

The theoretical and mathematical description of nucleation in shear flow conditions

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UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI
DI MILANO

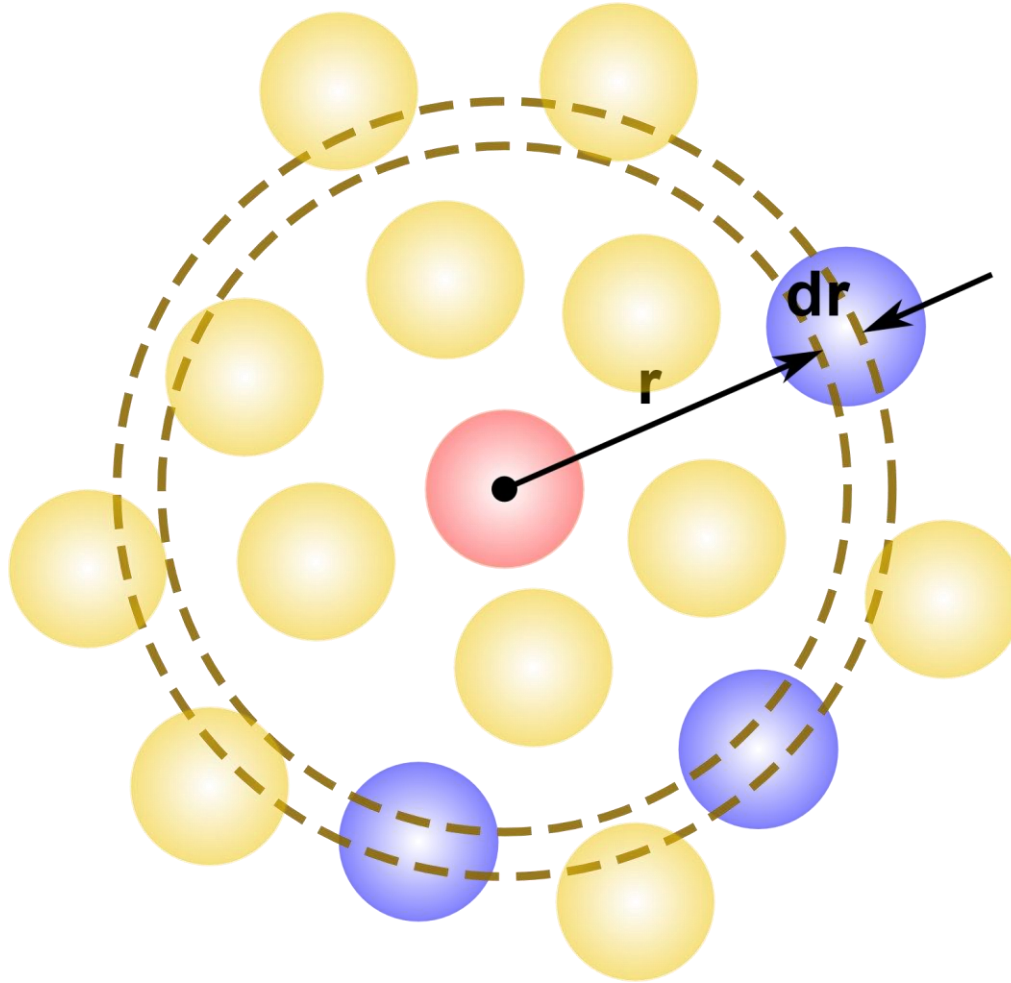


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Overview

1. Microstructure of molecules in shear flows from the Smoluchowski diffusion-convection equation
2. Self-assembly of charge-stabilized molecules/colloids in shear flows
3. Crystal nucleation theory in shear flows
4. Comparison with experiments and new perspectives

Central tool: Pair-correlation function



Probability of finding other molecules at distance r from a test molecule

Peclet number

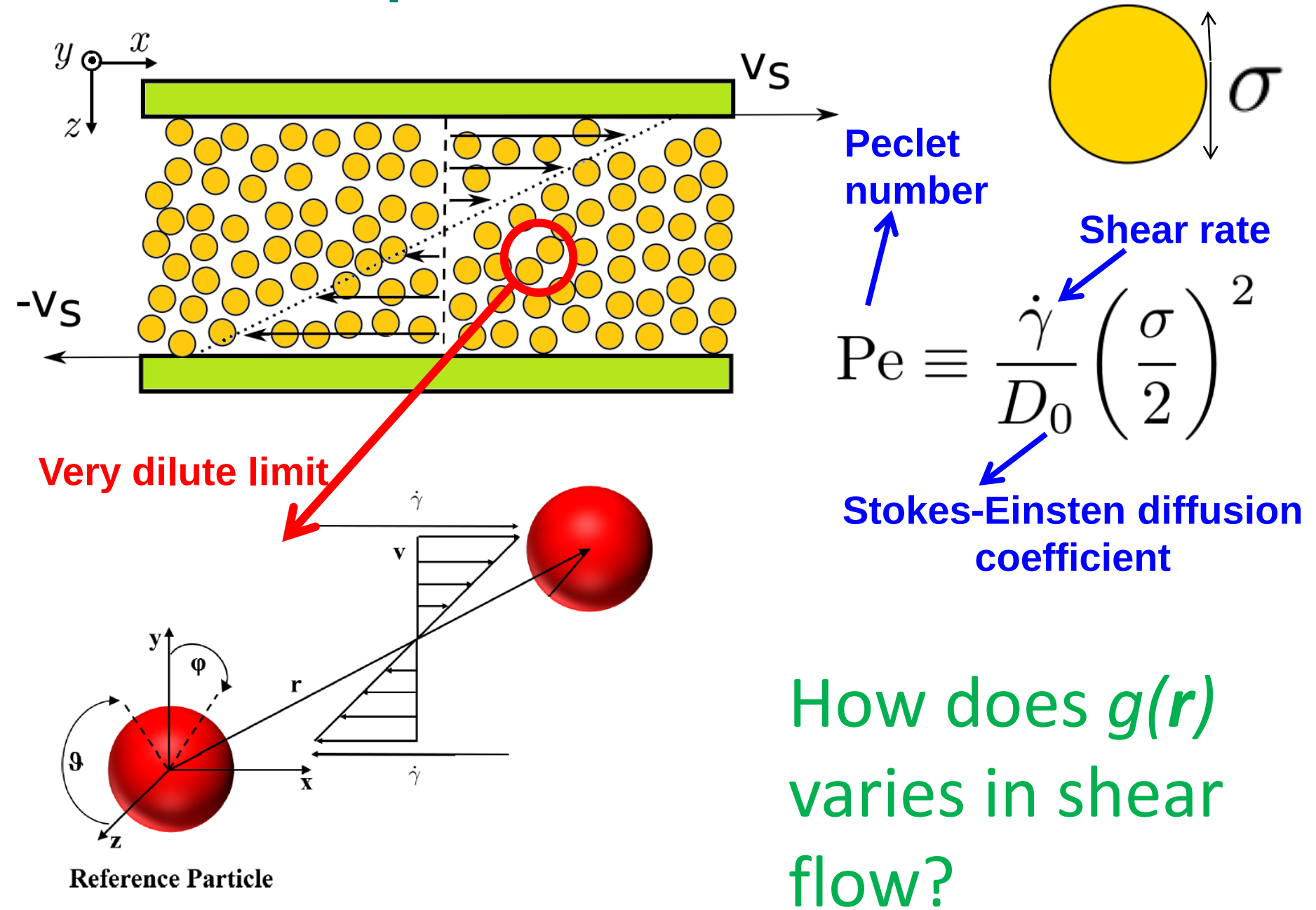
Characteristic length-scale

Flow velocity

$$Pe = \frac{Lv}{D}$$

Diffusion coefficient

Colloidal suspensions under shear flow



Pair correlation function of molecules in shear flow

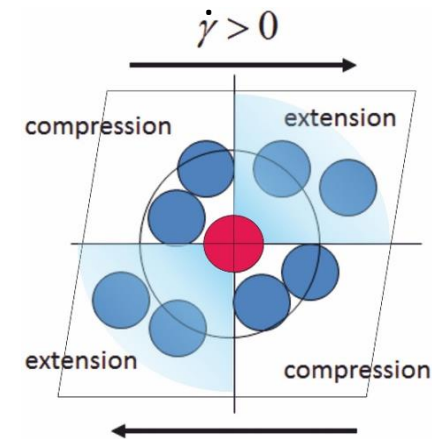
Pair-correlation function of dissolved molecules in shear flows (dilute)

Smoluchowski (Fokker-Planck) “convection-diffusion” equation:

$$D\nabla \cdot \left(G(r) \nabla g(\mathbf{r}) - \frac{1}{k_B T} \mathbf{K} g(\mathbf{r}) \right) = 0$$

$$\mathbf{K} = -G(r) \nabla U(r) + \zeta \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{r}).$$

Dhont JFM 1989, Bławdziewicz and Szamel, PRE 1993



After averaging over the angular section of interest, we can apply the **matched-asymptotics** (perturbative expansion)

small parameter $\epsilon = 1/\text{Pe}$

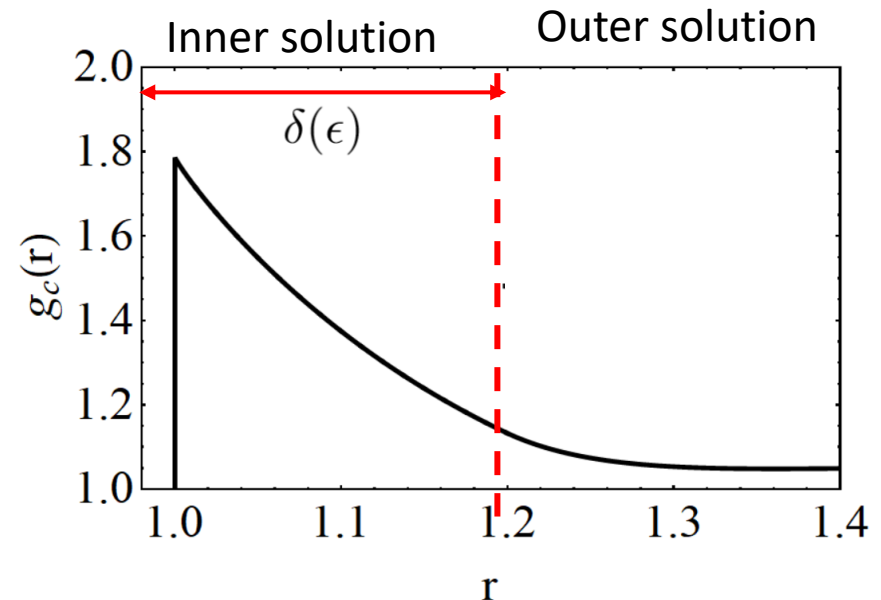
INNER SOLUTION: $\tilde{r}_c < \tilde{r} < \delta(\epsilon)$

$$g^{\text{in}} = g_0^{\text{in}} + \delta(\epsilon) g_1^{\text{in}} + \delta(\epsilon)^2 g_2^{\text{in}} + \dots$$

OUTER SOLUTION: $\delta(\epsilon) < \tilde{r} < \infty$

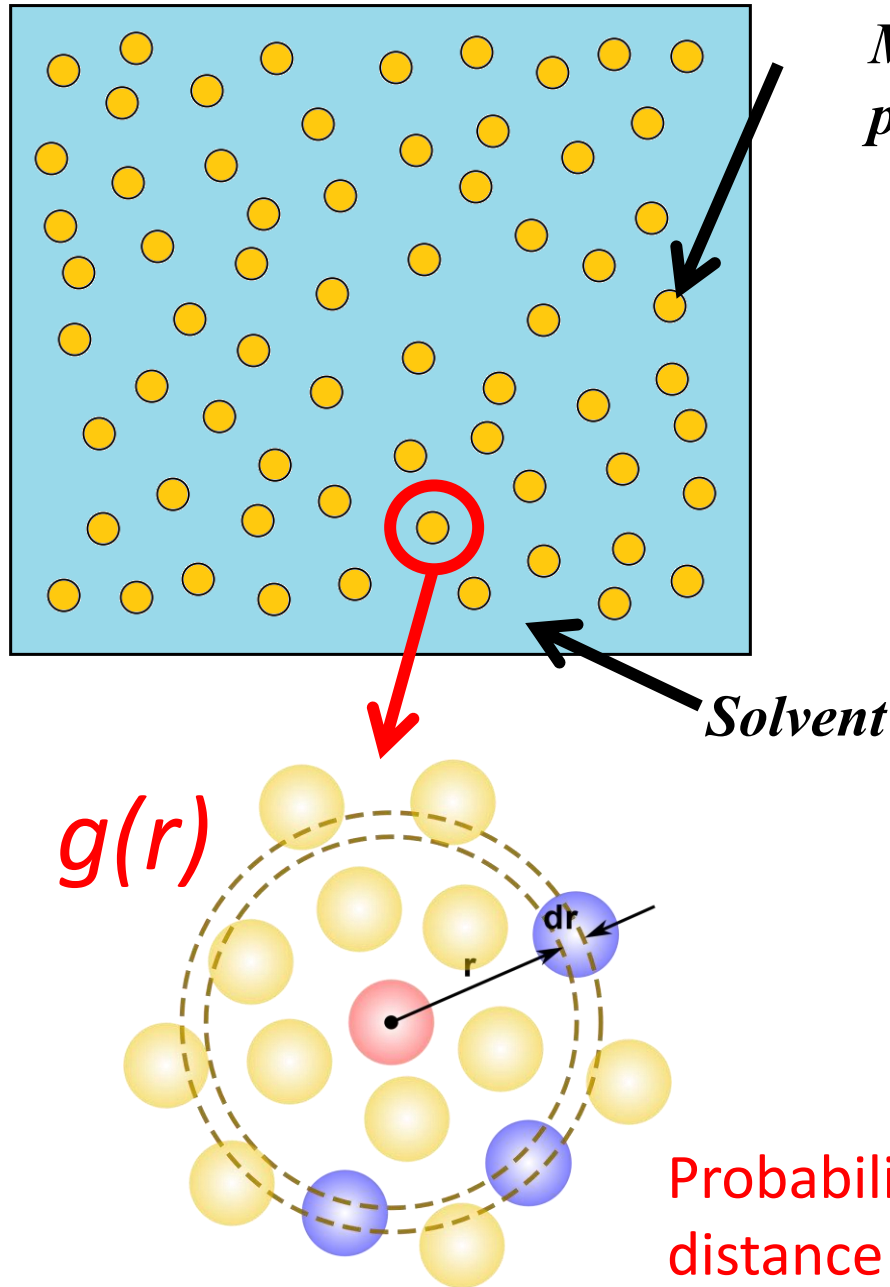
$$g^{\text{out}} = g_0^{\text{out}} + \epsilon g_1^{\text{out}} + \epsilon^2 g_2^{\text{out}} + \dots$$

and then match at the boundary layer $\delta(\epsilon)$

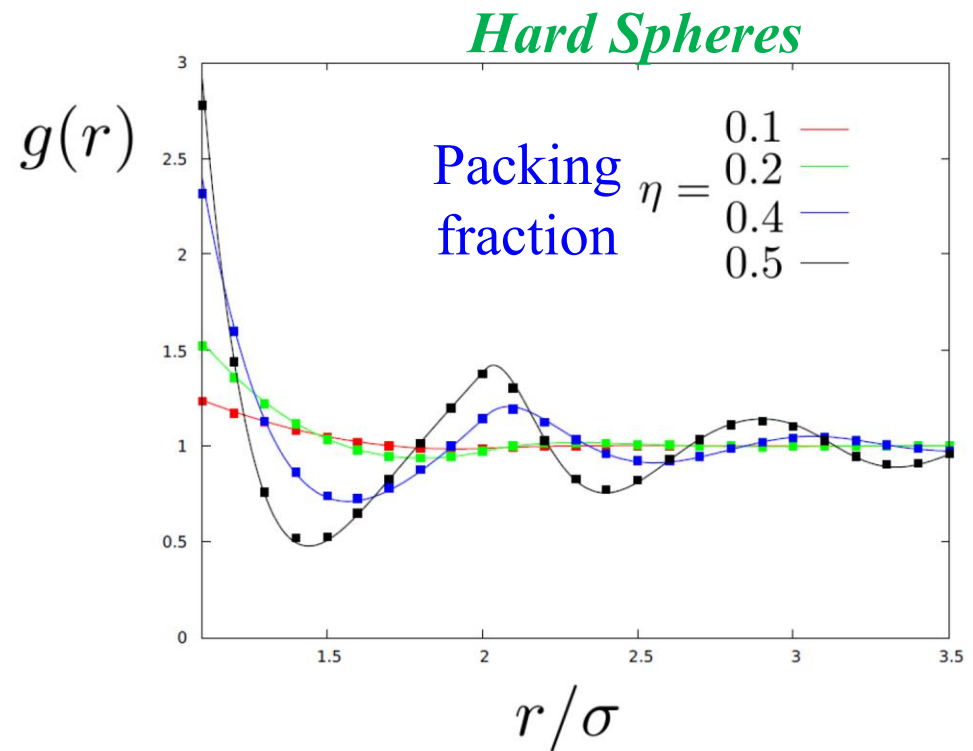


Banetta & Zaccone, PRE 2019

Molecules in solution and pair-correlation function



*Molecules and/or nanoparticles,
perform **BROWNIAN MOTION***



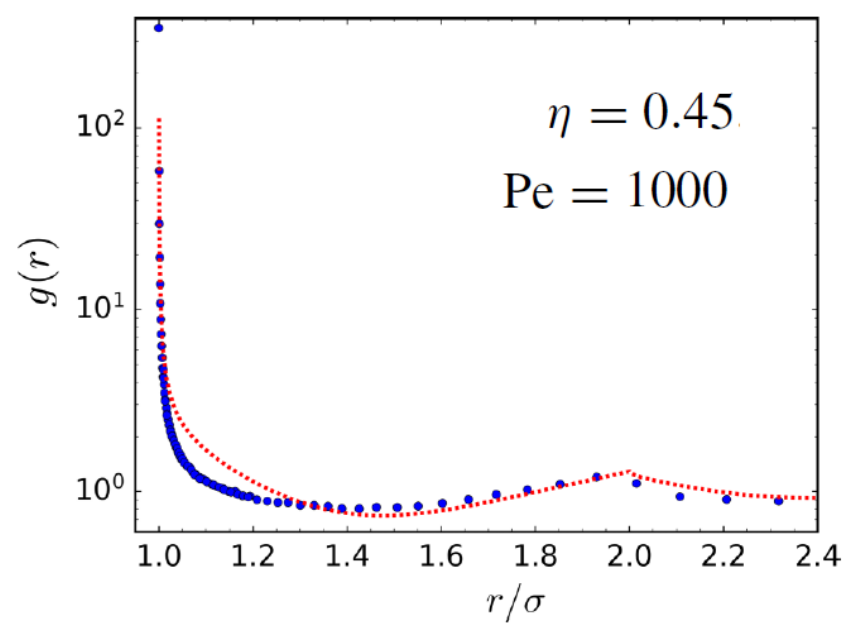
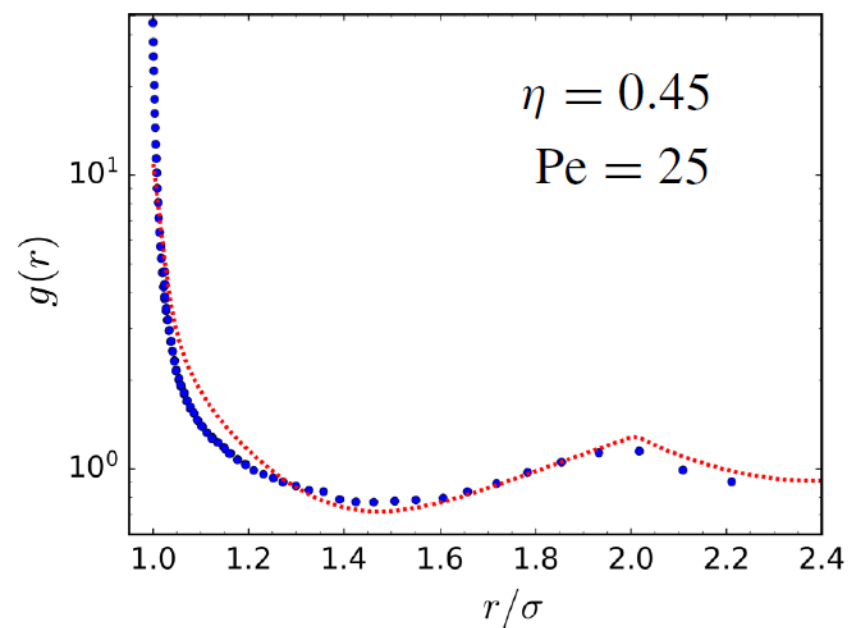
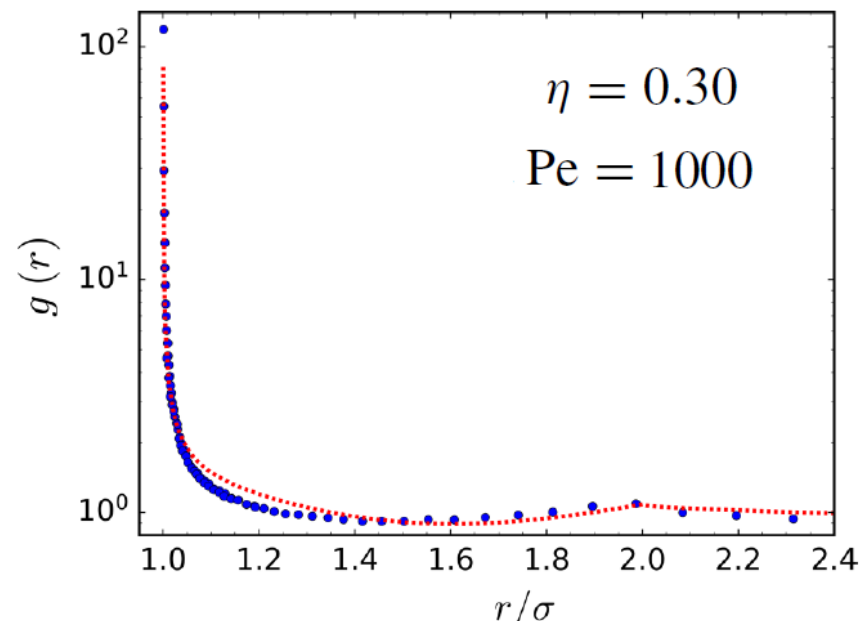
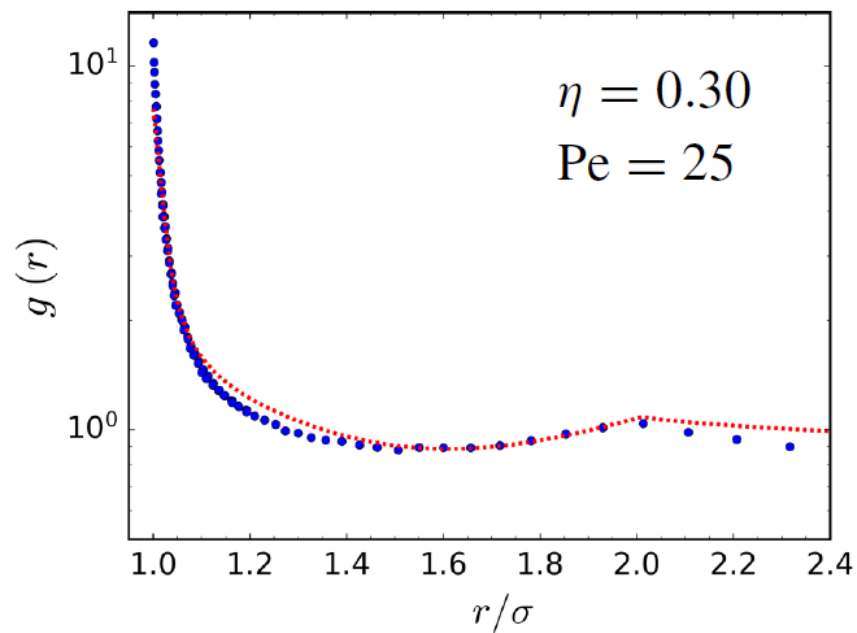
Probability of finding other particles at
distance r from a test particle

Validation

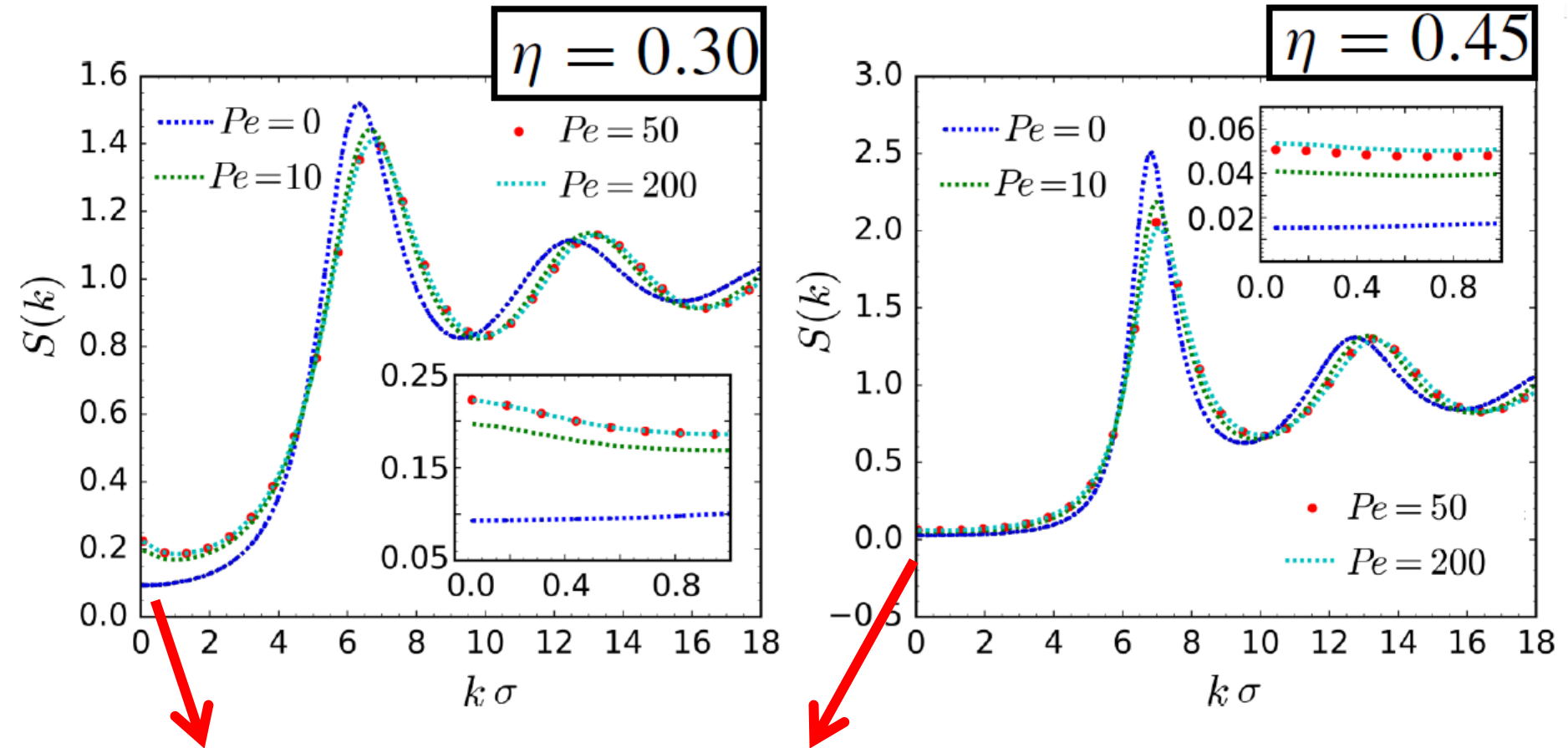
..... Our theory



Stokesian Dynamics Simulations
(Morris and Katyal,
Phys. Fluids 14, 1920 (2002))



Divergence of the Structure Factor at $k \rightarrow 0$



Shear-induced uniform $\rightarrow$ non uniform transition (Brazovskii)?

The structure factor $S(k)$ can be measured experimentally!

Conclusions – pair correlation function in shear

Novel theoretical framework for the microscopic structure of molecules in liquids under shear flow, by **fully** taking into account the ***boundary layer-structure*** of convective diffusion and HIs.

Agreement with numerical results from literature ***with no fitting parameters***. Investigation of the value ***at contact*** of the pair correlation function

Possible divergence of the **structure factor** $S(k)$ at $k \rightarrow 0$ by increasing the Peclet number:

Evidence of a shear-induced ***uniform->non uniform*** phase transition?

The theory can be extended to **any** pair potential!

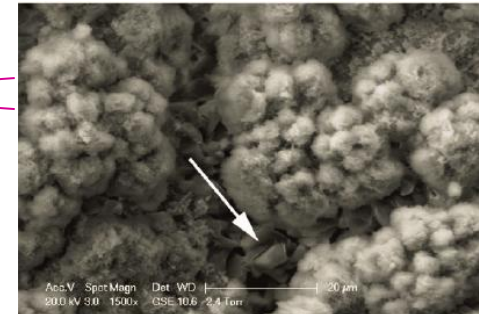
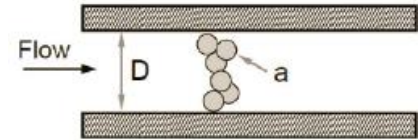
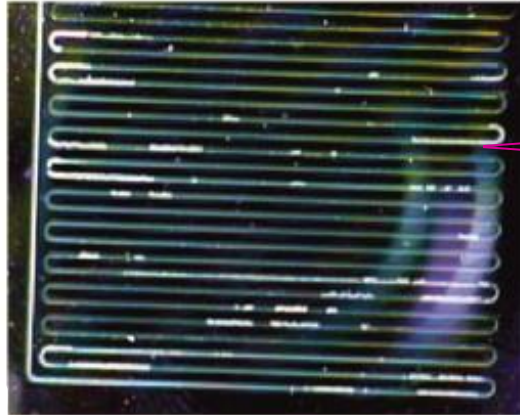
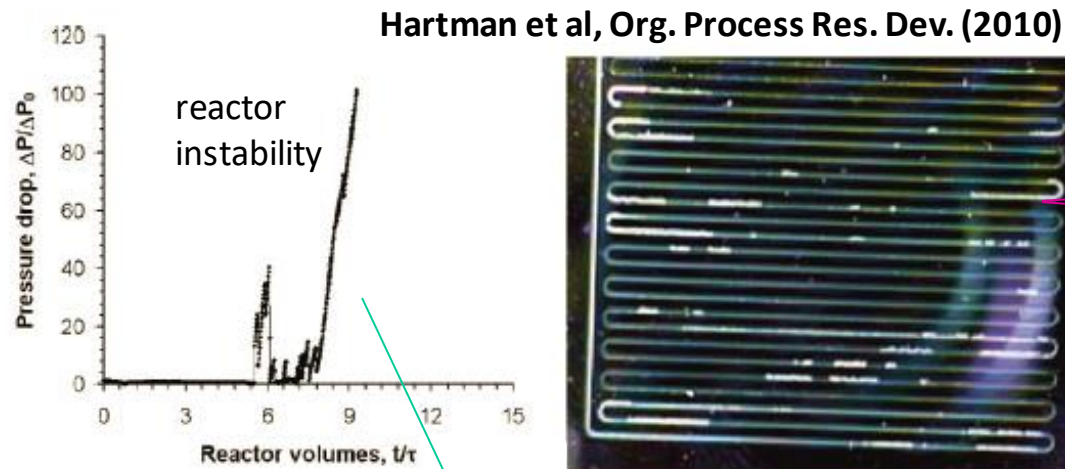
Part 2 –

**Self-assembly of charge-stabilized
colloids in shear flows**

Uncontrolled self-assembly of nanoparticles in microfluidic reactors

E.g., uncontrolled crystallization

E.g., Pd-catalyzed C-N reactions in microreactors

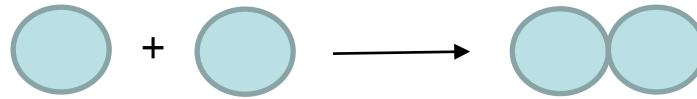


aggregation of by-product salt NPs

How can we understand and control the “runaway” of pressure drop/viscosity with time?

Brief reminder: Brownian aggregation (no flow)

Diffusion-limited **coagulation rate**



$$k_s = \frac{8}{3} \frac{kT}{\eta}$$

viscosity



Two Brownian particles stick upon contact
(due to mutual attraction):
independent of particles size because of mutual cancellation
of size-dependencies due to cross-section and diffusion

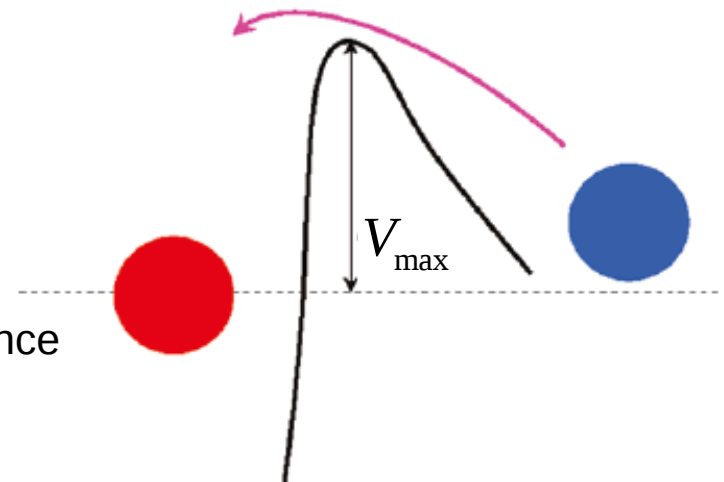
With charge-repulsion:

$$k_{agg} = \frac{k_s}{W} < k_s$$

aggregation rate is slower due to the repulsive barrier

$$W = \frac{k_s}{k_{agg}} = 2R \int_0^\infty \frac{\exp(\beta V_{tot})}{(2a + h)^2 G(h)} dh$$

colloidal (Fuchs) stability coefficient, $W > 1$ in presence
of an energy barrier



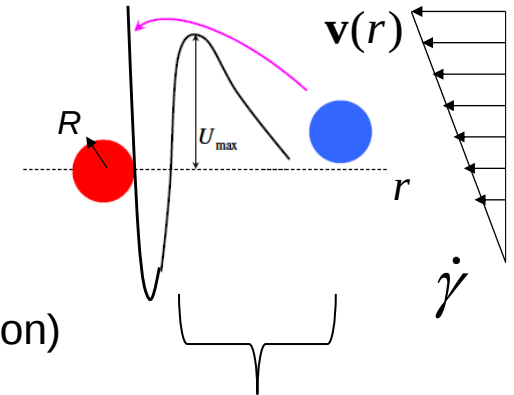
Analytically solving the Smoluchowski eq. with shear flow

$$\frac{\partial g(\mathbf{r})}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot (D \nabla g(\mathbf{r}) + b g(\mathbf{r}) \nabla V - b \mathbf{v} g(\mathbf{r}))$$

diffusion

interaction potential
e.g. **DLVO**

flow field
(convection)



λ =interaction range

approximate analytical solution (singular perturbation):

Zaccone, Wu, Gentili, Morbidelli, PRE (2009)

From taking the flux of the concentration field, we get to the aggregation rate

$$k_{agg} = \frac{8\pi D_0 R \rho_0}{2 \int_0^{\delta/R} \frac{dx}{G(x)(x+2)^2} \exp \int_{\delta/R}^x dx \left(\beta \frac{dV}{dx} + Pe \tilde{v}_r \right)}$$

$$\delta = \sqrt{(\lambda/a)/Pe} \quad \text{boundary-layer width}$$

Rate of thermally-activated barrier crossing in shear flow

$$\text{div} \cdot [\beta D(-\nabla U + b\mathbf{v}) - D\nabla]g(\mathbf{r}) = 0$$

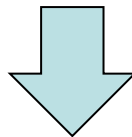
By taking the flux integral over the current $\mathbf{J}$, we obtain
The rate of particles that collide with the target particle by overcoming the potential barrier

$$k_{agg} = \frac{8\pi D_0 R \rho_0}{2 \int_0^{\delta/R} \frac{dx}{G(x)(x+2)^2} \exp \int_{\delta/R}^x dx \left(\beta \frac{dV}{dx} + Pe \tilde{v}_r(x) \right)}$$

HIs

HIs

saddle-point approximation



$\rho g(\mathbf{r}) =$ concentration profile around the target particle

$$k_{agg} \approx 8\pi D_0 a c_0 \sqrt{\alpha Pe - \beta U_m''} e^{\beta U_m - 2\alpha Pe}$$

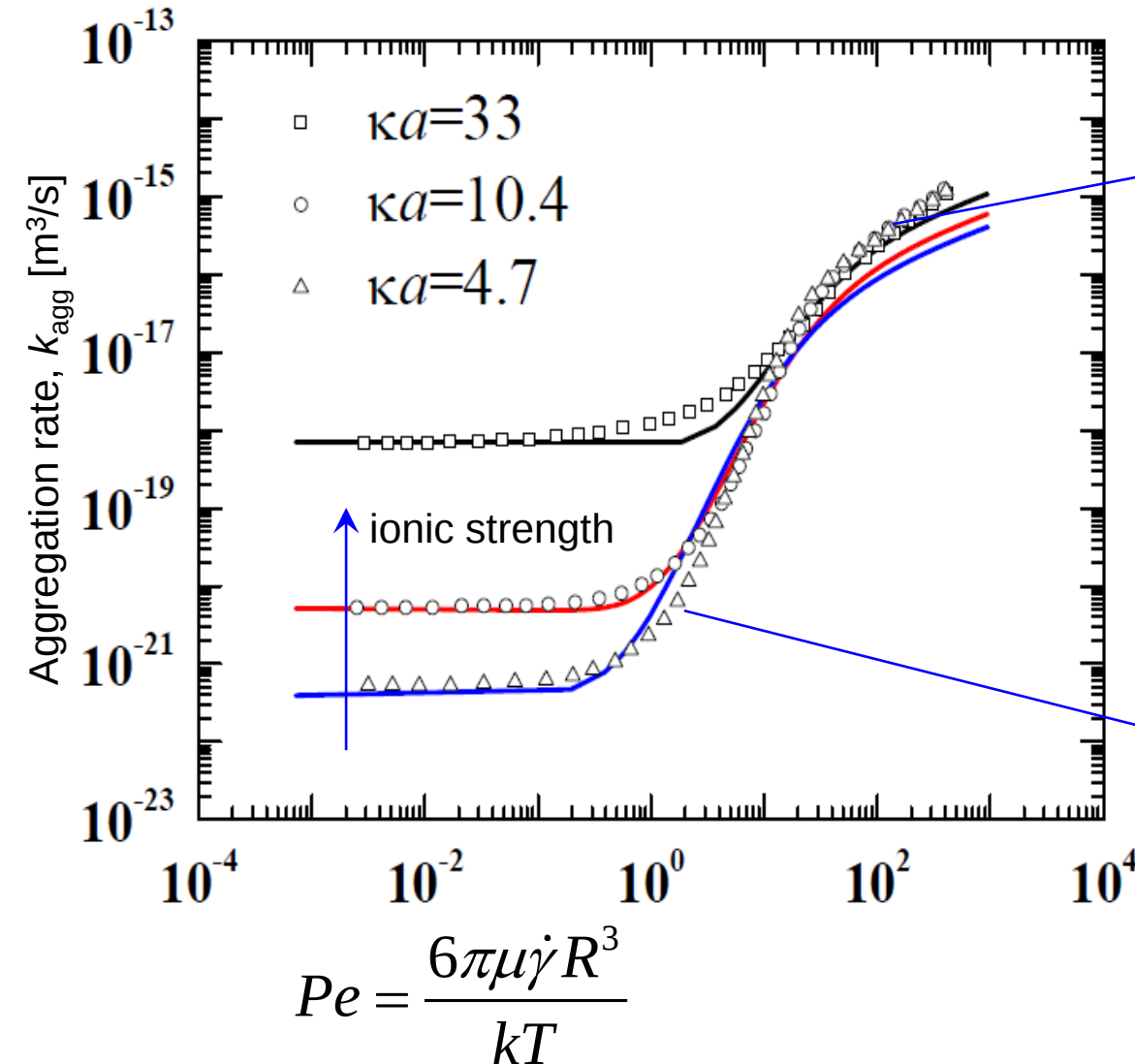
(Kramers' rate with shear)

Zaccone, Wu, Gentili, Morbidelli, PRE (2009)

Comparison with full numerical solutions

$$\frac{dC}{dt} = -k_{agg} C^2$$

C = number conc.
of colloids



old ballistic model
by Smoluchowski (1917)

$$k_{agg} \propto \dot{\gamma} (2R)^3 \propto Pe$$

recovered at $Pe = \infty$

$$k_{agg} \propto e^{-\beta U_{\max} + 2\alpha Pe}$$

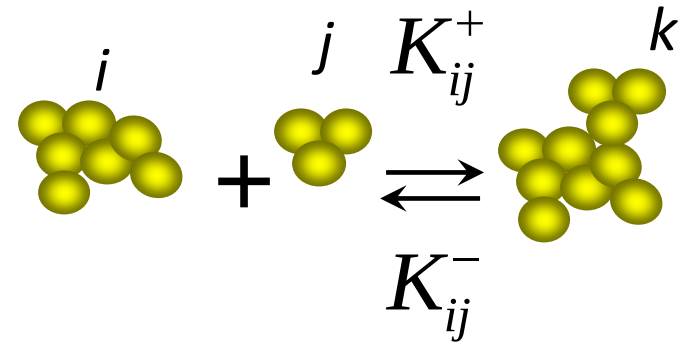
competition
between shear
and charge repulsion

From dimer formation kinetics to large-scale aggregation kinetics

SYSTEMATIC APPROACH: **population balance equation of colloidal clusters (PBE)**

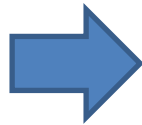
C_k = conc. of clusters containing k particles

$$\frac{dC_k}{dt} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^{i+j=k} K_{ij}^+ C_i C_j - C_k \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} K_{ik}^+ C_i - K_k^- C_k + \sum_{i=k+1}^{\infty} K_{ik}^- C_i$$



K_{ij}^+

aggregation rate



Analytical solution to Smoluchowski eq. with shear (**Zaccone et al. PRE 2009**), can be extended to clusters

K_{ij}^-

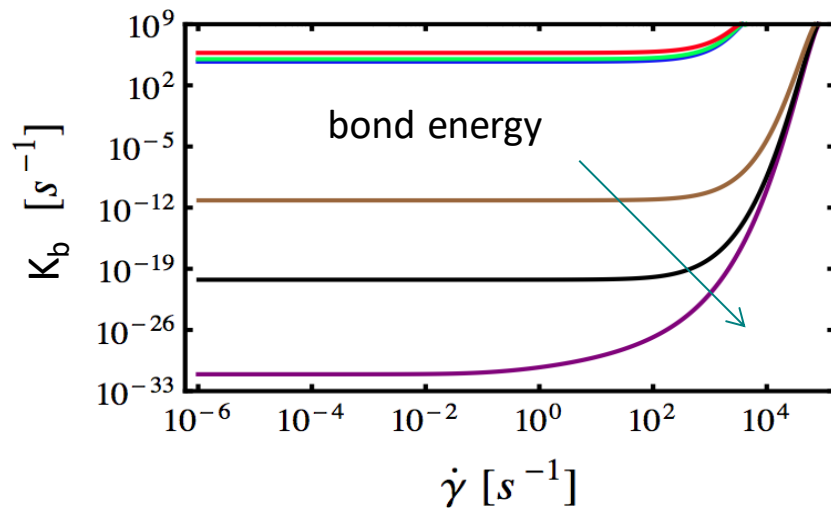
breakup rate



Flow-induced stresses
can tear the clusters apart!

Nanoparticles aggregate breakup rate

Conchuir & Zaccone PRE 2013



$$K_b = \frac{\sqrt{-\tilde{V}_{\text{eff}}''(r_{\text{max}})\tilde{V}_{\text{eff}}''(r_{\text{min}})}}{2\pi b \exp[\underbrace{\beta\tilde{V}_{\text{eff}}(r_{\text{max}}) - \beta\tilde{V}_{\text{eff}}(r_{\text{min}})}_{=0}]}$$

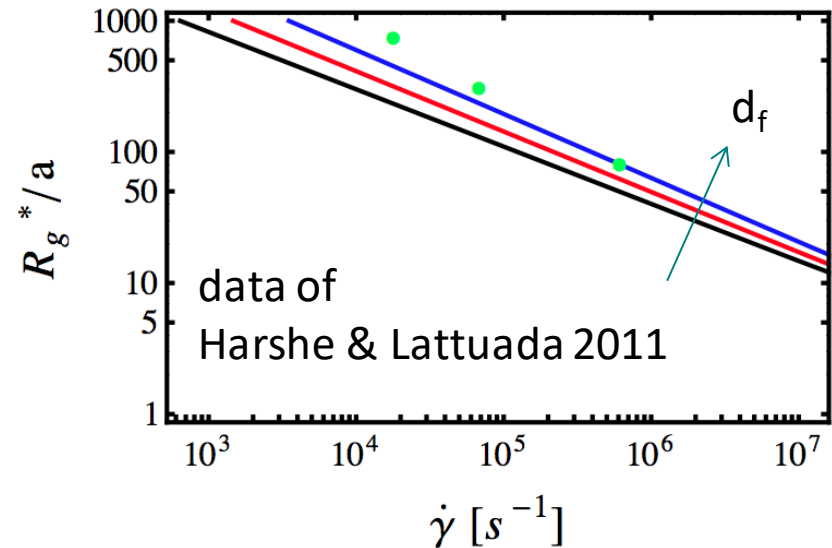
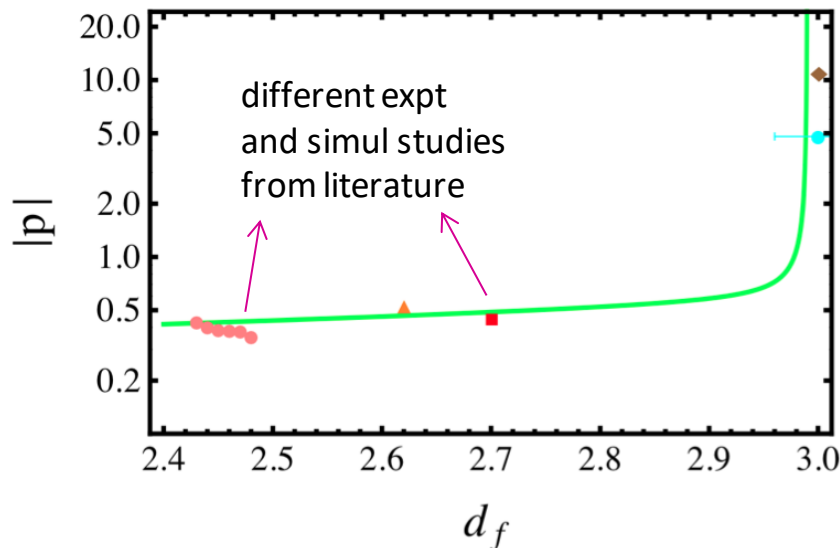
=0

instantaneous breakup
(no activation energy)

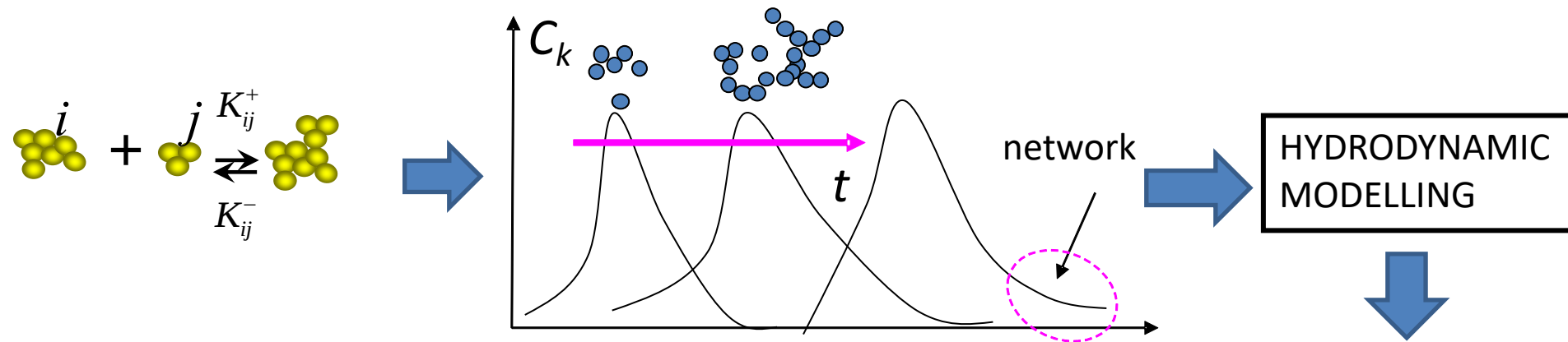


max cluster size surviving flow-stress $R_g^* \sim \dot{\gamma}^{-\frac{1}{d_f + \alpha(d_f)}} \sim \dot{\gamma}^p$

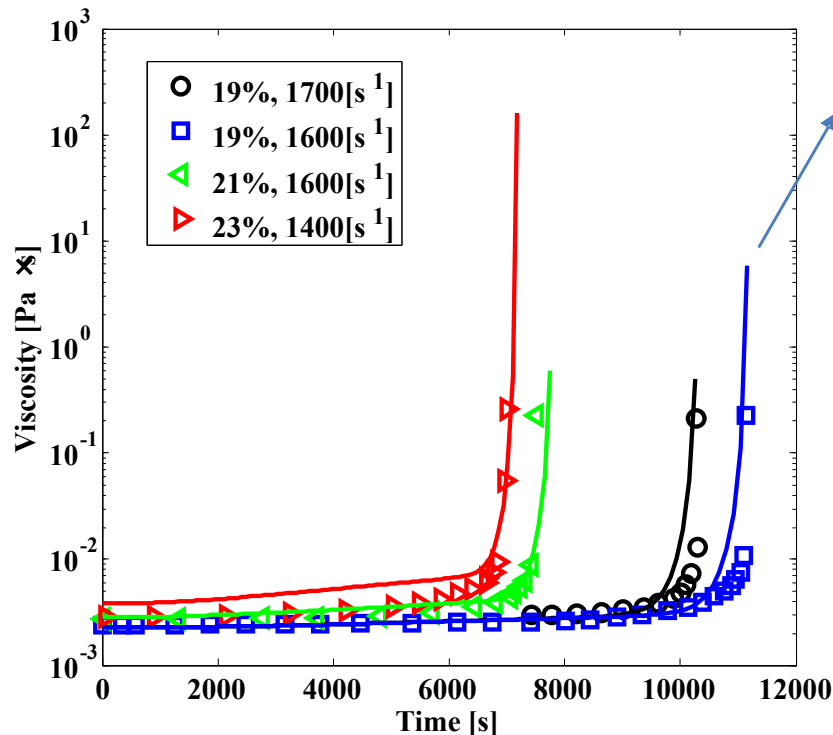
no fitting parameters!



Modelling of coagulation/clogging phenomena



Quantitative description of the clogging instability:



quantitative prediction:
flow-induced aggregation
of NPs

- AZ et al. PRL (2011), AZ et al. JCP (2010)
- Conchuir & AZ PRE (2013)
- Moussa, Lattuada, Conchuir, AZ, et al. Langmuir (2013)

Overview – shear aggregation

- **Aggregation of NPs in shear flows:** there is a crucial interplay between colloidal interactions, Brownian motion and flow convection which can be disentangled using an approximate solution to the governing Smoluchowski eq. with shear (**Zaccone, Wu et al. PRE 2009**).

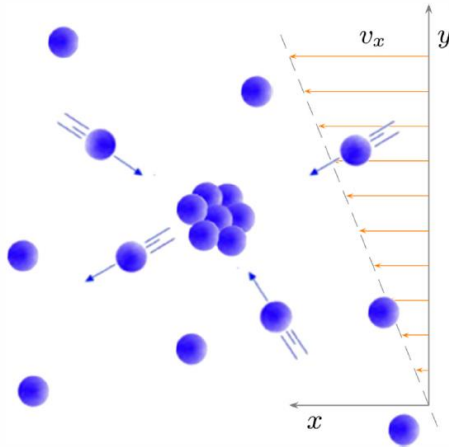
The resulting aggregation rate is the starting point to the numerical description of clustering phenomena and gelation, in agreement with experiments. The theory also provides an extension to Kramers' rate theory under shear flow and with HI at the two-body level.

- The Smoluchowski eq. with shear also governs shear-induced **aggregate breakup**, with an important role of hydrodynamic interactions mediated by the fractal structure. Analytical expressions for the fragmentation rate are possible also in this case leading to power-law dependencies (**Conchuir & Zaccone PRE 2009**).

The framework is directly applicable also to colloidal gels under shear.

Part 3 – Theory of crystal nucleation in shear flows

Kinetic equations for nucleus growth



$$\frac{\partial Z(n,t)}{\partial t} = -Z(n,t)[q_+(n) + q_-(n)] + Z(n-1,t)q_+(n-1) + Z(n+1,t)q_-(n+1). \quad (1)$$

$$b(n)q_+(n) = b(n+1)q_-(n+1),$$

$$b(n-1)q_+(n-1) = b(n)q_-(n).$$

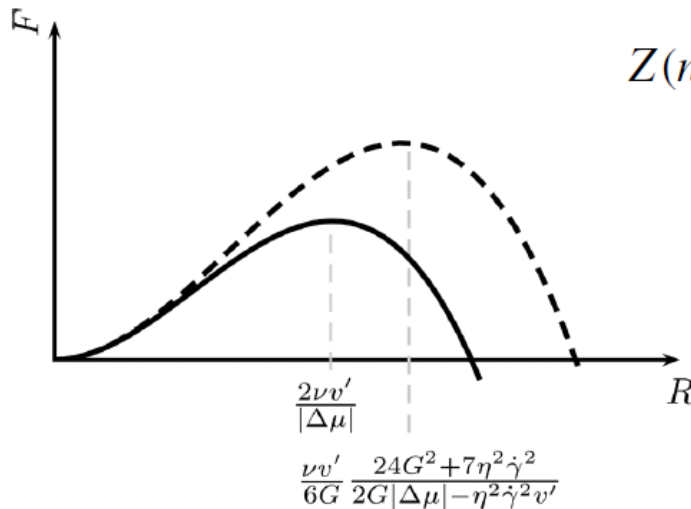
**chemical
equilibrium**

Frenkel-Zeldovich

$$\frac{\partial Z}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial R} \left[\lambda^2 q b \frac{\partial}{\partial R} \left(\frac{Z}{b} \right) \right] = \frac{\partial}{\partial R} \left[D b \frac{\partial}{\partial R} \left(\frac{Z}{b} \right) \right]$$

only 1-particle
detach/attach
events

$$Z(n) = \lambda Z(R), \quad Z(n+1) = \lambda Z(R + \lambda)$$



$$b(R) \propto \exp[-F(R)/k_B T] \quad \text{Boltzmann}$$

Nucleation rate in shear flow

$$J = -D e^{-\frac{F(R)}{k_B T}} \frac{\partial}{\partial R} \left(Z e^{\frac{F(R)}{k_B T}} \right),$$

$$K_N \equiv \frac{J}{N_{\text{tot}}} \quad \text{at steady-state, } J = \text{const}$$

$$K_N = \frac{D(R^*)}{\pi k_B T} \sqrt{-F''(R^*) F''(R_0)} e^{-\frac{F(R^*)}{k_B T}}$$

$$= \underbrace{\left(8\nu + \frac{7\dot{\gamma}^2 \eta^2 \nu}{3G^2} \right) D(R^*)}_{k_B T} e^{-\frac{F(R^*)}{k_B T}},$$

free energy barrier
for nucleus growth
under shear flow

$$K_N^0 = \frac{\left(8\nu + \frac{7\dot{\gamma}^2 \eta^2 \nu}{3G^2} \right) 4a^2 \pi (R^* + a) (D_a + D_{R^*}) c_0}{k_B T \int_0^{\frac{\delta}{(R+a)}} \frac{dx}{(x+1)^2} \exp \left[\int_{\frac{\delta}{(R+a)}}^x dx \left(\frac{dU}{dx} - 4\text{Pe} \tilde{v}_{r,\text{eff}} \right) \right]}$$

rate of attachment
of one particle
to the nucleus

cfr. our previous solution to
the Smoluchowski eq. (Zaccone et al. PRE 2009)

Free energy of nucleus growth in shear

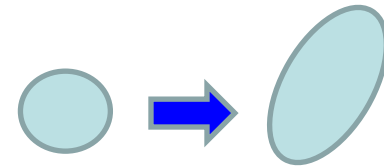
$$F(R) = \underbrace{-\frac{4}{3}\pi R^3 \frac{|\Delta\mu|}{v'}}_{\text{volume term}} + \underbrace{4\pi R^2 \nu}_{\text{surface tension term}}$$

free energy
of classical nucleation

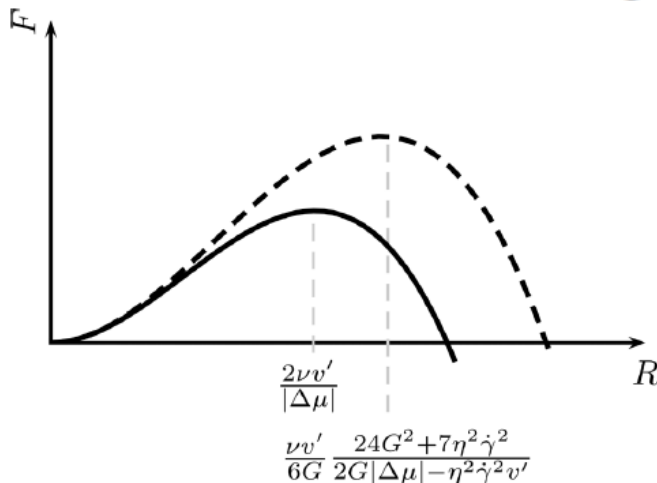
volume term

surface tension term

Under shear flow it gets modified to:

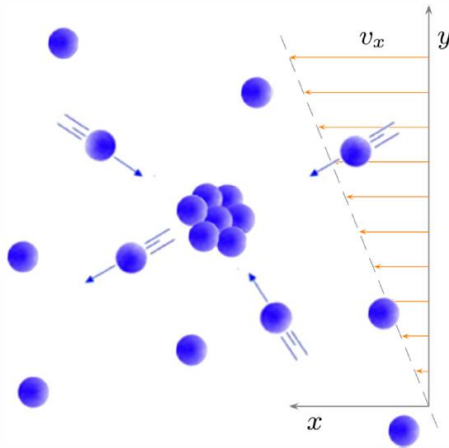


$$F = -\frac{4}{3}\pi R^3 \frac{|\Delta\mu|}{v'} + 4\pi R^2 \nu \left(1 + \frac{7}{24} \frac{\eta^2 \dot{\gamma}^2}{G^2} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\eta^2 \dot{\gamma}^2}{G} \frac{4}{3} \pi R^3,$$



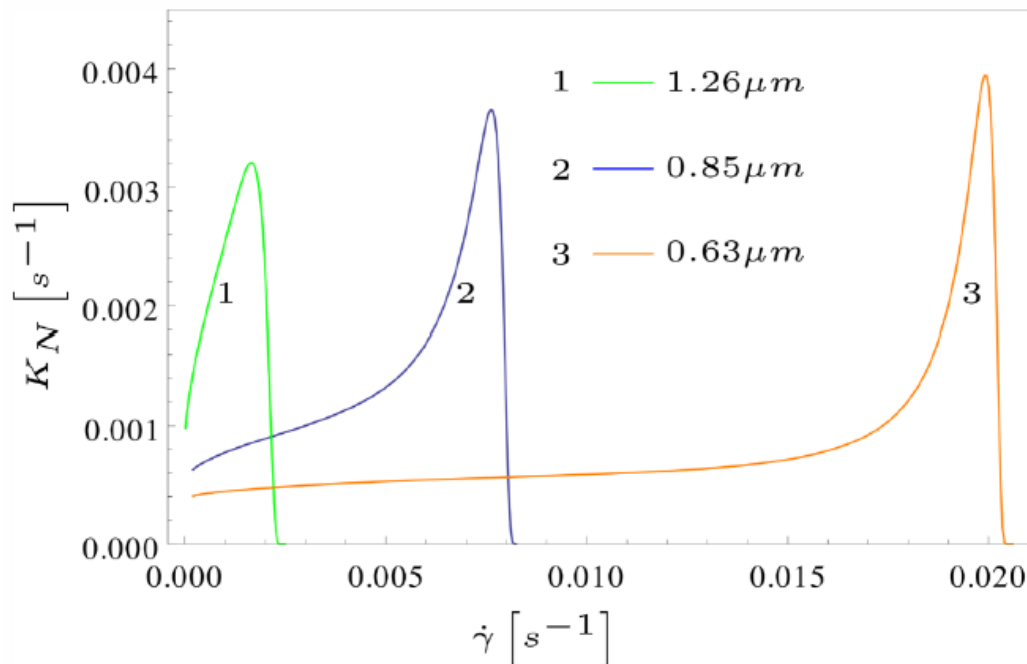
elastic nucleus deformation under
shear flow stress $\frac{F_s}{V} = \frac{1}{2} \sigma_{ik} u_{ik}$

Crystal nucleation in shear flows



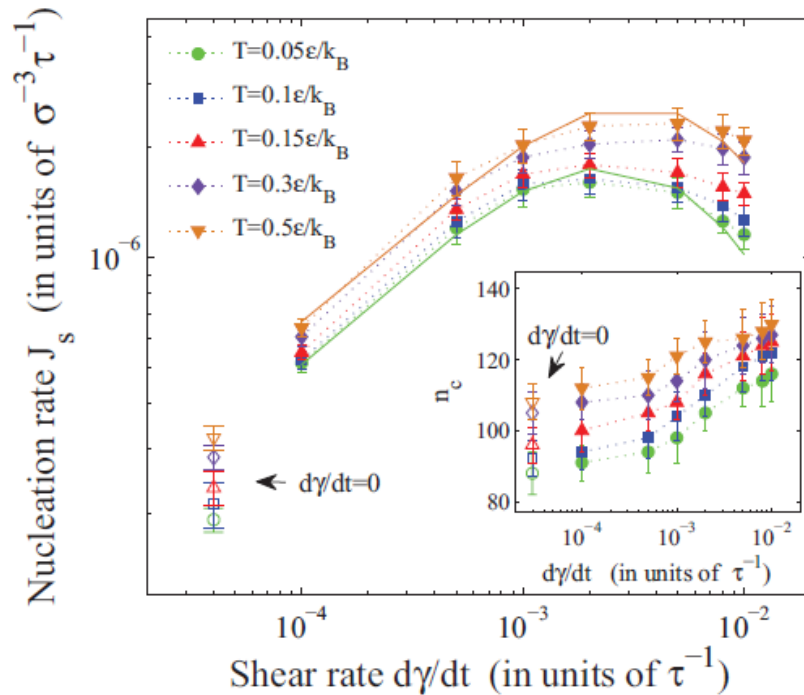
We have extended the Frenkel-Zeldovich formulation of classical nucleation theory to include the effect of shear flow

The prefactor is calculated from an analytical solution to the Smoluchowski convective-diffusion eq. while the energy barrier is calculated accounting for the strain energy

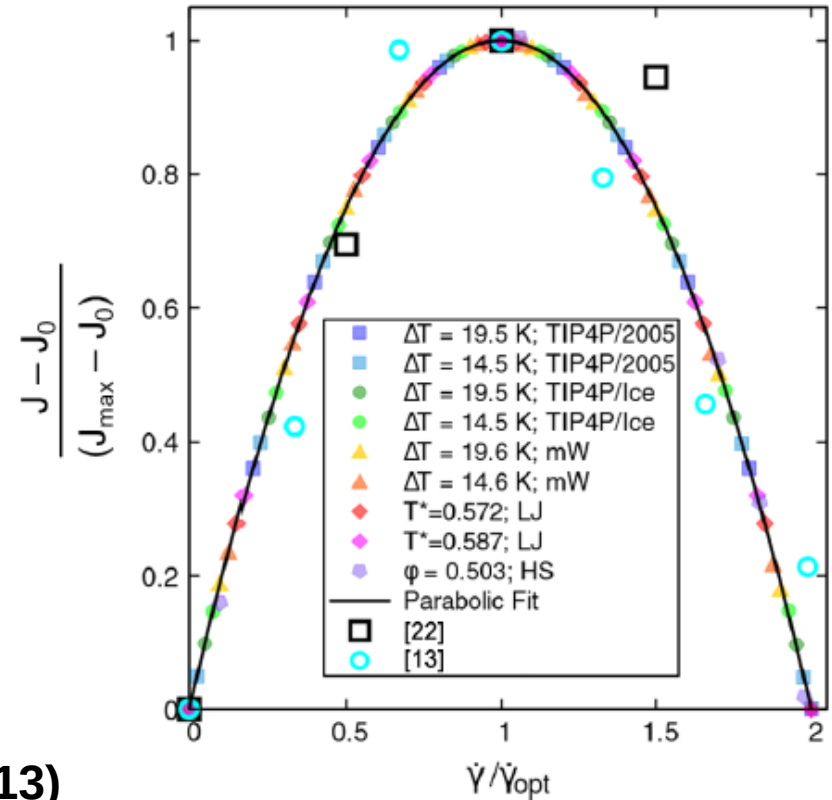


Theory predicts that nucleation rate has a strong maximum as a function of shear rate due to competition between transport and strain energy

Confirmation of the “peak” prediction - simulations data



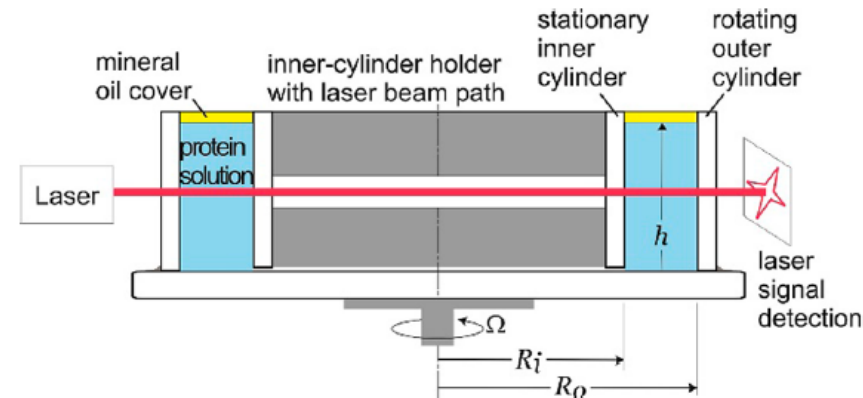
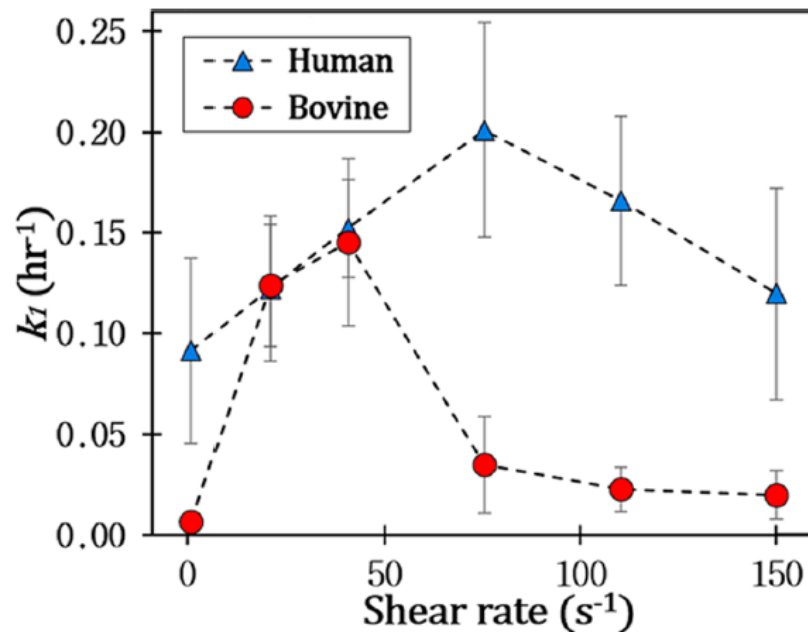
Mokshin, Galimzyanov, Barrat, PRE (2013)



Goswami, Dalal, Singh, PRL (2021)

Confirmation of the universal “peak” prediction - experimental data (1)

Nucleation rate of **insulin** in water solution in rotating Couette device



McBride, Tilger, et al. JPhysChemB (2015)

Confirmation of the universal “peak” prediction - experimental data (2)



Coll. with the Scheid Group at ULB, Belgium

pubs.acs.org/crystal

Article

Experimental and Theoretical Investigation of Nonclassical Shear-Induced Nucleation Mechanism for Small Molecule

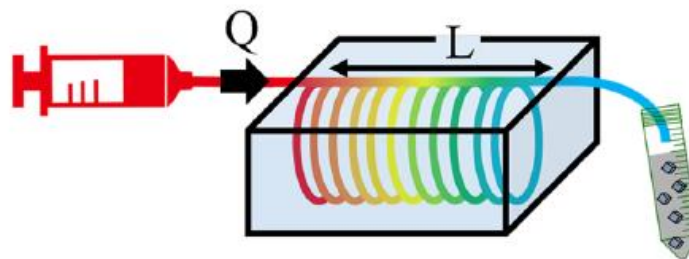
Robin Debuysschère, Bart Rimez, Alessio Zaccone, and Benoit Scheid*



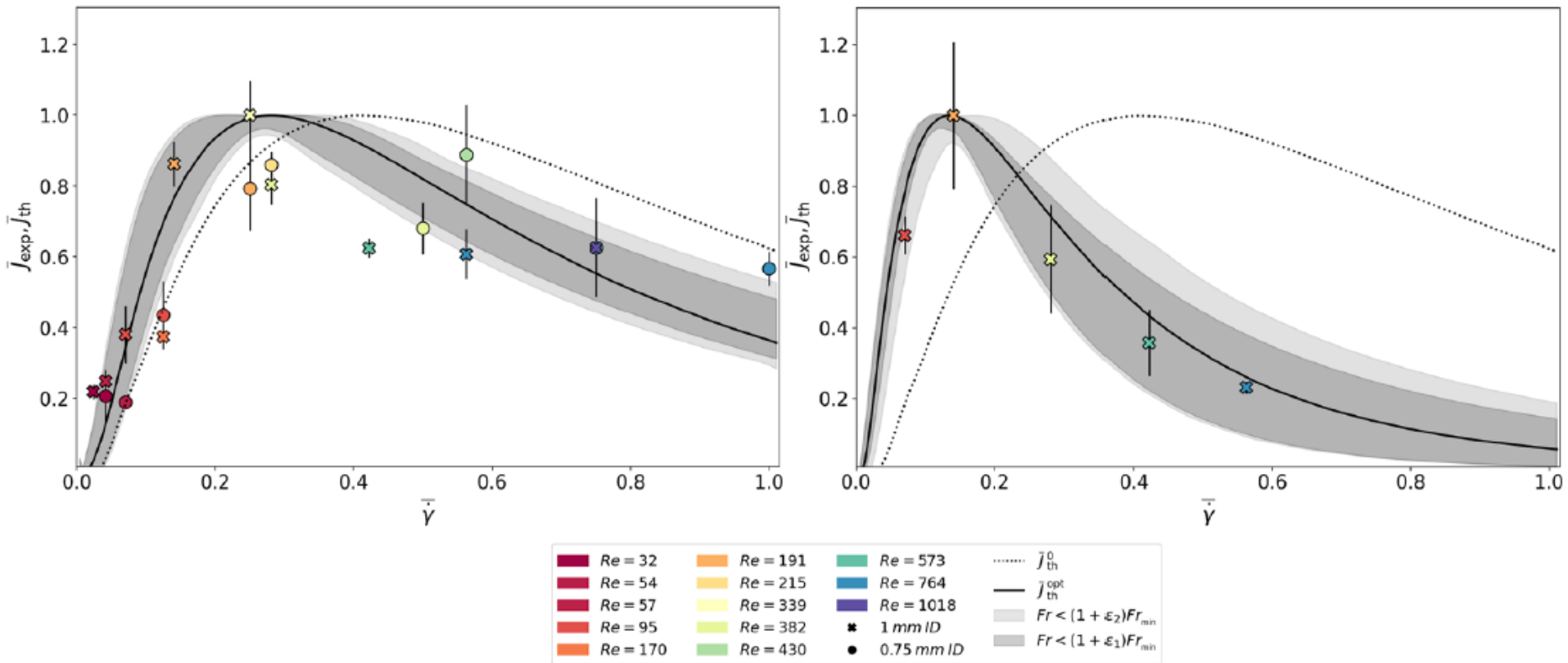
Cite This: *Cryst. Growth Des.* 2023, 23, 4979–4989

Table 1. Experimental Parameters: Flow Rate (Q), and Internal Diameter (ID) and Associated Reynolds Number (Re) and Length (L) of the Microfluidic Tube to Evaluate the Effect of Shear Rate ($\dot{\gamma}$) on the Nucleation Rate

Test	Q [ml/min]	ID [mm]	Re	$\dot{\gamma}$ [s^{-1}]	L [m]
1	1.67	1.0	32.0	284	0.42
2	1.25	0.75	32.0	503	0.56
3	2.96	1.0	57.0	503	0.74
4	5.0	1.0	95.0	849	1.25
5	2.11	0.75	54.0	849	0.94
6	3.75	0.75	95.0	1509	1.67
7	8.89	1.0	170.0	1509	2.22
8	10.0	1.0	191.0	1698	2.5
9	7.5	0.75	191.0	3018	3.33
10	17.78	1.0	339.0	3018	4.44
11	20.0	1.0	382.0	3395	5.0
12	8.44	0.75	215.0	3395	3.75
13	30.0	1.0	573.0	5093	7.5
14	15.0	0.75	382.0	6036	6.67
15	40.0	1.0	764.0	6791	10.0
16	16.88	0.75	430.0	6791	7.5
17	22.5	0.75	573.0	9054	10.0
18	53.33	1.0	1018.0	9054	13.33
19	30.0	0.75	764.0	12072	13.33



Confirmation of the universal “peak” prediction - experimental data (2)



- Non-classical mechanism: intermediary amorphous structures are formed first, which are sensitive to the shear flow as described by the theory
- Sensitivity analysis was performed on the physical quantities that could not be measured $\rightarrow$ interval of confidence in the comparison with theory

Conclusions – nucleation in shear



**TAKE-HOME MESSAGE: CRYSTAL NUCLEATION THEORY
HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO SYSTEMS UNDER SHEAR FLOW**

**THERE IS A COMPETITION BETWEEN SHEAR-ENHANCEMENT
OF THE ATTACHMENT RATE OF A MOLECULE TO THE NUCLEUS
AND THE MECHANICAL EFFECT OF SHEAR RISING THE ENERGY
BARRIER FOR NUCLEATION**



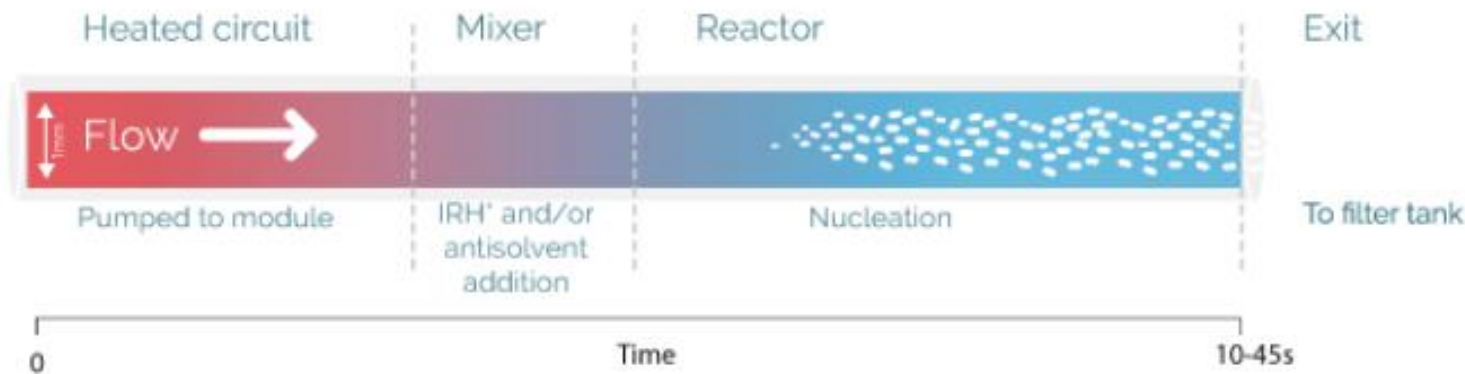
**THIS LEADS TO A MAXIMUM IN THE
NUCLEATION RATE VS THE FLOW RATE**

**FUTURE WORK: STUDY THE MODEL MORE SYSTEMATICALLY FOR
DIFFERENT MOLECULAR SYSTEMS AND FLOW CONDITIONS**

**More details in Mura & Zaccone PRE (2016) – theory
and Debruysschere et al. Cryst. Growth Design (2023) – expt validation**

NB: for polymers situation slightly different, theories by Graham & Olmsted

From theoretical physics to real-world technological impact: flow-reactors (1)



*Internal Resistive Hydrodynamics

Secoya
FLUIDIFY PHARMA

Industrial customers:
Bayer, Pzitzer, among others



Industrial crystallization equipment: the SCT-ICE

From theoretical physics to technological impact: nuclear reactor waste (2)

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF
Applied Glass SCIENCE

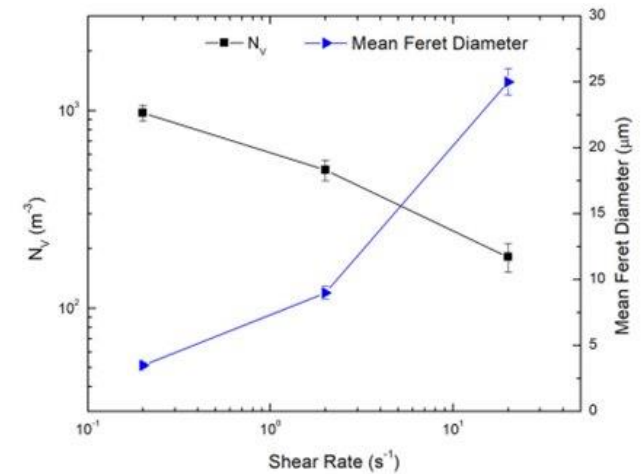
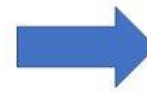
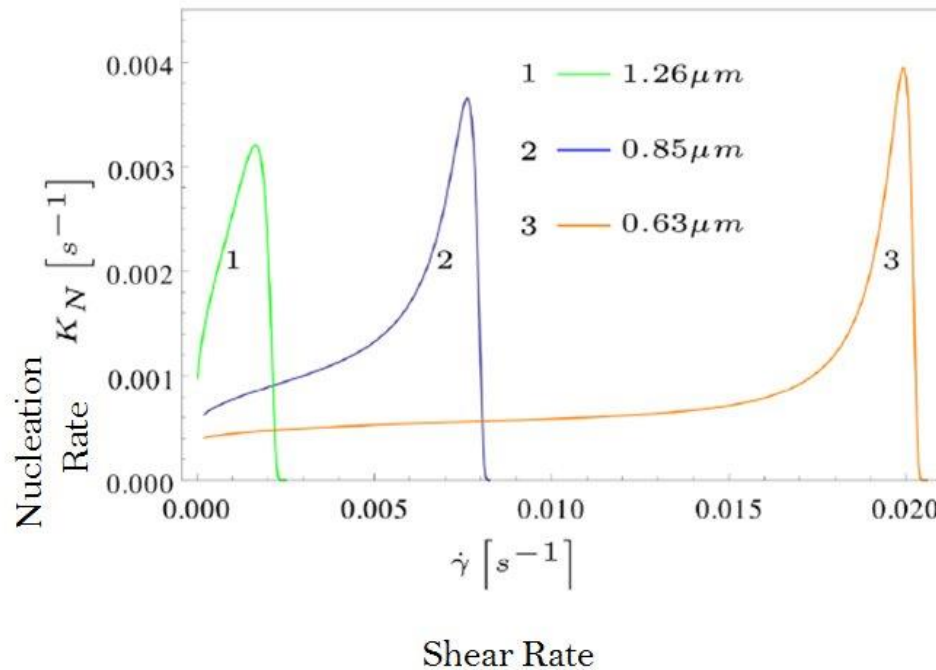


Precipitation of cerianite crystals and its effect on the rheology of a simplified nuclear glass melt

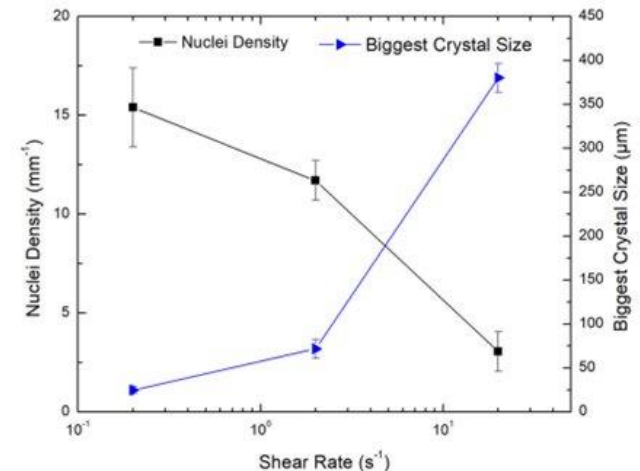
Jeanini Jiusti ✉ Elise Regnier ✉ Norma Maria Machado, Mohamed Leith Ghazzai, Vincent Malivert, Muriel Neyret, François Faure

nuclear waste melt crystallization enhanced by shear flow:
since the atomic packing density is larger in the crystal than in the glass, this allows for a higher nuclear waste storage density

FEDERICA MURA AND ALESSIO ZACCONI **Phys. Rev. E** 2016



Jiusti et al. **Applied Glass Science** 2023



Future developments: chemically reactive systems

A can convert to B that forms drops (which nucleate),
and viceversa,
droplet material B turns into precursor A inside droplets,
while B is replenished outside (irreversible reactions)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS **130**, 248201 (2023)

Nucleation of Chemically Active Droplets

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$$\tilde{F}(R) \approx -gV + \gamma A + F_{\text{react}}(R)$$

conc. inside drop

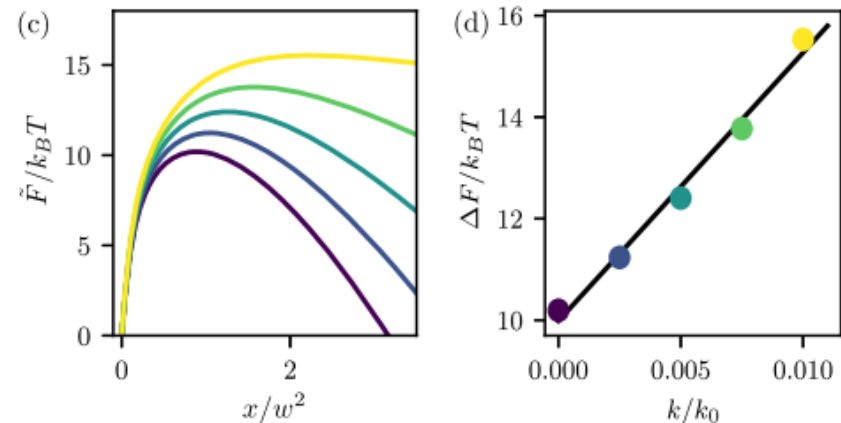
$$F_{\text{react}}(R) \approx \frac{\pi(c_{\text{in}} - c_0)^2}{16\Lambda_d} k R^4$$

diffusive mobility

reaction rate

$$\Delta F \approx \frac{\pi\gamma^2}{g} \left[1 + k \frac{\gamma^2(c_{\text{in}} - c_0)^2}{16g^3\Lambda_d} \right]$$

reaction rate increases
the nucleation barrier



Potential ideas & challenges for future work

1. Investigate shear-induced breakup rate of nuclei
2. Improve determination of surface energy (e.g. atomistic simulations)
3. Exploit chemical reactions to increase the nucleation rate
4. Turbulent conditions?
5.

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(officially started 2023)**



Now out and available!

Lecture Notes in Physics

Alessio Zaccone

Theory of Disordered Solids

From Atomistic Dynamics
to Mechanical, Vibrational, and
Thermal Properties

 Springer

Percus-Yevick theory (1)

$$g(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2) = g(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2) \equiv g(\mathbf{r}_{12}) = g(|\mathbf{r}_{12}|) \equiv g(r_{12}) \equiv g(12)$$

$$h(12) \equiv g(12) - 1$$

$$h(12) = c(12) + \rho \int d^3\mathbf{r}_3 c(13) h(32) \quad \text{or:}$$

$$h(r) = c(r) + \rho \int d\mathbf{r}' c(r') h(|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|) \quad \text{Ornstein-Zernike eq.}$$

which comes from a formal perturbative expansion:

$$h = c + \rho c * c + \rho^2 c * c * c + \dots$$

$$c(r) = -\beta v(r) \quad r \gg \sigma$$

Under extremely dilute conditions $h(r) \simeq c(r)$

Percus-Yevick theory (2)

$$h(r) = -1 \quad r < \sigma$$

hard-core impenetrability
 $h(r) = g(r) - 1$

$$c(r) = 0 \quad r > \sigma$$

for HS there are no direct interactions outside the hard-core contact diameter

Percus-Yevick closure



together with the Ornstein-Zernike equation they form a closed set of relations for the unknown functions $h(r)$ and $g(r)$

Analytically solved by **Wertheim, Phys. Rev. Lett. (1963)** with more details in **Wertheim, J. Math. Phys. (1964)**



$$g(\sigma) = \frac{1 + \frac{\phi}{2}}{(1 - \phi)^2} \quad \text{in } d=3$$

Leutheusser, Physica (1984)

$$g(\sigma^+) = \frac{(1 + 18\eta + 6\eta^2)^{3/2} - 1 + 33\eta + 87\eta^2 + 6\eta^3}{60\eta(1 - \eta)^3} \quad \text{in } d=5$$

Hydrodynamic interactions at the two-particle level (1)

- Lubrication forces (resistance of incompressible solvent being squeezed as two particles approach)

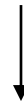
$$G(h) = \frac{6h^2 + 4h}{6h^2 + 13h + 2}$$

interpolation form
of Stimson & Jeffery's 1926
solution to Stokes equation for two spheres

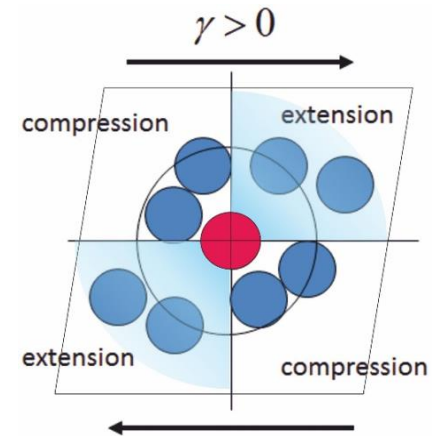
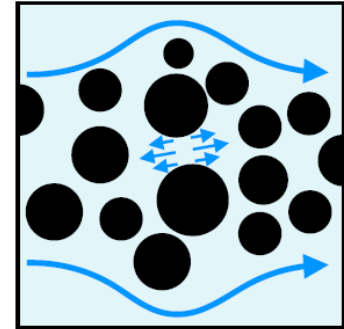
$$D(r) = G(r)D_0$$

- Hydrodynamic interaction due to the mutual relative motion of the two particles

$$\tilde{v}_{r,\text{eff}}(x) \equiv \langle \tilde{v}_r^+(\mathbf{r}) \rangle = - (1/3\pi)(x+2)[1 - A_S(x)],$$

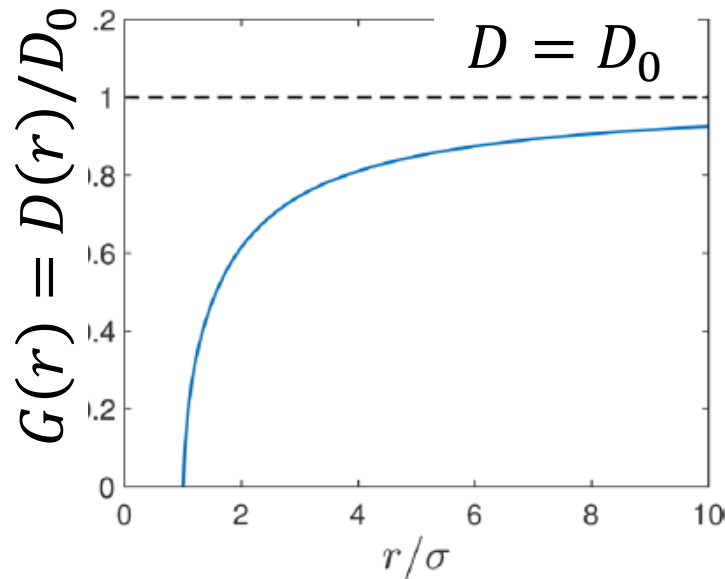


hydrodynamic function
from Batchelor & Green's solution
for HI of two particles in a linear flow field



Hydrodynamic interactions at the two-particle level (2)

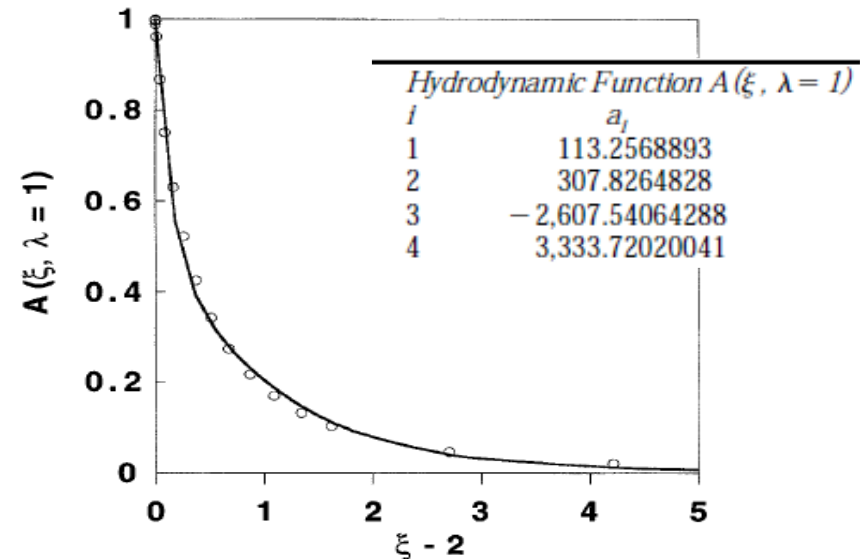
● Lubrication forces



$$G(h) = \frac{6h^2 + 4h}{6h^2 + 13h + 2}$$

$$h = (r - 2a)/2a$$

● Hydrodynamic function



$$A(\xi, \lambda = 1) = \sum_{i=1}^4 \frac{a_i}{\xi^{i+4}};$$

$$\xi = (r - 2a)/2a$$



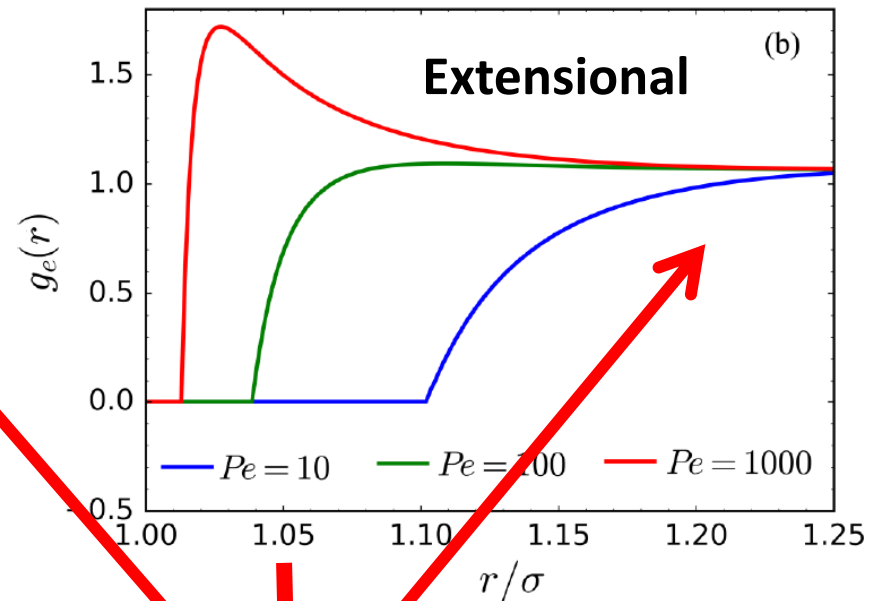
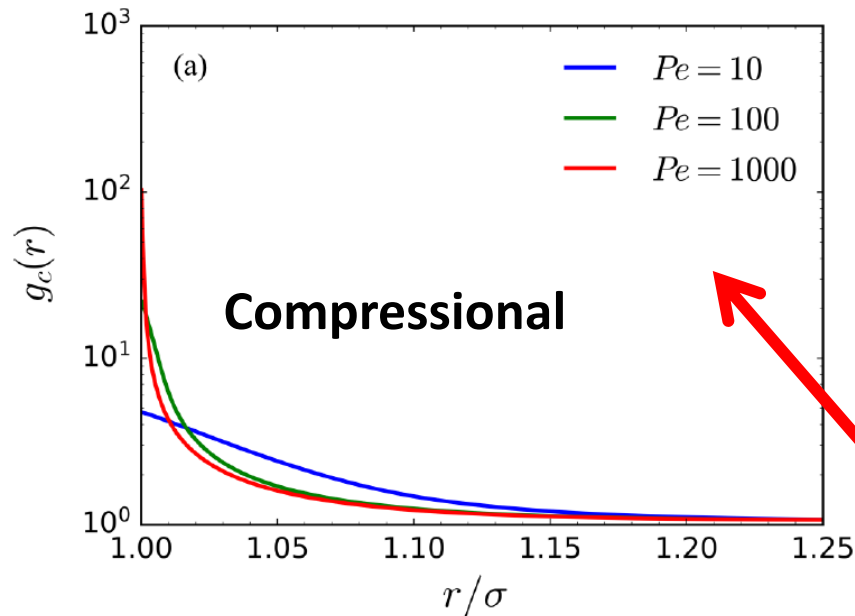
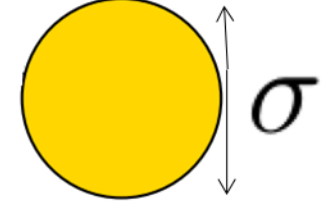
both hydrodynamic effects act as to slow-down the relative particle motion



effective “repulsion”

Hard-spheres

$$\beta u_{\text{HS}}(r) = \begin{cases} \infty & r < \sigma \\ 0 & r \geq \sigma \end{cases}$$



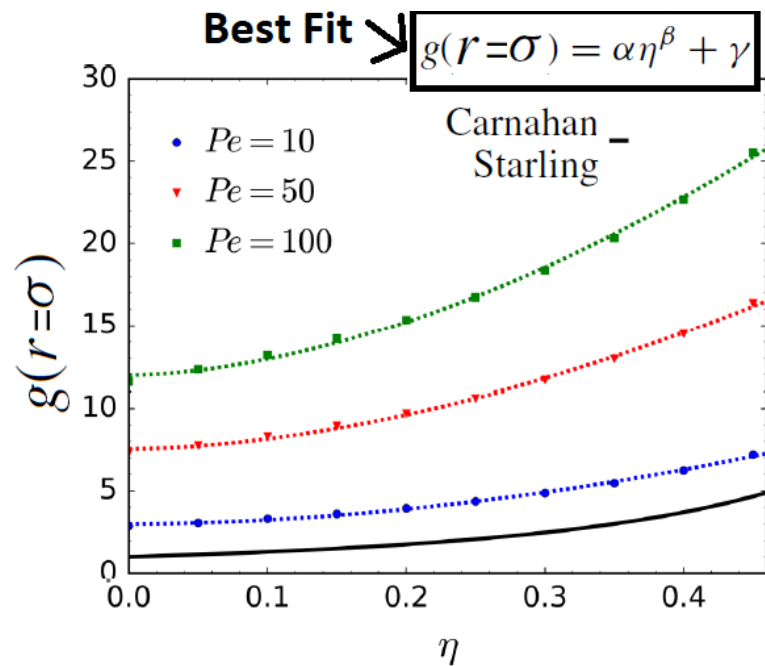
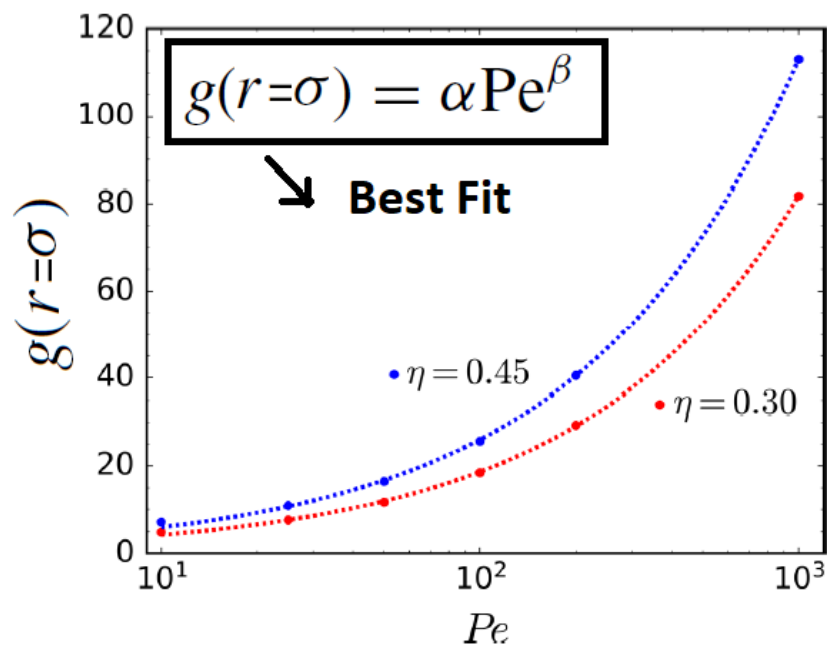
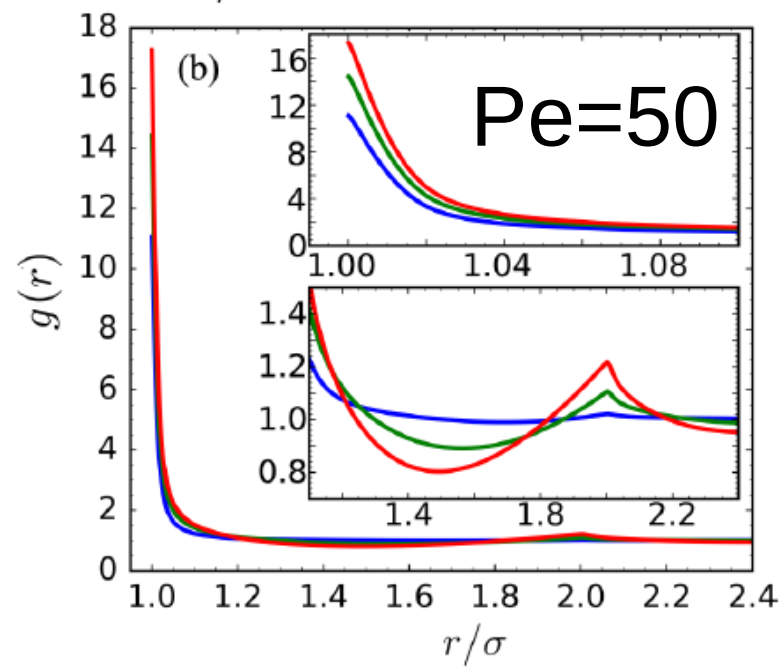
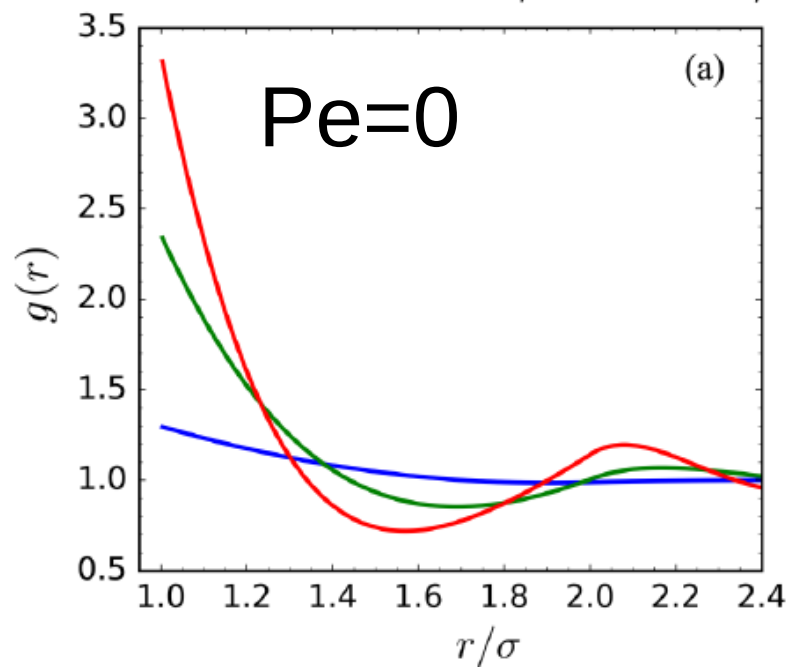
At larger concentrations...

$$\beta u_{\text{eff}}(r, Pe) \equiv \begin{cases} \infty & r < \sigma \\ -\log[g_0(r)] & r \geq \sigma \end{cases}$$

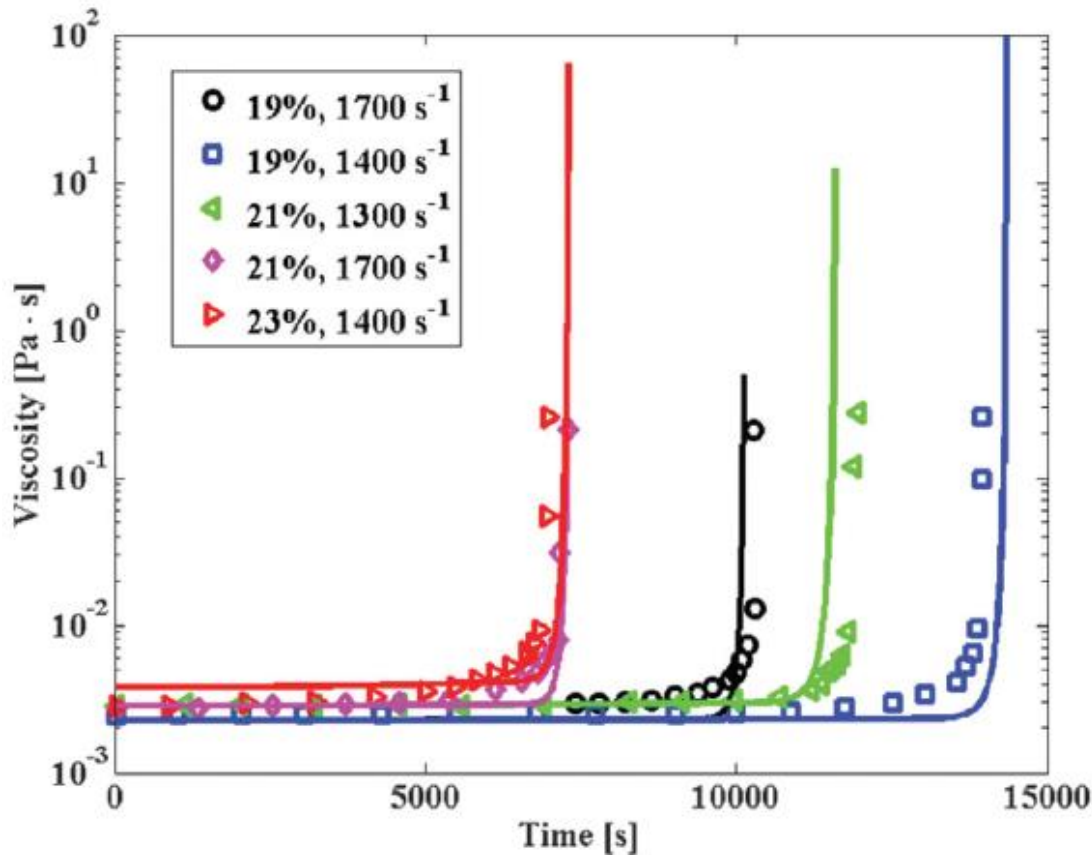
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} h(r) = c(r) + \rho \int_V d\mathbf{r}_3 c(|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_3|) h(|\mathbf{r}_3 - \mathbf{r}_2|) \quad \text{ORNSTEIN-ZERNIKE} \\ c(r) = g(r) - g(r)e^{\beta u(r)} \quad \text{PERCUS-YEVICK} \end{array} \right.$$

$g(r)$ at contact

— $\eta=0.1$ — $\eta=0.3$ — $\eta=0.4$



Comparison with experimental data (1)



Initial conditions:
Polystyrene colloids
(monodisperse)
 $R=60 \text{ nm}$
 $\phi = 0.21$
charge-stabilized, $V_{\text{max}} \sim 60 \text{ kT}$
Ionic strength: 17 mM of NaCl
Device: Couette-geometry
rheometer,
 $\dot{\gamma} = 1700 \text{ s}^{-1}$

Expt. data from
Zaccone et al. PRL 2011

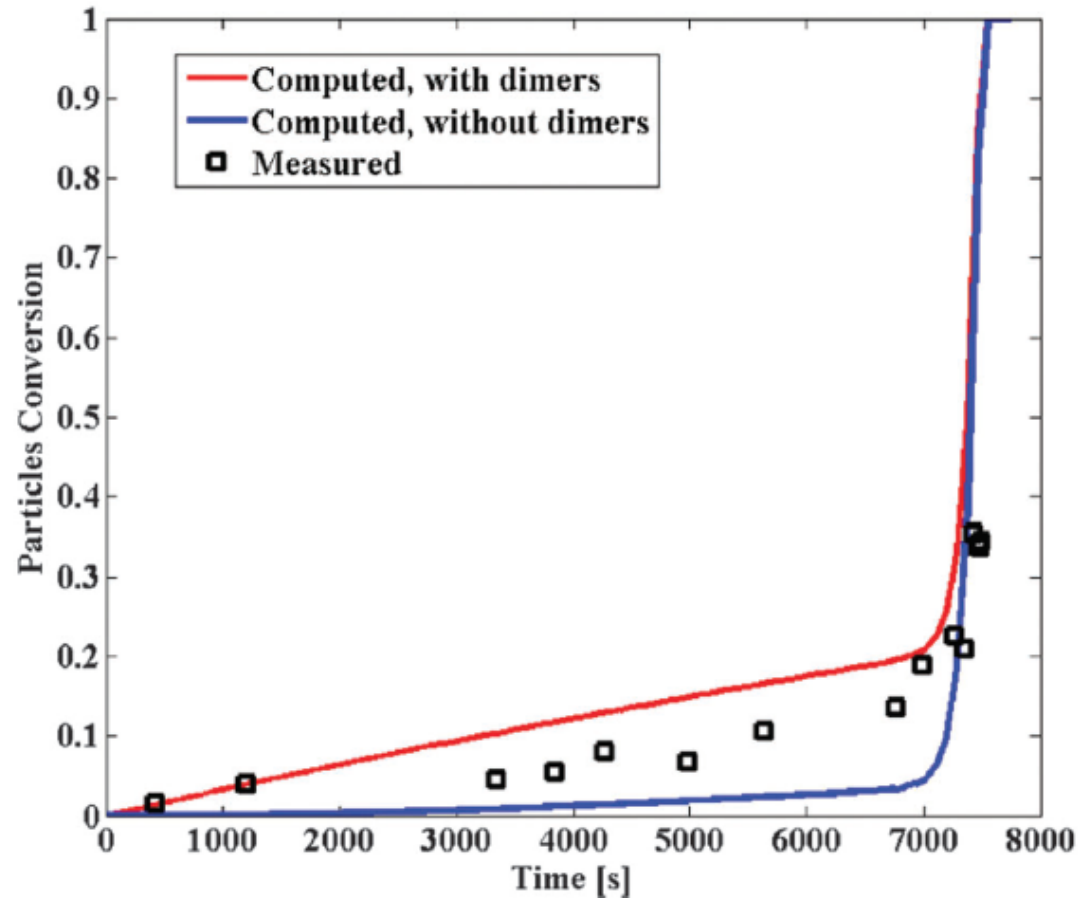
$W \sim 10^8$ (static Fuchs coefficient) is the only adjustable parameter
(within the error bar on the electrostatics characterization)

Viscosity model: extension of Einstein for clusters with vol. frac. given by R_H

Lattuada, Zaccone, Wu, Morbidelli, Soft Matter (2016)

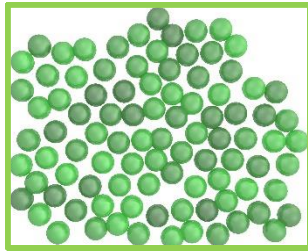
Comparison with experimental data (2)

Conversion of primary particles to (large) clusters measured by **filtration**,
expt. data from **Zaccone, Gentili, et al. PRL 2011**



Predicting the evolution of viscosity

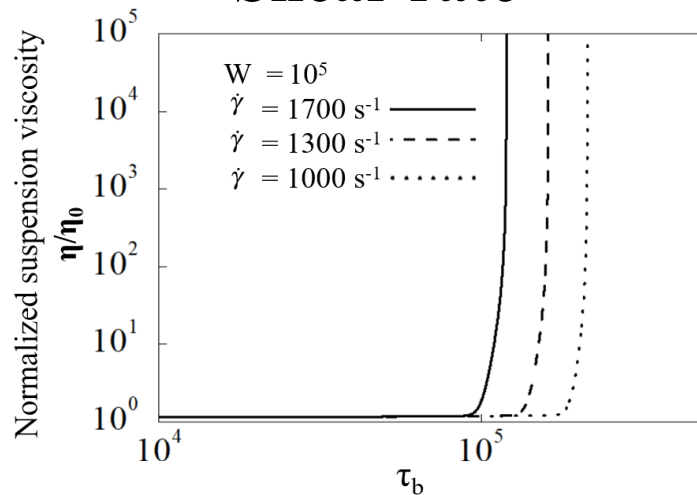
Effective packed



$$\phi = \frac{4}{3} \pi \int_0^\infty n(\xi, t) R_g^3 d\xi = \frac{4}{3} \pi \sum_{i=0}^M N_i R_{g,i}^3$$

$$\frac{\eta}{\eta_0} = \left(\frac{1 - \phi / \phi_{cr}}{1 - (k_0 \phi_{cr} - 1) \phi / \phi_{cr}} \right)^{-\phi_{cr} [\eta] / (2 - k_0 \phi_{cr})}$$

Shear rate



Colloidal stability

