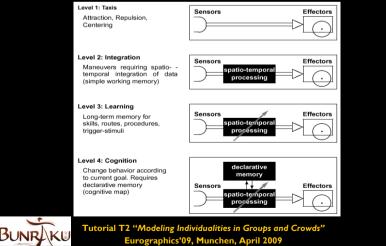


Crowd definition

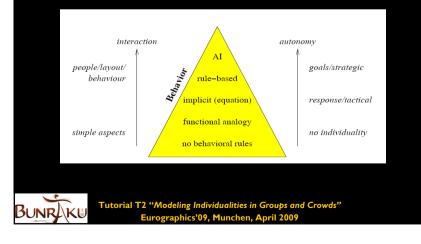
- Group: any gathering of two or more persons
- Mass: a large group
- Crowds: large groups that occupy a single location and share a common focus [Forsyth99]

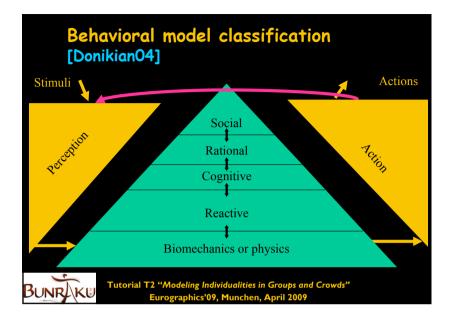


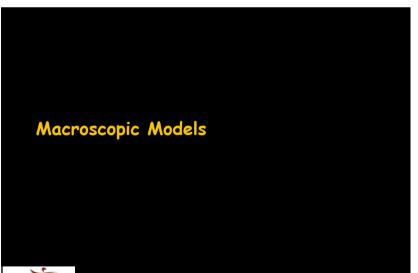
Behavioral model classification [Mallot99]



Behavioral model classification [Klüpfel03]

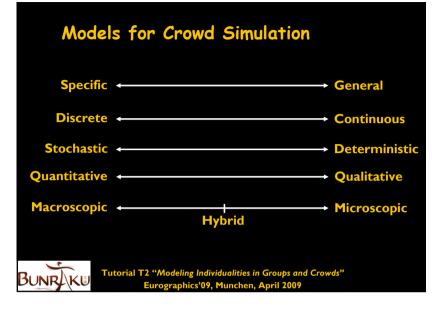






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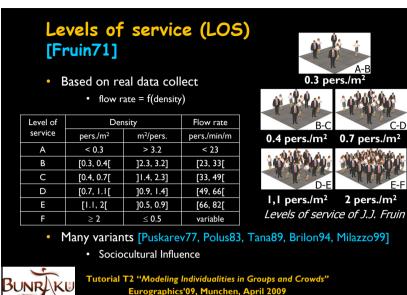
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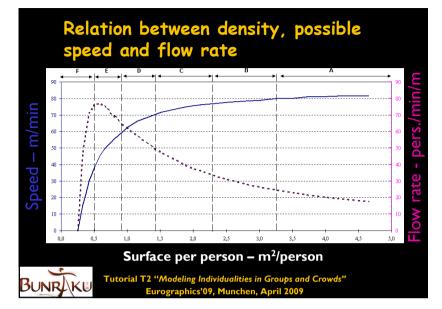


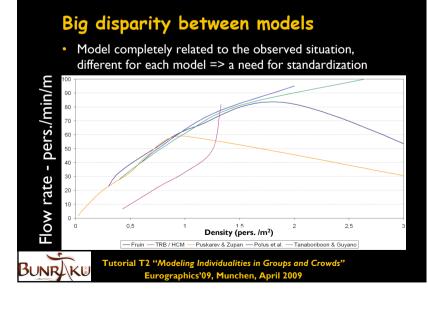
Macroscopic Models

- In this approach the pedestrian is not treated on its own but as a component of a more macroscopic element.
 - Statistical approach
 - Dynamics models (gas, fluid)





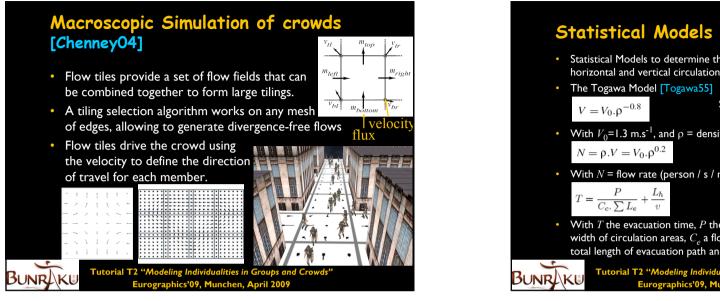




Macroscopic Simulation of crowds

- Gazeous Model for low density [Henderson71]
 - Use of the Maxwell-Boltzmann Theory
 - Three possible states (stop, walk, run)
 - Distribution of velocities is Gaussian
- Hydraulic Model for high density [Archea79, Predtechenskii78]
 - The motion of persons in corridors, stairways and doors is assimilated to the one of water inside pipes ans sluice-gates
 - Uniform distribution of persons inside pipes
 - Uniform flow rates and unidirectional flows
- Partial differential Equations are used in both cases to explain how crowd densitiy and velocity are evolving.



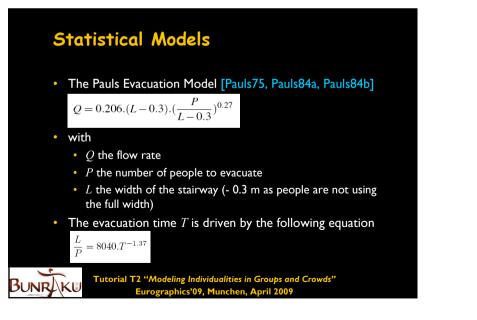


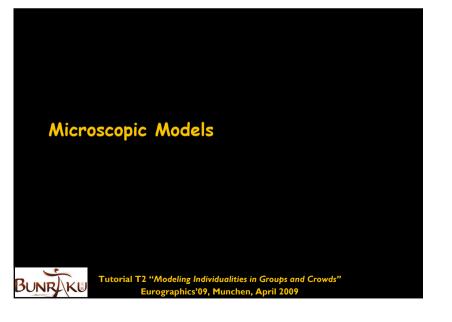
- Statistical Models to determine the evacuation time of an aera by separating horizontal and vertical circulation spaces

Speed of the crowd function of the density

- With $V_0 = 1.3 \text{ m.s}^{-1}$, and $\rho = \text{density} (\text{person } / \text{ m}^2)$
- With N = flow rate (person / s / m), 1.3 < N < 1.7
- With T the evacuation time, P the number of persons in the building, L_e the width of circulation areas, C_{ρ} a flow rate (fixed at 1.3 pers./m/s), L_{h} the total length of evacuation path and v the evacuation speed (usually 0.6 m/s)

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Microscopic Model

- Microscopic models consider persons as the elementary units of the model, and manage their interaction inside the environment.
- Different kinds of model
 - Particle systems
 - Cellular Automata
 - Predictive geometric models
 - Steering methods

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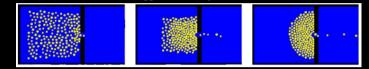
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Agent based approach

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Particle System

- Introduced by I. Peschl in 1971 [Peschl71]
- Analogy between the displacement of persons in very dense area with the outflow of particles in a compartment
- Allow to model the agglutination phenomenon



- The probability of an arch appearance increases with the density
- The flow is linearly dependent of the exit width



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Social Forces [Helbing95]

- Introduced by Dirk Helbing and Peter Molnar in 1995
- A social force is not a real force exerted by its surrounding on a pedestrian but rather a quantity that describes its motivation to act

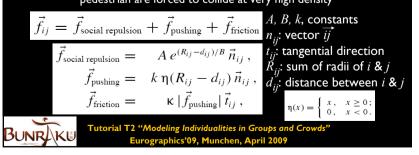
$$\vec{F}_{\alpha}(t) := \vec{F}_{\alpha}^{0}(\vec{v}_{\alpha}, v_{\alpha}^{0}\vec{e}_{\alpha}) + \sum_{\beta} \vec{F}_{\alpha\beta}(\vec{e}_{\alpha}, \vec{r}_{\alpha} - \vec{r}_{\beta}) + \sum_{B} \vec{F}_{\alpha B}(\vec{e}_{\alpha}, \vec{r}_{\alpha} - \vec{r}_{B}^{\alpha}) + \sum_{i} \vec{F}_{\alpha i}(\vec{e}_{\alpha}, \vec{r}_{\alpha} - \vec{r}_{i}, t)$$

- Desired Motion Social Force Obstacle Avoidance Attractive Forces
- This model has evolved over the last decade with later contributions from Illes Farkas and Tamas Vicsek.

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The Helbing-Molnar-Farkas-Vicsek Social Force Model [Helbing00]

- Each pedestrian feels and exerts on others two kinds of forces, social and physical.
 - Social forces (repulsion/attraction) reflect the intention of a pedestrian not to collide with others
 - Physical forces (pushing and friction) are used when pedestrian are forced to collide at very high density



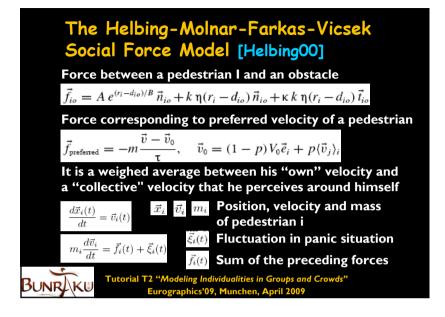
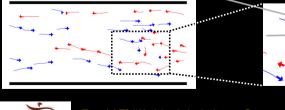


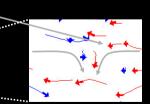
Illustration of the HMFV Model in Normal and Evacuation Situations Isimulation of pedestrians moving with identical desired velocity In wide exit Room size 15m x15m [Helbing01]

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Illustration of the HMFV Model in Normal and Evacuation Situations

- Typical usage (validated):
 - high densities of people, evacuation scenarios
- Major problem:
 - lack of anticipation ,

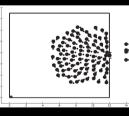




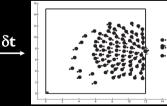
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Illustration of the HMFV Model in Normal and Evacuation Situations

- The validity domain is limited to very high densities
- Trajectories are not correct for individual pedestrians in sparse conditions.
- Problems may also arise at the boundary of the crowd



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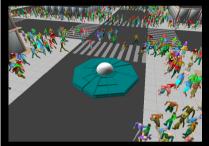


The Lakoba-Kaup-Finkelstein Model [Lakoba05]

- Modification of the Helbing-Molnar-Farkas-Vicsek Social Force Model
 - To increase its domain of validity for lower densities
 - To eliminate overlapping between pedestrians
 - Stable solutions using the explicit 1st-order Euler Method
 - To add a memory providing to a pedestrian the knowledge about the location of exit(s)
 - Determines the vector of its preferred velocity

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Potential fields [Treuille06]



- Based on global attraction / repulsion forces
 - High performances
- Major problems:
- unrealistic speeds
- lack of control over individual destinations



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Cellular Automaton [Schadschneider01]

• Discrete approach

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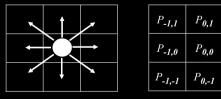
• use of a regular lattice, each cell approximately 40 x 40 cm²)

 $P_{I,I}$

P1,0

P_{1,-1}

• Each cell is either empty or occupied by exactly one person



- P_{i,j}: probability to go in the cell (x+i, y+j): preferred walking direction
 Σ P_{i,j} = 1
- In case of conflict (two particles share the same target cell), one is chosen according to their relative probabilities to choose the target

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Cellular Automaton [Klüpfel03]

- A pedestrian can move more than one cell in a time-step Δt
- Use of a time-step-slice Δt_s
 - $\Delta t_s = \Delta t / v_{max}$ (v_{max} the maximum speed)
- For each time-step-slice:
 - I. Try to access the desired cell
 - 2. If this is not possible, try to go to one of the two 45° neighbors
 - 3. If this is not possible, try to go to one of the two 90° neighbors
 - 4. If none of those five cells are accessible, then stop.
- The fact that diagonal movement corresponds to a longer distance is taken into account by a factor $\sqrt{2}$



Floor Field [Schadschneider01]

- The floor field modifies the transition probabilities to increase the probability to move into the direction of larger fields.
- Dynamic floor field (Matrix D_{ii}):
 - Used to model long-ranged attractive interaction between persons
 - Virtual trace are left by pedestrians, but they are subject to diffusion and decay
 - dilution until the vanishing of the trace after some time
- Static floor field (Matrix S_{ii}):
 - Used to specify regions of space that are more attractive

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Floor Field [Schadschneider01]

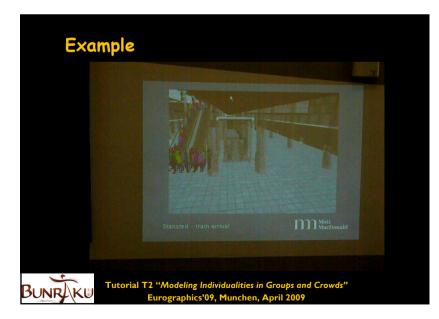
• The transition probability p_{ij} in direction (i, j) depends on four contributions:

$$p_{ij} = N P_{ij} D_{ij} S_{ij} (l - n_{ij})$$

- With:
 - N: normalization factor to ensure $\Sigma_{(i,j)} p_{i,j} = 1$
- n_{ii} : occupation number of the target cell (1 occupied, 0 free)
- Advantage:
 - simple, and can be used for large scale simulations

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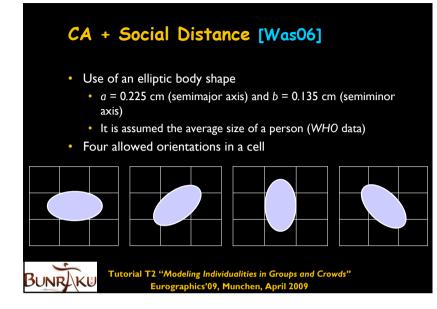
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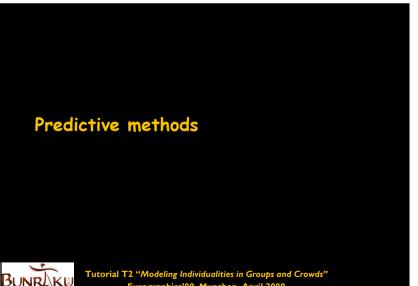


CA + Social Distance [Was06]

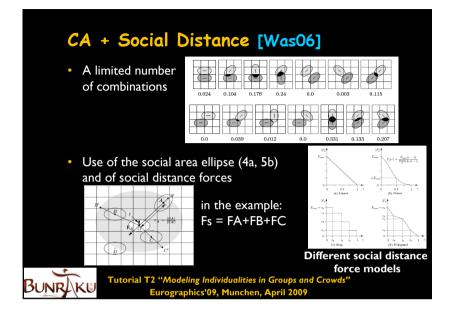
- Four sort of distances:
 - Intimate distance: below 40-50 cm
 - Can appear between couples, parents and children
 - Personal distance: from 40-50 cm to 150 cm
 - Close phase below 90 cm for people who know each other very well
 - Social distance: from 150 cm to 300 cm
 - Casual interaction-distance between acquaintances and strangers
 - Public distance: above 300 cm





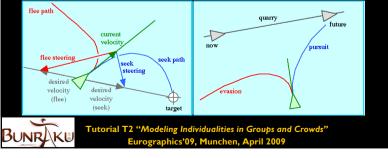


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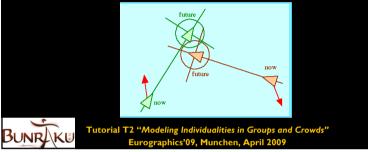
Steering Behaviors [Reynolds99]

- Use of several different behaviors
 - Seek: steer the character towards a specified position
 - Flee: inverse of seek
 - Pursuit: identical to seek but with a moving target
 - Evasion: used to steer away from the predicted future position



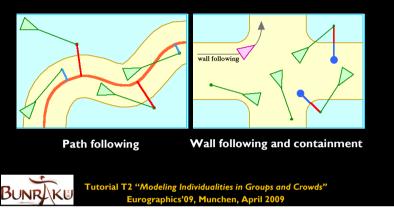
Steering Behaviors [Reynolds99]

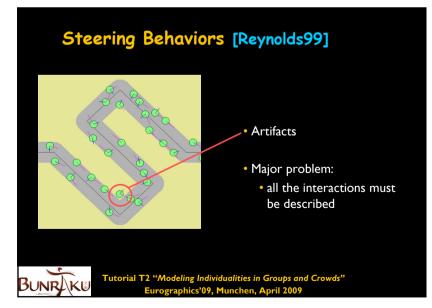
- Obstacle avoidance
- The obstacle which intersects the forward axis nearest the character is selected as the "most threatening."
- Steering to avoid this obstacle is computed by negating the (lateral) side-up projection of the obstacle's center.



Steering Behaviors [Reynolds99]

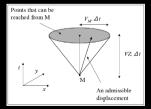
• Other behaviors





Predictive Geometric Model [Feurtey00]

- Predictive approach to manage collision avoidance.
- Navigation of persons represented in a (x, y, t) reference system

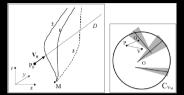


• At each time t, all possible positions that can be reached by a pedestrian are included in a circle of radius $(V_M \Delta t)$ with V_M its maximal velocity.



Predictive Geometric Model [Feurtey00]

• A possible collision is represented in the cone by a segment in the case of an intersection with the trajectory of a surrounding entity.



• To manage the vagueness of the trajectory prediction, the potential collision area is extended to become a triangle.

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Predictive Geometric Model [Feurtey00]

- Feurtey postulates that a person apply three rules with different priorities
 - Preserve its direction
 - Preserve its velocity
 - Preserve the time necessary for the displacement
- Those rules are synthesized in a cost function for each point P included in the circle of possible displacements of radius r_M

• With:

- $C_P = K_1 \frac{GP}{2.r_M} + K_2 \frac{\text{angle}(OV, OP)}{180} + K_i \frac{|OP OV|}{2.r_M}$
- i = 3 if $OP \ge OV$ and i = 4 otherwise
- G the target location, K_1 the cost of moving away from the goal, K_2 the cost of changing direction, K_3 the cost of acceleration, K_4 the cost of deceleration



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Predictive Geometric Model [Feurtey00]

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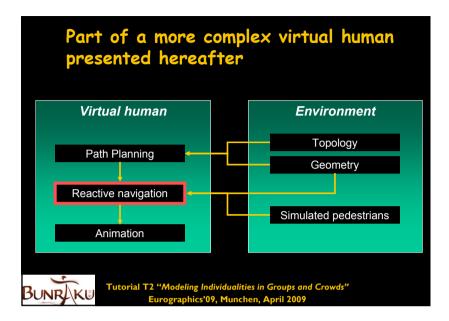
• This approach has been tested only on tiny examples

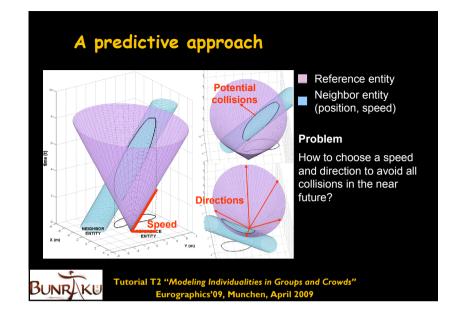


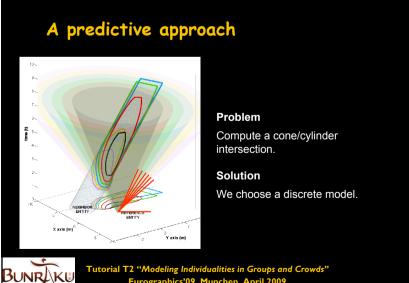
- When many pedestrians need to be avoided, the disk may be saturated.
 - It is necessary to limit the number of pedestrians to take into account
- Oscillations may occur when two pedestrians are face to face

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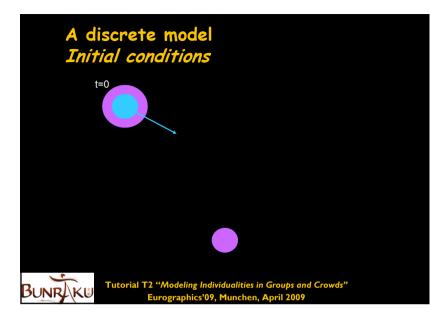


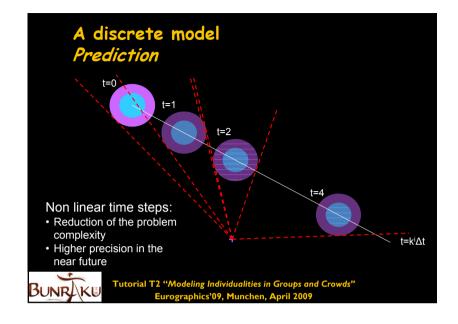


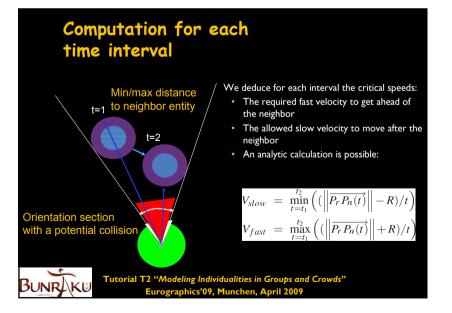




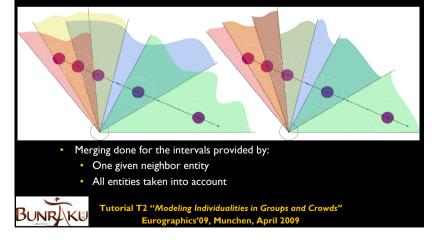
A discrete model Initial conditions t=0 Neighbor Entity (position, speed) Direction / speed to avoid collision? **Reference Entity** (position, goal) Tutorial T2 "Modeling Individualities in Groups and Crowds" Eurographics'09, Munchen, April 2009 BUNRAKU

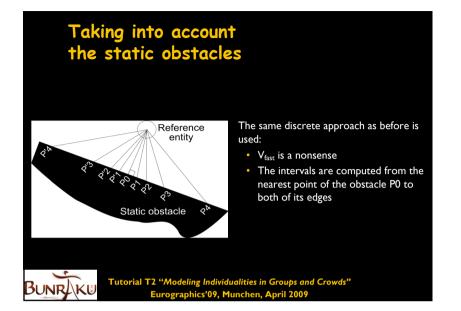






Merging the data of each overlapping section



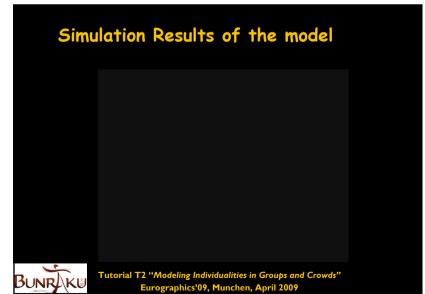


Selection of the best orientation and speed

- Computation of a weight for each section:
 - Reference entity: goal, current state
 - Section: V_{slow}, V_{fast}, orientations
- The lower weight gives the best move.
- The cost function:
- defines the realism level
- requires a calibration phase: experimental data are needed



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Jan and Jan Star

Group based crowd simulation [Musse99]

• Individual trajectories of virtual humans determined by the behaviour of the group they belong to.

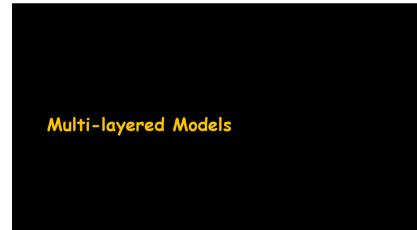


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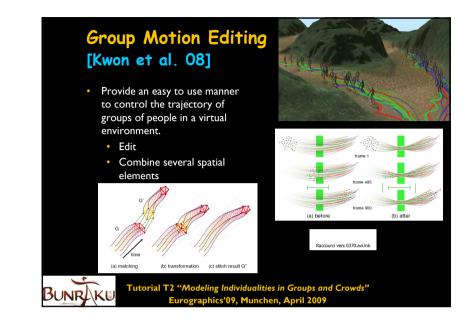
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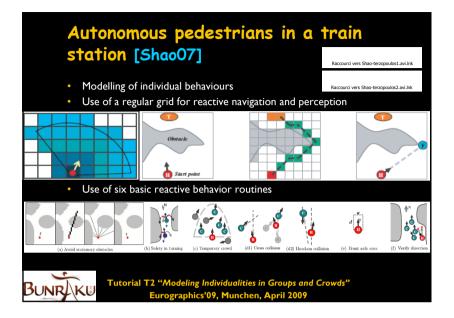
Multi-layer Approach

Dynamic approach in three layers [Goldenstein01]

- I. Particle based dynamic system
- 2. Management of the relations between moving objects and the environment (based on Delaunay triangulation)
- **3.** Path planning and calculation of the desired orientation to reach a destination.

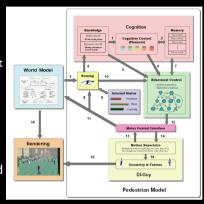
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Autonomous pedestrians in a train station [Shao07]

- Motivational behaviors are used to supplement basic reactive routines, such as:
 - Meet with friends and chat
 - Queue at a ticketing area
- An action selection mechanism chooses the appropriate behavior to fulfill needs.
- A cognitive model is responsible for creating and executing plans suitable.

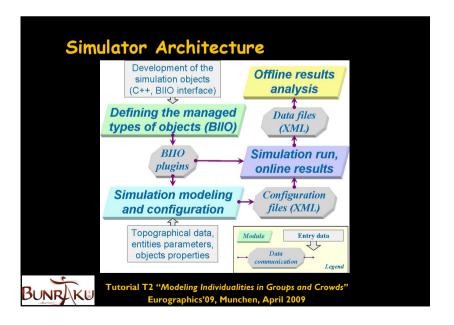


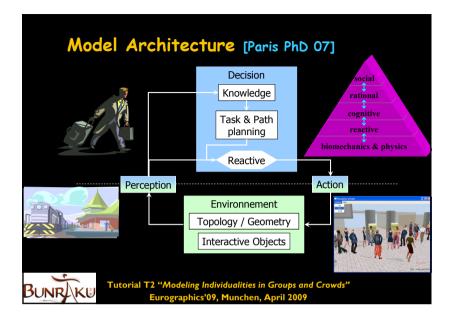




- Objective
 - Develop the first goal oriented simulation tool
 - dedicated to train station and more generally to transportation terminals
 - including all the human activity inside this restricted area



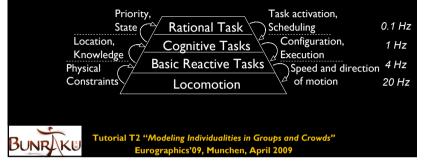


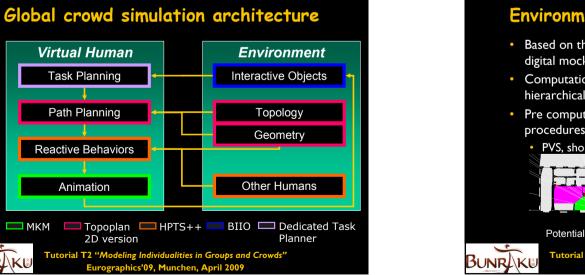


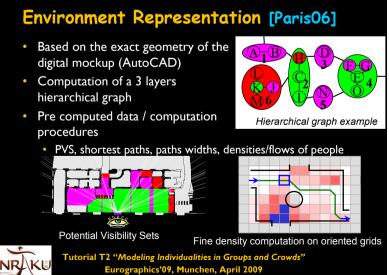
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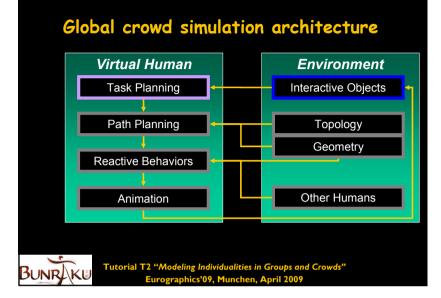
An Embodied and Situated Virtual Human

- Based on the Behavioral Pyramid
 - All processes are independant and only connected to the connex layers









Cognitive and Rational Tasks

- Cognitive Tasks
 - Concurrent Atomic Processes (priorities)
 - Interact: complete management of an affordance
 - Move: management of default displacement
 - Observe: mangement of visual attention
- Goal Oriented Rational Model
 - manage all affordances
 - Rational Process classifying all interactions
 - Hierarchical Organization of affordances



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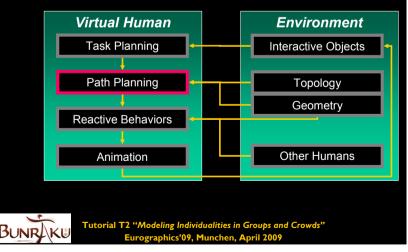
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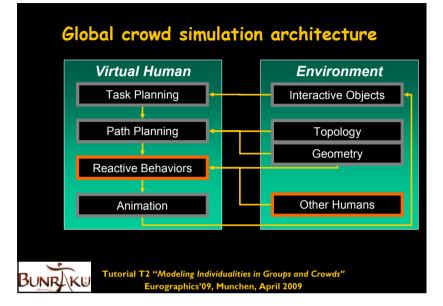
Global crowd simulation architecture

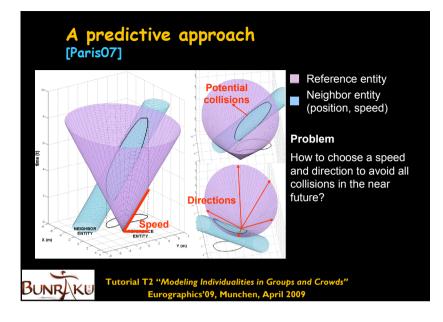


Path Planning: a Hierarchical Technique [Paris06]

- Full path calculation in the more abstracted graph
- To find an approximate path from current to destination zone
- By part calculation in the contained sub-graphs
- Locally refine the path as the entity moves inside the environment
- 3 specializations for the full path calculation
- Reach a unique identified target
- Choose the best target between a set of identified ones
- Explore: Reach a target which may improve the entity's knowledge of the environment
- Multicriteria Heuristic based on static data (path width & length, deviation angles, discovering potential) and dynamic data (densities and flows of people)







Simulation Characteristics

 Population generation based on exploitation data, distribution of delay before departure, Origin Destination Graph, ...



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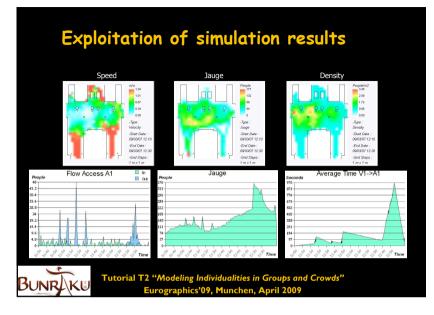
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Configuration of a simulation

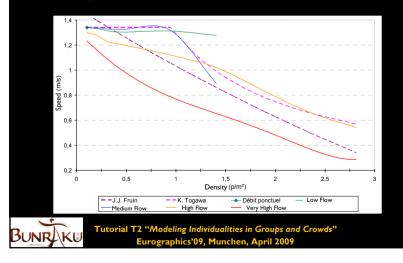
• Population generation based on exploitation data, distribution of delay before departure, Origin Destination Graph, ...

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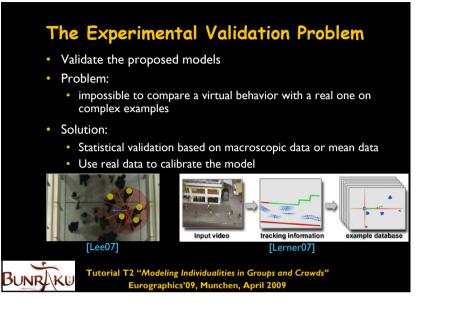




Comparison with statistical models

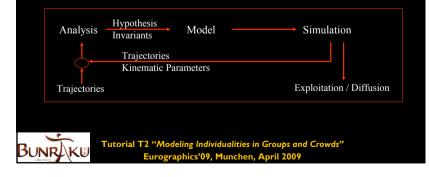






Analysis and Synthesis Approach for Virtual Humans

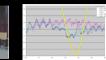
- Use an Analysis/Synthesis approach to model human characteristics:
 - Locomotion, reactive navigation, path planning, ...



Experimental Studies

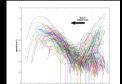
• Study interactions between two persons under different

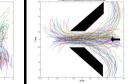




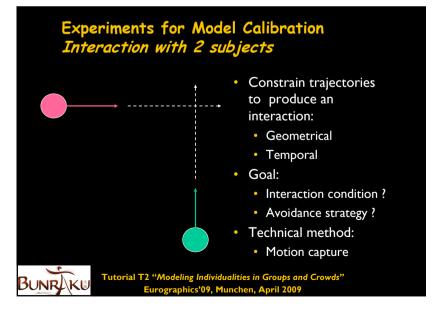
Observation of micro-phenomena in micro-crowds

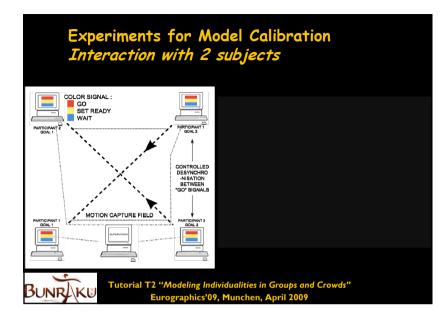


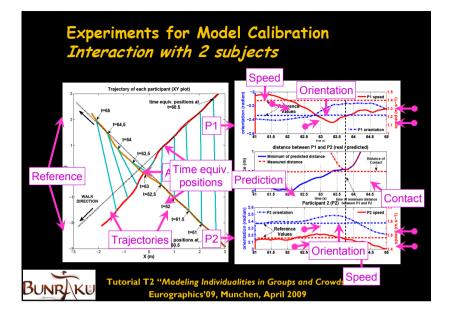


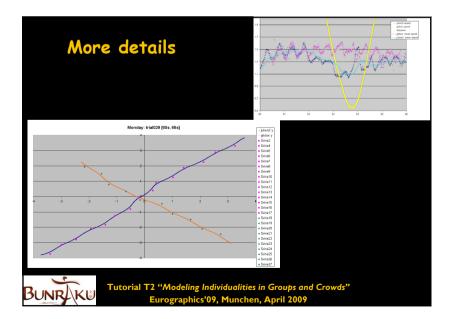


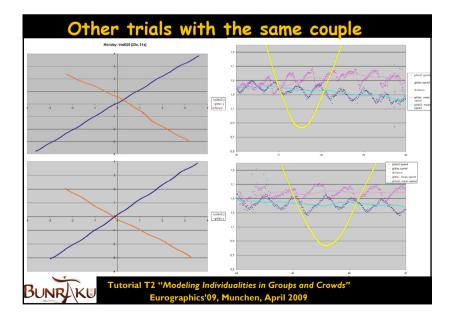












Experiments for Model Validation Micro-crowd

Problem

Do the rules which are observed for 2 subjects remain valid for more complex interactions?

Solution

Observation of crowds microphenomena in « classical situations »

Door crossing,

Corridor,

Crossroad,

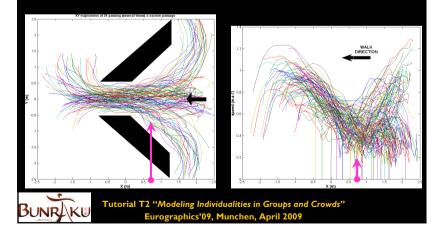
• Etc.

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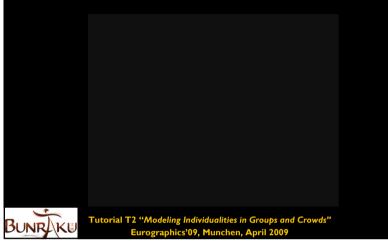


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Experiments for Model Validation Micro-crowd

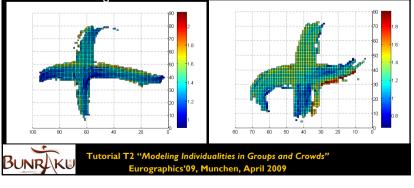


Experiments for Model Validation Micro-crowd



Experiments for Model Validation Micro-crowd

- Navigation in an area with obstacles
- Two scenarios: with or without visibility of the other incoming flow

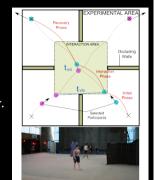


Comparison of crowd simulation models with real data

- Experimental square is 15m long, interaction area is 10m long.
- We randomize participants selection so that they cannot anticipate the direction from which one will appear.
- 429 experimental samples and 62 reference trajectories have been recorded.

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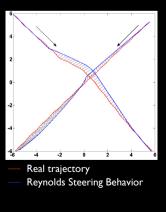
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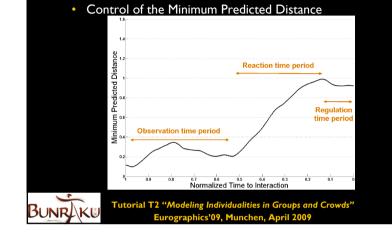
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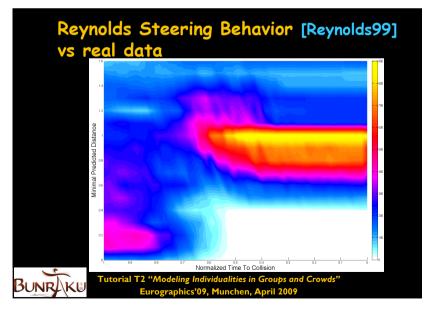
Reynolds Steering Behavior [Reynolds99] vs real data

- The Reynolds' method converges toward a correct final distance between walkers.
- Reaction is too abrupt, as mpd is suddenly increased.
- Walkers adapt their motion simultaneously in this approach while in reality, adaptations are not synchronized,



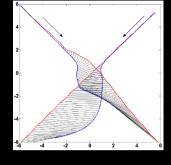






Helbing Molnar Model [Helbing95] vs real data

- The lack of anticipation is clearly observable.
- The minimal distance between walkers is maintained over realistic values.



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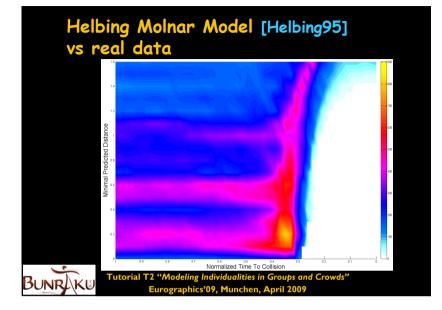
Conclusion

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- Models of reactive navigation are usually reactive which is not sufficient at low density
- Models do not take into account several steps in the interaction
 - They are usually reacting too late and overmuch
- There is a need for a realistic predictive navigation model
- Recently, multi-layered models have been proposed allowing to combine reactive and cognitive behaviors increasing the realism of resulting simulations by providing goals and motivations to the virtual populace.

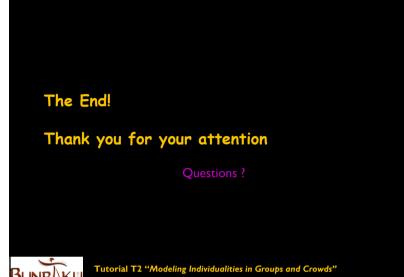
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Open questions

- What is the model used by a pedestrian to adapt its trajectory to potential interactions with others ?
- Combination of speed and orientation adaptation due to the interaction with a subset of its neighbors
 - How is this combination ?
 - How are filtered the neighbors ? How many are they ?
- We are working in a pluridisciplinary project (Locanthrope) to answer these questions in a near future.





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