

Micro, meso, macro

Mirosław LACHOWICZ

*

Institute of Applied Mathematics and Mechanics,
University of Warsaw

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The usual description of populations:

on the macroscopic level of interacting subpopulations of the system

in terms of deterministic systems of ODE or systems of Reaction–Diffusion Equations

The **deterministic evolution of concentrations of subpopulations** of the system rather than agents e.g.

individuals, particles, cells, factors, persons, ...

In many cases the description on a **micro-scale** — or **meso-scale** — of **interacting agents** is more appropriate

A prototype:

the mathematical setting and relationships between:
micro, **meso** and **macro** — **kinetic theory** (of rarefied gases)

An important difference: in the case of biological or social sciences systems a basic microscopic theory, like **Newton Laws** in kinetic theory, **is not available**

- (Mi) – at the level of interacting agents (“**micro-scale**”): **Markov jump processes** and corresponding continuous (linear) stochastic semigroups;
- (Me) – at the level of the statistical description of a test-entity (“**meso-scale**”): **nonlinear “kinetic” equations** and corresponding continuous nonlinear semigroups;
- (Ma) – at the level of concentrations of subpopulations (“**macro-scale**”): **nonlinear systems of ODEs (or reaction–diffusion(–chemotaxis) equations)** and corresponding dynamical systems.

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