



A microscopic view of the yielding transition in concentrated emulsions

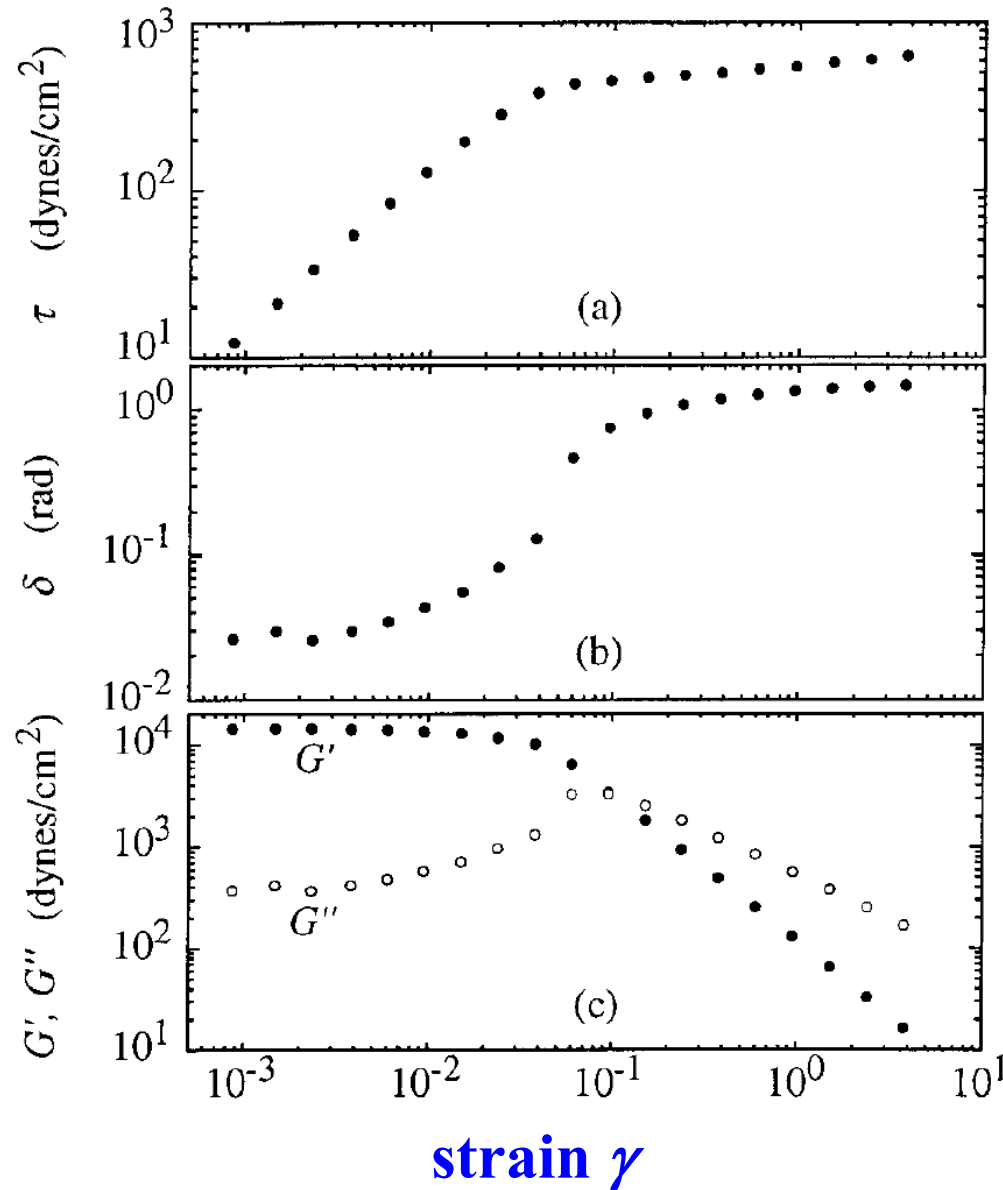
Soft Matter, (2014), DOI: 10.1039/c4sm00531g
[arXiv:1403.4433](https://arxiv.org/abs/1403.4433)

Elizabeth D. Knowlton¹, David J. Pine¹, Luca Cipelletti²

¹ Center for Soft Matter Research, New York University, NY 10003, USA

² L2C UMR 5221 Université Montpellier 2 and CNRS, Montpellier, France

Yielding of concentrated emulsions



stress

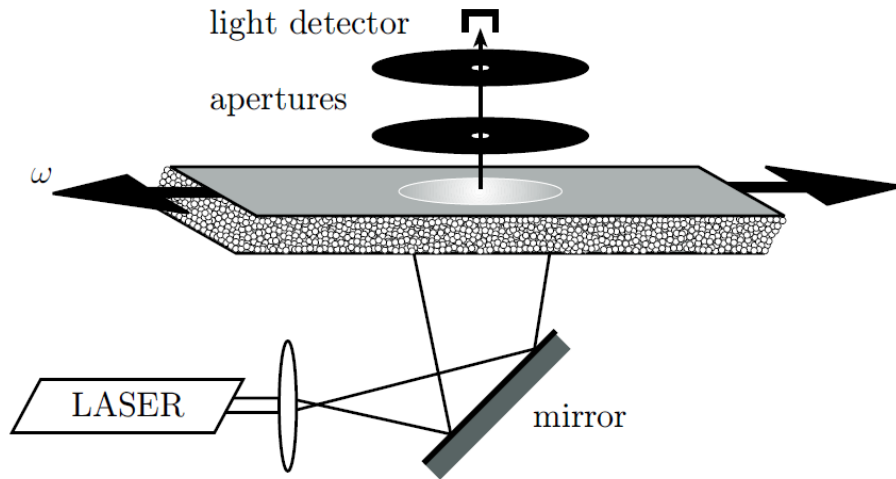
$\text{atan}[G''/G']$

elastic and loss
moduli

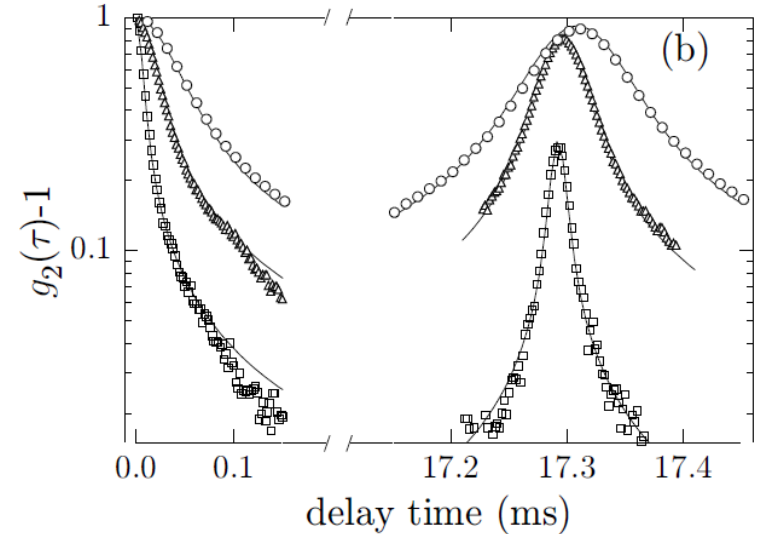
Questions

- Microscopic picture of yielding: **crystalline solids** OK (defects), what about **amorphous solids**?
- **Oscillatory drive**: very few simulations and experiments! BUT relevant **to rheology and fatigue tests**, easier to detect **irreversible** rearrangements
- Relation to **reversible-irreversible transition** in complex fluids?

Oscillatory drive: DWS echo



Courtesy of D.J. Pine

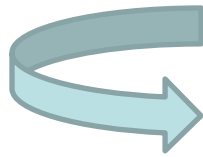


Hebraud et al., PRL 1997

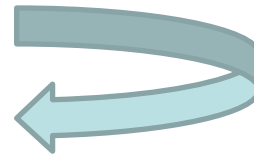
- the **same**, small fraction of drops undergo **irreversible** rearrangements at each cycle
- the fraction of rearranged drops increases with γ
- at yielding, **just a few % of drops** undergo an irreversible rearrangement
- need to make **(strong) assumptions** on the nature of motion, **no spatial/temporal resolution**...

The reversible-irreversible transition: revisiting Taylor's experiment

wind...

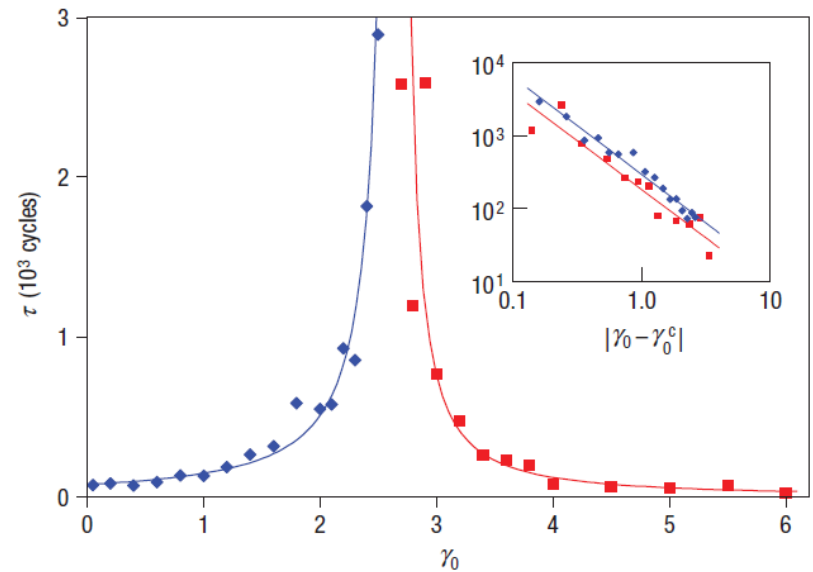
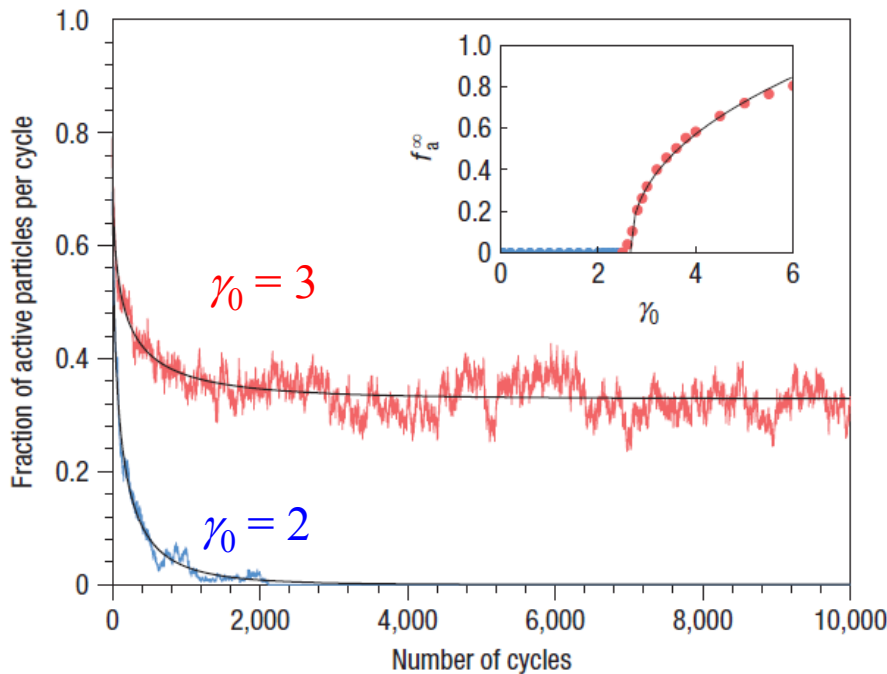
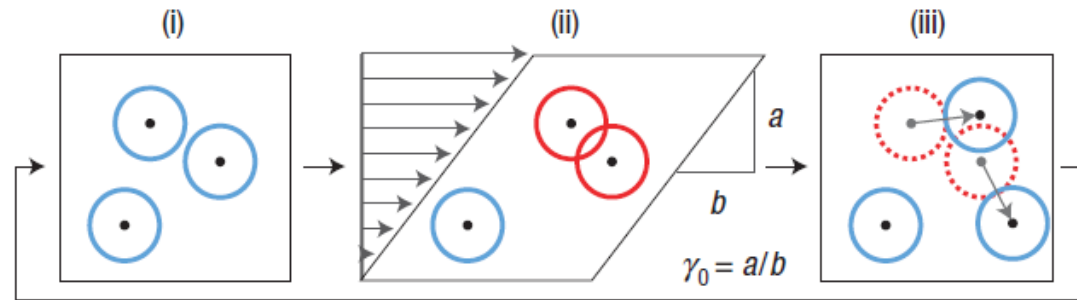


unwind...



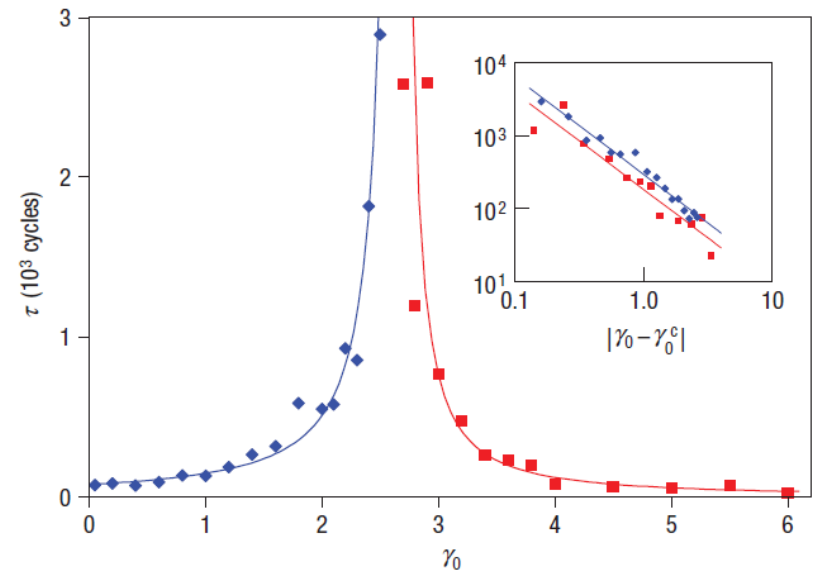
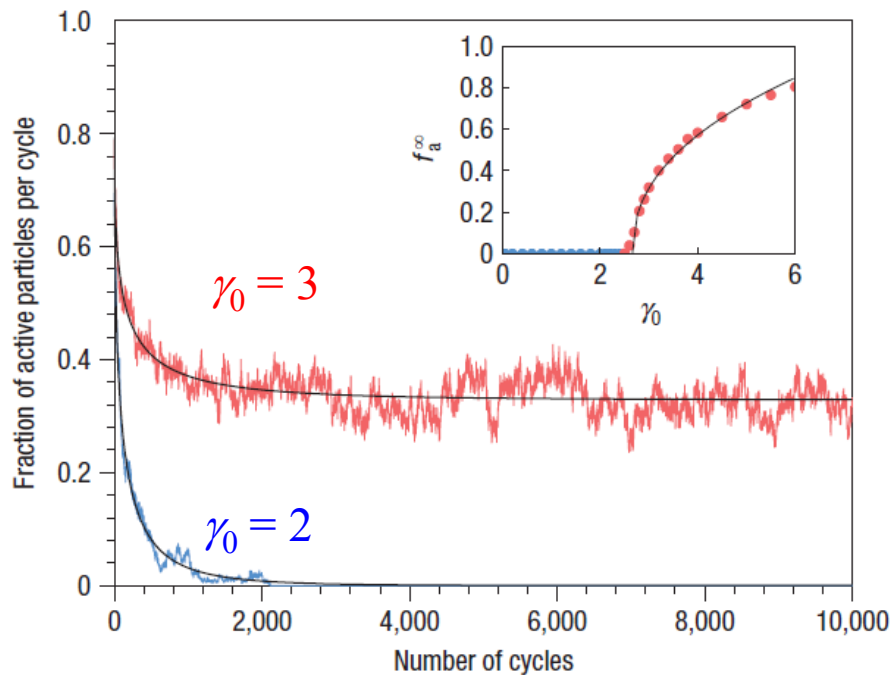
Suspension of (non-Brownian) particles

Pine's group



Suspension of (non-Brownian) particles

2nd order dynamical transition

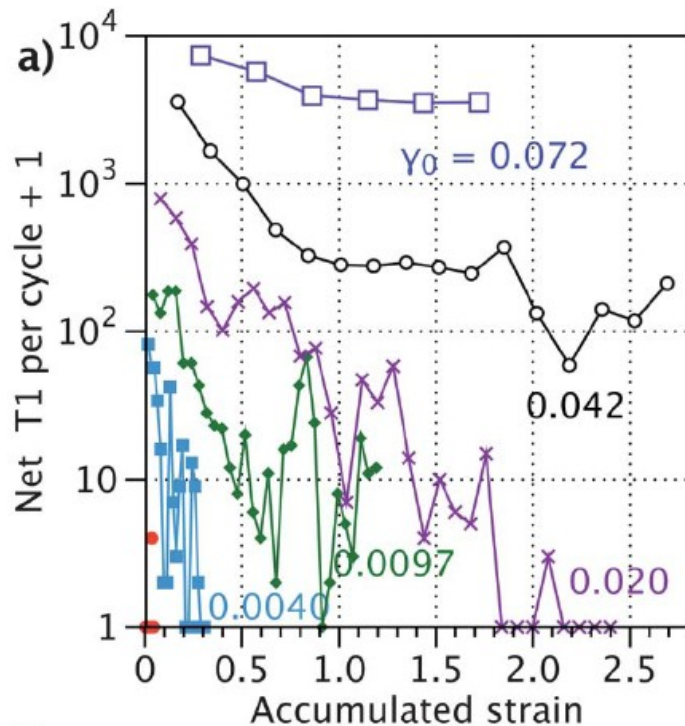


Dense/strongly interacting systems

Yielding and microstructure in a 2D jammed material under shear deformation†

Soft Matter, 2013, **9**, 6222

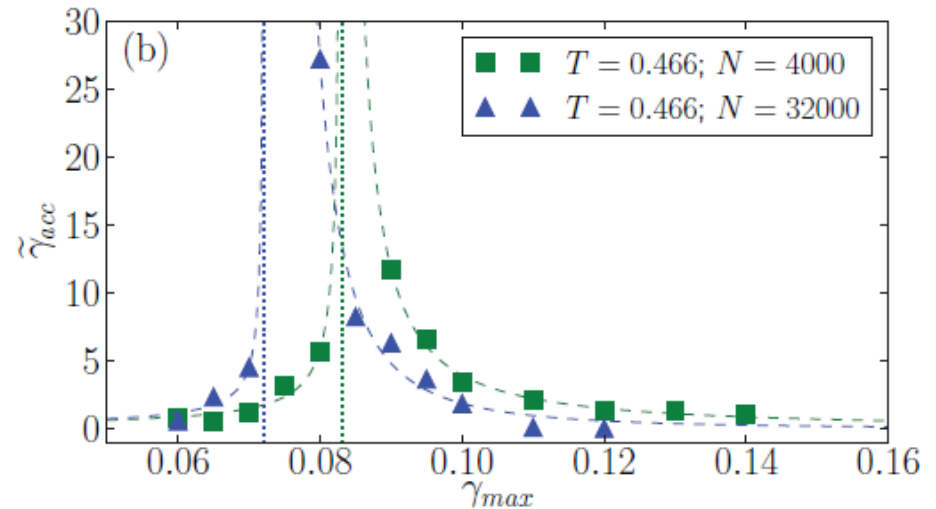
Nathan C. Keim and Paulo E. Arratia*



PHYSICAL REVIEW E **88**, 020301(R) (2013)

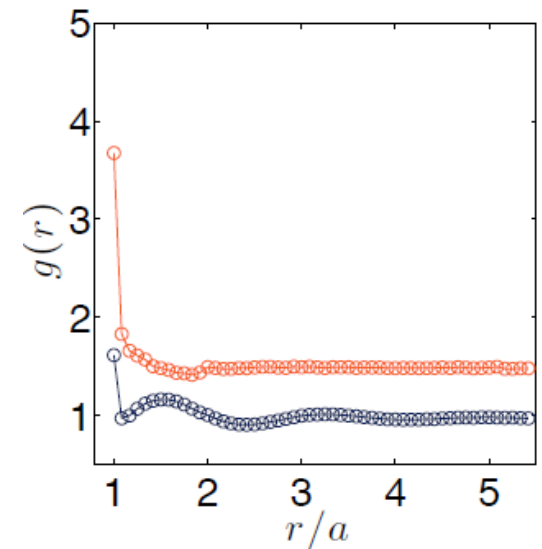
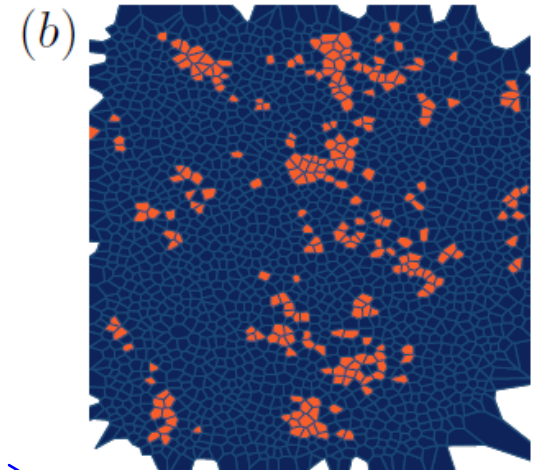
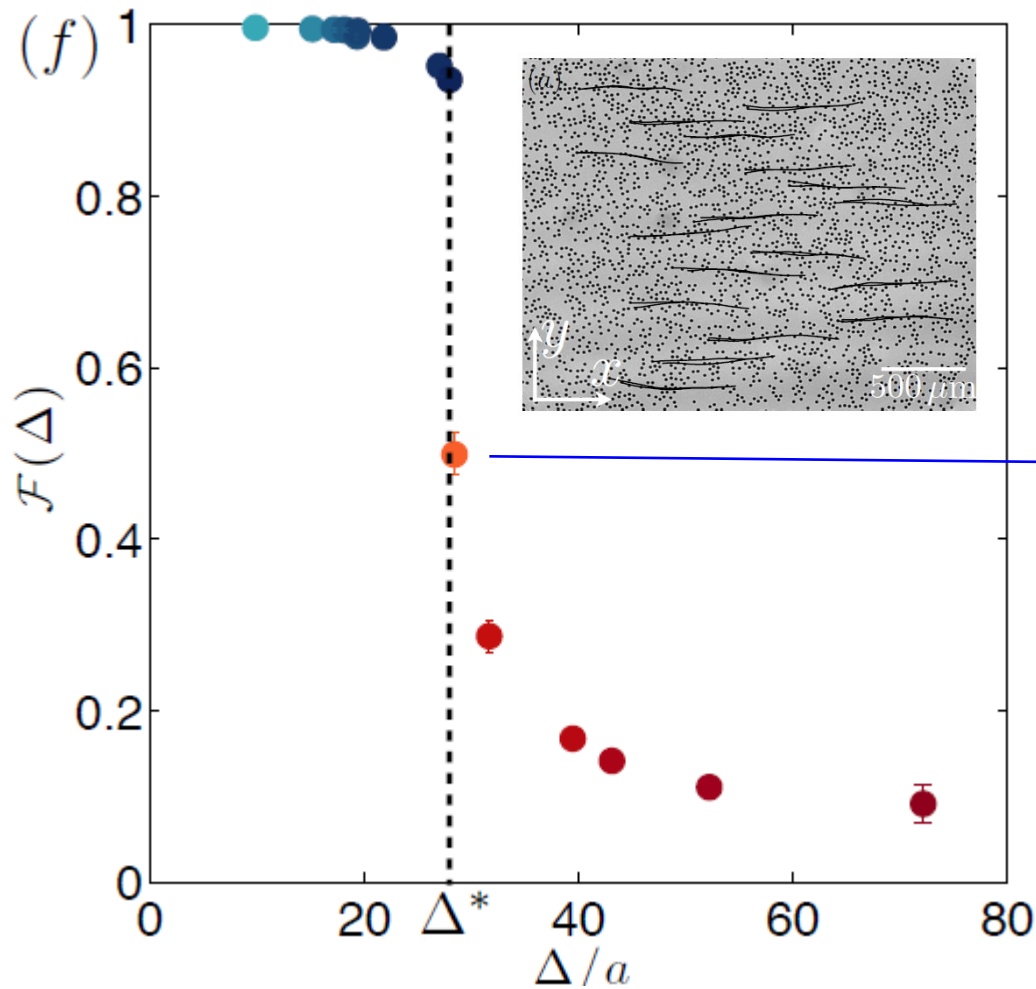
Oscillatory athermal quasistatic deformation of a model glass

Davide Fiocco,^{1,*} Giuseppe Foffi,^{1,2,†} and Srikanth Sastry^{3,4,‡}



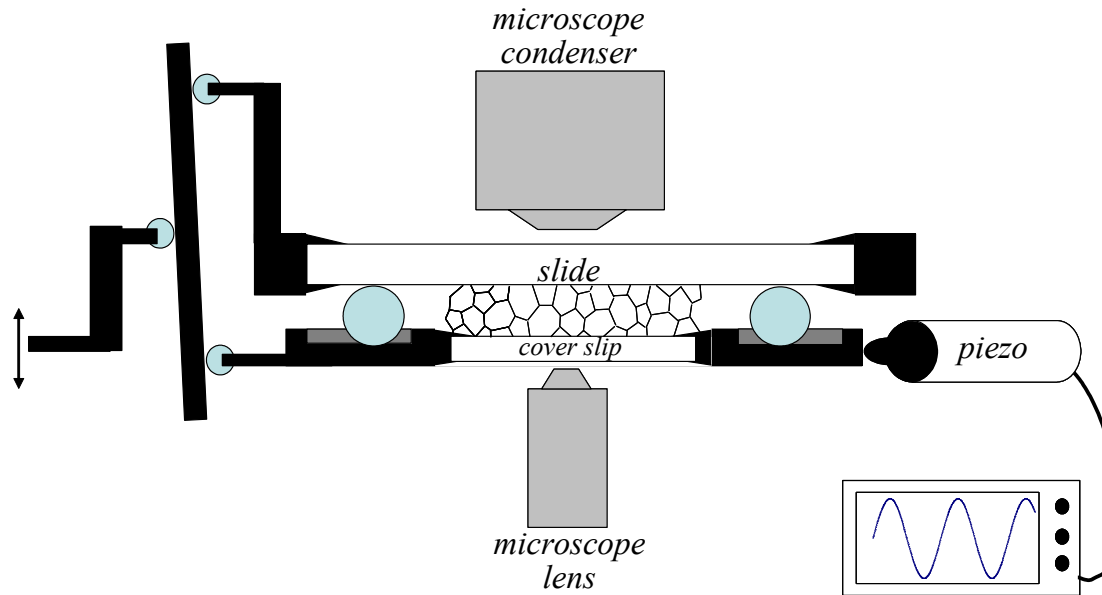
Same behavior as in Pine's experiments??

Confined colloids w/ hydrodynamic interactions: 1st order transition??



Back to our drops...

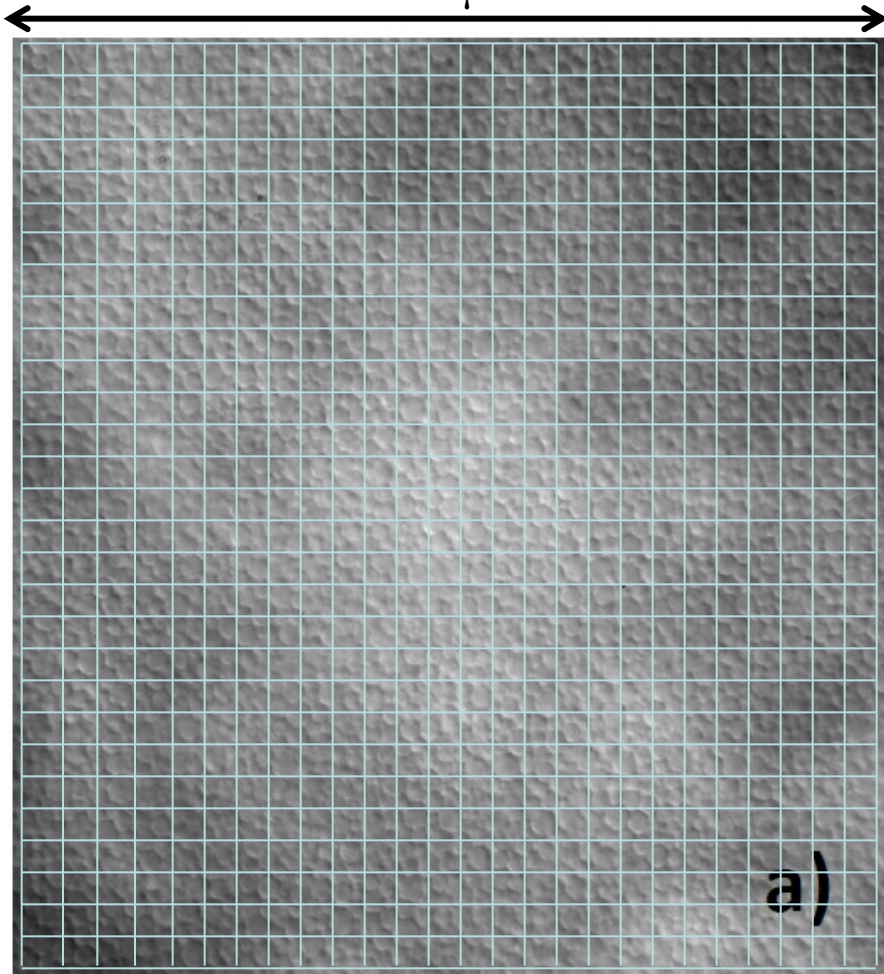
Emulsion : PDMS oil + TMN-10 in H₂O + glycerol
 $2r = 2.4 \mu\text{m}$, polydispersity = 20%
 $\phi = 65 - 88\%$



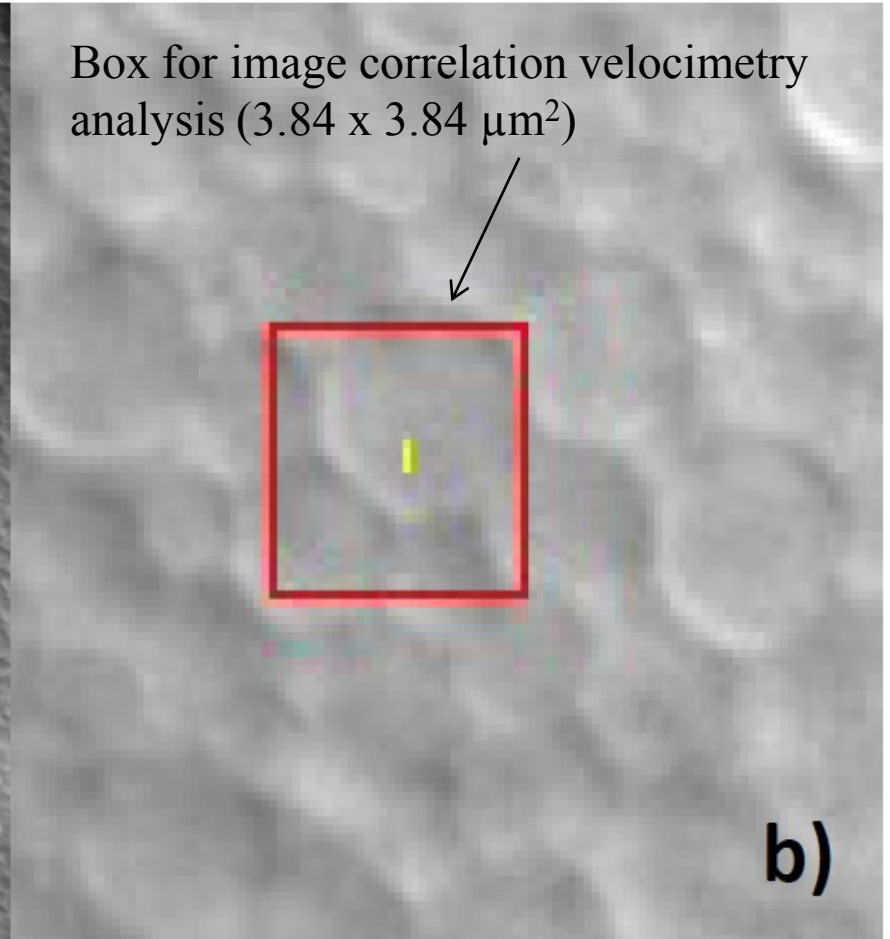
Microscopy : 100x DIC, gap $\sim 100 \mu\text{m}$

Visualizing the emulsion

123 μm

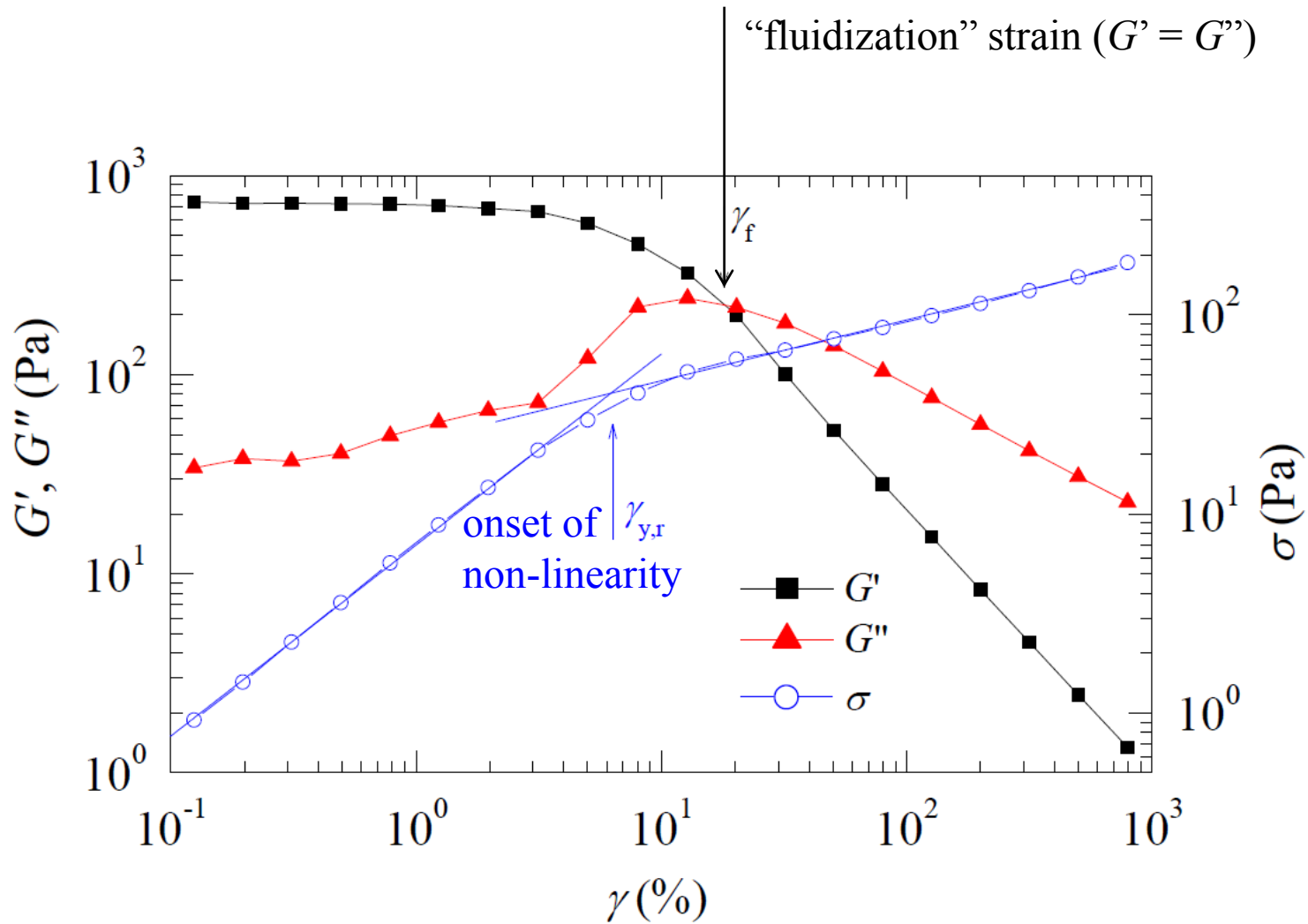


Box for image correlation velocimetry analysis ($3.84 \times 3.84 \mu\text{m}^2$)



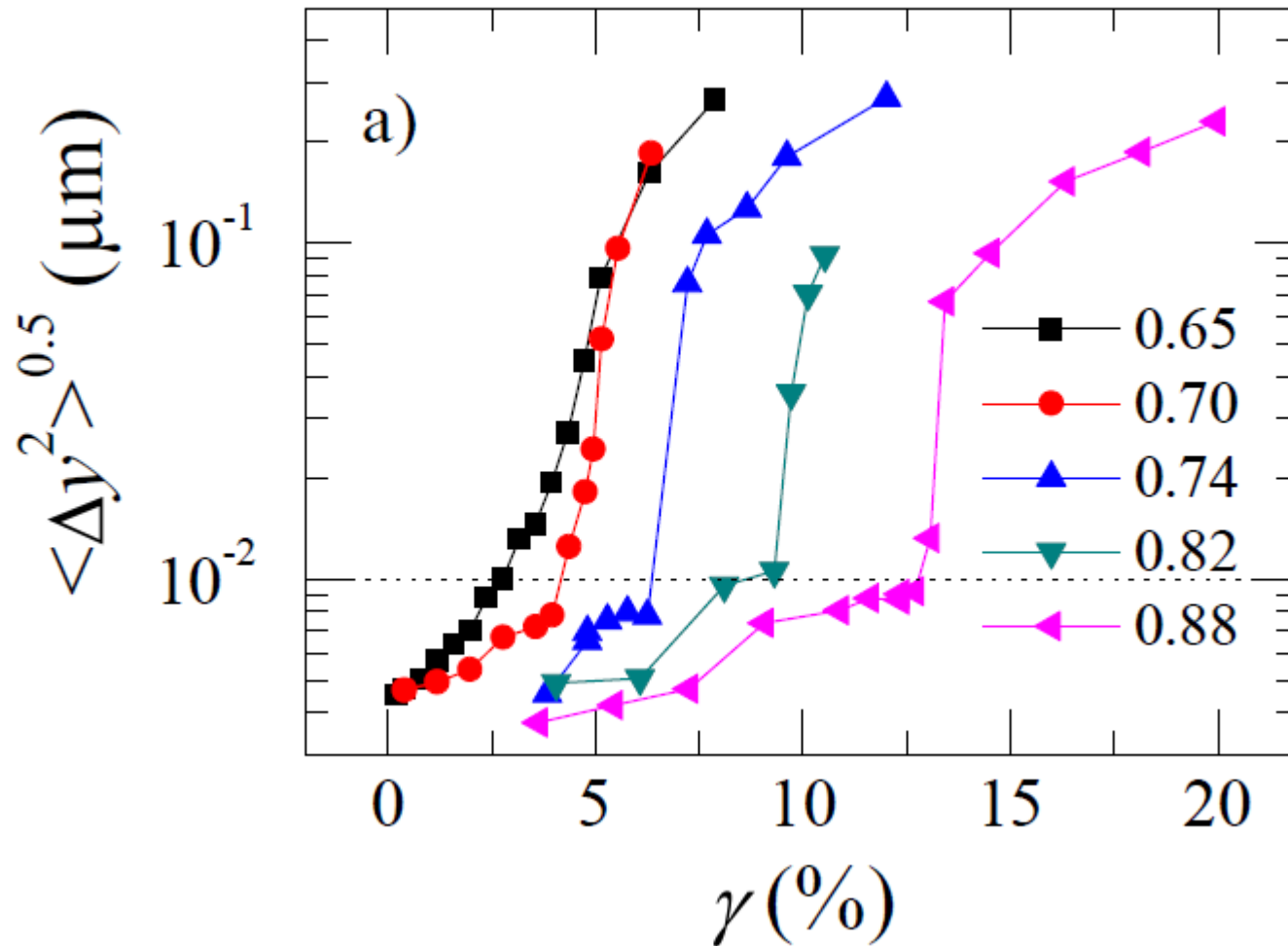
Motion analysis (**over one cycle**) : Image Correlation Velocimetry (PIV-like)
coarse graining $\sim 3.8 \mu\text{m}$, resolution $\sim 10 \text{ nm}$

Rheology: strain sweep ($\phi = 0.83$)



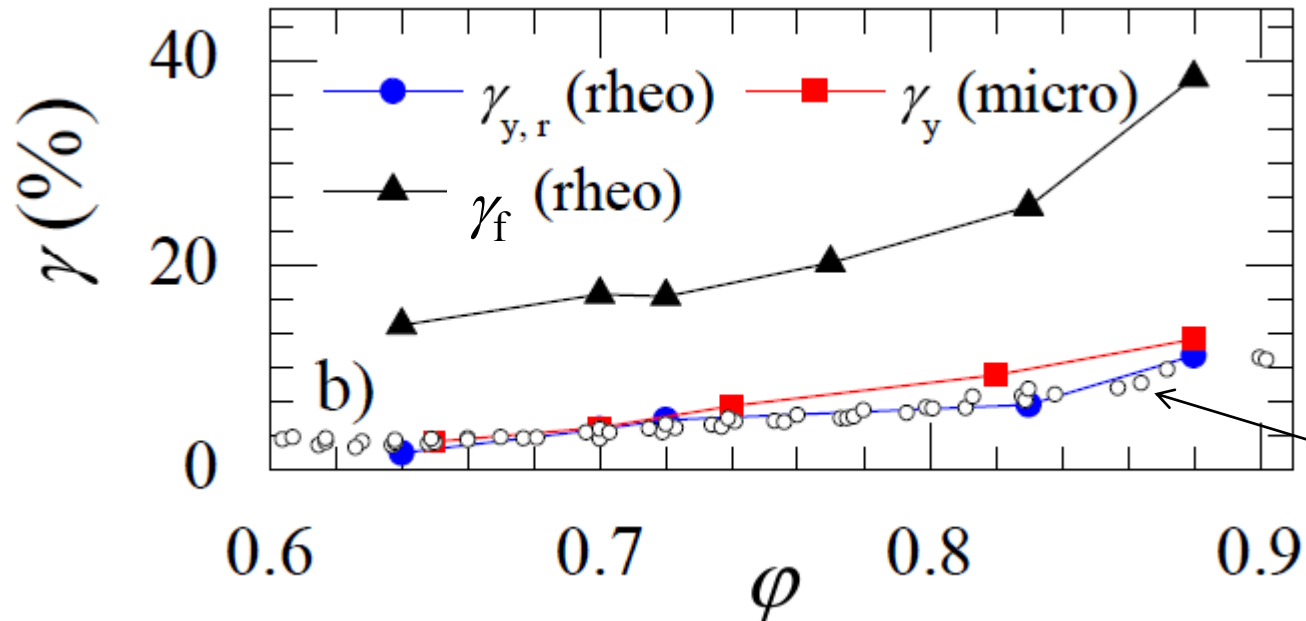
Yielding transition: **very smooth!**

Microscopy: rms displacement

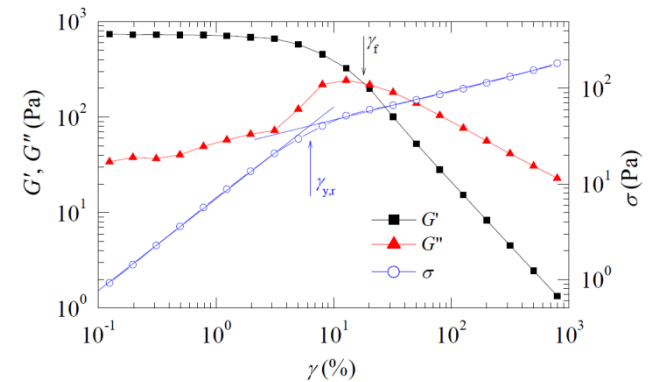
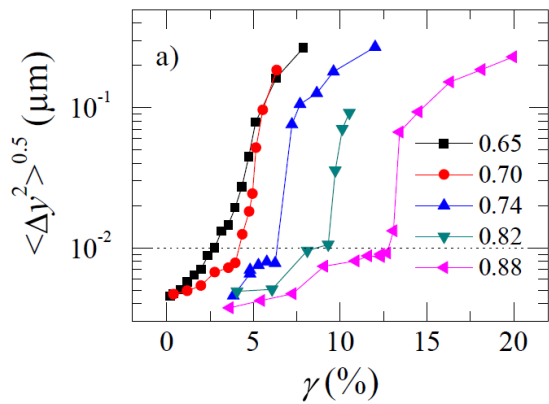


Yielding transition: quite sharp (especially at high ϕ)

Microscopic vs macroscopic yielding



Mason et al 1996



Microscopic yielding corresponds to macroscopic onset of non-linearity

Motion is heterogeneous

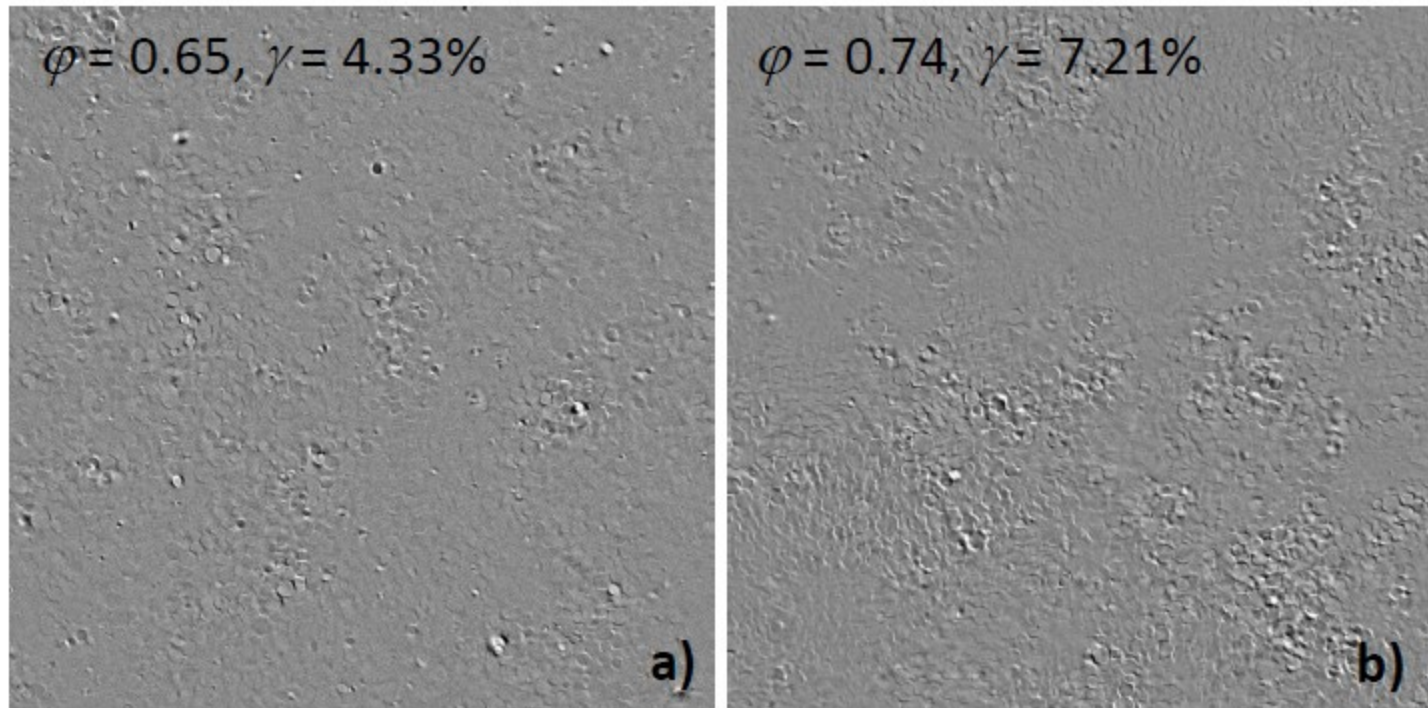
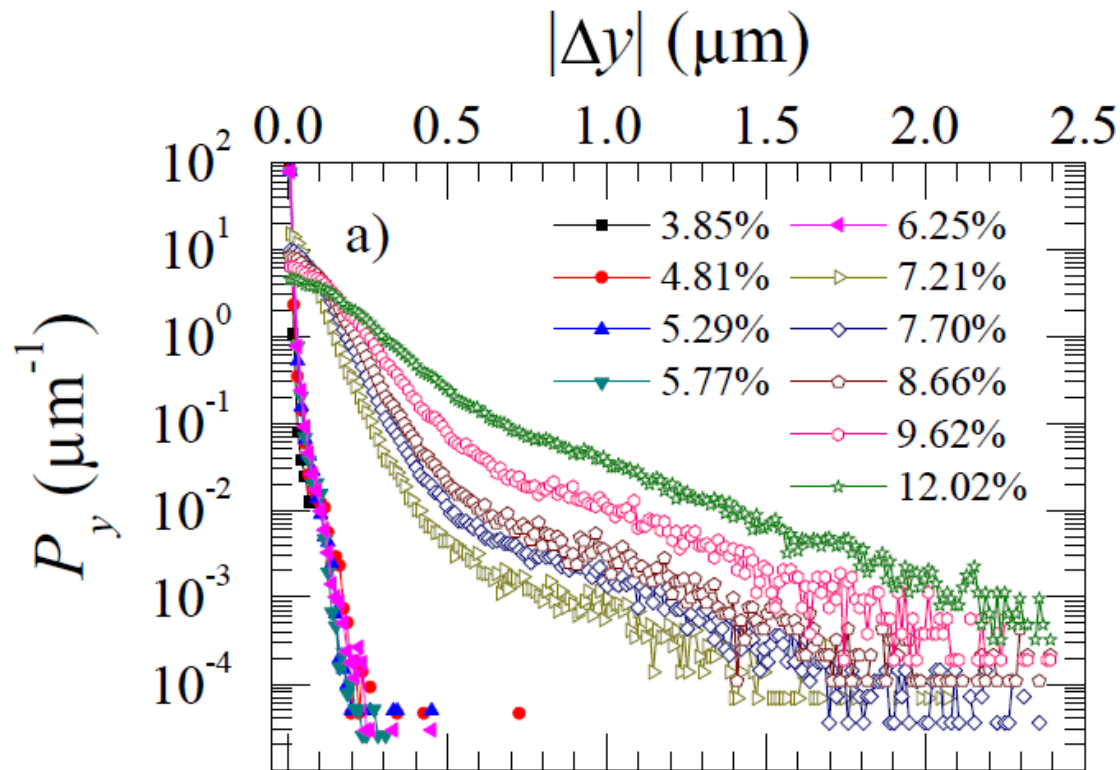


Fig. 4 Difference between two successive strobed images: regions where motion occurred show up as features brighter or dimmer than the average background, while immobile regions are featureless. For each sample, the applied strain is just above the yield strain γ_y .

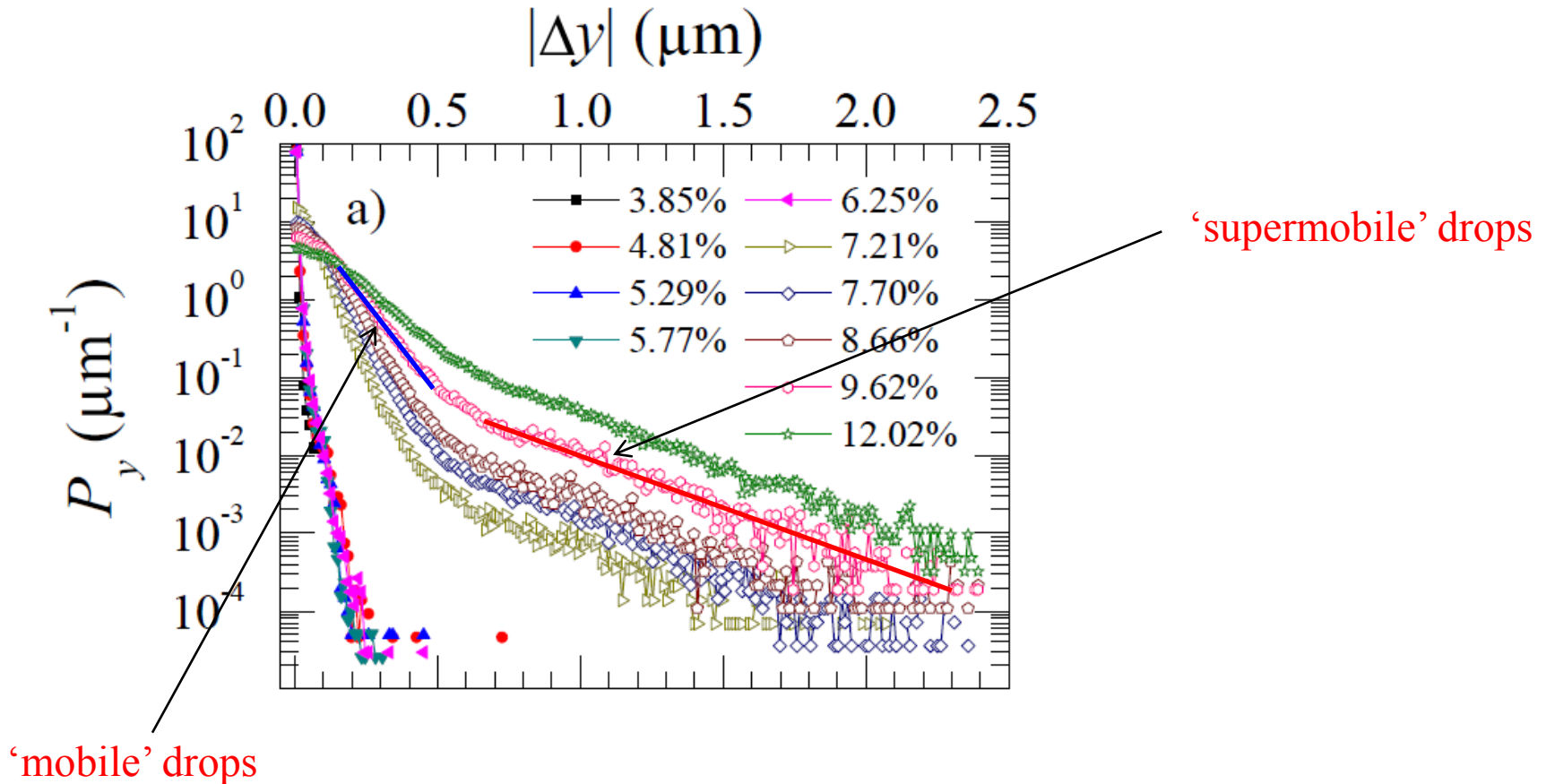
Probability distribution of drop displacements



$\phi = 0.74$ (same at higher ϕ)

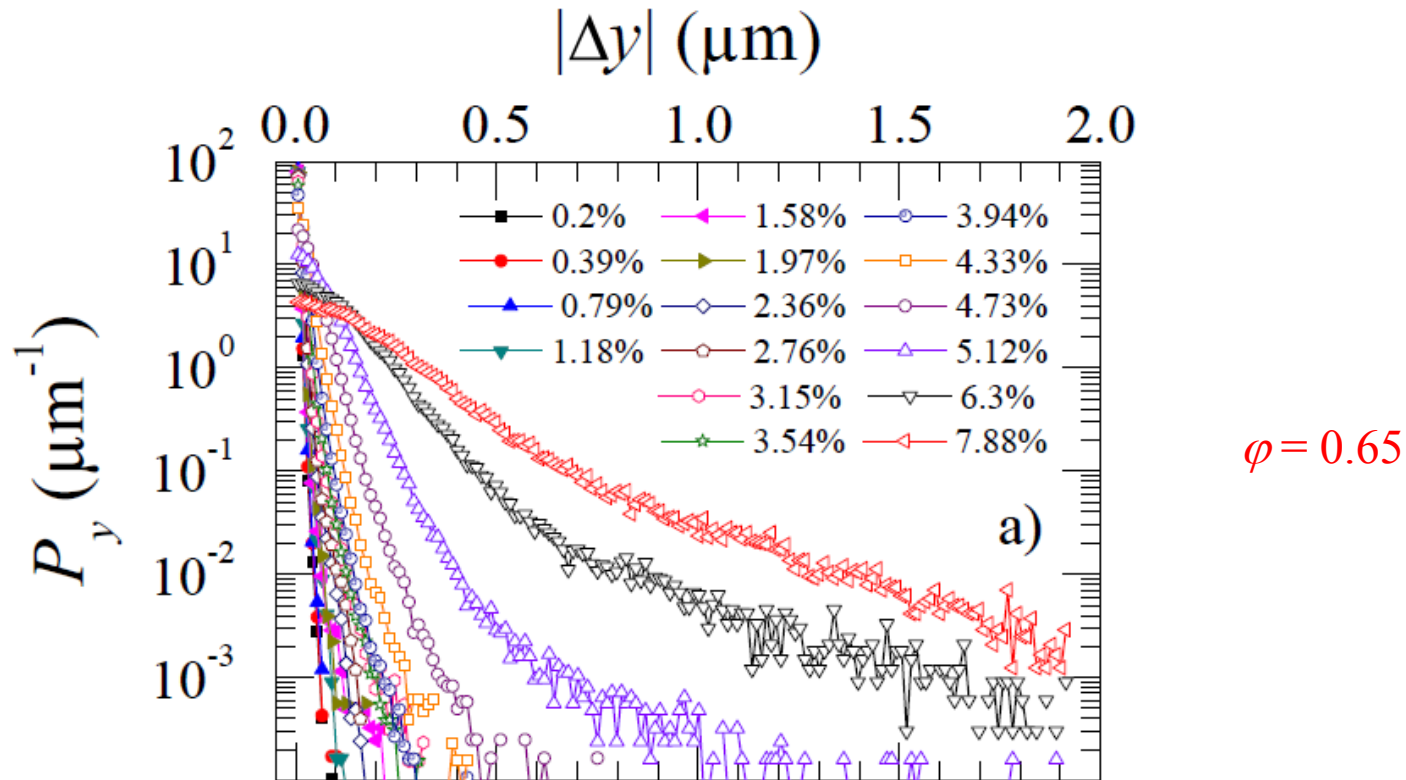
Abrupt change at the yielding transition (compare $\gamma = 6.25\%$ to $\gamma = 7.21\%$)

Probability distribution of drop displacements



Above γ_y : non-Gaussian pdf: \sim double exponential tails

Closer to the jamming transition...



Smoother transition, but again 'mobile' and 'supermobile' drops

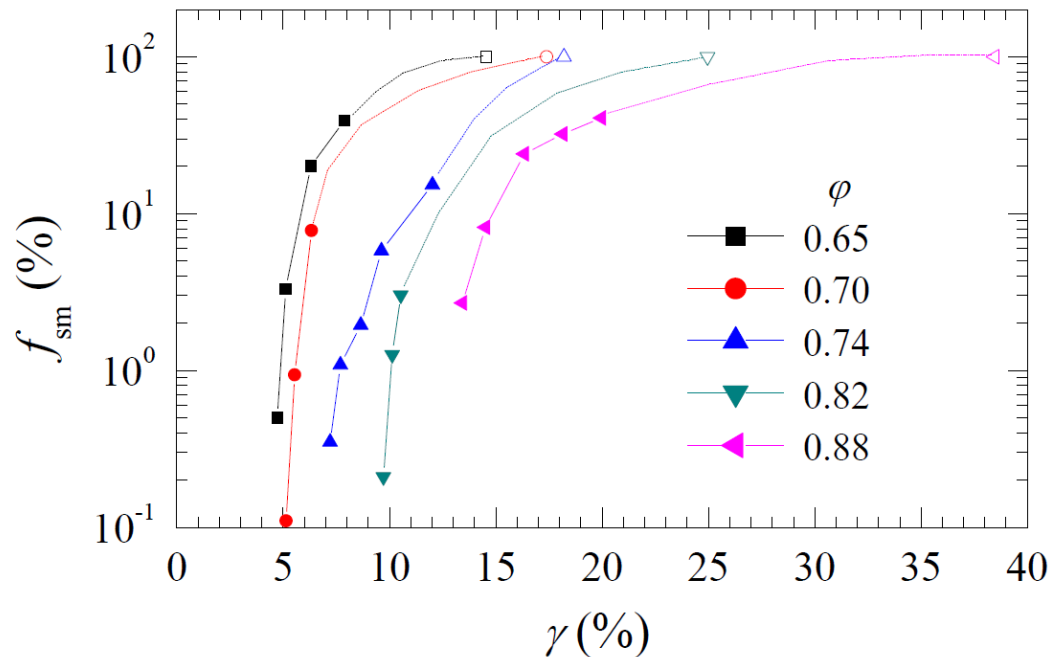
A Lindemann's criterion for yielding?

Jump size for 'supermobile' drops: $\sim 11\%$ of drop size (irrespective of ϕ and γ)

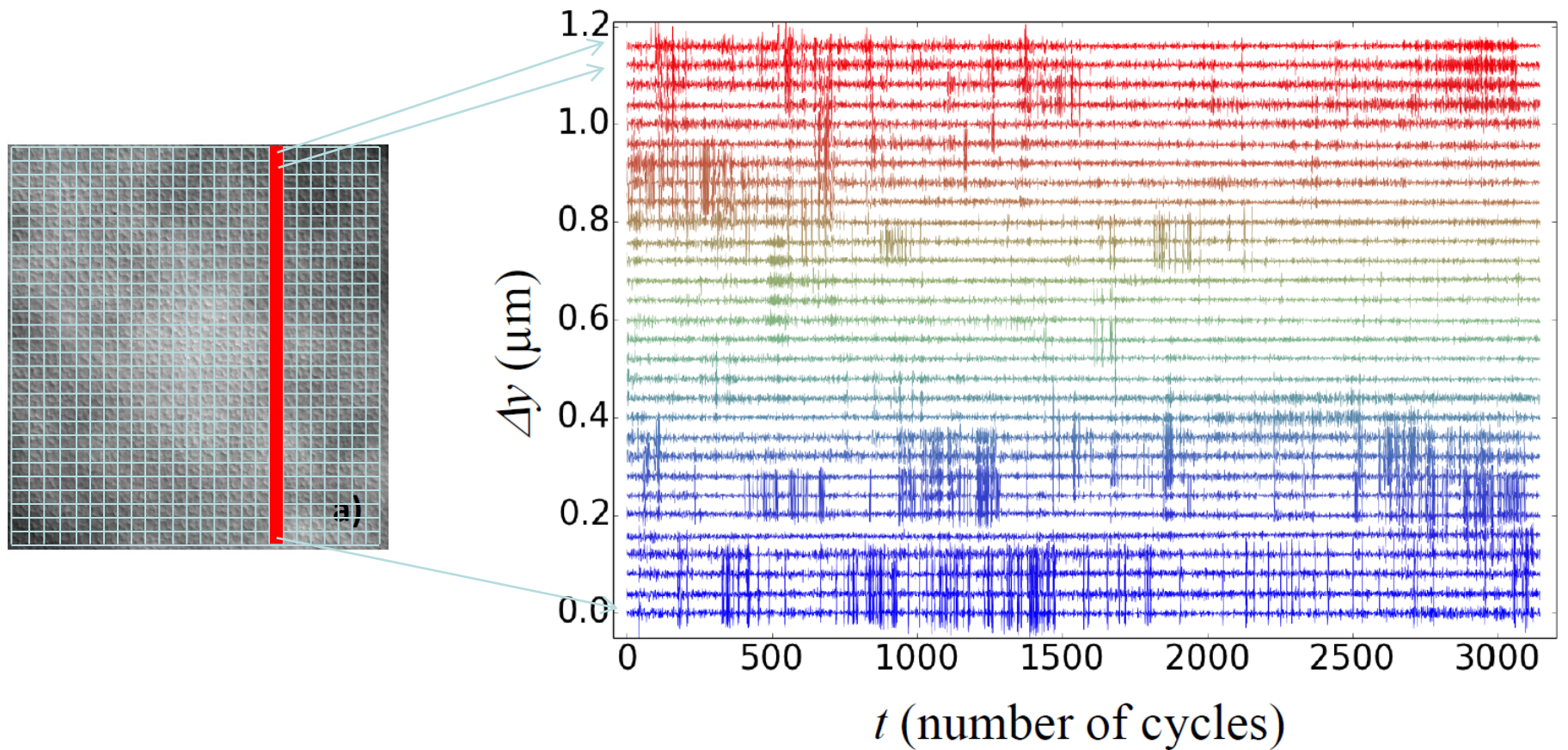
Lindemann's criterion for melting a crystal: particles 'jiggle' over $\sim 15\%$ of their size



Yielding transition when **all particles become 'supermobile'??**

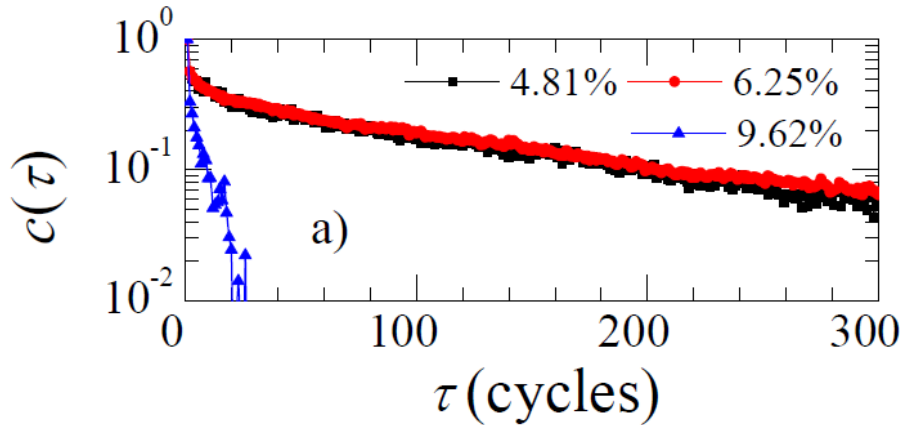


Dynamics: spatial and temporal organization

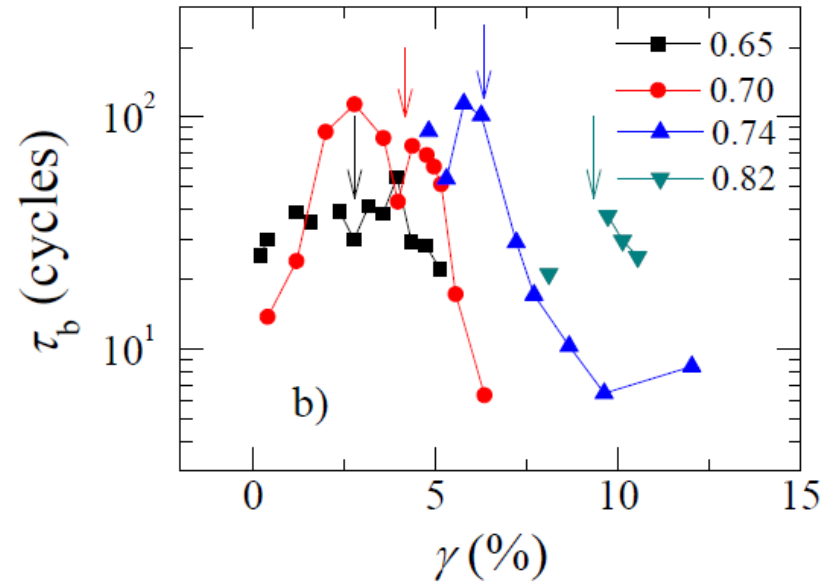


Temporal correlation: bursts of motion

$$c(\tau) = \langle \langle |\Delta y(t, \mathbf{R})| |\Delta y(t + \tau, \mathbf{R})| \rangle_t \rangle_{\mathbf{R}}$$



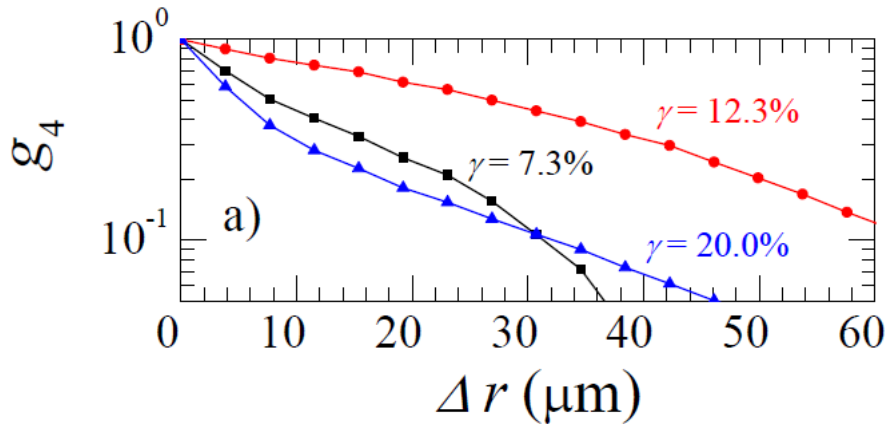
$$\varphi = 0.74 (\gamma_y = 6.5\%)$$



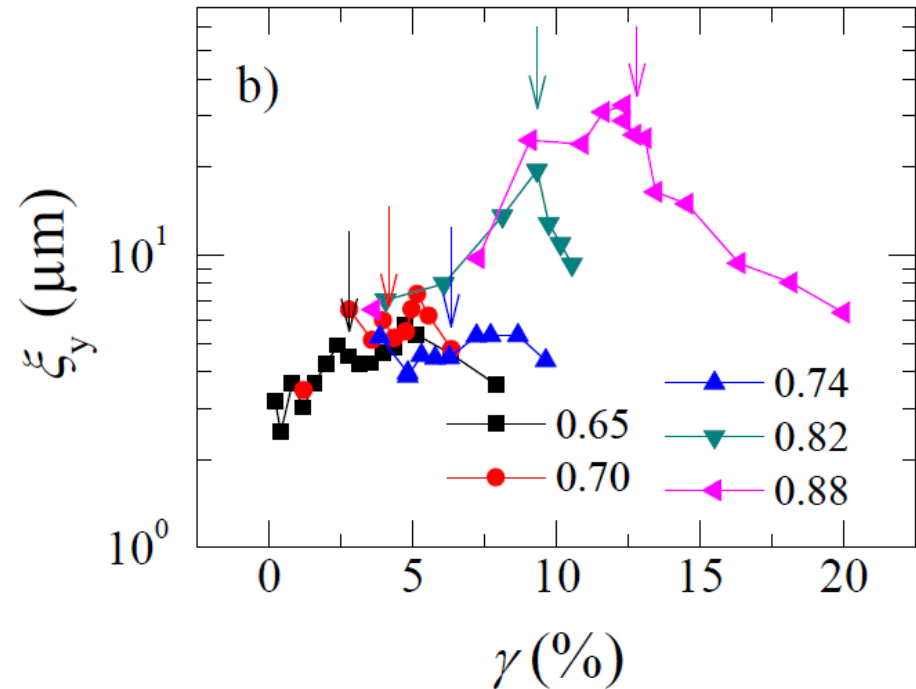
- Bursts of motion may last **hundreds of cycles**, but eventually **mobile/quiescent drops do exchange**
- **No clear indication of divergence** around γ_y : transition not so 2nd order...

Spatial correlation

$$g_4(\Delta \mathbf{r}) \sim \langle \langle \Delta y(\mathbf{R}, t) \Delta y(\mathbf{R} + \Delta \mathbf{r}, t) \rangle \rangle_{\mathbf{R}, t}$$



$$\varphi = 0.88 (\gamma_y = 12.7\%)$$



- Spatial correlations extend up to $\sim 10-15$ drops
- ξ_y larger at higher φ : stress transmission important ?
- Behavior around γ_y : varies with φ ...

Conclusions

- Yield transition at a microscopic level **quite sharp**, as opposed to rheology
- Motion is heterogeneous: ‘**quiescent**’, **mobile** and **supermobile** particles coexist
- **extended spatio-temporal correlations of dynamics**, but quiescent/mobile populations eventually **do exchange**
- A **Lindemann’s criterion** for fluidization of amorphous systems?
- Nature of the transition unclear:
 - **Close to ϕ_f** : smoother $\Delta y(\gamma)$, but no diverging length/time scales around γ_y
 - **At higher ϕ** : sharp transition, but length/time scales grow significantly around γ_y

Thanks to...

NYU

Department
of Physics

You all!