

# Rippling, crumpling, and folding in disordered free-standing graphene

**V.Yu. Kachorovskii**

*Ioffe Physico-Technical Institute, St.Petersburg, Russia*

*Co-authors:*

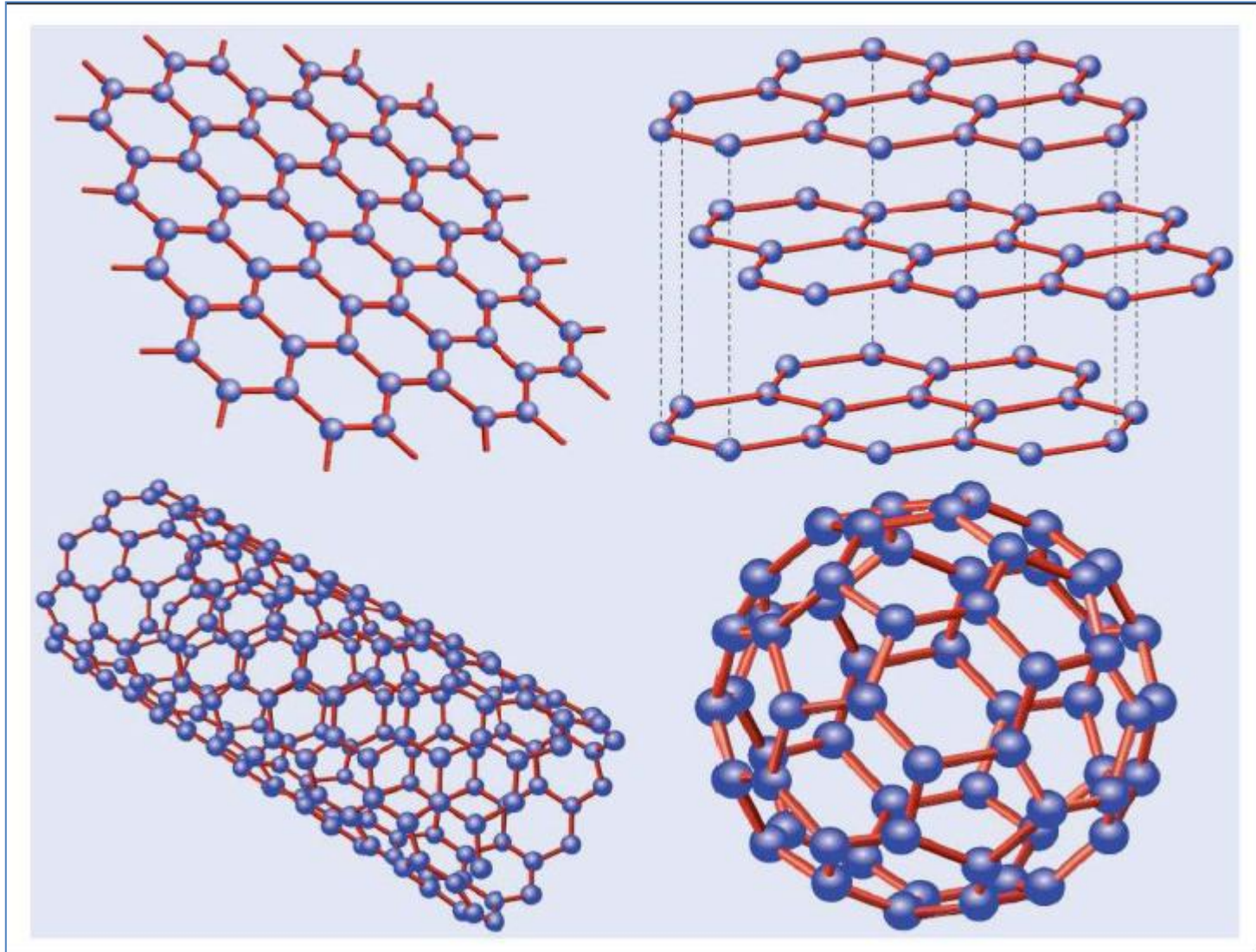
**I. V. Gornyi** (*KIT/Ioffe*)

**A. D. Mirlin** (*KIT/PNPI*)

# Outline

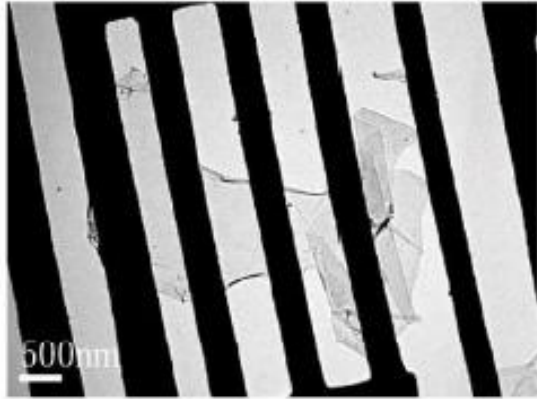
- *Introduction.* Graphene as elastic membrane. Flexural phonons
- *Formation of flat phase at low temperatures.* Mean field approximation
- *Beyond mean field.* Softening of membrane due to thermal fluctuations and disorder. Anharmonicity-induced increase of bending rigidity
- *Crumpling transition.* Competition between anharmonicity and fluctuations
- *Geometry of the membrane.* Fractal behavior in the near-critical region
- *Effect of disorder on crumpling transition in graphene.* Non-monotonous scaling of bending rigidity. Static, frozen-out fluctuations – ripples.

# Graphene: monoatomic layer of carbon

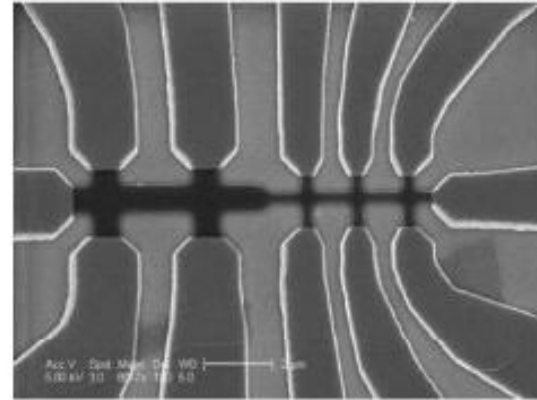


First isolated and explored: Manchester (Geim, Novoselov, et al., 2004)  
Nobel Prize 2010 (Andre Geim & Konstantin Novoselov)

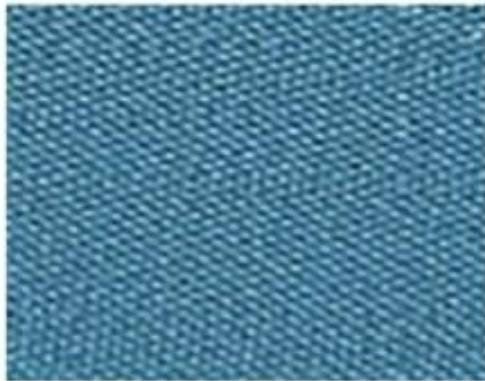
# Graphene samples



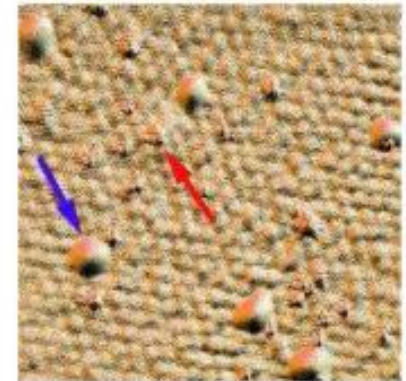
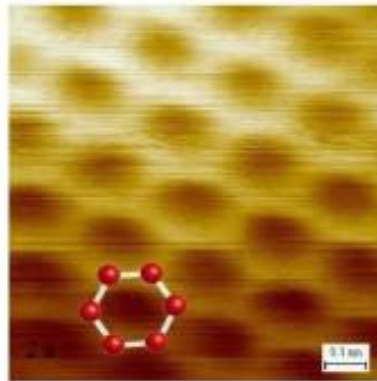
Suspended sample



Hall bar



Micro-mechanical cleavage

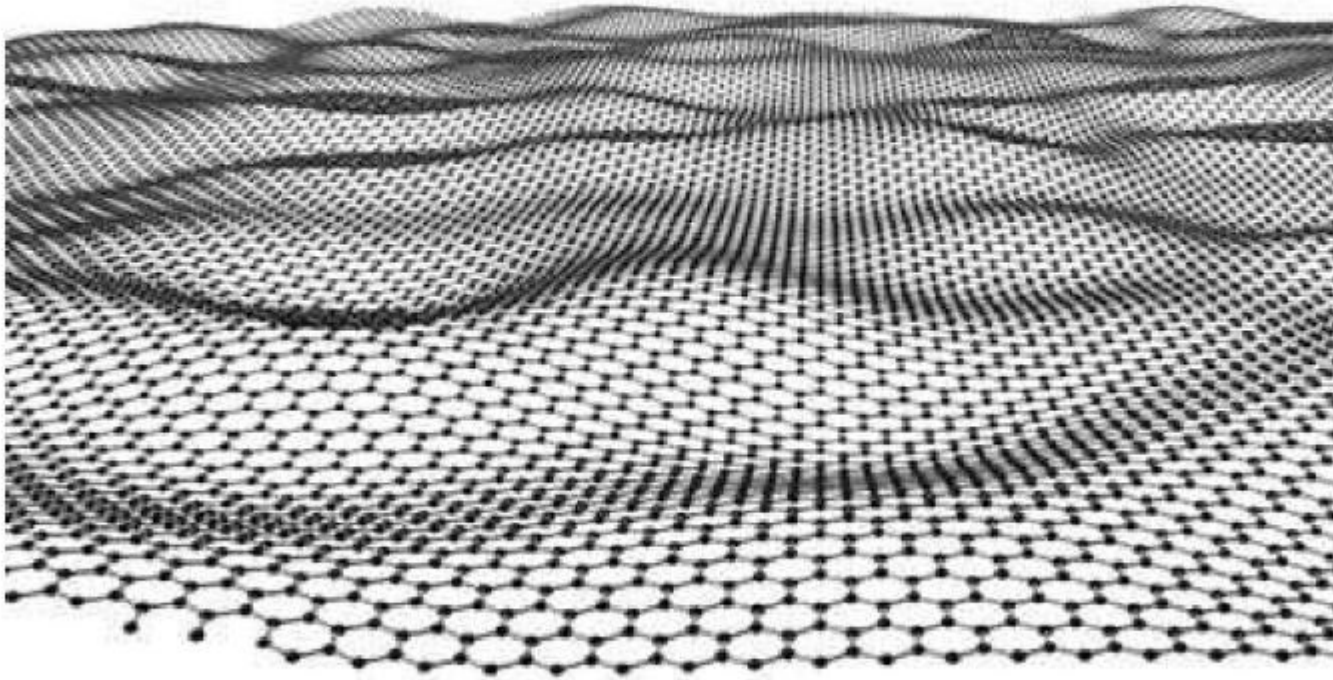


Epitaxial growth

carrier mobility: up to  $\sim 20,000 \text{ cm}^2/\text{V}\cdot\text{s}$  at 300K;  $\sim 200,000 \text{ cm}^2/\text{V}\cdot\text{s}$  at 4K,

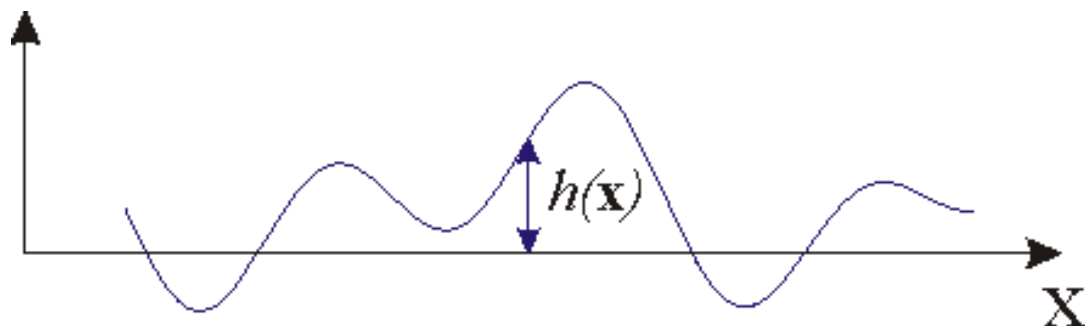
# Suspended graphene:

dynamical out-of-plane deformations (flexural phonons)  
+ static frozen-out deformations (ripples)



Meyer, Geim, Katsnelson, Novoselov, Booth, Roth, Nature'07

# Flexural phonons (FP)



$$E = \frac{1}{2} \int d\mathbf{x} \left[ \rho \dot{h}^2 + \varkappa (\Delta h)^2 \right]$$

$$\varkappa \simeq 1 \text{ eV.}$$

$$h(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{\mathbf{q}} \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2\rho\omega_{\mathbf{q}}S}} (b_{\mathbf{q}} + b_{-\mathbf{q}}^{\dagger}) e^{i\mathbf{q}\mathbf{r}}$$

**out-of-plane  
flexural mode**

$$\omega_{\mathbf{q}} = Dq^2$$

**soft dispersion of FP**

$$D = \sqrt{\varkappa/\rho}$$

# Thermal fluctuations

$$b_{\mathbf{q}} = \sqrt{N_{\mathbf{q}}} e^{-i\varphi_{\mathbf{q}}}$$

$$N_{\mathbf{q}} \approx \sqrt{T/\hbar\omega_{\mathbf{q}}} \gg 1$$

$$h(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{\mathbf{q}} \sqrt{\frac{2T}{\kappa q^4 S}} \cos(\mathbf{q}\mathbf{r} + \varphi_{\mathbf{q}})$$

$$G(\mathbf{q}) = \langle h_{\mathbf{q}} h_{\mathbf{q}}^* \rangle = \frac{T}{\kappa q^4}$$

correlation function of FP

$$\sqrt{\langle h^2(\mathbf{r}) \rangle} \propto \sqrt{\frac{T}{\kappa} \int \frac{d^2\mathbf{q}}{q^4}} \propto \sqrt{\frac{T}{\kappa}} L$$

for graphene at room temperature:  $\sqrt{T/\kappa} \approx 0.2$



**Thermal fluctuations with small  $q$  are huge !!!!!**

# Quasielastic scattering by FP

$$V_{e,ph} = V + V_{\mathbf{A}} = g_1 u_{ii} + g_2 \boldsymbol{\sigma} \mathbf{A}$$

$$A_x = 2u_{xy}, \quad A_y = u_{xx} - u_{yy}$$



$$V = g_1 (\nabla h)^2 / 2$$

**FP contribution to the deformation potential**

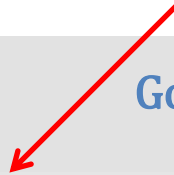
$g_1 \simeq 30$  eV deformation coupling constant,

$g_2 \simeq 1.5$  eV coupling to gauge field

$$V(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{g_1 T}{\kappa S} \sum_{\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2} \frac{\mathbf{q}_1 \mathbf{q}_2}{q_1^2 q_2^2} \sin(\mathbf{q}_1 \mathbf{r} + \varphi_{\mathbf{q}_1}) \sin(\mathbf{q}_2 \mathbf{r} + \varphi_{\mathbf{q}_2})$$

**Theory:**

Golden rule calculation



$$\sigma_{\text{ph}} = \frac{e^2}{\hbar} \frac{\pi^2 N}{24g^2 \ln(q_T L)} \approx 10^{-3} \frac{e^2}{h}$$



**theory yields unrealistic (too small) values of conductivity in the Dirac point!!!**

**Experiment:**

$$\sigma_{\text{ph}} \sim 10 \div 50 \frac{e^2}{h}$$

*K. Bolotin et al/PRL (2008)*

$$g = \frac{g_1}{\sqrt{32\kappa}} \simeq 5.3 \quad \text{dimensionless coupling constant}$$

$$N = 4 \quad \text{spin} \times \text{valleys},$$

$$q_T = T/\hbar v$$



# Crumpling transition of membrane: **key parameter** $\kappa/T$

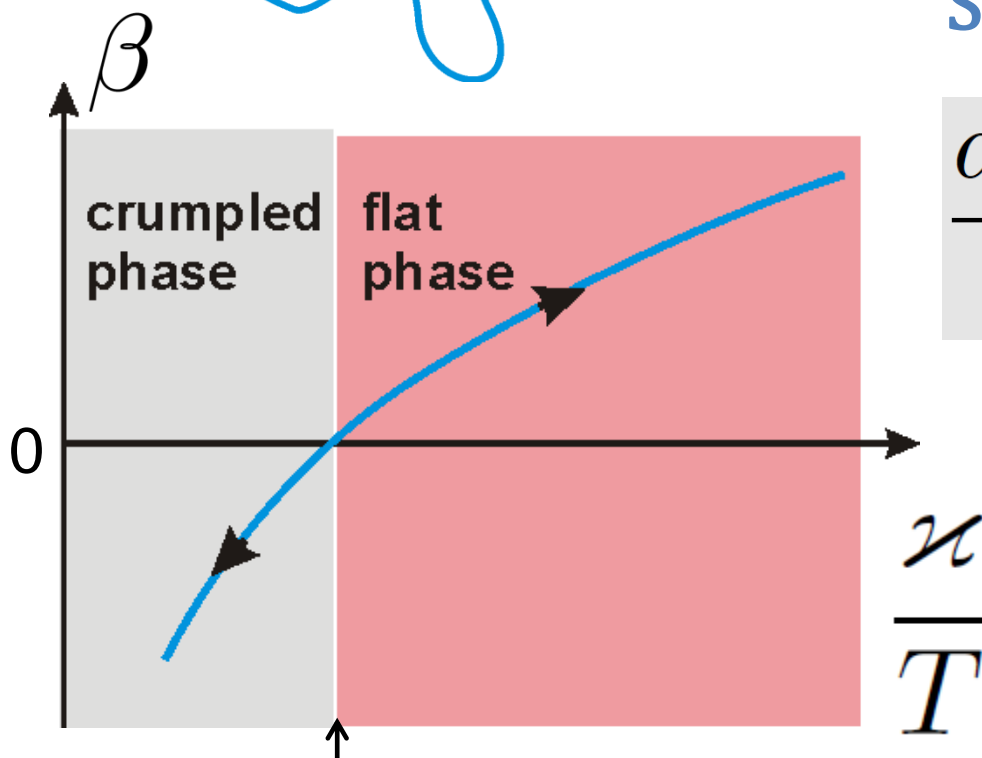
**Crumpled phase:**  $\kappa/T \rightarrow 0$

**Flat phase:**  $\kappa/T \rightarrow \infty$



## Scaling of bending rigidity

$$\frac{d \ln(\kappa/T)}{d \ln L} = \beta(\kappa/T)$$



crumpling phase transition

D. Nelson, T. Piran, S. Weinberg *Statistical Mechanics of Membranes and Surfaces* (1989).

**Physics behind: anharmonic coupling with in-plane modes**

For graphene  $\kappa/T \approx 30$  even for  $T=300$  K  $\rightarrow$  flat phase

Bending rigidity increases with increasing the system size (or decreasing the wave vector):

$$\kappa \propto L^\eta \propto \frac{1}{q^\eta}$$

critical behavior of bending rigidity  
 $\eta$  - critical exponent ( $\approx 0.7$ )

F.David and E. Guitter, Europhys. Lett. (1988);  
P. Le Doussal, L. Radzihovsky, PRL (1992)

$$\frac{h}{L} \sim \frac{1}{L^{\eta/2}}$$

deformation potential is suppressed



$$\sigma_{\text{ph}} \sim 10 \frac{e^2}{h}$$

(Dirac point,  $T=300$  K)

agrees with experiment

in the thermodynamic limit fluctuations are suppressed

Gornyi, Kachorovskii, Mirlin RRB (2012)

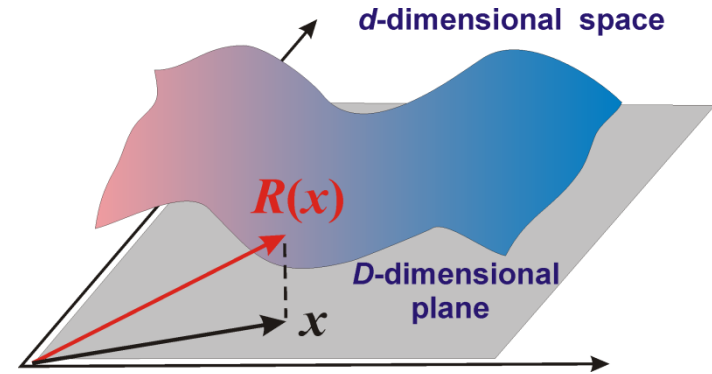
# Theory of crumpling transition

$$F = \int d^D x \left\{ \frac{\kappa_0}{2} (\partial_\alpha \partial_\alpha \mathbf{R})^2 - \frac{t}{2} (\partial_\alpha \mathbf{R} \partial_\alpha \mathbf{R}) + u (\partial_\alpha \mathbf{R} \partial_\beta \mathbf{R})^2 + v (\partial_\alpha \mathbf{R} \partial_\alpha \mathbf{R})^2 \right\}$$

$\alpha, \beta = 1, \dots, D$

Paczuski, Kardar, Nelson, PRL, 1988

$\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{x})$  is  $d$ -dimensional vector  
 $\mathbf{x}$  is  $D$ -dimensional vector  
 For physical membranes  $d=3, D=2$



**Mean field**  $\rightarrow \mathbf{R} = \xi \mathbf{x} \rightarrow F = -\xi^2 t + 2\xi^4 (u + Dv)$

$$\partial F / \partial \xi = 0 \rightarrow \xi^2 = \begin{cases} \frac{t}{4(u + Dv)}, & \text{for } t > 0 & \text{flat phase} \\ 0, & \text{for } t < 0 & \text{crumpled phase} \end{cases}$$

$$t \propto T_c - T \rightarrow \xi^2 \propto T_c - T$$

Flat phase ( $T < T_c$ ,  $\xi > 0$ )

$$\mathbf{R} = \xi \mathbf{r}$$

$$\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{x} + \underbrace{\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{h}}_{\text{in-plane and out-of-plane fluctuations}}$$

in-plane and out-of-plane fluctuations

Elastic energy

$$F = \int d^D x \left\{ \frac{\kappa}{2} (\Delta \mathbf{h})^2 + \underbrace{\mu u_{ij}^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} u_{ii}^2}_{\text{strong anharmonicity}} \right\}$$

strong anharmonicity

$$u_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\alpha \mathbf{r} \partial_\beta \mathbf{r} - \delta_{\alpha\beta}) \approx \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\alpha u_\beta + \partial_\beta u_\alpha + \partial_\alpha \mathbf{h} \partial_\beta \mathbf{h}) \quad \text{strain tensor}$$

$$\kappa = \kappa_0 \xi^2, \quad \mu = 4u \xi^4, \quad \lambda = 8v \xi^4$$

$$\mu, \lambda \propto (T_c - T)^2, \quad \kappa \propto T_c - T$$

Elastic constants turn to zero in the transition point

# Disorder

Clean  
membrane

$$F = \int d^D \mathbf{x} \left\{ \frac{\kappa}{2} (\Delta \mathbf{h})^2 + \mu u_{ij}^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} u_{ii}^2 \right\}$$

Random  
curvature

$$F = \int d^D \mathbf{x} \left\{ \frac{\kappa}{2} [\Delta \mathbf{h} + \beta(\mathbf{x})]^2 + \mu u_{ij}^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} u_{ii}^2 \right\}$$

↑  
random vector

$$P(\beta) = Z_\beta^{-1} \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2b} \int \beta^2(\mathbf{x}) d^D \mathbf{x} \right)$$

In-plane  
disorder

$$F = \int d^D \mathbf{x} \left\{ \frac{\kappa}{2} (\Delta \mathbf{h})^2 + \mu u_{ij}^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} [u_{ii} + c(\mathbf{x})]^2 \right\}$$

$$P(c) = Z_c^{-1} \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2\sigma} \int c^2(\mathbf{x}) d^D \mathbf{x} \right)$$

# Beyond mean field: Fluctuations

$$\mathbf{r} = \xi \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{h}$$

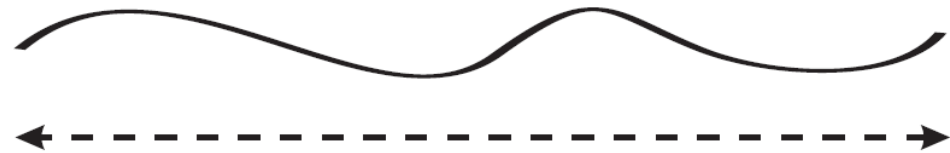
Mean field:  $\xi = 1$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{u}} = \xi \mathbf{u}$$

$$F_0 = \frac{DL^D(\mu + \lambda D/2)}{4} [(\xi^2 - 1)^2 + \underbrace{\frac{2(\xi^2 - 1)}{D} \int \frac{d^D \mathbf{x}}{L^D} \partial_\alpha \mathbf{h} \partial_\alpha \mathbf{h}}_{\text{coupling between stretching and fluctuations}}] + F(\tilde{\mathbf{u}}, \mathbf{h})$$

coupling between stretching and fluctuations

**Physics behind:** transverse fluctuations lead to decrease of membrane size in x-direction



$$R = \xi_L L$$

minimization  
of energy



$$\xi^2 = 1 - \frac{1}{D} \langle \partial_\alpha \mathbf{h} \partial_\alpha \mathbf{h} \rangle$$

harmonic  
approximation



$$\langle \partial_\alpha \mathbf{h} \partial_\alpha \mathbf{h} \rangle = d_c \left( \frac{T}{\varkappa} + b \right) \int \frac{d^D \mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^D} \frac{1}{q^2}$$

$$d_c = d - D$$

Logarithmic divergence for  $D=2 \rightarrow$  renormalization group (RG)

$$\frac{d\xi^2}{d\Lambda} = -\frac{d_c}{4\pi} \left( \frac{T}{\varkappa} + b \right), \quad D = 2$$

thermal  
fluctuations

disorder

$$\Lambda = \ln(L/a)$$

$L$  - system size  
 $a$  - ultraviolet cutoff

$\xi \rightarrow 0$ , for certain value of  $L$

Flat phase is destroyed both by thermal  
fluctuations and by disorder

# Renormalization of bending rigidity (clean case)

David, Gitter, Europhys. Lett. (1988), Le Doussal, Radzihovsky, PRL (1992)

$$F = \int d^D x \left\{ \frac{\kappa}{2} (\Delta \mathbf{h})^2 + \mu u_{ij}^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} u_{ii}^2 \right\}$$

**Correlation function of transverse modes:**

$$G_{ij} = \langle h_i(\mathbf{q}) h_j(-\mathbf{q}) \rangle = \frac{\int h_i(\mathbf{q}) h_j(-\mathbf{q}) e^{-\frac{F(\mathbf{h}, \mathbf{u})}{T}} \{d\mathbf{h} d\mathbf{u}\}}{\int e^{-\frac{F(\mathbf{h}, \mathbf{u})}{T}} \{d\mathbf{h} d\mathbf{u}\}} = \delta_{ij} G(q)$$

$$G_{\mathbf{q}}^0 = \frac{T}{\kappa q^4}$$

Interaction between in-plane and out-of-plane modes is neglected

However, such interaction dramatically change the small  $q$  behavior of  $G(q)$  due to strong anharmonicity



**Anomalous scaling of bending rigidity**



# Integrate out the in-plane modes

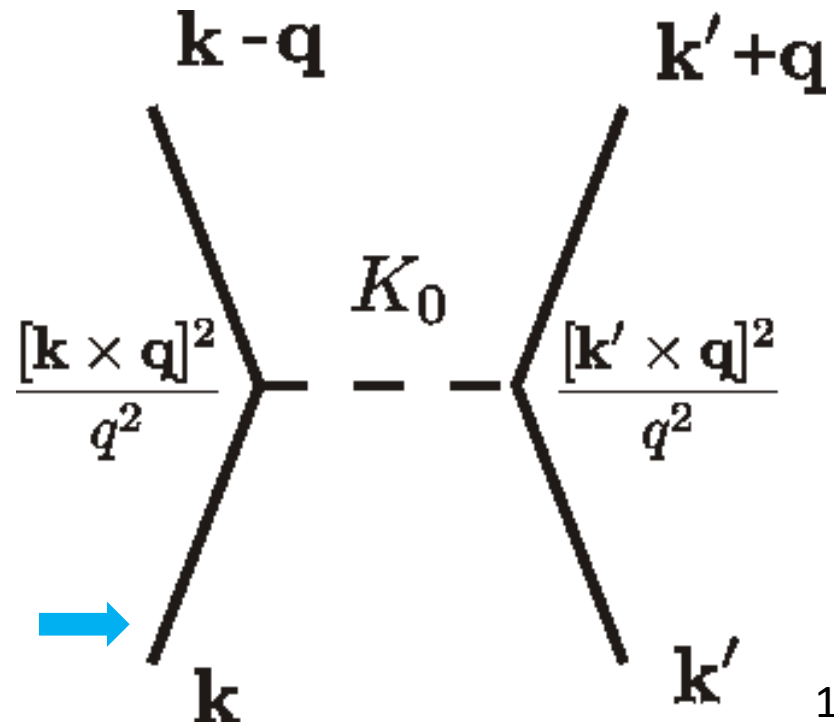
$$F(\mathbf{h}) = \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{d^2 \mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^2} \left[ \kappa q^4 \mathbf{h}_{\mathbf{q}} \mathbf{h}_{-\mathbf{q}} + \frac{1}{4d_c} \int \frac{d^2 \mathbf{k}}{(2\pi)^2} \int \frac{d^2 \mathbf{k}'}{(2\pi)^2} \right. \\ \left. \times \underline{R(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}', \mathbf{q}) (\mathbf{h}_{-\mathbf{k}} \mathbf{h}_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}) (\mathbf{h}_{\mathbf{k}'} \mathbf{h}_{-\mathbf{q}-\mathbf{k}'})} \right]$$

Interaction between out-of-plane modes:  $d_c = d - D$

$$R(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}', \mathbf{q}) = K_0 \frac{[\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{q}]^2}{q^2} \frac{[\mathbf{k}' \times \mathbf{q}]^2}{q^2}$$

$$K_0 = \frac{4\mu(\mu + \lambda)}{(2\mu + \lambda)}$$

$$G_{\mathbf{k}}^0 = \frac{T}{\kappa k^4}$$



# Renormalization of bending rigidity by screened interaction

$$\frac{G_{\mathbf{q}}}{\text{---}} = \frac{G_{\mathbf{q}}^0}{\text{---}} + \frac{G_{\mathbf{q}}^0}{\text{---}} \overset{K_{\mathbf{Q}}}{\text{---}} \frac{G_{\mathbf{q}}}{\text{---}}$$

$G_{\mathbf{q}-\mathbf{Q}}$

$$K_0 = \frac{4\mu(\mu + \lambda)}{(2\mu + \lambda)}$$

$$\frac{K_{\mathbf{q}}}{\text{---}} = \frac{K_0/T}{\text{---}} + \frac{K_0/T}{\text{---}} \overset{G_{\mathbf{Q}-\mathbf{q}}}{\text{---}} \frac{K_{\mathbf{q}}}{\text{---}}$$

$G_{\mathbf{Q}}$

$$G_{\mathbf{q}} = \frac{T}{\kappa q^4 + \Sigma_{\mathbf{q}}}$$

$$\Sigma_{\mathbf{q}} = \frac{2T}{d_c} \int \frac{d^2\mathbf{Q}}{(2\pi)^2} \frac{[\mathbf{q} \times \mathbf{Q}]^4}{Q^4} K_{\mathbf{Q}} G_{\mathbf{q}-\mathbf{Q}} \quad \text{self-energy}$$

**Interaction is screened:**

$$K_{\mathbf{q}} = \frac{(K_0/T)}{1 + (K_0/T)\Pi_{\mathbf{q}}}$$

$$\Pi_{\mathbf{q}} = \int \frac{d^2\mathbf{Q}}{(2\pi)^2} \frac{[\mathbf{q} \times \mathbf{Q}]^4}{q^4} G_{\mathbf{Q}-\mathbf{q}} G_{\mathbf{Q}} \quad \text{polarization operator}$$

$$\Pi_{\mathbf{q}}^0 = \frac{3}{16\pi} \left(\frac{T}{\kappa}\right)^2 \frac{1}{q^2} \rightarrow \infty, \quad \text{for } q \rightarrow 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad K_{\mathbf{q}} \approx \frac{1}{\Pi_{\mathbf{q}}^0} = \frac{16\pi}{3} \left(\frac{\kappa}{T}\right)^2 q^2$$

**bare coupling drops out !**

# Universal scaling ( $q < q^*$ )

$$q^* = \sqrt{\frac{K_0 T}{\kappa^2}}$$



**ultraviolet cutoff  
(Ginzburg scale)**

$$K_0 = \frac{4\mu(\mu + \lambda)}{(2\mu + \lambda)}$$

$$\Sigma_{\mathbf{q}} \approx \kappa q^4 \frac{2}{d_c} \ln \left( \frac{q^*}{q} \right), \quad \text{for } q \ll q^*$$



$$\delta \kappa = \kappa \frac{2}{d_c} \ln \left( \frac{q^*}{q} \right)$$

$$G_{\mathbf{q}} = \frac{T}{\kappa q^4 + \Sigma_{\mathbf{q}}}$$

$$\frac{d\kappa}{d\Lambda} = \eta \kappa$$

**anharmonicity-induced  
increase of bending rigidity**

$$\Lambda = \ln(q^*/q)$$

$$G_q \propto \frac{1}{q^{4-\eta}}$$

$$\eta \simeq \frac{2}{d_c} \quad \text{for } D=2 \text{ and } d_c \gg 1$$

David, Gutter,  
Europhys. Lett. (1988)

$$\eta = 0.821 \quad \text{for } D=2, d=3$$

self consistent screening approximation

Le Doussal, Radzihovsky, PRL (1992)

# Crumpling transition (clean case)

$$\frac{d\kappa}{d\Lambda} = \frac{2}{d_c} \kappa$$

rescaling of bending rigidity:

$$\frac{d\xi^2}{d\Lambda} = -\frac{d_c T}{4\pi \kappa}$$

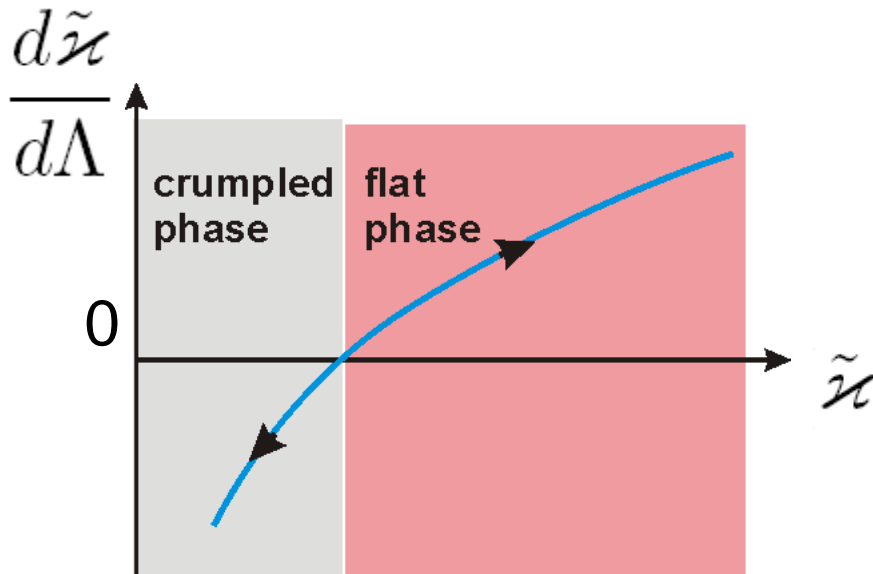
$$\tilde{\kappa} = \kappa \xi^2$$



$$\frac{d\tilde{\kappa}}{d\Lambda} = \eta (\tilde{\kappa} - \kappa_{cr})$$

$$\frac{d\xi^2}{d\Lambda} = -\eta \xi^2 \frac{\kappa_{cr}}{\tilde{\kappa}}$$

$$\eta = 2/d_c$$



$$\kappa_{cr} = \frac{d_c^2 T}{8\pi}$$

**unstable fixed point**

agrees with David, Gitter, Europhys. Lett. (1988),

$$\xi_{\infty}^2 = \frac{\kappa_0 - \kappa_{cr}}{\kappa_0}$$



For  $\kappa_0 > \kappa_{cr}$ , membrane remains in the flat phase in the course of renormalization

# Lower critical dimension for crumpling transition

$$D \neq 2$$

$$\tilde{\kappa} = \kappa \xi^2 q^{2-D}$$

$$\frac{d\tilde{\kappa}}{d\Lambda} = \eta [\tilde{\kappa}(1 + \epsilon_2) - \kappa_{\text{cr}}]$$

$$\frac{d\xi^2}{d\Lambda} = -\eta \xi^2 \frac{\kappa_{\text{cr}}}{\tilde{\kappa}}$$

$$\eta = 2/d_c$$

$$1 + \epsilon_2 > 0 \Rightarrow D > D_{\text{cr}}$$

$$\epsilon_2 = \frac{D - 2}{\eta}$$

$$D_{\text{cr}} = 2 - \frac{2}{d_c}$$

Aronovitz, Golubovic, Lubensky,  
J.Phys. France (1989)

## Disordered case (random curvature)

**Replicas:**  $\mathbf{h} \rightarrow \mathbf{h}^n \quad n = 1, \dots, N$

$$\begin{aligned} F^{\text{rep}} &= \sum_{n=1}^{n=N} \frac{\varkappa}{2} \int (dk) k^4 |\mathbf{h}_{\mathbf{k}}^n + \beta_{\mathbf{k}}|^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{4d_c} \sum_{n=1}^{n=N} \int (dk dk' dq) R_{\mathbf{q}}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}') (\mathbf{h}_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}^n \mathbf{h}_{-\mathbf{k}}^n) (\mathbf{h}_{-\mathbf{k}'-\mathbf{q}}^n \mathbf{h}_{\mathbf{k}'}^n) \end{aligned}$$

**interaction**

$$\langle \exp(-F_{\text{rep}}/T) \rangle_{\beta} \rightarrow \exp(-F_{\text{eff}}/T)$$

$$P(\beta) = Z_{\beta}^{-1} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2b} \int \beta^2(\mathbf{x}) d^D \mathbf{x}\right)$$

$$F_{\text{eff}} = \sum_{n,m} \frac{\varkappa^{nm}}{2} \int (dk) k^4 \mathbf{h}_{\mathbf{k}}^n \mathbf{h}_{-\mathbf{k}}^m + F_{\text{int}}$$

Effective bending rigidity  $\rightarrow$  **b-dependent** matrix in the replica space

$$\hat{\kappa} = \kappa - \frac{b\kappa^2}{T} \hat{J}$$

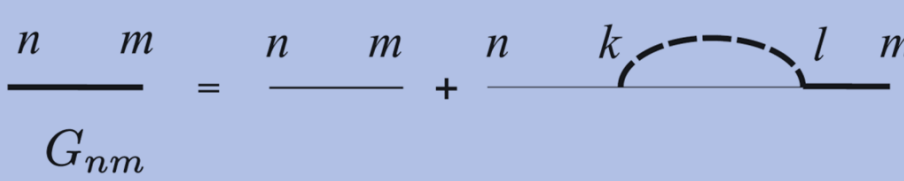
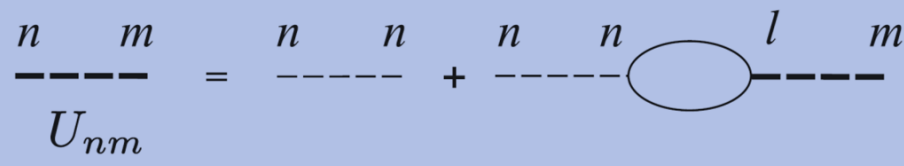
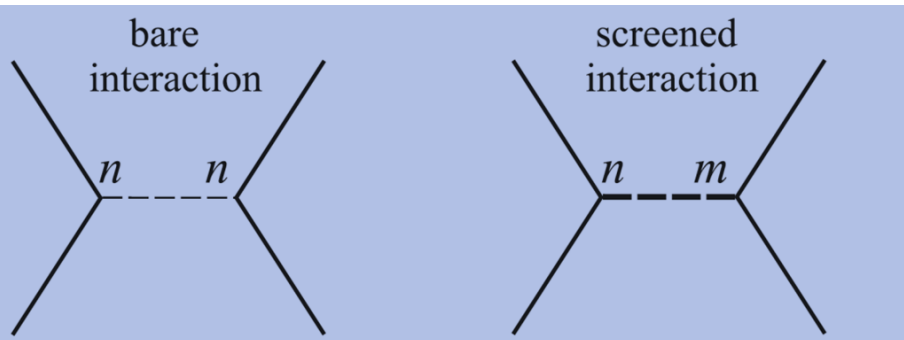
$$\hat{J} : J^{nm} = 1$$

$$\hat{G}_{\mathbf{k}}^0 = \frac{T \hat{\kappa}^{-1}}{k^4} = \frac{T}{\kappa k^4} (1 + f \hat{J})$$

$$\hat{\Pi}_{\mathbf{q}} = A_D \frac{T^2}{\kappa^2 q^{4-D}} (1 + 2f + f^2 \hat{J})$$

$$f = \frac{b\kappa}{T}$$

**dimensionless disorder strength**



$$\hat{U} = \frac{D \hat{\Pi}_{\mathbf{q}}^{-1}}{2(D+1)}$$

$$\Sigma_{\mathbf{k}}^{nm} = \frac{2T}{d_c} \int (dq) k_{\perp}^4 U_{\mathbf{q}}^{nm} G_{\mathbf{k}-\mathbf{q}}^{0,nm}$$

## In-plane disorder

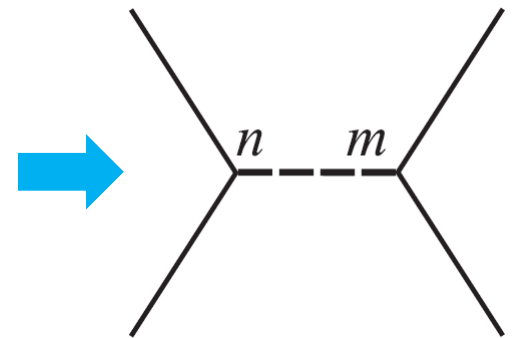
$$F = \frac{\varkappa}{2} \int (dk) k^4 |\mathbf{h}_{\mathbf{k}}|^2 + \frac{K_0}{4d_c} \int (dq) \left| \int (dk) \frac{(\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{q})^2}{q^2} \mathbf{h}_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} \mathbf{h}_{-\mathbf{k}} + c_{\mathbf{q}} \right|^2$$

$$K_0 = \frac{4\mu(\mu + \lambda)}{(2\mu + \lambda)}$$

$$P[c(\mathbf{x})] \propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma} \int d\mathbf{x} c^2(\mathbf{x})\right)$$

Replicate and average over disorder

$$U_{nm}^0 = K_0 \delta_{nm} - K_0^2 \sigma \hat{J}$$



Screening

$$\hat{U} = (1 + \hat{U}_0 \Pi)^{-1} \hat{U}_0 = (1 + \Pi^{-1} \hat{U}_0^{-1})^{-1} \Pi^{-1}$$

$$\hat{U} \rightarrow \Pi^{-1}, \quad \text{for } q \ll q^*$$

**In-plane  
disorder  
is irrelevant**



# Disordered case (random curvature)

## RG equations

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{df}{d\Lambda} &= -\eta \frac{f(1+3f)}{(1+2f)^2} \quad \leftarrow \text{renormalization of disorder} \\ \frac{d\tilde{\varkappa}}{d\Lambda} &= \eta \left[ \tilde{\varkappa} \frac{(1+3f+f^2)}{(1+2f)^2} - \varkappa_{\text{cr}}(1+f) \right] \\ \frac{d\xi^2}{d\Lambda} &= -\eta \frac{\xi^2(1+f)\varkappa_{\text{cr}}}{\tilde{\varkappa}}\end{aligned}$$

$$f = \frac{b\varkappa}{T}$$

**dimensionless disorder**

$$\tilde{\varkappa} = \varkappa \xi^2$$

**rescaled rigidity**

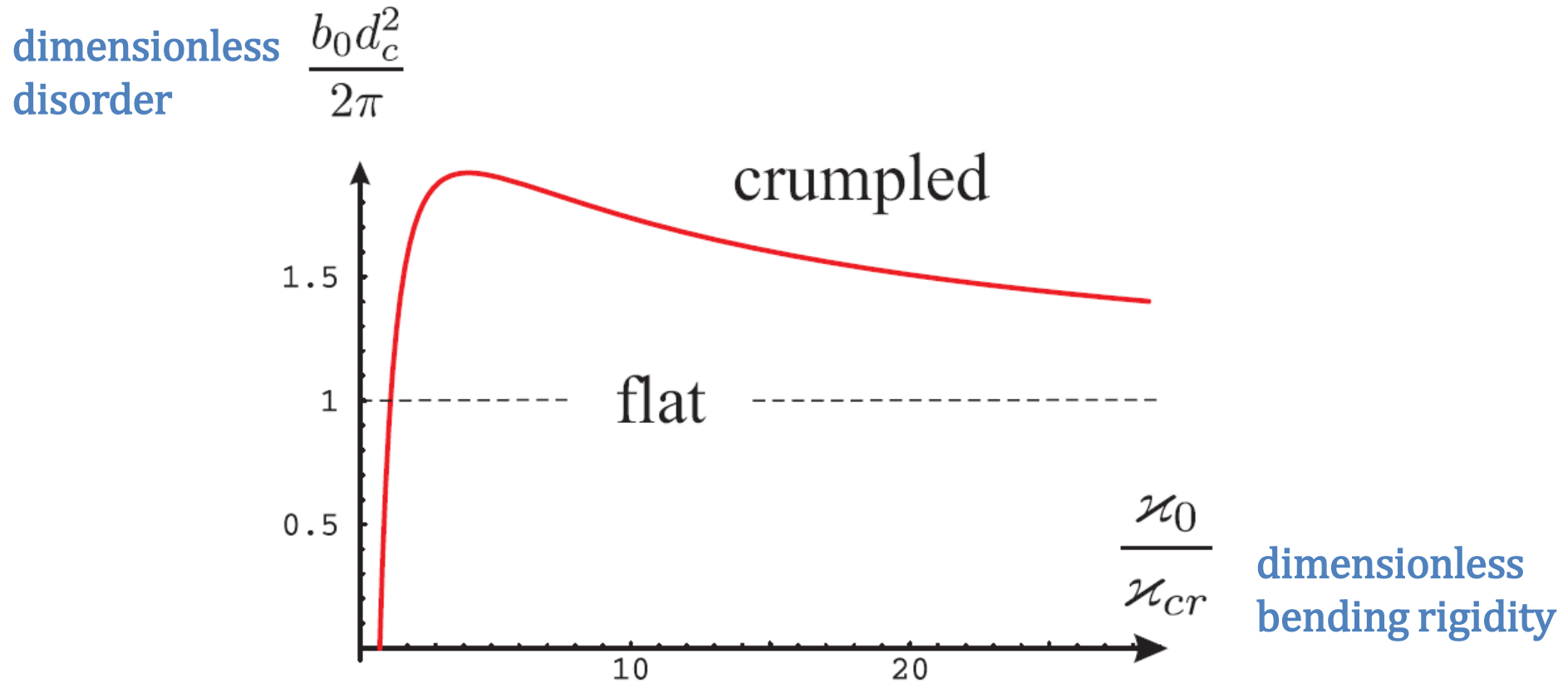
$$\eta \simeq \frac{2}{d_c}$$

**critical index for D=2**

$$\varkappa_{\text{cr}} = \frac{d_c^2 T}{8\pi}$$

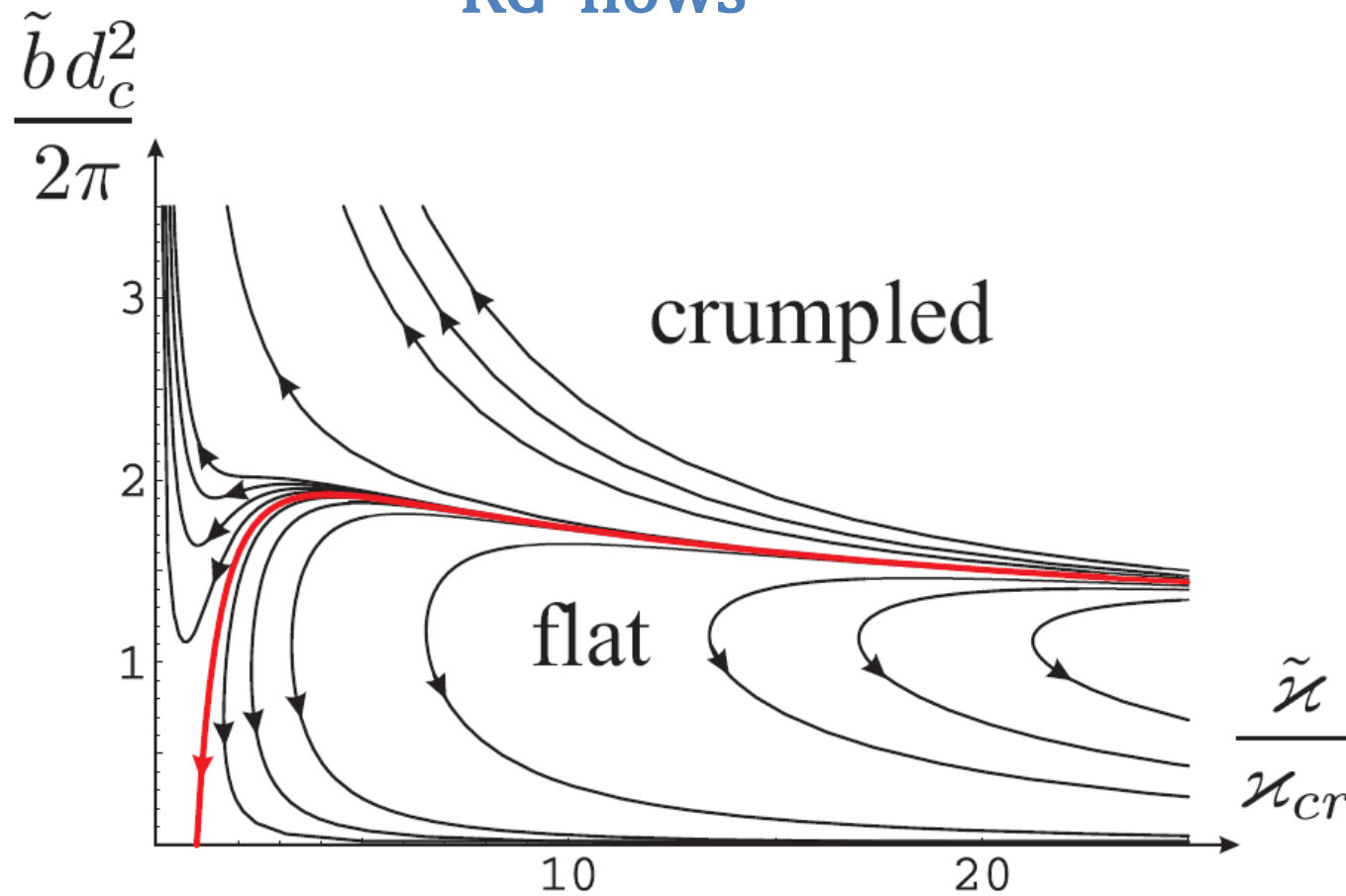
**fixed point for clean membrane**

# Phase diagram of crumpling transition in disordered membrane



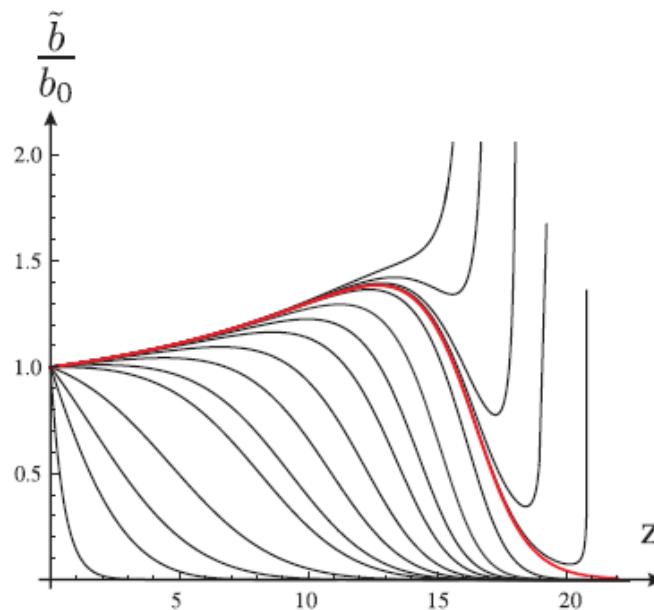
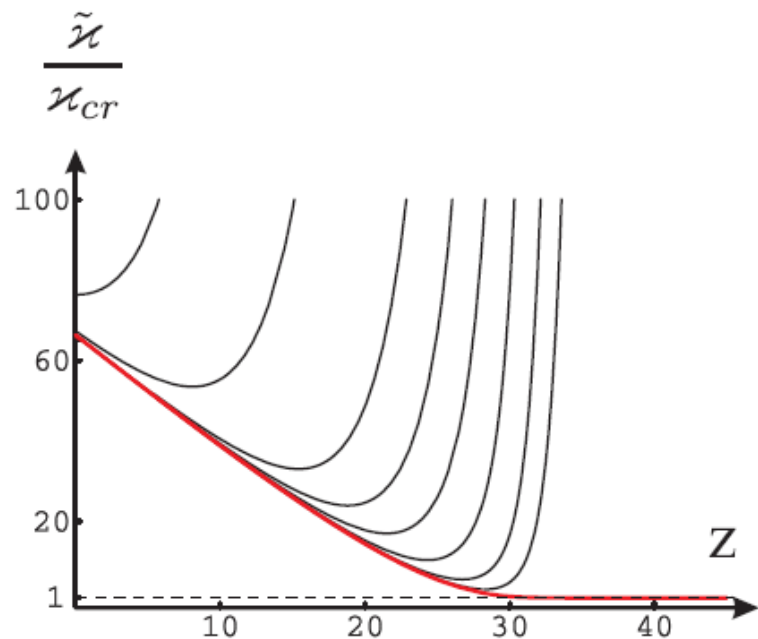
**Critical bending rigidity becomes disorder dependent**

## RG flows



**Non-monotonous scaling of bending rigidity and disorder**

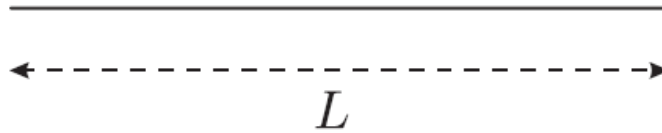
# Scaling of bending rigidity and disorder in the flat phase



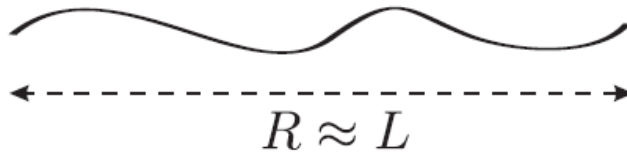
$$z = \eta \ln(L q^*)$$

# Geometry of the membrane

membrane without fluctuations

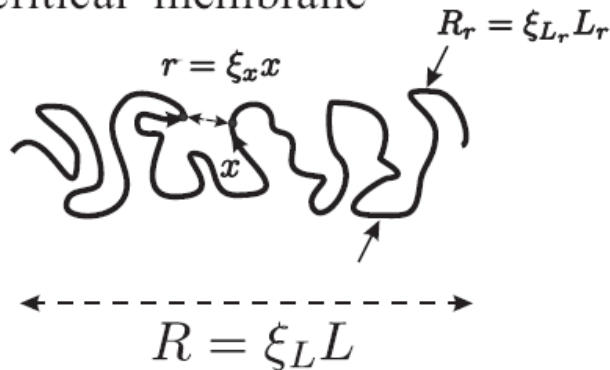


membrane in the flat phase



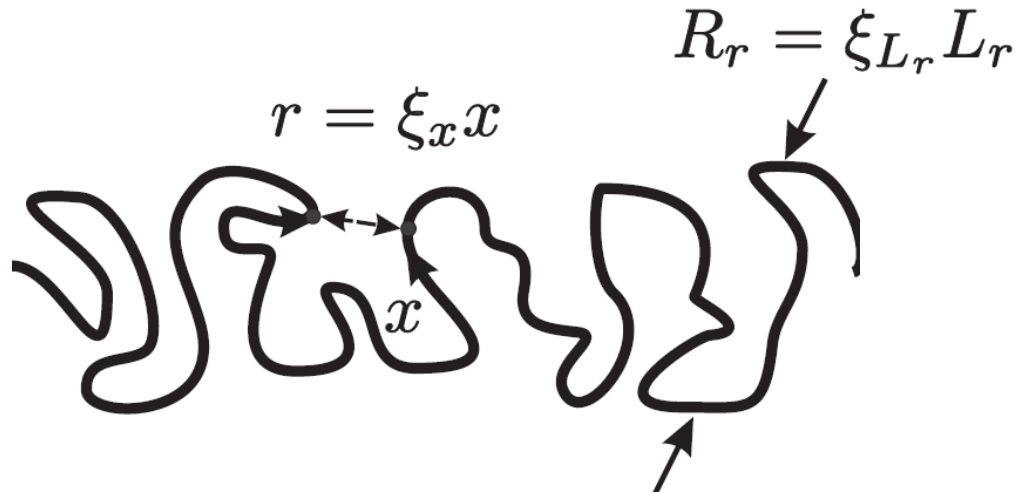
**small fluctuations:**  
**dynamical (flexural phonons)**  
**+ static (ripples)**

near-critical membrane



**fractal behavior**

# Multiple folding of membrane in the near-critical region



$$\langle |\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|^2 \rangle \sim \xi_{|\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_2|}^2 (\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_2)^2$$

$$\frac{\xi_L}{\xi_{L'}} \sim \frac{1}{2}$$

**folding of  
membrane**

# Clean membrane at criticality: Fractal dimension

$$\frac{d\tilde{\nu}}{d\Lambda} = \eta (\tilde{\nu} - \nu_{\text{cr}})$$

Critical point

$$\frac{d\xi^2}{d\Lambda} = -\eta \xi^2 \frac{\nu_{\text{cr}}}{\tilde{\nu}}$$



$$\tilde{\nu} = \nu_{\text{cr}}$$

$$\xi \propto \frac{1}{L^{\eta/2}}$$

$$\eta = 2/d_c, \quad \Lambda = \ln(L/L^*)$$

Size of the membrane in the embedding space:

$$R = L\xi_L \propto L^{1-\eta/2}$$

$$R^{D_H} \propto L^D$$



$$D_H = \frac{2}{1 - \eta/2}$$

fractal (Hausdorff)  
dimension

# Near-critical membrane (clean case)


$$\xi^2 = \delta + (1 - \delta) \left( \frac{L^*}{L} \right)^\eta$$

**small deviation from  
the critical point**

$$\delta = \frac{\varkappa_0 - \varkappa_{\text{cr}}}{\varkappa_0} \ll 1$$

**Fractal behavior:**  $L_1 \ll L \ll L_2$

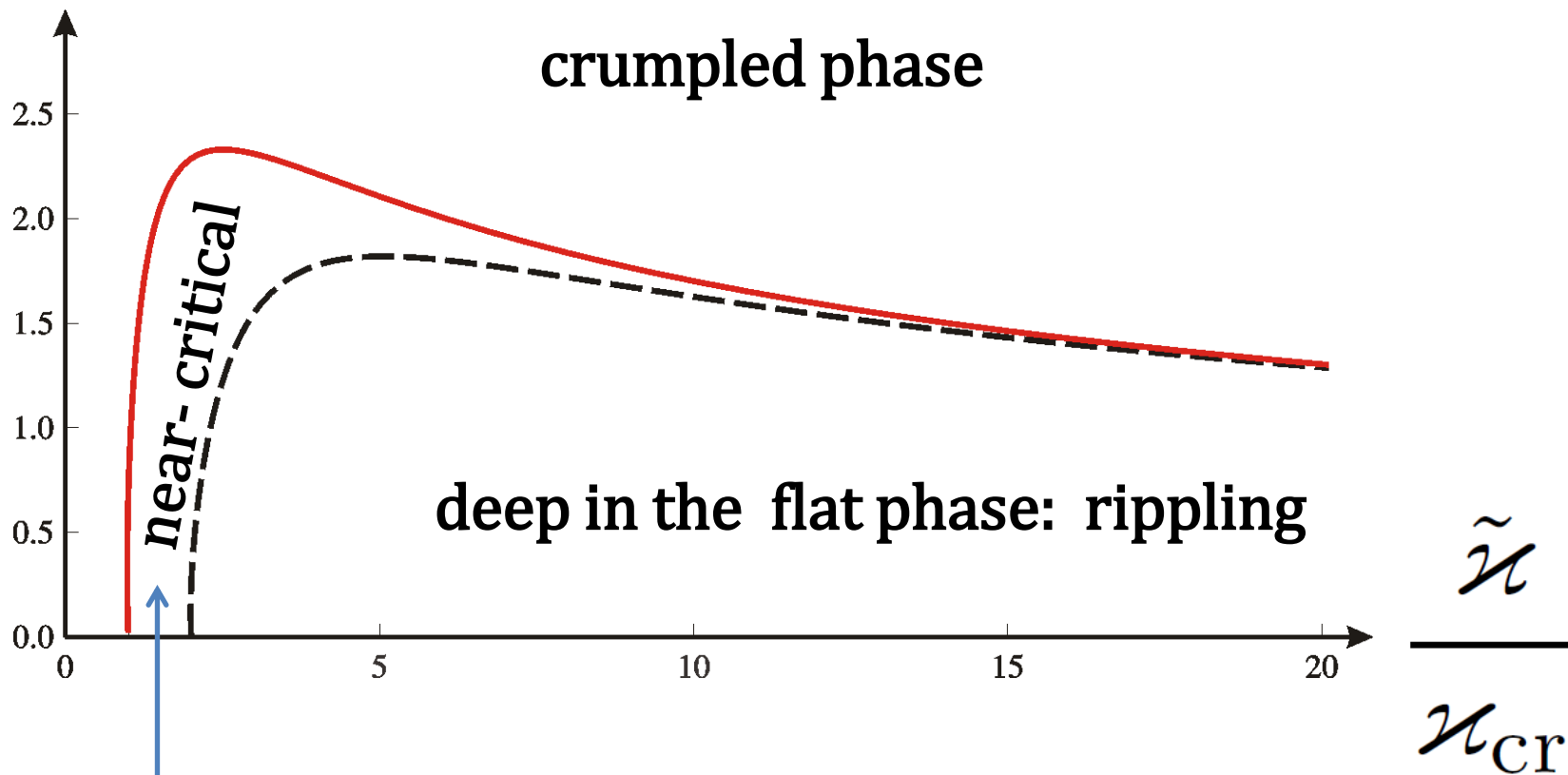
$$L_1 \sim L^* e^{1/\eta}, \quad L_2 \sim L^* \left( \frac{1}{\delta} \right)^{1/\eta}$$

$L \sim L_2$    $\xi \sim \xi_\infty \sim \sqrt{\delta} \ll 1$  **multiple folding**

$L \gg L_2$   **membrane flattens**



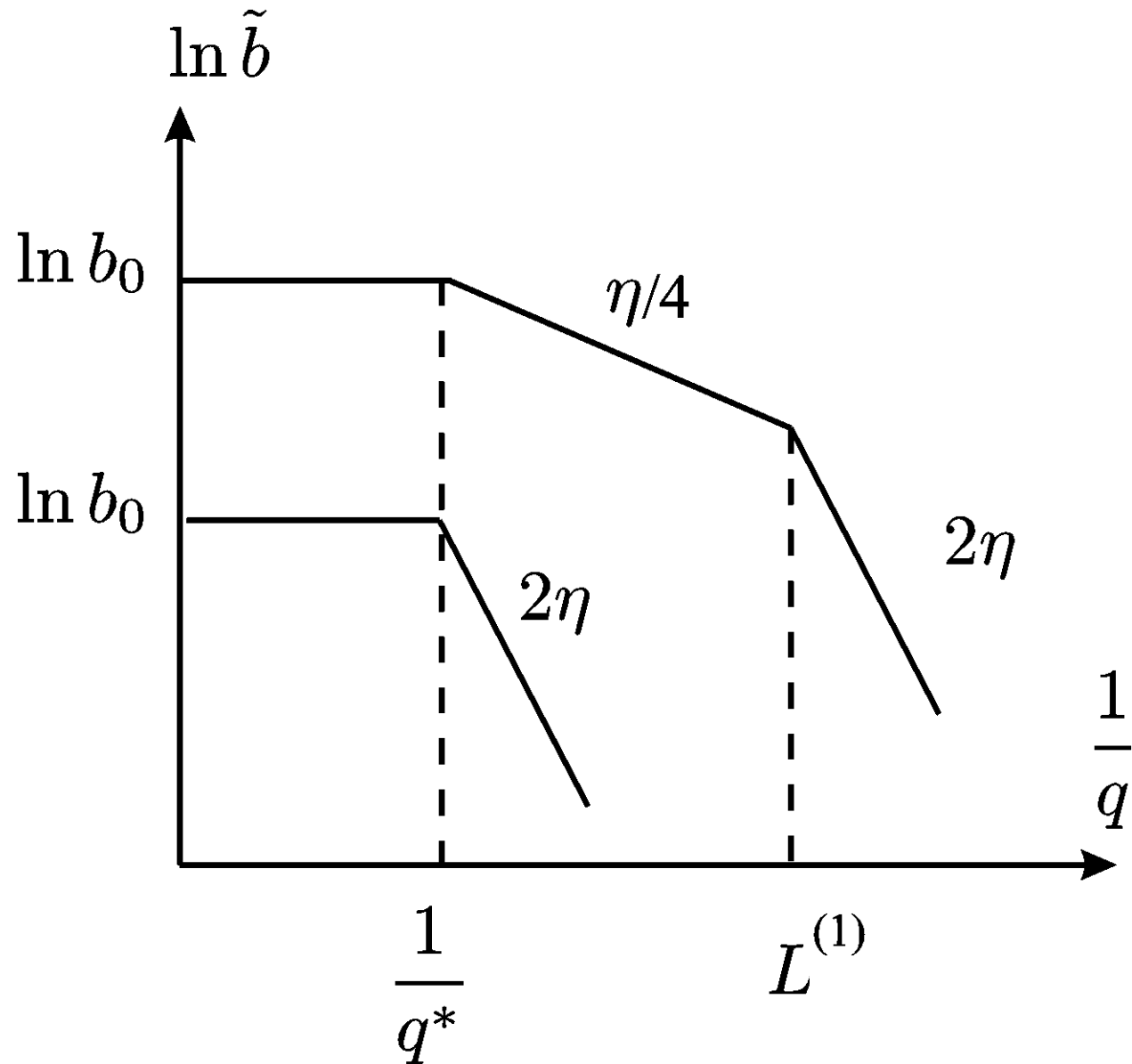
$$\frac{\tilde{b}d_c^2}{2\pi}$$



fractal behavior:  $L < L_2 \sim L^* \left(\frac{1}{\delta}\right)^{1/\eta} \exp\left(\frac{f_0}{3\eta}\right)$

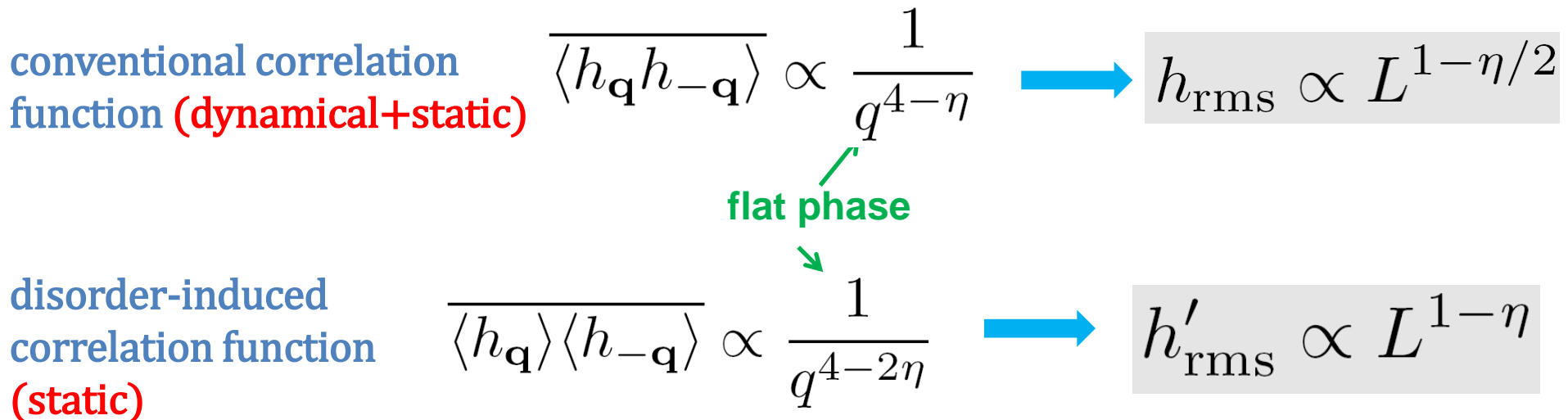
disorder-induced factor

# Scaling of the disorder deep in the flat phase



# Ripples: Static frozen-out deformations

## Disorder generates new correlation functions:



# Spatial size and amplitude of ripples

$$H(\mathbf{r}) = \overline{\nabla_{\mathbf{r}} \langle \mathbf{h}(0) \rangle \nabla_{\mathbf{r}} \langle \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{r}/\xi) \rangle}$$
$$= \int \frac{d^2 \mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^2} \frac{\tilde{b}_q}{q^2} e^{i\mathbf{q}\mathbf{r}}$$



$$H(r) \sim \frac{b_0}{2\pi} \begin{cases} \ln \left( \frac{1}{q^* r} \right), & \text{for } a < r < 1/q^*, \\ \left( \frac{1}{q^* r} \right)^{2\eta}, & \text{for } 1/q^* < r, \end{cases}$$

**Both spatial size and amplitude of ripples decrease with temperature:**

$$L_r \simeq \frac{2\pi}{q^*} \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{T}}$$

$$H(0) = \frac{b_0}{2\pi} \ln \left( \frac{1}{q^* a} \right) = \frac{b_0}{4\pi} \ln \left( \frac{T^*}{T} \right)$$

**Agrees with  
experiment:**

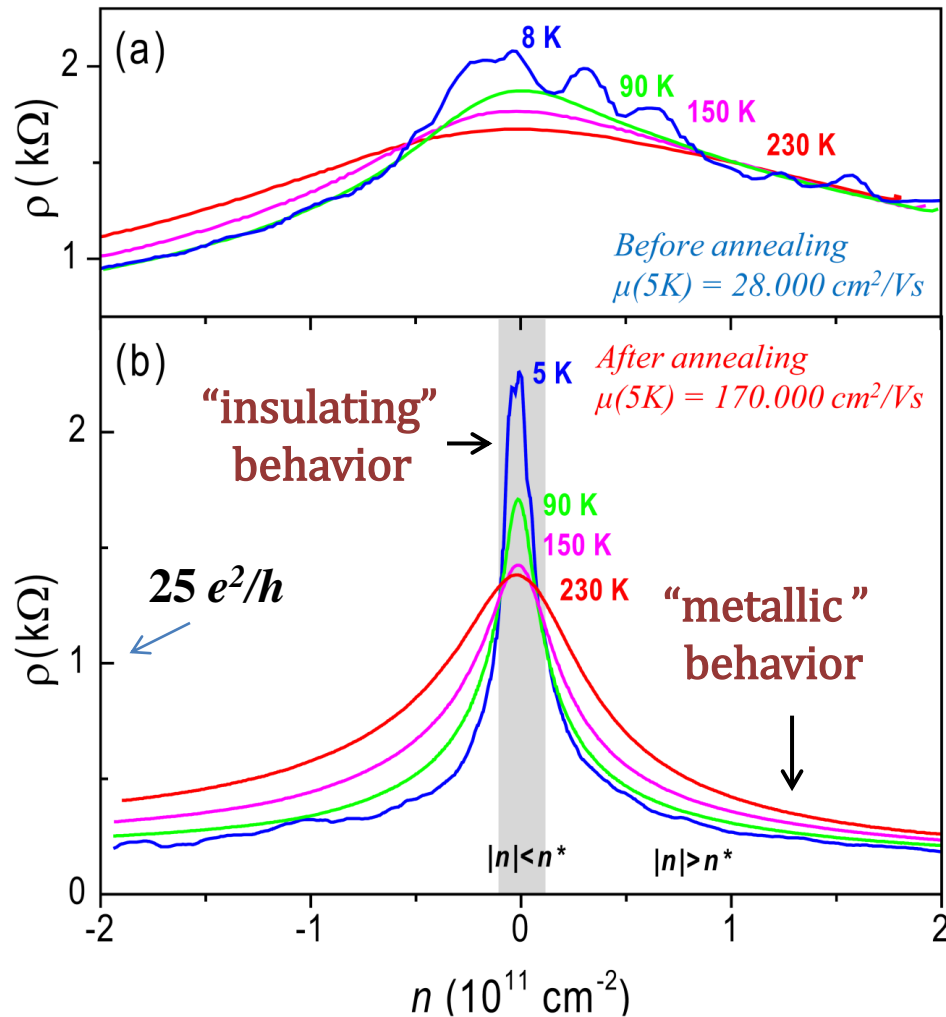
**D. A. Kirilenko,  
A. T. Dideykin,  
G. V. Tendeloo,  
PRB (2011)**

# Main results

- **Anharmonicity crucially effects elastic and transport properties of graphene**
- **Bending rigidity and disorder show non-monotonous scaling**
- **Membrane demonstrates fractal behavior in the near-critical region**
- **Amplitude and size of ripples in disordered graphene decrease with temperature**

# Effect of anharmonicity on transport properties: Comparison with experiment

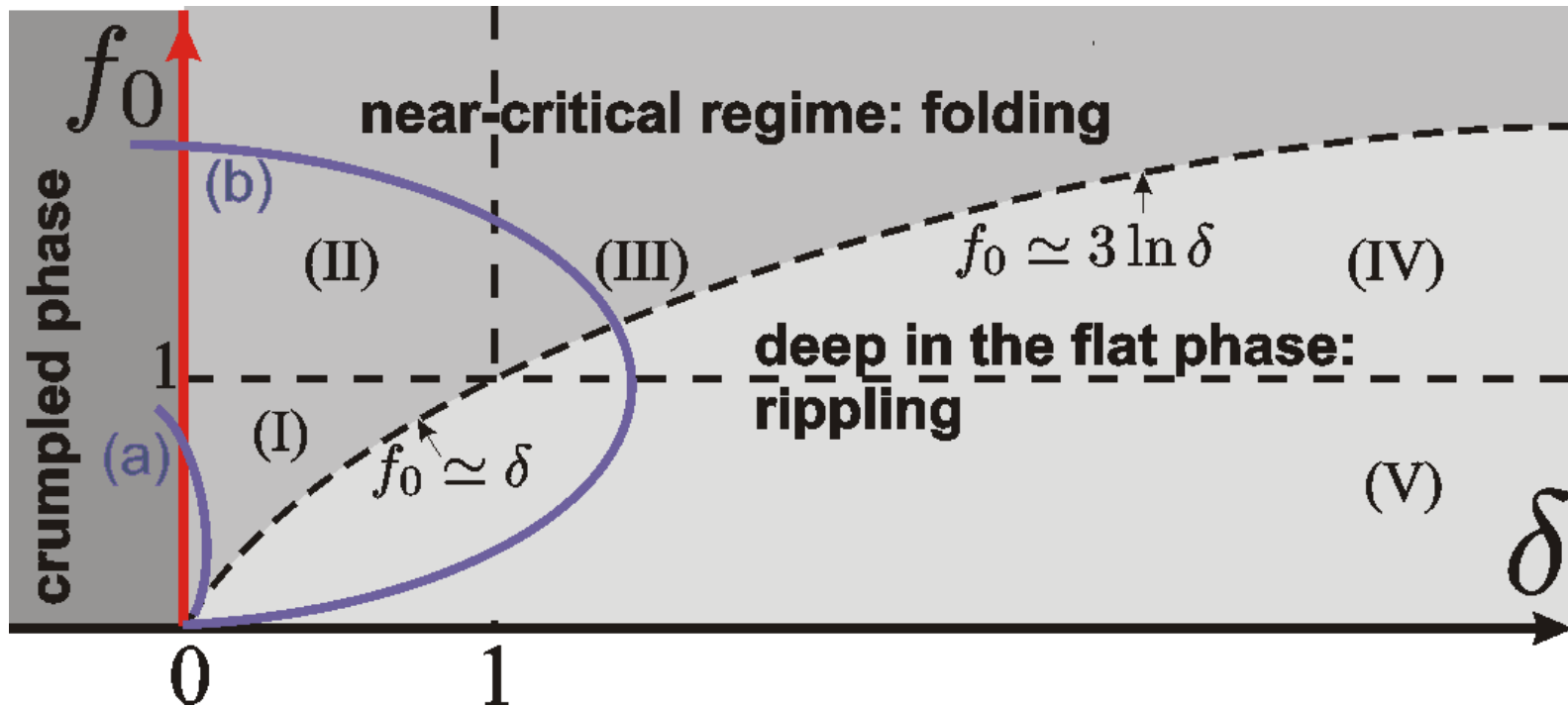
K. Bolotin, K.Sikes, J.Hone,  
H.Stormer, P.Kim, PRL (2008)



Suspended graphene  
(experiment):

**“metallic” ↔ “insulating”**  
**T-dependence**

# Phase diagram of disordered membrane in the $(\delta, f_0)$ plane.



**Critical curve** (shown in red) separates flat and crumpled phases. Clean case corresponds to horizontal axis ( $f_0 = 0$ ).

**Regions (I), (II), (III)** → near-critical regime within the flat phase. → membrane shows critical (fractal) folding at intermediate scales before flattening at larger scales.

**Regions (IV) and (V)** → rippled membrane deep in the flat phase.

**Blue curves** → fixed values of bare bending rigidity. Bare disorder increases along these curves from the bottom to the top (a)  $(\nu_0 - \nu_{cr})/\nu_{cr} \ll 1$ , (b)  $(\nu_0 - \nu_{cr})/\nu_{cr} \gg 1$

# Suspended graphene (theory) : “metallic” ↔ “insulating” T-dependence

Realistic samples: disorder + Coulomb + phonons

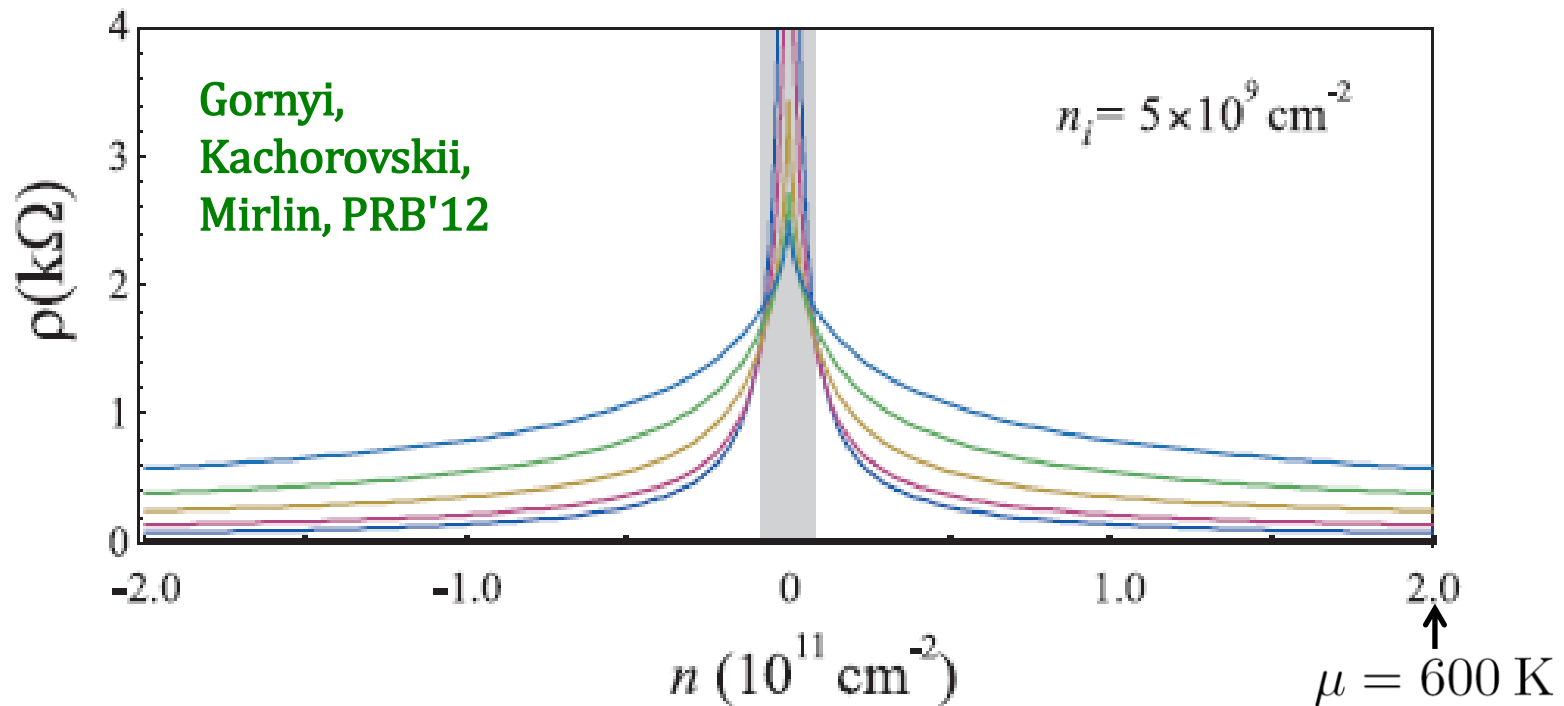


FIG. Resistivity as a function of electron concentration at  $n_i = 5 \times 10^9$  cm $^{-2}$  and different temperatures ( $T/1\text{K} = 5, 40, 90, 150, 230$ ) increasing from the bottom to the top at large  $n$ . Within the grey area temperature dependence is “insulating”, while outside this region it is “metallic”.



# Graphene as elastic membrane

## Elastic energy

$$E = \frac{1}{2} \int d\mathbf{r} \left[ \rho(\dot{\mathbf{u}}^2 + \dot{h}^2) + \kappa(\Delta h)^2 + 2\mu u_{ij}^2 + \lambda u_{kk}^2 \right]$$

$\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{r}), h(\mathbf{r})$  are in-plane and out-of-plane distortions

$$u_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} [\partial_i u_j + \partial_j u_i + (\partial_i h)(\partial_j h)]$$

**Strain  
tensor**

$\rho \simeq 7.6 \cdot 10^{-7} \text{kg/m}^2$  mass density of graphene

$\lambda \simeq 3\text{eV}/\text{\AA}^2$      $\mu \simeq 3\text{eV}/\text{\AA}^2$  elastic constants

$\kappa \approx 1\text{eV}$  bending rigidity

$\omega_{\parallel \mathbf{q}} = s_{\parallel} q$  ,  $\omega_{\perp \mathbf{q}} = s_{\perp} q$  in-plane phonons

$s_{\parallel} = [(2\mu + \lambda) / \rho]^{1/2} \simeq 2 \cdot 10^6 \text{cm/s}$ ,  $s_{\perp} = (\mu / \rho)^{1/2} \simeq 1.3 \cdot 10^6 \text{cm/s}$