

Lecture 2: Topology and Geometry

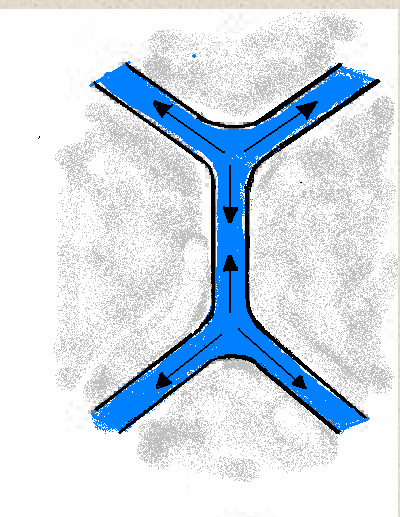
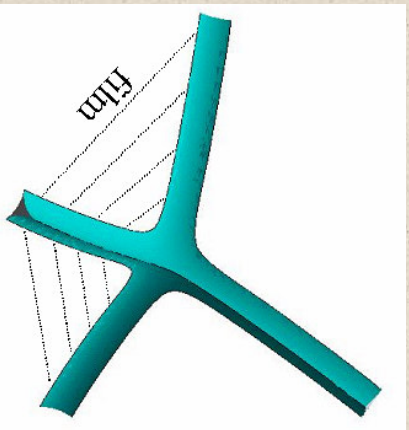
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Plan of the lecture

- Plateau rules in 2D and 3D ;
- Relation with topology;
- Minimal surface in 2D: the honeycomb
- Minimal surface in 3D: Kelvin solid, Weaire Phelan →
- Minimal surface : foams are systems in mechanical equilibrium
- Growth laws 2D and 3D



Plateau borders



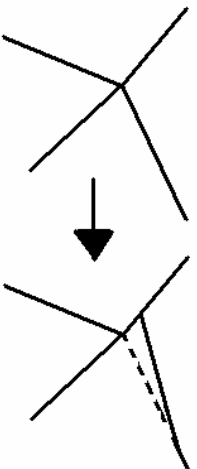
Dry soap films may be thought of as elastic sheets that may branch and are equally stressed all over the froth.

Plateau rules

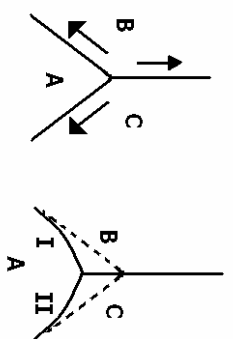
Equilibrium rule A1: Three films meet at each edge forming 120° angles. \rightarrow stable equilibrium of three forces.

Equilibrium rule A2: 4 films meet at each vertex (3D), and the angles are all equal.

Equilibrium rule B: The transition between a Plateau border and an adjacent film is smooth.



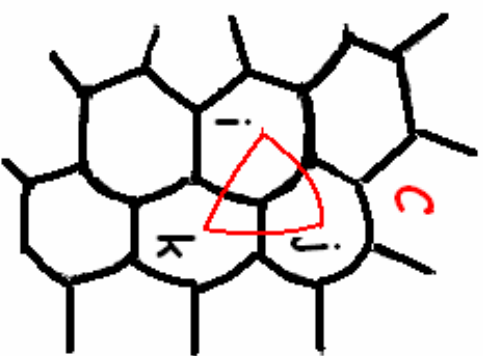
1 4-fold vertex 2 3-fold vertex



The law of Laplace

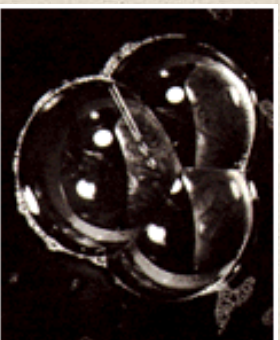
$$\kappa_{ij} = \frac{P_i - P_j}{\gamma}$$

$$\kappa_{ij} + \kappa_{jk} + \kappa_{ki} = \frac{P_i - P_j}{\gamma} + \frac{P_j - P_k}{\gamma} + \frac{P_k - P_i}{\gamma} = 0$$



Consequences

- Soap films are in mechanical equilibrium
- Minimize surface \rightarrow Plateau's problem



Minimal interface tilings: 2D

- What is the arrangement of 2D cells of that tiles 2D space and minimize surface?
- The honeycomb

It is uniform: $n=6$ for all bubbles

$q=0$ (topological charge)

No curvature

No pressure difference

J A Glazier and D Weaire

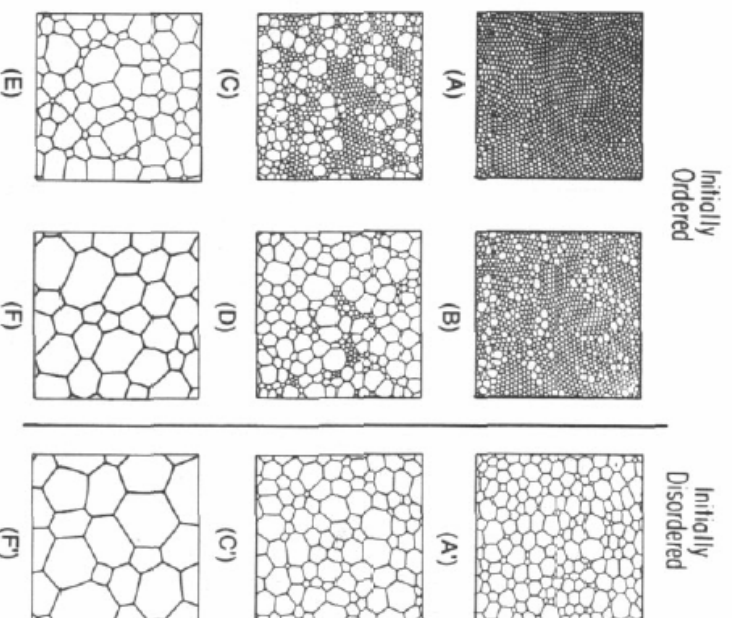
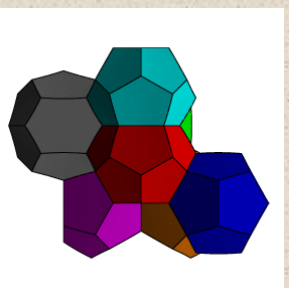
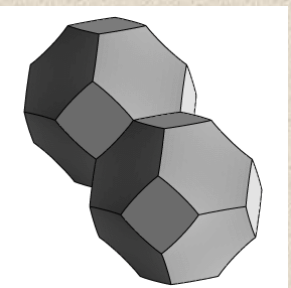


Figure 7. Evolution of a soap froth pattern, for initially ordered (left) and initially disordered (right) states. Times are: (A) 1 h, (B) 2.52 h, (C) 4.82 h, (D) 8.63 h, (E) 19.87 h, (F) 52.33 h; (A') 1.95 h, (C') 21.50 h, (F') 166.15 h. From Glazier *et al.* (1987).

Minimal interface tilings 3D

- There is not a polyhedron that tiles 3D spaces with four folded vertices and all angles of 109.47° .
- Kelvin's problem: what is the arrangement of cells of equal volume that tiles the space minimizing surface area?



- Kelvin's answer : truncated octahedron (tetrakaidecahedron)
- Weaire Phelan cell:
Set of 2 dodecahedra
6 polyhedra with
14 faces: 2 hexagons
and 12 pentagons
0.3% less surface

[phelanc.fe](#) for the Weaire-Phelan partition.

[twointor.fe](#) for Kelvin's partition

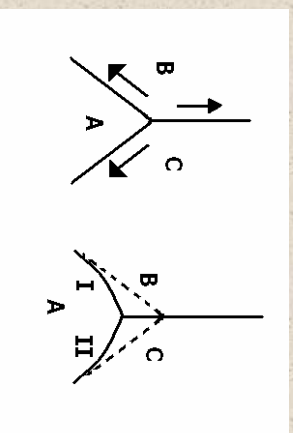
Foam evolution

Plateau rules → walls equilibration
very fast!

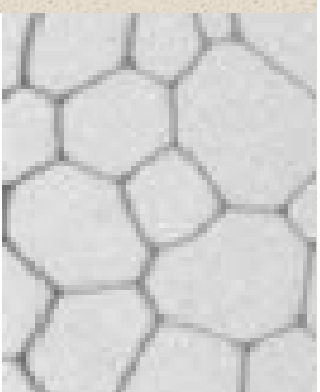
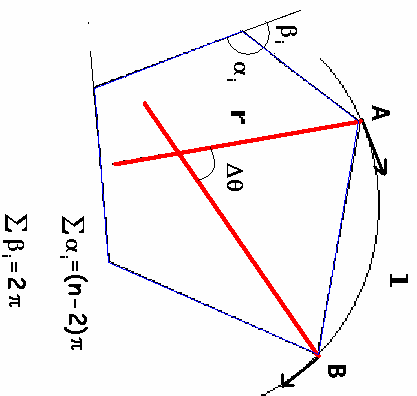
→ pressure differences

Laplace's Law → gas diffusion

→ slower



Topological Charge in 2D



120° angles

$$\sum \alpha_i = n \frac{\pi}{3}$$

$$\sum \beta_i = n\pi - \sum \alpha_i = \frac{2n\pi}{3}$$

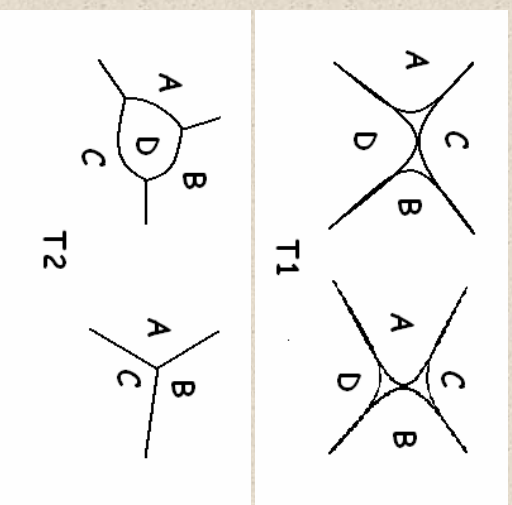
$$2\pi - \sum \beta_i = \frac{2\pi}{3}(6-n)$$

$$q = \frac{\pi}{3}(6-n)$$

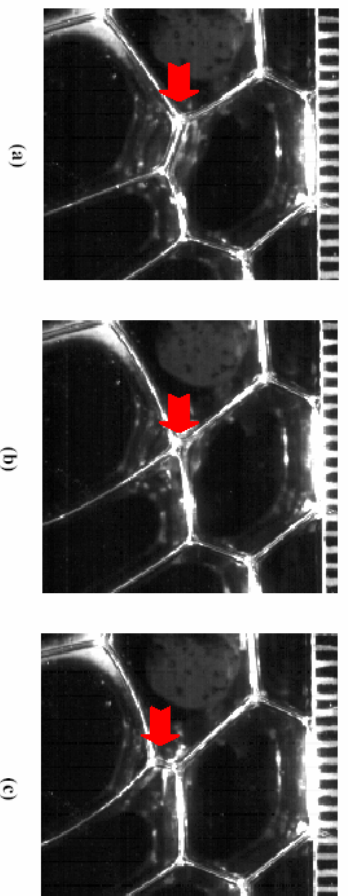
Growth law in 2D

- Von Neumann's law
- $n < 6$ -bubbles shrink → They disappear!
- $n > 6$ -bubbles grow
- T1 and T2 arrangements keep $< n \geq 6$
- The number of bubbles decrease → the average area of the cells increase

$$\frac{da}{dt} = k(n-6)$$



Topological changes: 2D – T1



The T1 process

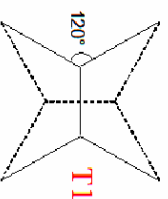


Figure 2: T1 process showing the growth of the minimal p

Timing Film Formation during the T1 Process

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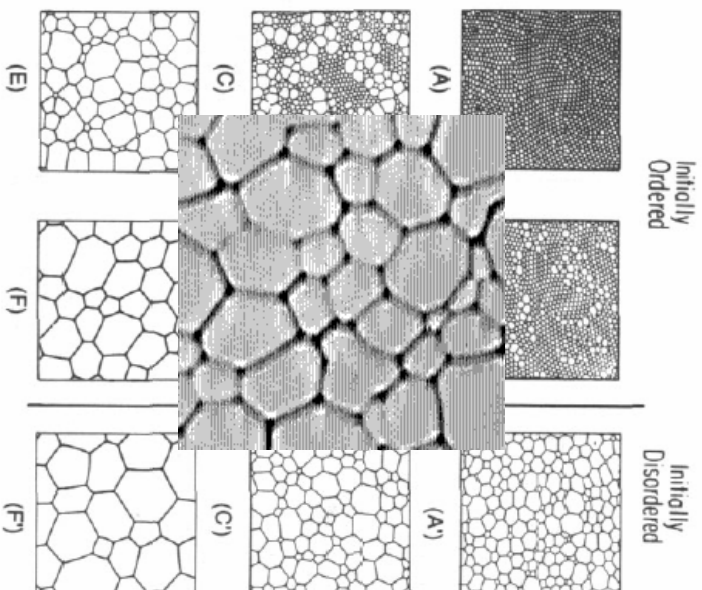


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Six sided
cells:

tile the
plane

$$\langle n \rangle = 6$$

$$da/dt = 0$$

$$q = 0$$

Growth laws in 3D

- 3D soap froths coarsen.

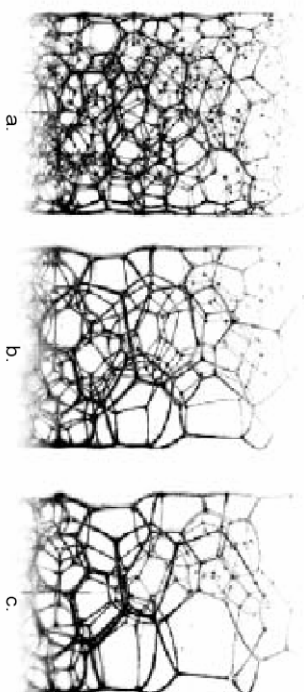
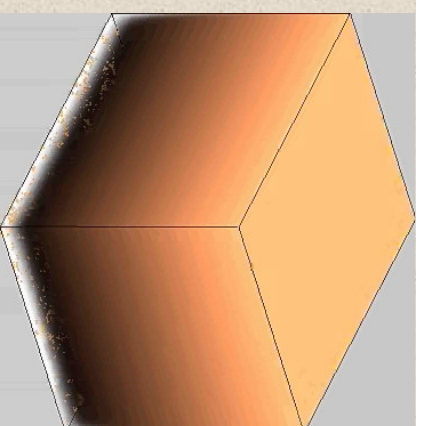
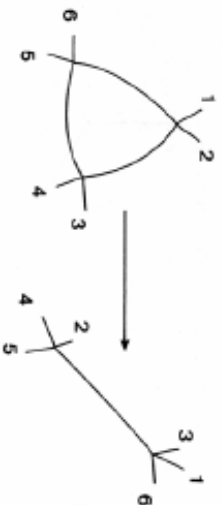


Figure 3. Maximum intensity projections of three-dimensional MRI reconstructions of a foam at three stages of development (a) = 24 hrs, (b) = 36 hrs, (c) = 48 hrs.

Topological Changes: 3D



face in xy plane \longrightarrow edge in z direction

the “quad-flip” is most prevalent



face in xy plane \longrightarrow face in yz plane

Growth Law in 3D

$$K_m = \frac{1}{r_1} + \frac{1}{r_2}$$

$$\Delta P \propto \left(\frac{1}{r_1} + \frac{1}{r_2} \right)$$

but

$$\iint \frac{1}{r_1 r_2} dS \propto 2\pi - n(\pi - \theta_0)$$

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = \kappa \oint \oint_S \vec{K}_m \bullet ds$$

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = \kappa \oint_S \vec{K}_m \bullet ds$$

length⁻¹
surface

volume/time
surface/time

Suppose two bubbles with the same shape, but different sizes. The integral should depend on $V^{-1/3} \times C(\text{shape})$. Or

$$\frac{dV^{2/3}}{dt} = \frac{1}{V^{1/3}} \frac{dV}{dt} = C(\text{shape}) \rightarrow C(f)$$

Glazier 1993

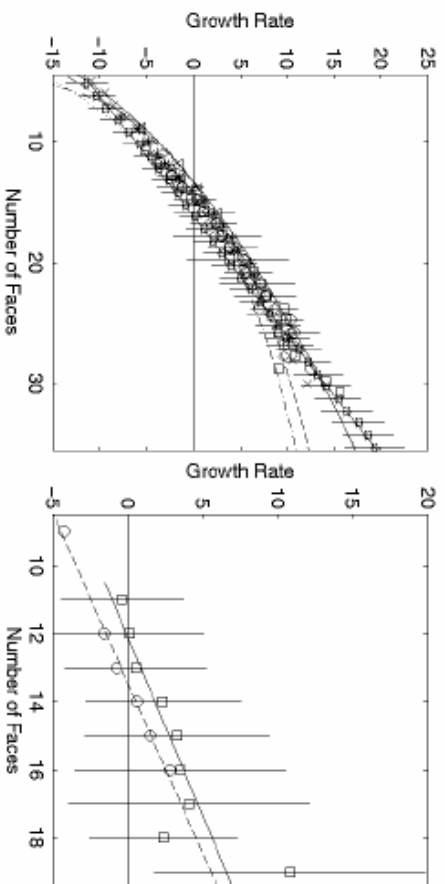


Figure 2a. Growth rates as a function of number of faces for Fortes' edge and vertex models (Dashed lines), Mullins' model (Solid Line), Kawasaki's vertex model (Squares, Circles and Diamonds), Weygand's vertex model (Dotted Line), Monneanu *et al.*'s boundary dynamics model (Triangles), Wakai's boundary dynamics model (Xs and Stars) and Glazier's Potts model (Star of David). 2b. Monneanu *et al.*'s optical tomography experiments (Circles) and our MRI experiments (Squares).

Cellular Potts Model

$$E = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} (1 - \delta(s_i - s_j))$$

Simulations

Sum over farther neighbors
reduces anisotropy

1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	9	8	8	8	8
1	1	2	2	0	0	0	9	9	8	8	8	8
1	2	2	2	2	0	0	9	9	9	8	8	8
2	2	2	2	2	5	5	5	9	9	9	7	8
3	2	2	2	2	5	5	5	9	7	7	7	7
3	3	2	5	5	5	5	5	5	7	7	7	7
3	3	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	7	7	7	7
3	3	3	5	5	5	5	5	7	7	7	7	7
3	3	4	4	5	5	5	5	7	7	7	7	7
3	4	4	4	4	5	5	6	6	7	7	7	7
4	4	4	4	4	5	5	6	6	6	7	7	7

The simulations

- 3D square lattice with $L_x \times L_y \times L_z$ sites.
- Periodic boundary conditions.
- Initial conditions:

Cubish cells with a given size.

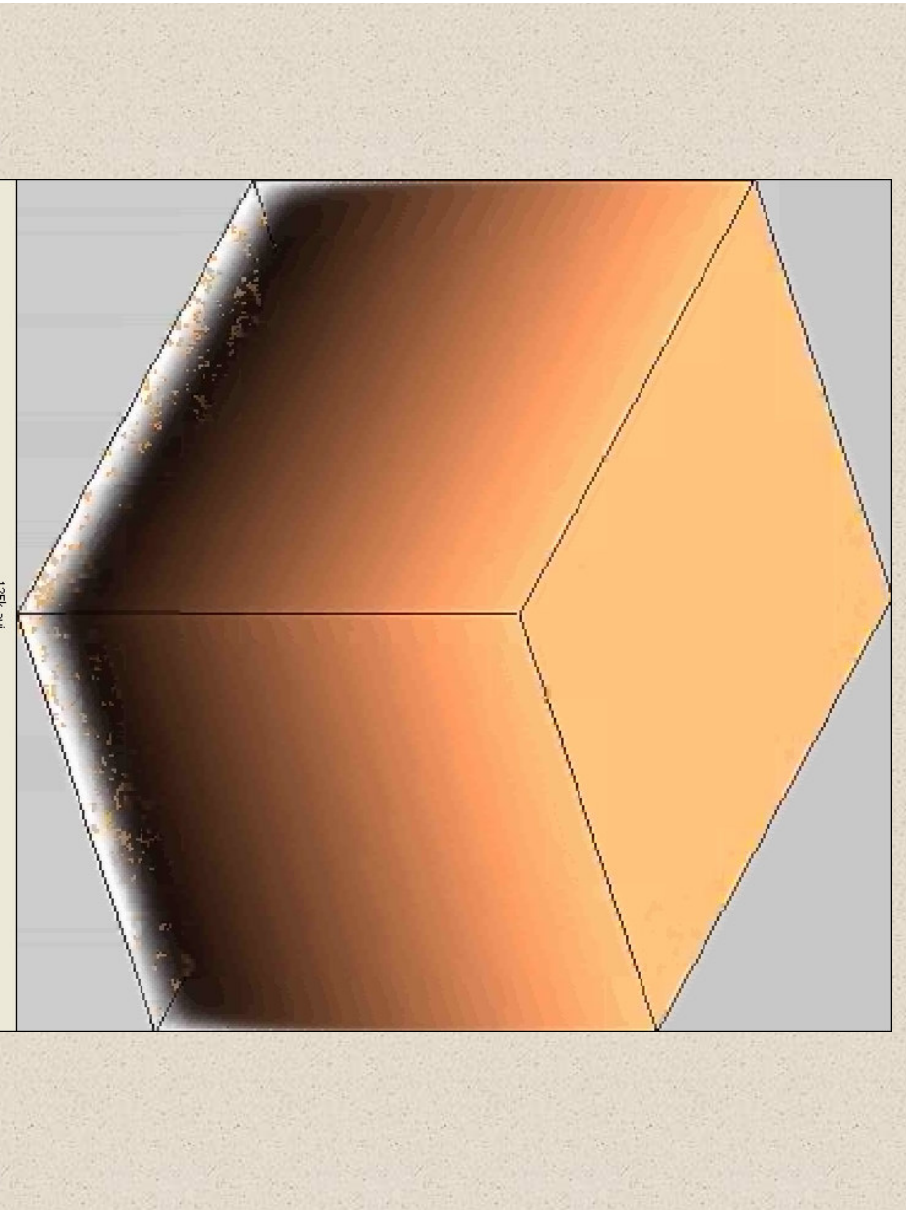
Target size distribution predefined.

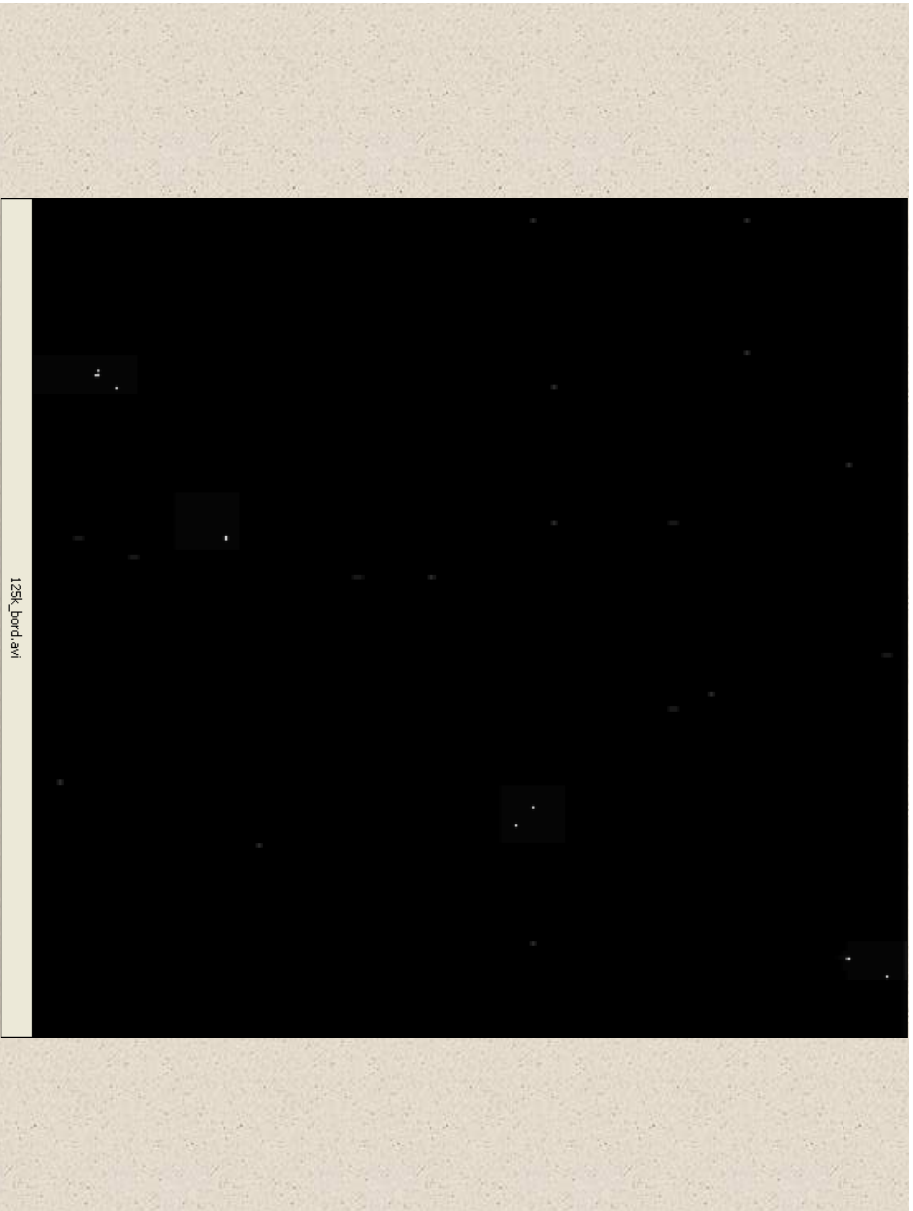
Pre-relaxation considering target

volume energy term ($\sim (V - V_t)^2$)

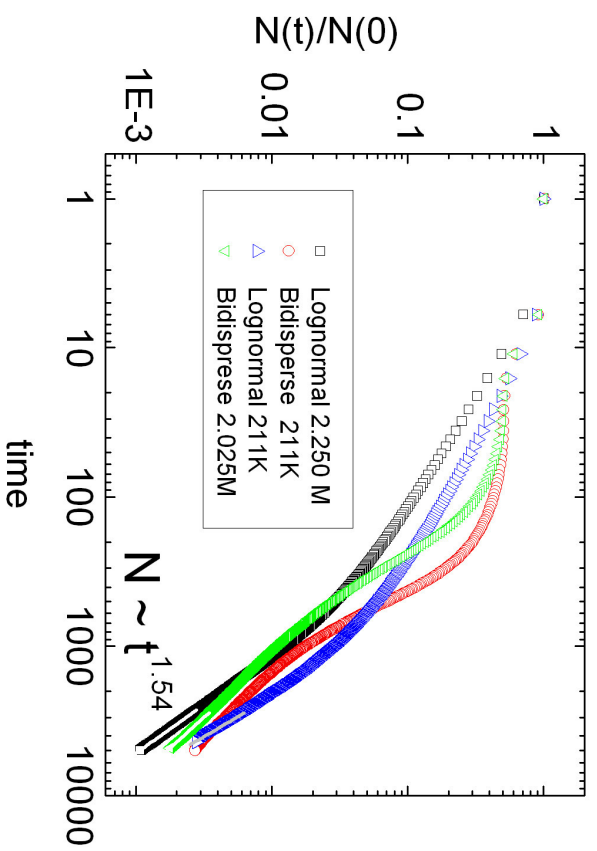
The dynamics

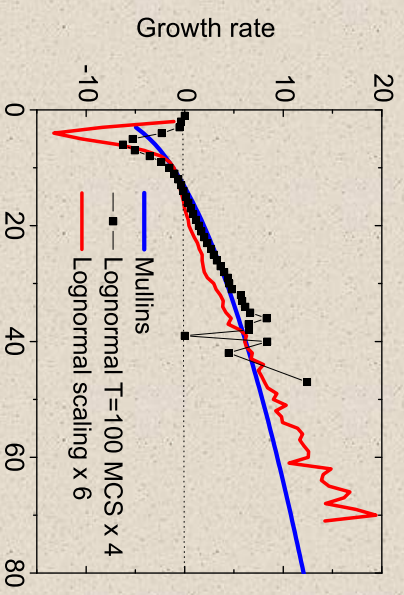
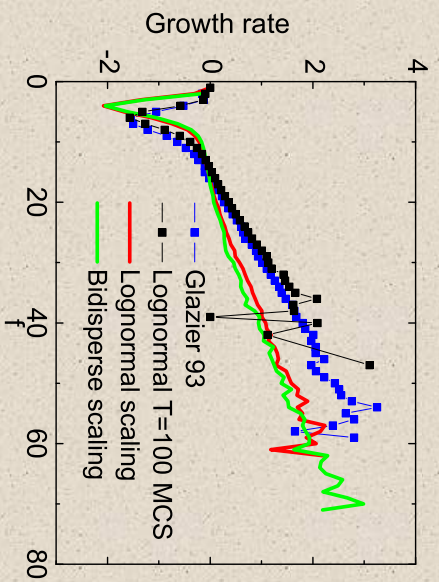
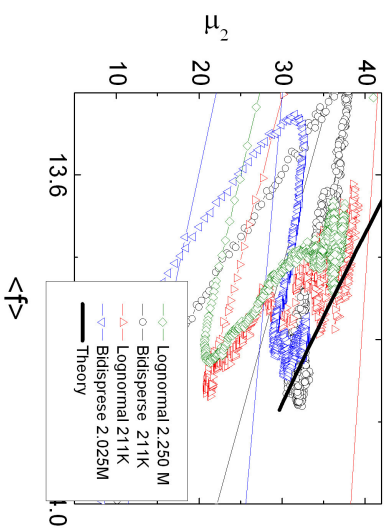
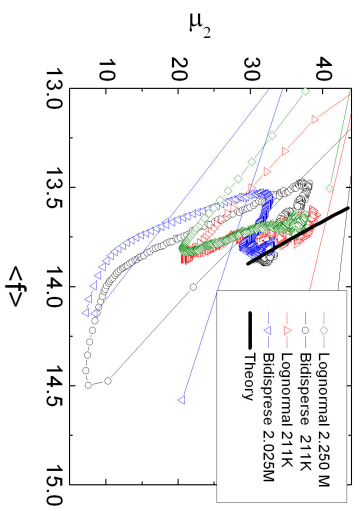
- Choose a site i and a first neighbor j .
- If $s_i \neq s_j$, virtually put $s_i = s_j$ and calculate energy of the virtual configuration.
- If the energy is lowered accept the change.
- 1 MCS = number of choices equal to the number of sites.

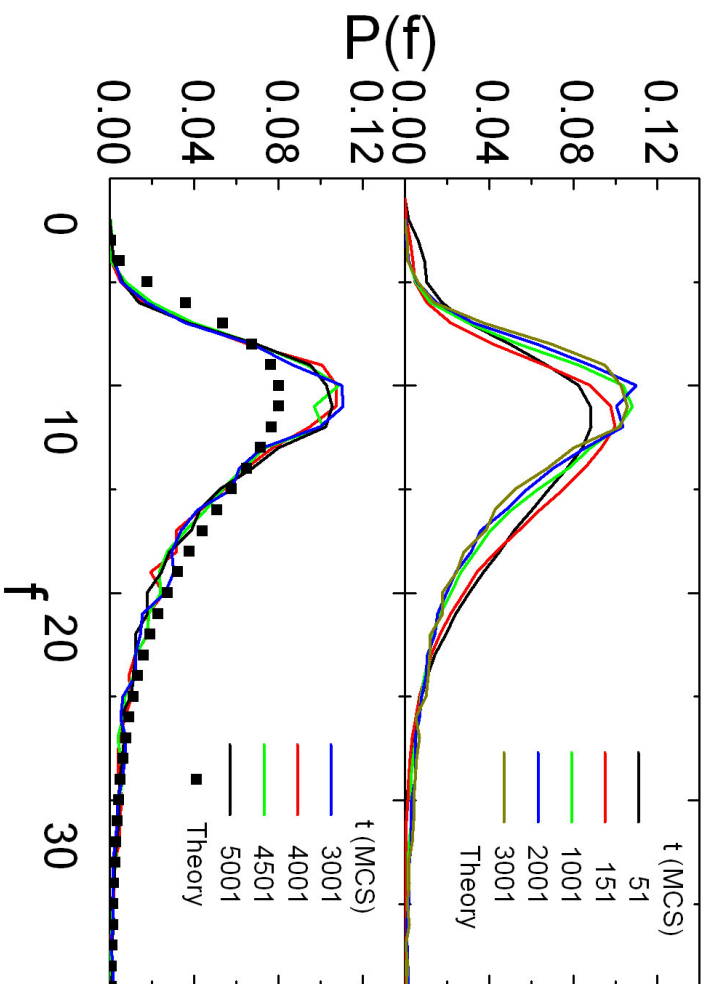
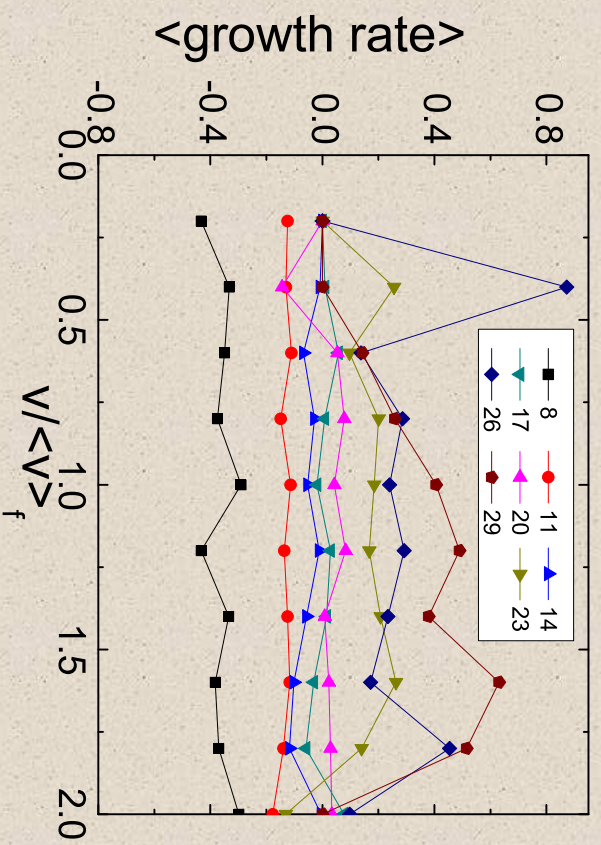




Time evolution







Next talk

- Topology, geometry, and coarsening:
Theory and simulations