

Active Brownian Particles at High Densities

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Collective Dynamics in Self-Propelled Agents



[Daniel Biber, Wildlife Photography Award 2017]



[Nicholas Hope, http://www.bubblevision.com/]



[Matthew Copeland, U Wisonsin, Madison]

- birds flock, fish school, insects swarm, bacteria move collectively
- emergent phenomena on many length scales
- interaction mechanisms? minimal models for collective behavior?

Collective Dynamics in Biological Tissue

- cell structures show collective rearrangements
- driven by active processes
 - molecular crowding slows down the motion
 - self propulsion speeds up



velocities in wound healing [Nnetu et al., New J Phys (2012)]





Microswimmers: Janus particles

- active-particle systems harvest energy ⇒ directed motion
- model systems for non-equilibrium stat. phys.: Janus-particle colloids in specific solvents







[C. Bechinger lab, U Stuttgart]

Motility-Induced Phase Separation (MIPS)





[Buttinoni et al., Phys Rev Lett (2013)]

- active Brownian particles form dynamic clusters
- non-equilibrium analogue to liquid-gas phase separation (!?)
- mechanism: swim lower at high density (interaction effect)

Active Brownian Particles

Active Brownian Hard Spheres



- hard spheres: spherical steric interactions
- activity: individual drift with random (uncoupled) direction

Active Brownian Particles Brownian Motion

Passive Colloidal Systems: Brownian Motion



[Perrin, Ann Chim Phys VIII (1909)]

scales: $kT \sim 4 \text{ pN nm}$ $a \sim \mu \text{m}$

 $\tau \sim \mathrm{ms}$

- $a \sim 1 \, \mu {
 m m}$ sized particles in suspension
- perpetual agitated, erratic motion
- not connected to "living force"
- Jan Ingenhousz (1785): coal dust
- Robert Brown (1827): pollen
- Jean-Baptiste Perrin Nobel prize (1926)



7 30

collisions with solvent molecules \Rightarrow independent displacements

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107 30

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Stokes-Einstein(-Sutherland) relation: consequence of fluctuation-dissipation theorem (FDT)



diffusivity $D \Leftrightarrow \textit{mobility} \; \mu = 1/\zeta$



Smoluchowski Equation

N-particle configuration-space distribution function $p(\Gamma, t)$,

$$\partial_t p + \underline{\nabla} \cdot (\underline{u}p) = 0$$
$$\underline{u} = \underline{\underline{\mu}} \cdot \underline{F} - \underline{\underline{D}} \cdot \underline{\nabla} \ln p$$

Smoluchowski (1905):

$$\partial_t p = \underline{\nabla} \cdot \underline{\underline{D}} \cdot (\underline{\nabla} - \beta \underline{F}) p \qquad \beta = 1/kT$$



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equivalent stochastic differential equation (Langevin):

$$d\vec{r}_j = \mu \vec{F}_j \, dt + \sqrt{2D} d\vec{W}_j$$



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FDT, and $F = -\underline{\nabla}U$ \Rightarrow MSD at most diffusive, $\langle \delta r^2(t) \rangle = o(t)$



Passive High-Density Dynamics: Glass Transition





structural relaxation time $\tau \rightarrow \infty$ "cage effect" – MSD subdiffusive

fluid

dynamical response functions decay to zero glass

response to perturbation never decays Active Brownian Particles Active Motion Brownian motion with "active drift" term along instantaneous orientation $\vec{e}(\varphi) = (\cos \varphi, \sin \varphi)^T$



$$\begin{split} d\vec{r}_j &= \mu \vec{F}_j \, dt + v_0 \vec{e}(\varphi_j) \, dt + \sqrt{2D_t} d\vec{W}_j \,, \qquad D_t = kT/\zeta \,, \\ d\varphi_j &= \sqrt{2D_r} dW_{\varphi,j} \end{split}$$

Smoluchowski equation

$$\begin{split} \partial_t p(\Gamma, t) &= \Omega(\Gamma) \, p(\Gamma, t) \qquad \Gamma \equiv \{ \vec{r}_j, \varphi_j \}_{j=1, \dots N} \\ \Omega &= D_t \sum_j \vec{\nabla}_j \cdot (\vec{\nabla}_j - \beta \vec{F}_j) - v_0 \vec{\nabla}_j \cdot \vec{e} + D_r \partial_{\varphi_j}^2 \equiv \Omega_{\mathsf{eq}} + \delta \Omega \end{split}$$



- short times passive Brownian: $\langle \delta x^2 \rangle \sim D_t t$
- long times active diffusion: $\langle \delta x^2 \rangle \sim D_{\rm eff} t$
- intermediate ballistic motion: $\langle \delta x^2 \rangle \sim v_0^2 t^2$



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Low-Density Active Brownian Motion: Experiment



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[Takatori et al., Nature Commun (2016)] [Takatori, Yan, Brady, Phys Rev Lett (2014)]

- in confinement $L \gg \ell$: effective equilibrium
- "swim pressure"

$$p = \rho \zeta D_{\text{eff}} = \rho k T_{\text{eff}}$$

• "effective temperature" $T_{\rm eff}/T = 1 + v_0^2/2D_r$

low density: activity $\mapsto T_{\rm eff} \sim v_0^2/D_r$

 $\begin{array}{l} \textit{Question:} \\ \textit{still true at high density!} \\ \ell_{\textit{interaction}} \lesssim \ell_{p} \end{array}$

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Answer: NO!



Mode-Coupling Theory of the Glass Transition

transient density correlation function

$$S_{ll'}(\vec{q},t) = \langle \varrho_l(\vec{q}) \exp[\Omega^{\dagger}t] \varrho_{l'}(\vec{q})
angle_{\mathsf{eq}} \quad \varrho_l(\vec{q}) = \sum_j e^{i\vec{q}\cdot\vec{r_j}} e^{il\varphi_j}$$

Mori-Zwanzig formalism, mode-coupling approximation

$$\begin{split} \partial_{t} \boldsymbol{S}(\vec{q},t) + \boldsymbol{\omega}_{T+R}(\vec{q}) \cdot \boldsymbol{S}^{-1}(q) \cdot \boldsymbol{S}(\vec{q},t) + \int_{0}^{t} \boldsymbol{m}(\vec{q},t-t') \cdot \boldsymbol{\omega}_{T}^{-1}(\vec{q}) \cdot \left[\partial_{t'} \boldsymbol{S}(\vec{q},t') + \boldsymbol{\omega}_{R} \cdot \boldsymbol{S}(\vec{q},t')\right] dt' &= \boldsymbol{0} \\ m_{ll'}(\vec{q},t) \approx \frac{1}{2N} \sum_{\vec{p},l_{1}\dots l_{4}} \mathcal{V}_{ll_{1}l_{2}}(\vec{q},\vec{k},\vec{p}) \mathcal{V}_{l'l_{3}l_{4}}^{+}(\vec{q},\vec{k},\vec{p}) \Phi_{l_{1}l_{3}}(\vec{k},t) \Phi_{l_{2}l_{4}}(\vec{p},t) \\ \omega_{T,ll'}(\vec{q}) &= q^{2} D_{t} \delta_{ll'} - \frac{iv_{0}}{2} q e^{i(l-l')\varphi_{q}} S_{ll}(q) \delta_{|l-l'|,1} \qquad \omega_{R,ll'} = l^{2} D_{r} \delta_{ll'} \end{split}$$

Glass Transition

Numerics

M coupled nonlinear integro-differential equations in $t\in[0,T]$, typically $M=10^3, T=10^{6\dots10}$

$$\partial_t f(t) = -a f(t) - \int_0^t m[f(t - t'), f(t - t')] \,\partial_{t'} f(t') \,dt'$$

straightforward discretization in *t*-domain, $f(t) \mapsto f_i \in \mathbb{C}^M$ implicit equation for each time step (solved by $O(10^{0...5})$ iterations)

$$\boldsymbol{A} \cdot f_i = \boldsymbol{B} \cdot m[f_i, f_i] + \boldsymbol{C}_i$$

most time spent on evaluating m[f,f]

multi-grid decimation: $f_{2i}^{(h)} \mapsto f_i^{(2h)}$ (better for integrals)



Slow Relaxation in Active Brownian Particle Systems



- increasing activity melts the glass
- high density causes structural arrest
- \Rightarrow active glass state possible

Glass Transition of Active Brownian Disks



- activity softens, then melts the glass
- qualitative agreement with simulations of 3D ABP

Glass Transition of Active Brownian Disks



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Glass Transition of Active Brownian Disks



[Mandal et al., Soft Matter (2016)]

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- qualitative agreement with simulations of 3D ABP

physics: cage effect + fluidization by activity



[Liluashvili, Ónody, ThV, Phys Rev E 96, 062608 (2017)]

Rotational Diffusion changes Glass Transition



[Bi et al., PRX (2016)]

• iso-kinetic lines not functions of single $T_{
m eff} \sim v_0^2/D_r$

lacksim competition of length scales: $\ell_p = v_0/D_r$ and cage size $\ell_c pprox 0.1a$

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- competition of length scales: $\ell_p = v_0/D_r$ and cage size $\ell_c pprox 0.1a$

passive-particle glass: transition & structure independent on details of dynamics "metastable minimum in free-energy landscape" passive-particle glass:

transition & structure *independent* on details of dynamics "metastable minimum in free-energy landscape"

> active-particle glass: transition depends on full dynamical history dynamical balance



Nonlinear Response Theory

aim: calculate arbitrary non-eq. averages of observables

nonequilibrium phase-space density $\rho(\Gamma, t)$:

 $\partial_t \rho(\Gamma, t) = \left(\Omega_{\mathsf{eq}}(\Gamma) + \delta \Omega(\Gamma, t)\right) \rho(\Gamma, t)$

aim: calculate arbitrary non-eq. averages of observables

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$$\partial_t \rho(\Gamma,t) = \left(\Omega_{\rm eq}(\Gamma) + \delta \Omega(\Gamma,t)\right) \rho(\Gamma,t)$$

formal solution

$$\rho(t) = \rho_{\rm eq} + \int_{-\infty}^{t} dt' \exp_{+} \left[\int_{t'}^{t} \Omega(\tau) \, d\tau \right] \Omega(t') \rho_{\rm eq}$$

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$$\langle f \rangle(t) = \langle f \rangle_{\rm eq} + \int_{-\infty}^{t} dt' \left\langle \left[\frac{\delta \Omega(t') \rho_{\rm eq}}{\rho_{\rm eq}} \right] \exp_{-} \left[\int_{t'}^{t} \Omega^{\dagger}(\tau) \, d\tau \right] f \right\rangle_{\rm eq}$$

approximate integral using mode-coupling theory

[Brader, ThV, Cates, Fuchs, Phys Rev Lett (2007); Brader et al., Phys Rev Lett (2008)]

Nonequilibrium Swim Velocity

coarse-grained swim speed $v(\rho)$: parameter for field theories

$$v(\rho) = v_0 \left[1 - \int_0^\infty dt \, \cdots \right]$$



- density dependent $v(\rho)$ from fixed v_0 per particle
- increasing v_0 , shape of $v(\rho)$ changes

Motility Induced Phase Separation (MIPS) and Glass

$$\mathcal{F}_{\mathsf{ex}} = \int d\vec{r} f_{\mathsf{ex}}(\rho(\vec{r})) \qquad f_{\mathsf{ex}}(\rho) = \int^{\rho} d\rho' \ln\left[\frac{v^2(\rho')}{2D_r} + D_t\right]$$



• microscopic model \Rightarrow input parameters for mesoscopic model

systematic coarse graining possible

Conclusion and Outlook

Conclusion

high-density theory for active Brownian particles

- competition of length scales $\ell_{interaction}$, $\ell_{swim-persistence}$
- no single "effective temperature"
- combine microscopic theory with mesoscopic models
 - systematic approach to calculate (coarse-grained) transport coefficients

A. Liluashvili, J. Ónody, and Th. Voigtmann, Physical Review E **96**, 062608 (2017)



Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) Special Priority Programme "Microswimmers"



John von Neumann Institute for Computing (NIC) Project HKU26 @ JURECA

Multi-Scale Fluid Dynamics?



Multi-Scale Computational Fluid Mechanics



Multi-Scale Computational Fluid Mechanics



- experiments on artificial microswimmers: restricted to quasi-2D (sedimentation!)
- does MIPS depend on spatial dimensionality??
- ⇒ experiments under microgravity conditions

RAMSES – RAndom motion of micro-swimmers Experiment in Space





Materials Physics on a Sounding Rocket

MAPHEUS – MAterialPHysik. Experimente Unter Schwerelosigkeit

- two-stage S31 / improved Malamute aka "Patriot"
- max. acceleration 20g, apogee $\sim 250~{
 m km}$
- $\sim 400 \ \rm kg$ payload, $\sim 5 \ \rm min \ \mu g$ time
- start from Esrange (Sweden) 2018-02-17





Materials Physics on a Sounding Rocket



Preliminary Data



- can observe ABP clustering in 3D
- occurs at much lower densities than expected (!?)

Thank you

- Alexander Liluashvili, Jonathan Ónody, Julian Reichert (theory)
- Raphael Keßler, Christoph Dreißigacker, Jörg Drescher (engineering)

- Celia Lozano, Clemens Bechinger (experiment; U Konstanz)
- Suvendu Mandal (simulation; U Innsbruck)