#### Strain-stiffening of athermal floppy networks

#### Edan Lerner

Institute for Theoretical Physics University of Amsterdam

November 2022



Universiteit van Amsterdam

#### acknowledgments



Matthieu Wyart





**Gustavo Düring** 



PONTIFICIA Universidad Católica De Chile



#### Eran Bouchbinder



#### strain stiffening



strain stiffening is the deformation-induced increase in a material's elastic modulus

## strain stiffening is the deformation-induced increase in a material's elastic modulus



Sharma et al., Nature Physics 12, 584 (2016)

## strain stiffening is the deformation-induced increase in a material's elastic modulus



today: why? how?

Sharma et al., Nature Physics 12, 584 (2016)

strain stiffening is the deformation-induced increase in a material's elastic modulus

#### fibers that are **easy to bend** but **hard to stretch**

collagen networks





Sharma et al., Nature Physics 12, 584 (2016)





#### non-Brownian suspension viscosity



#### non-Brownian suspension viscosity





• model (for any disordered material): unit masses connected by Hookean springs

• what are floppy networks?

• model (for any disordered material): unit masses connected by Hookean springs

• what are **floppy networks**?

• geometric analysis of strain-stiffening networks - states of self-stress

- what are floppy networks?
- geometric analysis of strain-stiffening networks states of self-stress
- adding **bending forces** into the picture

- what are floppy networks?
- geometric analysis of strain-stiffening networks states of self-stress
- adding **bending forces** into the picture
- scaling theory of strain stiffening

- what are floppy networks?
- geometric analysis of strain-stiffening networks states of self-stress
- adding **bending forces** into the picture
- scaling theory of strain stiffening
- relation to other jamming problems & some open questions

#### disordered networks of masses connected by relaxed Hookean springs



disordered networks of masses connected by **relaxed** Hookean springs key control parameter: coordination z



disordered networks of masses connected by **relaxed** Hookean springs key control parameter: coordination z





disordered networks of masses connected by **relaxed** Hookean springs key control parameter: coordination  $z < z_{
m c} \equiv 2 imes d$ 



# $G \equiv \text{shear modulus}$ $d \equiv \text{dimension of space}$







'floppy modes' are zero-energy modes. They are displacements u that do **not** stretch **nor** compress any spring



'floppy modes' are zero-energy modes. They are displacements  $\boldsymbol{u}$  that do **not** stretch **nor** compress any spring

if  $\hat{m{n}}_{ij}\cdot(m{u}_j-m{u}_i)=0$  for all springs  $_{i,j}$ 

 $\Rightarrow u$  is a floppy mode



'floppy modes' are zero-energy modes. They are displacements *u* that do **not** stretch **nor** compress any spring

if  $\mathcal{S}|u
angle=0$ 

 $\Rightarrow u$  is a floppy mode



'floppy modes' are zero-energy modes. They are displacements  $\boldsymbol{u}$  that do **not** stretch **nor** compress any spring

if  $\mathcal{S}|u
angle=0$ 

 $\Rightarrow u$  is a floppy mode

 ${\cal S}$  is known as the 'compatibility matrix'

#### floppy networks do not feature 'states of self-stress'



'states of self-stress' are <u>assignments</u> of spring-forces that are **vectorically self-balanced** 

#### floppy networks do not feature 'states of self-stress'



'states of self-stress' are <u>assignments</u> of spring-forces that are **vectorically self-balanced** 

#### floppy networks do not feature 'states of self-stress'



'states of self-stress' are <u>assignments</u> of spring-forces that are **vectorically self-balanced** 

if  $\mathcal{S}^T | f 
angle = \mathbf{0}$ 

 $\Rightarrow$   $|f\rangle$  is a state of self-stress

## floppy networks <u>do not</u> feature 'states of self-stress' – why do we care about this —?

## floppy networks **do not** feature 'states of self-stress' – why do we care about this **?**

Wyart (phd thesis, 2005) showed that (for relaxed spring networks)

$$G = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{\substack{\text{states of} \\ \text{self-stress } \varphi_{\ell}}} \langle \varphi_{\ell} | \partial r / \partial \gamma \rangle^2$$

## floppy networks <u>do not</u> feature 'states of self-stress' – why do we care about this <a>?</a>

Wyart (phd thesis, 2005) showed that (for relaxed spring networks)

$$G = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{\text{states of} \atop \text{self-stress } \varphi_{\ell}} \langle \varphi_{\ell} | \partial r / \partial \gamma \rangle^2$$

no states-of-self-stress? then G = 0.

#### floppy networks – summary



#### floppy networks – summary








## at a critical strain $\gamma_{\rm c}$ the shear modulus jumps



## at a critical strain $\gamma_{\rm c}$ the shear modulus jumps

⇒ a state of self-stress developed







## at a **critical** strain $\gamma_{\rm c}$ the shear modulus **jumps**

# $\Rightarrow a \text{ state of self-stress developed}$ how can this $\checkmark$ be quantified?

## recall: states of self-stress



'states of self-stress' are <u>assignments</u> of spring-forces that are **vectorically self-balanced** 

if  $\mathcal{S}^T | f 
angle = \mathbf{0}$ 

 $\Rightarrow$   $|f\rangle$  is a state of self-stress

## recall: states of self-stress

we construct the operator:  $\mathcal{SS}^T$ 

and consider its spectrum



$$\mathcal{SS}^T|f\rangle = \omega^2|f\rangle$$

## recall: states of self-stress

we construct the operator:  $\mathcal{SS}^T$ 

and consider its **spectrum** 



$$\mathcal{SS}^T|f\rangle = \omega^2|f\rangle$$

eigenvectors  $|f\rangle$ : sets of spring-forces, eigenvalues  $\omega^2$ : dimensionless force unballance:

$$\omega^2 = \frac{\langle f | \mathcal{S} \mathcal{S}^T | f \rangle}{\langle f | f \rangle} = \frac{\langle F | F \rangle}{\langle f | f \rangle}$$



#### eigenvalues $\omega^2$ : dimensionless force unballance:

$$\omega^2 = \frac{\langle f | \mathcal{S} \mathcal{S}^T | f \rangle}{\langle f | f \rangle} = \frac{\langle F | F \rangle}{\langle f | f \rangle}$$



at 
$$\gamma_{
m c}$$
,  $\omega^2 
ightarrow 0$ 







#### eigenvalues $\omega^2$ : dimensionless force unballance:

$$\omega^2 = rac{\langle f | \mathcal{S} \mathcal{S}^T | f 
angle}{\langle f | f 
angle} = rac{\langle F | F 
angle}{\langle f | f 
angle}$$

spectrum of  $\mathcal{SS}^T$  in sheared floppy networks  $\left(\mathcal{SS}^T|f\rangle = \omega^2|f\rangle\right)$ 

spectrum of  $\mathcal{SS}^T$  in sheared floppy networks  $\left(\mathcal{SS}^T|f\rangle = \omega^2|f\rangle\right)$ 



isotropic

spectrum of  $\mathcal{SS}^T$  in sheared floppy networks  $\left(\mathcal{SS}^T|f\rangle = \omega^2|f\rangle\right)$ 



#### isotropic

sheared

spectrum of  $\mathcal{SS}^T$  in sheared floppy networks  $\left(\mathcal{SS}^T|f
ight
angle=\omega^2|f
ight
angle$ 



sheared

### development of a **state of self-stress** $\Leftrightarrow$





spectrum of  $SS^T$  in sheared floppy networks  $(SS^T|f\rangle = \omega^2|f\rangle)$ 



sheared

development of a state of self-stress  $\Leftrightarrow \omega_{\min}^2 \to 0$ 



how does  $\omega_{\min}^2$  vanish?





## how does $\omega_{\min}^2$ vanish?









In generic elastic solids:  $\mathcal{H} \cdot \frac{d\boldsymbol{x}}{d\gamma} = \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial \boldsymbol{x} \partial \gamma}$ 





In generic elastic solids:  ${\cal H} \cdot {dx \over d\gamma} = {\partial^2 U \over \partial x \partial \gamma}$ 

 $\phi \Rightarrow$  one can add any zero mode  $\psi$   $(\mathcal{H}\cdot\psi\!=\!m{0})$  to the (under-determined) solution for  $rac{dm{x}}{d\gamma}$ 





In generic elastic solids:  ${\cal H} \cdot {dx \over d\gamma} = {\partial^2 U \over \partial x \partial \gamma}$ 

 $\phi$  one can add any zero mode  $\psi$   $({\cal H}\cdot\psi\!=\!{f 0})$  to the (under-determined) solution for  ${dm x\over d\gamma}$ 

to proceed, we introduce a **weak interaction** of typical stiffness  $\kappa$ , that **eliminates** the indeterminacy of dynamics/mechanics

#### introducing weak interactions



#### introducing weak interactions

















 $(\kappa > 0$  is a singular perturbation)

one useful limit is  $\kappa 
ightarrow 0^+$ , then one finds:



$$\omega_{\min}^2 \sim \gamma_{\rm c} - \gamma$$

 $\left(\text{recall } \mathcal{SS}^T | f \rangle = \omega^2 | f \rangle \right)$ 

R. Rens, C. Villarroel, G. Düring, and EL, PRE 2018

one useful limit is  $\kappa 
ightarrow 0^+$  , then one finds:

$$\omega_{\min}^2 \sim \gamma_{\rm c} - \gamma$$

 $\left(\text{recall } \mathcal{SS}^T | f \rangle = \omega^2 | f \rangle \right)$ 





R. Rens, C. Villarroel, G. Düring, and EL, PRE 2018

#### strain stiffening

operator:  $\mathcal{SS}^T, \quad \omega_{\min}^2 \sim \gamma_{
m c} - \gamma$ 



R. Rens, C. Villarroel, G. Düring, and EL, PRE 2018.

#### strain stiffening

operator: 
$$\mathcal{SS}^T$$
,

$$\omega_{\min}^2 \sim \gamma_{\rm c} - \gamma$$



R. Rens, C. Villarroel, G. Düring, and EL, PRE 2018

plastic instabilities in elastic solids

operator: 
$$\mathcal{H} = \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial x \partial x}, \ \omega_{\min}^2 \sim \sqrt{\gamma_{\rm c} - \gamma}$$



#### EL, PRE 2016





R. Rens et al. J. Phys. Chem. B, 2016

0.10909



recall that at 
$$\kappa = 0$$
:



R. Rens et al. J. Phys. Chem. B, 2016



recall that at  $\kappa = 0$ :



R. Rens et al. J. Phys. Chem. B, 2016










 $\bullet$  in isotropic states  $G\sim\kappa$ 

$$ullet$$
 if  $\delta\gamma>\delta\gamma_{\star}(\kappa)$ ,  $G\sim(\gamma_{
m c}-\gamma)^{-eta}$ 



 $\bullet$  in isotropic states  $G\sim\kappa$ 

$$ullet$$
 if  $\delta\gamma>\delta\gamma_{\star}(\kappa)$ ,  $G\sim(\gamma_{
m c}-\gamma)^{-eta}$ 

how can these observations be understood?



# consider a shear-stiffened network with $~\kappa=0$ ;



# consider a shear-stiffened network with $~\kappa=0$ ;



#### recall:



consider a shear-stiffened network with  $\ \kappa=0;$  counting DOF vs. interactions,  $\sim N$  floppy modes exist



consider a shear-stiffened network with  $\kappa = 0$ ; counting DOF vs. interactions,  $\sim N$  floppy modes exist

1) expand the energy in the floppy-mode space:

 $\frac{d^2}{d^2} + \frac{1}{6} \frac{\partial^3 U}{\partial x^3} u^3 + \frac{1}{24} \frac{\partial^4 U}{\partial x^4} u^4$  $U(u) \simeq \frac{1}{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x}$ stability floppy modes



consider a shear-stiffened network with  $\kappa = 0$ ; counting DOF vs. interactions,  $\sim N$  floppy modes exist

1) expand the energy in the floppy-mode space:

$$\begin{array}{l} U(u) \simeq \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial x^2} u^2 + \frac{1}{6} \frac{\partial^3 U}{\partial x^3} u^3 + \frac{1}{24} \frac{\partial^4 U}{\partial x^4} u^4 \\ & \text{floppy modes} \quad \text{stability} \end{array}$$



consider a shear-stiffened network with  $\kappa = 0$ ; counting DOF vs. interactions,  $\sim N$  floppy modes exist

1) expand the energy in the floppy-mode space:

$$\begin{array}{l} U(u) \simeq \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial x^2} u^2 + \frac{1}{6} \frac{\partial^3 U}{\partial x^3} u^3 + \frac{1}{24} \frac{\partial^4 U}{\partial x^4} u^4 \\ & \text{floppy modes} \quad \text{stability} \end{array}$$



2) turn on weak interactions. Nodes are now unballanced by a force  $F_{\rm soft} \sim \kappa$ 

consider a shear-stiffened network with  $~~{\cal K}=0$ ; counting DOF vs. interactions,  $\sim N$  floppy modes exist

1) expand the energy in the floppy-mode space:

 $\begin{array}{l} U(u) \simeq \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial x^2} u^2 + \frac{1}{6} \frac{\partial^3 U}{\partial x^3} u^3 + \frac{1}{24} \frac{\partial^4 U}{\partial x^4} u^4 \\ & \text{floppy modes} \quad \text{stability} \end{array}$ 



2) turn on weak interactions. Nodes are now unballanced by a force  $F_{\rm soft} \sim \kappa$ 

3) Nodes move a displacement  $\mathcal{U}_{\star}$  & recover mechanical equilibrium when **anharmonic** force balances weak force:  $F_{\mathrm{soft}} \sim \kappa \sim F_{\mathrm{stiff}} \sim u_{\star}^3$ 

consider a shear-stiffened network with  $~~{\cal K}=0$ ; counting DOF vs. interactions,  $\sim N$  floppy modes exist

1) expand the energy in the floppy-mode space:

 $\begin{array}{l} U(u) \simeq \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial x^2} u^2 + \frac{1}{6} \frac{\partial^3 U}{\partial x^3} u^3 + \frac{1}{24} \frac{\partial^4 U}{\partial x^4} u^4 \\ & \text{floppy modes} \quad \text{stability} \end{array}$ 



2) turn on weak interactions. Nodes are now unballanced by a force  $F_{\rm soft} \sim \kappa$ 

3) Nodes move a displacement  $\mathcal{U}_{\star}$  & recover mechanical equilibrium when anharmonic force balances weak force:  $F_{\mathrm{soft}} \sim \kappa \sim F_{\mathrm{stiff}} \sim u_{\star}^3$ 

$$\left(u_{\star}\sim\kappa^{1/3}
ight)$$



(a)









# why do we need this 2-step perturbation approach?



why do we need this 2-step perturbation approach?



#### 1) theoretical handle (to be explained hereafter)

why do we need this 2-step perturbation approach?



#### 1) theoretical handle (to be explained hereafter)

#### 2) allows to *simulate* systems at the critical strain (unfeasible otherwise)





# properties of perturbed ( $\kappa > 0$ ), strain-stiffened states



properties of perturbed ( $\kappa > 0$ ), strain-stiffened states

# 1) displacements $u_{\star}$ distort (and ruin) the $\kappa=0$ state-of-self-stress



1) displacements  $u_{\star}$  distort (and ruin) the  $\kappa=0$  state-of-self-stress

$$\frac{\langle f|\mathcal{S}\mathcal{S}^T|f\rangle}{\langle f|f\rangle} \sim u_\star^2 \sim \kappa^{2/3}$$



1) displacements  $u_{\star}$  distort (and ruin) the  $\kappa=0$  state-of-self-stress

$$\frac{\langle f|\mathcal{S}\mathcal{S}^T|f\rangle}{\langle f|f\rangle} \sim u_\star^2 \sim \kappa^{2/3}$$



since the stiff network needs to balance the soft ( $\sim \kappa$ ) force, one expects an **amplification** over  $\sim \kappa$ :

shear stress 
$$\sigma \sim \kappa \Big/ \sqrt{rac{\langle f| \mathcal{SS}^T|f
angle}{\langle f|f
angle}} \sim \kappa^{2/3}$$

1) displacements  $u_{\star}$  distort (and ruin) the  $\kappa=0$  state-of-self-stress

$$\frac{\langle f|\mathcal{S}\mathcal{S}^T|f\rangle}{\langle f|f\rangle} \sim u_\star^2 \sim \kappa^{2/3}$$

since the stiff network needs to balance the soft ( $\sim \kappa$ ) force, one expects an **amplification** over  $\sim \kappa$ :

hear stress 
$$\sigma \sim \kappa / \sqrt{rac{\langle f | \mathcal{SS}^T | f 
angle}{\langle f | f 
angle}} \sim \kappa^{2/3}$$





properties of perturbed ( $\kappa > 0$ ), strain-stiffened states

2) displacements  $u_{\star}$  distort (and ruin) the  $\kappa = 0$  zero modes:



 $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_1 + \overline{\mathcal{H}_2 + \mathcal{H}_{soft}}$ 











stiffness term:

 $\mathcal{H}_1 = \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \boldsymbol{n}_{ij} \bigotimes \boldsymbol{n}_{ij} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \delta \mathcal{H}_1 \sim \delta \boldsymbol{n} \bigotimes \delta \boldsymbol{n} \sim u_\star^2 \sim \kappa^{2/3}$ 









force term:

$$\mathcal{H}_2 \sim f \quad \Rightarrow \quad \delta \mathcal{H}_2 \sim f \sim \kappa \Big/ \sqrt{\frac{\langle f | \mathcal{SS}^T | f \rangle}{\langle f | f \rangle}} \sim \kappa^{2/3}$$

$$\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_1 + \mathcal{H}_2 + \mathcal{H}_{\mathrm{soft}}$$
  
stiffness  $\sim \kappa^{2/3}$  force  $\sim \kappa^{2/3}$  bending



force term:

$$\mathcal{H}_2 \sim f \quad \Rightarrow \quad \delta \mathcal{H}_2 \sim f \sim \kappa \Big/ \sqrt{\frac{\langle f | \mathcal{SS}^T | f \rangle}{\langle f | f \rangle}} \sim \kappa^{2/3}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{\mathcal{H}} &= \boldsymbol{\mathcal{H}}_1 + \boldsymbol{\mathcal{H}}_2 + \boldsymbol{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathrm{soft}} \\ & & \\ \text{stiffness} \sim \kappa^{2/3} & \text{force} \sim \kappa^{2/3} & \text{bending} \sim \kappa \end{aligned}$$


2) displacements  $u_{\star}$  distort (and ruin) the  $\kappa=0$  zero modes:

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{\mathcal{H}} &= \boldsymbol{\mathcal{H}}_1 + \boldsymbol{\mathcal{H}}_2 + \boldsymbol{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathrm{soft}} \\ & \\ \text{stiffness} \sim \kappa^{2/3} & \text{force} \sim \kappa^{2/3} & \text{bending} \sim \kappa \end{aligned}$$





3) shear modulus  $G = G_{\text{affine}} + G_{\text{nonaffine}}$ 



3) shear modulus  $G = G_{\text{affine}} + G_{\text{nonaffine}}$ 



3) shear modulus 
$$G = G_{affine} + G_{nonaffine}$$



3) shear modulus 
$$G = G_{\text{affine}} + G_{\text{nonaffine}}$$



3) shear modulus 
$$G = G_{\text{affine}} + G_{\text{nonaffine}}$$

$$G_{ ext{nonaffine}} = \sum_{\ell} rac{ig( m{F}_{\gamma} \cdot m{\psi}_{\ell} ig)^2}{\omega_{\ell}^2}$$



3) shear modulus 
$$G = G_{\text{affine}} + G_{\text{nonaffine}}$$

$$G_{\text{nonaffine}} = \sum_{\ell} \frac{\left( \mathbf{F}_{\gamma} \cdot \boldsymbol{\psi}_{\ell} \right)^2}{\omega_{\ell}^2}$$
$$\omega_{\text{soft}} \sim \kappa^{1/3}$$



3) shear modulus 
$$G = G_{\text{affine}} + G_{\text{nonaffine}}$$

$$G_{\text{nonaffine}} = \sum_{\ell} \frac{(F_{\gamma} \cdot \psi_{\ell})^2}{\omega_{\ell}^2}$$
  
 $\omega_{\text{soft}} \sim \kappa^{1/3} \quad \text{but } F_{\gamma} \equiv \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial \gamma \partial x} \simeq S^T |\partial r / \partial \gamma \rangle$  (in the  $\kappa \to 0$  limit)  
and  $S |\psi\rangle \sim \omega \sim \kappa^{1/3}$ 



3) shear modulus  $G = G_{affine}$  +  $G_{nonaffine}$ 

$$\begin{split} G_{\text{nonaffine}} &= \sum_{\ell} \frac{\left( \mathbf{F}_{\gamma} \cdot \boldsymbol{\psi}_{\ell} \right)^2}{\omega_{\ell}^2} \sim \frac{\kappa^{2/3}}{\kappa^{2/3}} \sim \kappa^0 \text{ is regular too!} \\ & \\ \omega_{\text{soft}} \sim \kappa^{1/3} \quad \text{but } \mathbf{F}_{\gamma} \equiv \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial \gamma \partial \boldsymbol{x}} \simeq \mathcal{S}^T |\partial r / \partial \gamma \rangle \text{ (in the } \kappa \to 0 \text{ limit)} \\ & \\ & \text{and } \mathcal{S} | \boldsymbol{\psi} \rangle \sim \omega \sim \kappa^{1/3} \end{split}$$



3) shear modulus  $G = G_{affine}$  +  $G_{nonaffine}$ 

$$G_{
m nonaffine} = \sum_\ell rac{\left(m{F}_\gamma\cdotm{\psi}_\ell
ight)^2}{\omega_\ell^2}\sim rac{\kappa^{2/3}}{\kappa^{2/3}}\sim \kappa^0~~$$
is regular too





3) shear modulus  $G = G_{affine}$  +  $G_{nonaffine}$ 

why worry?

$$G_{\text{nonaffine}} = \sum_{\ell} \frac{\left(\mathbf{F}_{\gamma} \cdot \boldsymbol{\psi}_{\ell}\right)^{2}}{\omega_{\ell}^{2}} \sim \frac{\kappa^{2/3}}{\kappa^{2/3}} \sim \kappa^{0} \text{ is regular too!}$$
again,  $\kappa > 0$  is a
singular perturbation

coordinates





4) nonlinear shear modulus  $dG/d\gamma$ 

$$rac{dG}{d\gamma} \simeq rac{1}{V} \sum_{\ell m n} rac{(oldsymbol{\psi}_\ell \cdot oldsymbol{F}_\gamma)(oldsymbol{\psi}_n \cdot oldsymbol{F}_\gamma)(oldsymbol{\mathcal{U}}^{\prime\prime\prime} \colon oldsymbol{\psi}_\ell \psi_m oldsymbol{\psi}_n)}{\omega_\ell^2 \omega_m^2 \omega_n^2} + \mathcal{O}(oldsymbol{\mathcal{H}}^{-2})$$



4) nonlinear shear modulus  $dG/d\gamma$ 

$$\frac{dG}{d\gamma} \simeq \frac{1}{V} \sum_{\ell m n} \frac{(\boldsymbol{\psi}_{\ell} \cdot \boldsymbol{F}_{\gamma})(\boldsymbol{\psi}_{m} \cdot \boldsymbol{F}_{\gamma})(\boldsymbol{\psi}_{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{F}_{\gamma})}{\omega_{\ell}^{2} \omega_{m}^{2} \omega_{n}^{2}} + \mathcal{O}(\boldsymbol{\mathcal{H}}^{-2})$$



for soft modes  $\boldsymbol{\psi}$ : (i)  $\boldsymbol{\psi} \cdot \boldsymbol{F}_{\gamma} \sim \omega_{\text{soft}} \sim \kappa^{1/3}$ (ii)  $\boldsymbol{\mathcal{U}}^{\prime\prime\prime}$ :  $\boldsymbol{\psi} \boldsymbol{\psi} \boldsymbol{\psi} \sim u_{\star} \sim \kappa^{1/3}$ 

(4) nonlinear shear modulus  $dG/d\gamma$ 

$$\frac{dG}{d\gamma} \simeq \frac{1}{V} \sum_{\ell m n} \frac{(\boldsymbol{\psi}_{\ell} \cdot \boldsymbol{F}_{\gamma})(\boldsymbol{\psi}_{m} \cdot \boldsymbol{F}_{\gamma})(\boldsymbol{\psi}_{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{F}_{\gamma})}{\omega_{\ell}^{2} \omega_{m}^{2} \omega_{n}^{2}} + \mathcal{O}(\boldsymbol{\mathcal{H}}^{-2})$$



for soft modes  $\psi$ : (i)  $\boldsymbol{\psi} \cdot \boldsymbol{F}_{\gamma} \sim \omega_{\text{soft}} \sim \kappa^{1/3}$ (ii)  $\boldsymbol{\mathcal{U}}^{\prime\prime\prime}$ :  $\boldsymbol{\psi} \boldsymbol{\psi} \boldsymbol{\psi} \sim u_{\star} \sim \kappa^{1/3}$ 

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dG}{d\gamma} \sim \frac{\kappa^{4/3}}{\kappa^2} \sim \kappa^{-2/3}$$

4) nonlinear shear modulus  $dG/d\gamma$ 



$$rac{dG}{d\gamma} \simeq rac{1}{V} \sum_{\ell m n} rac{(oldsymbol{\psi}_\ell \cdot oldsymbol{F}_\gamma)(oldsymbol{\psi}_m \cdot oldsymbol{F}_\gamma)(oldsymbol{\psi}_m \cdot oldsymbol{F}_\gamma)(oldsymbol{\mathcal{U}}''' \cdot oldsymbol{\psi}_\ell \psi_m oldsymbol{\psi}_n)}{\omega_\ell^2 \omega_m^2 \omega_n^2} + \mathcal{O}(oldsymbol{\mathcal{H}}^{-2})$$

for soft modes 
$$\psi$$
: (i)  $\boldsymbol{\psi} \cdot \boldsymbol{F}_{\gamma} \sim \omega_{\mathrm{soft}} \sim \kappa^{1/3}$   
(ii)  $\boldsymbol{\mathcal{U}}''' : \cdot \boldsymbol{\psi} \boldsymbol{\psi} \boldsymbol{\psi} \sim u_{\star} \sim \kappa^{1/3}$ 

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dG}{d\gamma} \sim \frac{\kappa^{4/3}}{\kappa^2} \sim \kappa^{-2/3}$$



5) nonaffine displacements  $ec{u}_{_{
m na}}$ 

$$u_{\scriptscriptstyle \mathrm{na}}^2\simeq\sum_\ell rac{(oldsymbol{\psi}_\ell\cdotoldsymbol{F}_\gamma)^2}{\omega_\ell^4}$$



5) nonaffine displacements  $ec{u}_{ extsf{na}}$ 

$$u_{\scriptscriptstyle \mathrm{na}}^2\simeq\sum_\ell rac{(oldsymbol{\psi}_\ell\cdotoldsymbol{F}_\gamma)^2}{\omega_\ell^4}$$

for soft modes  $\pmb{\psi}_{:} \; \overline{\pmb{\psi} \cdot \pmb{F}_{\gamma}} \sim \omega_{
m soft} \sim \kappa^{1/3}$ 



5) nonaffine displacements  $ec{u}_{ extsf{na}}$ 

$$u_{\scriptscriptstyle \mathsf{na}}^2\simeq\sum_\ellrac{(oldsymbol{\psi}_\ell\!\cdotoldsymbol{F}_\gamma)^2}{\omega_\ell^4}$$

for soft modes  $\pmb{\psi}:\; m{\psi}\cdotm{F}_{\gamma}\sim\omega_{
m soft}\sim\kappa^{1/3}$ 

$$\Rightarrow u_{\rm \tiny na}^2 \sim \frac{\kappa^{2/3}}{\kappa^{4/3}} \sim \kappa^{-2/3}$$



5) nonaffine displacements  $ec{U}_{ extsf{na}}$ 

$$u_{\scriptscriptstyle \mathrm{na}}^2\simeq\sum_\ell rac{(oldsymbol{\psi}_\ell\cdotoldsymbol{F}_\gamma)^2}{\omega_\ell^4}$$

for soft modes 
$$\pmb{\psi}_{:} \; m{\psi} \cdot m{F}_{\gamma} \sim \omega_{
m soft} \sim \kappa^{1/3}$$

$$\Rightarrow u_{\rm \tiny na}^2 \sim \frac{\kappa^{2/3}}{\kappa^{4/3}} \sim \kappa^{-2/3}$$

Shivers, Sharma, MacKintosh, arXiv:2203.04891





(i) state-of-self-stress destroyed by 
$$\sqrt{rac{\langle f|\mathcal{SS}^T|f
angle}{\langle f|f
angle}}\sim\kappa^{1/3}$$



(i) state-of-self-stress destroyed by 
$$\sqrt{rac{\langle f|\mathcal{SS}^T|f
angle}{\langle f|f
angle}}\sim\kappa^{1/3}$$

(ii) floppy modes acquire finite frequency  $\omega_{
m soft} \sim \kappa^{1/3}$ 



(i) state-of-self-stress destroyed by  $\sqrt{rac{\langle f|\mathcal{SS}^T|f
angle}{\langle f|f
angle}}\sim\kappa^{1/3}$ 

(ii) floppy modes acquire finite frequency  $\omega_{
m soft} \sim \kappa^{1/3}$ 

 $\overline{(iii)}$  shear modulus  $G\sim\kappa^0$ 





(i) state-of-self-stress destroyed by  $\sqrt{rac{\langle f|\mathcal{SS}^T|f
angle}{\langle f|f
angle}}\sim\kappa^{1/3}$ 

(ii) floppy modes acquire finite frequency  $\omega_{
m soft} \sim \kappa^{1/3}$ 

(iii) shear modulus  $G \sim \kappa^0$ 

(iv) nonlinear modulus  $rac{dG}{d\gamma} \sim \kappa^{-2/3}$ 









(i) state-of-self-stress destroyed by  $\sqrt{rac{\langle f|\mathcal{SS}^T|f
angle}{\langle f|f
angle}}\sim\kappa^{1/3}$ 

(ii) floppy modes acquire finite frequency  $\omega_{
m soft} \sim \kappa^{1/3}$ 

(iii) shear modulus  $G \sim \kappa^0$ 

(iv) nonlinear modulus  $rac{dG}{d\gamma} \sim \kappa^{-2/3}$ 





(v) nonaffine displacements  $u_{\scriptscriptstyle ext{n.a.}}\sim \sim \kappa^{-2/3}$ 





recap:



scaling theory for the shear modulus G:

scaling theory for the shear modulus G:

(i) we start with the ansatz: 
$$G(\gamma,\kappa)\sim \mathcal{F}\left(rac{\gamma_{
m c}-\gamma}{\delta\gamma_{\star}(\kappa)}
ight)$$





(iii) since  $G(\gamma_{
m c})\sim\kappa^0$  is finite,  ${\cal F}(0)=G(\gamma_{
m c})$ 

#### scaling theory for the shear modulus G:

(i) we start with the ansatz:  $G(\gamma, \kappa) \sim \mathcal{F}\left(\frac{\gamma_{\rm c} - \gamma}{\delta \gamma_{+}(\kappa)}\right)^{\circ}$ 



(ii) since  $\frac{dG}{d\gamma} \sim \frac{1}{\kappa^{2/3}}$  and  $\frac{dG}{d\gamma} = \frac{d\mathcal{F}/dx}{\delta\gamma_{\star}(\kappa)}$  then the strain scale  $\delta\gamma_{\star} \sim \kappa^{2/3}$  (&  $d\mathcal{F}/dx$  is finite)

(iii) since  $G(\gamma_{\rm c})\sim\kappa^0$  is finite,  ${\cal F}(0)=G(\gamma_{\rm c})$ 

(iv) since 
$$\left. \frac{d\mathcal{F}}{dx} \right|_{x=0}$$
 is finite, then  $G(\gamma_{\mathrm{c}}) - G(\gamma) \sim rac{\gamma_{\mathrm{c}} - \gamma}{\kappa^{2/3}}$  for  $\gamma_{\mathrm{c}} - \gamma \lesssim \kappa^{2/3}$ 

scaling theory for the shear modulus G:

(i) we start with the ansatz:  $G(\gamma,\kappa)\sim \mathcal{F}\left(rac{\gamma_{
m c}-\gamma}{\delta\gamma_*(\kappa)}
ight)$ 



(ii) since  $\frac{dG}{d\gamma} \sim \frac{1}{\kappa^{2/3}}$  and  $\frac{dG}{d\gamma} = \frac{d\mathcal{F}/dx}{\delta\gamma_{\star}(\kappa)}$  then the strain scale  $\delta\gamma_{\star} \sim \kappa^{2/3}$  (&  $d\mathcal{F}/dx$  is finite)

(iii) since  $G(\gamma_{\rm c})\sim\kappa^0$  is finite,  ${\cal F}(0)=G(\gamma_{\rm c})$ 

(iv) since 
$$\left.\frac{d\mathcal{F}}{dx}\right|_{x=0}$$
 is finite, then  $G(\gamma_{\mathrm{c}}) - G(\gamma) \sim rac{\gamma_{\mathrm{c}} - \gamma}{\kappa^{2/3}}$  for  $\gamma_{\mathrm{c}} - \gamma \lesssim \kappa^{2/3}$ 

(v) since  $G \sim \kappa$  for  $\gamma \ll \gamma_{
m c}$  then  $\mathcal{F}(x) \sim x^{-3/2}$ , or  $\overline{-G \sim \frac{\kappa}{(\gamma_{
m c} - \gamma)^{3/2}}}$ 



(iii) since  $G(\gamma_{\rm c})\sim\kappa^0$  is finite,  ${\cal F}(0)=G(\gamma_{\rm c})$ 

(iv) since 
$$\frac{d\mathcal{F}}{dx}\Big|_{x=0}$$
 is finite, then  $G(\gamma_c) - G(\gamma) \sim \frac{\gamma_c - \gamma}{\kappa^{2/3}}$  for  $\gamma_c - \gamma \lesssim \kappa^{2/3}$   
(v) since  $G \sim \kappa$  for  $\gamma \ll \gamma_c$  then  $\mathcal{F}(x) \sim x^{-3/2}$ , or  $G \sim \frac{\kappa}{(\gamma_c - \gamma)^{3/2}}$ 

predictions from scaling theory

### predictions from scaling theory



#### predictions from scaling theory


## predictions from scaling theory



## predictions from scaling theory



## predictions from scaling theory



# predictions from scaling theory - scaling away from the critical point





Robbie Rens et al., PRE 2018

#### predictions from scaling theory - strain scale



Robbie Rens et al., PRE 2018

scaling theory of strain stiffening – summary

scaling theory of strain stiffening – summary

 $\rightarrow$  2-step procedure: strain with  $\kappa=0,$  then turn on  $\kappa>0$ 

scaling theory of strain stiffening - summary

 $\rightarrow$  2-step procedure: strain with  $\kappa = 0$ , then turn on  $\kappa > 0$ 

 $\rightarrow$  we argue and validate that  $~G\sim\kappa^0~$  and  $~dG/d\gamma\sim\kappa^{-2/3}$ 

scaling theory of strain stiffening - summary

 $\rightarrow$  2-step procedure: strain with  $\kappa = 0$ , then turn on  $\kappa > 0$ 

ightarrow we argue and validate that  $~G\sim\kappa^0~$  and  $~dG/d\gamma\sim\kappa^{-2/3}$ 

$$ightarrow$$
 simplest scaling ansatz  $~G(\gamma,\kappa)\sim \mathcal{F}\left(rac{\gamma_{
m c}-\gamma}{\delta\gamma_{\star}(\kappa)}
ight)$ 

scaling theory of strain stiffening – summary

 $\rightarrow$  2-step procedure: strain with  $\kappa = 0$ , then turn on  $\kappa > 0$ 

ightarrow we argue and validate that  $~G\sim\kappa^0~$  and  $~dG/d\gamma\sim\kappa^{-2/3}$ 

$$ightarrow$$
 simplest scaling ansatz  $~G(\gamma,\kappa)\sim \mathcal{F}\left(rac{\gamma_{
m c}-\gamma}{\delta\gamma_{\star}(\kappa)}
ight)$ 

→ predictions: (i) linear variation of  $G \sim \gamma_c - \gamma$  with strain below the critical strain  $\gamma_c$ (ii) strain scale  $\delta \gamma_{\star} \sim \kappa^{2/3}$ (iii) scaling away from the critical strain  $G \sim \frac{\kappa}{(\gamma_c - \gamma)^{3/2}}$ 



(i) we expect a diverging correlation length  $\xi(\kappa) \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{\langle f|SS^T|f\rangle}{\langle f|f\rangle}}} \sim \frac{1}{\kappa^{1/3}}$ 

# open questions (i) we expect a diverging correlation length $\ \xi(\kappa) \sim$ $\overline{\kappa^{1/3}}$ $f|\mathcal{SS}^T|f$ C(r)-0.21---0.093 data measured at $\kappa \to 0^+$ and $\gamma < \gamma_c$ $^{40} n^{50}$ $C(r/\xi)$ $\langle f | SS^T | f$ $-10^{-15}$

Robbie Rens et al., PRE 2018

(i) we expect a diverging correlation length  $\xi(\kappa) \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{|f|SS^T|f|}} \sim \frac{1}{\kappa^{1/3}}$ 

→ does this correlation length explain the anomalous elasticity seen in responses to point perturbations in fibrous gels?

Probing Local Force Propagation in Tensed Fibrous Gels

Shahar Goren<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Maayan Levin<sup>2,3</sup>, Guy Brand<sup>2</sup>, Ayelet Lesman<sup>1,3,\*</sup>, and Raya Sorkin<sup>2,3,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>School of Mechanical Engineering, The Iby and Aladar Fleischman Faculty of Engineering, Tel Aviv University, Israel <sup>2</sup>School of Chemistry, Raymond & Beverly Sackler Faculty of Exact Sciences, Tel Aviv University, Israel, Israel <sup>3</sup>Center for Chemistry and Physics of Living Systems, Tel Aviv University, Israel <sup>4</sup>Center for Light-Matter Interaction, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel <sup>\*</sup>These authors jointly supervised this work <sup>\*</sup>correspondence to emails: ayeletlesman@tauex.tau.ac.il and rsorkin@tauex.tau.ac.il

April 25, 2022

(i) we expect a diverging correlation length  $\xi(\kappa) \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{\langle f|SS^T|f\rangle}} \sim \frac{1}{\kappa^{1/3}}$ 

→ does this correlation length explain the anomalous elasticity seen in responses to point perturbations in fibrous gels?



(i) we expect a diverging correlation length  $\xi(\kappa) \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{\langle f|SS^T|f\rangle}} \sim \frac{1}{\kappa^{1/3}}$ 

→ does this correlation length explain the anomalous elasticity seen in responses to point perturbations in fibrous gels?



(i) we expect a diverging correlation length  $\xi($ 

→ does this correlation length explain the anomalous elasticity seen in responses to point perturbations in fibrous gels?



#### EL and Eran Bouchbinder, arXiv:2209.04237



(ii) what happens at strains larger than  $\gamma_{
m c}$ ?

# (ii) what happens at strains larger than $\gamma_{\rm c}?$



Robbie Rens PhD thesis 2019

# (ii) what happens at strains larger than $\gamma_{ m c}$ ?



,does **the same**  $\delta\gamma_{\star}(\kappa)$  also hold above  $\gamma_{
m c}$ ?

Robbie Rens PhD thesis 2019

# (ii) what happens at strains larger than $\gamma_{\rm c}?$



how does  $G(\gamma)$  behave above  $\gamma_{
m c}\!+\!\delta\gamma_{\star}(\kappa)$ ?

Robbie Rens PhD thesis 2019

## (iii) is our model too simple? Are we missing essential ingredients? Does 2D tell us about 3D?









## non-Brownian suspension viscosity

common to all these problems is the **coupling** of the state-of-self-stress (or the minimal eigenmode of  $SS^{T}$ ) to the imposed deformation

common to all these problems is the **coupling** of the state-of-self-stress (or the minimal eigenmode of  $SS^{T}$ ) to the imposed deformation

recall:

Wyart (phd thesis, 2005) showed that (for relaxed spring networks)

$$G = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{\text{states of self-stress } \varphi_{\ell}} \langle \varphi_{\ell} | \partial r / \partial \gamma \rangle^2$$

common to all these problems is the **coupling** of the state-of-self-stress (or the minimal eigenmode of  $SS^{T}$ ) to the imposed deformation

recall:

Wyart (phd thesis, 2005) showed that (for relaxed spring networks)

$$G = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{\substack{\text{states of} \\ \text{self-stress } \varphi_{\ell}}} \langle \varphi_{\ell} | \partial r / \partial \gamma \rangle^{2}$$
coupling to deformation

common to all these problems is the **coupling** of the state-of-self-stress (or the minimal eigenmode of  $SS^{T}$ ) to the imposed deformation

if  $arphi_{m\ell}$  is a SSS, then the coupling to deformation is  $\langle arphi_\ell | \partial r / \partial \gamma 
angle$ 

these couplings increase as a result of self-organization

common to all these problems is the **coupling** of the state-of-self-stress (or the minimal eigenmode of  $SS^{T}$ ) to the imposed deformation

if  $arphi_{m\ell}$  is a SSS, then the coupling to deformation is  $\langle arphi_\ell | \partial r / \partial \gamma 
angle$ 

these couplings increase as a result of **self-organization** 



# acknowledgments



Matthieu Wyart





**Gustavo Düring** 



PONTIFICIA Universidad Católica De Chile



#### Eran Bouchbinder



#### further reading:

→ Gustavo Düring, EL, and Matthieu Wyart, Length scales and self-organization in dense suspension flows, PRE 89, 022305 (2014)

→ Robbie Rens, Carlos Villarroel, Gustavo Düring, and EL, Micromechanical theory of strain-stiffening of biopolymer networks, PRE 98, 062411 (2018)

→ EL and Eran Bouchbinder, Scaling theory of critical strain-stiffening in athermal biopolymer networks, arXiv:2208.08204.

 $\rightarrow$  EL and Eran Bouchbinder, Anomalous elasticity of disordered networks, arXiv:2209.04237.

# thanks for your attention!