

Dynamic phases, stratification, laning, and pattern formation for driven bidisperse disk systems in the presence of quenched disorder

D. McDermott,^{1,2} Y. Yang,^{1,3} C. J. Olson Reichhardt,¹ and C. Reichhardt¹

¹*Theoretical Division, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545, USA*

²*Department of Physics, Pacific University, Forest Grove, Oregon 97116, USA*

³*School of Physics and Astronomy, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455, USA*



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Using numerical simulations, we examine the dynamics of driven two-dimensional bidisperse disks flowing over quenched disorder. The system exhibits a series of distinct dynamical phases as a function of applied driving force and packing fraction, including a phase-separated state as well as a smectic state with liquid-like or polycrystalline features. At low driving forces, we find a clogged phase with an isotropic density distribution, while at intermediate driving forces the disks separate into bands of high and low densities with either liquid-like or polycrystalline structure in the high-density bands. In addition to the density phase separation, we find that in some cases there is a fractionation of the disk species, particularly when the disk size ratio is large. The species phase-separated regimes form a variety of patterns such as large disks separated by chains of smaller disks. Our results show that the formation of laning states can be enhanced by tuning the ratio of disk radius of the two species, due to the clumping of small disks in the interstitial regions between the large disks. This system could be experimentally realized using sterically interacting colloidal particles suspended in a viscous fluid driven over random pinning arrays or granular matter suspended in fluid moving over a random landscape.

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I. INTRODUCTION

A large class of systems can be effectively described as a collection of interacting particles moving over a random pinning landscape, where a variety of distinct dynamical phases appear as a function of driving force [1]. Well studied examples of such systems include vortices in type-II superconductors [2–6], driven Wigner crystals [7,8], skyrmions undergoing current-induced motion [9–11], sliding pattern forming assemblies coupled to random landscapes [12,13], colloids on disordered substrates [14–19], and active matter moving in complex environments [20–22]. These systems often exhibit multiple nonequilibrium phase transitions, such as a transition from a pinned to a sliding phase followed by transitions to different types of sliding phases. Such transitions are associated with clearly observable changes in the velocity-force curves, fluctuation spectra, and spatial reordering of the particles.

Previous work on dynamical phase transitions in driven systems has primarily focused on long- or intermediate-range particle-particle interactions that tend to favor a uniform particle density, such as that found in magnetic or charged systems. When particles of this type are placed on quenched disorder composed of randomly placed strong pinning sites, three nonequilibrium phases emerge: a pinned disordered state, a plastic flow state in which the particle positions are disordered and the particles exchange neighbors as they move, and a dynamically reordered anisotropic crystal or moving smectic state that appears at high drives when the effectiveness of the pinning is reduced [1].

There are numerous examples of systems in which the particle-particle interactions are short ranged or steric,

including many types of colloidal suspensions, emulsions, bubbles, and granular matter. Although it might be natural to assume that the short-range interactions would produce simpler behavior than the longer range interactions when the particles are driven over quenched disorder, it was recently shown that monodisperse hard disks moving over a random pinning landscape exhibit a remarkably rich variety of dynamical phases, including clogging, disordered plastic flow, segregated flow, laning flow, and moving crystals [23]. The disk system can form moving density-segregated states containing high-density bands coexisting with low-density regions. In some cases, the dense bands form closely packed hexagonal lattices even when the overall density of the system is well below the crystallization density. At higher drives, the crystalline bands break up to form dense one-dimensional chains, while at higher densities the disks form a moving crystalline solid [23]. Density-separated phases cost no energy in systems with contact interactions, since the energy remains small even when the particles accumulate in one region and are depleted from another region. In contrast, when the interactions are longer range, the system can minimize its energy by destabilizing and dispersing any locally dense regions.

In this work, we consider bidisperse disks driven over quenched disorder consisting of randomly placed pinning sites. In the absence of driving or pinning, the disks form a jammed solid at densities well below the crystallization density $\phi = 0.9$ of pin-free undriven monodisperse disks [24,25]. Both monodisperse and bidisperse disks can exhibit density segregation into dense and depleted regions, but the bidisperse disks can also undergo species segregation of the two disk sizes. Numerous studies have demonstrated species

segregation under nonequilibrium conditions for short-range repulsive bidisperse systems including granular matter [26–29] and colloids [30–32], where the degree of segregation depends on the ratio of particle sizes and the type of driving force applied. There are, however, few studies examining the impact of quenched disorder on size segregation. An understanding of segregation effects in flowing bidisperse disks coupled to quenched disorder not only offers insights on depinning and sliding phenomena but also could be used to develop new methods for separating or mixing bidisperse or polydisperse systems of particles. For example, some geological systems can be described in terms of polydisperse disks moving through random pinning, and such systems could undergo dynamic segregation. Furthermore, these results could be relevant to experiments in multispecies flows of soft matter confined to quasi-two-dimensional environments, such as sterically interacting colloids moving over random substrates or the flow of granular matter over a disordered background.

This paper is organized as follows. We describe our simulation technique for the bidisperse disks driven over random pinning in Sec. II. In Sec. III, we show the dynamic patterns that form for a system in which 50% of the disks are large and the radius ratio of the large to small disks is 1.4. In Sec. IV, we consider large disks that are twice as big as the smaller disks while maintaining the fraction of large disks at 50%. In Sec. V, we show that by reducing the fraction of large disks to 10% we can enhance the segregation and stratification effects. We examine the scaling of the velocity-force curves near depinning in Sec. VI. We test for hysteresis in Sec. VII, and we discuss possible extensions to the simulations in Sec. VIII. We summarize our results in Sec. IX.

II. SIMULATION

We consider a two-dimensional (2D) system of size $L \times L$ with periodic boundary conditions in the x and y directions. The sample contains $N_d = N_s + N_l$ disks, where N_s disks have a small radius of r_s and N_l disks have a large radius of r_l . The disk dynamics are governed by the following overdamped equation of motion:

$$\eta \frac{d\mathbf{R}_i}{dt} = \mathbf{F}_{dd} + \mathbf{F}_p + \mathbf{F}_D. \quad (1)$$

Here η is the damping constant and \mathbf{R}_i is the location of disk i . The disk-disk interaction force is $\mathbf{F}_{dd} = \sum_{i \neq j} k(r_{dd}^{ij} - R_{ij})\Theta(r_{dd}^{ij} - R_{ij})\hat{\mathbf{R}}_{ij}$, where $r_{dd}^{ij} = r_i + r_j$, $r_{i(j)}$ is the radius of disk $i(j)$, $R_{ij} = |\mathbf{R}_i - \mathbf{R}_j|$, $\hat{\mathbf{R}}_{ij} = (\mathbf{R}_i - \mathbf{R}_j)/R_{ij}$, Θ is the Heaviside step function, and the spring constant $k = 50$ is large enough to prevent the disks from overlapping by more than 1% of their radii. The pinning force \mathbf{F}_p is produced by N_p pinning sites modeled as randomly placed nonoverlapping parabolic wells cut off at a radius of $r_p = r_s$ that can each capture at most one disk with a maximum pinning force of $F_p = 1.0$. The density ϕ of the system is given by the area covered by the disks, $\phi = \pi(N_s r_s^2 + N_l r_l^2)/L^2$, where $L = 60$ and $r_s = 0.5$. We vary r_l and set the radius ratio $\Psi = r_l/r_s$ to $\Psi = 1.4$ in Sec. III and $\Psi = 2.0$ in Sec. IV. In a previous study of the jamming of bidisperse disks using this model with $\Psi = 1.4$, the jamming density in a pin-free sample is $\phi_j \approx 0.845$ [33]. We set $N_p = 1440$, giving a fixed pinning

site density of $\phi_p = N_p \pi r_p^2 / L^2 = 0.31$. Previous studies have shown that increasing ϕ_p does not alter the behavior but only shifts the driving forces at which the dynamical transitions occur [23]. The driving force $\mathbf{F}_D = F_D \hat{\mathbf{x}}$ is applied uniformly to all disks. We perform a series of separate runs for each value of F_D at intervals of $\Delta F_D = 0.05$. In Sec. VII, we perform a continuous sweep of F_D over the range 0 to 2.0 and find that the results are essentially identical with those obtained for the series of individual runs at each F_D value. On each drive increment, we measure the species-dependent disk velocities, $\langle V_x^s \rangle = N_d^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{N_d} (\mathbf{v}_i \cdot \hat{\mathbf{x}}) \delta(r_i - r_s)$ and $\langle V_x^l \rangle = N_d^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{N_d} (\mathbf{v}_i \cdot \hat{\mathbf{x}}) \delta(r_i - r_l)$, where \mathbf{v}_i is the instantaneous velocity of disk i . We generate species-dependent histograms of $P(v_x)$, the distribution of velocities v_x of the individual disks in the direction of applied drive, by first allowing the system to reach a steady state and then sampling the velocities every $\Delta t = 5 \times 10^5$ simulation time steps. The corresponding $P(v_y)$ is Gaussian distributed about $v_y = 0$ since the motion of the disks perpendicular to the driving force is unbiased. We also characterize the dynamic phases and phase transitions using velocity-force curves, the transverse root-mean-square displacements, and other measures of the particle spacing and density. The measurements are time averaged over a single realization of disorder. We have checked that performing disorder averaging does not change the results except very close to the critical point, as described in Sec. VII.

III. MINIMALLY PHASE SEPARATING SYSTEM WITH $N_l = N_d/2$

We first consider samples with $N_s = N_l$ and a disk diameter ratio of $\Psi = 1.4$. By varying the disk density from $\phi = 0.23$ to $\phi = 0.81$, we obtain a ratio of pinning sites to disks in the range $N_p/N_d = 2.0$ to 0.53. At $\phi = 0.46$, there is one disk for every pin, $N_p/N_d = 1.0$. In Fig. 1(a), we plot $\langle V_x^s \rangle$ and $\langle V_x^l \rangle$ versus F_D/F_p for $\phi = 0.23$ to 0.87, and we show the corresponding $d\langle V_x^s \rangle/dF_D$ and $d\langle V_x^l \rangle/dF_D$ versus F_D/F_p curves in Fig. 1(b). At small F_D/F_p , the system is in the pinned or clogged state that we term phase I, while for $F_D/F_p \geq 1.5$, the velocities increase linearly with drive for all values of ϕ . In the inset of Fig. 1(b), we plot the critical depinning force F_c marking the end of phase I versus ϕ . When ϕ is low, $F_c \approx F_p$ since each disk can be captured independently by a pinning site. As the disk density increases, F_c drops when the disks begin to interact with each other. Since each pin can capture at most one disk, if an unpinned disk comes into contact with a pinned disk, the driving force on both disks is offset by the pinning force on only one disk, lowering the depinning threshold. The number of disks in contact with each other increases with increasing ϕ , causing F_c to decrease monotonically. We find no species dependence of F_c at any value of ϕ . Figure 1(c) shows $\Delta\langle V_x \rangle = \langle V_x^s \rangle - \langle V_x^l \rangle$, the difference in net velocity between the two disk species. This difference is largest in magnitude near the depinning transition.

At a small disk density of $\phi = 0.23$ in Fig. 1, both $\langle V_x^s \rangle$ and $\langle V_x^l \rangle$ show relatively sharp depinning transitions, as also indicated by the large single peak at depinning in the $d\langle V_x^s \rangle/dF_D$ and $d\langle V_x^l \rangle/dF_D$ versus F_D/F_p curves. For drives close to but above F_c , the smaller disks move slightly faster than the larger disks so that $\Delta\langle V_x \rangle > 1$.

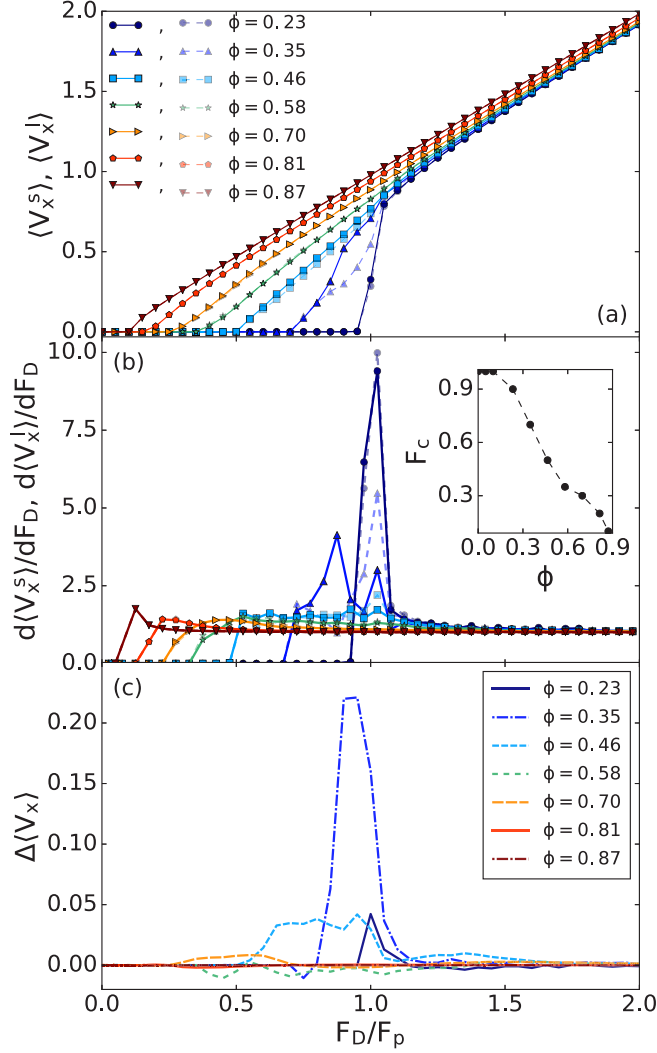


FIG. 1. (a) The species-dependent average disk velocities $\langle V_x^s \rangle$ (solid lines) and $\langle V_x^l \rangle$ (dashed lines) vs driving force F_D/F_p in a sample with $\Psi = 1.4$ with equal numbers of small and large disks, $N_s = N_l$. The total disk density is $\phi = 0.87$ (down triangles), 0.81 (pentagons), 0.70 (right triangles), 0.58 (stars), 0.46 (squares), 0.35 (up triangles), and 0.23 (circles). (b) The corresponding $d\langle V_x^s \rangle/dF_D$ (solid lines) and $d\langle V_x^l \rangle/dF_D$ (dashed lines) vs F_D/F_p curves for the same values of ϕ showing a peak near $F_D/F_p = 1.0$. Inset: critical depinning force F_c vs disk density ϕ . (c) The difference $\Delta\langle V_x \rangle = \langle V_x^s \rangle - \langle V_x^l \rangle$ vs F_D/F_p for the same values of ϕ shown in panels (a) and (b).

A. Intermediate disk densities

Disk-disk interactions become important at $\phi = 0.35$, where Fig. 1(b) shows that a two-peak structure emerges in $d\langle V_x^s \rangle/dF_D$, with one peak at $F_D/F_p = 0.9$ and a smaller second peak at $F_D/F_p = 1.05$. We also find that $d\langle V_x^l \rangle/dF_D$ has a small peak at $F_D/F_p = 0.7$ and a larger peak at $F_D/F_p = 1.05$. A positive peak in $\Delta\langle V_x \rangle$ extends over the range $0.8 < F_D/F_p < 1.05$ and is larger in magnitude than what we observe at other values of ϕ .

In the left panel of Fig. 2(a), we illustrate the disk positions in the pinned phase I for $\phi = 0.35$ at $F_D/F_p = 0.3$.

Here, small numbers of unpinned disks have accumulated behind pinned disks, giving a heterogeneous disk density and reducing the depinning threshold to $F_c/F_p = 0.7$. In some regions, short chains of disks composed preferentially of large disks are stabilized at an angle to the driving direction. In the center panel of Fig. 2(a), we plot the local number density n_l^{loc} and n_s^{loc} of large and small disks, respectively, obtained by taking slices of width $w = 4r_s$ through the sample at a fixed value of y and dividing the number of disks of each type in that slice by the slice area. Thus, $n_s^{\text{loc}}(y) = (4r_s L)^{-1} \sum_i^N \Theta(|R_y^i - y| - 2r_s) \delta(r_i - r_s)$ and $n_l^{\text{loc}}(y) = (4r_s L)^{-1} \sum_i^N \Theta(|R_y^i - y| - 2r_s) \delta(r_i - r_l)$. The difference in local number density, $\Delta n^{\text{loc}} = n_l^{\text{loc}} - n_s^{\text{loc}}$, is shown as a function of y in the rightmost panel of Fig. 2(a). Below the depinning transition, both disk species are distributed uniformly throughout the sample.

Figure 1(c) shows that for $\phi = 0.35$ at $F_D/F_p = 0.9$, the velocity of the small disks is larger than that of the large disks, giving $\Delta\langle V_x \rangle \approx 0.24$. At this drive, the sample develops a horizontal band containing a high local density of small disks moving through a homogeneous distribution of large disks, forming a phase-separated liquid-gas state illustrated in Fig. 2(b) that we term phase III. The peak in $d\langle V_x^s \rangle/dF_D$ at $F_D/F_p = 0.9$ coincides with the emergence of the dense band of small disks in the region $10 < y < 45$. At $y = 30$, the value of n_l^{loc} is nearly zero, but in the rest of the sample n_l^{loc} is roughly constant. The small disks flow continuously while the large disks undergo stick-slip motion that is enhanced in the vicinity of the band of small disks, as shown in the video in the Supplemental Material [34]. The species-dependent velocity distributions $P(v_x)$ in Fig. 3(a) show that v_x is bimodal for each species, with peaks at $v_x = 0$ and $v_x = 0.9$ arising from the alternating pinned and freely flowing motion of each disk. The $v_x = 0.9$ peak is higher for the small disks than for the large disks since the small disks are more likely to move freely, due to their separation into a dense band, and similarly the peak at $v_x = 0$ is highest for the large disks, which are more likely to fall into a pinning site due to their greater radius. Strong interactions with the pinning sites are required to produce the $v_x = 0$ peak. Although $P(v_x)$ falls off rapidly above $v_x = F_D = 0.9$, there is still a tail with finite weight at $v_x > F_D$ produced by disks that undergo brief rapid motion just after escaping from a pinning site.

In Fig. 2(c), at $F_D/F_p = 1.1$, the band of small disks in the $\phi = 0.35$ system becomes more diffuse. Simultaneously, the large disks segregate into dense bands surrounding the original band of small disks, while the lower density portion of the sample develops smectic ordering consisting of chains of mixed disk sizes that are oriented with the driving direction. We call this phase-separated liquid-smectic state phase IV. Figure 1(c) shows that $\langle V_x^s \rangle$ is slightly larger than $\langle V_x^l \rangle$ at this drive since the higher density band of small disks is able to move more efficiently over the pinning sites, as illustrated in the Supplemental Material [34]. Figure 2(e) shows a more detailed plot of the disk positions along with the pinning site locations in a portion of the sample from Fig. 2(c) containing both the dense band of large disks and the smectic chains. The disk species are not segregated within the chains, and since the pinning force and driving force are nearly equal,

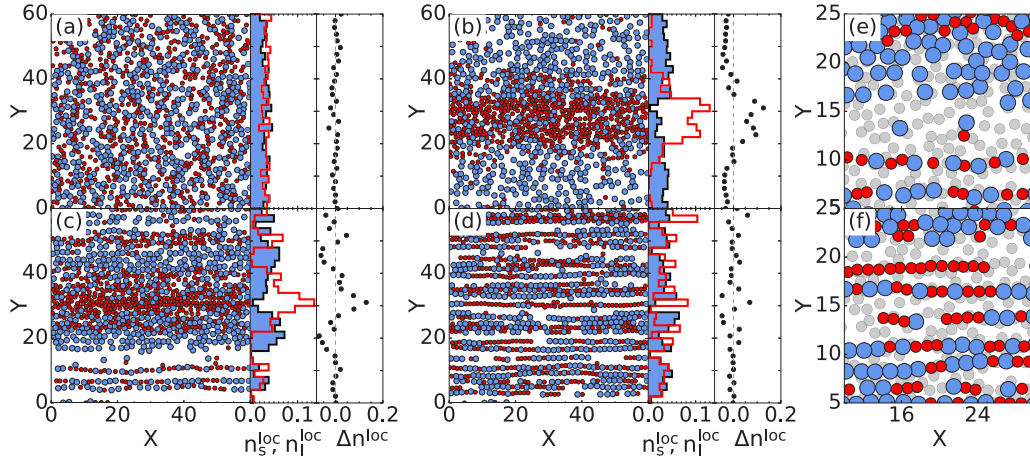


FIG. 2. [(a)–(d)] Left panels: Large disk (blue circles) and small disk (red circles) positions for the system in Fig. 1 with $\Psi = 1.4$ and $N_s = N_l$ at $\phi = 0.35$. Center panels: n_l^{loc} (blue) and n_s^{loc} (red), the local number density of large and small disks, respectively, averaged over the x direction for each y position. Right panels: $\Delta n^{\text{loc}} = n_s^{\text{loc}} - n_l^{\text{loc}}$ plotted at each y position. (a) The pinned phase I at $F_D/F_p = 0.3$, where unpinned disks pile up behind pinned disks. (b) Just above depinning at $F_D/F_p = 0.9$ in phase III, where the sample contains a dense liquid-like region in the center surrounded by a gaslike region. (c) $F_D/F_p = 1.1$ in phase IV flow, where the small and large disks become further segregated and the disks from the gaslike region collapse into chains with smectic ordering. (d) $F_D/F_p = 2.0$ in phase V, where the entire sample develops a smectic structure. (e) Detail showing large disk (blue circles), small disk (red circles), and pinning site (gray circles) locations in a portion of the sample from panel (c) at $F_D/F_p = 1.1$ in phase IV. (f) Detail as in panel (e) for a portion of the sample from panel (d) at $F_D/F_p = 2.0$ in phase V.

the disks do not experience much transverse displacement as they traverse the pinning sites. In the liquid-smectic phase IV, $P(v_x)$ has a single peak at $v_x = 1.1$ with equal weight for both species, as shown in Fig. 3(b). Interactions of the disks with the pins in the lower density portions of the sample produce a broad plateau in $P(v_x)$ over the range $0.1 < v_x < 1.1$. Since $F_D > F_p$, the pinning sites can only slow the disks but cannot trap them, so there is no longer a peak at $v_x = 0$.

At higher drives for $\phi = 0.35$, the system enters phase V in which the smectic ordering spreads throughout the entire sample, as shown in Fig. 2(d) at $F_D/F_p = 2.0$. The tendency of the disks to form chains in this state is illustrated

in a detailed view in Fig. 2(f). Chainlike ordering emerges continuously in the smectic state as the drive increases. The long chains of disks have greater species separation and reduced fluctuations in the y direction compared to the chains which form at lower F_D . The dynamics of this state are illustrated in the Supplemental Material [34]. Similar lane formation was observed for a low density of monodisperse disks driven over quenched disorder [23] and is due in part to the fact that strong density modulations incur no energy penalty in systems with short-range interactions. Although on average $\Delta n^{\text{loc}} \approx 0$, indicating that the large-scale species segregation found at lower drives is lost, we find that individual chains can be preferentially composed of a single species of disk. The velocity distributions $P(v_x)$ are similar to those shown in Fig. 3(b) but have a sharper peak at $v_x = F_D$.

The moving smectic state we observe differs from that predicted by theory [35,36] and observed in simulations [6,37,38] and experiments [5] to occur in driven systems with quenched disorder such as vortices in type-II superconductors confined to two dimensions. The short-range nature of the disk-disk interactions permits the emergence of extreme chaining behavior in which the disks are nearly in contact along the driving direction but are well spaced in the transverse direction. In contrast, superconducting vortices strongly repel one another at short distances and thus have a more even spacing in the directions parallel and transverse to the drive. Adjacent vortex rows in the smectic state contain dislocations that can glide along the driving direction and permit the rows to slide past one another. For the disk system, adjacent rows are noninteracting and can move completely independently of each other.

In Fig. 4, we illustrate the time-dependent behavior of the $\phi = 0.35$ system. We find similar behavior when $0.2 < \phi < 0.5$. Figure 4(a) shows the instantaneous values of V_x^s and V_x^l versus time at driving forces ranging from $F_D/F_p = 0.70$

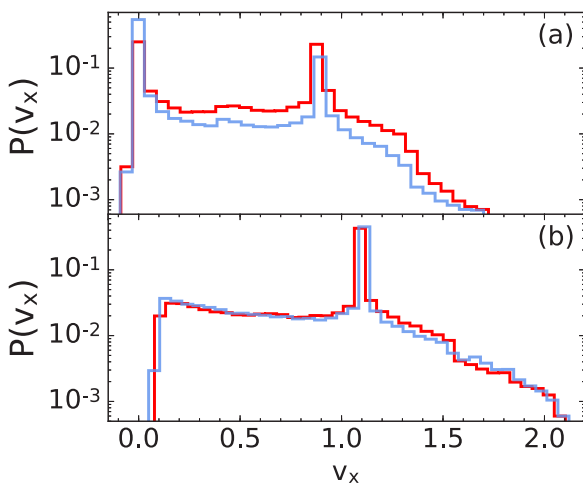


FIG. 3. Histograms of $P(v_x)$ for the velocity v_x parallel to the driving direction for the small disks (red) and large disks (blue) for the system in Fig. 1 at $\phi = 0.35$ with (a) $F_D/F_p = 0.9$ in phase III and (b) $F_D/F_p = 1.1$ in phase IV.

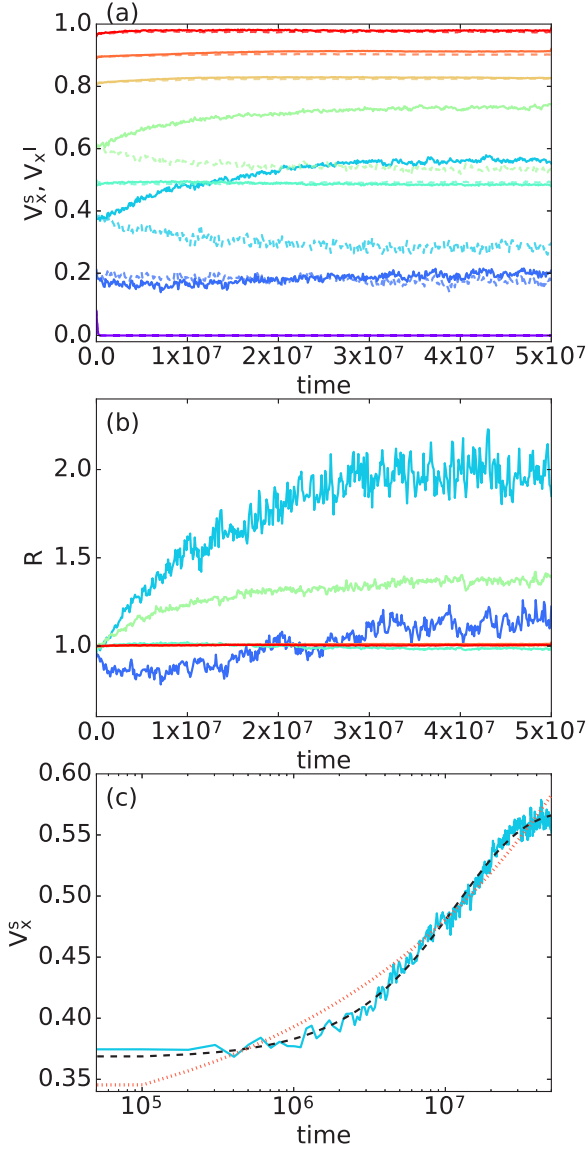


FIG. 4. (a) The instantaneous disk velocity V_x^s (solid lines) and V_x^l (dashed lines) vs time for the small and large disks, respectively, in the sample from Fig. 1 at $\phi = 0.35$ for $F_D = 0.7$ (phase I), 0.8 (phase II), 0.9, 0.95, 1.0, 1.05 (phase III), 1.1, and 1.15 (phase IV), from bottom to top. (b) The corresponding ratio $R = V_x^s/V_x^l$ vs time for samples with $F_D/F_p > 0.7$. (c) V_x^s (solid blue line) vs time for the system in panels (a) and (b) at $F_D = 0.9$ in phase III. Black dashed line: A fit to $V_x^s \propto e^{-t/\tau}$ with $\tau = 1.22 \times 10^7$. Red dot-dashed line: A fit to $V_x^s \propto t^\alpha$ with $\alpha = 0.26 \pm 0.01$.

to 1.15. In Fig. 4(b), we show the corresponding ratio $R = V_x^s/V_x^l$ versus time. At $F_D \leq 0.70$, the disks are pinned, and $V_x^s = V_x^l = 0$ except for a brief sharp decay at very early times from a nonzero value. At intermediate F_D values of 0.75, 0.8, and 0.85, the system is in phase II, where the density of the flowing disks remains homogeneous but some phase segregation occurs. Here, we find large fluctuations in both V_x^s and V_x^l and, although the velocities of the two disk species are initially identical, as the system evolves the velocities separate so that at long times $V_x^s > V_x^l$. At $F_D/F_p = 0.9$, where phase III emerges and the small disks first segregate into a

band, we can fit the velocity of the small disks to a stretched exponential form, as shown in Fig. 4(c), where we find $V_x^s \propto e^{-t/\tau}$ with $\tau = 1.22 \times 10^7$. For comparison, we show a fit to $V_x^s \propto t^\alpha$ with $\alpha = 0.26 \pm 0.01$, which gives a poorer fit. We find a similar stretched exponential behavior at $F_D/F_p = 0.95$, and we show in Sec. III C that this behavior is associated with enhanced transverse diffusion. The stretched exponential time response suggests that the formation of the segregated band of small disks is similar to an absorbing phase transition of the type found in clogging systems [39]. For $F_D/F_p = 1.0, 1.05, \text{ and } 1.10$, a stretched exponential fit gives a large time constant τ , and we show in Sec. III C that these drives produce superdiffusion in the transverse direction. At higher driving forces $F_D > 1.10$, the sample quickly reaches a steady-flow phase IV state with constant V_x^s and V_x^l .

B. High disk density

When $\phi = 0.46$, the effect of interstitial or unpinned disks on the depinning process becomes more important, and the depinning threshold drops to $F_c/F_p = 0.5$, as shown in Fig. 1. The peak in $\langle V_x^s \rangle$ and $\langle V_x^l \rangle$ at depinning is diminished in size, and we find that $\Delta \langle V_x \rangle \approx 0.04$ over the range $0.5 < F_D/F_p < 1.0$. At $F_D/F_p = 0.5$, illustrated in Fig. 5(a), $\Delta \langle V_x \rangle \approx 0$ and both types of disks are in a uniform phase II state containing small regions of higher disk density in the form of clumps and chains. For this drive, the plots of n_i^{loc} and n_s^{loc} in Fig. 5(a) indicate that each disk species is uniformly distributed across the sample. The corresponding velocity histogram $P(v_x)$ in Fig. 6(a) shows a bimodal distribution produced by the stick-slip motion of the disks, which are interacting strongly with the pinning sites. The $v_x = 0$ peak is higher than the $v_x = F_D$ peak, indicating that the disks spend more time sticking and less time slipping, giving a low value of $\langle V_x \rangle$ in Fig. 1(a). At $F_D/F_p = 1.3$ in Fig. 5(d), where we again have $\Delta \langle V_x \rangle \approx 0$, the disks phase segregate into phase VI flow consisting of a liquid region surrounding a smectic region, which extends from $40 < y < 55$. The smectic state is characterized by strongly asymmetric spacing of the disks, which are much closer together parallel to the drive than perpendicular to the drive. In this case, the smectic region contains mostly small disks and is of relatively low density. The density of the liquid region varies as a function of y , and the liquid is composed mainly of large disks separated by horizontal gaps for $10 < y < 30$, while a densely packed liquid containing nearly equal numbers of small and large disks appears for $y < 10$. The large disks are almost completely depleted in the regions $y \approx 30$ and $40 < y < 50$ but have a nearly uniform density in the rest of the sample, as shown by the plot of n_l^{loc} in Fig. 5(d). In Fig. 6(d), $P(v_x)$ has a single peak at $v_x = F_D = 1.3$ and a broad distribution of velocities in the range $0.3 \leq v_x \leq 2.3$, including a low-velocity plateau.

For higher disk densities of $\phi = 0.58$ to 0.87 , F_c continues to decrease with increasing ϕ while $\Delta \langle V_x \rangle$ becomes small. The increased disk-disk interactions that occur at the higher densities not only diminish the depinning force but also equalize the velocities of each disk species due to the higher frequency of disk-disk collisions. In Fig. 5(b), we show a $\phi = 0.70$ sample at $F_D/F_p = 0.5$ in phase VI, where the disks are in a liquid state containing some small localized clumps

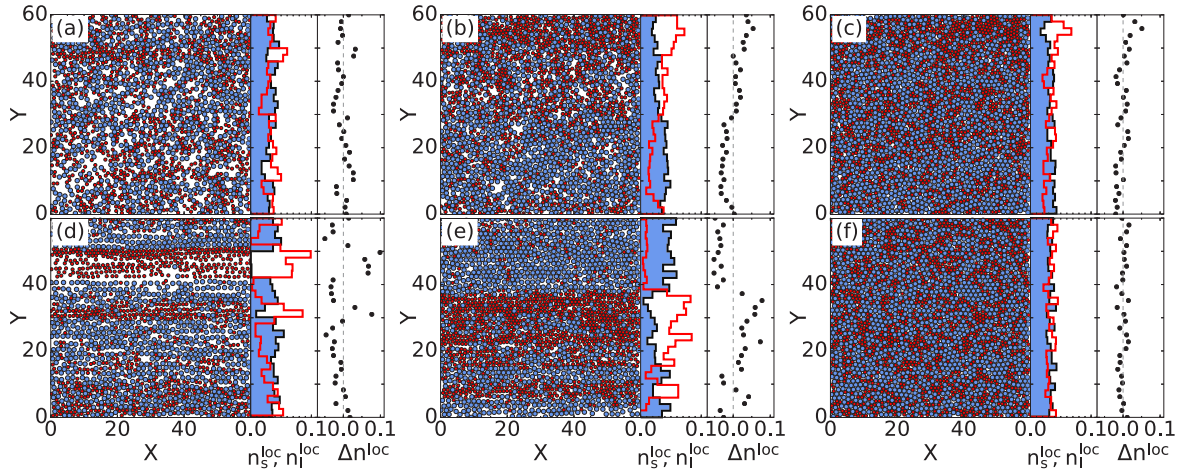


FIG. 5. Left panels: Large disk (blue circles) and small disk (red circles) positions for the system in Fig. 1 with $\Psi = 1.4$ and $N_s = N_l$. Center panels: n_l^{loc} (blue) and n_s^{loc} (red) as a function of y position. Right panels: Δn^{loc} as a function of y position. (a) $\phi = 0.58$ and $F_D/F_p = 0.5$ in the driven homogeneous phase II. (b) $\phi = 0.70$ and $F_D/F_p = 0.5$, showing the segregated liquid phase VI. (c) $\phi = 0.81$ and $F_D/F_p = 0.5$, where we find an isotropic polycrystalline phase VII. (d) $\phi = 0.58$ and $F_D/F_p = 1.3$, where the system fractionates into a liquid and smectic phase IV. (e) $\phi = 0.70$ and $F_D/F_p = 1.3$, where the system is liquid throughout but forms distinct horizontal bands, giving a segregated phase VI. (f) $\phi = 0.81$ and $F_D/F_p = 1.3$, which shows an isotropic polycrystalline phase VII similar to that found at lower drives.

and chains. There is some species segregation, with the small disks preferentially located at the top of the sample and the large disks preferentially residing in the bottom of the sample, as indicated by the plots of n_l^{loc} and n_s^{loc} in Fig. 5(b). We find a bimodal distribution of $P(v_x)$ as shown in Fig. 6(b), but the two peaks are barely higher than the background plateau since the increased disk-disk interactions reduce the effectiveness of the pinning sites. The same sample at $F_D/F_p = 1.3$ remains in phase VI but develops polycrystalline structure in which the disks form wide species separated bands, as illustrated in Fig. 5(e). The polycrystalline clusters tend to be aligned in the driving direction. Figure 6(e) shows a single peak in $P(v_x)$ at $v_x = F_D$ along with a broad distribution of velocities over the range $0.4 \leq v_x \leq 2.4$. The plateau at low v_x has vanished since all of the disks are always moving at this drive, and it is replaced by a rapid decrease in $P(v_x)$ with decreasing v_x .

At $\phi = 0.81$, Fig. 5(c) shows that when $F_D/F_p = 0.5$, the disks have a combination of liquid-like and polycrystalline

structure in the isotropic polycrystalline phase VII. Although the plot of n_s^{loc} indicates that there is a local increase of small disk density near $y \approx 55$, the disks are nearly jammed, and as a result further species segregation is suppressed. In Fig. 6(c), $P(v_x)$ has lost its distinct peaks and has a much more Gaussian shape, since the strong interactions between the disks prevent individual disks from being trapped by the pins. At $F_D/F_p = 1.3$ for the same sample in Fig. 5(f), phase VII flow is still present and the disk structure is nearly the same except that any slight tendency for segregation into a band has been destroyed. The plot of $P(v_x)$ in Fig. 6(f) shows a spread of velocities about $v_x = F_D$ due to the tightly packed motion of the disks.

For densities of $\phi = 0.81$ and above, the disks have a glassy arrangement at both low and high drives, and the high packing fraction inhibits rearrangements of the disks, preventing both species segregation and the realignment of the polycrystalline regions with the driving direction. We have tested the system for finite-size effects using a larger sample

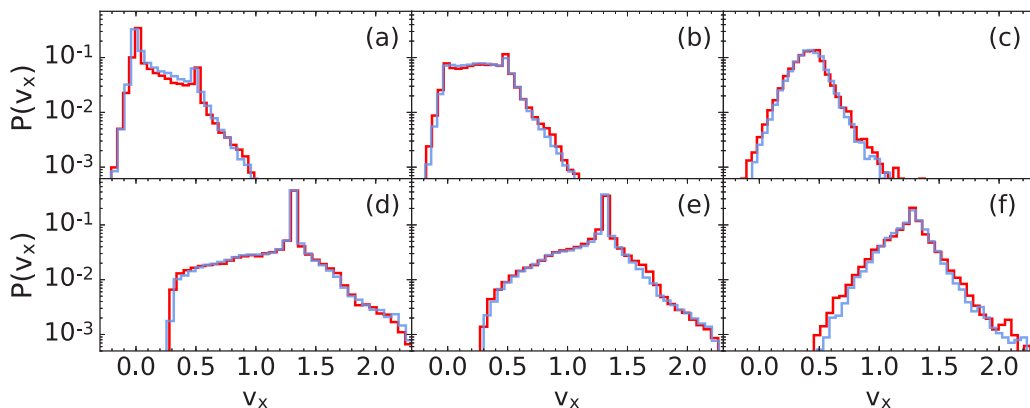


FIG. 6. $P(v_x)$ for the small disks (red) and large disks (blue) for the system in Fig. 1 at (a) $\phi = 0.58$ and $F_D/F_p = 0.5$ in phase II; (b) $\phi = 0.7$ and $F_D/F_p = 0.5$ in phase VI; (c) $\phi = 0.81$ and $F_D/F_p = 0.5$ in phase VII; (d) $\phi = 0.58$ and $F_D/F_p = 1.3$ in phase IV; (e) $\phi = 0.7$ and $F_D/F_p = 1.3$ in phase VI; and (f) $\phi = 0.81$ and $F_D/F_p = 1.3$ in phase VII.

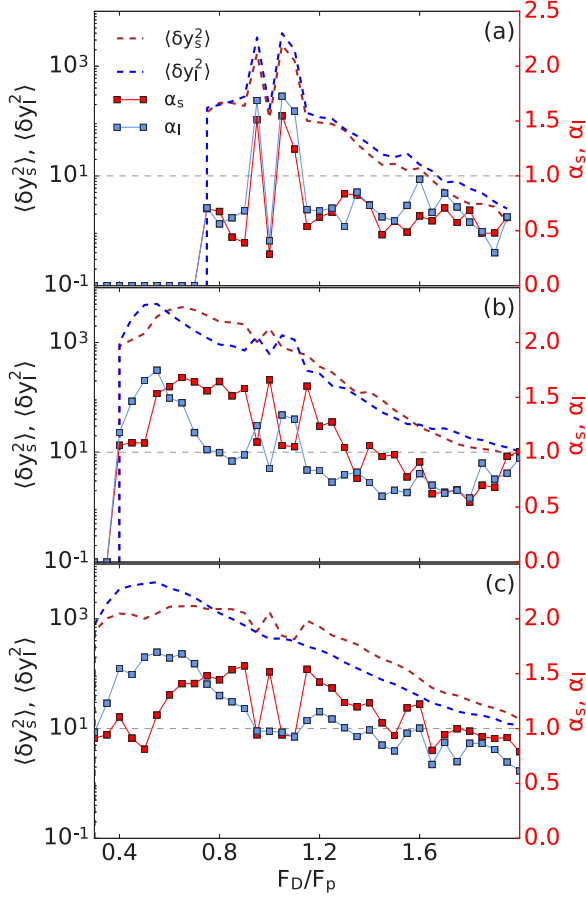


FIG. 7. The transverse displacements $\langle \delta y_s^2 \rangle$ (red dashed line) and $\langle \delta y_l^2 \rangle$ (blue dashed line) for the small and large disks obtained after 1×10^7 simulation time steps vs F_D/F_p and the corresponding diffusive exponent α_s (red squares) and α_l (blue squares) for the system in Fig. 1 at $\phi =$ (a) 0.35, (b) 0.58, and (c) 0.70.

with $L = 200$, where we found structures similar to those illustrated in Figs. 2 and 5. The only difference is that the large system can accommodate multiple layers of segregated bands along the y direction.

C. Transverse diffusion and topological order

To further distinguish the phase behavior of each disk species, we measure the disk displacements in the direction transverse to the applied drive,

$$\langle \delta y_{s(l)}^2 \rangle = \frac{1}{N_{s(l)}} \sum_{i=1}^{N_{s(l)}} [y_i(t) - y_i(t_0)]^2, \quad (2)$$

for the small and large disks, respectively. We perform the measurement at intermediate times, after the system has had enough time to phase segregate. In Fig. 7, we plot $\langle \delta y_s^2 \rangle$ and $\langle \delta y_l^2 \rangle$ obtained over the time interval 1×10^7 to 5×10^7 simulation time steps versus F_D/F_p for samples with $\phi = 0.35, 0.58, \text{ and } 0.7$. We also show the corresponding diffusive exponents α_s and α_l obtained from long-time fits to $\langle \delta y_{s(l)}^2 \rangle \propto t^{\alpha_{s(l)}}$. At all densities, $\langle \delta y_{s(l)}^2 \rangle = 0$ and $\alpha_{s(l)} = 0$ for $F_D < F_c$ when the disks are motionless. Previous studies of monodisperse disks showed superdiffusive transverse flow with $\alpha > 1$

in regimes where density phase separation occurred, since the increased frequency of disk-disk interactions in the high-density region produces a greater amount of disk motion transverse to the driving direction [23]. The bidisperse disks have a more complex behavior since a wider variety of phase-separated states occur that extend down to lower densities. In particular, the large and small disks generally exhibit different transverse diffusive behavior in the species-separated regimes. We expect both the superdiffusive and subdiffusive regimes to cross over to regular diffusion at long timescales, where $t \gg 10^7$.

In Fig. 7(a) at $\phi = 0.35$, both disk species undergo subdiffusive transverse motion with $\alpha_{s(l)} < 1$ when $F_D > F_c$. Transverse movement is suppressed at low disk density due to the infrequency of disk-disk collisions. Near $F_D/F_p = 1.0$ in phase III, we find large fluctuations of α_s and α_l due to the gradual emergence of the dense species separated bands illustrated in Figs. 2(b) and 2(c). Similar fluctuations in $\alpha_{s(l)}$ appear in phase III near $F_D/F_p = 1$ for $0.35 < \phi < 0.5$, where some samples reach a steady phase-segregated, particle-separated state within $\Delta t = 5 \times 10^7$ time steps while others do not. At $F_D/F_p = 0.9$ and 1.0 in the $\phi = 0.35$ sample, the dense liquid band of small disks is surrounded by a homogeneous low-density gas of large disks, and we find subdiffusive behavior with $\alpha_{s(l)} < 1.0$. Superdiffusive behavior with $\alpha_{s(l)} > 1$ appears at $F_D/F_p = 0.95$, where the small disks have more fully segregated into a distinct horizontal band, and also at $F_D/F_p = 1.05$ and 1.1 , where the small disks form a phase IV liquid-smectic low-density state containing horizontal chains.

In Fig. 7(b) at $\phi = 0.58$, we find diffusive transverse motion with $\alpha_{s(l)} \approx 1$ whenever the disk density is homogeneous, including near depinning in phase II and for driving forces at which the phase VII densely packed polycrystalline regions appear. For drives just above depinning in phase II, both types of disk undergo superdiffusive transverse motion as the species separation illustrated in Fig. 5(a) occurs. The large disks transition to diffusive behavior at $F_D/F_p = 0.75$ when phase III appears, while the small disks remain superdiffusive until $F_D/F_p = 1.3$, where the system enters phase IV. Above $F_D/F_p = 1.3$, the driving force dominates the disk motion and the transverse displacements are subdiffusive for both species. In Fig. 7(c) at $\phi = 0.70$, the transverse motion is diffusive at depinning when $F_D = F_c$. The large disks are superdiffusive in the range $0.3 < F_D/F_p < 1.0$ and become diffusive at higher drives. The small disks are diffusive in phase II for $0.3 < F_D < 0.5$, superdiffusive in phase VI for $0.5 < F_D < 1.5$, and diffusive above $F_D = 1.5$. A similar intermediate superdiffusive phase was observed in Ref. [40]. When the disk density is high, we find a transition from diffusive to subdiffusive behavior coinciding with the emergence of the locked polycrystalline phase VIII. For example, at $\phi = 0.814$, $\alpha_{s(l)} \approx 1$ for all $F_D > F_c$. At $\phi = 0.87$, $\alpha_{s(l)} \approx 0$ since the disks are kinetically trapped.

To characterize lane formation, we measure $\langle \ell_{nn} \rangle$, the average perpendicular distance between disks that are in contact, given by

$$\langle \ell_{nn} \rangle = \sqrt{\langle (\Theta(r_{dd}^{ij} - R_{ij}) [\mathbf{R}_{ij} \cdot \hat{y}]^2) \rangle}, \quad (3)$$

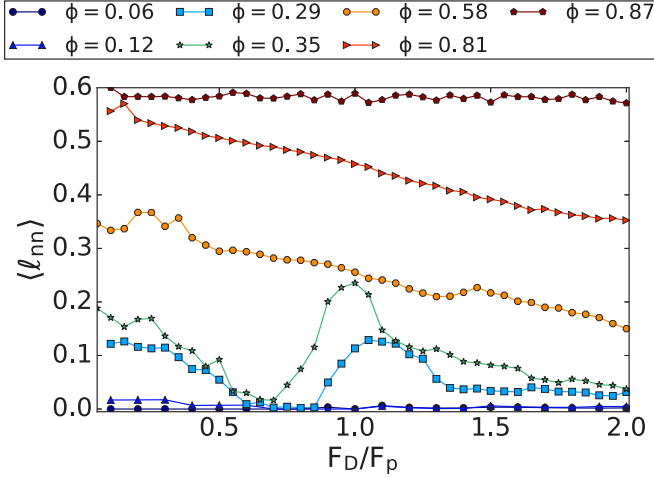


FIG. 8. The average transverse nearest neighbor distance ℓ_{nn} vs F_D/F_p for the system in Fig. 1 at $\phi = 0.06$ (blue circles), 0.12 (blue triangles), 0.29 (blue squares), 0.35 (green stars), 0.58 (orange circles), 0.81 (red triangles), and 0.87 (brown pentagons).

where $\mathbf{R}_{ij} = \mathbf{R}_i - \mathbf{R}_j$. In Fig. 8, we plot $\langle \ell_{nn} \rangle$ versus F_D/F_p for $\phi = 0.06$ to $\phi = 0.87$. For small disk densities in the range $\phi = 0.06$ to 0.12, almost no disks are in contact with each other and $\langle \ell_{nn} \rangle$ is nearly zero. For higher disk densities, in the pinned phase I the disks tend to form blockages perpendicular to the drive that become more extensive as ϕ increases, giving larger values of $\langle \ell_{nn} \rangle$. As the depinning threshold is approached, these blockages fall apart, so that $\langle \ell_{nn} \rangle$ decreases monotonically over the range $0 < F_D < F_c$. For $\phi = 0.29$ and $\phi = 0.35$, $\langle \ell_{nn} \rangle = 0$ just below depinning where nearly all disk-disk contacts are lost, followed by a peak in $\langle \ell_{nn} \rangle$ near $F_D/F_p = 1$ in phase III, where phase segregation into low- and high-density regions occurs. When phase IV chain structures form at higher F_D , $\langle \ell_{nn} \rangle$ plateaus to a small but finite value. At $\phi = 0.58$ and $\phi = 0.81$, $\langle \ell_{nn} \rangle$ decreases steadily for $F_D > F_c$, where $F_c = 0.4$ and 0.2, respectively. At $\phi = 0.87$, which is near the jamming limit, the system is always in phase VII above depinning and $\langle \ell_{nn} \rangle \approx 0.6$ over the entire range of F_D/F_p shown in Fig. 8.

In Fig. 9, we show a heightfield plot of the $\Delta \langle V_x \rangle$ data from Fig. 1(c) as a function of disk density ϕ versus driving force F_D/F_p for the $\Psi = 1.4$ system, while in Fig. 9(b) we present a schematic dynamic phase diagram as a function of ϕ vs F_D/F_p . Phase I is the clogged or pinned state illustrated in Fig. 2(a). Phase II, consisting of homogeneous plastic flow with some species segregation, is shown in Fig. 5(a). Phase III is the density-phase-separated liquid/gas state from Fig. 2(b). Phase IV, a density-phase-separated liquid/smectic state, is illustrated in Figs. 2(c) and 5(d). Phase V is the moving smectic/chain state from Fig. 2(d). Phase VI, the moving segregated liquid, appears in Figs. 5(b) and 5(e), and phase VII is the moving polycrystalline state shown in Figs. 5(c) and 5(f). Except for phase VI, we do not distinguish fractionation by species within the phases. We note that the liquid-gas phase separation observed for monodisperse disks in Ref. [23] is different in character from what we find here. It occurs at higher disk densities of $\phi = 0.46$ to 0.61 and is associated with the formation of closely packed clusters of disks.

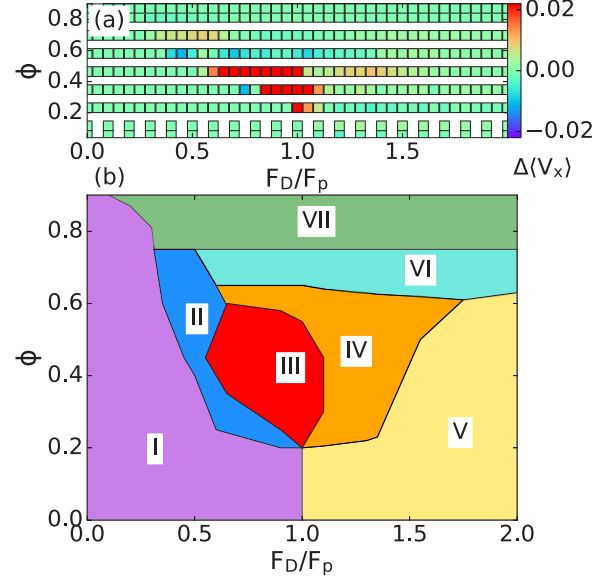


FIG. 9. (a) Height-field plot of $\Delta \langle V_x \rangle$ as a function of total disk density ϕ vs driving force F_D/F_p , based on the data in Fig. 1(c). Red (blue) indicates that the velocity of the small disks is higher (lower) than that of the large disks. (b) A schematic dynamic phase diagram as a function of ϕ vs F_D/F_p . I, pinned or clogged; II, homogeneous density, with some species segregation; III, phase-separated liquid-gas state; IV, phase-separated liquid-smectic, or moving chain, state; V, homogeneous smectic or moving chain state; VI, segregated or banded liquid; and VII, polycrystalline flowing state.

The boundary between the pinned phase I and the moving phases II, V, or VII is determined by the critical depinning force plotted in Fig. 1(b). At low ϕ , where the pins outnumber the disks, the system depins directly into the moving smectic phase V. As ϕ increases, disk-disk interactions become important and the homogeneous phase II flow appears above depinning. For intermediate ϕ , this is followed at higher F_D by density separation into the liquid/gas phase III or the liquid/smectic phase IV, while at higher drives the density becomes uniform again and the smectic phase V emerges. At higher ϕ , the disks are too dense to undergo phase separation and the system transitions directly from the homogeneous phase II flow to the banded solid phase VI. For very large disk densities, the disks can no longer exchange neighbors, and the system depins into a moving polycrystalline phase VII.

IV. ENHANCED CRYSTALLIZATION AND BANDING WITH LARGER RADIUS RATIO AT $N_l = N_d/2$

We next increase the radius ratio to $\Psi = 2.0$, a value that is known to produce phase separation for disks driven out of equilibrium [26,28]. We fix $N_s = N_l$ and consider disk densities in the range $\phi = 0.19$ to 0.88, corresponding to $N_D/N_p = 0.25$ to 1.125. Here, a disk density of $\phi = 0.78$ corresponds to a ratio $N_p/N_D = 1.0$.

The plot of $\langle V_x^s \rangle$ and $\langle V_x^l \rangle$ versus F_D/F_p in Fig. 10(a) for the $\Psi = 2.0$ system at different values of ϕ has similar behavior to that shown in Fig. 1(a), with a pinned phase I at low drives, a nonlinear velocity-force relation above depinning, and a linear dependence of velocity on drive for high F_D .

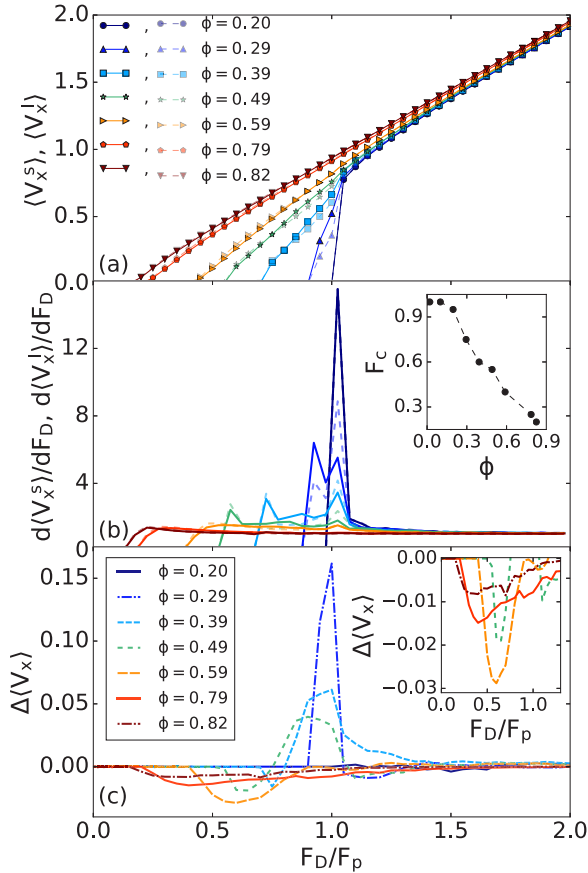


FIG. 10. (a) $\langle V_x^s \rangle$ (solid lines) and $\langle V_x^l \rangle$ (dashed lines) vs F_D/F_p in a sample with $\Psi = 2.0$ and $N_s = N_l$ at $\phi = 0.82$ (down triangles), $\phi = 0.79$ (pentagons), $\phi = 0.59$ (right triangles), $\phi = 0.49$ (stars), $\phi = 0.39$ (squares), $\phi = 0.29$ (up triangles), and $\phi = 0.20$ (circles). (b) The corresponding $d\langle V_x^s \rangle/dF_D$ (solid lines) and $d\langle V_x^l \rangle/dF_D$ (dashed lines) vs F_D/F_p curves for the same values of ϕ showing a peak near $F_D/F_p = 1.0$. Inset: F_c vs ϕ . (c) The corresponding $\Delta\langle V_x \rangle$ vs F_D/F_p . Inset: a detail from the main panel of the region around $F_D/F_p = 0.5$ where $\Delta\langle V_x \rangle < 0$ for large ϕ .

The corresponding $d\langle V_x^s \rangle/dF_D$ and $d\langle V_x^l \rangle/dF_D$ versus F_D/F_p curves in Fig. 10(b), as well as the plot of F_c versus F_D/F_p in the inset of Fig. 10(b), are also similar to what was shown in Fig. 1(b). In Fig. 10(c), the plot of $\Delta\langle V_x \rangle$ versus F_D/F_p indicates a higher velocity of the small disks at low ϕ similar to that found in Fig. 1(c); however, at low driving forces and high ϕ , we find that the large disks have a higher velocity than the small disks, as highlighted in the inset of Fig. 10(c).

At the lowest density of $\phi = 0.20$ in Fig. 10, the small and large disks both have the same behavior, and the depinning occurs sharply at $F_D/F_p = 1.0$, with a distinct transition from pinned to elastic flow of the homogeneous smectic phase V type. Since this system contains fewer disks than the $\Psi = 1.4$, $\phi = 0.23$ system, the depinning transition is sharper, and the peak in $d\langle V_x^s \rangle/dF_D$ and $d\langle V_x^l \rangle/dF_D$ at $F_D/F_p = 1.0$ is larger.

At $\phi = 0.29$, we find an enhancement in the velocity of the small disks near depinning since the large disks can easily be pinned by traps and other large disks, while the small disks slip through smaller apertures to form a segregated

dense band, as illustrated in Fig. 11(a) at $F_D/F_p = F_c = 0.95$. Here, the large disks are uniformly distributed through the sample, while the small disks are concentrated in a band extending from $45 < y < 60$. This is the same type of phase III segregation found in Fig. 2(b). In Fig. 10(b), $d\langle V_x^s \rangle/dF_D$ peaks at $F_D/F_p = 0.95$, whereas $d\langle V_x^l \rangle/dF_D$ peaks at $F_D/F_p = 1.0$, indicating that the smaller disks begin to flow freely at lower drives than the larger disks. Above $F_D/F_p = 1$, there is a transition to phase IV flow consisting of a liquid of small disks surrounded by a smectic state of large disks, as illustrated in Fig. 11(d) for $F_D/F_p = 1.1$. This is accompanied by a large positive peak in $\Delta\langle V_x \rangle$ over the range $1.05 < F_D/F_p < 1.25$, as shown in Fig. 10(c). The smectic chain structure of the large disks increases the number of disk-disk interactions and diminishes the effectiveness of the pinning for the large disks. The small disks tend to form chains at higher drives.

Near depinning at $\phi = 0.39$, we find a density-phase-segregated state containing distinct bands of high-density liquid smectic regions and low-density regions, similar to the phase III structure illustrated in Fig. 2(b). There are two distinct peaks in $d\langle V_x^s \rangle/dF_D$ and $d\langle V_x^l \rangle/dF_D$ in Fig. 10(b) near $F_D \approx F_c = 0.75$, where the small disks begin to move freely, and $F_D \approx F_p$, where the motion of the large disks increases. In Fig. 10(c), $\Delta\langle V_x \rangle > 0$ over the range $0.8 < F_D/F_p < 1.0$ in phase IV flow, indicating that the small disks can flow more easily in the liquid smectic region, which they preferentially occupy. At $\phi = 0.49$, there is a pronounced crossover in $\Delta\langle V_x \rangle$ in Fig. 10(c) from a negative value for $0.6 < F_D/F_p < 0.7$ to a positive value for $0.8 < F_D/F_p < 1.0$, indicating that the large disks are moving faster than the small disks at lower drives but slower at higher drives.

For $\phi = 0.59$, $\Delta\langle V_x \rangle$ is never positive but has an enhanced negative region at low drives above depinning in the range $0.4 < F_D/F_p < 0.9$, as highlighted in the inset of Fig. 10(c). Species segregation of the disks into phase VI flow occurs in the window $0.8 < F_D/F_p < 0.9$. As illustrated in Fig. 11(b) for $F_D/F_p = 0.9$, the large disks form a cluster that spans nearly the entire system, while the small disks are concentrated in a band ranging from $20 < y < 40$. The small disks form relatively few disk-disk contacts, making them less likely to be depinned due to disk-disk interactions, and thus reducing their velocity compared to the large disks. At higher drives, all of the disks depin and the difference in velocity among the two disk species drops to zero. At $F_D = 1.1$, shown in Fig. 11(e), we find phase VI flow where the small disks remain in a single high-density band while the large disks form a low-density smectic state at $0 < y < 10$ coexisting with a high-density liquid state containing polycrystalline regions at $35 < y < 60$. A low-density void region appears at $10 < y < 20$. The motion of the particles in this state is illustrated in the Supplemental Material [34].

When $\phi \geq 0.59$, $d\langle V_x^s \rangle/dF_D$ and $d\langle V_x^l \rangle/dF_D$ have a smooth rather than sharp increase at $F_D = F_c$. There is an extended regime in which the velocity of the large disks is higher than that of the small disks, with $\Delta\langle V_x \rangle < 0$ over the range $0.2 < F_D/F_p < 1.5$ for the $\phi = 0.79$ system. As shown in Fig. 11(c) for $\phi = 0.79$ at $F_D/F_p = 0.9$, a significant fraction of the large disks form tight polycrystalline packings while the small disks form trapped clusters over specific horizontal windows. This phase VII structure remains similar at higher drives, as shown

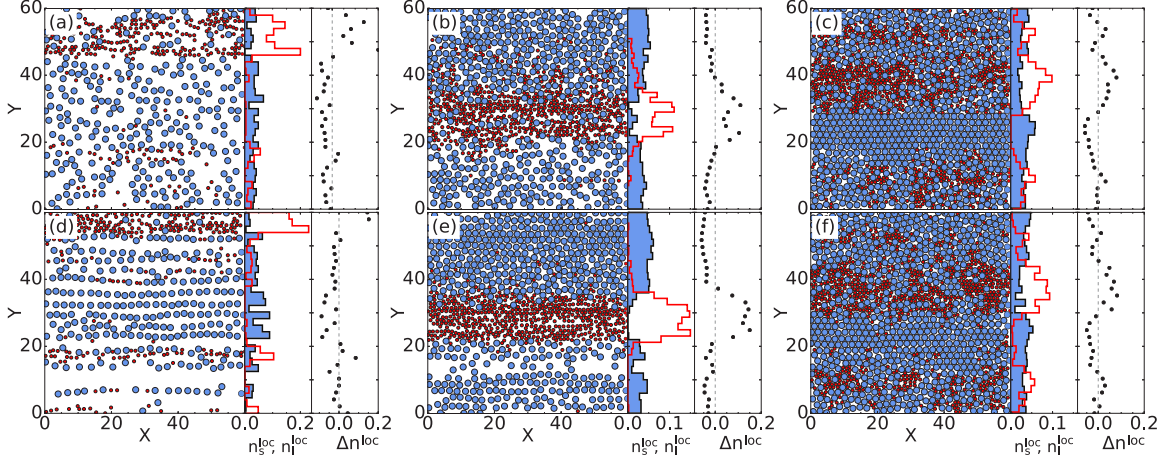


FIG. 11. Left panels: Large disk (blue circles) and small disk (red circles) positions for the system in Fig. 10 with $\Psi = 2.0$ and $N_s = N_l$. Center panels: n_l^{loc} (blue) and n_s^{loc} (red) as a function of y position. Right panels: Δn^{loc} as a function of y position. (a) $\phi = 0.29$ and $F_D/F_p = 0.95$ in phase III segregated liquid/gas flow. (b) $\phi = 0.59$ and $F_D/F_p = 0.9$ in phase VI segregated liquid flow. (c) $\phi = 0.79$ and $F_D/F_p = 0.9$ in polycrystalline phase VII flow. (d) $\phi = 0.29$ and $F_D/F_p = 1.1$ in phase IV liquid/smectic flow. (e) $\phi = 0.59$ and $F_D/F_p = 1.1$ in phase VI segregated liquid flow. (f) $\phi = 0.79$ and $F_D/F_p = 1.1$ in polycrystalline phase VII flow.

in Fig. 11(e) at $F_D/F_p = 1.1$. For larger systems with $L = 200$ at high ϕ , we find multiple large polycrystalline regions rather than a single band spanning the system.

Transverse diffusion and topological order

In Fig. 12, we plot the transverse diffusion $\langle \delta y_s^2 \rangle$ and $\langle \delta y_l^2 \rangle$ along with the exponents α_s and α_l versus F_D/F_p for the $\Psi = 2.0$ system from Fig. 10. At $\phi = 0.59$ in Fig. 12(a), we find homogeneous phase II flow with $\alpha_s \approx \alpha_l \approx 1$ at low driving forces of $0.4 < F_D/F_p < 0.6$, indicating diffusive behavior. At intermediate driving forces, $0.6 < F_D/F_p < 1.2$, phase VI flow appears and the small disks are subdiffusive since they have become confined in a horizontal band, as shown in Figs. 11(b) and 11(e). The large disks are superdiffusive for

$0.6 < F_D/F_p < 1.0$, and become subdiffusive at higher drives once their structure changes from a homogeneous liquid with small voids to a denser liquid containing a large horizontal gap. The small voids permit a transverse flow of the large disks that is suppressed once a large void opens at higher drives. For $1.2 < F_D/F_p < 2.0$, the driving force dominates the behavior of both disk species, which form chain states that move subdiffusively in the transverse direction. At $\phi = 0.79$ in Fig. 12(b), the system is in phase VII flow and $\alpha_s \approx \alpha_l \approx 1$ at all driving forces above depinning, indicating diffusive transverse flow for both disk species. This is expected in a liquid phase containing polycrystalline regions of homogeneous density.

In Fig. 13, we characterize the lane structure of the disks based on the average angle between disks that are in contact,

$$\langle \theta_{mn} \rangle = \frac{1}{N_d} \sum_i \Theta(r_{dd}^{ij} - R_{ij}) \tan^{-1} \left(\left| \frac{\mathbf{R}_{ij} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{y}}}{\mathbf{R}_{ij} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{x}}} \right| \right), \quad (4)$$

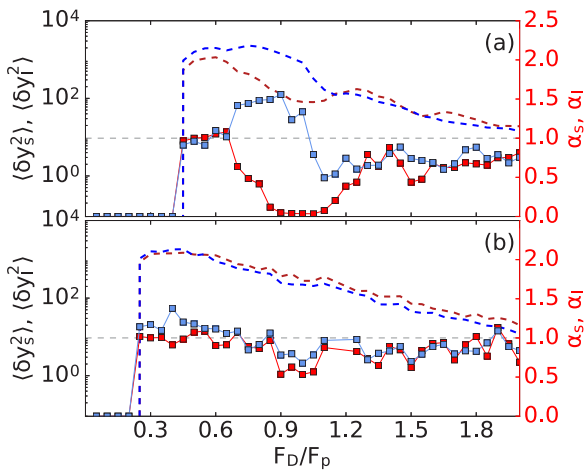


FIG. 12. Transverse displacements $\langle \delta y_s^2 \rangle$ (red dashed line) and $\langle \delta y_l^2 \rangle$ (blue dashed line) for the small and large disks obtained after 1×10^7 simulation time steps vs F_D/F_p and the corresponding diffusive exponent α_s (red squares) and α_l (blue squares) for the system in Fig. 10 with $\Psi = 2.0$ for densities $\phi =$ (a) 0.59 and (b) 0.79.

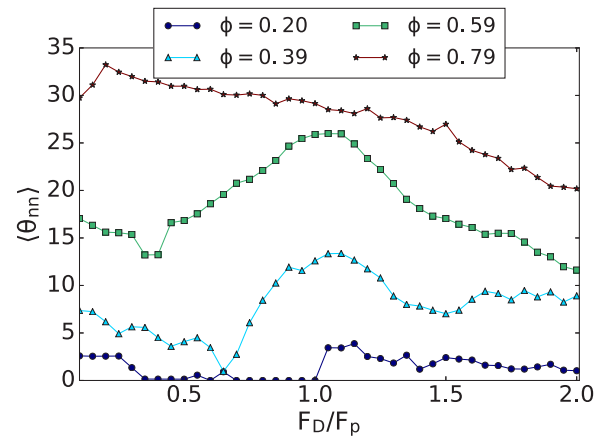


FIG. 13. $\langle \theta_{mn} \rangle$ vs F_D/F_p for the system in Fig. 10 with $\Psi = 2.0$ for $\phi = 0.20$ (circles), 0.39 (triangles), 0.59 (squares), and 0.79 (stars).

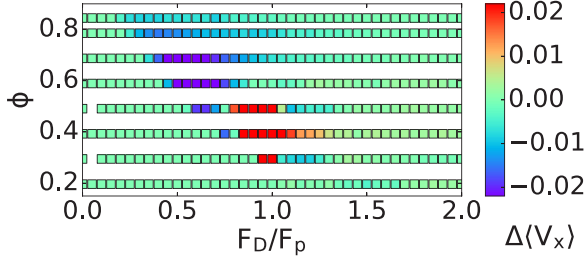


FIG. 14. Height-field plot of $\Delta\langle V_x \rangle$ as a function of total disk density ϕ vs driving force F_D/F_p , based on the data in Fig. 10(c). Red (blue) indicates that the velocity of the small disks is higher (lower) than that of the large disks. We find a large region in which $\Delta\langle V_x \rangle < 0$.

sampled every $\Delta t = 5 \times 10^5$ simulation time steps after the system has reached a steady state. This measure is closely related to $\langle \ell_{mn} \rangle$ from Fig. 8. Figure 13 shows $\langle \theta_{mn} \rangle$ versus F_D/F_p for systems with $\phi = 0.2, 0.39, 0.59$, and 0.79 . For $\phi = 0.20$, $\langle \theta_{mn} \rangle$ is low for all drives due to the phase V smectic flow which favors disk-disk contacts that are aligned with the x direction. We find $\langle \theta_{mn} \rangle \approx 30^\circ$ near depinning for $\phi = 0.79$, since the polycrystalline disk arrangements in phase VII tend to contain crystallites aligned with the x axis that contribute angles of 0° and 60° equally to the sum. As the driving force increases, $\langle \theta_{mn} \rangle$ decreases monotonically due to an increase in the amount of smectic or chainlike ordering in the system. For $\phi = 0.39$ and $\phi = 0.59$, a local maximum in $\langle \theta_{mn} \rangle$ at $F_D/F_p = 1$ is produced by the denser structures that form in the phase VI flow when the phase separation is maximized for nearly equal pinning and driving strengths. This is followed by a decrease in $\langle \theta_{mn} \rangle$ at higher drives as smectic ordering emerges.

In Fig. 14, we show a height-field plot of $\Delta\langle V_x \rangle$ as a function of ϕ versus F_D/F_p for the $\Psi = 2.0$ system. Compared to the $\Psi = 1.4$ system in Fig. 9, we find a much larger region in which $\Delta\langle V_x \rangle < 0$. This indicates that increasing the relative size of the large disks can also increase their velocity relative to the small disks when the driving force is close to the depinning threshold and the total disk density is sufficiently large.

V. LOWER FRACTION OF LARGE DISKS, $N_l = N_d/10$

We next investigate the effect of changing the disk species ratio from $N_s = N_l = 0.5N_d$ to $N_s = 0.9N_d$ and $N_l = 0.1N_d$ for a system with $\Psi = 1.4$. We find the same general phases as described in Sec. III but with a greater tendency for the large disks to move faster than the small disks. In Fig. 15(a), we plot $\langle V_x^s \rangle$ and $\langle V_x^l \rangle$ versus F_D/F_p for the $N_l = 0.1N_d$ system at a disk density of $\phi = 0.48$. We find plastic depinning for both disk species, as indicated by the concave shape of the velocity-force curve, followed by a transition at higher drives to a linear dependence. At $F_D/F_p = 0.9$, illustrated in Fig. 16(a), the system can be divided into three regions: a small disk liquid, a small disk gas, and a mixed gaslike region containing both disk species at an intermediate density. We label this state phase IIIa flow. At a higher drive of $F_D/F_p = 1.1$ in Fig. 16(b), the small disk liquid has increased in density and

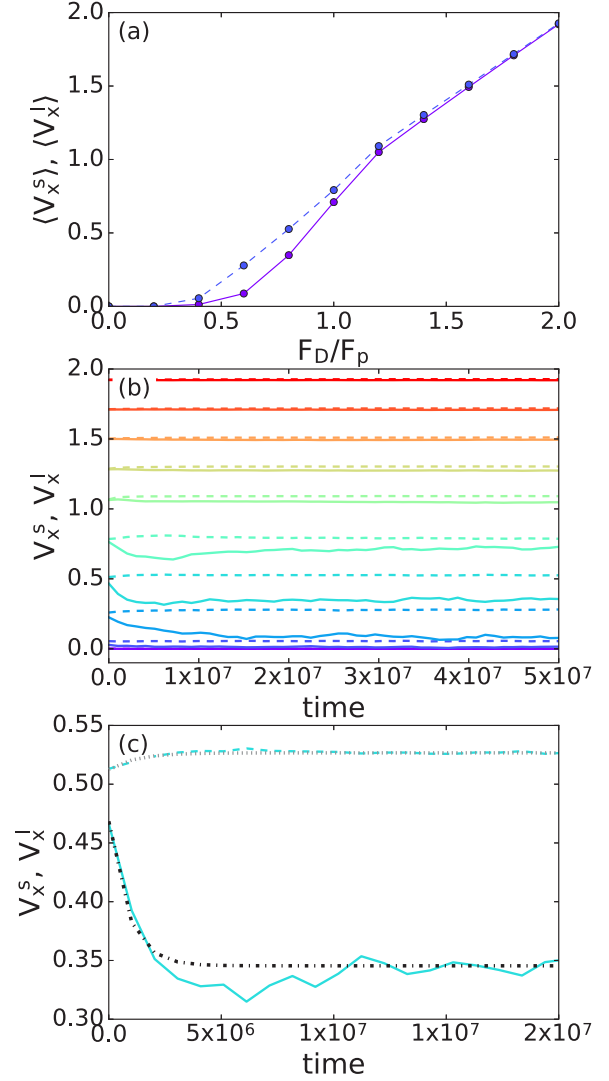


FIG. 15. (a) $\langle V_x^s \rangle$ (solid lines) and $\langle V_x^l \rangle$ (dashed lines) vs F_D/F_p in a sample with $\Psi = 1.4$, $N_s = 0.9N_d$, and $N_l = 0.1N_d$ at $\phi = 0.48$. (b) The instantaneous disk velocity V_x^s (solid lines) and V_x^l (dashed lines) vs time for the small and large disks, respectively, in the sample from panel (a) at $F_D = 0.2$ (phase I), $0.4, 0.6, 0.8$ (phase IIIa), $1.0, 1.2$ (phase IVa), $1.4, 1.6, 1.8$, and 2.0 (phase V), from bottom to top. The large disks reach a steady state quickly, while the small disks continue to evolve at $t > 10^7$ time steps. (c) A detail showing only the $F_D = 0.8$ curves in phase IIIa from panel (b). Dot-dashed line: A fit to $\langle V_x^s \rangle = e^{t/\tau_s}$ with $\tau_s = 8.46 \times 10^5$. Dotted line: A fit to $\langle V_x^l \rangle = e^{t/\tau_l}$ with $\tau_l = 1.19 \times 10^6$.

contains a few large disks. In this phase IVa flow, a window of large disk liquid containing some small disks runs along one side of the small disk liquid, while the low-density region of the sample contains roughly equal numbers of small and large disks arranged in a smectic structure. Because of the strong species segregation, these phases resemble the states found for monodisperse disks in Ref. [23]. Over the range $0.2 < F_D/F_p < 1.6$ where the species separation occurs, $\langle V_x^l \rangle > \langle V_x^s \rangle$, giving $\Delta\langle V_x \rangle < 0$ (not shown).

In Fig. 15(b), we plot the time evolution of $\langle V_x^s \rangle$ and $\langle V_x^l \rangle$ for the same $\phi = 0.48$ system at F_D values ranging from

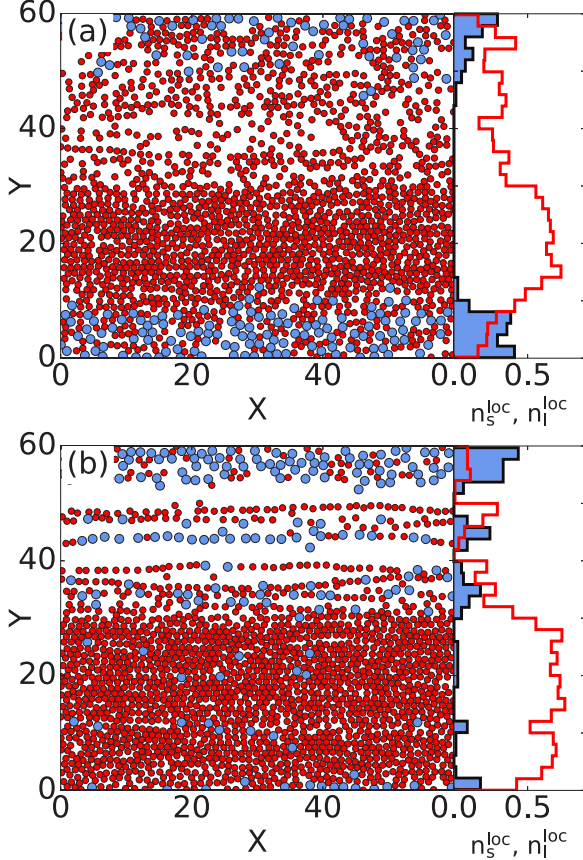


FIG. 16. Left panels: Large disk (blue circles) and small disk (red circles) positions for the system in Fig. 15 with $\Psi = 1.4$ and $N_l = 0.1N_d$ at $\phi = 0.48$. Right panels: n_l^{loc} (blue) and n_s^{loc} (red) as a function of y position. (a) $F_D/F_p = 0.9$ in phase IIIa flow. (b) $F_D/F_p = 1.1$ in phase IVa flow.

$F_D/F_p = 0.2$ to $F_D/F_p = 2.0$. For $F_D/F_p \leq 0.2$, the system is in the pinned phase I and $\langle V_x^s \rangle = \langle V_x^l \rangle = 0$. When $F_D/F_p \geq 0.4$, phase IIIa flow appears and we find $\langle V_x^l \rangle > \langle V_x^s \rangle$, with $\langle V_x^l \rangle$ remaining nearly constant over time while $\langle V_x^s \rangle$ decays. For intermediate driving forces of $0.6 < F_D/F_p < 1.2$, extending through the regime of phase IV flow, the $\langle V_x^s \rangle$ curves have an exponential shape, $\langle V_x^s \rangle \propto e^{-t/\tau_s} + \langle V_o \rangle$, as shown in Fig. 15(c) for $F_D/F_p = 0.8$, where $\tau_s = 8.46 \times 10^5$. A similar fit of $\langle V_x^l \rangle$ at the same drive gives a time constant $\tau_l = 1.19 \times 10^6$ that is somewhat larger. As F_D/F_p increases above 1.2, the system rapidly reaches a phase V steady state and the difference between the velocity of the small and large disks vanishes. Because of the lengthy transient dynamics at intermediate F_D/F_p , we wait a minimum of 2×10^7 simulation time steps before measuring the velocity-force curves shown in Fig. 15(a).

In Fig. 17, we plot the transverse displacements $\langle \delta y_s^2 \rangle$ and $\langle \delta y_l^2 \rangle$ versus F_D/F_p for the $\phi = 0.48$ sample along with the corresponding exponents α_s and α_l . All four quantities increase monotonically between $F_D = F_c$ and $F_D/F_p = 0.4$. At intermediate F_D , in phase IIIa, we find subdiffusive transverse motion of the small disks with $\alpha_s < 1$ accompanied by superdiffusive transverse motion of the large disks with $\alpha_l > 1$. Here the small disks are confined within a dense

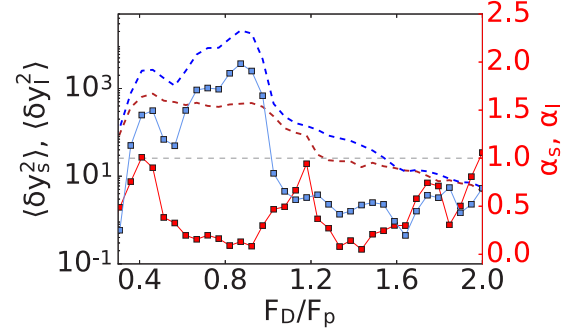


FIG. 17. Transverse displacements $\langle \delta y_s^2 \rangle$ (red dashed line) and $\langle \delta y_l^2 \rangle$ (blue dashed line) for the small and large disks obtained after 1×10^7 simulation time steps vs F_D/F_p and the corresponding diffusive exponent α_s (red squares) and α_l (blue squares) for the system in Fig. 15 with $\Psi = 1.4$ and $N_l = 0.1N_d$ at $\phi = 0.48$.

liquid, while the large disks are in a low-density region in which interactions with pinning sites can enhance the transverse diffusion. At large F_D where phase V smectic structures emerge, both disk species have subdiffusive transverse motion.

VI. SCALING NEAR THE DEPINNING TRANSITION

In systems of particles that have long-range interactions, the velocity-force relationship scales as $V \propto (F_D - F_c)^{-\beta}$ near depinning [1]. For elastic depinning in which the structure of the particle lattice remains unchanged, $\beta = 2/3$, while when the depinning transition is plastic, $\beta > 1.0$. For Coulomb [8] and screened Coulomb [15,41] interaction potentials, the plastic depinning exponents are $\beta \approx 1.65$ and 2.0 , respectively, while simulations of depinning of superconducting vortices with a Bessel function vortex-vortex interaction give $\beta = 1.3$ [41]. It is interesting to ask whether similar scaling of the velocity-force curves occurs in the disk system. For monodisperse disks with $N_p/N_d > 0.288$, it was shown in Ref. [23] that the velocity-force curves can be fit to a power law with $1.4 < \beta < 1.7$.

In Figs. 18(a) and 18(b), we plot $\langle V_x^s \rangle$ and $\langle V_x^l \rangle$ versus $F_D - F_c$ on a log-log scale at densities of $\phi = 0.46$ and 0.58 , respectively. By fitting the portion of the curve closest to depinning, we find $1.0 < \beta < 1.3$. The scaling fit can be performed only for $\phi > 0.35$ and does not work at low disk densities. We find similar scaling fits for sufficiently large disk densities for the $\Psi = 2.0$ system and for the $\Psi = 1.4$ and $N_l = 0.1N_d$ system. The depinning is clearly not elastic, but the lower values of β compared to systems with longer range interactions suggest that the type of plastic depinning that occurs may be different for short-range interacting systems than for longer range interacting systems.

VII. CONTINUOUS DRIVING FORCE

In the results presented above, we performed individual simulations for each value of F_D starting from a uniform initial disk configuration in each simulation. To check whether cumulative disk rearrangements affect the velocity response and ordering, and also to test for the presence of hysteresis, we

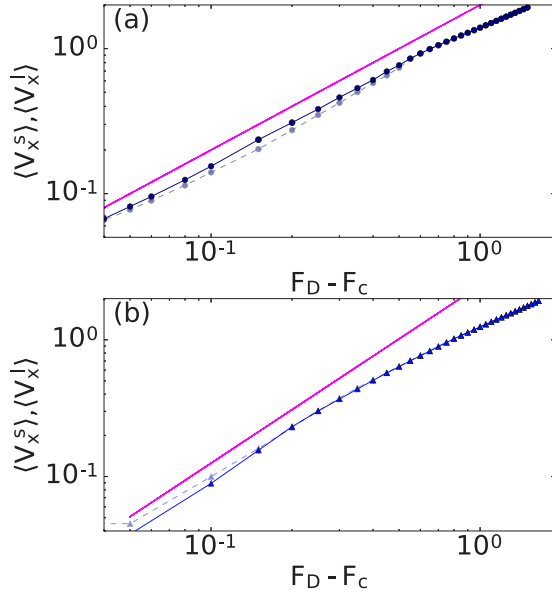


FIG. 18. $\langle V_x^s \rangle$ (solid lines) and $\langle V_x^l \rangle$ (dashed lines) vs $F_D - F_c$ on a log-log scale for the sample from Fig. 1 with $\Psi = 1.4$ and $N_s = N_l$. We fit the data to $\langle V_x^{s(l)} \rangle \propto (F_D - F_c)^{-\beta}$ (pink lines). (a) $\phi = 0.46$ with $\beta = 1.0$. (b) $\phi = 0.58$ with $\beta = 1.3$.

next consider a set of simulations in which we continuously sweep F_D up a series of steps with increment size $\Delta F_D = 0.05$. We increase F_D from $F_D = 0$ to $F_D = 2.0$, and then continuously decrease F_D with $\Delta F_D = -0.05$ from $F_D = 2.0$ back down to $F_D = 0$, spending 5×10^7 simulation time steps at each drive increment in order to let the system reach a steady state. We apply this continuous sweep protocol to systems with $\Psi = 1.4$ and $\phi_s = \phi_\ell$ at two densities, $\phi = 0.35$ and $\phi = 0.46$, and compare it to the discrete ramp protocol.

In Fig. 19(a), we plot $\langle V_x^s \rangle$ and $\langle V_x^l \rangle$ for the upward and downward sweeps in the $\phi = 0.35$ system, and in Fig. 20(a) we show the same quantities for the $\phi = 0.46$ sample. In each case, we find no velocity hysteresis. The $\phi = 0.35$ system undergoes phase segregation but does not show the disk species separation found with the discrete ramp protocol. In the $\phi = 0.46$ system, both phase segregation and disk species separation occur.

We also measure the average largest cluster size of the system, $\langle C_L \rangle$, versus F_D/F_p , as shown in Fig. 19(b) for $\phi = 0.35$ and Fig. 20(b) for $\phi = 0.46$. To determine C_L , we use the cluster counting algorithm of Luding and Herrmann [42] to identify clusters of disks that are all touching each other, and we record the size of the largest cluster in the system. We then average this quantity over time to obtain $\langle C_L \rangle$. Hysteresis appears in $\langle C_L \rangle$ within the pinned phase I. As the drive increases from $F_D = 0$, large clusters form as disks become trapped and prevent interstitial disks from flowing, and the value of $\langle C_L \rangle$ is relatively high just below the depinning transition. In the $\phi = 0.35$ sample, once the disks depin the clusters break apart, giving a gradual decrease in $\langle C_L \rangle$ with increasing F_D , but once the system enters the phase IV regime near $F_D/F_p = 1.1$, the disks form chain structures that are nearly the same size as the clusters that formed below depinning, so $\langle C_L \rangle$ stabilizes and then increases slightly with increasing F_D as the chain

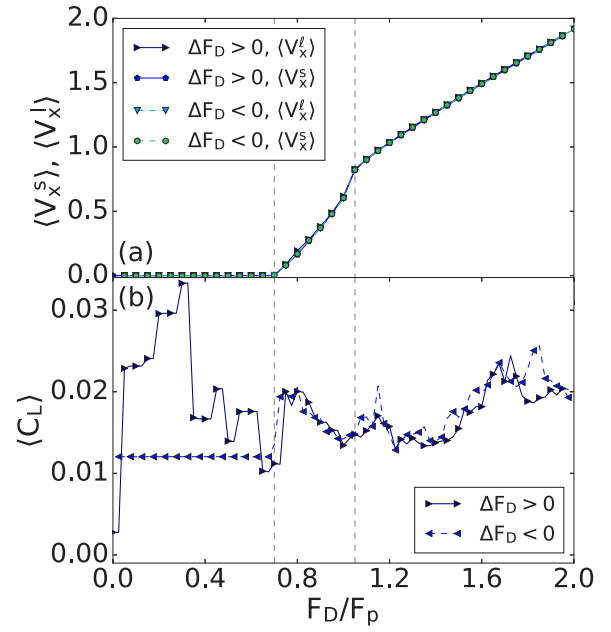


FIG. 19. (a) $\langle V_x^s \rangle$ and $\langle V_x^l \rangle$ vs F_D/F_p for a continuous ramp in a system with $\phi = 0.35$, $\Psi = 1.4$, and $N_s = N_l$. Solid lines, upward sweep of F_D ; dashed lines, downward sweep of F_D . (b) $\langle C_L \rangle$ vs F_D/F_p . Solid lines, upward sweep of F_D ; dashed lines, downward sweep of F_D .

length gradually increases. In the $\phi = 0.46$ sample, there is also a drop in $\langle C_L \rangle$ above depinning as the clusters dissolve, but the chains that form in phase IV are relatively short, so $\langle C_L \rangle$ saturates at a steady low value. Upon reversing the drive,

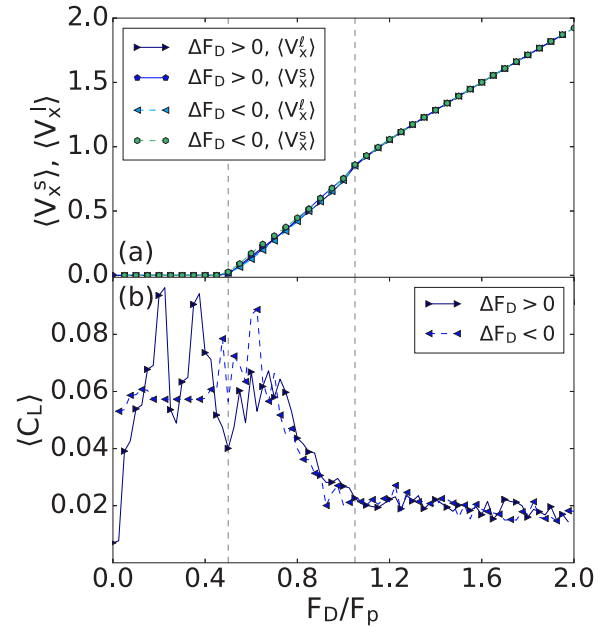


FIG. 20. (a) $\langle V_x^s \rangle$ and $\langle V_x^l \rangle$ vs F_D/F_p for a continuous ramp in a system with $\phi = 0.46$, $\Psi = 1.4$, and $N_s = N_l$. Solid lines, upward sweep of F_D ; dashed lines, downward sweep of F_D . (b) $\langle C_L \rangle$ vs F_D/F_p . Solid lines, upward sweep of F_D ; dashed lines, downward sweep of F_D .

the evolution of $\langle C_L \rangle$ is not hysteretic until the sample repins and the evolution of the disk structures is frozen. Since the disks have already rearranged during the upward sweep of the drive, there are no disk rearrangements below the repinning transition and $\langle C_L \rangle$ remains fixed at a value lower than that which appears on the upward ramp when pinned clusters of disks are slowly evolving.

VIII. DISCUSSION

Our work suggests that dynamical phase separation, particle species segregation, and laning effects are general features of driven systems with short-range hard-disk particle-particle interactions moving over random disorder. Observing these results experimentally requires access to a sample in the overdamped limit where thermal fluctuations are absent, such as colloidal particles suspended in a viscous fluid or colloidal particles of relatively large size for which thermal effects are small [43,44]. Additionally, in certain superconducting vortex systems, multiple vortex species could be stable and the vortex-vortex interactions would be effectively short range near phase boundaries [45]. Other systems include magnetic bubbles with different bubble sizes [46], multispecies Skyrmions [47,48], and emulsions composed of binary species [49]. Our results could have some relevance to granular matter; however, our model does not include inertial terms or frictional interactions, both of which are often important in granular systems. One possible similar system would be granular matter suspended in fluid moving over a random surface.

The unusual phase-separated states observed in the bidisperse hard-disk system arise at certain disk densities and driving forces and result from a velocity collapse mechanism that occurs whenever the mobility becomes density dependent such that an isolated disk can move more rapidly than disks within a cluster. The resulting voids in the sample have no energy penalty due to the short range of the disk-disk interaction potential. Similar clustering appears in a system of monodisperse disks [24].

We measure only the transverse diffusion of the disks since the driving force induces ballistic motion in the longitudinal direction, similar to that which appears for active matter. The net motion is therefore generally superdiffusive over extended timescales, as described in Sec. III C. Even though the behavior becomes diffusive at the longest timescales, it is still superdiffusive on the timescale of collective interactions.

Our simulations could be extended to include thermal fluctuations, finite inertia, and/or different disk-disk interaction potentials. We expect that the clustering of the disks would break down under increasing temperature, which would tend to homogenize the disk density; however, species phase segregation may still occur for entropic reasons. Introduction of an inertial term to the equations of motion would produce more Gaussian-like fluctuations of the motion of the disks, unlike the nonequilibrium fluctuations produced by the external applied driving force, and should change the nature of the dynamical states. It would be interesting to study a system of soft interacting disks that can strongly overlap, such as an experimental bubble array system [14]. In this foam or bubble limit, it may be possible to obtain states in which

some particles are pinned while other particles are able to squeeze past the pinned particles. This system could be used to access densities above the hard-sphere jamming density, where stress fields and other long-range effects would become important.

IX. SUMMARY

We examine the dynamics of bidisperse disks driven over random quenched disorder to explore the dynamical phases of particles with short-range interaction forces. At low disk densities, we observe a pinned state that transitions into a strongly chained state where the disks can undergo local demixing but where the overall disk distribution is homogeneous. At intermediate disk densities, the disks depin into a disordered flow state exhibiting stick-slip dynamics, followed by a species-segregated state in which the small disks form clusters and the large disks remain evenly distributed throughout the sample. For intermediate drives, the disks form a partially laned state exhibiting both species separation and density segregation, while at high drives a mixed laning state emerges. At high disk densities of $\phi > 0.75$, a rigid polycrystalline state appears that moves as a solid and undergoes no species or density segregation. Both the density- and species-segregation effects are the most prominent near $F_D = F_p$ when the driving force and pinning force directly compete. The anisotropic fluctuations induced by the pinning at high drives favor the formation of laned states. It is also possible to induce mixing between the two species just above the depinning transition. By increasing the radius of the large disks compared to that of the small disks, we find a larger amount of crystallization and banding of the large disks, while the small disks tend to form an interstitial liquid. Lowering the fraction of large disks compared to the fraction of small disks tends to increase the velocity of the large disks compared to that of the small disks, which species separate into a disordered liquid that flows unevenly over the pinning sites. When the disk density is sufficiently large, we find scaling of the velocity-force curves near the plastic depinning transition with an exponent that is slightly smaller than what is observed in systems with longer range interparticle interactions, suggesting that the plastic depinning transition may have distinct features when the interaction range is very short.

Our results could be relevant to multispecies flows of soft matter through random substrates or the flow of granular matter over a disordered background. It would be interesting to explore possible segregation effects for bidisperse systems with long-range particle-particle interactions driven over random disorder. In the disk system, the segregation of particles into clumps reduces the number of disk-disk collisions and enhances the disk flow.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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