

Multiscale modelling in Materials Science

James Elliott

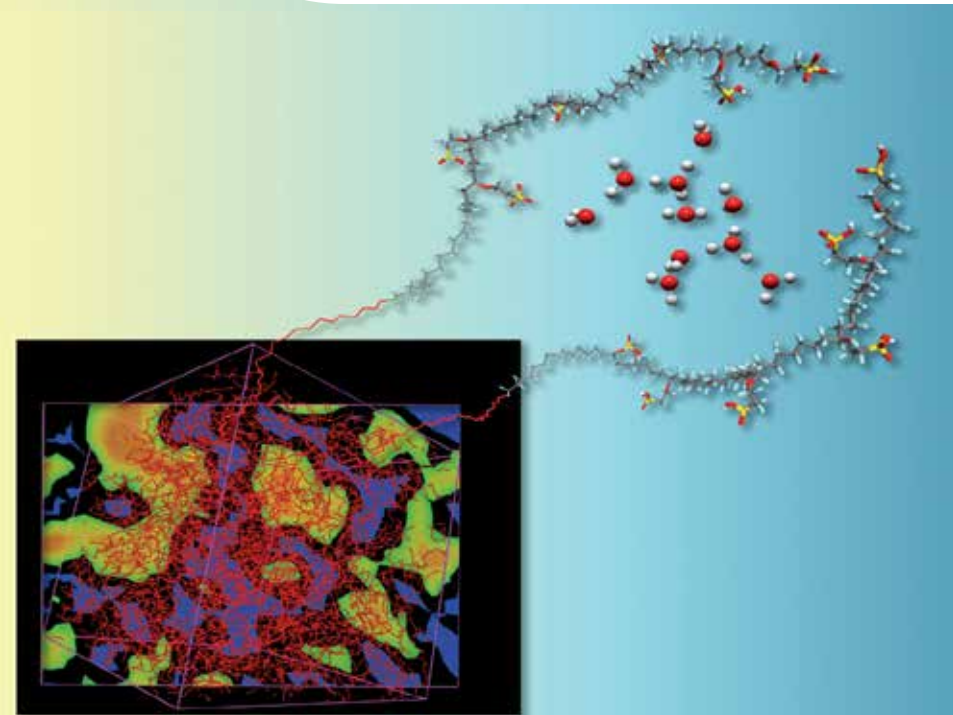
(Джеймс Эллиотт)

Head of Materials Modelling Group

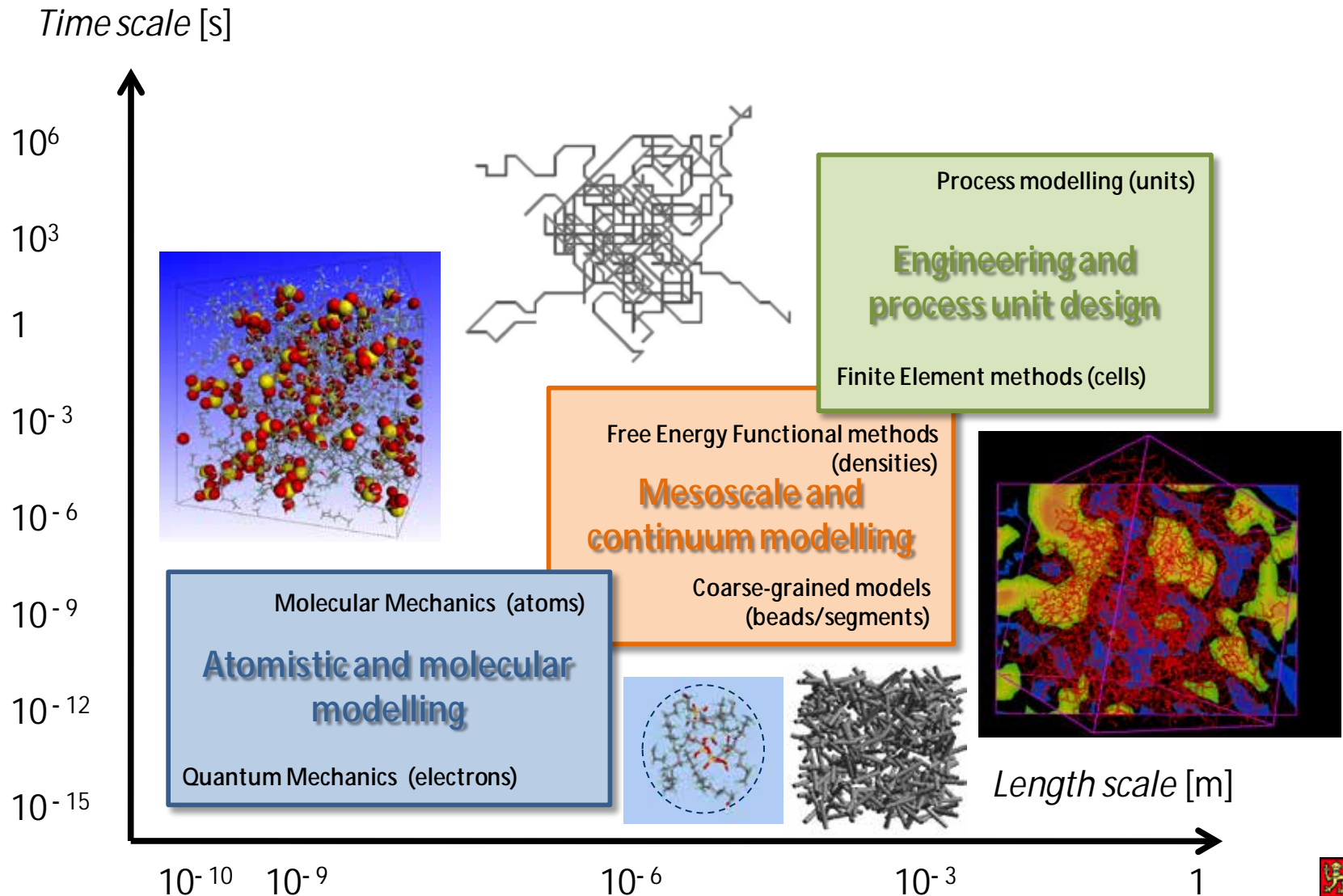
Department of Materials Science & Metallurgy

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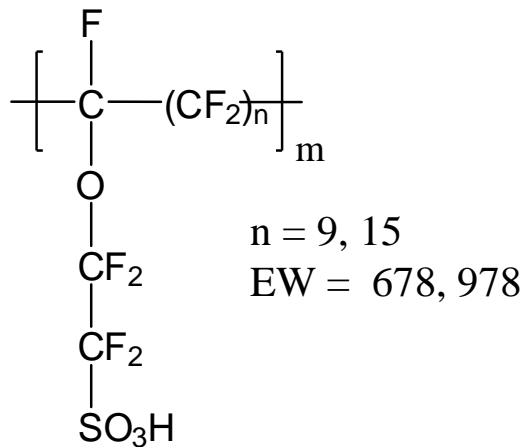


Multiscale Hierarchy for Materials Modelling

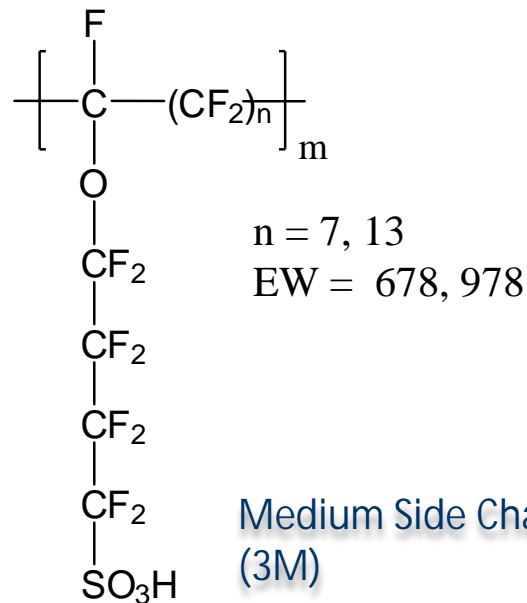


Polymer electrolyte membranes for fuel cells

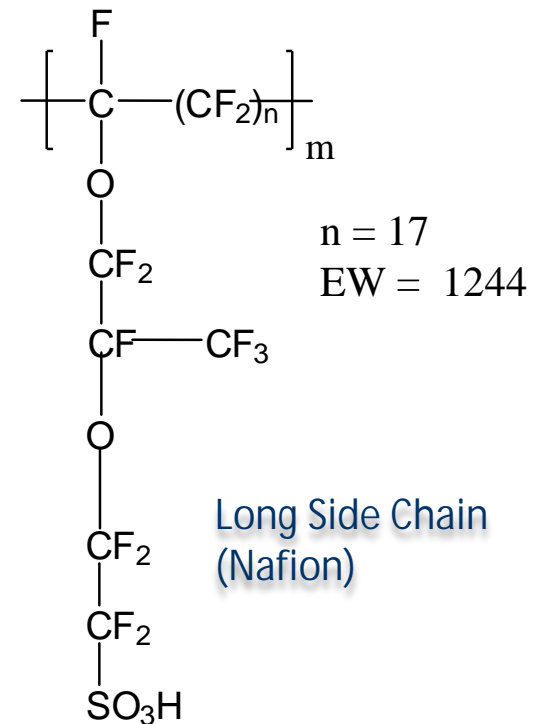
I Structural family of PerFluoroSulphonic Acid (PFSA) ionomers



Short Side Chain (SSC, Dow, Aquavion)



Medium Side Chain (3M)

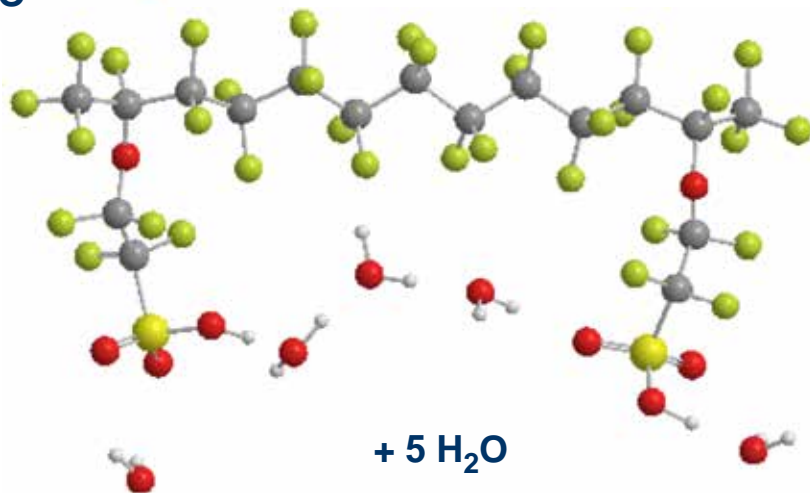
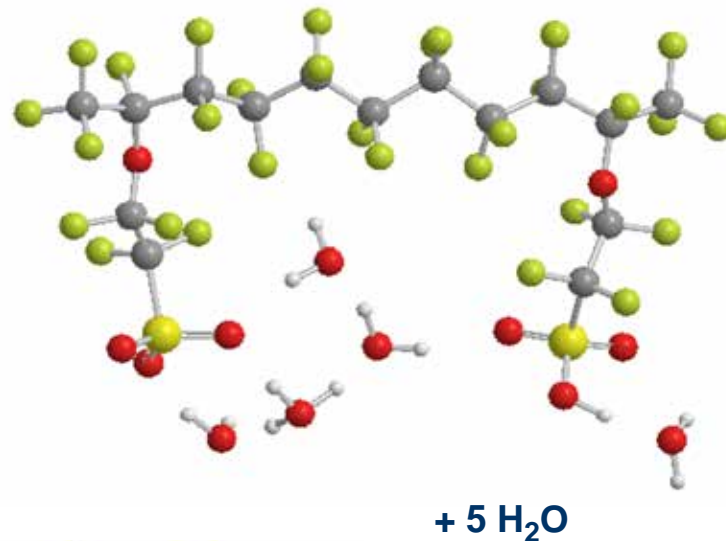
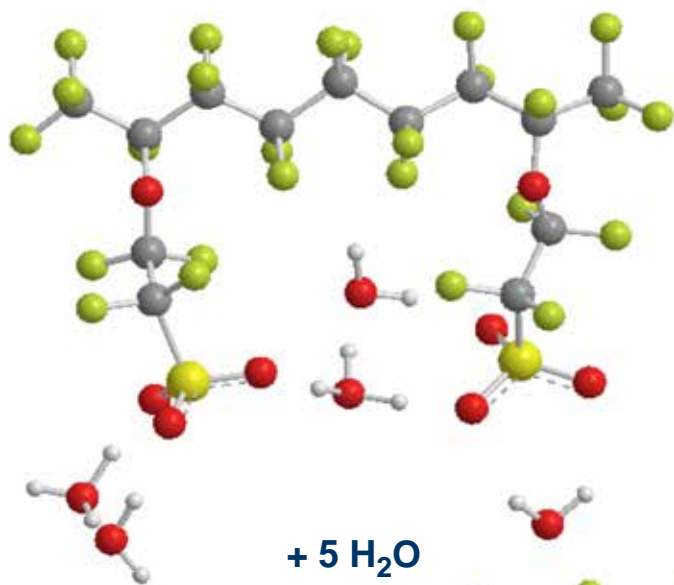


Long Side Chain (Nafion)

- I Differ only by the *length* and *distribution* of side chains
- I How do differences in chemical structure affect the material and functional properties of membrane?



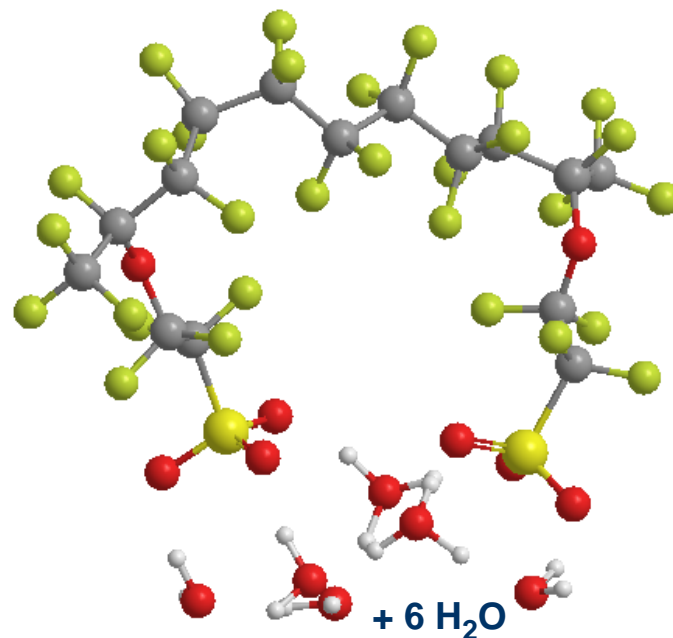
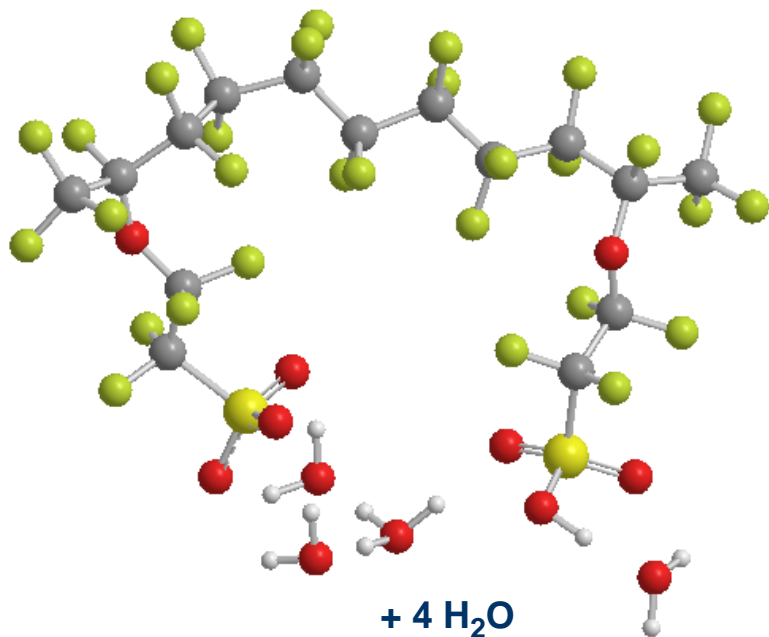
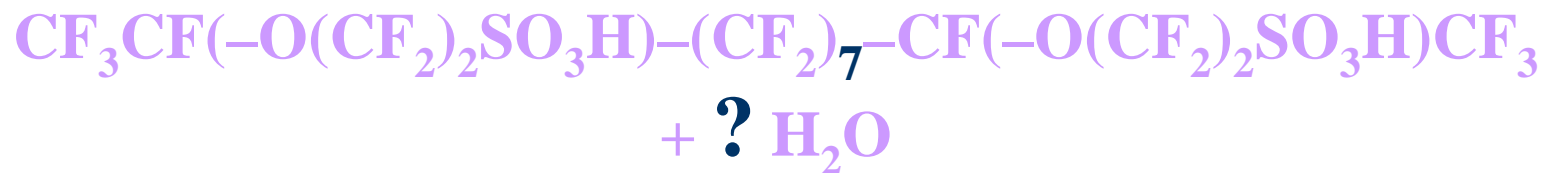
Proton *dissociation* vs. side chain separation



B3LYP/6-311G**



Proton *dissociation* vs. water content



B3LYP/6-311G**

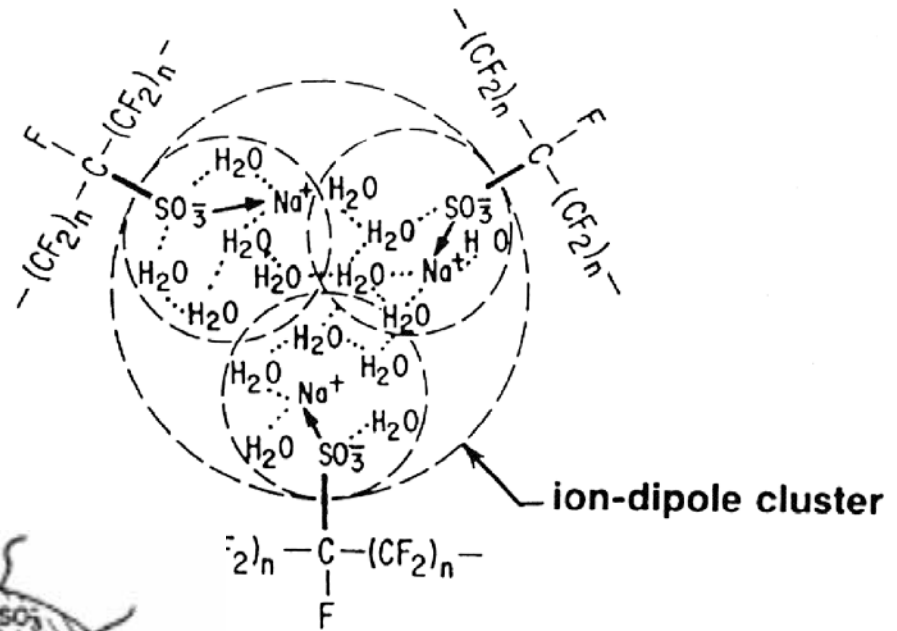
[1] Paddison SJ & Elliott JA, *Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys.* **8**, 2193-2203 (2006)

[2] Paddison SJ & Elliott JA, *Solid State Ionics* **177**, 2385-2390 (2006).

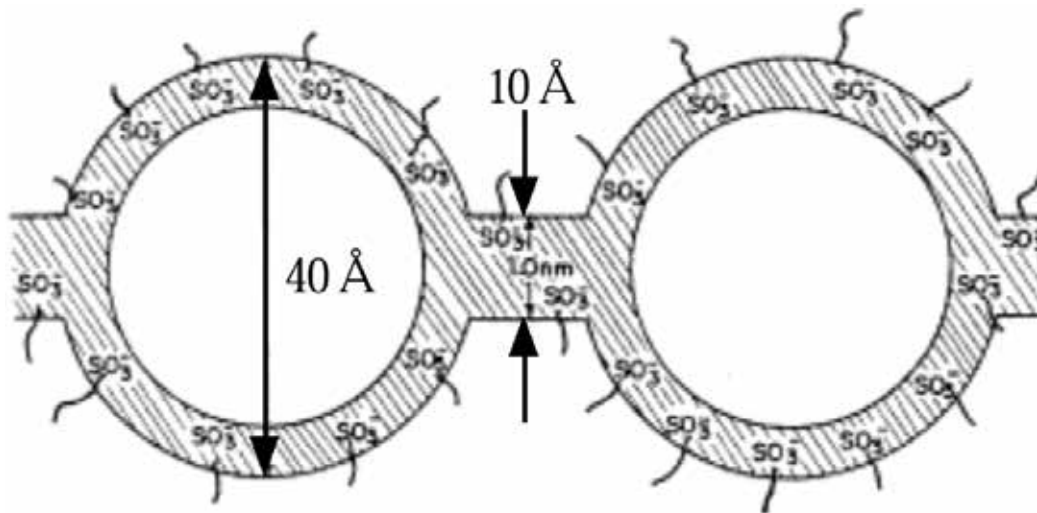


Early models for aggregation in ionomers

I Multiplet & cluster model [1]



I Cluster-network model [2]

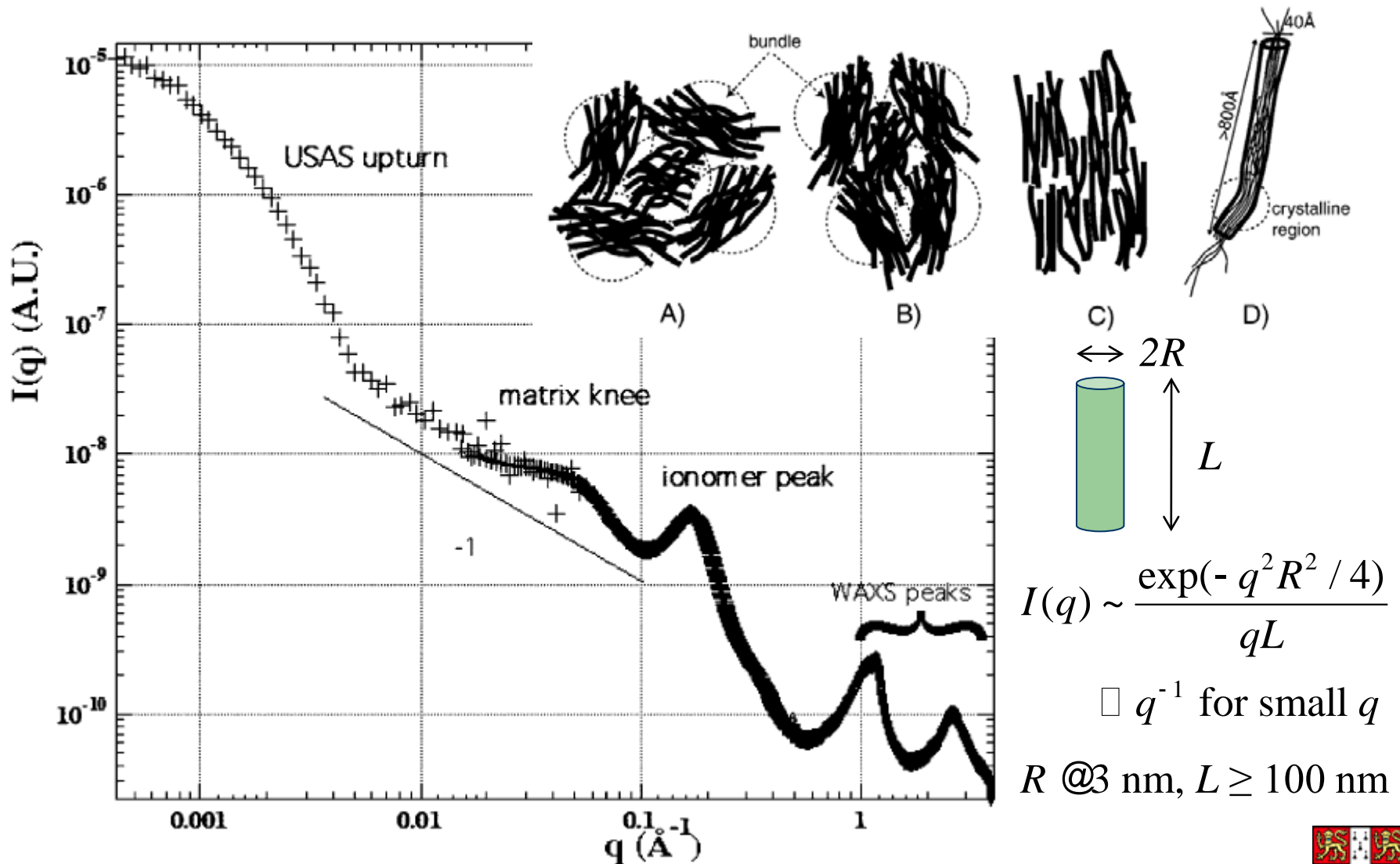


[1] Mauritz, KA, Hora, CJ & Hopfinger, AJ *Ions in polymers* Adv. Chem. Series No. 187 (1980)

[2] Hsu, WY & Gierke, TD *J. Membrane Sci.* **13**, 307-326 (1983)



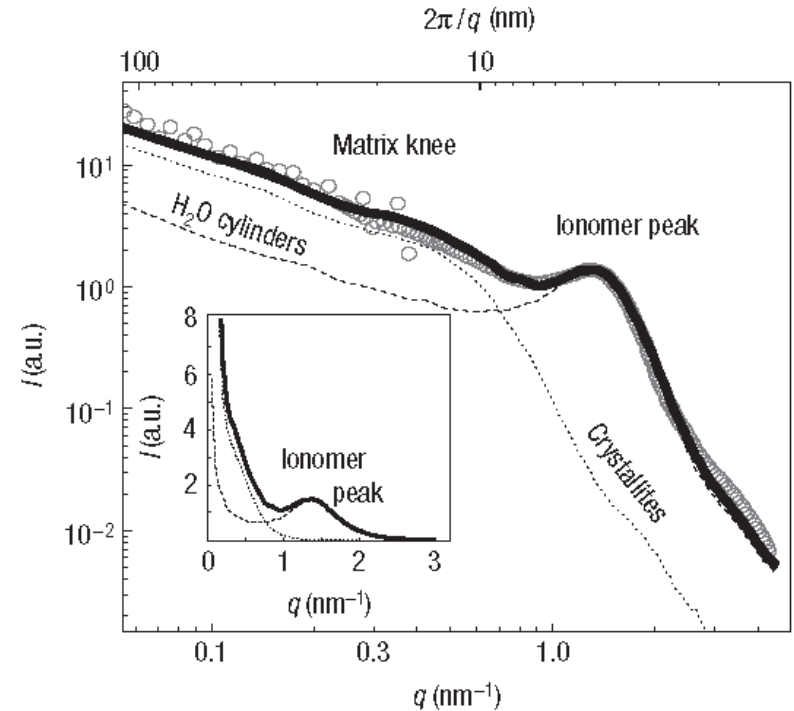
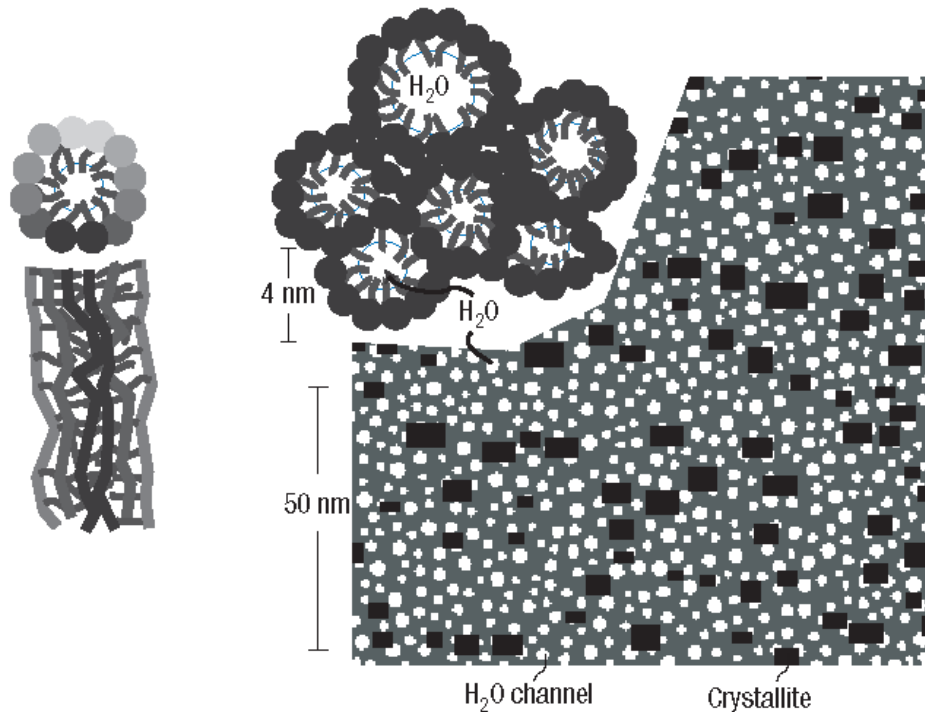
Fibrillar model of Grenoble group (Diat, Gebel)



- [1] Rubatat L, Rollet AL, Gebel G & Diat O *Macromolecules* **35**, 4050-4055 (2002).
 [2] van der Heijden, PC, Rubatat, L & Diat, O *Macromolecules* **37**, 5327-5336 (2004)



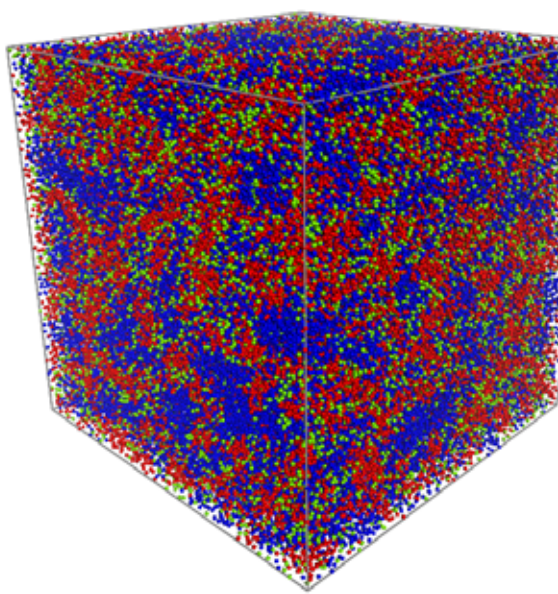
Parallel cylinder model of Schmidt-Rohr



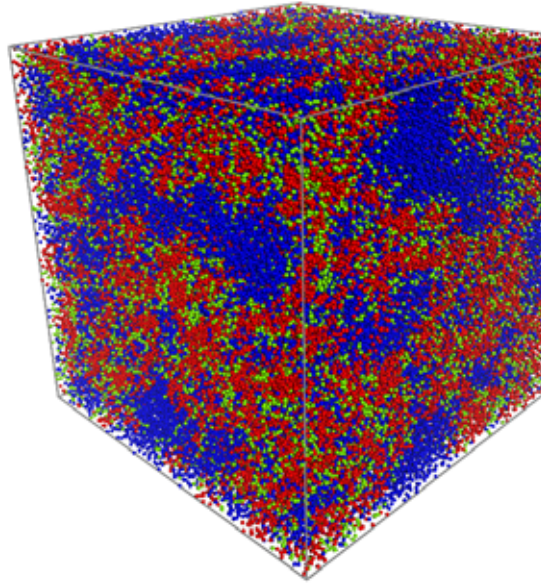
- | Cylindrical water-filled channels (white) and crystallites (black) ($L > 100$ nm) running perpendicular to the plane of slide
- | Scattering profile calculated numerically (via FFT) from 2D charge distribution before being averaged in 1D



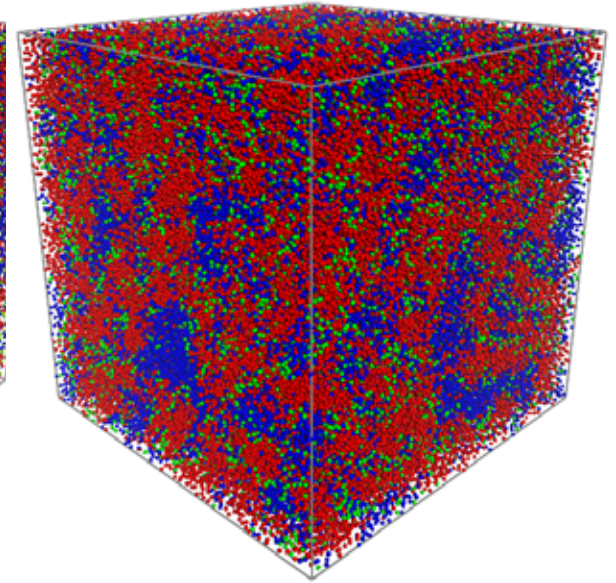
Simulating PFSA morphology using DPD



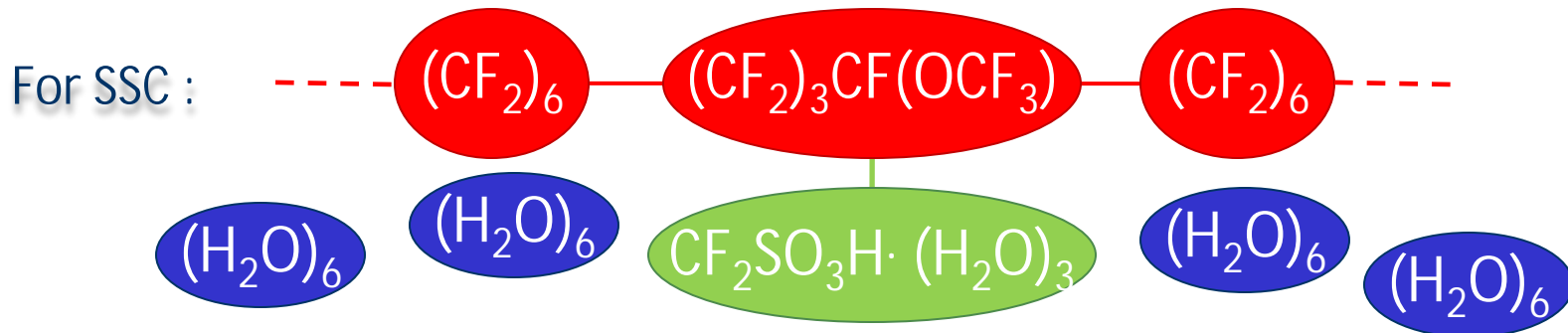
Short Side Chain (SSC)
EW = 678, I = 16



Medium Side Chain (3M)
EW = 678, I = 16



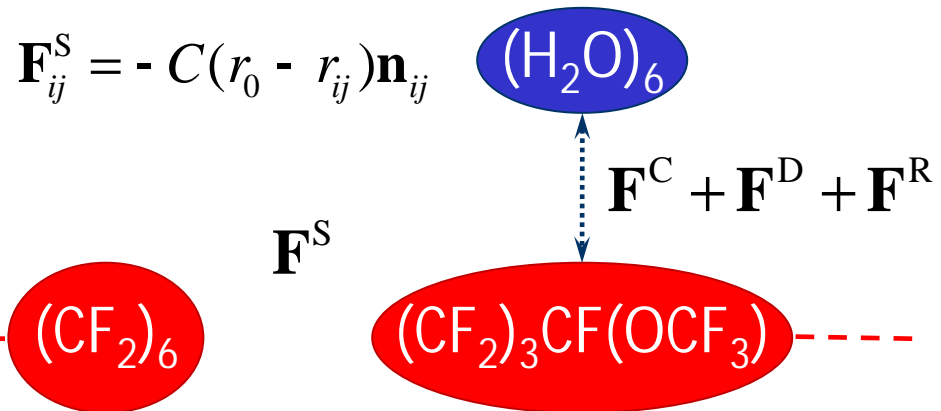
Long Side Chain (Nafion)
EW = 1244, I = 16



DPD parameterization procedure

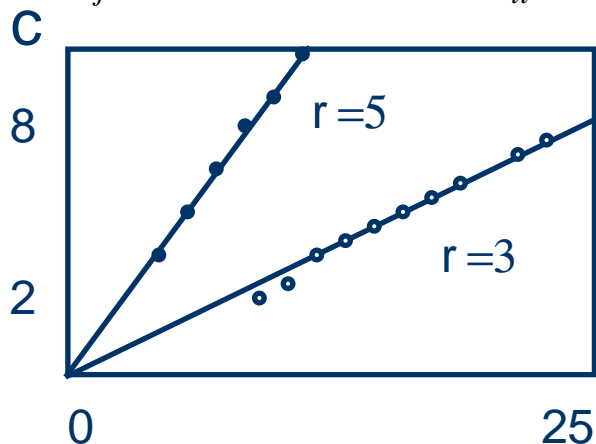
- Each bead acted on by pairwise sum of forces over neighbours

$$\mathbf{f}_i = \mathring{\mathbf{a}}_{j^1 i} (\mathbf{F}_{ij}^C + \mathbf{F}_{ij}^D + \mathbf{F}_{ij}^R + \mathbf{F}_{ij}^S).$$



$$\mathbf{F}_{ij}^C = \begin{cases} -a_{ij}(r_c - r_{ij})\mathbf{n}_{ij} & r_{ij} < r_c \\ 0 & r_{ij} \geq r_c \end{cases}$$

$$a_{ij} = a_{ii} + 3.27c \quad a_{ii} = 25k_B T$$



[1]

$$\frac{a_{ij} - a_{ii}}{k_B T}$$

[2]

Pair ^a	χ	$a_{ij} (k_B T)$
A-B	0.15	25.5
A-C	6.86	47.4
A-W	3.28	35.7
B-C	6.24	45.4
B-W	3.15	35.3
C-W	1.24	29.0

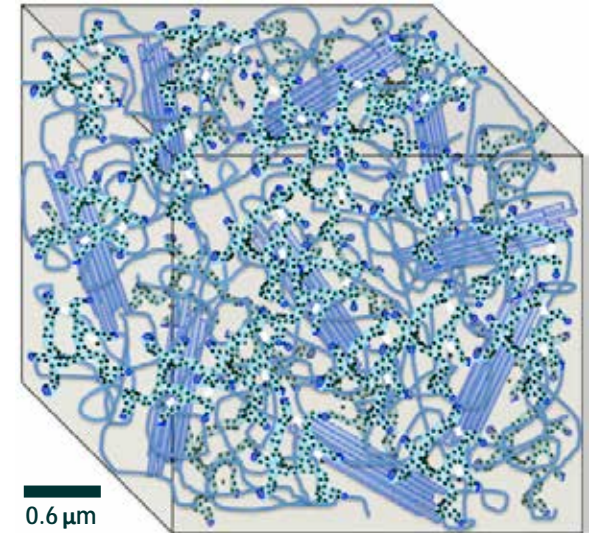
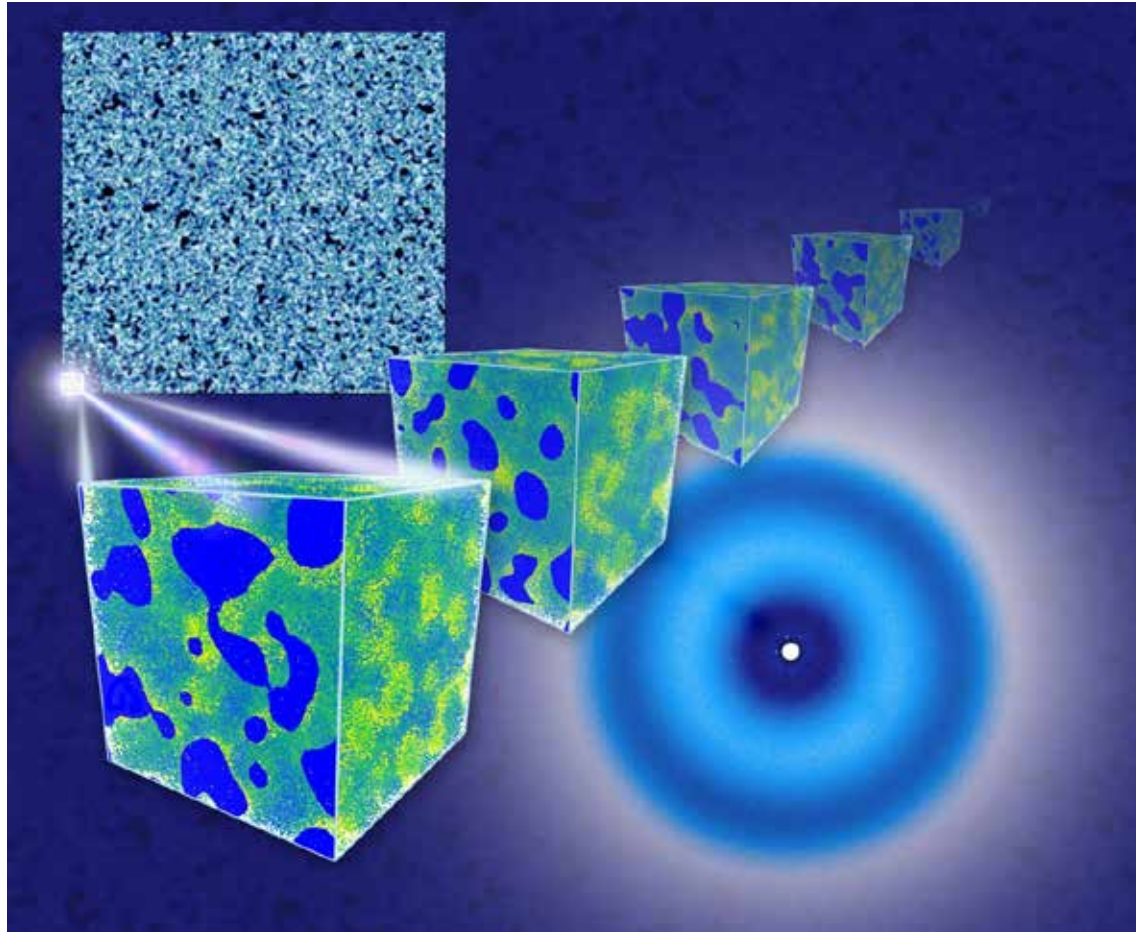
^aA, $-\text{[CF}_2\text{]}_6^-$; B, $-\text{[CF}_2\text{]}_3\text{CF(OCF}_3\text{)}^-$; C, $\text{CF}_3\text{SO}_3\text{H}\cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$; and W, $6\text{H}_2\text{O}$.

[1] Groot RD & Warren PB, *J. Chem. Phys.* **107** 4423-4435 (1997).

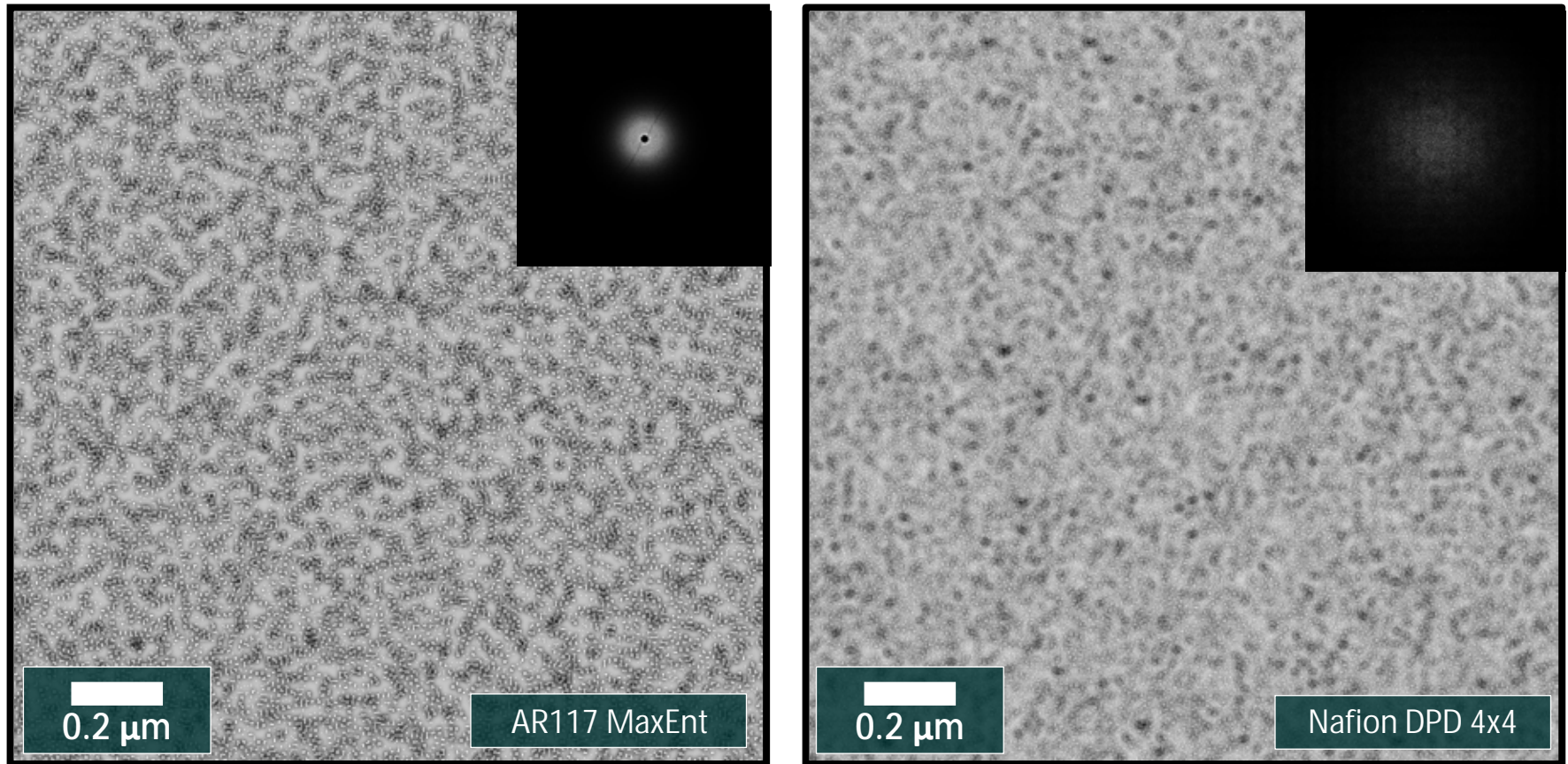
[2] Wu D, Paddison SJ & Elliott JA, *Energy Environ. Sci.* **1**, 284-293 (2008).



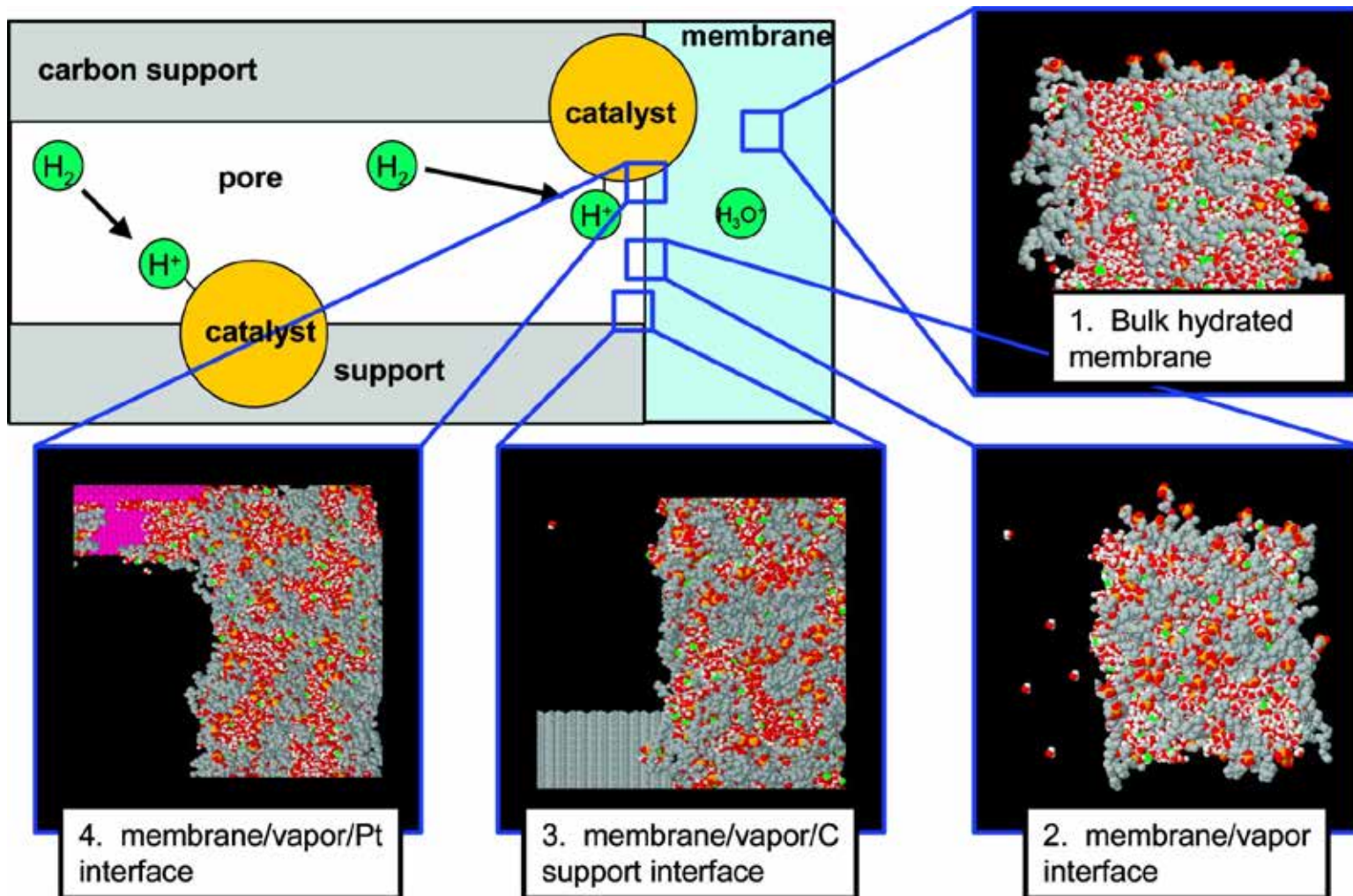
Unified morphology from DPD and SAXS models



Comparison of 2D SAXS data from MaxEnt and DPD



Electrode/electrolyte interfaces at PEM cell anode

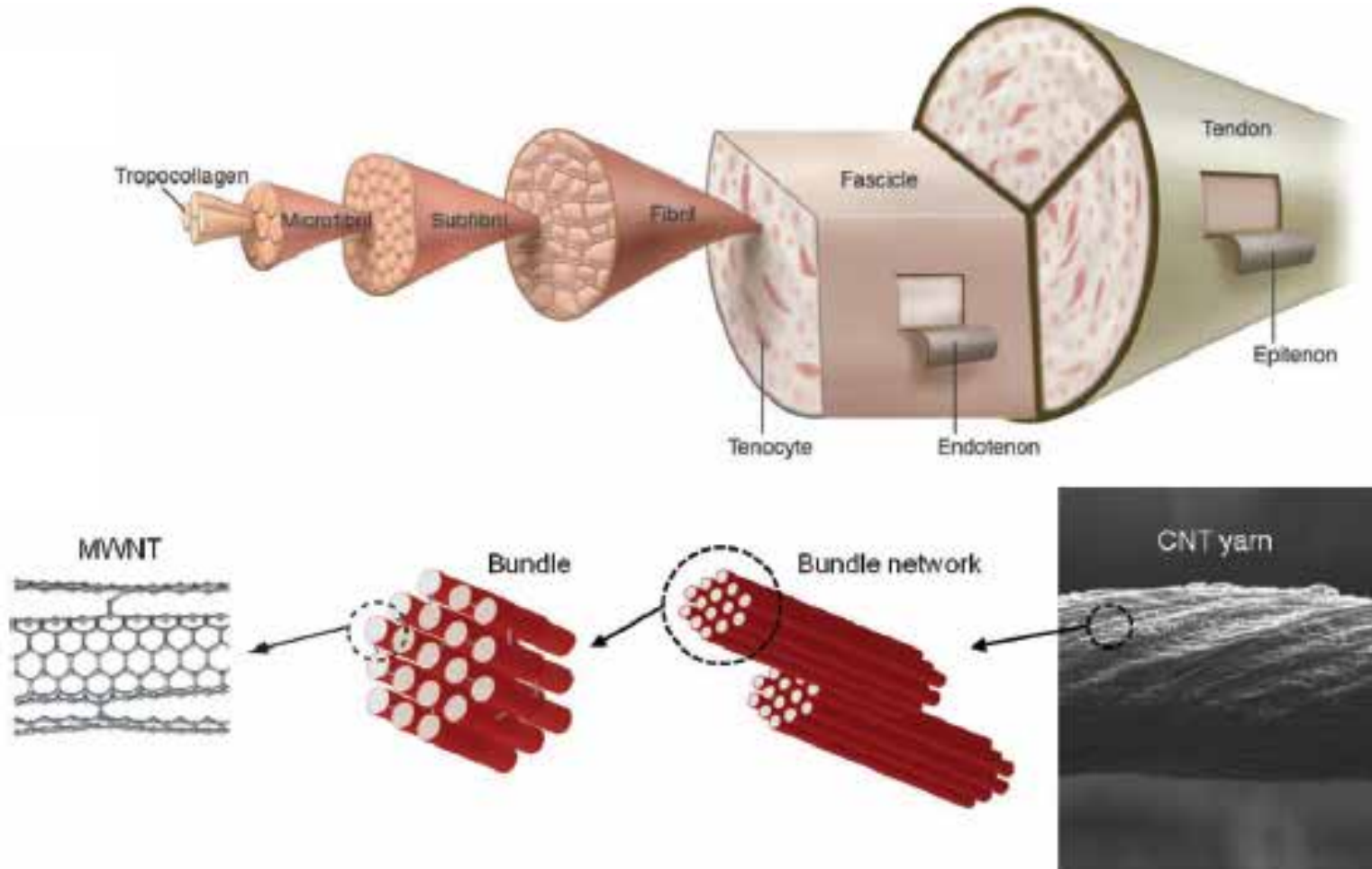


Summary of nanocomposite morphology

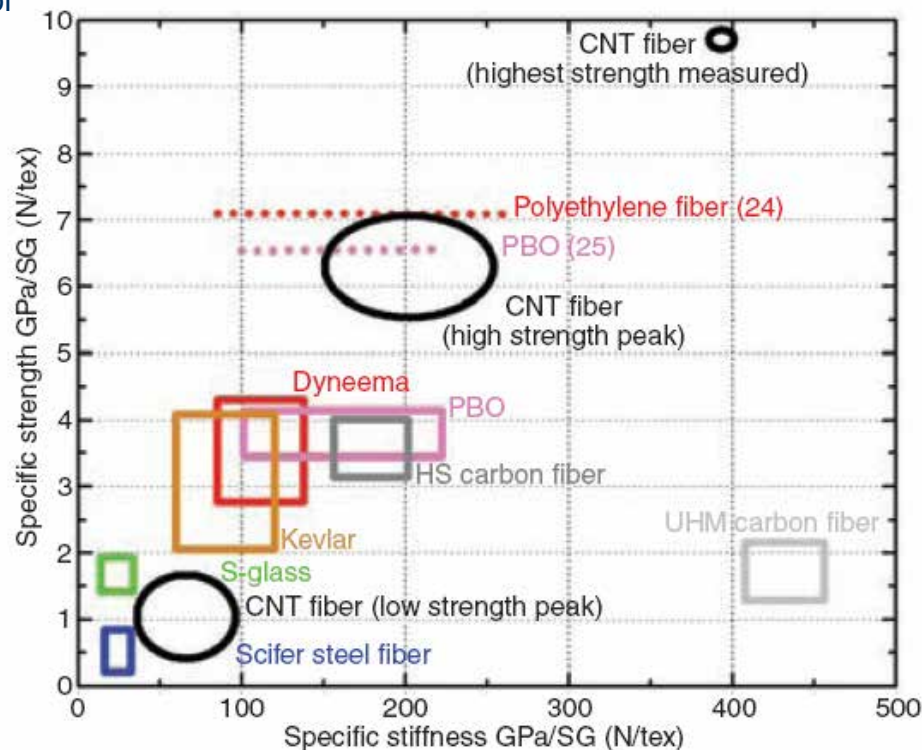
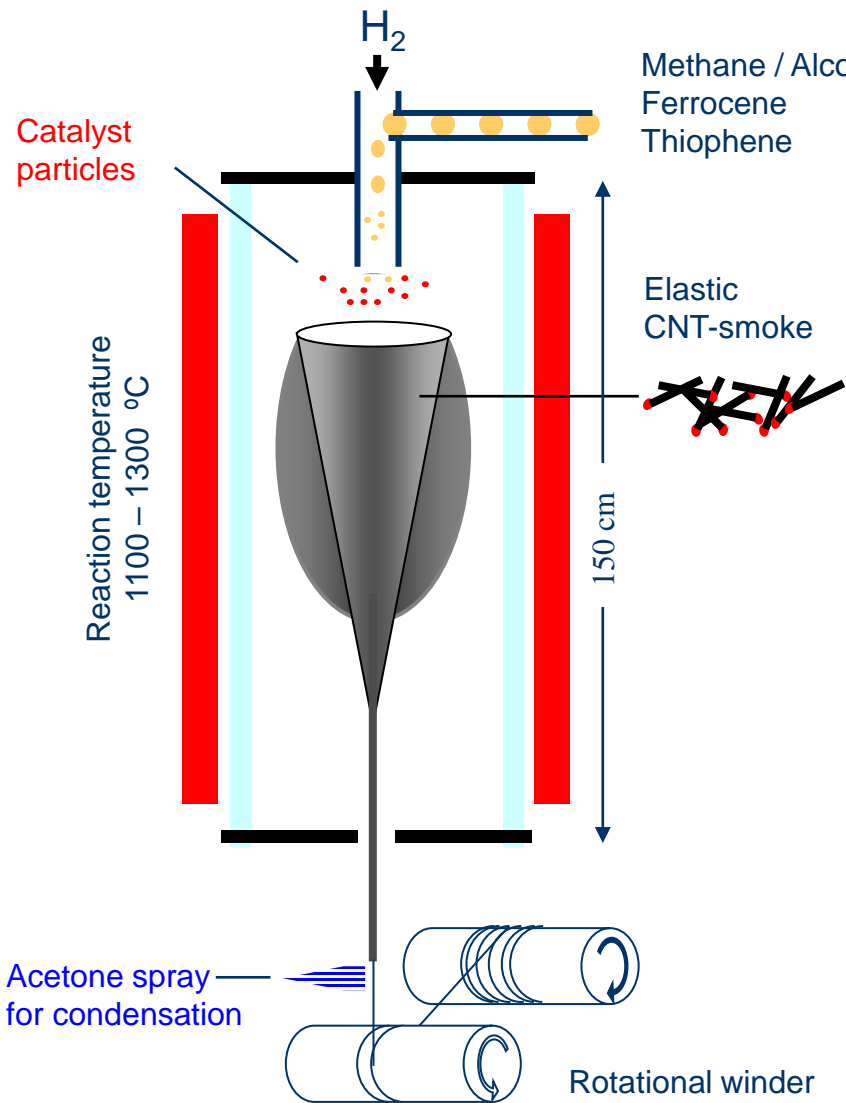
- | Confinement of polymeric phase into *2D slab* with nanoscopic width, L , gives rise to *discrete layers of water channels*
- | When $L = 5$ nm (approximately 'cluster' size for bulk membrane), obtain just *single channel*, bordered by side chains
- | In case of GO, with more hydrophilic surface than graphene, more water seen close to interface for smallest layer (5 nm)
- | When $L > 10$ nm, channel swells and begins to split into multiple channels. No significant difference between graphene and GO at interface
- | Side groups strongly adsorb to Pt even though "non-adsorbing"
- | Existence of discrete channels of ionic aggregates, frustrated due to confinement by pores in catalyst support



Multiscale structure of hierarchical nanomaterials

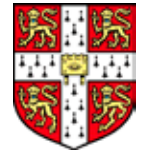


CVD-grown nanotube fibres with high specific strength

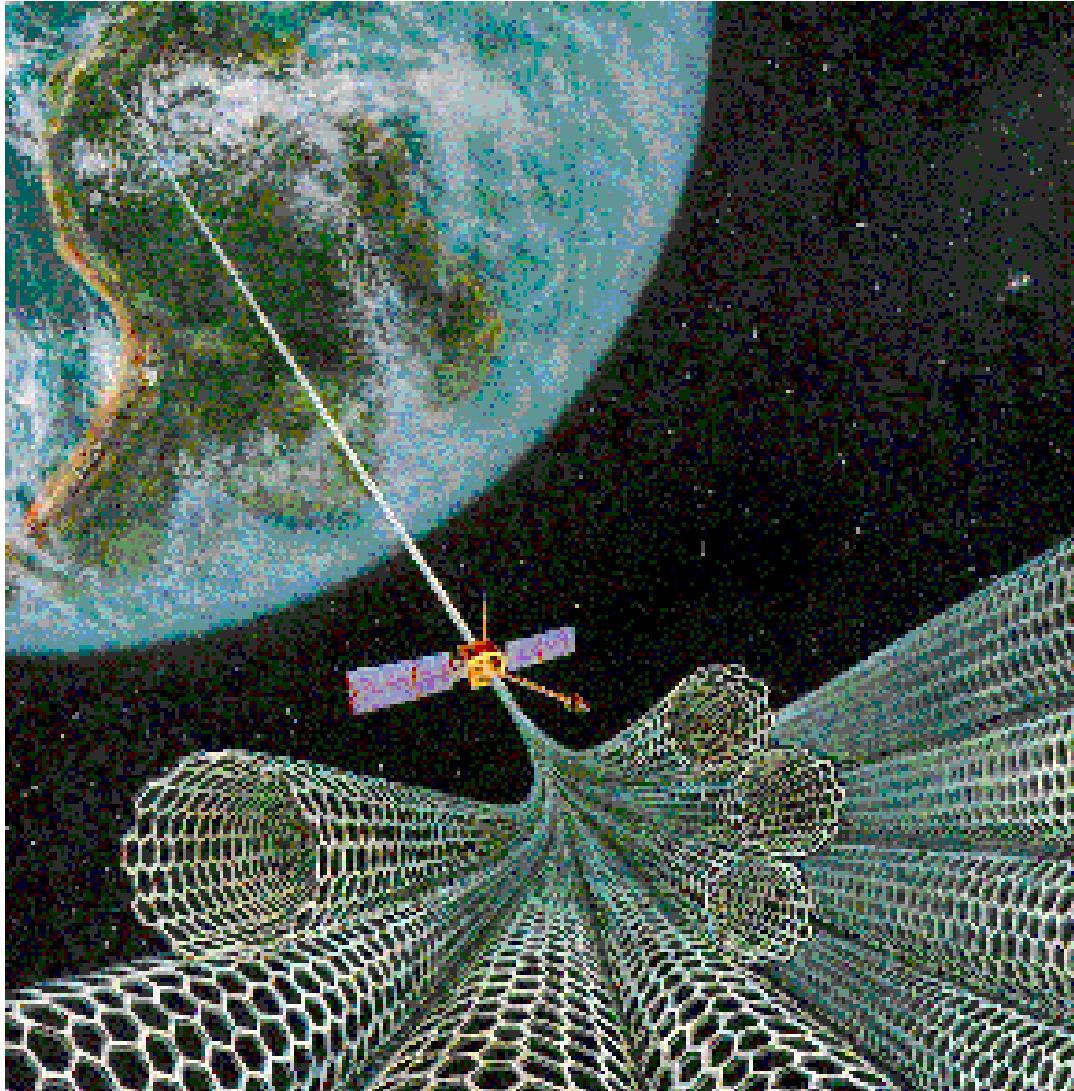


$$\frac{N}{\text{tex}} = \frac{\text{GPa}}{\text{SG}} \quad \frac{\dot{\epsilon}}{\dot{\epsilon}_{\text{SG}}} = \frac{r_{\text{fibre}}}{r_{\text{water}}} \frac{\dot{u}}{\dot{u}}$$

[1] Motta, et al. *Advanced Materials*, **19**, 3721-3726 (2007).
 [2] Koziol et al., *Science*, **318**, 1892-1895 (2007).



A material strong enough for a “space elevator”?



$$E = 1 \text{ TPa}$$

$$\sigma_f = 120 \text{ GPa}$$



Macroscopic model for CNT bundle strength [1]

- Assembly of 'short' fibrous elements which fail in shear at a specific strength, s' , given by:

$$s' = \frac{1}{6} W_1 W_2 t_F L \quad [\text{N/tex}]$$



W_1 is **ratio of nanotubes on the perimeter of the bundle to the total number of tubes** (SWCNT = 1, DWCNT \gg 0.5, fibre $<$ 0.1)

W_2 is **proportion of a nanotubes in contact with neighbours** (estimated \gg 0.85 for fibres from both experimental TEM and atomistic simulations)

t_F is the **shear strength** between graphene layers (assumed 50 kPa)

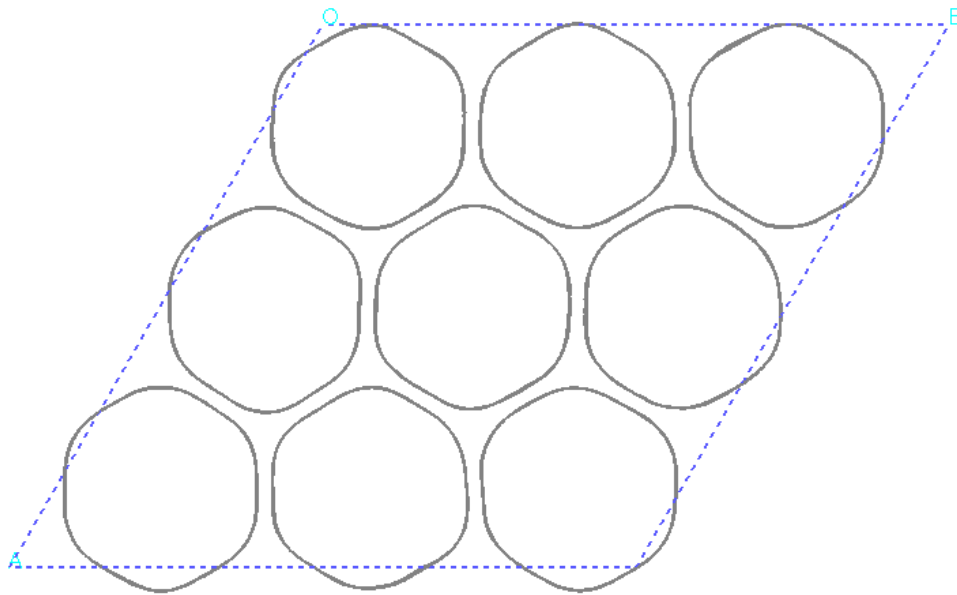
L is the **length of fibrous elements** (\gg 1 mm, aspect ratio 10^5)

- Using these values, obtain a tensile strength of 3.54 N/tex

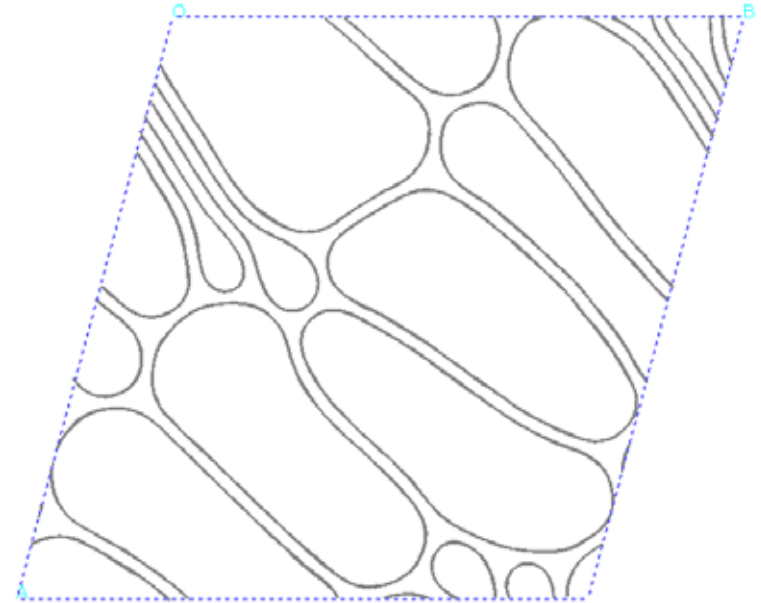


Effect of tube collapse/polygonization on W_2

- Limit to stability of larger tubes at ambient pressure P
spontaneous collapse due to tube polygonization & flattening



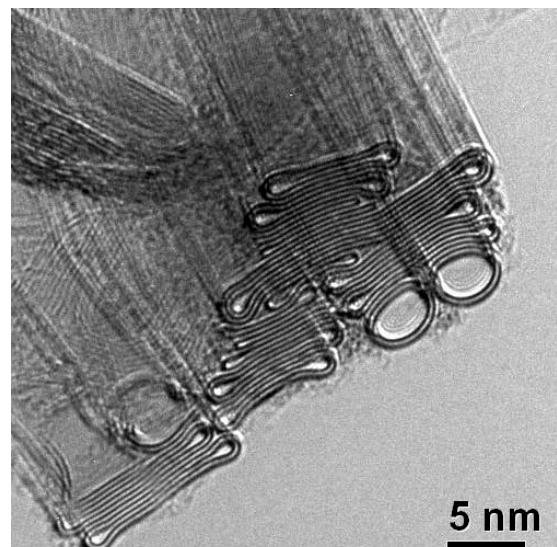
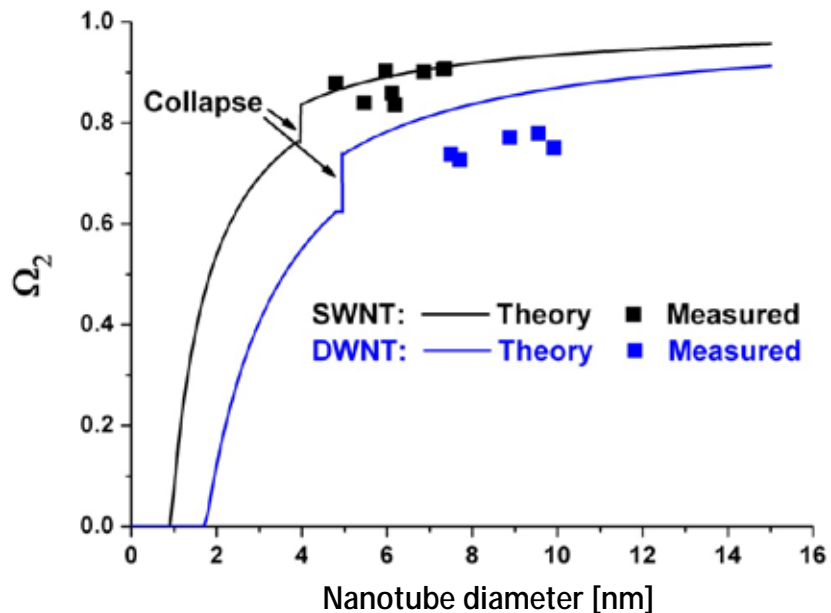
(30,30) SWNT
diameter 4.16 nm



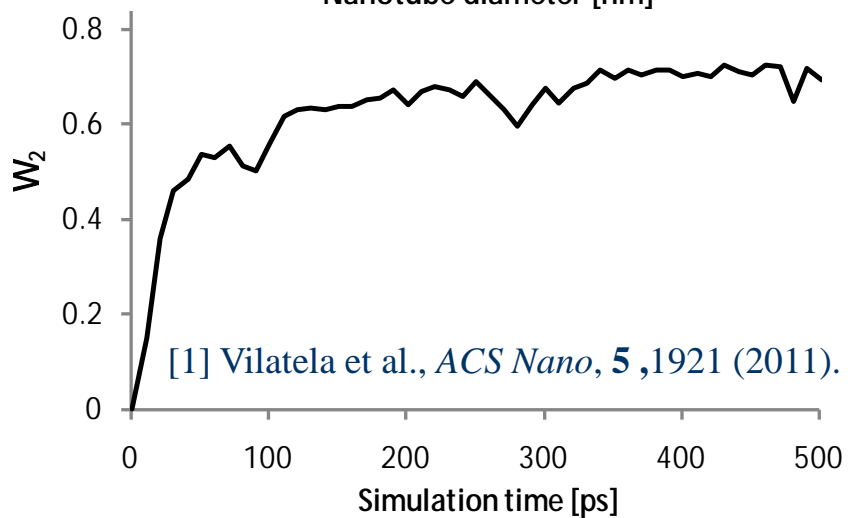
(50,50) SWNT
diameter 6.94 nm



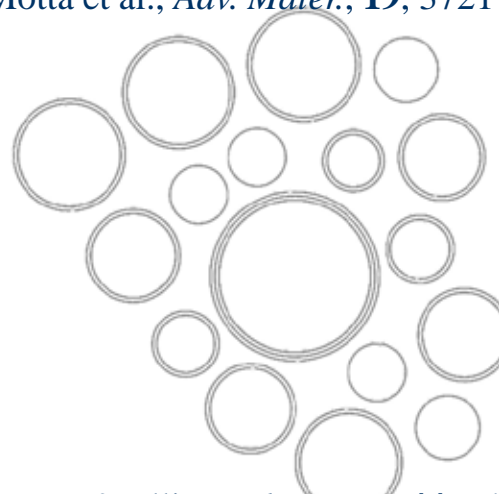
Effect of tube collapse & polygonization on W_2



[2] Motta et al., *Adv. Mater.*, **19**, 3721 (2007).



[1] Vilatela et al., *ACS Nano*, **5**, 1921 (2011).



[3] Pugno & Elliott, *Physica E*, **44**, 944 (2012).



Range of wall/sheet shear strength, t_F

- Wide range of measured strengths: from 0.04 to 69.0 MPa.

Material	Method	Shear strength (MPa)	Reference
Single crystal Graphite	Mechanical shear	0.029	[1]
MWNT on Graphite	Tube rolling and sliding	2.0	[2]
MWNTs	Intratube sliding	0.08	[3]
MWNTs	Intratube sliding	>0.04	[4]
SWNTs/ MWNTs	Intratube sliding	4.0	[5]
MWNTs	Intratube sliding	2.0 – 69.0	[6]

[1] Soule, D. E. & Nezbeda, C. W. *J. App. Phys.* **39**, 5122-5129 (1968).

[2] Falvo, M. R. *et al.*, *Nature* **397**, 236-238 (1999).

[3] Yu, M., Yakobson, B. I. & Ruoff, R. S. *J. Phys. Chem.* **104**, 8764-8767 (2000).

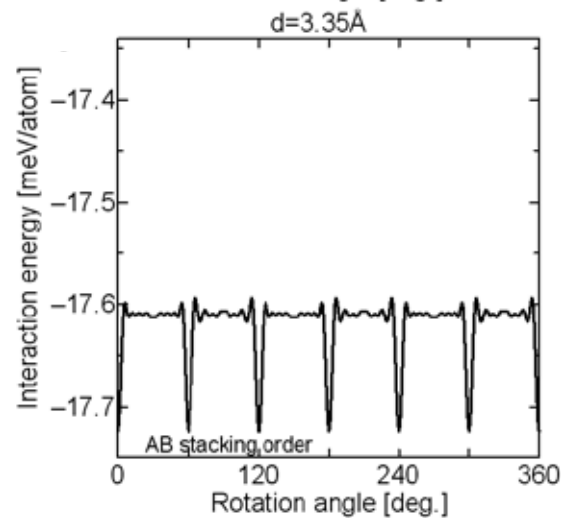
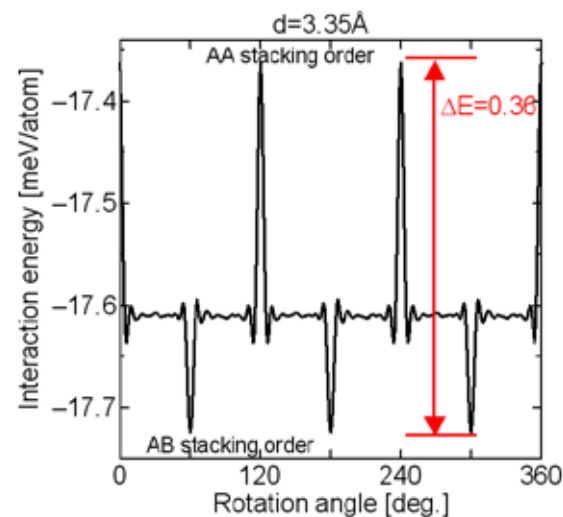
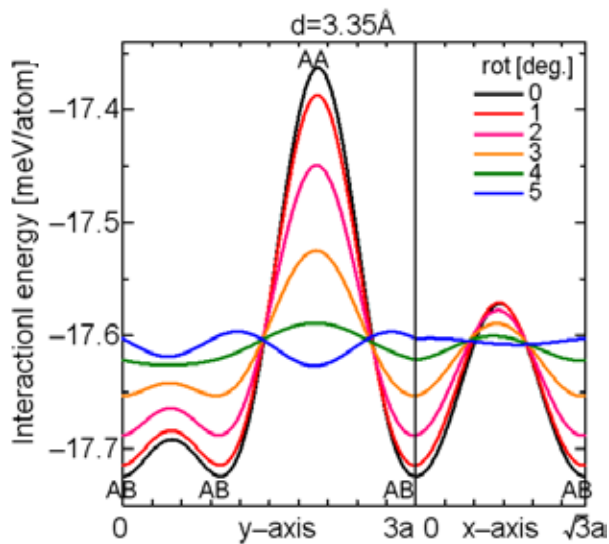
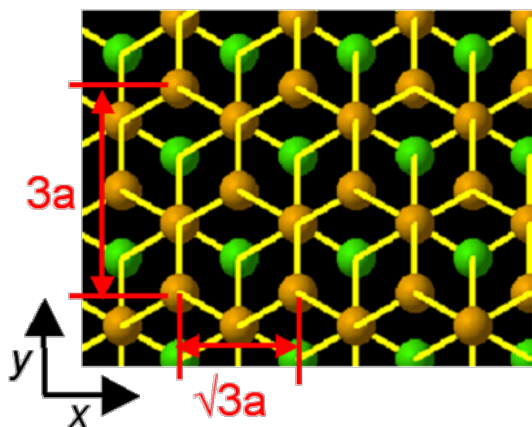
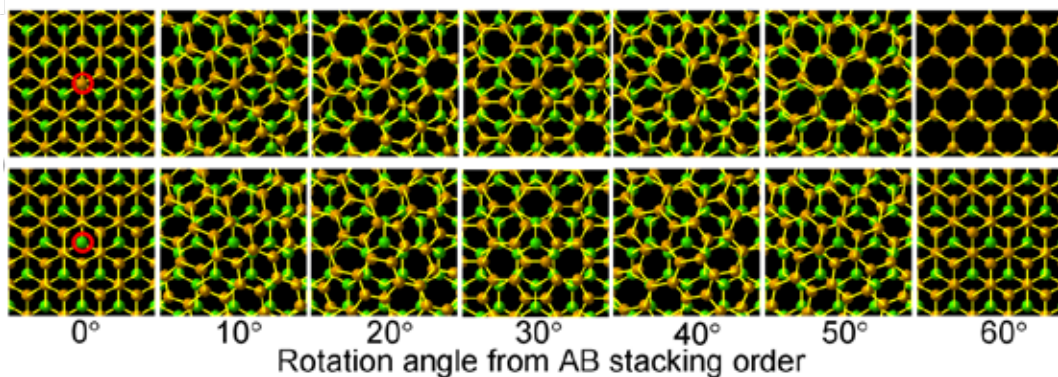
[4] Kis, A., Jensen, K., Aloni, S., Mickelson, W. & Zettl, A. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **97**, 025501 (2006).

[5] Bhushan, B., Ling, X., Jungen, A. & Hierold, C. *Phys. Rev. B* **77**, 165428 (2008).

[6] Suekane, O., Nagataki, A., Mori, H. & Nakayama, Y., *App. Phys. Exp.* **1**, 064001 (2008).



Sliding of turbostratic bilayer graphene is facile



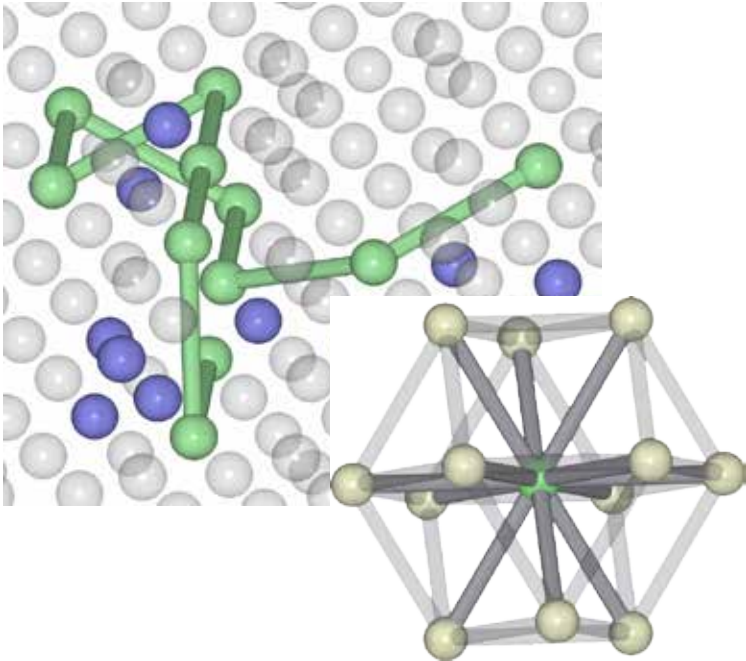
Summary: prospects to increase CNT fibre strength...

- | W_1, W_2 : fairly close to limits already (although good idea to minimize bundle size and number of walls in fibrous elements)
- | L : increase length of fibrous elements (1 order possible?)
- | t_F : can increase by several orders of magnitude by:
 - irradiation (defects, cross-linking)
 - chemical functionalization
 - introducing polymeric additives
- | Irradiation effects – has been assumed that improvement is due to cross-linking effect, but could be due to softening of in-plane stiffness by increasing defect density
- | Realistic to expect CNT fibres with strengths reproducibly around 10 N/tex over large lengths



Lattice Monte Carlo (MC) polymer model

A single polymer bead is moved at a time to create a new state in MC simulation ^[1]



- Standard canonical MC
 - fixed temperature
 - visits states with probability

$$p_{NVT} = D(E)\exp(-\beta E)$$

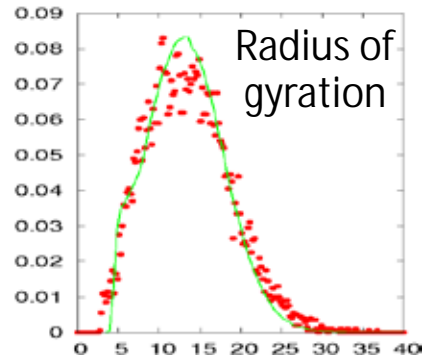
- Multicanonical MC ^[2]
 - visits all energy states with equal probability
 - system statistics at any temperature can be obtained by reweighting

[1] K.R. Haire *et al.*, *Comput. Theor. Polym. Sci.*, **11**, 17 (2001)

[2] F.Wang and D.P. Landau, *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, **86**, 2050 (2001)



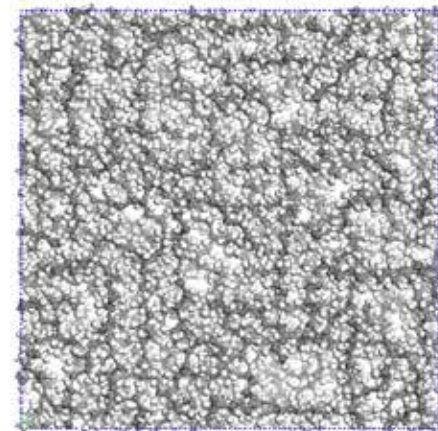
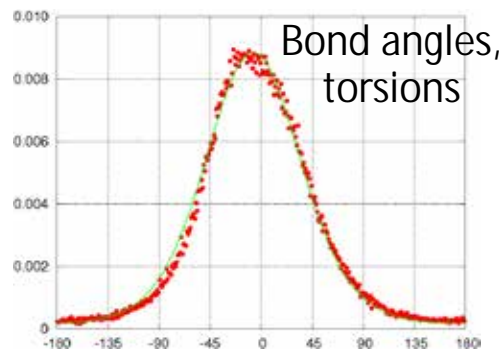
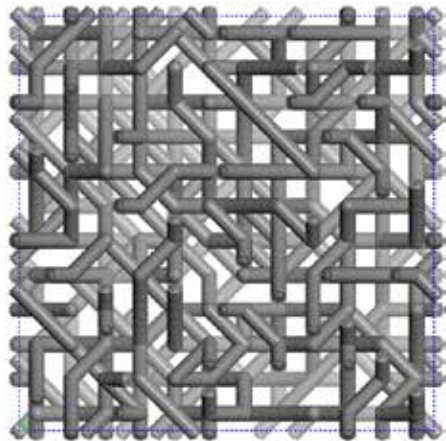
Mapping and reverse-mapping of amorphous PE



mapping



reverse-mapping
(RM)



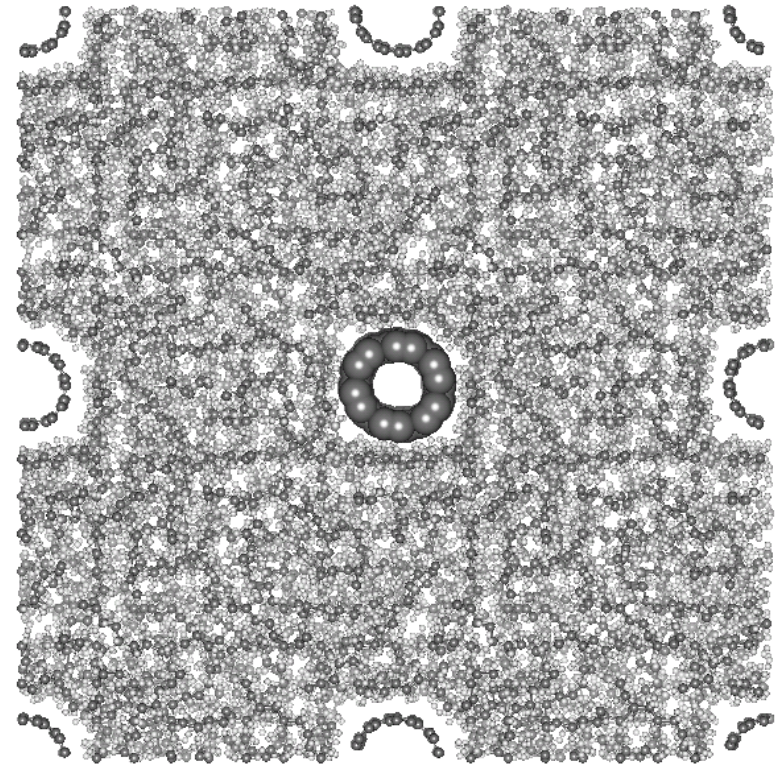
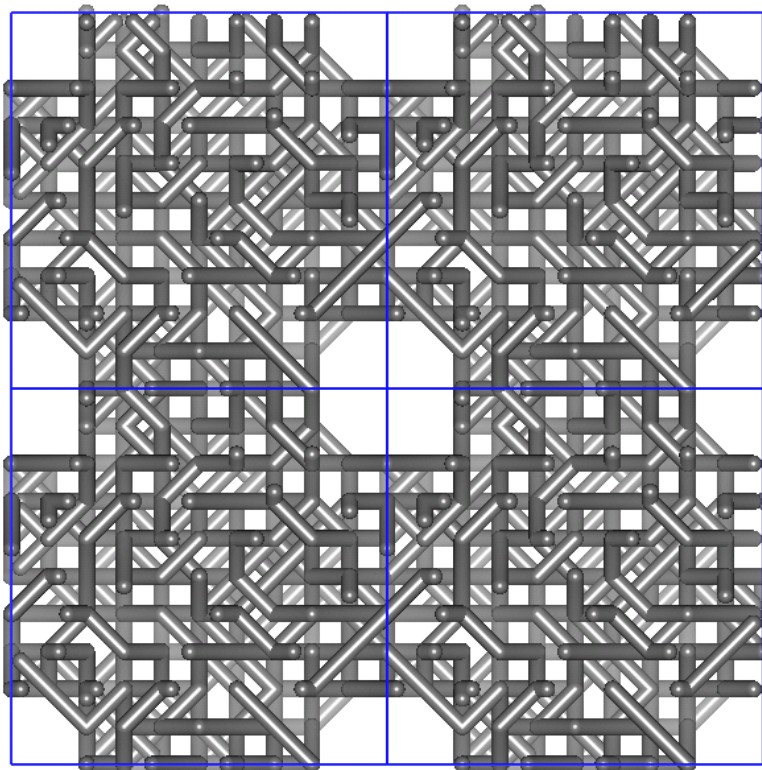
[1] J. Baschnagel et al. *Adv. Polym. Sci.* **152**, 41-156 (2000).

[2] F. Müller-Plathe *ChemPhysChem* **3**, 754-769 (2002).

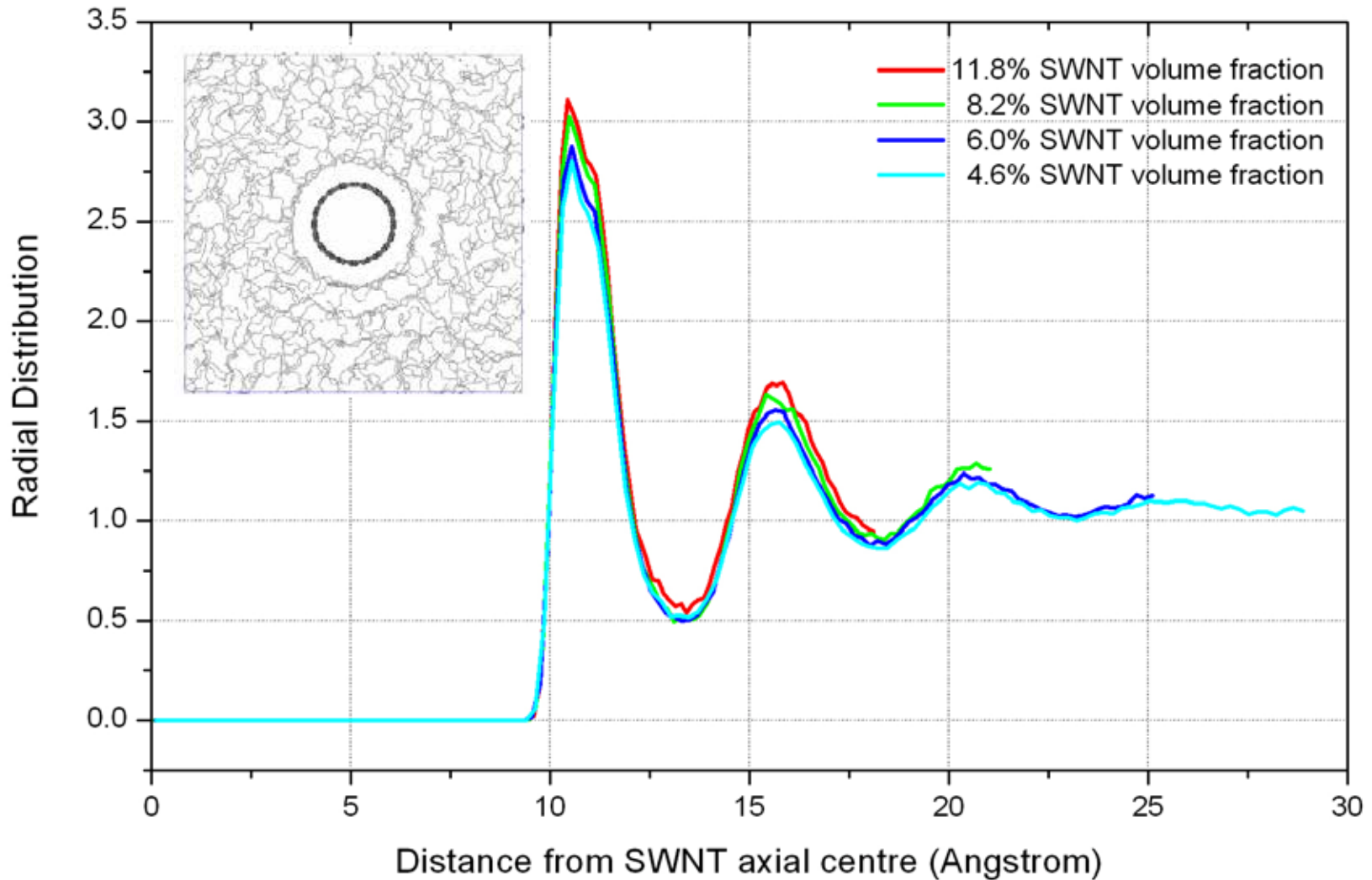


Modelling PE/CNT composite

- | 16 chains of PE ($C_{101}H_{204}$) and a (6,6) SWCNT were placed into a periodic cubic cell ($f_{CNT} = 0.082$)
- | System initialized on lattice, and then relaxed atomistically.



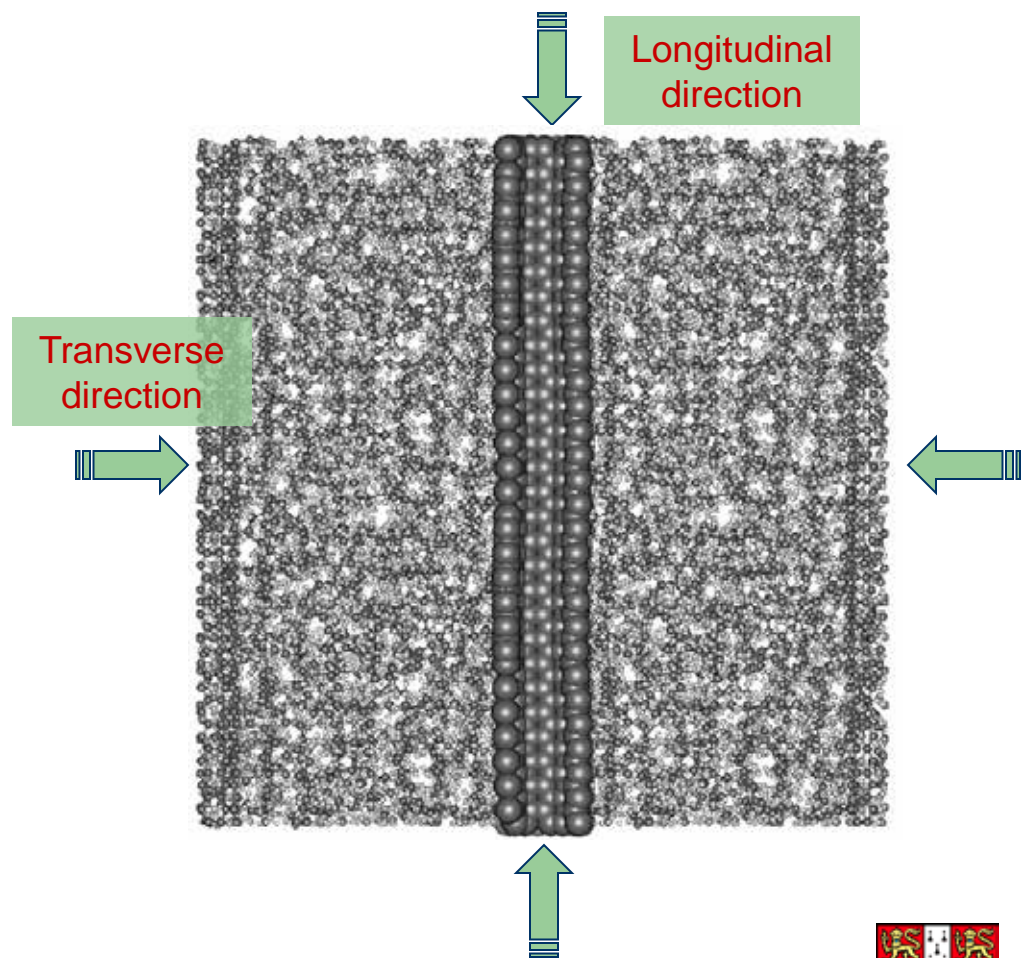
Ordered layering of polymer around SWCNT



Elastic Properties – Young's Modulus

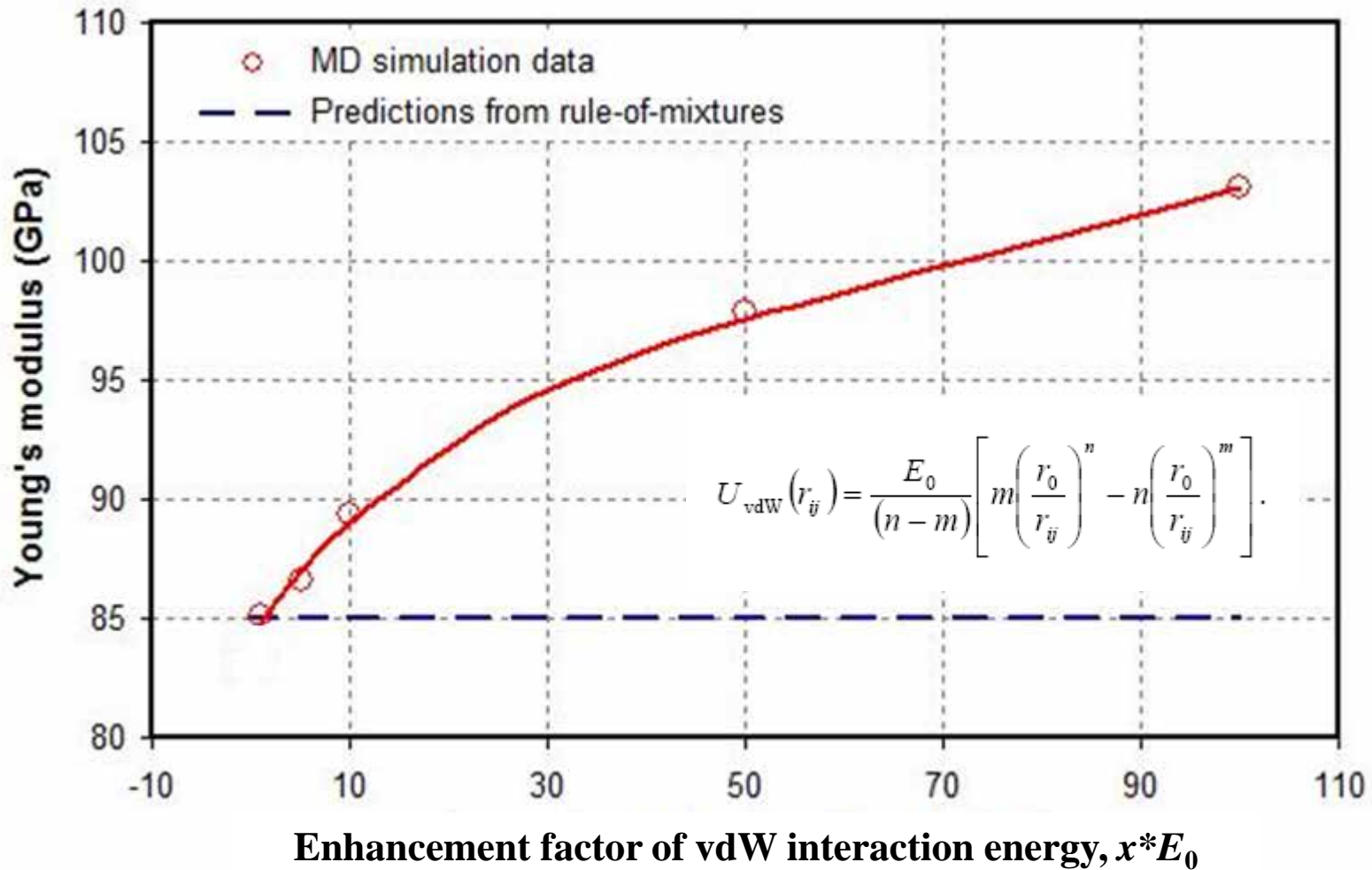
I Calculation Methodology

- A stepwise decreasing increment of cell size in longitudinal and transverse directions was applied to the system, separately.
- A 200 ps NVT run was allowed between each increment for equilibration.
- The change in stress was measured as a function of the strain.
- Total strain less than 3% of initial cell size.



Positive deviation from rule of mixtures

... when interactions between PE-CNT are enhanced

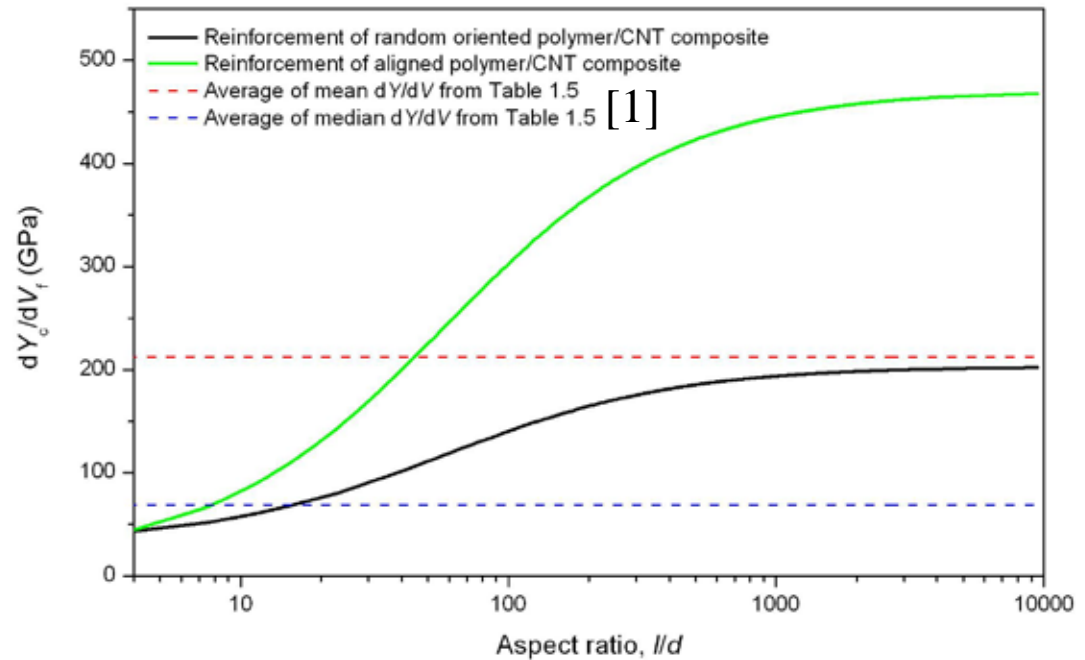
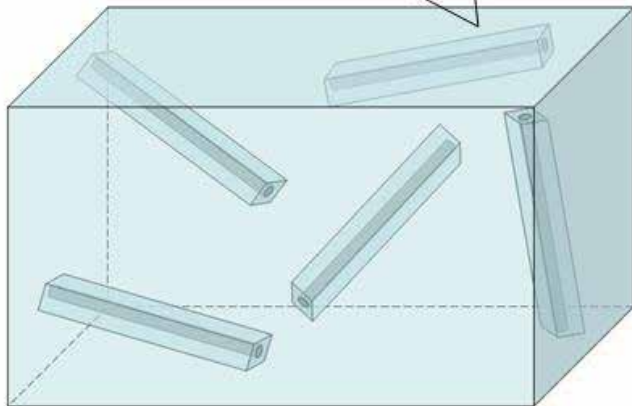


Effective fibre predictions from Halpin-Tsai model

CNT + surface bound polymer



"Effective fibre" axial modulus 85.1 GPa
Perfectly bonded to PE matrix



$$\frac{dY_c}{dV_f} \approx Y_m \eta (\zeta + 1) \quad \text{for aligned fibres}$$

$$\frac{dY_c}{dV_f} \approx \frac{3}{8} Y_m \eta_L (\zeta + 1) + \frac{15}{8} Y_m \eta_T \quad \text{for randomly oriented fibres}$$

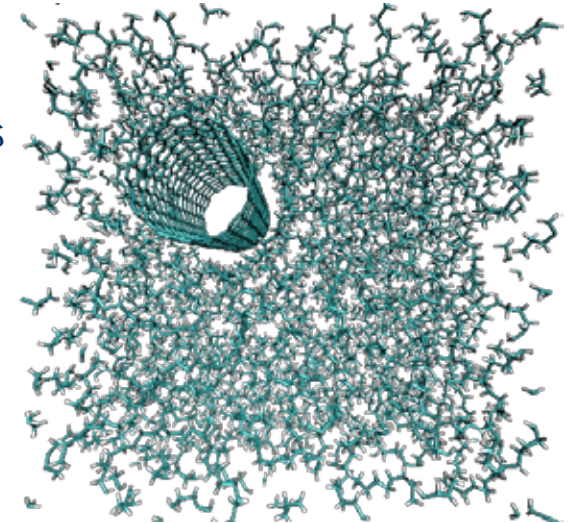
[1] J. N. Coleman, U. Khan, W. J. Blau, and Y. K. Gun'ko, *Carbon* **44**, 1624 (2006).



Interfacial heat transfer between CNT and PE

- System

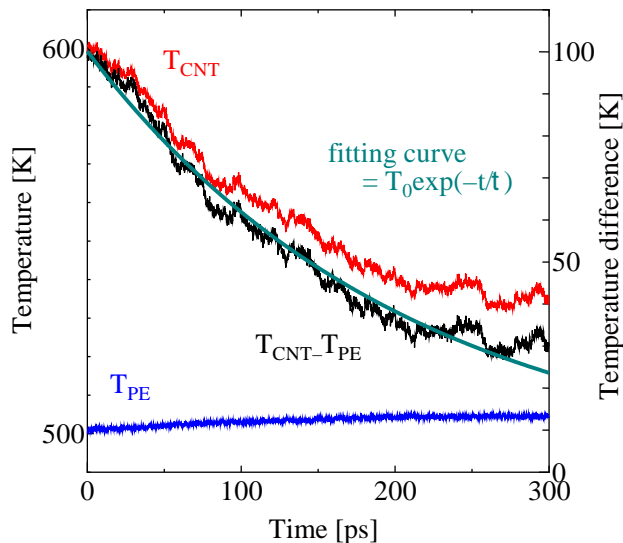
- A (10,10) single wall carbon nanotube (CNT) and amorphous polyethylene chains (figure on the right)



- Force field

- CNT : Universal Force Field¹
- Polyethylene : Polymer Consistent Force Field²

Lumped heat capacity method³



Procedure
Apply heat pulse to the CNT

- ➔ Relax the system under microcanonical (NVE) ensemble
- ➔ Fit the temperature difference during the relaxation (black line) to the exponential function (green line)

$$K = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{c} \frac{1}{m_{\text{CNT}} c_{\text{CNT}}} + \frac{1}{m_{\text{PE}} c_{\text{PE}}} \frac{\dot{S}}{\varnothing} t}$$

m : total mass in the system
 c : heat capacity
 S : interface surface area
 t : relaxation time

[1] A. K. Rappe et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 114, 10024 (1992)

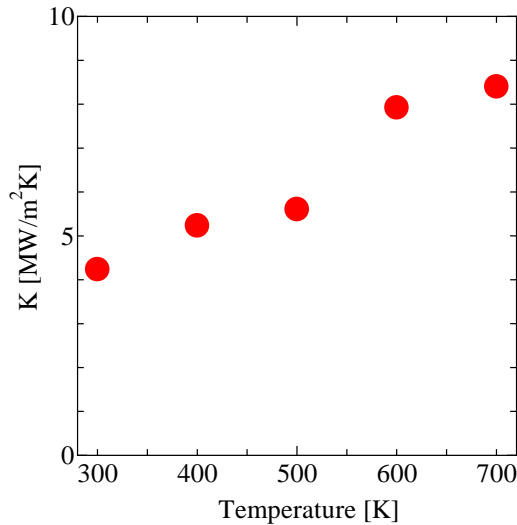
[2] H. Sun et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 116, 2978 (1994)

[3] C. F. Carlborg et al. *Phys. Rev. B* 78, 205406 (2008)



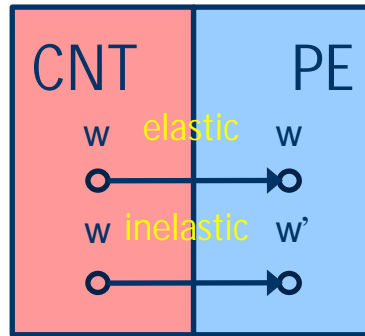
Behaviour of thermal boundary conductance K

Temperature dependence



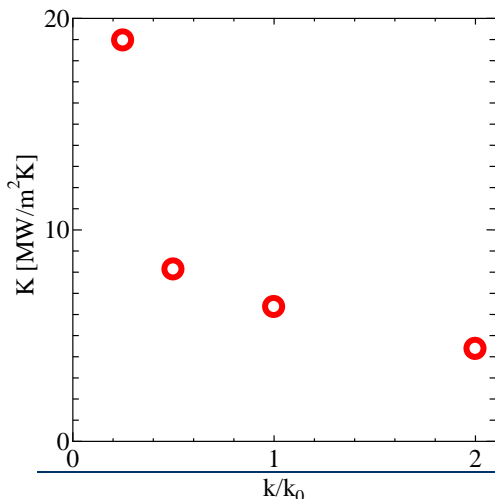
K increases with temperature

∅ Increase in inelastic phonon scattering



- Phonon scattering at interface

CNT force constant k dependence (change strength of force field in CNT)

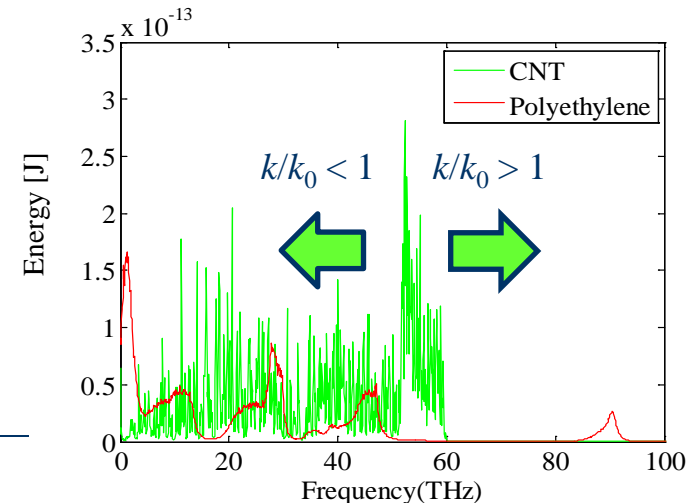


K decreases as force constants increase

∅ Increasing mismatch between vibrational modes of CNT and PE

k/k_0	CNT power spectrum
Increase	Upshift
decrease	Downshift

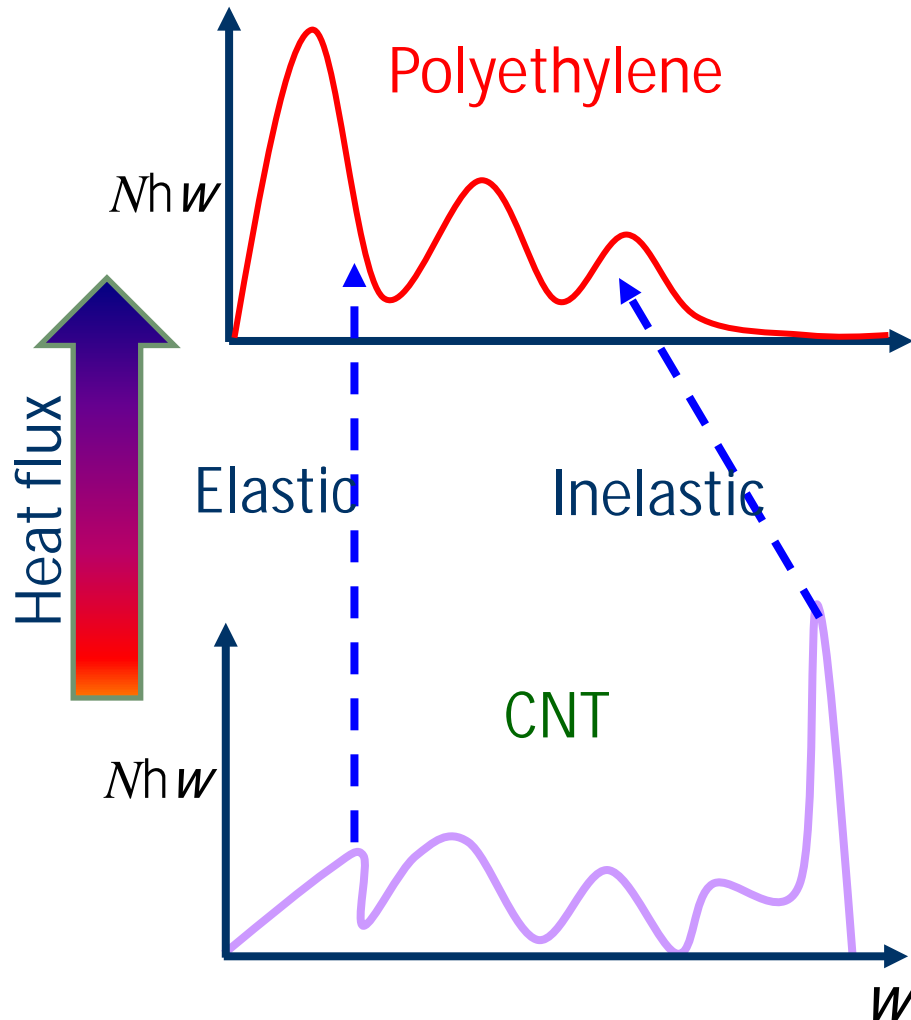
- Power spectra of CNT and polyethylene ($k/k_0=1$)



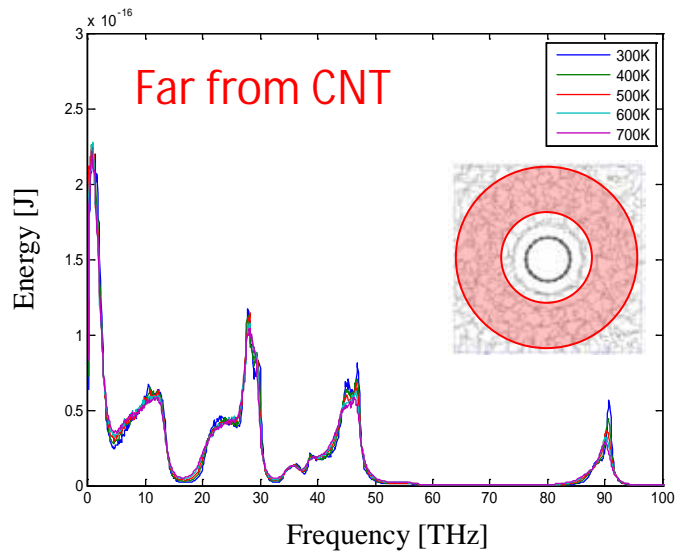
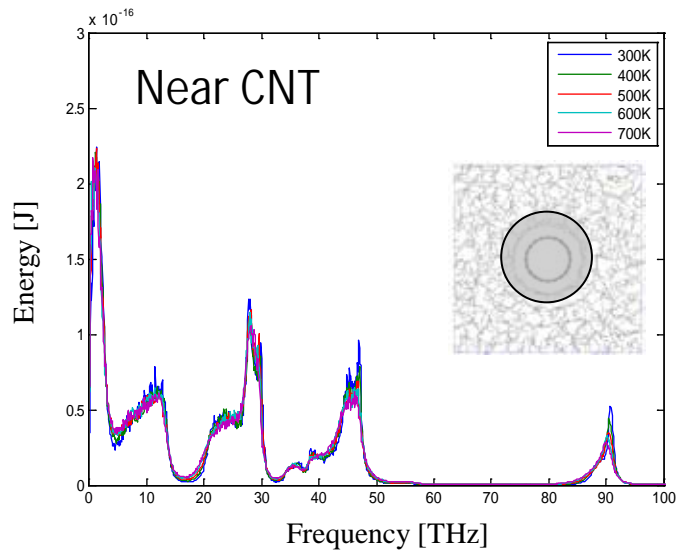
k_0 is original value in Universal Force Field

Elastic vs. inelastic conduction of lattice vibrations

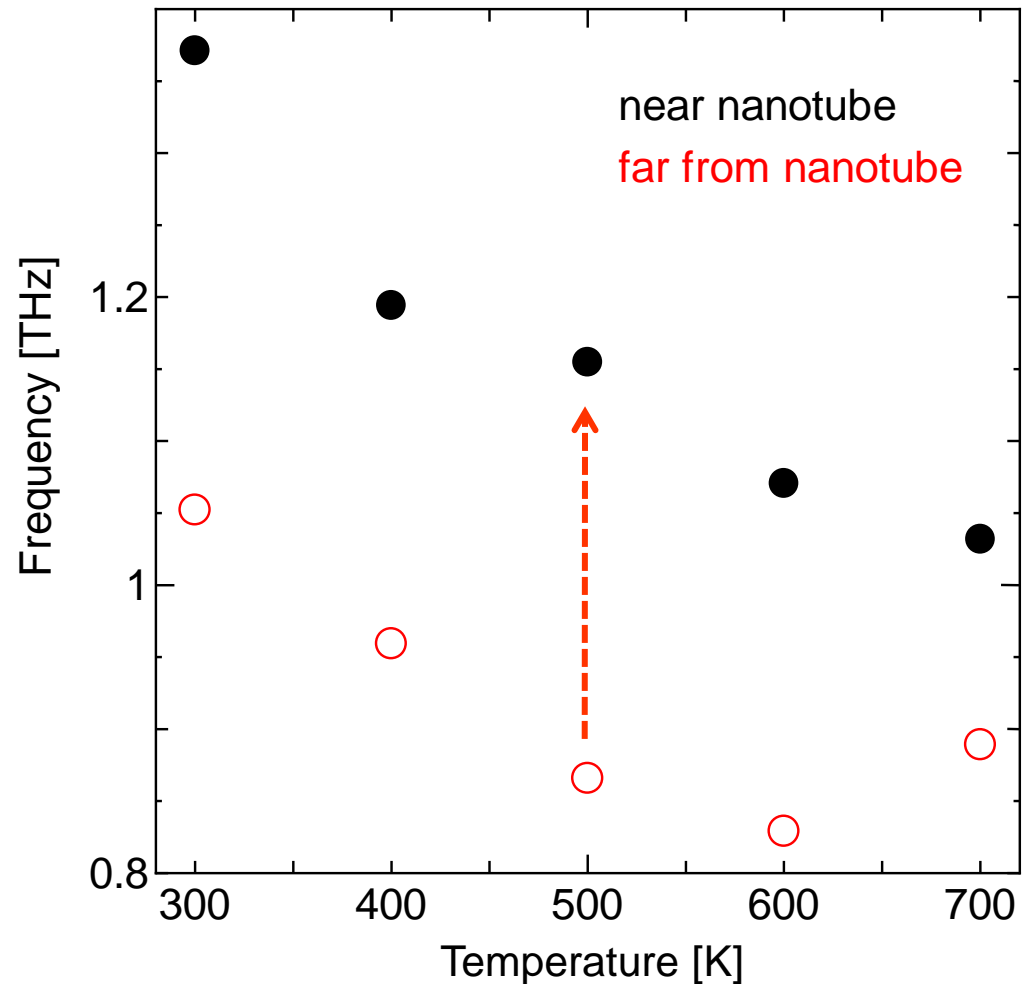
Thermal conductivity is **JUNCTION DOMINATED**



Frequency shift in PE power spectrum near CNT



Lowest peak of polyethylene power spectra



Summary of mechanical and thermal property results

- | Combined use of lattice model and reverse-mapped atomistic simulations give a fully relaxed composite morphology
- | Even for PE-CNT composites with low interfacial energies, see a *clear ordered layering of polymer chains around CNTs*
- | For *strong CNT-polymer interactions*, the ordered layer gives rise to *strong positive deviations from rule of mixtures* for low strain elastic properties
- | CNT-polymer interactions also give rise to *localized upshift in frequency distribution close to tube surface*, enhancing the transfer of thermal energy from matrix to CNT
- | Tune the boundary conductance to improve properties

