

Introduction

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AMB+

Measuring TRS  
Breaking

Conclusions

# Scalar field theories of active systems: Incomplete phase separation

STOCHASTIC THERMODYNAMICS, ACTIVE MATTER AND  
DRIVEN SYSTEMS

ICTS, 10 August 2017, Bengaluru

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# Collaborators



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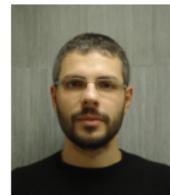
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## Funding

- EPSRC Programme Grant EP/J007404
- LabEx PALM (ANR-10-LABX-0039-PALM)

# Active Colloids / Micro-Organisms

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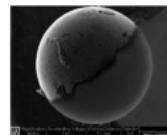
Conclusions

Self-propulsion via local drive mechanism

- Bacteria, algae



- Autophoretic colloids



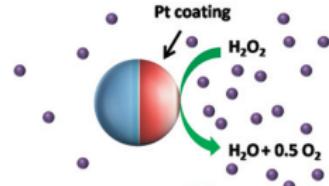
- Pt-coated Janus particles bathed in fuel ( $H_2O_2$ )

[JR Howse et al, PRL 99 048102 (2007)]

- Janus particles in binary solvent + laser heating

[I Buttinoni et al, PRL 110 238301 (2013)]

- ...



# Simplest microscopic model(s)

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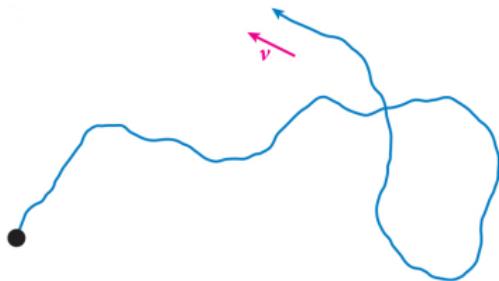
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- No hydrodynamic interactions  
(albeit, often, they move in a fluid)
- No aligning interactions

persistent Brownian motion  
speed  $v$ , rotational  
diffusivity  $D_r$



- Decorrelation time-scale  $\tau \equiv \frac{1}{(d-1)D_r}$

- Coarse graining

 $\implies$ 

Brownian motion in  $d$  dimensions with diffusivity  $D = \frac{v^2 \tau}{d}$

# Active Matter breaks TSR - I

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## Measure of broken Time Reversal Symmetry (TRS)

Entropy production

$$S = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} \log \left( \mathcal{P}_F / \mathcal{P}_B \right)$$

- $\mathcal{P}_F$  probability of forward trajectory  $\{\mathbf{x}_i(t)\}$
- $\mathcal{P}_B$  probability of time reversed trajectory  $\{\epsilon_i \mathbf{x}_i(-t)\}$
- $\mathbf{x}_i$ : degrees of freedom

[Lebowitz, Spohn, J. Stat. Phys., 1999; U. Seifert, Rep. Prog. Phys., 2012]

...active particles transform 'fuel' into motion...

This is not the TRS breakdown we will talk about!

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# Active Matter breaks TSR - II

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Two uncommon active 'particles'



*3km/litre*



*15km/litre*

...two parts of TRS breakdown...

- to transform fuel into motion - dependent on the active particles we consider (Ferrari vs Fiat)
- intrinsic in the fact that particles move persistently in some direction

# Active Matter breaks TSR - II

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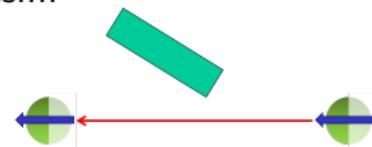
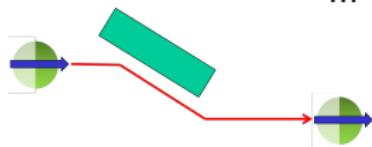
...two parts of TRS breakdown...

- to transform fuel into motion - dependent on the active particles we consider (Ferrari vs Fiat)
- intrinsic in the fact that particles move persistently in some direction

# 'intrinsic' TRS Breaking made manifest by interactions

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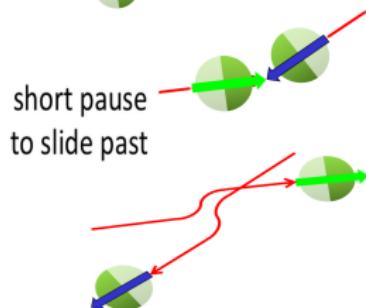
... with obstacles....



... or among particles...



long pause  
to rotate



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Part I:  
Implications of TRS breakdown  
 $\implies$   
Incomplete phase separation

Part II:  
How can we quantify TRS breakdown?

# Consequence: Motility Induced Phase Separation

Fully established in simulations of minimal models

[Seminal work: Tailleur & Cates, PRL 2008; Ann. Rev. Cond. Mat. 2015 ]

Particles with purely  
repulsive interactions (e.g.,  
hard-core)

[Speck et al., PRL 2014, EPL 2013; Fily et al, PRL

2012, Stenhammar et al, PRL 2014]

# MIPS: density dependent speed

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Interactions encoded in a density-dependent self-propulsion speed  
 $v(\phi) \downarrow$  with  $\phi \uparrow$

- $\phi(\mathbf{r})$  : density of particles
- $\langle \xi_i \xi_j \rangle = \frac{2}{\tau} \delta_{ij} \mathbf{1} \delta(t - s)$

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{\mathbf{r}}_i &= v(\phi(\mathbf{r}_i)) \mathbf{u}_i + \sqrt{2T} \boldsymbol{\eta}_i \\ \dot{\mathbf{u}}_i &= \mathbf{u}_i \wedge \boldsymbol{\xi}_i\end{aligned}$$

- Approximate effect of pairwise interactions  
 Backed by kinetic theory of pairwise interacting particles:  
 $v(\phi) = v_0(1 - \phi/\phi^*)$

[T. Speck et al., PRL, 2014]

- Quorum sensing (QS) particles (due, for ex, to chemical signalling)

[Tailleur & Cates, PRL 2008; Ann. Rev. Cond. Mat. 2015 ]

# MIPS: equilibrium liquid-gas phase separation

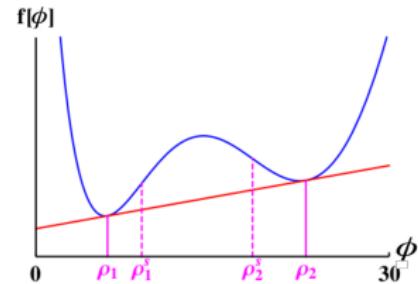
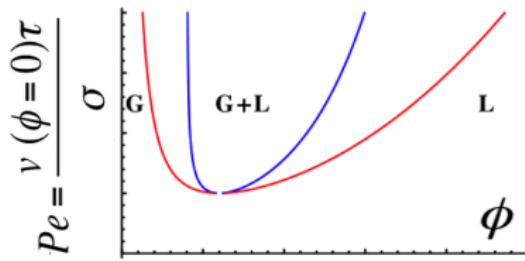
- For  $\tau \sim 1/D_r \rightarrow 0$ , we can eliminate  $\mathbf{u}_i$

$$\dot{\mathbf{r}}_i \simeq_S v(\phi(\mathbf{r}_i))\xi_i + \sqrt{2T}\eta_i \quad \simeq_S : \text{Stratonovich}$$

- Coarse-graining by standard techniques [Dean, 1995]

Surprise! ... Effective equilibrium with free energy

$$\mathcal{F} = \int d\mathbf{r} f(\phi(\mathbf{r})) \quad f(\phi) = \phi(\log \phi - 1) + \frac{1}{2} \int^{\phi} \log(\tau v^2(y) + T) dy$$



# Incomplete phase separation

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Experiments: phase separation is often arrested to a cluster phase

## Photo-activated colloids

[J. Palacci et al., Science, 2013]

- [Buttinoni et al, PRL 2013]
- [J Schwarz-Linek et al, PNAS 2012]
- [I Theurkauff et al, PRL 2012]
- ...

Janus particles in peroxide, photo-activated  
catalysis

# Incomplete phase separation

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- Hydrodynamics:

[Tiribocchi et al, PRL 2015; F Alarcón et al, Soft Matter, 2017; Matas-Navarro et al, PRE 2014, Zöttl et al, PRL 2014, ... ]

- Chemotaxis

[B Liebchen et al, PRL 2015; O Pohl et al, PRL 2014, ... ]

- Birth and death

[Cates et al, PNAS 2010 ... ]

## Part I

- Natural phenomena from coarse-grained point of view
- Related to bubbly phase separation [J. Stenhammar et al, Soft Matter 2014]



E. Tjhung  
(Cambridge)

## (Equilibrium) Model B

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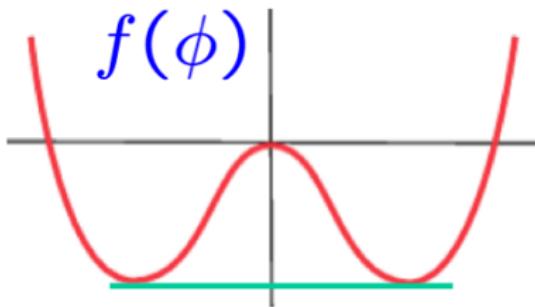
Conclusions

Via gradient expansion (long time and spatial scales)

$$\dot{\phi} = -\nabla \cdot (\mathbf{J} + \eta) \quad \mathbf{J} = -\nabla \mu$$

$$\mu(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\delta \mathcal{F}}{\partial \phi(\mathbf{r})} \quad \mathcal{F} = \int d\mathbf{r} [f(\phi) + k|\nabla \phi|^2]$$

$$\langle \eta(\mathbf{r}, t)\eta(\mathbf{r}', t') \rangle = 2D \mathbf{1} \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}') \delta(t - t')$$

phase equilibria: common tangent construction (equal  $\mu$  and pressure)

# Active field theories

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Conclusions

- Minimal modification of Model B allowing breakdown of TRS
- necessary to keep higher orders in a gradient expansion
- First possibility: chemical potential does not necessarily derive from a free energy

$$\mu \neq \delta\mathcal{F}/\delta\phi$$

- Second possibility: current is not curl-free

$$\nabla \wedge \mathbf{J} \neq 0$$

- At lowest order in gradients, there are only two such terms

$$\mu \rightarrow \mu_B + \lambda |\nabla \phi|^2 \quad \text{Active Model B: AMB}$$

$$\mathbf{J} \rightarrow \mathbf{J}_B - \zeta (\nabla^2 \phi) \nabla \phi \quad \text{Active Model B+: AMB+}$$

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## Chemical potential does not derive from Free Energy

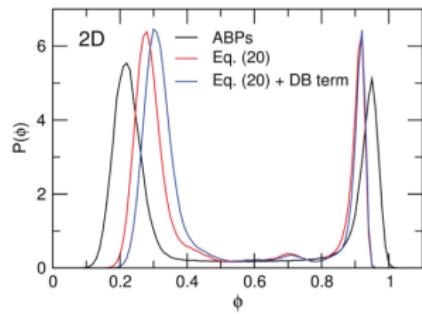
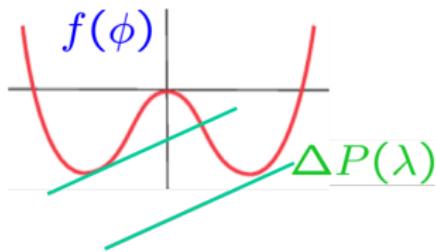
$$\dot{\phi} = -\nabla \cdot (\mathbf{J} + \eta) \quad \mathbf{J} = -\nabla \mu$$

$$\mu(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\delta \mathcal{F}}{\delta \phi(\mathbf{r})} + \lambda |\nabla \phi|^2 \quad \mathcal{F} = \int d\mathbf{r} [f(\phi) + k |\nabla \phi|^2]$$

$$\langle \eta(\mathbf{r}, t)\eta(\mathbf{r}', t') \rangle = 2D \mathbf{1} \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}') \delta(t - t')$$

$$\mu_1 = \mu_2$$

$$\mu_1 \phi_1 - f_1 \neq \mu_2 \phi_2 - f_2$$



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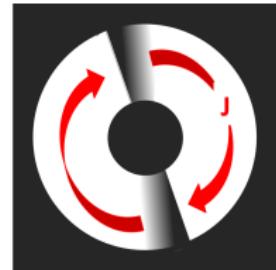
Current is not curl-free

$$\dot{\phi} = -\nabla \cdot (\mathbf{J} + \boldsymbol{\eta}) \quad \mathbf{J} = -\nabla\mu + \zeta(\nabla^2\phi)\nabla\phi$$

$$\mu(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\delta \mathcal{F}}{\partial \phi(\mathbf{r})} \quad \mathcal{F} = \int d\mathbf{r} \left[ f(\phi) + k|\nabla\phi|^2 \right]$$

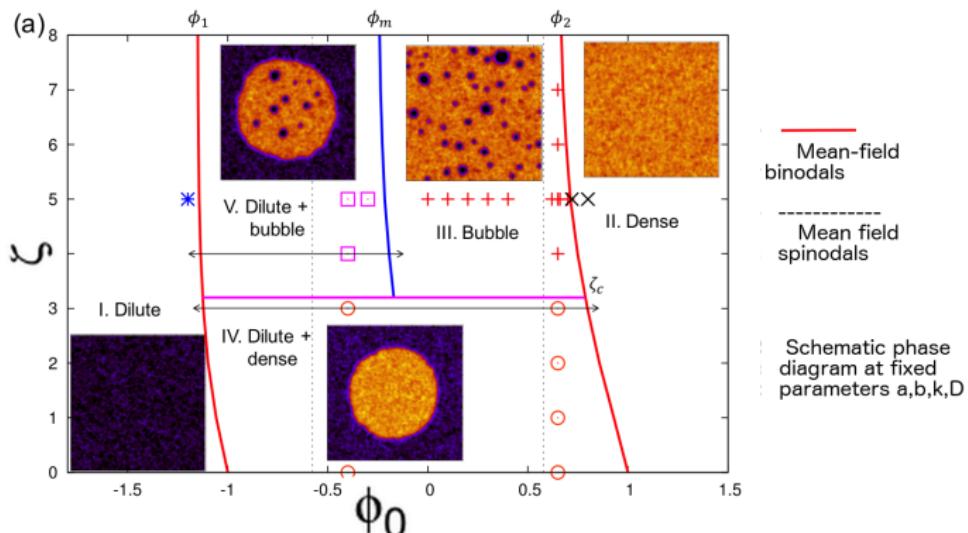
$$\langle \boldsymbol{\eta}(\mathbf{r}, t) \boldsymbol{\eta}(\mathbf{r}', t') \rangle = 2D \mathbf{1} \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}') \delta(t - t')$$

- $\lambda, \zeta$ : same order in a gradient-expansion
- $\nabla \wedge \mathbf{J} \neq 0$



# Phase diagram AMB+ $(\zeta > 0, d = 2)$

$$\dot{\phi} = -\nabla \cdot (\mathbf{J} + \eta) \quad \mathbf{J} = -\nabla \mu + \zeta(\nabla^2 \phi)\nabla \phi \quad \mu = -a\phi + b\phi^3 - k\nabla^2 \phi$$



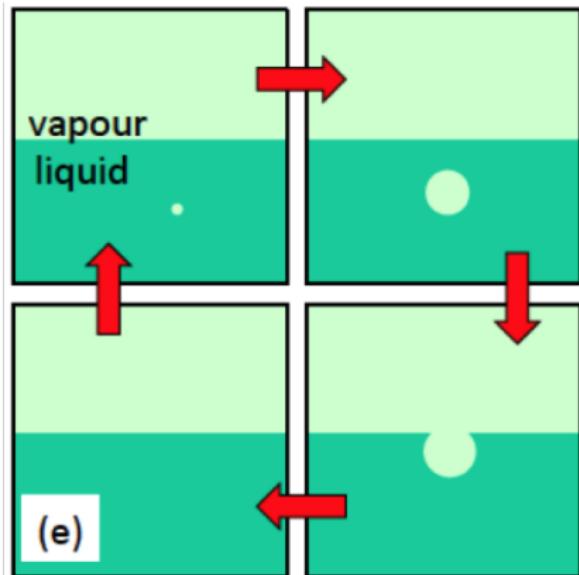
- average density  $\phi_0 = \int d\mathbf{r} \phi$
- noise amplitude:  $D = 0.1$
- $\zeta = 0$ : Model B
- $a = 1, b = 1, k = 1$

# Bubbly phase separation ( $\zeta > 0$ )

Obvious TRS breakdown in the steady state

- Bubbles are created by nucleation
- They are destroyed by ejection or merging with others

Bubbles violate  
Time-Reversal-Symmetry:  
Circulating phase-space  
current



# Incomplete phase separation - Bubbly phase separation

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Active Model B+  
( $\zeta = 5$ , low density)

[E. Tjhung, CN, M. Cates, in preparation]

Repulsive particles  
(simulations WCA pot)

[J. Stenhammar et al, Soft Matter, 2014]

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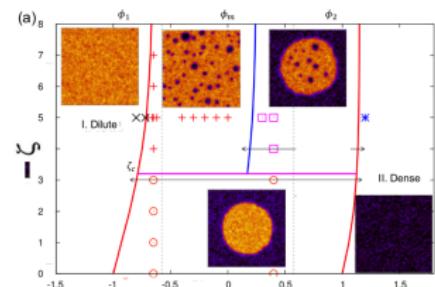
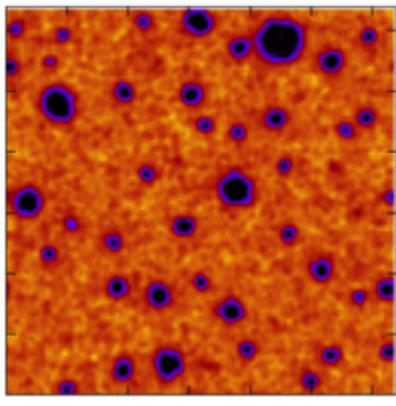
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# Cluster phase ( $\zeta < 0$ , low density)

The model is symmetric under  $(\zeta, \phi) \rightarrow (-\zeta, -\phi)$

$\zeta < 0$ :  
dense droplets in a dilute environment at low  $\phi_0$



$$D = 0.1$$

Cesare Nardini

# Incomplete phase separation - Cluster phase

Particles: Attractive  $U$  (LJ - cutoff at  $5\sigma$ )

[Simulations by J. Stenhammar, R. Mari]

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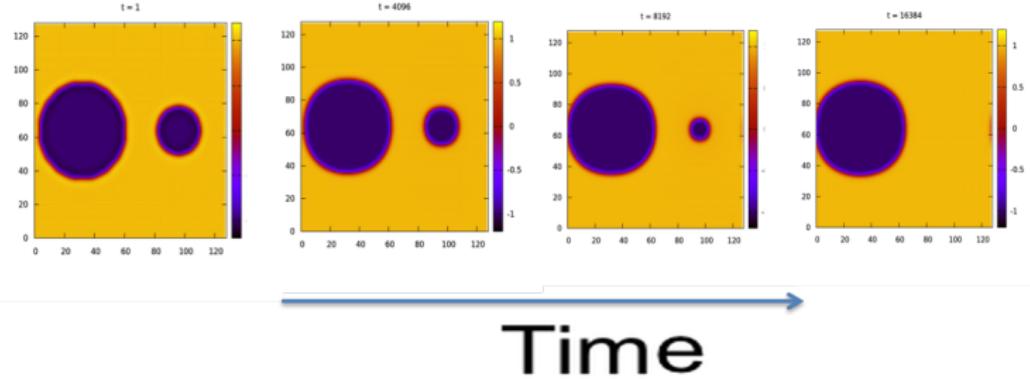
Conclusions

Similar simulations result at particle level: [Alarcón et al., Soft Matter, 2017; Pyramidis et al.,

Soft Matter, 2015; Mognetti et al., PRL, 2013]

# Ostwald Ripening (OR), equilibrium - I

Bubbles/Clusters of different size seem to coexist...



- Very generic (ex. Model A, B, ...), with and without hydrodynamics (Model H)...

## OR, equilibrium - II

Mean-field argument (no noise  $D = 0$ )

- Quasi-static diffusion of the droplet
- supersaturated environment ( $\phi_\infty = \phi_{binodal} - \epsilon$ )
- $R$ : droplet radius,  $\sigma \equiv \int_{interface} \phi'^2$ : surface tension
- Laplace pressure  $P \propto \sigma/R$

$$\dot{R} \propto \frac{\sigma\alpha}{R} \left( \frac{1}{R_c^{\zeta=0}} - \frac{1}{R} \right) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{R^3}\right)$$

$$\alpha = k/\Delta\phi^2$$

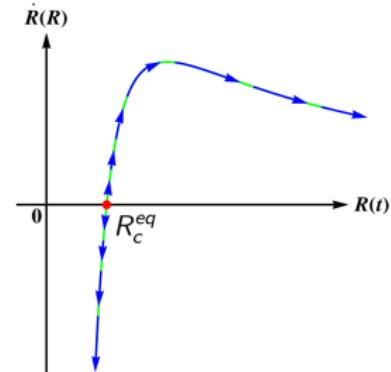
$\Delta\phi$  = density difference

$$R_c^{\zeta=0} = \sigma/\epsilon$$

$$R \sim t^{1/3}$$

at large times

$$\tau_{coarsening}^{\zeta=0} \sim R(0)^3 / \alpha_{\zeta=0}$$



# Exponentially suppressed OR (AMB+)

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- $\lambda \neq 0$  does not alter such a figure [Wittkowski et al., Nat. Comm., 2013]
- $\zeta \neq 0$  causes a strong slow-down of Ostwald Ripening

$$\dot{R} \propto \frac{\sigma \alpha e^{-\zeta \Delta \phi / k}}{R} \left( \frac{1}{R_c} - \frac{1}{R} \right) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{R^3}\right)$$

$$R_c = R_c^{\zeta=0} e^{-\zeta \Delta \phi / k} \quad \sigma = \int_{interface} \phi'^2$$

- Still,  $R \sim t^{1/3}$  at large times (but exponentially large in  $\zeta/k$  !)

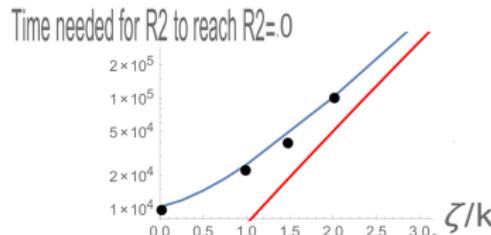
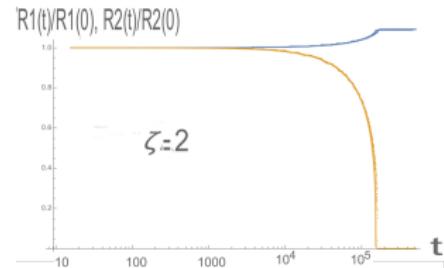
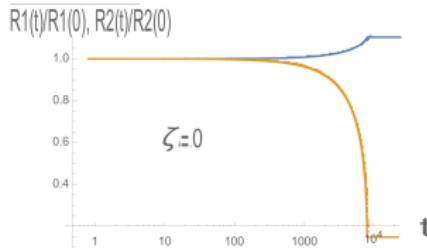
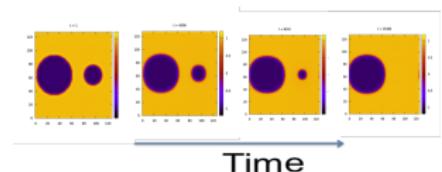
$$t_{coarsening} \sim t_{coarsening}^{\zeta=0} e^{\zeta \Delta \phi / k}$$

- Small clusters can be nucleated (when  $D \neq 0$ )

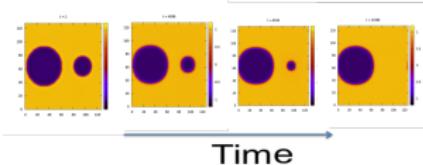
# Exponentially suppressed OR: Comparison with simulations

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Two droplet configuration:  
 analytical solution of droplets evolution



# Coexisting densities: mean-field

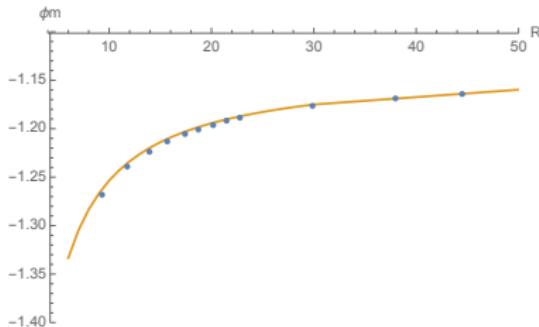


$\nabla \wedge \mathbf{J} \neq 0 \implies$  Helmholtz decomposition

'Effective  $\mu$ ' coming from  $\zeta$  is non-local

$$\mu = f'(\phi) - K\phi'' - \frac{(d-1)K}{r}\phi' - \frac{\zeta}{2}\phi'^2 + (d-1)\zeta \int_r^\infty \frac{\phi'^2(y)}{y} dy$$

## Coexisting densities

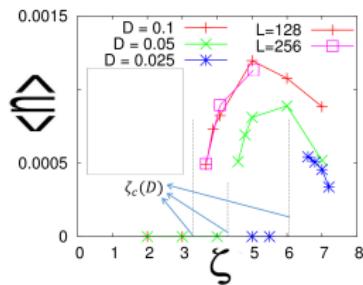


$$\phi_{in}(R) - \phi_{binodal} \sim 1/R$$

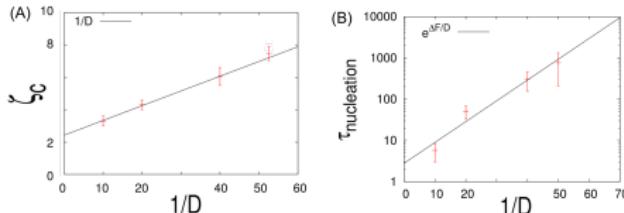
$$\phi_{out}(R) - \phi_{binodal} \sim e^{-\zeta/k}/R$$

# Bubbly/cluster phase: a noise-activated transition

- $\zeta_c = \zeta_c(D) \uparrow$  when  $D \downarrow$
- Well defined average density of clusters  $\langle n \rangle$



Transition to cluster/bubble phase takes place when  
 $\tau_{Nucleation} \sim \tau_{coarsening}$



Assuming  
 $\tau_{Nucleation} \sim e^{-A/D}$

$$\implies \zeta_c \sim 1/D$$

## Part II - Measuring violations of 'intrinsic' TRS

### Entropy production

$$S = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} \log \left( \mathcal{P}_F / \mathcal{P}_B \right)$$

- $\mathcal{P}_F$  probability of forward trajectory  $\{\mathbf{x}_i(t)\}$
  - $\mathcal{P}_B$  probability of time reversed trajectory  $\{\epsilon \mathbf{x}_i(-t)\}$
  - $\epsilon$ : parity under time-reversal of  $\mathbf{x}$
  - $S = 0$  if and only if TRS is respected
- 
- $S$  strongly depends on which dof we retain  
[Bo, Celani, J. Stat. Phys, 2014; P Pietzonka, U Seifert, preprint 2017, ...]
  - We will instead show some universality

• D. Chaudhuri,  
T. Speck, U.  
Seifert, ...

Remark: I will only talk about average EP

# Part II - Measuring violations of 'intrinsic' TRS

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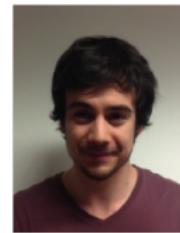
Remark: I will only talk about average EP

# Active Ornstein-Uhlenbeck Particles (AOUPs)

$$\dot{\mathbf{r}}_i = - \sum_j \nabla_i U(\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j) + \mathbf{v}_i$$

$$\langle \mathbf{v}_i(t) \mathbf{v}_j(0) \rangle = \delta_{ij} \mathbf{1} \frac{D}{\tau} e^{-t/\tau}$$

$\mathbf{v}_i$  Gaussian r.v.



E. Fodor  
(Cambridge)

More details:  
Etienne's  
poster

- Stationary measure perturbatively in  $\tau \rightarrow 0$

$$P_{ss} \propto e^{-\frac{U+p_i^2/2}{D}} \times \left\{ 1 - \frac{\tau}{2D} \left[ (\nabla_i U)^2 + (p_i \cdot \nabla_i)^2 U - 3D\nabla_i^2 U \right] \right. \\ \left. + \tau^{3/2} \left[ \frac{1}{6D} (p_i \cdot \nabla_i)^3 U - \frac{1}{2} (p_i \cdot \nabla_i) \nabla_j^2 U \right] + \mathcal{O}(\tau^2) \right\}$$

# Active Ornstein-Uhlenbeck Particles (AOUPs)

$\mathbf{r}_i$  even under TR       $\mathbf{v}_i$  undefined under TR       $\mathbf{p}_i = \dot{\mathbf{r}}_i$  odd under TR

Standard field-theoretical techniques

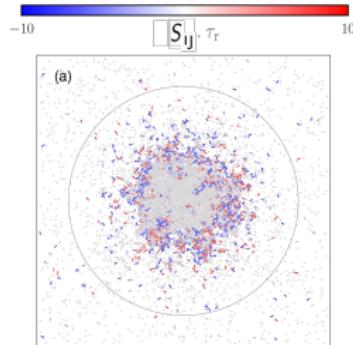
$$S = \frac{\sqrt{\tau}}{2D} \sum_{ij} \left\langle (\mathbf{p}_i - \mathbf{p}_j)^3 : \nabla^3 U(\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j) \right\rangle$$

- $S$  is a global measure: little information for extended systems  
*w short-ranged  $\implies$  coarse graining of  $S$  well defined*

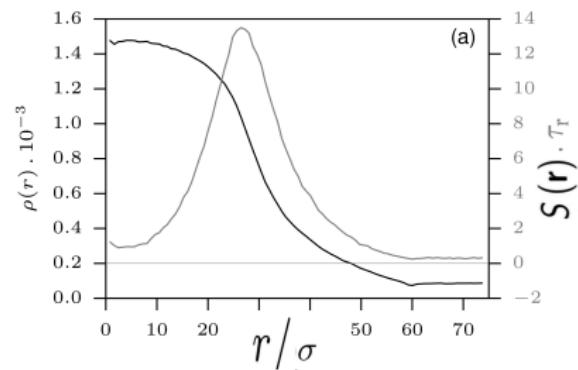
# Local EP in AOUPs

$$U(\mathbf{r}) = w_0 \exp\left(-\frac{1}{(\sigma/r)^2 - 1}\right) \quad S \rightarrow \int d\mathbf{r} S(\mathbf{r})$$

$S(\mathbf{r})$ : entropy produced in a  $l \times l$  box centered in  $\mathbf{r}$  ( $\sigma \ll l \ll L$ )  
measured in units of  $\tau_r^{-1} = \sigma^2/w_0$



$$D = 1, \tau = 10, N \sim 10^4, \sigma = 1, w_0 = 10$$



# AMB: Local EP

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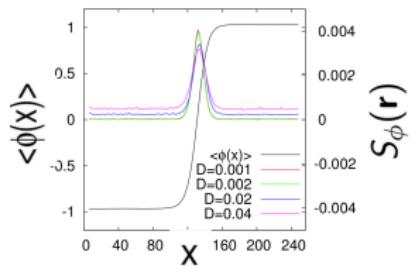
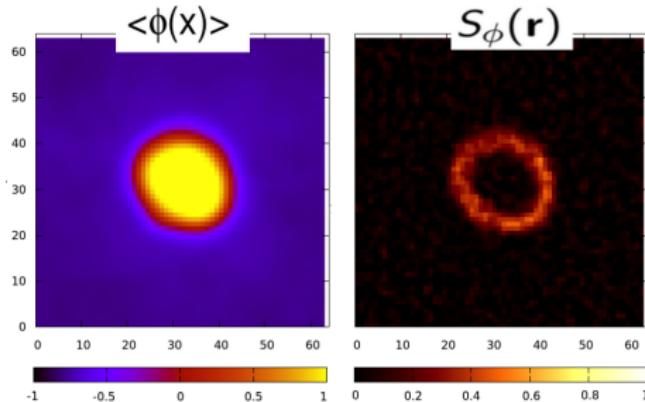
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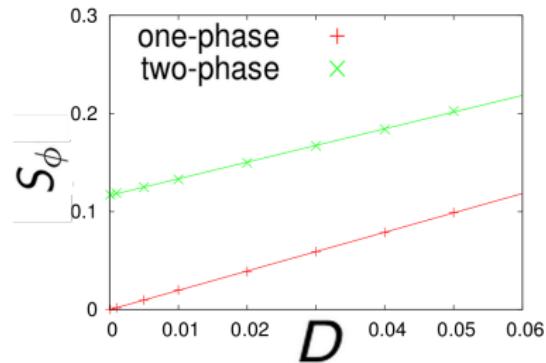
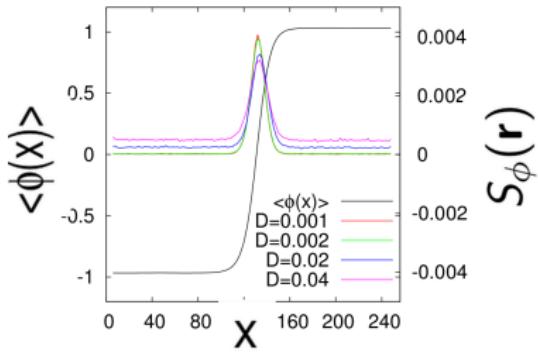
$$\dot{\phi} = -\nabla \cdot (\mathbf{J} + \eta) \quad \mathbf{J} = -\nabla \mu \quad \mu(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\delta \mathcal{F}}{\partial \phi(\mathbf{r})} + \lambda |\nabla \phi|^2$$

$\mathcal{P}_F, \mathcal{P}_B$ : probabilities of a trajectory of the density  $\{\phi(\mathbf{r}, t)\}_{0 < t < \infty}$

$$S = \int_{Volume} S_\phi(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r} \quad S_\phi(\mathbf{r}) = \langle \dot{\phi} \mu_{NE} \rangle \quad \mu_{NE} = \lambda |\nabla \phi|^2$$



# Active Model B: EP in the bulk



- $S_\phi \sim \mathcal{O}(D)$  in the bulk for  $D$  small
- $S_\phi \sim \mathcal{O}(1)$  at the interfaces

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# EP in the bulk: Harada-Sasa relation

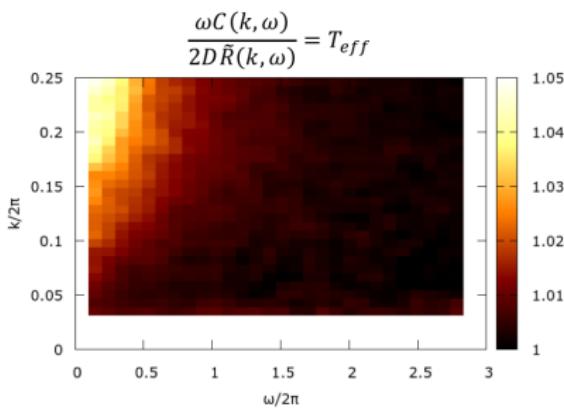
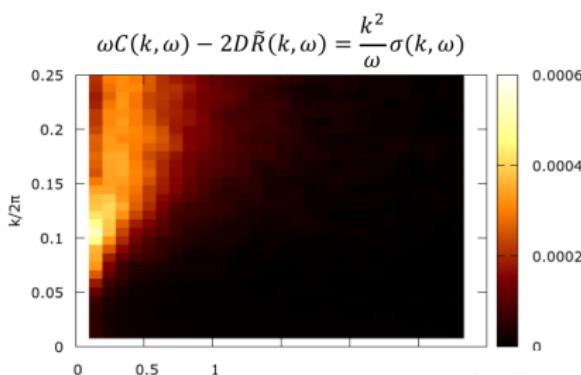
- In the bulk we need more refined methods to measure EP
- Generalisation of Harada-Sasa relation [Harada & Sasa, PRL, 2005]

$$S_\phi = \int_{\mathbf{k}, \omega} S_\phi(\mathbf{k}, \omega)$$
$$S_\phi(\mathbf{k}, \omega) = \frac{\omega}{Dk^2} \left[ \omega C(\mathbf{k}, \omega) - 2DR(\mathbf{k}, \omega) \right]$$

- $\tilde{C}(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2, t - s) = \langle \phi(\mathbf{r}_1, t) \phi(\mathbf{r}_2, s) \rangle$
- $R$ : Response to perturbing  $\mu \rightarrow \mu - h$

Quantitative link between EP and violation of FDT

# EP in the bulk: Harada-Sasa relation vs effective $T$



Confirmation that effective temperature is not a quantitative measure of breakdown of TRS

# Conclusions and outlook

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## Incomplete phase separation

- Bubbly PS or cluster phases often observed in simulations/experiments
- Two faces of the same phenomena
- Analogous phenomenology found in Ginzburg-Landau + minimal violation of detailed balance (gradient expansion)

## Measuring breakdown of TRS

- Notion of local EP
- Harada-Sasa: quantitative link between EP and violation of FDT

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# Thank you!

## Incomplete phase separation

E. Tjhung, CN, M. Cates, in preparation

F. Caballero, CN, M. Cates, in preparation

## Quantifying TRS breakdown

E. Fodor, CN, M. Cates, J. Tailleur, P. Visco, F. van Wijland, PRL, 2016

CN, E. Fodor, E. Tjhung, F. van Wijland, J. Tailleur, M. Cates, PRX, 2017

E. Fodor, CN, M. Cates, J. Tailleur, P. Visco, F. van Wijland, in preparation