

# Linking local structure and mechanics in quiescent and sheared glasses

**Tanniemola Liverpool**  
**School of Mathematics, Bristol**



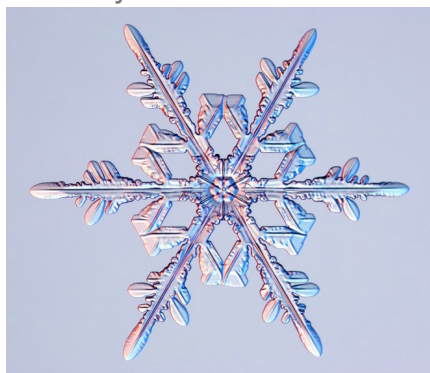
*KITP, Santa Barbara, march 2017*

# Linking local structure and mechanics in quiescent and sheared supercooled liquids

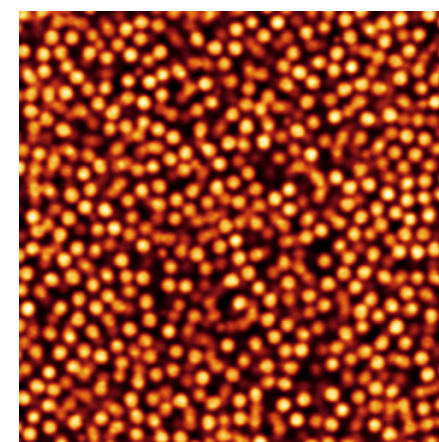
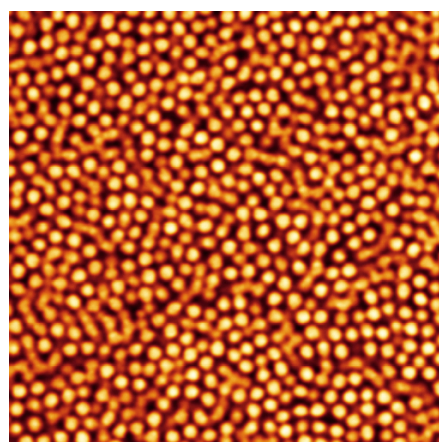
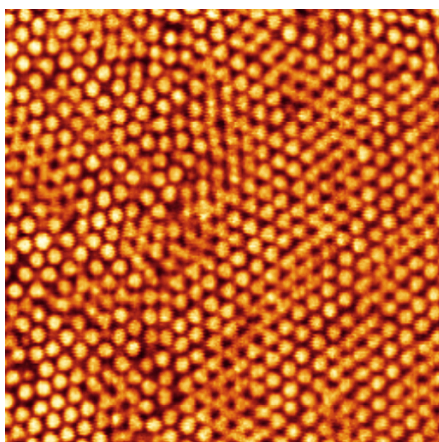
Tanniemola Liverpool



snowcrystals.com



colloid experiment



← rigidity

→ disorder

Crystal

Glass

Liquid

*KITP, Santa Barbara, march 2017*

Royall and coworkers,

# Acknowledgements

Paddy Royall

Rhiannon Pinney

Alex Malins  
Francesco Turci



R. Pinney, T.B. Liverpool & C.P Royall, J. Chem. Phys.**143**, 244507 (2015)

R. Pinney, T.B. Liverpool & C.P Royall, J. Chem. Phys.**145**, 234501. (2016)

R. Pinney, T.B. Liverpool & C.P Royall, Phys. Rev. E, **in press** (2018)

# Plan

1. Glasses & supercooled liquids
2. Identifying locally favoured structures
3. Local structures & relaxation in quiescent systems
4. Steady state shear behaviour
5. Transients in sheared systems

# (atomic) glasses : a primer

$\tau_\alpha$  relaxation of density fluctuations

at crystallisation/melting  $\tau_\alpha = \sqrt{ma^2/k_B T_m} \sim \text{ps}$

quench -> supercooling-> =glass when  $\tau_\alpha \geq \tau_{glass} \approx 100 \text{ s}$

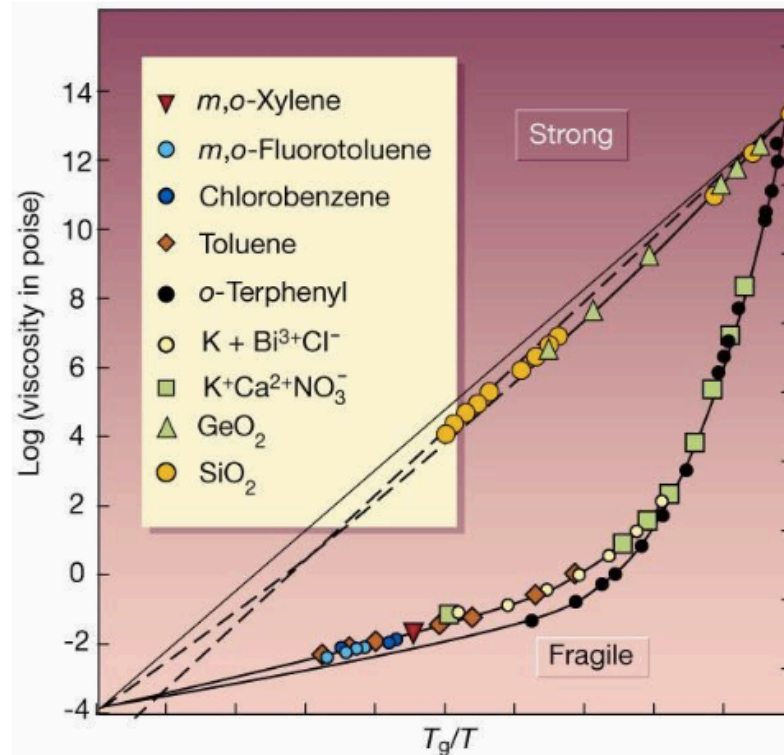
Maxwell model -> viscosity  $\eta = G_\infty \tau_\alpha$

at crystallisation/melting  $\eta \sim 10^{-1} \text{ Poise}$

=glass when viscosity  $\eta \geq \eta_{glass} \approx 10^{13} \text{ Poise}$

14 orders of magnitude increase

# strong v fragile



$$\tau_\alpha = \tau_0 e^{E/k_B T}$$

arrhenius  
energy barriers, E

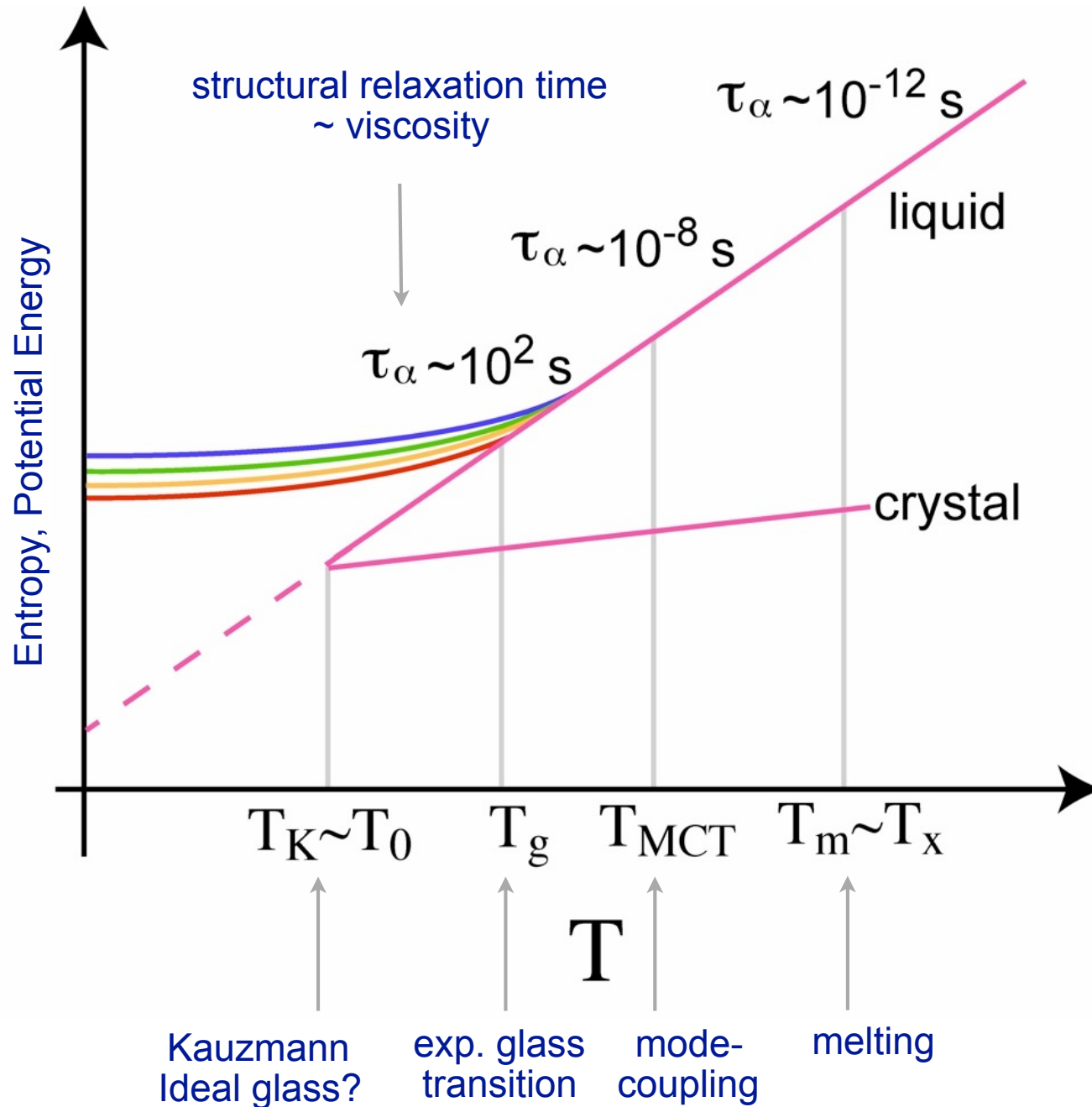
E indep. T

super-arrhenius

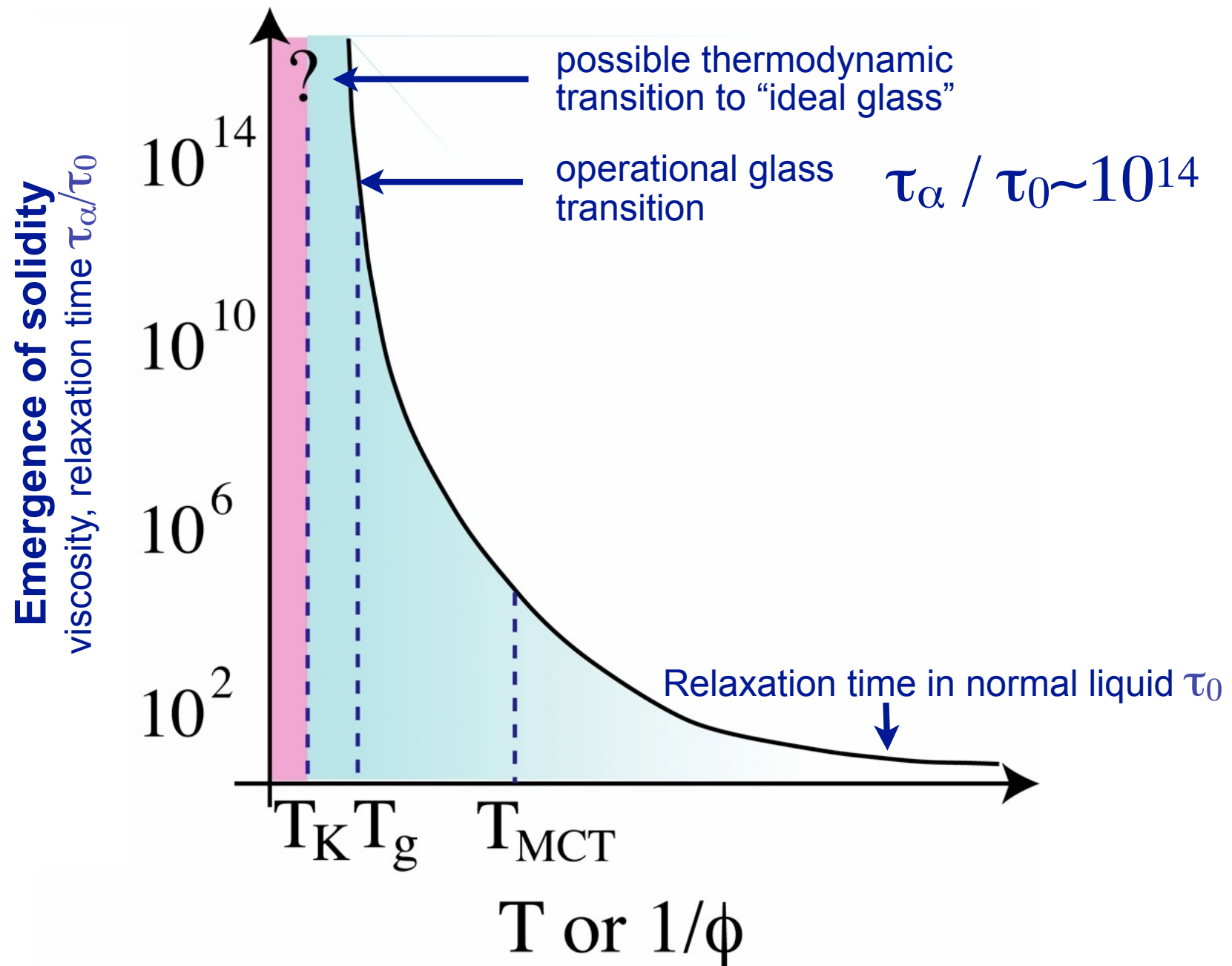
E ↗ as T ↘

fragile -> complex activation-> collective behaviour

# What do we mean by “ideal glass”?



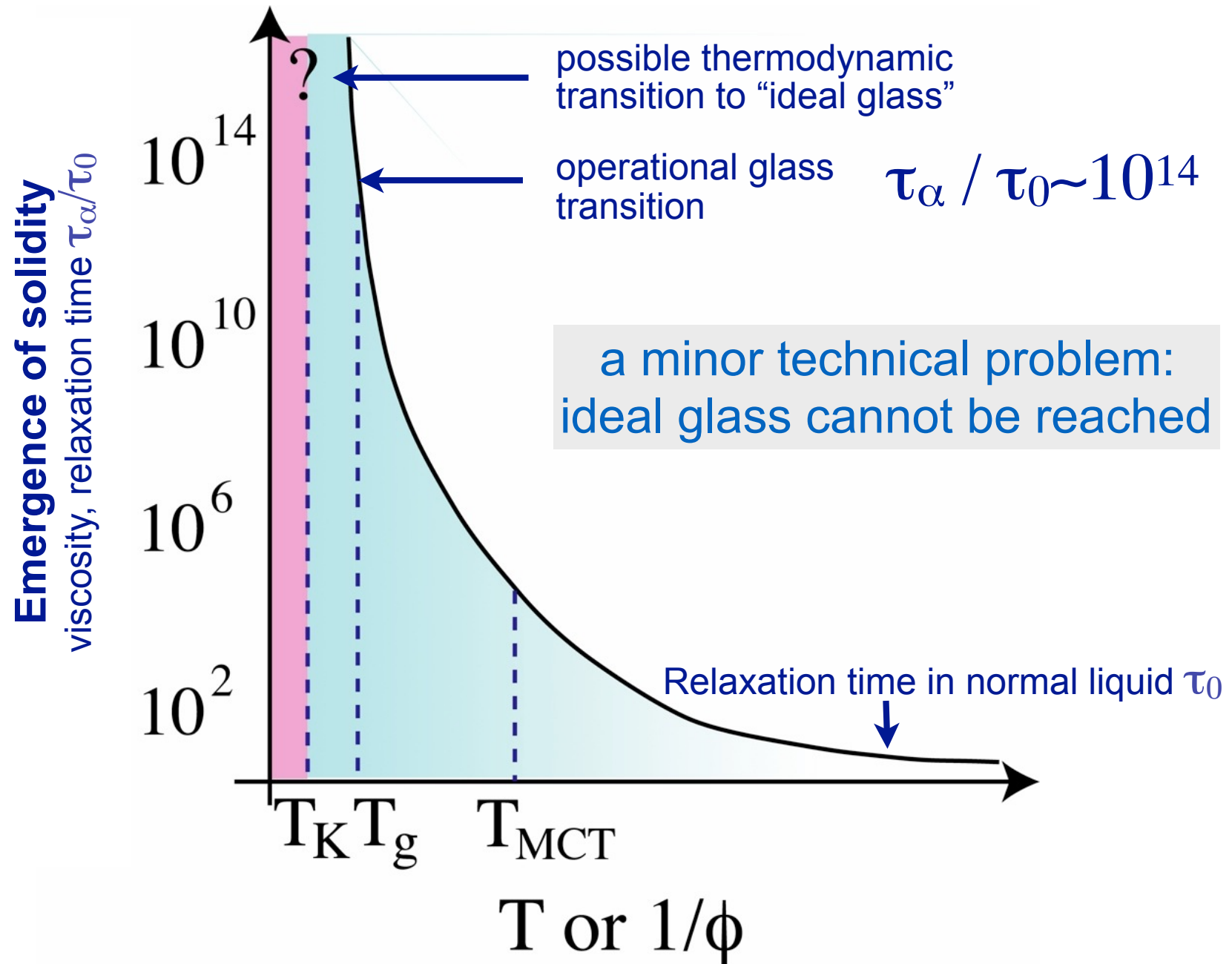
# What do we mean by “ideal glass”?



For colloids packing fraction  $\phi \sim 1/T$



# What do we mean by “ideal glass”?



For colloids packing fraction  $\phi \sim 1/T$

# molecular dynamics

- NVT/NVE simulations  
(equilibration/sampling)
- Nosé-Hoover/Nosé-Poincaré  
thermostat
- Wahnström model

$$\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{T} + \mathcal{V}$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{r}}_i = \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial \mathbf{p}_i}$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{p}}_i = -\frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial \mathbf{r}_i}$$

$$\alpha, \beta \in A, B$$

$$\mathcal{V} = \sum_{i < j, \alpha, \beta} u_{\alpha\beta}(|\mathbf{r}_i^\alpha - \mathbf{r}_j^\beta|) \quad u_{\alpha\beta}(r) = 4\epsilon \left[ \left( \frac{\sigma_{\alpha\beta}}{r} \right)^{12} - \left( \frac{\sigma_{\alpha\beta}}{r} \right)^6 \right]$$

$$\mathcal{T} = \sum_{\alpha, i} \frac{|\mathbf{p}_i^\alpha|^2}{2m_\alpha}$$

$$m_A = 2m_B = m$$

$$\frac{12}{11}\sigma_{AB} = \frac{6}{5}\sigma_{BB} = \sigma_{AA}$$

$$N = 10976, 87808$$

# non-dimensionalisation

Quantity	Conversion
mass	$m^* = m'/m$
length	$r^* = r/\sigma$
density	$\rho^* = \rho\sigma^3$
energy	$E^* = E/\epsilon$
temperature	$T^* = k_B T/\epsilon$
pressure	$P^* = P\sigma^3/\epsilon$
time	$t^* = (\epsilon/m\sigma^2)^{1/2}t$

$0.575 \leq T \leq 2.5$

start FCC at high  $T$  - simulate till random - quench to low  $T$   
-then equilibrate for 500 alpha relaxation times with NVT  
-then generate statistical ensembles from NVE

# intermediate scattering function

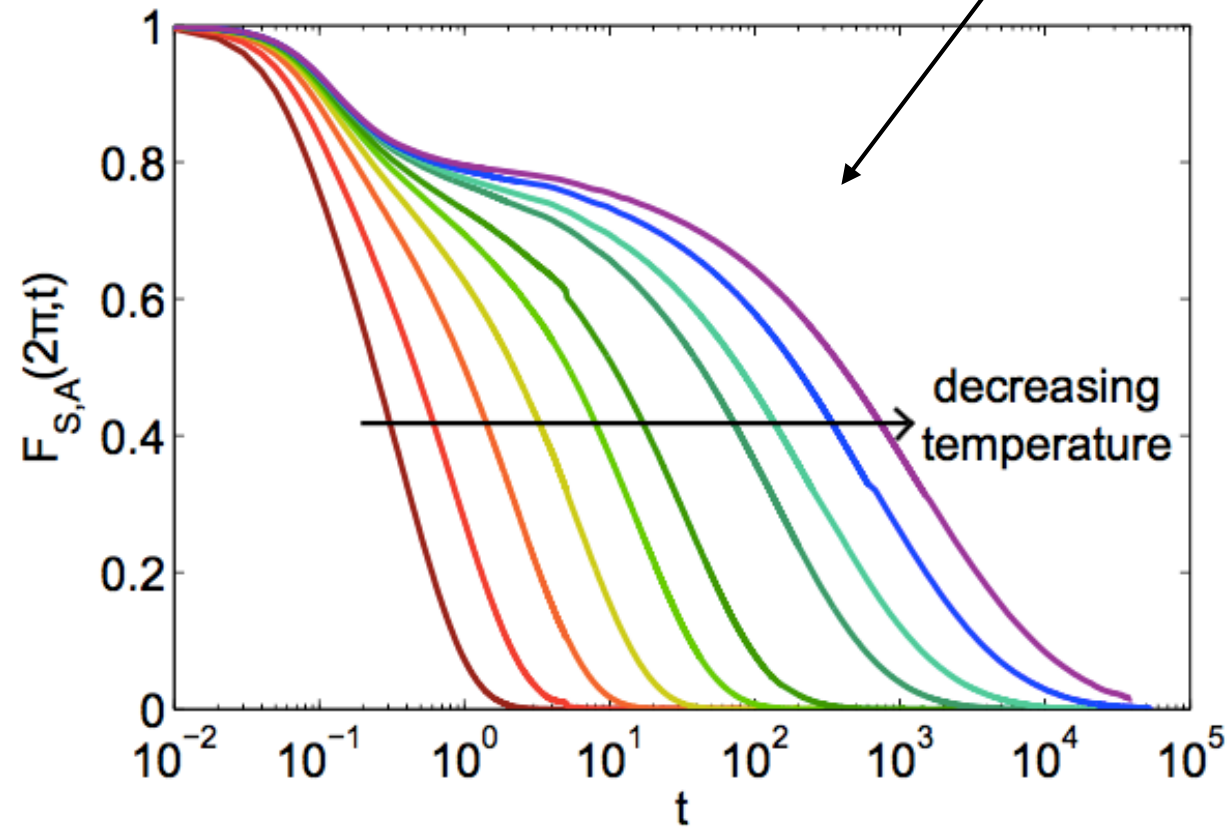
obtaining  $\tau_\alpha$

$$F(\mathbf{q}, t) = \left\langle \frac{1}{N} \rho_{\mathbf{q}}(t) \rho_{-\mathbf{q}}(0) \right\rangle$$

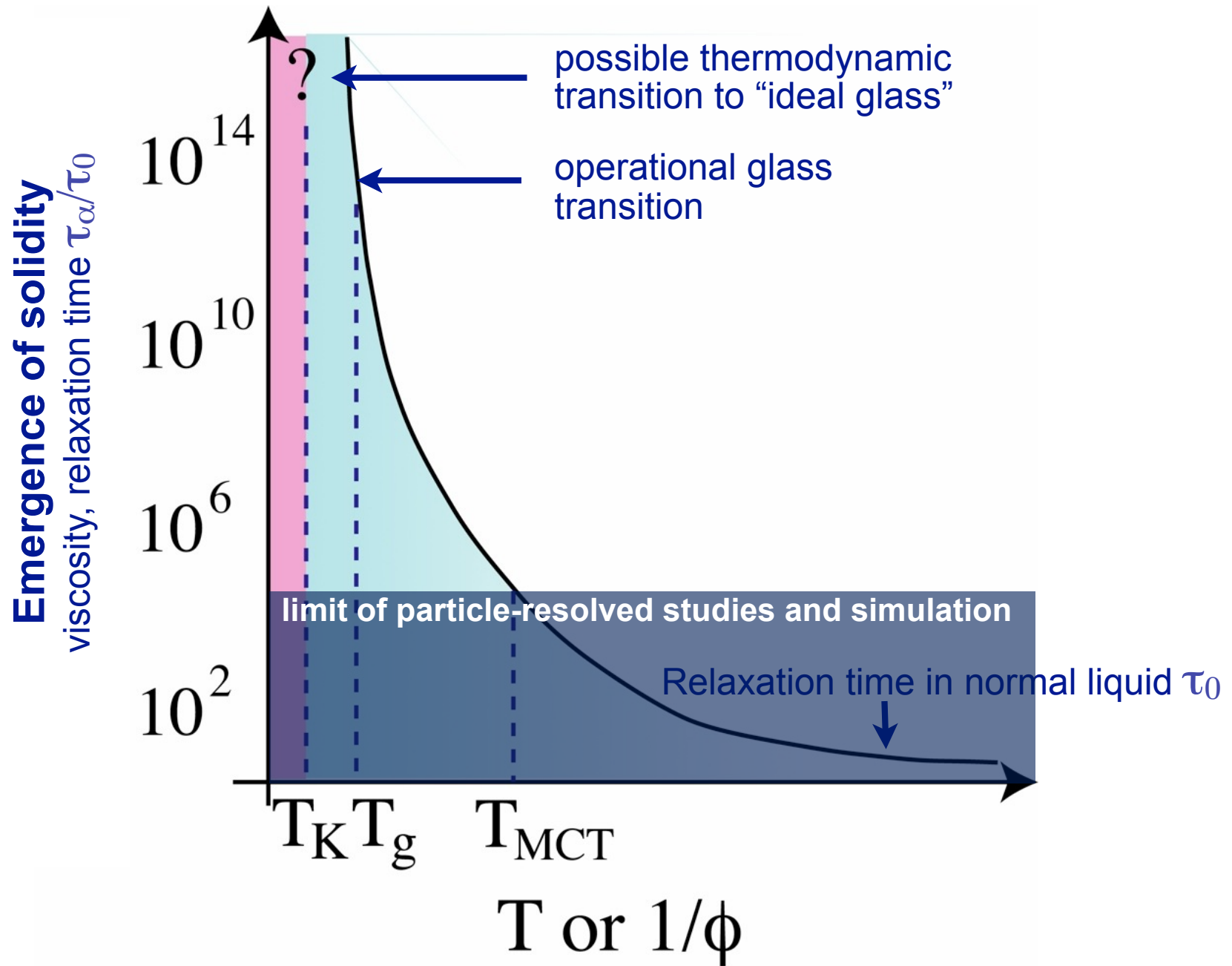
$$\sim e^{-(t/\tau_\alpha)^\beta}$$

$\alpha$ -relaxation

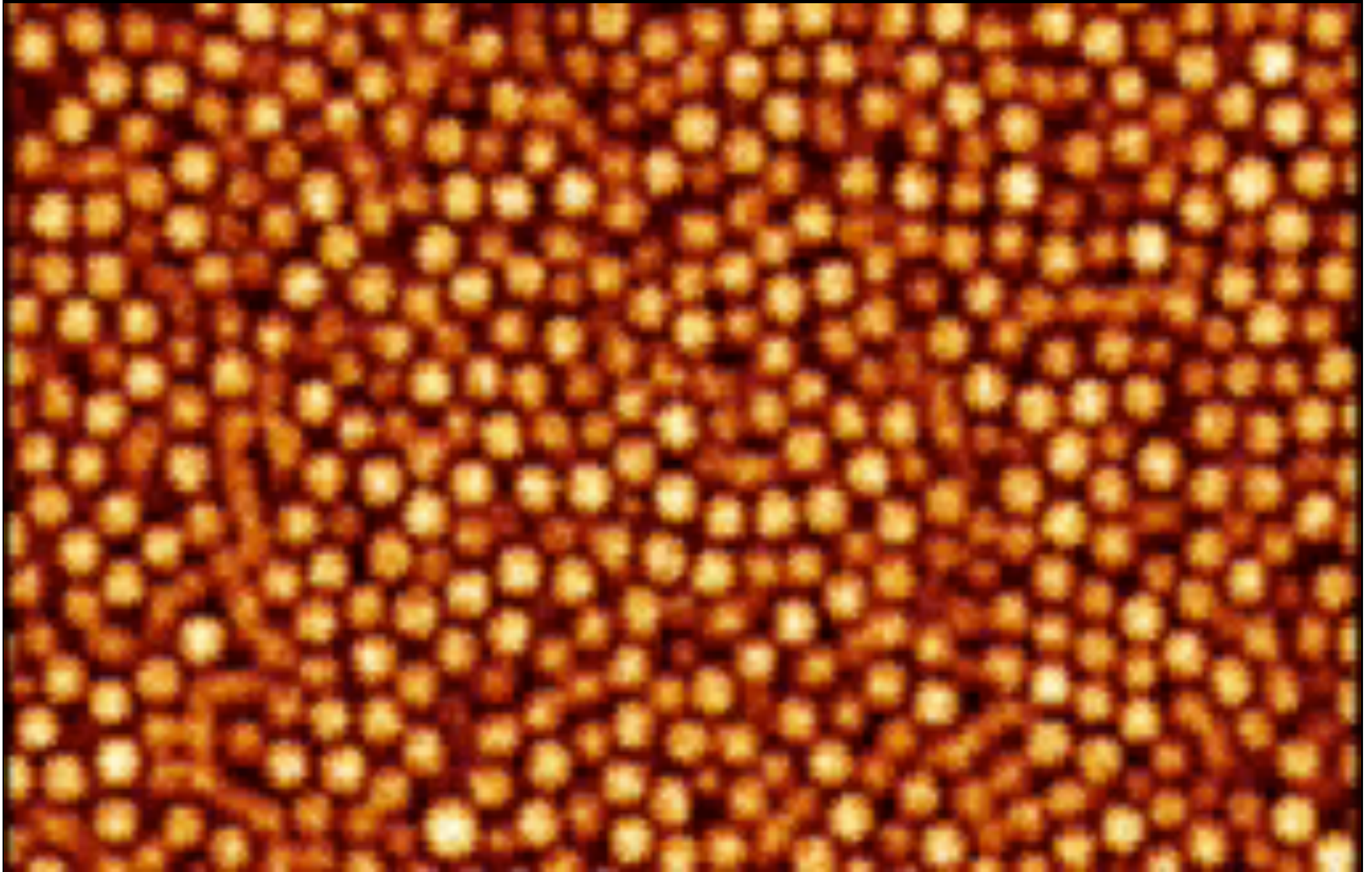
$$\rho_{\mathbf{q}}(t) = \sum_{j=1}^N e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}_j}$$



# How far can we get with Brute force?

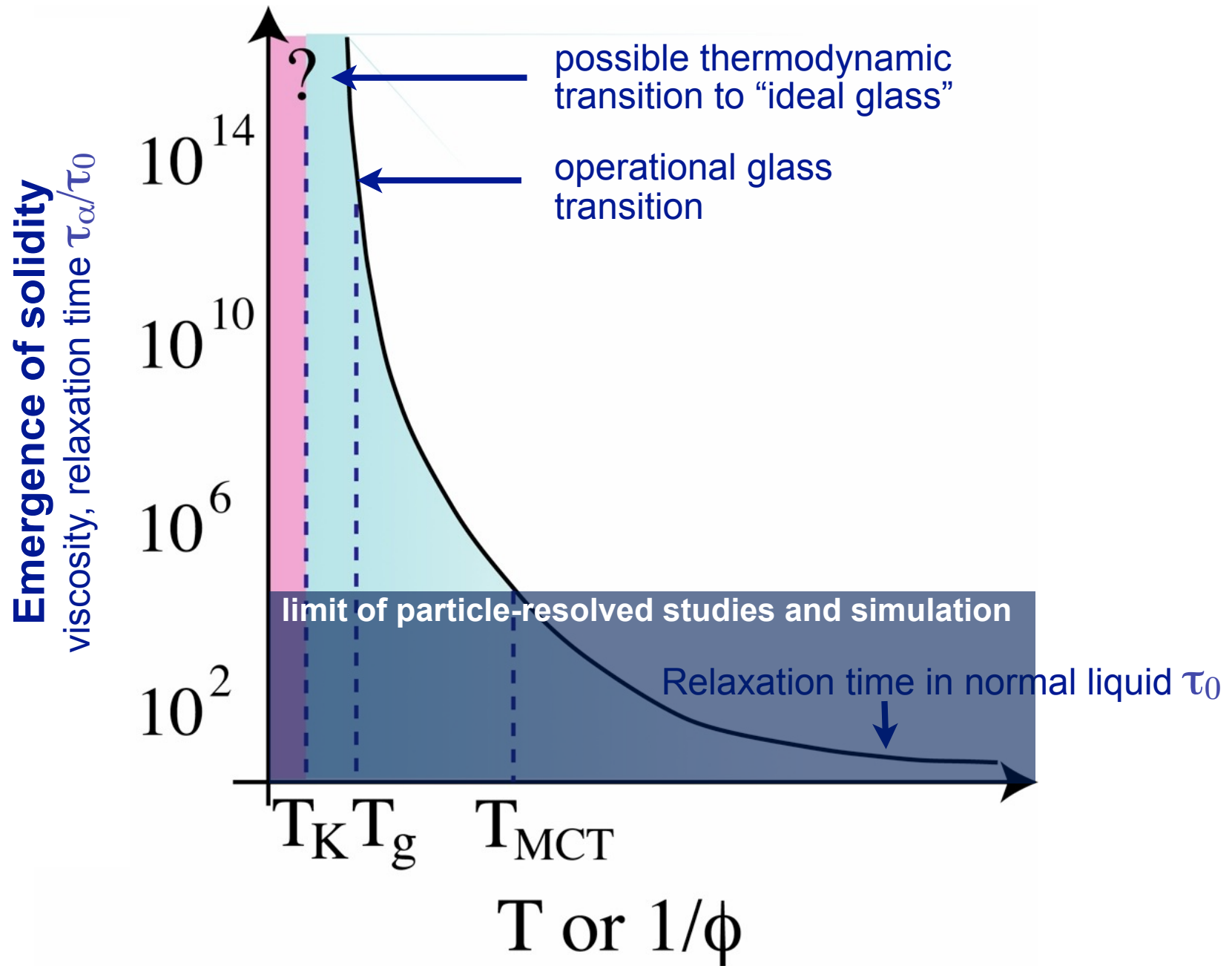


Particle-resolved studies  $\rightarrow$  colloidal particles in microscope



**colloidal supercooled liquid near mode coupling transition**

# How far can we get with Brute force?



Particle-resolved studies  $\rightarrow$  colloidal particles in microscope

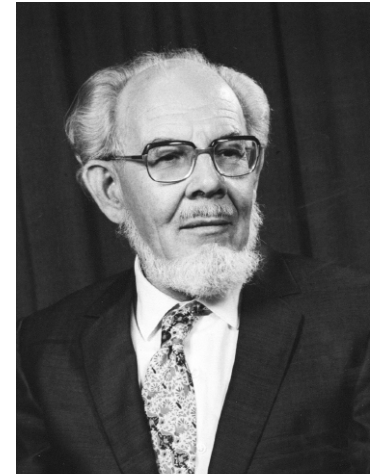
# a long time ago ...

Sir F. Charles Frank

H Wills Professor, Bristol (1954-1998)

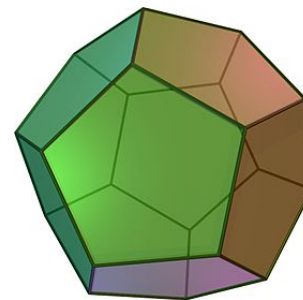
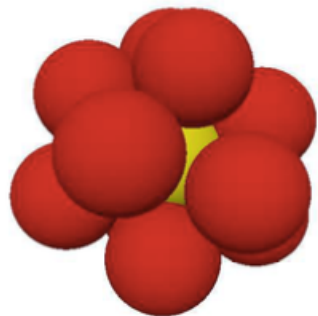
regular icosahedron, five-fold symmetry

Frank, *Proc. R. Soc.* **215** 43 (1952)



*F. C. Frank*

lower minimum energy of 13 LJ particles than FCC/HCP



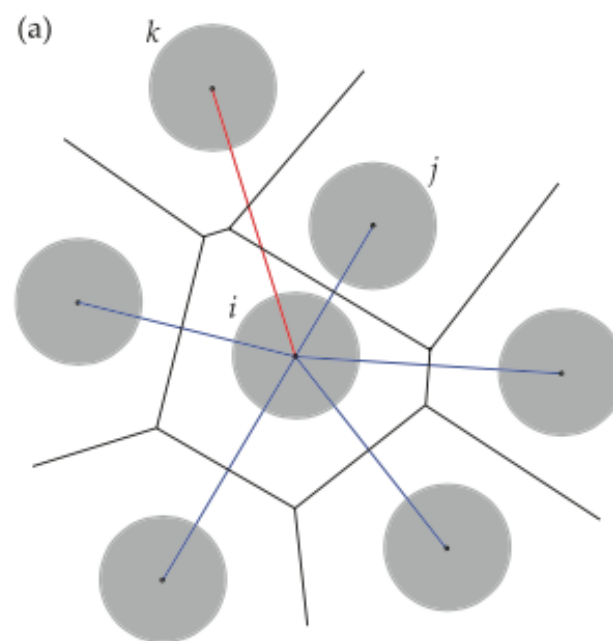
we can look for other minimum energy clusters .....



# Topological Cluster Classification

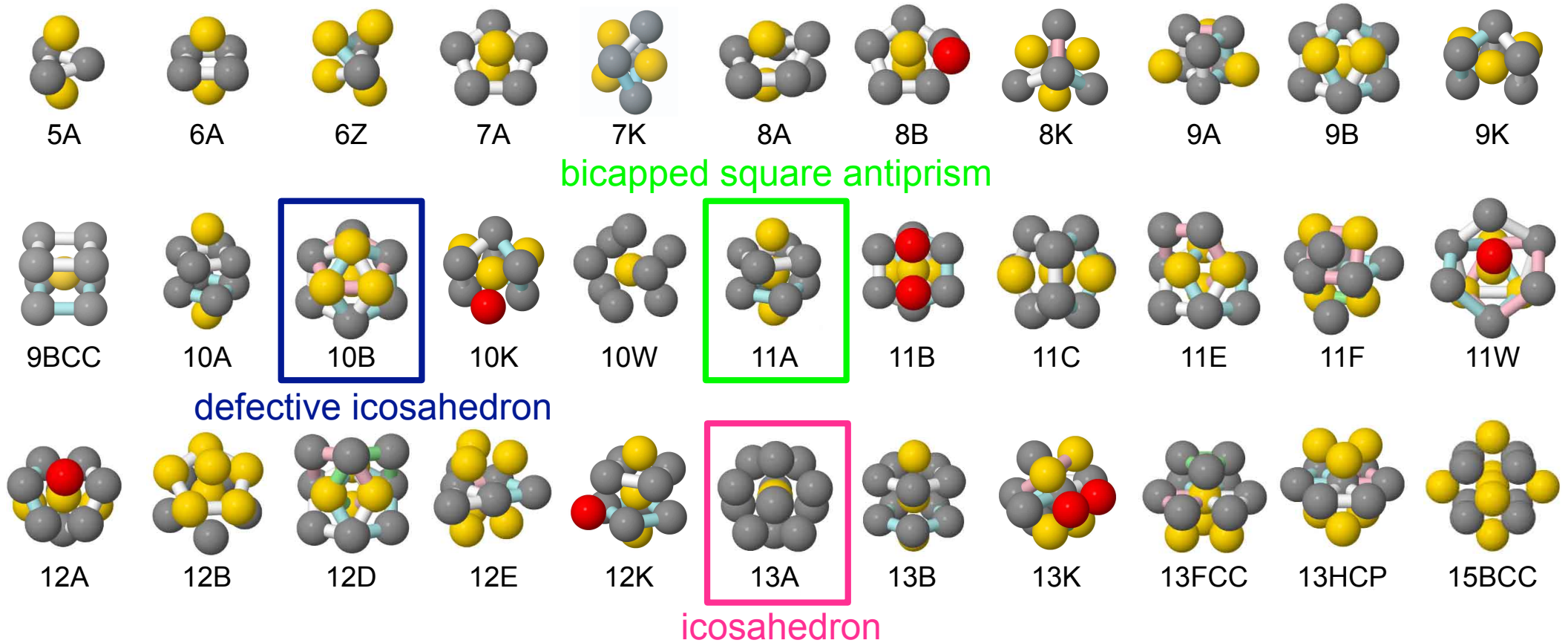
min. energy clusters, voronoi tessellation, neighbours

- (1) cell has all points closer to particle than any other  
-> convex polyhedra
- (2) neighbours if cells share face and line joining centres intersects shared face
- (3) shortest path rings of 3,4 or 5 particles of neighbours.
- (4) build clusters out of shortest rings



# The bottom of the (local) energy landscape

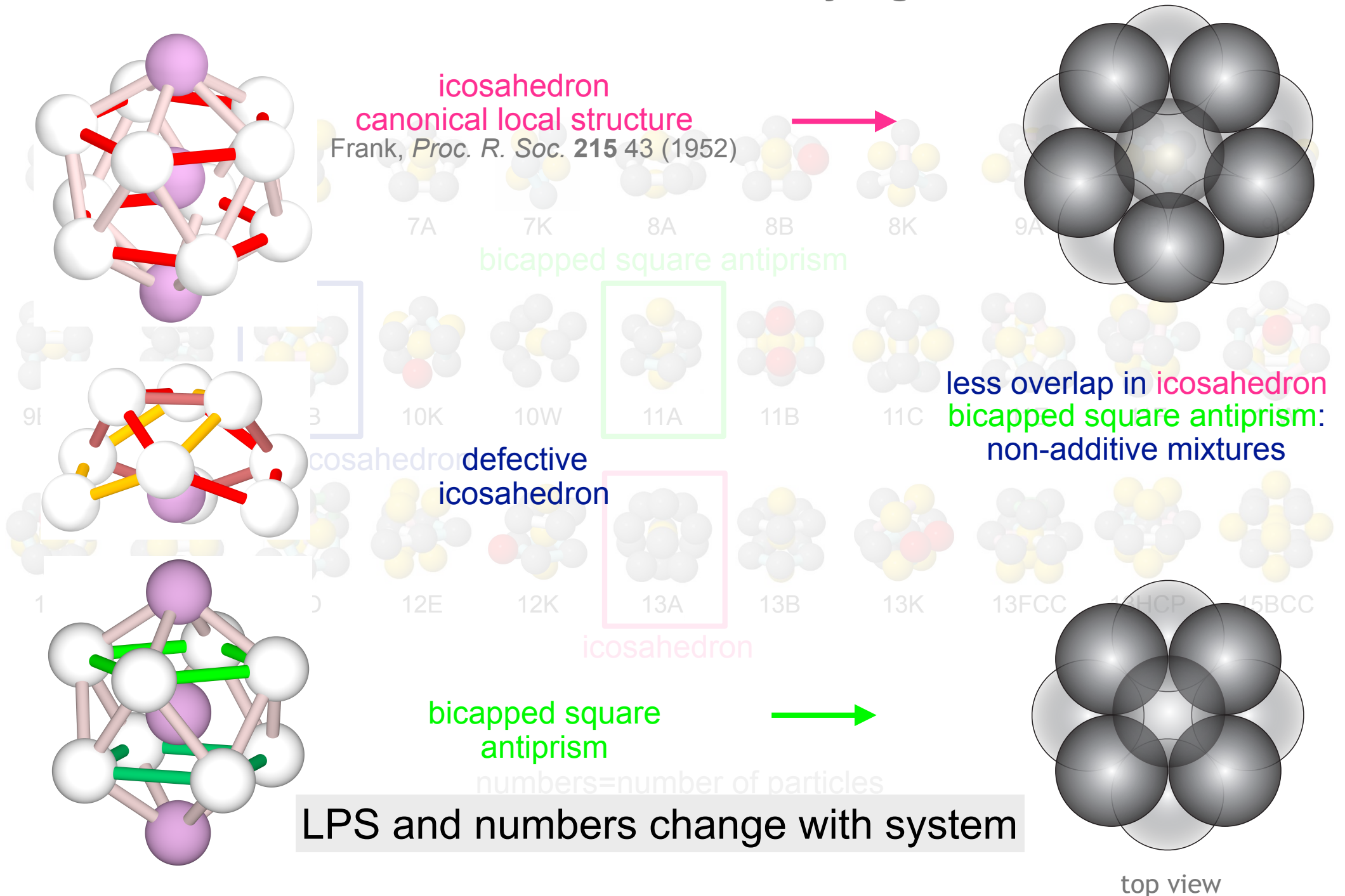
break down into local structures



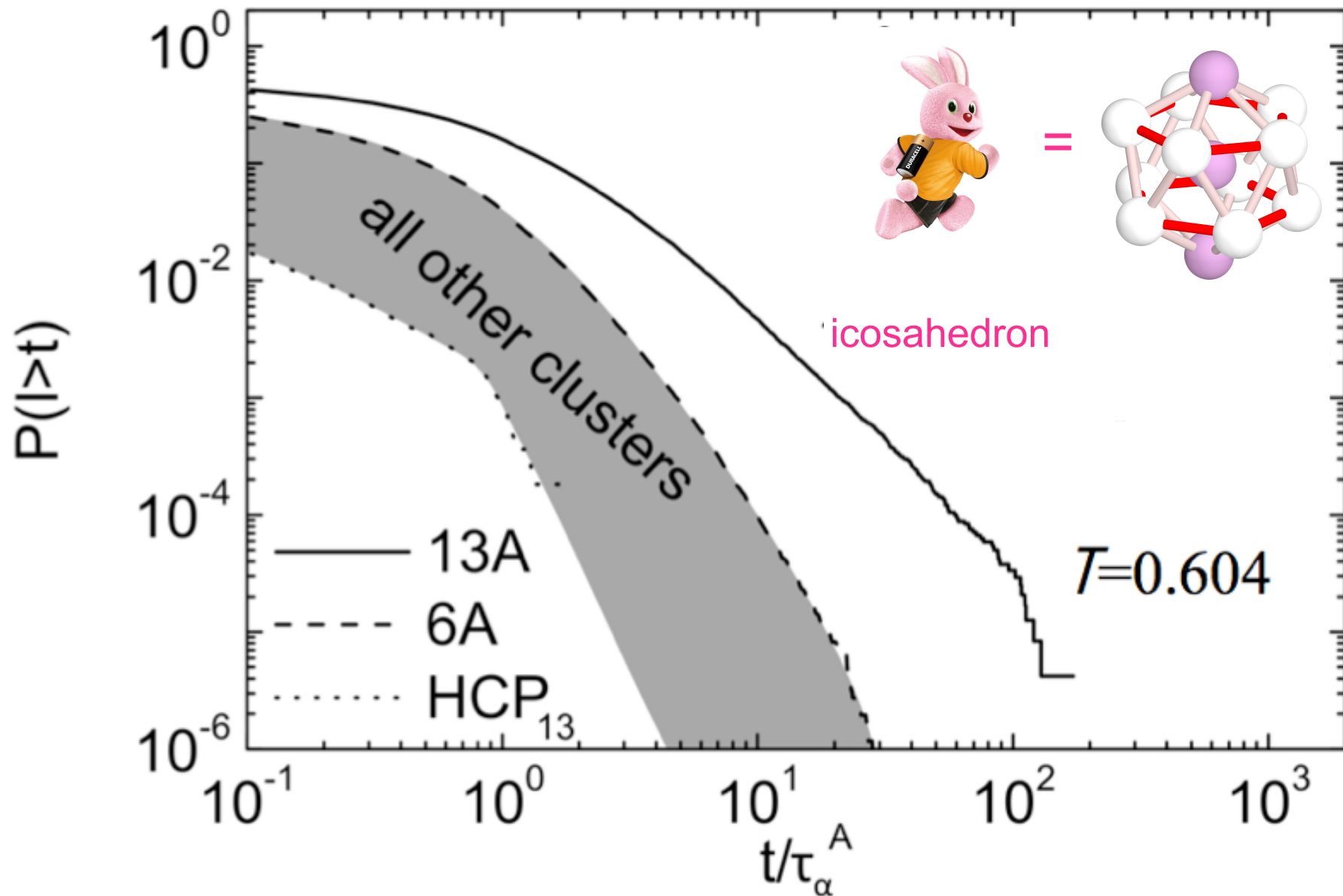
numbers=number of particles  
letters=different model systems

# The bottom of the (local) energy landscape

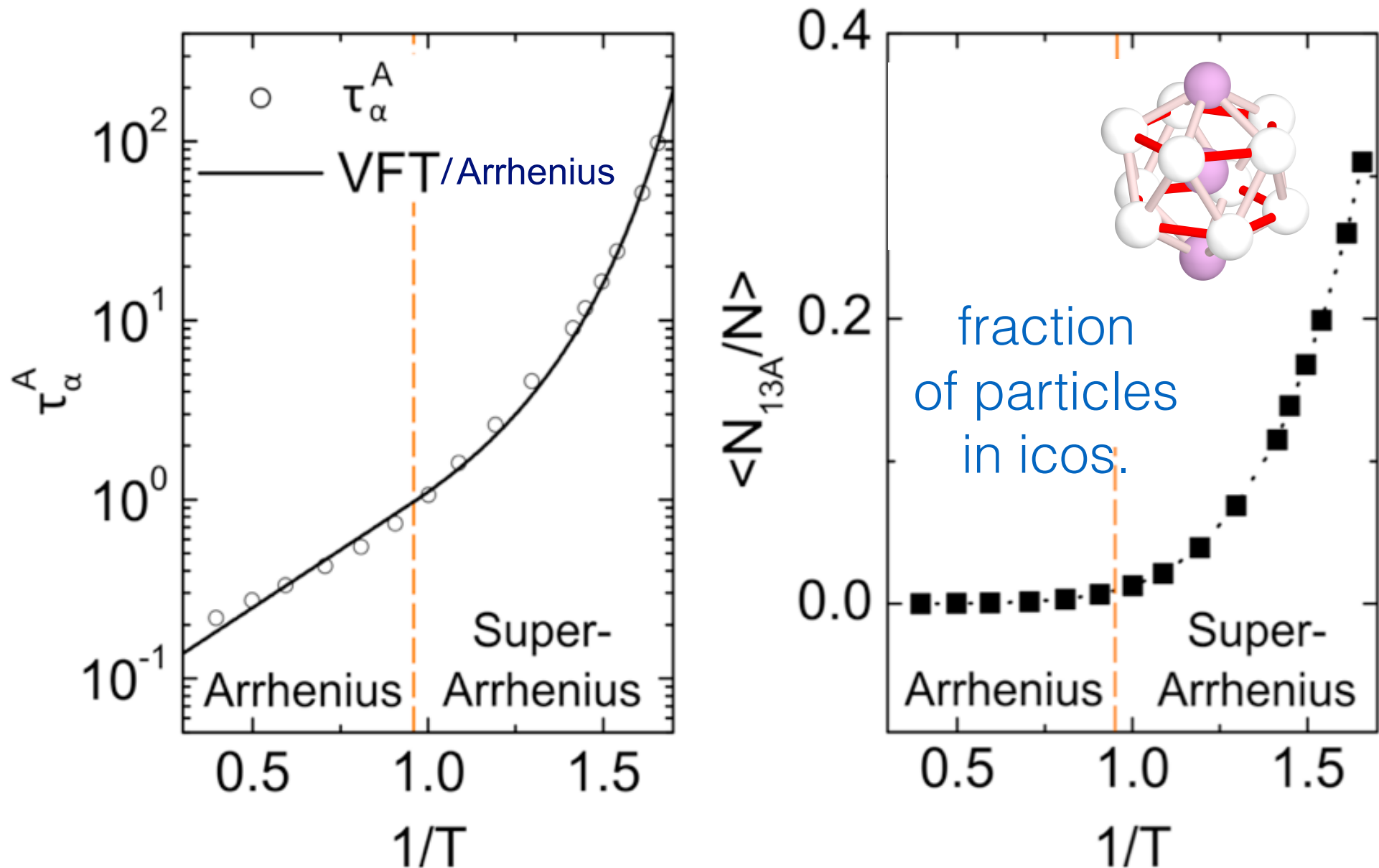
## local structures - a Noddy's guide



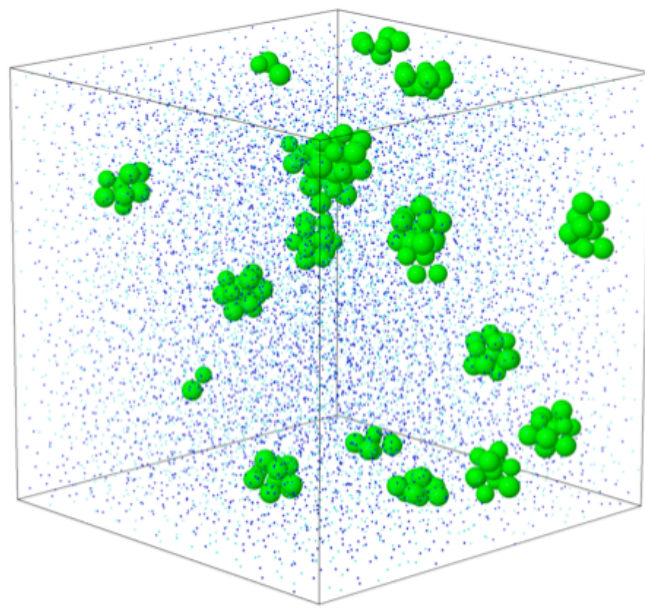
# Local structure and emergence of solidity



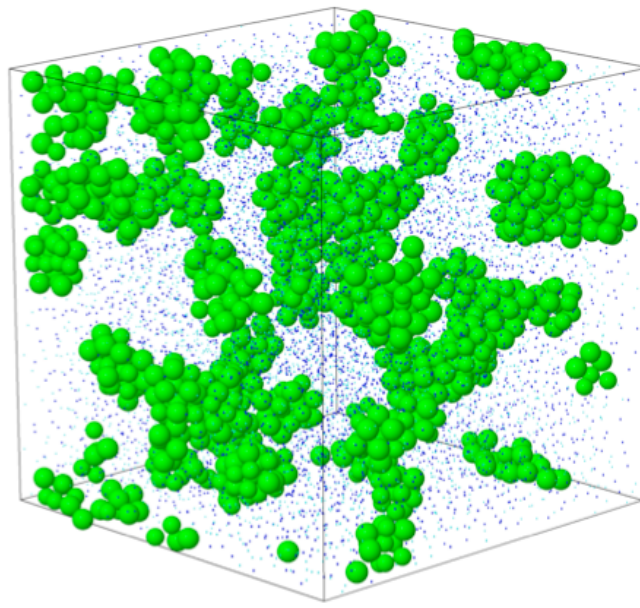
# Local structure and emergence of solidity



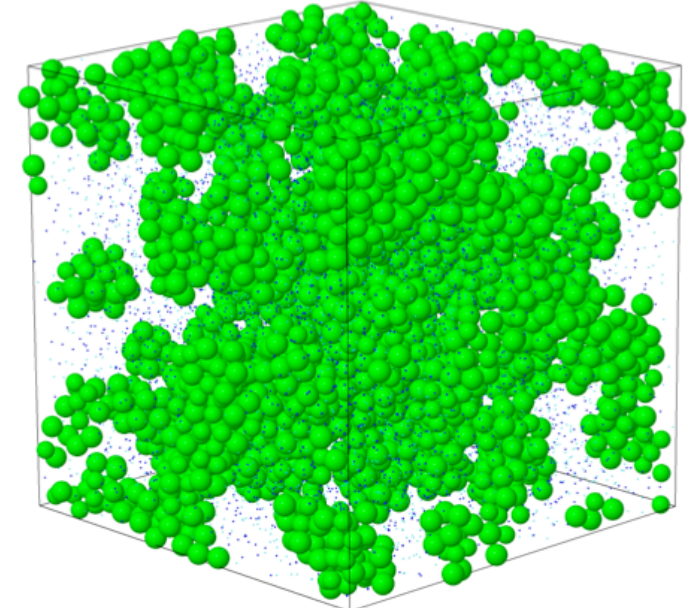
# Growth of domains of icosahedra upon cooling



$T=1.00$



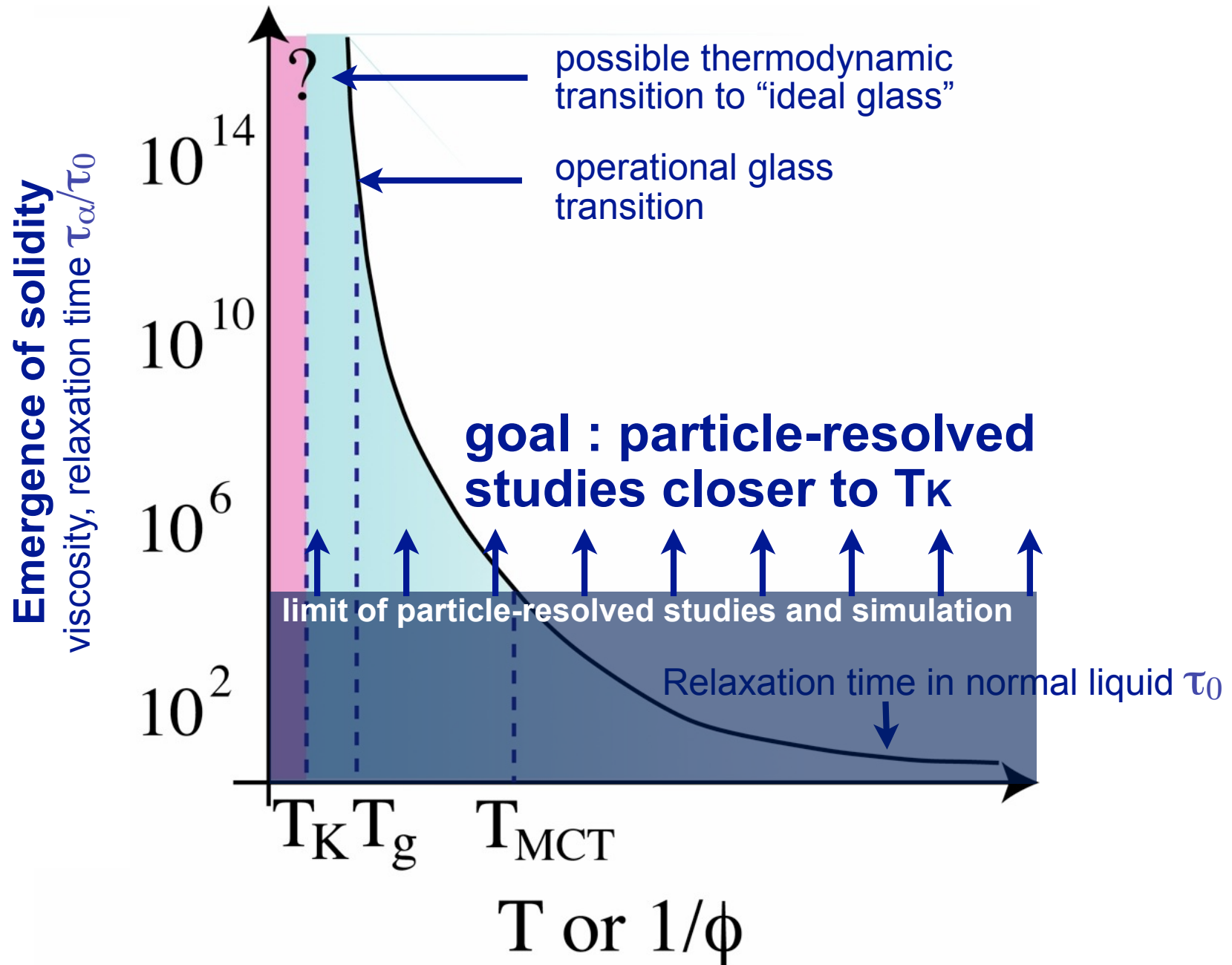
$T=0.707$



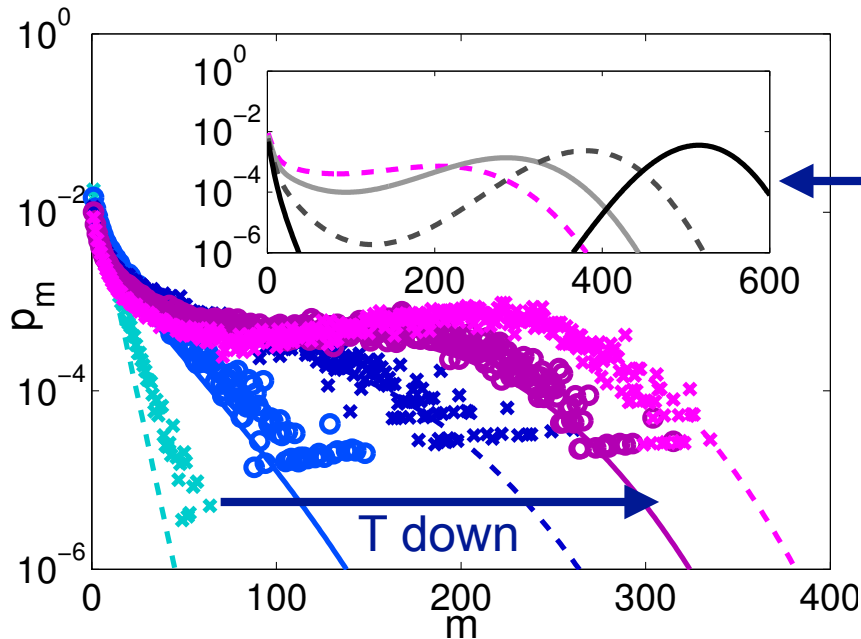
$T=0.620$

domains larger at lower  $T$ ....  
icosahedra in clusters live longer ....

# How far can we get with Brute force?



# Recasting with effective system of icosahedra



T in range beyond that accessible to simulation

$$T \gg 1 \Rightarrow \tau_{\alpha}^{Arr} = \tau_0 \exp(A/T)$$

$$\tau_0 = 0.11$$

$$A = 2.98$$

describe distribution of domains of icosahedra of size  $m$  with population dynamics model

$$\dot{p}_1 = g_0 p_0 + r_2 p_2 - [g_1 + r_1] p_1$$

$$\dot{p}_m = g_{m-1} p_{m-1} + r_{m+1} p_{m+1} - [g_m + r_m] p_m$$

$$\dot{p}_M = g_{M-1} p_{M-1} - r_M p_M$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^M p_i = \phi$$

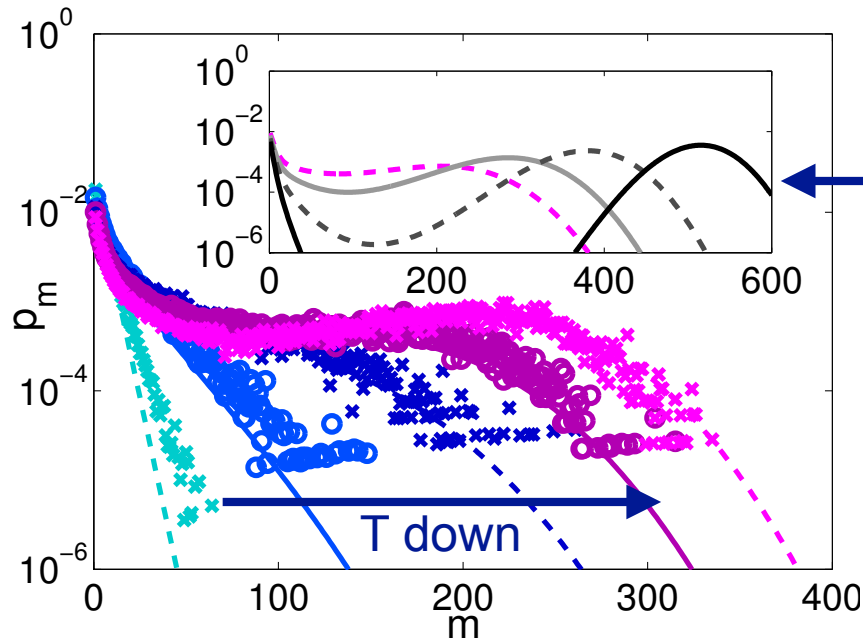
parameterise model from simulation data

$p_m$  population of domain size  $m$

$g, r$  growth and reduction rates



# Recasting with effective system of icosahedra



T in range beyond that accessible to simulation

$$T > 0.62 \Rightarrow \text{no percolat.} \Rightarrow p_m = a(T)^{m-1} p_1$$

describe distribution of domains of icosahedra of size  $m$  with population dynamics model

$$T < 0.62 \Rightarrow \text{percolation} \Rightarrow p_m = a(T) W_m(T) p_{m-1}$$

$$\dot{p}_1 = g_0 p_0 + r_2 p_2 - [g_1 + r_1] p_1$$

$$\dot{p}_m = g_{m-1} p_{m-1} + r_{m+1} p_{m+1} - [g_m + r_m] p_m$$

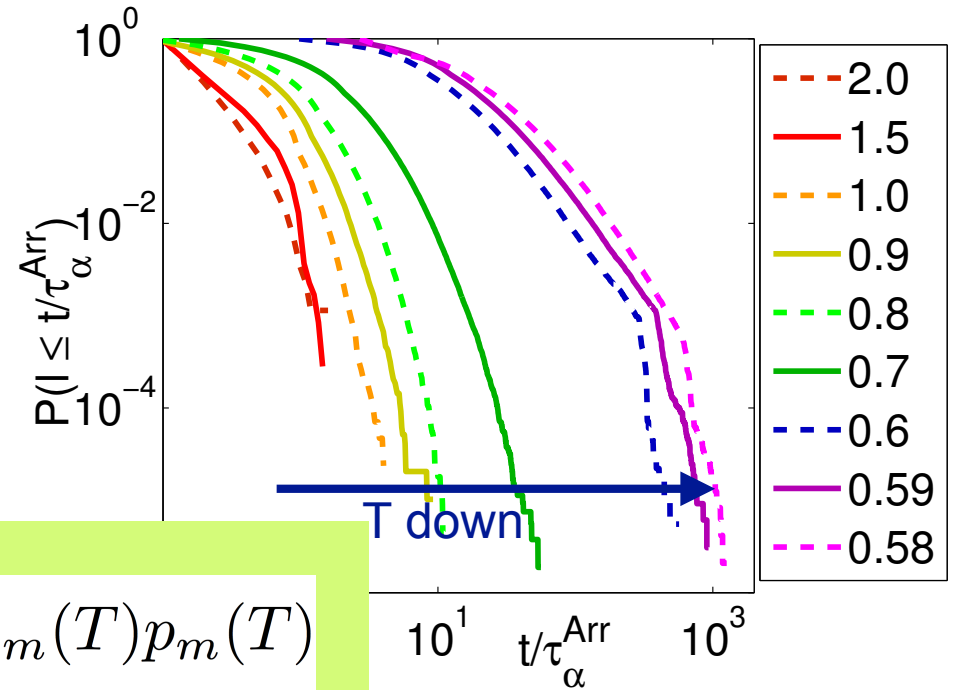
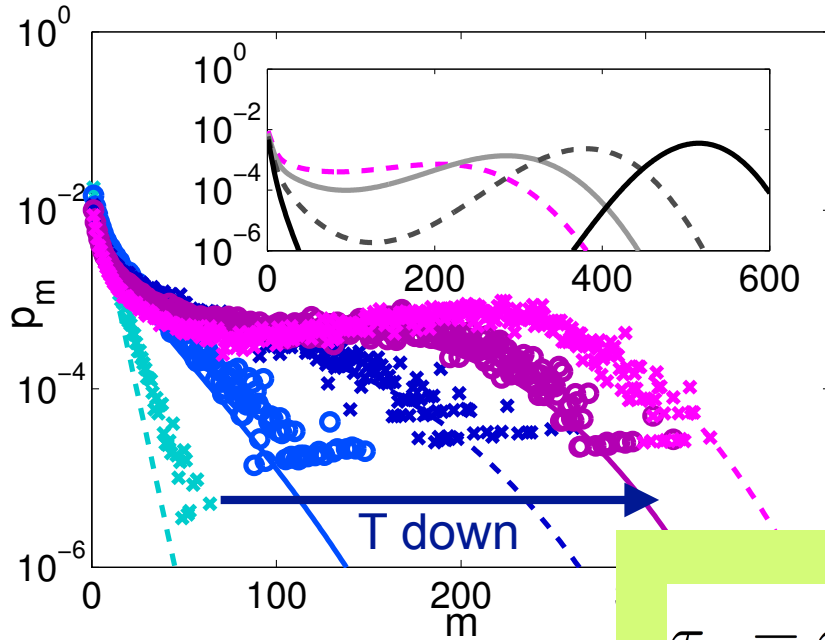
$$\dot{p}_M = g_{M-1} p_{M-1} - r_M p_M$$

parameterise model from simulation data

$p_m$  population of domain size  $m$

$g, r$  growth and reduction rates

# Recasting with effective system of icosahedra



$$\tau_\alpha = \tau_\alpha^{\text{Arr}} \sum_m l_m(T) p_m(T)$$

describe distribution of domain icosahedra of size  $m$  with population dynamics model

$$\dot{p}_1 = g_0 p_0 + r_2 p_2 - [g_1 + r_1] p_1$$

$$\dot{p}_m = g_{m-1} p_{m-1} + r_{m+1} p_{m+1} - [g_m + r_m] p_m$$

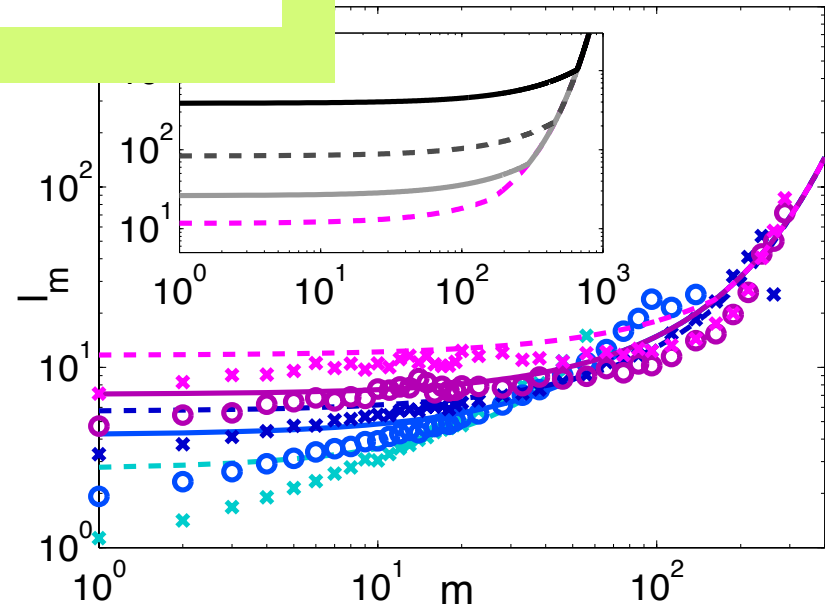
$$\dot{p}_M = g_{M-1} p_{M-1} - r_M p_M$$

parameterise model from simulation data

$p_m$  population of mesocluster size  $m$

$g, r$  growth and reduction rates

Dynamics : domain lifetimes  $l_m$  scaled by Arrhenius dynamics



# Recasting with effective system of icosahedra

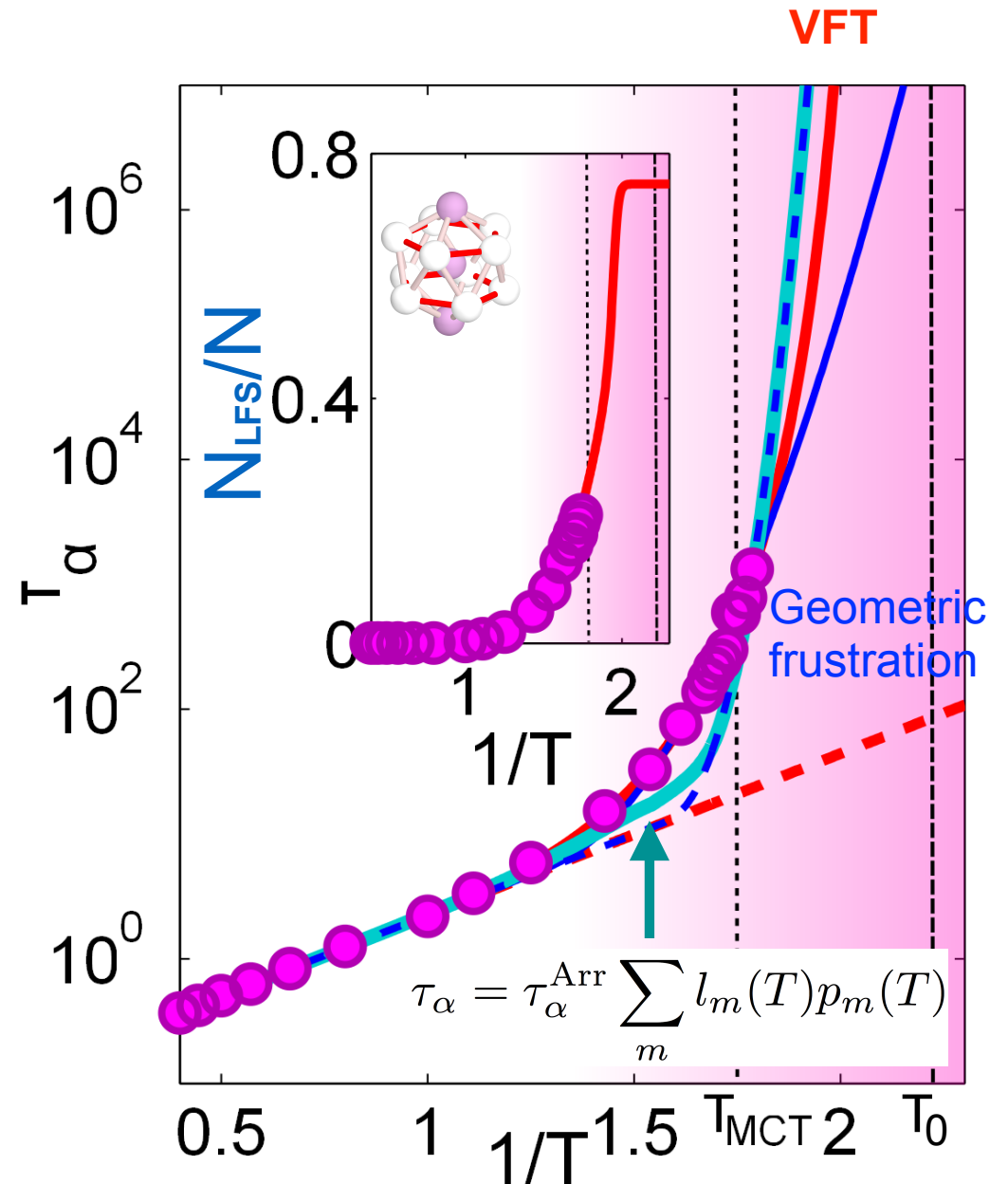
No (thermodynamic) transition

Model well-described by geometric frustration

$$\tau_\alpha(T) = \tau_\infty \exp(\Delta E^*(T) + E_\infty/k_B T)$$

$$\Delta E(T) = Bk_B T_c \left(1 - \frac{T}{T_{\text{on}}}\right)^\psi$$

Tarjus et al. *J. Phys: Condens. Matter* 17, R1143 (2005)



# Recasting with effective system of icosahedra

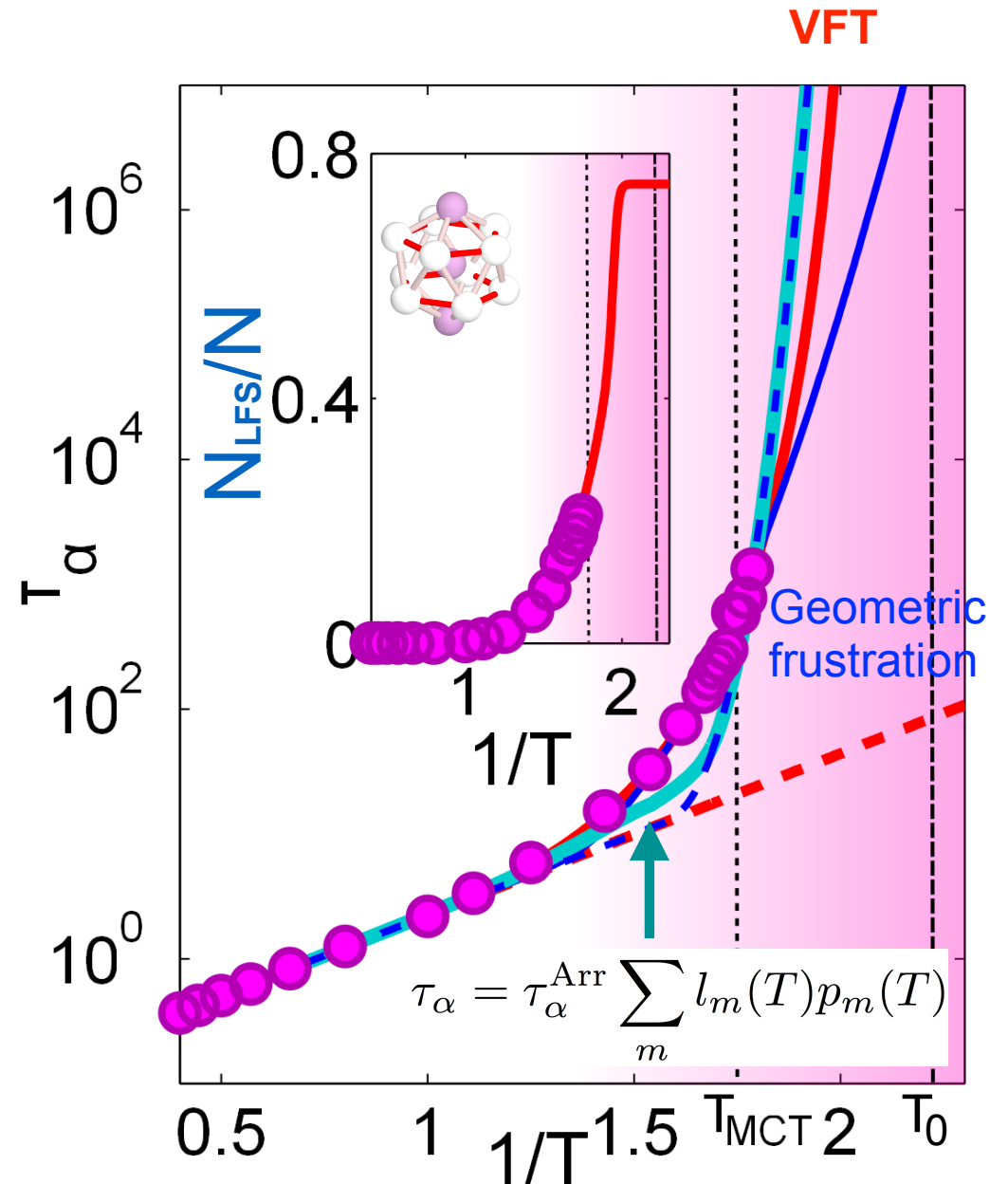
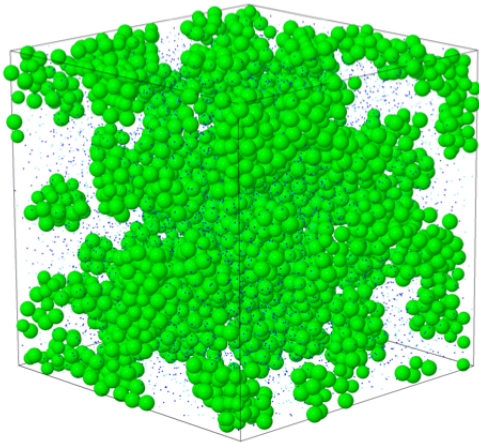
No (thermodynamic) transition

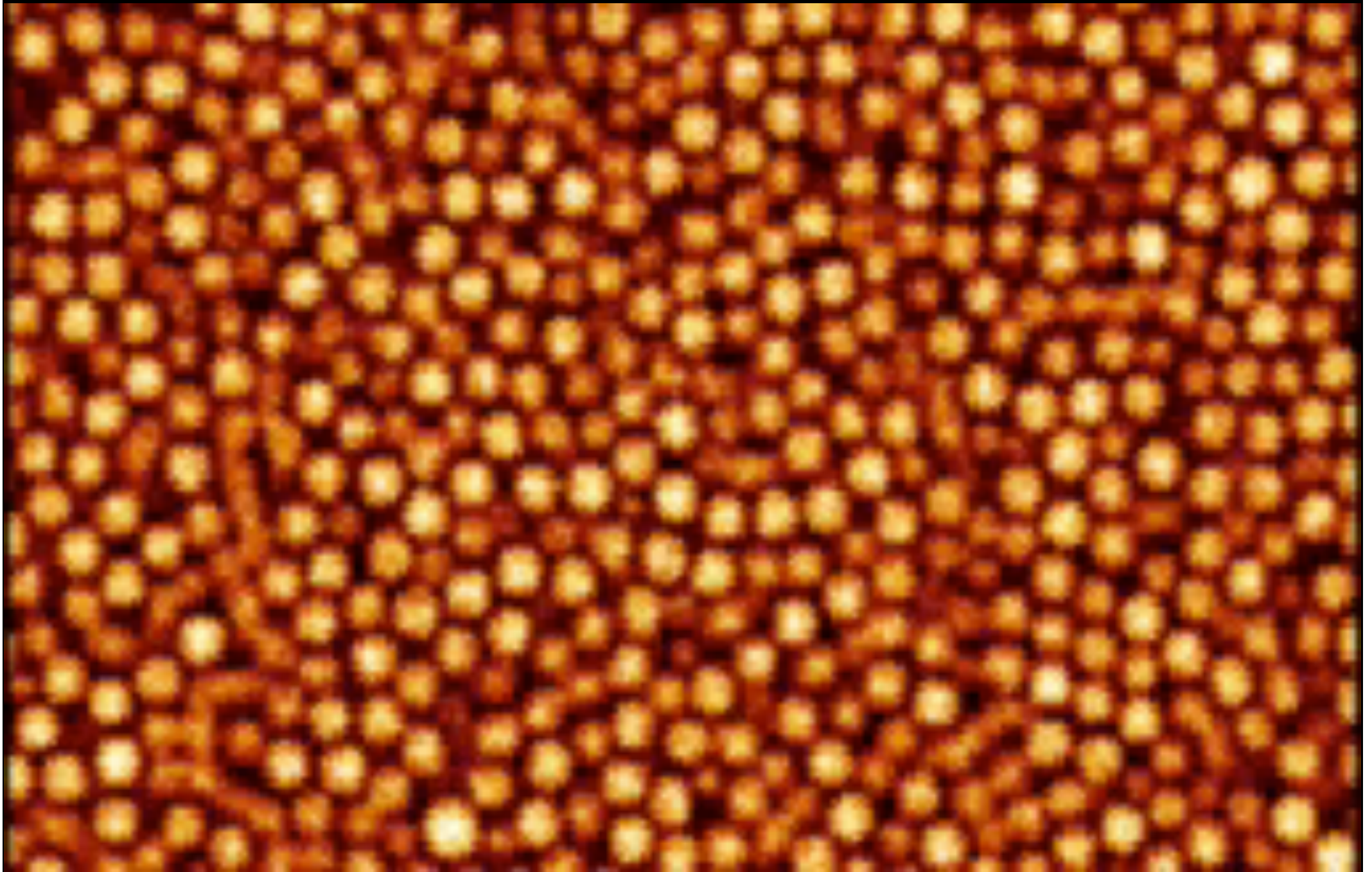
Model well-described by geometric frustration

$$\tau_\alpha(T) = \tau_\infty \exp(\Delta E^*(T) + E_\infty/k_B T)$$

$$\Delta E(T) = Bk_B T_c \left(1 - \frac{T}{T_{\text{on}}}\right)^\psi$$

Tarjus et al. *J. Phys: Condens. Matter* 17, R1143 (2005)

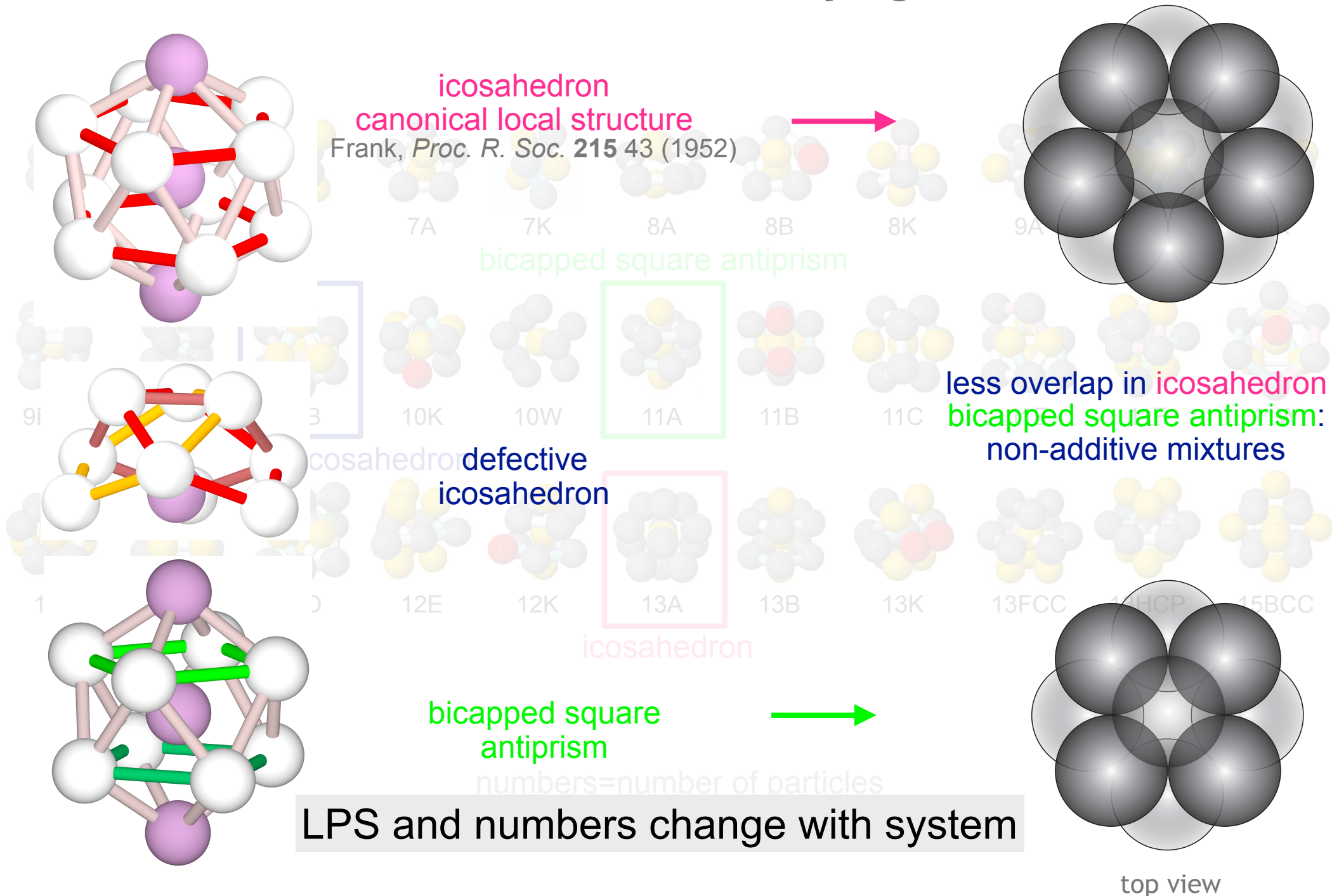




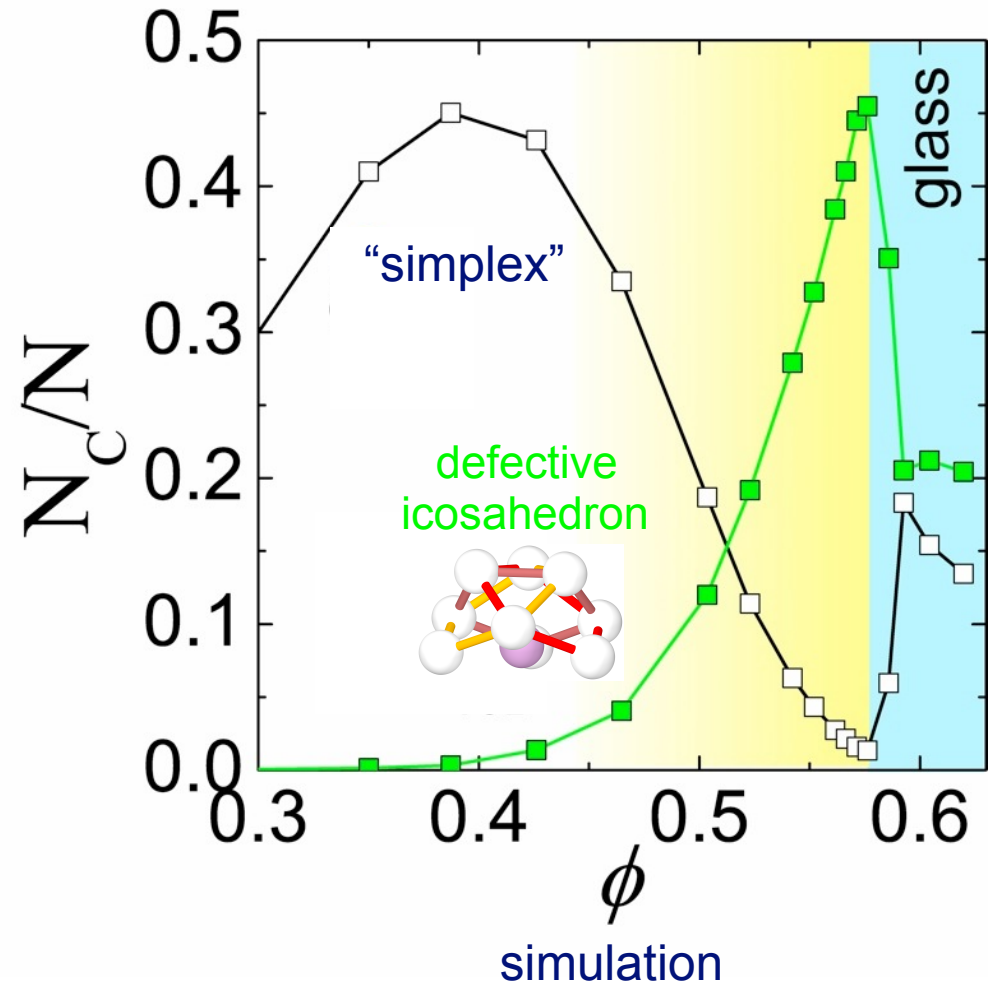
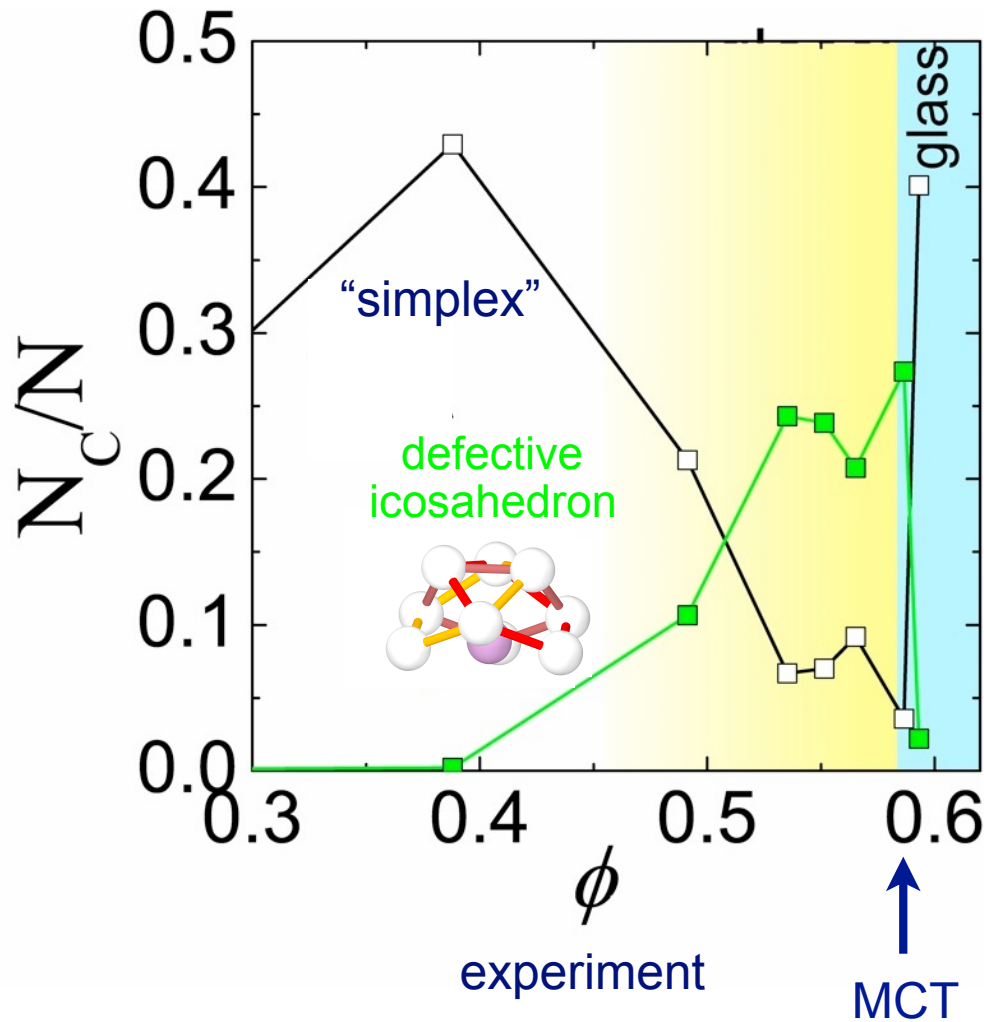
**colloidal supercooled liquid near mode coupling transition**

# The bottom of the (local) energy landscape

## local structures - a Noddy's guide

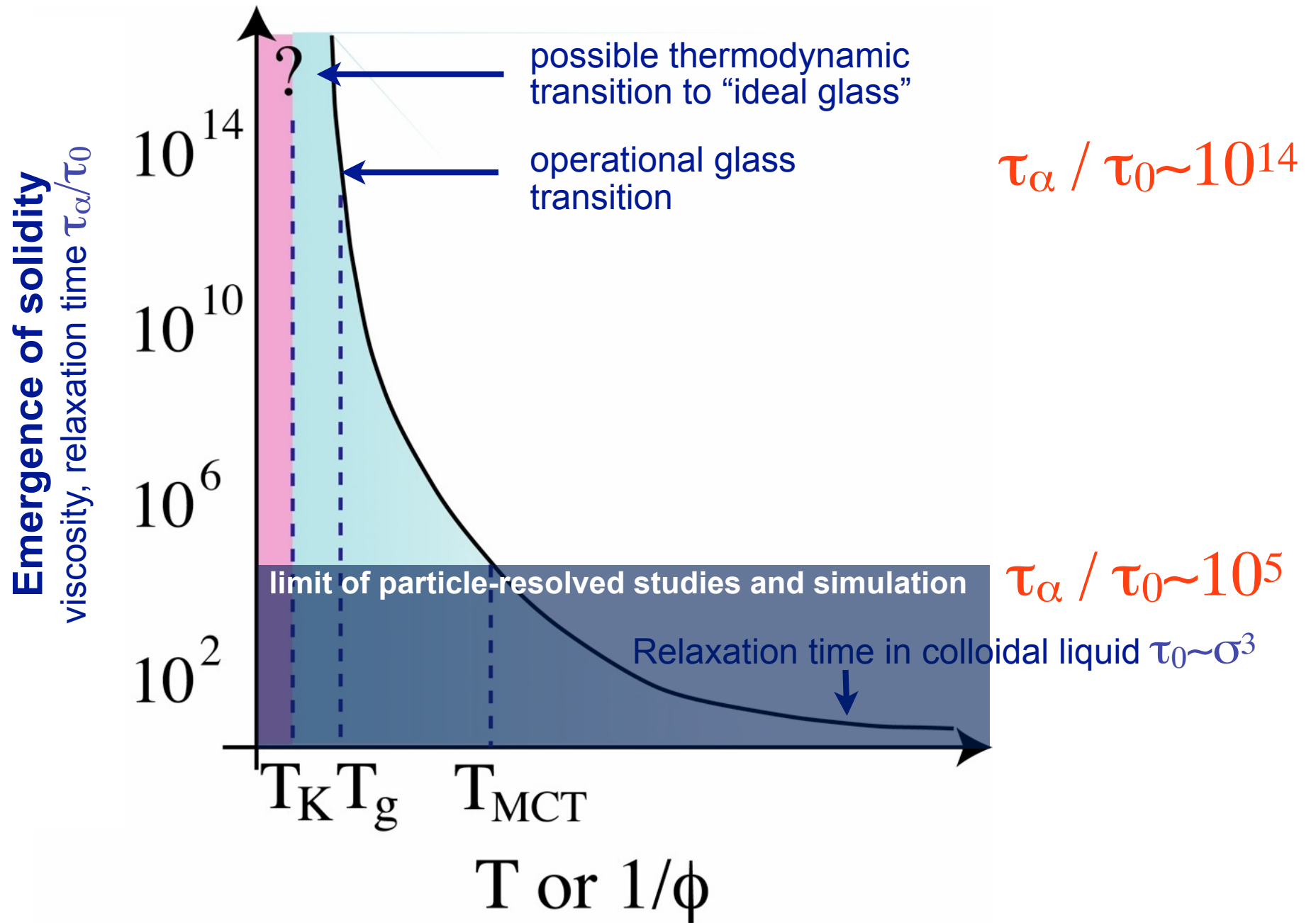


# Particle-resolved studies take us to MCT



Hard spheres: defective icosahedron is LPS. Falling out of equilibrium ( $\phi=0.58$ ): "simplex"  
 simplex~tetrahedron

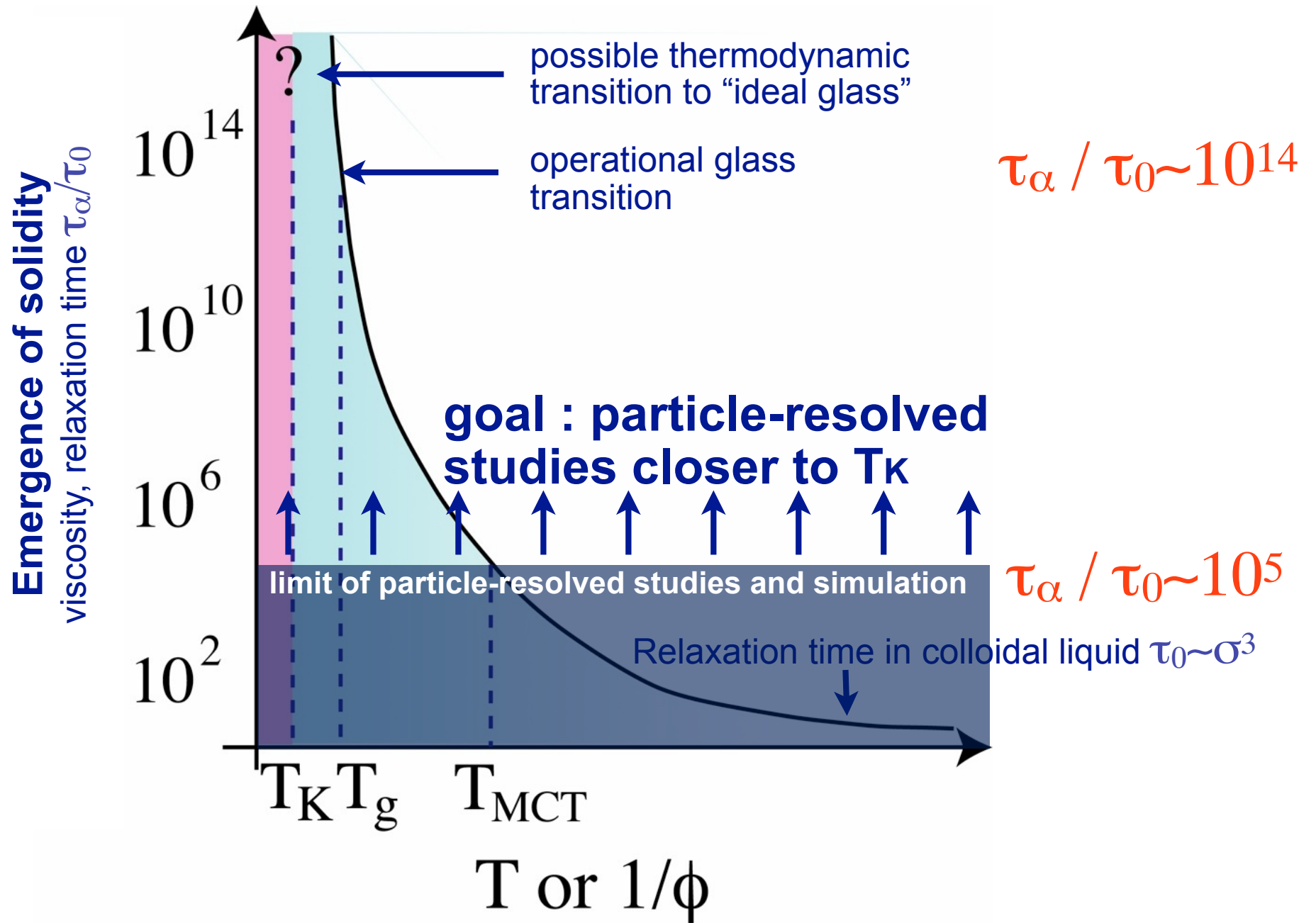
# Another route to deep supercooling



$\sigma$  diameter of colloidal particle

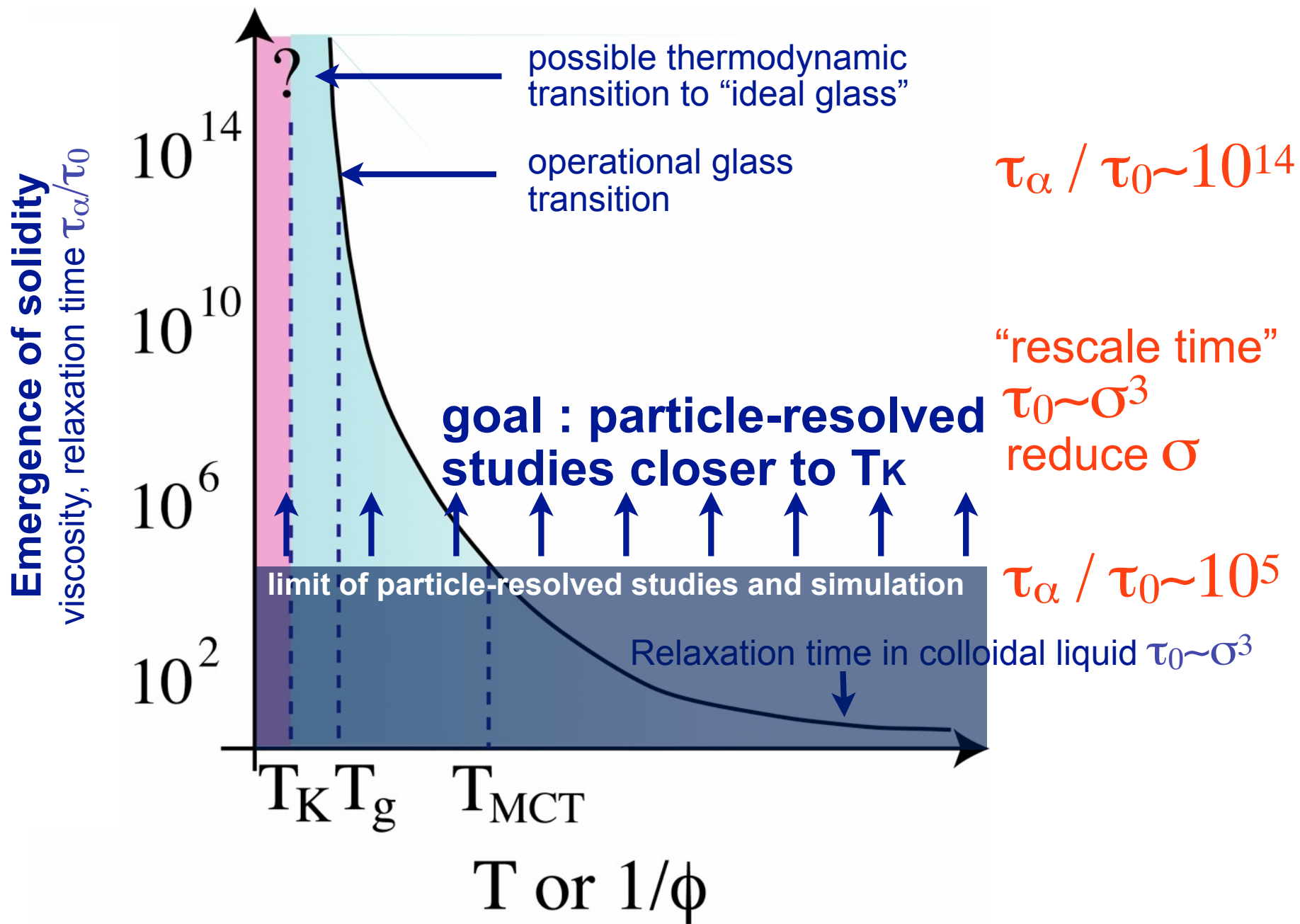


# Another route to deep supercooling



$\sigma$  diameter of colloidal particle

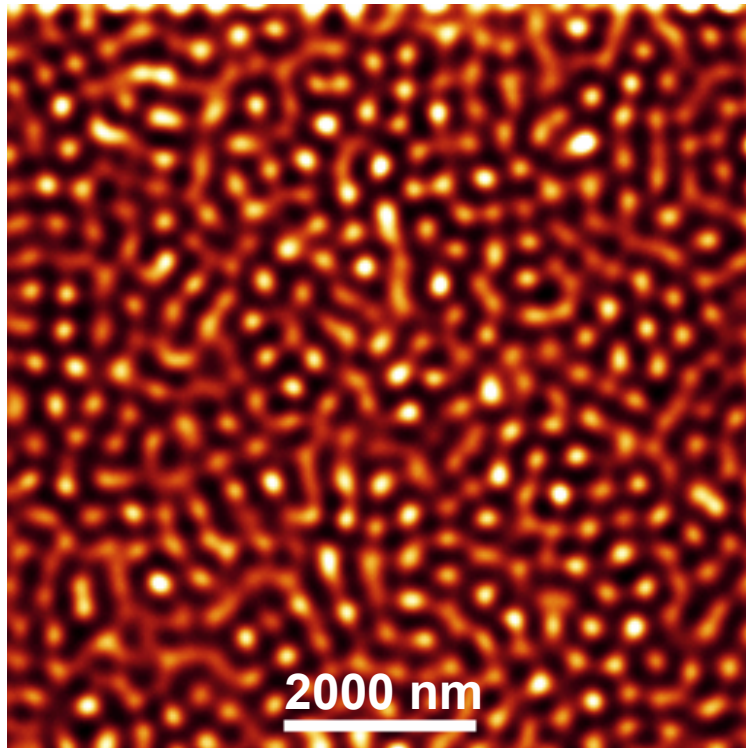
# Another route to deep supercooling



$\sigma$  diameter of colloidal particle

# Super-resolution STED “nanoscopy”

## nano-particle resolved studies



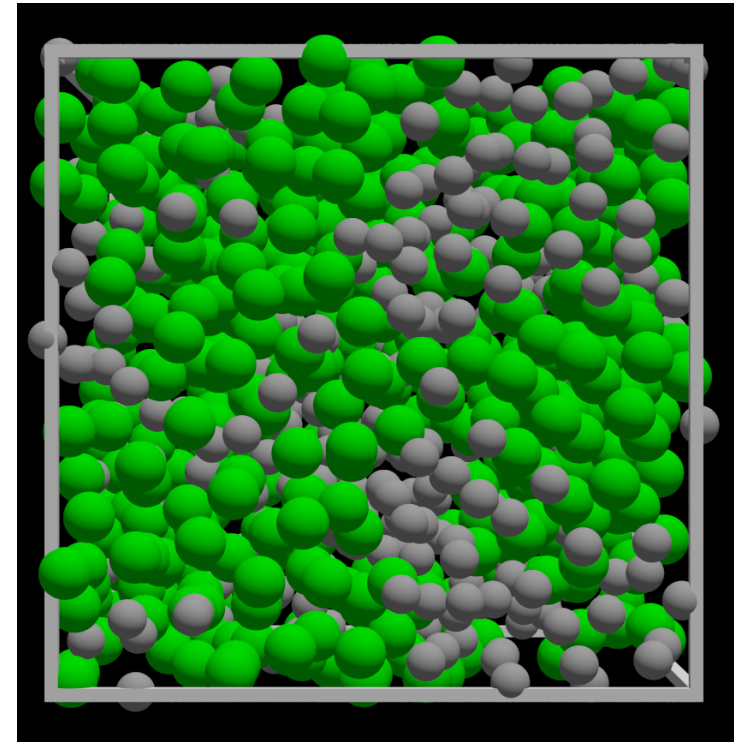
conventional particle-resolved studies  
typical size ~ 3000 nm diameter

*nano-particle-resolved studies*  
460 nm diameter (so far)

~3 decades deeper supercooling  
for same experimental time

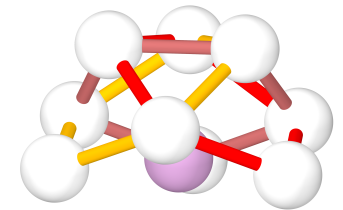
silica, rhodamine labelled, tetrahydrofurfuryl alcohol solvent

STED: “Stimulated Emission via Depletion”



$\phi \sim 0.59$

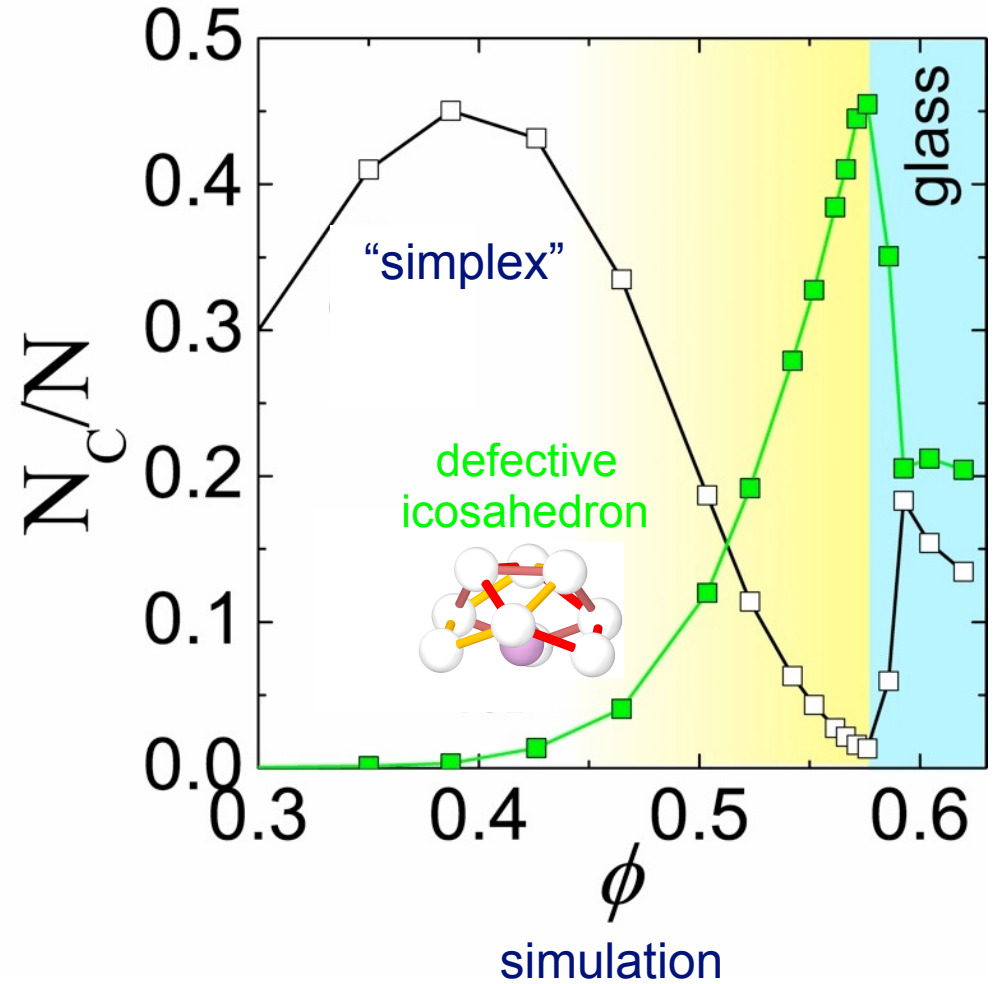
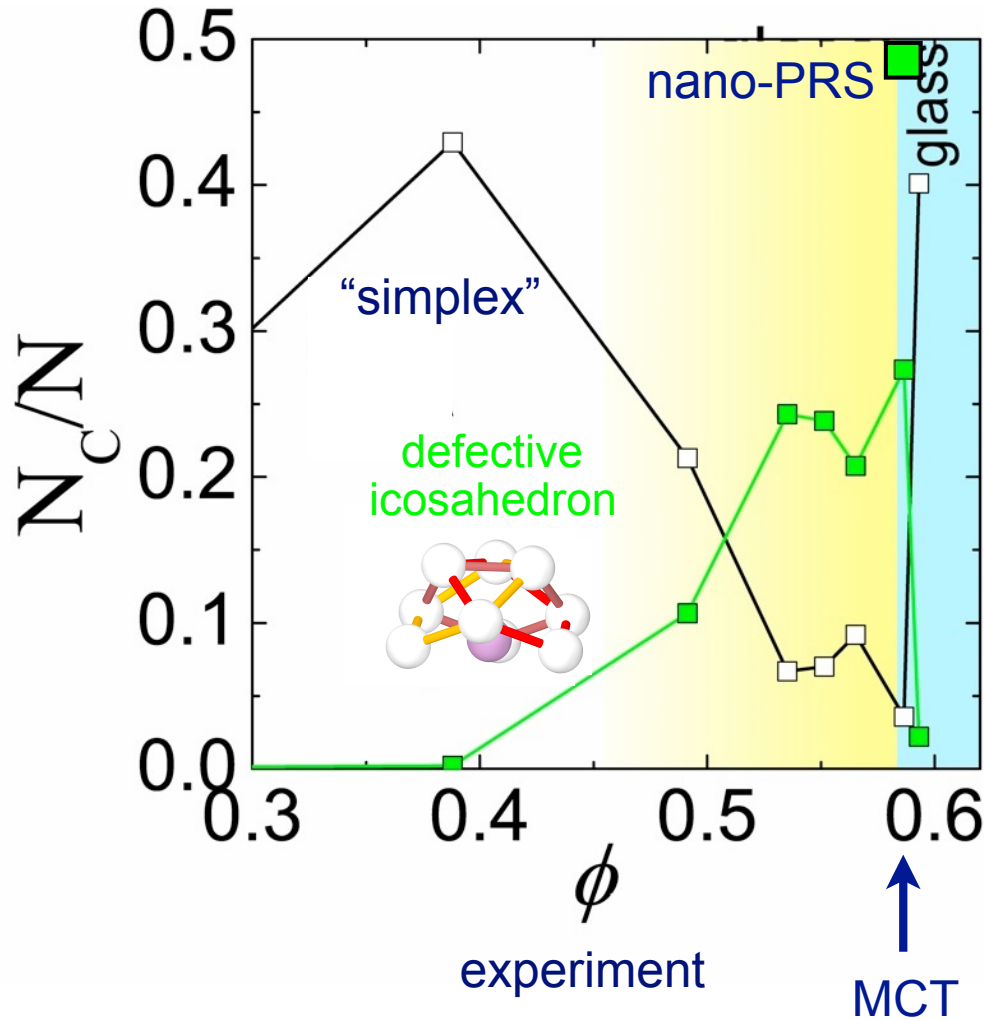
41% of system LFS



defective  
icosahedron

# Particle-resolved studies take us to MCT

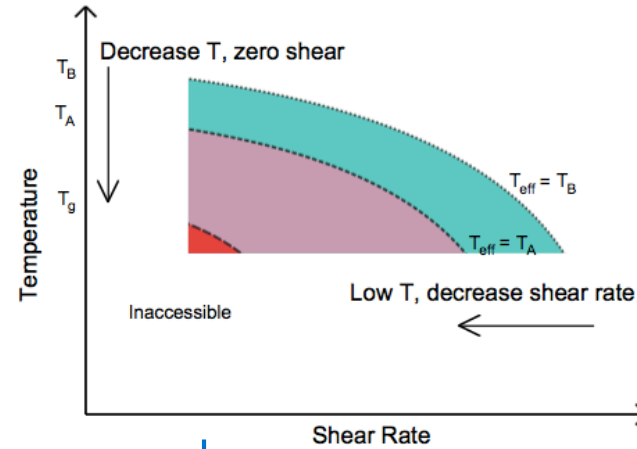
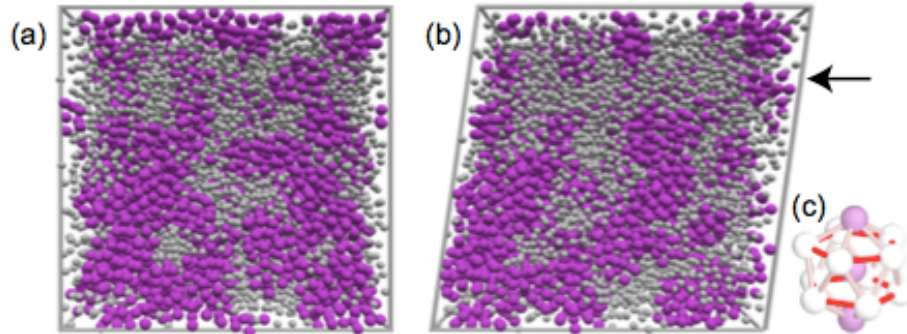
nano-particle resolved studies take us past MCT



Hard spheres: defective icosahedron is LPS. Falling out of equilibrium ( $\phi=0.58$ ): "simplex"  
simplex~tetrahedron

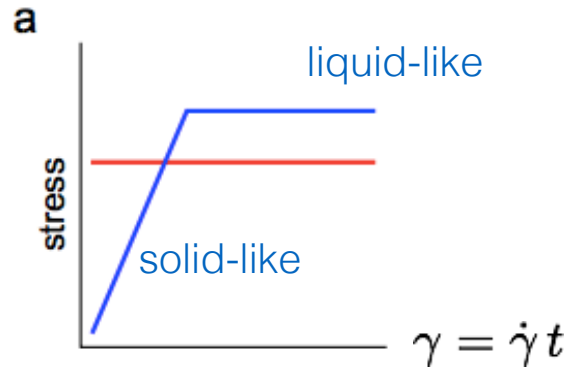
# shearing supercooled liquid

what happens to local structure under shear ?

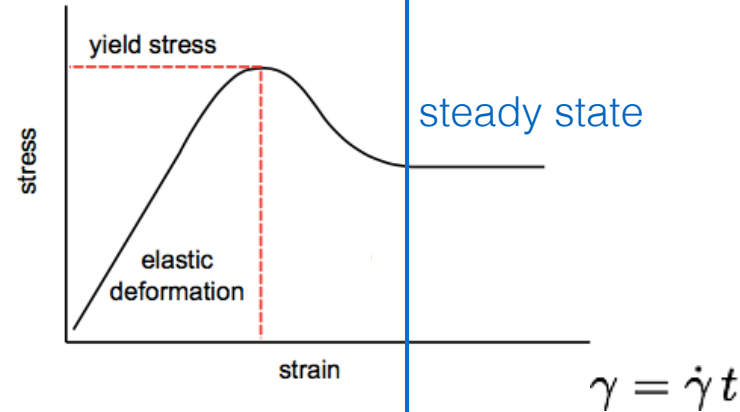


constant strain rate

$\dot{\gamma}$



$$\tau_{\alpha} \dot{\gamma} \ll 1$$



$$\tau_{\alpha} \dot{\gamma} > \sim 1$$

# SLLOD dynamics

- NVT simulations (equilibration) then SLLOD
- Lees-Edwards PBC
- Wahnström model

$$\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{T} + \mathcal{V}$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{r}}_i = \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial \mathbf{p}_i} + \vec{x} \dot{\gamma} y_i$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{p}}_i = -\frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial \mathbf{r}_i} - \vec{x} \dot{\gamma} p_{y,i}$$

$$10^{-5} \leq \dot{\gamma} \leq 0.25 \quad \text{for} \quad 0.56 \leq T \leq 0.8$$

$$2.5 \times 10^{-6} \leq \dot{\gamma} \leq 10^{-5} \quad \text{for} \quad 0.3 \leq T \leq 0.5$$

$$N = 10976$$

# steady-state shear

- yield at  $\gamma \simeq 0.1$  , steady state  $\gamma > 1$  M. L. Falk and J. S. Langer, Phys. Rev. E **57**, 7192 (1998)

- inhomogeneous flow profile

$$D^2(\tau, t) = \sum_{n=1}^N \mathbf{R}_n \cdot \mathbf{R}_n^T,$$

- non affine deformation parameter

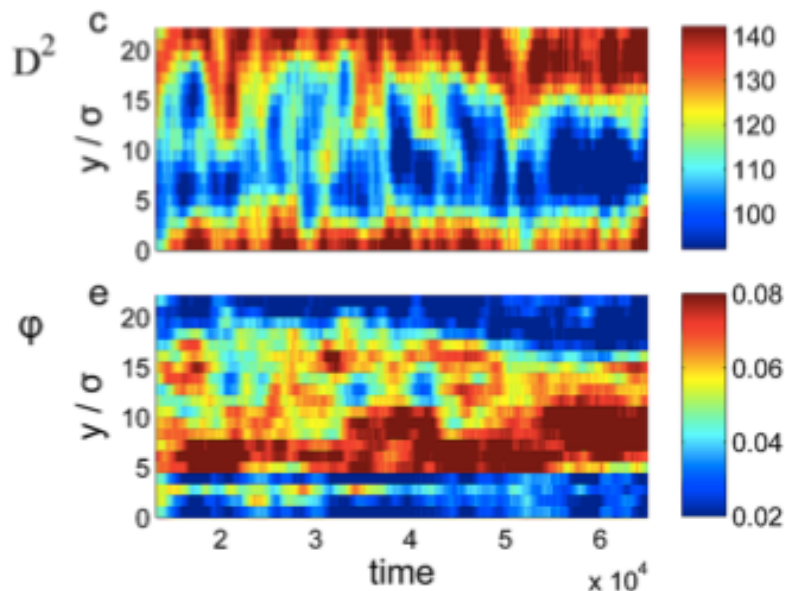
$$D(r) \uparrow \dot{\gamma}(r) \uparrow$$

$$\mathbf{R}_n = (\mathbf{r}_n(t) - \mathbf{r}_0(t)) - (\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}^{-1}) \cdot (\mathbf{r}_n(\tau) - \mathbf{r}_0(\tau)),$$

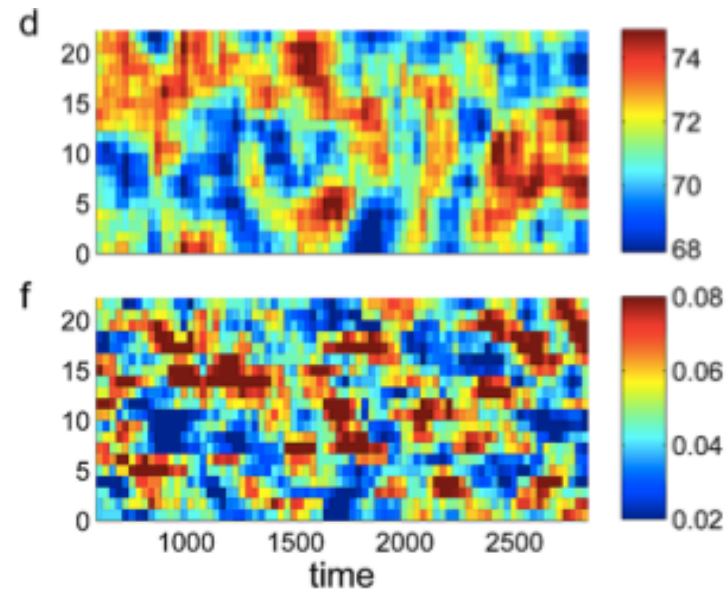
$$\mathbf{X} = \sum_{n=1}^N (\mathbf{r}_n(t) - \mathbf{r}_0(t))(\mathbf{r}_n(\tau) - \mathbf{r}_0(\tau)),$$

$$\mathbf{Y} = \sum_{n=1}^N (\mathbf{r}_n(\tau) - \mathbf{r}_0(\tau))(\mathbf{r}_n(\tau) - \mathbf{r}_0(\tau)).$$

$T = 0.56, \dot{\gamma} = 0.013$



$T = 0.8, \dot{\gamma} = 5.9 \times 10^{-5}$



icos. density

# “banding”/“effective T”

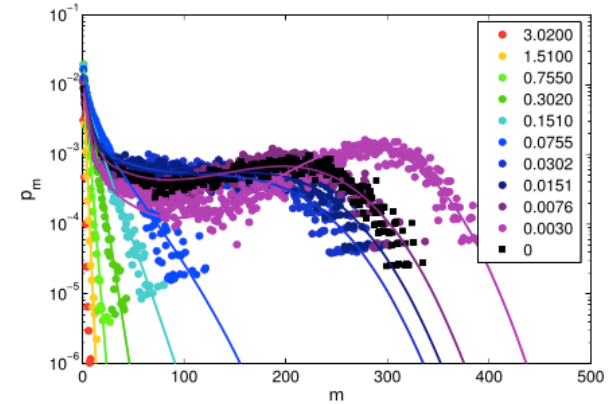
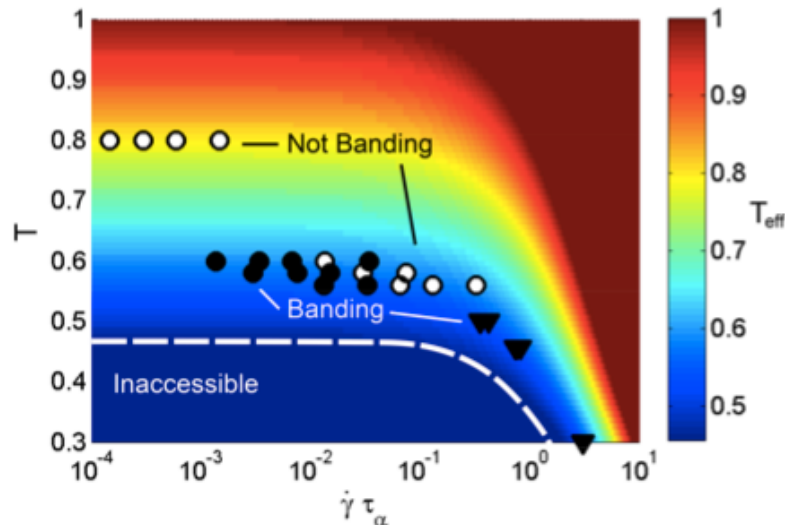
$$S_h = D_{av}^2 + \frac{D_{max}^2 - D_{av}^2}{A},$$

$$S_l = D_{av}^2 - \frac{D_{av}^2 - D_{min}^2}{A},$$

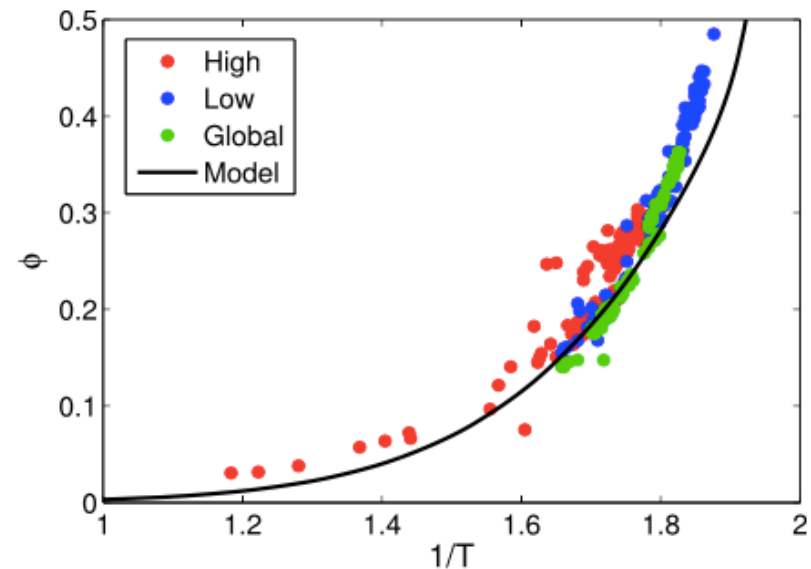
$D^2 > S_h \Rightarrow$  high eff.  $T$  band

$D^2 < S_l \Rightarrow$  low eff.  $T$  band

$$T_{eff}/T_{true} \simeq 0.271\dot{\gamma}\tau_\alpha + 1$$

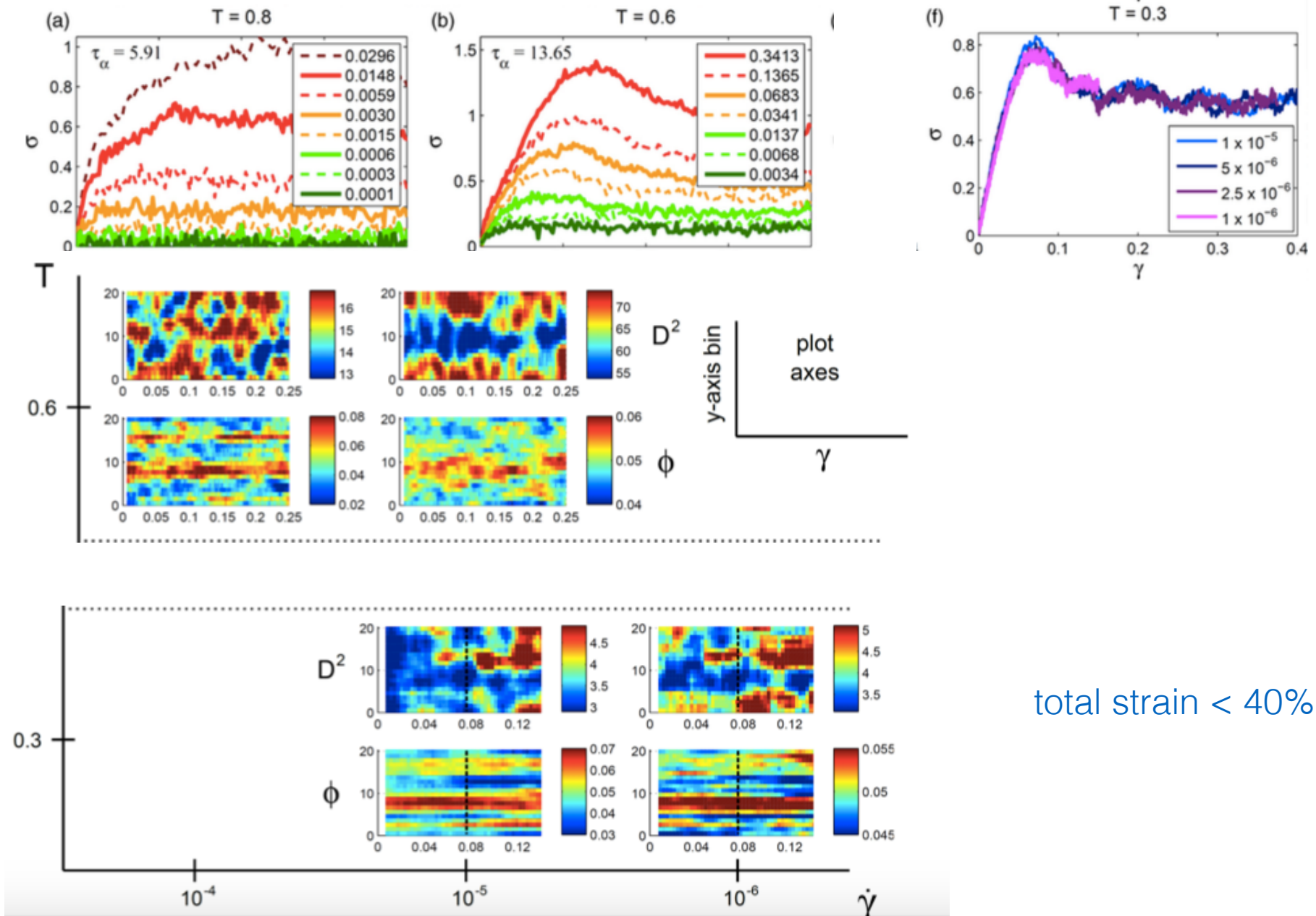


property of whole distribution



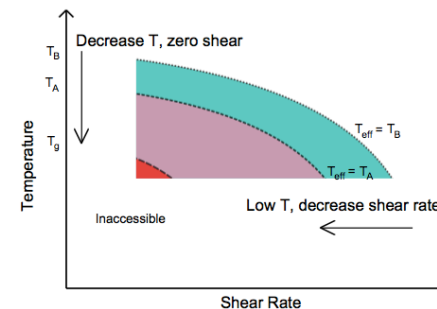


# transient shear



# summary/perspectives

- **hierarchy of mechanics** : interparticle potential  
-> locally favoured structures -> mesoclusters  
of LFS -> percolation of mesoclusters -> ultra  
slow dynamics & inhomogeneous deformation
- suggests **both** a diverging length-scale and  
dynamic heterogeneity
- at the mesocluster level an equivalence of T  
and shear rate



# perspectives

- a gross simplification but surprisingly successful - why ?
- only most favoured structure, what about the others ?
- mean-field mesocluster model
- quantifying how the LFS link together to form mesoclusters
- can athermal systems be described by the limit  $T \rightarrow 0$  at finite strain rate ?