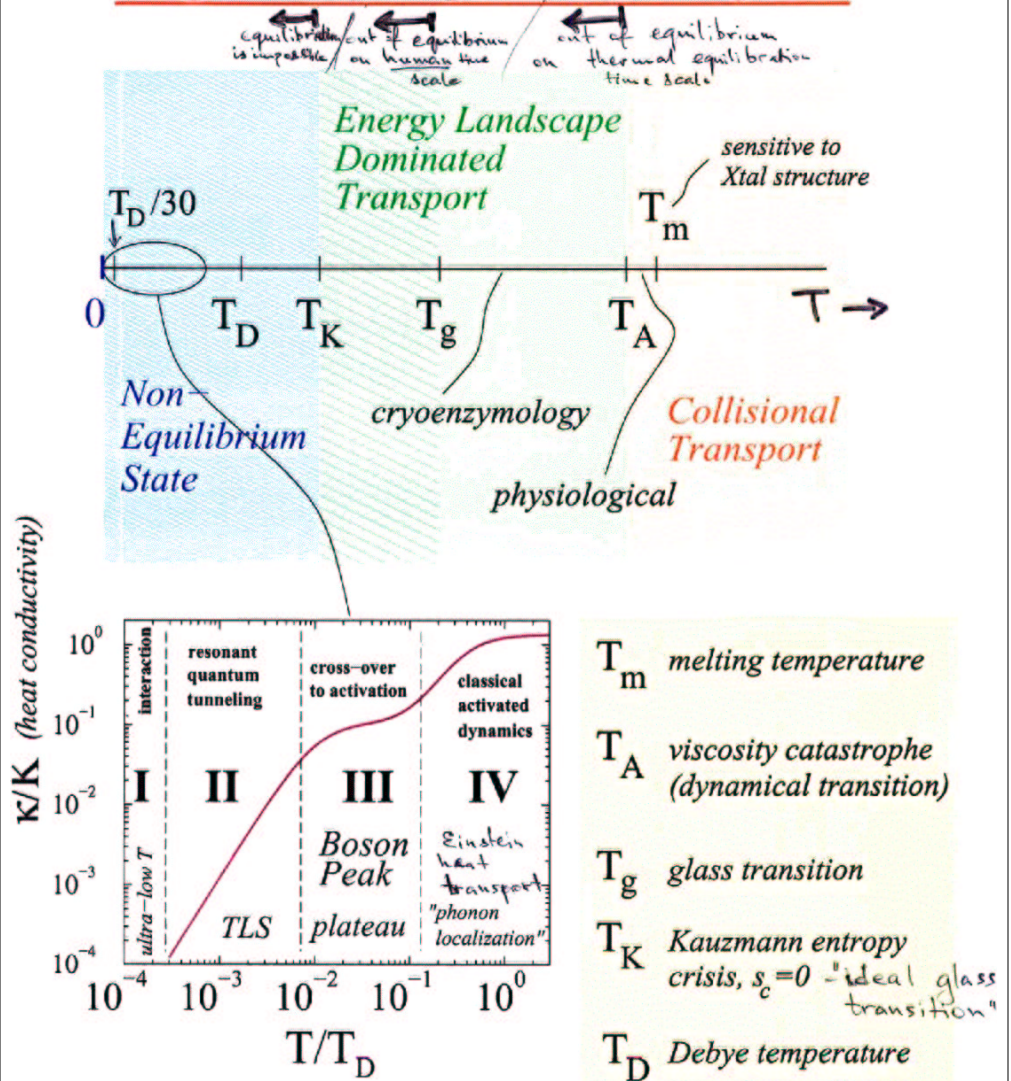


Vassiliy Lubchenko

Random First Order Transition Theory:  
from Quantum Anomalies in Glasses  
to Control of Protein Conformational  
Dynamics by Supercooled Solvent

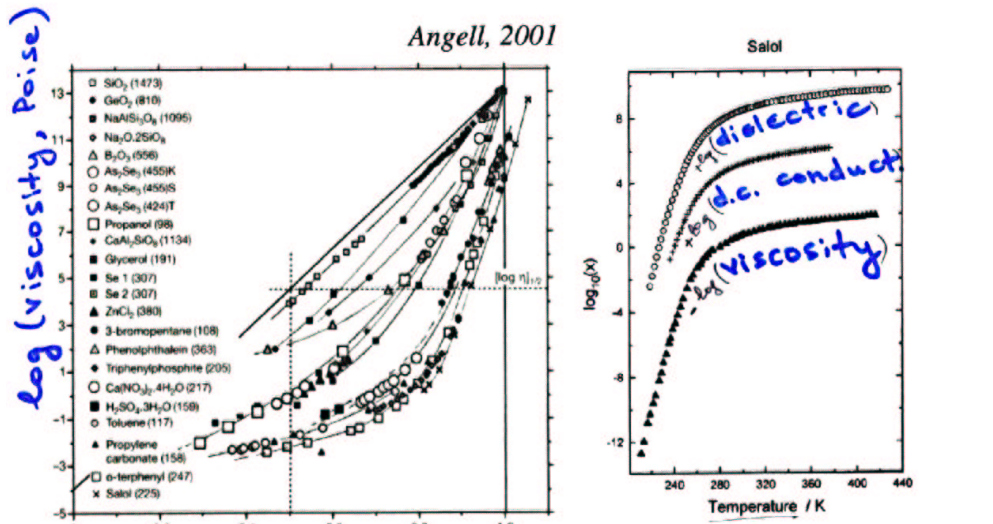
1. The RFOT: microscopic theory of activated transport in supercooled liquids.
2. Low T anomalies in Amorphous Solids.
  - a) Intrinsic Quantum Excitations: the origin of the Two Level Systems (TLS).
  - b) Boson Peak and Thermal Conductivity Plateau.
3. Nature of Slaving of Protein Motions to Environment. Control of Length and Time Scales of Protein Motions.

Regimes of Liquid/Glass Physics



# Kinetics

## Relaxation Times in Supercooled Liquids



F. Stickel et al., 1995

Empirical  
Vogel-Fulcher

$$\tau = \tau_0 \exp\left(\frac{DT_K}{T-T_K}\right)$$

fragility

$D \uparrow$  strong

$D \downarrow$  fragile

# Thermodynamics

## Kauzmann Entropy Crisis 1948

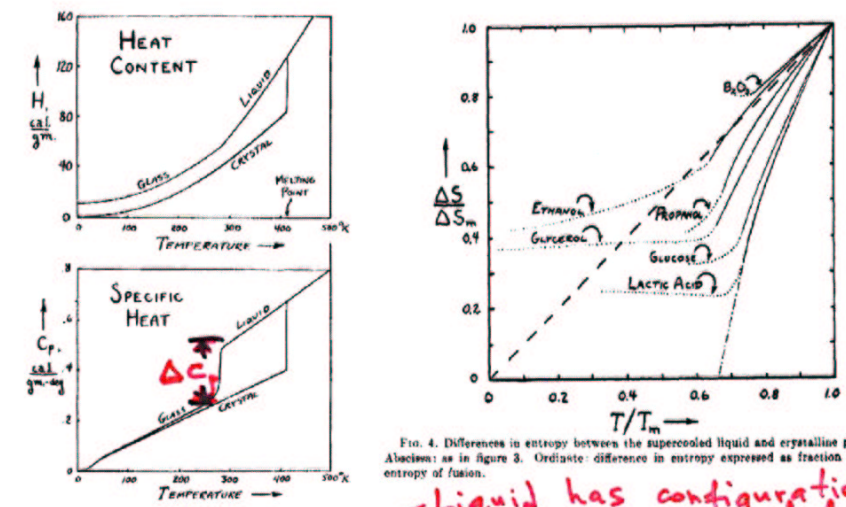
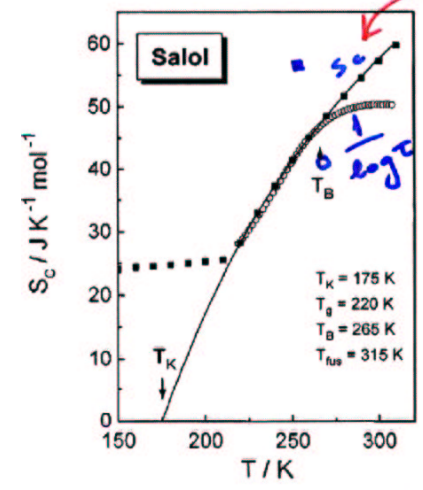


FIG. 4. Differences in entropy between the supercooled liquid and crystalline phases. Abscissas: as in figure 3. Ordinate: difference in entropy expressed as fraction of the entropy of fusion.



Oguni (unpublished), Richert & Angell

Liquid has configurational degrees of freedom!

Configurational Entropy:

$$S_c = S_{liq} - S_{cryst} \approx \Delta C_p (T - T_K)$$

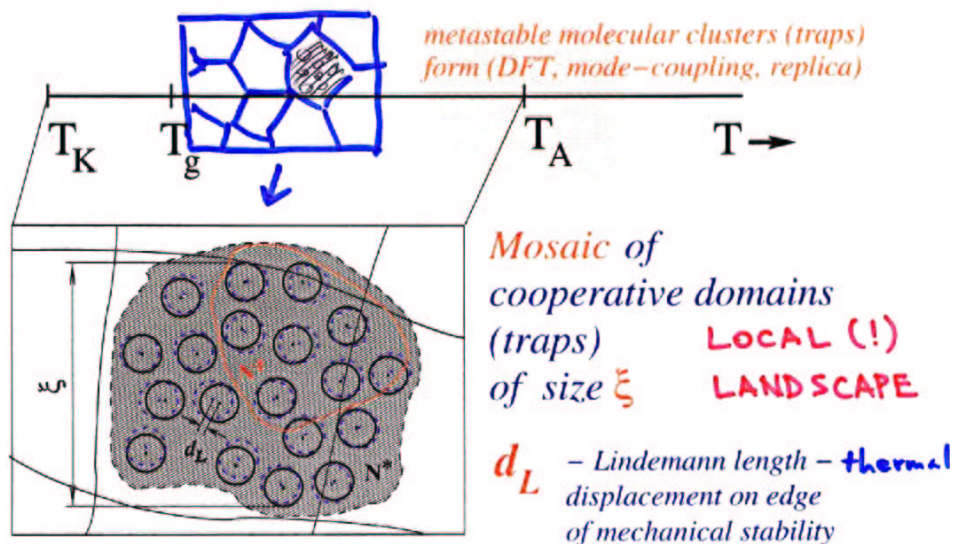
Pattern:

$$\log \tau \propto \frac{F^\ddagger}{kT} \propto \frac{1}{S_c}$$

barrier

Kirkpatrick, Thirumalai, Wolynes '89, Xia & Wolynes 2000

# The RFOT theory: Mechanism of Activated Transport below $T_A$



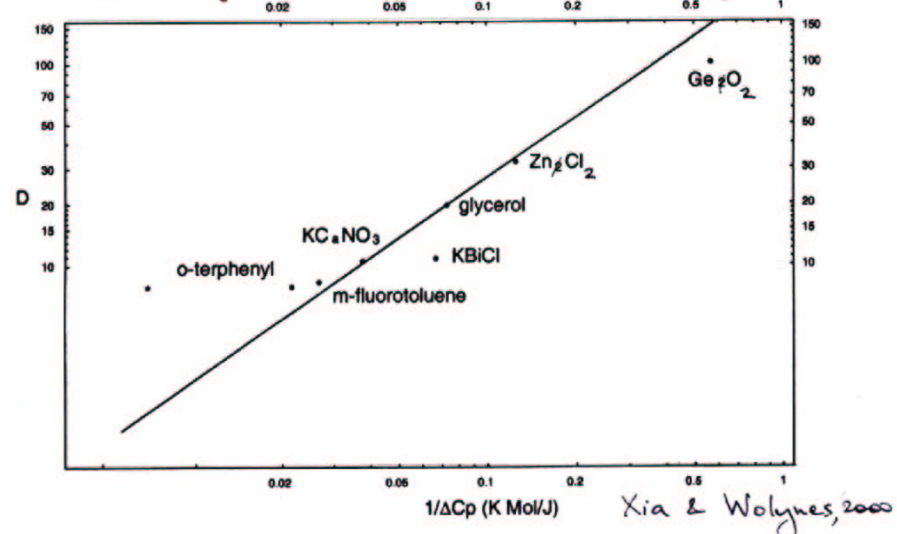
$d_L \approx 0.1 a$  ← molecular size

$s_c \approx \Delta c_p (T - T_K) \approx 0.78$  at  $T_g$  on 1 hour scale

barrier  $F^\ddagger \propto \frac{1}{s_c} \propto \frac{1}{\Delta c_p (T - T_K)} \Rightarrow D = \frac{32}{\Delta c_p}$

cooperative length  $\xi \propto \frac{1}{(T - T_K)^{2/3}}$ , 5-6 molecular sized at  $T_g$

# Random First Order Transition Theory: Fragility vs. Heat Capacity Jump



fragility  $\rightarrow D = \frac{32R}{\Delta C_p}$  ← heat capacity jump at  $T_g$  per moving unit

Vogel Fulcher Law  $\tau = \tau_0 e^{\frac{DT_K}{T - T_K}}$

RFOT establishes a connection between kinetics & thermodynamics of supercooled liquids on a constructive footing

# Random First Order Transition Theory of Structural Glass Transition

Xia & Wolynes '00

Free Energy profile of replacing a local sol'n of Liquid Free Energy Functional by another:

$$F(R) = 4\pi \sigma(R) R^2 - \frac{4\pi}{3} R^3 \bar{S}_c T$$

energy cost to create a domain wall VS. entropic advantage of breaking up into domains of different sol'ns



$\bar{S}_c$  - configurational entropy

$e^{\bar{S}_c V}$  - # of sol'ns per volume V

$$\sigma(R) = \sigma_0 \left(\frac{R}{R_0}\right)^{1/2} - \text{curvature dependent surface tension}$$

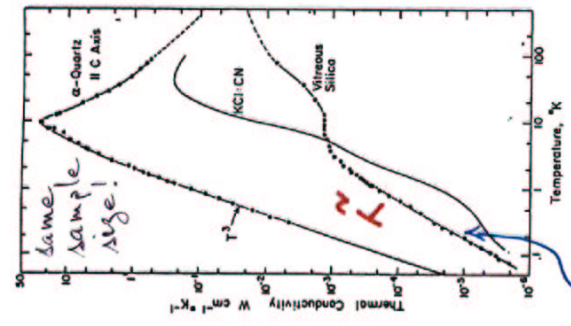
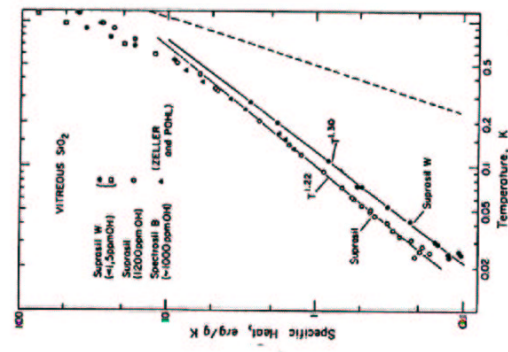
$$10^{17} = \frac{T_{exp}}{T_0} = e^{\frac{F^\ddagger}{T_0}}$$

fixes  $T_g$

$$F^\ddagger \propto \frac{1}{\bar{S}_c} \propto \frac{1}{T - T_L}$$

Vogel Fulcher

# Low T Anomalies in Glasses



Zeller & Pohl '71

$$c_v \approx \bar{P} T \uparrow \text{density of states of states } [J^{-1} m^{-3}]$$

$$\frac{Entp}{\lambda} \propto \left[ \bar{P} \frac{g}{f c_i} \right] \sim 150$$

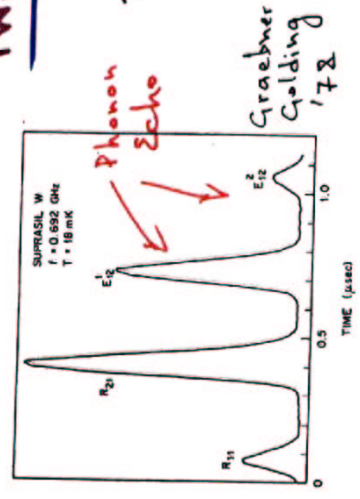
g-coupling with phonons

$$F = \frac{2}{3} \sigma_0 + \frac{1}{2} \sigma_x + (g \bar{P} T) \sigma_z$$

assuming kinetic theory  $\frac{3}{2} c_v \propto \frac{1}{T}$

# Standard Tunneling Model of Two Level Systems

④  
Anderson, Halperin, Varma  
Phillips 1971



$$H = \frac{\epsilon}{2} \sigma_z + \frac{\Delta}{2} \sigma_x + (\tilde{g} \tilde{\sigma} \varphi) \sigma_z$$

elastic strain

$$H_{ph} = \int d^3r \left[ \frac{\pi^2}{2g} + \int d\Omega \left( \frac{\omega}{c} \right)^2 \right]$$

Microscopic Nature?

$$\bar{P} \approx 10^{45} \pm 1 \frac{1}{\text{Jm}^3}$$

density of states

150% for all glasses

Universality in  $\frac{E_{\text{tfp}}}{\lambda} \Rightarrow$

$\Rightarrow$  Universality in  $\bar{P} \frac{g^2}{\rho c^3}$   
Freeman & Anderson '86, Yu & Leggett '88

# Mosaic Structure of a Supercooled Liquid & Residual Degrees of Freedom in Glasses below $T_g$

⑥

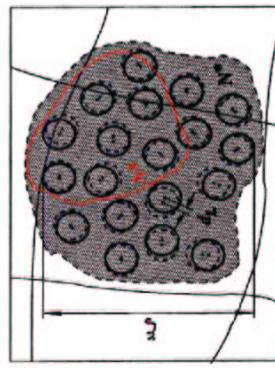


$$F(R) \Rightarrow F(N) = \gamma \sqrt{N} - T_g s_c N$$

$$F(N^*) = 0 \Rightarrow N^* = 190 \text{ molecules}$$

$$(3/a) \approx 5.8$$

$$N^* \equiv \left( \frac{3}{a} \right)^3, N \equiv \frac{4\pi}{3} \left( \frac{r}{a} \right)^3$$



$$\frac{3}{a} = \left\{ \frac{\frac{3}{4\pi} \log \left( \frac{T}{T_g} \right)}{\log \left[ \left( \frac{a}{d_L} \right)^2 \frac{1}{\pi c} \right]} \right\}^{2/3}$$

$d_L$  - Lindemann length  
 $a$  - molecular length scale

A liquid-like Degree of Freedom per  $\sim 200$  molecules

Simple Way to interpret molecular surface tension at the droplet-droplet interface

Xia Wolynes  $\rightarrow \sigma = \frac{3}{4} \frac{T}{a^2} \ln\left(\frac{a^2}{d_L^2 \tau_e}\right)$

Free energy of monatomic gas:

$$\frac{N}{T} = - \frac{3}{2} \ln \left[ \left( \frac{2\pi m T}{h^2} \right)^{3/2} \frac{V}{N} \right]$$

Particle in the box of size  $d_L$

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{h^2 k^2}{m} \approx T$$

$$\frac{N}{V} = \frac{a^3}{V}$$

$$\frac{N}{T} = - \frac{3}{2} \ln \left( \frac{a^2}{d_L^2 \tau_e} \right)$$

Random Energy Model  
Argument on Density of States (DOS)

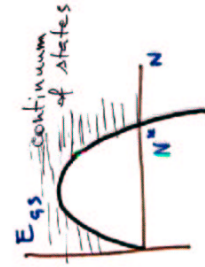
VL + P. Wolynes 7

$$\Omega_N(E) \propto e^{\frac{3}{2} N - \frac{[E - (T_g^2 N + \gamma \sqrt{N})]^2}{2SE^2 N}}$$

$$\Omega_N(E_{GS}(N)) = 1$$

guaranteed lowest energy state

$$\Rightarrow E_{GS}(N) = \gamma \sqrt{N} - T_g^2 N$$



Region of size  $N^*$  has DOS:

$$N^* = \left(\frac{3}{a}\right)^3 \text{ has DOS: } \Omega(E) = \frac{1}{T} e^{\frac{3}{2} N}$$

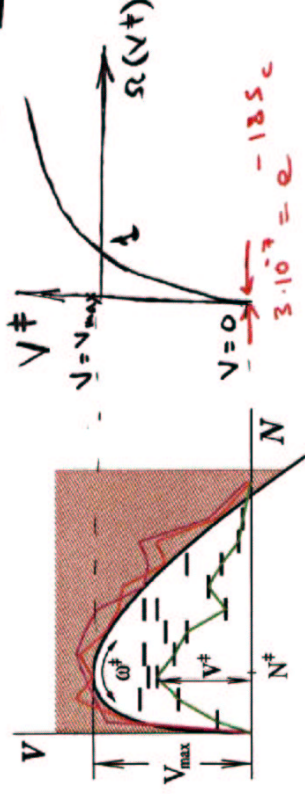
$\frac{3}{2} N$

$$P = \frac{1}{T_0^3} \text{ Kinetics?}$$

density of states of a region of size  $N$  + cost of domain wall creation

9

Lowest Barrier Distribution + Domain Wall Mass



Frozen-in Distribution of Barriers:

$$\Omega(V^\dagger) \propto e^{-\frac{V-V_{max}}{\sqrt{2}T_g}} = e^{-185c \cdot \frac{V^\dagger}{\sqrt{2}T_g}}$$

Region larger by 18 molecules than the  $N^*$  from static argument has a zero-barrier path!

Domain Wall Mass:  $M_w \left(\frac{a}{\xi}\right)^2 = N_w m \left(\frac{dL}{\xi}\right)^2$   
 $(M_w/N_w) = (dL/a)^2 m = 0.01m$  per atom!

Barrier Frequency:  $\omega^\ddagger \approx 1.6 \left(\frac{g}{\xi}\right) \omega_p$

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Defects' Coupling to Lattice Strain + Universality of Phonon Scattering

$$\mathcal{H} = \int d^3r \left[ \frac{\pi^2}{2g} + g c_i^2 \frac{(\nabla\phi)^2}{2} \right] + (g \nabla\phi) \phi_z$$

Stability condition at  $T_g$ :

$$\langle g c_i^2 a^2 (\nabla\phi)^2 \rangle \approx \langle g \nabla\phi \phi_z \rangle$$

$$\langle g c_i^2 (\nabla\phi)^2 a^2 \rangle = T_g \quad \text{— equipartition}$$

$$\Rightarrow g \approx \sqrt{T_g} g c_i^2 a^3$$

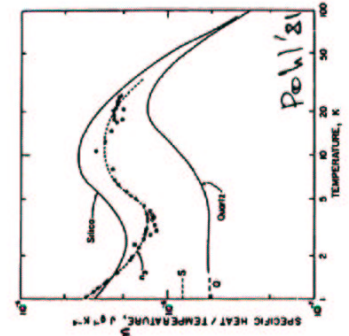
$$\frac{L_{mfp}}{\lambda} \sim \left( \frac{\bar{P} g}{g c_i^2} \right)^{-1} \sim \left( \frac{T_g}{a} \right)^3 \approx 200$$

is universal!

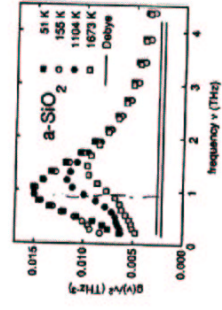
$$\bar{P} = \frac{1}{T_g \xi^2}$$

Warmer T Anomalies

③

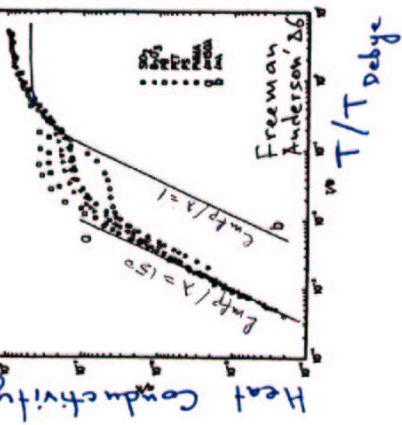


"Boson Peak"



Wisniewsky et al '97  
~ 1 THz in a-Silica

Plateau in



Heat Conductivity

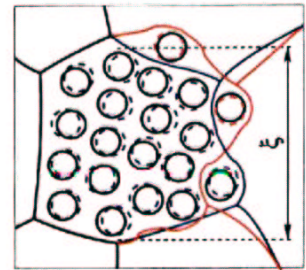
$a \Rightarrow \frac{c_{mp}}{\lambda} \approx 150$   
plateau  
 $b \Rightarrow \frac{c_{mp}}{\lambda} \approx 1$

Mobile Domain Walls Carry Ripples!

⑫

Rippon Spectrum

VL + P. Wolynes



Spherical Shell with Gas:

$\cot\left[\alpha_n\left(\frac{\omega R}{c_g}\right)\right] = \frac{\rho_w}{\rho_g R} - \frac{(\ell-1)(\ell+2)}{\omega R^2} \frac{\sigma}{\rho_g R}$   
 $\ell \gg 2$

$\sigma$  - surface tension coeff  
 $\rho_w$  - mass density per unit area  
 $\rho_g$  - density of the (fake) gas inside

$\rho_g \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow \omega_\ell^2 = \frac{9}{8} \frac{\sigma}{\rho_w R^2} (\ell-1)(\ell+2)$

correction due to  $\sigma(R)$  R dependence

$\omega_\ell \approx 1.34 \omega_b \left(\frac{9}{8}\right)^{3/4} \sqrt{\frac{(\ell-1)(\ell+2)}{4}}$

$\ell = 2 \dots 9$   
( $2\ell+1$ ) degenerate

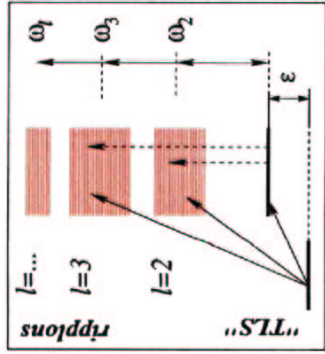
$\omega_\ell \approx 1 \text{ THz}$  for a-Silica



13

# Combined DOS of Structural Transitions

## + Ripples



Partition Function:

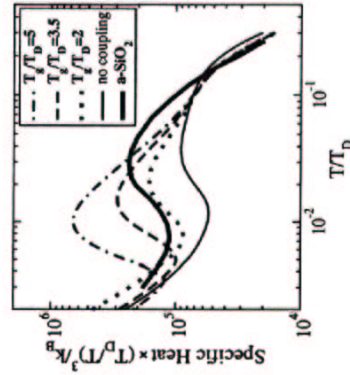
$$Z_\epsilon = 1 + \sum_{\{n_{lm}\}} e^{-\beta(\epsilon + \sum_{lm} \omega_{lm} n_{lm})}$$

$$= 1 + e^{-\beta \epsilon} \prod Z_c^{2l+1}$$

Heat Capacity per Domain

$$C_\epsilon = \beta^2 \frac{\partial \log Z_\epsilon}{\partial \beta^2}$$

$$\int \text{den}(\epsilon) C_\epsilon$$



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# Scattering DOS of Entropic Droplet Excitations



Coupling to phonons:

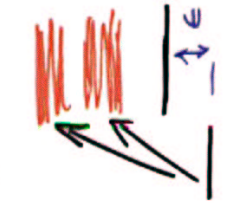
$$g = \beta c_s^2 \int dS \mathcal{J}$$

same as TLS transition

$\mathcal{J}$  - tunneling displacement on droplet's edge

Absorption from Ground State:

$$\rho(\omega) = \int d\epsilon n(\epsilon) \sum_{\{n_{lm}\}} \delta(\omega - [\epsilon + \sum_{lm} \omega_{lm} n_{lm}])$$



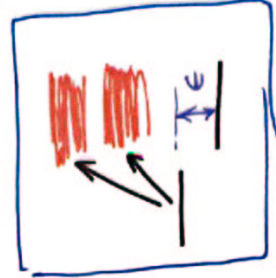
$$\frac{1}{T_g} e^{-\frac{\epsilon}{T_g}}$$

$$\rho(\omega) \xrightarrow{\omega \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{T_g^3} \text{ TLS DOS}$$

15 Scattering DOS cont'd

Absorption from Excited State:

$$N_E(\omega) = \int d\epsilon n(\epsilon) \sum_{\{n_{em}\}} \delta(\omega - [\sum_{em} n_{em} \omega_{em} - \epsilon])$$



$$\beta_{exc}(\omega, T) = \int dE \frac{\partial N_E(\omega)}{\partial E} \frac{2}{1 + e^{\beta E}}$$

Phonon's Life time:

$$\tau_{\omega}^{-1} \approx \omega \frac{\pi g^2}{g c_s^2} [\rho(\omega) + \rho_{ac}(\omega)]$$

$$H = \sum_k \omega_k a_k^\dagger a_k + \sum_k \frac{\hbar k}{\sqrt{2M_k V}} (a_i^\dagger \cdot a_i) \sigma_z$$

16 Interaction with Phonons Causes

Frequency shift + Resonance Broadening

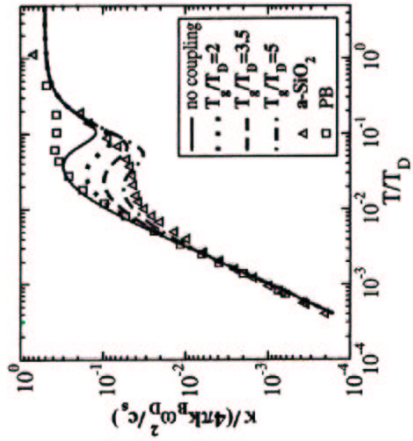
$$\sum_{em} \int d\omega (\omega - \omega_{em}) \rightarrow \sum_{em} \int d\omega \frac{\gamma_{em}/\hbar}{[\omega - \omega_{em}(\omega)]^2 + \gamma_{em}^2}$$

$$\gamma_{\omega} = \frac{3\pi}{2} T g \left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_0}\right)^2 \quad \text{— line broadening}$$

$$\omega_c(\omega) = \omega_c - \frac{3}{2} T g \left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_0}\right)^3 \int \frac{d\omega' (\omega'/\omega_0)}{\omega' - \omega}$$

— frequency shift

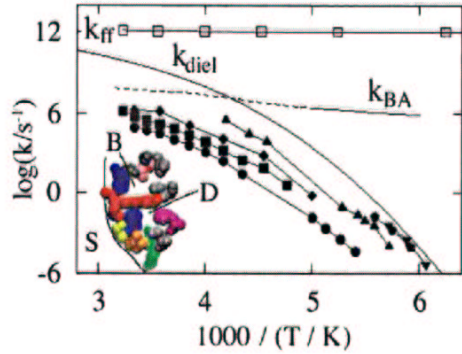
$\omega_c$  — cut-off frequency



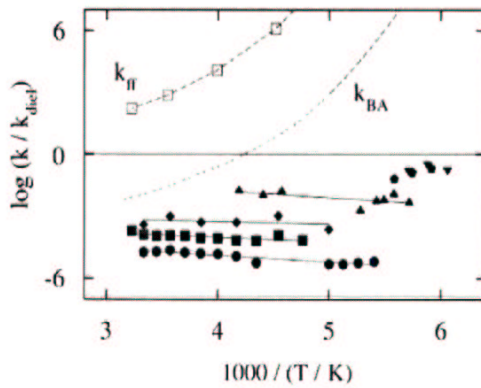
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \omega_c \propto \omega_D \\ \Delta \omega_c \propto T \end{array} \right. \quad \text{plateau's non-universality!}$$

# Slaved Relaxation in Myoglobin

*H. Frauenfelder et al.*



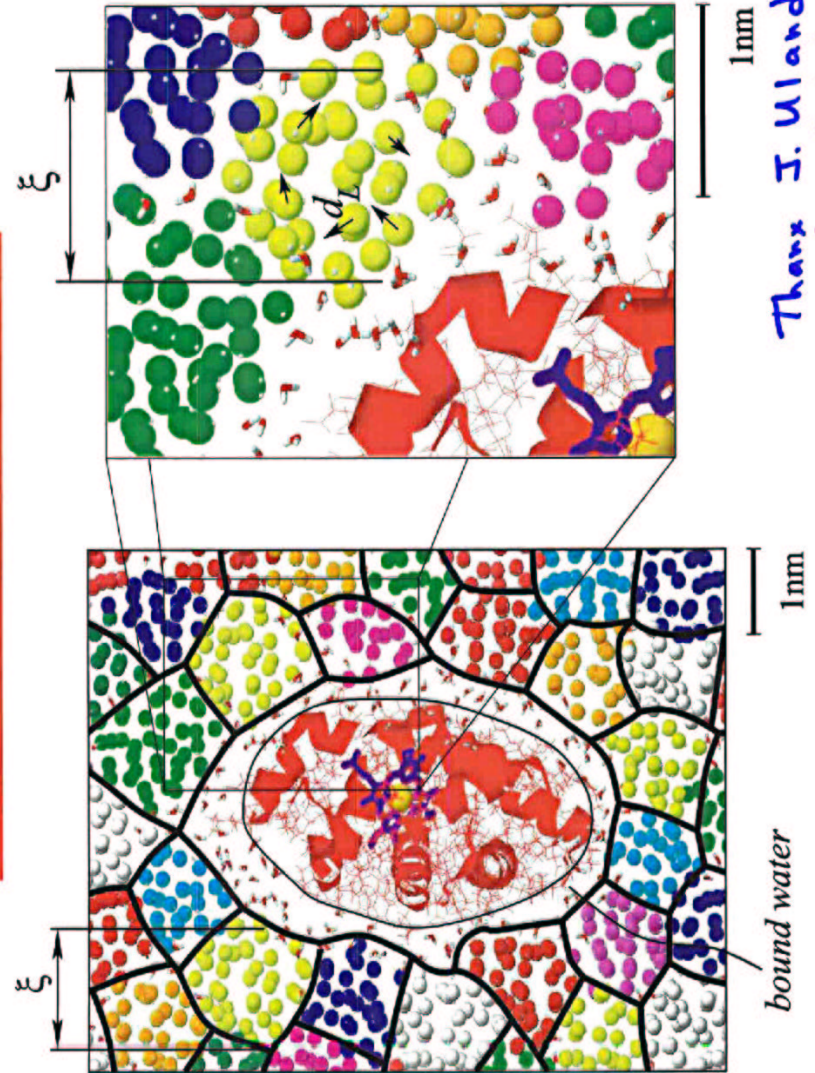
Solvent:  
H<sub>2</sub>O + glycerol  
mixture



Slaved:

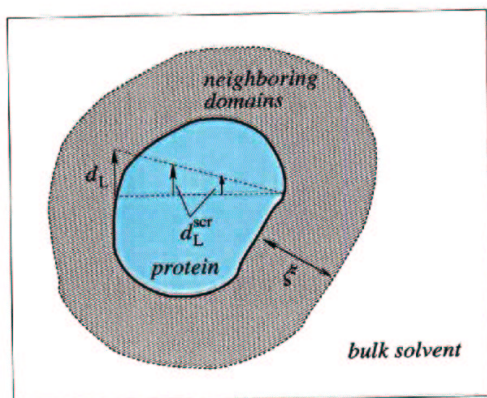
$$\frac{k}{k_{diel}} \approx \text{const} < 1$$

Frauenfelder, VL, Wolynes  
Protein in Glassy Solvent



Thank J. Ulmer  
for help!

## Protein subject to Solvent Motions



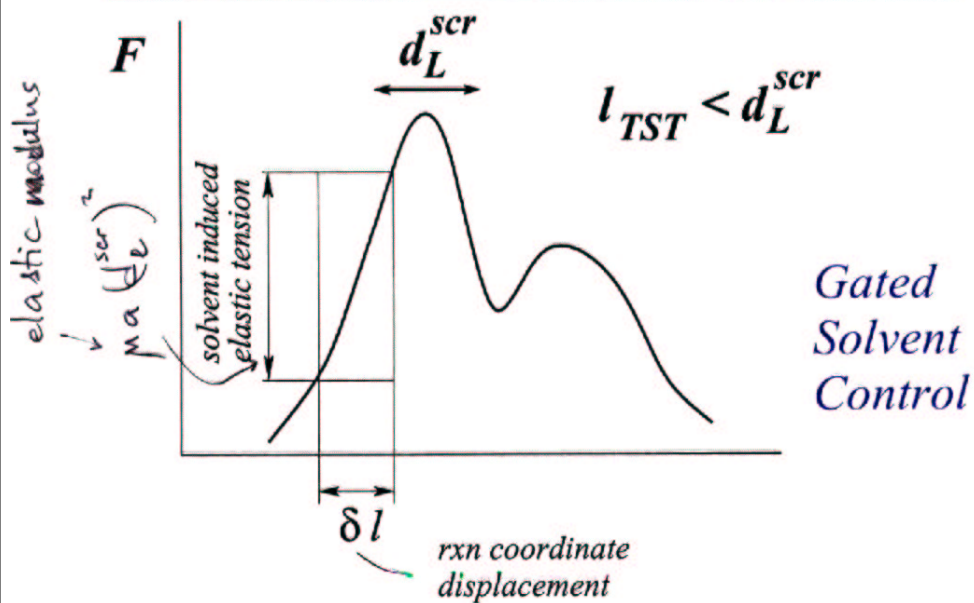
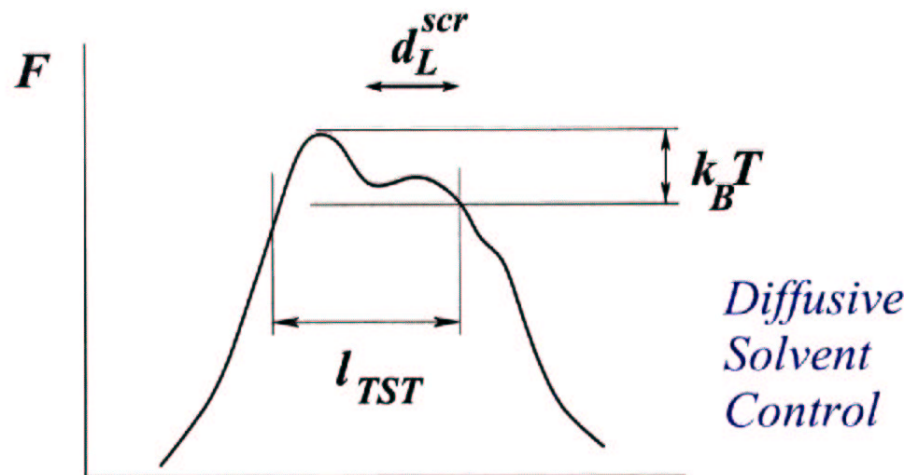
Protein Motions: Transitions between distinct structural states

length scale:  $d_L^{scr}$  ← fragility

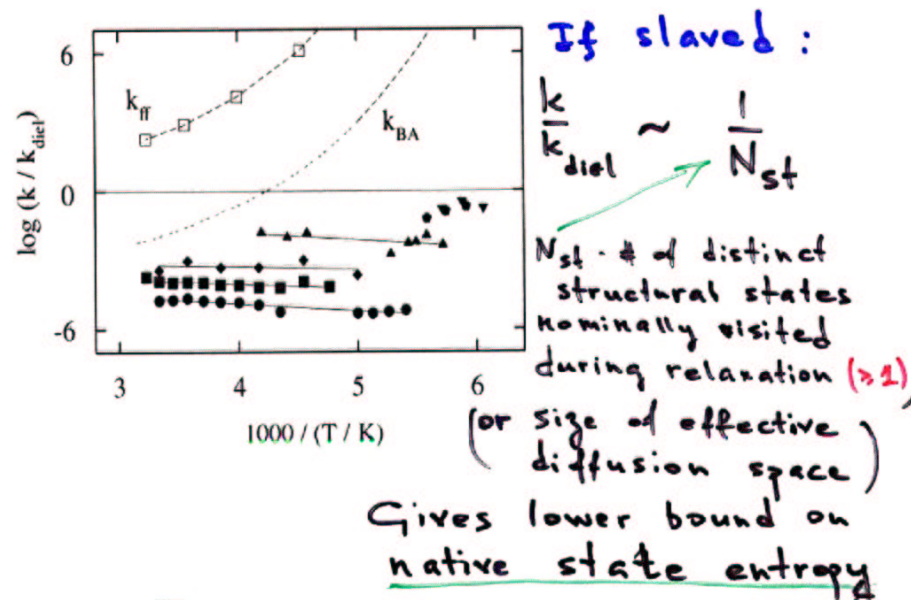
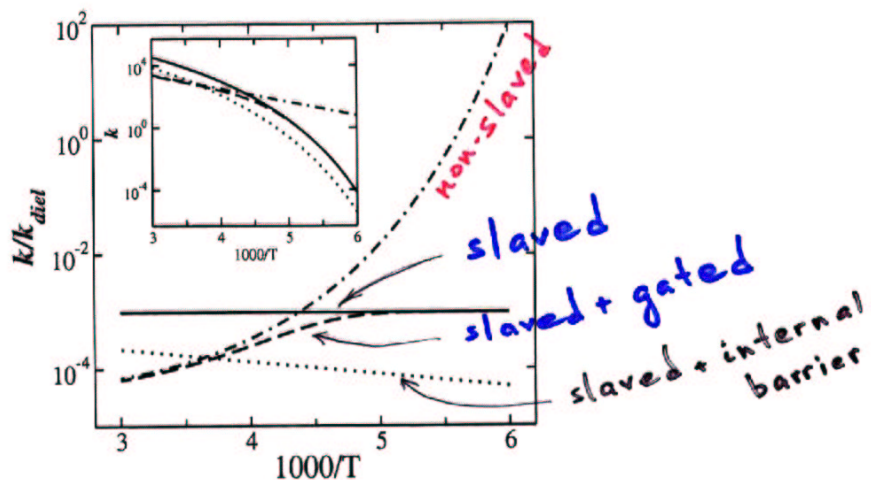
time scale:  $\tau = \tau_0 e^{\frac{D_K T_K}{T - T_K}}$  (VF)

effective Diffusion Constant:  $D = \frac{(d_L^{scr})^2}{2\tau}$

## Diffusive vs. Gated Kinetics



## Alternative Kinetic Scenarios of Internal Processes in presence of Slaving



## Acknowledgments:

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