

Gopi Shah, Max Planck Institute

Emergent mechanical properties of biological tissues

Boulder Summer School 2024
Self-organizing matter
Lecture 1
July 15th 2024

M. Lisa Manning
Syracuse University
BioInspired Institute
Department of Physics



Thanks to my group and collaborators!

Manning group

Tyler Hain

Sadjad Arzash

Ojan Damavandi -> Intel

Varda Hagh -> UIUC

Raj Kumar Manna

Somiealo Azote

Adil Ghaznavi

Cam Dennis

Alumni contributors

Julia Ann Giannini -> Northwestern

Matthias Merkel -> CENTURI

Daniel Sussman -> Emory

Gonca Erdemci Tandogan ->

Western University

Dapeng Max Bi -> Northeastern

Michael Czajkowski -> GA Tech

Preeti Sahu -> IST Austria

Ethan Stanifer -> Michigan

Liz Lawson-Keister -> SSA

Amanda Parker -> Symbiosys

Paula Sanematsu -> Harvard

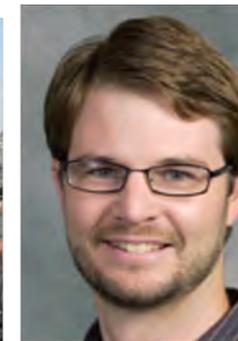
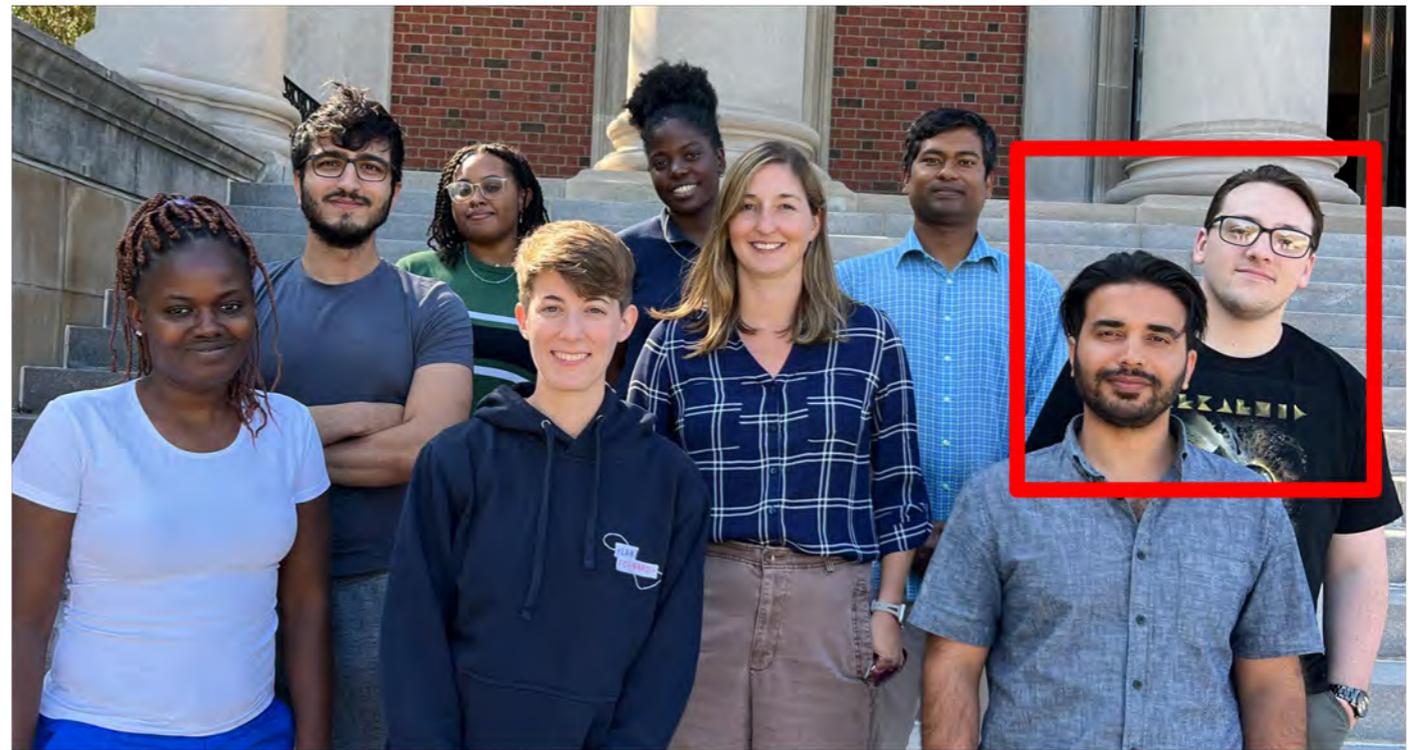
Research Computing

Syracuse faculty collaborators

Chris Santangelo (SU)

Jennifer Schwarz (SU)

Heidi Hehnly (SU)



Collaborators:

Indrajit Tah (CSIR-CGCRI)

& Andrea Liu (Upenn)

Brian Tighe & Karsten

Baumgarten (TU Delft)

Margaret Gardel & John

Devany (U Chicago)

Jeff Amack (SUNY Upstate

Medical University)

Karen Kasza and Xun Wang

(Columbia)

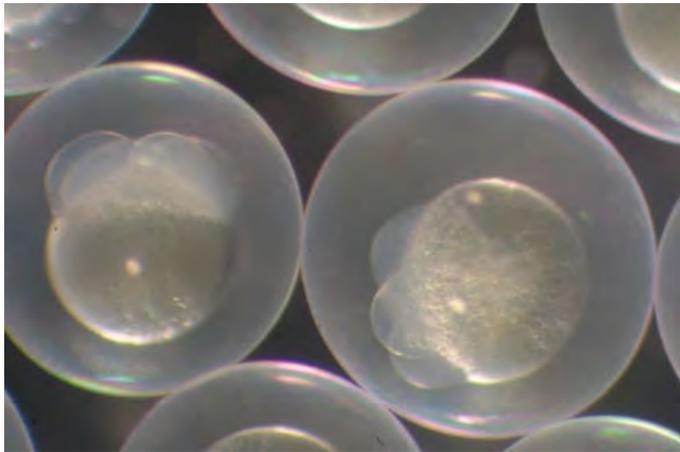
Ryan Hayward (CU

Boulder)

How do you turn a blob of material into something that's the shape of a fish?

development

blob



zfin.org



[Karlstrom et al, Development \(1996\)](#)

fish



zfin.org

How do you turn a blob of material into something that's the shape of a fish?

glass blob



coursehorse.com

glass blower



[Smithsonian Magazine](#)

complex, stable, reproducible morphology



How do you turn a blob of material into something that's the shape of a fish?



Smithsonian Magazine



mandrel rod

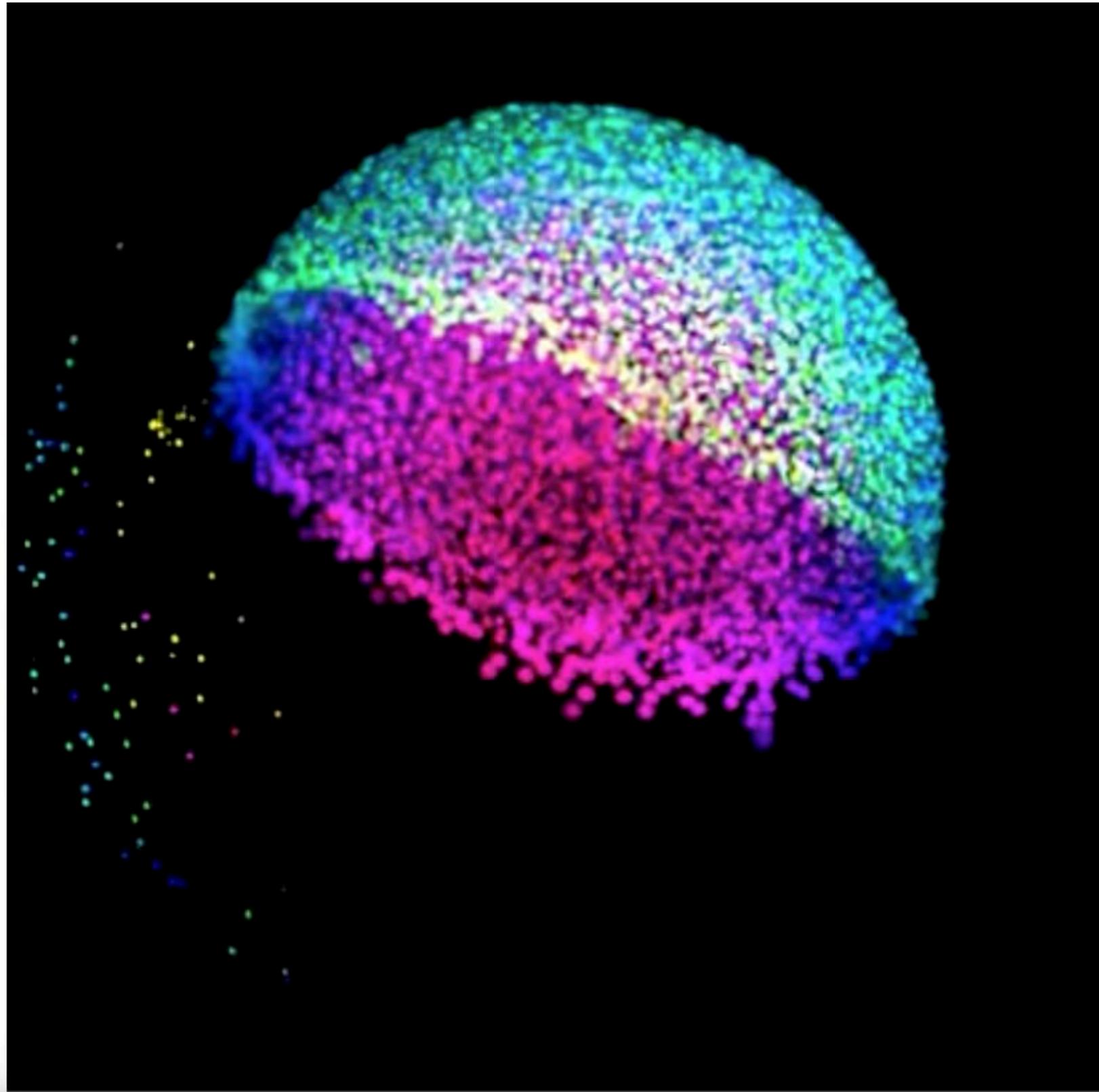
applies localized forces:
pressures
shear stresses

heat

focus on this first



alters the local material properties:
elastic modulus
fluidity/viscosity
goes through a "glass transition"
solid → fluid → solid

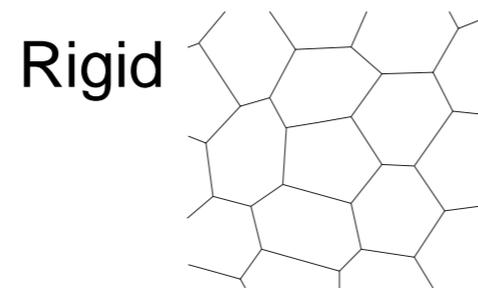


are the local
material
properties
changing?

Recent biology experiments: tissues do change their fluidity during development

A fluid-to-solid jamming transition underlies vertebrate body axis elongation

Alessandro Mongera^{1,2,7}, Payam Rowghanian^{1,2}, Hannah J. Gustafson^{1,2,3}, Elijah Shelton^{1,2}, David A. Kealhofer⁴, Emmet K. Carn¹, Friedhelm Serwane^{1,2,8}, Adam A. Lucio^{1,2}, James Giammona^{2,4} & Otger Campàs^{1,2,5,6*}



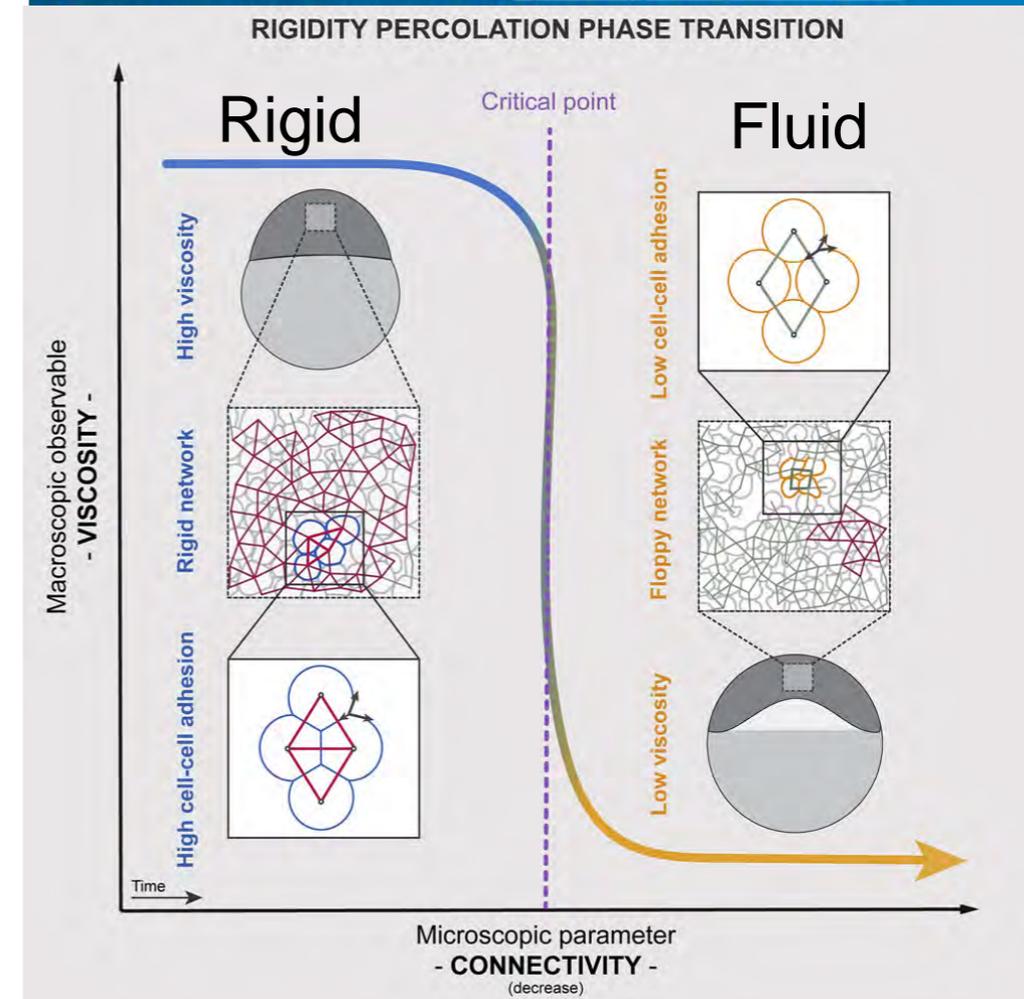
Fluid

Mongera et al, Nature, 2018

Rigidity percolation uncovers a structural basis for embryonic tissue phase transitions

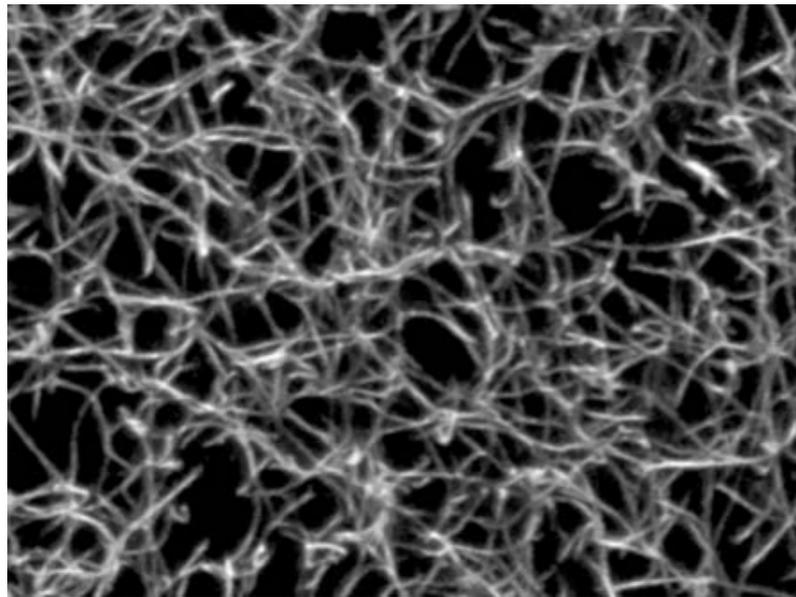
Nicoletta I. Petridou^{2, 4} • Bernat Corominas-Murtra^{3, 4} • Carl-Philipp Heisenberg⁵ • Edouard Hannezo² • Show footnotes

Open Access • Published: March 16, 2021 • DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cell.2021.02.017>

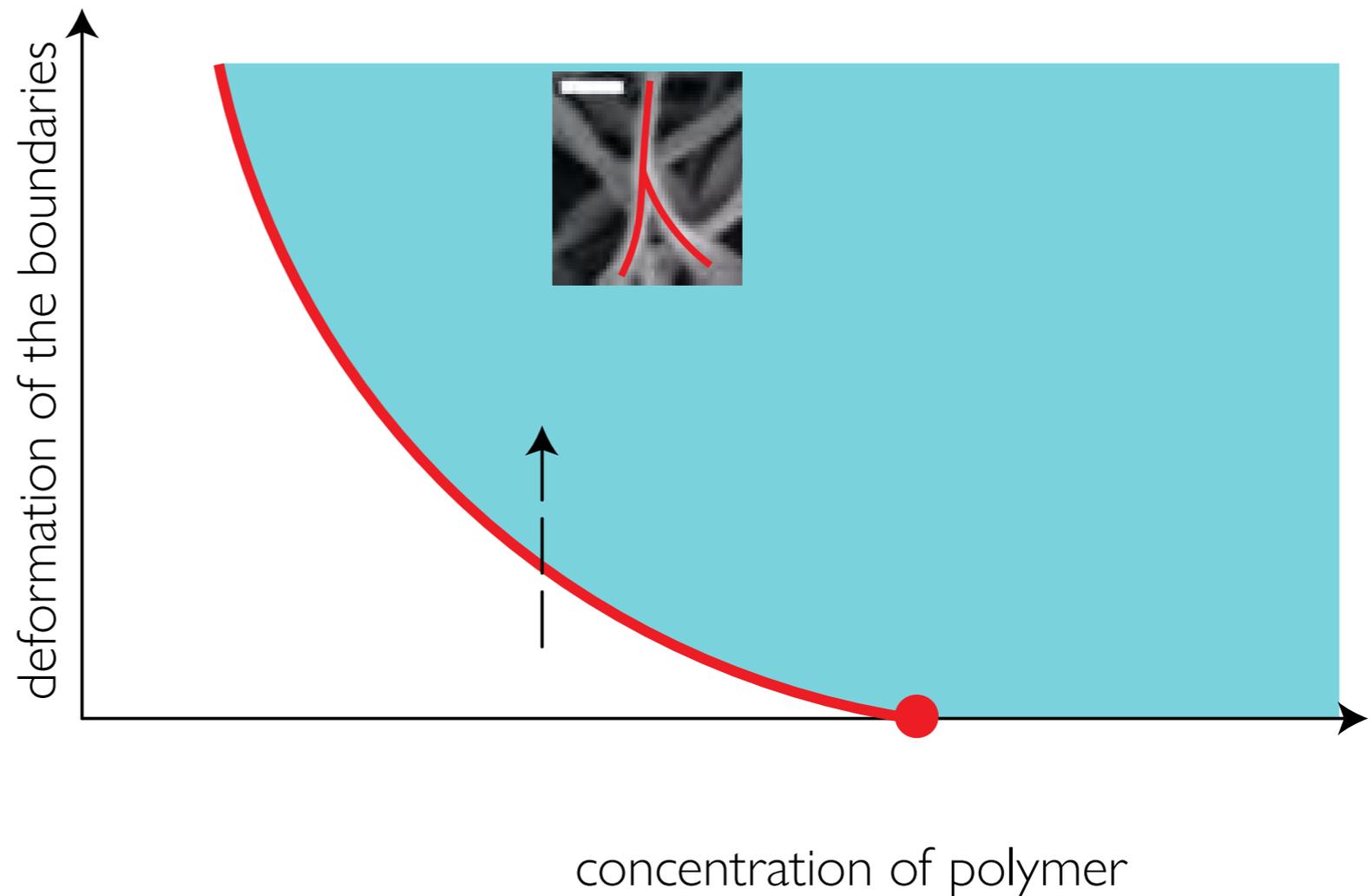


Petridou et al, Cell 2021

Biology experiments: not just cells... tissues also composed of extracellular matrix (ECM), which often exists in disordered networks that **also** transition from floppy to stiff



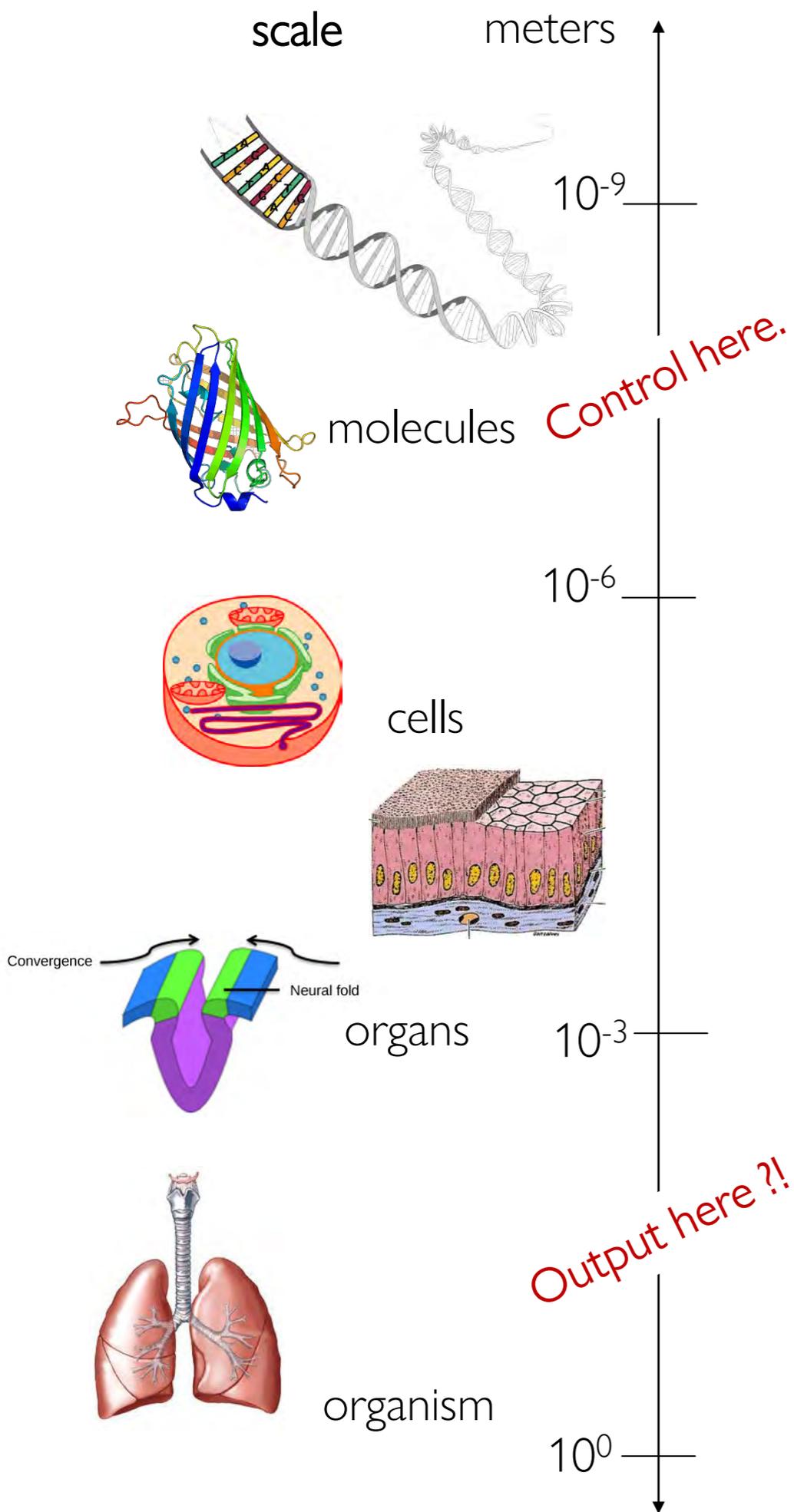
Lindström et al., *PRE* (2010).



Sharma et al., *Nature Physics* (2016).
Jansen et al., *Biophysical Journal* (2018).

Rigidity transitions occur in other systems and at different scales, too:

- Possible rigidification of condensates in liquid-liquid phase separation, implications for plaques and disease
- cytoskeleton inside a cell can tune its rigidity
- active gel (c.f. Ulrich Schwarz's awesome lectures)



Also biology experiments: all the control systems are encoded and evolve at the scale of molecules

biologists, biophysicists:

how does it do that?

materials scientists:

we'd like to do that, too!

why it is difficult:

challenge 1) emergent rigidity is difficult

challenge 2) there are many tunable parameters, tuning parameters are at a much smaller scale than emergent behavior. how to control? (cf talks by Andrea Liu next week)

challenge 1) emergent rigidity is difficult

“We are so accustomed to the rigidity of solid bodies – the idea for instance that when you move one end of a ruler the other end moves the same distance ...

... that we don't see the most miraculous nature, that is, the 'emergent property' not contained in the law of physics, although it is a consequence of them.”

Let's work on challenge 1!



P. W. Anderson

“The deepest and most interesting unsolved problem in solid state theory is probably the theory of the nature of glass and the glass transition.” (1995)

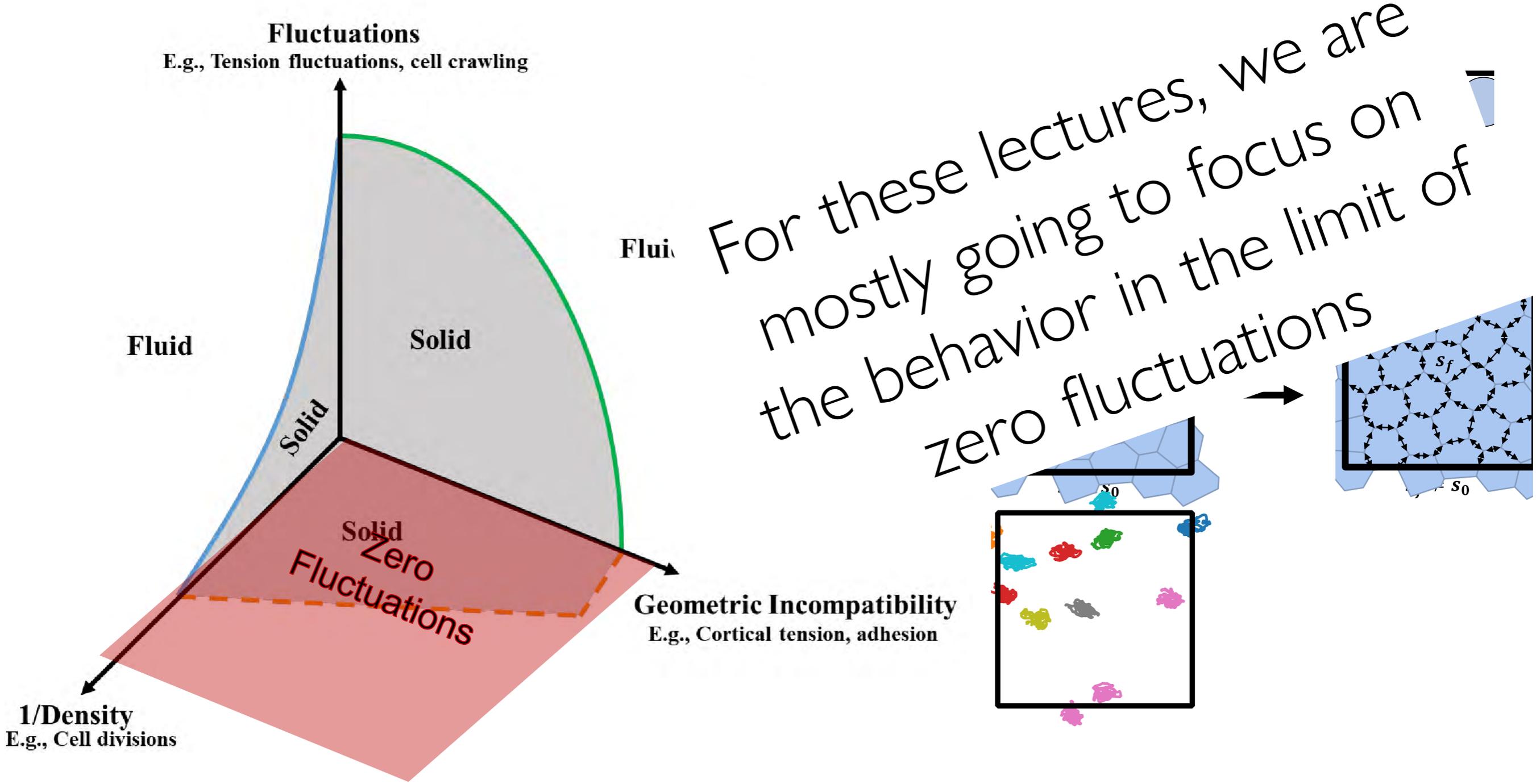


Moumita Das gave a fantastic introduction to this topic in the first week, focused on:

- semi-flexible networks
- effective medium theory
- composite networks

here, we will be extending some of those ideas in different ways

Answer to challenge 1: there are multiple physical mechanisms that can drive rigidity/fluidity in tissues.



Lawson-Keister++, Current Opinions in Cell Biology (2021)
 adapted from Kim++ Nature Physics (2021) and Bi++ PRX 2016

Today's lecture: 1/density axis

- theory: revisit the Dynamical Matrix, shear modulus
- canonical example for 1/density axis: jamming transition for spheres
- theory: First-order rigidity
- a few examples in biology

Tomorrow's lecture: geometric incompatibility axis

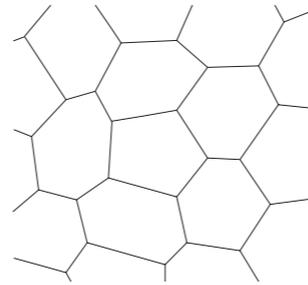
- theory: Second-order rigidity
- canonical examples for geometric incompatibility
 - underconstrained spring networks
 - vertex models
- how does this show up in biology experiments?
- (if time) a tiny bit of finite temperature + dense active matter

Wednesday's lecture: critical manifolds and programming/control

- universality
 - shear modulus
 - shape parameter/incompatible length scales
 - finite frequency response
- how to pick the right degrees of freedom for a model – does it matter?
- Can we think of how to design or evolve specific emergent mechanics?
 - theory for second-order rigid systems: parameterization of the critical manifold

A fluid-to-solid jamming transition underlies vertebrate body axis elongation

Alessandro Mongera^{1,2,7}, Payam Rowghanian^{1,2}, Hannah J. Gustafson^{1,2,3}, Elijah Shelton^{1,2}, David A. Kealhofer⁴, Emmet K. Carn¹, Friedhelm Serwane^{1,2,8}, Adam A. Lucio^{1,2}, James Giammona^{2,4} & Otger Campàs^{1,2,5,6*}



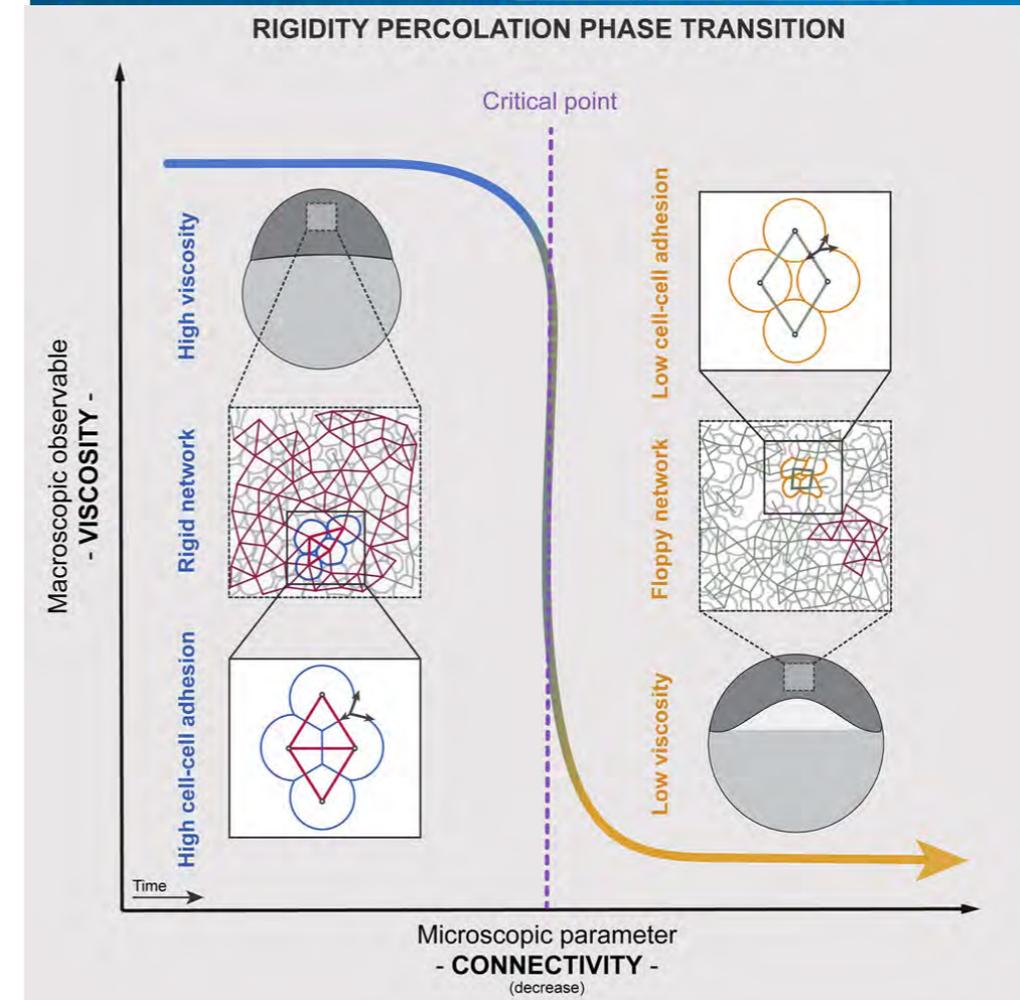
Mongera et al, Nature, 2018

Rigidity percolation uncovers a structural basis for embryonic tissue phase transitions

Nicoletta I. Petridou^{2, 4} • Bernat Corominas-Murtra^{3, 4} • Carl-Philipp Heisenberg⁵ •

Edouard Hannezo² • Show footnotes

Open Access • Published: March 16, 2021 • DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cell.2021.02.017>

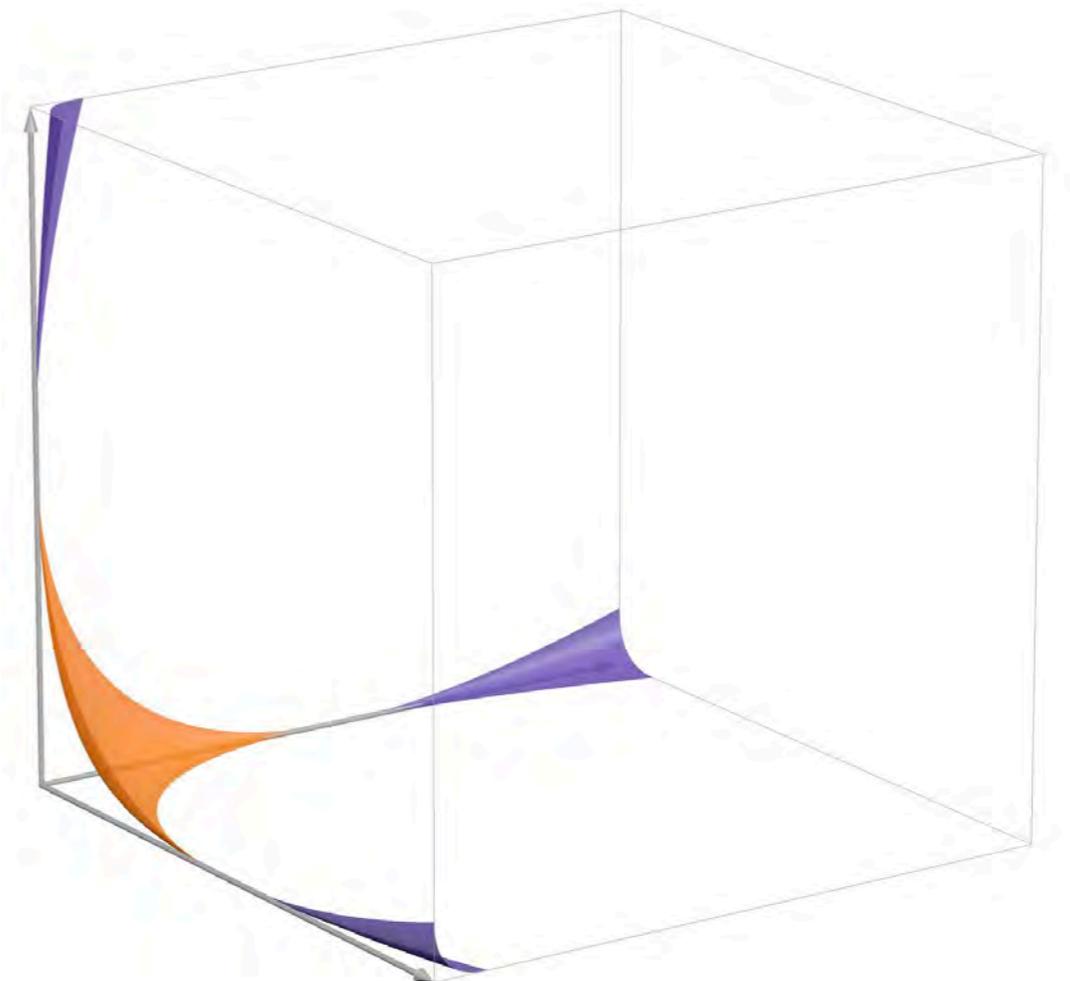
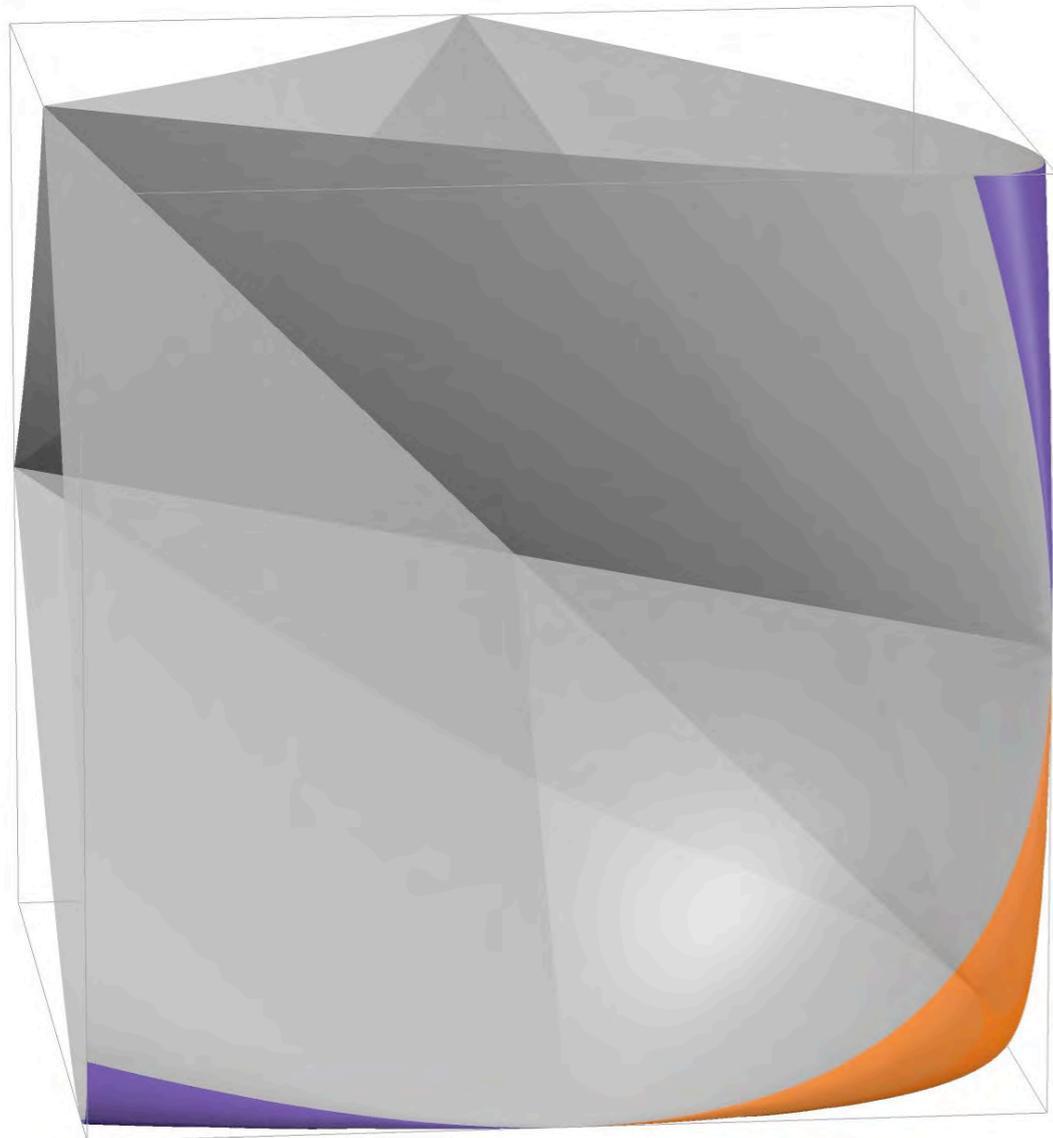


Petridou et al, Cell 2021

Beautiful data and modeling: in these cases, fluidization caused by changes to density and number of contacts

Cells as squishy spheres is a good model for such systems!

Lecture 2



Rigidity manifold for the 3-bar linkage

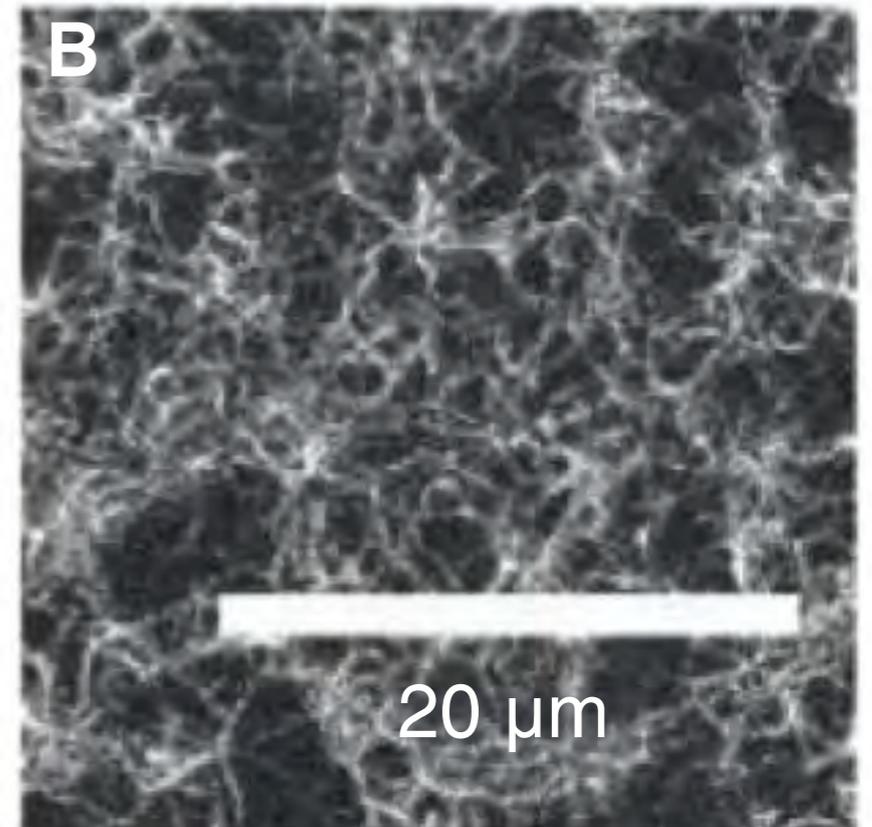
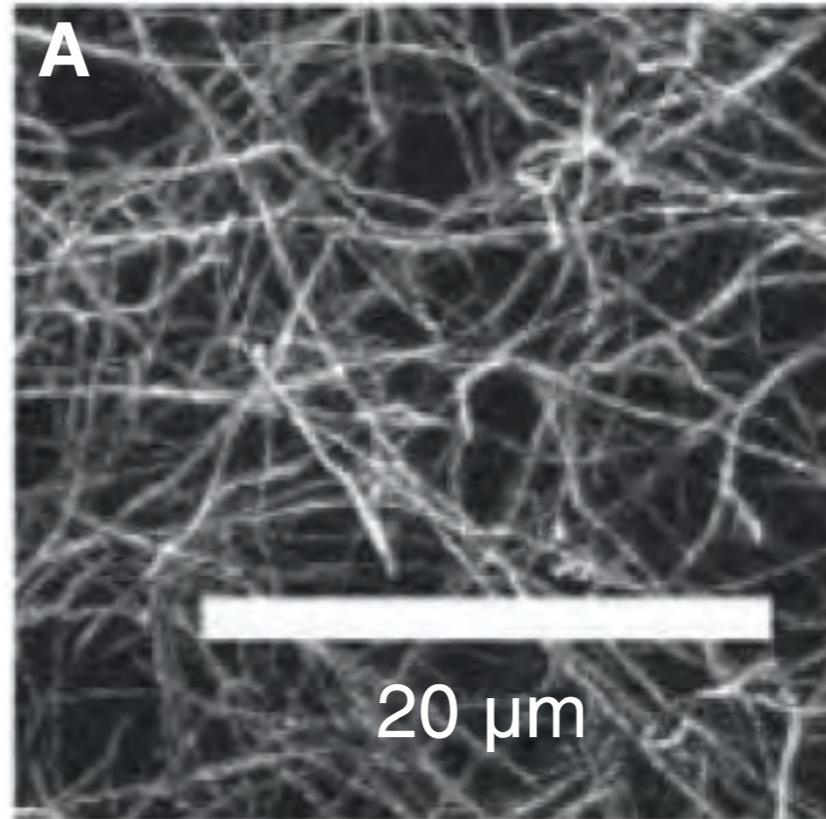
Fiber networks in biology

25°C

37°C

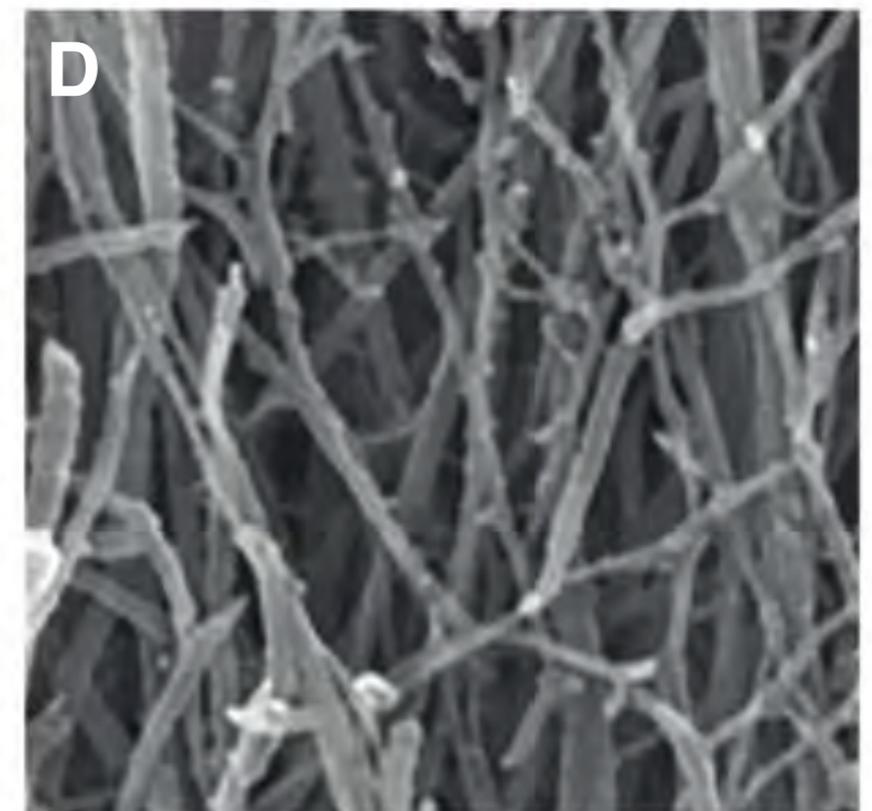
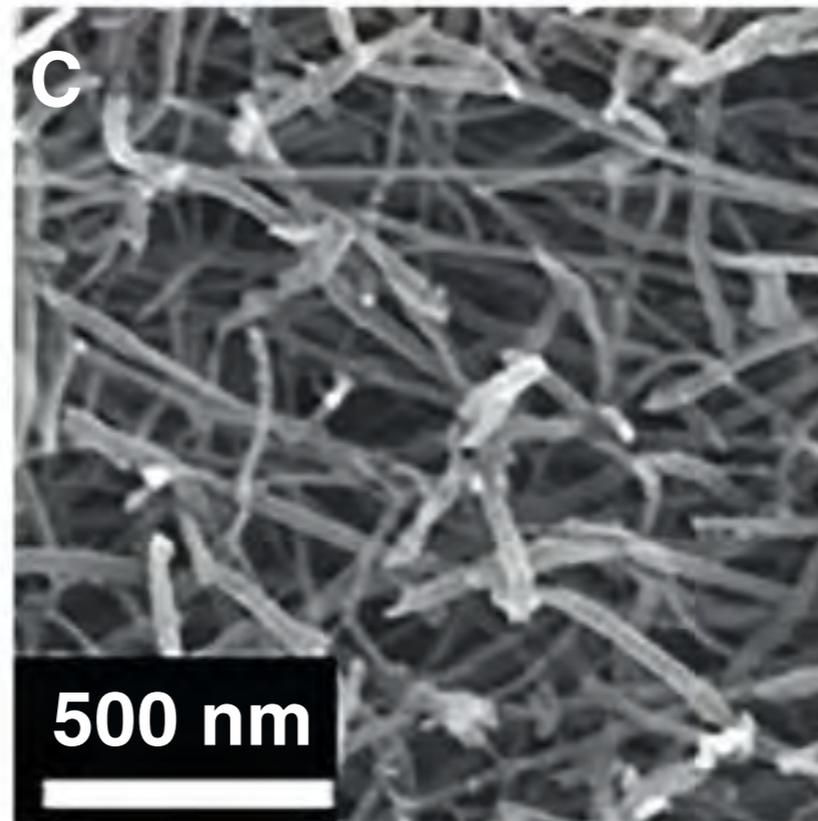
in vitro
(reconstituted collagen
network)

Licup, A.J., et al PNAS (2015).



in vivo
(bovine knee cartilage)

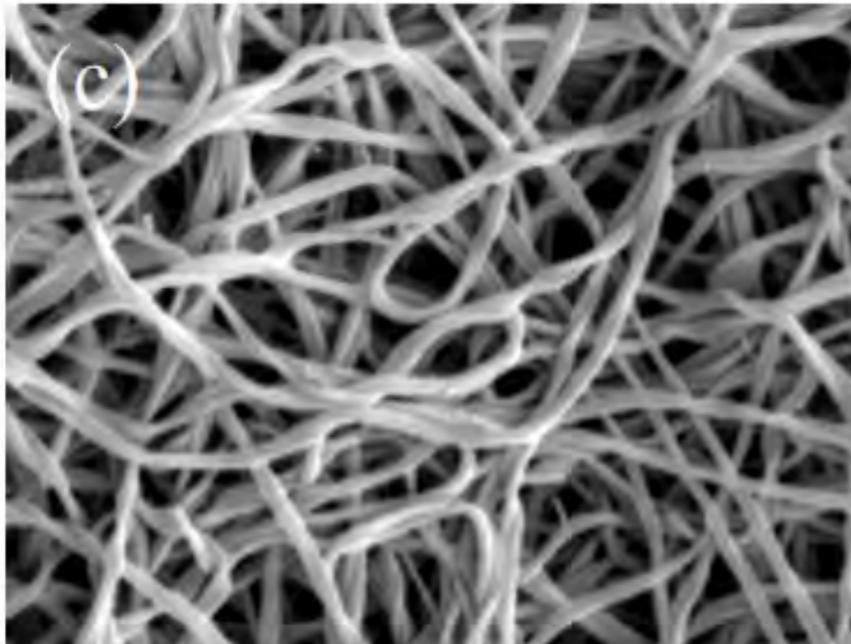
Brown et al Clinical
Biomechanics (2020)



closer to surface

deeper from surface

Fiber networks in biology are often under-constrained

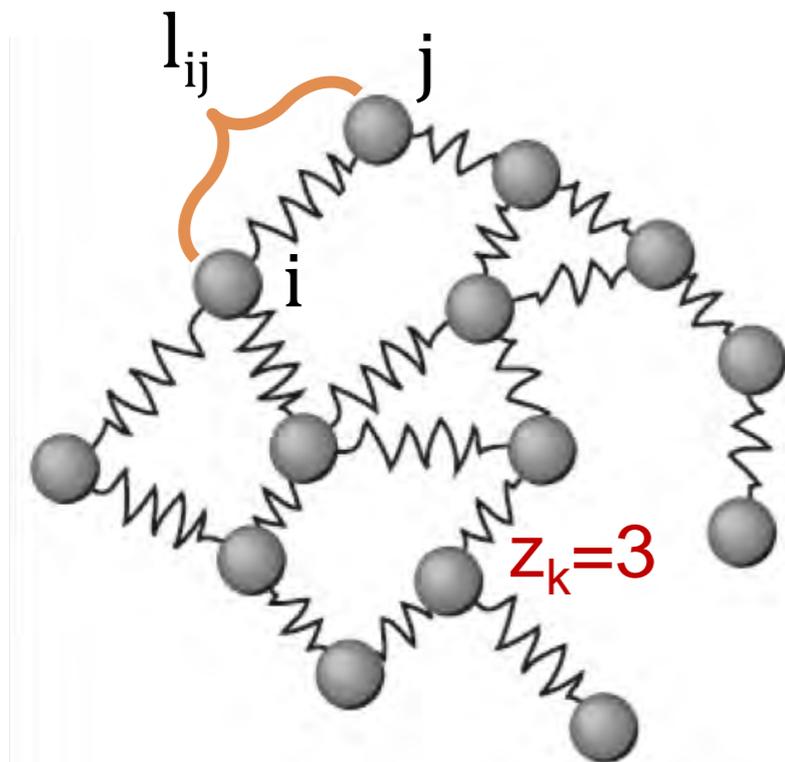


Sharma et al. Nature Phys. 2016.

can be approximated as a network of springs

$$e_{network} = k_{spring} \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} (l_{ij} - l_0)^2$$

$\langle ij \rangle$ → actual length
 l_0 → rest length

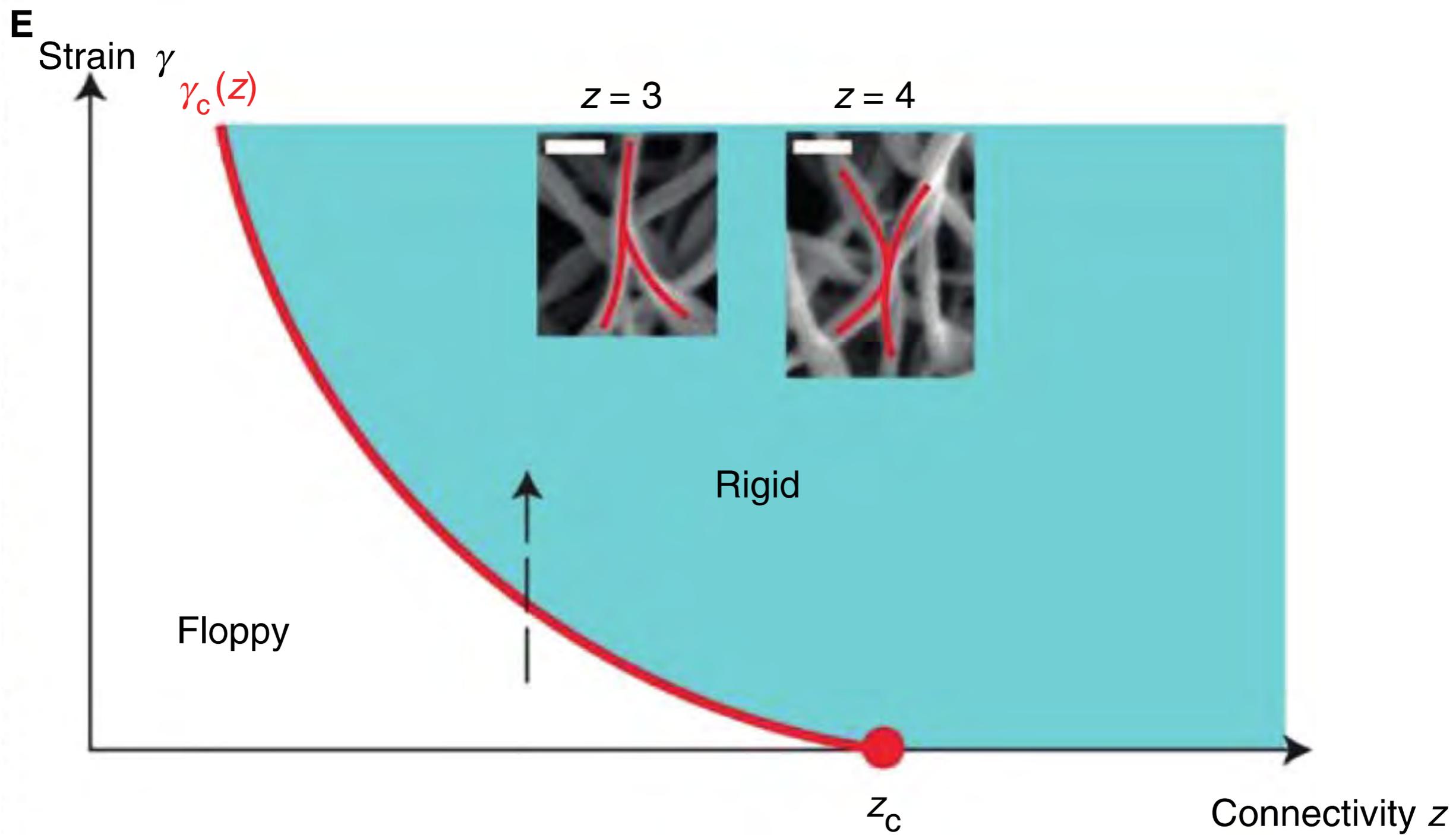


in biological tissues networks like collagen are almost always under-constrained:

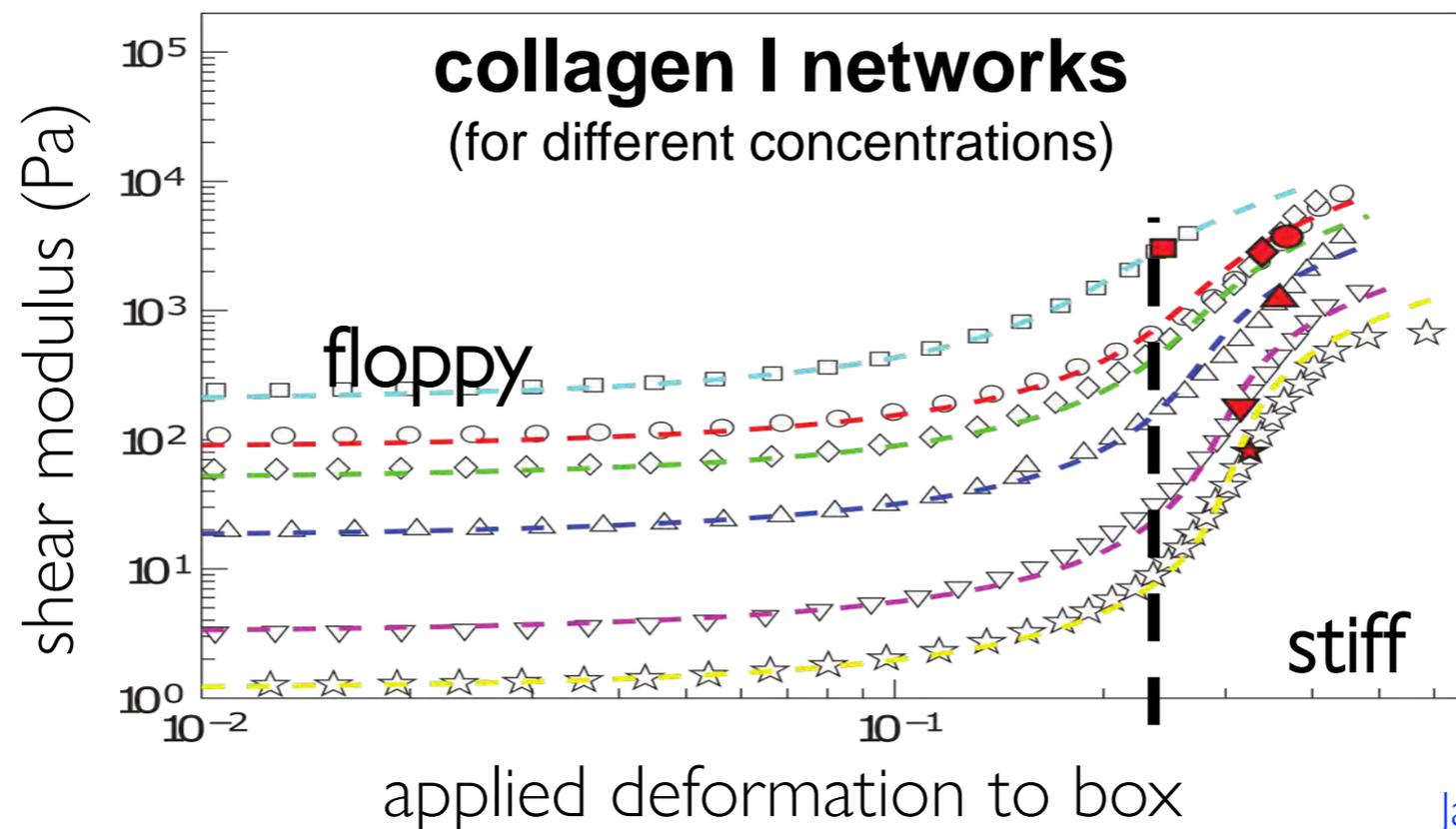
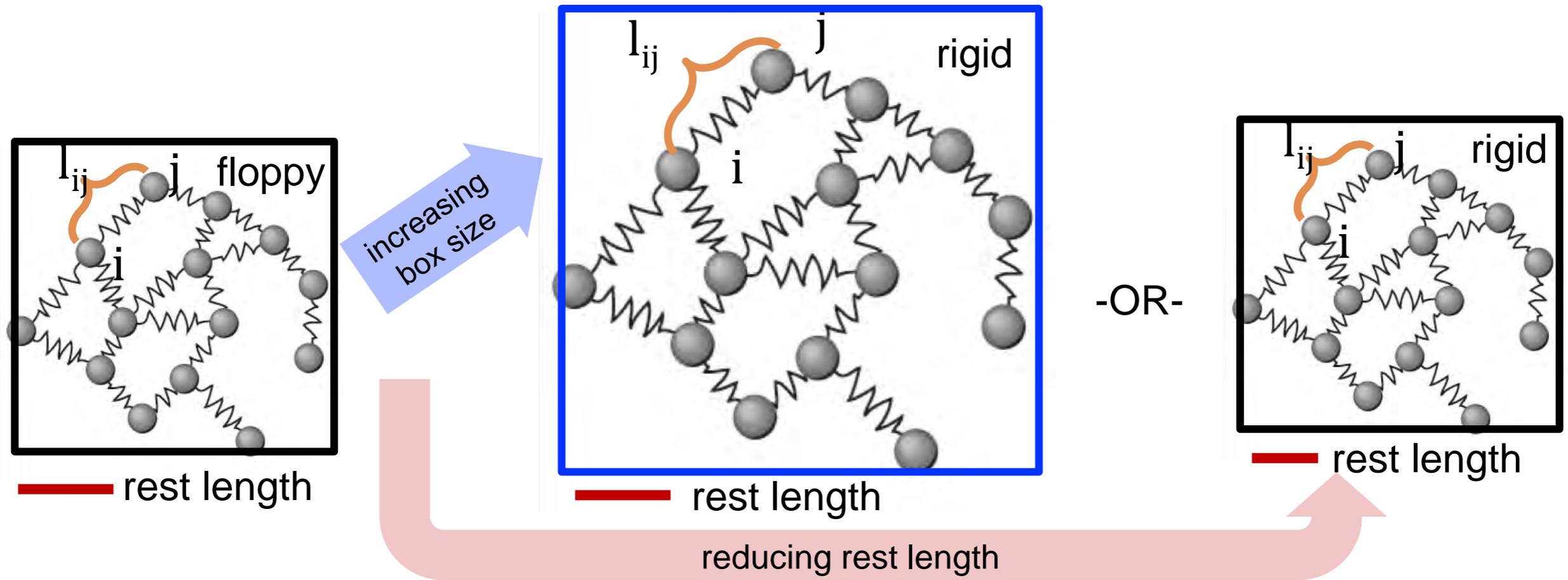
network coordination

$$z < z_c = 2d$$

Sharma et al., *Nature Physics* (2016).
Jansen et al., *Biophysical Journal* (2018).



Fiber networks can rigidify via changing box size or spring rest length



Sharma et al., *Nature Physics* (2016).
Jansen et al., *Biophysical Journal* (2018).

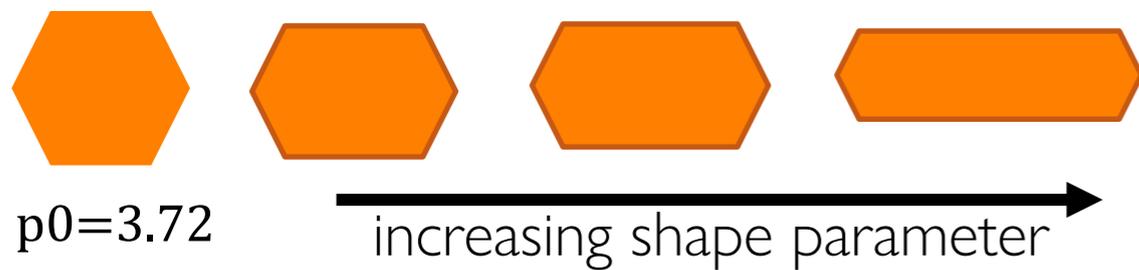
Lecture 3

Outline for Lecture 3

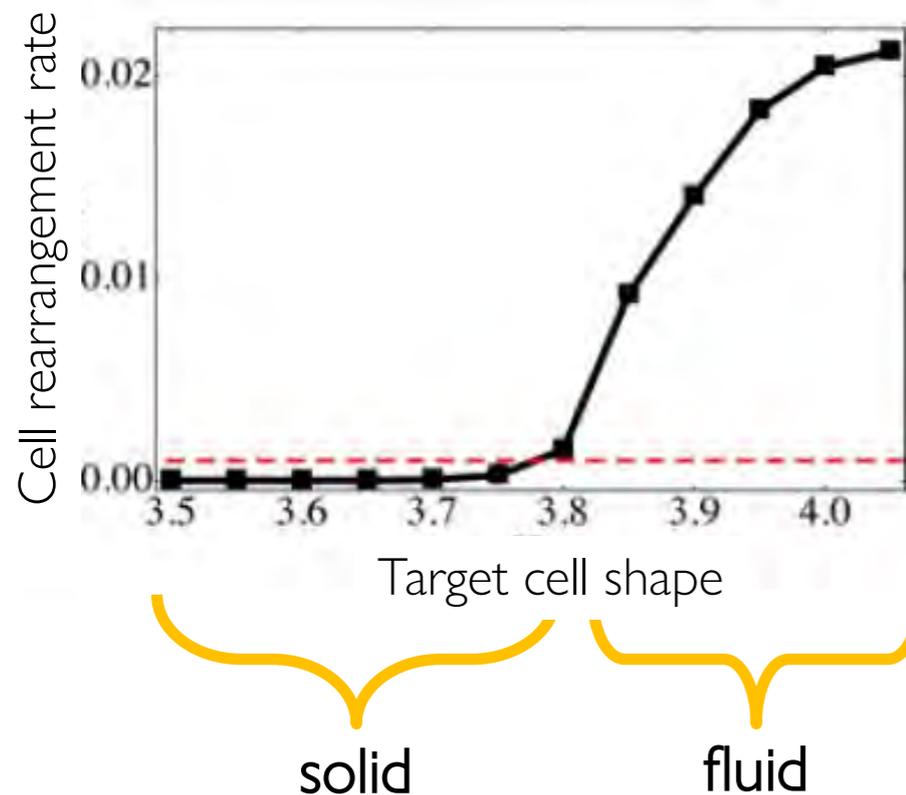
- more about vertex models
- universality of vertex models
 - shear modulus/shape parameter/incompatible length scales
 - finite frequency response
- how to pick the right degrees of freedom for a model – does it matter?
- Can we think of how to design or evolve specific emergent mechanics?
 - theory for second-order rigid systems: parameterization of the critical manifold

experiments: confluent tissues rigidify by tuning cell shape

shape index: $\text{perimeter} / \sqrt{\text{area}}$

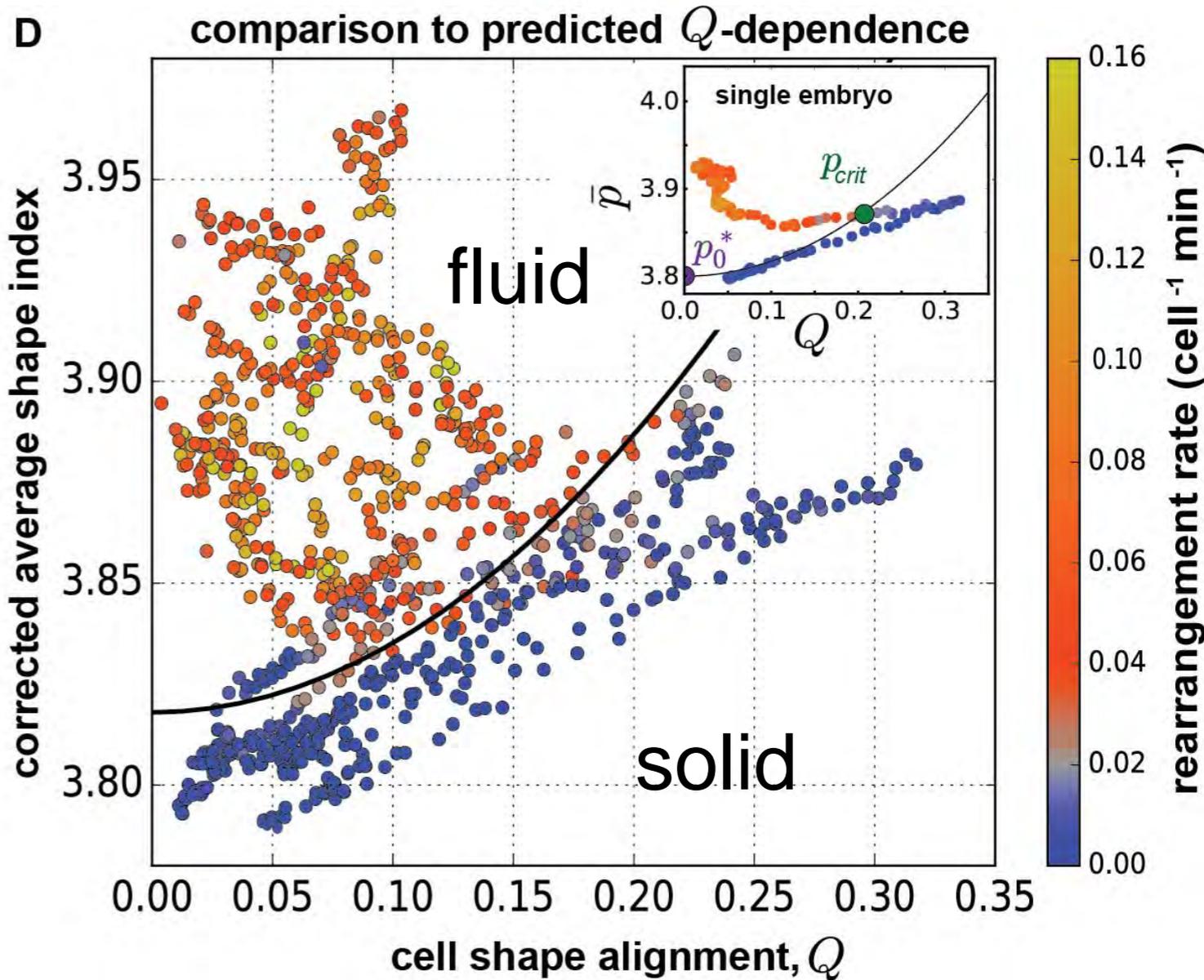
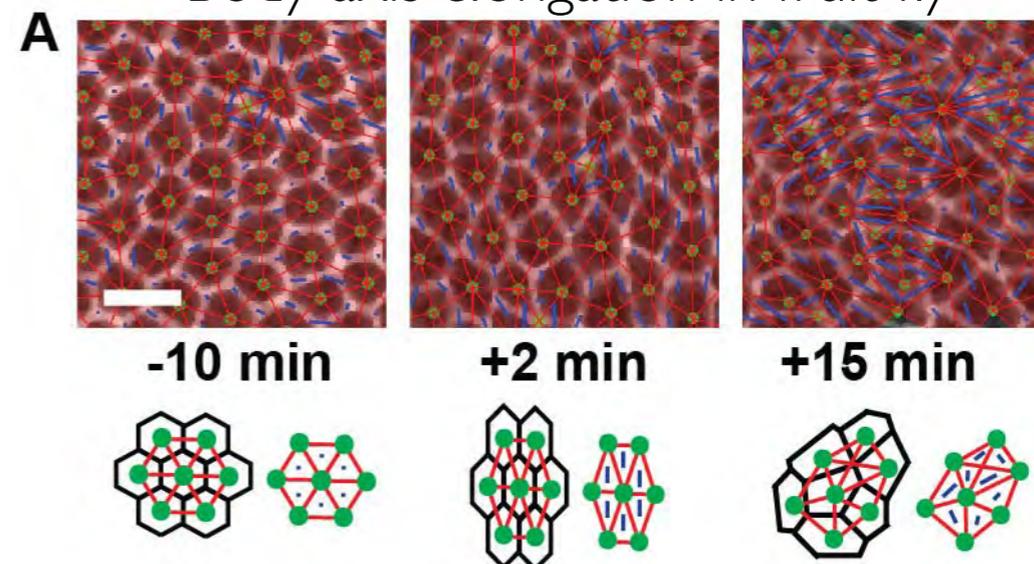


Model for confluent tissue



Bi++(2016)

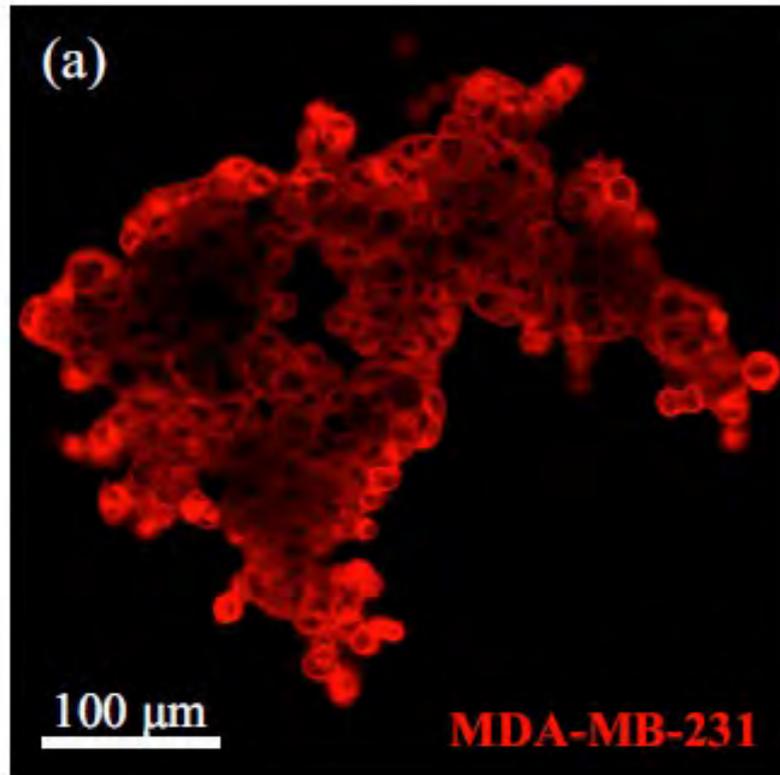
Body axis elongation in fruit fly



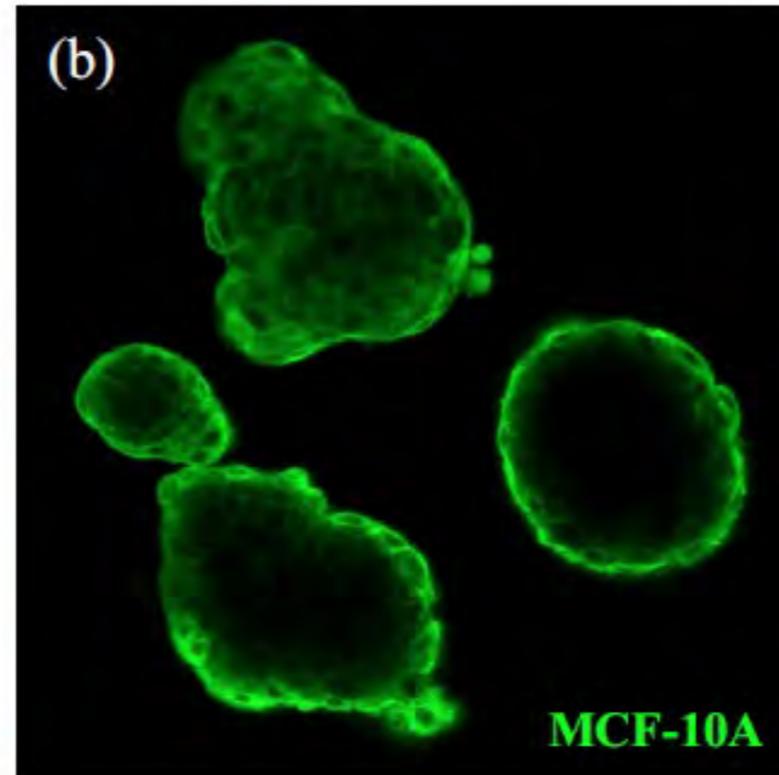
Wang++ PNAS (2020)

Also in breast cancer cell lines

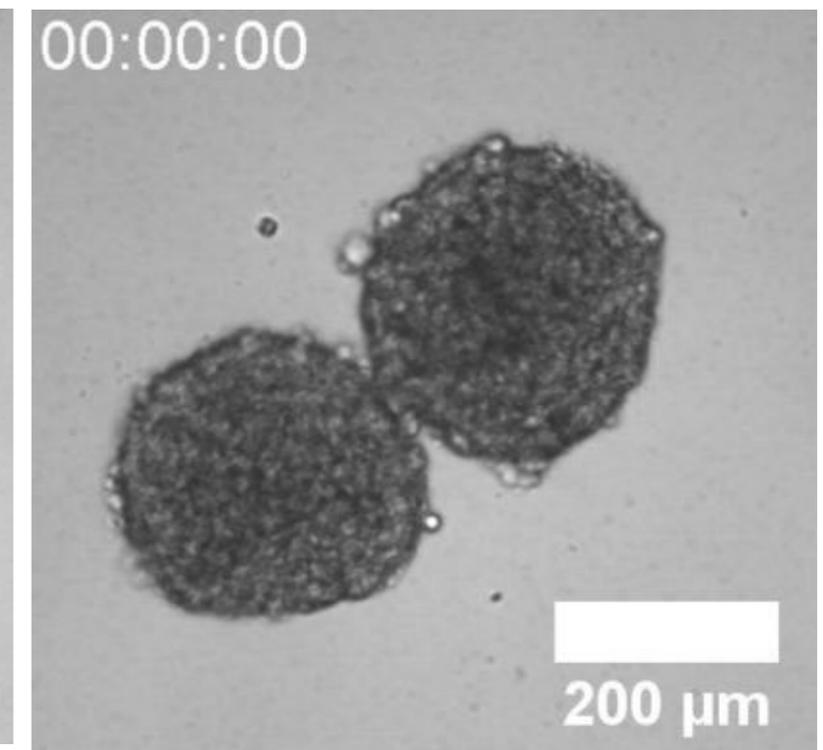
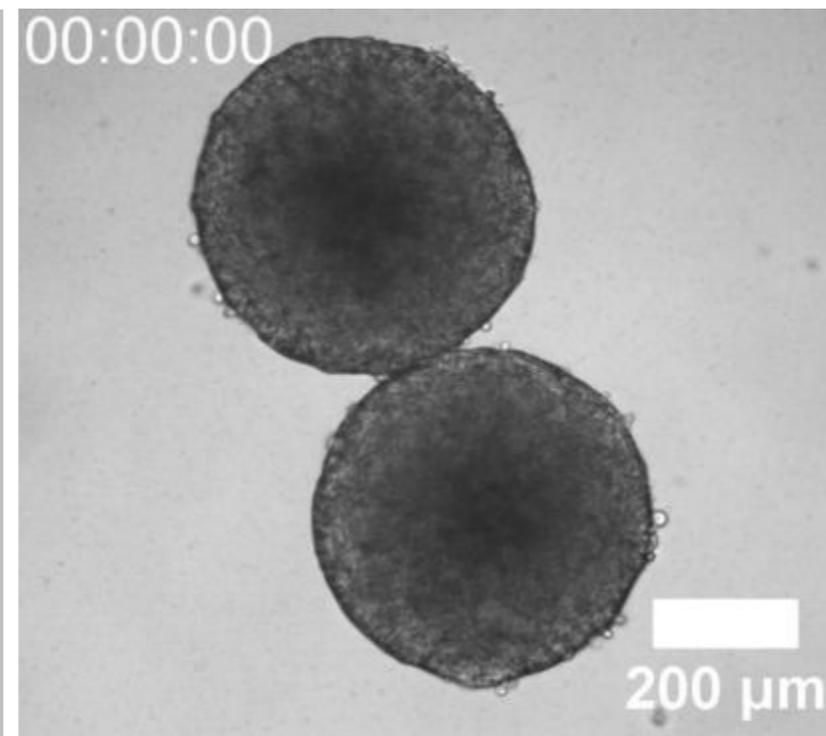
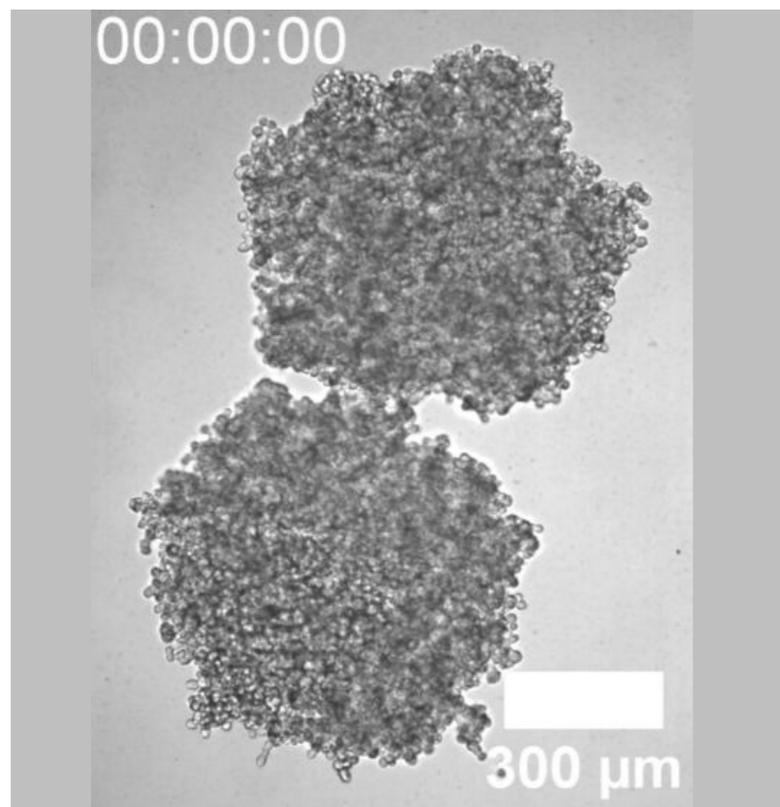
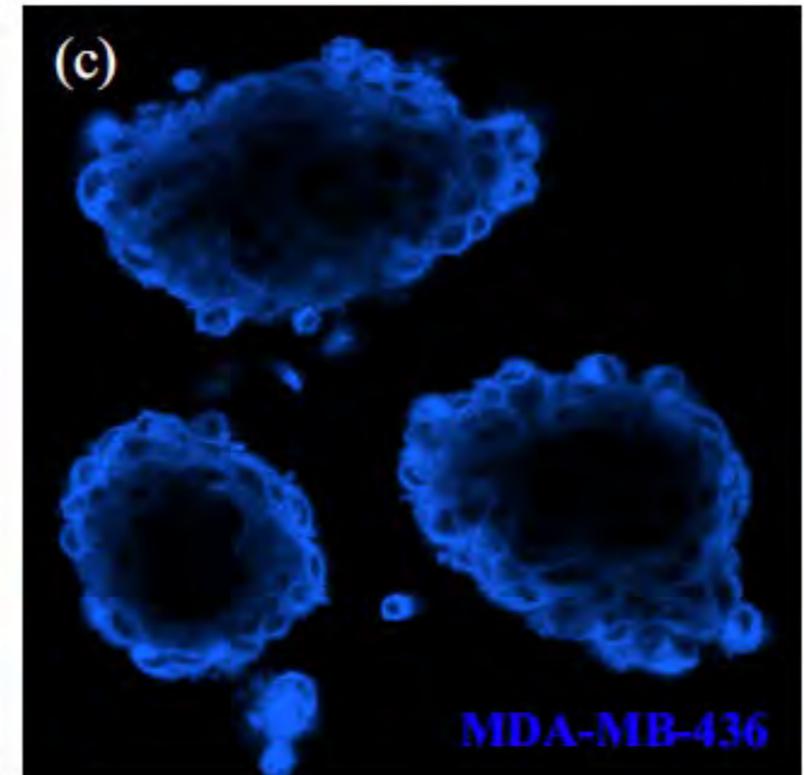
model for **metastatic**
breast cancer cells



model for **normal**
breast cells

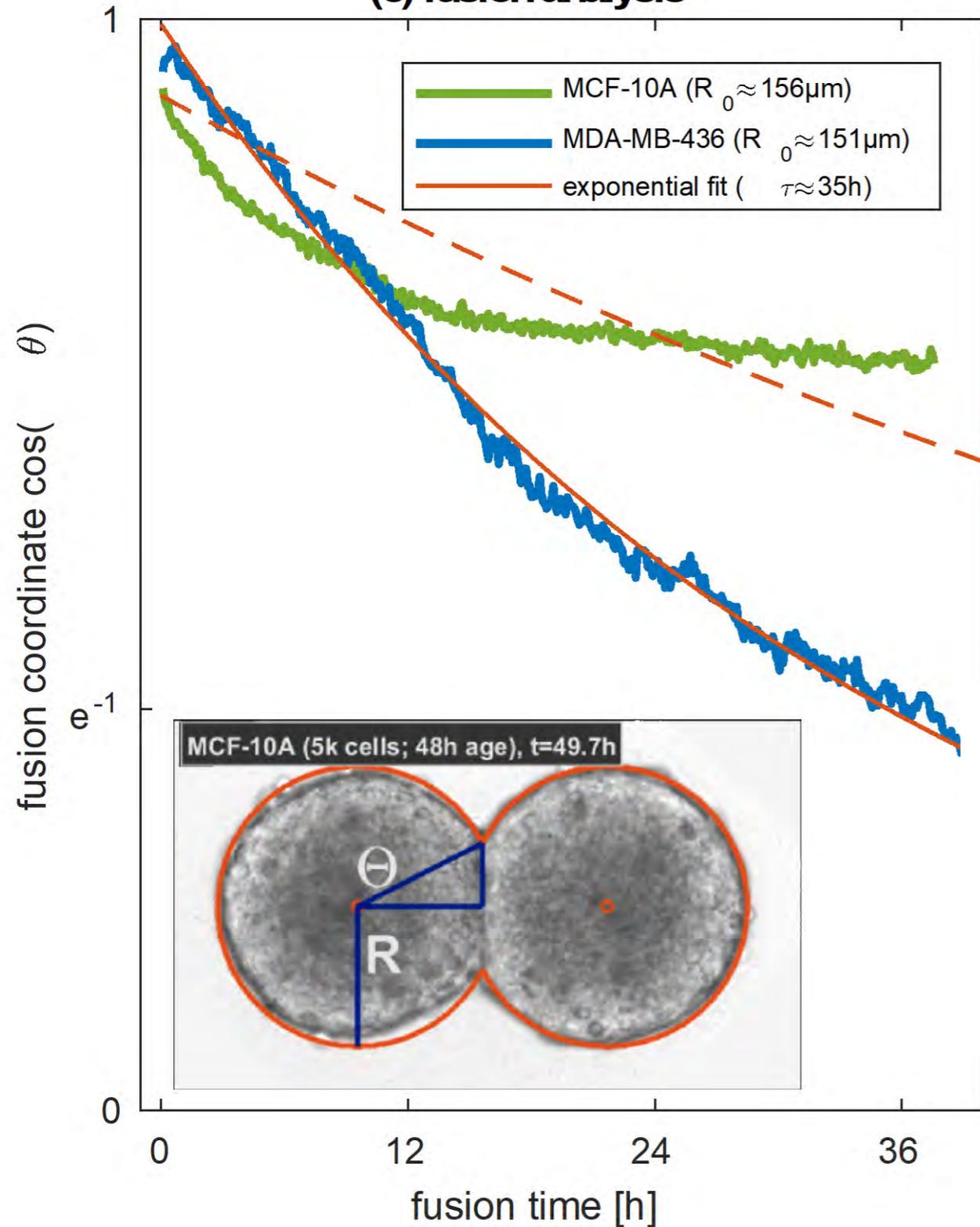


model for **malignant**
breast cancer cells

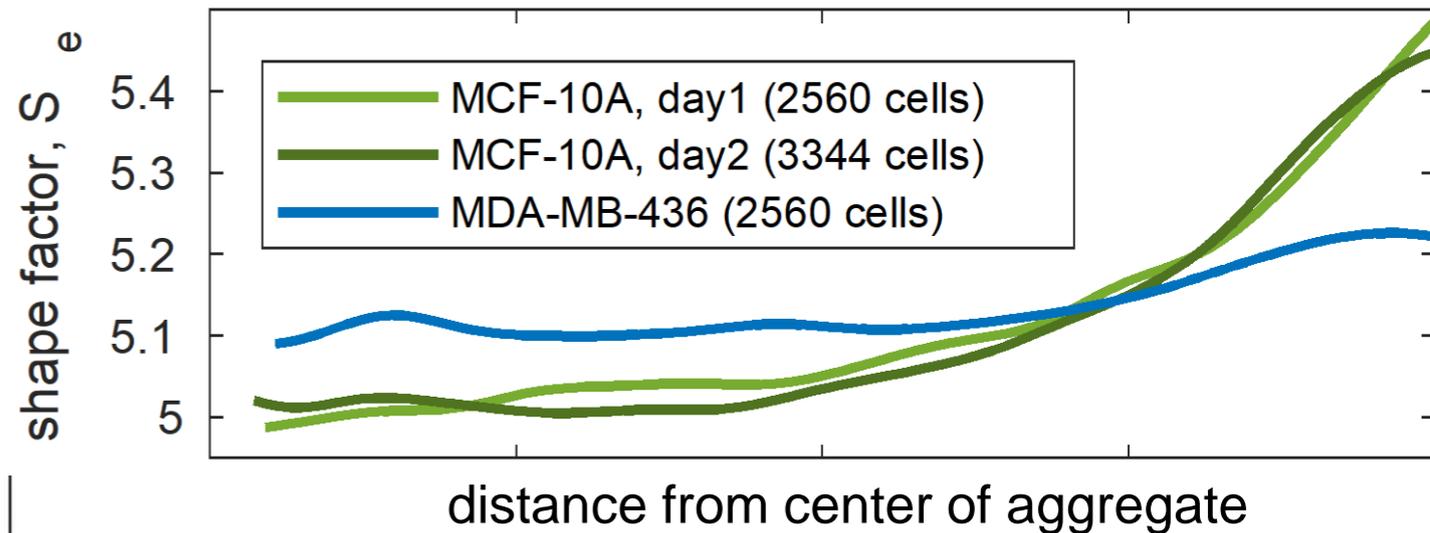
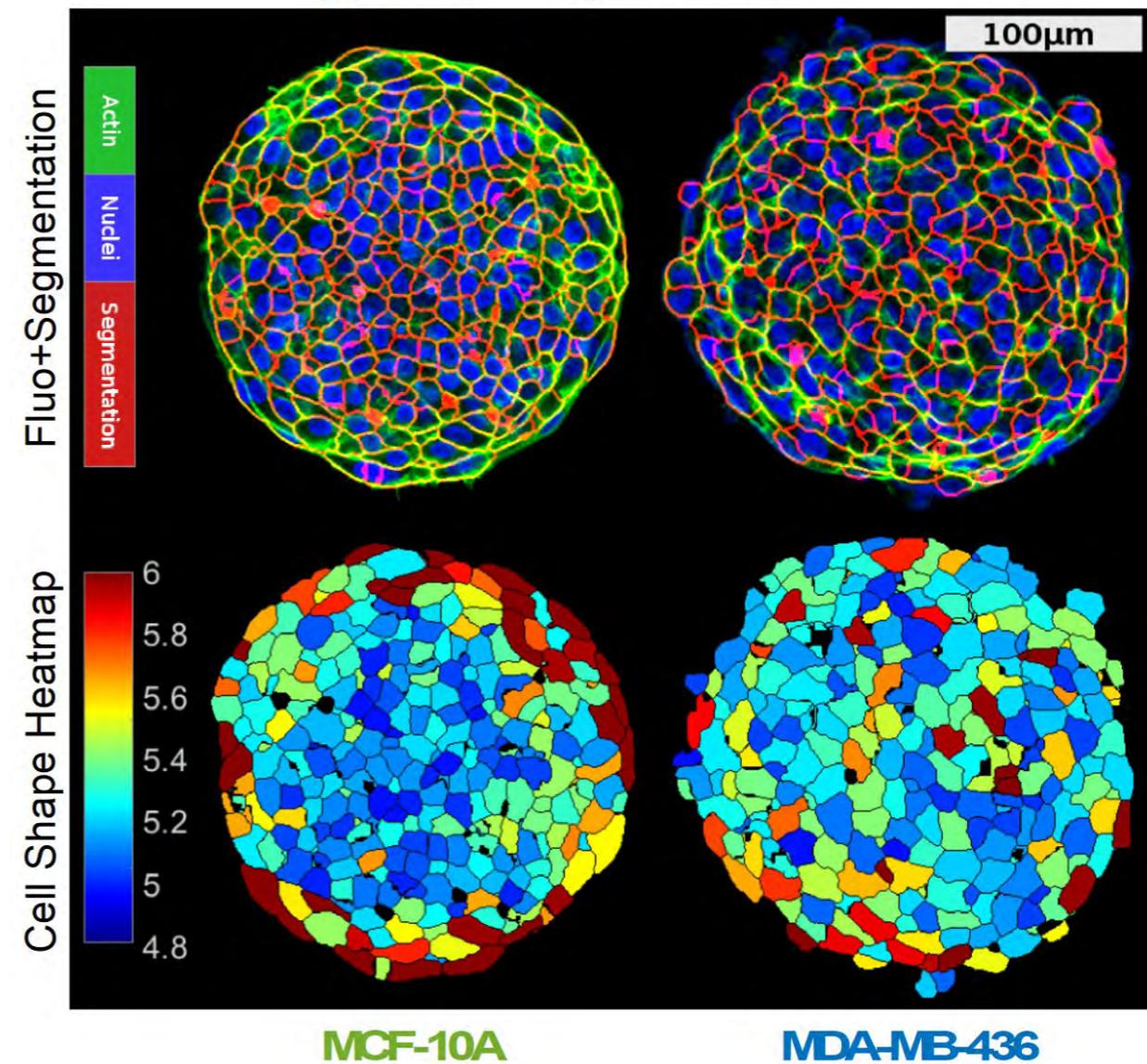


Testing predictions in breast cancer cell lines

(c) fusion analysis



(b) full 3-D segmentation



Steffen Grosser, Jürgen Lippoldt, Josef Käs, Matthias Merkel, +++



Ojan
Damavandi



Sadjad
Arzash



Elizabeth
Lawson-Keister

Why do vertex models work at all?

Possible answer: this rigidity transition is
universal across a large class of models

Let's investigate changes to FUNCTIONAL FORM of U:

$$E_{cell} = k_A (A - A_0)^2 + k_P (P - P_0)^2$$

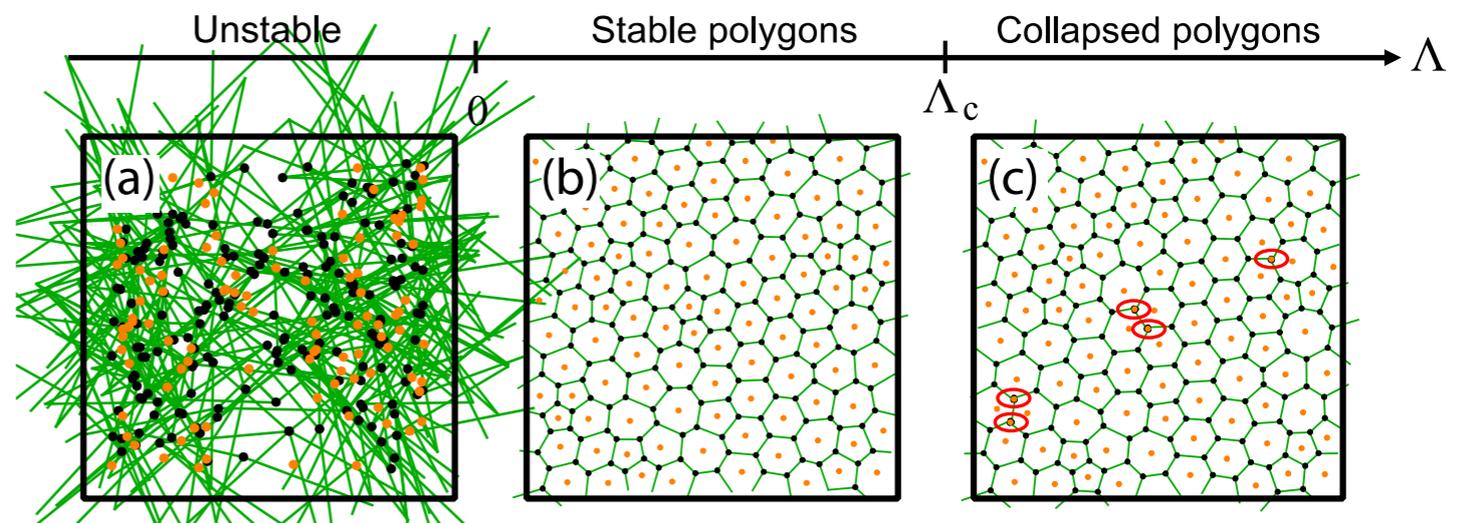
Standard vertex model
Farhadifar et al 2007

$$E_{cell} = K_{Af} (A_f - A_f^0)^2 + \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \gamma_{ij} l_{ij} + \Gamma_\alpha P_\alpha^2$$

Foam model
c.f Campas, Shraiman

$$E_{cell} = K_{Af} (A_f - A_f^0)^2 + \Lambda \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} l_{ij}$$

No fluid phase: system becomes
numerically unstable instead.



$$E_{cell} = k_A(A - A_0)^2 + \cancel{k_P \dots}$$

$$E_{cell} = K_A(A_f - A_f^0)^2 + \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} k_{ij} (l_{ij} - l_{ij}^0)^2$$

Plus, can add dynamics on l_{ij}^0 to mimic myosin recruitment

e.g. active spring edge

Staddon et al Biophys J 2019

e.g. active tension model

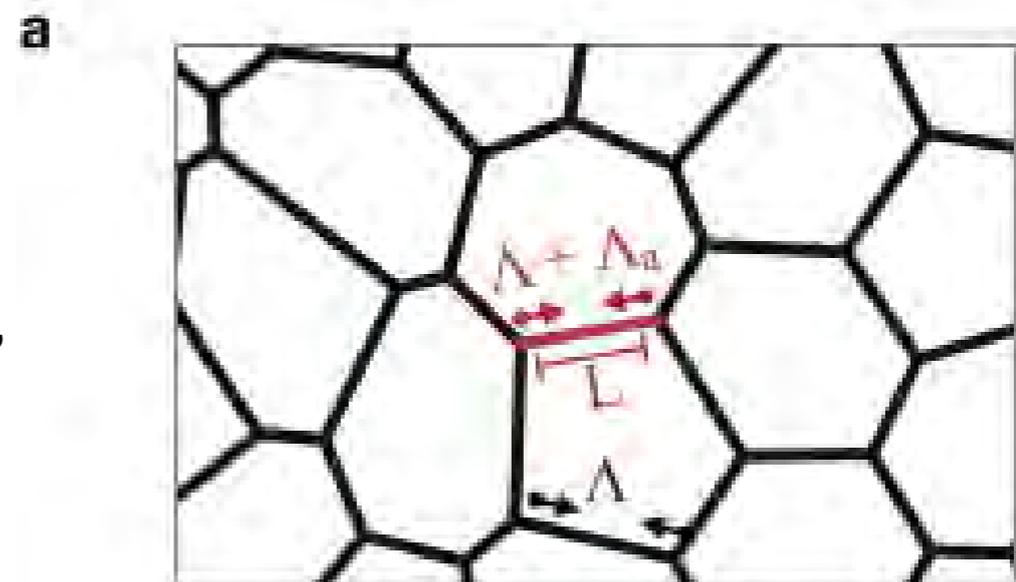
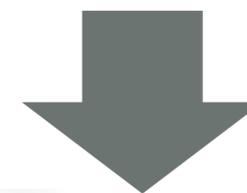
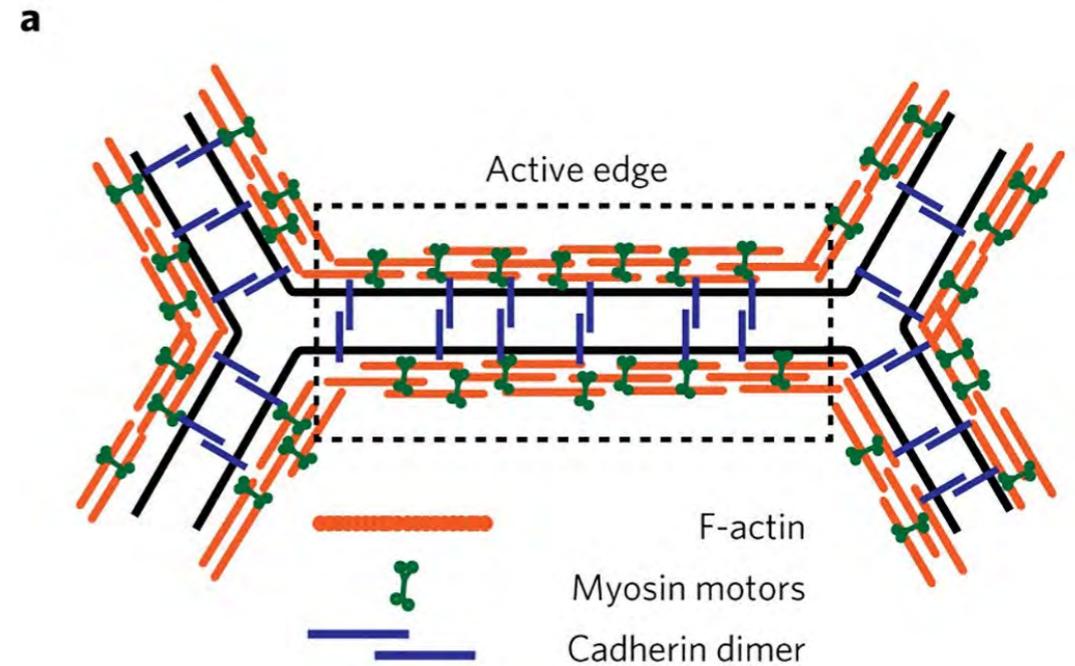
Noll 2017

$$l_{ij}^{0-1} \frac{dl_{ij}^0}{dt} = \tau_l^{-1} W \left[\frac{T_{ij}}{m_{ij}} \right] \approx \tau_l^{-1} \left(\frac{T_{ij} - m_{ij}}{m_{ij}} \right),$$

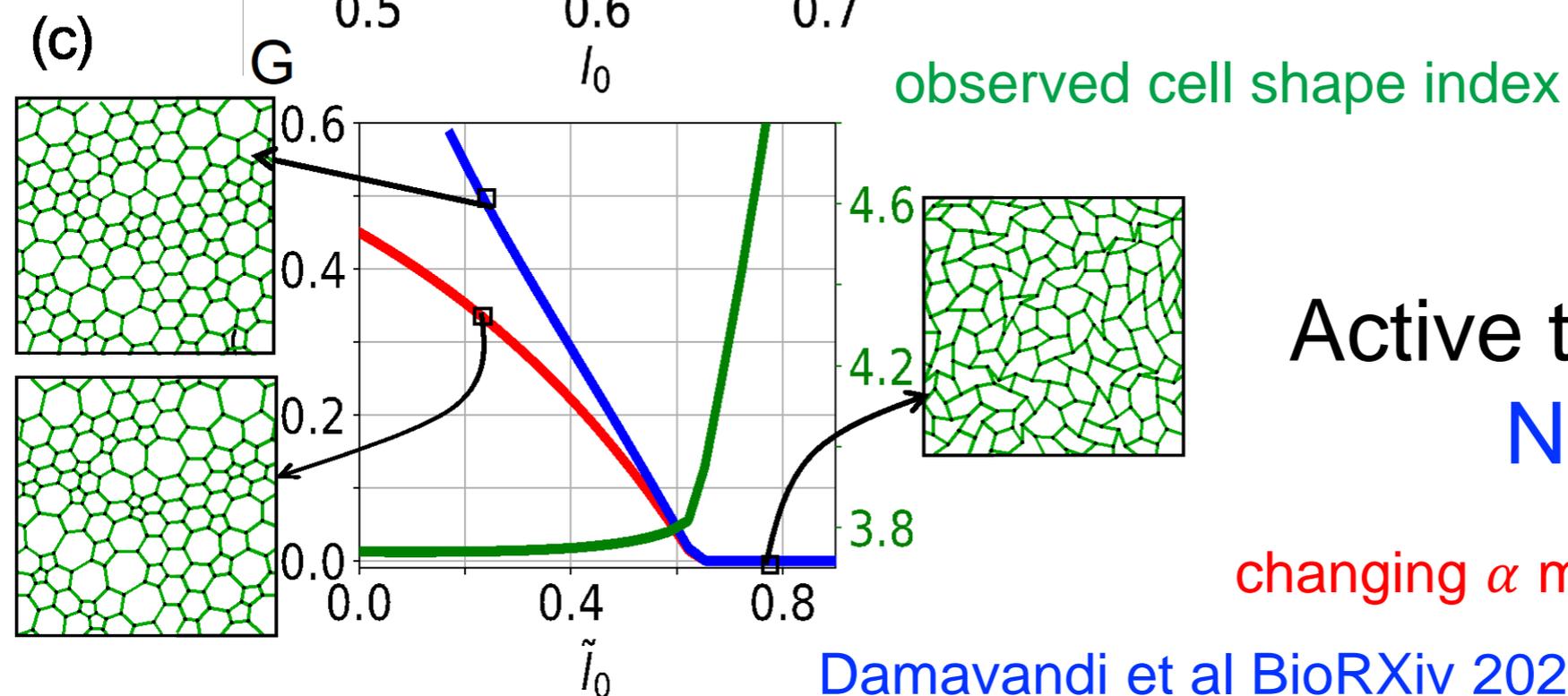
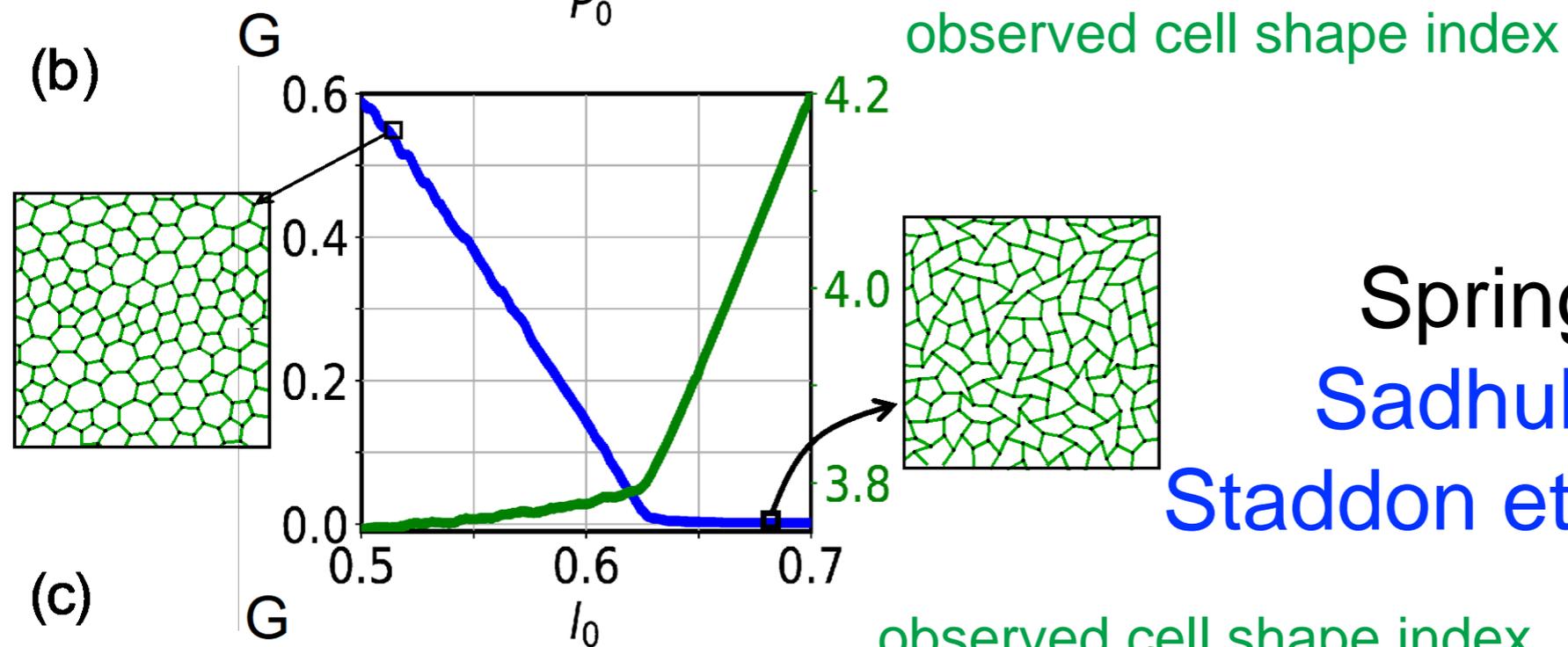
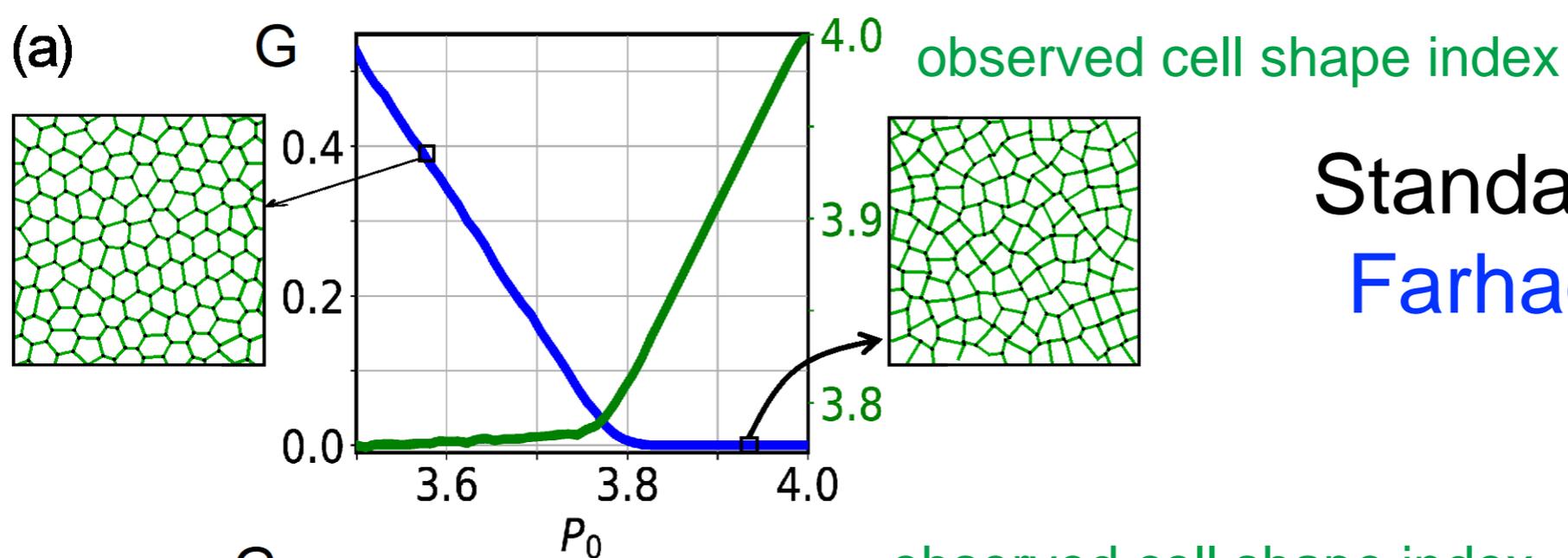
$$W[1] = 0$$

$$m_{ij}^{-1} \frac{dm_{ij}}{dt} = \alpha l_{ij}^{0-1} \frac{dl_{ij}^0}{dt}$$

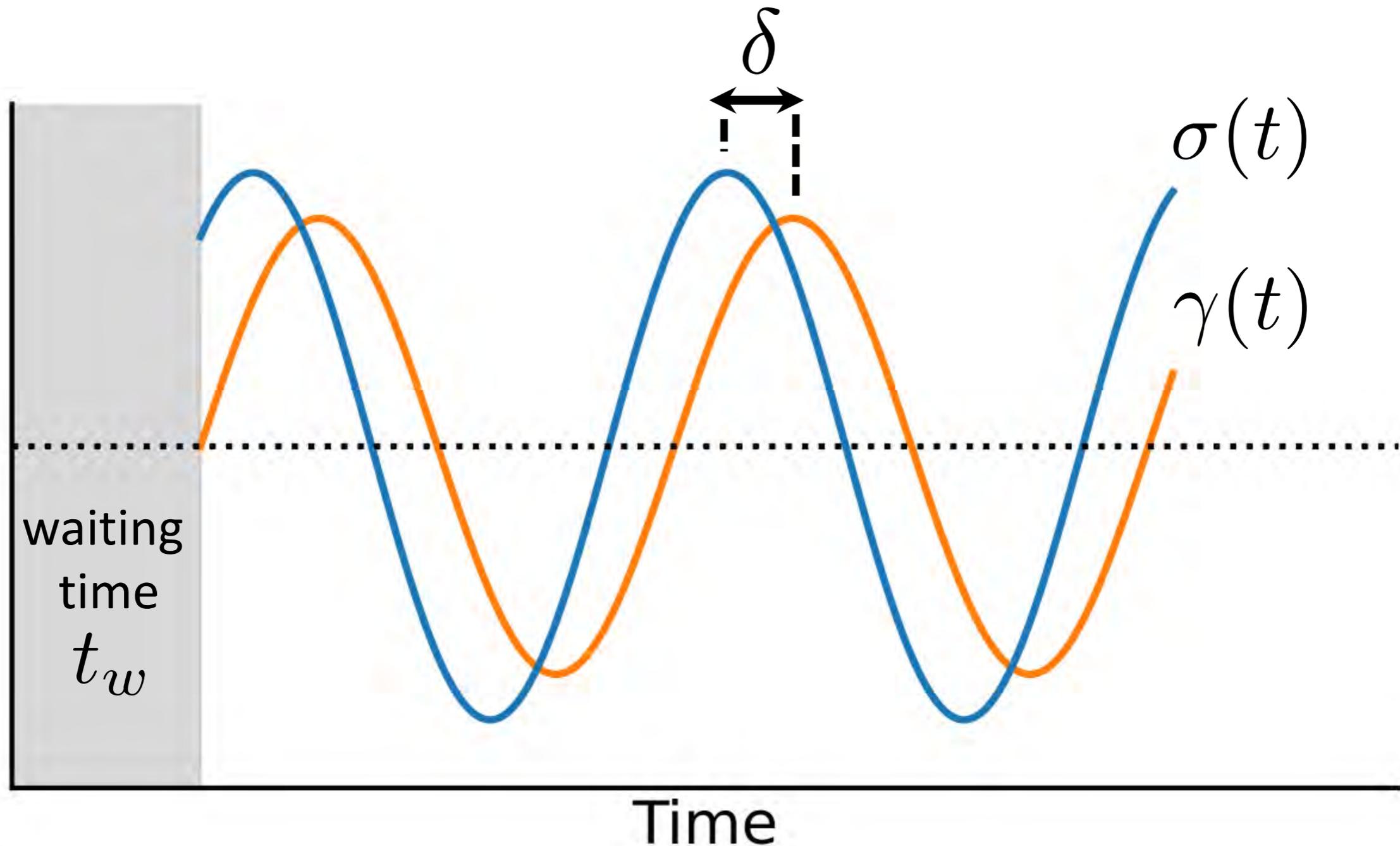
Spring-edge model + extensions (big change to model!)



α myosin recruitment rate



But maybe the zero-strain rate limit isn't relevant for tissues: what about finite frequency?



Phenomenological models in rheology

Elastic element
(spring)



$$\sigma = k\epsilon$$

Mimicking the
instantaneous bond
deformations

Viscous element
(dashpot)



$$\sigma = \eta\dot{\epsilon}$$

Mimicking the
entropic uncoiling
processes

Phenomenological models in rheology: an example

$$\sigma = \sigma_s = \sigma_d$$

$$\epsilon = \epsilon_s + \epsilon_d$$

$$\dot{\epsilon} = \dot{\epsilon}_s + \dot{\epsilon}_d = \frac{\dot{\sigma}}{k} + \frac{\sigma}{\eta}$$

$$k\dot{\epsilon} = \dot{\sigma} + \frac{1}{\tau}\sigma$$

$$\tau = \eta/k$$

In stress relaxation,
strain rate is zero

$$\sigma(t) = \sigma_0 \exp(-t/\tau)$$



Maxwell
material

Dynamic loading

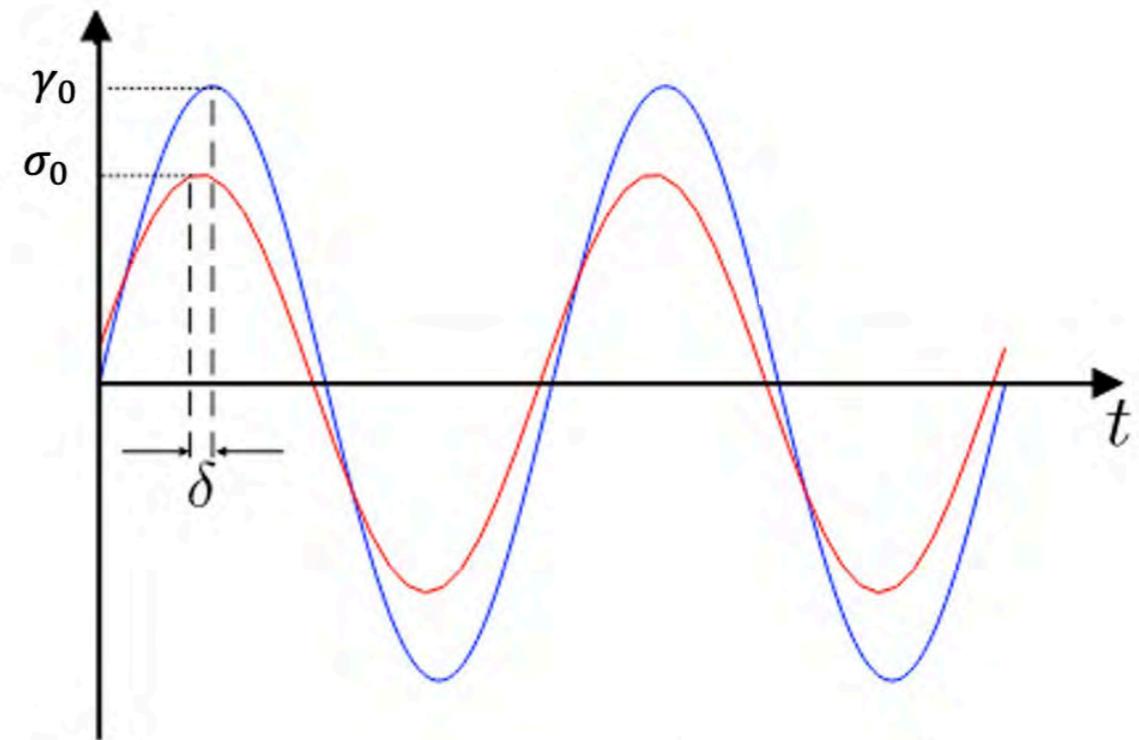
$$\gamma(t) = \gamma_0 \sin(\omega_0 t)$$

$$\sigma(t) = \sigma_0 \sin(\omega_0 t + \delta) = \underbrace{\sigma_0 \cos(\delta)}_{\sigma'_0} \sin(\omega_0 t) + \underbrace{\sigma_0 \sin(\delta)}_{\sigma''_0} \cos(\omega_0 t)$$

$$G' = \frac{\sigma'_0}{\gamma_0} \quad \text{in-phase or storage modulus}$$

$$G'' = \frac{\sigma''_0}{\gamma_0} \quad \text{out-of-phase or loss modulus}$$

$$\tan(\delta) = \frac{G''}{G'}$$

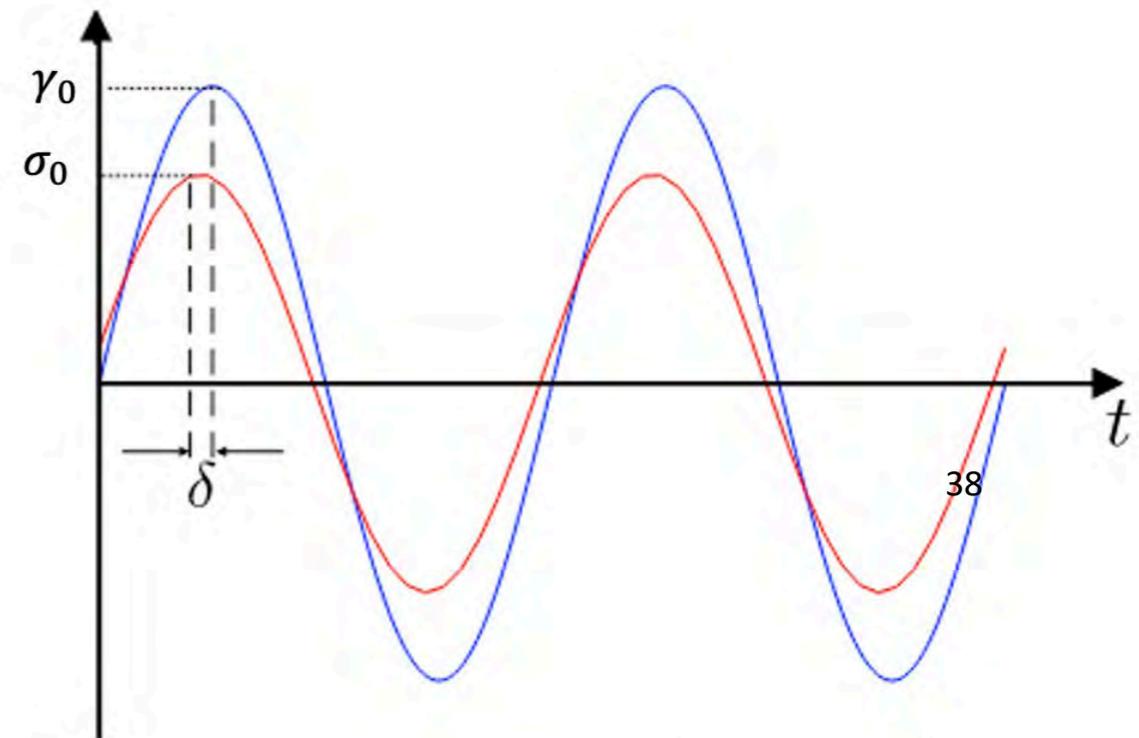


Dynamic loading

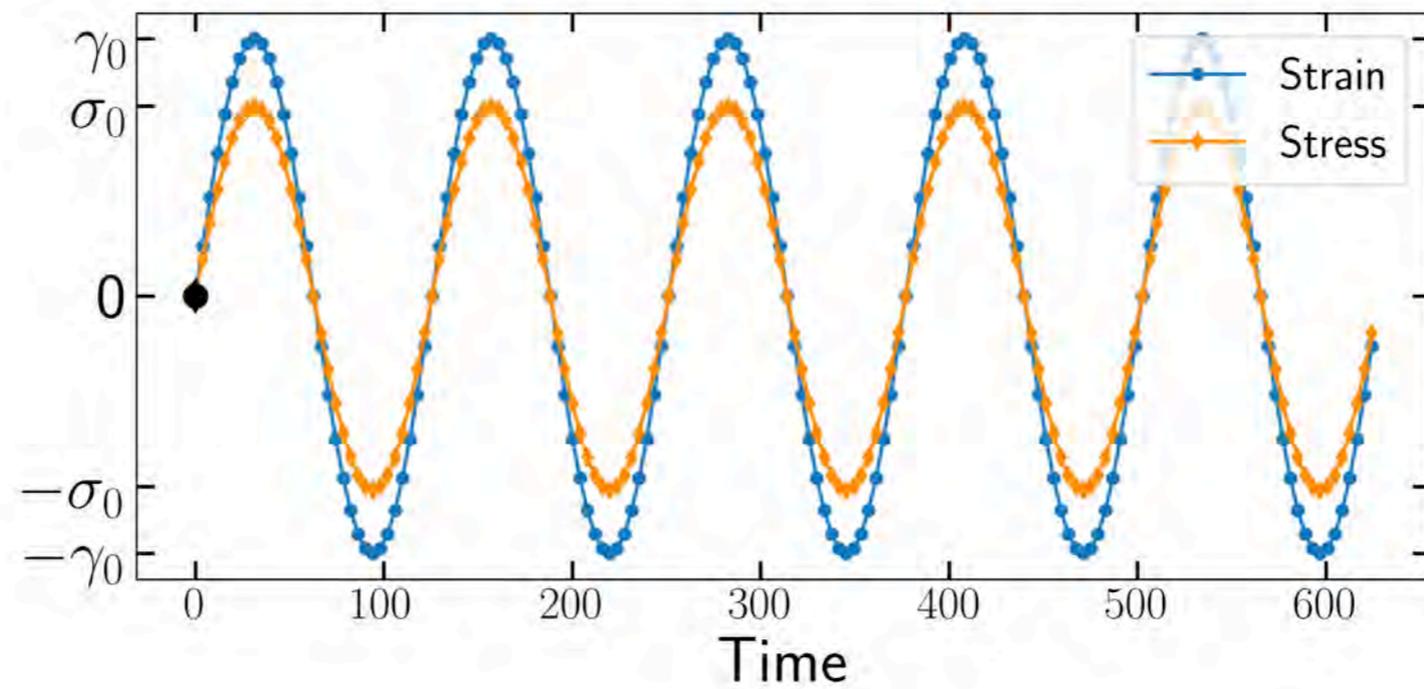
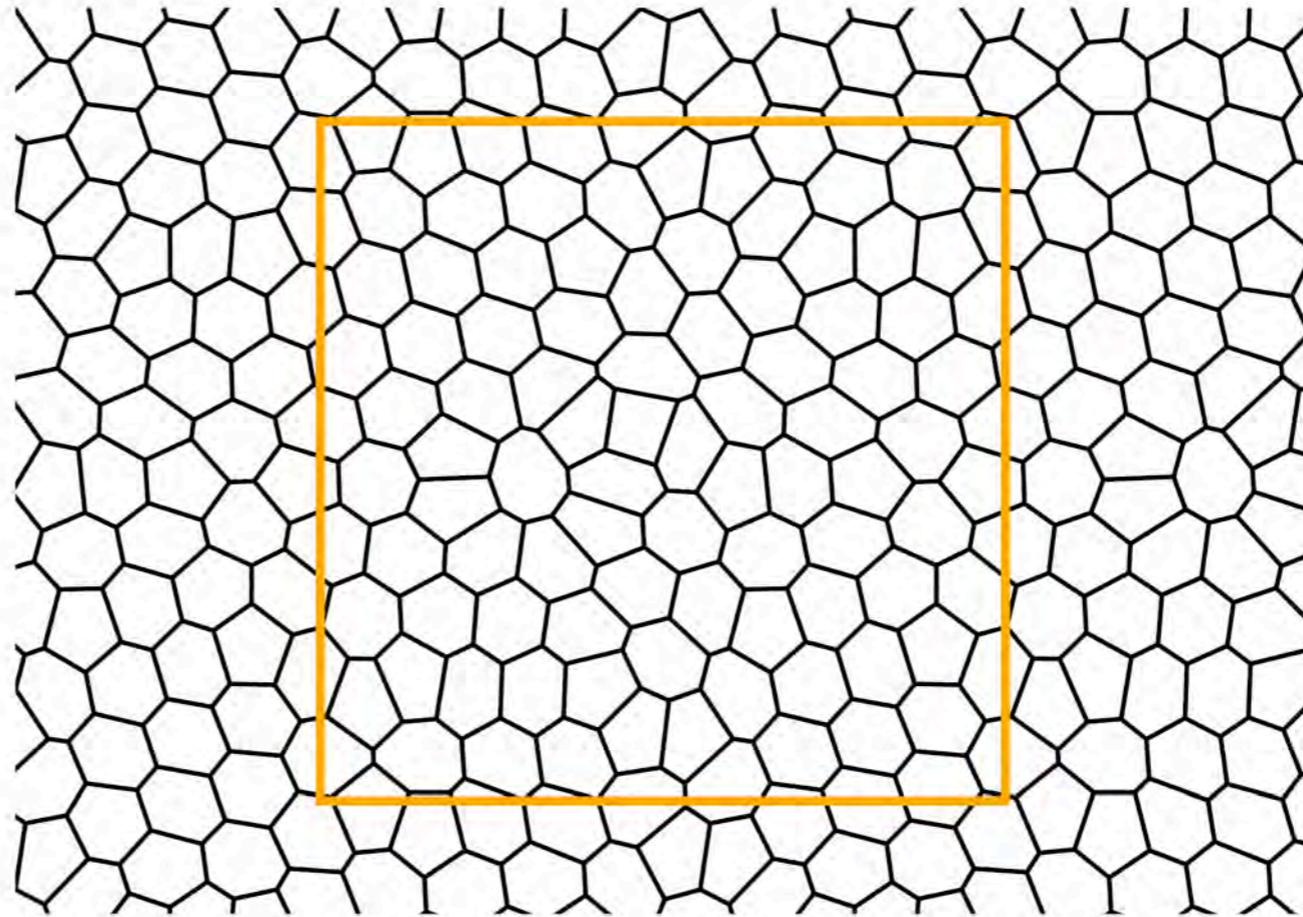
$$\gamma(t) = \gamma_0 \sin(\omega_0 t)$$

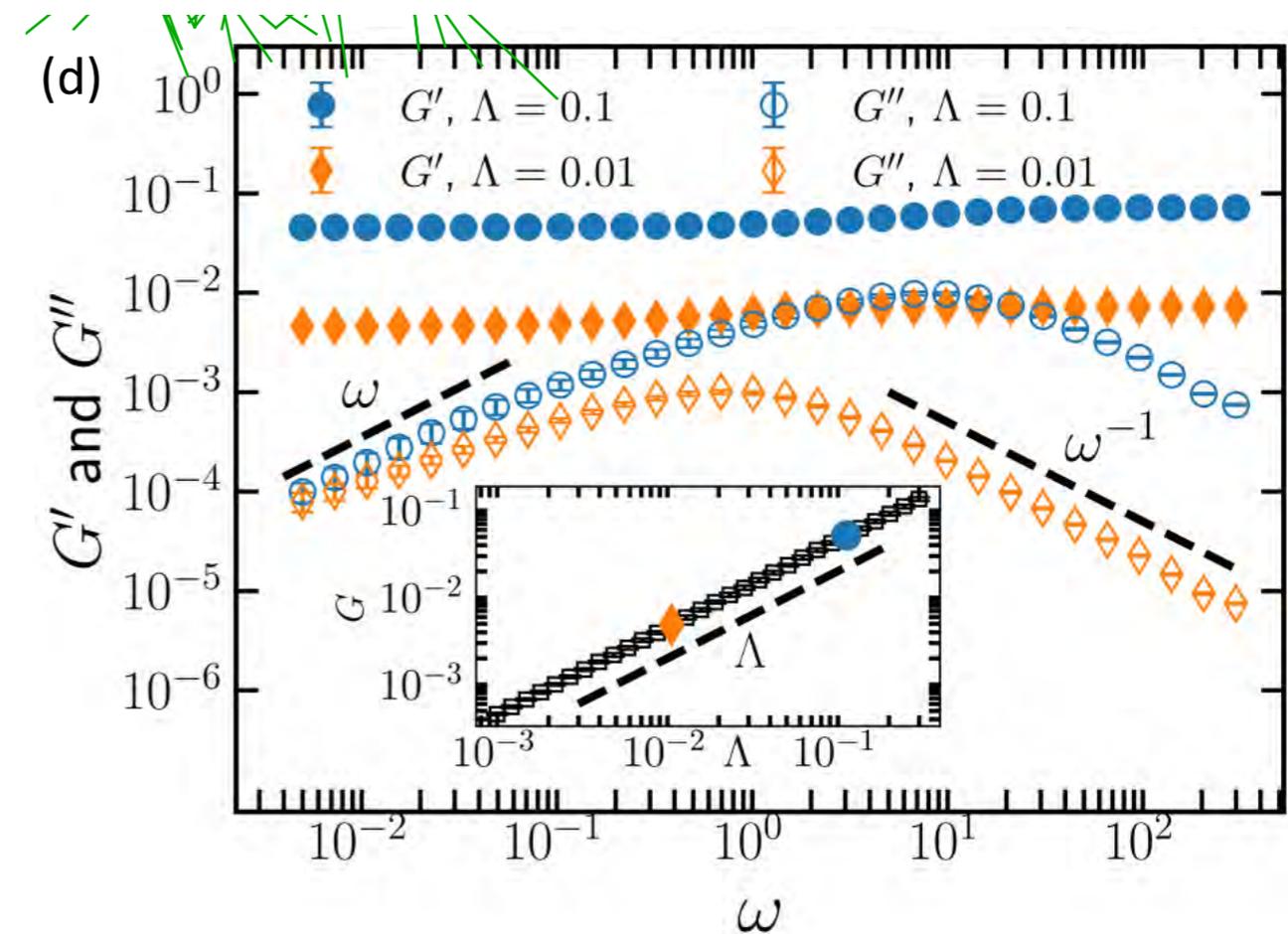
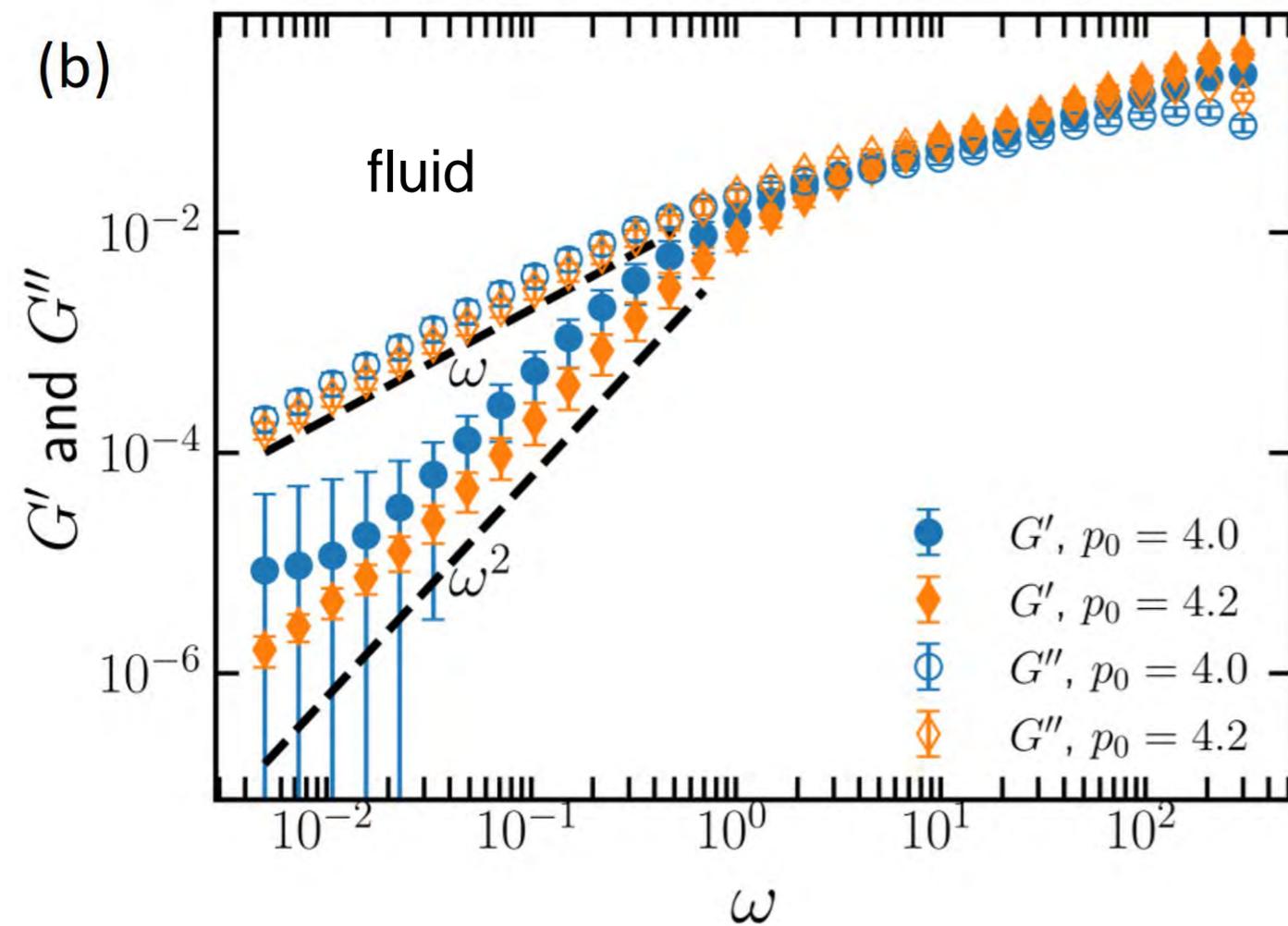
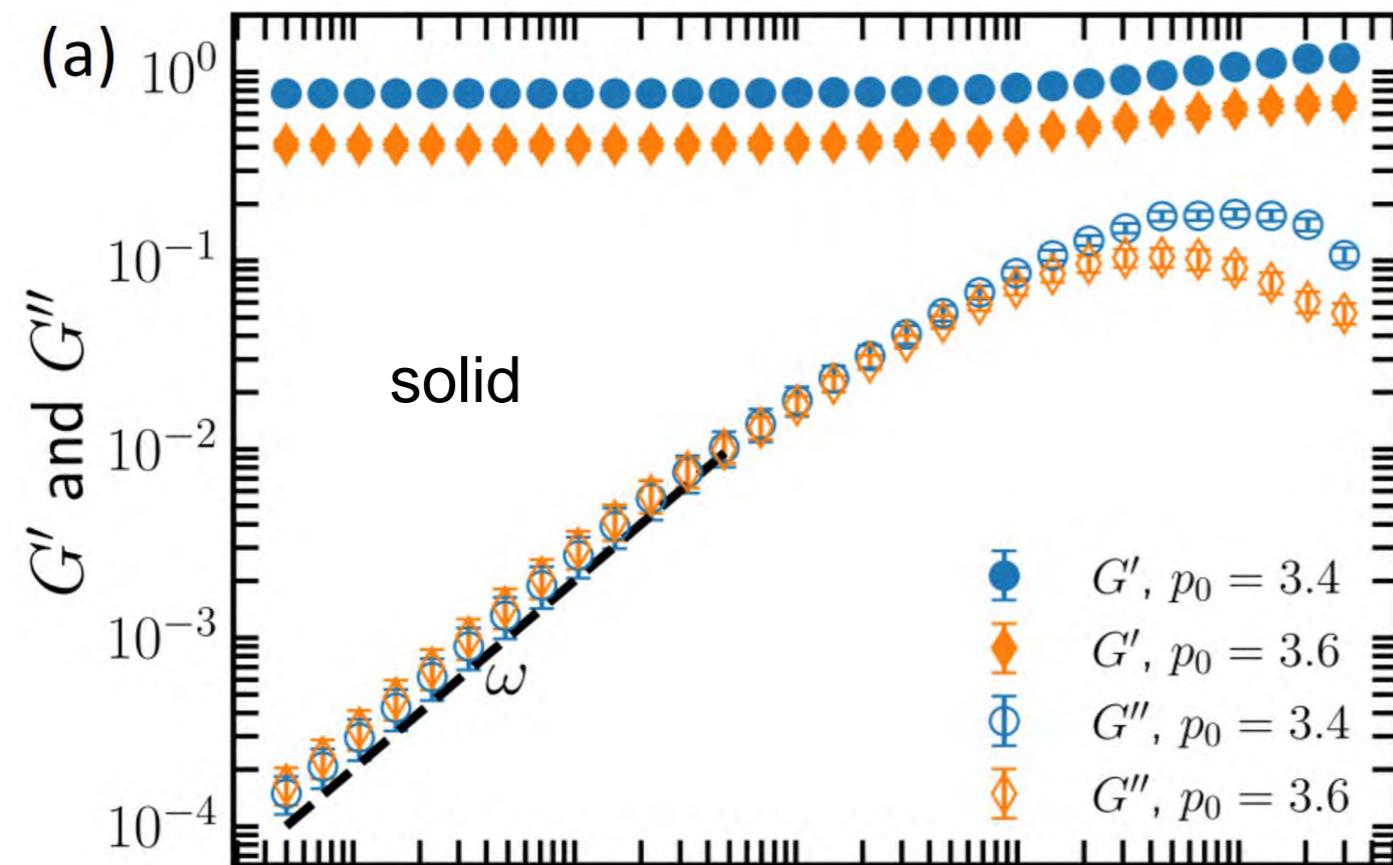
$$\sigma(t) = \sigma_0 \sin(\omega_0 t + \delta) = \underbrace{\sigma_0 \cos(\delta)}_{\sigma'_0} \sin(\omega_0 t) + \underbrace{\sigma_0 \sin(\delta)}_{\sigma''_0} \cos(\omega_0 t)$$

$$\sigma(t) = \gamma_0 [G' \sin(\omega_0 t) + G'' \cos(\omega_0 t)]$$



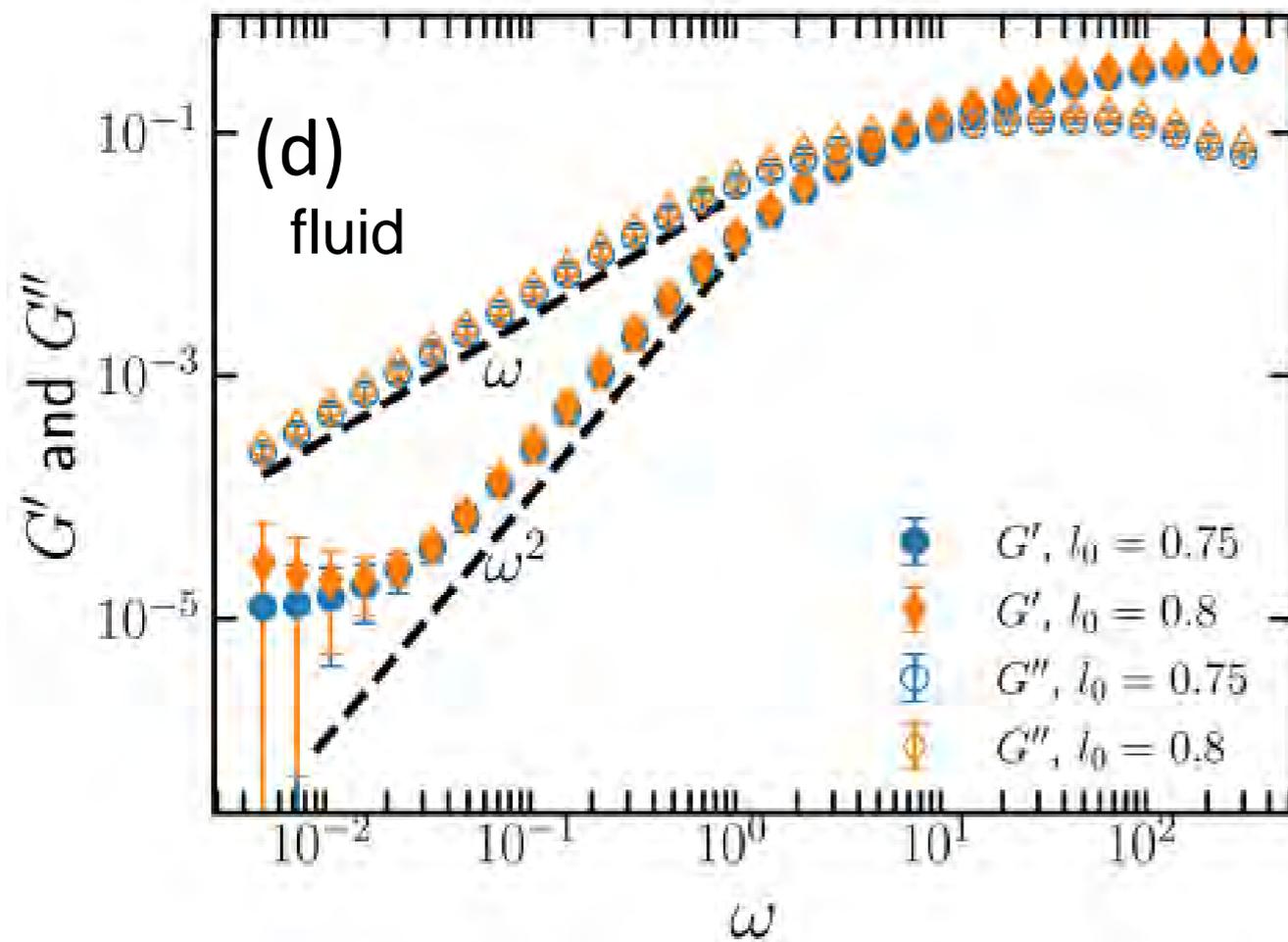
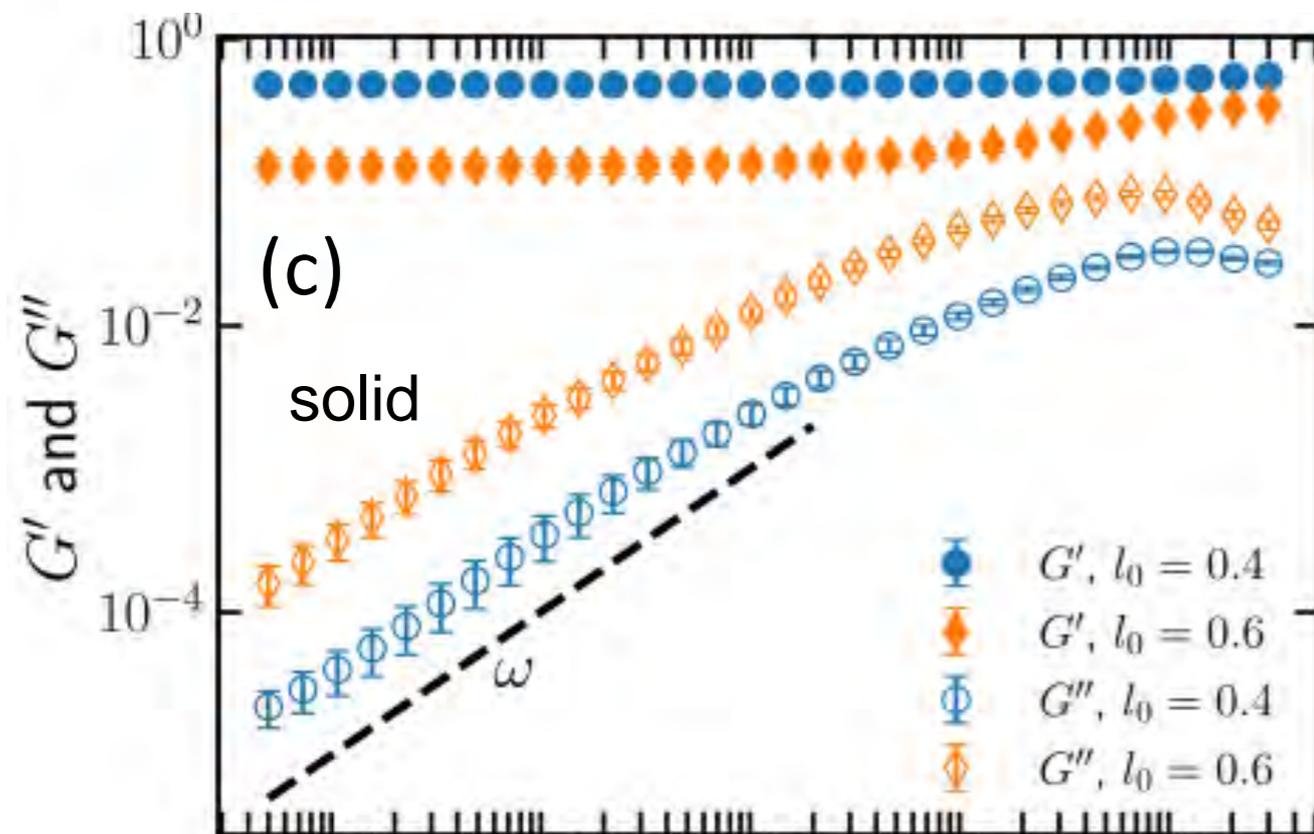
How do we do it:



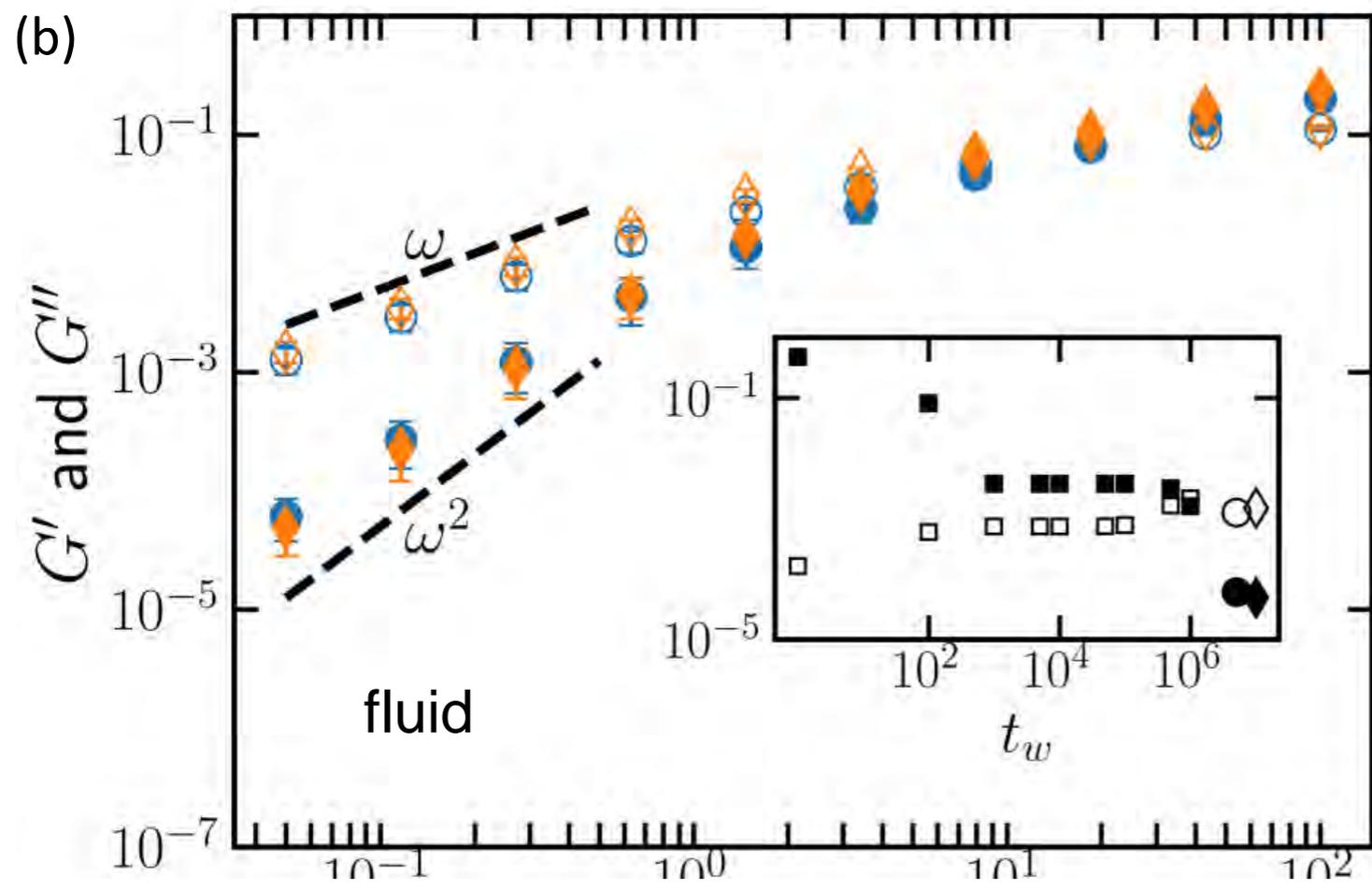
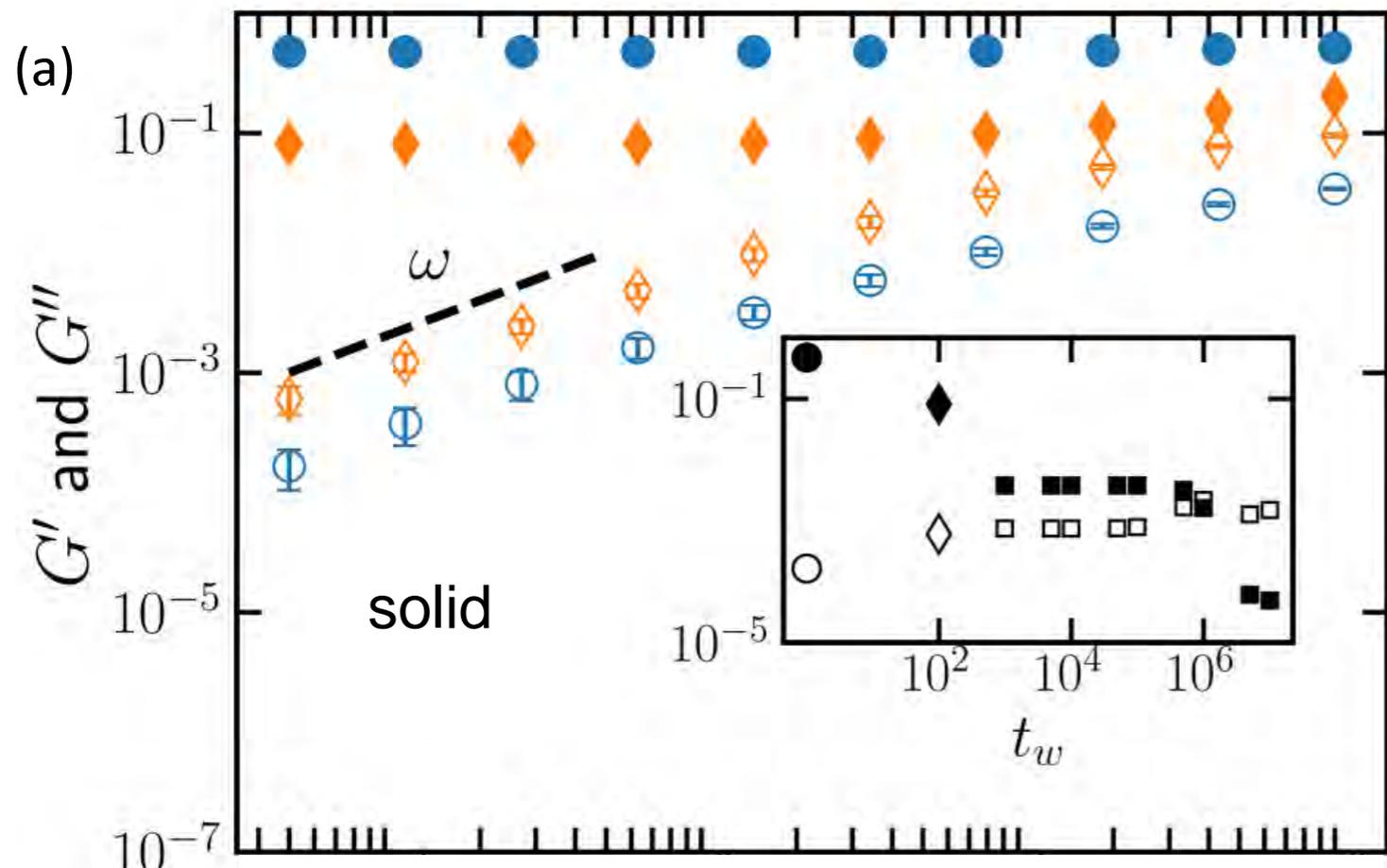


Foam model (no fluid phase)
c.f. Campas, Shraiman

Standard vertex model
c.f. Tong PLOS Comp Bio 2022



Spring-edge model



(c)

Active spring-edge model

Conclusion: Yes, there is universal rigidity transition across many models, predicted by the shape parameter, in both in zero-frequency and finite frequency response.

Why?

Second order rigidity: there are two length scales in the system:

- 1) the number of cells/vertices per unit area and
- 2) the characteristic distance between two cells or vertices defined by the energy functional (parameterized by the cell perimeter in vertex models or the rest length for edges in spring-edge models)

The second-order rigidity transition occurs at a special point in configuration space where states that are compatible with both the energy length scale and the density length scale disappear.

perhaps cell shape is a dimensionless comparison of these two lengthscales that generically describes the point at which these states disappear across models?



Chris
Santangelo

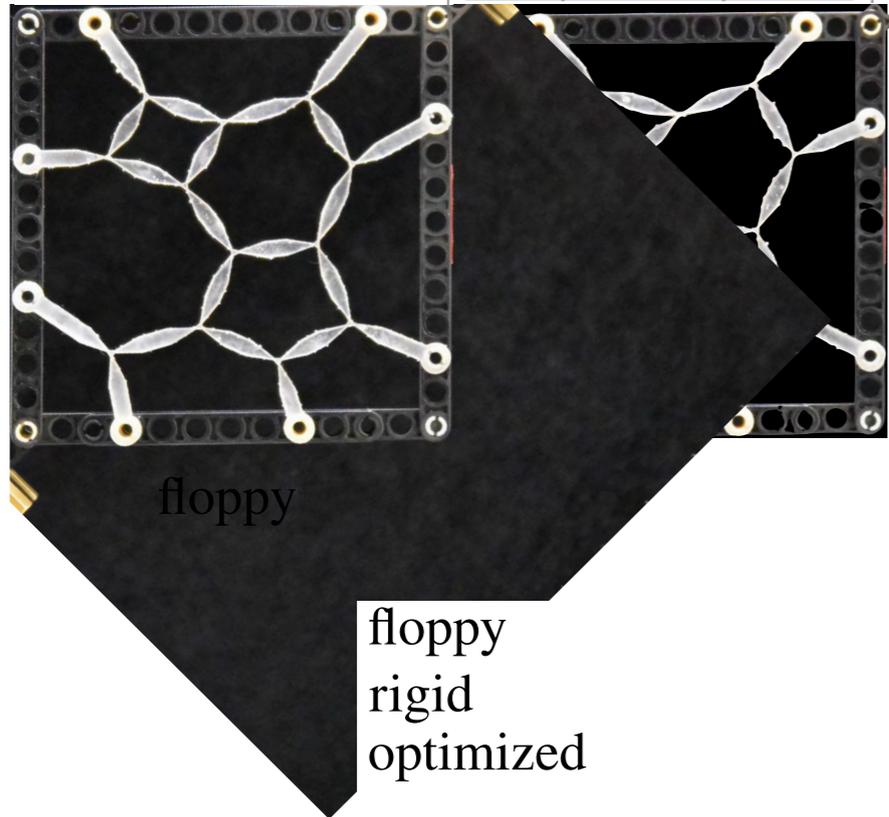
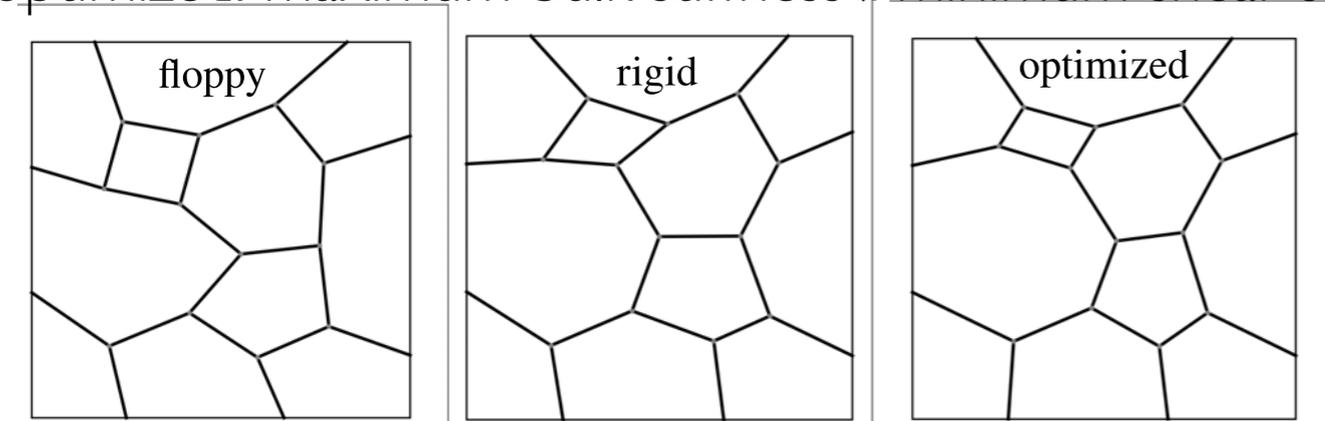


Tyler Hain

Designing mechanical metamaterials

Hain, Santangelo, Manning, to appear on arXiv this week!

optimized: maximum bulk stiffness / minimum shear stiffness



shear force

optimized



Joe Roback



Ryan Hayward

Preliminary:
Examples of
small designed
networks

3D printed hydrogel

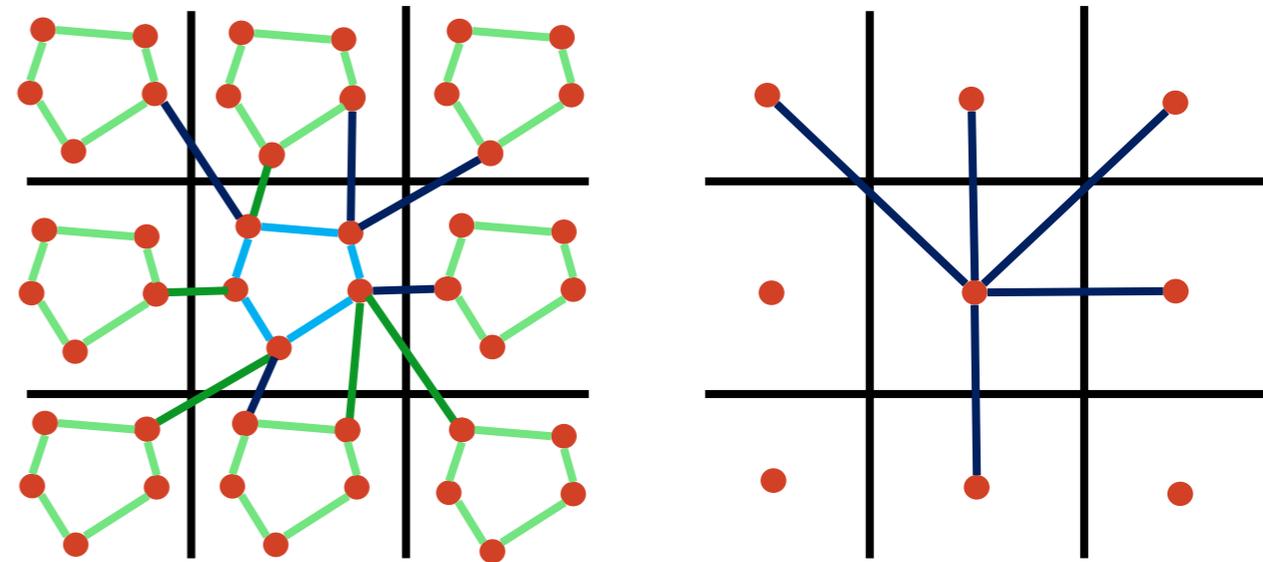
theory: representing a spring network

$$L_{\alpha\mu} = g_{\alpha i} x_{i\mu} + b_{\alpha\mu}$$

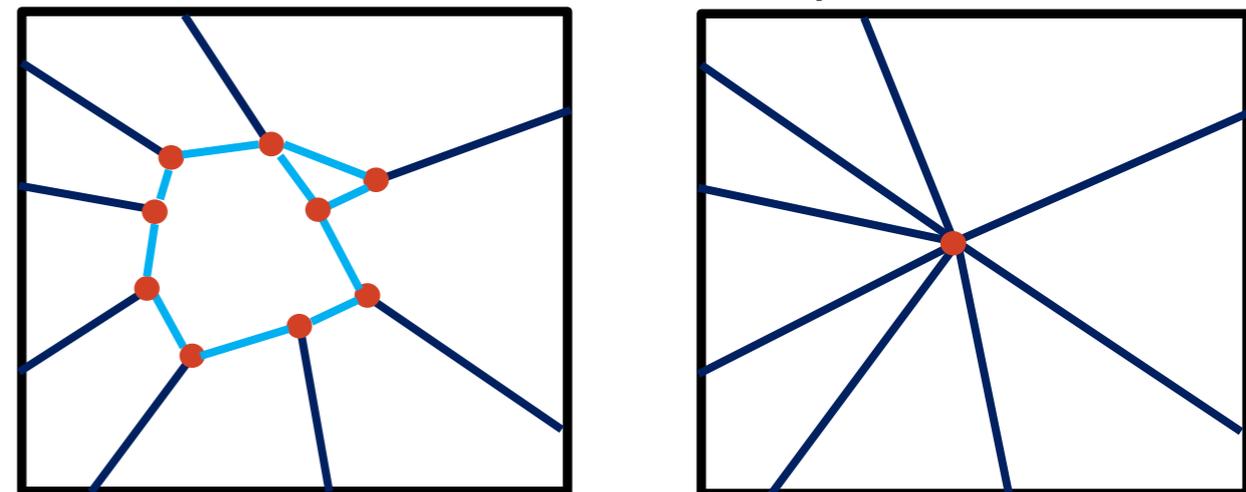


Encodes boundary conditions:
which edges don't go to zero when
all vertices are collapsed?

Periodic Boundary



Fixed Boundary



Can we make a new set of degrees of freedom that **parameterizes** the critical manifold?

The critical manifold contains all configurations that satisfy **force balance** while having internal stresses:

Net forces on vertices \longrightarrow $F(\sigma, x) = 0$

Generalized stresses \nearrow

Coordinates of vertices \nwarrow

Can we solve for the coordinates?

$$x(\sigma)$$

Describe internal stresses by coarse-graining the lowest level degrees of freedom (node coordinates) into higher geometric quantities (lengths, areas, etc)

$$F(\sigma, x) = \frac{\partial E}{\partial x_i} = \sum_{\alpha} \frac{\partial E}{\partial h_{\alpha}} \frac{\partial h_{\alpha}}{\partial x_i} = \sum_{\alpha} \sigma_{\alpha} \frac{\partial h_{\alpha}}{\partial x_i}$$

Geometric relationship

Generalized stress associated with h_{α}

If we instead choose $h_\alpha = L_\alpha^2/2$, the force balance equation is linear!

$$\sigma_\alpha = \frac{T_\alpha}{L_\alpha}$$

Tension on edge α

Length of edge α

Generalized stress is a force density

$$F(\sigma, x) = P\vec{x} + \vec{b} = 0$$

Prestress Matrix

Quantifies boundary conditions

$$P = \sigma_\alpha \frac{\partial^2 h_\alpha}{\partial x_{i\mu} \partial x_{j\nu}} = [\sigma_\alpha g_{\alpha i} g_{\alpha j}] \delta_{\mu\nu}$$

Yes, we can
parameterize the
critical manifold!

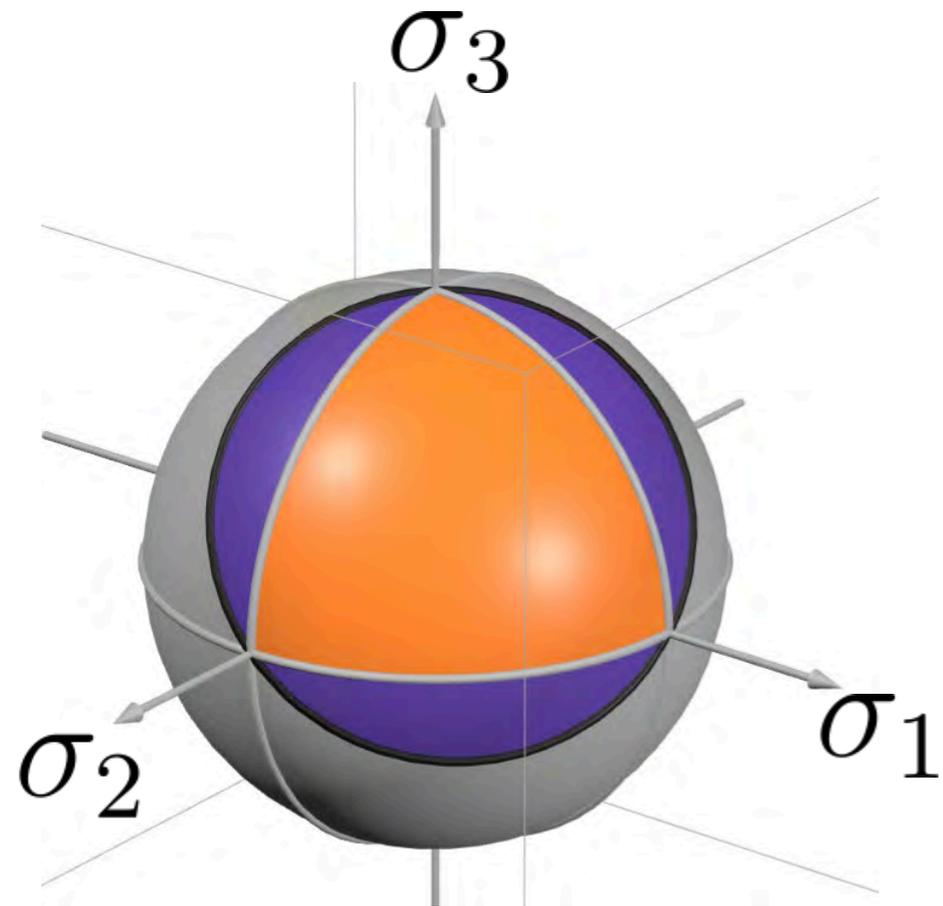
If you give me your favorite

- Network structure: g
- Boundary conditions: b
- Self-stress: σ

I can give you the coordinates of the
corresponding critical configuration:

$$x_{i\mu}(\sigma) = - \sum_{\alpha j} P_{ij}^{-1} g_{\alpha j} \sigma_{\alpha} b_{\alpha\mu}$$

Critical Manifold of the 3-Bar Linkage

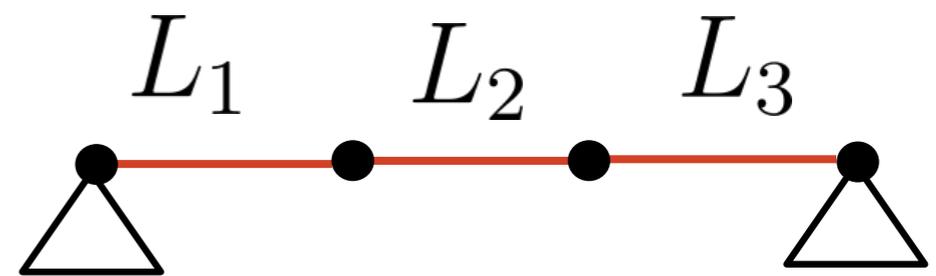
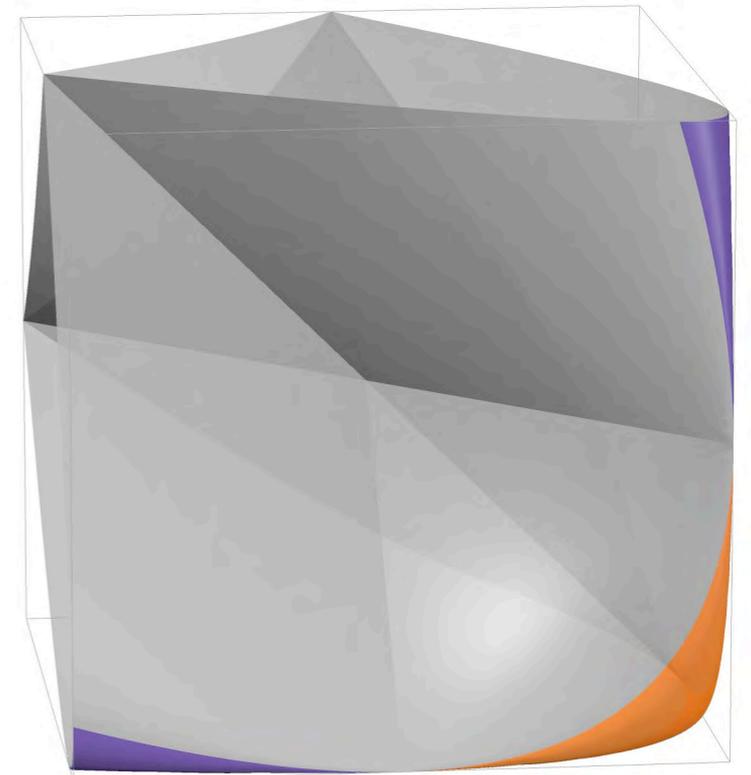


$$x_{i\mu}(\sigma)$$



$$P\vec{x} + \vec{b} = 0$$

Space of Self-Stresses

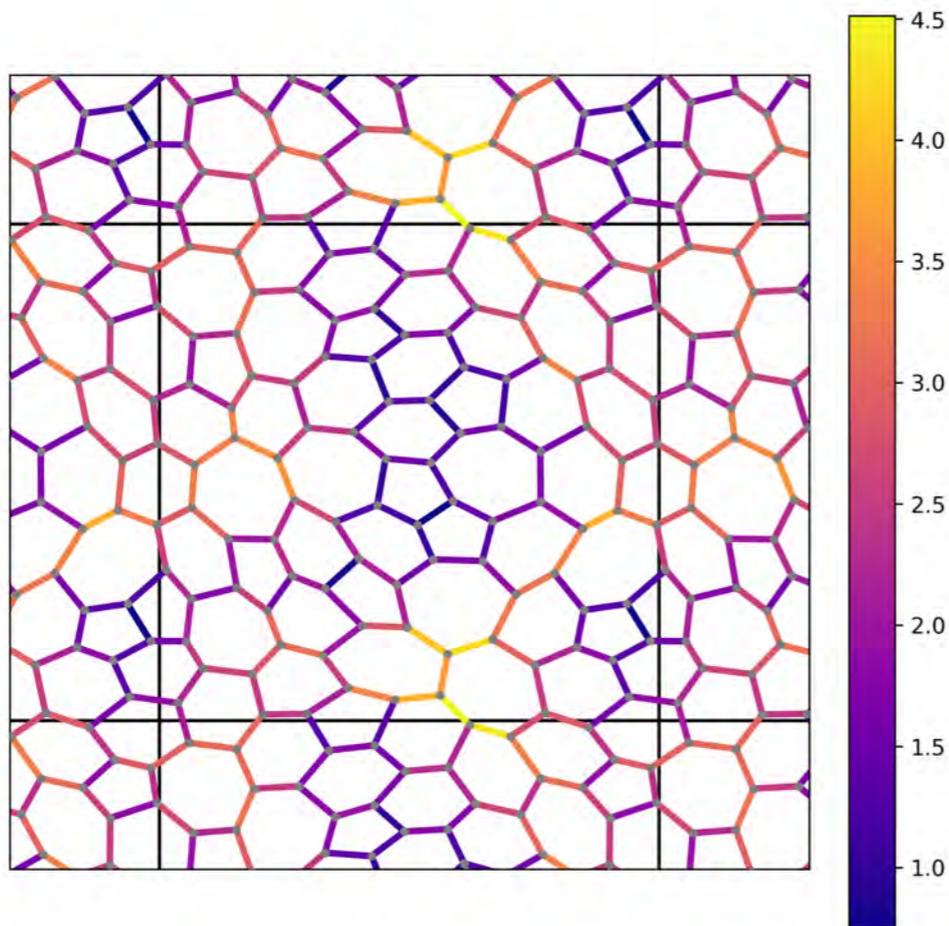


With this self-stress parameterization, we can rationally **search** the critical manifold for special configurations

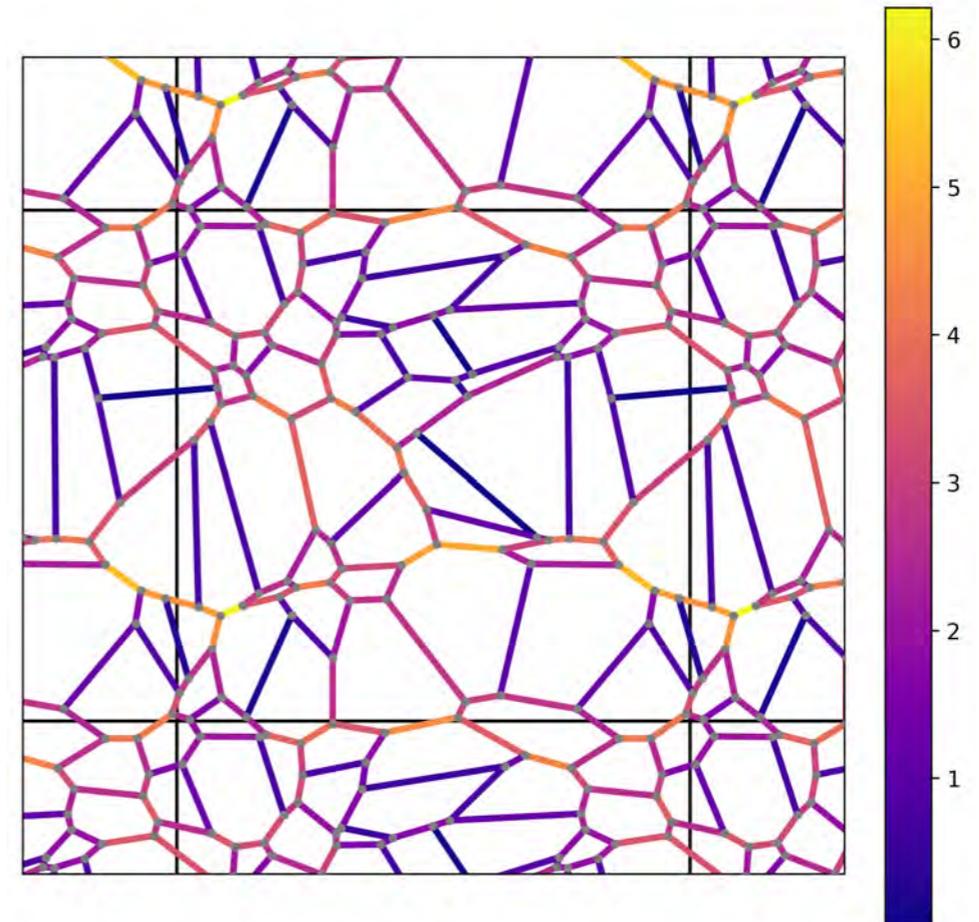
Can we compare these with configurations sampled randomly from the critical manifold?

Randomly generated configurations

Randomly assign rest lengths, strain to the critical manifold



Randomly assign self-stresses, use parameterization to get configuration

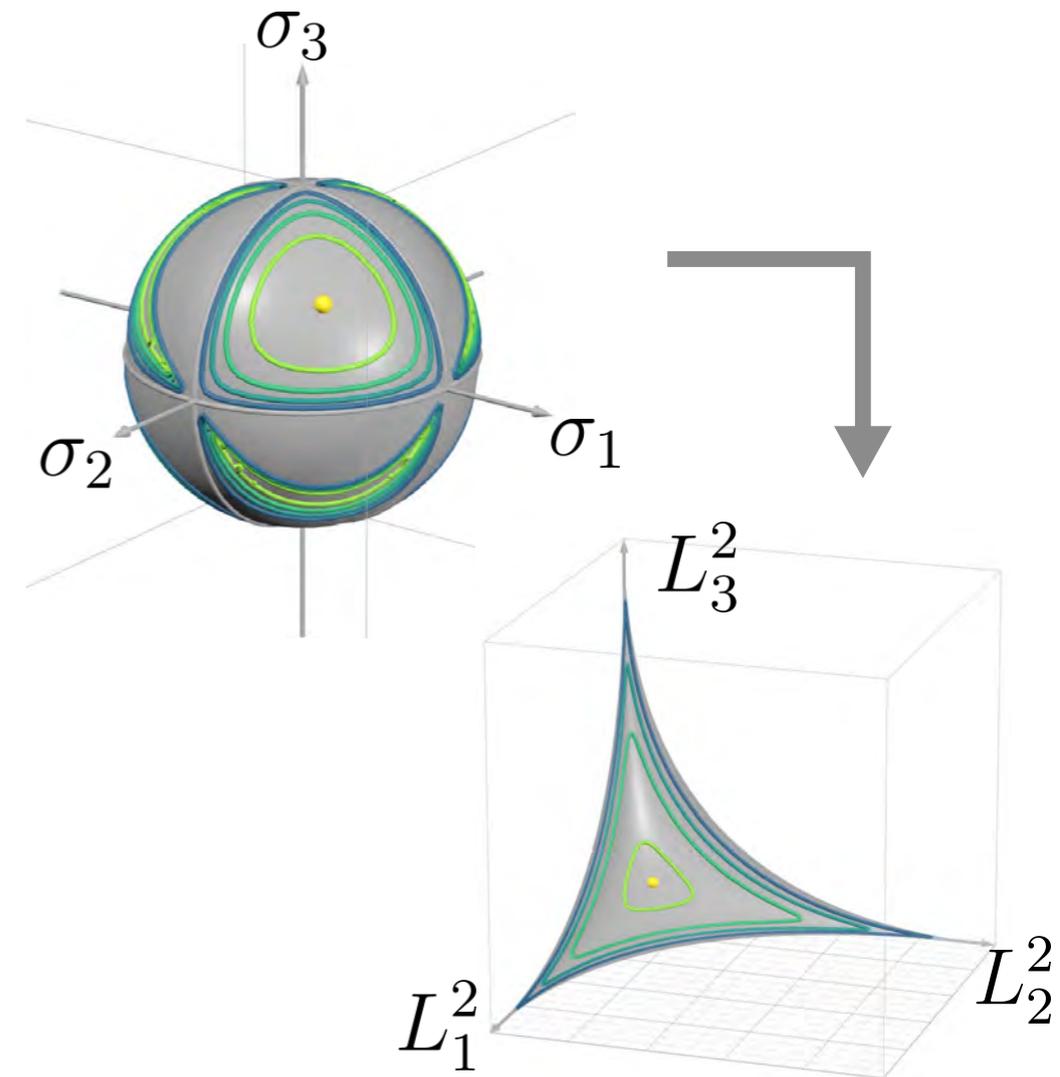


With this self-stress parameterization, we can rationally **search** the critical manifold for special configurations

Use gradient descent to traverse the space of self-stresses to optimize any objective function

$$\frac{d\mathcal{O}}{d\sigma_\alpha} = \frac{\partial\mathcal{O}}{\partial\sigma_\alpha} + \sum_{\beta\mu} \frac{\partial\mathcal{O}}{\partial L_{\beta\mu}} \frac{\partial L_{\beta\mu}}{\partial\sigma_\alpha}$$

Self-stress parameterization lets us take a total derivative!



With this self-stress parameterization, we can rationally **search** the critical manifold for special configurations

Structure-Based Objective

Functions:

Say we want to find rigid networks with regular structure: e.g. all edges have equal lengths or equal tensions

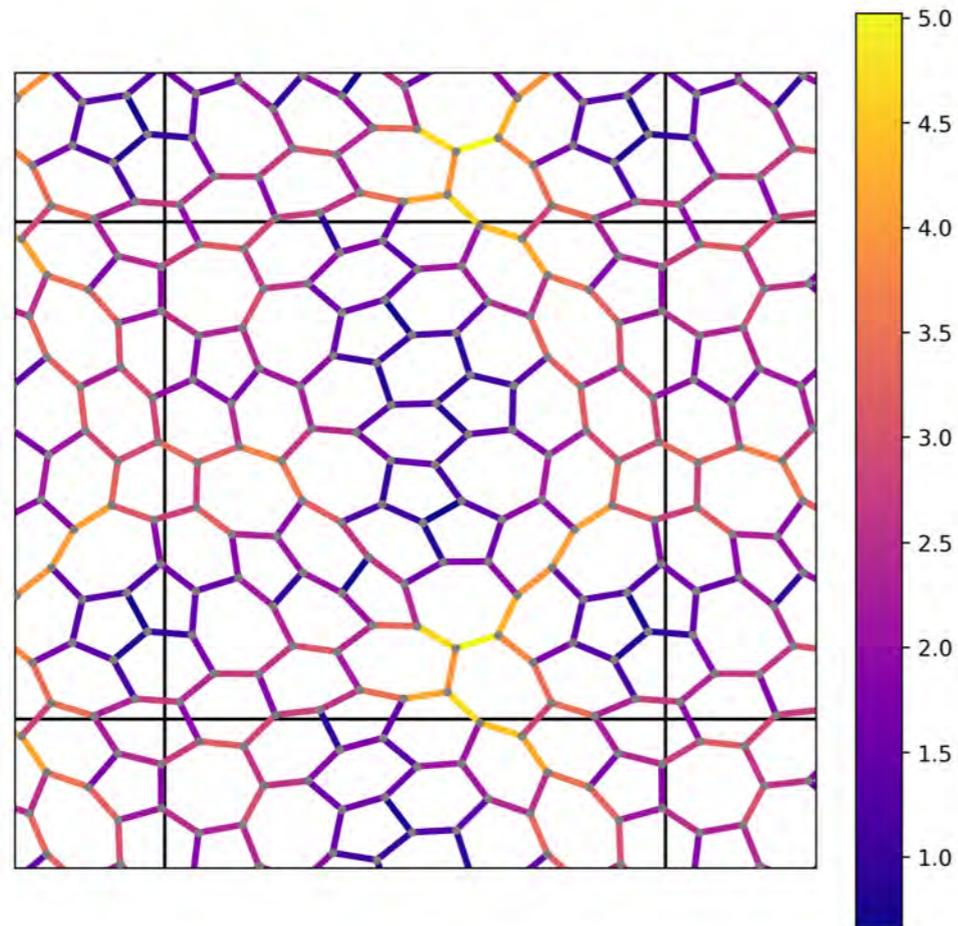
$$V_L = \frac{\langle (L - \langle L \rangle)^2 \rangle}{\langle L \rangle^2}$$

$$V_\tau = \frac{\langle (\tau - \langle \tau \rangle)^2 \rangle}{\langle \tau \rangle^2}$$

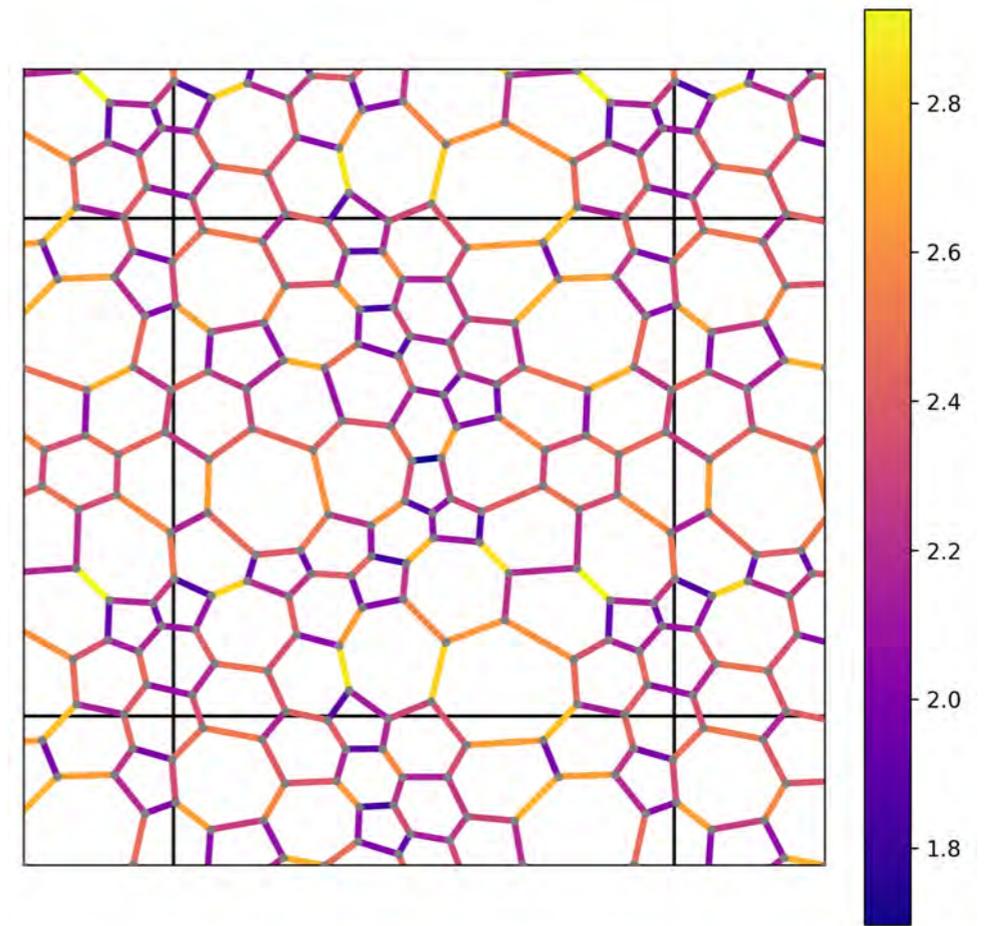
We can minimize the fluctuations of these quantities

Structural Objective Functions

Minimized length fluctuations

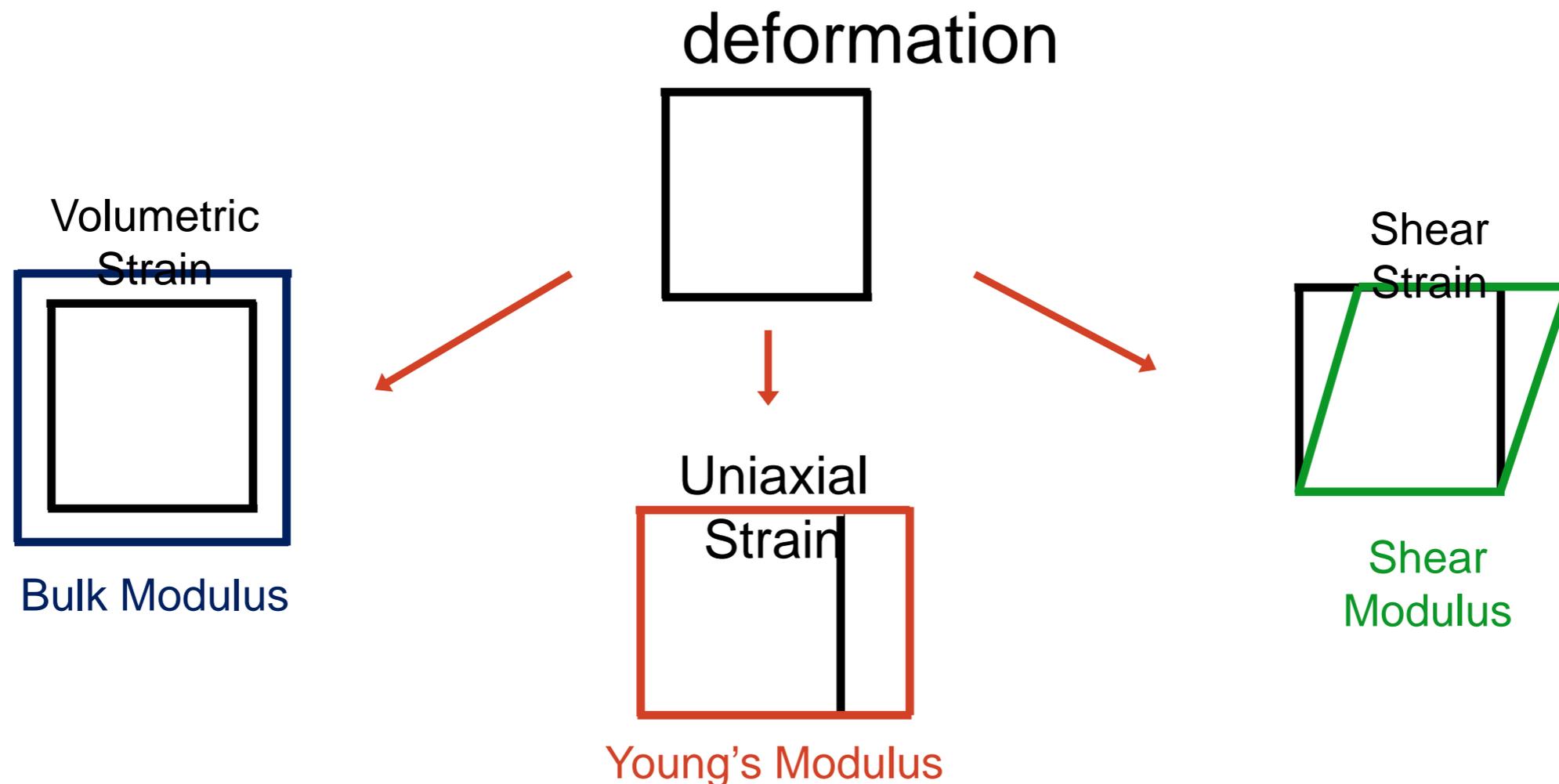


Minimized tension fluctuations

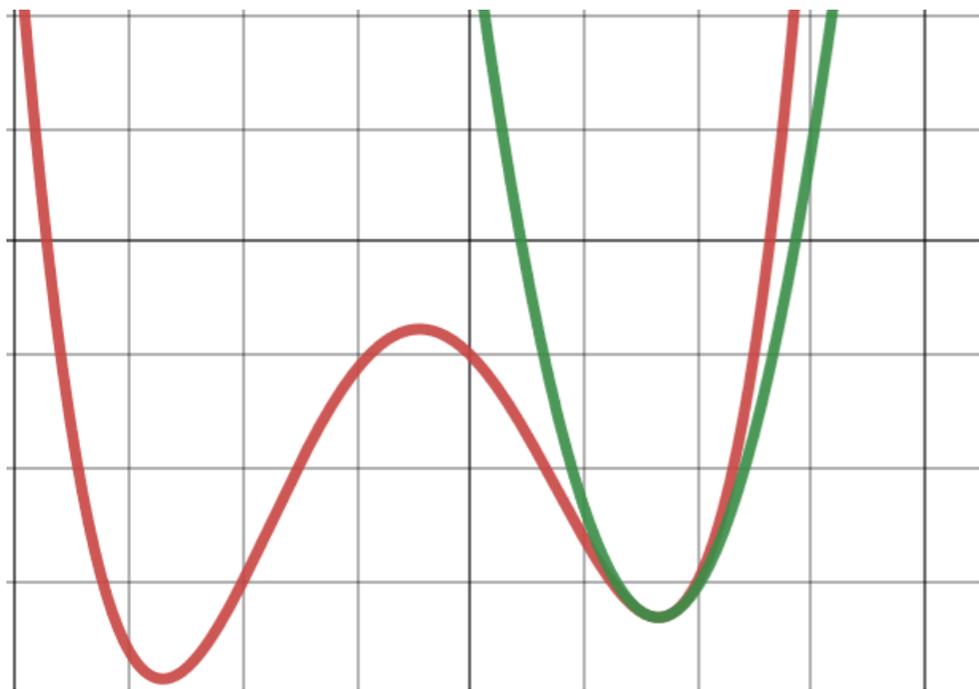


We can use the Hessian to calculate **elastic moduli**

- Hessian contains all microscopic details, but we often just care about the stiffness of a material under a bulk



Linear Response is determined by the Hessian

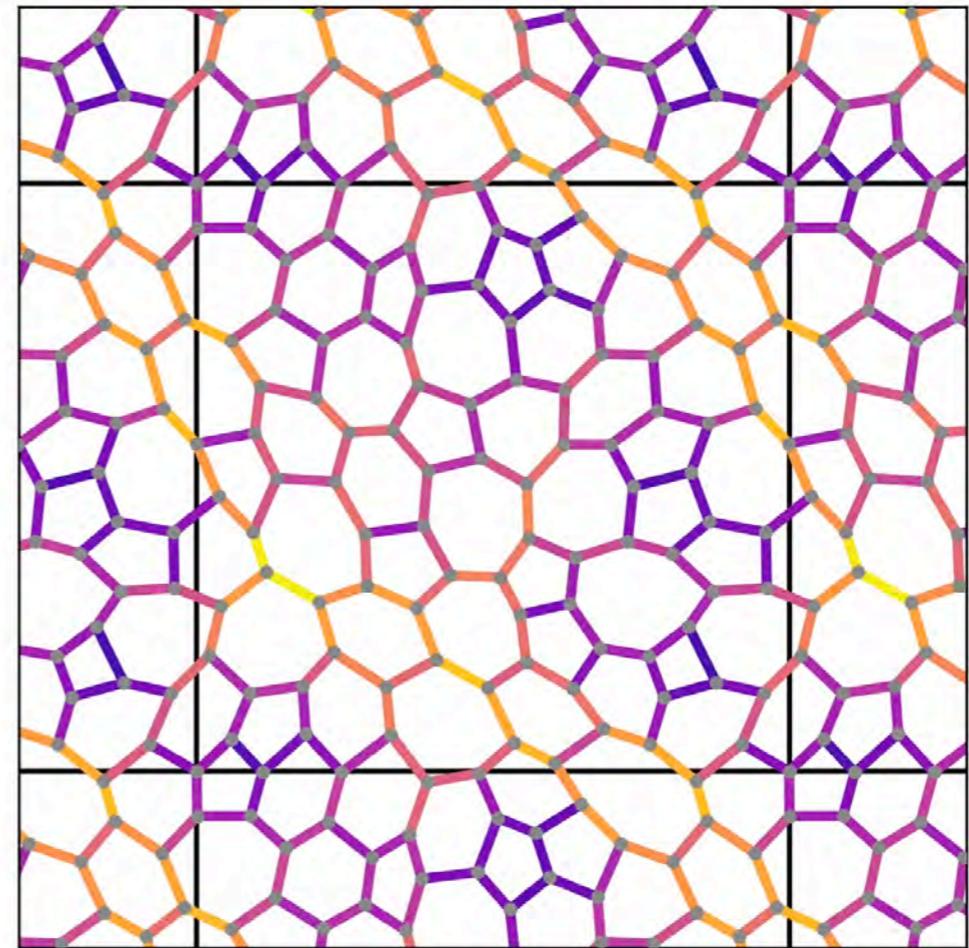
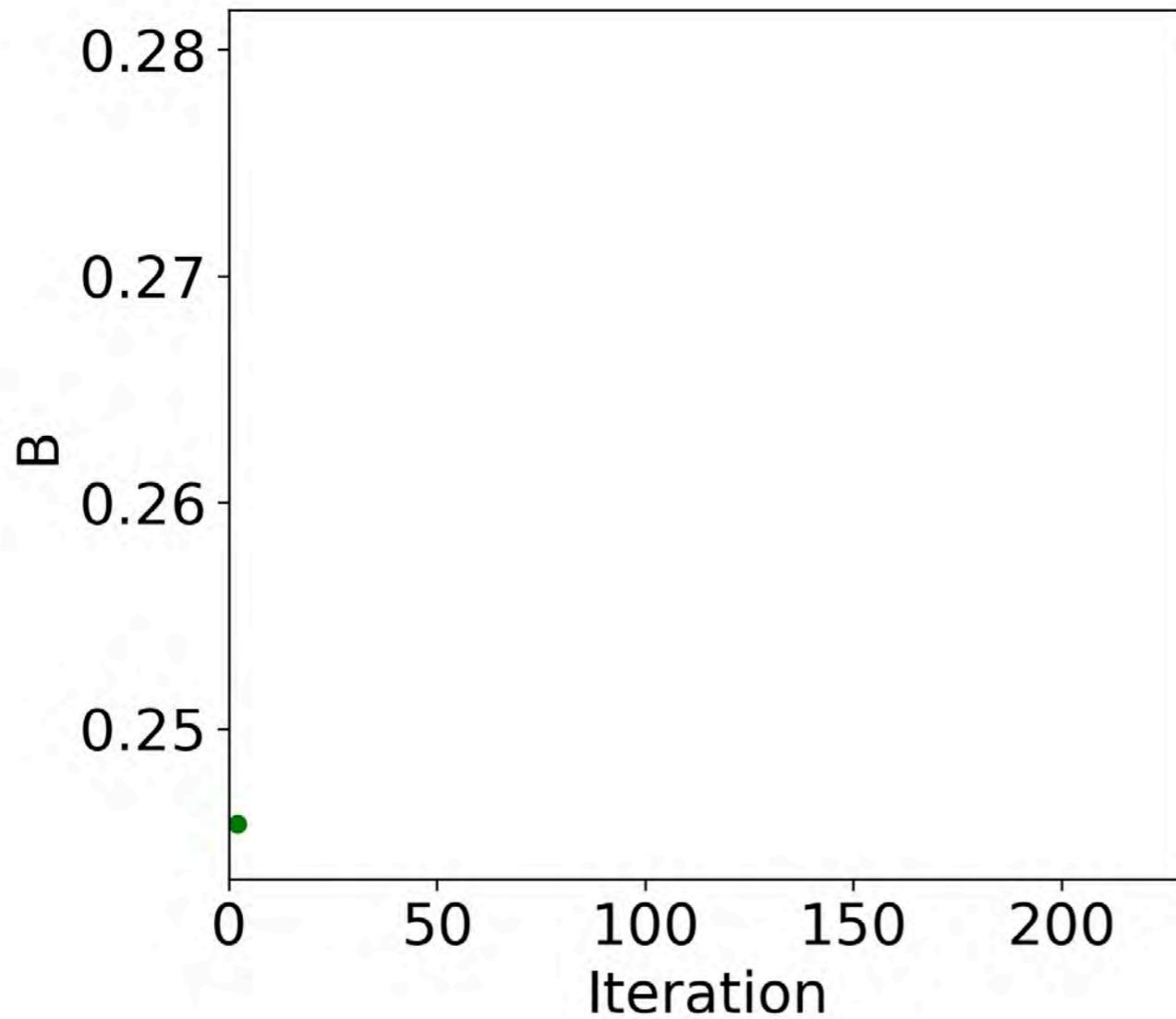


- Hessian describes the curvature of the energy landscape
 - Lets us calculate the deformation due to an applied force

$$\delta E = \cancel{\frac{\partial E}{\partial x_i}} \delta x_i + \frac{1}{2} \boxed{\frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial x_i \partial x_j}} \delta x_i \delta x_j + \mathcal{O}(\delta x^3)$$

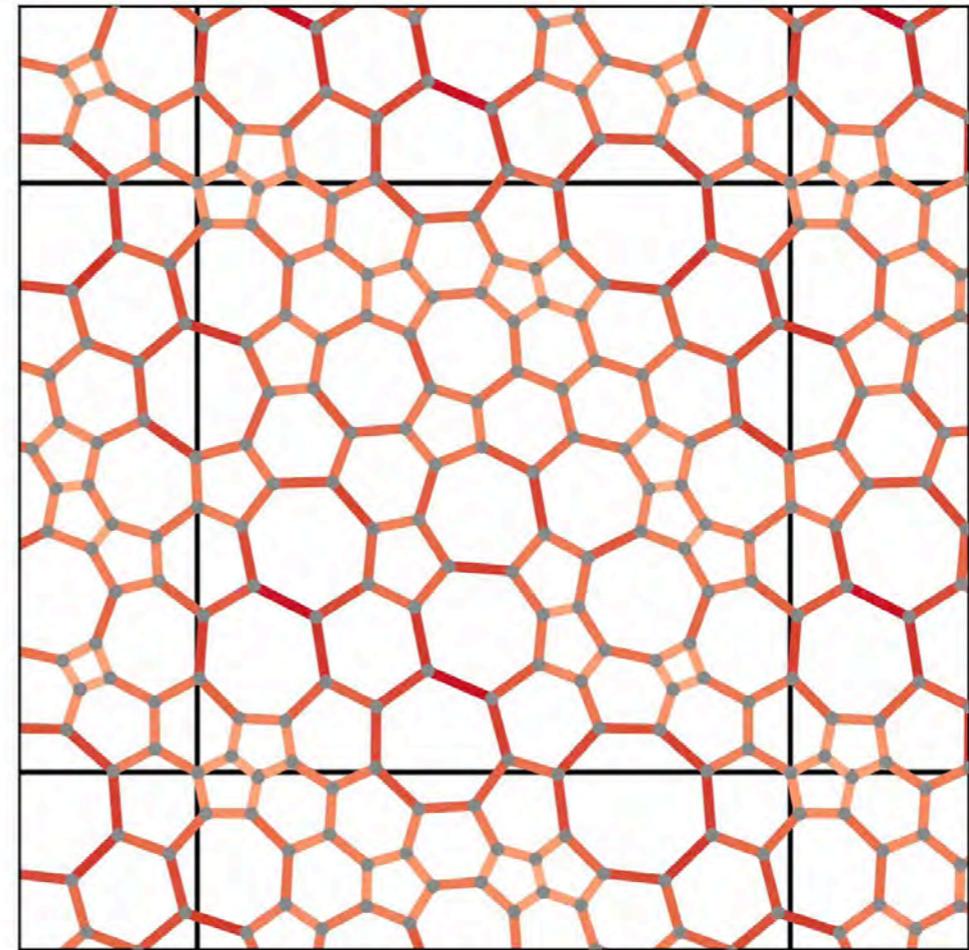
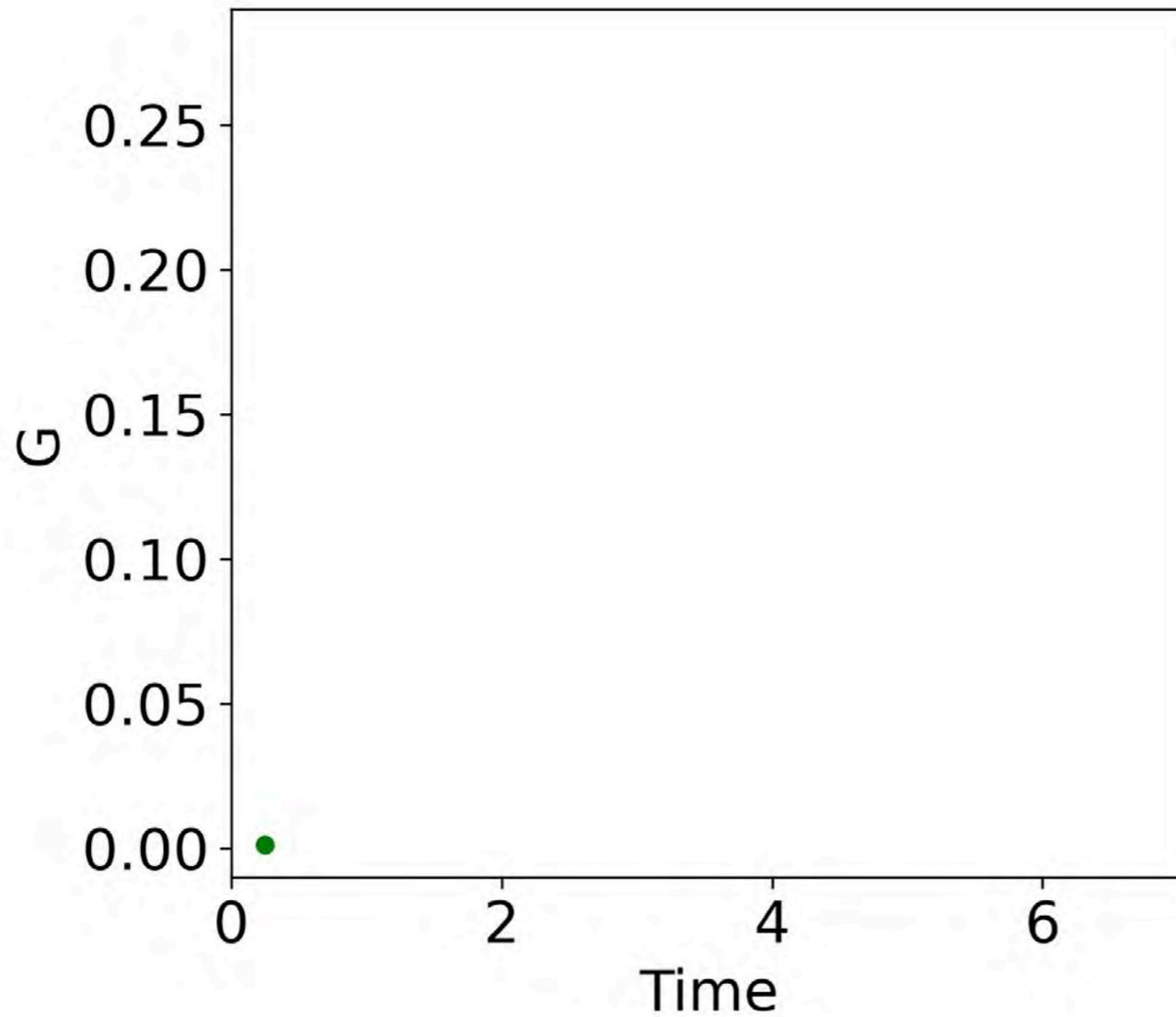
Maximize **bulk modulus** at the transition

$$\dot{h}_\alpha = L_\alpha^2$$

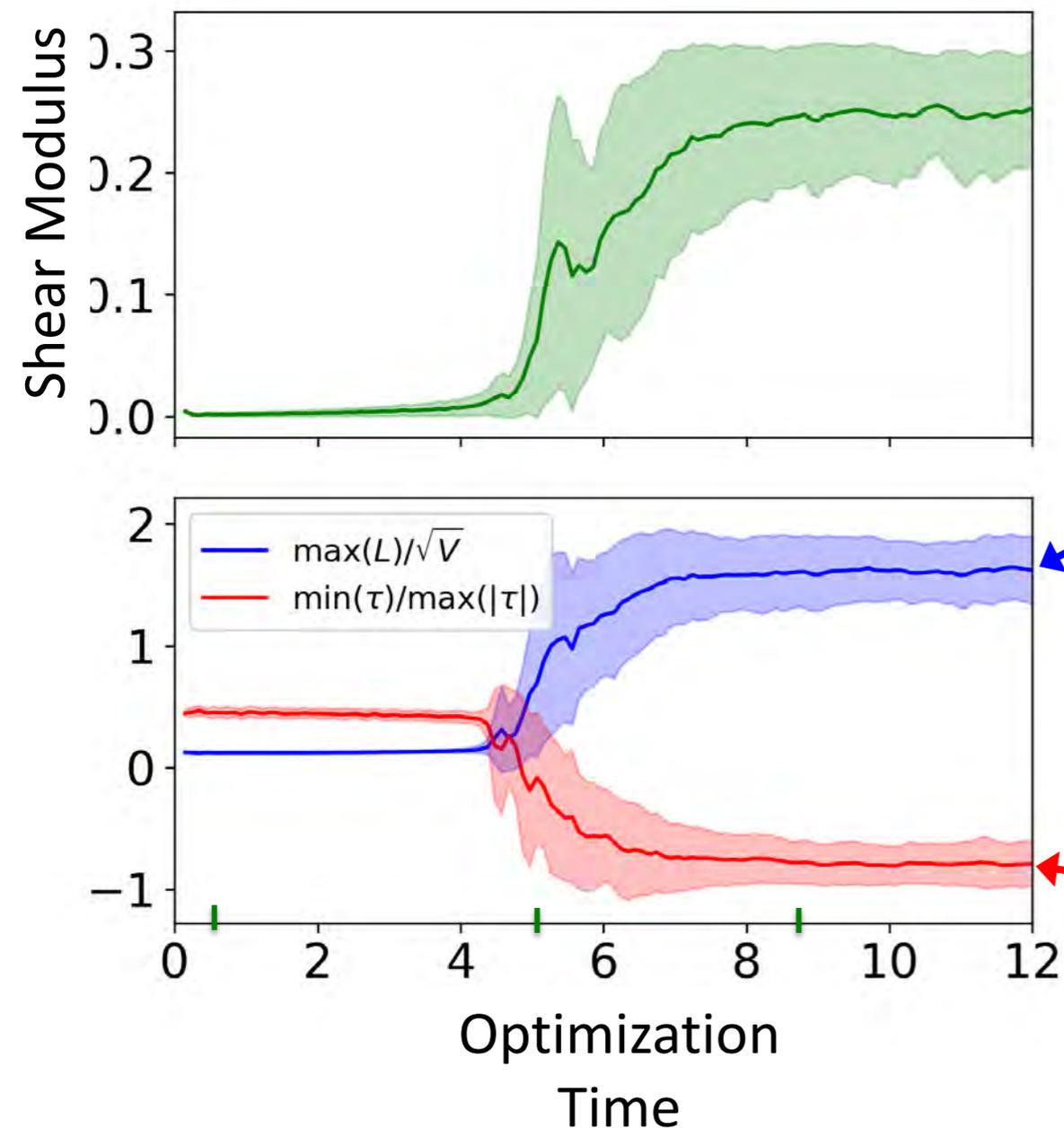


Maximize **shear modulus** at the
transition

$$\dot{h}_\alpha = L_{\alpha x} L_{\alpha y}$$



Maximize shear modulus at the transition

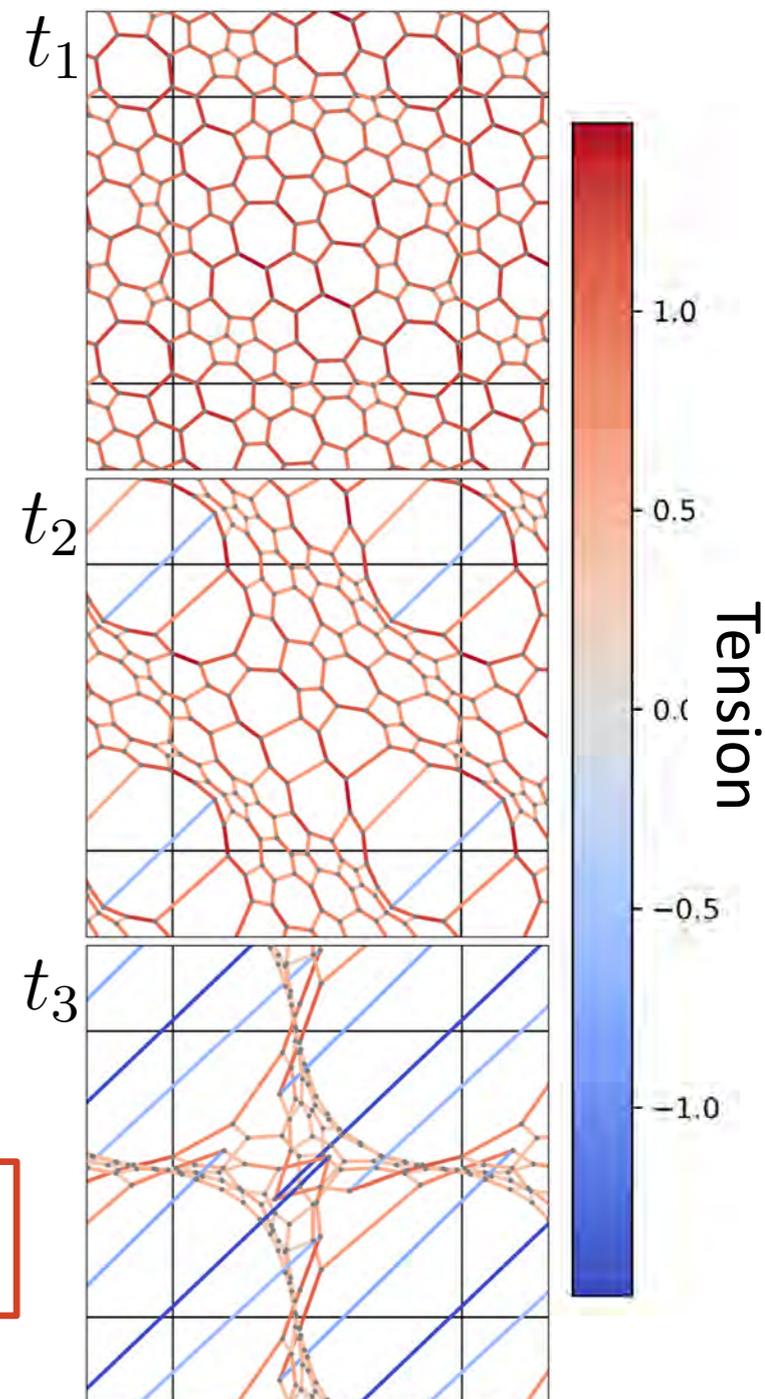


Optimization leads to weird configurations!

Time
Increasing

Longest edge becomes larger than the box size

The edge with the most stress is under compression



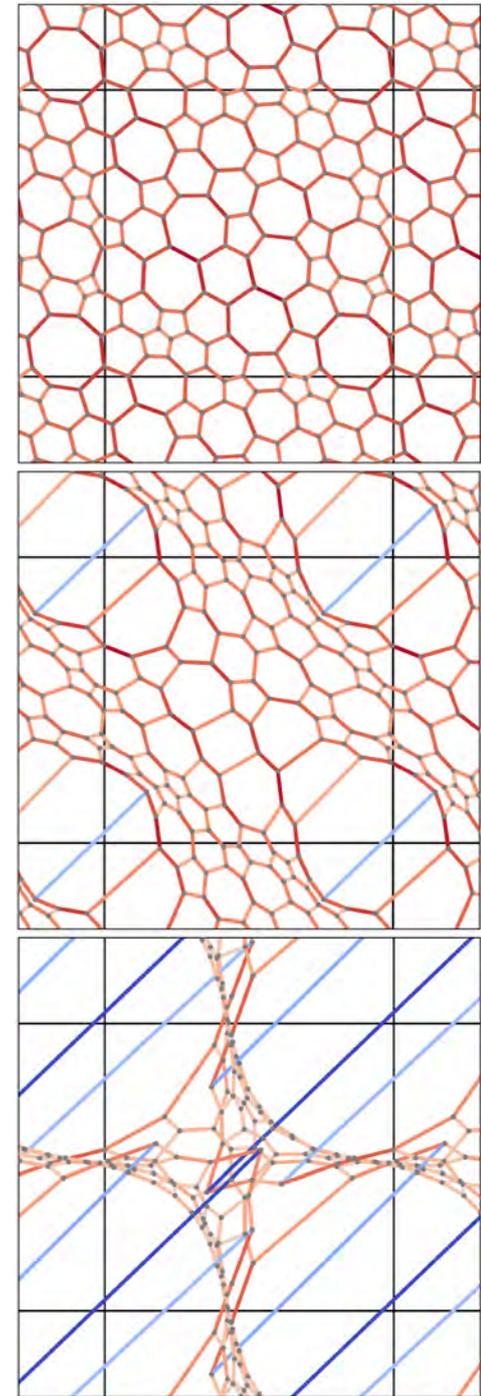
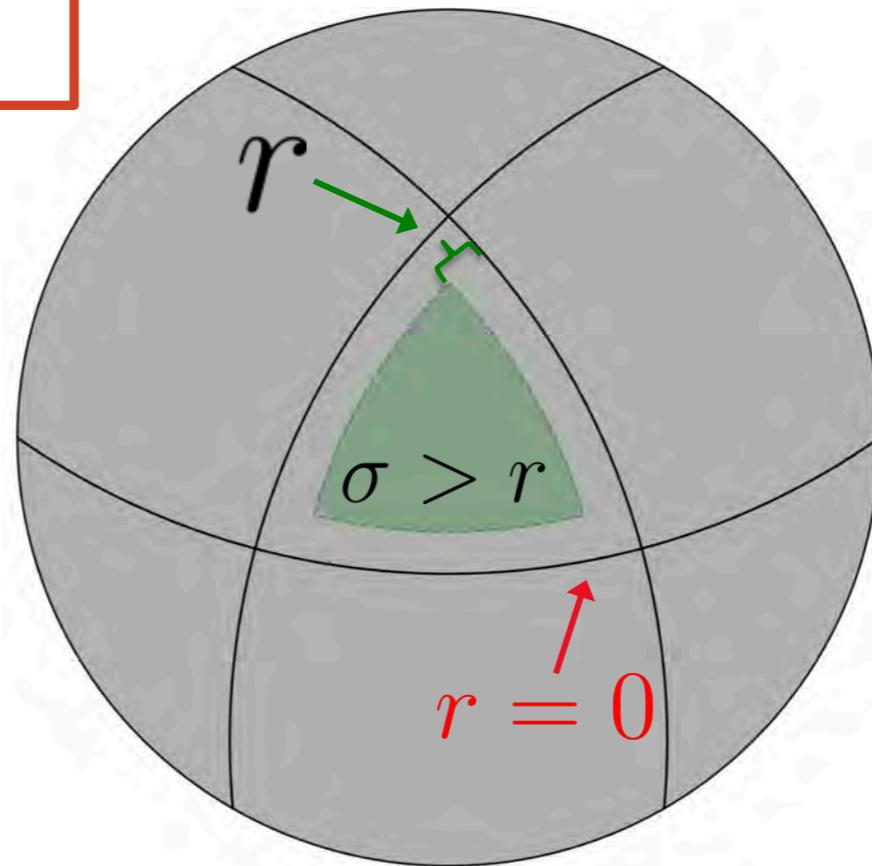
Maximize **shear modulus** at the transition

We can add additional constraints to
keep the self-stress above a given
threshold

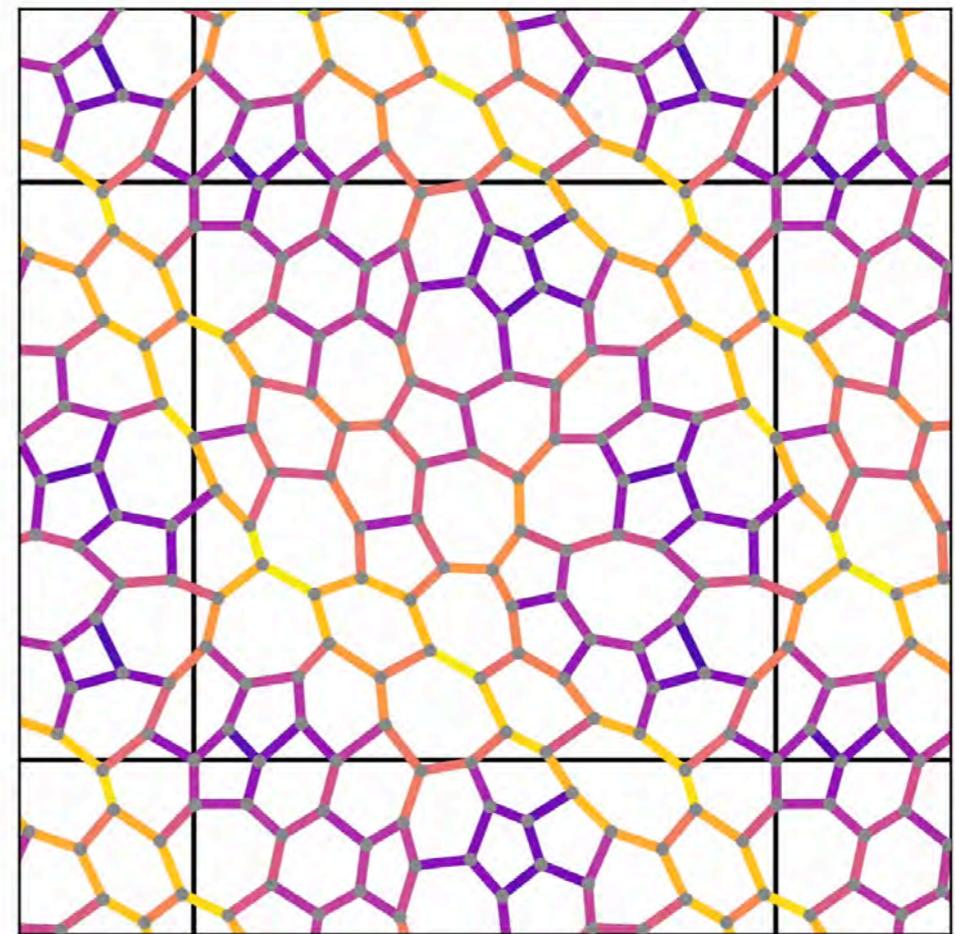
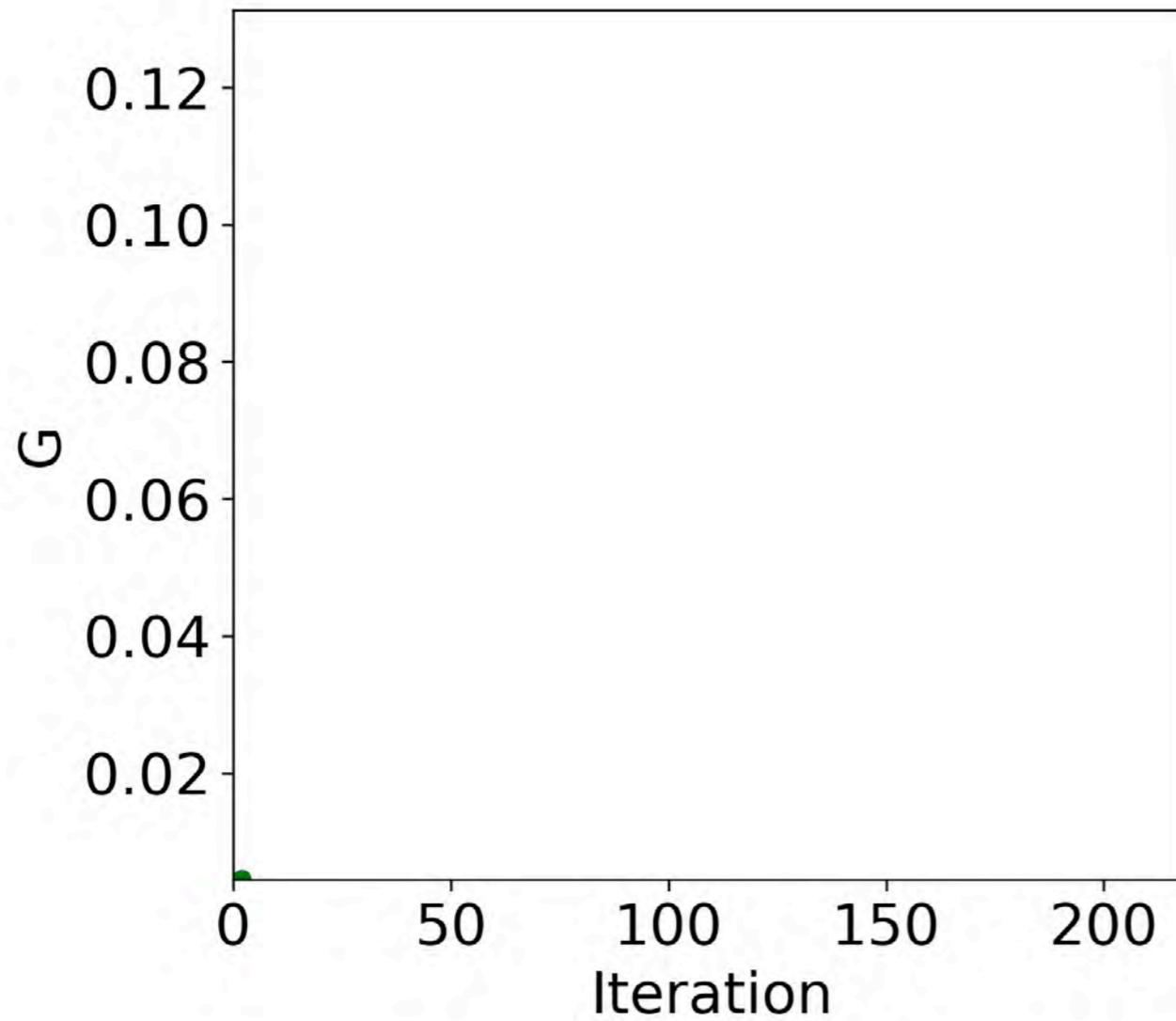
$$\sigma > r$$

Optimize new objective function:

$$\mathcal{O}(\sigma, r) = G_0(\sigma) - \frac{1}{N_b} \sum_{\alpha} \left(\frac{\sigma_{\alpha}}{r} \right)^{-10}$$



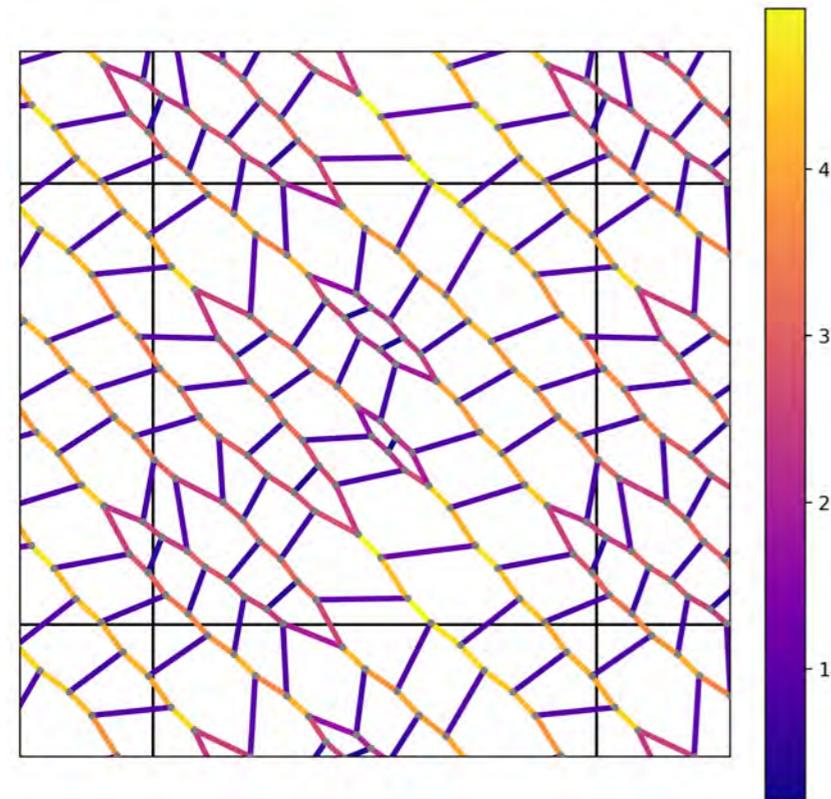
Maximize **shear modulus** at the transition (w/
constraint)



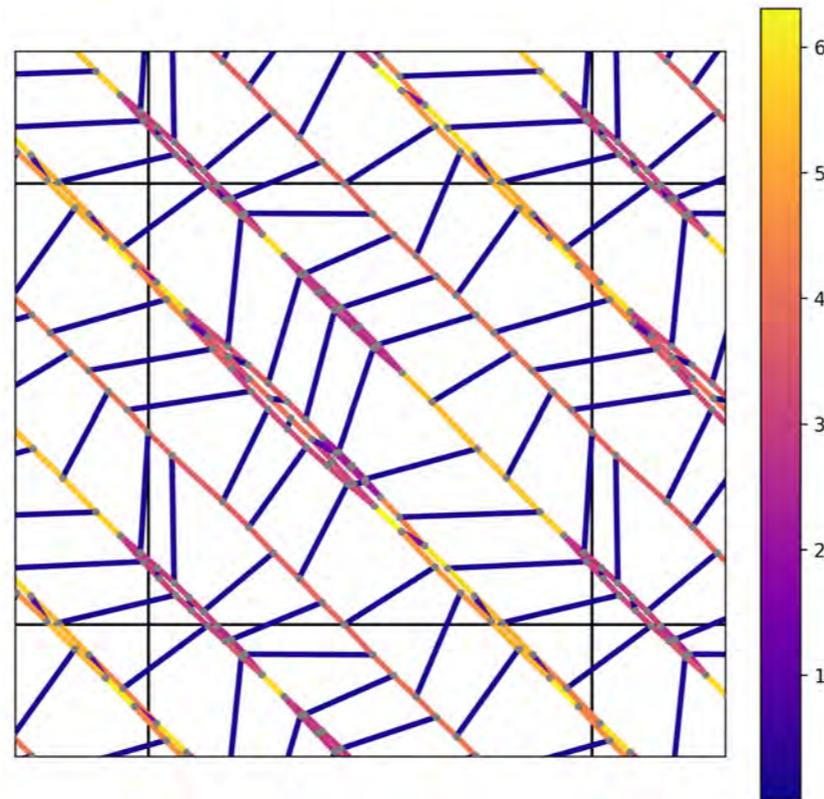
$$\sigma_{\alpha} > 10^{-2}$$

Lower threshold produces more **aligned**
networks

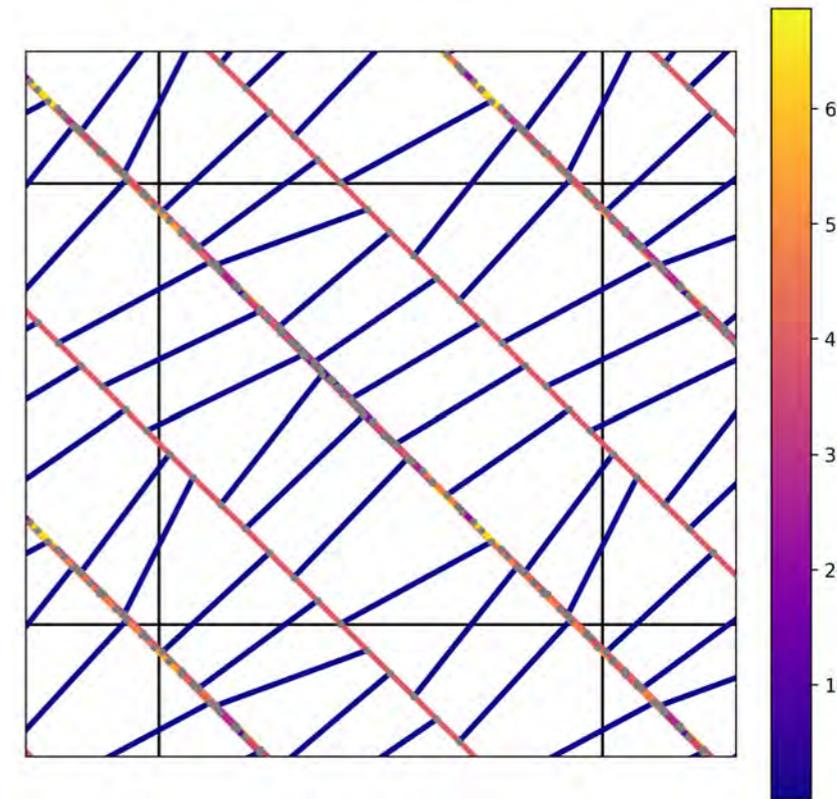
$$\sigma_\alpha > 10^{-1}$$



$$\sigma_\alpha > 10^{-2}$$



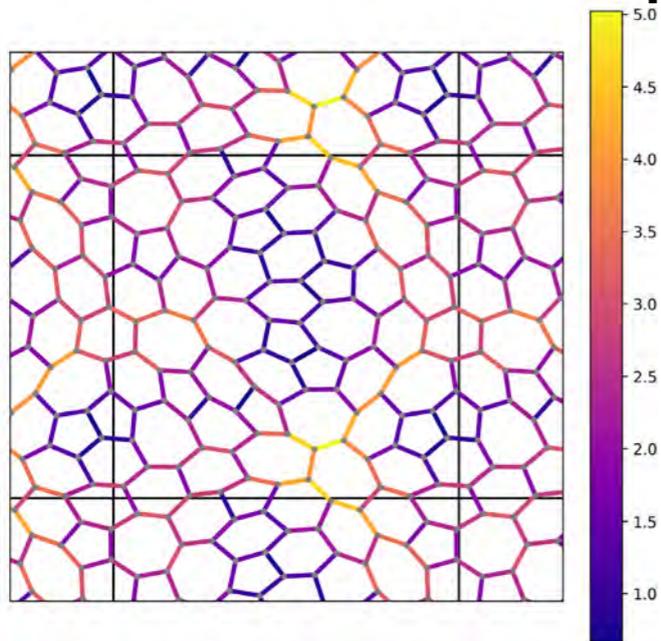
$$\sigma_\alpha > 10^{-3}$$



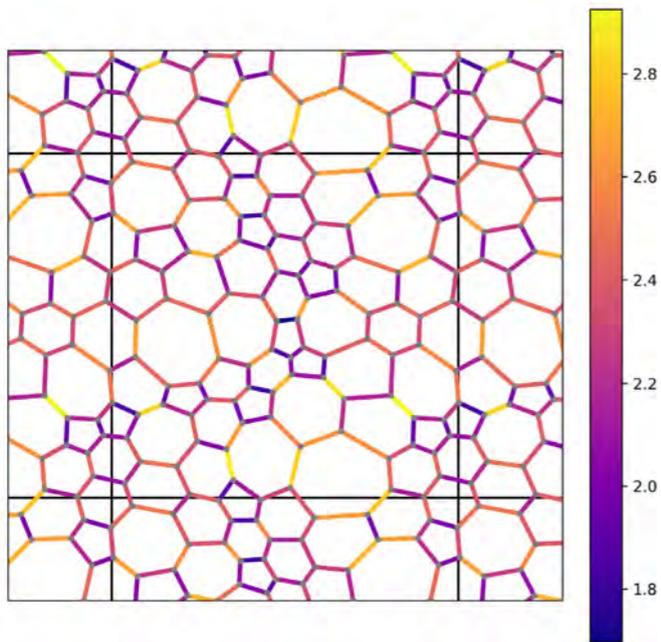
Structural Objective

Functions

Equal Lengths



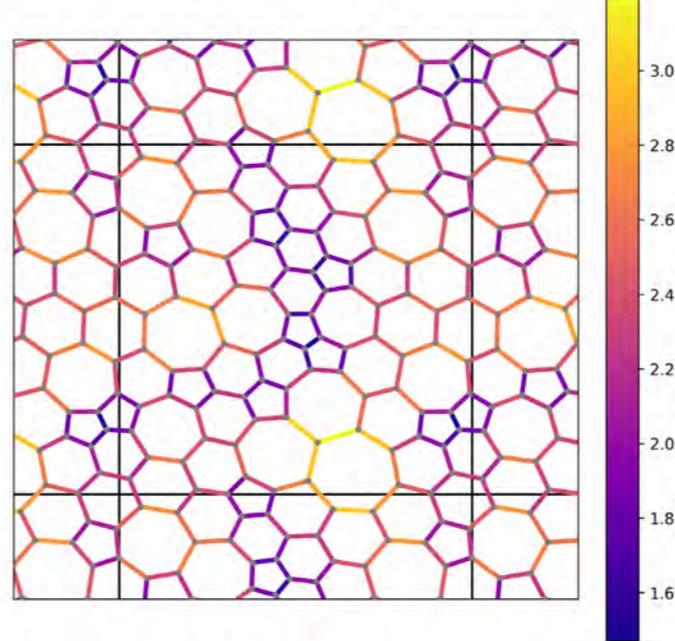
Equal Tensions



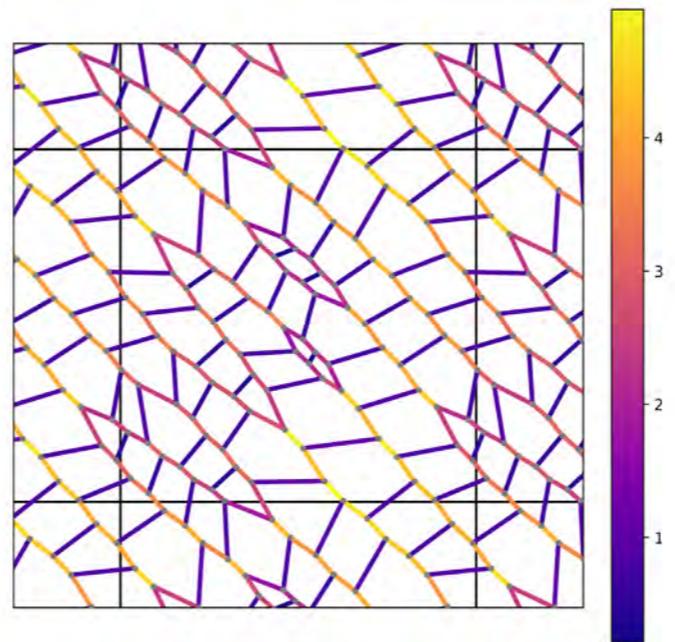
Response Objective

Functions

Bulk Modulus

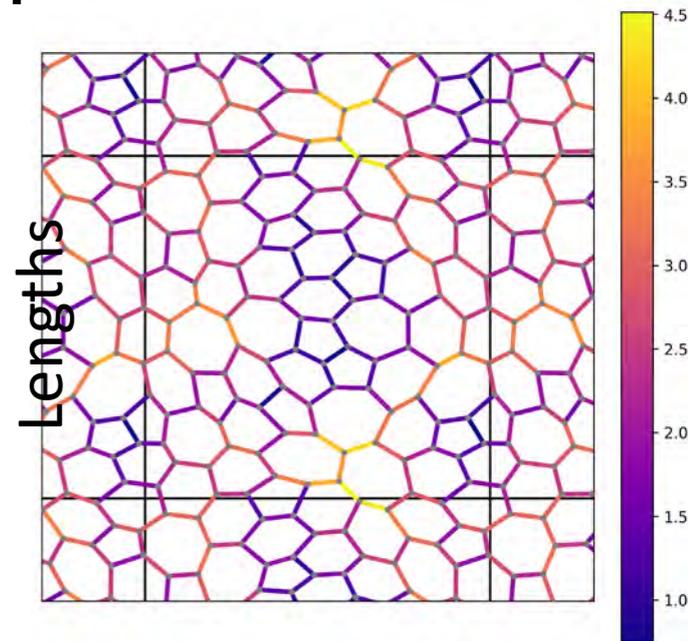


Shear Modulus

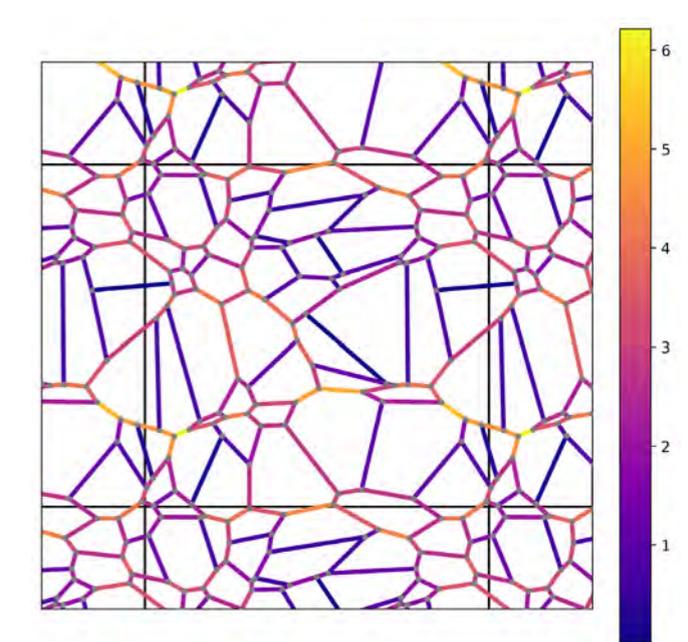


Random Samples

Random Rest



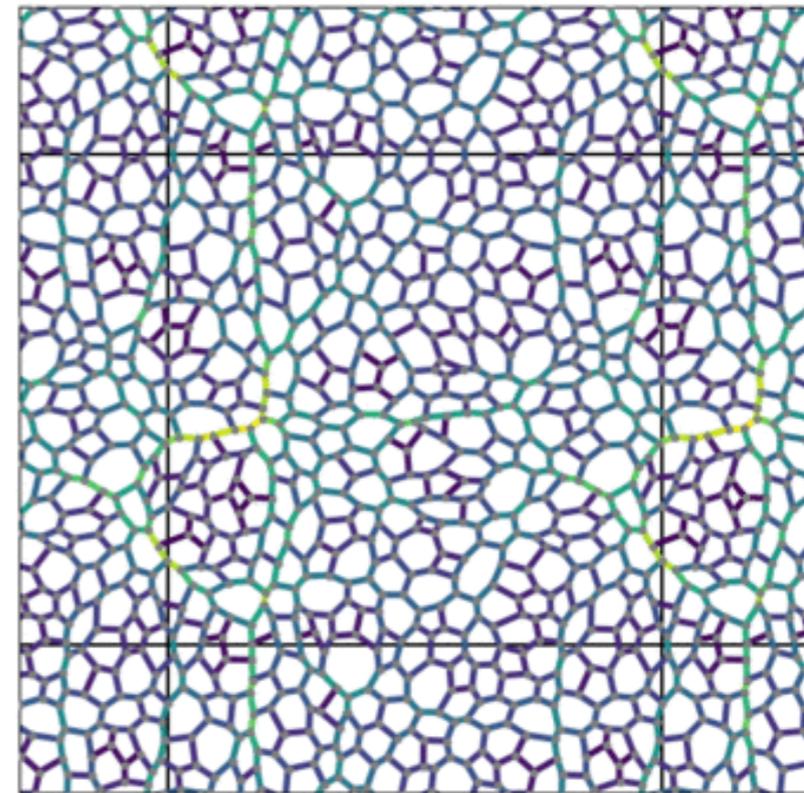
Random Self-Stress



Summary

What is the space of states at the transition?

There is a manifold of states at the critical point of any underconstrained network, which we can completely characterize with an analytic parameterization



Can we search this space to find configurations with specific desired properties?

Yes! We can find configurations that optimize a smooth objective function

End of lecture 3