

Anomalous thermomechanical properties of a self-propelled colloidal fluid

S. A. Mallory,¹ A. Šarić,¹ C. Valeriani,² and A. Cacciuto^{1,*}

¹*Department of Chemistry, Columbia University, 3000 Broadway, New York, New York 10027, USA*

²*Departamento de Química Física, Facultad de Ciencias Químicas, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, 28040 Madrid, Spain*

(Received 9 August 2013; published 6 May 2014)

We use numerical simulations to compute the equation of state of a suspension of spherical self-propelled nanoparticles in two and three dimensions. We study in detail the effect of excluded volume interactions and confinement as a function of the system's temperature, concentration, and strength of the propulsion. We find a striking nonmonotonic dependence of the pressure on the temperature and provide simple scaling arguments to predict and explain the occurrence of such anomalous behavior. We explicitly show how our results have important implications for the effective forces on passive components suspended in a bath of active particles.

DOI: [10.1103/PhysRevE.89.052303](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevE.89.052303)

PACS number(s): 82.70.Dd, 05.40.-a, 87.17.Jj

The kinetic theory of gases proved to be one of the crowning achievements of 19th century physics. The seminal work of Bernoulli, Clausius, Maxwell, and Boltzmann presented a definitive relationship between the internal structure of a gas and its thermomechanical properties and thus provided unprecedented insight into the behavior of gaseous systems and set the foundation for the modern kinetic theory.

In recent years, active systems have been at the forefront of nonequilibrium statistical mechanics, as they show a range of exotic behavior not typically observed in their passive counterparts, including turbulence [1–4], delayed crystallization [5], and self-regulation [6–9] (see Refs. [10–12] for recent reviews on the field). In spite of the great effort deployed to systematically quantify the individual and collective dynamics of synthetic and naturally occurring active nanocomponents, such as self-propelled colloidal particles and bacterial suspensions, our understanding of active systems still remains incomplete.

As an attempt to provide a better link between the microscopic properties and the resulting macroscopic behavior in active systems, we consider a solution of spherical self-propelled nanoparticles (one of the simplest realizations of an active system) and determine what is typically one of the most fundamental properties of a solution: its equation of state. We show how self-propulsion leads to anomalous thermomechanical properties and how these are affected by confinement and excluded volume interactions. We also discuss, as an application of our results, how the effective interactions induced by an active ideal gas on two plates kept in close proximity gives rise to and unexpected behavior as a function of activity and temperature.

To understand the interplay between active and thermal forces, we begin our study with what is possibly the simplest thermodynamic system, a dilute suspension of noninteracting self-propelled particles (the active ideal gas), and we ignore any effective interaction between the particles that may arise, for instance, as a result of gradients in fuel concentration or hydrodynamic interactions [13–16]. In our case, the pressure is determined solely by the average force that particles exert on an enclosing container.

We implement a minimal model, inspired from recent experimental and theoretical work [17–22], of N self-propelled particles in two and three dimensions modeled as spheres of diameter σ confined within a circular or spherical container of radius R centered at the origin of our coordinate system. Each ideal particle undergoes Langevin dynamics at a constant temperature T and interacts exclusively with the wall via a truncated harmonic potential of the form

$$V_w(r) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } r - R < 0 \\ k(r - R)^2 & \text{for } r - R \geq 0, \end{cases}$$

where r is the distance from the center of the container, $k = 800k_B T_0/\sigma^2$ is the spring constant, and $k_B T_0$ (with $T_0 = 1$) is the thermal energy at room temperature that will be used as the energy scale.

Self-propulsion is introduced through a directional force that has a constant magnitude $|F_a|$ and is directed along a predefined orientation vector \mathbf{n} , which passes through the origin of each particle and connects its poles. The equations of motion of an individual particle are given by the coupled Langevin equations

$$m\ddot{\mathbf{r}} = -\gamma\dot{\mathbf{r}} - \partial_r V_w + |F_a|\mathbf{n} + \sqrt{2\gamma^2 D}\boldsymbol{\xi}(t), \quad (1)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{n}} = \sqrt{2D_r}\boldsymbol{\xi}_R(t) \times \mathbf{n}, \quad (2)$$

where m is the particle's mass, γ is the drag coefficient, and D and D_r are the translational and rotational diffusion constants, respectively. The typical solvent-induced Gaussian white noise terms for both the translational and rotational motion are characterized by $\langle \xi_i(t) \rangle = 0$ and $\langle \xi_i(t) \cdot \xi_j(t') \rangle = \delta_{ij}\delta(t - t')$ and $\langle \xi_{Ri}(t) \rangle = 0$ and $\langle \xi_{Ri}(t) \cdot \xi_{Rj}(t') \rangle = \delta_{ij}\delta(t - t')$, respectively. In the low Reynolds number regime the rotational and translation diffusion coefficients for a sphere satisfy the relation $D_r = 3D/\sigma^2$.

All simulations were carried out in two and three dimensions using LAMMPS [23], with the mass of each particle $m = 1$, the drag coefficient $\gamma = 10$, and the time step $\Delta t = 10^{-3}$. The drag coefficient γ was chosen to be sufficiently large such that the motion of the particles is effectively overdamped. Several of the simulations were repeated with larger values of γ (e.g., $\gamma = 50, 100$), which produced no detectable differences in our results. Each simulation was run for a minimum of

*ac2822@columbia.edu

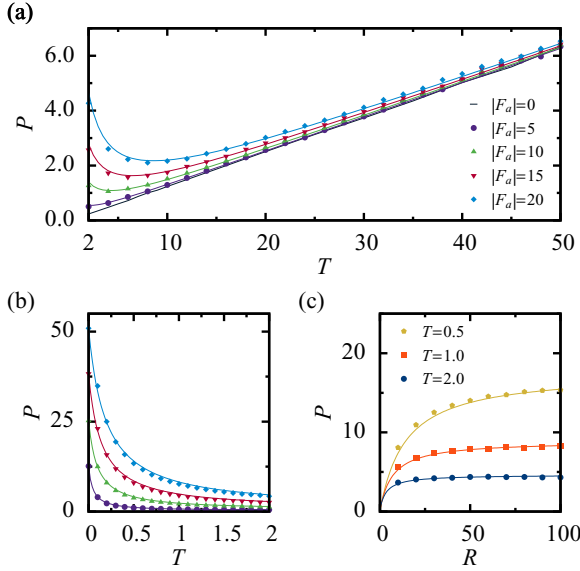


FIG. 1. (Color online) (a) Pressure in the two-dimensional system as a function of temperature for several values of $|F_a|$. (b) Same curve as (a) for $T < 2$. (c) Pressure as a function of the box radius where $|F_a| = 20$ for several values of T . All solid lines are plotted using Eq. (8) and the corresponding system variables.

3×10^7 time steps. The total number of particles ranged from $N = 10^2$ to $N = 3 \times 10^4$. The mechanical pressure was calculated as the average force the particles exerts on the boundary divided by the area of the container A .

The zero-propulsion and zero-temperature limits are well understood. In the former, the system reduces to an ideal gas exerting a pressure $P = \rho k_B T$, while in the latter, all particles accumulate on the walls of the container and each contributes a persistent force of magnitude $|F_a|$. This result is due to a particle's inability to rotate in the absence of thermal fluctuations and after hitting the wall they slide across its surface until the tangential component of the active force vanishes. The resulting pressure is trivially $P = N|F_a|/A$.

The interesting behavior emerges at finite temperatures and moderate activity where the rotational diffusion is able to derail the otherwise rectilinear trajectories of the particles. Figures 1(a) and 2(a) show how the pressure exerted on the wall depends on the temperature T for different values of the active force respectively in two and three dimensions. Strikingly, these curves show nonmonotonic behavior. Specifically, for small values of T , an increase of the temperature leads to a sharp decrease of the pressure, whereas for large values of T , the system's pressure reestablishes the ideal gas pressure-temperature dependence expected for nonactive particles.

The behavior of the pressure at low temperatures (or large $|F_a|$) can be rationalized with the following argument: The two relevant time scales in the system are the decay of the rotational correlation time due to thermal fluctuations, which can be written for the specific cases of two and three dimensions as $\tau_r \simeq (d-1)D_r^{-1}$ [24], where $d = 2, 3$ is the system dimensionality, and the time required for the particles to move across the system. The latter time scale at low T is dominated by the active motion and scales as $\tau_a \simeq R\gamma/|F_a|$. Therefore, as long as $\tau_a/\tau_r \ll 1$, i.e., the rotational motion

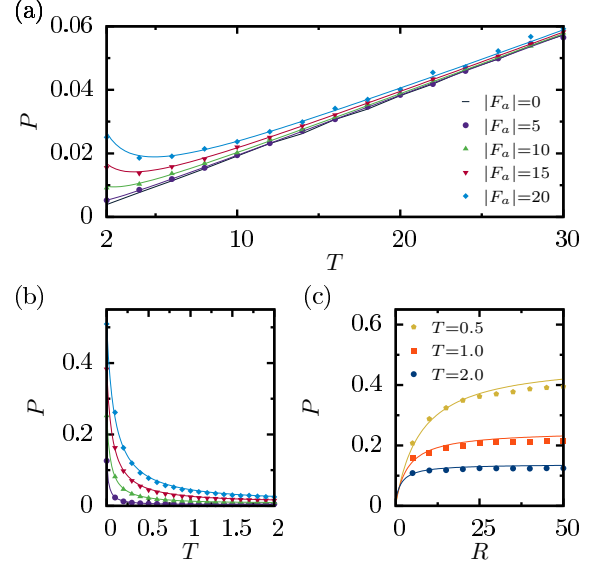


FIG. 2. (Color online) (a) Pressure in the three-dimensional system as a function of temperature for several values of $|F_a|$. (b) Same curve as (a) for $T < 2$. (c) Pressure as a function of the box radius where $|F_a| = 20$ for several values of T . All solid lines are plotted using Eq. (8) and the corresponding system variables.

does not decorrelate faster than the time required for the particle to cross the container, there will always be a net linear contribution to the pressure on the wall by the active force. A simple way of estimating the average pressure in this regime can be obtained by considering that a particle can be either on the wall pushing with a force proportional to $|F_a|$ or diffusing across the box, generating no pressure on the wall. A particle on the wall will exert a force for a time of the order of $\tau_r \simeq (d-1)D_r^{-1}$. The average time spent by the particle diffusing across the box without generating any pressure on the wall is $\tau_a \simeq R\gamma/|F_a|$. Hence, over the time $\tau_r + \tau_a$ the force exerted on the wall by a single active particle can be estimated as $\langle F \rangle \simeq (|F_a| \cdot \tau_r + 0 \cdot \tau_a)/(\tau_r + \tau_a) = |F_a|/(1 + \tau_a/\tau_r)$. Multiplying by N and dividing by the surface, one obtains the total pressure

$$\langle P \rangle = \left(\frac{N}{A} \right) \frac{|F_a|}{1 + \frac{\tau_a}{\tau_r}} \quad (3)$$

and in the limit $\tau_a/\tau_r \ll 1$, this can be further simplified to

$$\langle P \rangle = \left(\frac{N}{A} \right) \frac{|F_a|}{1 + \frac{\tau_a}{\tau_r}} \simeq \frac{N|F_a|}{A} \left(1 - \frac{\tau_a}{\tau_r} \right) \simeq \frac{N|F_a|}{A} e^{-\tau_a/\tau_r}. \quad (4)$$

We expect that the exact numerical value of the pressure will be dependent on the specific geometry of the boundary, as the behavior of the particles on the surface is well known to be strongly sensitive to it [25], but the qualitative nonmonotonic behavior observed here should remain unaltered. To account for this uncertainty, we introduce a geometric factor α and Eq. (3) can be recast as

$$\langle P \rangle = \left(\frac{N}{A} \right) \frac{|F_a|}{1 + \frac{\tau_a}{\tau_r}} = \left(\frac{R}{d} \right) \frac{\rho |F_a|}{1 + \alpha \left(\frac{3(d-1)Rk_B T}{\sigma^2 |F_a|} \right)}, \quad (5)$$

where we have also used the appropriate Einstein relation ($D = k_B T/\gamma$) to introduce the proper temperature dependence.

The derivation of Eq. (5) assumes that particles spend a majority of their time at the boundary, which ceases to be true when $\tau_a/\tau_r \gg 1$. A simple expansion of Eq. (5) in this limit gives $\langle P \rangle \simeq (\frac{\rho}{d}) \frac{|F_a|^2 \sigma^2}{3(d-1)k_B T}$, indicating that, as is typical for nonactive ideal gases, the pressure depends on the square of the particle velocities. Of course, such an expansion assumes that the particle velocities are proportional to the active force, but at large temperatures, one cannot neglect the contribution of thermal fluctuations to the motion of the particle. In this regime, we appeal to the insights of equilibrium statistical mechanics and make the assumption that the pressure is proportional to the average translational kinetic energy of the system. The introduction of self-propulsion when $\tau_a/\tau_r \gg 1$ can be viewed as a perturbation of an ideal gas. One way to associate a pressure in this regime is to compute $\langle \dot{r}^2(t) \rangle$ from Eq. (1) (see the Appendix). For simplicity, we consider particles confined to two dimensions and only have a single degree of rotational freedom. Assuming the system reaches its steady state (i.e., $t \rightarrow \infty$ and $\langle F \rangle = 0$), we can write

$$\langle \dot{r}(t)^2 \rangle = \frac{2k_B T}{m} + \frac{|F_a|^2}{m(3k_B T/\sigma^2 + \gamma^2/m)} \quad (6)$$

Measurements of $\langle \dot{r}(t)^2 \rangle$ in numerical simulations performed in two dimensions on a system with periodic boundary conditions are in good agreement with Eq. (6).

Assuming that in this limit we can write the pressure as $P/\rho = \frac{m}{2} \langle \dot{r}(t)^2 \rangle$, we obtain

$$P = \rho \left(k_B T + \frac{|F_a|^2}{6k_B T/\sigma^2 + 2\gamma^2/m} \right), \quad (7)$$

where ρ is the number density. The first term captures the ideal gas behavior, whereas the second term corrects for the increase of the velocity of the particles due to their propulsion. This correction is not a constant factor, but slowly decays with the temperature as the extent of the random thermal forces overwhelms (affecting both rotational and linear degrees of freedom) the role of the active ones. It is important to stress that, if the pressure-velocity relation that we used in Eq. (7) is indeed applicable to an active gas, it can only be valid for very high temperatures and large values of R .

Remarkably, we find that the equation obtained by simply adding the ideal gas limit $\rho k_B T$ to Eq. (5),

$$P = \rho k_B T + \left(\frac{R}{d} \right) \frac{\rho |F_a|}{1 + \alpha \left(\frac{3(d-1)Rk_B T}{\sigma^2 |F_a|} \right)}, \quad (8)$$

provides the best description of the data observed in our simulations in both two- and three-dimensional systems in terms of all external parameters: the temperature [Figs. 1(a), 1(b), 2(a), and 2(b)], the radius of the cavity [Figs. 1(c) and 2(c)], and the strength of the activity [Figs. 3(a), 3(b), 4(a), and 4(b)]. The single fitting parameter for all curves in two and three dimensions is estimated to be $\alpha \simeq 0.89$. Our derivations of Eqs. (4) and (5) is based on simple scaling arguments, however, a recent detailed analysis of the dynamics of self-propelled particles under strong confinement near the boundary has been carried out by Fily *et al.* [26]. They found the analogous exponential decay we report in Eq. (4). In their calculations they predict that $\alpha = 1$, which is in good agreement with our

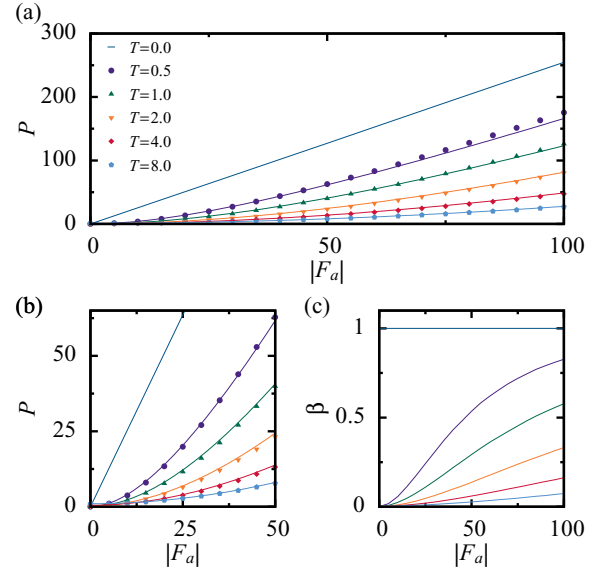


FIG. 3. (Color online) (a) Pressure in the two-dimensional system as a function of $|F_a|$ for several values of T . (b) Same curve as (a) for $|F_a| < 50$. The solid lines in (a) and (b) correspond to Eq. (8). (c) Fraction of particles β that are within one particle radius from the boundary as a function of $|F_a|$ for various values of T .

numerical findings. Figures 3(c) and 4(c) also indicate how the average fraction of particles on the surface of a container β , defined as the number of particles that are within a particle radius $\sigma/2$ from the boundary divided by the total number of particles in the system, depends on $|F_a|$ for different values of the temperature. At low temperatures and large propulsions the particles tend to accumulate at the surface, while for

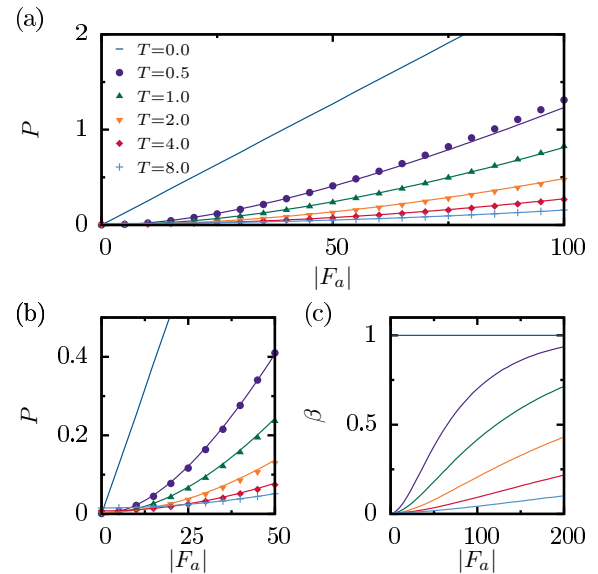


FIG. 4. (Color online) (a) Pressure in the three-dimensional system as a function of $|F_a|$ for several values of T . (b) Same curve as (a) for $|F_a| < 50$. The solid lines in (a) and (b) correspond to Eq. (8). (c) Fraction of particles β that are within one particle radius from the boundary as a function of $|F_a|$ for various values of T .

large temperatures and weak propulsions the particles are dispersed homogeneously within the container. It should again be stressed that Eq. (8) suggests that the anomalous behavior of the pressure with the temperature is not solely to be found in highly confined gases, but should persist in the limit of large containers.

Taking the limit for $R \rightarrow \infty$ in Eq. (8) while keeping the density constant gives

$$P = \rho \left(k_B T + \frac{|F_a|^2 \sigma^2}{3\alpha d(d-1)k_B T} \right), \quad d = 2, 3, \quad (9)$$

which has the same limiting behavior for very high temperatures as Eq. (7). The location of the inflection point T^* , whose value grows linearly with the strength of the active force and is independent of R , can then be easily computed to give

$$T^* = \frac{|F_a| \sigma}{k_B \sqrt{3\alpha d(d-1)}}. \quad (10)$$

Let us now consider the behavior of an active gas when excluded volume interactions between the particles are no longer negligible. This is achieved in our simulations via the Weeks-Chandler-Andersen (WCA) potential

$$U(r_{ij}) = 4\epsilon \left[\left(\frac{\sigma}{r_{ij}} \right)^{12} - \left(\frac{\sigma}{r_{ij}} \right)^6 + \frac{1}{4} \right] \quad (11)$$

with a range of action extending up to $r_{ij} = 2^{1/6}\sigma$. Here r_{ij} is the center-to-center distance between any two particles i and j and we set $\epsilon = 10k_B T_0$.

In analogy with nonactive gases, the deviations from the ideal (noninteracting) case are estimated by $Z \equiv P/P_0$, where P and P_0 are, respectively, the pressures of the nonideal and ideal active systems at the same V , T , and $|F_a|$. The conventional understanding of this factor for nonactive systems is intimately linked to the virial expansion of the pressure at low densities: When $Z \approx 1$ the system has nearly ideal behavior and molecular interactions are negligible, $Z > 1$ is the signature of a positive second virial coefficient pointing to an effectively repulsive nature of the interactions between the particles, and $Z < 1$ would point to an effective attraction that under the appropriate conditions would lead to phase separation. The compressibility factor as a function of volume fraction $\phi = \pi\rho\sigma^3/6$ for $d = 3$ and $\phi = \pi\rho\sigma^2/4$ for $d = 2$ at several values of $|F_a|$ is shown in Fig. 5. As expected, for small values of $|F_a|$, the purely repulsive nature of the interparticle interactions leads to $Z > 1$ for the range of volume fractions considered in these simulations. Strikingly, as the activity is increased, Z shows nonmonotonic behavior. Specifically, there exist values of Z smaller than one that appear for a range of low densities until excluded volume interactions eventually take over at larger ϕ to restore the expected $Z > 1$. It is tempting to associate the value of $Z < 1$ with an effective attraction among the particles leading to a phase separation between the high-density layers on the surface and the low density in the bulk, however, it is not clear that a simple relation between the virial coefficients and the sign of the interaction between the particles also holds for active nonideal gases. Nevertheless, phase separation of spherical self-propelled particles has been recently observed and predicted in two- and three-dimensional systems with periodic boundary conditions [20,27–31].

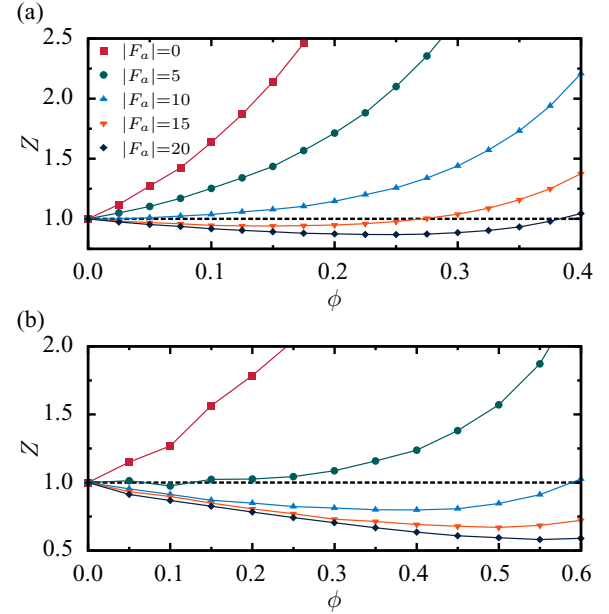


FIG. 5. (Color online) Compressibility factor Z for the (a) three- and (b) two-dimensional systems as a function of volume fraction ϕ for different values of the active force $|F_a|$ at $T = 1$. The dashed line indicates the nonactive ideal case.

To understand this behavior it is instructive to consider how the active force (the dominant term in the large $|F_a|$ limit) generates a pressure on the wall. For an ideal active gas, particles accumulating at the walls can freely slide across its surface until they align their propulsion axis parallel to the normal of the wall, thus each contributing the maximal force $|F_a|$ (when $T = 0$) to the pressure. For a nonideal active gas, excluded volume interactions between the particles hinder the particles' ability to reach these optimal configurations. Clearly, this becomes more of a problem as the volume fraction is increased and the particles begin to form layers at the surface of the container. The net result is a smaller average force per particle relative to the one generated by the ideal gas and a compressibility factor $Z < 1$. This effect is highlighted in Fig. 6, where we plot the angular distribution $P(\cos \alpha)$ for all the particles in contact with the boundary for various volume fraction in two and three dimensions. Here α is the angle between the propelling axis and boundary normal. As density increases, the angular distribution broadens and a fraction of the particles are antialigned to the normal at the boundary, indicating that the second layers of particles can cage particles in the first layer, leading to a broadening of the angular distribution.

We briefly conclude with an important application of the nontrivial thermomechanical properties of an active gas reported in this paper. We compute the strength of the effective force experienced by two parallel plates immersed in a two-dimensional suspension of nonideal active particles. For the sake of simplicity, we consider a two-dimensional system, where each plate has a length of 10σ and a width of σ and are fixed at a center-to-center distance σ such that the faces of the plates are in contact. All particles in the system have a diameter of σ and interact via the potential in Eq. (11) with $\epsilon = 10k_B T_0$. The plates are made to be purely repulsive

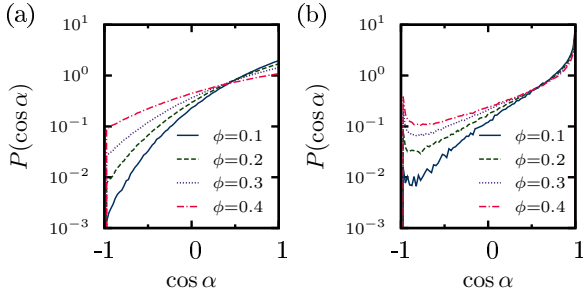


FIG. 6. (Color online) Distribution of the dot products between the propelling axis of a particle and the normal to the wall at the particle's location for various volume fractions of interacting particles in both (a) three and (b) two dimensions. Only particles within a range of σ from the wall are considered for this analysis. The logarithmic scale in the vertical axis has been chosen to better highlight the difference between the curves. The value of the active force is $|F_a| = 20$.

and interact with the particles in the system via a WCA potential with cutoff σ_R , where σ_R is the shortest distance between the center of the particle and the edge of the plate. The strength factor is kept consistent with the interparticle strength factor and is set to $\varepsilon_R = 10k_B T_0$. In addition, the simulation box is set up to be a square of area A with periodic boundary conditions at a fixed particle concentration $\rho = N/A = 0.1$ with $N = 188$ particles. The strength of the effective attractive force between the plates $\langle F_0 \rangle$ is computed from the mean force acting on the plates when held in place. The well known result for nonactive systems is that the strength of the induced attractive potential (depletion force) is proportional to the local pressure imbalance $\rho k_B T$ (in the ideal gas approximation) that develops when the plates are at a surface-to-surface distance smaller than σ . The expectation for nonactive particles is therefore that the interaction strength should increase monotonically with T and ρ . Figure 7 shows how instead the strength of the force between the plates presents a nonmonotonic behavior with temperature when the depletant is activated by a sufficiently large propelling force $|F_a| = 25$ in our two-dimensional simulations. This counterintuitive result becomes immediately obvious when considering the anomalous pressure-temperature dependence discussed in this paper. We anticipate that other anomalies

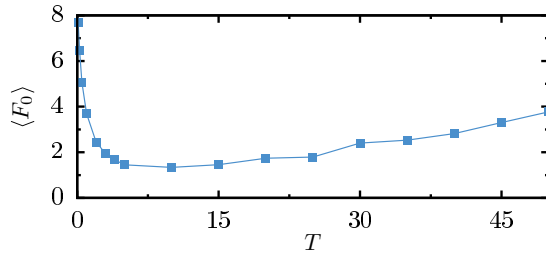


FIG. 7. (Color online) Nonmonotonic behavior of the effective force $\langle F_0 \rangle$ induced by an active gas on two plates held at a fixed contact distance as a function of T . The value of the active force is $|F_a| = 25$.

will appear when computing the full potential of mean force between the plates as a function of distance, as also observed by Angelani *et al.* [32] for the case of active rodlike particles and spherical colloids.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We thank Clarion Tung and Joseph Harder for insightful discussions and helpful comments. A.C. acknowledges financial support from the National Science Foundation under CAREER Grant No. DMR-0846426. C.V. acknowledges financial support from a Juan de la Cierva Fellowship, from the Marie Curie Integration Grant No. PCIG-GA-2011-303941 ANISOKINEQ, and from the National Project No. FIS2013-43209-P.

APPENDIX

In the high-temperature limit where $\tau_a/\tau_r \gg 1$, the average pressure exerted by a single active particle can be readily computed using two different methods. For simplicity, we consider a particle confined to two dimensions with a single rotational degree of freedom. The first approach is simply to assume that the pressure is proportional to the average squared velocity of the particle and thus $P/\rho = m \langle \dot{\mathbf{r}}^2 \rangle / 2$, where ρ is the number density. A more rigorous approach is to directly compute the correlation function $\langle \mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{F}_e \rangle$, where \mathbf{F}_e is the net force exerted on the particle. For a system of ideal particles, it is relatively straightforward to prove $P/\rho = -\langle \mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{F}_e \rangle$ [33]. In the long-time limit, both approaches give the same expression for the pressure and thus we choose to illustrate the former method for its computational convenience and simple interpretation. The equation of motion of an active Brownian particle of mass m and self-propelling force $|F_a[\theta(t)]|$ are given by the coupled Langevin equations

$$m\ddot{\mathbf{r}} = -\gamma\dot{\mathbf{r}} + |F_a|\mathbf{n} + \sqrt{2D}\xi(t), \quad (\text{A1})$$

$$\dot{\theta} = \sqrt{2D_r}\xi_R(t). \quad (\text{A2})$$

Using an approach similar to that given in [24] and references therein, the x component of the velocity is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}(t) = & \dot{x}_0 e^{-(\gamma/m)t} + \frac{e^{-(\gamma/m)t}}{m} \int_0^t \{ |F_a| \cos[\theta(s)] \\ & + \sqrt{2D}\xi(s) \} e^{(\gamma/m)s} ds, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A3})$$

where $\dot{x}_0 = \dot{x}(0)$. It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}(t)^2 = & \dot{x}_0^2 e^{-(2\gamma/m)t} + \frac{2\dot{x}_0 e^{-(\gamma/m)t}}{m} \int_0^t \{ |F_a| \cos[\theta(s)] \\ & + \sqrt{2D}\xi(s) \} e^{(\gamma/m)s} ds + \frac{e^{-(2\gamma/m)t}}{m^2} \\ & \times \left(\int_0^t \{ |F_a| \cos[\theta(s)] + \sqrt{2D}\xi(s) \} e^{(\gamma/m)s} ds \right)^2, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A4})$$

which readily simplifies to

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}(t)^2 &= \dot{x}_0^2 e^{-2\gamma/m t} + \frac{2\dot{x}_0 e^{-(\gamma/m)t}}{m} \int_0^t \{|F_a| \cos[\theta(s)] + \sqrt{2D} \xi(s)\} e^{(\gamma/m)s} ds \\ &+ \frac{|F_a|^2 e^{-2\gamma/m t}}{m^2} \int_0^t \int_0^t \cos[\theta(s)] \cos[\theta(s')] e^{(\gamma/m)(s+s')} ds' ds \\ &+ \frac{2D e^{-2\gamma/m t}}{m^2} \int_0^t \int_0^t \xi(s) \xi(s') e^{(\gamma/m)(s+s')} ds' ds. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A5})$$

Using the equipartition theorem ($\langle \dot{x}_0^2 \rangle = k_B T/m$) and taking the ensemble average of $\dot{x}(t)^2$, we are able to further simplify the above expression to

$$\langle \dot{x}(t)^2 \rangle = \frac{k_B T}{m} e^{-2\gamma/m t} + \frac{2D e^{-2\gamma/m t}}{m^2} \int_0^t e^{2\gamma/m s} ds + \frac{|F_a|^2 e^{-2\gamma/m t}}{m^2} \int_0^t \int_0^t \langle \cos[\theta(s)] \cos[\theta(s')] \rangle e^{(\gamma/m)(s+s')} ds' ds. \quad (\text{A6})$$

To evaluate the integral in the last term, it is important to note that $\langle \cos[\theta(t)] \cos[\theta(t')] \rangle_{t>t'} = e^{-D_r(t-t')}/2$. It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{|F_a|^2 e^{-2\gamma/m t}}{m^2} \int_0^t \int_0^t \langle \cos[\theta(s)] \cos[\theta(s')] \rangle e^{(\gamma/m)(s+s')} ds' ds \\ &= \frac{|F_a|^2 e^{-2\gamma/m t}}{m^2} \left(\int_0^t \int_0^s \langle \cos[\theta(s)] \cos[\theta(s')] \rangle e^{(\gamma/m)(s+s')} ds' ds + \int_0^t \int_s^t \langle \cos[\theta(s)] \cos[\theta(s')] \rangle e^{(\gamma/m)(s+s')} ds' ds \right) \\ &= \frac{|F_a|^2 e^{-2\gamma/m t}}{2m^2} \left[\int_0^t e^{-(D_r-\gamma/m)s} \left(\int_0^s e^{(D_r+\gamma/m)s'} ds' \right) ds + \int_0^t e^{(D_r+\gamma/m)s} \left(\int_s^t e^{-(D_r-\gamma/m)s'} ds' \right) ds \right] \\ &= \frac{|F_a|^2 e^{-2\gamma/m t}}{2m^2} \left[\frac{1}{D_r + \frac{\gamma}{m}} \left(\frac{m}{2\gamma} (e^{2\gamma/m t} - 1) + \frac{1}{D_r - \frac{\gamma}{m}} (e^{-(D_r-\gamma/m)t} - 1) \right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{D_r - \frac{\gamma}{m}} \left(\frac{m}{2\gamma} (e^{2\gamma/m t} - 1) + \frac{1}{D_r + \frac{\gamma}{m}} (e^{2\gamma/m t} - e^{-(D_r+\gamma/m)t}) \right) \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A7})$$

The integral in the second term of Eq. (A6) is straightforward and the final result is

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \dot{x}(t)^2 \rangle &= \frac{k_B T}{m} + \frac{|F_a|^2}{2m^2} \left[\frac{1}{D_r + \alpha} \left(\frac{1}{2\alpha} (1 - e^{-2\alpha t}) + \frac{1}{D_r - \alpha} (e^{-(D_r+\alpha)t} - e^{-2\alpha t}) \right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{D_r - \alpha} \left(\frac{1}{2\alpha} (1 - e^{-2\alpha t}) - \frac{1}{D_r + \alpha} (1 - e^{-(D_r+\alpha)t}) \right) \right], \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A8})$$

where $\alpha \equiv \frac{\gamma}{m}$. In the limit that $t \rightarrow \infty$,

$$\langle \dot{x}(t)^2 \rangle = \frac{k_B T}{m} + \frac{|F_a|^2}{2m^2 \alpha (D_r + \alpha)}. \quad (\text{A9})$$

A similar computation can be carried out to show that $\langle \dot{y}(t)^2 \rangle = \langle \dot{x}(t)^2 \rangle$ and thus the pressure is given by

$$\begin{aligned} P/\rho &= \frac{m}{2} \langle \dot{r}(t)^2 \rangle = \frac{m}{2} [\langle \dot{x}(t)^2 \rangle + \langle \dot{y}(t)^2 \rangle] \\ &= m \langle \dot{x}(t)^2 \rangle = k_B T + \frac{|F_a|^2}{2\gamma(D_r + \gamma/m)} \\ &= k_B T + \frac{|F_a|^2}{6k_B T/\sigma^2 + 2\gamma^2/m}. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A10})$$

-
- [1] C. W. Wolgemuth, *Biophys. J.* **95**, 1564 (2008).
[2] H. H. Wensink and H. Löwen, *J. Phys.: Condens. Matter* **24**, 464130 (2012).
[3] H. H. Wensink, J. Dunkel, S. Heidenreich, K. Drescher, R. E. Goldstein, H. Löwen, and J. M. Yeomans, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* **109**, 14308 (2012).
[4] L. Giomi, L. Mahadevan, B. Chakraborty, and M. F. Hagan, *Nonlinearity* **25**, 2245 (2012).
[5] J. Bialké, T. Speck, and H. Löwen, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **108**, 168301 (2012).
[6] A. Gopinath, M. F. Hagan, M. C. Marchetti, and A. Baskaran, *Phys. Rev. E* **85**, 061903 (2012).

- [7] A. Kaiser, H. H. Wensink, and H. Löwen, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **108**, 268307 (2012).
- [8] W. Yang, V. R. Misko, K. Nelissen, M. Kong, and F. M. Peeters, *Soft Matter* **8**, 5175 (2012).
- [9] L. Angelani, A. Costanzo, and R. Di Leonardo, *Europhys. Lett.* **96**, 68002 (2011).
- [10] M. C. Marchetti *et al.*, *Rev. Mod. Phys.* **85**, 1143 (2013).
- [11] P. Romanczuk, M. Bär, W. Ebeling, B. Lindner, and L. Schimansky-Geier, *Eur. Phys. J. Special Topics* **202**, 1 (2012).
- [12] S. Ramaswamy, *Annu. Rev. Condens. Matter Phys.* **1**, 323 (2010).
- [13] T. Brotto, J.-B. Caussin, E. Lauga, and D. Bartolo, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **110**, 038101 (2013).
- [14] J. J. Molina, Y. Nakayama, and R. Yamamoto, *Soft Matter* **9**, 4923 (2013).
- [15] T. Sanchez, D. T. N. Chen, S. J. DeCamp, M. Heymann, and Z. Dogic, *Nature (London)* **491**, 431 (2012).
- [16] J. Schwarz-Linek, C. Valeriani, A. Cacciuto, M. E. Cates, D. Marenduzzo, A. N. Morozov, and W. C. K. Poon, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* **109**, 4052 (2012).
- [17] I. Theurkauff, C. Cottin-Bizonne, J. Palacci, C. Ybert, and L. Bocquet, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **108**, 268303 (2012).
- [18] J. Palacci, S. Sacanna, A. P. Steinberg, D. J. Pine, and P. M. Chaikin, *Science* **339**, 936 (2013).
- [19] I. Buttinoni, J. Bialké, F. Kümmel, H. Löwen, C. Bechinger, and T. Speck, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **110**, 238301 (2013).
- [20] G. S. Redner, M. F. Hagan, and A. Baskaran, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **110**, 055701 (2013).
- [21] J. Stenhammar, A. Tiribocchi, R. J. Allen, D. Marenduzzo, and M. E. Cates, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **111**, 145702 (2013).
- [22] P. K. Ghosh, V. R. Misko, F. Marchesoni, and F. Nori, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **110**, 268301 (2013).
- [23] S. Plimpton, *J. Comput. Phys.* **117**, 1 (1995).
- [24] B. ten Hagen, S. van Teeffelen, and H. Löwen, *Condens. Matter Phys.* **12**, 725 (2009).
- [25] J. Elgeti and G. Gompper, *Europhys. Lett.* **101**, 48003 (2013).
- [26] Y. Fily, A. Baskaran, and M. F. Hagan, [arXiv:1402.5583](https://arxiv.org/abs/1402.5583).
- [27] M. E. Cates and J. Tailleur, *Europhys. Lett.* **101**, 20010 (2013).
- [28] Y. Fily and M. C. Marchetti, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **108**, 235702 (2012).
- [29] J. Stenhammar, D. Marenduzzo, R. J. Allen, and M. E. Cates, *Soft Matter* **10**, 1489 (2014).
- [30] X. Yang, M. L. Manning, and M. C. Marchetti, [arXiv:1403.0697](https://arxiv.org/abs/1403.0697)
- [31] M. E. Cates and J. Tailleur, *Europhys. Lett.* **86**, 60002 (2009).
- [32] L. Angelani, C. Maggi, M. L. Bernardini, A. Rizzo, and R. Di Leonardo, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **107**, 138302 (2011).
- [33] R. K. Pathria, *Statistical Mechanics*, 2nd ed. (Butterworth-Heinemann, Oxford, 1996).