

# *Direct observation of dynamical heterogeneities near the attraction driven glass*

Maria Kilfoil    McGill University

Co-worker: Yongxiang Gao, PhD student

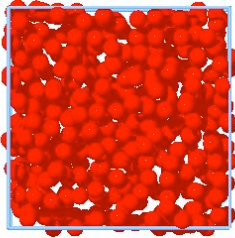
<http://www.physics.mcgill.ca/~kilfoil>



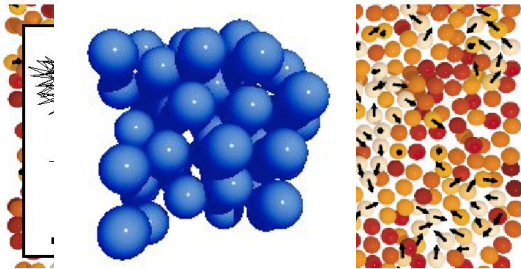
**McGill**

# Dynamical heterogeneity and intermittence

- *Conventional liquids*: dynamical relaxation is achieved through continuous Brownian motion



- *Supercooled liquids*: dynamics becomes localized and shows heterogeneity and discontinuity due to cage break-up

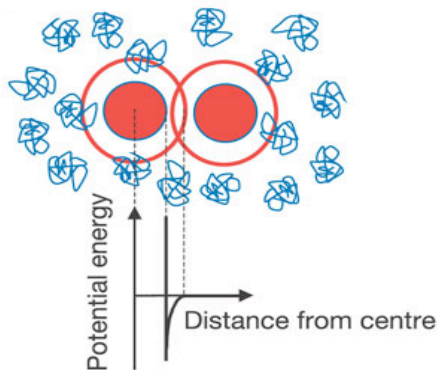


Heuer *et al.* *PRL* (1998)

Glotzer *et al.* *PRE* (1999);

Weeks *et al.* *PRL* (2002);

- *Attractive systems*: dynamics shows heterogeneity and intermittence due



to bond breaking and forming

*Light scattering+MCT*: Manley *et al.* (2005)

*MD Simulation*: Cates *et al.* (2004)

# *Outline*

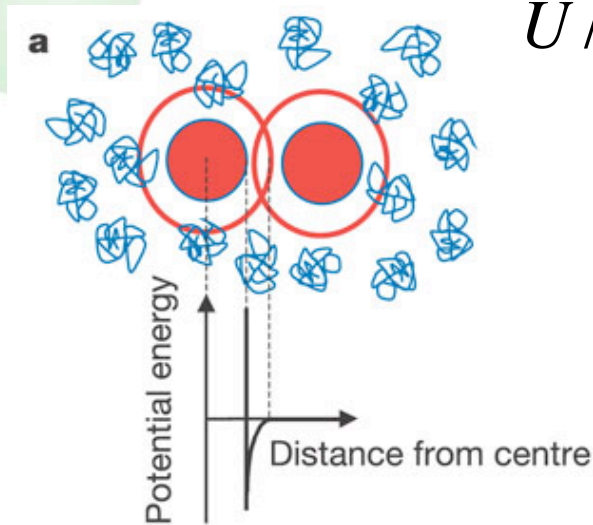
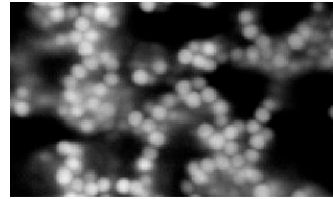
- Attractive colloidal physics
- Metrics used to study dynamics at the single particle level: space time correlation functions, MSD, NGP

## Questions:

- Contribution of mobile and immobile particles to structural relaxation
- Correlation between structural and dynamical heterogeneities in this system
- Comparison of immobile population to supercooled hard sphere liquids
- Origin of the exponential tails in SvH
- Spatial correlation in mobile particles

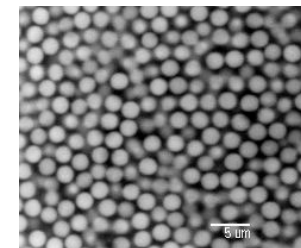
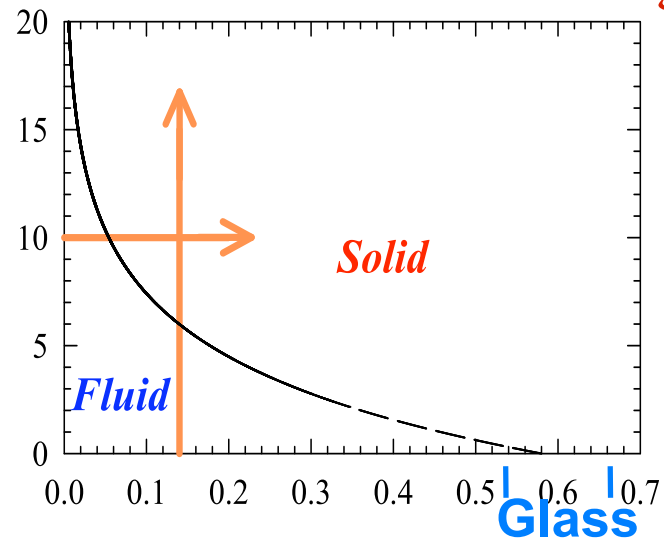
# Fluid-Solid Transition

## Weakly Attractive Systems



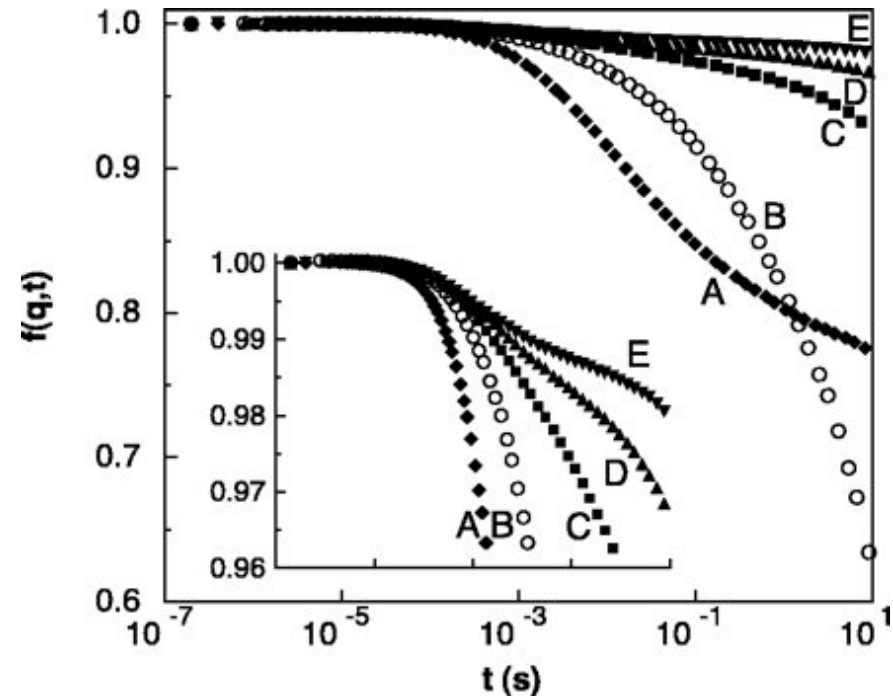
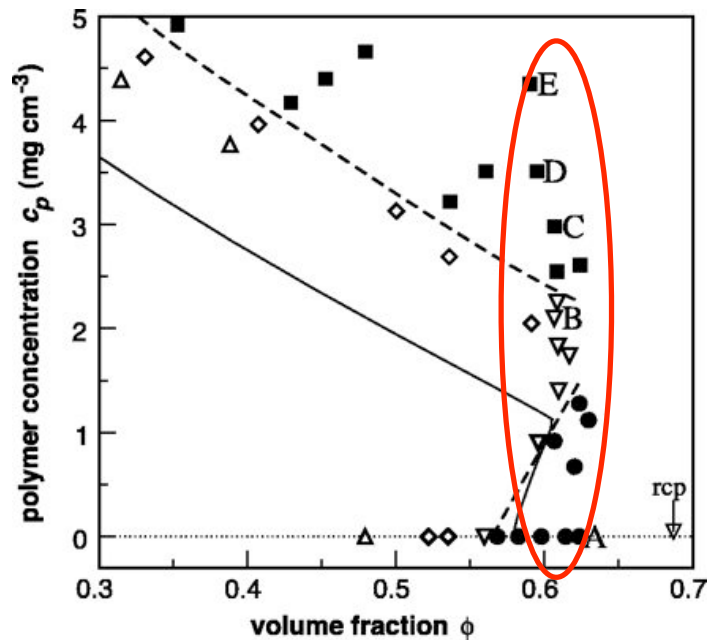
$$U/kT$$

Phase diagram





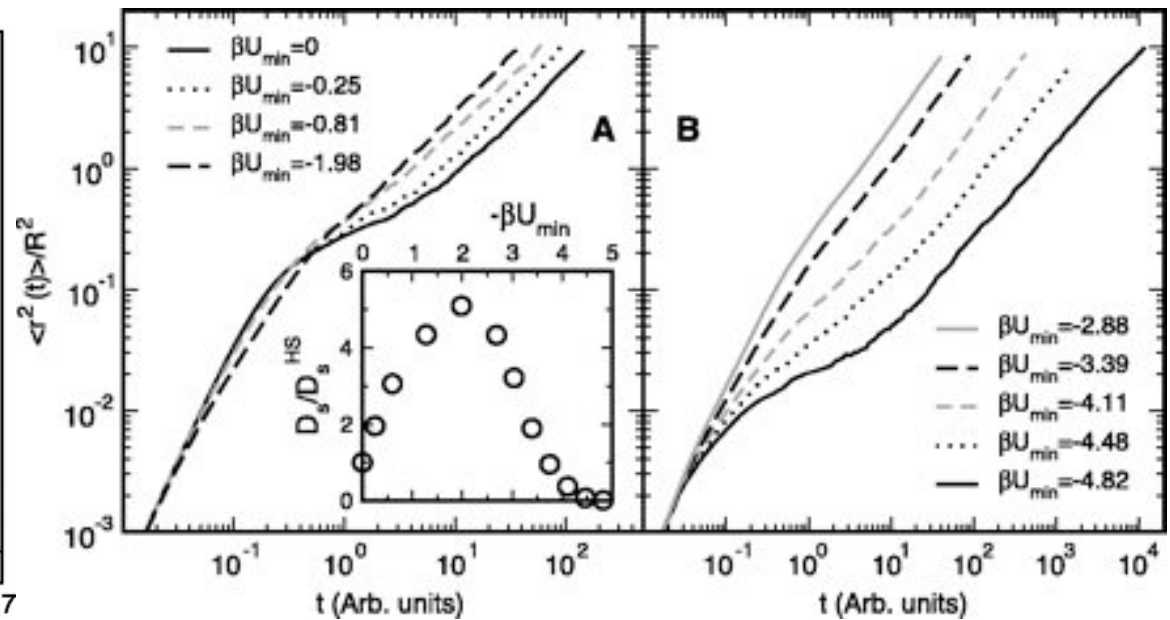
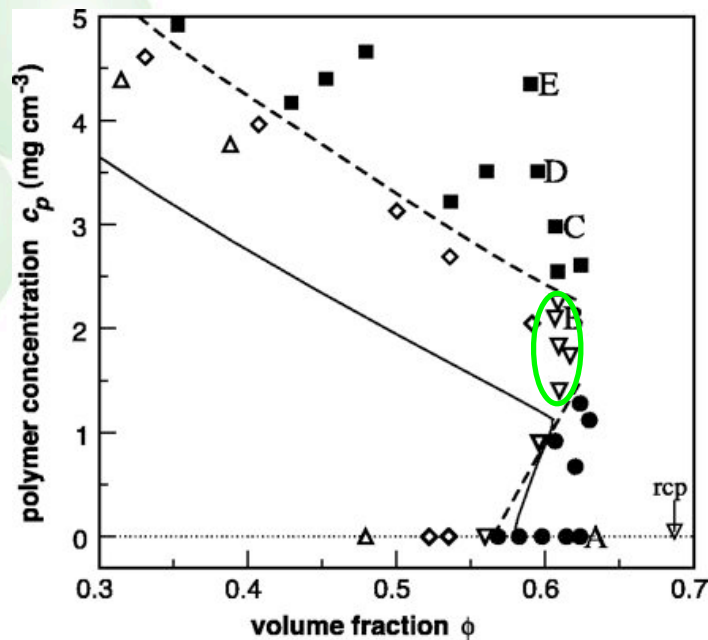
# New type of colloidal glass: “Attractive Glass”



Light scattering: normalized  
dynamic structure factor

K.N.Pham *et al.*, *Science* 296,104 (2002)

# New type of colloidal glass: “Attractive Glass”

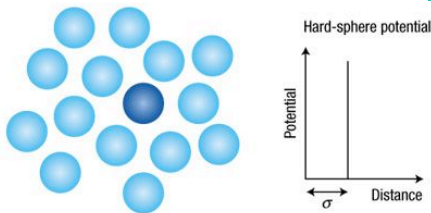


Computer simulation of glass  
reentrant from repulsive to attractive

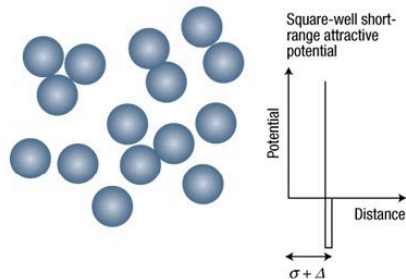
K.N.Pham *et al.*, *Science* 296,104 (2002)

# New type of colloidal glass: “Attractive Glass”

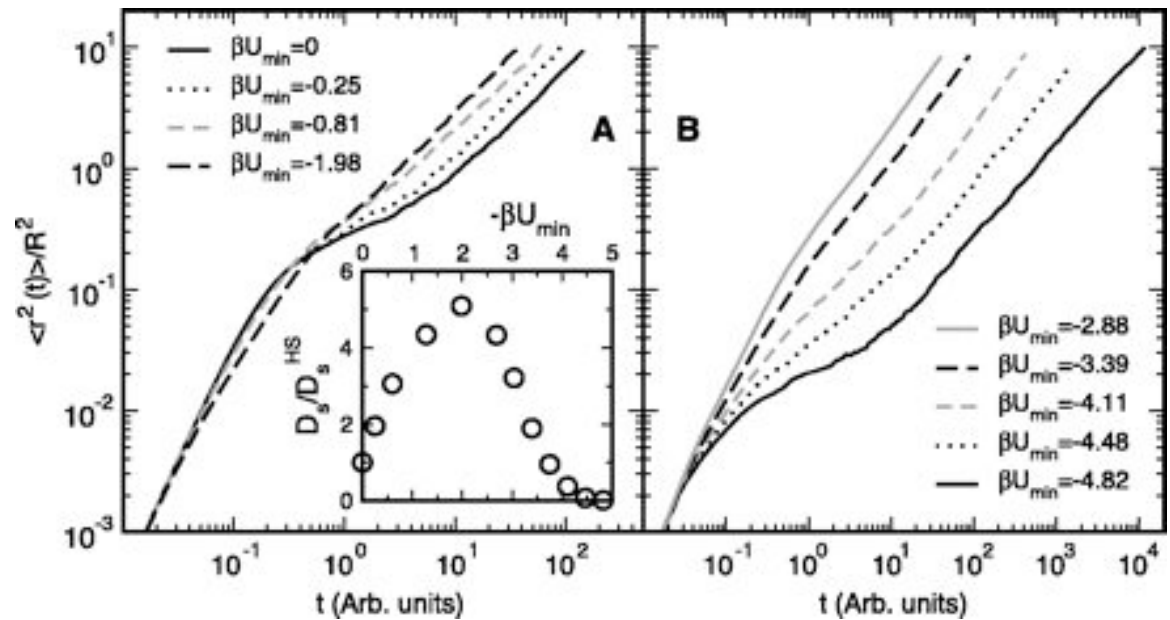
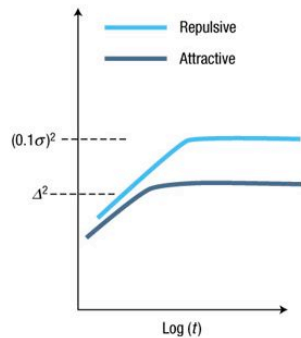
**a** Hard-sphere (repulsive) glass



**b** Attractive glass



**c** Mean squared displacement



Computer simulation of glass  
reentrant from repulsive to attractive

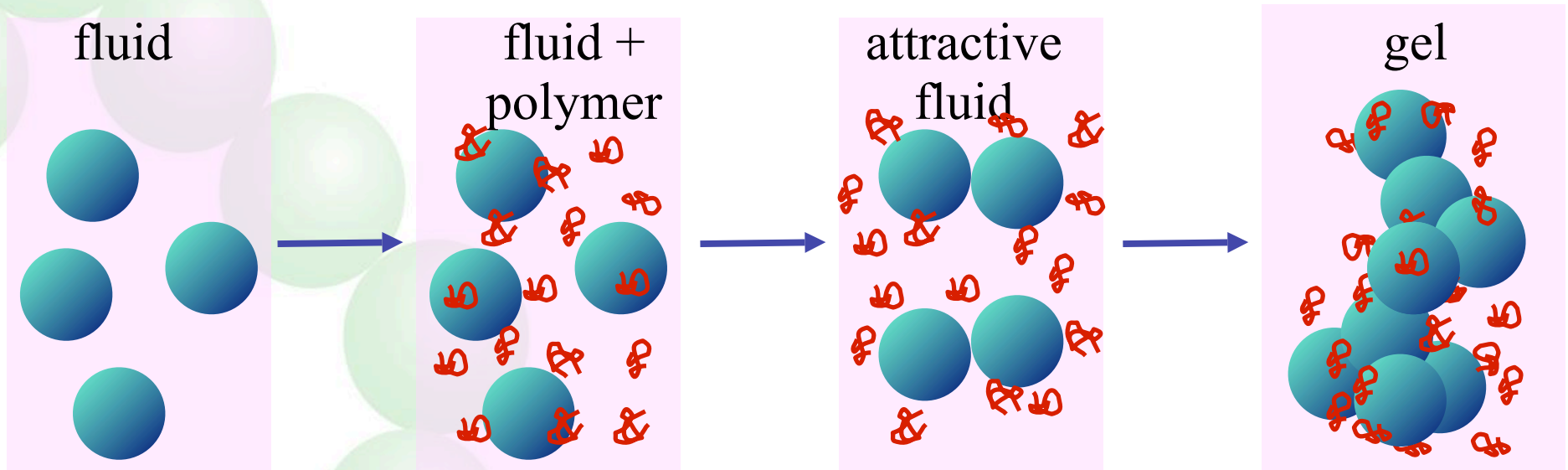
K.N.Pham *et al.*, *Science* 296,104 (2002)

Sciortino, *Nature Materials* (2002)

# Realization of weakly attractive systems:

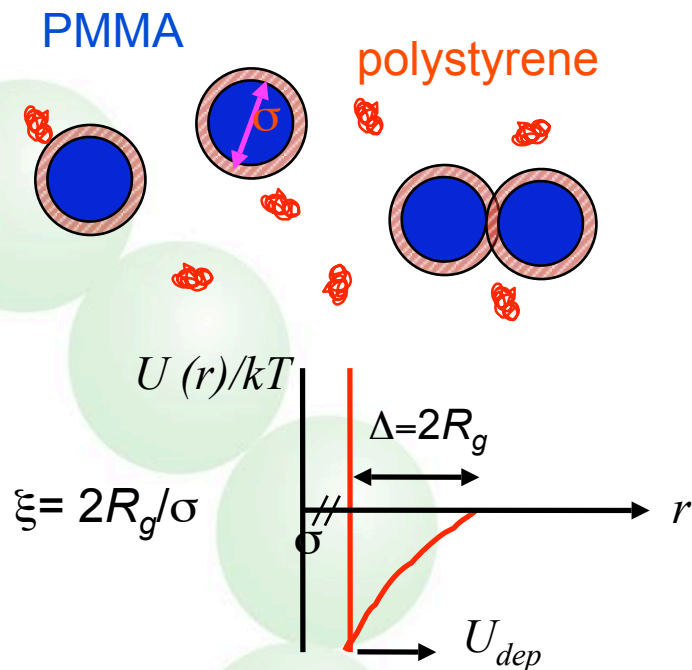
## Colloid-polymer mixtures

### Depletion attraction



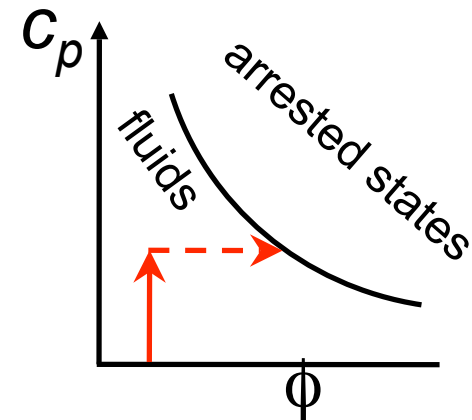
Polystyrene polymer,  $R_g=46$  nm + PMMA spheres,  $r_c=660$  nm

# Realization of weakly attractive systems:



PMMA as colloids  
 PS nonadsorbing polymer as depletant

Asakura and Oosawa, *J. Polym. Sci* (1958)



System: PMMA ( $\sigma = 1.326 \mu\text{m}$ ) and  $\Delta \sim 0.14 \sigma$  in refractive index-matching and buoyancy-tunable suspending fluids Decalin/Tetralin/CXB

$\Delta n = 0$  and  $\Delta \rho = 0.011 \text{g/cm}^3$

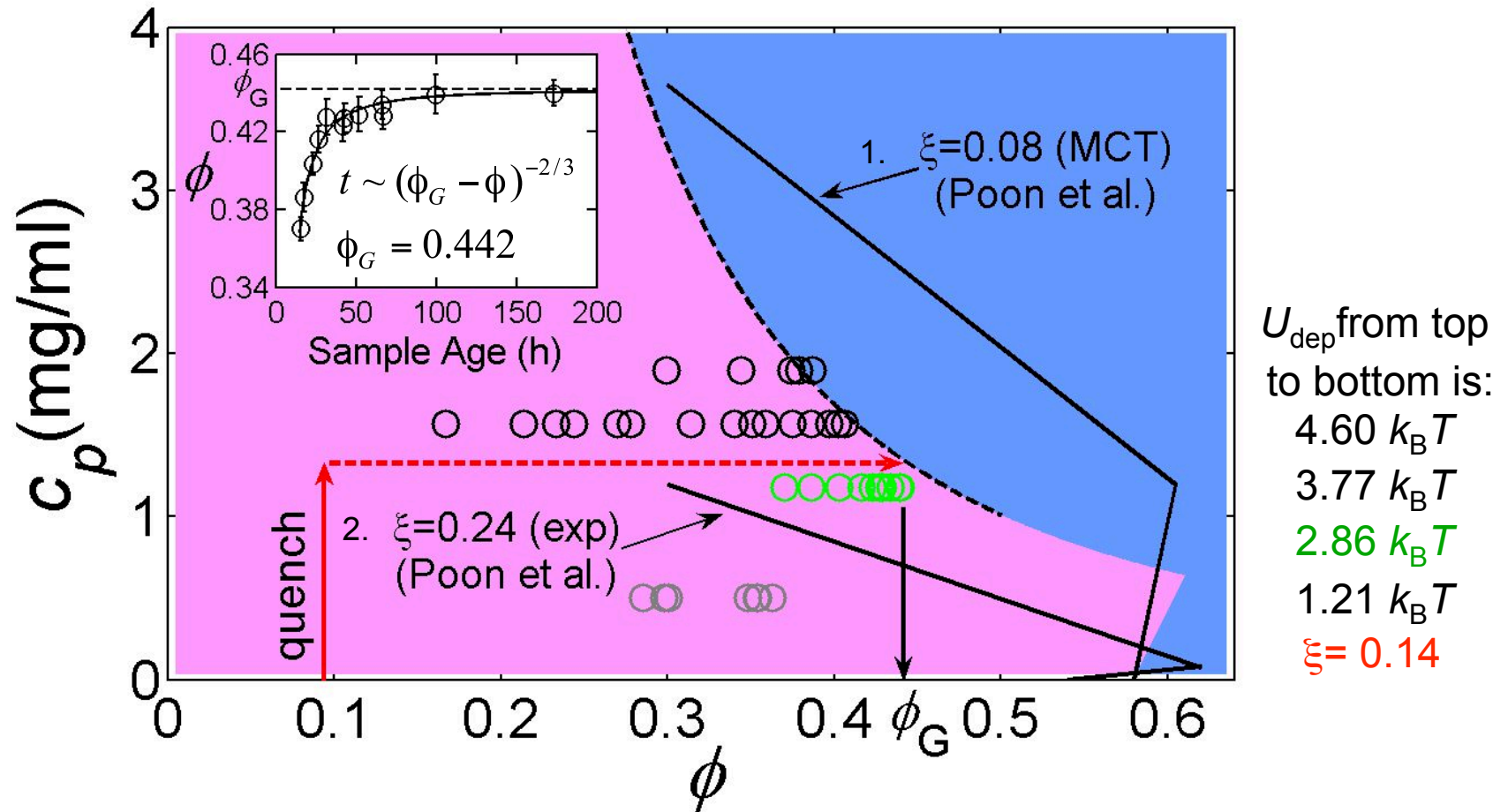
Side view:

$\uparrow 150 \mu\text{m}$

Confocal microscopy 3D real-space imaging

typical volume:  
 $(22.6 \times 22.6 \times 10) \mu\text{m}^3$

# Phase diagram of attractive colloidal systems



1. Pham *et al.*, *Science* 296,104 (2002)
2. W. C. K. Poon *et al.*, *PRE* 51, 1344 (1995)



# *van Hove space-time correlation function: self and distinct parts*

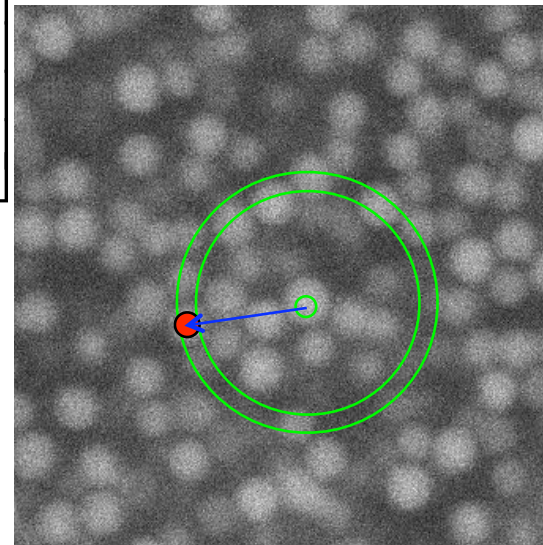
Self part

$$G_s(r, \tau) = \frac{1}{N} \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^N \delta \left[ r - |r_i(0) - r_i(\tau)| \right] \right\rangle$$

$$\approx \frac{1}{\left[ \frac{4}{6} \pi \langle \Delta r^2(\tau) \rangle \right]^{3/2}} \exp \left[ -\frac{r^2}{\frac{4}{6} \langle \Delta r^2(\tau) \rangle} \right]$$

Distinct part

$$G_d(r, \tau) = \frac{1}{N} \left\langle \sum_i \sum_{j \neq i} \delta \left[ r - |r_i(0) - r_j(\tau)| \right] \right\rangle$$

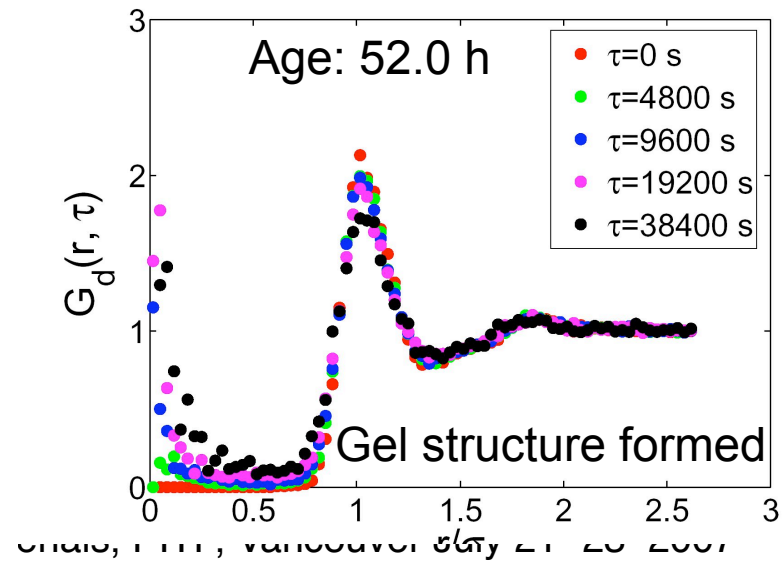
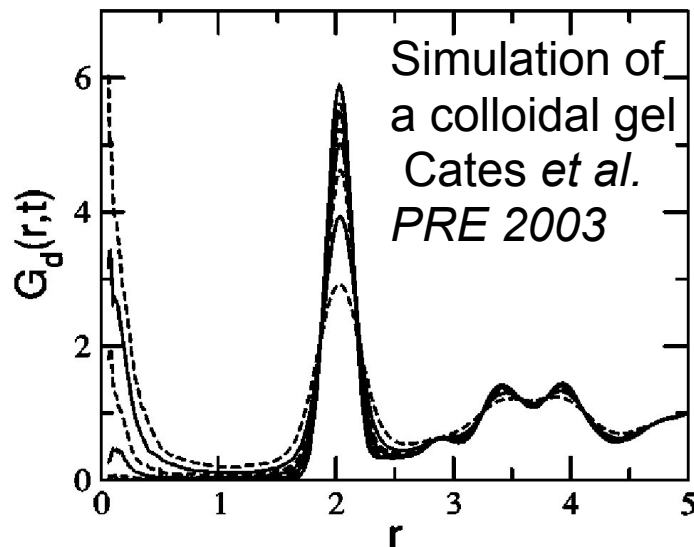
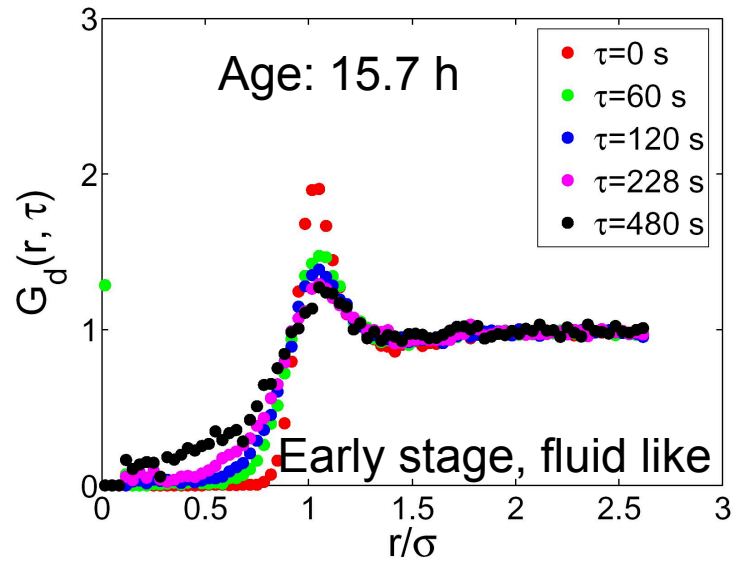
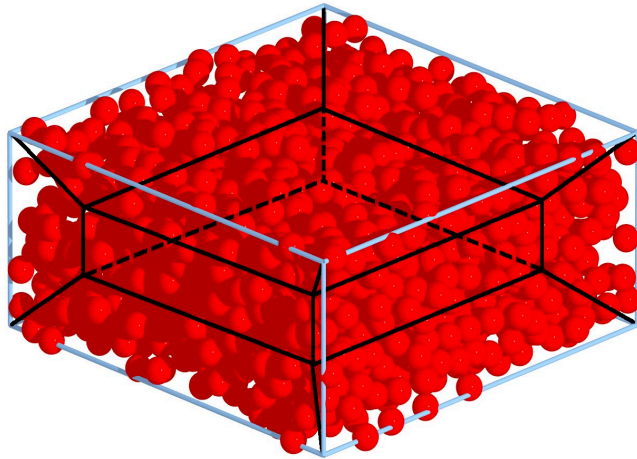




# Distinct part of the van Hove space time correlation function

Y. Gao and MLK, PRL 2007

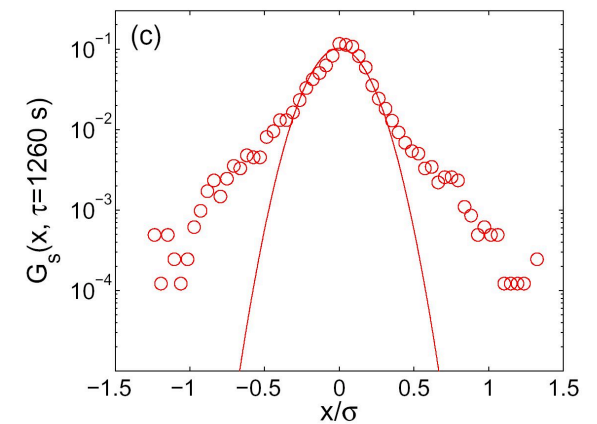
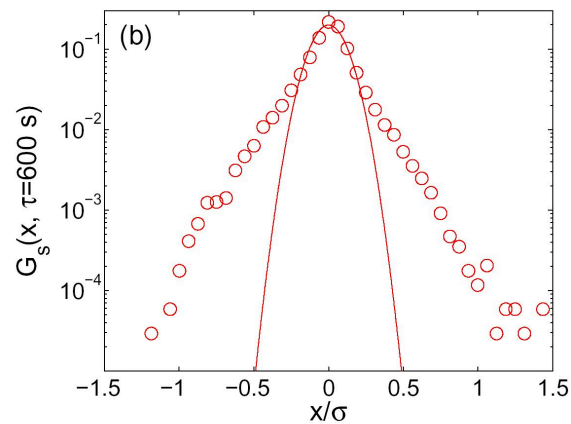
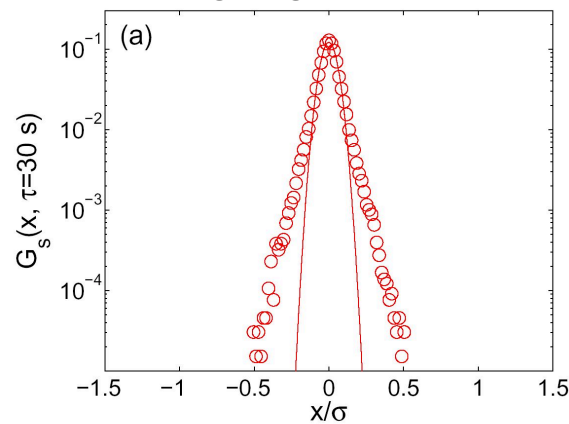
Geometry for calculating dvH



# Self part of the van Hove space time correlation function...

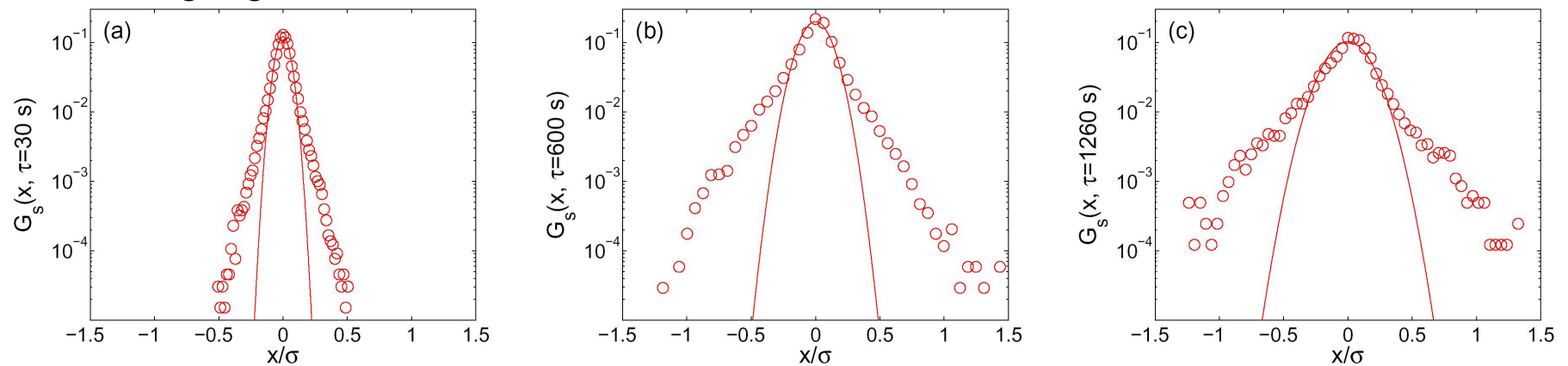
volume fraction 0.386, as  $\tau$  increases

Single gaussian fit

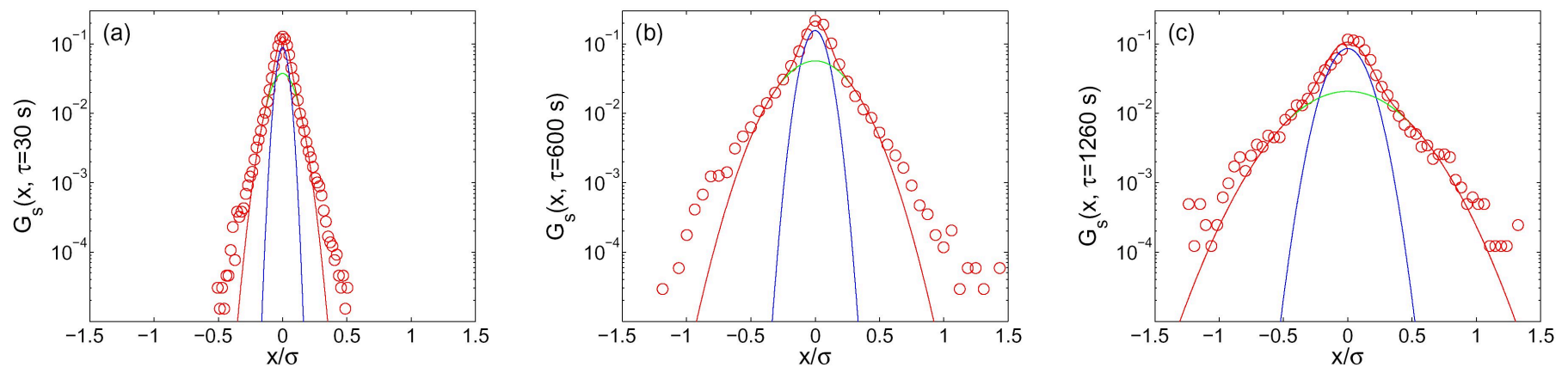


# ***But..*** Two-Gaussian behaviour emerges in the Self part of van Hove Correlation Function *volume fraction 0.386, as $\tau$ increases*

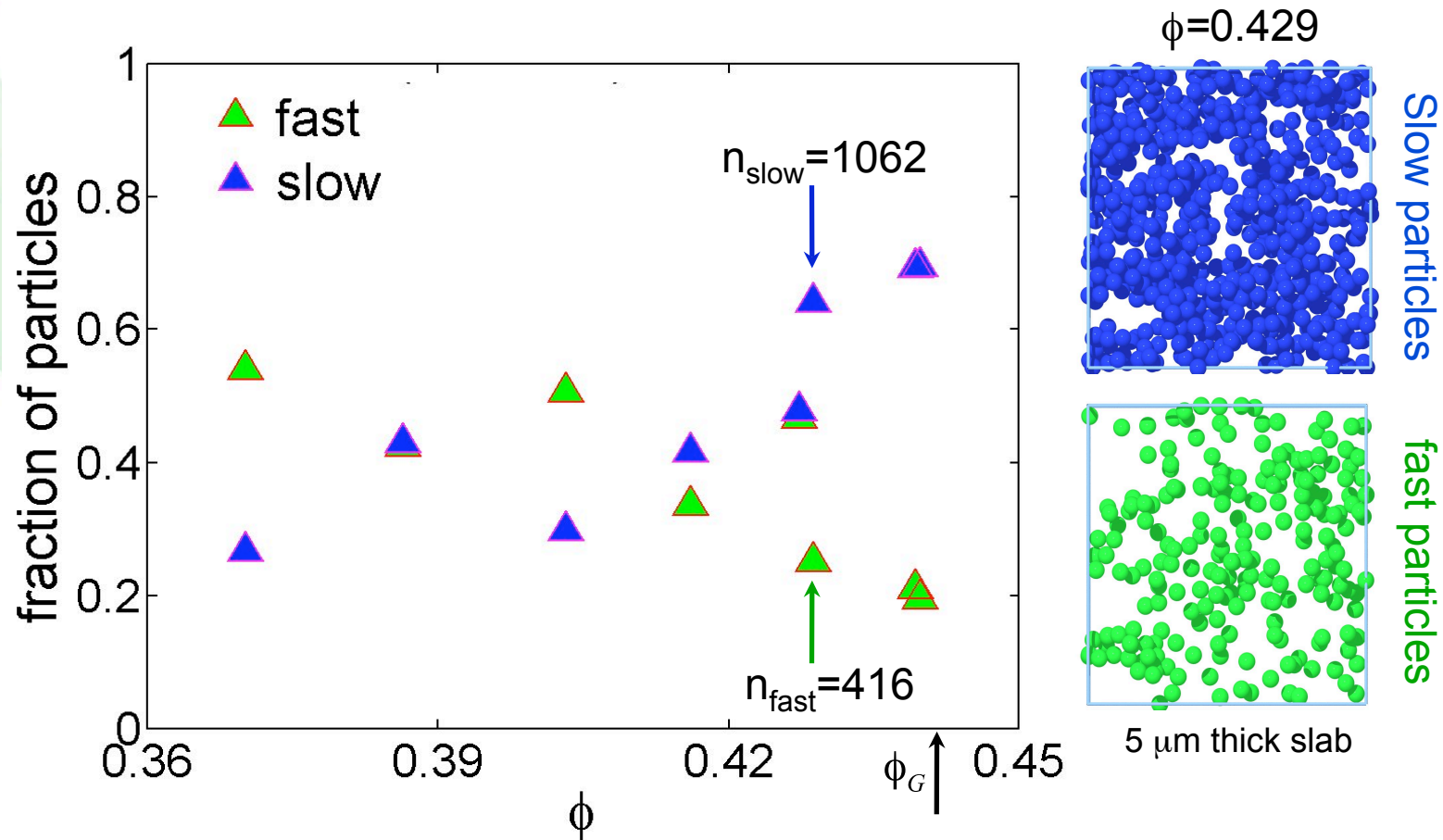
Single gaussian fit



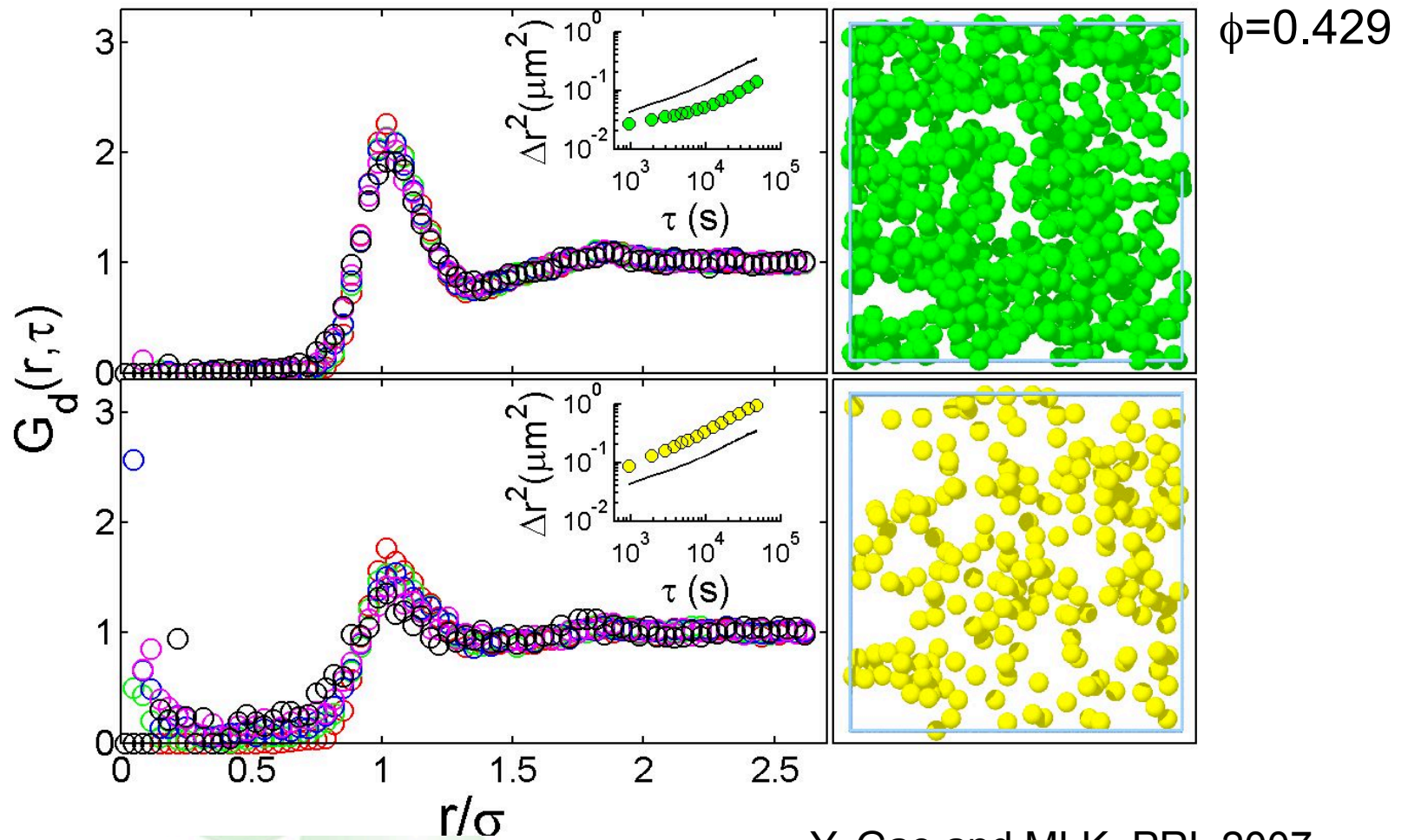
two gaussian fit (green line: fast branch; blue line: slow branch)



# Populations of fast and slow particles



# Distinct part of Van Hove correlation function for fast and slow particles

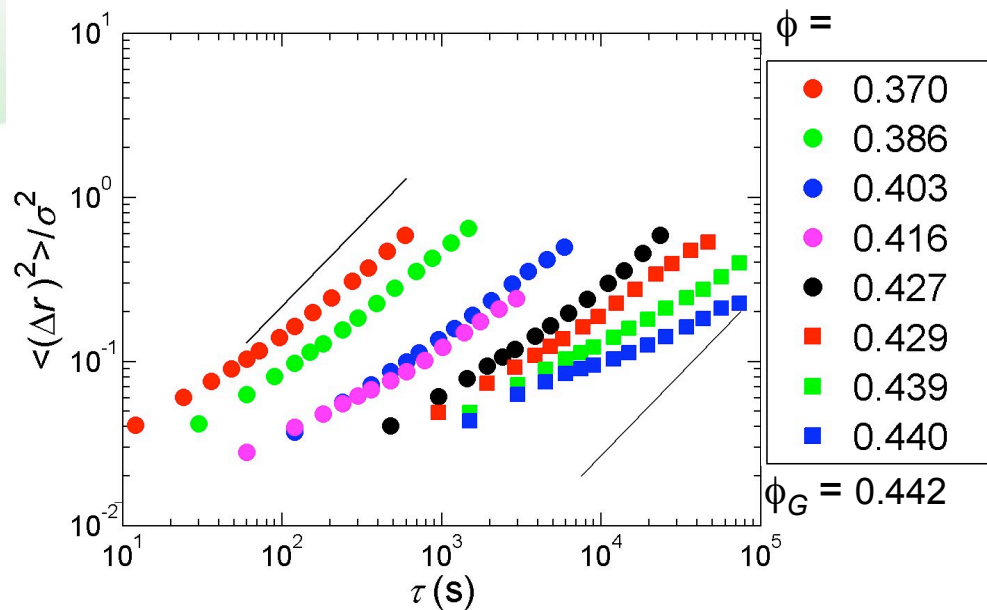


Y. Gao and MLK, PRL 2007

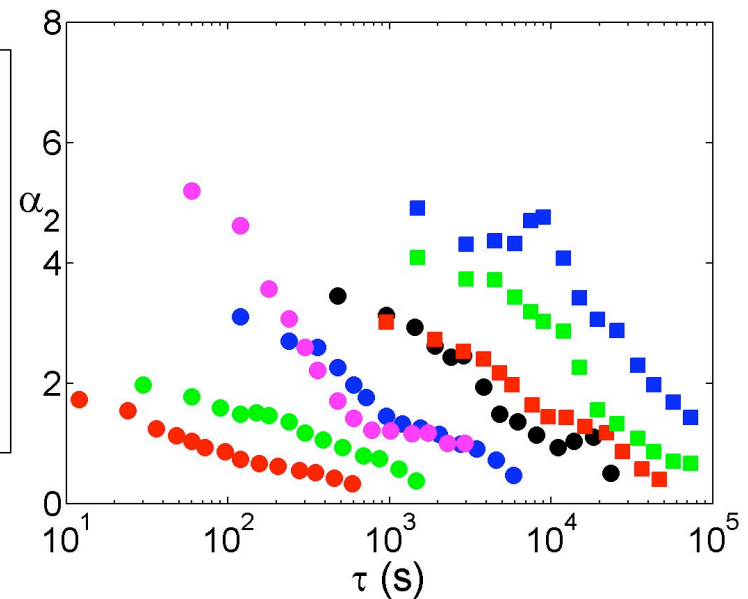


# Microscopic dynamics for *mobile particles* in gel/attraction-driven glass regime

Mean squared displacement



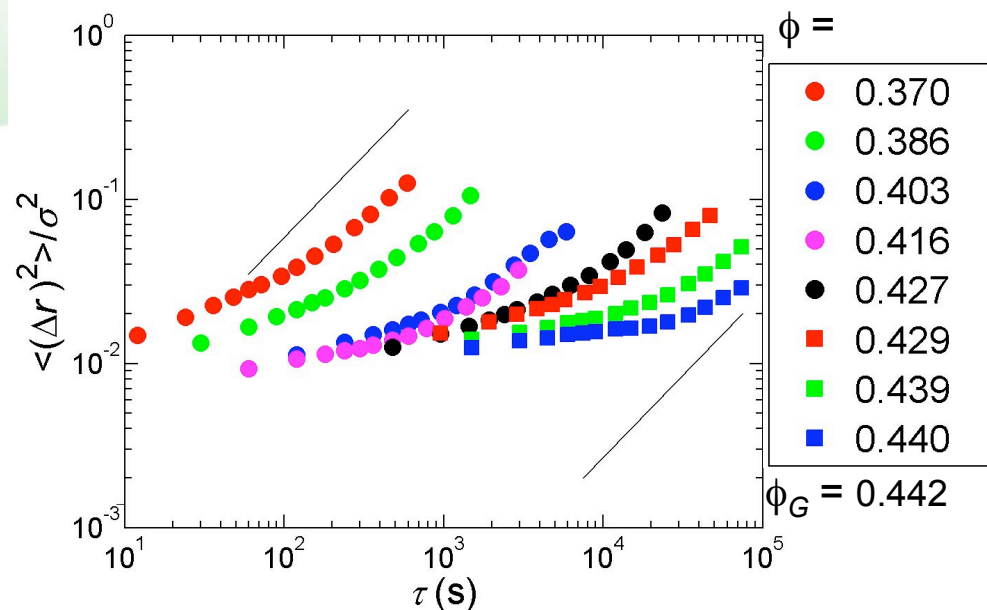
Non-Gaussian parameter  $\alpha_2 = \frac{\langle \Delta x^4 \rangle}{3 \langle \Delta x^2 \rangle^2} - 1$



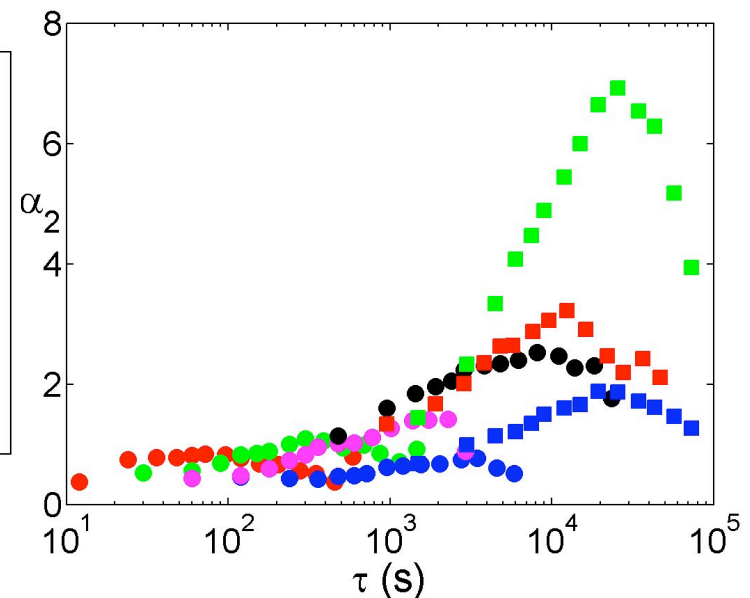
Fast particles  $\rightarrow$  Gaussian behavior at long time

# Microscopic dynamics for *immobile particles*

Mean squared displacement



Non-Gaussian Parameter

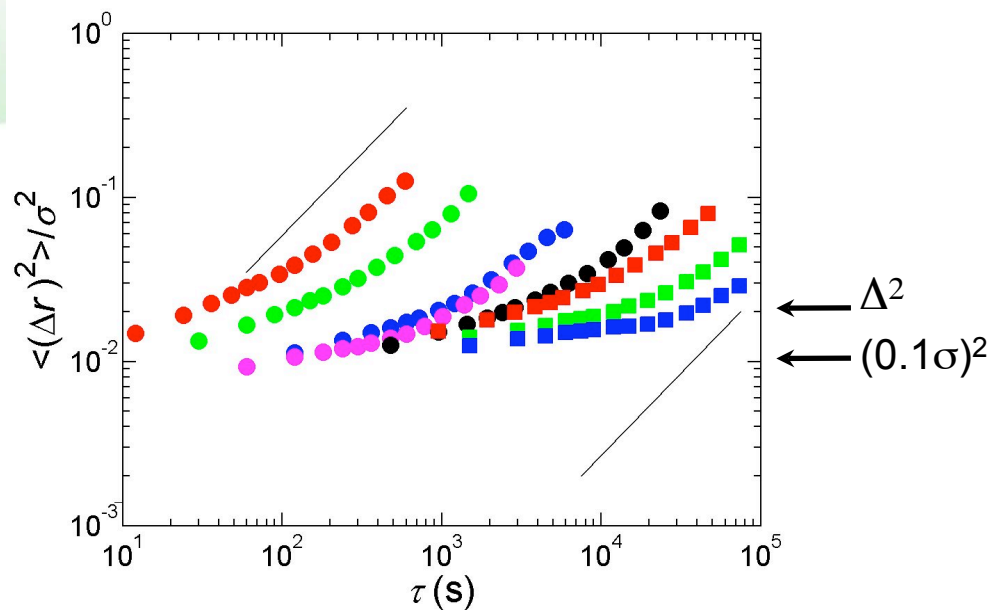


- MSD shows a plateau as transition is approached
- Non-Gaussian parameters exhibit similar behavior to HS supercooled liquids

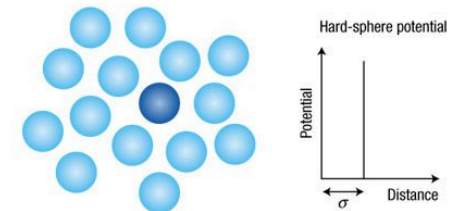


# Microscopic dynamics for *immobile particles*

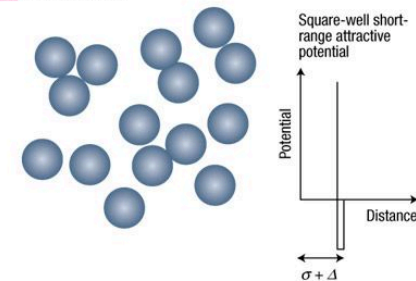
Mean squared displacement



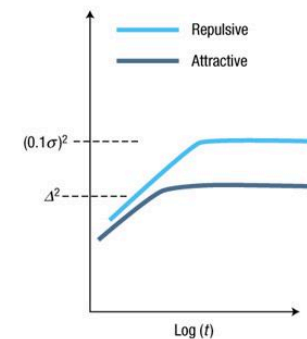
**a** Hard-sphere (repulsive) glass



**b** Attractive glass



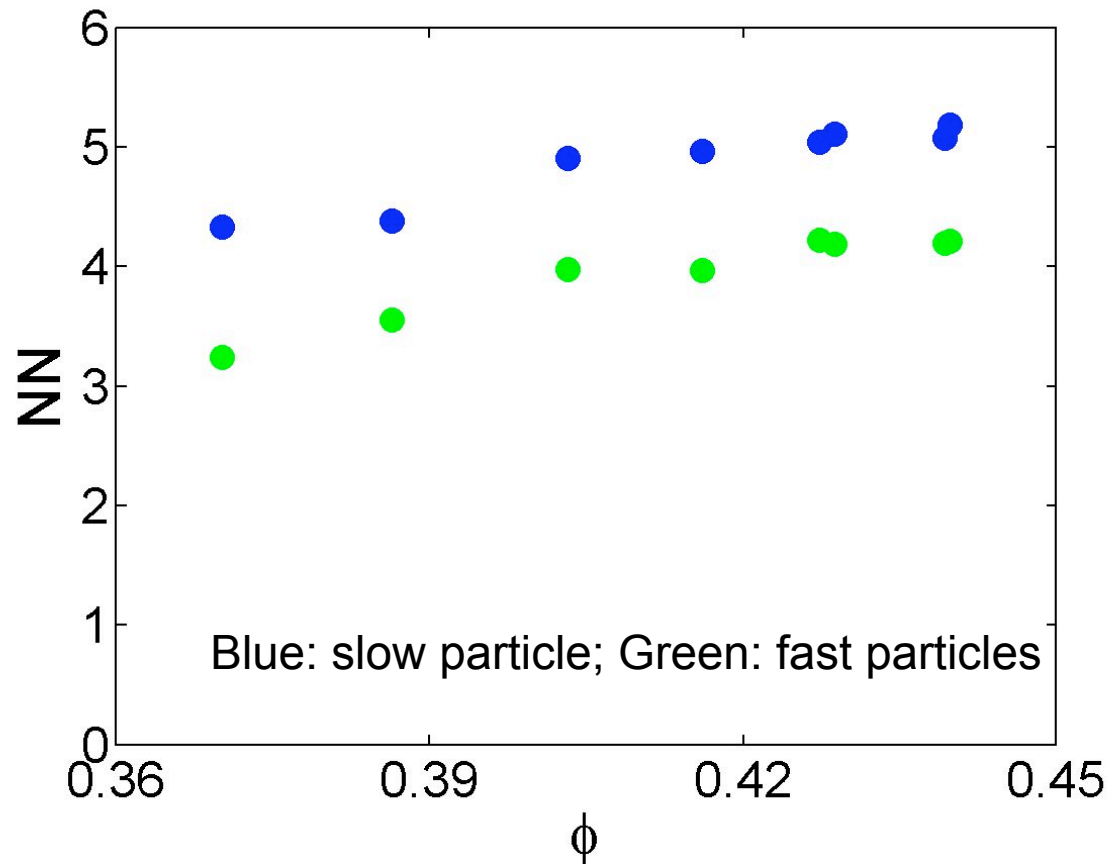
**c** Mean squared displacement



Sciortino, *Nature Materials* (2002)

## *Can local volume explain these results?*

Number of nearest neighbors for fast  
and slow particles

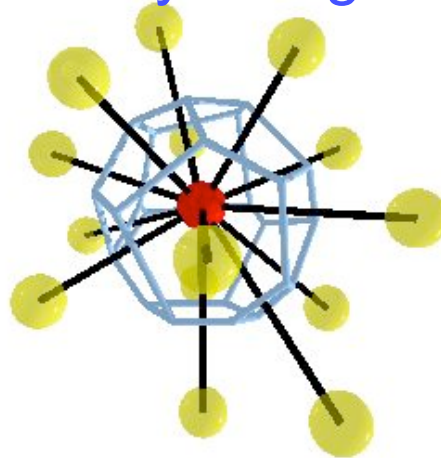


Overall, slow particles have about one  
more nearest neighbors than fast particles

# Local Crowding Parameter

define nearest neighbor particles

Voronoi polyhedra --  
Delaunay triangulation

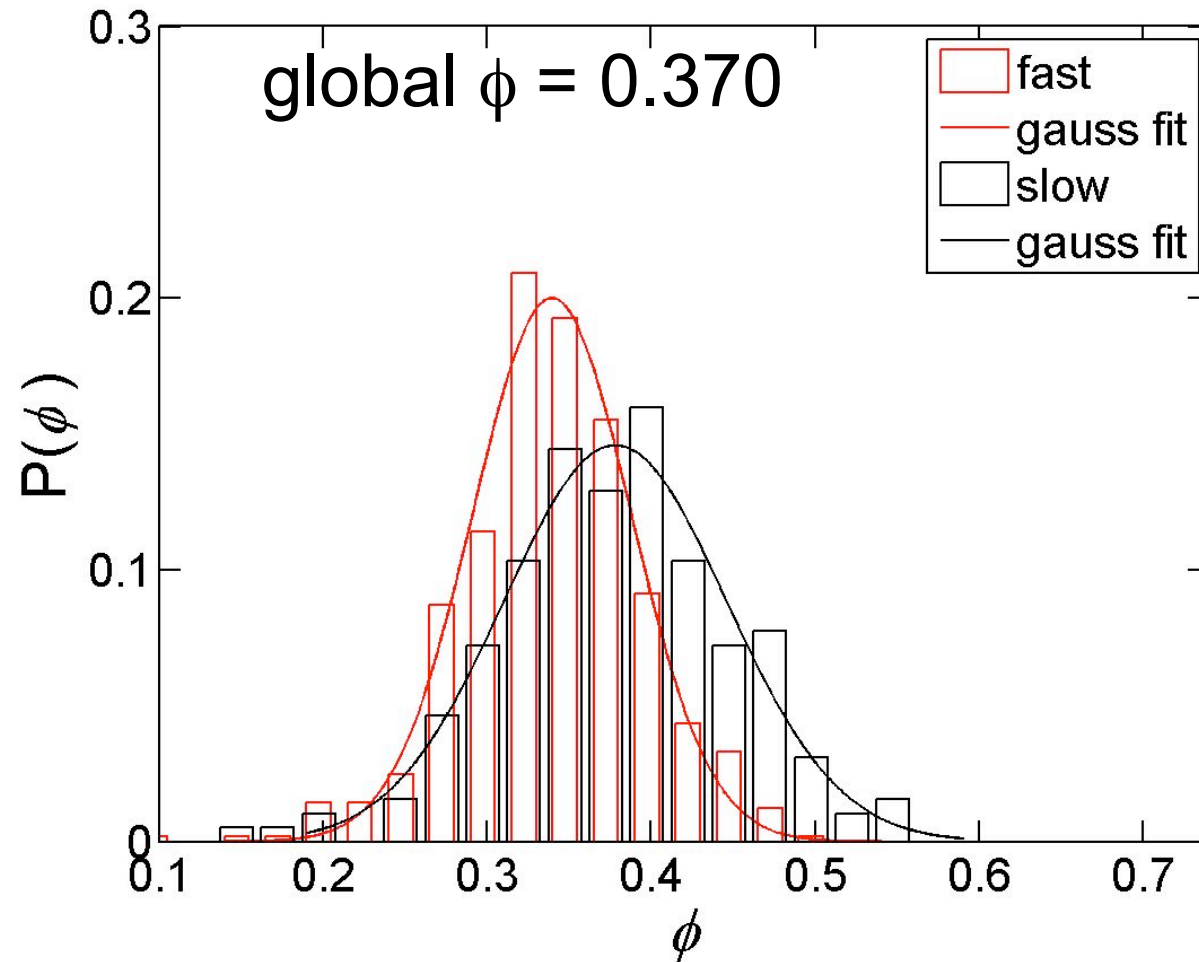


(“Wigner-Seitz cell”)

extract local density (volume fraction)

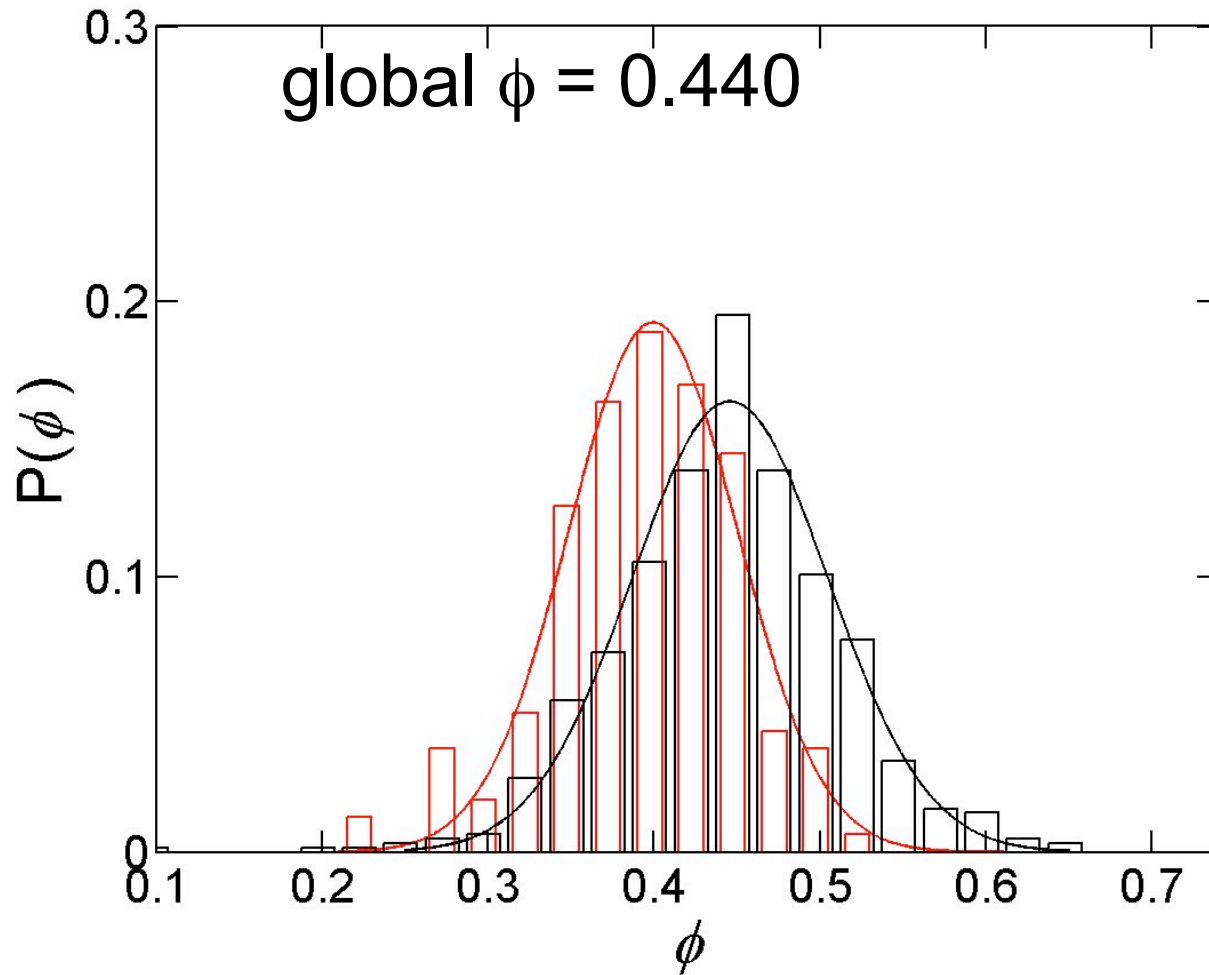
# *Can local volume explain these results?*

Distribution of local volume fraction obtained from Voronoi volumes



# *Can local volume explain these results?*

Distribution of local volume fraction obtained from Voronoi volumes



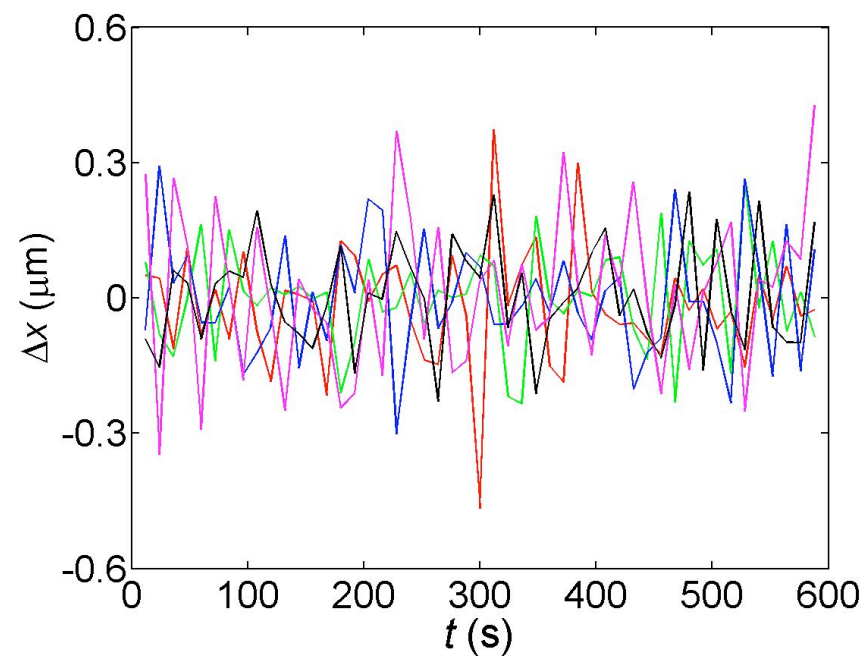
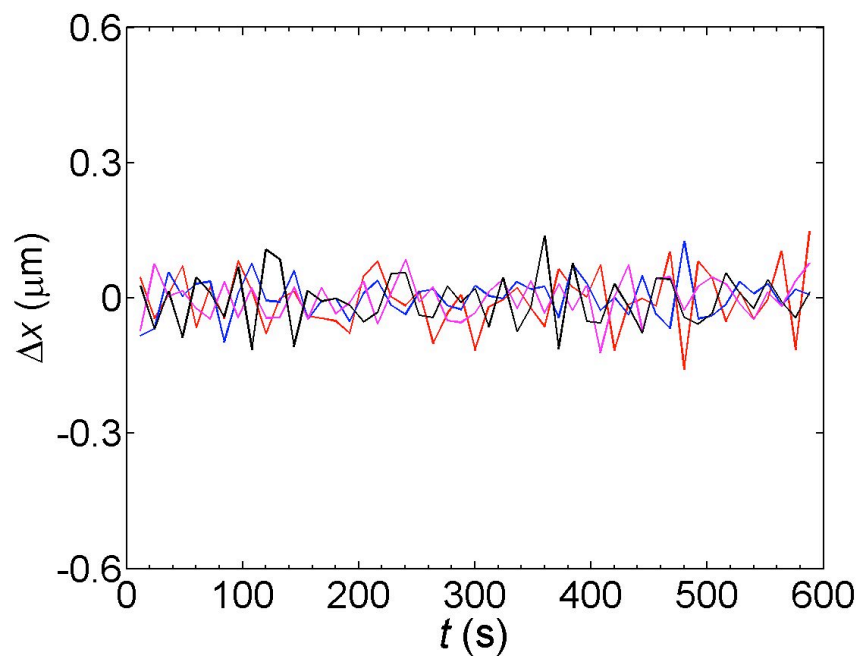
# Intermittent dynamics

## representative trajectories

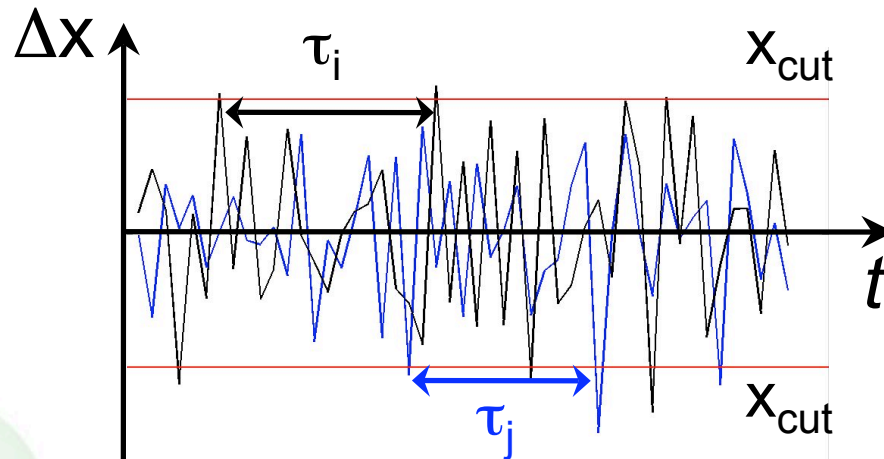
slow particles

$\phi = 0.370$

fast particles



# Average jump time



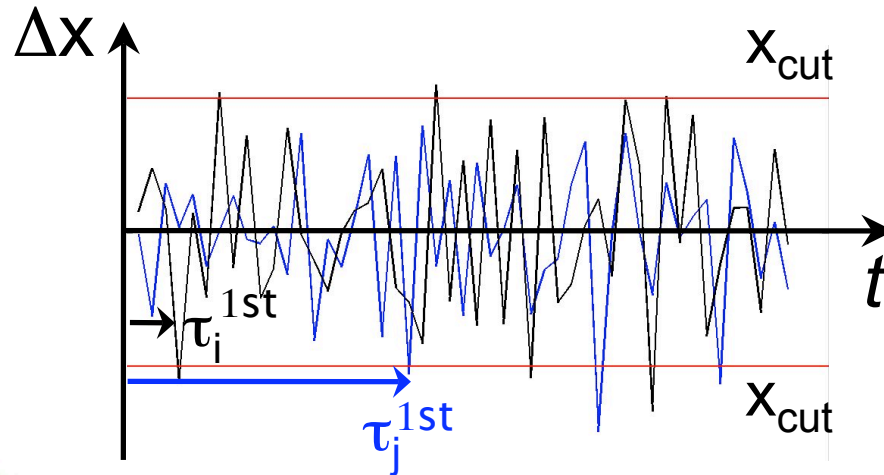
The average jump time is defined as the average time scale between two successive jumps.

$$\tau_{jump} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \tau_i$$

where  $N$  is the total number of jumps over all the particles having at least two jumps and  $\tau_i$  is the time taken for the  $i$ th jump.



# Average first jump time



Average time at which the first jump occurs for particles having at least two jumps:

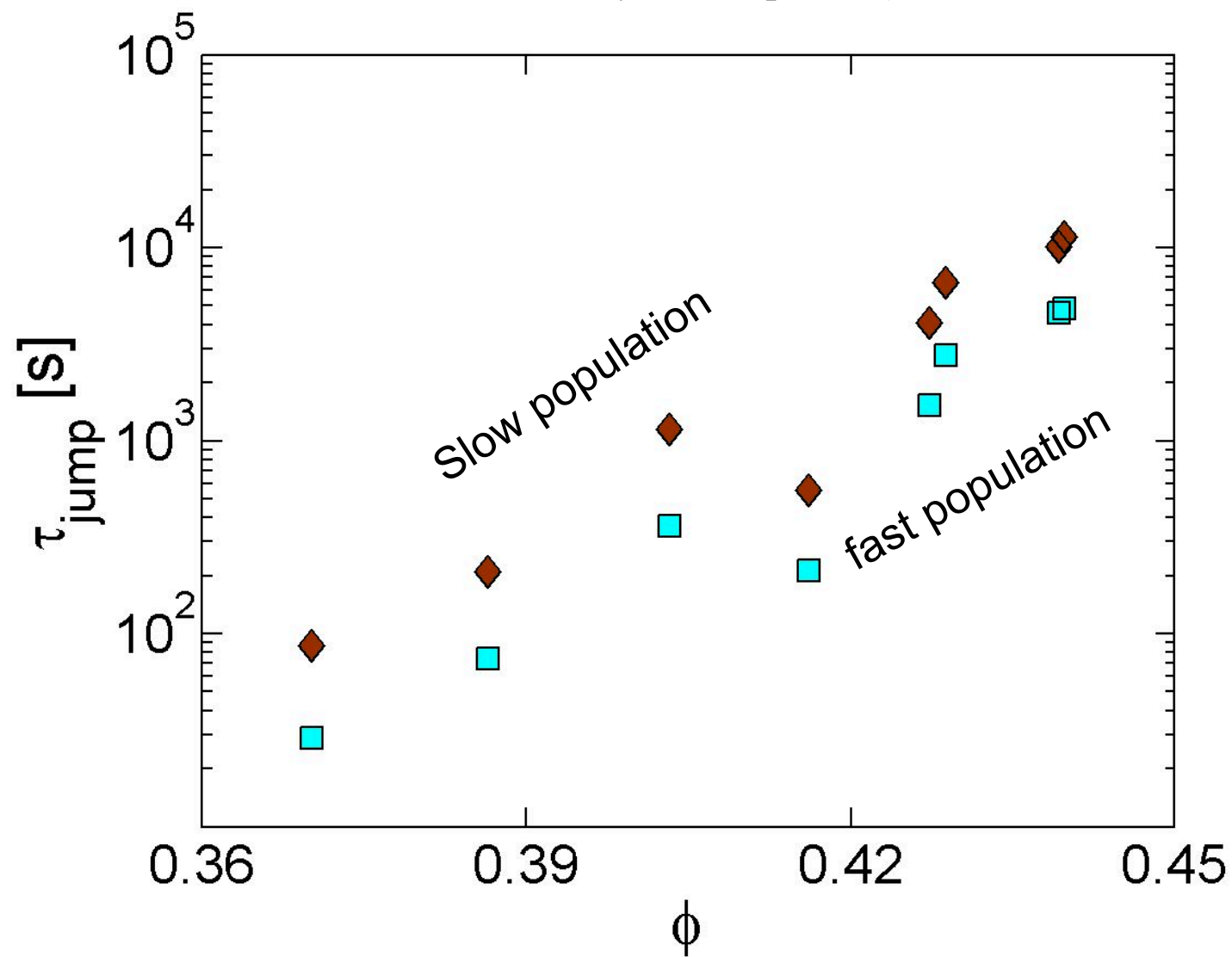
$$\tau_{1st-jump} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \tau_i^{1st}$$

where  $N$  is the total number of particles who have at least two jumps, and  $\tau_i$  is the time the  $i$ th particle takes to have a jump.

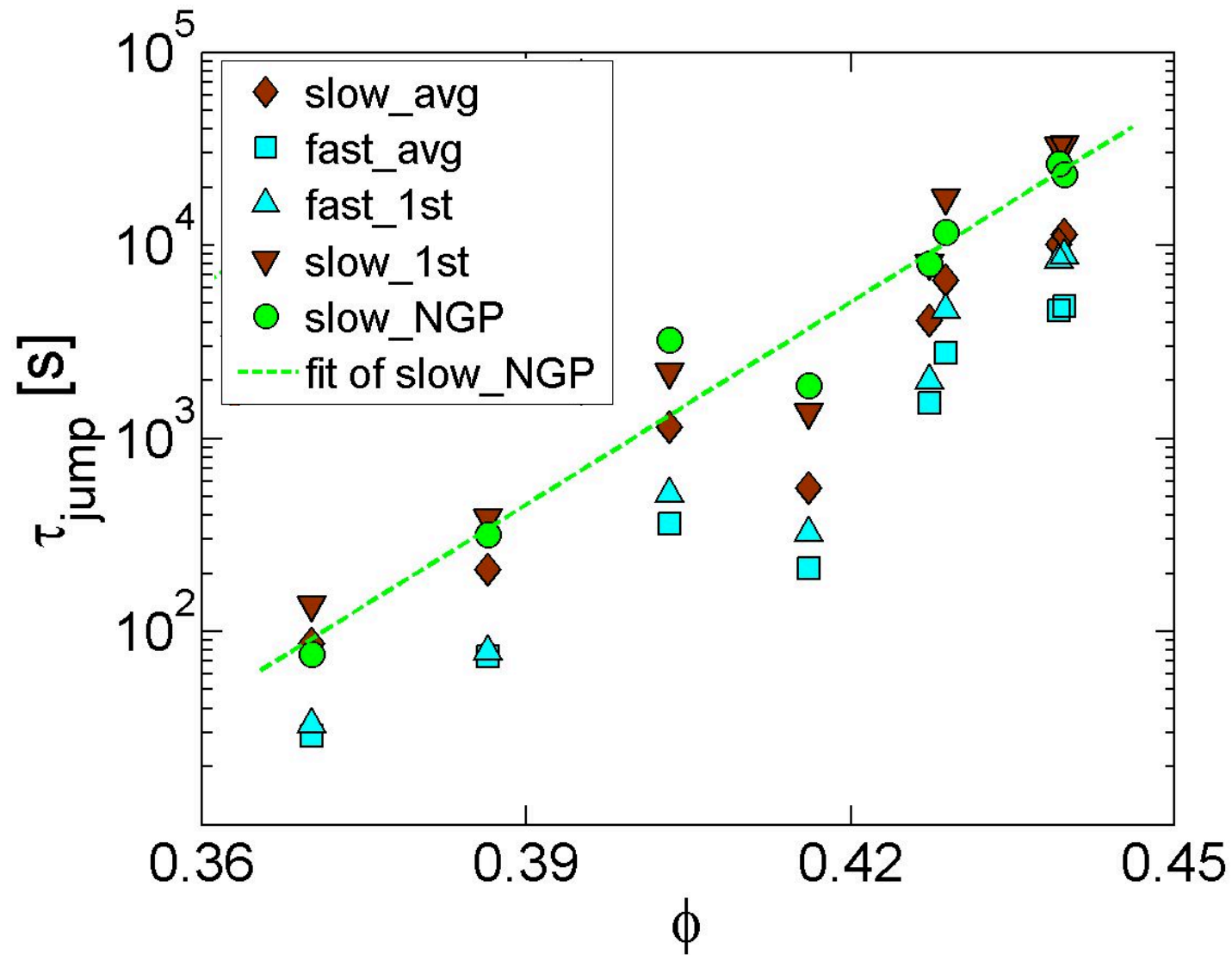
A particle belonging to a mobile region enhances its probability to move further -> prediction in kinetically constrained models

Berthier, et al, (2005); Y. Jung et al, PRE 2006

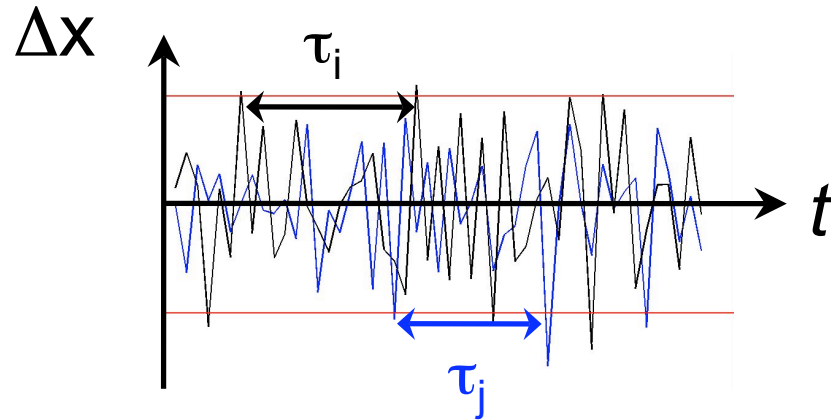
# *Timescale for jump dynamics*



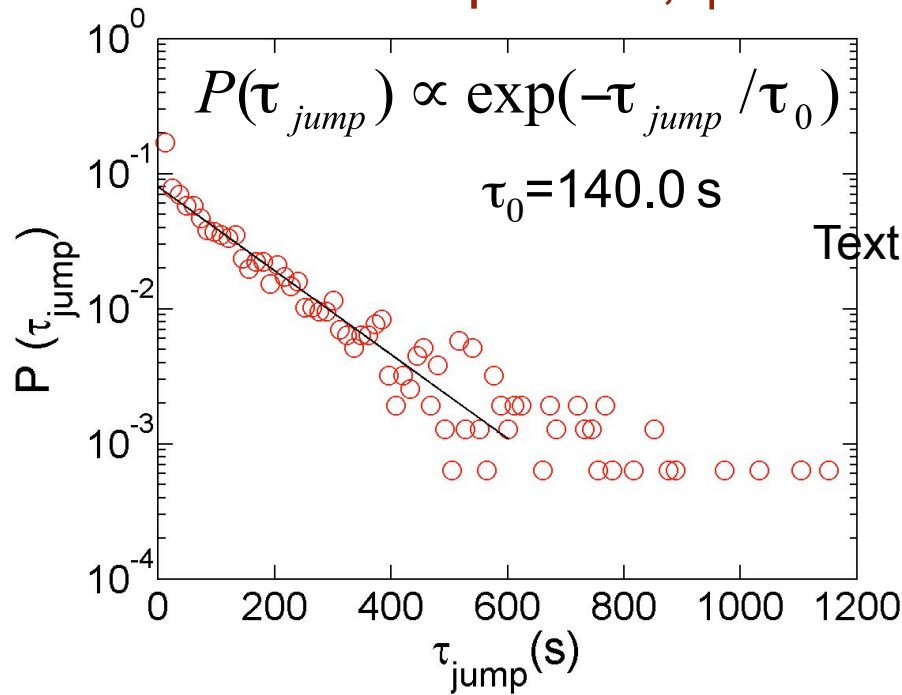
# Comparison of dynamical timescales



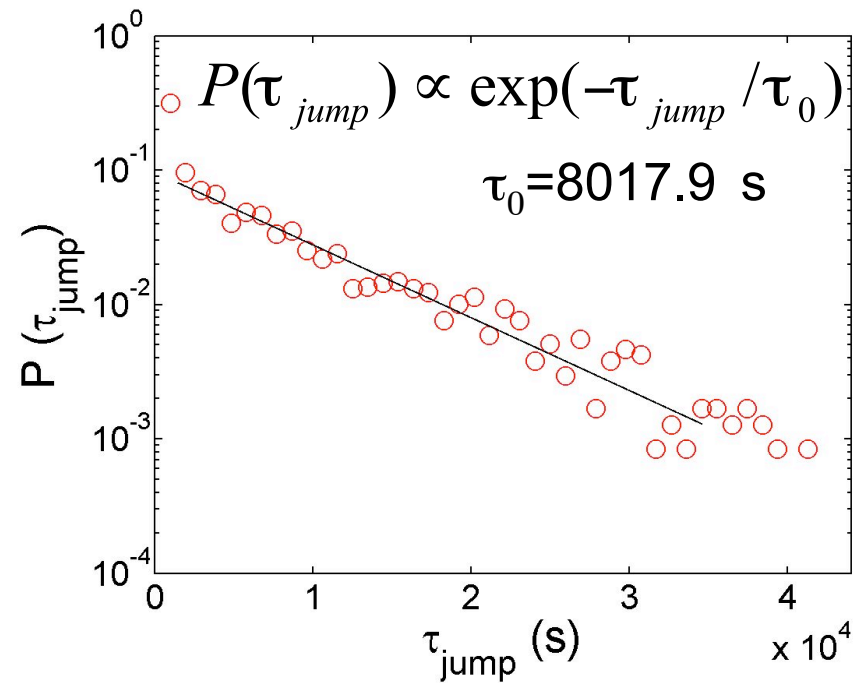
# Jump times are distributed exponentially



immobile component,  $\phi=0.370$

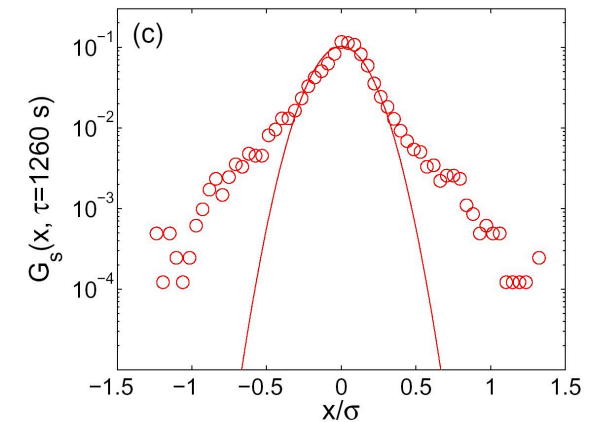
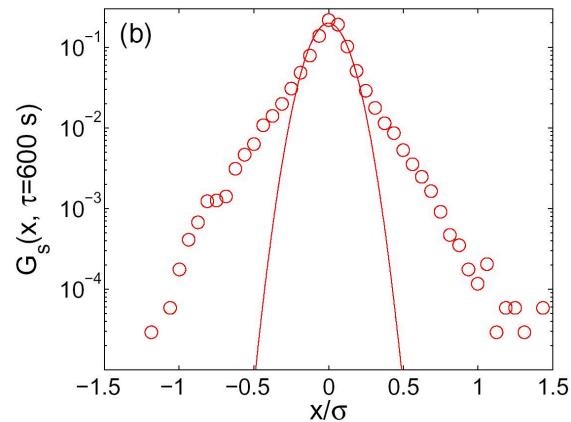
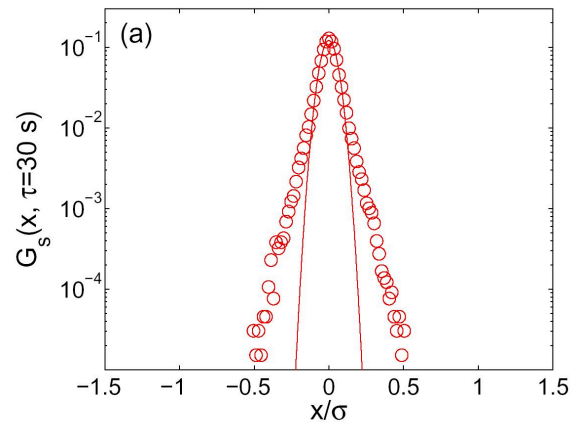


$\phi=0.429$



# *Exponential wings in self van Hove correlation function*

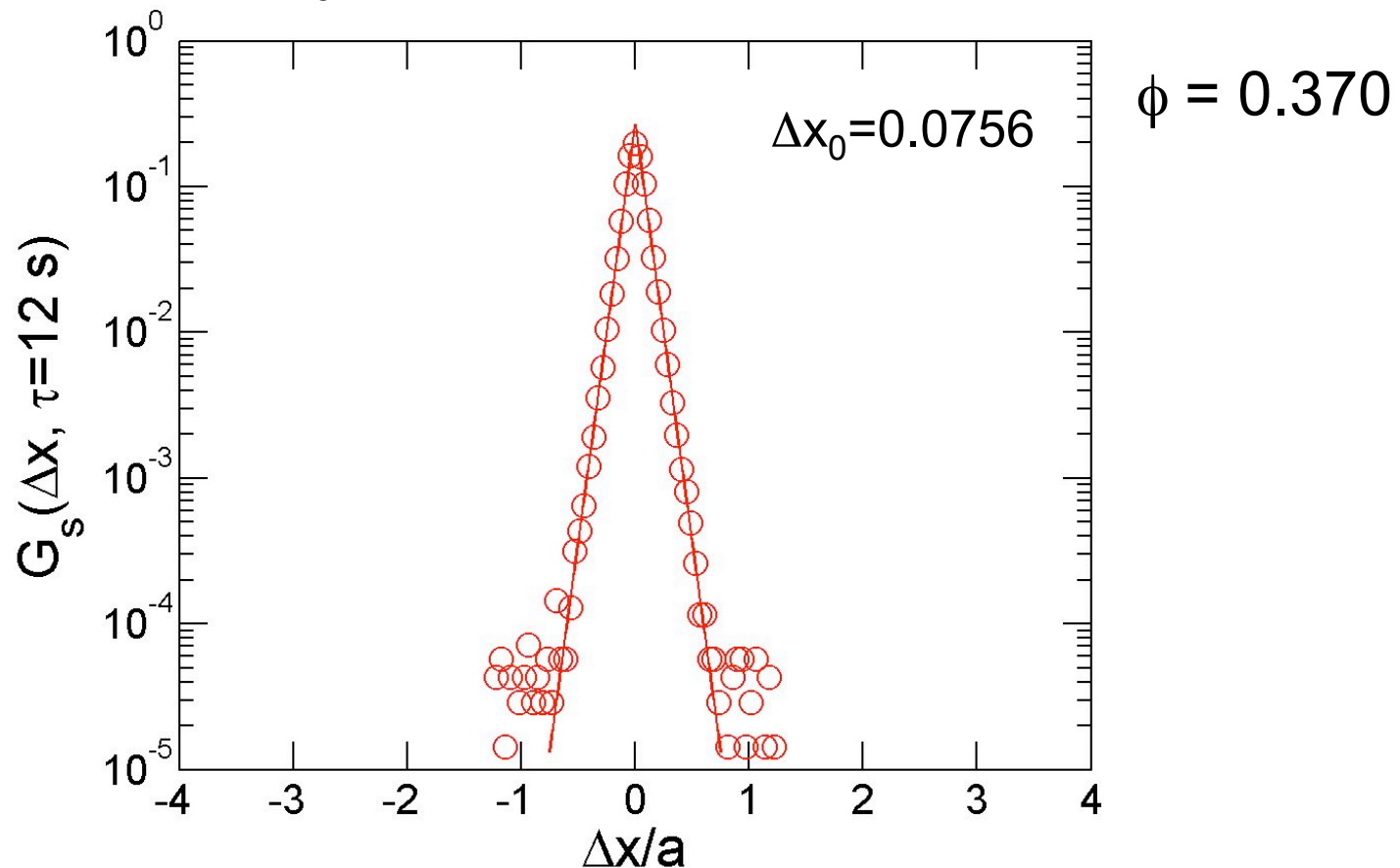
*volume fraction 0.386, as  $\tau$  increases*



\* Occurs in a broad class of materials close to glass and jamming transitions

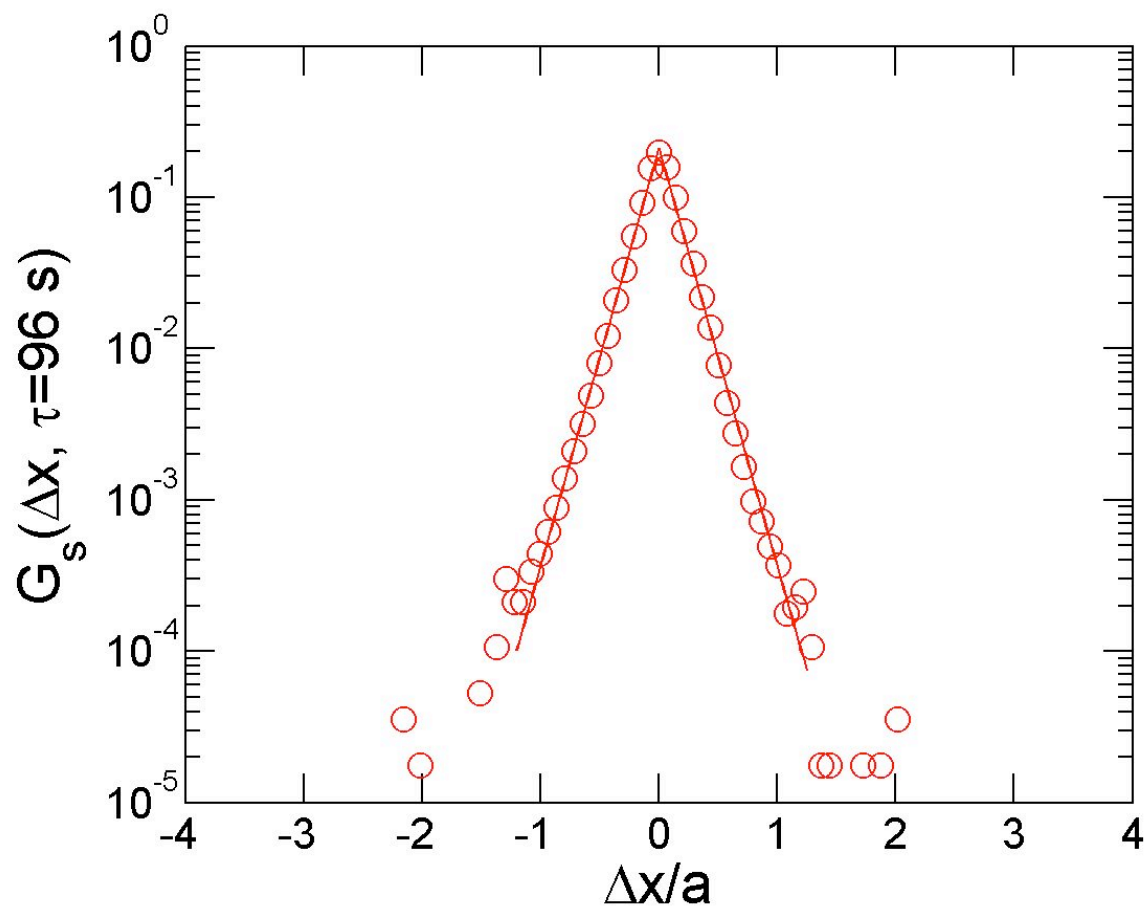
# *Exponential wings in self van Hove correlation function*

fit to:  $P(\Delta x, \tau) \propto \exp(-|\Delta x| / \Delta x_0)$   
 $\Delta x_0$  is the characteristic length scale



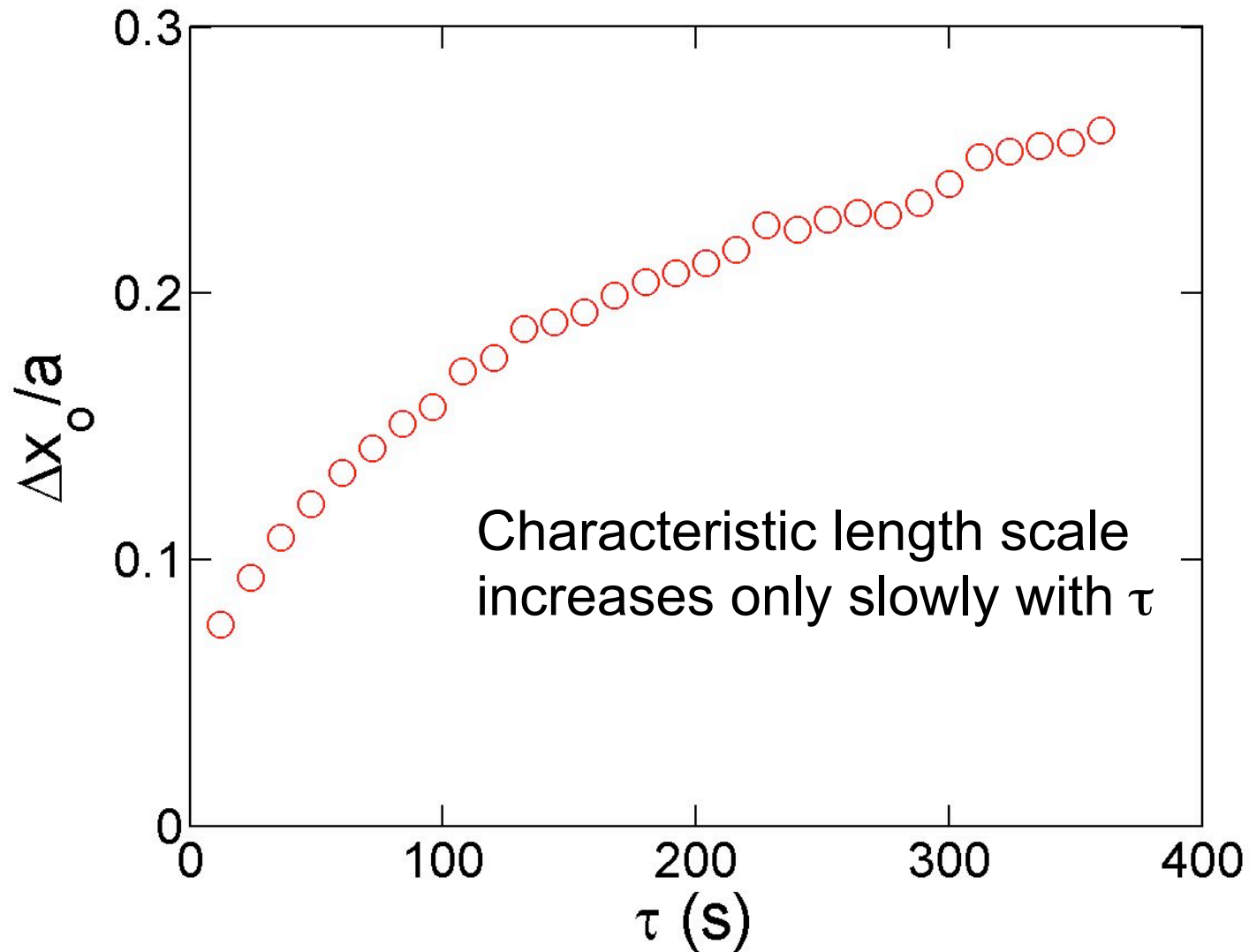
# *Exponential wings in self van Hove correlation function*

$\Delta x_0 = 0.1574$        $\phi = 0.370$

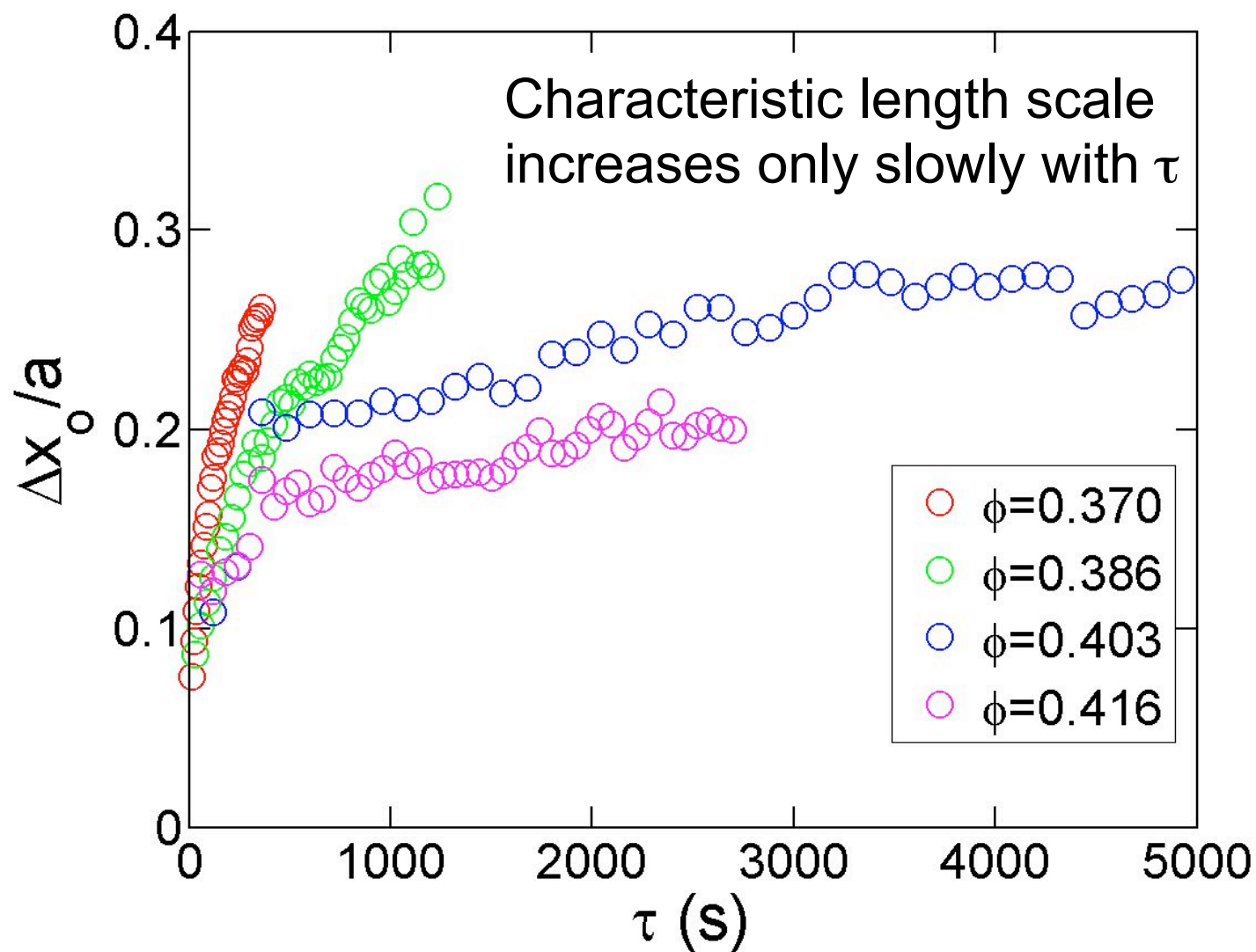




# *Exponential wings in self van Hove correlation function*



# *Exponential wings in self van Hove correlation function*



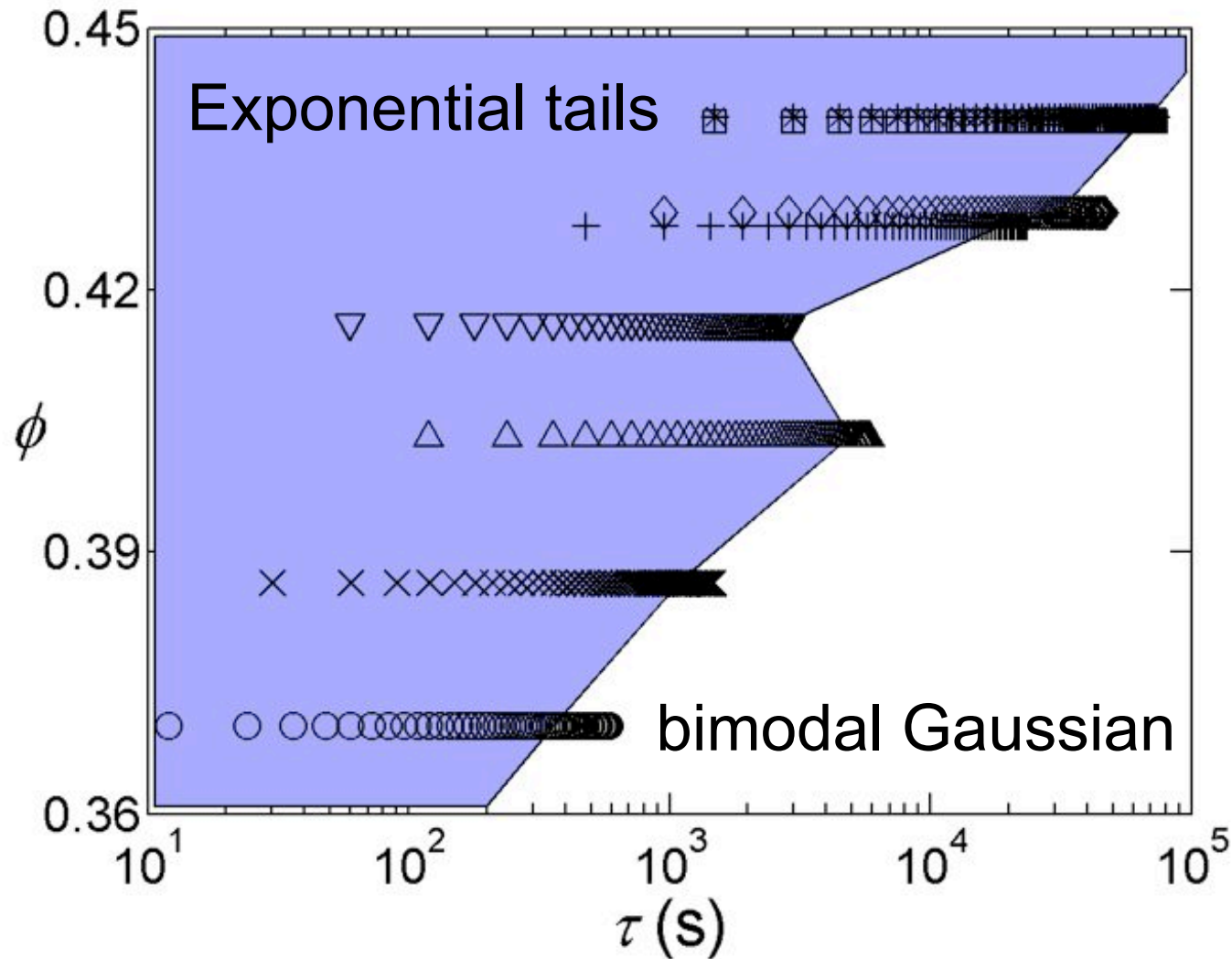
# *Exponential wings in self van Hove correlation function*

\* model of Berthier and Kob (Chaudhuri *et al.*, arXiv:0707.2095v1), suggests CTRW can describe the (universal) exponential tails

\* have measurements of all the elements in the model:

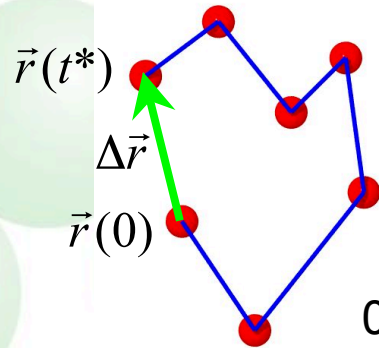
$$f_{\text{vib}}(r), f_{\text{jump}}(r), \tau_{\text{jump}}, \tau_{\text{jump}}^{\text{1st}}$$

# *Range of data over which exponential wings in self van Hove are observed*



# Are there correlated motions involved in the dynamical heterogeneities?

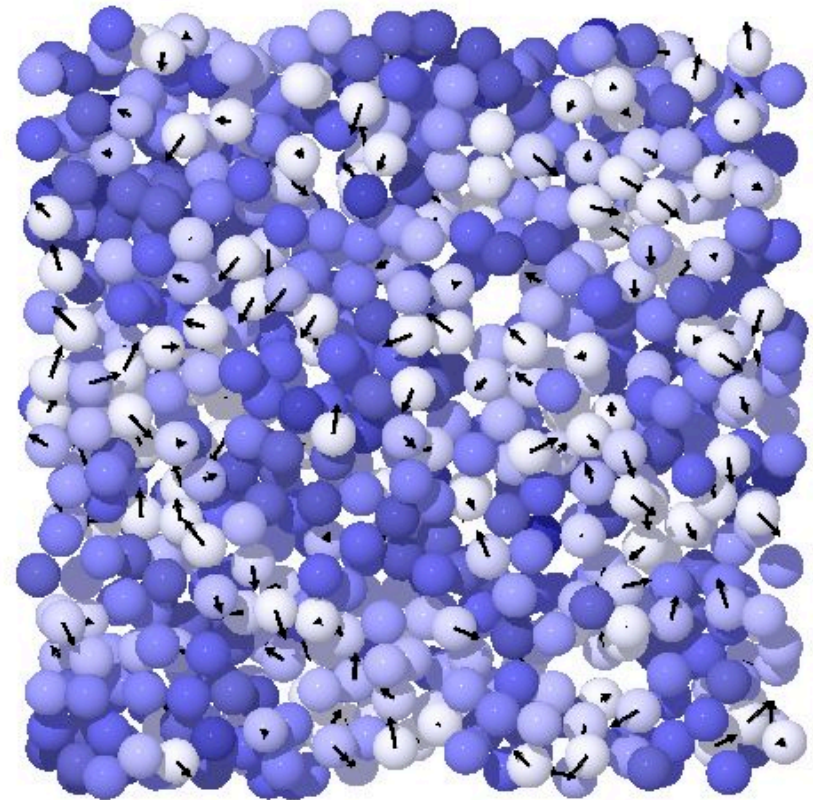
$\phi = 0.370$  ( $\Delta t = 12$  s),  $t^* = 84$  s



*Weeks et al. definition*

$$\Delta r = |\vec{r}(t^*) - \vec{r}(0)|$$

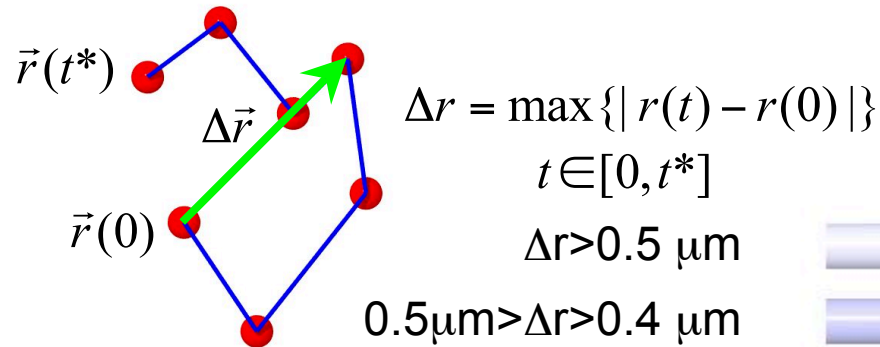
- $\Delta r > 0.5 \mu\text{m}$
- $0.5 \mu\text{m} > \Delta r > 0.4 \mu\text{m}$
- $0.4 \mu\text{m} > \Delta r > 0.3 \mu\text{m}$
- $0.3 \mu\text{m} > \Delta r > 0.25 \mu\text{m}$
- $0.25 \mu\text{m} > \Delta r > 0.2 \mu\text{m}$
- $0.2 \mu\text{m} > \Delta r > 0.15 \mu\text{m}$
- $0.15 \mu\text{m} > \Delta r > 0.1 \mu\text{m}$
- $0.1 \mu\text{m} > \Delta r > 0.07 \mu\text{m}$
- $0.07 \mu\text{m} > \Delta r > 0.04 \mu\text{m}$
- $0.04 \mu\text{m} > \Delta r$





$\phi = 0.370$  ( $\Delta t = 12$  s),  $t^* = 84$  s

*Glotzer et al. definition*



$$\Delta r = \max \{ |r(t) - r(0)| \}$$
$$t \in [0, t^*]$$

$$\Delta r > 0.5 \mu\text{m}$$

$$0.5 \mu\text{m} > \Delta r > 0.4 \mu\text{m}$$

$$0.4 \mu\text{m} > \Delta r > 0.3 \mu\text{m}$$

$$0.3 \mu\text{m} > \Delta r > 0.25 \mu\text{m}$$

$$0.25 \mu\text{m} > \Delta r > 0.2 \mu\text{m}$$

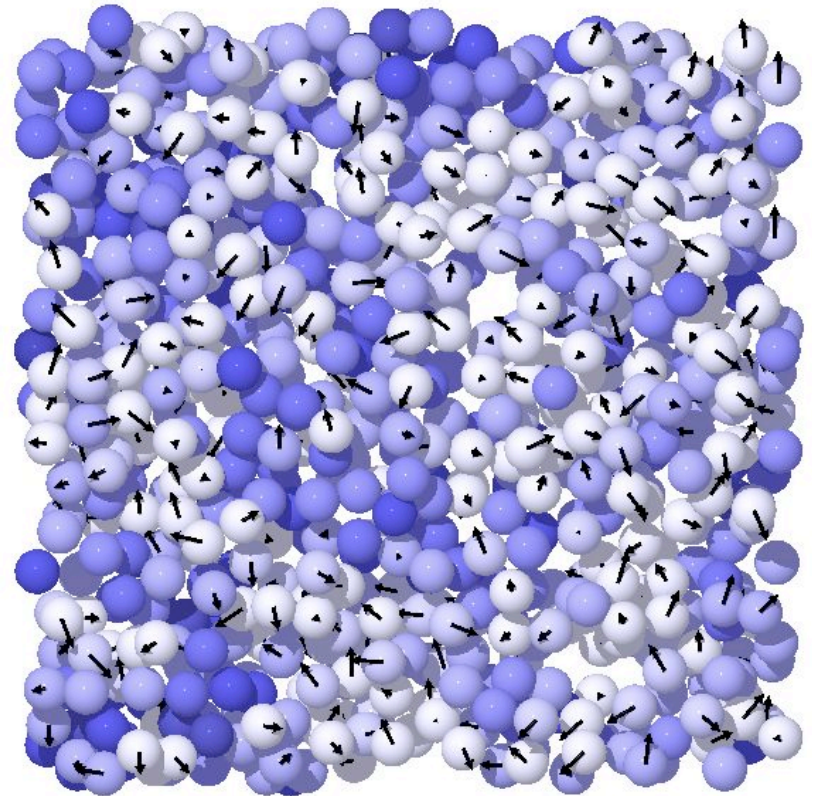
$$0.2 \mu\text{m} > \Delta r > 0.15 \mu\text{m}$$

$$0.15 \mu\text{m} > \Delta r > 0.1 \mu\text{m}$$

$$0.1 \mu\text{m} > \Delta r > 0.07 \mu\text{m}$$

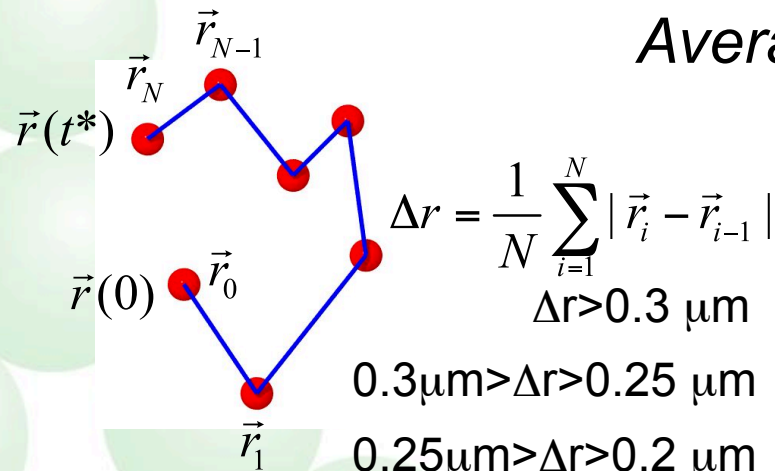
$$0.07 \mu\text{m} > \Delta r > 0.04 \mu\text{m}$$

$$0.04 \mu\text{m} > \Delta r$$



$\phi = 0.370$  ( $\Delta t = 12$  s),  $t^* = 84$  s

*Average step size definition*



$$\Delta r = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N |\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_{i-1}|$$

$\Delta r > 0.3 \mu\text{m}$

$0.3 \mu\text{m} > \Delta r > 0.25 \mu\text{m}$

$0.25 \mu\text{m} > \Delta r > 0.2 \mu\text{m}$

$0.2 \mu\text{m} > \Delta r > 0.18 \mu\text{m}$

$0.18 \mu\text{m} > \Delta r > 0.16 \mu\text{m}$

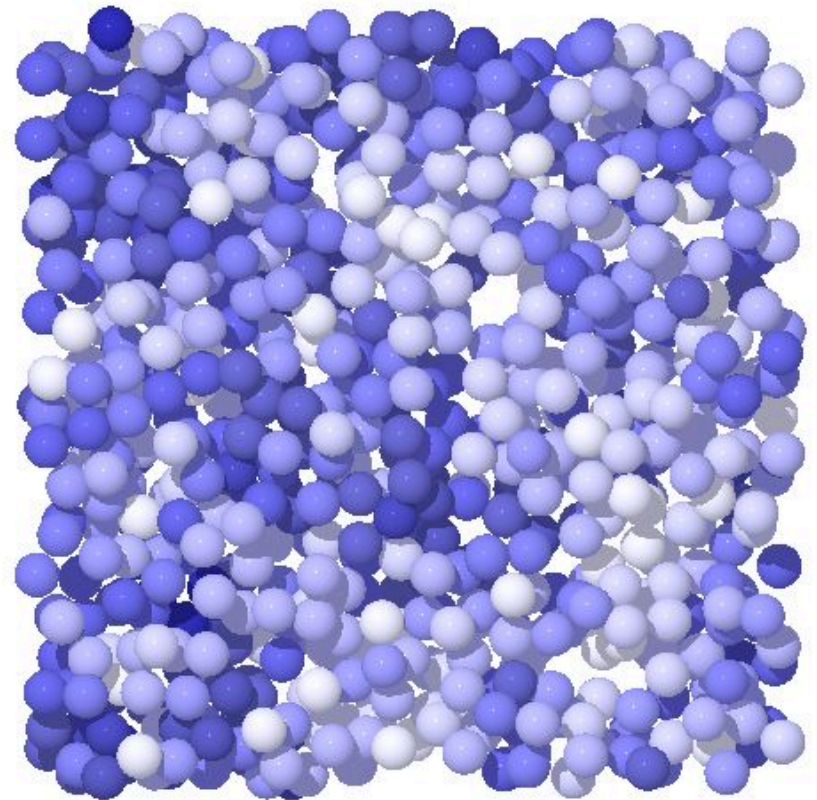
$0.16 \mu\text{m} > \Delta r > 0.14 \mu\text{m}$

$0.14 \mu\text{m} > \Delta r > 0.12 \mu\text{m}$

$0.12 \mu\text{m} > \Delta r > 0.10 \mu\text{m}$

$0.10 \mu\text{m} > \Delta r > 0.08 \mu\text{m}$

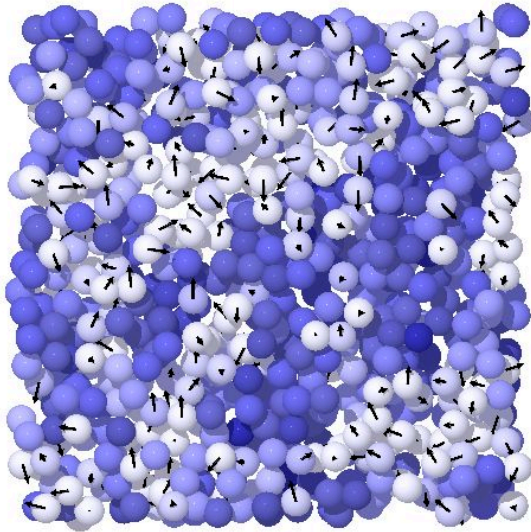
$0.08 \mu\text{m} > \Delta r$



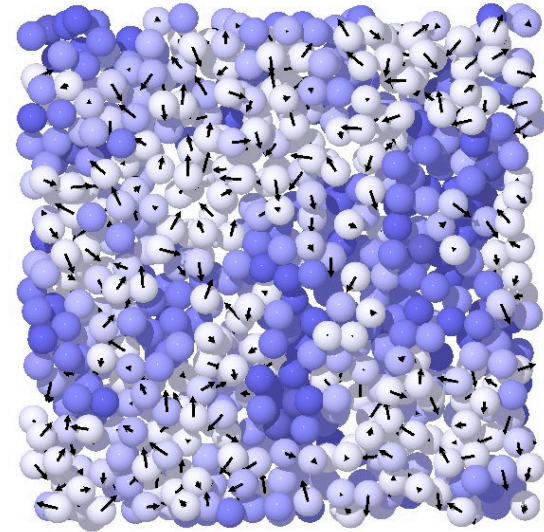


$\phi = 0.386$  ( $\Delta t=30$  s),  $t^*=330$  s

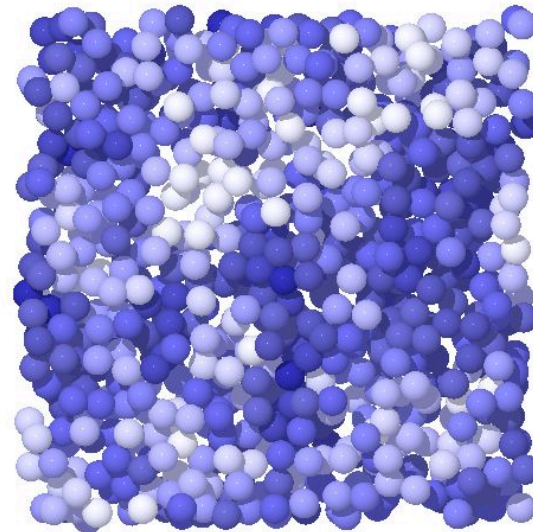
*Weeks et al. definition*



*Glotzer et al. definition*

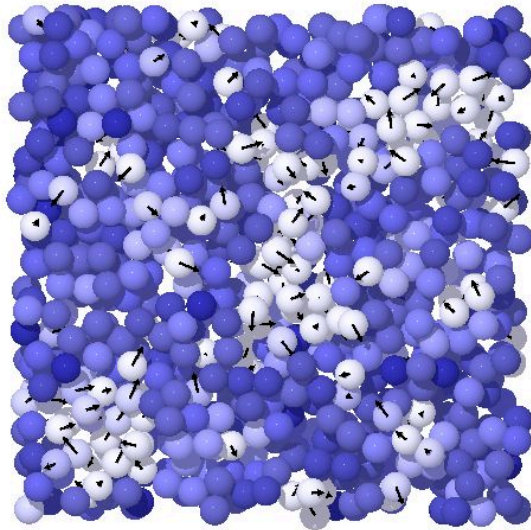


*Average step size definition*

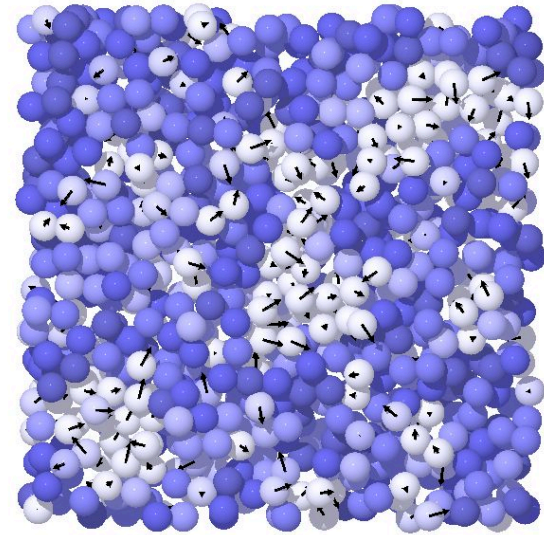


$\phi = 0.429$  ( $\Delta t=960s$ ),  $t^*=12480s$

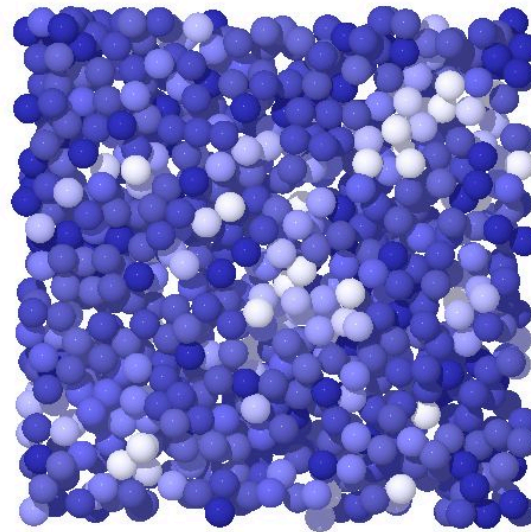
*Weeks et al. definition*



*Glotzer et al. definition*



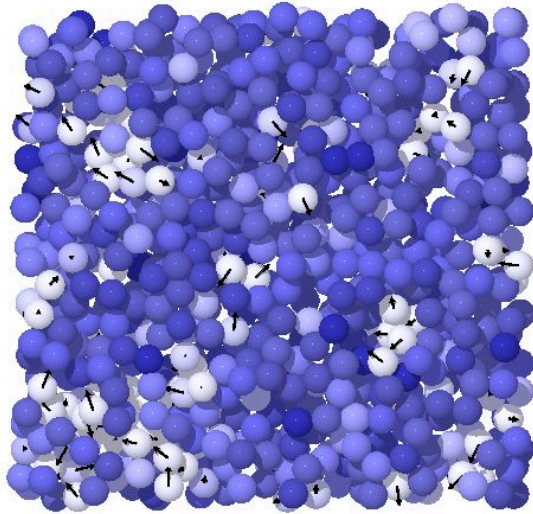
*Average step size definition*



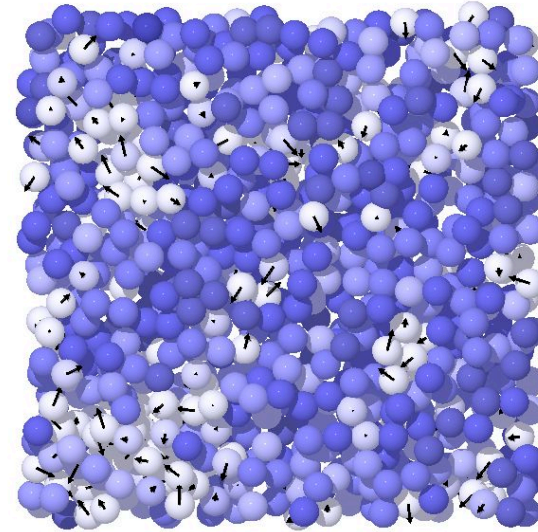


$\phi = 0.439$  ( $\Delta t = 1500$  s),  $t^* = 25500$  s

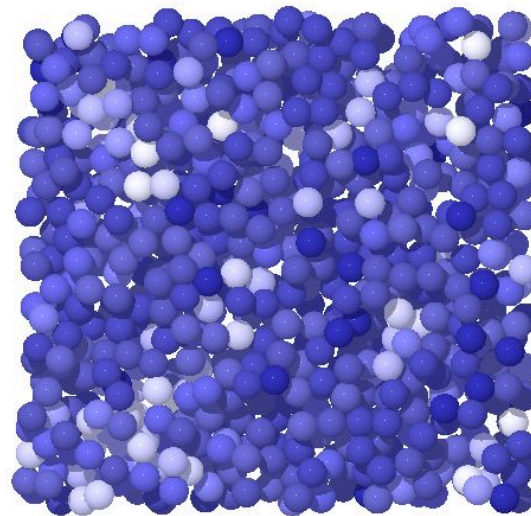
*Weeks et al. definition*



*Glotzer et al. definition*



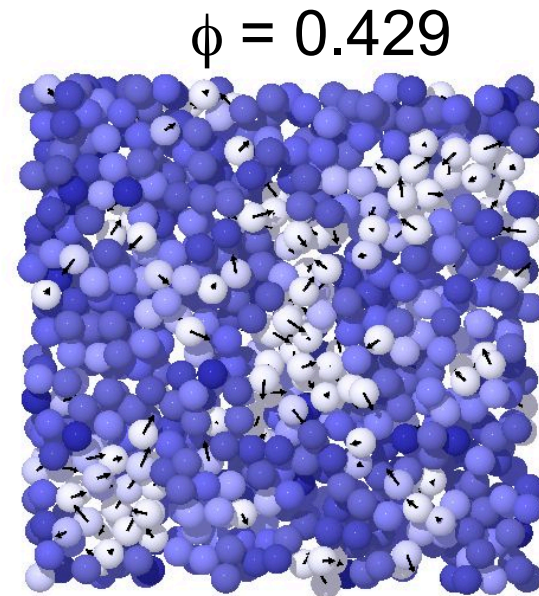
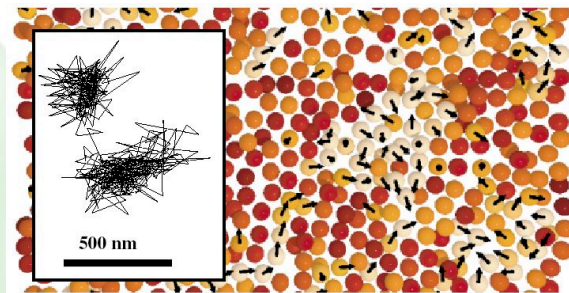
*Average step size definition*



# *Conclusions*

- Dynamics in attractive colloids close to the jamming transition shows heterogeneity
- Immobile population appears grows at the expense of the mobile population as system approaches the jamming transition.
- Immobile population shares features with the approach to the glass transition via the hard sphere route. Dynamics is localized vibrations. The mechanism for localization ~ combination of crowding and stickiness.
- The mobile population shows increasingly sluggish dynamics, with some fraction contributing to the broad tails in the van Hove function, emerging as Gaussian at long lag times.
- No strong correlation of dynamical and structural heterogeneities.

# What do we NOT see



- *Different* microscopic picture of the dynamical heterogeneities compared to hard sphere supercooled fluids
- Do not see large changes in local volume accompanying the huge dynamical effects on approach to jamming transition

# Unresolved issues

- Is there a growing length scale in the approach to the transition here? --> study four-point correlation functions
- Do attractive and hard sphere glasses have the same behaviour?

