

# **Advances in Computer Modeling of Polymer Systems**

**Alexei R. Khokhlov**

**Lomonosov Moscow State University**

## MSU SUPERCOMPUTER: "LOMONOSOV"

Top500 world rating - #37 (2013.XI).

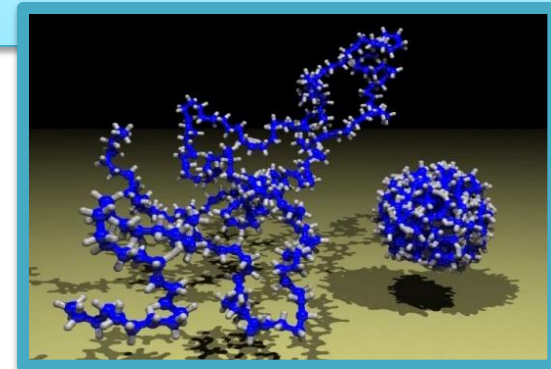
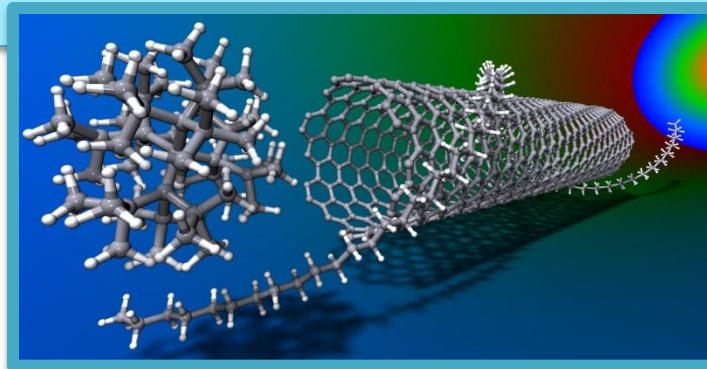
Top50 Russia rating - #1 (2014.IV).



- Peak performance 1.7 PFlops
- Linpack performance 0.9 PFlops
- Main processor types Intel® Xeon X5570 / X5670 (12 346), NVIDIA X2070 (1 065)
- Total area (supercomputer) 252 m<sup>2</sup>
- Total equipment weight More than 75 tons.
- Power consumption 2.6 MW

# Directions of research

- Design of functional polymers
- Self-organising polymer systems
- Nanomaterials: nanocomposites, thermoplasts and thermosets
- Hydrogen energy, fuel cells
- Ultrathin nanostructured films
- Bioinspired molecular hybrids



# Methods and Software

**Atomistic Methods**

**Mesosopic Methods**

**Field-Based Methods**

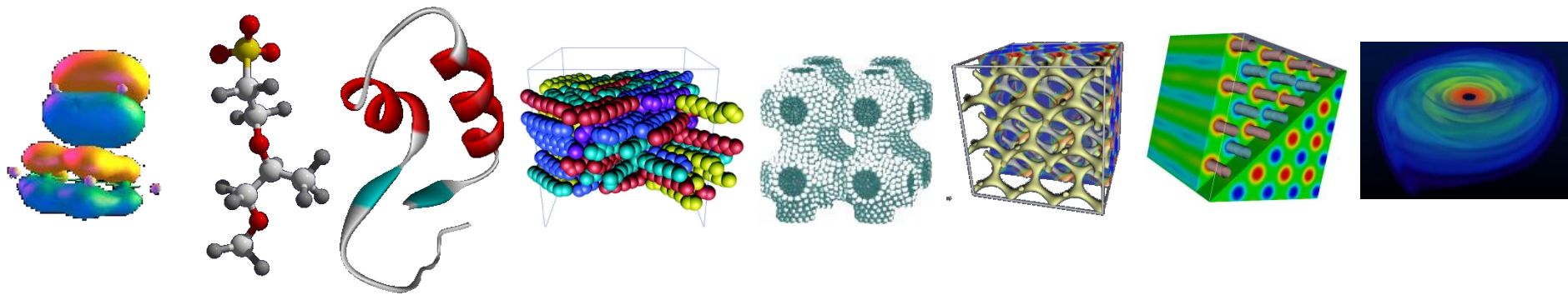
**Quantum-Chemistry Methods**

<b>Methods</b>	<b>Software</b>
Classical Molecular Dynamics	LAMMPS, DL_POLY, NAMD
Reactive Molecular Dynamics	LAMMPS/ReaxFF
Dissipative Particle Dynamics (DPD)	Original code
Reaction DPD	Original code (DPDChem)
SCFT	Original code
Density Functional Theory	MesoDyn / Materials Studio
Quantum molecular dynamics	CP2k, CPMD, Quantum Espresso
Monte Carlo	Original code
RISM, MC/RISM, hybrid methods	Original code



# Multiscale modeling concept

Atoms      Molecules      Molecular assemblies      Condensed matter      Composites      Continuum  
microscopic (1-10 nm, fs/ps)      mesoscopic (10-1000 nm, ns/ $\mu$ s)      macroscopic ( $\sim$ 1 mm,  $\mu$ s/s)



**Electrons**  $\longleftrightarrow$  **Atoms (Particles)**  $\longleftrightarrow$  **Particles/Fields**  $\longleftrightarrow$  **Fields**

DFT

Molecular Dynamics

Dissipative PD  
(DPD)

Finite  
Elements

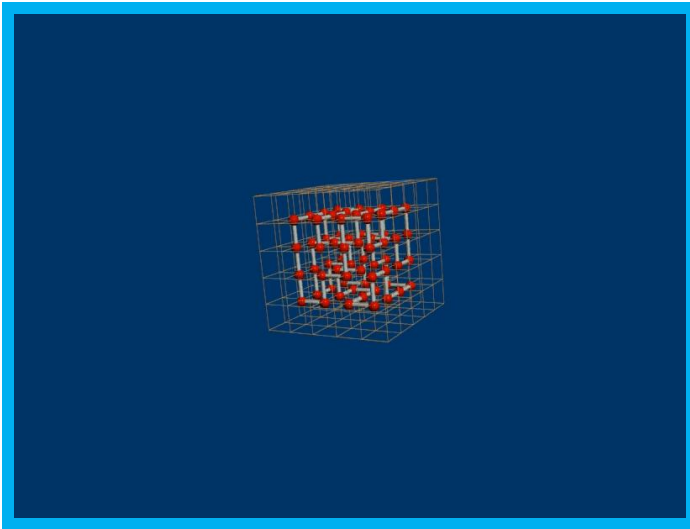


Electronic state  
Molecular  
structure/motion and  
properties

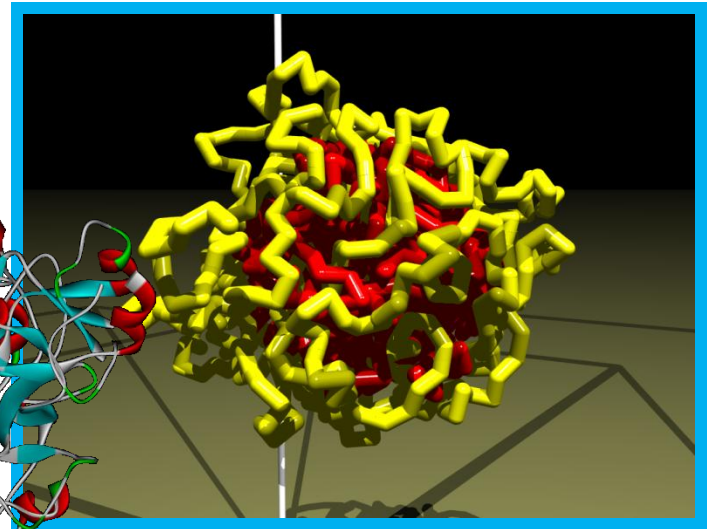
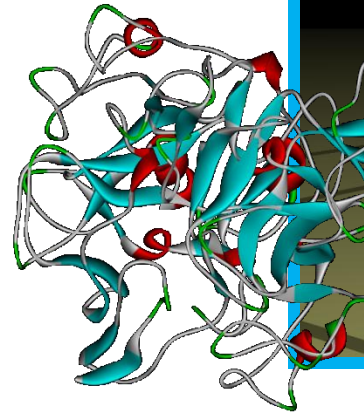
Equilibrium  
mesoscopic structure  
and properties

Large-scale  
properties

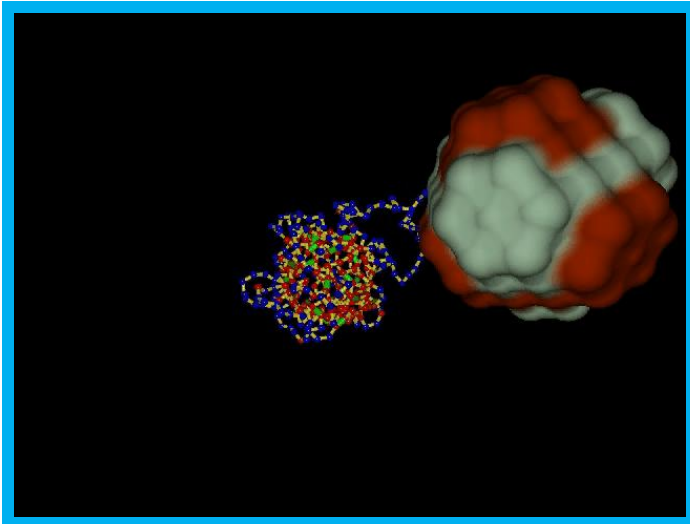
# Design of functional copolymers



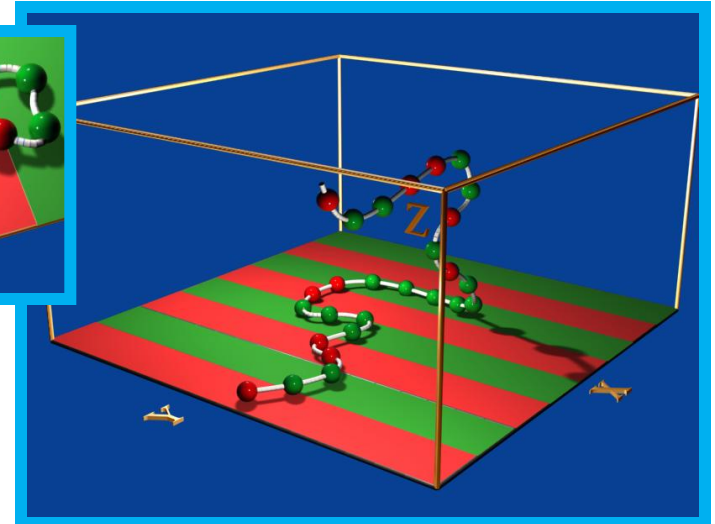
Biomimetic Design



Bioinspired Globules

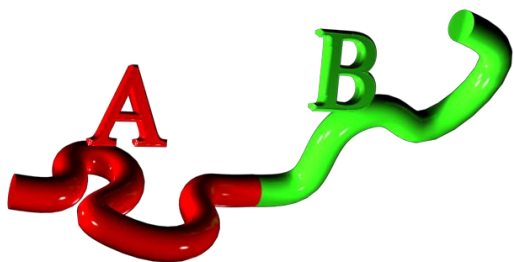


Molecular Dispenser

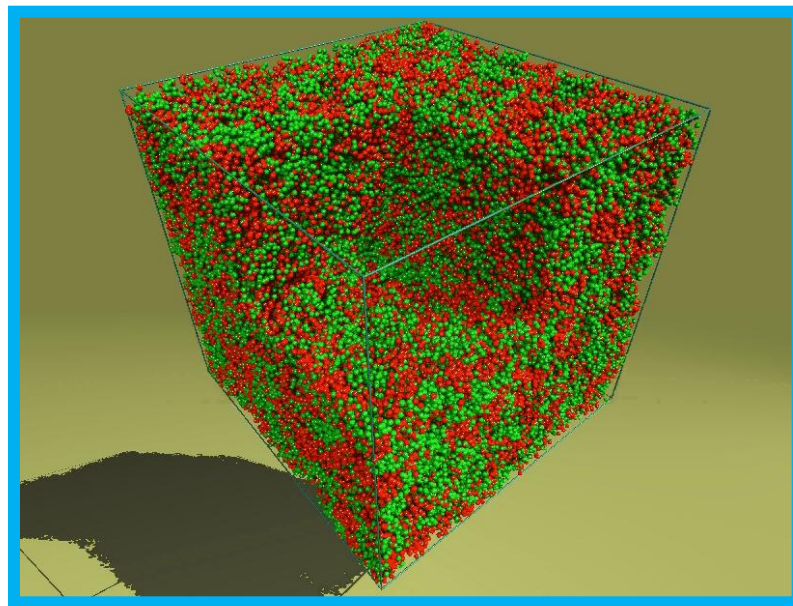
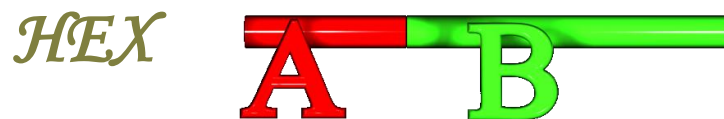
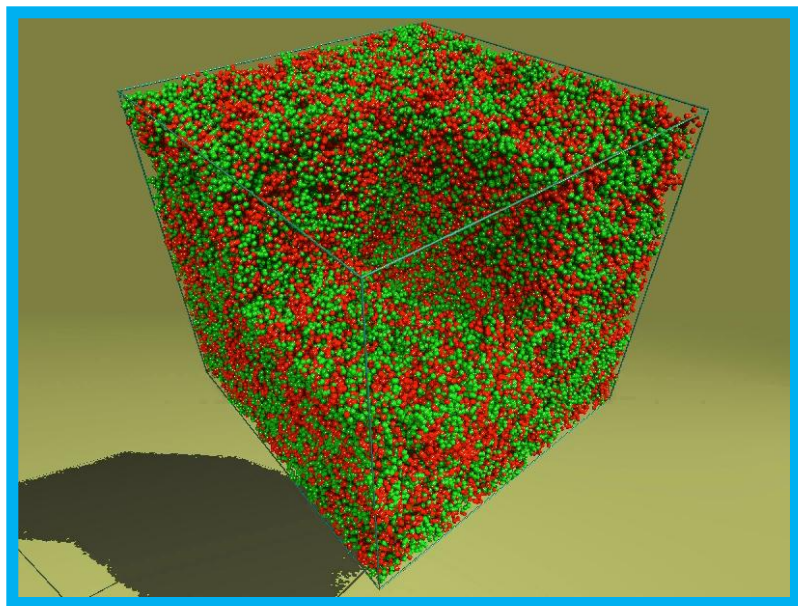


Pattern Recognition

# Self-organization of polymer nanostructures



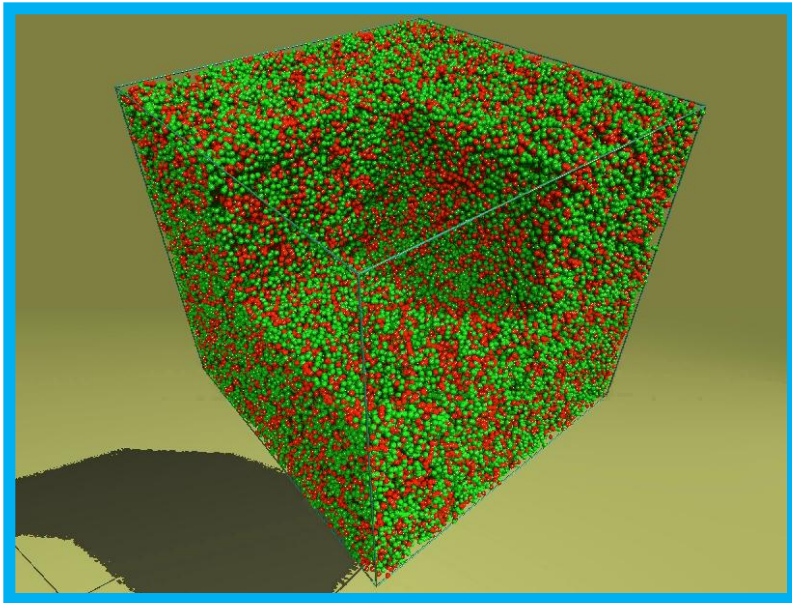
Microphase separation:  
Nanostructure scale: ~10-100 nm



100 nm

# Self-organization of polymer nanostructures

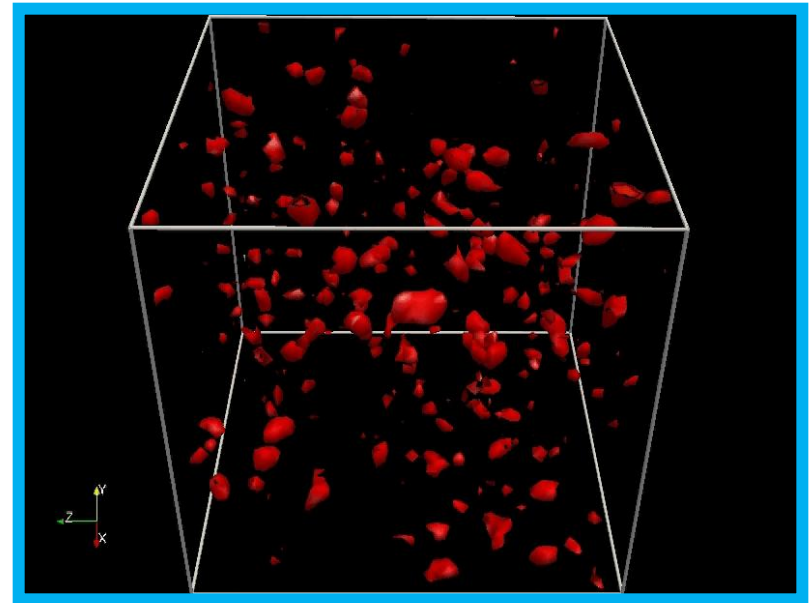
DPD



Particles

SCFT

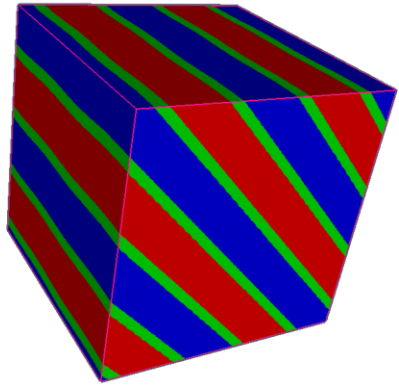
$GYR$



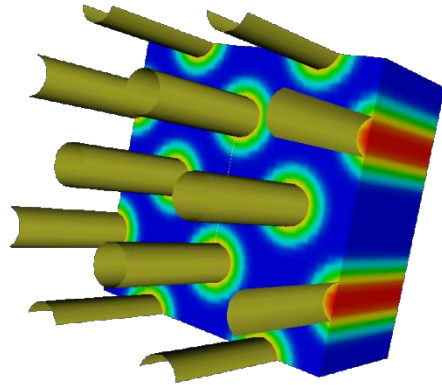
Field Representation



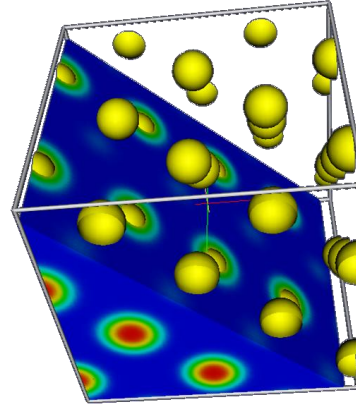
# Design of polymer nanostructures



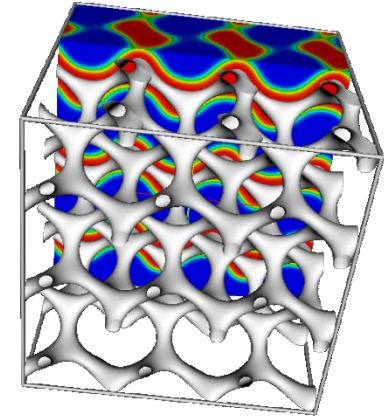
*LAM*



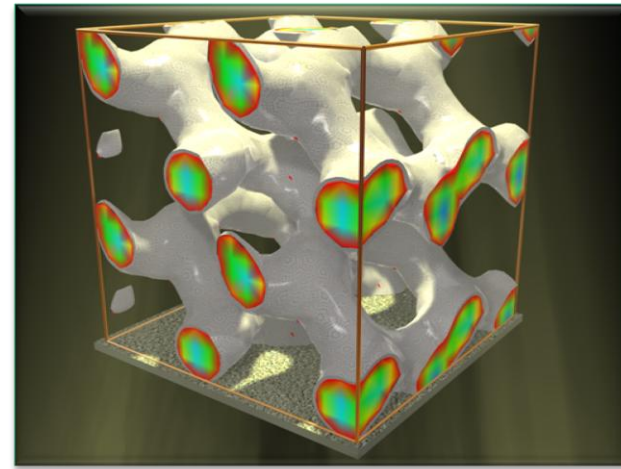
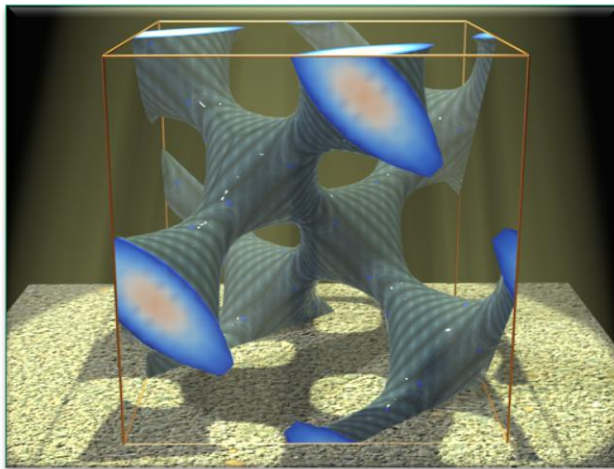
*HEX*



*BCC*



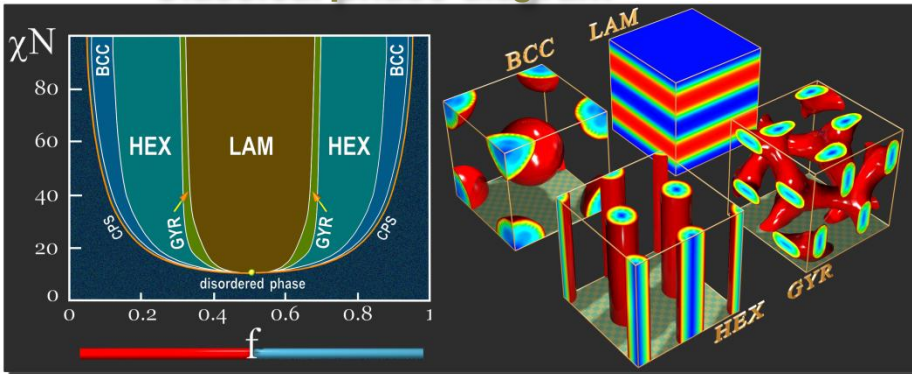
*GYR*



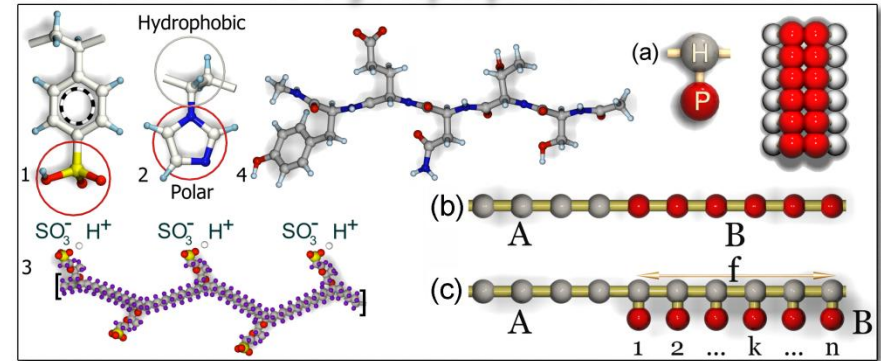
Synthetic polymers are able to self-organize in sophisticated 3D structures. This opens up opportunities for synthesis of ordered supramolecular nanostructures with controlled morphology.

# Polyamphiphiles: Unusual forms of self-organization

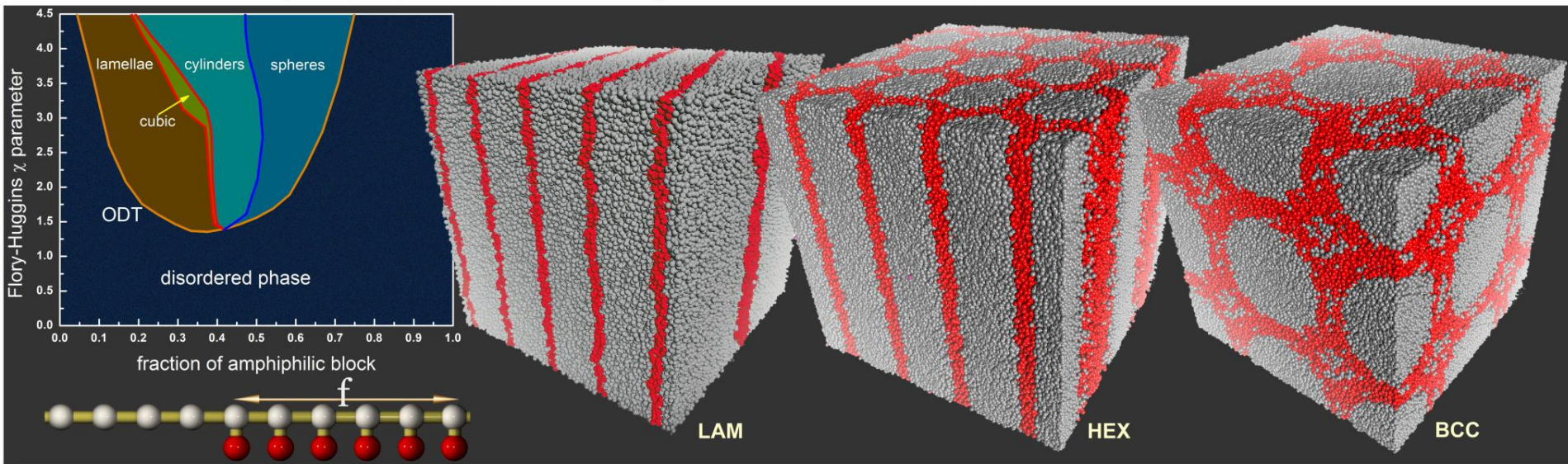
## Classical phase diagram



## Polyamphiphiles



## Polyamphiphiles phase diagram: Inverted mesophases

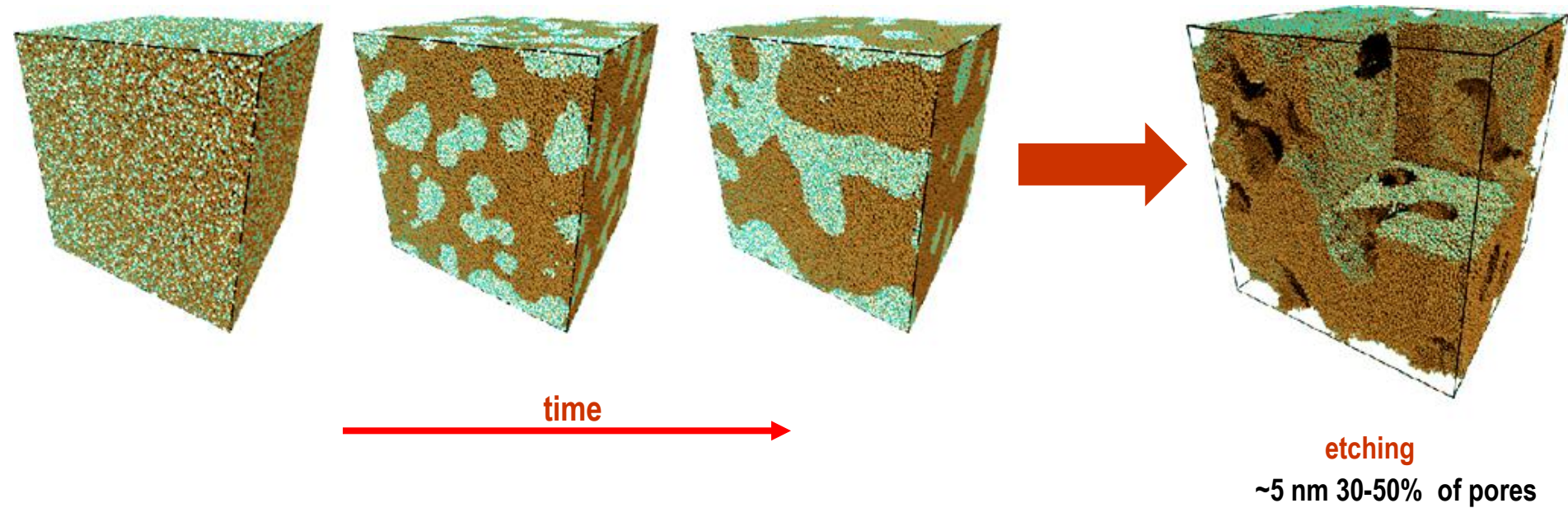


**Local structure dictates global morphology**



# Physical Synthesis: nanostructures engineering

“Freezing spinodal decomposition”

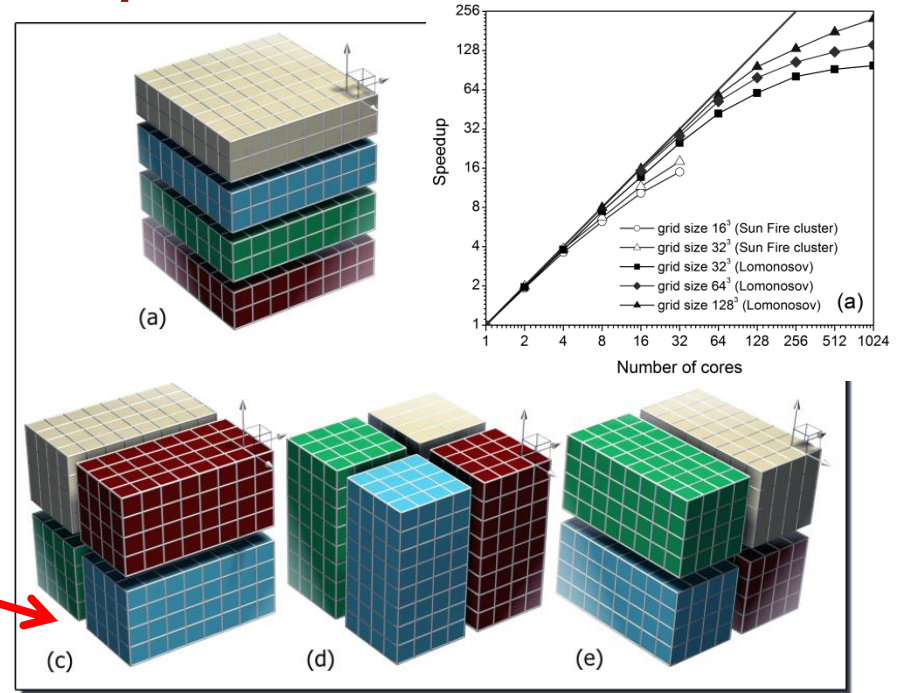


Nanoporous materials (membranes, nanofilters...)

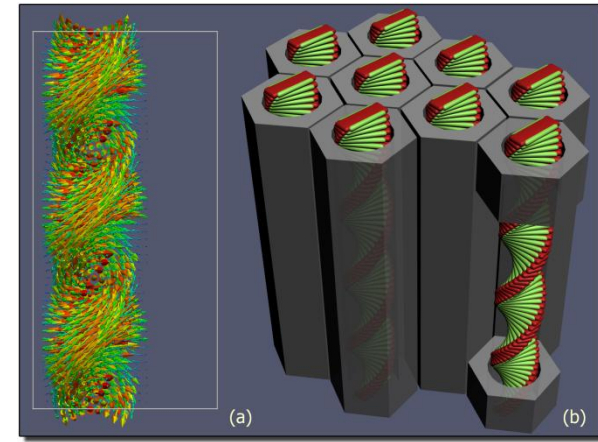
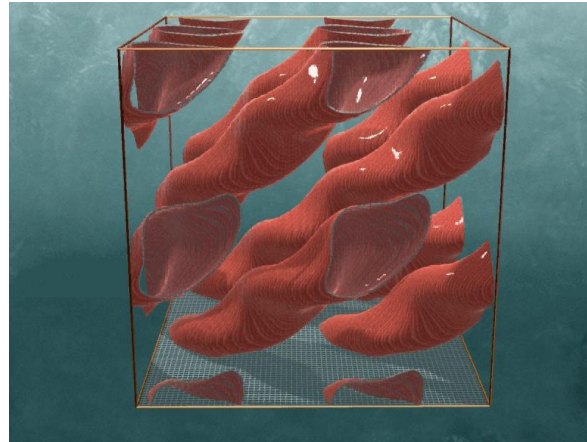
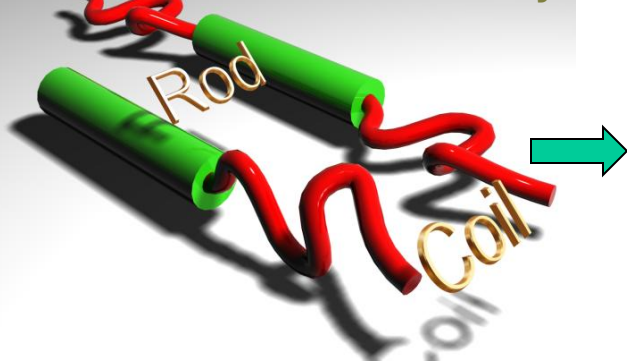
# SCFT simulation: new developments and results

We have developed a parallel code for large-scale field-theoretical SCFT modeling of 3D systems on grids of the order of  $128^3$  or more nodes. The algorithm is based on a pseudospectral method for solving the SCFT-equations and the calculation of integral operators for the matrix fields using the fast Fourier transform and 2D parallelizing ("pencil" decomposition).

For 1024 CPU acceleration  $>250$



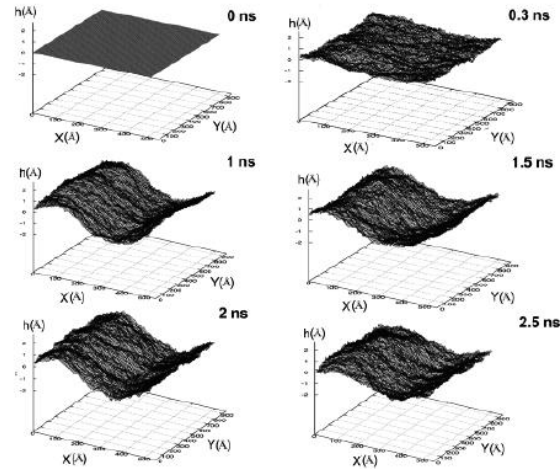
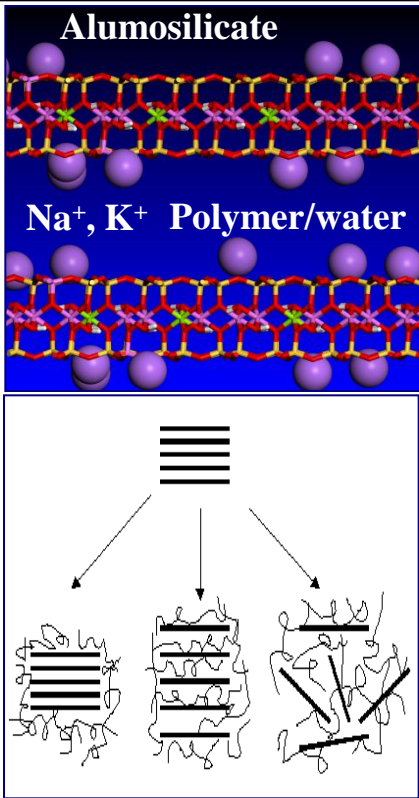
Self-assembly



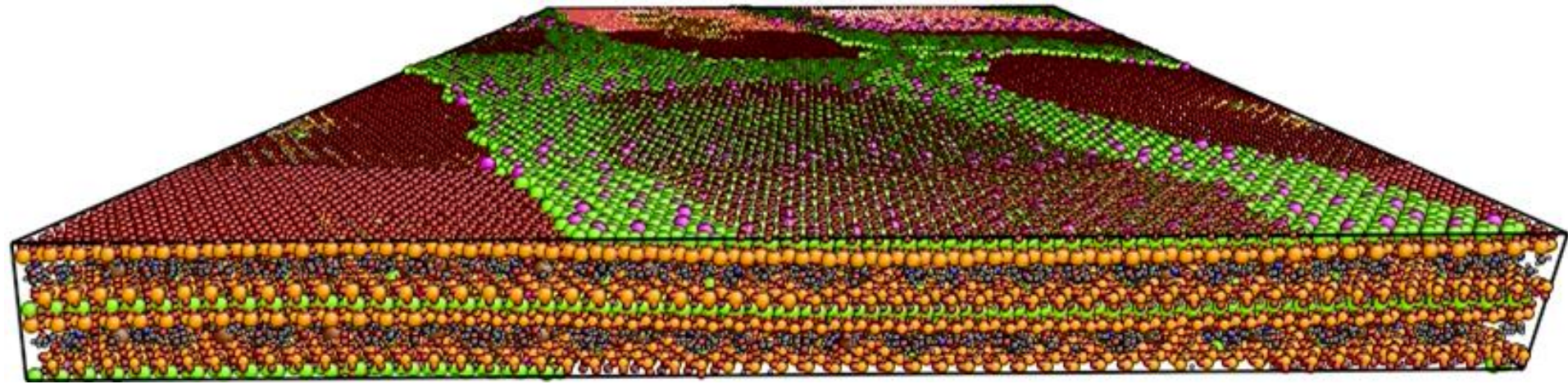
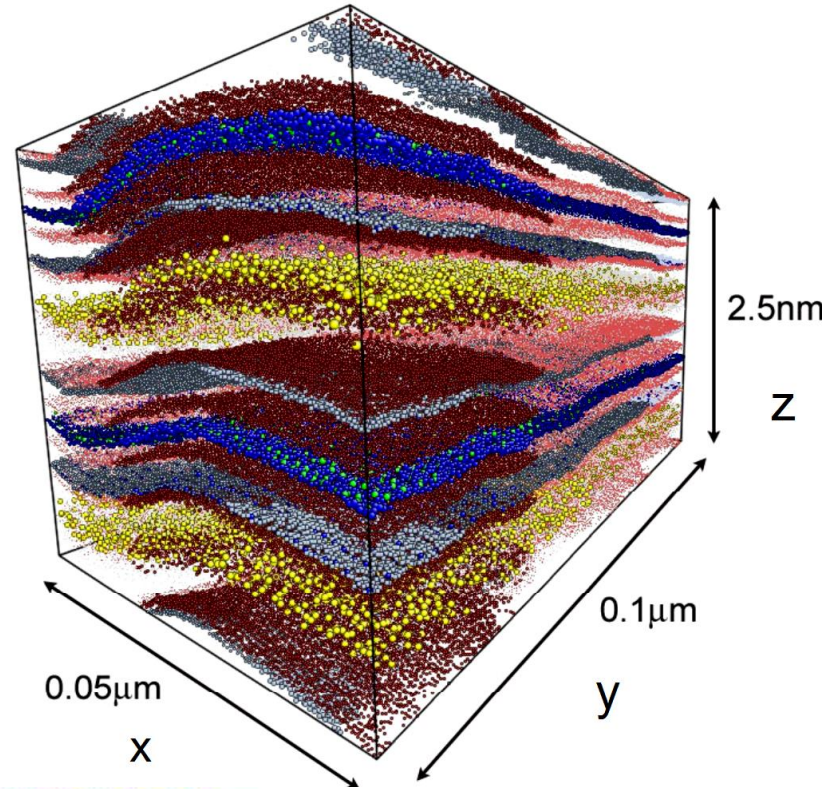
Spontaneous break of symmetry: Non-chiral objects are capable to form macroscopic chiral object!



# Nanocomposites



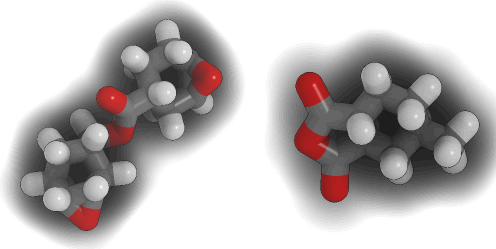
$\sim 10^6$  atoms



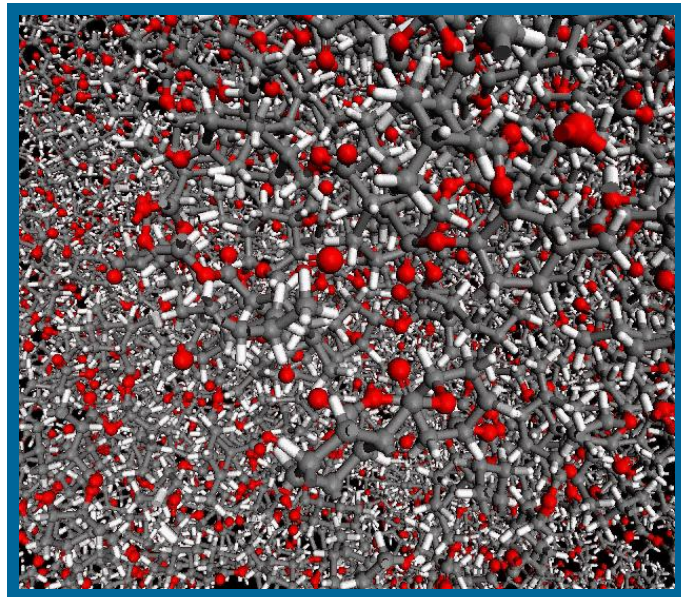
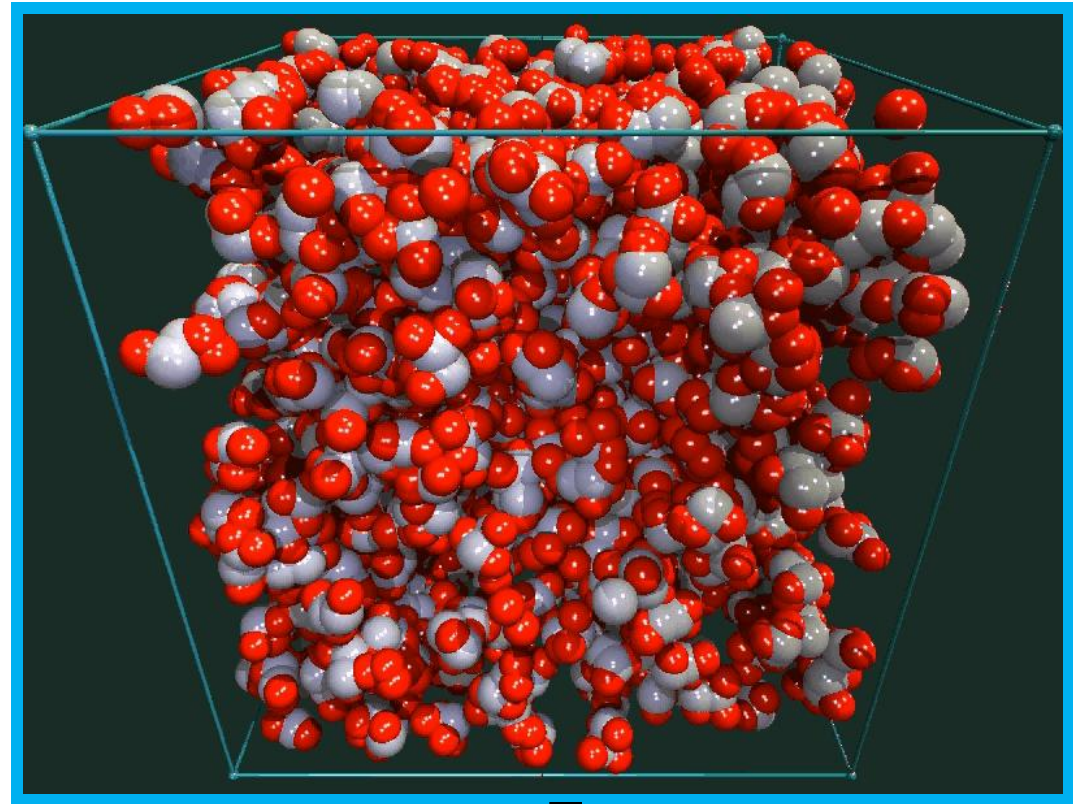


# Polymerization model (chemical network)

Monomers



MC  
→

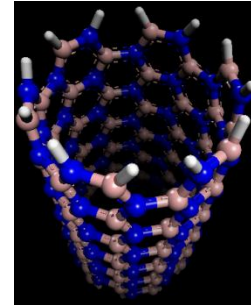
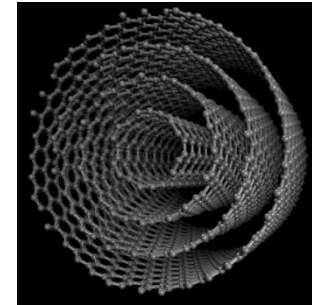
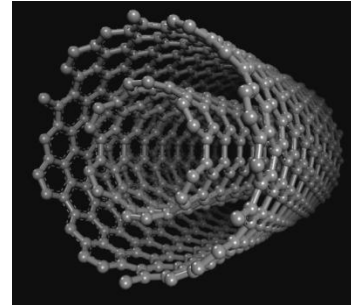
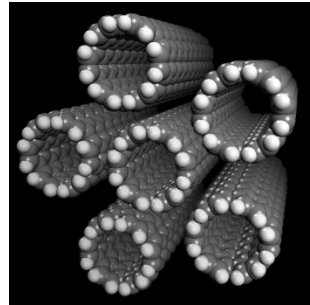
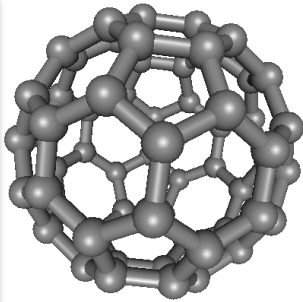
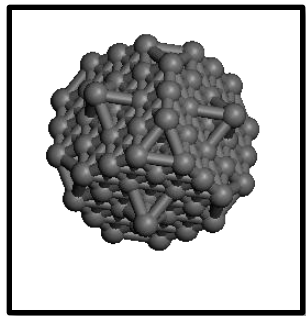


MD  
←

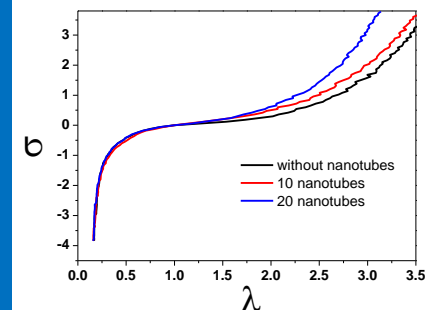
Reverse Mapping

# Nanocomposites: Thermosets with filler (project EU/RUS)

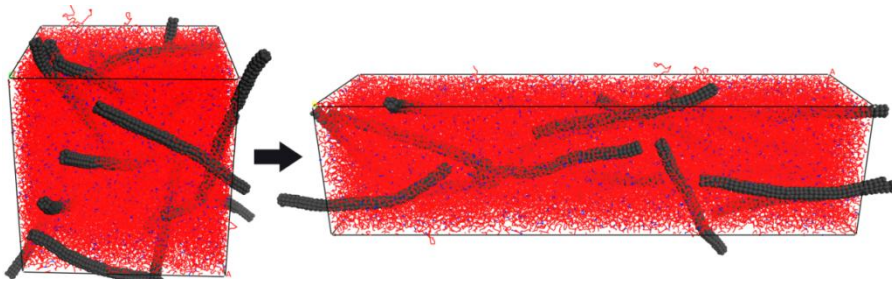
## Different types of nanoparticles



## Deformation mechanics of nanocomposite material

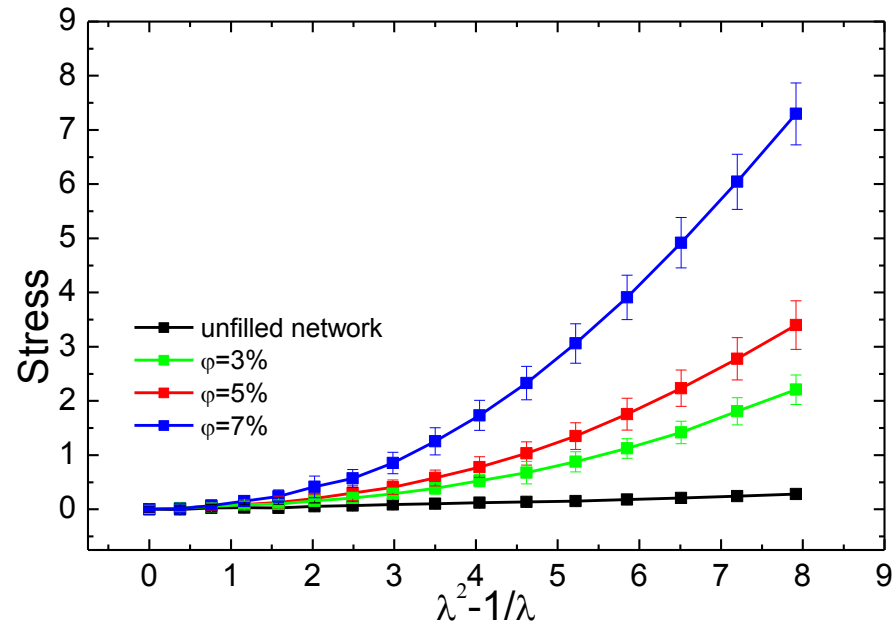
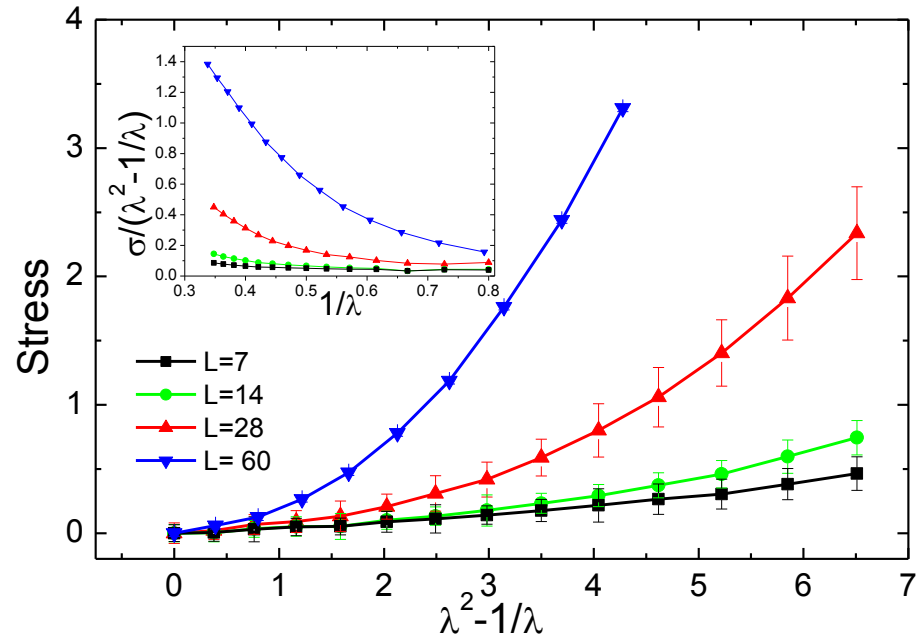
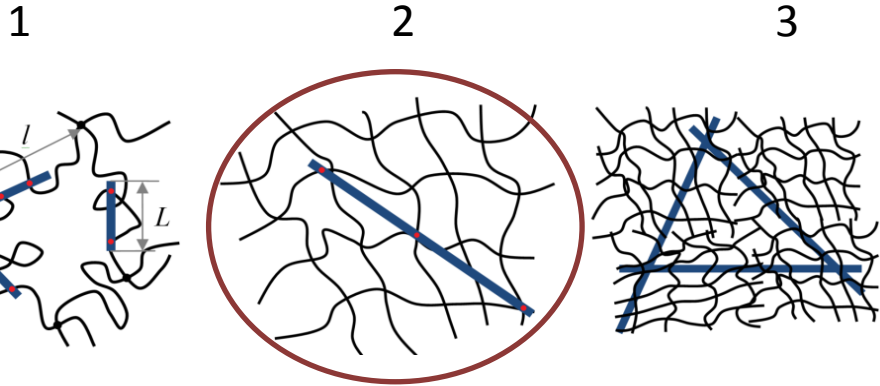


# Composites with nanotubes:



3 regimes of elastomer reinforcement:

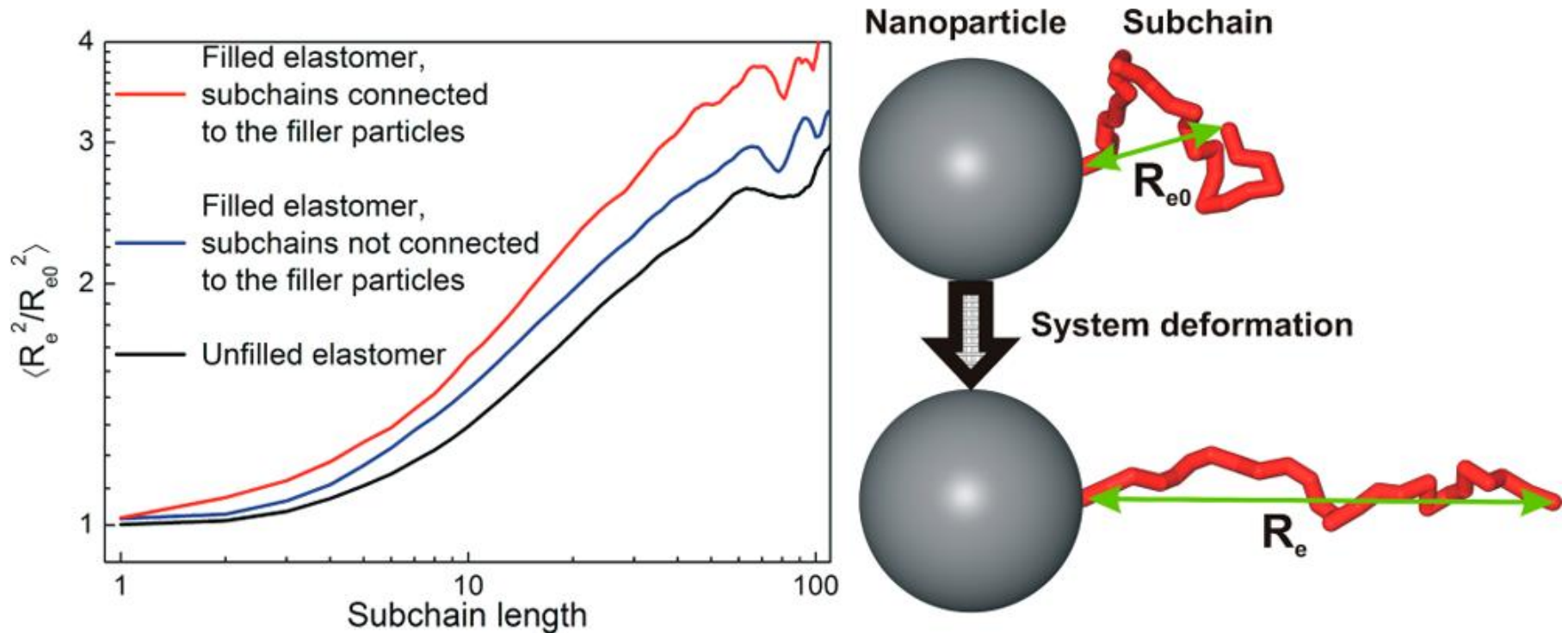
1.  $L/l \sim 1$ : small reinforcement
2.  $L/l > 1$ : main reinforcement regime
3.  $L/l \gg 1$ : saturation after sub-network formation





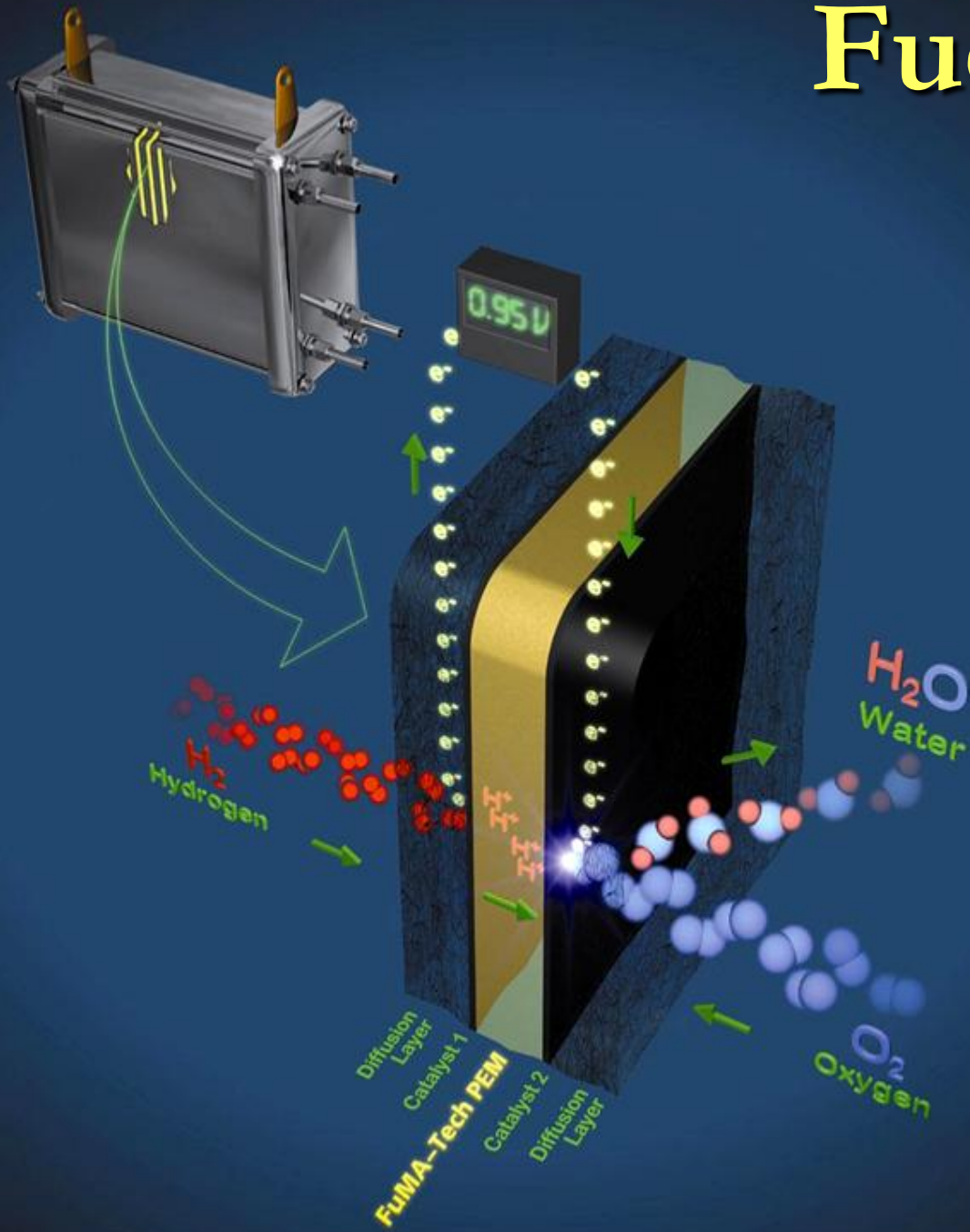
# Reinforcement mechanism

Presence of 2 sets of subchains: connected (adsorbed or linked) and not connected. Subchains **attached** to the nanoparticles are **more deformed** than not attached.

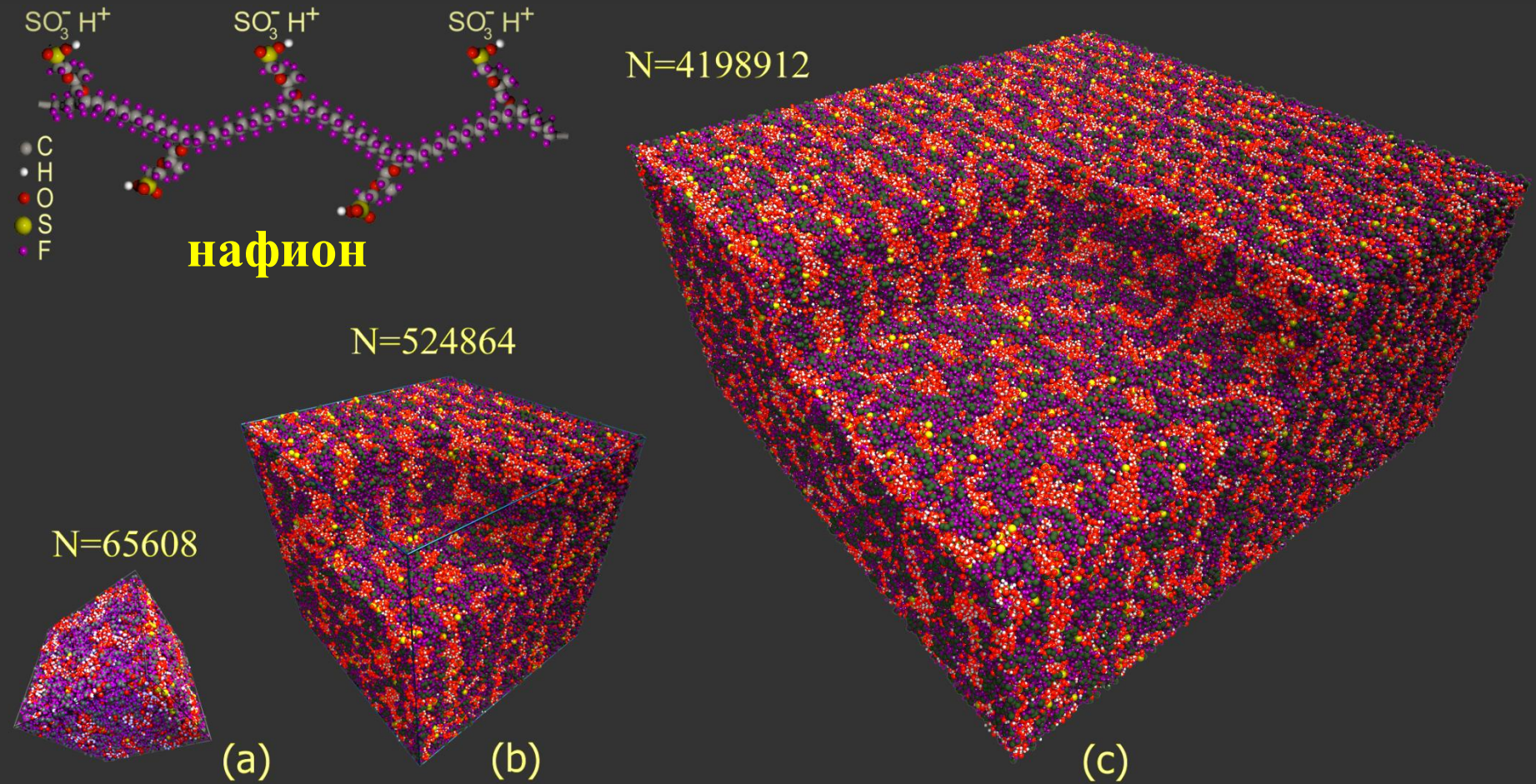


Main reinforcement mechanism: subchains which are not connected to the filler particles are deformed slightly more than in the unfilled matrix + the subchains connected (adsorbed) to the filler particles are deformed significantly more.

# Fuel Cells



# Nafion membrane: classical molecular dynamics (record large-scale modeling using LAMMPS program)



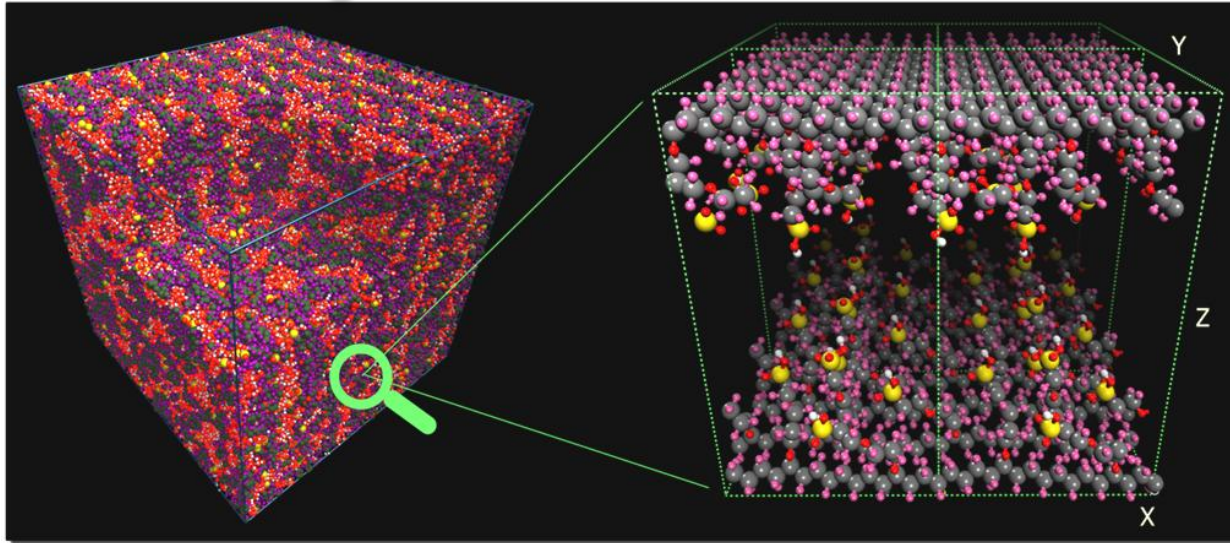
Even small water content leads to the proton conductivity



# Nafion Membrane: Quantum molecular dynamics (record modeling of ion-conducting channel with the package CP2k)

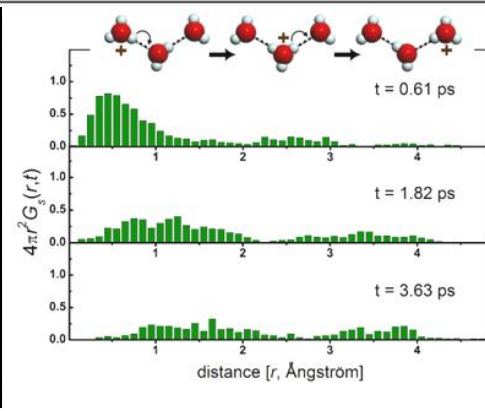
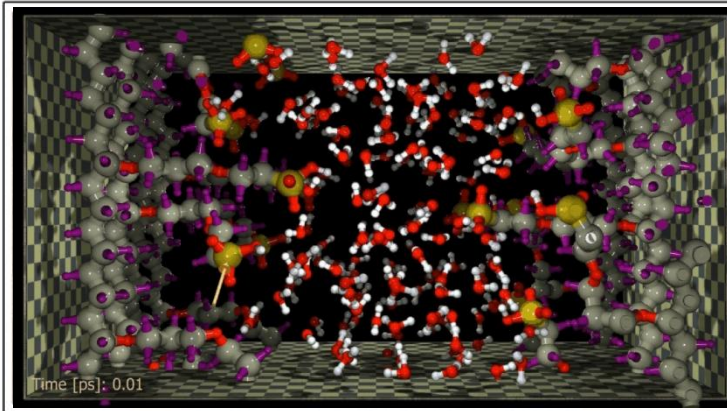
## Charge transfer and Grotthus mechanism

Atomistic  
structure

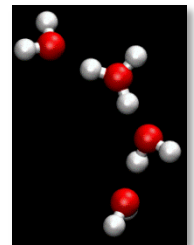


Model of channel

Quantum  
mol.dynamics  
(1200 atoms)



Charge transfer

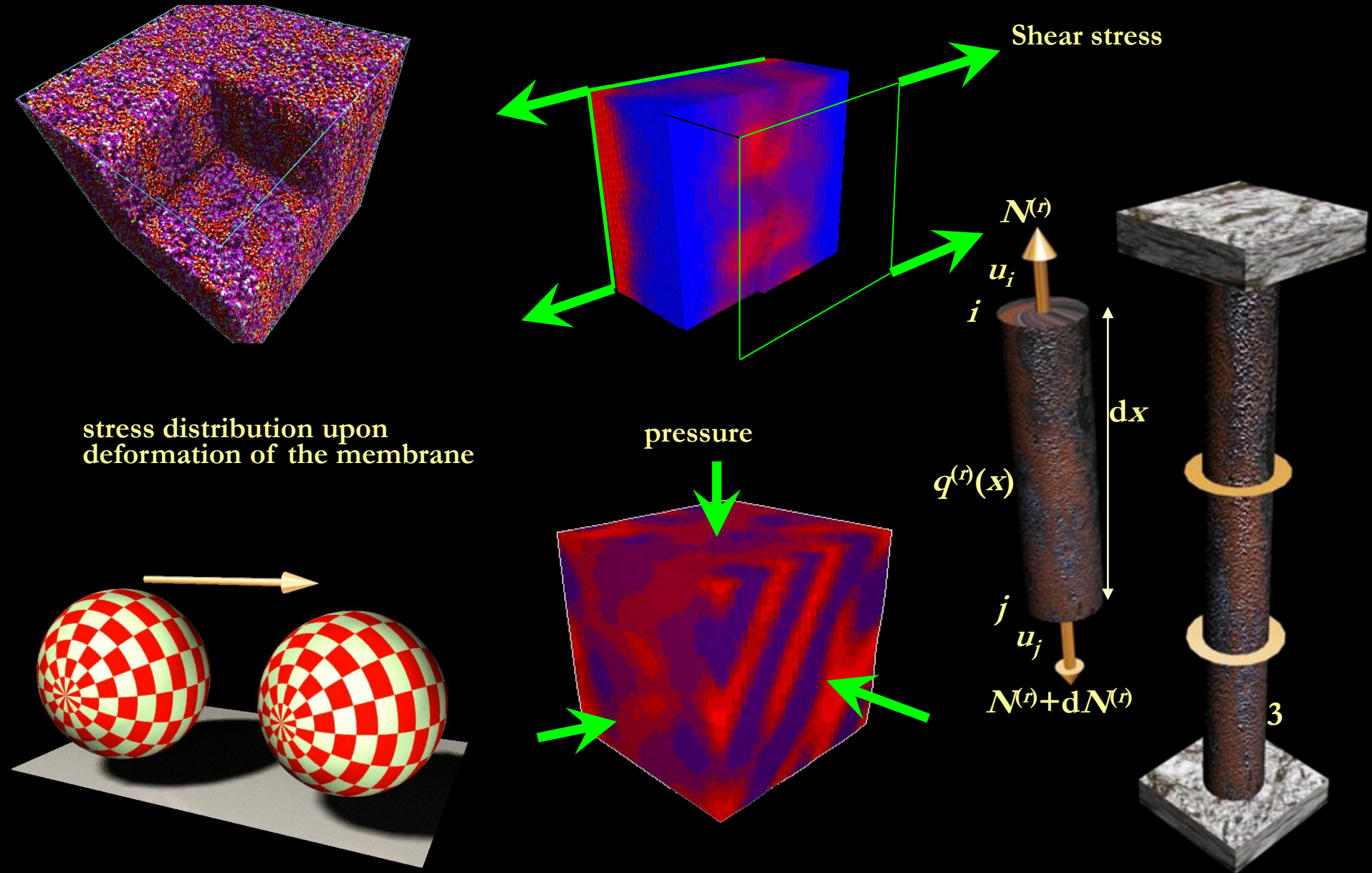


We used a hybrid approach within the framework of the density functional theory (DFT) combining Born-Oppenheimer quantum molecular dynamics (BOMD) and Carr-Parinello method (CPMD)

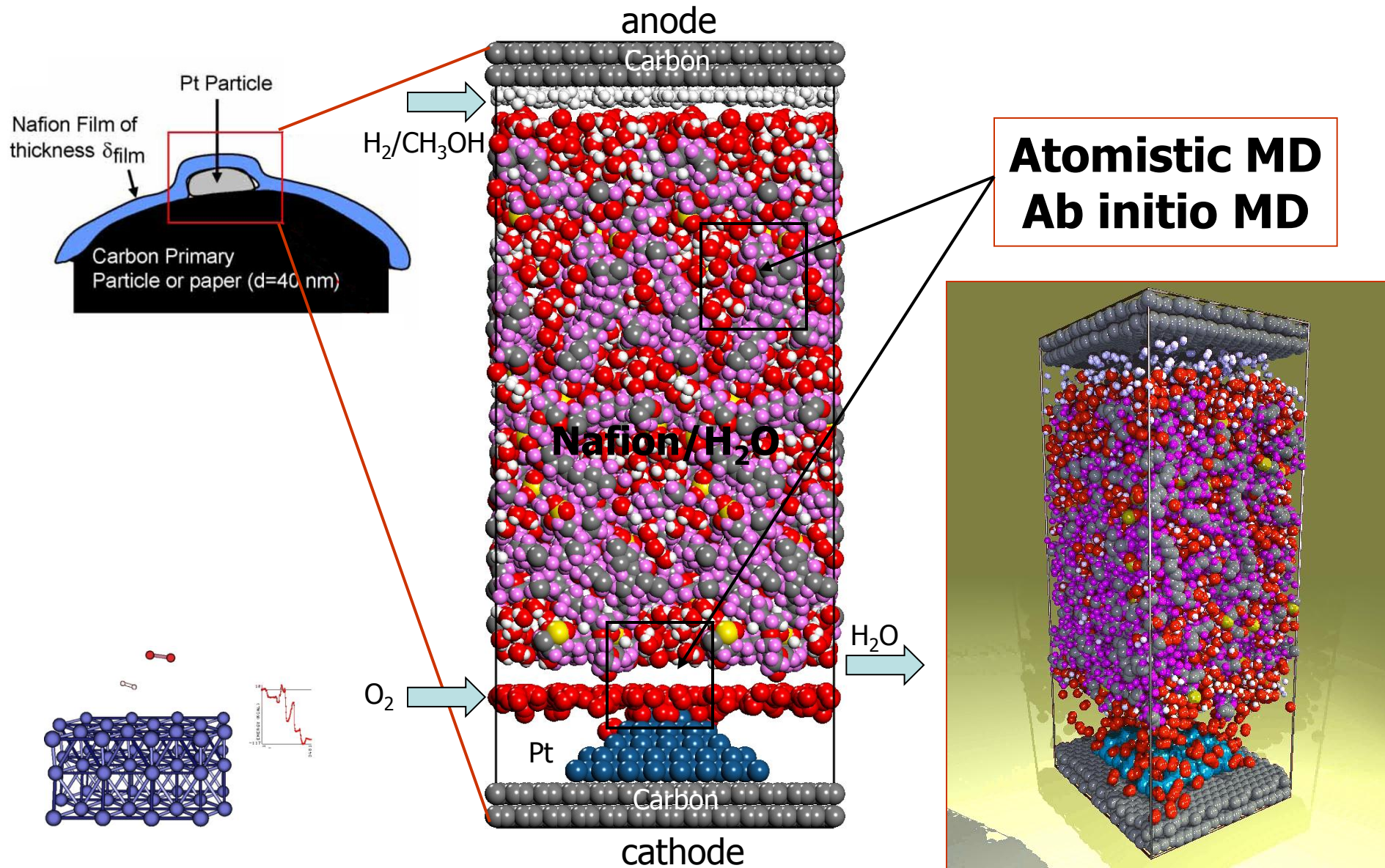
**The observed bimodality of Van Hove spatio-temporal correlation function  $G_s(r,t)$  gives a first direct evidence of Grotthus mechanism**



# Fuel cell membrane: finite element method (OCTA multiscale simulation software package)

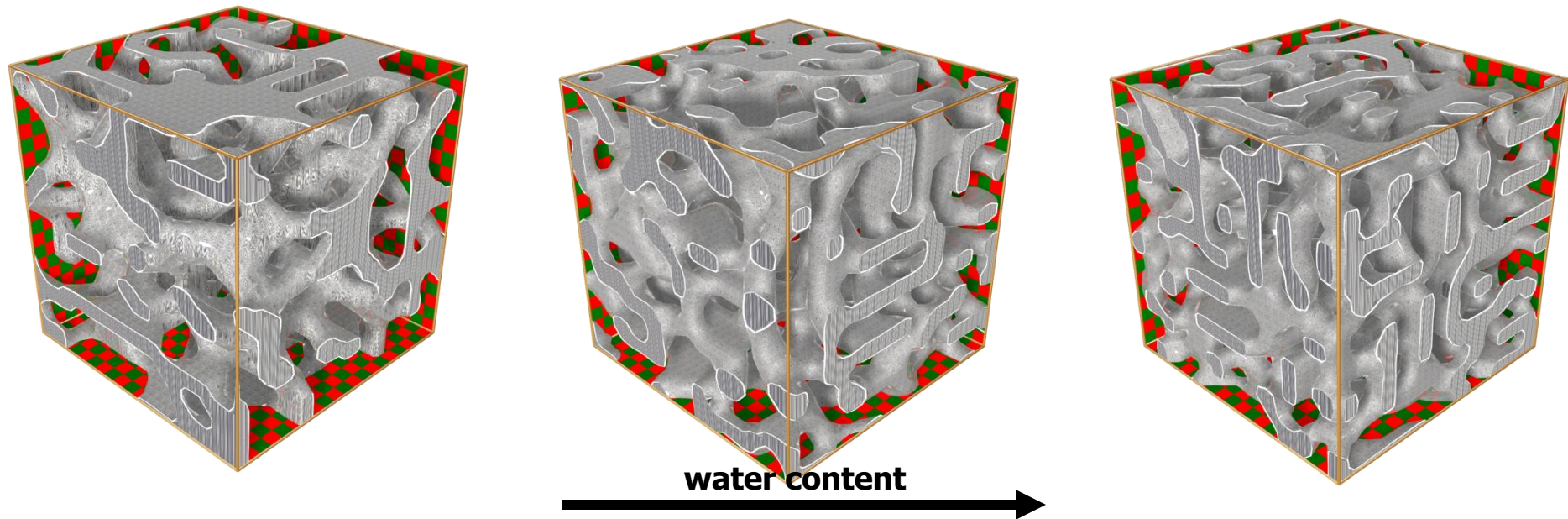
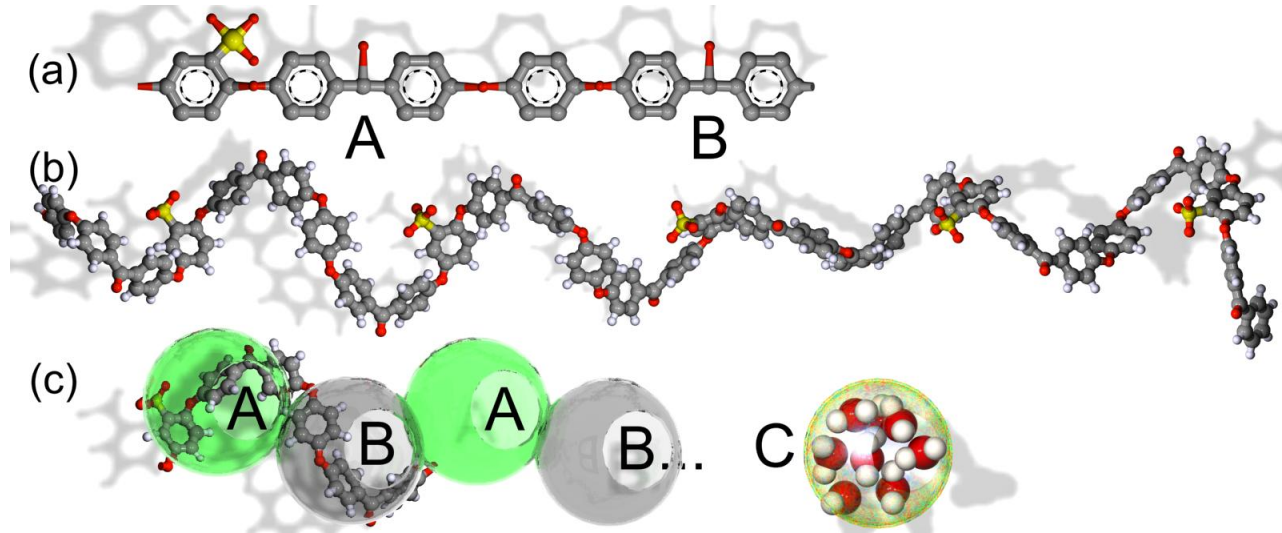


# Atomistic model of the overall PEM FC, including cathode, anode, and interfaces.

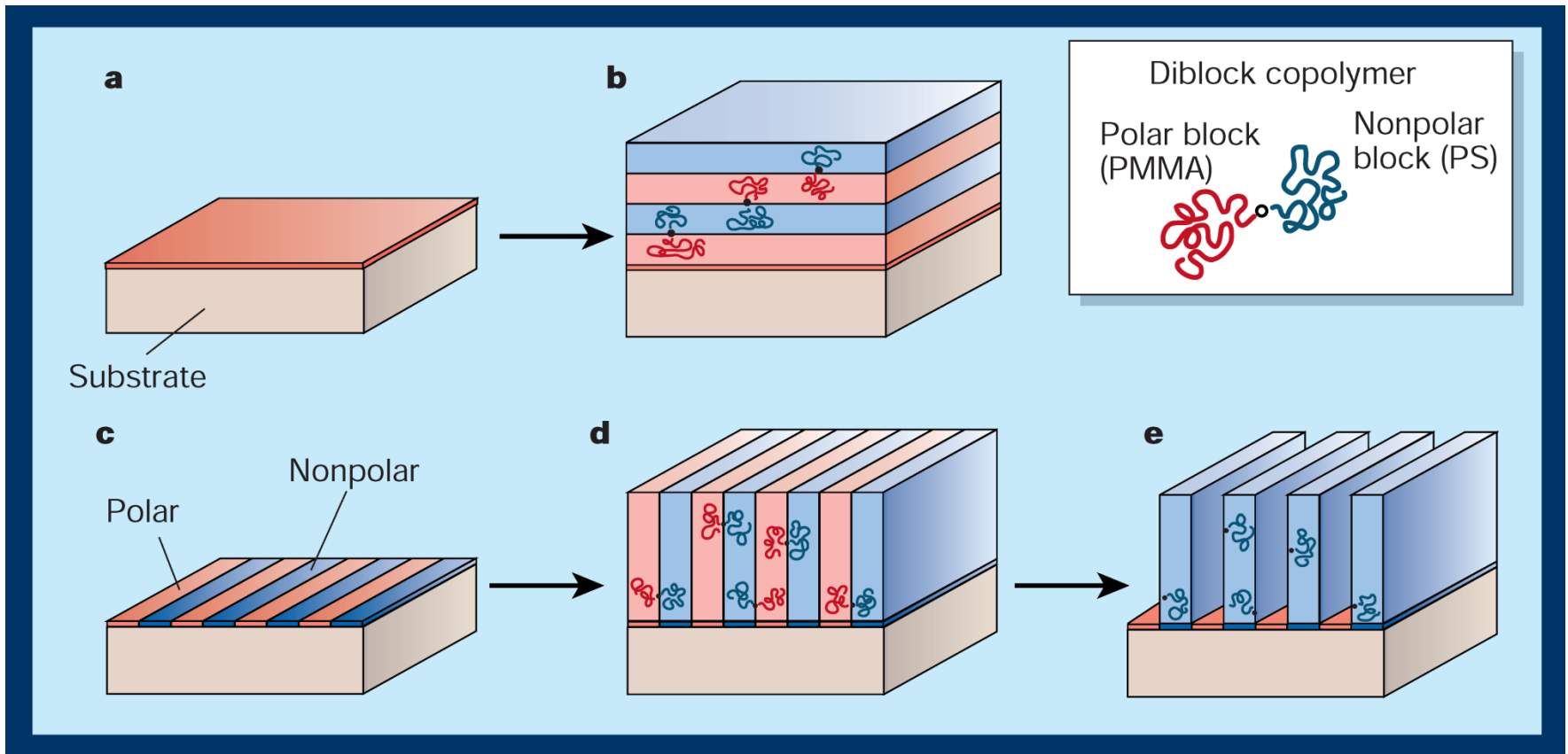




# Membranes for low-temperature fuel cells based on new aromatic copolymers (mesoscopic simulation)



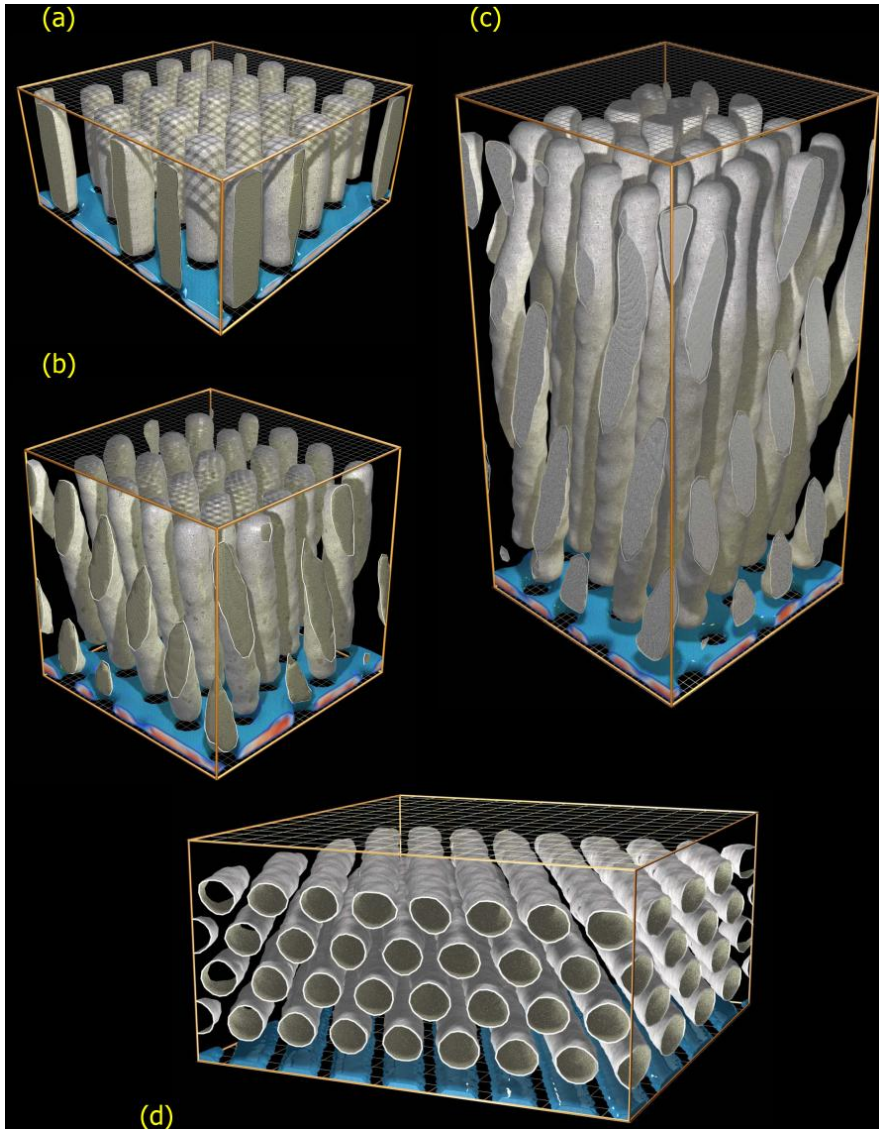
# Construction of ultrathin nanostructured films



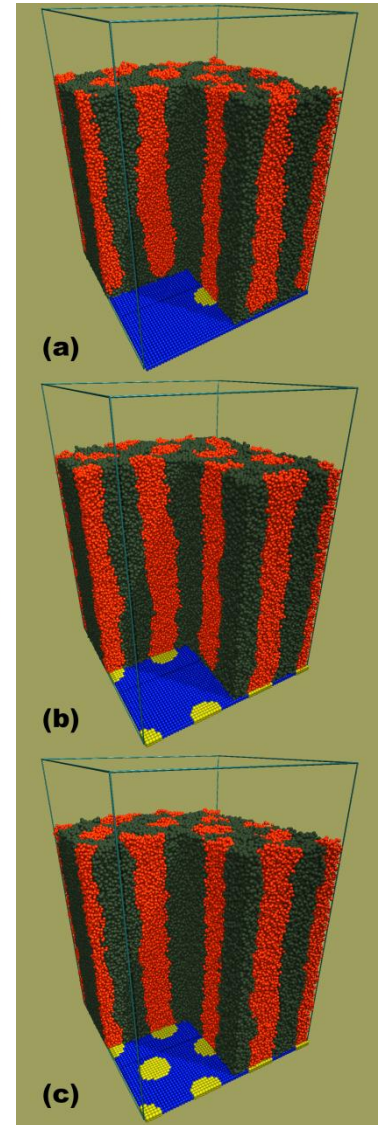
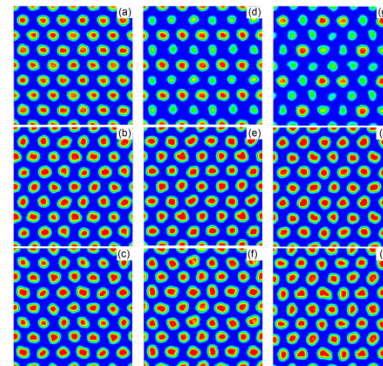
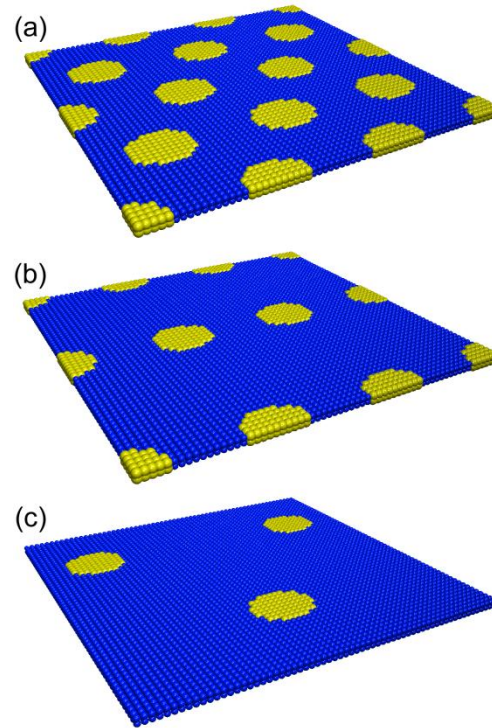


# New strategies in microdomain orientation

## Double phase separation



## Influence of orienting pattern. Effect of pattern multiplication

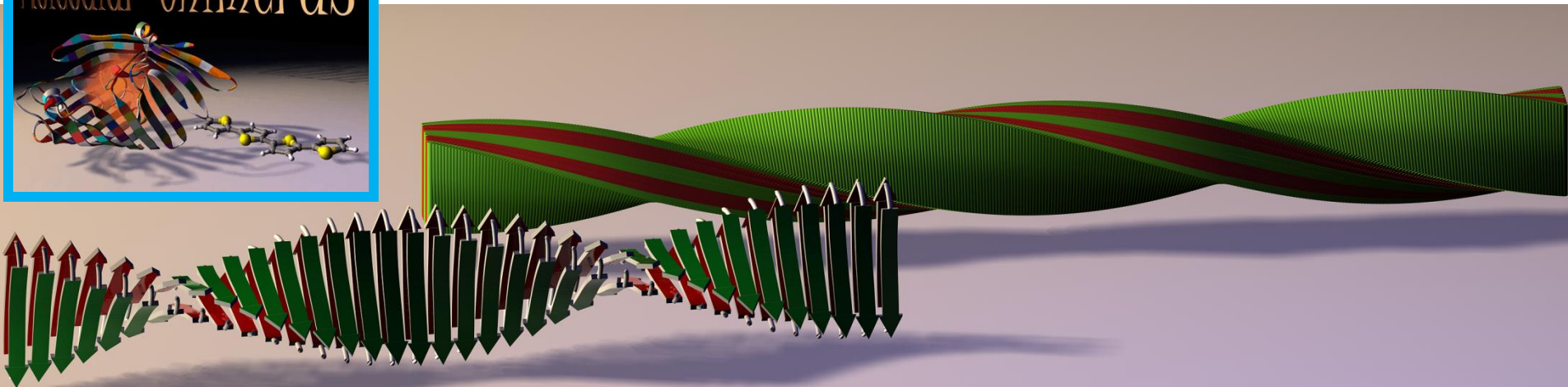


# Bioinspired molecular hybrids



## “Molecular chimeras”

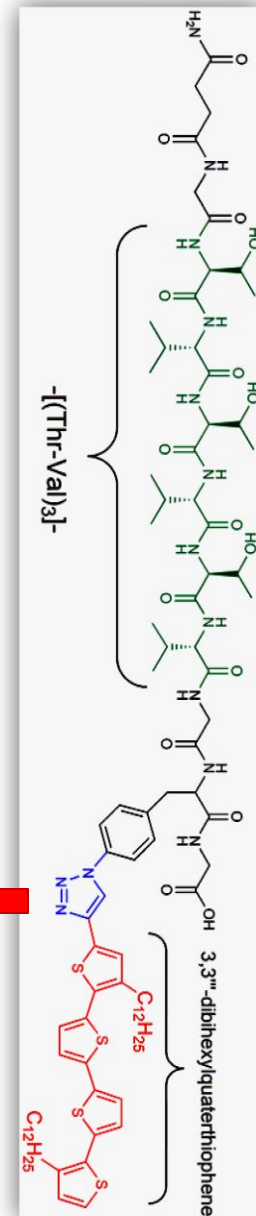
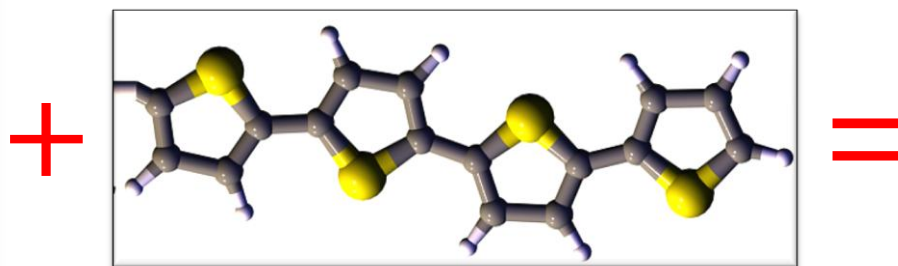
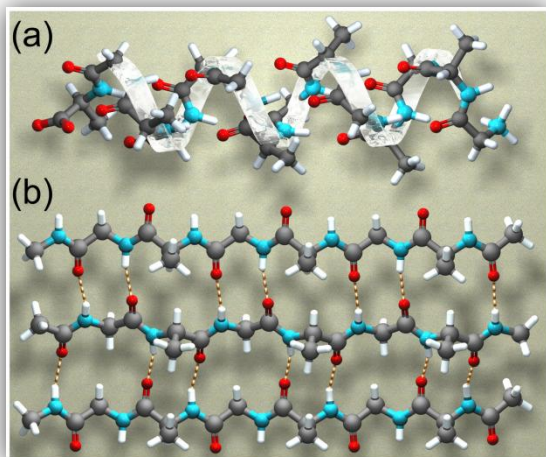
... Combining functionalities of biological and synthetic worlds..



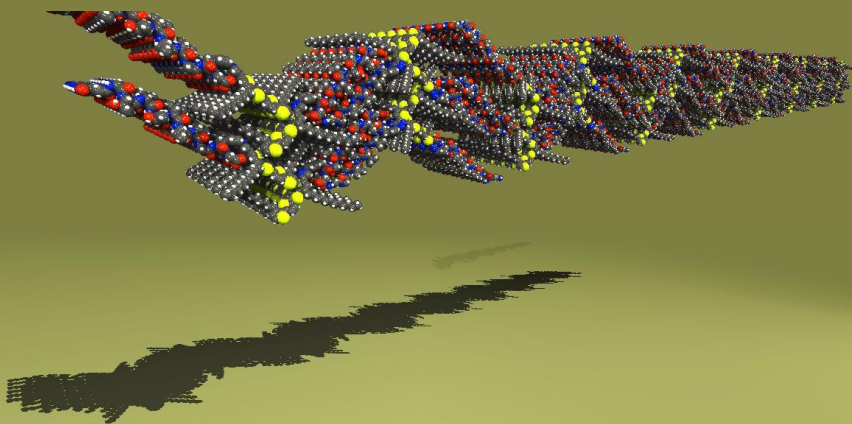


# Self-organizing bioinspired nanofibers based on oligothiophene-oligopeptide "molecular chimeras"

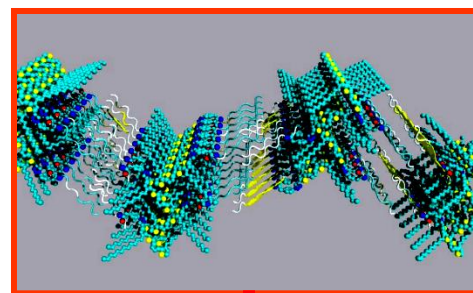
## 1. Synthesis



Large-scale massively parallel simulations:  
LAMMPS package  
LOMONOSOV-MSU, 1024 CPU



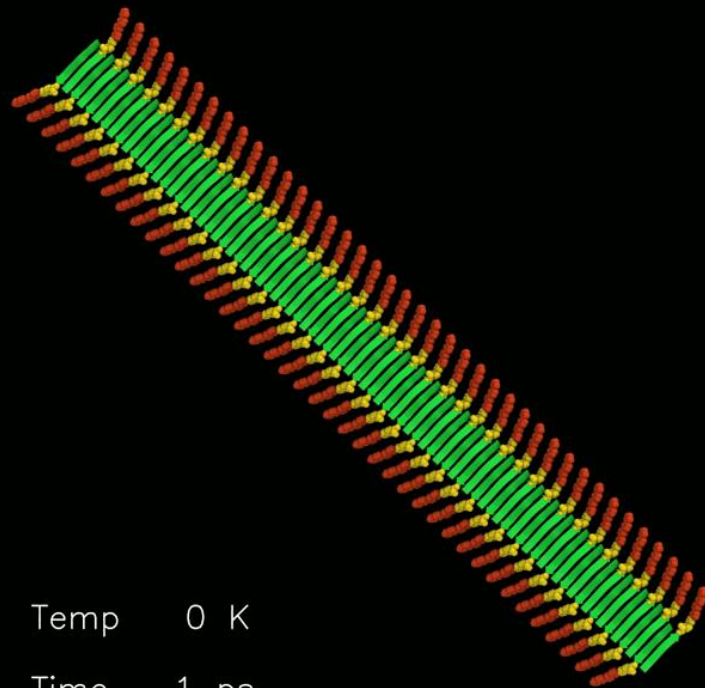
## 2. Self-organization



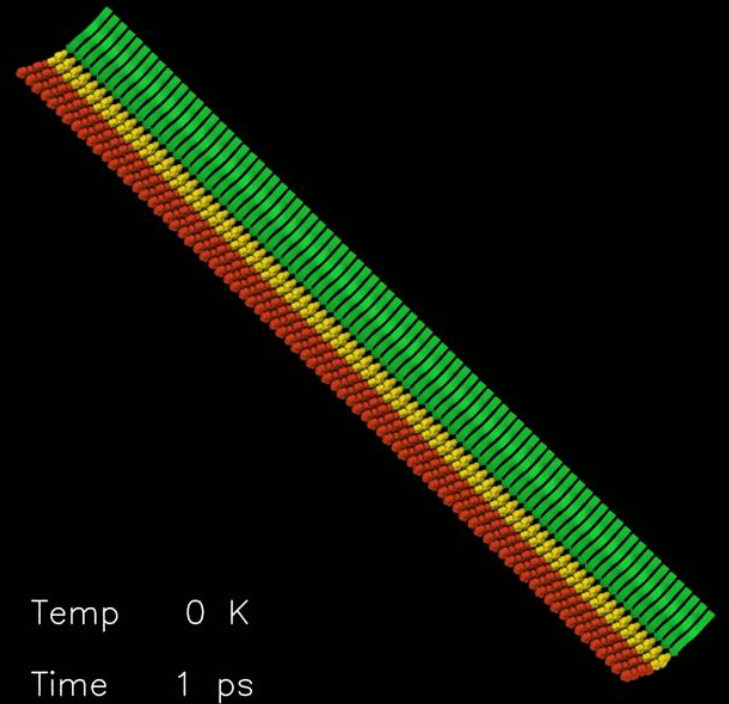
## 3. Simulation

# Helix-like Nanofibrils

Dependence of supramolecular morphology in fibrils formed by thiophene-peptide diblock oligomers on the intermolecular aggregation pattern



**Antiparallel arrangement  
of  $\beta$ -sheets**



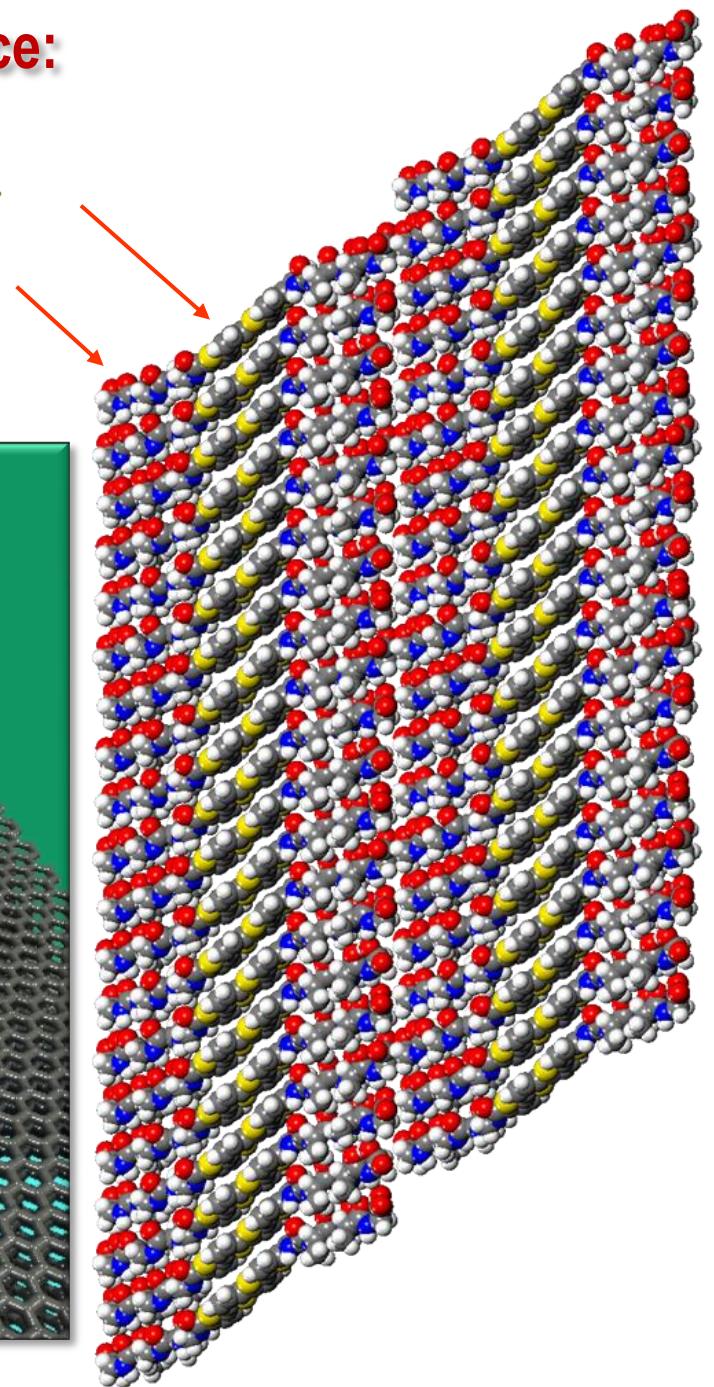
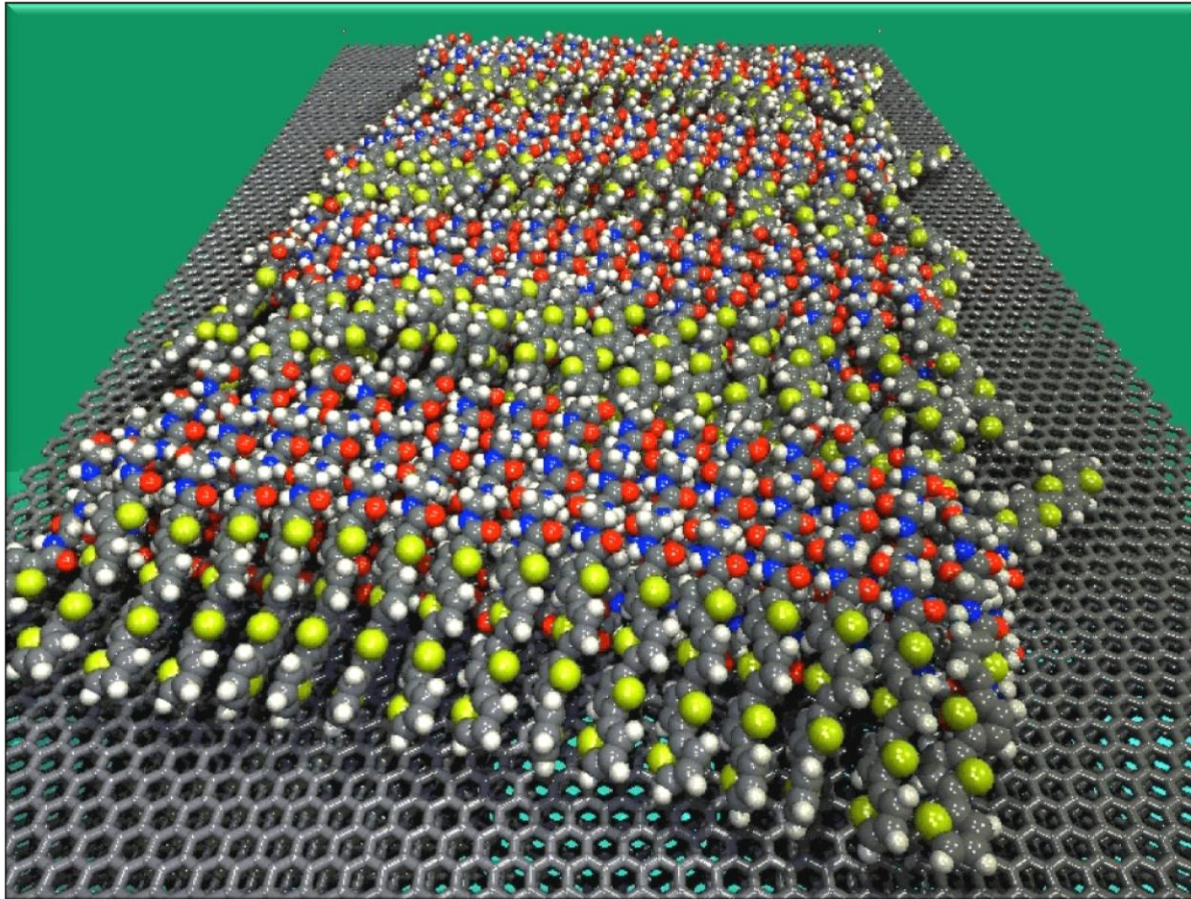
**Parallel arrangement  
of  $\beta$ -sheets**



# Molecular self-organization on surface: Functional layered structures

Electroconductive layer

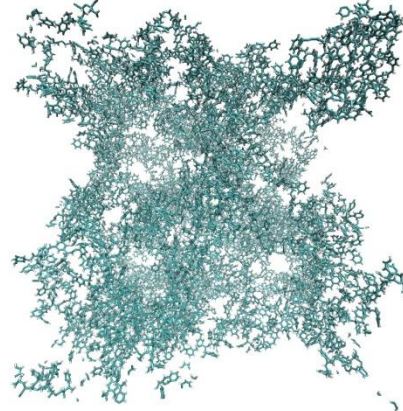
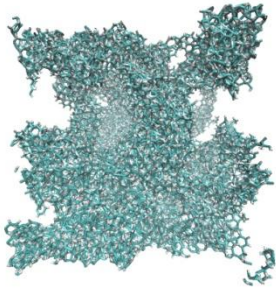
Peptide backbone



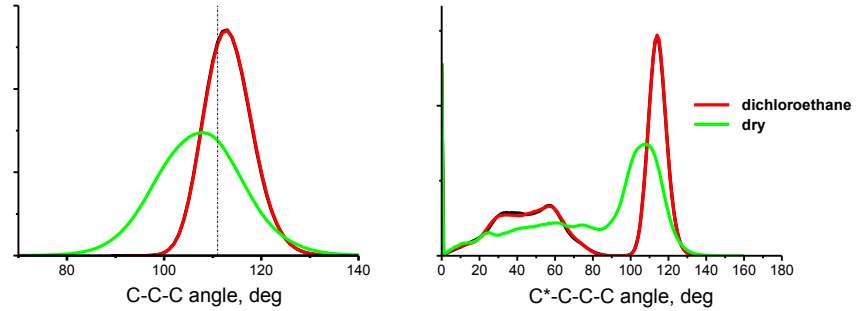
# Hypercrosslinked polystyrene

dry

1,2-dichloroethane



## Bond and dehydral angles



## Elastic modulus, MPa

Linker/polymer ratio $x$	CG	Atomistic
0.5	1.35±0.61	3.6±0.4
1.0	6.7±2.4	65±22

## Specific surface, 10<sup>3</sup> m<sup>2</sup>/g.

Linker/polymer ratio $x$	CG	Atomistic
0.5	4.6±0.2	4.2±0.2
1.0	3.4±0.2	3.3±0.2

## Experimental data (V.A. Davankov, M.P.Tsurupa)

**Dry hypercrosslinked PS:**  
 inner surface up to 1000 m<sup>2</sup>/g  
 pore size 2-3 nm

**PS swollen in toluene:**  
 Elastic modulus 100 -900 MPa