

# **The Micromechanics of Colloidal Dispersions**

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**With help from: My students and postdocs  
And backed by: NSF, NASA, ONR, PRF**



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University of Alberta  
19 September 2013*

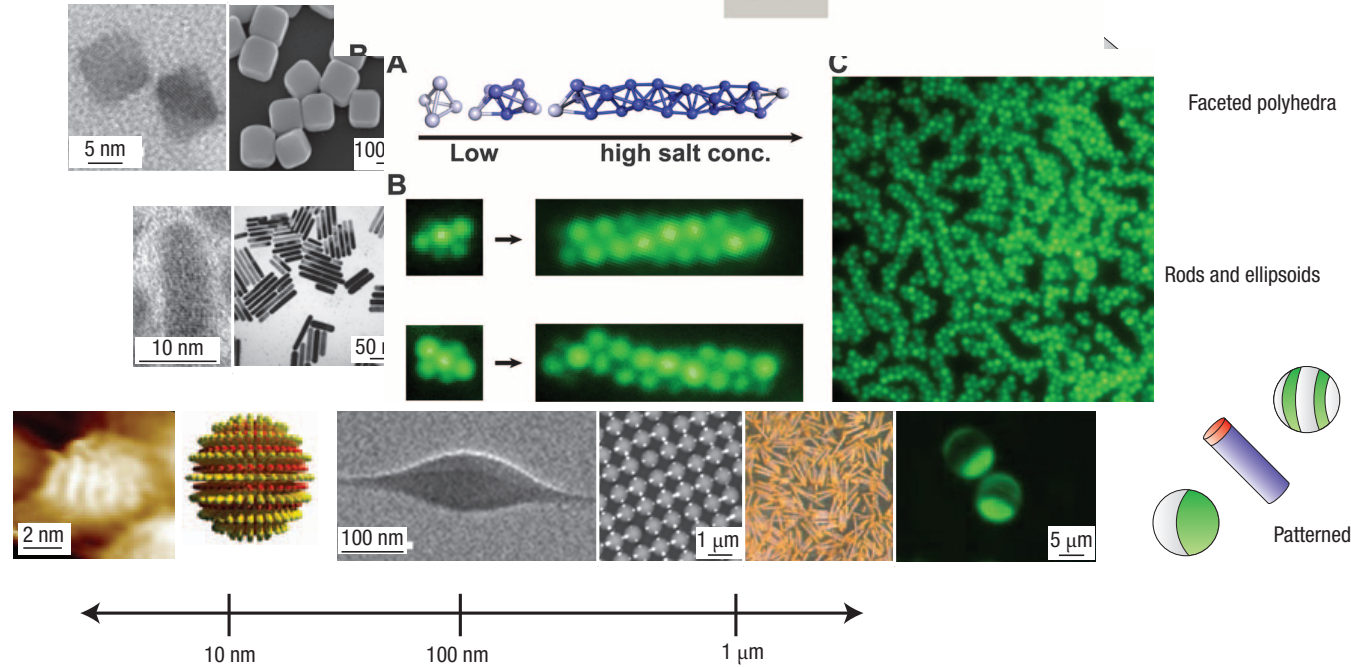
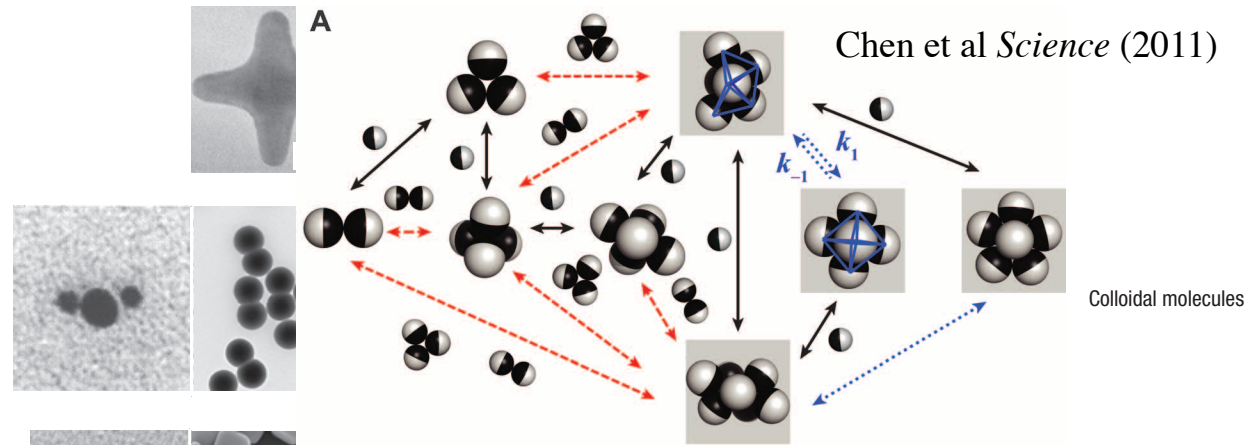
# Outline

- **What's a colloid and why do we care?**
- **How did the field start?**
- **The amazing rheology of spheres. (Or how to walk on water and make a bullet-proof vest.)**
- **How does random diffusion de-mix a suspension?**
- **What can we do with active matter?**
- **Conclusions**

# What's a Colloid?

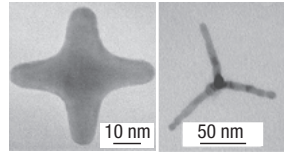
Colloids are small particles dispersed in a liquid. They come in a variety of sizes - typically from 10nm to 10 $\mu$ m - shapes and colors.

Because of their small size, Brownian forces ( $kT$ ) compete against interparticle forces ( $V$ ) and hydrodynamics to set the structure and determine properties.

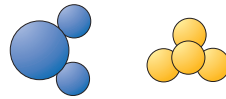
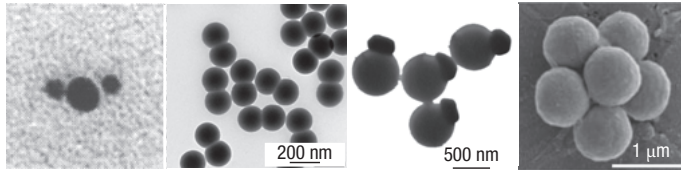


Glotzer & Solomon, *Nature Materials* (2007)

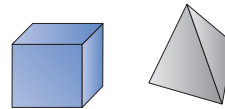
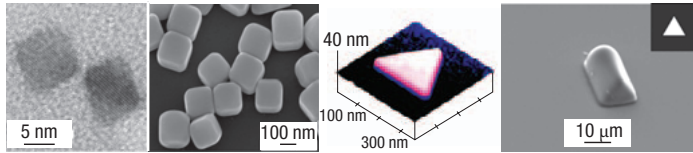
# Why do we care?



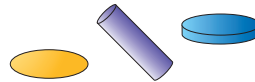
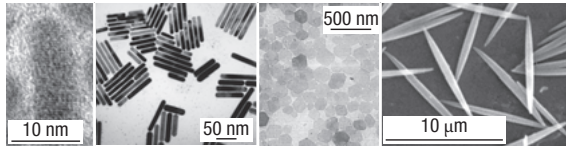
Branched



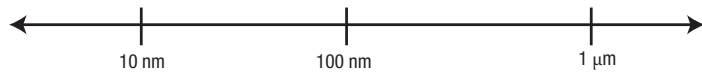
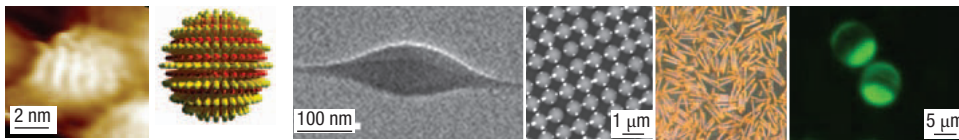
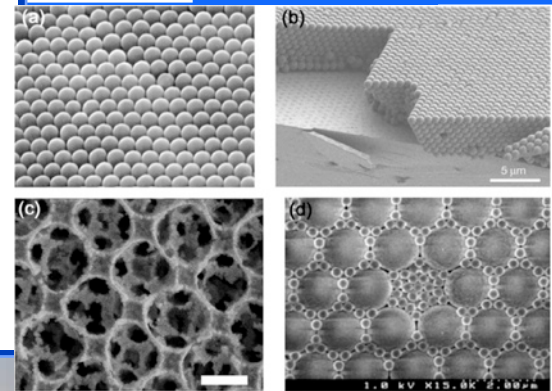
Colloidal molecules



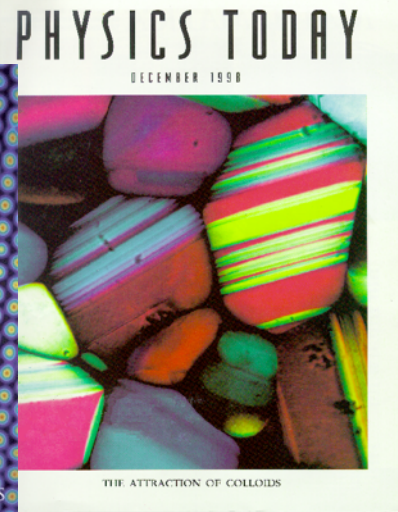
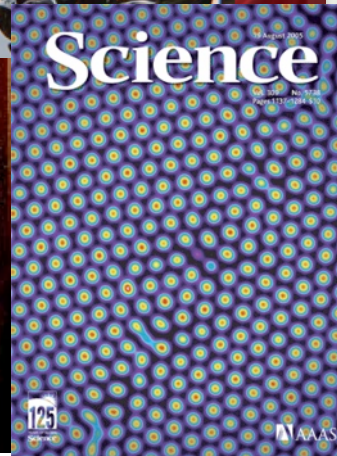
Faceted poly



Rods and ellip



Glotzer & Solomon, *Nature Materials* (2007)



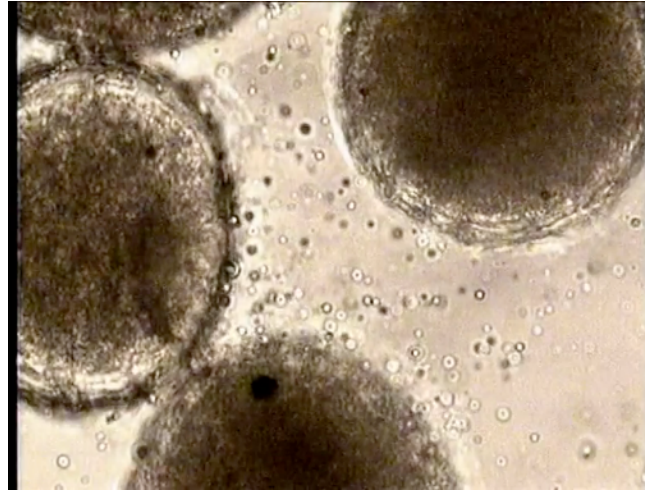
# How did the field start?

The answer is Einstein.

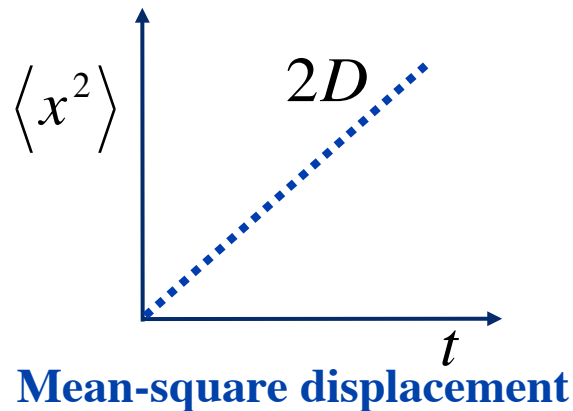


Einstein (circa 1905)

Brownian Motion



Brown (circa 1827)



Stokes-Einstein Relation

$$D = kTM \left( = \frac{kT}{6\pi\eta a} \right)$$

$$F^H = -6\pi\eta aU$$

$$Re = \rho U a / \eta \ll 1$$

Stokes (circa 1851)



# W. Sutherland (1905)

LXXV. *A Dynamical Theory of Diffusion for Non-Electrolytes and the Molecular Mass of Albumin*. By WILLIAM SUTHERLAND †.

IN a paper communicated to the Australian Association for the Advancement of Science at Dunedin, 1904, on the Measurement of Large Molecular Masses, a purely dynamical theory of diffusion was outlined, with the aim of getting a formula for calculating from the data of diffusion those large molecular masses for which the ordinary methods fail. The formula obtained made the velocity of diffusion of a substance through a liquid vary inversely as the radius  $a$  of its molecule and inversely as the viscosity of the liquid. On applying it to the best data for coefficients of diffusion  $D$  it was found that the products  $aD$ , instead of being constant, diminished with increasing  $a$  in a manner which made extrapolation with the formula for substances like albumin seem precarious. After looking a little more closely into the dynamical conditions of the problem, it seems to me that the diminution of  $aD$  can be accounted for, and can be expressed by an empirical formula which enables us to extrapolate with confidence for a value of  $a$  for albumin, and so to assign for the molecular mass of albumin a value whose accuracy depends on that with which  $D$  is measured.

The theory is very similar to that of "Ionization, Ionic Velocities and Atomic Sizes" (Phil. Mag. Feb. 1902). Let a molecule of solute of radius  $a$  move with velocity  $V$  parallel to an  $x$  axis through the dilute solution of viscosity  $\eta$ . Then the resistance  $F$  to its motion is given by Stokes's formula

$$F = 6\pi V \eta a \frac{1 + 2\eta/\beta a}{1 + 3\eta/\beta a} \dots \dots \dots (1)$$

\* A theorem attributed to Weber. See Gray and Matthews' 'Bessel's Functions,' p. 238.

† See 'Theory of Sound,' § 203, equations (14), (16).

‡ Communicated by the Author.



(1859-1911)

(age 20)

782 Mr. W. Sutherland on a *Dynamical Theory*

where  $\beta$  is the coefficient of sliding friction if there is slip between the diffusing molecule and the solution. For  $N$  molecules of solute per c.c. of solution the total resistance will be  $N$  times this, and in the steady state of diffusion will equilibrate the driving force due to variation of the osmotic pressure of the solute, namely  $dp/dx$ , which by the osmotic laws is  $RTdc/dx$ , if  $c$  is the concentration of the solute at  $x$  and  $R$  is the gas constant. Hence

$$RT \frac{dc}{dx} = 6\pi V \eta a N \frac{1 + 2\eta/\beta a}{1 + 3\eta/\beta a}; \dots \dots (2)$$

and the required formula for the coefficient of diffusion with  $C$  for the number of molecules in a gramme-molecule is

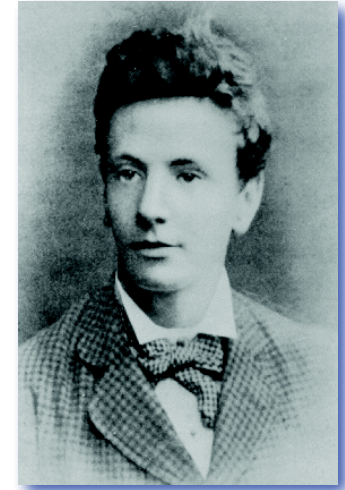
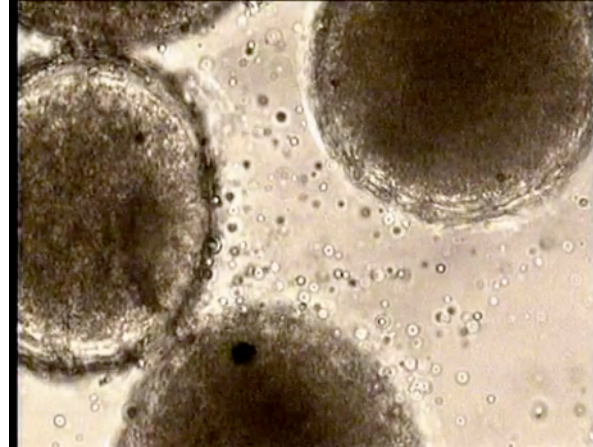
$$D = \frac{RT}{6\pi \eta a C} \frac{1 + 3\eta/\beta a}{1 + 2\eta/\beta a} \dots \dots \dots (3)$$

# How did the field start?

## Brownian Motion



Einstein (circa 1905)



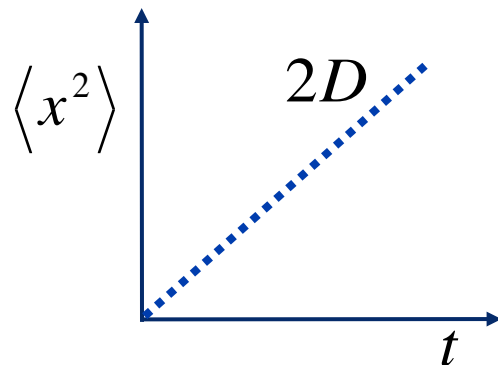
Sutherland (circa 1879)

## Stokes-Einstein-Sutherland Relation

$$D = kTM \left( = \frac{kT}{6\pi\eta a} \right)$$

$$\mathbf{F}^H = -6\pi\eta a \mathbf{U}$$

$$Re = \rho U a / \eta \ll 1$$



Mean-square displacement

Stokes (circa 1851)



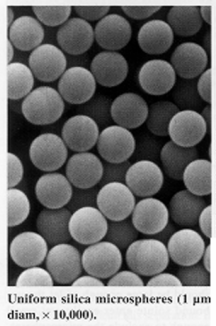
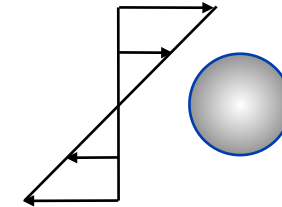
# Einstein and the effective viscosity



Einstein (circa 1905)

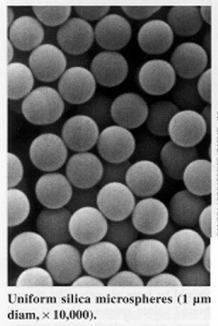
In *Annalen der Physik* (1906; corrected 1911)

$$\eta_{eff} = \eta \left( 1 + \frac{5}{2} \phi \right) , \quad \phi = \frac{4}{3} \pi a^3 n$$





# Einstein and Avagadro's Number

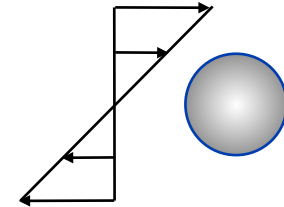


Einstein (circa 1905)

In *Annalen der Physik* (1906; corrected 1911)

$$\eta_{eff} = \eta \left( 1 + \frac{5}{2} \phi \right) \quad , \quad \phi = \frac{4}{3} \pi a^3 n$$

$$\frac{\eta_{eff}}{\eta} - 1 = \frac{5}{2} \frac{4}{3} \pi \left( \frac{\text{gm - mole}}{\text{vol}} \right) N_A a^3$$



Stokes-Einstein-Sutherland Relation:

$$D = \frac{RT}{6\pi\eta} \frac{1}{N_A a}$$

For a sugar molecule:

$$N_A = 6.56 \times 10^{23}$$

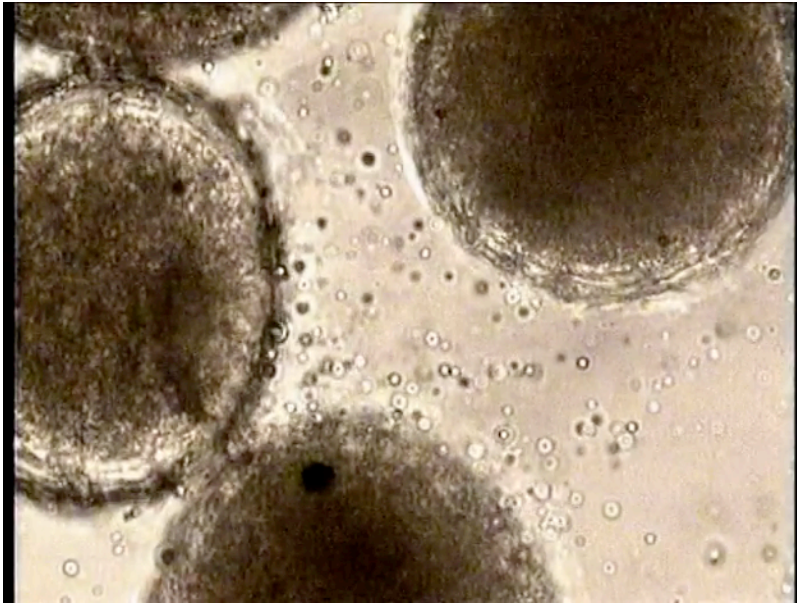
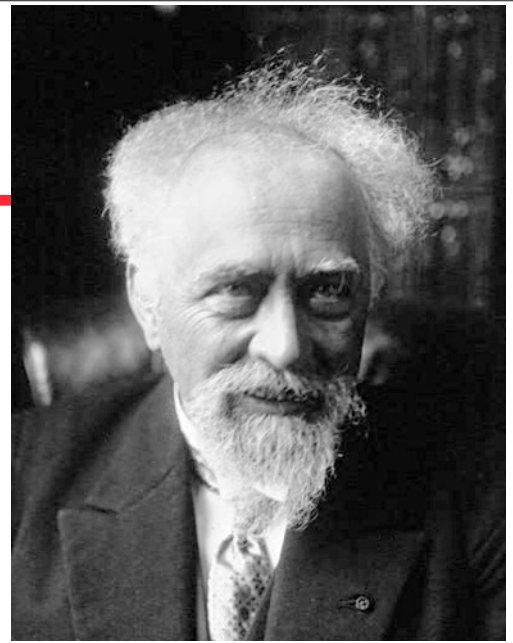
$$a = 4.9 \text{ \AA}$$

Avagadro (circa 1811)

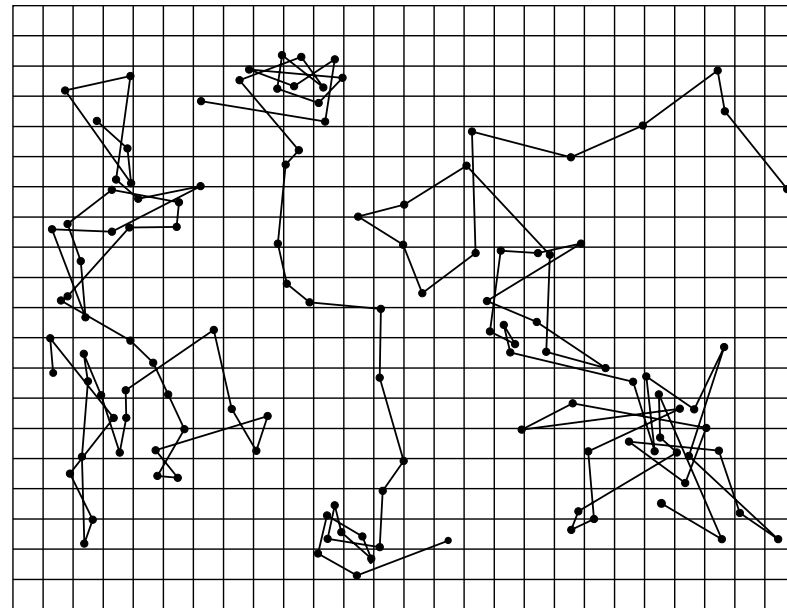


# Jean B. Perrin (1926 Nobel Prize)

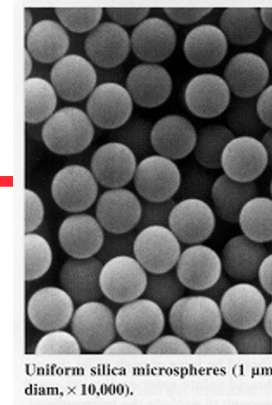
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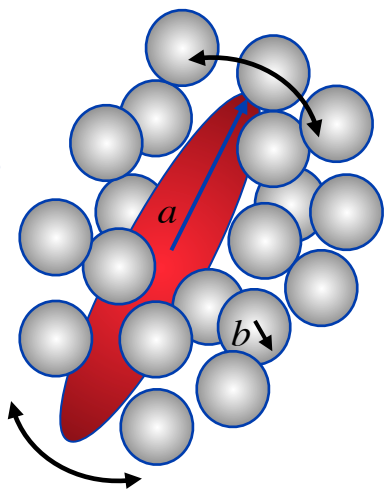
**Definitive proof of the  
atomic nature of matter**



# 'Generalized' Stokes-Einstein-Sutherland Relation



solvent molecules



Rotational Diffusivity:

$$D_{rot} = kTM_{rot} \left( = \frac{kT}{8\pi\eta a^3} \right)$$

- Separation of length and time scales between the motion of the 'particle' and that of a solvent molecule:  $a/b \gg 1$

particle/  
solvent time:

$$\tau_p / \tau_s \sim (a/b)^2$$

# collisions in  
particle time:

$$N_c \sim (a/b)^4$$

# of solvent  
molecules per  
particle

$$N_s / N_p \sim (a/b)^3$$

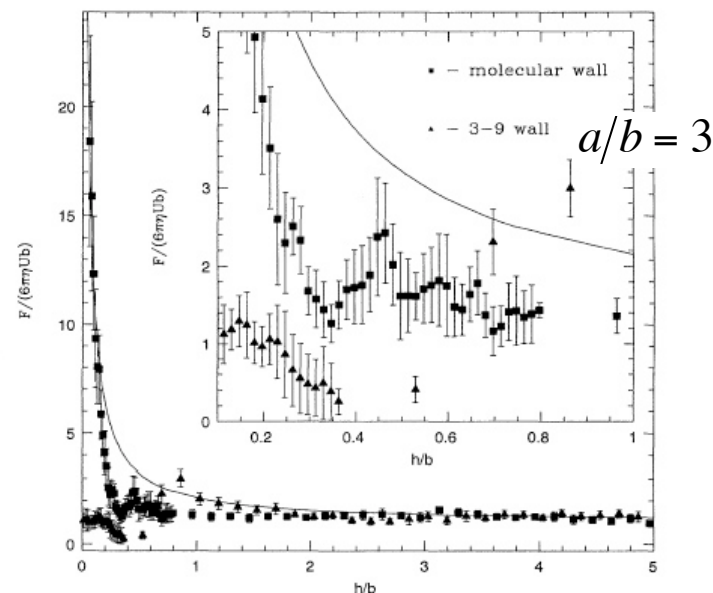


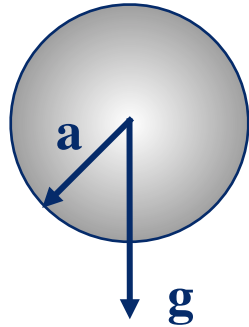
FIG. 2. The force of the fluid resistance acting on ball A approaching a solid molecular or 3-9 wall,  $U = 2.0$ ,  $b = 3.0$ . The solid line represents the exact continuum result [2].

Vergeles, *et al* PRL (1995)

# Characteristic Scales: A Simple Example

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Spherical particle of  $0.5\mu\text{m}$  of specific gravity 2 falling in water.



Particle Size :  $a = \frac{1}{2}\mu\text{m}$

Fall Speed :  $U = \frac{1}{2}\mu\text{m/s}$

Reynolds Number :  $Re = \frac{1}{2} \times 10^{-6}$

Diffusivity :  $D = \frac{1}{2}(\mu\text{m})^2/\text{s}$

Peclet Number :  $Pe = \frac{1}{2}$

$\left(\frac{\textit{inertial}}{\textit{viscous}}\right)$   $Re = \frac{\rho U a}{\eta}$

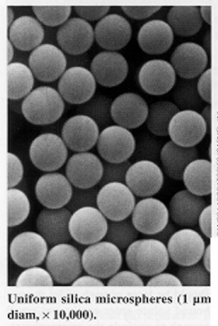
$\left(\frac{\textit{advection}}{\textit{diffusion}}\right)$   $Pe = \frac{U a}{D}$

Stokes - Einstein - Sutherland Relation :  $D = kTR^{-1} = \frac{kT}{6\pi\eta a}$

# Outline

- What's a colloid and why do we care?
- How did the field start?
- **The amazing rheology of spheres. (Or how to walk on water and make a bullet-proof vest.)**
- How does random diffusion de-mix a suspension?
- What can we do with active matter?
- Conclusions

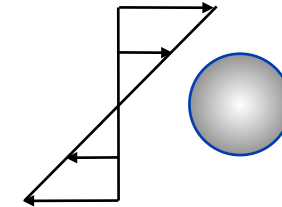
# The amazing rheology of spheres



Einstein (1905)

In *Annalen der Physik* (1906; corrected 1911)

$$\eta_{eff} = \eta \left( 1 + \frac{5}{2} \phi \right) \quad , \quad \phi = \frac{4}{3} \pi a^3 n$$



The next correction,  $O(\phi^2)$ , took 70 years! Why?

1) Long-range interactions

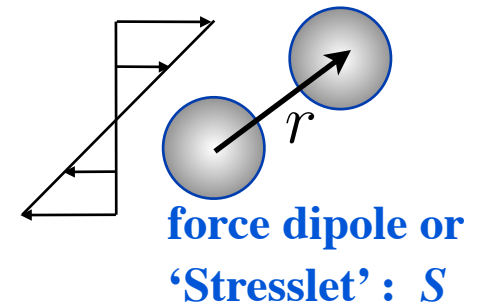
$$u' \sim 1/r^2 \quad , \quad S \sim 1/r^3$$

2) Microstructure

$$g(r)$$

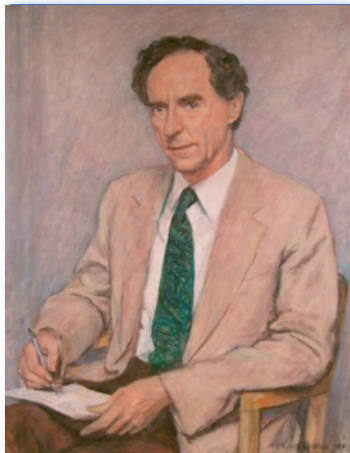
3) Brownian contribution to stress

$$S^B$$



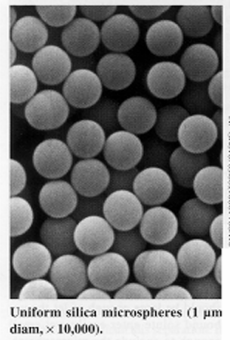
$$\Delta \eta^H = 5.0 \phi^2$$

$$\Delta \eta^B = 1.2 \phi^2$$



Batchelor

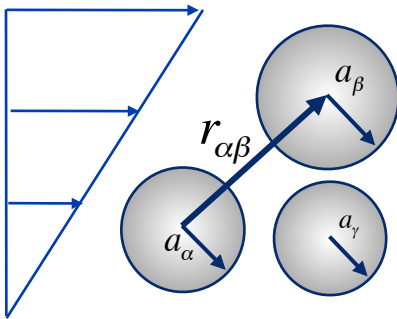
# The amazing rheology of spheres



$$\eta^{eff} = \eta \left( 1 + \frac{5}{2}\phi + 5.0\phi^2 + 1.2\phi^2 + O(\phi^3) \right)$$

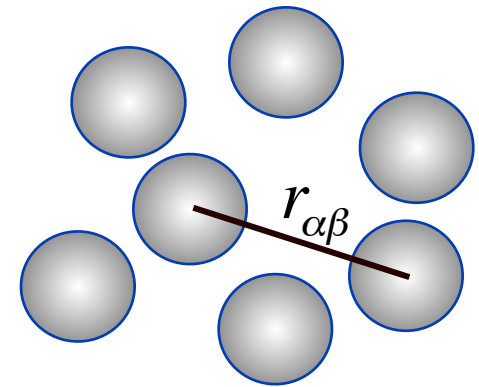
Einstein (1906)     Batchelor (1977)

How about the next term,  $O(\phi^3)$ ? Another 70 years?

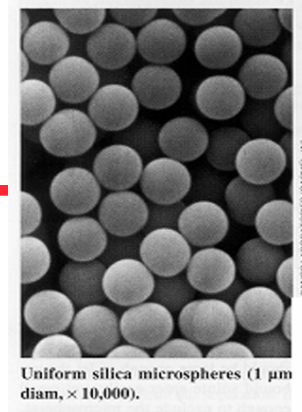


If you can do three, you can do  $N$

**Stokesian Dynamics**

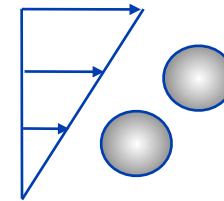


# Stokesian Dynamics ( $Re \ll 1$ )



**Particle Motion:**

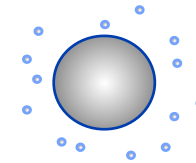
~~$$m \frac{dU}{dt} = F^H + F^B + F^P$$~~



**Hydrodynamic:**

$$F^H = -R(x) \cdot (U - U^\infty)$$

Stokes drag



$$\tau_p \sim O(m / 6\pi\eta a) \approx 10^{-8} s$$

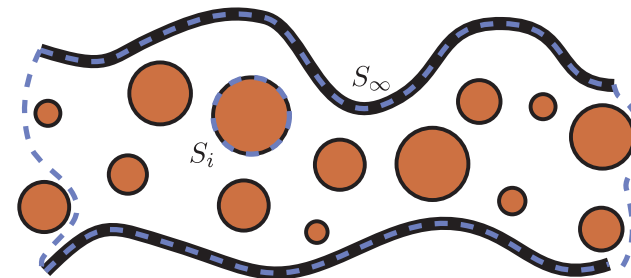
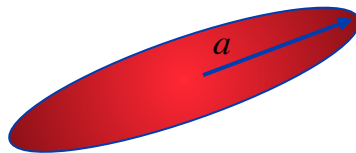
**Brownian:**

$$\overline{F^B} = 0, \quad \overline{F^B(0)F^B(t)} = 2kTR(x)\delta(t) \quad O(10^{-13} s)$$

**Interparticle/  
external:**

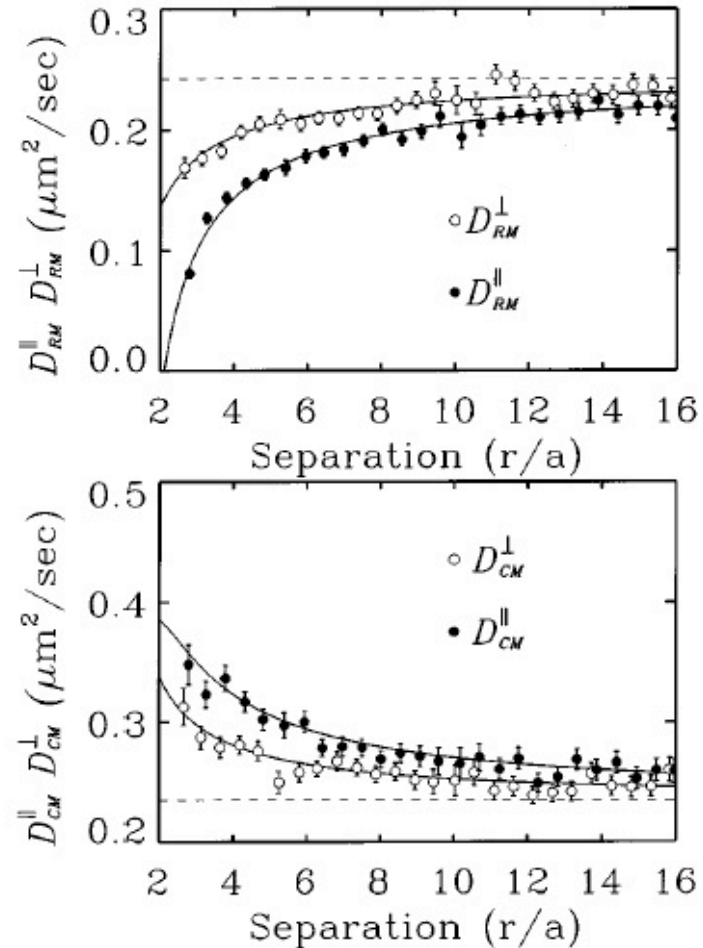
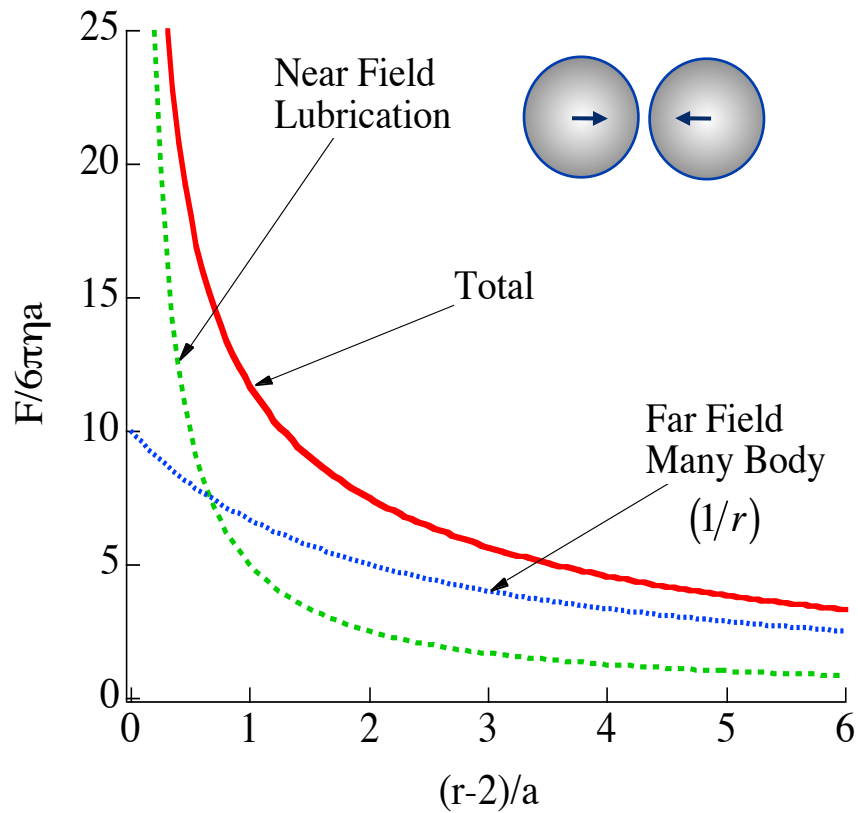
$$F^P = \Delta\rho V_p g, \text{ electrostatic, etc.}$$

Shape, multiparticle, bounded, etc.





# Nature of Hydrodynamic Forces: $F^H = -R(x) \cdot U$



## Measurement of the hydrodynamic corrections to the Brownian motion of two colloidal spheres

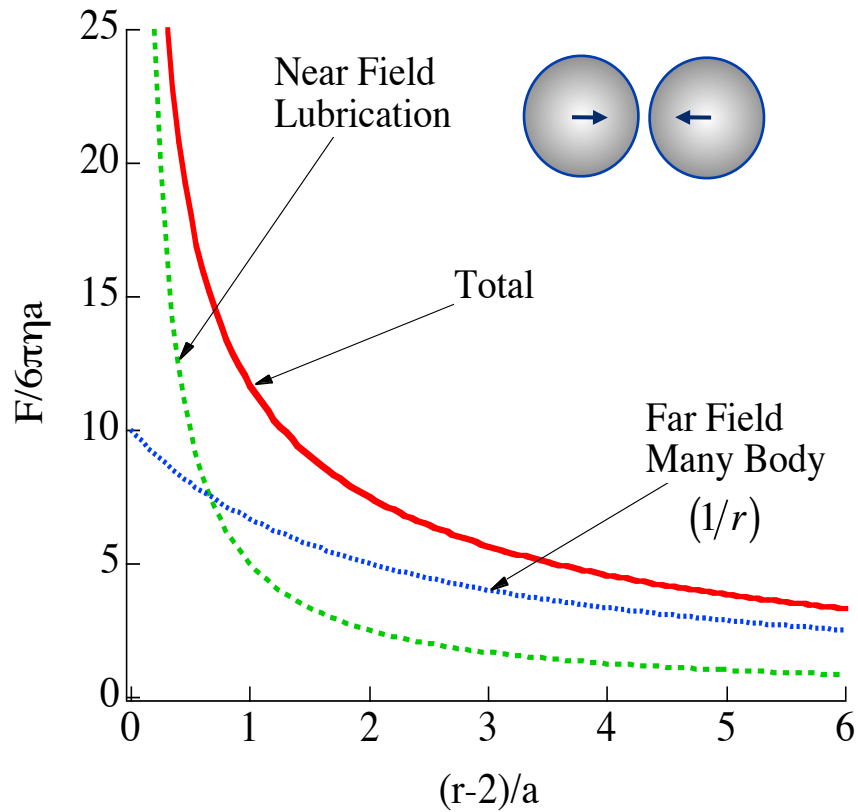
John C. Crocker  
James Franck Institute and Department of Physics, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois 60637

(Received 25 July 1996; accepted 14 November 1996)

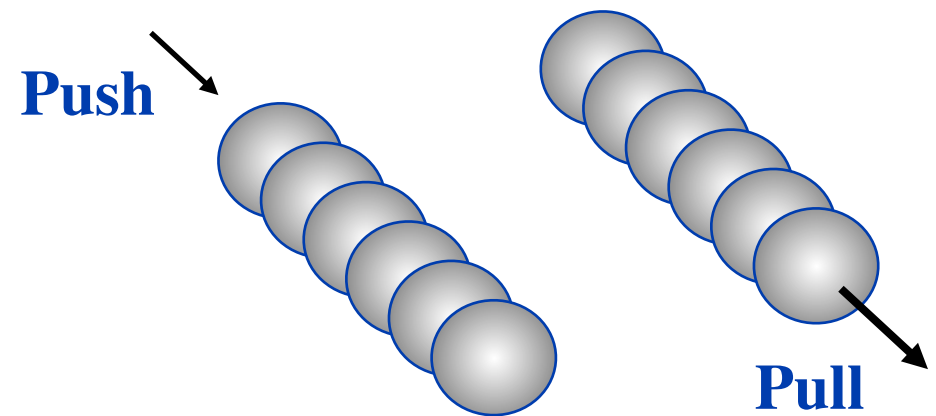
The hydrodynamic coupling between two isolated  $0.97 \mu\text{m}$  diameter polystyrene spheres is measured by reconstructing their Brownian motion using digital video microscopy. Blinking optical tweezers are used to facilitate data collection by positioning the spheres in the microscope's focal

FIG. 1. The measured relative (top) and center of mass (bottom) diffusion coefficients for a pair of colloidal spheres of diameter  $2a=0.966 \mu\text{m}$  as a function of dimensionless separation  $\rho$ . The solid curves indicate the theoretical prediction given by Eqs. (2)–(5). The dashed line indicates the asymptotic diffusivity  $D_0/2$  (top) and  $D'_0/2$  (bottom).

# Nature of Hydrodynamic Forces: $F^H = -R(x) \cdot U$

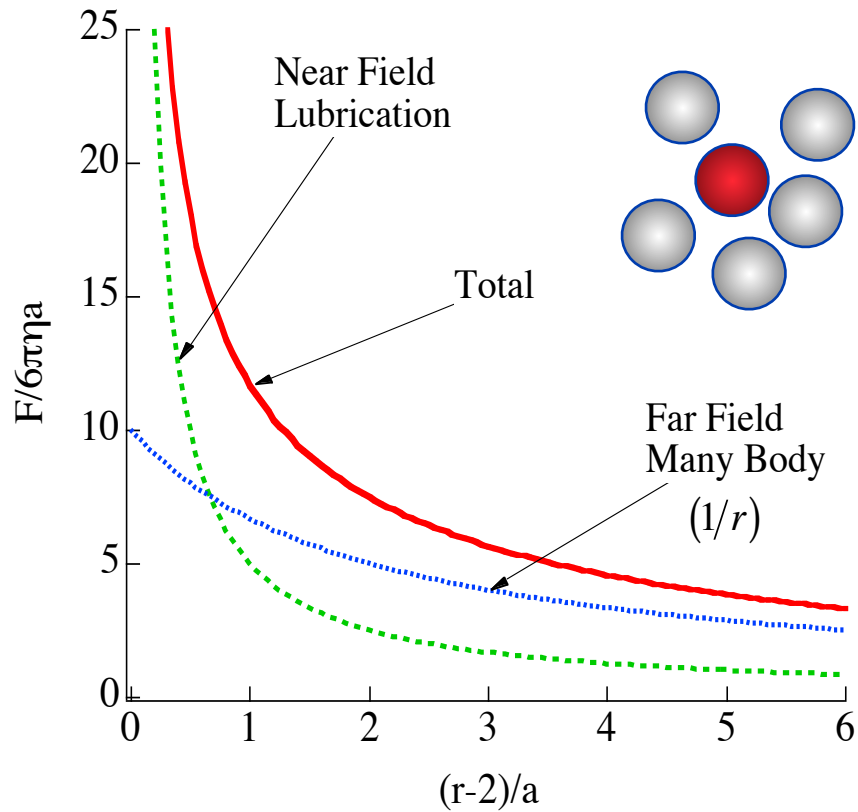


**Lubrication:** closely spaced particles move as a single (rigid) rod, whether you push or pull.



**Lubrication: near-field, two-body problem**

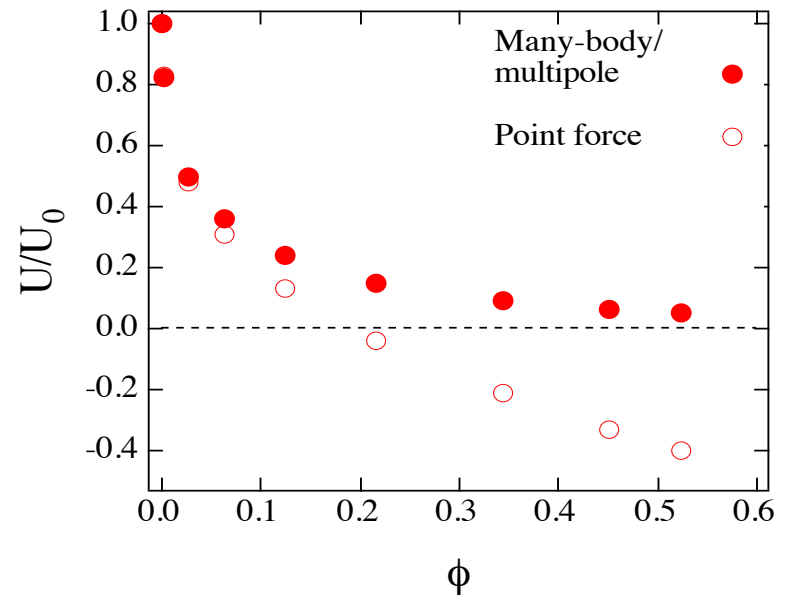
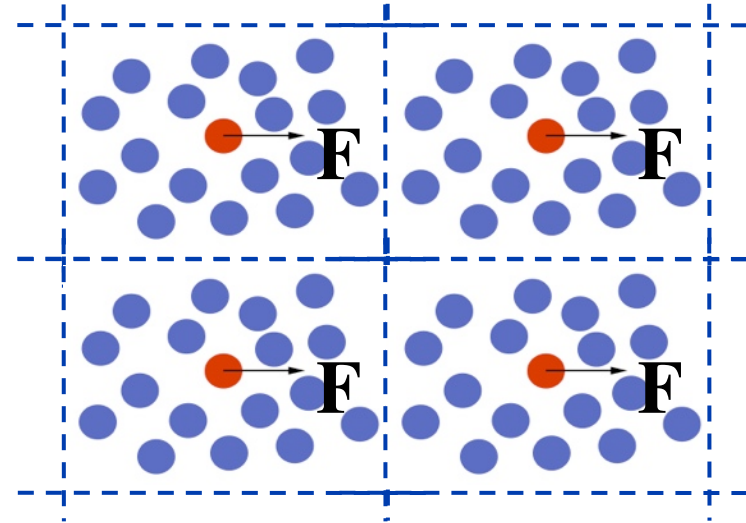
# Nature of Hydrodynamic Forces: $F^H = -R(x) \cdot U$



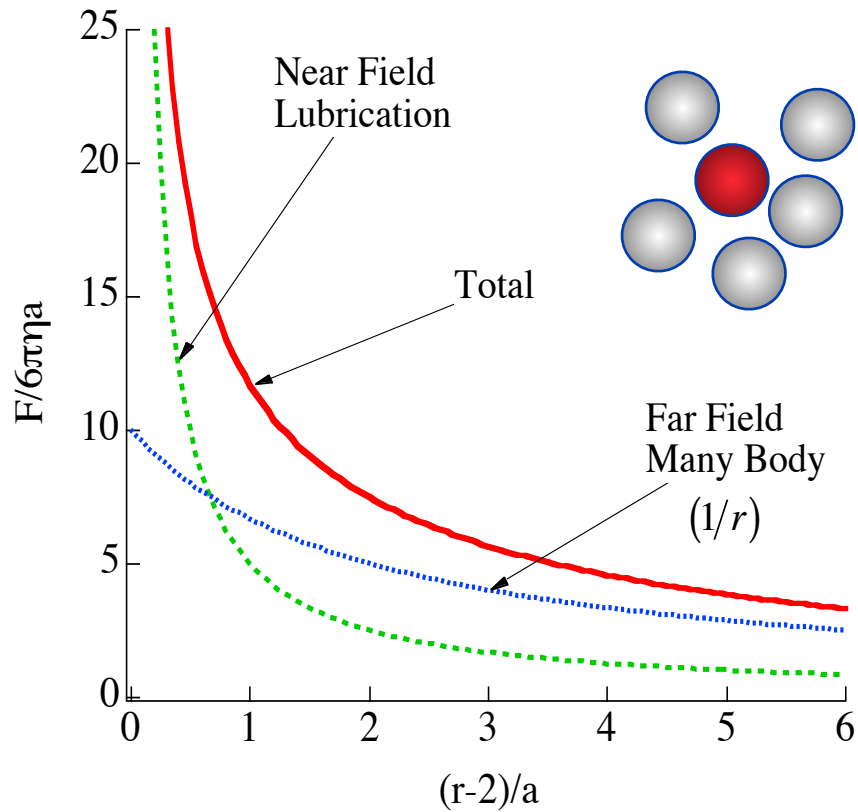
**Far-field, many-body problem**

$$F^H = -R^*(x) \cdot U$$

## Periodic Boundaries

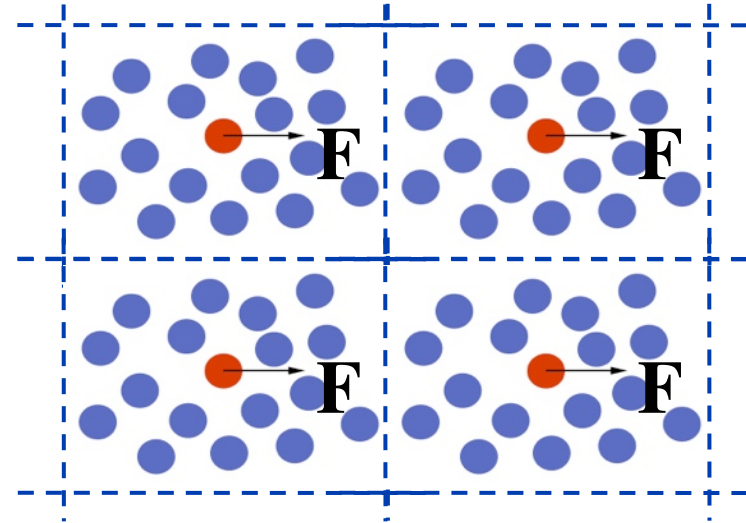


# Stokesian Dynamics: $F^H = -R(x) \cdot U$



$$F^H = -R^*(x) \cdot U$$

## Periodic Boundaries



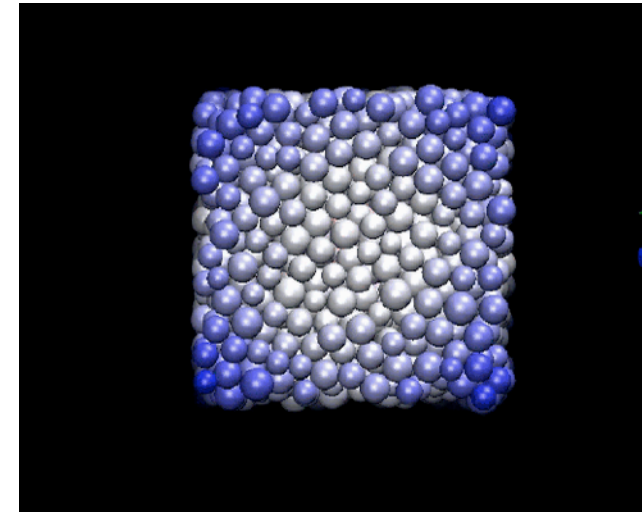
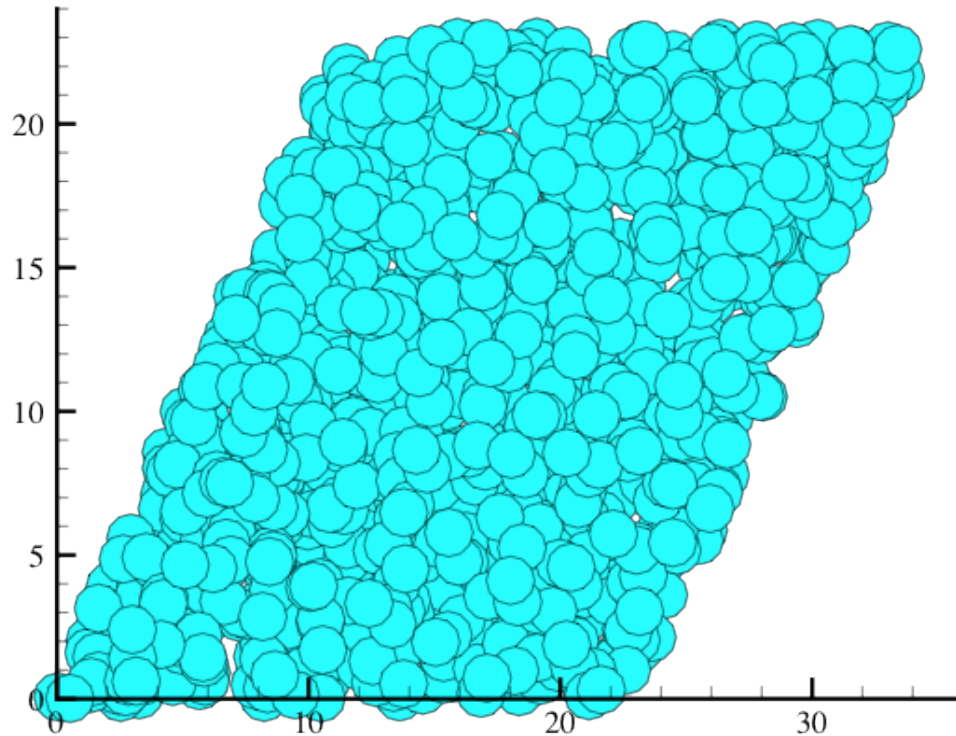
Implement matched asymptotic expansions dynamically for thousands of particles in  $O(N \ln N)$  operations for millions of time steps.

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = U = (R^*(x))^{-1} \cdot F^{other}$$

# The amazing rheology of spheres

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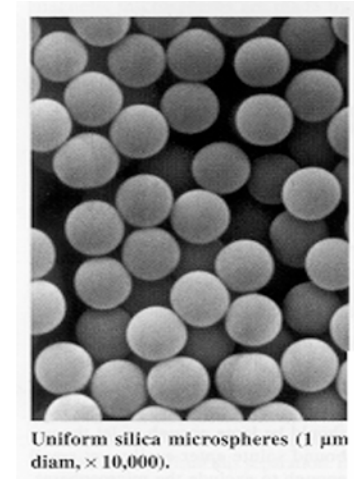
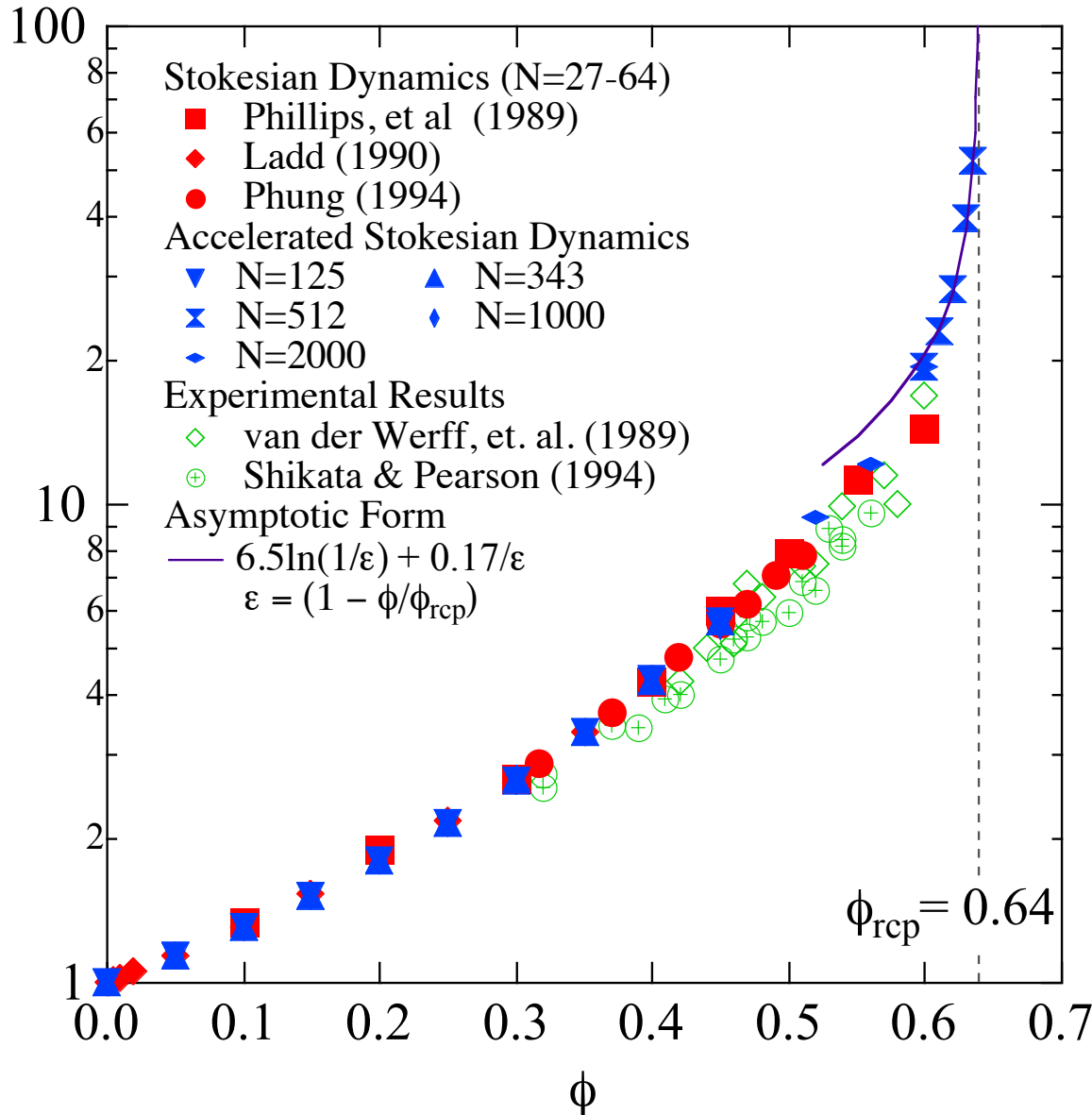
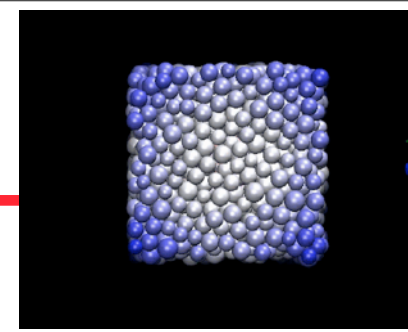
Three dimensional unbounded flow -- periodic boundary conditions



**Hydrodynamics**  
**Brownian Motion**

$$Pe = \dot{\gamma} a^2 / D = 6\pi\eta a^3 \dot{\gamma} / kT$$

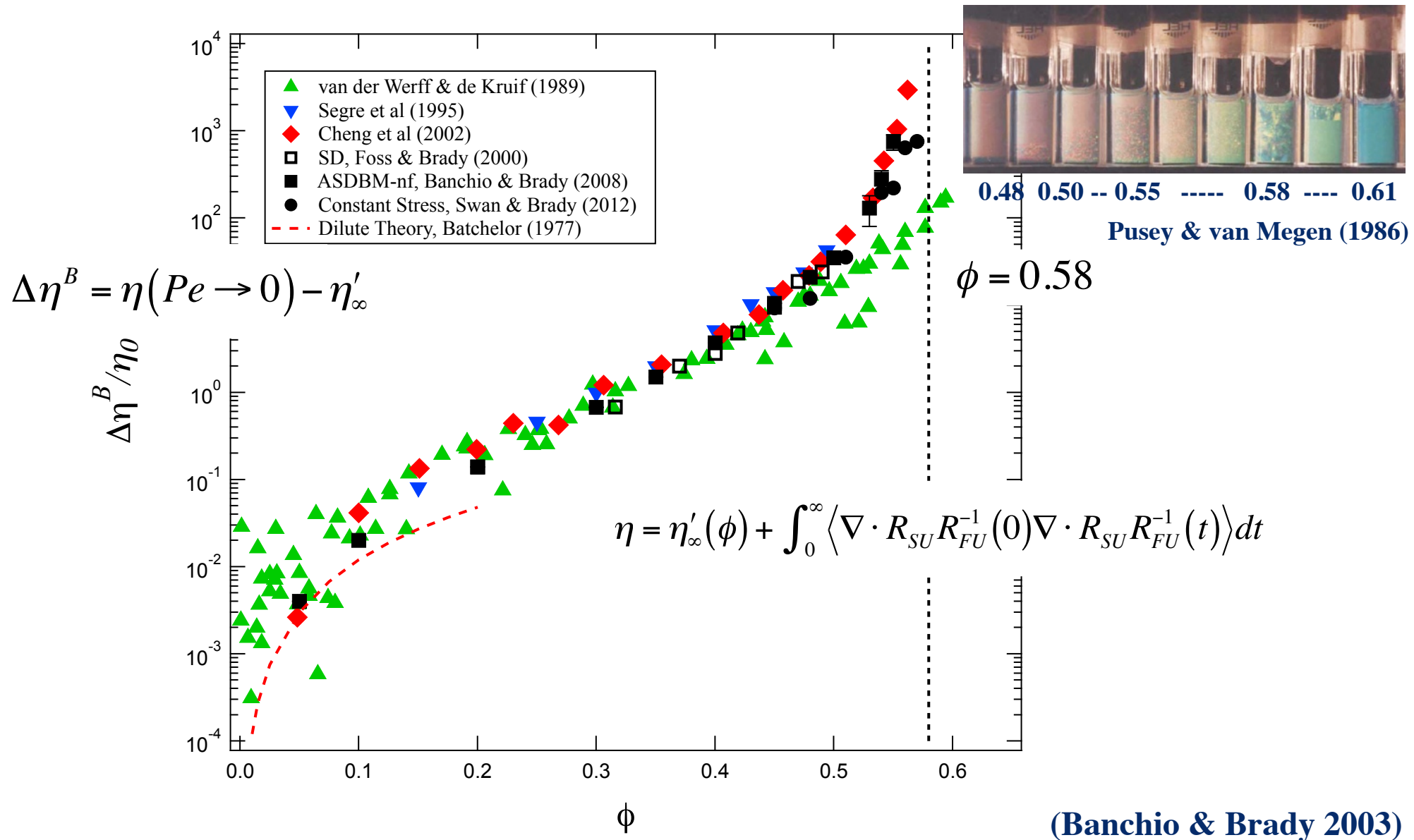
# Near Equilibrium Behavior: $\omega \rightarrow \infty$



$$\eta'_\infty \sim 1 + \frac{5}{2}\phi + 5\phi^2 \quad \text{as } \phi \rightarrow 0$$

$$\eta'_\infty \sim \ln(1 - \phi/\phi_m)^{-1} \quad \text{as } \phi \rightarrow \phi_m$$

# Zero-shear Brownian viscosity ( $Pe = 0$ )



# Sheared 'Hard-Sphere' Suspensions

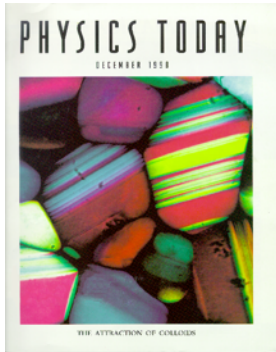
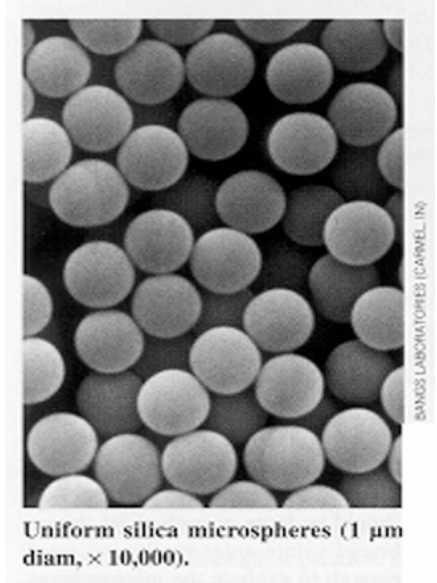
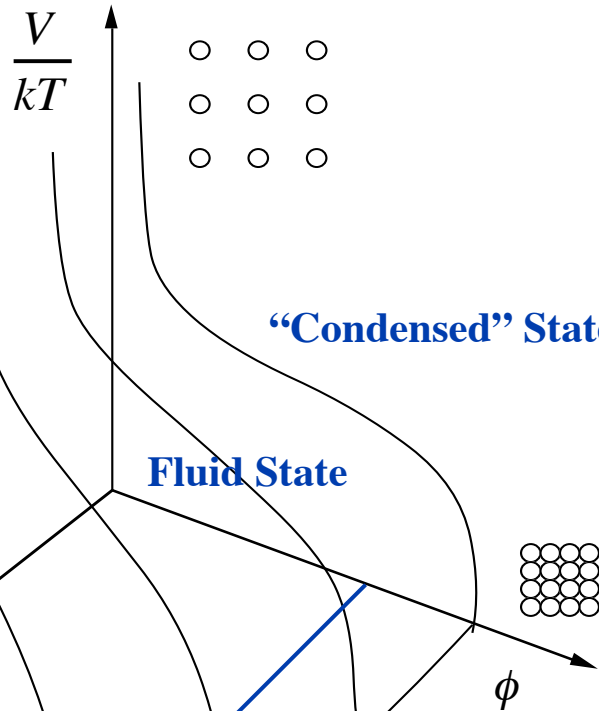


Photo by Y. Monovoukas



Uniform silica microspheres (1 μm diam, × 10,000).

$$Pe = \frac{6\pi\eta a^3 \dot{\gamma}}{kT}$$

$$= \frac{\text{Brownian Time}}{\text{Flow Time}}$$

$$= \frac{a^2 / D}{1 / \dot{\gamma}}, \quad D = kT / 6\pi\eta a$$

## Three regimes:

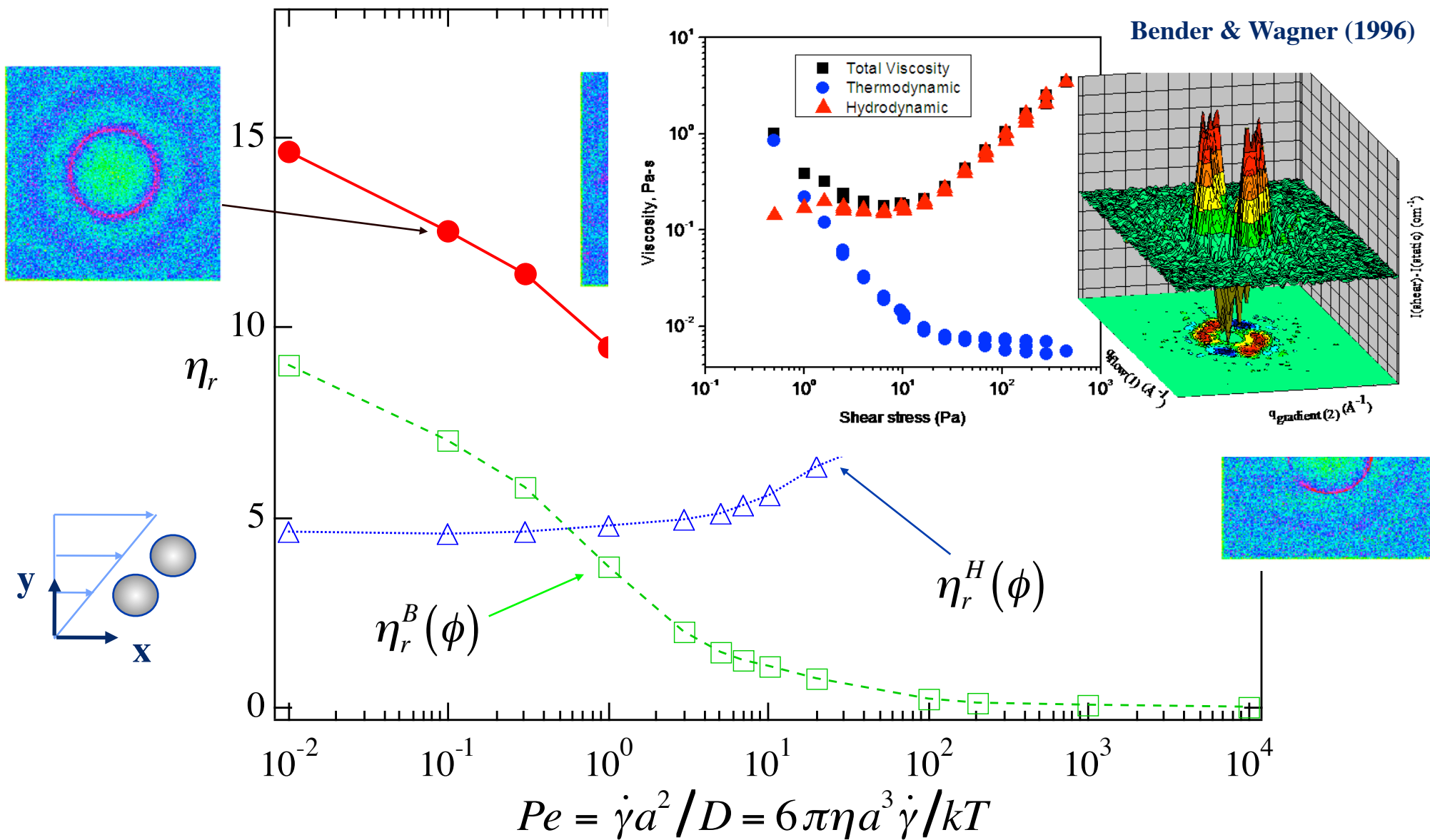
$Pe \ll 1$ , Brownian dominated

$Pe \sim 1$ , Balance

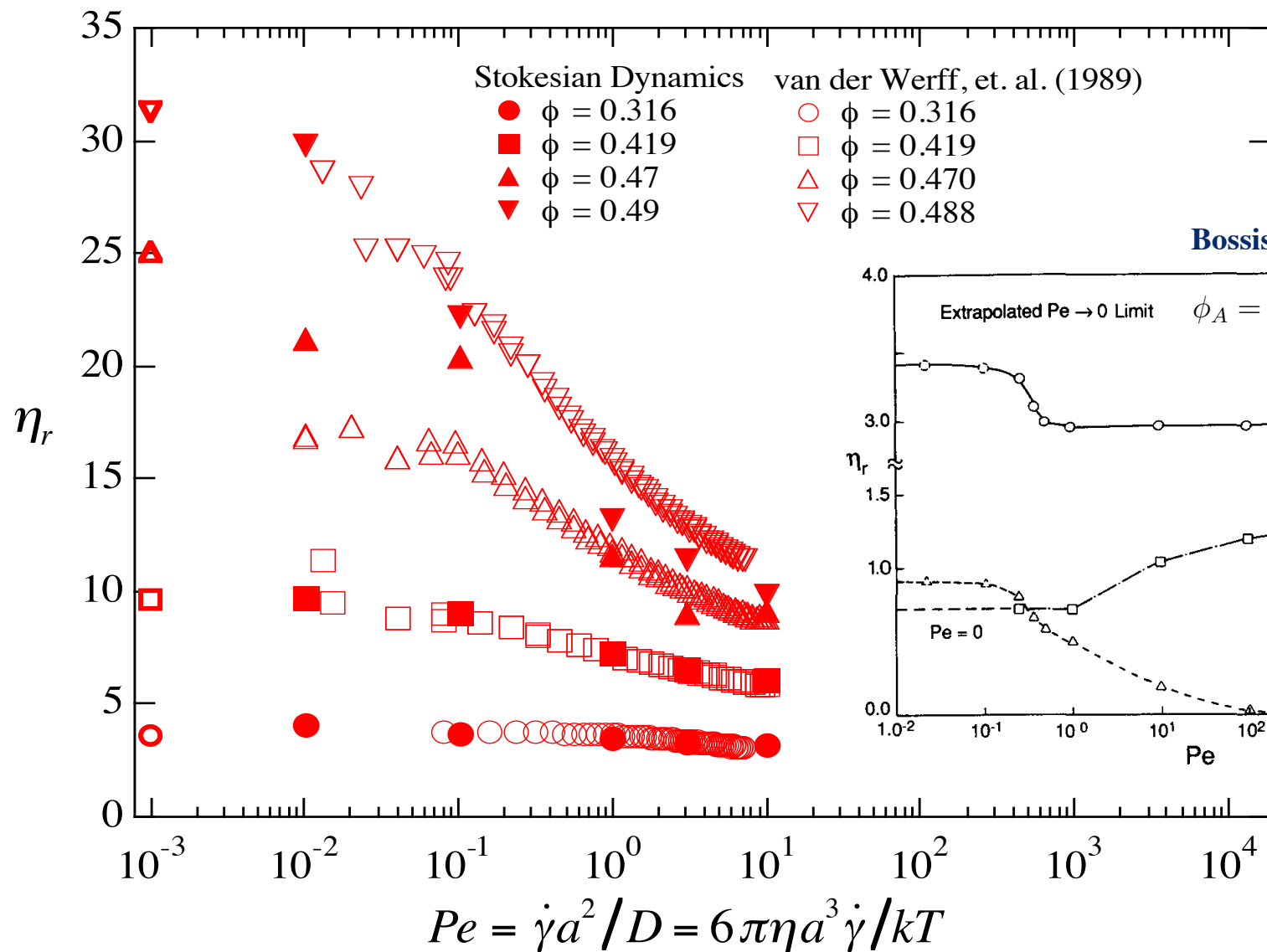
$Pe \gg 1$ , Hydrodynamic dominated



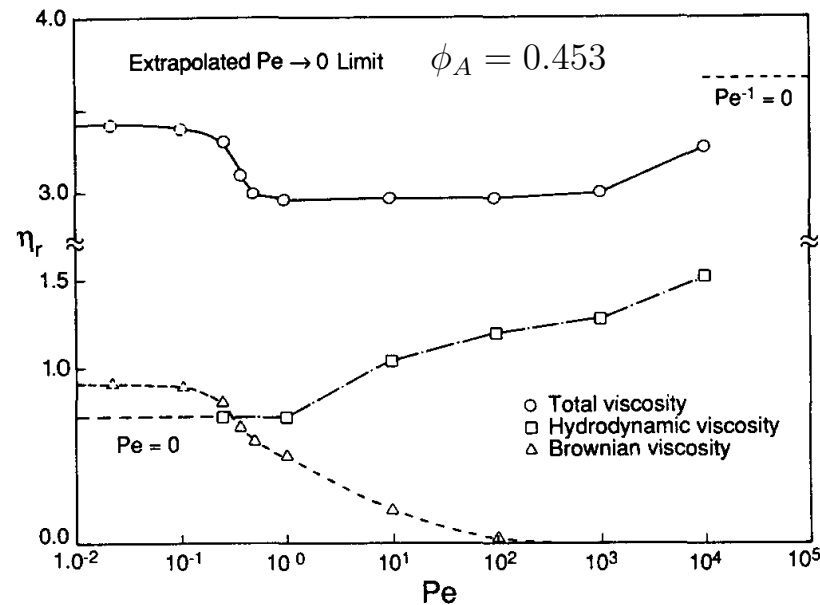
# Brownian & hydrodynamic contributions to stress



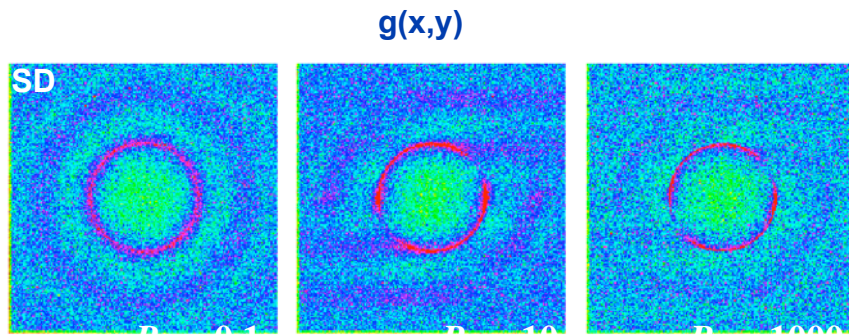
# Rheology: Simulation vs. Experiment



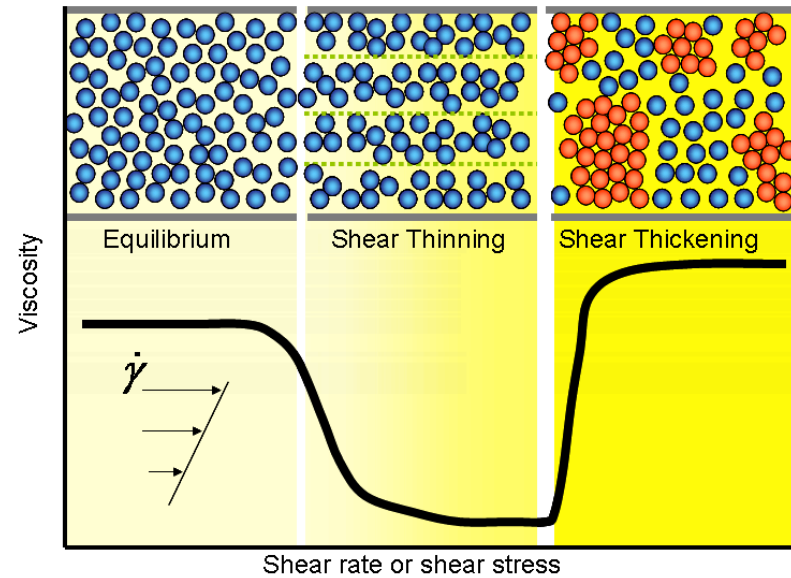
Bossis & Brady (1989)



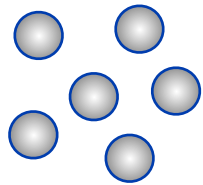
# Mechanism of shear thickening: hydroclusters



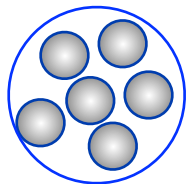
Wagner & Brady (*Phys. Today* 2009)



Hydrodynamic stress:  $S^H \sim \eta \dot{\gamma} a^3$

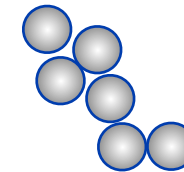


$$\eta^H \sim \eta a^3 N/V$$



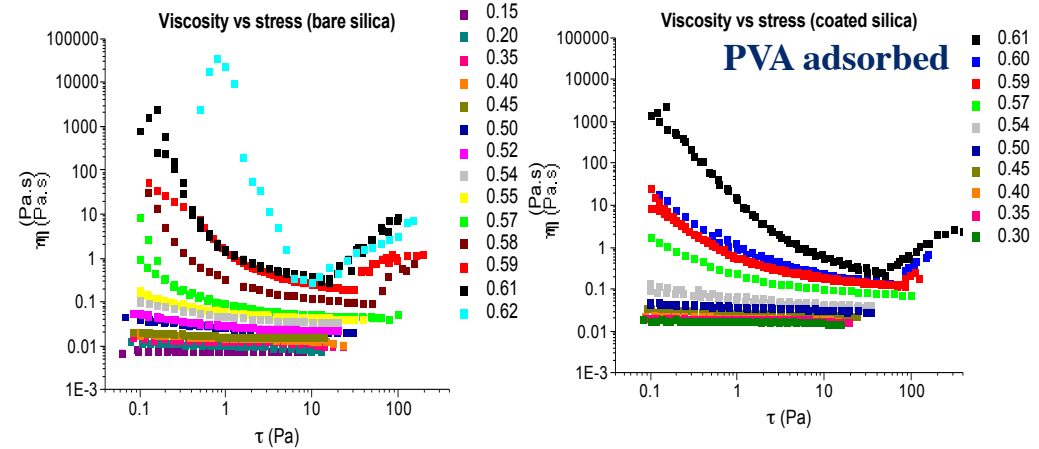
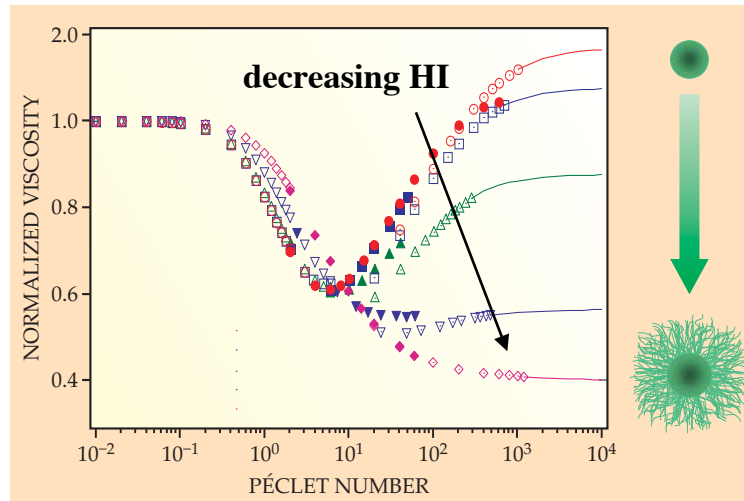
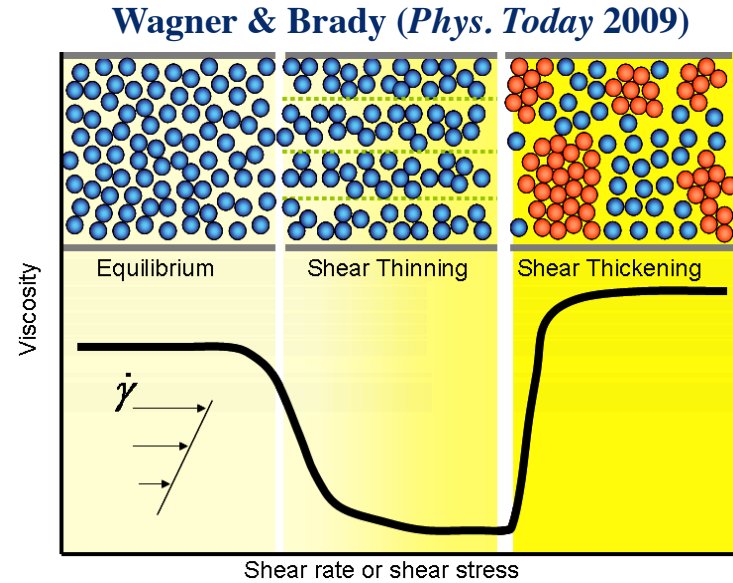
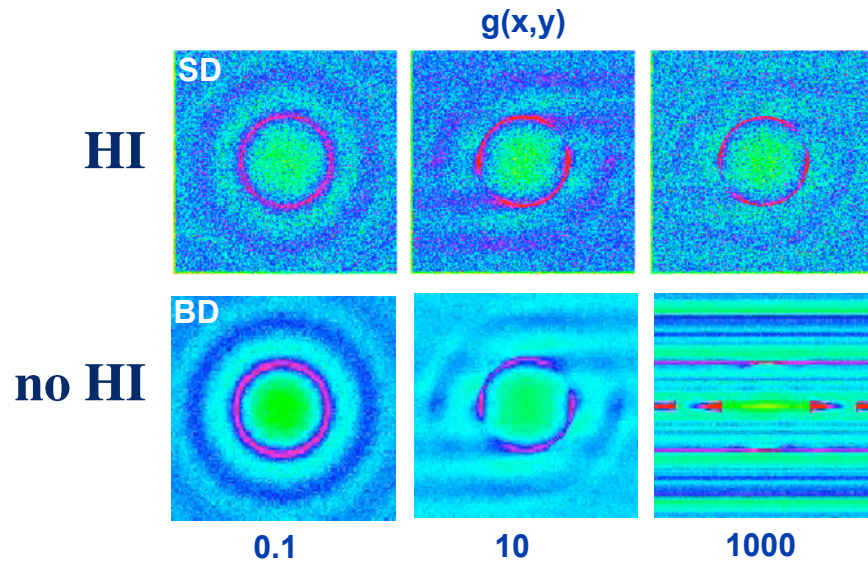
$$\eta^H \sim \eta b^3 1/V \sim \eta a^3 N/V$$

$$b \sim N^{1/3} a$$

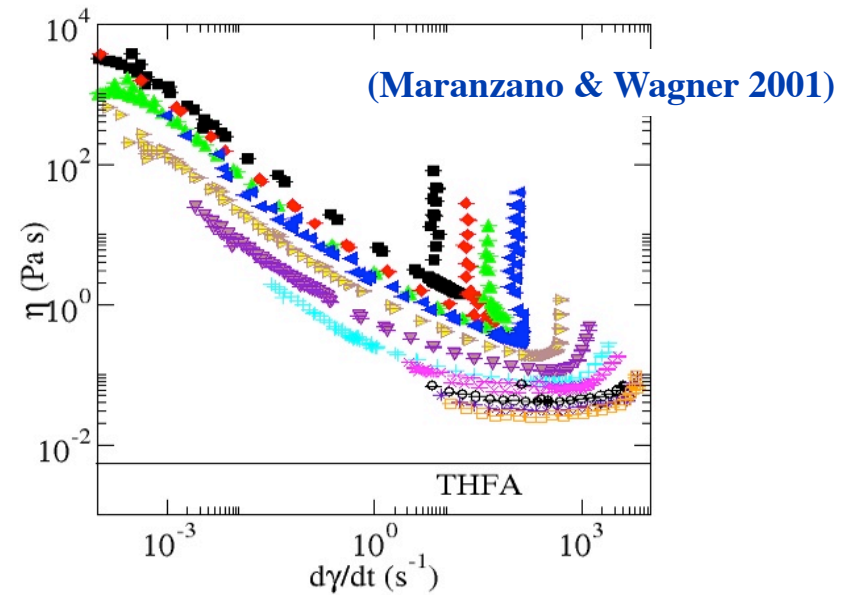
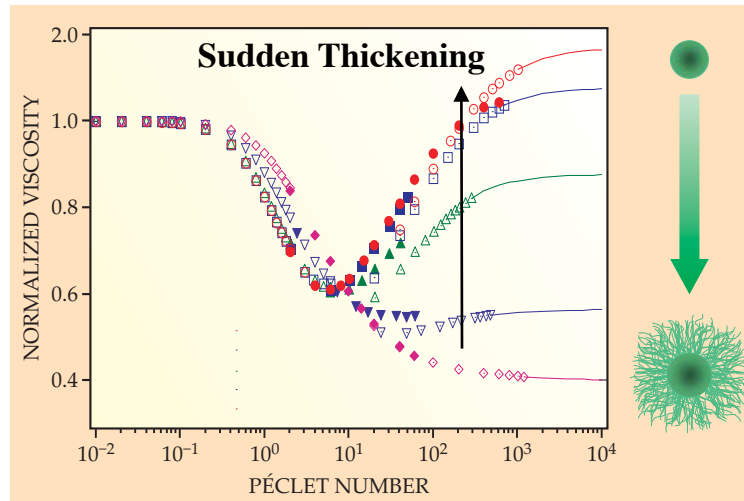
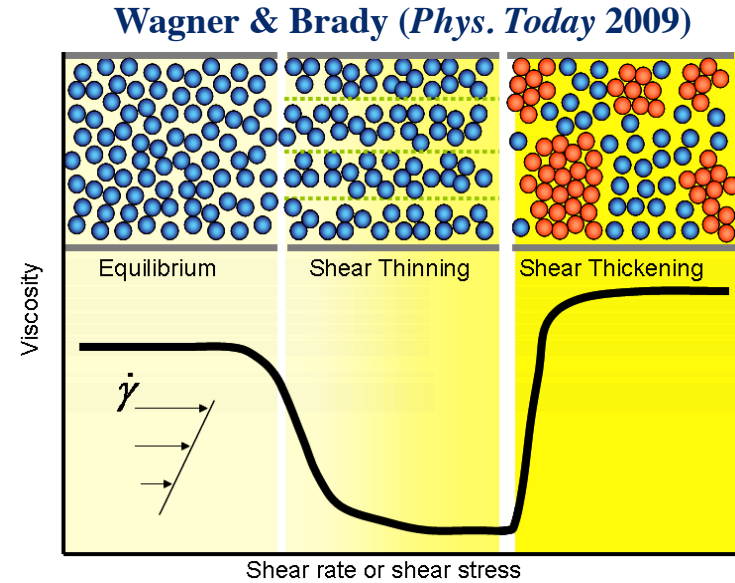
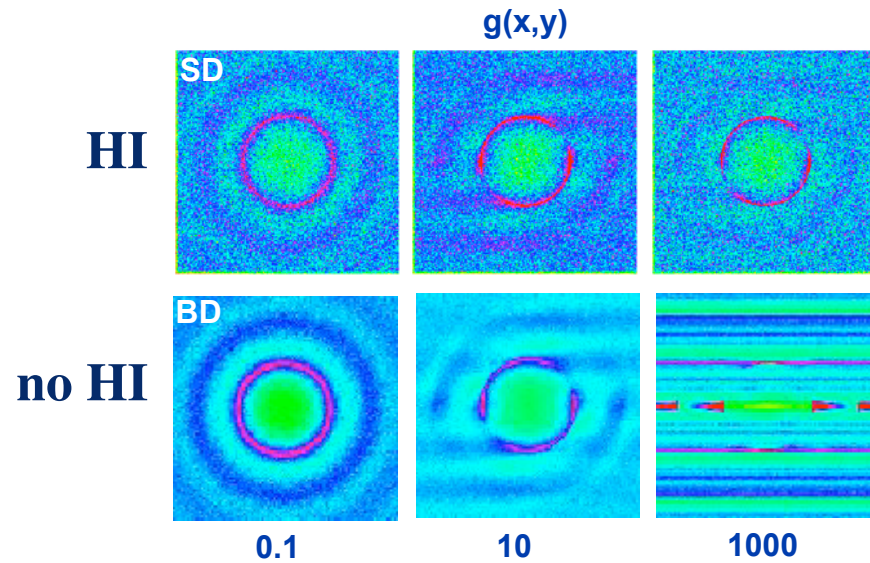


**cluster due to  
hydrodynamic  
lubrication forces**

# Mechanism of shear thickening: hydroclusters



# Mechanism of shear thickening: hydroclusters



# Shear thickening (the amazing part!)

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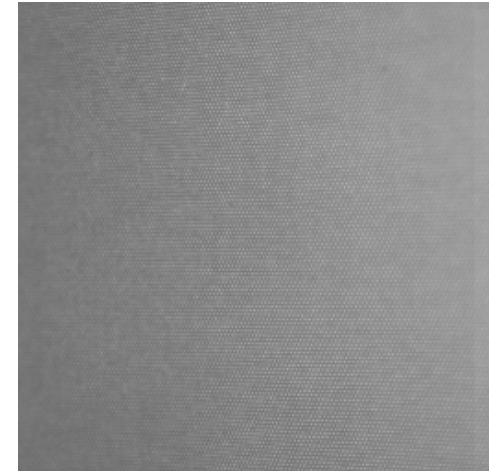


**Walking on water**

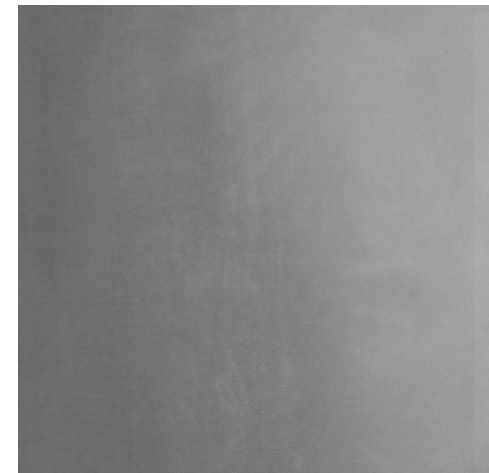
**Cornstarch in water  
also known as 'oobleck'**

## A bullet-proof vest

**Neat  
Kevlar**



**STF  
Kevlar**



**'Liquid Armor'  
(Wagner)**

# Outline

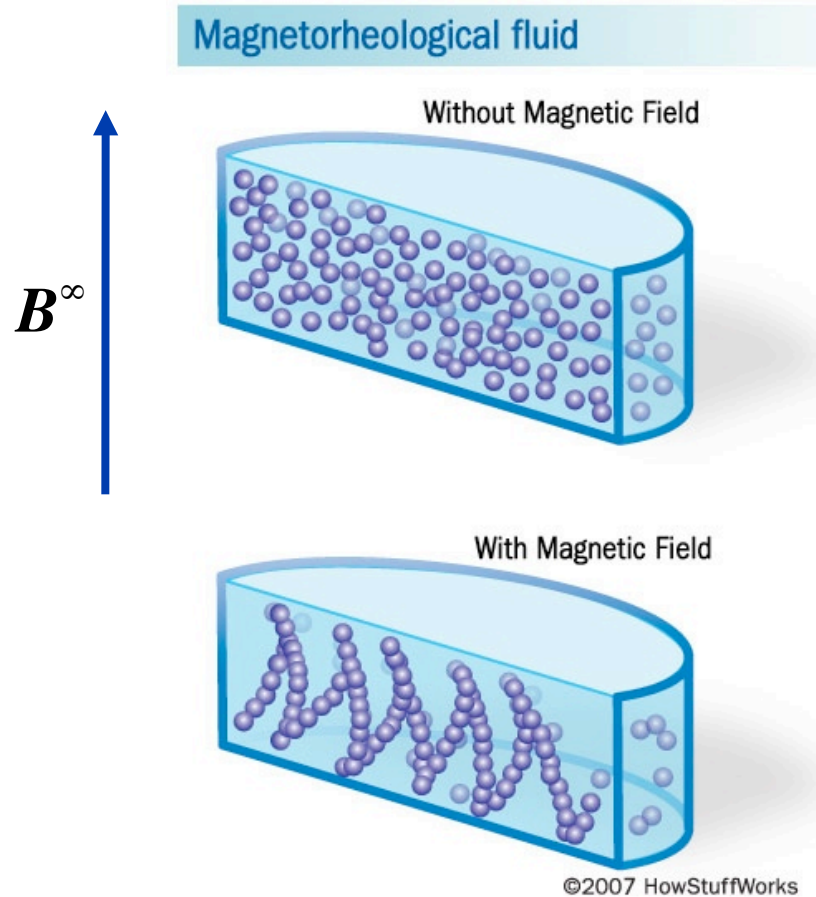
- What's a colloid and why do we care?
- How did the field start?
- The amazing rheology of spheres. (Or how to walk on water and make a bullet-proof vest.)
- How does random diffusion de-mix a suspension?
- **What can we do with active matter?**
- Conclusions

# Active Matter: External fields

Particles with a dielectric mismatch with the solvent will chain up when an external field is applied (Winslow 1940).

‘Magnetorheological Fluid’

The material can be changed from a low to high viscosity fluid (and even to a solid!) reversibly in a mille-second.





# Active Matter: External fields

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## Magnetorheological Fluid

GM's Magnetic Ride Control is a complete, stand-alone vehicle suspension control system that uses innovative magneto-rheological fluid-based actuators, four wheel-to-body displacement sensors, and an onboard computer to provide real-time, continuous control of vehicle suspension damping.



**Cadillac Seville STS 2002**

# Active Matter: Internal activity

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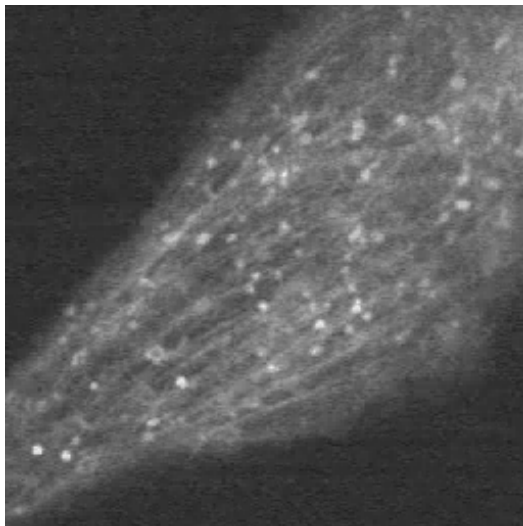
**Paramecium**



**Listeria Bacteria**



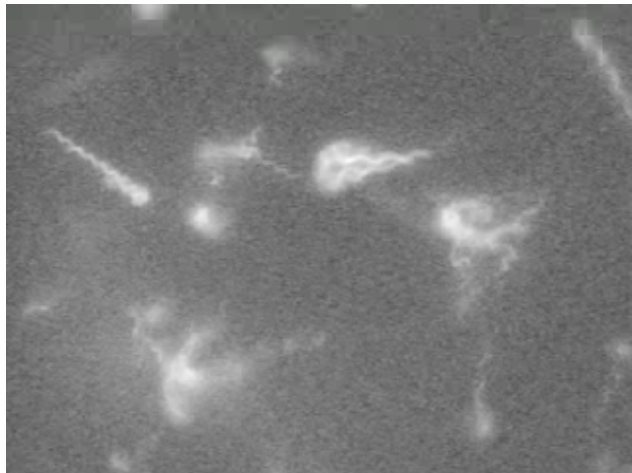
**Kinesin Motors**



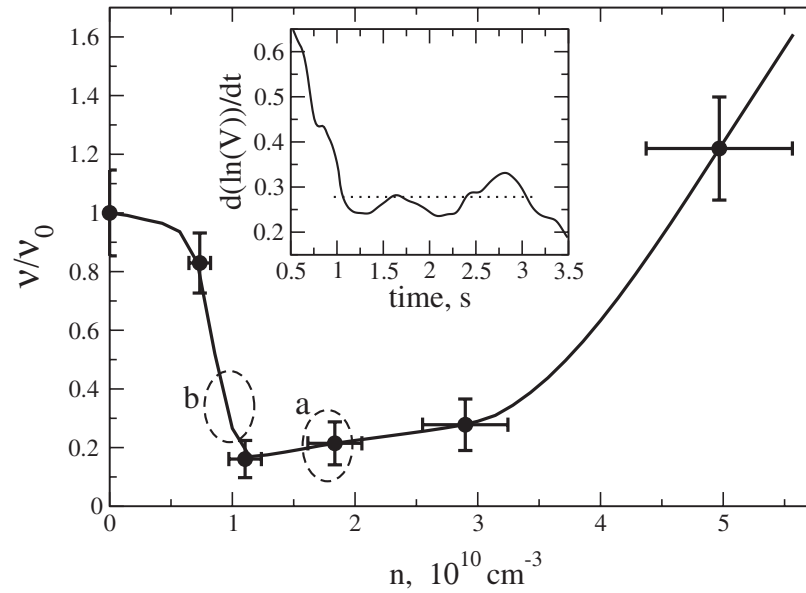
**Catalytic Nanomotors**



# Active Matter: Internal activity



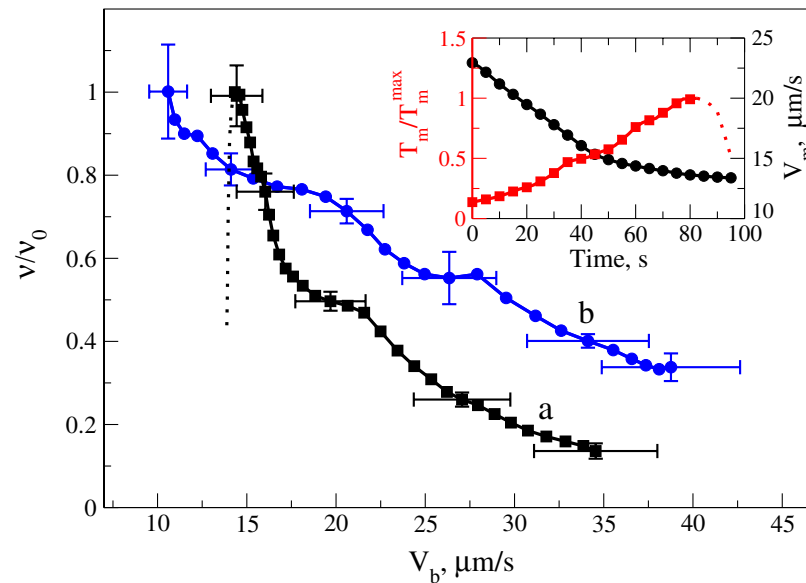
Berg (Harvard)



Solokov &  
Aranson  
*PRL* (2009)



Paxton et al (Penn State)

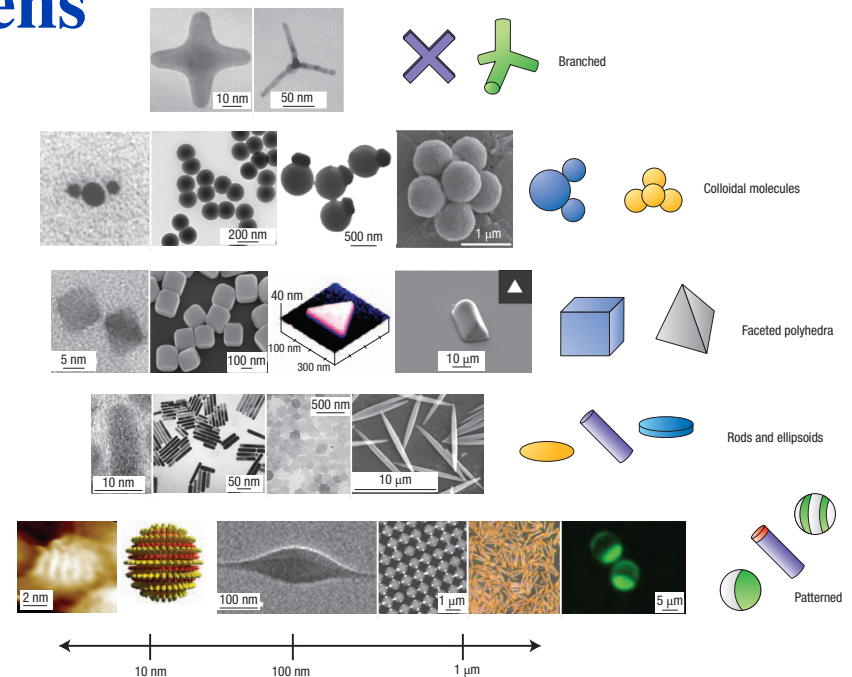
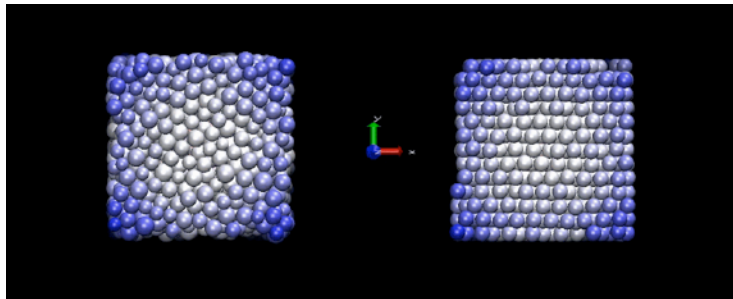


# Outline

- What's a colloid and why do we care?
- How did the field start?
- The amazing rheology of spheres. (Or how to walk on water and make a bullet-proof vest.)
- How does random diffusion de-mix a suspension?
- What can we do with active matter?
- **Conclusions**

# Conclusions

- Hydrodynamics plays a fundamental role in the behavior of colloids
- Stokesian Dynamics is a general molecular-dynamics-like method for studying colloids
- Even the humble sphere has a rich rheology - shear thins and shear thickens
- The fun has just begun!



# Acknowledgements

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**The End**