

# Rods, Rotations, Gels

Soft-Matter Experiment and  
Theory from Penn.

# The Penn Team

- Theory

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- Experiment

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# Outline

- Some rods
- Rotational and Translational Diffusion of a rod - 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Einstein's 1906 paper
- Chiral granular gas
- Semi-flexible Polymers in a nematic solvent
- Nematic Phase
- Carbon Nanotube Nematic Gels

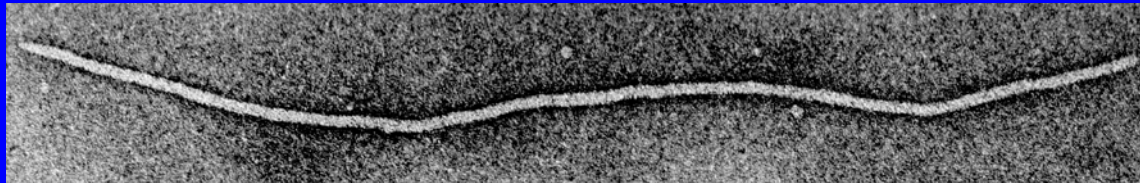
# Comments

- Experimental advances in microscopy and imaging: real space visualization of fluctuating phenomena in colloidal systems
- Wonderful “playground” to for interaction between theory and experiment to test what we know and to discover new effects
- Simple theories - great experiments



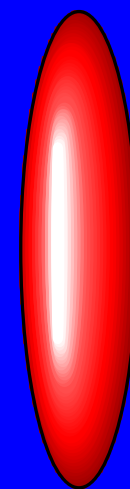
# Rods

fd Virus



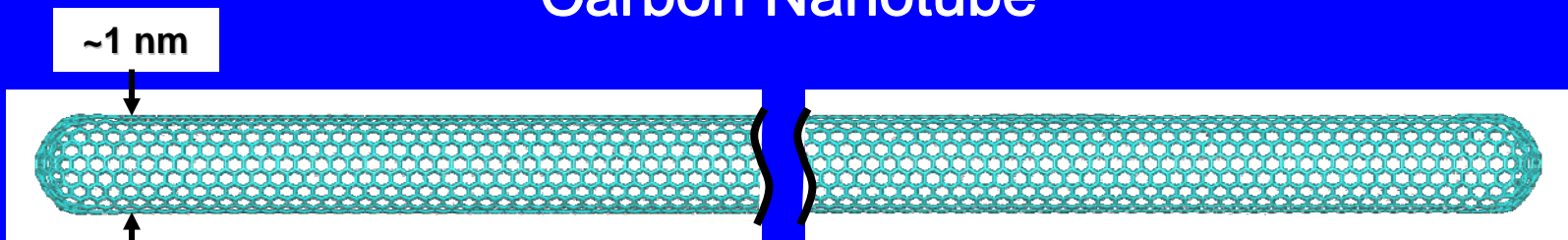
900 nm

PMMA Ellipsoid



1  $\mu\text{m}$

Carbon Nanotube



~1 nm

100 nm – 10,000 nm

# Einstein – Brownian Motion

1. “On the Movement of Small Particles Suspended in Stationary Liquid Required by the Molecular Kinetic Theory of Heat”, Annalen der Physik 17, 549 (1905);

$$\dot{x} = \Gamma f; \quad \Gamma = (6\pi\eta a)^{-1}$$
$$\langle (\Delta x)^2 \rangle = 2Dt; \quad D = k_B T \Gamma$$

$a$  = particle radius;  $\eta$  = viscosity;  $f$  = force

# Langevin Oscillator Dynamics

$$H = \frac{p^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2} kx^2$$
$$p = mv = m\dot{x}$$

$$\dot{p} = -kx - \gamma v + \varsigma$$

$$\langle \varsigma(t)\varsigma(t') \rangle = 2\gamma T \delta(t - t')$$

$$\gamma = 6\pi\eta a$$

Ignore inertial terms:

$$\dot{x} = -\Gamma kx + \xi; \quad \Gamma = \gamma^{-1}$$

$$\langle \xi(t)\xi(t') \rangle = 2T\Gamma\delta(t - t')$$

$$\langle |x(\omega)|^2 \rangle = \frac{2T}{k} \frac{\Gamma k}{\omega^2 + \Gamma^2 k^2}$$

$$\langle x^2 \rangle = \int \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \langle |x(\omega)|^2 \rangle = \frac{k_B T}{k}$$

Dynamics must retrieve equilibrium static fluctuations: sets scale of noise fluctuations to be  $2T\Gamma$

P. Langevin, Comptes Rendues 146, 530 (1908)

Uhlenbeck and Ornstein, Phys. Rev. 36, 823 (1930)

# Diffusion with no potential

$$k \rightarrow 0 : \quad \dot{x} = \xi$$

$$\langle [x(t) - x(0)]^2 \rangle$$

$$= \int \frac{d\omega}{\pi} \frac{2k_B T \Gamma}{\omega^2} (1 - e^{-i\omega t})$$

$$= 2k_B T \Gamma t = 2Dt$$

Gaussian probability distribution

$$P(x, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{4Dt}\right)$$

$$D = \frac{k_B T}{6\pi\eta a} = \frac{1}{N_{\text{AVG}}} \frac{RT}{6\pi\eta a}$$

Measurement of  $D$  gives Avogadro's number

$R$  = Gas constant

# Density Diffusion

$$n(x, t) = \left\langle \sum_{\alpha} \delta(x - x_{\alpha}(t)) \right\rangle$$

$$\dot{x}_{\alpha} = \xi_{\alpha}; \quad x_{\alpha}(t + \Delta t) = x_{\alpha}(t) + \int_t^{t+\Delta t} \xi_{\alpha}(t') dt'$$

$$n(x, t + \Delta t) = \left\langle \sum_{\alpha} \delta(x - x_{\alpha}(t + \Delta t)) \right\rangle$$

$$= \left\langle \sum_{\alpha} \delta(x - x_{\alpha}(t)) \right\rangle - \partial_x \left\langle \sum_{\alpha} \dot{x}_{\alpha} \delta(x - x_{\alpha}(t)) \right\rangle$$

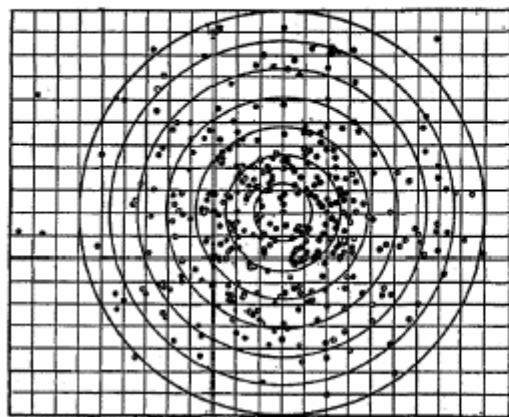
$$+ \frac{1}{2} \partial_x^2 \left\langle \sum_{\alpha} \delta(x - x_{\alpha}(t)) \int_t^{t+\Delta t} \int_t^{t+\Delta t} \xi_{\alpha}(t_1) \xi_{\alpha}(t_2) dt_1 dt_2 \right\rangle$$

$$\partial_t n(x, t) = -\partial_x n v + D \partial_x^2 n(x, t)$$

$$\partial_t n(\mathbf{r}, t) = -\nabla \cdot n \mathbf{v} + D \nabla^2 n(\mathbf{r}, t)$$

# J. Perrin Expts. (1908)

$$n(r, t) = \frac{N_0}{(4\pi Dt)^{3/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{r^2}{4Dt}\right)$$



Déplacements (en  $\mu$ )  
compris entre :

$n$  observé.  $n$  calculé.

0 et 2	24	27
2 et 4	76	71
4 et 6	90	84
6 et 8	67	76
8 et 10	45	54
10 et 12	34	30
12 et 14	20	14
14 et 16	4	5
16 et $\infty$	5	4

$$N_{\text{AVG}} = 7.05 \times 10^{23}$$

# Rotational Diffusion

“On the Theory of Brownian Motion,” *ibid.* 19, 371 (1906):  
Idea of Brownian motion of arbitrary variable,  
application to rotational diffusion of a spherical particle.

$$\dot{\theta} = \Gamma_{\theta} \tau; \quad \Gamma_{\theta} = (8\pi\eta a^3)^{-1}$$
$$\langle (\Delta\theta)^2 \rangle = 2D_{\theta} t; \quad D_{\theta} = k_B T \Gamma_{\theta}$$

$\tau = \text{torque}$

P. Zeeman and Houdyk, *Proc. Acad. Amsterdam*, 28, 52 (1925)

W. Gerlach, *Naturwiss* 15,15 (1927)

G.E. Uhlenbeck and S. Goudsmit, *Phys. Rev.* 34,145 (1929)

F. Perrin, *Ann. de Physique* 12, 169 (1929)

W.A. Furry, “Isotropic Brownian Motion”, *Phys. Rev.* 107, 7 (1957)

# Diffusion of Anisotropic Particles

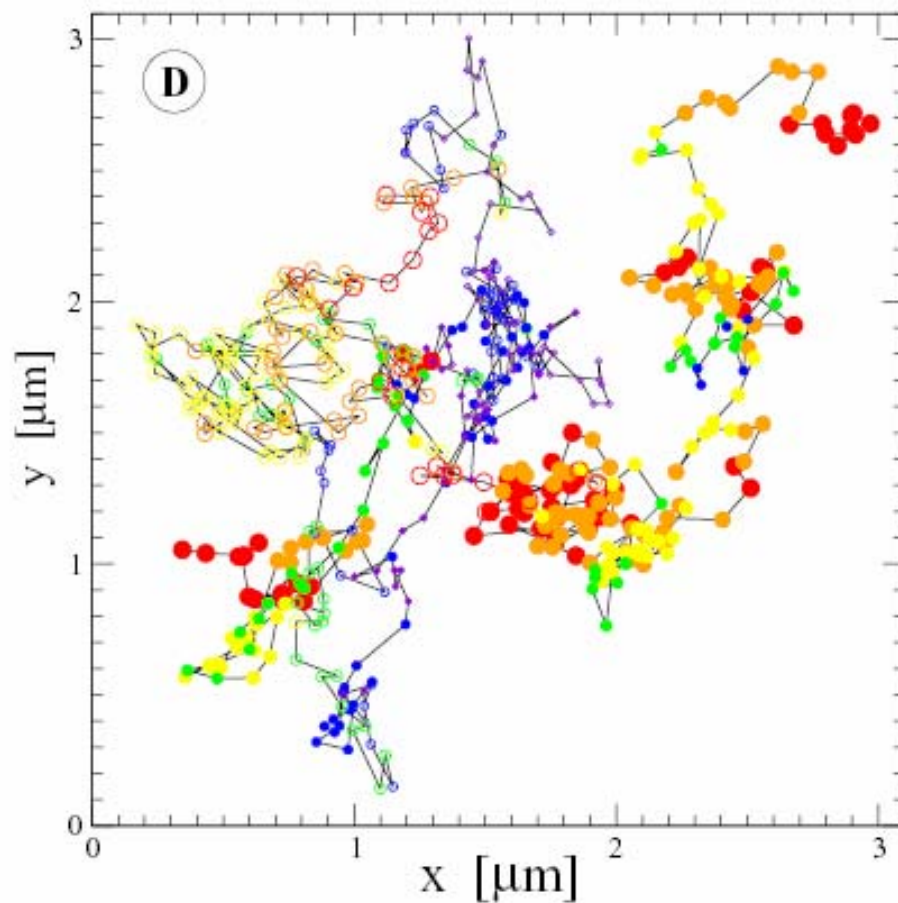
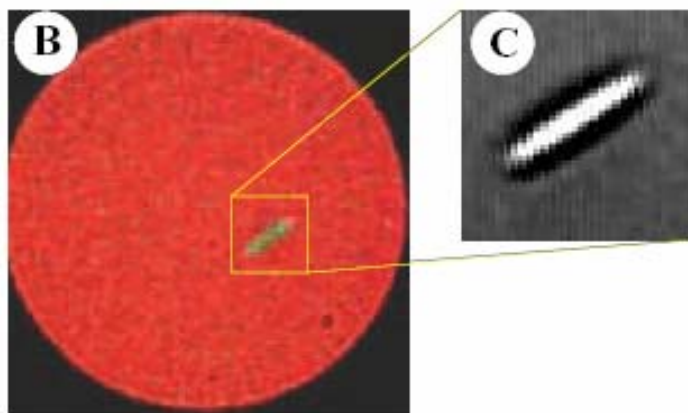
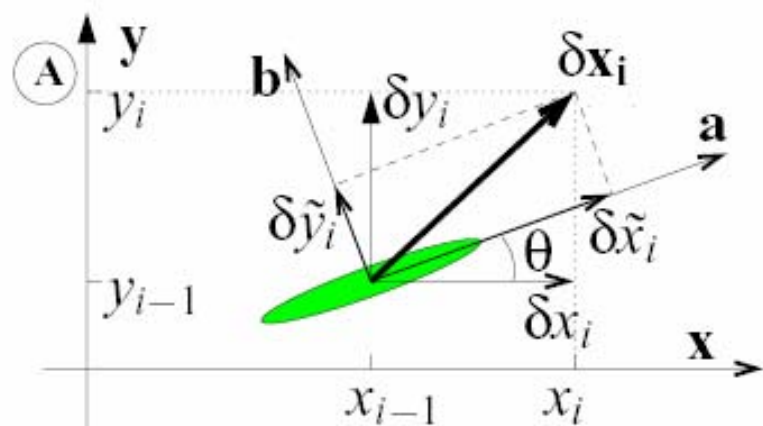
1. Brownian motion of an anisotropic particle: F. Perrin, J. de Phys. et Rad. V, 497 (1934); VII, 1 (1936).

Interaction of Rotational and Translational Diffusion:  
Stephen Prager, J. of Chem. Physics 23, 12 (1955)



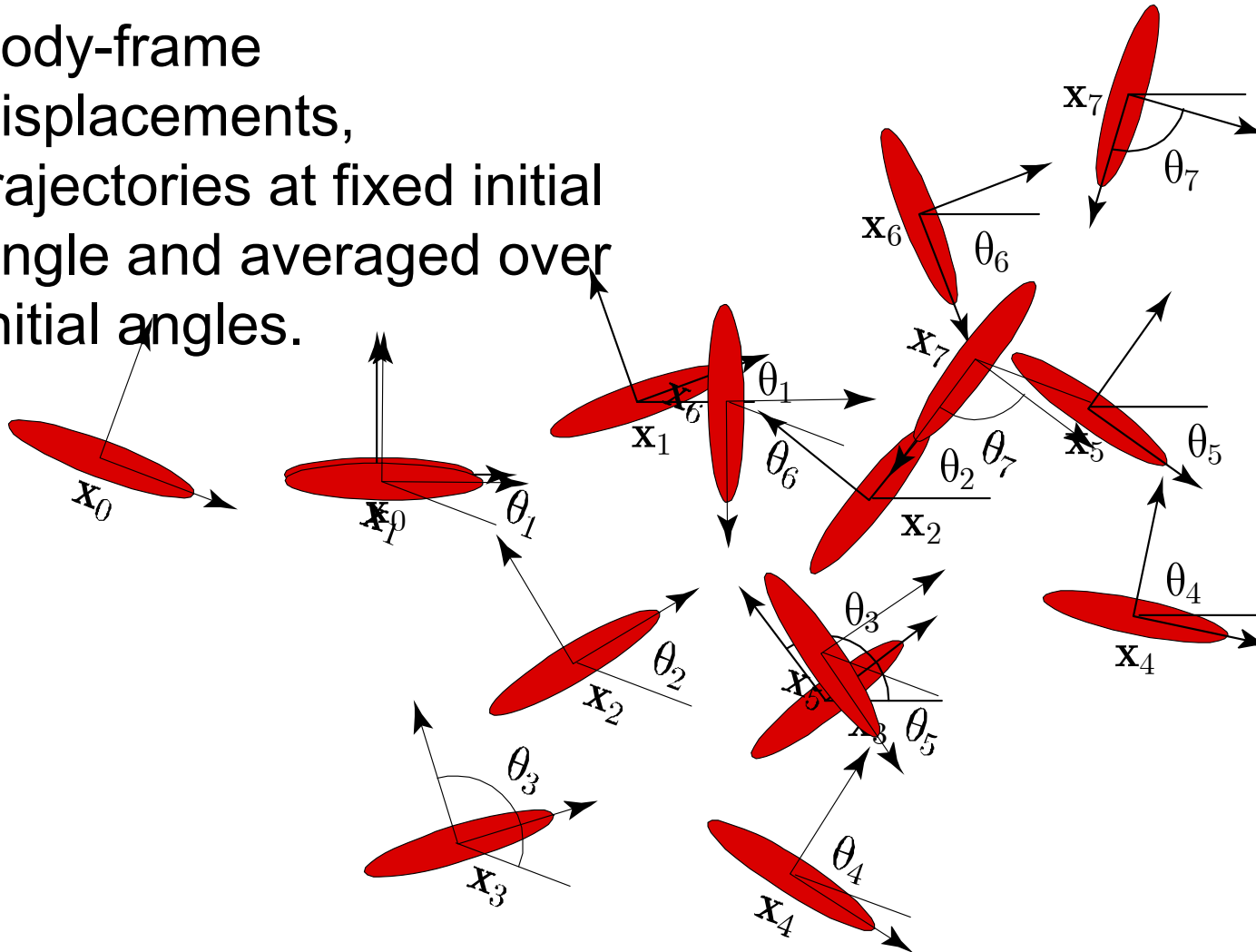
# Diffusion of a rod

Han, Alsayed, Nobili, Zhang, TCL, Yodh



# Defining trajectories

Can extract lab- and body-frame displacements, trajectories at fixed initial angle and averaged over initial angles.



# Rotational Langevin (2d)

$$I\ddot{\theta} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial \theta} - \Gamma_{\theta}\dot{\theta} + \Gamma_{\theta}\xi_{\theta} = \dot{p}_{\theta}$$

$$\dot{\theta} = -\Gamma_{\theta}\frac{\partial H}{\partial \theta} + \xi_{\theta} \rightarrow \boxed{\dot{\theta} = \xi_{\theta}}$$

$$\langle \xi_{\theta}(t)\xi_{\theta}(t') \rangle = 2k_B T \Gamma_{\theta} \delta(t - t')$$

$$\langle [\theta(t) - \theta(0)]^2 \rangle \equiv \langle [\Delta\theta]^2 \rangle = 2D_{\theta}t$$

$$D_{\theta} = \frac{\langle [\Delta\theta]^2 \rangle}{2t}$$

$$\langle \cos[n\Delta\theta] \rangle = \exp[-n^2 D_{\theta}t]$$

# Translation and Rotation

Anisotropic friction coefficients  $\dot{x}_{\parallel} = -\Gamma_a f_{\parallel}; \quad \dot{x}_{\perp} = -\Gamma_b f_{\perp}$

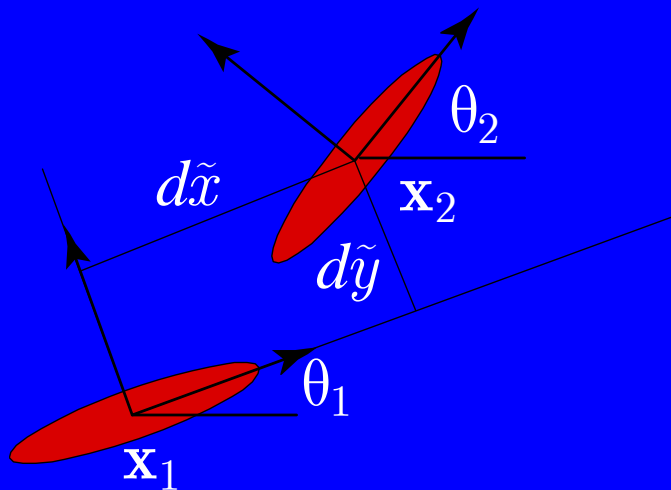
Lab-frame equations

$$\dot{x}_i = -\Gamma_{ij}(\theta) \frac{\partial H}{\partial x_j} + \xi_i$$
$$\Gamma_{ij}(\theta) = \Gamma_a n_i(\theta) n_j(\theta) + \Gamma_b [\delta_{ij} - n_i(\theta) n_j(\theta)]$$
$$\left\langle \xi_i(t) \xi_j(t') \right\rangle_{\theta_0} = 2k_B T \Gamma_{ij}(\theta(t)) \delta(t - t')$$

In lab-frame, noise depends on angle: expect anisotropic crossover

F. Perrin, J. de Phys. et Rad. V, 497 (1934); VII, 1 (1936).

# Body-frame equations



Body frame :  $\tilde{x}$  and  $\tilde{y}$  are independent; simple Langevin equations with constant diffusion.

$$\begin{pmatrix} \delta \tilde{x} \\ \delta \tilde{y} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \delta x \\ \delta y \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\tilde{x}_i(t) = \sum_n \delta \tilde{x}_{ni}$$

$$\partial_t \tilde{x}_i = \tilde{\xi}_i; \quad \langle \tilde{\xi}_i(t) \tilde{\xi}_i(t') \rangle = 2k_B T \tilde{\Gamma}_{ij}$$

$$\tilde{\Gamma}_{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} \Gamma_a & 0 \\ 0 & \Gamma_b \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\langle [\Delta \tilde{x}]^2 \rangle = 2D_a t; \quad \langle [\Delta \tilde{y}]^2 \rangle = 2D_b t$$

# Anisotropic Crossover

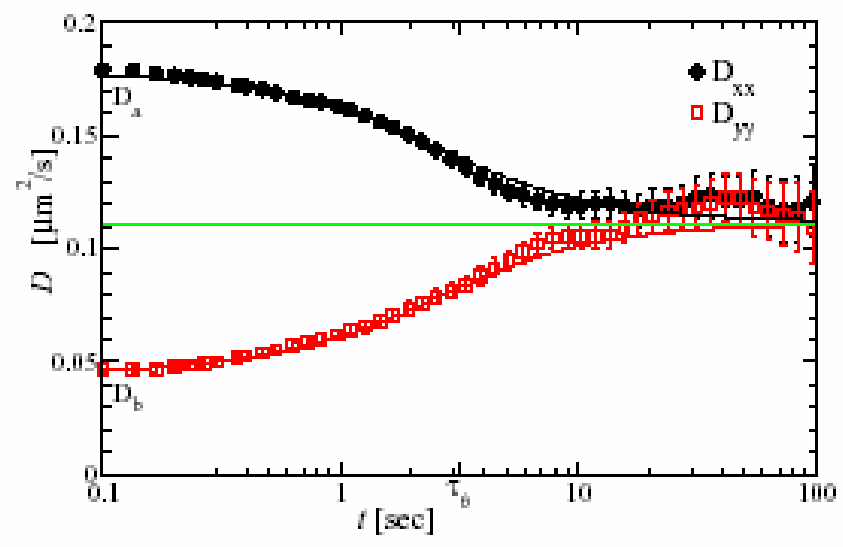
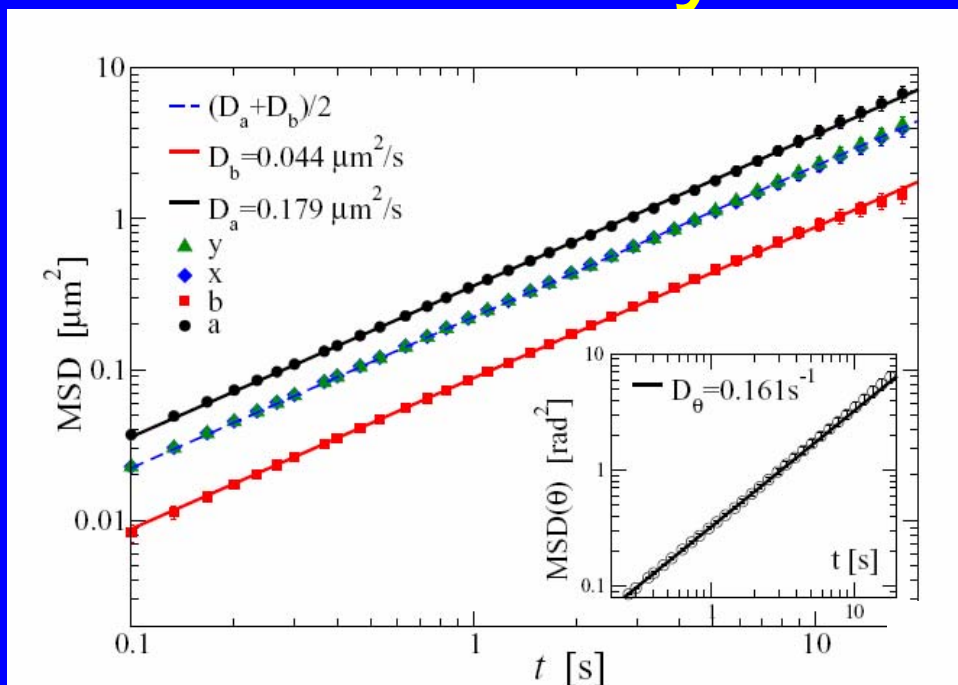
$$D_{ij}(t, \theta_0) = \frac{1}{2t} \left\langle [\Delta x_i(t)] [\Delta x_j(t)] \right\rangle_{\theta_0}$$
$$= \bar{D} \delta_{ij} + \frac{\Delta D}{2t} \tau_4(t) \begin{pmatrix} \cos 2\theta_0 & \sin 2\theta_0 \\ \sin 2\theta_0 & -\cos 2\theta_0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\bar{D} = (D_a + D_b) / 2$$
$$\Delta D = D_a - D_b$$
$$\tau_n(t) = \frac{(1 - e^{-nD_\theta t})}{nD_\theta}$$

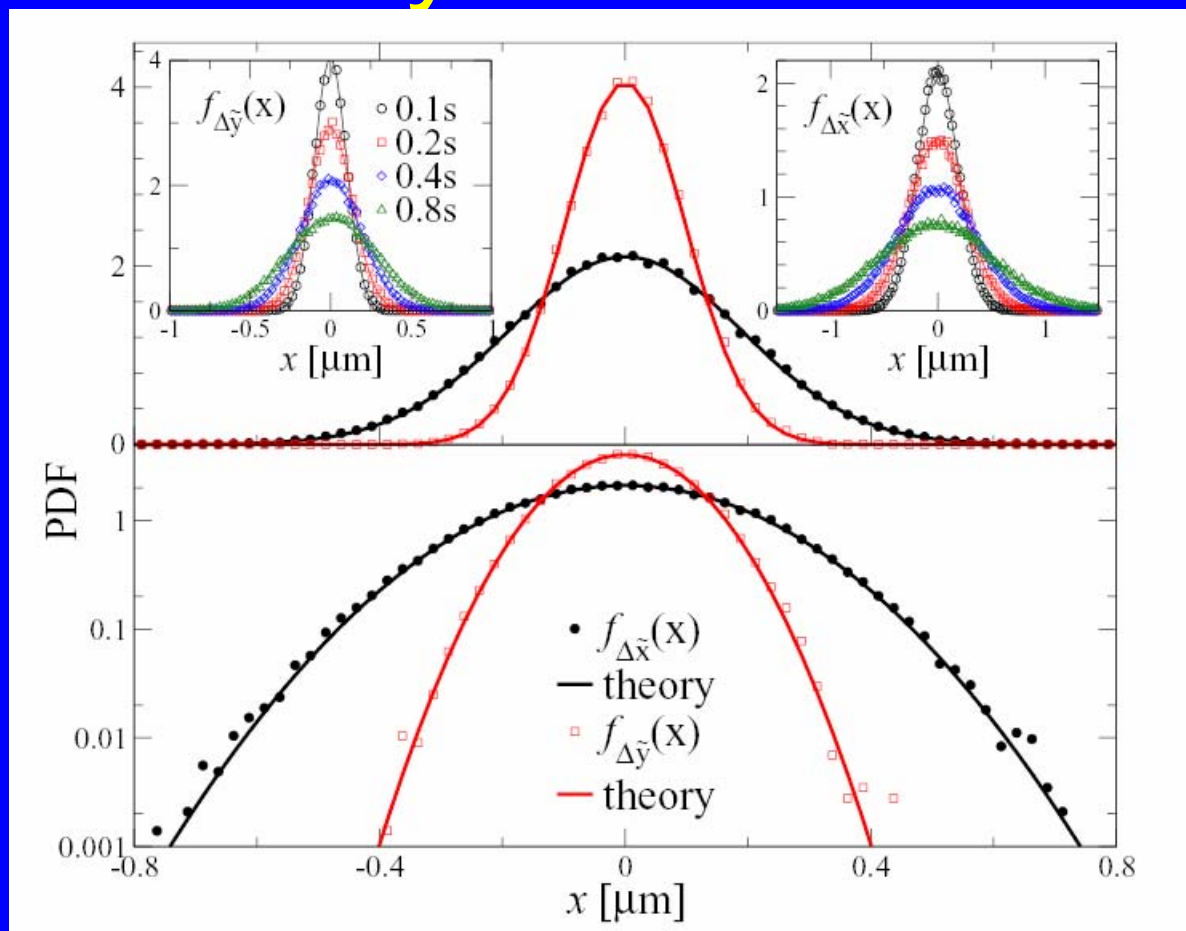
1. Diffusion tensor averaged over angles is isotropic.
2. Lab-frame diffusion is anisotropic at short times and isotropic at long times
3. Body-frame diffusion tensor is constant and anisotropic at all times

$$\bar{D}_{ij} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int d\theta_0 D_{ij}(t, \theta_0) = \bar{D} \delta_{ij}$$
$$\langle [\Delta \tilde{x}]^2 \rangle = 2D_a t; \quad \langle [\Delta \tilde{y}]^2 \rangle = 2D_b t$$

# Lab- and body-frame diffusion



# Gaussian Body Frame Statistics



$$\partial_t \tilde{x}_i = \tilde{\xi}_i;$$

$$\langle \tilde{\xi}_i(t) \tilde{\xi}_i(t') \rangle = 2k_B T \tilde{\Gamma}_{ij}$$

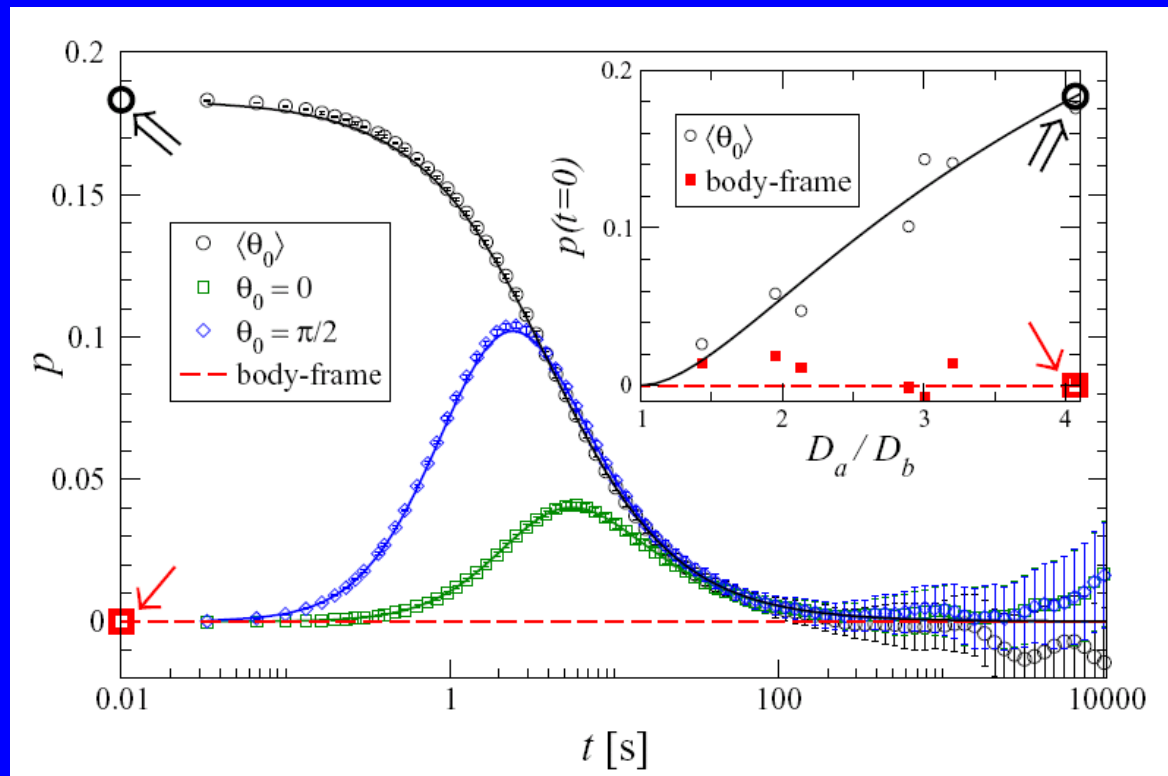
$$P(\tilde{x}_i) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi D_i t}} \exp\left(-\frac{\tilde{x}_i^2}{4D_i t}\right)$$



# Non-Gaussian lab-frame statistics

$$\begin{aligned}
 C_{\theta_0}^{(4)} &= \langle [\Delta x(t)]^4 \rangle - 3 \langle [\Delta x(t)]^2 \rangle^2 \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} (\Delta D)^2 [3(\tau_\theta t - \tau_\theta \tau_4(t) - \tau_4^2(t)) \\
 &\quad + (\tau_\theta \tau_4(t) - \tau_\theta \tau_{16}(t) - 3\tau_4^2(t)) \cos 4\theta_0]
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 p(t) &= \frac{C_{\theta_0}^{(4)}(t)}{3 \langle [\Delta x(t)]^2 \rangle^2} \\
 &\rightarrow \frac{(D_a - D_b)^2}{2(D_a + D_b)^2}
 \end{aligned}$$



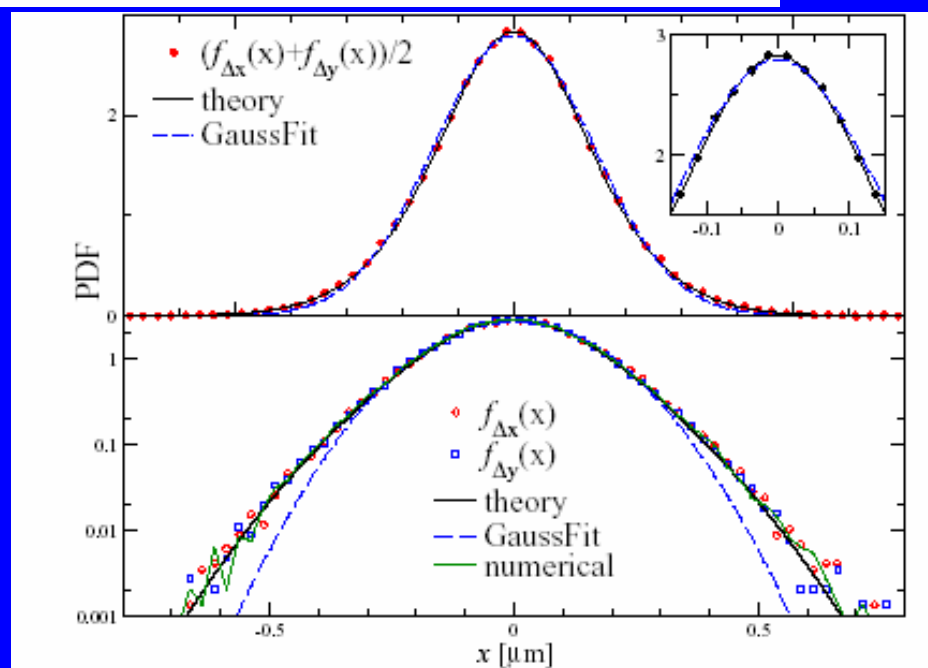
Fixed  $q_0$ : Gaussian at short times – same as body frame; Gaussian at long times – central limit theorem.

Average  $q_0$ : nonGaussian at short times, Gaussian at long times

# Non-Gaussian Distribution.

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_{\Delta x}(x) &= \langle \delta(x - \Delta x(t)) \rangle = \int \frac{dk}{2\pi} e^{ikx} \langle e^{-ik\Delta x(t)} \rangle \\
 &= \left\langle \int \frac{dk}{2\pi} e^{\frac{(ik)^2}{2!} C_{\theta_0}^{(2)}(t) + \frac{(ik)^4}{4!} C_{\theta_0}^{(4)}(t) + \dots} \right\rangle_{\theta_0} \\
 &\xrightarrow{t \rightarrow 0} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{d\theta}{2\pi} \frac{e^{-\frac{x^2}{2\sigma^2(\theta)}}}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma(\theta)},
 \end{aligned}$$

Probability distribution at fixed angle and small  $t$  is Gaussian. The average over initial angles is not



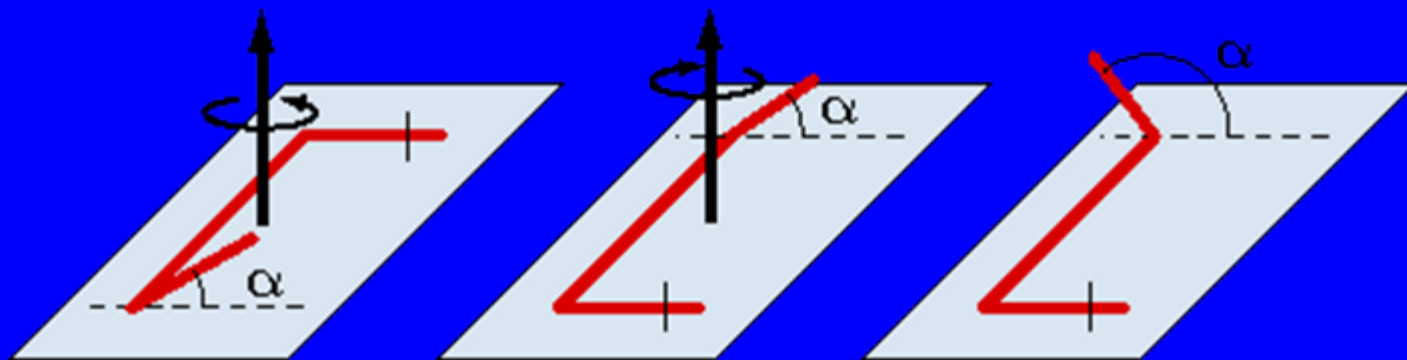
# Rattleback gas

Tsai, J.-C., Ye, Fangfu, Rodriguez, Juan, Gollub, J.P., and Lubensky, T.C., A Chiral Granular Gas, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 94, 214301 (2005).

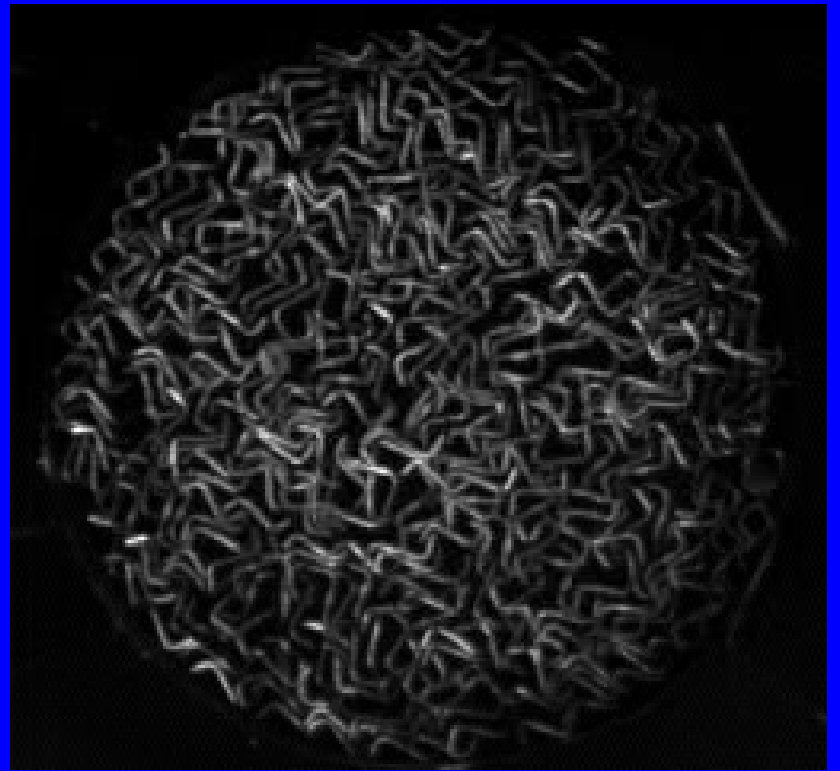
Chiral Rattlebacks spin in a preferred direction; Achiral ones do not.



Chiral wires spin in a preferred direction on a vibrating substrate



# Rattleback gas II



# Spin angular momentum dynamics

$l = nI\Omega =$  Spin angular momentum

$\Omega =$  Spin angular frequency

$$l(\mathbf{x}, t) = \left\langle \sum_{\alpha} p_{\theta\alpha} \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_{\alpha}(t)) \right\rangle$$

$$I\ddot{\theta} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial \theta} - \Gamma_{\theta}\dot{\theta} + \Gamma_{\theta}\xi_{\theta} = \dot{p}_{\theta}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t l &= -n\Gamma_{\theta}\Omega + \partial_i \partial_j \left\langle \sum_{\alpha} D_{ij}(\theta_{\alpha}) p_{\theta\alpha} \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_{\alpha}(t)) \right\rangle \\ &= -n\Gamma_{\theta}\Omega + \bar{D}\nabla^2 l \\ &= -\partial_j(lv_j) - \Gamma\Omega + D_{\Omega}\nabla^2\Omega \end{aligned}$$

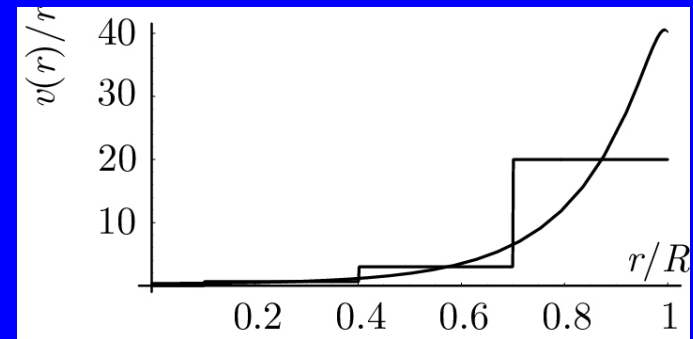
# Rattleback gas III

$l = I\Omega =$  Spin angular momentum

$g_i = \rho v_i =$  Center-of-mass momentum

$\Omega =$  Spin angular frequency

$\omega = (\nabla \times \mathbf{v})_z / 2 =$  CM angular frequency



$$\partial_t l = -\partial_j (l v_j) - \Gamma^\Omega \Omega - \Gamma(\Omega - \omega) + D_\Omega \nabla^2 \Omega + \tau$$

Substrate friction

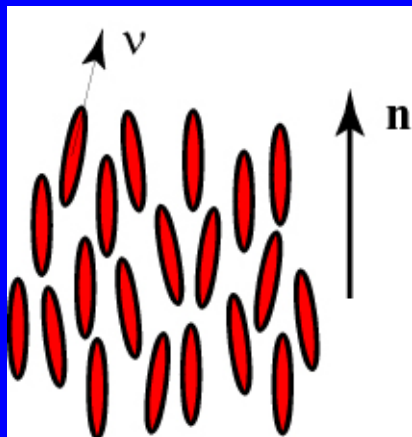
Spin-vorticity coupling

Vibrational torque

$$\partial_t g_i = -\partial_j (g_i v_j) - \partial_i p + \eta \nabla^2 v_i - \Gamma^v v_i + \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{ij} \partial_j \Gamma(\Omega - \omega)$$

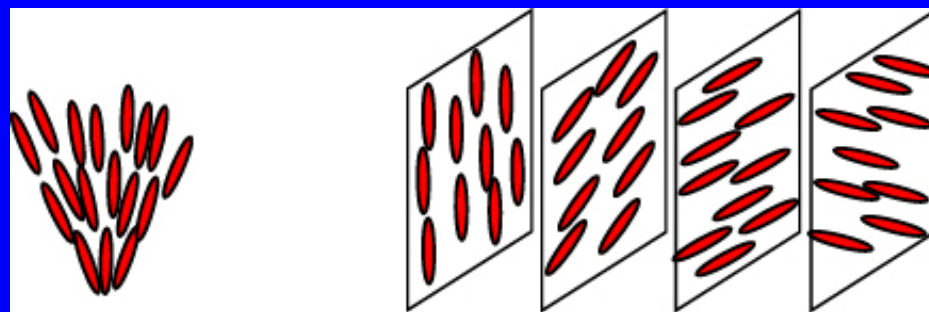
B.C.:  $\Omega(R) = \omega(R) = v(R) / R; \quad \partial_r v = -\ell^{-1} v$

# Nematic phase



Order  
Parameter

$$Q_{ij} = S(n_i n_j - \frac{1}{3} \delta_{ij}) = \left\langle v_i v_j - \frac{1}{3} \delta_{ij} \right\rangle$$



Splay  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{n}$

Twist  $\mathbf{n} \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{n})$

Bend  
 $\mathbf{n} \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{n})$

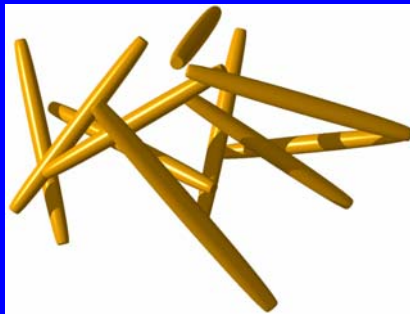


$$F = \frac{1}{2} \int d^3 x \left\{ K_1 (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{n})^2 + K_2 [\mathbf{n} \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{n})]^2 + K_3 [\mathbf{n} \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{n})]^2 \right\}$$

$\mathbf{n}$  = Frank director

Frank free energy

# Isotropic-to-Nematic Transition



increasing  
concentration



$D$  - rod diameter  
 $L$  - rod length

$\phi_{I-N}$  - rod concentration

at  $I - N$  phase transition

$$\phi_{I-N} = 4 \frac{D}{L} \text{ when } \frac{L}{D} \gg 1$$

$\phi(\theta)$  - orientational distribution functions

order parameter  $S$  :

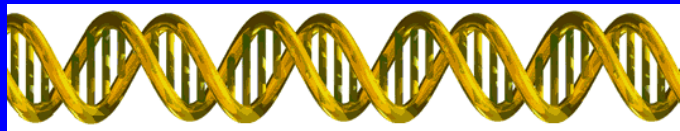
$$S = \frac{1}{2} \int d\theta \sin \theta \phi(\theta) (3 \cos^2 \theta - 1)$$

Onsager *Ann. N. Y. Acad. Sci.* 51, 627 (1949)



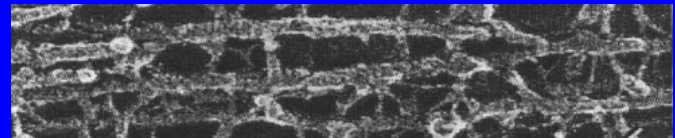
# Semi-flexible biopolymers

## DNA



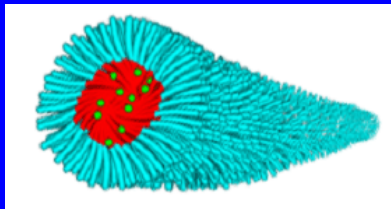
16 micron length  
2 nm in diameter  
40 nm persistence length

## Neurofilament



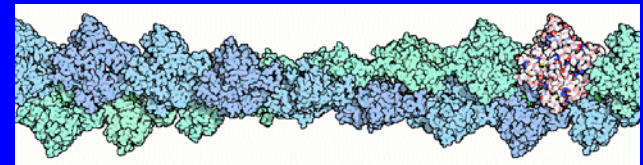
5 - 20 micron length  
12 nm in diameter  
~ 220 nm persistence length

## Wormlike Micelle (polybutadiene-polyethyleneoxide)



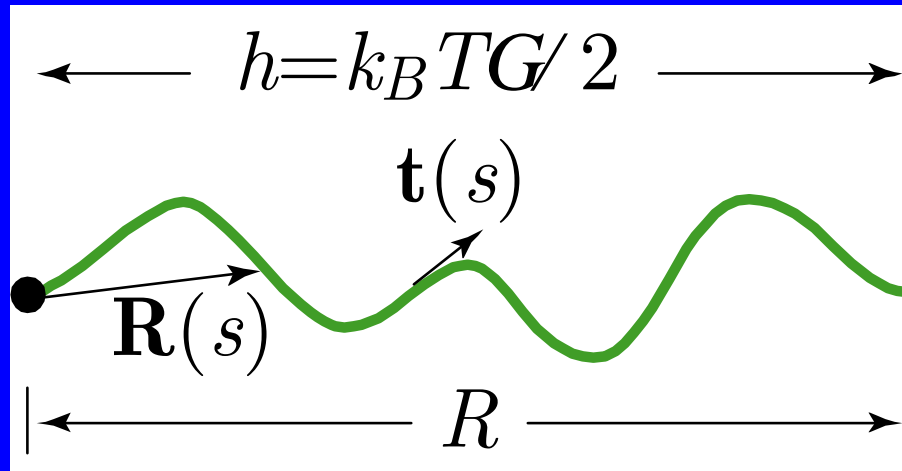
10 – 50 micron length  
~ 15 nm in diameter  
~ 500 nm persistence length

## Actin



2 – 30 micron length  
7-8 nm in diameter  
~ 16 micron persistence length

# Semi-flexible Polymer in Aligning Field



$$\frac{d\mathbf{R}}{ds} = \mathbf{t}(s)$$

$$|\mathbf{t}(s)| = 1;$$

$$\mathbf{t}(s) = (\mathbf{t}_\perp(s), \sqrt{1 - |\mathbf{t}_\perp(s)|^2})$$

# Fluctuations

$$H = \frac{k_B T}{2} \int ds \left[ l_P \left( \frac{d\mathbf{t}}{ds} \right)^2 - \Gamma |\mathbf{t}_z|^2 \right]$$
$$\approx \frac{k_B T}{2} \int ds \left[ l_P \left( \frac{d\mathbf{t}_\perp}{ds} \right)^2 + \Gamma |\mathbf{t}_\perp|^2 \right]$$

$l_p = \kappa / k_B T =$  Persistence length

$\Gamma = h / k_B T =$  Alignment parameter

$\lambda = \sqrt{\frac{l_p}{\Gamma}} =$  Odijk deflection length

$\Gamma > 0$

$\Gamma = 0$

$$\langle \mathbf{t}(s) \cdot \mathbf{t}(0) \rangle = e^{-s/2l_p}$$

$$\langle t_x(z) t_x(0) \rangle = \frac{\lambda}{2l_p} e^{-|z|/\lambda}$$

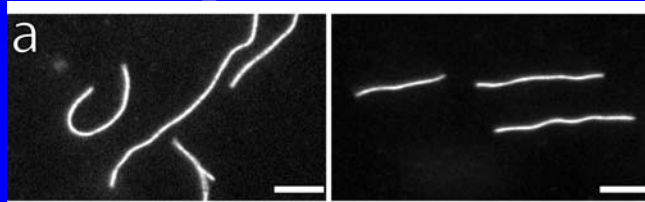
# Polymers in fd-virus suspensions

Isotropic

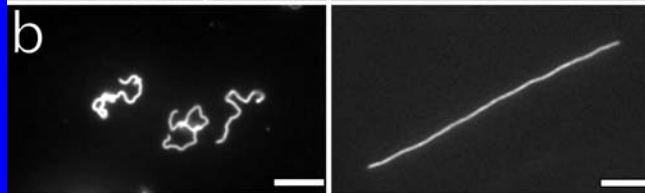
Nematic

Actin in Nematic Fd

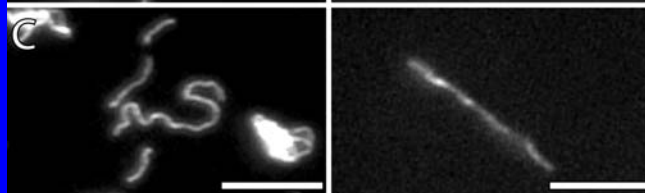
Actin  
16  $\mu\text{m}$



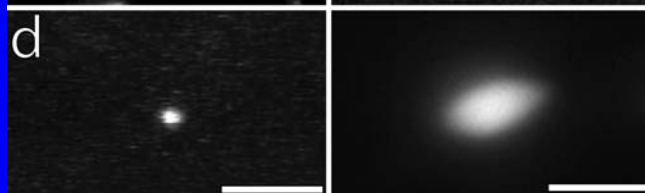
Wormlike  
Micelle  
500 nm



Neurofilament  
200 nm



DNA  
50 nm



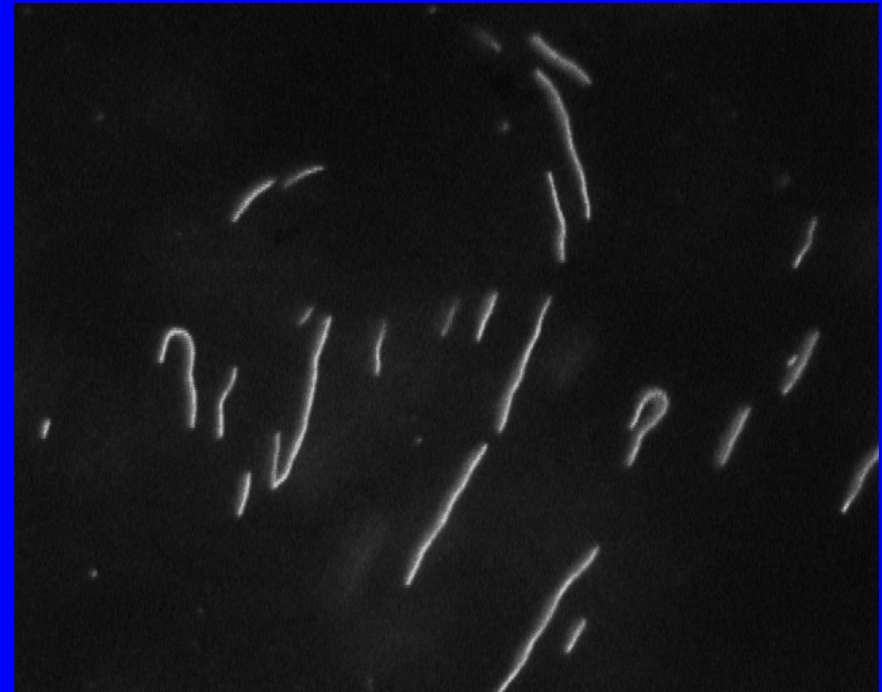
Hairpin  
defects



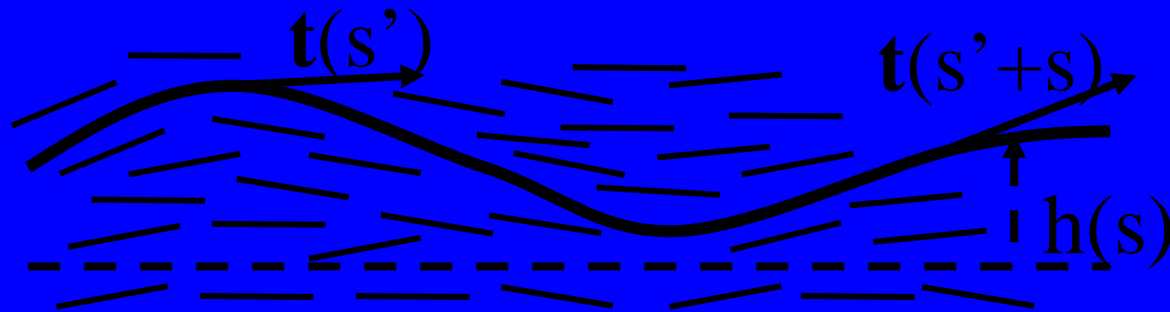
10  $\mu\text{m}$

10  $\mu\text{m}$

Dogic Z, Zhang J, Lau AWC, Aranda-Espinoza H, Dalhaimer P, Discher DE, Janmey PA, Kamien RD, Lubensky TC, Yodh AG, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 92 (12): 2004



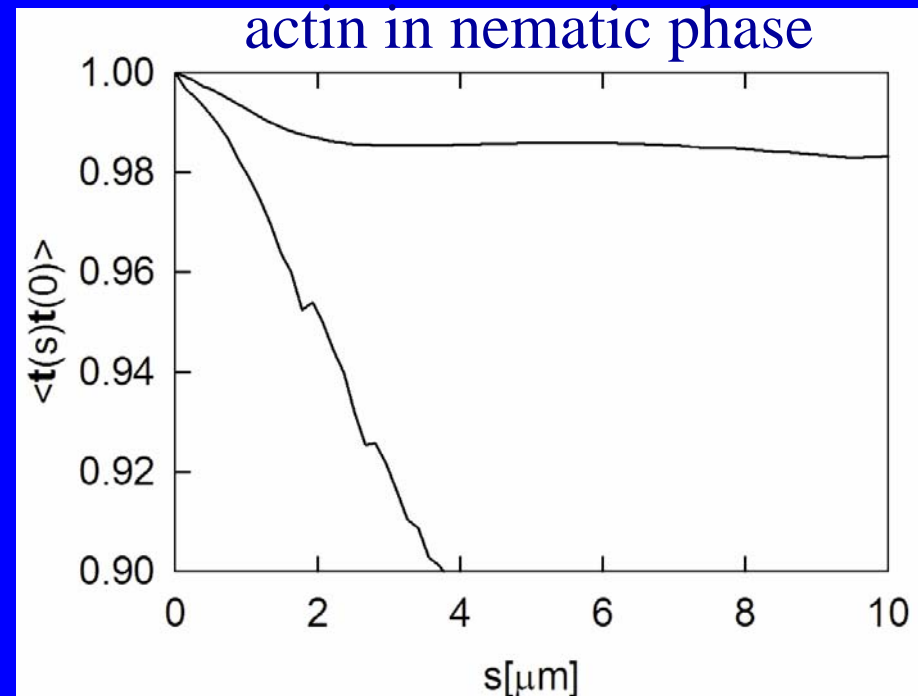
# Tangent-tangent correlations



Isotropic phase – quasi 2D

$$\langle \mathbf{t}(s) \cdot \mathbf{t}(0) \rangle = e^{-s/2l_p}$$

Orientational correlations  
decay exponentially  
 $l_p$  – persistence length of  
actin in isotropic phase



# Polymer in nematic solvent

Bending energy

Coupling energy

Elastic energy

$$F / T = \frac{l_p}{2} \int_0^L dz \left( \frac{d\mathbf{t}_\perp}{dz} \right)^2 + \frac{\Gamma}{2} \int_0^L dz [\mathbf{t}_\perp(z) - \delta\mathbf{n}(0, z)]^2 + \frac{1}{2} K \int d^3x (\nabla\mathbf{n})^2$$

$l_p$  = Persistence length

$\Gamma$  = Coupling constant

$K$  = Elastic constant

$$\lambda = \sqrt{\frac{l_p}{\Gamma}} = \text{Odijk length}$$

$$\langle t_x(z) t_x(z + z') \rangle = \frac{\lambda}{2l_p} e^{-z/\lambda}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{4\pi^2 K \lambda} \int_0^\infty dx \frac{\cos(xz / \lambda) \log(1 + D^2 / x^2)}{(1 + x^2) [1 + x^2 + \alpha x^2 \log(1 + D^2 / x^2)]}$$