

Stochastic modeling of breakdown through dislocations motion

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Invaluable help from:

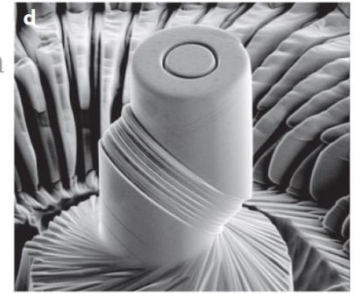
Walter Wuensch, Sergio Calatroni, Tomoko Muranaka,
Iaroslava profatilova, Vahur Zadin, Robin Rajamaki



Dislocation mediated – self organized criticality

Plasticity of Micrometer-Scale Single Crystals in Compression

Michael D. Uchic,¹ Paul A. Shade,²
and Dennis M. Dimiduk¹



2 μ m

Single crystal micro-pillar compression:

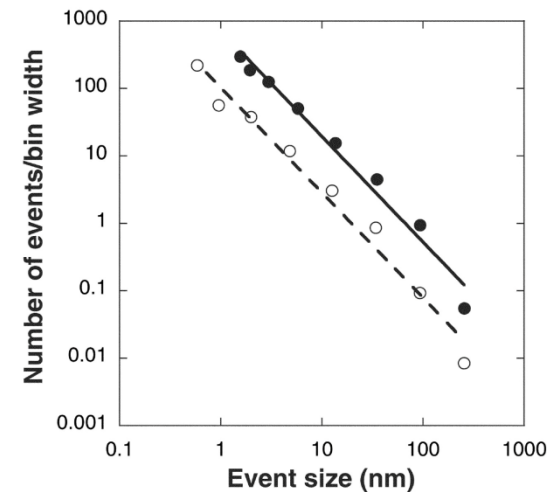
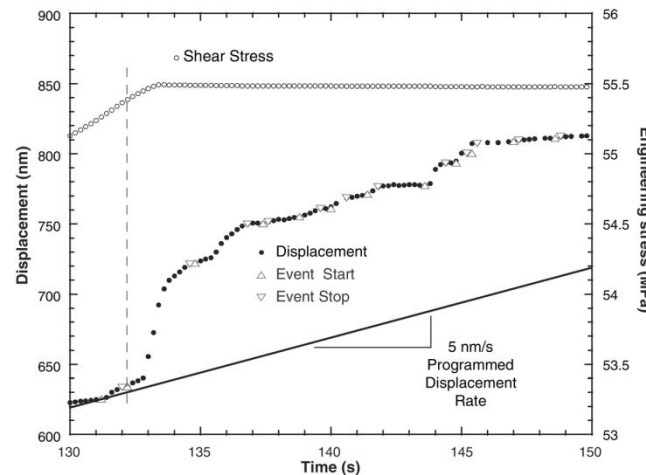
Dislocation mediated intermittent flow - size effects, hardening.

Dislocation density inside a plane as a controlling parameter.

Intermittency characterized by a universal Power law burst PDF
Acoustic emissions: Similar + space and time coupling between events

(Weiss & Marsan, Science 2003)

Earthquakes show similar PDF and spatio-temporal correlation
(Kagan, Geophysical J. (2007))



Uchic, Shade & Dimiduk, Annual Review of Materials Research (2009).

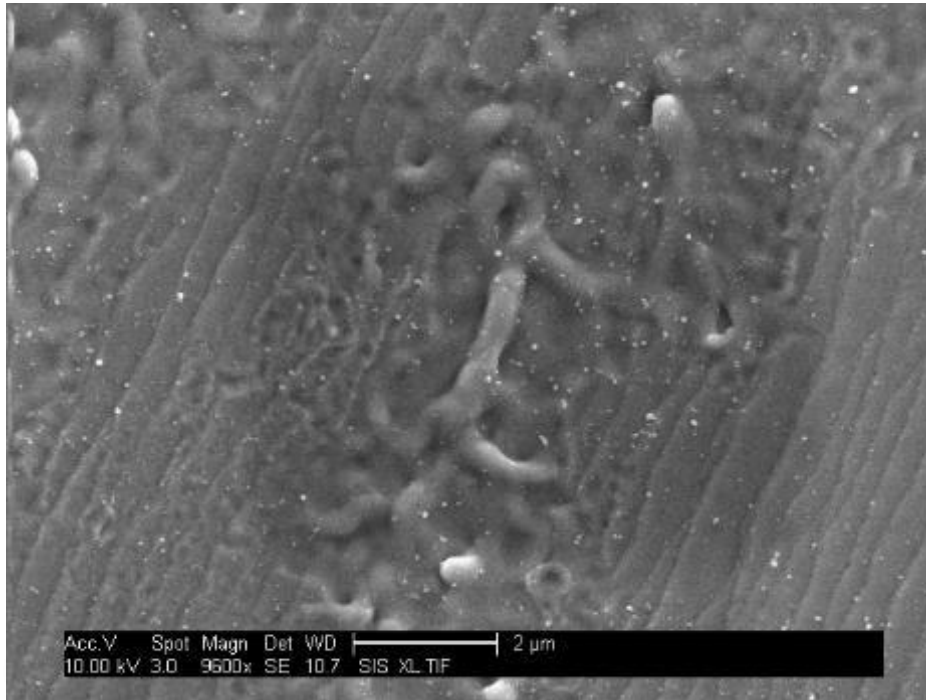
Dimiduk, Woodward, LeSar & Uchic: "Scale-Free Intermittent Flow in Crystal Plasticity." Science (2006) 1188.



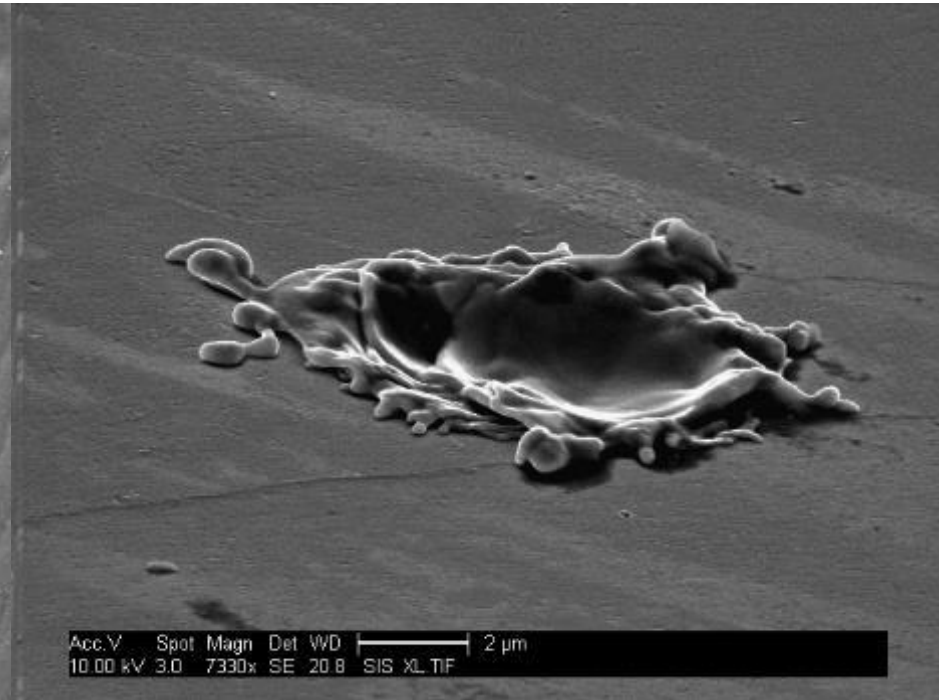
Microscopy of surface

No observable features using SEM

RF post mortem – complex deposition structures ... otherwise - Flat surface.

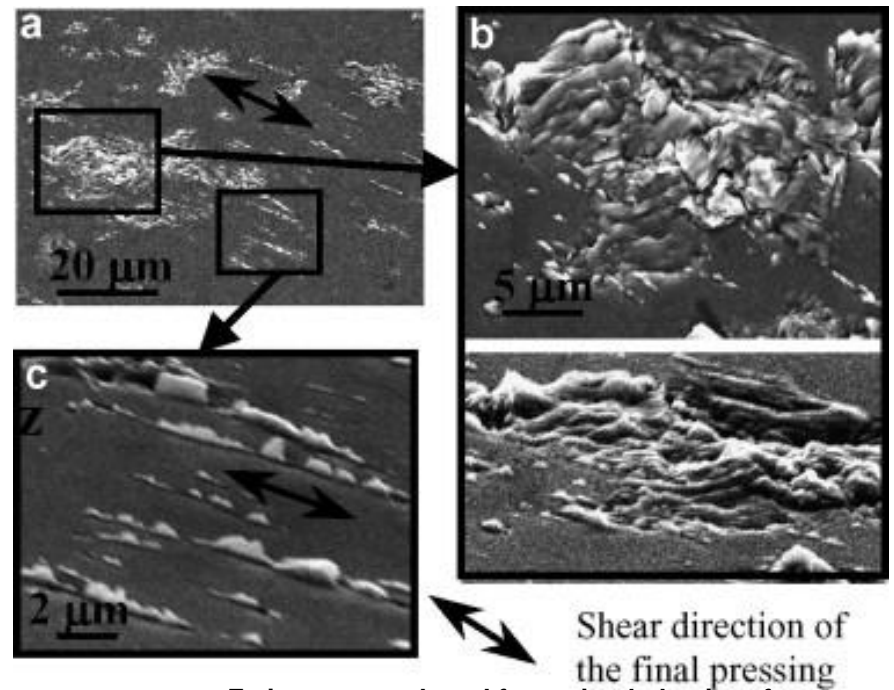


DC post mortem – aside of splashed copper ... Flat surface.



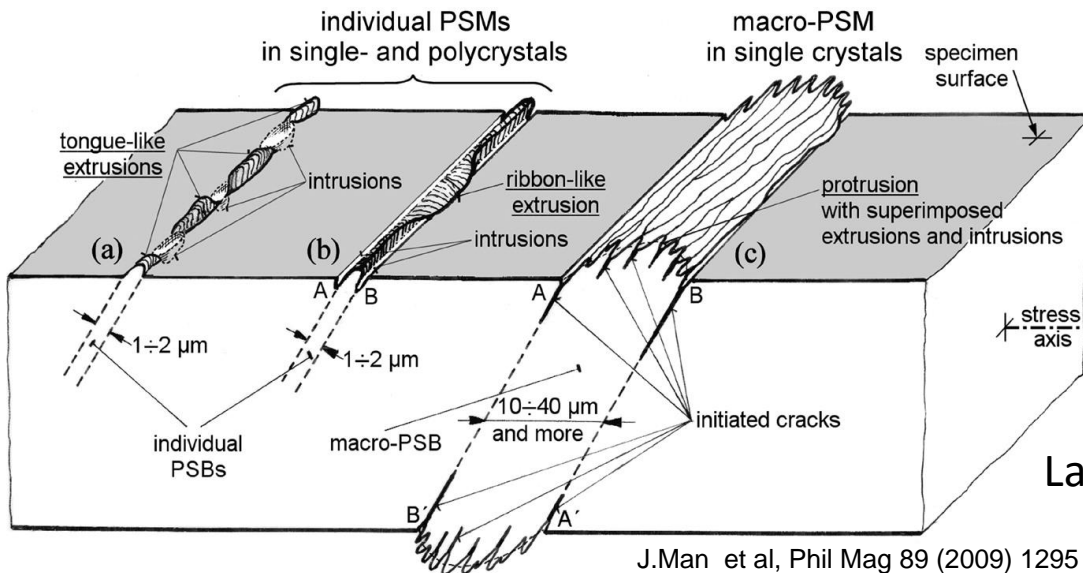
PSB -> protrusions

- Previously observed in fatigued surfaces.
- Significant sub-surface PSB leading to these surface features.

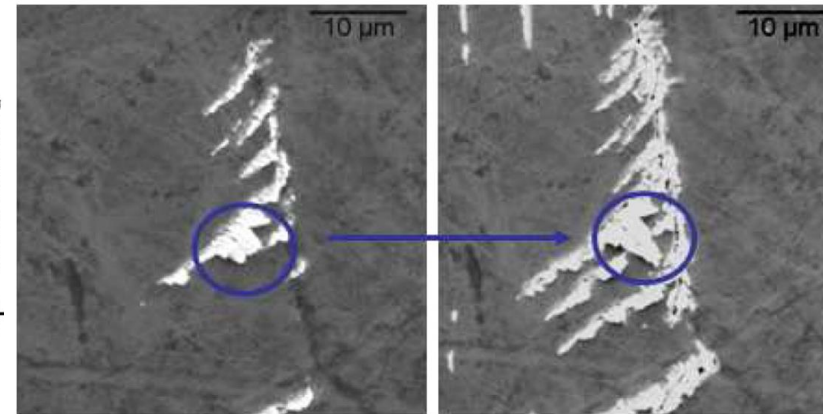


Fatigue strength and formation behavior of surface damage in ultrafine grained copper with different non-equilibrium microstructures

M. Goto et al. Int J of Fatigue. Vol 30 (2008) 1333



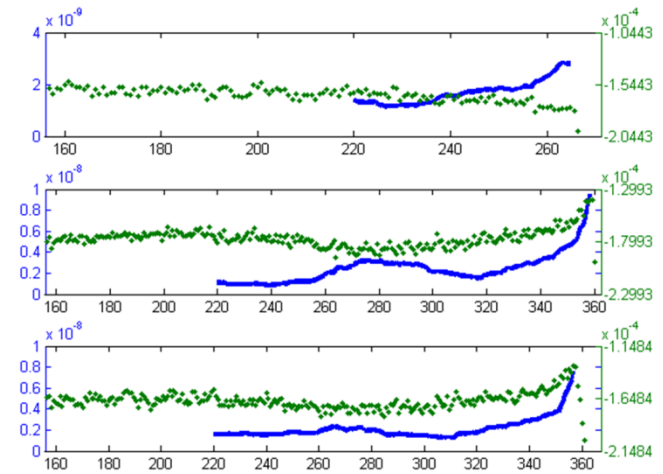
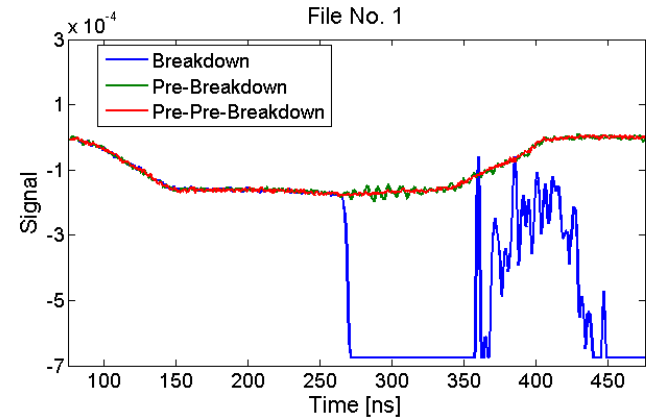
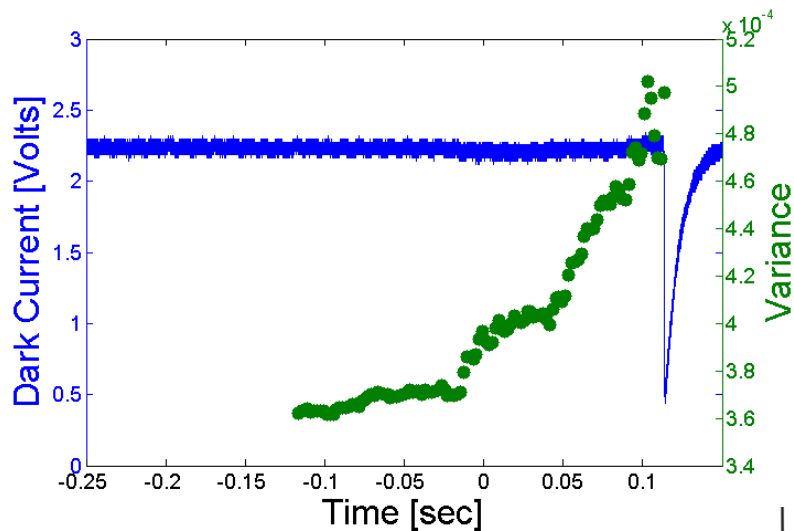
J.Man et al, Phil Mag 89 (2009) 1295



Laurent et.al. Phys Rev STAB 14 (2011) 41001

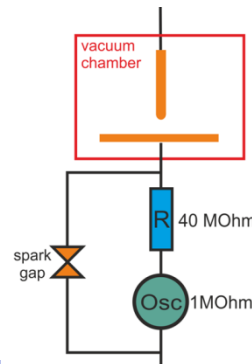
Observations until now...

- DC and RF indications of pre-breakdown increase in dark current variance



RF data - Alberto Degiovanni

DC data –
Iaroslava Profatilova
Tomoko Muranaka



What are we looking for?

- Suggest a model which will reproduce critical protrusion formation due to plastic response in the substrate?
- Criticality due to interaction between dislocations and field emitter.

Consistency with observable characteristics:

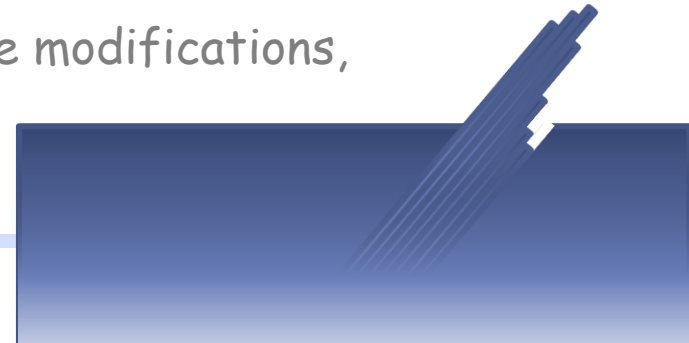
- Protrusions dynamics must allow for them to disappear:
 - No strong memory effect.
 - No observable PSB or PSM
- BD rates of similar order of magnitude as observed
- BD rate field dependency: $BDR \propto E^{30} t^5$

Hope to achieve:

Critical experimental scenarios,

predictions of observable features (microscopy)

Possible outcomes - conditioning schemes, surface modifications, understand statistics...



0d mean field mobile dislocations model

Mean field - Single slip plane.

Define the “in-plane” mobile dislocations density ($1/\text{nm}$).

Protrusions forming on surface due to dislocations arriving to surface

Elastic interaction between dislocations

Field enhancement due to protrusion leads to increase in localized stress

Simulating up to creation of a runaway process which will lead to eventual tip evaporation

Not yet in...

Surface evolution - leads to hardening due to cellular structure interaction between sites

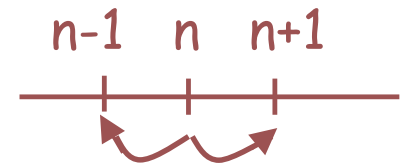


General gain-loss type Markovian processes

Rates for transition between states

$$\rho_n^+ \quad n \rightarrow n+1$$

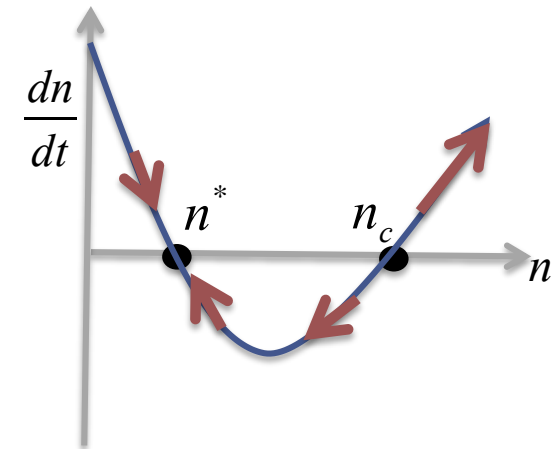
$$\rho_n^- \quad n \rightarrow n-1$$



The master equation

$$\dot{P}_n = r_{n-1}^+ P_{n-1} + r_{n+1}^- P_{n+1} - (r_n^+ + r_n^-) P_n$$

can lead to bifurcation:
a metastable state and a critical one.



We look for the quasi-stationary probability distribution function
And the probability to cross the critical point (reach extinction)

Approximate solution based on WKB theory with $1/N$ being the small parameter.

$$\dot{P} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad P(n) \circ P(rN) \sim e^{-N[S(r)+O(1/N)]}$$



Moving dislocations population

- Classical multiplication through frank-reed sources

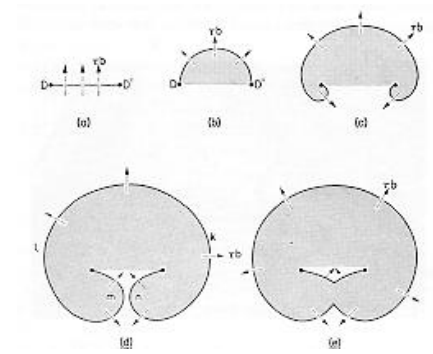
- Multiplication rate:

○Activation of existing FR sources.

○Creation time calculated using dislocation velocity and stress dependent FR source size

○Activation requires overcoming local obstacles -

Final term includes a dimensionless Kinetic factor



$$\frac{d\rho^+}{dt} = \alpha \frac{\rho + c}{t_{\text{create}}} P_f$$

$$\sigma = \frac{2Gb}{L}$$

$$\left(c_{v(T)} + \rho + c \right) e^{\frac{\Omega\sigma}{k_B T}}$$

$$\frac{d\rho^+}{dt} = \frac{\kappa v}{2Gb} (\rho + c)^2 \sigma e^{\frac{\Omega\sigma}{k_B T}}$$



Moving dislocations population

- Depletion rate

- Collisions with obstacles
- Collisions with other moving dislocations
- Ejection to surface
- Add an interaction factor (not all dislocations are removed due to these interactions)

$$\frac{d\rho^-}{dt} = \rho cv + \rho^2 v + \delta \frac{\rho}{t_{\text{life}}}$$

$$\frac{d\rho^-}{dt} = \xi v \left(\rho + c + \frac{\delta}{D} \right) \rho$$

- State variables:

- Velocity proportional to stress
- Stress –
Maxwell + stress due to elastic interaction between dislocations
- Field enhancement

$$v = 50 C_t \frac{\sigma}{G}$$

$$\sigma = B \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_0 E^2 + Z G b \rho$$

$$E = \frac{V}{d} (\beta + 3.5)$$



Protrusions and field interaction

- Using number of new steps

$$N = \int \dot{N} dt = \int v C \rho dt$$

- Define local change in aspect ratio

$$\frac{d\beta^+}{dt} = 2N \dot{N} = 2\sqrt{\beta} v C \rho$$

- Decay through surface diffusion

$$\frac{d\beta^-}{dt} = \eta B_d \beta \quad B_d = \frac{D_{s0} e^{-\frac{Q}{k_B T_{\text{tip}}}} \gamma \Omega^2 v}{k_B T_{\text{tip}} l^4}$$

- Beta used to enhance local field and control FN current



Temperature effect on dynamics of protrusions

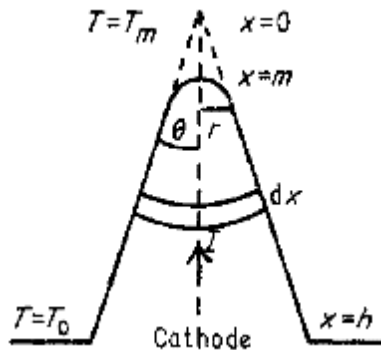
- Stresses:

- Heat conduction leads to negligible temperature change at the base of the protrusion and therefore negligible thermal stresses.

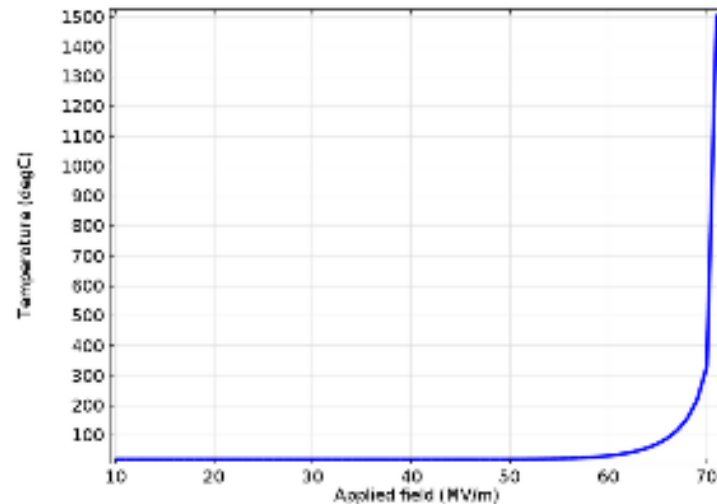
- Surface relaxation

- Temperature estimated at the tip close to BD is very high ($> 1000\text{K}$)

- activation energy for surface relaxation is very low 0.03eV , Therefore diffusion is fast and changes are up to factor of 2 once a tip is formed.



Analytic calculations by Sergio calatroni



Numerical simulations by Vahur Zadin

Linear Stability Analysis for estimating fast dynamics reduced form

- Linearization of the full model:
$$\begin{pmatrix} \dot{\Delta\rho} \\ \dot{\Delta\beta} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} A_{1,1} & A_{1,2} \\ A_{2,1} & A_{2,2} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Delta\rho \\ \Delta\beta \end{pmatrix}$$
- The eigenvalues and eigenvectors indicates the change rates and the dynamic dependencies of the variables.
$$A_{1,1} = \frac{25\kappa C_t}{G^2 b} e^{\frac{\Omega\sigma_*}{k_B T}} (\rho_* + c) \left[2\sigma_*^2 + ZGb(\rho_* + c) \left[2ZGb\rho_* + B\varepsilon_0 E_0^2 (\beta_* + 3.5)^2 \frac{\Omega\sigma_*^2}{\lambda_{B1}} \right] \right]$$
- For the basic eigenvectors, each variable dynamics is independent.
$$A_{1,2} = \frac{50\xi C_t}{G} \left[\sigma_* \left(\rho_* + c + \frac{\delta}{D} \right) + ZGb\rho_* \left(\sigma_* + \frac{\delta}{D} \right) \right]$$

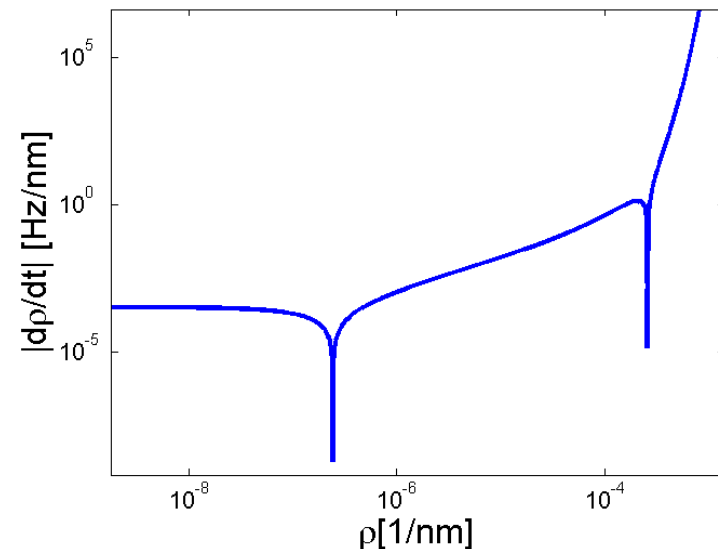
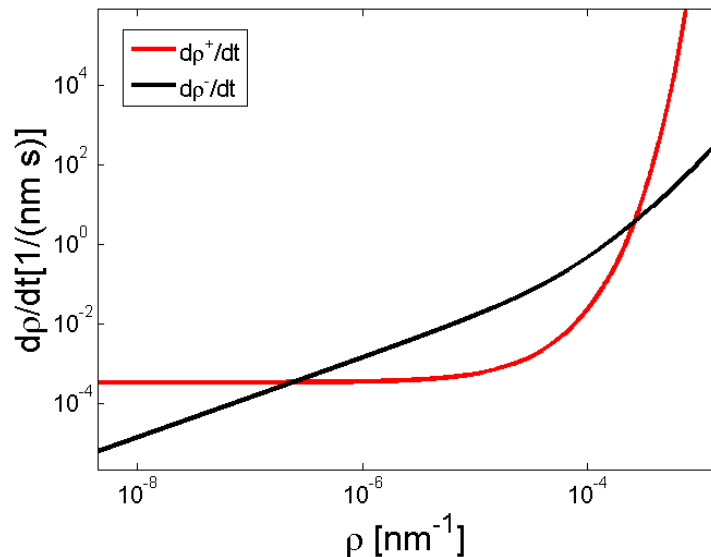
$$\begin{pmatrix} \dot{\Delta\rho} \\ \dot{\Delta\beta} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_\rho \Delta\rho \\ \lambda_\beta \Delta\beta \end{pmatrix} \implies \begin{pmatrix} \Delta\rho \\ \Delta\beta \end{pmatrix} \propto \begin{pmatrix} e^{\lambda_\rho t} \\ e^{\lambda_\beta t} \end{pmatrix}$$
- For strong diffusion we get this situation and beta rates are significantly smaller than rho.
$$A_{2,1} = \frac{100C_t C}{G} \sqrt{\beta_*} (\sigma_* + ZGb\rho_*)$$

$$A_{2,2} = \frac{100C_t C}{G} \left[\sqrt{\beta_* \rho_*} B\varepsilon_0 E_0^2 (\beta_* + 3.5) + \sigma_* \frac{\rho_*}{2\sqrt{\beta_*}} \frac{1}{\eta B_d} \right]$$



Reduced – single dynamics model

- Strong surface relaxation lead to surface protrusions following instantaneously the dislocation population. Protrusion height is now given by $\beta = E_s \rho^2$
- The model is characterized by two points:
 - Metastable
 - a critical point



Applied field effect

Low fields:

Mobile dislocation density

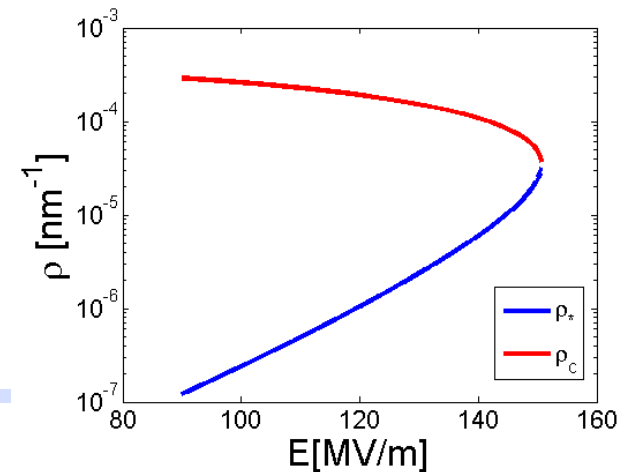
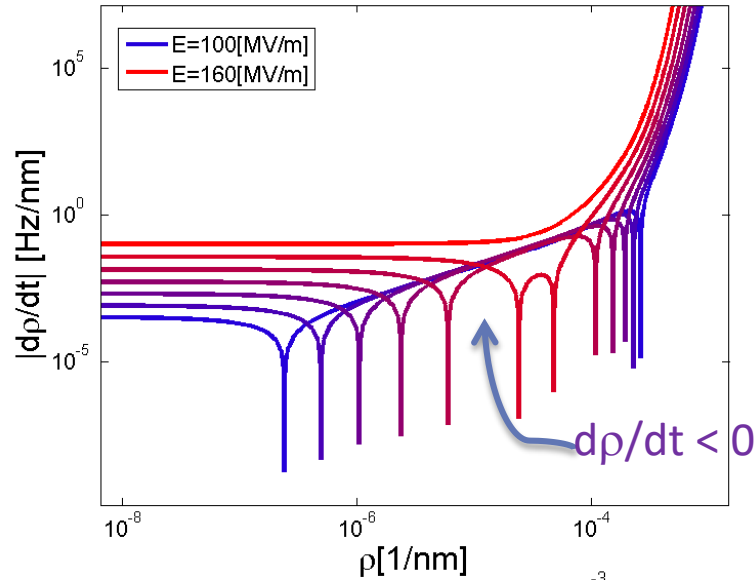
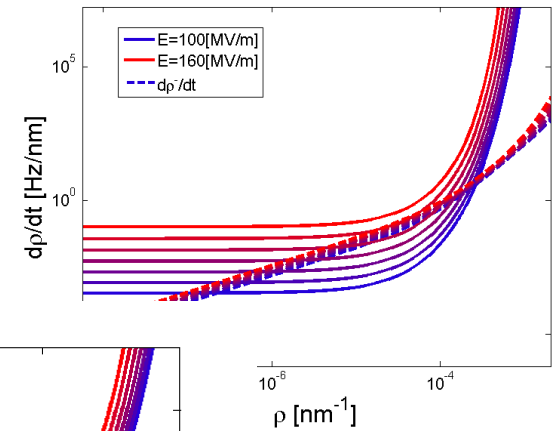
remains at Metastable region.

Dynamic barrier decreases with increasing fields.

Up to a critical stress –

bifurcation to two solutions.

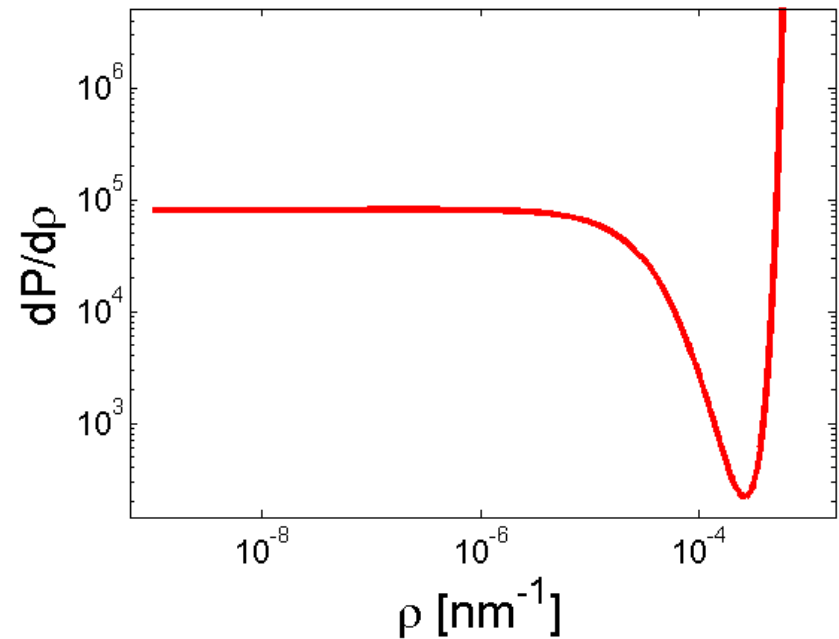
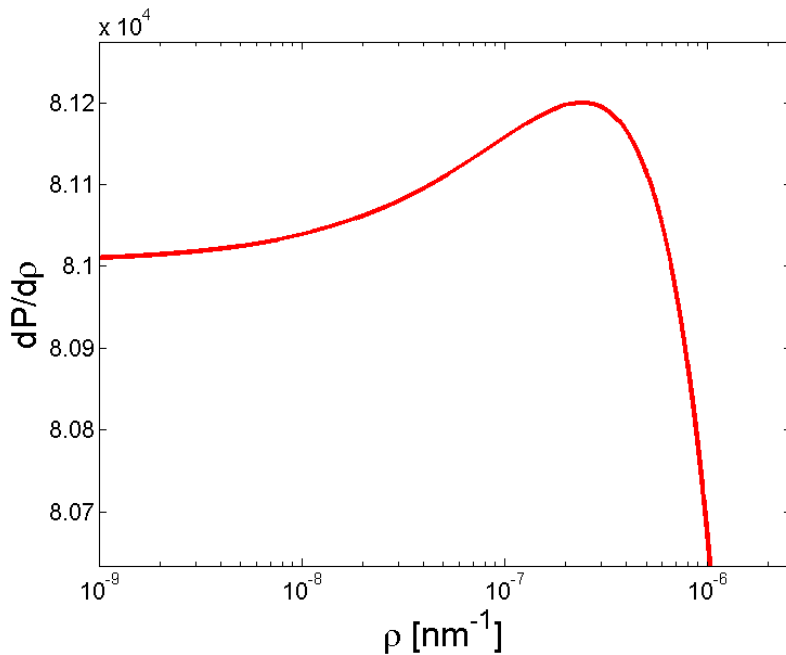
Above it - no meta-stable state solution.



PDF of dislocation population

The single parameter model can be solved analytically to give the Probability density function of the dislocation density

This indeed shows a low metastable solution and a probability barrier formation



Parametrization

- The model contains various competing mechanisms which can not be readily estimated.
- We scan the parameter space to see if a combination of such parameters does allow for observable behavior
- If such a region in parameter space does exist we can then check whether such a combination is indeed physically viable.

- Two main observables are used for that

- Experimental BD rates: 10^{-7} [bpp/m]

- Estimating the number of active regions per m :

$$N\left(\frac{1}{m}\right) = \frac{\left(\frac{N_{iris}}{m}\right) \cdot (S_{iris})}{dR_{active\ regions}^2} \approx \frac{100 \cdot 2\pi \cdot 2.35(mm) \cdot 1(mm)}{(10^{-2}mm)^2} = 10^7$$

- Since the pulses are of 230 nsec we get :

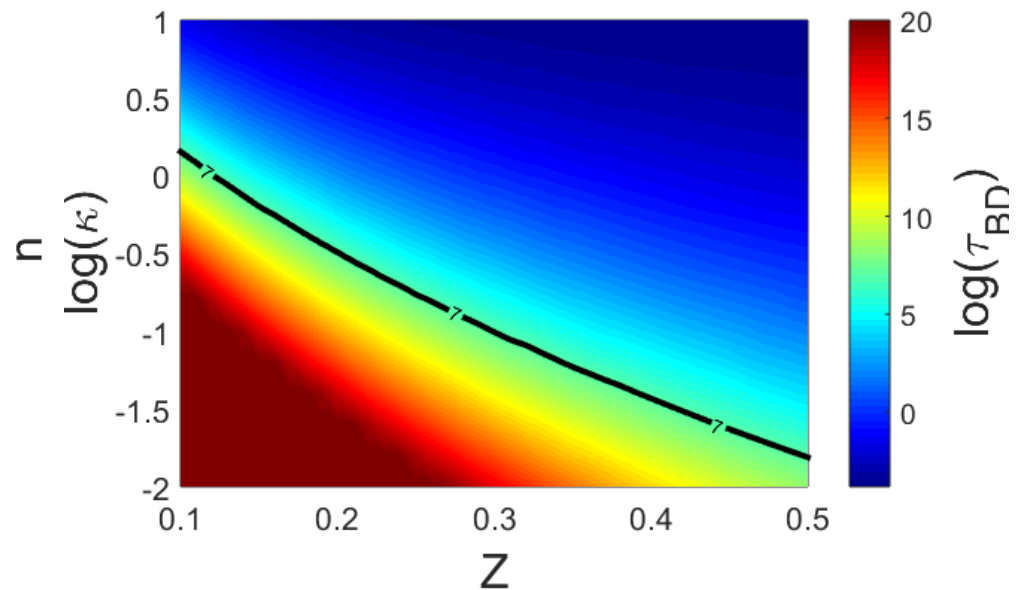
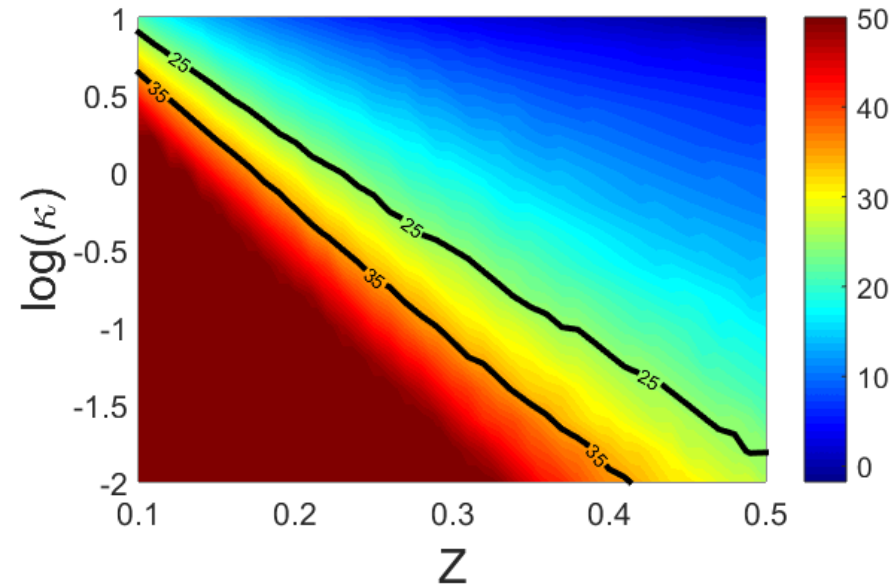
$$\tau(BD)_{per\ area\ unit} = dt_p / (P(bpp/m) / N) = \frac{230nsec}{\frac{10^{-7}}{10^7}} \approx 10^7 \left(\frac{sec}{zone}\right)$$

- Field dependency of the breakdown rate (estimated as E^{30}).

So we define the localized (10%) exponent : $n = \log_{1.1}\left(\frac{\tau(E)}{\tau(1.1 \cdot E)}\right) \approx 30$



Parameter space –analytic model



- Observable values:

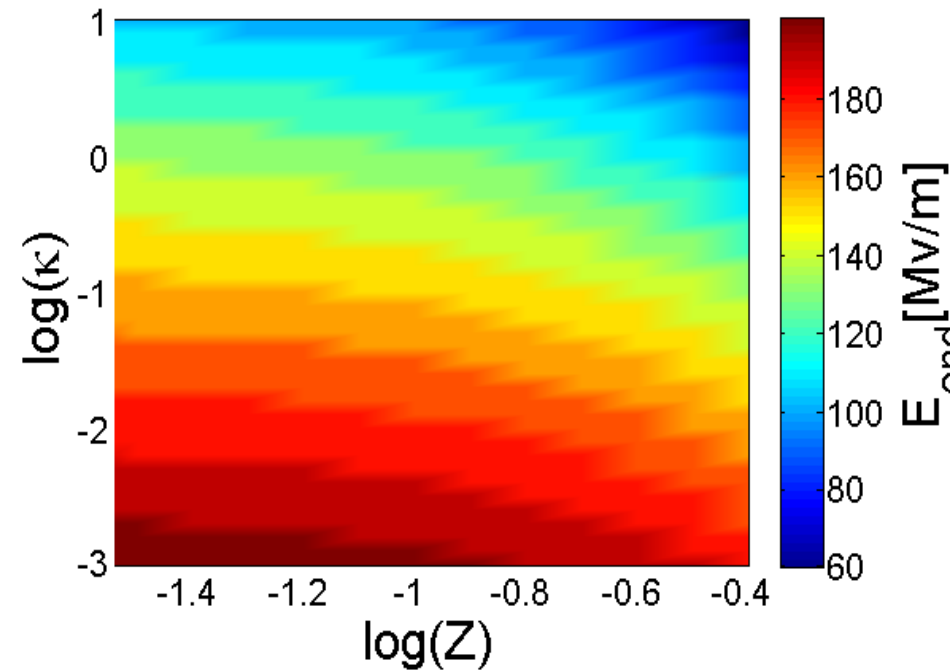
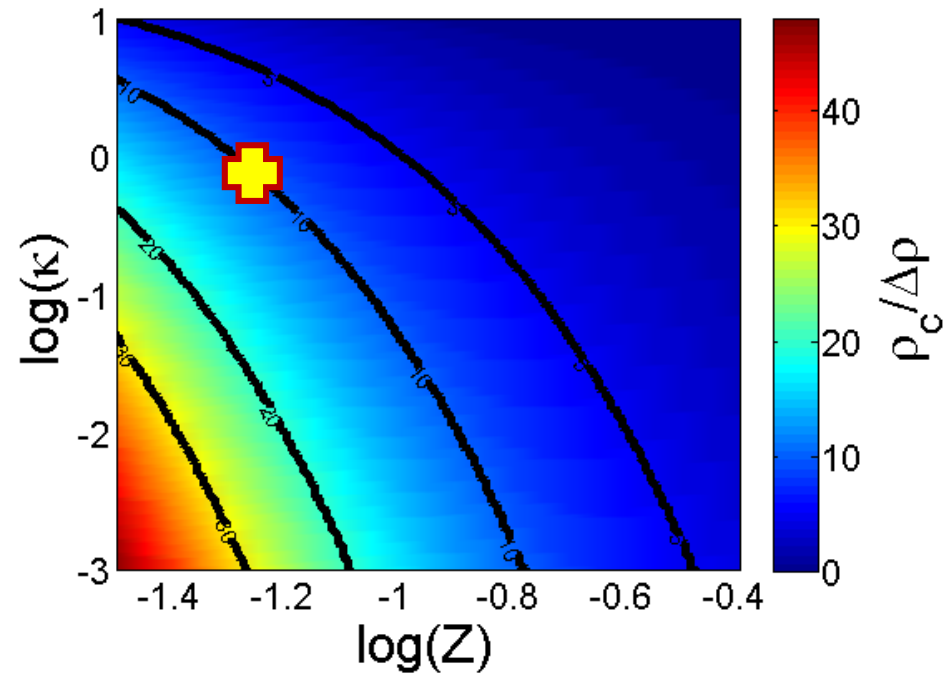
$$\tau_{bd} \approx 10^7 \text{ sec} , n = \ln\left(\frac{\tau(E)}{\tau(rE)}\right) / \ln(r) \approx 30$$

- Significant coincidence region:



Parameter space – kmc simulations

- full model validity range - using kmc

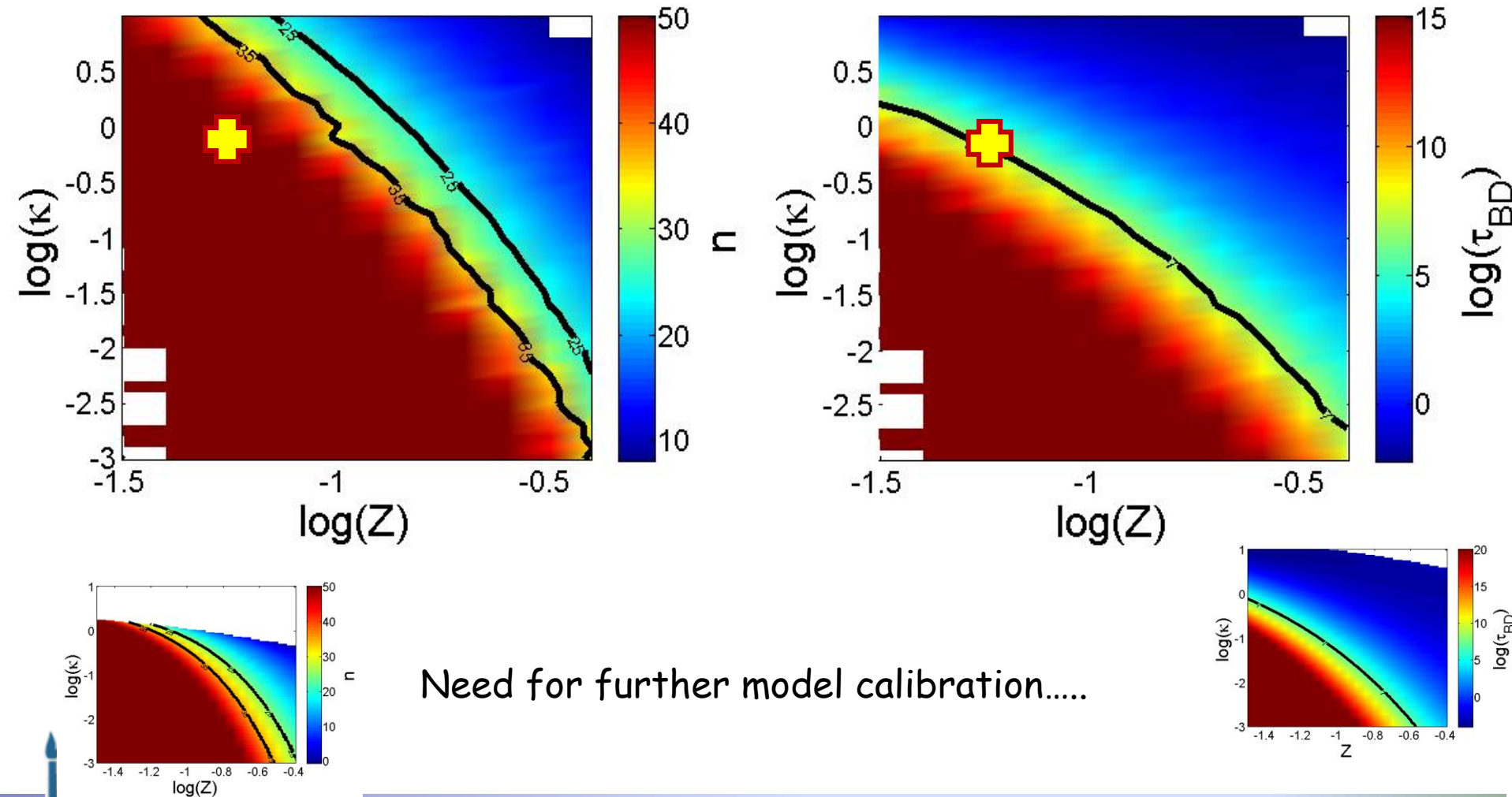


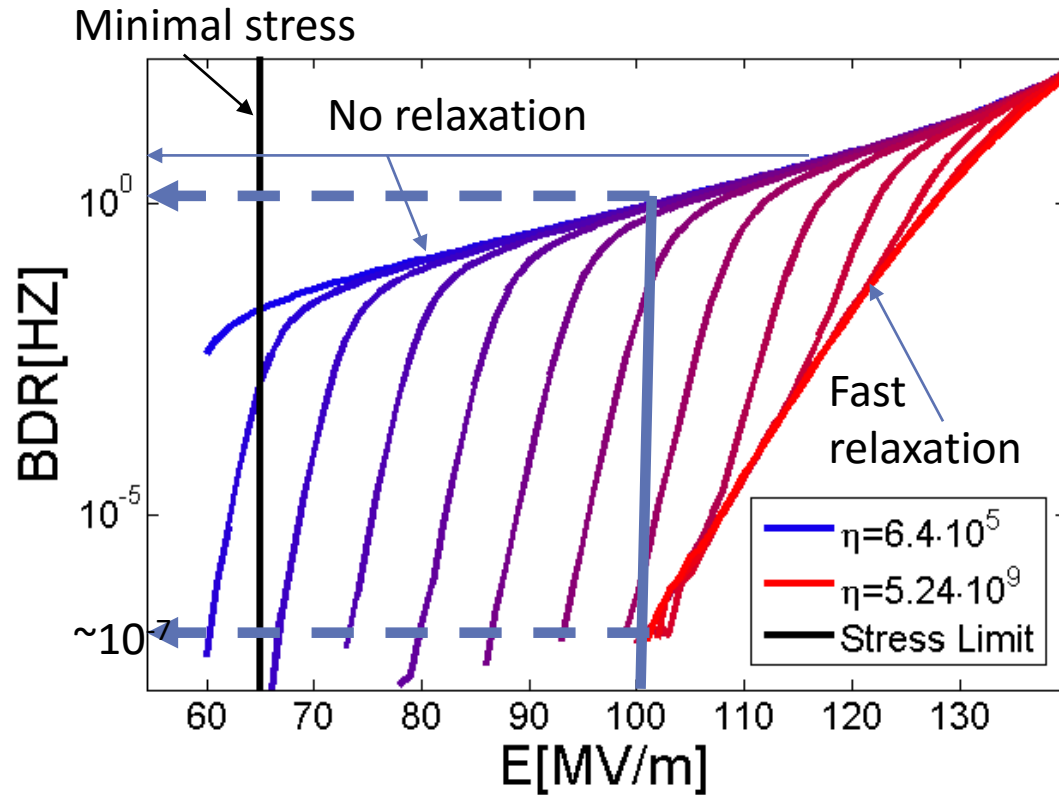
Arbitrarily choose example working point :
maximal field
kmc accessible



Parameter space – kmc simulations

- full model validity range - using kmc





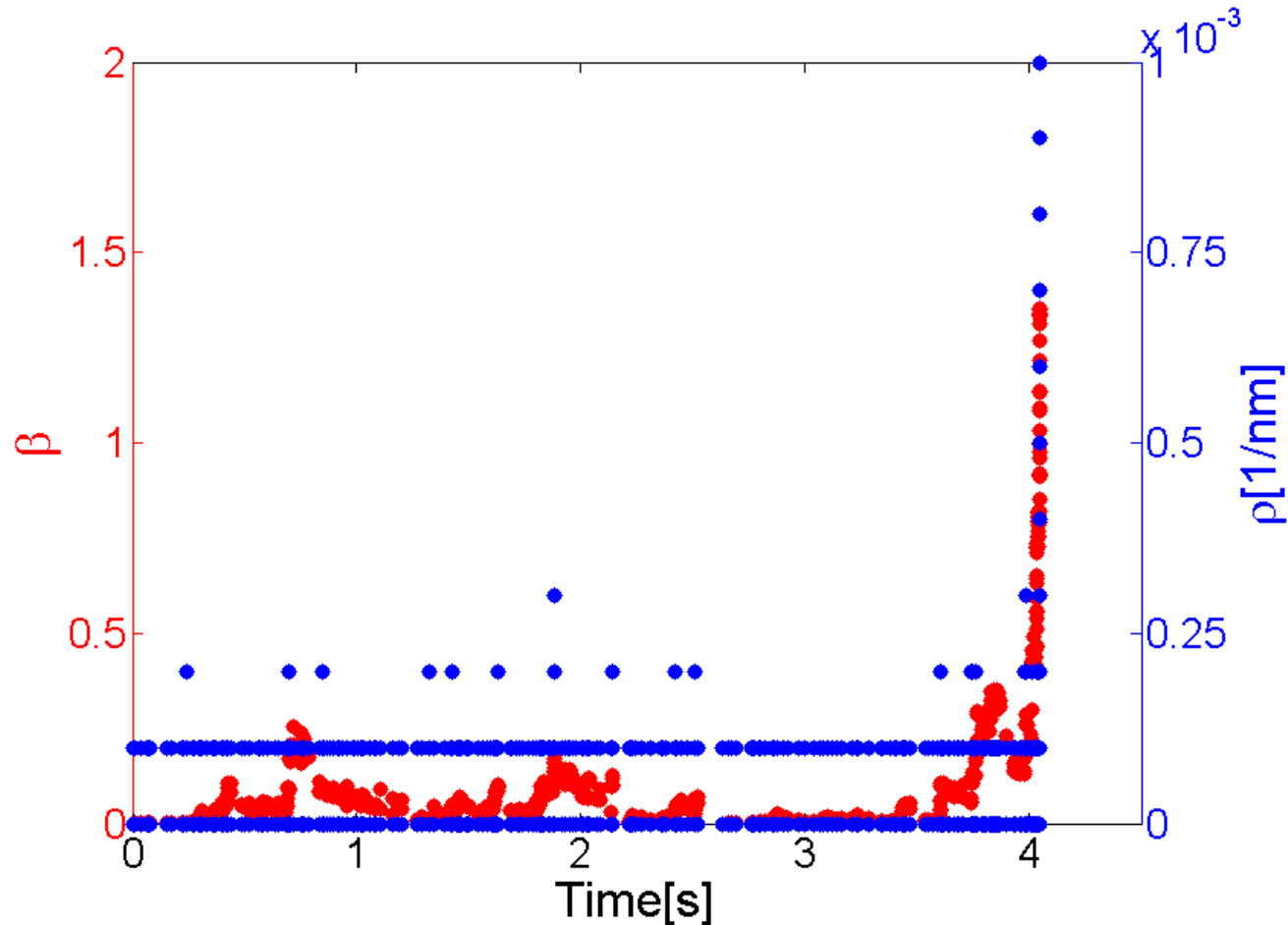
Relaxation kinetics (surface diffusion) defines two limits:

- Fast- surface topography follows mobile dislocations content.
- Slow- surface builds up even at metastable state of mobile dislocations .



Evolution trajectories

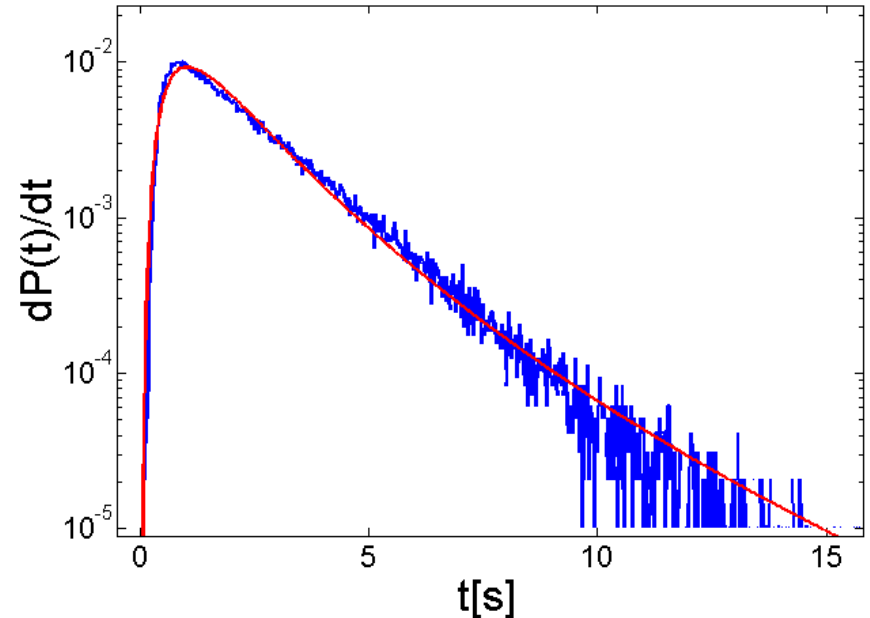
- Dynamics of surface protrusions shows relation between surface protrusions and mobile dislocations.



Implication to BD time distributions

The interaction between
Surface protrusion evolution
And mobile dislocation content
Leads to a non-Poissonian distribution

This implies a strong dependence
Of BD rate on pulse length.



Histogram of time to BD shows a log normal behavior for $\kappa=0.05$, $Z=0.6$.

$$f_X(x; \mu, \sigma) = \frac{1}{x\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{(\ln x - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

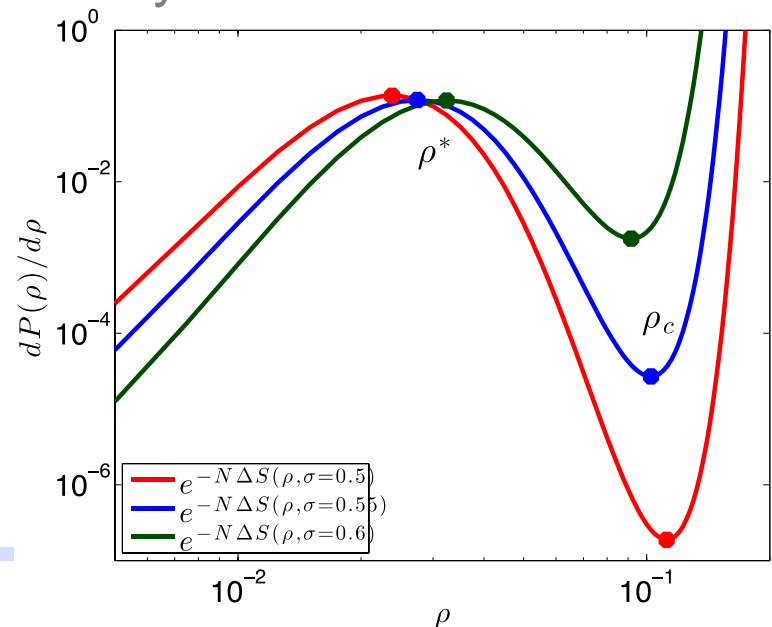
$$\sigma = 0.7[\log(s)], \mu = 0.5[\log(s)]$$



Signs of criticality

- Adiabatically moving between quasi-stationary PDF:
Change in pdf moments with field
-> identify threshold
- At specific conditions, probe time dependencies of the QS pdf:
Identify large fluctuations time dependency
-> identify time constants
-> mechanism

$$P_c(s, r, t) = \int_0^t P(s, r > r', t') dt'$$



PRE-BD signals

REVIEWS

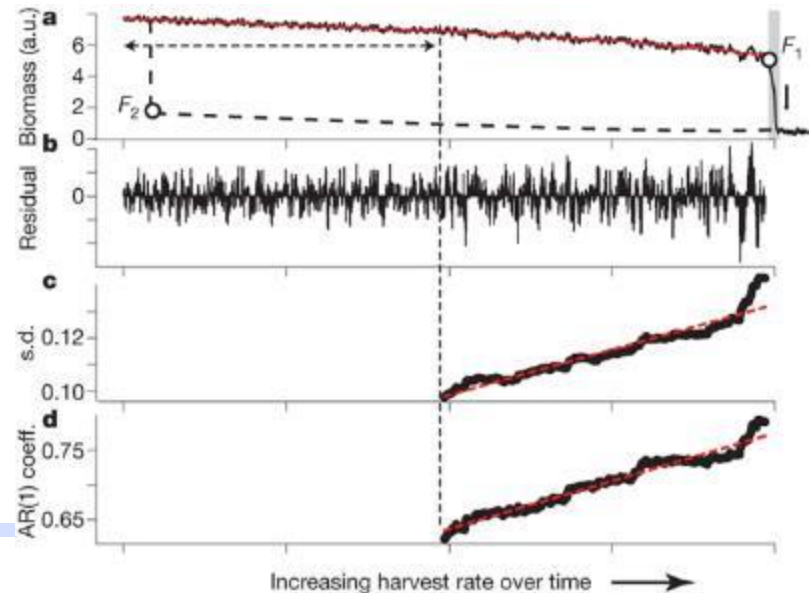
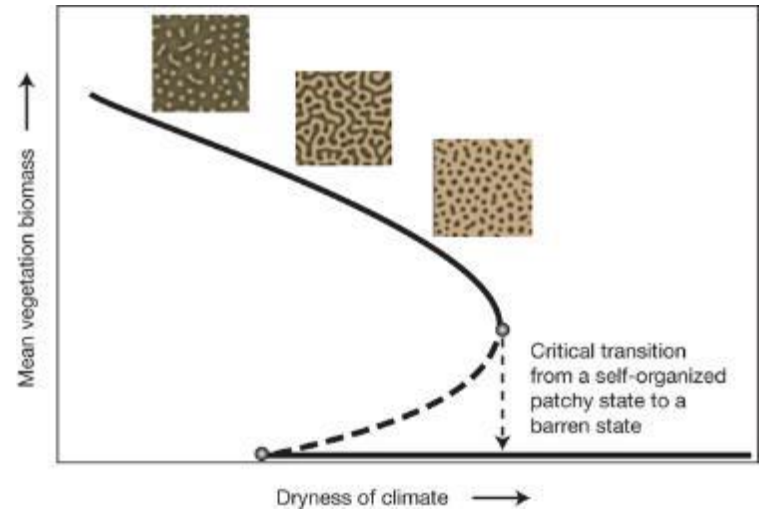
Early-warning signals for critical transitions

Marten Scheffer¹, Jordi Bascompte², William A. Brock³, Victor Brovkin⁵, Stephen R. Carpenter⁴, Vasilis Dakos¹, Hermann Held⁶, Egbert H. van Nes¹, Max Rietkerk⁷ & George Sugihara⁸

- As the system approaches the critical point. Fluctuation diverge.
- Observable through standard deviation of the time correlation

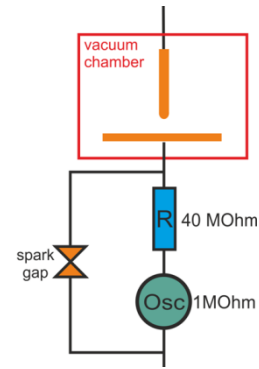
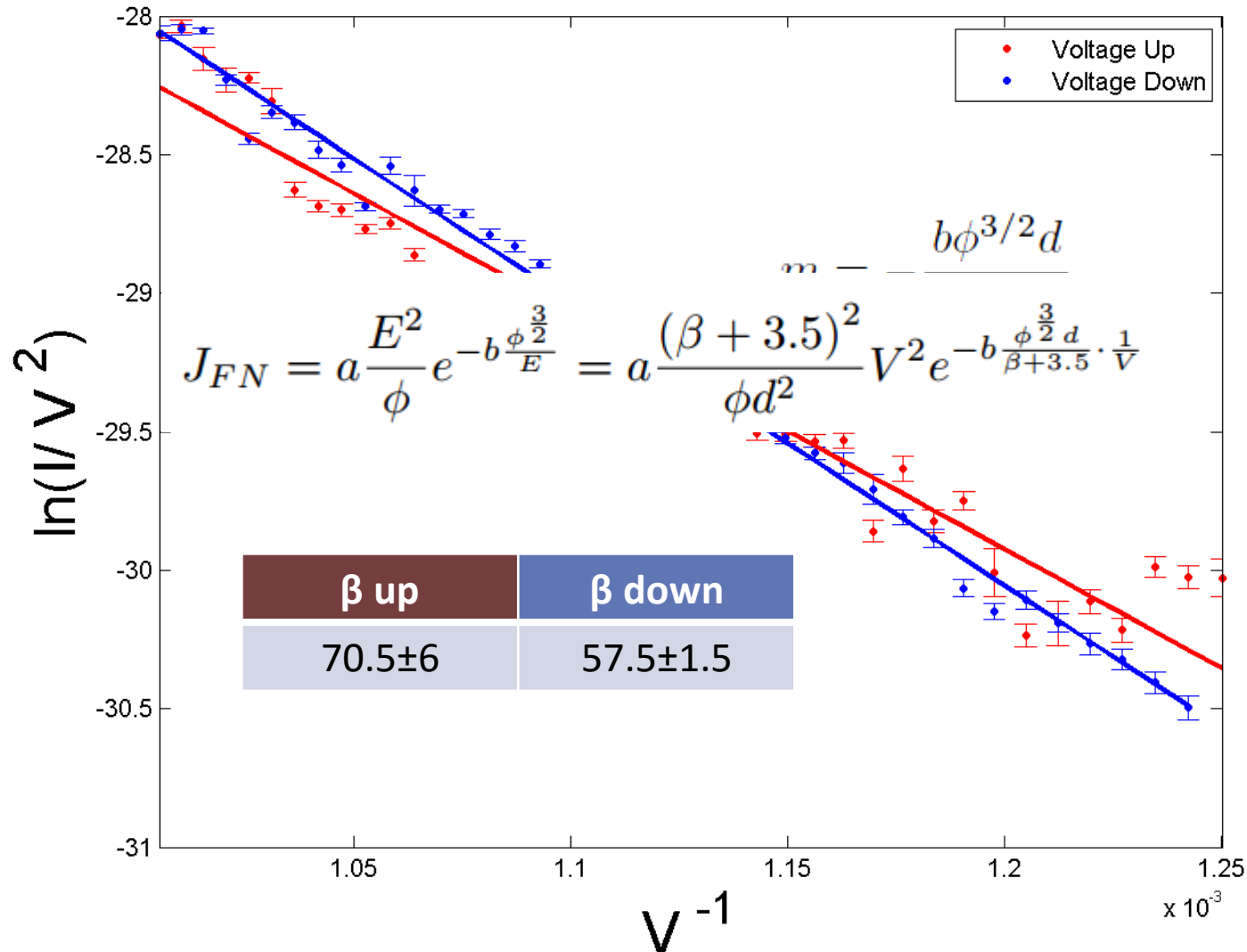
$$SD(t) = \frac{\int_{t-D}^{t+D} (I(t) - \langle I \rangle)^2 dt}{(\langle I \rangle)^2}$$

- Or, more generally, autocorrelation in the signal
- $$R(k) = \frac{\int_0^{t-k} (I(t) - \langle I \rangle)(I(t+k) - \langle I \rangle) dt}{\int_0^{t-k} (I(t) - \langle I \rangle)^2 dt}$$



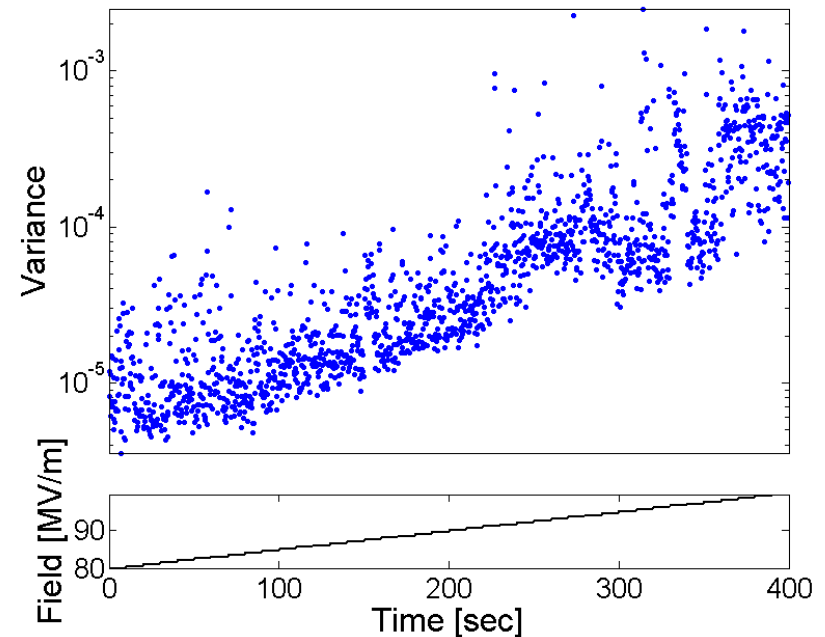
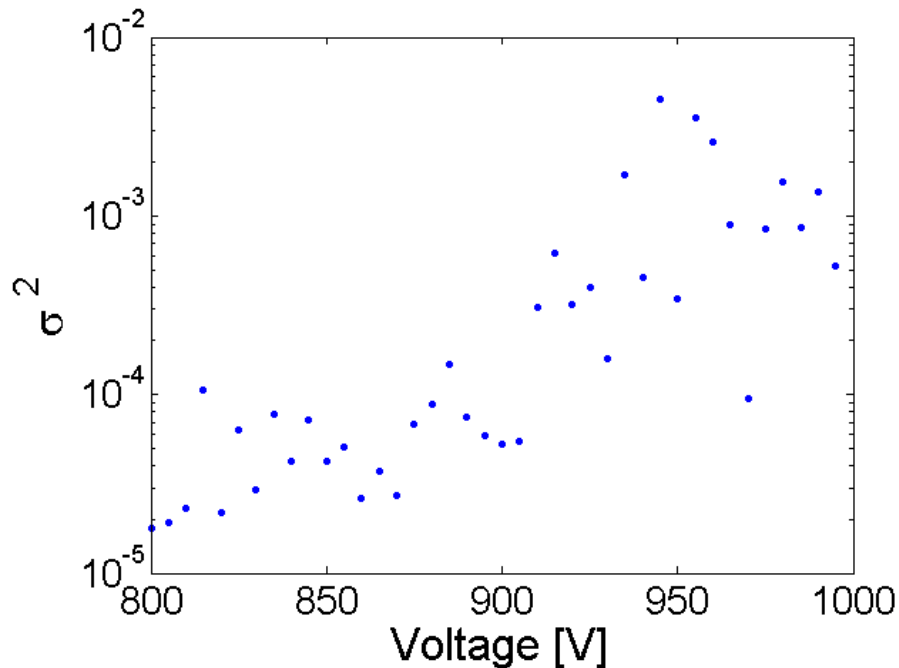
DC measurements

Set 1



Field dependent fluctuations

- Monitoring FN allows direct access to the protrusion population, and therefor show pre BD increase.
- Time scale of fluctuations - indicative to the dynamic timescale.



Summary

- BD due to critical plastic process.
 - demonstrate critical behavior, bifurcation order of magnitude effect.
 - Analytically (or at least numerically) solvable
 - reproduce observed BDR exponent
- Unique experimental scenarios:
 - PDF - pre breakdown analysis: using PDF (fluctuations) and PDF tail (rare events).
- Future directions
 - Better dark current measurements.
 - Full fit of the model.
 - Predict acoustic signal.
- Possible Implications - conditioning through surface hardening (enriching forest dislocations), effect of surface and microstructure.
- Possible observations - Cellular structure observable via TEM? SEM? Acoustic signal?
- Fitted values (kinetic factors etc) should be compared to microscopic models.

