

# Stabilizing stick-slip friction

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In collaboration with:

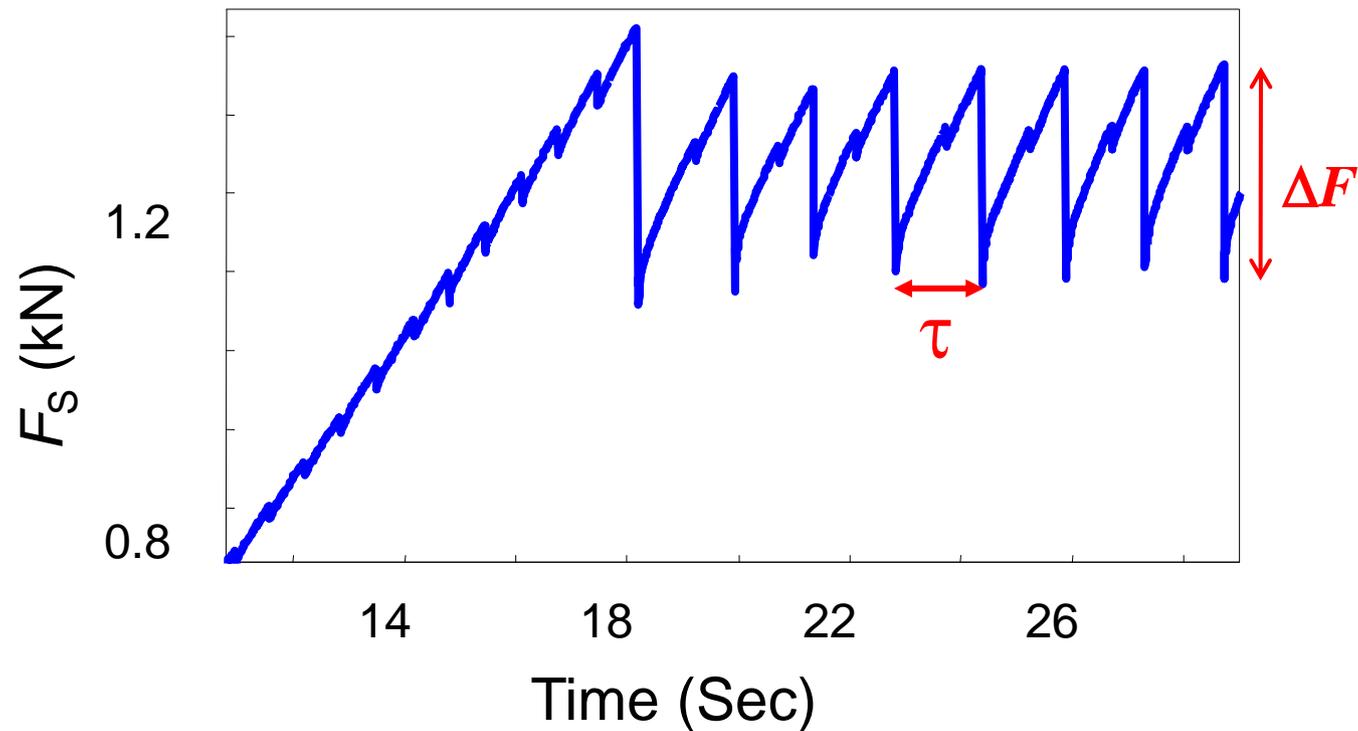
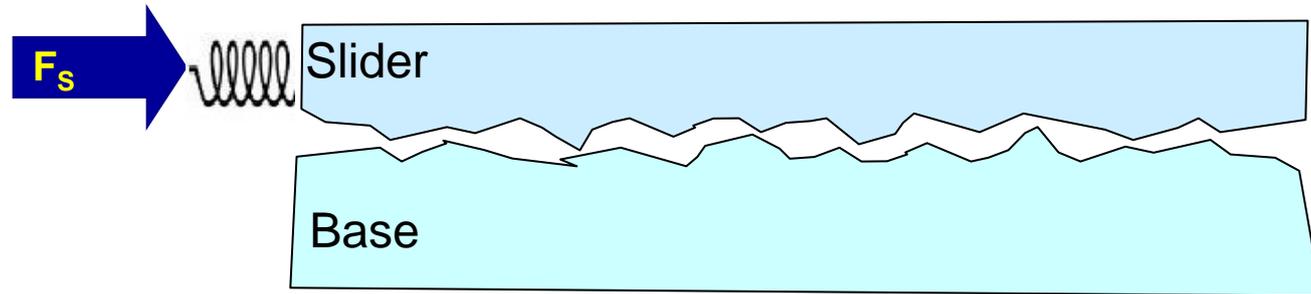
**Michael Urbakh, TAU**

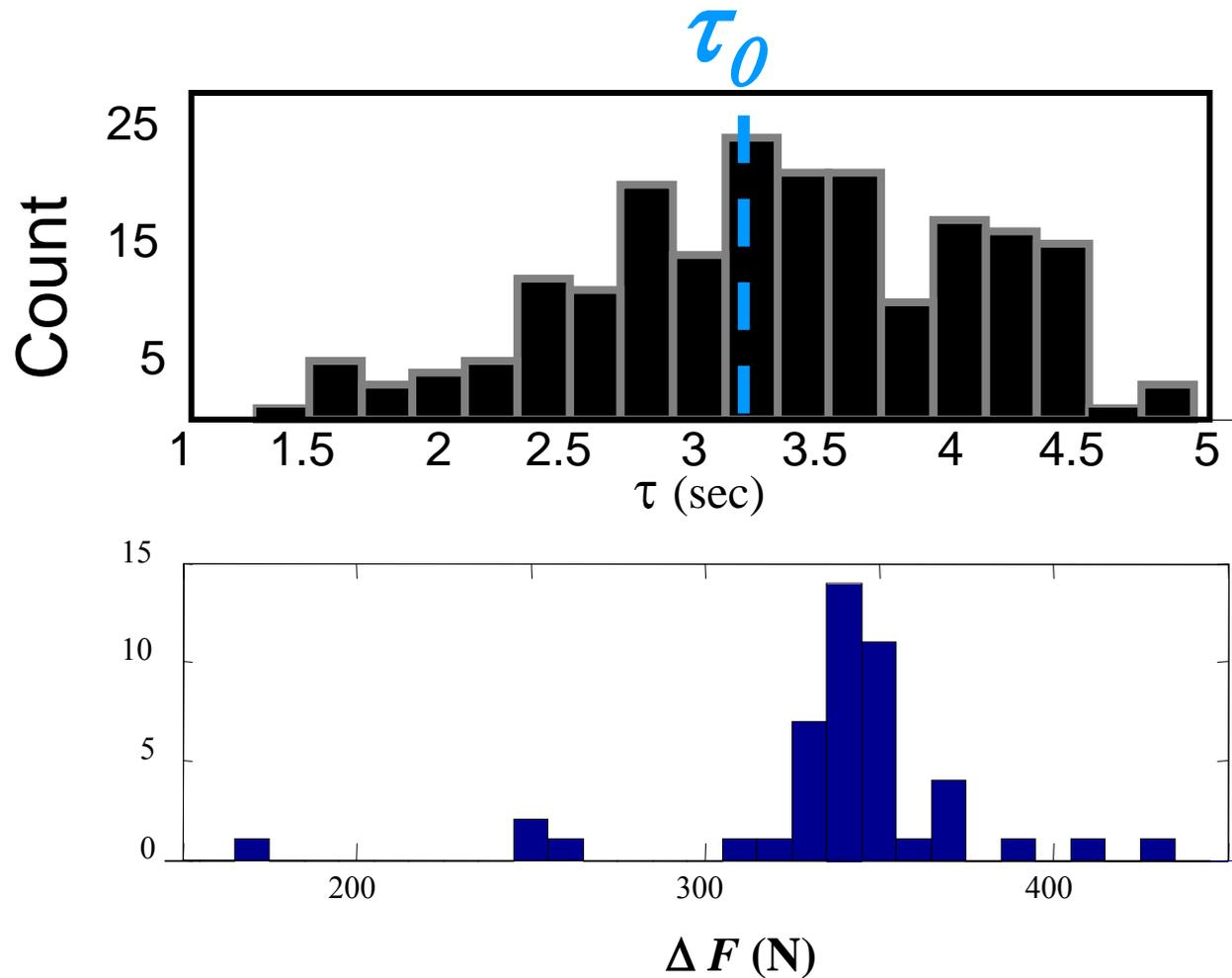
**Jay Fineberg, HUJI**

**Itay Barel, TAU**

**Shmuel M. Rubinstein, Harvard Un.**

- stochasticity in the period between consecutive slip events
- irregularity in the size of the stress drops



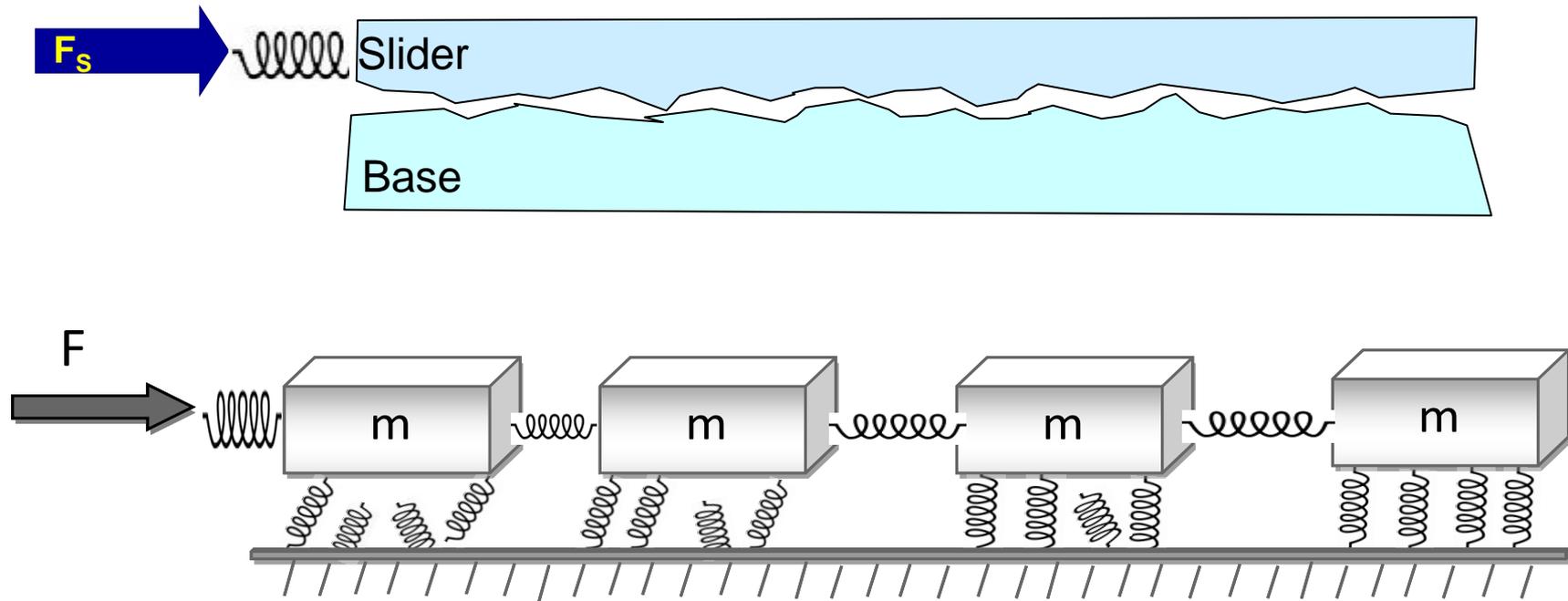


What is the origin of this stochasticity?

➤ A diversity of surface contacts

➤ Nonlinearity of interactions between the slider and the surface

# The model



O.M. Braun, I. Barel and M. Urbakh, PRL, 2009

Parameters:

$N$  – a number of rigid blocks,

$N_s$  – a number of contacts between the block and track,

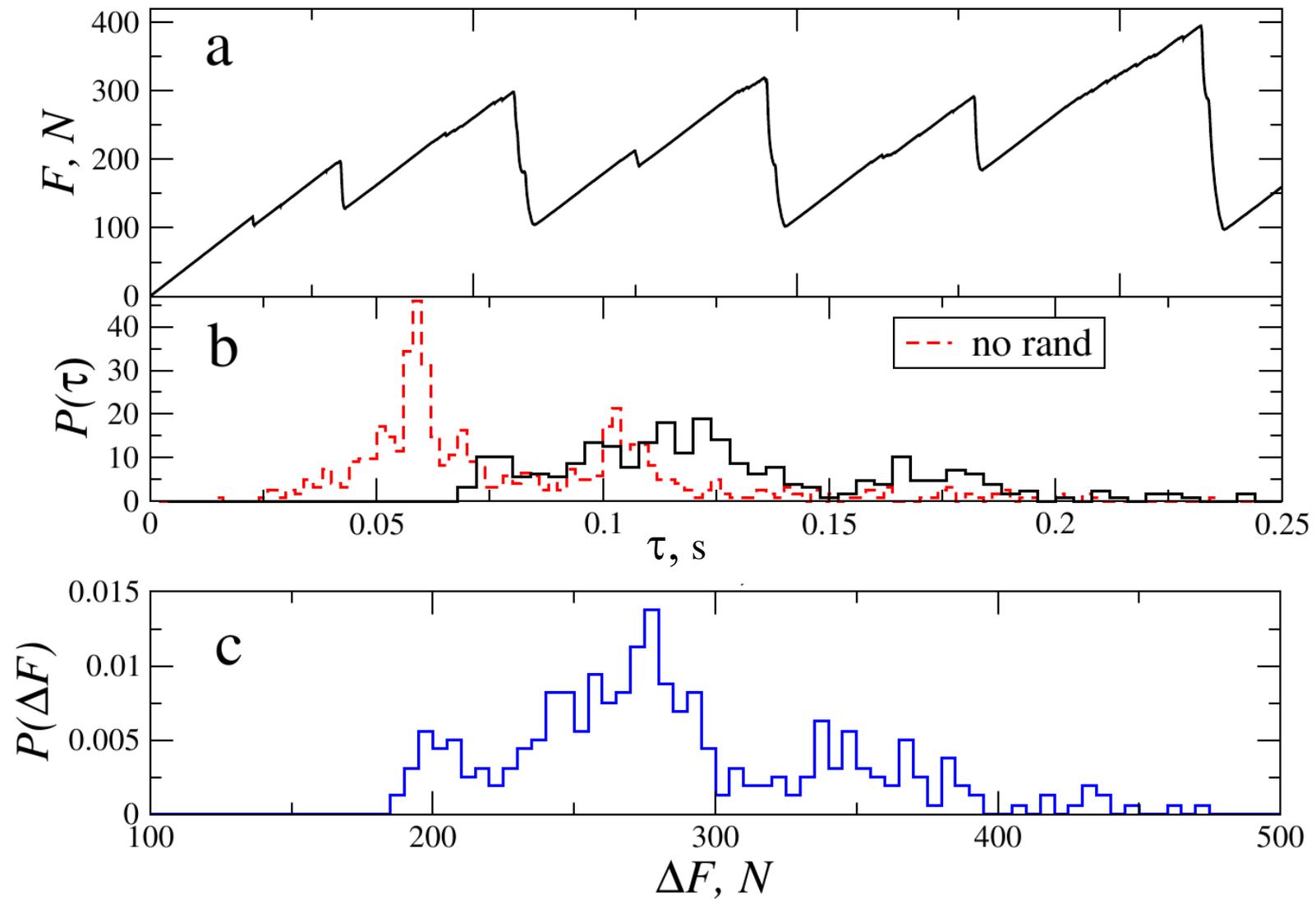
$K_d$  – an elasticity of the driving spring,

$K$  – a slider elasticity,

$k_s$  – an elasticity of the contact,

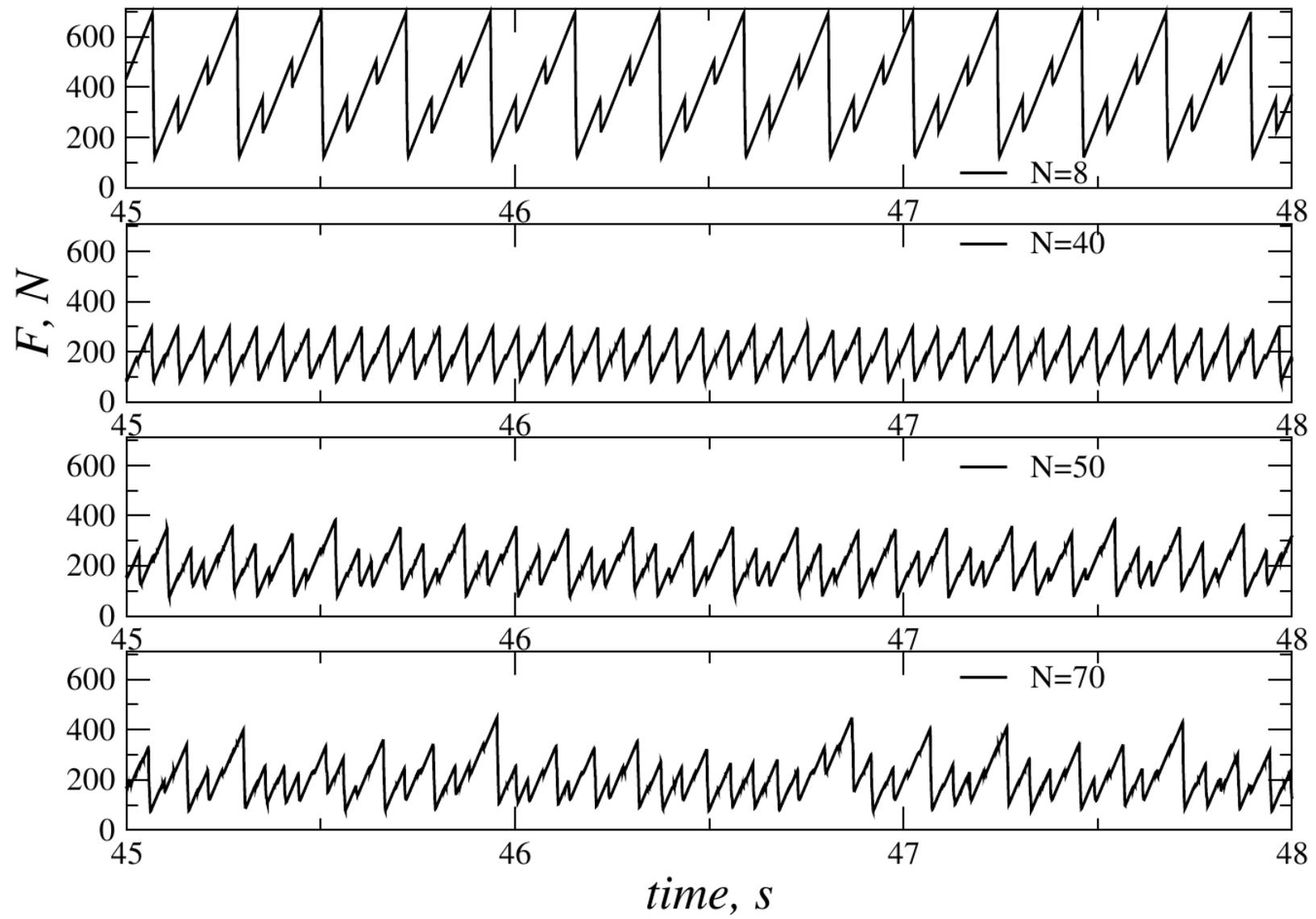
$f_{si}$  – rupture forces which takes random values from a Gaussian distribution

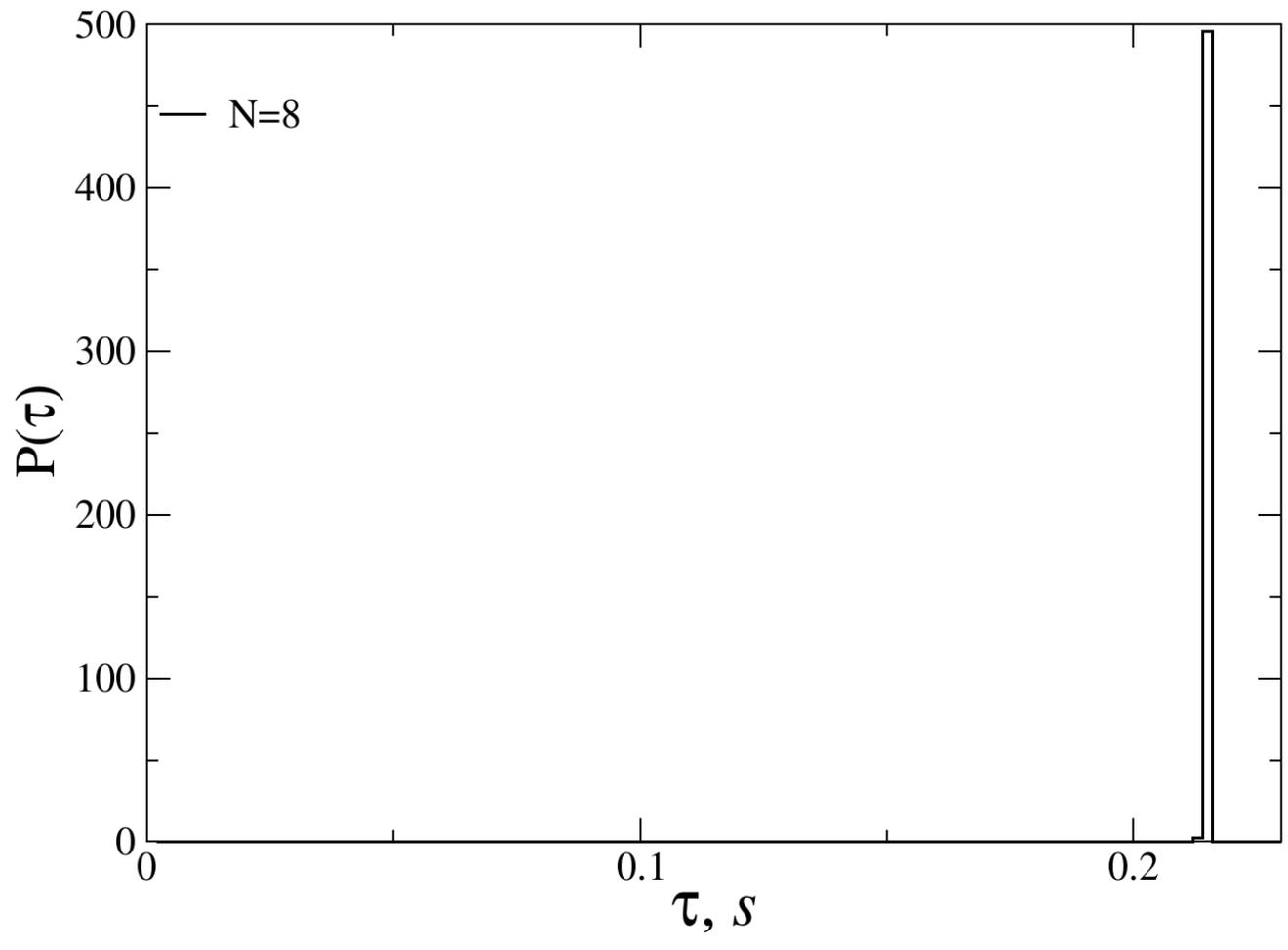
## Results of simulations

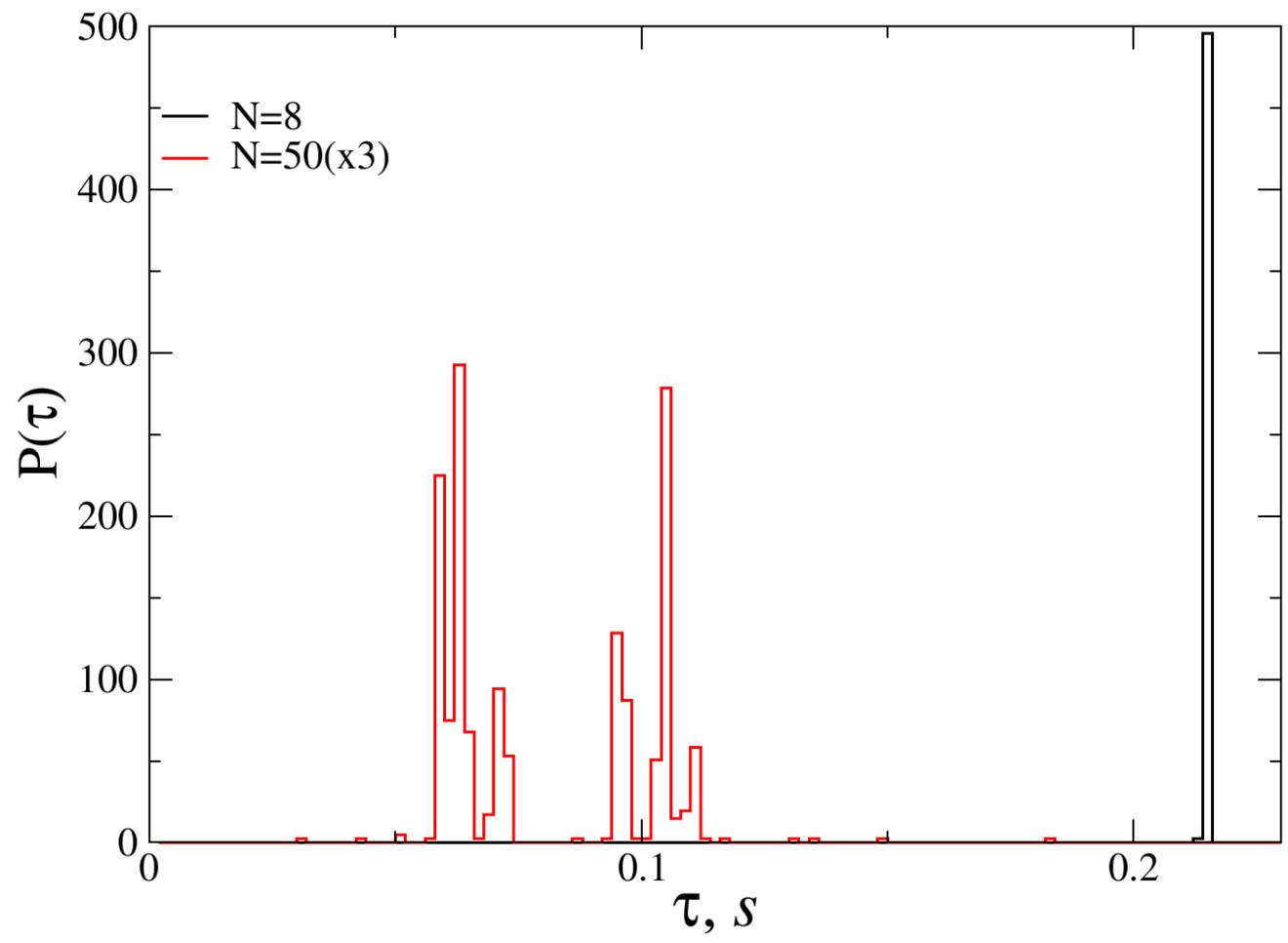


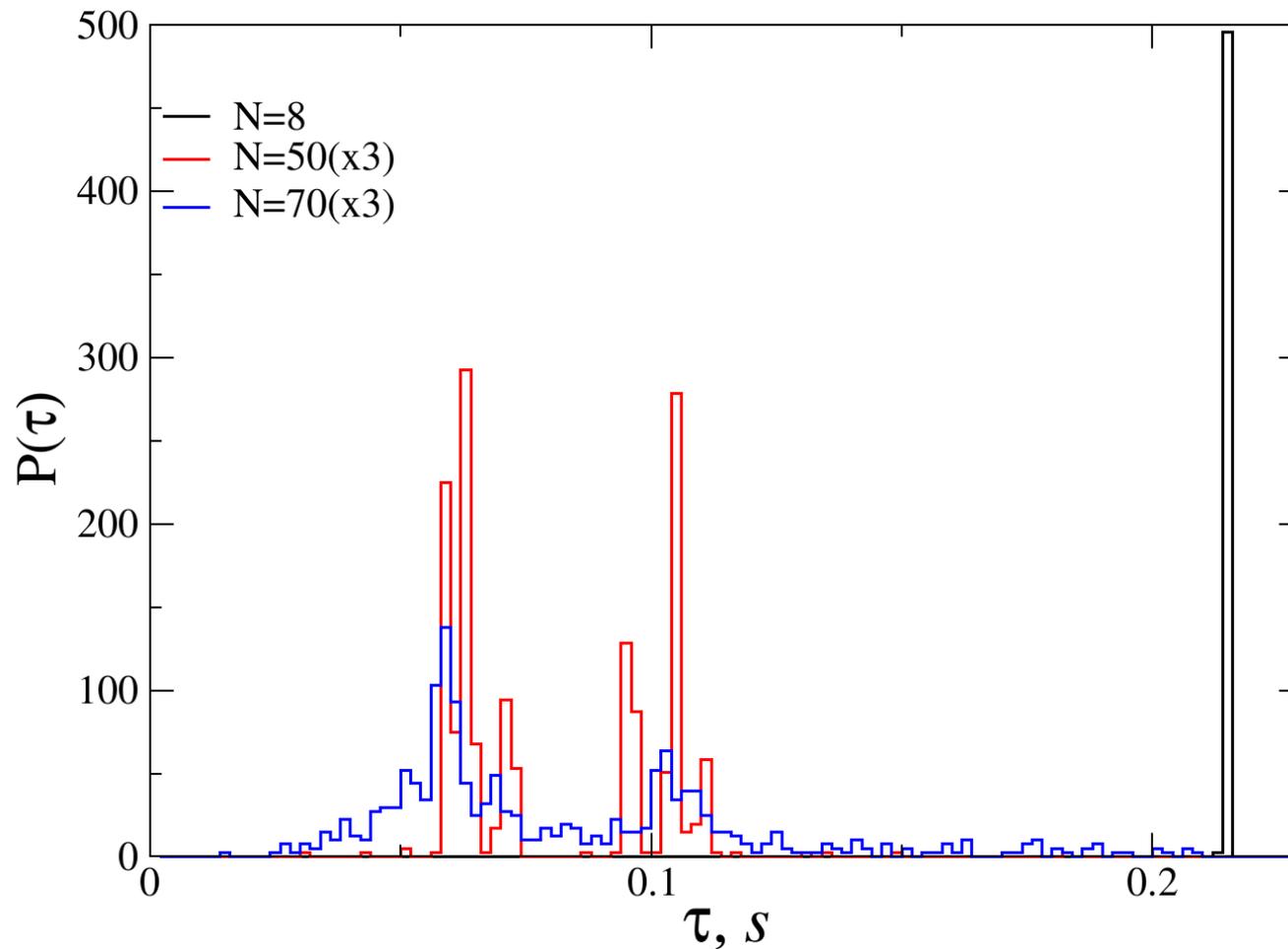
A broad distribution of stick times is retained even when all contacts are identical.

# Force traces for different numbers of blocks







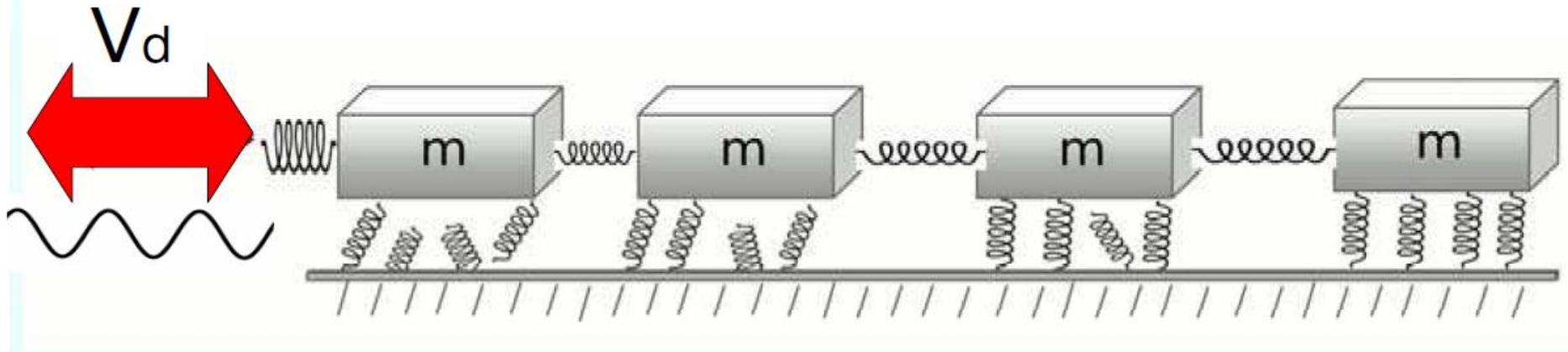
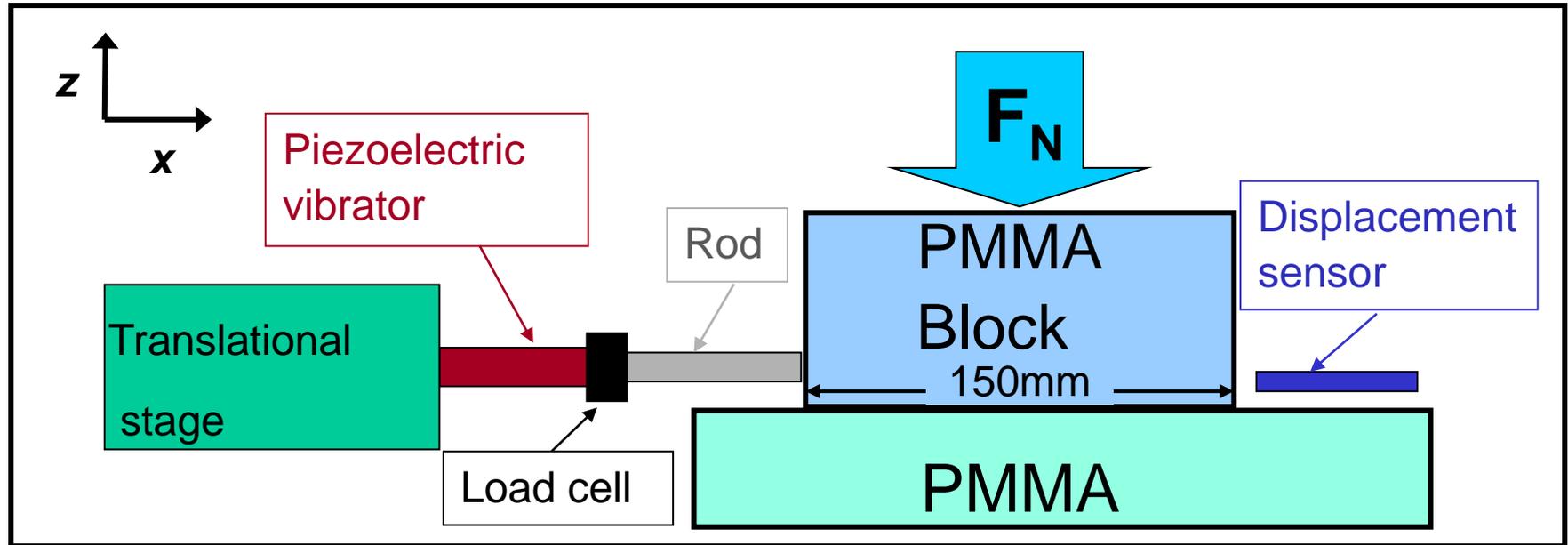


$$\Delta x_j = x_j - x_j^0 = \Delta x_1 \exp[-\sqrt{K_s/K_{\text{int}}}(j-1)]$$

**Stochasticity:** the nonuniformly stressed region involves more than one block, i.e.

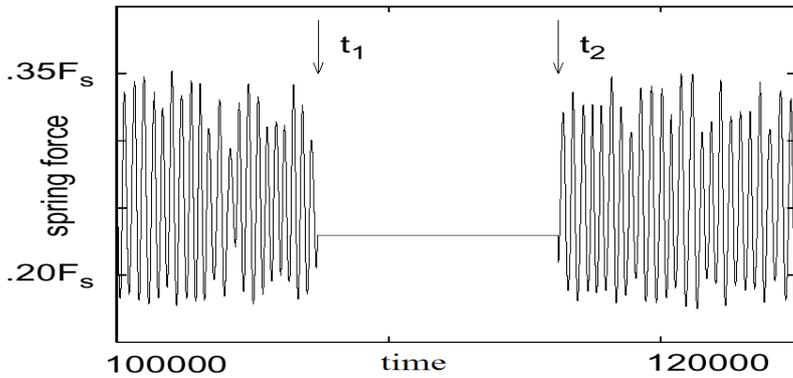
$$N \gg \sqrt{K_{\text{int}}/K_s}$$

# Is it possible to control the stochasticity?



$$V_d = V_0 - \frac{2\pi}{T} \Delta \sin(2\pi t / T),$$

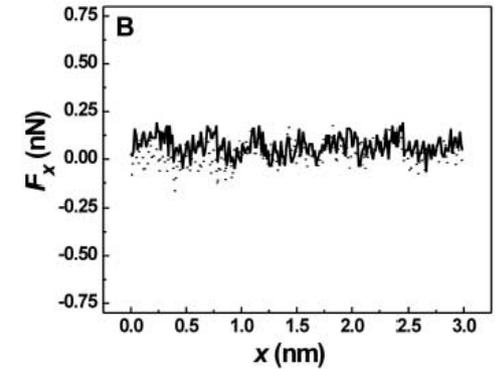
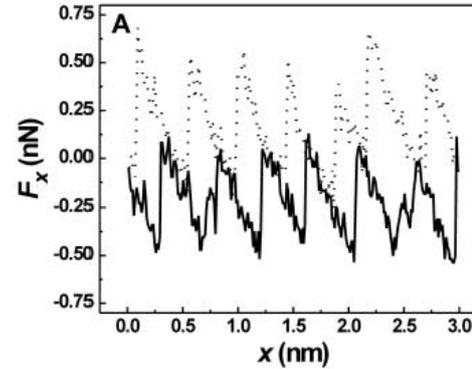
# Control of Friction via Normal Oscillations



M.G. Rozman, M. Urbakh & J. Klafter, *Phys. Rev. E* 57, 7340 (1998);

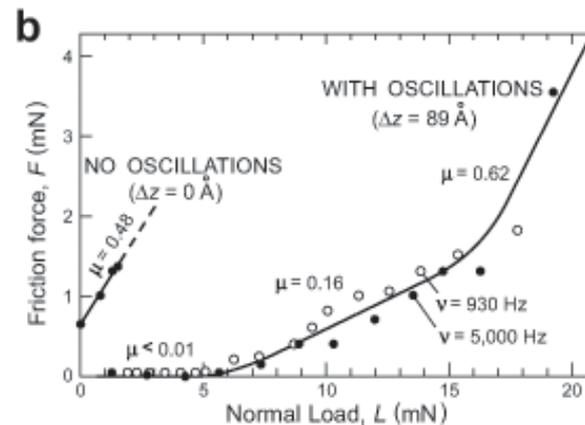
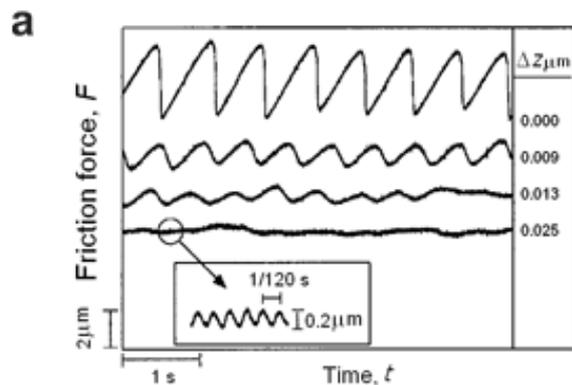
M. Urbakh, J. Klafter, D. Gourdon & J. Israelachvili, *Nature*, 430, 525 (2004).

R. Capozza, A. Vanossi, A. Vezzani & S. Zapperi *Phys. Rev Lett.* 103, 085502 (2009)



Anisoara Socoliuc,<sup>1\*</sup> Enrico Gnecco,<sup>1</sup> Sabine Maier,<sup>1</sup> Oliver Pfeiffer,<sup>1</sup> Alexis Baratoff,<sup>1</sup> Roland Bennewitz,<sup>2</sup> Ernst Meyer<sup>1</sup>

SCIENCE VOL 313 14 JULY 2006

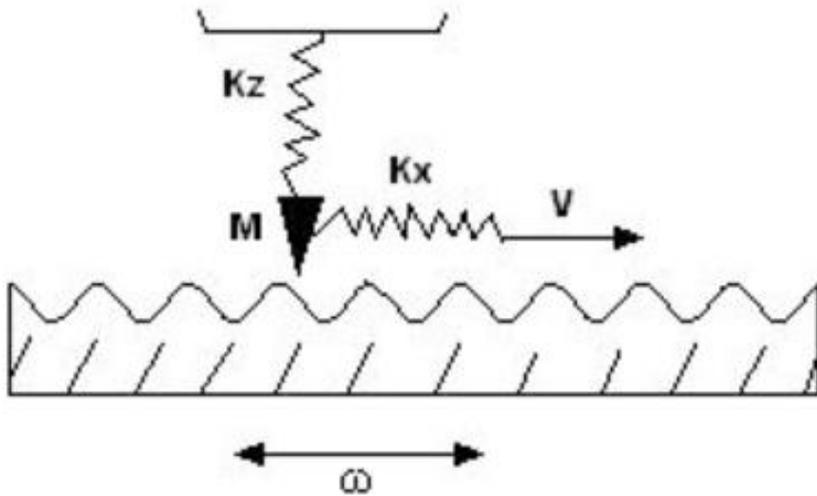


## SFA Experiments

A. Cochard, L. Bureau & T. Baumberger, *Trans. ASME* 70, 220 (2003).

M. Heuberger, C. Drummond & J.N. Israelachvili, *J. Phys. Chem. B* 102, 5038 (1998).

## Effect of lateral vibrations



Z. Tschirrut, A. E. Filippov & M. Urbakh, PRL 95,  
Art. No. 016101 2005.

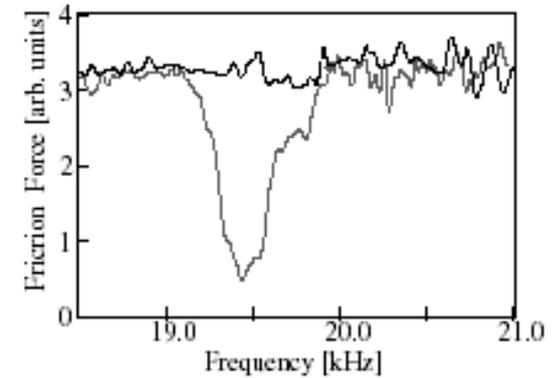
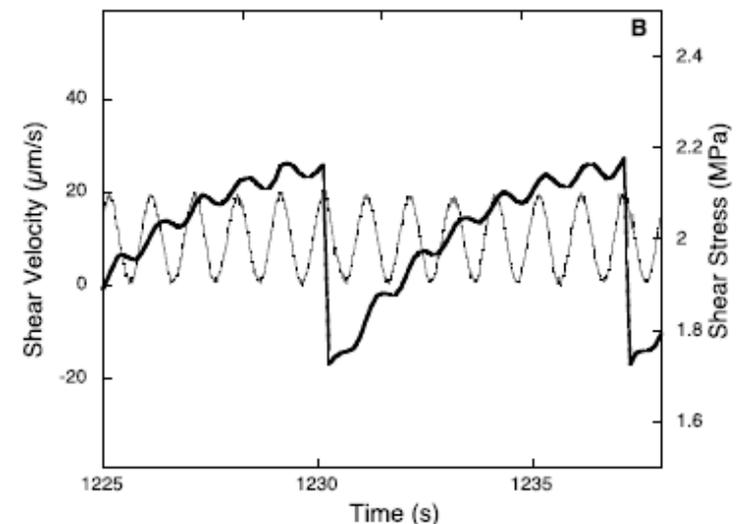


FIG. 3. Friction force vs frequency of the external oscillations at  $v = 8 \mu\text{m/s}$  (continuous line) and  $v = 150 \mu\text{m/s}$  (dashed line). The applied load is  $F_N = 15 \text{ nN}$  in both cases.

E.Riedo, E.Gnecco, R.Bennewitz, E.Meyer,  
and H.Brune, PRL, 2003.

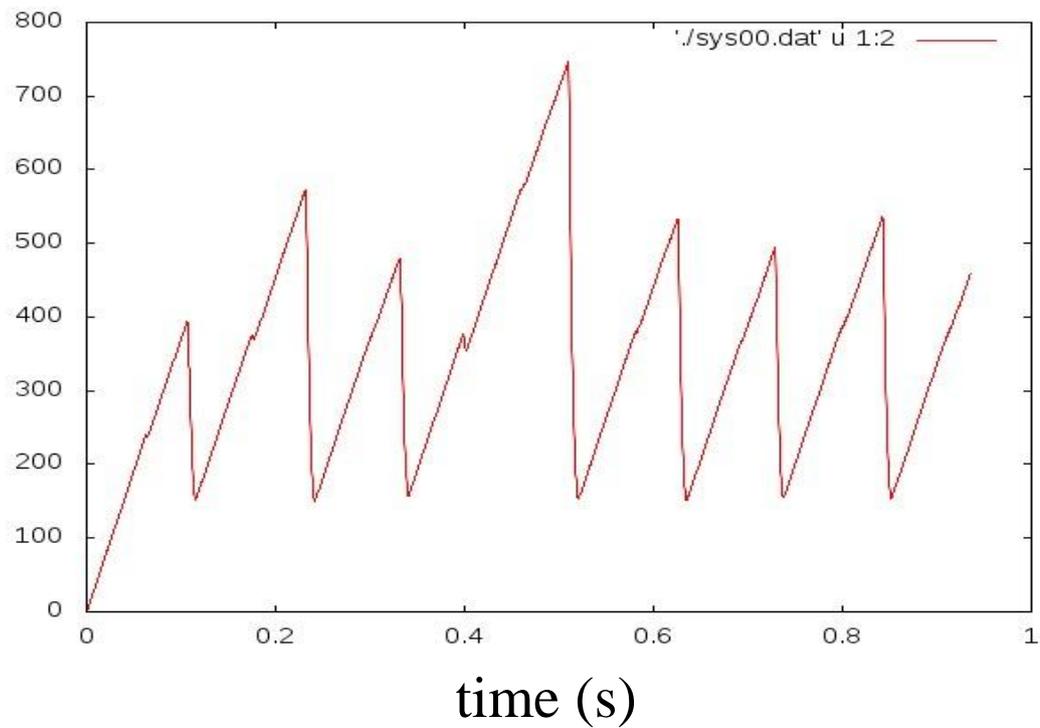
## Shear velocity oscillations on stick-slip behavior on macroscale

Beeler, N. M., and D. A. Lockner, J. Geophys. Res., 108(B8), 2391, (2003)  
H.M. Savage and C. Marone, J. Geophys. Res., 112(B0), 2301, 2007



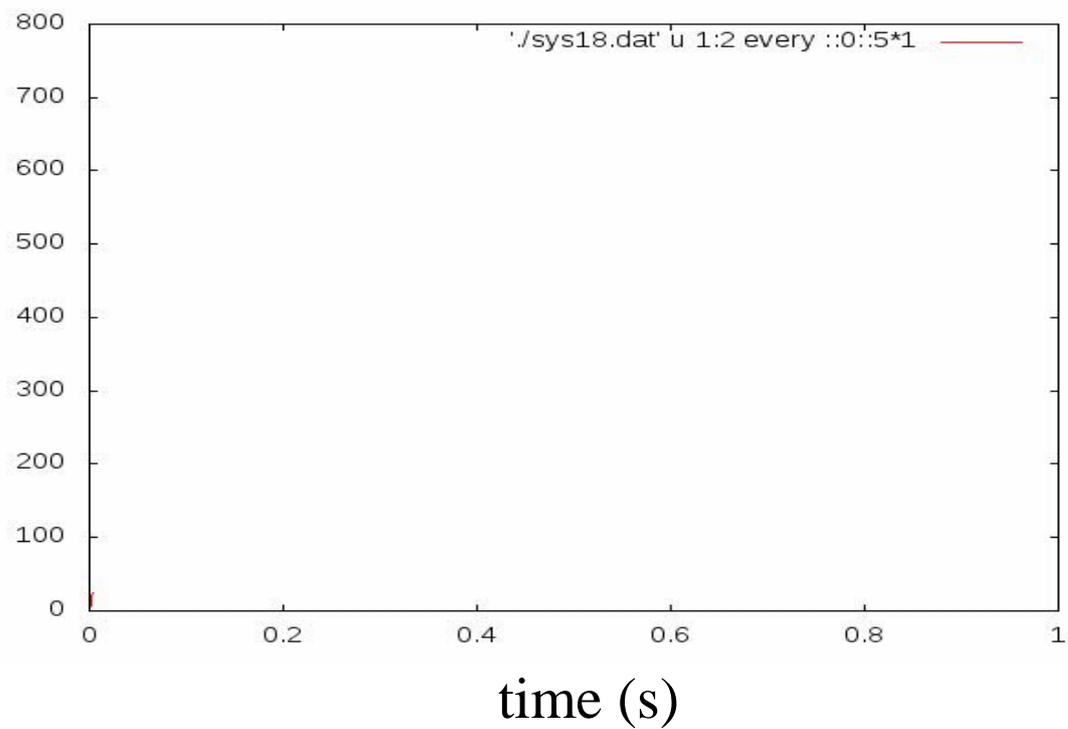
No control

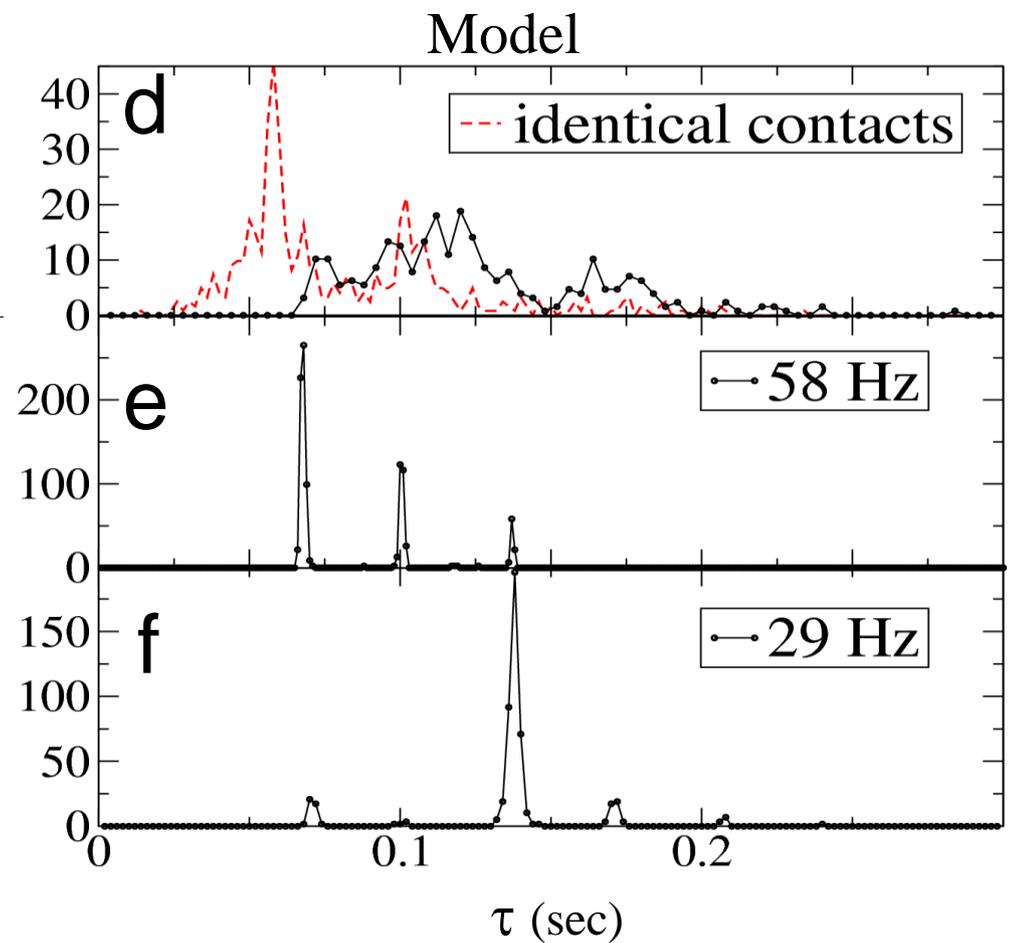
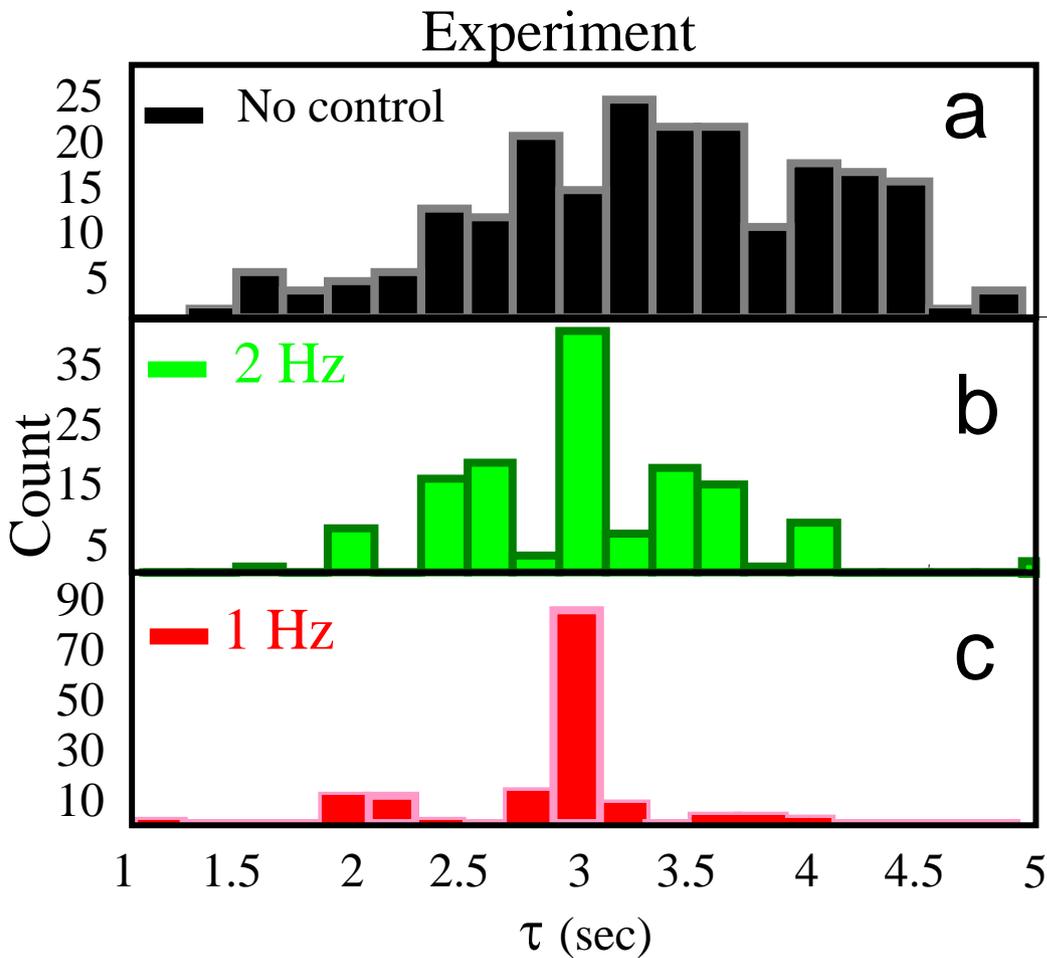
$F_L$



Control

$F_L$





*Phys. Rev Lett.* 107, 024301(2011)

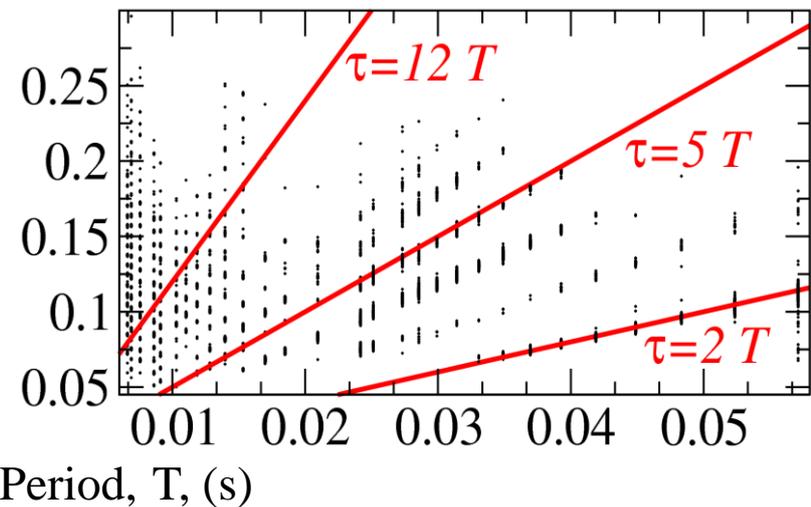
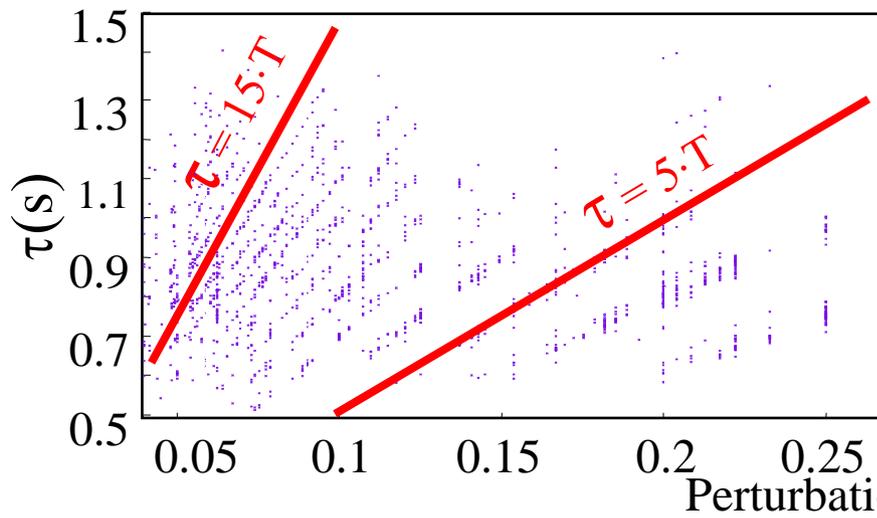
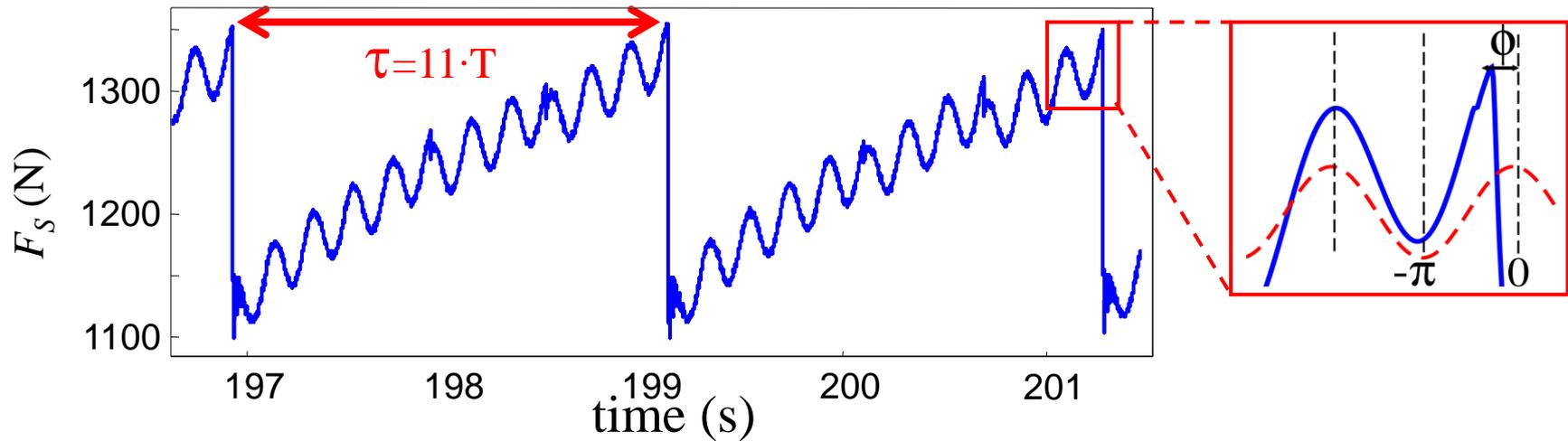
Even relatively small perturbations can cause the interval between successive stick-slip events to phase-lock to the perturbation frequency.

$$0.002 < \Delta F_S / F_S^m < 0.05$$

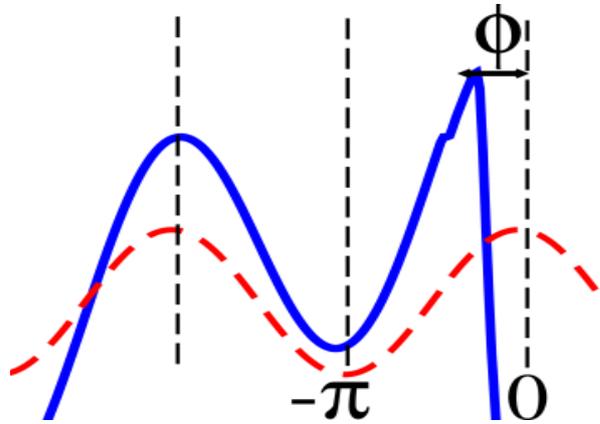
Phase locking: for frequencies much higher than the typical stick-slip frequency.

The stick time adapts itself to the value of  $T$ , such that  $\tau = nT$

$$\phi = 2\pi\Delta t / T$$



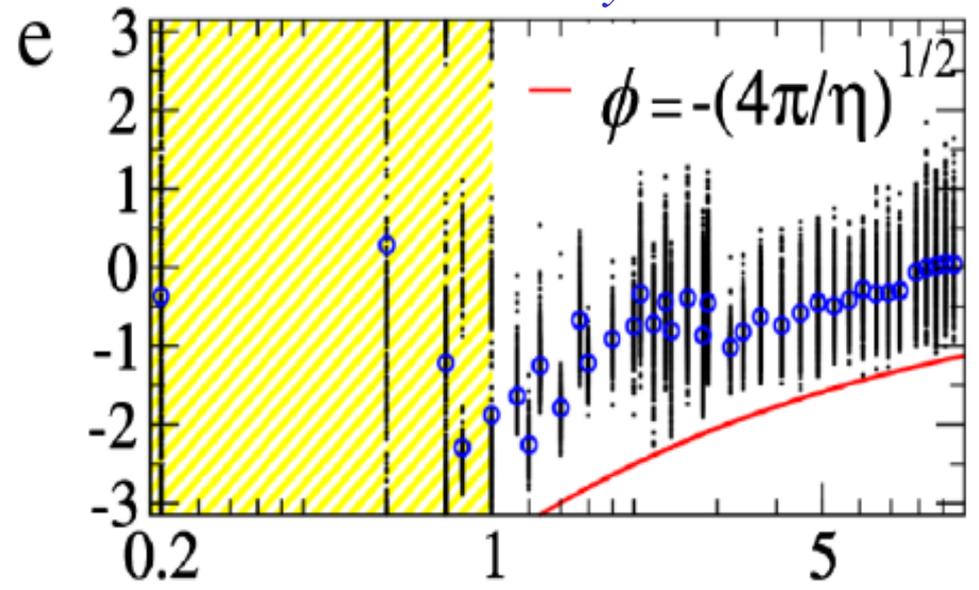
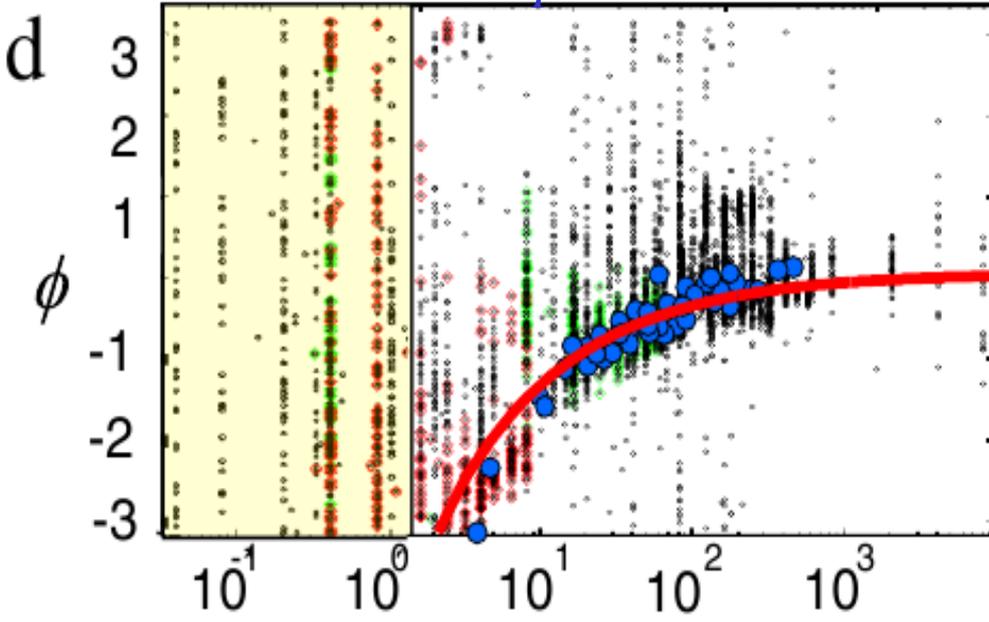
Slip time relative to the forcing: temporal shift,  $\Delta t$ , from the closest peak of the force modulation..



$$\phi = 2\pi\Delta t / T$$

*Experiment*

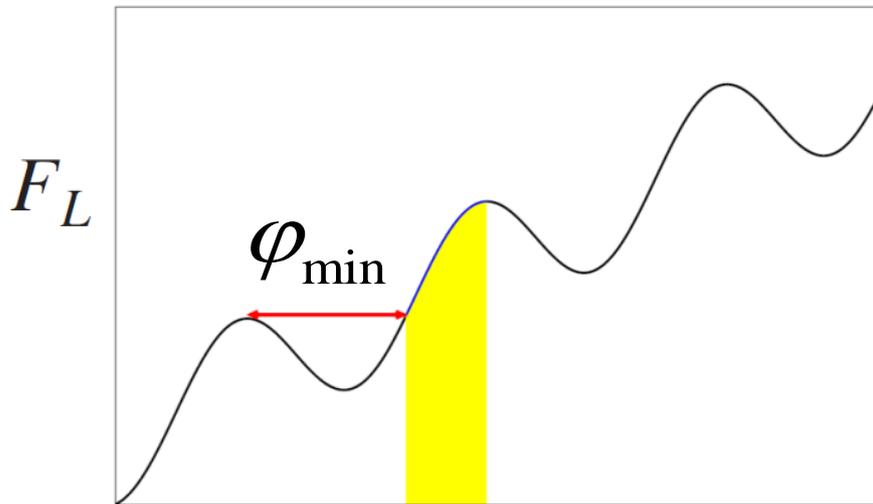
*Theory*



*Phys. Rev Lett.* 107, 024301(2011)

$$\eta = 2\pi\Delta / T V_0$$

Minimal possible value of the phase: the loading force associated with this phase is higher than the preceding maximum of  $F_L$  in the loading curve.



$$F_L = K_d[V_0 t + \Delta \cos(2\pi t/T)]$$

**Controlling parameter**

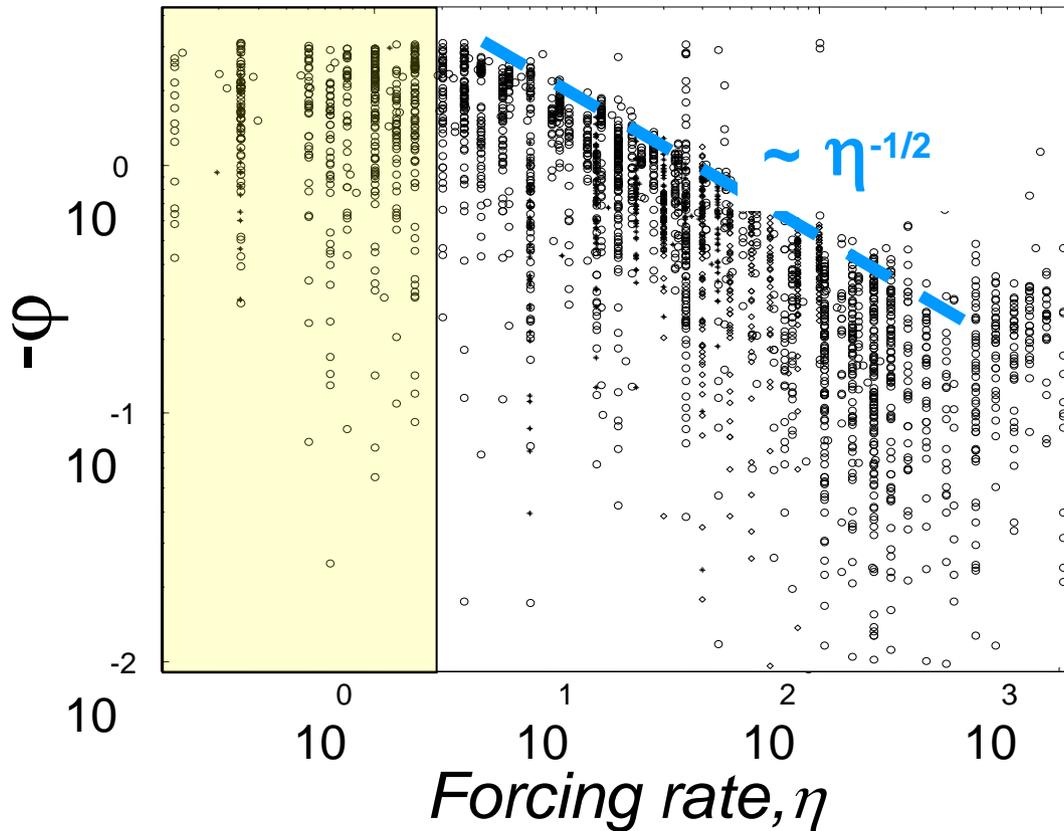
$$\varphi_{\min} + \eta \cos(\varphi_{\min}) = \Phi_{\max} + \eta \cos(\Phi_{\max})$$

$$\eta = \frac{2\pi\Delta}{TV_0}$$

- For values  $\eta < 1$  the loading force changes monotonically with time and harmonic oscillations do not influence the stick-slip pattern.
- For  $\eta \gg 1$  we have the following asymptotic behavior of the phase:

$$\varphi_{\min} \approx -2\left(\pi / \eta\right)^{1/2}$$

# Power law behavior of the phase



- (i)  $\eta$  is indeed a *relevant parameter* that controls a frictional response to harmonic perturbations
- (ii) There exists *minimum value* of  $\eta \sim 1$ , below which no phase-locking is observed;
- (iii) When control is applied a *well-defined “backbone”* exists, below which the onset of stick-slip motion will (nearly) never occur;
- (iv) This backbone is described by the *power law form*:  $\phi \propto \eta^{1/2}$ .

The data for stick-slip events are strongly clustered above this curve.



# Conclusions

- › Small oscillatory perturbations **synchronize** the periods between consecutive slip events.
- › A **model** explains the experimental observations and elucidates the mechanism for phase locking.
- › We have identified one of the **relevant dimensionless parameter** and shown how this functionally affects the locking phase.
- › **The main effect of perturbations on the detachment dynamics is the elimination of slow fronts which correspond to a critical state.**