

# Elementary Mechanisms of Deformation in Amorphous Solids: From Zero to Low Temperature

Anaël Lemaître



*Navier*

Rhéophysique



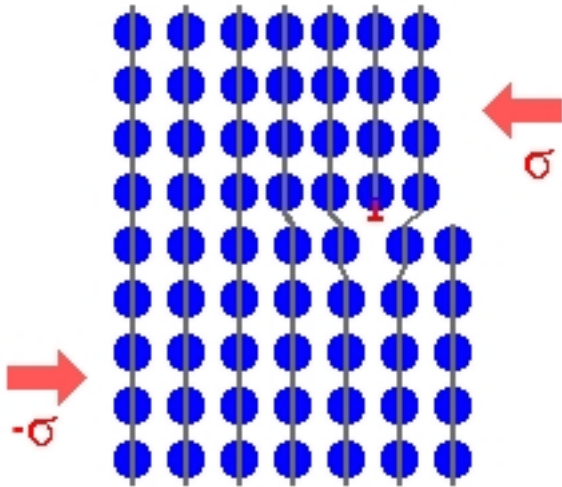
Université Paris-Est

Christiane Caroli, Joyjit Chatteraj

# What are the elementary mechanisms of deformation?

## In crystals

defects = dislocations  
(Volterra, 1930; SEM, 1960)



Interaction and motion understood  
(Peierls, Nabarro, Friedel, 1950's)

Dislocation dynamics in computer  
codes since the 1980's

## In disordered materials

No topological order => defects?



What are the elementary mechanisms  
of deformation?

How can we up-scale the dynamics?

# Amorphous materials

## Hard glasses

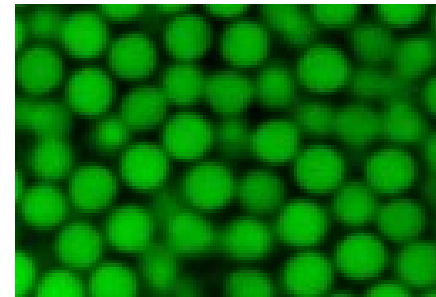
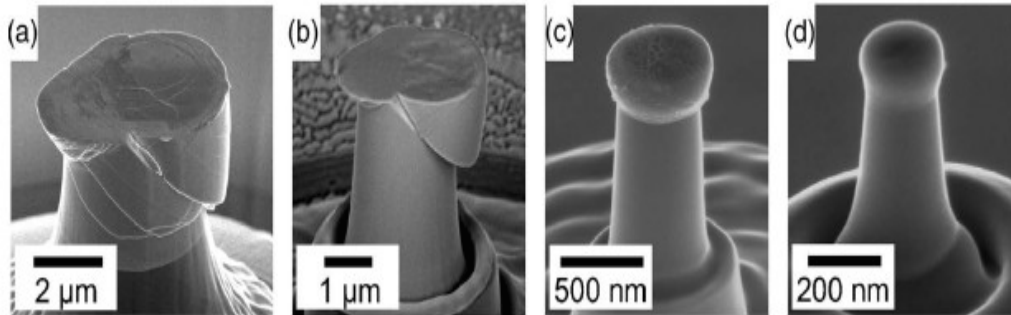
## Soft glasses

Metallic/oxyde  
glasses

Polymers

Colloids

Foams



Length scales  $\leq$  nm's

Energies  $\sim$  0.1—1 eV

Stresses  $\sim$  GPa

Length scales  $\geq$  0.1  $\mu$ m's

Energies  $\sim$   $kT = 1/40$  eV

Stresses  $\sim$  Pa—kPa

Can we identify some mechanisms of deformation,  
at least for broad classes of materials, or time-, energy-, length-scales?

# Plasticity

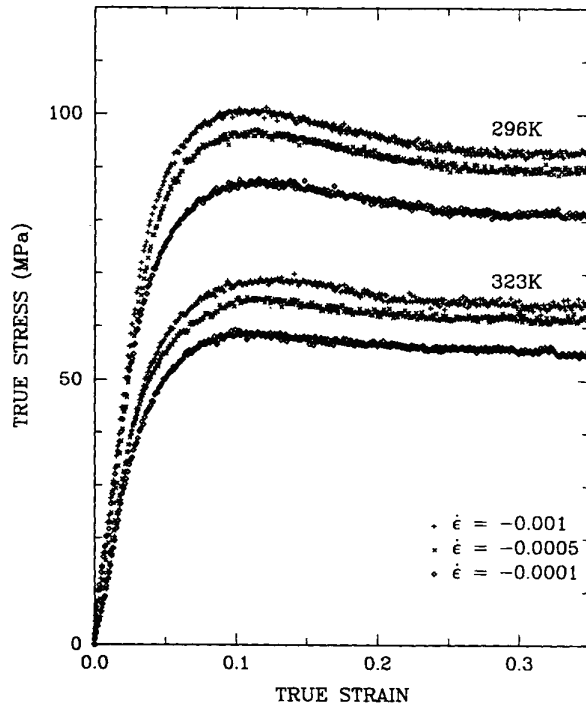
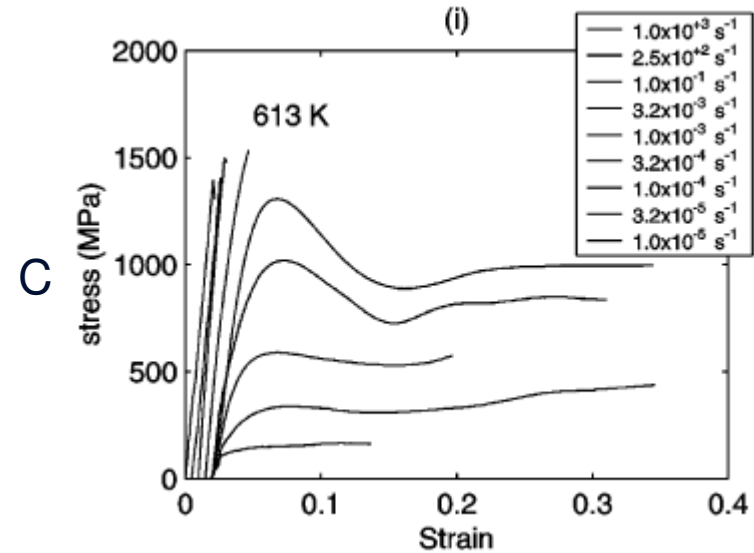


Fig. 2. Constant true strain rate tests on quenched PMMA at 296 and 323 K.

PMMA, uniaxial tension  
(Hasan & Boyce, 1997)



Metallic glass  
(Johnson, Caltech)

Depending on loading conditions:

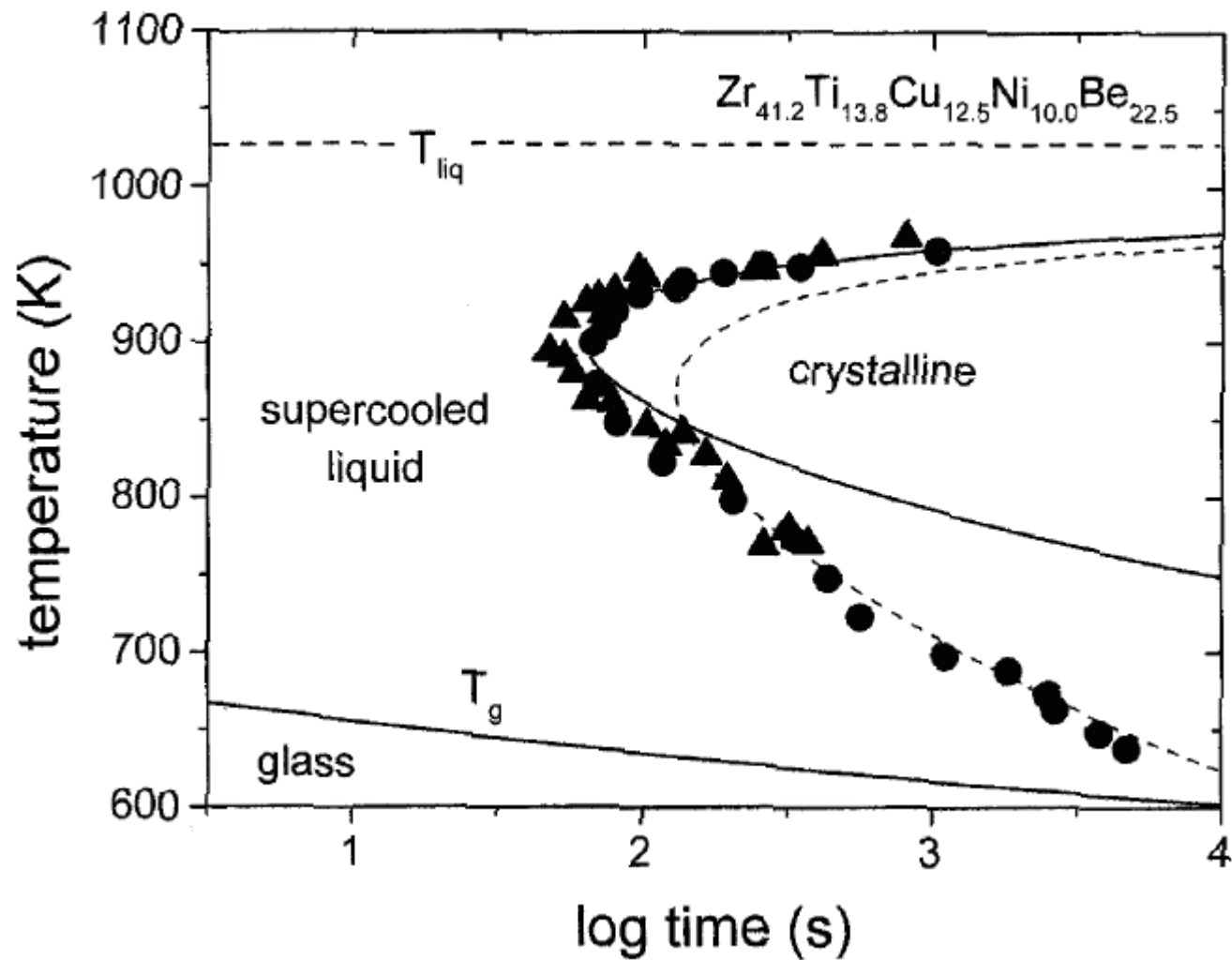
- Fracture
- Localization
- Homogeneous flow

# Metallic glasses

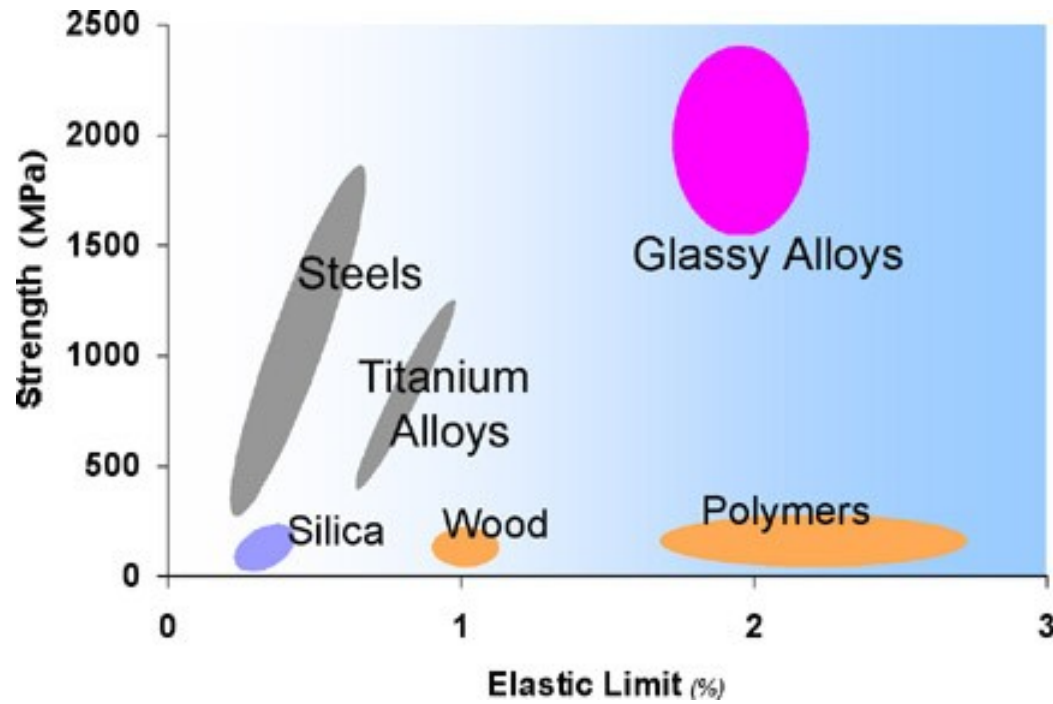


Cassini spacecraft, after landing

# Metallic glasses

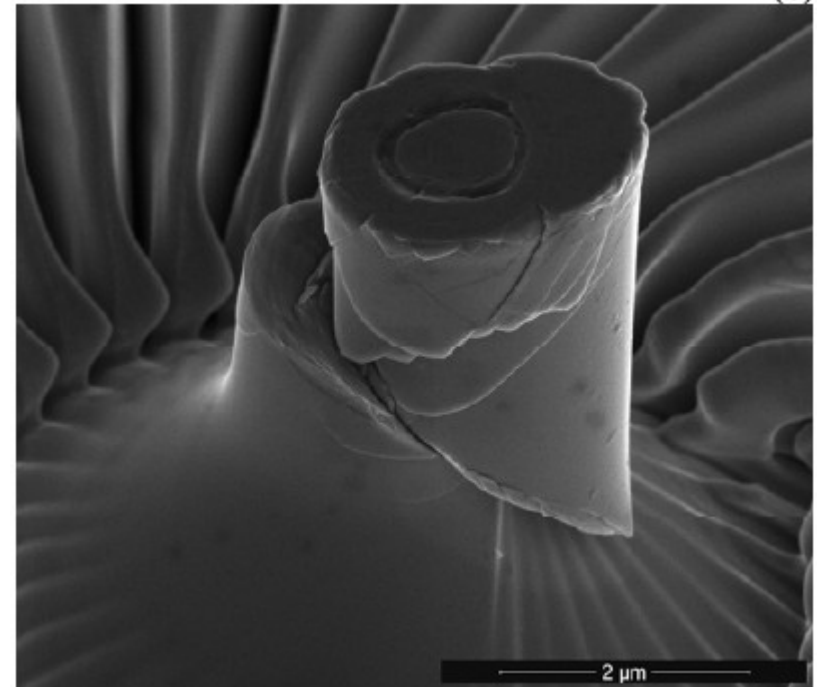
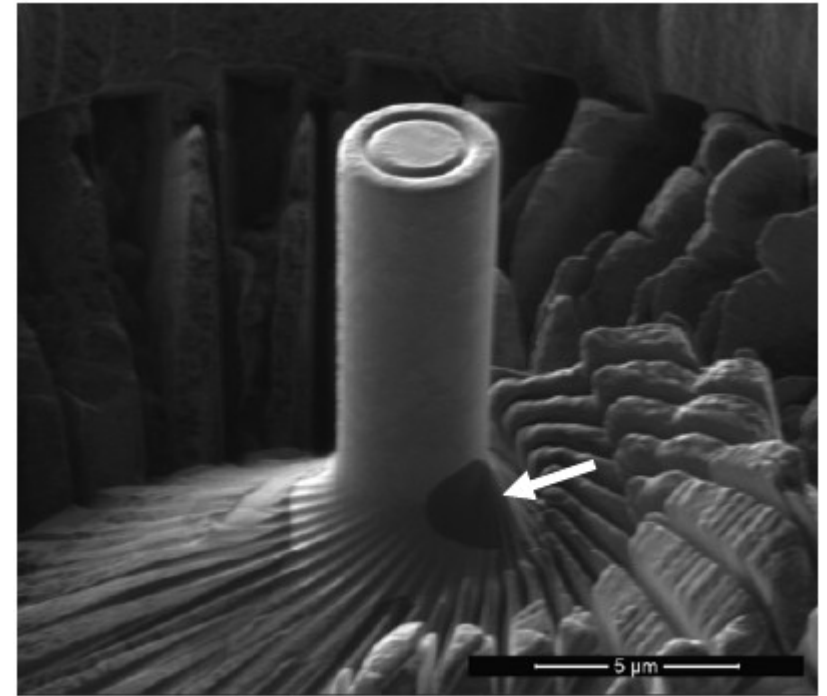


# Metallic glasses

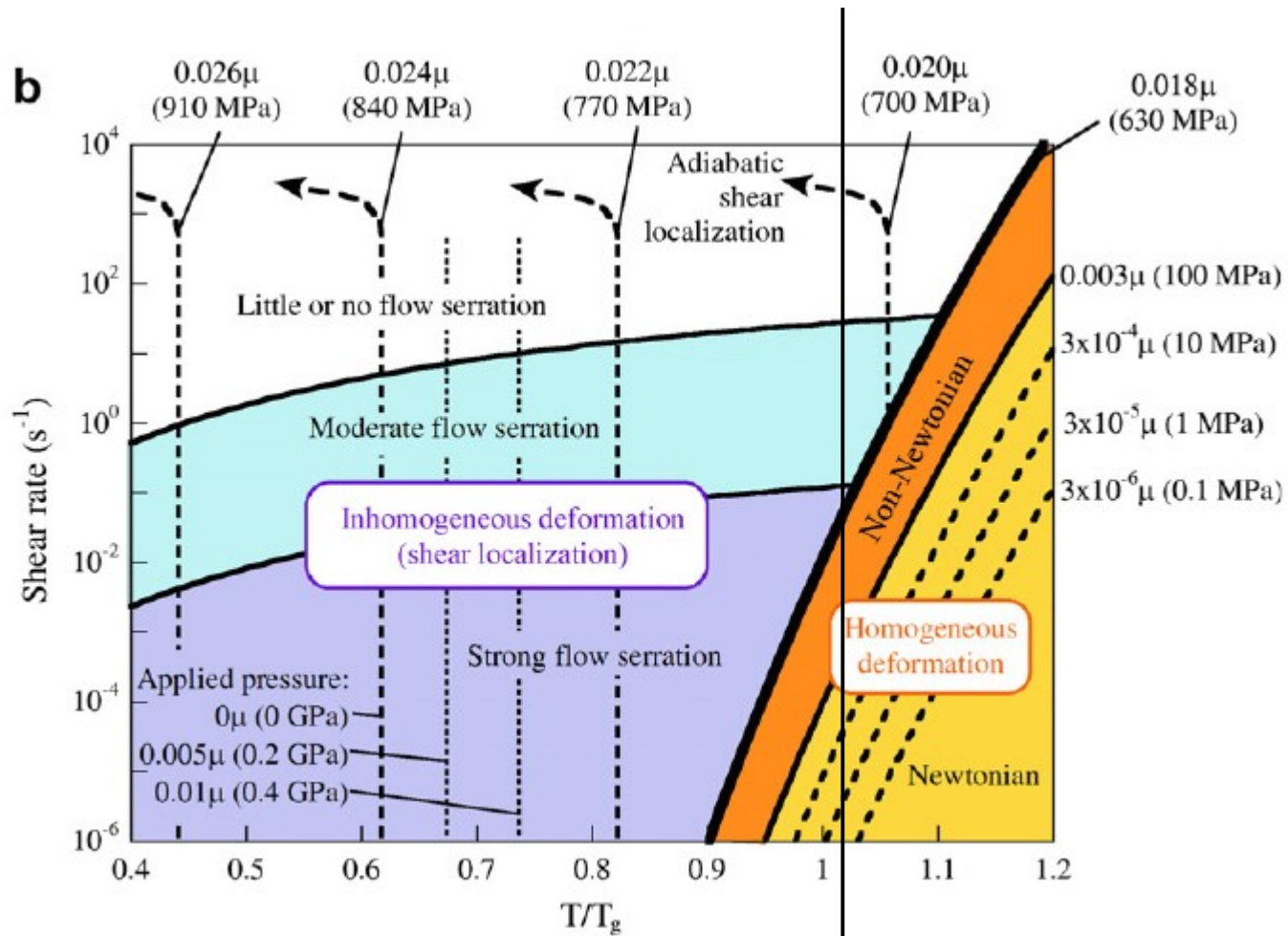


Johnson

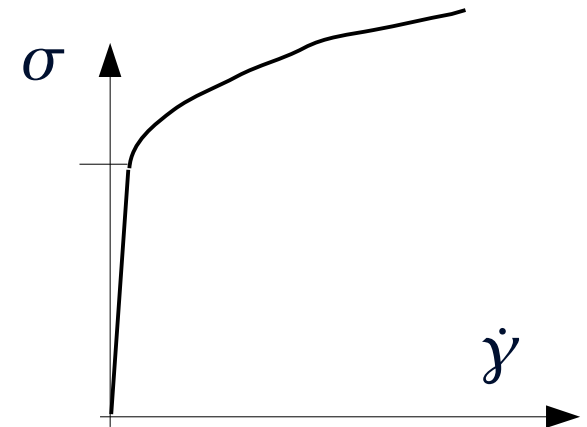
Schuster et al (2007)



# Deformation map for a metallic glass



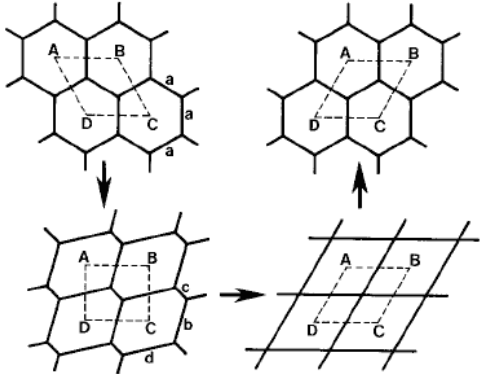
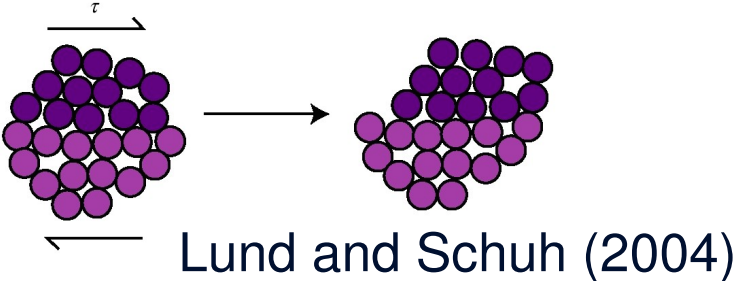
Schuh *et al*, Acta Mat. 55, 4067 (2007)



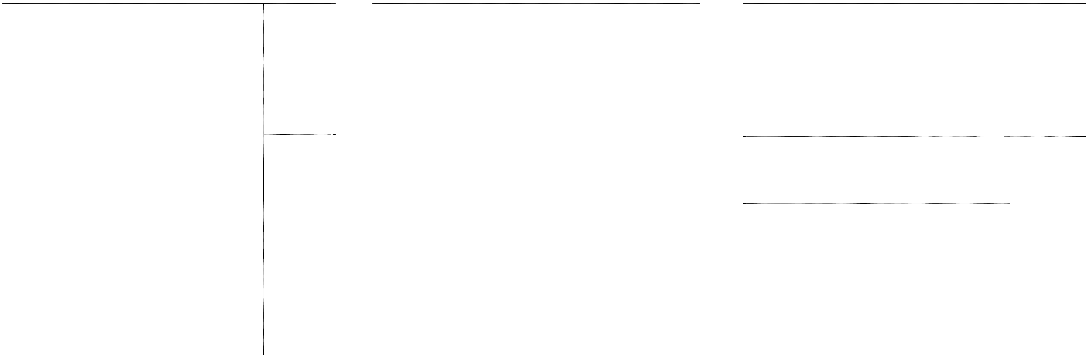


# Shear transformations

Ali Argon (1979):  
Deformation due to local  
“shear transformations”



Princen (1981)



# Mean-field theories

Free-volume theory (Spaepen, 1977)

$$\dot{\gamma} = \Delta \epsilon_0 e^{-v_0/v_f} (R_+ - R_-) \quad v_f = \text{free-volume, varies with time}$$

STZ theory (Falk & Langer, 1998)

$$\dot{\gamma} = \Delta \epsilon_0 (R_+ n_+ - R_- n_-) \quad n_{\pm} = \text{“zone” densities, varies with time}$$

density of defects  $\propto e^{-1/\chi}$  with  $\chi$  a dynamical “effective temperature”

SGR theory (Sollich, 1998)

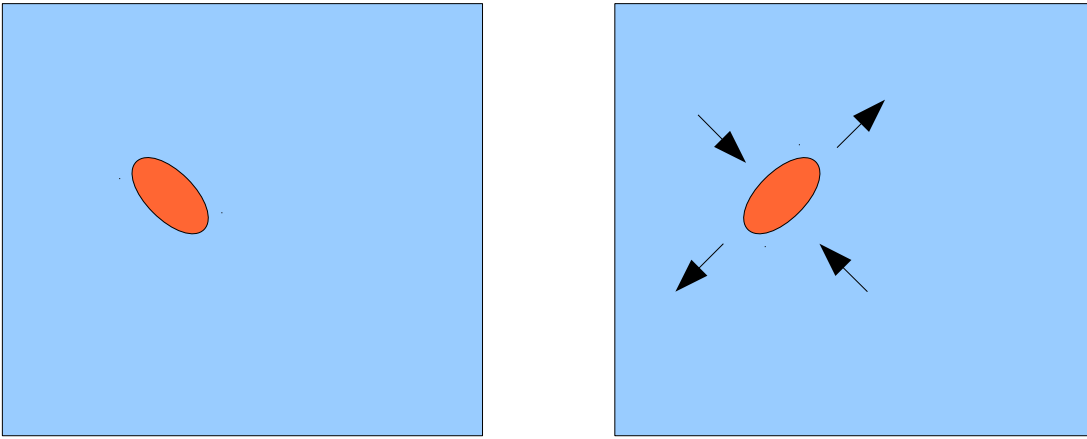
$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial t} = -\dot{\gamma} \frac{\partial P}{\partial l} - \Gamma_0 e^{-(E - \frac{1}{2} k l^2)/\chi} P + \Gamma(t) \rho(E) \delta(l)$$

$P$  = distribution of barrier energies (from Bouchaud's trap model)

$\chi$  = effective temperature, fixed, interpreted as due to “noise”

$$\sigma = k \langle l \rangle_P$$

# Martensitic transformations (Eshelby)

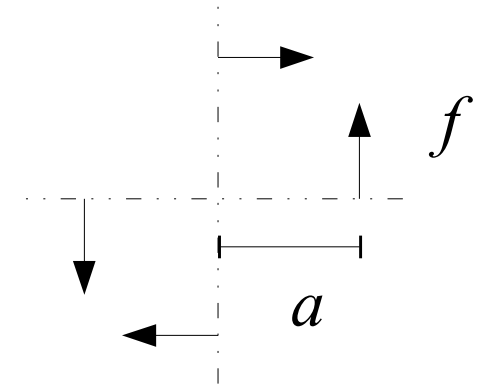


Eshelby (1957): the effect of the transformation can be modeled by forces lying at the boundary

Picard et al (2004):

$$\mu \Delta \vec{u} - \nabla p = \sum_i \vec{f}_i \delta(\vec{r} - \vec{r}_i)$$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{u} = 0$$



Dipolar strength:  $f a = \mu a^2 \Delta \epsilon_0$

$$\vec{u} = \frac{2 a^2 \Delta \epsilon_0}{\pi} \frac{x y}{r^4} \vec{r}$$

$$\sigma_{xy} = \frac{2 \mu a^2 \Delta \epsilon_0}{\pi} \frac{\cos(4 \theta)}{r^2}$$

A transforming zone is embedded in an elastic medium

# Numerics are really cool at $T=0$

## The problem of timescales:

The typical LJ time unit:

$$\tau_{LJ} \sim 10^{-13} \text{ s}$$

Simulations can access:

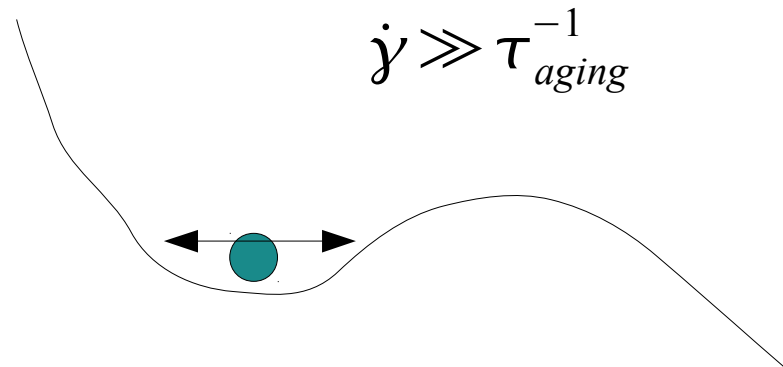
$$10^5 \tau_{LJ} \sim 10^{-8} \text{ s}$$

To reach 100% strain:

$$\dot{\gamma} \sim 10^8 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

## Low temperature glass:

- As soon as  $T < T_g$  a glass usually lies near local minima (inherent structures):



# Potential Energy Perspective

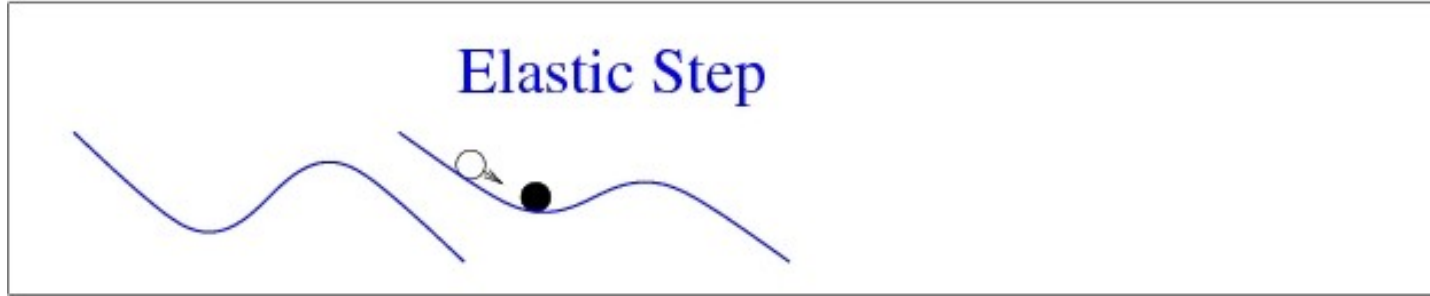
- Strain biases landscape (Malandro and Lacks 98):



**Elastic segment:** system follows an energy minimum; **reversible**.

# Potential Energy Perspective

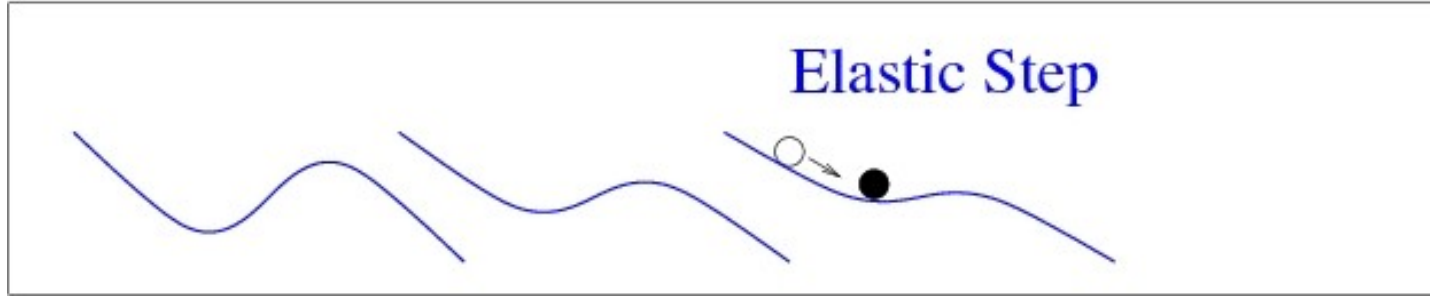
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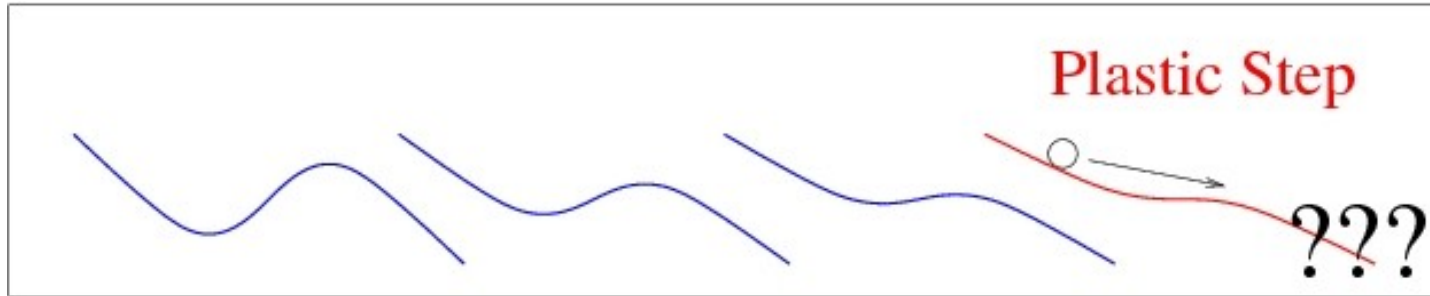
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# Potential Energy Perspective

- Strain biases landscape (Malandro and Lacks 98):



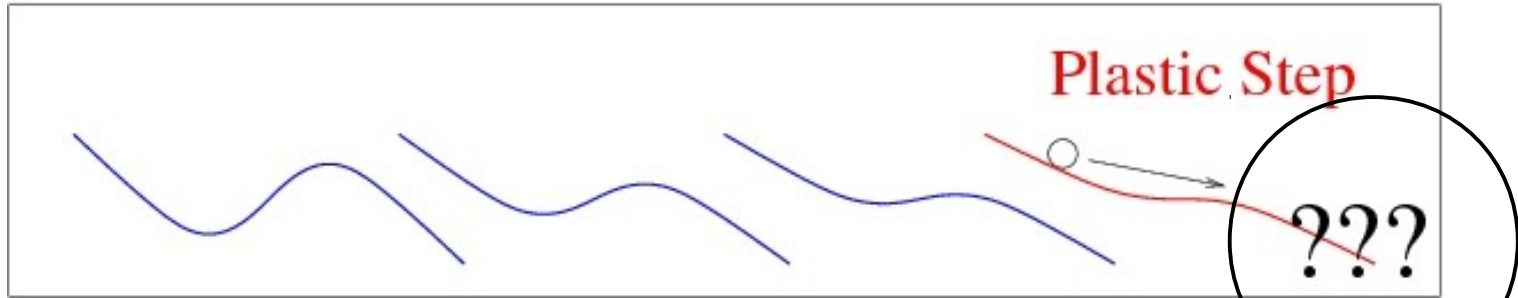
**Elastic segment:** system follows an energy minimum; **reversible.**

**Plastic event:** local minimum annihilates; **irreversible.**



# Potential Energy Perspective

- Strain biases landscape (Malandro and Lacks 98):



**Elastic segment:** system follows an energy minimum; **reversible.**

**Plastic event:** local minimum annihilates; **irreversible.**

## Brillouin 1904:

Finite yield stress  $\Rightarrow$  finite dissipation for vanishing  $\dot{\gamma}$   
As  $\dot{\gamma} \nearrow$ , periods of adiabatic adaption (shifted **equilibrium**) interspeded with **fast instability events**

*Yield stress = signature of multistability*

Events occur at spinodals in stress-biased landscape

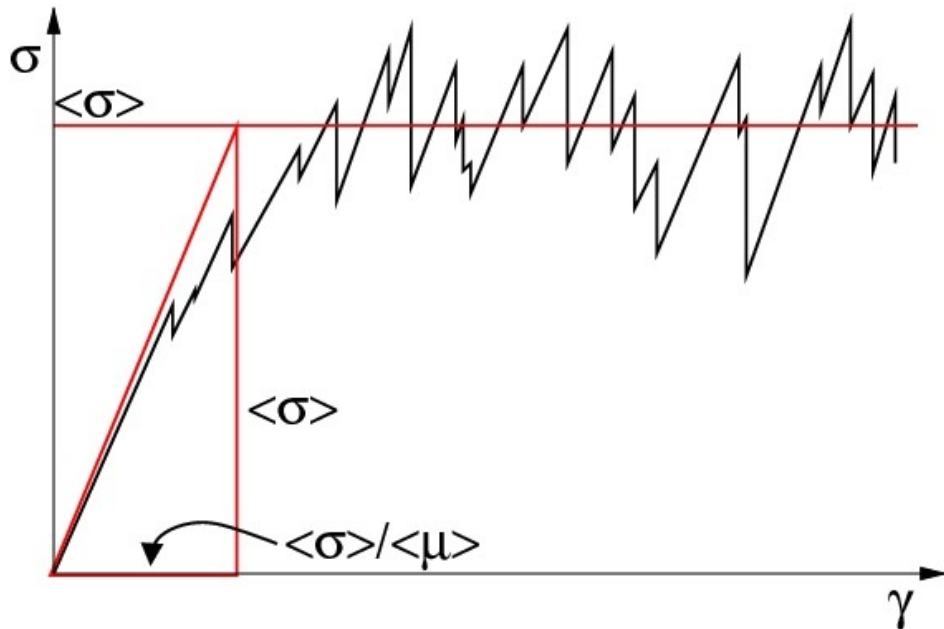
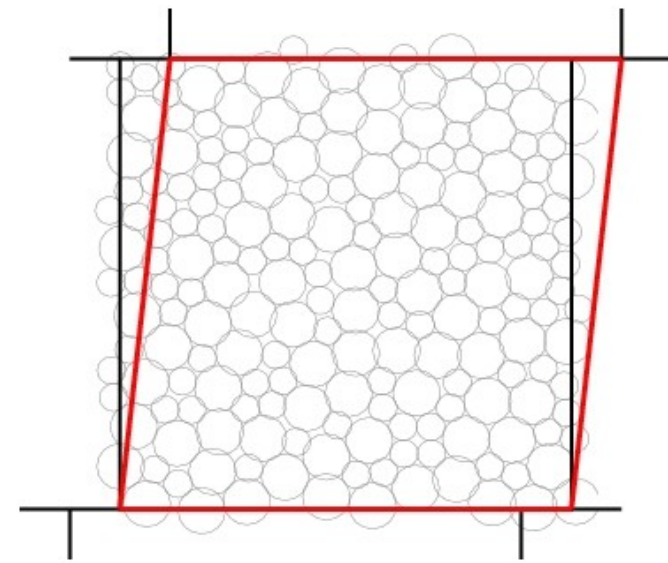
*What is the nature of elementary events?*

# AQS simulations

$$\tau_{aging}^{-1} \ll \dot{\epsilon} \ll \tau_{relax}^{-1}$$

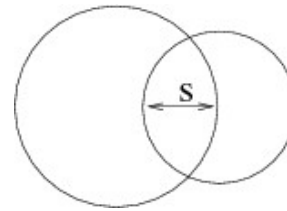
Athermal, quasi-static protocol:  $T = 0 \quad \dot{\gamma} \rightarrow 0$

- Minimize energy
- Apply a small increment of strain (homogeneously)
- Repeat



**Focus on steady state**

Interparticle forces:

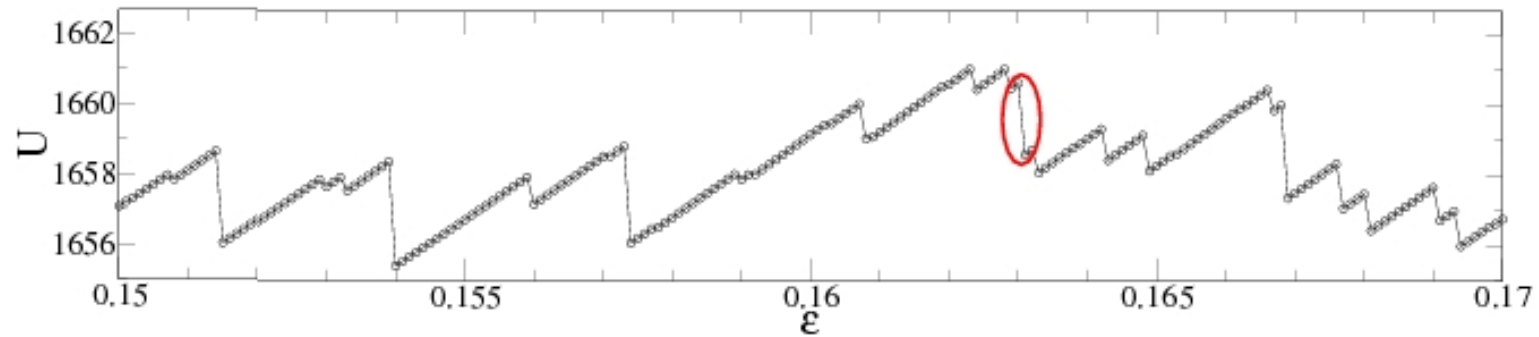


$$U = \frac{1}{2} k s^{5/2} \quad \text{grains}$$

$$U = \frac{1}{2} k s^2 \quad \text{bubbles}$$

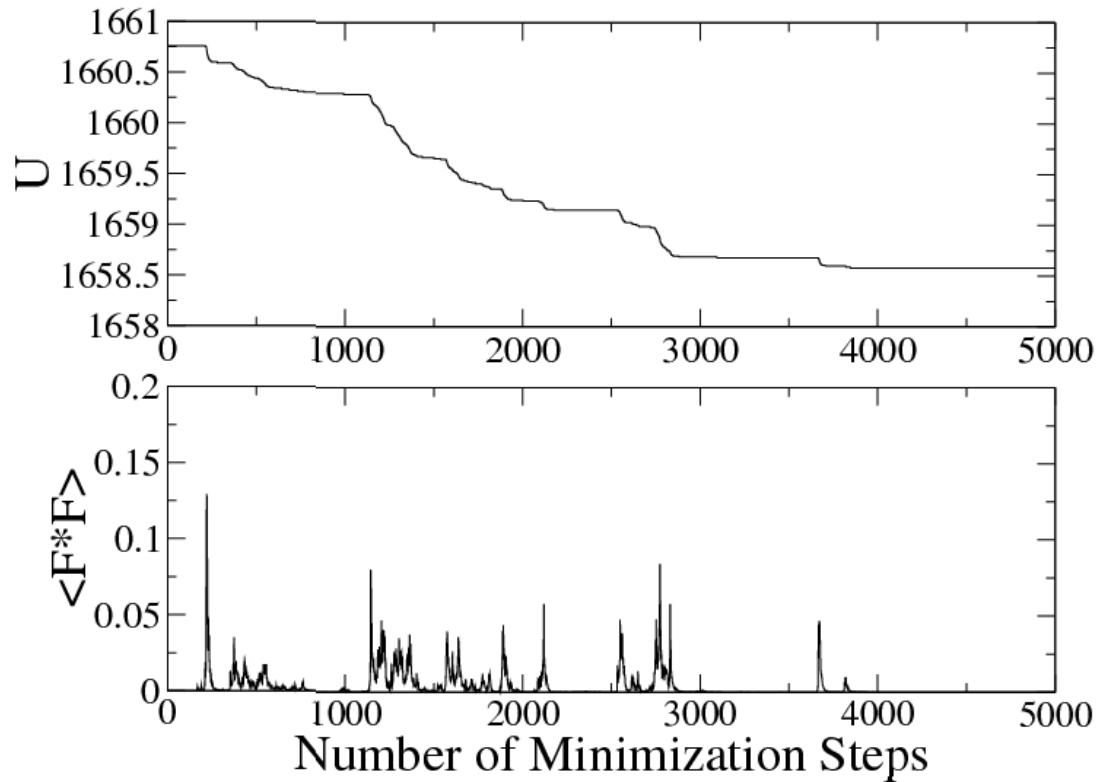
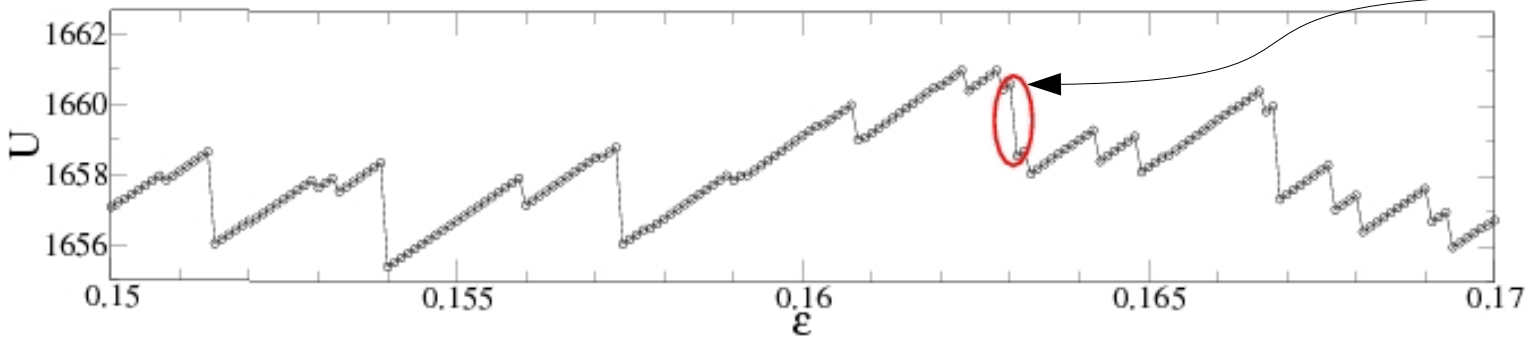
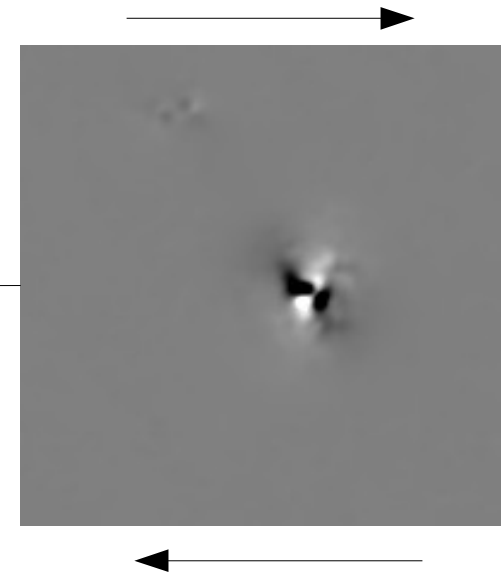
$$U = k(r^{-12} - 2r^{-6}) \quad \text{atoms, particles}$$

# AQS simulations

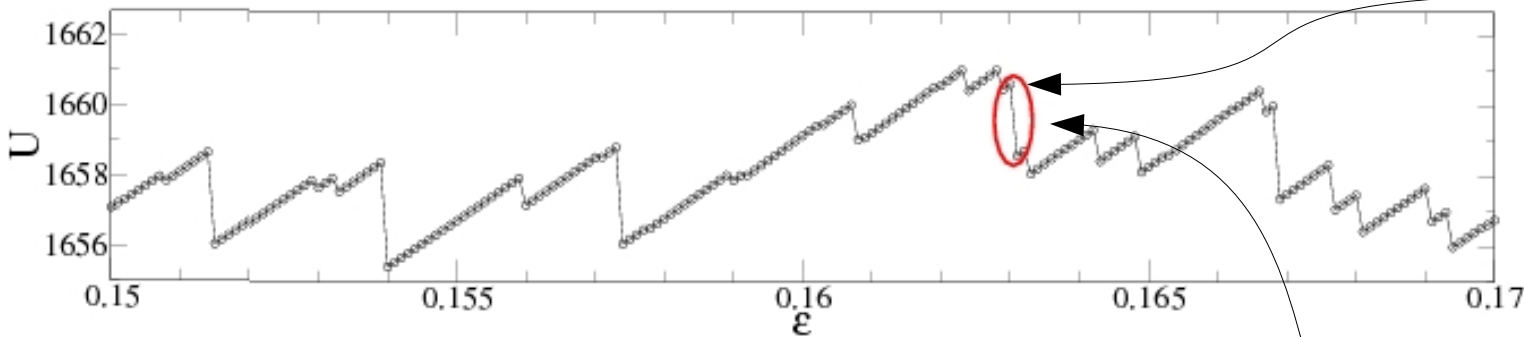
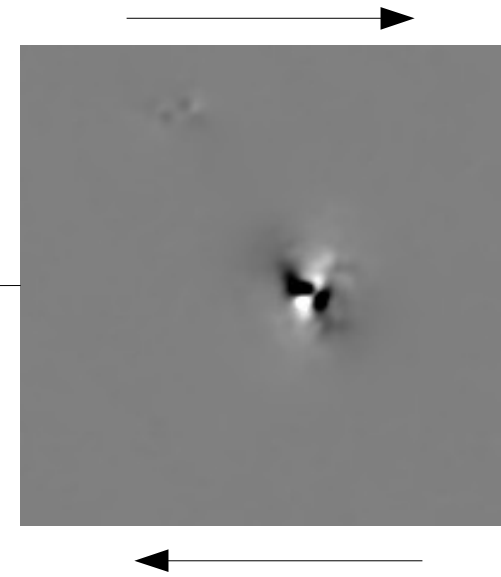


- **Very** stringent convergence criterion
- **Very** small steps to guarantee convergence to QS limit
- Be patient... (patience is bitter but its fruits are sweet)
- **Look** at the spatial organization of elementary events, hoping to observe elementary shear transformations

# AQS I: plastic events are avalanches of flips



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In 2D

C. Maloney and AL,  
PRL 93, 016001 (2004);  
PRE 74, 016118 (2006)

$$\Delta E \sim L$$

E. Lerner and I. Procaccia,  
PRE 79, 066109 (2009)

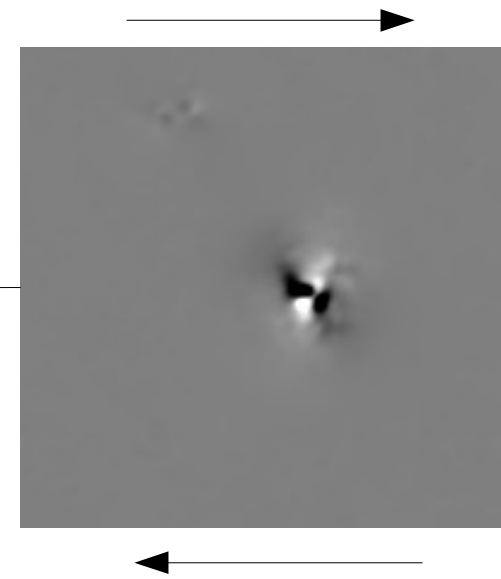
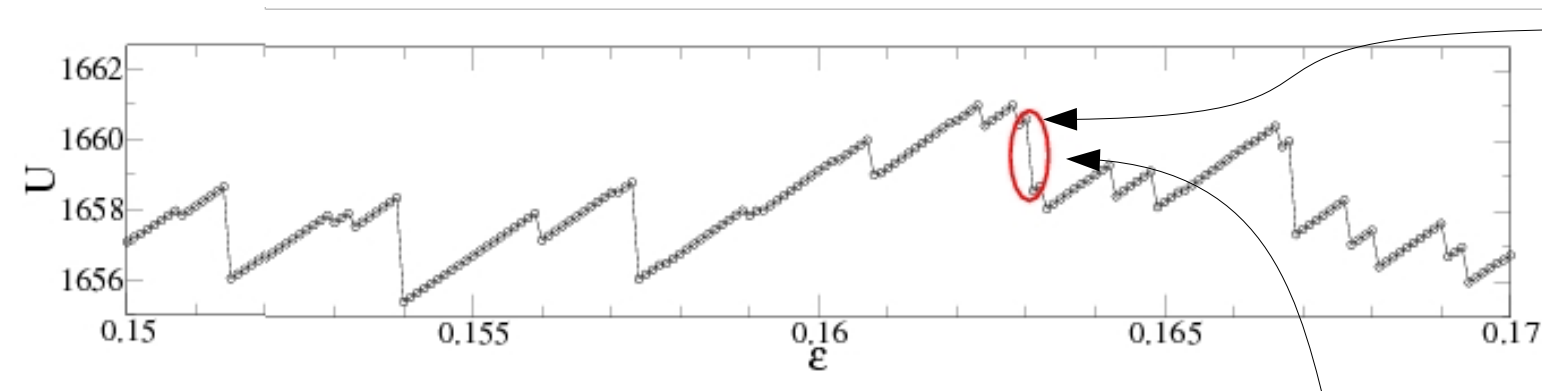
$$\Delta E \sim L^\beta, \beta = 0.74$$

In 3D

N. Bailey et al  
PRL 98, 095501 (2007)

$$\Delta E \sim L^{1.4}$$

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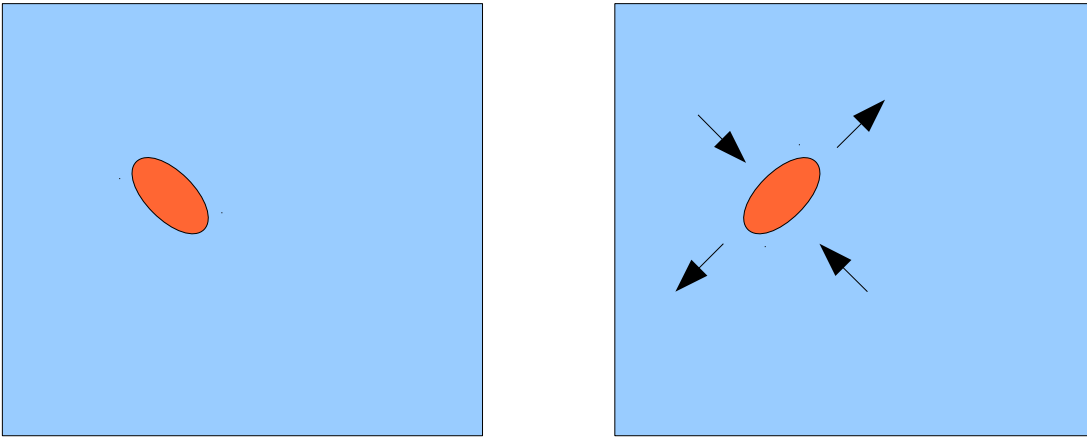
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$$\Delta E \sim L^{1.4}$$



$L$

# Martensitic transformations (Eshelby)

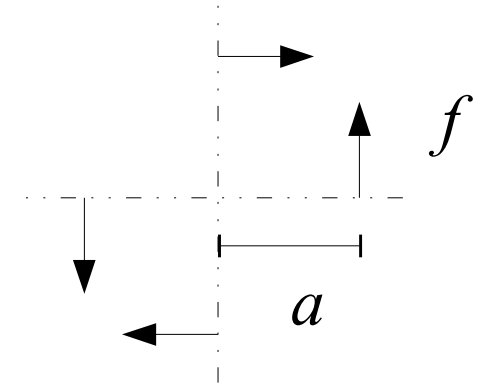


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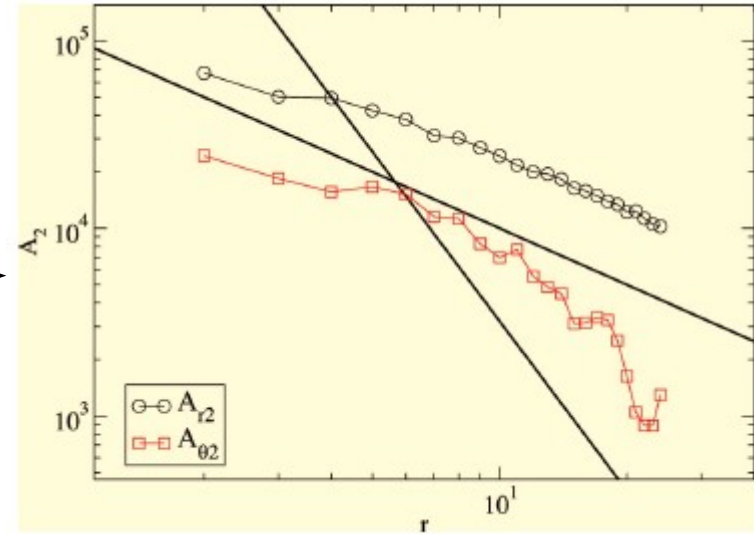
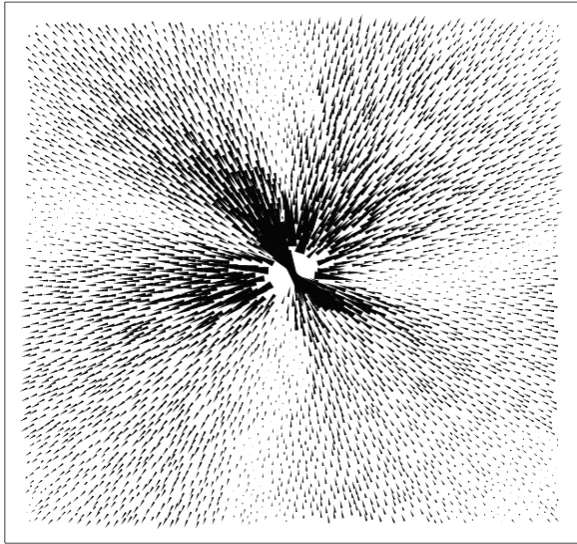
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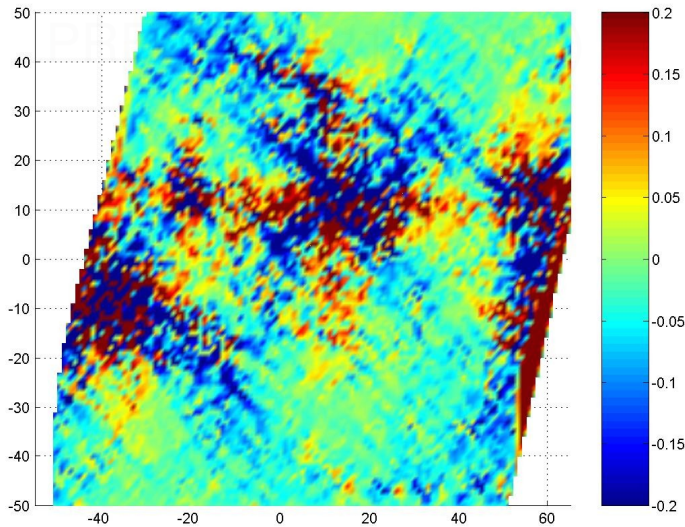
$$\sigma_{xy} = \frac{2 \mu a^2 \Delta \epsilon_0}{\pi} \frac{\cos(4 \theta)}{r^2}$$

A transforming zone is embedded in an elastic medium

# AQS II: flips are analogous to Eshelby transformations



C. Maloney and AL, PRE 74, 016118 (2006)



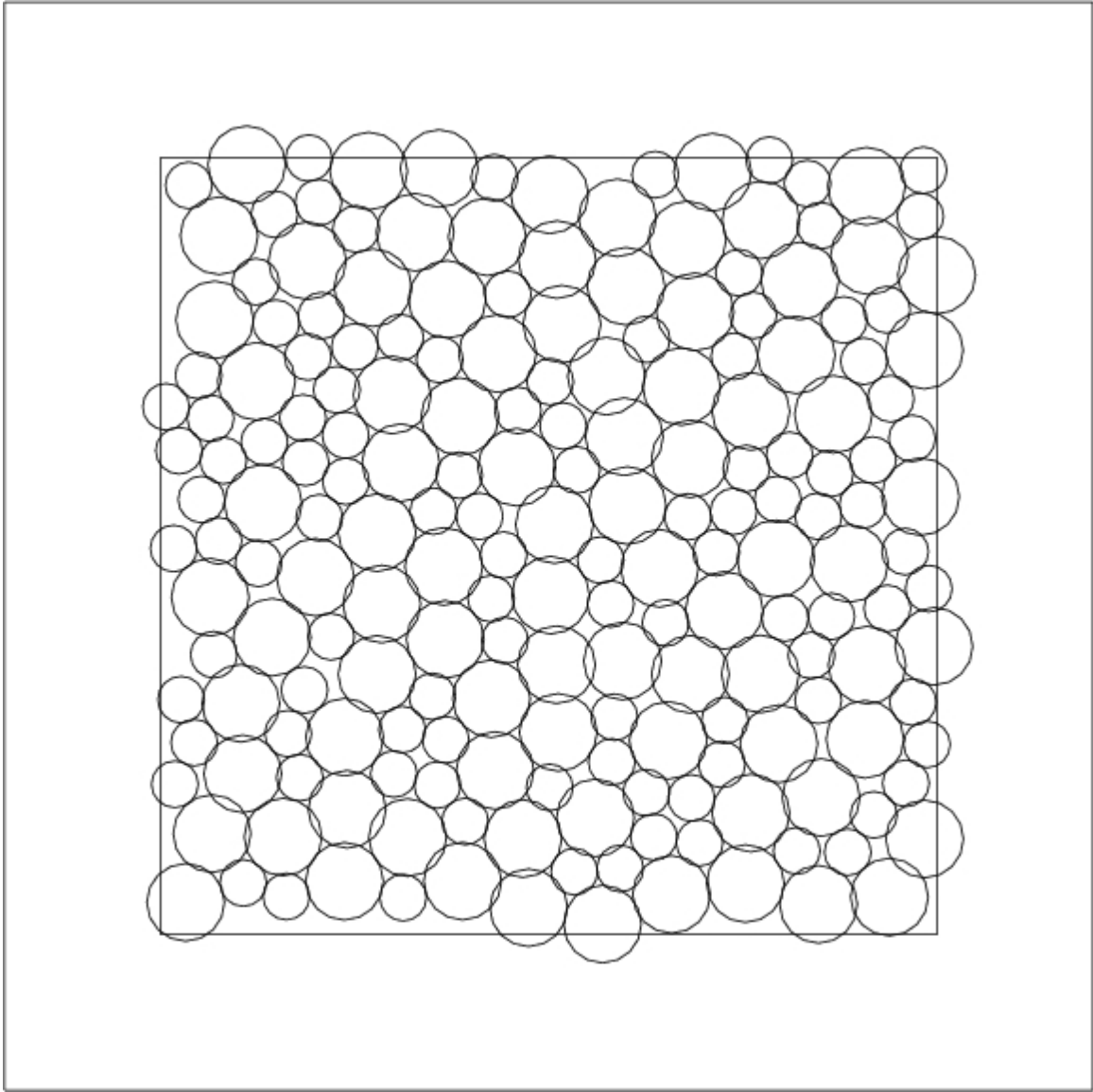
$$\vec{u} = \frac{2 a^2 \Delta \epsilon_0}{\pi} \frac{x y}{r^4} \vec{r}$$

$$\sigma_{xy} = \frac{2 \mu a^2 \Delta \epsilon_0}{\pi} \frac{\cos(4 \theta)}{r^2}$$

A. Tanguy *et al*, EPJE 20, 355 (2006)



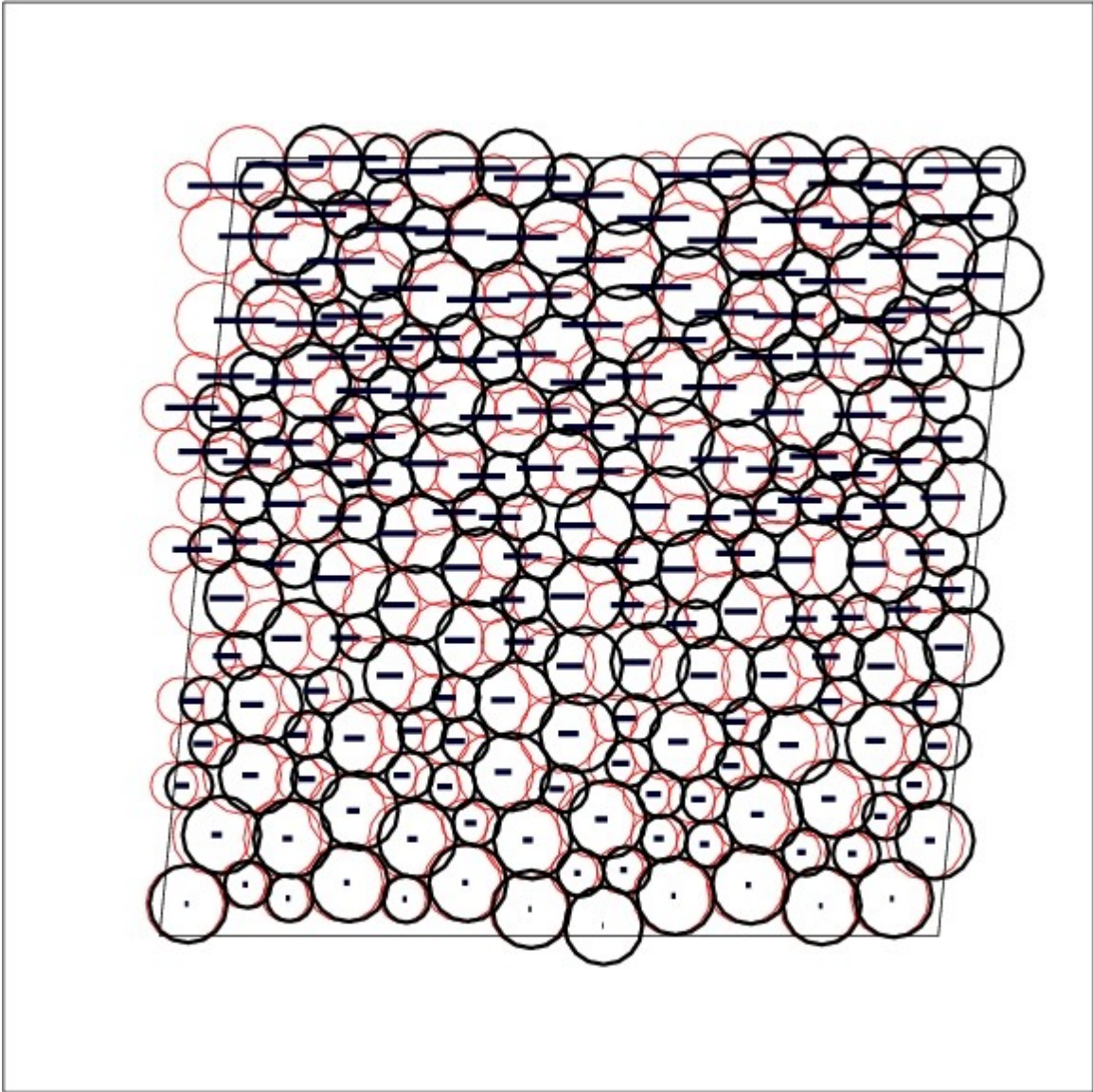
# Non-affine displacement field



$$\gamma_0$$

$$\underline{r}_i(\gamma_0)$$

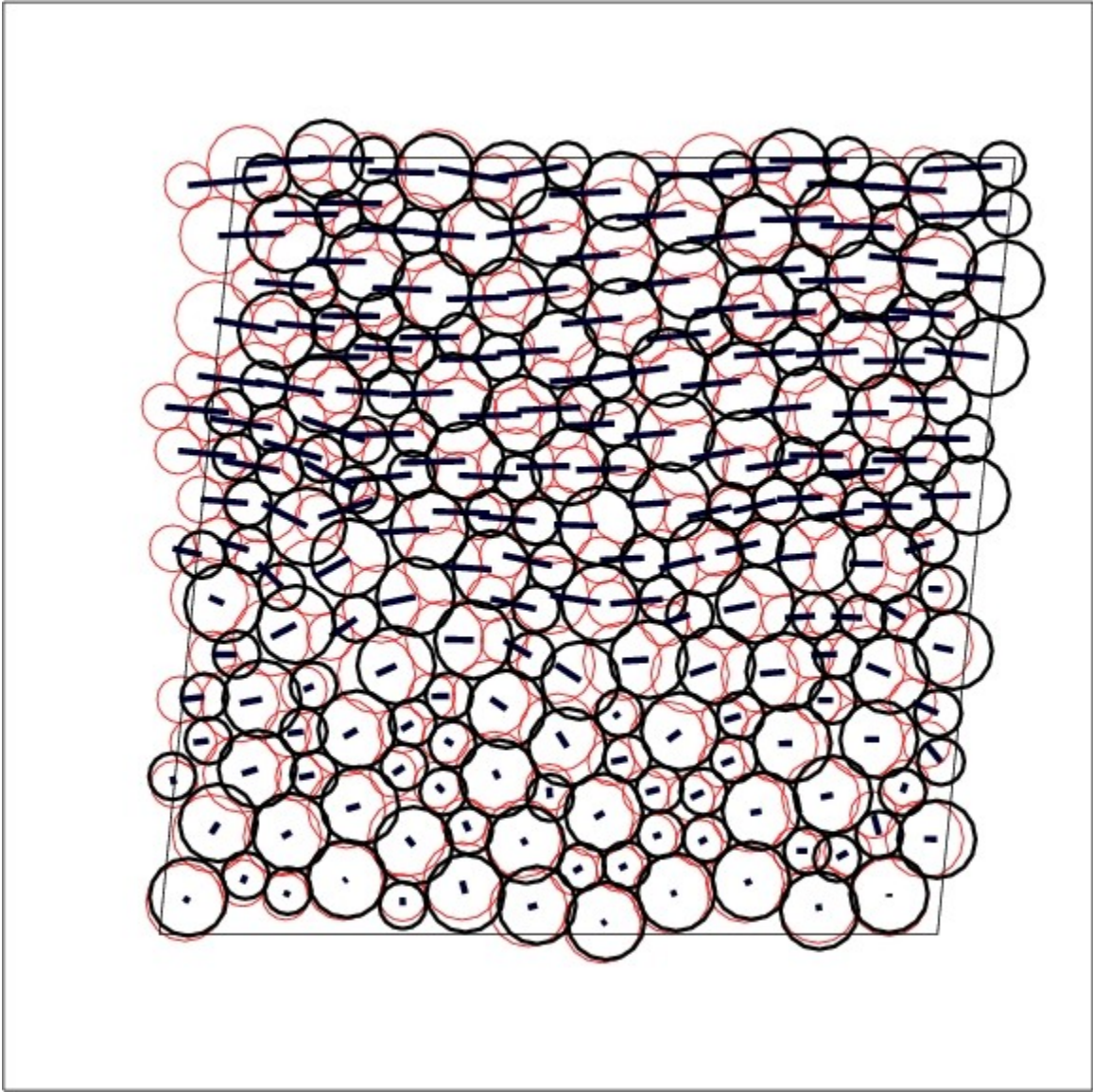
# Non-affine displacement field



$$y_1$$

$$\underline{\underline{E}} \cdot \underline{r}_i(y_0)$$

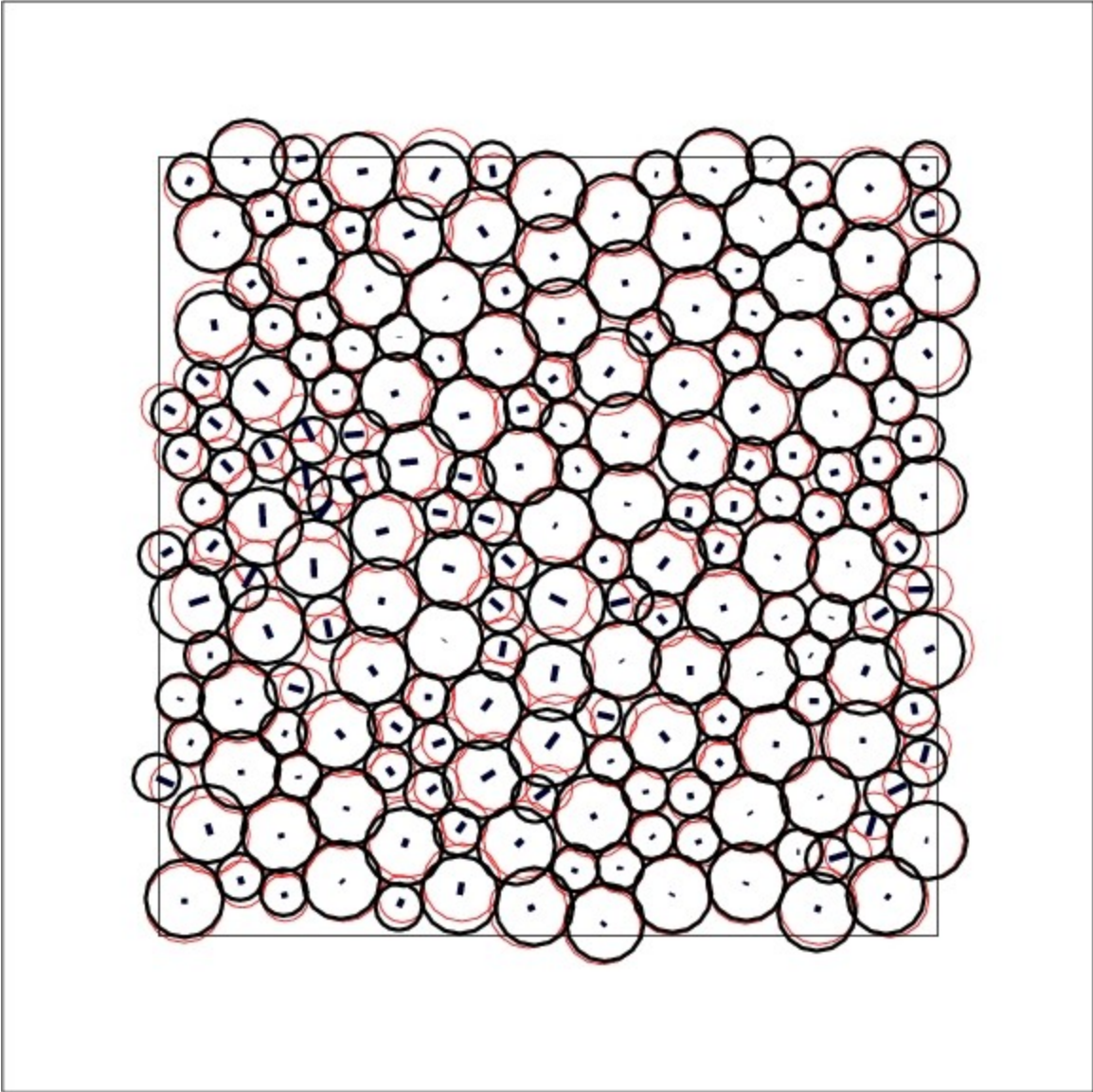
# Non-affine displacement field



$\gamma_1$

$$\underline{r}_i(\gamma_1) \neq \underline{F} \cdot \underline{r}_i(\gamma_0)$$

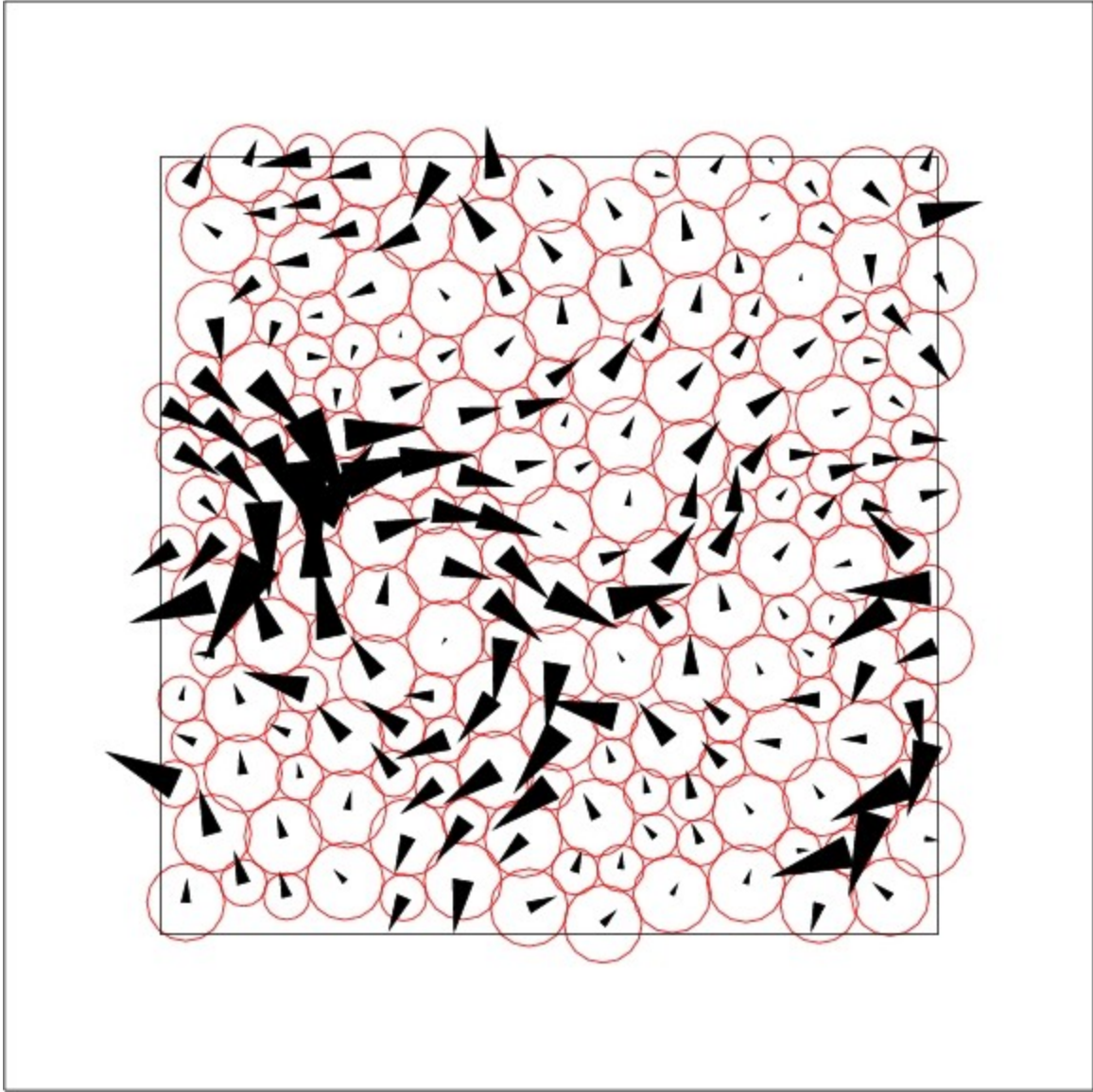
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$$\mathcal{Y}_1$$

$$\underline{\underline{F}}^{-1} \cdot \underline{r}_i(\mathcal{Y}_1)$$

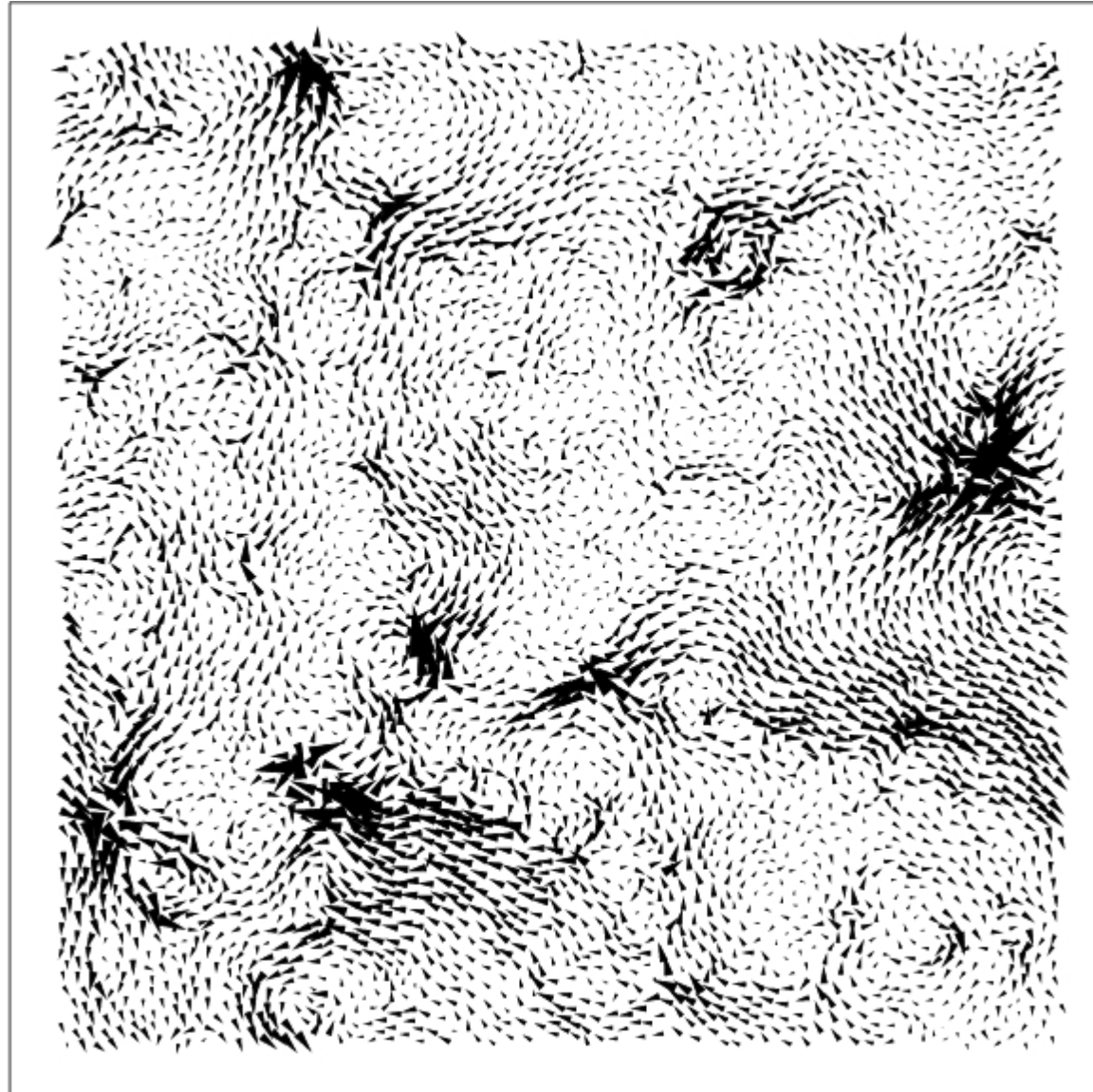
# Non-affine displacement field



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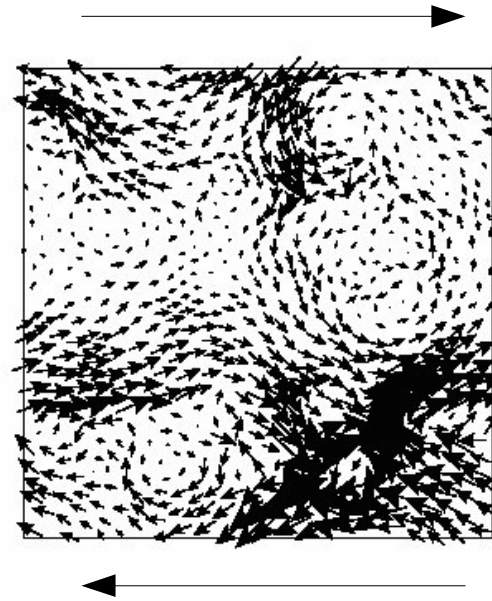
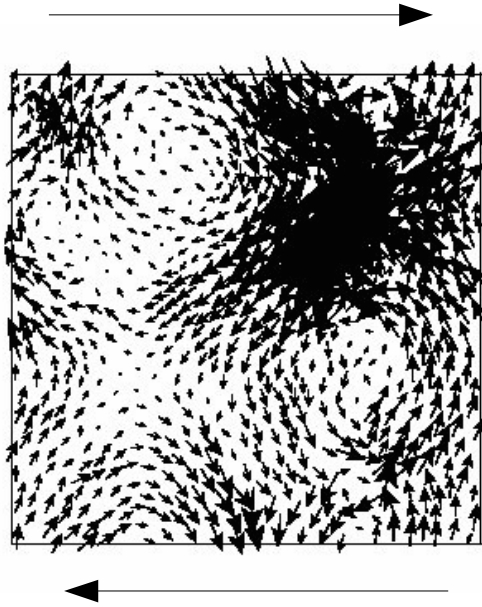
$$\underline{\underline{F}}^{-1} \cdot \underline{r}_i(\mathcal{Y}_1)$$

# Non-affine displacement field



# AQS III: zones are progressively loaded and interact

$$\gamma = 5.56 \text{ \& } 5.58 \%$$



PRE 76, 036104 (2007)

## AQS phenomenology:

- Progressive convection of shear zones towards instability
- Each flip produces an Eshelby-like field likely to trigger secondary flips

⇒ system-spanning avalanches

## Conclusion (partial)

- AQS simulations support the following phenomenology:
  - Plasticity results from local shear transformations
  - Occurring as zones are progressively convected towards spinodals
  - Each flip produces an Eshelby-like field likely to trigger secondary flips

This shows up as system-spanning avalanches



# What happens at finite strain-rate?

Athermal systems

$$T = 0$$

Near QS regime

$$\dot{\gamma} \neq 0$$



$$\lambda_c = 5d$$
$$\tau = 0.2 \tau_{LJ}$$

Pair potential:

$$U = k(r^{-12} - 2r^{-6}) \quad \text{Lennard-Jones}$$

Dissipative forces:

$$f_{ij} = \frac{m}{\tau} \phi(r) (\vec{v}_j - \vec{v}_i) \quad \text{Viscous drag}$$

$$\phi(r) = 1 - 2(r/2)^4 + (r/2)^8$$

This form of dissipation guarantees that:

- long wavelength are not damped
- short wavelength are, for:

$$\lambda < \lambda_c = \frac{\pi d^2}{\tau c_s}$$

Non-affine velocity

$$\vec{v}_i - \dot{\gamma} y_i \vec{e}_x$$



$$L = 160$$

$$\dot{\gamma} = 5 \cdot 10^{-5}$$

# The strain field

Dynamics of non-affine velocity field show:

Flips retain same nature (progressive softening)

Acoustic propagation of long range signals observable

But:

- Are flips correlated?
- Are there avalanches?

# The strain field

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Flips retain same nature (progressive softening)

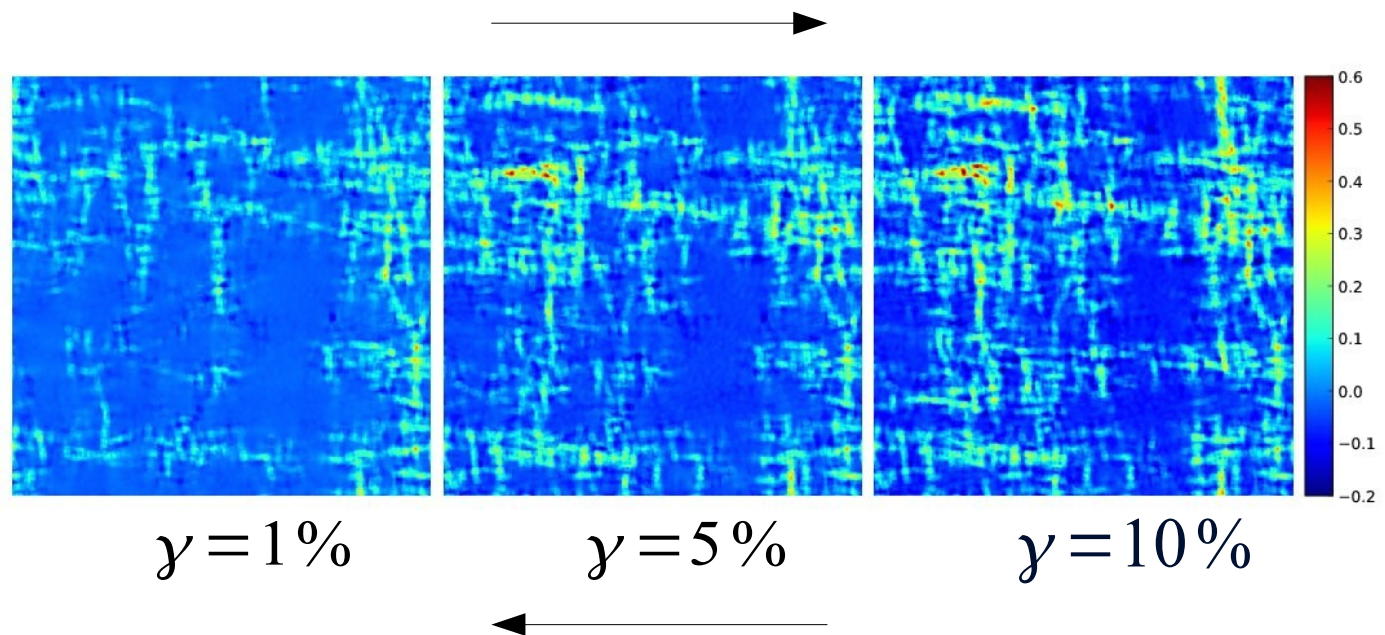
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But:

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Deformation  
maps

$$\epsilon_{xy}(\vec{r})$$



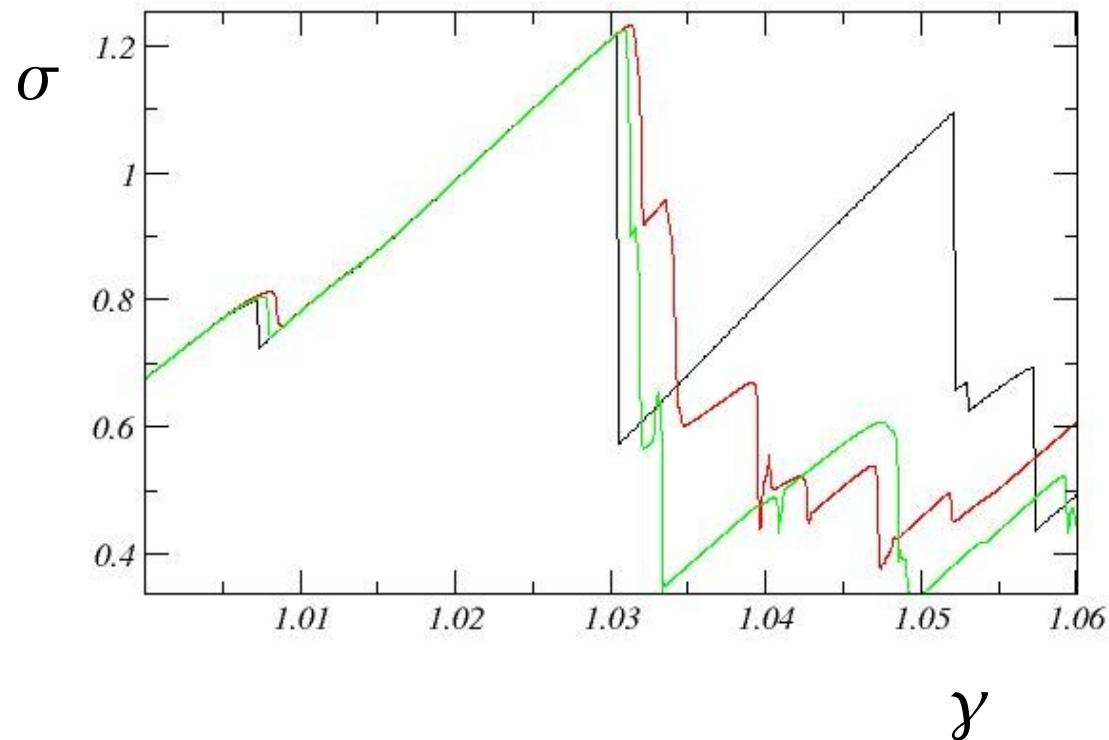
# Looking for robust observables

In AQS limit:

Plastic events = discontinuous drops  
= avalanches

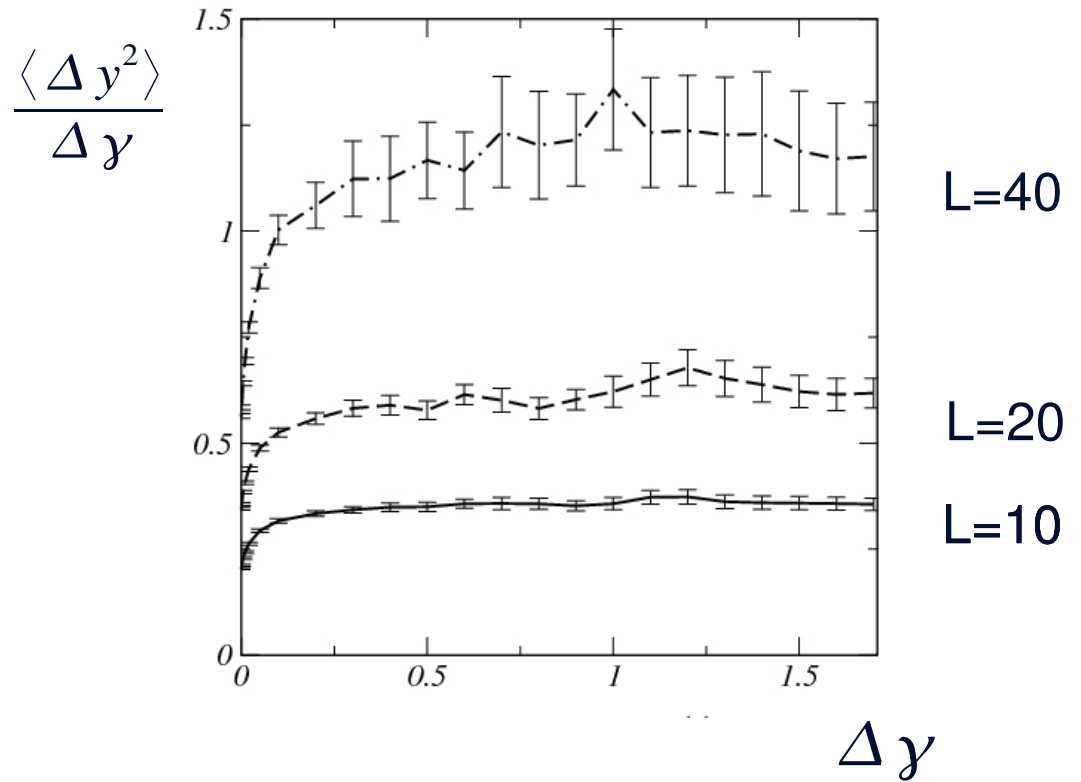
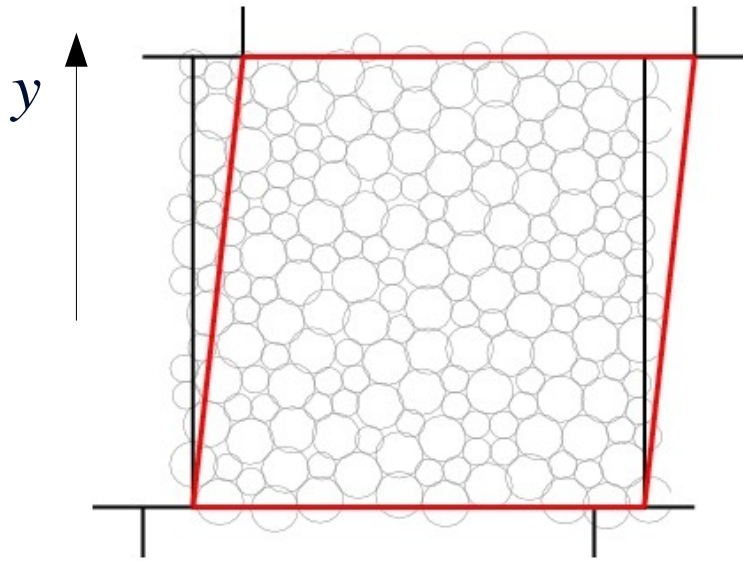
At finite strain rates:

Flips and avalanches have a  
finite duration



What observables should we look at to characterize flip-flip correlations?

# AQS V: Transverse diffusion is system size dependent



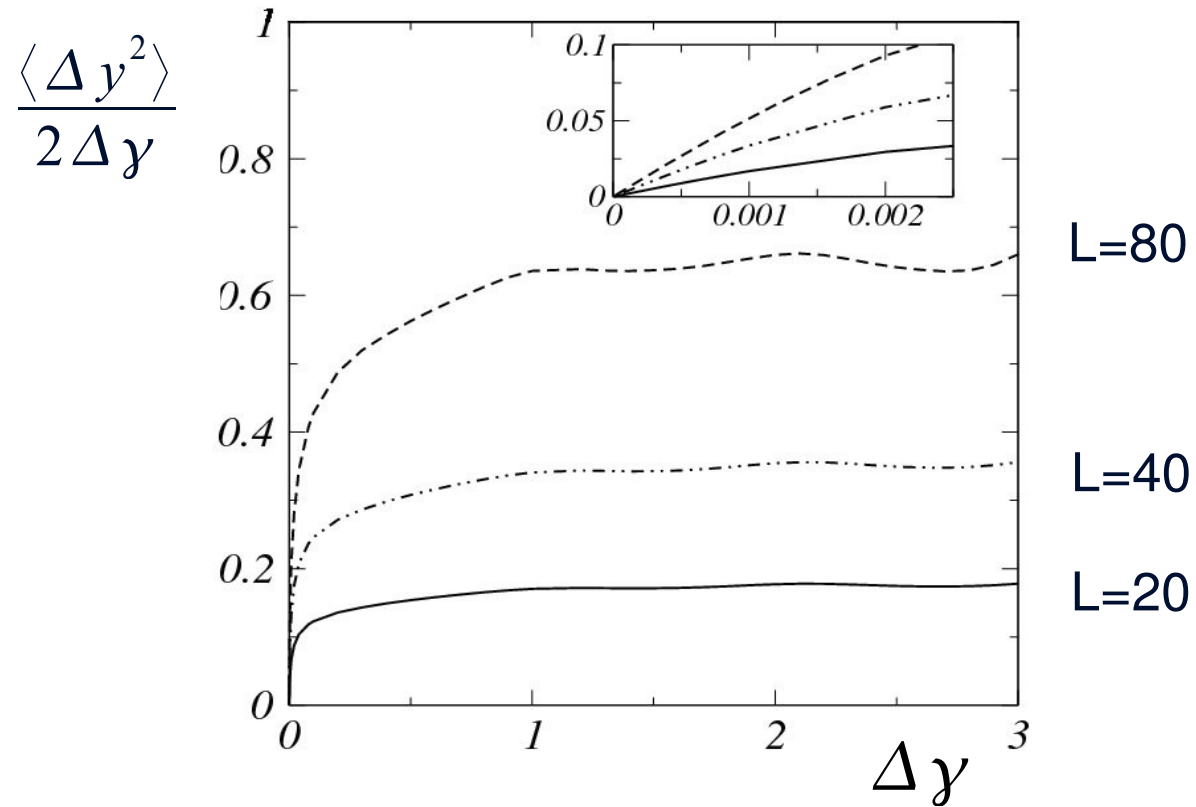
$$\frac{\langle \Delta y^2 \rangle}{\Delta y} \longrightarrow \hat{D} \quad (\Delta y > 0.5)$$

↗ with L

PRE 76, 036104 (2007)

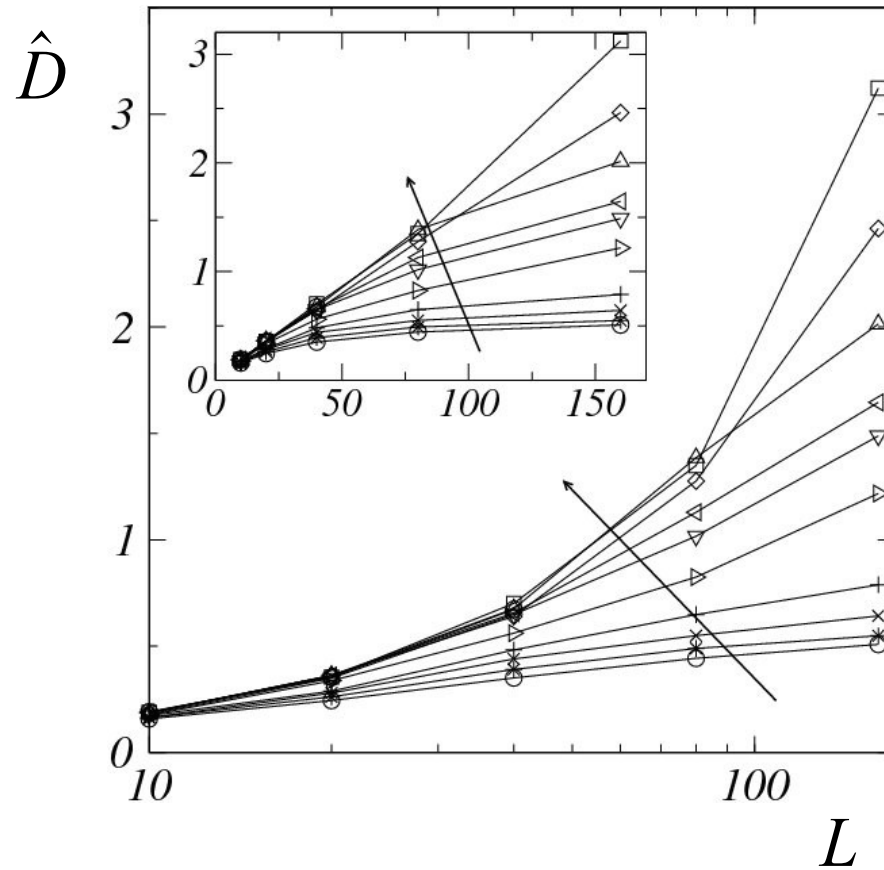
# Transverse diffusion at finite strain rate

$$\dot{\gamma} = 10^{-3}$$



$$\frac{\langle \Delta y^2 \rangle}{2 \Delta \gamma} \rightarrow \hat{D} = D / \dot{\gamma}$$

# Transverse diffusion at finite strain rate



$$\begin{aligned}\hat{D}(\dot{\gamma}, L) &\sim \ln L && (\dot{\gamma} = 10^{-2}) \\ &\sim L && (\dot{\gamma} = 10^{-4})\end{aligned}$$



# Decomposing the plastic response in terms of flips

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Characteristic flip strain: } \Delta \epsilon_0 \\ \text{Characteristic flip size: } a^2 \end{array} \right\} \text{Eshelby: } \Delta \overline{\sigma}_{xy} = \frac{2 \mu a^2 \Delta \epsilon_0}{L^2}$$

Over a long strain interval  $\Delta \gamma$  :

the average number of flips verifies:  $N_f(\Delta \gamma) \Delta \overline{\sigma}_{xy} = 2 \mu \Delta \gamma$

$$N_f(\Delta \gamma) = \frac{L^2 \Delta \gamma}{a^2 \Delta \epsilon_0}$$

$$R_f = \frac{L^2 \dot{\gamma}}{a^2 \Delta \epsilon_0}$$

## Assume flips independent

Over a large strain interval:  $\Delta y_i = \sum_f u_y(\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_f)$

$$\Rightarrow \langle \Delta y^2 \rangle = N_f(\Delta \gamma) \langle u_y^2 \rangle$$

$$N_f(\Delta \gamma) = \frac{L^2 \Delta \gamma}{a^2 \Delta \epsilon_0}$$

Eshelby:  $\vec{u} = \frac{2a^2 \Delta \epsilon_0}{\pi} \frac{xy}{r^4} \vec{r}$

$$\langle u_y^2 \rangle = \frac{1}{L^2} \int_a^L u_y^2 d\vec{r} = \frac{a^4 \Delta \epsilon_0^2}{4\pi L^2} \ln(L/a)$$

$$\frac{\langle \Delta y^2 \rangle}{\Delta \gamma} = \frac{a^2 \Delta \epsilon_0}{4\pi} \ln(L/a)$$

# Transverse diffusion at finite strain rate

$$\frac{\langle \Delta y^2 \rangle}{\Delta \gamma} = \frac{a^2 \Delta \epsilon_0}{4\pi} \ln(L/a)$$

$$\rightarrow a^2 \Delta \epsilon_0 \sim 1$$

$$\Delta \epsilon_0 \sim 4\%$$

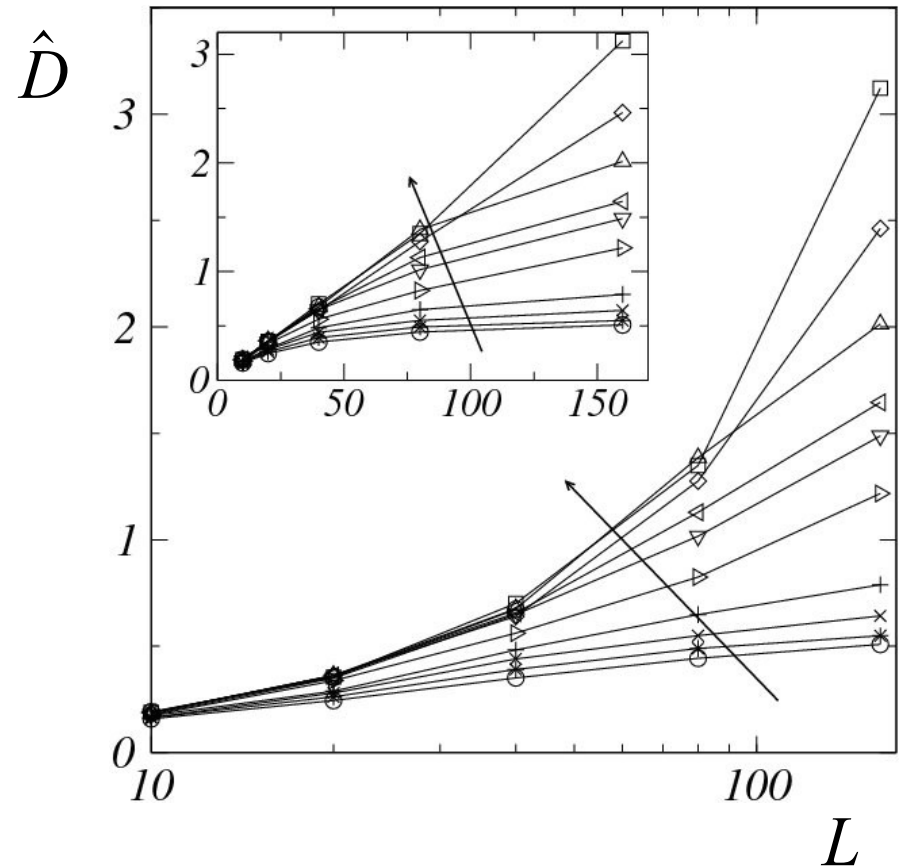
$$a \sim 5$$

Very high strain rates ( $\dot{\gamma} = 10^{-2}$ )

~ no flip correlations

Decreasing  $\dot{\gamma}$  : growing departure from  $\ln L$

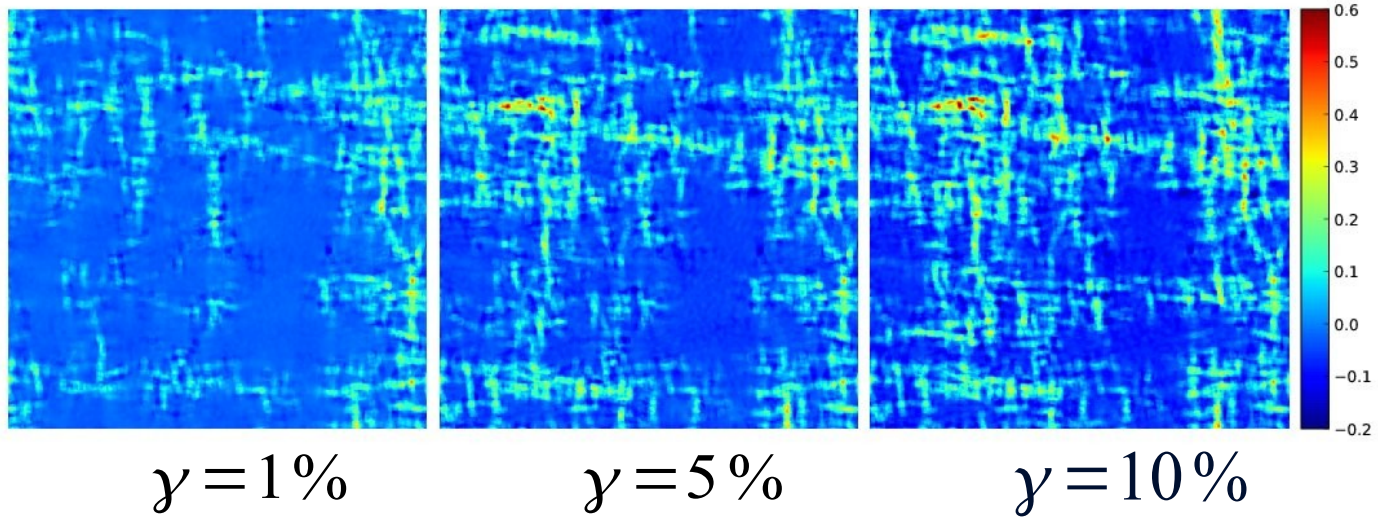
= growing correlation length (avalanche size)?



*Assume events = correlated flips = linear avalanches*

Deformation  
maps

$$\epsilon_{xy}(\vec{r})$$

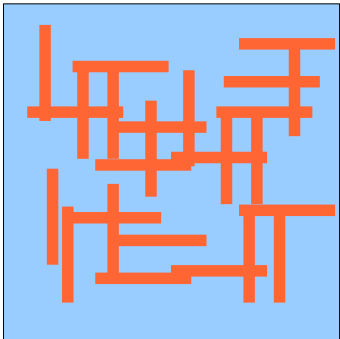


# Assume events = correlated flips = linear avalanches

Avalanches:

- linear extension:  $l$  (= flip correlation length)
- density of flips in an avalanche,  $\nu$  constant

$$N_{\text{av}}(\Delta \gamma) = N_f(\Delta \gamma) / \nu l$$



$$\begin{aligned} \langle \Delta y^2 \rangle_{\text{av}} &= \nu^2 \int_0^l \int_0^l ds ds' \langle u_y(\vec{r} - \vec{r}_s) u_y(\vec{r} - \vec{r}_{s'}) \rangle \\ &= \frac{a^4 \Delta \epsilon_0^2 \nu^2}{2\pi} \left( \frac{l}{L} \right)^2 \ln(L/l) \\ &\equiv \langle u_y^2 \rangle_A \end{aligned}$$

Particles diffusion

$$\Delta y_i = \sum_A u_y^A(\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_A)$$

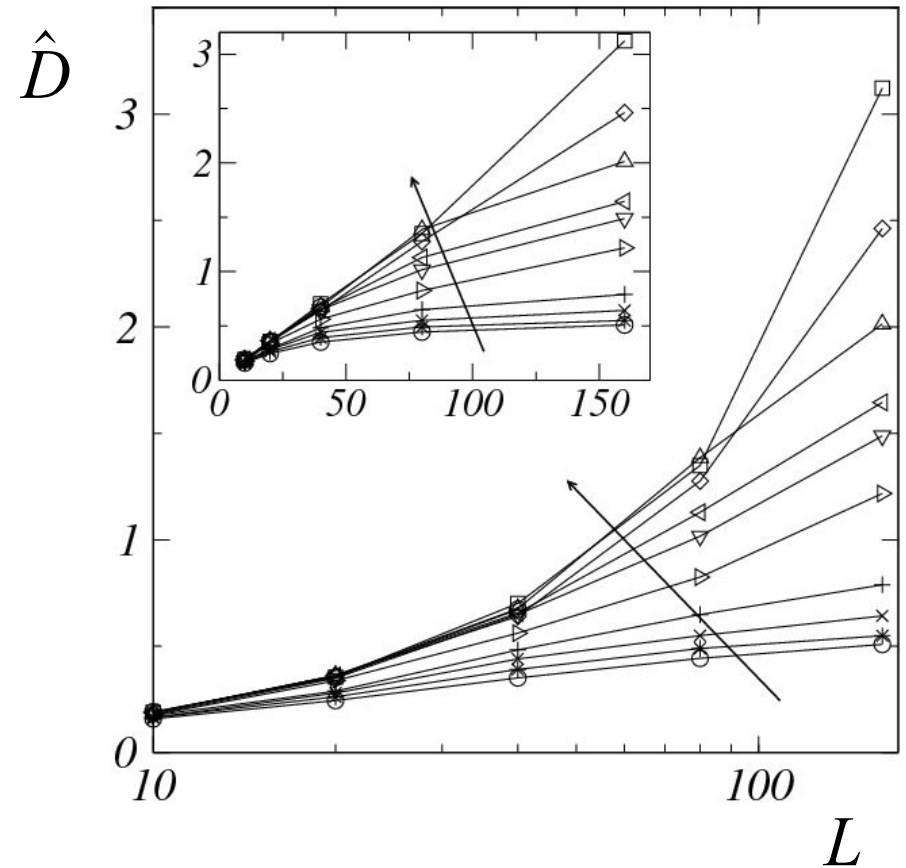
Assuming avalanches independent:

$$\langle \Delta y^2 \rangle = N_A(\Delta \gamma) \langle u_y^2 \rangle_A$$

$$\frac{\langle \Delta y^2 \rangle}{\Delta \gamma} = \frac{a^2 \Delta \epsilon_0}{4\pi} \nu l \ln(L/l)$$

# Transverse diffusion at finite strain rate

$$\frac{\langle \Delta y^2 \rangle}{\Delta y} = \frac{a^2 \Delta \epsilon_0}{4\pi} \nu l \ln(L/l)$$

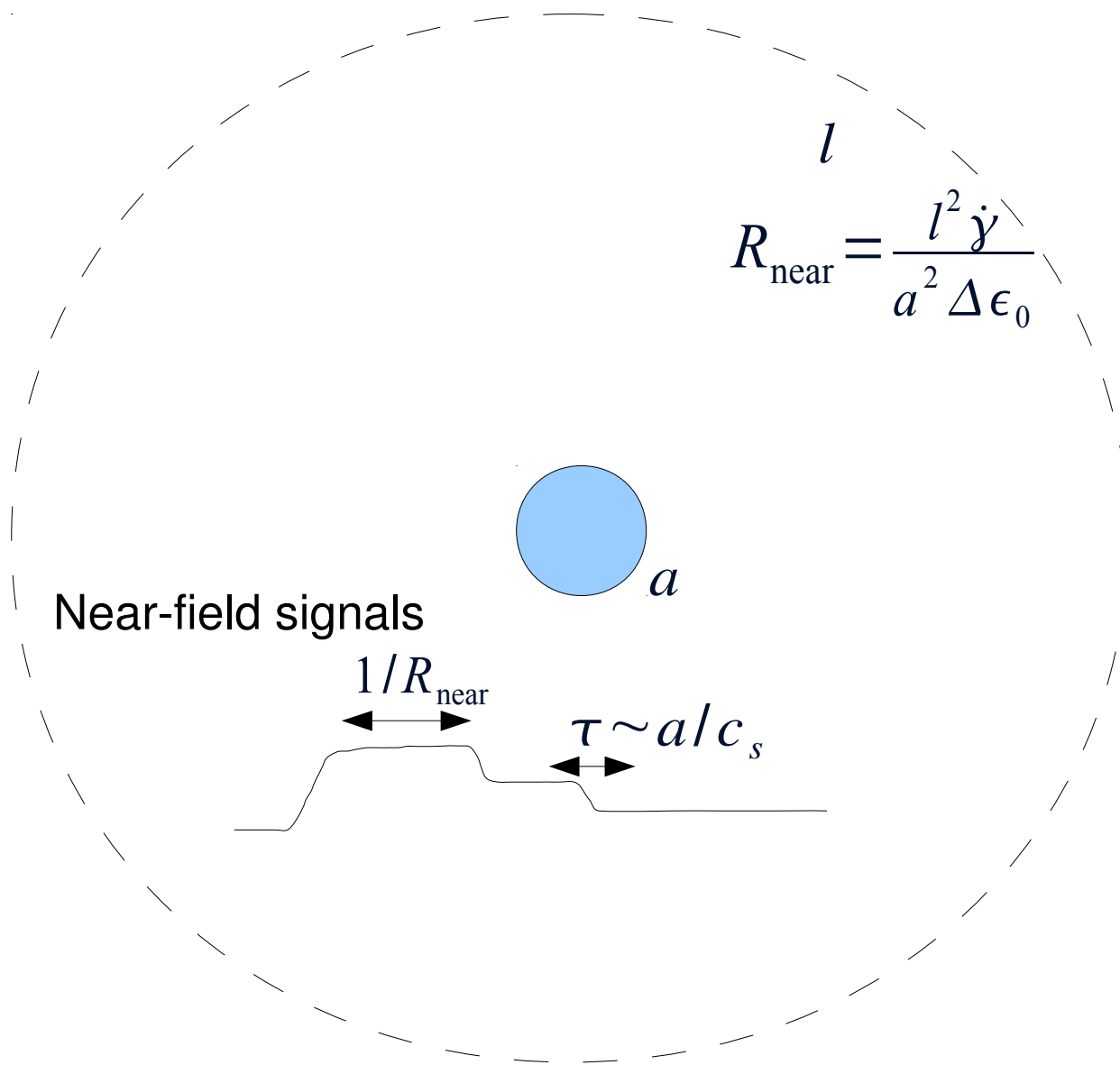


Large  $\dot{\gamma} \Rightarrow l \sim a \quad \hat{D} \sim \ln L$

$\dot{\gamma} \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow l \sim L \quad \hat{D} \sim L \quad \text{QS regime}$

In between, evaluate  $l(\dot{\gamma})$  ?

# What is the noise received by a zone?



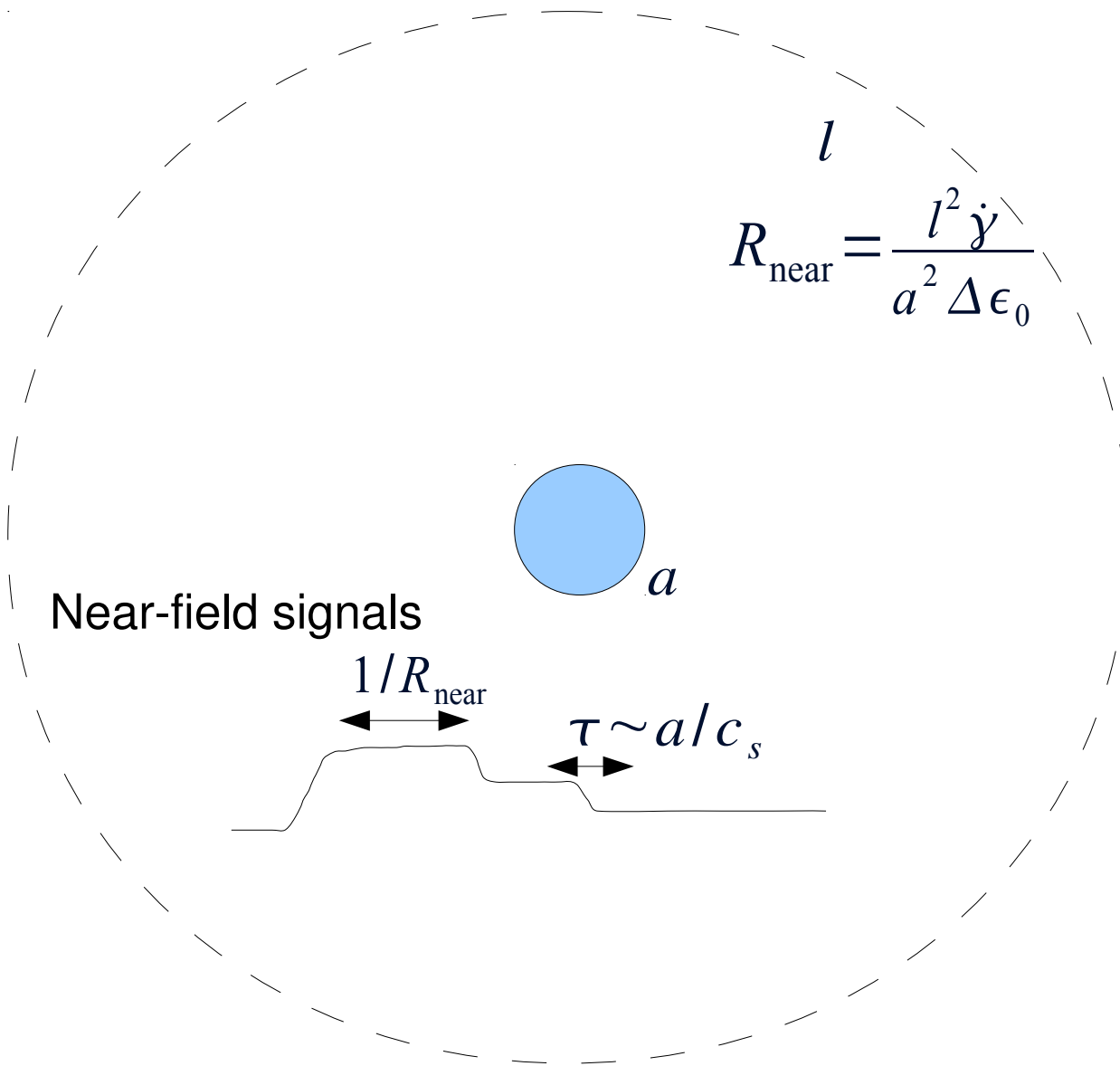
$L$

$$R_{\text{flip}} = \frac{L^2 \dot{\gamma}}{a^2 \Delta \epsilon_0}$$

$$R_{\text{near}} = \frac{l^2 \dot{\gamma}}{a^2 \Delta \epsilon_0}$$

*Near-field signals are separated iff:  $1/R_{\text{near}} \gg \tau \Leftrightarrow l \ll \sqrt{a^2 \Delta \epsilon_0 / \dot{\gamma} \tau_{\text{flip}}}$*

# What is the noise received by a zone?



$$R_{\text{near}} = \frac{l^2 \dot{\gamma}}{a^2 \Delta \epsilon_0}$$

$$L \quad R_{\text{flip}} = \frac{L^2 \dot{\gamma}}{a^2 \Delta \epsilon_0}$$

Background noise

$$R_{\text{back}} = \frac{(L^2 - l^2) \dot{\gamma}}{a^2 \Delta \epsilon_0}$$

During time  $\tau$ , stress diffuses:

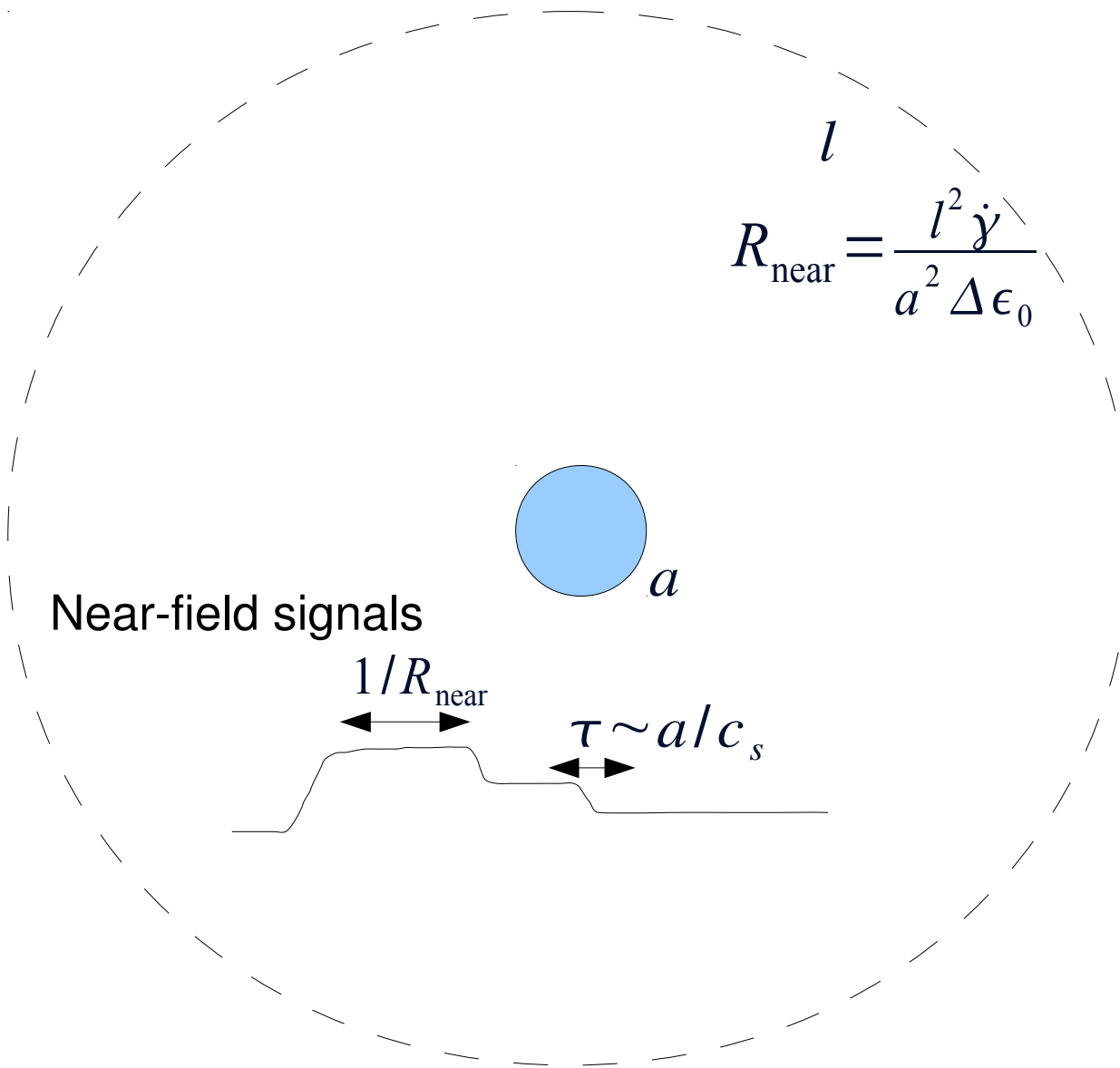
$$\langle \Delta \sigma^2 \rangle \sim R_{\text{back}} \tau \langle \Delta \sigma^2 \rangle_{\text{Esh.}}$$

$$\langle \Delta \sigma^2 \rangle \sim \dot{\gamma} \tau (\mu^2 a^2 \Delta \epsilon_0 / l^2)$$

Near-field signals are separated iff:  $1/R_{\text{near}} \gg \tau \Leftrightarrow l \ll \sqrt{a^2 \Delta \epsilon_0 / \dot{\gamma} \tau_{\text{flip}}}$



# What is the noise received by a zone?



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$$\langle \Delta \sigma^2 \rangle \sim R_{\text{back}} \tau \langle \Delta \sigma^2 \rangle_{\text{Esh.}}$$

$$\langle \Delta \sigma^2 \rangle \sim \dot{\gamma} \tau (\mu^2 a^2 \Delta \epsilon_0 / l^2)$$

$$\sqrt{\langle \Delta \sigma^2 \rangle} \ll \mu (a^2 \Delta \epsilon_0 / l^2)$$

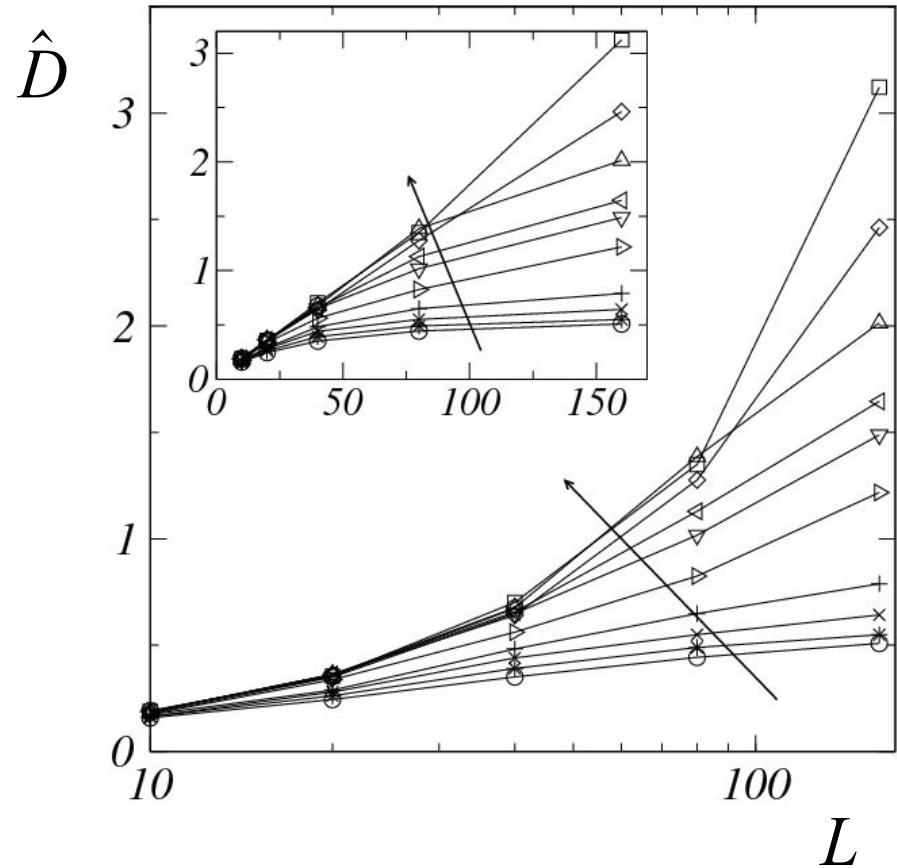
Near-field signals are separated iff:  $1/R_{\text{near}} \gg \tau \Leftrightarrow l \ll \sqrt{a^2 \Delta \epsilon_0 / \dot{\gamma} \tau_{\text{flip}}}$

# Back to diffusion data

PRL 103, 065501 (2009)

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \hat{D} = \frac{a^2 \Delta \epsilon_0^2}{2\pi} \nu l \ln(L/l) \\ l \sim \sqrt{a^2 \Delta \epsilon_0 / \dot{\gamma} \tau_{\text{flip}}} \end{array} \right.$$

$\hat{D}/L \sim f(L\sqrt{\dot{\gamma}})$

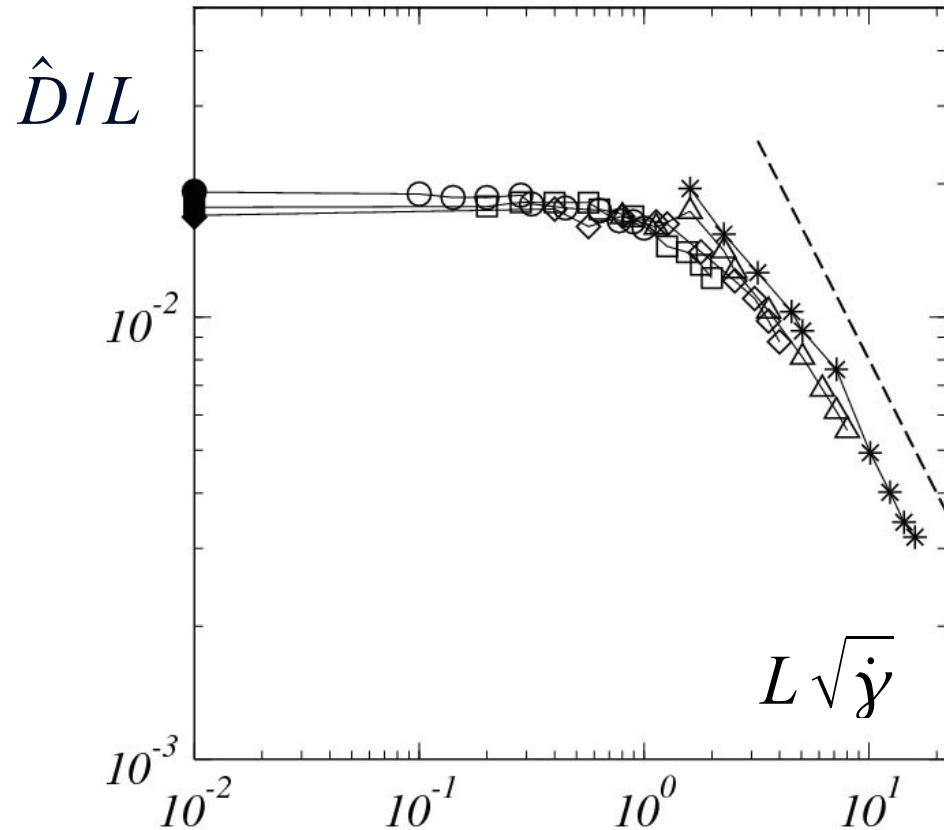


# Back to diffusion data

PRL 103, 065501 (2009)

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \hat{D} = \frac{a^2 \Delta \epsilon_0^2}{2\pi} \nu l \ln(L/l) \\ l \sim \sqrt{a^2 \Delta \epsilon_0 / \dot{\gamma} \tau_{\text{flip}}} \end{array} \right.$$

$\hat{D}/L \sim f(L\sqrt{\dot{\gamma}})$



Crossover from dynamically controlled correlation length  $l \sim \dot{\gamma}^{-1/2}$   
 to QS regime  $l \sim L$

For

$$\dot{\gamma} \sim \dot{\gamma}_{\text{co}} \approx a^2 \Delta \epsilon_0 / \tau_{\text{flip}} L^2$$

# Inferences

- Extension to 3D  $l(\dot{\gamma}) \sim a(\Delta\epsilon_0/\dot{\gamma}\tau_{\text{flip}})^{1/3}$

⇒ For atomic glass, with  $\tau_{\text{LJ}} \sim 10^{-13}$  sec ,  $a \sim 1$  nm ,  $\Delta\epsilon_0 \sim 5\%$

For  $\dot{\gamma} \leq 1 \text{ sec}^{-1}$  ,  $l \geq 10 \mu\text{m}$

- 2D flow curve  $\sigma(\dot{\gamma})$

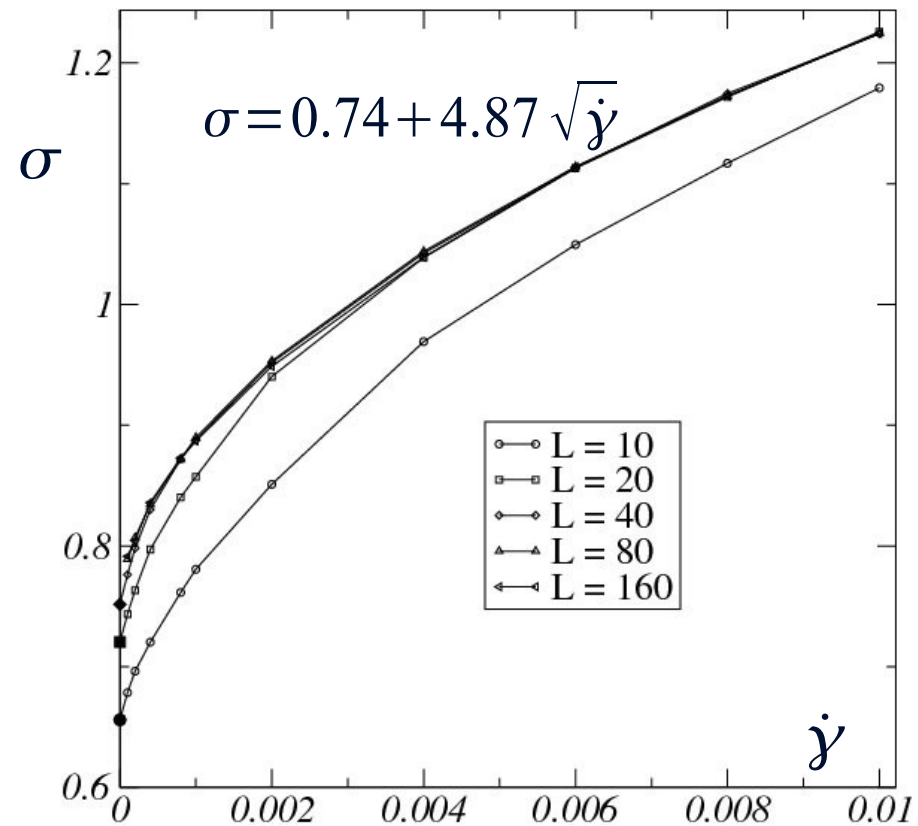
guess:  $\sigma - \sigma_y \approx \mu \dot{\gamma} \tau_{\text{av}}$

event duration:  $\tau_{\text{av}} \sim l/c_s$

(domino-like avalanches)

$\Rightarrow \sigma = \sigma_y + C\sqrt{\dot{\gamma}}$

$$C = \frac{\mu}{c_s} a^2 \frac{\Delta\epsilon_0}{\tau} \approx 13$$



## Conclusion (partial)

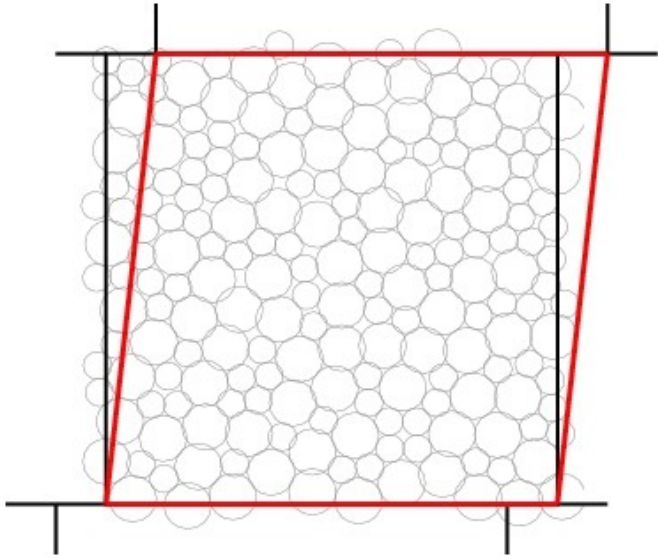
- AQS simulations support the following phenomenology:
  - Plasticity results from local shear transformations
  - Zones are progressively convected towards instability
  - Each flip produces an Eshelby-like field likely to trigger secondary flips

This shows up as system-spanning avalanches

- At usual finite  $\dot{\gamma}$ , the same phenomenology continues to govern plasticity
  - The size of avalanches  $l \sim \dot{\gamma}^{-1/D}$
  - With normal cross-over behavior when  $l \sim L$
  - We propose these changes govern stress/strain-rate relation

# What happens at finite temperature?

Chattoraj et al,  
arxiv/1005.1179



- Binary LJ, radii 0.3 and 0.5
- Velocity rescaling
- $T_g = 0.27$

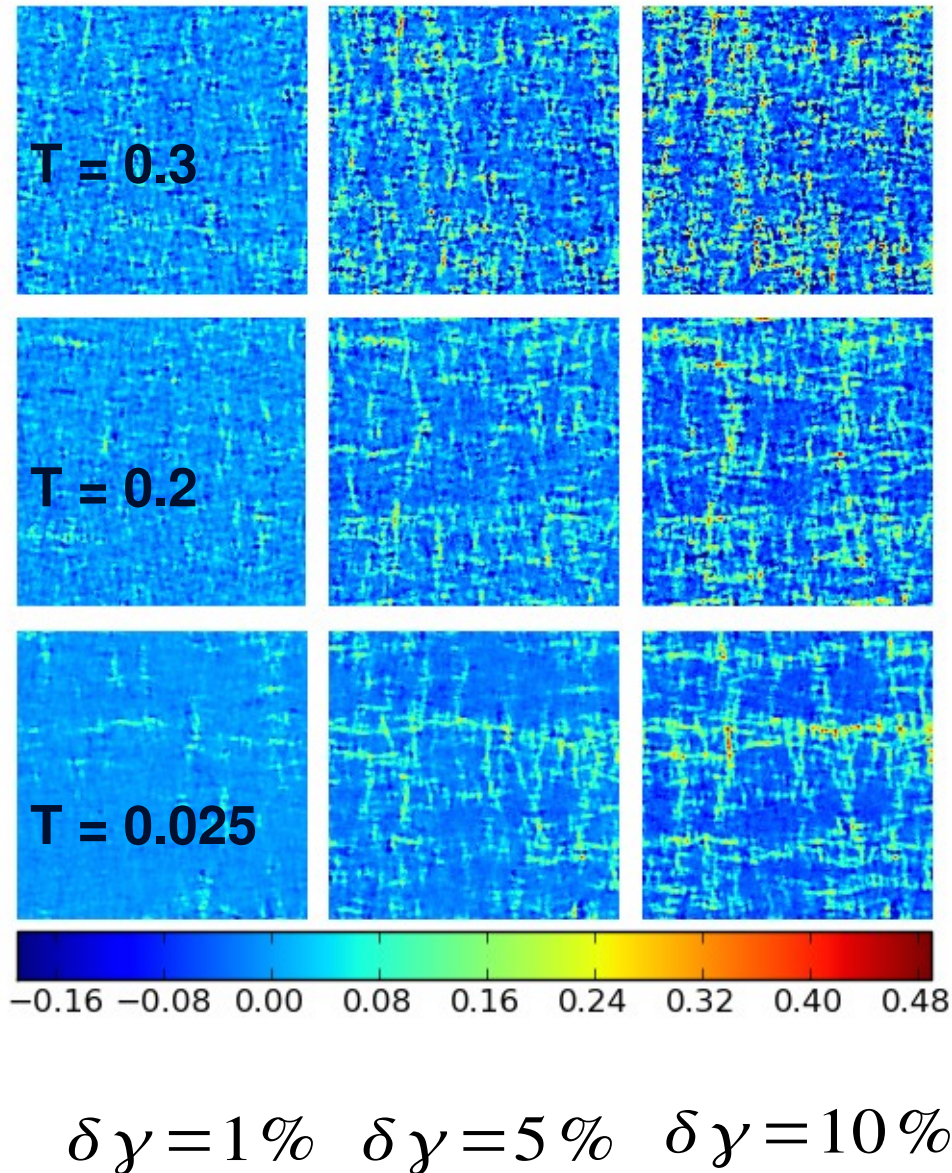
## Data Accumulation:

$T = 0.025, 0.05, 0.1, 0.2, 0.25, 0.3, 0.35, 0.4, 0.5$

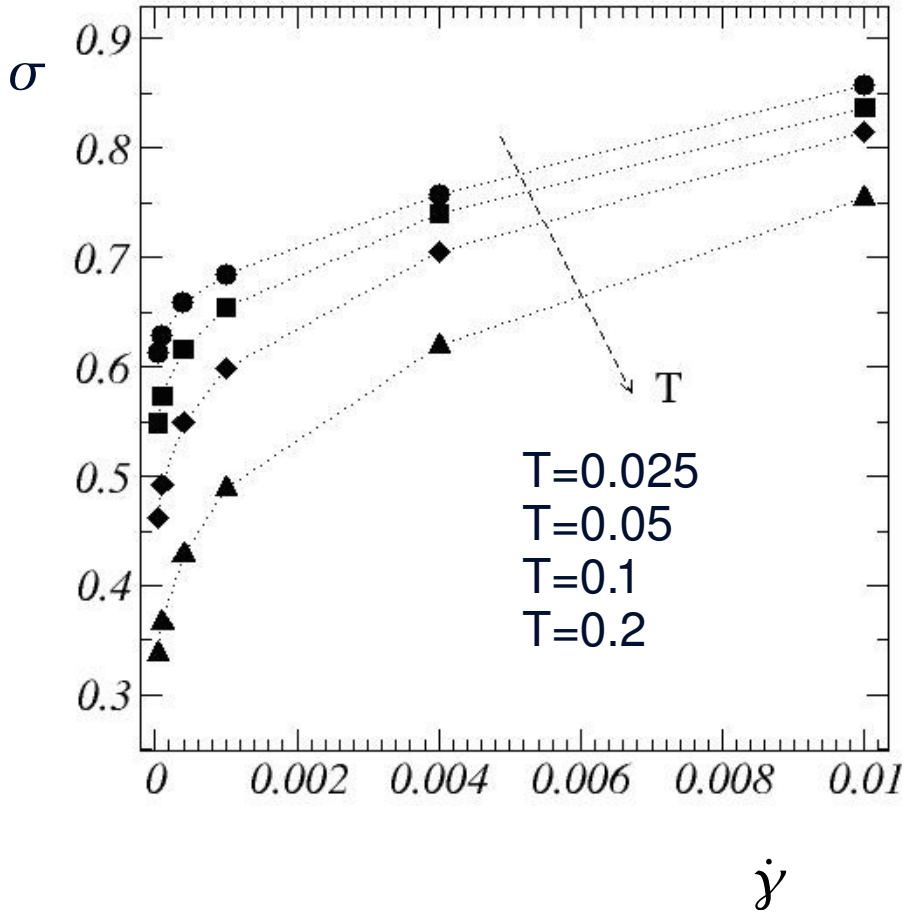
$\dot{\gamma} = 4e-05, 0.0001, 0.0004, 0.001, 0.004, 0.01$

$L = 10, 20, 40, 80, 160$

# Deformation Maps at $T \neq 0$

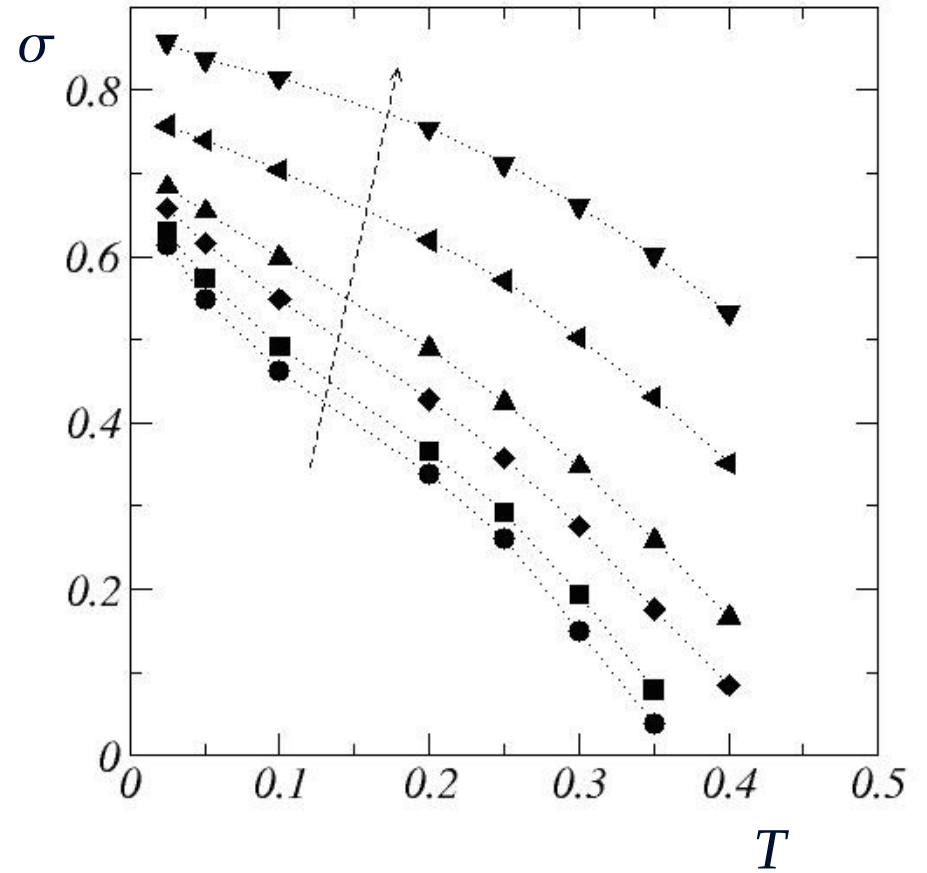
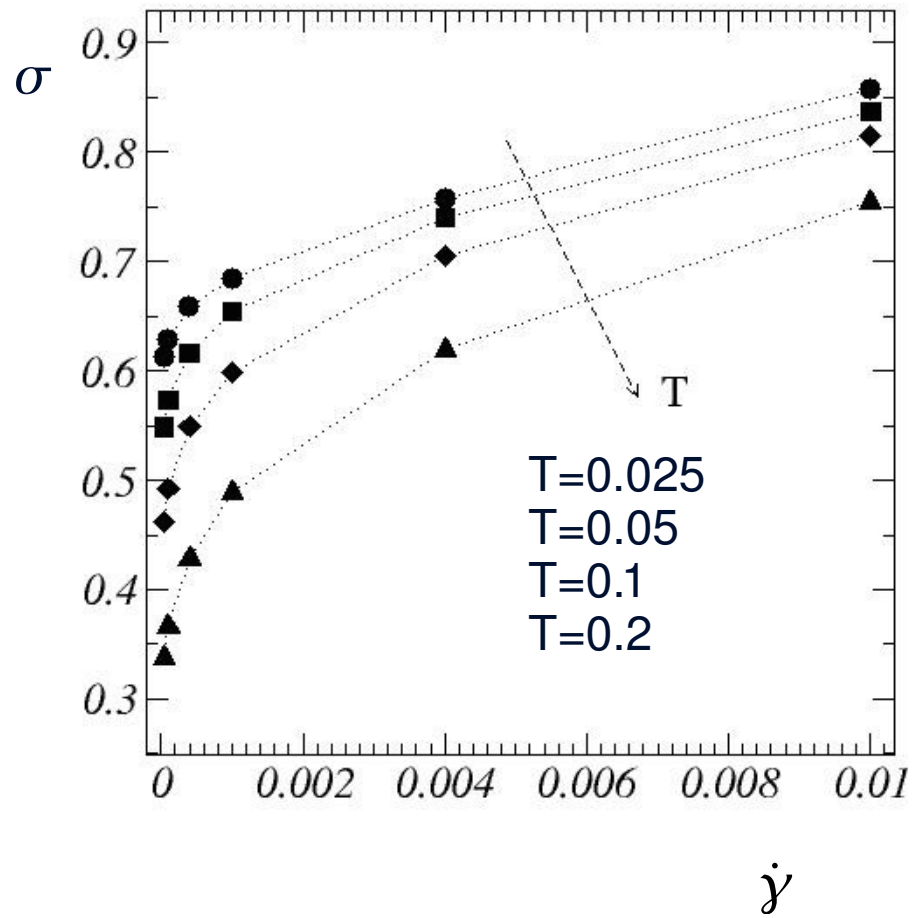


# Stress data





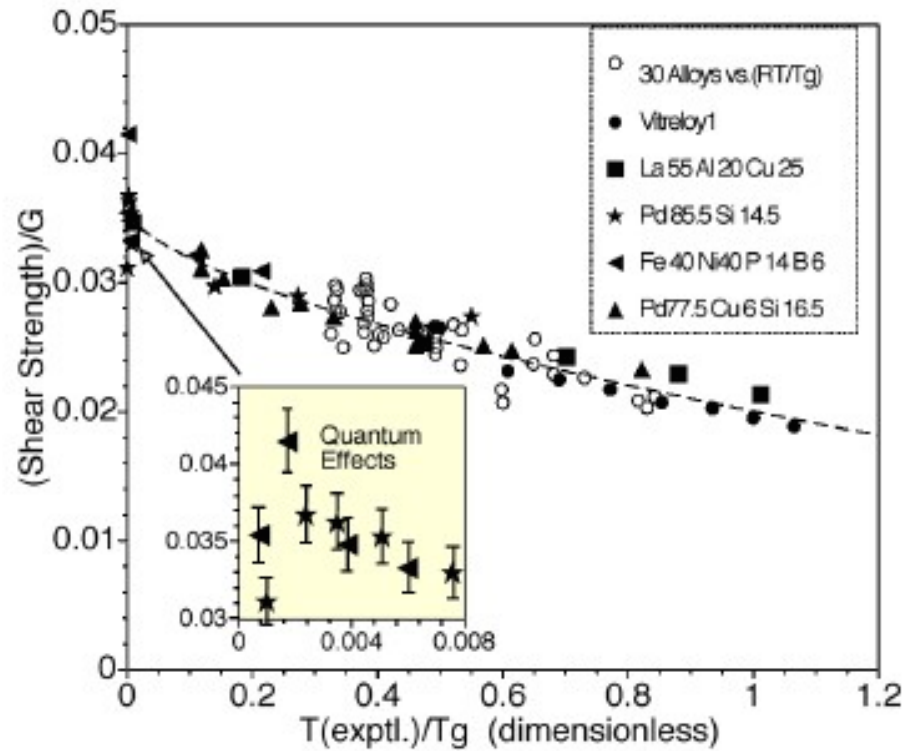
# Stress data



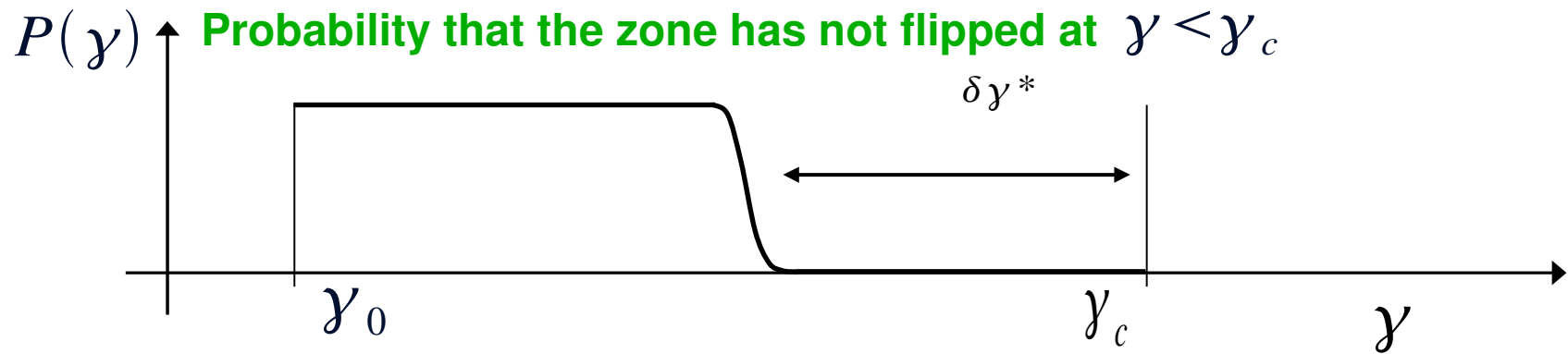
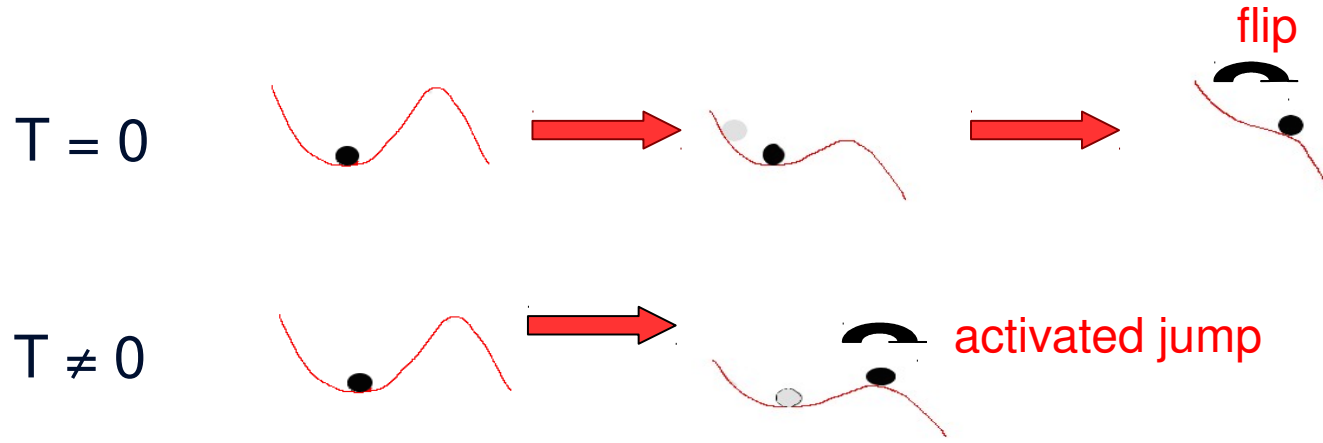
# Metallic glass yield stress

Johnson & Samwer 95, 195501 (2005)

$$\sigma - \sigma_Y \propto T^{2/3}$$

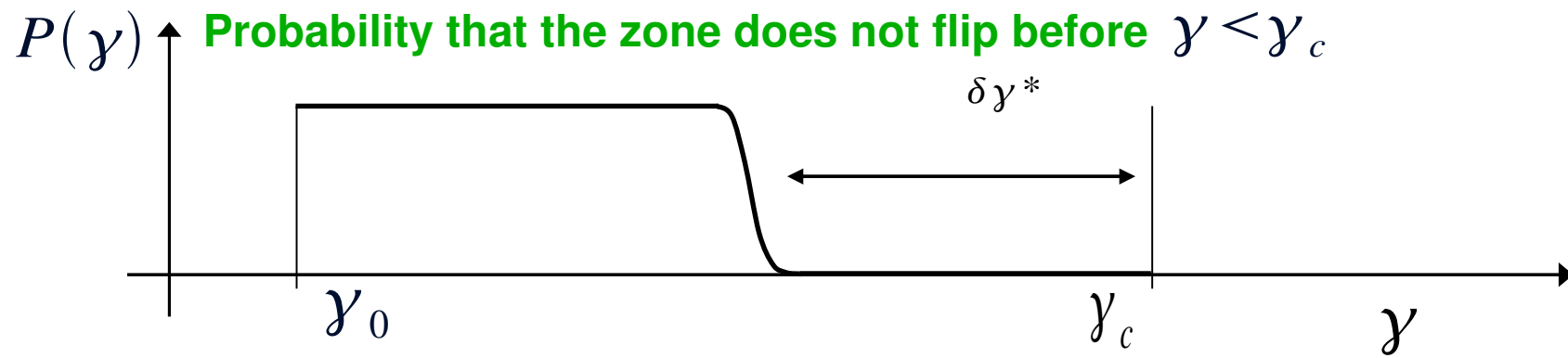


# Effect of finite $T$ on a single zone driven towards threshold

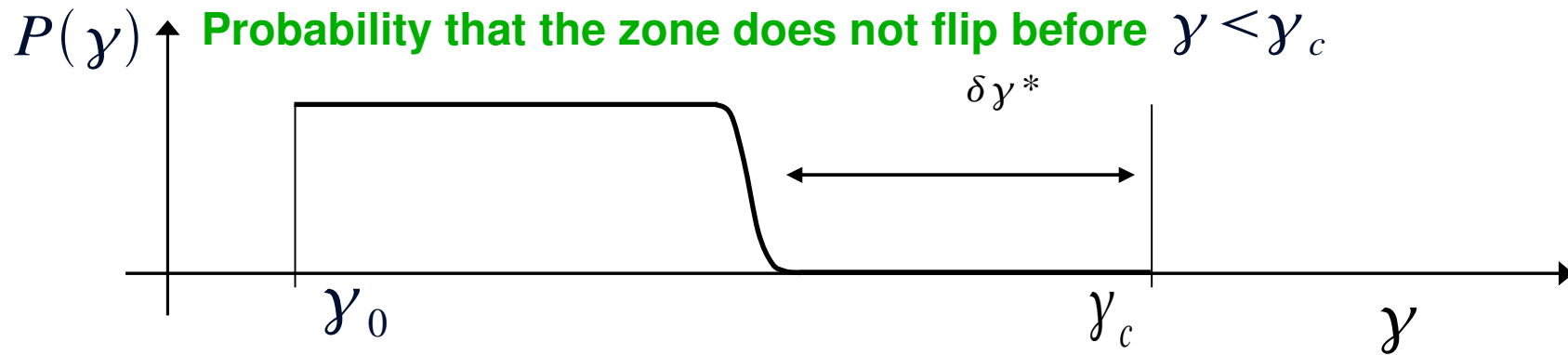


$$\sigma(\dot{\gamma}; T) = \sigma(\dot{\gamma}; T=0) - 2\mu\delta\gamma^*$$

# Effect of finite T on a single zone driven towards threshold



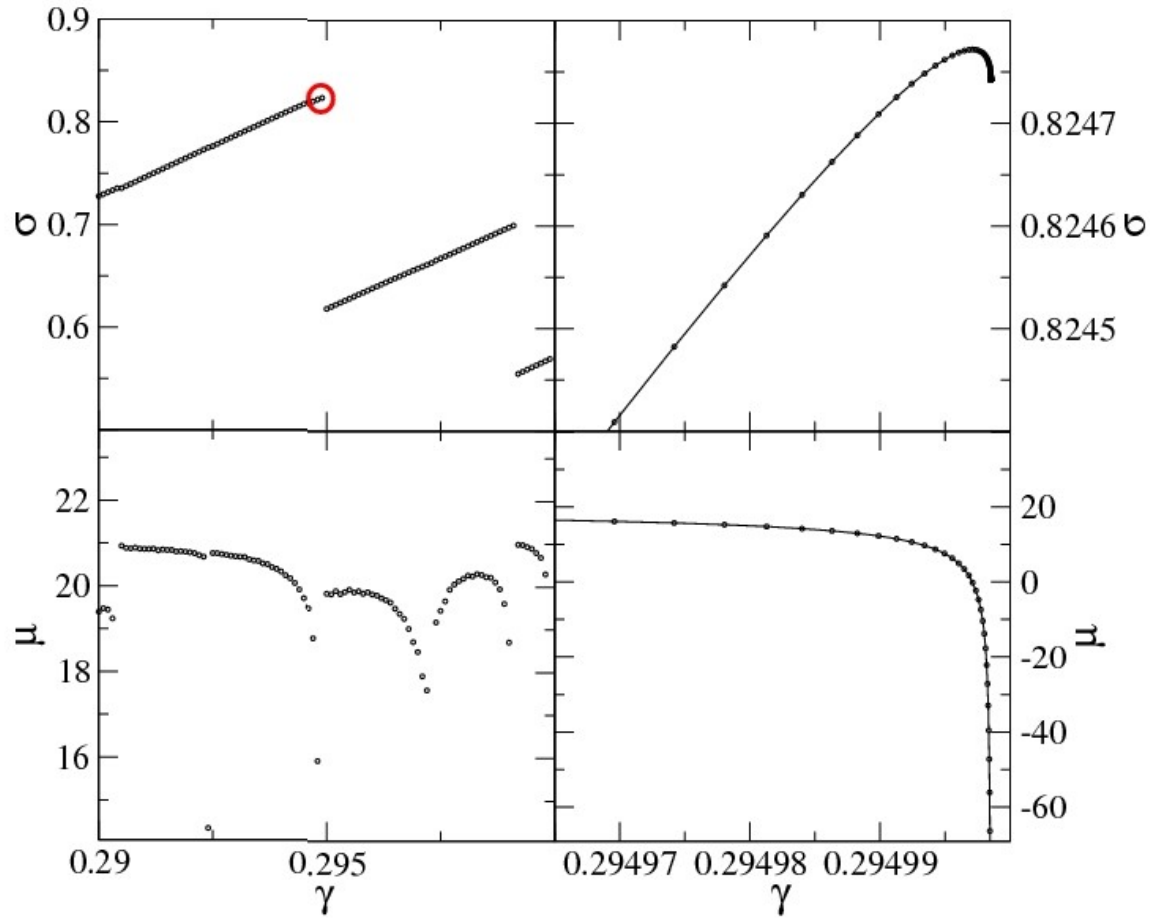
# Effect of finite T on a single zone driven towards threshold



$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial \gamma} = -\frac{1}{\dot{\gamma}} P(\gamma) R(\gamma)$$

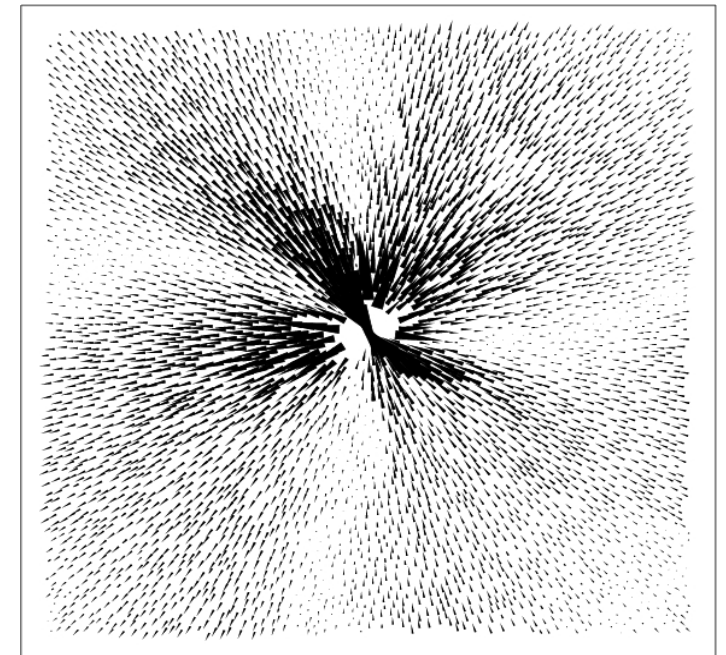
rate of activated jumps:  $R = \omega \exp\left(-\frac{E(\gamma)}{T}\right)$

# AQS III: plastic events occur via saddle-node bifurcations



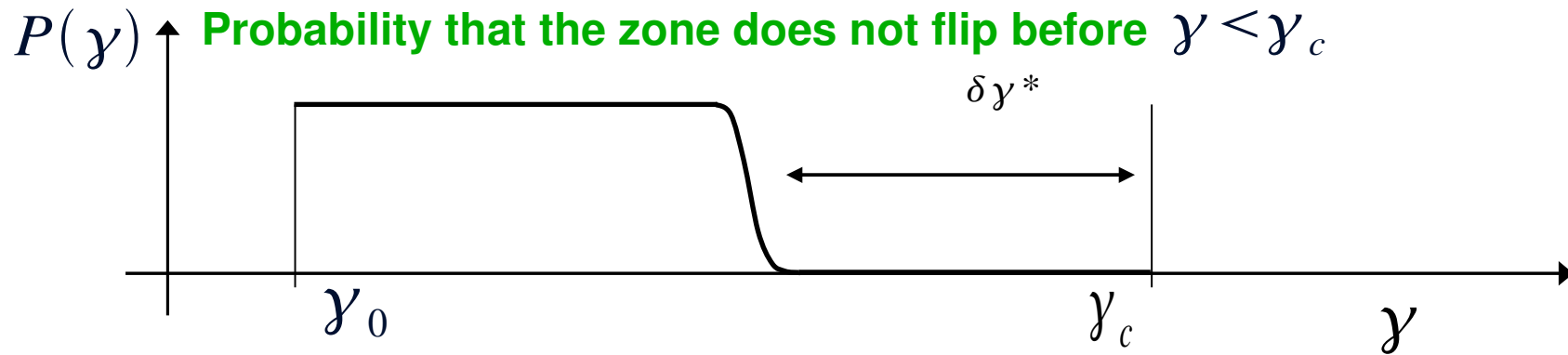
$$\sigma \sim \mu_{\infty}(\gamma - \gamma_0) - A\sqrt{\gamma_c - \gamma}$$

Zero mode



PRL 93, 195501 (2004)

# Effect of finite T on a single zone driven towards threshold

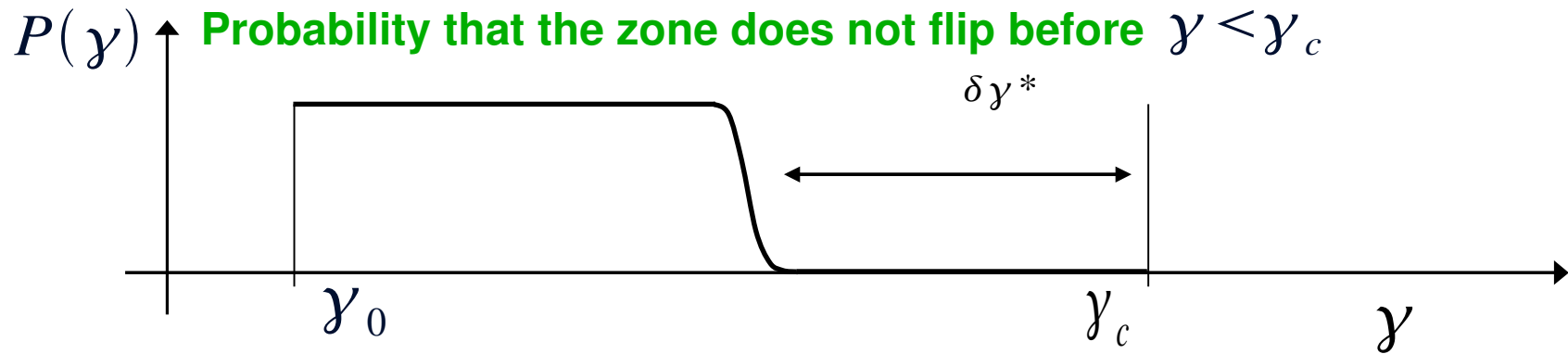


$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial \gamma} = -\frac{1}{\dot{\gamma}} P(\gamma) R(\gamma)$$

rate of activated jumps:  $R = \omega \exp\left(-\frac{E(\gamma)}{T}\right)$

$$\begin{cases} \omega = \nu (\gamma_c - \gamma)^{1/4} \\ E = B (\gamma_c - \gamma)^{3/2} \end{cases}$$

# Effect of finite T on a single zone driven towards threshold



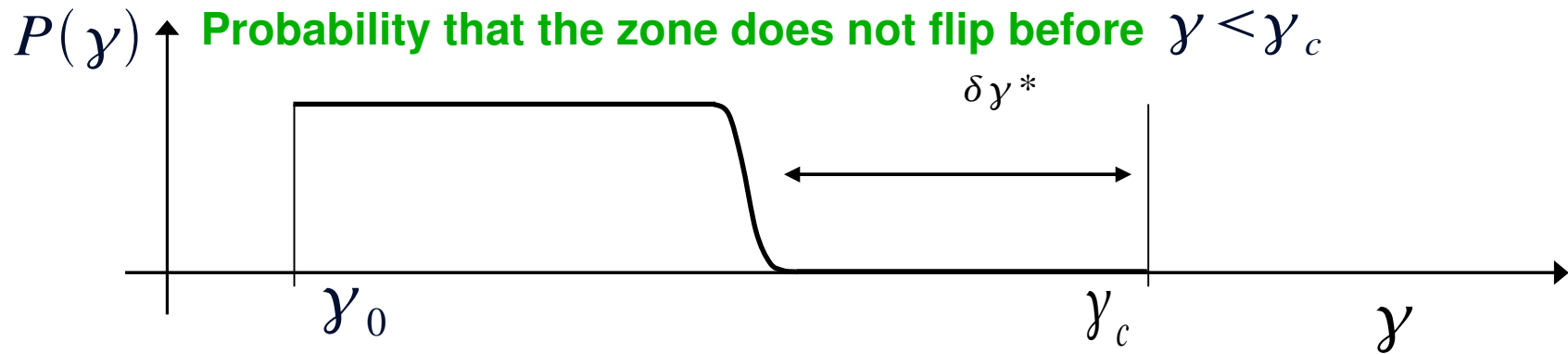
$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial \gamma} = -\frac{1}{\dot{\gamma}} P(\gamma) R(\gamma) \Rightarrow P(\gamma; \gamma_0) = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{\dot{\gamma}} \int_{\gamma_0}^{\gamma} R(\gamma') d\gamma'\right)$$

rate of activated jumps:  $R = \omega \exp\left(-\frac{E(\gamma)}{T}\right)$

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$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial \gamma} = -\frac{1}{\dot{\gamma}} P(\gamma) R(\gamma) \Rightarrow P(\gamma; \gamma_0) = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{\dot{\gamma}} \int_{\gamma_0}^{\gamma} R(\gamma') d\gamma'\right)$$

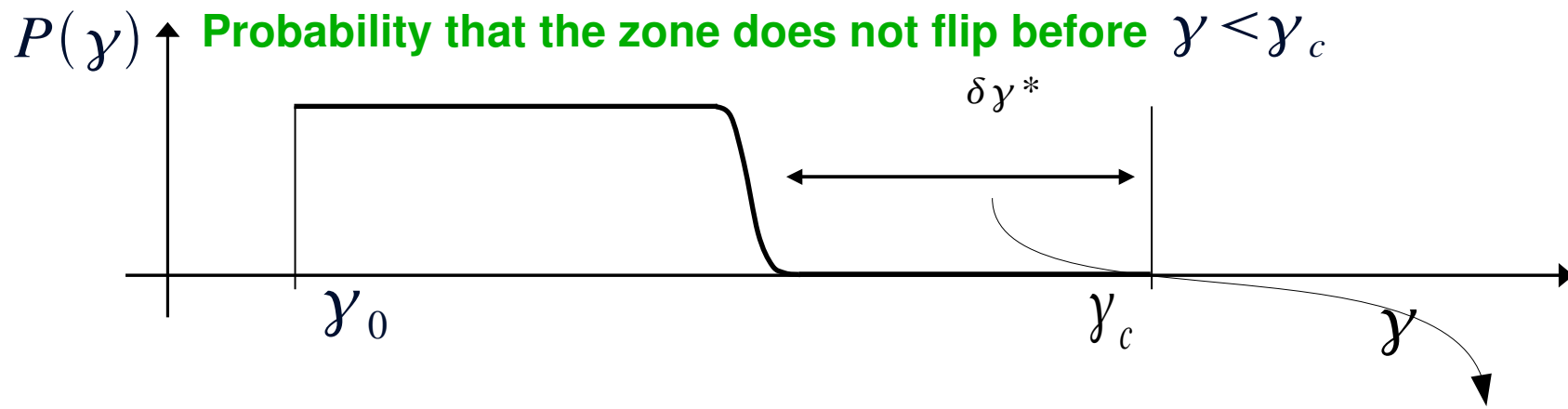
rate of activated jumps:  $R = \omega \exp\left(-\frac{E(\gamma)}{T}\right)$

$$\begin{cases} \omega = \nu (\gamma_c - \gamma)^{1/4} \\ E = B (\gamma_c - \gamma)^{3/2} \end{cases}$$

$$P(\gamma) = \exp\left(-\frac{2}{3} \frac{\nu}{\dot{\gamma}} \left(\frac{T}{B}\right)^{5/6} (Q(\delta \gamma) - Q(\delta \gamma_0))\right)$$

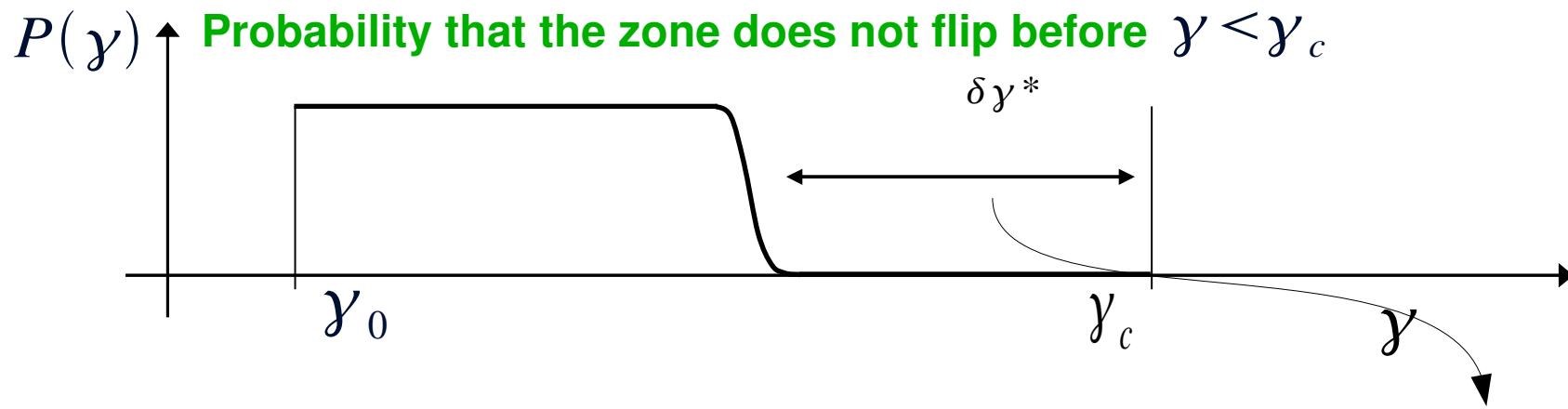
$$Q(\delta \gamma) = \Gamma\left(\frac{5}{6}; \frac{B}{T} \delta \gamma^{3/2}\right)$$

# Effect of finite T on a single zone driven towards threshold



$$\delta\gamma^* \sim \left[ \frac{T}{B} \ln \left( \frac{2}{3} \frac{\nu}{\dot{\gamma}} \left( \frac{T}{B} \right)^{5/6} \right) \right]^{2/3}$$

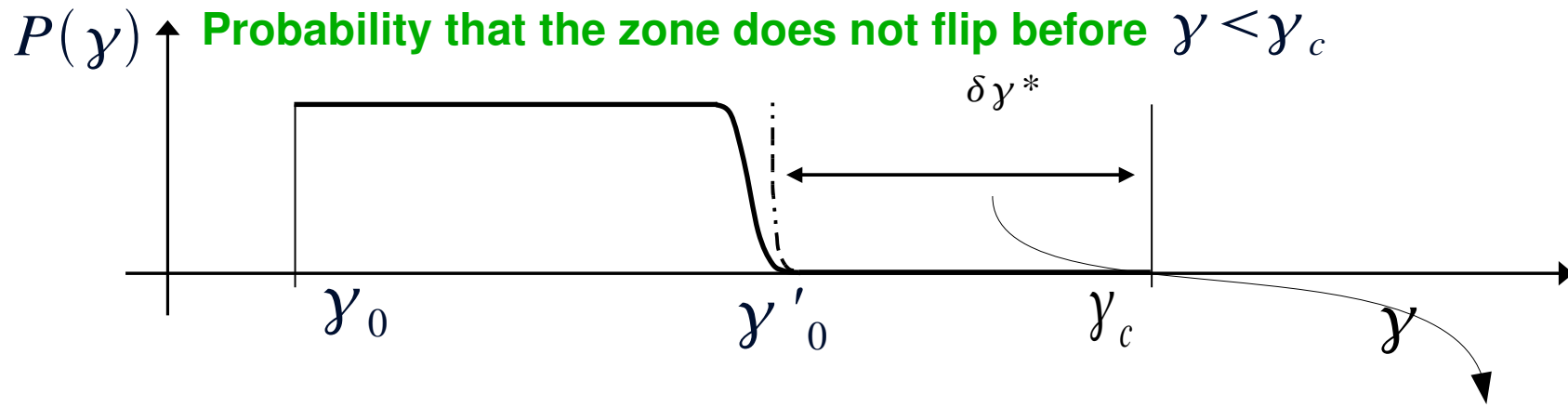
# Effect of finite T on a single zone driven towards threshold



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Effect of noise?

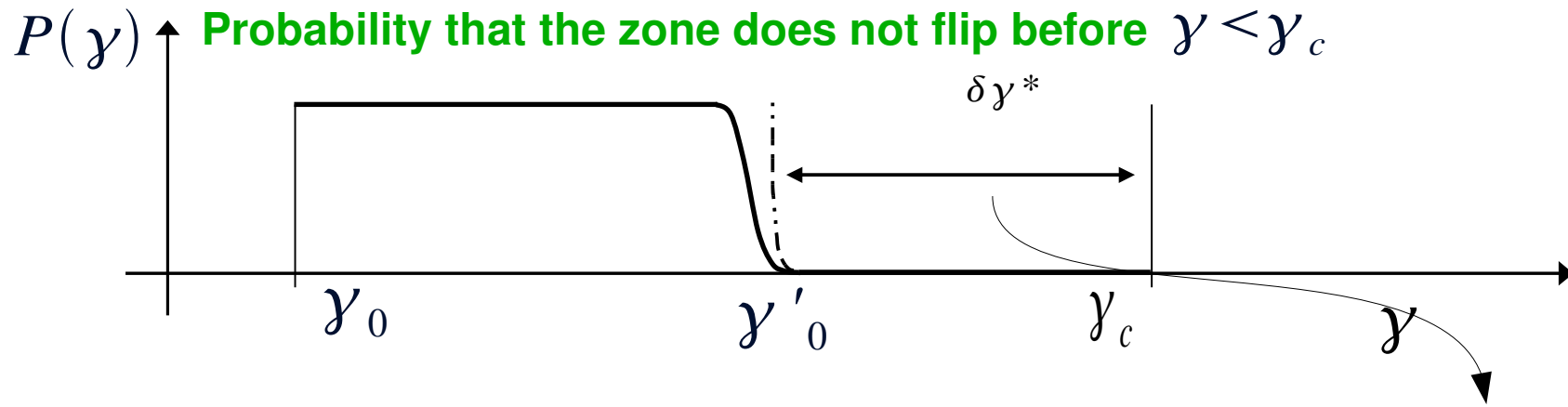
# Effect of finite T on a single zone driven towards threshold



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Effect of noise?

# Effect of finite T on a single zone driven towards threshold



$$\delta\gamma^* \sim \left[ \frac{T}{B} \ln \left( \frac{2}{3} \frac{\nu}{\dot{\gamma}} \left( \frac{T}{B} \right)^{5/6} \right) \right]^{2/3}$$

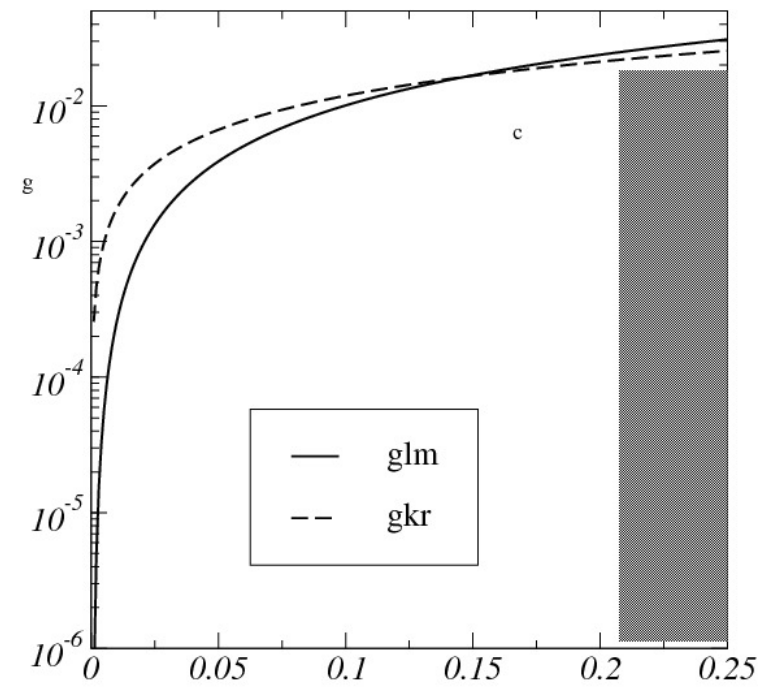
## Effect of noise?

Can be separated if:

$$\frac{\Delta E}{E} \ll 1 \quad \text{during activation time}$$

## Applicability of Kramers expression:

$$\frac{E}{T} \gg 1$$



## Consequences for stress

$$\sigma(\dot{\gamma}; T) = \sigma(\dot{\gamma}; T=0) - 2\mu\delta\gamma^*$$

$$\delta\gamma^* = \left[ \frac{T}{B} \ln \left( \frac{2}{3} \frac{\nu}{\dot{\gamma}} \left( \frac{T}{B} \right)^{5/6} \right) \right]^{2/3}$$

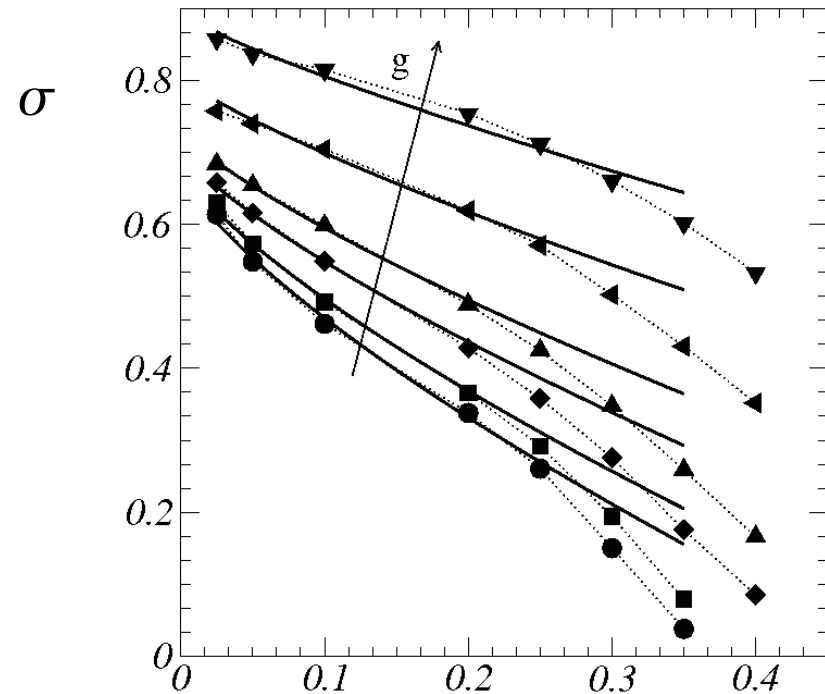
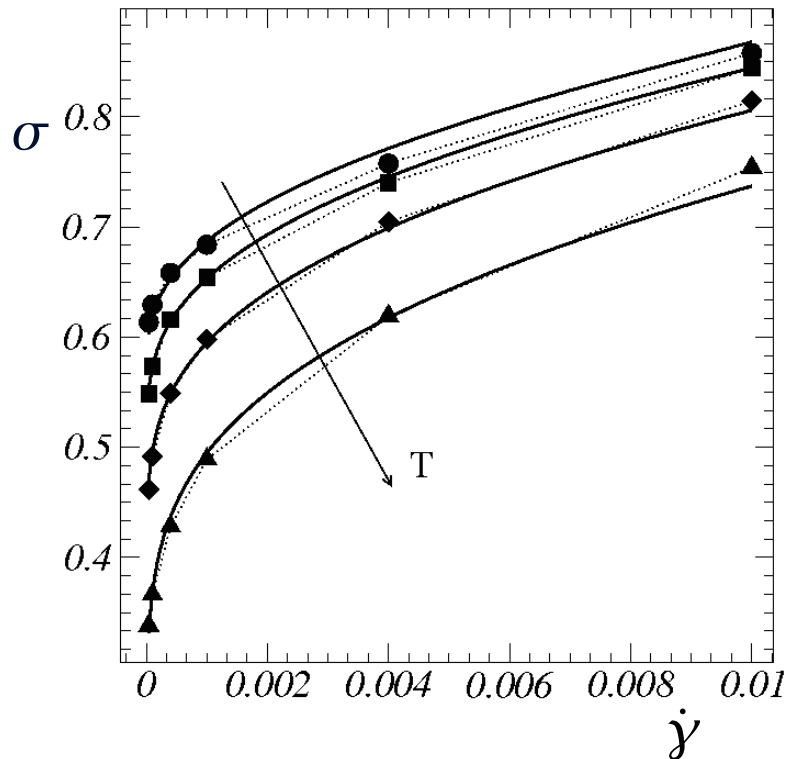
$$\sigma = A + B\sqrt{\dot{\gamma}} - C \left[ T \ln \left( \frac{DT^{5/6}}{\dot{\gamma}} \right) \right]^{2/3}$$

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Chattoraj et al, arxiv/1005.1179

# Conclusion

- AQS simulations support the following phenomenology:
  - Plasticity results from local shear transformations
  - Zones are progressively convected towards instability
  - Each flip produces an Eshelby-like field likely to trigger secondary flips

This shows up as system-spanning avalanches

- At usual finite  $\dot{\gamma}$ , the same phenomenology continues to govern plasticity
  - The size of avalanches  $l \sim \dot{\gamma}^{-1/D}$
  - With normal cross-over behavior when  $l \sim L$
  - We propose these changes govern stress/strain-rate relation
- At finite  $T < T_g$ , the same phenomenology continues to hold
  - Activations of driven zones leads to global lowering of the flow stress consistent with a  $T^{2/3}$  stress correction
  - Meanwhile, avalanche continues to be present and are only progressively blurred when approaching  $T_g$