

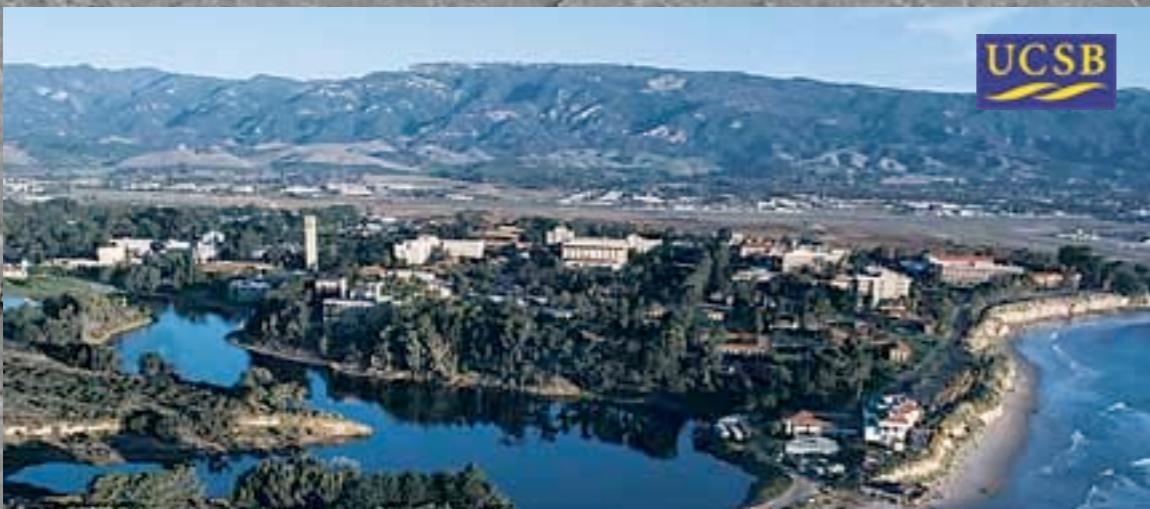
# Amorphous material in athermal quasistatic shear

Pacific Institute of Theoretical Physics; July 2007

C.E.M. + A. Lemaître  
PRL 2004, PRE 2006

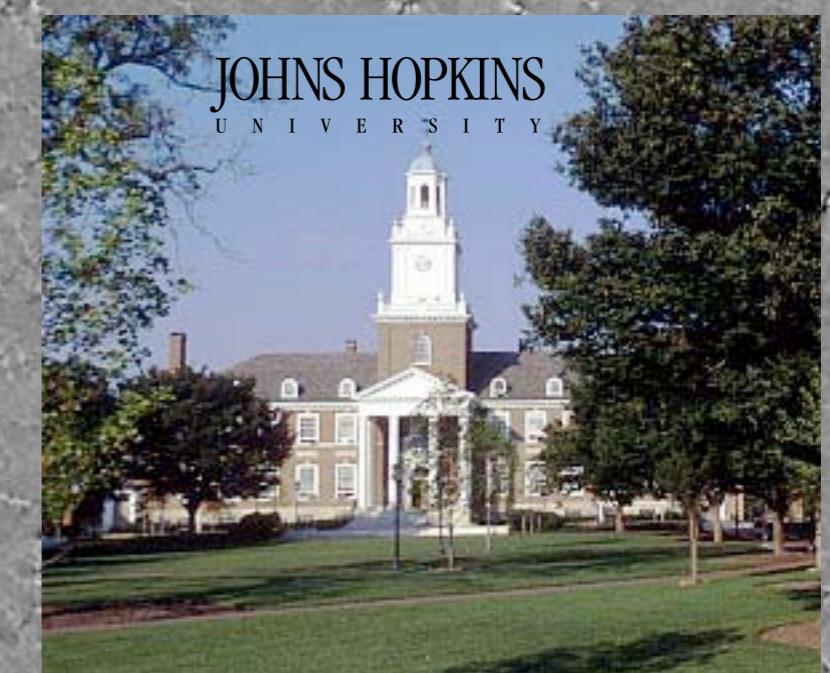
C.E.M.  
PRL 2006

C.E.M. + M.O. Robbins  
in preparation



LLNL University Relations Program  
J.S. Langer, V.V. Bulatov

JOHNS HOPKINS  
UNIVERSITY



NSF DMR-0454947 and  
PHY99-07949

# Liquid or solid?

Many amorphous materials behave like solids below some yield stress, but fluids above.

“Yield stress fluid.”

“Visco-plastic solid.”

Examples:

Emulsions, Suspensions,

Granular materials

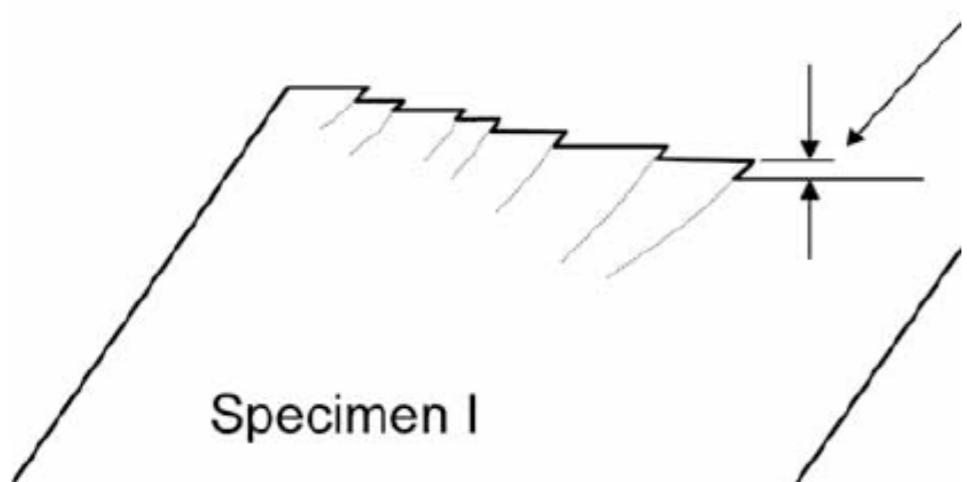
Metallic glasses

Issues:

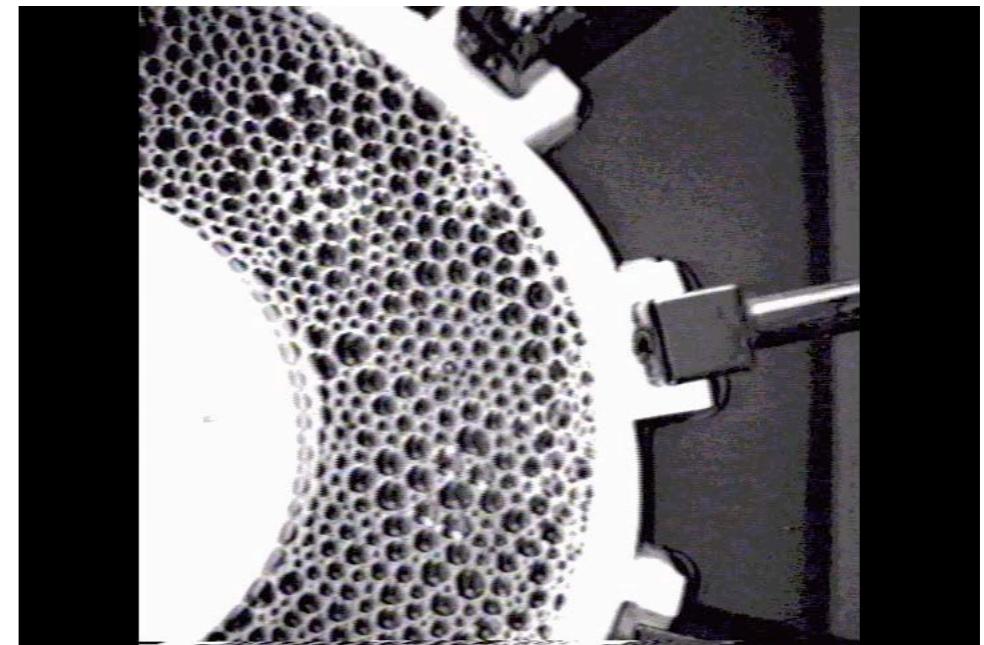
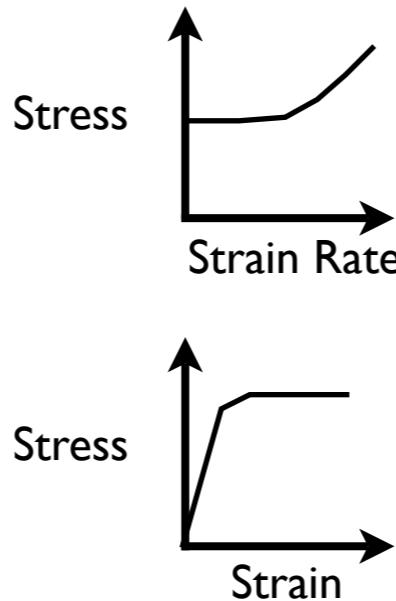
Value of yield stress

Localization of flow

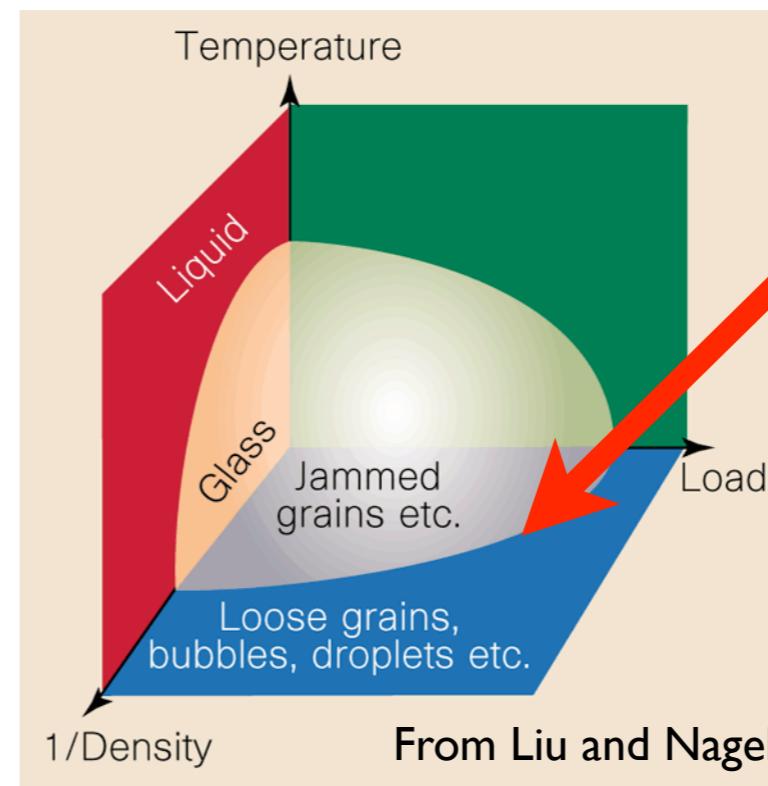
Intermittent behavior, etc.



Nanoindentation of metallic glass:  
From Moser et. al. ETH



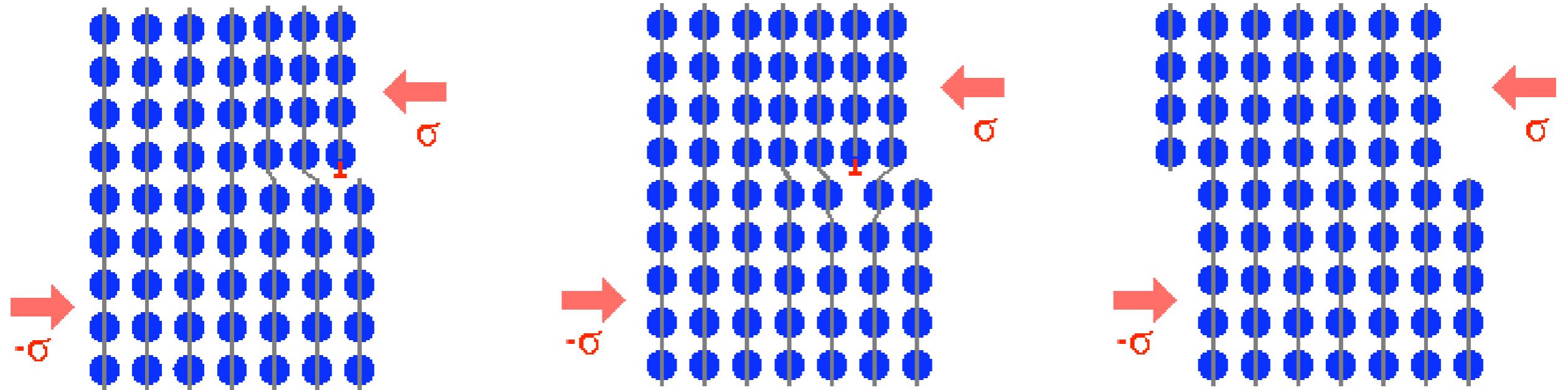
Raft of soap bubbles: From M. Dennin UCI



Point of  
interest

From Liu and Nagel

# Dislocations

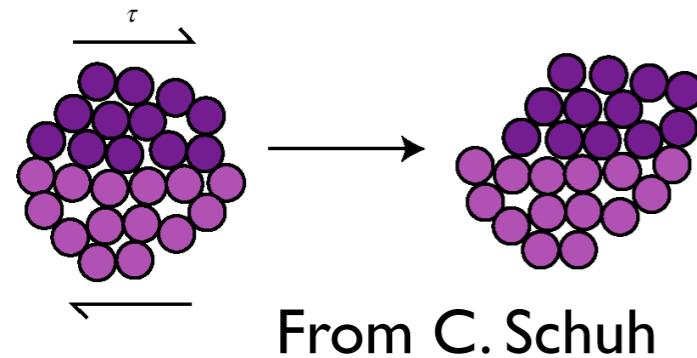


- Responsible for plastic deformation in crystals
- Nucleated at boundary or in pairs in the interior
- “T” “points” toward extra material
- “Glide” mechanism leaves behind a line of slip
- Particular to crystals!

Elastic consequences:

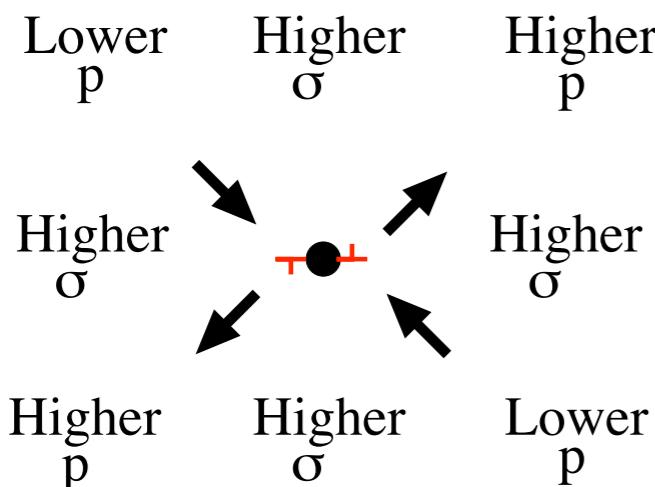
Pressure Decrease		
Shear Stress Increase	T	Shear Stress Increase
		Pressure Increase

# Shear Transformation Zones (STZs)



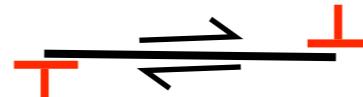
From C. Schuh

Elastic consequences:

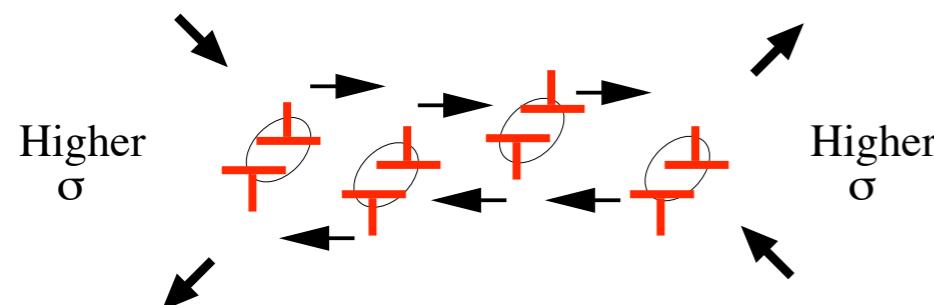


- Argon and Kuo: bubble raft experiments
- Maeda and Takeuchi: computer simulations
- Bulatov and Argon: banding mechanism
- Falk and Langer: mean field theory

Analogous to dislocation glide:



Cascade mechanism:



Look for STZ cascades in numerical model and measure statistical parameters

# Outline

- Overview
- The Athermal Quasi-Static (AQS) limit
  - Spatial structure of plastic rearrangement events
  - Scaling with system size and interaction type
- Finite driving rates
  - Strain distributions
  - Spatial organization of strain
  - Direct measure of diverging  $\xi$
  - Relation to thermally driven rearrangement
- Summary

# Atomistic Numerical Model

Various interaction potentials:

$$U_{\text{harm}} = (\epsilon/2) s^2$$

$$U_{\text{hertz}} = \epsilon s^{5/2}$$

$$U_{\text{Lennard-Jones}} = \epsilon (r^{-12} - r^{-6})$$

Binary distribution

Athermal, Quasistatic Procedure:

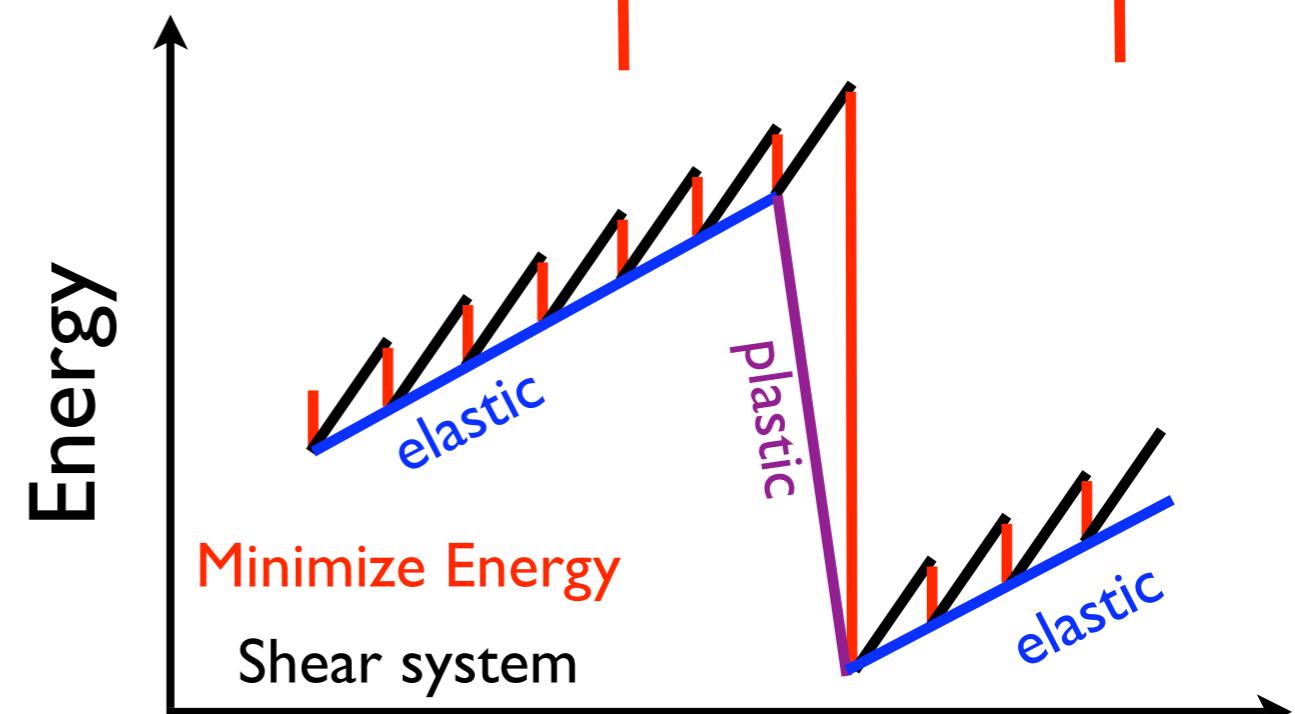
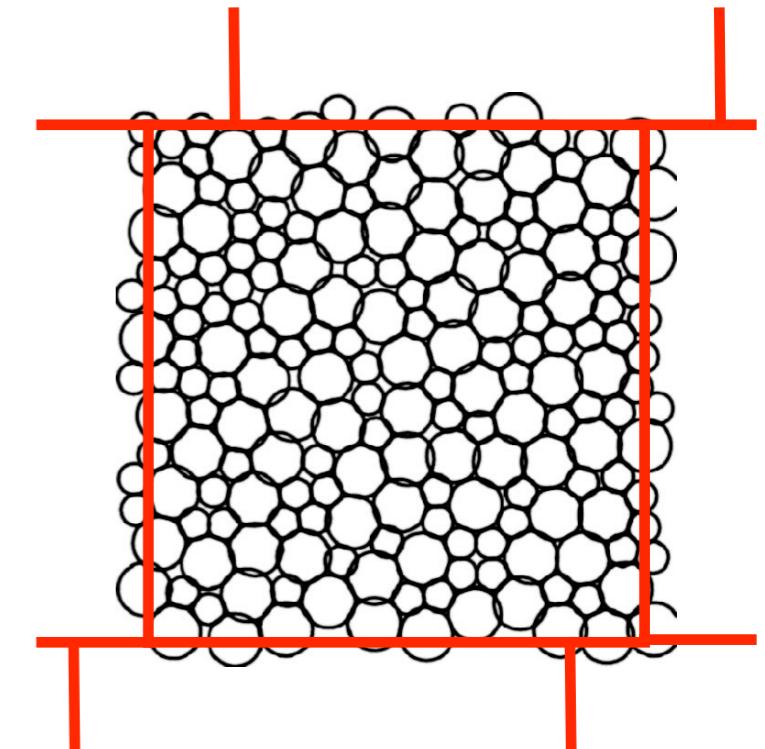
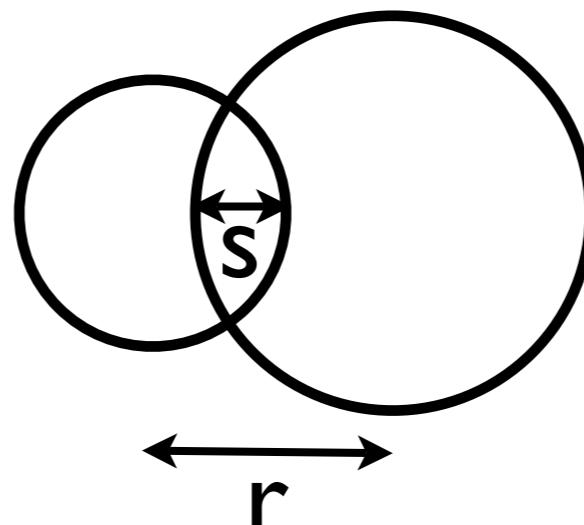
- Minimize potential energy
- Shear boundaries and particles
- Repeat

Represents:  $\tau_{pl} \ll \tau_{dr} \ll \tau_{th}$

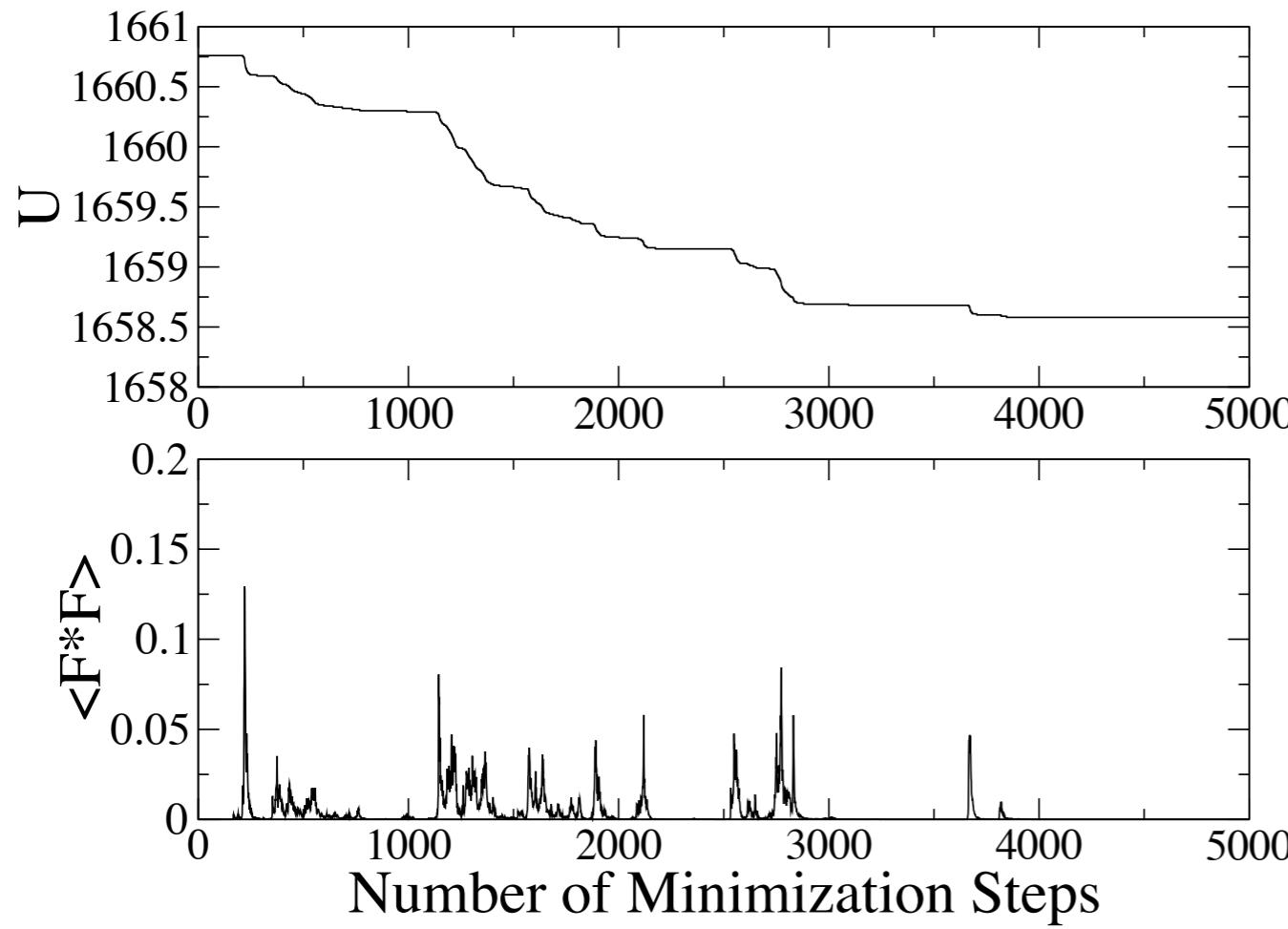
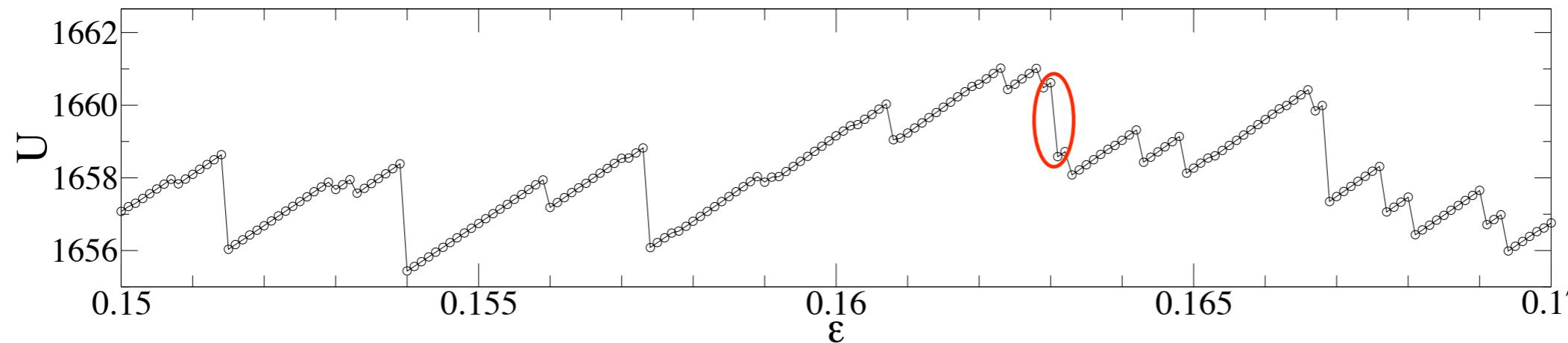
- Bulk metallic glass in the zero temperature, zero strain rate limit
- Granular material or emulsion in zero strain rate limit

Behavior:

- Discrete **plastic** jumps separate smooth, reversible **elastic** segments



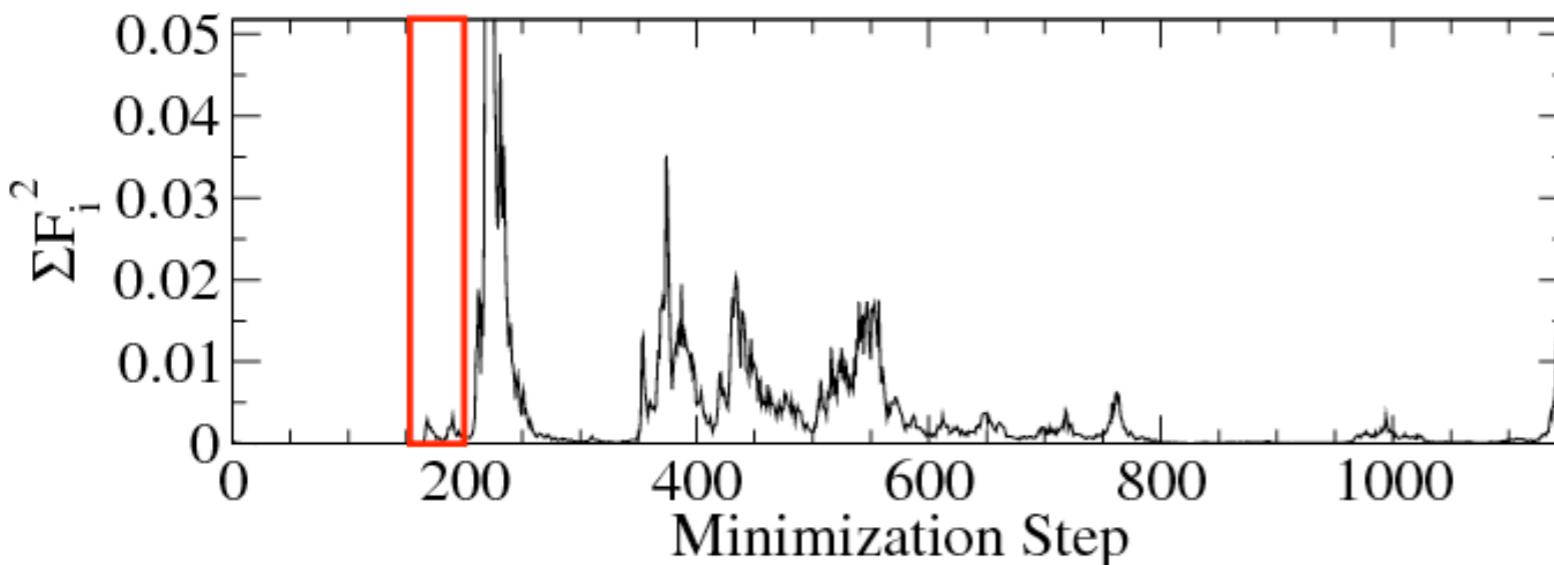
# A typical plastic event



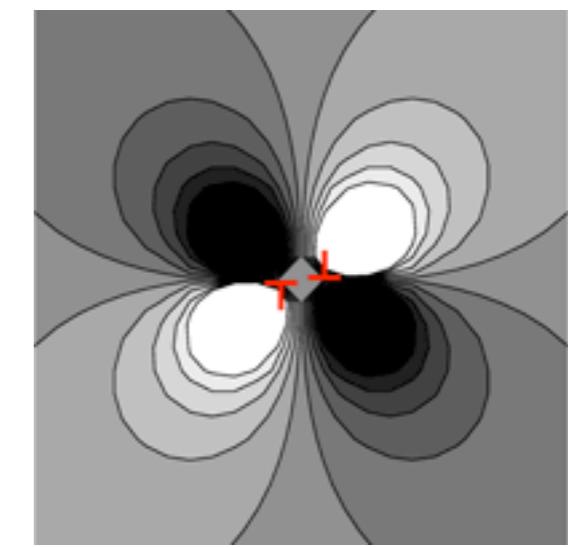
- Single typical plastic event
- All relaxation at one strain
- “Number of minimization steps” analogous to time  
 $\langle F^* F \rangle \sim dU/dt$
- Descent is intermittent...

# A typical plastic event

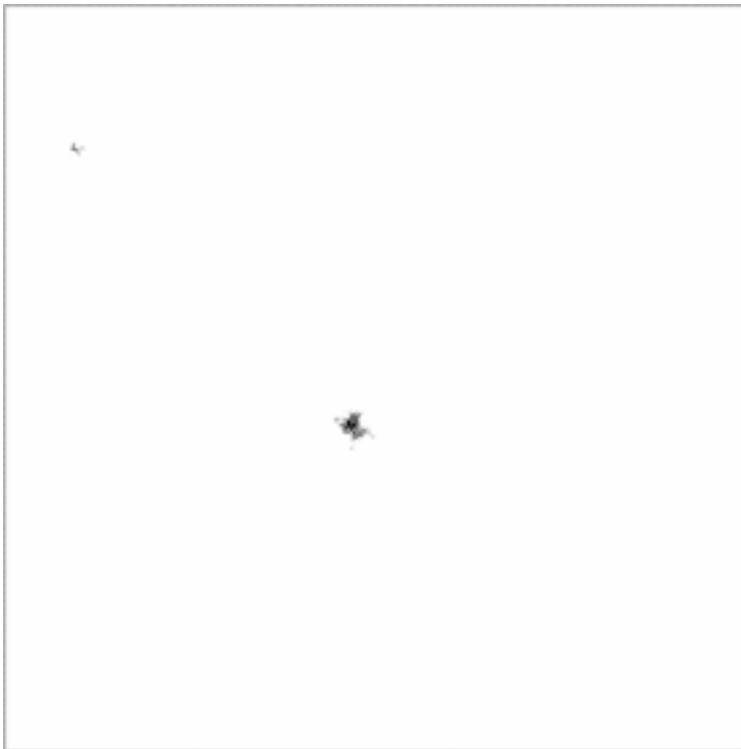
Initial portion of descent from previous slide:



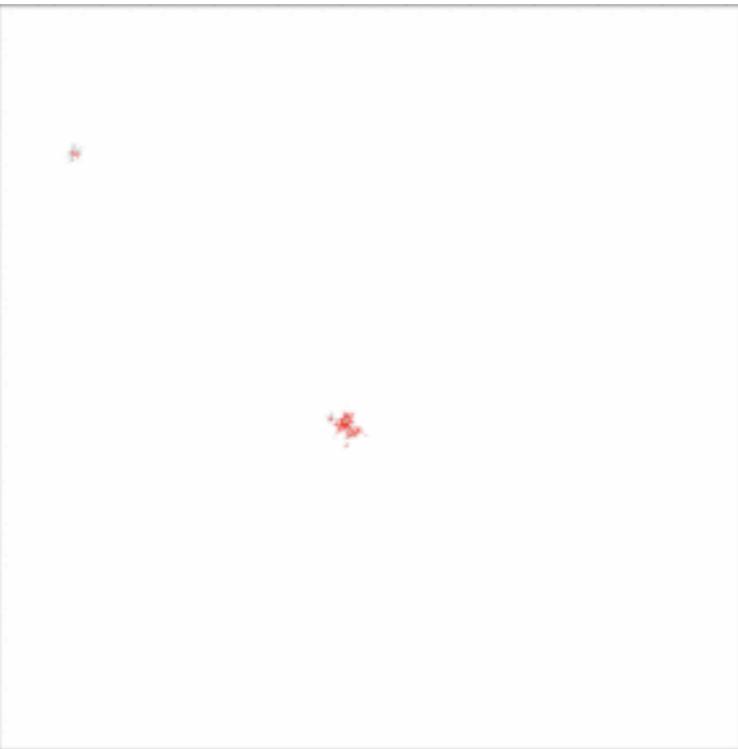
Expected  
energy  
change after  
nucleation of  
localized slip:



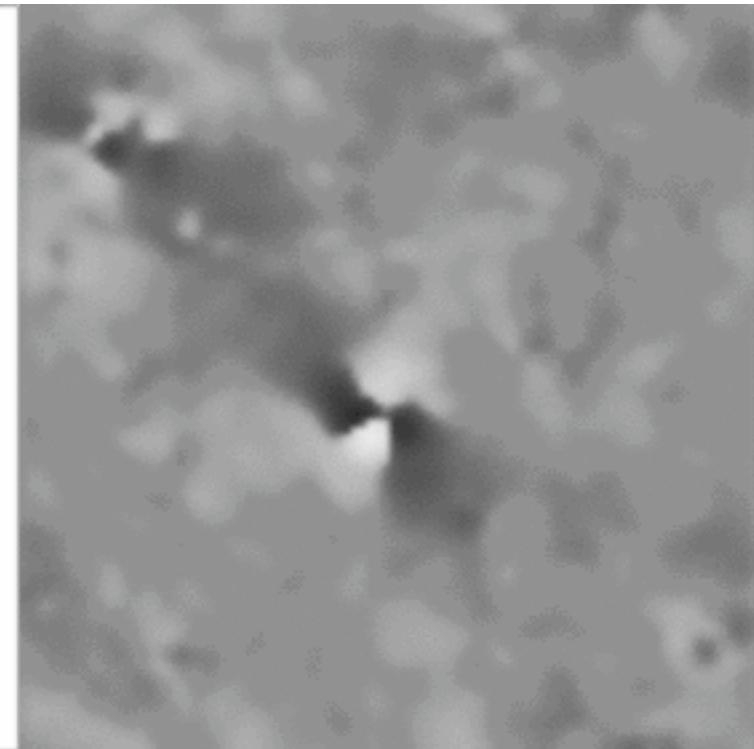
Incremental “slip”:  $\vec{u} - \langle \vec{u} \rangle$



Cumulative slip



Incremental energy drop



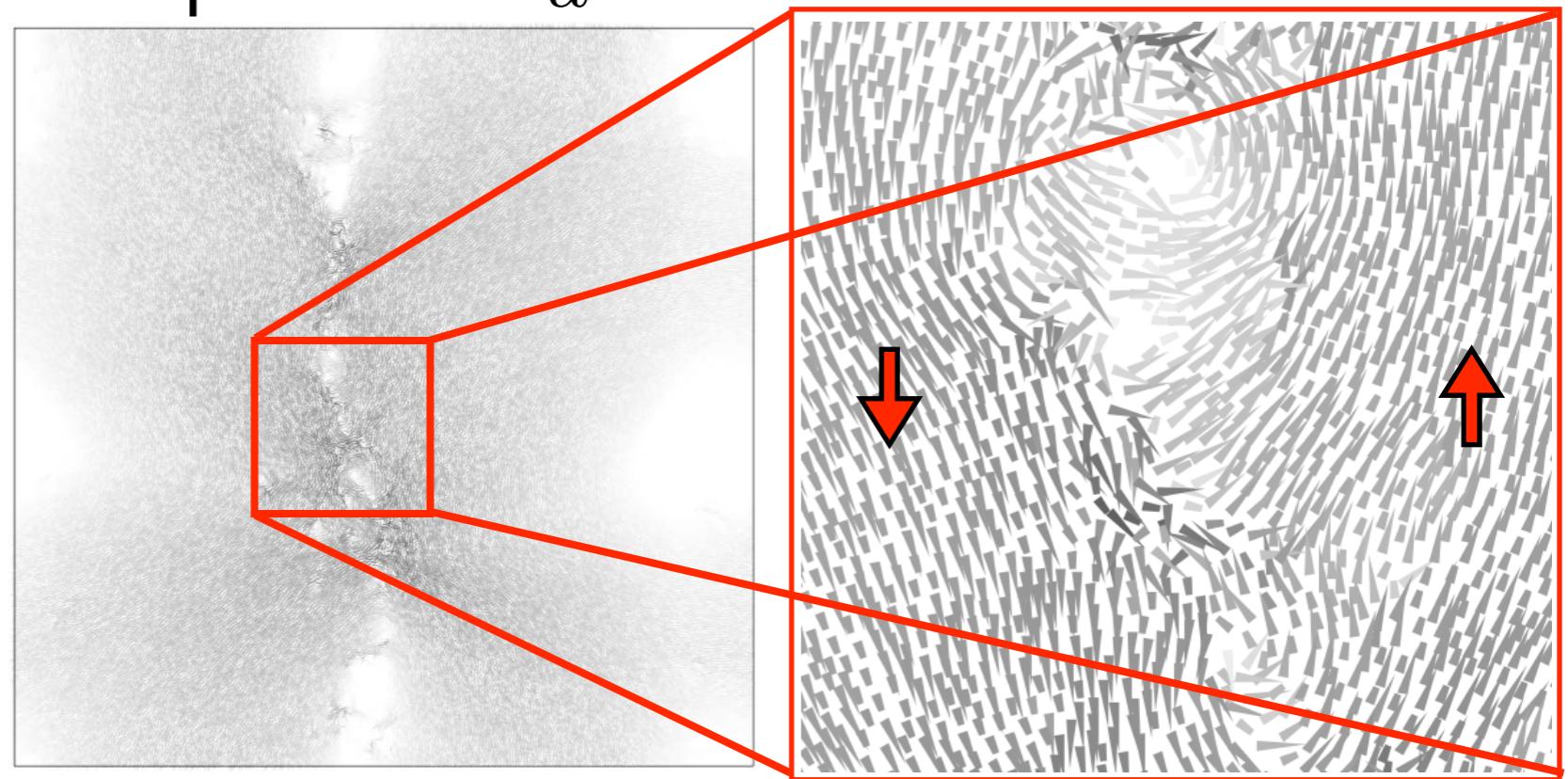
# A typical plastic event

At the end of the whole cascade, we are left with a slip line:

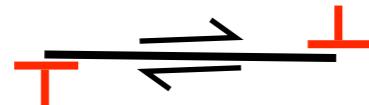
“Slip”:  $\vec{u} - \langle \vec{u} \rangle$



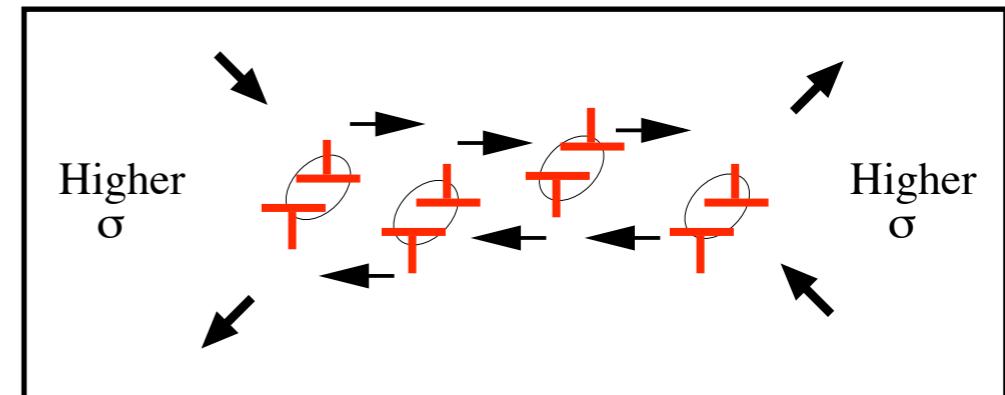
Displacement:  $\vec{u}$



Analogous to dislocation glide:



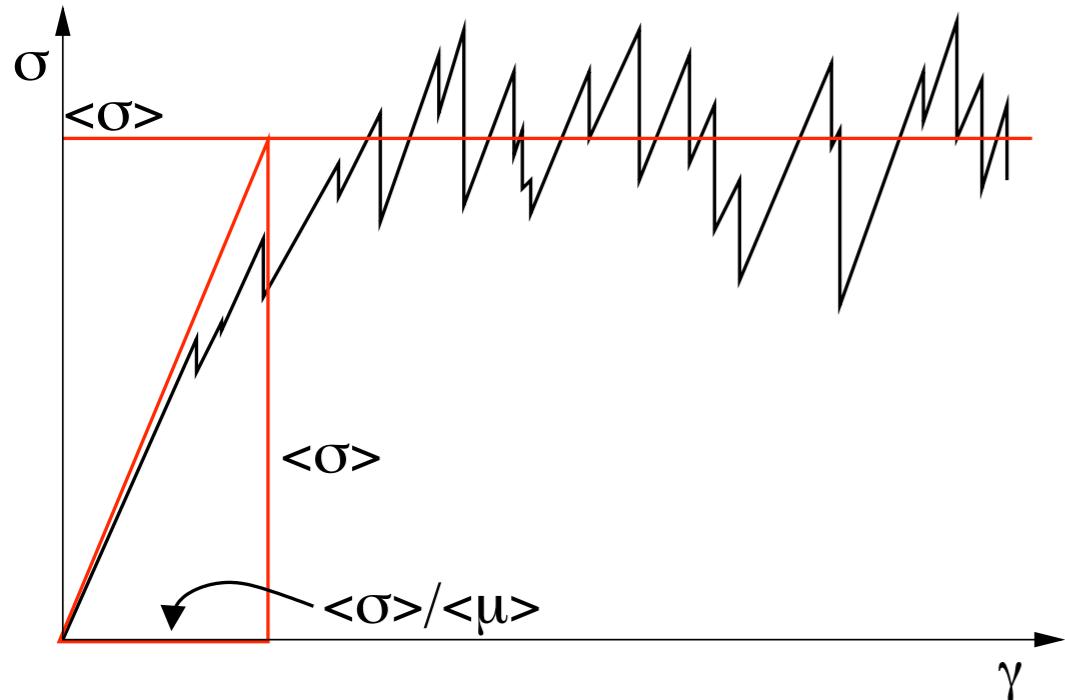
But with local shearing zones:



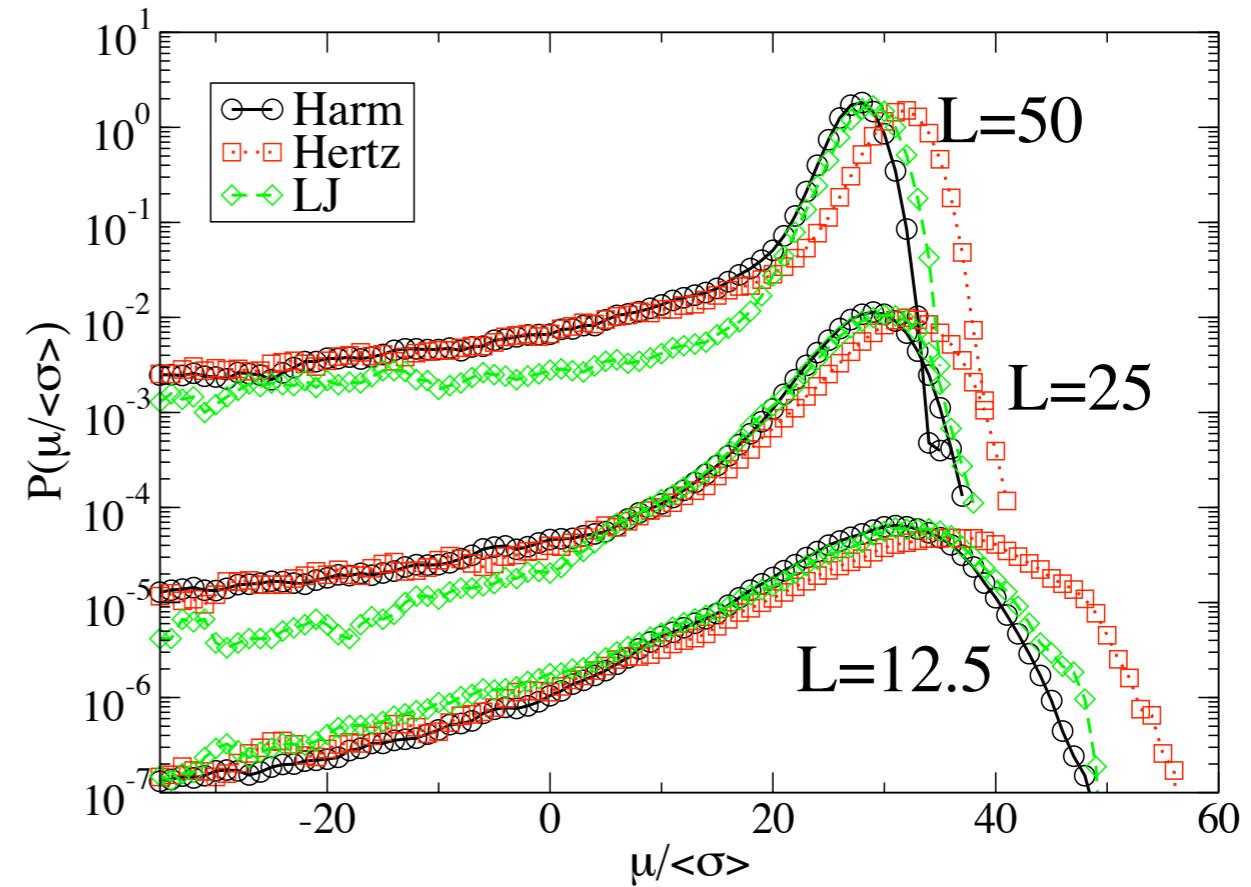
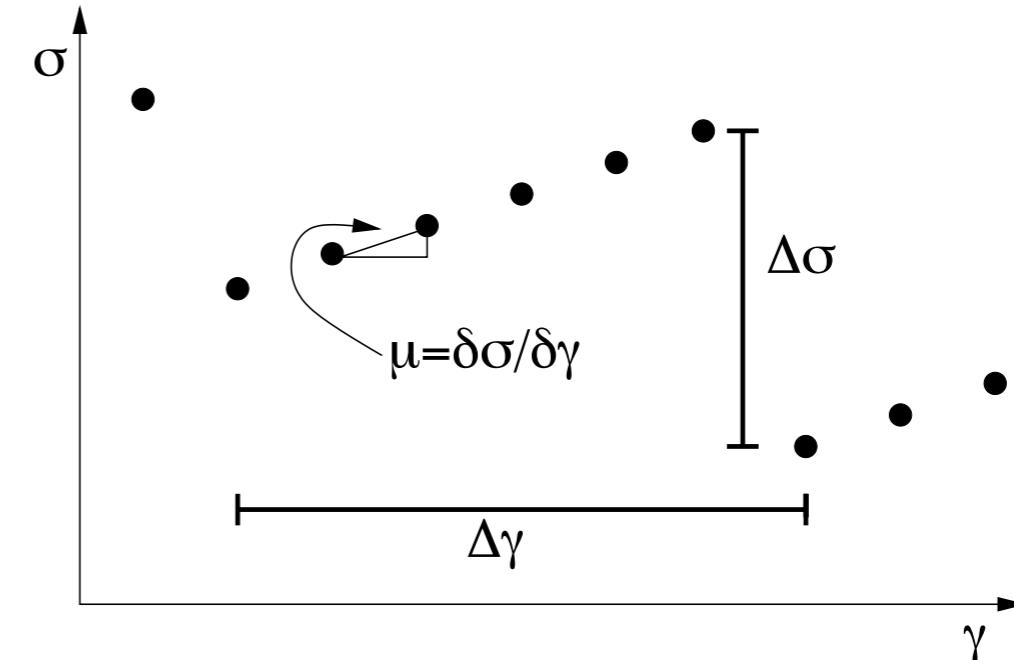
# Statistics and size scaling

Collect statistics for different system size and interaction potentials:

- “Modulus”
- Elastic interval
- Stress drop
- Energy drop



$\langle \sigma \rangle / \mu$  is universal!  $\sim 3\%$

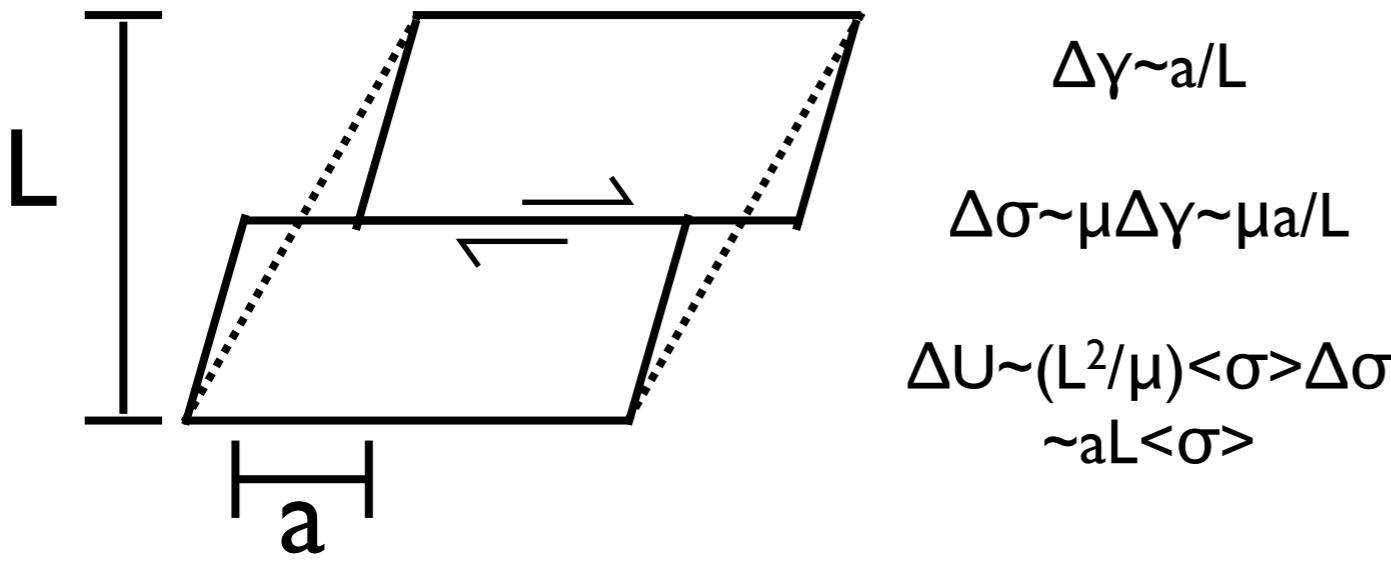


# Statistics and size scaling

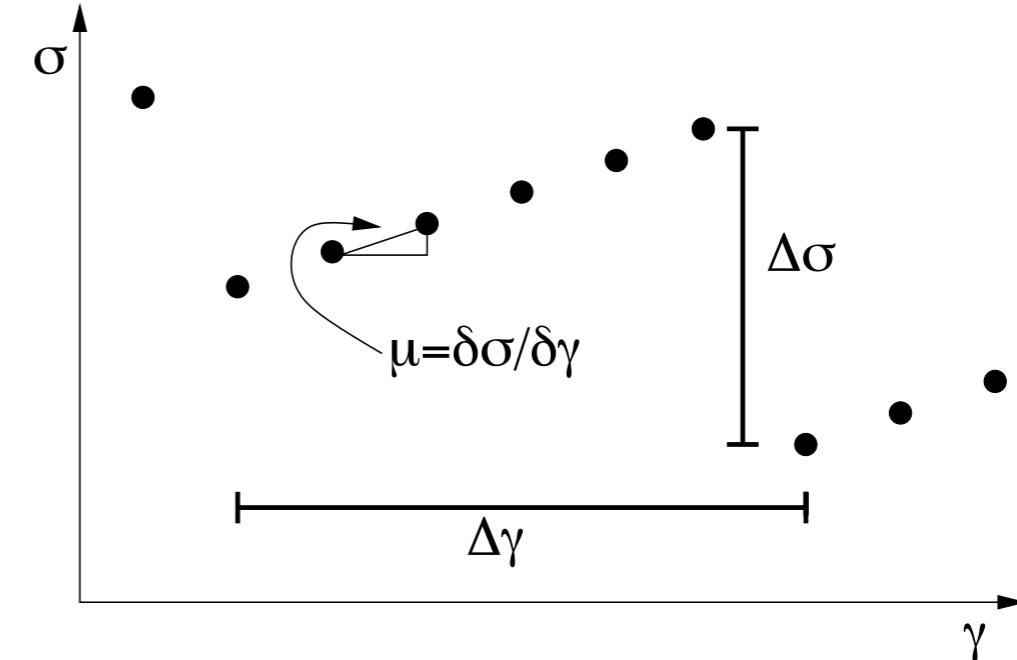
Collect statistics for different system size and interaction potentials:

- “Modulus”
- Elastic interval:  $\Delta\gamma$
- Stress drop:  $\Delta\sigma$
- Energy drop:  $\Delta U$

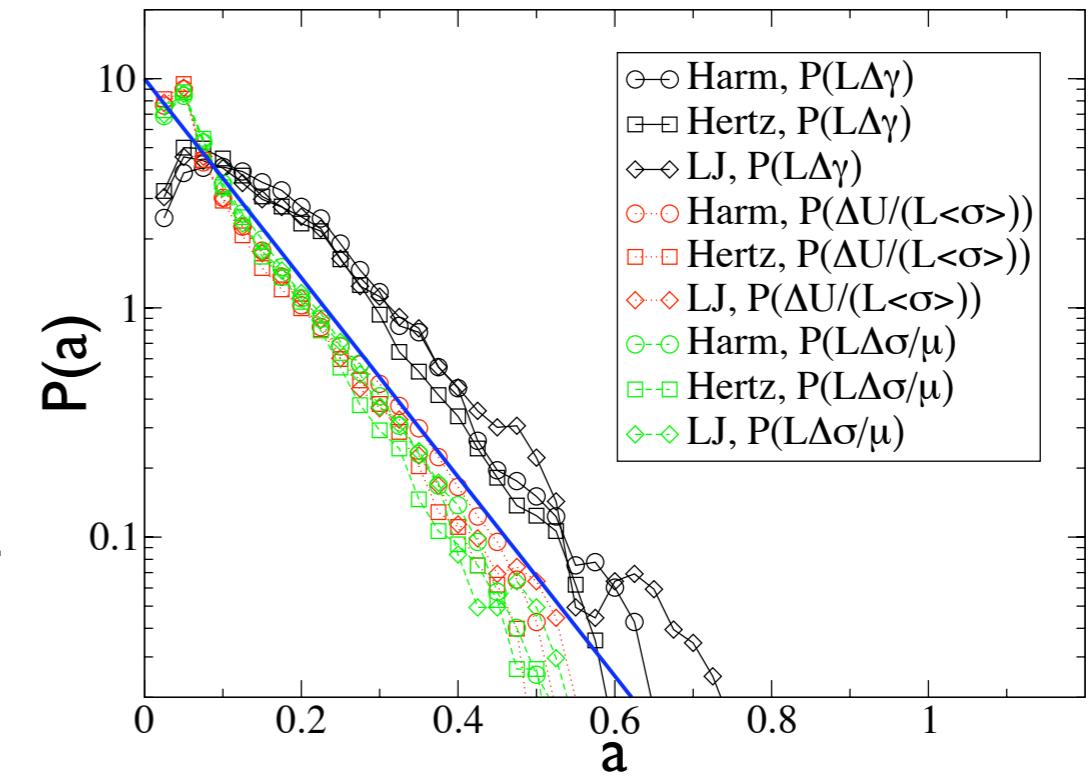
Scaling argument: slip by length “a”



Event size independent of potential and scales simply with system size!



Scaled distributions of  $\Delta\gamma$ ,  $\Delta\sigma$ ,  $\Delta U$



# Persistent localization?

Red: new slip. White: all slip in last 0.5% strain

- 200x200 sized binary LJ system shown
- Individual events localized.
- Inter-event correlation exists but short-lived.
- No persistent localization.



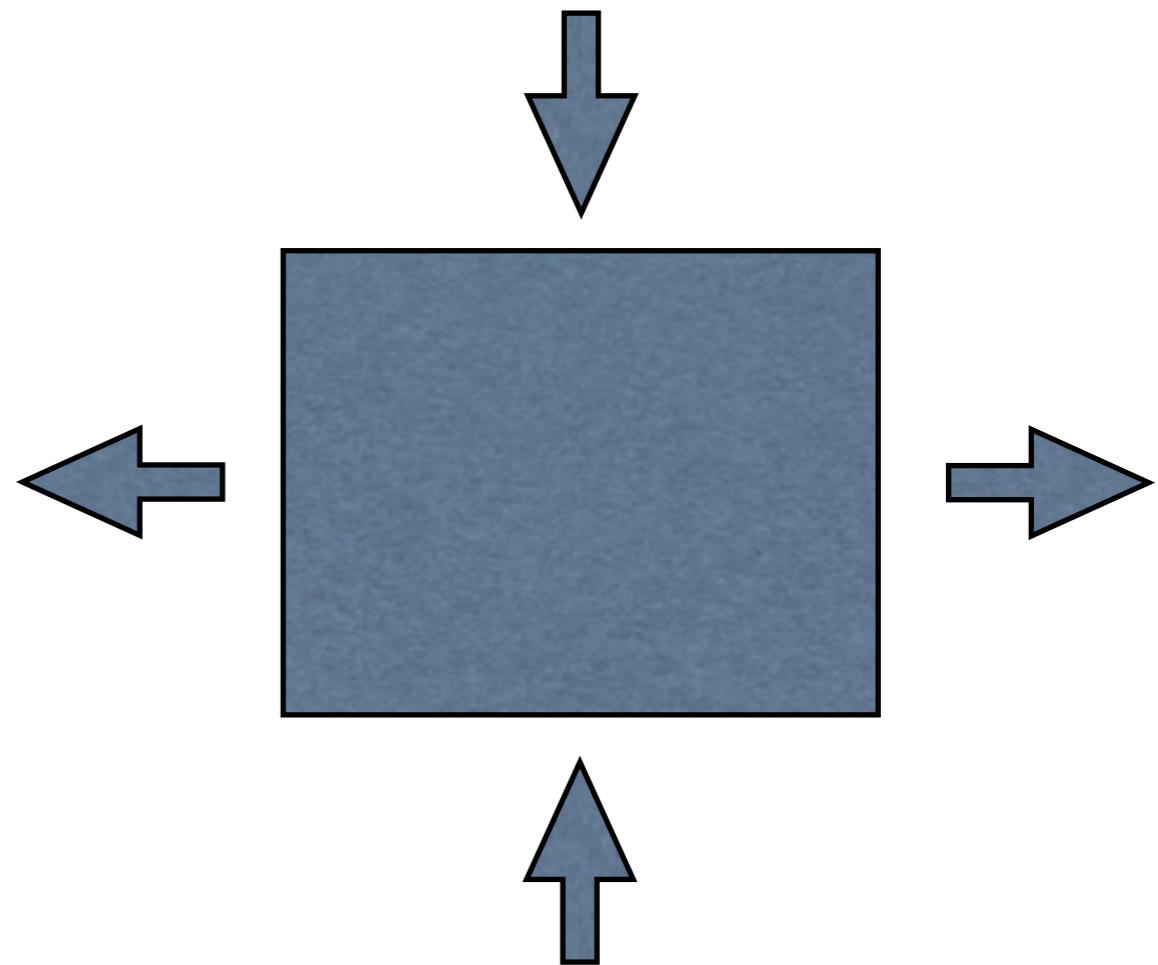
# Finite Strain Rates

To address objections to AQS simulation protocol, do “plain old” Molecular Dynamics:

- binary Lennard-Jones system quenched at  $P=0$
- local damping (Kelvin/DPD)
- uniaxial stress state
- bi-periodic boundaries
- system sizes up to  $3000 \times 3000$  in QS regime  
(order 500 CPU days / run)

Note: switching deformation mode to uniaxial compression

prescribed  $L_y(t)$   
set  $\sigma_{xx}=0$



# What to measure?

For each triangle:

$$\frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} = F_{ij}$$

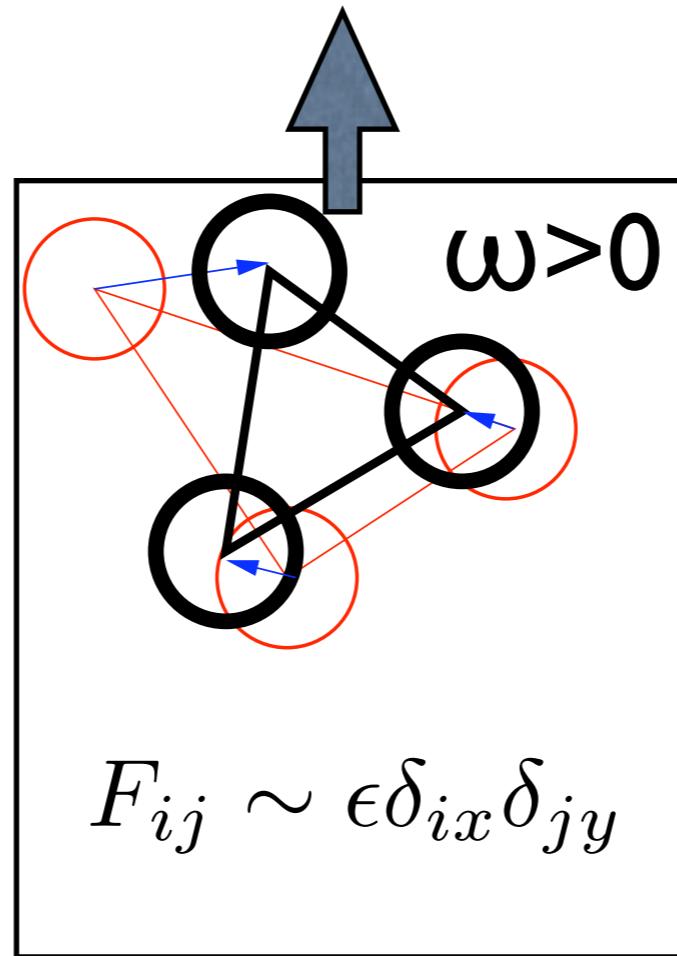
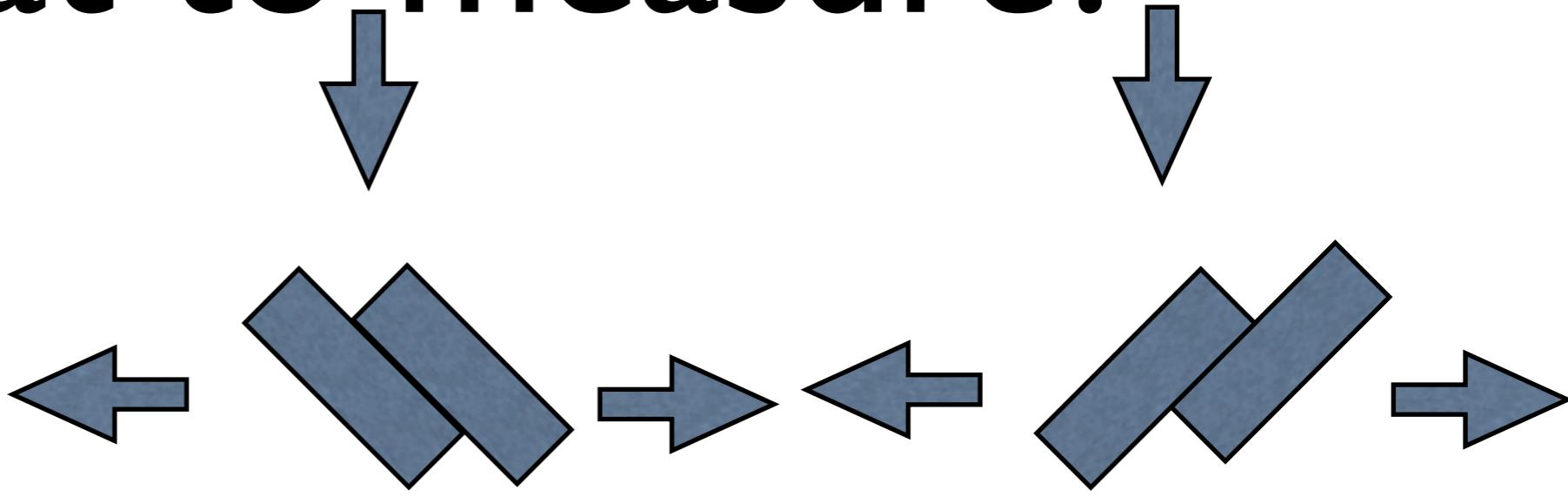
$$\epsilon_1 = \frac{F_{xx} - F_{yy}}{2}$$

$$\epsilon_2 = \frac{F_{xy} + F_{yx}}{2}$$

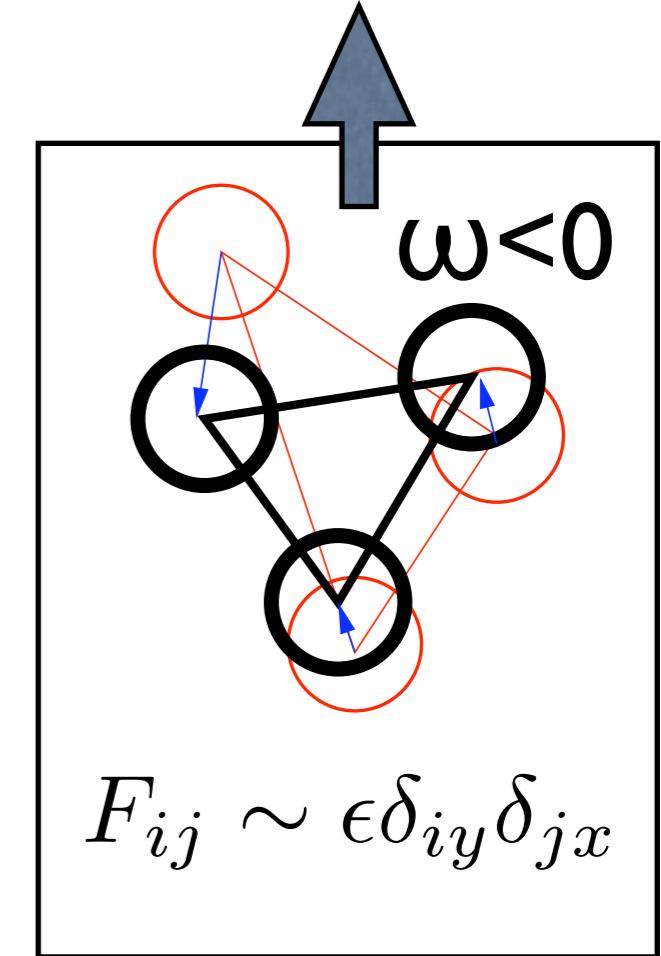
Invariants:

$$\epsilon = \sqrt{\epsilon_1^2 + \epsilon_2^2}$$

$$\omega = F_{xy} - F_{yx}$$



“Right Strain”



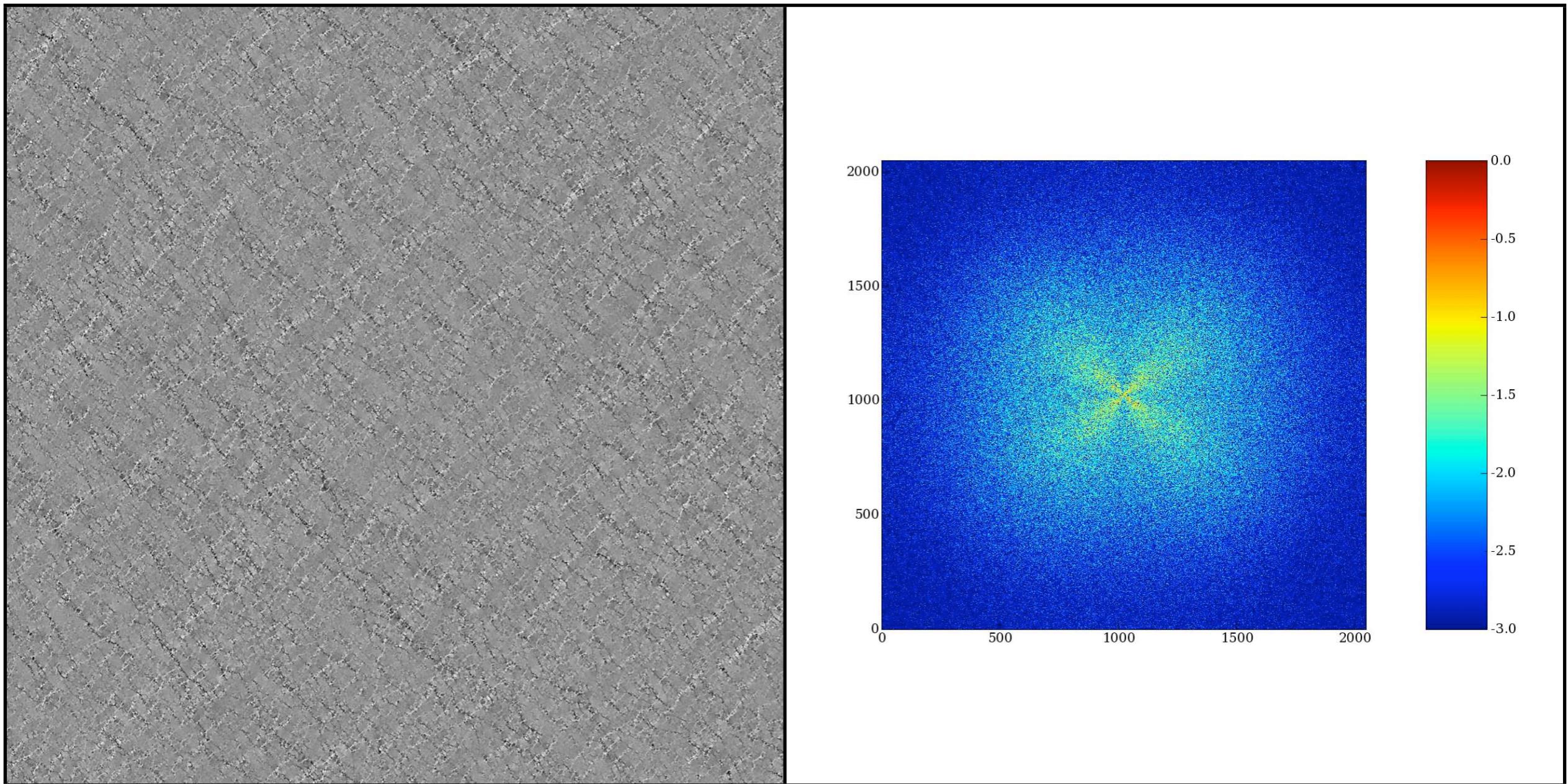
“Left Strain”

# Local Strain ( $\omega$ )

3% Strain

$\omega$

$\log_{10}[S(q_x, q_y)]$

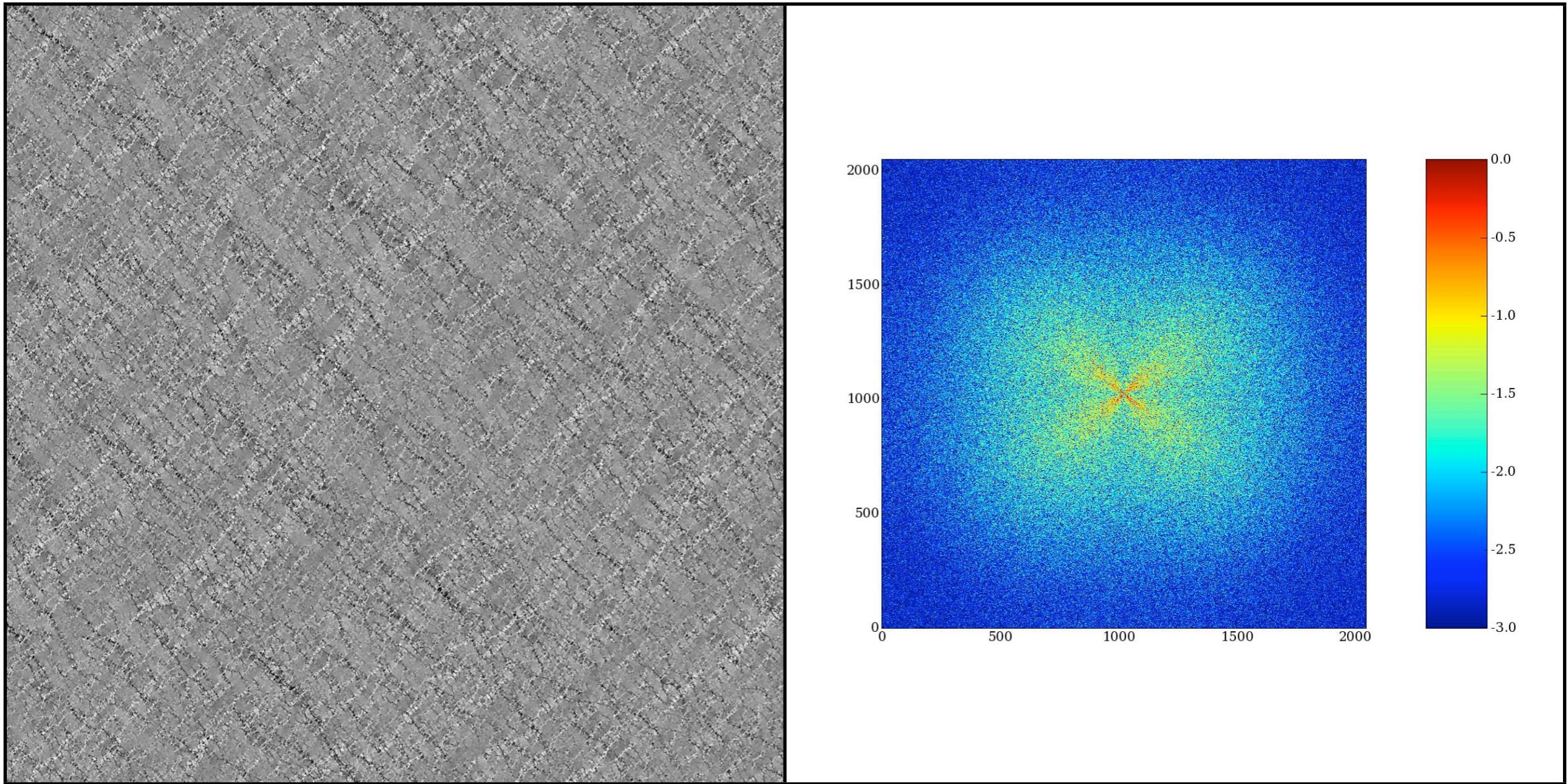


# Local Strain ( $\omega$ )

4% Strain

$\omega$

$\log_{10}[S(q_x, q_y)]$

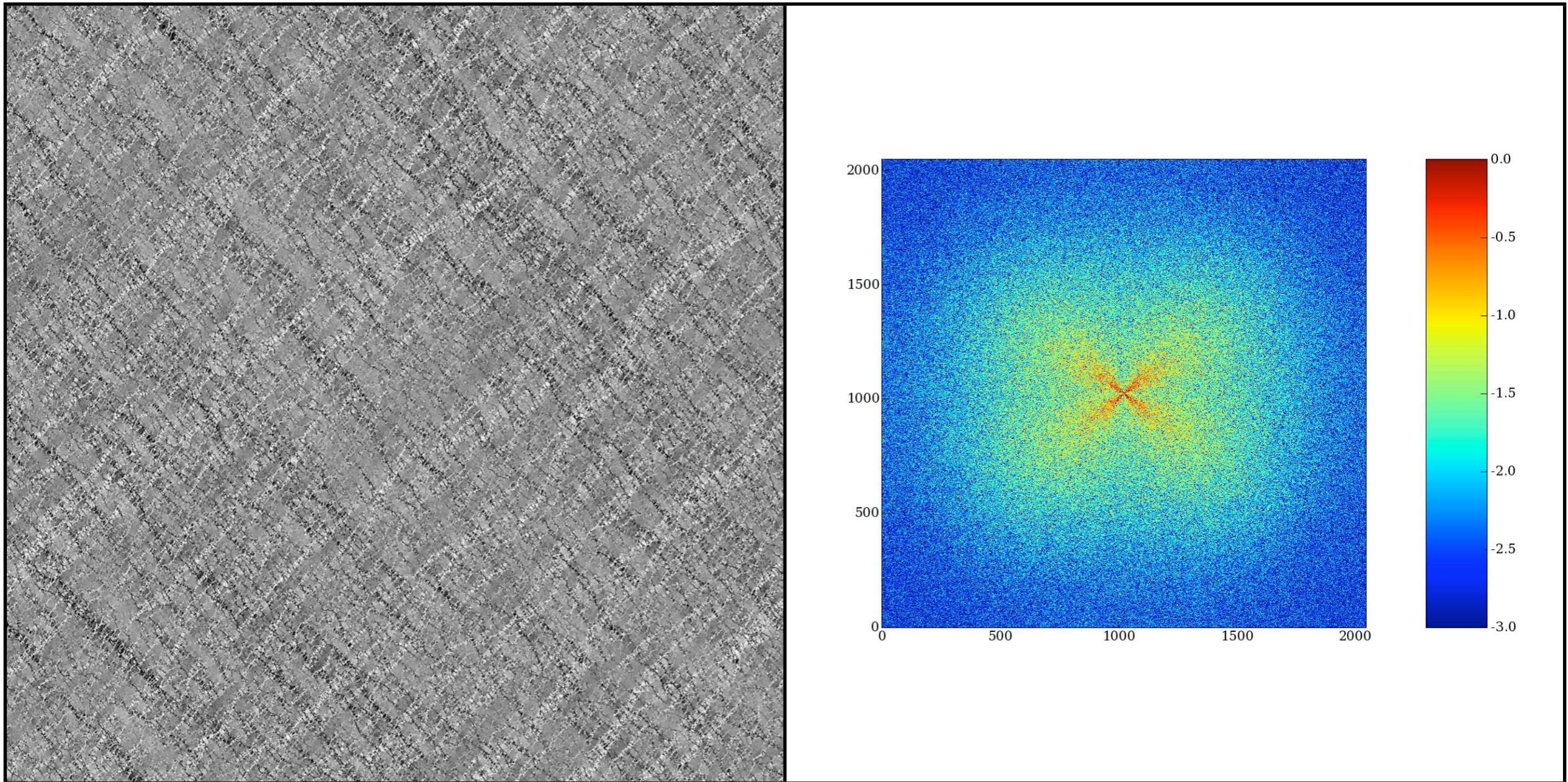


# Local Strain ( $\omega$ )

5% Strain

$\omega$

$\log_{10}[S(q_x, q_y)]$

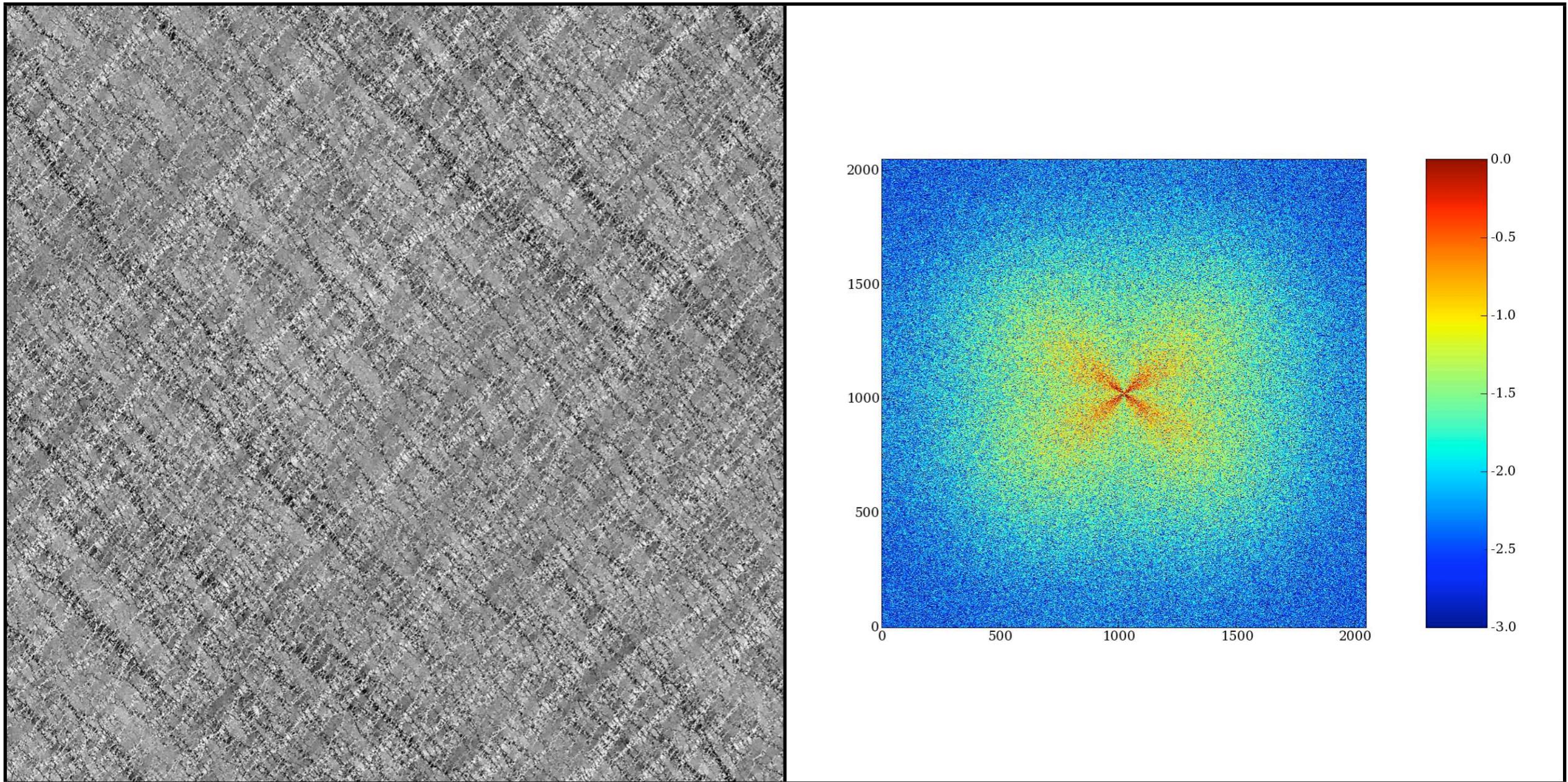


# Local Strain ( $\omega$ )

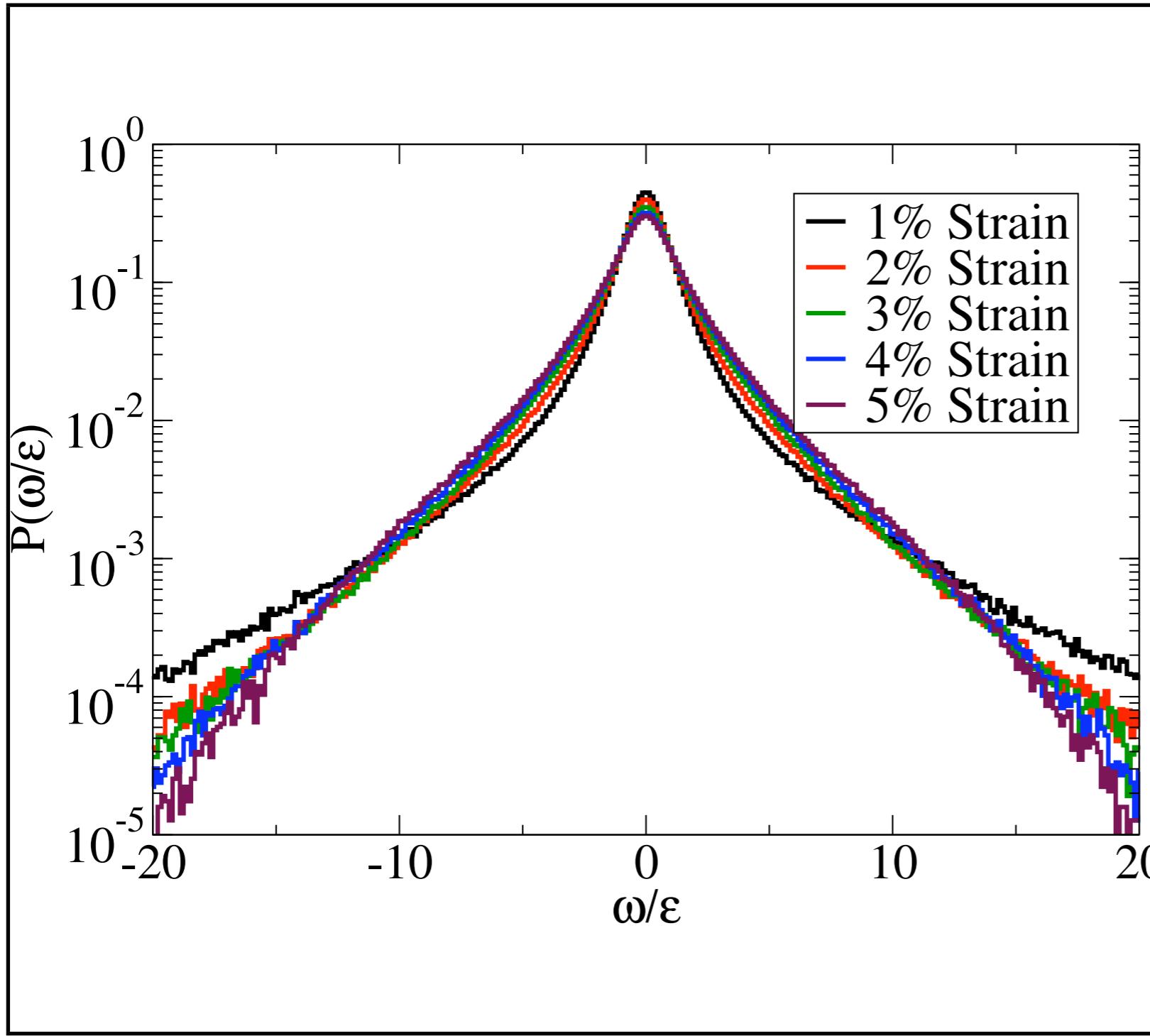
6% Strain

$\omega$

$\log_{10}[S(q_x, q_y)]$



# Distribution of Local $\omega$



Distribution of  $\omega$  has exponential tail and scales roughly with applied strain!

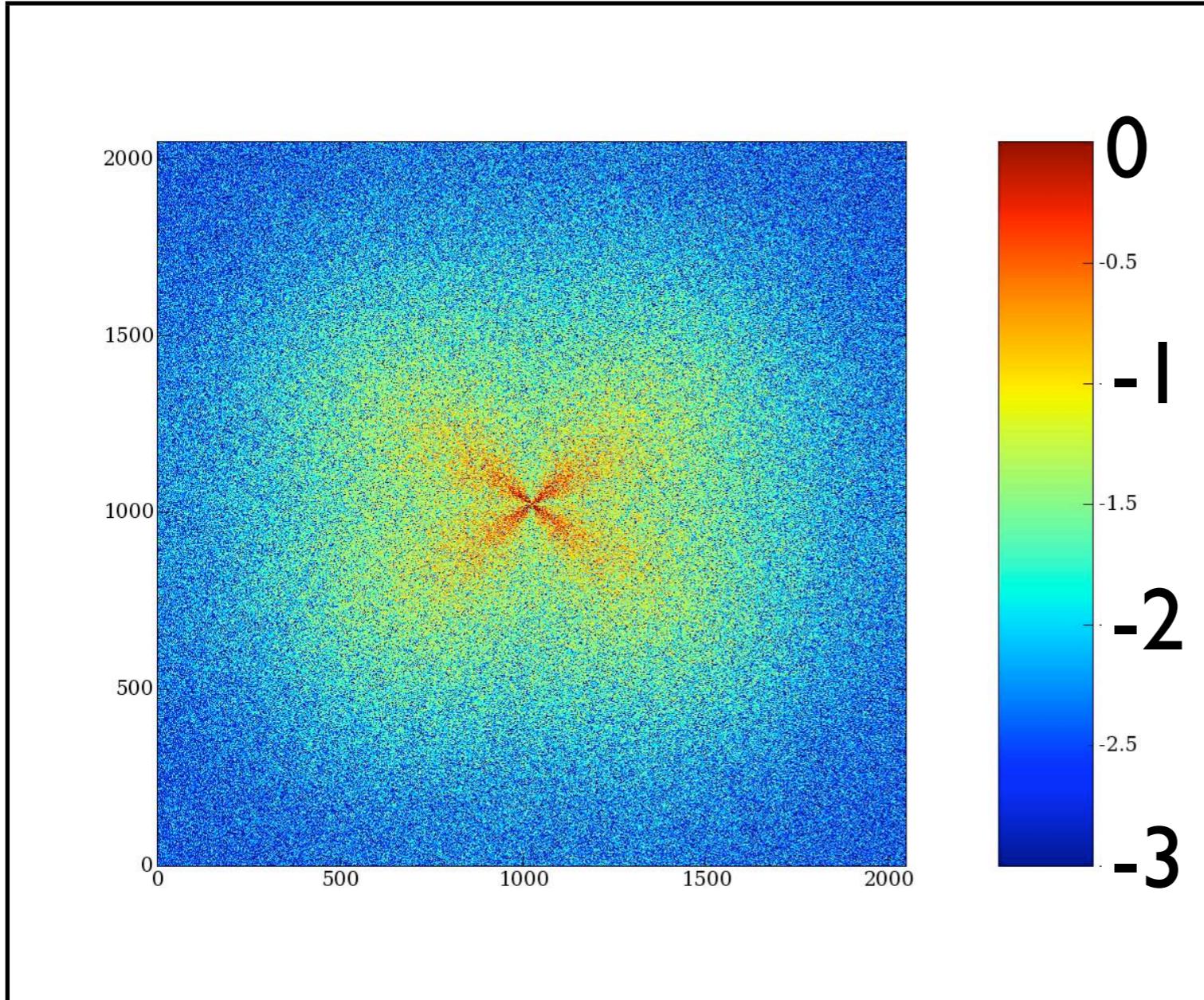
$$P(\omega) \sim e^{-\omega/\omega^*}$$
$$\omega^* \sim A \epsilon_{\text{applied}}$$

$$A \sim 2.2$$

$A$  seems size and rate independent.

# Scenarios for $S(q)$

$\log_{10}[S(q_x, q_y)]$

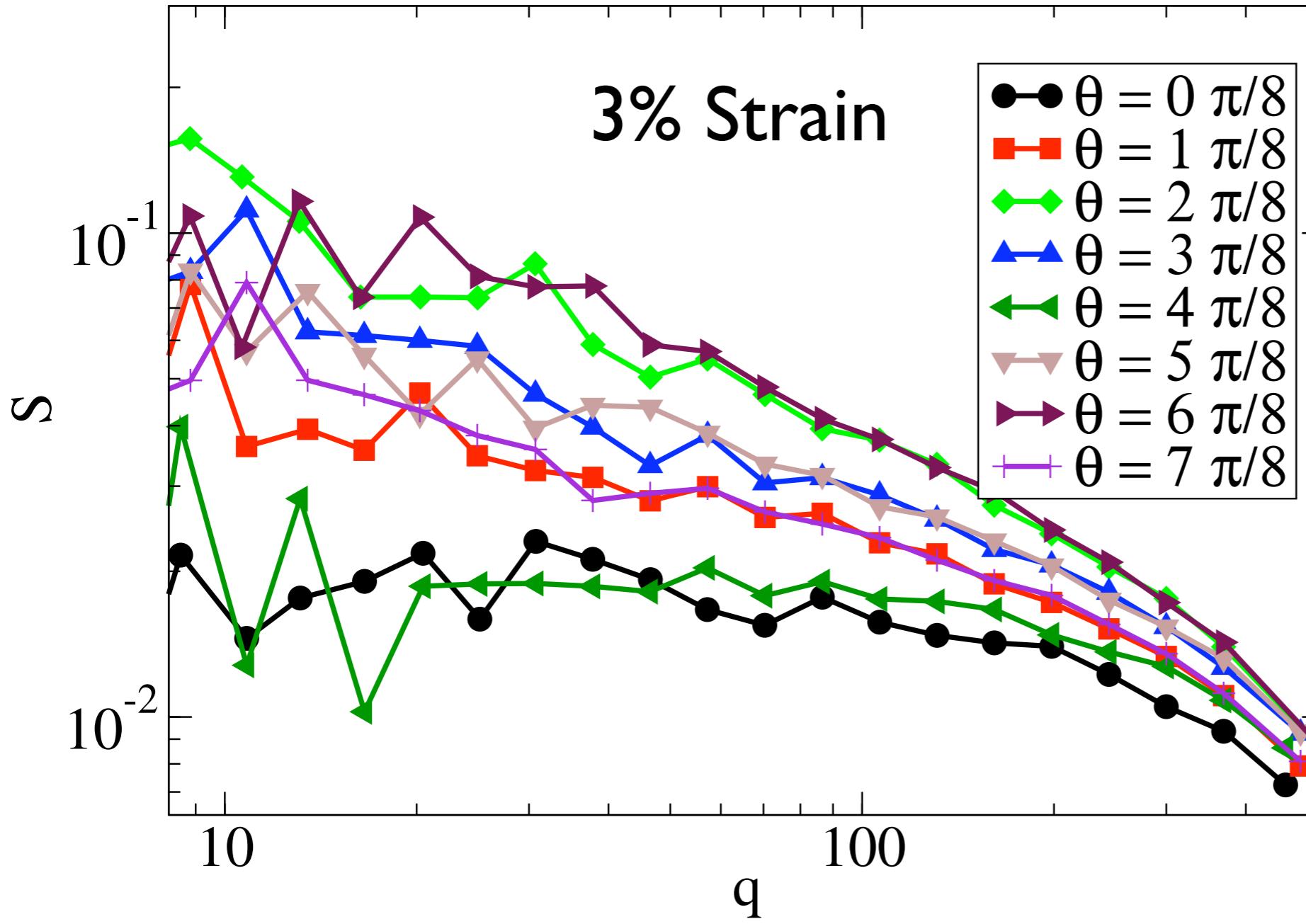


Two power-law scenarios for  $S(q)$

**Scenario A:**  $S \sim q^\alpha \sin^2(2\theta)$   
 $\ln(S) \sim \alpha \ln(q) + \ln(\sin^2(2\theta))$   
 $\ln(\langle S \rangle_\theta) \sim \alpha \ln(q)$

**Scenario B:**  $S \sim q^{\alpha \sin^2(2\theta)}$   
 $\ln(S) \sim \alpha \sin^2(2\theta) \ln(q)$   
 $\langle \ln(S) \rangle_\theta \sim \frac{\alpha}{2} \ln q$

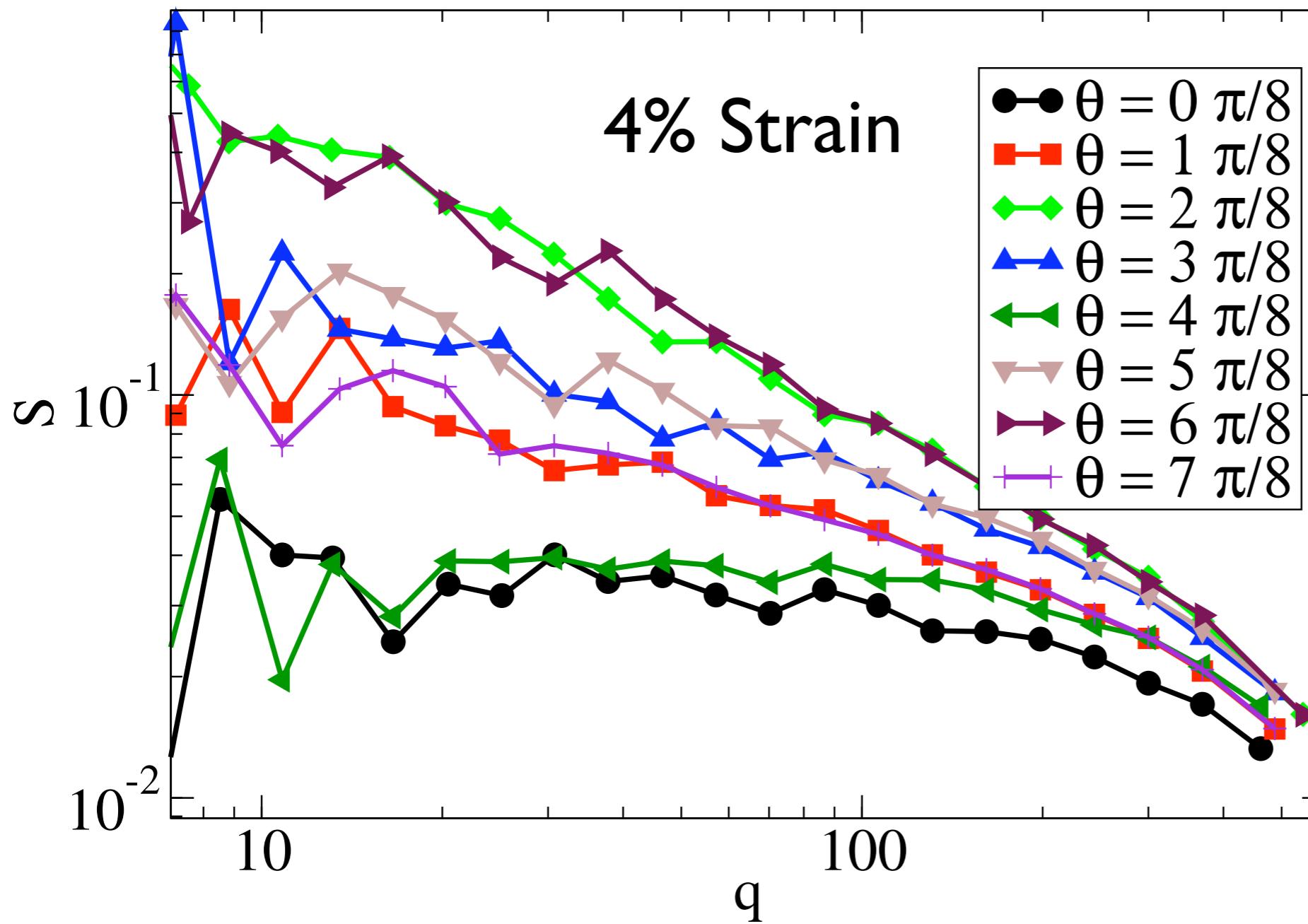
$$S(q;\theta)$$



Note:

- Signal is strong along diagonals and flat along  $\theta \sim 0$  and  $\pi/2$
- Increasing strain reveals an apparent power law.
- Either exponent or low- $q$  cutoff (or both) depends strongly on angle.

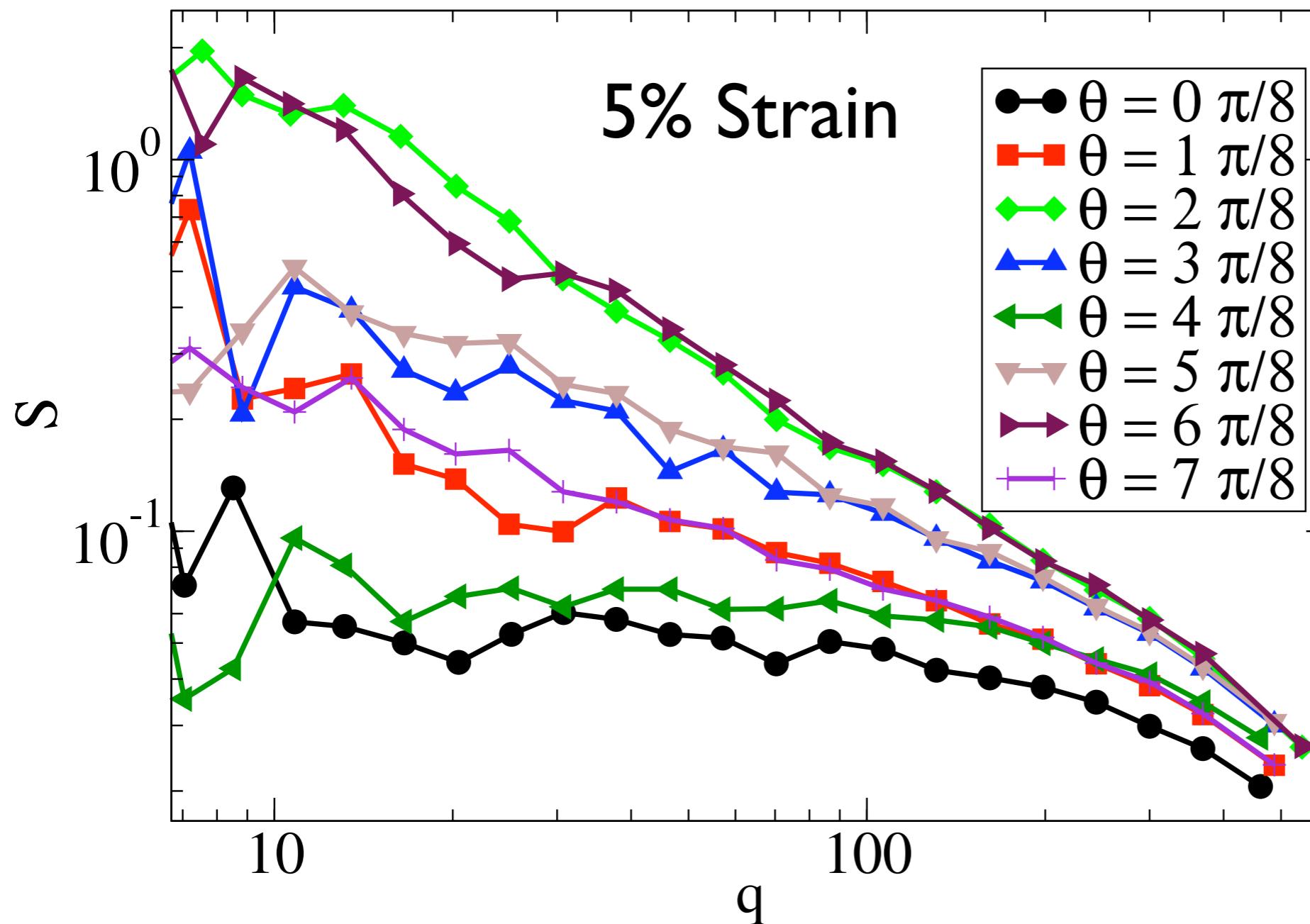
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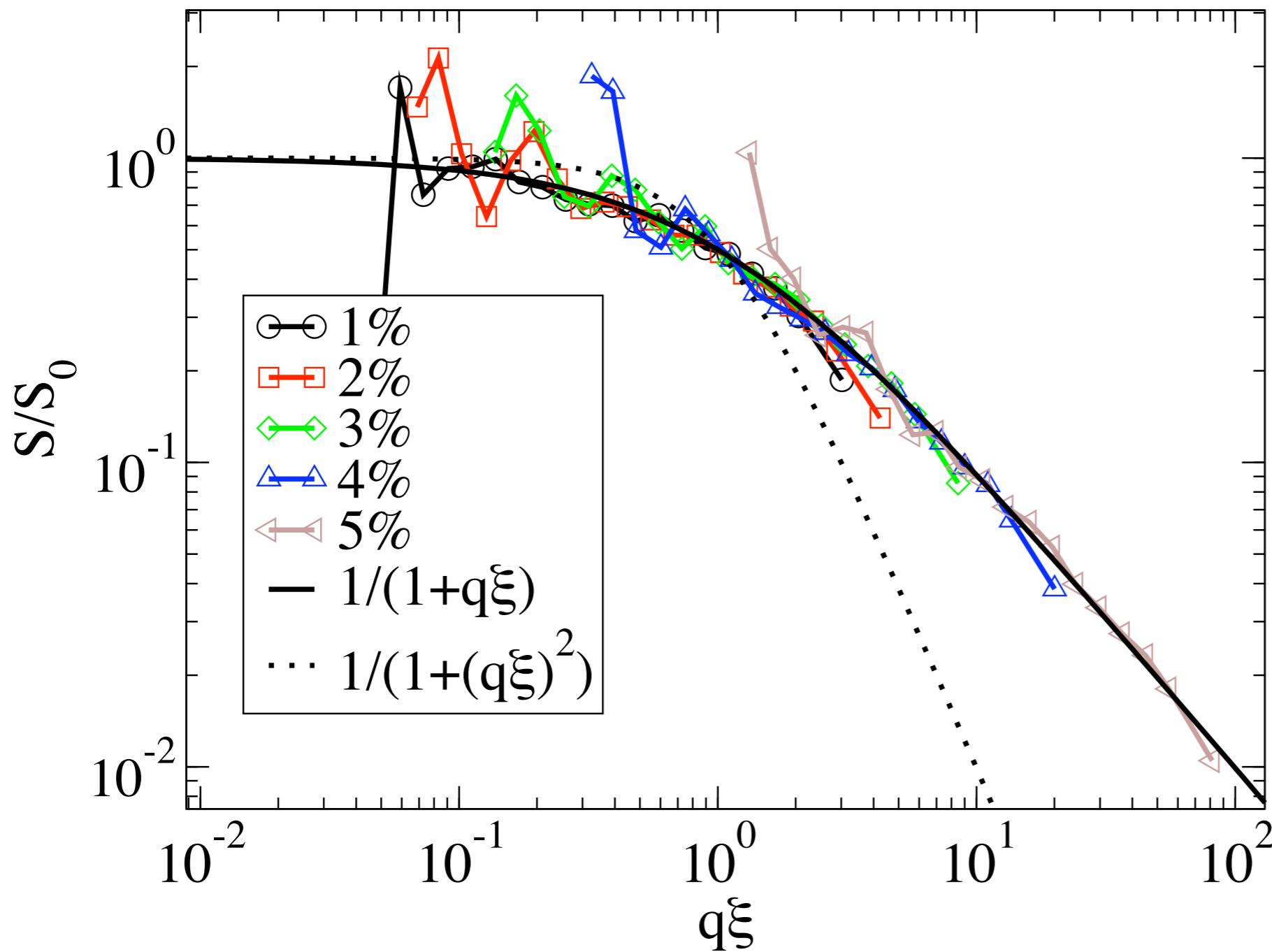
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Note:

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- Increasing strain reveals an apparent power law.
- Either exponent or low- $q$  cutoff (or both) depends strongly on angle.

# $S(q)$ collapse for particular $\theta$ ( $=\pi/4$ )



Note:  
•  $S(q)$  along diagonal at various applied strain.

# Relation to Thermal Relaxation

PHYSICAL REVIEW E

VOLUME 58, NUMBER 3

SEPTEMBER 1998

## Dynamics of highly supercooled liquids: Heterogeneity, rheology, and diffusion

Ryoichi Yamamoto and Akira Onuki

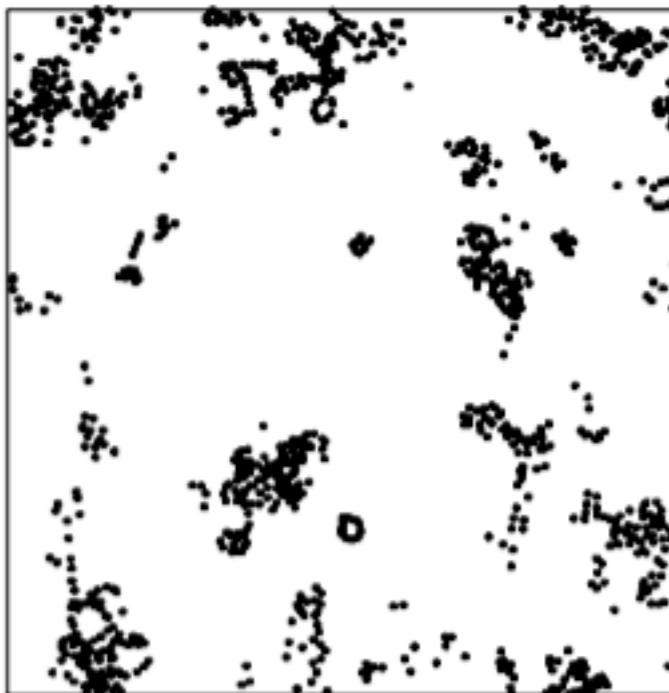
*Department of Physics, Kyoto University, Kyoto 606-8502, Japan*

(Received 20 March 1998)

Method: locate neighboring pairs of particles  
which become separated after some time.

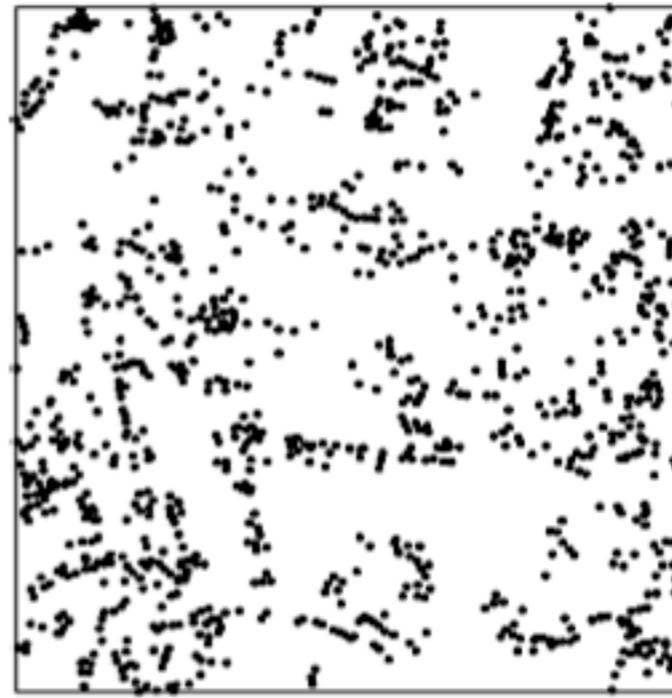
For large enough strain rate, lowering T doesn't change dynamics

$\tau_\alpha \sim 10^5$  No Shear



(b)  $\Gamma_{eff} = 1.4, \dot{\gamma} = 0$

Shear  $\rightarrow$



(c)  $\Gamma_{eff} = 1.4, \dot{\gamma} = 0.25 \times 10^{-2}$

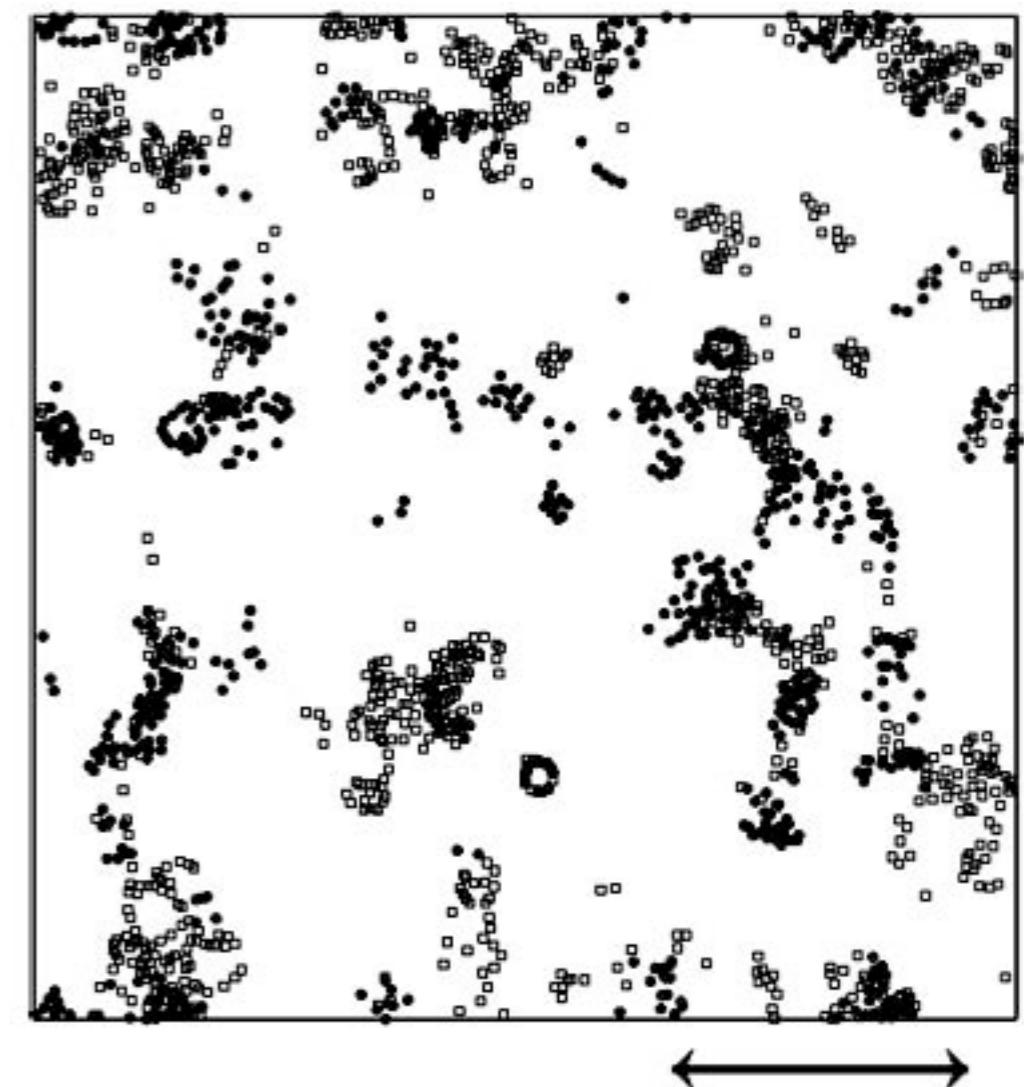


FIG. 7. Broken bond distributions in two consecutive time intervals,  $[t_0, t_0 + 0.05\tau_b]$  ( $\square$ ) and  $[t_0 + 0.05\tau_b, t_0 + 0.1\tau_b]$  ( $\bullet$ ), at  $\Gamma_{eff} = 1.4$  in 2D. The arrow indicates  $\xi$ .

# Relation to Thermal Relaxation

PHYSICAL REVIEW E

VOLUME 58, NUMBER 3

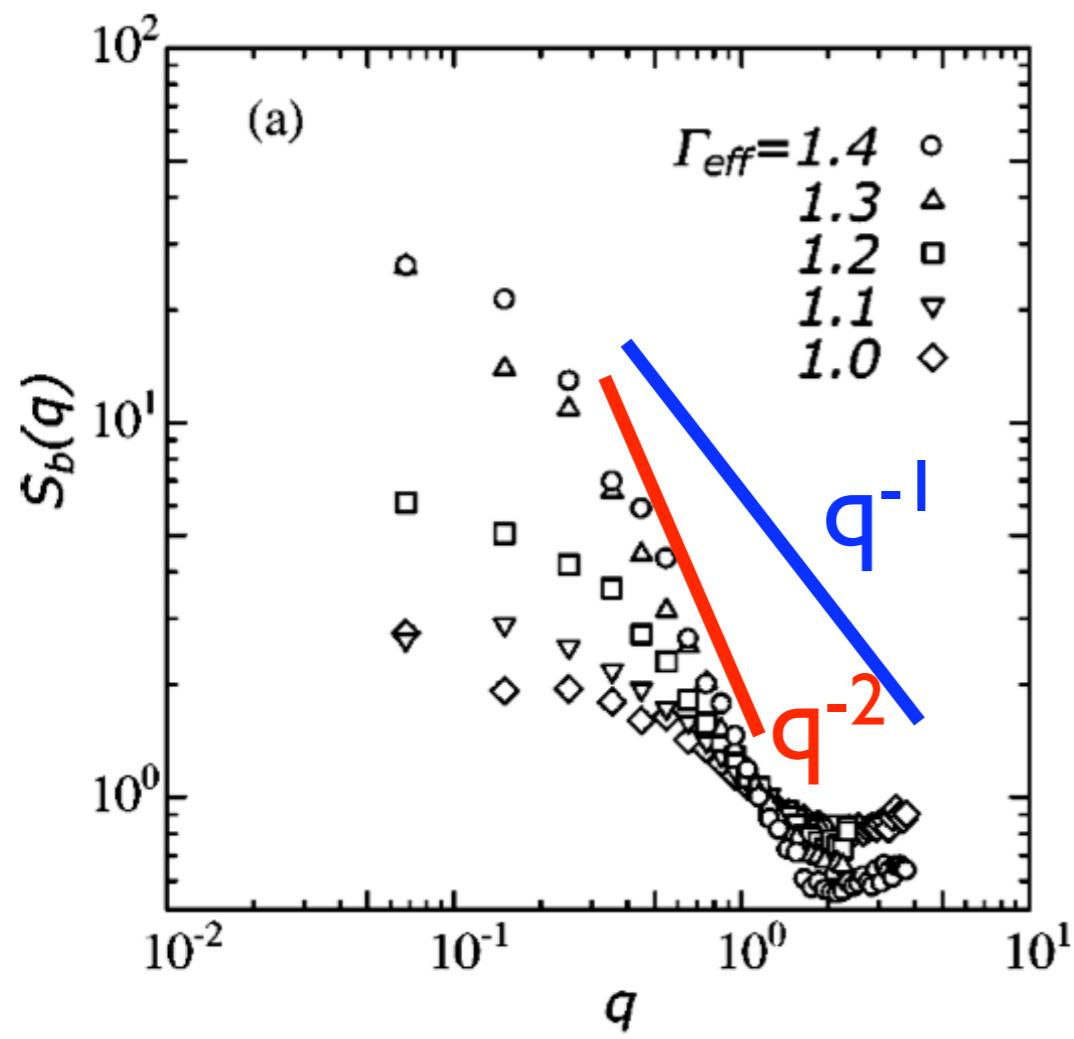
SEPTEMBER 1998

## Dynamics of highly supercooled liquids: Heterogeneity, rheology, and diffusion

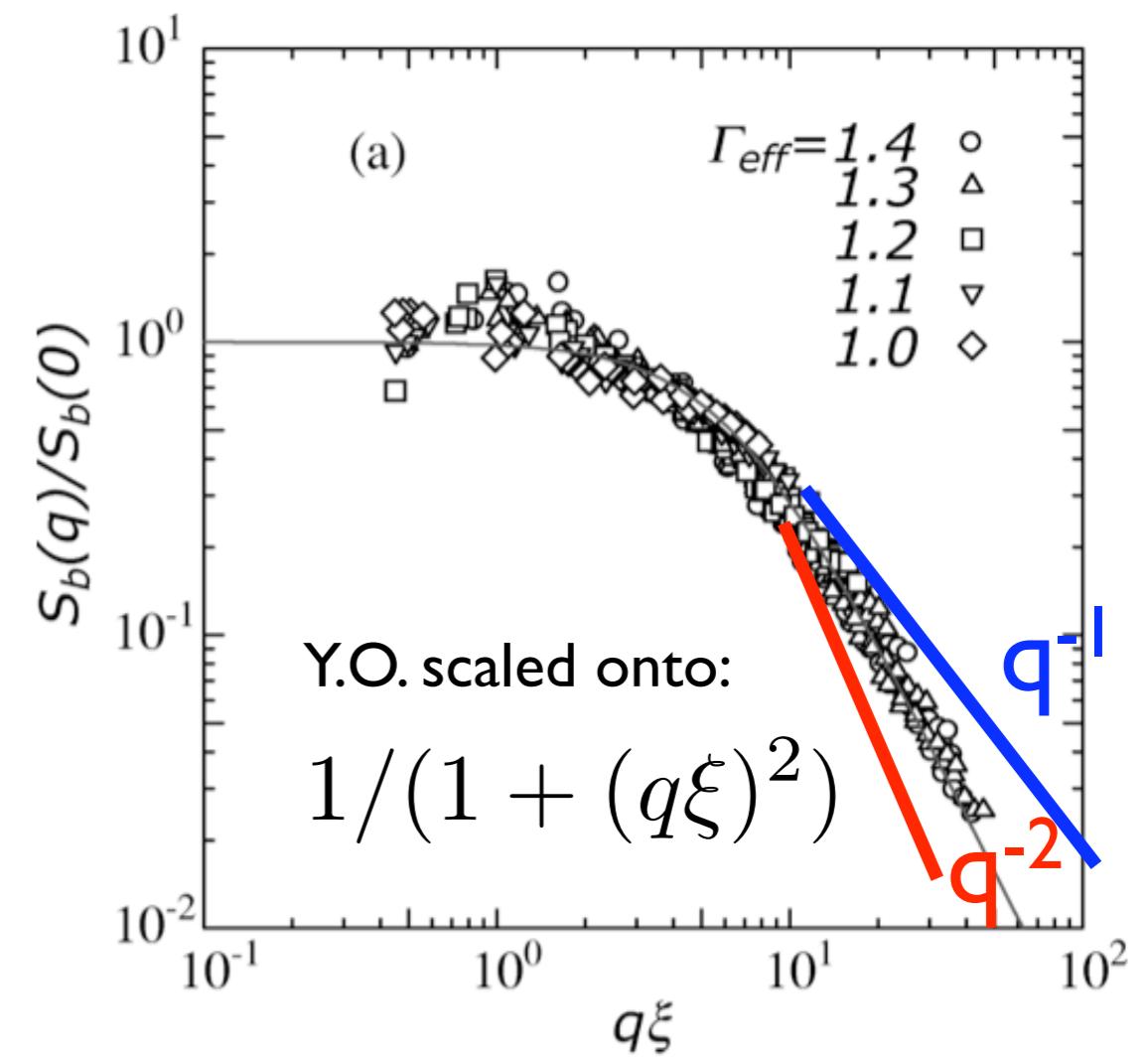
Ryoichi Yamamoto and Akira Onuki  
*Department of Physics, Kyoto University, Kyoto 606-8502, Japan*  
 (Received 20 March 1998)

(iii) It is of great interest how the kinetic heterogeneities, which satisfy the dynamic scaling (4.4), evolve in space and time and why they look so similar to the critical fluctuations in Ising systems in the mean field level. In our steady-state problem  $T$  and  $\dot{\gamma}$  are two relevant scaling fields, the *critical point* being located at  $T = \dot{\gamma} = 0$ . No divergence has been detected at a nonzero temperature in our simulations.

## Raw $S(q)$ for no shear



## Scaled $S(q)$ for all data

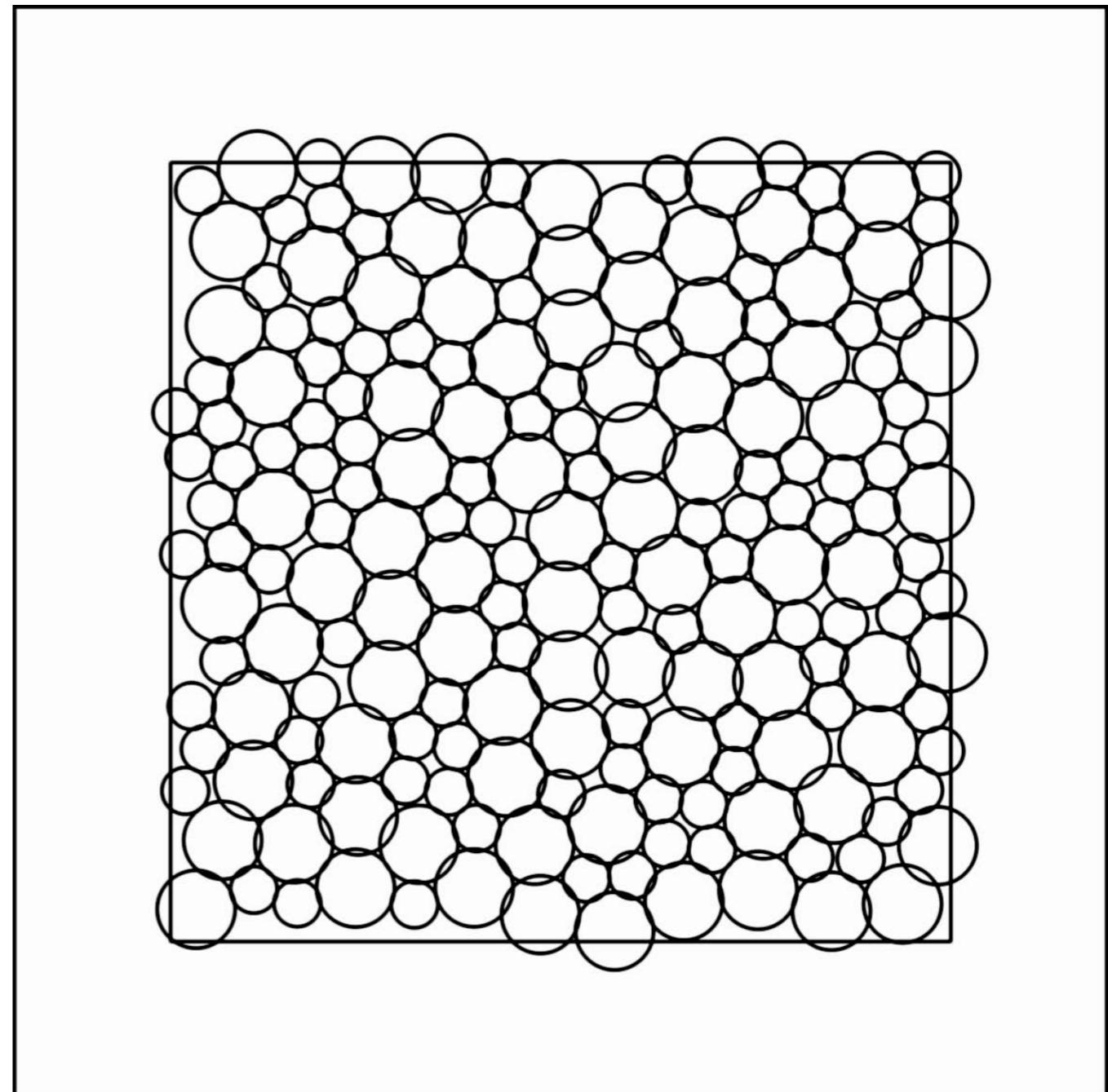


# Summary

- Athermal, quasistatic dynamics characterized by intermittent avalanche events with long range spatial correlations.
- Yield stress is about 3% times the shear modulus regardless of interactions!
- Data for event size based on i) strain interval, ii) stress drop, iii) energy drop collapse onto single master curve for all interactions and system sizes. Gives characteristic length of a few tenths of a particle diameter.
- Long-range spatial correlations and avalanche events remain in “plain old MD” at finite strain rate.
- Distribution of local slip is exponential.
- $S(q)$  consistent with power-law (exponent~one) cut off by a lengthscale which grows with applied strain.

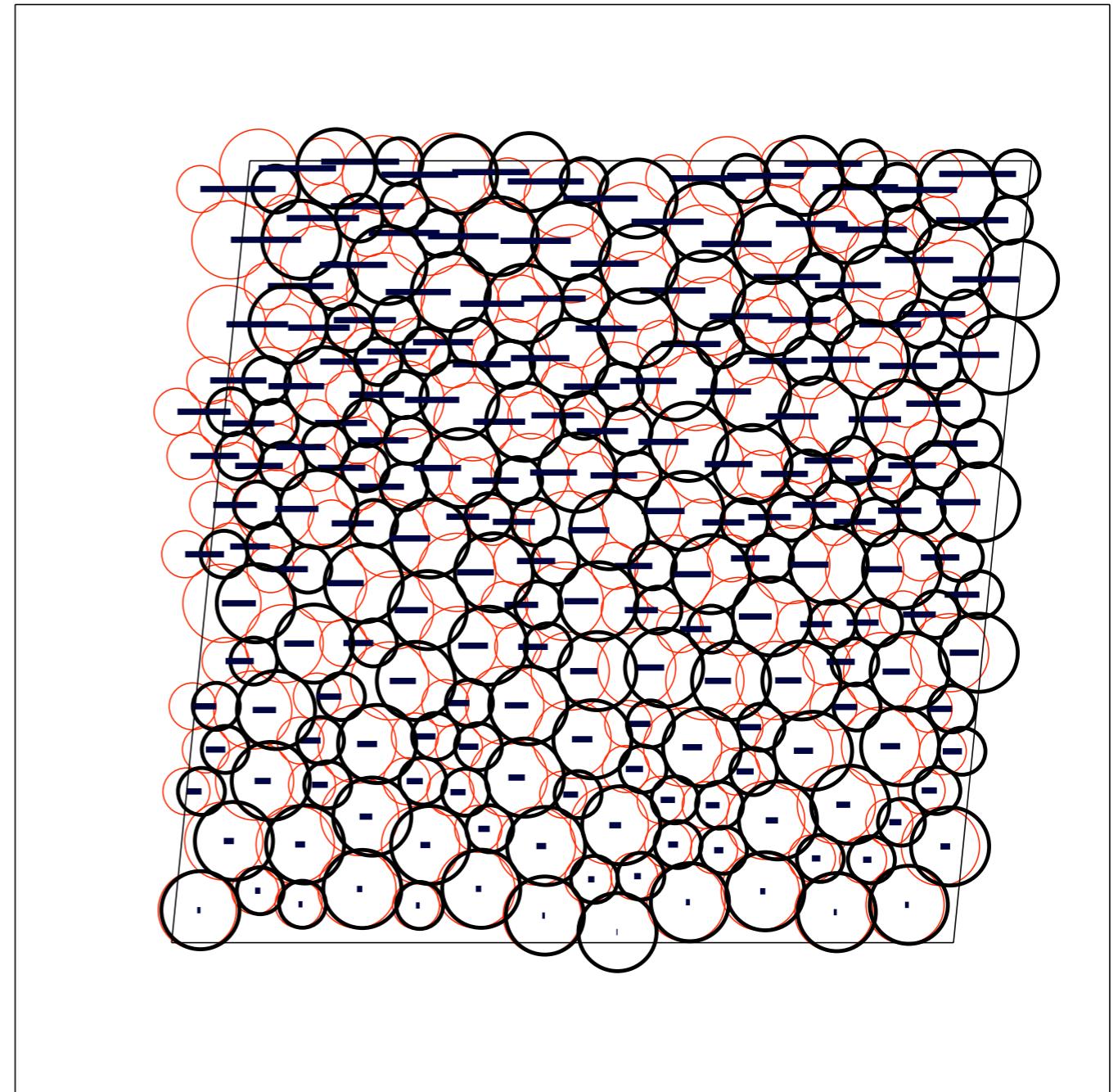
# Non-affine Elastic Response

- Sequence:
  - Initial packing,  $F=0$
- What is this stuff?
  - Bubbles or
  - Grains or
  - Atoms



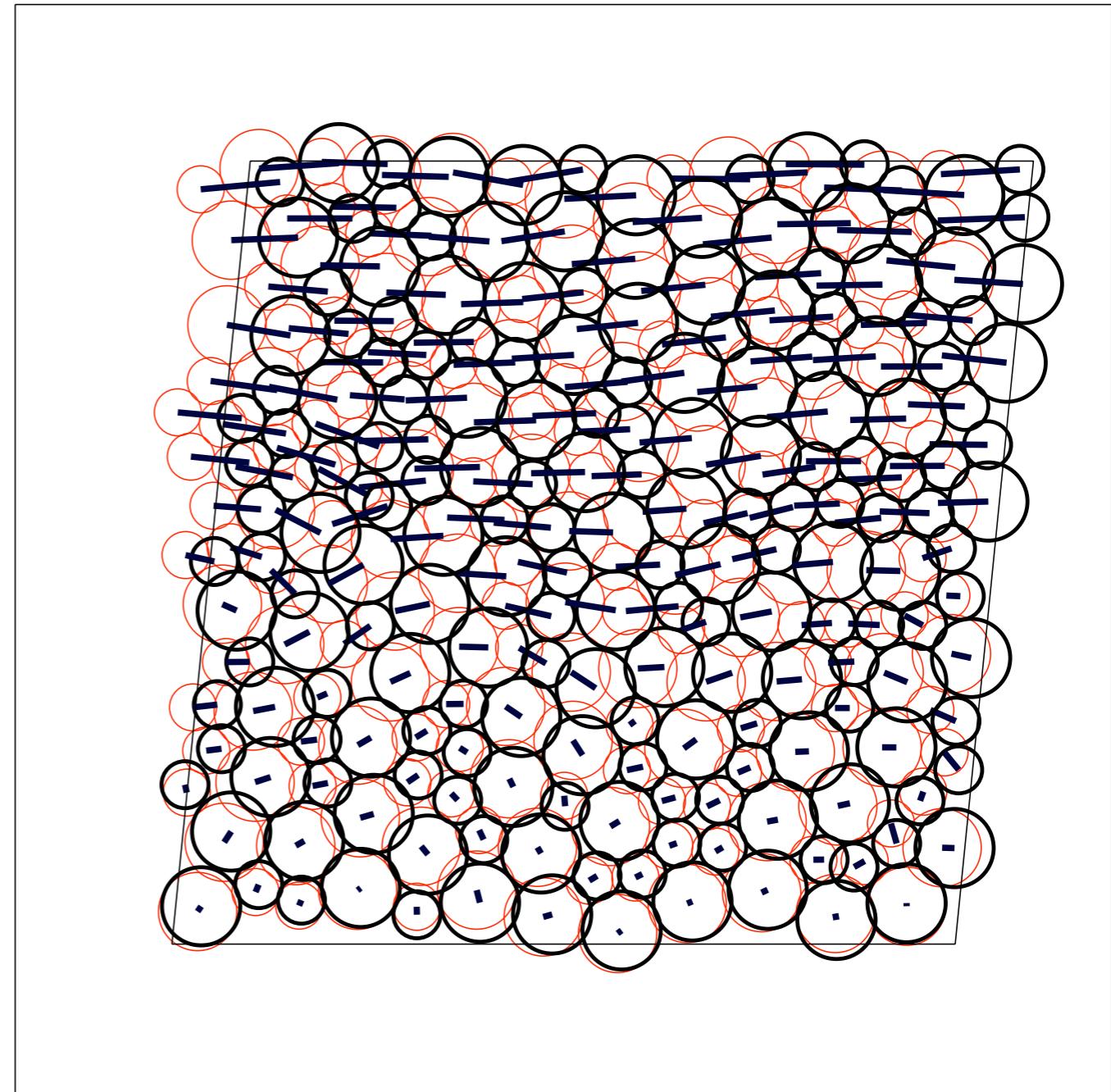
# Non-affine Elastic Response

- Sequence:
  - Initial packing,  $F=0$
  - Sheared state,  $F \neq 0$



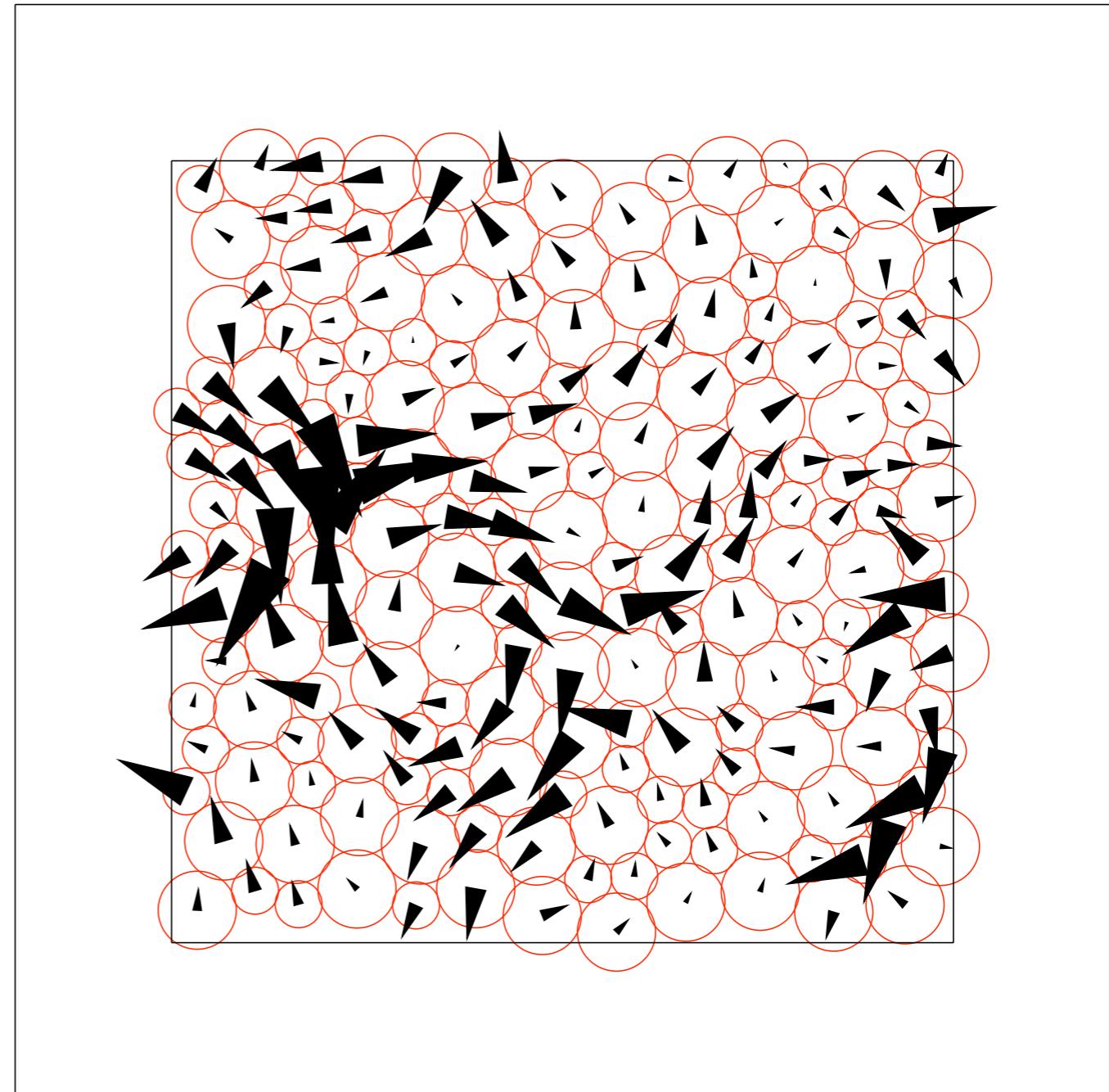
# Non-affine Elastic Response

- Sequence:
  - Initial packing,  $F=0$
  - Sheared state,  $F \neq 0$
  - Allow correction so  $F=0$  again.



# Non-affine Elastic Response

- Sequence:
  - Initial packing,  $F=0$
  - Sheared state,  $F \neq 0$
  - Allow correction so  $F=0$  again.
  - Subtract affine piece.



# Motivation:

Q) How to characterize the local disorder?

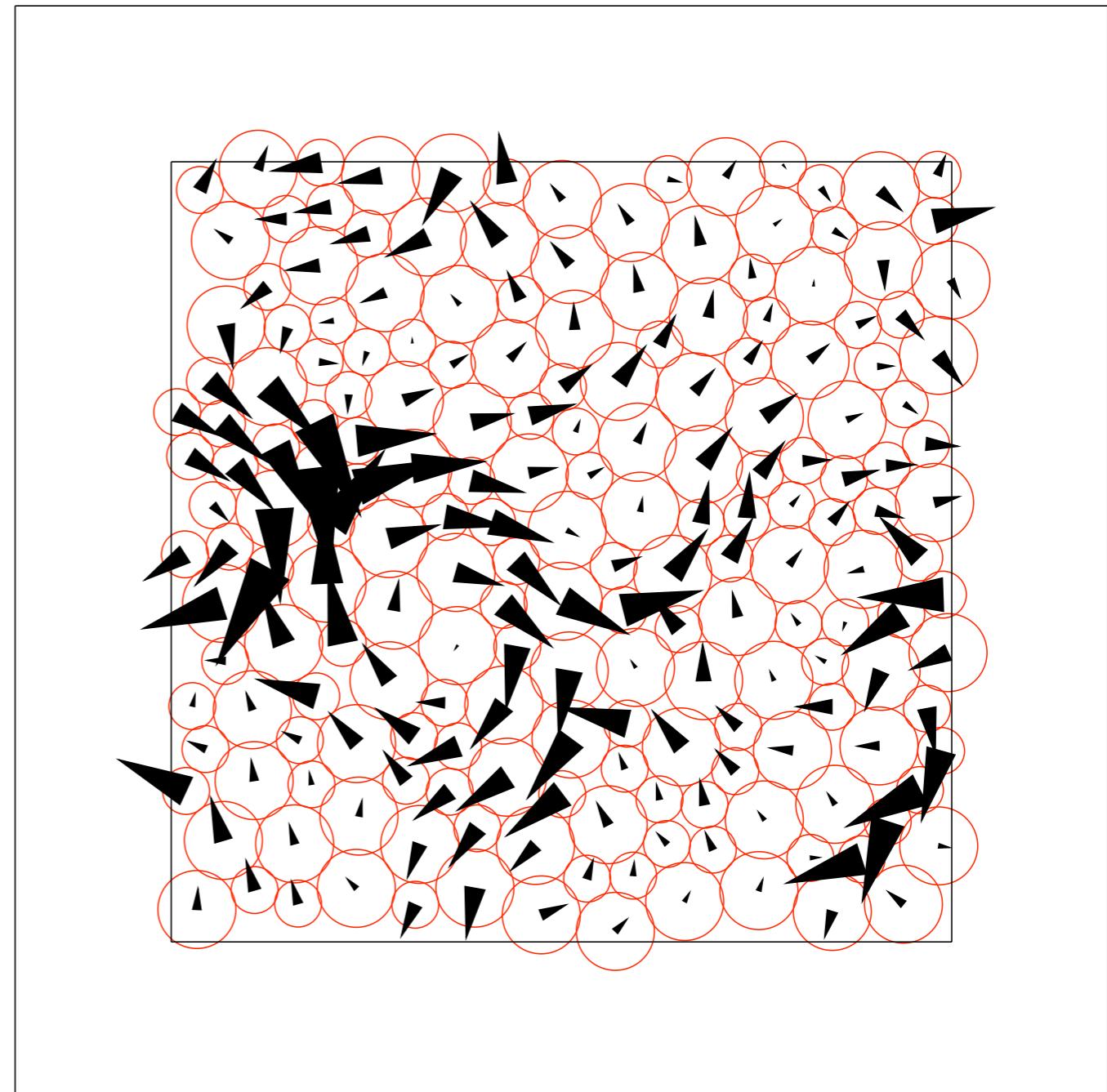
A) The “affine forces”,  $\Xi$

Q) Can a characteristic length be defined?

A) No. Vortices scale with system size.

Q) How do heterogeneities in the elasticity initiate plasticity?

A) Elastic response localizes into a shear zone



# Motivation:

Q) How to characterize the local disorder?

A) The “affine forces”,  $\Xi$

Q) Can a characteristic length be defined?

A) No. Vortices scale with system size.

Q) How do heterogeneities in the elasticity initiate plasticity?

A) Elastic response localizes into a shear zone

- Leonforte, et. al., find a characteristic vortex size.
- DiDonna and Lubensky develop a framework which exhibits log divergences.
- We develop a similar framework, but conclude that vortices are scale free.
- Can get good quantitative agreement with the data.

# Motivation:

Q) How to characterize the local disorder?

A) The “affine forces”,  $\Xi$

Q) Can a characteristic length be defined?

A) No. Vortices scale with system size.

Q) How do heterogeneities in the elasticity initiate plasticity?

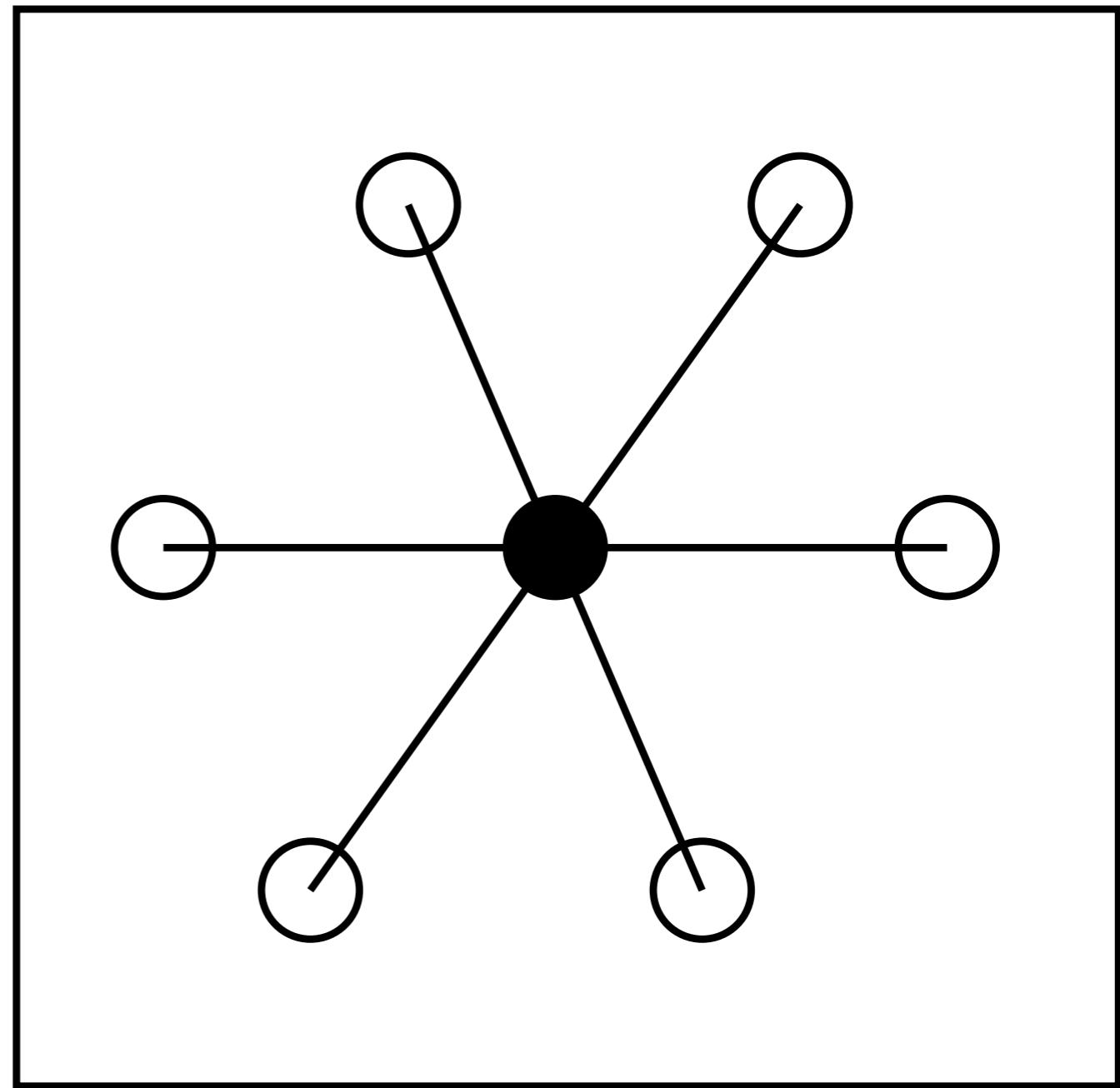
A) Elastic response localizes into a shear zone

- Older studies [Srolovitz et. al. *Acta Metal.* 1981] find that plasticity is nucleated near stress concentrations.
- In our systems, plasticity is instead nucleated at regions of large non-affine elasticity.
- We derive analytical expressions for this nucleation process.

# Computing the response

- Single particle toy problem:
- Start at  $F=0$

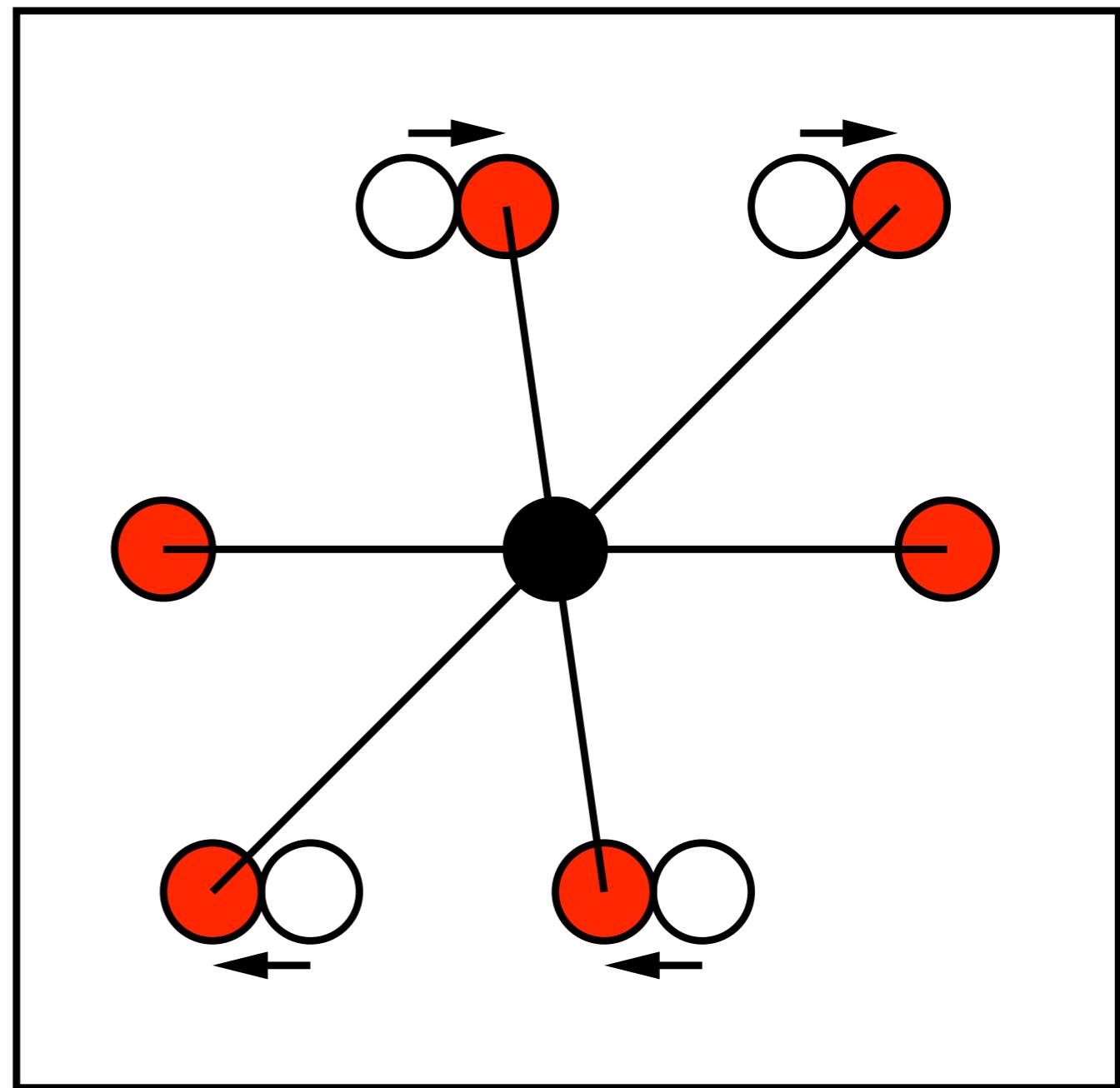
Ordered Case



# Computing the response

- Single particle toy problem:
  - Start at  $F=0$
  - Apply affine shear
  - Forces remain zero
  - No correction necessary

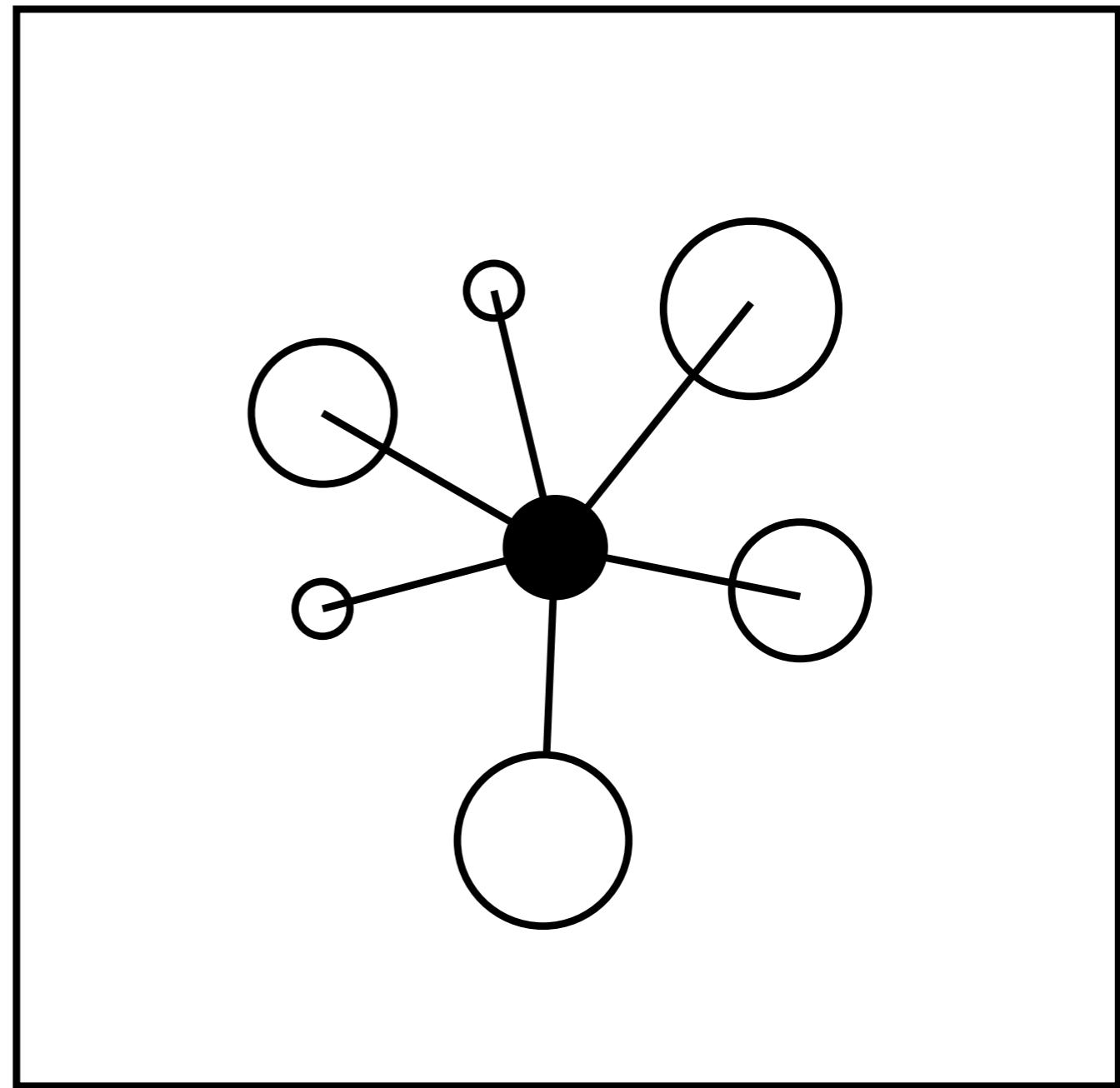
## Ordered Case



# Computing the response

- Single particle toy problem:
- Start at  $F=0$

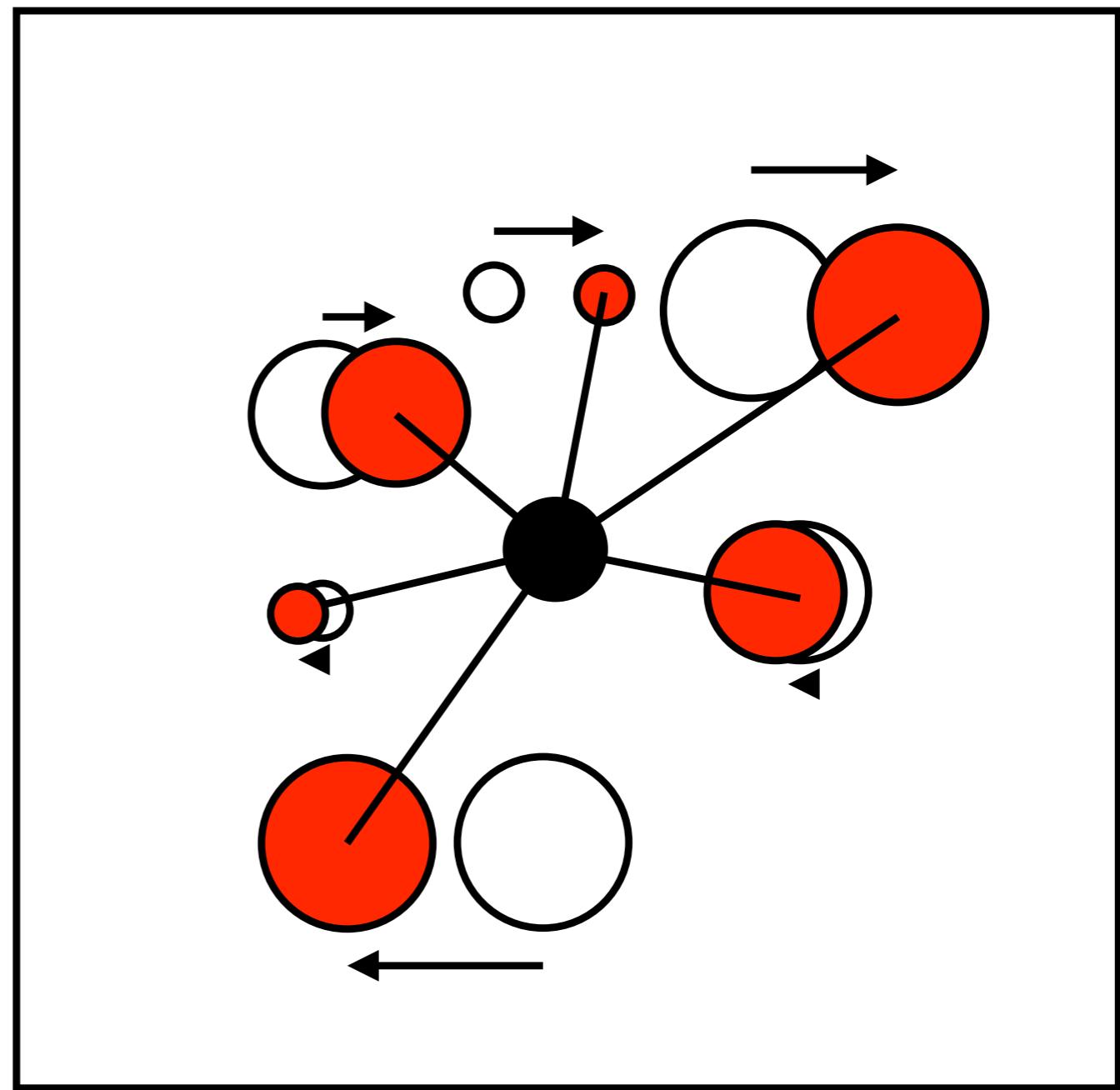
Disordered Case



# Computing the response

- Single particle toy problem:
  - Start at  $F=0$
  - Apply strain

Disordered Case



# Computing the response

- Single particle toy problem:

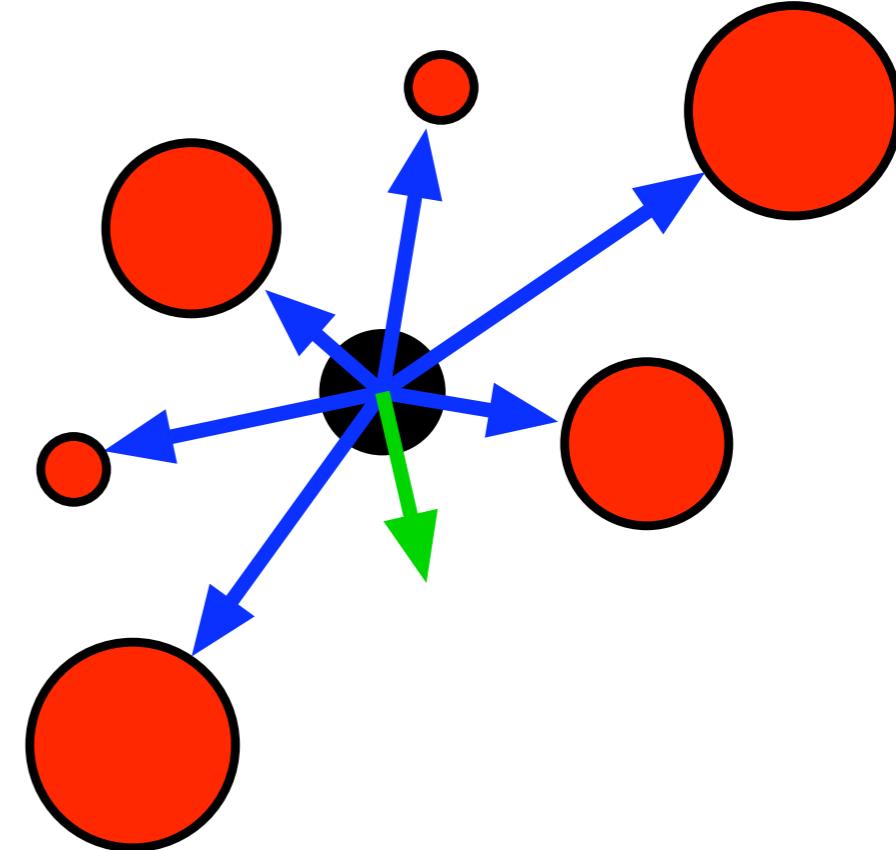
- Start at  $F=0$
- Apply strain

Use Hessian to compute “Affine force”

$$\vec{\Xi}_i = \sum_j \mathbf{H}_{ij} \vec{dr}_j$$

$$\vec{\Xi}_i = \gamma \sum_j \mathbf{H}_{ij} \hat{\mathbf{x}} \delta y_j$$

## Disordered Case



# Computing the response

- Single particle toy problem:

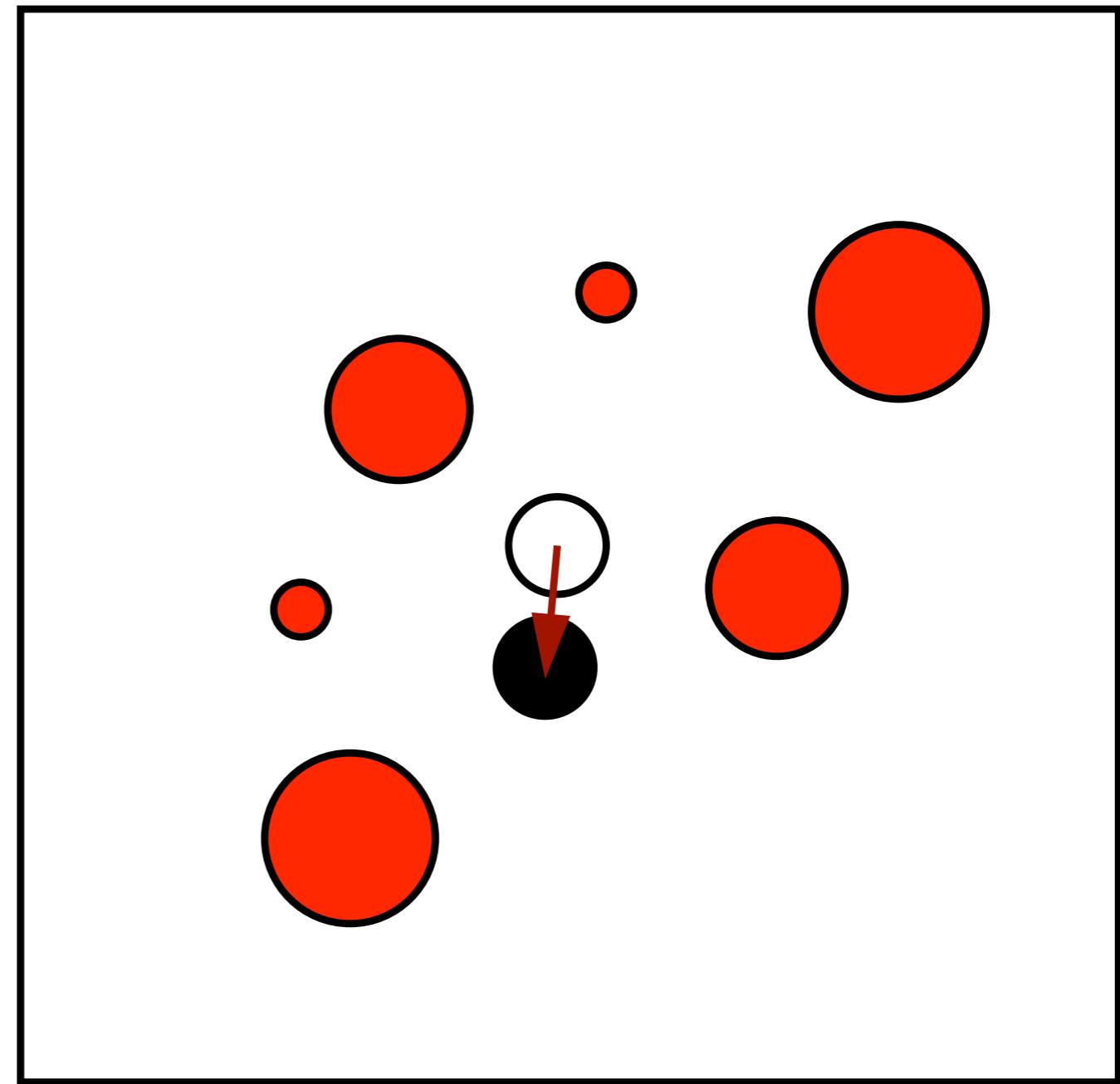
- Start at  $F=0$
- Apply strain

Use Hessian to find position correction

$$\vec{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_i = \mathbf{H}_{ii} \vec{dr}_i$$

$$\vec{dr}_i = \mathbf{H}_{ii}^{-1} \vec{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_i$$

## Disordered Case

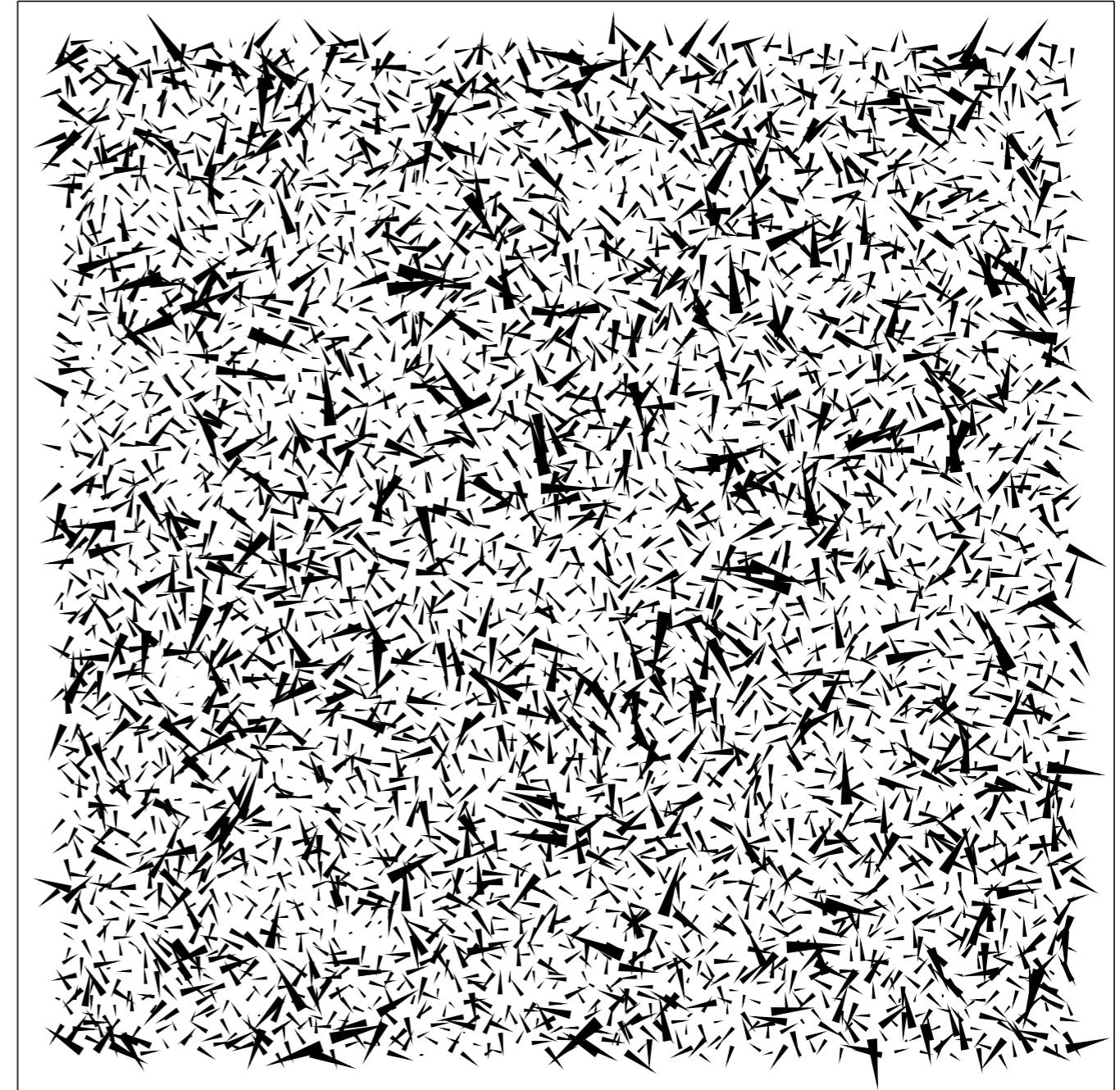


# Computing the response

- Back to full assembly:

$$\vec{\Sigma}_i = \gamma \sum_j H_{ij} \hat{x} \delta y_{ij}$$

- Measure of local disorder.
- No spatial correlations in our samples.



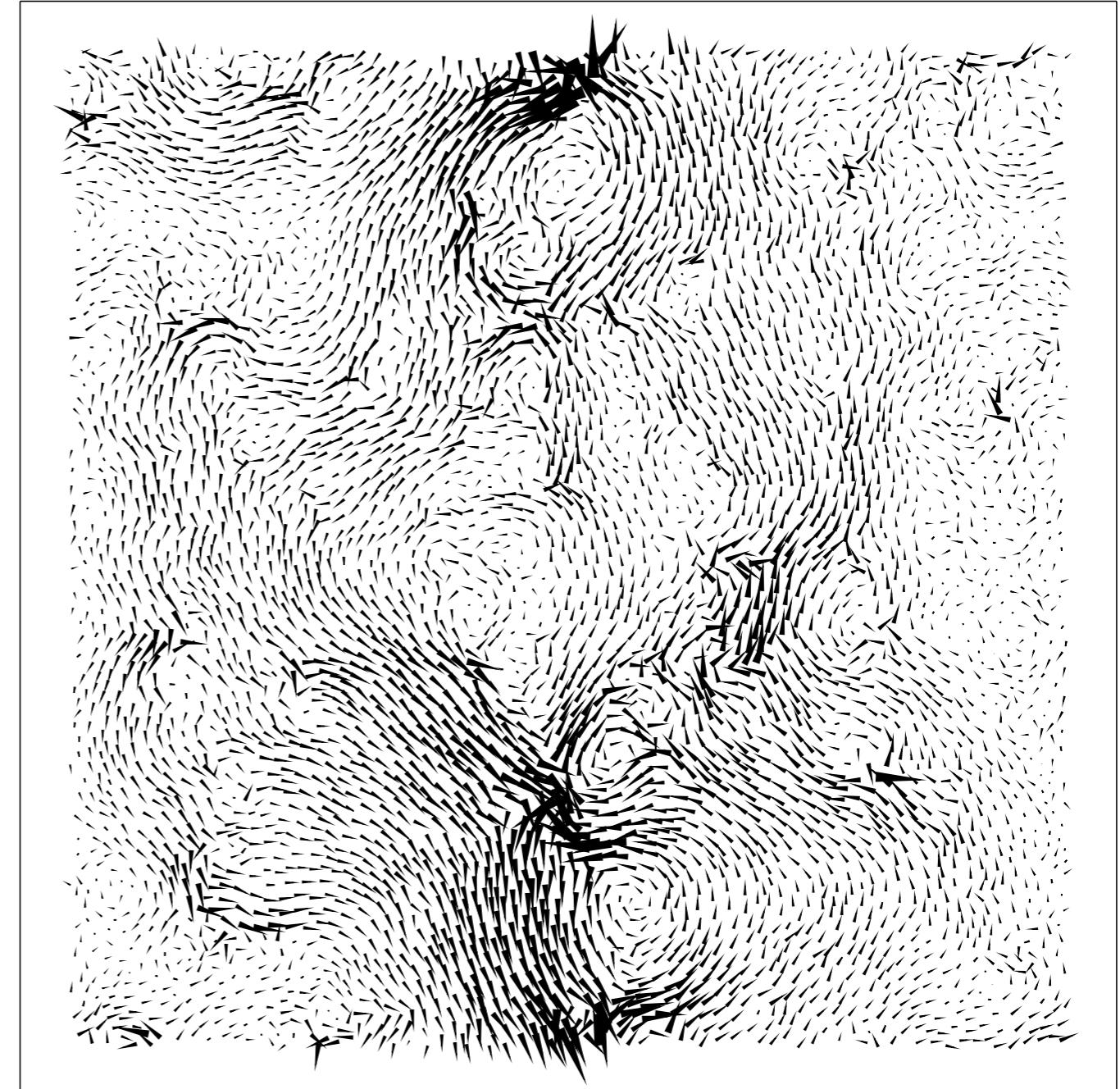
# Computing the response

- Back to full assembly:

$$\vec{dr}_i = \gamma \sum_j \mathbf{H}_{ij}^{-1} \vec{\Xi}_j$$

Force balance:

Affine forces,  $\vec{\Xi}$ , must  
be balanced by  
correction forces,  
 $\mathbf{H}^{-1}{}_{ij} d\mathbf{x}_j$



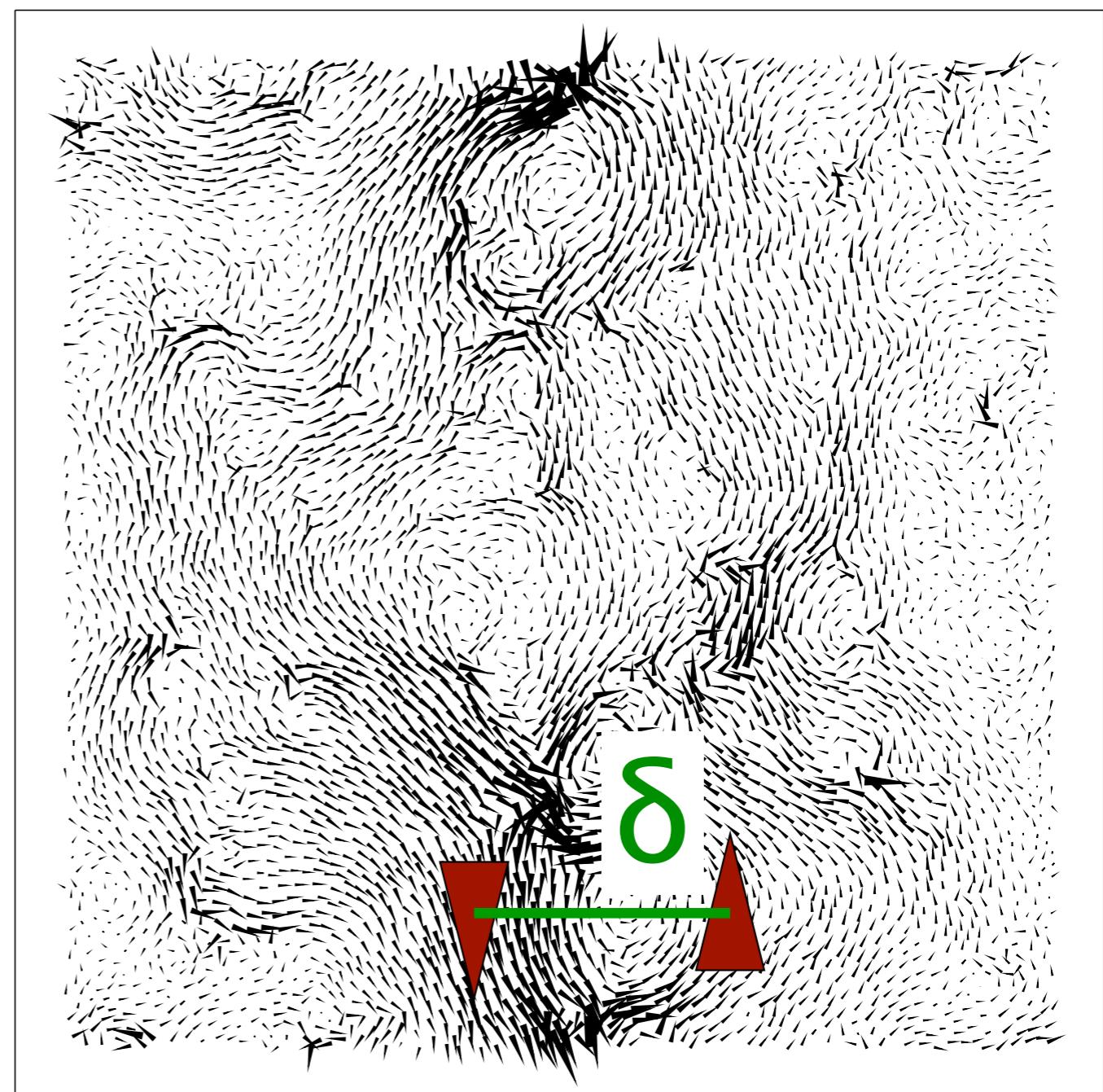
# Outline

- Overview
- Scale free vortices: (CEM [PRL 2006])
  - Autocorrelation  $g(r)$
  - Normal-mode decomposition
- Plastic nucleation
- Outlook

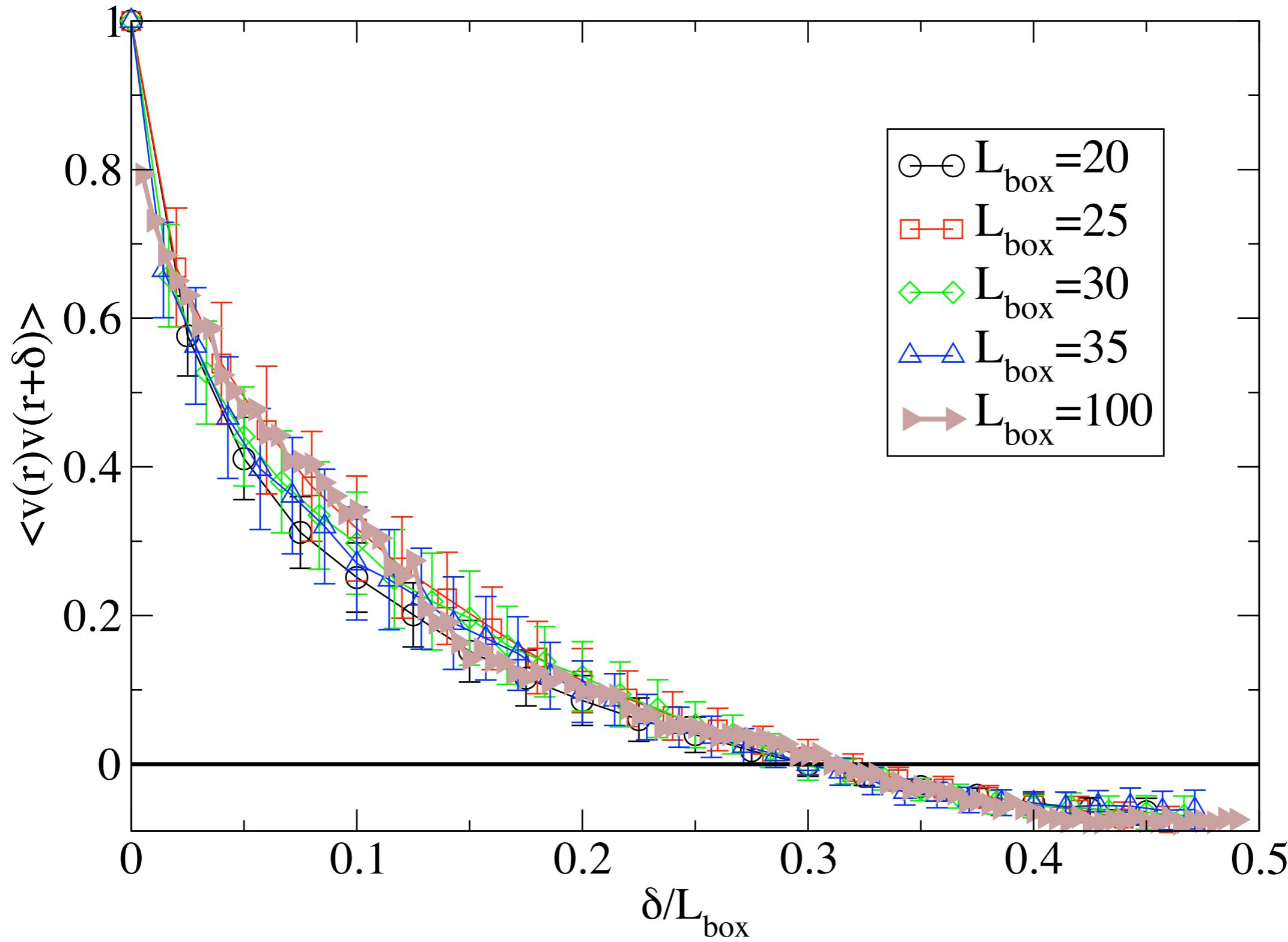
# Autocorrelation, $g(\delta)$

$$g(\vec{\delta}) \doteq \int \vec{v}(\vec{r}) \cdot \vec{v}(\vec{r} + \vec{\delta}) d\vec{r}$$

- Usual autocorrelation
- Measures “vortex size”
- Characteristic length?



# Autocorrelation, $g(\delta)$



# $g(\delta)$ :Theoretical form

Recall:

$$\vec{dr}_i = \gamma \sum_j \mathbf{H}_{ij}^{-1} \vec{\Xi}_j$$

Then:

$$\vec{dr}_i = \gamma \sum_p \left( \frac{\Xi_p}{\lambda_p} \right) \vec{\psi}_{ip}$$

• Note:

- $\Xi_p$  are random
- $\Psi_p$  are plane waves to first order in  $\Xi$

# $g(\delta)$ :Theoretical form

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• Note:

- $\vec{\Xi}_p$  are random
- $\Psi_p$  are plane waves to first order in  $\Xi$

Approximate  $\vec{dr}_i$  as random sum of plane waves:

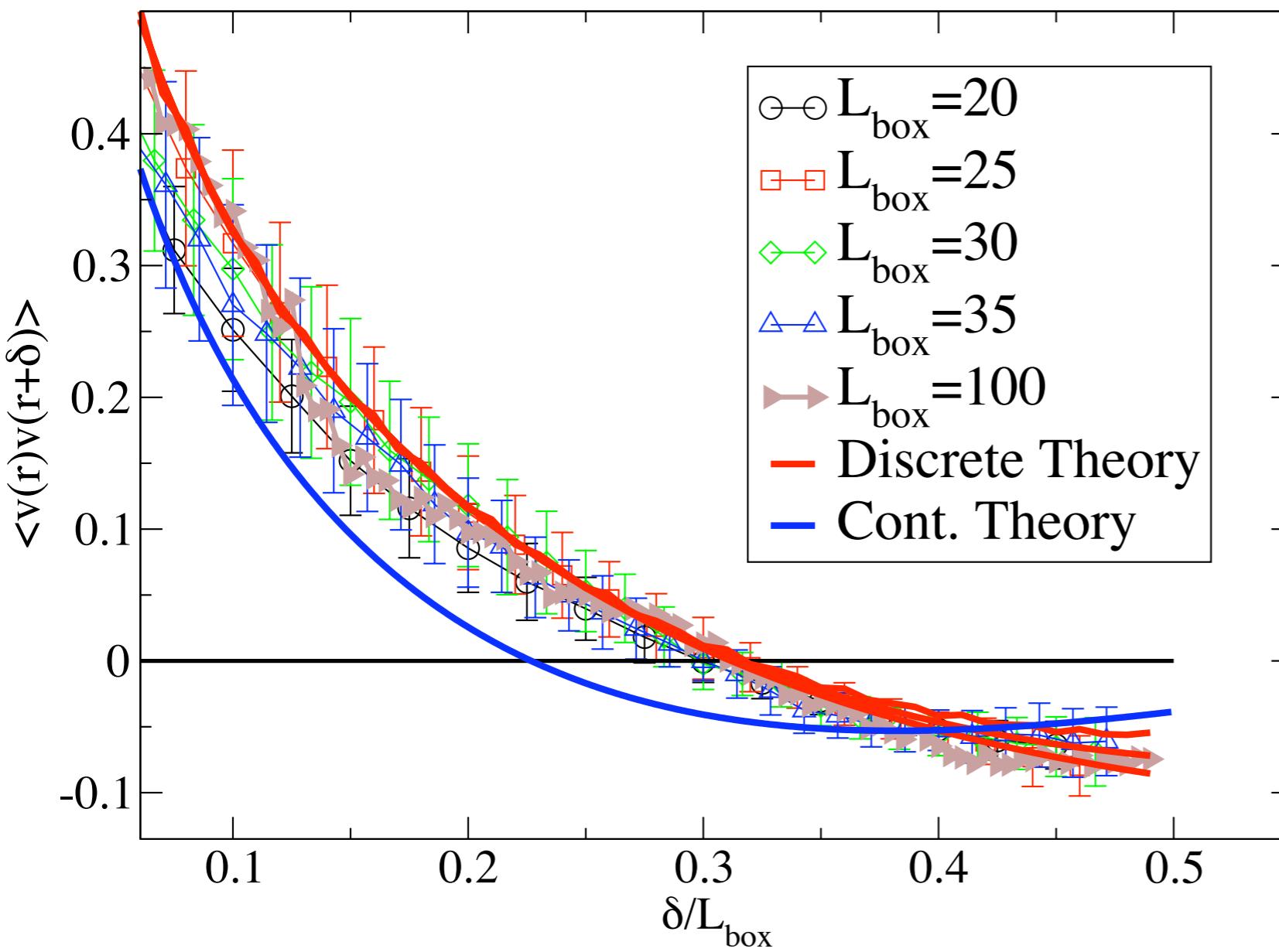
$$\vec{dr}_i \sim \sum_{k=(m,n)} \phi_{mn} \frac{e^{2\pi i \vec{k} \cdot \vec{x}_i / L}}{|\vec{k}|}$$

Then  $g(\delta)$  is:

$$g(\vec{\delta}) \sim \sum_{k=(m,n)} \frac{\cos(2\pi \vec{k} \cdot \vec{\delta} / L)}{k^2}$$

# Simulation and Theory

$$g(\vec{\delta}) \sim \sum_{k=(m,n)} \frac{\cos(2\pi \vec{k} \cdot \vec{\delta}/L)}{k^2}$$



Similar to DiDonna  
+Lubensky,

- $g(k) \sim 1/k^2$

but:

- Fully discrete derivation

Blue curve:  
Semi-continuum

Red curve(s):  
Partial sum ( $n=40$ )  
3 different angles

# Outlook

## Summary:

- Displacement field from random forces on a homogeneous sheet.
- Predicts “vortex length”  $\sim .32 L_{\text{box}}$
- No length scale comes out of data or theory.

## Future Direction:

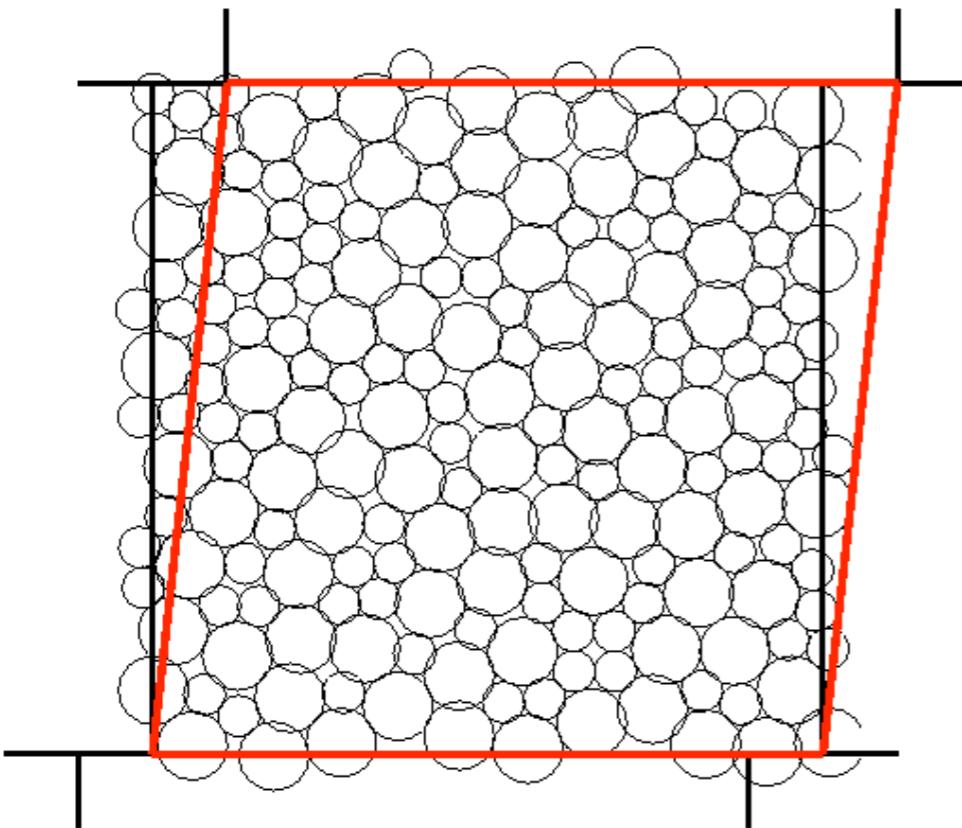
- When does the assumption of uncorrelated  $\Xi$  break down?
- Can this bring out a characteristic length?
- How to make systematic pert. expansion for  $H$ ?

Only if I have time.

# Large Strains

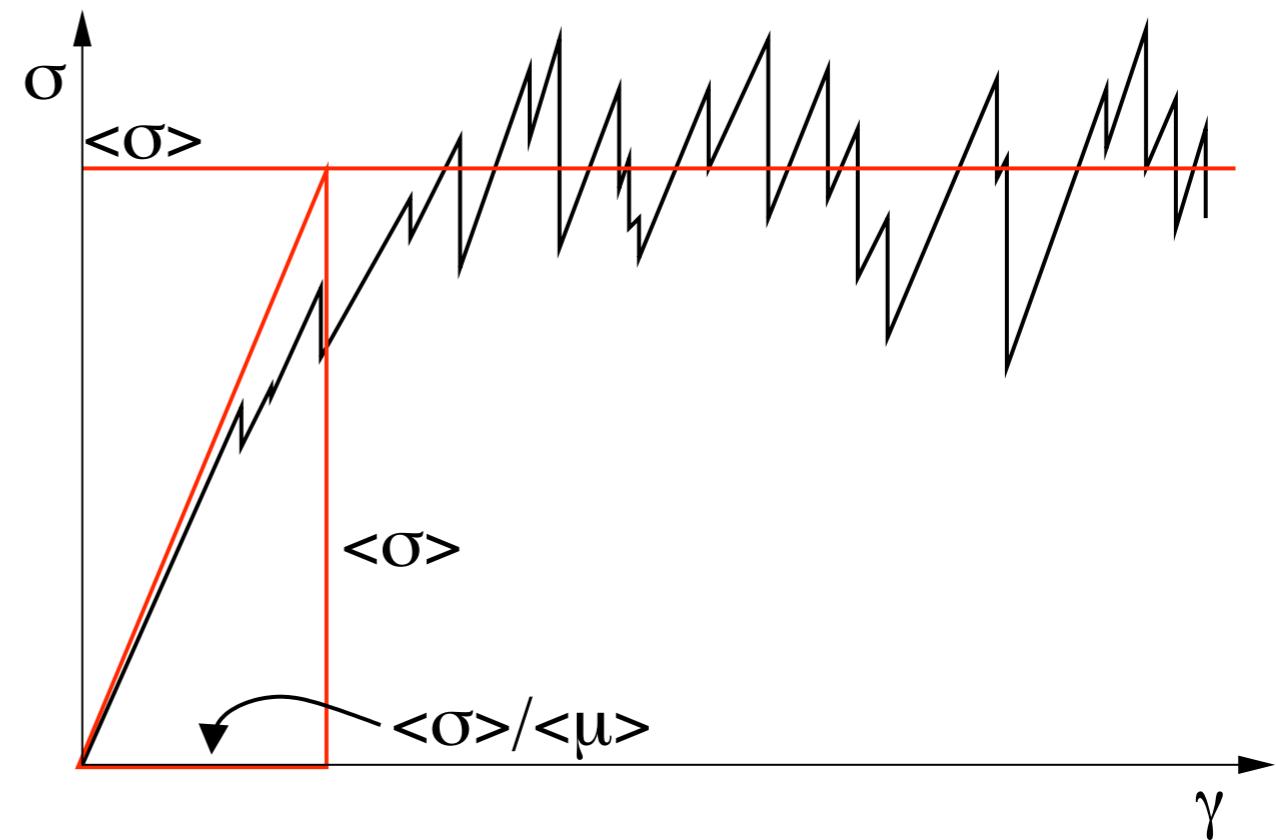
Goal:

- Minimize energy
- Shear system
- Repeat



“Lees-Edwards” Cell

- Procedure is:
  - Athermal, Quasi-static
  - “minimalist”

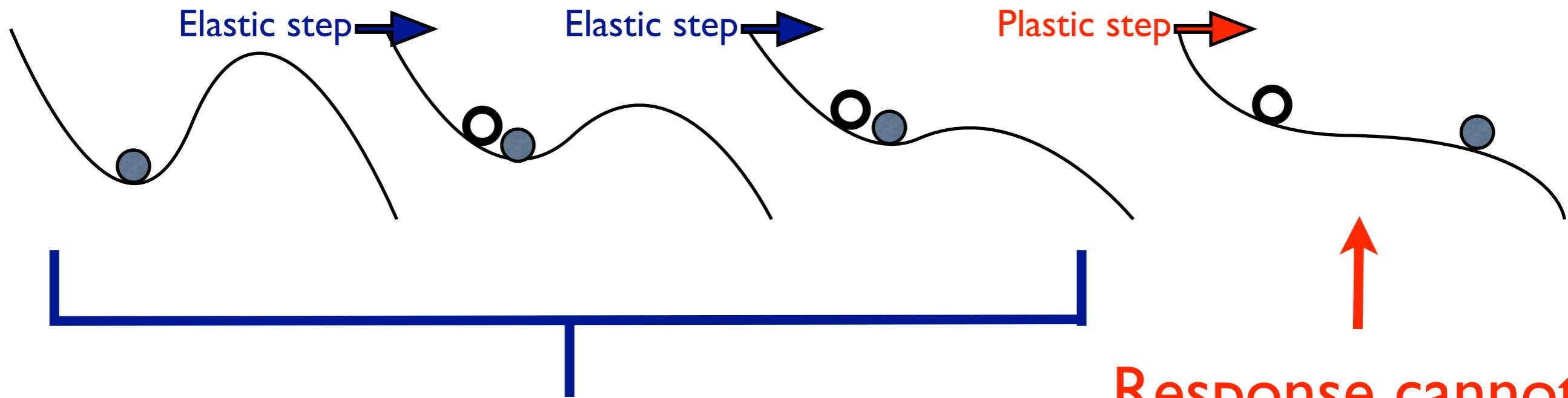


Typical Stress-Strain Curve

# Landscape Perspective

Increasing strain  $\rightarrow$

After Malandro  
and Lacks

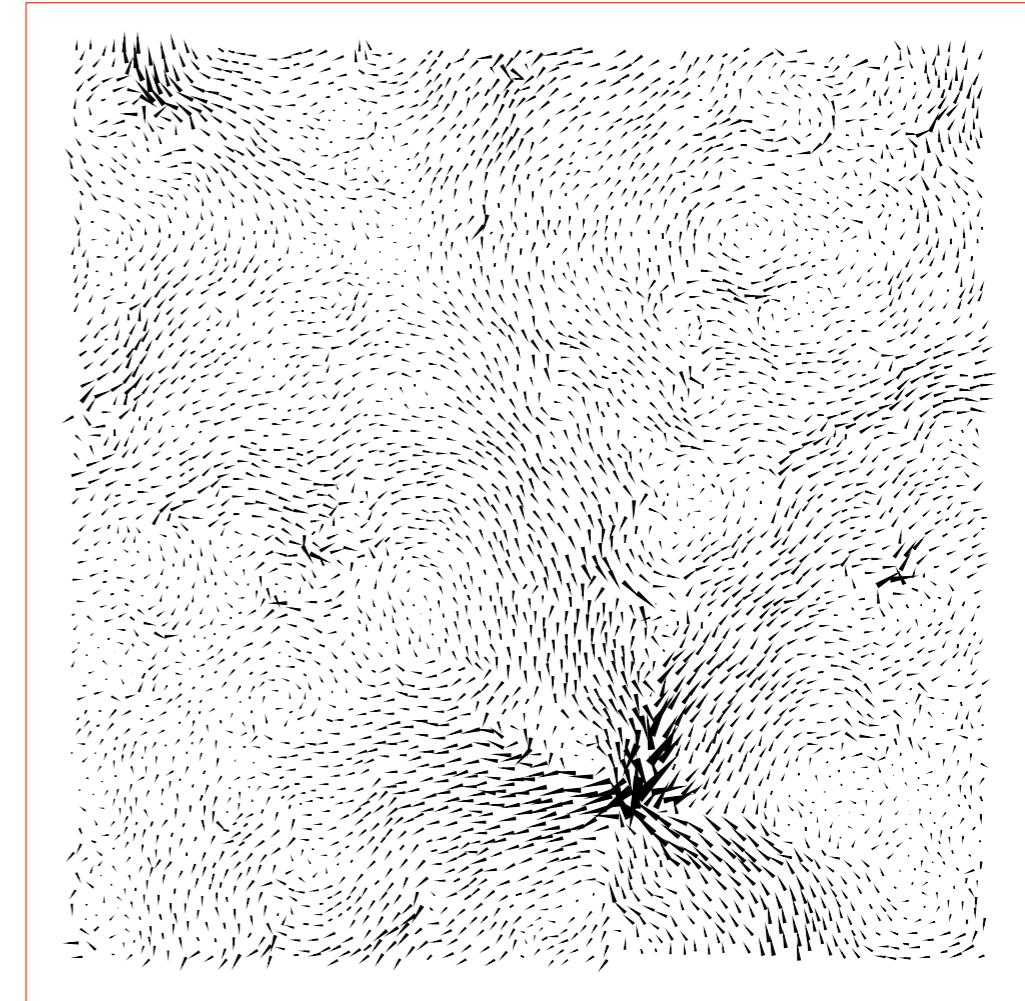
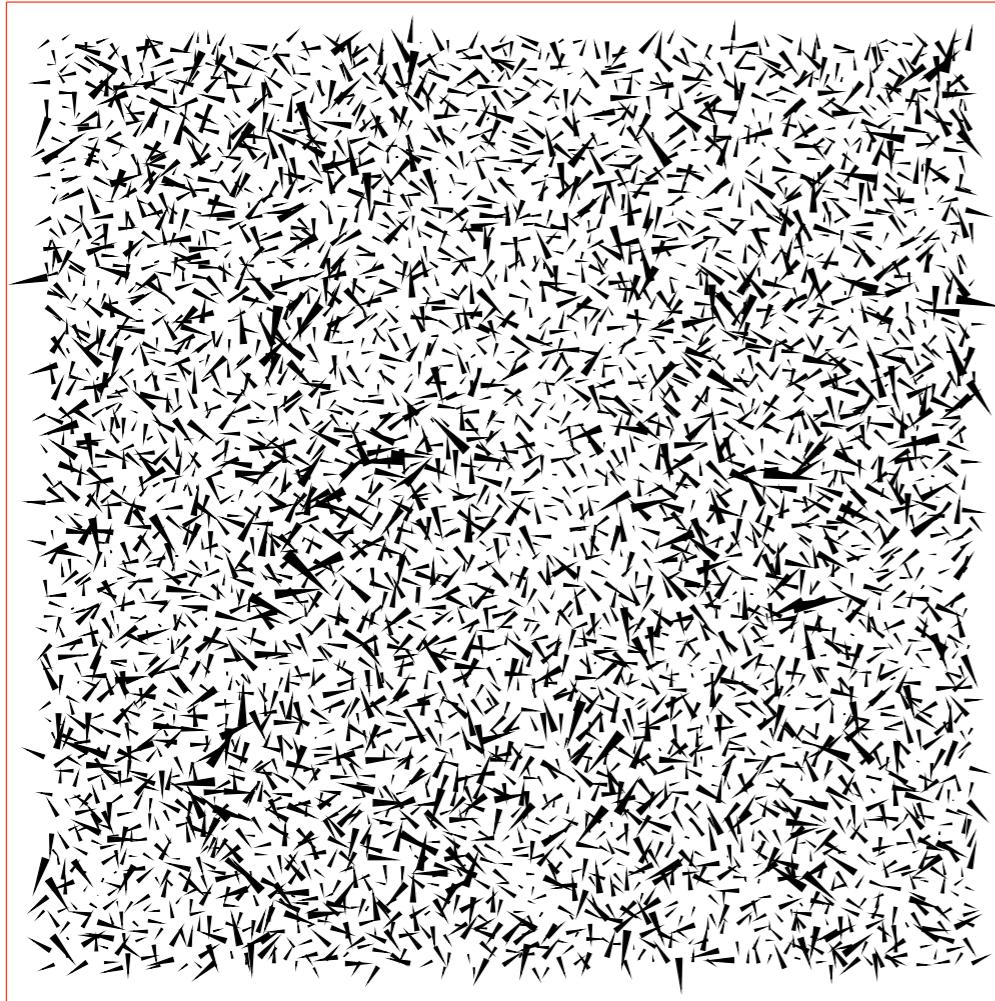


Response can be linearized.  
Deformation is reversible (elastic).

Response cannot  
be linearized.  
Deformation is  
irreversible  
(plastic).

$$\text{Recall: } \vec{dr}_i = \gamma \sum_j H_{ij}^{-1} \vec{\Sigma}_j$$

# Singular Mode



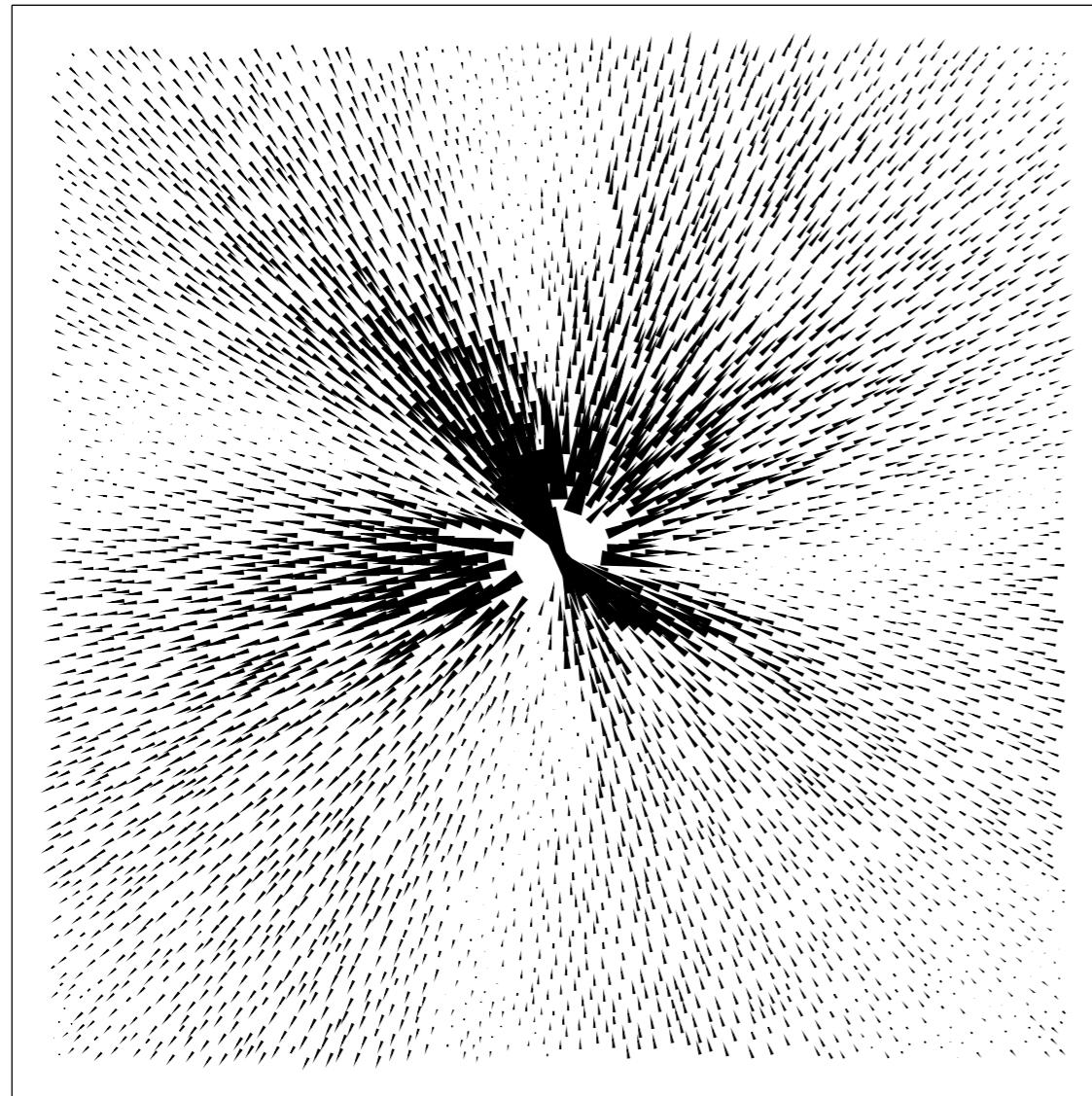
$\Xi$

$d\mathbf{r}$

Plastic nucleation is intrinsically non-local!  
Cannot be detected via  $\Xi$ !

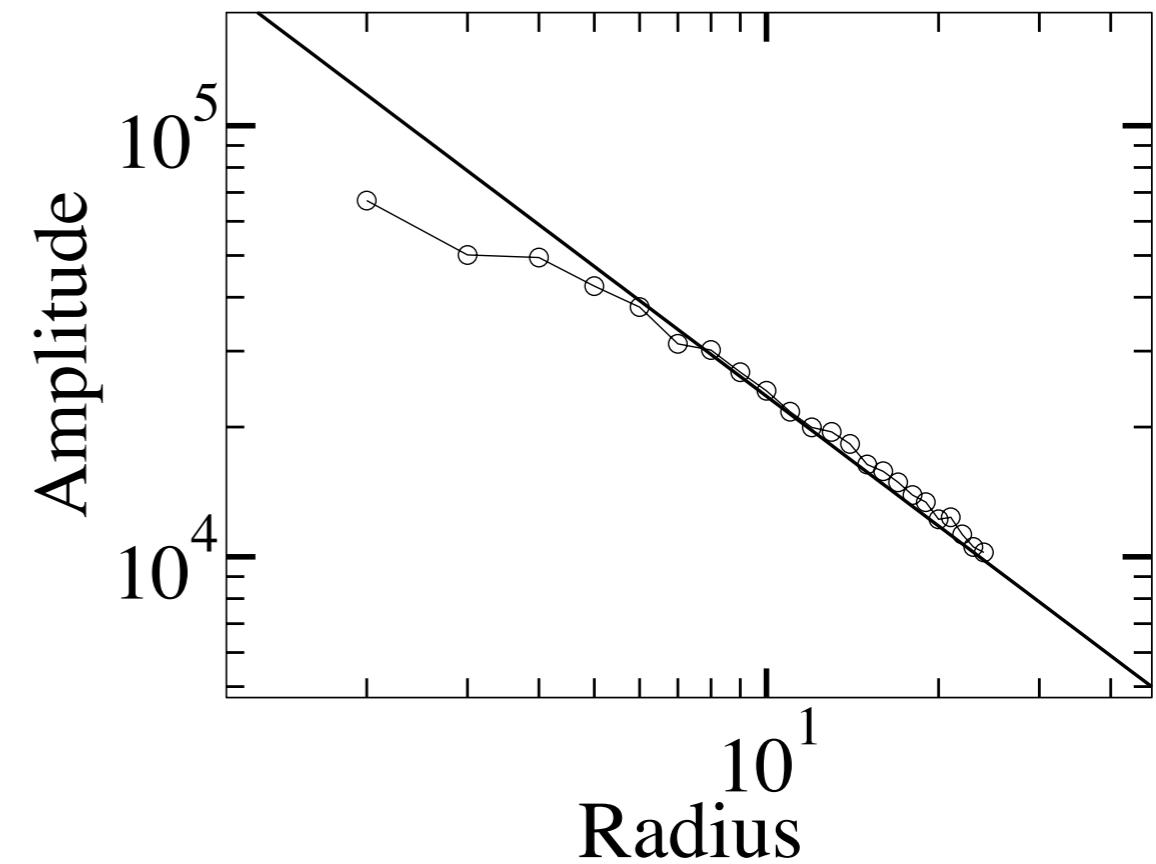
# Singular Mode

Can critical mode be rationalized elastically?



Lamé-Navier predicts, for quadrupoles:

$$v_r(r) = \frac{2A}{r^3} + \frac{(1+\kappa)B}{r}$$



# Outlook

## Summary:

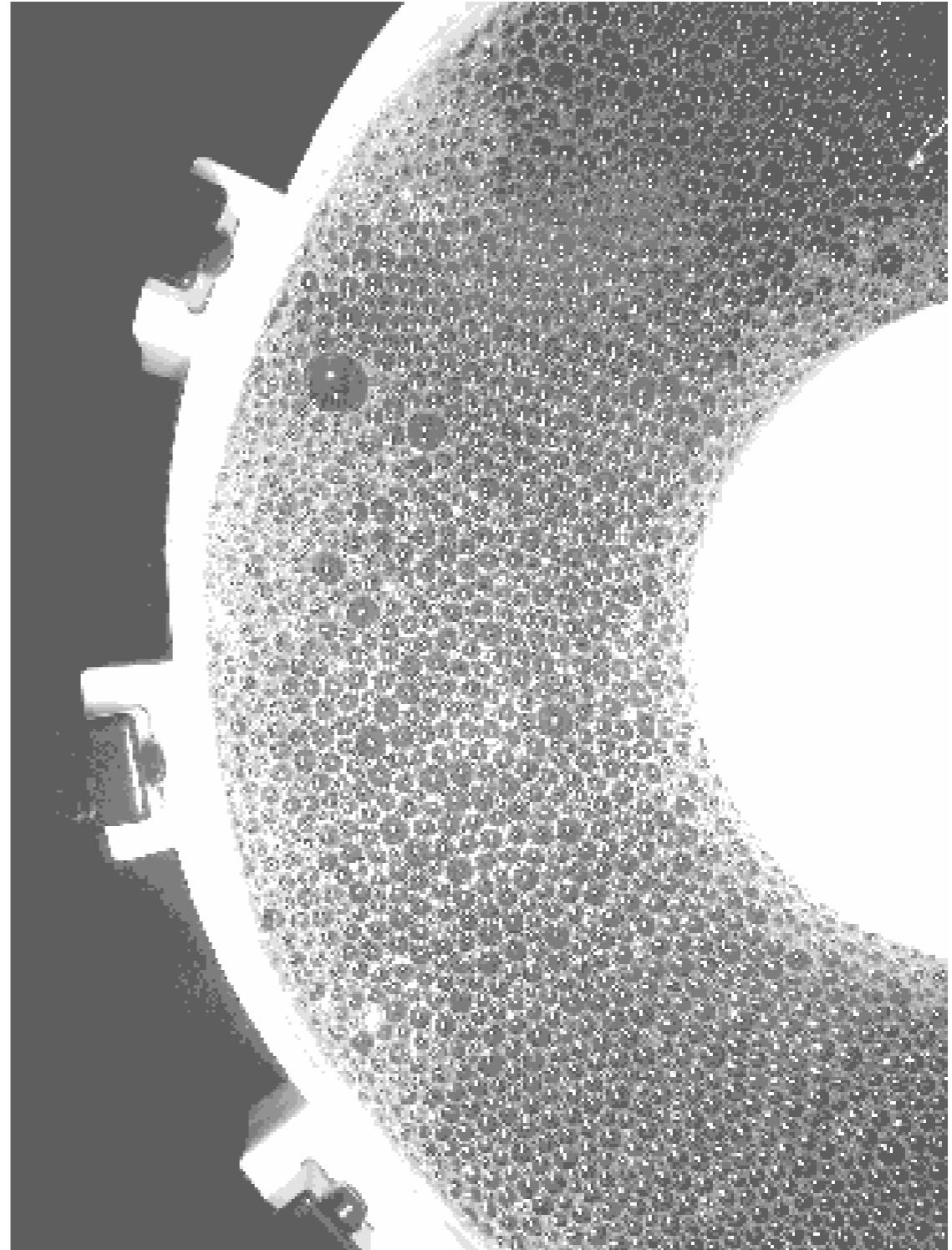
- Diverging elastic displacement triggers plastic nucleation
- Onset of plasticity is NOT detectable via the local quantities ( $\sigma, \Xi, \mu_{\text{Born}}$ , etc)

## Future Direction:

- Can a critical “core” region be defined?
- How might these core regions affect the non-critical elastic behavior?

# Jammed Systems

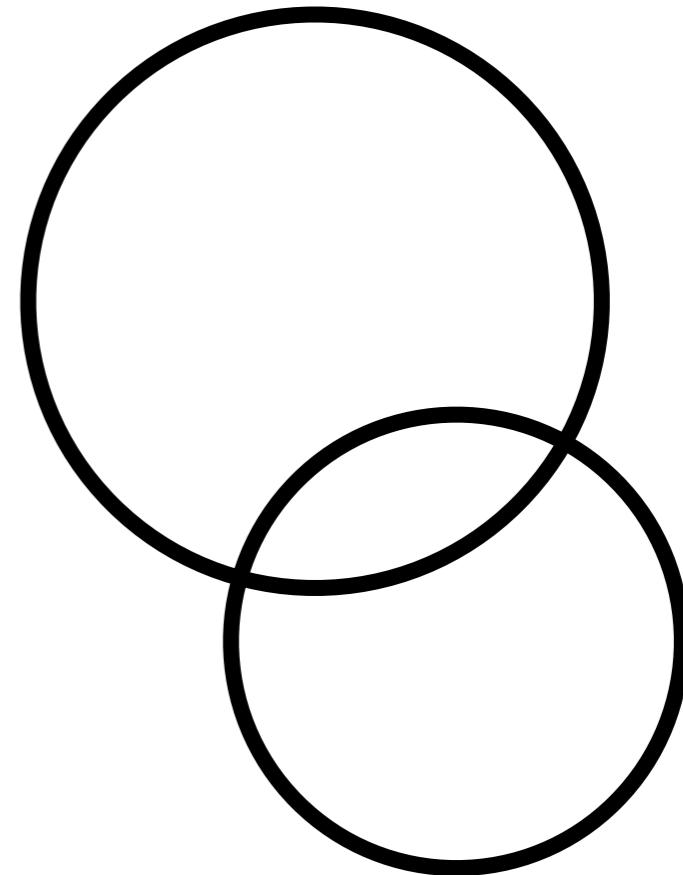
- **Examples:**
  - Bubbles/Emulsions
  - Grains
  - Glasses
- **Non examples:**
  - Suspensions / **Rigid** Grains
- **Differences:**
  - Inertia/Temp/Dissipation
- **Similarity:**
  - Geometry!
- **Issues:**
  - Characterizing disorder
  - Elasticity / Vibrations
  - Plasticity / Yielding



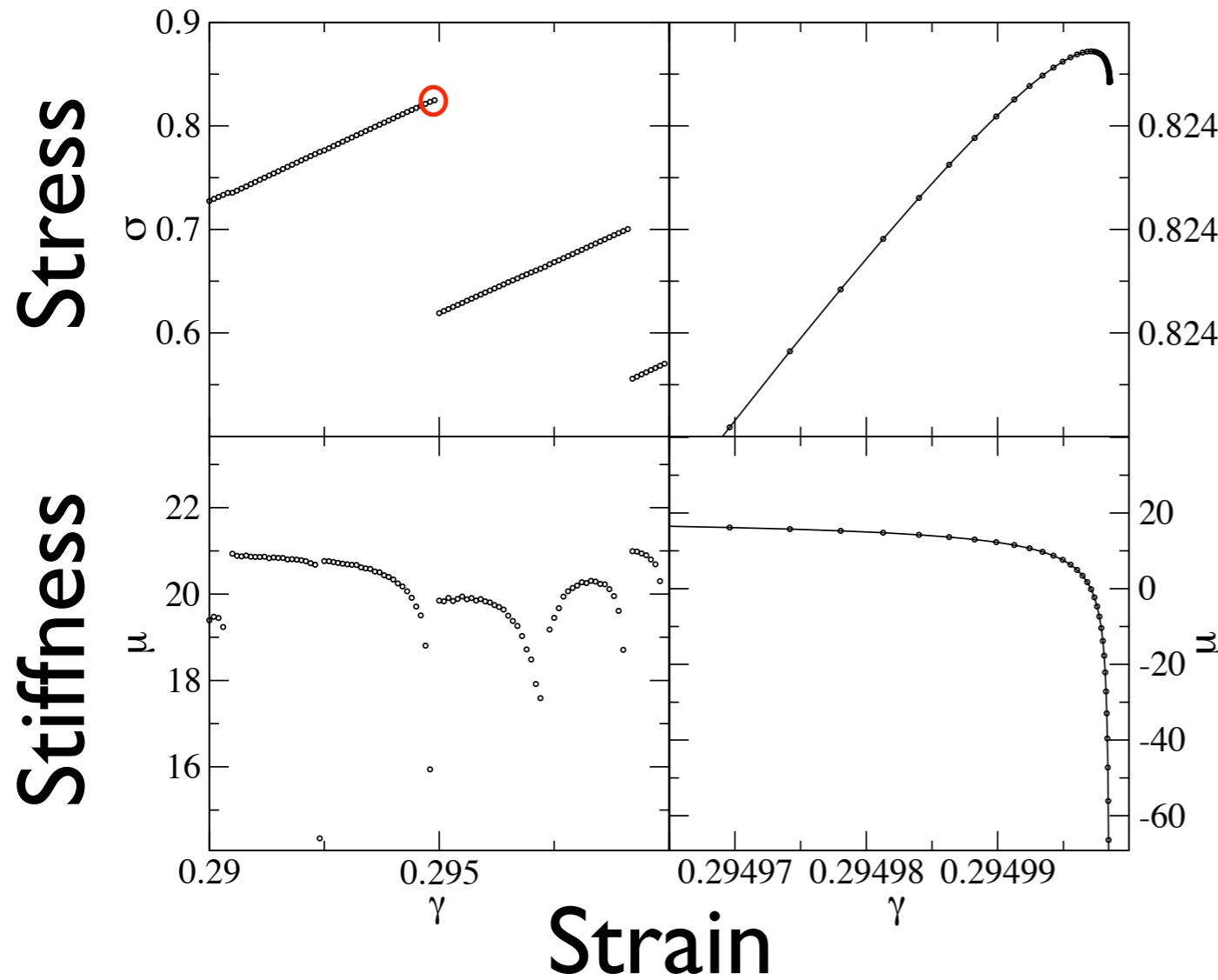
From (M Dennin)

# Numerical protocol

- All results for 2D
- Binary mixtures to prevent crystallization
- Interactions:
  - Harmonic contact repulsion
  - Standard Lennard-Jones 6-12
- Preparation: “violent” quench from initial random state.



# Approach to Singularity



Initiation of single  
plastic event

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d\sigma}{d\gamma} &= \frac{\partial\sigma}{\partial\gamma} + \sum_i \frac{\partial\sigma}{\partial r_{i\alpha}} \frac{dr_{i\alpha}}{d\gamma} \\ &= \frac{\partial\sigma}{\partial\gamma} - \sum_{ij} \Xi_{i\alpha} H_{i\alpha j\beta}^{-1} \Xi_{j\beta} \\ &= \frac{\partial\sigma}{\partial\gamma} - \sum_p \frac{\Xi_p^2}{\lambda_p}\end{aligned}$$

Catastrophe  
Theory:

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda_0 &\sim \sqrt{\delta\gamma} \\ \mu &\sim -(\delta\gamma)^{-1/2}\end{aligned}$$