

**COLLECTIVE RESPONSE  
AND  
EMERGENT STRUCTURES  
IN  
MICRO (NANO) SWIMMER SUSPENSIONS**

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University of Barcelona

# 1. Introduction

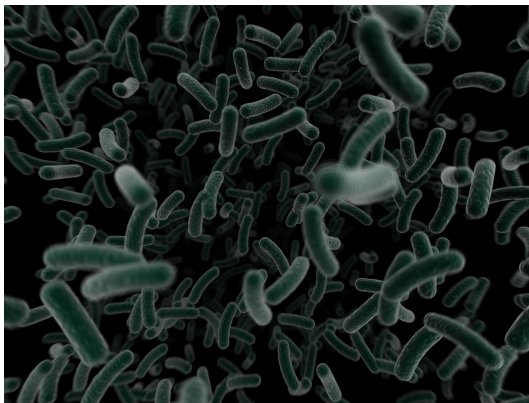
Active systems: collections of elements able to convert internal energy into mechanical work (autonomous motion)



intrinsically out-of-equilibrium systems (even in a steady state, if any, and without external forcing)

## Examples

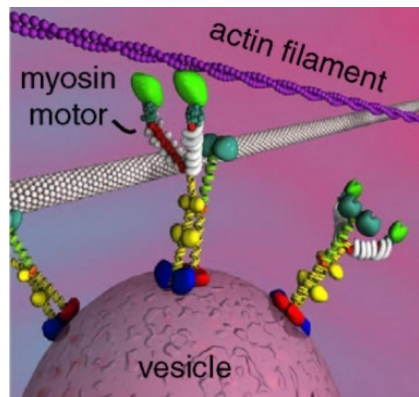
bacterial colonies



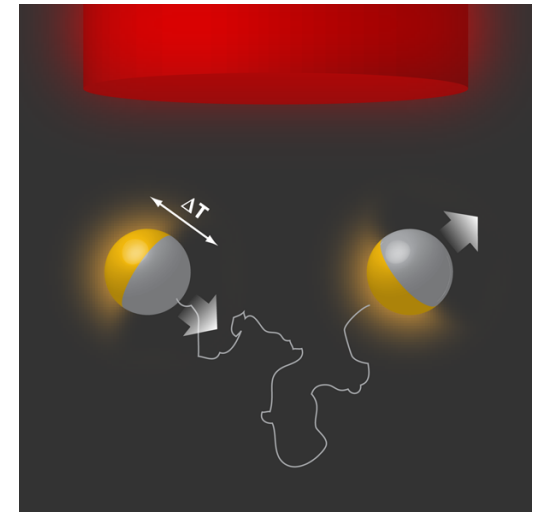
flocks of birds



molecular motors

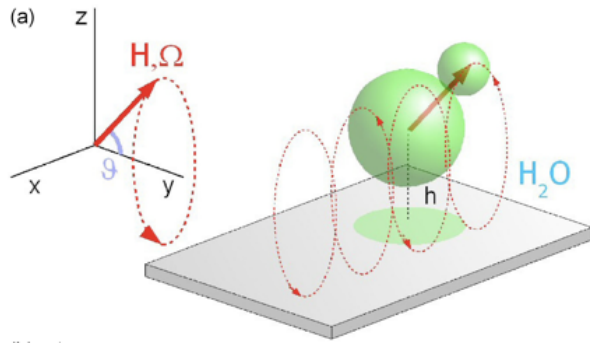


artificial self-propelled objects



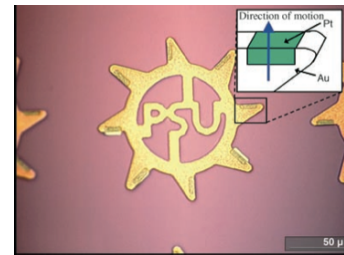
# 1. Introduction

Actuated colloids

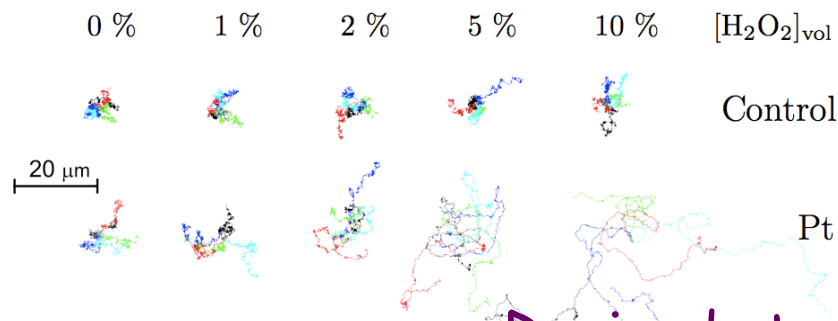
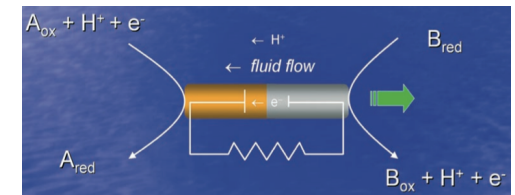
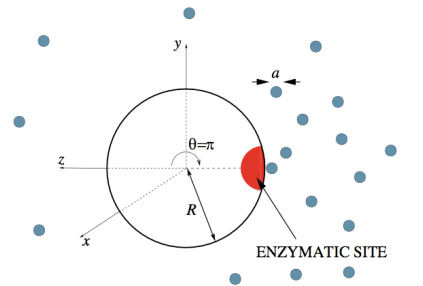


Adding reactivity:  
new propelling mechanisms

Different sets of micro/nano robots



Heterogeneous particles



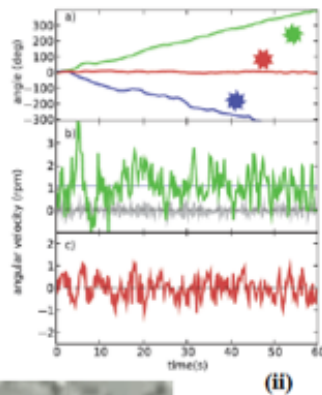
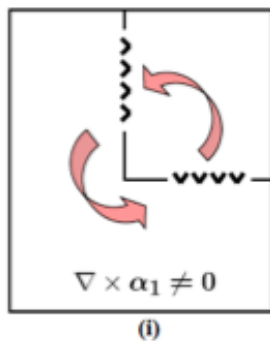
Confinement + asymmetric mobility  
no deformation

Desired structures, adaptive, capable of self repair

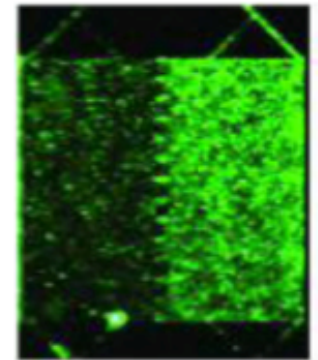
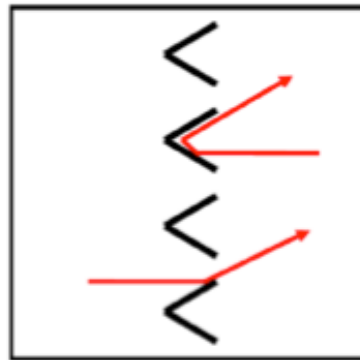
# 1. Introduction

Energy from small scales  
Systems intrinsically out of equilibrium

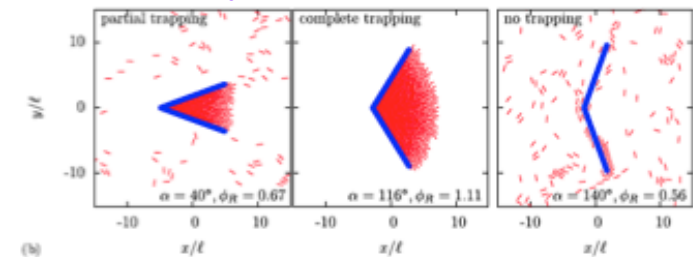
Non-equilibrium distributions  
no detailed balance



Ratchets



Galajda et al. J Bacter. (2007)

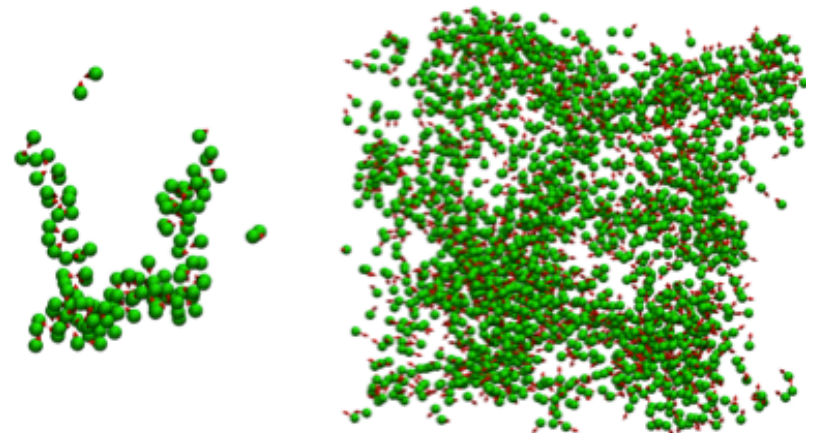


Kaiser et al. PRL (2012)



Emerging patterns  
and phases

Di Leonardo et al. PNAS (2010)

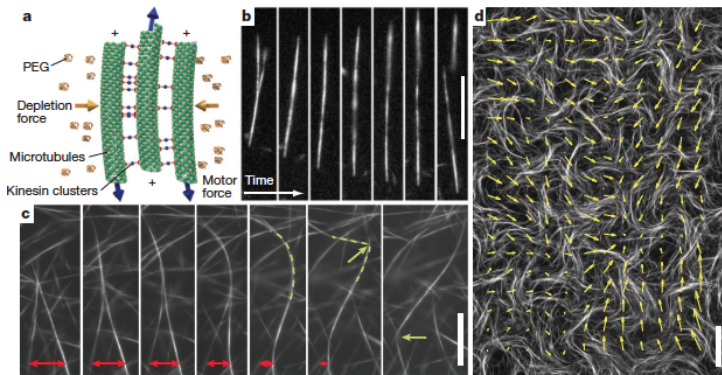




# 1. Introduction

Internal activity  
new materials

Biomimetic cilia  
flagella

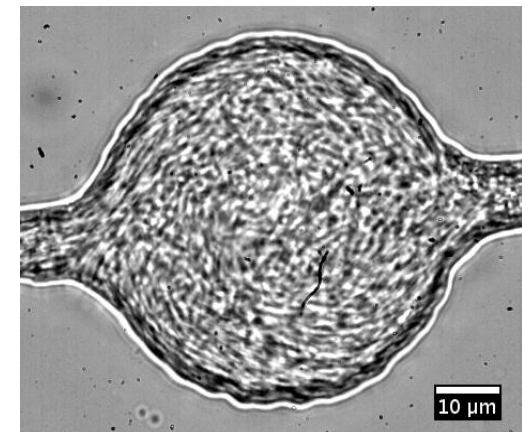
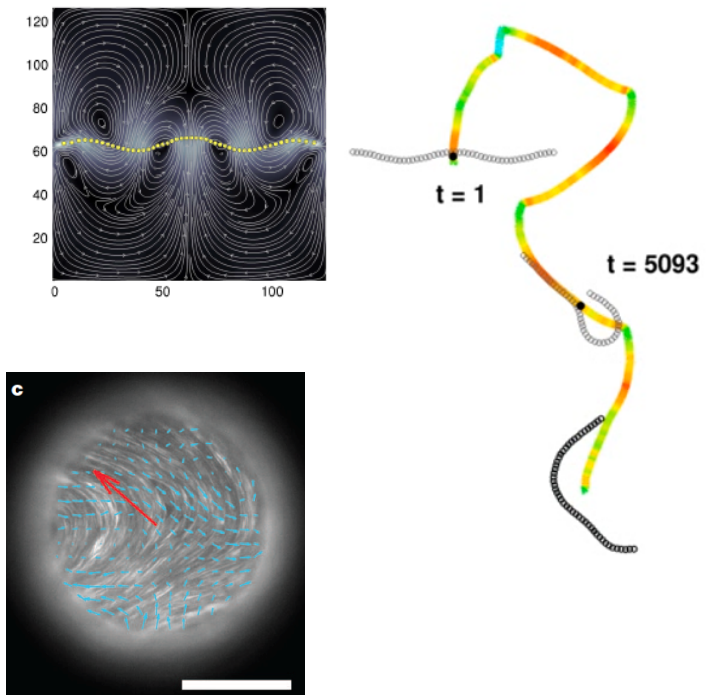


*Sanchez et al. Nature (2013)*

Left: Active Droplets  
Right: Passive Droplets  
10X Magnification  
100μm bar

Active drops

*Jaramayan et al. PRL (2012)*



*Wioland et al. PRL (2013)*

Microfluidic flows

Desired structures, adaptive, capable of self repair

# 1. Introduction

Understanding motion at mesoscale

How does collective transport emerges in systems which move due to internal consumption of energy?

Generic features due to  
dynamic coupling to the environment?

Basic physical mechanisms  
(over)simplified geometries / models  
neglect any specific coupling

# 2. Molecular motors

## Molecular motors on biopolymers

central role in transport and information exchange in cells

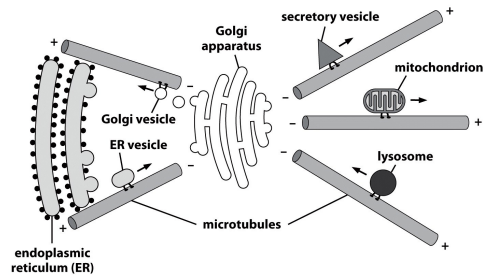


Figure 16.3 Physical Biology of the Cell (© Garland Science 2009)

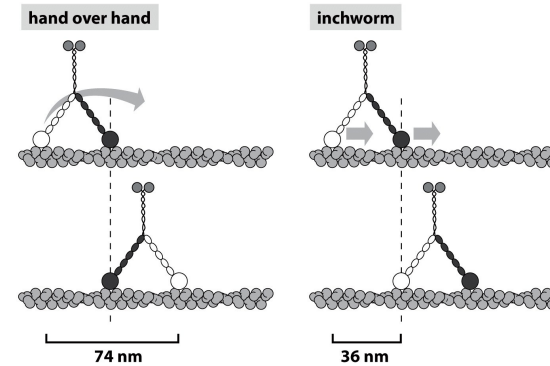


Figure 16.11a Physical Biology of the Cell (© Garland Science 2009)

## Provide structure and activity to flagella

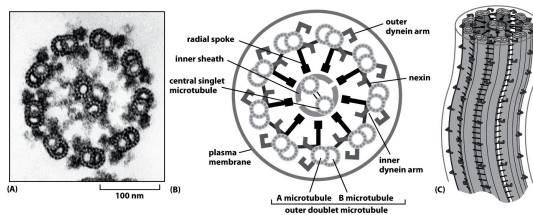


Figure 16.4 Physical Biology of the Cell (© Garland Science 2009)

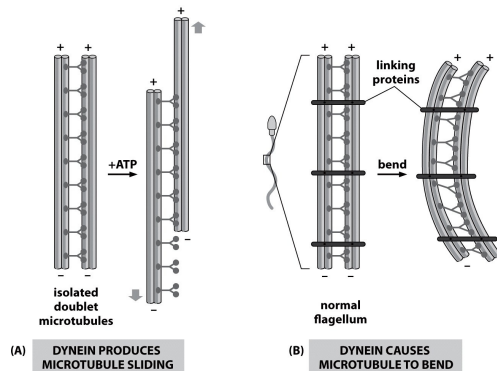


Figure 16.5 Physical Biology of the Cell (© Garland Science 2009)

## How do they displace?

minimal step size

step and stop: large dispersion

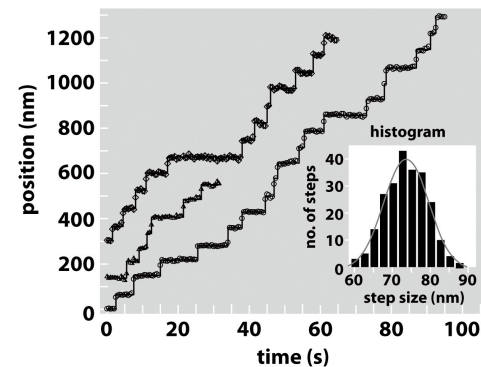


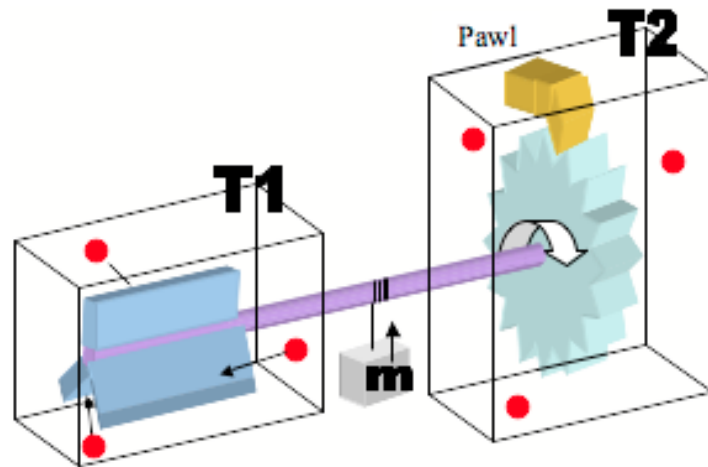
Figure 16.11b Physical Biology of the Cell (© Garland Science 2009)

## 2. Molecular motors

How do molecular motors move?

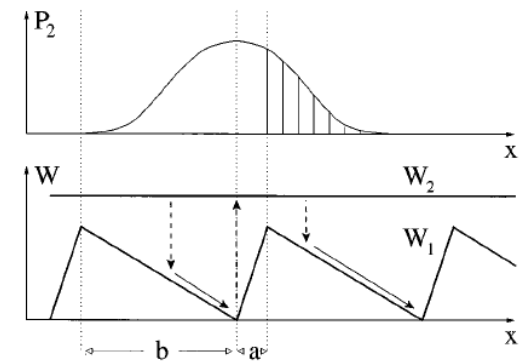
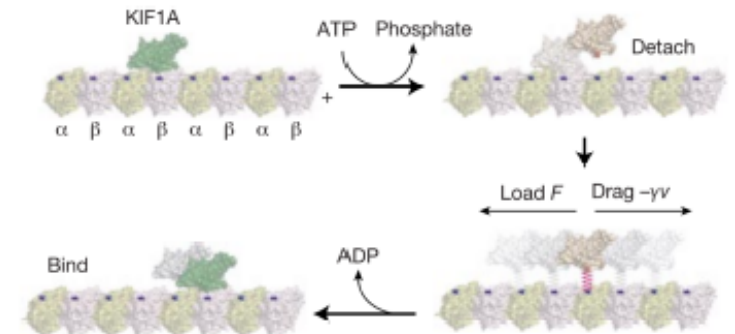
Brownian ratchet analogy

Asymmetry + no-detailed balance



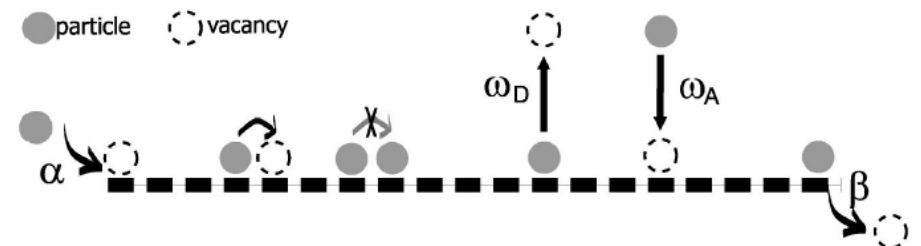
Smoluchowsky

Feynman



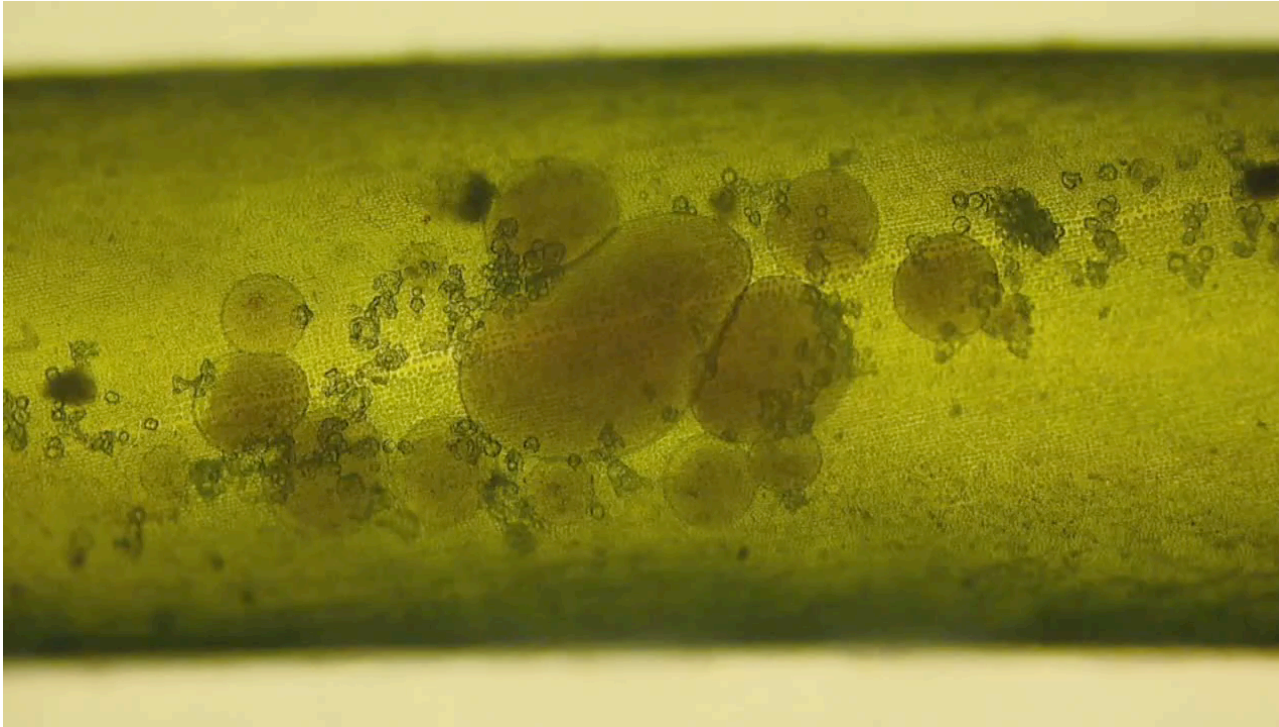
Asymmetry in jump rates

biases diffusion in less bound state



### 3. Collective transport

Inside cells  
molecular motors  
cooperative transport  
role of embedding solvent?

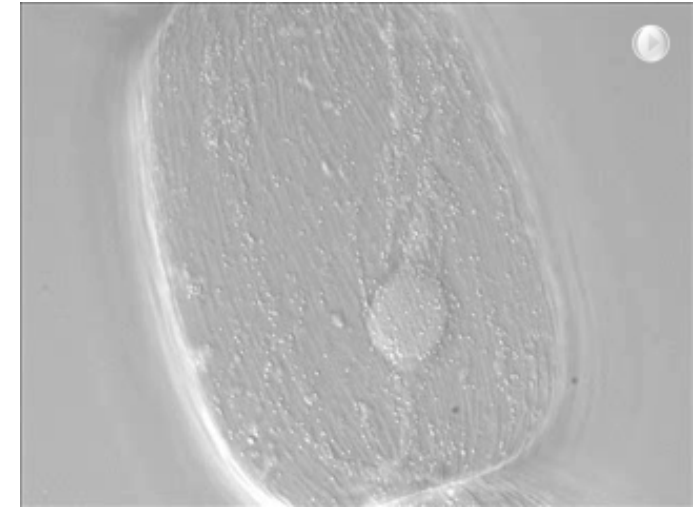


*R. Goldstein*

Relevance of hydrodynamic coupling?  
passive transport?

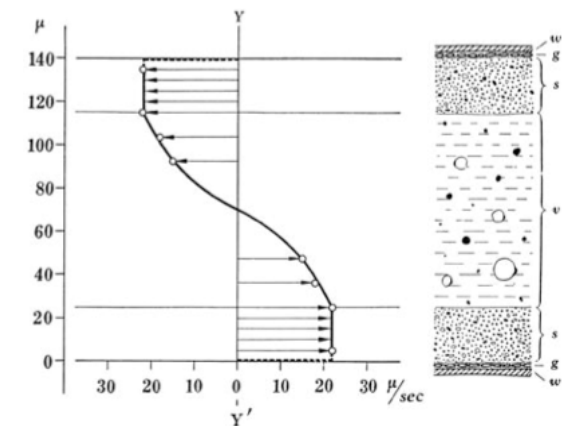
Forces small  
collective flow (restricted geometries)

*Tradescantia virginiana*



Cytoplasmic streaming

Role actin/myosin



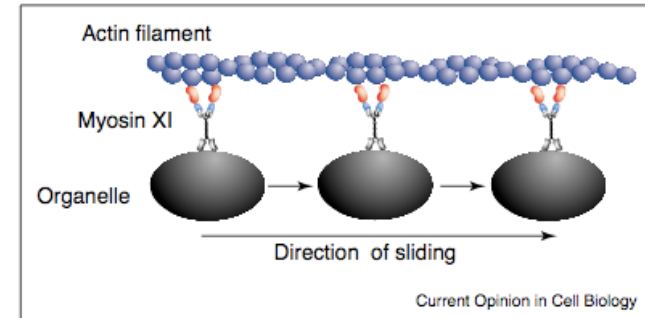
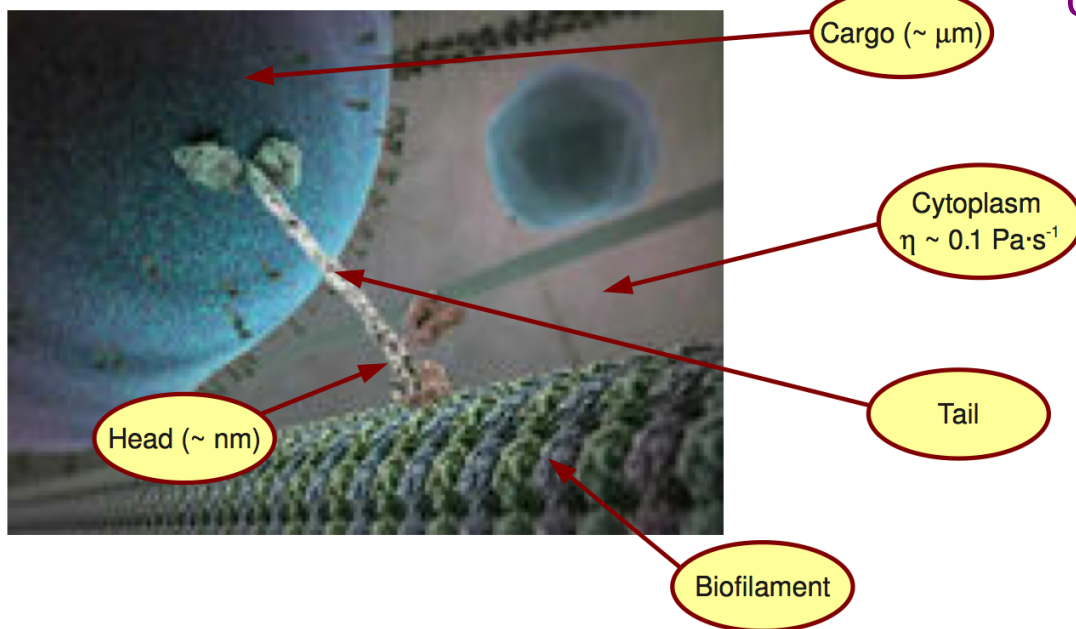
*Shimmen 2007*



# 3. Collective transport

Relevance of hydrodynamic coupling?  
passive transport?

Forces small  
collective flow (restricted geometries)



Cytoplasmatic streaming  
induced by molecular motors?

# 3. Collective transport

Lowe-Andersen thermostat (LAT):

C.P.Lowe, *Europhys. Lett.* 47, 145, (1999).

$$\begin{aligned}
 \vec{r}_i(t + \Delta t) &= \vec{r}_i(t) + \Delta t \vec{v}_i(t) + \frac{1}{2} \Delta t^2 f_i^C(t) \\
 \vec{v}_i(t + \Delta t) &= \vec{v}_i & \Gamma \Delta t < \xi \\
 \vec{v}_j(t + \Delta t) &= \vec{v}_j & \Gamma \Delta t < \xi \\
 \text{"Bath" collision} \left\{ \begin{aligned} \vec{v}_i(t + \Delta t) &= \vec{v}_i + \frac{\mu_{ij}}{m_i} \left( \theta_{ij} \sqrt{\frac{kT}{\mu_{ij}}} - (\vec{v}_i - \vec{v}_j) \cdot \hat{r}_{ij} \right) \hat{r}_{ij} & \Gamma \Delta t \geq \xi \\ \vec{v}_j(t + \Delta t) &= \vec{v}_j - \frac{\mu_{ij}}{m_j} \left( \theta_{ij} \sqrt{\frac{kT}{\mu_{ij}}} - (\vec{v}_i - \vec{v}_j) \cdot \hat{r}_{ij} \right) \hat{r}_{ij} & \Gamma \Delta t \geq \xi \end{aligned} \right.
 \end{aligned}$$

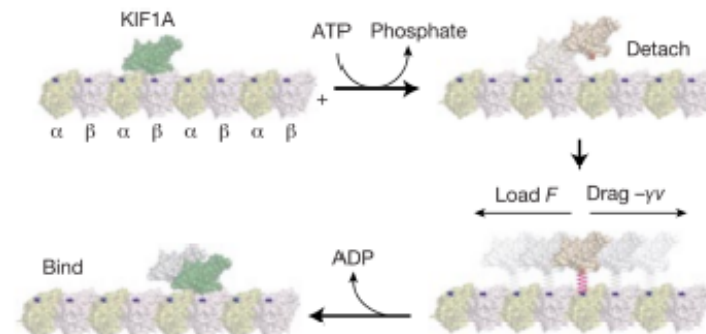
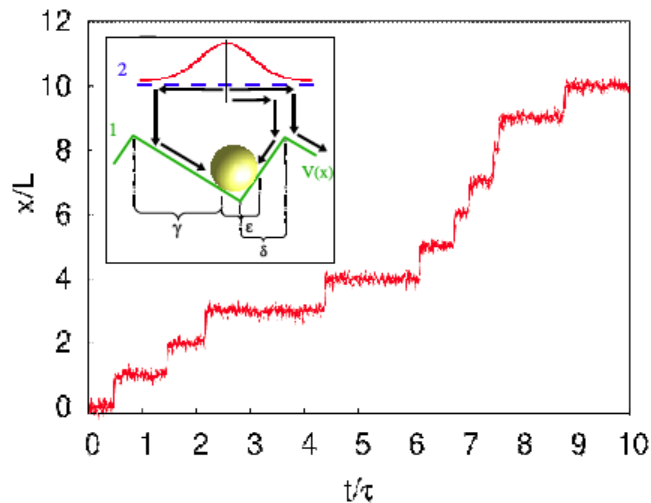
Here  $\Gamma$  is a bath collision frequency (plays a similar role to  $\gamma/m$  in DPD)

- Bath collisions are processed for all pairs with  $r_{ij} < r_c$
- The current value of the velocity is always used in the bath collision (hence the lack of an explicit time on the R.H.S.)
- The quantity  $\xi$  is a random number uniformly distributed in the range 0-1
- Reduced mass for particles  $i$  and  $j$ ,  $\mu_{ij} = m_i m_j / (m_i + m_j)$

# 3. Collective transport

Motors step rather than slide

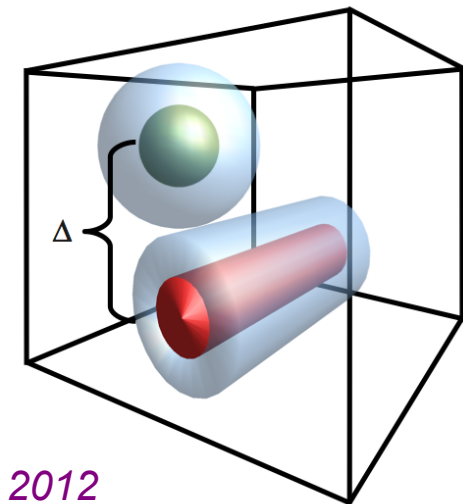
Need for a detailed description of motor displacement along a biofilaments?



## Ratchet model

Combined motion +  
coupling to solvent

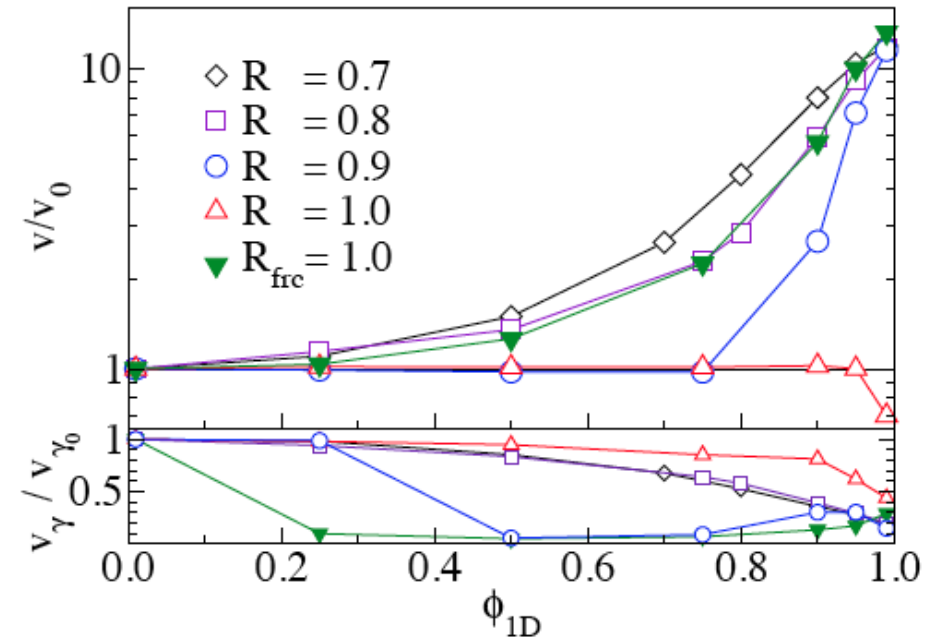
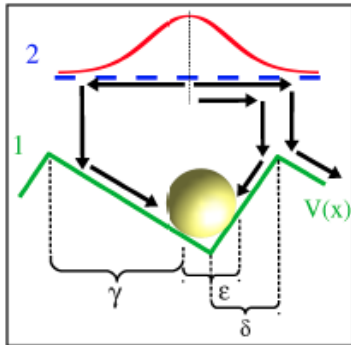
Simplified geometry



# 3. Collective transport

Correlated trajectories due to pull/push

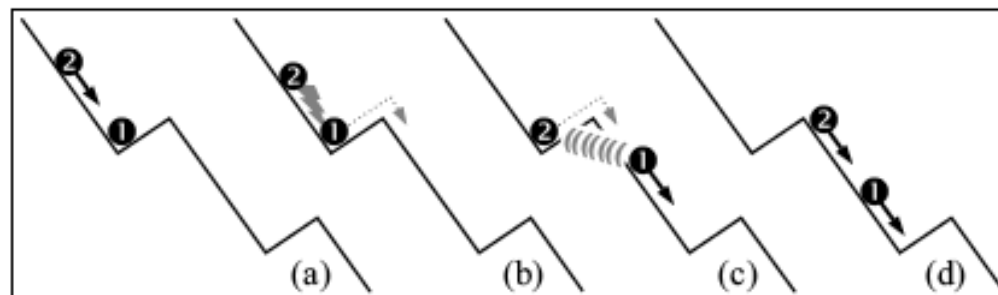
Excluded volume  
substrate periodicity



Relevance of forcing during free diffusion

Determine velocity enhancement

Commensurate motors do not see each other

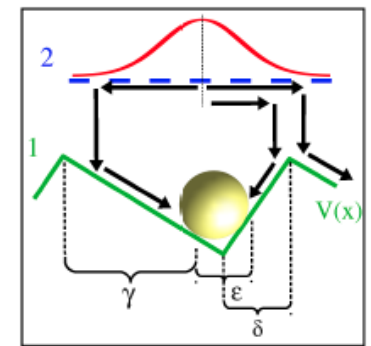
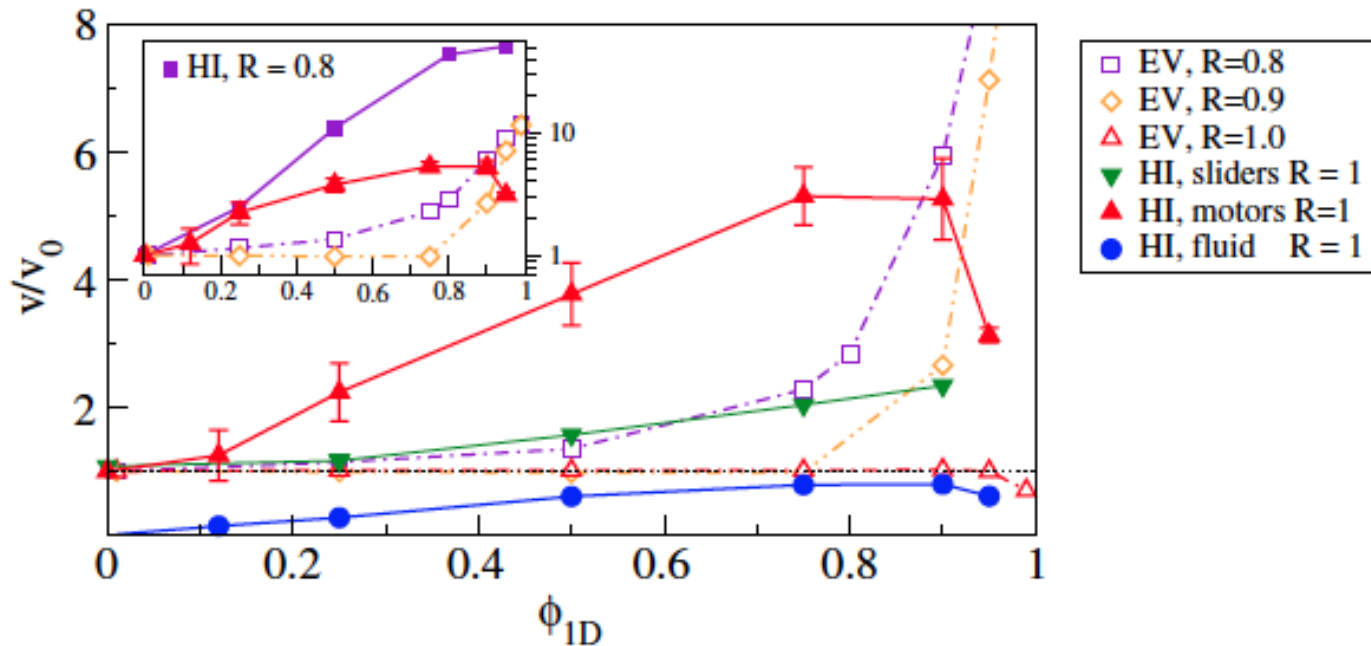


Forced colloids

*Lutz et al 06*

# 3. Collective transport

Minimize excluded volume interactions



Bias due to induced flow during diffusion

Correlated trajectories due to hydrodynamic pull/push

Long-range hydrodynamic coupling subdominant

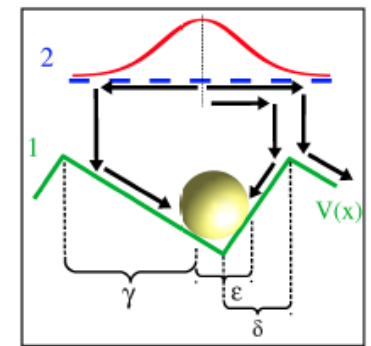
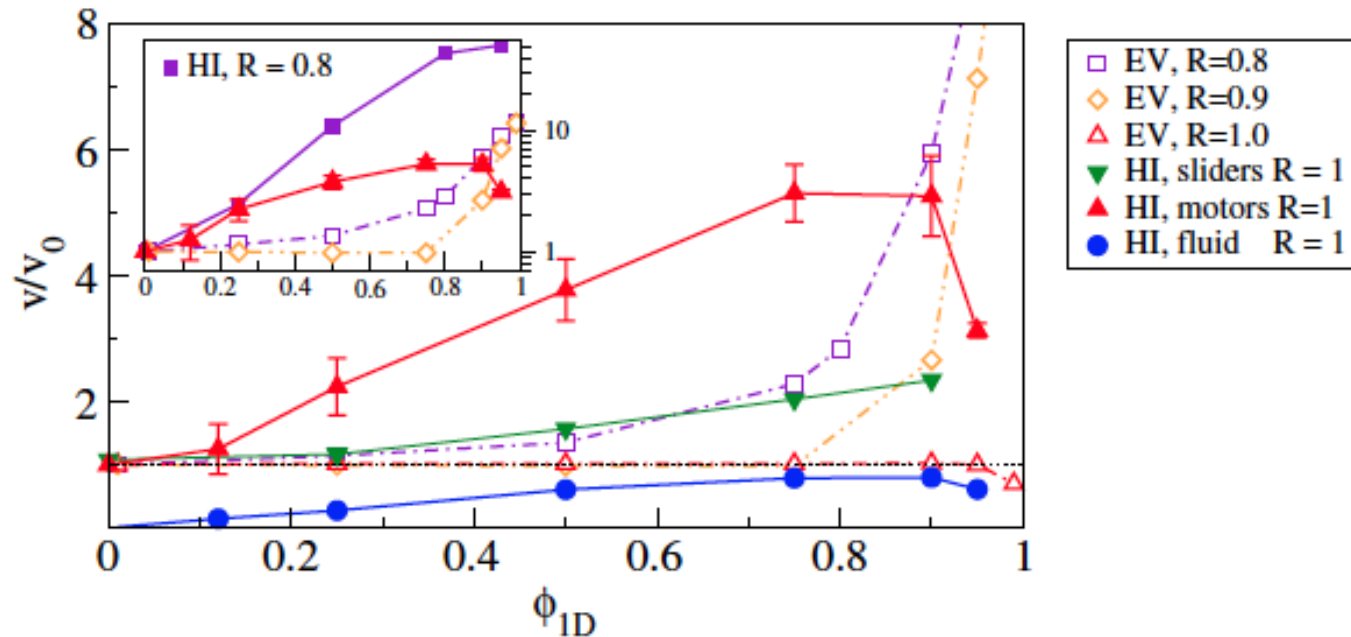
Forces small  
motion due to collective flow

Hydrodynamics enhances transport  
suspended particles



# 3. Collective transport

Minimize excluded volume interactions



$$v \simeq 2 \frac{f}{6\pi\eta a} \rho p_l \frac{l-\delta}{l} \int_{2R}^{L/2} dr \frac{3a}{2r}$$

$$\Delta t \simeq \frac{1}{2} \frac{6\pi\eta a}{f(l-\delta)}$$

When does coupling induce significant displacement

$$v\Delta t \geq \delta$$

$$\bar{\phi}_{1D} \equiv 2\delta/(l-d)^2 \ln L/4a$$

Hydrodynamic transient coupling  
new mechanism for activated motion?  
less sensitive to confinement

# 3. Collective transport

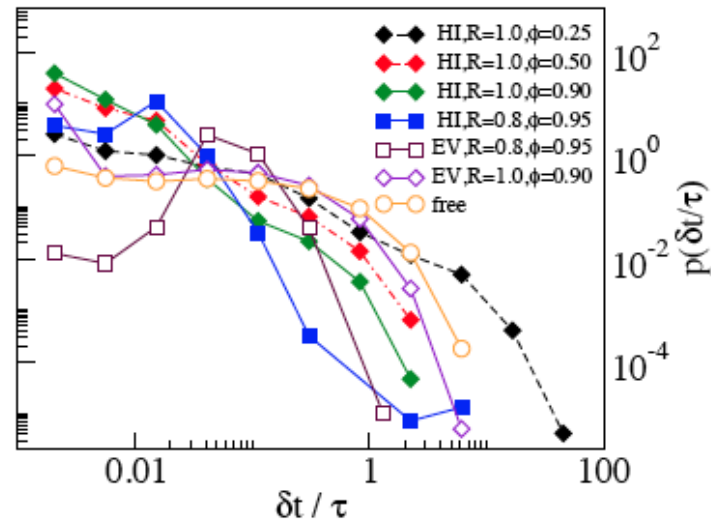
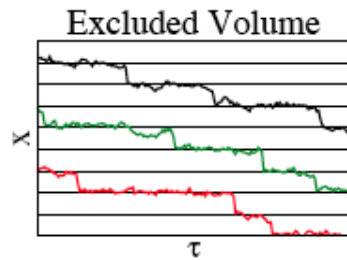
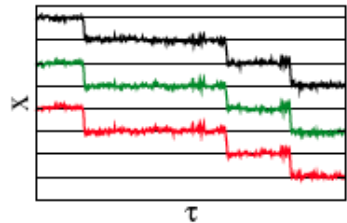
Correlated trajectories due to hydrodynamic pull/push

Dwelling times consecutive motors

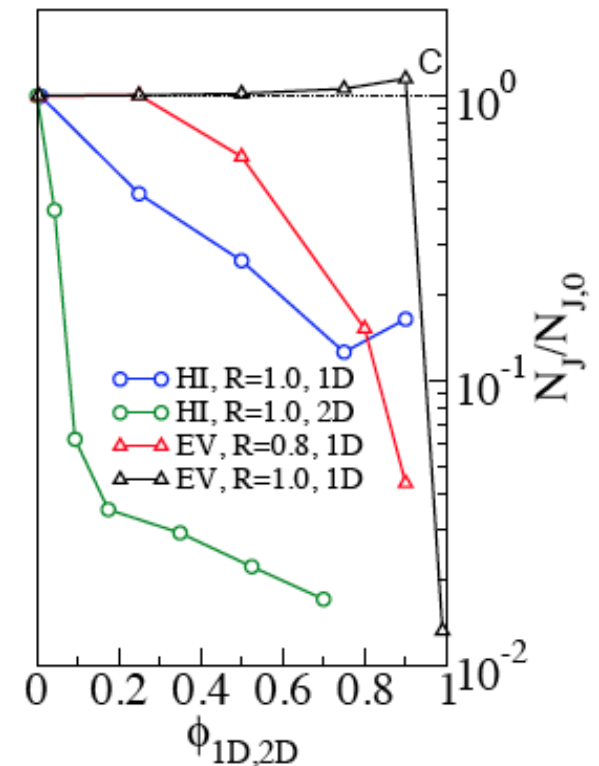
Correlated jumps

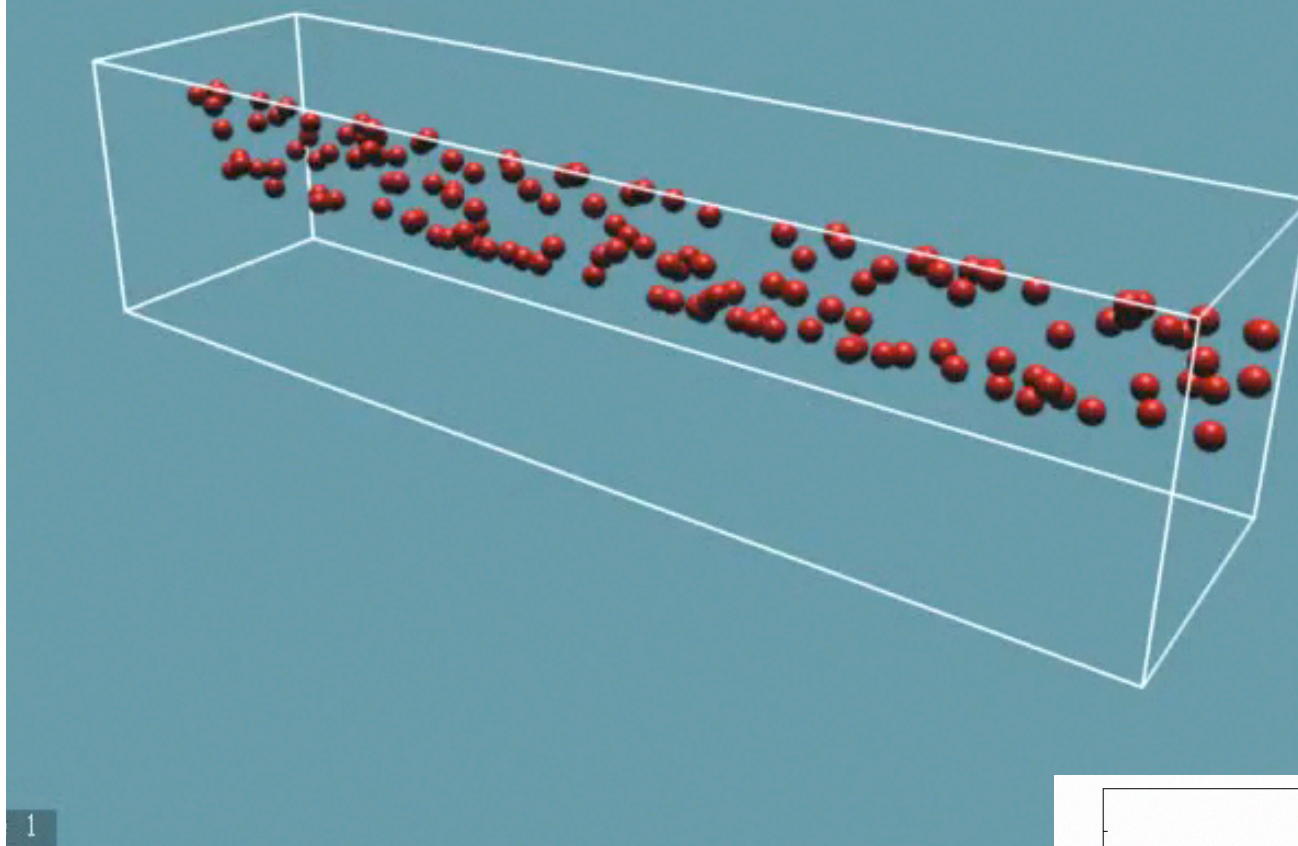
Decrease longer dwelling times

Hydrodynamic coupling



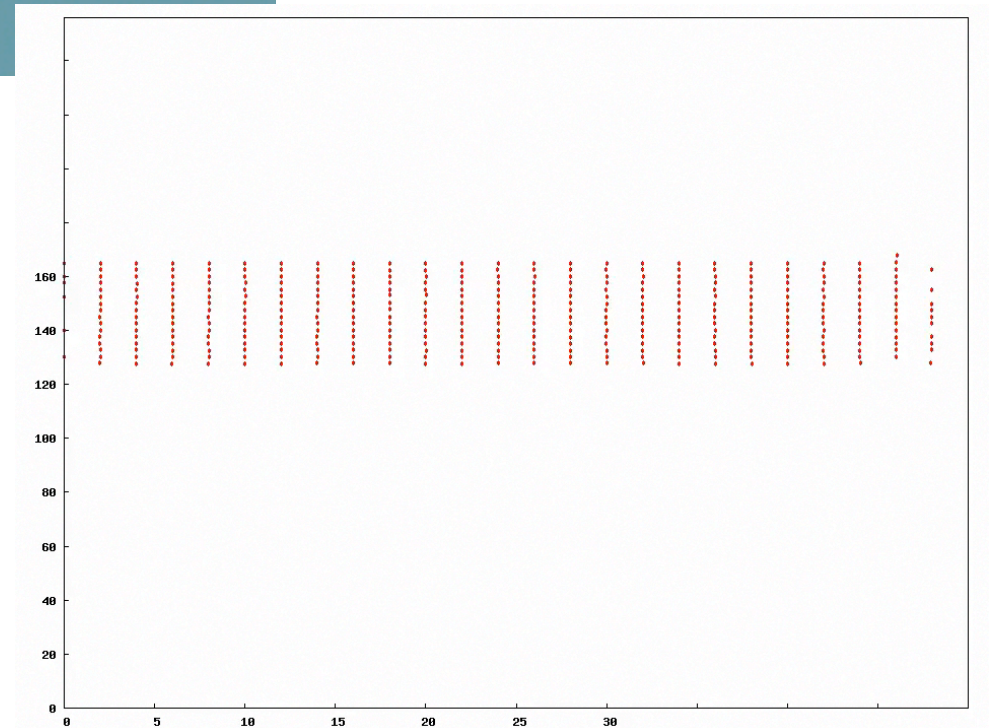
Hydrodynamic coupling  
decrease in energy cost  
energy used to move isolated motor  
exploited by neighbours



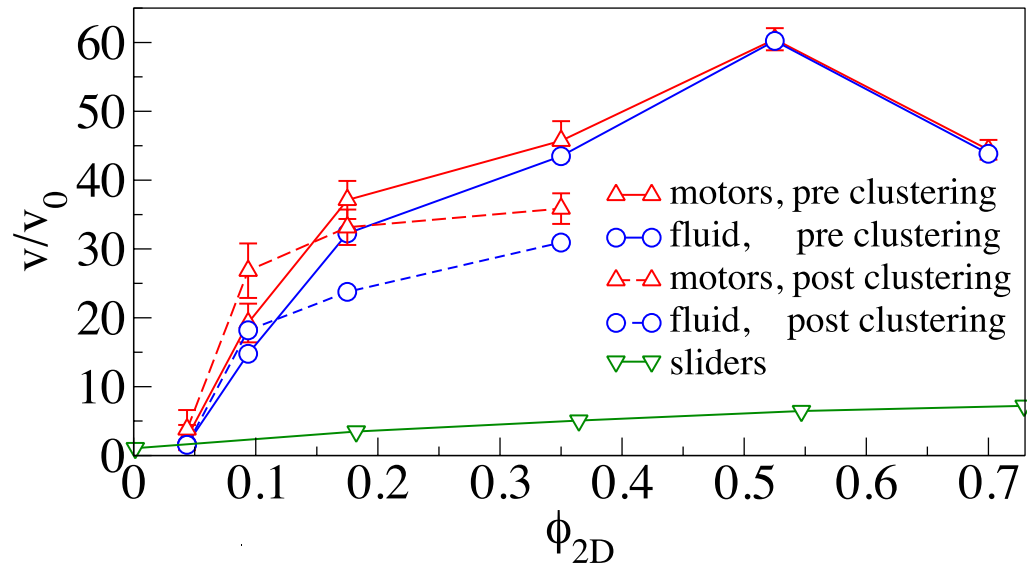


Cluster formation: ring stability?

Shock wave?

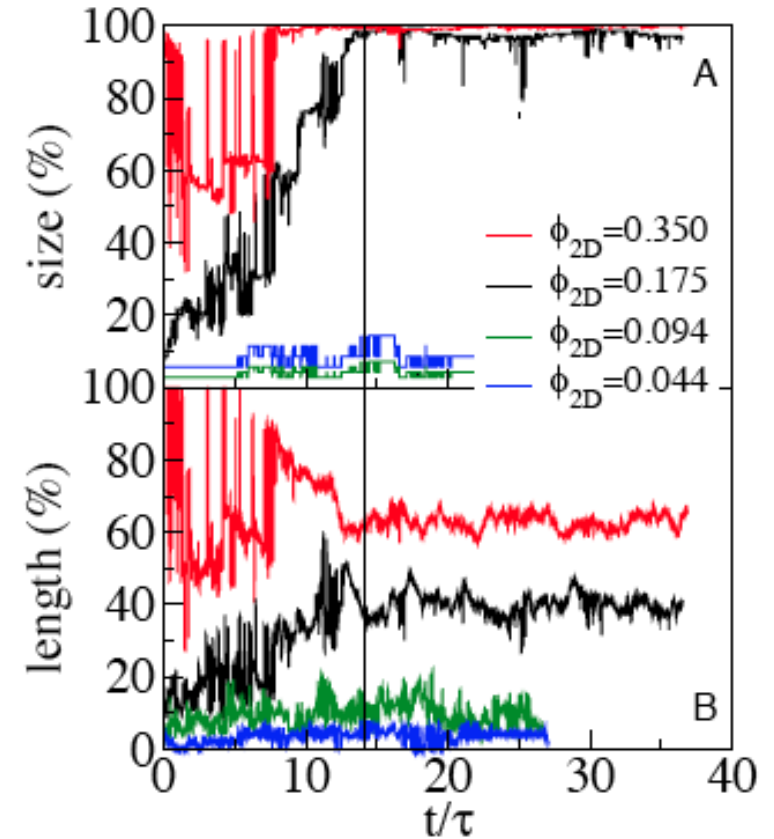


### 3. Collective transport



Cluster formation: ring stability?

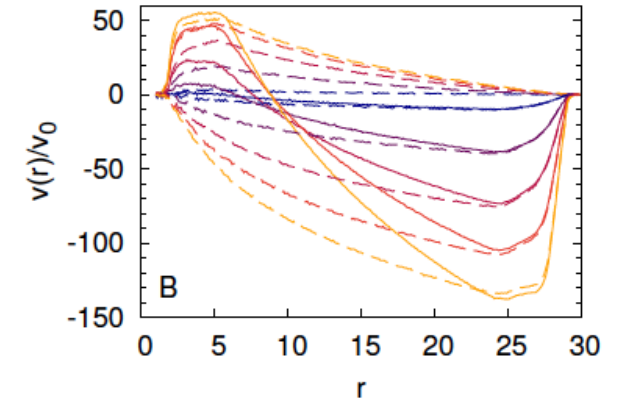
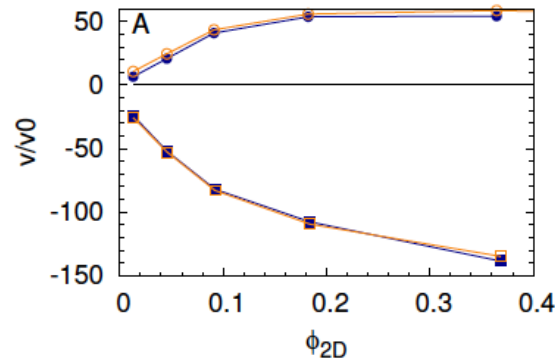
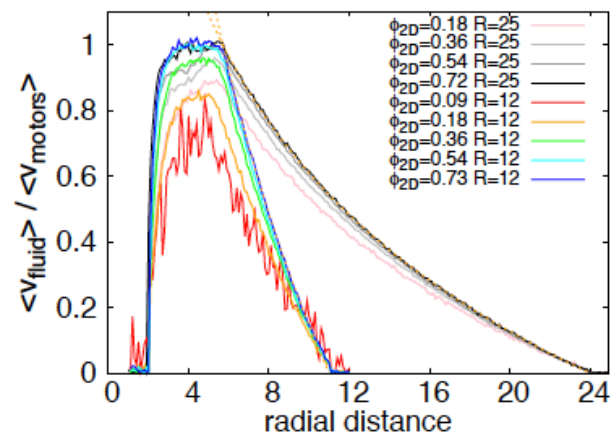
Shock wave?



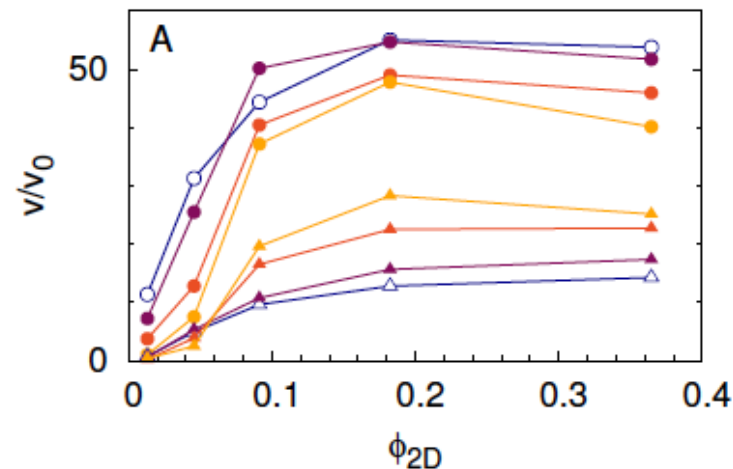
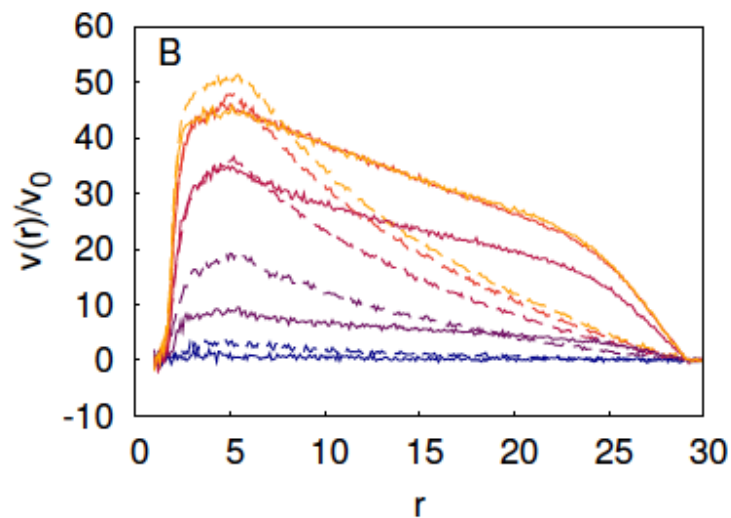
Fraction of motors in  
largest cluster

# 3. Collective transport

Molecular motors generate cytoplasmic flow



Drives suspended organelles for free



Interference / Coupling with motors



## 4. Microswimmers

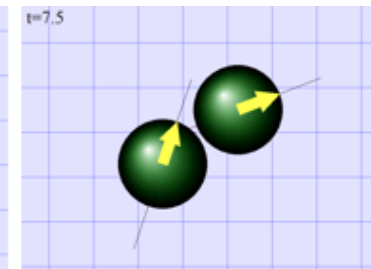
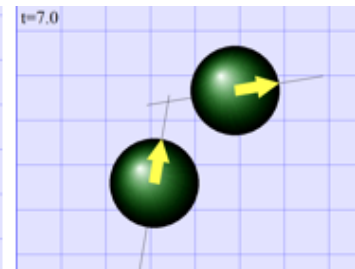
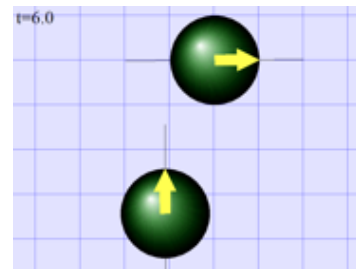
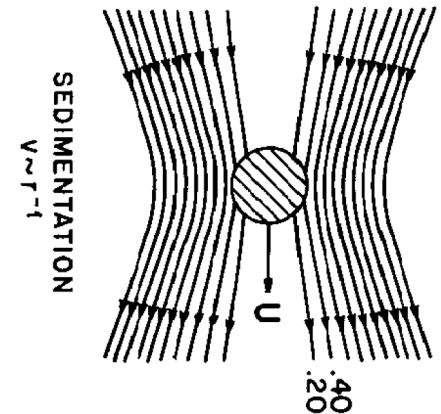
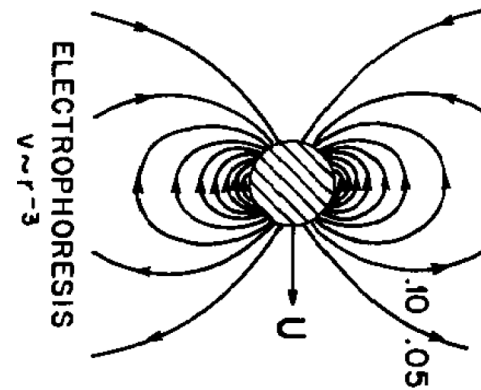
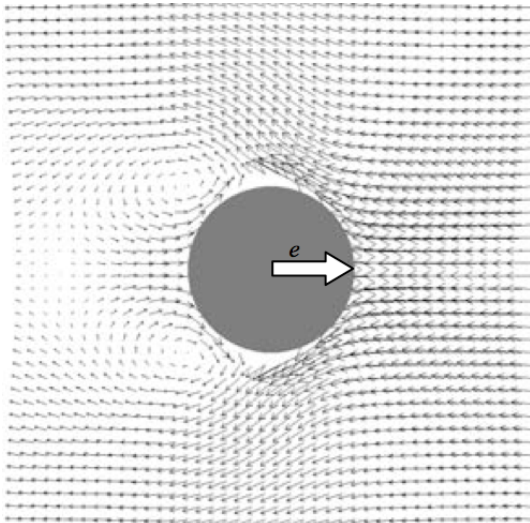
Dynamics of active particles

Low Reynolds numbers

Absence of external driving  
closer to electrophoresis?

Relevance of swimming mechanism

Fluid flows with vorticity

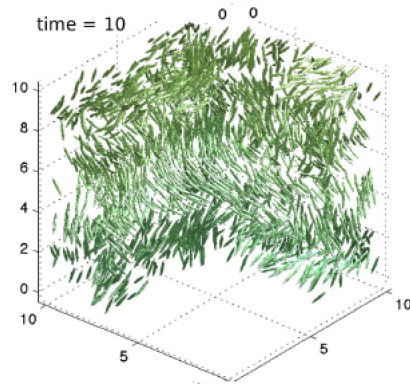
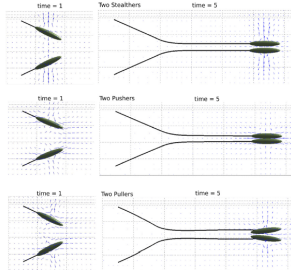


Coupling translation/rotation  
relevance of near field interactions

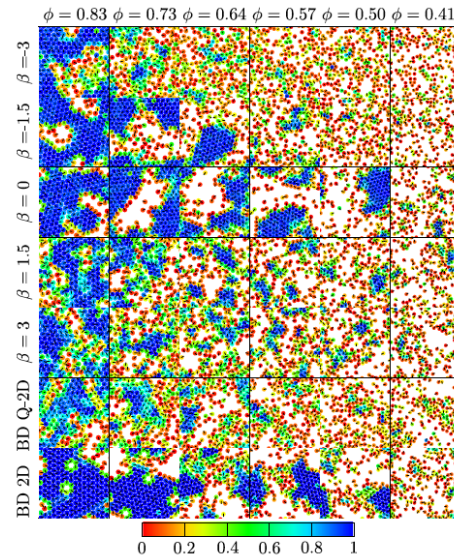
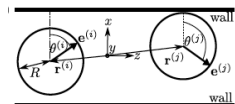
# 4. Microswimmers

Hydrodynamic coupling - long range

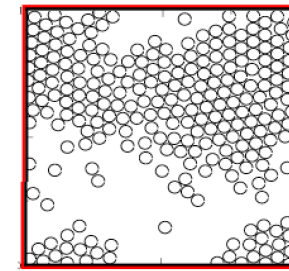
Relevance of shape



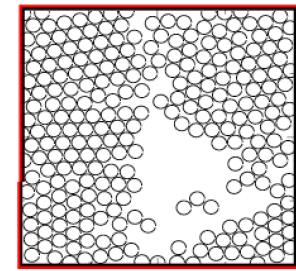
Lushi et al. (2013)



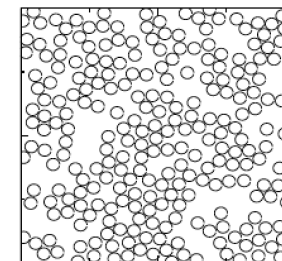
Disks/spheres  
prevent crystallization?



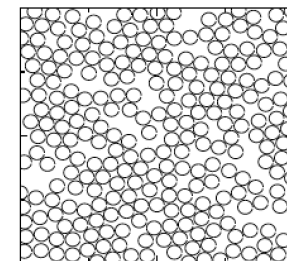
(a)  $\zeta = 15.0, \phi = 0.5445$



(b)  $\zeta = 15.0, \phi = 0.726$



(c)  $\zeta = 1.0, \phi = 0.5445$



(d)  $\zeta = 1.0, \phi = 0.726$

Matas-Navarro et al. (2014)

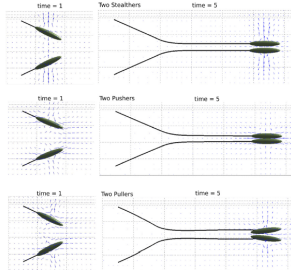
Zottl et al. (2014)



# 4. Microswimmers

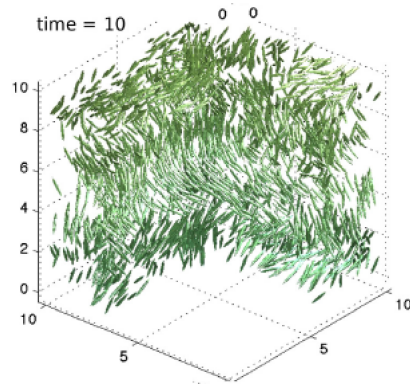
Hydrodynamic coupling - long range

Relevance of shape

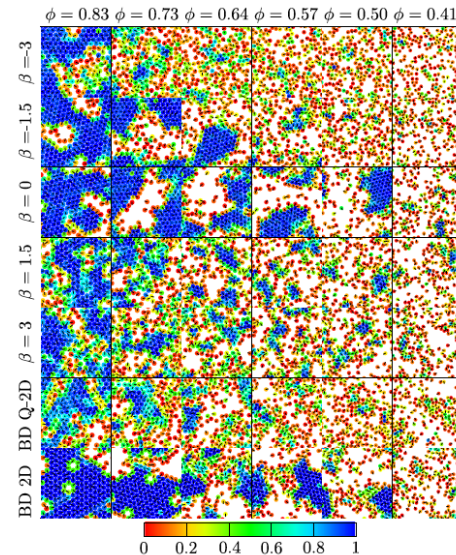
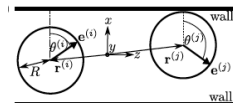


Unsteady flows

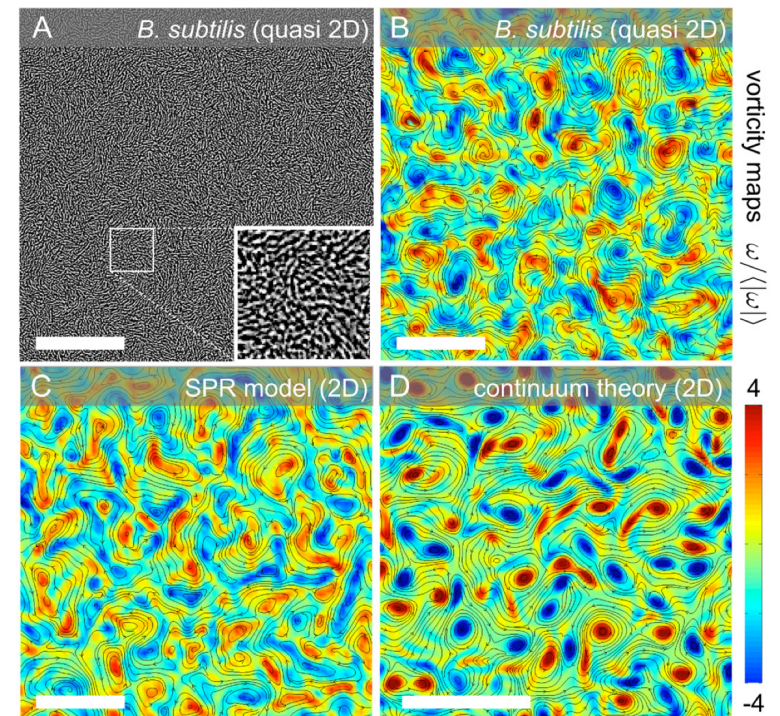
Meso-scale turbulence



Lushi et al. (2013)



Zottl et al. (2014)



Wensick et al. (2012) 22

## 4. Microswimmers

### Squirmers

Metachronal wave on *Opalina*, *Paramecium*.  
Fixed tangential velocity profile on the  
surface (Lighthill, 1952; Blake, 1971)

Surface tangential velocity

$$\mathbf{v}_S = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n V_n(\cos \theta) \mathbf{t}$$

$$\mathbf{v}_S = (B_1 \sin \theta + B_2 \sin \theta \cos \theta) \mathbf{t}$$

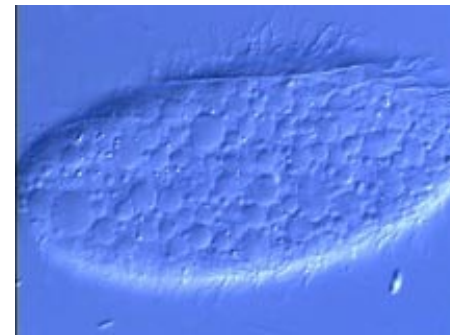
$$\beta = B_2/B_1$$

Steady squirmer

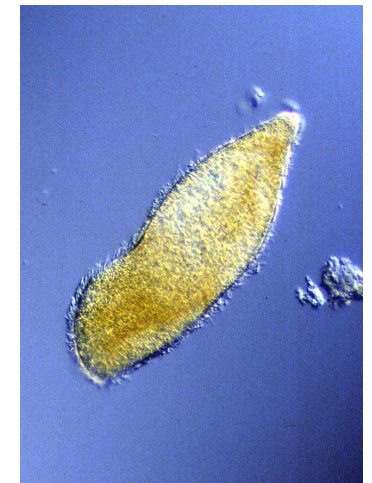
(Pedley 1986)

$$u_{\infty} = \frac{2}{3} B_1$$

Propulsion velocity

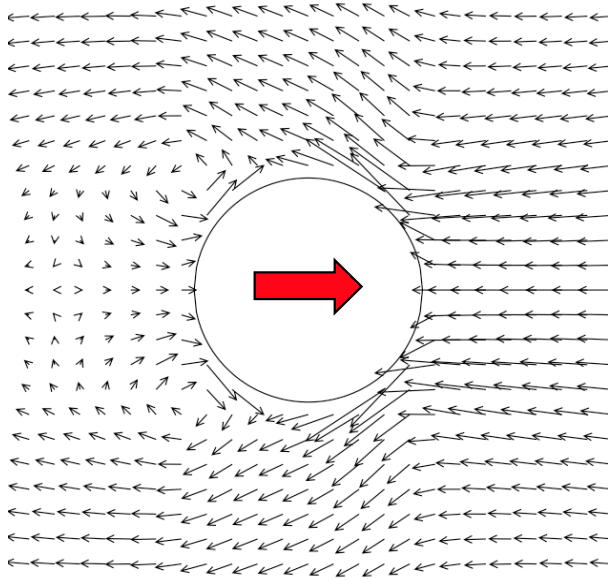


*Opalina*





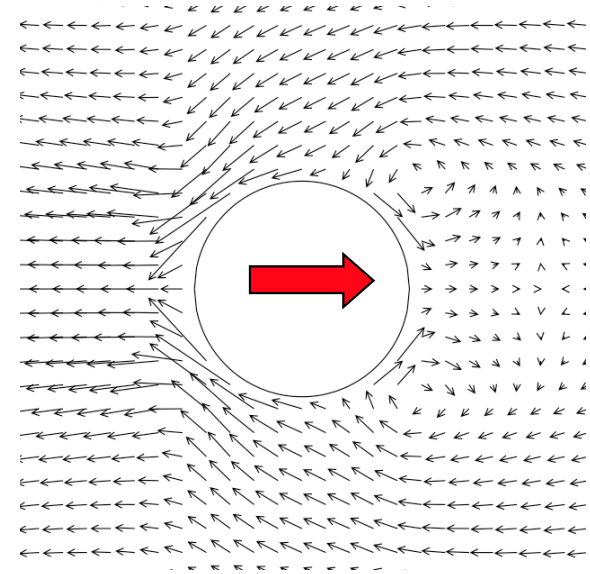
# Chlamydomonas



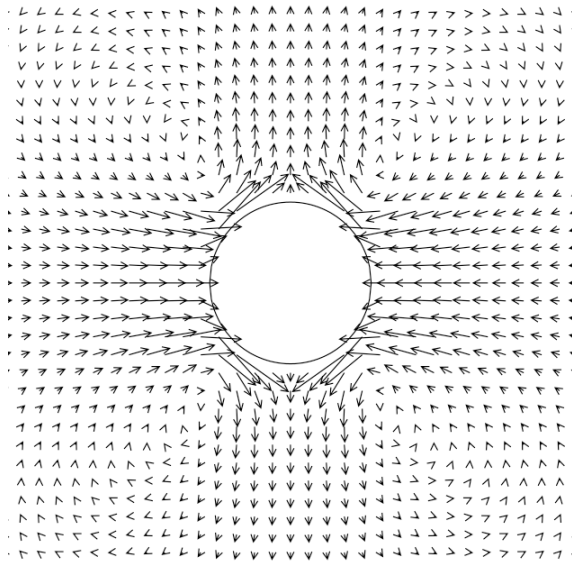
$\beta > 0$   
puller

$$v \sim 1/r^2$$

# E. coli



$\beta < 0$   
pusher



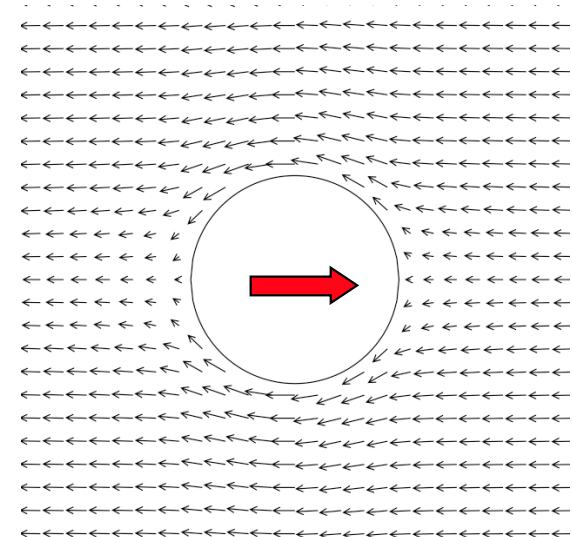
$$B_1 = 0$$

$$B_2 \neq 0$$

Apolar

$\beta = 0$   
Passive  
squirmer

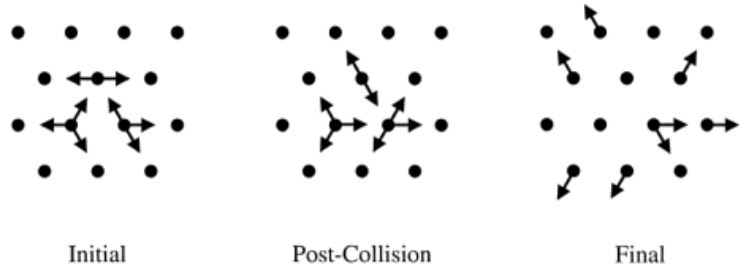
$$v \sim 1/r^3$$





# 4. Microswimmer suspension: Model

Lattice kinetic model: "microscopic" dynamics



$$f_i(r + c_i, t + 1) = f_i(r, t) - \omega [f_i(r, t) - f_i^{eq}(r, t)]$$

$$\sum f_i = \rho$$

Conserved variables  
Proper symmetries

$$\sum f_i c_i = \rho v$$

$$\sum f_i c_i c_i = \rho v v + P$$

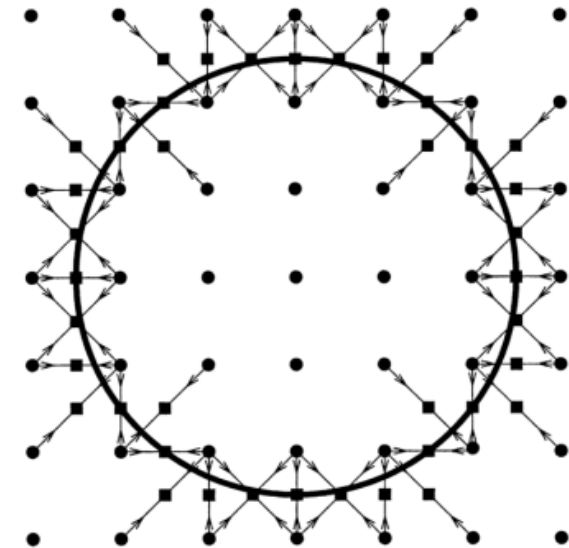
Colloid

rigid hollow surface

collision

bounce-back

*Hydrodynamic equations*



Hybrid scheme:      molecular dynamics

Pre-selection of relevant degrees of freedom

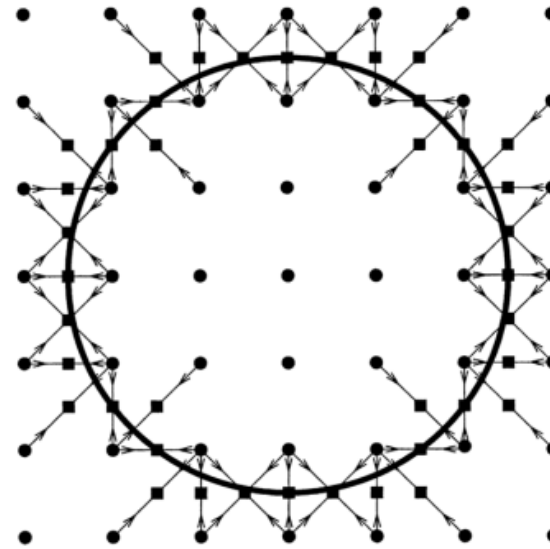
## 4. Microswimmer suspension: Model

Hard core

No temperature

No tumbling

focus on hydrodynamic coupling



$$\mathbf{v}_S = (B_1 \sin \theta + B_2 \sin \theta \cos \theta) \mathbf{t}$$

*Slip velocity as a local bounce-back*

Additional attraction

competition with activity

Transition to an ordered phase:

LJ interaction strength is reduced and

B2 is not too big.

Stokes Law, small Reynolds

$$F_d = 6\pi\eta R_p v_s \quad v_s = \frac{2}{3} B_1$$

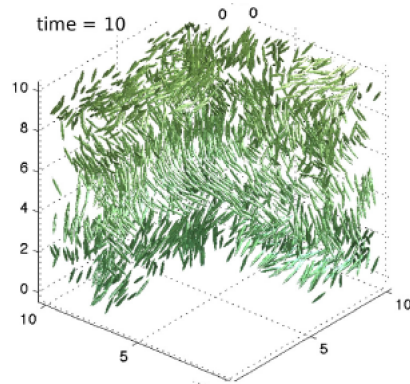
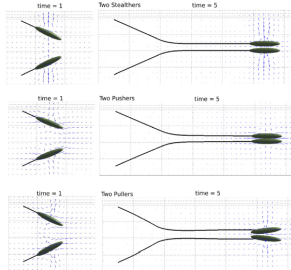
$$\eta = 0.5, R_p = 2.3$$

$$\xi = \frac{F_d}{F_{LJ}(r = \sigma_{LJ})}$$

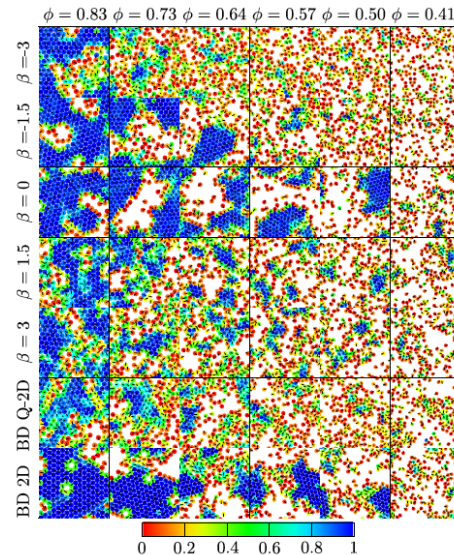
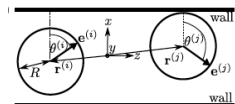
# 4. Microswimmers

Hydrodynamic coupling - long range

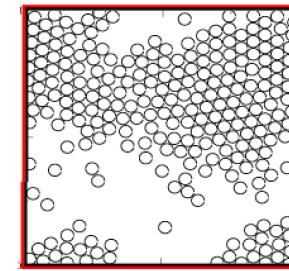
Relevance of shape



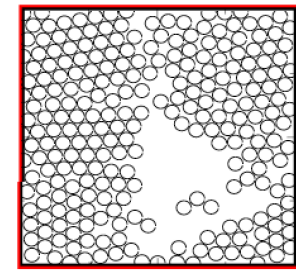
Lushi et al. (2013)



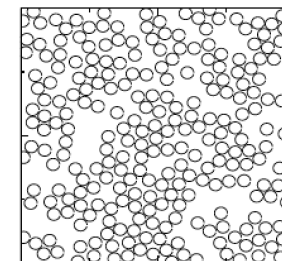
Disks/spheres  
prevent crystallization?



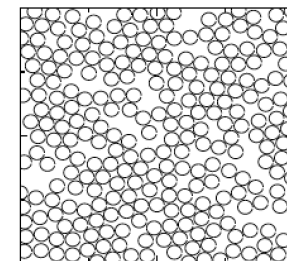
(a)  $\zeta = 15.0, \phi = 0.5445$



(b)  $\zeta = 15.0, \phi = 0.726$



(c)  $\zeta = 1.0, \phi = 0.5445$

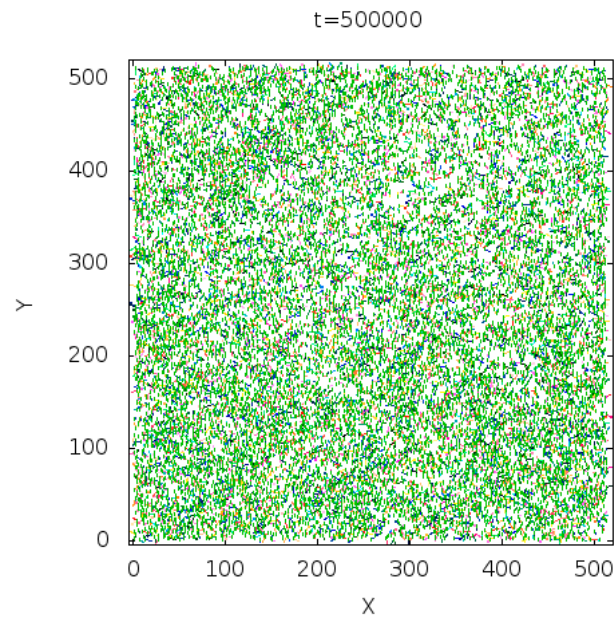
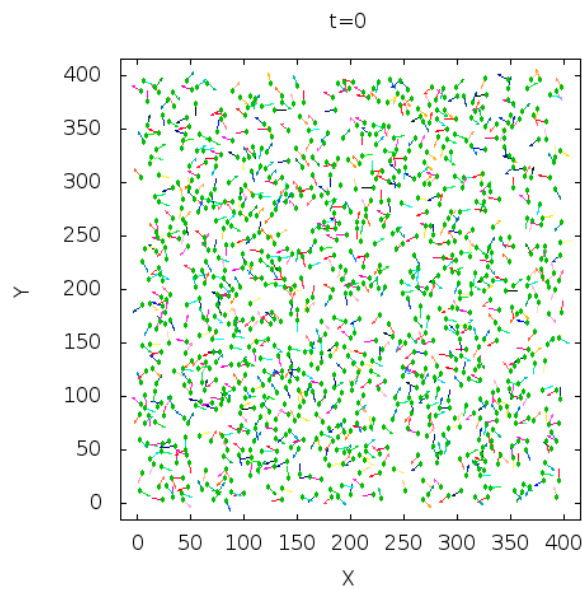


(d)  $\zeta = 1.0, \phi = 0.726$

Matas-Navarro et al. (2014)

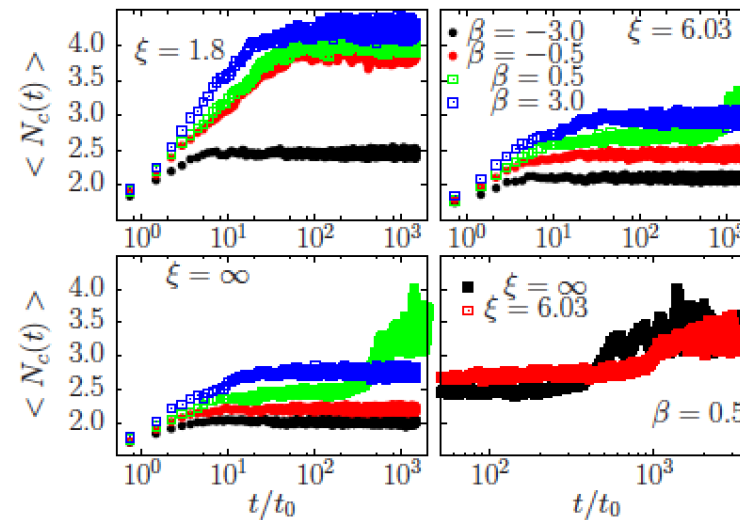
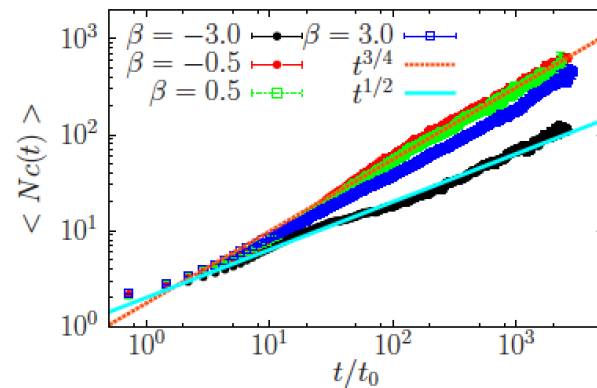
Zottl et al. (2014)

# 5. Cluster morphologies



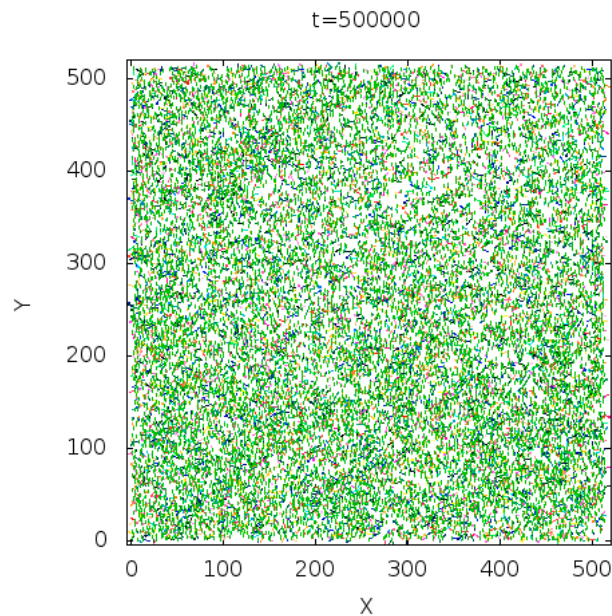
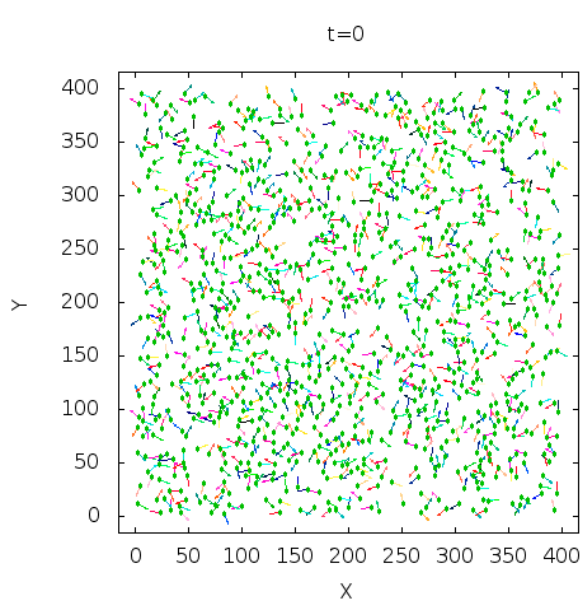
Dynamic structures

Morphological  
characterization?





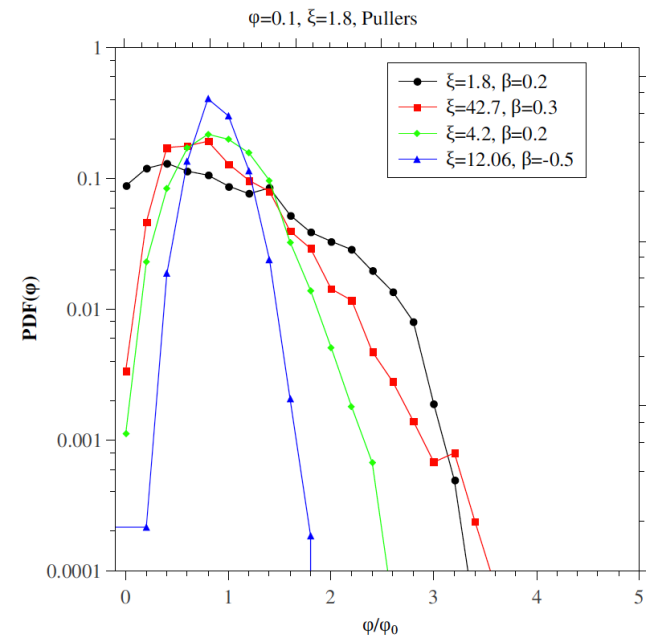
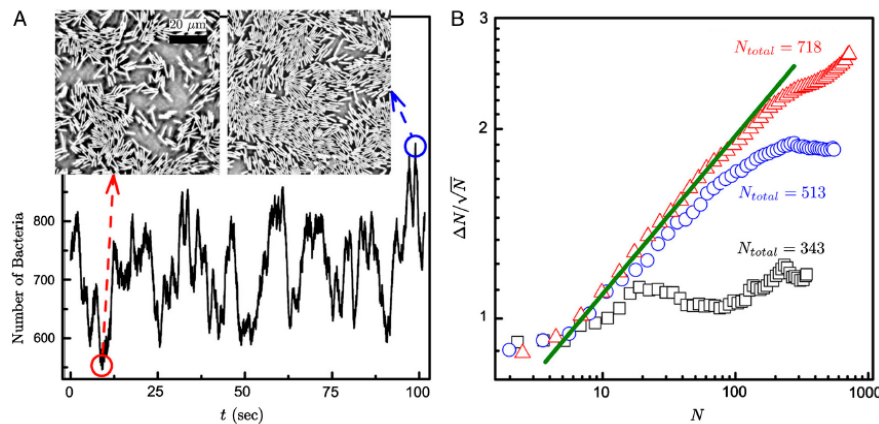
# 5. Cluster morphologies



Dynamic structures

Morphological  
characterization?

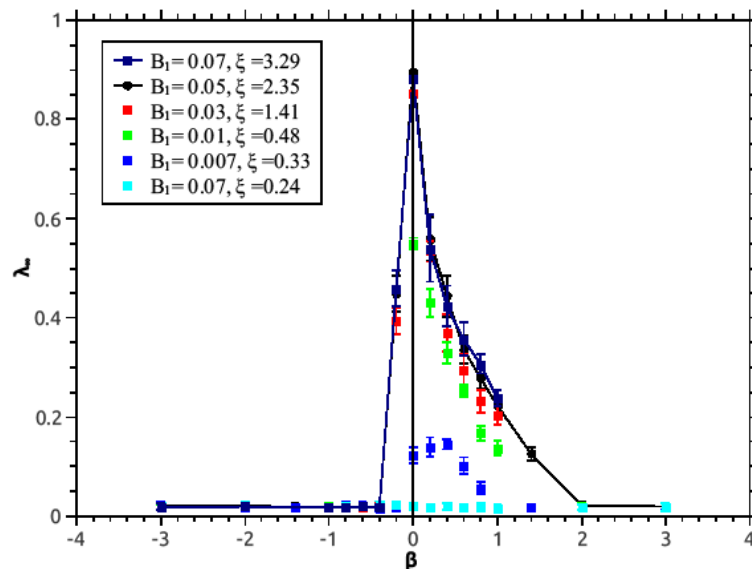
## Density fluctuations



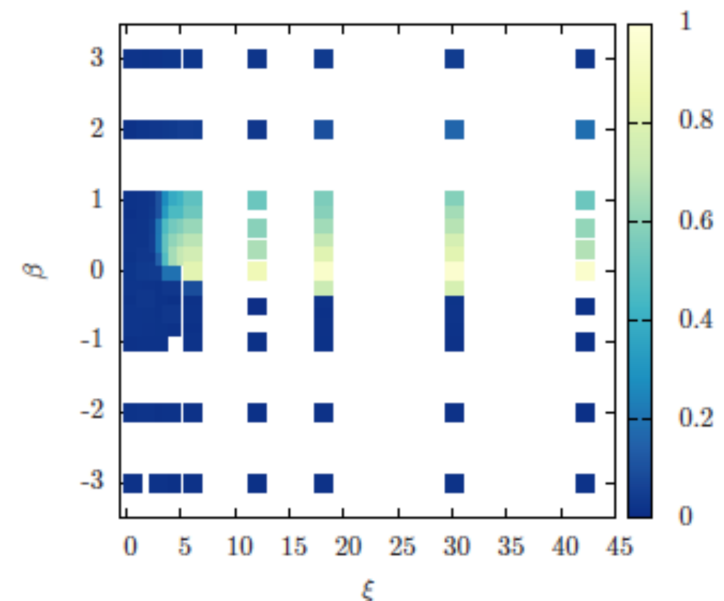
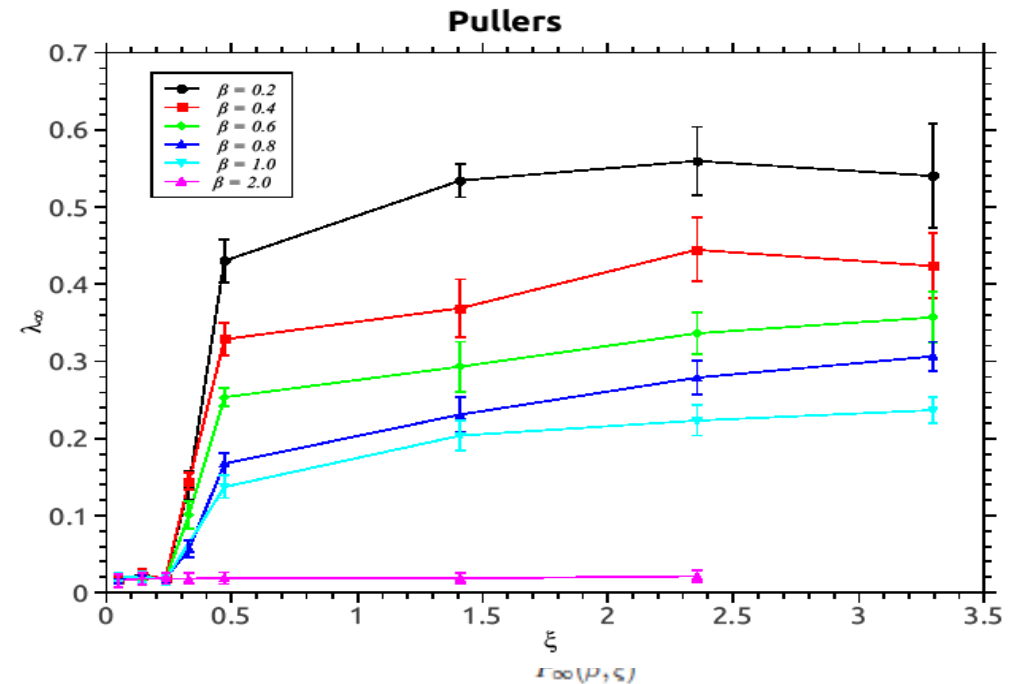


# 5. Squirmer suspensions: density fluctuations

Quantify degree of ordering  
sensitive to active stresses  
distinguish puller/pusher



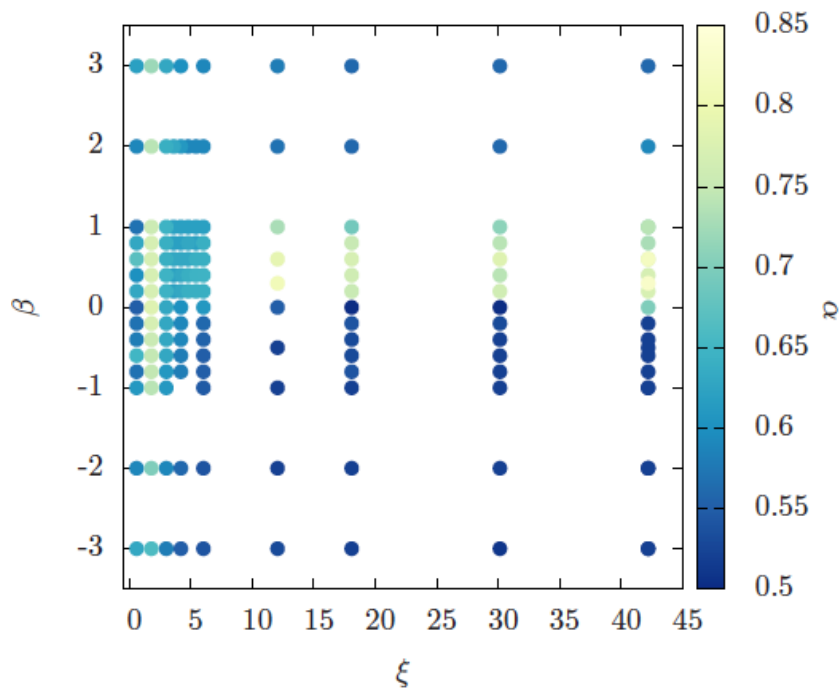
Squirmer attraction  
enhances cohesion  
destroys ordering



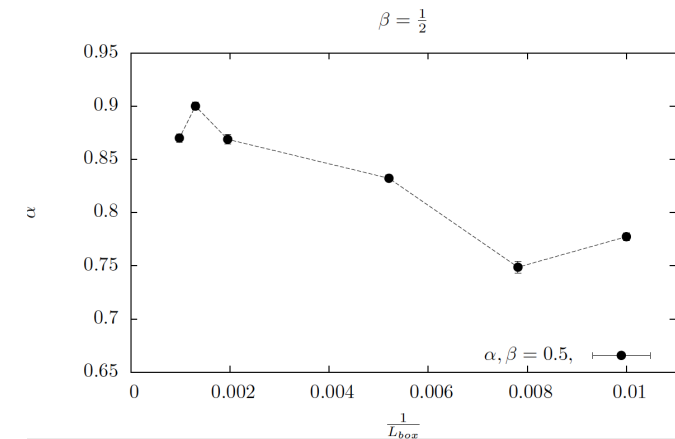
# 5. Squirmer suspensions: density fluctuations

Effect on density fluctuations  
favours large dynamic clusters

$$\Delta N \sim N^\alpha$$

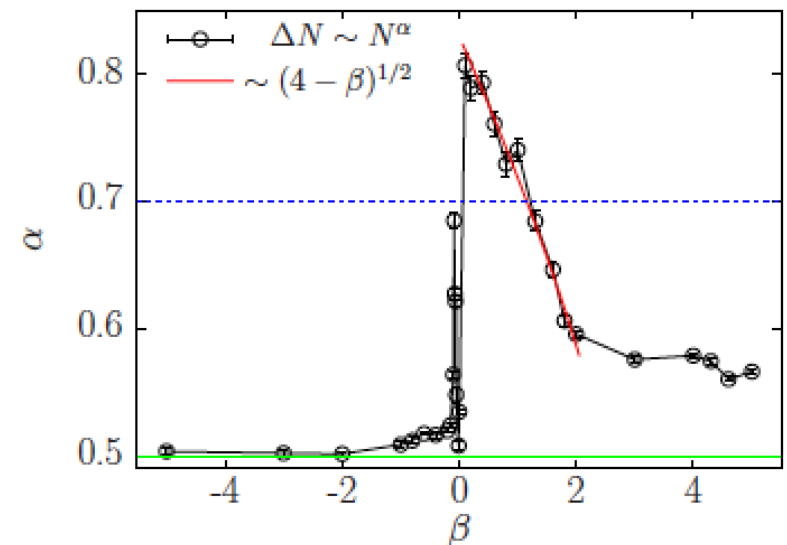


Need to reach large system sizes  
Strong correlations

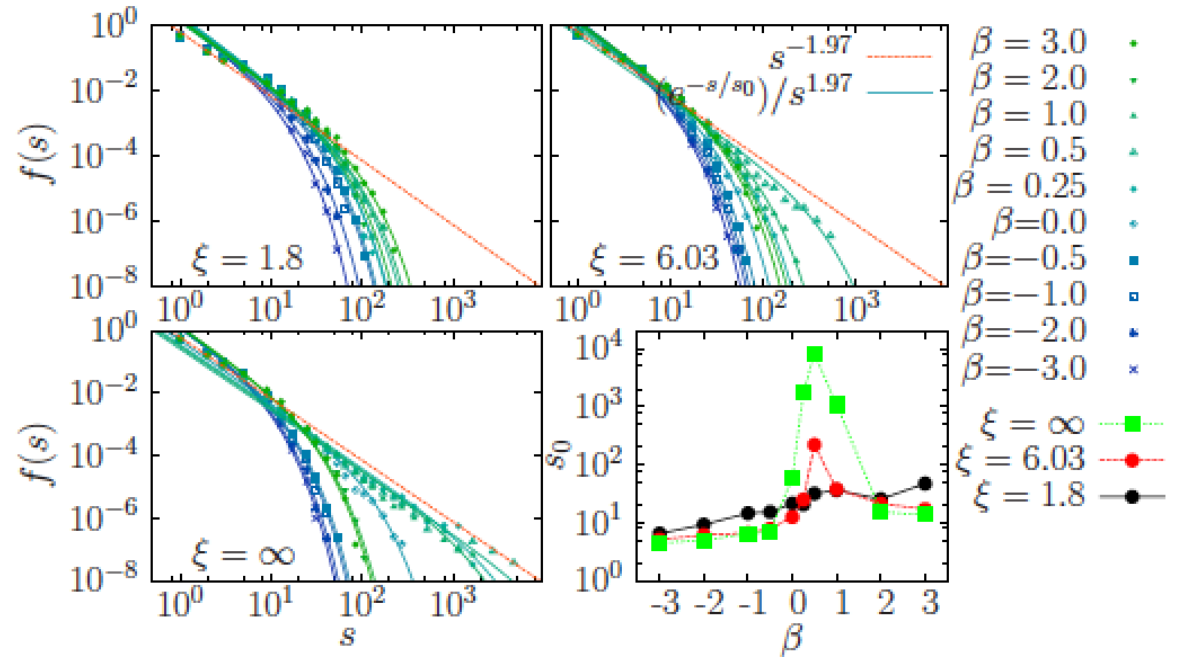
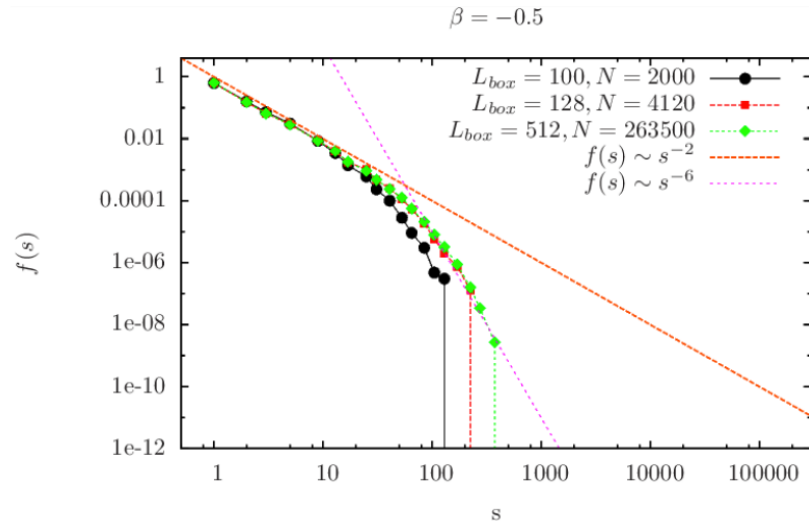
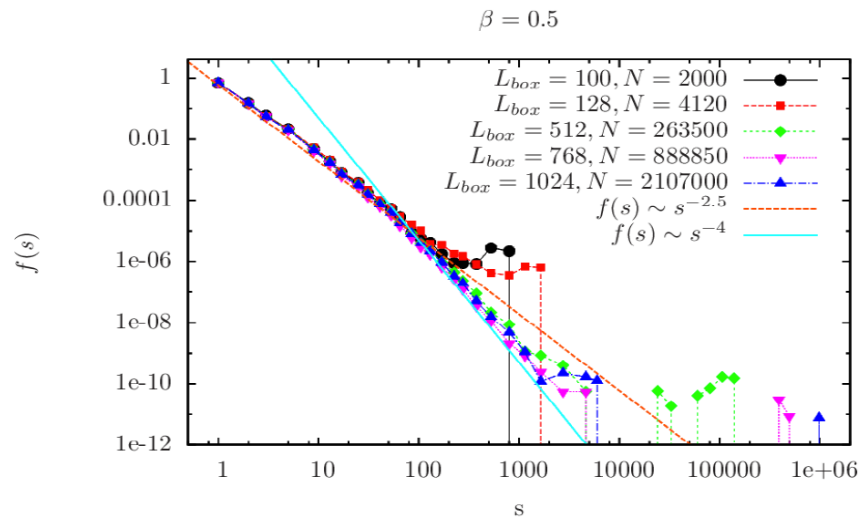


1/L

Significant finite size effects



# 5. Squirmer suspensions: Cluster distributions



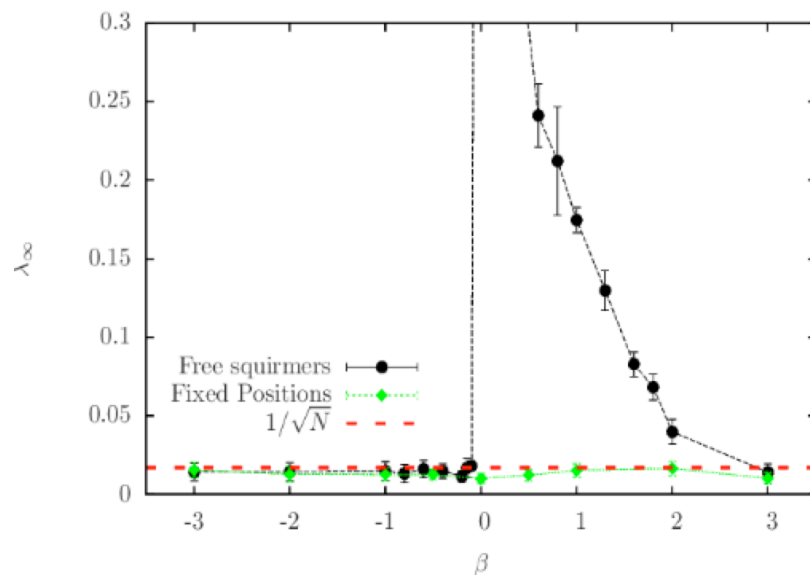
$$f(s) \sim s^{-\gamma_0} \exp(-s/s_0)$$

Wide range  
dynamic structures

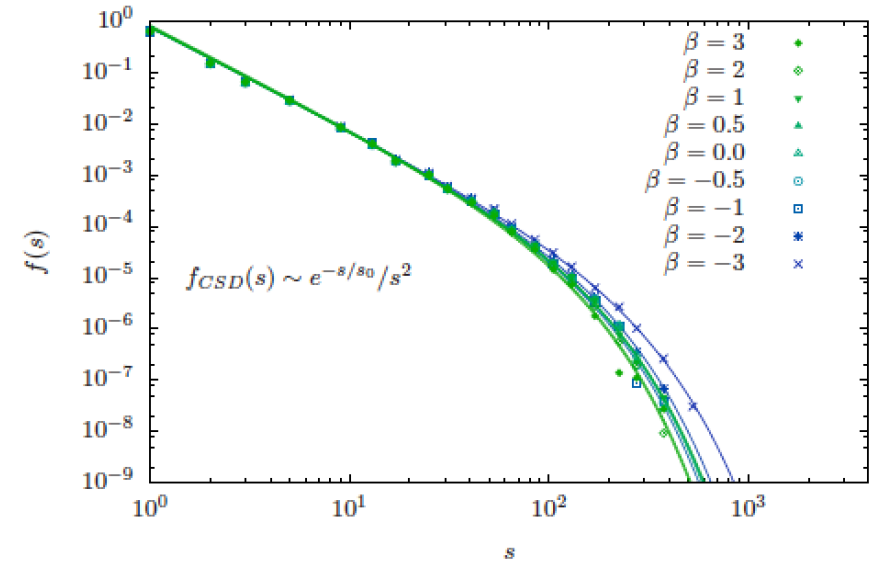
Power-law decay

# 5. Squirmer suspensions: Cluster distributions

Relevance of translational motion



.. and reorientation

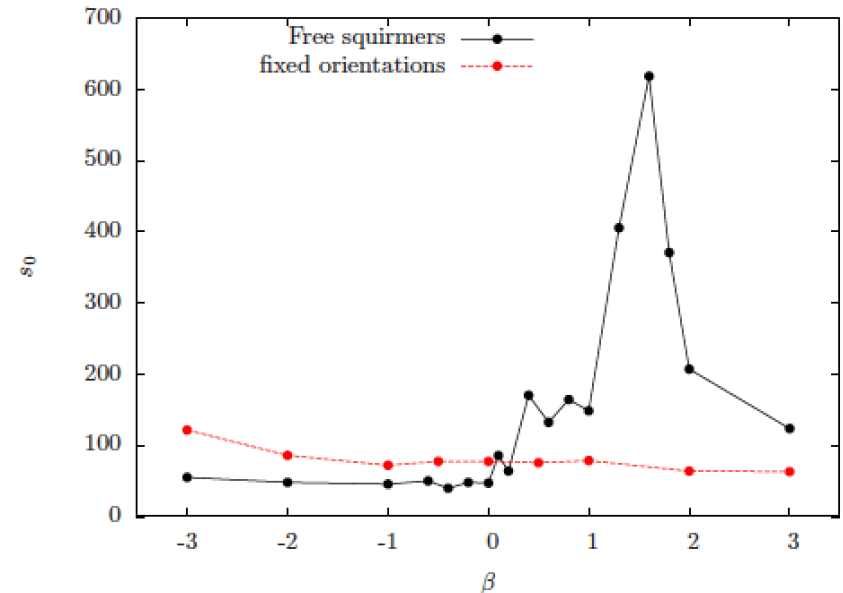


Hydrodynamic coupling

lack of translation/rotation coupling

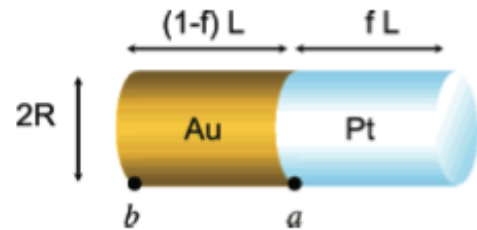
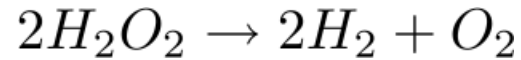
Nematogenic character lost

$$f(s) \sim s^{-\gamma_0} \exp(-s/s_0)$$

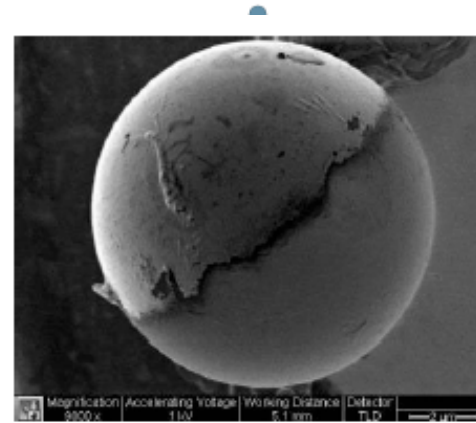


## 6. Chemical swimmer suspensions

What if particles might generate concentration gradients?  self-propulsion!!!



(Paxton et al, JACS **126**, 13424 (2004))



<http://www.mems.duke.edu/fds/pratt/MEMS/faculty/benjamin.yellen>

activity modelled by simple updating rule

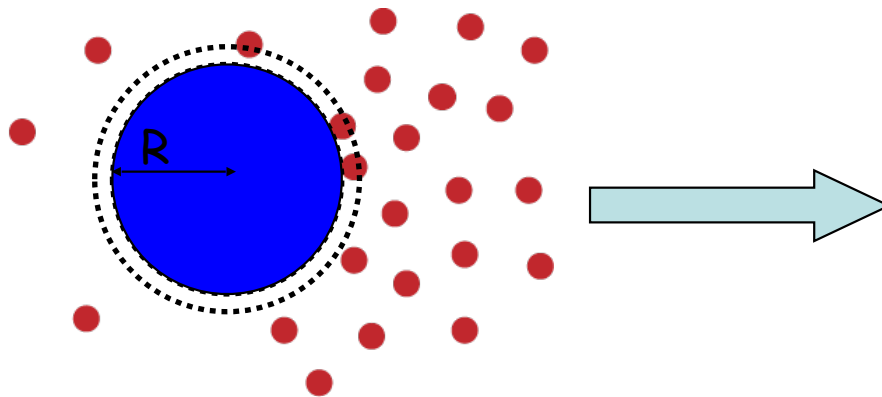
 non-conserved dynamics for  $\phi$ !



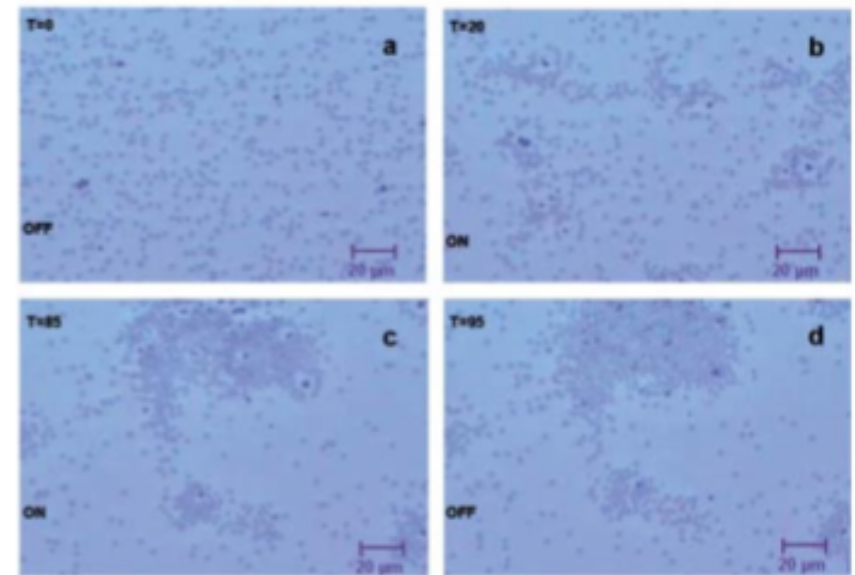
## 6. Colloidal phoresis: a multiscale “transport phenomenon”

Phoretic transport: motion of colloidal particle under the effect of external field (electric field, concentration/temperature gradients)

(solute molecules size)/(colloidal particle size)



large scale aggregates



(Sen et al, Faraday Discuss. **143**, 15 (2009))



need for coarse-graining

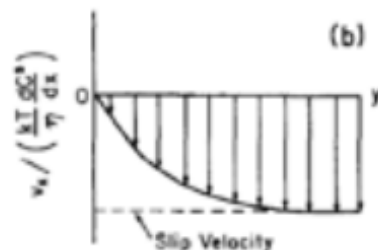
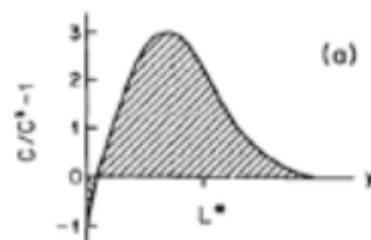
$$\delta/R \rightarrow 0$$

# Colloidal phoresis

Concentration interacts with a solid surface  
delocalized membrane?

$$C = C^s \exp(-\Phi/kT),$$

Concentration gradient parallel to the surface  
asymmetric change in chemical potential



Generates pressure gradient

Due to asymmetry induced by wall

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial y} + C \frac{d\Phi}{dy} = 0,$$

Surface-induced flow

$$\eta \frac{\partial^2 v_x}{\partial y^2} - \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} = 0.$$

$$v^s = -\frac{kT}{\eta} \int_0^\infty y [\exp(-\Phi/kT) - 1] dy \frac{dC^s}{dx}.$$

## 6. Modeling colloidal phoretic transport

The presence of the solute can be taken into account by means of an effective "slip velocity" as boundary condition for the flow on the colloid surface

$$\mathbf{v}(\mathbf{r}_S) = \mu(\mathbf{r}_S)(\mathbf{I} - \hat{\mathbf{n}} \otimes \hat{\mathbf{n}})\nabla\phi(\mathbf{r}_S) \quad \mathbf{r}_S \in \Sigma$$

$$\mu(\mathbf{r}_S) = \frac{k_B T}{\eta} \int_0^\infty r [1 - \exp(-\Psi(\mathbf{r})/k_B T)] dr \quad \text{surface phoretic mobility}$$

colloid/solute interaction potential (short-ranged)



velocity of a (spherical)  
particle of radius  $R$

$$\mathbf{V} = -\frac{1}{4\pi R^2} \int \int_{\Sigma} \mu(\mathbf{r}_S)(\mathbf{I} - \hat{\mathbf{n}} \otimes \hat{\mathbf{n}})\nabla\phi(\mathbf{r}_S) d\mathbf{r}_S$$

$\mathbf{v} = \mu \nabla \phi$			
Name	Field variable ( $Y_\infty$ )	$\mu$	Remarks
Electrophoresis	Electrical potential	$-\frac{e\zeta}{4\pi\eta}$	$\zeta$ = zeta potential of particle surface
Diffusiophoresis	Concentration of a chemical species (nonionic)	$\frac{kT}{\eta} KL^*$	See (11) for $K$ and $L^*$
Diffusiophoresis	Concentration of a chemical species (ionic)	$4 \frac{kT}{\eta} \kappa^{-2} \left[ \frac{\bar{\zeta}}{2} \beta - \ln(1 - \zeta^2) \right]^b$	$\bar{\zeta} = Ze\zeta/kT$ ; see (4) for $\kappa^{-1}$ , (13) for $\zeta$ , and (17) for $\beta$
Thermophoresis	Temperature	$\frac{2}{\eta T} \int_0^\infty y \hat{h} dy$	$\hat{h}$ is the local specific enthalpy increment at distance $y$ from the solid surface: $\hat{h} = h(y) - h(\infty)$

## 6. Numerical approach

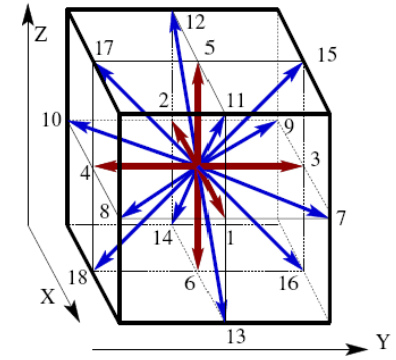
(Hybrid) Lattice Boltzmann algorithm for multiphase fluids + (resolved) particles

### Solvent

$$f_l(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{c}_l \Delta t, t + \Delta t) - f_l(\mathbf{x}, t) = -\frac{\Delta t}{\tau} (f_l(\mathbf{x}, t) - f_l^{(eq)}(\mathbf{x}, t))$$

$$\rho(\mathbf{x}, t) = \sum_l f_l \quad \rho(\mathbf{x}, t) \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}, t) = \sum_l \mathbf{c}_l f_l \quad l = 0, \dots, 18$$

in the limits  $Kn = \frac{\lambda_{mfp}}{L} \ll 1 \quad Re_p = \frac{vR}{\nu} \ll 1 \quad Ma = \frac{v}{c_s} \ll 1$



$$\rho[\partial_t \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{v}(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v})] = -\nabla P - \phi \nabla \mu + \eta \nabla^2 \mathbf{v}$$

### "Fuel"



$$\partial_t \phi + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla \phi = M \nabla^2 \mu$$

Advection-diffusion equation  
via finite differences

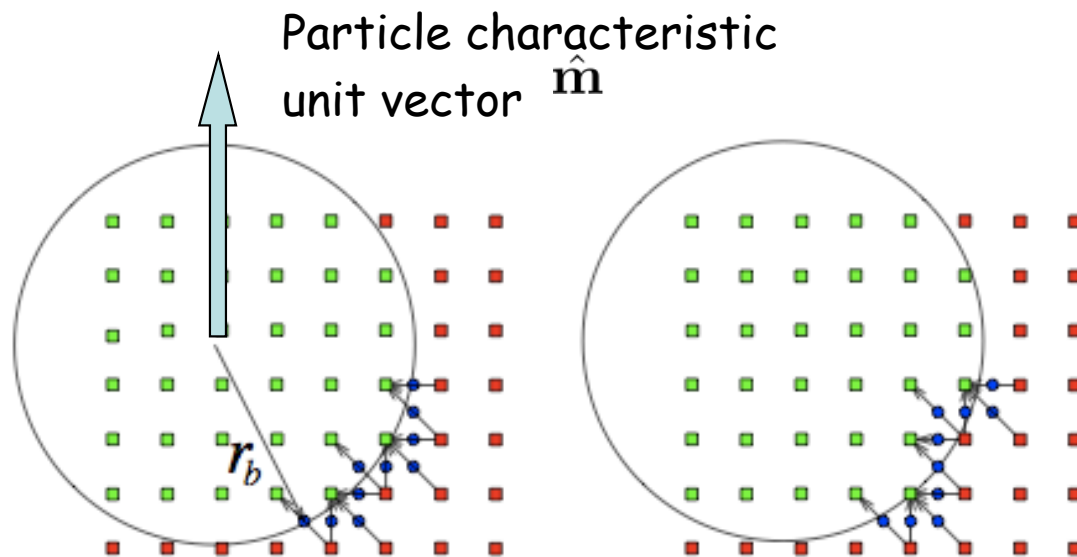
feedback on the fluid via a forcing term in the LB equilibria

$$\mathbf{F} \propto \phi \nabla \phi$$

# 6. Numerical approach

## Lattice Boltzmann algorithm for multiphase fluids + (resolved) particles Colloidal particles

Suspended particles are defined by a set of "links" between lattice nodes



(AJC Ladd, J. Fluid Mech. **271**, 285 (1994))

bounce-back-on-links algorithm:  
mass/momentum conservation  
between particle and fluid

$$f_{l'}(\mathbf{x}, t + \Delta t) = f_l^*(\mathbf{x}, t) - \frac{2a_{cl}\rho\mathbf{u}_l \cdot \mathbf{c}_l}{c_s^2}$$

$$\mathbf{u}_l = \mathbf{U} + \boldsymbol{\Omega} \wedge (\mathbf{x}_l - \mathbf{X}_{CoM})$$



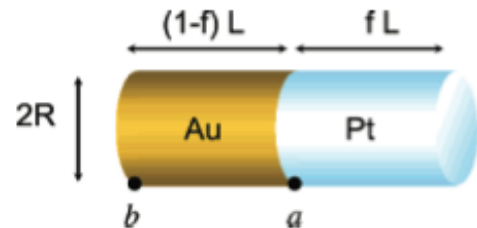
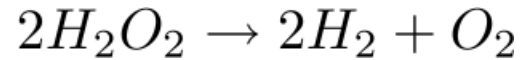
+ position dependent **slip velocity**  
at the particle surface

$$\mathbf{v}(\mathbf{r}_S) = \mu(\mathbf{r}_S)(\mathbf{I} - \hat{\mathbf{n}} \otimes \hat{\mathbf{n}})\nabla\phi(\mathbf{r}_S)$$

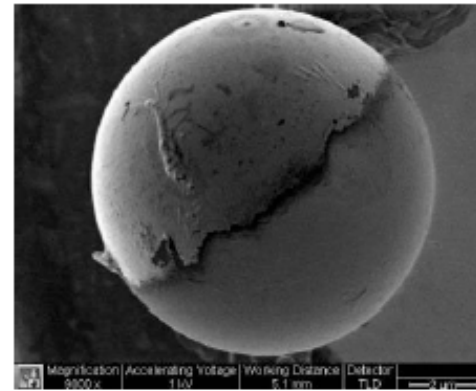


## 6. Chemical swimmer suspensions

What if particles might generate concentration gradients?  $\longrightarrow$  self-propulsion!!!



(Paxton et al, JACS **126**, 13424 (2004))



<http://www.mems.duke.edu/fds/pratt/MEMS/faculty/benjamin.yellen>

activity modelled by simple updating rule

$\longrightarrow$  non-conserved dynamics for  $\phi$ !

$$\phi(\mathbf{r}, t) \rightarrow \phi(\mathbf{r}, t) - \alpha(\mathbf{r})\phi(\mathbf{r}, t) \longrightarrow \text{particle surface activity}$$



Inclusion of a global source term

(mimicks coupling with an external "bath" of concentration field)

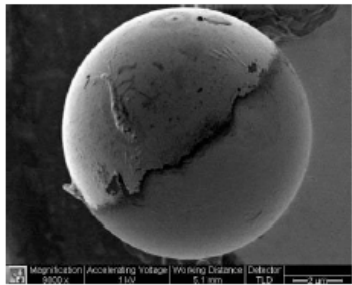
$$\phi(\mathbf{r}, t) \rightarrow \phi(\mathbf{r}, t) + \delta\phi$$

$$\delta\phi = \frac{1}{|\Omega|} \int_{\Omega} \phi(\mathbf{r}, t) d\mathbf{r}$$

## 6. "Janus" particles

In particular we use an asymmetric surface activity of the form

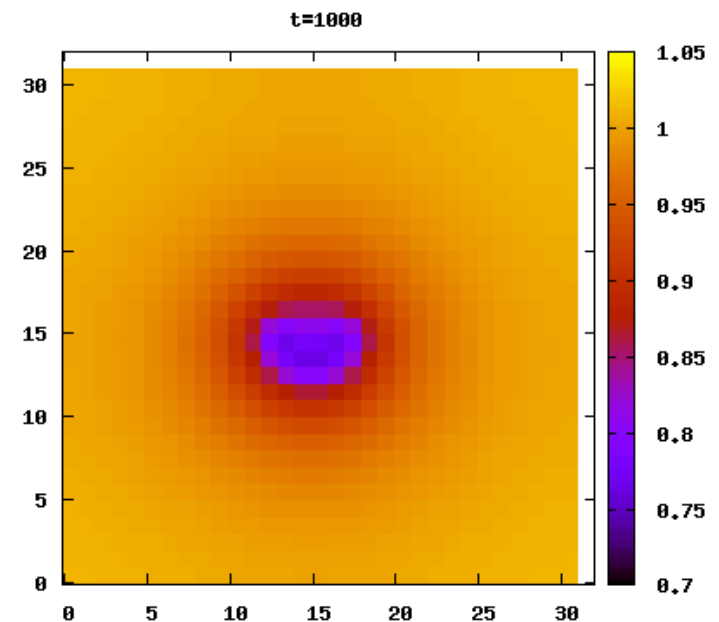
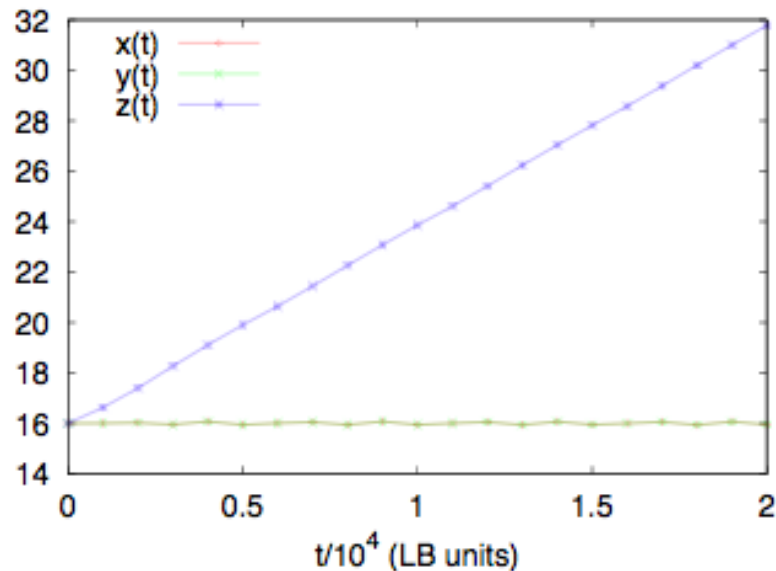
$$\alpha(\mathbf{r}) = \alpha_0 H\left(\theta - \frac{\pi}{2}\right) \quad \longrightarrow \quad \text{Janus particle}$$



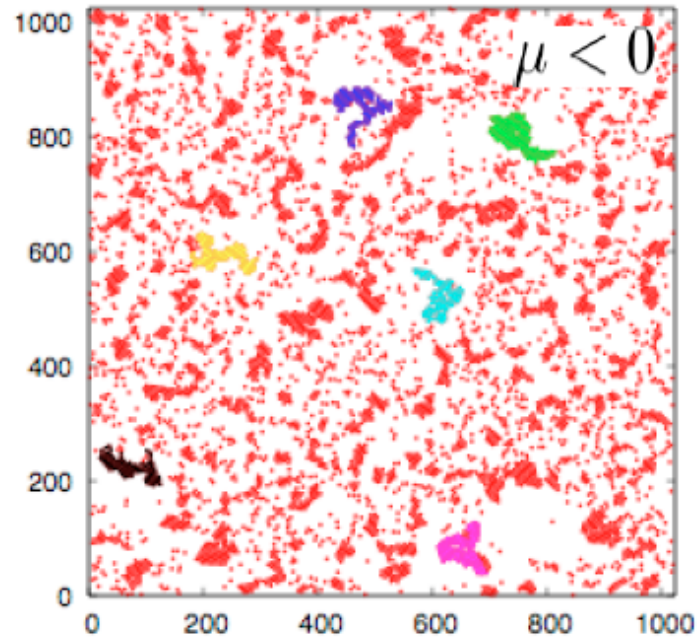
The velocity of an isolated particle of constant mobility  $\mu$  can be computed exactly

$$\mathbf{V} = \frac{\mu\alpha_0}{4D} \hat{\mathbf{m}}$$

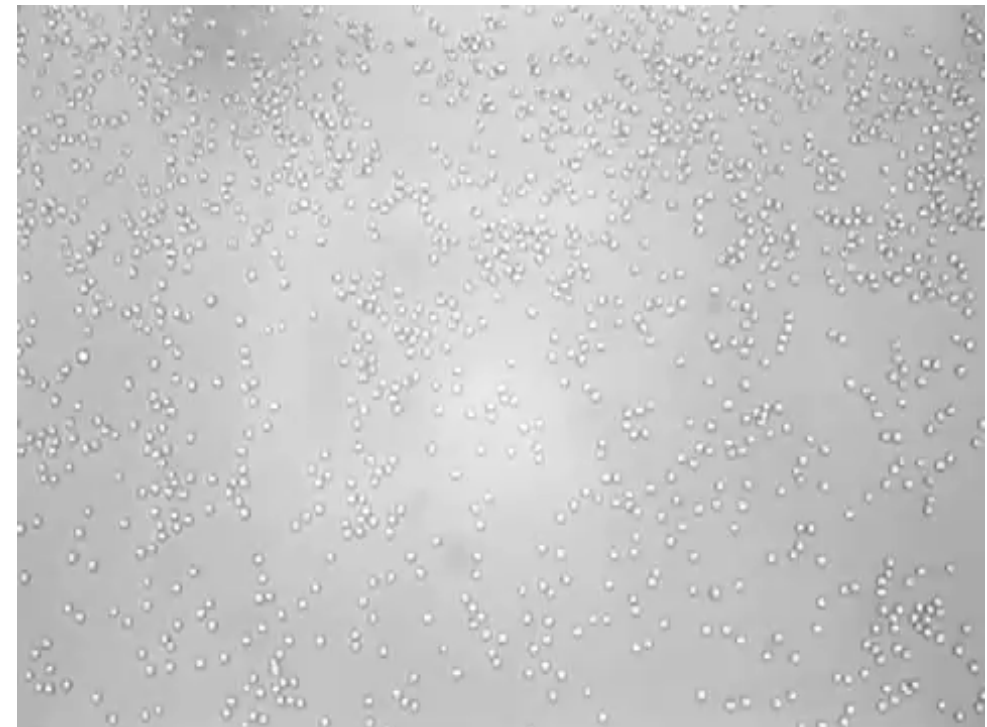
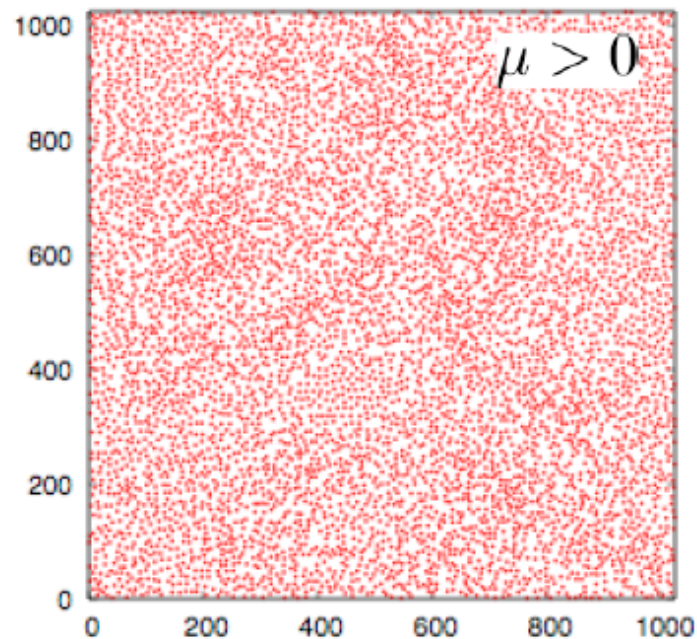
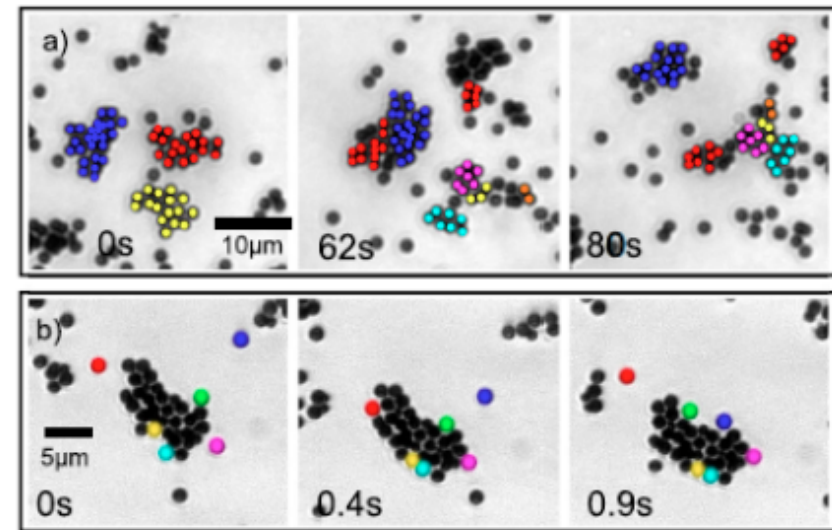
<http://www.mems.duke.edu/fds/pratt/MEMS/faculty/benjamin.yellen>



## 6. Collective dynamics in "2D": phoretic mobility?



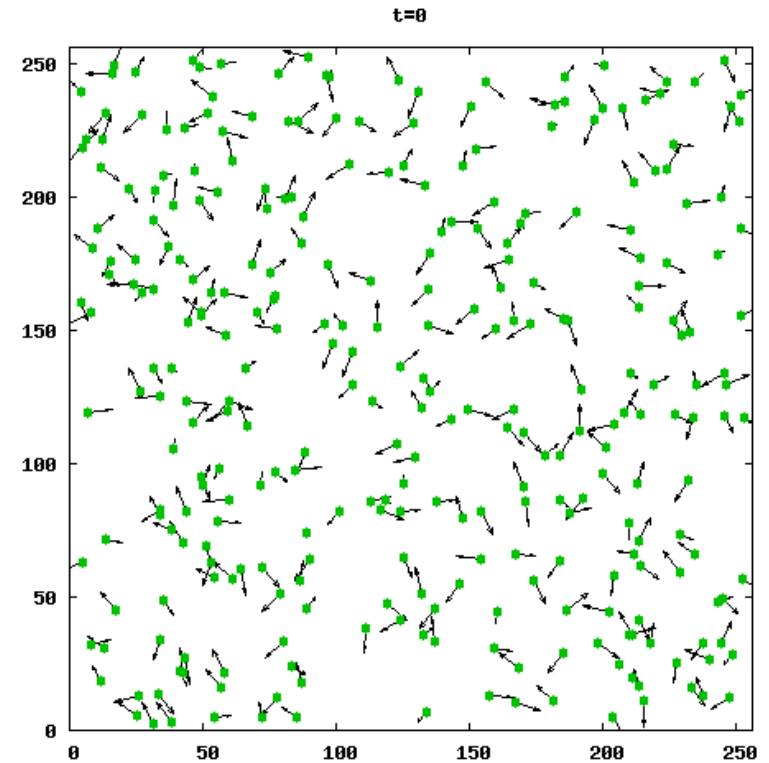
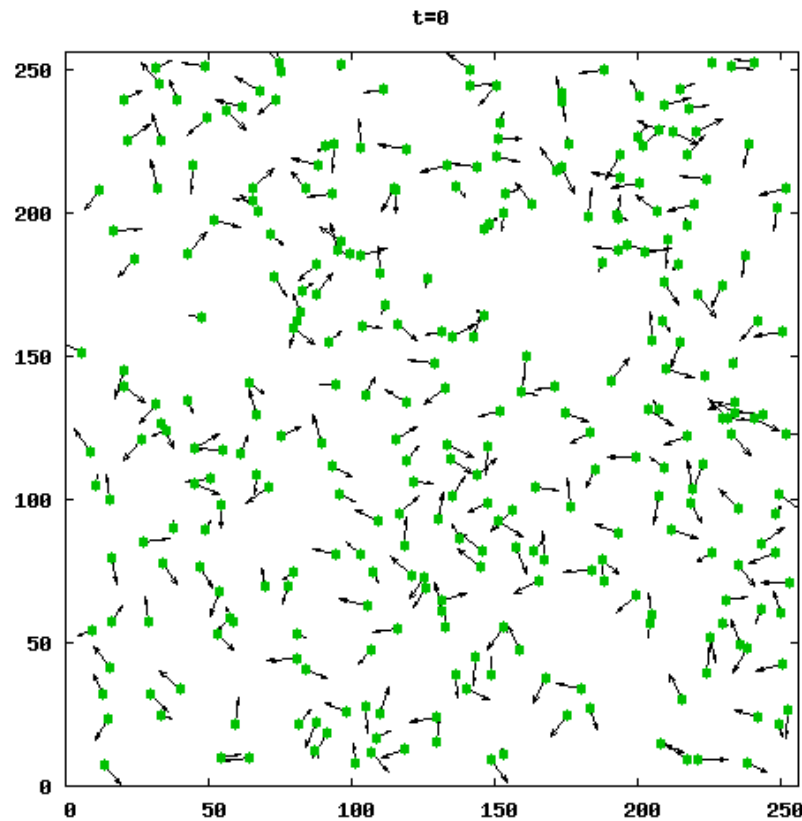
*Teurkhauff et al. PRL (2012)*



*Palacci et al. Science (2013)*

## 6. Repulsive chemical swimmers

No hydrodynamics



Towards a crystal structure

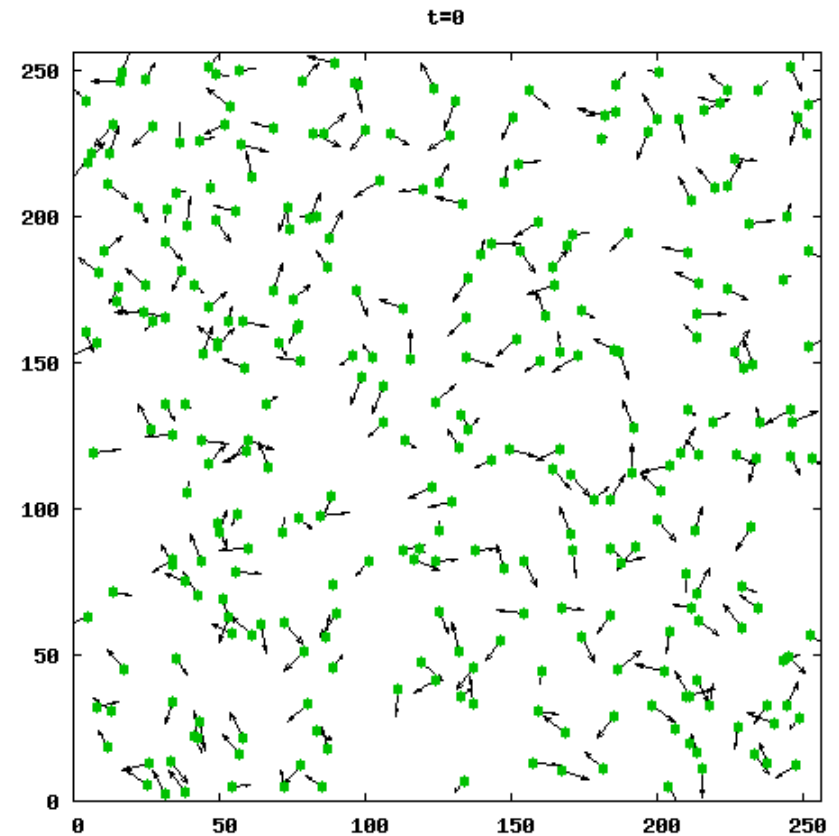
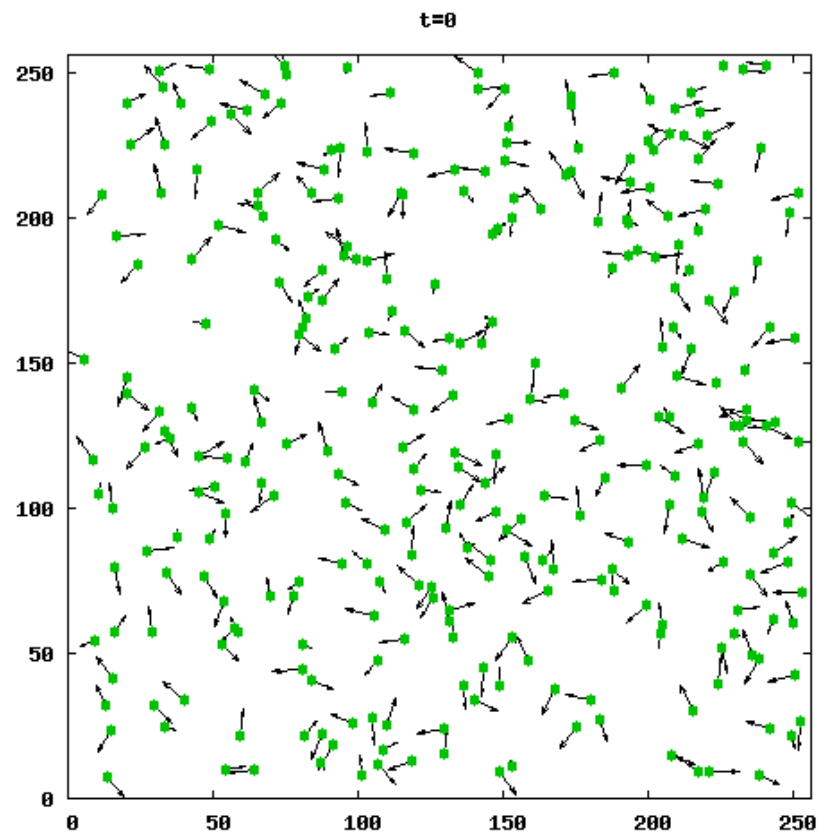
Faster dynamics

larger number of "defects"



## 6. Attractive chemical swimmers

No hydrodynamics



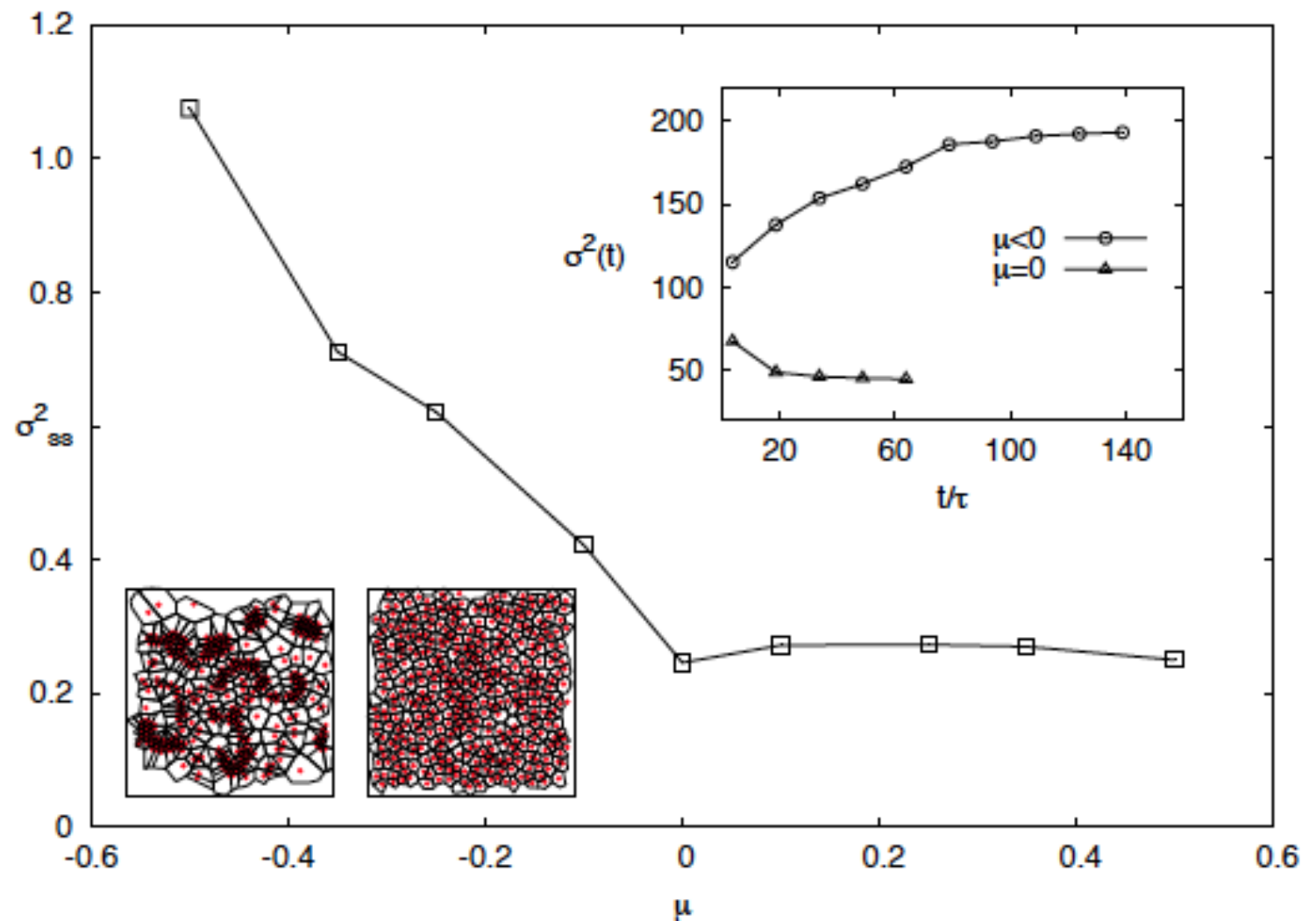
Cluster formation

## 6. Density fluctuations

A proper indicator to distinguish dynamical regimes?

Use variance of Voronoi tessellation

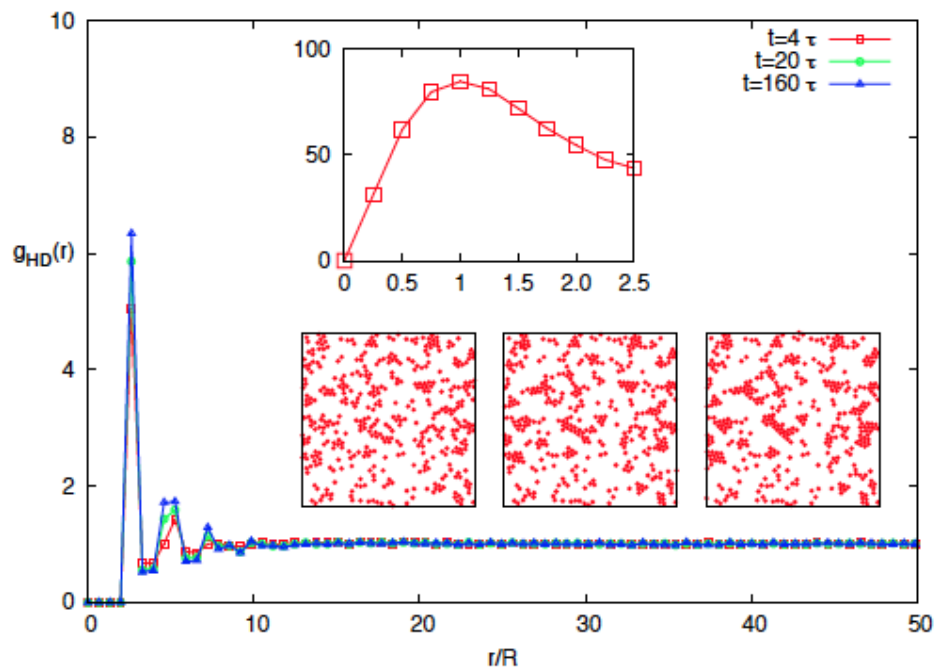
$$\sigma_S^2(t) \equiv (1/N) \sum_{i=1}^N (\mathcal{S}_i - \overline{\mathcal{S}})^2$$



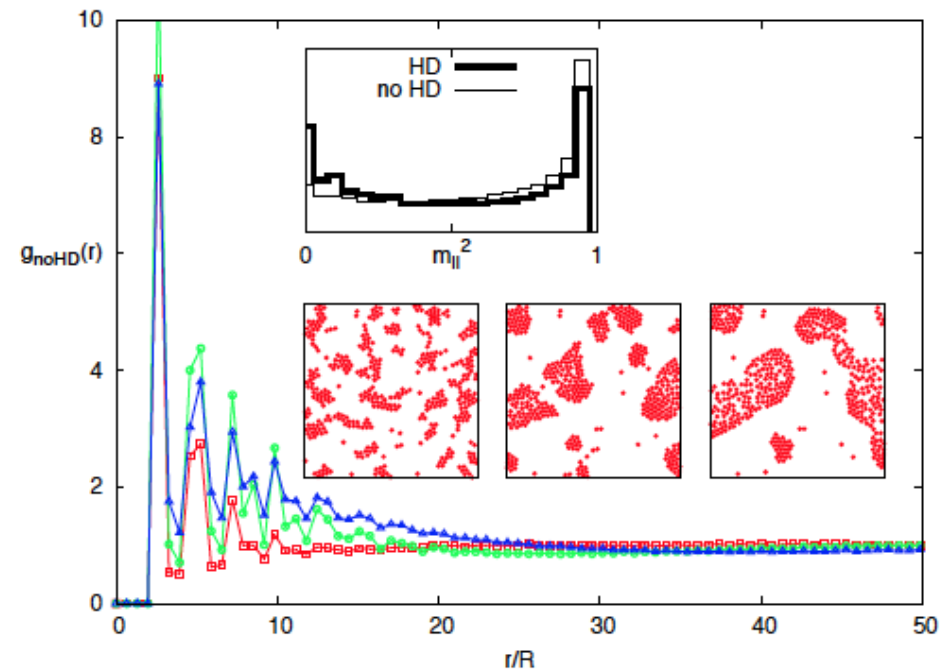
# 6. Radial distribution functions

Clustering regime  $\mu = -0.5$

With hydrodynamics



Without hydrodynamics



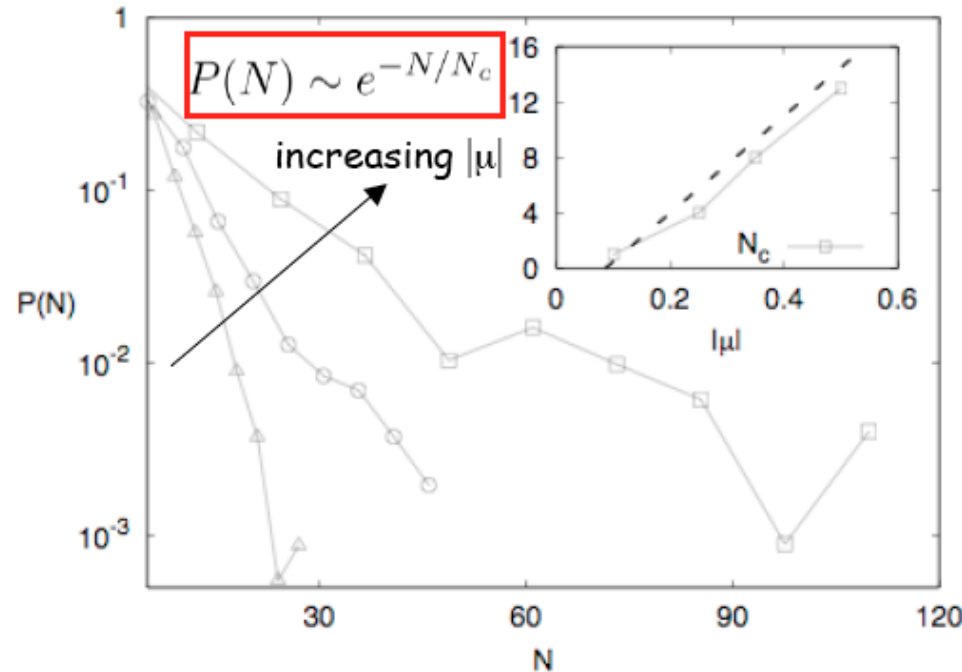
$$\mathcal{D}(\tilde{t}) = \int_0^\infty (g_{HD}(r, \tilde{t}) - g_{noHD}(r, \tilde{t}))^2 dr$$

No Hydro: larger friction

$$\tau_f^{(HD)} \approx 5\tau_f^{(noHD)}$$

# 6. Statistics and geometry of clusters

PDF and mean particle number  
as function of coupling strength



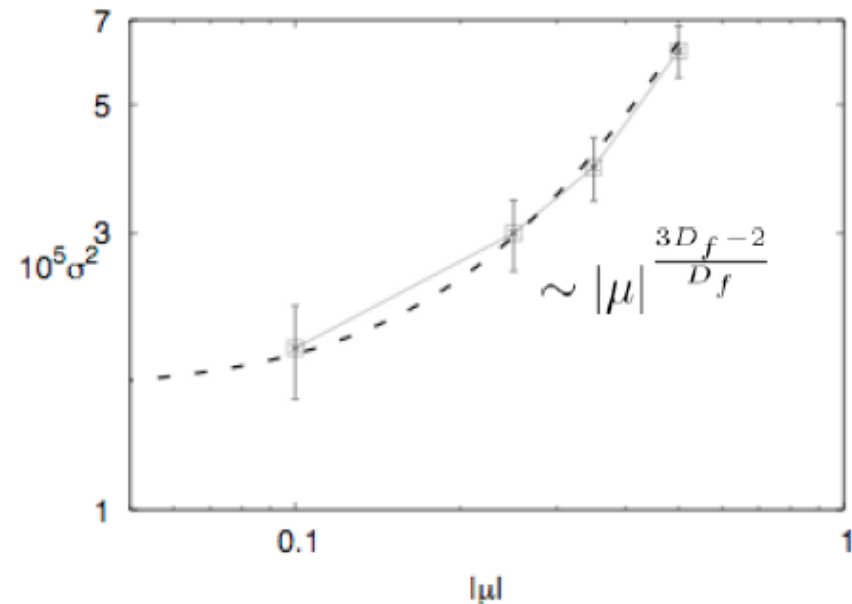
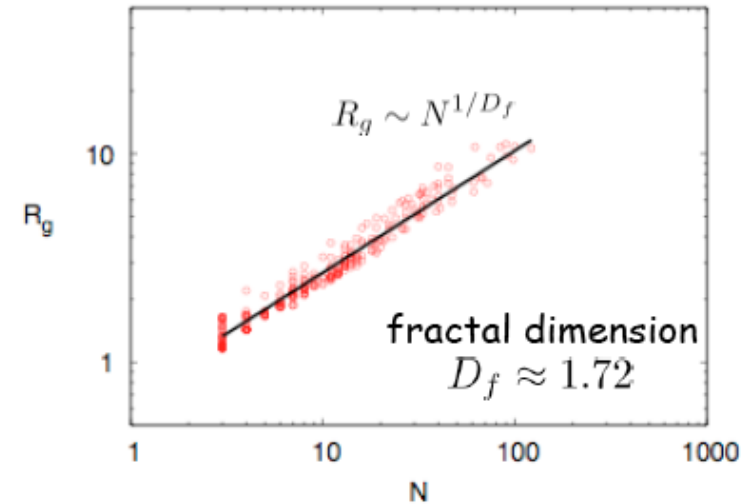
$$\langle N \rangle \sim V_p \Rightarrow N_c \sim \mu$$

(Theurkauff et al)

colloids live on a set  $\mathcal{S} = \bigcup_{i=1}^{N_{clus}} \mathcal{C}_i$  (i-th cluster)

$$\sigma_\rho^2 \sim \langle \rho(x)^2 \rangle \propto \sum_{i=1}^{N_{clus}} \left( \frac{N_i}{\mathcal{A}_i} \right) \mathcal{A}_i P(\mathcal{A}_i) \sim \mu^{\frac{3D_f-2}{D_f}}$$

gyration radius vs number of colloids



# 7. Conclusions

## Active matter

Release energy at small scales (natural/synthetic)  
intrinsically out of equilibrium

## New mechanisms to develop patterns and structures

Competition between attraction/activity

## Interplay hydrodynamics/attraction

Large density fluctuations

Macroscopic cluster

Induce polar ordering: dominant effect of translation/rotation

Dynamic clusters

## Interplay hydrodynamics/attraction

Large density fluctuations