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Mark Alber* (Albemark@gmail.com), Department of Applied and Computational, Mathematics and Statistics, 255 Hurley, Building, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN 46656, **Pavel Lushnikov**, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131, and **Richard Gejji**, Mathematical Biosciences Institute, The Ohio State University, Jennings Hall, 3rd Floor, Columbus, OH 43210. *Macroscopic model of self-propelled bacteria swarming with regular reversals.*

Periodic reversals of the direction of motion in systems of self-propelled rod shaped bacteria enable them to effectively resolve traffic jams formed during swarming and maximize their swarming rate. In this talk, a connection will be presented between a microscopic one dimensional cell-based stochastic model of reversing non-overlapping bacteria and a macroscopic non-linear diffusion describing dynamics of cellular density. Boltzmann-Matano analysis is used to determine the nonlinear diffusion equation corresponding to the specific reversal frequency. Combination of microscopic and macroscopic models are used for studying swarming rates of populations of bacteria reversing at different frequencies. It is shown that cell populations with high reversal frequencies are able to spread out effectively at high densities. If the cells rarely reverse then they are able to spread out at lower densities but are less efficient at spreading out at higher densities. (Received August 20, 2010)