

# A body made of glass

Public Lecture  
Condensed Matter Summer school  
Frustrated and disordered systems  
UC Boulder  
July 11, 2017

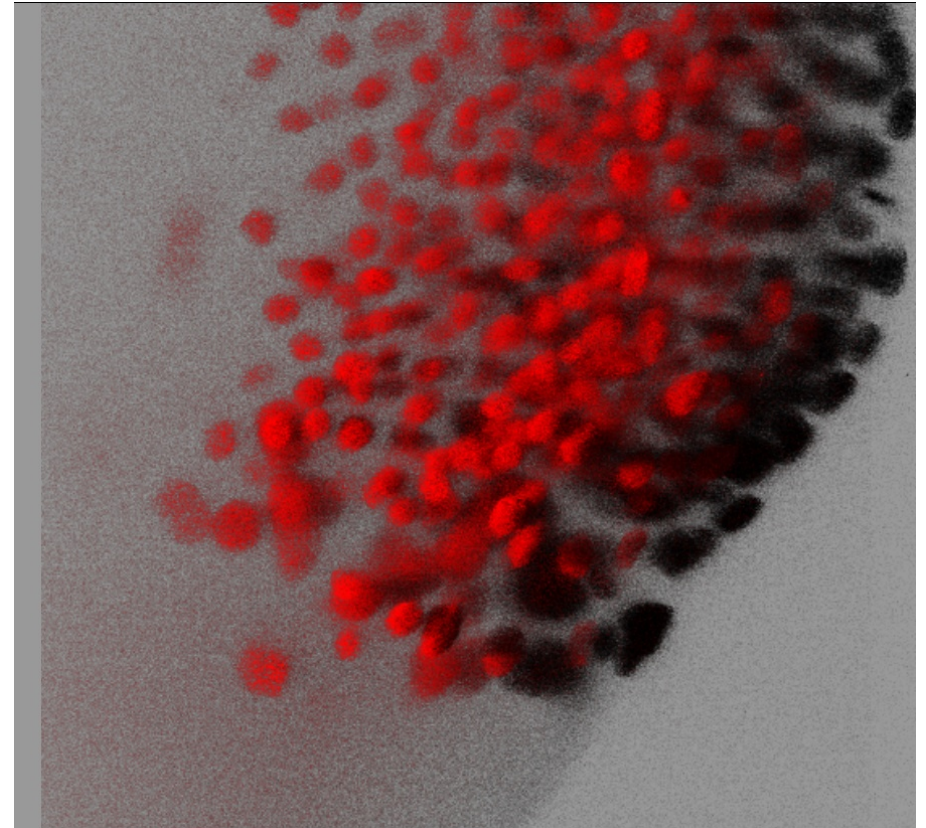
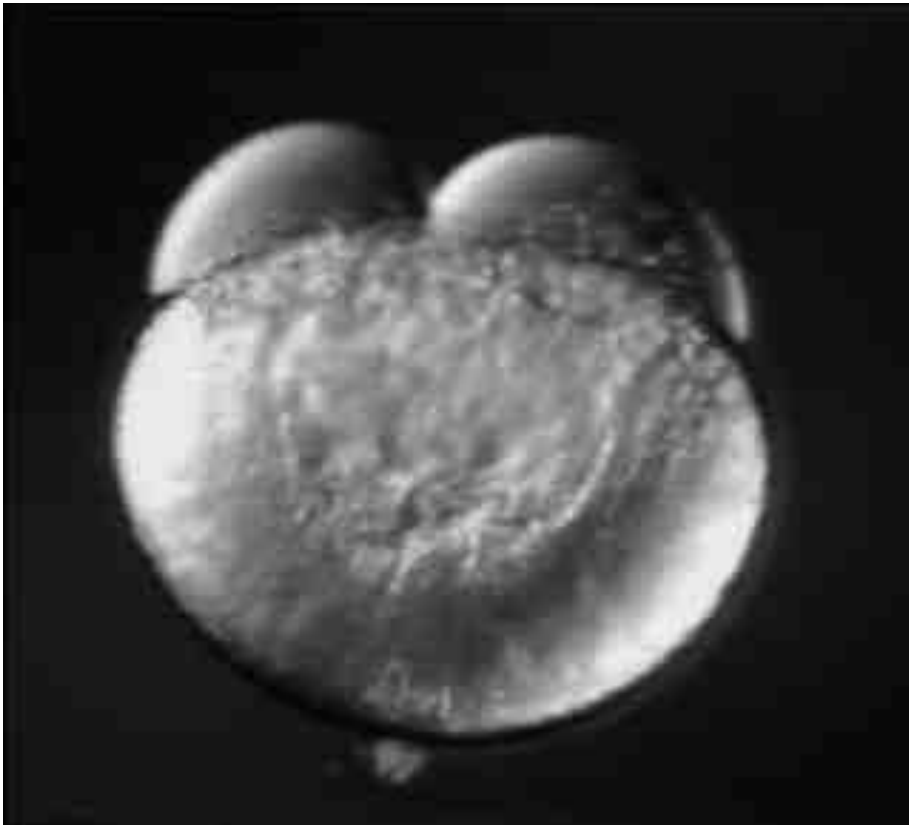
M. Lisa Manning  
*Syracuse University*



Are you a solid or a fluid?

# What about during development?

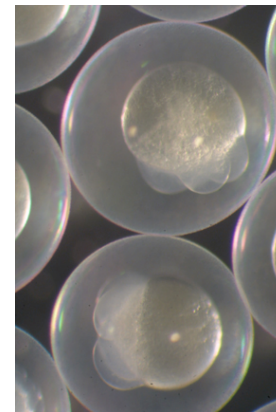
EM Schoetz PhD Thesis 2008



Karlstrom et al, Development (1996)

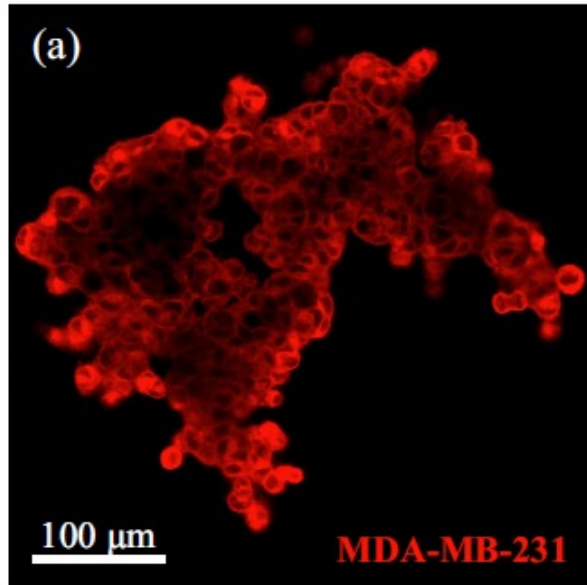
Tissue fluidity important  
segregation  
brain cells are in the head, gut  
cells are in the abdomen, etc.

**Scientific Paper**

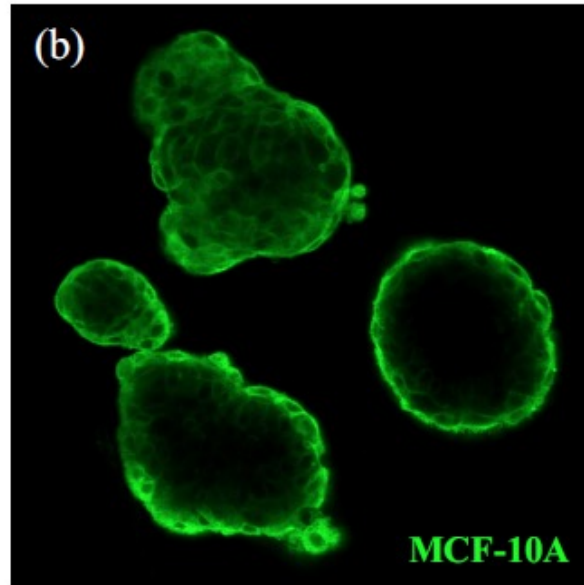


# What about cancer cells?

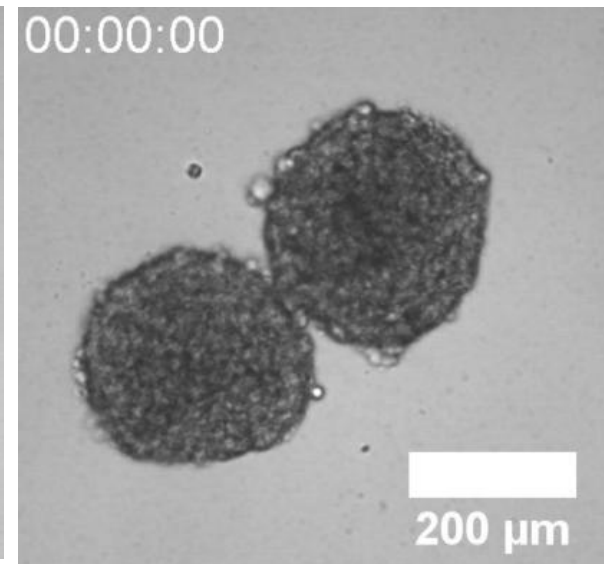
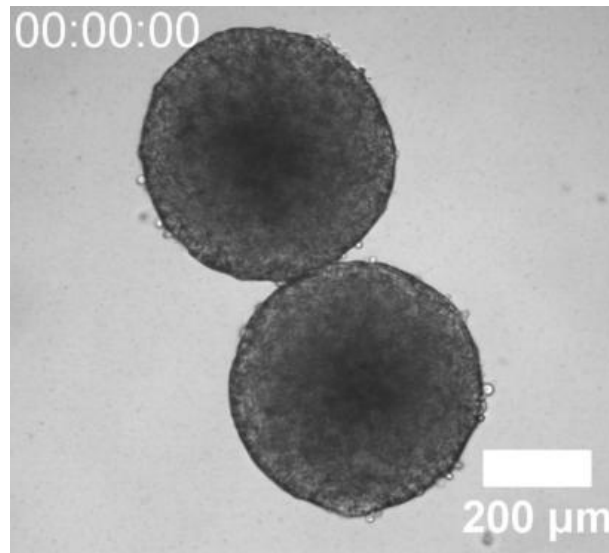
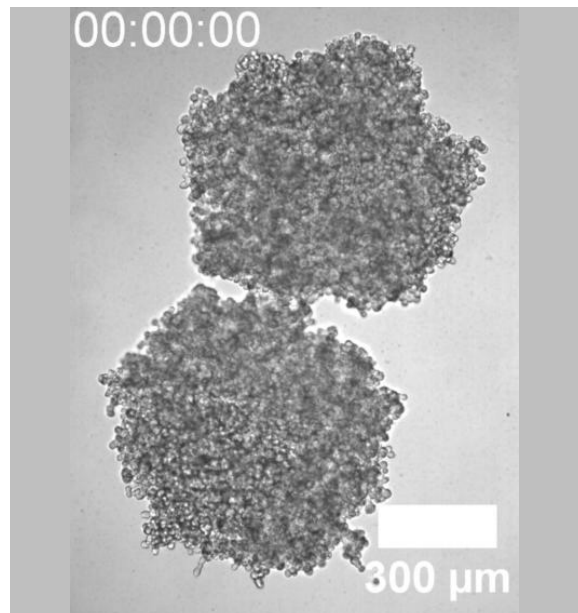
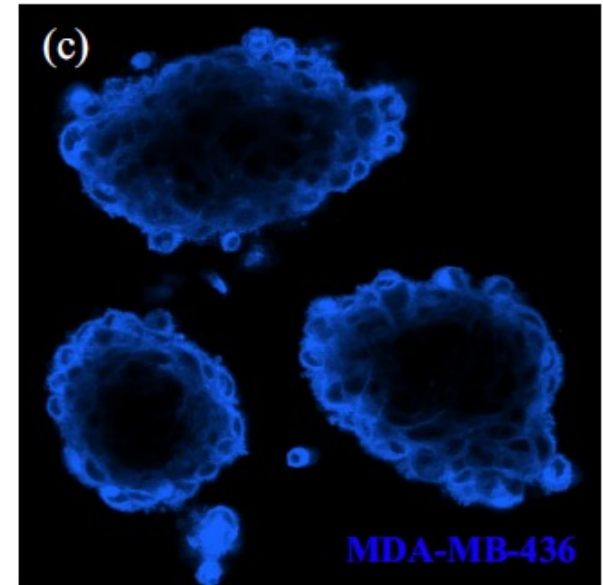
model for **metastatic**  
breast cancer cells



model for **normal**  
breast cells



model for **malignant**  
breast cancer cells



Käs lab, Leipzig University

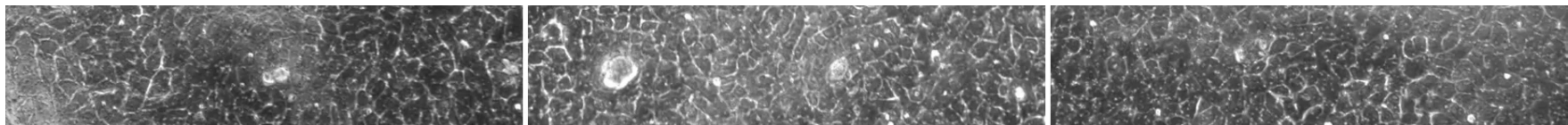
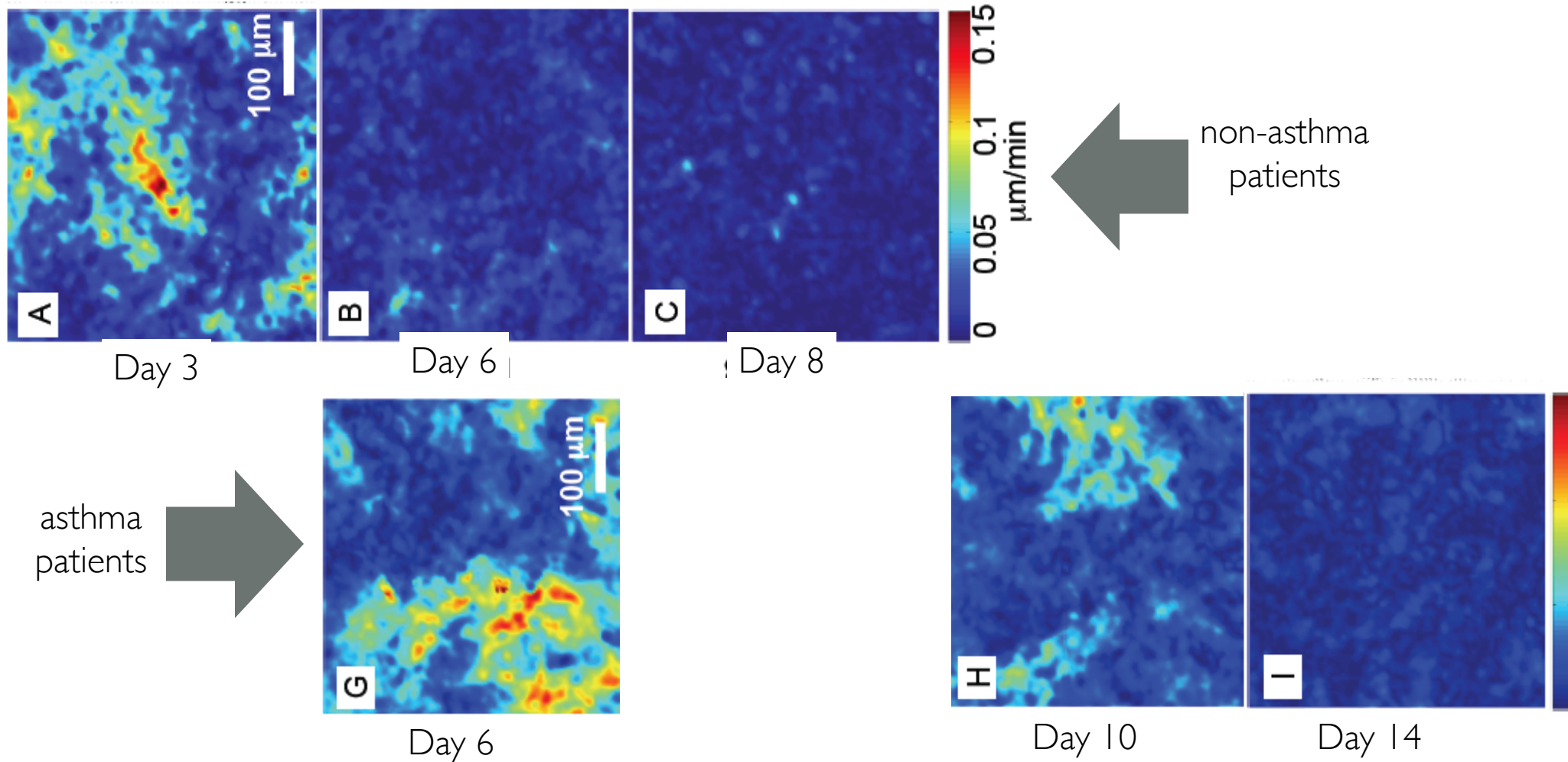
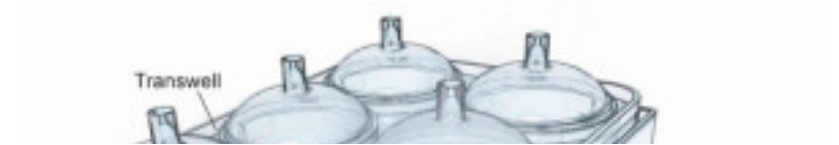
# What about a healing wound?

woundsource.com

Science & Nature Phys. 8 628 (2012)



# What about cells in diseases like asthma?



How do you tell the  
difference between a fluid and  
a solid?

# Fluid example: Water

- Pour it out of a cup
- Is it easier to run or walk through the pool?

Liquids:

- Force (how hard it is to push) is higher as you move **faster**
- It **doesn't** return to where it started!
- Constituent particles rearrange and change neighbors

# Solid example: Rubber Band

- Stretch it! It's elastic!
- What happens as you stretch it?

Solids:

- Force (how hard it is to push) is higher as you move **farther**.
- It **does** return to where it started!
- Constituent particles do not change their neighbors.

How can you change a fluid  
into a solid?

# Many materials crystallize when they are cooled.

Water

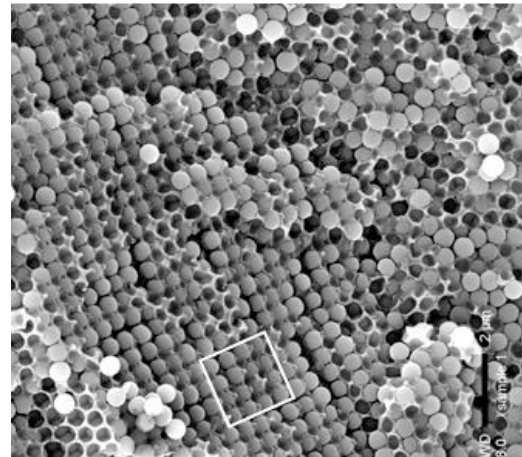


1 million times  
smaller than a yard!  
A thousand times  
smaller than a hair

Metals



Large scale



small scale

# Many materials **DO NOT** crystallize when they are cooled.

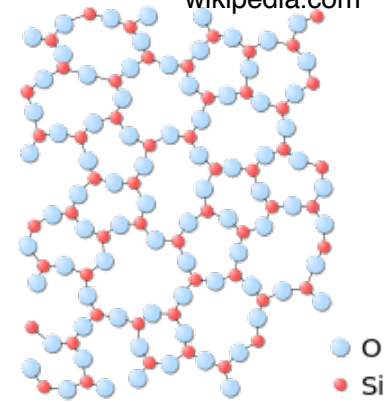
window (soda-lime) glass



plastics



wikipedia.com

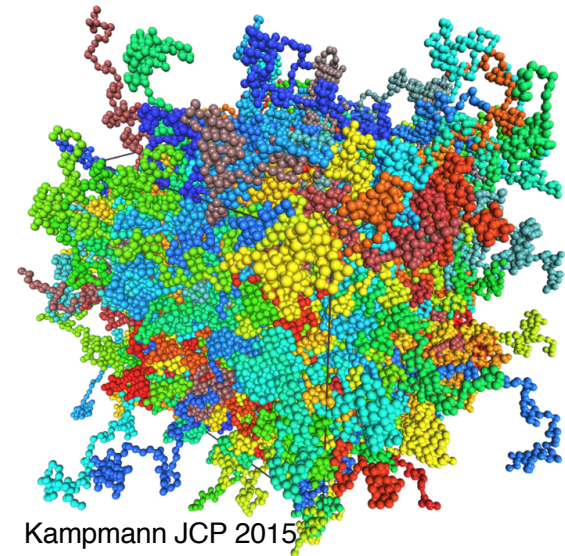


Fiberglass



Glassy materials

Bulk metallic glasses



Large scale

Small scale

Are there any other ways to  
turn a fluid into a solid?

# Sand

- Stand on it at the beach
- Sift it through your fingers



# Mayonnaise



Dense emulsion ([Thijssen](#))

Other materials like this: sand, foams, fault gouge on earthquake faults, pharmaceutical pills

# summary:

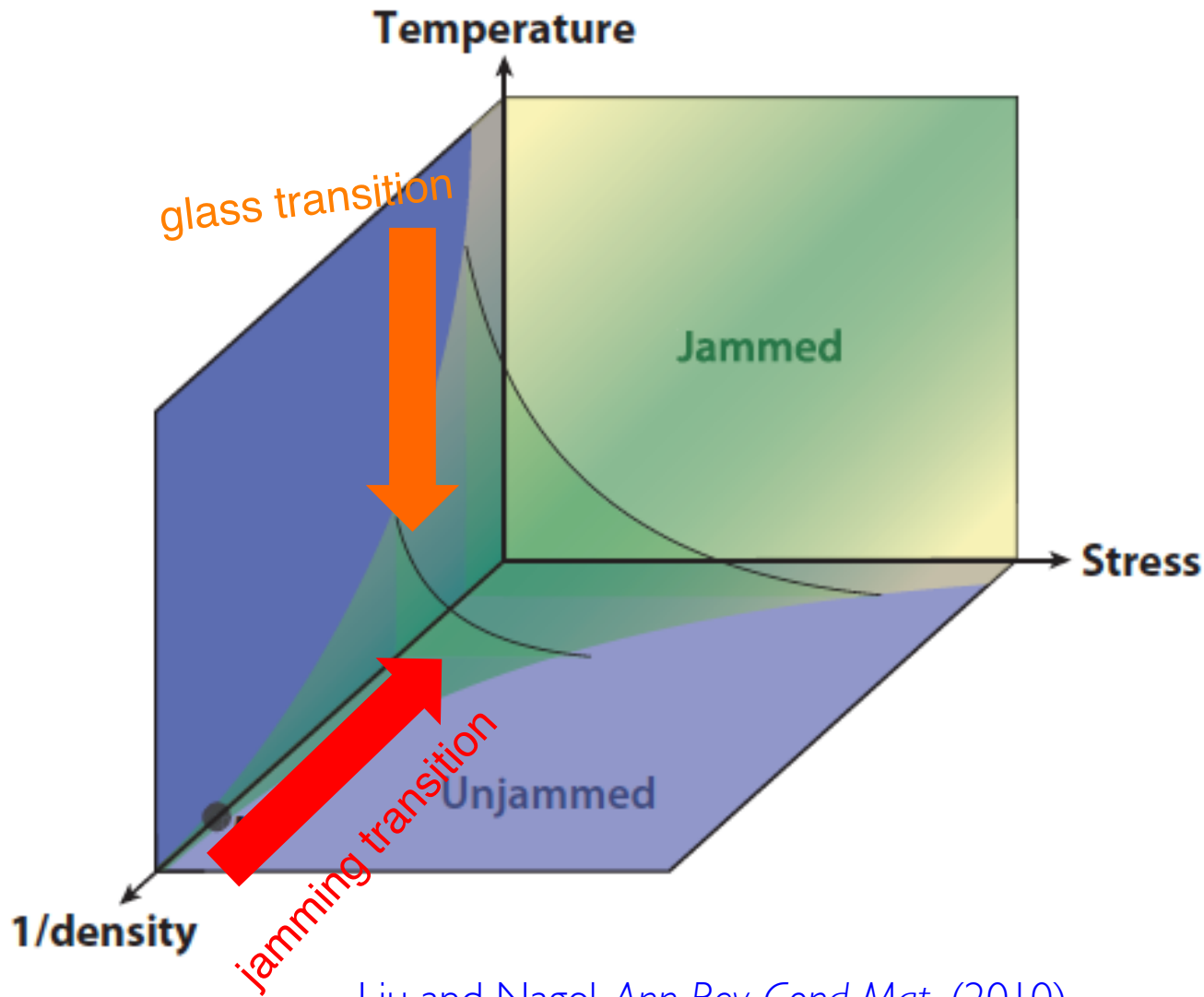
fluidity depends on:

the temperature (energy available for  
constituent objects to move around)

and

density (how tightly packed the objects are)

# Can we unify these ideas?



Liu and Nagel, *Ann Rev. Cond Mat.* (2010)

Scientists here in Boulder now:

Why do these materials solidify?

Is there a most dense glass?

How does the stiffness of the glass depend on these parameters?

How does the motion of particles depend on these parameters?

How does the glass fail if you push it too far?

What is the relationship between these disordered systems and others (machine learning, encryption)?

But wait, you say --  
you promised us a talk about biology!

Cells can do many things that  
mayonnaise cannot:

divide

die

differentiate (turn into different cell types)

respond to their environment

move around on their own

For the rest of this talk, I'll ask  
**what can we explain**

by adding two simple ingredients to this glass picture:

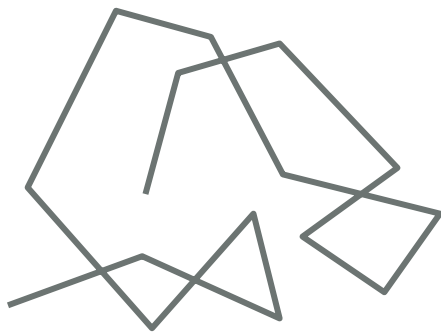
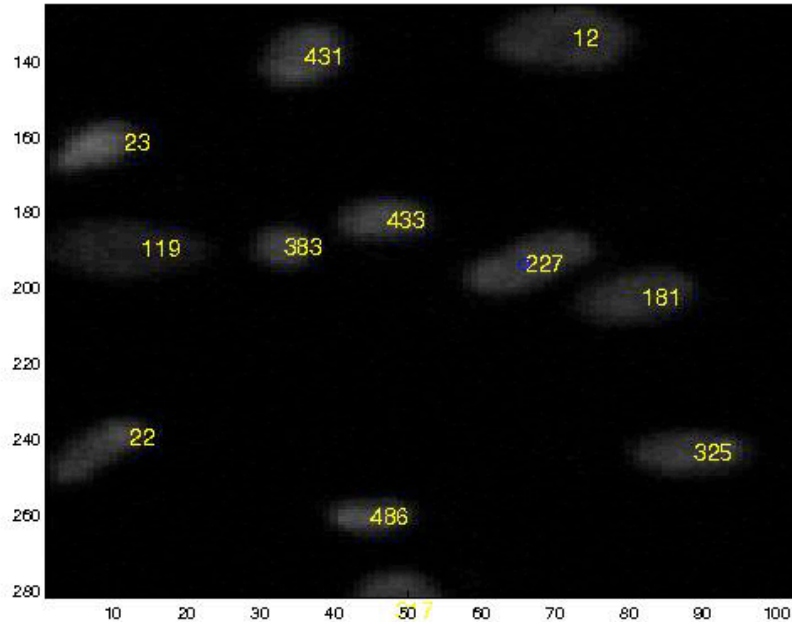
1. Cells can exert forces and move on their own
2. The interaction between cells depends on cell shape (instead of density)

# How can we describe cells that generate their own forces?

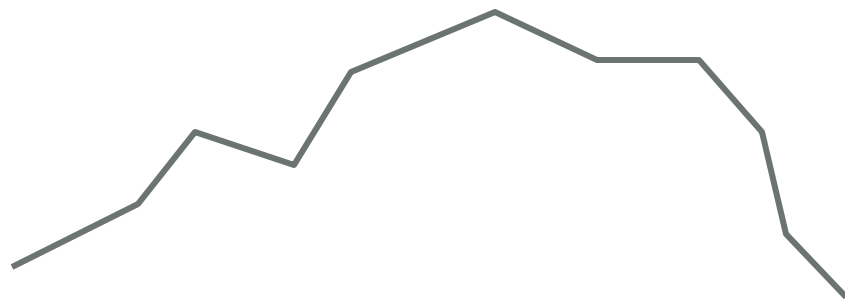
Use two parameters:

cell speed

persistence length



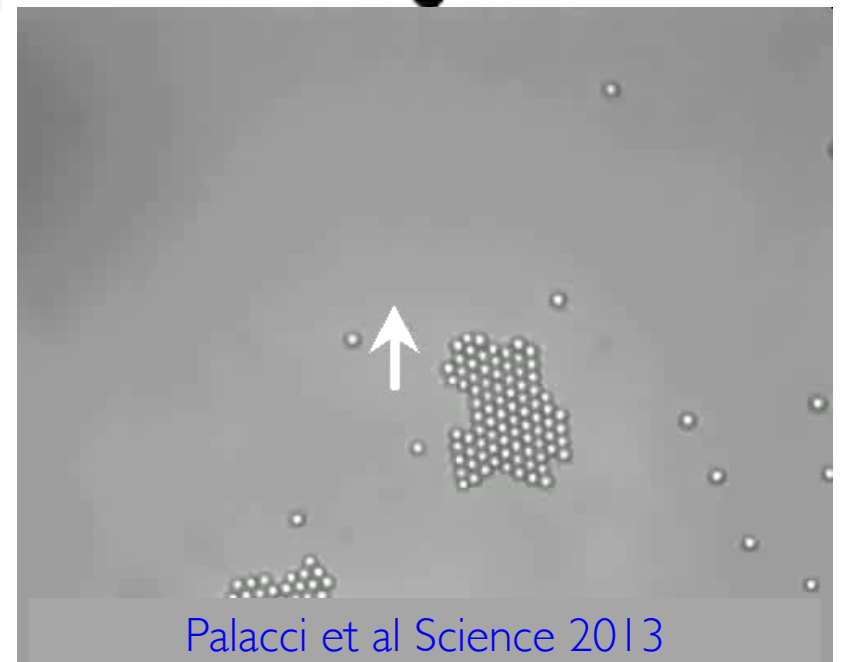
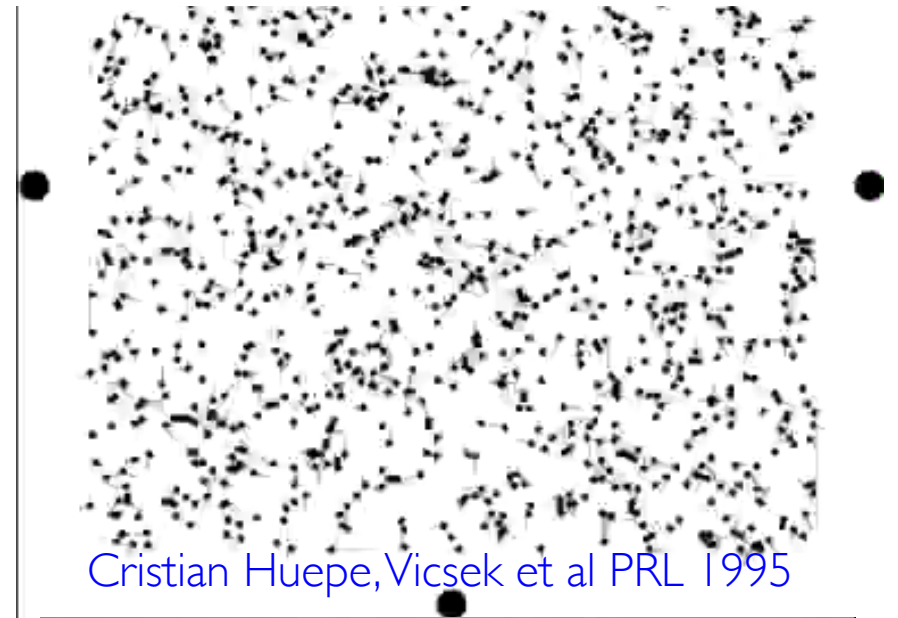
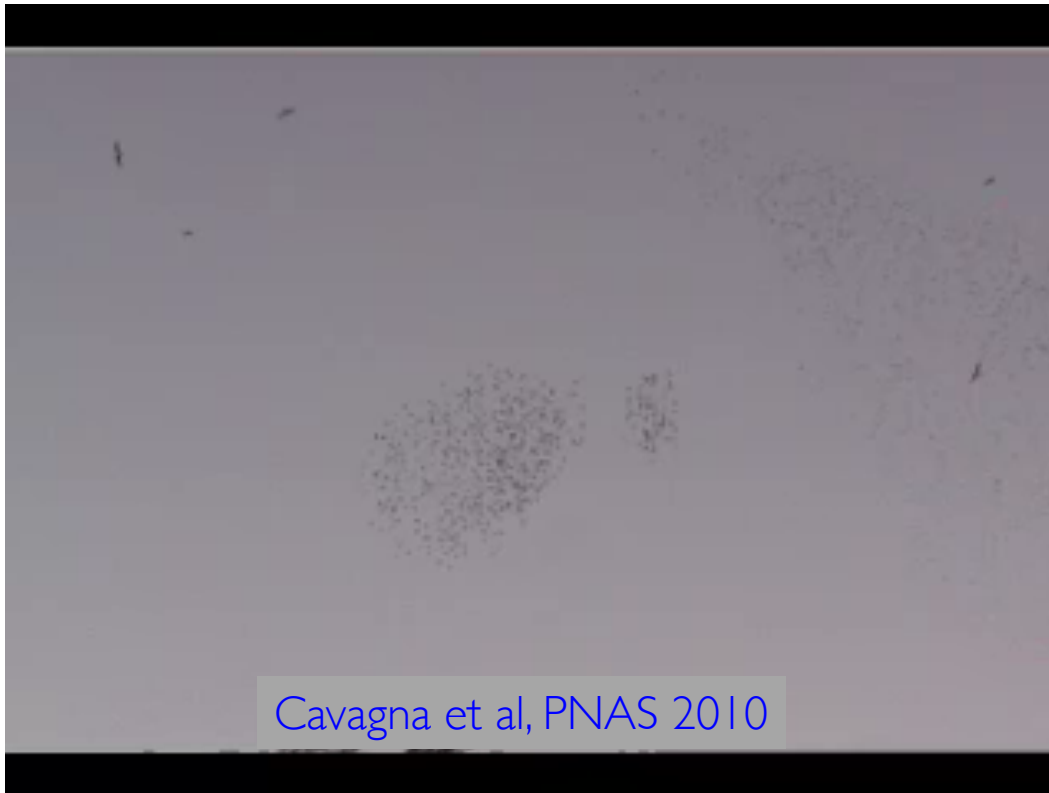
cell trajectory with **small**  
persistence length



cell trajectory with **large**  
persistence length

# What happens when objects generate their own forces?

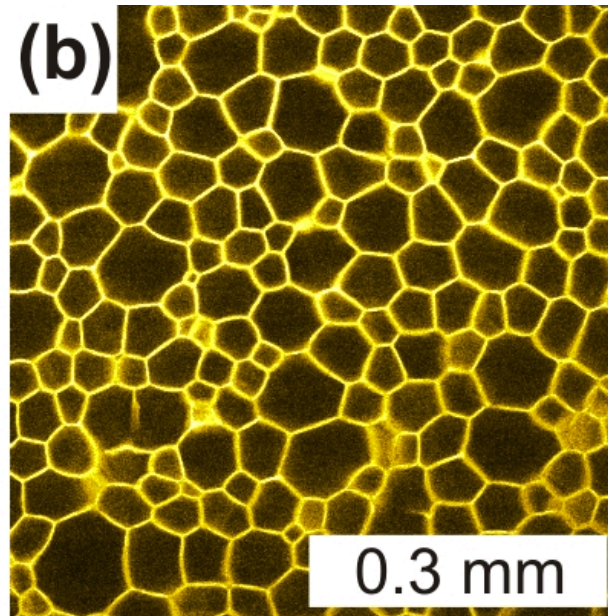
Part of a new class of “active matter” models



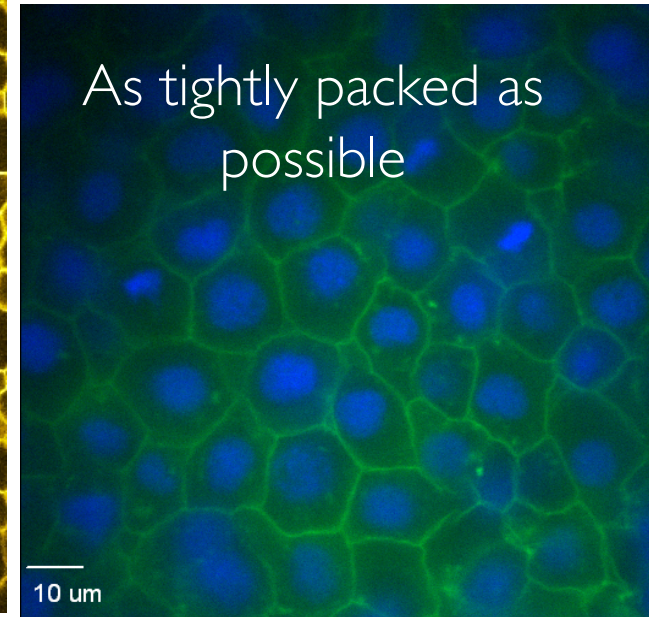
Cells also interact with each other differently than particles or droplets:

The microscopic structure looks like a glassy solid (very high density), but cells can change neighbors like in a fluid – why?

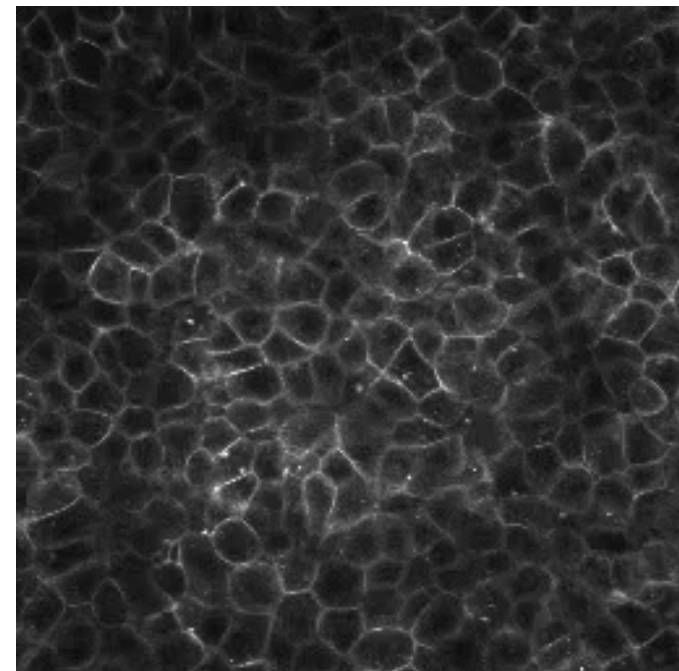
Need a good model for how the cells interact with each other



Dense emulsion (Thijssen)



Cells (Schoetz Lab UCSD)

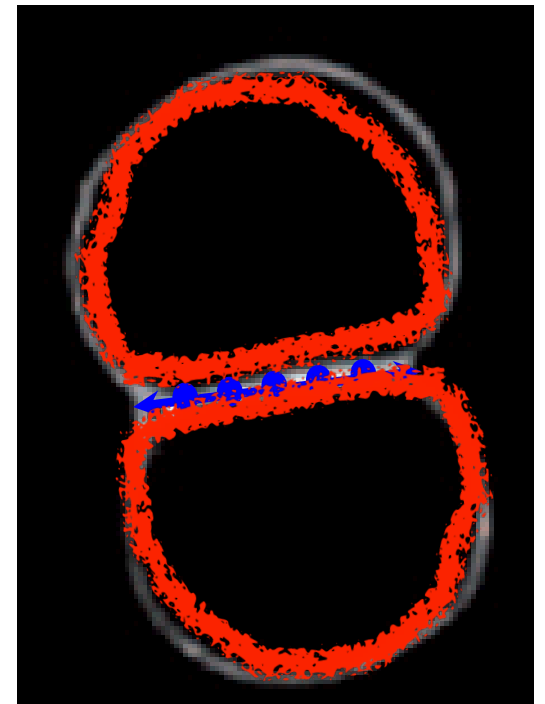


Cells (Schoetz Lab UCSD)

# What mechanical forces act to regulate cell shapes?

T. Nagai, H. Honda, Philos. Mag. B 81, 699 (2001)  
Hufnagel et al, PNAS vol. 104 (10) pp. 3835 (2007)  
Farhadifar et al, Current Biology (2007)  
Jülicher et al Phys. Rep. (2007)  
Hilgenfeldt et al, PNAS 105 3 907–911 (2008)  
**MLM** et al, PNAS (2010)  
Staple et al EPJE 33 (2) 117 (2010)  
Chiou et al PLOS Comp Bio 8 (5) e1002512 (2012)

1. **Cell-cell adhesion**: sticky molecules help cells stick together
2. **Active cytoskeleton**: cells have a dynamic internal "skeleton" that prevents them from changing shape too much
3. **Fluid filled**: many cell types do not change their volume easily.



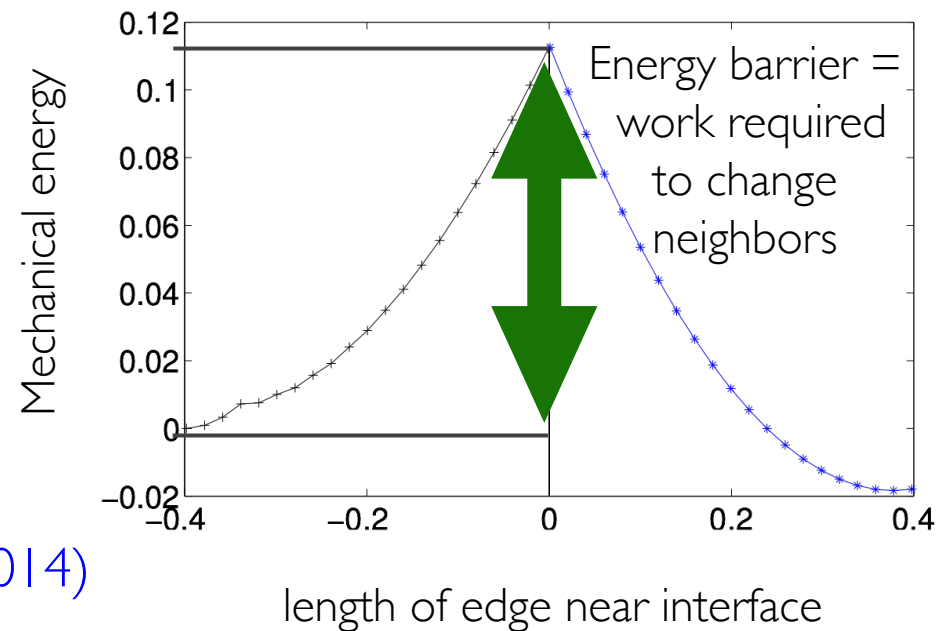
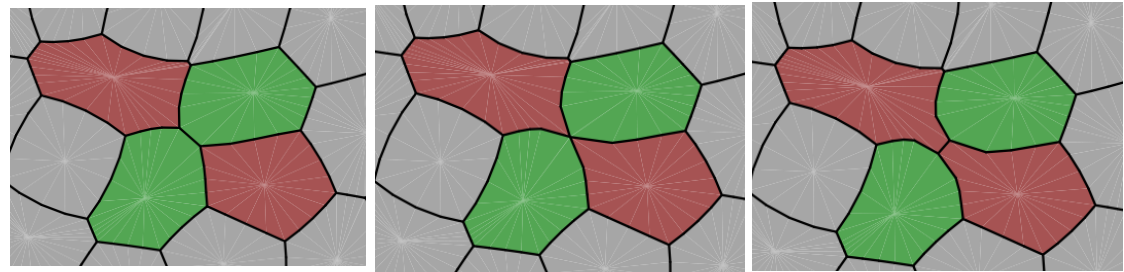
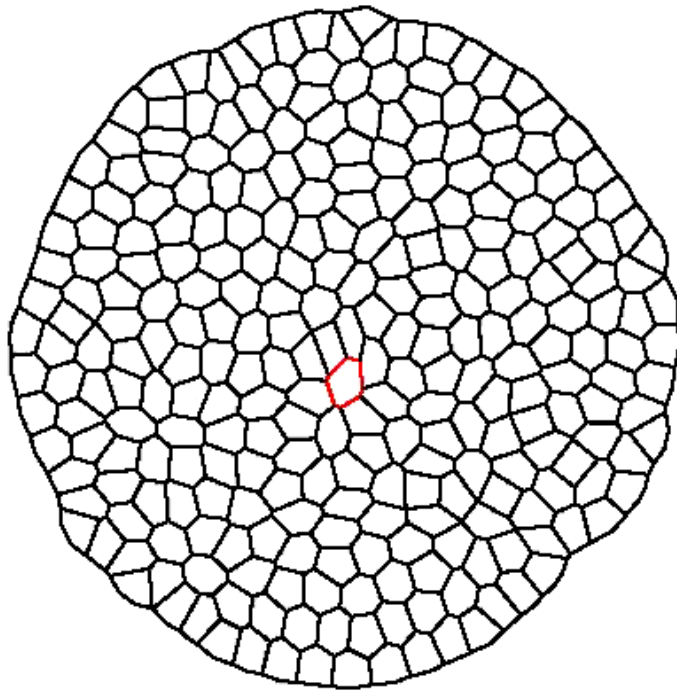
Devries et al, Development  
**131**, 4435–4445 (2004)

This leads to a simple mathematical model that allows us to predict how much work is required for a cell to migrate

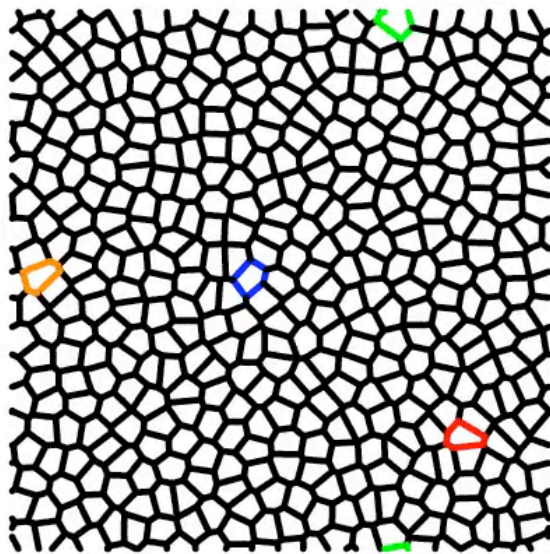
$$E_{cell} = k_A(A - A_0)^2 + k_P(P - P_0)^2$$
$$= k_A(A - A_0)^2 + k_P(P^2 - 2P_0P + P_0^2)$$

A = cross-sectional area

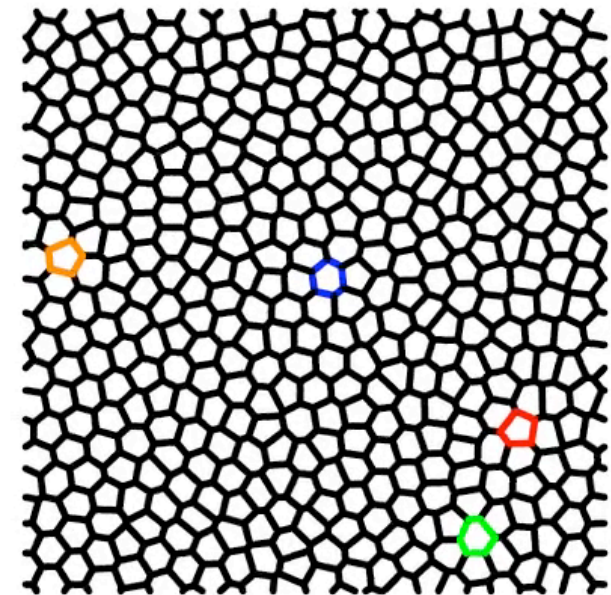
P = cross-sectional  
perimeter



Surprise: model predicts two phases that depend on cell shape (instead of the density)

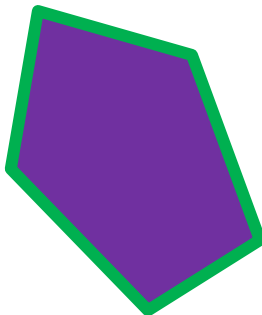


Fluid



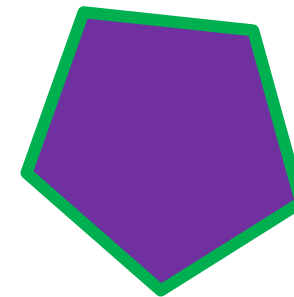
Solid

large  
shape  
index  
> 3.81



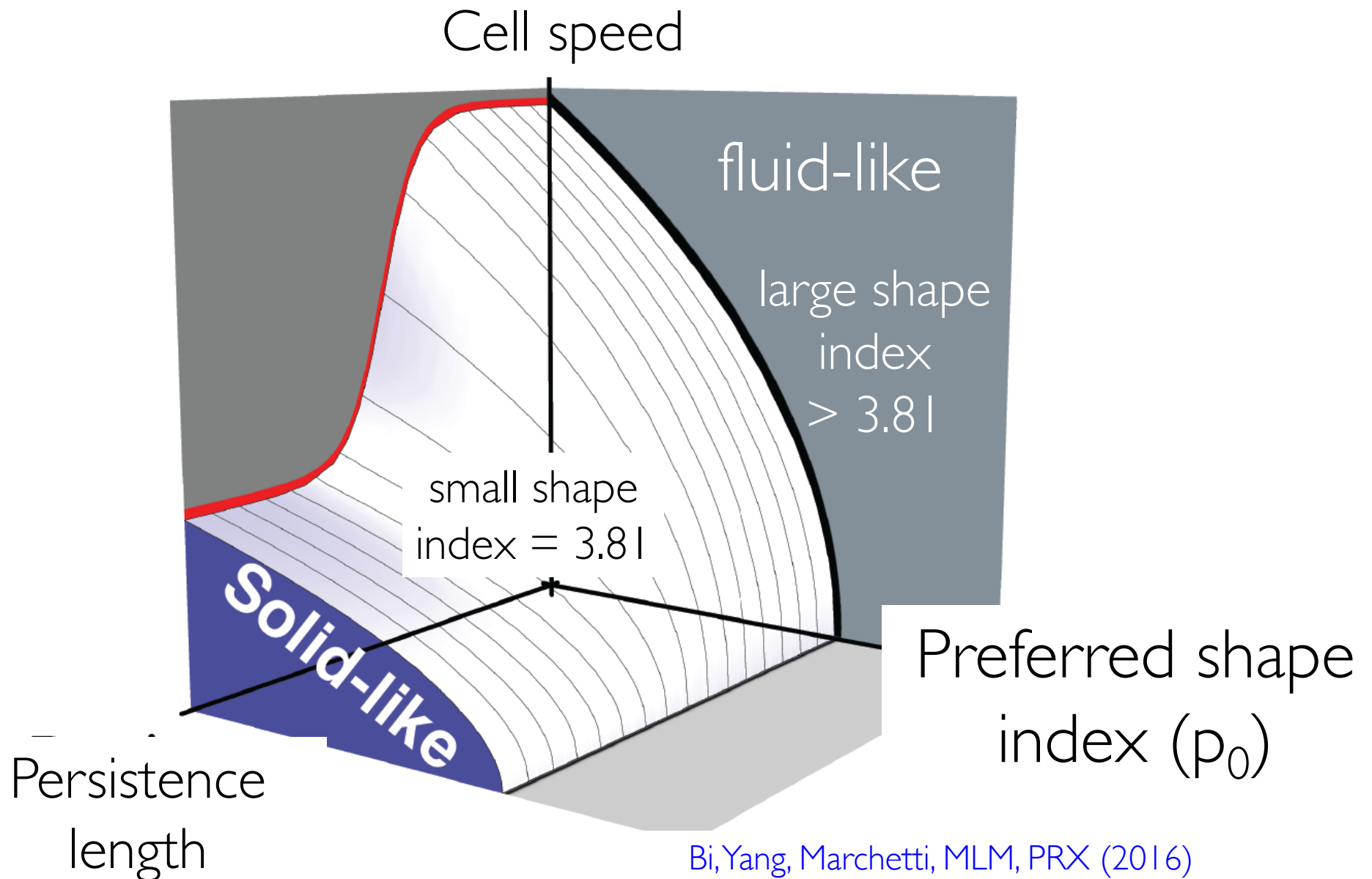
$$\langle p \rangle = \text{shape index} = \frac{\text{perimeter}}{\sqrt{\text{area}}}$$

Controlled by balance between cell stickiness and cytoskeleton stiffness

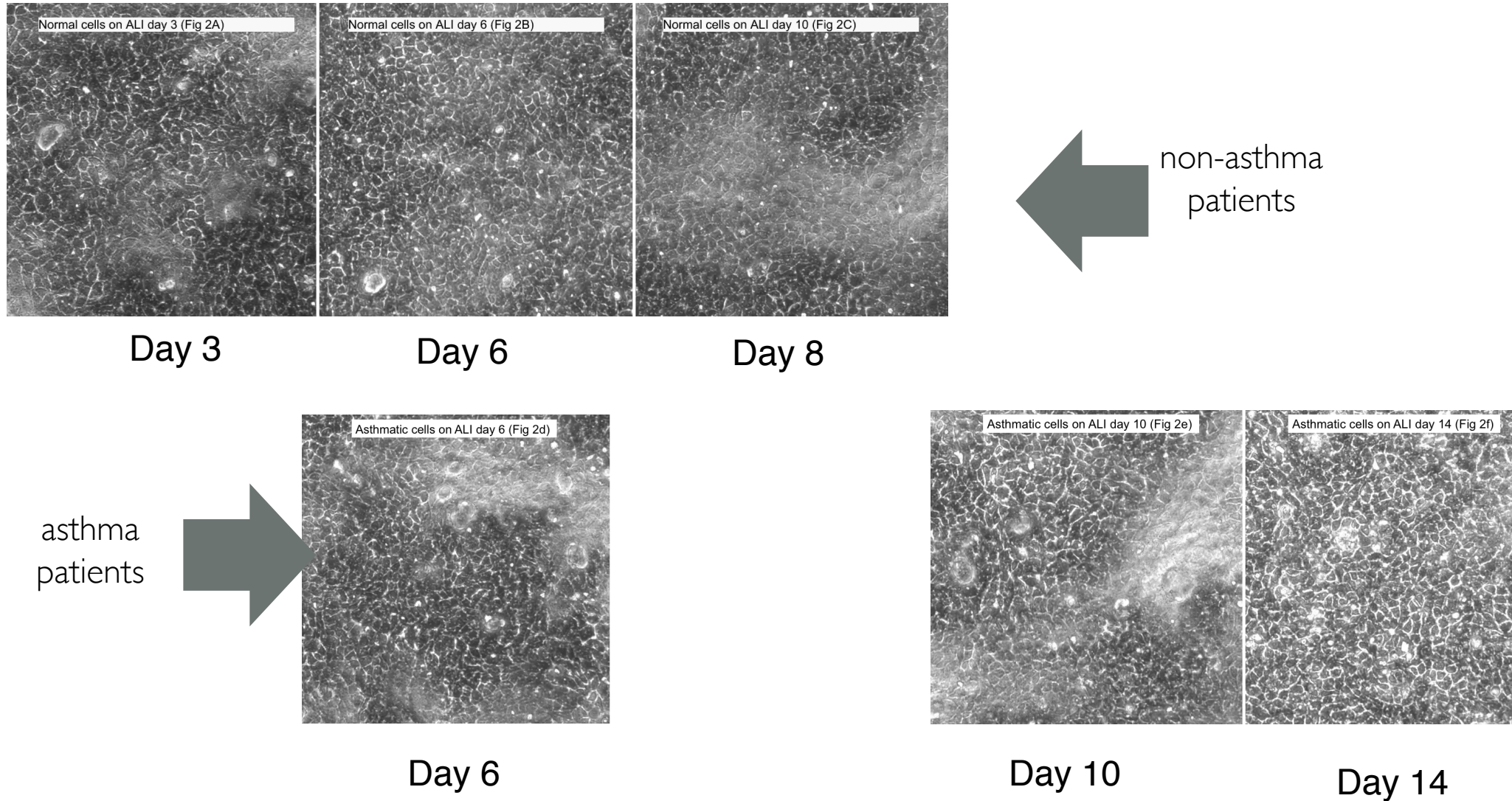


small shape  
index =  
3.81

# Fluid-solid phase diagram for biological tissues

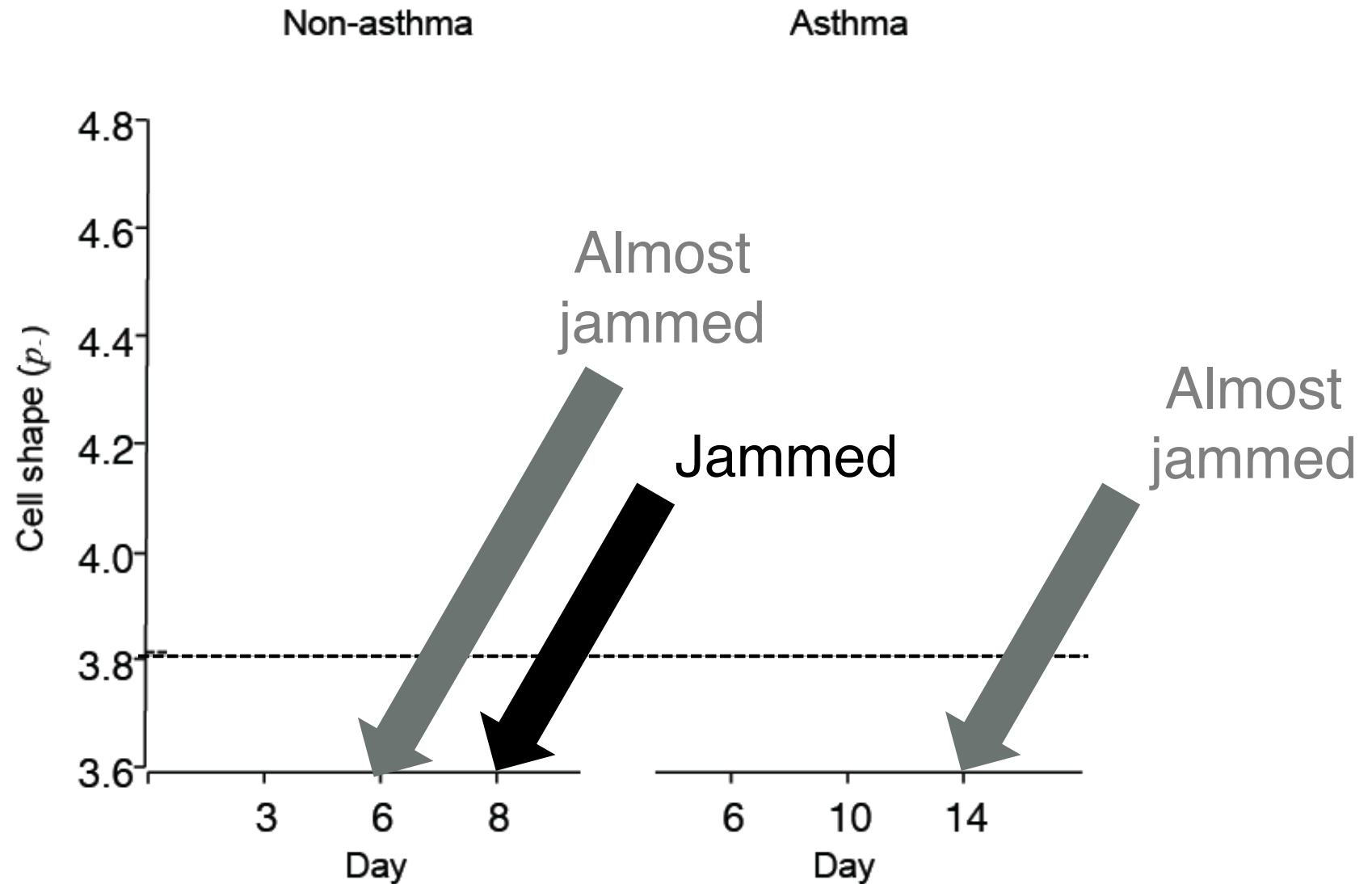


# Asthmatic cells have a delayed fluid-to-solid transition

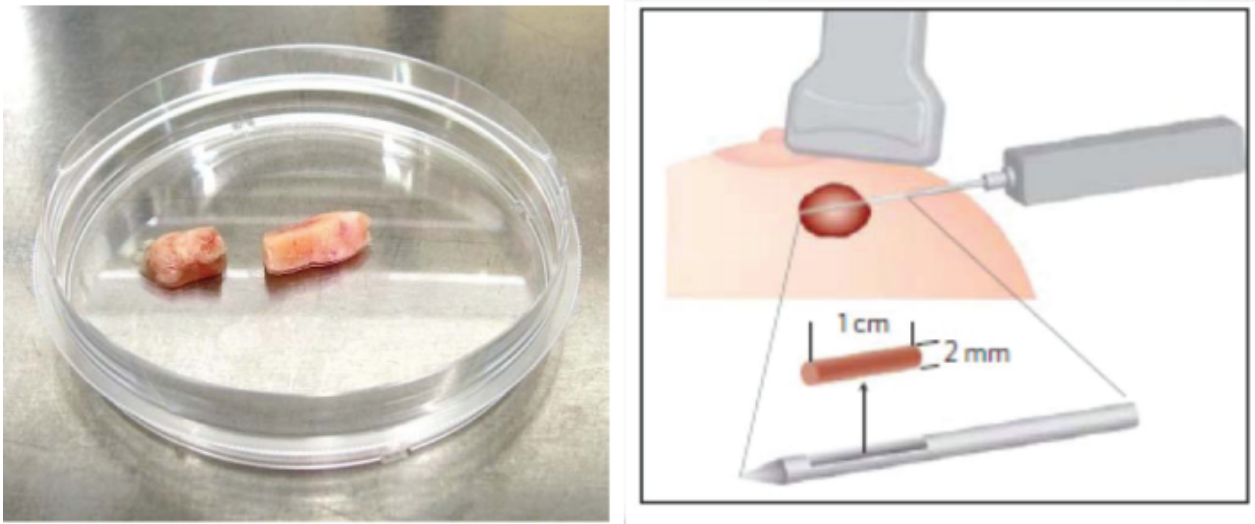


Shape index  $p$  approaches precisely  
the predicted value at jamming

Measure this easily from one snapshot!



Another application: Can we understand whether mechanical properties of cancer tissues make certain ones more invasive?

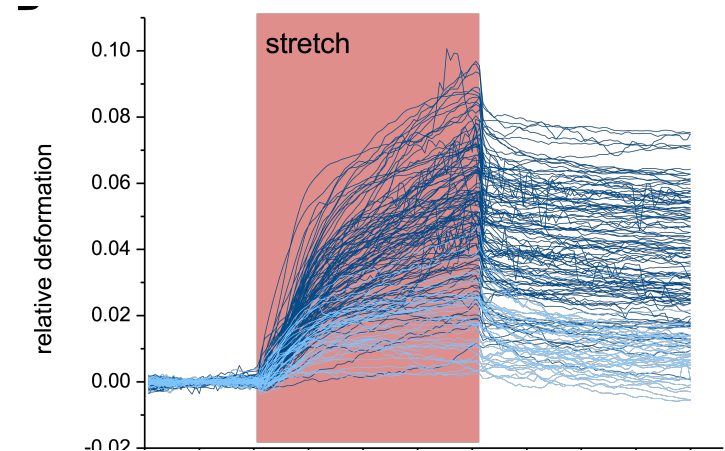
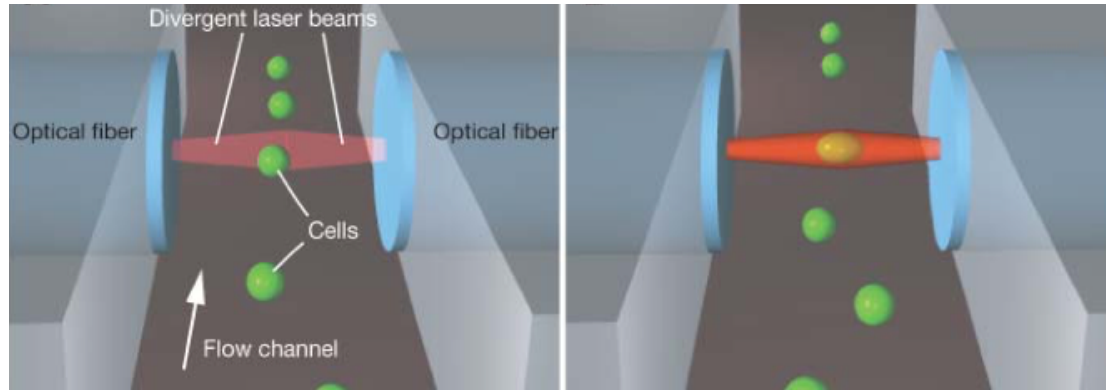


primary tumor cells from patients with breast and cervical cancer

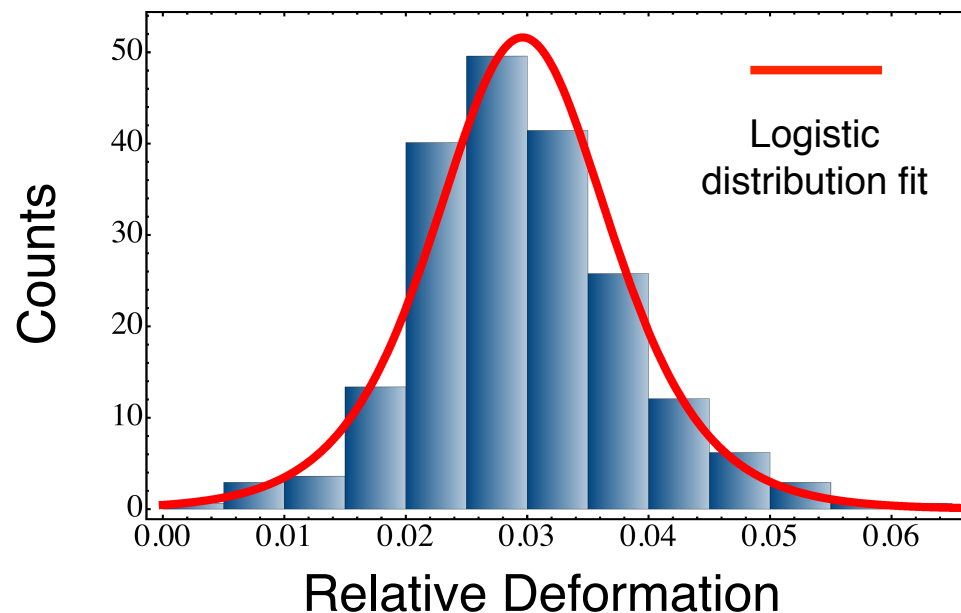
Franziska Wetzel<sup>1</sup>, Dapeng Bi<sup>3</sup>, Anatol Fritsch<sup>1</sup>, Steffen Grosser<sup>1</sup>, Linda Oswald<sup>1</sup>, Steve Pawlizak<sup>1</sup>, Lars-Christian Horn<sup>1</sup>, Michael Höckel<sup>1</sup>, Susanne Briest<sup>1</sup>, Cristina Marchetti<sup>2</sup>,  
Lisa Manning<sup>2</sup>, Josef Käs<sup>1</sup>,

<sup>1</sup>Leipzig University, <sup>2</sup>Syracuse University, <sup>3</sup>Rockefeller University

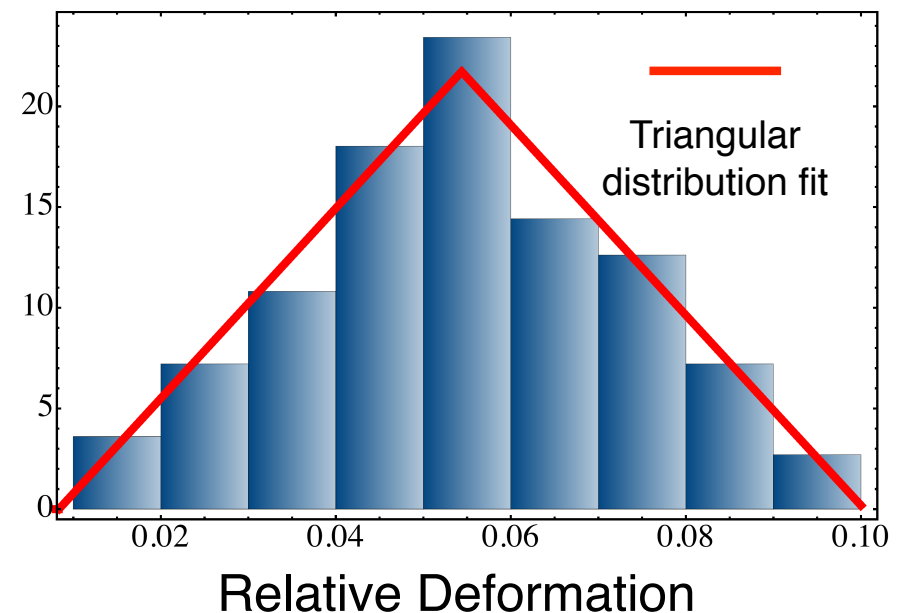
# Using a “light tweezer” to measure distribution of cell stiffnesses in primary tumors





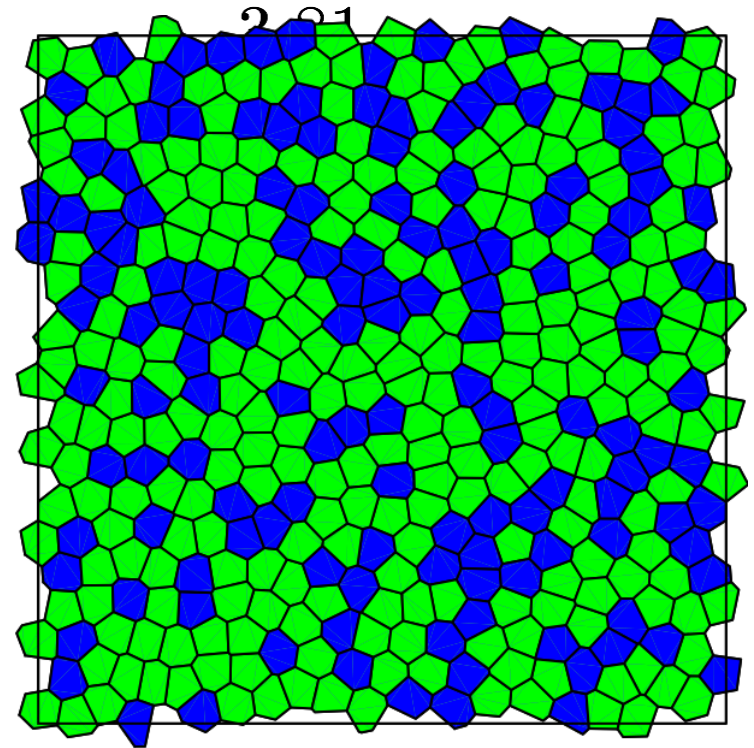
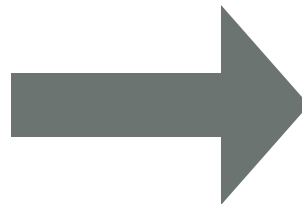
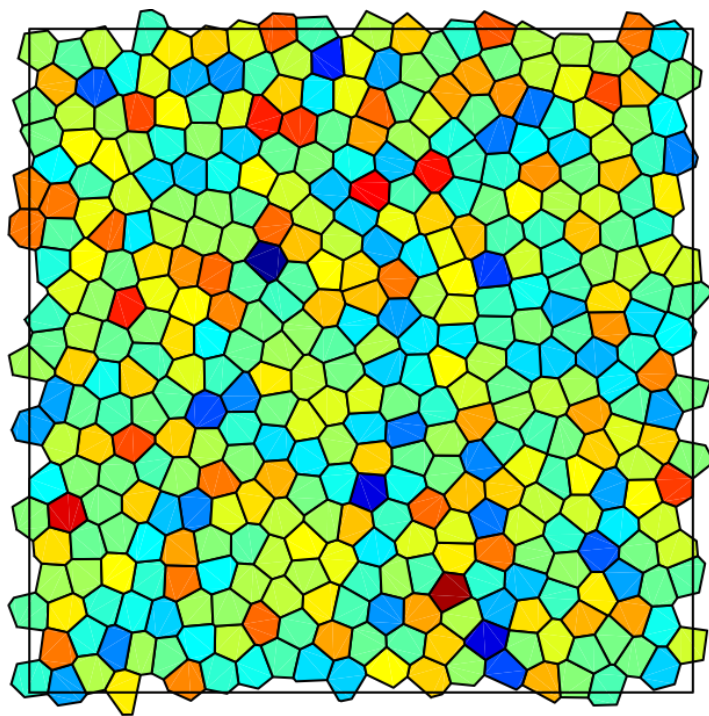
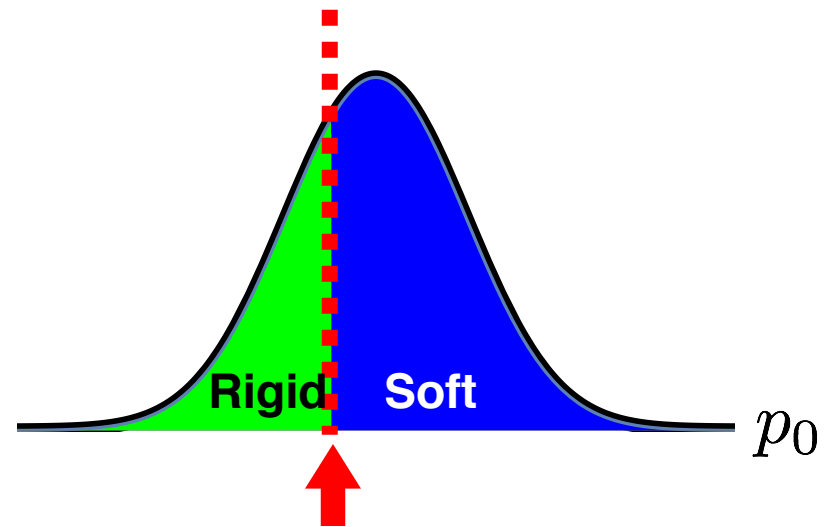
Breast Cancer



Cervix Cancer

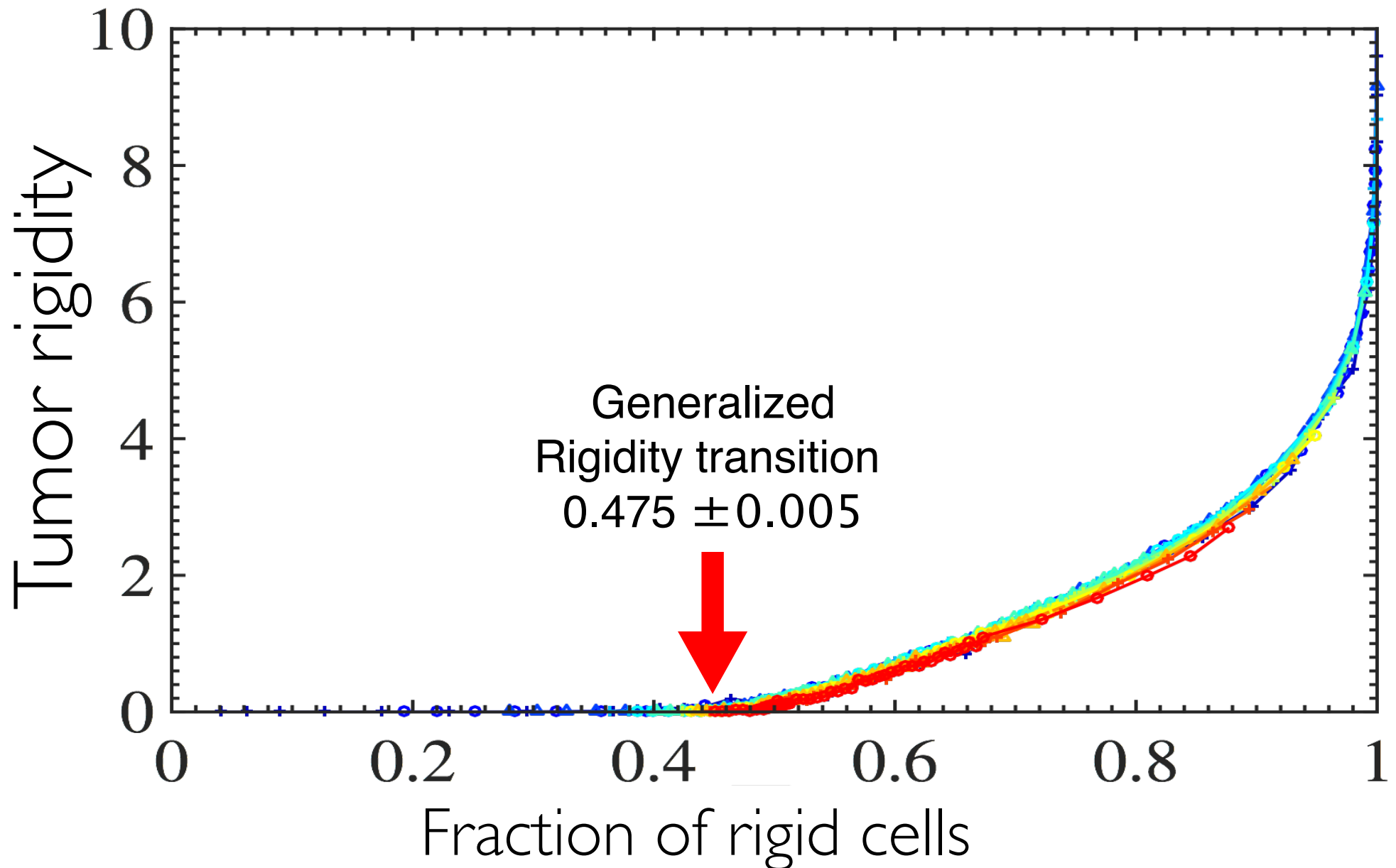


 rigid:  $p_0 < 3.81$   
 soft:  $p_0 > 3.81$

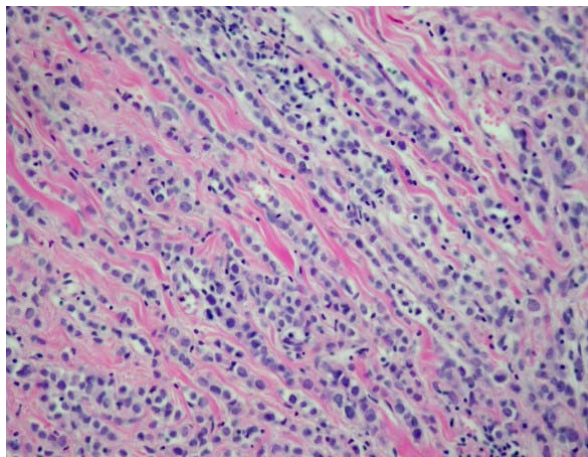
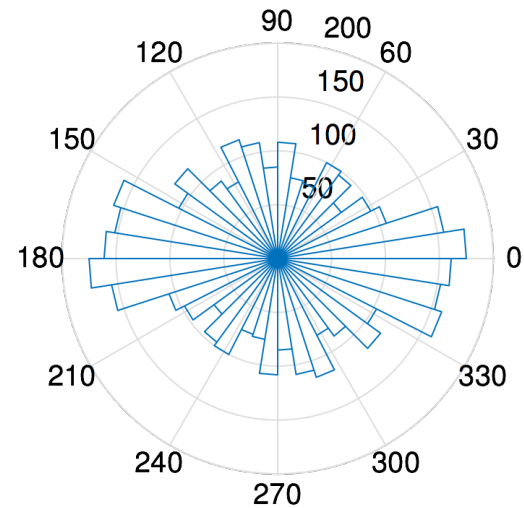
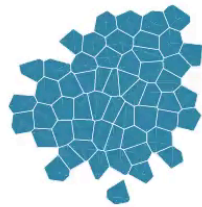


$F_r$  = fraction of cells with  $p_0 \leq 3.81$

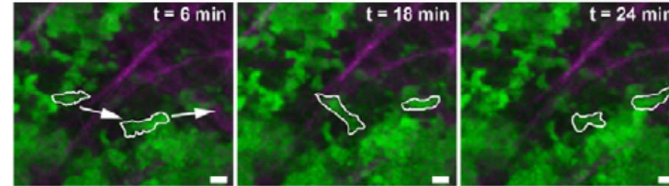
A tumor can be rigid even when more than 50% of its cells are soft



This same model may also help explain “multi-cellular streaming” seen in some cancer tumors

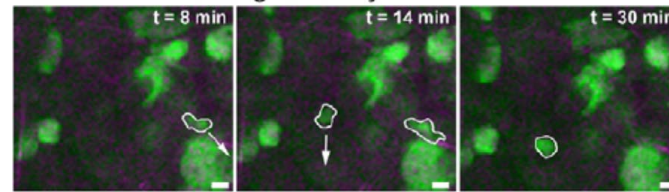


Mena<sup>INV</sup> cells in a stream



Streaming  
→ → →

Mena11a cells moving randomly



Random  
↗ ↘ ↙ ↕ ↖

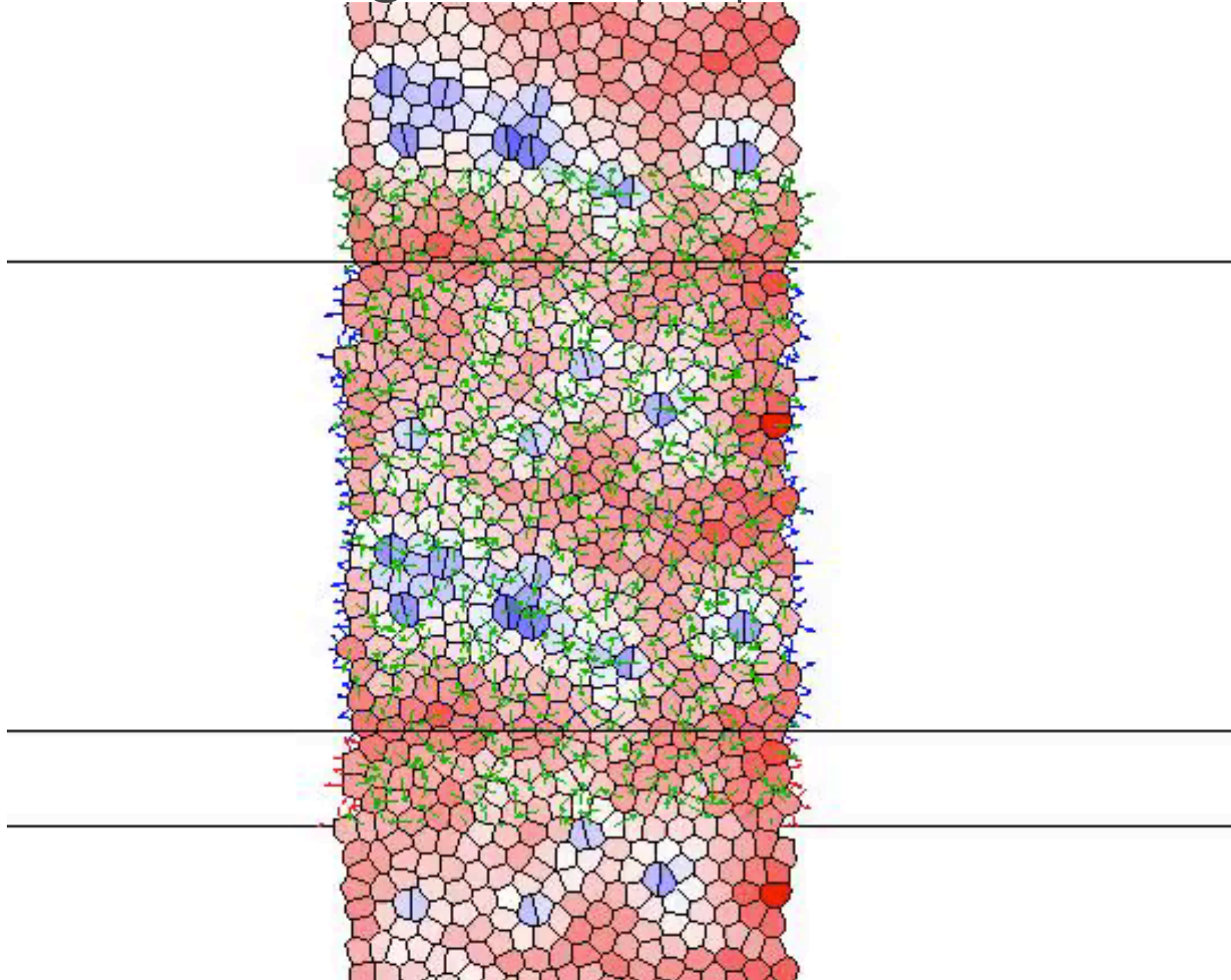
What other questions are we  
trying to answer?

In movies....



Michael  
Czajkowski

# How do boundaries and cell divisions change tissue properties?



# What happens when cells align?

increasing cell anisotropy

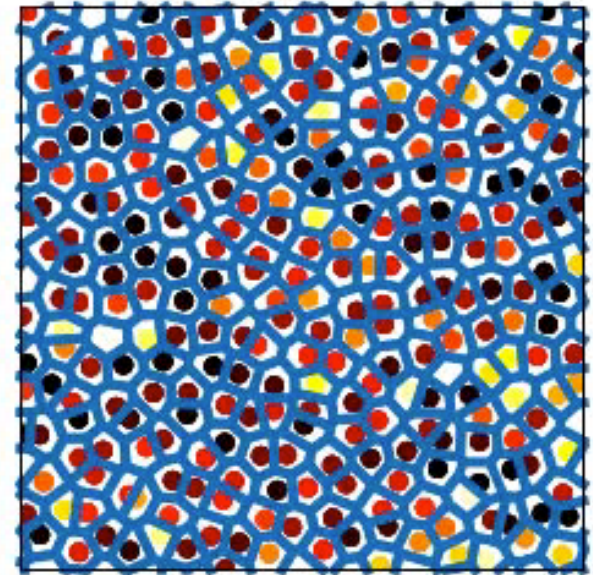
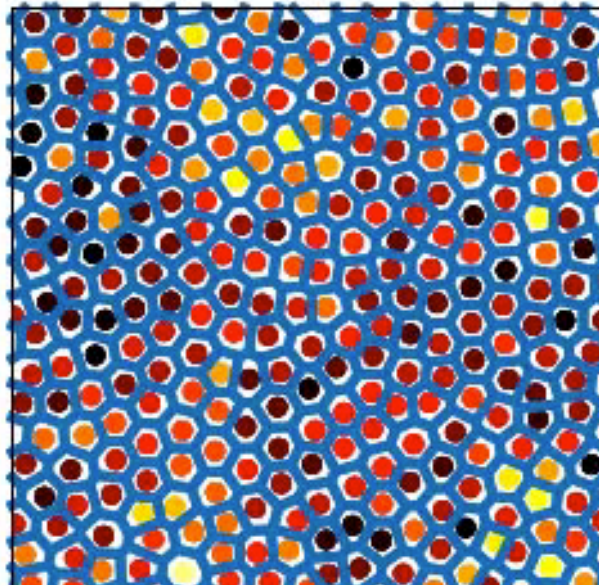


Matteo  
Paoluzzi

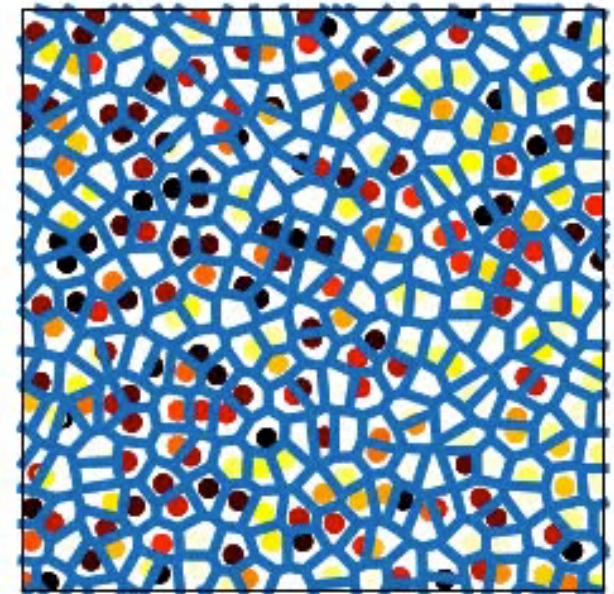
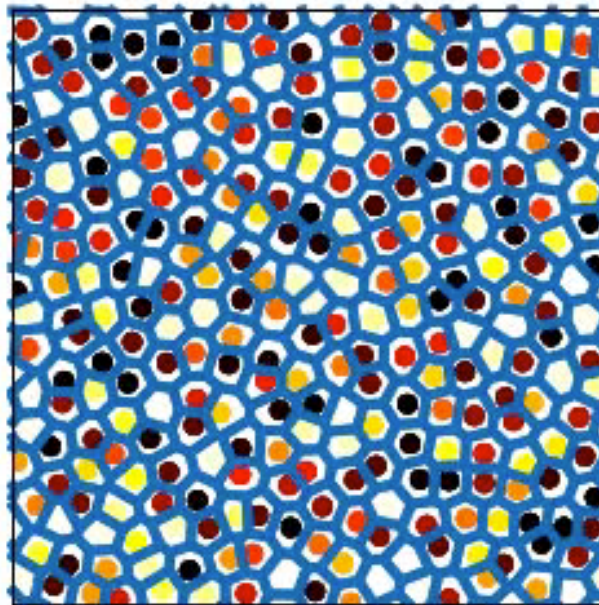


Cristina  
Marchetti

flocking



non-  
flocking



increasing alignment

solid

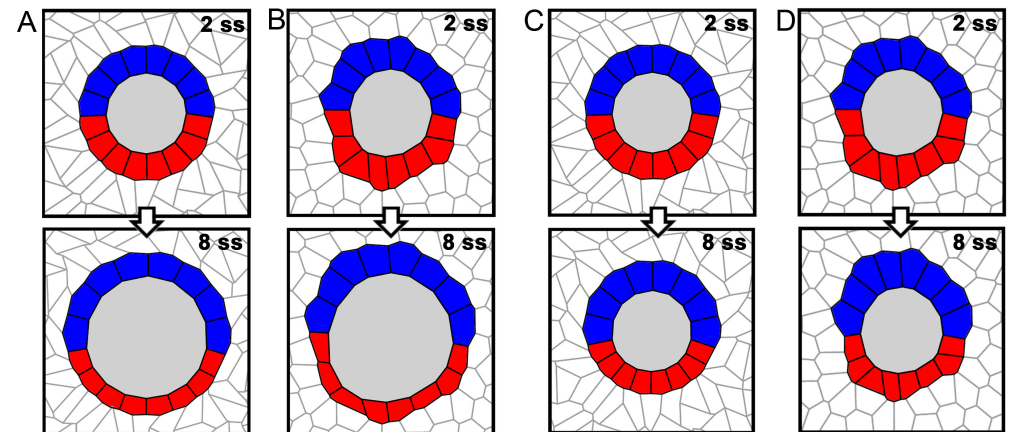
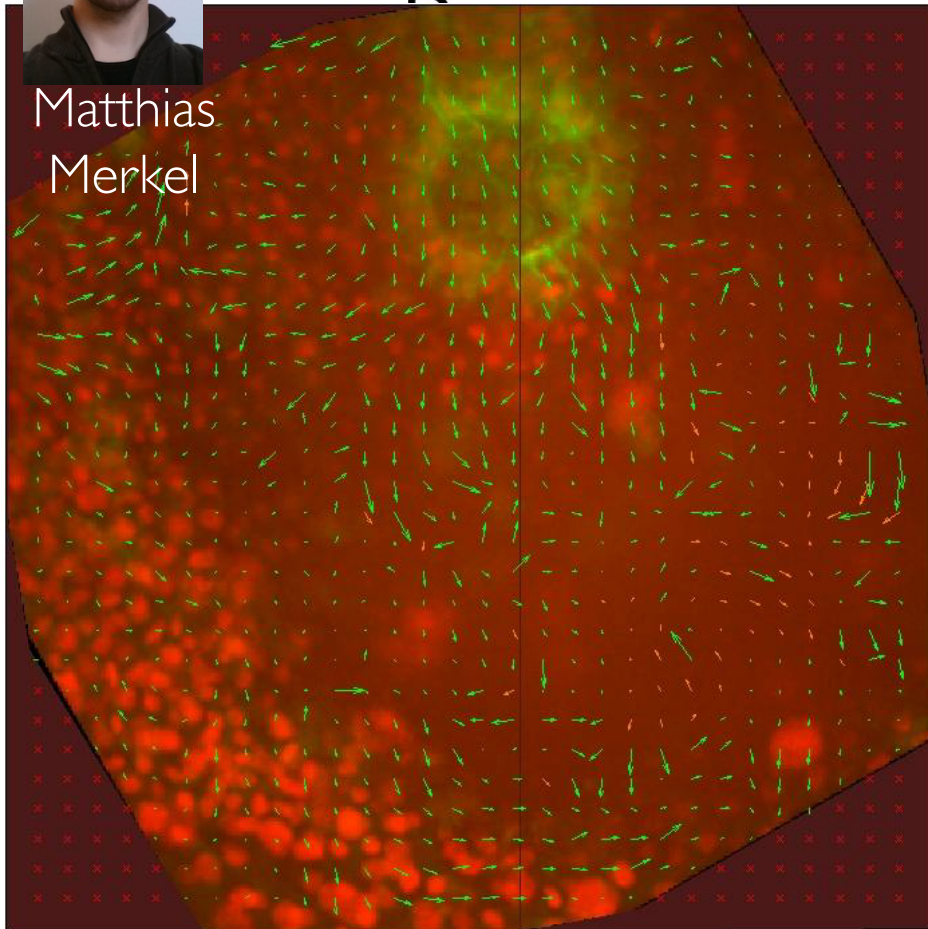
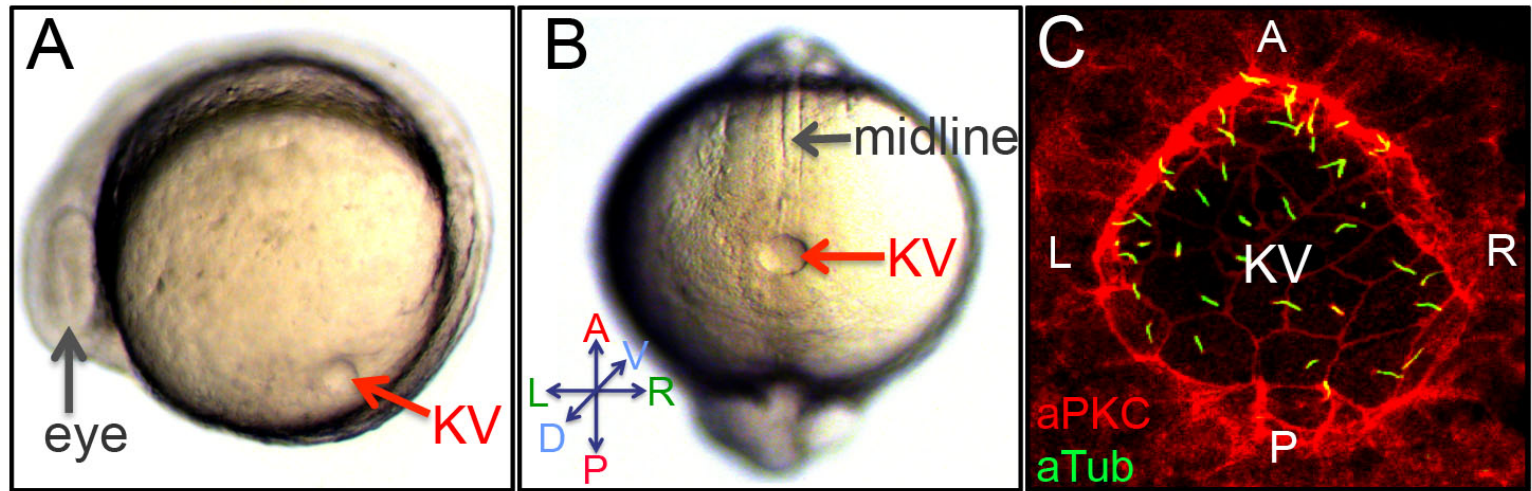
fluid



Gonca Erdemci-Tandogan



Matthias Merkel



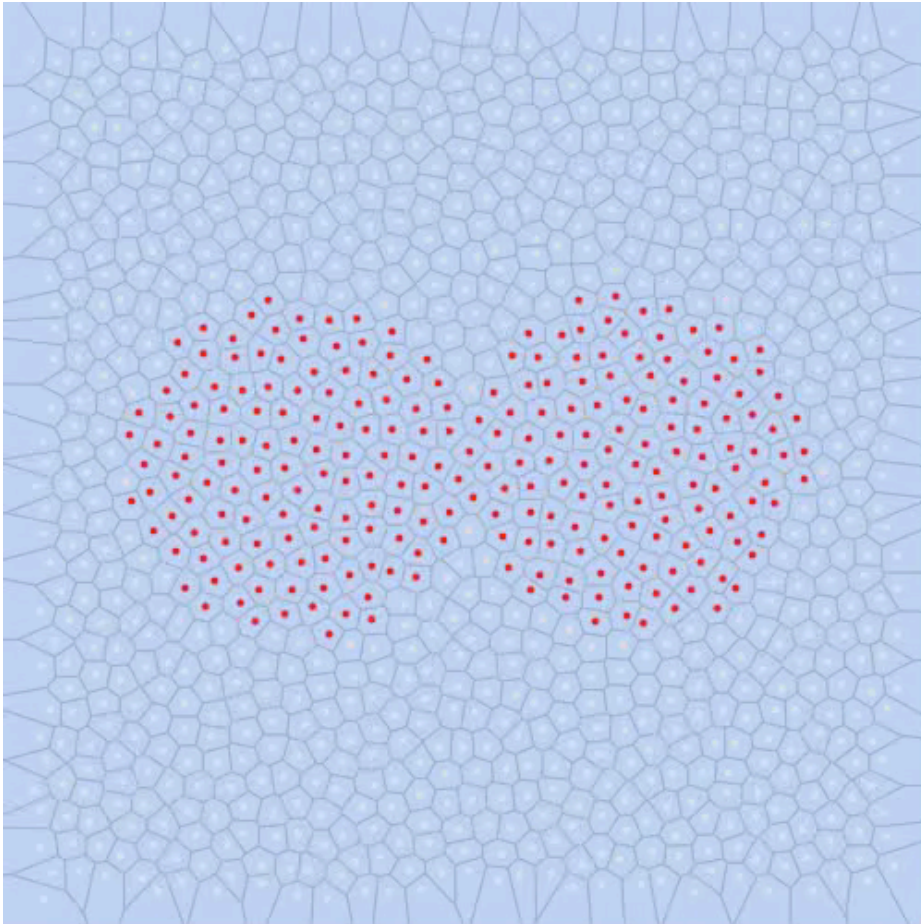
How does your heart end up on the correct side of your body?

With Jeff Amack, Upstate Medical University

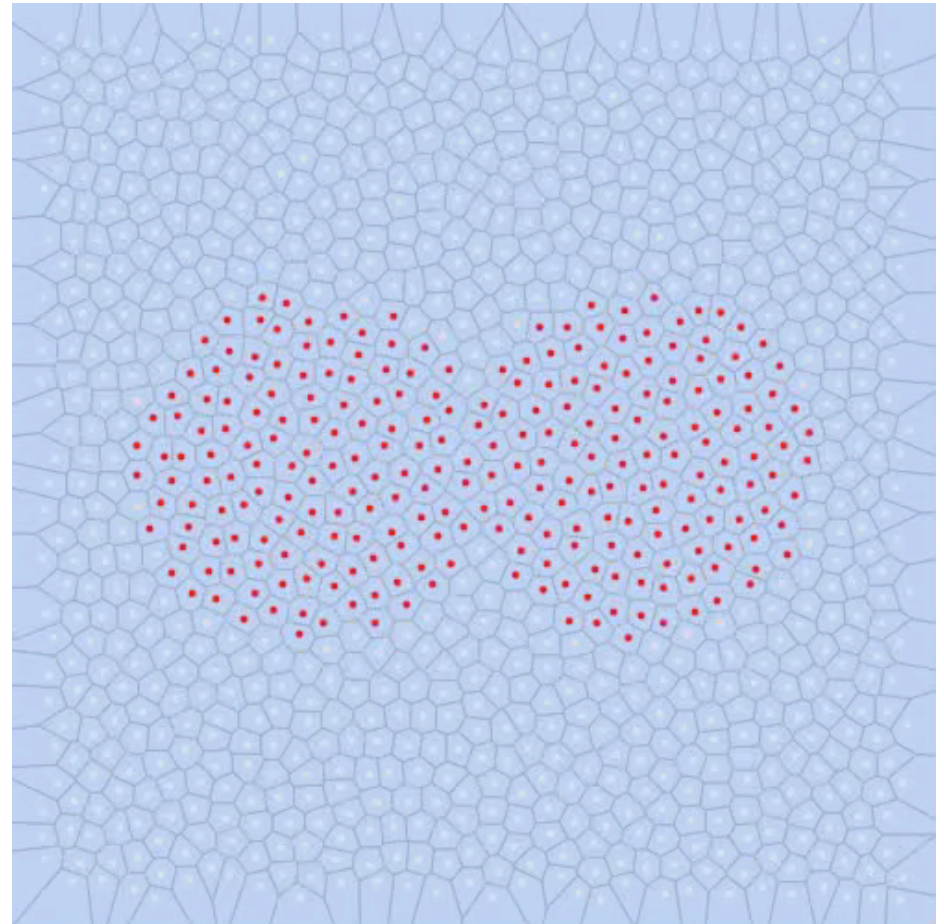


Daniel Sussman

# What are the properties of surfaces between cell types?



tissue is a fluid



tissue is a solid

# summary

- the tissues in your body can be thought of as a “living material”
- sometimes it is useful for the tissues to be fluid-like, and sometimes solid-like
- the physics of glasses is a useful starting point for thinking about transitions between these two phases
- we can use simple models for materials to make incredibly accurate predictions about tissue behavior
- we can use these insights to understand disease
- there’s a lot more to do, and the future is exciting!

# Who does this work?

Manning group

Dapeng “Max” Bi

(Northeastern)

Matthias Merkel

Daniel Sussman

Michael Czajkowski

Gonca Erdemci-Tandogan

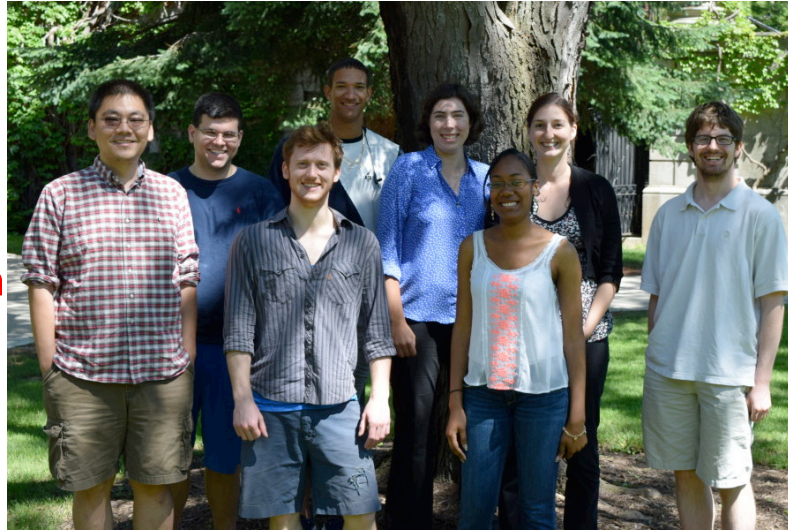
Peter Morse

Giuseppe Passucci

Ethan Stanifer

Sven Wijtmans

Preeti Sahu



SU Soft Matter

Jorge Lopez

Jennifer Schwartz

Cristina Marchetti

Xingbo Yang



Kaes group (Leipzig)

Steve Pawlicek

Franziska Wetzel

Anatol Fritsch

+++

Josef Kaes



Fredberg Group  
(Harvard School of  
Public Health)

Jin-Ah Park

Jae Hun Kim

Jennifer A. Mitchel

+++

Jeffrey J. Fredberg

Biophysics group,  
Milan, Italy

Fabio Giavazzi

Marta Macchi

Giorgio Scita

Roberto Cerbino

Henderson group  
(Syracuse

Biomaterials Institute)

Amack group (SUNY

Upstate Medical)

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- Research Corporation for Science Advancement
- Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation

SIMONS  
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GORDON AND BETTY  
MOORE  
FOUNDATION

# Thanks so much for your attention!