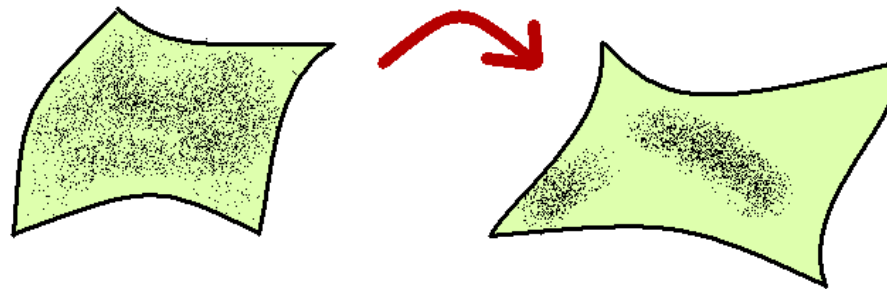


# Fluctuations and Order

Mustansir Barma

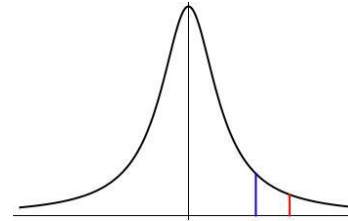
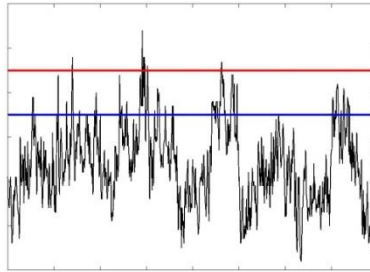
TIFR Centre for Interdisciplinary Sciences,

Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Hyderabad, India



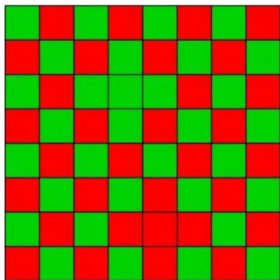
## Fluctuations:

Irregular rising and falling

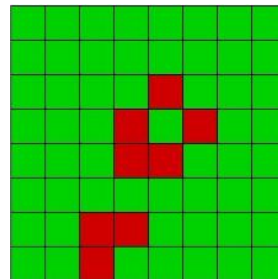


## Order:

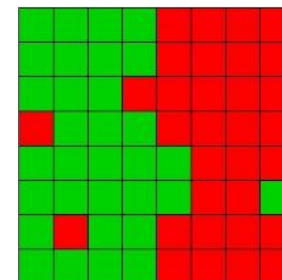
Arrangements extending to large distances: Organization on a large scale



Alternation



Single Colour



Separation

**Can giant fluctuations coexist with an ordered state ?**

# Fluctuations and Response

- **Fluctuations:** Spontaneous deviations from an average value
- **Response:** How a system responds to an external influence.

Interestingly, the response can be figured out *without* applying an external field.

All one needs to do is monitor *fluctuations* in the system.

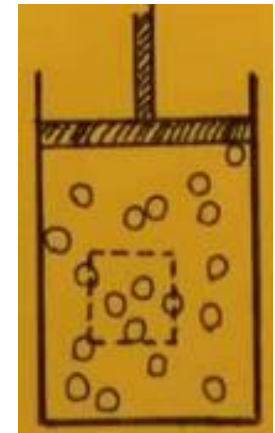
RESPONSE FUNCTION

FLUCTUATION

$$\textit{Compressibility} \propto \frac{\langle (\Delta N)^2 \rangle}{V}$$

$$\textit{Susceptibility} \propto \frac{\langle (\Delta M)^2 \rangle}{V}$$

$$\textit{Specific Heat} \propto \frac{\langle (\Delta E)^2 \rangle}{V}$$



# Fluctuations and Order

Normally

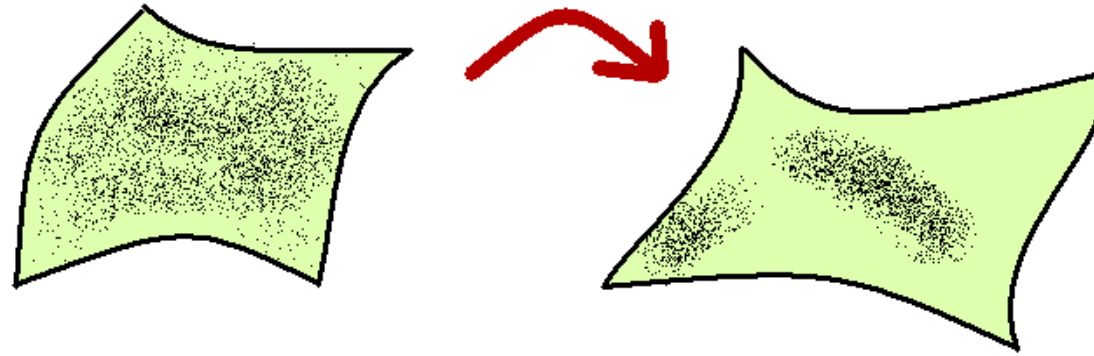
$$\frac{\text{RMS fluctuation}}{\text{Average value}} \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{V}} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } V \rightarrow \infty$$

But sometimes

$$\frac{\text{RMS fluctuation}}{\text{Average value}} \sim O(1)$$

Can order survive in such a situation?

# Particles on a Fluctuating Surface



Particles sliding on a fluctuating surface tend to collect in local valleys.

But valleys and hills are constantly re-forming.

What happens to the particles as time passes?

# Particles sliding down a fluctuating surface

The shared environment induces strong correlations

The degree of clustering depends on dynamics



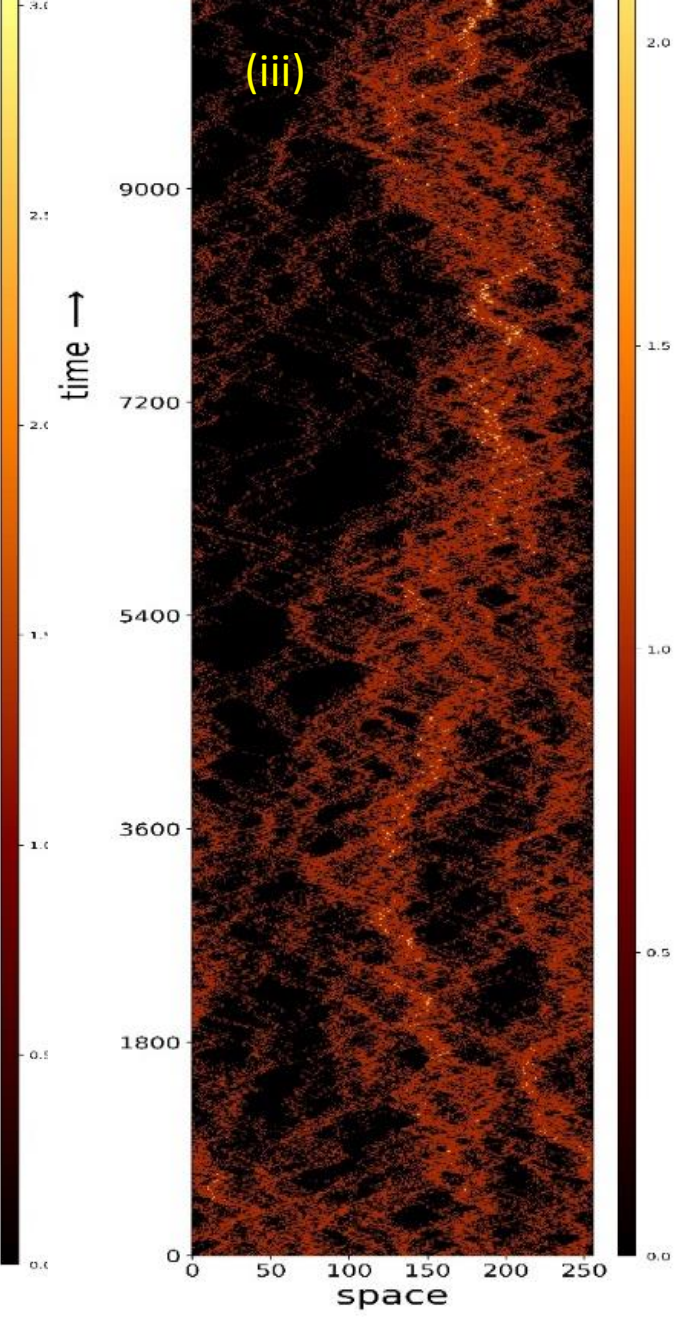
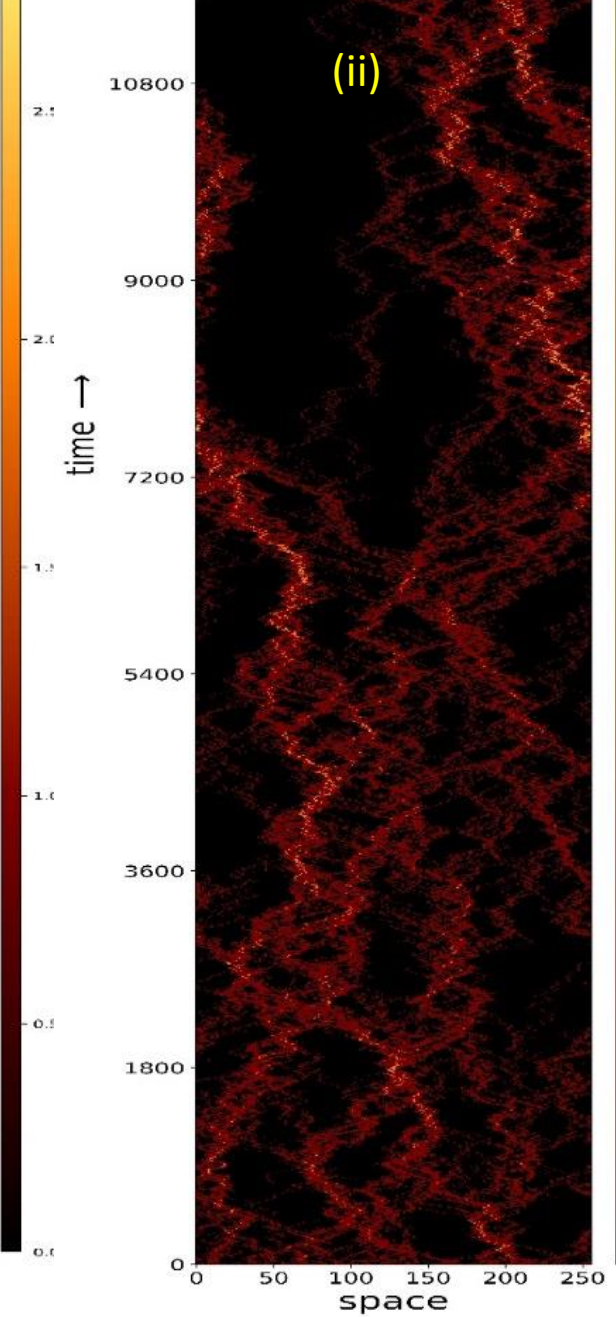
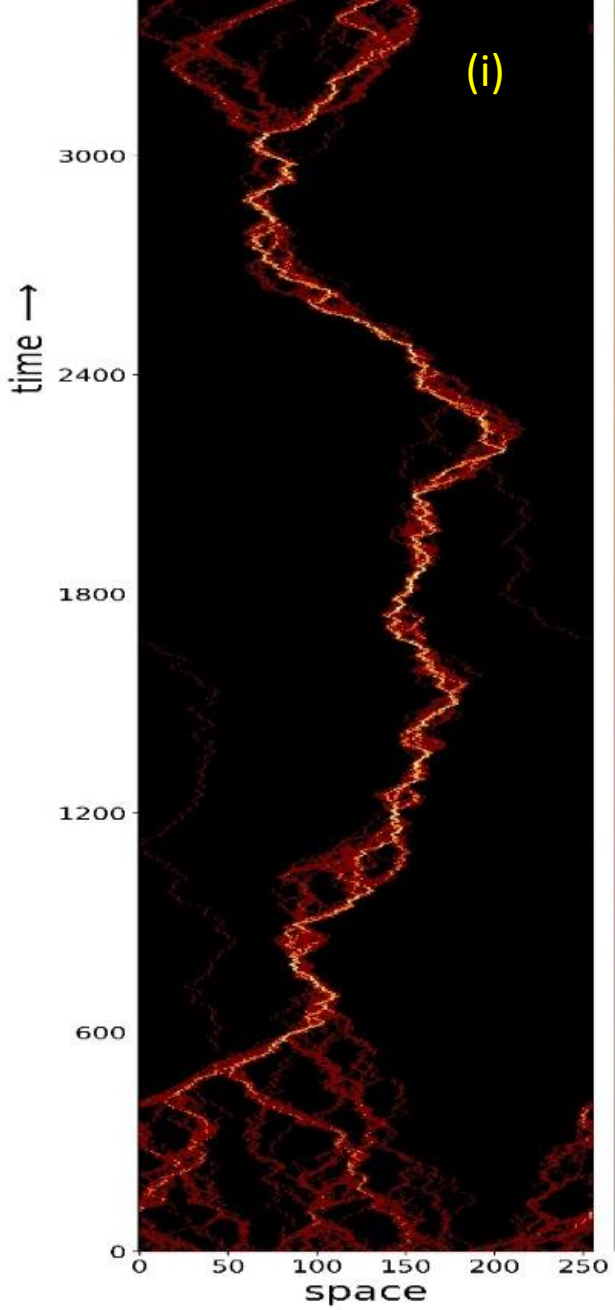
Surface fluctuates and moves ↓



Surface fluctuates

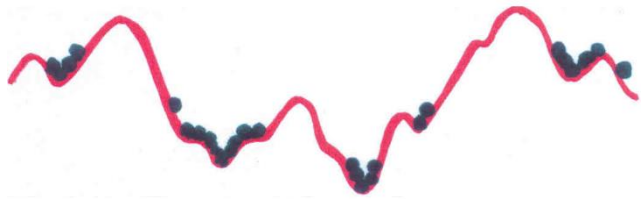


Surface fluctuates and moves ↑

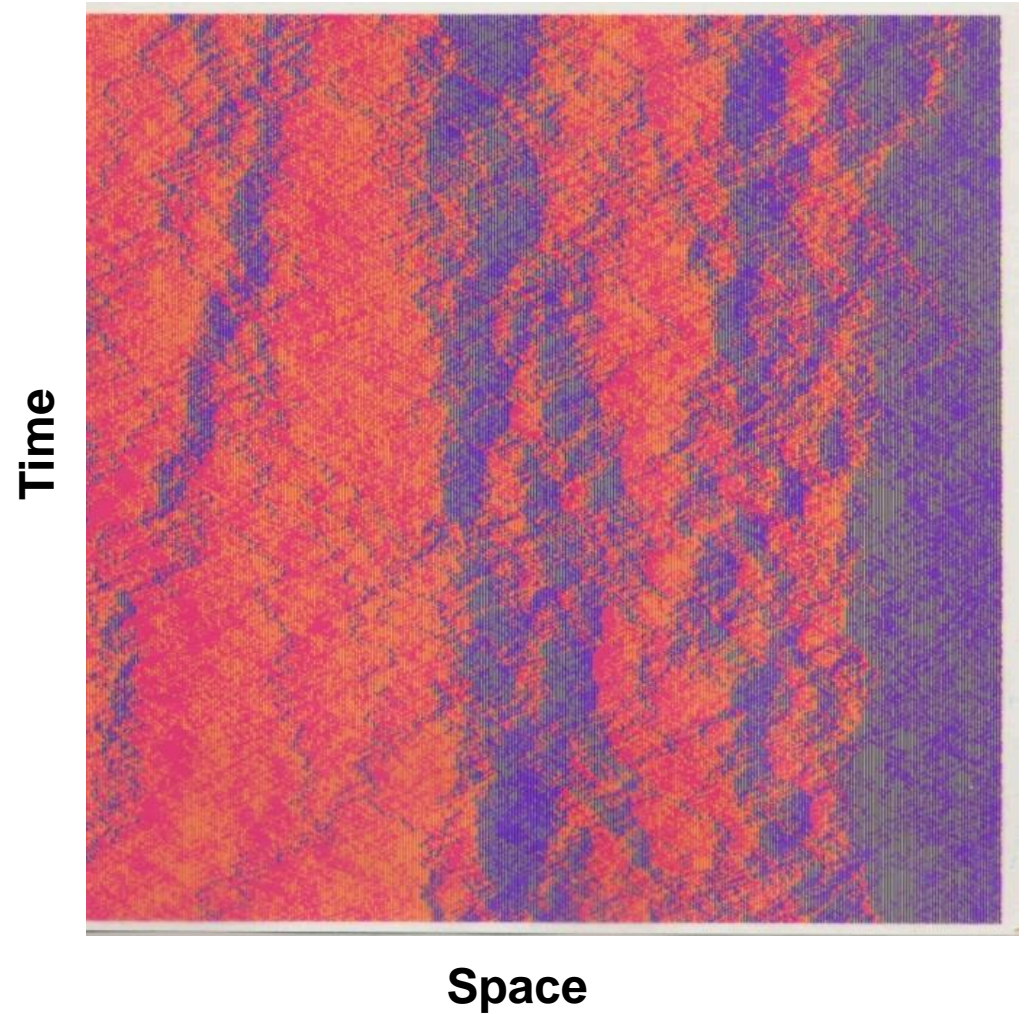


# Interacting particles sliding down a fluctuating surface

Mutual exclusion changes the pattern of large-scale clustering



- Clusters spread out --- resembles phase separation
- But the region between large clusters is fragmented --- i.e. interfaces are not sharp



# Fluctuation-dominated Phase Ordering: Hallmarks

- Cusp Singularity in Scaled 2-point Correlation Function

## Coarsening

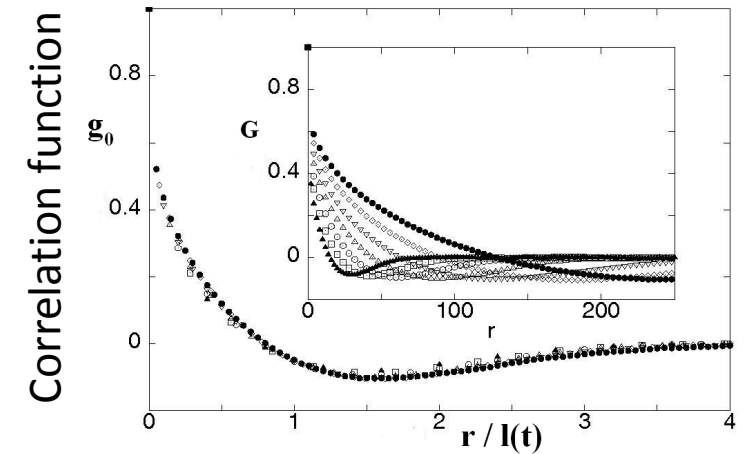
- Particles on a fluctuating surface tend to cluster.
- Typical size cluster size  $l(t)$  grows in time  $\Rightarrow$  Scaling



**Cusp:**  $g(y) \approx m_0^2 - cy^\alpha$  as  $y = r/l(t) \rightarrow 0$

Singularity  $\Rightarrow$  The Porod Law fails to hold

Interfaces are not sharp, but diffuse and broad.



Scaled separation

$$G(r, t) \equiv \langle n(0, t)n(r, t) \rangle - \langle n \rangle \langle n \rangle$$

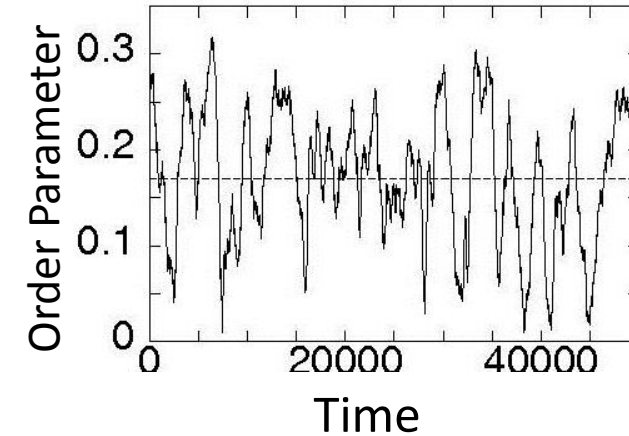
$$= g_0\left(\frac{r}{l(t)}\right)$$



# Fluctuation-dominated Phase Ordering: Hallmarks

- Giant Fluctuations of Order Parameter

Steady State



Fluctuations: **As large as the mean**  
Distributions remain broad as  $L \rightarrow \infty$

Large macroscopic clusters break and re-form without disintegrating into tiny pieces.



Multiple order parameters required

# Fluctuation-dominated Phase Ordering

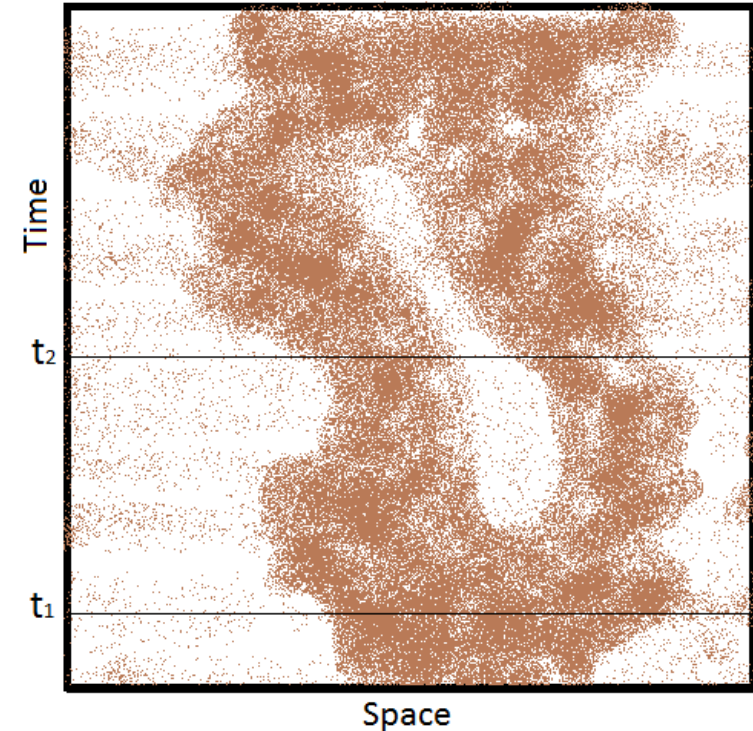
Fluctuations carry the system through states with a different number of macroscopic clusters.

The system circulates in the subset of 'ordered states', spending a finite fraction of time in each.

It never goes to completely disordered states.

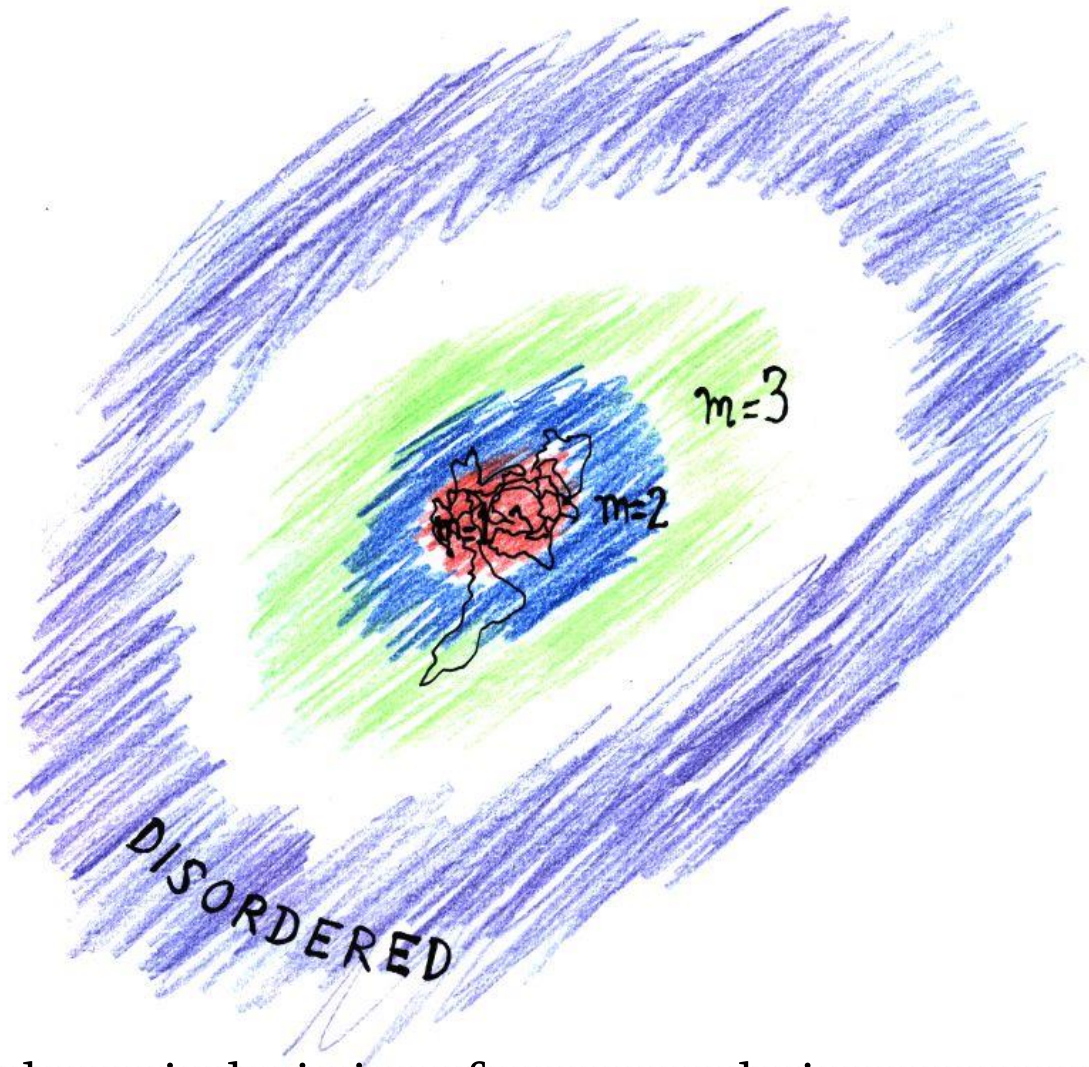
This sort of 'loose ordering' was not characterized earlier.

Interestingly, it is found in several types of systems.



# Nature of Ordering

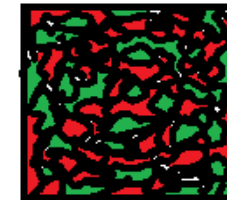
System drawn to an attractor of 'ordered' configurations with macroscopic segments of variable size



Schematic depiction of system evolution



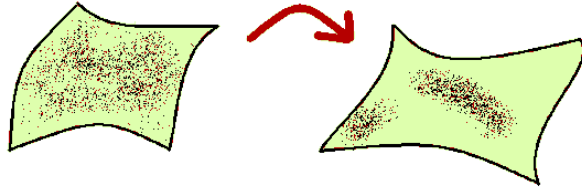
Ordered



Disordered

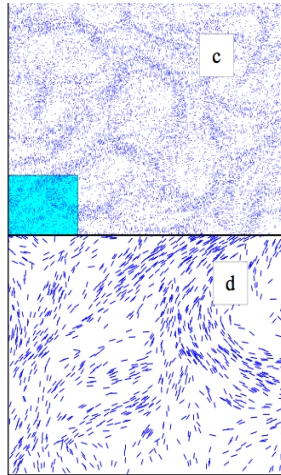
# Systems showing FDPO

## Passive scalars



Particles sliding down a fluctuating potential  
Passive scalars advected by a Burgers fluid

[D. Das et al (PRL, 2000); G. Manoj et al (JSP, 2003);  
A. Nagar et al (PRL, 2005); S. Chatterjee et al (PRE, 2006)]



## Active nematics

Particles advected by nematic angle field

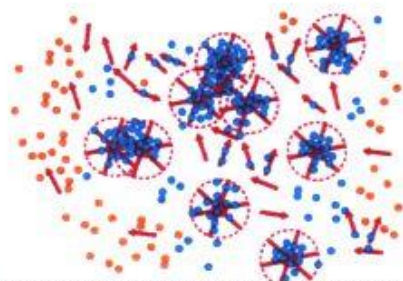
[S. Mishra, S. Ramaswamy (PRL, 2006)]

Movement of apolar rods depends on orientation

[H. Chaté F Ginelli, R. Montaigne (PRL, 2006)]

Correlation functions and fluctuations analyzed

[S. Dey, D. Das, R. Rajesh (PRL, 2012)]

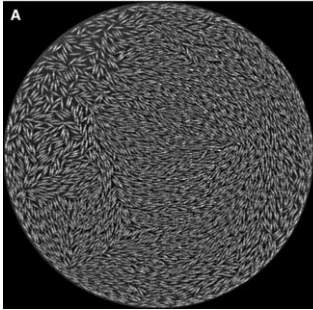


## Actin-stirred membrane

Phase segregation with strong fluctuations

[A. Das, A. Polley, Madan Rao (PRL, 2016)]

# Systems showing FDPO



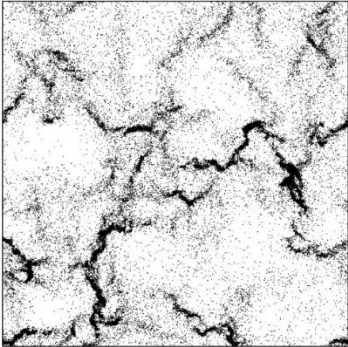
## Vibrated rods

Giant number fluctuations

[V. Narayan, N. Menon, S. Ramaswamy (Science, 2007)]

Correlation functions extracted

[S. Dey et al (PRL, 2012)]

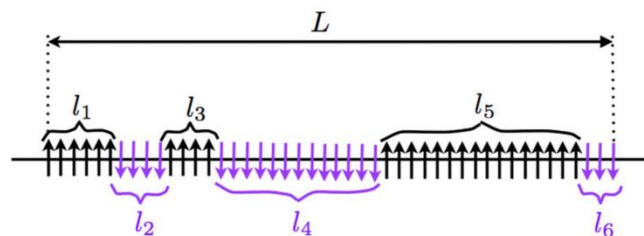


[I. Goldhirsch, G. Zanetti, (PRL, 1993)]

## Freely cooling granular gases

Inelastically colliding particles in 1-d with velocity-dependent restitution

[M. Shinde, D. Das, R. Rajesh (PRL, 2007)]



## Equilibrium Ising model with long-range interactions

Cluster-wise interactions induce mixed order transitions

[A. Bar, S. N. Majumdar, G. Scher, D. Mukamel (PRE, 2016)]

Exact evaluation of correlation function  $\Rightarrow$  Cusp singularity

[S. N. Majumdar, D. Mukamel, M. Barma (J. Phys. A, 2019)]

# Conclusions

## Fluctuations and Order

Fundamental attributes of a statistical system.

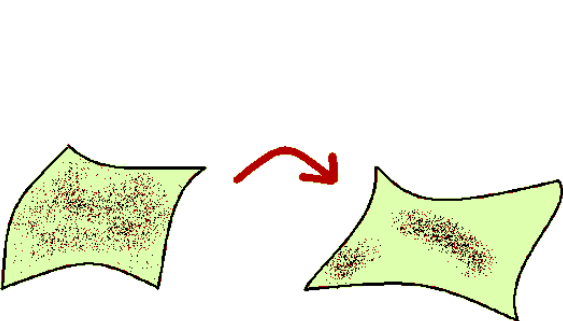
## In several Systems with Long-range Interactions

Giant fluctuations coexist with order

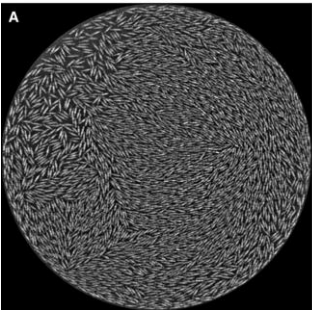
### Fluctuation-dominated phase ordering

Key Signature:

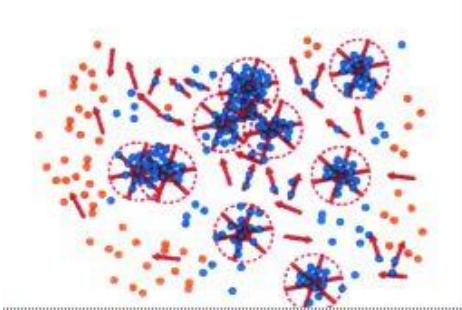
Cusps in scaled 2-point correlation functions



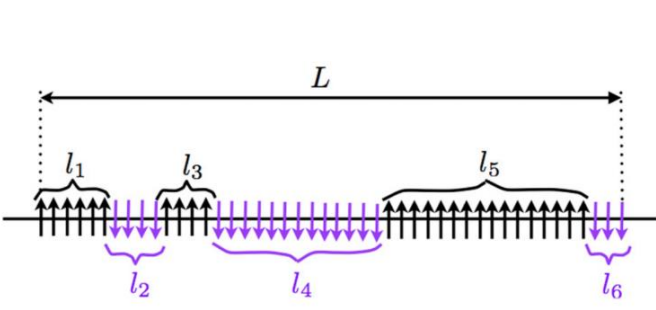
Passive scalars



Vibrated rods



Actin-stirred membrane



Spins with long-range interactions

# Collaborators

- Dibyendu Das (IIT Bombay)
- Satya Majumdar (Université Paris-sud)
- Apoorva Nagar (IIST Trivandrum)
- Sakuntala Chatterjee (S N Bose Centre, Kolkata)
- Shauri Chakraborty (S N Bose Centre, Kolkata)
- G. Manoj (IIT Madras)
- Rajeev Kapri (IISER Mohali)
- Malay Bandyopadhyay (IIT Bhubaneswar)
- Tapas Singha (TCIS, Hyderabad)
- Samvit Mahapatra (UM-DAE CEBS, Mumbai)
- David Mukamel (Weizmann Institute, Rehovot)









# Passive Scalar Problem

*One driven system drives another ... but no back effect*

## Fluctuating surface

The height field  $h(x, t)$  evolves stochastically

$$\frac{\partial h}{\partial t} = \underbrace{\mu \nabla^2 h}_{\text{Smoothing}} + \underbrace{\frac{\lambda}{2} (\nabla h)^2}_{\text{Nonlinearity (if } \uparrow \text{ and } \downarrow \text{ are distinguished)}} + \underbrace{\vartheta}_{\text{Noise}}$$

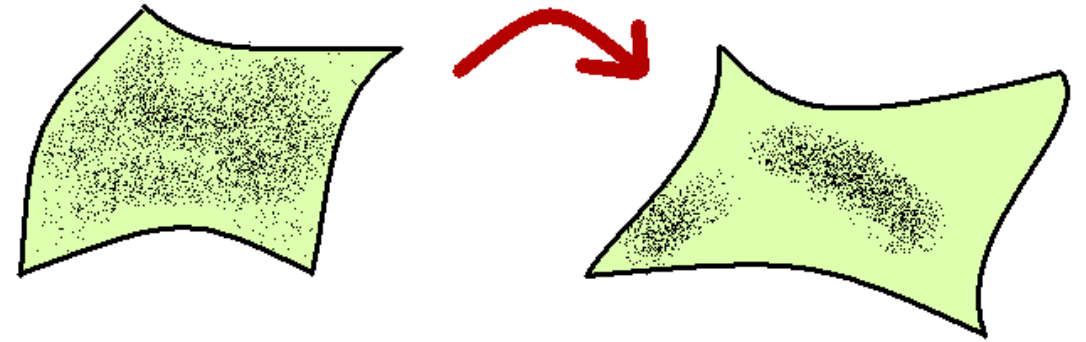
(Kardar-Parisi-Zhang Equation)

## Sliding particles

For the  $m$ 'th particle,

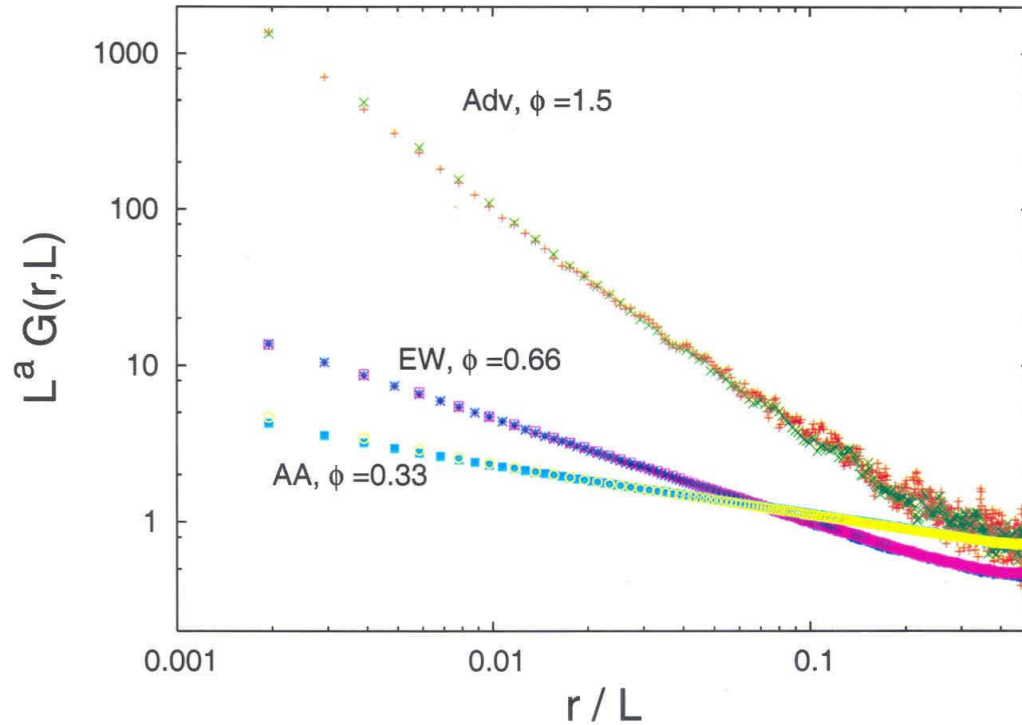
$$\frac{dx_m}{dt} = -a \nabla h|_{x_m} + \vartheta_m$$

In addition, there are exclusion effects between particles.



# Non-Interacting Particles

Two-point correlation functions  
(for KPZ Advection, Edwards-Wilkinson, KPZ Anti-advection)



**Divergent Scaling Functions**

$$L^\alpha G \sim (r/L)^{-\phi} \text{ as } r/L \rightarrow 0$$

[A. Nagar et al (2006)]

## Connection with quenched disorder

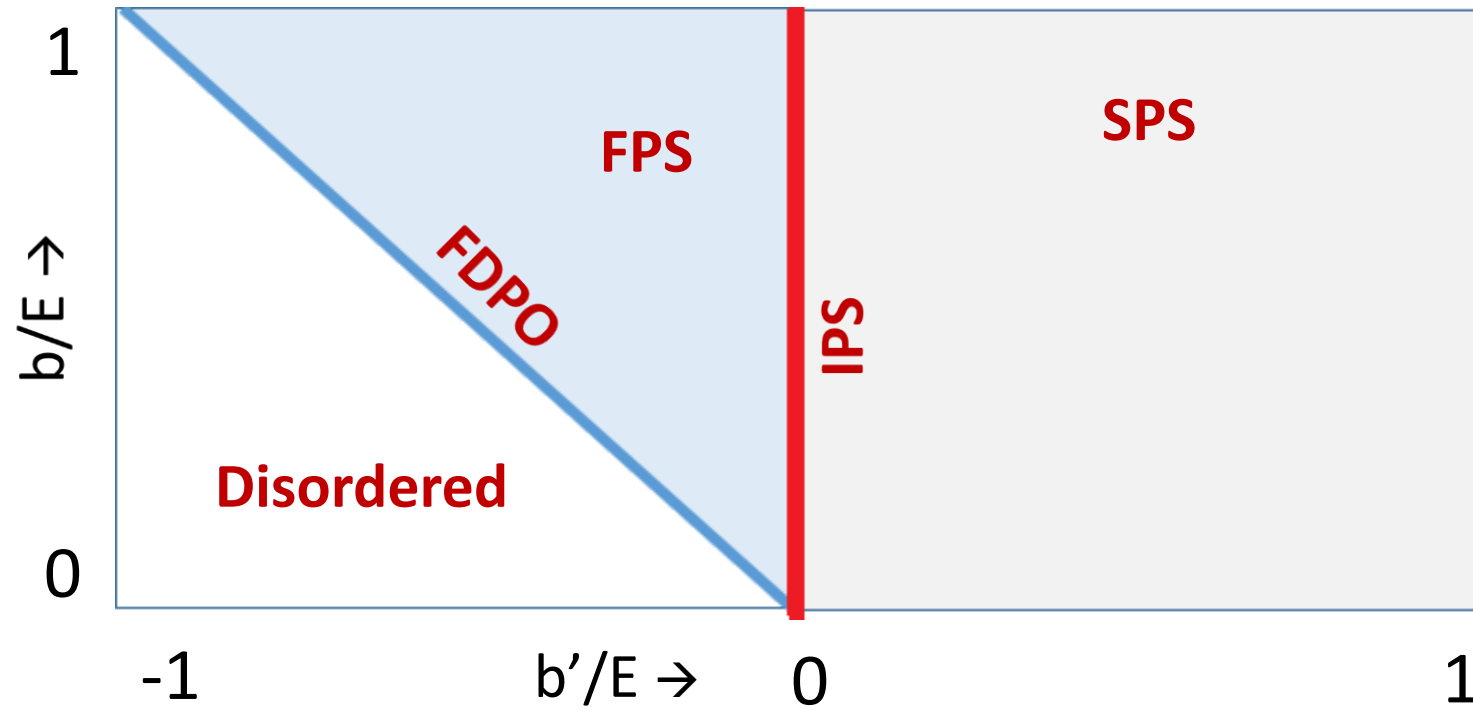
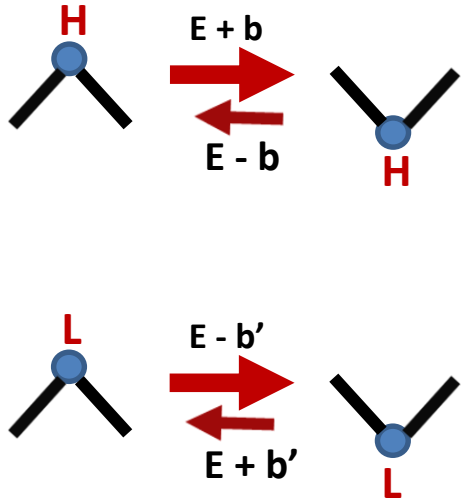
Adiabatic limit  $\rightarrow$  A problem with quenched disorder (Sinai problem)

$$G(r, L) = (2\pi\beta^2 L)^{-1/2} \left[ \frac{r}{L} \left( 1 - \frac{r}{L} \right) \right]^{-3/2}$$

[A. Comtet, C. Texier (1997)]

Fits KPZ advection data remarkably well.

# Phase Diagram



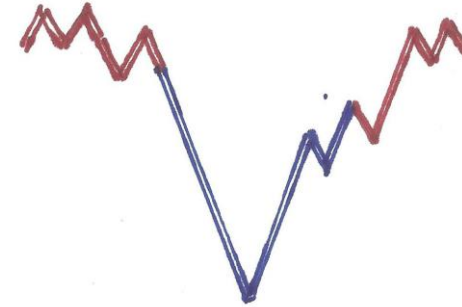
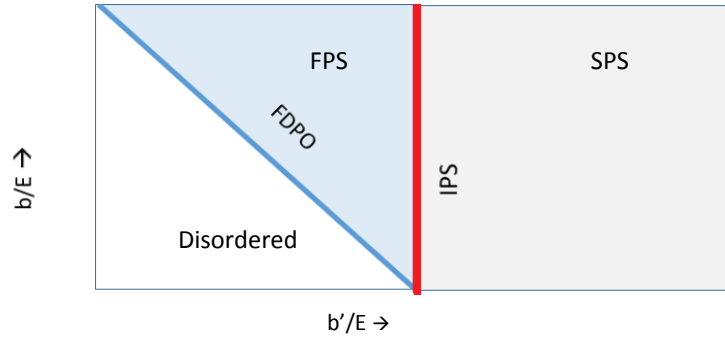
**SPS:** Strong Phase Separation

**IPS:** Infinitesimal fall with Phase Separation

**FPS:** Fast fall with Phase Separation

**FDPO:** Fluctuation-Dominated Phase Ordering

# Typical Configurations in Phases

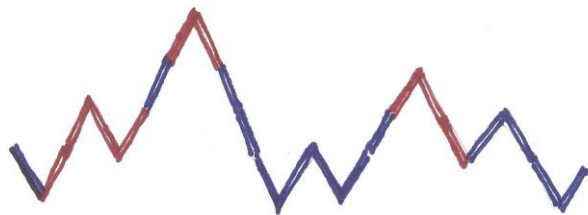


L particles push the surface upwards  
[Studied by Lahiri et al (1997, 2000)]

**SPS: Strong Phase Separation**

L particles are neutral

**IPS: Infinitesimal fall with Phase Separation**



L and H particles push surface equally  
[Reduces to passive scalar problem, Das et al (2000)]

**FDPO: Fluctuation-Dominated Phase Ordering**



L particles push surface down, but less than H particles

**FPS: Fast fall with Phase Separation**









# FDPO in an Ising model with long-range interactions

$$H = -J_{NN} \sum_{i=1}^L \sigma_i \sigma_{i+1} - \sum_{i < j} J(i-j) \sigma_i \sigma_j I(i \sim j)$$

$$J(r) \approx \frac{C}{r^2}$$

Indicator function = 1 if  $i, j \in$  same cluster  
= 0

**Cluster Representation:**

$$H_{eff} = C \sum_{n=1..N} \ln(l_n) + \Delta N$$

Chemical potential for domain walls; Fugacity  $y = \exp(-\frac{\Delta}{T})$

The model shows a “mixed-order” transition *i.e.* Jump of magnetization + Divergence of correlation length

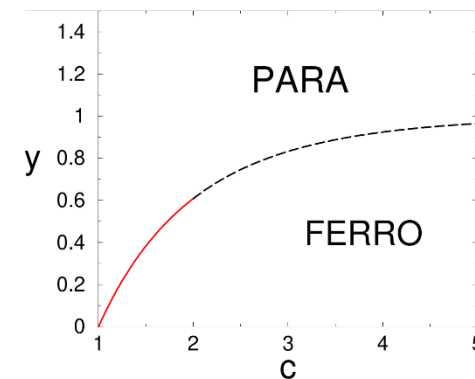
[A. Bar, D. Mukamel (PRL, 2014); A. Bar et al (PRE, 2016)]

**Along the critical locus,**

- Normal critical behaviour provided  $c \equiv C/T > 2$

$$G(r) \sim \frac{1}{r^{d-2+\eta}}$$

- Fluctuation-dominated phase ordering (FDPO) if  $1 < c < 2$ ,  $G(r, L) \approx m_0^2 - a \left| \frac{r}{L} \right|^\alpha$



The cusp exponent  $\alpha = 2 - c$  varies continuously.

[MB, S. N. Majumdar and D. Mukamel, submitted to J. Phys. A]

**Shows:** FDPO can arise in an equilibrium system.

# Understanding the Cusp Singularity

In steady state,  $\mathcal{L}(t) \rightarrow$  System size  $L$

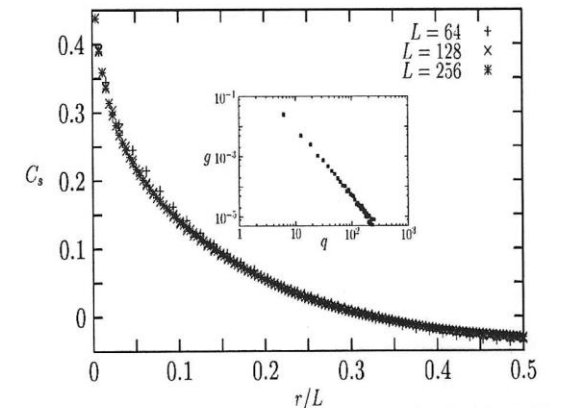
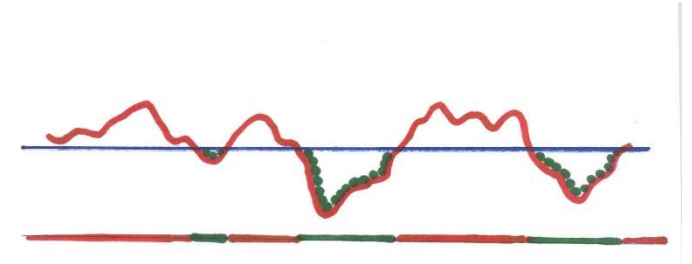
$$G(r, L) \equiv \langle n(0)n(r) \rangle - \langle n \rangle \langle n \rangle \approx g_0 \left(\frac{r}{L}\right)$$

## Random Walks and the Cusp Singularity

- In the extreme adiabatic limit, particles settle to the minimum energy state.
- Surface  $\rightarrow$  Random walk path  $\rightarrow \text{Prob}(\text{segment length} = l) \sim l^{-3/2}$
- $G(r, L)$  can be found:  $G(r, L) \approx 1 - a \left(\frac{r}{L}\right)^{1/2} \dots$

## Higher Dimensions

- $G(r, L)$  shows a cusp for particles driven by a 2d surface as well.



[G. Manoj et al (JSP, 2003)]

# Fluctuations and Response

How does a system respond when conditions are changed?

## Measures of Response:

Magnetization change when field is applied:

$$\text{Susceptibility} \sim \frac{\partial m}{\partial h}$$

Density change when pressure is applied:

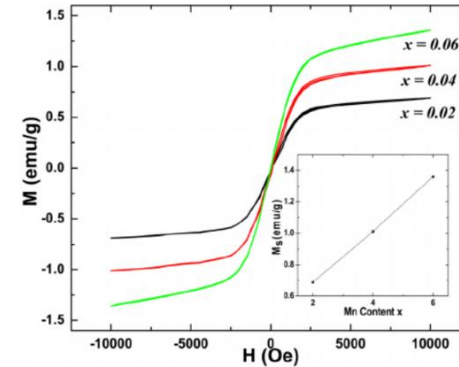
$$\text{Compressibility} \sim \frac{\partial v}{\partial p}$$

Heat required to raise the temperature:

$$\text{Specific heat} \sim T \frac{\partial s}{\partial T}$$

Interestingly, these can be found *without* applying an external influence.

Instead, all one needs to do is measure the *fluctuations* in the system.



S. Hussain et al (2012)

# Passive Sliders on a 1D Fluctuating Lattice

**Lattice:** Autonomous evolution

**Sliders:** Mutual exclusion  $\Rightarrow$  Single occupancy

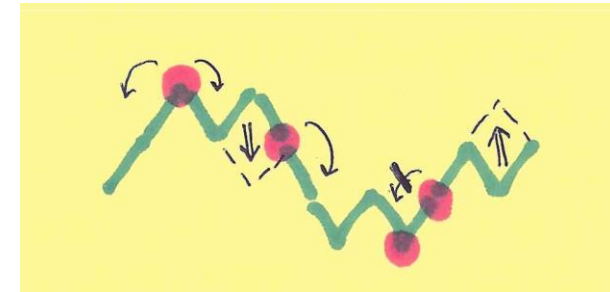
Dynamics: Sliding stochastically down slopes

**Models with stochastic evolution:** At large length and time scales  $\rightarrow$  Continuum description



Downward motion of fluctuating surface fluctuations

Kardar-Parisi-Zhang (KPZ)



Equilibrium surface

Edwards-Wilkinson (EW)

Particles move downward in either case, respecting exclusion.

# Particles in Fluctuating Fields

Particles subject to random force fluctuations in space and time show interesting clustering properties.

The nature of clustering depends strongly on correlations of the driving force field.

- **Passive particles in turbulent fluids**

G. Falkovich, K. Gawedzki, M. Vergassola (Rev. Mod. Phys., 2001)

- **Path coalescence of tracks**

J. Deutsch (J. Phys. A, 1985)

M. Wilkinson, B. Mehlig (Phys. Rev. E, 2003)

- **Proteins on actin-stirred cell membranes**

A. Das, A. Polley, Madan Rao (Phys. Rev. Lett., 2016)

F. Cagnetta, M. R. Evans, D. Marenduzzo (Phys. Rev. Lett., 2018)

# Fluctuation-dominated Phase Ordering: Correlations



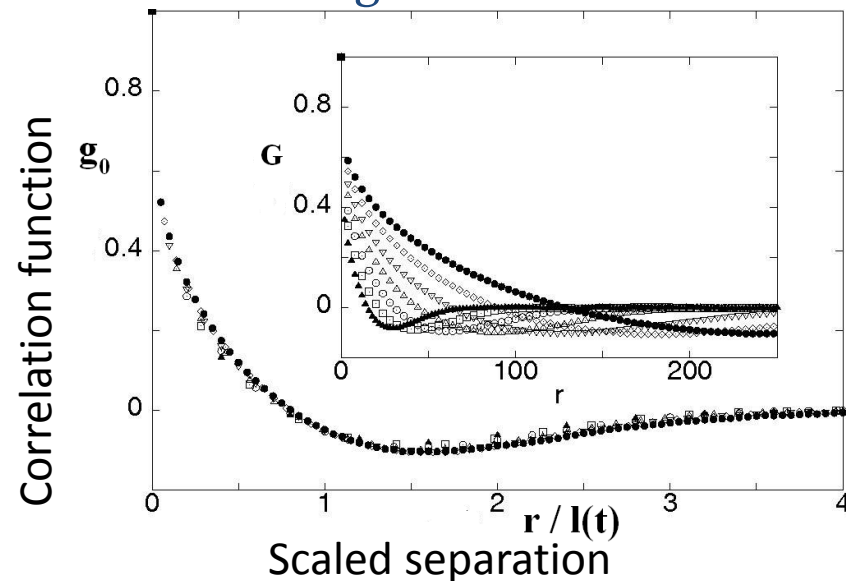
- Particles on a fluctuating surface tend to cluster.
- The typical size of a cluster  $\mathcal{L}(t)$  grows in time  $\Rightarrow$  Scaling ensues

$$G(r, t) \equiv \langle n(0, t)n(r, t) \rangle - \langle n \rangle \langle n \rangle$$

$$= g_0\left(\frac{r}{\mathcal{L}(t)}\right) \quad \text{with } \mathcal{L}(t) \sim t^{1/z}$$

## Cusp Singularity in Scaled Correlation Function

$$g_0(y) \approx C - ay^\alpha \quad \text{as } y = \frac{r}{\mathcal{L}(t)} \rightarrow 0; \quad \alpha < 1$$



$\alpha \cong \frac{1}{2}$  if the driving interface fluctuates  
 $\alpha \cong \frac{1}{4}$  if the driving interface fluctuates and moves  $\downarrow$

# Cusps in the Correlation Function

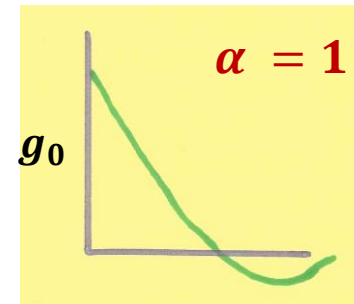
Density-density correlation function shows **Scaling**

$$G(r, t) \equiv \langle n(0, t)n(r, t) \rangle - \langle n \rangle \langle n \rangle \approx g_0\left(\frac{r}{\mathcal{L}(t)}\right) \quad \text{with } \mathcal{L}(t) \sim t^{1/2}$$

## Scaling Function

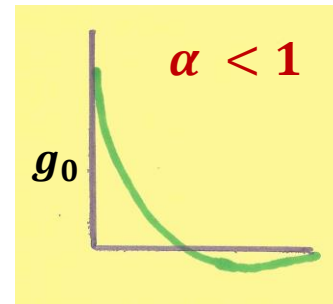
As  $y \rightarrow 0$ ,  $g_0(y) \approx m_0^2 - a|y|^\alpha$

- **Intercept**  $m_0^2 = G_\infty$  measures Long-range order.
- **Cusp Exponent**  $\alpha < 1$  indicates Very broad interfaces.  
(Breakdown of Porod Law)



$r/\mathcal{L}(t)$

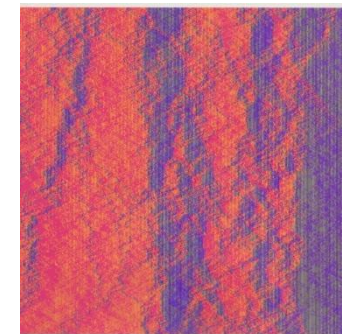
Valid



$r/\mathcal{L}(t)$

Porod Law

Breaks down



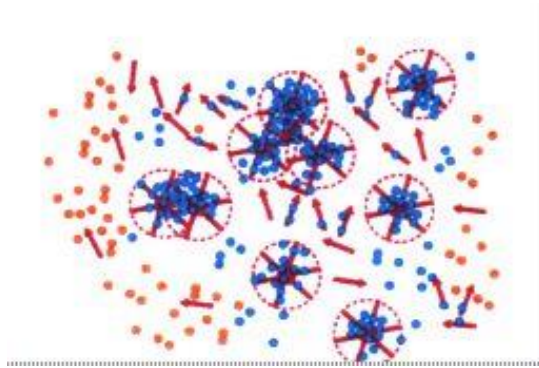


# Molecular Clustering at Cell Surface

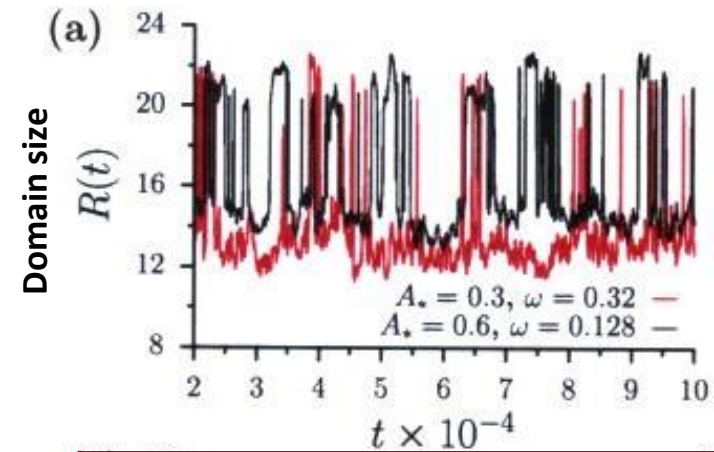
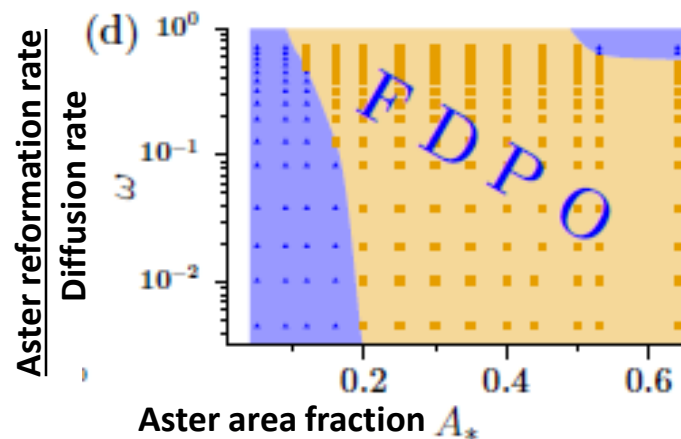
[A. Das, A. Polley, Madan Rao (PRL, 2016)]

**Phase segregation driven by activity:**

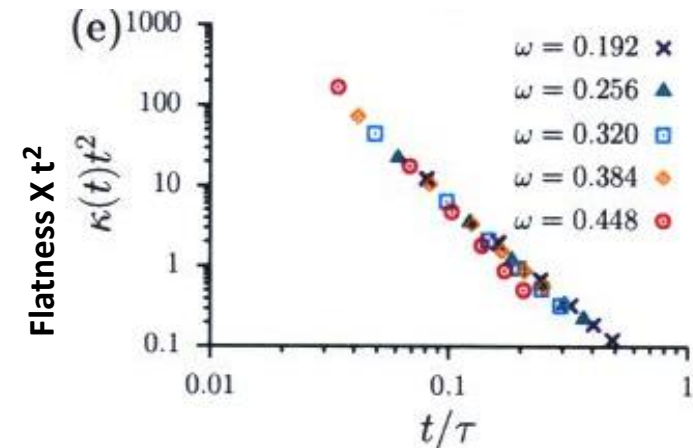
Membrane stirred by actin activity  $\rightarrow$  Clustering of advected membrane molecules



**Find:** Transition from micro-clustering to phase segregation with strong fluctuations



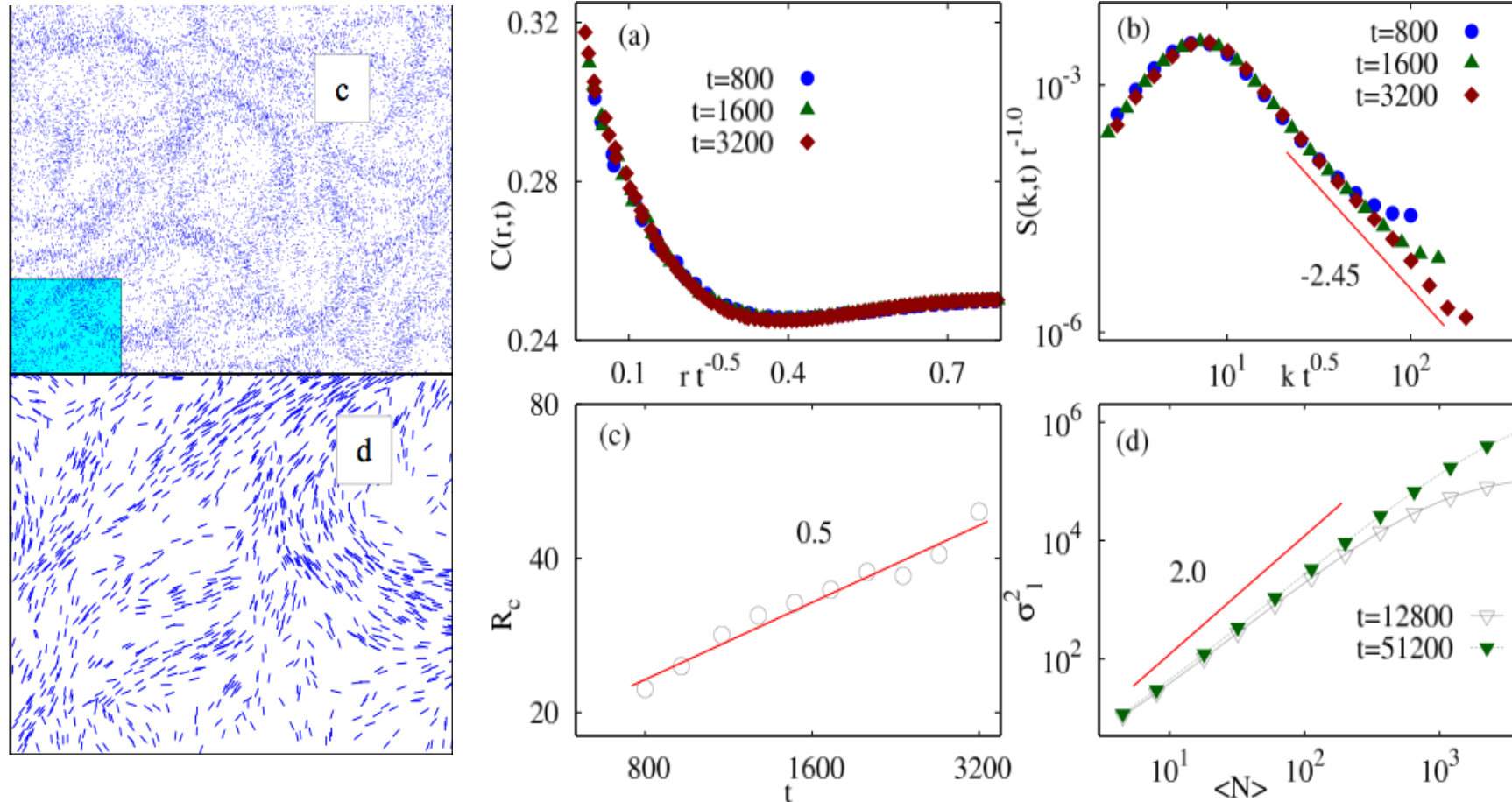
Intermittent domain sizes



# Active Nematics

**Model** Movement of apolar rods depends on orientation  
[H. Chate, F. Ginelli, R. Montagne (PRL, 2006)]

**Analyze** Correlation functions and fluctuations  
[S. Dey, D. Das, R. Rajesh (PRL, 2012)]



Cusp exponent  $\cong 0.5$ ; Enters (sub-leading) in expression for  $\sigma^2$