

Computational methods for complex suspensions

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Outline

- 1 Complex suspensions
 - Colloidal Suspensions
 - Electrolyte Solutions
- 2 Brownian Dynamics
- 3 Inextensible Fibers in Stokes Flow
 - Elasticity
 - Hydrodynamics
 - Inextensibility
- 4 Numerical Methods
- 5 Actin gels
- 6 Adding Brownian motion

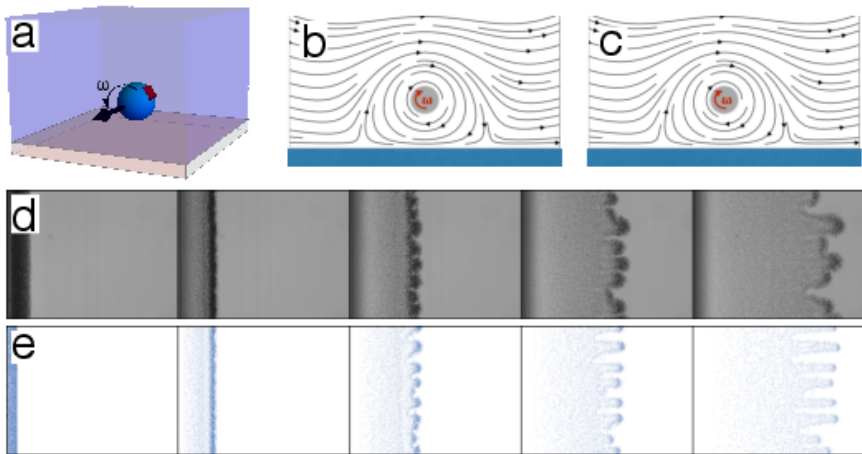
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Research interests

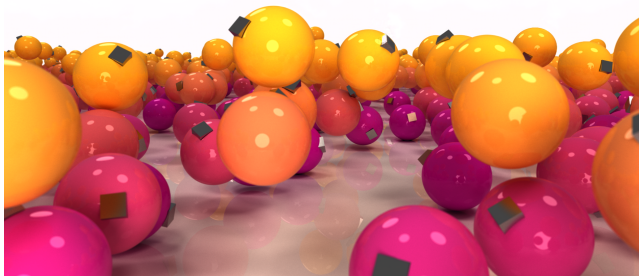
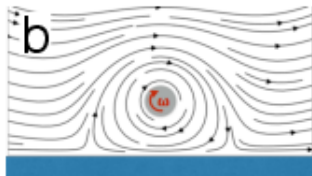
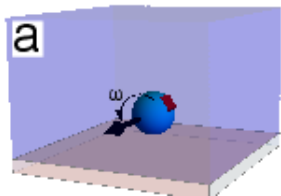
- The primary focus of my research is **fluid dynamics at small scales** (100nm-10 μ m), where **thermal fluctuations / Brownian motion** play an important role.
- A key approach I use and try to understand is **fluctuating hydrodynamics** (stochastic partial differential equations).
- Tools: fast methods, fast algorithms, computational fluid dynamics, applied stochastic analysis.
- Physical systems of current interest: suspensions of **colloids** (soft matter, Chem E) and **fibers** (comp bio), **electrolytes** (ionic solutions).

Microrollers: Fingering Instability



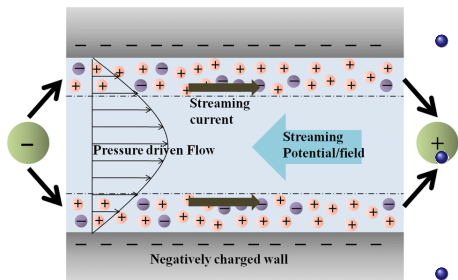
Experiments by Michelle Driscoll, simulations by **Blaise Delmotte** (was at Courant, now at LadHyX Paris), *Nature Physics* 13 (2017) [1]

Microrollers: Uniform Monolayers



B. Sprinkle et al., *Soft Matter* 16 (2020) [[ArXiv:2005.06002](https://arxiv.org/abs/2005.06002)] [2]

Electrohydrodynamics

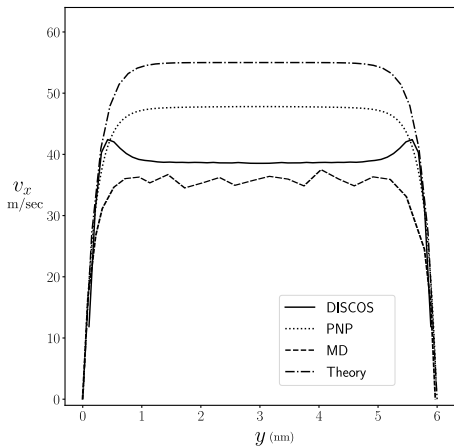
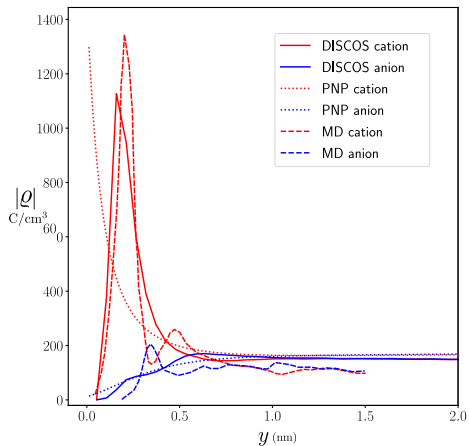


Electro-hydrodynamic flow

Key issue: Debye length/layer of molecular scales and continuum approach is questionable quantitatively:
no sterics, no image charges, no fluctuations, no ion pairing

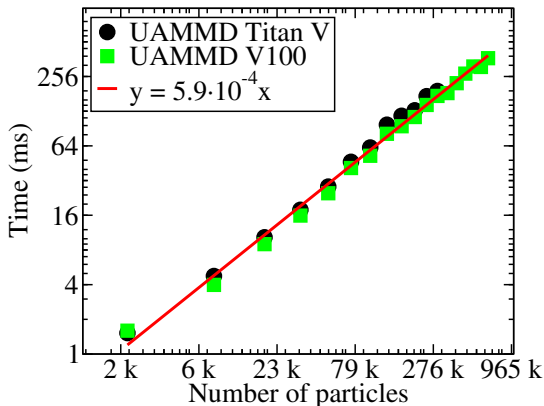
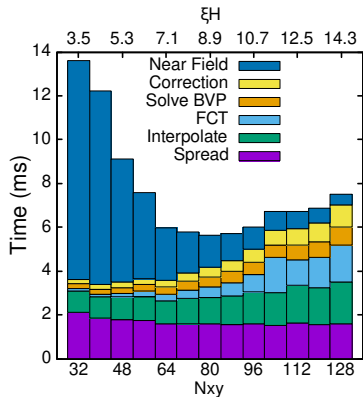
- **Electrolyte (ion) solutions** are important for batteries, ion-selective membranes, biology, etc.
 Past work with LBNL on **fluctuating Poisson-Nernst-Planck-Stokes** SPDE solvers.
- Semi-discrete approach: **Brownian HydroDynamics** (BD-HI) with discrete ions including both **electrostatic and hydrodynamic interactions**.
 Ladiges et al., *Phys. Rev. Fluids* 6 (2021) and **ArXiv:2204.14167** (2022) [3]

Electroosmotic flow: MD vs BD



Continuing work on Courant on spectral **GPU-based** methods/codes for electrolyte BD-HI and **electrochemical applications**

GPU acceleration



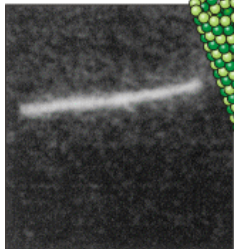
(Left) **Electrostatics**: Spectral Ewald splitting (6ms for 20K charges).

(Right) **Hydrodynamics** in slit channel using Fourier-Chebyshev spectral methods for *doubly-periodic geometry* (ongoing).

Fibers involved in cell mechanics

microtubules

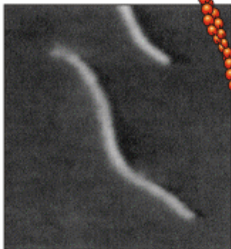
$\text{\O} \approx 24 \text{ nm}$



stiff rods ($L_p \gg L$)

actin filaments

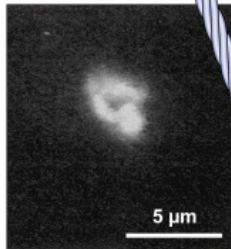
$\text{\O} \approx 7-9 \text{ nm}$



semiflexible ($L_p \approx L$)

intermediate filaments

$\text{\O} \approx 10 \text{ nm}$

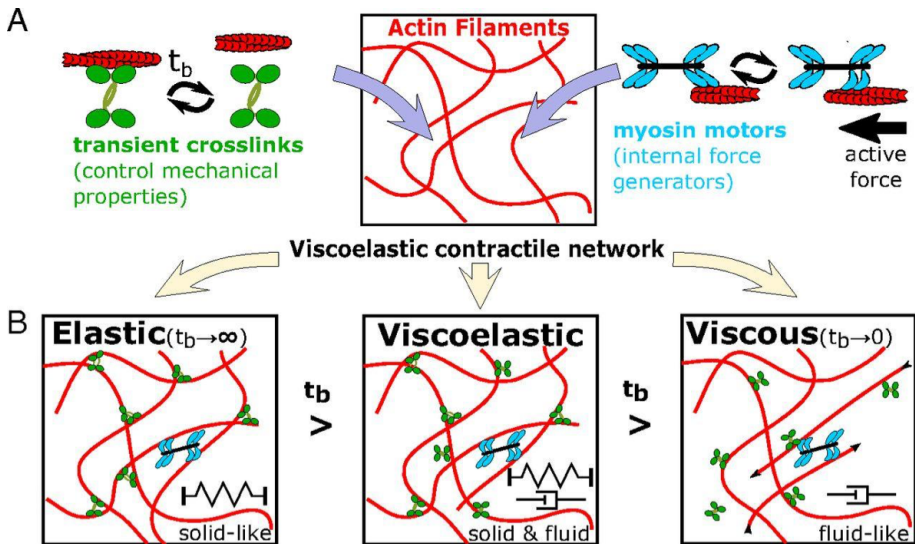


flexible ($L_p \ll L$)

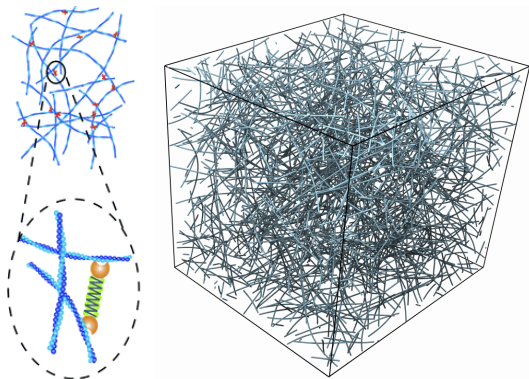
Pawlizak and Käs, University of Leipzig

L_p = persistence length, L = fiber length, $a = \epsilon L$ = fiber radius,
 ϵ = slenderness ratio

Cytoskeleton rheology

Ahmed and Betz. *PNAS*. (2015)

Cross-linked actin gels



- Very **slender semi-flexible fibers** (aspect ratio $10^2 - 10^4$) suspended in a **viscous solvent**.
- For now **cross linkers** modeled as simple elastic springs.
- **Periodic cyclically sheared** unit cell: **viscoelastic moduli**.

Does nonlocal hydrodynamics matter?

- Sometimes flows created by individual fibers add up constructively to produce **large-scale flows**, which advect network.
- For example, cytoplasmic streaming of a myosin-actin gels (must expel liquid out).
- Flow is generated at scales of fiber thickness: **multiscale problem**.
- Role of **long-ranged (nonlocal) hydrodynamics** unclear for **rheology** of cross-linked actin gels.
- Importance/role of **Brownian bending fluctuations** of fibers on rheology also not fully clear.

Dynamics of Flexible Fibers in Viscous Flows and Fluids, Ann. Rev. Fluid Mech. 51:539, du Roure, Lindner, Nazockdast, Shelley

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Quick intro to BD-HI

- The Ito equations of **Brownian HydroDynamics** for the (correlated) positions of the N particles (ions, colloids, blobs) in fluid, $\mathbf{Q}(t) = \{\mathbf{q}_1(t), \dots, \mathbf{q}_N(t)\}$:

$$d\mathbf{Q} = \mathcal{M}\mathbf{F}dt + (2k_B T \mathcal{M})^{\frac{1}{2}} d\mathbf{B} + k_B T (\partial_{\mathbf{Q}} \cdot \mathcal{M}) dt,$$

where $\mathbf{B}(t)$ is a vector of Brownian motions, and $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{Q})$ are electrostatic+steric+external forces.

- The symmetric positive semidefinite (SPD) but dense **hydrodynamic mobility matrix** $\mathcal{M}(\mathbf{Q})$:
 3×3 block \mathbf{M}_{ij} that maps a force on particle j to a velocity of particle i (Stokes flow problem).

Computational Issues in BDHI

Key challenges for fast **linear-scaling** BD-HI:

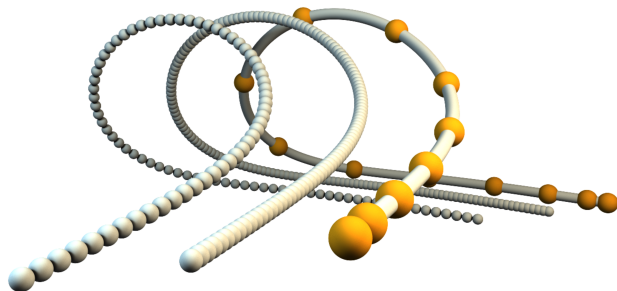
- How to compute **deterministic velocities** $\mathcal{M}\mathbf{F}$ (and electrostatic forces) efficiently? (Poisson and Stokes solvers)
Green's functions, immersed boundary finite-difference approaches, Fourier(-Chebyshev) spectral methods
- Generating **Brownian displacements** $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, 2k_B T \Delta t \mathcal{M})$:
Use Fluctuating Hydrodynamics (FHD) to generate noise on fluid instead of ions with single Stokes solve!
- Generating **stochastic drift** $\sim \partial_{\mathbf{Q}} \cdot \mathcal{M}$
Design specialized temporal integrators based on Random Finite Differences (RFDs)

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Fiber Representation

Simple approach is to represent a fiber as a **discrete chain** of beads/blobs: **multiblob model**

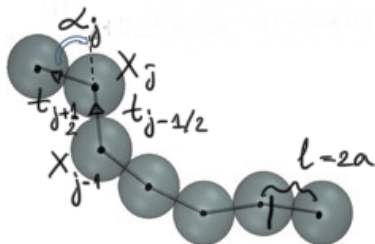


More efficient approach is to represent a fibers as **continuum curve**

O. Maxian et al. ArXiv:2201.04187

PRF 2021 [4] and now with twist in *PRF 2022* [5]

Inextensible multilob chains



Worm-like polymer chain

- Inextensibility: $\|\mathbf{X}_{j+1} - \mathbf{X}_j\| = l \sim a$ (e.g., a or $2a$).
- Tangent vectors:

$$\boldsymbol{\tau}_{j+1/2} = (\mathbf{X}_{j+1} - \mathbf{X}_j) / l$$
- Bending angles:

$$\cos \alpha_j = \boldsymbol{\tau}_{j+1/2} \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_{j-1/2}$$
- Elastic energy (bending modulus κ_b)

$$E_b = \frac{2\kappa_b}{l} \sum_{j=1}^{N-1} \sin^2 \left(\frac{\alpha_j}{2} \right)$$

Inextensible continuum fibers

- Persistence length due to thermal fluctuations $\xi = 2\kappa_b / (k_B T) \gg l$ gives us a **continuum limit**, $\alpha_j \ll 1$.
- Fiber centerline $\mathbf{X}(s)$ where the **arc length** $0 \leq s \leq L$.
- The tangent vector is $\boldsymbol{\tau} = \partial \mathbf{X} / \partial s = \mathbf{X}_s$, and the **fibers are inextensible**,

$$\boldsymbol{\tau}(s, t) \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}(s, t) = 1 \quad \forall (s, t).$$

- Bending energy functional is integral of curvature squared:

$$E_b(\mathbf{X}) = \frac{2\kappa_b}{l} \sum_{j=1}^{N-1} \left(\frac{\alpha_j}{2} \right)^2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad E_b[\mathbf{X}(\cdot)] = \frac{\kappa_b}{2} \int ds \|\mathbf{X}_{ss}(s)\|^2$$

Bending elasticity

- Bending force $\mathbf{F}_j^{(b)}$ on interior blob j gives us **elastic force density**

$$\mathbf{F}_j^{(b)} = -\frac{\partial E_b}{\partial \mathbf{X}_j} = \frac{\kappa_b}{l^3} (-\mathbf{X}_{j-2} + 4\mathbf{X}_{j-1} - 6\mathbf{X}_j + 4\mathbf{X}_{j+1} - \mathbf{X}_{j+2})$$

$$\mathbf{F}_b \approx -l\kappa_b \mathbf{D}^4 \mathbf{X} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbf{f}_b = -\frac{\delta E_{\text{bend}}}{\delta \mathbf{X}} = -\kappa_b \mathbf{X}_{\text{SSSS}}$$

- Endpoints naturally handled discretely, giving in continuum natural BCs for **free fibers**:

$$\mathbf{X}_{\text{SS}}(0/L) = 0, \quad \mathbf{X}_{\text{SSS}}(0/L) = 0.$$

- Tensions** $T_{j+1/2} \rightarrow T(s)$ are **unknown** and resist stretching,

$$\Lambda_i = T_{i+1/2} \boldsymbol{\tau}_{i+1/2} - T_{i-1/2} \boldsymbol{\tau}_{i-1/2} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \boldsymbol{\lambda} = (T\boldsymbol{\tau})_s.$$

Fluid dynamics of an immersed fiber

- For multiblob chains in **Stokes flow**, fluid velocity $\mathbf{v}(\mathbf{r}, t)$ satisfies $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$ and

$$\nabla \pi = \eta \nabla^2 \mathbf{v} + \sum_j \mathbf{F}_j \delta_a(\mathbf{X}_j - \mathbf{r}),$$

where $\delta_a(\mathbf{r})$ is a **blob kernel** of width $\sim a$, and

$$\mathbf{F} = -l\kappa_b \mathbf{D}^4 \mathbf{X} + \Lambda$$

- Blobs/fiber are advected by fluid

$$\mathbf{U}_j = d\mathbf{X}_j/dt = \int d\mathbf{r} \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{r}, t) \delta_a(\mathbf{X}_j - \mathbf{r}).$$

- Continuum limit is obvious (without Brownian fluctuations)

$$\nabla \pi(\mathbf{r}, t) = \eta \nabla^2 \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{r}, t) + \int_0^L ds \mathbf{f}(s, t) \delta_a(\mathbf{X}(s, t) - \mathbf{r})$$

$$\mathbf{U}(s, t) = \partial_t \mathbf{X}(s, t) = \int d\mathbf{r} \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{r}, t) \delta_a(\mathbf{X}(s, t) - \mathbf{r})$$

$$\mathbf{f} = -\kappa_b \mathbf{X}_{ssss} + \lambda$$

Multiblob chains in Stokes flow

- We can (temporarily) eliminate the fluid velocity to write an equation for **fiber only**.
- Define the positive semi-definite **hydrodynamic kernel**

$$\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2) = \int \delta_a(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}') \mathbb{G}(\mathbf{r}', \mathbf{r}'') \delta_a(\mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}'') d\mathbf{r}' d\mathbf{r}'',$$

where \mathbb{G} is the Green's function for (periodic) Stokes flow.

- Define $\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{X}) \succeq \mathbf{0}$ to be the symmetric positive semidefinite (SPD) **mobility matrix** with blocks

$$\mathbf{M}_{ij}(\mathbf{X}_i, \mathbf{X}_j) = \mathcal{R}(\mathbf{X}_i, \mathbf{X}_j) = \mathcal{R}(\mathbf{X}_i - \mathbf{X}_j).$$

- Discrete dynamics = **inextensibility** +

$$\mathbf{U} = d\mathbf{X}/dt = \mathbf{M}(\mathbf{X}) \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{M}(-l\kappa_b \mathbf{D}^4 \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{\Lambda})$$

Inextensible fibers in Stokes flow

- Define a positive semidefinite **mobility operator**

$$(\mathcal{M}[\mathbf{X}(\cdot)] \mathbf{f}(\cdot))(s) = \int_0^L ds' \mathcal{R}(\mathbf{X}(s), \mathbf{X}(s')) \mathbf{f}(s')$$

- Continuum dynamics is a **non-local PDE**

$$\mathbf{U} = \mathbf{X}_t = \mathcal{M}[\mathbf{X}] (-\kappa_b \mathbf{X}_{ssss} + \boldsymbol{\lambda})$$

$$\boldsymbol{\tau}(s, t) \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}(s, t) = 1 \quad \forall (s, t).$$

- Is this PDE well-posed? We have shown *numerically* that
 - Fiber **velocity converges pointwise** (strongly) up to the endpoints.
 - Moments of $\boldsymbol{\lambda}$ converge**, e.g., stress tensor (weak convergence).

Rotne-Prager-Yamakawa kernel

$$\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2) = \int \delta_a(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}') \mathbb{G}(\mathbf{r}', \mathbf{r}'') \delta_a(\mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}'') d\mathbf{r}' d\mathbf{r}''$$

- Taking the regularization kernel and unbounded Stokes flow

$$\delta_a(\mathbf{r}) = (4\pi a^2)^{-1} \delta(r - a)$$

gives the **Rotne-Prager-Yamakawa (RPY) kernel**

$$\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{r}) = \begin{cases} (8\pi\eta)^{-1} \left(\mathcal{S}(\mathbf{r}) + \frac{2a^2}{3} \mathcal{D}(\mathbf{r}) \right), & r > 2a \\ (6\pi a\eta)^{-1} \left[\left(1 - \frac{9r}{32a} \right) \mathbf{I} + \left(\frac{3r}{32a} \right) \frac{\mathbf{r} \otimes \mathbf{r}}{r^2} \right], & r \leq 2a \end{cases}$$

$$\mathcal{S}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{8\pi\eta r} (\mathbf{I} + \hat{\mathbf{r}}\hat{\mathbf{r}}^T) \equiv \mathbb{G}, \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{D}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{8\pi\eta r^3} (\mathbf{I} - \hat{\mathbf{r}}\hat{\mathbf{r}}^T)$$

Slender Body Theory

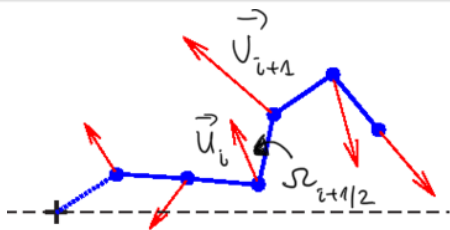
$$(\mathcal{M}[\mathbf{X}(\cdot)] \mathbf{f}(\cdot))(s) = \int_0^L ds' \mathcal{R}(\mathbf{X}(s) - \mathbf{X}(s')) \mathbf{f}(s')$$

- **Matched asymptotics** gives (away from endpoints)

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathcal{M} \mathbf{f})(s) &\approx (\mathcal{M}_{\text{SBT}} \mathbf{f})(s) = (\mathcal{M}_{\text{L}} \mathbf{f})(s) + (\mathcal{M}_{\text{NL}} \mathbf{f})(s) = \\ &= \frac{1}{8\pi\eta} \left(\log \left(\frac{(L-s)s}{4a^2} \right) (\mathbf{I} + \boldsymbol{\tau}(s)\boldsymbol{\tau}(s)^T) + 4\mathbf{I} \right) \mathbf{f}(s) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{8\pi\eta} \int_0^L ds' \left(\boldsymbol{\mathcal{S}}(\mathbf{X}(s) - \mathbf{X}(s')) \mathbf{f}(s') - \left(\frac{\mathbf{I} + \boldsymbol{\tau}(s)\boldsymbol{\tau}(s)^T}{|s-s'|} \right) \mathbf{f}(s) \right) \end{aligned}$$

- For a special choice of blob radius $a = (e^{3/2}/4) \epsilon L = 1.12\epsilon L$, this formula matches the widely-used **Slender Body Theory** (SBT).
- Our approach automatically works for **multiple fibers**, and also gives us a natural **regularization of the endpoints** and also **ensures an SPD mobility operator**.

Inextensible motions



$$\frac{\mathbf{U}_i - \mathbf{U}_{i-1}}{\Delta s} = \Omega_{j+1/2} \times \boldsymbol{\tau}_{j+1/2} \quad \Rightarrow$$

$$\mathbf{U} = \mathbf{K} \Omega^\perp = \left[\mathbf{U}_0, \dots, \mathbf{U}_0 + \Delta s \sum_{j=0}^{i-1} \Omega_{j+1/2}^\perp \times \boldsymbol{\tau}_{j+1/2}, \dots \right] \rightarrow$$

$$\mathbf{U}(s) = \left(\boldsymbol{\kappa}[\mathbf{X}(\cdot)] \Omega^\perp(\cdot) \right)(s) = \mathbf{U}(0) + \int_0^s ds' \left(\Omega^\perp(s') \times \boldsymbol{\tau}(s') \right).$$

Principle of virtual work

- **Principle of virtual work:** Constraint forces should do no work for any inextensible motion of the fiber:

$$\mathbf{\Lambda}^T \mathbf{U} = (\mathbf{K}^T \mathbf{\Lambda})^T \mathbf{\Omega}^\perp = 0 \quad \forall \mathbf{\Omega}^\perp \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbf{K}^T \mathbf{\Lambda} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\mathbf{K}^T \mathbf{\Lambda} = \left[\sum_{j=0}^N \mathbf{\Lambda}_j, \dots, \Delta s \left(\sum_{j=i}^N \mathbf{\Lambda}_j \right) \times \boldsymbol{\tau}_{i+1/2}, \dots \right] \rightarrow$$

$$(\mathcal{K}^* [\mathbf{X}(\cdot)] \boldsymbol{\lambda}(\cdot))(s) = \left[\int_0^L ds' \boldsymbol{\lambda}(s'), \forall s \left(\int_s^L ds' \boldsymbol{\lambda}(s') \right) \times \boldsymbol{\tau}(s) \right] = \mathbf{0}.$$

- We can express this in terms of tension

$$\forall s \quad \int_s^L ds' \boldsymbol{\lambda}(s') = -T(s) \boldsymbol{\tau}(s) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \boldsymbol{\lambda} = (T\boldsymbol{\tau})_s$$

but the principle of virtual work is an **integral constraint**.

Continuum equations

- New **weak formulation of inextensibility** constraint:

$$\mathbf{X}_t = \mathcal{K}[\mathbf{X}] \Omega^\perp = \mathcal{M}[\mathbf{X}] (-\kappa_b \mathbf{X}_{ssss} + \lambda)$$

$$\mathcal{K}^*[\mathbf{X}] \lambda = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\partial_t \boldsymbol{\tau} = \Omega^\perp \times \boldsymbol{\tau}$$

$$\mathbf{X}(s, t) = \mathbf{X}(0, t) + \int_0^s ds' \boldsymbol{\tau}(ds', t)$$

- Two improvements:
 - Evolve tangent vector $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ rather than \mathbf{X} : **strictly inextensible**.
 - Expose **saddle-point structure** of problem (generalized gradient descent for elastic energy).

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Spatial Discretization

- We develop a **spectral discretization** in space, based on representing all functions using **Chebyshev polynomials**, with **anti-aliasing**.
- **Collocation discretization** of mobility equation gives a **saddle-point system**

$$\begin{pmatrix} -\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{X}) & \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{X}) \\ \mathbf{K}^*(\mathbf{X}) & \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda \\ \Omega \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{M}(\mathbf{X})(-\kappa_b \mathbf{D}_{BC}^4 \mathbf{X}) \\ \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix}$$

which we solve iteratively using a **block-diagonal preconditioner**.

- We only use $O(16 - 32)$ Chebyshev points per fiber so doing **dense LA for individual fibers** is OK.

Temporal discretization

- **Backward Euler** is the most stable since it ensures strict energy dissipation; also for *dense* suspensions.
- **Split** mobility into **local** (e.g., intra-fiber) and **non-local** (e.g., inter-fiber) parts, $\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{M}_L + \mathbf{M}_{NL}$:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{K}^n \Omega^n &= \mathbf{M}_L^n \left(-\kappa_b \mathbf{D}_{BC}^4 \mathbf{X}^{n+1,*} + \lambda^{n+1} \right) \\ &\quad + \mathbf{M}_{NL}^n \left(-\kappa_b \mathbf{D}_{BC}^4 \mathbf{X}^n + \lambda^n \right) + \mathbf{M} \mathbf{f}^n \\ (\mathbf{K}^*)^n \lambda^{n+1} &= \mathbf{0}, \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathbf{X}^{n+1,*} = \mathbf{X}^n + \Delta t \mathbf{K}^{n+1/2,*} \Omega^{n+1/2}$.

- Actual fiber update is **strictly inextensible**

$$\boldsymbol{\tau}^{n+1} = \text{rotate}(\boldsymbol{\tau}^n, \Delta t \Omega^n).$$

- \mathbf{f}^n contains other forces such as **cross-linkers** (can be stiff).
Flow is easy to add to the rhs.

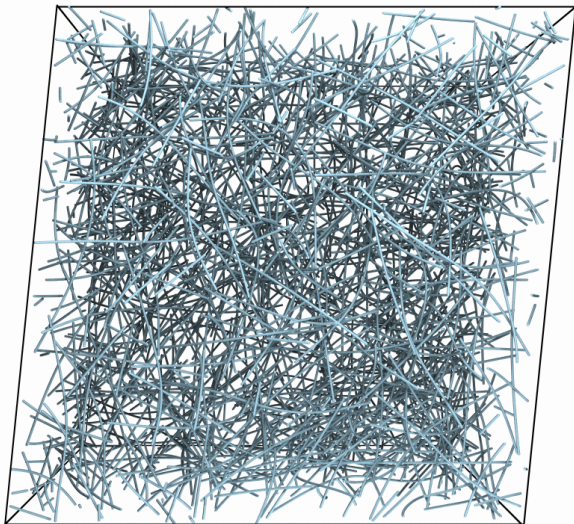
The gory details

- 1 For dense suspensions, supplement L+NL splitting with additional **1-5 GMRES iterations** for stability.
- 2 Evaluate long-ranged hydrodynamic interactions between Chebyshev nodes in **linear time** using *Positively Split Ewald* (PSE) method (FFT based for triply periodic), also works for **deformed/sheared unit cell** (Fiore et al. *J. Chem. Phys.* (2017)).
- 3 For intra-fiber hydro we replaced slender body *theory* with superior **slender body quadrature** (singularity subtraction).
- 4 For **nearby fibers**, use specialized **near-singular quadrature** to get 2-3 digits.

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Actin network/gel



Cross-linked network



Rheology

Apply linear shear flow $\mathbf{v}_0(x, y, z) = \dot{\gamma}_0 \cos(\omega t)y$ and measure the **visco-elastic stress** induced by the fibers and cross links:

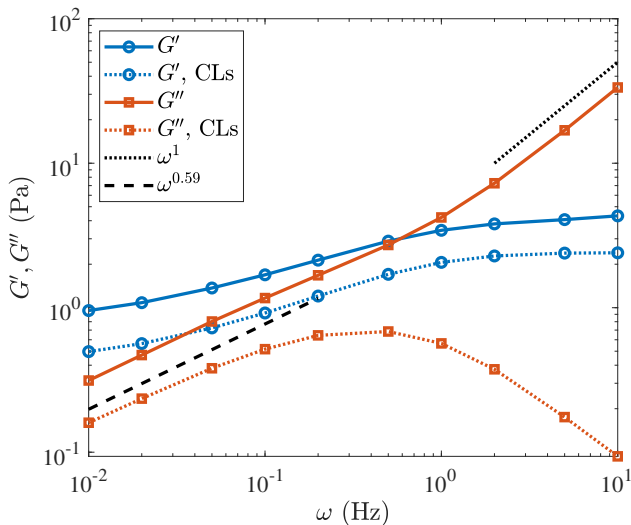
$$\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{(i)} = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{\text{fibers}} \int_0^L ds \mathbf{X}^i(s) (\mathbf{f}_b(s) + \boldsymbol{\lambda}(s))^T$$

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{(\text{CL})} = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{\text{CLs}=(i,j)} \int_0^L ds \left(\mathbf{X}^i(s) \mathbf{f}^{(\text{CL},i)}(s) + \mathbf{X}^j(s) \mathbf{f}^{(\text{CL},j)}(s) \right)$$

$$\frac{\sigma_{21}}{\gamma_0} = G' \sin(\omega t) + G'' \cos(\omega t) = \text{elastic} + \text{viscous.}$$

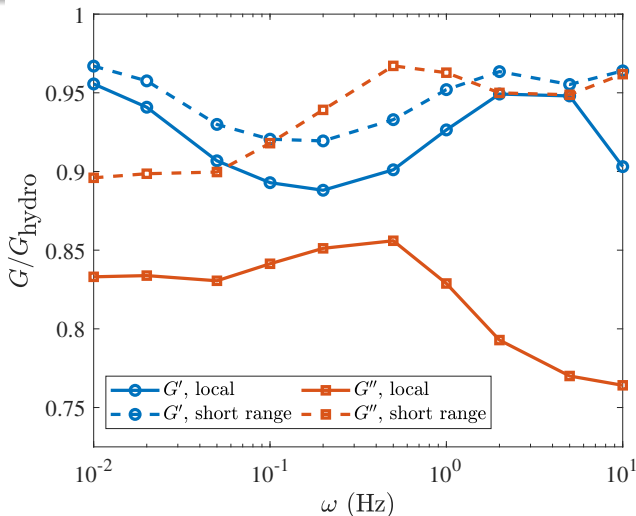
$$G' = \frac{2}{\gamma_0 T} \int_0^T \sigma_{21} \sin(\omega t) dt \quad G'' = \frac{2}{\gamma_0 T} \int_0^T \sigma_{21} \cos(\omega t) dt.$$

Viscoelastic moduli: Maxwell fluid



Elastic modulus G' and **viscous** modulus G'' for 700 fibers + 8400 CLs

Nonlocal hydrodynamics



Reduction in viscoelastic moduli with **only local drag** or **only inter-fiber nonlocal hydrodynamics**.

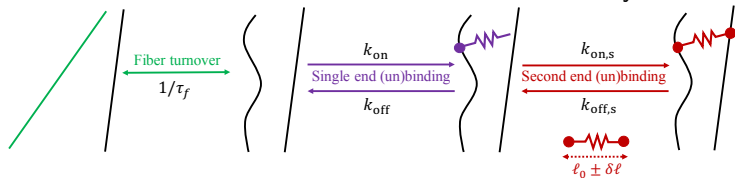
Dynamic cross linking

Kinetic Monte Carlo algorithm for cross linking:

- Discrete set of binding sites on each fiber (for efficiency).
- Doubly-bound CLs act as simple **elastic springs**.

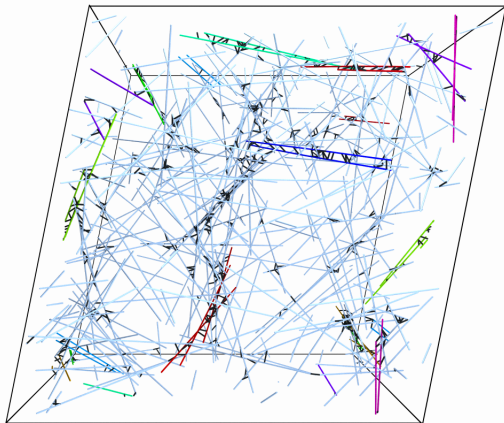
Assumptions behind linking algorithm

- Diffusion of cross-linkers is fast (**diffusion-limited binding**)
- Four reactions between fibers and CL reservoir obey **detailed balance**

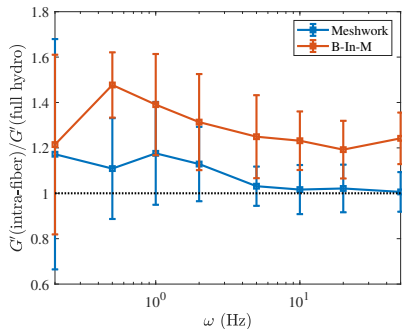
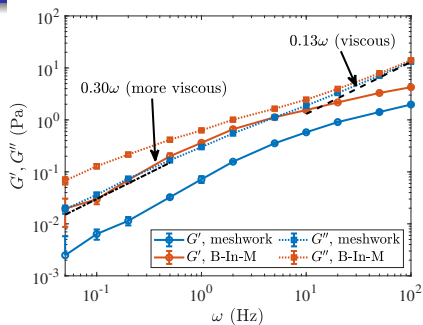


O. Maxian et al, PLOS Comp. Bio., 2021 [[bioRxiv:2021.07.07.451453](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pcbi.1008453)] [6]
and Biophysical J., 2022 [[bioRxiv:021.09.17.460819](https://doi.org/10.1083/jcb.202109.17)] [7]

Dynamically cross-linked network



Rheology transient CLs



- Measured viscoelastic moduli of dynamically cross-linked networks **without** Brownian motion.
- For bundled networks, elastic modulus overestimated by $\approx 50\%$ without inter-fiber hydro, esp. long timescales.
- Fibers in bundles closer together: stress is reduced because **entrainment flows in bundle** make straining easier.

Outline

- 1 Complex suspensions
 - Colloidal Suspensions
 - Electrolyte Solutions
- 2 Brownian Dynamics
- 3 Inextensible Fibers in Stokes Flow
 - Elasticity
 - Hydrodynamics
 - Inextensibility
- 4 Numerical Methods
- 5 Actin gels
- 6 Adding Brownian motion

Thermal fluctuations (Brownian Motion)

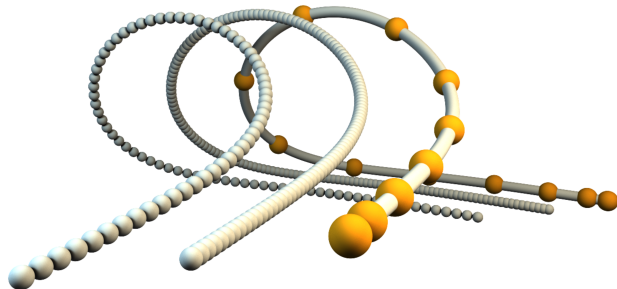
- **Rigid fibers** are “easy” though so far we have only implemented *without* inter-fiber hydro [7].
- **Fluctuating hydrodynamics** gives the fluctuating Stokes equations

$$\rho \partial_t \mathbf{v} + \nabla \pi = \eta \nabla^2 \mathbf{v} + \nabla \cdot \left(\sqrt{2\eta k_B T} \mathcal{W} \right) + \int_0^L ds \mathbf{f}(s, t) \delta_a(\mathbf{X}(s, t) - \mathbf{r}).$$

- The **thermal fluctuations** (Brownian motion of fiber) are driven by a white-noise **stochastic stress tensor** $\mathcal{W}(\mathbf{r}, t)$.
- Must first answer deep mathematical questions:
 - Can one make sense of the (multiplicative noise) **overdamped SPDE** for a Brownian curve?
 - Does the **Brownian stress** of the fiber converge in the continuum limit? (bending energy does not)

Brownian multiblob chains

For **Brownian blob-link chains** there are no mathematical issues so start there!



Fast constrained BD-HI for blob-link chains based on rotating unit link vectors including Brownian stress (Brennan Sprinkle, in progress)

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