

# **Coagulation of fractal-like aerosols in the transition regime**

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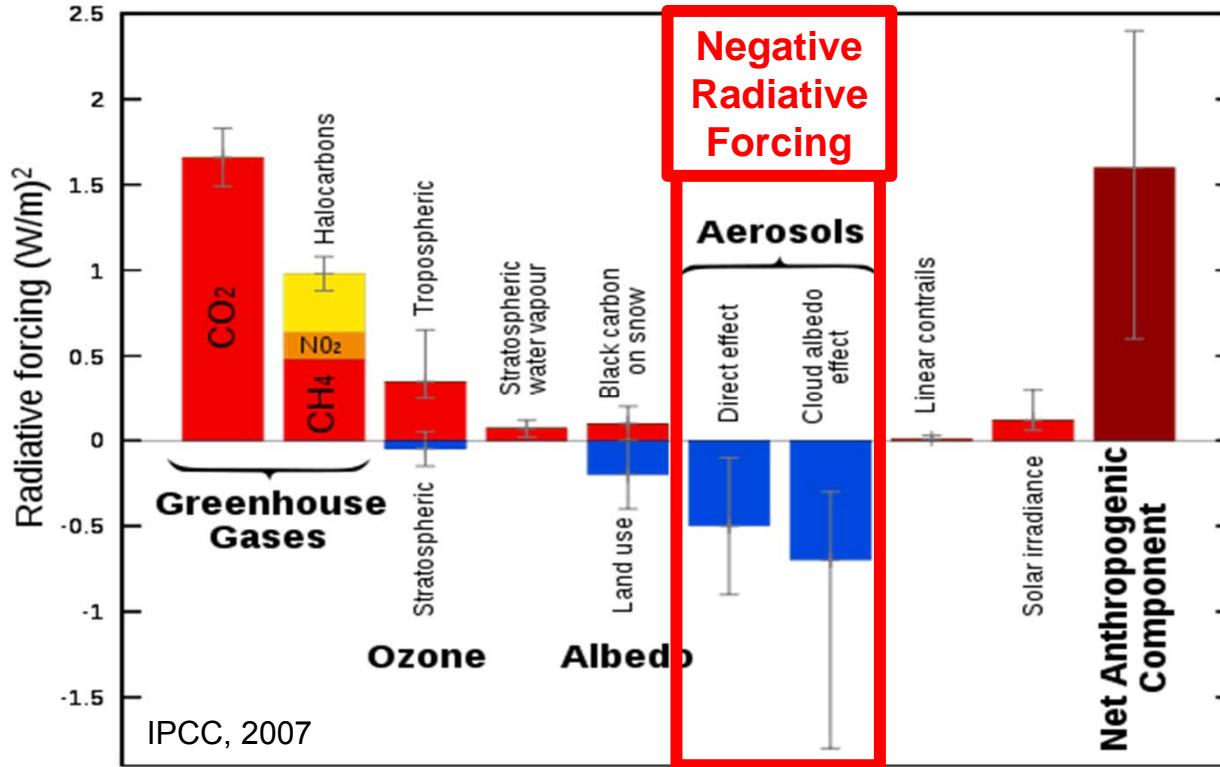
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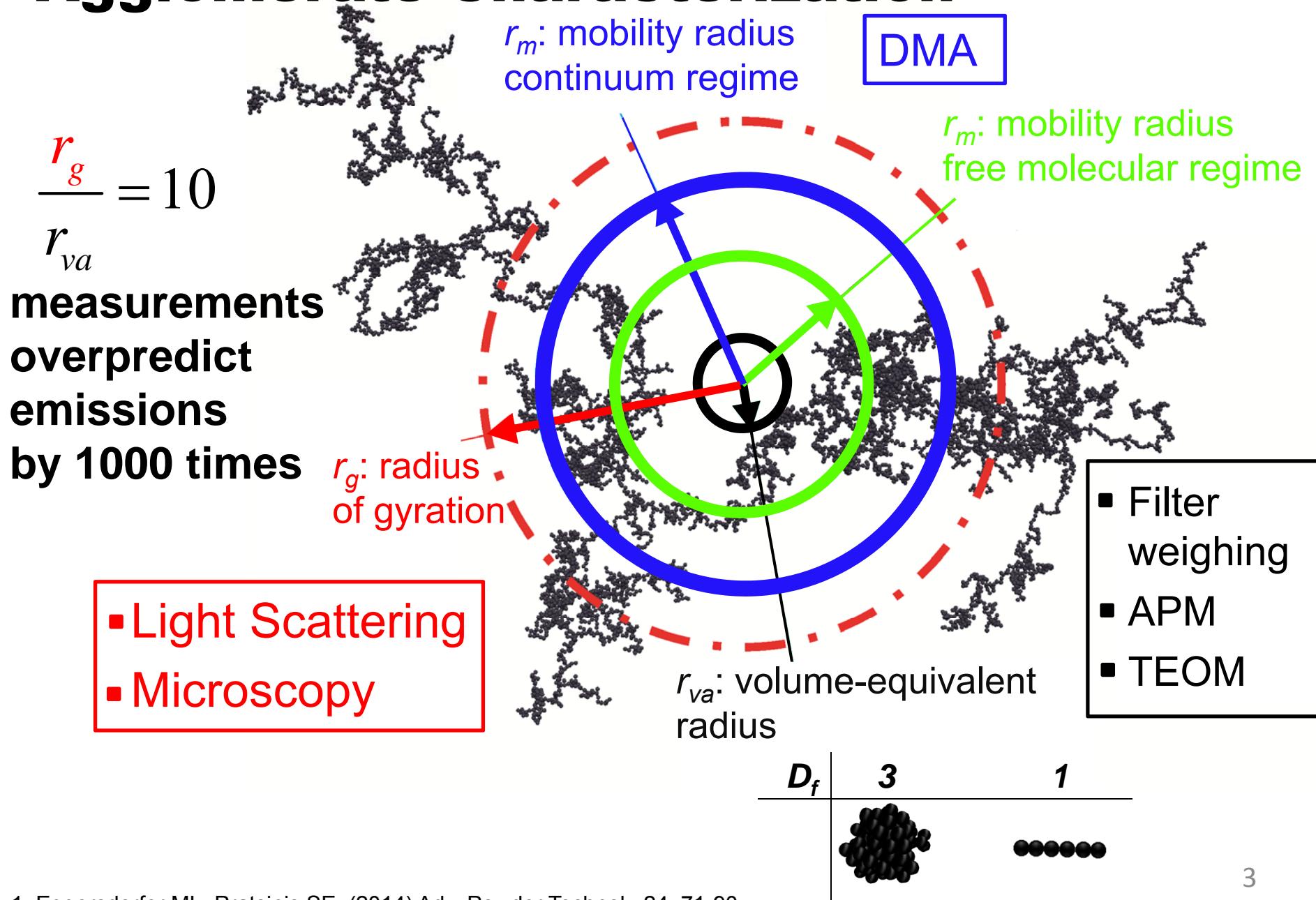
# Aerosols

## *Radiative Forcing - Emissions*



- Larger error bar than greenhouse gases
- Impact in global radiation budget by absorbing & scattering light
- Investigate & regulate emissions from aerosol measurements

# Agglomerate Characterization



## **Goal:**

Understanding agglomerate

- Structure (relate to agglomerate mass)
- Dynamics

in the *free molecular*, *transition* and *continuum* regime of aged aerosols in the atmosphere

## **Motivation:**

- Connect emissions to aerosol size measurements

$$r_{va} \leftrightarrow r_g, r_m$$

- Facilitate understanding of aerosol contribution in climate forcing (minimize hopefully error bar)

# Previous Work

- Brownian coagulation of *spheres*<sup>1,2</sup>
- *Non-spherical* particles  
determination of evolving structure<sup>3,4,5</sup>

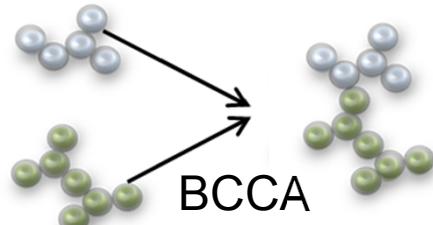
collisional growth and dynamics<sup>6</sup>

on-line measurements of agglomerate size and  
structure<sup>7,8</sup>

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## **Free molecular regime: Event-driven method<sup>1</sup>**

Ballistic trajectories:

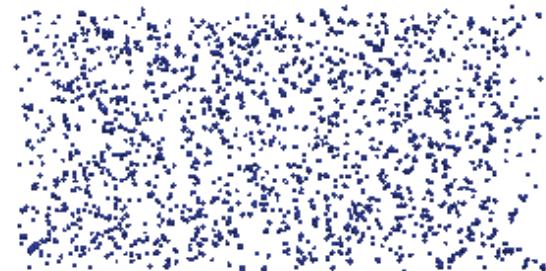
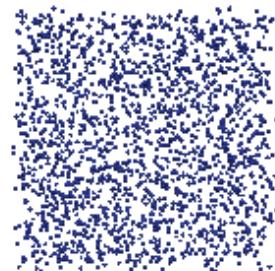


$$\bar{u}_p = \sqrt{\frac{8k_B T}{\pi m_p}}$$

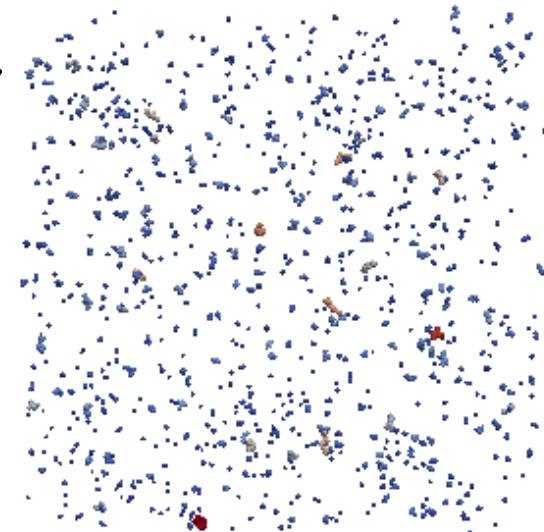
$\text{SiO}_2$  particles (like fly ash)  
 $T = 27^\circ\text{C}$

## **Continuum regime: Langevin Dynamics<sup>2</sup>**

if  $N < N_0/2$   
double



if  $N < N_0/2$   
double



**time**

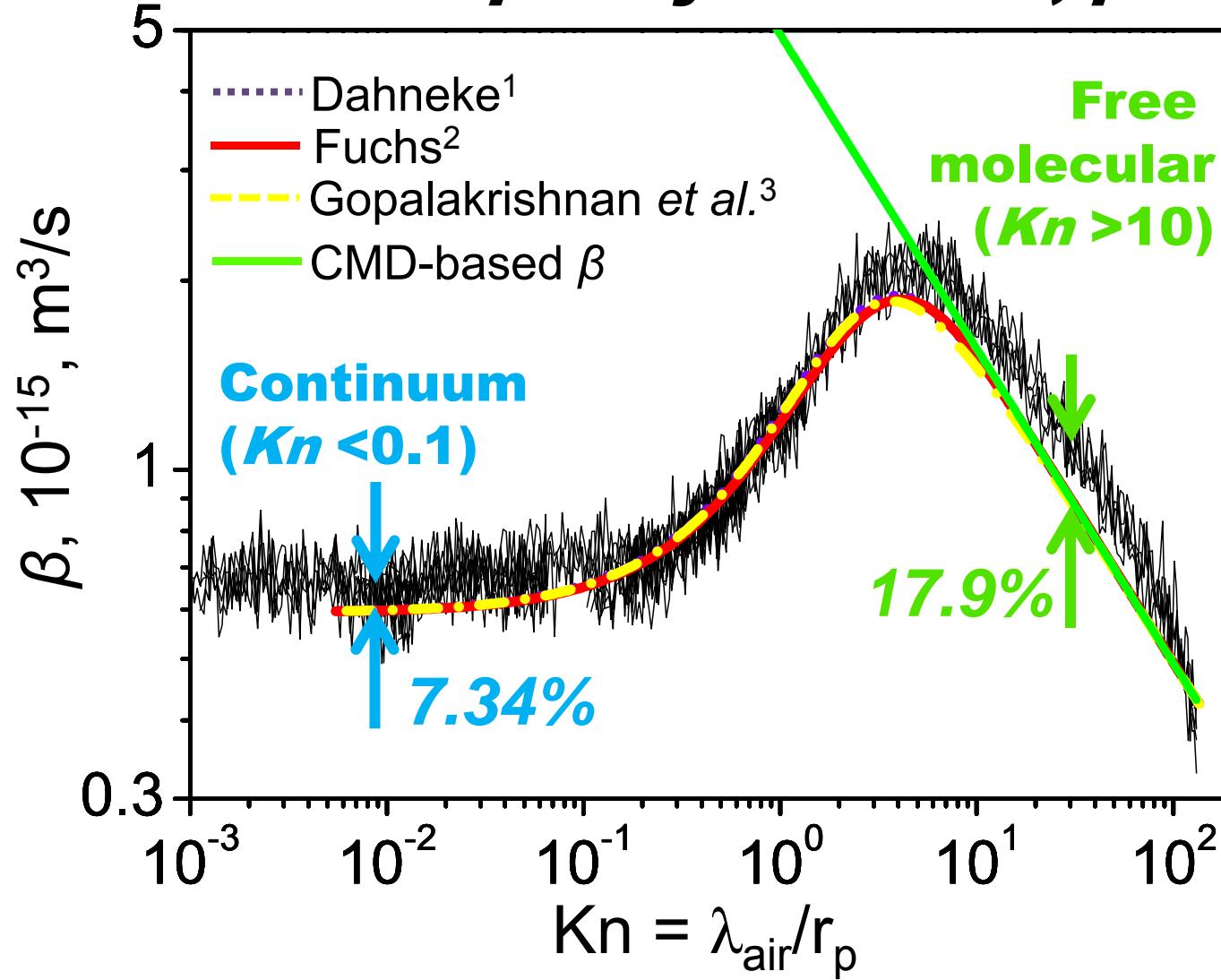
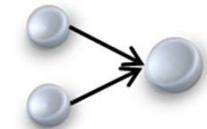
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2. Heine MC, & Pratsinis SE. (2007). Langmuir, 23, 9882-9890.

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# Validation – Full Coalescence

## *Collision Frequency Function, $\beta$*



Enhancement  
due to  
*polydispersity*  
&  
*attainment of*  
*self-preserving*  
*size distribution*

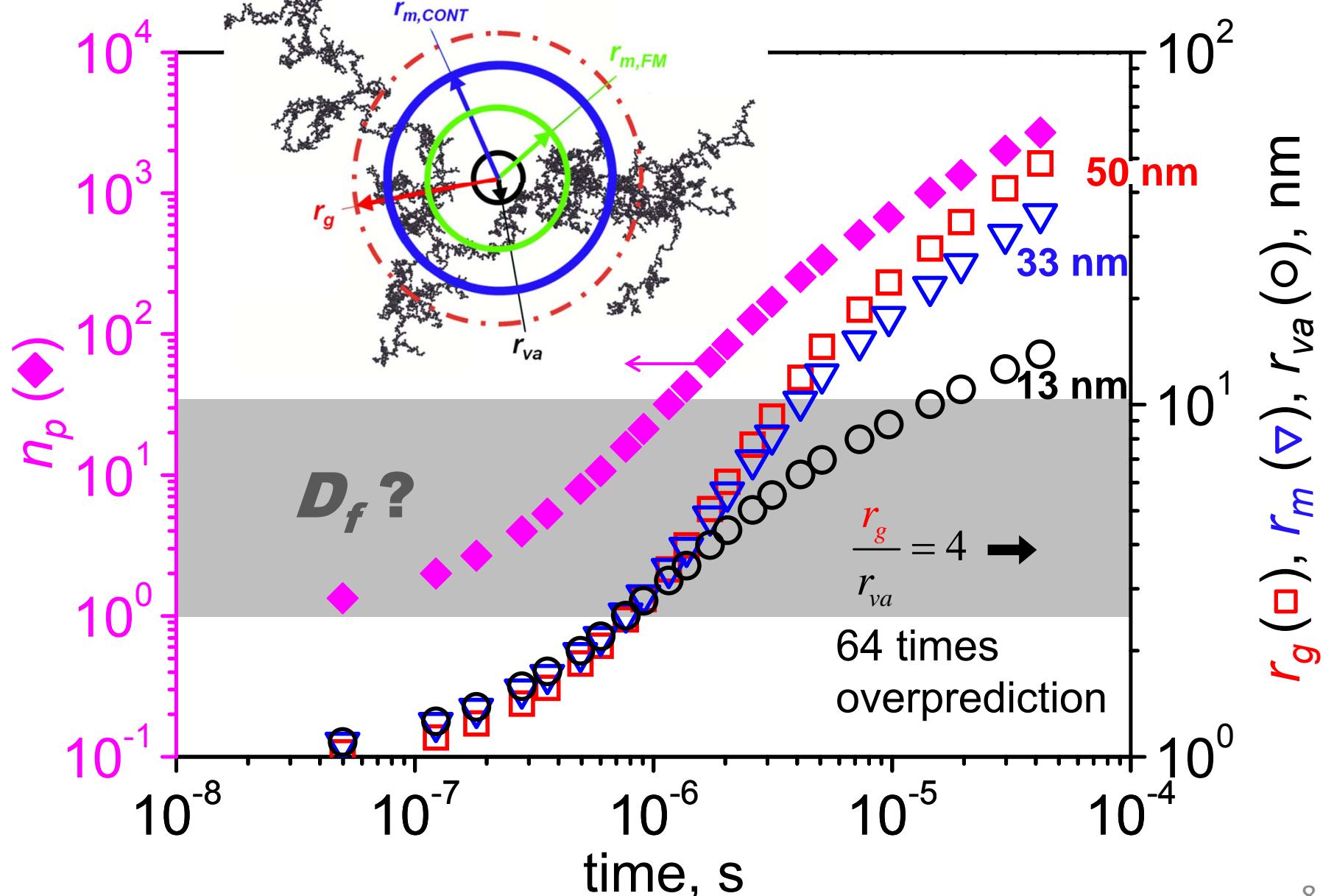
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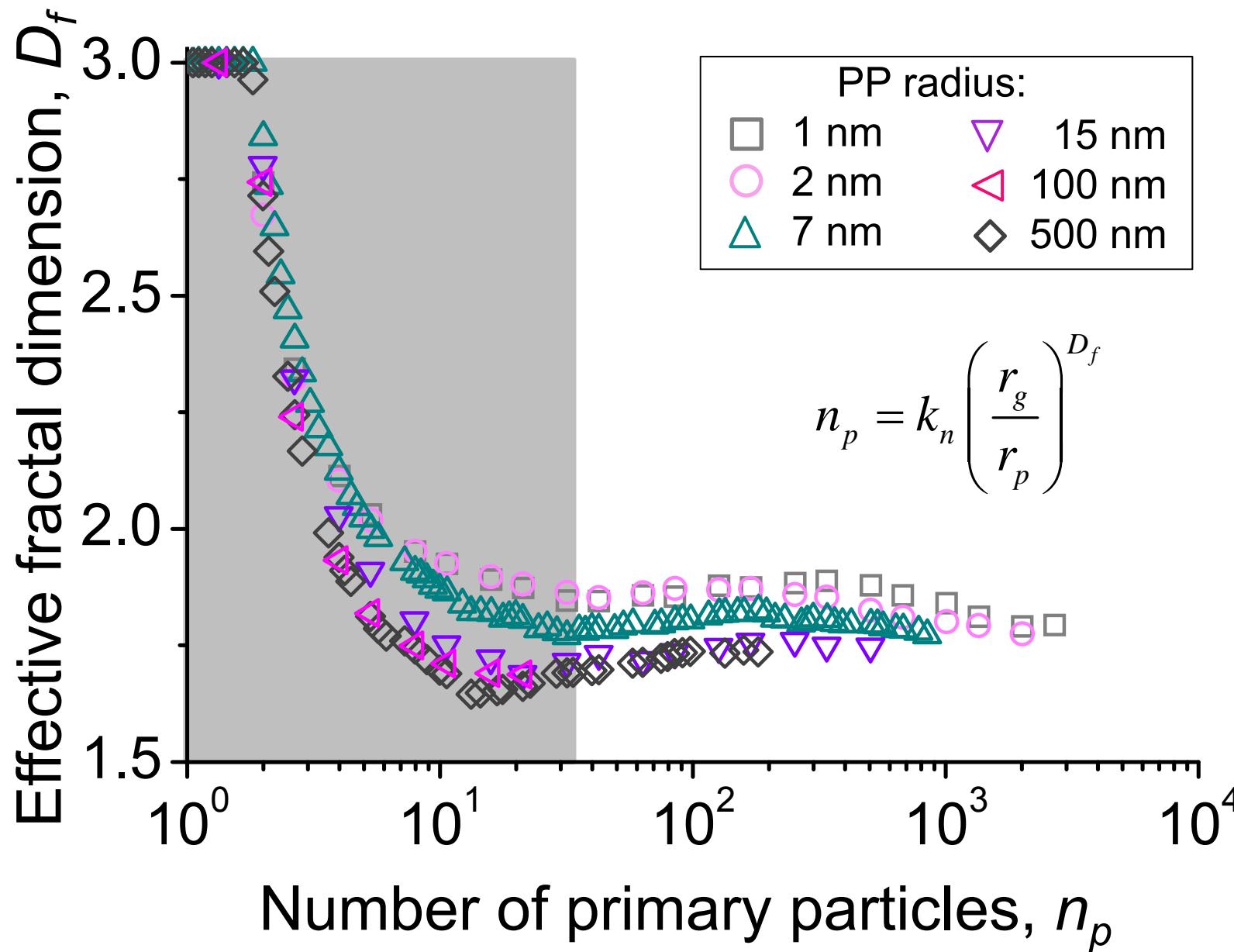
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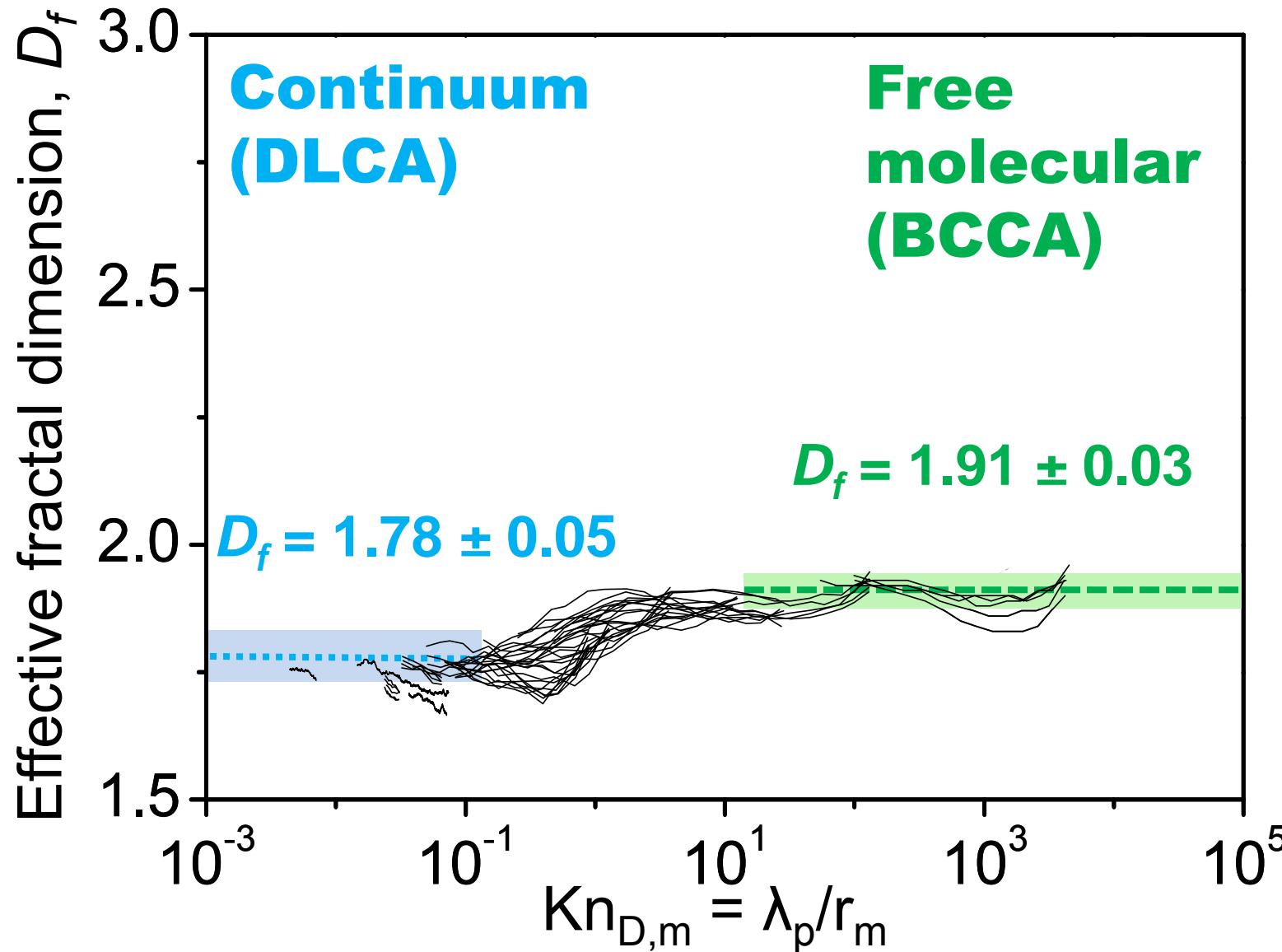
# Results – Agglomerate Size Evolution



# Results – Agglomerate Structure Evolution



# Results – Agglomerate Structure Evolution

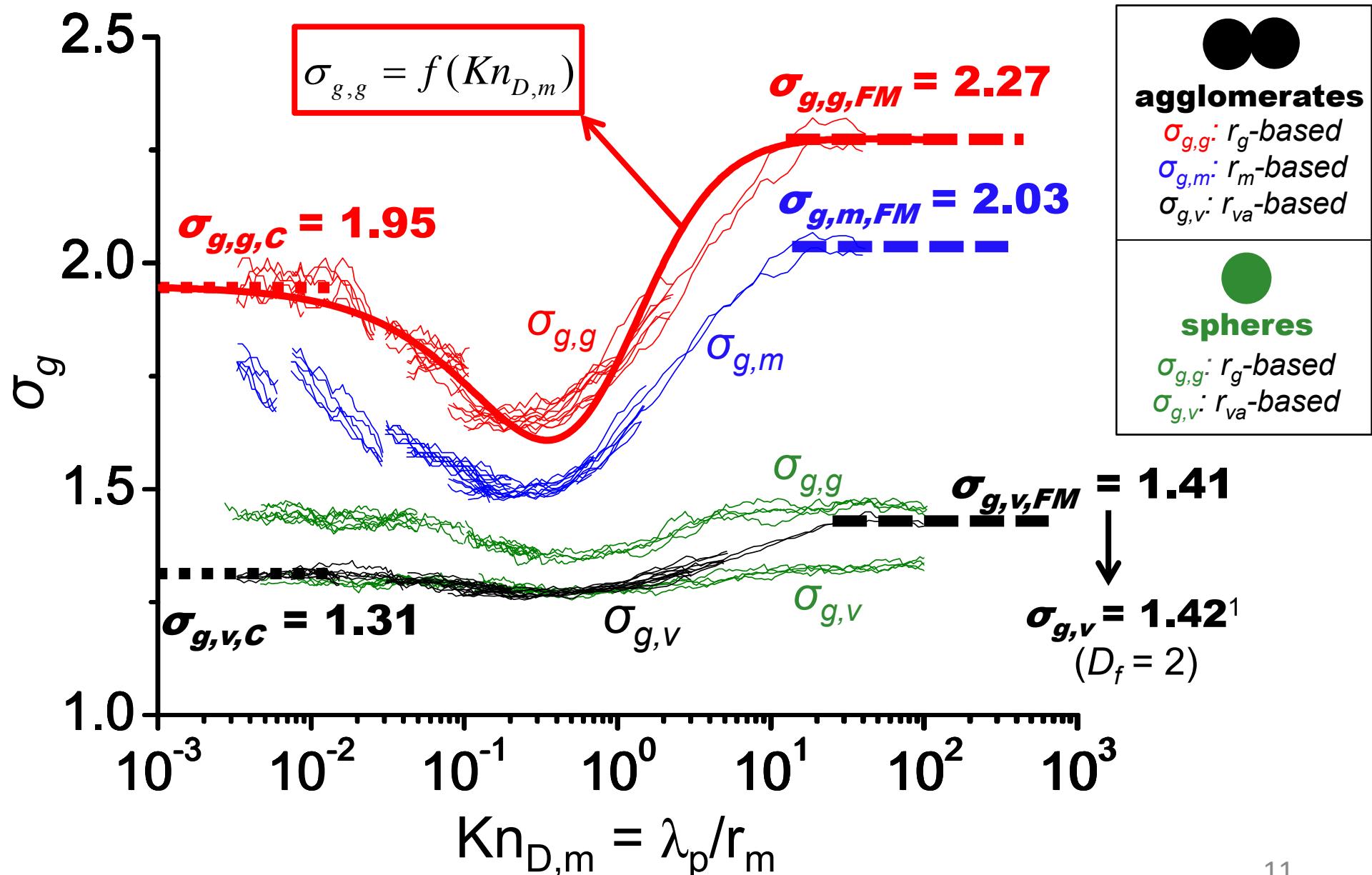


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# Results – Geometric Standard Deviation

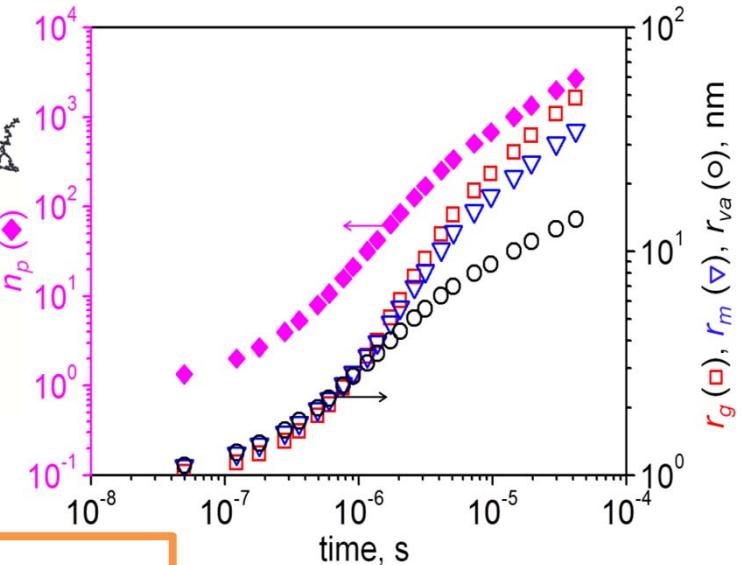
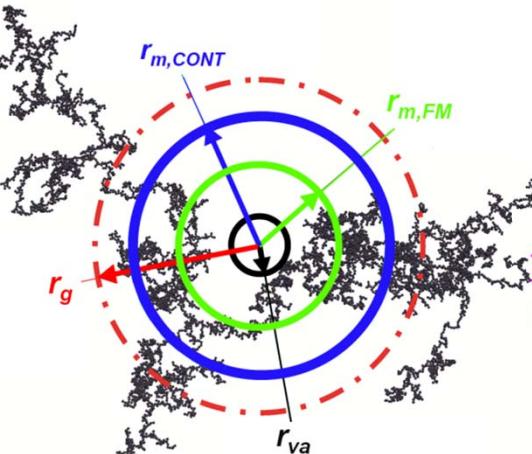


# Conclusions

## Agglomerate Size

For  $n_p > 10 \Rightarrow r_g > r_m, r_{va}$

$\frac{r_g}{r_{va}}, \frac{r_m}{r_{va}} > 1 \Rightarrow$  overpredict emissions



## Structure

- *Transition* regime: smooth shift of  $D_f$  
$$D_f = f(Kn_{D,m})$$
- *FM* regime:  $D_f = 1.91 \pm 0.03$
- *Continuum* regime:  $D_f = 1.78 \pm 0.05$

$D_f$  evolution from spherical to fractal-like structures: 
$$D_f = f(n_p)$$

## Geometric Standard Deviation of Quasi-Self-Preserving

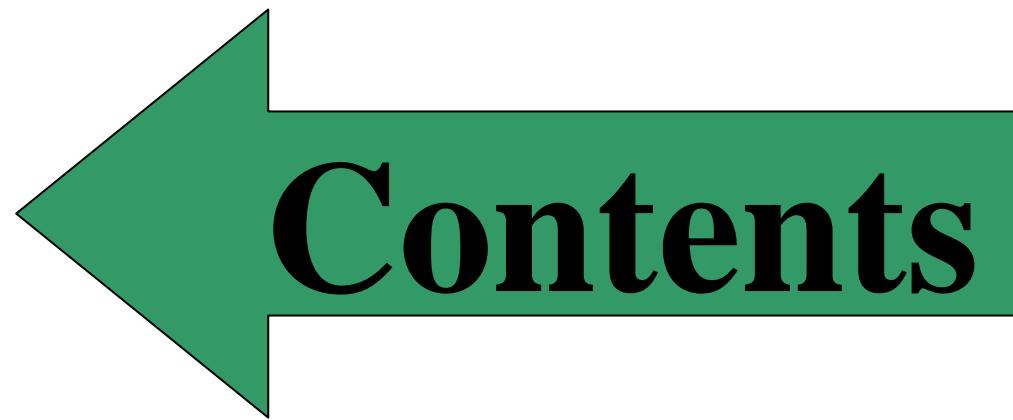
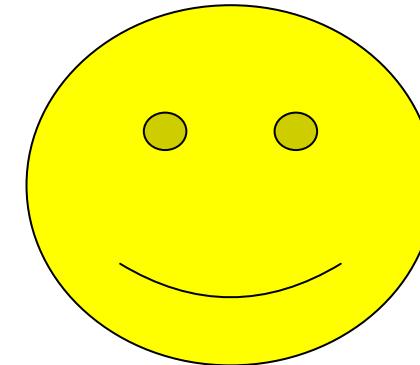
	Spheres		Agglomerates	
	FM	Continuum	FM	Continuum
• $\sigma_{g,v}$	1.33	1.32	1.41	1.31
• $\sigma_{g,m}$	1.46	1.44	2.03	-
• $\sigma_{g,g}$	1.46	1.44	2.27	1.95

$$\sigma_{g,g} = f(Kn_{D,m})$$

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION!**



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