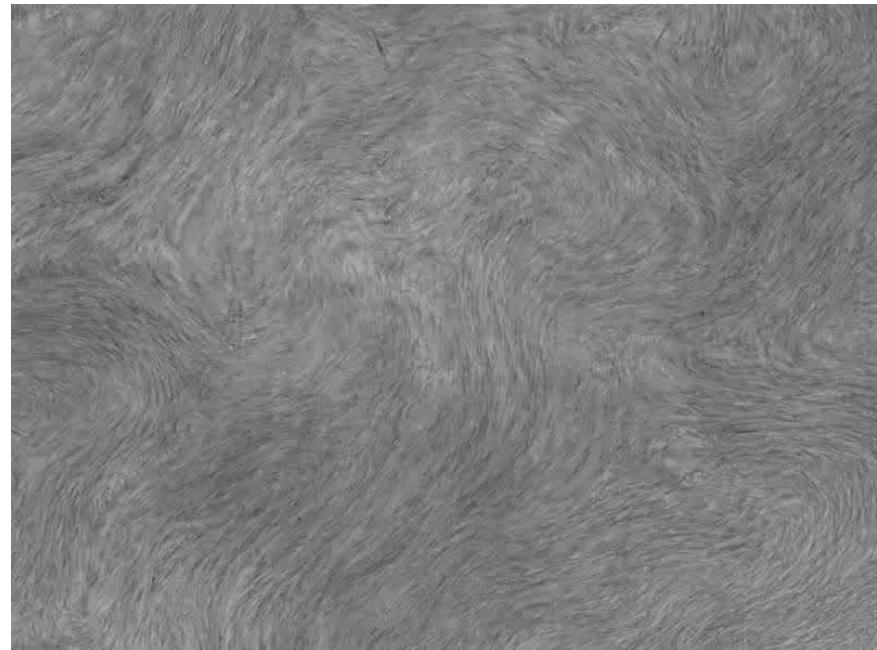


2D suspensions of microtubule-kinesin bundles at oil/water interface

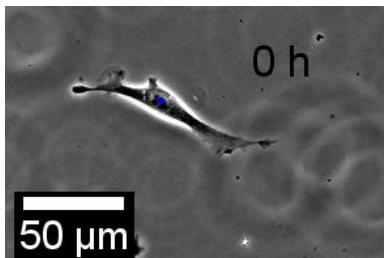


Sanchez et al, Nature 2012

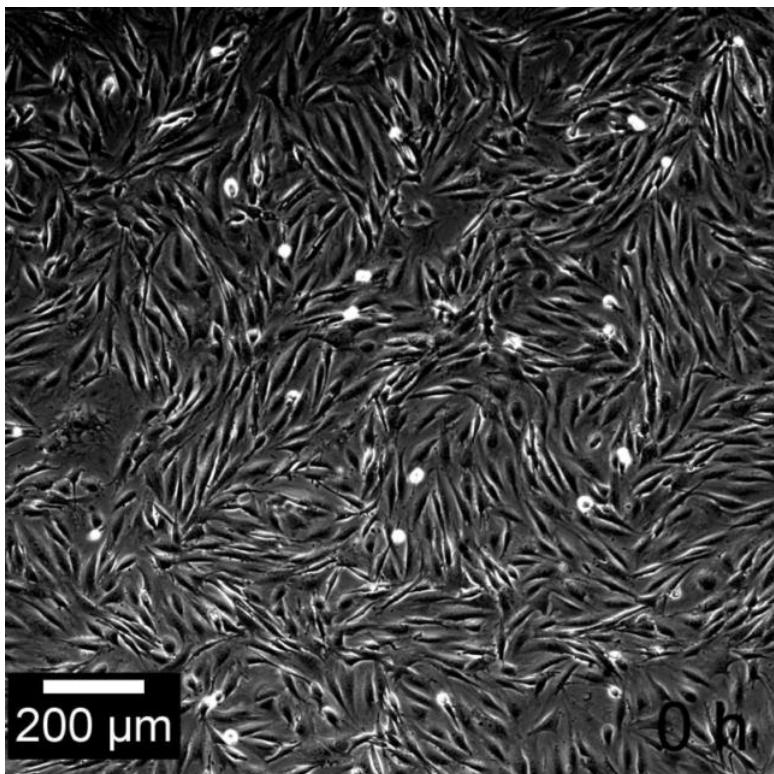
E. Coli swimming in nematic LC



Zhou et al PNAS 2014

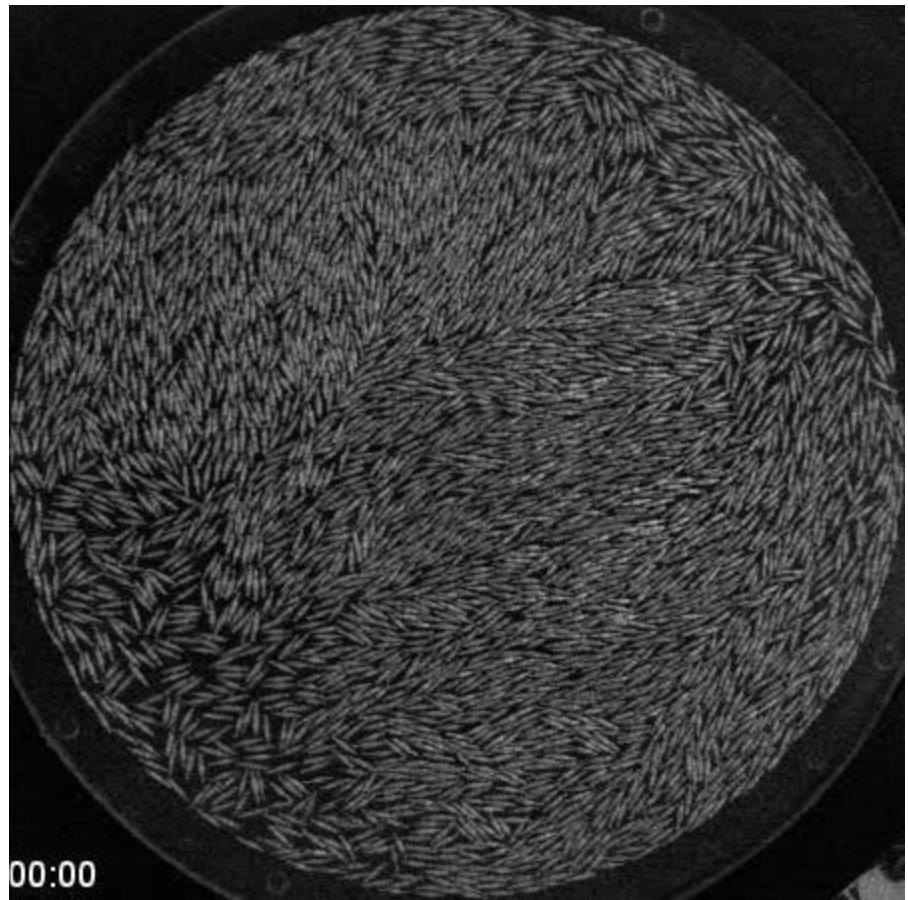


fibroblasts



Duclos et al, Soft Matter (2014)

Vertically vibrated granular rods



Narayan et al., Science (2007)

## ACTIVE NEMATIC

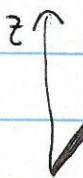
I want to consider systems w/ momentum conservation.

Strictly speaking a suspension: active particles in a fluid - should distinguish between total density of suspension and ~~gross~~ concentration of active units  
 → for simplicity a one-component fluid

HYDRODYNAMICS : large  $\lambda$ , long times

- conserved fields
  - $\rho$  density
  - $\rho \vec{v}$  momentum density

We have a phase transition (isotropic → nematic) associated with a spontaneously broken continuous symmetry



O.P.  $Q_{\alpha\beta} = \left\langle \sum_i (\hat{p}_{\alpha i} \hat{p}_{\beta i} - \frac{1}{d} \delta_{\alpha\beta}) \delta(\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j) \right\rangle$

uniaxial  $Q_{\alpha\beta} = S(\hat{n} \cdot \hat{n}_\beta - \frac{1}{d} \delta_{\alpha\beta})$   $Q_{\alpha\beta} Q_{\alpha\beta} = S^2 / d$

- broken symmetry field  $\hat{n} \rightarrow$  Goldstone mode

Deep in ordered state → ~~only~~  $S = \text{constant}$

Consider only director deformations: they lost energy

$$F = \frac{1}{2} \int_r [K_1 (\nabla \cdot \hat{n})^2 + K_3 (\hat{n} \times \nabla \times \hat{n})^2]$$

// /      ==>  
splay      bend

assume

$$K_1 = K_3$$

$$-\frac{\delta F}{\delta \hat{n}} = \tilde{h} = \nabla^2 \hat{n}$$

a driving force that tends to restore the uniform state

(2)

## HYDRODYNAMICS

Navier - Stokes  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \rho \\ \vec{v} \end{array} \right\}$  + dynamics of director  $\vec{n}$

Coupling of orientation and flow

■ incompressible :  $\rho = \text{const.}$   $\partial_t \rho + \vec{\nabla} \cdot \rho \vec{v} = 0 \Rightarrow \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v} = 0$

■ Navier Stokes :

$$\rho (\partial_t + \vec{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) \vec{v}_\alpha = \underbrace{\eta \vec{\nabla}^2 \vec{v}_\alpha}_{\text{viscous forces}} - \underbrace{\partial_\alpha p}_{\text{pressure}} + \underbrace{\partial_\beta \sigma_{\alpha\beta}^N}_{\text{elastic deformations}}$$

○

But most active LC are  
in the low Re regime

of the director  
couple to flow

$$Re \sim \frac{\text{inertial forces}}{\text{viscous forces}} \sim \frac{\rho v^2 / L}{\eta v / L^2} \sim \frac{\rho v L}{\eta}$$

$Re \ll 1 \rightarrow$  Stokes equation

$$(\partial_t + \vec{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) n_\alpha + \omega_{\alpha\beta} n_\beta = \frac{1}{\rho \delta T} h_\alpha + \frac{1}{\delta T} u_{\alpha\beta} n_\beta$$

Vorticity rotates LC molecules

$\omega_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\alpha v_\beta + \partial_\beta v_\alpha)$

$h_\alpha = \frac{1}{2} (n_\alpha h_\beta + n_\beta h_\alpha) - \frac{1}{2} (n_\alpha h_\beta - n_\beta h_\alpha)$

torque

$$u_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\alpha v_\beta + \partial_\beta v_\alpha)$$

$$\omega_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\alpha v_\beta - \partial_\beta v_\alpha)$$

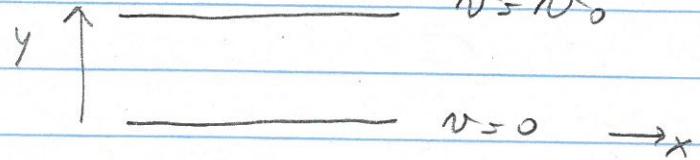
shear builds up alignment

(2a)

## Flow alignment parameter $\lambda$

LC in shear flow

$$\hat{n} = (\cos\theta, \sin\theta)$$



$$\partial_t \theta = -u(1 - \lambda \cos 2\theta) + \frac{k}{f} \partial_y^2 \theta$$

homogeneous ss

$$\boxed{\cos 2\theta = \frac{1}{\lambda}}$$

$$\text{if } |\lambda| \geq 1$$

flow aligning

$$\dot{f} = v_0 / L \quad \text{shear rate}$$

$$v_x = \dot{f} y$$

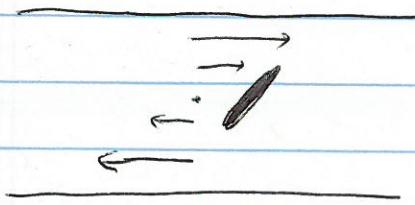
$$u = u_{xy} = \dot{f} / 2$$

- $|\lambda| < 1$  no ss solution - flow tumbling

$\lambda$  is a microscopic parameter that depends on molecular shape and degree of order

long, thin rods  $|\lambda| > 1$

A nematic in shear flow picks an orientation that is determined by  $\lambda$



flow exerts a torque on the director until it reaches this stable orientation

(3)

## Activity

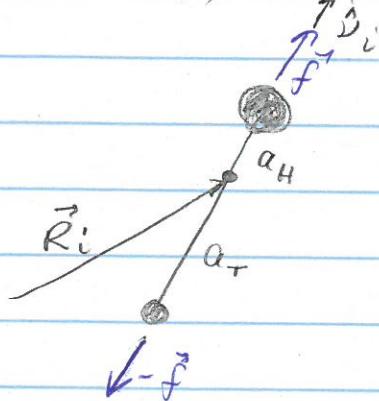
active stress

Activity yields an additional energy input that provides additional driving force on the fluid

$$\sigma_{ij} (\vec{v}, \tilde{h}) \rightarrow \sigma_{ij} (\vec{v}, \tilde{h}, \Delta \mu)$$

$$[\partial_j \sigma_{ij}] = [\text{force density}]$$

$$\text{e.g. } M_{AP} - (M_{ABP} + M_P)$$



$$\text{use } a_H = a_T$$

$$F^{\text{act}} = \sum_i \left\{ f \hat{v}_i \delta(r - R_i - a_H \hat{v}_i) - f \hat{v}_i \delta(r - R_i + a_T \hat{v}_i) \right\}$$

$$F_\alpha^{\text{act}} = \sum_i f \hat{v}_{i\alpha} \left\{ -(a_H + a_T) \hat{v}_{i\beta} \partial_\beta \delta(r - R_i) + \frac{1}{2} (a_H^2 - a_T^2) \hat{v}_{i\beta} \hat{v}_{ij} \partial_r \delta(r - R_i) + \dots \right\}$$

$$F_\alpha^{\text{act}} \approx -fL \left( \sum_i \hat{v}_{i\alpha} \hat{v}_{i\beta} \delta(r - R_i) \right)$$

$$F_\alpha^{\text{act}} = \alpha \partial_\beta (Q_{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{\alpha} c \delta_{\alpha\beta})$$

$$\alpha = -fL < 0$$

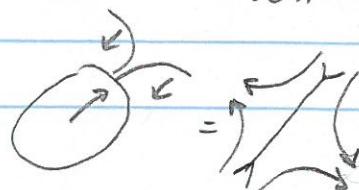
$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} \sigma_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{act}} &= \alpha Q_{\alpha\beta} + \frac{\alpha c^2}{\alpha} \delta_{\alpha\beta} \\ \end{aligned} \right.$$

Extensile : MT, E.coli

$$\alpha > 0$$

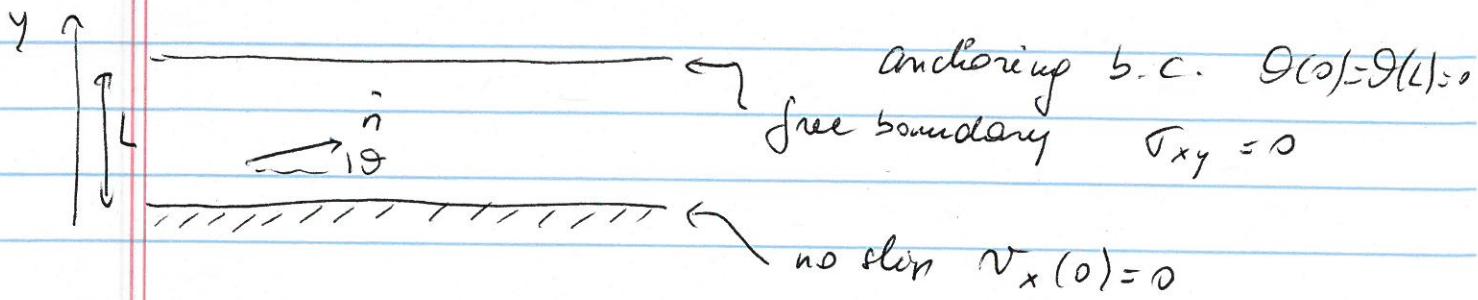
Contractile : actomyosin,

Chlamydomonas



(4)

## SPONTANEOUS FLOW



$$\partial_y \sigma_{yy} = 0 \rightarrow \text{pressure}$$

$$\partial_y \sigma_{xy} = 0 \rightarrow \sigma_{xy} = \text{const} = 0$$

$$\sigma_{xy} = \eta \partial_y v_x + K \partial_y^2 \theta \quad \text{quiescent uniform state}$$

active

$$\sigma_{xy} = \eta \partial_y v_x + \alpha \vec{n}_x \cdot \vec{n}_y + K \partial_y^2 \theta$$

can satisfy  $\sigma_{xy} = 0$  with  $\partial_y v_x \neq 0$  and

director deformations ( $\vec{n}_y \neq 0$ )

But director deformations cost elastic energy

$$\sim K \partial_y^2 \vec{n} \quad \text{elastic stress} \quad \text{active stress}$$

$$K \partial_y^2 \vec{n} \sim \alpha \vec{n} \cdot \vec{n}$$

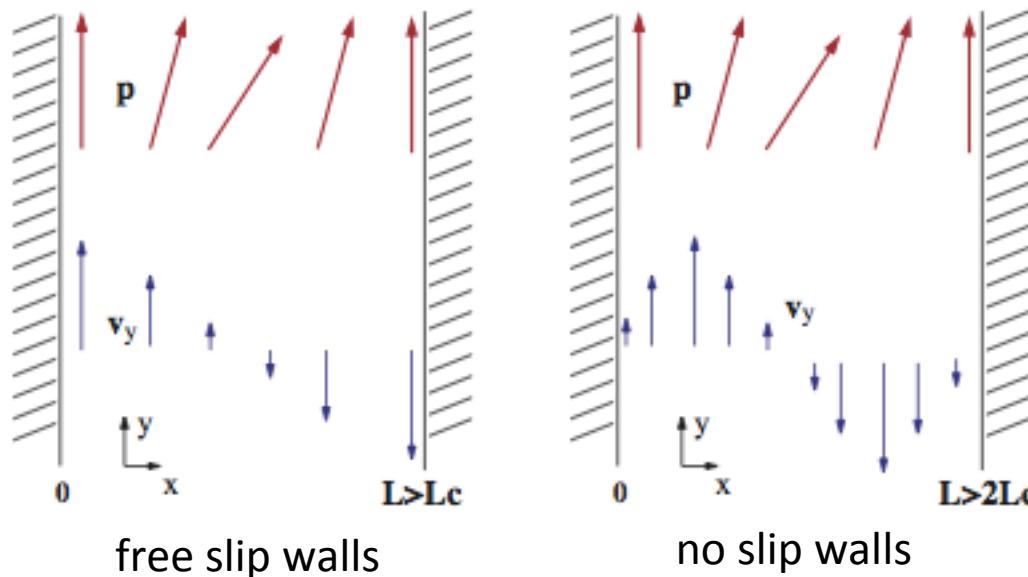
$$l_\alpha^2 \sim \frac{K}{|\alpha|}$$

$L > l_\alpha$  activity wins  $\rightarrow$  spontaneous flow

$L < l_\alpha$  anchoring wins  $\rightarrow$  uniform state

# Spontaneous flow transition in active ~~polar~~<sup>nematic</sup> gels

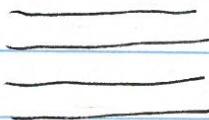
R. VOITURIEZ<sup>1</sup>, J. F. JOANNY<sup>1</sup> and J. PROST<sup>1,2</sup>



6

## Contractile vs Extensile systems

ordered state  $\hat{n}_0 = \hat{x}$



$$\sigma_{xy} = \frac{\gamma}{2} (\partial_x n_y + \partial_y n_x) + \alpha n_x n_y$$

fluctuation:

$$\sigma_{xy} \simeq \frac{\gamma}{2} (\partial_x n_y + \partial_y n_x) + \alpha \delta n_y$$

$$\delta \hat{n} = \hat{y} \delta n_y$$

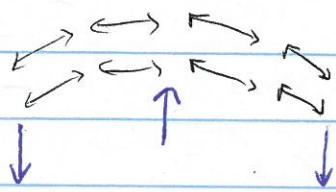
$$|\hat{n}| = 1$$

SPLAY  $\delta n_y(y)$



$\alpha > 0$   
contractile

BEND  $\delta n_y(x)$



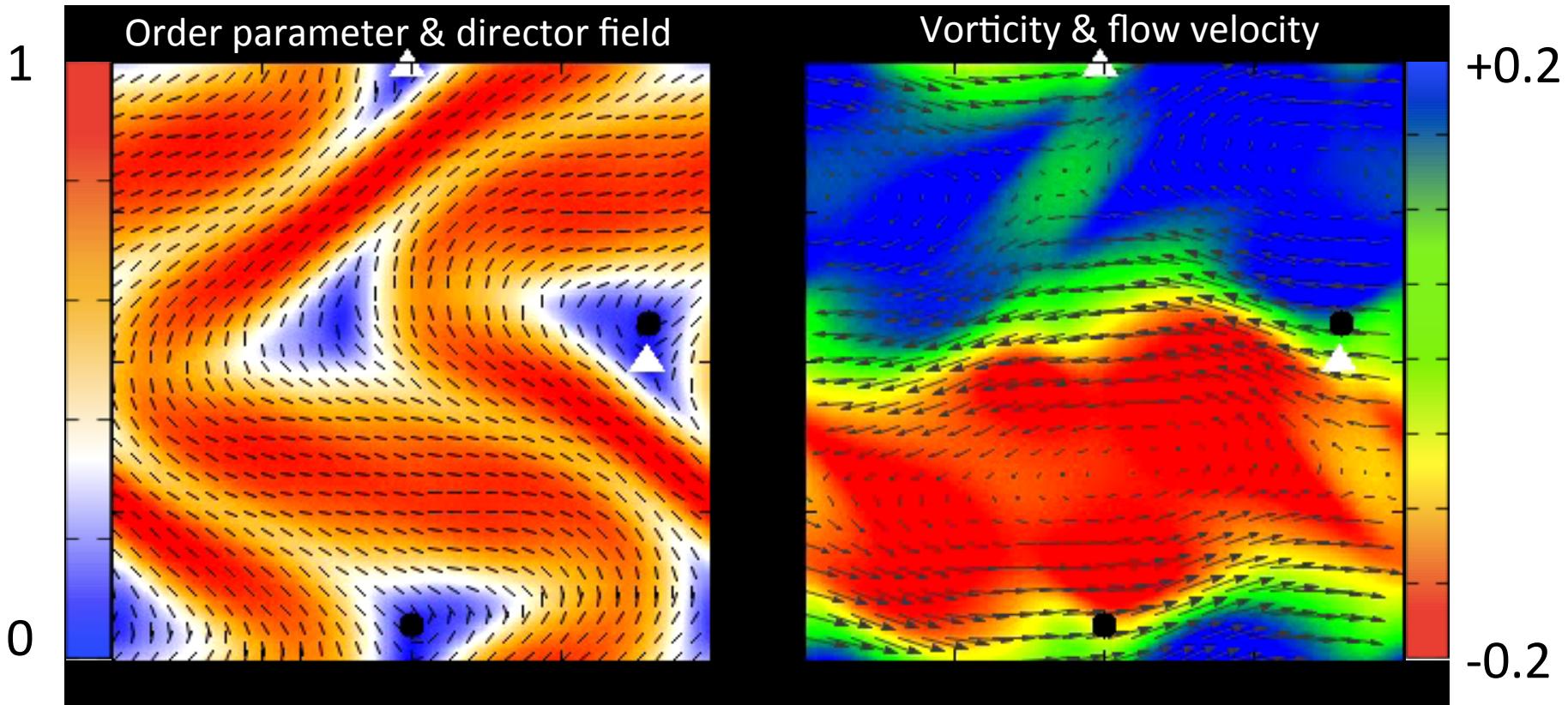
$\alpha < 0$  extensile

$$\partial_y n_x \sim -\frac{2\alpha}{\gamma} \delta n_y$$

$$\partial_x n(y) \sim \frac{2|\alpha|}{\gamma} \delta n_y$$

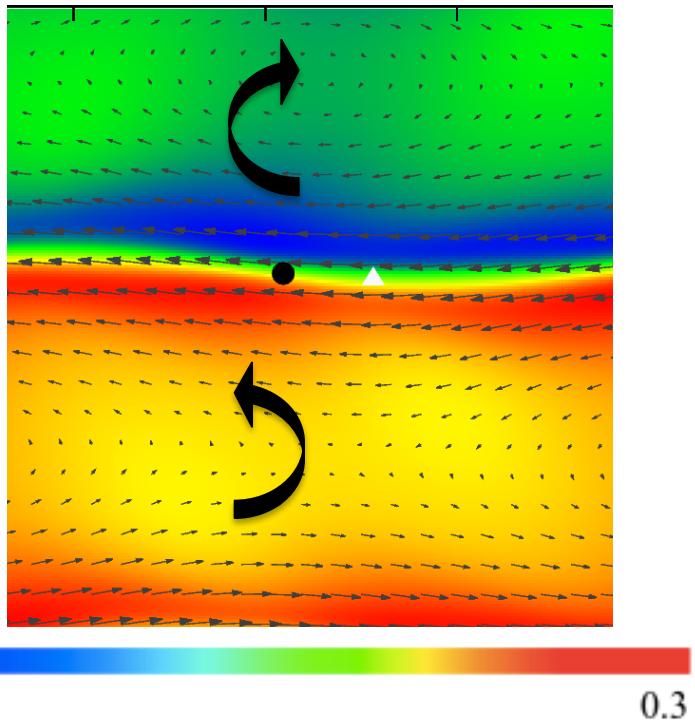
splay/bend fluctuations generate shear flows that enhances deformation, as shown  $\rightarrow$  instability

# Active nematic hydrodynamics yields self-sustained flow & defect proliferation

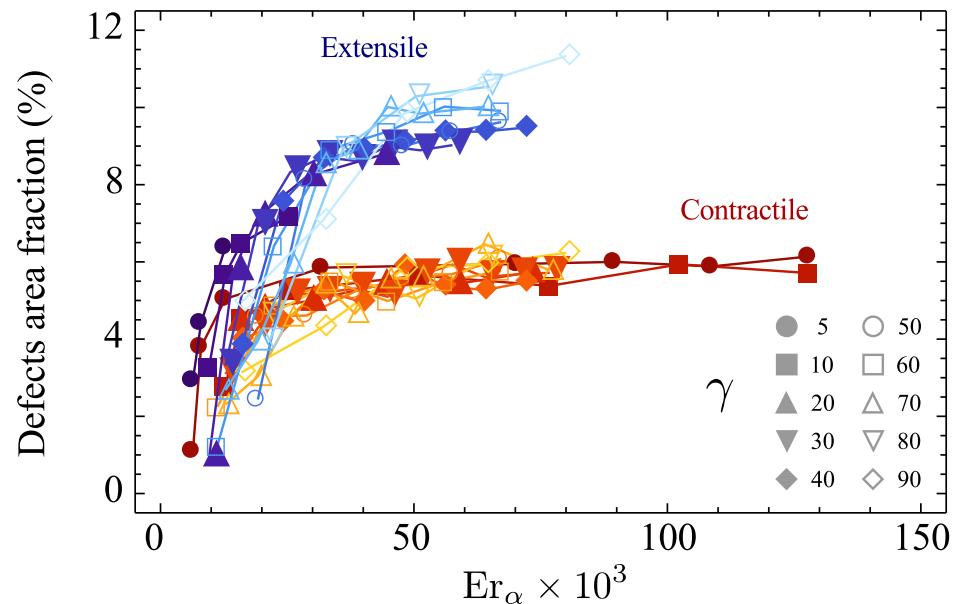


- Giomi, Bowick, Ma & MCM, PRL 110, 228101 (2013); Giomi *et al*, Phil Trans A 2014
- Thampi, Golestanian & Yeomans, PRL 2013; EPL 2014; Phil Trans A 2014
- Gao et al, PRL 2015

# Spontaneous Vorticity & Defect Proliferation



defect-antidefect pairs in the order parameter are created at the interface between opposite-sign flow vortices



Ericksen number

$$Er = \frac{\dot{\epsilon} \gamma h^2}{K} \rightarrow Er_\alpha = \frac{\alpha \gamma L^2}{\eta \dot{\epsilon}} \rightarrow \alpha$$

Also: Thampi *et al*, 2013, 2014; Gao *et al* 2015

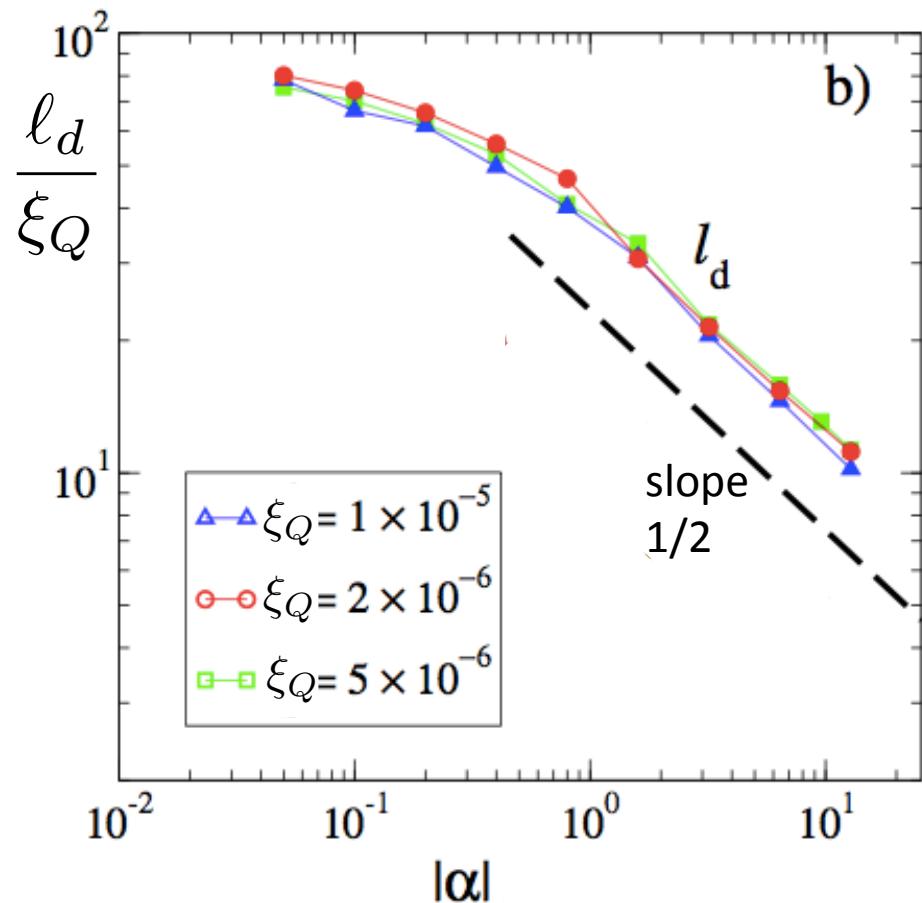
# Scaling controlled by length $\xi_\alpha$ of linear instability

E. Hemingway, Mishra, Fielding, MCM

$$\xi_\alpha \sim \sqrt{K/|\alpha|}$$

$$\xi_Q \sim \sqrt{K/C}$$
 nematic correlation length

$\ell_d$  defect separation



(7)

To look at defect proliferation consider Q-tensor hydrodynamic mechanics:  
incompressible

2d

$$g \nabla_t \vec{v} = \gamma \nabla^2 \vec{v} - \vec{\tau}_P + \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{\Sigma}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t Q_{ij} &= Q_{ik} \omega_{kj} - \omega_{ik} Q_{kj} + \lambda u_{ij} - \alpha \lambda Q_{ij} \text{Tr}[Q \cdot u] \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{\gamma} H_{ij} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Sigma_{ij} = -\lambda H_{ij} + Q_{ik} H_{kj} - H_{ik} Q_{kj} - \partial_i Q_{ke} \frac{\delta F}{\delta (\partial_j Q_{ke})}$$

$$H_{ij} = -\left( \frac{\delta F}{\delta Q_{ij}} - \frac{1}{\alpha} \delta_{ij} \text{Tr}\left(\frac{\delta F}{\delta Q_{ij}}\right) \right)$$

$$F = \int \left\{ \frac{A}{2} (Q_{ij})^2 + \frac{C}{4} (Q_{ij})^4 + \frac{K}{2} (\partial_i Q_{jk})^2 \right\}$$

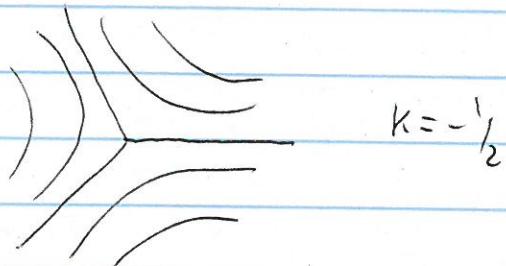
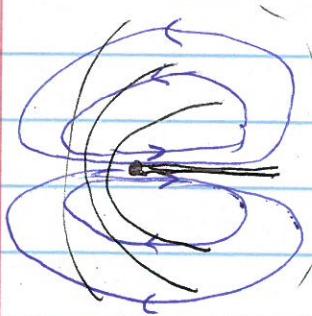
(P)

## DEFECTS AS SPP

Flow field of defects obtained by solving

$$\begin{cases} 2\pi^2 \vec{v} - \vec{\nabla} P + \vec{f} = 0 \\ \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v} = 0 \end{cases} \quad \vec{f} = \vec{\nabla}, \vec{\nabla}_a$$

$$\vec{f} = \frac{\alpha}{2r} \begin{cases} \hat{x} & k = +\frac{1}{2} \\ -\cos 2\phi \hat{x} + \sin 2\phi \hat{y} & k = -\frac{1}{2} \end{cases}$$



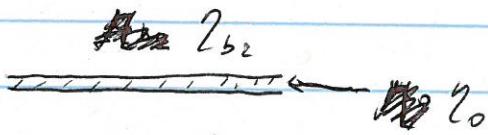
$$V_{core} \sim \frac{\alpha}{2} R$$

$$V_{core} = 0$$

But  $\rightarrow$  Suraj's poster

$$V_{core} \sim \frac{\alpha}{2(\eta_{b1} + \eta_{b2})} \ln\left(\frac{r}{R_{core}}\right)$$

$$\zeta \sim \sqrt{\frac{d \eta_0}{\eta_b}}$$



$$2b_1$$

$2b_i$ : 3d viscosities

$$2d [\eta] = m t^{-1}$$

$$3d [\eta] = m t^{-1} / \rho$$

(9)

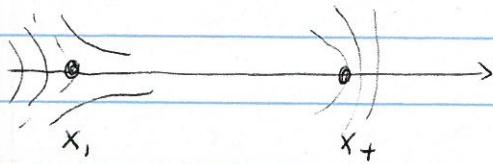
## DEFECT DYNAMICS

(passive): defects as point particles with functional dynamics and attractive/repulsive interactions

$$E_{\text{pair}} = -2\pi K \cdot s_1 s_2 \log \frac{|\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2|}{a} \quad a \sim \text{core size}$$

$$s_1 = +y_2, s_2 = -y_2$$

$$E = \frac{\pi K}{2} \log \frac{|x_+ - x_-|}{a}$$



$$\gamma \frac{dx_+}{dt} = -\frac{\partial E}{\partial x_+} = -\frac{\pi K a}{2} \frac{1}{x_+ - x_-}$$

$$\Delta = x_+ - x_-$$

$$\gamma \frac{dx_-}{dt} = +\frac{\pi K a}{2} \frac{1}{x_+ - x_-}$$

$$\frac{d\Delta}{dt} = -\frac{2\pi}{\Delta}$$

$$\kappa = \frac{\pi k}{2\gamma}$$

Note that

$$f_{\text{eff}} = f_0 \log(\Delta/a)$$

$$t_a = \Delta(0)/2\kappa$$

active

$$\gamma \left( \frac{dx_\pm}{dt} - V_s(x_\pm) \right) = F$$

$$V_+(x - x_+) + V_-(x - x_-)$$

flow generated by defects

$$\gamma \left( \frac{dx_+}{dt} - V_0 \right) = -\frac{\pi k}{2\Delta}$$

$$\gamma \left( \frac{dx_-}{dt} \right) = \frac{\pi K}{2\Delta}$$

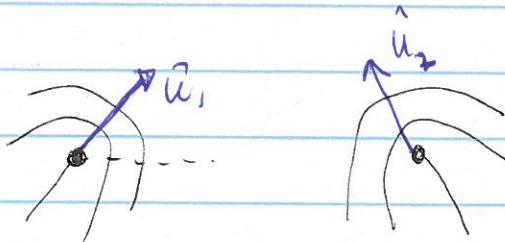
$$\frac{d\Delta}{dt} = V_0 - \frac{2\pi}{\Delta}$$

$$t_a = -\frac{\Delta(0)}{V_0} - \frac{2\pi}{V_0^2} \log \left[ 1 - \frac{V_0}{2\pi} \Delta(0) \right]$$

(10)

## Interaction + Torque of $\pm \frac{1}{2}$ defects

$$E = -\frac{\pi K}{2} \left[ \log \frac{|\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2|}{a} + \frac{1}{2} \ln(1 - u_1, u_2) \right]$$



$$\text{J. } \frac{d\psi_i}{dt} = \frac{\pi K}{2} \sum_j \cot \left( \frac{\psi_i - \psi_j}{2} \right)$$

$$\psi_i - \psi_j = \pi$$

$$\text{torque} = 0$$

$$\psi_i - \psi_j = 0$$

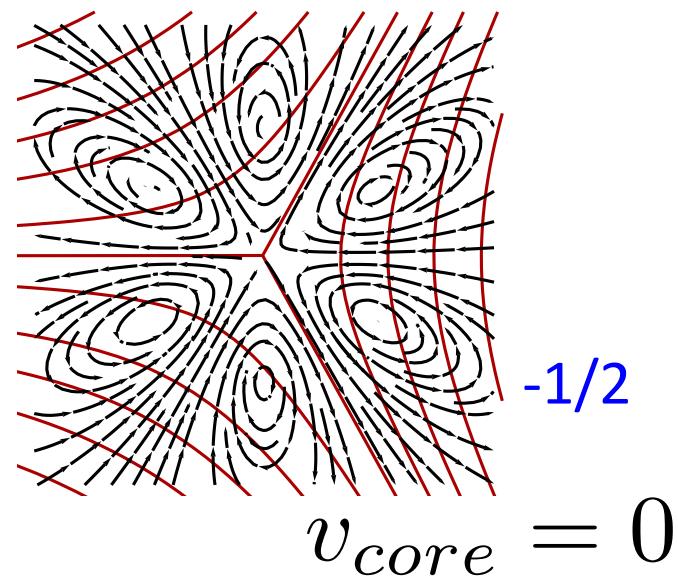
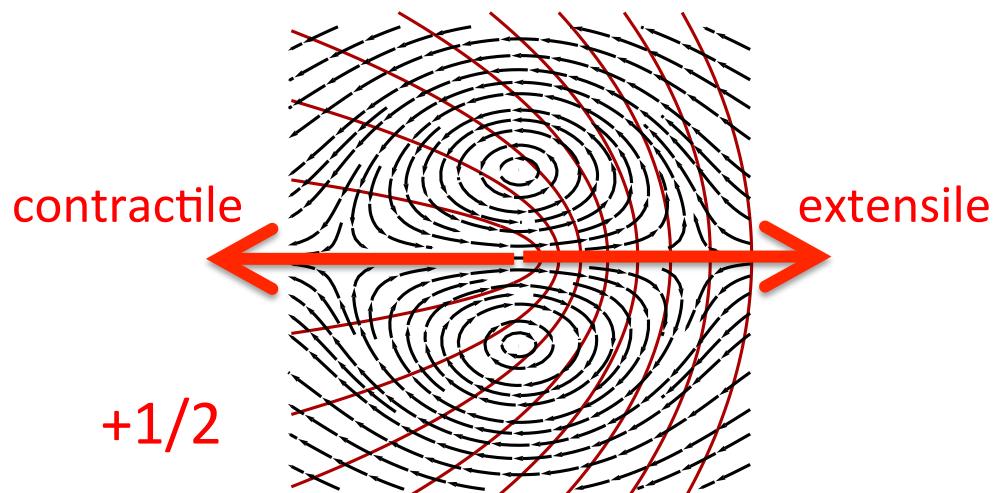
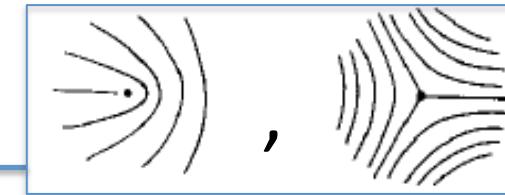
$$\text{torque} \rightarrow \infty$$

# Active Backflow

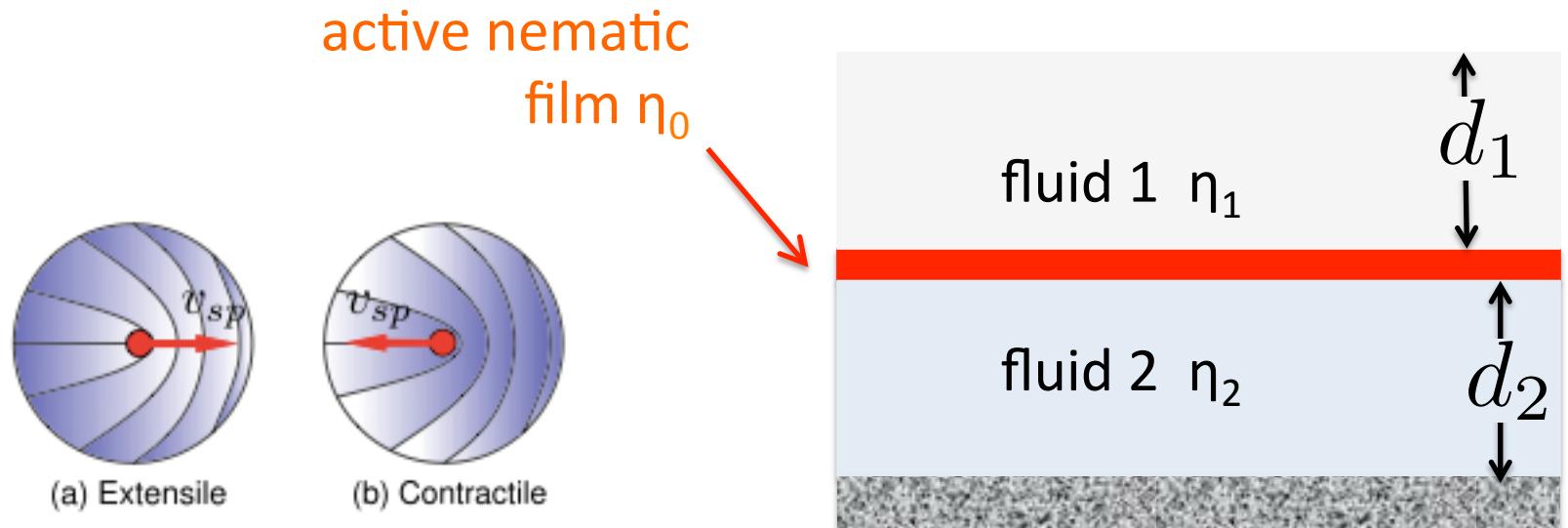
Giomi, Bowick, Ma & MCM, PRL 2013

Director distortions from disclinations yield **active stresses** that act as a source for **flows** → solve for flow in Stokes limit

$$\cancel{\partial_t \mathbf{v} = \eta \nabla^2 \mathbf{v} + \alpha \nabla \cdot \mathbf{Q}}$$
$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0$$



# Bounding fluids cut-off divergence



$$v_{sp} \sim \frac{\alpha}{2(\eta_1 + \eta_2)} \ln \left( \frac{\xi}{\ell_c} \right) \quad \xi = \sqrt{d_2 \eta_R / \eta_2}$$

$\ell_c$  defect core

$$\eta_R = \eta_0 + \eta_1 d_1 + \eta_2 d_2$$

# Active Defects as ``Self-Propelled'' Particles

No backflow  $\rightarrow$  pair dynamics  
controlled by balance of *friction*  
and *attraction*

$$x = x_+ - x_-$$

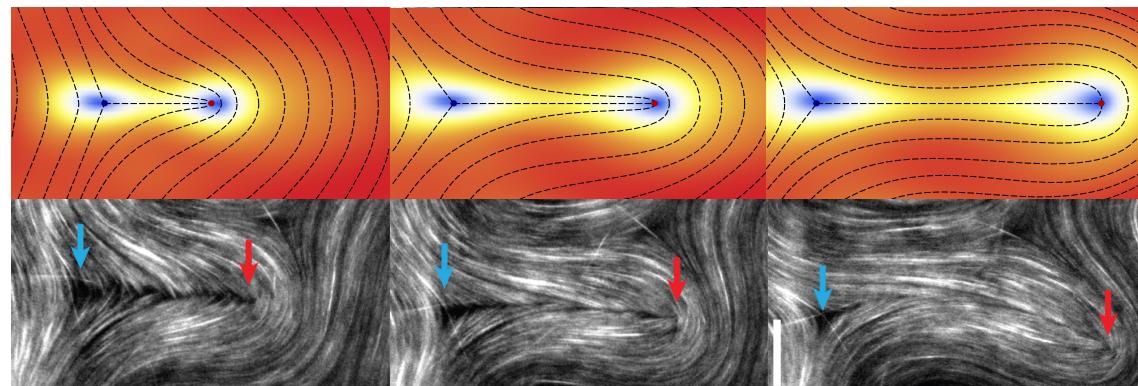
$$\zeta \dot{x} = -\nabla [K \ln(x/a)]$$

In the presence of  
**active backflow** defects  
ride with the flow

$$\zeta [\dot{x}_\pm - v_b(x)] = -\nabla [K \ln(x/a)]$$

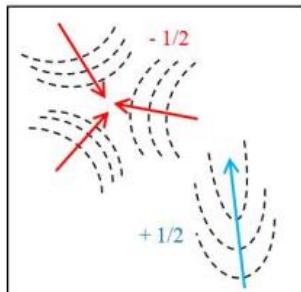
$$v_b(x) \simeq -(\alpha/\eta)R\delta(x - x_+)$$

Extensile  
active  
nematic

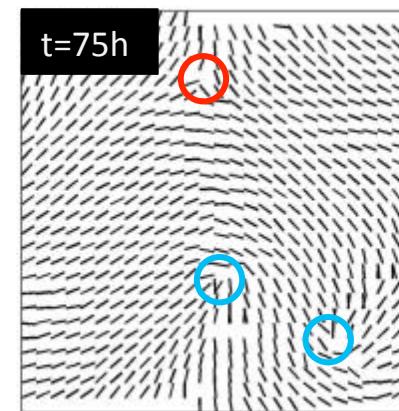
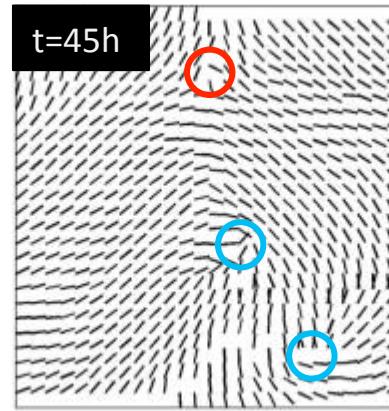
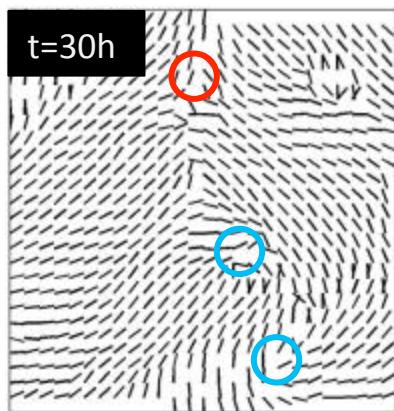


# Contractile system: fibroblasts monolayer

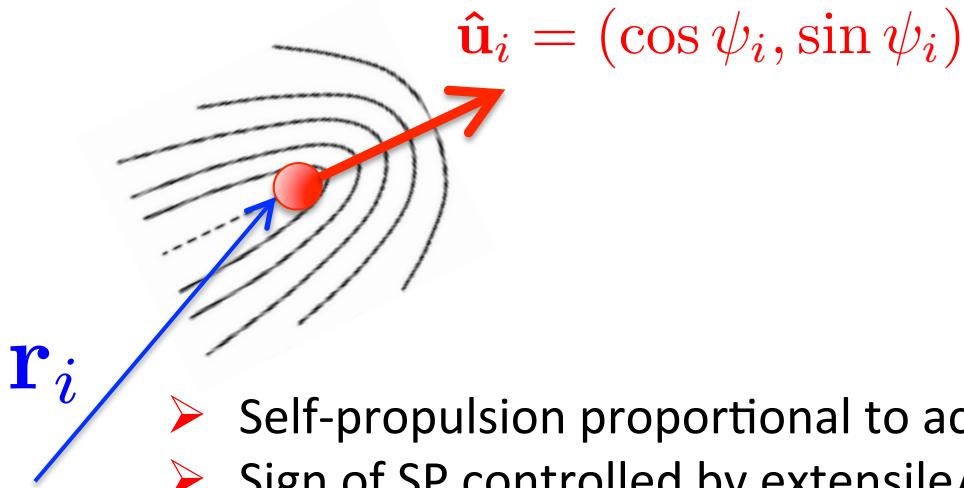
G. Duclos, ... Silberzan, Soft Matter 2013



600  $\mu\text{m}$



# +1/2 defects as SP particles



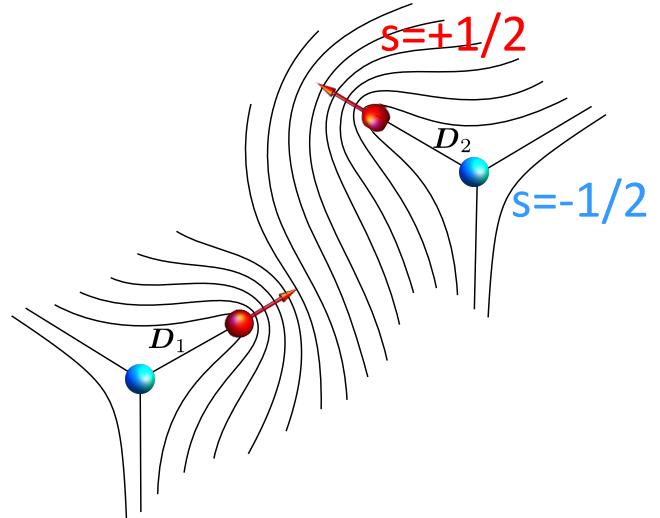
$$\frac{d\mathbf{r}_i}{dt} = v_0 \hat{\mathbf{u}}_i - \frac{1}{\zeta_t} \nabla_i E$$

$$\frac{d\psi_i}{dt} = \frac{1}{\zeta_r} M_i$$

- Self-propulsion proportional to activity
- Sign of SP controlled by extensile/contractile nature of active forces
- Forces and torques obtained from equilibrium interactions:

$$E_{pair} \sim -s_1 s_2 K \ln |\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|$$

Torque obtained from interaction energy of two  $\pm 1/2$  dipoles in the limit  $D_1, D_2 \rightarrow \infty$

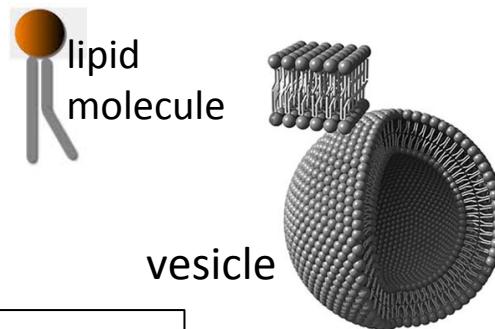


- ❑ Topological defects as fingerprints of symmetry  
(nematic vs polar)
- ❑ Direction of motion of +1/2 defect reveals extensile/  
contractile nature of active stresses



Keber ... MCM et al, Science 2014

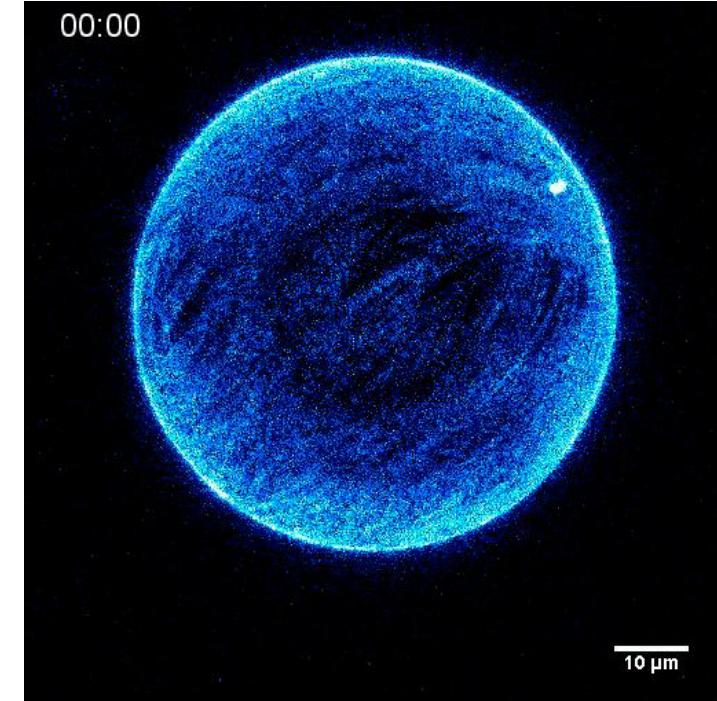
Active MT suspension  
in a lipid vesicle  
→ 2d nematic on the  
surface of a sphere



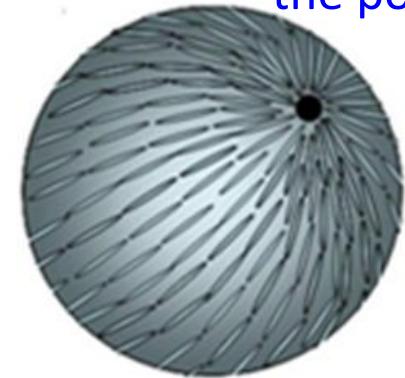
Nematic order on a sphere  
requires a +2 topological charge



Four  $+1/2$  defects  
at the corners of a  
tetrahedron



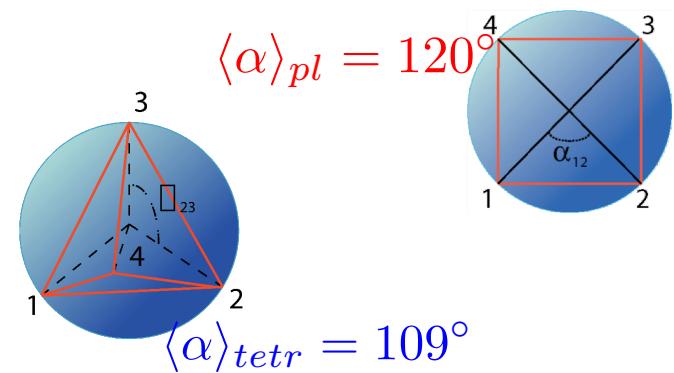
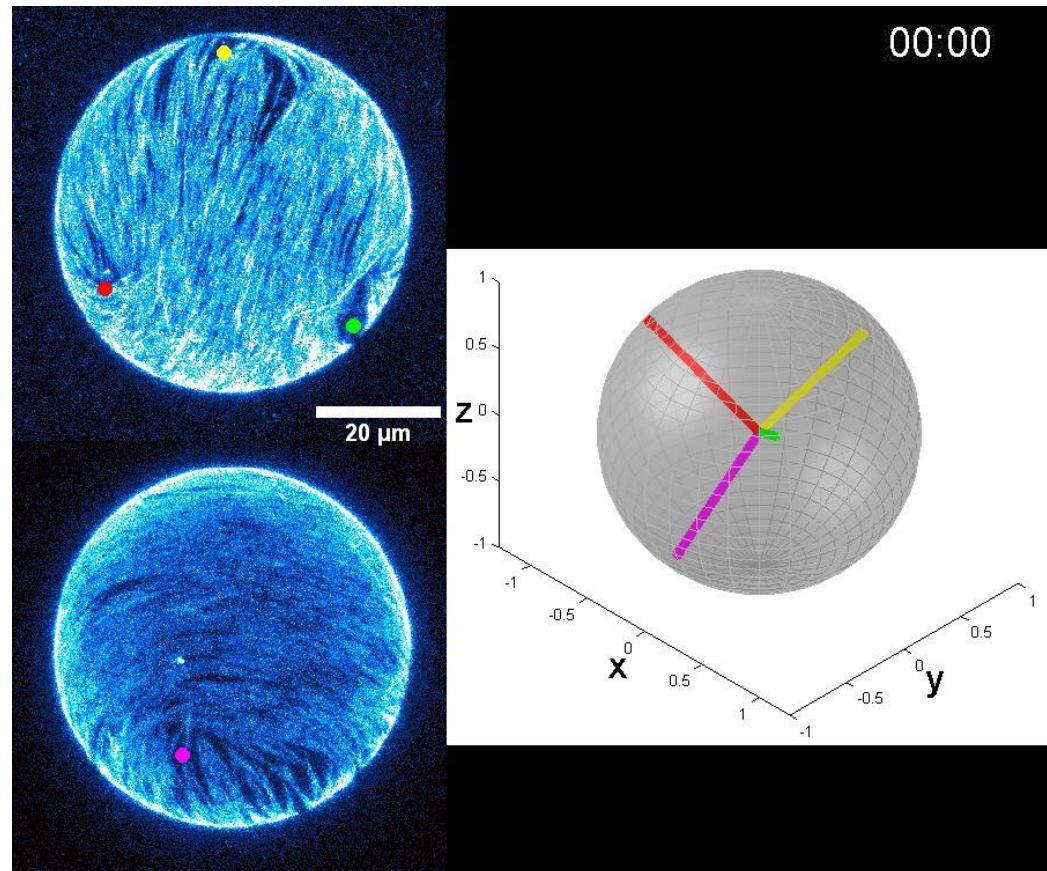
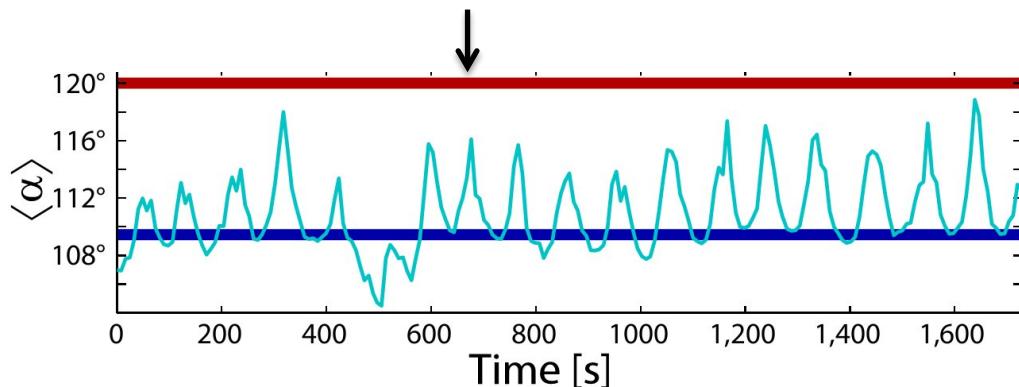
Two  $+1$  defects at  
the poles



In active nematic defects oscillate between tetrahedral and planar configurations

$$\langle \alpha \rangle = \frac{1}{6} \sum_{i < j} \arccos \left( \frac{\mathbf{r}_i \cdot \mathbf{r}_j}{R^2} \right)$$

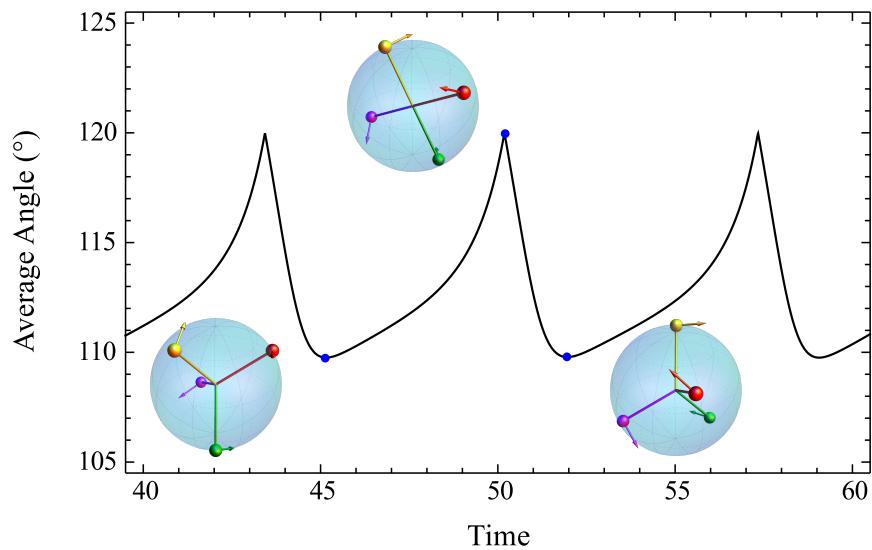
Frequency set by size of sphere and ATP concentration (12 mHz)



# Oscillations for $\zeta_t R^2 > \zeta_r$

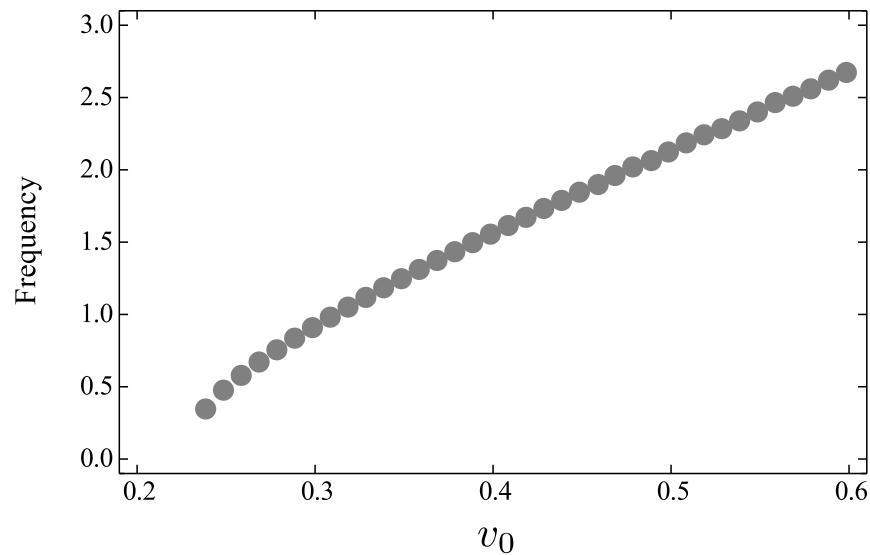
$$\langle \alpha \rangle = \frac{1}{6} \sum_{i < j} \arccos \left( \frac{\mathbf{r}_i \cdot \mathbf{r}_j}{R^2} \right)$$

(a)



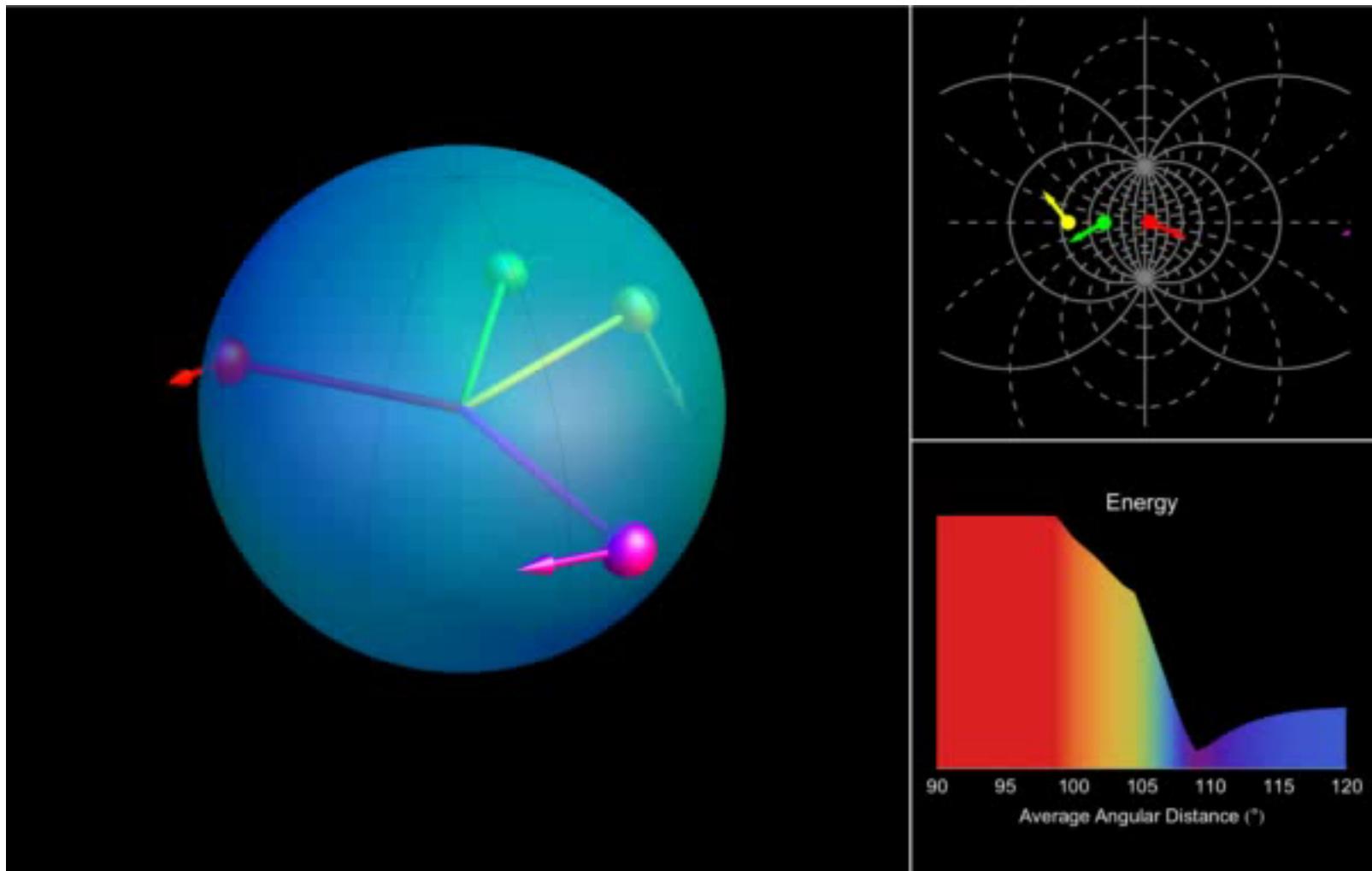
Defect core translation lags  
reorientation

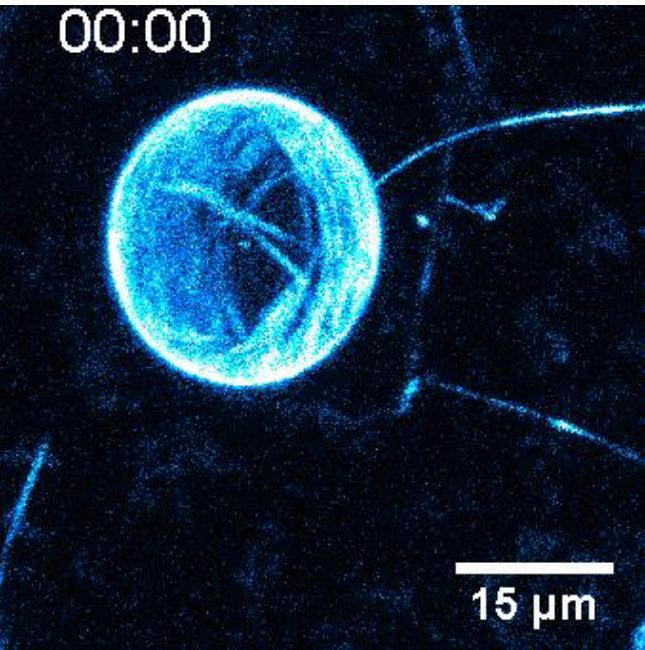
(b)



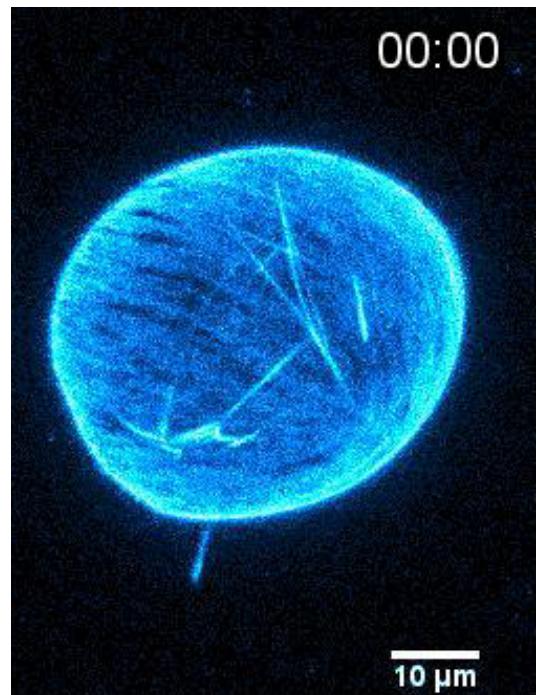
$$v_0 \sim \frac{\text{activity}}{\text{viscosity}} R$$

frequency  $\sim v_0/R$





Smaller vesicles



Silke Henkes (Aberdeen)  
Rastko Sknepnek (Dundee)

