### Hydrodynamic Simulations of Colloidal Suspensions with Short-Range Attraction and Long-Range Repulsion

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## **Colloidal Suspensions**

- Nanometers to microns
- Spheres, platelets, ...
- Complex rheology and phase behavior
- Applications
  - Paints, inks, coatings
  - Pharmaceuticals
  - Foodstuffs
  - Personal care products
  - Ceramic processing
- Novel Materials
  - Direct writing
  - Photonic band-gap crystals
  - Chemical and biological sensors

Interparticle Interactions

Microstructure & Dynamics

Macroscopic Properties & Behavior

#### Anisotropic Particles (Mock and Zukoski, 2005)

11.0mm x60.0k SE(M) 1/7/2005 09:09

# Direct-Writing of Photonic Band-Gap Crystal (Lewis, 2007)



### Depletion Attraction: Colloid-Polymer Mixtures

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• Strength ( $\varepsilon_A$ ) ~ concentration of polymer



• Range  $(\delta_A)$  ~ size of polymer

### Electrostatic Repulsion: Charged Colloids



### **Total Interparticle Potential**



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### **Stokesian Dynamics**

• Approximation to resistance tensor (Brady and Bossis 1988)



- Original Stokesian Dynamics, Cost ~  $O(N_{\rm P}^{-3})$
- Particle-Mesh-Ewald (PME) (Guckel 1999, Viera 2002)
- Preconditioned GMRES
- Brownian iterative square root
- PME Stokesian Dynamics, Total Cost ~  $O(N_{\rm P} \log N_{\rm P})$

### Fast Lubrication Dynamics

• Approximation to resistance tensor



$$D_s^s = \frac{kT}{3N_{\rm P}} \left\langle \operatorname{tr} \left( \boldsymbol{R}^{-1} \right) \right\rangle$$

- MINRES
- Brownian analytical square root
- Total cost ~  $O(N_{\rm P})$
- ~200 times faster than PME Stokesian Dynamics ( $N_{\rm P}$ =1000)

$$\rightarrow$$

### System Parameters

- Volume fraction,  $\phi = 0.20$
- Short-range attraction

$$- \delta_{\rm A}/a = 0.086$$

$$- \varepsilon_{\rm A}/kT = 0 - 71.1$$

- Long-range repulsion
  - (*ka*)<sup>-1</sup> = 1.55

$$- \varepsilon_{\rm R}/\varepsilon_{\rm ref} = 0 - 1 \qquad (\varepsilon_{\rm ref}/kT = 37.0)$$

- Dynamic simulations
  - 1000 particles
  - 3D periodic boundaries
  - Hard-sphere initial configuration
  - No ambient flow

- Duration, 
$$1600t_{\rm B}$$
  $(t_{\rm B} = 6\pi\mu a^3/kT = 8.2 \text{ s})$ 



### A: Microstructure

Fluid







#### Fluid-Crystal Phase Separation

#### $\epsilon_R/\epsilon_{ref}=0.0,\,\epsilon_A/kT{=}\,5.4$



#### A: Microstructure



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### A: Microstructure



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### A+R: Bond Formation and Cluster Growth





II.

Time scale for bond formation 
$$\sim t_{\rm B} \exp\left(\frac{\epsilon_R}{kT}\right)$$
  
Time scale for bond breakup  $\sim t_{\rm B} \exp\left(\frac{\epsilon_A}{kT}\right)$ 



### A+R: Maximum Cluster Size

 $\epsilon_A/kT = 29.6$ 

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#### A+R: Maximum Cluster Size





#### Cluster Growth



### Conclusion

- Summary
  - Fluids, crystals, clusters, gels
  - Wide range of microstructures and dynamics
  - Increasing  $\mathcal{E}_{R} \rightarrow$  thinner structures, longer time scales

Interparticle Microstructure & Macroscopic Properties & Behavior

- Future Work
  - Explore gel rheology (elastic modulus, viscosity, response to and relaxation from shear)
  - Interleave Stokesian Dynamics for rheological calculations
  - Importance of hydrodynamic interactions

(Stokesian vs. Fast Lubrication vs. Brownian Dynamics)



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A: Equilibrium Phase Diagram



#### A+R: Equilibrium Phase Diagram









#### A+R: Mean Square Displacement



#### A+R: Localization Length

