

# *QENS and NSE for the Investigation of Dynamics in Soft Condensed Matter*

Antonio Faraone

**NIST Center for Neutron research**

Oxford School on Neutron Scattering, 9/2-12/2019

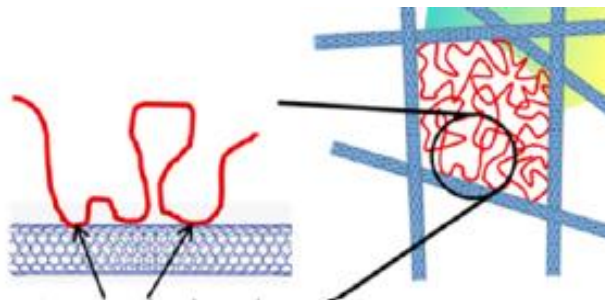
# Outline

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- General trends
- Polymer Nanocomposites
  - Introduction
  - QENS role in the study of nanocomposites
  - The role of Nanoparticle size on chain dynamics
  - Chain Dynamics in attractive polymer nanocomposites subjected to large deformations
- Conclusion

# Polymers

## Nanocomposites

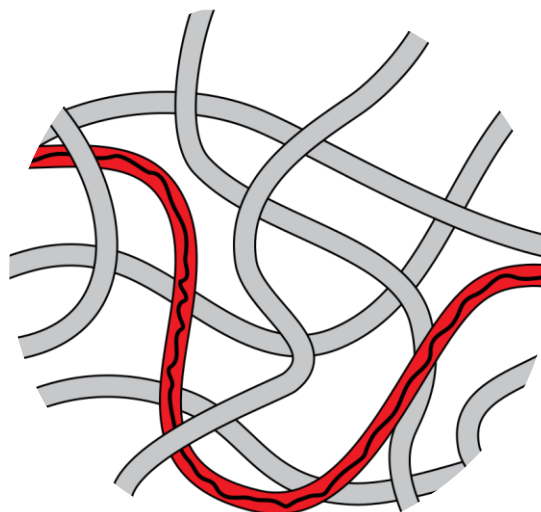


ACS Macro Lett., **3**, 1262 (2014)

## Ionomers



Membranes, **7**, 25 (2017)



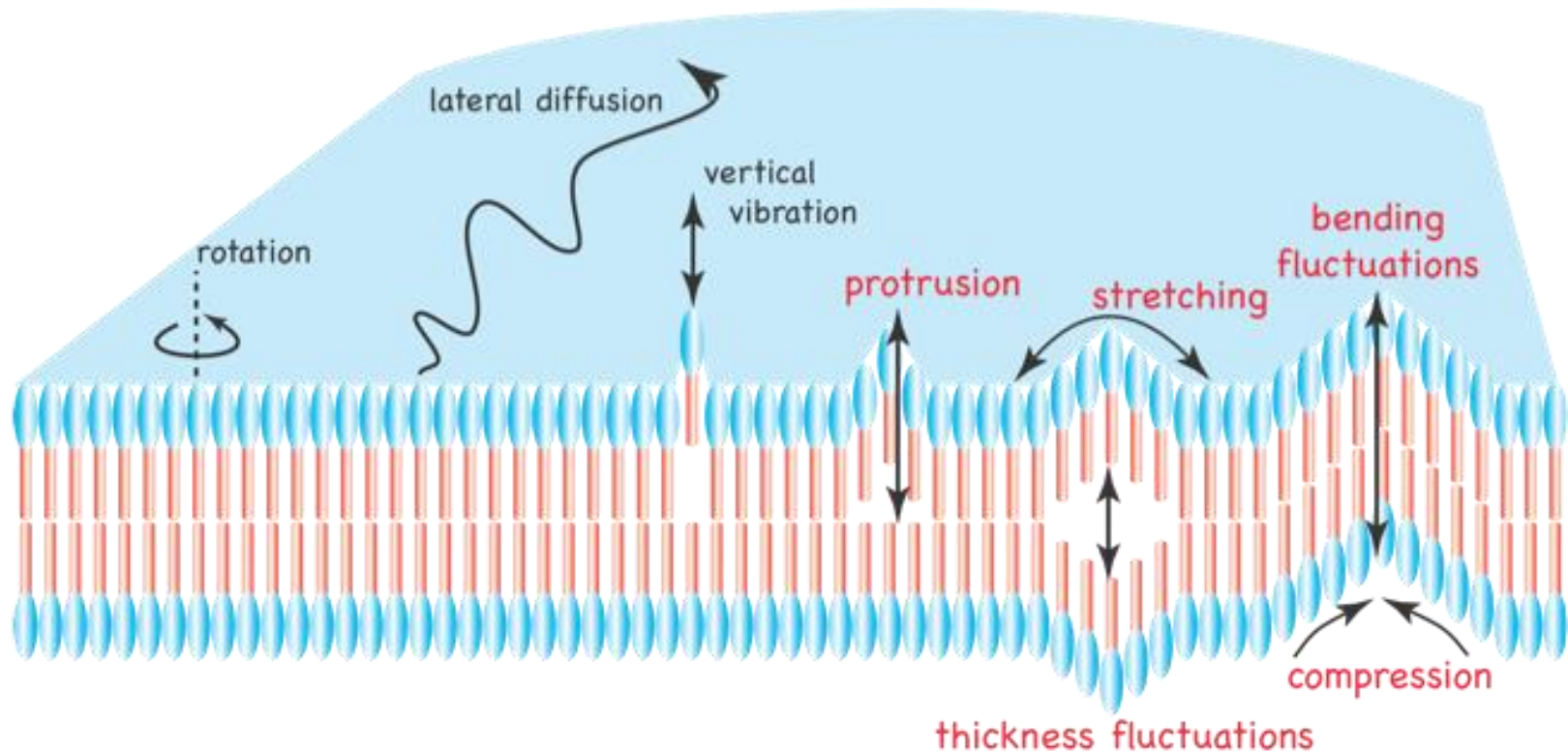
Polyelectrolyte [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Contact\\_lens](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Contact_lens)

## Gels

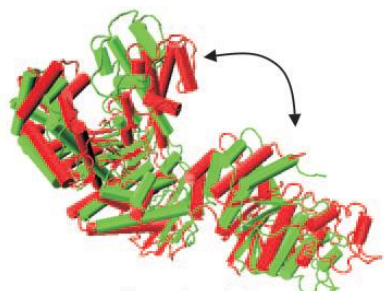


Adv. in polym. Sci., **174**, 1 (2005)

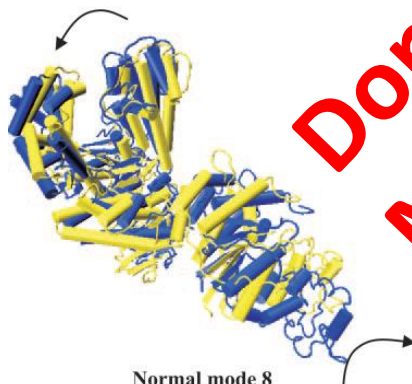
# Membranes



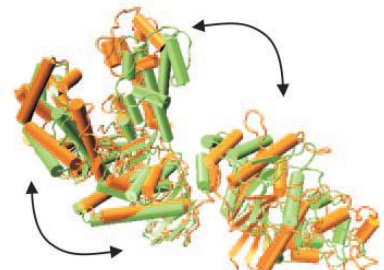
# Proteins



Normal mode 7



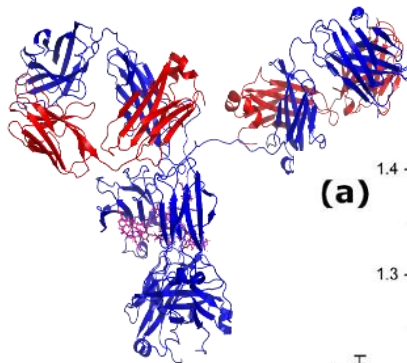
Normal mode 8



Normal modes 9 & 10

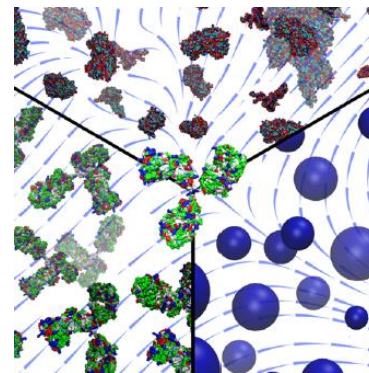
PNAS, 102, 17646 (2005)

Domain Motions

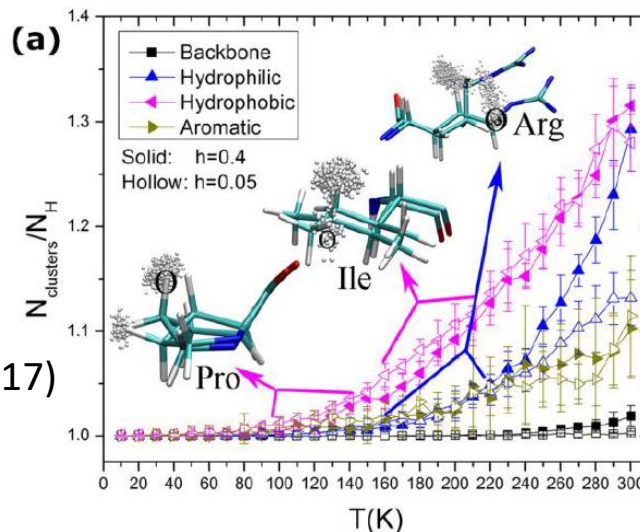


BBA, 1861, 3638 (2017)

Diffusion



JPCL, 10, 1709 (2019)



Atomic Motions

# More Complex/Realistic Samples

## SCIENTIFIC REPORTS

**OPEN** Hemoglobin diffusion and the dynamics of oxygen capture by red blood cells

Stéphane Longeville<sup>1</sup> & Laura-Roxana Stingaciu<sup>2</sup>

Received: 30 January 2017

## SCIENTIFIC REPORTS

**OPEN** Revealing the Dynamics of Thylakoid Membranes in Living Cyanobacterial Cells

Received: 03 June 2015  
Accepted: 14 December 2015  
Laura-Roxana Stingaciu<sup>1</sup>, Hugh O'Neill<sup>2</sup>, Michelle Liberton<sup>3</sup>, Volker S. Urban<sup>2</sup>, Himadri B. Pakrasi<sup>3</sup> & Michael Ohl<sup>1</sup>

THE JOURNAL OF  
PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY B

Cite This: *J. Phys. Chem. B* 2019, 123, 6968–6979

Article

pubs.acs.org/JPCB

**Chemotherapeutic Targets in Osteosarcoma: Insights from Synchrotron-MicroFTIR and Quasi-Elastic Neutron Scattering**

Maria Paula M. Marques,<sup>†,‡,Ⓞ</sup> Ana L. M. Batista de Carvalho,<sup>\*,†,Ⓞ</sup> Adriana P. Mamede,<sup>†,Ⓞ</sup> Inês P. Santos,<sup>†,Ⓞ</sup> Victoria García Sakai,<sup>§</sup> Asha Dopplapudi,<sup>§</sup> Gianfelice Cinque,<sup>||</sup> Magda Wolna,<sup>||</sup> Peter Gardner,<sup>↓,Ⓞ</sup> and Luís A. E. Batista de Carvalho<sup>†,Ⓞ</sup>

## SCIENTIFIC REPORTS

**OPEN** Microscopic diffusion processes measured in living planarians

Eugene Mamontov

*Insights on the nanoscopic origin of  
rheological properties in polymer  
nanocomposites*

# Acknowledgement

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- Erkan Senses

Chemical and Biological Engineering, Koç University

- Madhusudan Tyagi, Yimin Mao

NIST Center for Neutron Research

- Bharath Natarajan

Materials Measurement Laboratory, NIST

- Suresh Narayanan

Advanced Photon Source, ANL

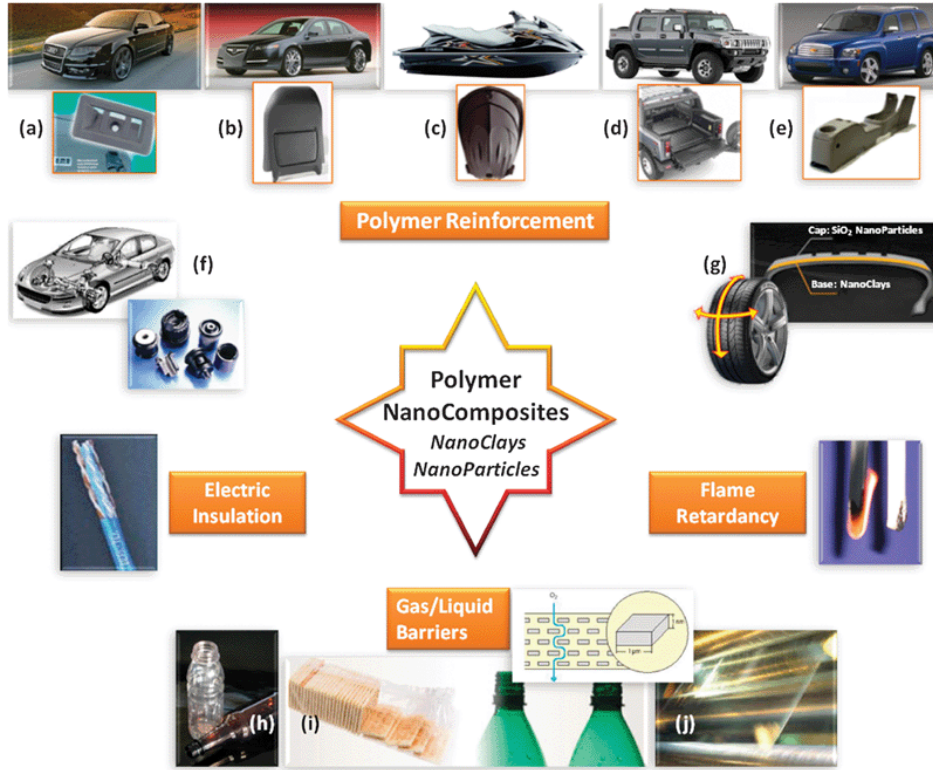
- Chris Kitchens, Mohamed Ansar

Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering,  
Clemson University



# Polymer Nanocomposites (PNC)

## Multifunctionality!



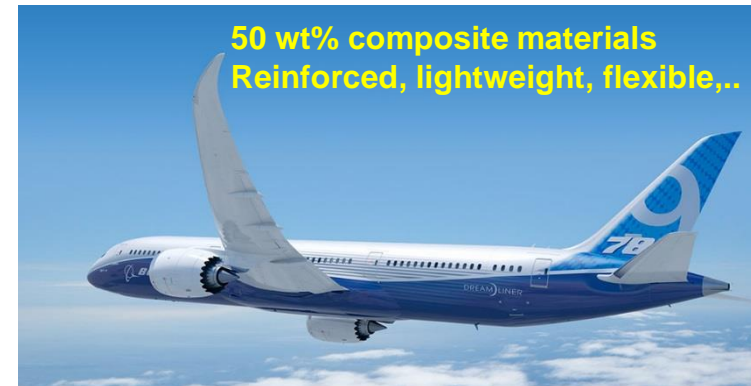
## Electrostatic charge dissipation for spacecraft

- Heat & chemical resistance
- Electrically Conductive
- Light weight
- Flexible
- Insulating



Polyimide + 0.03 wt % CNTs

[http://www.nasa.gov/exploration/systems/orion/#.VF16wfnF\\_dg](http://www.nasa.gov/exploration/systems/orion/#.VF16wfnF_dg)



50 wt% composite materials  
Reinforced, lightweight, flexible,...

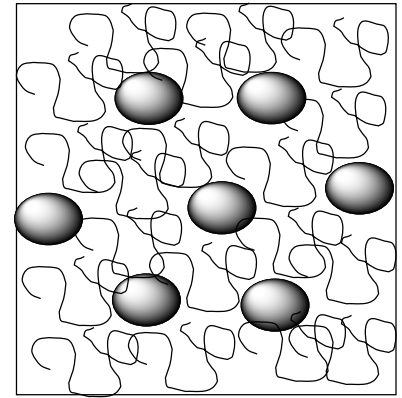
Boeing 787-Dreamliner

<http://www.boeing.com/commercial/787/>

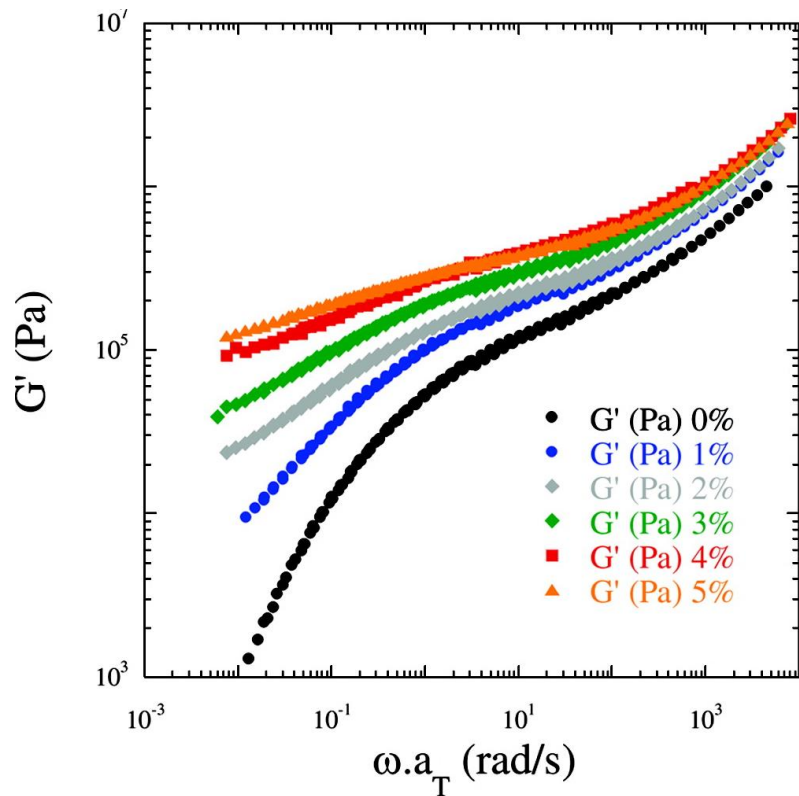
Mechanically **adaptive** composites for improved lifetime and performance

# Properties of PNCs

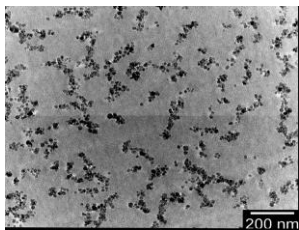
- Polymer matrix
- Nanoparticles: *size, shape, amount*
- Particle dispersion
  - Controlled dispersion
  - Orientation
  - Stability
  - Spatial distribution
  - ...
  - History
- Interface and interphase



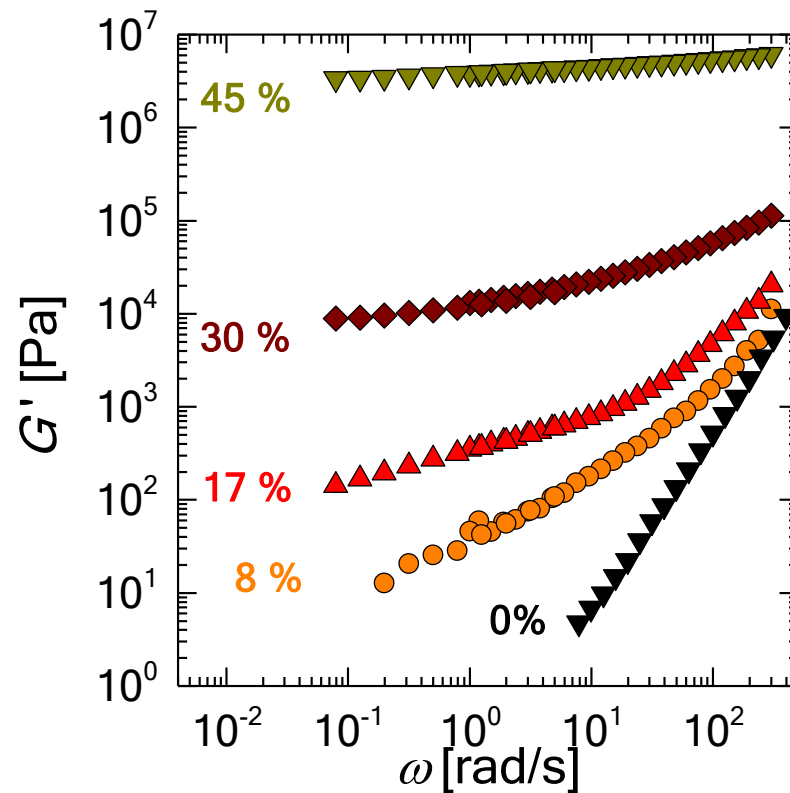
# Mechanical Reinforcement in PNCs



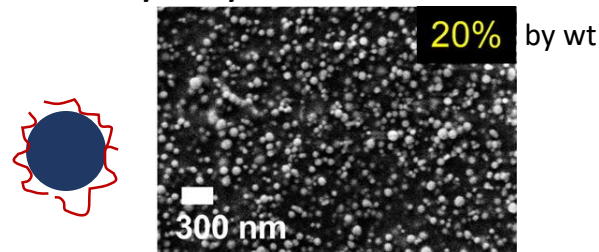
Polystyrene-Silica



Jouault, Nicolas, et al.  
*Macromolecules* 42.6  
 (2009): 2031-2040



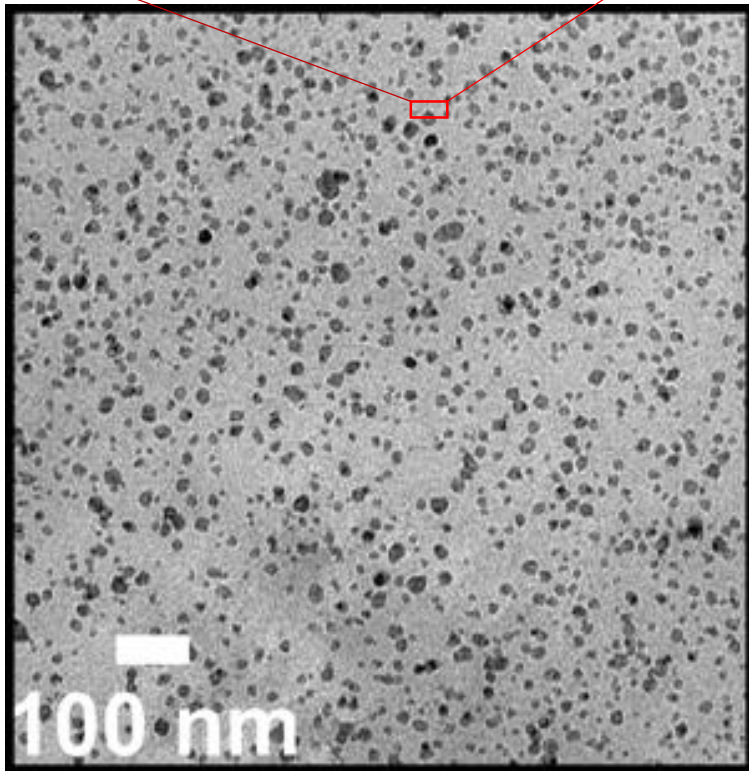
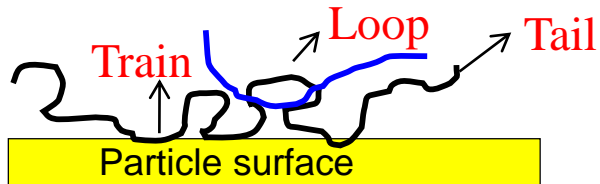
Polyethylene oxide-Silica



# Well Dispersed NP

- NP surface/polymer interaction: Attractive

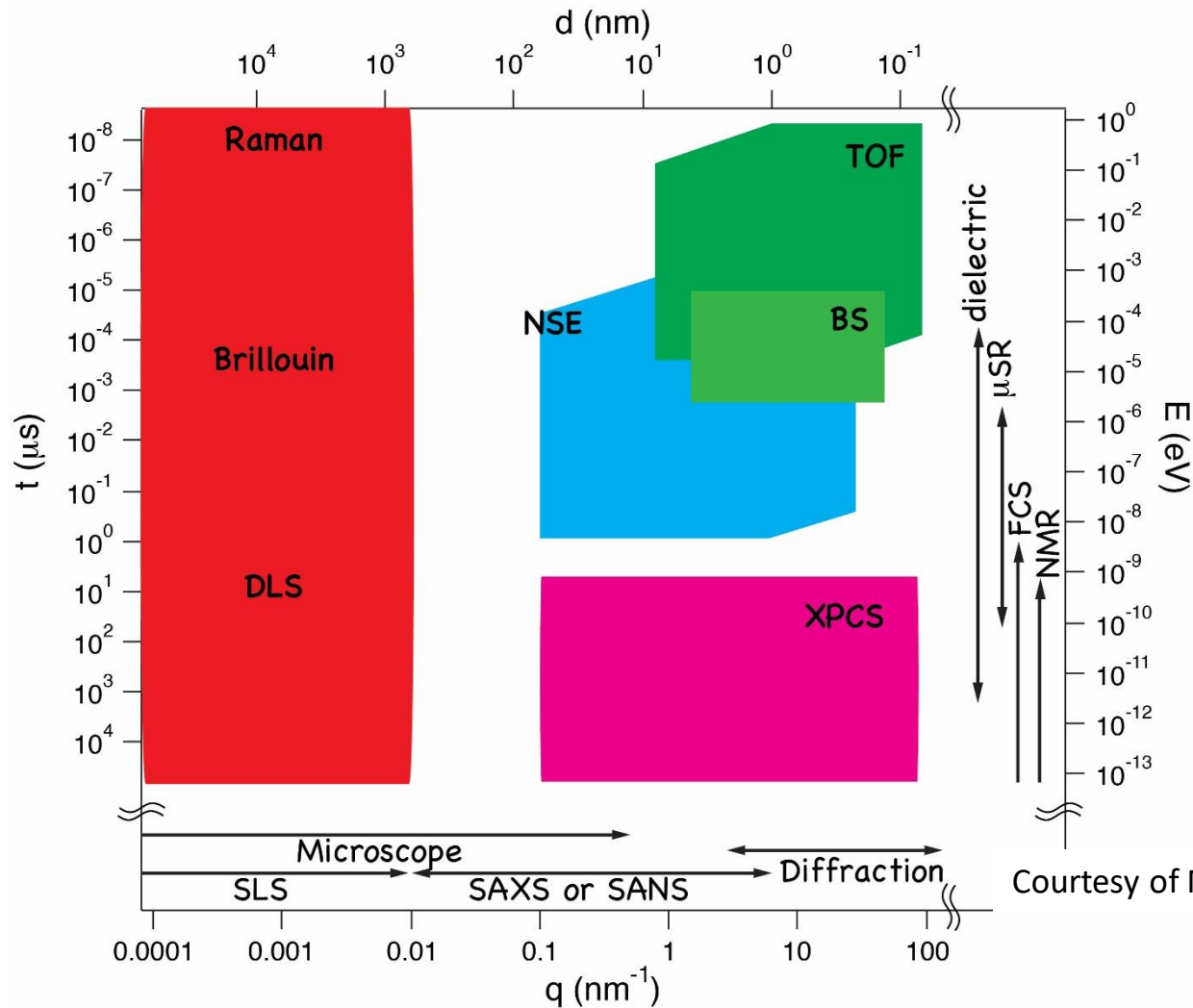
No direct particle contact. Polymer driven Reinforcement



PMMA- SiO<sub>2</sub>

J. M. H. M. Scheutjens and G. J. Fleer. *JPC*, **84**, 178 (1980).  
M. Krutyeva, et al., *PRL*, **110**, 108303 (2013).

# Experimental Techniques

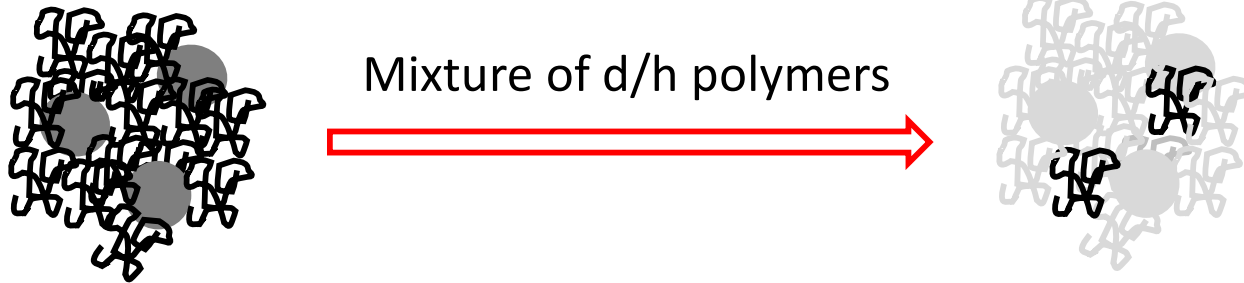


Courtesy of Michihiro Nagao

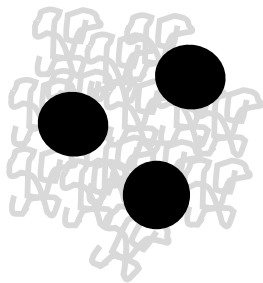
Scattering techniques, and neutrons in particular, are well suited to investigate the microscopic origin of the rheological behavior.

# Structure

Isotopic Substitution, contrast matching techniques



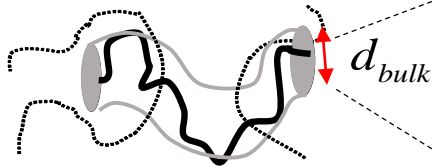
Complementarity with Small Angle X-Ray and microscopy



# Microscopic Dynamics

Microscopic chain parameters that determine the macroscopic dynamics:

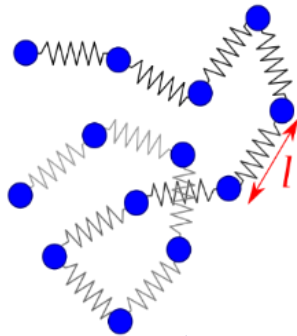
Length scale



$$d_{tube} = lN_e^2$$

$$G_N^o \propto \frac{1}{N_e} \propto \frac{1}{d^2}$$

Time scale



$$\tau_p = \frac{\zeta N^2 l^2}{3\pi^2 k_B T p^2} = \frac{N^2}{\pi^2 W p^2} \quad p=1,2,\dots,N$$

$$W = \frac{3k_B T}{\zeta l^2} \rightarrow \frac{\text{Entropic force}}{\text{Viscous force}}$$

Rouse time  $p \rightarrow N$

$$\tau_R = \frac{1}{\pi^2 W}$$

Neutron scattering can simultaneously access the length and time scales relevant to Rouse and Reptation motion

# Dynamic Neutron Scattering

$$\frac{\partial^2 \sigma}{\partial \Omega \partial E} \propto \frac{k_f}{k_i} N [\sigma_{coh} S_{coh}(Q, \omega) + \sigma_{incoh} S_{incoh}(Q, \omega)]$$

$$S_{coh}(Q, \omega) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} I_{coll}(Q, t) e^{-i\omega t} dt$$

$$S_{incoh}(Q, \omega) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} I_{self}(Q, t) e^{-i\omega t} dt$$

$$I_{coll}(Q, t) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_i \sum_j \langle e^{-i\mathbf{Q}[\mathbf{r}_i(t) - \mathbf{r}_j(0)]} \rangle$$

$$I_{self}(Q, t) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_i \langle e^{-i\mathbf{Q}[\mathbf{r}_i(t) - \mathbf{r}_i(0)]} \rangle$$



# Single Chain Dynamics – Neutron Spin Echo

$$\frac{\partial^2 \sigma}{\partial \Omega \partial E} \propto \frac{k_f}{k_i} N[\sigma_{coh} S_{coh}(Q, \omega) + \sigma_{incoh} S_{incoh}(Q, \omega)]$$



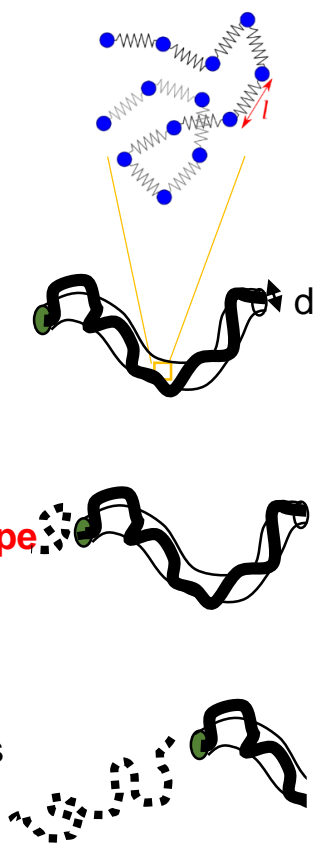
# Single Chain Dynamics – Neutron Spin Echo

$$\frac{\partial^2 \sigma}{\partial \Omega \partial E} \propto \frac{k_f}{k_i} N [\sigma_{coh} S_{coh}(Q, \omega) + \sigma_{incoh} S_{incoh}(Q, \omega)]$$



## time scale (t) length scale (1/Q) Intermediate scattering function

$t < t_{entanglement}$   
 Unrestricted  
**Rouse** motion  
 within tube  
  
 $t_{ent.} < t < t_{Rouse}$   
**Reptation**  
 motion  
  
 $t_{Rouse} < t < t_{Terminal}$   
**Partially escape**  
 from the tube  
  
 $t > t_{Terminal}$   
 Center of Mass  
**Diffusion**



$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i,j} \exp \left\{ -Q^2 D_R t - \frac{Q^2 l^2}{6} |i-j| - \frac{2Q^2 R e^2}{3\pi^2} \sum_{p=1}^N \frac{1}{p^2} \cos\left(\frac{p\pi i}{N}\right) \sin\left(\frac{p\pi j}{N}\right) \left[ 1 - \exp\left(\frac{p^2 t}{\tau_R}\right) \right] \right\}$$

$$\left[ 1 - \exp\left(\frac{-Q^2 d^2}{36}\right) \right] S^{local}(Q, t) + \exp\left(\frac{-Q^2 d^2}{36}\right)$$

$$\left[ 1 - \exp\left(\frac{-Q^2 d^2}{36}\right) \right] S^{local}(Q, t) + \exp\left(\frac{-Q^2 d^2}{36}\right) S^{escape}(Q, t)$$

$$\exp\left(\frac{-Q^2 d^2}{36}\right) S^{escape}(Q, t)$$

$$S^{local}(Q, t) = \exp\left(\frac{t}{\tau_0}\right) \operatorname{erfc}\left[\left(\frac{t}{\tau_0}\right)^{1/2}\right]$$

$$S^{escape}(Q, t) = \exp(-Q^2 D_{rep} t / 6)$$

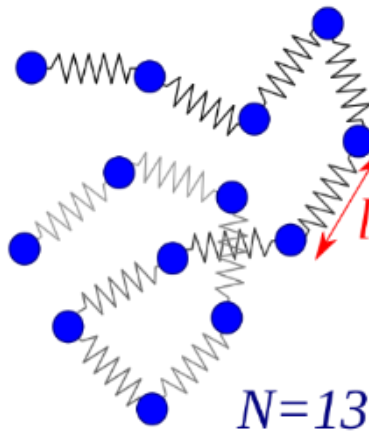
# Segmental Dynamics - Backscattering

## H containing samples

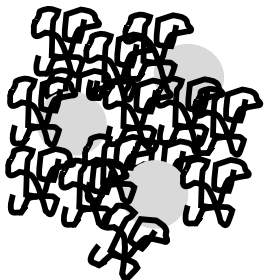
$$\sigma_{incoh}^H \gg \sigma_{coh}^{H,D,C,O,Si,Au}, \sigma_{incoh}^{D,C,O,Si,Au}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \sigma}{\partial \Omega \partial E} \propto \frac{k_f}{k_i} N [\cancel{\sigma_{coh} S_{coh}(Q, \omega)} + \sigma_{incoh} S_{incoh}(Q, \omega)]$$

In the appropriate Q-t range:  
**Rouse Dynamics**



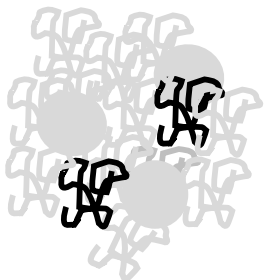
# Complementarity



Hydrogenated Polymers:

Single particle segmental dynamics

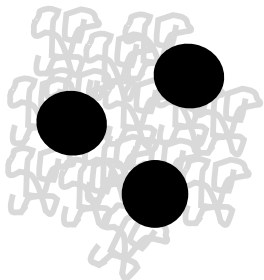
**Backscattering**



H/D Polymers, contrast match:

Single chain dynamics

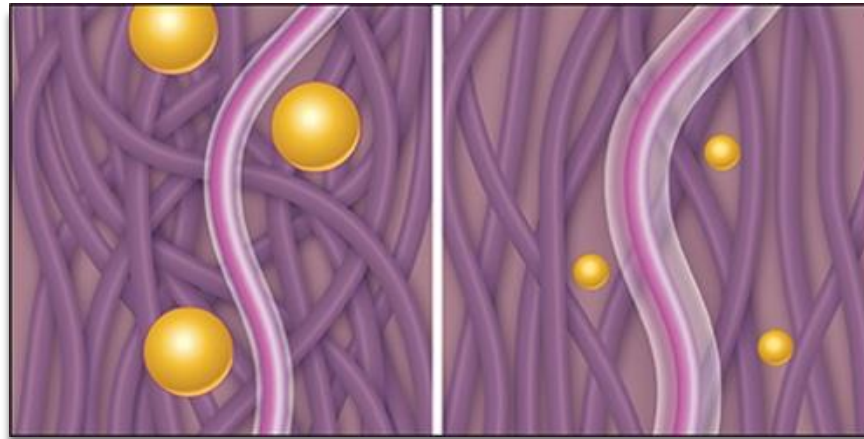
**Neutron Spin Echo**



Nanoparticles dynamics

**X-ray Photon Correlation Spectroscopy (XPCS)**

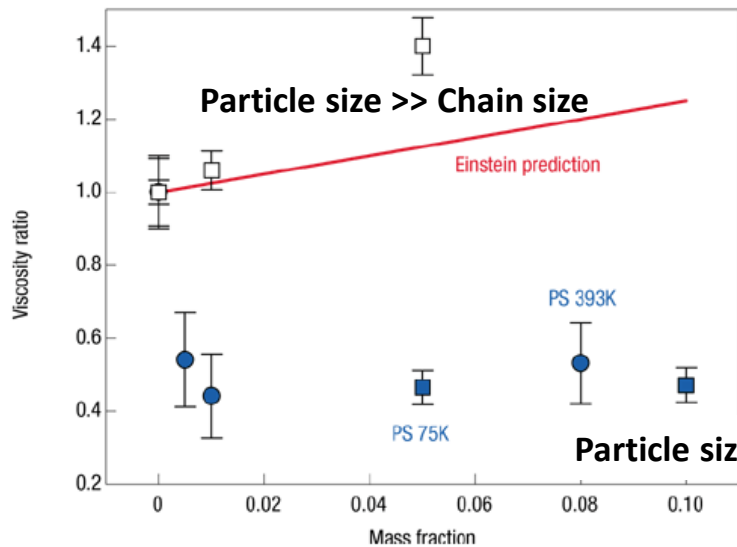
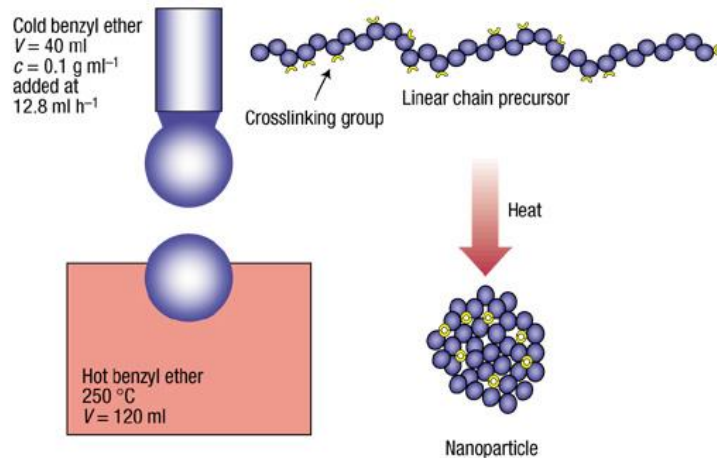
# *The role of Nanoparticle size on chain dynamics*



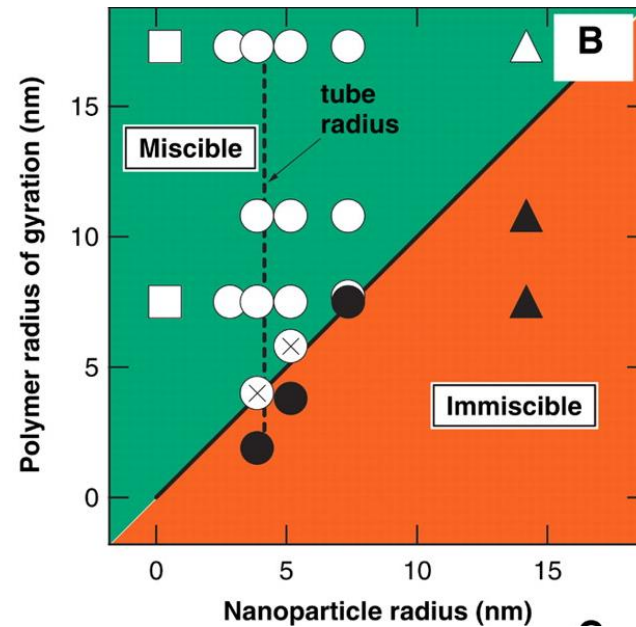
# Viscosity Reduction in PNCs

## Polystyrene NPs in polystyrene matrix: *athermal*

Mackay, Michael E., et al. *Nature materials* 2.11 (2003): 762-766.

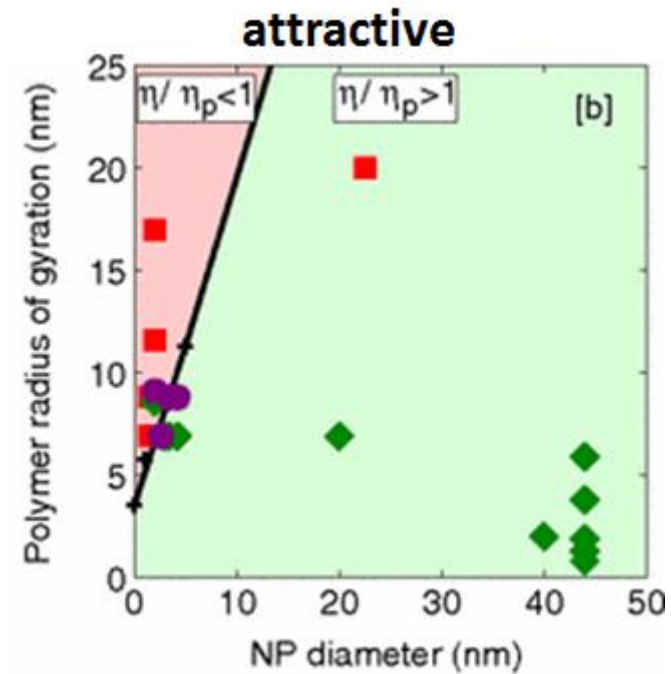
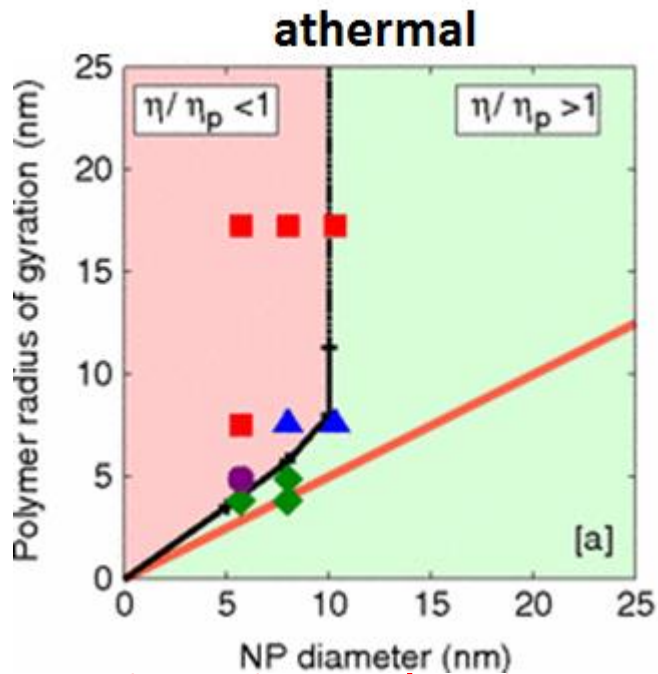


Mackay, Michael E., et al. *Science* 311.5768 (2006): 1740-1743.



# Size and Interaction Dependence

Kalathi, Jagannathan T., Gary S. Grest, and Sanat K. Kumar. *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, **109**, 198301. (2012).



- Viscosity reduction independent of polymer size.
  - Similar to a plasticizer.
  - Valid for sizes up to entanglement mesh size.
- Attractive interactions reverse the size effect.

# Need for Experiments

Soft Matter

PAPER

[View Article Online](#)  
[View Journal](#) | [View Issue](#)



Cite this: *Soft Matter*, 2015, 11, 4123

## Rouse mode analysis of chain relaxation in polymer nanocomposites

Jagannathan T. Kalathi,<sup>ab</sup> Sanat K. Kumar,<sup>\*a</sup> Michael Rubinstein<sup>c</sup> and Gary S. Grest<sup>d</sup>

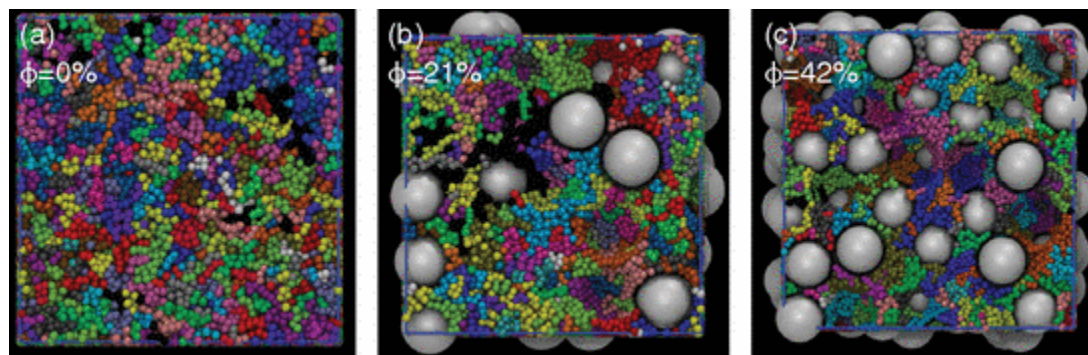
PRL **109**, 118001 (2012)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending  
14 SEPTEMBER 2012

## Nanoparticle Effect on the Dynamics of Polymer Chains and Their Entanglement Network

Ying Li,<sup>1</sup> Martin Kröger,<sup>2</sup> and Wing Kam Liu<sup>1,3,\*</sup>



nature  
COMMUNICATIONS

ARTICLE

Received 7 Nov 2014 | Accepted 17 Apr 2015 | Published 5 Jun 2015

DOI: 10.1038/ncomms5198

OPEN

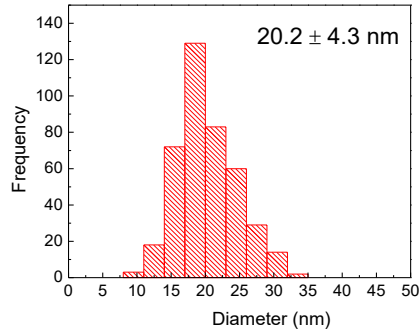
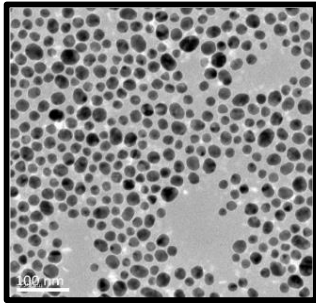
Phase stability and dynamics of entangled polymer-nanoparticle composites

Rahul Mangal<sup>1</sup>, Samanvaya Srivastava<sup>2</sup> & Lynden A. Archer<sup>1</sup>

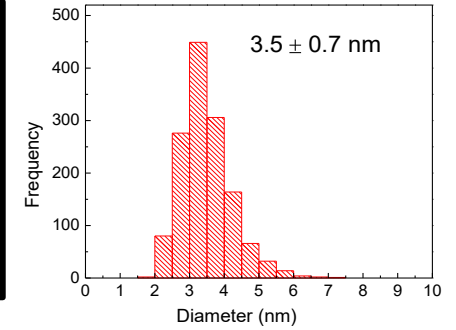
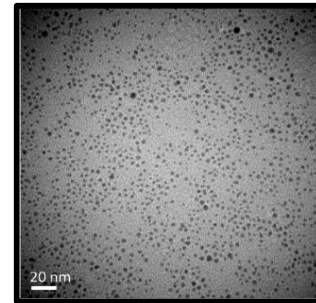


# Samples

## Large NPs



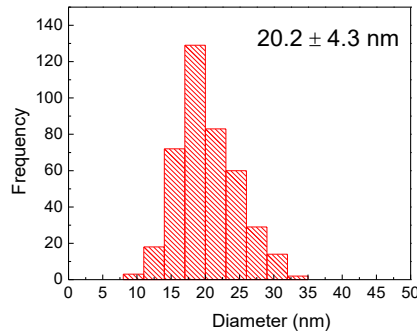
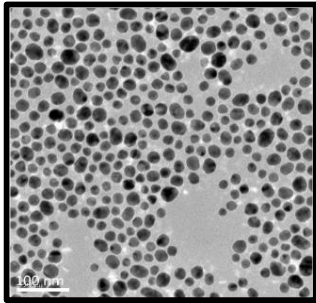
## Small NPs



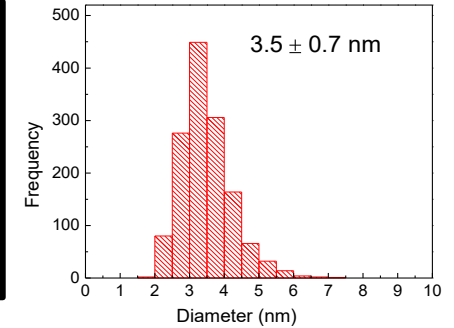
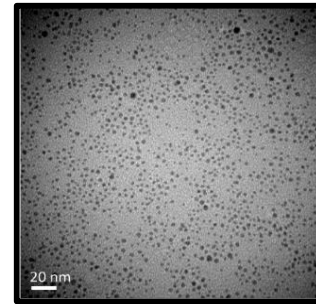
Particles are PEG coated (< 1nm) to provide entropic stabilization

# Samples

## Large NPs

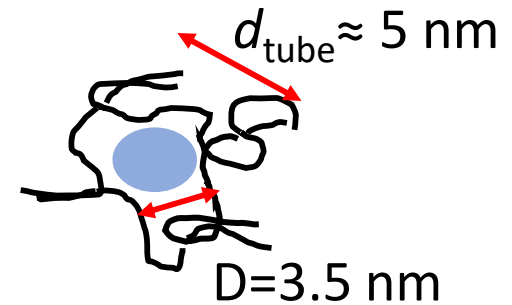
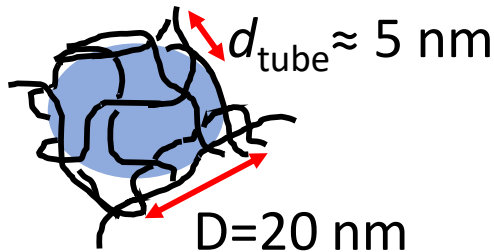


## Small NPs

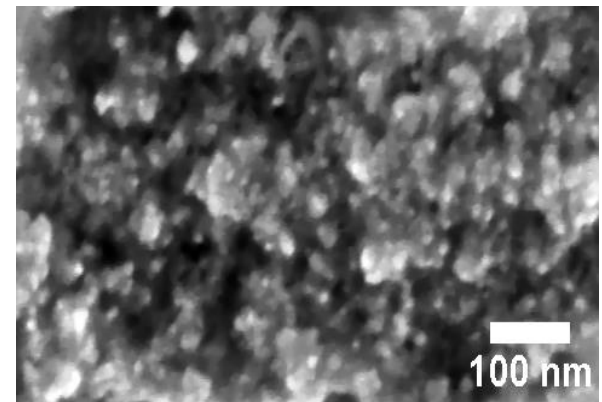
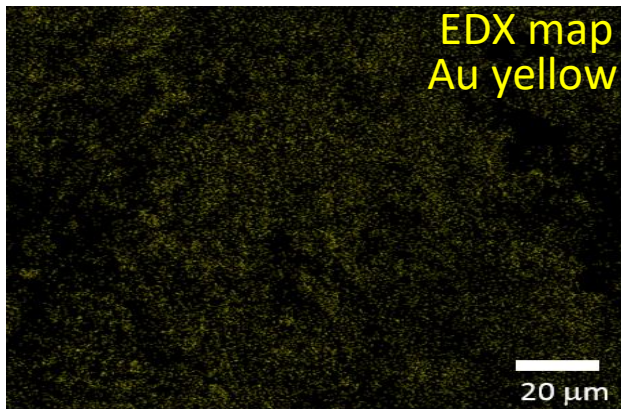
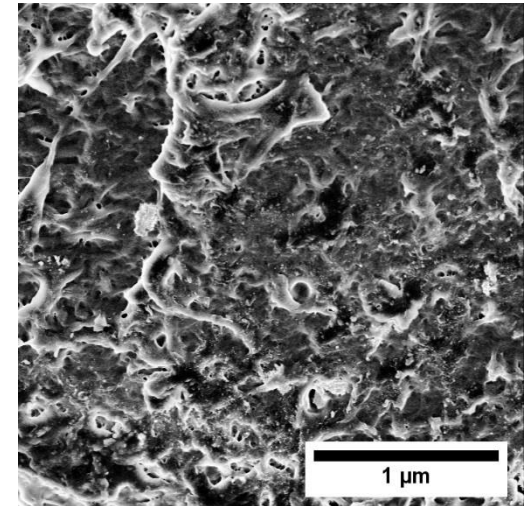
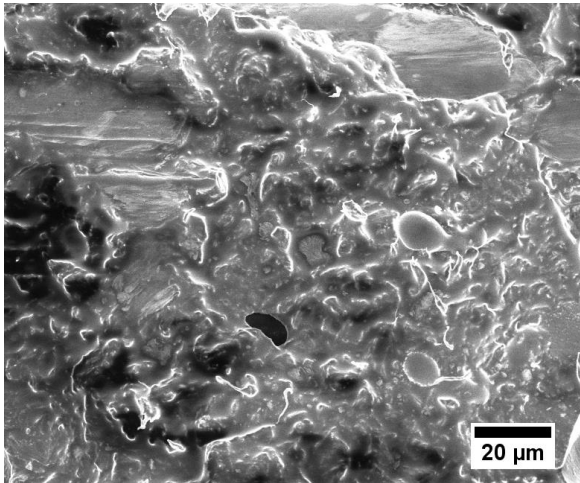
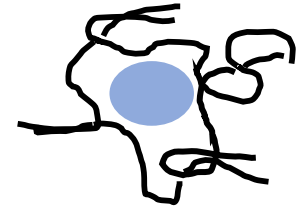
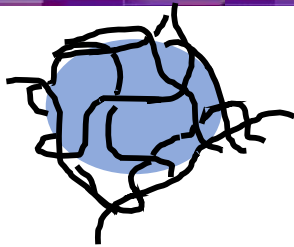


Particles are PEG coated ( $< 1$  nm) to provide entropic stabilization

We made nanocomposites with these particles (20 % by volume) and long chain poly (ethylene glycol) (PEG) matrix (35 kg/mol).

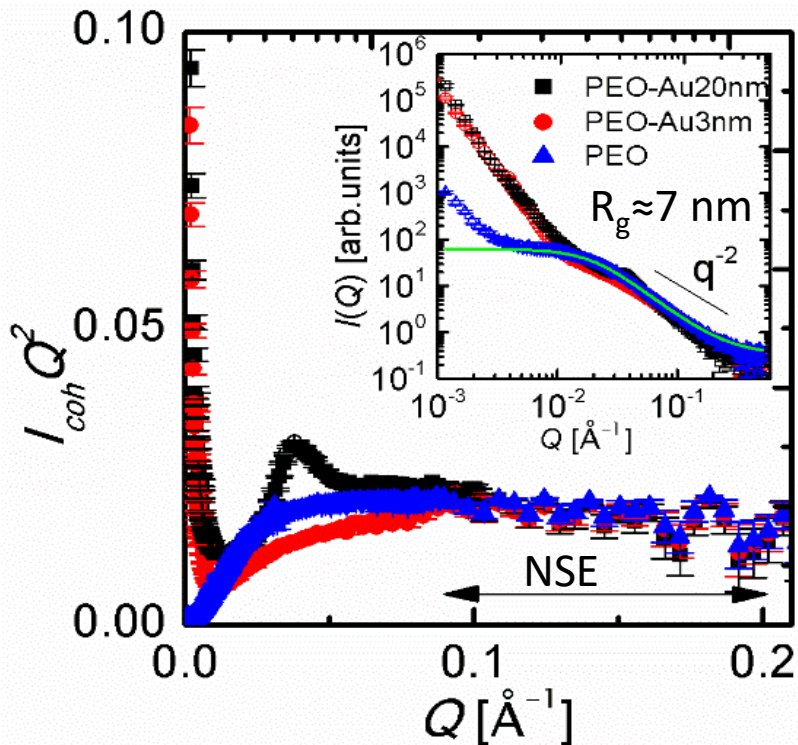
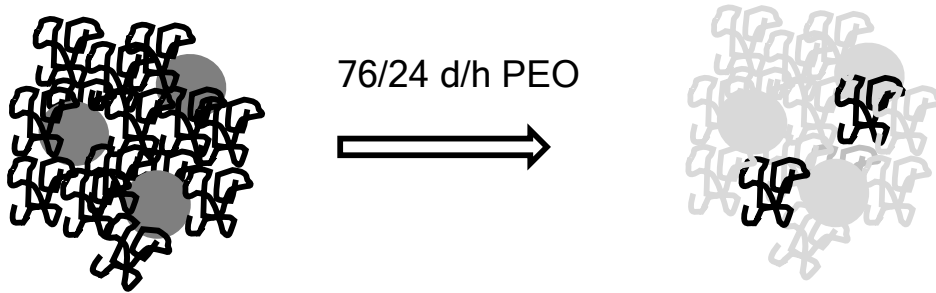


# Dispersion



# Single Chain Conformation

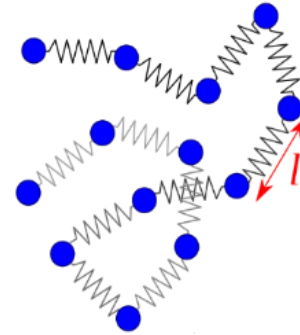
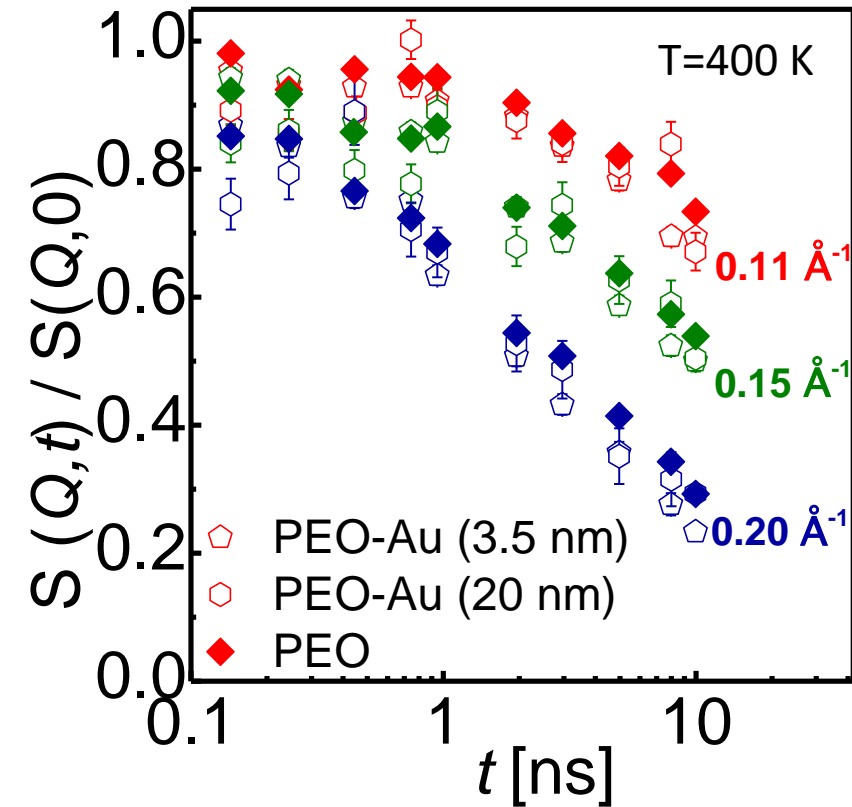
Contrast Matched PEO/NP (hPEO/dPEO 76 % / 24 %)



- The PEO in nanocomposites remains Gaussian.
- In the NSE range, we observe the single chain form factor of Gaussian PEO chains.

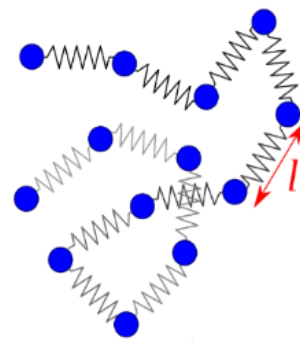
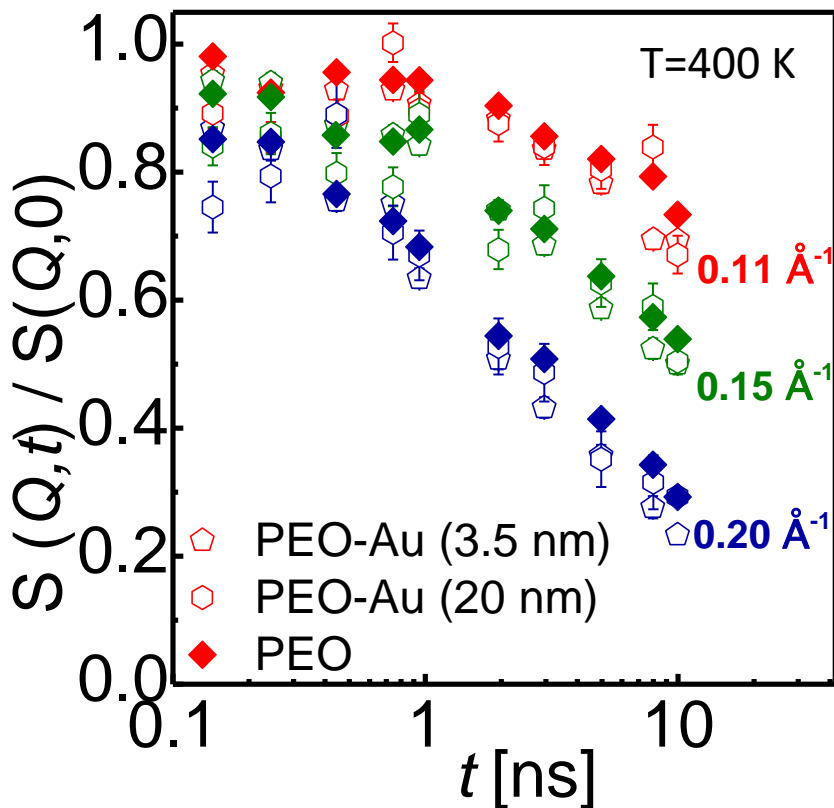
Fetters, L. J., D. J. Lohse, and R. H. Colby.  
*Physical Properties of Polymers Handbook*.  
Springer New York, 2007. 447-454

# Short time – Rouse Dynamics



**Rouse dynamics is not modified in nanocomposites!**

# Short time – Rouse Dynamics



Parameters	Definition	Value	Unit
		<b>used</b>	
$N$	Number of segments	795	-
$l$	Segment length	0.58	nm
$R_e = \sqrt{Nl^2}$	End-to-end distance	16.35	nm
$Wl^4$	Rouse parameter	1.51*	nm <sup>4</sup> /ns
$D_R = Wl^4 / (3R_e^2)$	Rouse diffusion coefficient	0.0019	nm <sup>2</sup> /ns
$\tau_R$	Rouse time	4799	ns

\*K. Niedzwiedz et al., *Macromolecules* **41**, 4866 (2008)

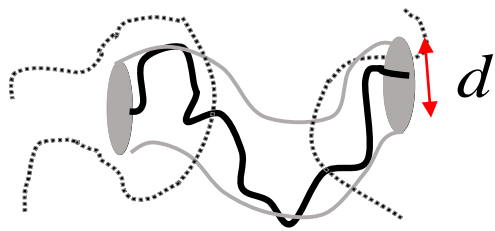
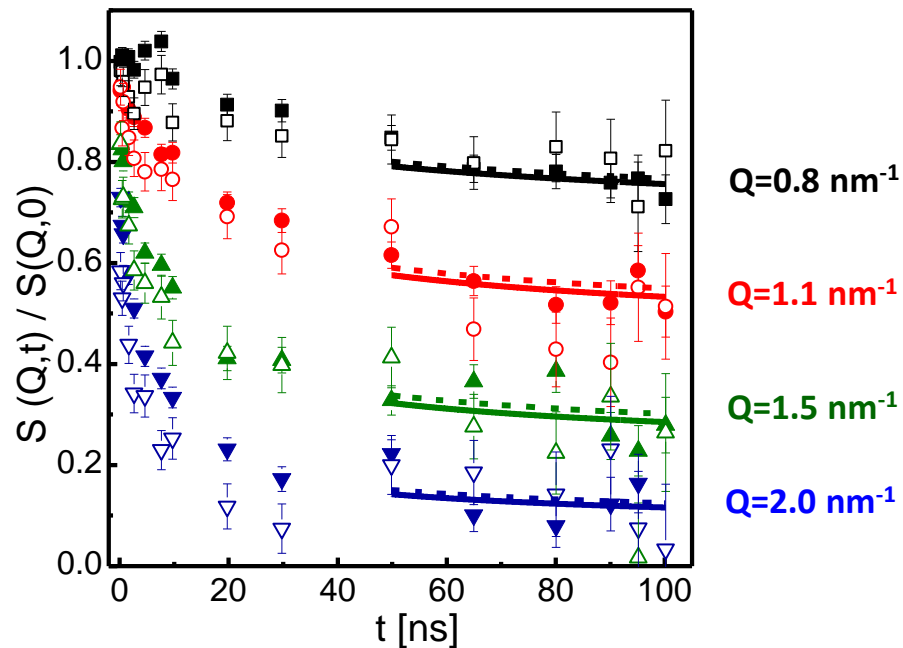
Coherent dynamics structure factor for a Rouse motion

$$S_{Rouse}(Q, t) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{m,n} \left\{ \exp(-Q^2 D_R t - \frac{1}{6} |m-n| Q^2 l^2) - \frac{2 R_e^2 Q^2}{3 \pi^2} \sum_{p=1}^N \frac{1}{p^2} \cos\left(\frac{p\pi m}{N}\right) \cos\left(\frac{p\pi n}{N}\right) [1 - \exp\left(\frac{-p^2 t}{\tau_R}\right)] \right\}$$

$$W = \frac{3kTl^2}{\zeta} \quad \zeta : \text{monomeric friction coefficient}$$

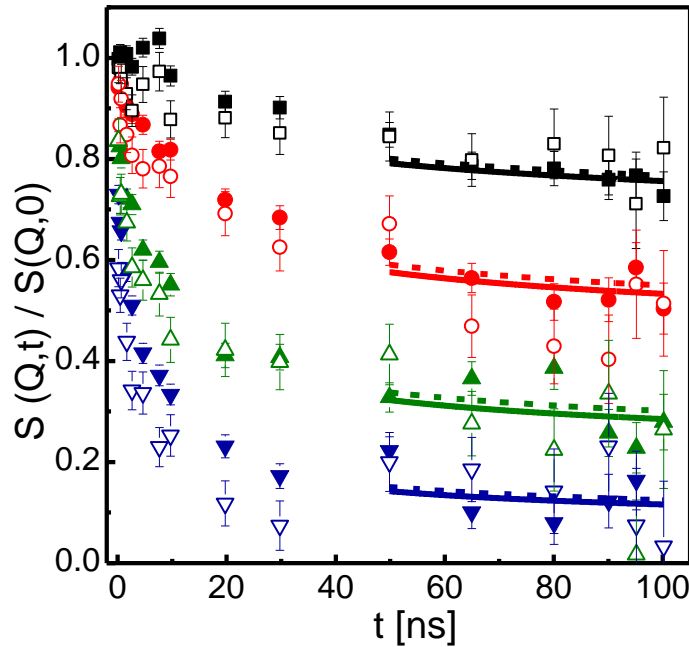
# Long time – Confined motion

PNC with 20 nm particles

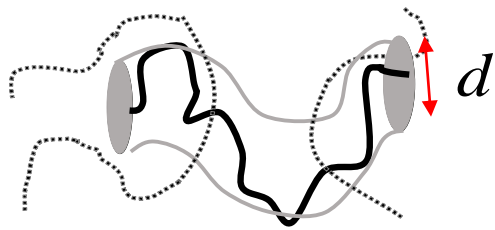
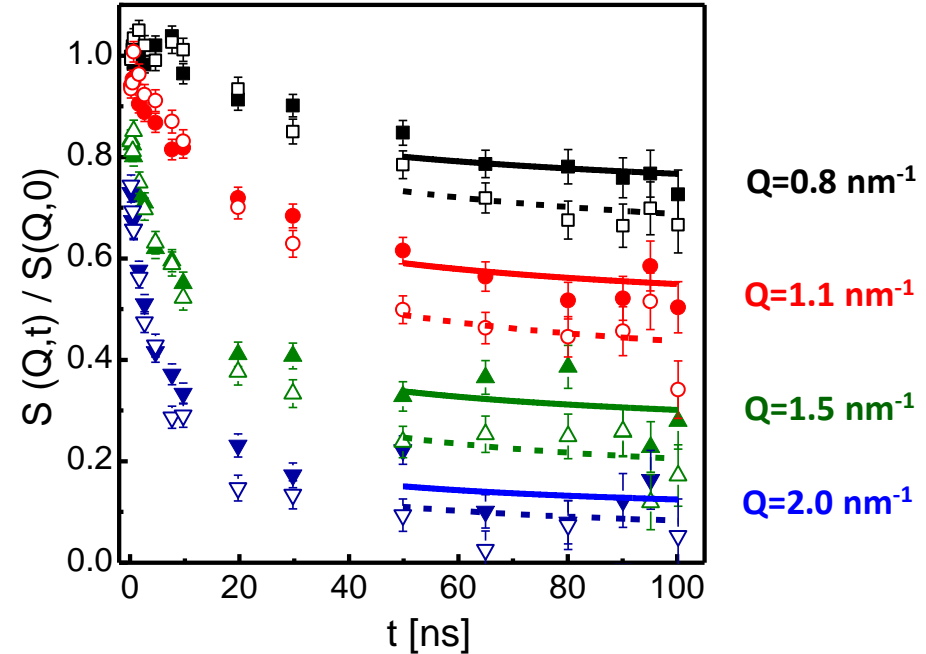


# Long time – Confined motion

PNC with 20 nm particles



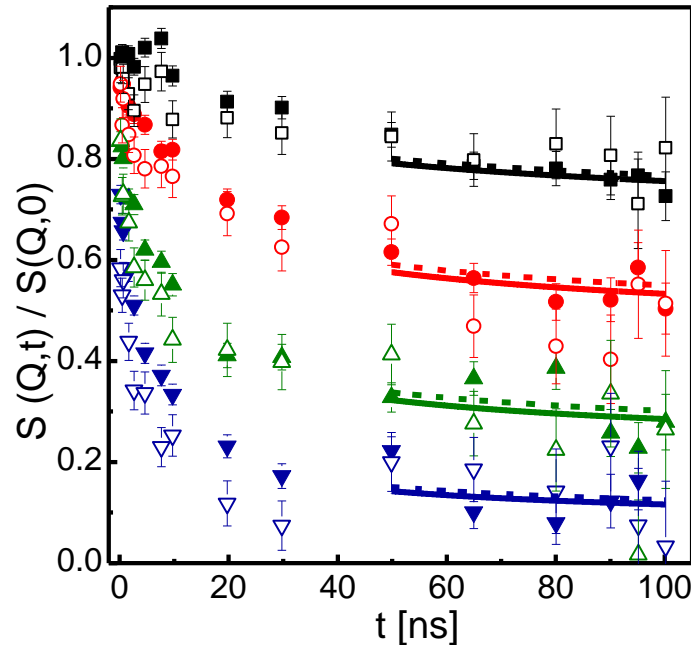
PNC with 3.5 nm particles



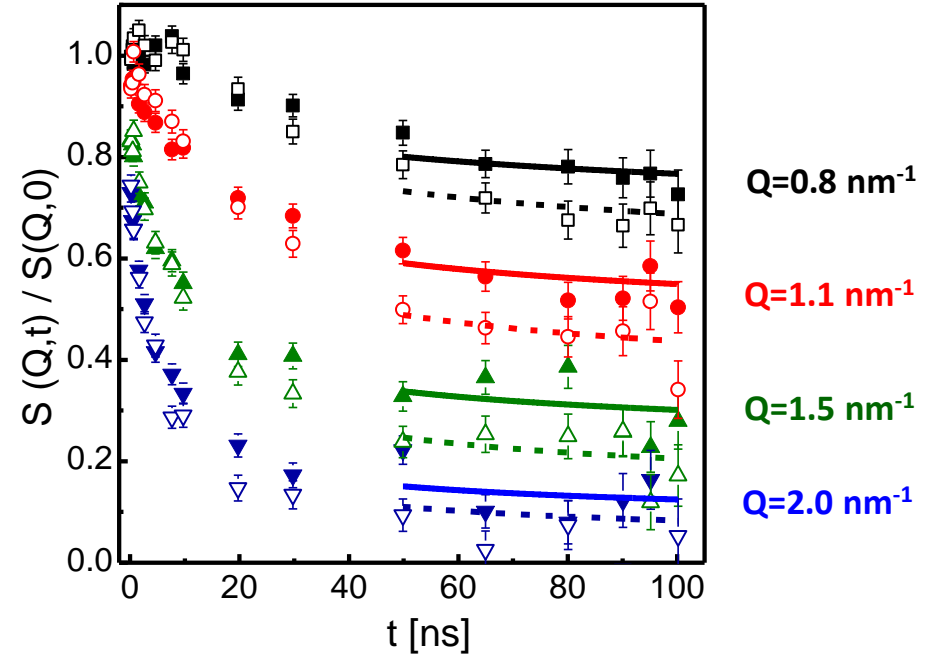


# Long time – Confined motion

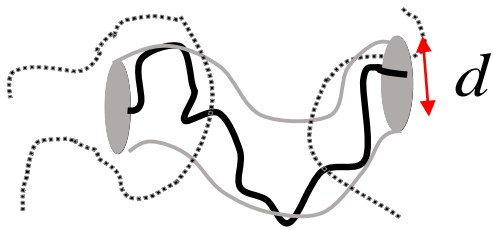
PNC with 20 nm particles



PNC with 3.5 nm particles



## de Gennes formulation



$$\left( \frac{S^{coh}(Q,t)}{S^{coh}(Q,0)} \right)_{\text{Rept.}} = [1 - \exp(-\frac{Q^2 d^2}{36})] S_{local}(Q,t) + \exp(-\frac{Q^2 d^2}{36}) S_{esc}(Q,t)$$

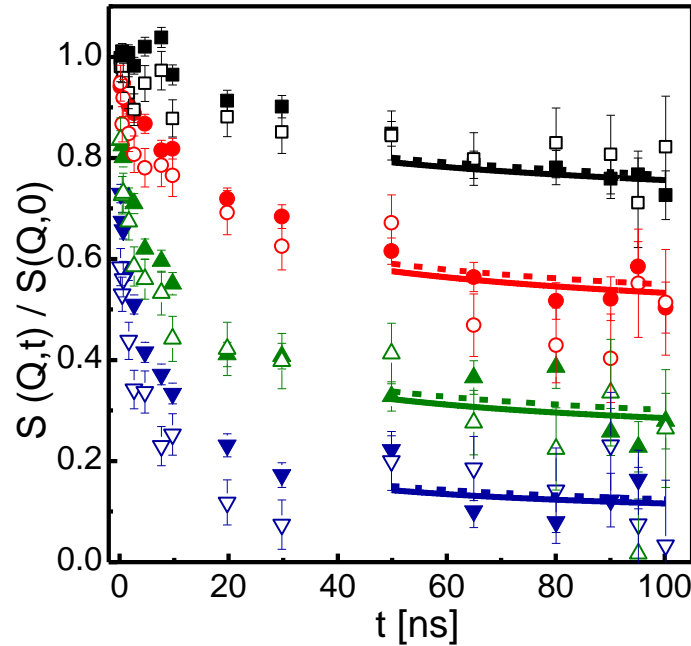
$$S_{local}(Q,t) = \exp\left(\frac{t}{\tau_o}\right) \text{erfc}(\sqrt{t/\tau_o}) \quad S_{esc}(Q,t) = 1$$

$$\tau_o = 36/(Wl^4 Q^4) \quad ; \quad Wl^4 = 1.51 \text{ nm}^4 / \text{ns} \text{ for PEO @ T=400K}$$

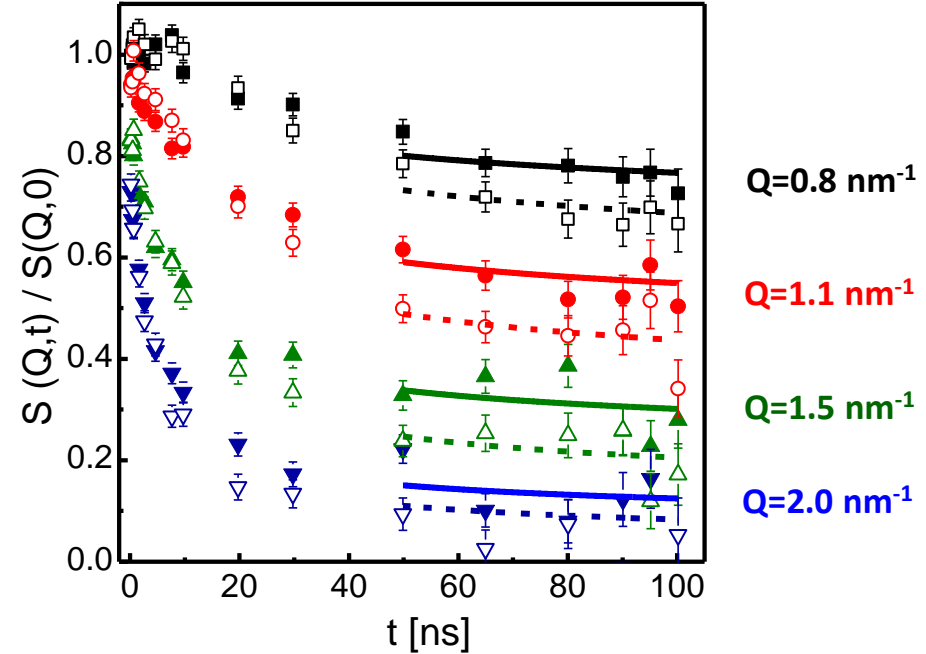
$d$  is the only fitting parameter!

# Long time – Confined motion

PNC with 20 nm particles



PNC with 3.5 nm particles

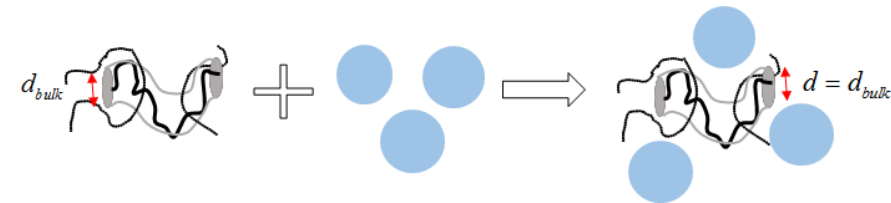


$Q=0.8 \text{ nm}^{-1}$

$Q=1.1 \text{ nm}^{-1}$

$Q=1.5 \text{ nm}^{-1}$

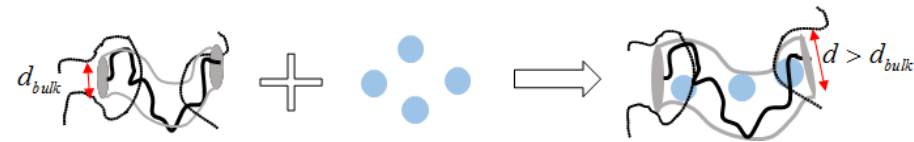
$Q=2.0 \text{ nm}^{-1}$



$$d_{PEO} = 5.03 \pm 0.1 \text{ nm}$$

$\approx$

$$d_{PEO-20nmAu} = 5.17 \pm 0.19 \text{ nm}$$

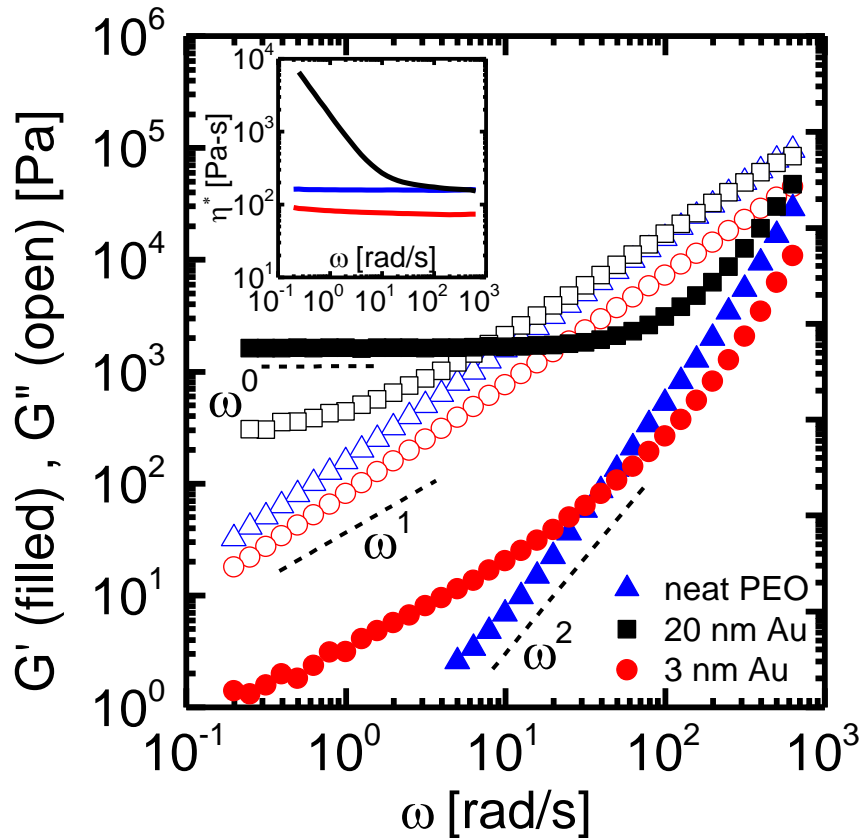


$$d_{PEO} = 5.03 \pm 0.1 \text{ nm}$$

$<$

$$d_{PEO-3nmAu} = 6.11 \pm 0.13 \text{ nm}$$

# Bulk Rheology



- Strong reinforcing effect of large particles
- Viscosity decreased by half with addition of 20 vol. % small particles

$$\eta_o \propto \tau_d = \frac{3N^3}{W\pi^2} \left(\frac{l}{d}\right)^2$$

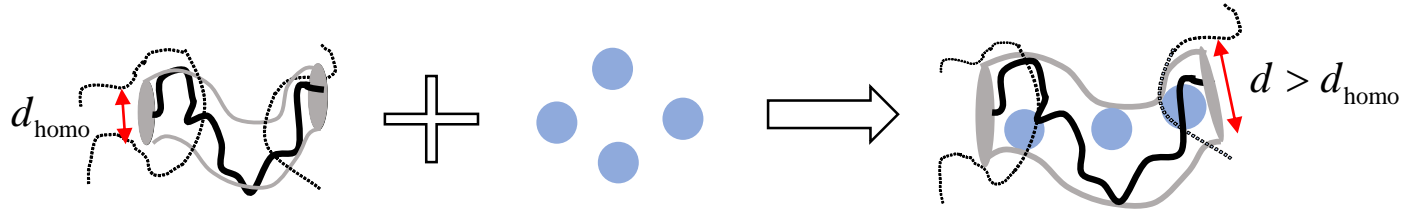
$$\eta_{bulk,Au-3nm} / \eta_{bulk,PEO} = (d_{PEO} / d_{PEO-3nmAu})^2$$

$$\approx 0.67 \pm 0.23$$

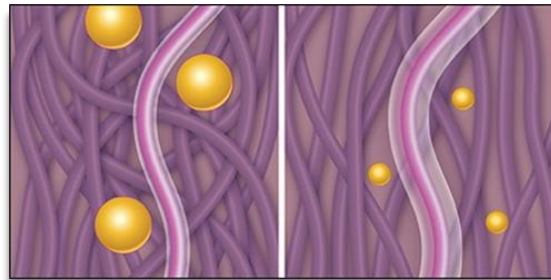
$$G_N^o \propto \frac{1}{N_{ent.}} \propto \frac{1}{d^2}$$

One would expect to see  $\sim 60\%$  decrease rubbery plateau.

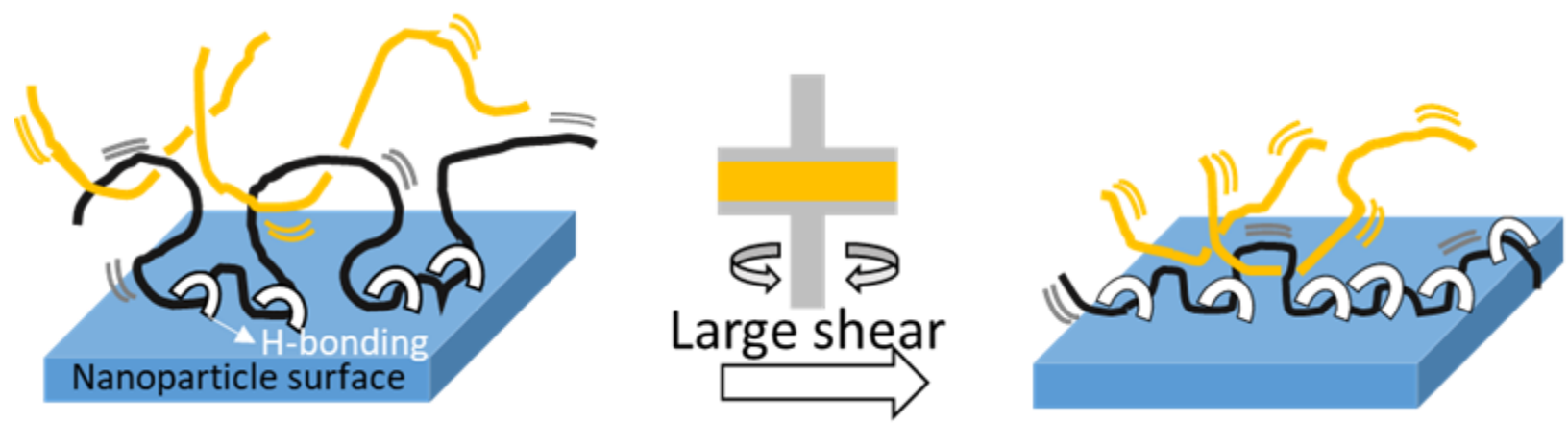
# Summary



- Chains disentangle when  $d_{\text{particle}} < d_{\text{tube}}$ . First direct experimental evidence.
- Rouse dynamics unaffected (at least in our athermal system).
- An explanation for non-Einstein-like viscosity decrease in polymer nanocomposites.

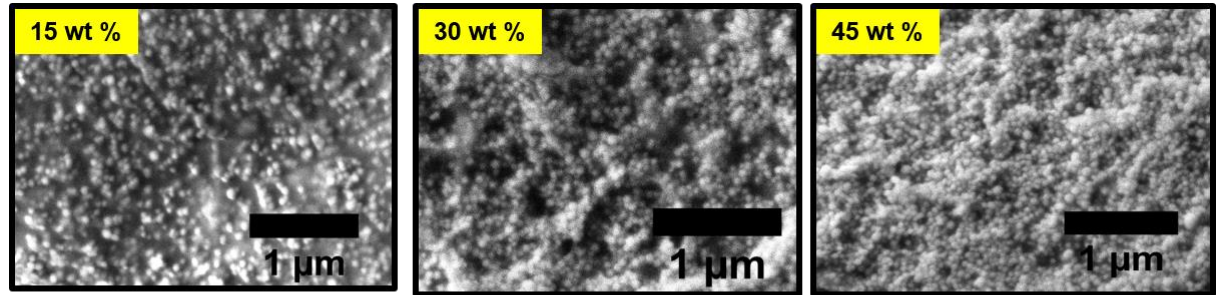
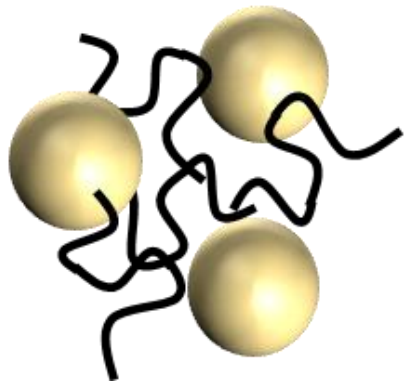


# Chain Dynamics in nanocomposites subjected to large deformations

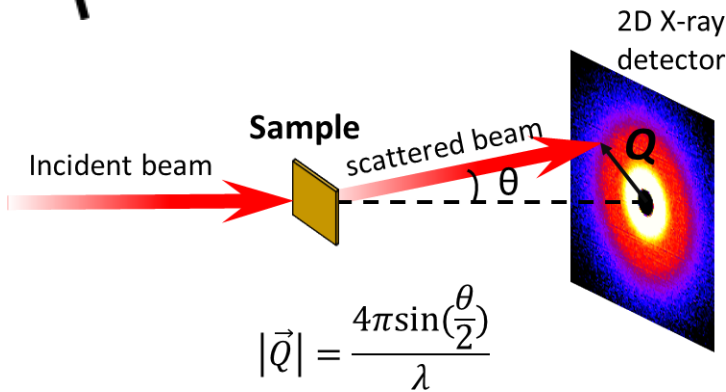


# Silica Particles in PolyEthylene Oxide

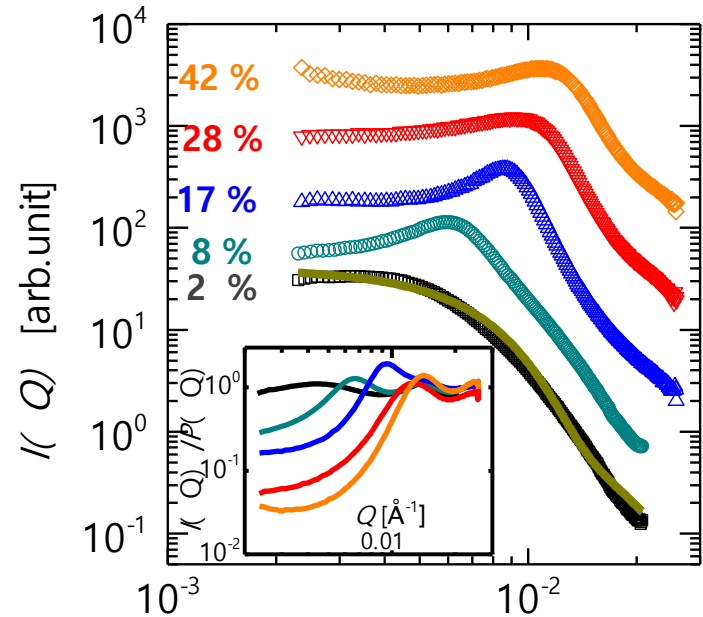
PEO (35 kg/mol,  $R_g \approx 7$  nm) / Silica (55 nm diameter)



E. Senses, et al., PRL, **119**, 237801 (2017).



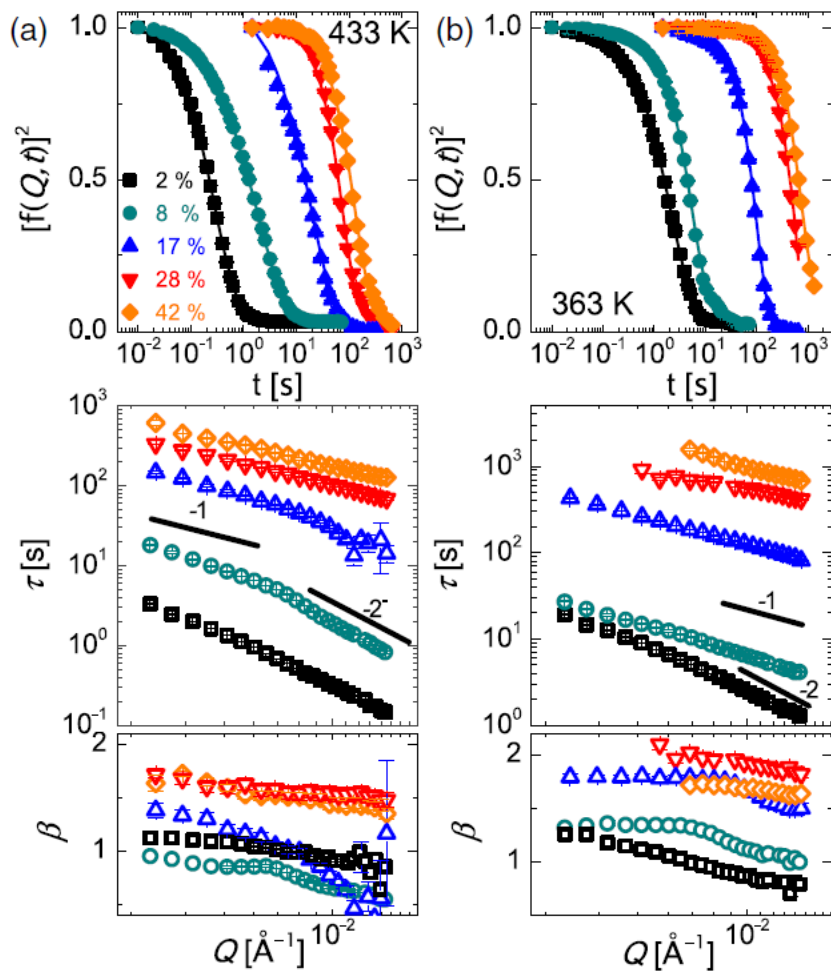
NP % mass (volume)	Face-to-face distance (h) [nm]		h/2R <sub>g</sub>
	SAXS	random packing	
5 (2.5)	-	93.8	-
15 (7.8)	52.3	48.5	3.74
30 (17.1)	21.8	26.4	1.56
45 (28.3)	14.8	14.9	1.06
60 (41.9)	5.1	7.2	0.51



# Nanoparticle Dynamics and Rheology Decoupling



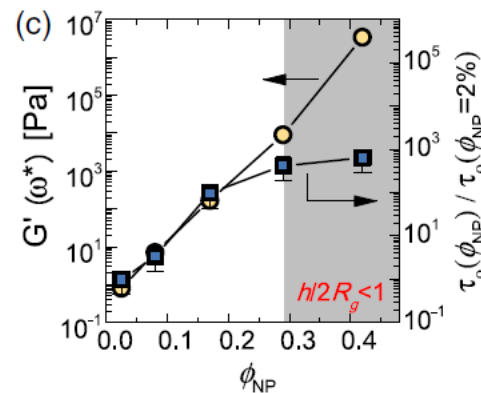
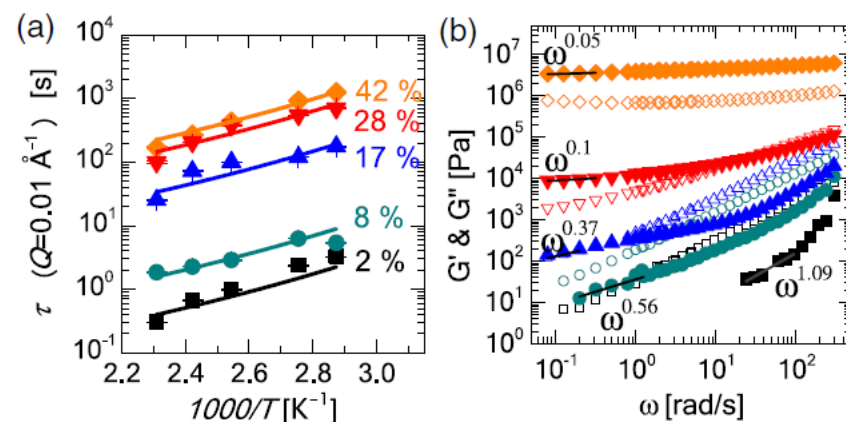
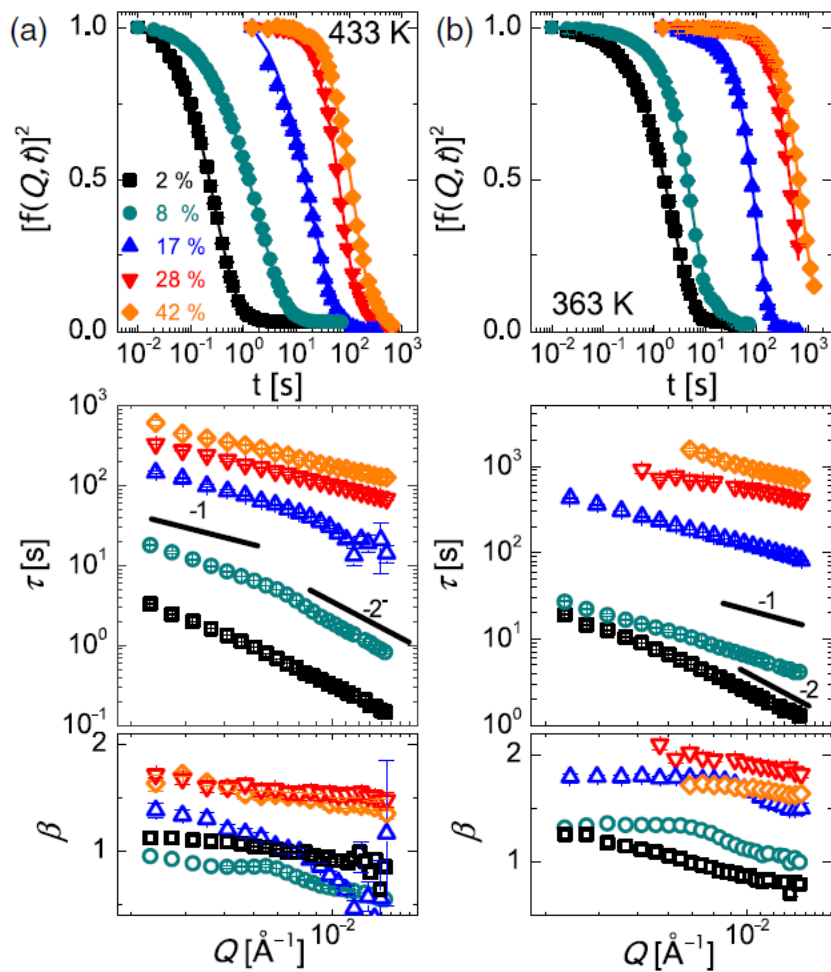
Nanoparticle  
Dynamics



# Nanoparticle Dynamics and Rheology Decoupling

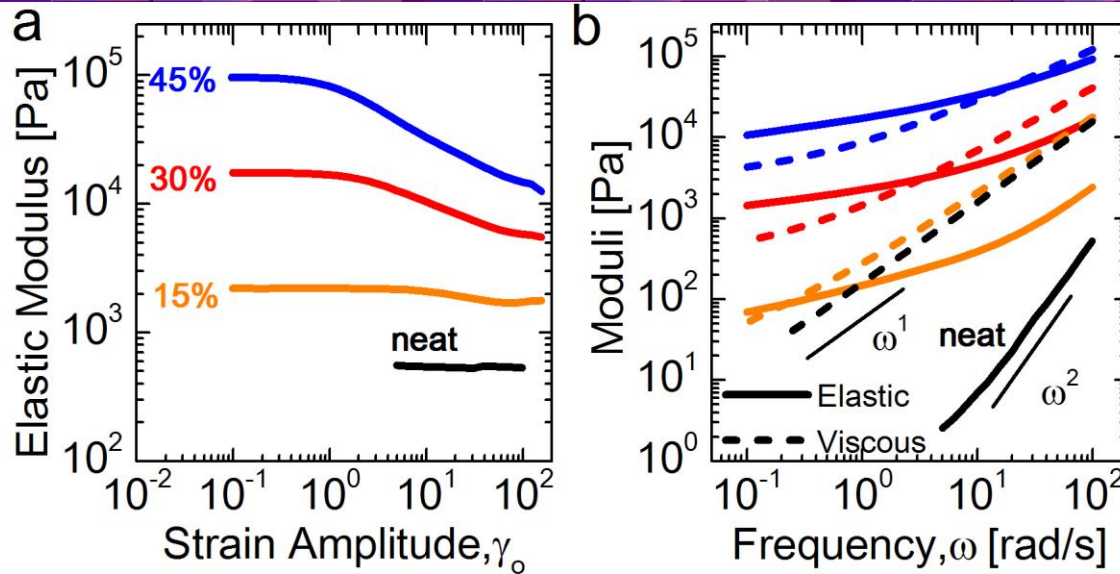


## Nanoparticle Dynamics

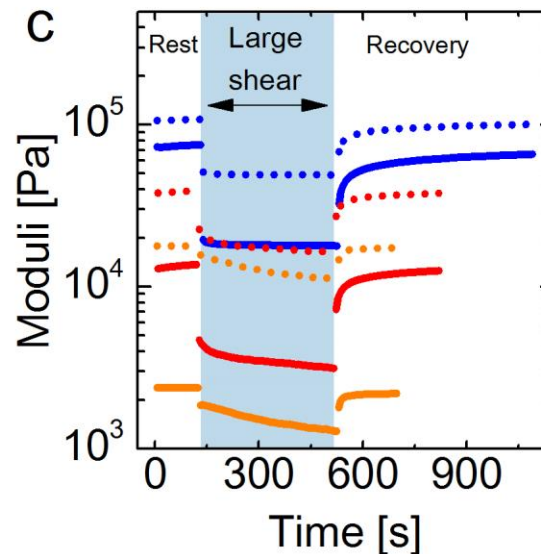




# Payne effect (Nanocomposites Subject to Large Deformations)

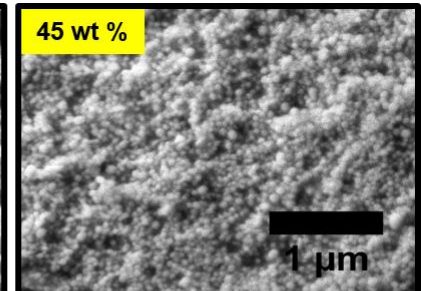
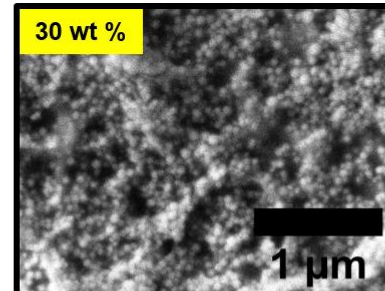
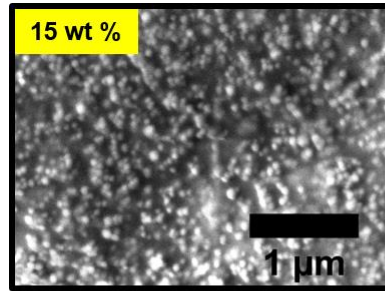
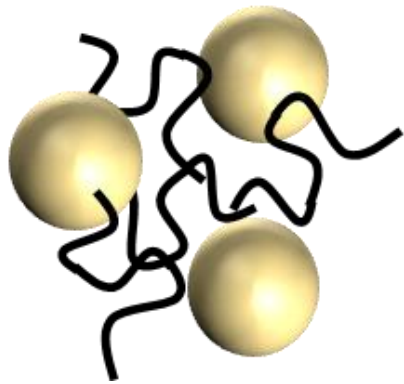


Narrowing linear regime  
in nanocomposites and  
large decrease in  
modulus with strain:  
**Payne Effect**

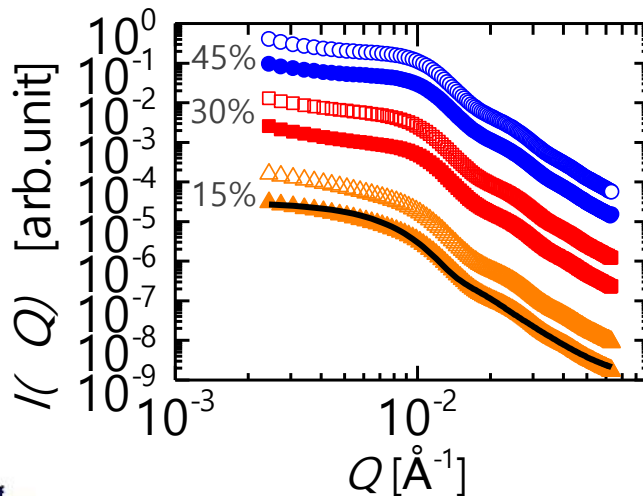
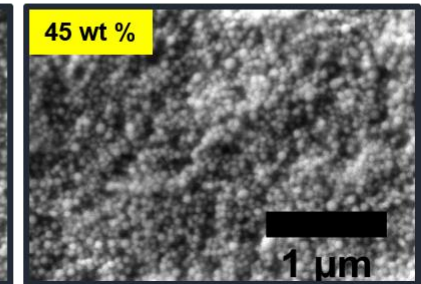
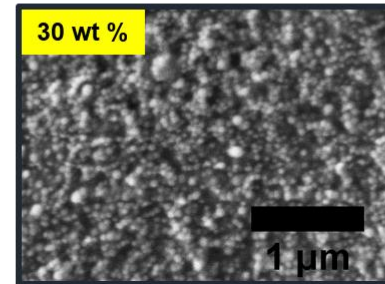


# Large Deformation Do Not Affect Structure

PEO (35 kg/mol,  $R_g \approx 7$  nm) / Silica (55 nm diameter)



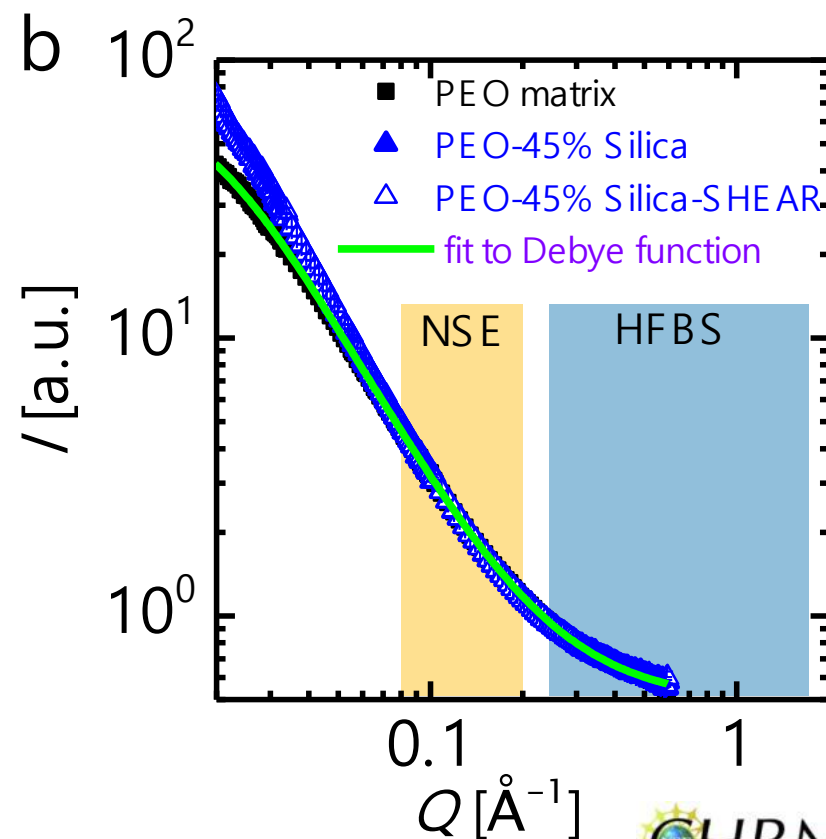
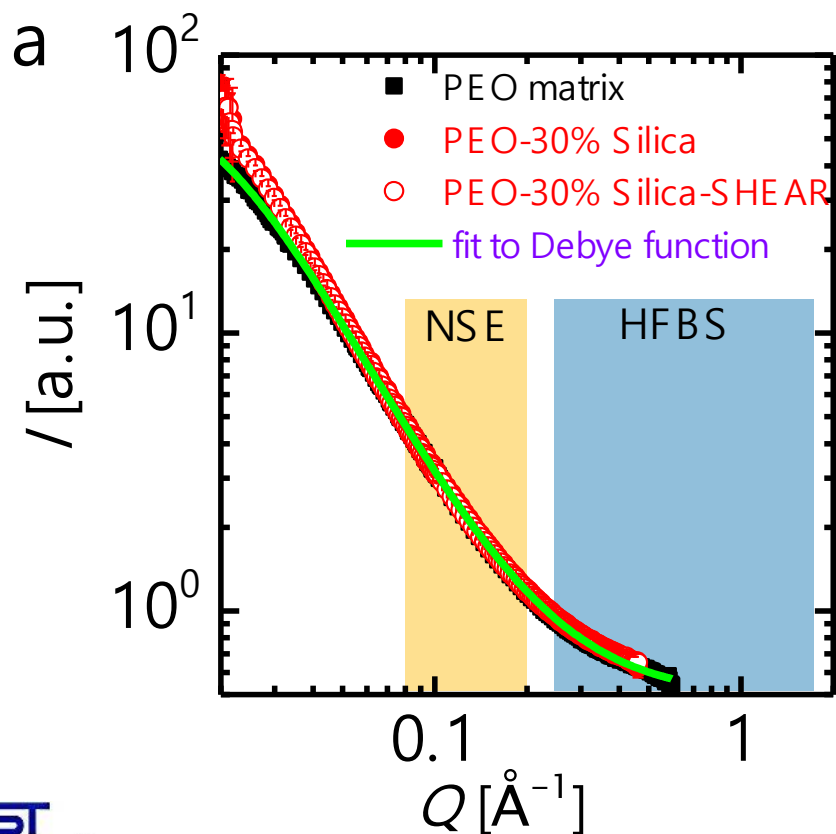
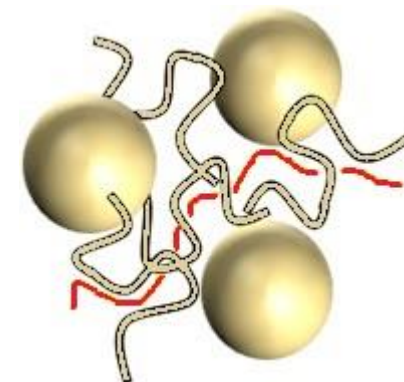
After  
Large Shear



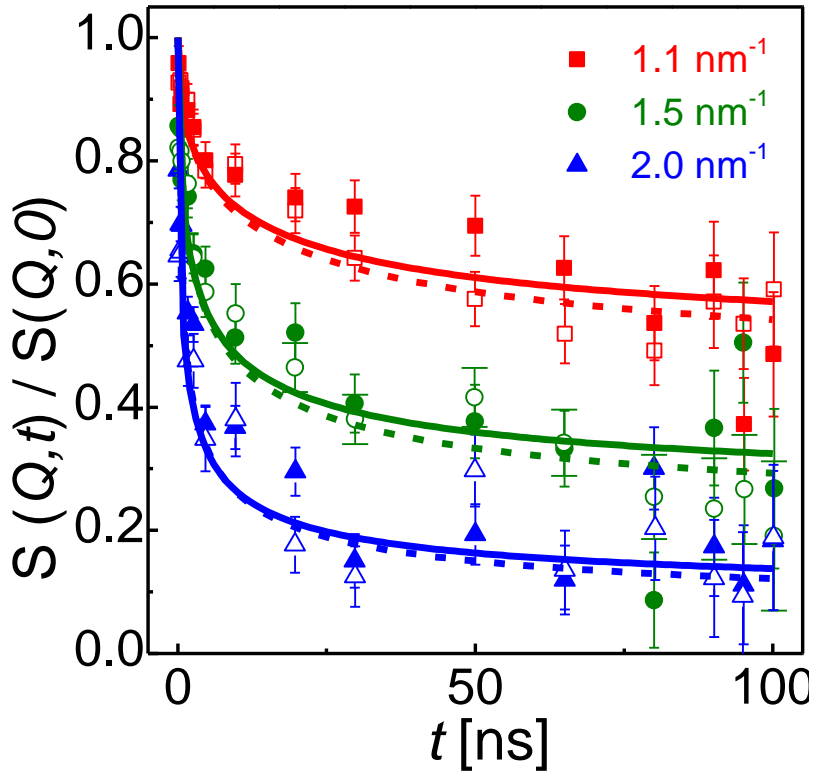
Open Symbols: After Shear

# Polymer Chains Conformation

Small Angle Neutron Scattering  
contrast matching  
h-PEO/d-PEO 48/52 + Silica



# Reptation Tube Diameter



**Single-chain dynamic structure factor:**  
(de Gennes formulation)

$$\frac{S(Q,t)}{S(Q,0)} = [1 - \exp(-\frac{Q^2 d^2}{36})] S^{local}(Q,t) + \exp(-\frac{Q^2 d^2}{36}) S^{esc}(Q,t)$$

$$S^{local}(Q,t) = \exp(t/\tau_o) \text{erfc}(\sqrt{t/\tau_o})$$

$$\tau_o = 36/(Wl^4 Q^4)$$

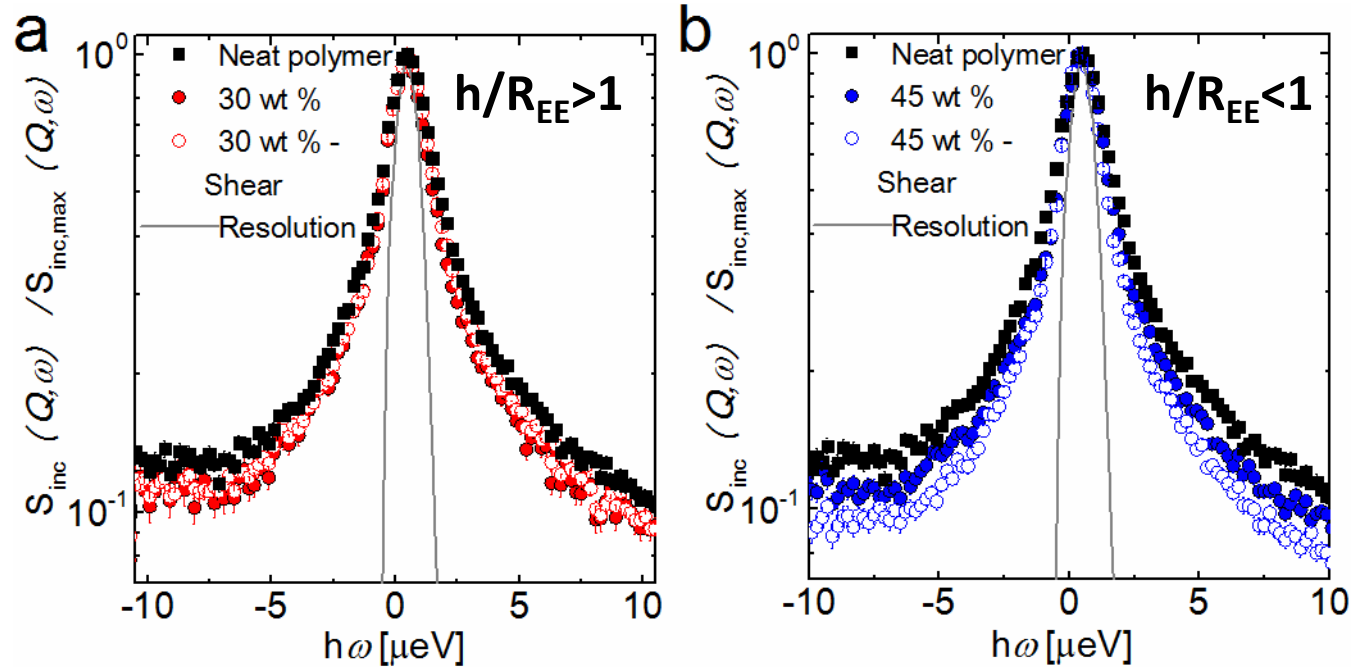
Escape of a chain from its original tube

$$S^{esc}(Q,t) = 1 \quad (\text{for NSE timescale})$$

**Fitting to de-Gennes equation for  $t > 50$  ns, the tube diameter is found ( $\approx 5$  nm)**

**Entanglements are not modified after shear and recovery**

# Segmental Dynamics

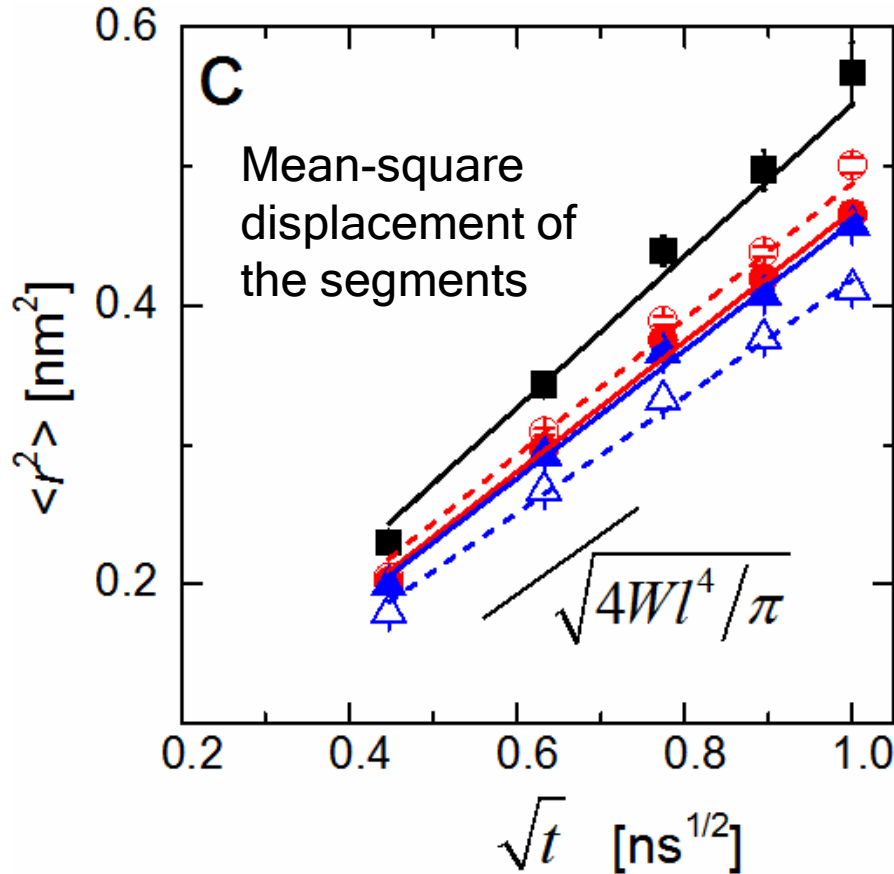


Sample	$WI^4$ [nm <sup>4</sup> /ns]
Neat PEO	$0.182 \pm 0.006$
PEO-30 % by weight SiO <sub>2</sub>	$0.140 \pm 0.005$
PEO-30 % by weight SiO <sub>2</sub> -SHEAR	$0.138 \pm 0.004$
PEO-45 % by weight SiO <sub>2</sub>	$0.129 \pm 0.003$
PEO-45 % by weight SiO <sub>2</sub> -SHEAR	$0.106 \pm 0.003$

Rouse-rate **decreases with nanoparticle** concentration.

It **further decreases after large shear.**

# Segmental Dynamics



Fourier transform of the QENS spectra

Gaussian Approximation

Rouse dynamics with characteristic rate:  $Wl^4$

$$S_{self}(Q, t) = \exp \left\{ -\frac{Q^2}{6} \langle r(t) \rangle^2 \right\}$$

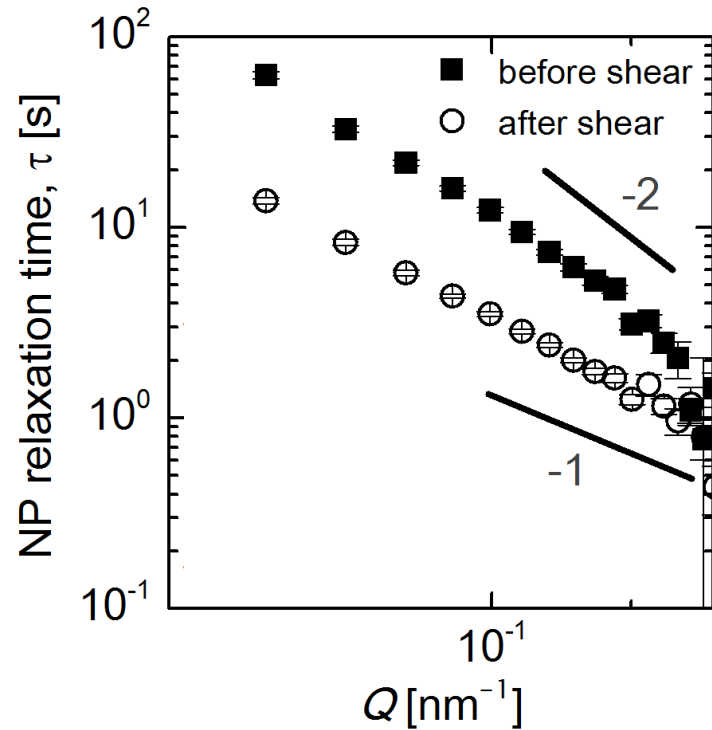
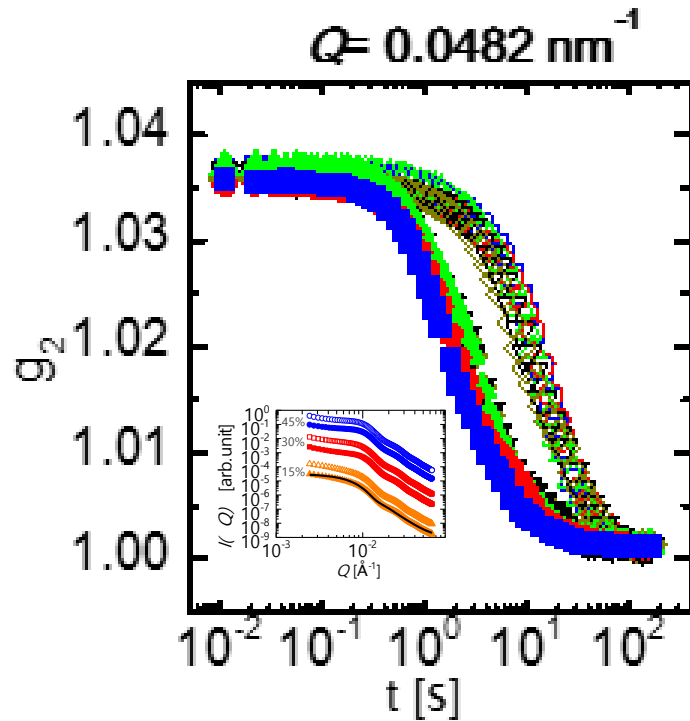
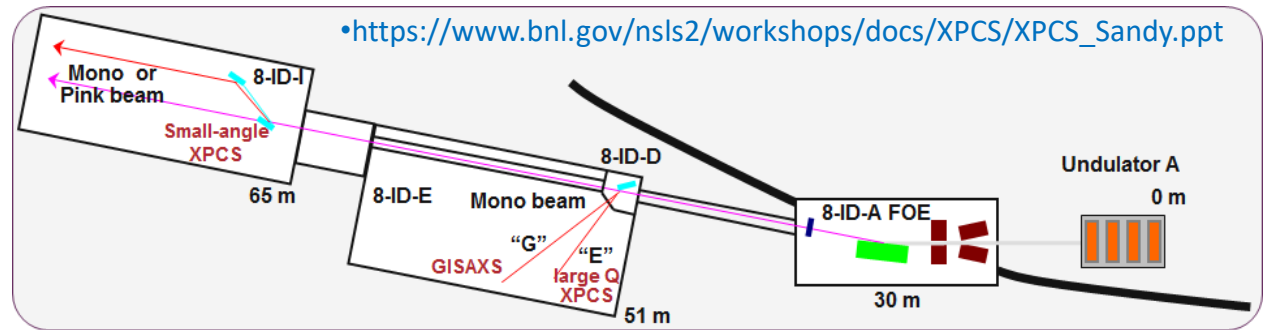
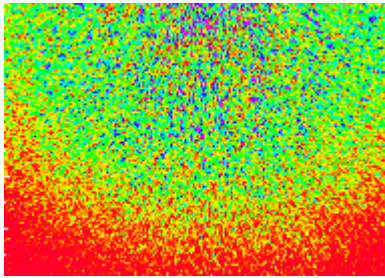
$$\langle r(t) \rangle^2 = 2\sqrt{Wl^4 t / \pi}$$

Rouse-rate **decreases with nanoparticle** concentration.

It **further decreases after large shear**.

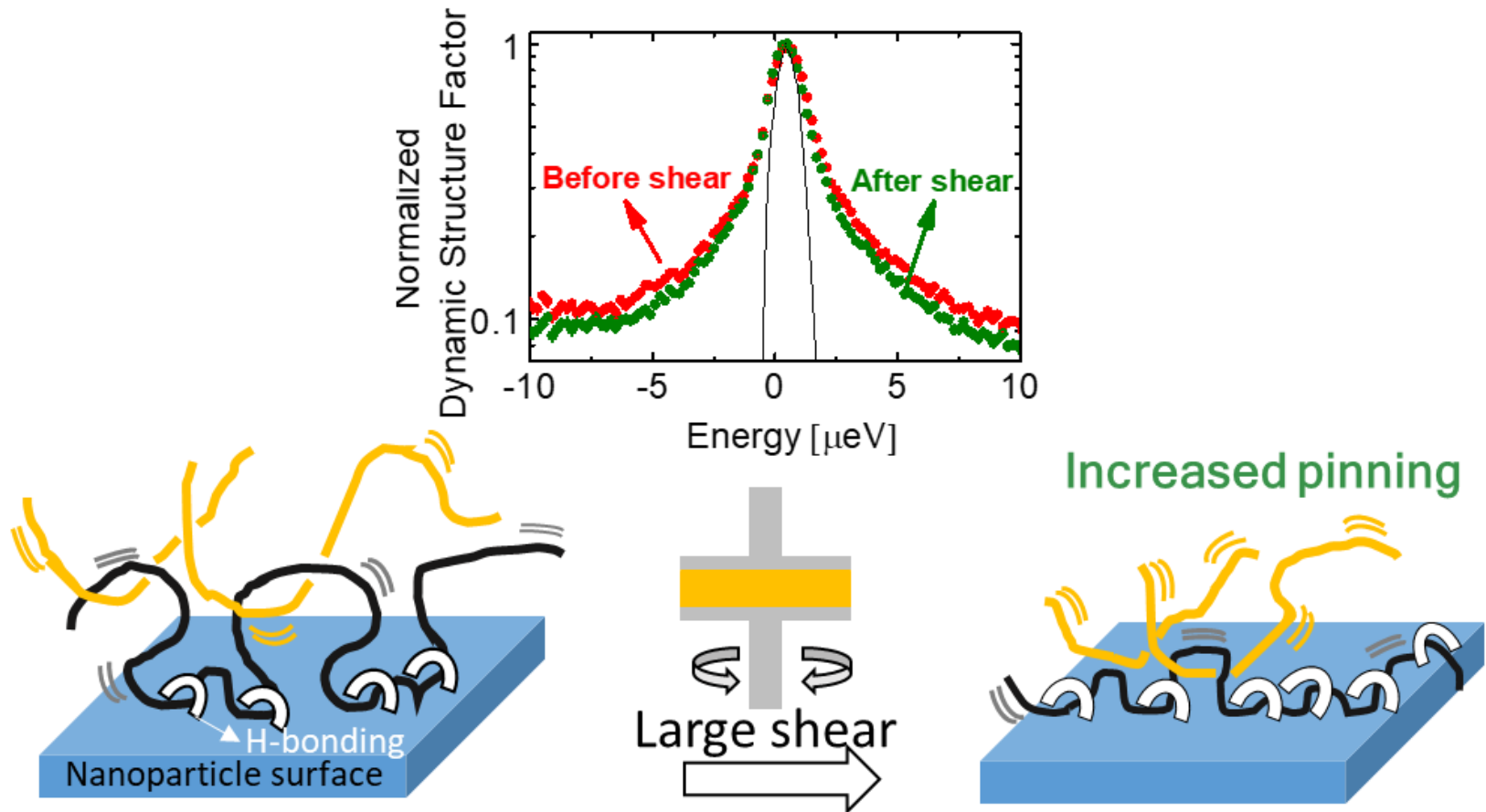
# Nanoparticle Dynamics - XPCS

<https://www.aps.anl.gov/Sector-8/8-ID>



**Particles speed-up after large shear**

# Summary



**Backscattering shows enhanced pinning**



# Conclusion

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- QENS data indicate that the viscosity reduction in athermal PNC with nanoparticles smaller than the entanglement size originates from a dilation of the reptation tube.
- In attractive PNC subjected to LAOS, an increased pinning which could originate disentanglement of the interphase region, and therefore fluidization, was observed.

# Summary

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- QENS and NSE provide information on the nanoscopic dynamics in polymer nanocomposites
- These microscopic insights can be related to macroscopic behavior, providing an explanation for the rheological properties
- An accurate knowledge of the structure, the combined use of several methods, and the exploitation of isotopic substitution techniques are key elements of the research.