

Spatial statistical analysis of micro-structures of nano silica particle gels

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Content

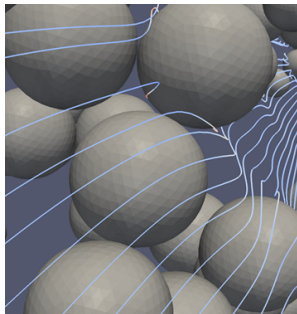
Nano silica particle gels
RLCA process

Spatial Statistical Analysis
Spatial summary statistics
RLCA parameter estimation

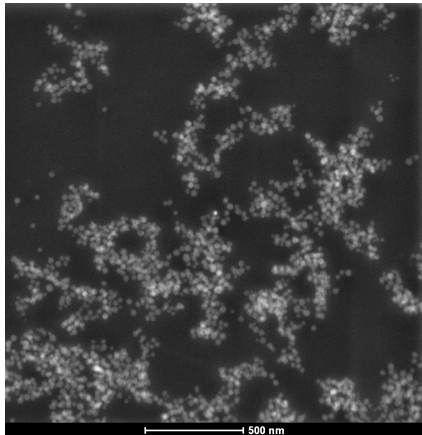
Conclusion and Outlook

Motivation: Mass transport

- Mass transport:
Diffusion and flow
- Nano silica particle gels as
test bed for mass transport

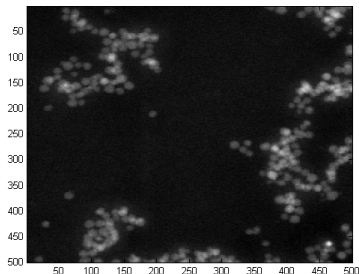


Nano silica particle gels

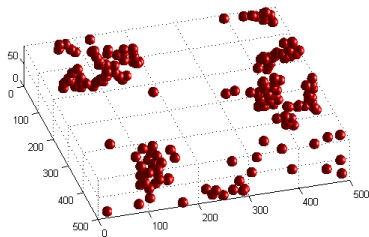


STEM micrograph of 90nm thick silica particle (20nm) gel

Goal: 3D reconstruction of micro-structure

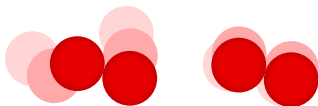


500x500 nm section of micrograph



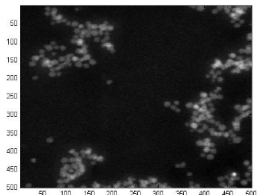
3D reconstruction based on mass thickness estimation

RLCA process

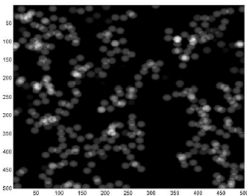


- Reaction limited cluster aggregation (RLCA)
- Particle diffusion according to Brownian motion
- Sticking probability: $P_{stick} \in [0, 1]$
- The larger the cluster the smaller the diffusion coefficient

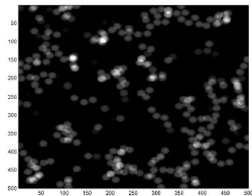
Sticking probability: $P_{stick} \in [0, 1]$



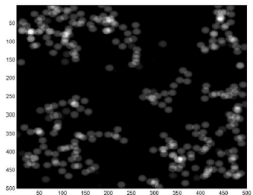
data



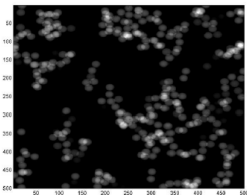
$p = 1$



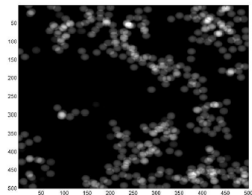
$p = 0.1$



$p = 0.01$



$p = 0.001$



$p = 0.0001$

Spatial summary statistics

Task: Find suitable spatial summary statistics to characterize different particle configurations

Three first candidates:

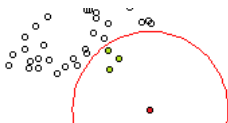
- Pair-correlation function
- Empty space function
- Cluster function

Pair-correlation function

Ripley's K-function

$$K(r) = \lambda^{-1} \mathbb{E}_o(\Phi(b(o, r)) \setminus \{o\}) \quad r \geq 0$$

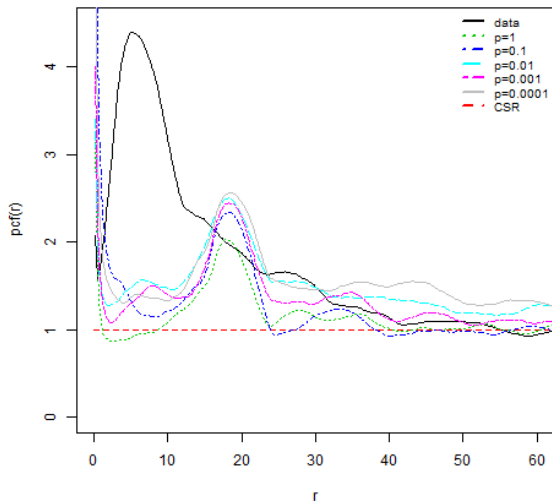
with expectation w.r.t. Palm distribution given a point exists in o



Pair-correlation function

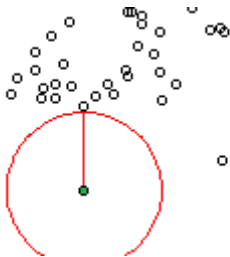
$$\rho(r) = \frac{d\mathbb{E}(\Phi(b(o, r))) / dr}{\lambda d\nu_d(b(o, 1)) r^{d-1}} \quad r \geq 0$$

Pair-correlation function

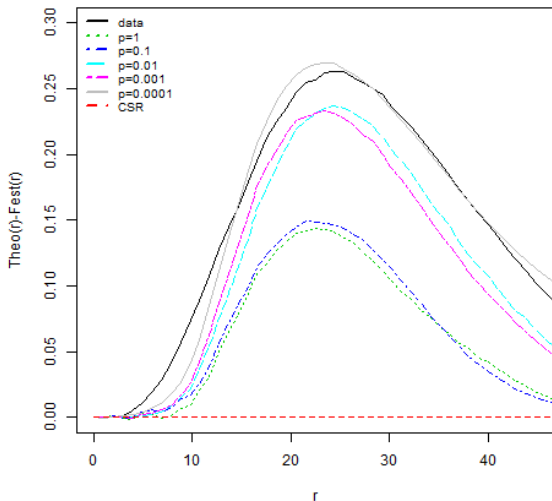


Empty space function

$$\begin{aligned}
 F(r) &= \mathbb{P}(\inf\{\|o - x\| : x \in \Phi\} \leq r) \\
 &= 1 - \mathbb{P}(\Phi(b(o, r)) = 0) \quad r \geq 0
 \end{aligned}$$



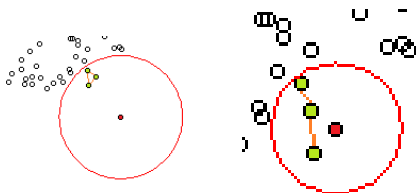
Empty space function

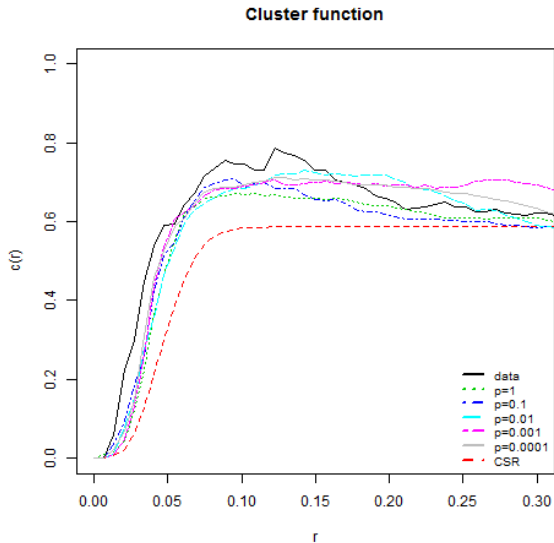


Cluster function

$$c(r) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_i \frac{\sum_{j,k \in \partial(i)} \mathbb{I}(\|X_j - X_k\| \leq r)}{\binom{|\partial(i)|}{2}} \quad r \geq 0$$

for n points and neighborhood ∂ defined via $\|\cdot\| \leq r$





Sticking probability estimation

LS-type approach:

for i in grid

1. Generate RLCA reconstruction with $P_{stick} = p_i$
2. Compare to real data by calculating

$$S_i = \omega_1 S_1 + \dots \omega_k S_k$$

for features S_1, \dots, S_k describing the spatial structure of the particles

end

Find $i_{min} = \operatorname{argmin}_i(S_i)$ and select $P_{stick} = p_{i_{min}}$

Conclusions and Outlook

Goal: Estimate RLCA sticking probability using spatial statistics

- Current step: Finding spatial summary statistics
 - Normalize real and simulated data
 - k^{th} nearest neighbors
 - Develop gray scale based summary statistics

- Next step:
 - Validation of concept in a simulation study
 - Analyze 3D data

References

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Thank you very much for your attention!