

Unjamming dynamics of a granular seismic model

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National Research Council - SPIN

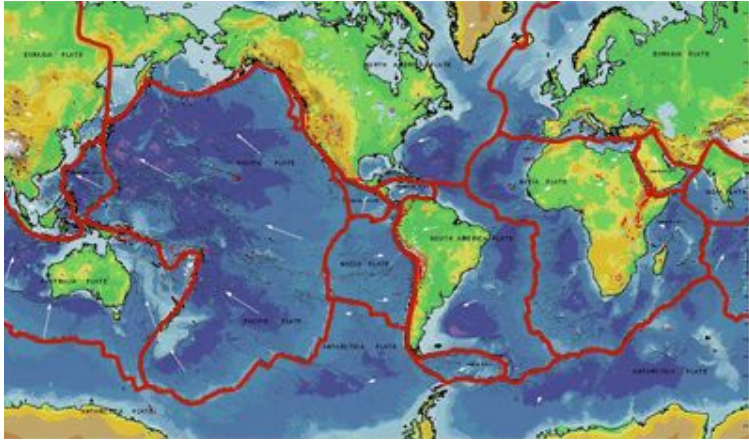
University of Naples Federico II, Italy

Collaborators: Antonio Coniglio, Lucilla de Arcangelis, Cataldo Godano,
Eugenio Lippiello

M. Pica Ciamarra, E. Lippiello, C. Godano, L. de Arcangelis, PRL **104**, 238001 (2010);

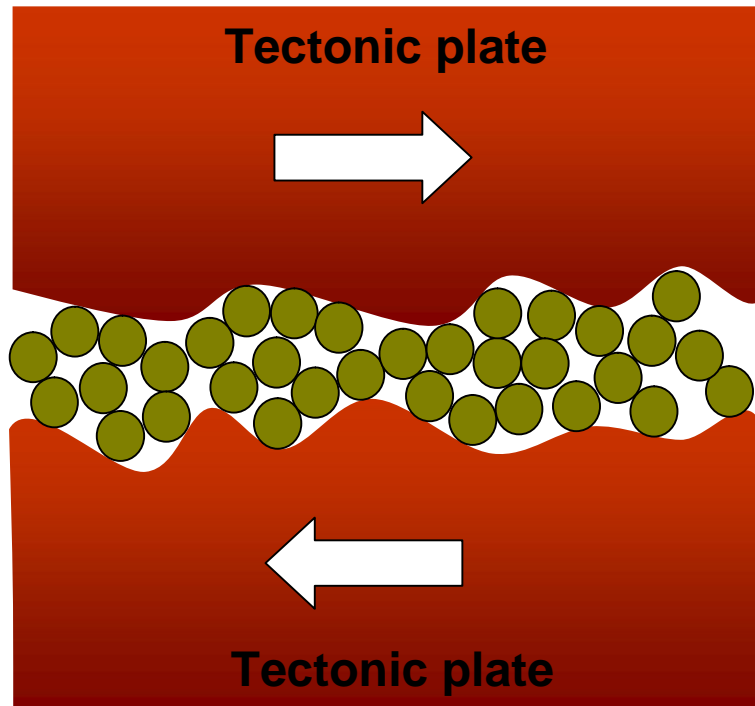
M. Pica Ciamarra, E. Lippiello, L. de Arcangelis, C. Godano, EPL **95**, 54002 (2011)

M. Pica Ciamarra, A. Coniglio, Phys. Rev. Lett. **103**, 235701 (2009)



Earthquake:

Shear stress induced transition from a disordered solid (jammed) to a flowing state (unjammed) in a granular assembly



Seismic fault

(normal fault)

Fault gouge

“Breccia di faglia”

Granular particles,
product of wearing

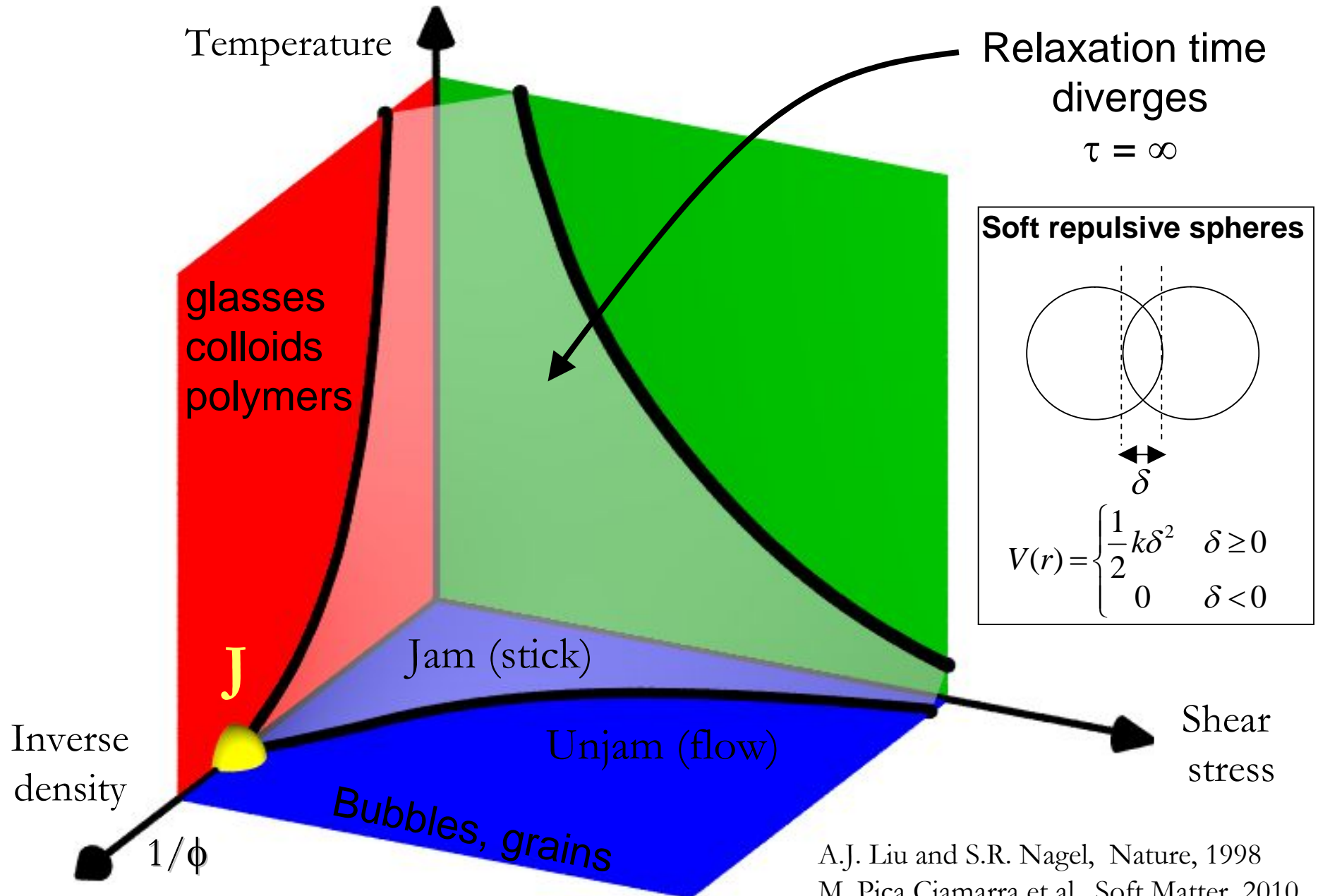
The shear stress is
supported by the
granular particles

In this talk:

- Jamming transition at point-J
 - Geometrical and structural properties
 - Existence of a diverging length scale
 - M. van Hecke, J. Phys.: Condens. Matt., 2010

- Length scale at finite applied shear stress?
 - Model system
 - Failure as an emerging process
 - Response to perturbations

Jamming phase diagram

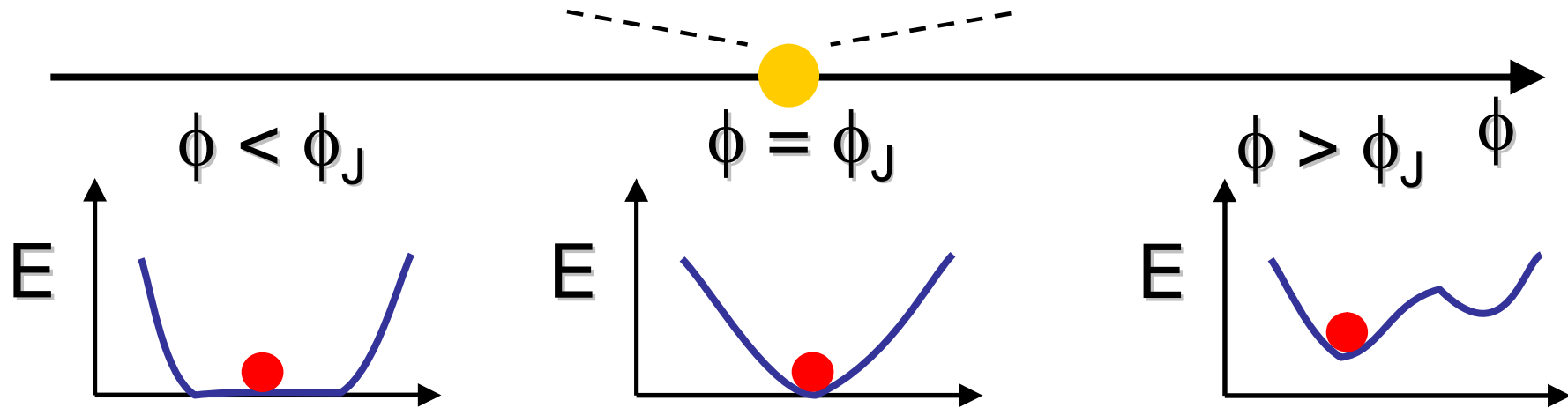
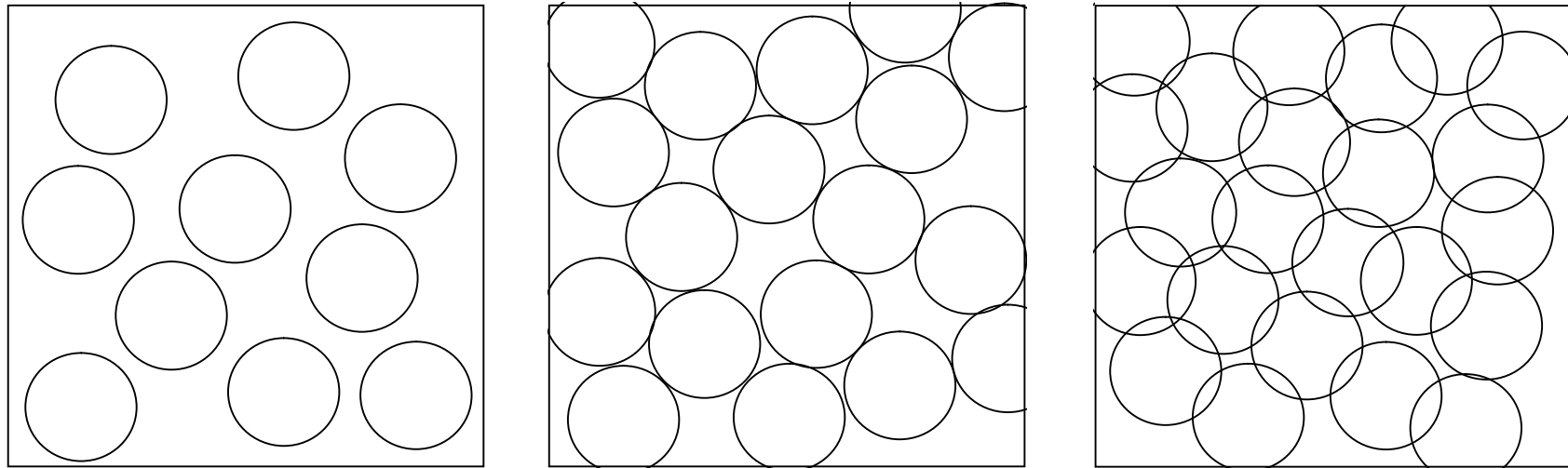


A.J. Liu and S.R. Nagel, Nature, 1998
M. Pica Ciamarra et al., Soft Matter, 2010

Jamming transition: point-J

Protocol: slowly compress frictionless soft spheres at zero temperature

C. O'Hern *et al.*, PRE 68, 011306 (2003):

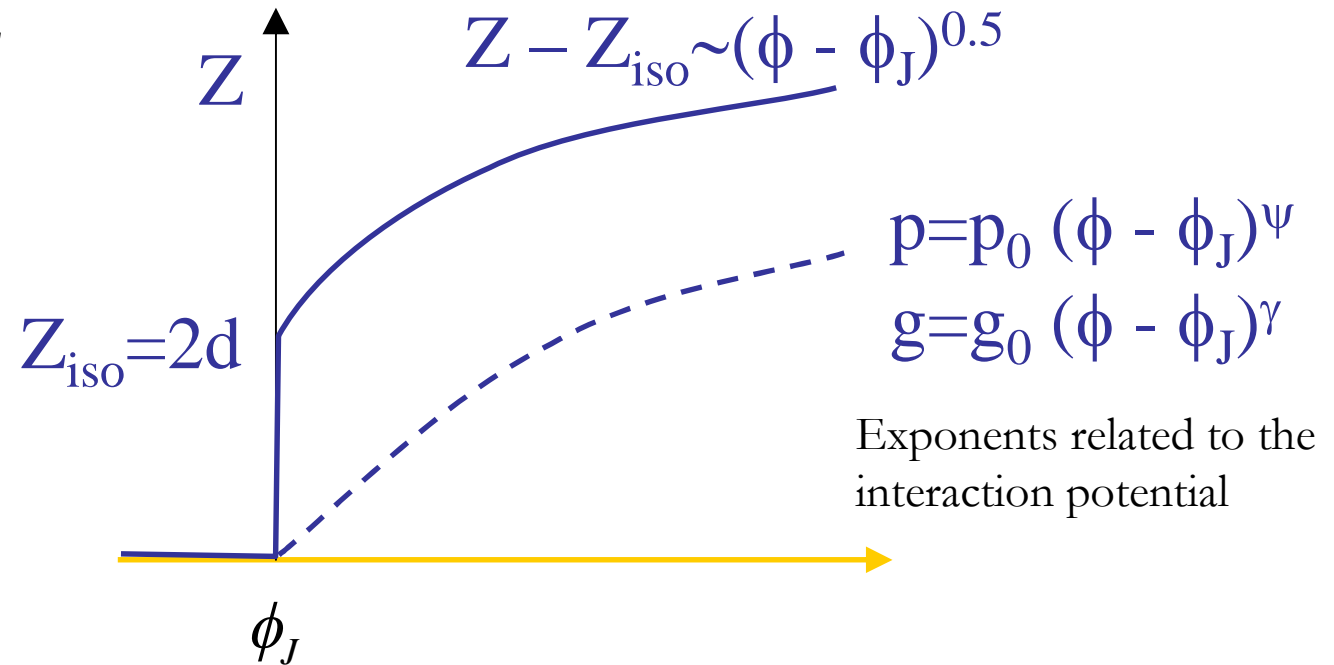
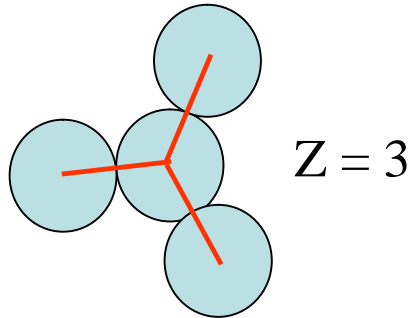


Small protocol dependence

M. Pica Ciamarra, A. Coniglio and A. de Candia, *Soft Matter*, **6**, 2975, 2010
P. Chaudhuri, L. Bethier, and S. Sastry, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **104**, 165701, 2010
M. Hermes and M. Dijkstra, *Europhys. Lett.* **89**, 38005, 2010

Geometrical and mechanical transition

Mean contact number Z



Equilibrium of N grains in d dimensions

Number of equations: $N d$

Number of unknowns (forces): $NZ/2$

$$Nd = NZ/2 \rightarrow Z = Z_{iso} = 2d$$

$Z < Z_{iso}$ no solution

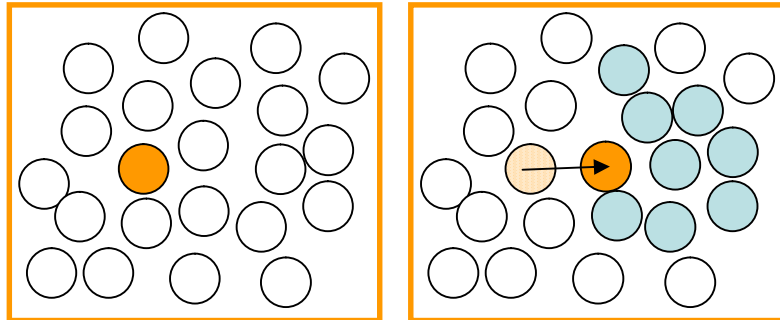
$Z = Z_{iso}$ one solution

$Z > Z_{iso}$ many solutions

Diverging length below jamming, $\phi \rightarrow \phi_J$

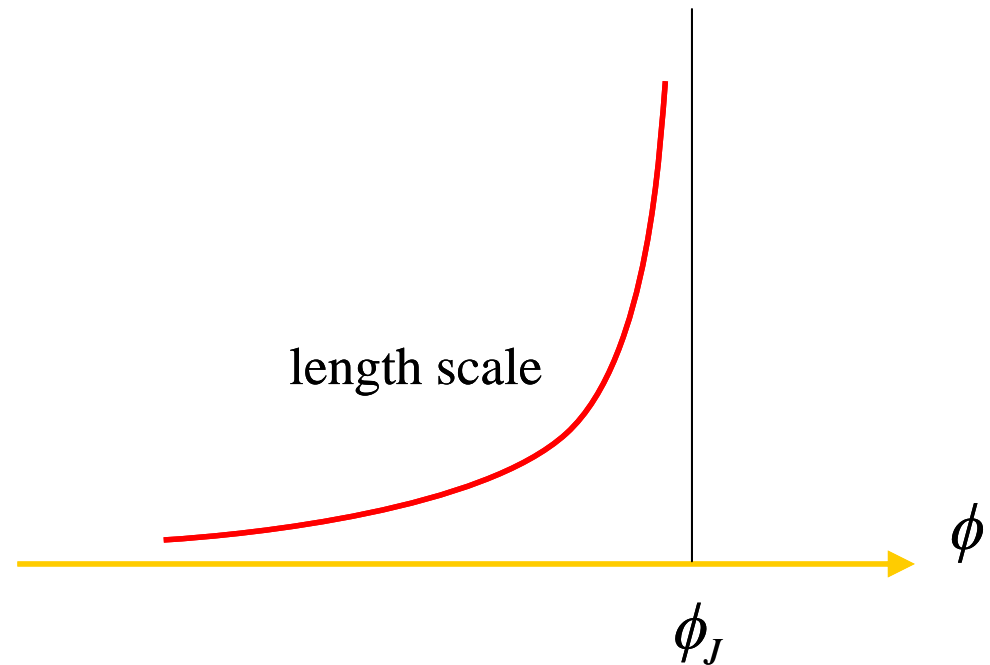
$\phi < \phi_J$

J.A. Drocco *et al*, PRL 95, 088001 (2005)



Cluster of co-moving particles
Cooperatively rearranging region

$$\xi \sim (\phi_J - \phi)^{-0.65}$$



P. Olsson, S. Teitel, PRL 99, 178001 (2007)

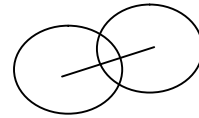
$$\eta \sim (\phi_J - \phi)^{-1.65}$$

$$\xi \sim (\phi_J - \phi)^{-0.6}$$

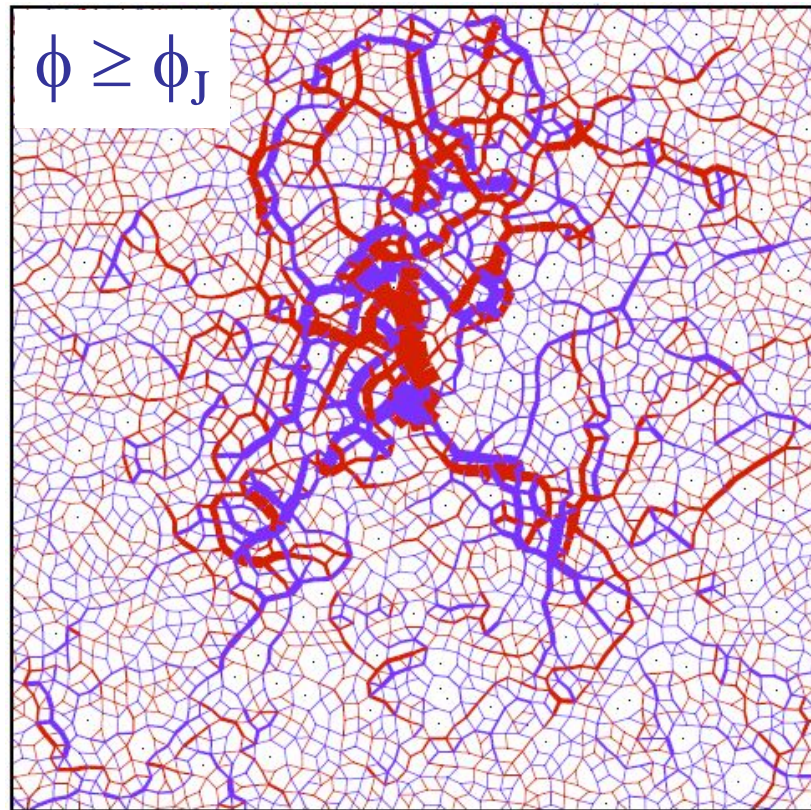
velocity correlations

Diverging length scale above jamming

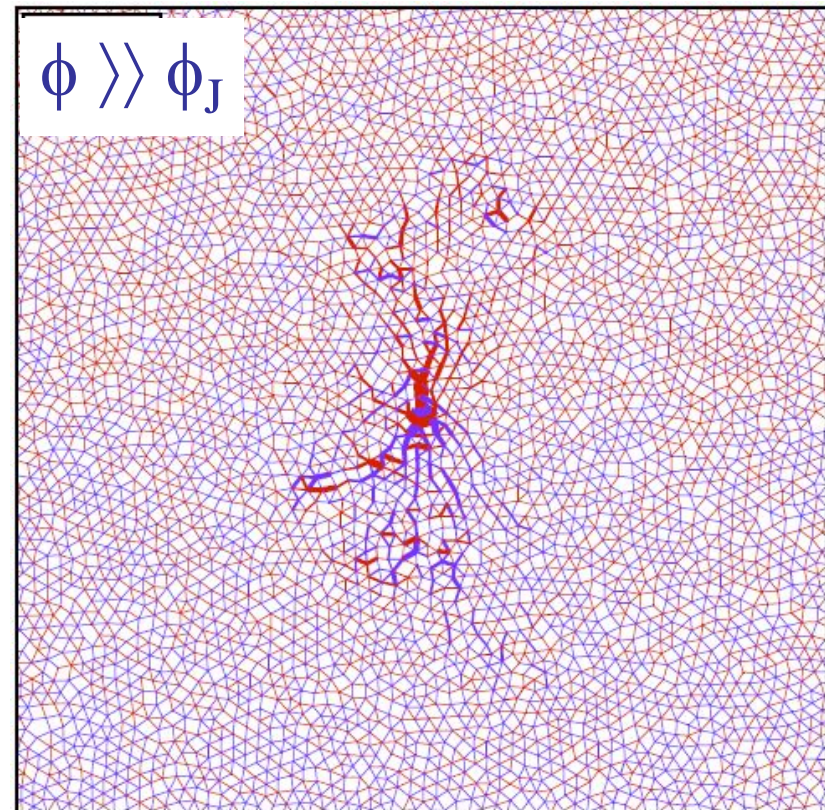
Response to perturbation: inflate the central particle; $\Delta D/D = 10^{-2}$



Just above jamming



Well above jamming



Diverging length above jamming, $\phi \rightarrow \phi_J$

$$\phi > \phi_J$$

$$\text{Excess contacts: } \Delta Z = Z - Z_{\text{iso}} \sim (\phi - \phi_J)^{0.5} > 0$$

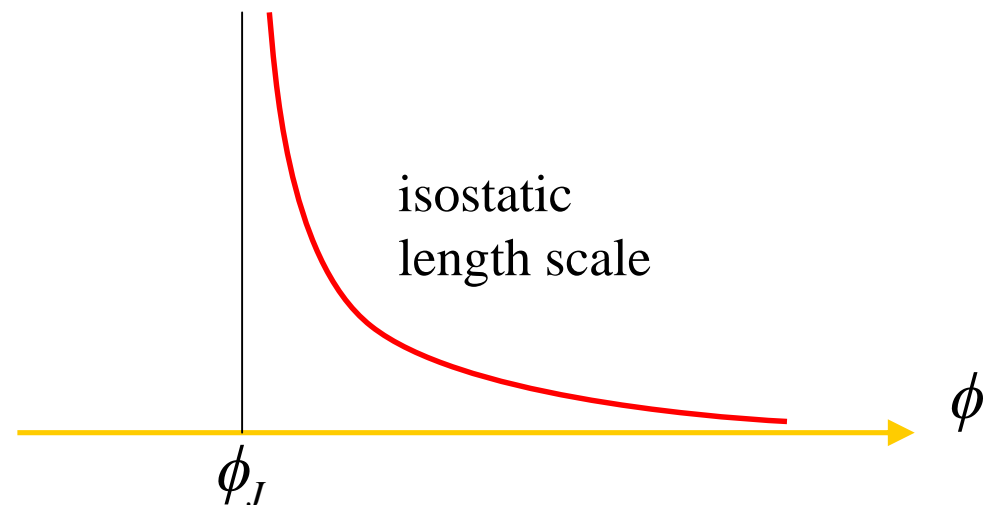
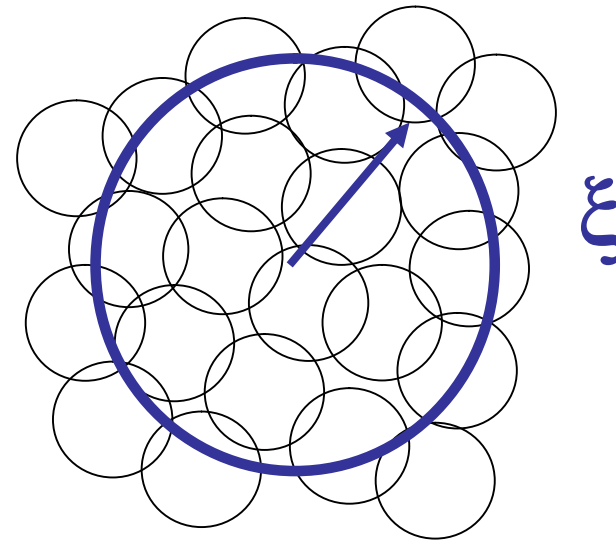
Consider a blob of size ξ :

$$\text{Excess contacts: } \propto \Delta Z \xi^d$$

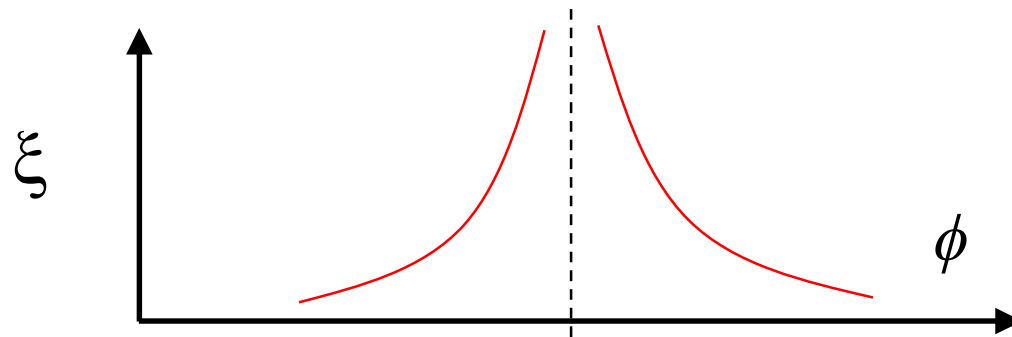
$$\text{Surface contacts: } \propto Z \xi^{d-1}$$

$$\Delta Z \xi^d \propto Z \xi^{d-1}$$

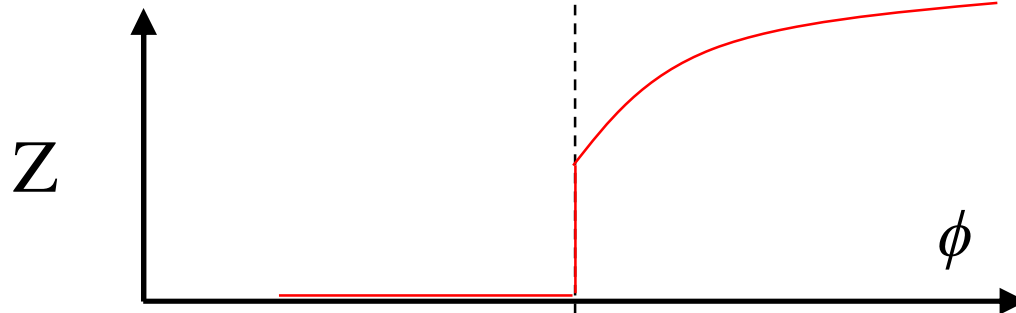
$$\xi \sim Z / \Delta Z \sim (\phi - \phi_J)^{-0.5}$$



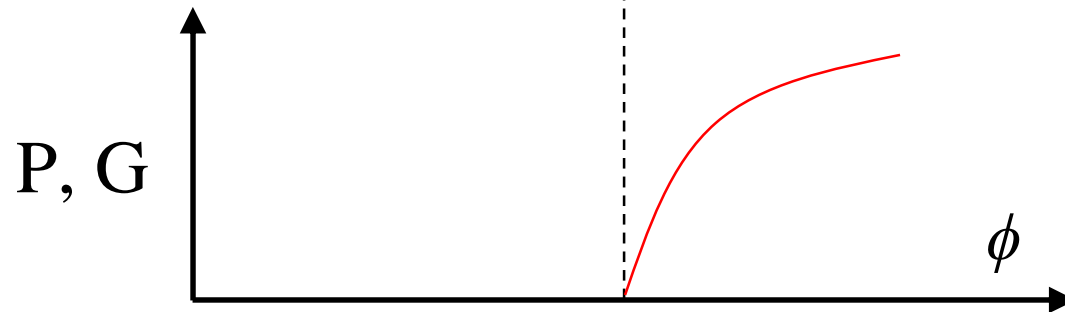
Point-J: summary



diverging
length scales



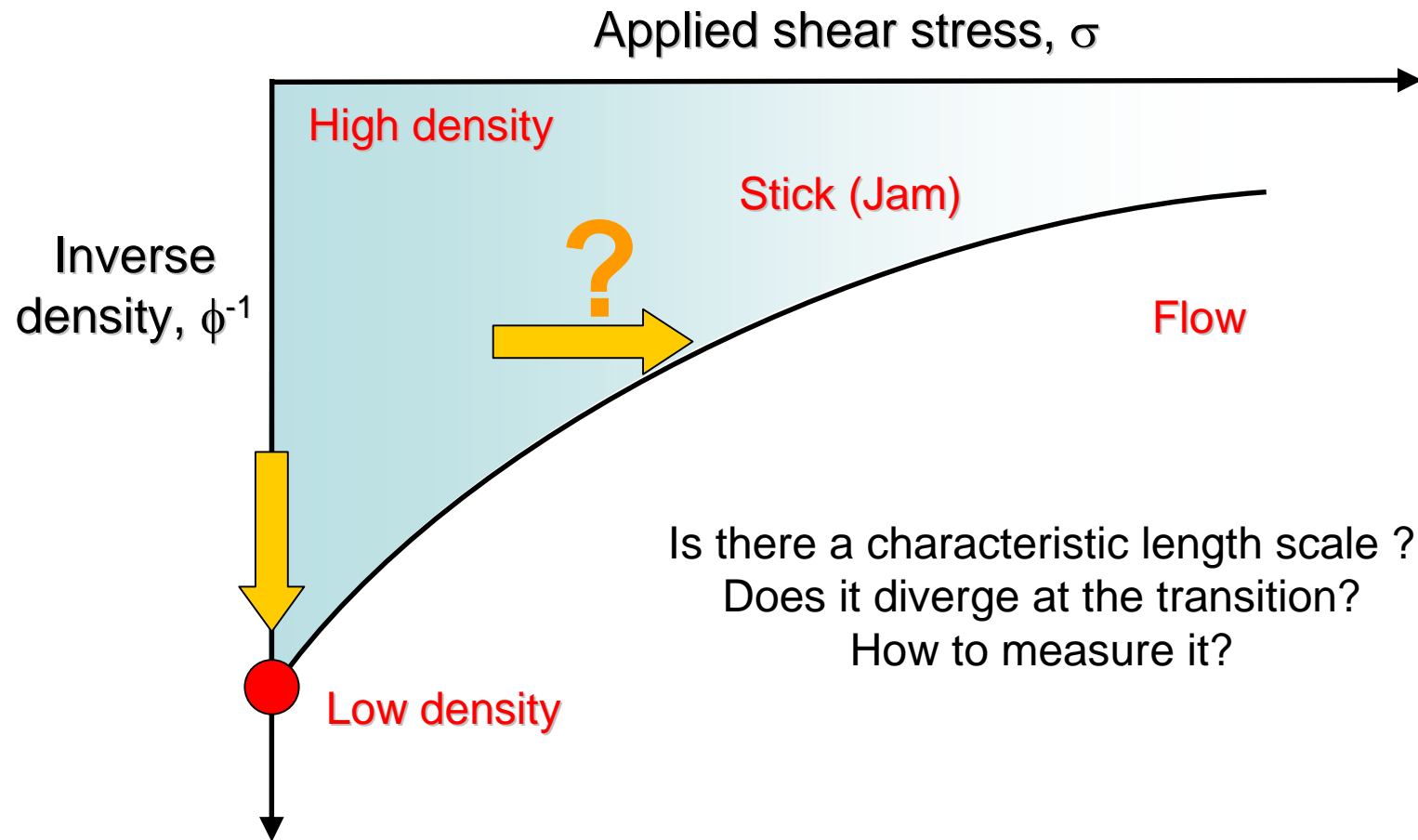
discontinuous
geometrical
properties



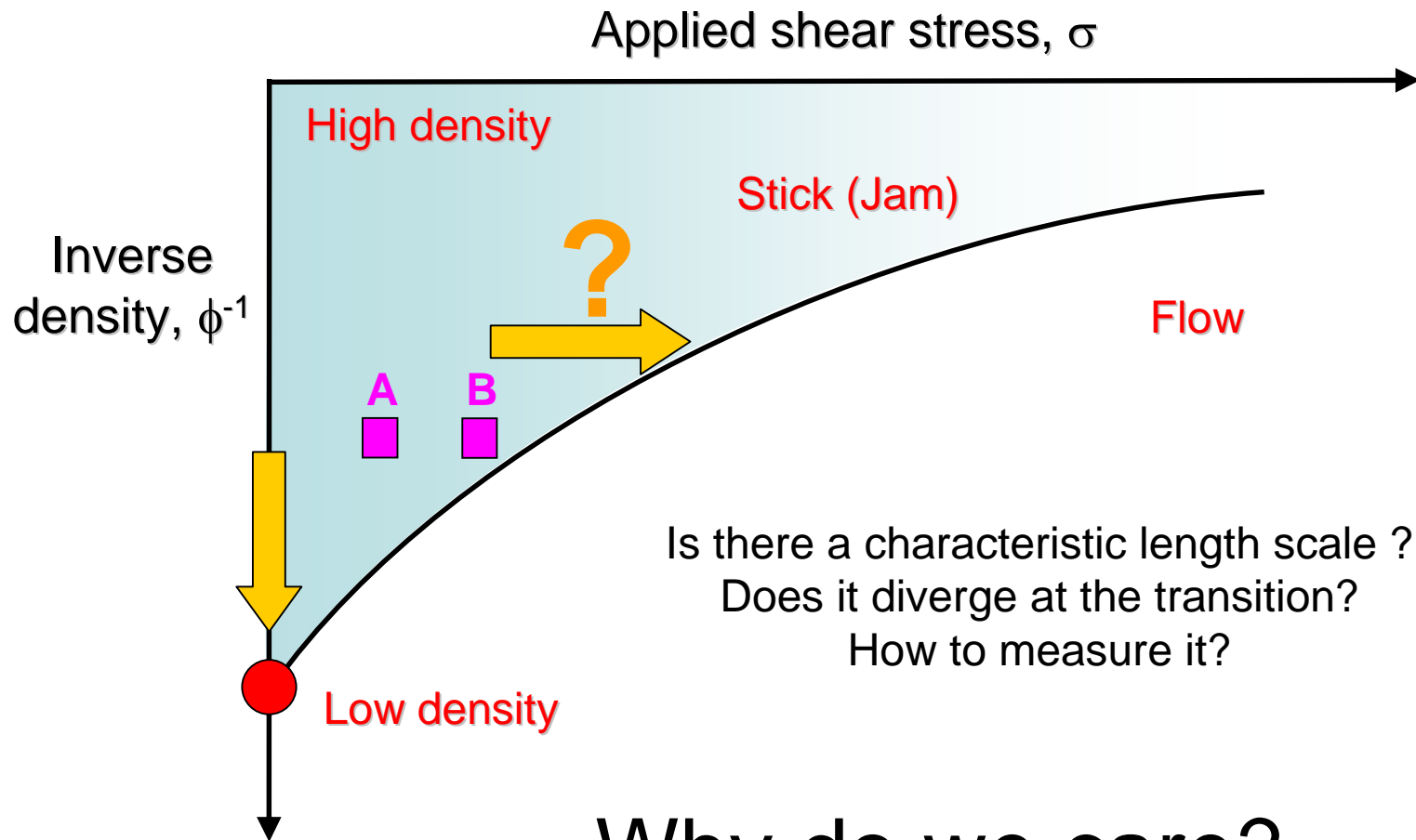
critical
mechanical
properties

ϕ_J

Jamming at finite applied stress



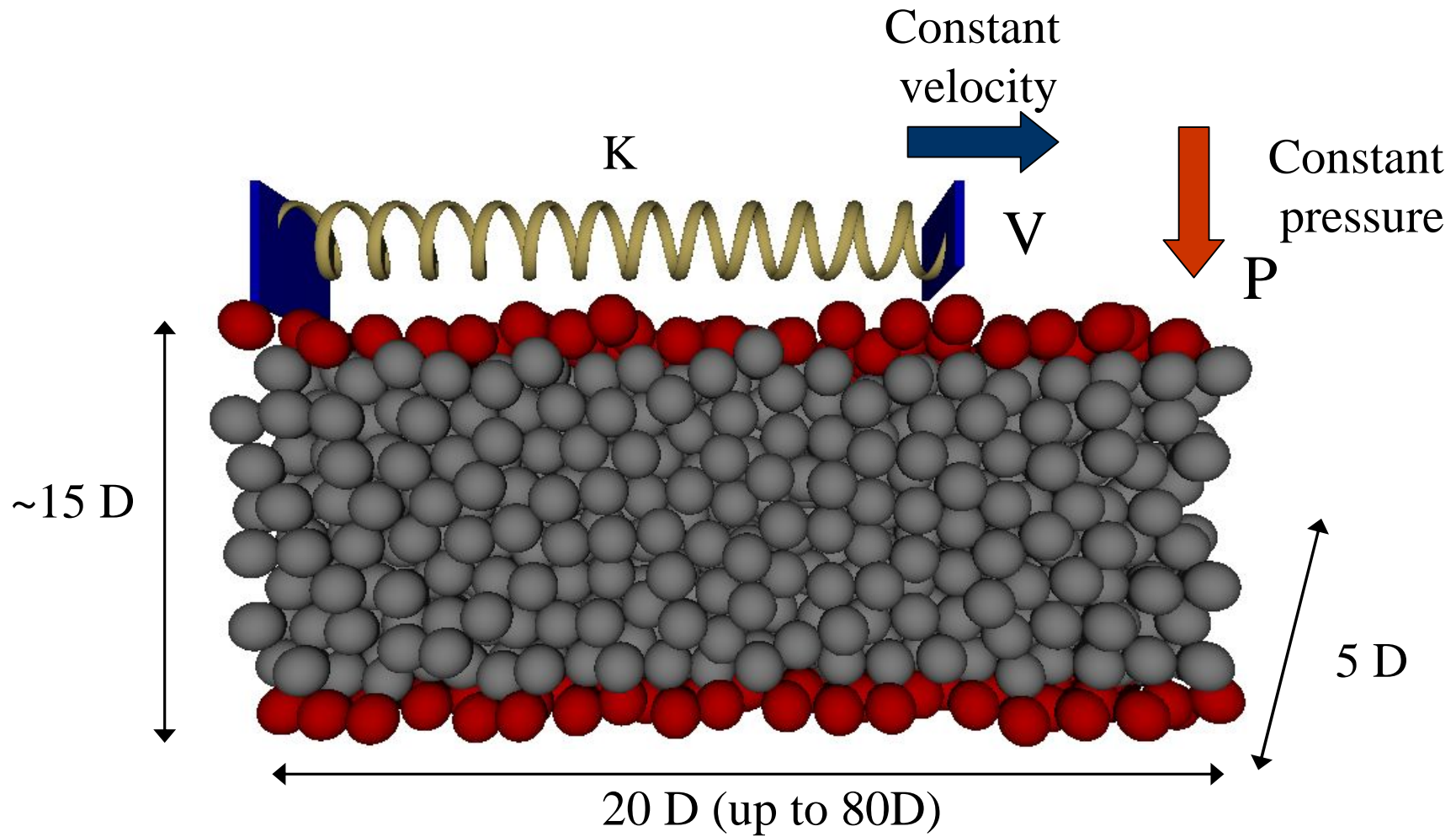
Jamming at finite applied stress



Why do we care?
Precursors

we don't know whereas the system is in state **A** or in state **B**

The model



Molecular Dynamics simulations of granular particles: friction, rotation

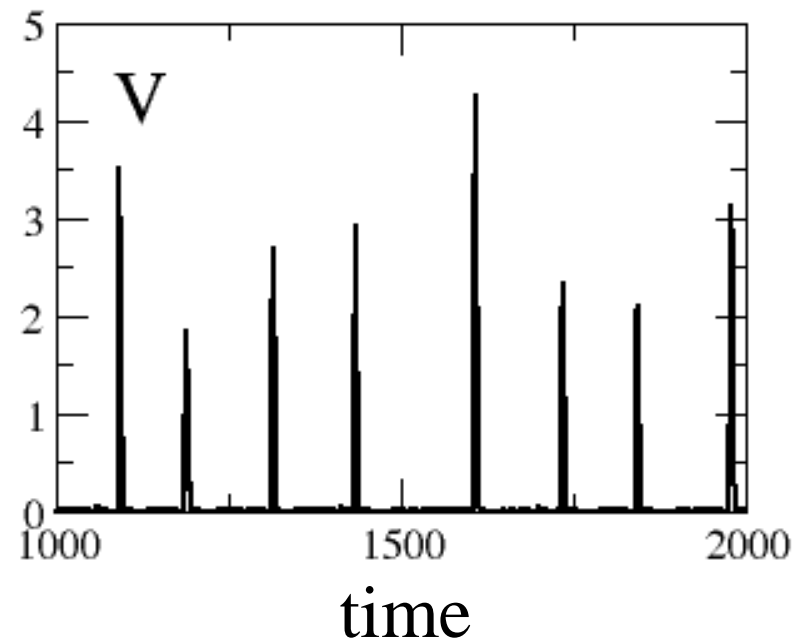
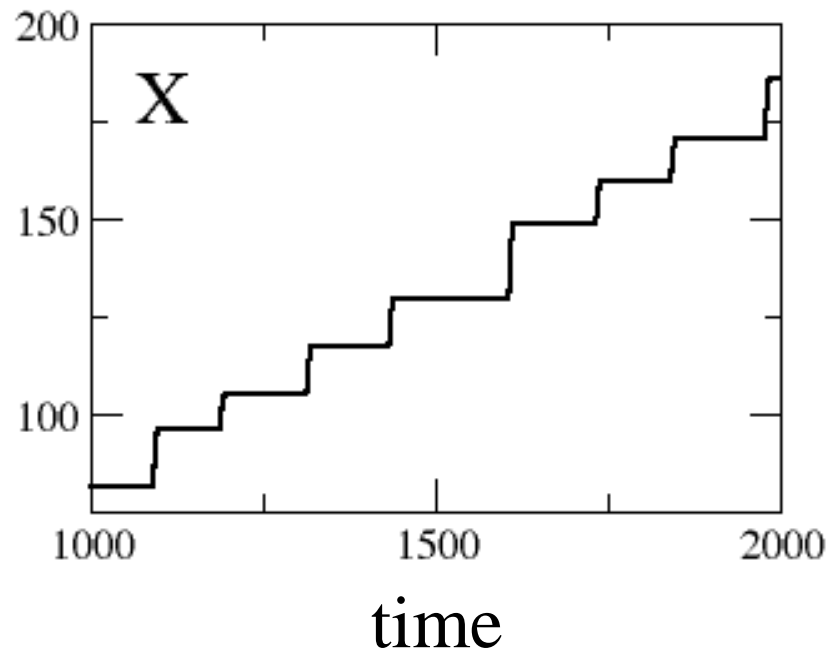
Reasonable model for earthquakes

S. Nasuno et al. Phys. Rev. E 58, 2161 (1998)

E. Aharonov and D. Sparks, J. Geophys. Res. 109, B09306 (2004)

F. Dalton and D. Corcoran, Phys. Rev. E 63, 061312 (2001); Phys. Rev. E 65, 031310 (2002)

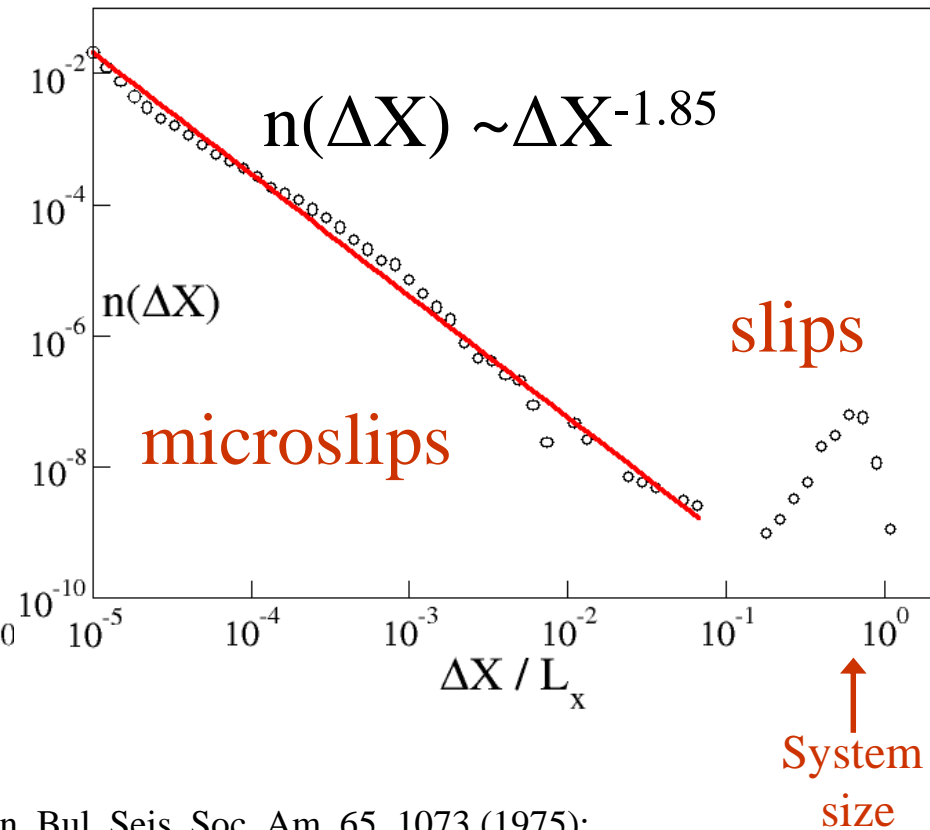
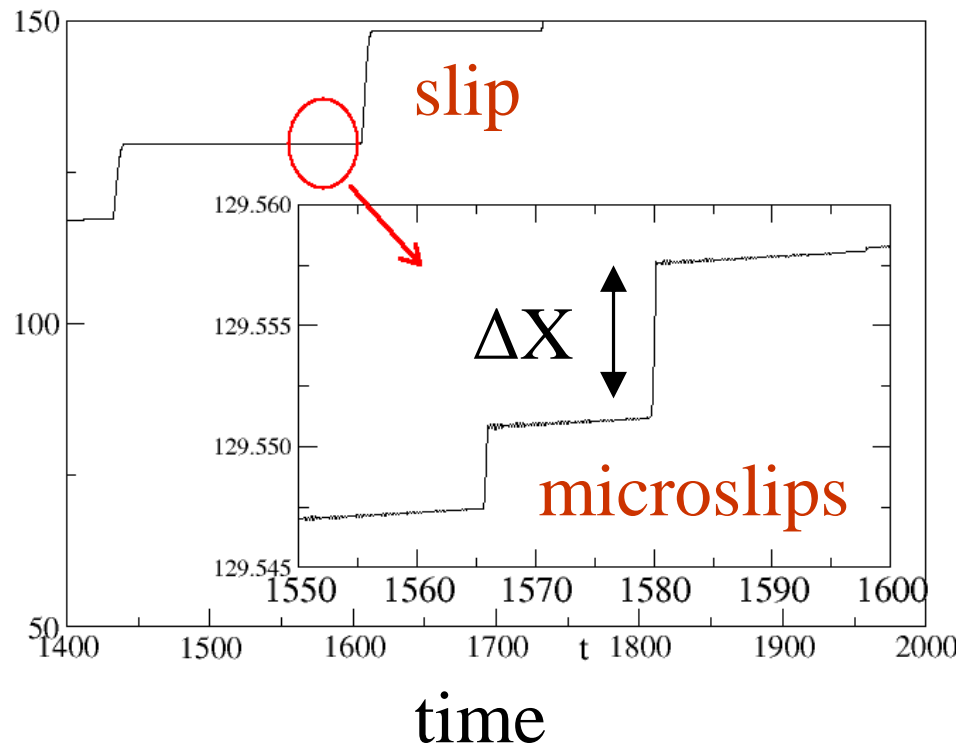
See poster by Alberto Petri



Quasi-regular slips + microslips

The model reproduces the Gutenberg Richter law

Very robust exponent:
system size, friction, inertia, rotation, drive



H. Kanamori and D.L. Anderson, *Bul. Seis. Soc. Am.* 65, 1073 (1975);

Y.Y. Kagan, *Geophys. J. Int.* 106, 123 (1991);

F. Dalton and D. Corcoran, *Phys. Rev. E* 63, 061312 (2001); *Phys. Rev. E* 65, 031310 (2002)

Response to perturbations

1) Vary the normal pressure by a factor α : $P \rightarrow P(1 - \alpha)$

2) Measure the asymptotic displacement of each particle

$$\Delta r_i(t) = \lim_{\tau \rightarrow \infty} [r_i^\alpha(t + \tau) - r_i^0(t)]$$

3) Compute the susceptibility

$$\chi_\alpha(t) = \frac{1}{\alpha P} \left[\frac{1}{N} \sum_i |\Delta r_i^\alpha(t)|^2 \right]^{1/2}$$

Average particle
displacement



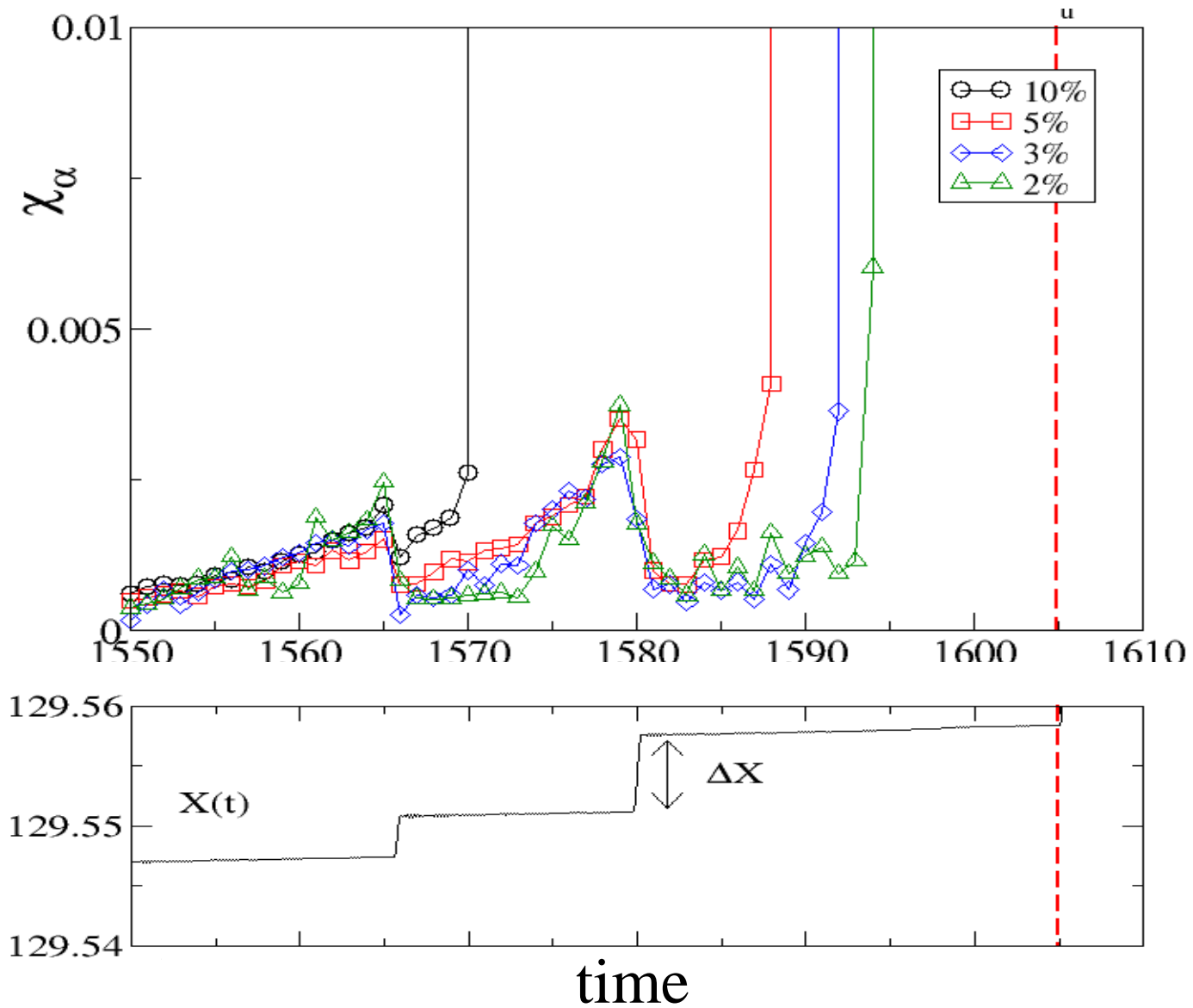
P.A. Johnson and X. Jia, Nature 437, 871 (2005).

P.A. Johnson, H. Savage, M. Knuth, J. Gomberg and C. Marone, Nature 451, 57 (2008).

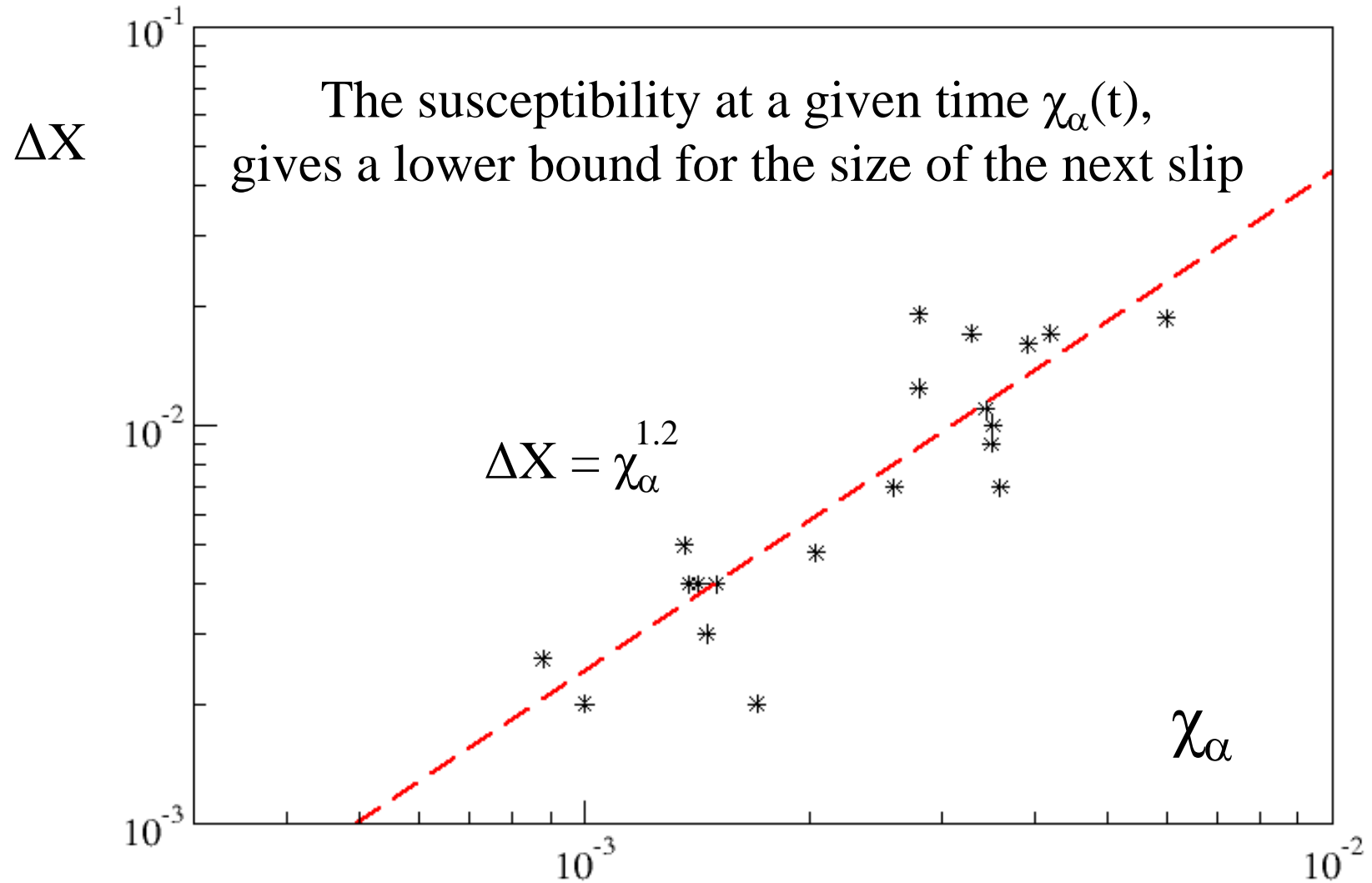
R. Capozza, A. Vanossi, A. Vezzani and S. Zapperi, Phys. Rev. Lett. 103, 085502 (2009).

Susceptibility

χ_α grows in correspondence to slips and microslips



Bound to the size of the next slip



Conclusions

Jamming transition at $\sigma = 0$

unjamming characterized
by a diverging length

Jamming transition at $\sigma > 0$, in a fault model

identified a growing susceptibility
related to the size of the slips

may open the way to the search for precursors

2 open positions