1116-34-1907   **Ratna Khatri*** (`rkhatri3@masonlive.gmu.edu`) and **Matt Holzer**. *Consensus vs. fragmentation in a model of opinion dynamics.* Preliminary report.

We consider a continuous version of the Krause model of opinion dynamics. Interaction between agents either leads to a state of consensus, where agents starting out with random initial opinions converge to a single opinion as time evolves, or to a fragmented state with multiple opinions. We linearize the system about a uniform density solution and predict consensus or fragmentation based upon the most unstable mode of the dispersion relation. Analytical predictions are then compared to numerical simulations. (Received September 21, 2015)