

Adsorption and Transport in Nanoporous Materials



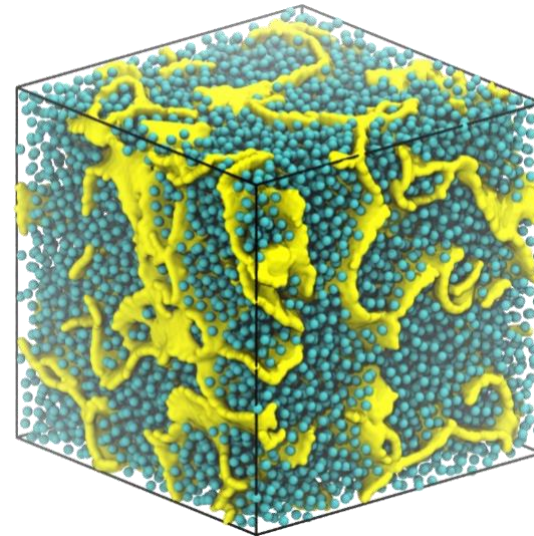
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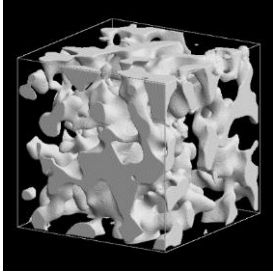
<https://benoitcoasne.github.io/>



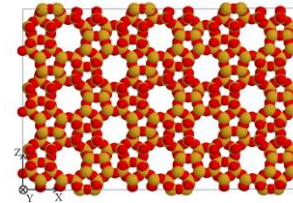
Coll.: C. Bousige, K. Falk,
A. Obliger, A. Schlaich,
C. Picard, L. Bocquet, P. Levitz

Feb. 22, 2023

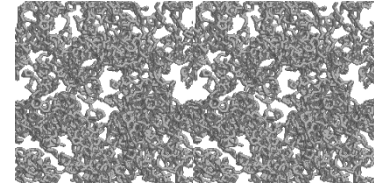
Nanoporous Materials



A material that consists of solid domains coexisting with pore voids having one of their dimensions in the nm scale



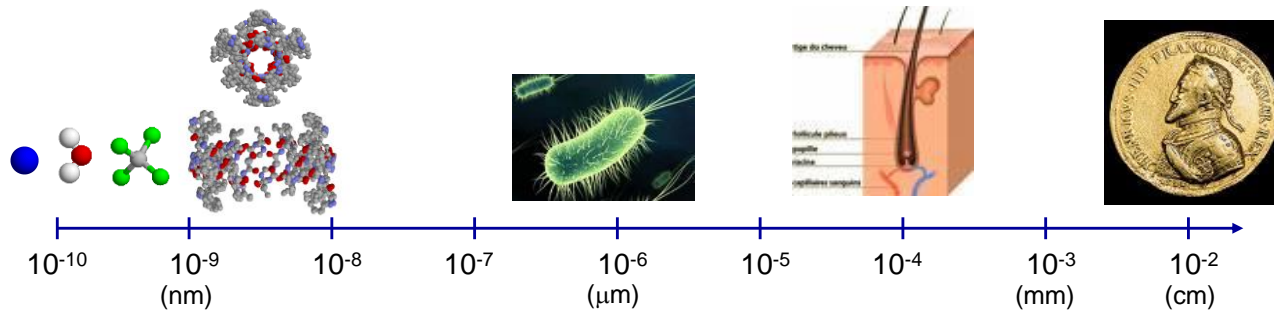
Aluminosilicate zeolite



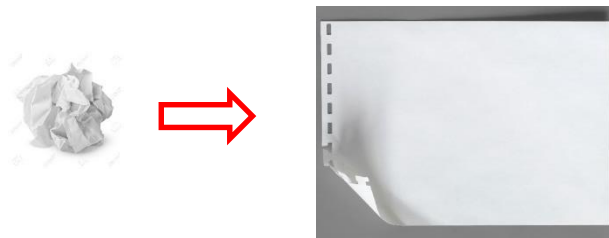
Activated carbon

Courtesy
P. Levitz

- Nanoporous solids (with one dimension $\sim nm$)

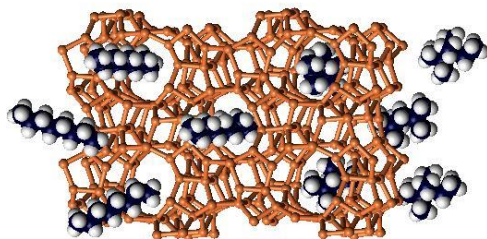


- Large surface areas $\sim 1000 m^2/g$



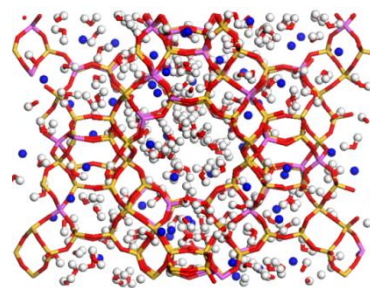
Catalysis, Separation, Exchange, etc.

- Catalysis



Cracking, isomerisation and hydrocarbon synthesis for oil industry

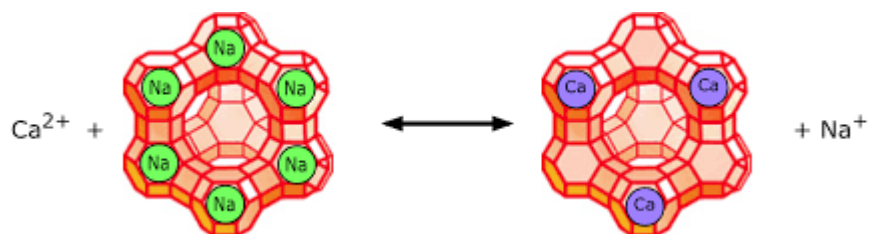
- Phase separation



Separation of xylenes from hydrocarbons,

O₂ bottles from ambient air

- Ion exchange



- Fertilizers, Substrate, Cat litter, etc.



Problem Statement

⇒ New adsorption and transport phenomena

- Adsorption/transport interplay
- Complex hydrodynamics

e.g. slippage, interfacial transport, and non-viscous effects

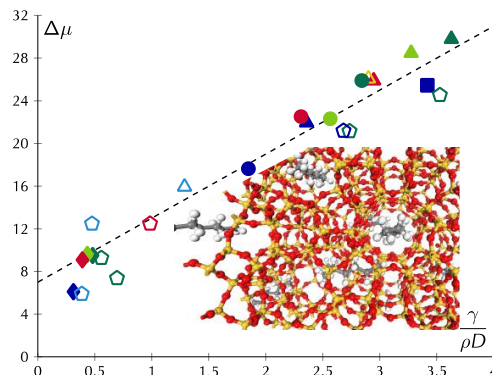


Theory/molecular modeling of adsorption and transport in nanoporous media

Thermo.
in nanopores

Coasne et al. Chem.
Soc. Rev. 2013

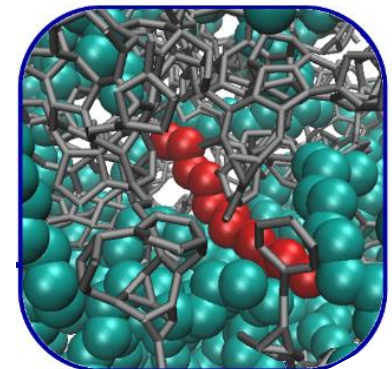
Deroche et al.
Nature Comm 2019



Transport in
subnanopores

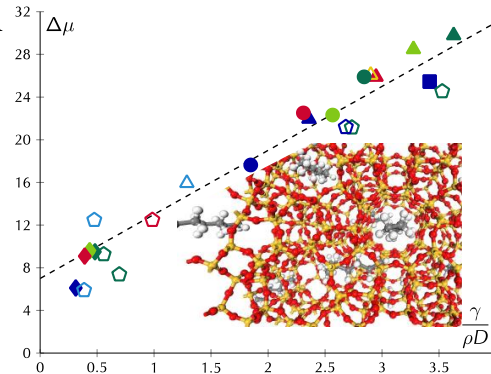
Falk et al.
Nature Comm. 2015

Bousige et al.
Nature Comm 2021



Fluid adsorption and criticality in porous media

Coasne et al. Chem.
Soc. Rev. 2013
Deroche et al.
Nature Comm 2019



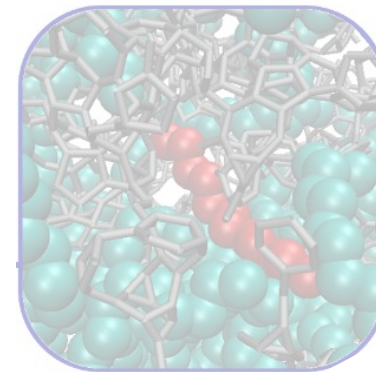
⇒ Part 1

Transport in subnanopores

Part 2

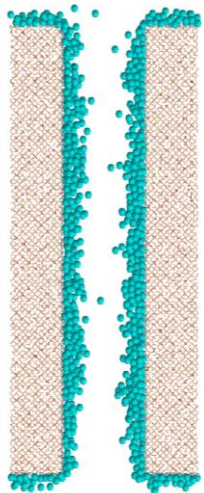
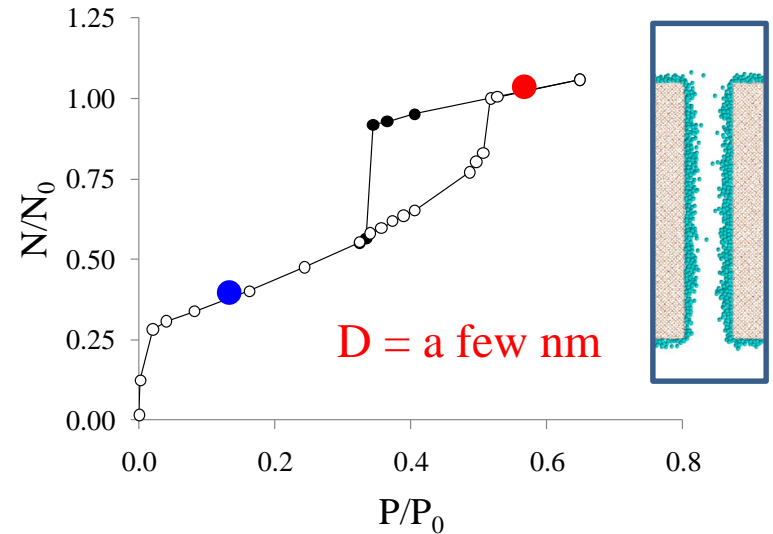
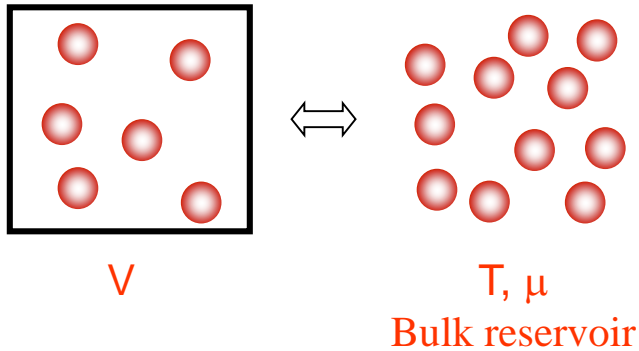
Falk et al.
Nature Comm. 2015

Bousige et al.
Nature Comm 2021

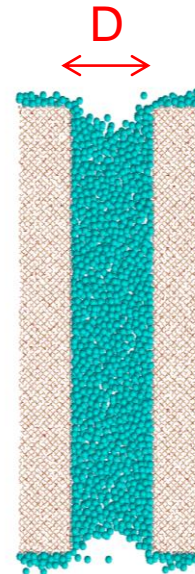
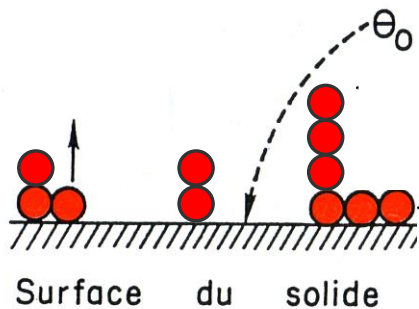


Adsorption in Porous Materials

Open System (Grand Canonical Ensemble)



BET (Ising-like)
Model (1938)



Laplace Pressure
 $P_G - P_L = 4\gamma/D$
 +
 Chem. potential
 Equality
 $\mu_G = \mu_L$



$\Rightarrow kT \ln P/P_0 = 4\gamma/\rho D$

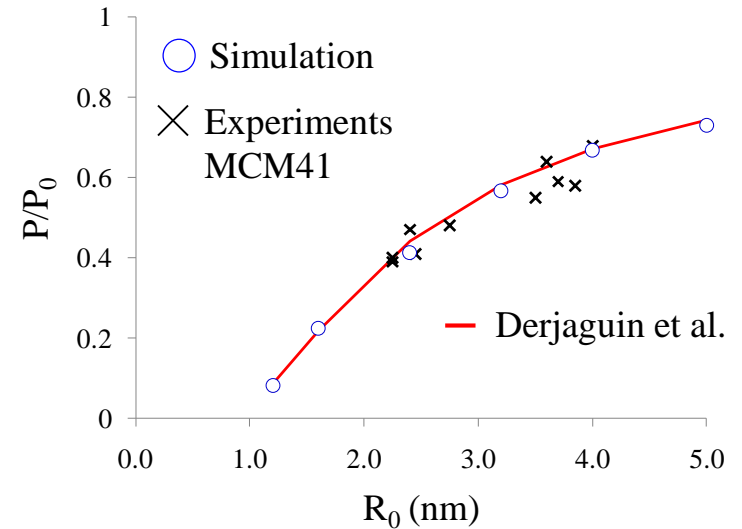
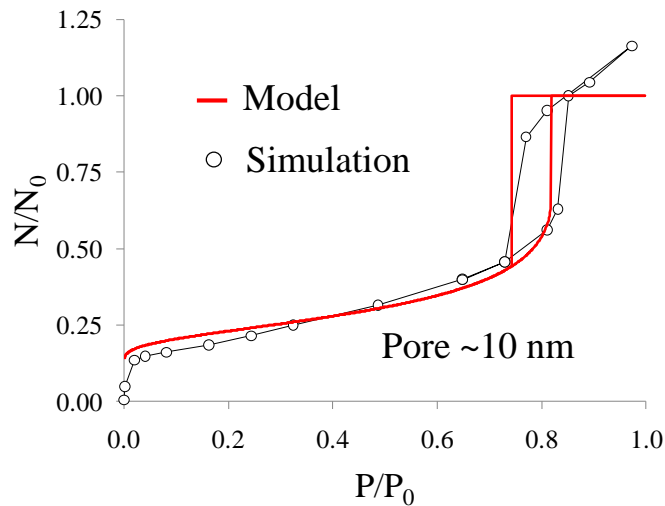
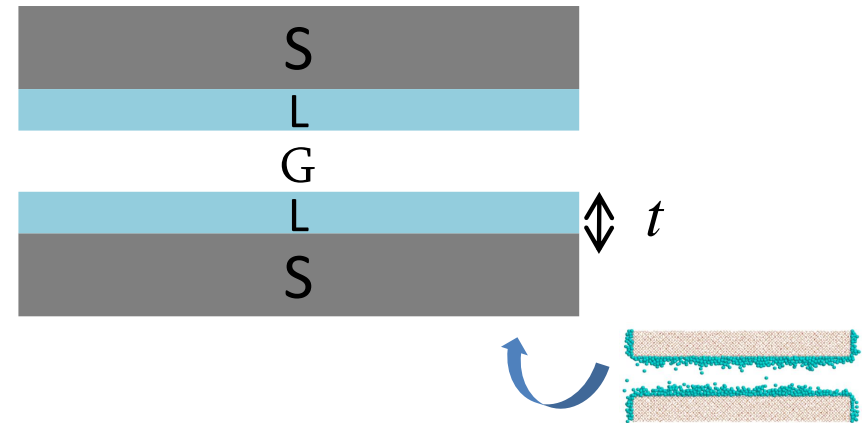
Derjaguin's model

$$\Omega = -P_G V_G - P_L V_L + A_{SL} \gamma_{SL} + A_{LG} \gamma_{LG} + A_{SL} W(t)$$

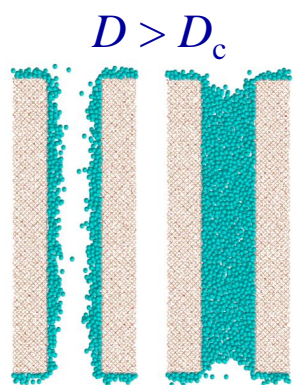
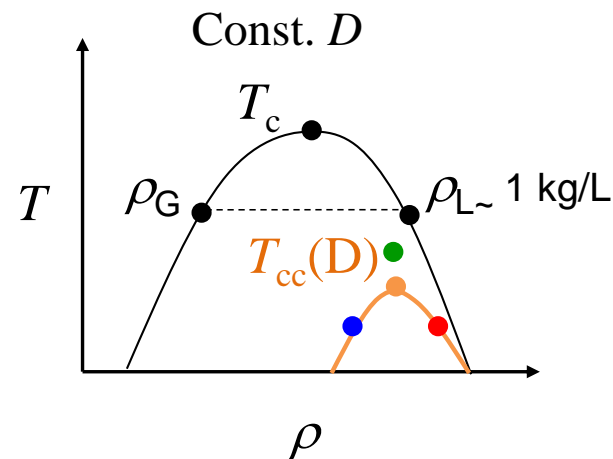
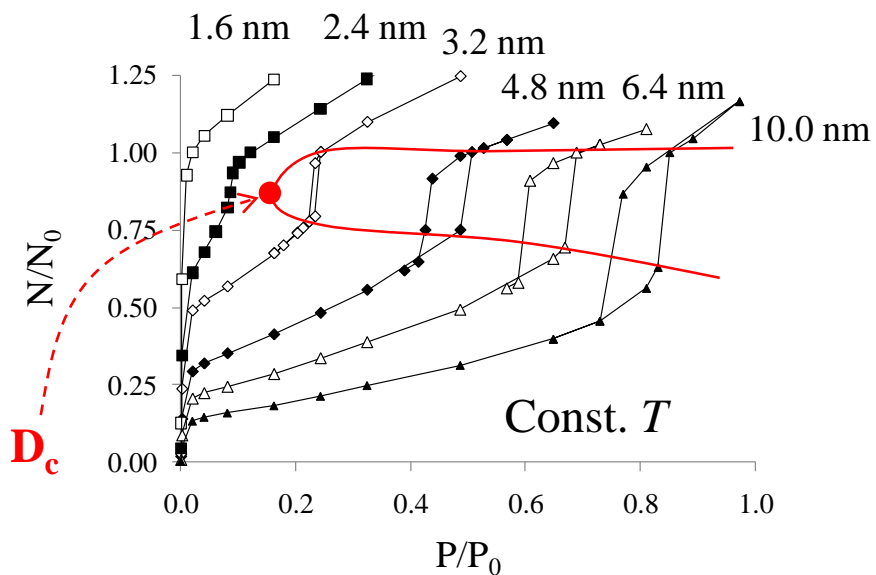
$$\Pi(t) = -dW(t)/dt = P_G - P_L$$

$$W(t) \sim S \exp[-t/\xi]$$

with $S = \gamma_{sg} - \gamma_{sl} - \gamma_{lg}$



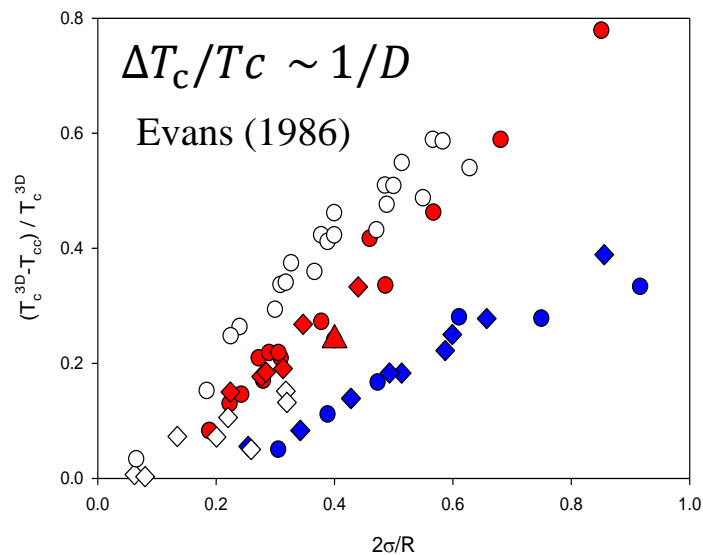
Criticality



Irreversible,
Discontinuous



Reversible,
Continuous



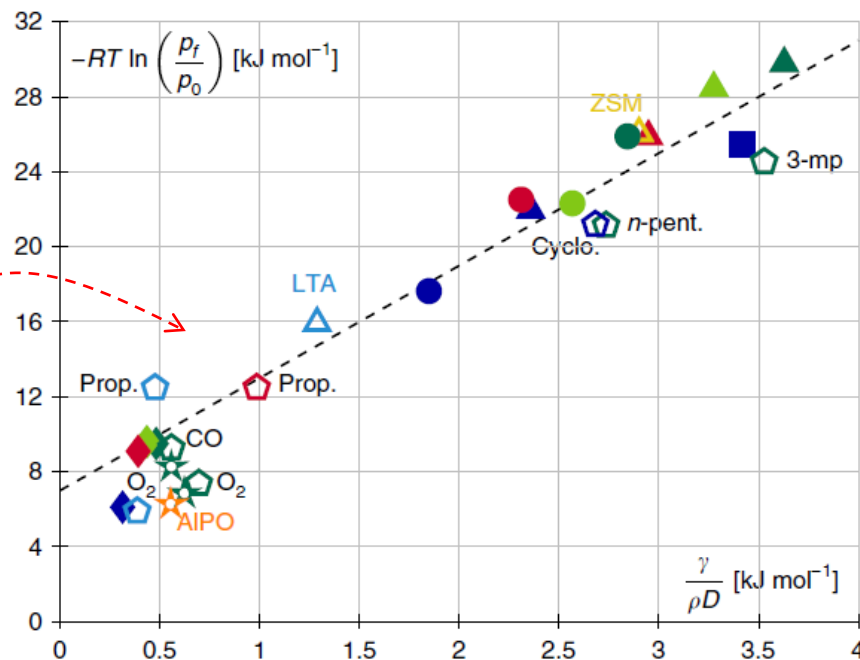
Coasne et al. Chem. Soc. Rev. 2013
 Deroche et al. Nature Comm 2019

Reminiscent Capillarity

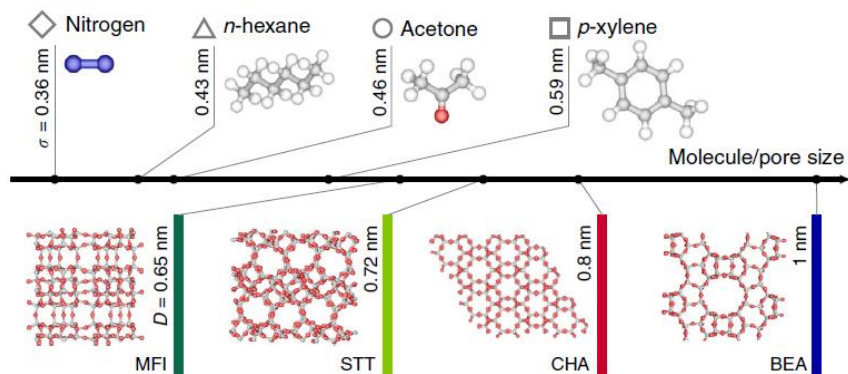
Reminiscent
Capillarity in
Angstrompore!

$$RT \ln P/P_0 \sim \gamma/\rho D$$

Experiment/Simulation of
many fluids/zeolites



Deroche et al. Nature Comm 2019

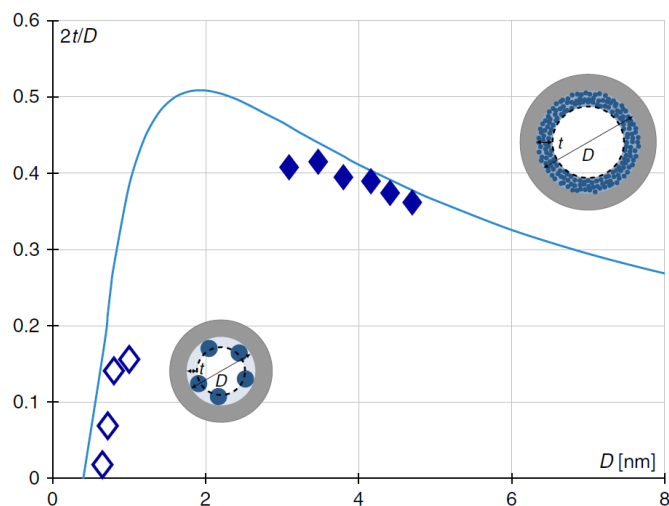
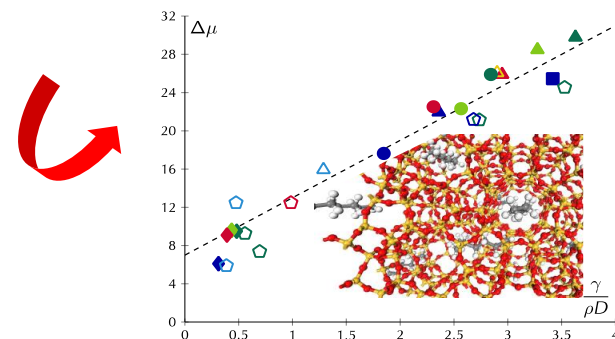


Reminiscent Capillarity

$$\Omega = -P_G V_G - P_L V_L + A_{SL} \gamma_{SL} + A_{LG} \gamma_{LG} + A_{SL} W(t)$$

$$RT \ln \frac{p_V^e(D)}{p_0} = - \frac{6\gamma_{LV}}{\rho_L D} \left[1 + \frac{2t + 2\xi}{D - 2t - 2\xi} \right]$$

$$RT \ln P/P_0 \sim \gamma/\rho D$$



- Large pores $t, \xi \ll D$

$$RT \ln P/P_0 \sim \gamma/\rho D$$

- Small pores $t \ll D$

$$RT \ln P/P_0 \sim \gamma/\rho D + K(D, \xi)$$

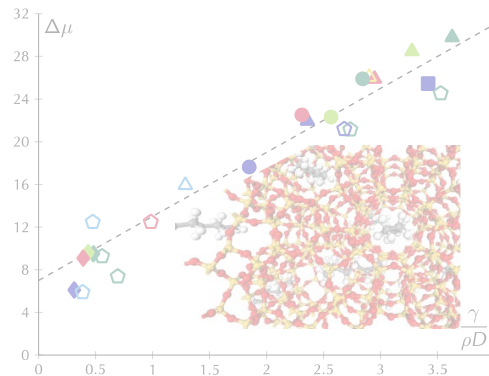
with $K/RT \sim \text{constant}$

Part 1

Fluid criticality in porous media

Coasne et al. *Chem.
Soc. Rev.* 2013

Deroche et al.
Nature Comm 2019

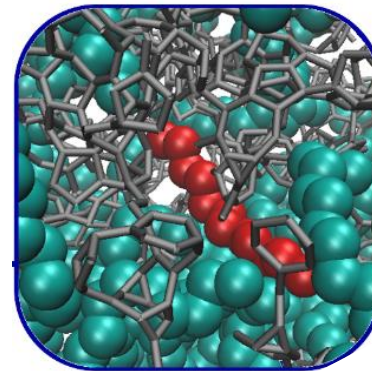


⇒ Part 2

Transport in subnanopores

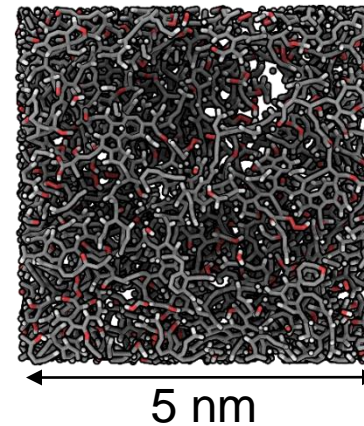
Falk et al.
Nature Comm. 2015

Bousige et al.
Nature Comm 2021



Permeability

A realistic molecular model of kerogen

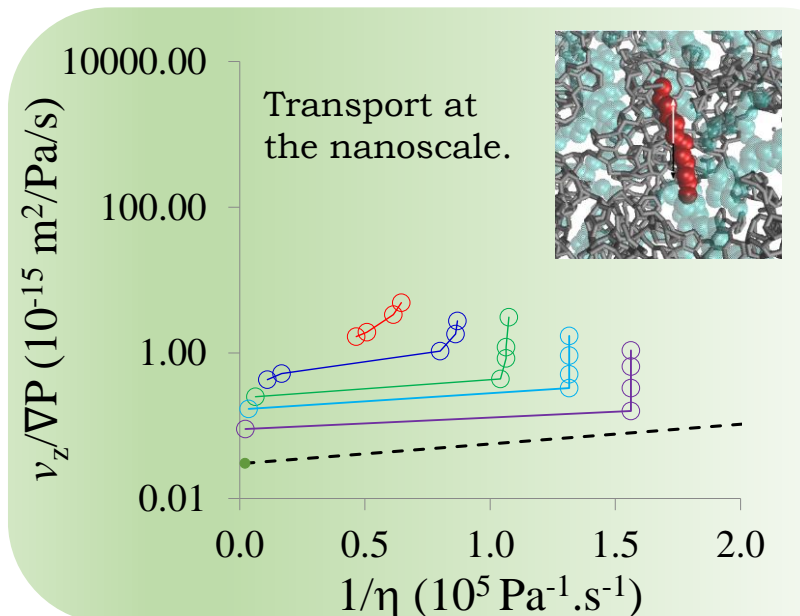


Falk, Coasne, Bocquet, et al. Nature Comm. 2015

Bousige, et al. Nature Materials 2016

$$v = -\frac{k}{\eta} \nabla P$$

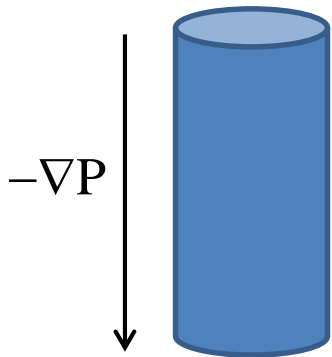
Darcy law



k permeability is not an intrinsic constant of a material as it depends on fluid, temperature, transport regime, etc.

Transport at the *nm* scale

Barrat and Hansen, Basic Concepts for Simple and Complex Liquids (Cambridge Univ., 2003).

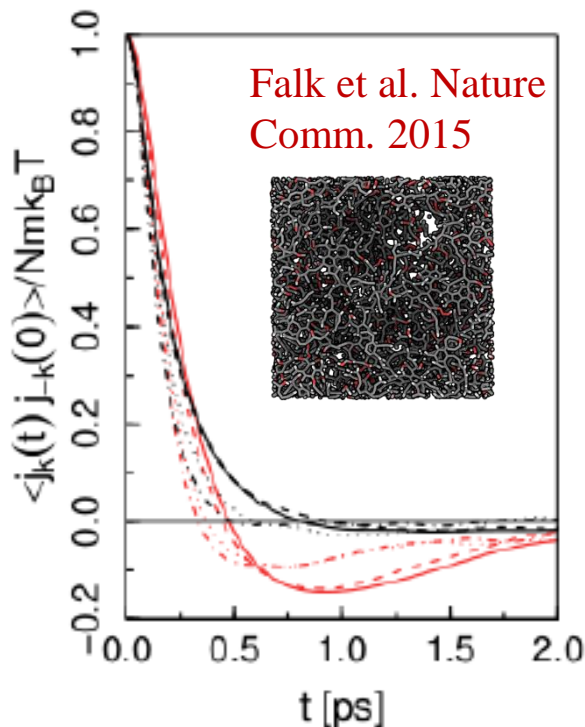


$$\rho \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} = -\nabla P + \eta \nabla^2 \mathbf{v} - \zeta \mathbf{v}$$

$$\Rightarrow \rho \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} = \eta \nabla^2 \mathbf{v} - \zeta \mathbf{v} \quad [\text{perpendicular to } \nabla P]$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial \mathbf{j}_k}{\partial t} = (-\nu k^2 - \zeta) \mathbf{j}_k \quad [\text{Solving in the Fourier space}]$$

$$\mathbf{v}(t) = \sum_k \mathbf{j}_k(t) \exp(ik \cdot r)$$



$$\langle j_k(0) j_{-k}(t) \rangle \sim \exp \left[\left(-\frac{\eta k^2}{\rho} - \zeta \right) t \right]$$



Transport of hydrocarbon in the disordered nanoporous carbon is not viscous (nor visco-elastic)

Viscous Hydrodynamics Breakdown



$$\rho \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} = -\nabla P + \eta \nabla^2 \mathbf{v} - \zeta \mathbf{v}$$

Assumes time scale separation between stress relaxation t_R inside the fluid particle and momentum transfer τ

(Bocquet and Charlaix, Chem. Soc. Rev. 2010)

$$\eta = \frac{1}{Vk_B T} \int \sigma_{xy}(t) \sigma_{xy}(0) dt \sim \exp[-t/t_R] \Rightarrow t_R \sim 1 \text{ ps}$$

$$\langle v_k(0) v_{-k}(t) \rangle \sim \exp \left[\left(-\frac{\eta k^2}{\rho} - \zeta \right) t \right] \Rightarrow \tau \sim \frac{\rho}{\eta k^2}$$



Hydrodynamic regime $\rho/\eta k^2 \gg t_R$
Breakdown $k \sim 1/L$ ($L = 1 \text{ nm}$)

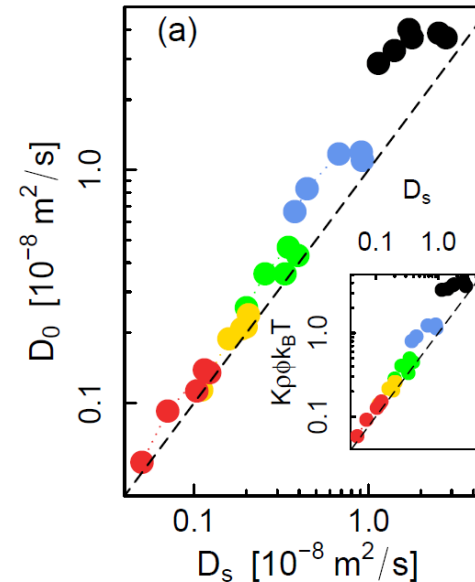
Statistical Mechanics Model

$$v = - \frac{K}{\eta} \nabla P \quad \Rightarrow \quad v = - K \nabla P \quad \text{with } K \sim \frac{D_0}{\rho k_B T}$$

[Exact result from the Fluctuation Dissipation Theorem]

$$D_0 = D_s + \int_0^\infty \left\langle \sum_{\substack{i,j \\ i \neq j}}^N v_i(0) v_j(t) \right\rangle dt$$

$$D_0 \sim D_s$$



methane
propane
hexane
nonane
dodecane

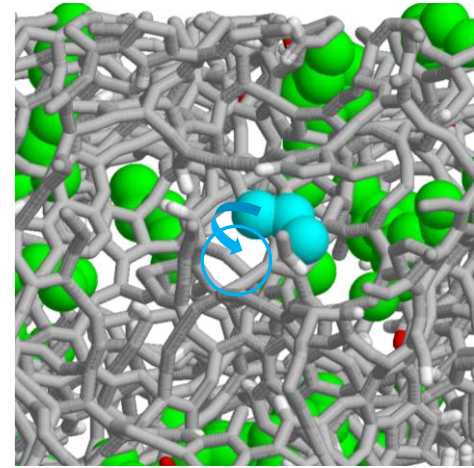


Build a simple microscopic model of hydrocarbon transport based on Statistical Mechanics and express $K \sim D_s/\rho$

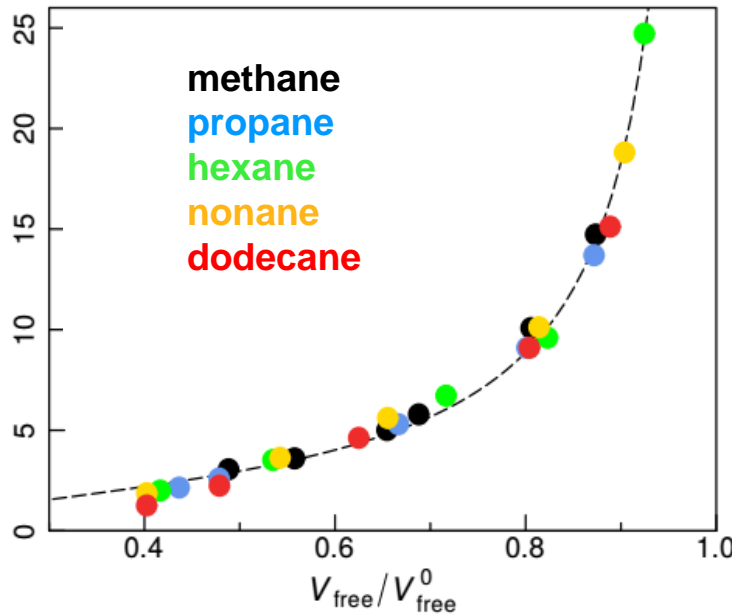
Free Volume Theory

$$D_s(N) \sim D_s(0) \exp \left[-a \frac{V(N)}{V_{free}(N)} \right]$$

with $V(N) = V_{free}(0) - V_{free}(N) \sim N$



$$K(n+n_0) \sim D_s / \rho kT$$



- A simple “Stat Mech” model is built
- This model does not use macro concepts (e.g. viscosity)

Long Time (Macroscopic) Dynamics



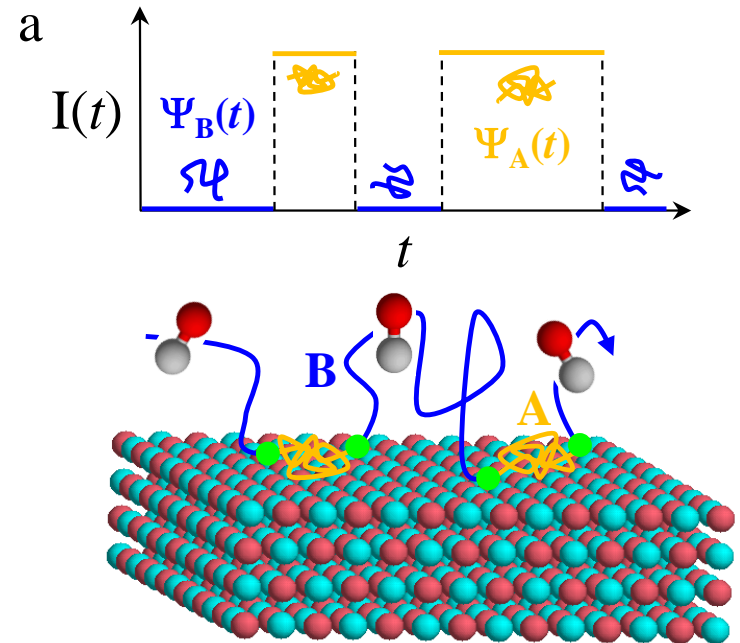
Intermittent Brownian Dynamics:

« Trajectory as successive surface residence and relocation steps with underlying first passage distributions »

$$\Psi_A(t) \sim 1/t_A \times \exp[-t/t_A]$$

$$\Psi_B(t) \sim x/[D_s^p t^3]^{1/2}$$

$$C(t) = \langle I(t) I(0) \rangle \quad J(f) = \text{TF}[C(t)]$$



$$J(f) \sim \text{Re} \frac{[1 - \tilde{\Psi}_B(f)] - [1 - \tilde{\Psi}_A(f)]}{f^2 \times [1 - \tilde{\Psi}_A(f)\tilde{\Psi}_B(f)]}$$

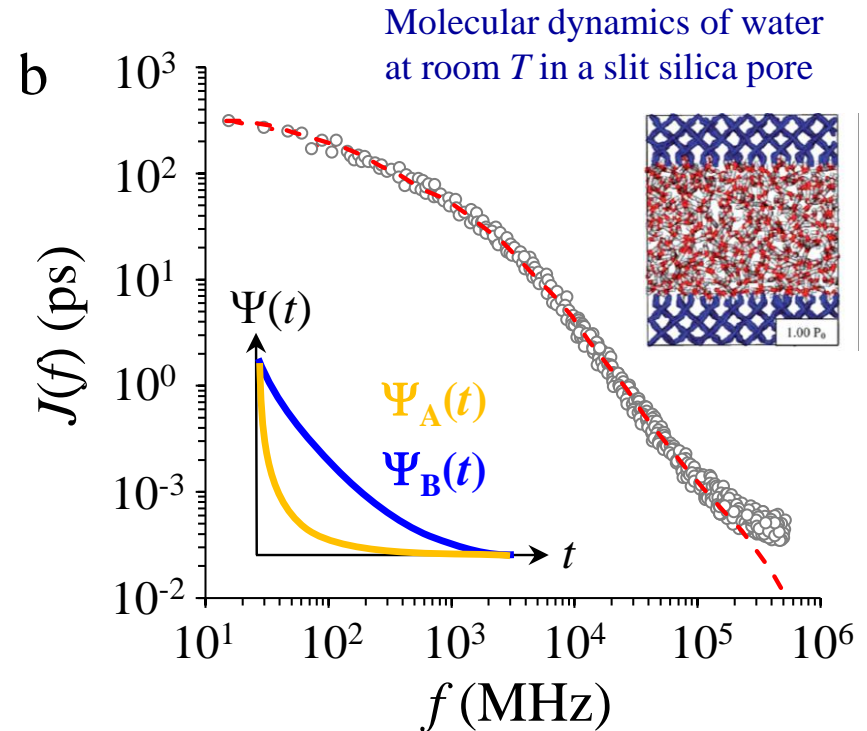
Intermittent Brownian Motion

- *Short timescale* $t \leq 10$ ps ($f > 10^5$ MHz)
Dynamics driven by molecular dynamics (collisions, interactions)

⇒ IBM = coarse grained picture with random walk diffusion and statistical distribution of residence times

- *Long timescale* $t > 10$ ps ($f < 10^2$ MHz)
Molecular dynamics is correctly captured by IBM

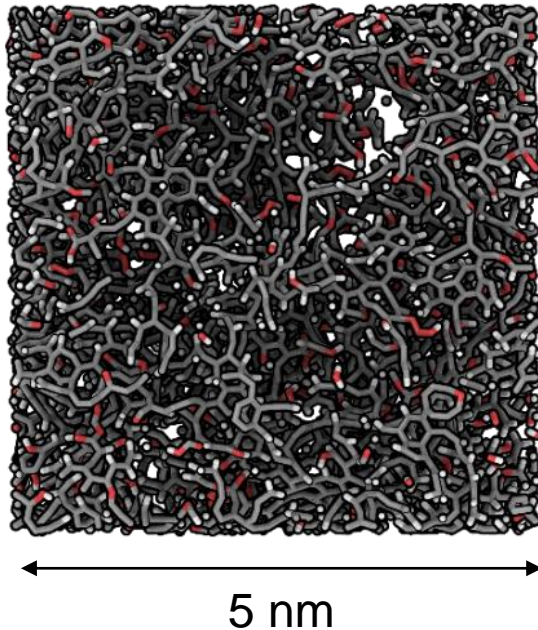
⇒ IBM can be used to predict from molecular dynamics ingredients the macroscopic behavior beyond timescales accessible through Molecular Dynamics (typically $t > 10$ -100 ns, $f < 10^2$ - 10^3 MHz)



$$J(f) = \text{TF}[C(t)]$$

“Stop and Go” Diffusion

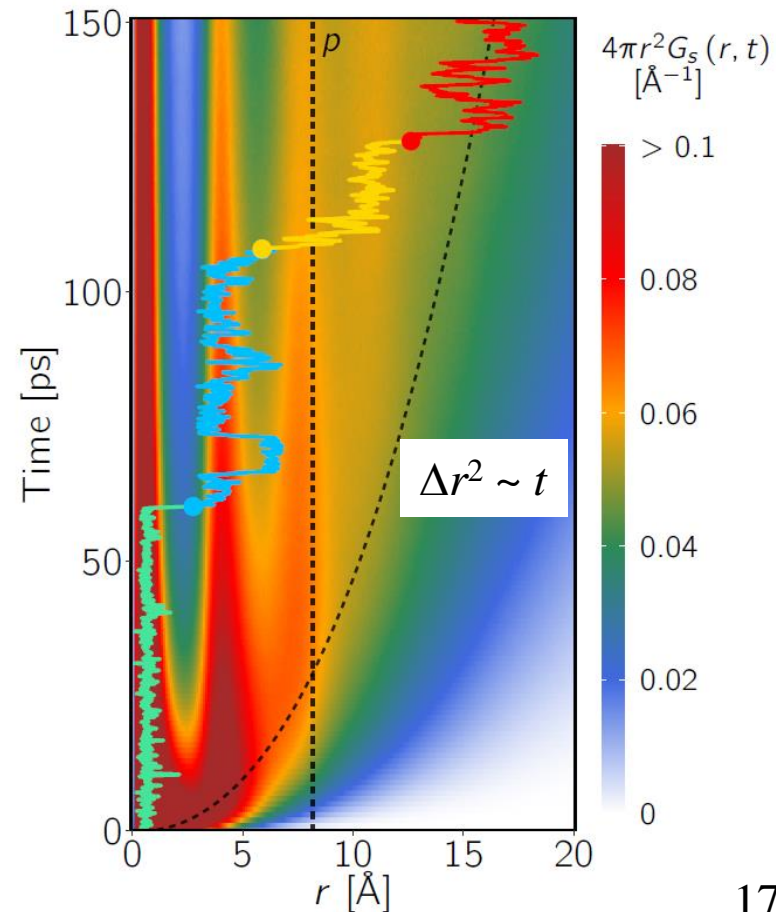
Various fluid/wall ε and pore sizes D



$$t_A = t_A(d, \varepsilon) \quad t_B = t_B(d, \varepsilon)$$

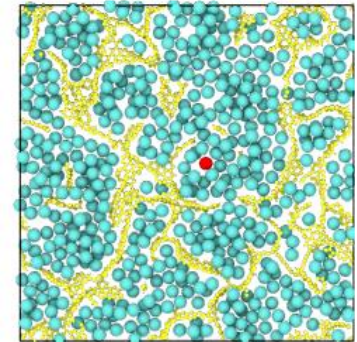
Propagator $G_s(r, t)$

[prob. that a molecule is translated by a quantity r over a time t]

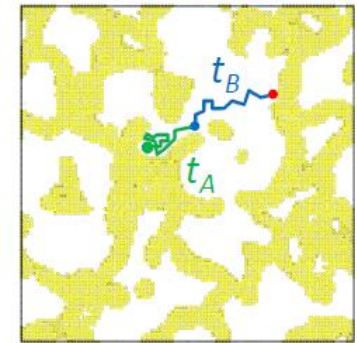


Intermittent Brownian Dynamics

- Exact, robust formalism but complex, ill-defined residence and relocation times because of disordered geometry
- Mapping between self-diffusivity seen by molecular dynamics simulations and by random walk approach with residence time



MD



RW



For a given porous matrix ρ and fluid/wall energy ε , there is a unique set of residence (t_A) and relocation (t_B) times for which the molecular dynamics and random walk diffusivities match

$$t_A = t_A(d, \varepsilon) \quad t_B = t_B(d, \varepsilon)$$

Residence Time t_A

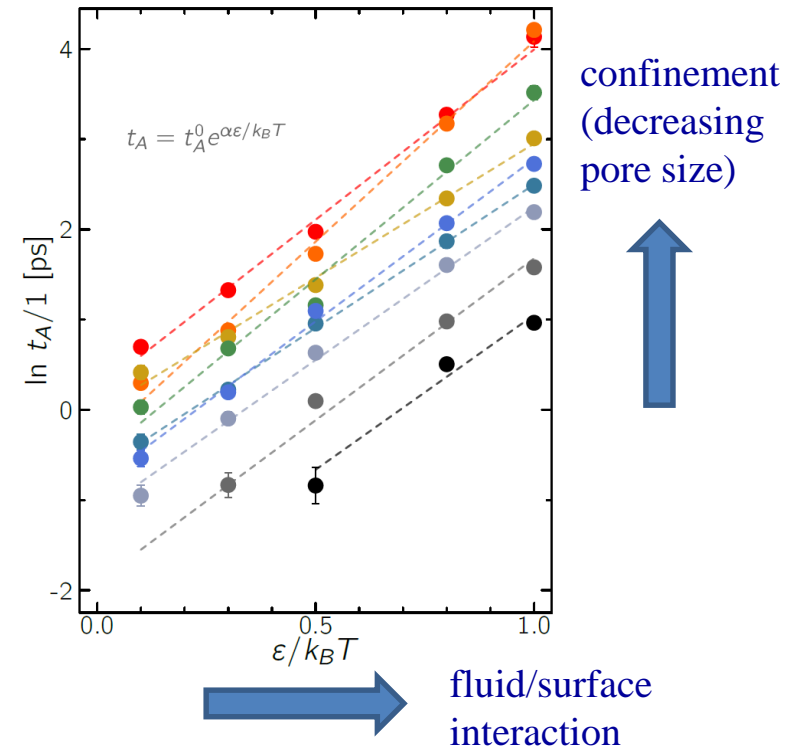
- t_A increases with decreasing d because more severe confinement with decreased escape probability
- For a given structure, t_A increases with increasing $\varepsilon/k_B T$ as a result of stronger fluid/surface interactions

Quantitatively, our data follow a simple activation energy model involving an escape attempt frequency t_A^0 and an energy barrier $\sim \varepsilon$:



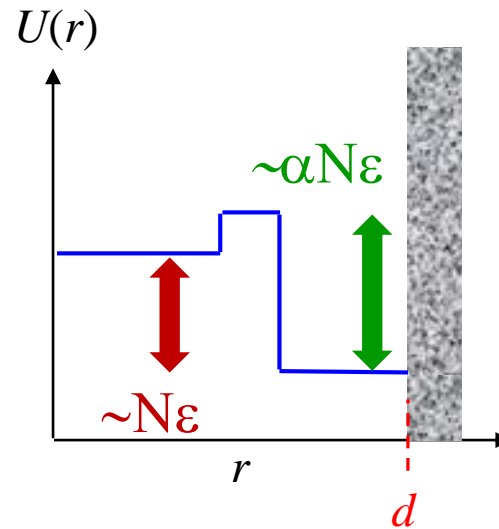
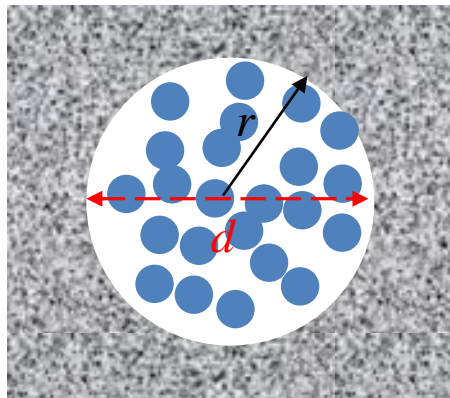
$$t_A \sim t_A^0(d) \times \exp[-\alpha N\varepsilon/kT]$$

with α a constant $\gtrsim 1$



Residence Time t_A

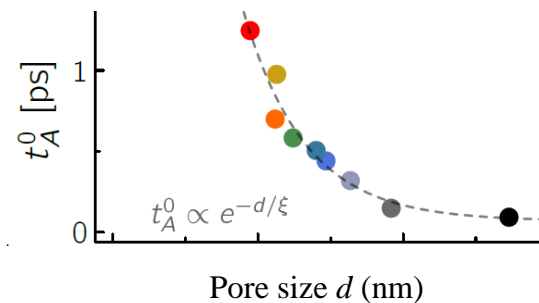
Activation energy model



$$t_A \sim t_A^0(d) \times \exp[-\alpha N\epsilon/kT]$$

with α a constant $\gtrsim 1$

Time constant t_A^0 decreases with increasing d because local curvature decreases escape attempt frequency



Relocation Time t_B

- *Short time*

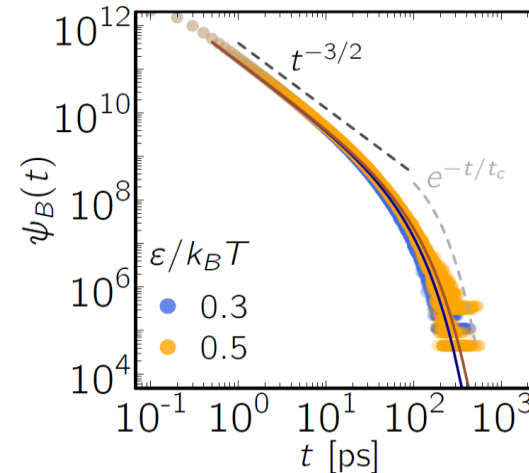
Gaussian propagator corresponding to random walk diffusion:

$$\Rightarrow \Psi_B(t) \sim 1/[4\pi D_s^p t^3]^{1/2}$$

- *Long time*

Cutoff in relocation as all molecules eventually reach the surface again (finite pore volume):

$$\Rightarrow \Psi_B(t) \sim 1/[4\pi D_s^p t^3]^{1/2} \times \exp[-t/t_C] \quad \text{where } t_C \sim d^2/D_s^p$$



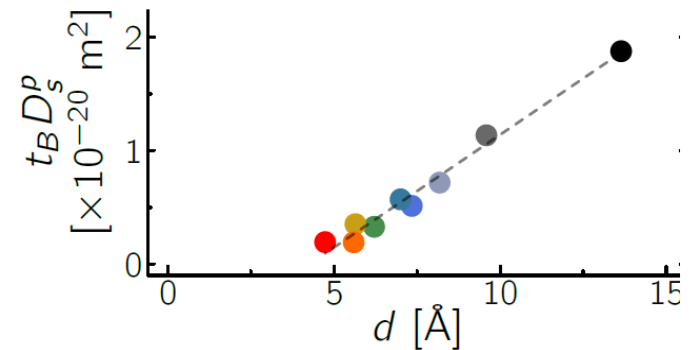
$$t_B = \int_0^\infty t \psi_B(t) dt$$



$$t_B \sim d/D_s^p$$



~~$$t_B \sim d^2/D_s^p$$~~



Conclusion



- Simple physical models – relying on available parameters – are available to describe adsorption and transport in nanoporous media
- Adsorption in nanoporous media conforms the classical view of capillarity in porous solids. Yet, a apparent shift in the fluid critical point is observed upon confinement.
- Diffusion in nanoporous materials – even when complex solids are considered – can be described using simple statistical mechanics models such as a free volume theory or the intermittent Brownian motion
- Such simple physical models allow predicting the thermodynamics and long-time dynamics of fluids confined in ultraconfining materials using simple parameters available experimentally



Acknowledgments: C. Bousige, K. Falk,
A. Schlaich, L. Bocquet, P. Levitz

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