

# Plasticity and Flow of Soft Materials

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www.lcvn.univ-montp2.fr/~ramos/*



# Complex Fluids under Mechanical Stress

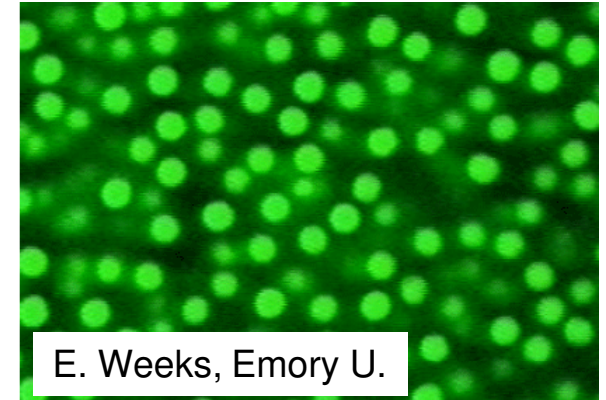
*From the process of industrial fluids*

.....

*to the flow of soft glasses*



<http://mocoloco.com/art/archives/001001.php>



E. Weeks, Emory U.

- shear-induced transitions
- solid-liquid transition

# Outline

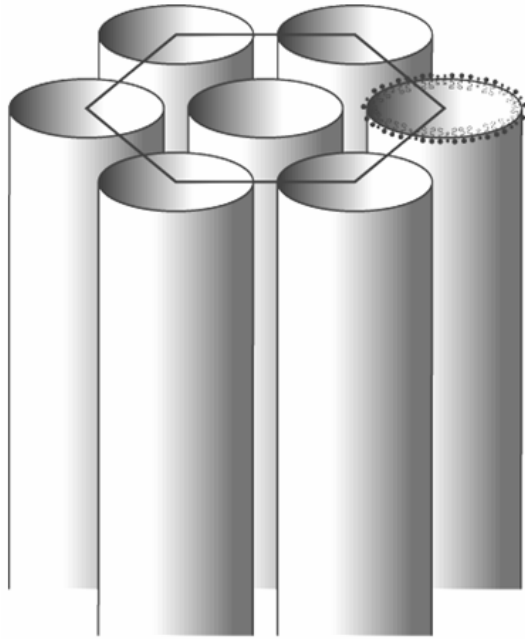
## I. Soft 2D columnar crystal

- A) **Designing** a versatile self-assembled structured system
- B) **Flow** - characterizing and modeling the shear-induced transition
- C) **Plasticity** - Understanding the solid-liquid transition in complex fluids

## II. Towards the **plasticity** of soft 3D polycrystals

## III. **Plasticity** and spontaneous dynamics of soft glasses

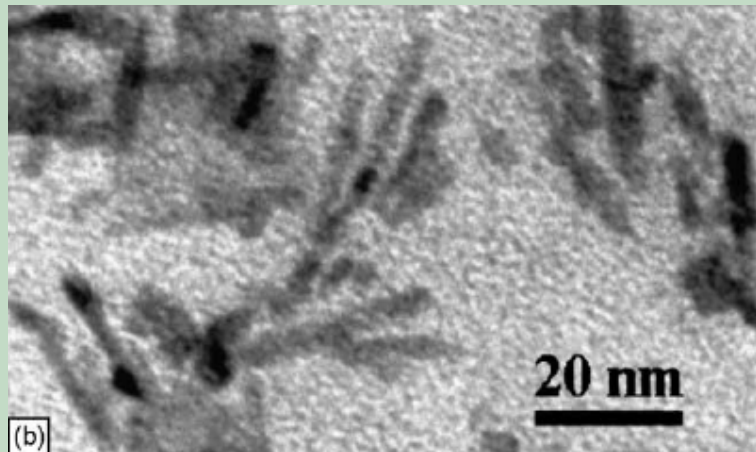
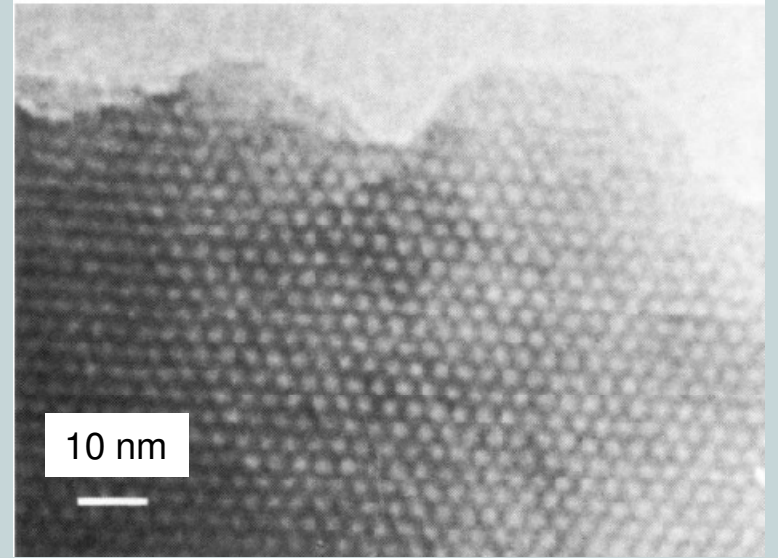
# Self-Assembled Hexagonal Phases as Templates for Nanomaterials



## Liquid-crystalline phases as templates for the synthesis of mesoporous silica

George S. Attard, Joanna C. Glyde  
& Christine G. Göltner

NATURE · VOL 378 · 23 NOVEMBER 1995



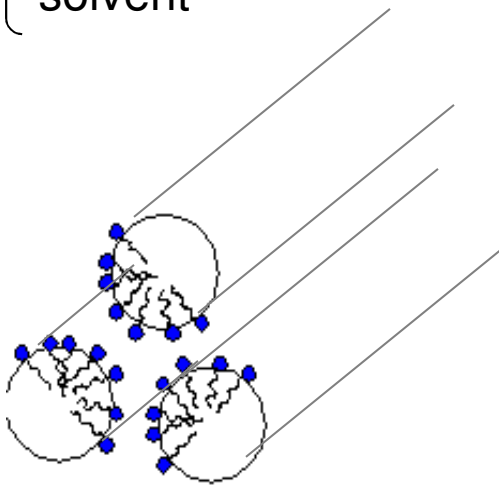
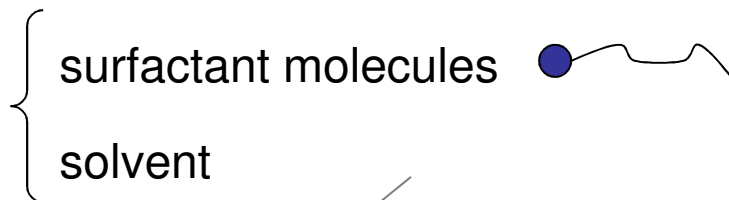
## In situ templating of PbS nanorods in reverse hexagonal liquid crystal

Huang et al. Colloids and Surf. A 2004

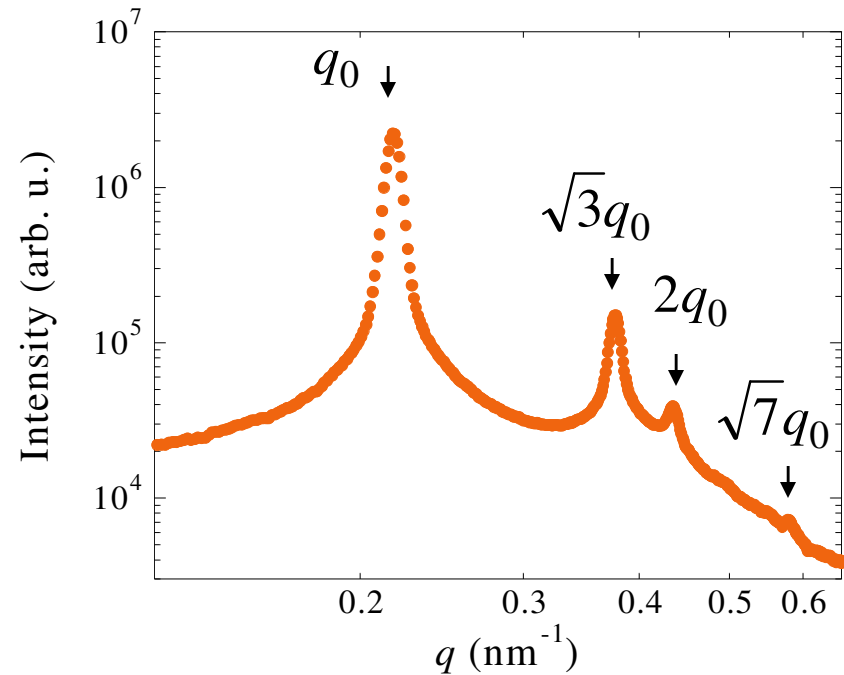
# Experimental System

## Soft columnar crystal

### self-assembled system



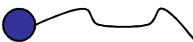
- triangular array of tubes
- 1D liquid, 2D solid

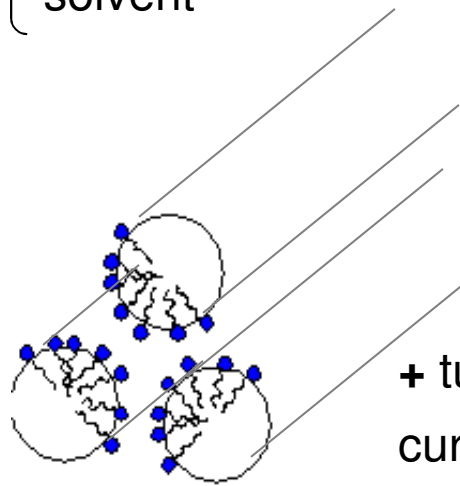


# Experimental System

## Soft columnar crystal

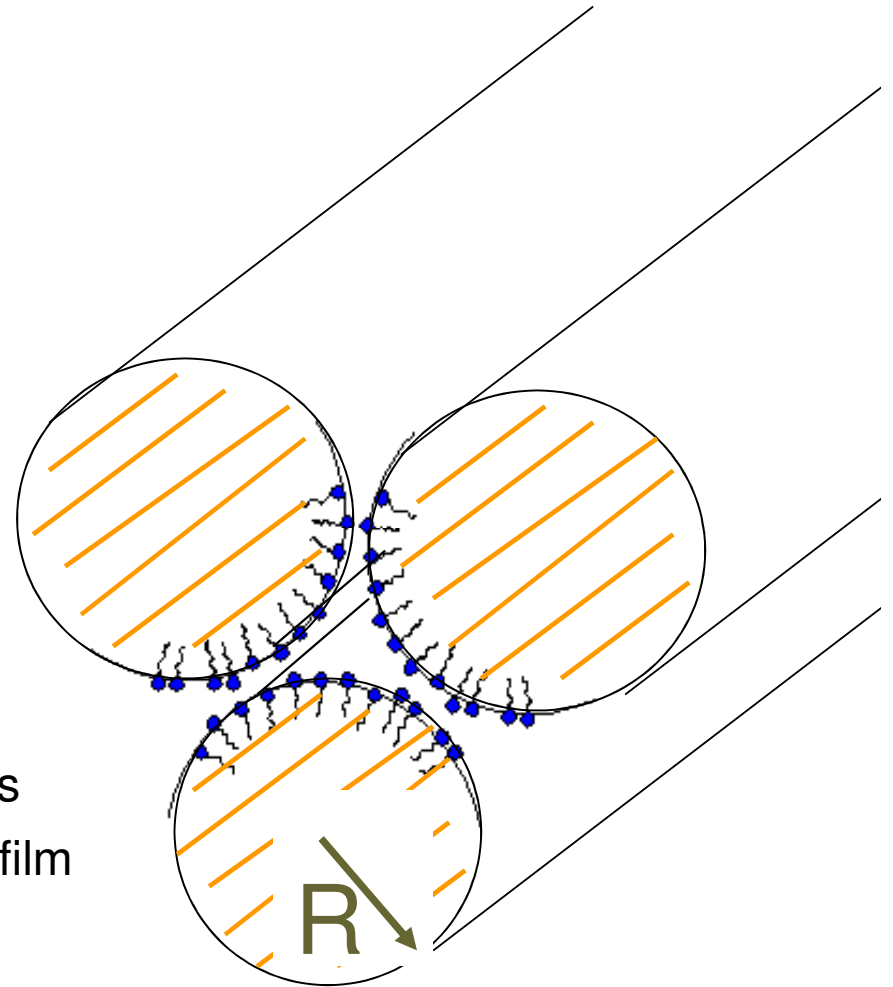
### self-assembled system

{ surfactant molecules   
solvent



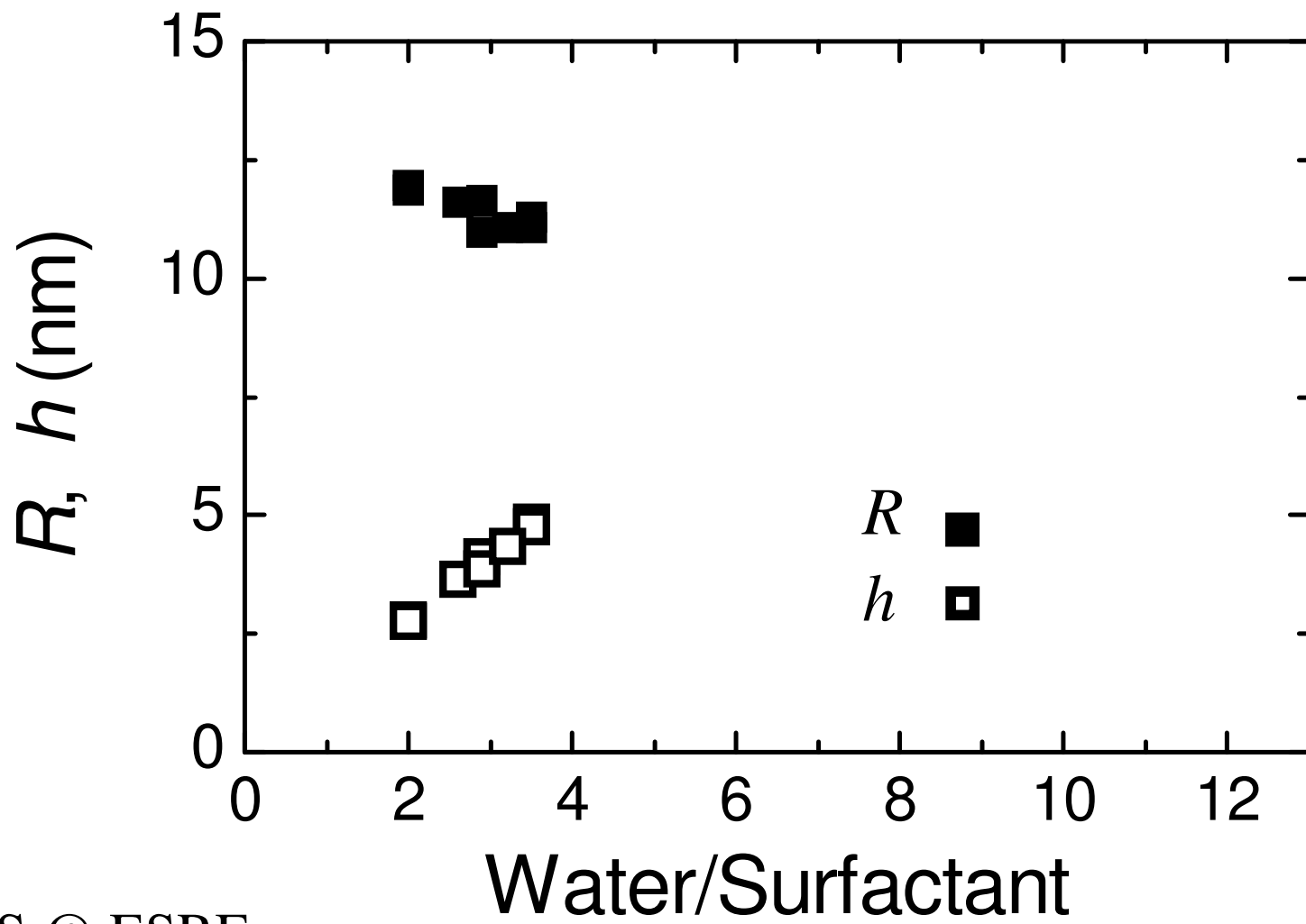
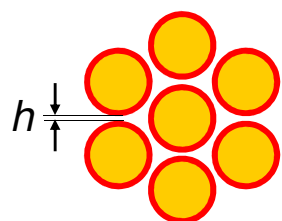
 **OIL**  


+ tuning of the spontaneous curvature of the surfactant film



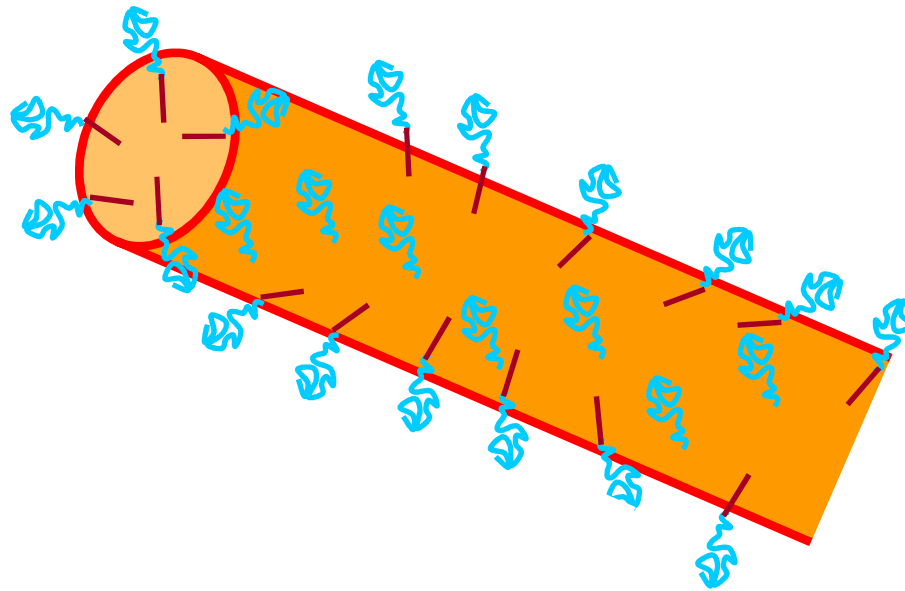
**1.5 -15 nm**

- triangular array of tubes
- 1D liquid, 2D crystal



SAXS @ ESRF

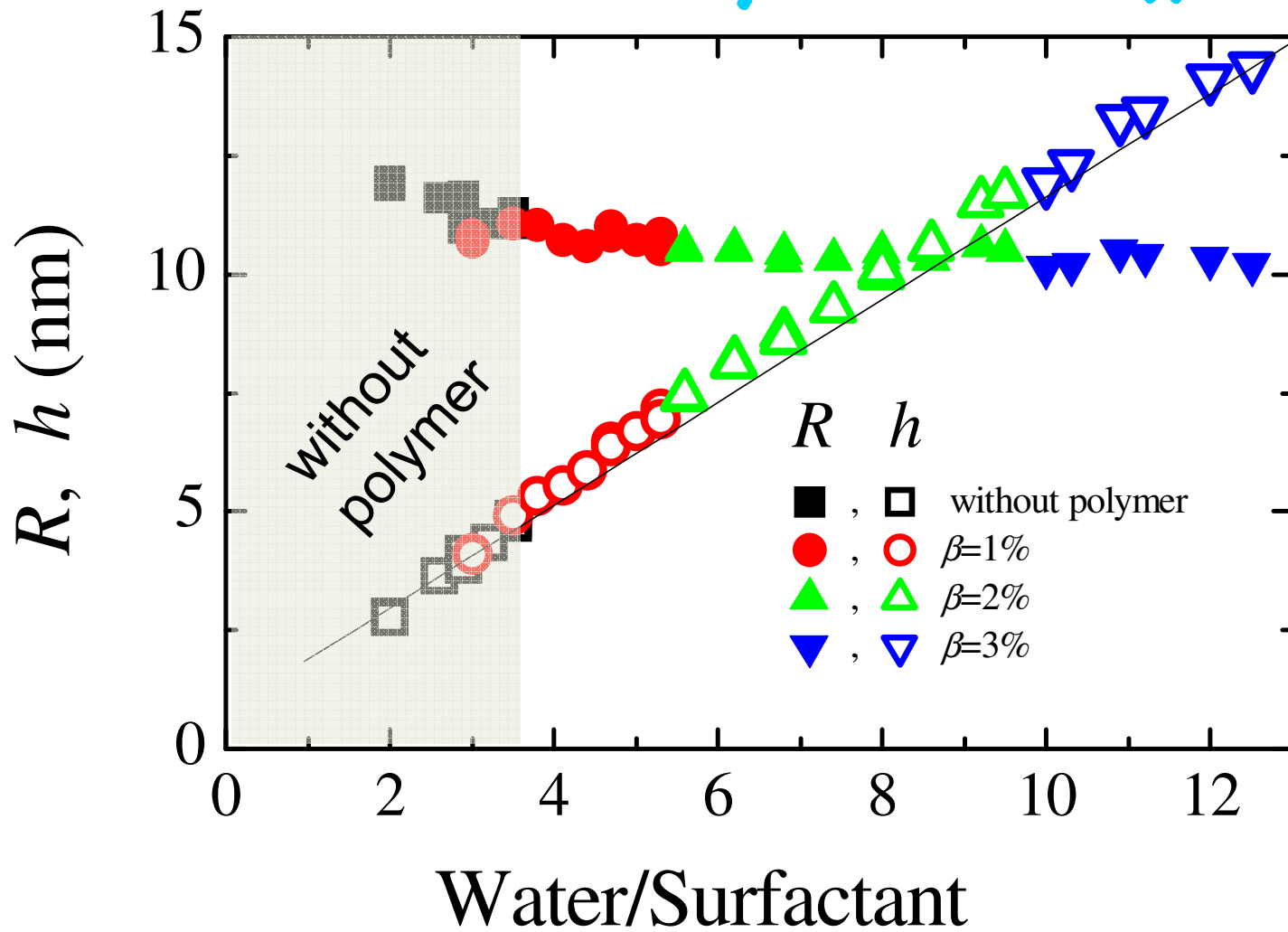
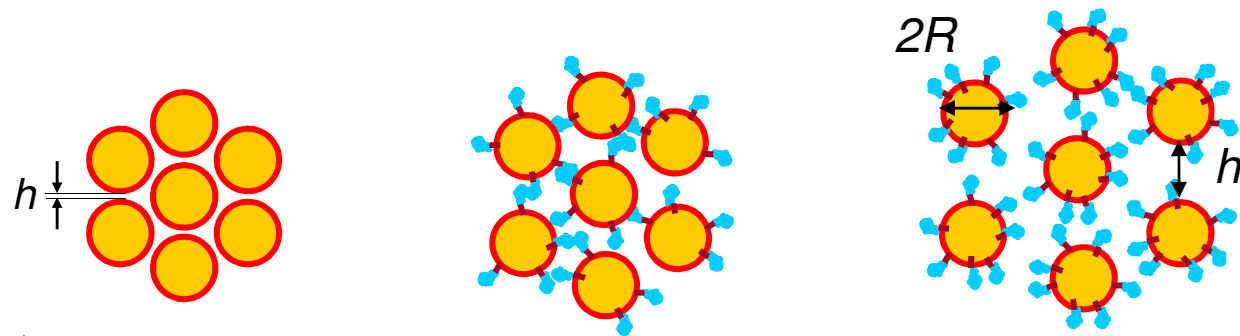
# Our strategy to Increase the Spacing between the Tubes



*Amphiphilic di-block polymer (home-synthesized)*

$C_{18}$  - POE<sub>5K</sub> ( $R_G = 2.4$  nm)

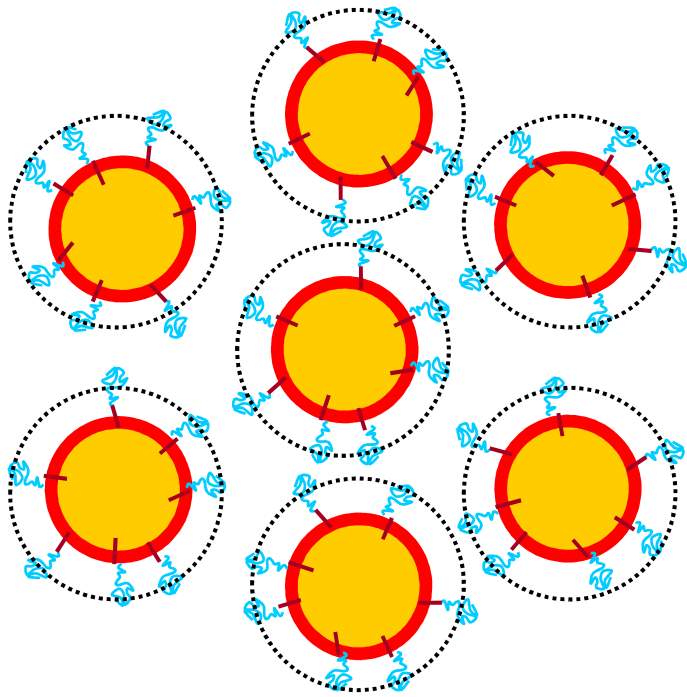




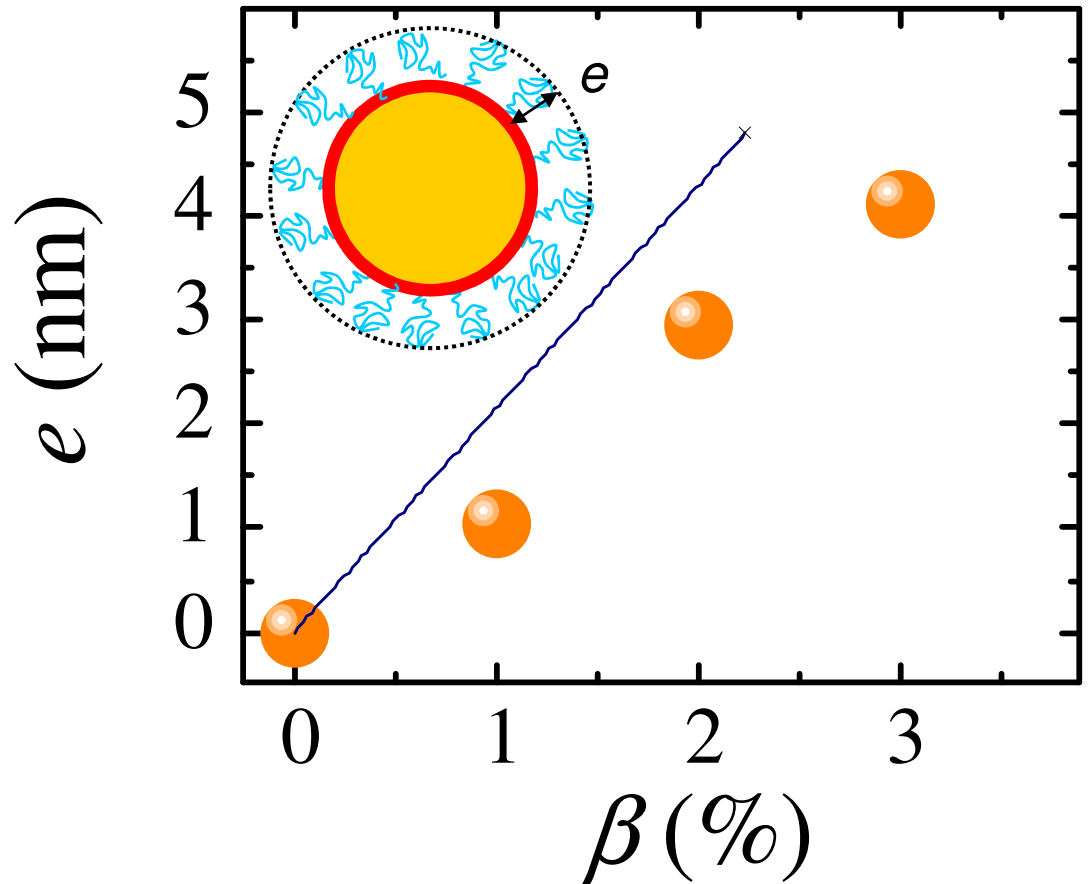
# Effective Polymer Thickness

Excluded volume interaction between the tubes

Same effective surface density upon addition of polymer



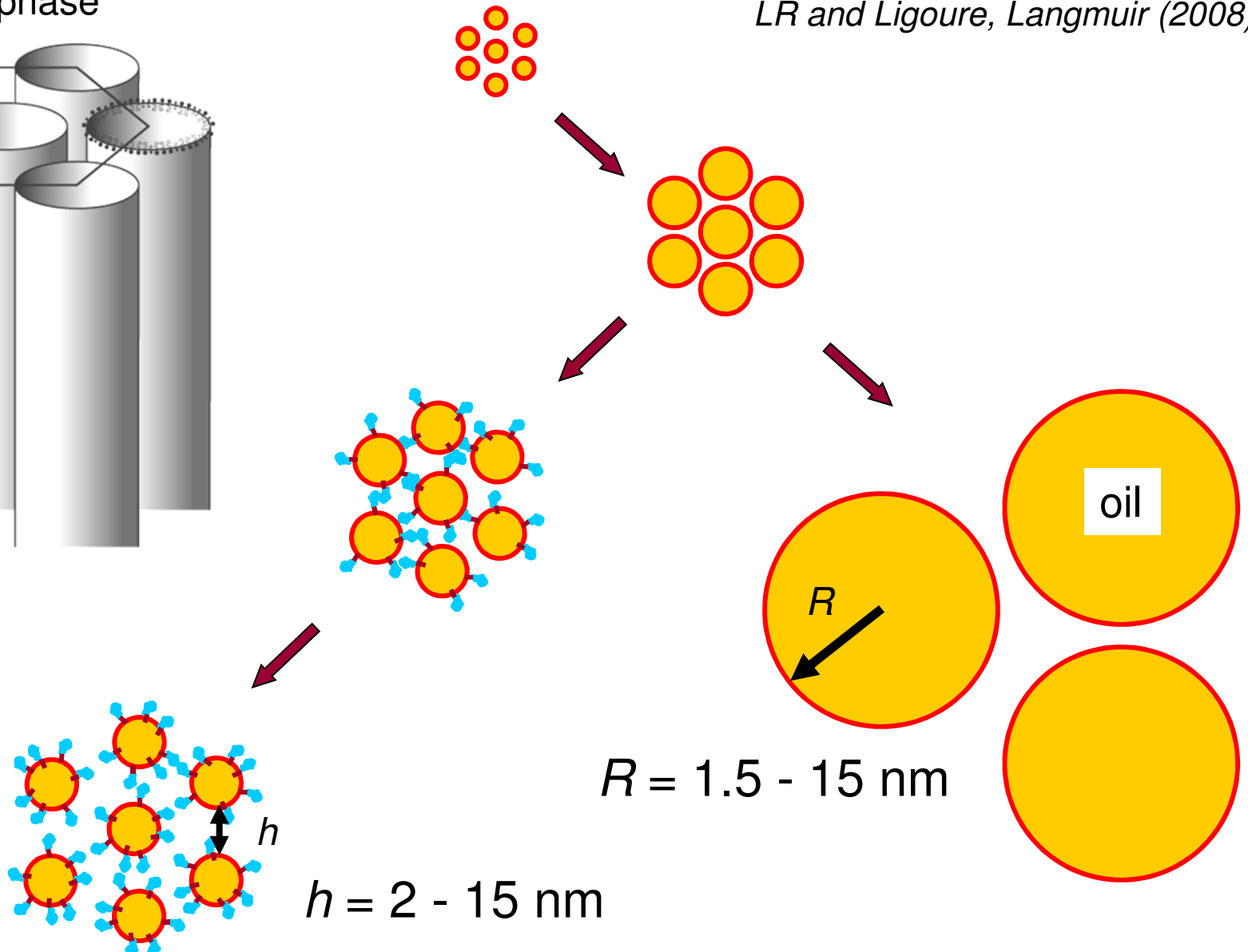
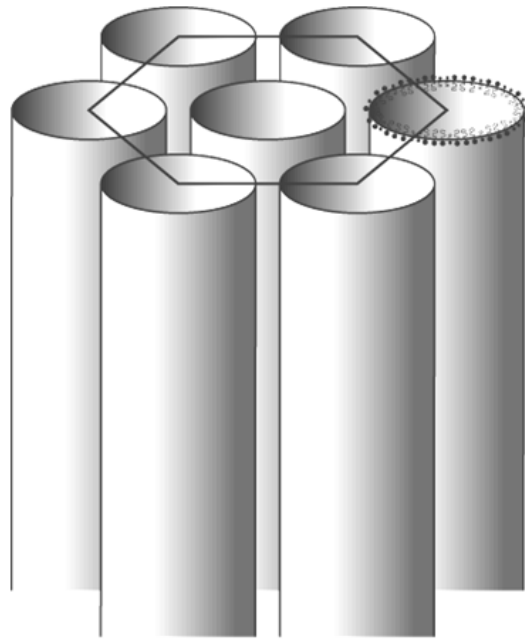
$$\rho_0 / \rho_{\text{measur.}} = (1 + e/R)^2$$



# A Versatile Soft Columnar Crystal

*LR and Fabre, Langmuir (1997)*  
*LR and Ligoure, Langmuir (2008)*

hexagonal phase



$h = 2 - 15 \text{ nm}$

$R = 1.5 - 15 \text{ nm}$

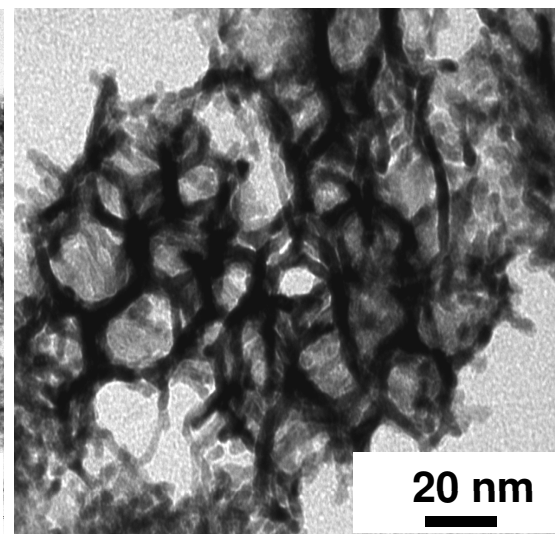
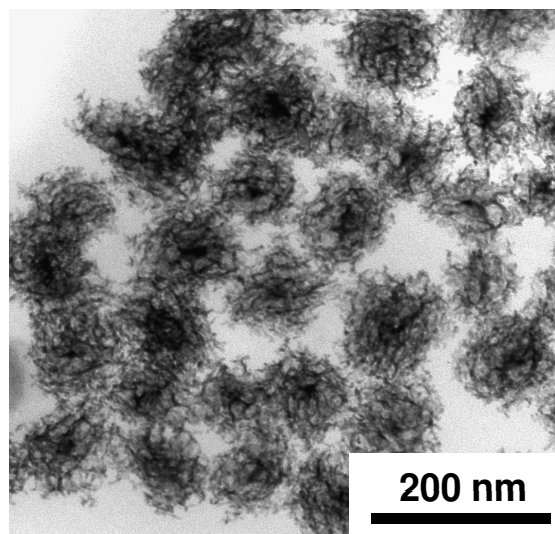
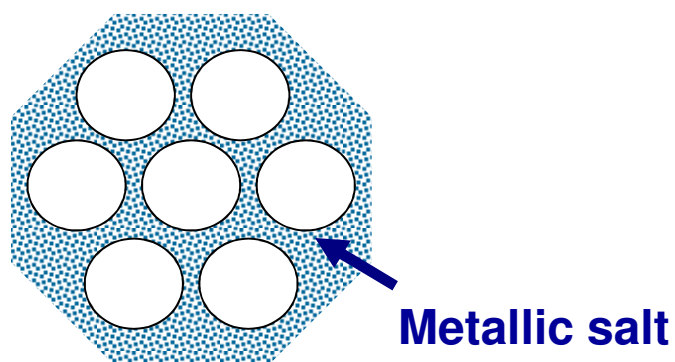
# Specificities of the Soft Columnar Crystals

## Soft hexagonal phase : a unique system

- Tunable characteristic sizes  *Template for nanomaterials*

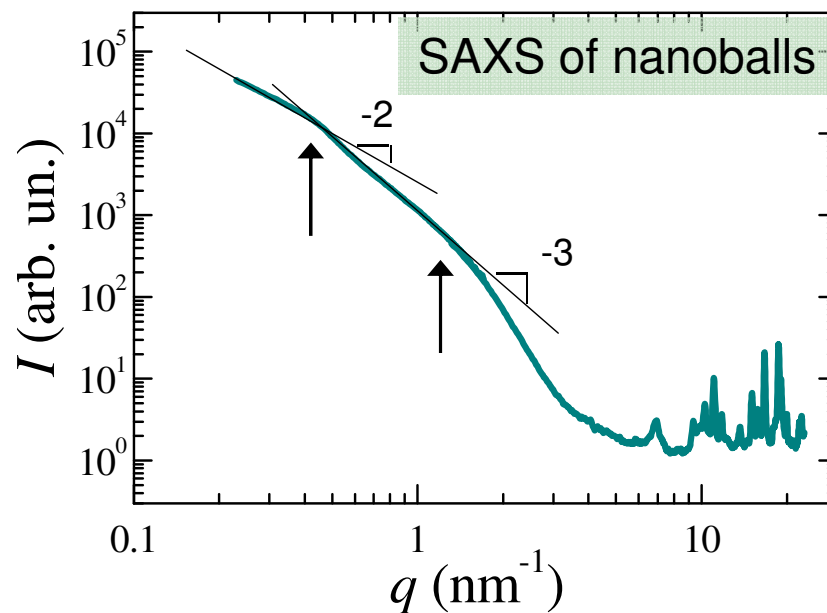
*... one example*

# Chemistry Outside the Surfactant Tubes: Pt and Pd Porous Nanoballs



## 2 required conditions


- Confinement (in a hexagonal matrix)
- Slow and homogeneous reduction in the bulk ( $\gamma$ irradiation)



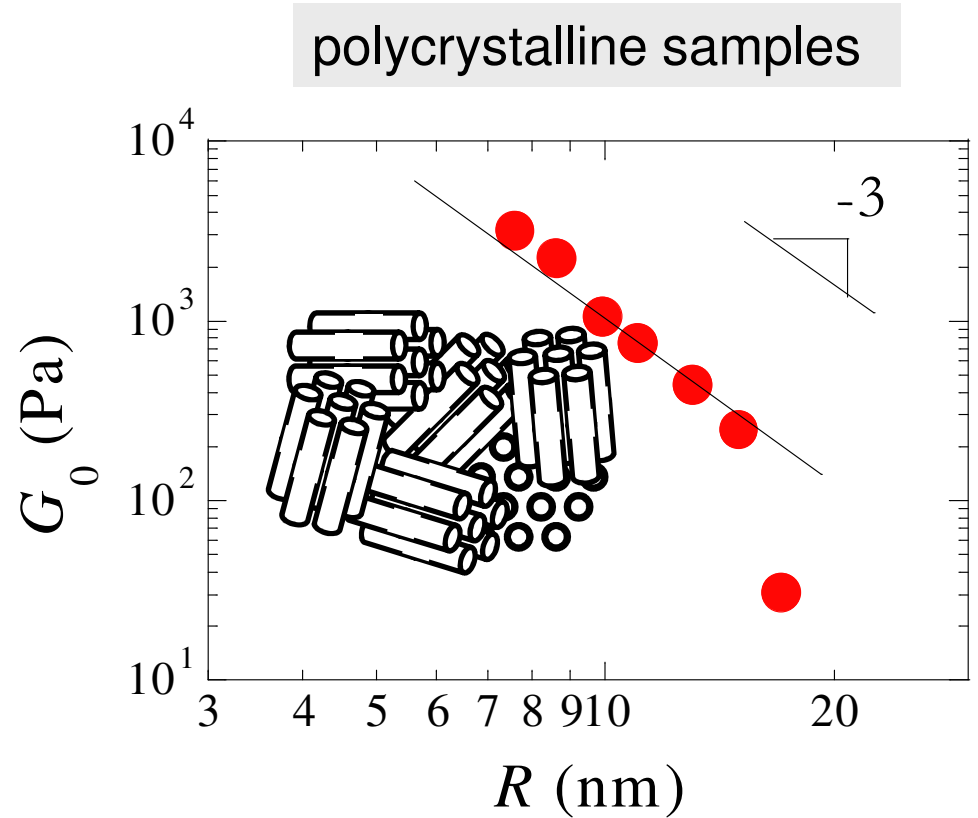
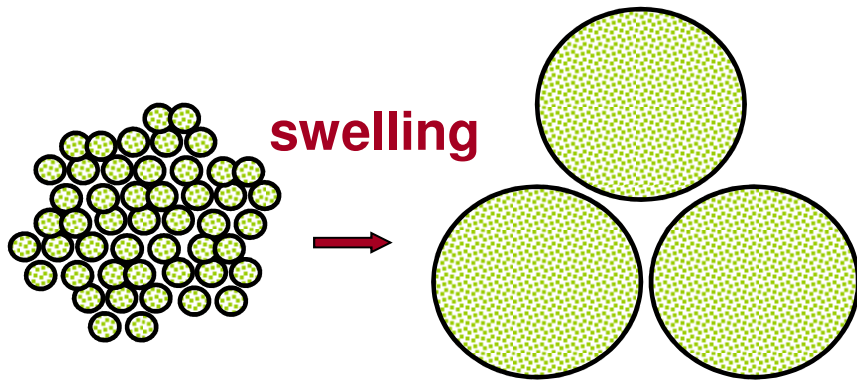
Surendran, LR et al. *Chem. Mater* (2007)  
Surendran et al. *J. Phys. Chem. C* (2008)

# Specificities of the Soft Columnar Crystals

## Soft hexagonal phase : a unique system

- Tunable characteristic sizes       *Template for nanomaterials*
- **Tunable elasticity**

# Elasticity of Surfactant Hexagonal Phase



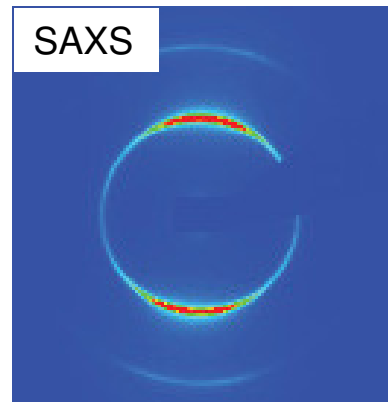
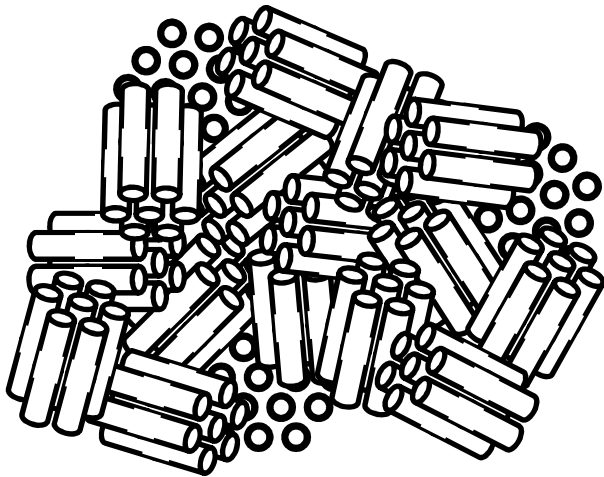
$$G_0 \sim \frac{\mathcal{K}}{R^3}$$

→ bending constant of the surfactant film

# Specificities of the Soft 2D Crystals

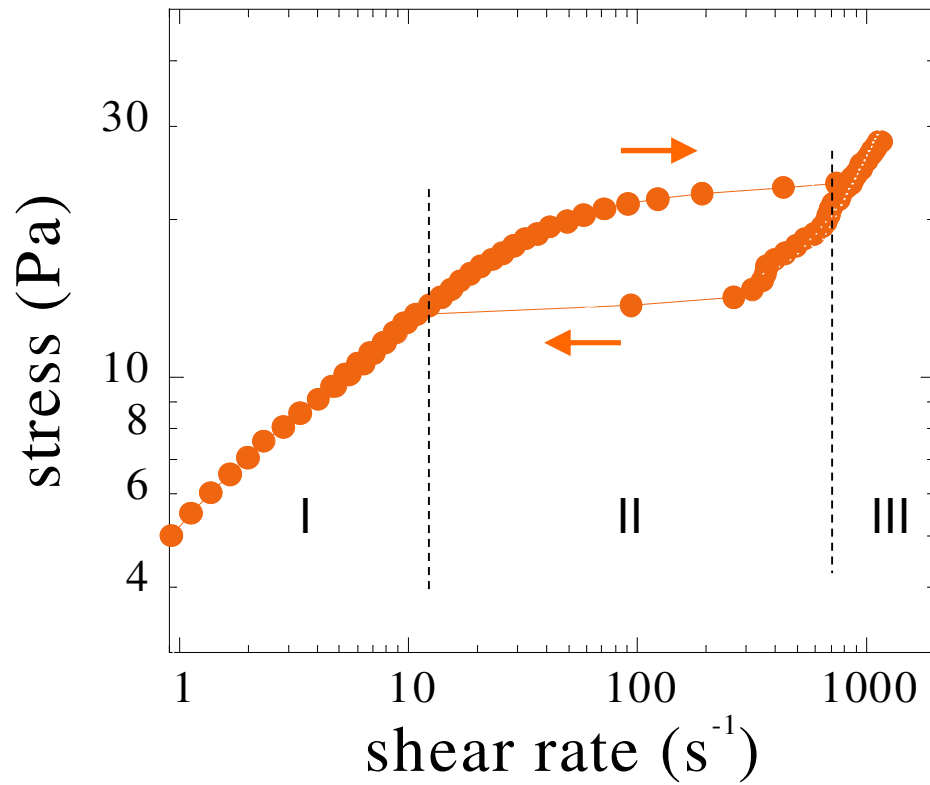
## Soft hexagonal phase : a unique system

- Tunable characteristic sizes
- Tunable elasticity
- Structural signature



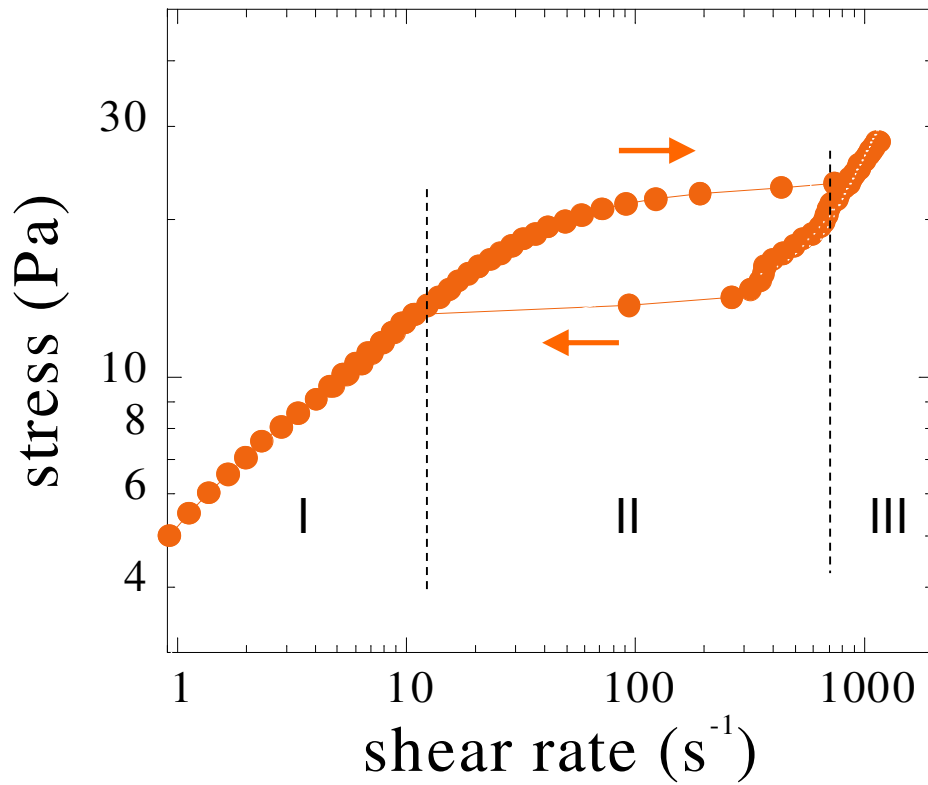


# Flow Curves

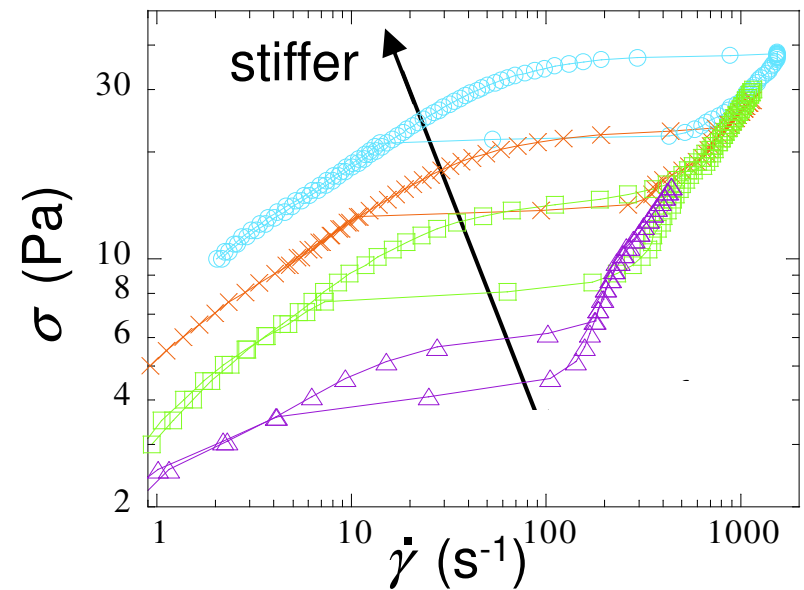


- I shear-thinning
- II stress plateau and hysteresis loop
- III low viscosity Newtonian fluid

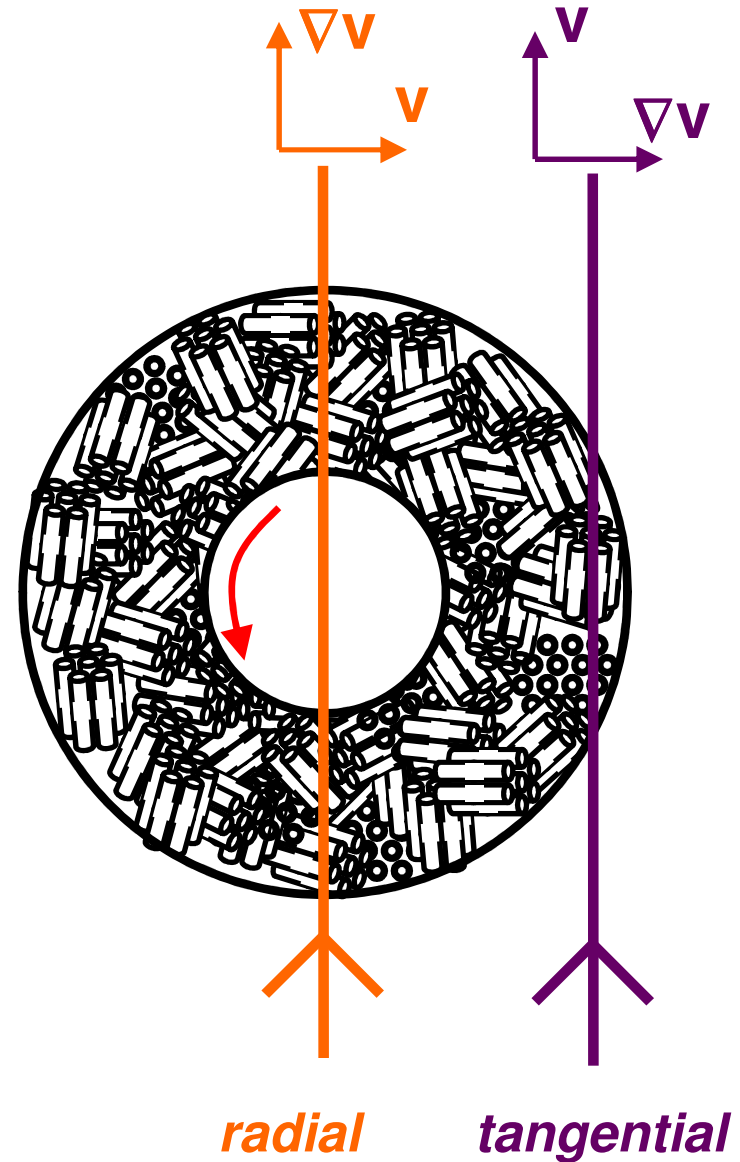
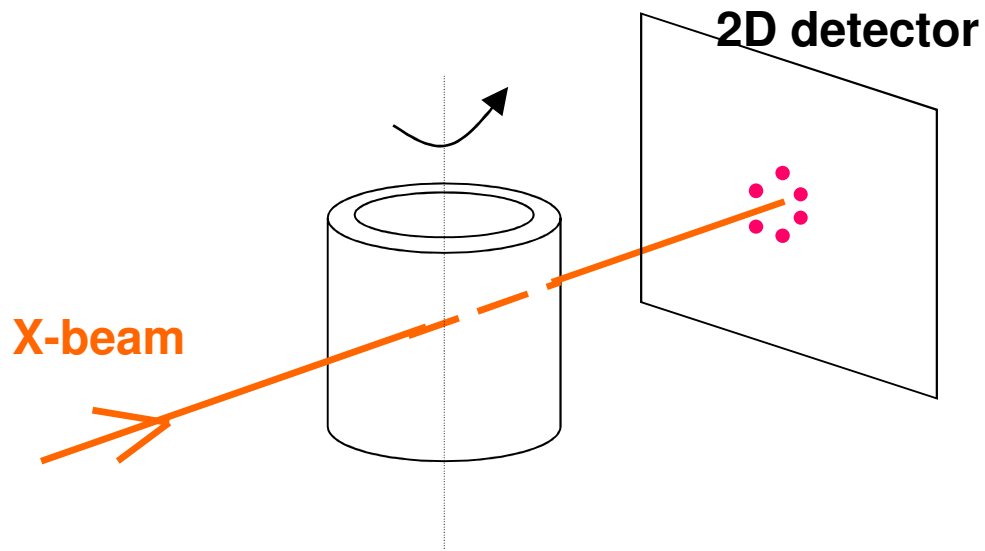
# Flow Curves



- I shear-thinning
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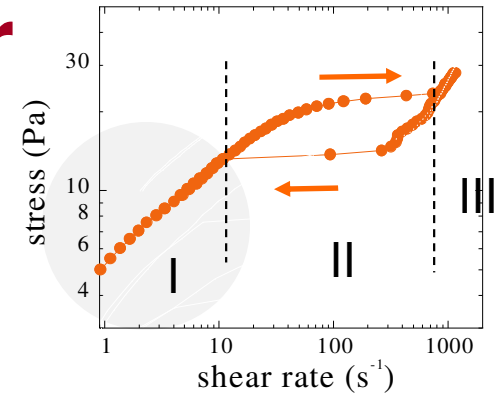
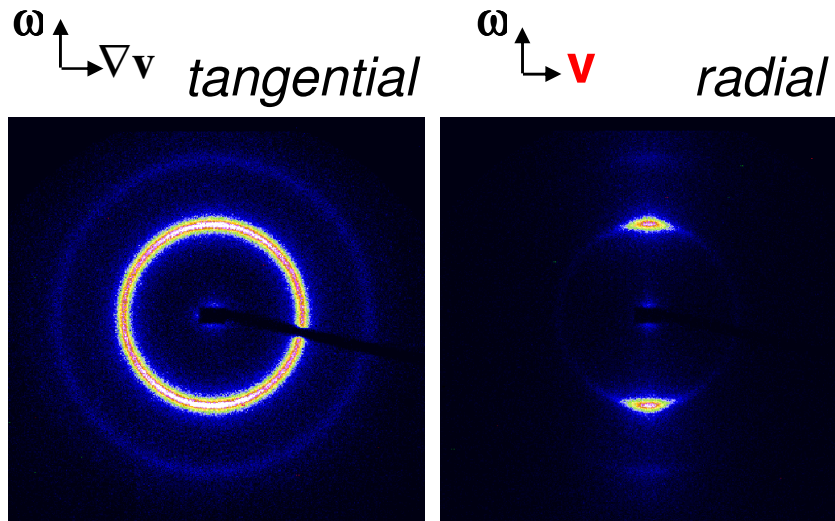


# SAXS under Shear

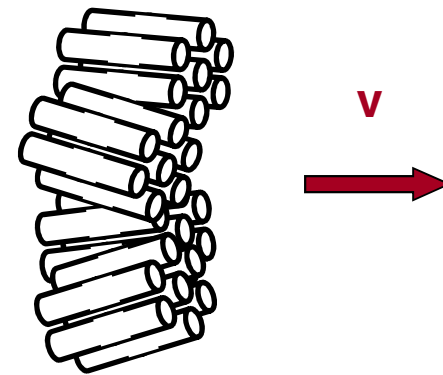
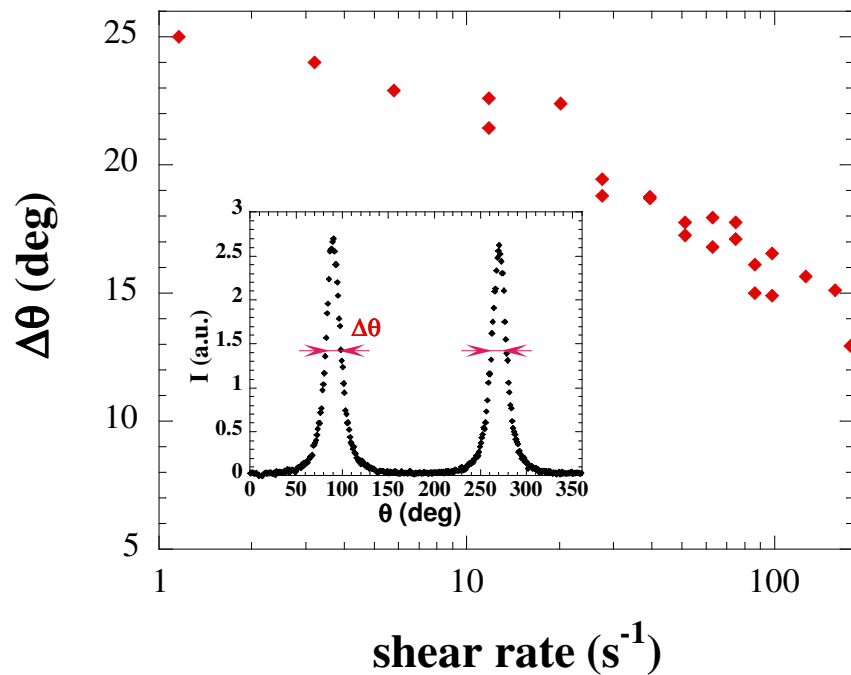


Structure under controlled shear rate

# SAXS under Low Shear



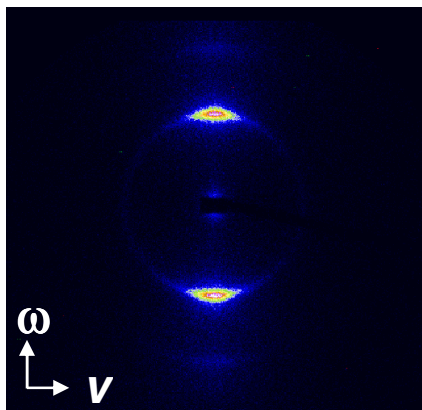
- Polydomain
- Preferential orientation of the tubes along  $\mathbf{v}$



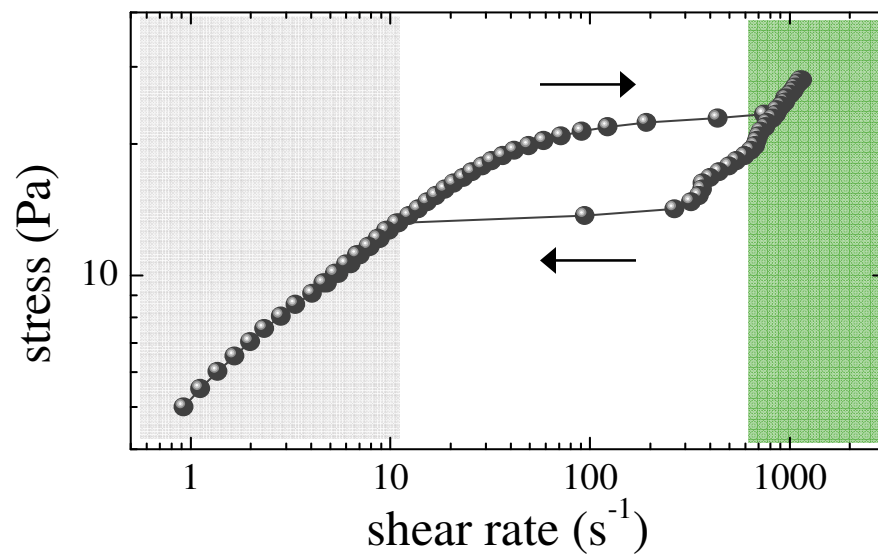
Progressive alignment of the tubes along  $\mathbf{v}$

# Structural Transition under Shear

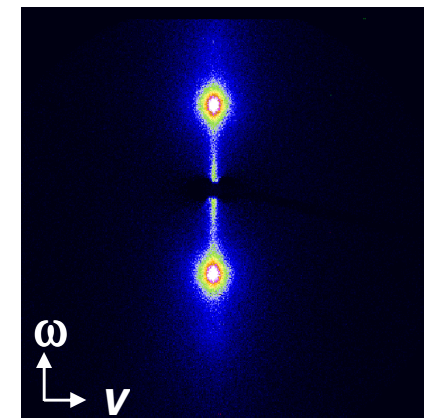
Low shear



Flow curve

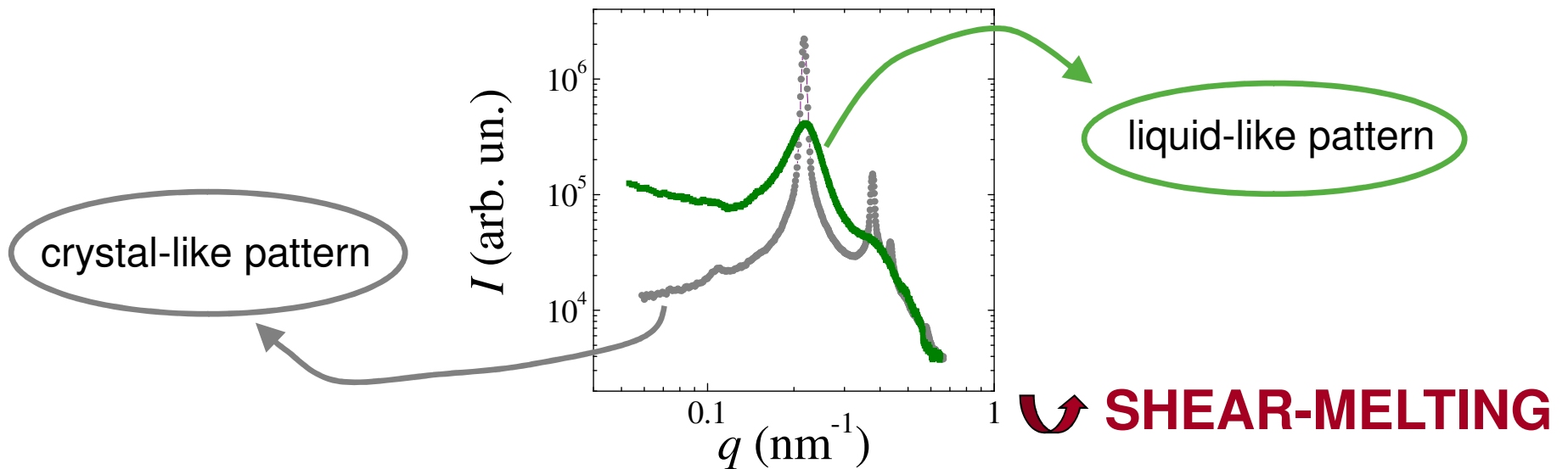
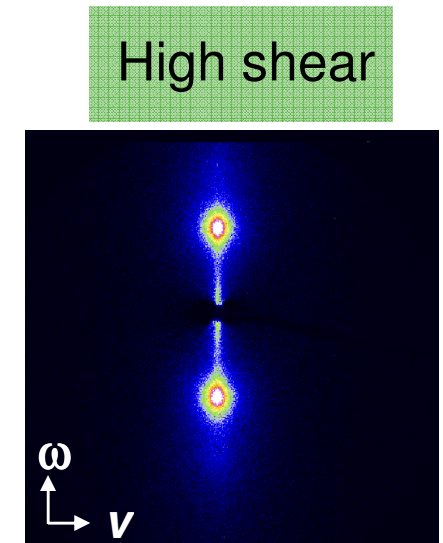
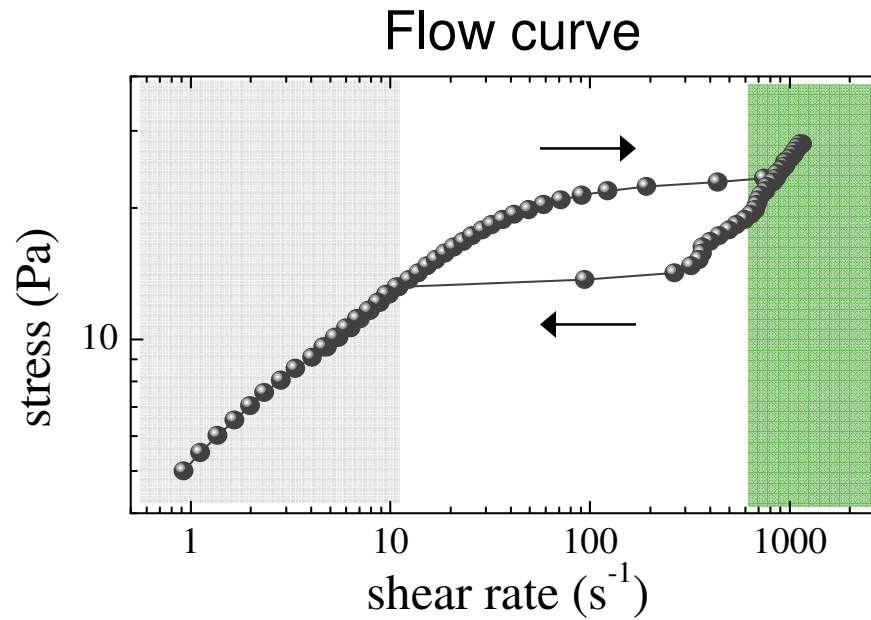
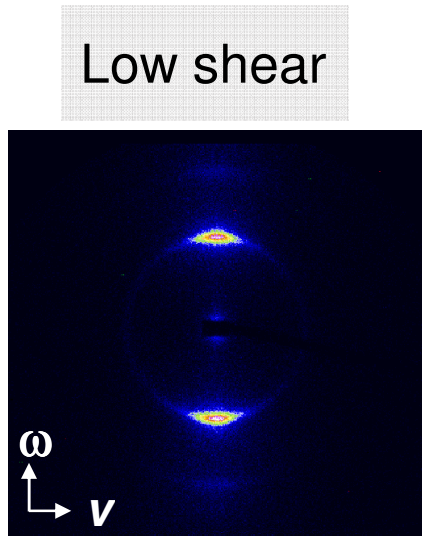


High shear



**Perfect** alignment  
of the tubes along  $v$

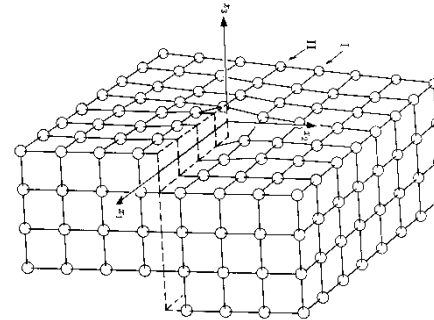
# Structural Transition under Shear



# Role of Dislocations

## Work-hardening of crystals

dimensional arguments



$$\sigma / G_0 = f(b \rho^{1/2})$$

Nabarro *et al.* (1964)

$G_0$  : shear modulus

$b$ : Burgers vector

$\rho$  : density of dislocations

Driving force  $F_1 \sim b\sigma$  (Peach-Koehler)

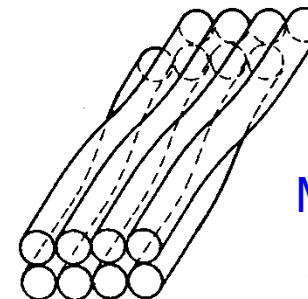
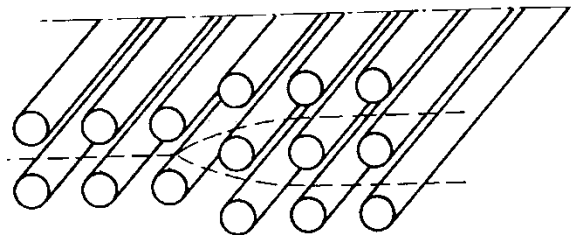
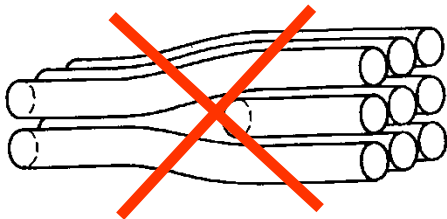
Resistive force  $F_2 \sim b^2$  (line tension of a dislocation)

$$\sigma \sim b$$



$$\sigma \sim G_0 b \rho^{1/2}$$

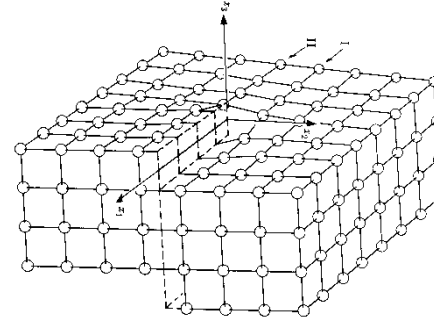
## 3 types of dislocations in columnar crystal



Marchetti and Nelson  
(1990)

# Role of Dislocations

## Work-hardening of crystals



Nabarro *et al.* (1964)

dimensional arguments

$$\sigma / G_0 = f(b \rho^{1/2})$$

$G_0$  : shear modulus  
 $b$  : Burgers vector  
 $\rho$  : density of dislocations

Driving force  $F_1 \sim b\sigma$  (Peach-Koehler)

Resistive force  $F_2 \sim b^2$  (line tension of a dislocation)

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} F_1 \sim b\sigma \\ F_2 \sim b^2 \end{array} \right\} \sigma \sim b$$



$$\sigma \sim G_0 b \rho^{1/2}$$



Orowan

$$\dot{\gamma} = \rho b v$$

$$v \sim \sigma$$



$$\sigma \sim \dot{\gamma}^{1/3}$$

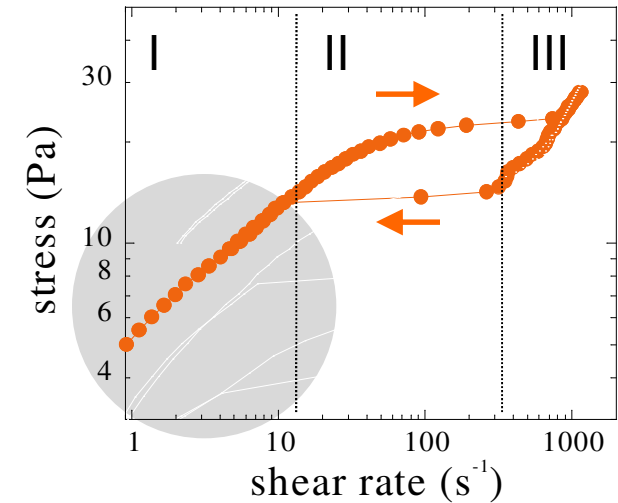
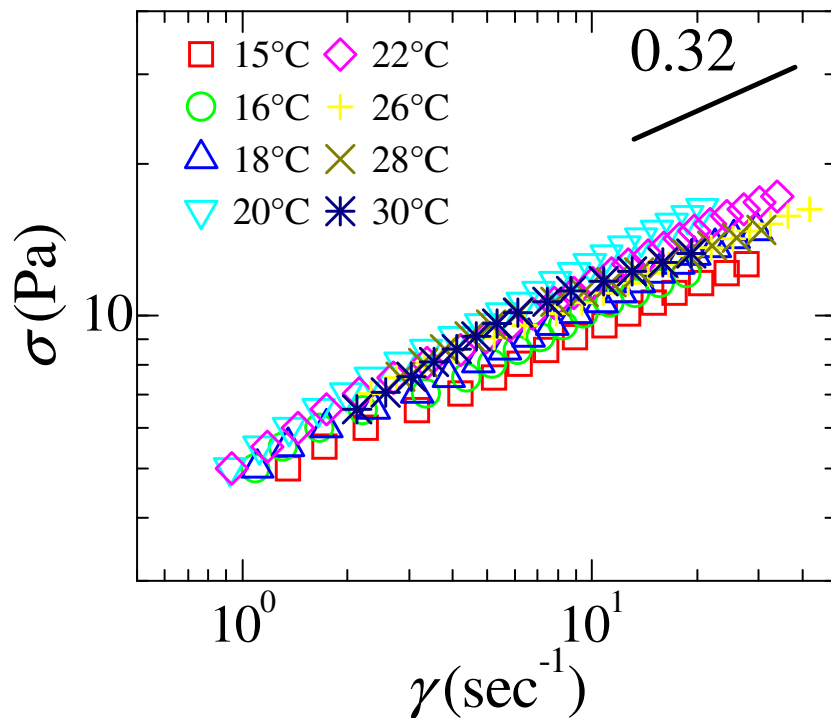
$$\rho \sim \sigma^2 \sim \dot{\gamma}^{2/3}$$

(geometrical argument)



# Determination of $\rho = f(\dot{\gamma})$ from Rheology Data

low  $\dot{\gamma}$  regime



shear-thinning regime

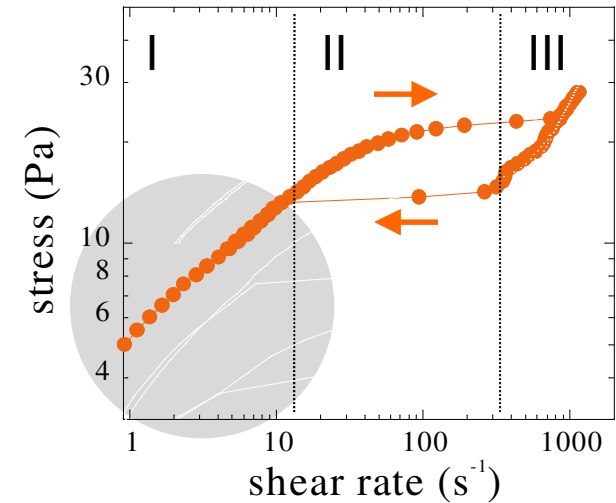
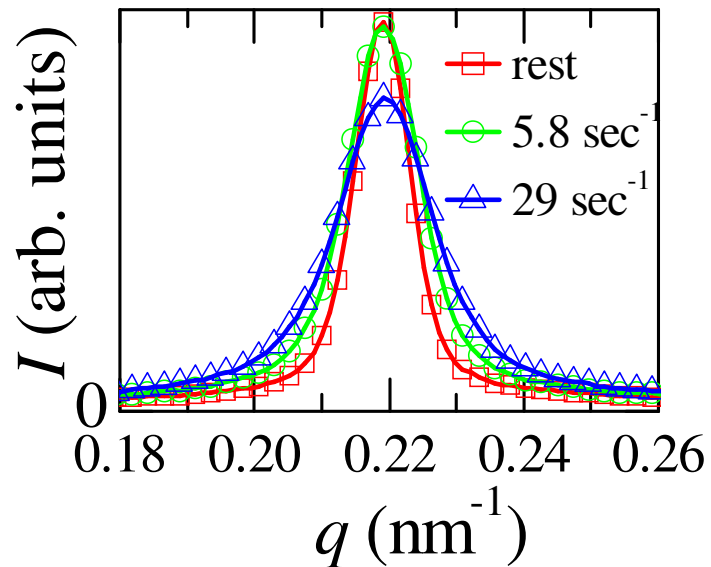
$$\sigma \propto \dot{\gamma}^{1/3}$$




$$\rho \propto \dot{\gamma}^{2/3}$$

# Determination of $\rho = f(\dot{\gamma})$ from SAXS Data

Broadening of the diffraction peaks

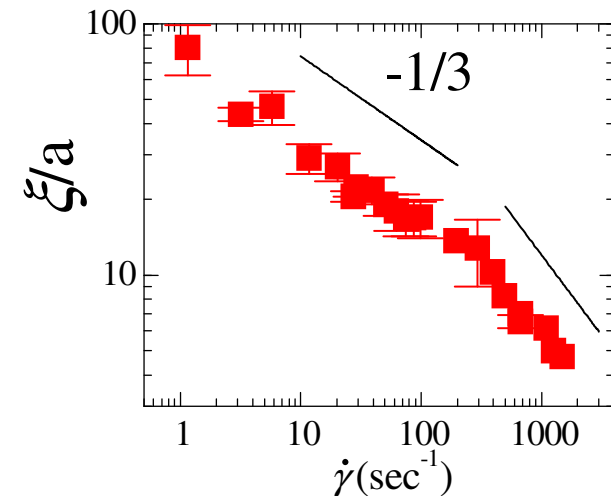


 correlation length  $\xi = \frac{2\pi}{\Delta q}$   
 $\xi \equiv$  mean distance between dislocations

$$\rho \equiv 1/\xi^2$$

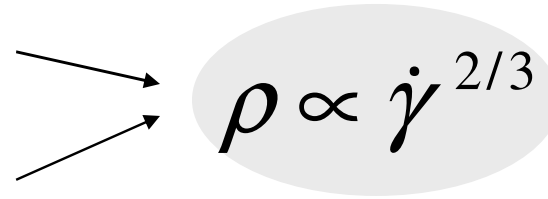


$$\rho \propto \dot{\gamma}^{2/3}$$



Broadening of the diffraction peaks

Shear-thinning regime


$$\rho \propto \dot{\gamma}^{2/3}$$

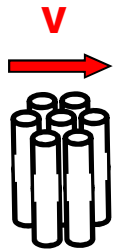
- ↪ **Scaling in agreement with simple theory of work-hardening of crystals**
- ↪ **Shear-melting due to a proliferation of dislocations**

# Analogies with Flux Line Lattices in Superconductors

**FFL**

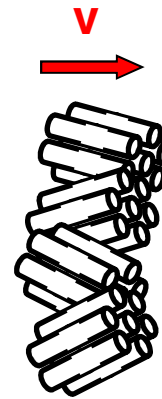
**soft hexagonal phase**

Shear-melting due to a proliferation of dislocations



*Corbino disk geometry*

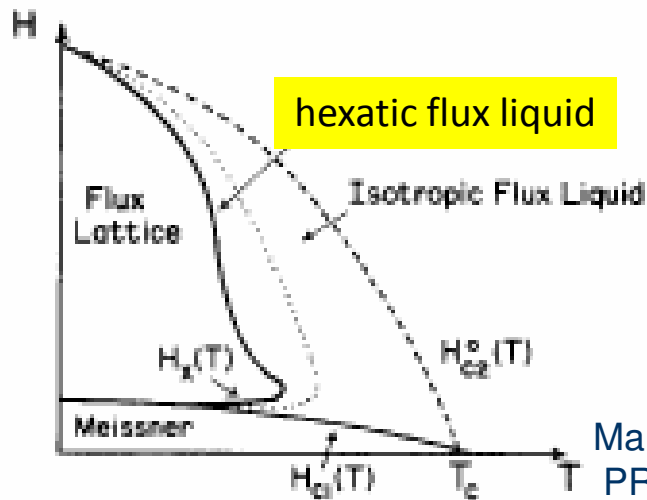
Benetatos and Marchetti PRB (2002)



**HOWEVER**

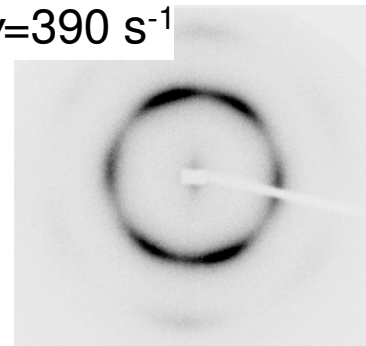
coupling between **orientation of the tubes** and **density of dislocations**

Intermediate hexatic phase ?

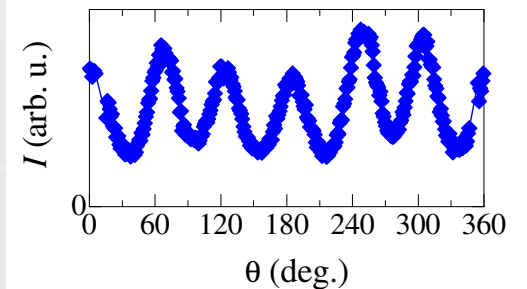


Marchetti and Nelson PRB (1990)

$\gamma = 390 \text{ s}^{-1}$

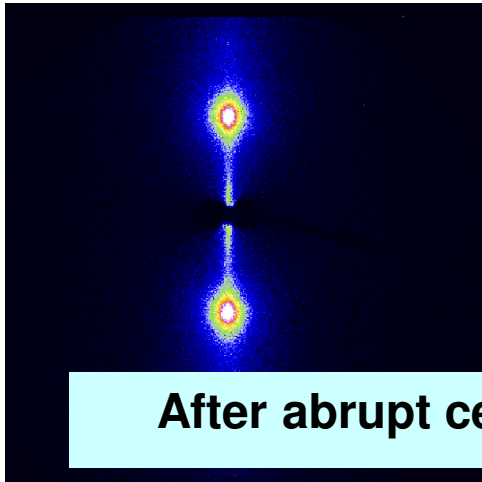


**azimuthal scan**

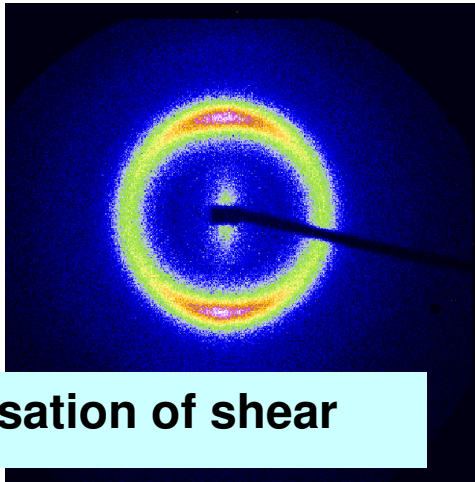


# Shear-Melting... and Re-Crystallization

$\omega$   
 $v$



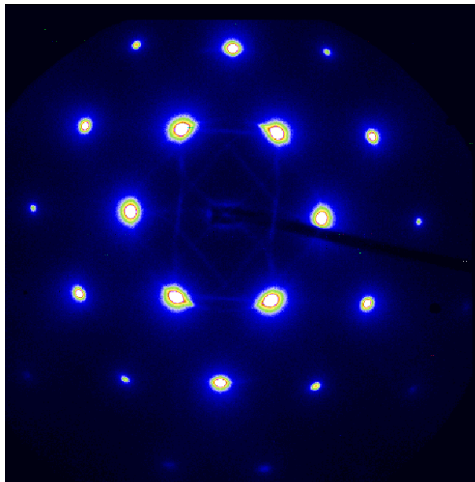
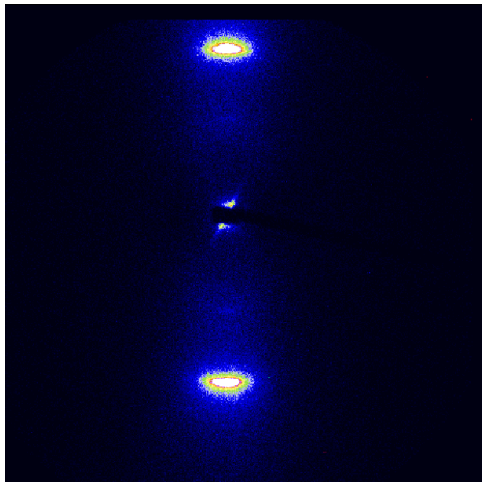
$\omega$   
 $\nabla v$



$$\dot{\gamma} = 1400 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

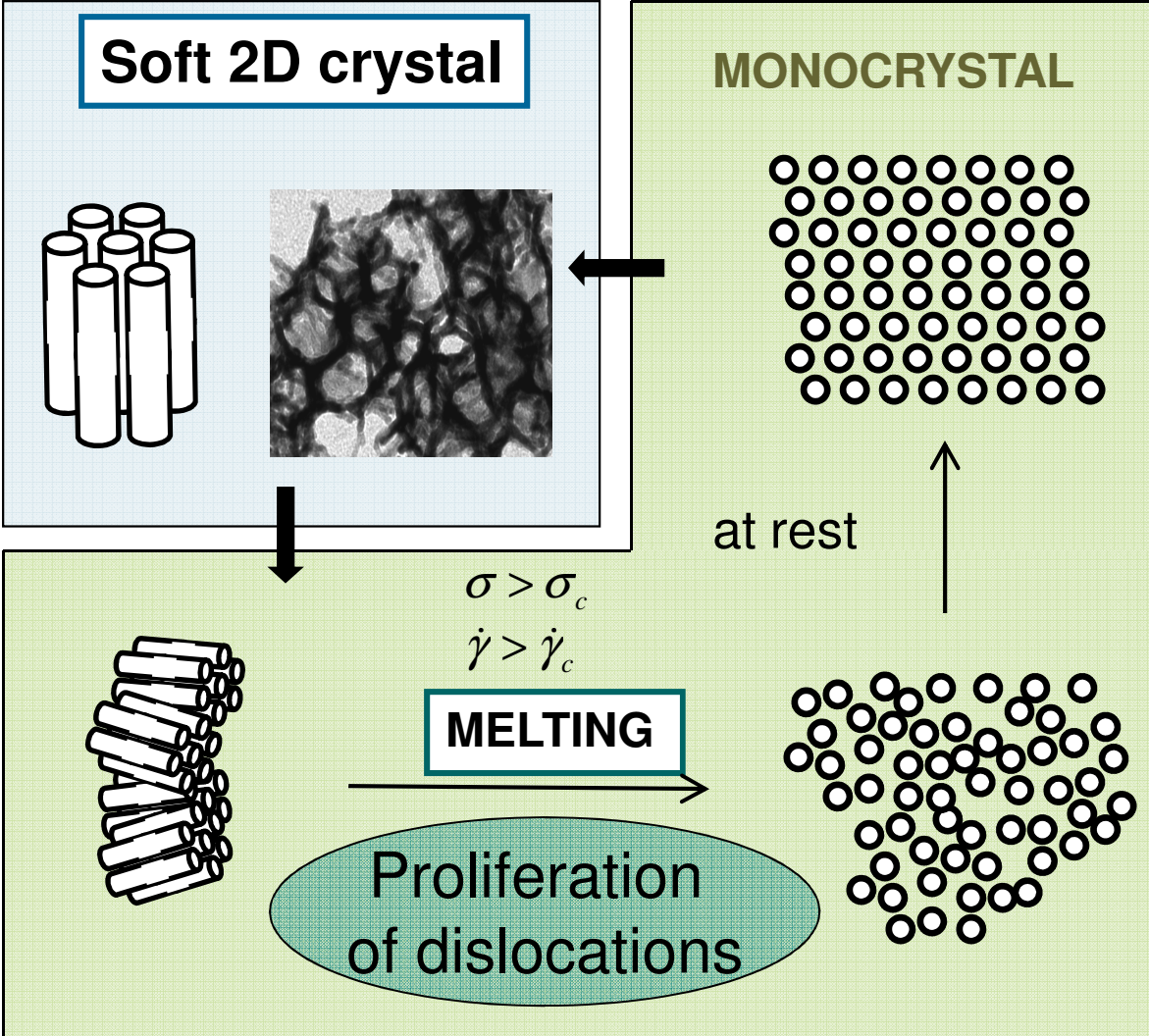
**MONOCRYSTAL**

- Time scale  $\sim 100$  sec
- Stable at rest

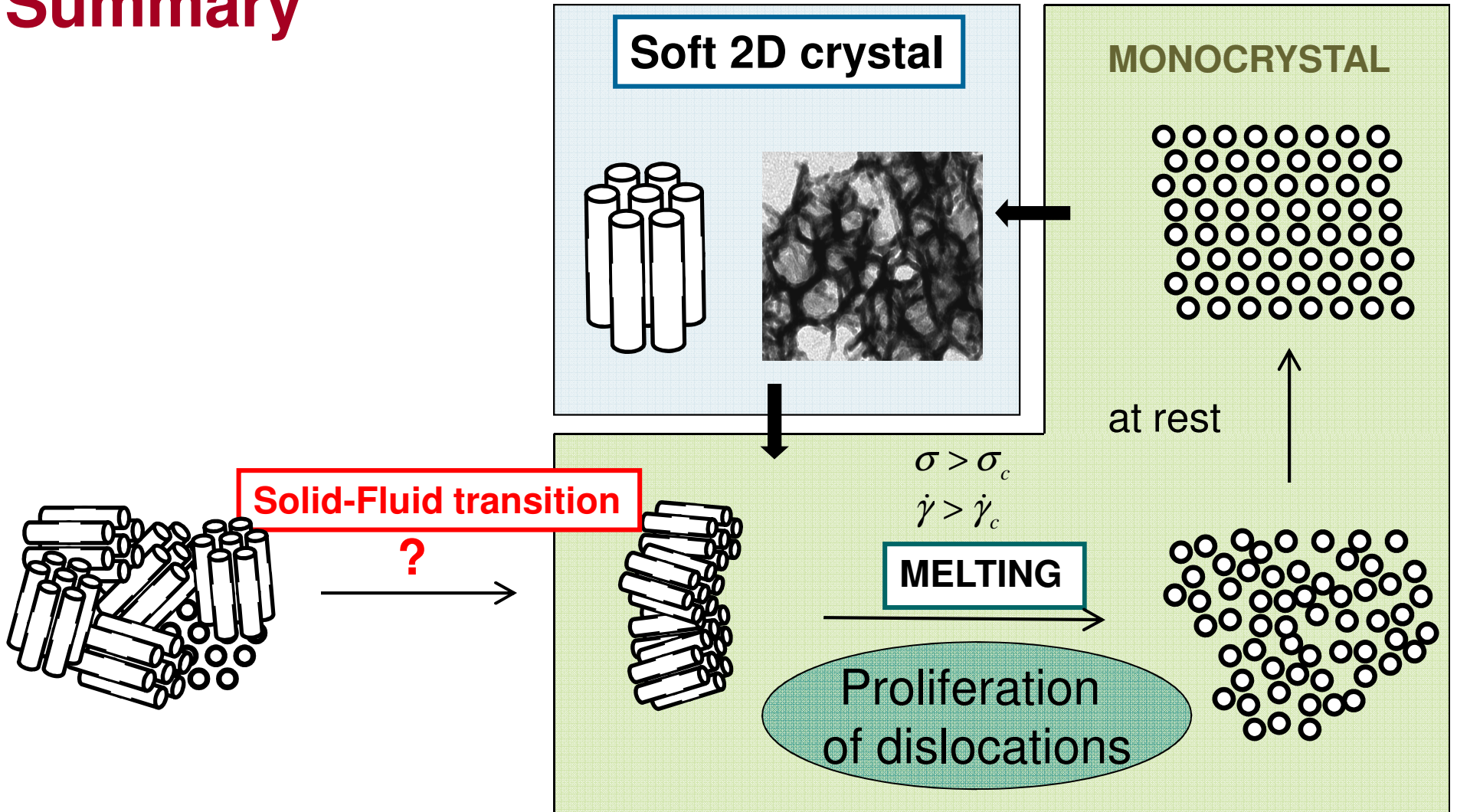


**Nanostructured materials !!**

# Summary

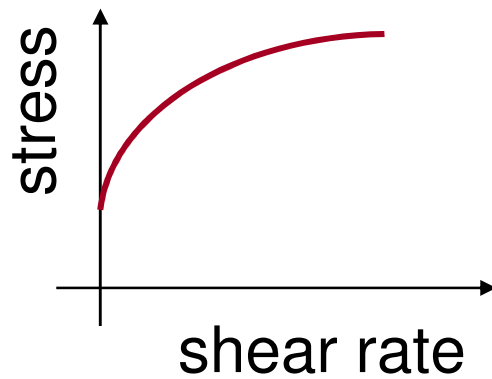


# Summary



# Solid-Fluid Transition

## Yield Stress Fluids



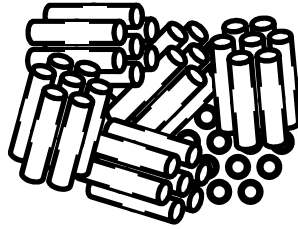
- Nature of the solid to fluid transition?
- Prediction whether and when a material will flow
- Structural modifications at the onset of flow?

- 
- 
- 



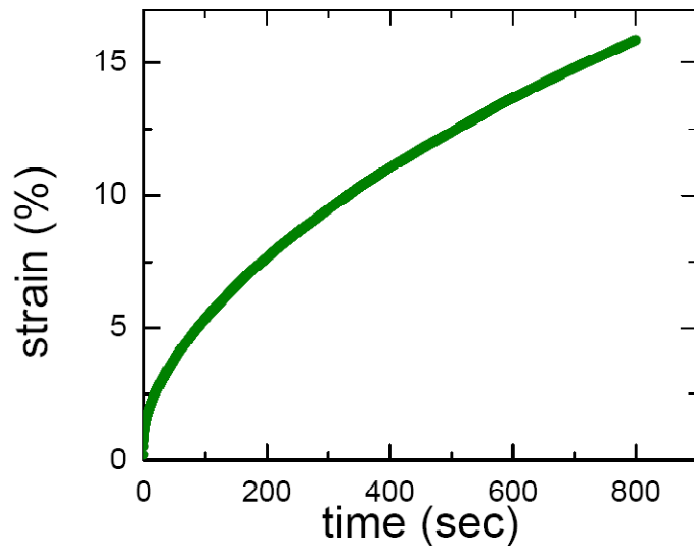


# Behavior under Low Stress



Low stress

$\sigma = 2 \text{ Pa}$



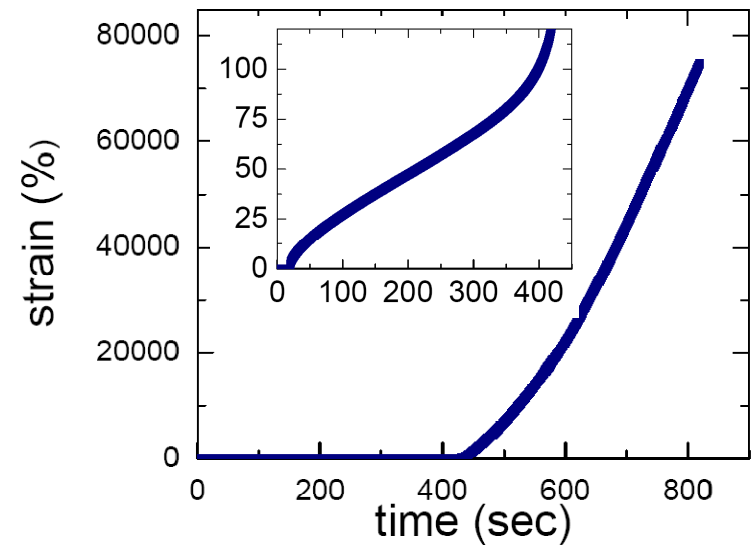
$$\gamma \sim t^m \quad (m < 1)$$

No steady state

“creep”

Higher stress

$\sigma = 5 \text{ Pa}$

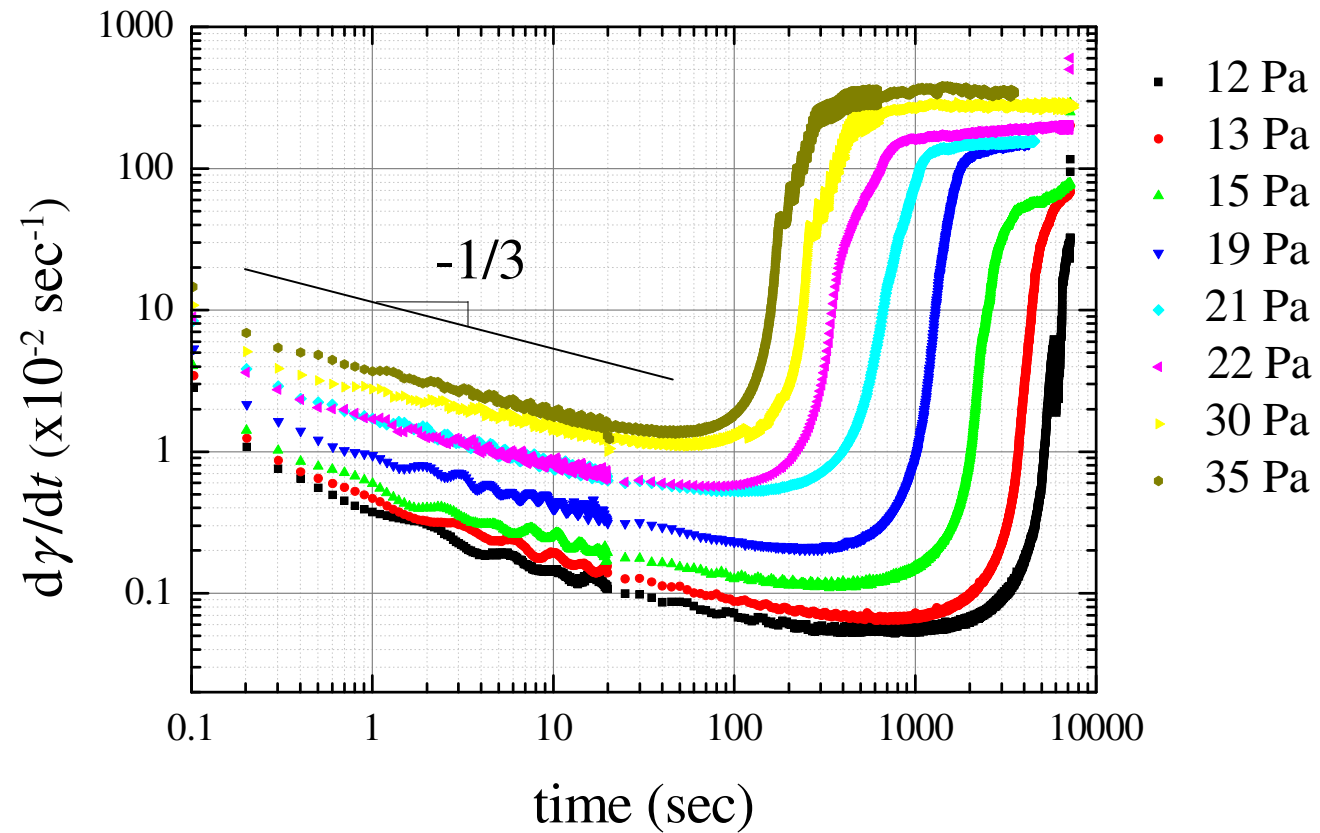


$$\gamma \sim t$$

Stationary regime

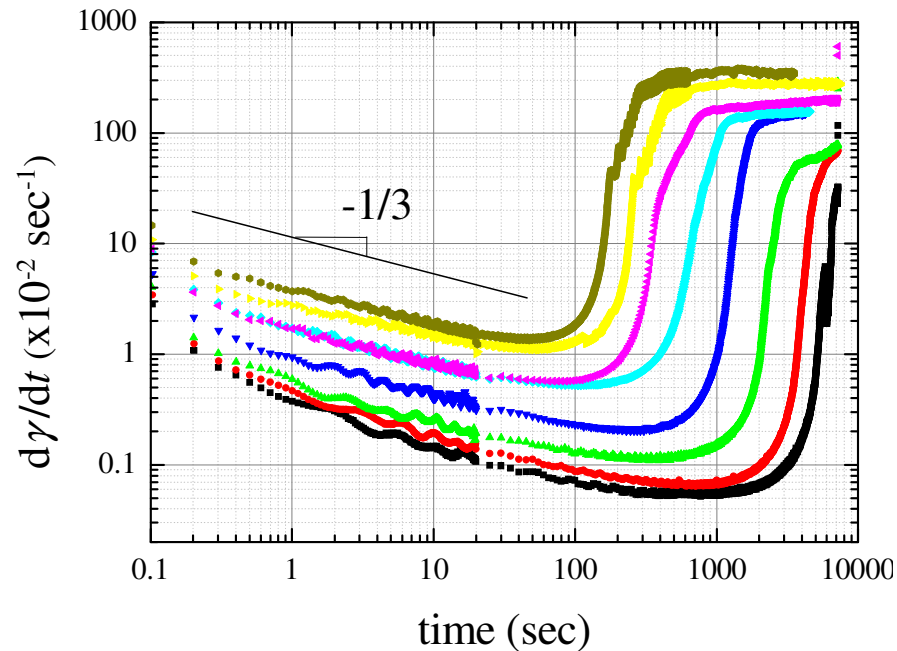
“flow”

# Behavior under Low Stress

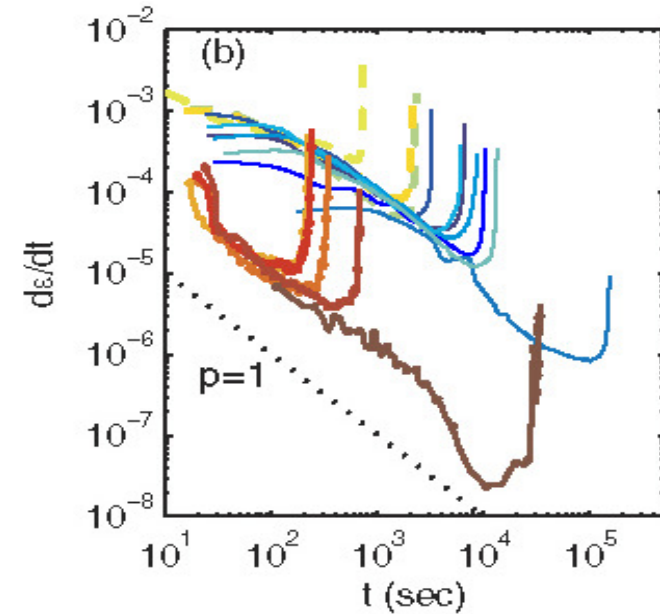


# Behavior under Low Stress

surfactant hexagonal phase



polymer composite



*Nechad, PRL (2005)*

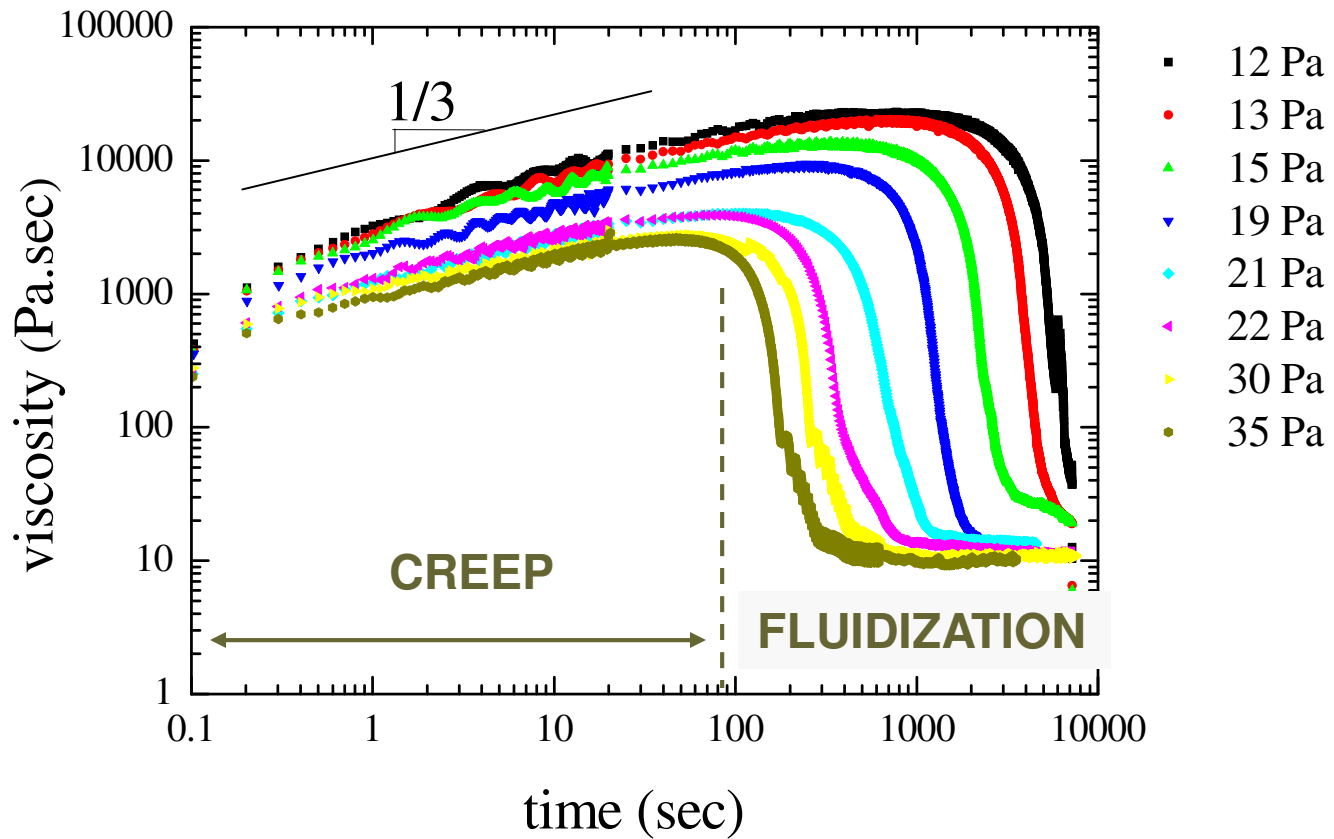
## Analogies with

heterogeneous composite polymer materials

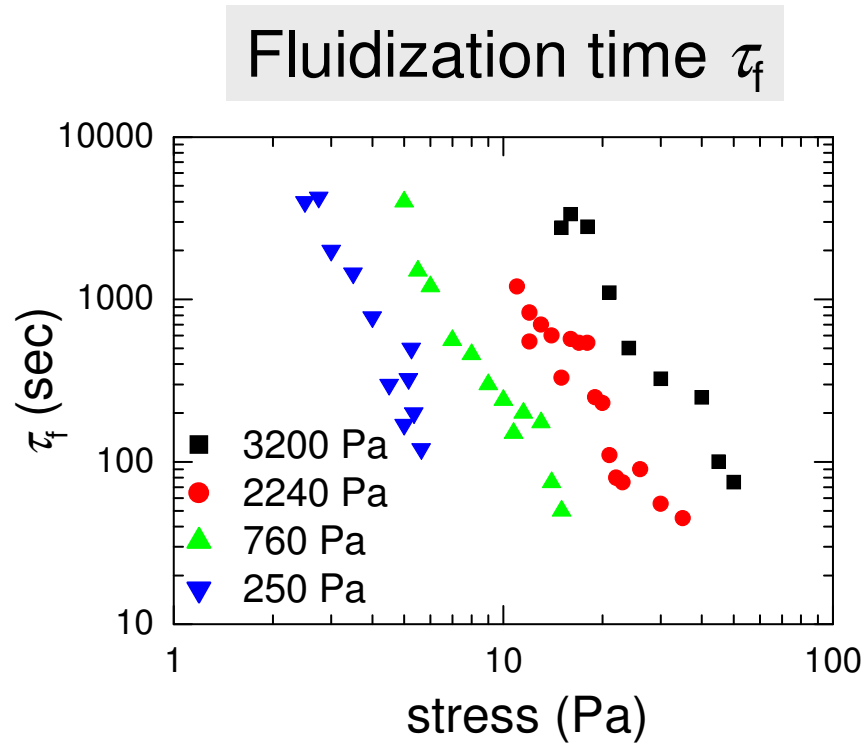
**EXCEPT** flow with low viscosity instead of rupture

# Behavior under Low Stress

$$\eta = \sigma / \dot{\gamma}$$



# Onset of Flow

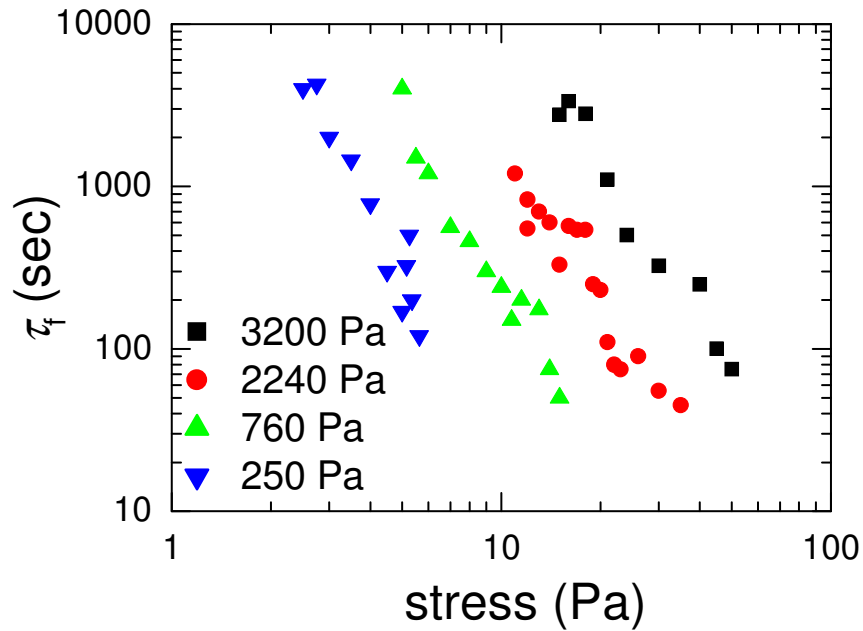


●  $\tau_f$  ↓ when  $\sigma$  ↑

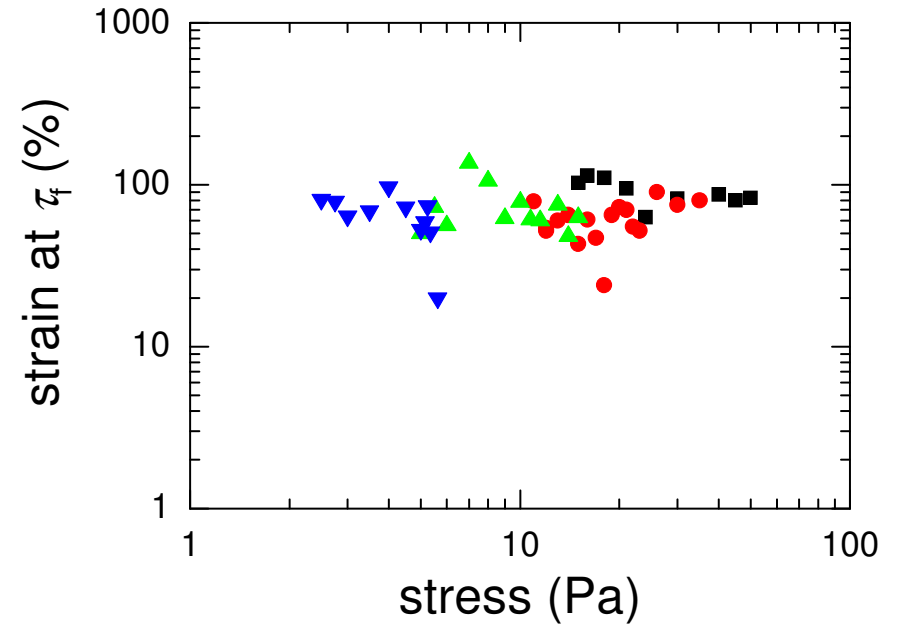
●  $\tau_f$  vs  $\sigma$  shifted towards smaller stresses for softer materials

# Onset of Flow

Fluidization time  $\tau_f$



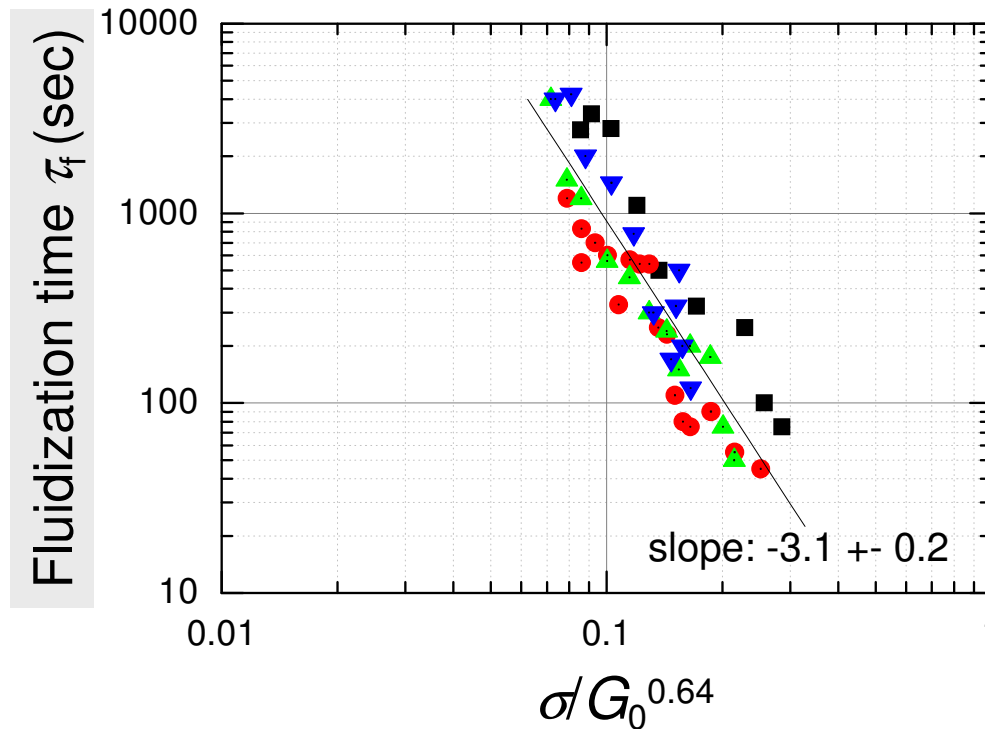
Strain at  $\tau_f$



- $\tau_f$  ↓ when  $\sigma$  ↑
- $\tau_f$  vs  $\sigma$  shifted towards smaller stresses for softer materials

- $\gamma_c \sim 70\%$   
independent of  $\sigma$  and  $G_0$

# Onset of Flow

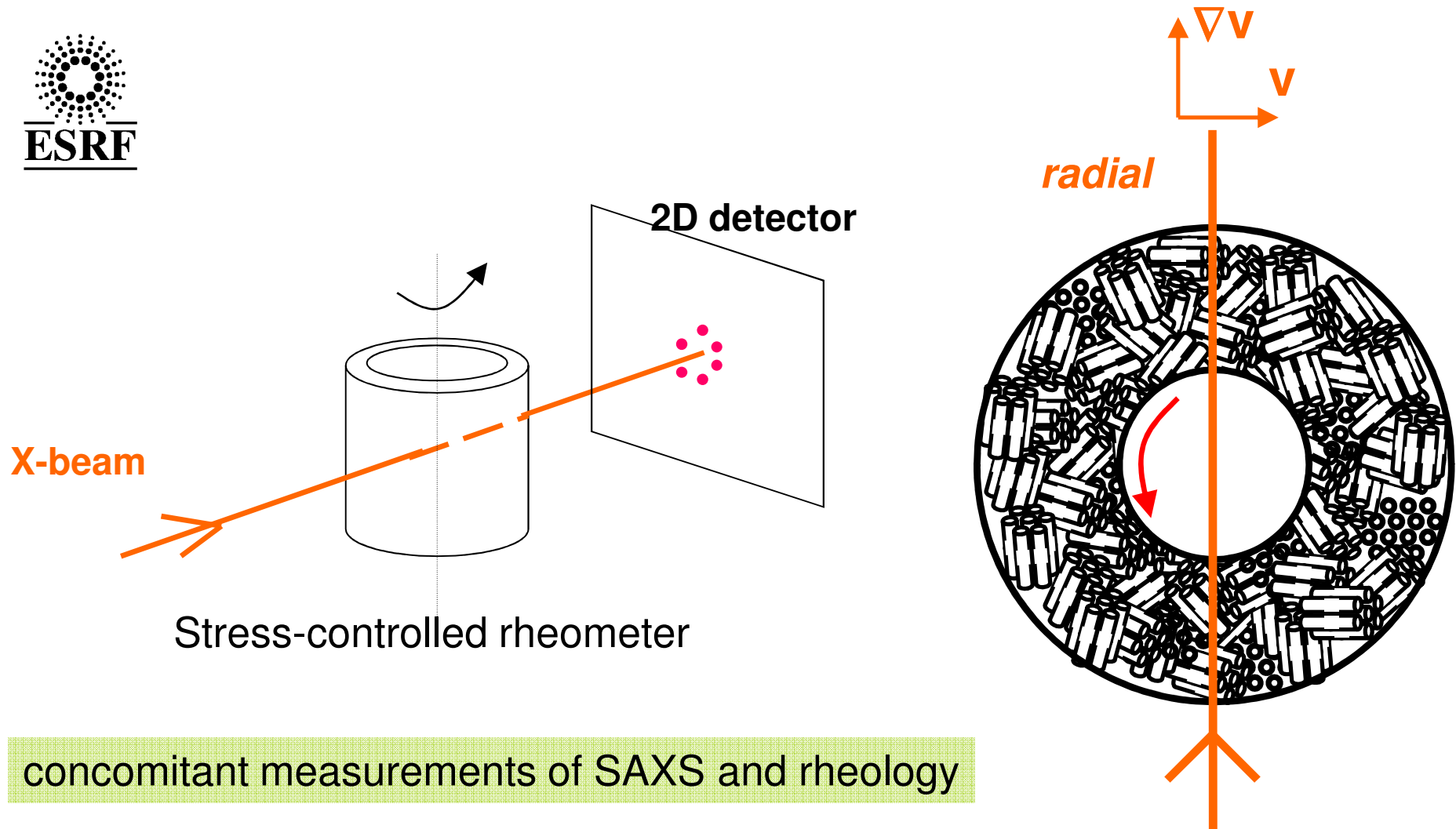


- $G_0 = 3200$  Pa
- $G_0 = 2240$  Pa
- ▲  $G_0 = 760$  Pa
- ▼  $G_0 = 250$  Pa

$$G_0 \sim \frac{\kappa}{R^3}$$

- **Powerlaw variation of the time with stress**
  - *No yield stress?*
- **Collapse when stress normalized by  $G_0^{2/3}$** 
  - *Fluidization time depends only on the force applied per tube*
  - *Bulk properties?*

# SAXS under Controlled Stress

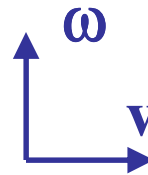
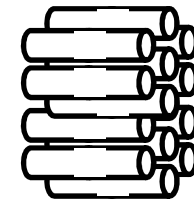
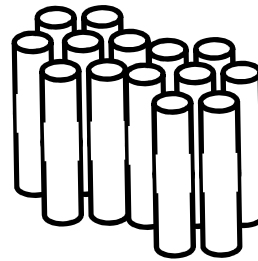
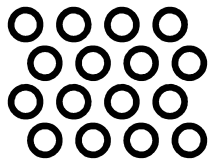
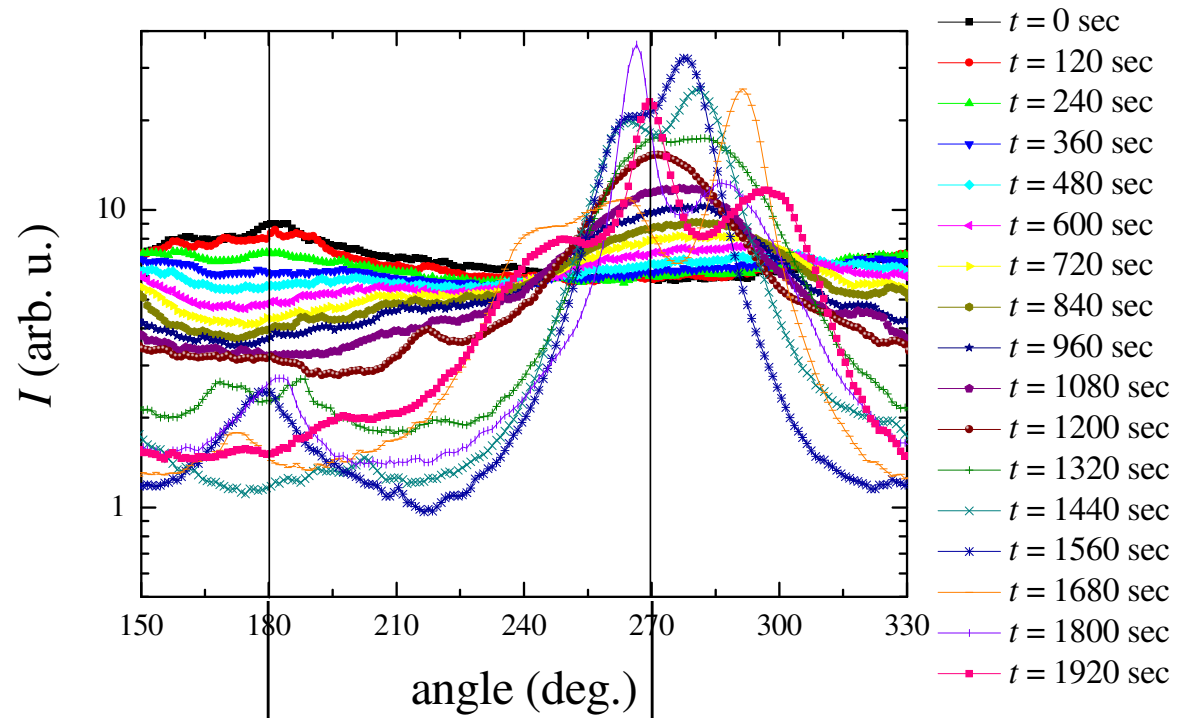
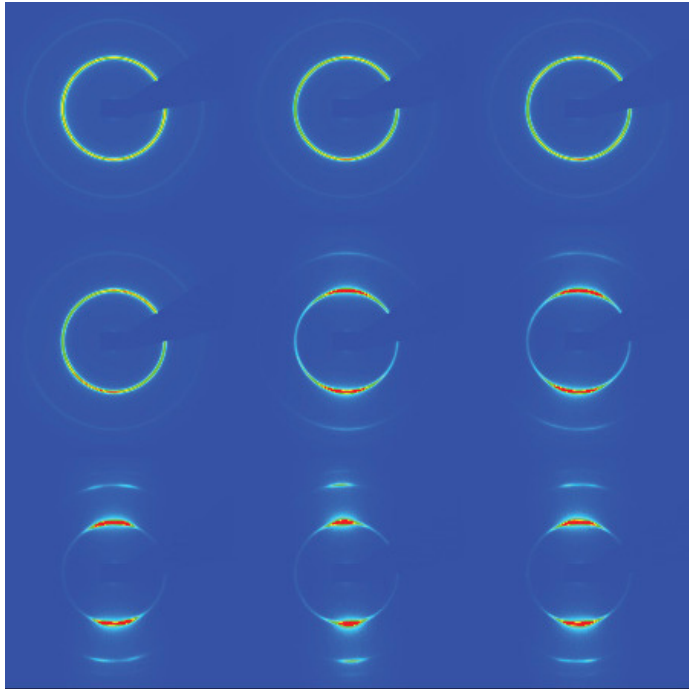


concomitant measurements of SAXS and rheology

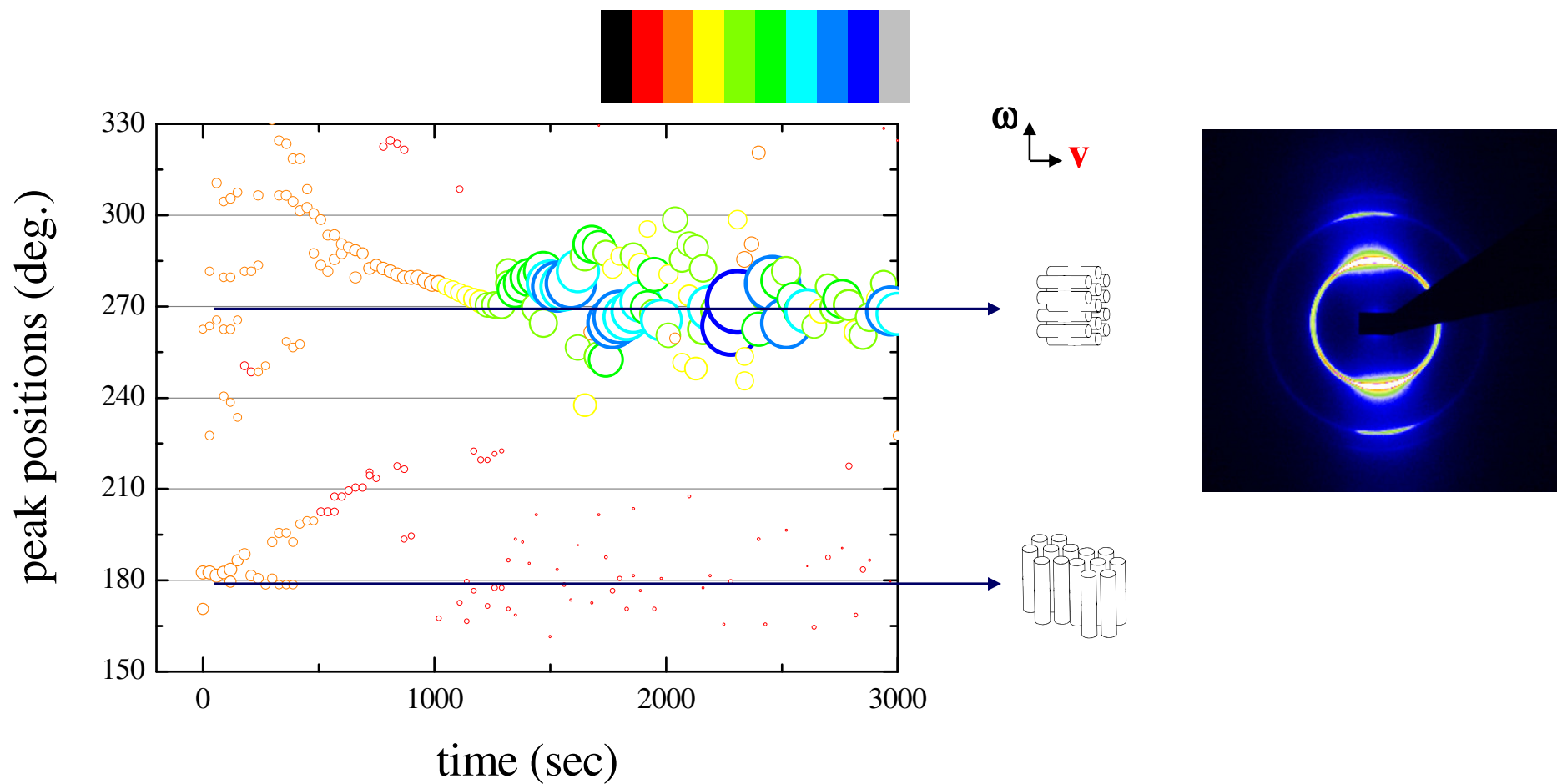
↪ Structures in the creep regime and at the onset of flow?



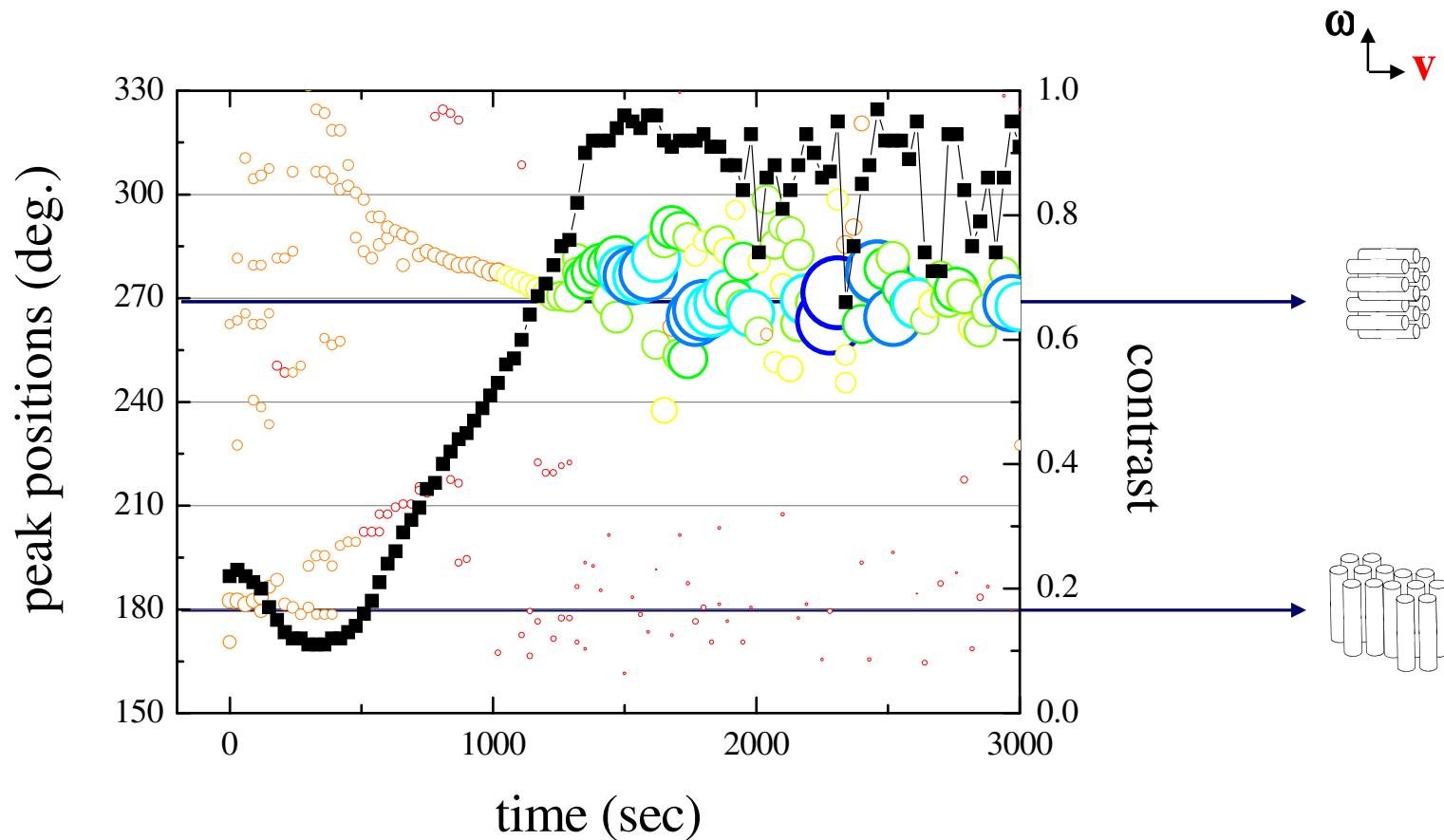
# Time Evolution of the Angular Scan



# Time Evolution of the Peaks' Positions and Intensity

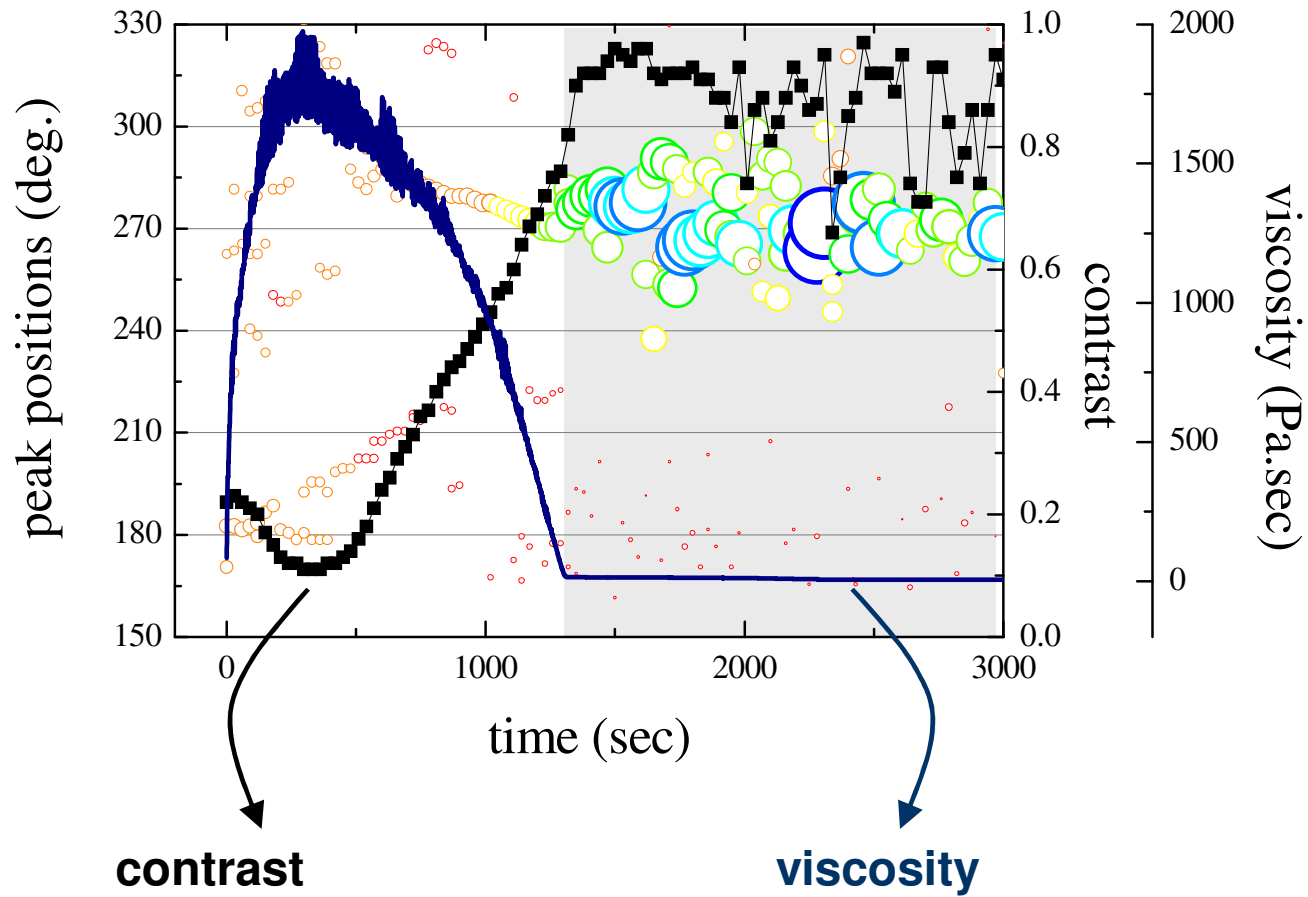


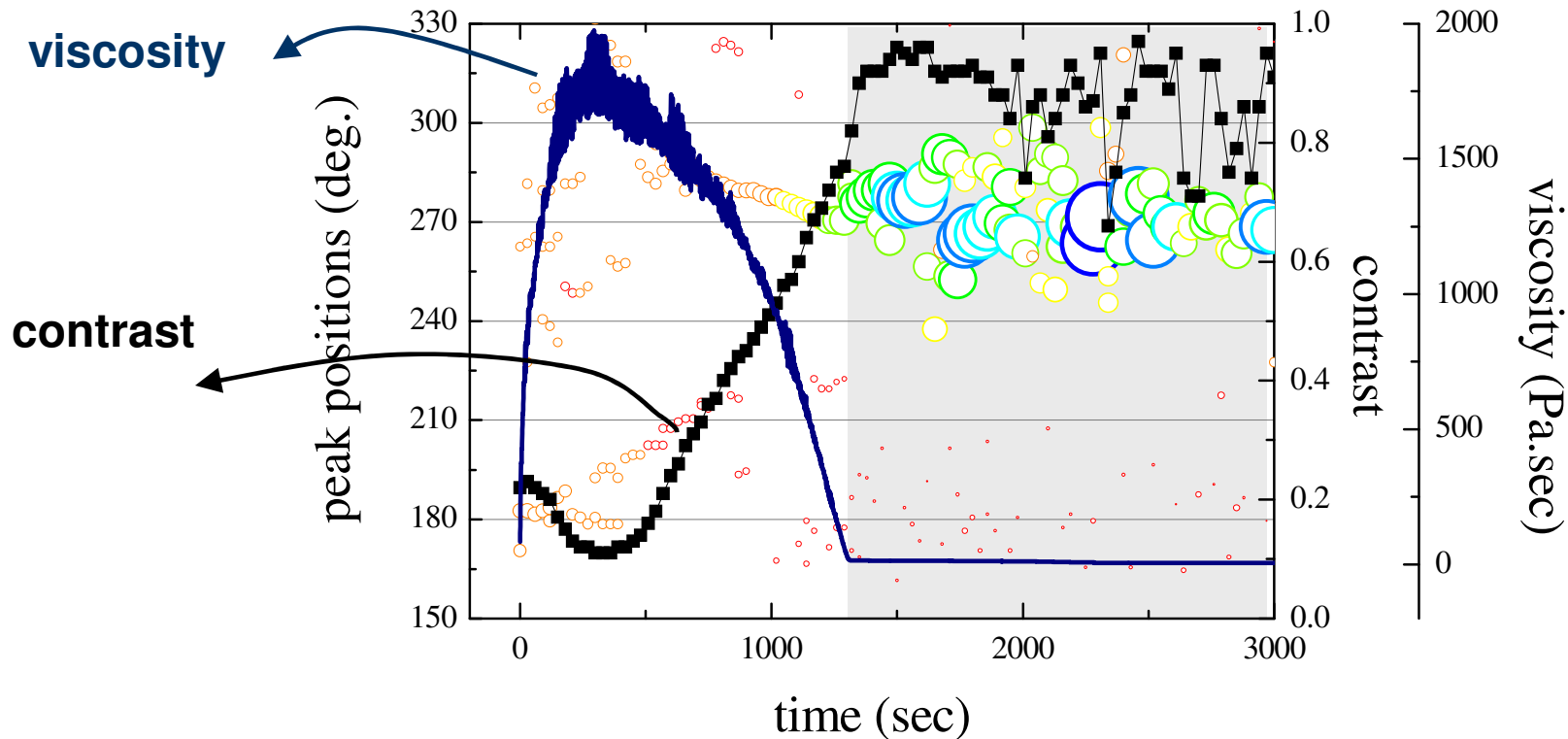
# Time Evolution of the Peaks' Positions and Intensity



$$\text{Contrast} = (I_{\max} - I_{\min}) / (I_{\max} + I_{\min})$$

# Correlation Structure / Rheological Behavior





## At the onset of flow:

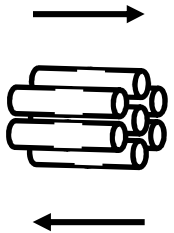
### Collective rearrangements of all crystallites

- All oriented along the flow (90 deg) but wide angular distribution (35 deg)
- In agreement with the scaling for fluidization time

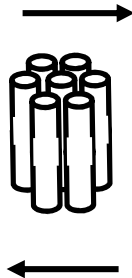
Not due to wall slip !!

# What happens in the solid regime?

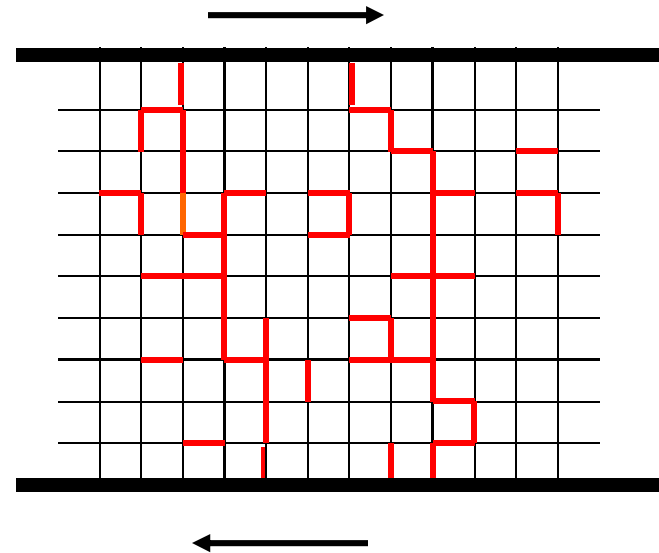
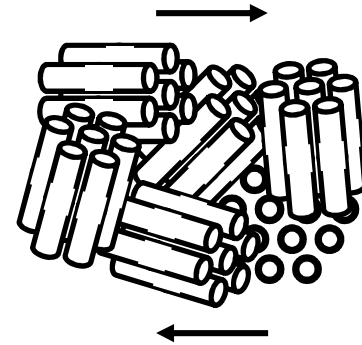
~~resistance to flow~~



resistance to flow

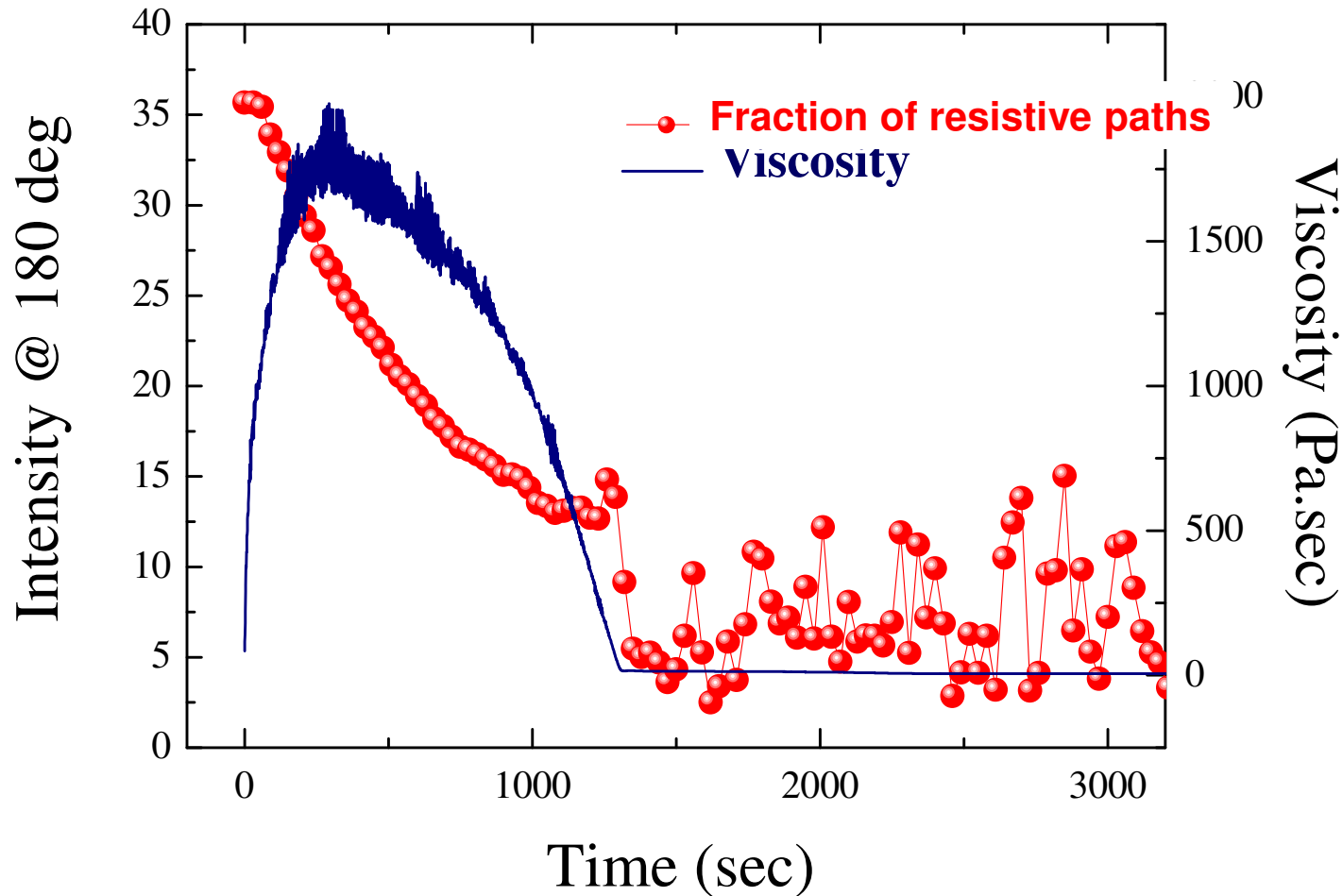


resistance to flow



**Bulk 3D polycrystalline sample**  
=  
**Percolated network of resistive paths**

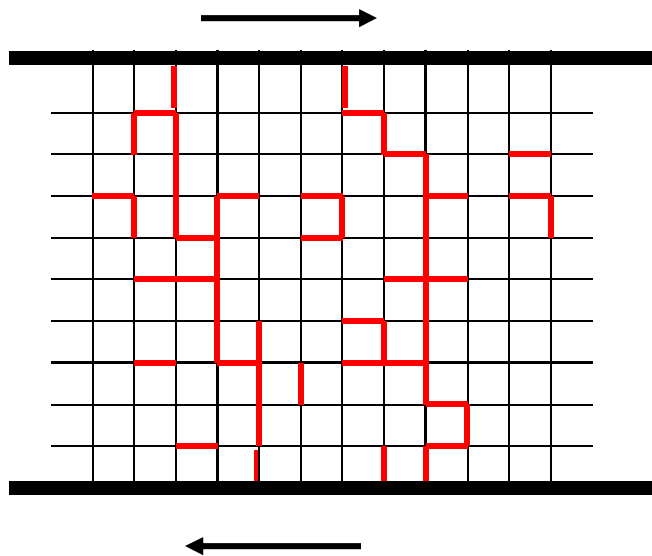
# What happens in the solid regime?



## Before onset of flow:

slow rearrangements to remove « most unfavorable » grain orientation (180 deg)

# Correlation Structure / Rheological Behavior A NAIVE PICTURE



*De-percolation*

FLUIDIZATION

*Percolated network*

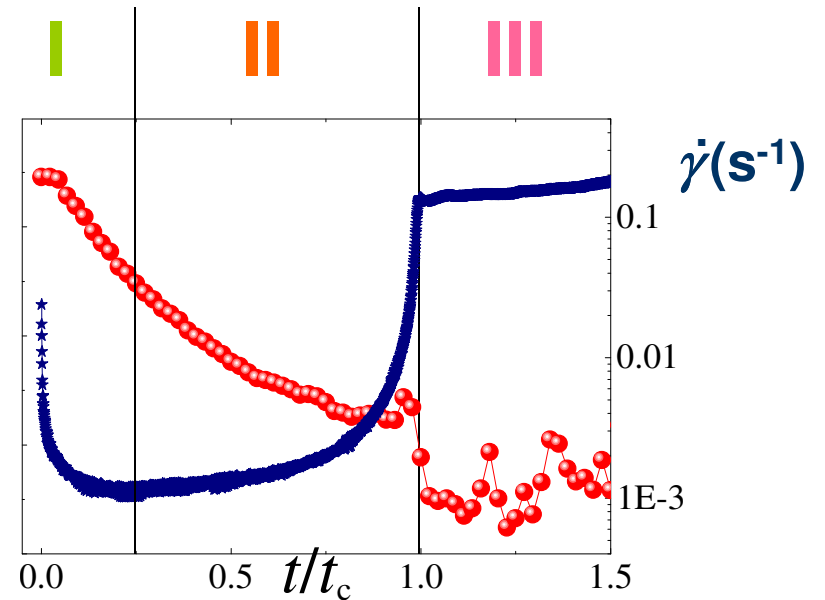
CREEP

*No resistive paths*

FLOW  
stationary state

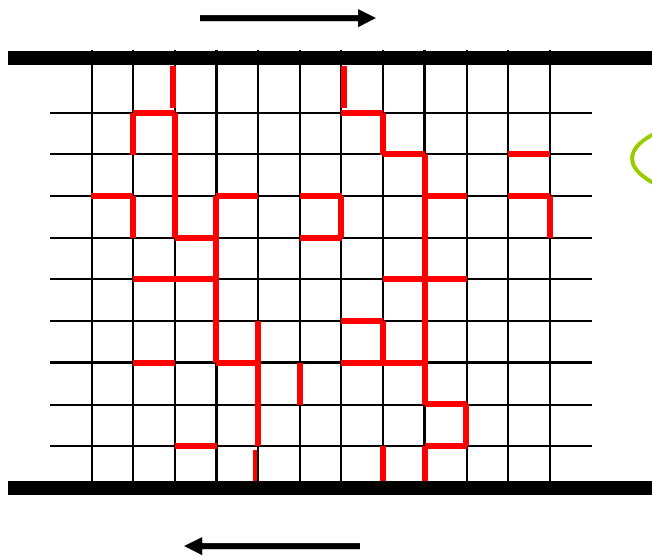
Fraction of resistive paths

General mechanism?





# Correlation Structure / Rheological Behavior A NAIVE PICTURE



Percolated network

De-percolation

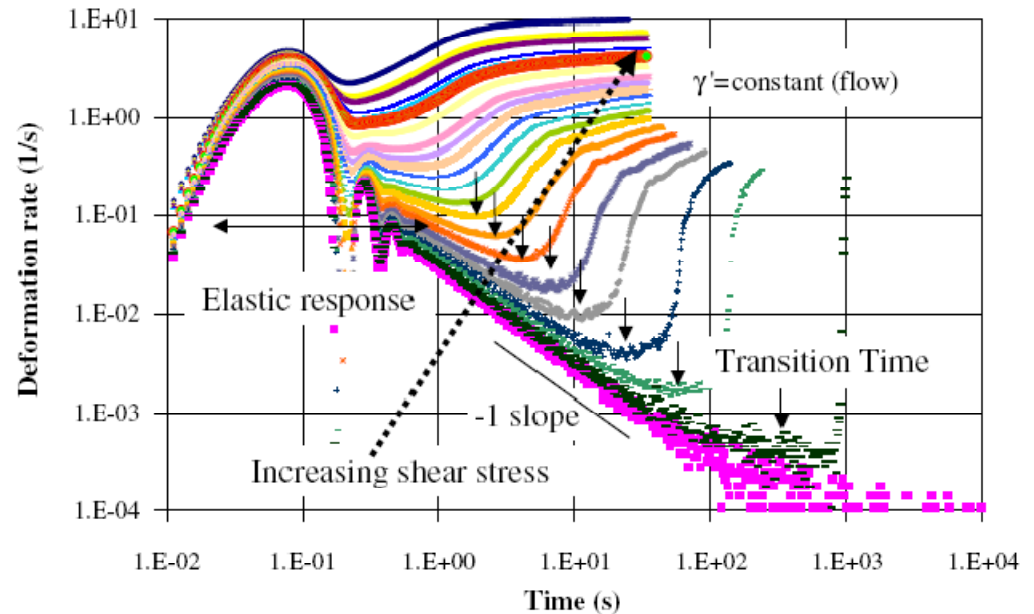
No resistive paths

CREEP

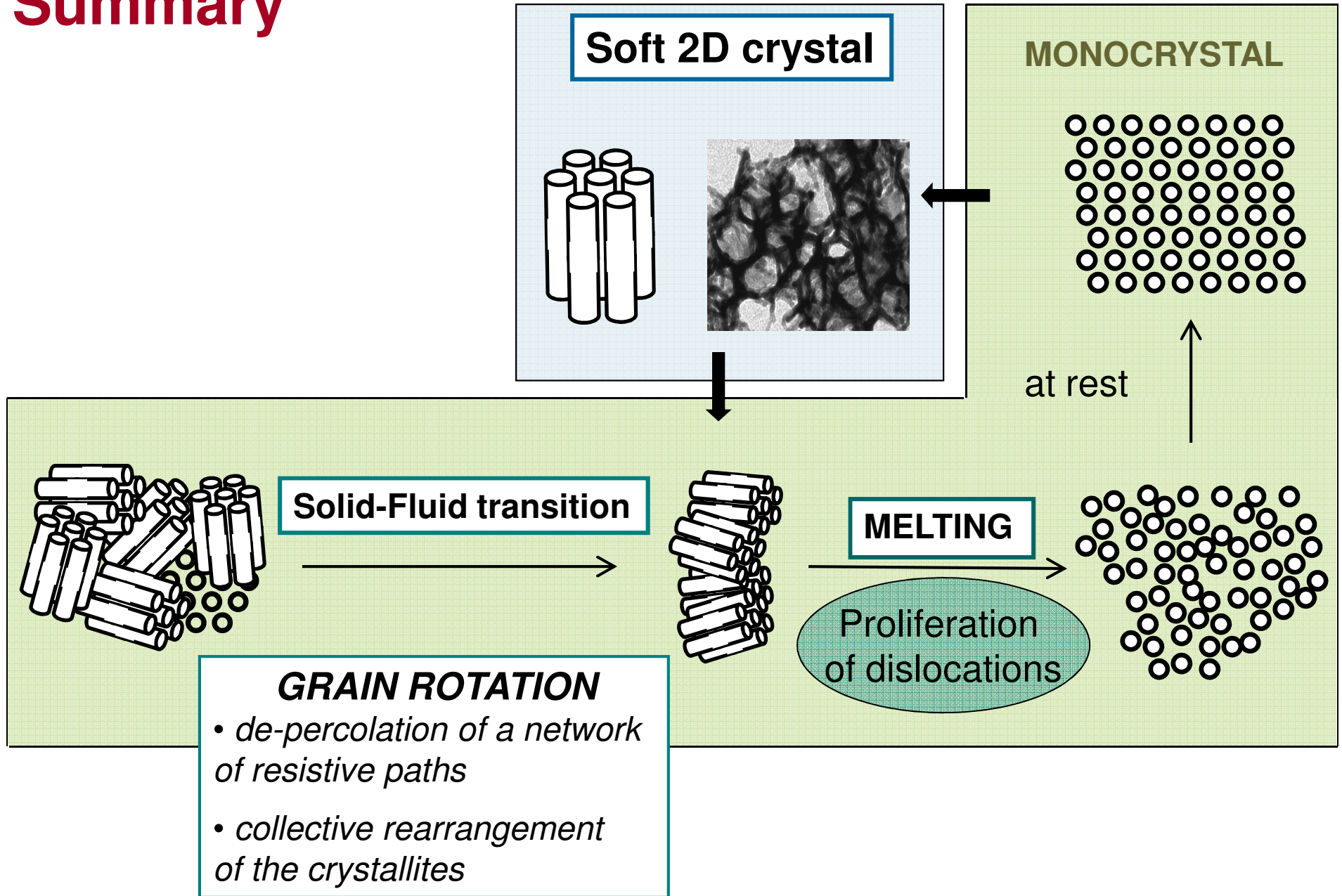
FLUIDIZATION

FLOW  
stationary state

General mechanism?



# Summary

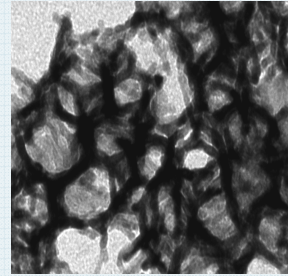
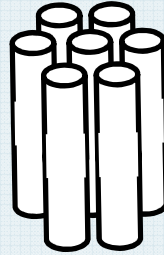


# Summary

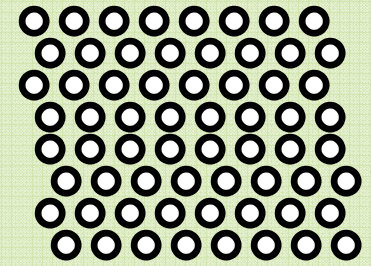
## PLASTICITY

- ✓ of 3D soft crystals
- ✓ and spontaneous dynamics

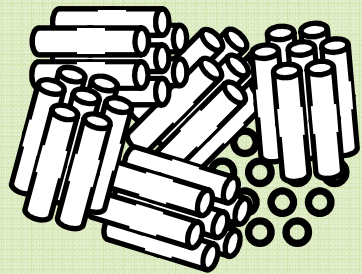
Soft 2D crystal



MONOCRYSTAL

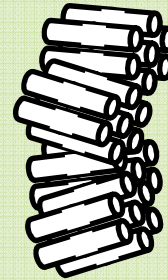


at rest



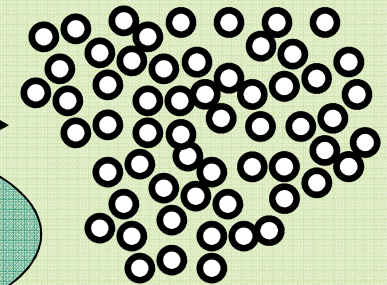
PLASTICITY &  
ONSET OF FLOW

Grain rotation



MELTING

Proliferation  
of dislocations



# Outline

## I. Soft 2D columnar crystal

- A) **Designing** a versatile self-assembled structured system
- B) **Flow** - characterizing and modeling the shear-induced transition
- C) **Plasticity** - Understanding the solid-liquid transition in complex fluids

## II. Towards the **plasticity** of soft 3D polycrystals

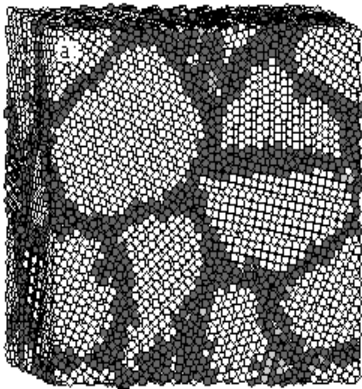
## III. Plasticity and spontaneous dynamics of soft glasses

# Plasticity of Polycrystals

## DYNAMICS and PLASTICITY of ATOMIC POLYCRYSTALS

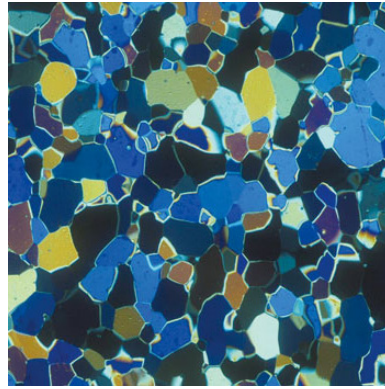
- Original mechanical properties of polycrystals (e. g. superplasticity)
- Physical mechanisms at the origin of plasticity?
- Role of grain boundaries?

### Simulation



Schiotz, 1998

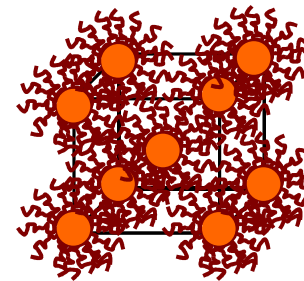
### Experiment



J. Weiss, LGGE/CNRS

## OUR APPROACH: USE of a COLLOIDAL ANALOGUE

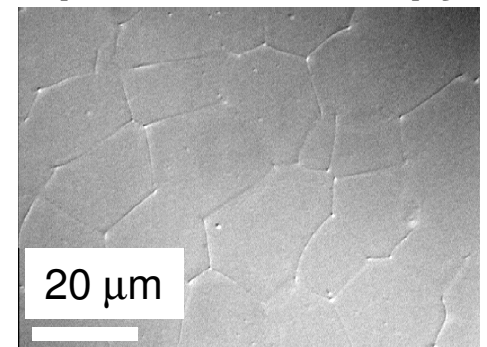
block-copolymer + nanoparticles



*cubic phase (fcc)*

*segregation  
in the  
grain-boundaries*

**optical microscopy**



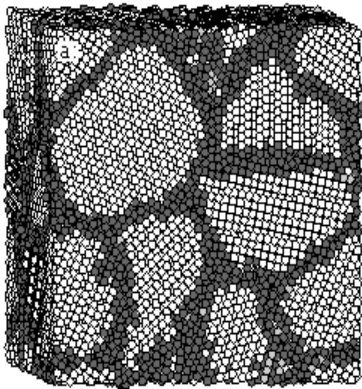
20 μm

# Plasticity of Polycrystals

## DYNAMICS and PLASTICITY of ATOMIC POLYCRYSTALS

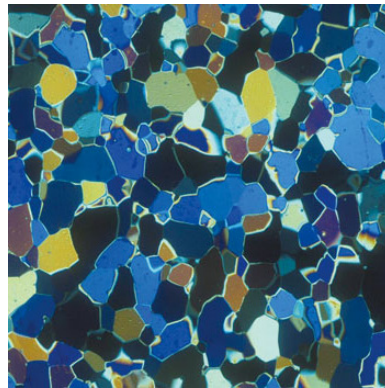
- Original mechanical properties of polycrystals (e. g. superplasticity)
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- Role of grain boundaries?

### Simulation



Schiotz, 1998

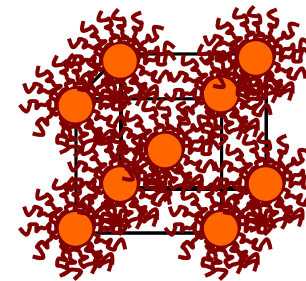
### Experiment



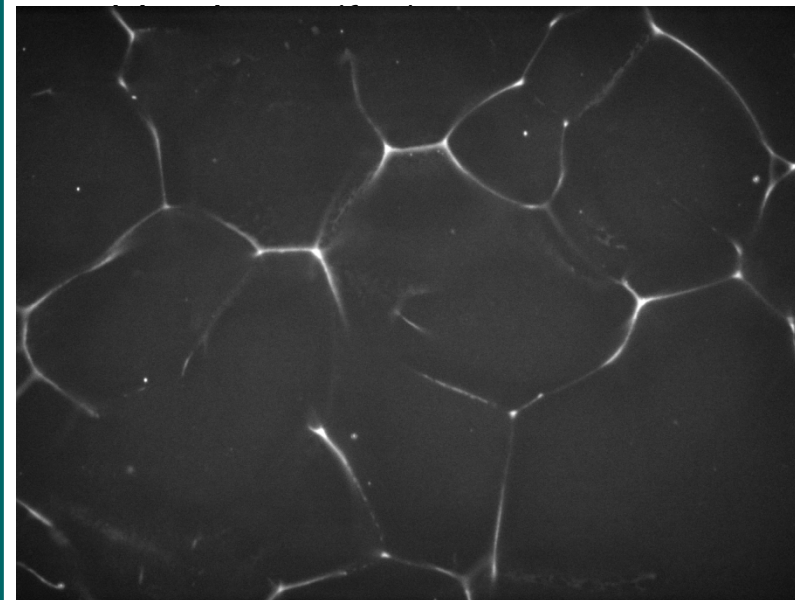
J. Weiss, LGGE/CNRS

## OUR APPROACH: USE of a COLLOIDAL ANALOGUE

block-copolymer + nanoparticles



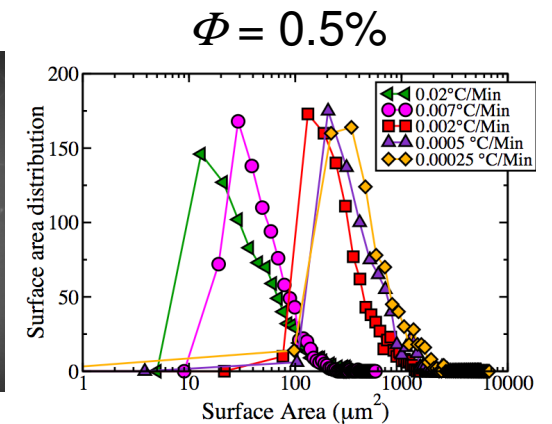
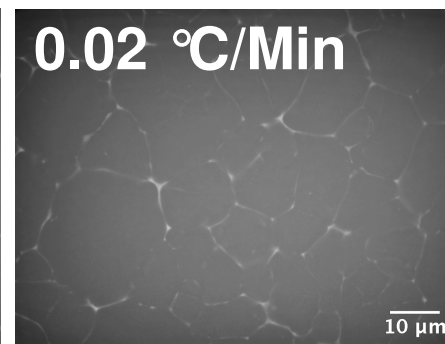
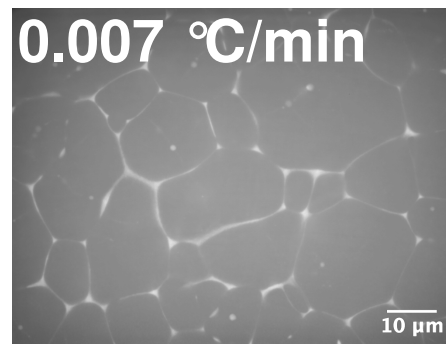
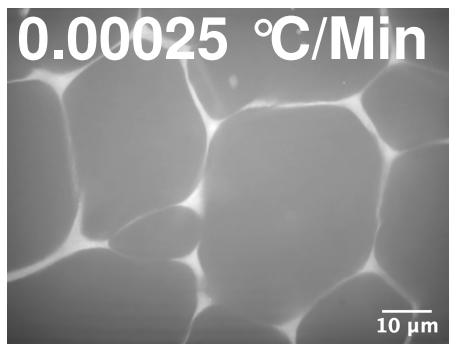
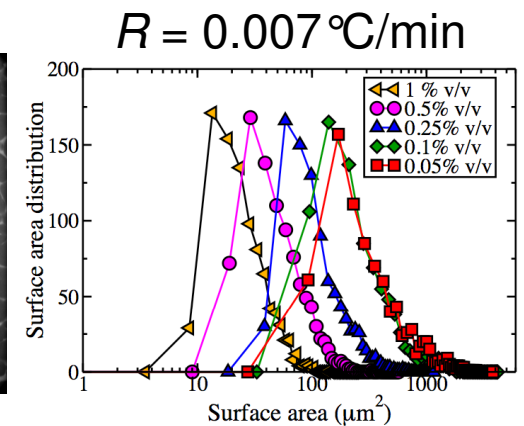
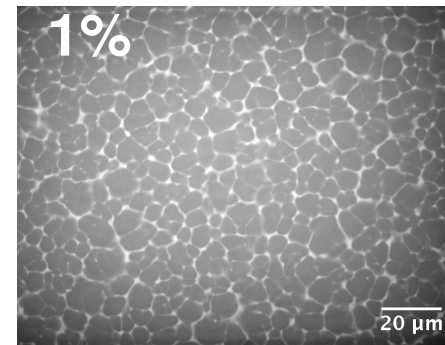
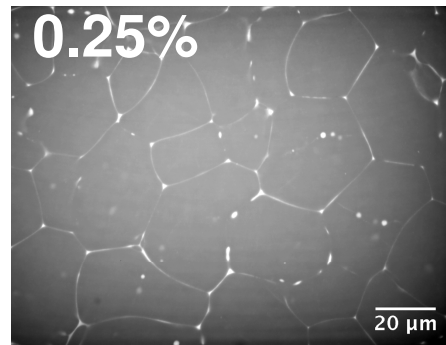
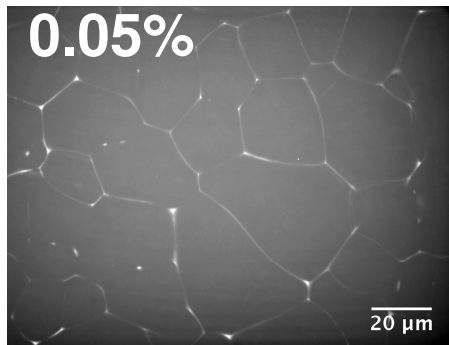
*segregation  
in the  
grain-boundaries*



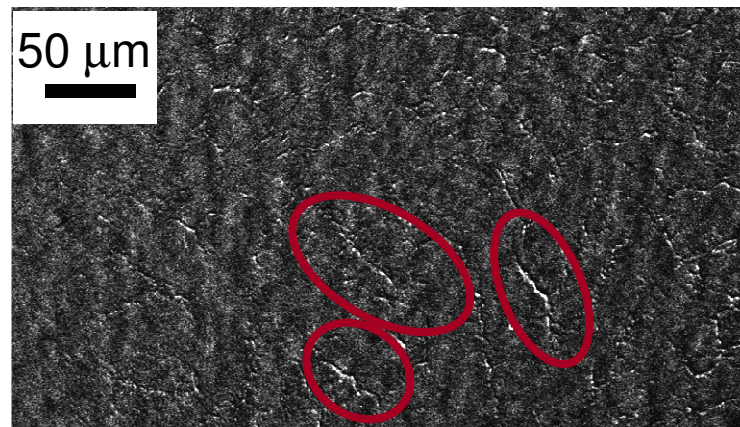
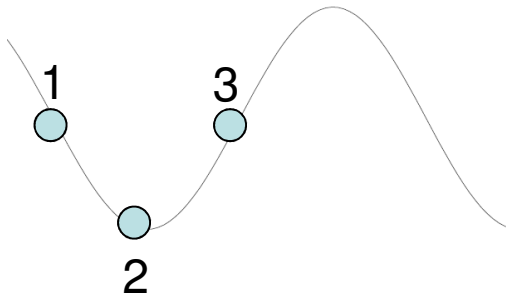
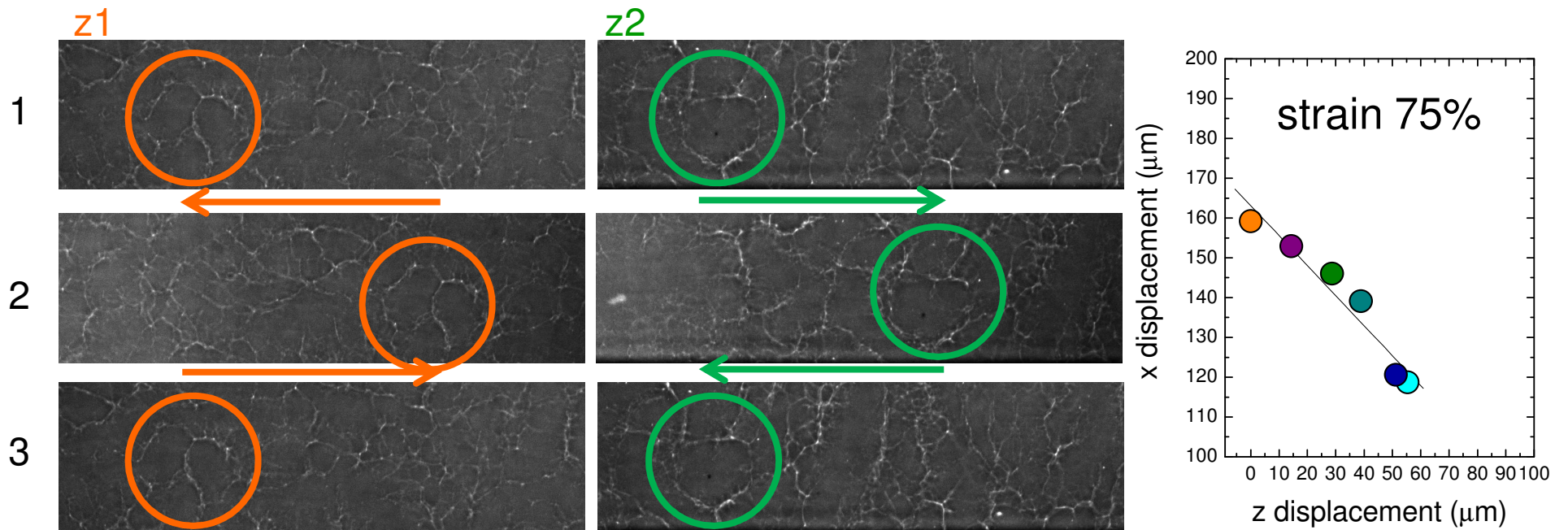
20  $\mu\text{m}$

# Direct Visualization of Grain Refinement

- 2 control parameters
- $\Phi$ , volume fraction of « impurities »
  - $R$ , speed of the crystallization ramp



# Super Preliminary Shear Experiments



Cf. simulations Shiba & Onuki (Poster 108)

**on-going work ...**



# Outline

## I. Soft 2D columnar crystal

- A) **Designing** a versatile self-assembled structured system
- B) **Flow** - characterizing and modeling the shear-induced transition
- C) **Plasticity** - Understanding the solid-liquid transition in complex fluids

## II. Towards the plasticity of soft 3D polycrystals

## III. **Plasticity** and spontaneous dynamics of soft glasses

# Slow Dynamics of Soft Glasses

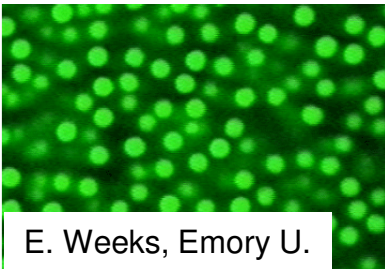
## SLOW DYNAMICS of JAMMED MATTER

*still poorly understood*

- Associated with aging & dynamical heterogeneities
- Key role of elasticity & relaxation of internal stresses

**Origin? Driving force?**

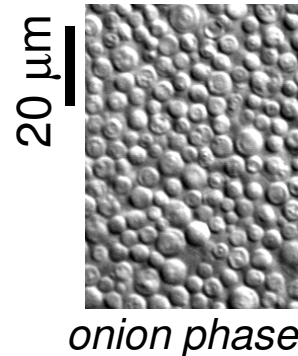
*colloids*



*grains*

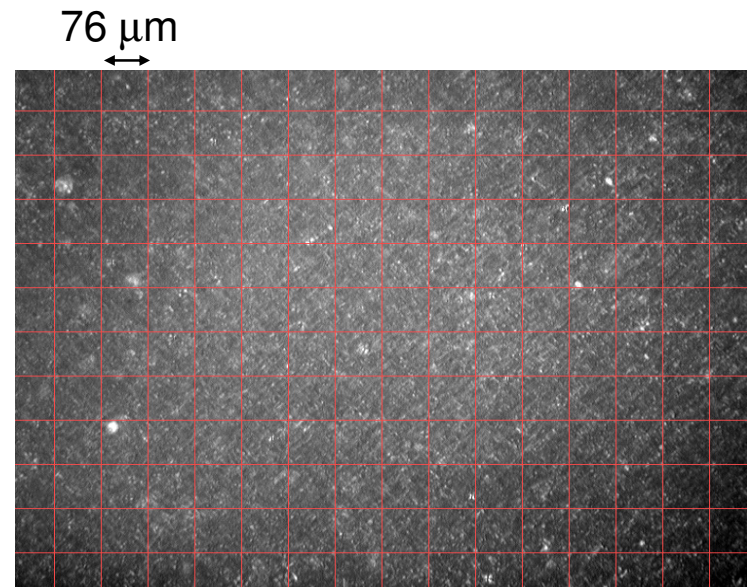


## EXPERIMENTAL SYSTEM & METHOD

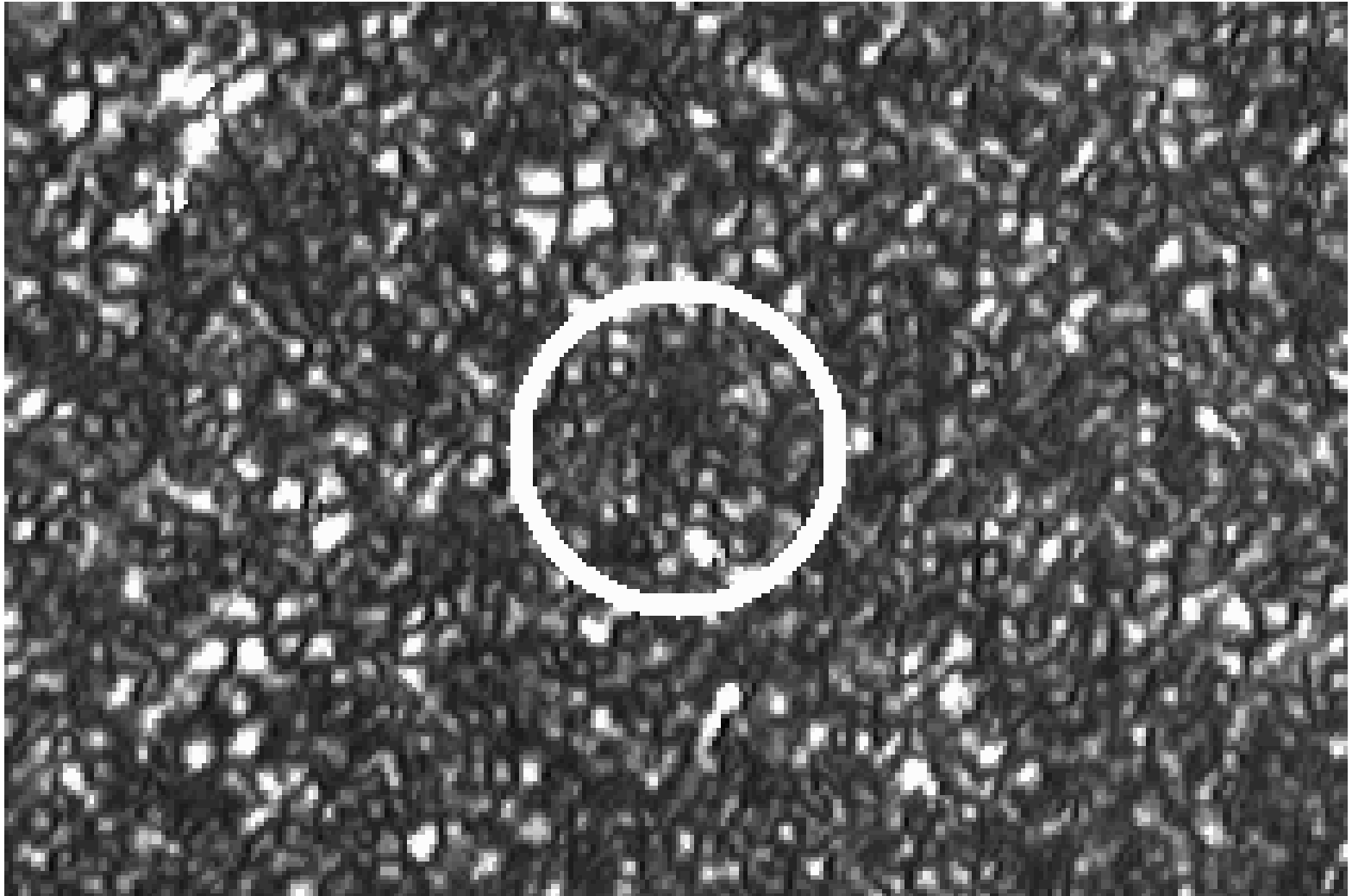


- Slow dynamics after a temperature quench
- Time- and space-resolved measurements

$$\curvearrowright \Delta r_i(\tau, t_w)$$

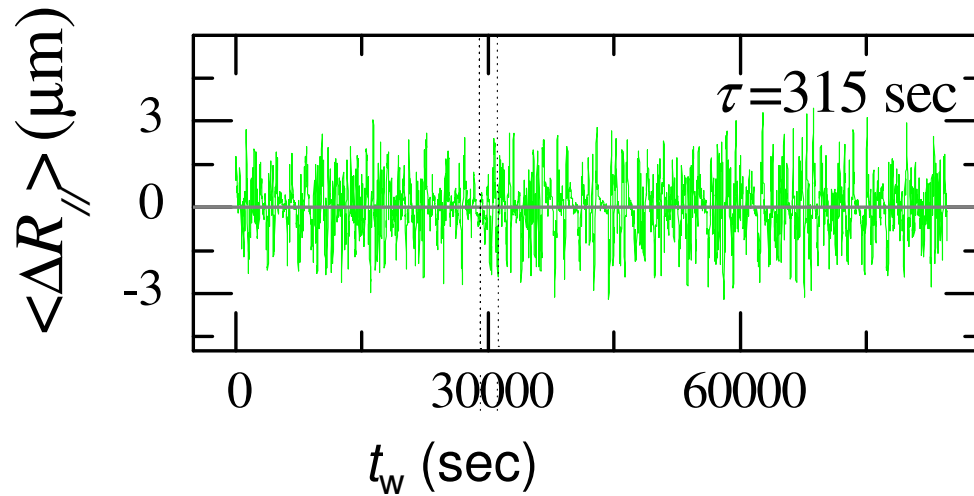


# Time- and Space-Resolved Measurements



# Role of Temperature ?

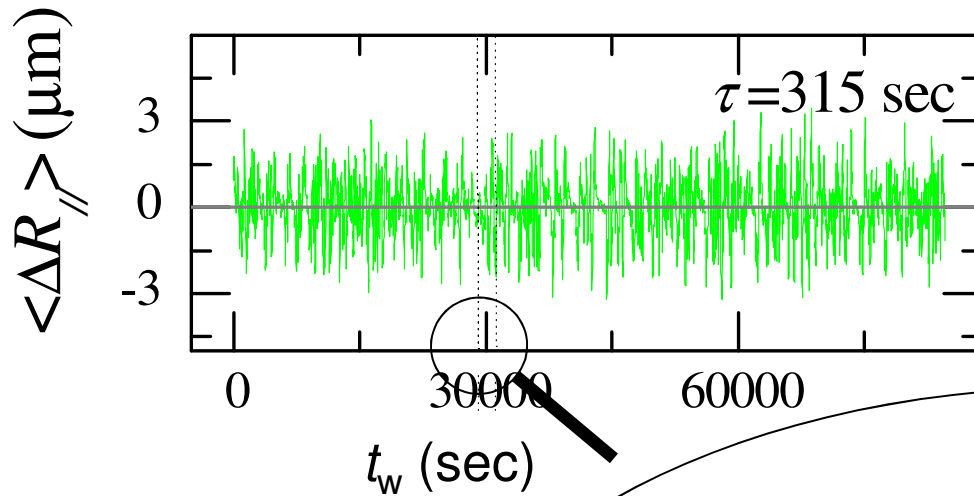
Global displacement



- Intermittent motion
- Fluctuations around an average position

# Role of Temperature ?

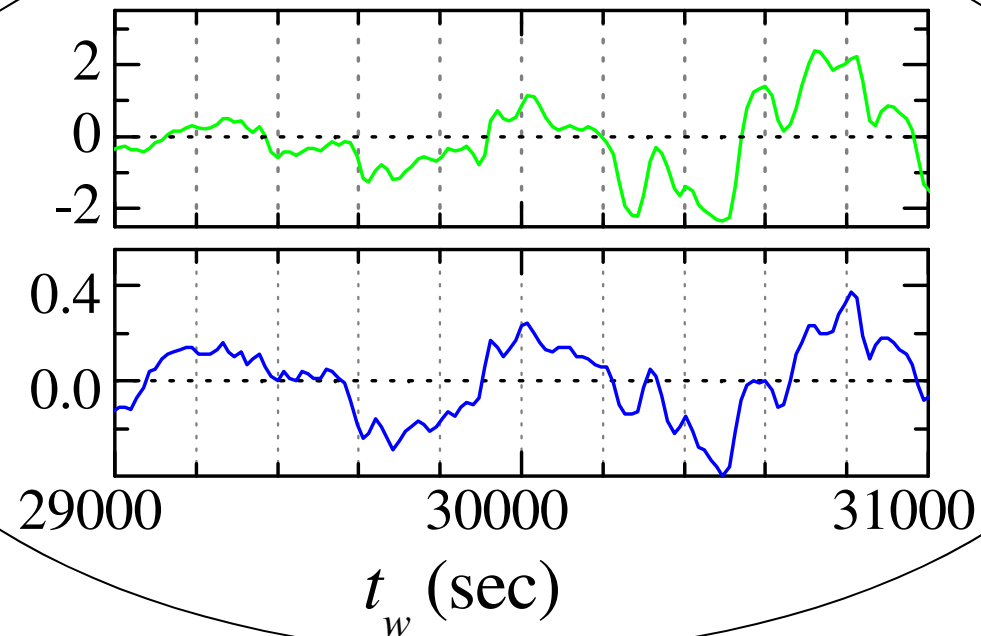
Global displacement



- Intermittent motion
- Fluctuations around an average position

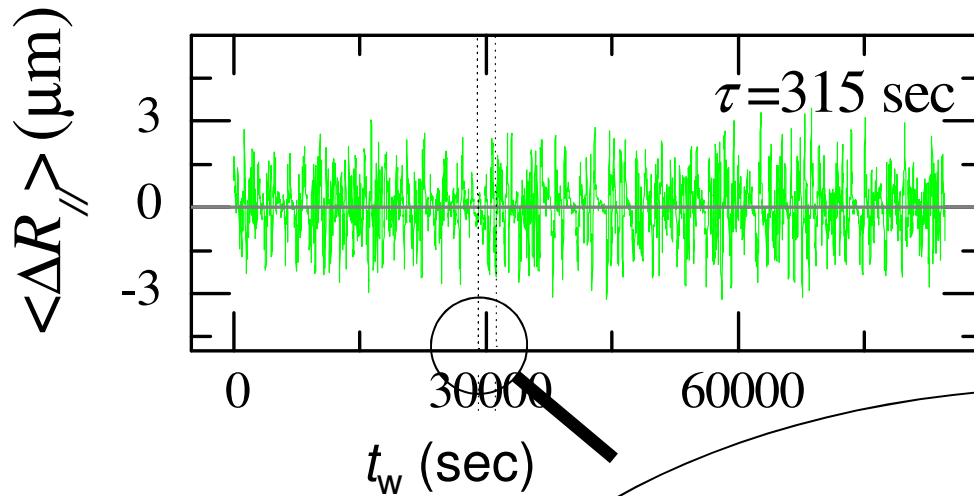
Zoom in

$$\Delta T$$
 ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) =  $T(t_w + \tau) - T(t_w)$



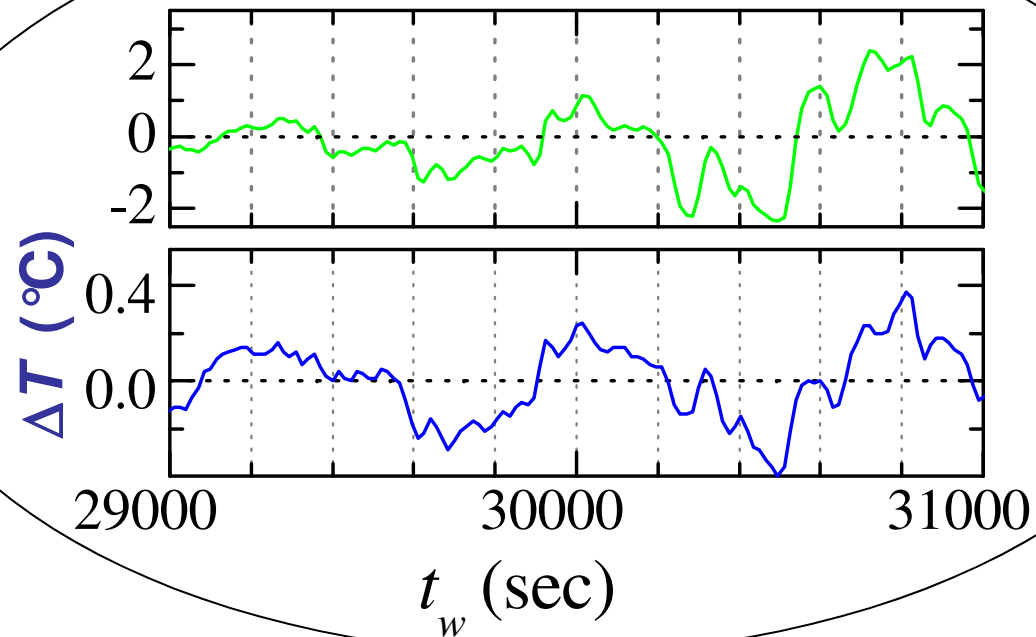
# Role of Temperature ?

Global displacement

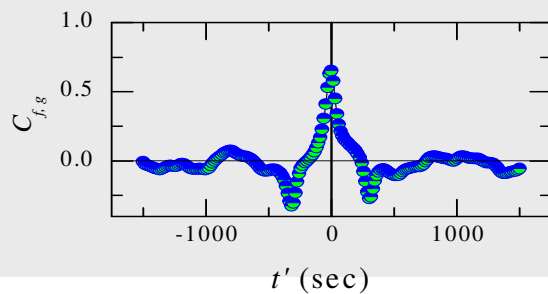


- Intermittent motion
- Fluctuations around an average position

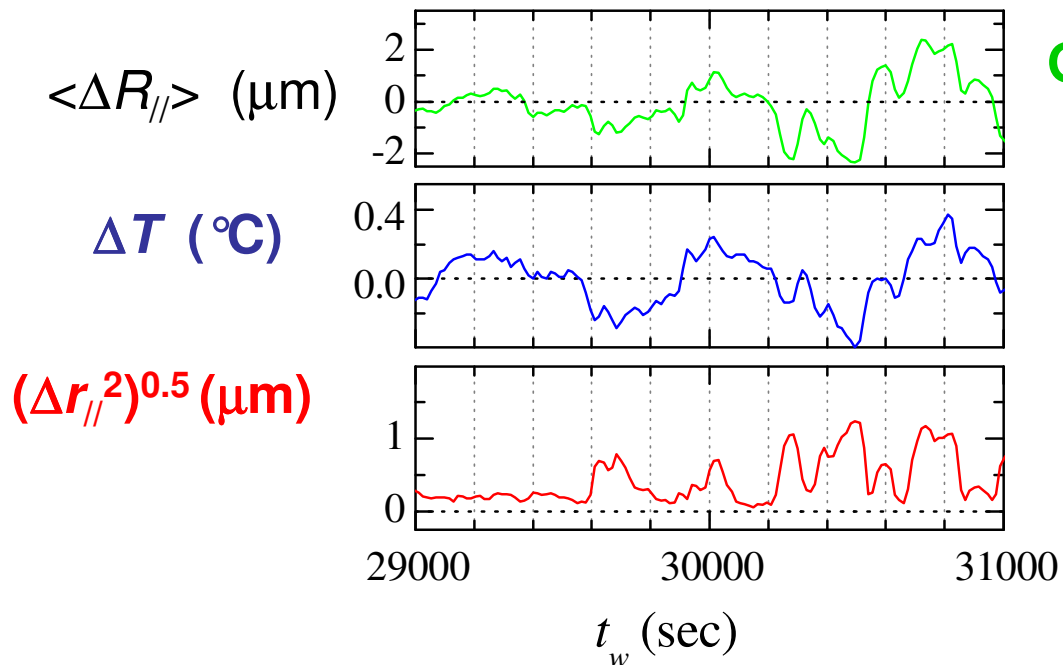
Zoom in



Cross-correlation between  
 $\langle \Delta R_{//} \rangle$  and  $\Delta T$



# Temperature-driven Intermittent SHEAR Deformations

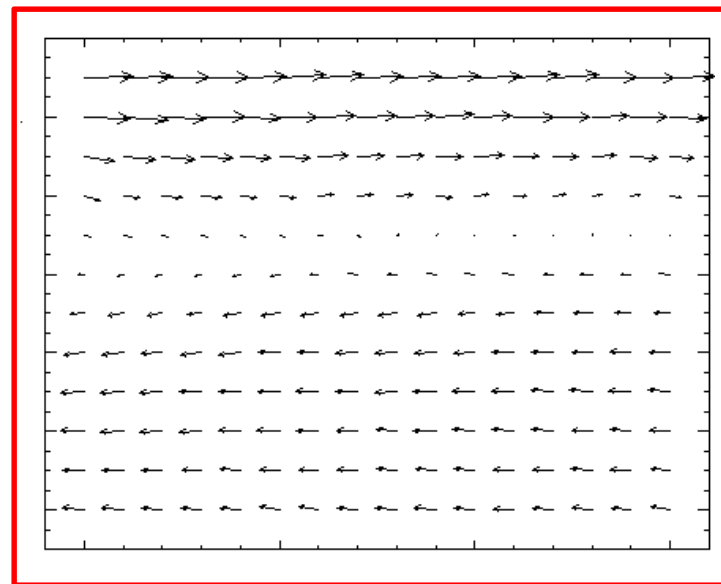


Global displacement

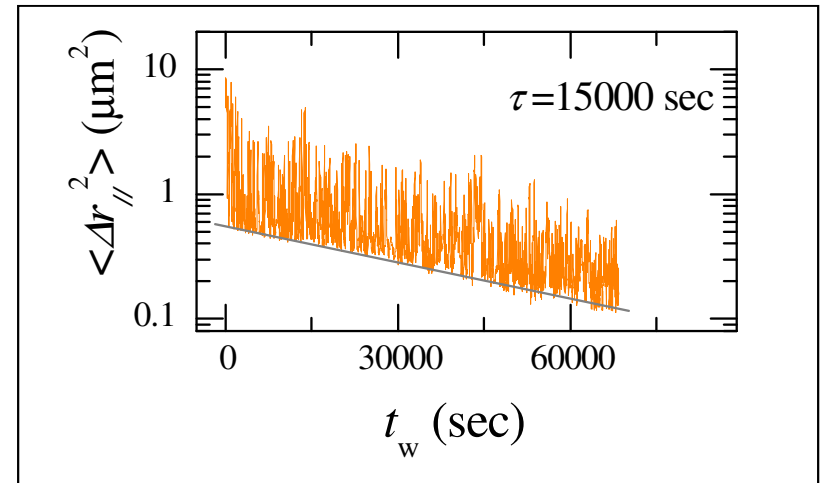
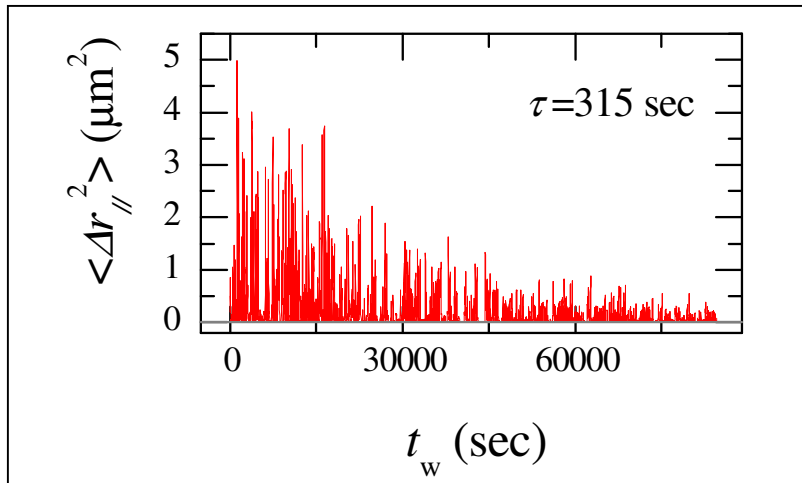
Relative displacement

Spatial structure

SHEAR



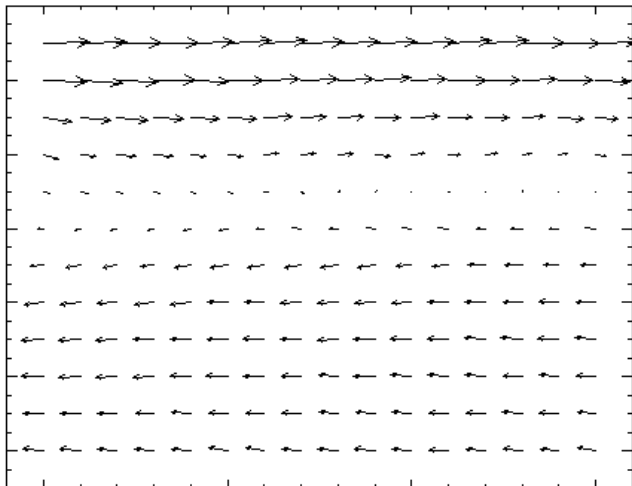
# Temperature-driven Intermittent SHEAR Deformations



**REVERSIBLE** rearrangements

**REVERSIBLE and IRREVERSIBLE** rearrangements

**SHEAR**



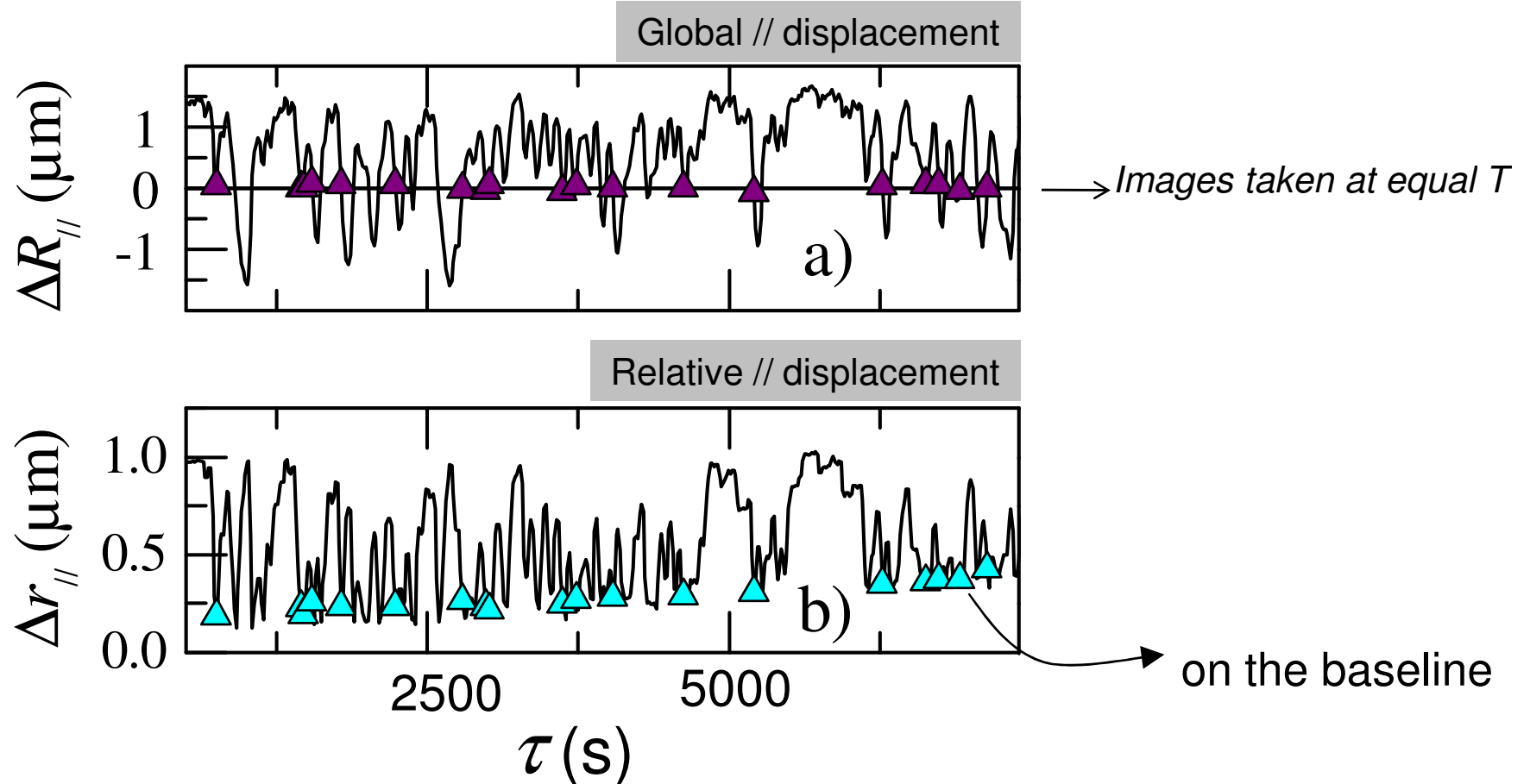
**PLASTICITY**



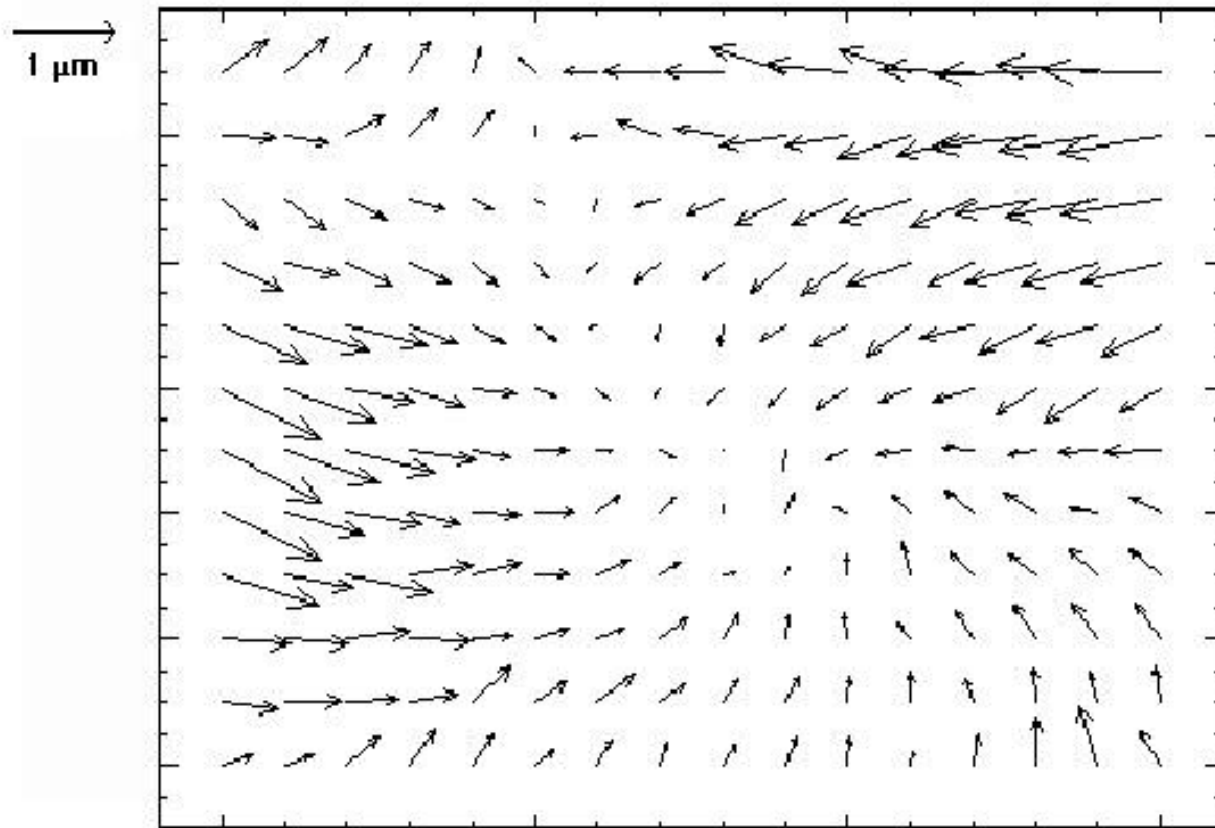
# Identification of the Plastic events

Decoupling the purely plastic events from the reversible shear deformations

Find plastic events   delay  $\tau$  between images such that  $\Delta R_{//}(\tau) = 0$

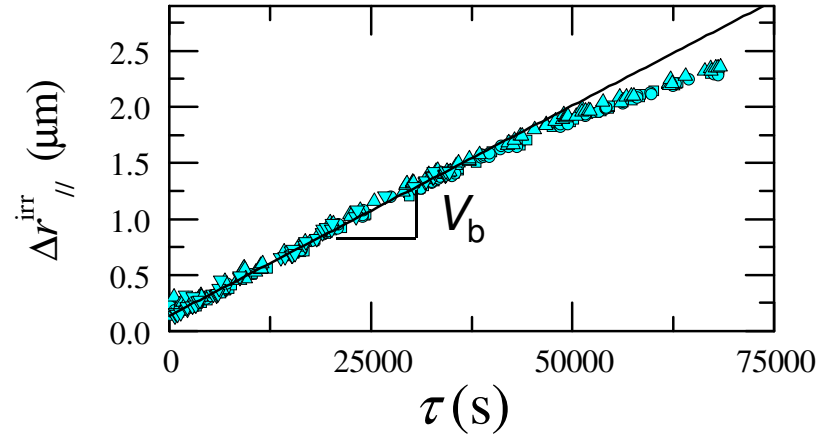
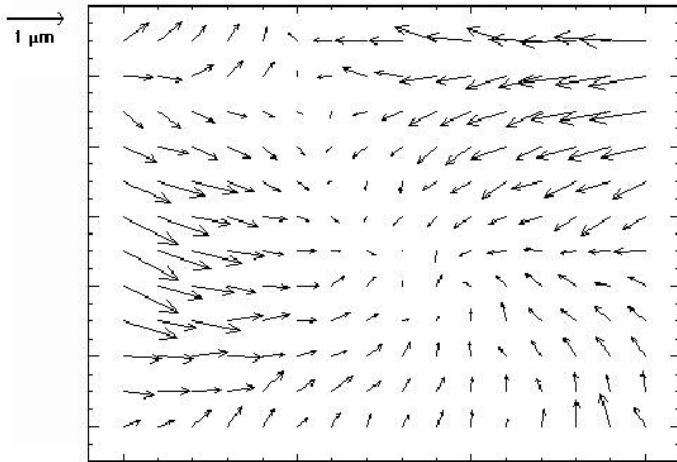


# Structure of the Plastic Events

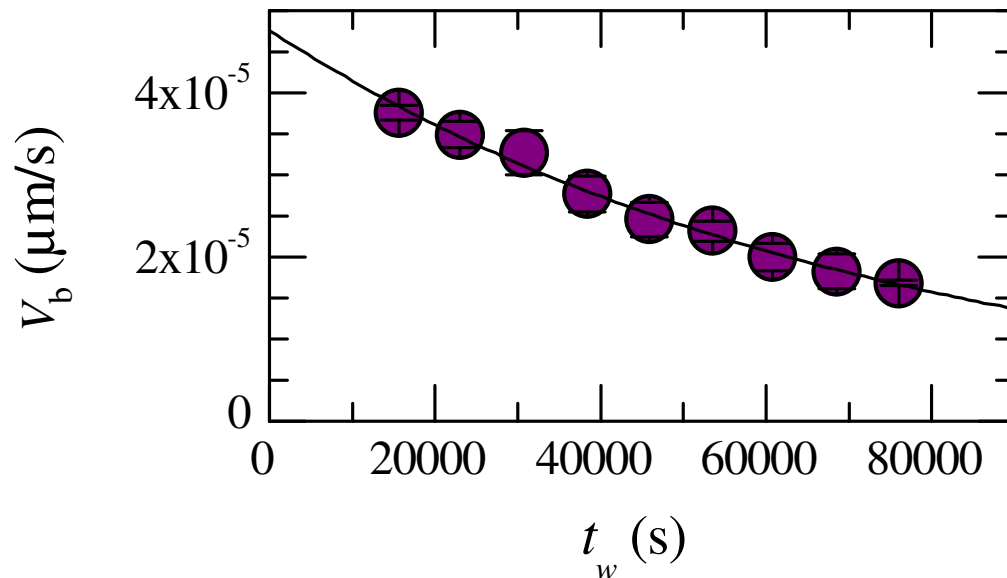


- Correlated on large length scale ( $\sim 1 \text{ mm} \gg$  onions)
- Vortex-like
- Analogy with simulation of 2D hard spheres deep in the glass phase (*Brito and Wyart, J. Stat. Mech. 07*)

# Aging Dynamics of the Plastic Events



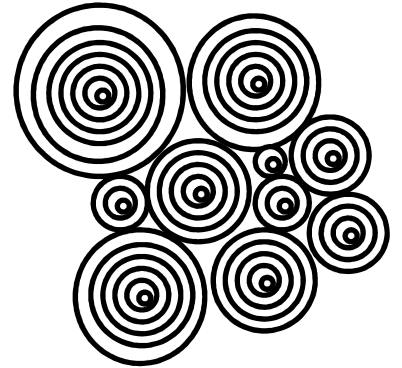
Same spatial structure but decrease of the amplitude with sample age



exponential decay  
characteristic time: 72 000 s

# Summary

*Aging dynamics of a deeply jammed system ( $\phi=1$ )*



## Origin:

$\Delta T \rightarrow$  mechanical shear deformations  $\begin{cases} \rightarrow \text{reversible rearrangements} \\ \rightarrow \text{PLASTIC rearrangements} \end{cases}$

**Ballistic motion**  
**Vortex-like**  
**Aging**

Mazoyer, Cipelletti & LR, PRL (2006) ; PRE (2009)

## ✕ General behavior?

*Elastic systems (concentrated pastes, copolymer phase, emulsions, fractal colloidal gels, ...)*

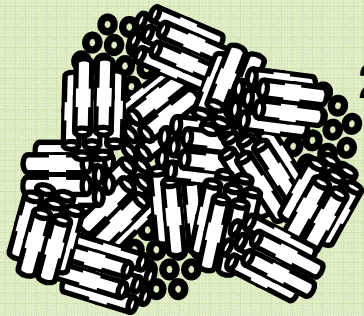
## ✕ Analogy with

*sheared athermal suspensions? (Pine and coll.)*

*granular materials under thermal cycling? (Géminard and coll.)*

# CONCLUSIONS

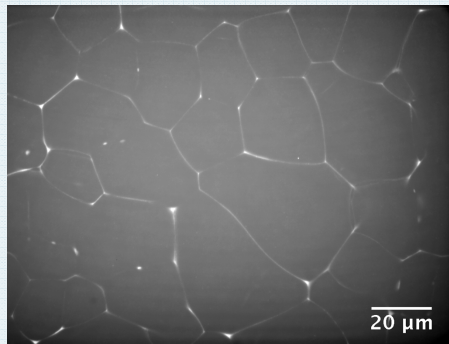
## Probing the structure of soft materials under shear



2D crystal, 1D liquid

Fourrier space

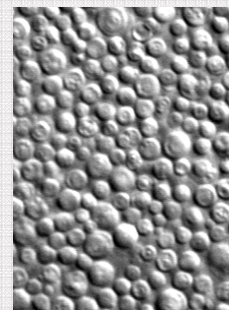
Shear-induced transition interpreted using model for crystalline solids  
**Plasticity** / a physical mechanism for the solid-to-fluid transition



3D crystal

direct space

**Plasticity ?**



3D amorphous solid

direct space

**Plasticity** and spontaneous dynamics / a physical mechanism at the origin of the slow aging dynamics

# Many thanks to

## 2D soft columnar crystals

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## 3D soft polycrystals

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# AND YOU