
Active dumbbells

Leticia F. Cugliandolo

Université Pierre et Marie Curie
Sorbonne Universités

`leticia@lpthe.jussieu.fr`

`www.lpthe.jussieu.fr/~leticia`

Work in collaboration with

D. Loi & S. Mossa (Grenoble, France, 2007-2009) and

G. Gonnella, P. Di Gregorio, G.-L. Laghezza, A. Lamura, A. Mossa & A. Suma
(Bari & Trieste, Italia, 2013-2015)

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Plan

5 lectures & 2 exercise sessions

1. Introduction
2. Active Brownian dumbbells
3. Effective temperatures
4. Two-dimensional equilibrium phases
5. Two-dimensional collective behaviour of active systems

Fifth lecture

Plan

5 lectures & 2 exercise sessions

1. Introduction
2. Active Brownian dumbbells
3. Effective temperatures
4. Two-dimensional equilibrium phases
5. **Two-dimensional collective behaviour of active systems**

Results & questions

- Brand new Bernard & Krauth two step transition scenario

Liquid (1st order) Hexatic (BKTHNY) Solid

confirmed for hard and soft passive disks

- Passive molecules ?
- Active disks and molecules ?
- Mobility induced phase transition for purely repulsive interactions vs.
just an extension of the Bernard & Krauth passive system scenario

Plan

1. The result: new phase diagram

2. The interacting dumbbells model

3. Passive case

4. Active case

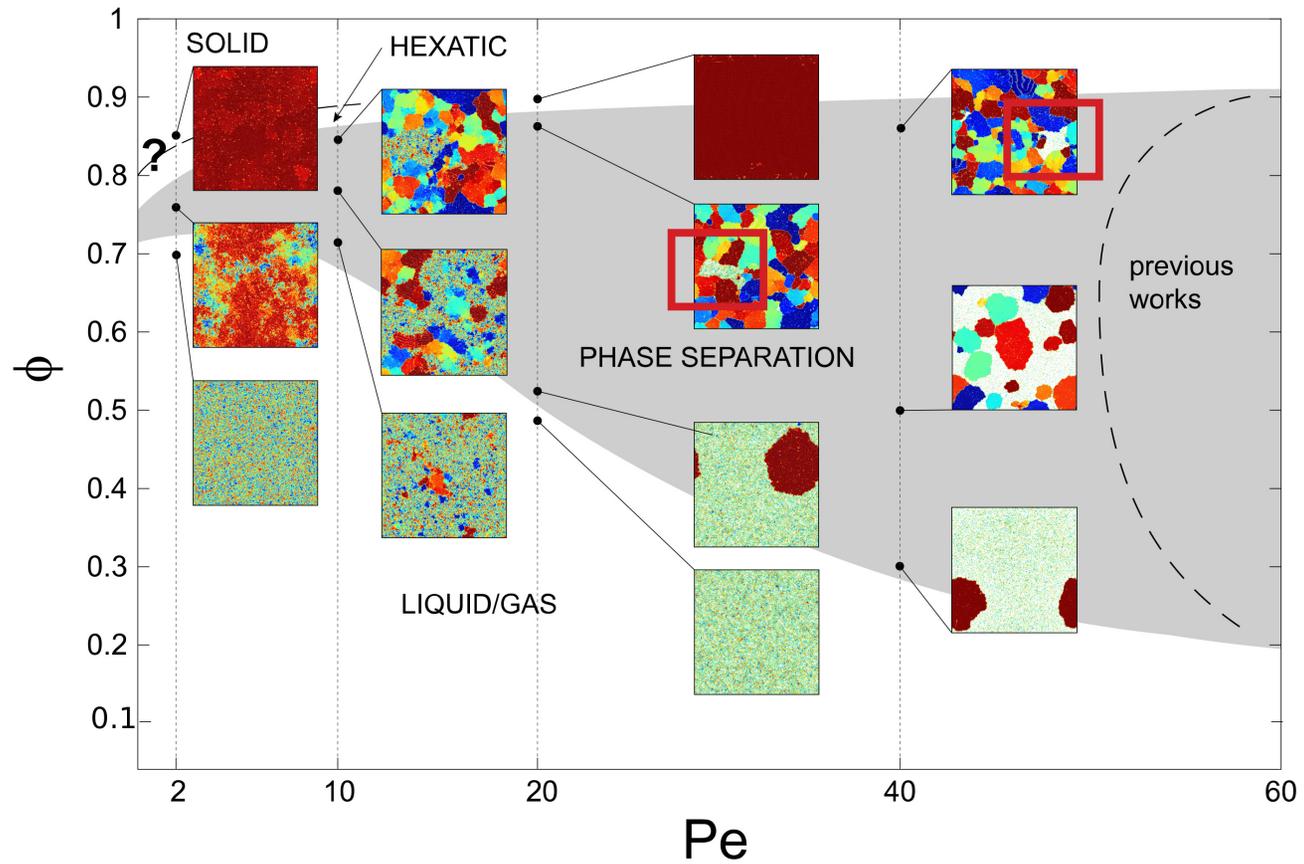
5. Discussion of

Mobility induced phase transition for purely repulsive interactions
vs.

just an extension of the Bernard & Krauth passive system scenario

Phase diagram

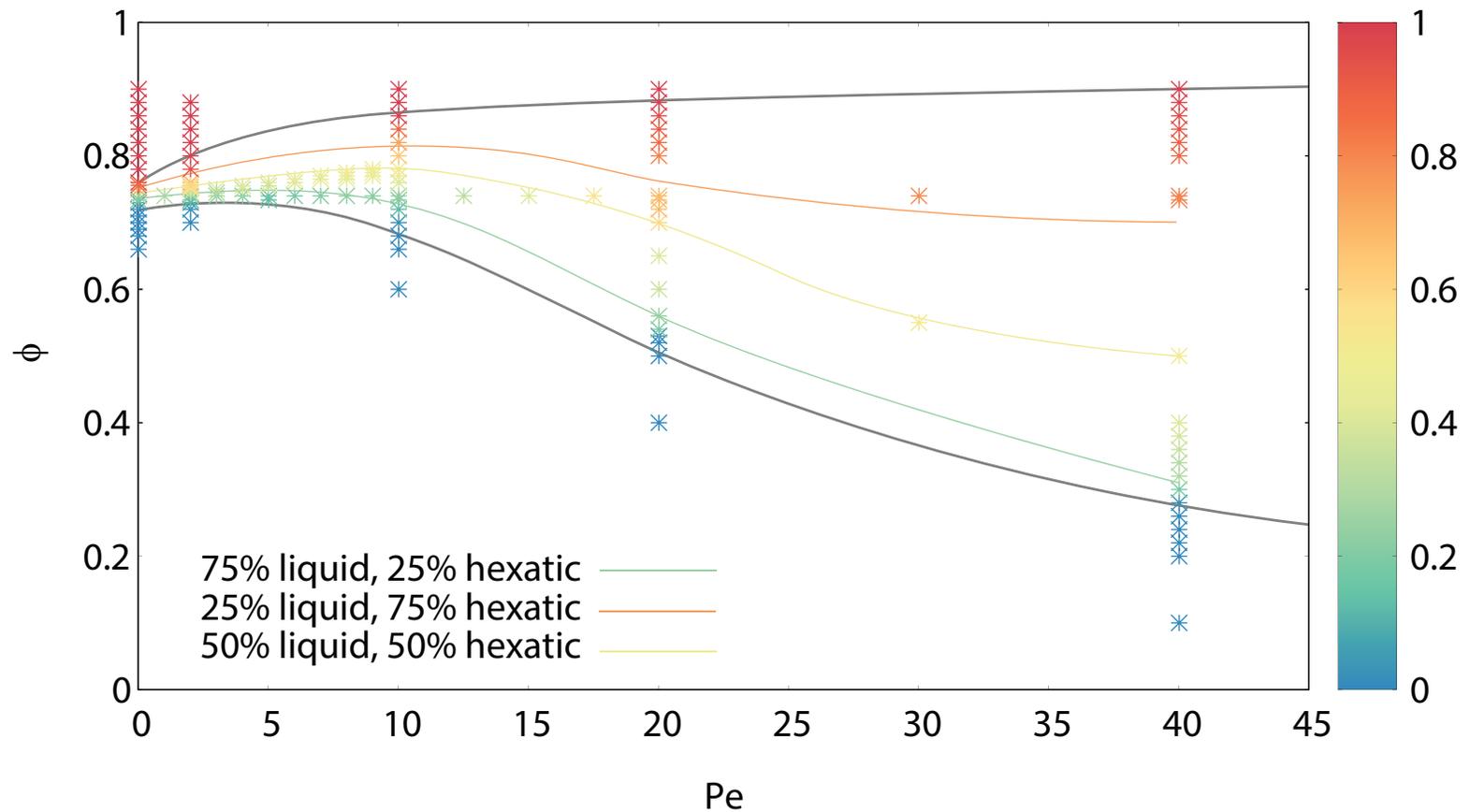
Active dumbbells



$$T = 0.05$$

Coexistence region

& lines of constant proportion



Plan

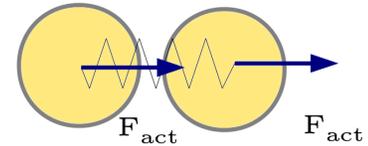
1. The result: new phase diagram
2. **The interacting dumbbells model**
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Mobility induced phase transition for purely repulsive interactions
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Interacting active dumbbells

Many-body interacting system



Two spherical atoms with diameter σ_d and mass m_d

Massless spring modelled by a finite extensible non-linear elastic (fene) force

between the beads i and j belonging to the same dumbbell, $\mathbf{F}_{fene} = -\frac{k(\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j)}{1 - r_{ij}^2/r_0^2}$,

with an additional repulsive contribution (WCA) to avoid colloidal overlapping.

Polar active force along the main molecular axis $\mathbf{F}_{act} = F_{act} \hat{\mathbf{n}}$

Purely repulsive interaction between colloids in different molecules.

Langevin modelling of the interaction with the embedding fluid:

isotropic viscous forces, $-\gamma \mathbf{v}_i$, and independent noises, $\boldsymbol{\eta}_i$, on the beads.

Particles with shape

e.g., a diatomic molecule or a dumbbell

$$\begin{aligned}m_d \ddot{\mathbf{r}}_i(t) &= -\gamma \dot{\mathbf{r}}_i(t) + \mathbf{F}_{\text{pot}_i}(\mathbf{r}_i, \mathbf{r}_{i+1}) + \boldsymbol{\eta}_i \\m_d \ddot{\mathbf{r}}_{i+1}(t) &= -\gamma \dot{\mathbf{r}}_{i+1}(t) + \mathbf{F}_{\text{pot}_{i+1}}(\mathbf{r}_i, \mathbf{r}_{i+1}) + \boldsymbol{\eta}_{i+1}\end{aligned}$$

with $\mathbf{F}_{\text{pot}} = \mathbf{F}_{\text{wca}} + \mathbf{F}_{\text{fene}}$, $V = V_{\text{wca}} + V_{\text{fene}}$ and

$$V_{\text{wca}}(\mathbf{r}_i, \mathbf{r}_{i+1}) = \begin{cases} V_{LJ}(r_{i,i+1}) - V_{LJ}(r_c) & r < r_c \\ 0 & r > r_c \end{cases}$$
$$V_{LJ}(r) = 4\epsilon \left[\left(\frac{\sigma}{r}\right)^{2n} - \left(\frac{\sigma}{r}\right)^n \right] \quad r_c = 2^{1/n} \sigma_d = \sigma$$

Active dumbbell

Control parameters

Number of dumbbells N and box volume S in two dimensions:

packing fraction

$$\phi = \frac{\pi \sigma_d^2 N}{2S}$$

Energy scales:

Active work $2\sigma_d F_{\text{act}}$

thermal energy $k_B T$

Péclet number

$$\text{Pe} = \frac{2F_{\text{act}}\sigma_d}{k_B T}$$

Active force $L\nu \mapsto \sigma_d F_{\text{act}}/\gamma$

viscous force $\nu \mapsto \gamma\sigma_d^2/m_d$

Reynolds number

$$\text{Re} = \frac{m_d F_{\text{act}}}{\sigma_d \gamma^2}$$

$$\text{Pe} \in [0, 40]$$

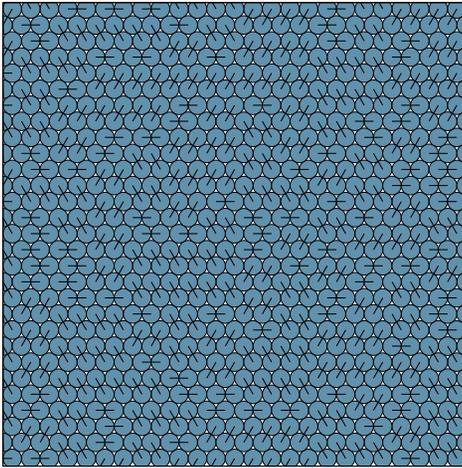
$$\text{Re} < 10^{-2}$$

We keep the parameters in the harmonic (fene) and Lennard-Jones (repulsive) potential fixed. Stiff molecule limit: vibrations frozen.

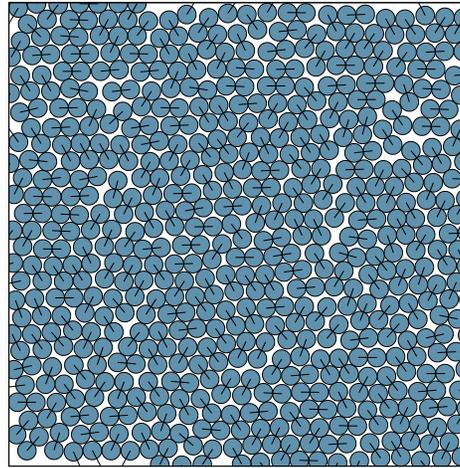
Interest in the ϕ , F_{act} and $k_B T$ dependencies.

Initial conditions

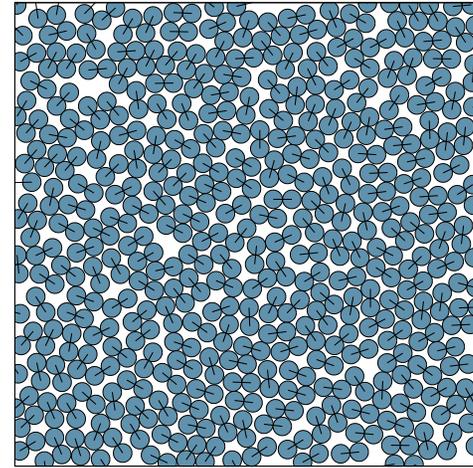
Three cases



Crystal



Hexatic order



Random

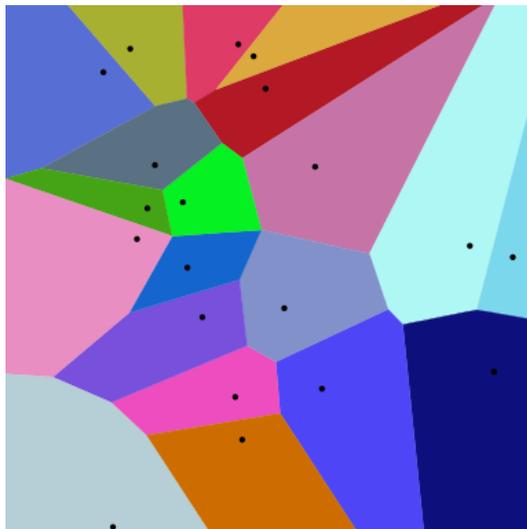
with the desired ϕ

Observables

Voronoi tessellation

A **Voronoi diagram** is induced by a set of points, called sites, that in our case are the centres of the dumbbell beads.

The plane is subdivided into faces that correspond to the regions where one site is closest.



Focus on the central light-green face

All points within this region are closer to the dot within it than to any other dot on the plane

The region has five neighbouring cells from which it is separated by an edge

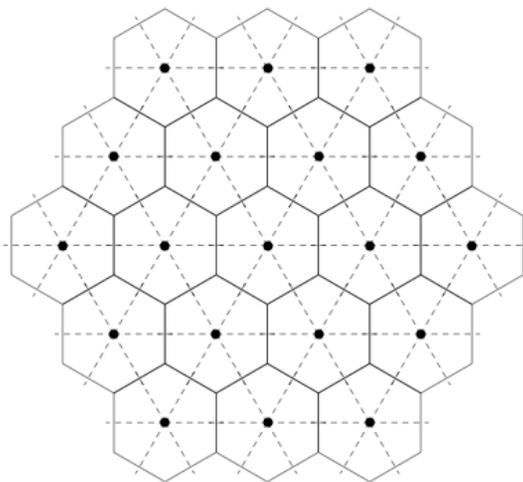
The grey zone has six neighbouring cells

Observables

Voronoi tessellation

A **Voronoi diagram** is induced by a set of points, called sites, that in our case are the centres of the dumbbell beads.

The plane is subdivided into faces that correspond to the regions where one site is closest.



With dashed lines, the triangular lattice

The vertices are the sites

Each site has six nearest neighbours

The angles of the edges of the triangular lattice are

$$\theta_{ij} = 2\pi j/6$$

The hexagonal lattice is the Voronoi tessellation

Observables

Local density

For each bead, i the first estimate of the local density ϕ_i^{Vor} is the ratio between its surface and the area A_i^{Vor} of its Voronoi region:

$$\phi_i^{\text{Vor}} = \frac{\pi \sigma_d^2}{4A_i^{\text{Vor}}}$$

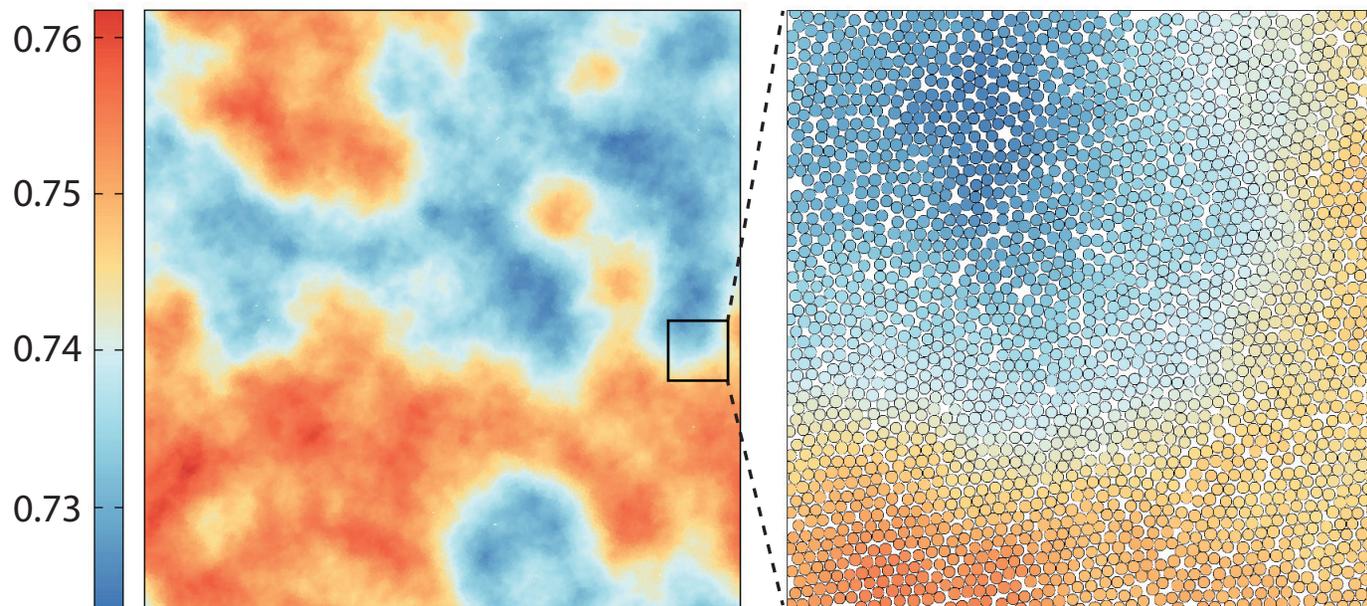
We next coarse-grain this value by averaging the single-bead densities ϕ_i^{Vor} over a disk $S_R^{(i)}$ with radius R

$$[[\phi_i]] \equiv \sum_{i \in S_R^{(i)}} \phi_i^{\text{Vor}} / (\pi R^2)$$

Visualisation: each bead is painted with the colour of its coarse-grained local density value, $[[\phi_i]]$, denser in red, looser in blue.

Observables

Local density colour map - an example



More on this figure later

Observables

Positional order

The (fluctuating) local particle number density

$$\rho(\mathbf{r}_0) = \sum_{i=1}^N \delta(\mathbf{r}_0 - \mathbf{r}_i)$$

with normalisation $\int d^d \mathbf{r}_0 \rho(\mathbf{r}_0) = N$. In a homogeneous system $\rho(\mathbf{r}_0) = N/V$.

The density-density correlation function $C(\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{r}_0, \mathbf{r}_0) = \langle \rho(\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{r}_0) \rho(\mathbf{r}_0) \rangle$ that, for homogeneous (independence of \mathbf{r}_0) and isotropic ($\mathbf{r} \mapsto |\mathbf{r}| = r$) cases, is simply $C(\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{r}_0, \mathbf{r}_0) = C(r)$.

The double sum in $C(\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{r}_0, \mathbf{r}_0) = \langle \sum_{ij} \delta(\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{r}_0 - \mathbf{r}_i) \delta(\mathbf{r}_0 - \mathbf{r}_j) \rangle$ has contributions from $i = j$ and $i \neq j$: $C_{\text{equal}} + C_{\text{diff}}$

Observables

Positional order

The density-density **correlation function**

$$C(\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{r}_0, \mathbf{r}_0) = \langle \rho(\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{r}_0) \rho(\mathbf{r}_0) \rangle = \sum_{ij} \langle \delta(\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{r}_0 - \mathbf{r}_i) \delta(\mathbf{r}_0 - \mathbf{r}_j) \rangle$$

is linked to the **structure factor**

$$S(\mathbf{q}) \equiv \frac{1}{N} \langle \tilde{\rho}(\mathbf{q}) \tilde{\rho}(-\mathbf{q}) \rangle = \frac{1}{N} \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N e^{-i\mathbf{q} \cdot (\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j)} \right\rangle$$

by

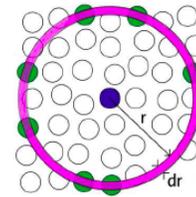
$$N S(\mathbf{q}) = \int d^d \mathbf{r}_1 \int d^d \mathbf{r}_2 C(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2) e^{-i\mathbf{q} \cdot (\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2)}$$

Observables

Positional order

In isotropic cases, i.e. liquid phases, the **pair correlation function**

$\frac{N}{V} g(r)$ = average number of particles
at distance r from a
tagged particle at \mathbf{r}_0



is linked to the **structure factor**

$$S(\mathbf{q}) = \frac{1}{N} \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N e^{-i\mathbf{q} \cdot (\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j)} \right\rangle$$

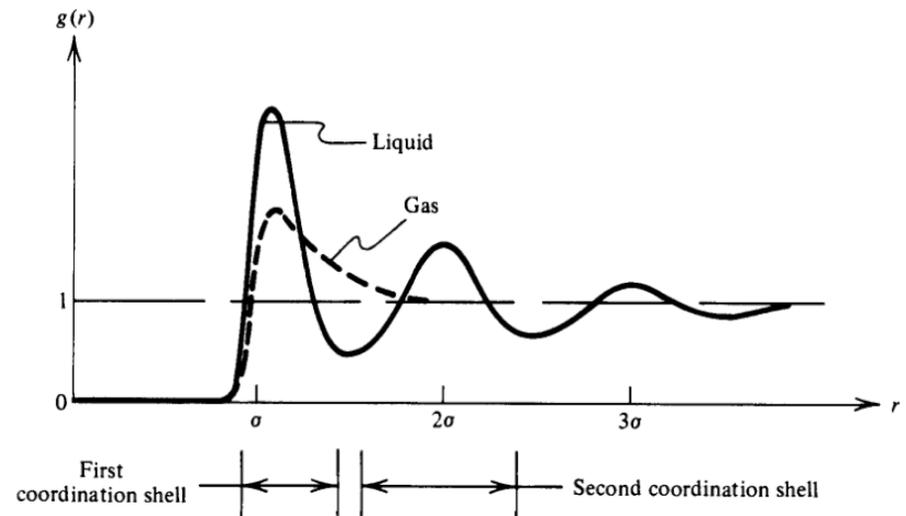
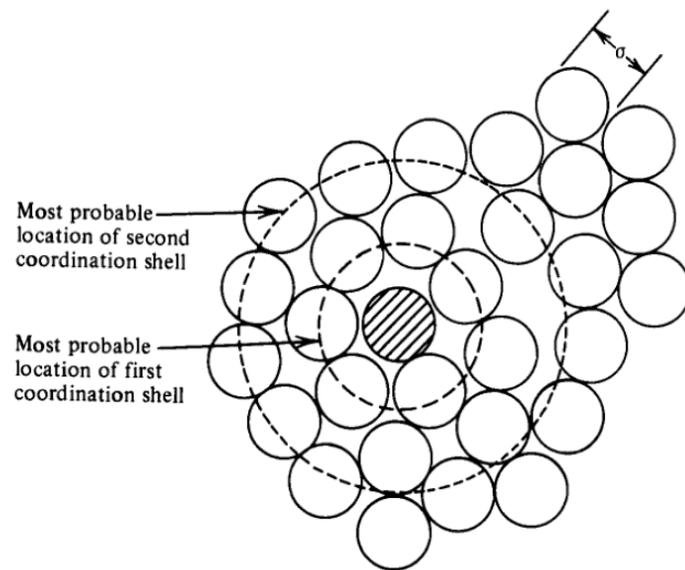
by

$$S(\mathbf{q}) = 1 + \frac{N}{V} \int d^d \mathbf{r} g(r) e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}}$$

Peaks in $g(r)$ are related to peaks in $S(q)$. The first peak in $S(q)$ is at $q_0 = 2\pi / \Delta r$ where Δr is the **distance between peaks** in $g(r)$ (that is close to the inter particle distance as well).

Observables

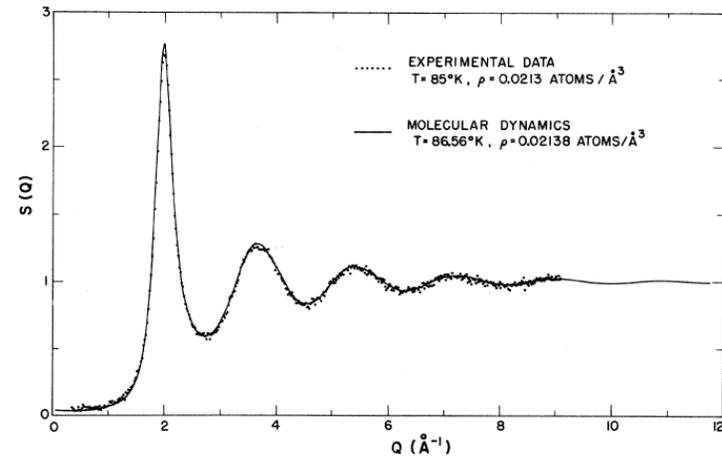
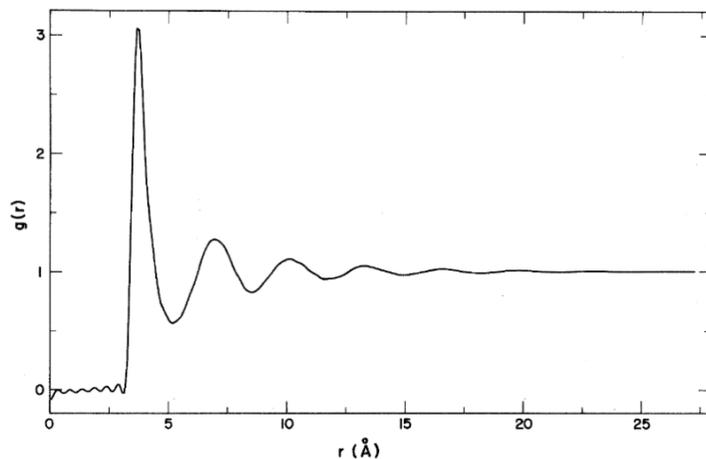
Liquid



“Introduction to Modern Statistical Mechanics”, **Chandler** (OUP)

Observables

Experiments & simulations of liquids



Inter-peak distance in $g(r)$ is $\Delta r \simeq \sigma \simeq 3\text{\AA}$

Position of the first peak in $S(q)$ is at $q_0 \simeq 2\pi/\Delta r \simeq 2 \text{\AA}^{-1}$

“Structure Factor and Radial Distribution Function for Liquid Argon at 85K”,

Yarnell, Katz, Wenzel & König, Phys. Rev. Lett. 7, 2130 (1973)

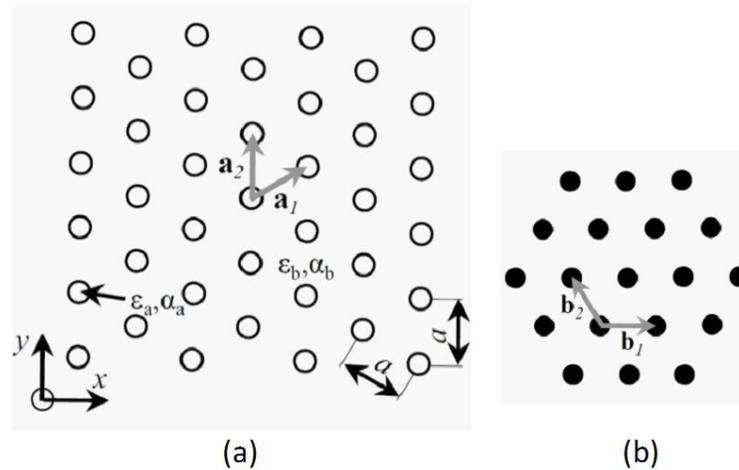
Observables

Structure factor for crystals

\mathbf{r}_i and \mathbf{r}_j are the positions of the beads i and j and \mathbf{q} is the wave-vector :

$$S(\mathbf{q}) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{ij} \langle e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot (\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j)} \rangle$$

Visualisation: $2d$ representation in the (q_x, q_y) plane, Bragg peaks.



Triangular lattice in real space

Hexagonal lattice in reciprocal space

Voronoi cell

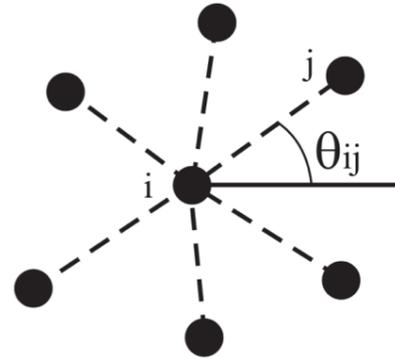
Brillouin zone

Observables

Hexatic order

The local hexatic fluctuating order

$$\psi_{6i} = \frac{1}{N_{\text{nn}}^i} \sum_{j=1}^{N_{\text{nn}}^i} e^{6i\theta_{ij}}$$



with N_{nn}^i the number of nearest (Voronoi) neighbours of bead i and θ_{ij} the angle between the segment that connects i with its neighbour j and the x axis.

For beads placed on the vertices of a triangular lattice, each bead has six nearest-neighbours, $j = 1, \dots, 6$, the angles are $\theta_{ij} = 2\pi j/6$ and $\psi_{6i} = 1$ for all i .

measures orientational order

Observables

Hexatic order

The local hexatic fluctuating order

$$\psi_{6i} = \frac{1}{N_{\text{nn}}^i} \sum_{j=1}^{N_{\text{nn}}^i} e^{6i\theta_{ij}}$$

We also look at the average of the modulus and modulus of the average

$$2N \psi_6 = \left| \sum_{i=1}^N \psi_{6i} \right| \quad 2N \Gamma_6 = \sum_{i=1}^N |\psi_{6i}|$$

and the correlation functions

$$g_6(r) = \frac{\sum_{ij} [\langle \psi_{6i}^* \psi_{6j} \rangle] \Big|_{r_{ij}=r}}{[\langle |\psi_{6i}|^2 \rangle]}$$

Note that the normalisation is site independent

Plan

1. The result: new phase diagram
2. The interacting dumbbells model
3. **Passive case**
4. Active case
5. Discussion of

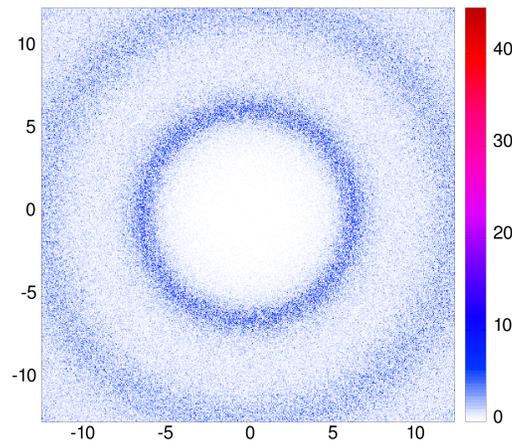
Mobility induced phase transition for purely repulsive interactions
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Passive system

Structure factor - very low and very high density

$$\phi = 0.66$$

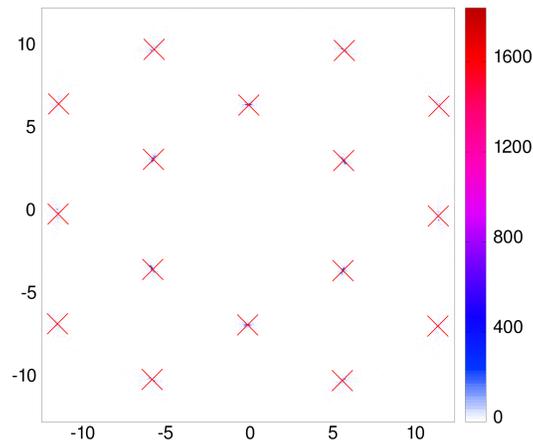


Liquid

Solid

Bragg peaks

$$\phi = 0.76$$



Primitive vectors

$$\mathbf{q}_1 = \frac{4\pi}{a\sqrt{3}} \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}, -\frac{1}{2} \right)$$

$$\mathbf{q}_2 = \frac{4\pi}{a\sqrt{3}} (0, 1)$$

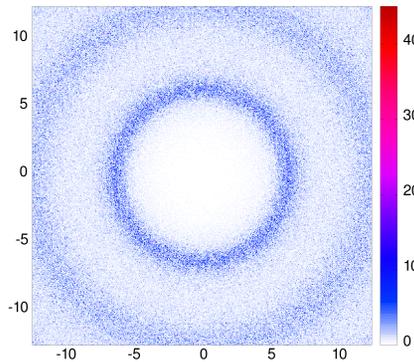
Unit of length

$$a = \left(\frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{3}\phi} \right)^{1/2} \sigma_d$$

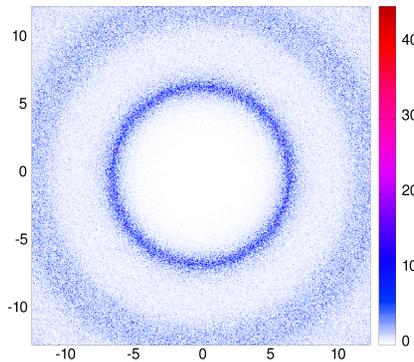
Passive system

Structure factor - progressive increase in density

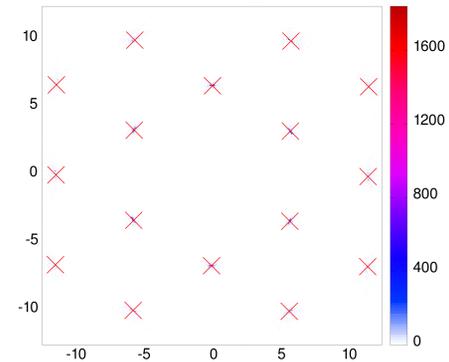
$\phi = 0.66$
(liquid)



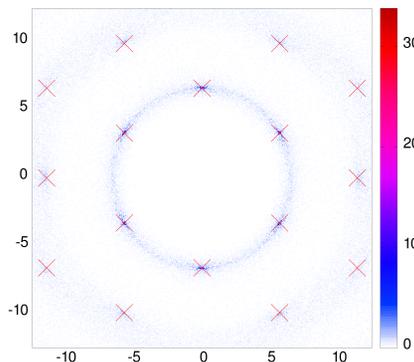
$\phi = 0.72$
(liquid)



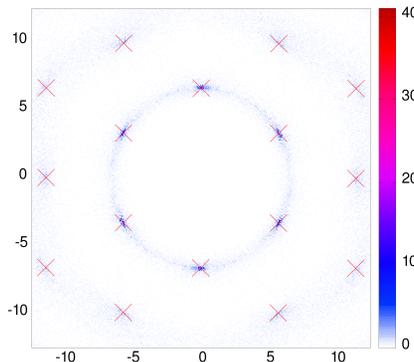
$\phi = 0.76$
(solid)



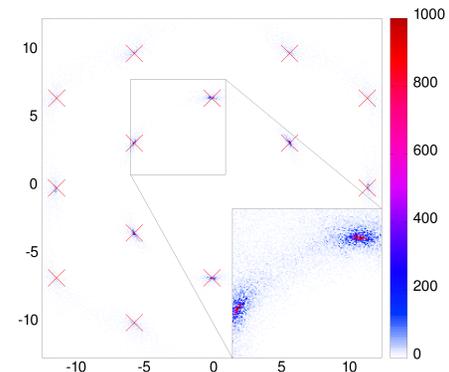
$\phi = 0.734$
(co-existence)



$\phi = 0.74$
(co-existence)

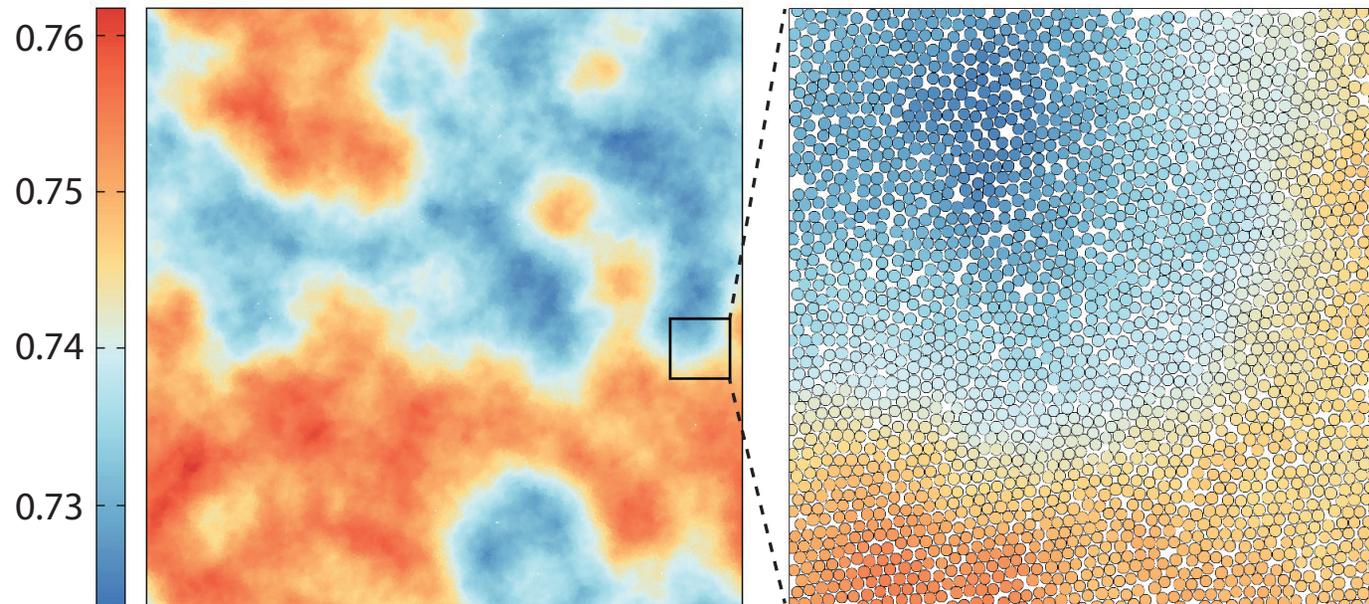


$\phi = 0.75$
(co-existence)



Observables

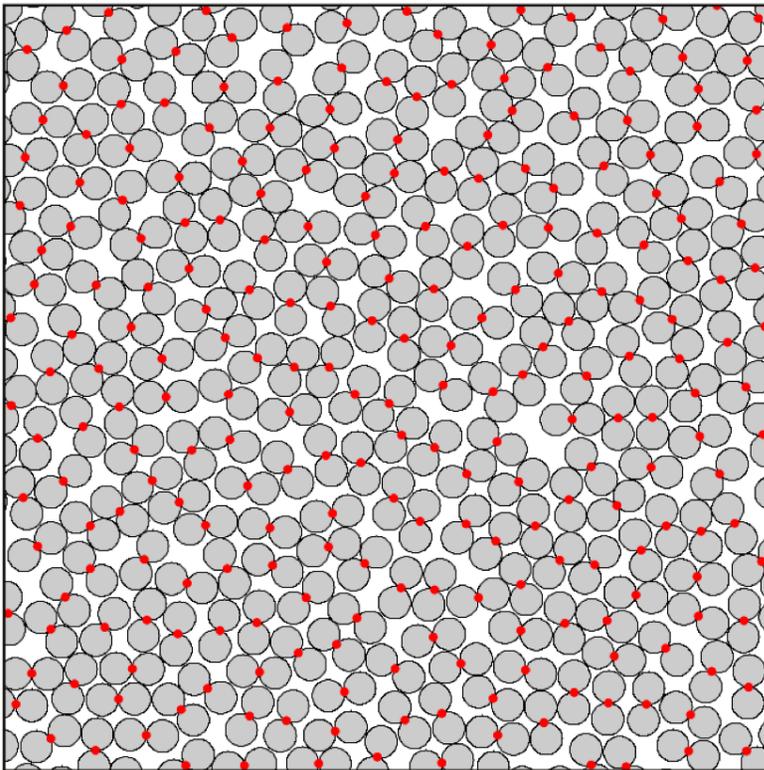
Local density colour map in the co-existence region



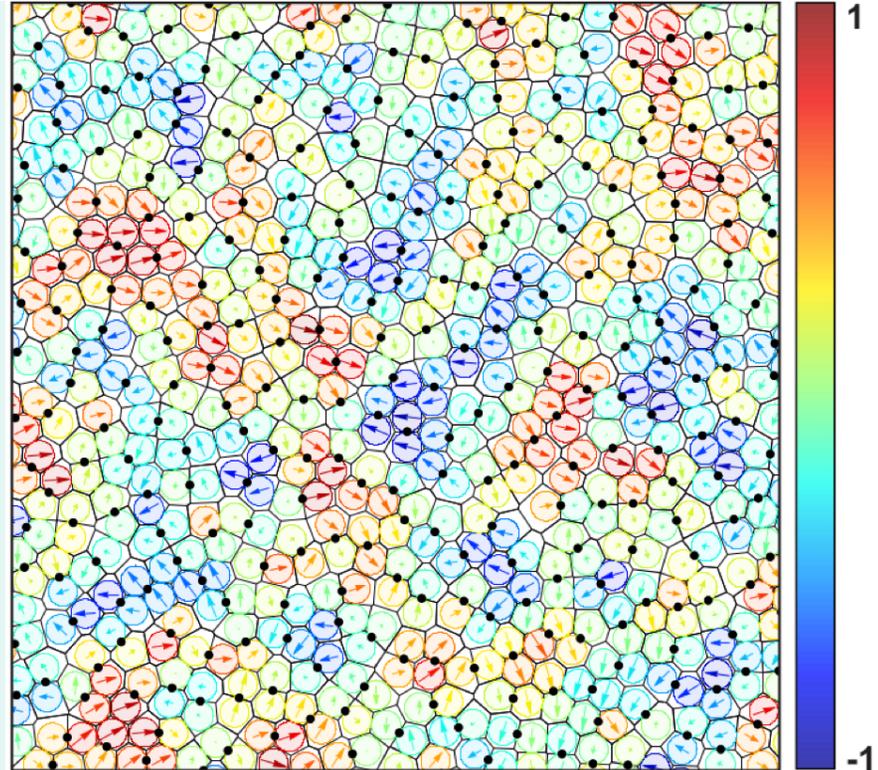
Zoom over an interface

Passive system

Hexatic order parameter



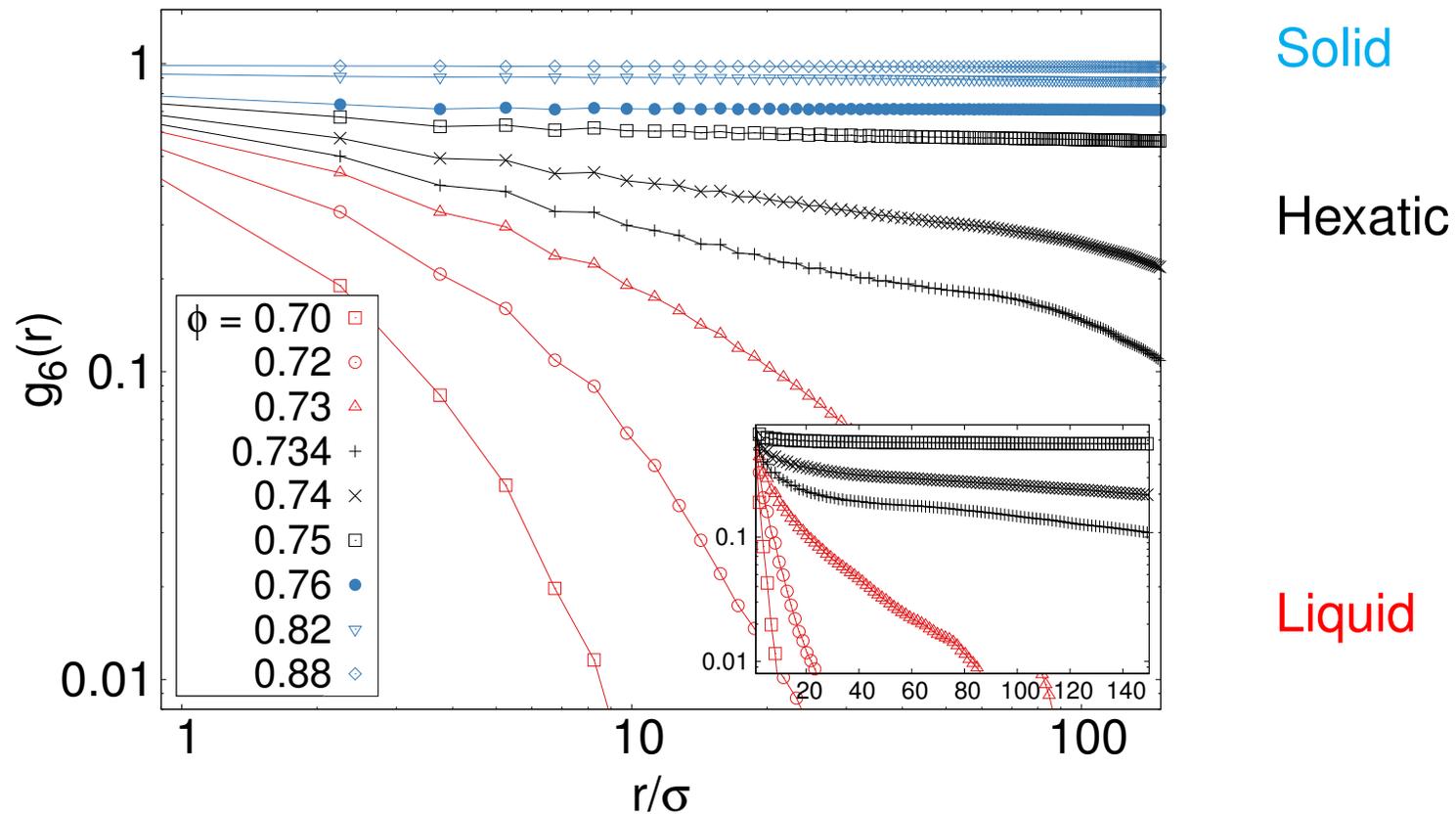
Dumbbells



Hexatic local vector

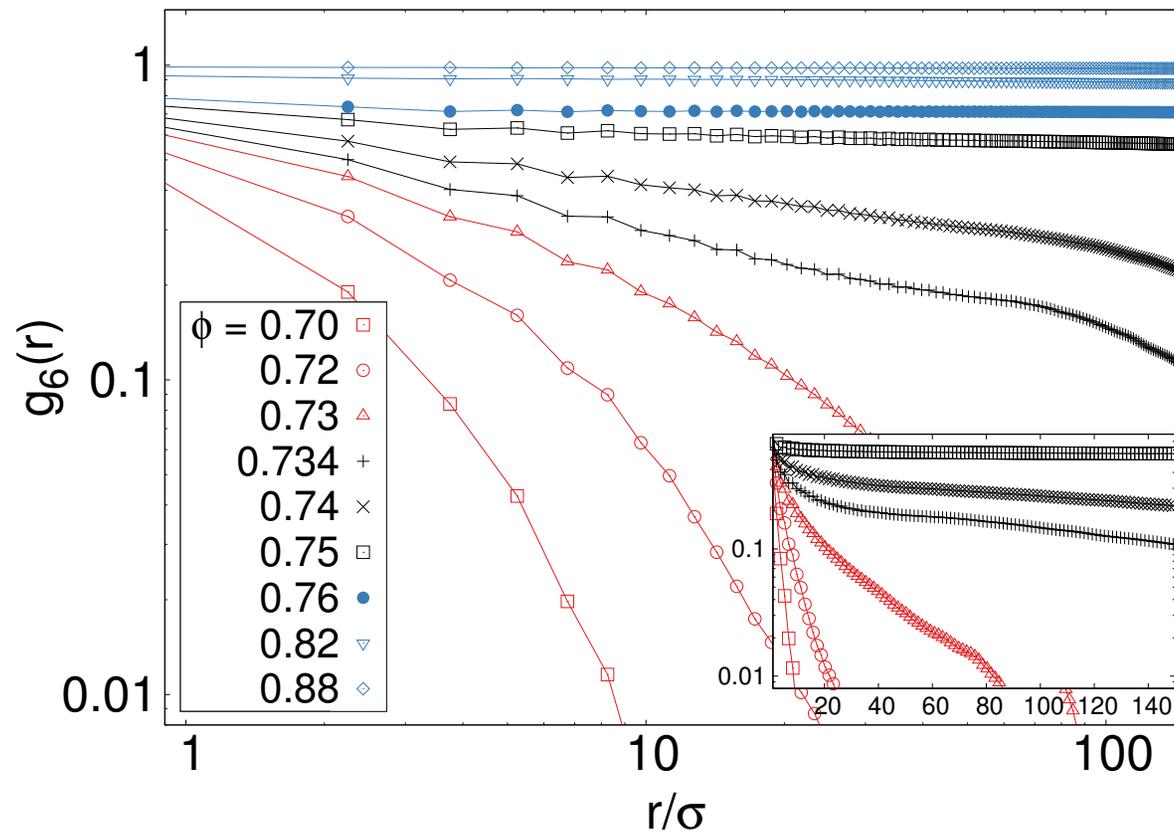
Passive system

Hexatic correlation function



Passive system

Hexatic correlation function



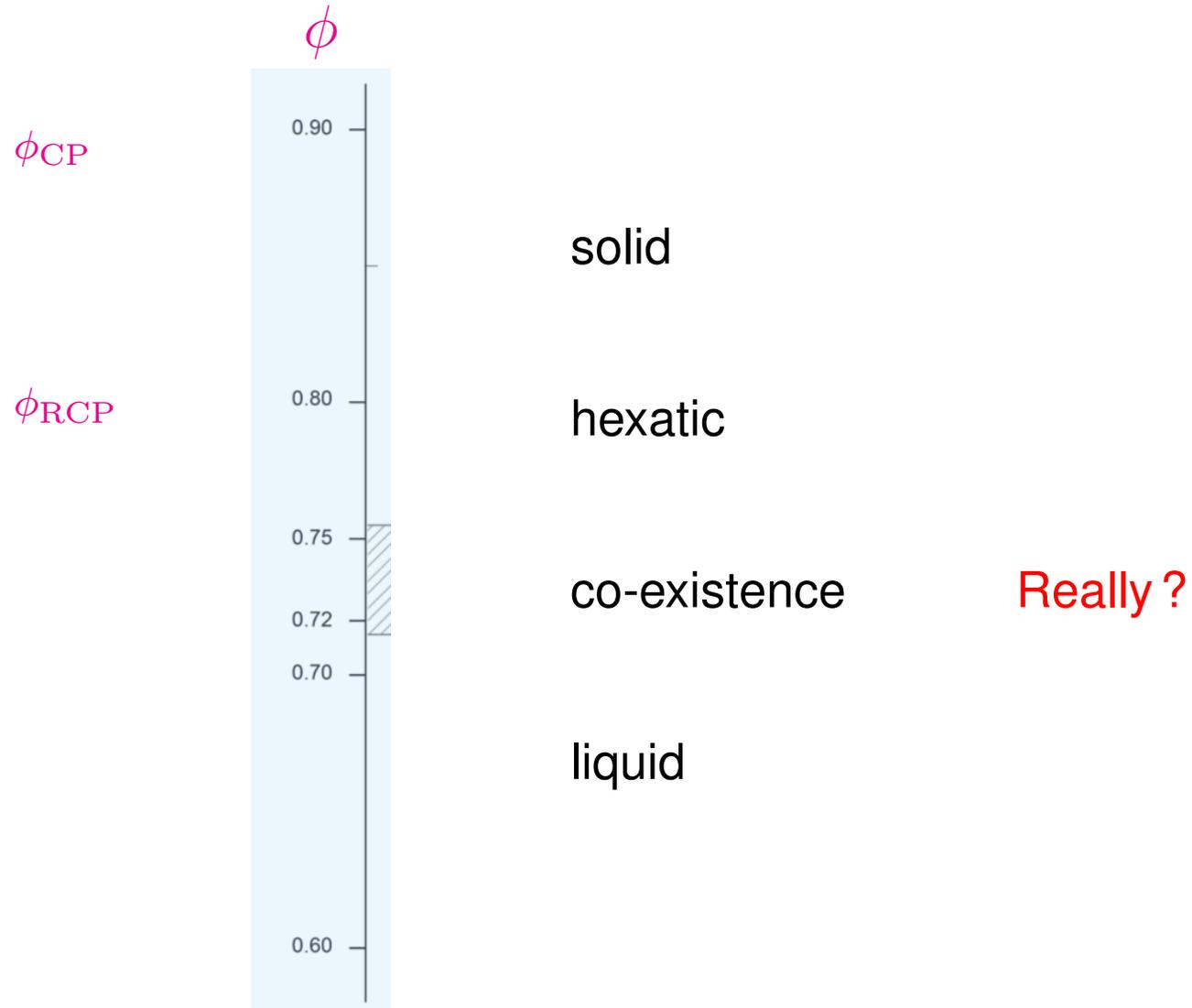
Saturation

Algebraic

Exponential

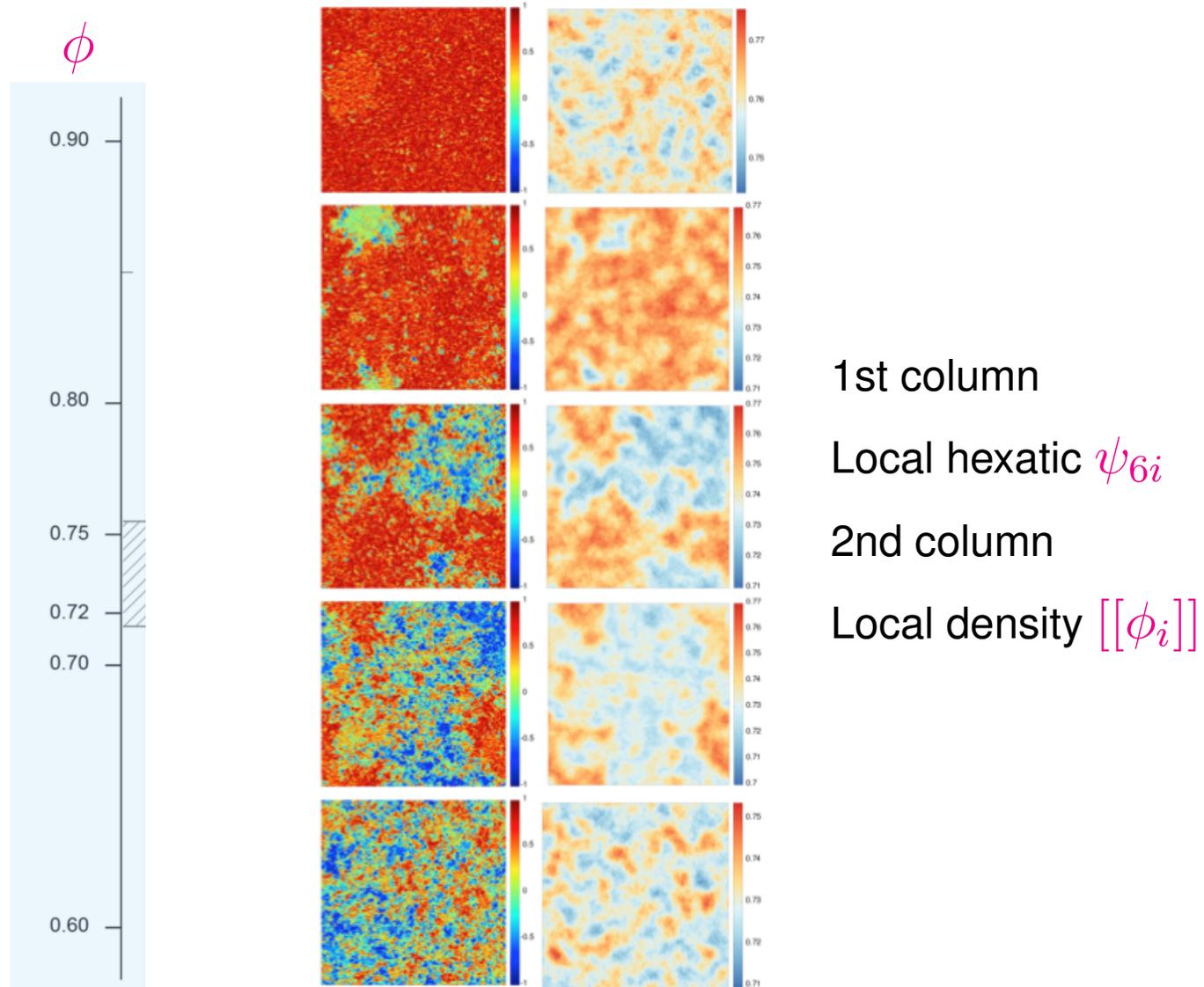
Passive system

Phase diagram



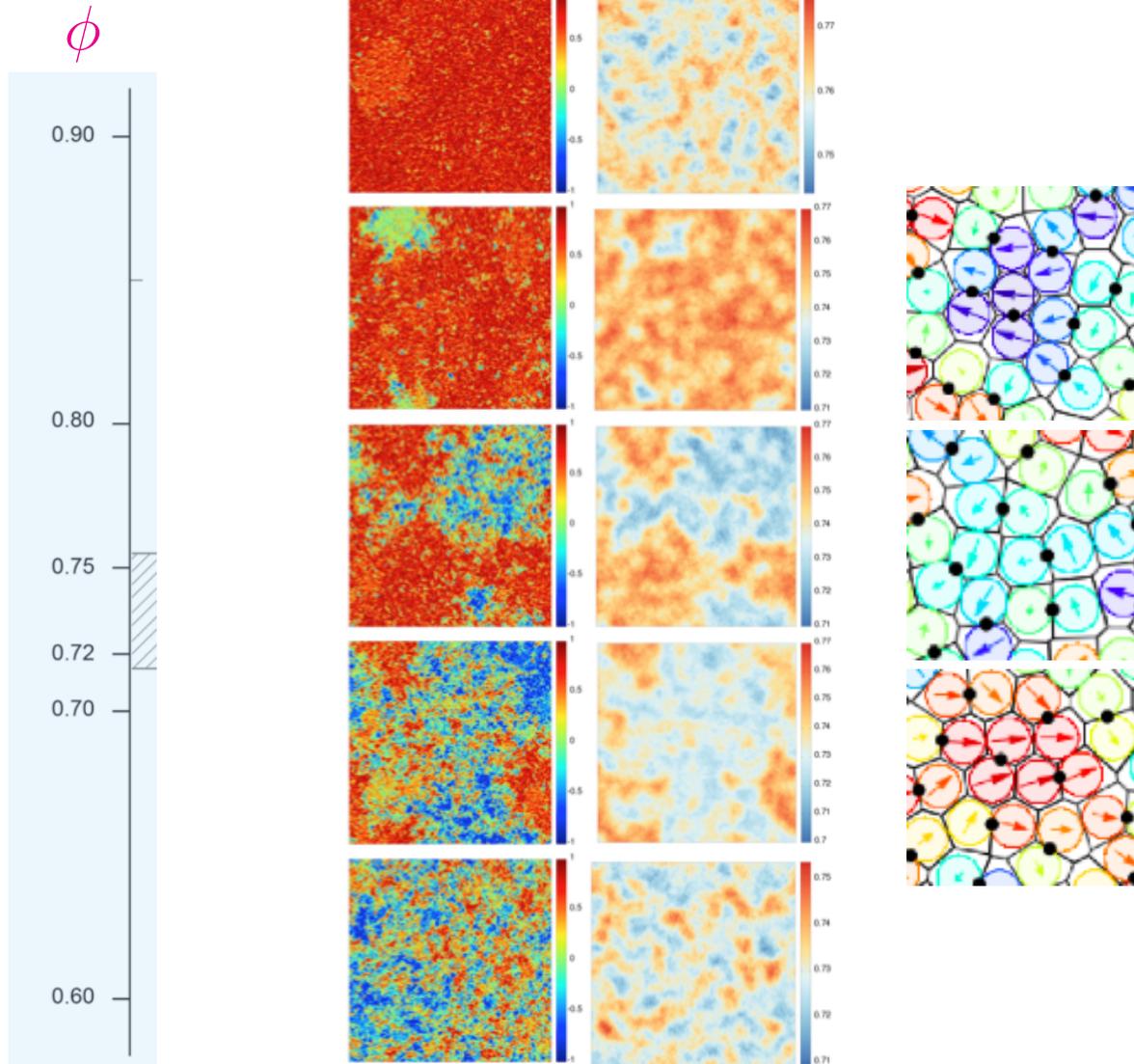
Passive system

Phase diagram



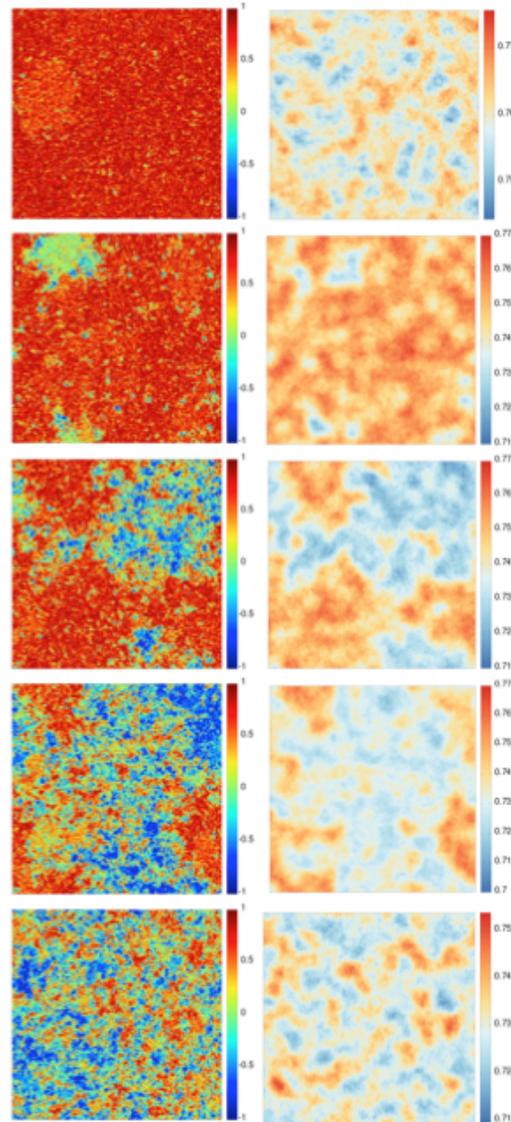
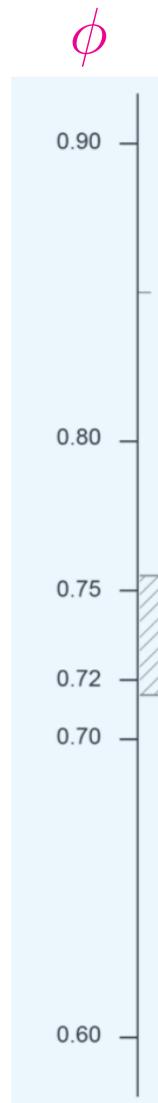
Passive system

Phase diagram



Passive system

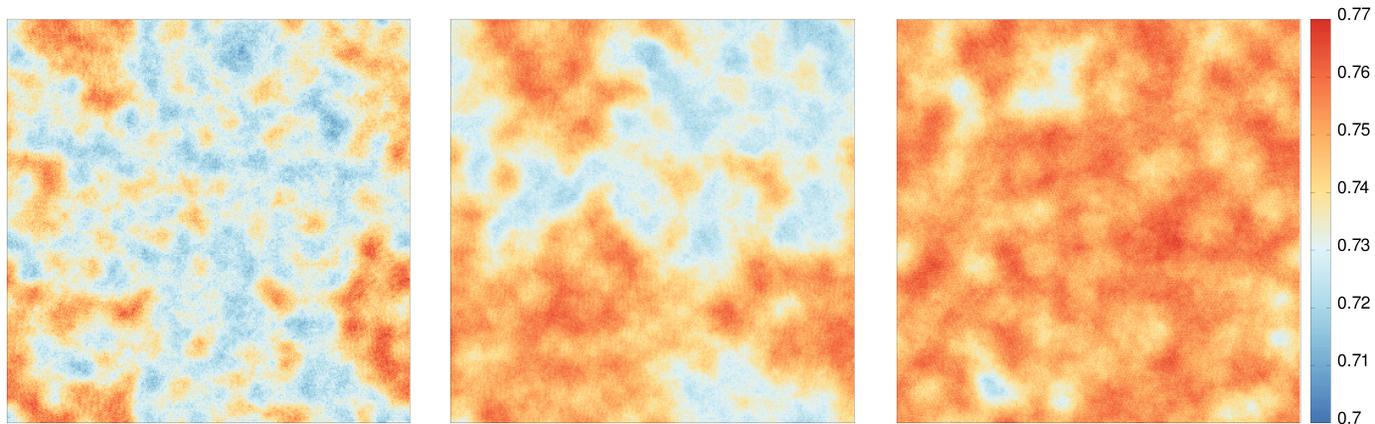
Phase diagram



Spatial correlation between regions of high density and regions of large absolute value of the local hexatic order parameter

Passive system

Local density & local hexatic parameter



$\phi = 0.734$

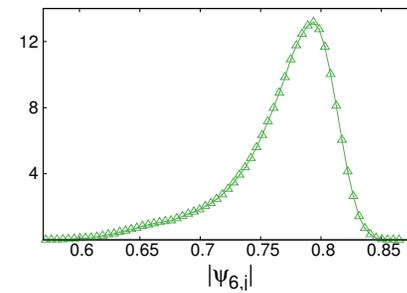
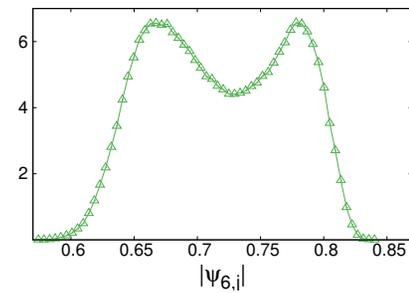
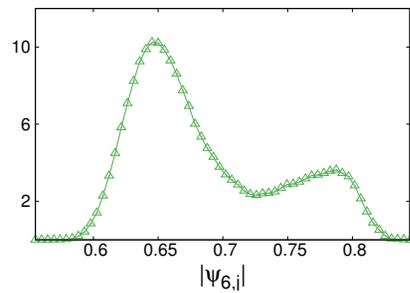
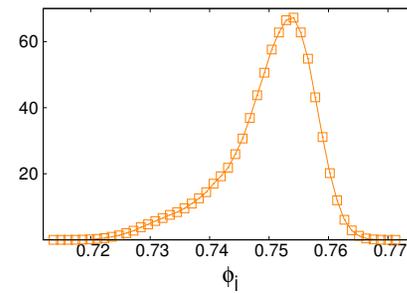
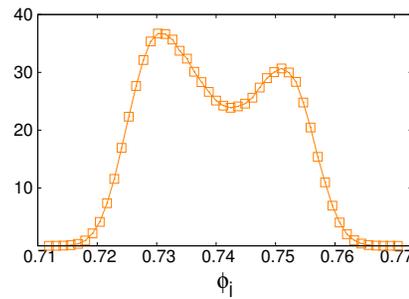
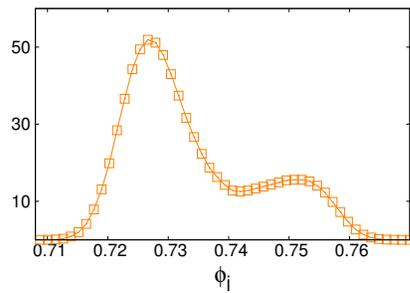
(co-existence)

$\phi = 0.74$

(co-existence)

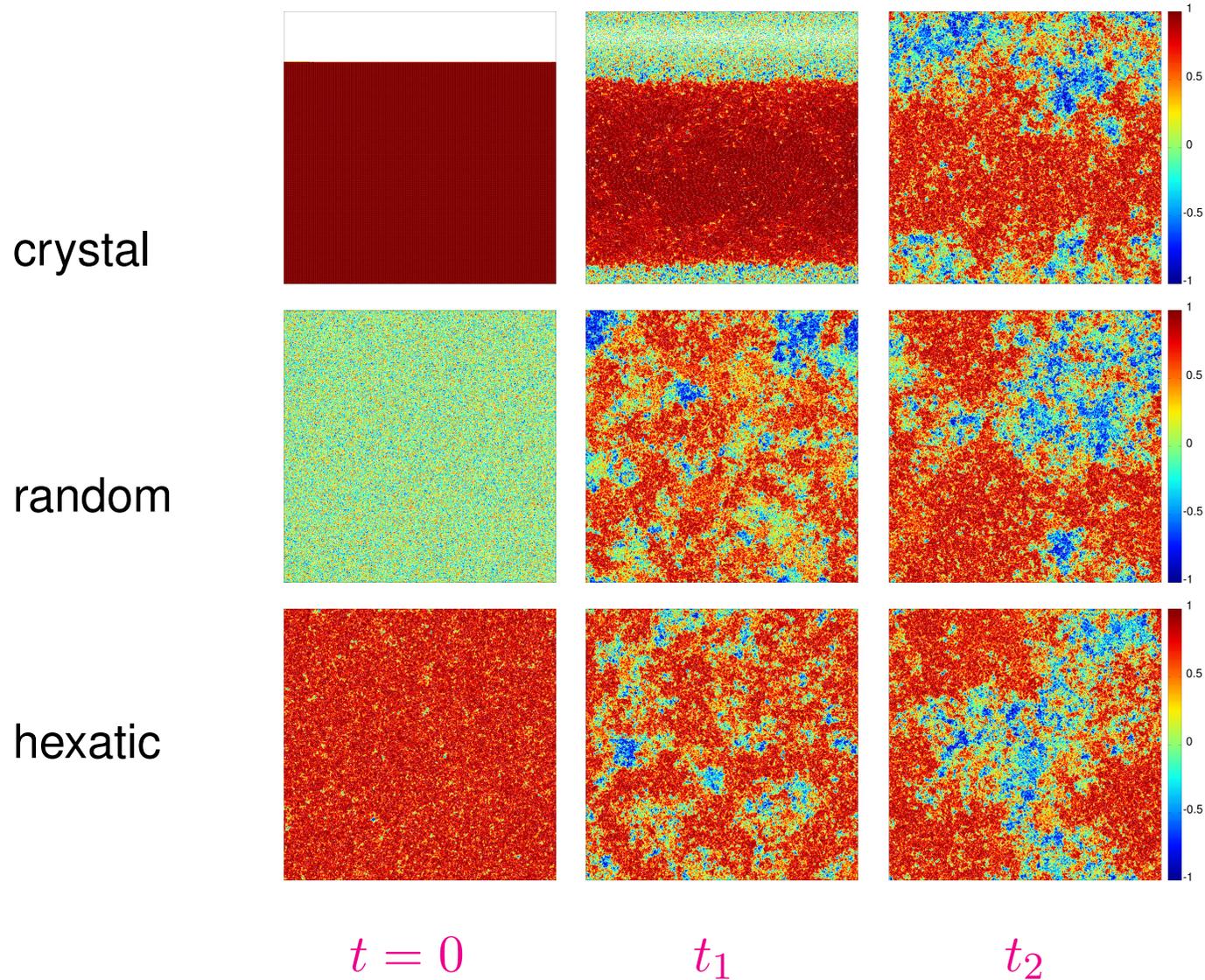
$\phi = 0.75$

(upper limit of co-existence)



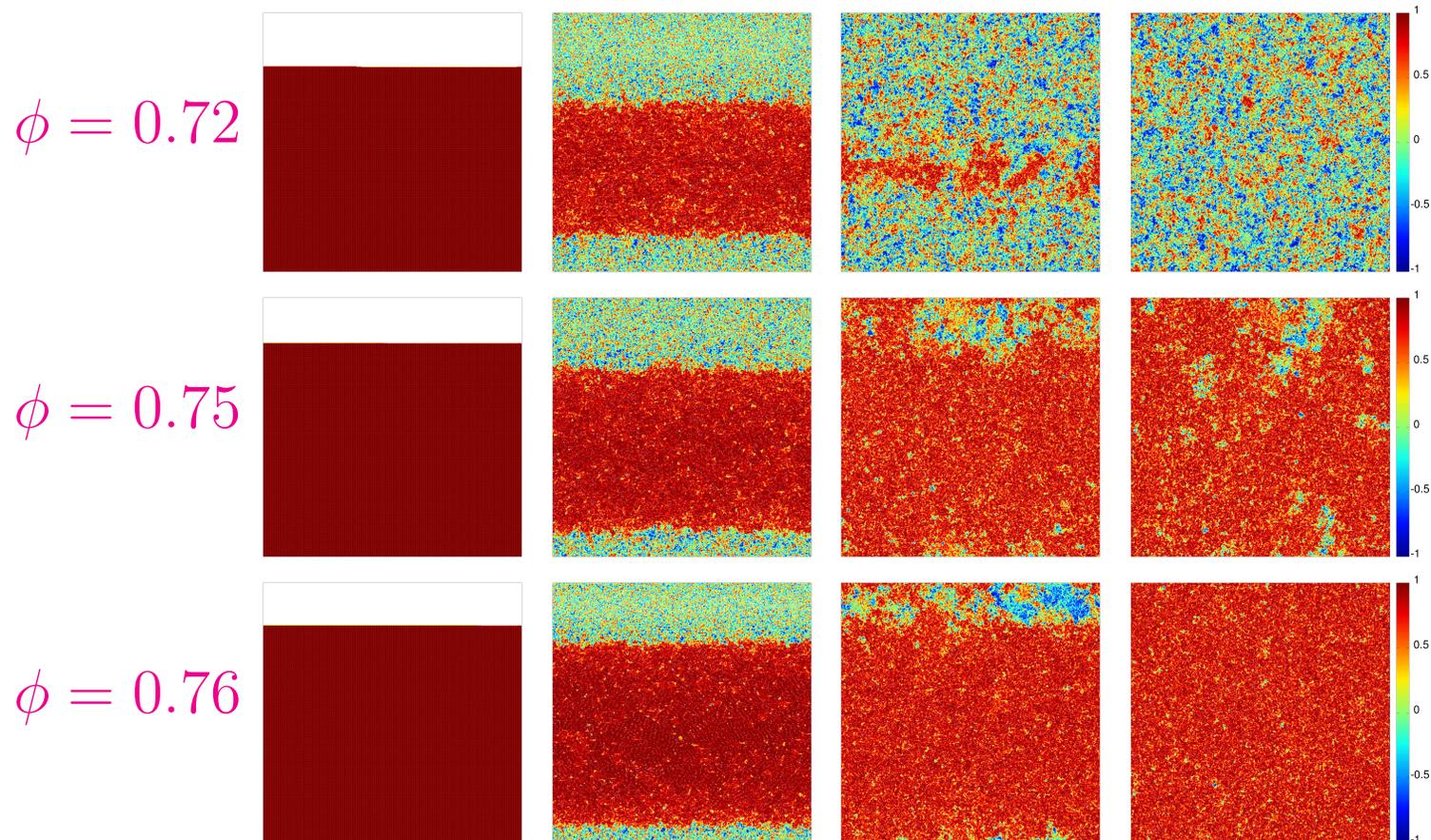
Passive system

Co-existence region: independence of the initial conditions



Passive system

Dynamics: Below, in and above the co-existence region



Plan

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4. Active case

5. Discussion of

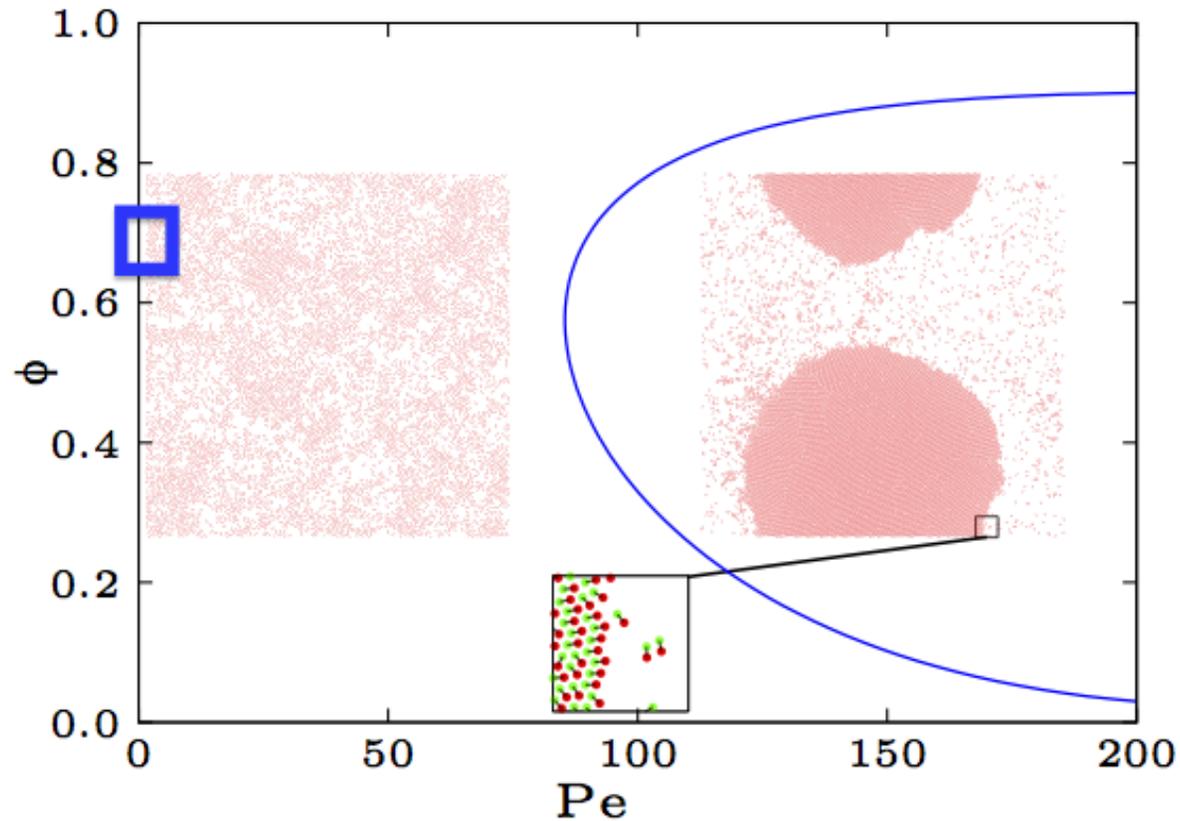
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Active system

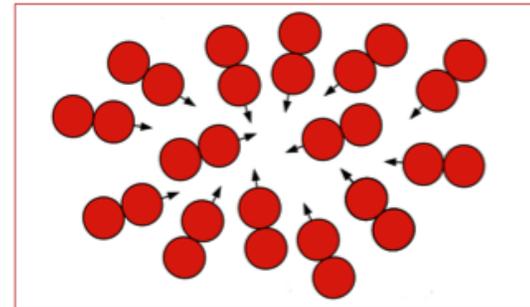
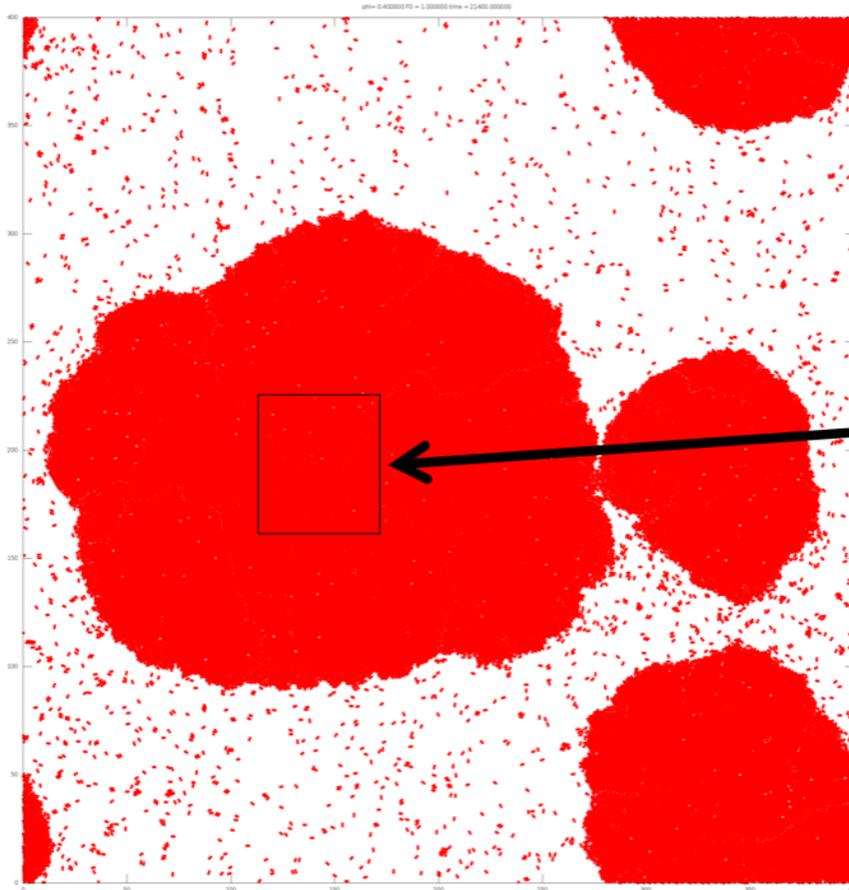
OLD phase diagram & new result



Connection between the two extremes ?

Active system

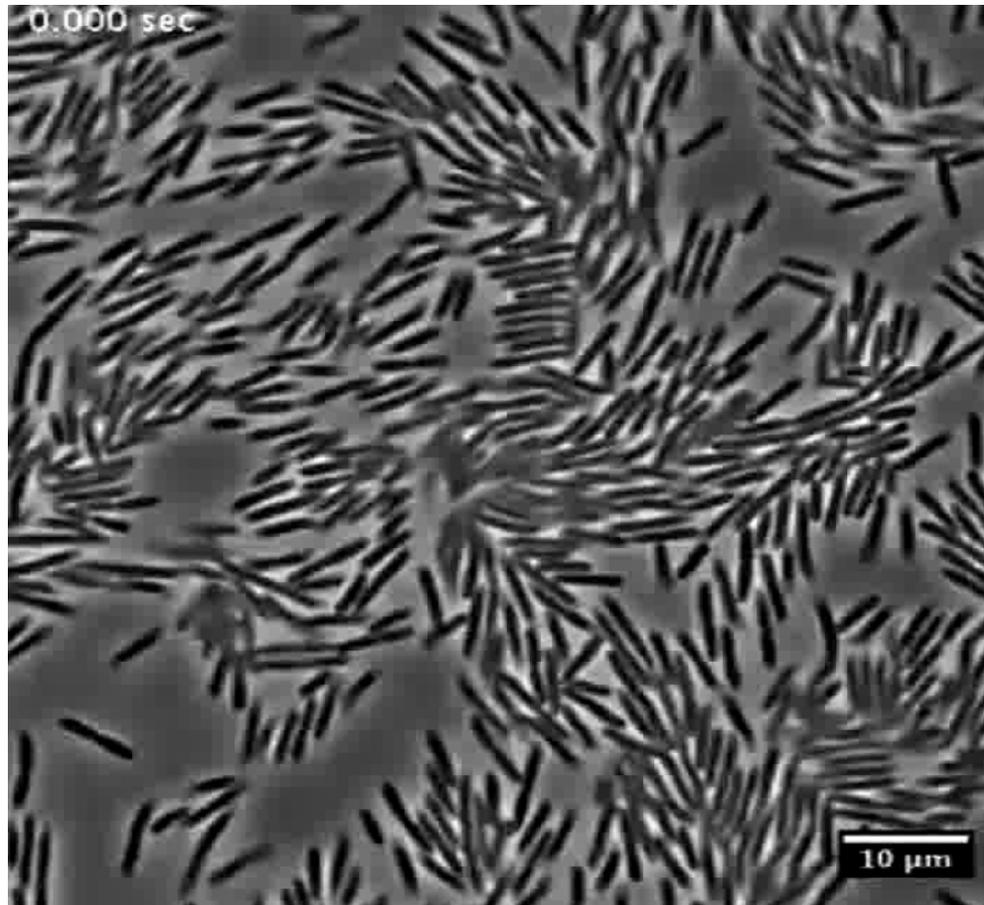
Active mechanism for segregation



Activity favours segregation

Active system

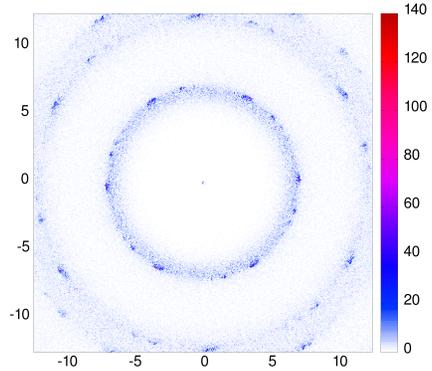
Mechanism for segregation



Active system

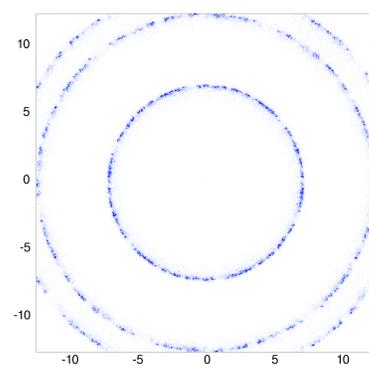
Structure factor $Pe = 10$ & $Pe = 40$

$\phi = 0.734$



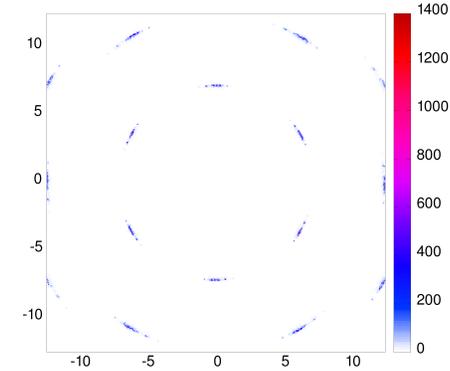
(liquid)

$\phi = 0.84$



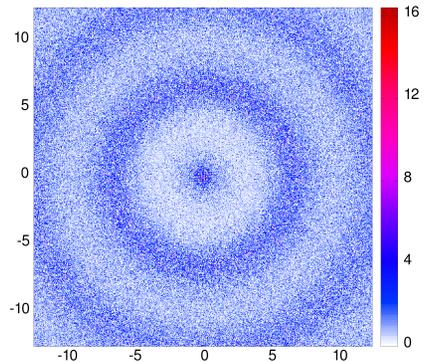
(upper limit of co-existence)

$\phi = 0.88$



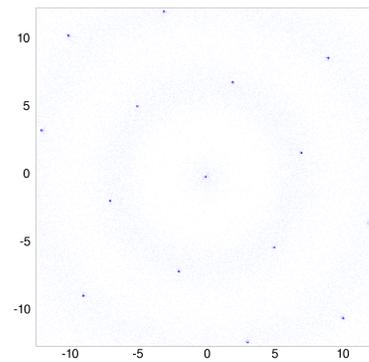
$Pe = 10$

$\phi = 0.26$



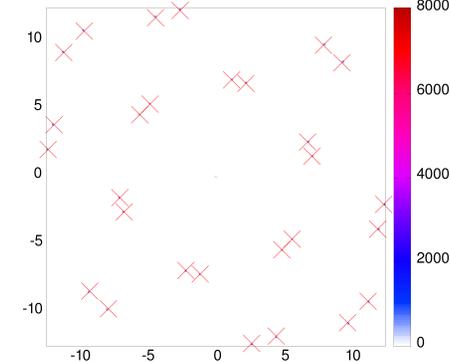
(liquid)

$\phi = 0.28$



(lower limit of co-existence)

$\phi = 0.34$



$Pe = 40$

Dynamics

$\phi = 0.756$ and $Pe = 2$ (co-existence)



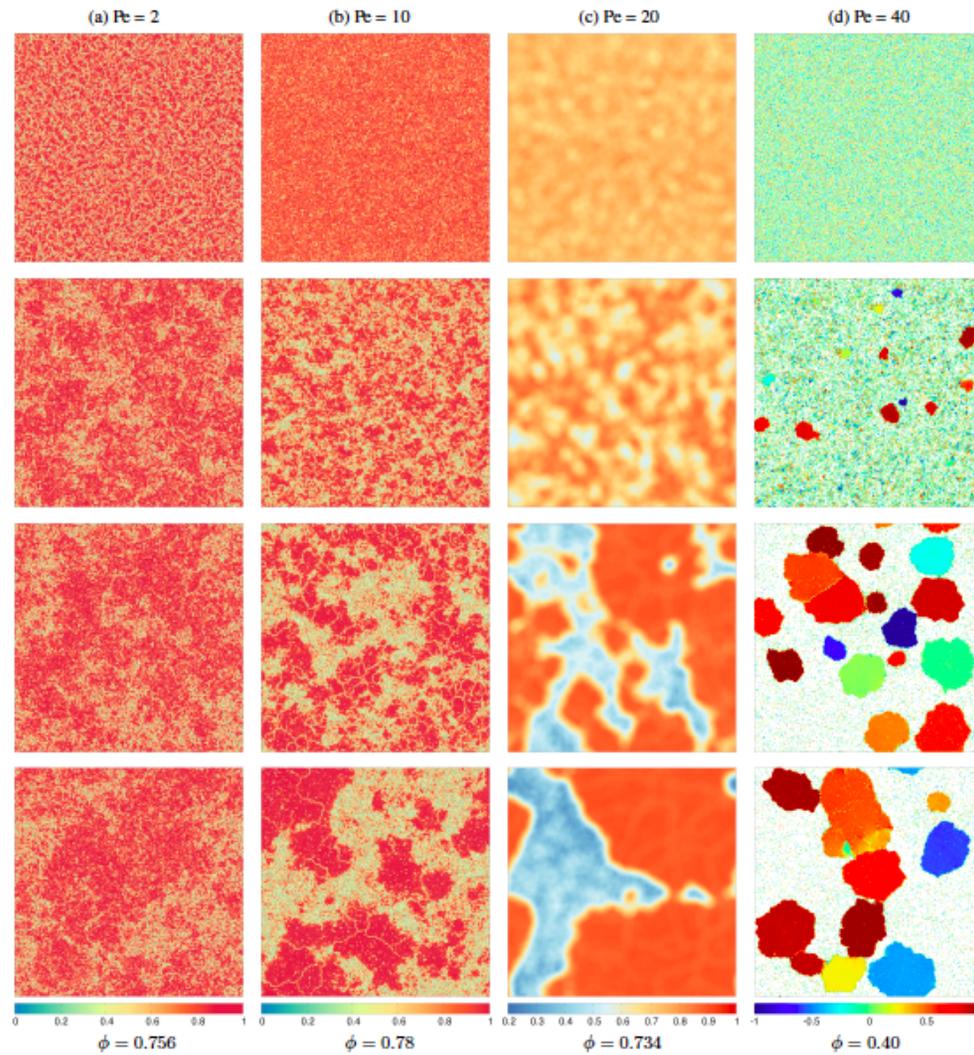
Dynamics

$|\psi_{6i}|$ at $\phi = 0.74$ and $Pe = 10$ (co-existence)



Active coarsening

at lower limit of coexistence



$$|\psi_{6i}|$$

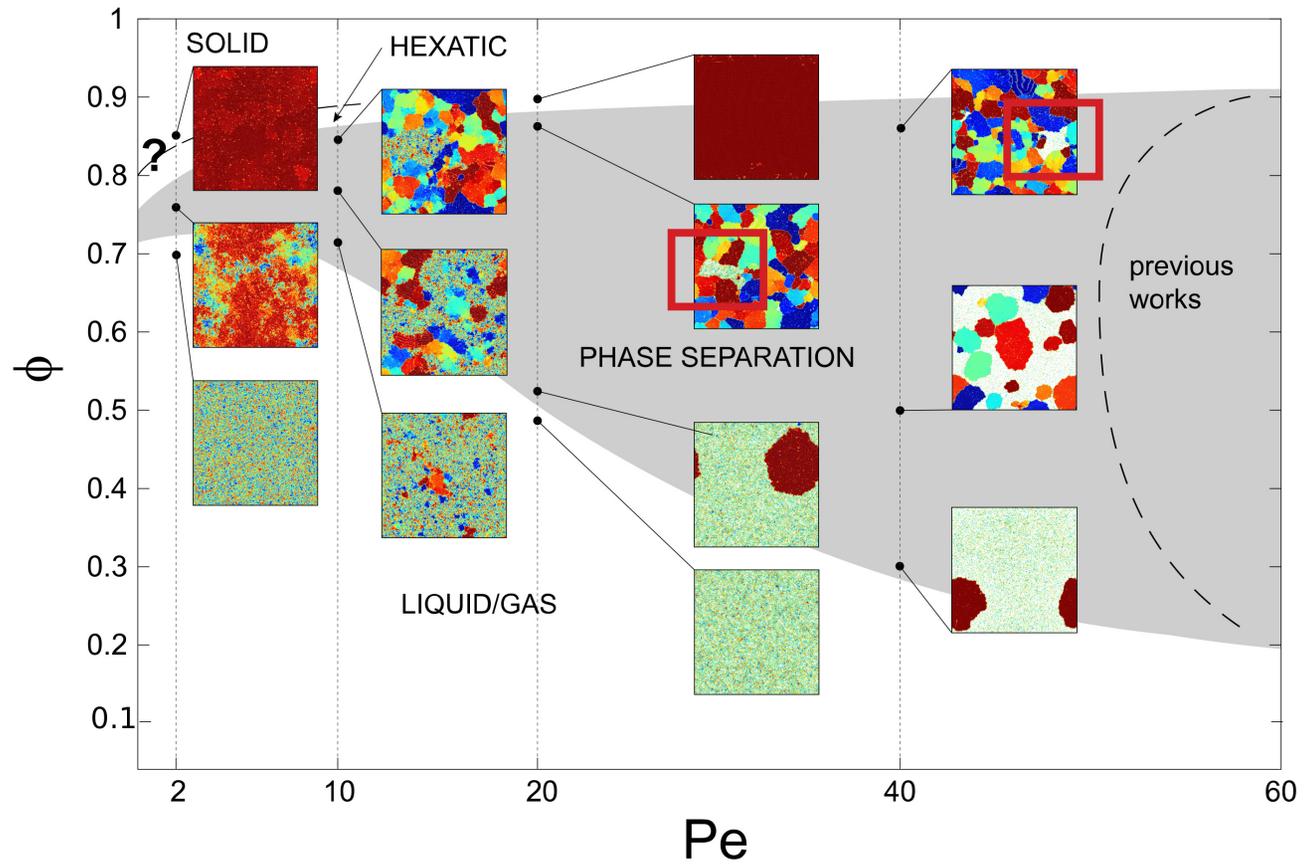
$$|\psi_{6i}|$$

$$[[\phi_i]]$$

$$\psi_{6i}$$

Phase diagram

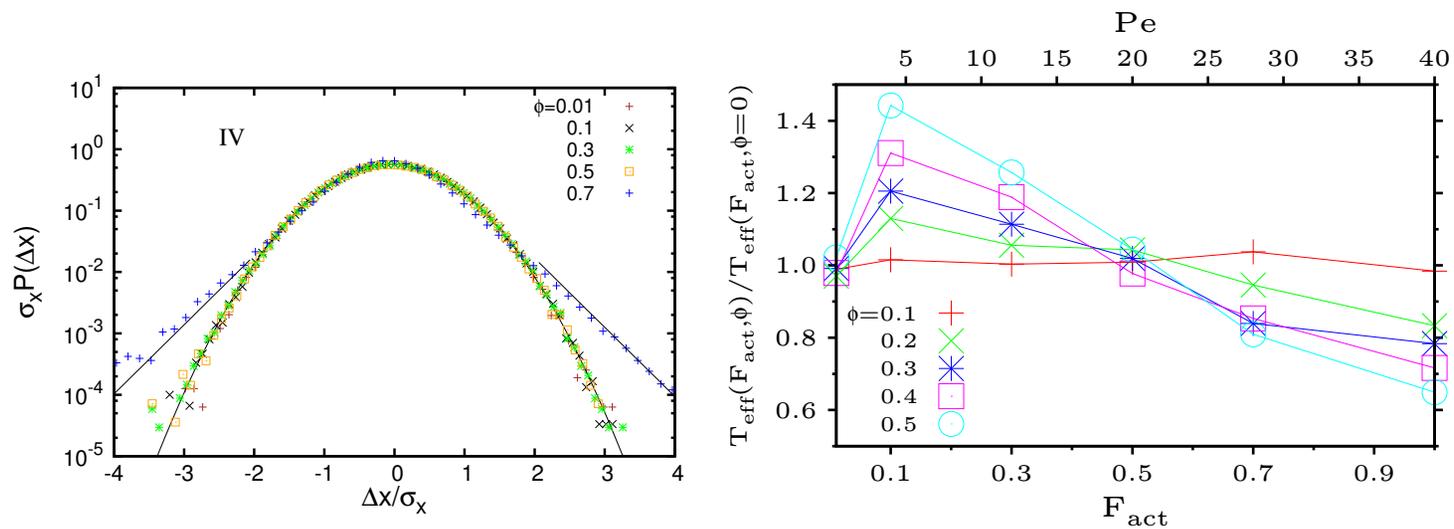
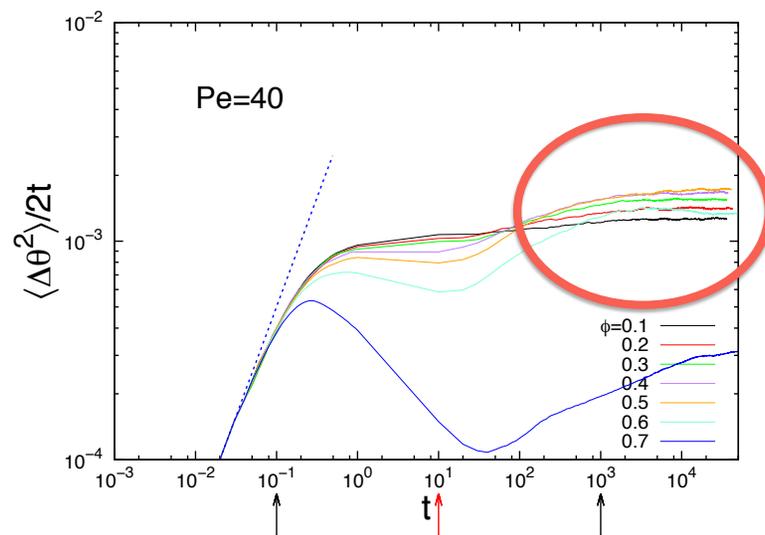
Active dumbbells



$$T = 0.05$$

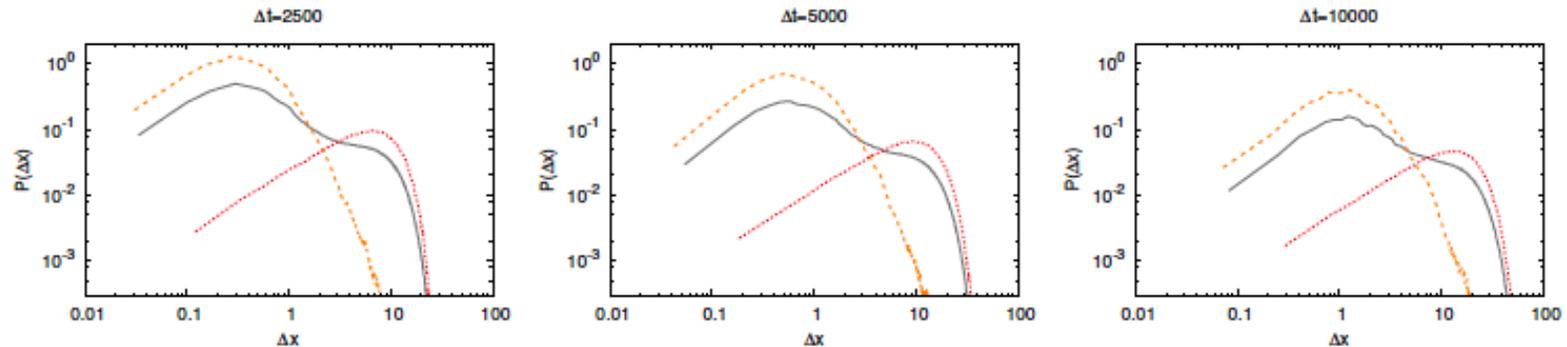
Discussion

To understand better



Discussion

Two populations in co-existence region



$$Pe = 10, \phi = 0.78 \text{ at } t = 2500, 5000, 10000$$

The averaged hexatic modulus is computed for each particle on a radius of $10 \sigma_d$ around the particle itself, and a particle is considered to be inside a cluster only if this value is greater than 0.75. Only such particles were taken into account in the red peak on the right.

In black : all dumbbells

Discussion

Some things to do

- Confirm this picture for active hard and soft disks.
- Understand how to define a meaningful pressure.
- Investigate the dynamics taking into account the heterogeneity of the co-existence region.
- Revisit the effective temperature measurements.