

### Kinetic Theory of Ballistic Aggregation and Fragmentation. (Application to Planetary Rings)

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Conference dedicated to 60<sup>th</sup> birthday of Alexander Gorban

### **Aggregation of particles**

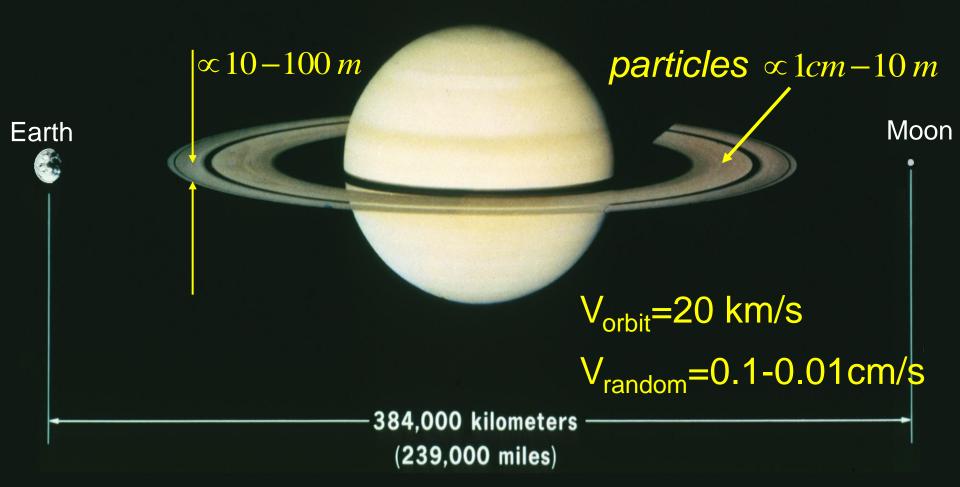
### **Protoplanetary discs – formation**

of planets

### Fragmentation of particles: grinding of large bodies to dust

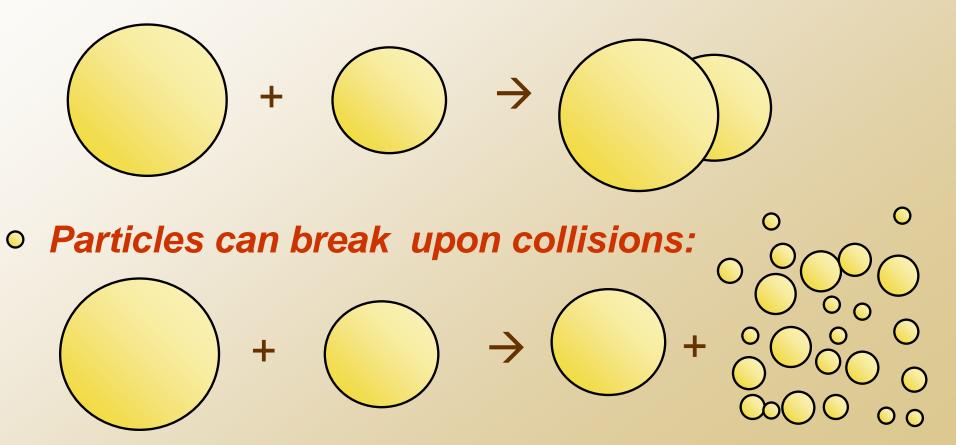
### Planetary Rings: Aggregation & Fragmentation

### Saturn Rings



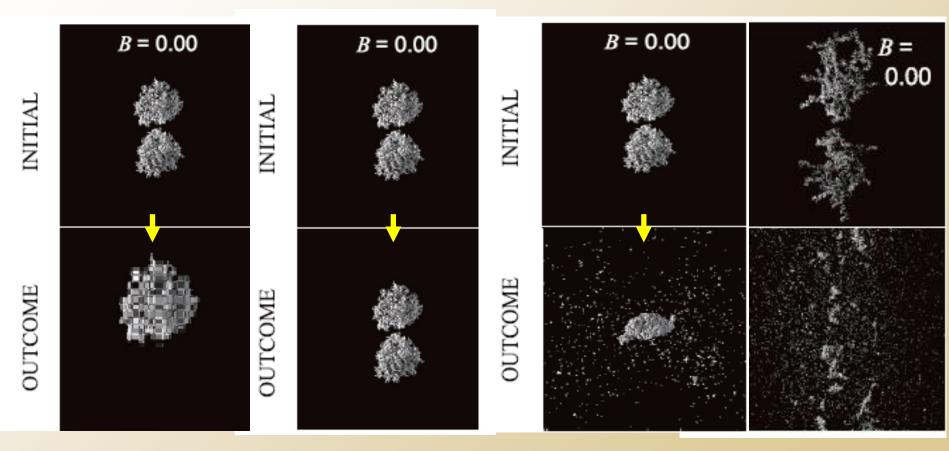
### Model

- O Particles move ballistically between pair-wise collisions
- Particles can aggregate upon collisions:



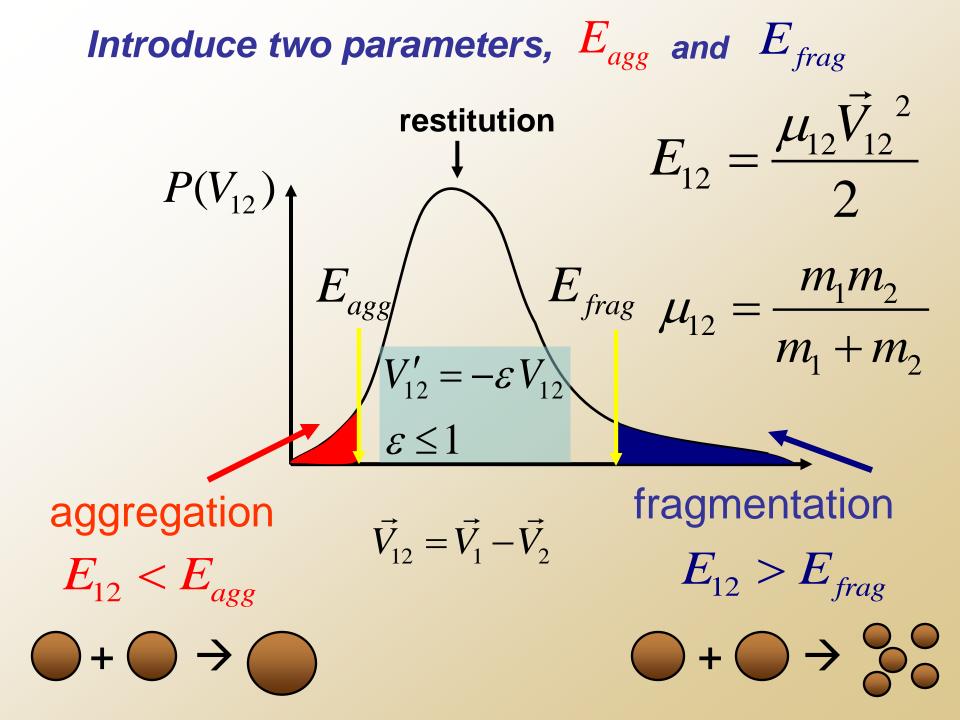
### Important features of particle collisions:

- Particles aggregate for small impact velocities
- Particles collide loosing kinetic energy for medium impact speeds
- Particles break for large impact velocities



Small V<sub>imp</sub>

Medium VLarge Vusing pictures of K.Wada Astrophys. J., 2009



### **Boltzmann equation**



Distribution function: 
$$f(\vec{r}, \vec{V}, t)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} f(\vec{r}, \vec{V}, t) = I(f, f) - \text{``collision integral''}$$

$$I = I_{gain}(f, f) - I_{loss}(f, f)$$

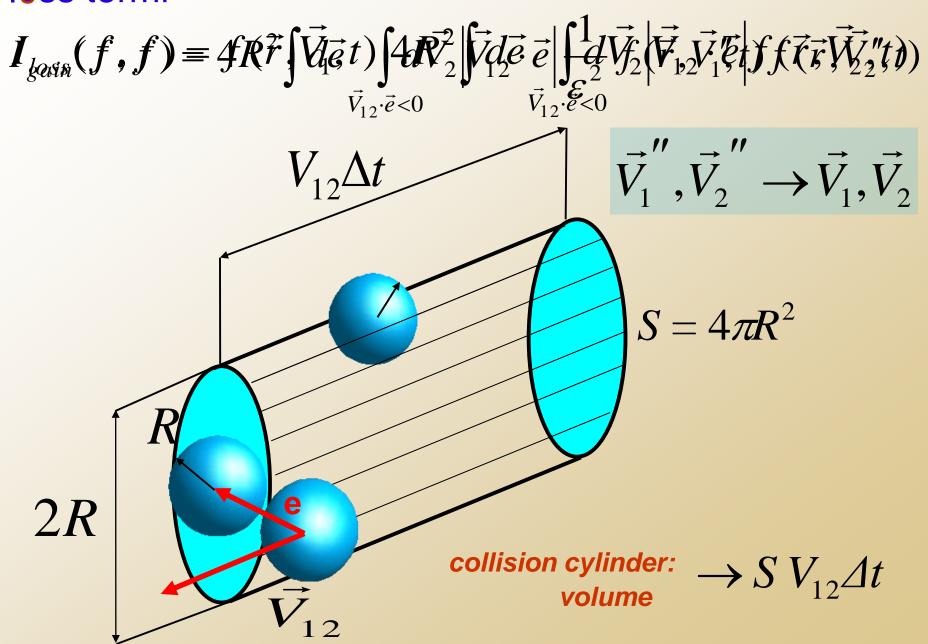


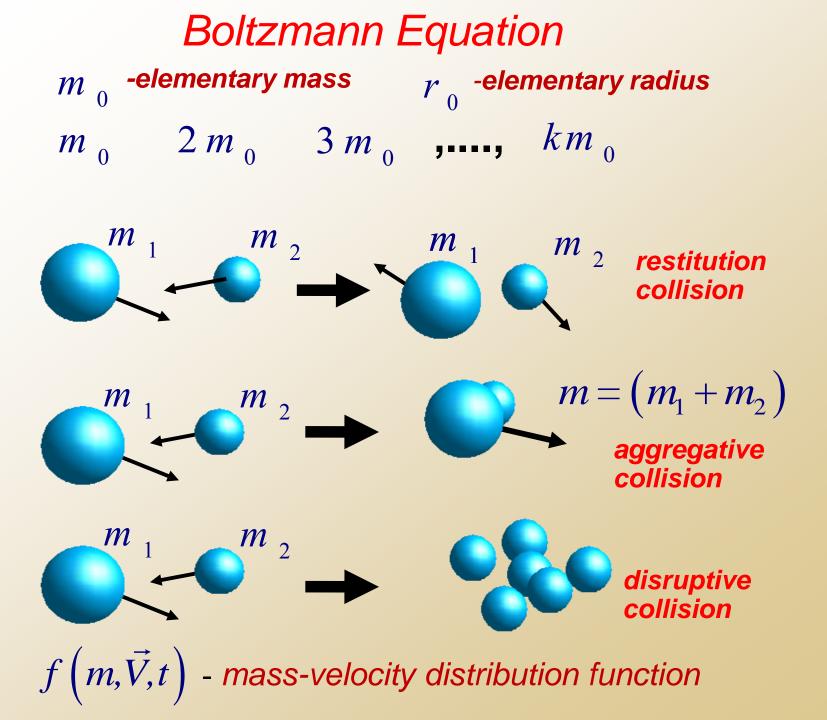
### 2 The Source of Examples

- 2.1 The Boltzmann Equation
- 2.1.1 The Equation
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- 2.4.4 Special Approximations
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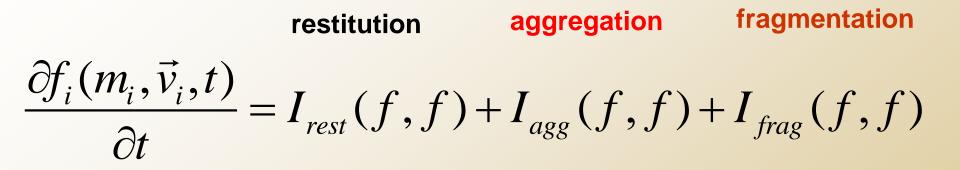


## E.g. for collisions with restitution only





### **Generalized Boltzmann Equation**



viscous heating

 $+I_{heat}(f,f)$ 

Keeps the temperature of ring particles constant Aggregation term

• Fragmentation term has the similar structure, but requires a microscopic fragmentation model

The heating term keeps the steady-state energy distribution for species. its particular form is not presently important.

### **Generalized Boltzmann Equation**

Assume:

• Maxwellian: 
$$f_i(m_i, \vec{v}_i, t) = n_i \left(\frac{m_i}{2T(t)\pi}\right)^{3/2} \exp\left(-\frac{m_i v_i^2}{2T(t)}\right)$$

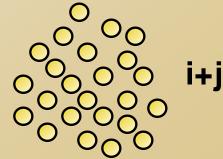
Ask Alexander Why this is justified:



$$n_{i}(t) = \int f_{i}(m_{i}, \vec{v}_{i}, t) d\vec{v}_{i}$$
$$T_{i}(t) = \int \frac{m_{i}v_{i}^{2}}{2} f_{i}(m_{i}, \vec{v}_{i}, t) d\vec{v}_{i} = T(t)$$

Complete fragmentation at collisions:

$$j$$
 +  $i$   $\rightarrow$ 



### *Kinetic equations for particles concentrations n<sub>i</sub>(t) for space uniform systems*

relative ratio of aggregativeand disruptive collisions

$$\frac{dn_k}{dt} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i+j=k} K_{ij} n_i n_j - n_k \sum_{j\geq 1} K_{kj} n_j - \lambda n_k \sum_{j\geq 1} K_{kj} n_j$$
aggregation
aggregation
fragmentation

1 1

$$\frac{dn_{1}}{dt} = -n_{1} \sum_{j \ge 1} K_{1j}n_{j} + \frac{\lambda}{2} \sum_{i,j \ge 2} (i+j)K_{ij}n_{i}n_{j} + \lambda n_{1} \sum_{j \ge 2} jK_{1j}n_{j}$$
aggregation
fragmentation
$$K_{ij} = r_{1}^{2}e^{-E_{\text{frag}}/T}\lambda^{-1}\sqrt{\frac{8\pi T}{m_{1}}}\sqrt{\frac{(i+j)}{ij}}\left(i^{1/3}+j^{1/3}\right)^{2}$$

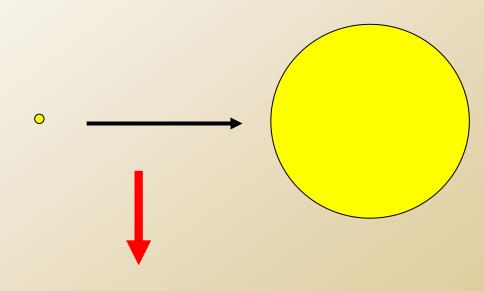
$$\lambda = \left(1 + (1 + E_{\text{agg}}/T)e^{-E_{\text{agg}}/T}\right)e^{-E_{\text{frag}}/T}$$

$$m_{1}$$

### For planetary rings particles' size ranges

### from ~ $10^{-3}$ m to ~ $1^{0}$ m





**10<sup>9</sup> equations!** 

**Analytics?** 

# $\begin{aligned} & \frac{dn_1}{dt} = -n_1 N + \lambda (1 - n_1) N & N(t) = \sum_{j \ge 1} n_j(t) \\ & \frac{dn_k}{dt} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i+j=k} n_i n_j - (1 + \lambda) n_k N; & \text{Total number of aggregates} \end{aligned}$

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dn_1}{dt} = -n_1 N + \lambda (1 - n_1) N \\ \frac{dN}{dt} = -N^2 + \lambda (1 - N) N \end{cases}$$

 $t \to K_0 n_0 t \qquad n_k \to n_0 n_k$ 

**Constant rate coefficients:**  $K = K_0$ For  $n_k(t=0) = \delta_{k,1}$  $N(t) = 2\lambda \left[ 1 + 2\lambda - e^{-\lambda t} \right]^{-1}$  $n_{1}(t) = \frac{\lambda}{1+\lambda} + \frac{1}{1+\lambda} \left[ \frac{(1+2\lambda)e^{\lambda t} - 1}{2\lambda} \right]^{-\frac{2(1+\lambda)}{1+2\lambda}}$  $\tau_{rel}^{-1} = K_0 n_0 \lambda = 10^3 - 10^5$  years

The system relaxes to the steady state distribution of particles sizes!

## Constant rate coefficients: $K = K_0$ Steady-state: $n_1 = \frac{\lambda}{1+\lambda}$ $N = \frac{2\lambda}{1+2\lambda}$

$$0 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i+j=k} n_i n_j - (1+\lambda) n_k N; \quad k = 2,3,...$$

Introduce Generating function:  $G(z) = \sum_{k \ge 1} n_k z^k$ 

 $G(z)^{2} - 2(1+\lambda)NG(z) + 2(1+\lambda)Nn_{1}z = 0$ 

### Solving the quadratic equation we obtain:

$$G(z) = (1 + \lambda)N \left[ 1 - \sqrt{1 - \frac{2n_1}{(1 + \lambda)N}} z \right]$$

Expanding G(z) we obtain exact steady-state

$$n_{k} = \frac{N}{\sqrt{4\pi}} (1+\lambda) \left[ \frac{2n_{1}}{(1+\lambda)N} \right]^{k} \frac{\Gamma\left(k-\frac{1}{2}\right)}{\Gamma\left(k+1\right)}$$

For 
$$k >>1$$
  
$$n_k = \frac{\lambda}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-\lambda^2 k} k^{-3/2}$$

### **General case**

### The rate kernel is uniform:

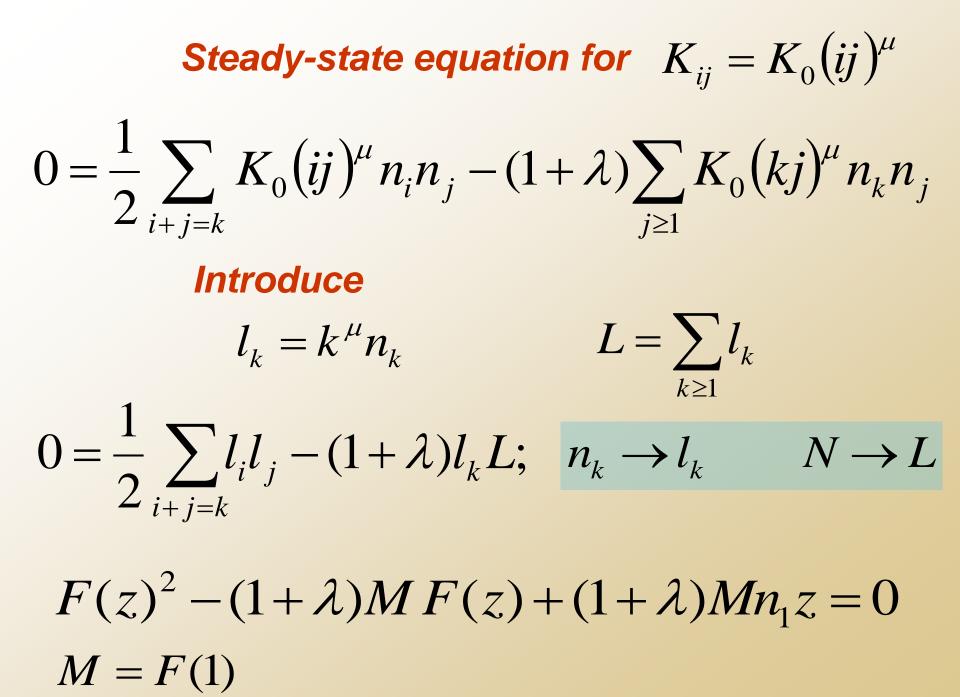
$$K_{ij} \propto \sqrt{\frac{(i+j)}{ij}} (i^{1/3} + j^{1/3})^2$$
  
$$K_{aiaj} = a^{2\mu} K_{ij} \quad \text{with} \quad \mu = \frac{1}{12}$$

This suggests the approximation:

$$K_{ij} \approx K_0 \left(ij\right)^{\mu}$$

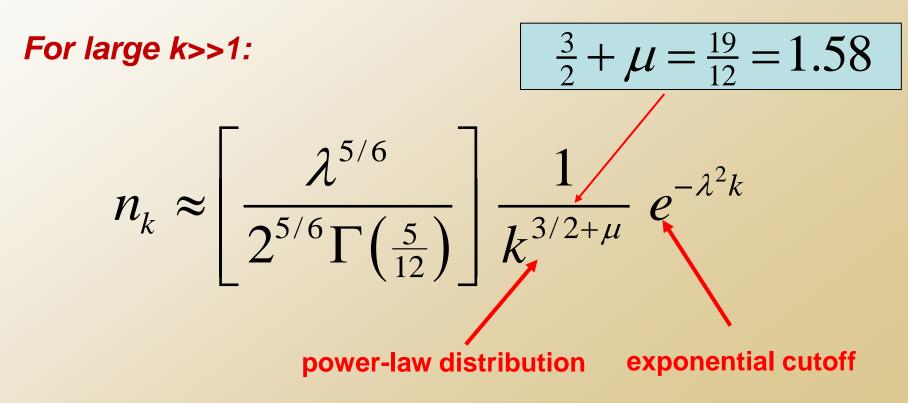
$$K_{0} = r_{1}^{2} e^{-E_{\text{frag}}/T} \lambda^{-1} \sqrt{\frac{8\pi T}{m_{1}}}$$

for μ=0 aggregation and fragmentation does not depend on particles size (constant kernel)

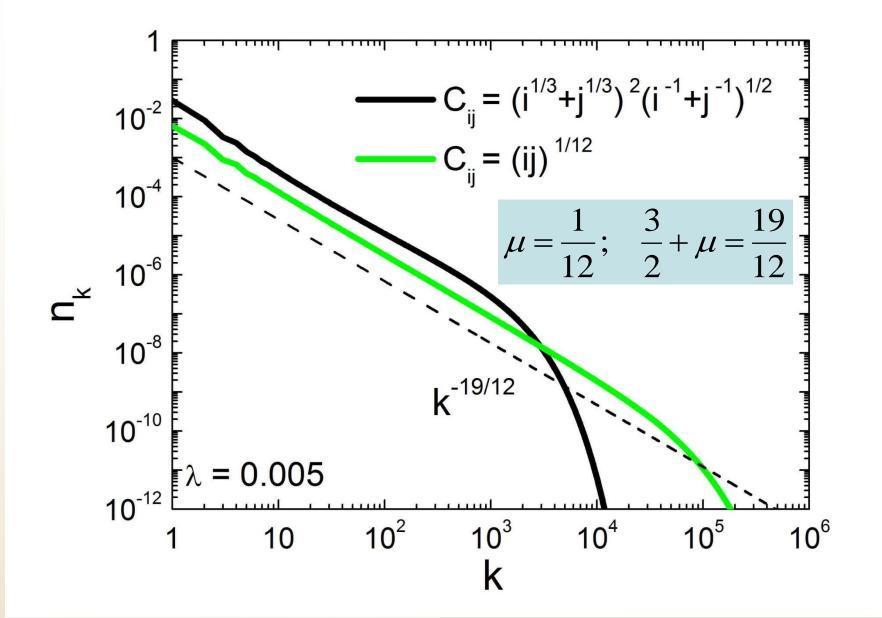


Solving quadratic equation and expanding F(z) we obtain:

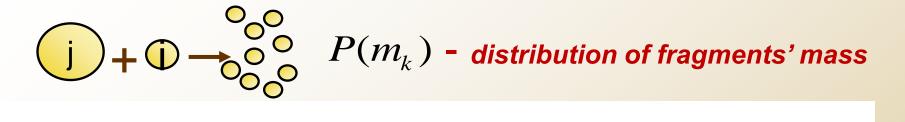
$$n_{k} = \frac{(1+\lambda)M}{4\sqrt{\pi}} \left( 1 - \left(\frac{\lambda}{1+\lambda}\right)^{2} \right)^{k} \frac{\Gamma(k-1/2)}{k^{\mu}\Gamma(k+1)}$$

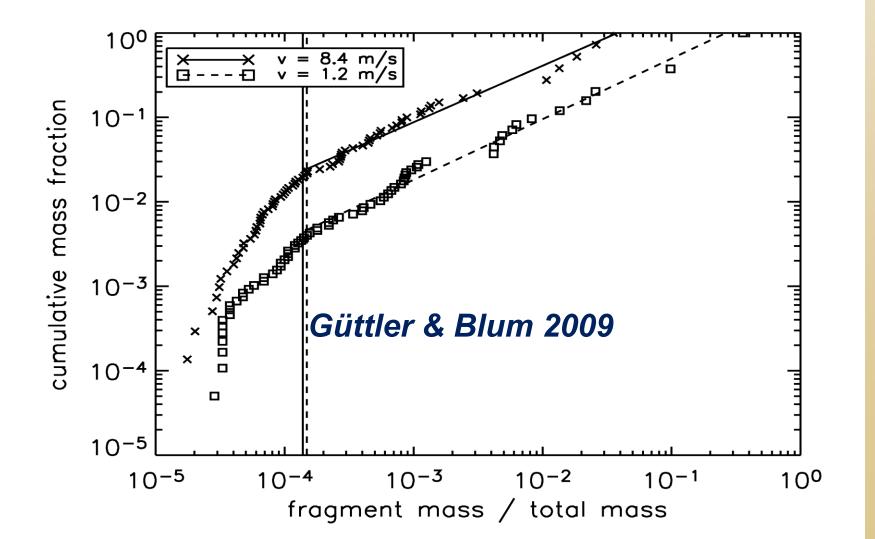


### Numerical Solution of the rate equations.



### **Fragmentation models**





### breakage of particles with a power-law distribution of debris

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{j} + \mathbf{f} \rightarrow \mathbf{f} \rightarrow \mathbf{f} = P(m_k) \propto k^{-\alpha} \\
\frac{dn_1}{dt} = -n_1 \sum_{j \ge 1} K_{1j} n_j + \frac{\lambda}{2} \sum_{i,j \ge 2} (i+j) K_{ij} n_i n_j + \lambda n_1 \sum_{j \ge 2} j K_{1j} n_j \\
\text{aggregation} \quad fragmentation \\
\frac{dn_k}{dt} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i+j=k} K_{ij} n_i n_j - (1+\lambda) \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} K_{ki} n_i n_k \quad old \ terms \\
+ \lambda \sum_{i=1}^k n_i \sum_{j=k+1}^{\infty} K_{ij} n_j P_k(j) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \sum_{i,j \ge k+1}^{\infty} K_{ij} n_i n_j [P_k(i) + P_k(j)] \\
\underline{P_k(i) \propto i k^{-\alpha}}
\end{aligned}$$

Assume distribution 
$$n_k \propto k^{-\gamma} e^{-ak}$$

Then:

Old terms scale as

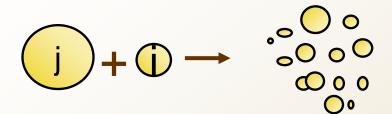
 $\propto k^{\mu-\gamma}$  for k >> 1; ak < 1

New terms scale as

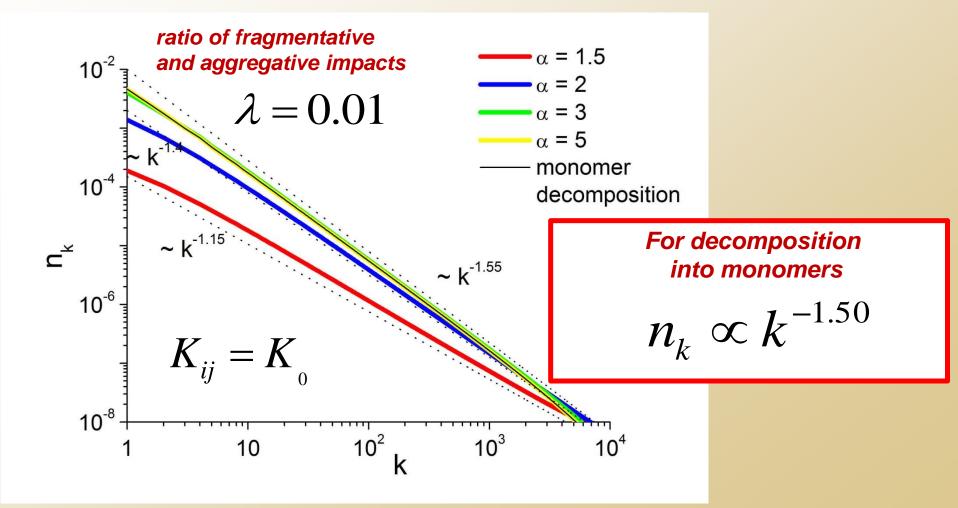
$$\propto k^{-\alpha}$$
 or  $k^{\mu-\gamma+1-\alpha}$  k>>1; ak<1

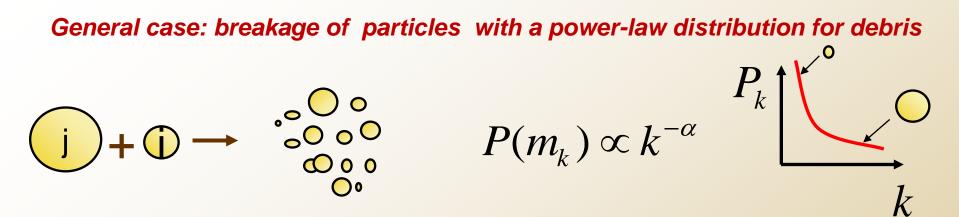
For Steep size distributions of debris size the resulting steady-state distribution is Universal and coincides with this for the complete fragmentation into monomers

### breakage of particles with a power-law distribution for debris



$$P(m_k) \propto k^{-\alpha}$$





Universality of steady-state size distribution in aggregation-fragmentation processes:

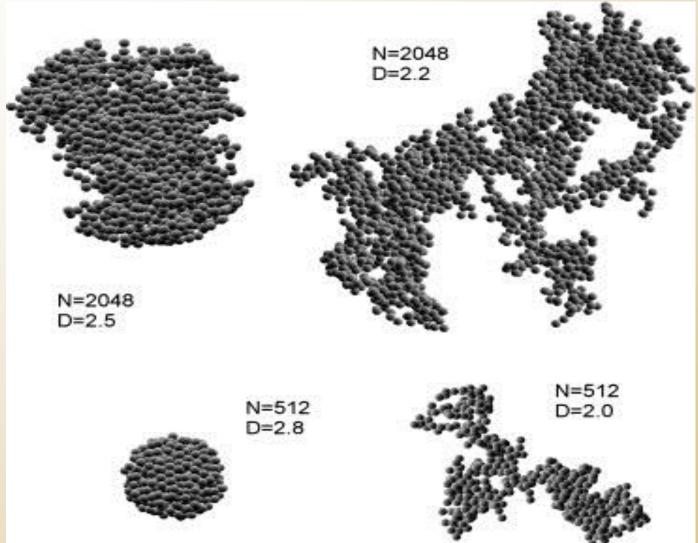
All steady–state aggregate size distributions have for k>>1 the same form

$$n_k \propto k^{-3/2-\mu} e^{-\lambda^2 k}$$

where  $2\mu$  is the homogeneity degree of the kinetic coefficients, if the size distribution of debris is steep enough; it coincides with the form for the case of complete decomposition into monomers. For the case of power-law debris size distribution, the condition seemingly reads,

$$\alpha \ge 3$$

Ring particles are "ephemeral dynamic bodies. They are very loose and weak with a low average coordination number. Hence a steep distribution of debris at a collisional decomposition is very plausible.



The radii distribution of particles in Planetary Rings:

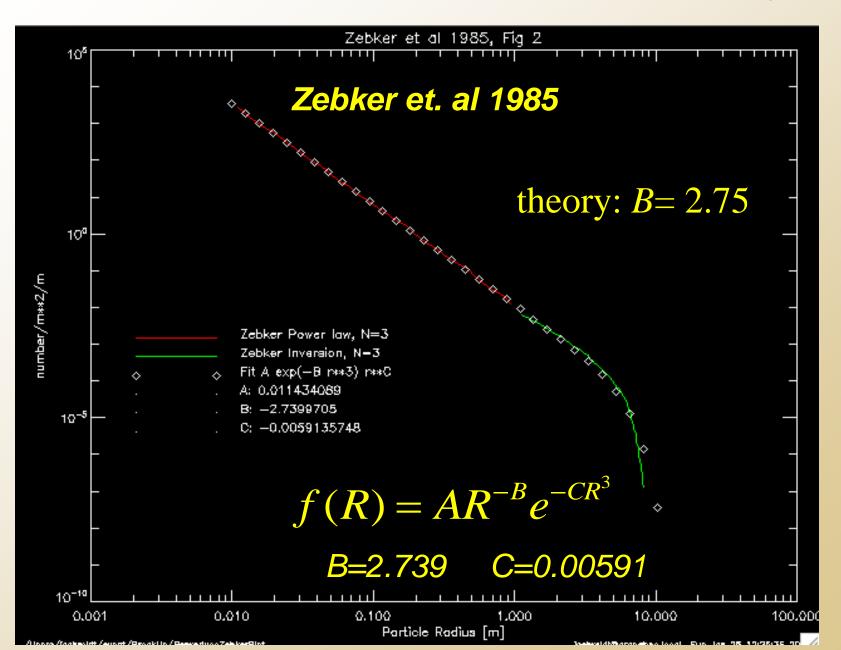
$$k \propto R^3 \qquad n_k dk = f(R) dR$$

we obtain for the radii distribution function:

$$f(R) \propto R^{-(5/2+3\mu)} \exp\left(-\frac{R^3}{R_c^3}\right)$$
$$\frac{5}{2} + 3\mu = \frac{11}{4} = 2.75 \qquad R_c = r_1 \lambda^{-2/3}$$

N. Brilliantov, et all. PNAS, 2014 submitted.

### **Comparison with the observational data for Planetary Rings**



### **Conclusion**

- Kinetic theory of ballistic aggregation and fragmentation is developed
- Analytical result for the steady-state size distribution function is obtained
- Theoretical results agree very well with the observation data for Saturn Rings

N.Brilliantov, J.Schmidt, F.Spahn, *Planetary and Space Science*, 73 (2009) 327 J.Schmidt, N.Brilliantov, F. Spahn, S.Kempf, *Nature* 451 (2008) 685

F.Postberg, S.Kempf, J.Schmidt, N.Brilliantov, A.Beinsen, B.Abel, U.Buck, R. Srama, *Nature*, 459 (2009) 1098

N.Brilliantov, A.Bodrova, P.Krapivsky, J. Stat. Mech. (2009) 06/P06011

### Still to be done:

- To take into account different granular temperatures T<sub>k</sub>
- To compute aggregation and fragmentaion energies E<sub>agg</sub> and E<sub>frag</sub>
- To estimate the cutoff radius R<sub>c</sub> and to compare with the observation data
- Many other interesting issues....

N.Brilliantov, J.Schmidt, F.Spahn, Planetary and Space Science, 73 (2009) 327

J.Schmidt, N.Brilliantov, F. Spahn, S.Kempf, *Nature* 451 (2008) 685

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