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Research:		

## Drag coefficient of a rigid spherical particle in a near-critical binary fluid mixture, beyond the regime of the Gaussian model

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The drag coefficient of a rigid spherical particle deviates from Stokes law when it is put into a near-critical fluid mixture in the homogeneous phase with the critical composition. The deviation  $(\Delta \gamma_d)$  is experimentally shown to depend approximately linearly on the correlation length of the composition fluctuation far from the particle  $(\xi_{\infty})$ , and is suggested to be caused by the preferential adsorption between one component and the particle surface. We employ a local renormalized functional theory that can describe cases where the correlation length is not spatially uniform, due to the preferential adsorption near the critical point. We show that, as  $\xi_{\infty}$  becomes larger, the dependence of  $\Delta \gamma_d$  on  $\xi_{\infty}$  becomes close to the linear dependence.