

# *Austen's 2 hours visit to Aalborg for ...*



June 27, 2012

# What occurs during the fragile-to-strong transition?

Yuanzheng Yue<sup>1,2</sup> and Lina Hu<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Aalborg University, Aalborg, Denmark

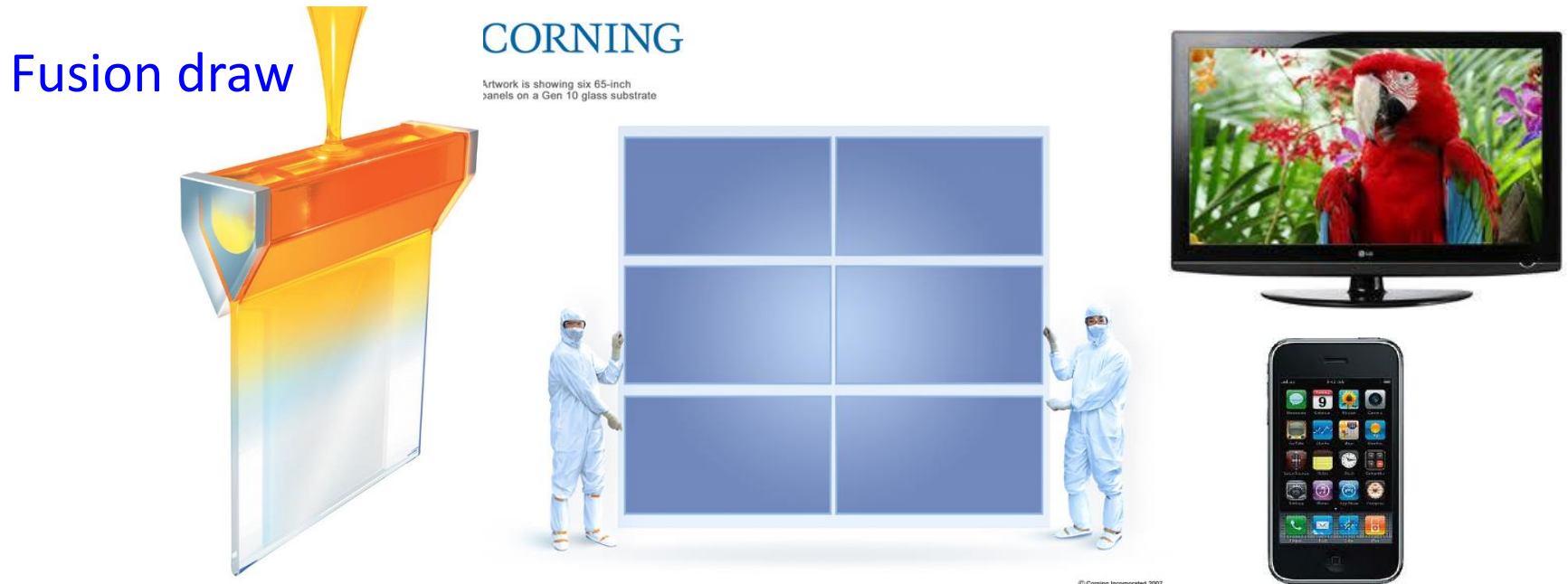
<sup>2</sup>Shandong University, Jinan, China

# Outline

- Fragile to strong (F-S) transition
- Exploring the F-S transition by
  - Hyperquenching-Annealing-DSC
  - Diving deeply into the supercooled region
  - *In-situ structural characterization (on-going)*
- Perspective

Fragile to strong (F-S) transition

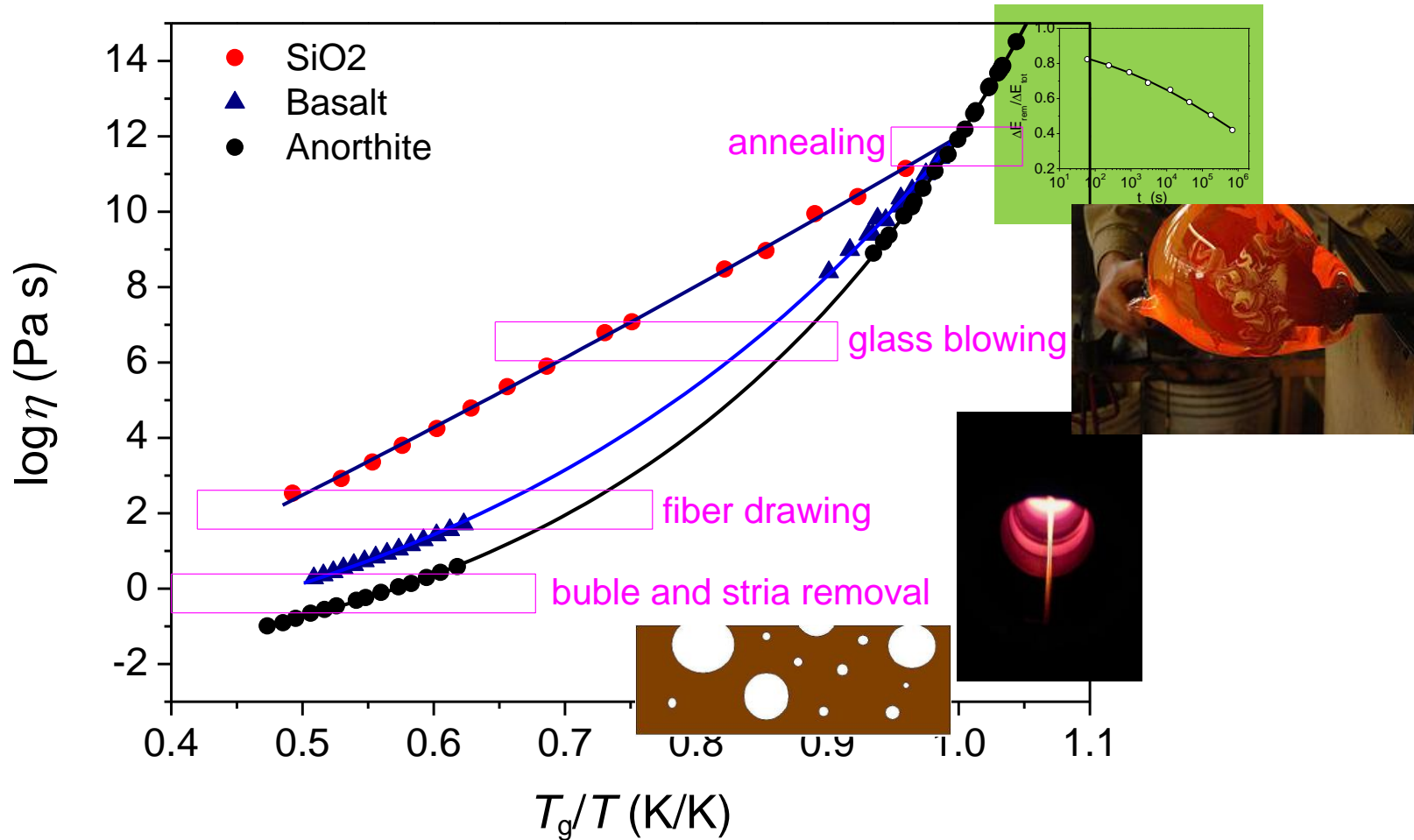
# Why Do We Care Fragility?



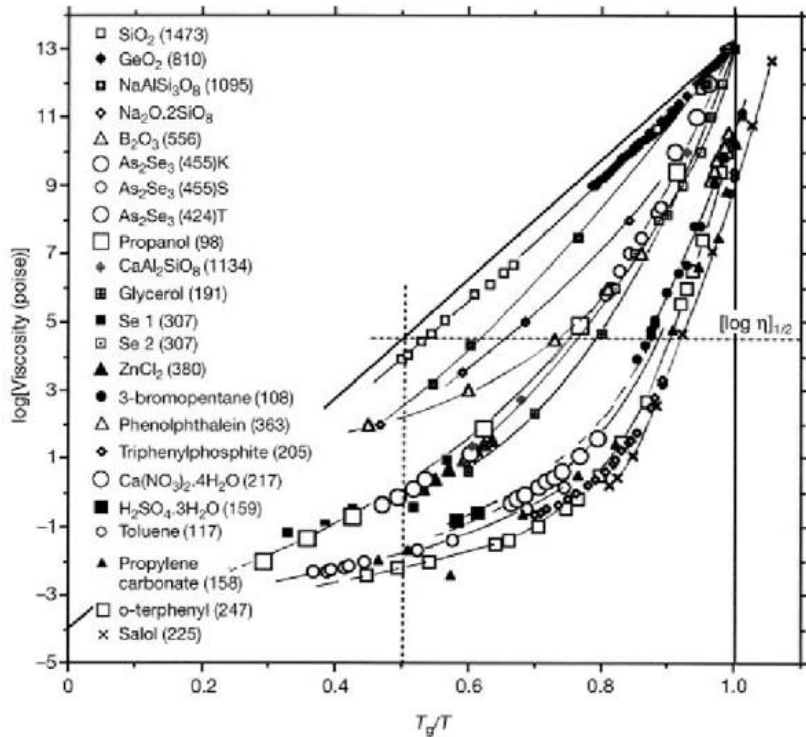
- Every step of industrial glass production depends critically on the viscosity of the glass-forming liquid!
- The fragility concept is linked to fundamental glass problems!

*Google: Liquid Fragility: 1.29 mil. results, 0.4 seconds!*

# Importance of viscosity and fragility for glass technology



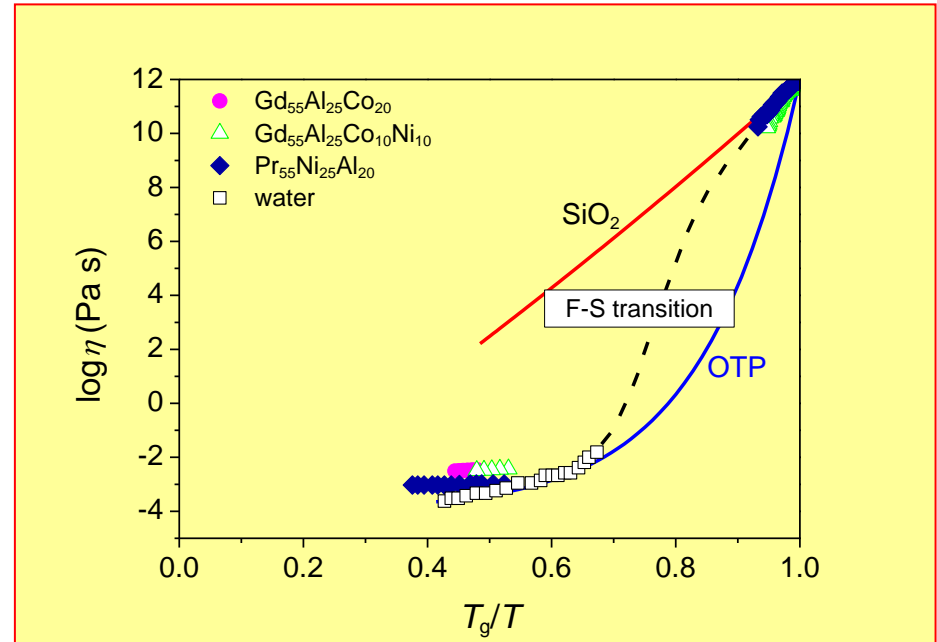
# Two types of Angell Plots



Normal cases

Angell, Science, 1995

Martinez, Angell, Nature 2001



'Abnormal' cases (s-type)

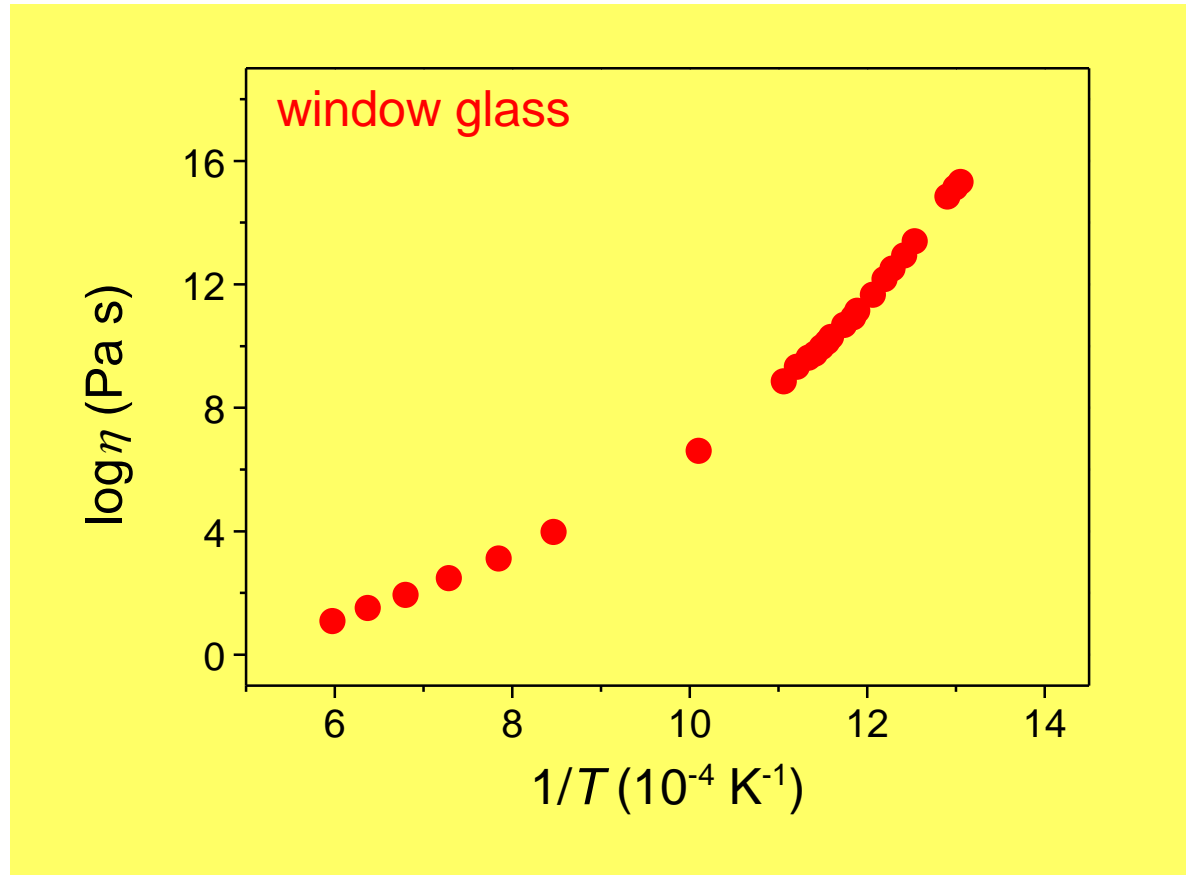
Ito, Moynihan, Angell, Nature 1999

Saika-Voivod, Poole, Sciortino, Nature 2001

Way, Wadhwa, Busch, ACTA Mater (2007)

Zhang, Hu, Yue, Mauro, JCP 2010

# A normal case: window glass!

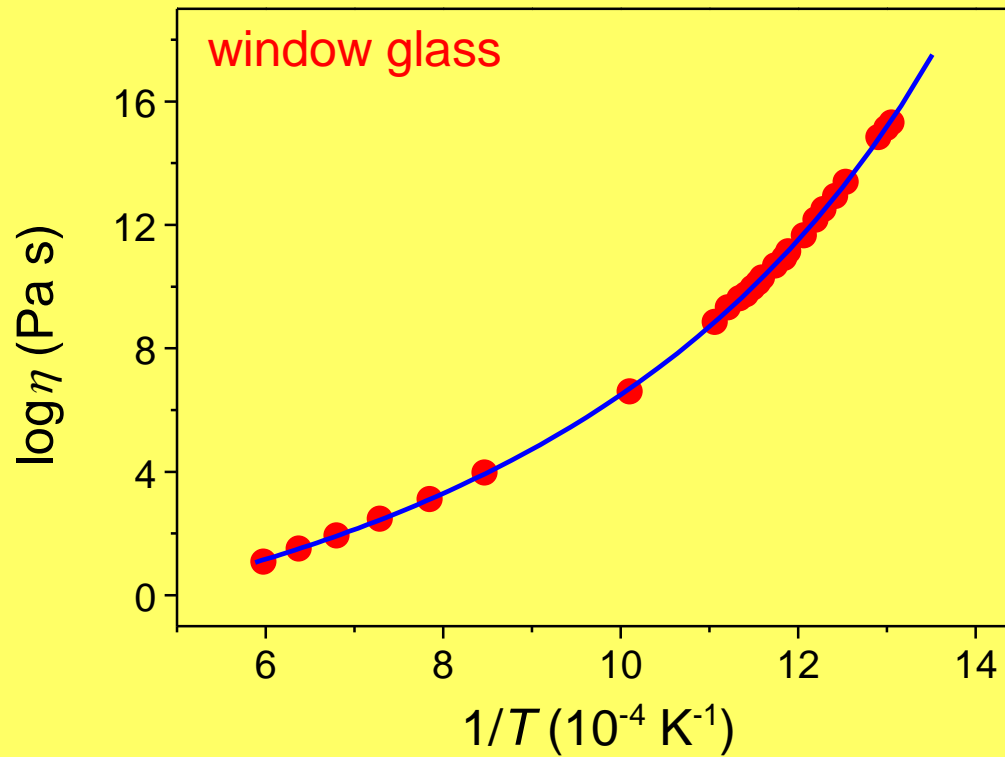




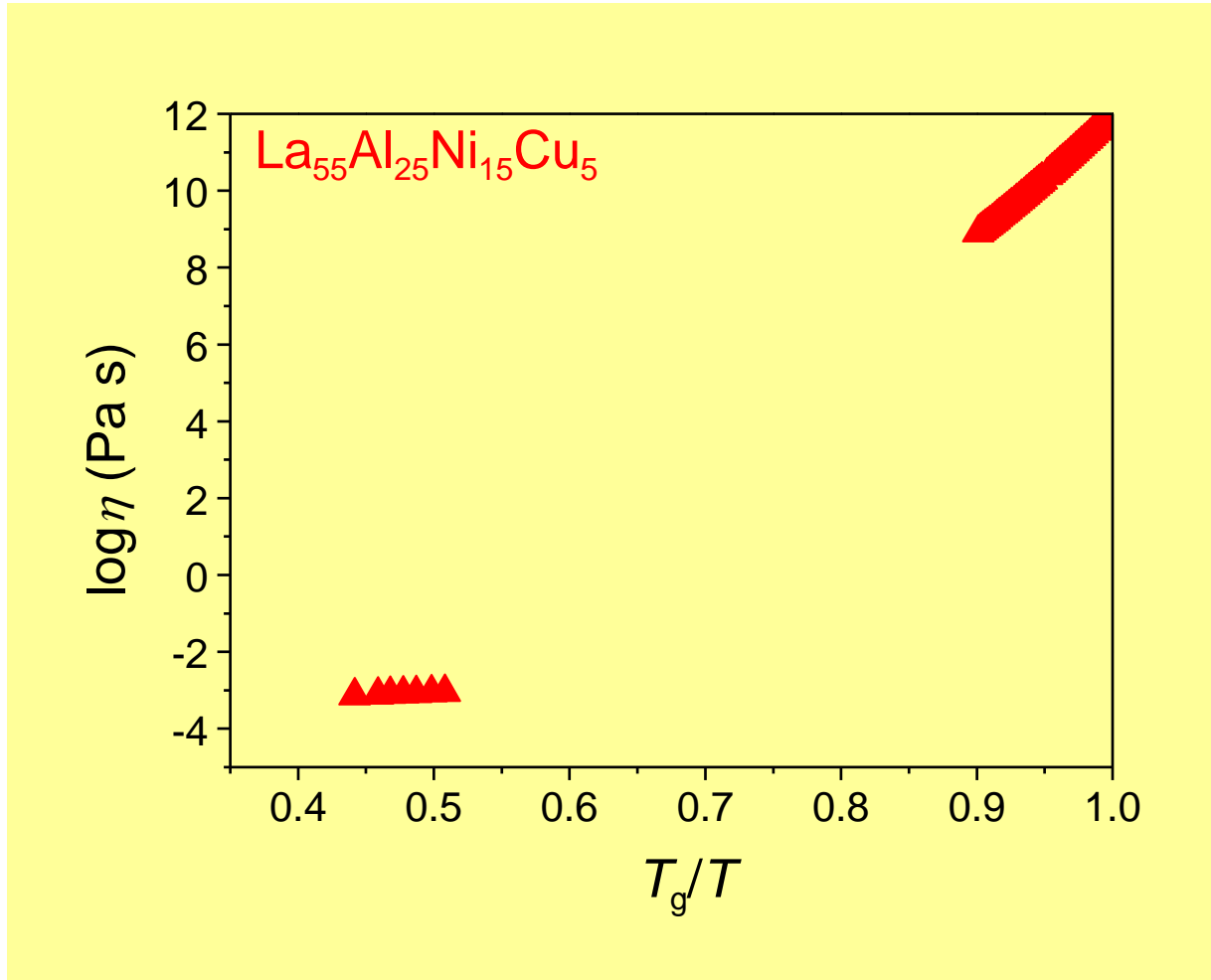
# Excellent fitting

$$\log \eta = -3 + 15 \frac{T_g}{T} \exp \left[ \left( \frac{m}{15} - 1 \right) \left( \frac{T_g}{T} - 1 \right) \right]$$

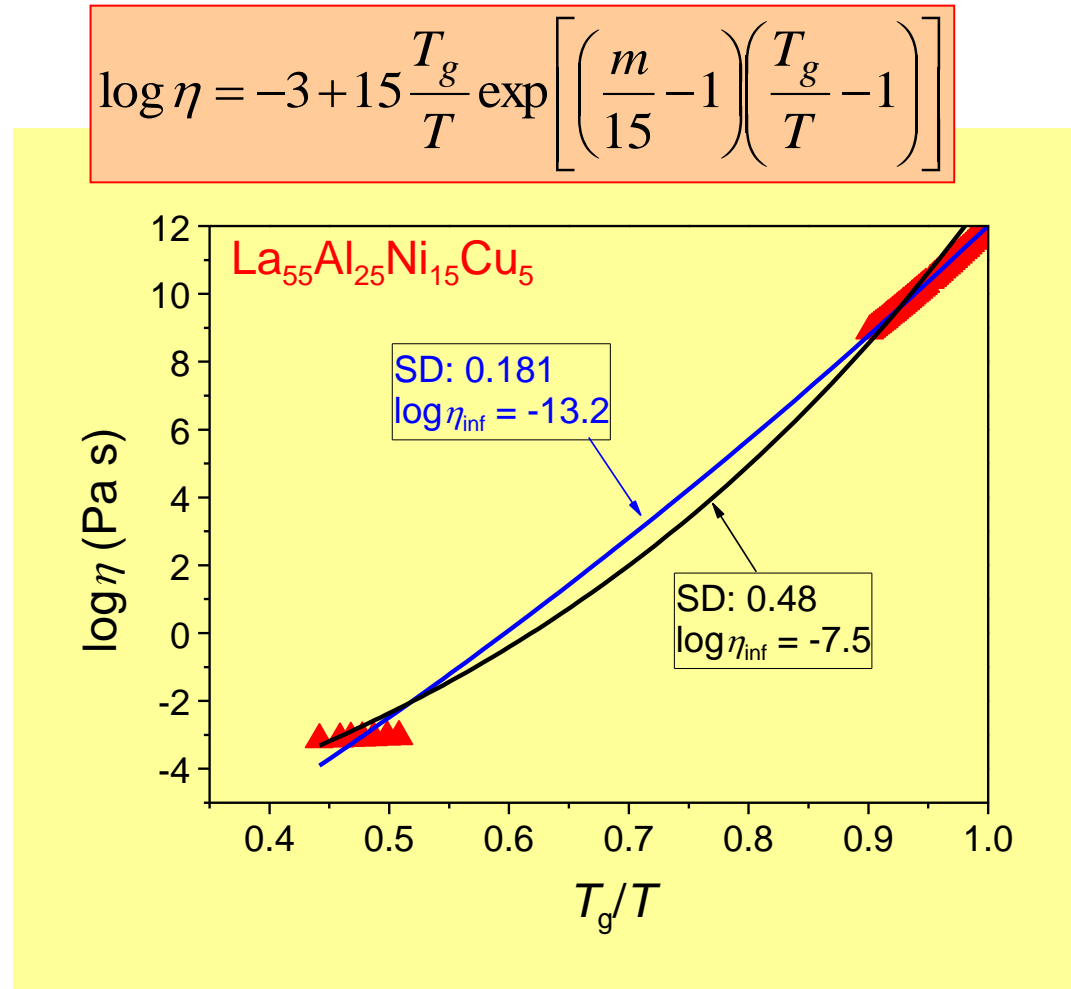
(MYEGA, PNAS 2009)



# An abnormal case: a glass-forming metallic liquid!

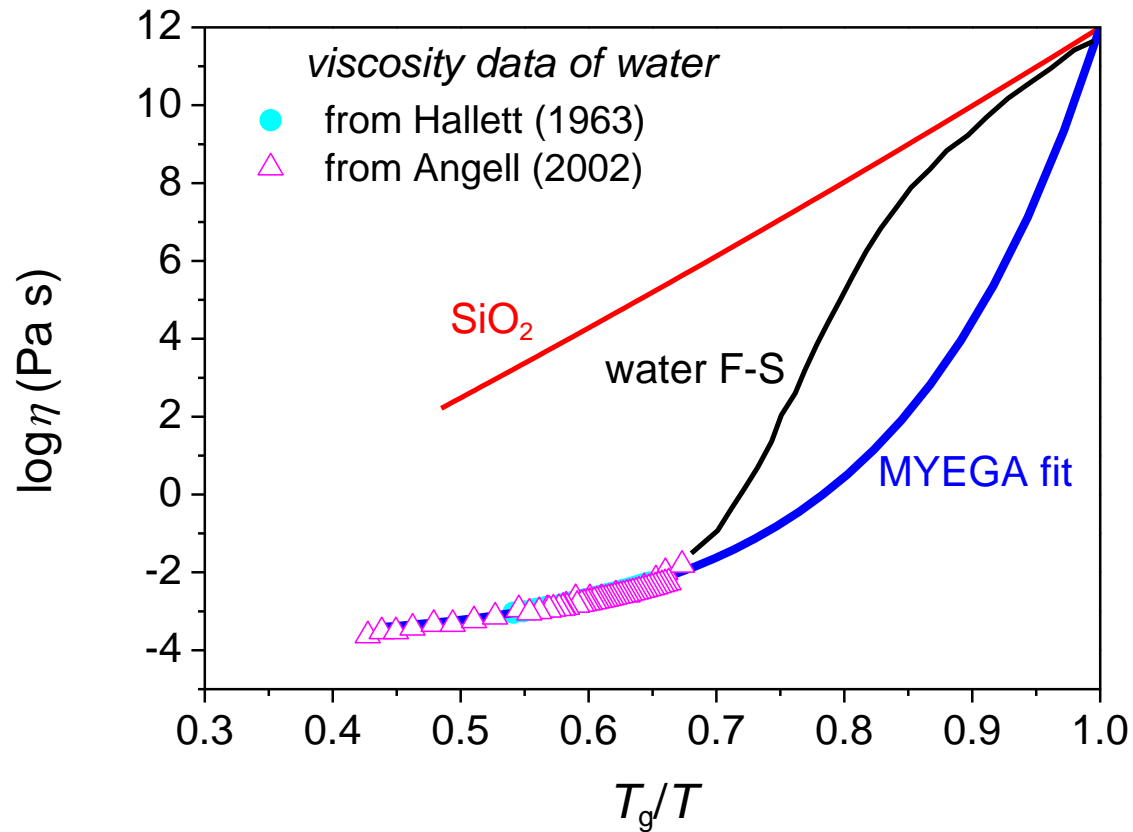


The existing viscosity models cannot describe its dynamics.



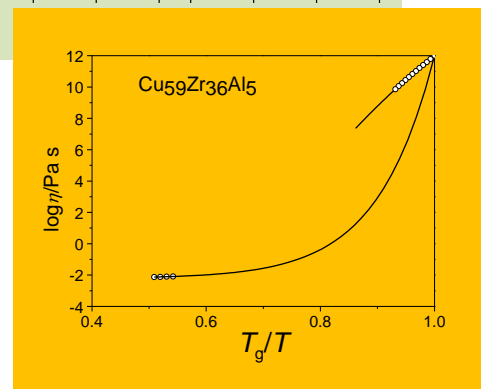
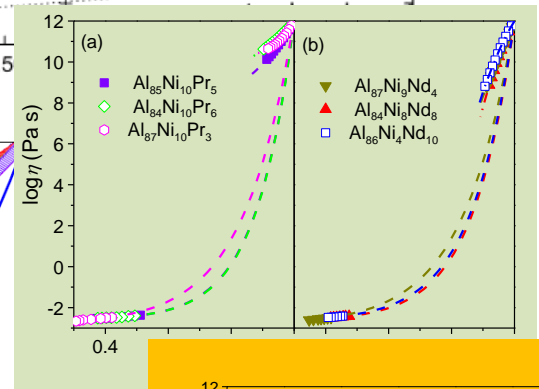
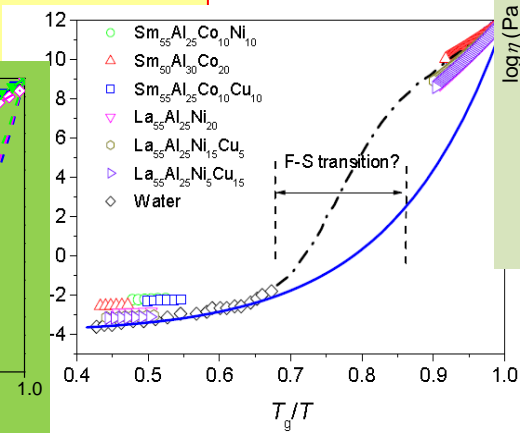
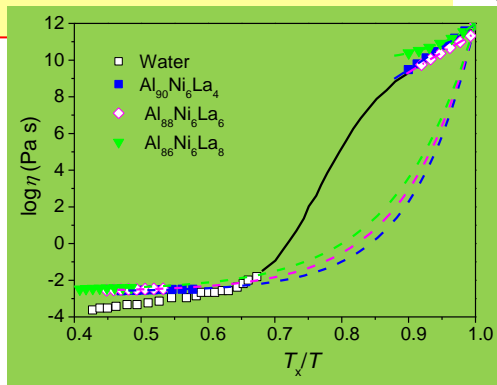
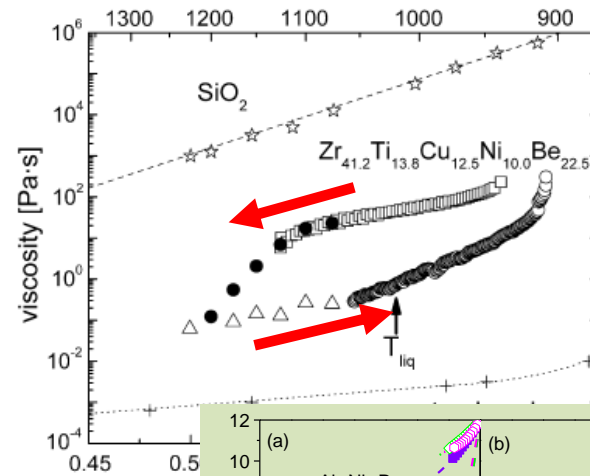
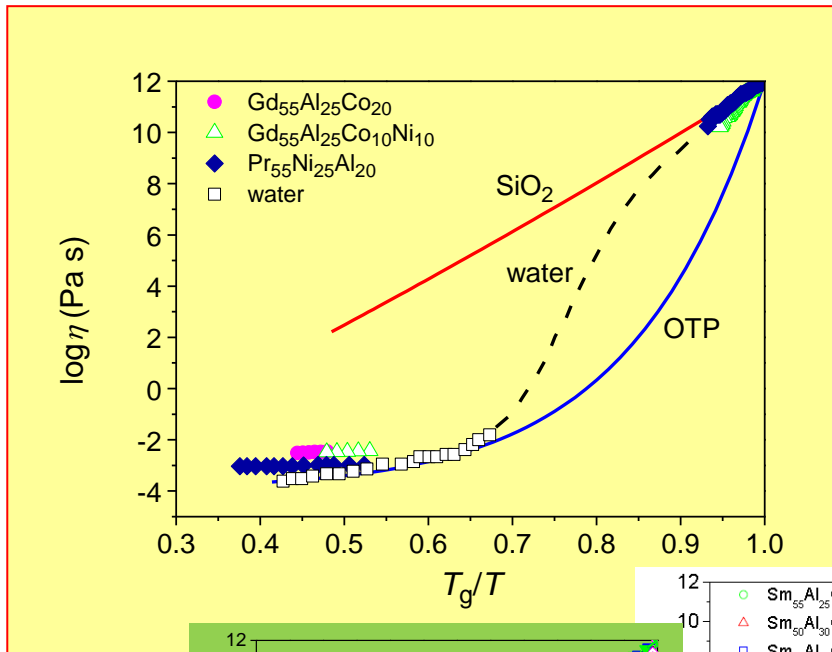
The failed data fitting leads to our initial perception about the abnormal dynamics of metallic liquids and then recalled the case of water.

# We recall a striking case – water!



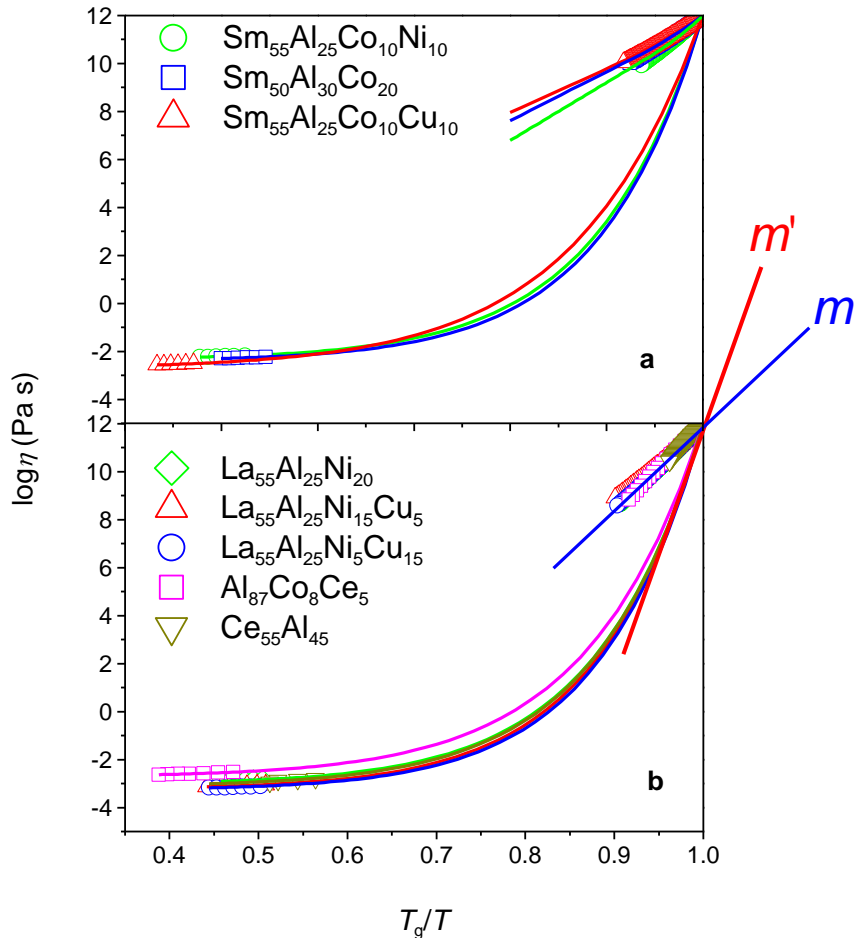
Ito, Moynihan, Angell, *Nature* 1999

# Many metallic liquids are similar to water regarding Fragile-to-Strong (F-S) Transition



Way, Wadhwa, Busch, ACTA Mater (2007)  
 Zhang, Hu, Yue, Mauro, JCP (2010)

# The strength of the F-S transition is determined by:



$$f = m'/m$$

- $f > 1$ : F-S transition
- $f = 1$ : no F-S transition
- $f < 1$ : never seen

$$1 \leq f \leq 12?$$

Zhang, Hu, Yue and Mauro, JCP (2010)

# The calculated $f$ values for different MGFLs

Composition	$m'$	$m$	$f$
Gd <sub>55</sub> Al <sub>25</sub> Co <sub>20</sub>	113	25	4.5
Gd <sub>55</sub> Al <sub>25</sub> Ni <sub>10</sub> Co <sub>10</sub>	133	25	5.3
Pr <sub>55</sub> Ni <sub>25</sub> Al <sub>20</sub>	156	19	8.2
Sm <sub>55</sub> Al <sub>25</sub> Co <sub>10</sub> Ni <sub>10</sub>	130	37	3.5
Sm <sub>50</sub> Al <sub>30</sub> Co <sub>20</sub>	136	29	4.7
Sm <sub>55</sub> Al <sub>25</sub> Co <sub>10</sub> Cu <sub>10</sub>	114	27	4.2
La <sub>55</sub> Al <sub>25</sub> Ni <sub>20</sub>	127	40	3.2
La <sub>55</sub> Al <sub>25</sub> Ni <sub>15</sub> Cu <sub>5</sub>	130	34	3.8
La <sub>55</sub> Al <sub>25</sub> Ni <sub>5</sub> Cu <sub>15</sub>	134	40	3.4
Al <sub>87</sub> Co <sub>8</sub> Ce <sub>5</sub>	114	34	3.3
Ce <sub>55</sub> Al <sub>45</sub>	127	32	4.0
Water	98	22	4.5

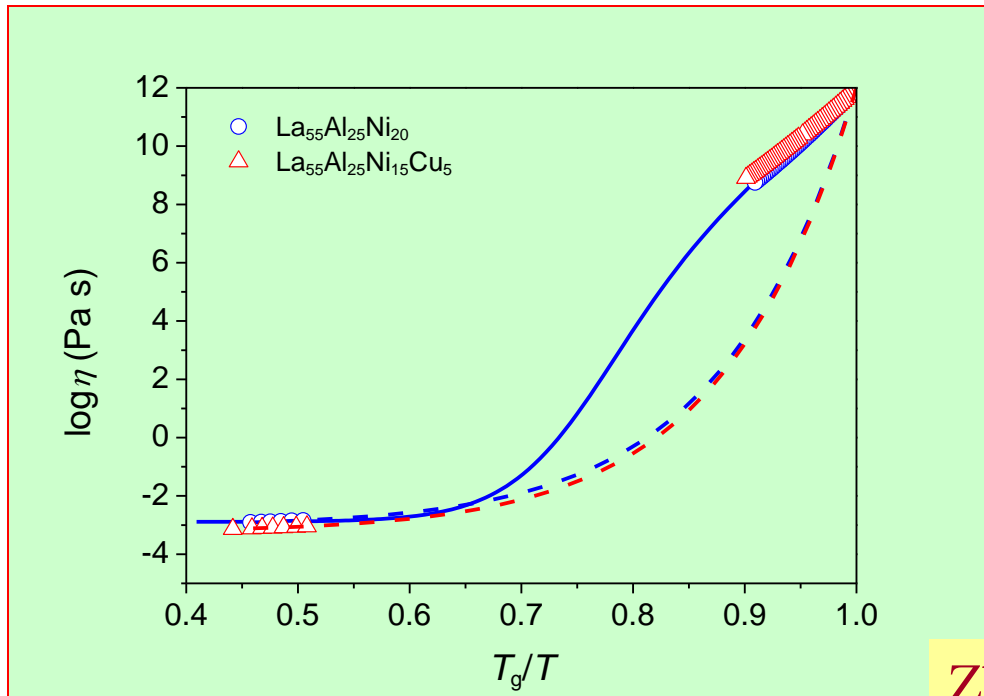
The factor  $f$  confirms the existence of the F-S transition in the investigated MGFLs.

The extended MYEGA model describes the F-S transition:

$$\log \eta = \log \eta_{\infty} + \frac{1}{T \left[ W_1 \exp\left(-\frac{C_1}{T}\right) + W_2 \exp\left(-\frac{C_2}{T}\right) \right]}$$

↑  
Fragile term

↑  
Strong term



$C_1$  and  $C_2$ : two constraint onsets .

$W_1$  and  $W_2$ : normalized weighting factors.

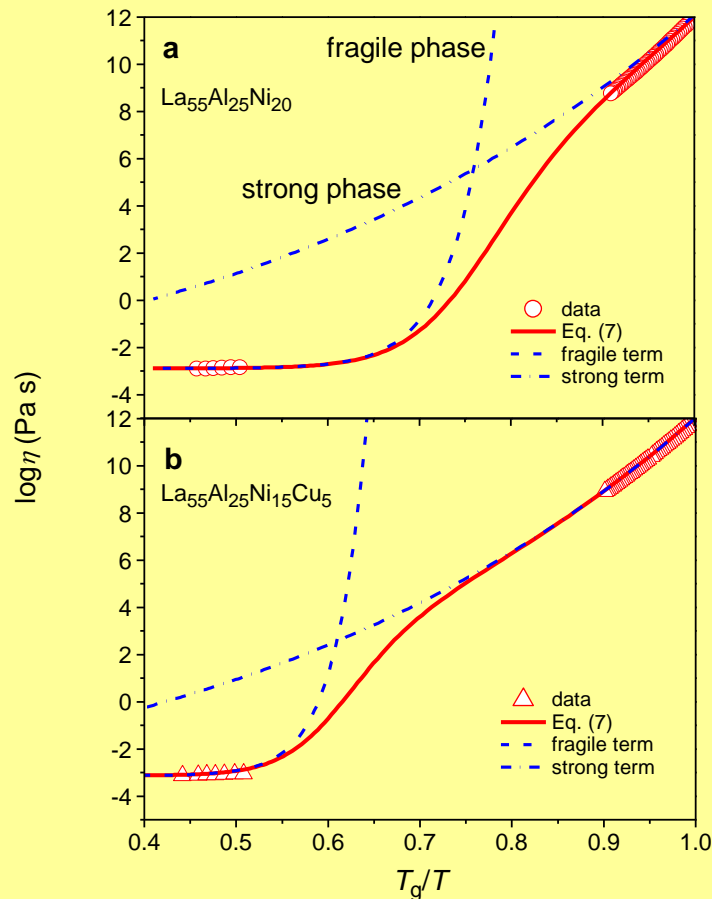
If  $C_1 = C_2$ , the equation reduces to the one for normal liquids.

Zhang, Hu, Yue, Mauro, JCP (2010)



# Two “phases” co-exists during the F-S transition: Fragile and strong phases

The former one is being transformed into the latter one.



## Fragile phase:

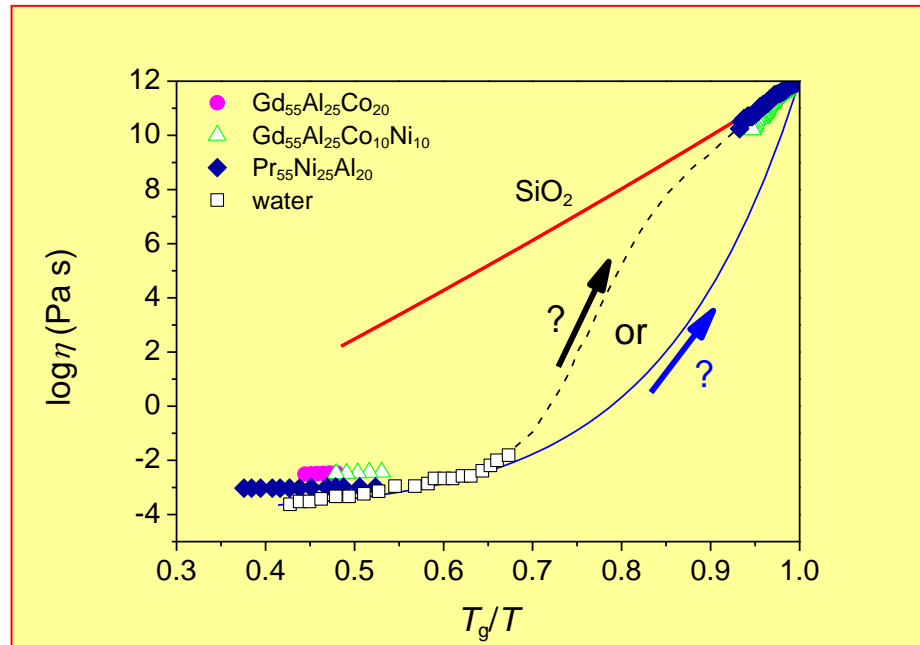
- higher  $T_g$
- higher activation enthalpy
- higher entropy

## Strong phase:

- lower  $T_g$ , i.e. actual  $T_g$
- lower activation enthalpy
- lower entropy

The fragile phase is cooled, the F-S transition intervenes, mitigating the increase in viscosity with decreasing  $T$ .

# A crucial question: what is the cooling path during the F-S transition?



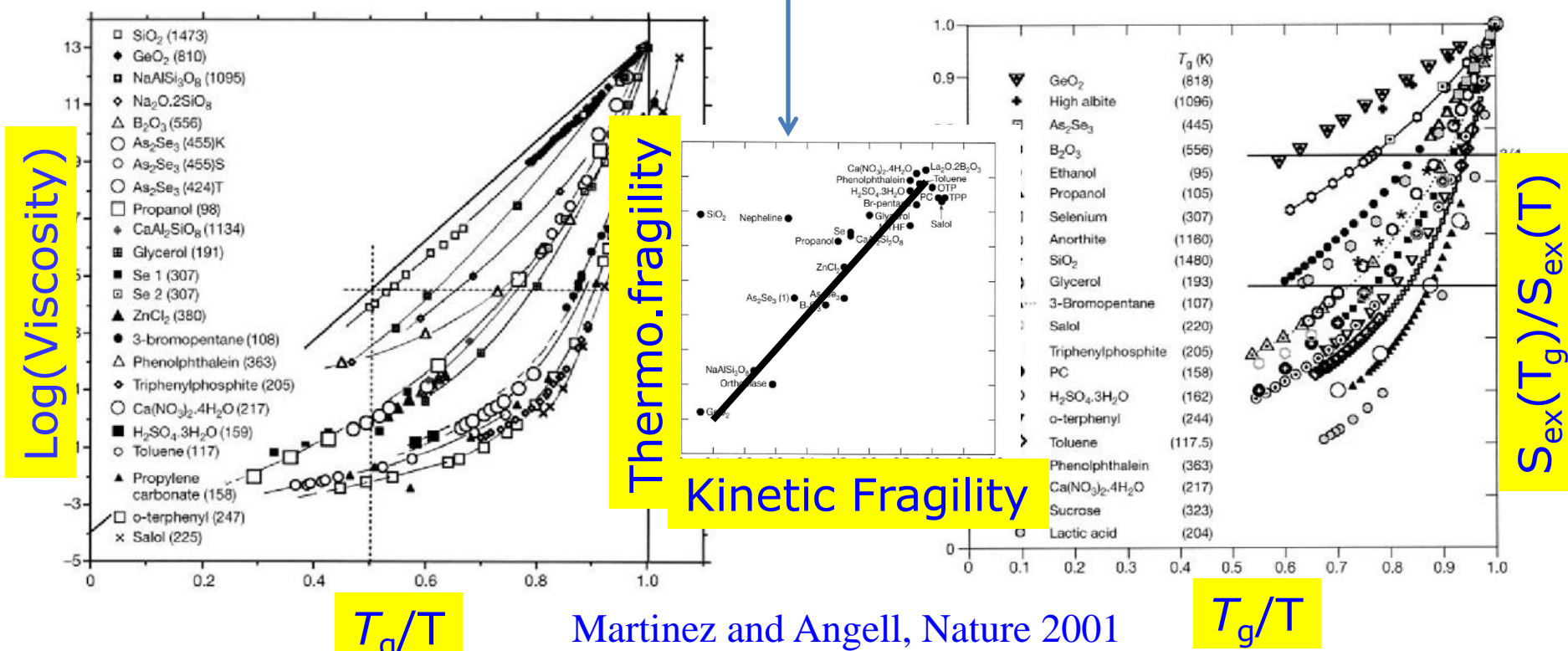
It is likely that

- A direct F-S transition occurs upon cooling,
- It occurs in the low  $T$  range, e.g., around  $1.2T_g$ , and
- Structural and thermodynamic values varies rapidly.

# Link between kinetic and thermodynamic fragility

Kinetic fragility

Thermodynamic fragility



Viscous slowing-down upon cooling

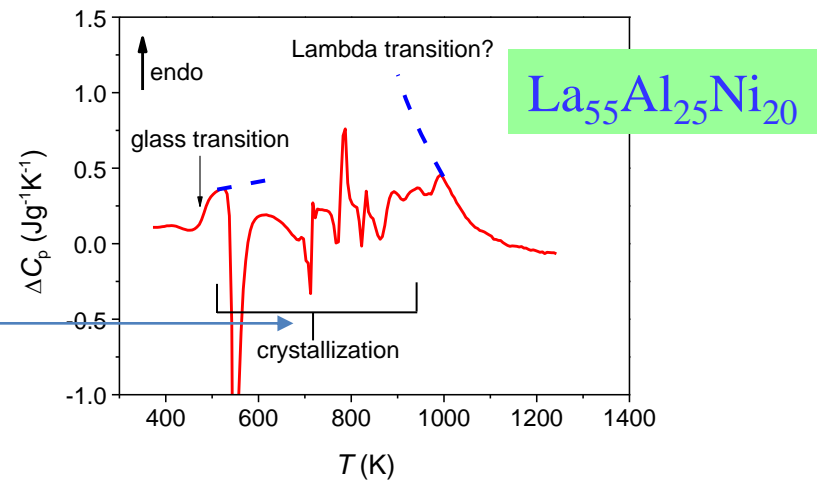
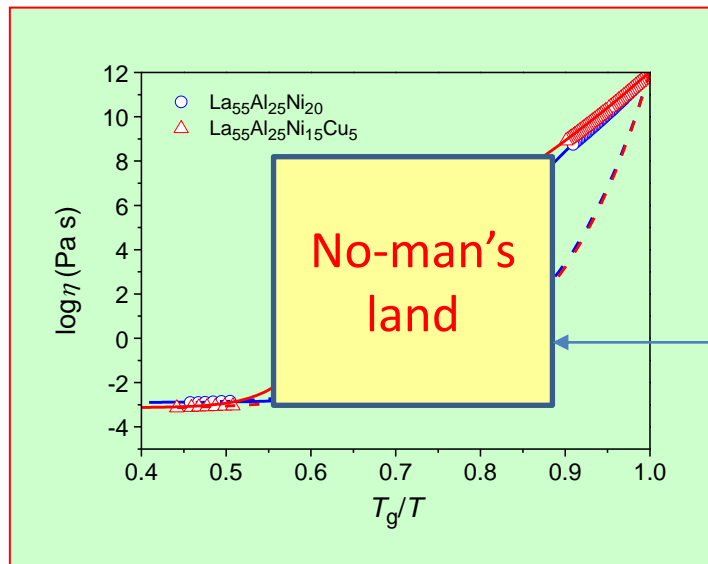
Entropy loss upon cooling

But this link is missing for F-S transition liquids!

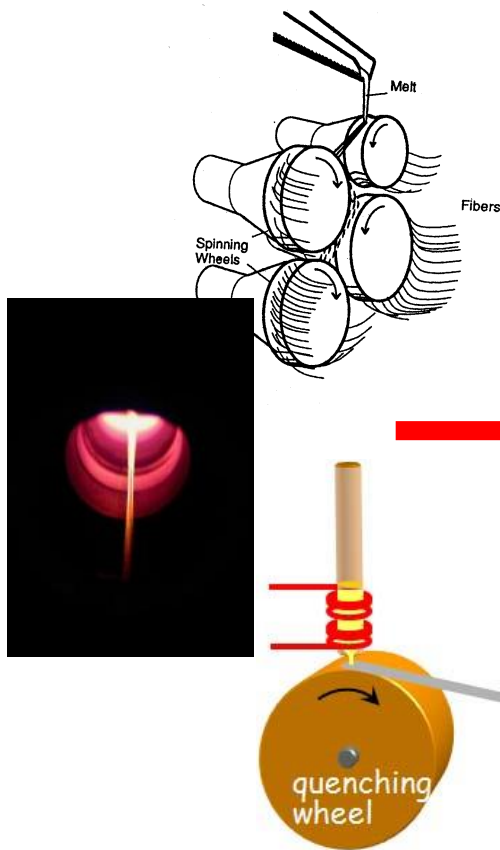
Why?

## Because

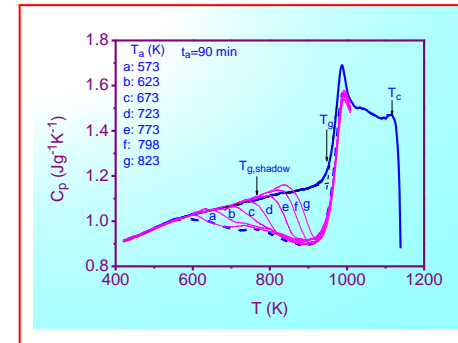
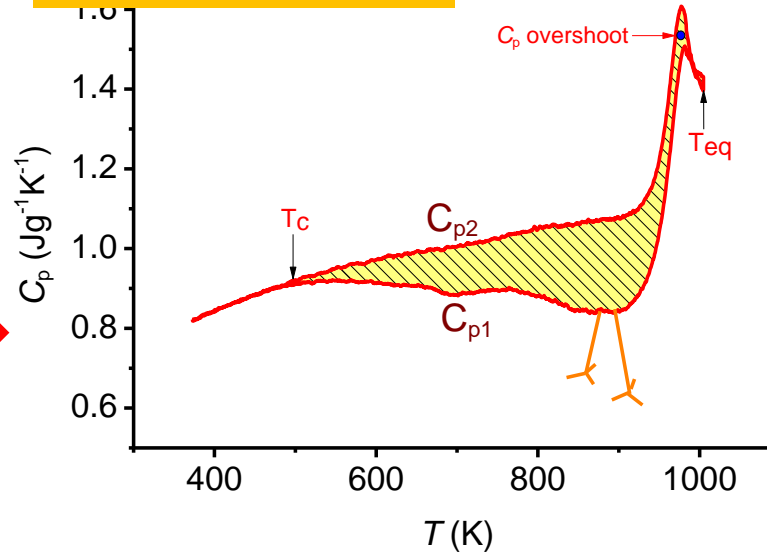
- The F-S transition mostly occurs in the no-man's land, i.e., in the crystallization region.
- The crystallization hinders detection of the thermodynamic responses of the F-S transition.
- Experimental approaches for detecting rapid changes in dynamical properties are not available yet.



# Exploring the F-S transition by –Hyperquenching-Annealing-DSC

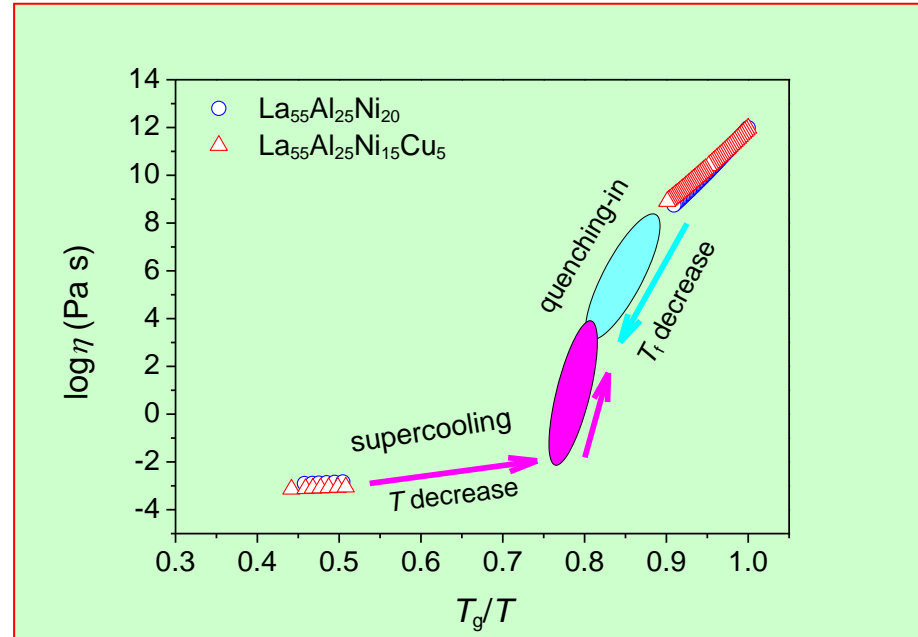
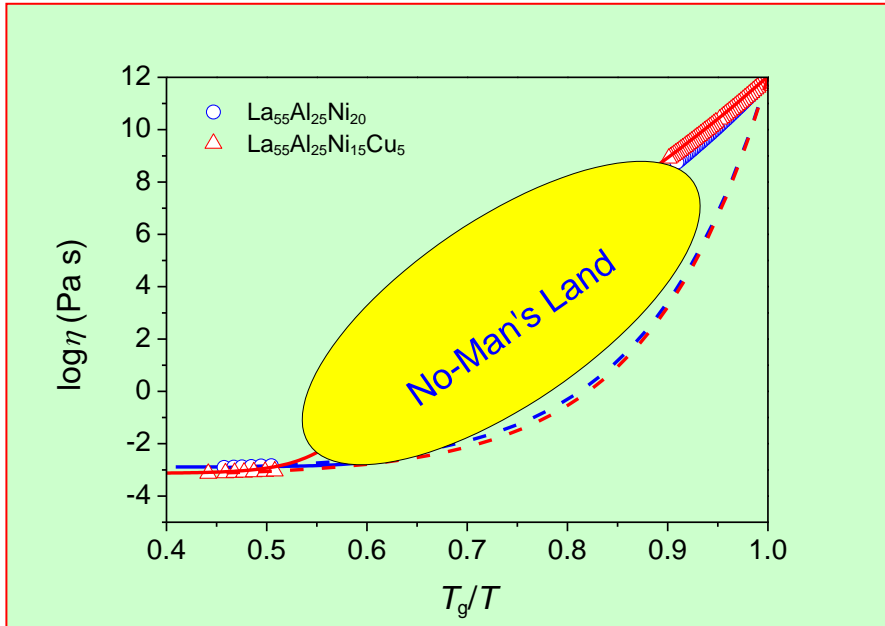


Energy 'bird'



Yue, et al, APL, 2002  
Yue and Angell, Nature 2004

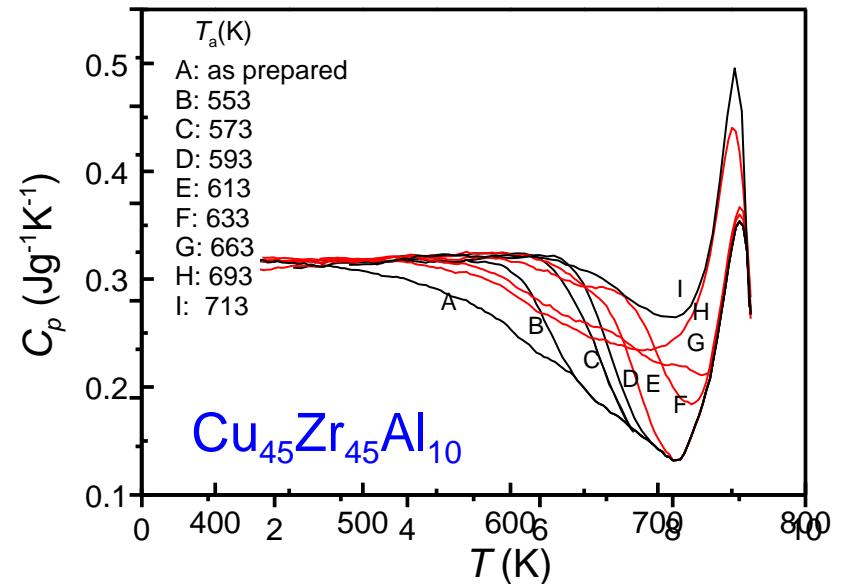
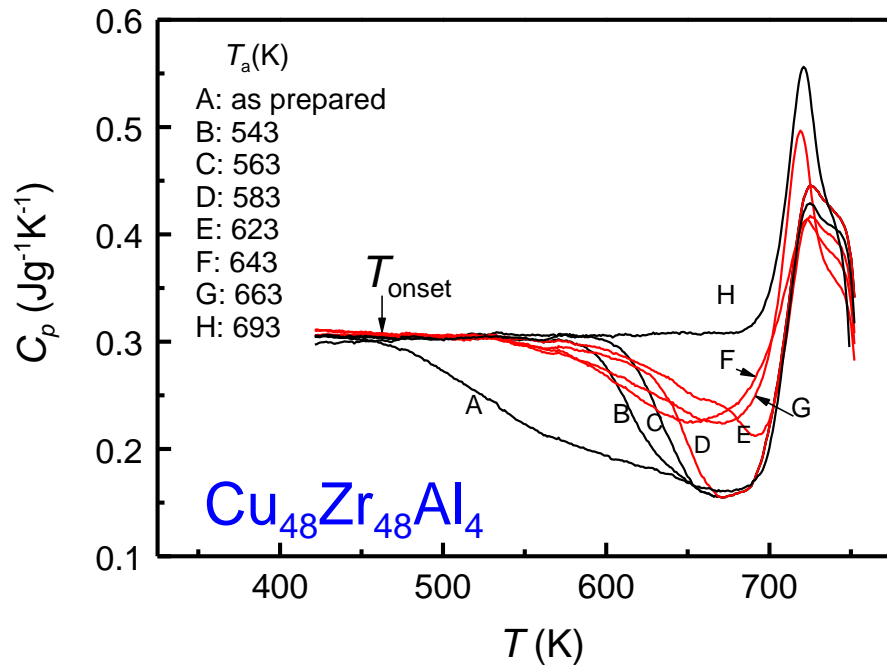
# Access No-Man's land...



## Possibilities:

- Trap the structure at high  $T_f$  and then relax it via annealing and calorimetric scan
- Dive deeply into the supercooled region

Using the “Bird”, we try to find out the structural and thermodynamic evolution during the F-S transition.

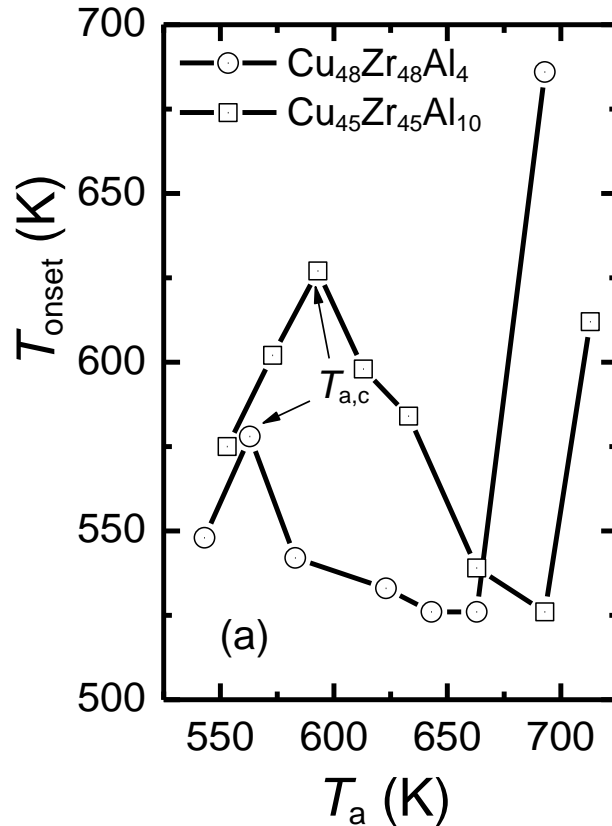


Enthalpy relaxation of the hyperquenched (HQ) metallic ribbons annealed at various temperatures for 1 hour.

Very different from enthalpy relaxation of HQ oxide glasses.  
See the following slides!

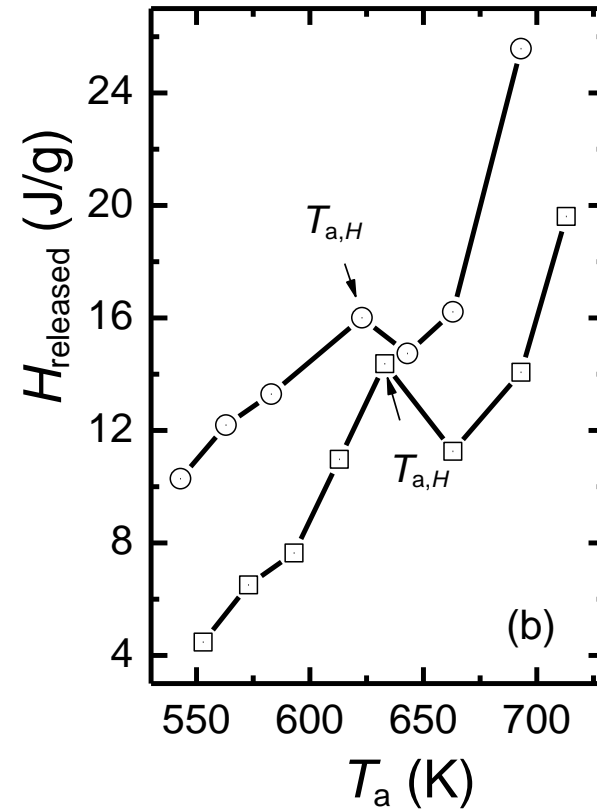
# Onset temperature

$T_{\text{onset}}$  versus  $T_a$



# Released enthalpy

$H_{\text{anneal}}$  vs.  $T_a$

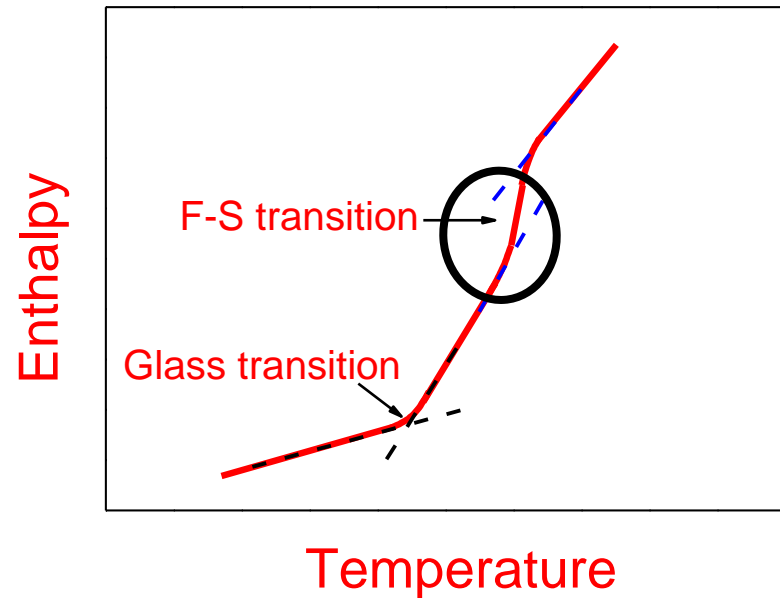
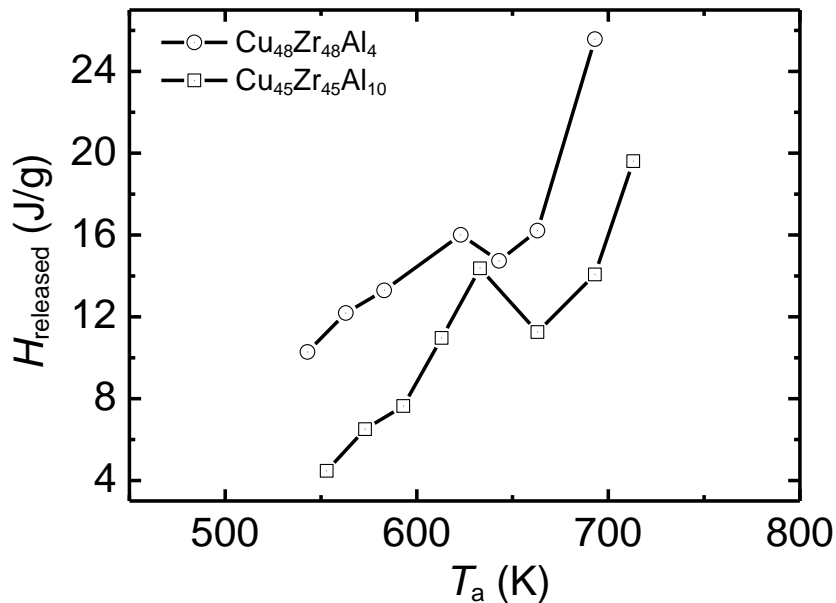


Non-monotonic changes!

Implication: high degree of structural heterogeneity



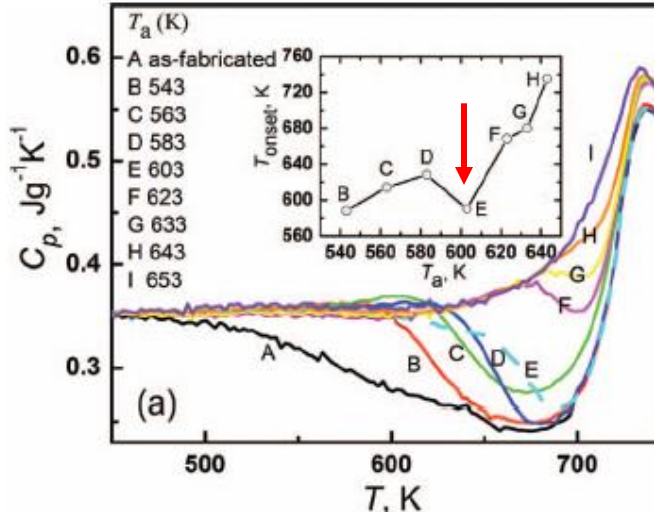
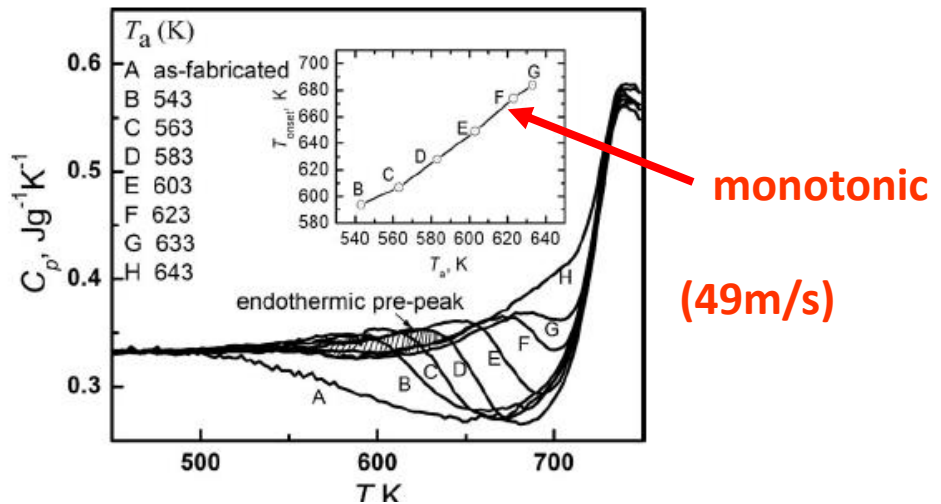
# Thermodynamic implications?



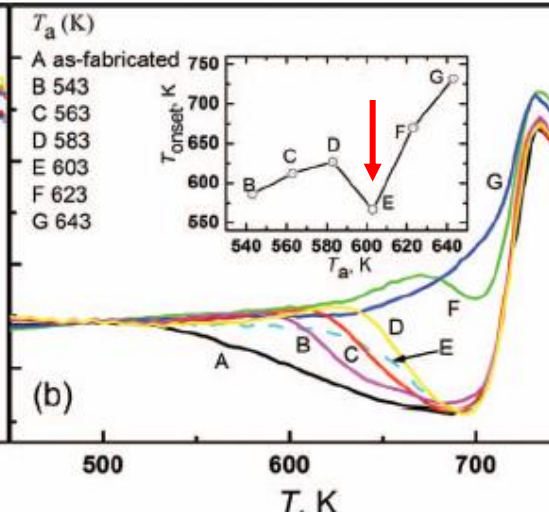
- Is this non-monotonic tendency is related to the thermodynamic F-S transition?
- Is it due to a sudden transformation from high to low  $T$  clusters?

# Thermodynamic anomaly of the sub- $T_g$ relaxation in hyperquenched metallic glasses

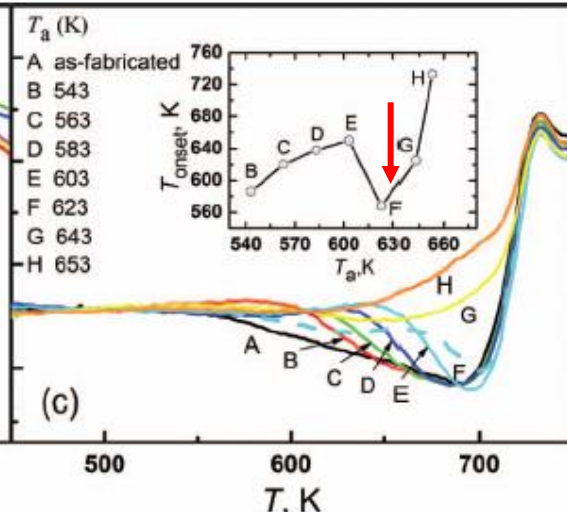
Lina Hu,<sup>1,a)</sup> Chao Zhou,<sup>1</sup> Chunzhi Zhang,<sup>2</sup> and Yuanzheng Yue<sup>1,3</sup>



(35m/s)

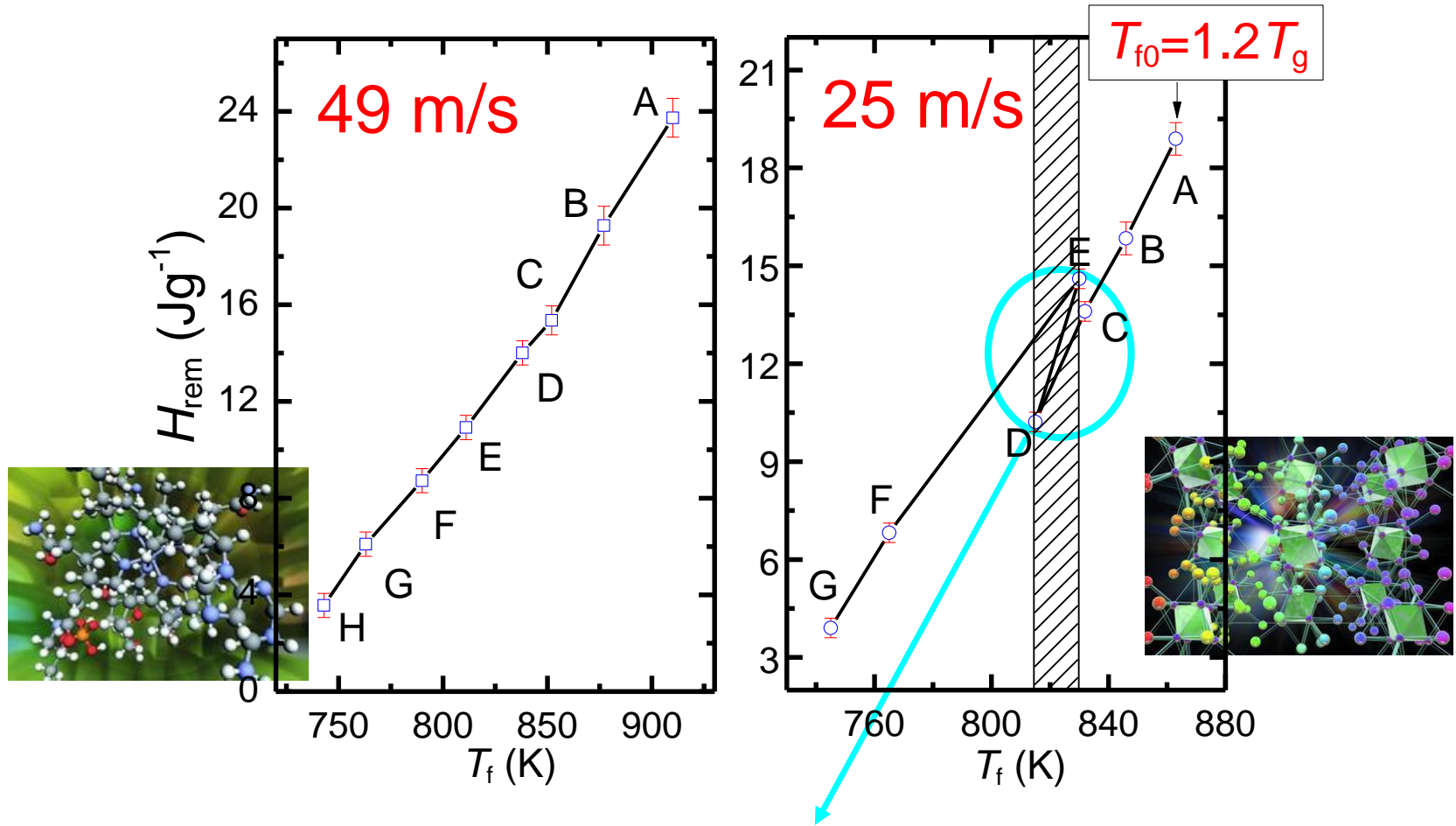


(25m/s)



(17m/s)

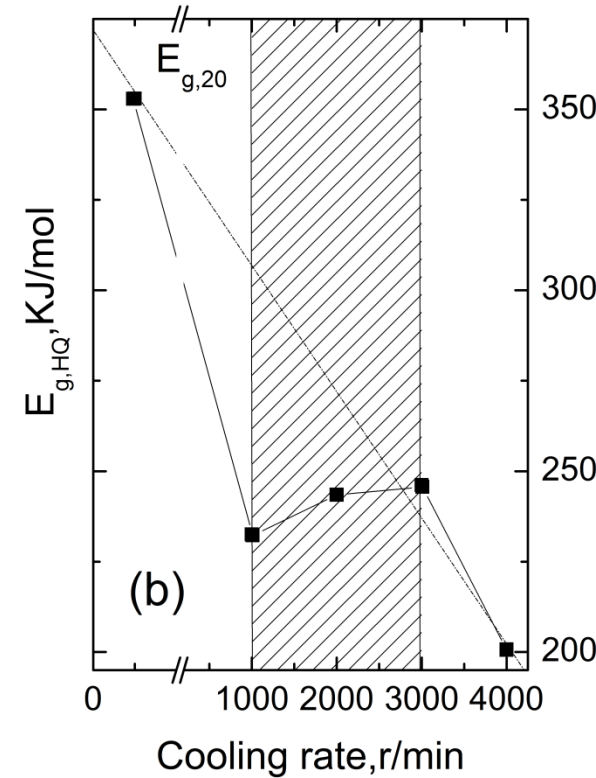
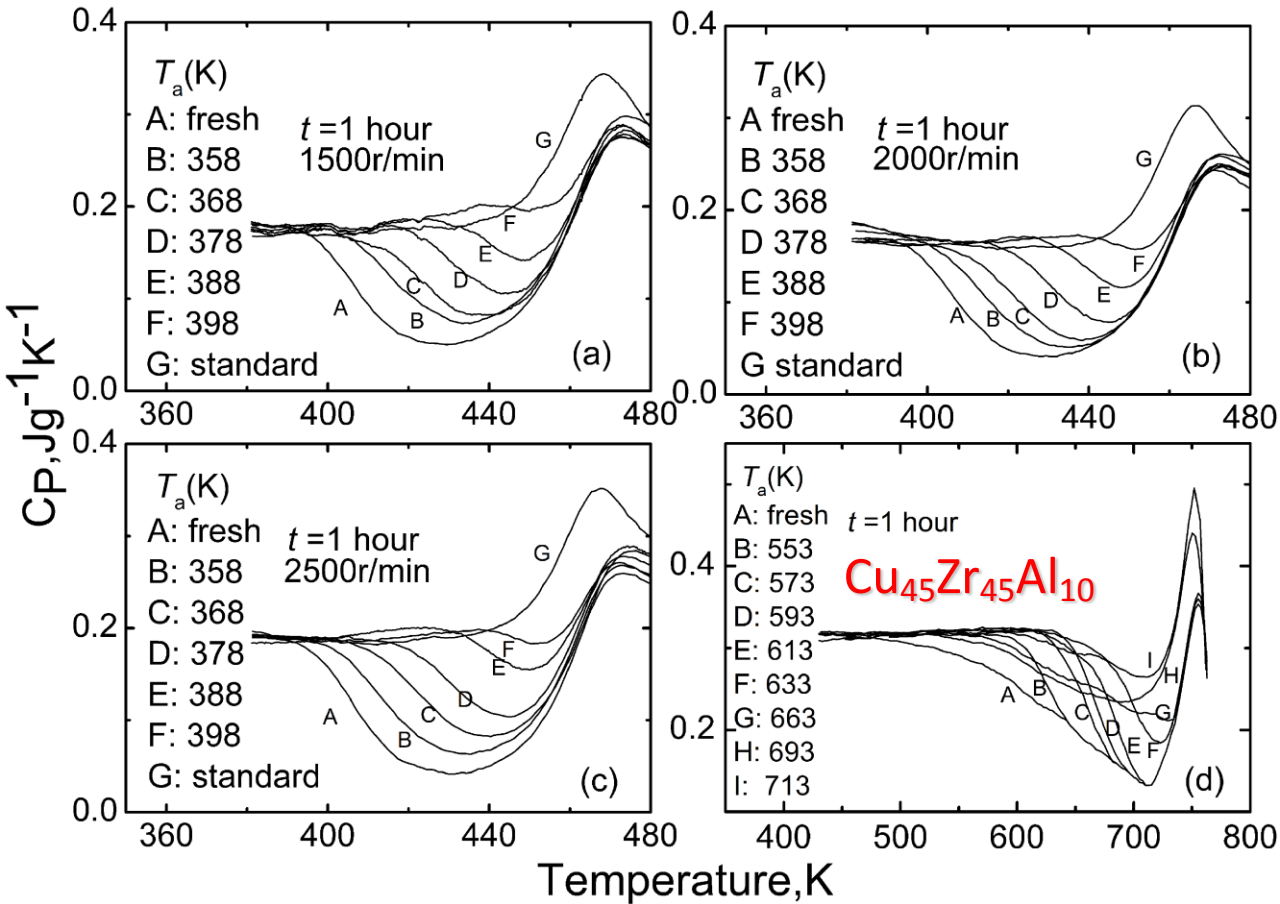
# $T_f$ dependence of the remaining enthalpy during annealing



Implications of the abrupt increase in  $H_{rem}$ :

- High  $T$  micro-domains are unstable during cooling.
- A rapid transition occurs between the high  $T$  and low  $T$  clusters.
- The F-S transition range is rather narrow, possibly around  $1.2-1.3T_g$ ?

# La<sub>55</sub>Al<sub>25</sub>Ni<sub>5</sub>Cu<sub>15</sub> glass ribbons



Similar to the behaviors observed in La<sub>55</sub>Al<sub>25</sub>Ni<sub>20</sub> glass ribbons

# Relation between the F-S transition and structural relaxation

F-S transition strength

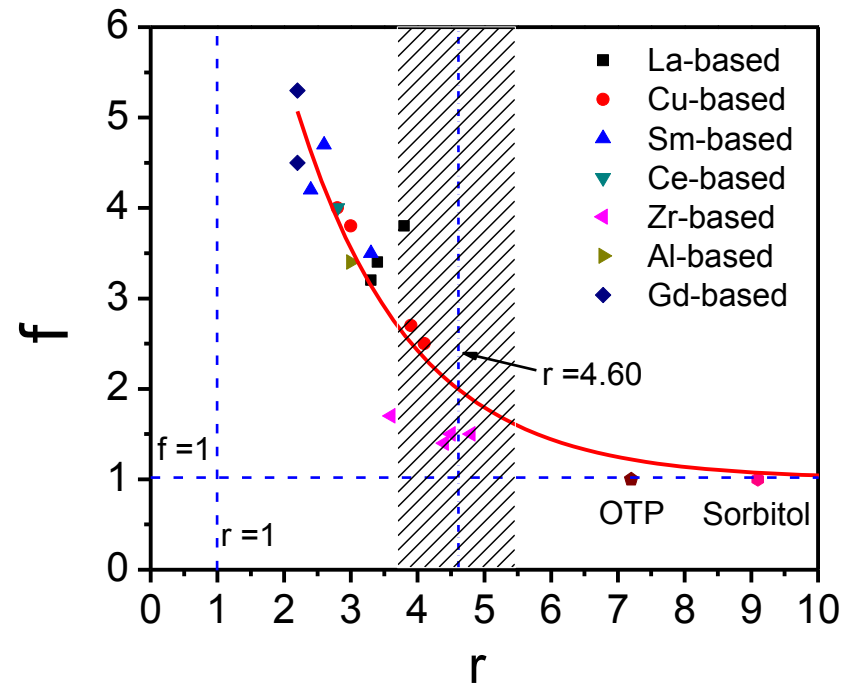
$$f = m'/m$$

Ratio of activation energy for the  $\alpha$  to the  $\beta$  relaxation

$$r = E_{\beta}/E_{\alpha}$$

Hu, Yue, JPC-B 2009

$$f = 11\exp(-0.58r)+1$$



- $f$  is exponentially associated with the competition between  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  relaxation.
- Whether a liquid exhibits the F-S transition could be predicted from relaxation behaviour.

Sun et al., in progress

# Origin of the F-S transition of some liquids?

## Water:

- Jagla (1999): competition between two different local structures
- Tanaka (2003): crossover from a non- to glass-forming branch
- Liu (2005): a high to a low-density liquid

## Silica:

- Saika-Voivod et al (2004) : polyamorphic behaviour of silica glass

## BeF<sub>2</sub>:

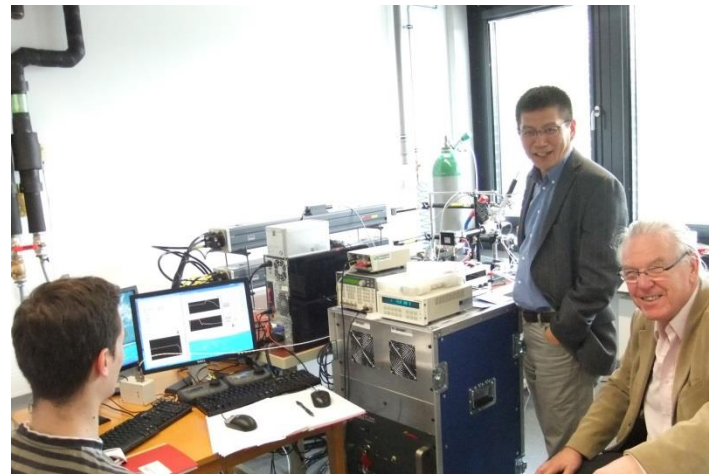
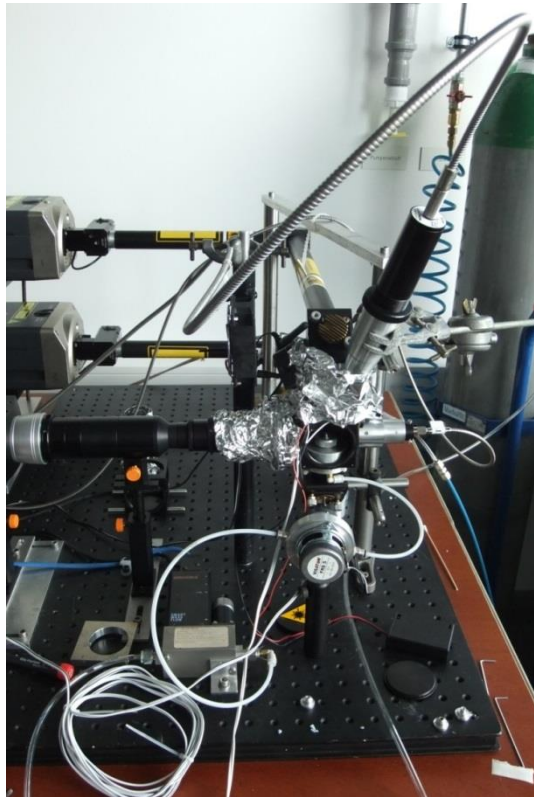
- Angell et al (2001): Order-disorder transition and Lambda peak

## MGFLs:

- Way, et al (2007): Order-disorder hysteretic anomaly
- Sheng et al (Nature Mat. 2007): Polyamorphic transition
- Hu and Yue (APL 2011, on-going): two kinds of clusters?

# Exploring the F-S transition by

–Diving deeply into the supercooled region



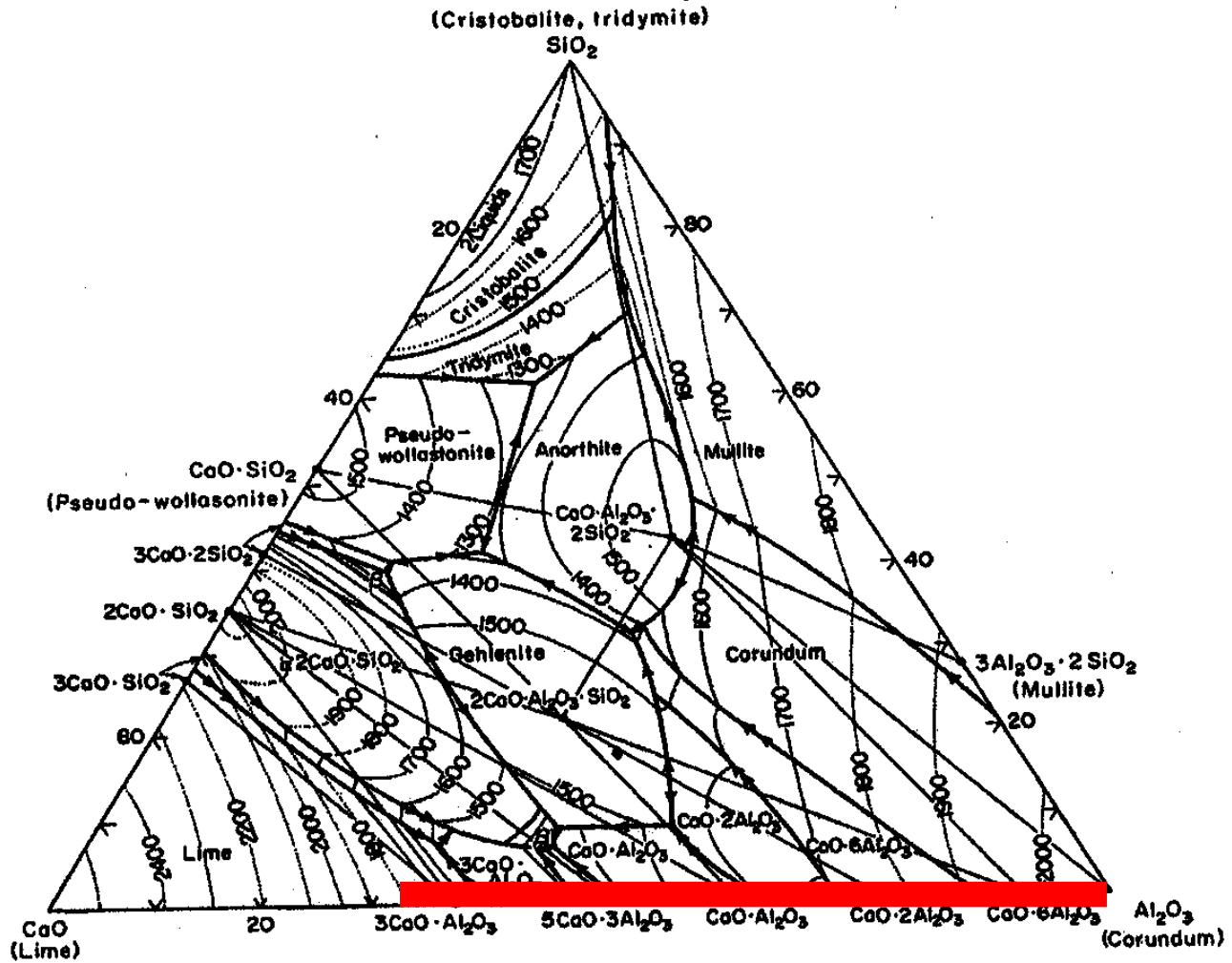
At DLR  
May 2013

Aerodynamic levitator furnace for measuring thermophysical properties of refractory liquids

Langstaff, et al. Rev. Sci. Instrum. 2013



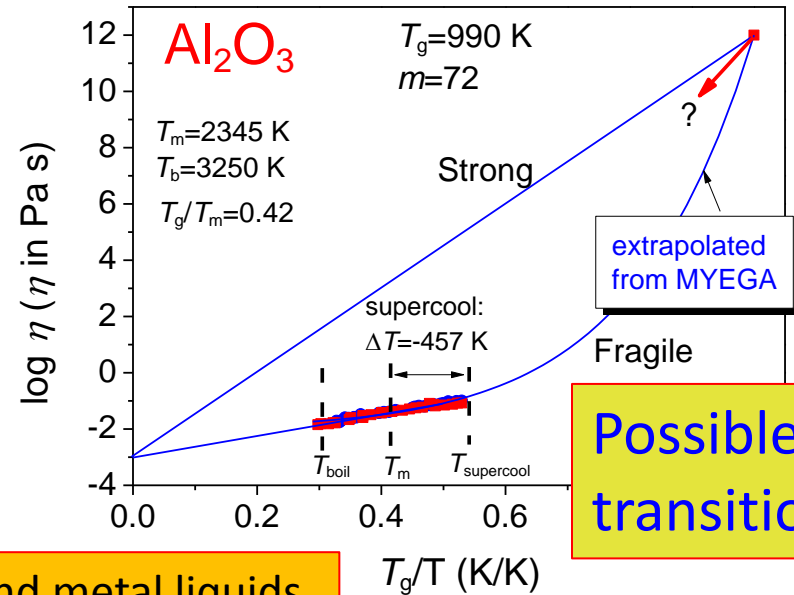
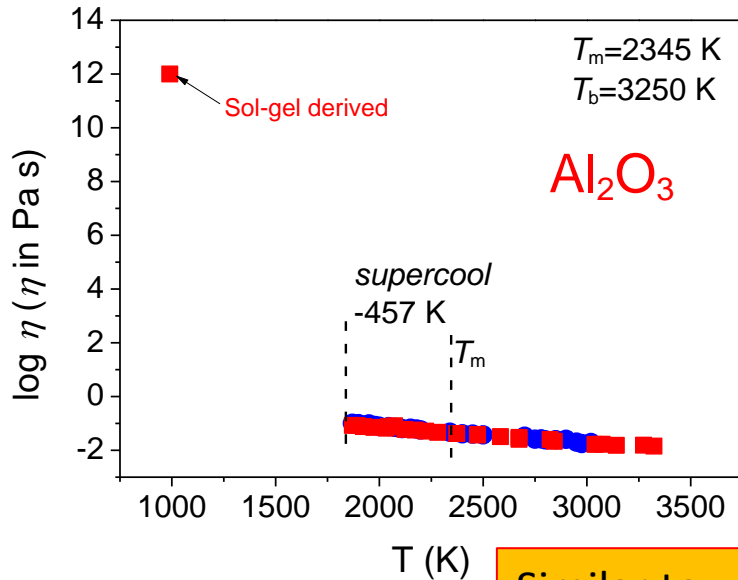
# SiO<sub>2</sub>-Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-CaO phase diagram





# Deep supercooling to access possible F-S transitions of refractory oxides, e.g.

## $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ liquid and other aluminate liquids



Similar to water and metal liquids

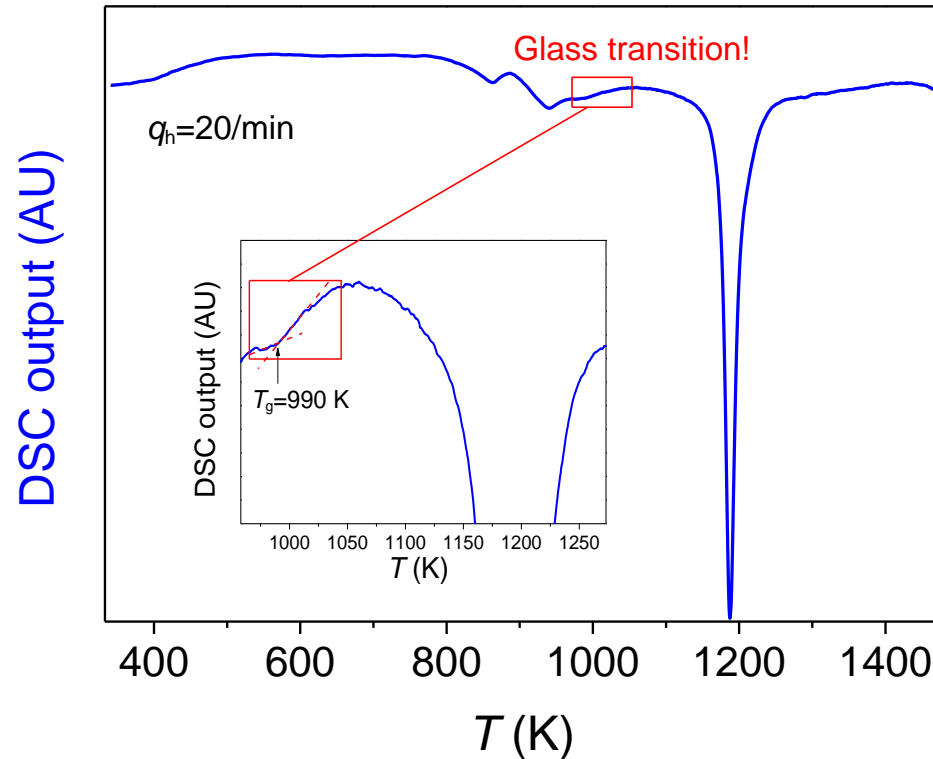
By using the containerless aerodynamic-levitation and laser-heating techniques,

- Dive deeply into No-Man's land
- Determine the Angell Plot of  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ .

Note:  $T_g$  was measured on the sputtering derived  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  to get. It is a challenge to prepare the fused  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  glass, but we'll try...

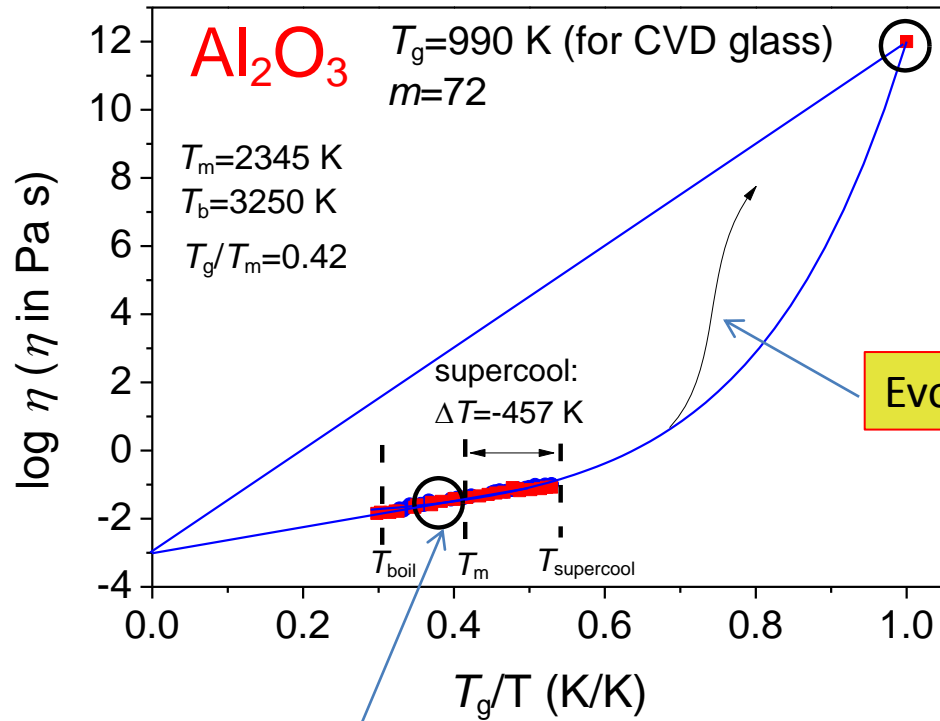
Greaves, Kargl, Pan, Yue, et al. in progress

# Glass transition of $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$



- Small  $C_p$  jump – implication of small  $m$ ?
- Caution: Sputtering derived film – water influence
- Thermal history needs to be known.

# Structure of $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ liquid and glass



55%  $\text{AlO}_4$ , 42%  $\text{AlO}_5$ ,  
 and 3%  $\text{AlO}_6$  units  
 Oxygen triclusters are found.

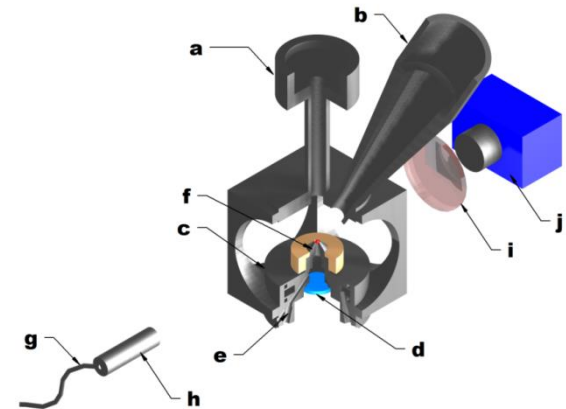
S.K. Lee, et al. PRL 2009

We'll measure high  $T_f$  glasses

Evolution of clusters in medium range?

NMR: 57.5%  $\text{AlO}_4$ , 34.7%  $\text{AlO}_5$ , and  
 4.3%  $\text{AlO}_6$  and 3.5%  $\text{AlO}_3$ , units

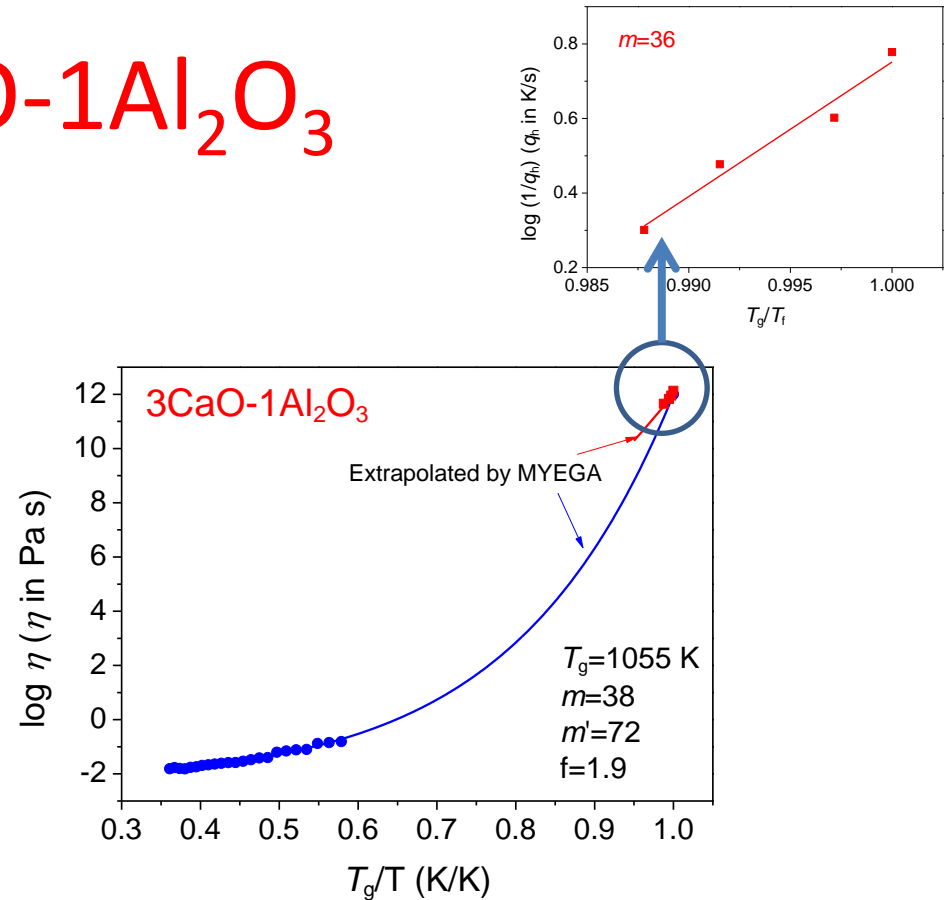
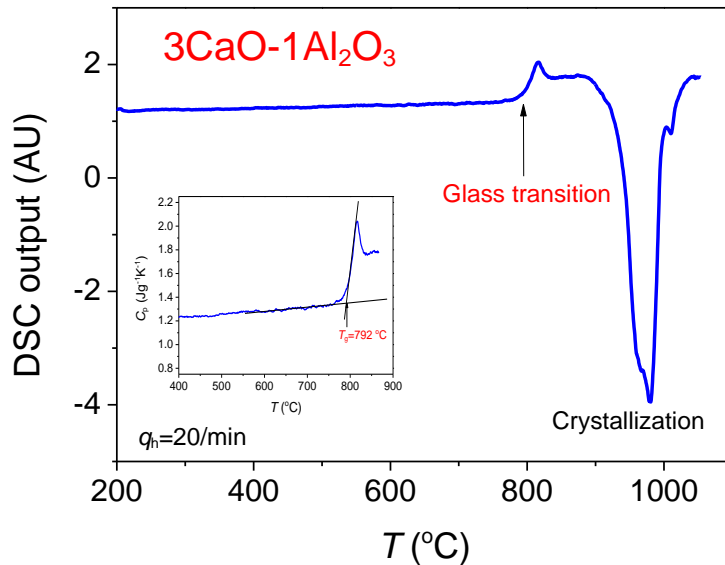
L.B. Skinner, et al. PRB 2013



G.N. Greaves, et al. Science 2008

Yue, Kargl, G.N. Greaves, et al, in progress

# Fragility of 3CaO-1Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>



- Surprisingly, stable glassy C<sub>3</sub>A glass could be obtained by quenching.
- A slight F-S transition is implied.
- Structure will be measured.

# Perspective

- Conduct dynamic measurements during supercooling
- Increase the  $T_f$  as high as possible
- *In-situ structural characterization (on-going)*
- Theoretical approach and simulation

# Acknowledgements

Austen Angell - *Arizona State University*

Neville Greaves - *Aberystwyth University and Wuhan University of Technology*

John Mauro – *Corning Incorporated*

Yuanyuan Chen and Florian Kargl – *DLR*

Chunzhi Zhang, Chao Zhou, Xiunan Yang, Qijing Sun, Yumiao Lü and Jingyu Qin – *Shandong University*

Ruikun Pan - *Wuhan University of Technology*

Guang Yang - *Xi-An Jiaotong University*

Yanfei Zhang – *Qilu University of Shandong*

Mette Solvang - *Rockwool International A/S*

My co-workers....

Thank you for your attention!