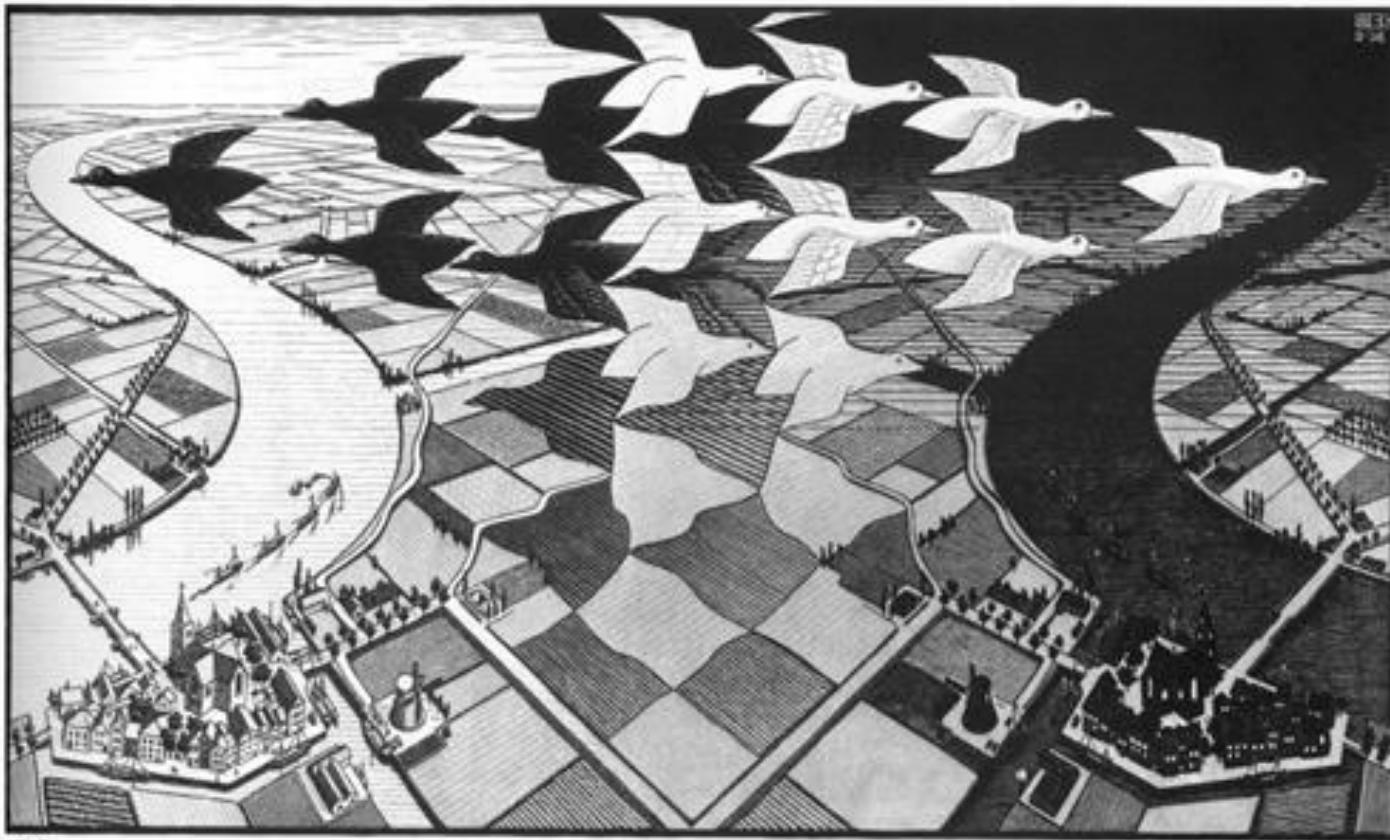


Universality in Soft Active Matter

Chiu Fan Lee

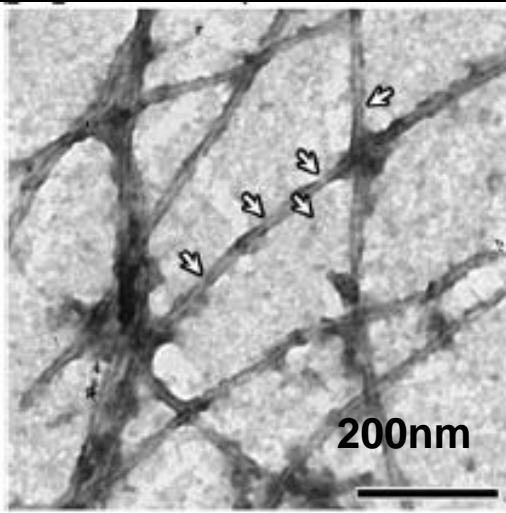
Department of Bioengineering, Imperial College London, UK



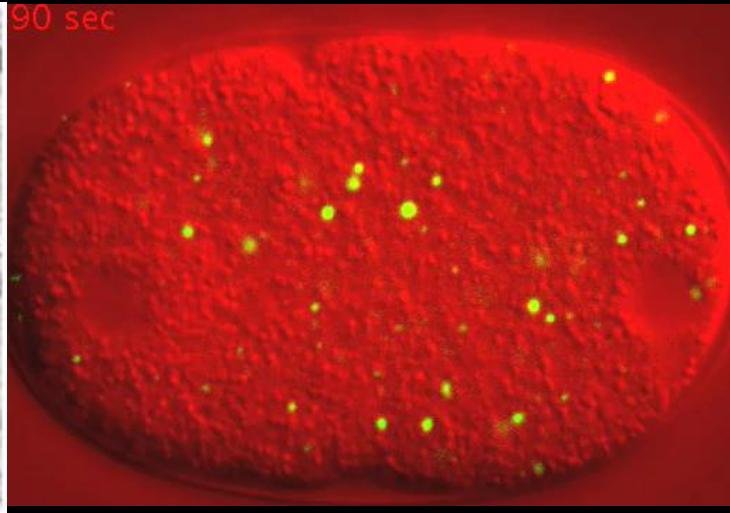
M.C. Escher (1938) *Day and Night*

Universality in soft living matter

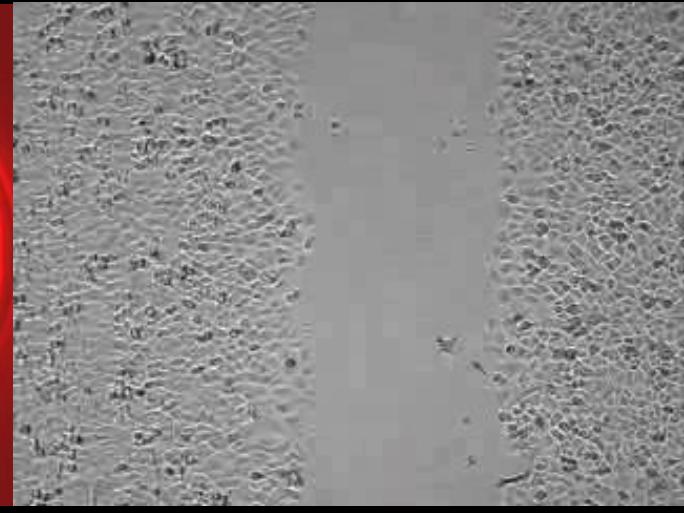
Amyloid fibrils



RNA granules



Active matter



Equilibrium: length distribution, breakage profile

Non-equilibrium universality?

Equilibrium: Lifshitz-Slyozov scaling & drop size distribution

Non-equilibrium universality?

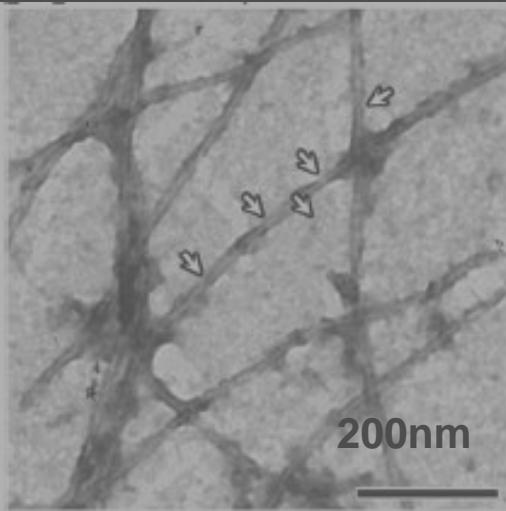
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EmBzUSmak8>

Fundamentally non-equilibrium

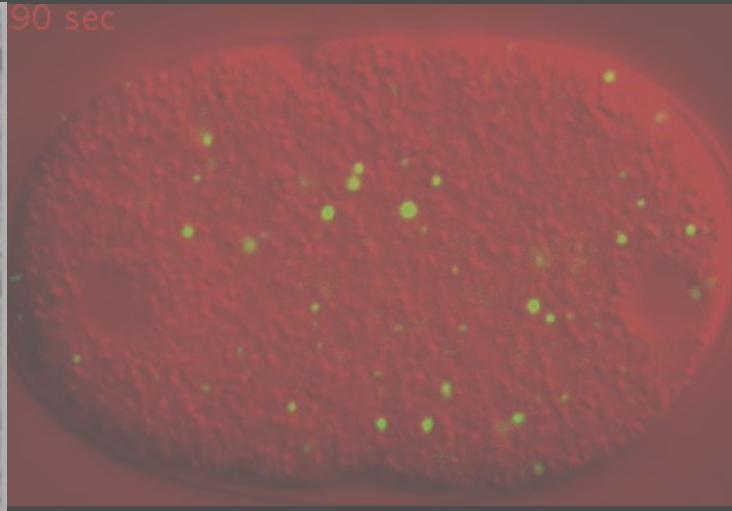
Universality?

Universality in soft living matter

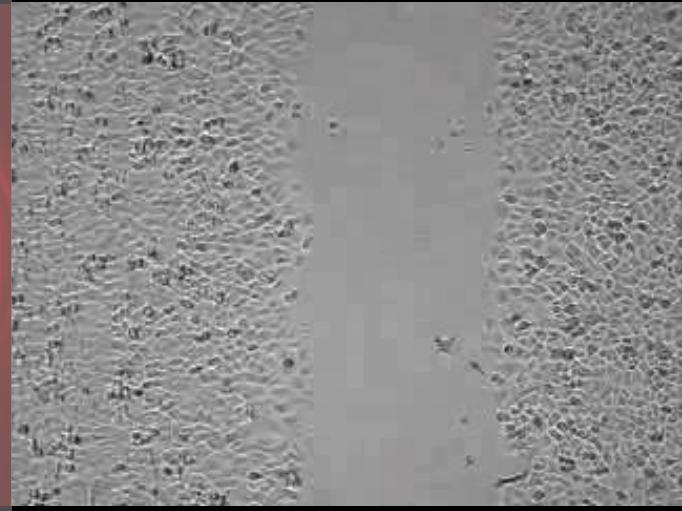
Amyloid fibrils



RNA granules



Active matter



Equilibrium: length distribution, breakage profile

Non-equilibrium universality?

Equilibrium: Lifshitz-Slyozov scaling & drop size distribution

Non-equilibrium universality?

Brangwynne [Hyman Lab]

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EmBzUSmak8>

Fundamentally non-equilibrium

Universality?

Plan

- Minimal system of active particles
 - Motility-induced phase separation
 - Universality in phase separation kinetics
- Modern concept of universality
- Incompressible polar active fluids
 - Universality at criticality
 - Universality in the ordered phase (2D)
- Summary & Outlook



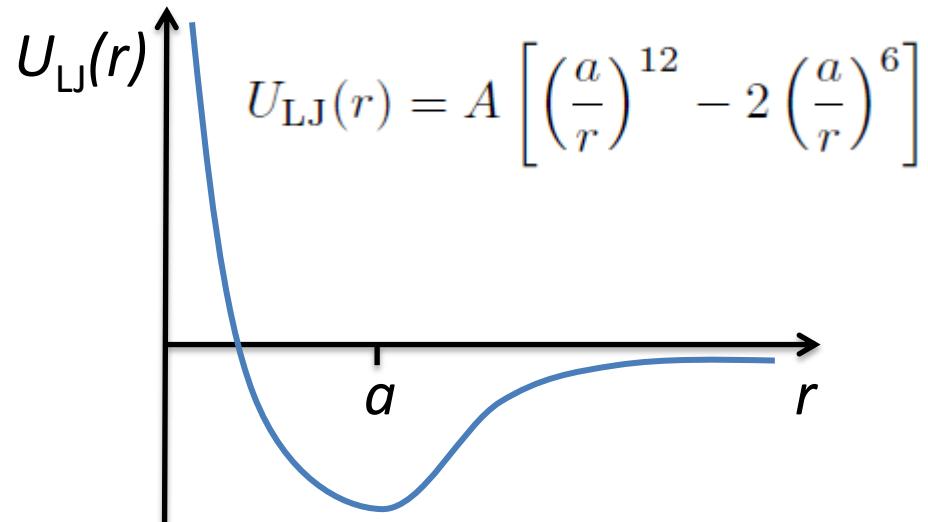
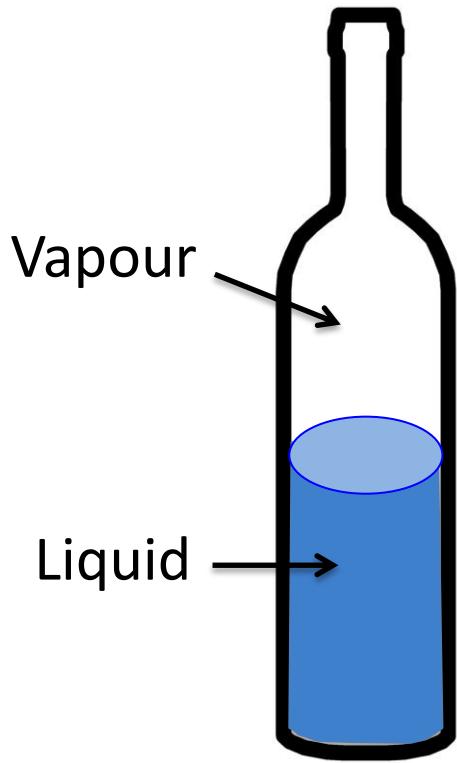
Liquid-gas phase separation

Equilibrium phase separation

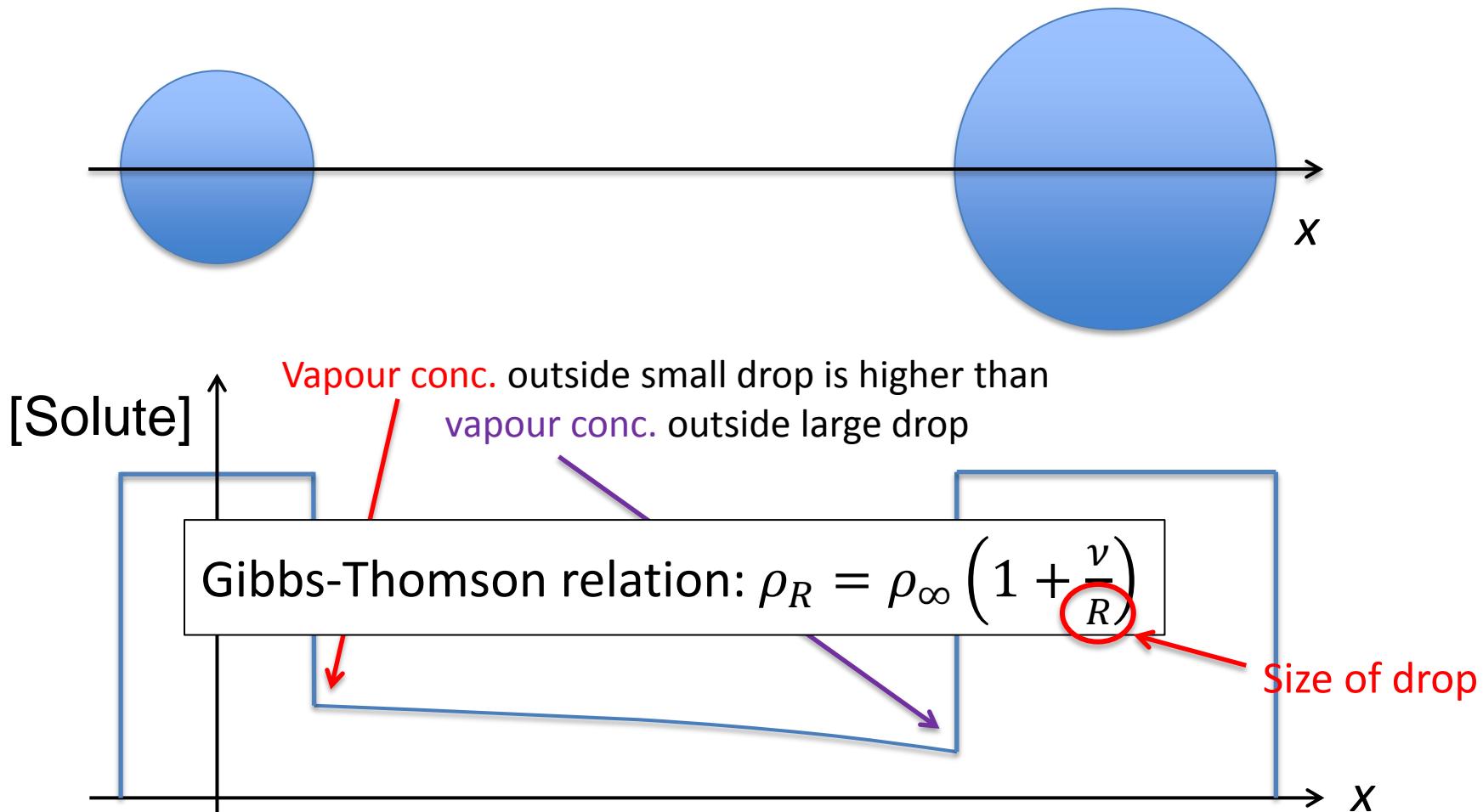
Lennard-Jones liquid:

$$\frac{d\mathbf{r}_i}{dt} = -\frac{1}{\eta} \sum_{j \neq i} \vec{\nabla}_{\mathbf{r}_i} U_{\text{LJ}}(|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|) + \sqrt{\frac{2k_B T}{\eta}} g_i(t)$$

↑
Drag coeff.
↑
Gaussian noise

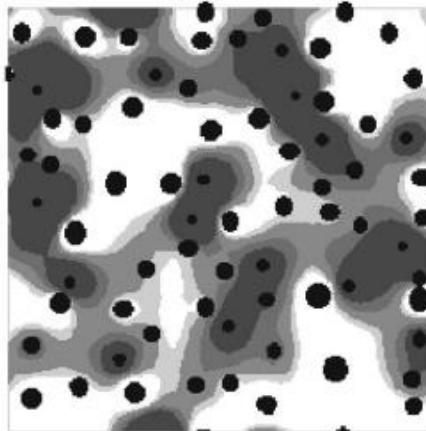
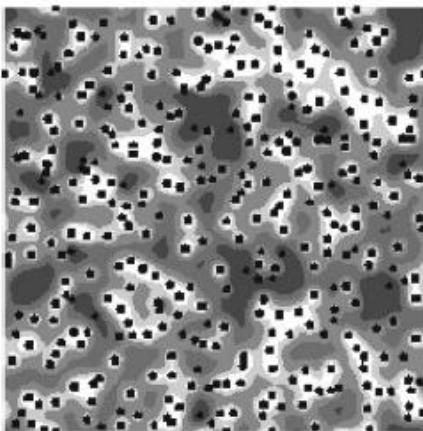
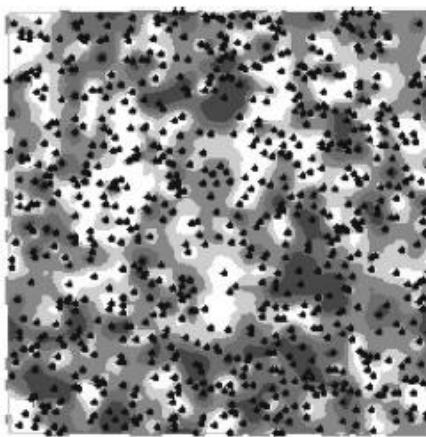
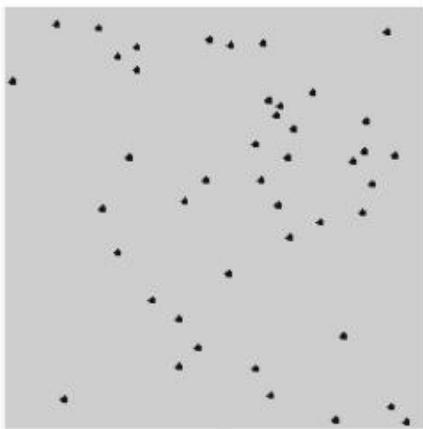


Equilibrium vapour concentration

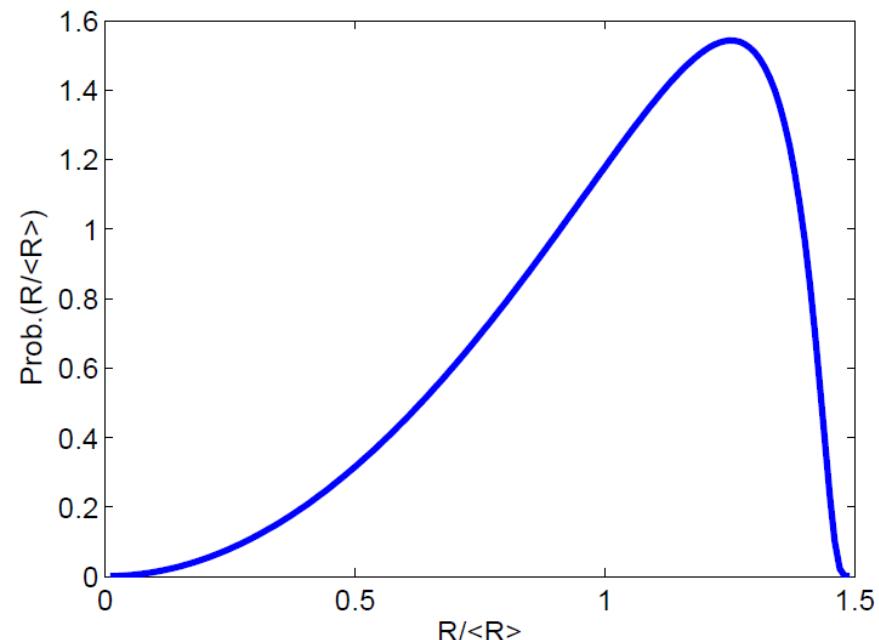


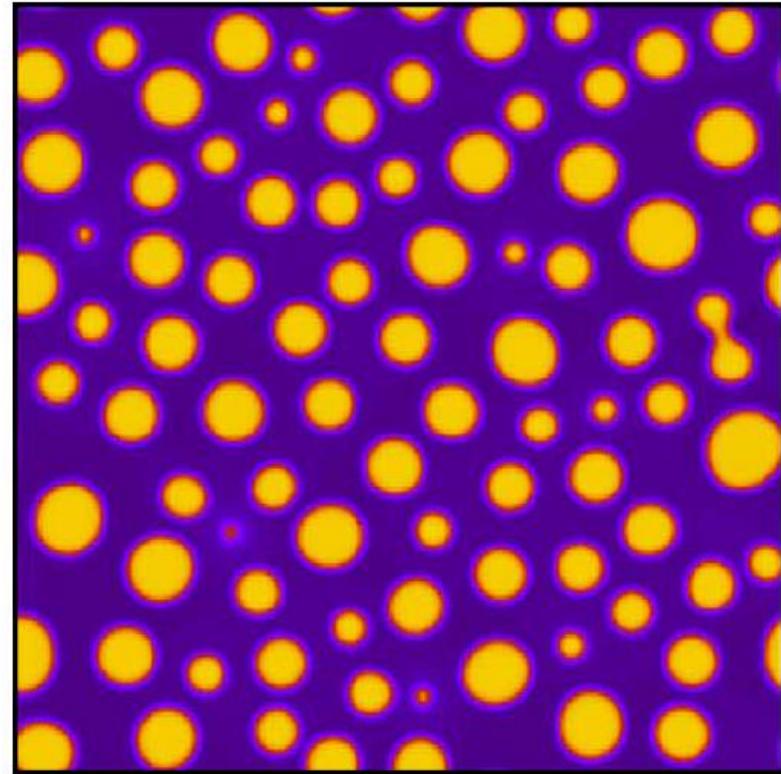
Universality of surface-tension driven droplet growth

Oswald ripening



- Lifshitz-Slyozov **universal** growth law: $\langle R(t) \rangle \sim t^{1/3}$
- **Universal** droplet size distribution

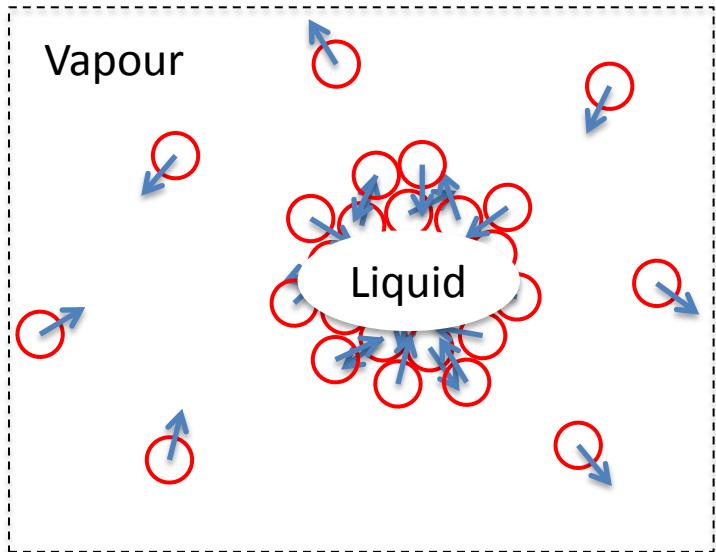
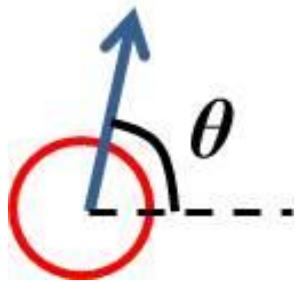




Wittkowski et al. (2013) Nat. Comm.

Motility-induced phase separation

Motility-induced phase separation (MIPS)



Tailleur & Cates (2008) PRL;
 Fily & Marchetti (2012) PRL;
 Redner, Hagan & Baskaran (2013) PRL

$$\frac{d\mathbf{r}_i}{dt} = -\frac{1}{\eta} \sum_{j \neq i} \vec{\nabla}_{\mathbf{r}_i} U_{\text{WCA}}(|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|) + \frac{f_a}{\eta} \mathbf{v}_i$$

$$\frac{d\theta_i}{dt} = \sqrt{2D_r} g_i(t), \quad \mathbf{v}_i = \cos \theta_i \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \sin \theta_i \hat{\mathbf{y}}$$

$U_{\text{WCA}}(r)$

$$U_{\text{WCA}}(r) = \begin{cases} A \left[\left(\frac{a}{r}\right)^{12} - 2 \left(\frac{a}{r}\right)^6 + 1 \right], & \text{if } r < a \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Weeks-Chandler-Andersen potential



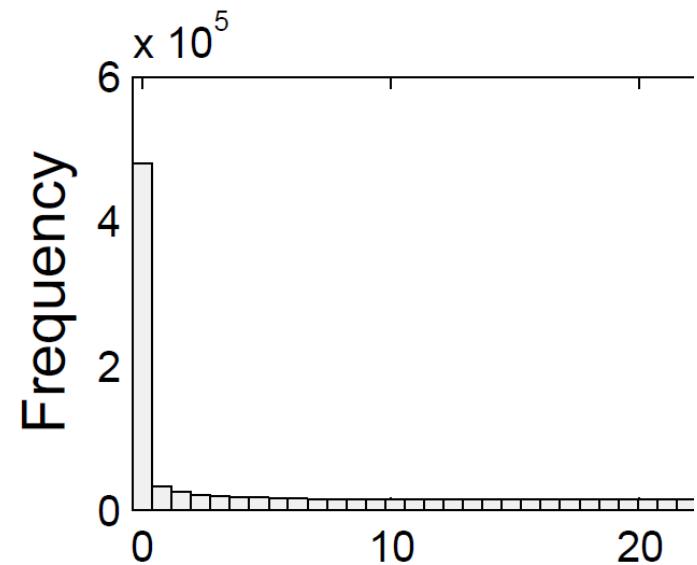
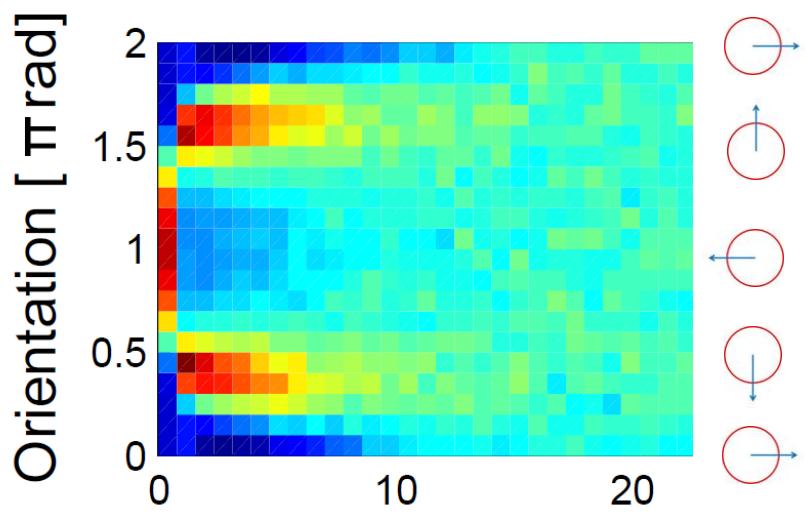
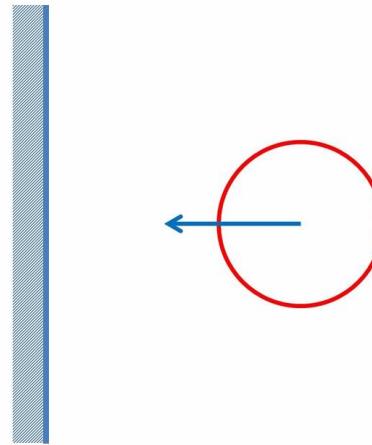
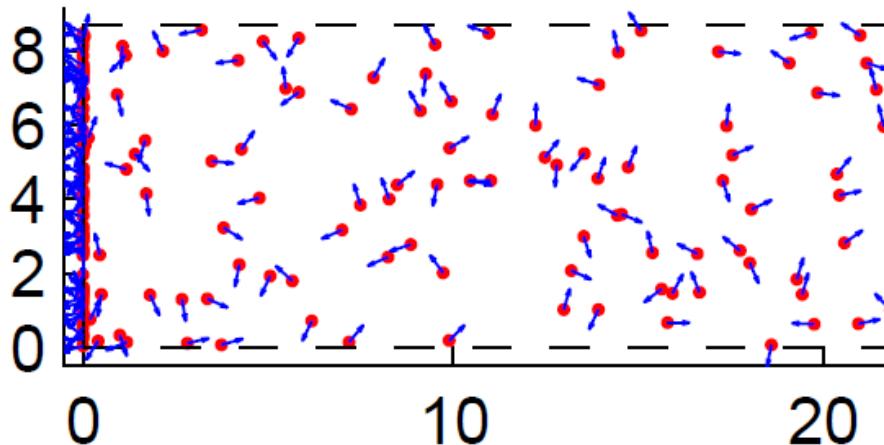
Active force

Gaussian noise



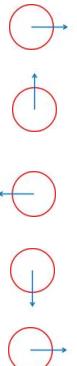
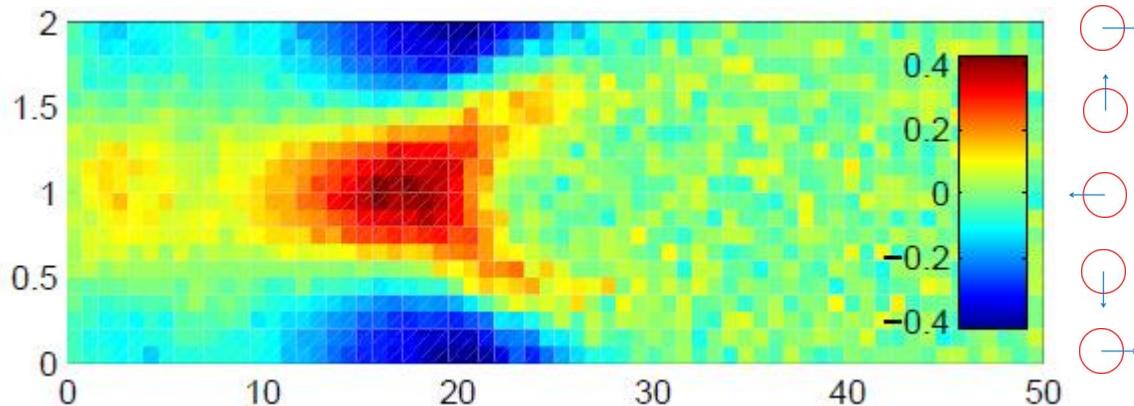
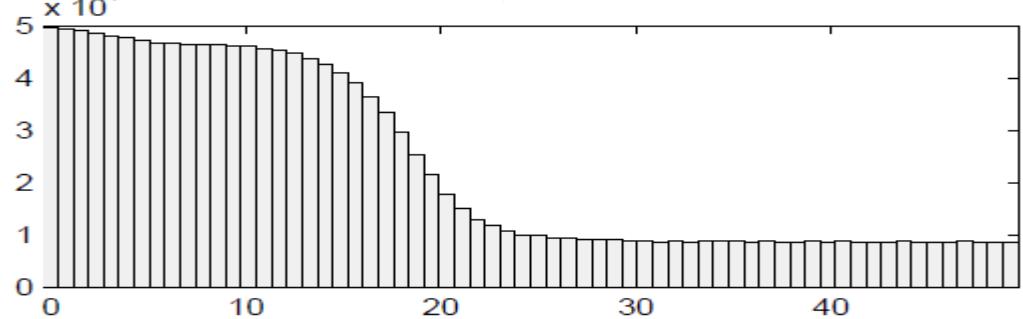
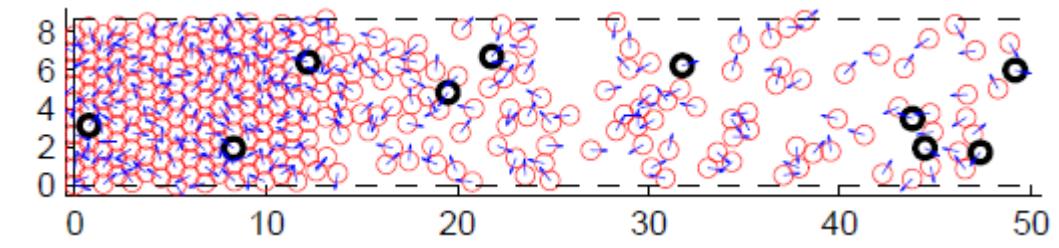
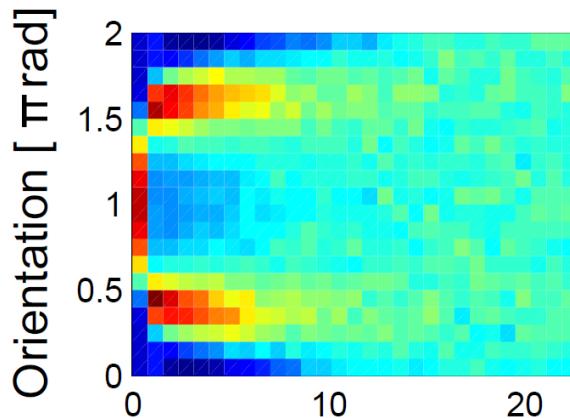
Force balance at the interface in MIPS

Confined active point particles



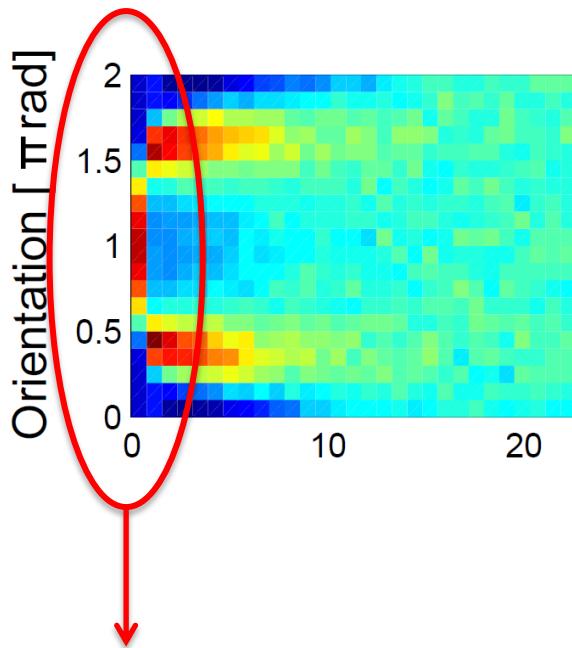
Repulsive active point particles

Active point particles



Forces on the wall

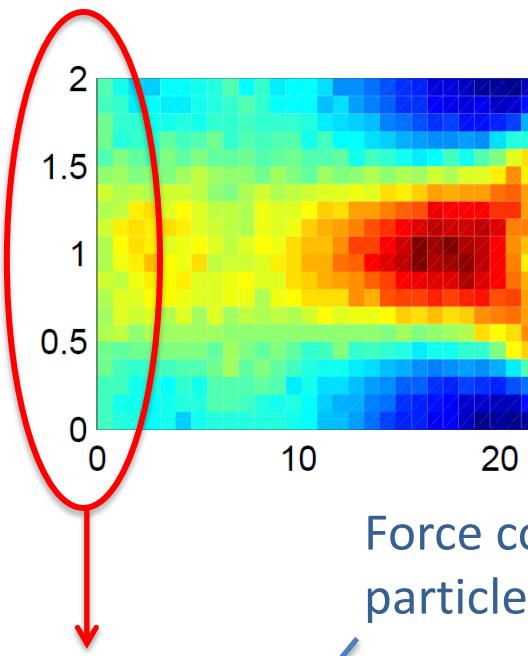
Point particles



$$\frac{\rho_v f_a^2}{2\eta D_r}$$

[Swim pressure:
Takatori, Yan & Brady (2014)
PRL]

Repulsive particles

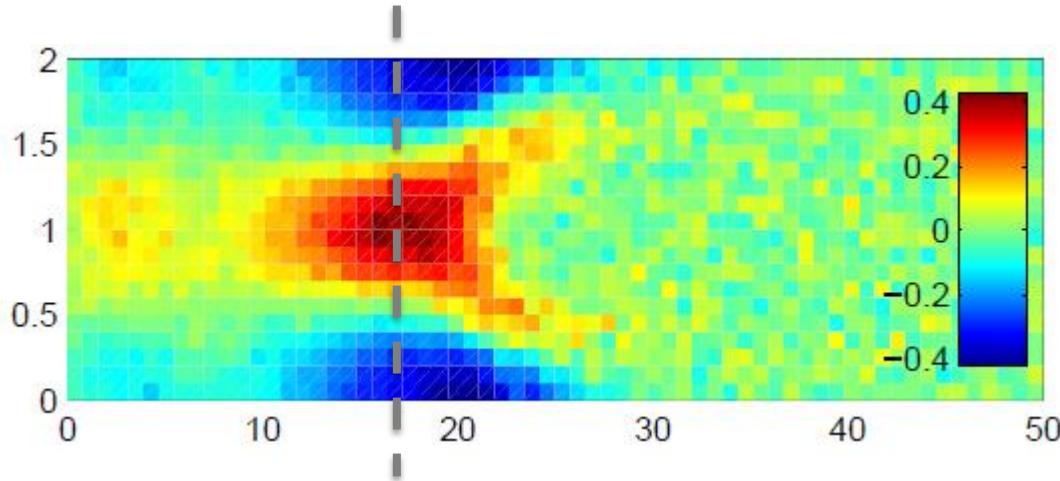


$$2a\rho_c f_a + f_r$$

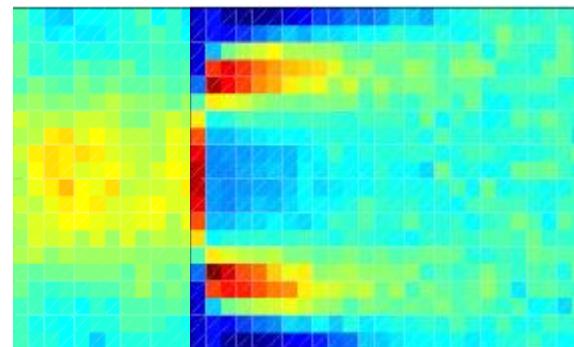
Force coming from
particle repulsion

High active force from the point particles due to orientation anisotropy

Sharp interface model



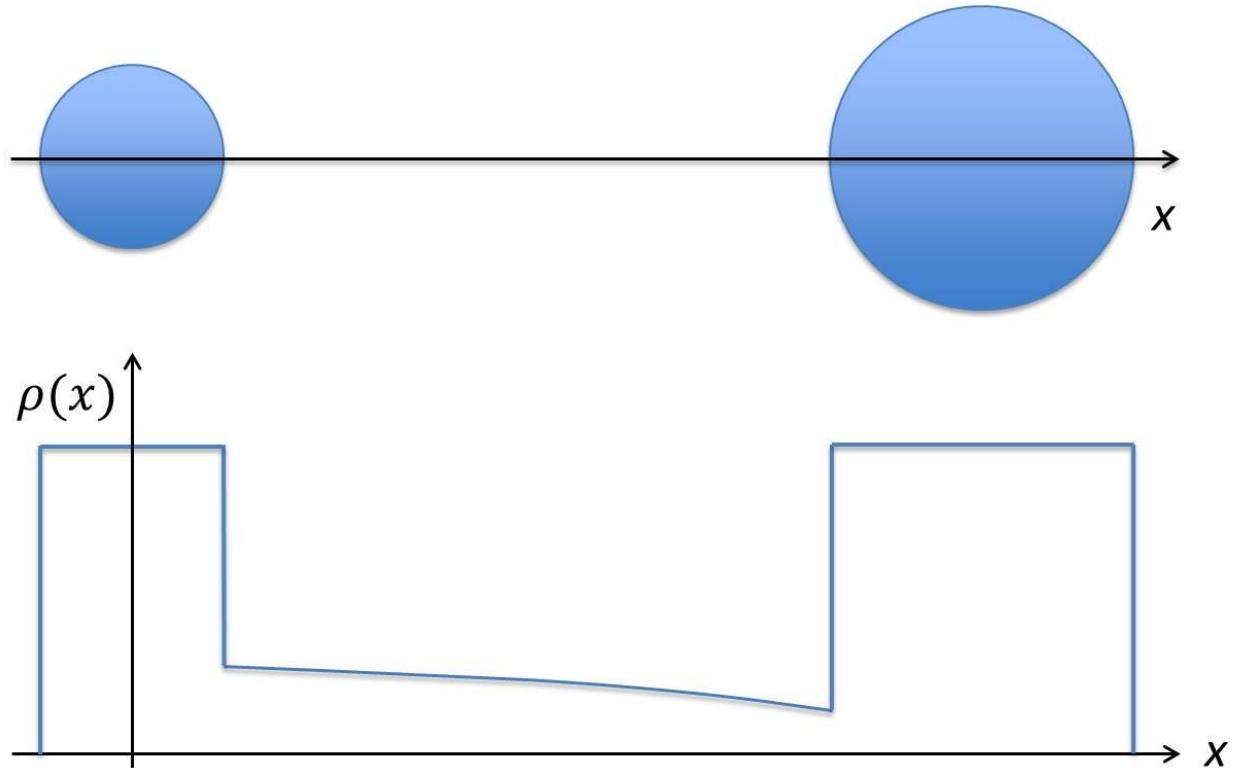
Condensed phase:
particles with
isotropic orientation



Vapour phase:
point particles

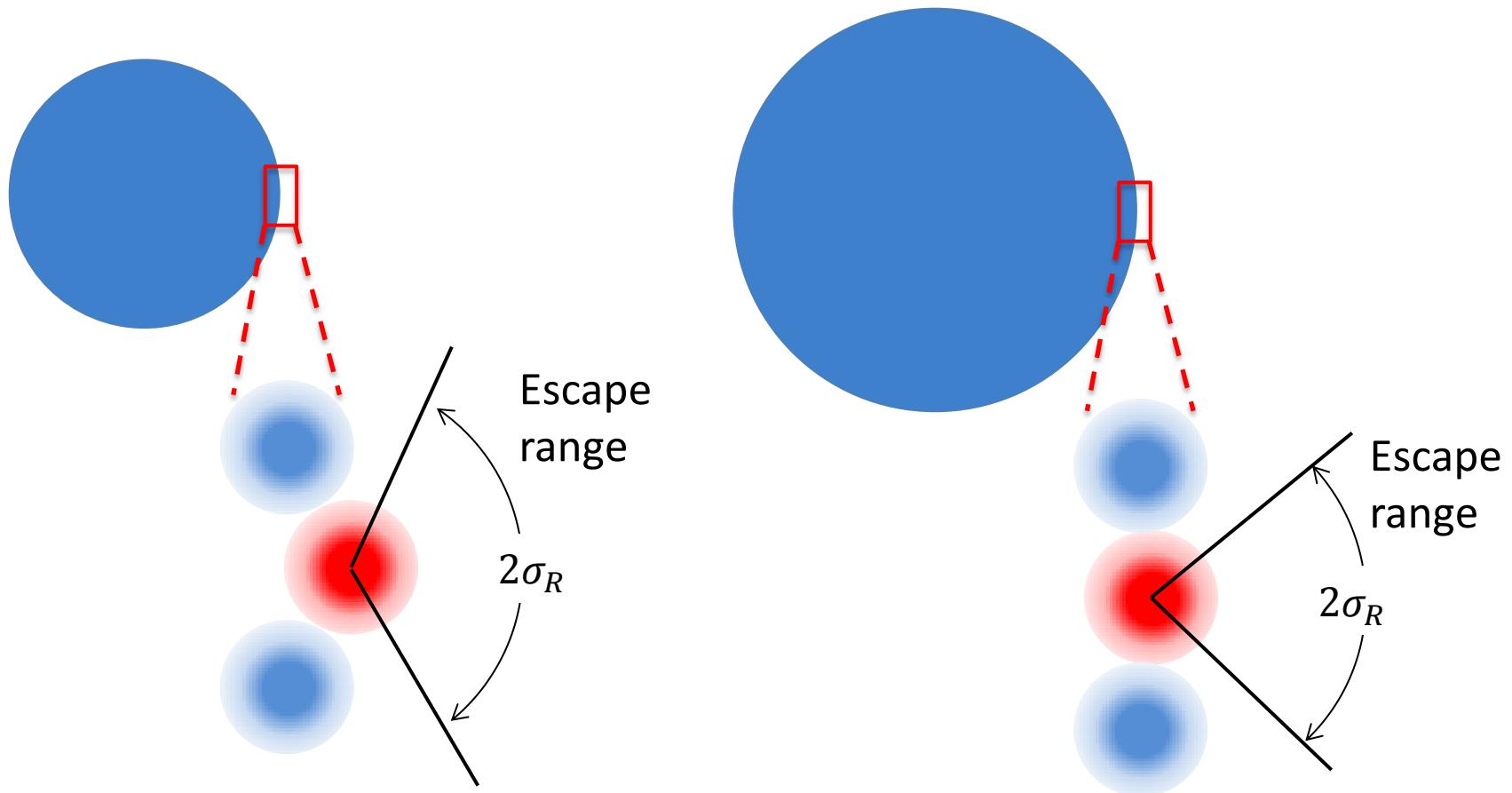
$$2a\rho_c f_a + f_r = \frac{\rho_v f_a^2}{2\eta D_r} \rightarrow$$

$$f_a > 4a\eta D_r \left(\frac{\rho_c}{\rho_v} \right)$$



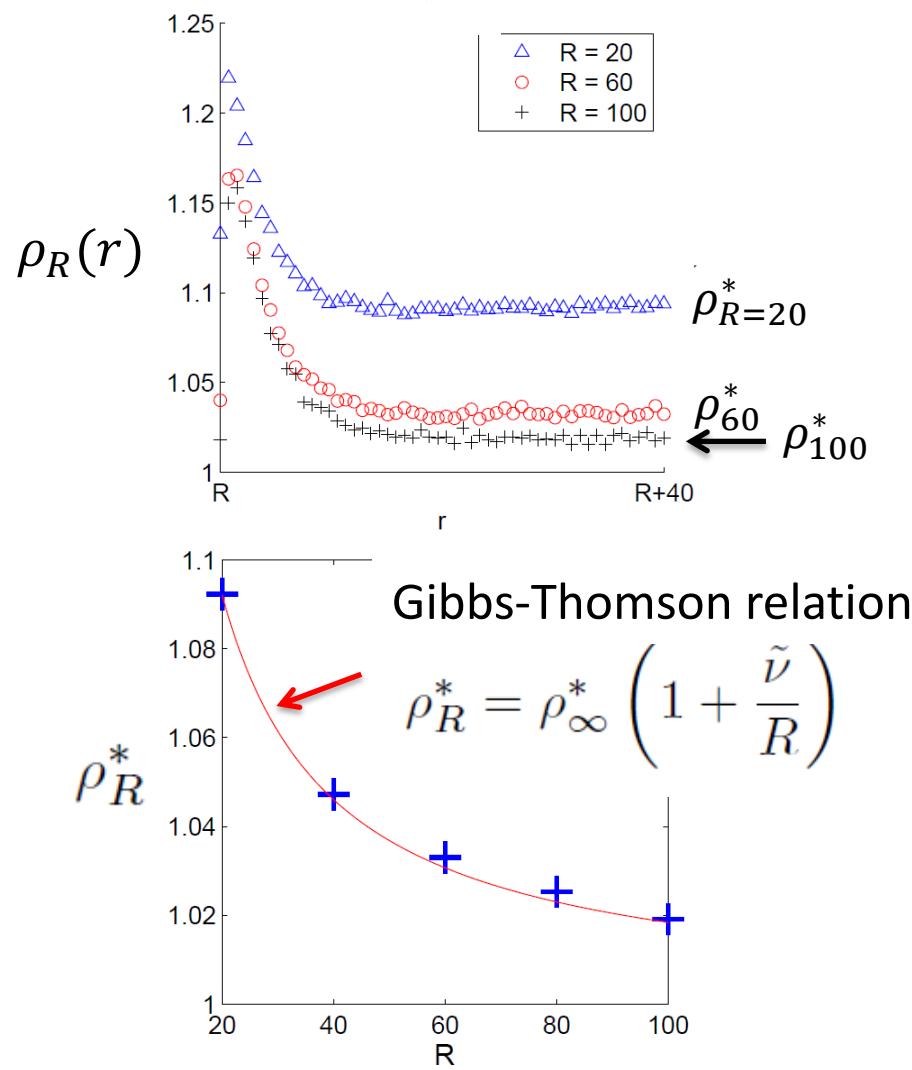
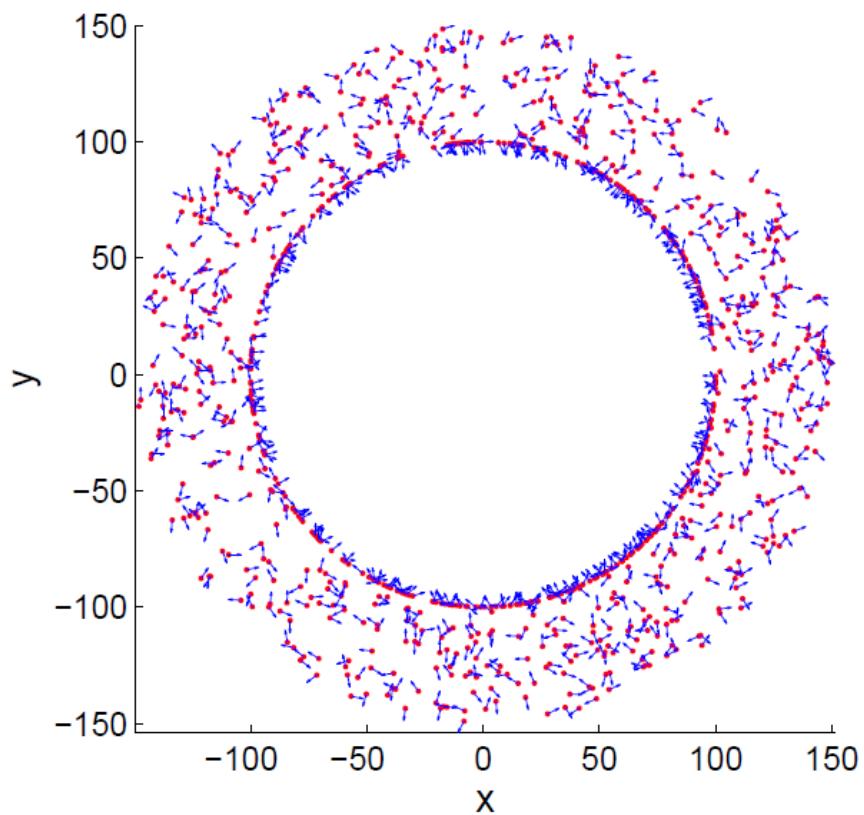
Gibbs-Thomson relation in MIPS

Circular drops: Caging effects



Caging effect of neighbouring particles leads a curvature-dependent escape range: $\sigma_R = A + \frac{B}{R} + \mathcal{O}(R^{-2})$

Circular drop: numerics



Universality of coarsening in MIPS

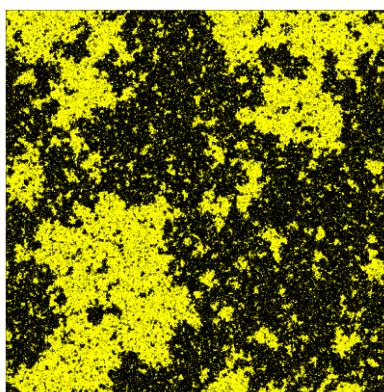
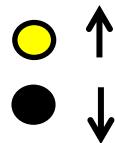
1. Active particles move diffusively across long distance
 2. Gibbs-Thomson relation at the interface MIPS droplets
1. + 2. lead to Lifshitz-Slyozov (LS) equilibrium coarsening:
- $\langle R(t) \rangle \sim t^{1/3}$
 - Universal (LS) droplet size distribution



Universality

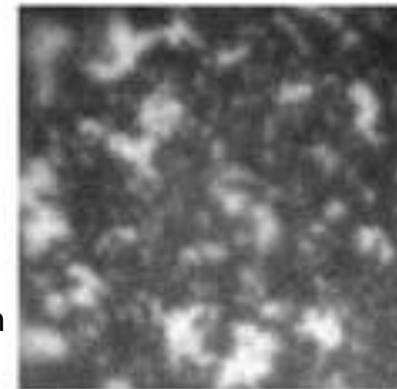
Universality in physics

Ferromagnetism with an easy axis at criticality



P. Colon's homepage

Phase separation in multi-component lipid membrane at criticality



Honerkamp-Smith
et al. (2009) BBA

As the measurement is at a larger and larger length scale ($l \rightarrow \infty$)

$$\text{Ising model: } E = -J \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} s_i s_j$$

Proved by renormalisation group methods



Kenneth Wilson, Nobel prize 1982

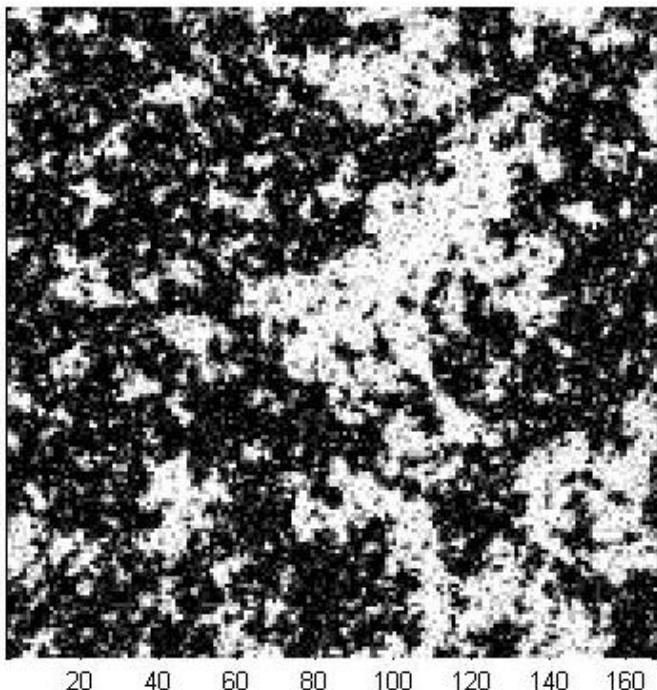
Renormalisation group transformation

$$H_0 = \int d^d r \left[(\nabla S(\mathbf{r}))^2 + t_0 S(\mathbf{r})^2 + u_0 S(\mathbf{r})^4 + g_6 S(\mathbf{r})^6 + \lambda_4 (\nabla S(\mathbf{r}))^4 + \dots \right]$$

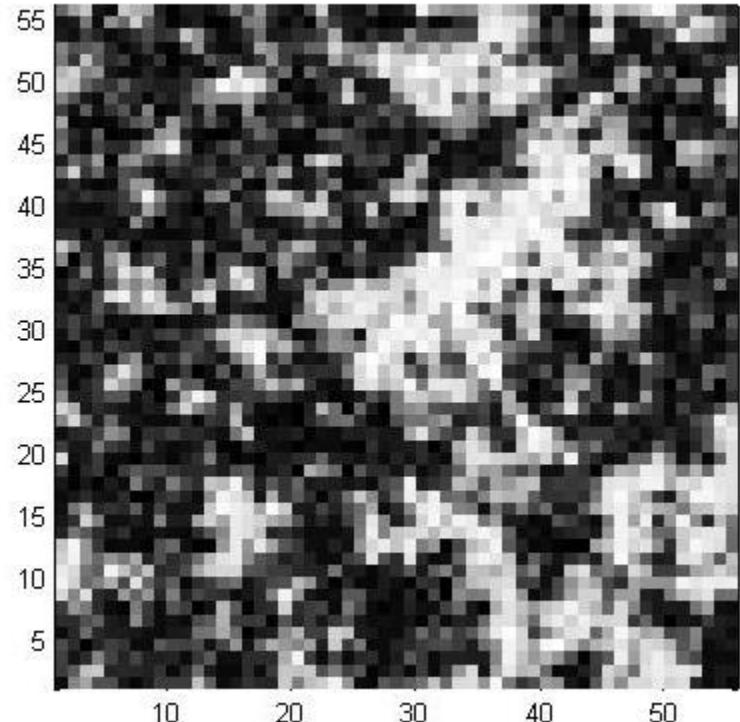
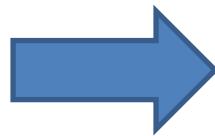


1. Coarse grain out short wavelength ($k > l^{-1}$) fluctuations
2. Rescale
3. Renormalise

Data from Hugo Duminil-Copin

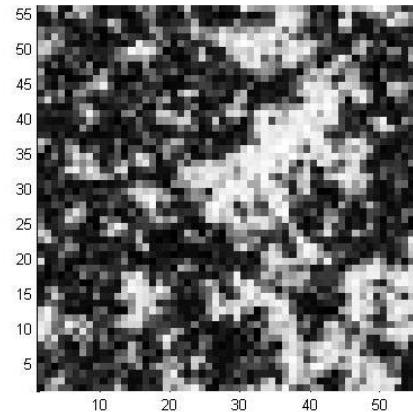


1. Coarse grain

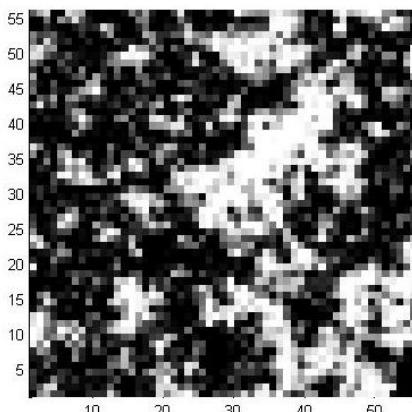


Repeat
↑

2. Rescale
↓



3. Renormalise
←



Renormalisation group transformation

$$H_0 = \int d^d r \left[(\nabla S(\mathbf{r}))^2 + t_0 S(\mathbf{r})^2 + u_0 S(\mathbf{r})^4 + g_6 S(\mathbf{r})^6 + \lambda_4 (\nabla S(\mathbf{r}))^4 + \dots \right]$$



1. Coarse grain out short wavelength ($k > l^{-1}$) fluctuations
2. Rescale
3. Renormalise

$$H_l = \int d^d r \left[(\nabla S(\mathbf{r}))^2 + t_l S(\mathbf{r})^2 + u_l S(\mathbf{r})^4 \right]$$

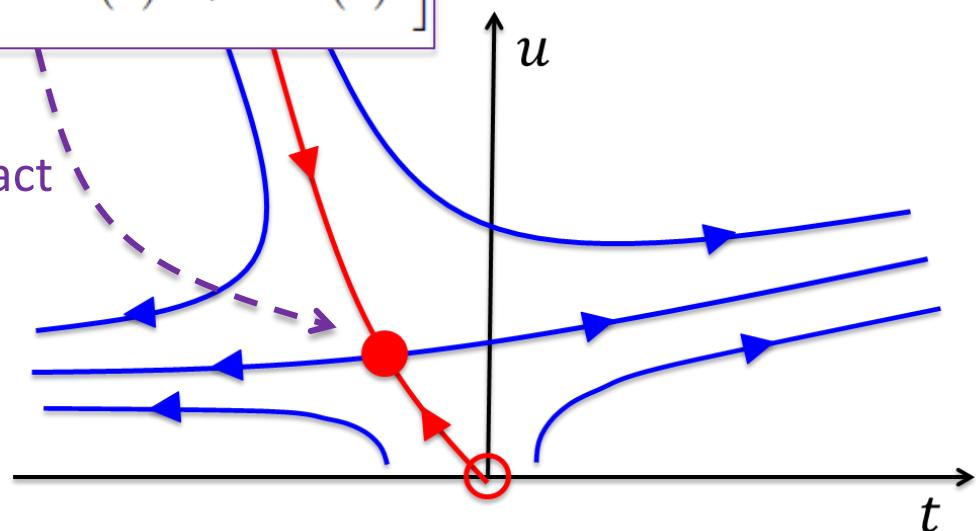


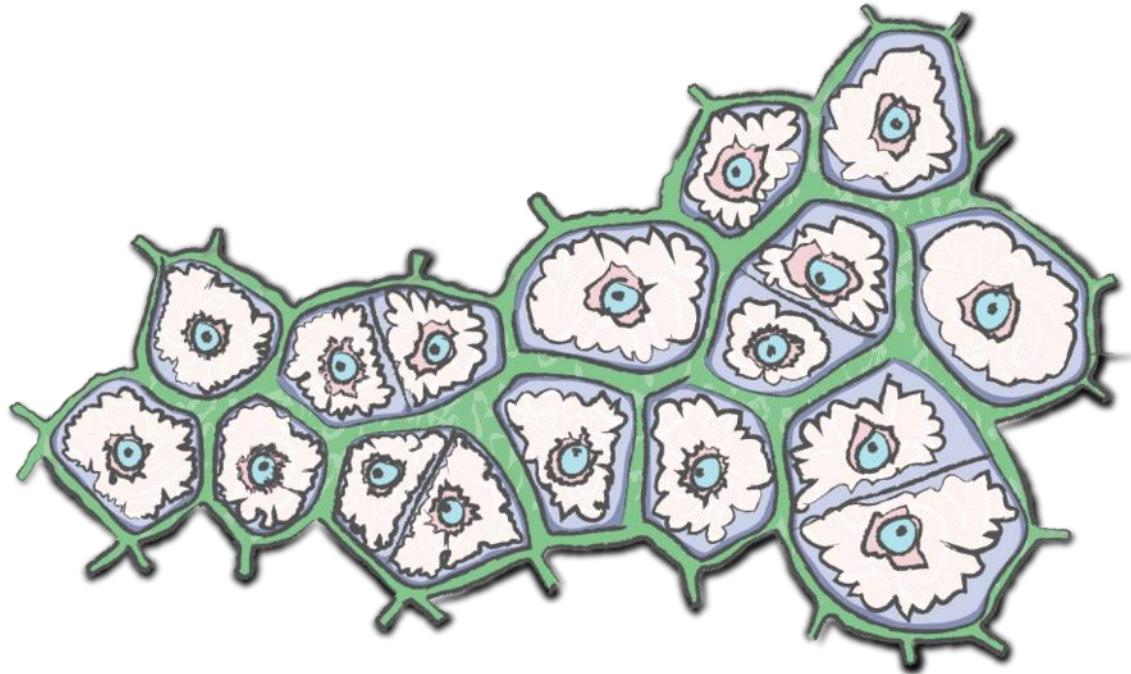
l goes up further

$$H^* = \int d^d r \left[(\nabla S(\mathbf{r}))^2 + t^* S(\mathbf{r})^2 + u^* S(\mathbf{r})^4 \right]$$

Toy model H^* becomes the (asymptotically) exact model

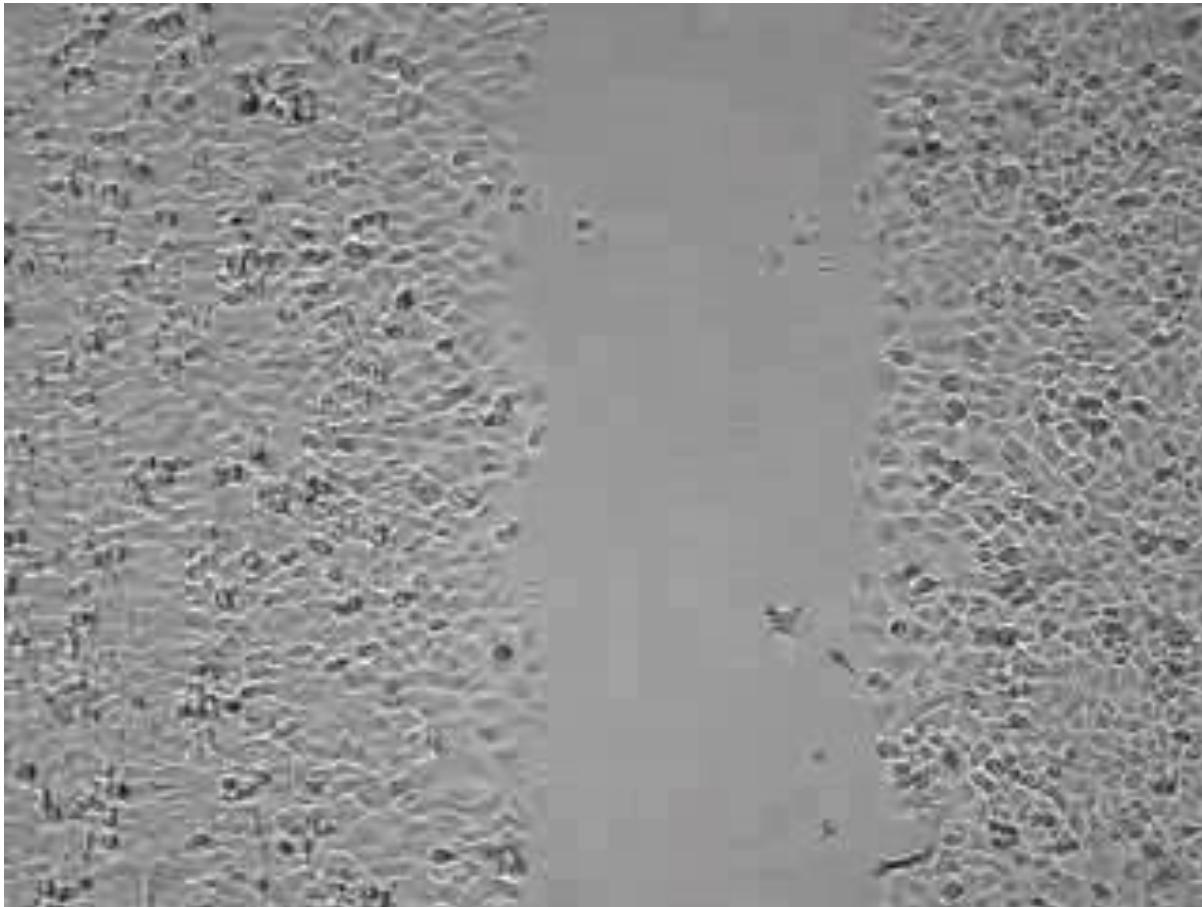
Level of coarse-graining





Incompressible polar active fluids

Wound healing assay



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v9xq_GiRXeE

Navier-Stokes description?

$$\partial_t \vec{v} + (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) \vec{v} = \mu \nabla^2 \vec{v} - \rho^{-1} \vec{\nabla} P$$

Not enough!

Navier-Stokes description?

$$\partial_t \vec{v} + (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) \vec{v} = (a + b v^2) \vec{v} + \mu \nabla^2 \vec{v} - \rho^{-1} \vec{\nabla} P$$

Not enough!

Missing elements:

- Cells are motile -> Need *active* terms like $(a + b v^2) \vec{v}$

Navier-Stokes description?

$$\partial_t \vec{v} + (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) \vec{v} = (a + b v^2) \vec{v} + \mu \nabla^2 \vec{v} - \rho^{-1} \vec{\nabla} P + \vec{f}$$

Not enough!

Missing elements:

- Cells are motile -> Need *active* terms like $(a + b v^2) \vec{v}$
- Fluctuations can be important -> Gaussian noise \vec{f}

Navier-Stokes description?

$$\partial_t \vec{v} + \lambda(\vec{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla})\vec{v} = (a + b\nu^2)\vec{v} + \mu \nabla^2 \vec{v} - \rho^{-1} \vec{\nabla} P + \vec{f}$$

Not enough!

Missing elements:

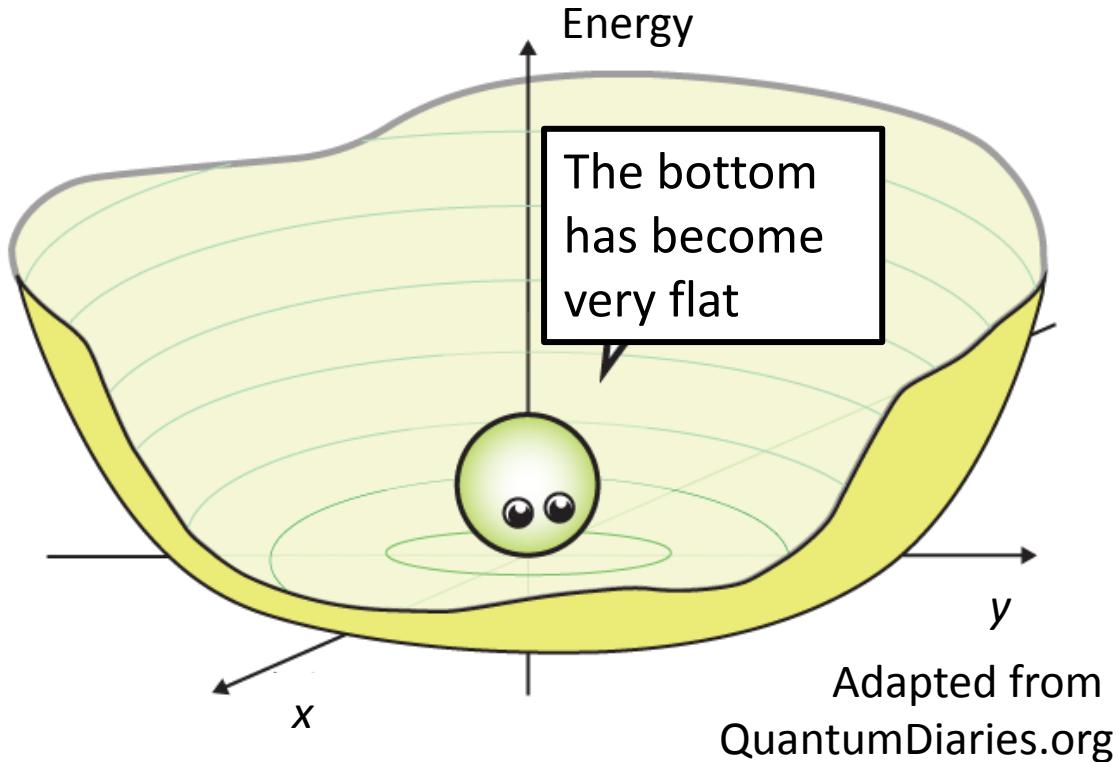
- Cells are motile -> Need *active* terms like $(a + b\nu^2)\vec{v}$
- Fluctuations can be important -> Gaussian noise \vec{f}
- No Galilean invariance -> prefactor of $(\vec{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla})\vec{v}$ may not be 1

In fact, to be completely general...

There can be infinitely many more red terms

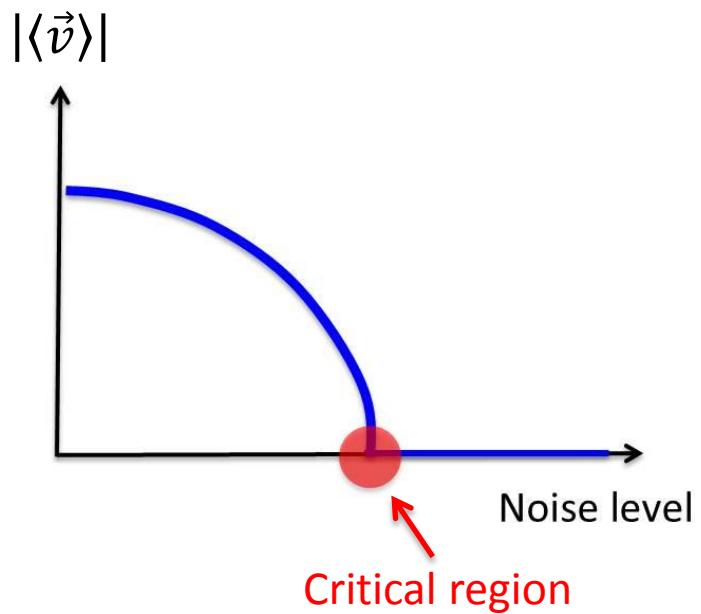
$$\begin{aligned}\partial_t \vec{v} + \rho^{-1} \vec{\nabla} P - \vec{f} = & -\lambda (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) \vec{v} - (a + b v^2) \vec{v} - \mu \nabla^2 \vec{v} \\ & + c v^4 \vec{v} + \xi (\nabla^2)^2 \vec{v} + \dots\end{aligned}$$

With so many parameters, can we ever say something universal about the system?



Incompressible active fluids at criticality

Phase behaviour of incompressible active fluids



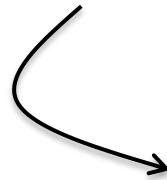
Critical incompressible polar active fluids

EOM: $\partial_t \vec{v} + \vec{\nabla} P - \vec{f} = -\lambda(\vec{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla})\vec{v} - (a + bv^2)\vec{v} - \mu\nabla^2\vec{v} + cv^4\vec{v} + \xi(\nabla^2)^2\vec{v} + \dots$



RG transformation

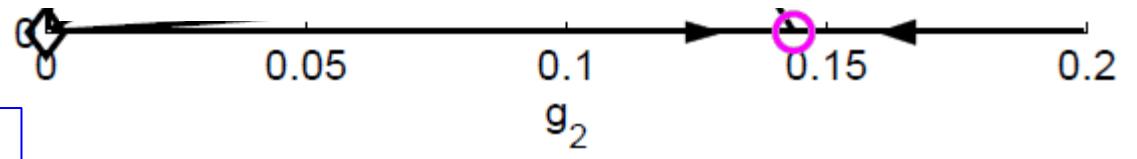
$$\partial_t \vec{v} + \vec{\nabla} P + \vec{f}_l = -\lambda_l(\vec{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla})\vec{v} - (a_l + b_l v^2)\vec{v} - \mu_l \nabla^2 \vec{v}$$



Exact hydrodynamic EOM with **TWO** coefficients governing the model's scale-invariance properties:

$$g_1(l) \sim \frac{D_l \lambda_l^2}{\mu_l^3} , \quad g_2(l) \sim \frac{D_l b_l}{\mu_l^2}$$

Level of
coarse-graining

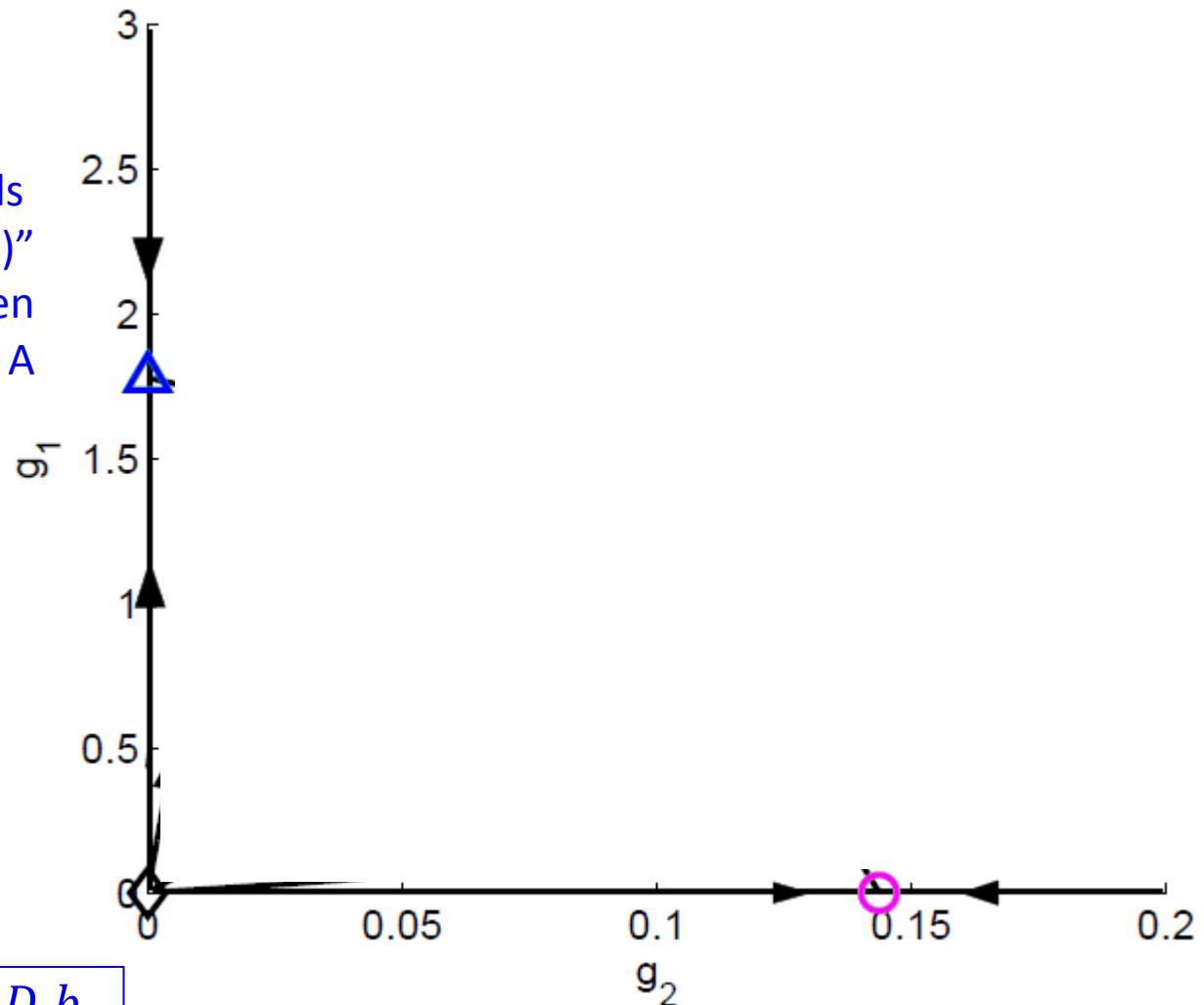


$$g_1(l) \sim \frac{D_l \lambda_l^2}{\mu_l^3}; \quad g_2(l) \sim \frac{D_l b_l}{\mu_l^2}$$

“Ferromagnets with dipolar interactions”
Aharony and Fisher (1973) Phys. Rev. Lett.

Chen, Toner, Lee (2015)
New J. Phys. **17**, 042002

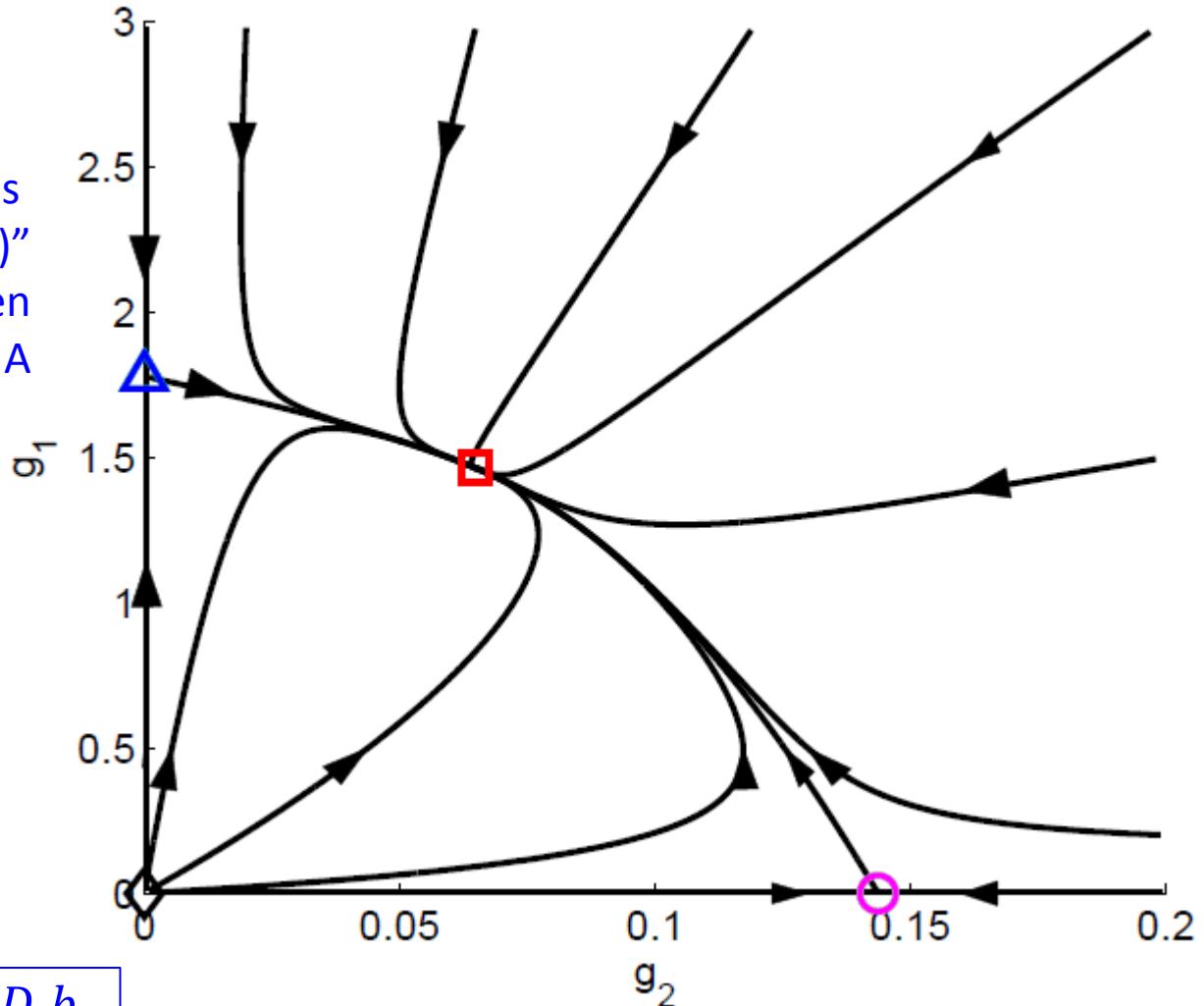
“Randomly stirred fluids
(Model B)”
Forster, Nelson & Stephen
(1977) Phys. Rev. A



$$g_1(l) \sim \frac{D_l \lambda_l^2}{\mu_l^3}; \quad g_2(l) \sim \frac{D_l b_l}{\mu_l^2}$$

“Ferromagnets with dipolar interactions”
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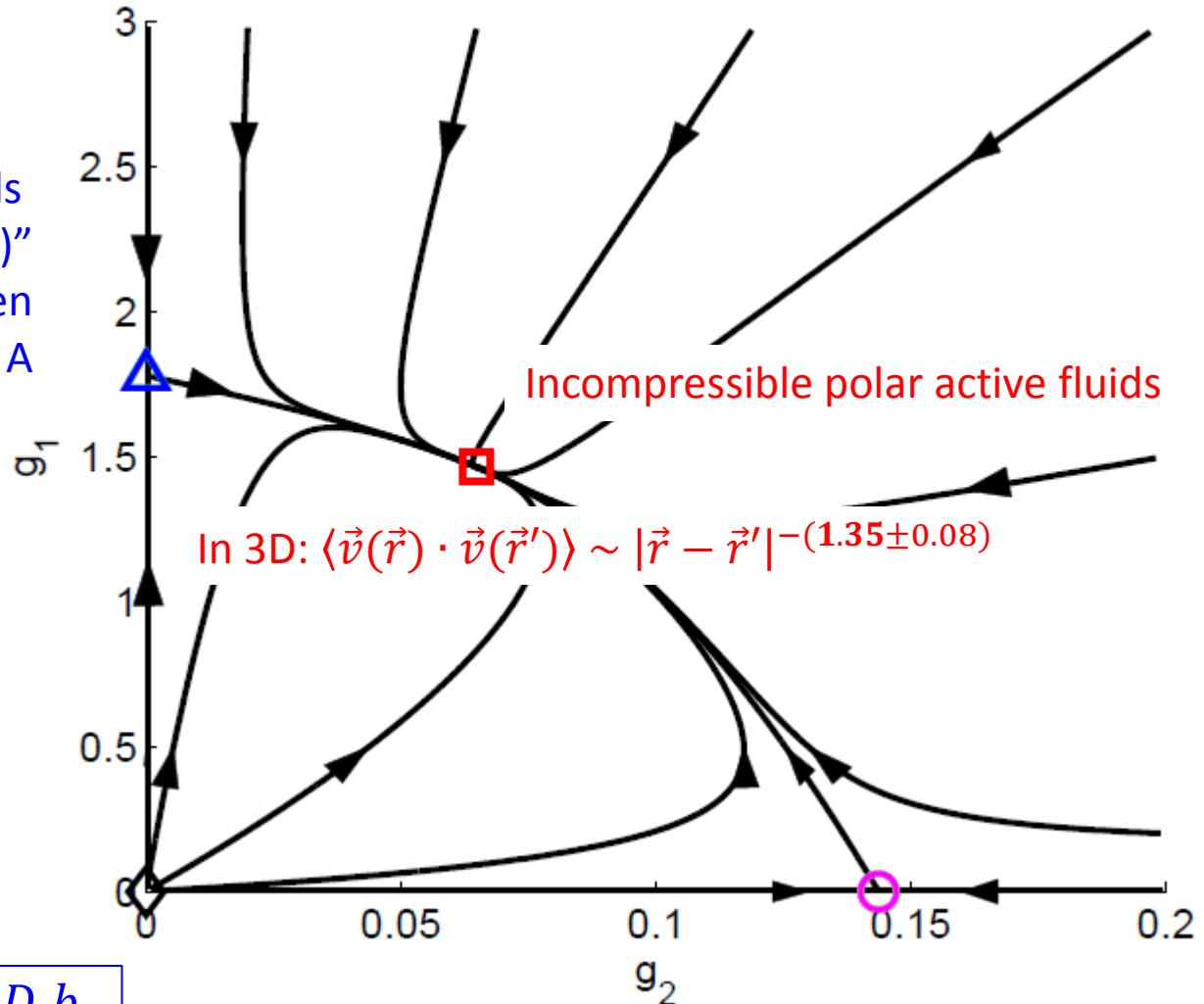
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$$g_1(l) \sim \frac{D_l \lambda_l^2}{\mu_l^3}; \quad g_2(l) \sim \frac{D_l b_l}{\mu_l^2}$$

“Ferromagnets with dipolar interactions”
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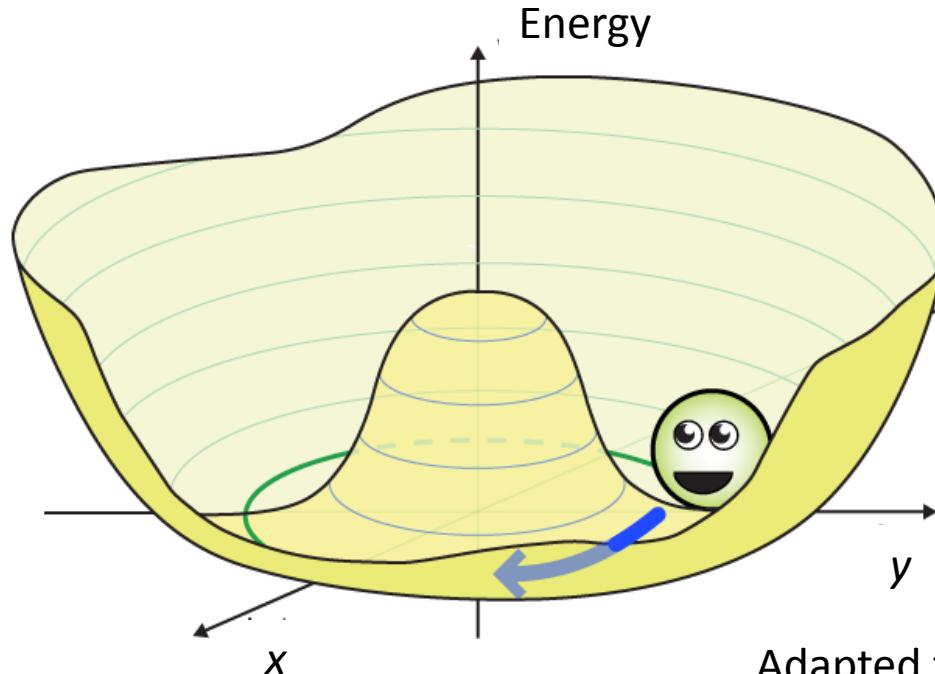
“Randomly stirred fluids
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(1977) Phys. Rev. A



$$g_1(l) \sim \frac{D_l \lambda_l^2}{\mu_l^3}; \quad g_2(l) \sim \frac{D_l b_l}{\mu_l^2}$$

“Ferromagnets with dipolar interactions”
Aharony and Fisher (1973) Phys. Rev. Lett.

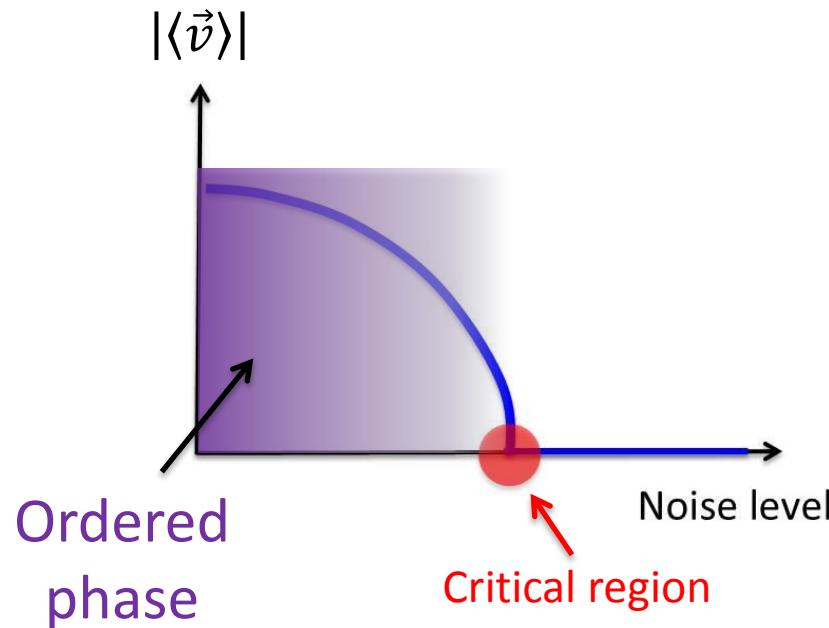
Chen, Toner, Lee (2015)
New J. Phys. **17**, 042002



Adapted from
QuantumDiaries.org

Incompressible active fluids in the ordered phase

Ordered incompressible polar active fluids



- **Universality is more than criticality!**
- Universal behaviour expected in the symmetry-broken phase of a continuous symmetry

Ordered phase of 2D incompressible active fluids

EOM:

$$\partial_t \mathbf{v} + \lambda(\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{v} = -\nabla P + (a - bv^2) \mathbf{v} + \mu \nabla^2 \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{f} + \dots$$

1. RG transformation



$$\begin{aligned}\partial_t u_x &= -\partial_x P - 2b \left(u_x + \frac{u_y^2}{2v_0} \right) + \mu \nabla^2 u_x + f_x \\ \partial_t u_y &= -\partial_y P - \frac{2b}{v_0} \left(u_x + \frac{u_y^2}{2v_0} \right) u_y + \mu \nabla^2 u_y + f_y\end{aligned}$$

Ordered phase: $\mathbf{v} = (v_0 + u_x(\mathbf{r}, t))\hat{x} + u_y(\mathbf{r}, t)\hat{y}$

2. Use streaming function h to enforce Incompressibility:

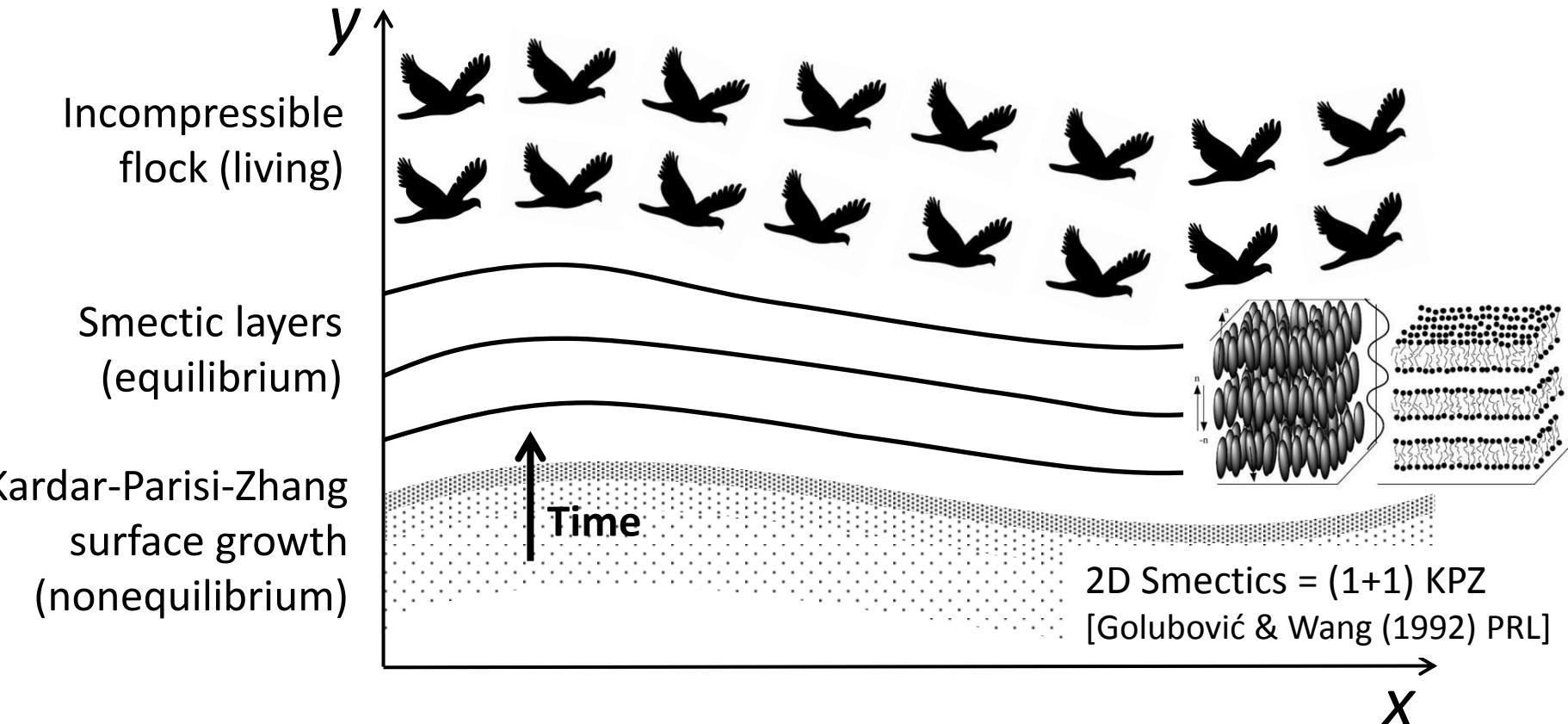
$$u_x = -v_0 \partial_y h$$

$$u_y = v_0 \partial_x h$$

3. Equal-time (static) correlations in 2D active fluids are mapped onto the 2D smectic model:

$$H_{\text{smectic}} = \int d^2 r \left[b v_0 \left(\partial_y h - \frac{(\partial_x h)^2}{2} \right)^2 + \mu v_0^2 (\partial_x^2 h)^2 \right]$$

Universality of Kardar-Parisi-Zhang



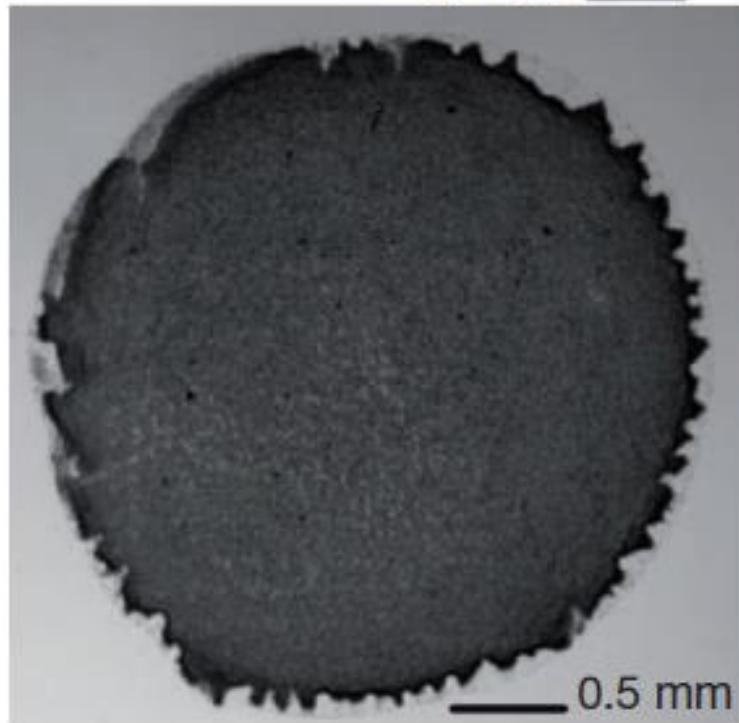
KPZ model: $\partial_t h = \nu \nabla^2 h + \lambda (\nabla h)^2 + \eta$

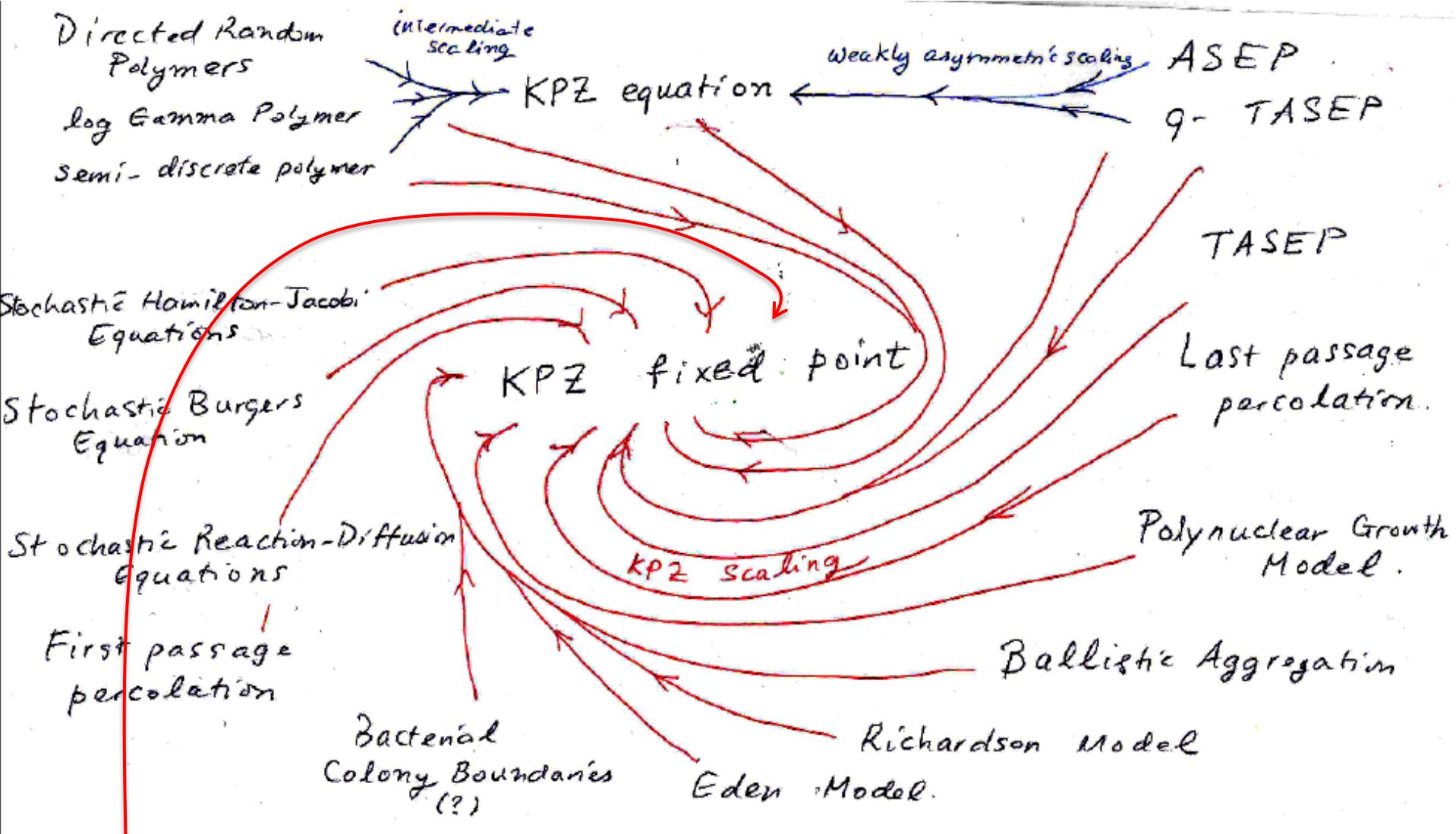
Suppression of the coffee-ring effect by shape-dependent capillary interactions

Peter J. Yunker¹, Tim Still^{1,2}, Matthew A. Lohr¹ & A. G. Yodh¹

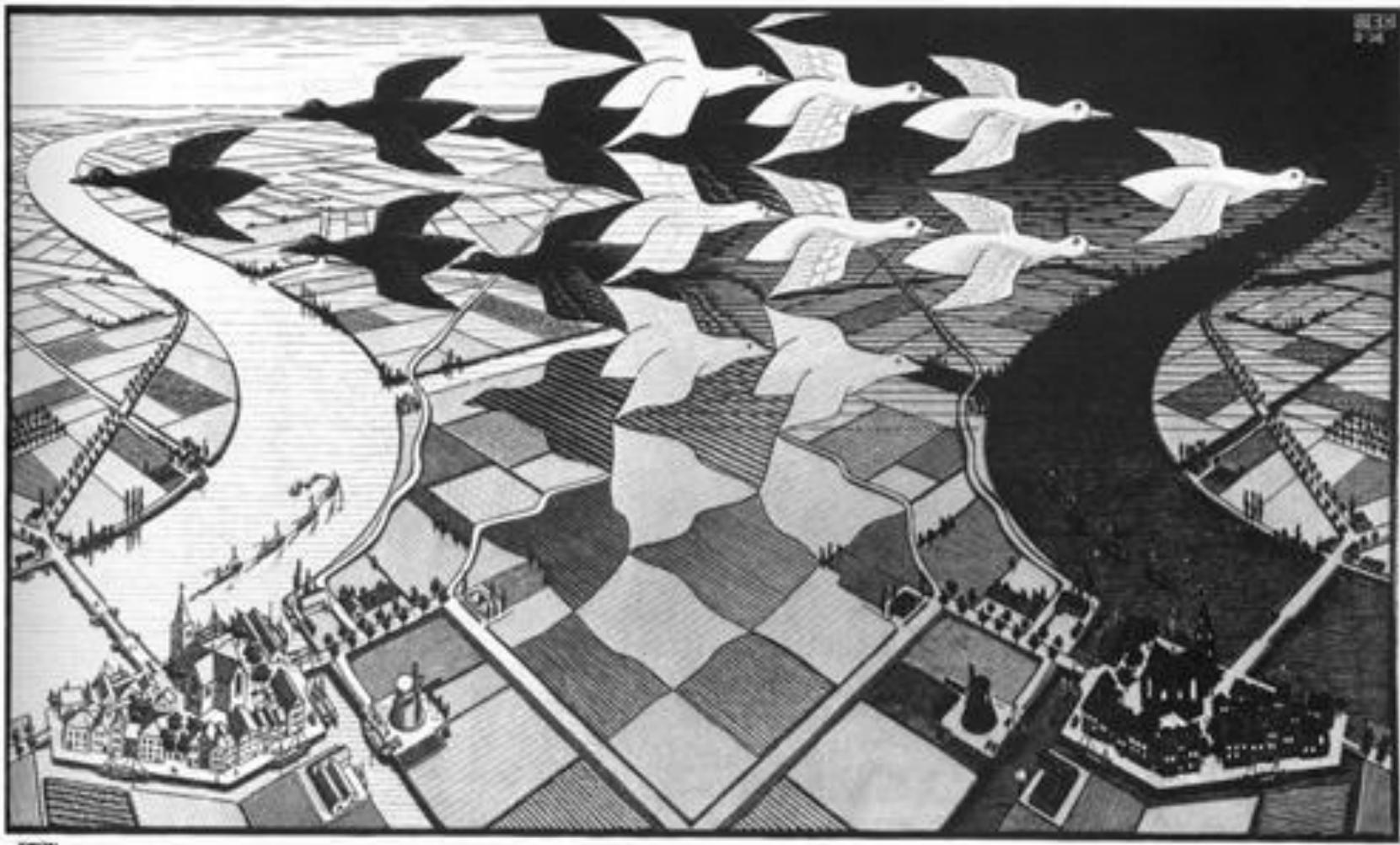
308 | NATURE | VOL 476 | 18 AUGUST 2011

$$\alpha = 3.5$$





2D incompressible active fluids in the ordered phase
 [Chen, Lee & Toner (2016) arXiv:1601.01924]



M.C. Escher (1938) *Day and Night*

Outlook

A photograph of a sunset over a calm sea. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a bright orange glow that reflects off the water. The sky is filled with scattered white and grey clouds, some of which are illuminated from below by the setting sun. Several beams of sunlight, known as crepuscular rays, radiate outwards from behind the sun, creating a dramatic and hopeful atmosphere.

'Periodic table' of universality classes

Equilibrium

Designation	System
A	Kinetic Ising anisotropic magnets
B	Kinetic Ising uniaxial ferromagnet
C	Anisotropic magnets structural transition
H	Gas–liquid binary fluid
E	Easy-plane magnet, $h_z = 0$
F	Easy-plane magnet, $h_z \neq 0$ superfluid helium
G	Heisenberg antiferromagnet
J	Heisenberg ferromagnet

Hohenberg and Halperin (1977) "Theory of dynamic critical phenomena" Rev. Mod. Phys.

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Non-equilibrium

Randomly stirred fluids
[Forster, Nelson & Stephen (1977) Phys. Rev. A]

Directed percolation
[Kinzel (1983)]

Kardar-Parisi-Zhang
[KPZ (1983) Phys. Rev. Lett.]

Living matter

Incompressible active
polar fluids
[Chen, Toner, Lee (2015) New
J. Phys.]

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Non-equilibrium

Transition	Ordered phase
?	?
?	?
?	?
?	LSW
?	KPZ
?	?
?	?
New Universality class	?

Hohenberg and Halperin (1977) "Theory of dynamic critical phenomena" Rev. Mod. Phys.

Universality in Biology

Biology			
Designation	Biological System	Transition	Ordered phase
A	?	?	?
B	?	?	?
C	?	?	?
H	Motile bacteria	?	LSW
E	Epithelial tissue	?	KPZ
F	?	?	?
G	?	?	?
J	Birds	New Universality class	?

Summary

- Universality is everywhere in biology
- Universal coarsening kinetics (LSW) in motility-induced phase separation [[Lee](#), arXiv:1503.08674]
- Universal behaviour of incompressible polar active fluids
 - At criticality (New universality class) [[Chen](#), [Toner](#), [Lee](#) (2015)
New J. Phys.]
 - Ordered phase in 2D (KPZ) [[Chen](#), [Lee](#), [Toner](#), arXiv:1601:01924]
- Future direction: Categorisation of universality of living matter

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John Toner (*Oregon*)



Engineering and Physical Sciences
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Thank you for your
Attention!