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Applying Neutron and X-ray methods to Soft Matter II: thin films

Adrian Rennie

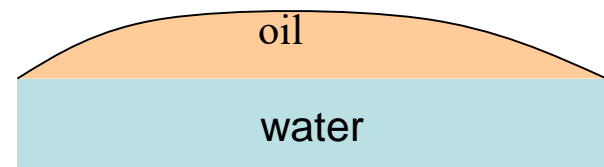
Uppsala University, Sweden



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Reflection

Light

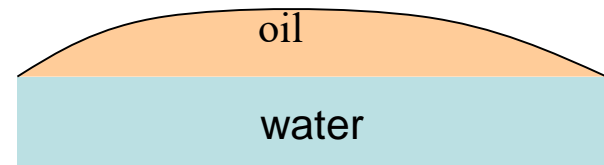
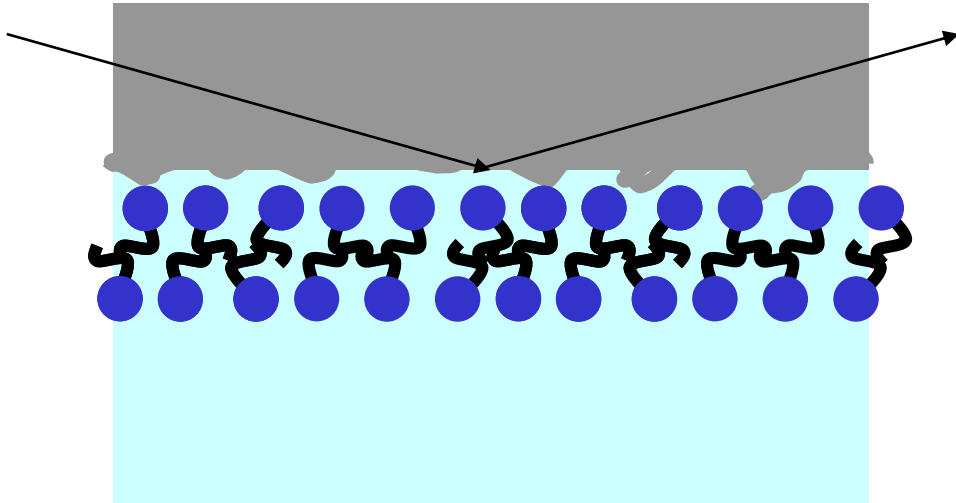




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Reflection

Light

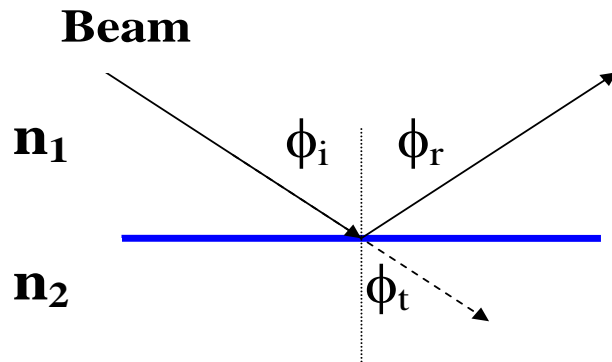




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Reflection and Refraction: Snell's Law

Optical Notation



For specular reflection:

$$\phi_i = \phi_r$$

Transmitted beam is refracted:

$$n_2 \sin \phi_t = n_1 \sin \phi_i$$

n is refractive index



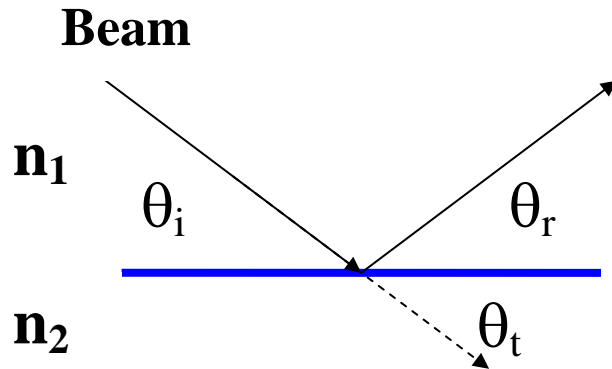
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Reflection and Refraction: Snell's Law

For specular reflection:

$$\theta_i = \theta_r$$

Neutron Reflection
Notation



Transmitted beam is
refracted:

$$n_2 \cos \theta_t = n_1 \cos \theta_i$$

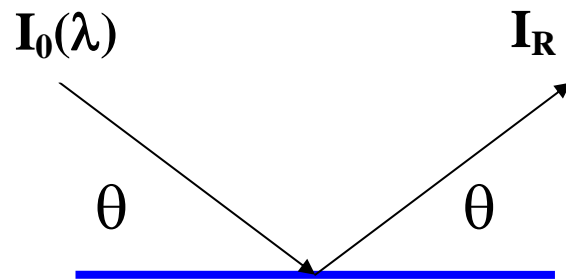
n is refractive index



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Reflection – measured quantities

Reflection



Reflected beam
deflected: 2θ

Reflectivity

$$R(Q) = I_R / I_0(\lambda)$$

Momentum transfer

$$Q = (4\pi/\lambda) \sin \theta$$



Contrast in a Thin Film

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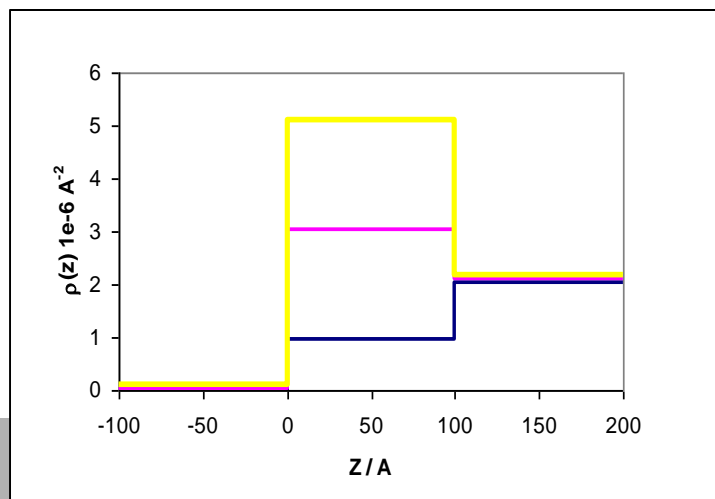
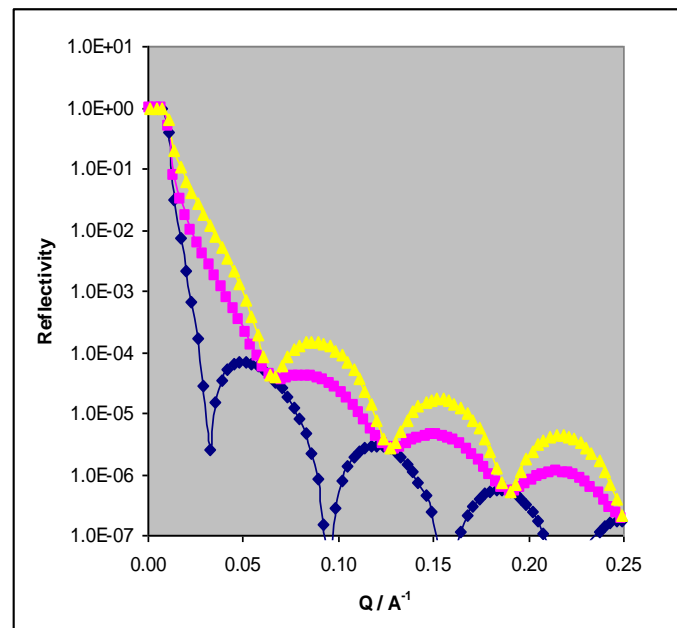
Calculation for Neutrons

100 Å layer with $\rho=1, 3 \text{ \& } 5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ \AA}^{-2}$
on Si ($\rho=2.07 \times 10^{-6} \text{ \AA}^{-2}$)

Increasing contrast changes visibility of fringes

Phase change makes large difference

Fringes (Kiessig fringes) – spacing indicates film thickness for a single layer.

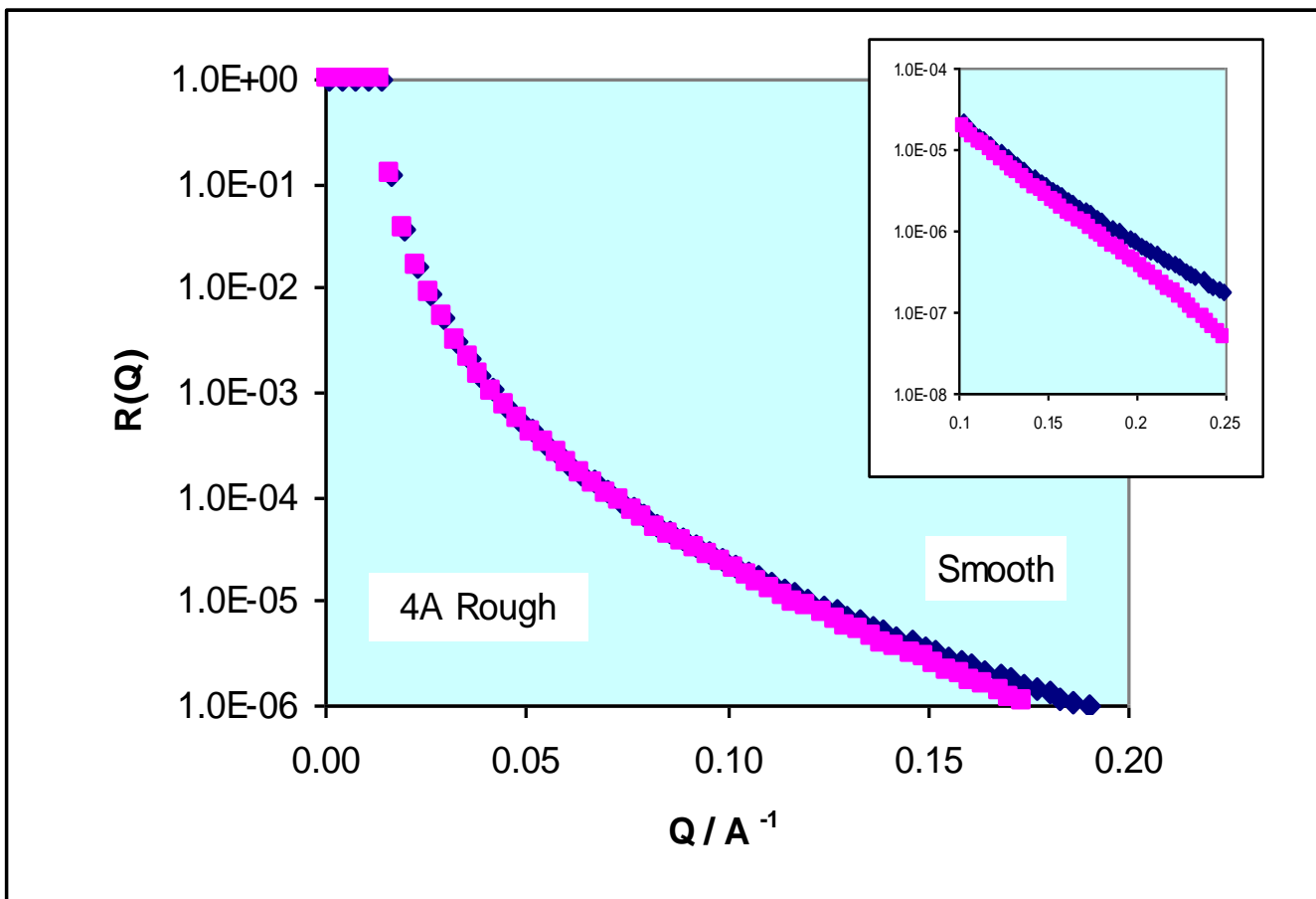




Roughness

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Reflectivity from rough surfaces is decreased.





Intensity of Reflected Signal

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Waves interfere constructively for

$$2 d \sin \theta = \lambda, 2\lambda, 3\lambda \dots \text{ (Bragg's law)}$$

Measured reflectivity will depend on angle and wavelength.

Total reflection for angles less than critical angle,

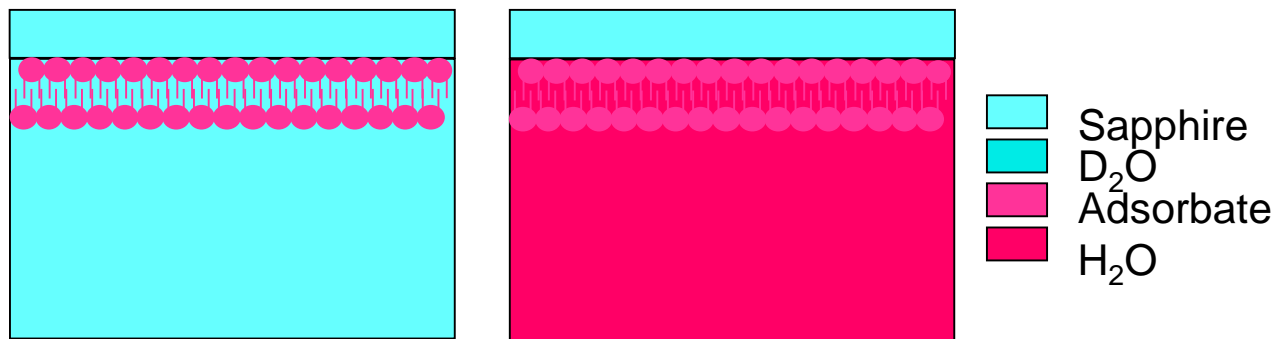
$$\theta_c = \arccos(n_1/n_2)$$



Useful Physical Ideas

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Isotopes (e.g. D/H substitution) can be used to label particular species or alter contrast

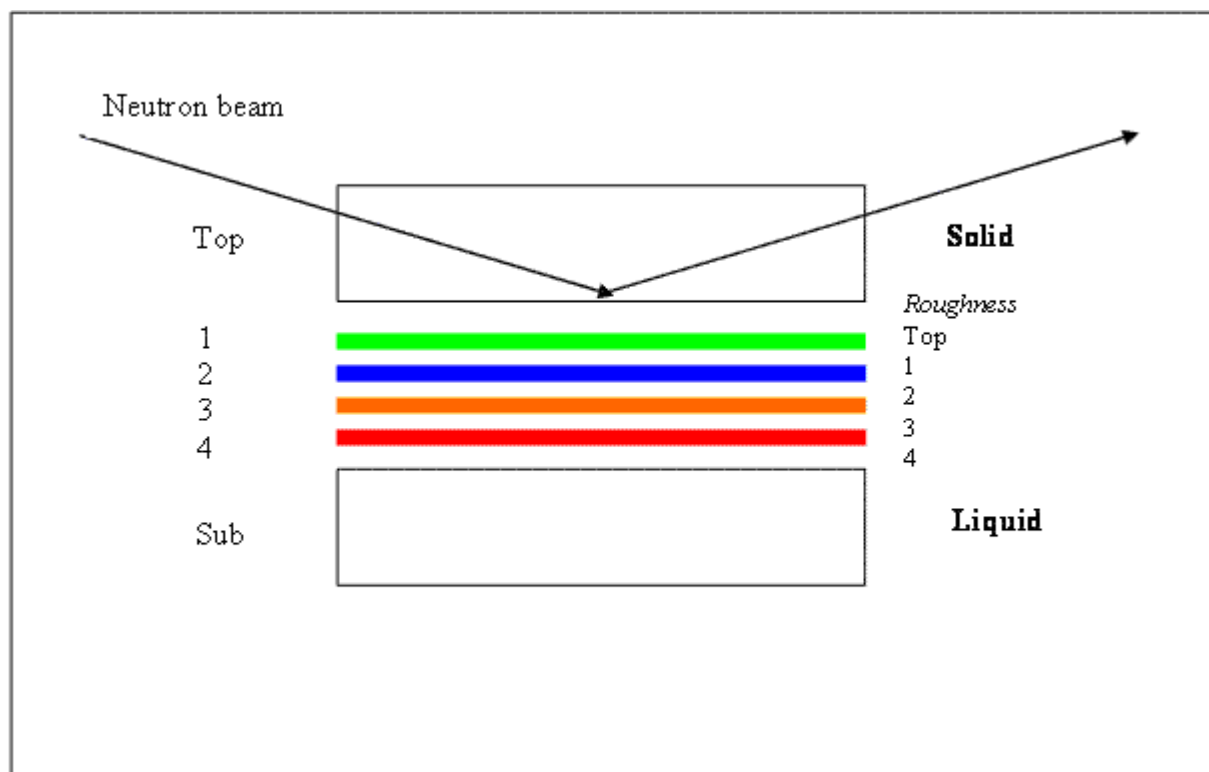




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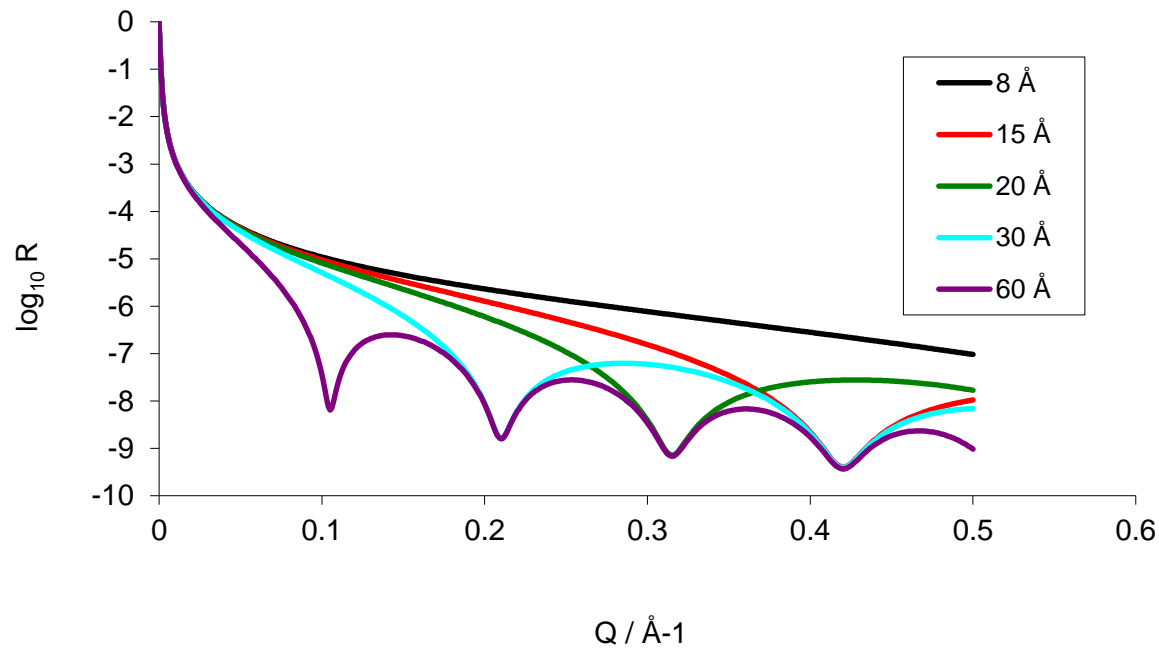
Useful Physical Ideas

Models for complex interfaces:
multiple thin layers of different refractive index, n



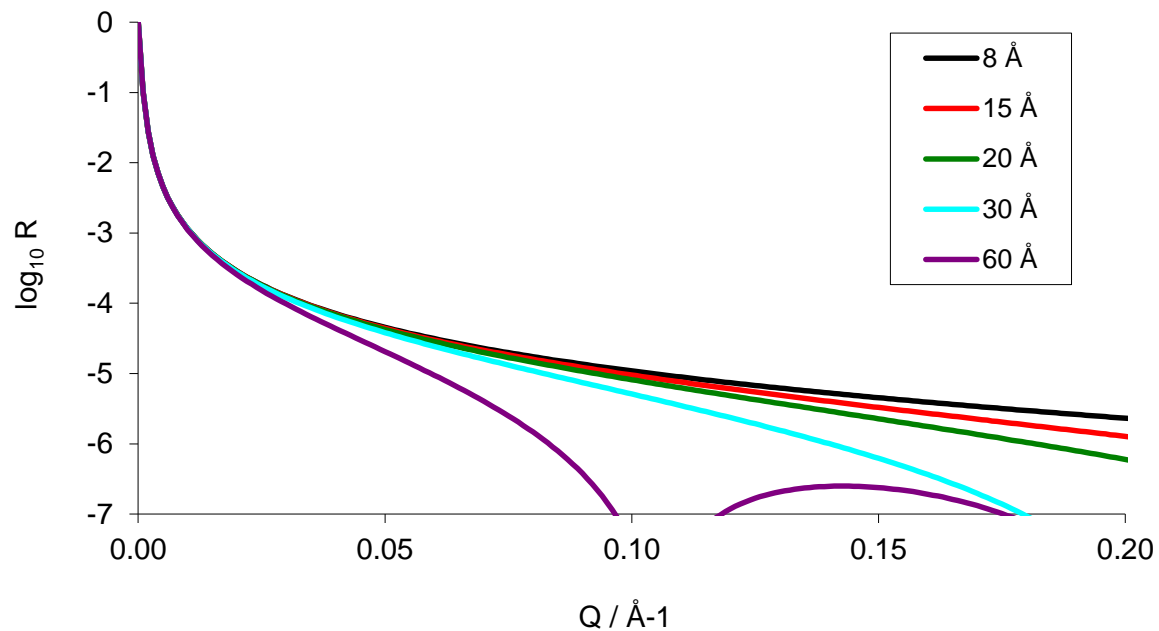


Understanding Reflection - Monolayers



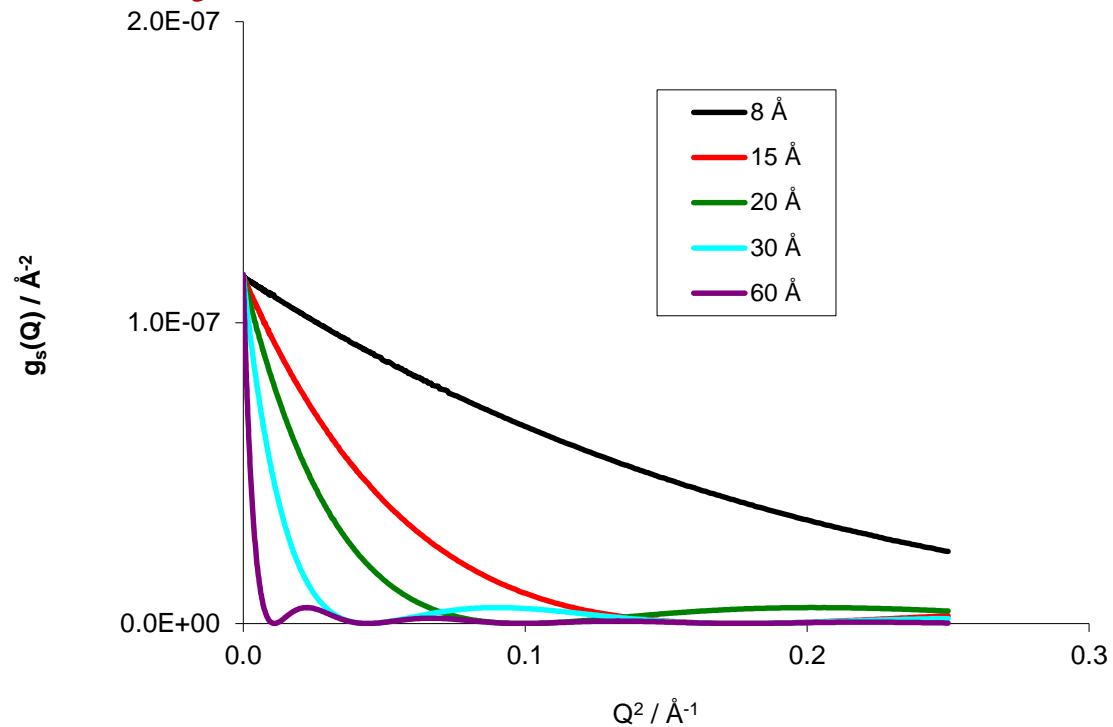


Understanding Reflection - Monolayers





Understanding Reflection - Monolayers



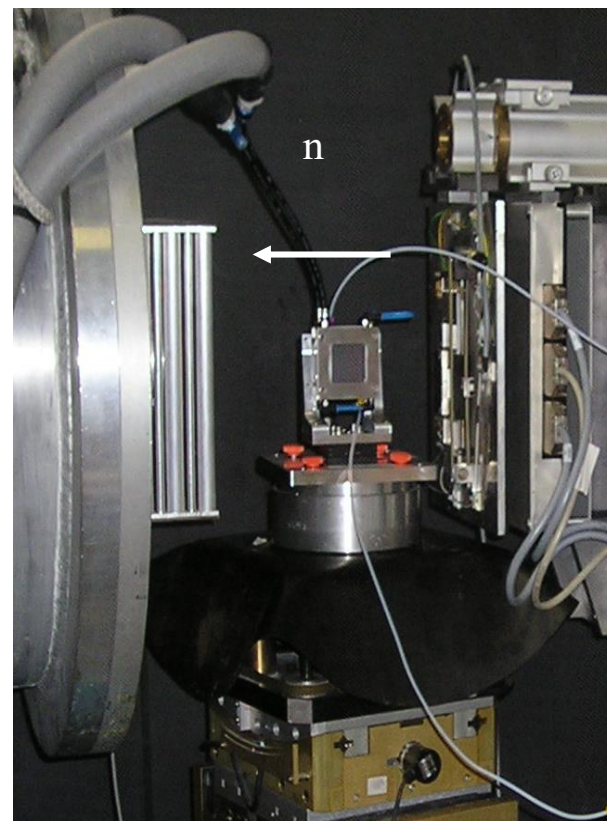
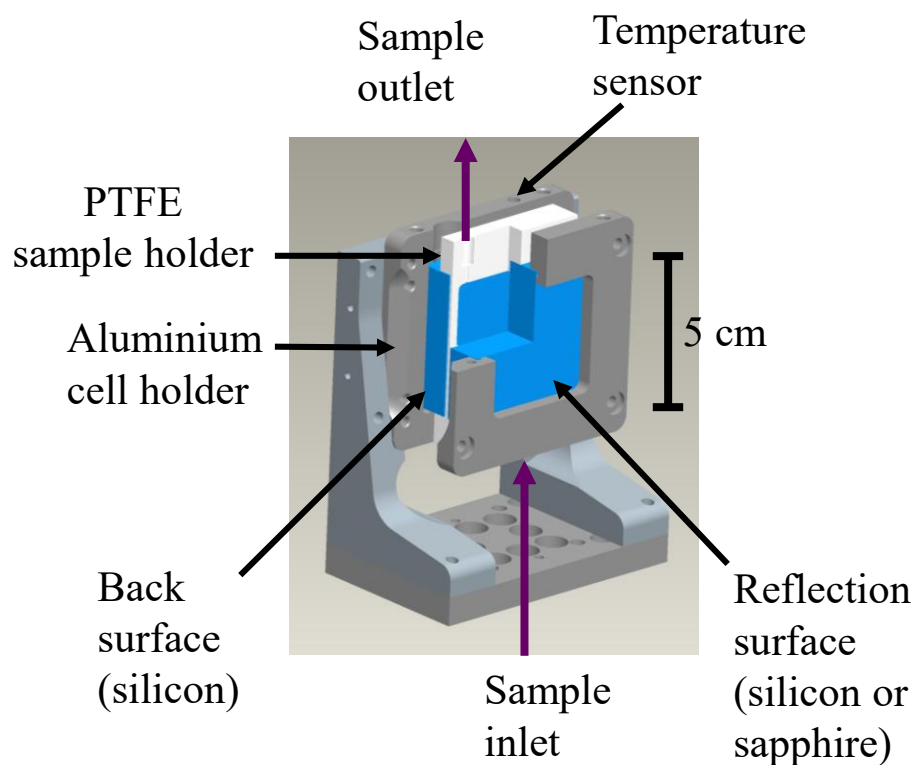
$$g_s(Q) = Q^2 (R - R_F) / (1 - R)$$



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Solid/liquid Sample Cell

D17 reflectometer
ILL, France





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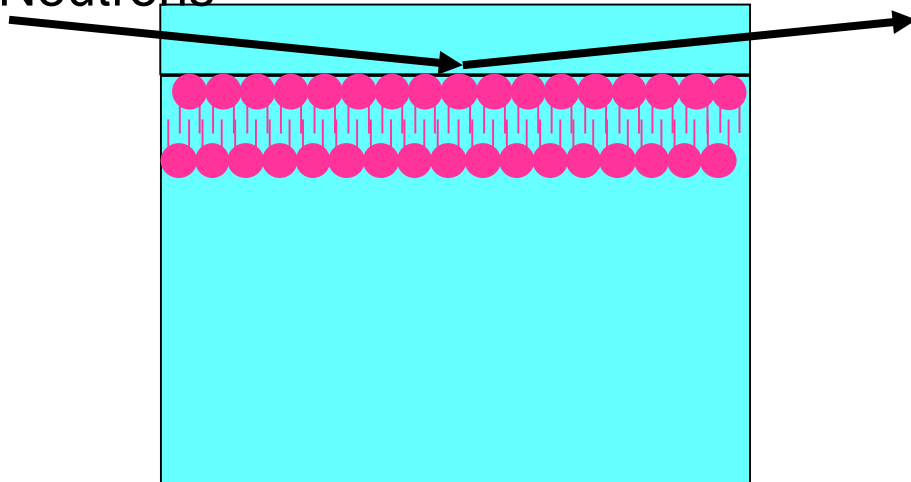
Neutron reflection

Contrast matching

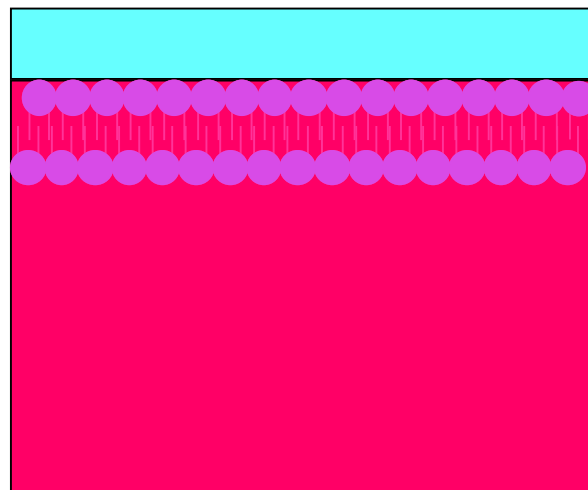
Solvent hydrogen/deuterium
composition

- Sapphire
- D₂O
- Adsorbate
- H₂O

Neutrons



Adsorbate / D₂O



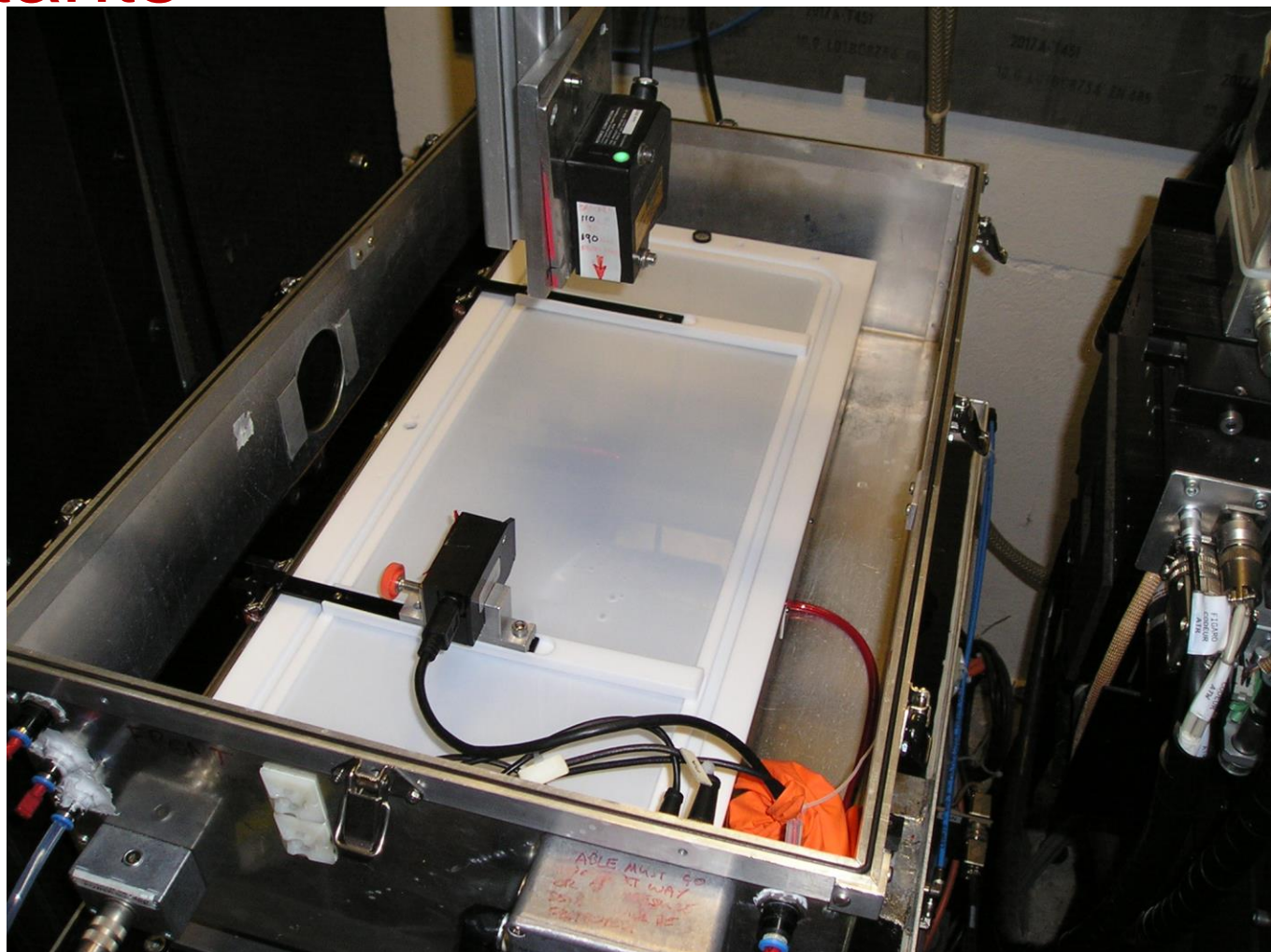
Adsorbate / H₂O



Liquid surfaces / Model Lung Surfactants

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Spread films
of lipids and
proteins on a
Langmuir
trough

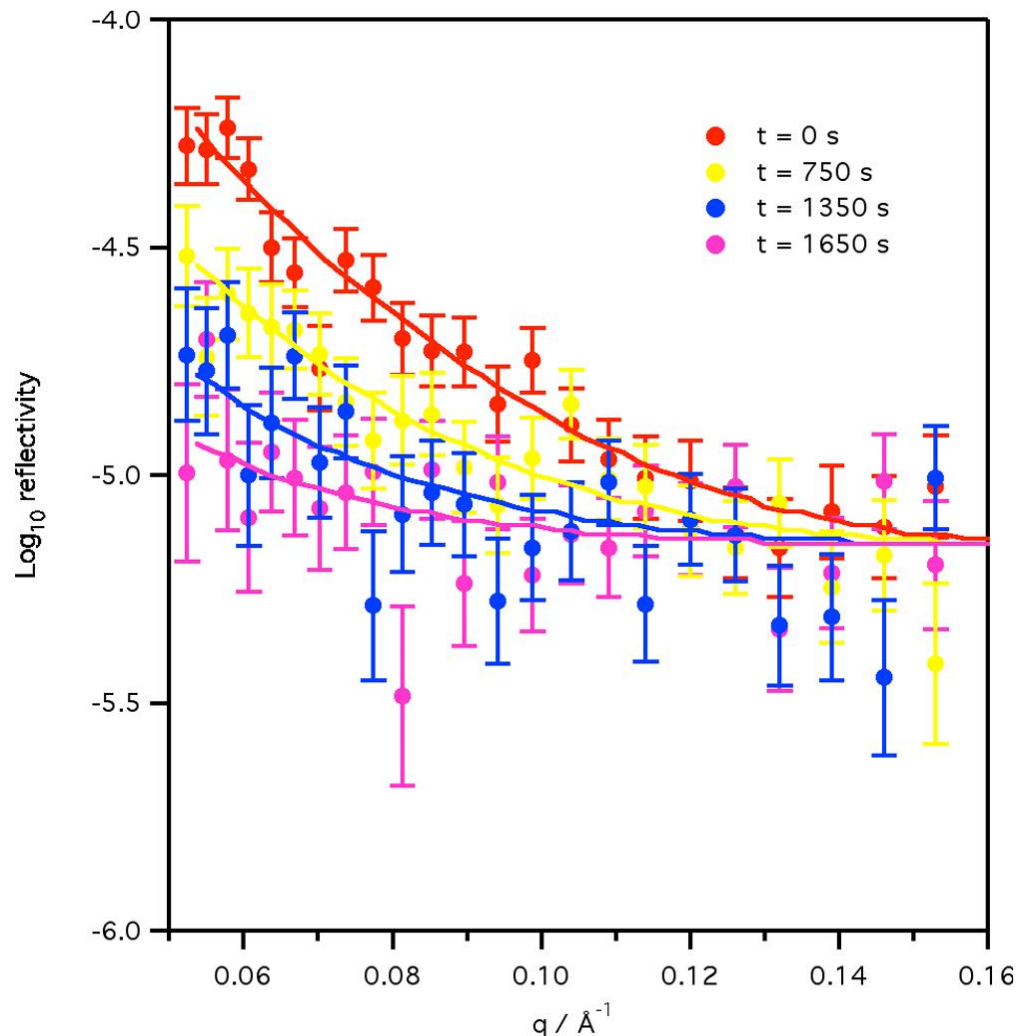




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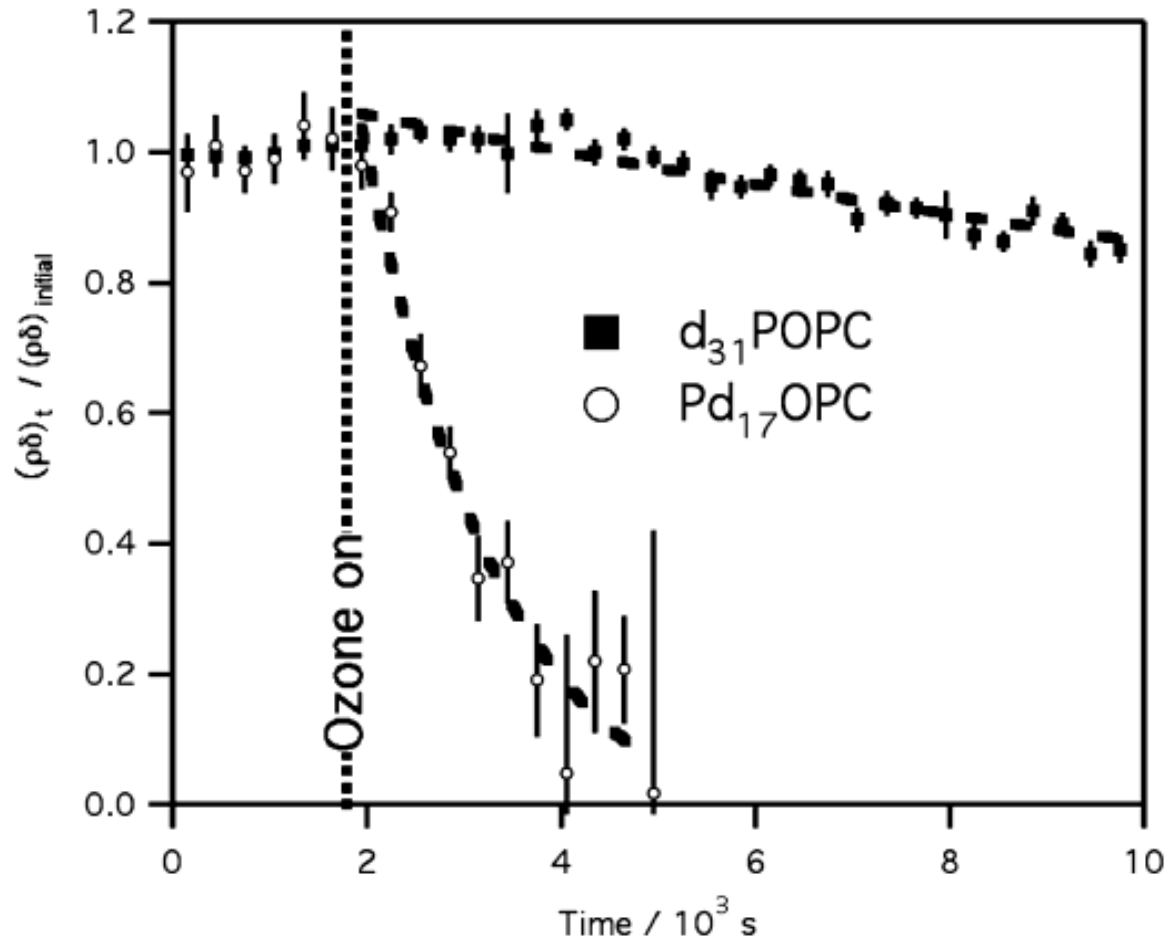
Observe Reflectivity changes during a reaction

Pd₁₇OPC with O₃





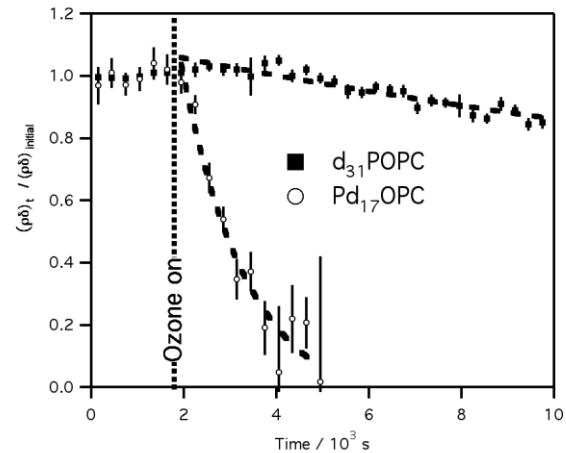
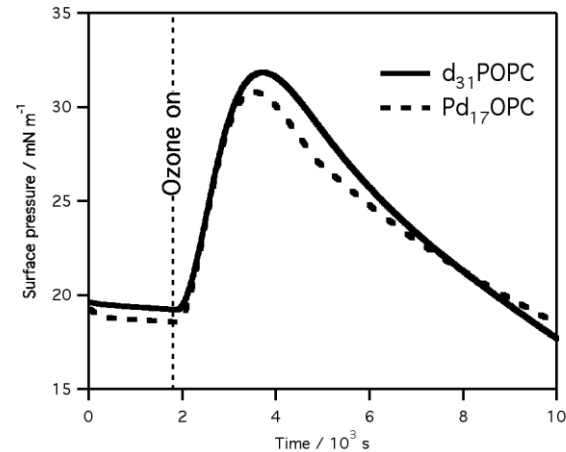
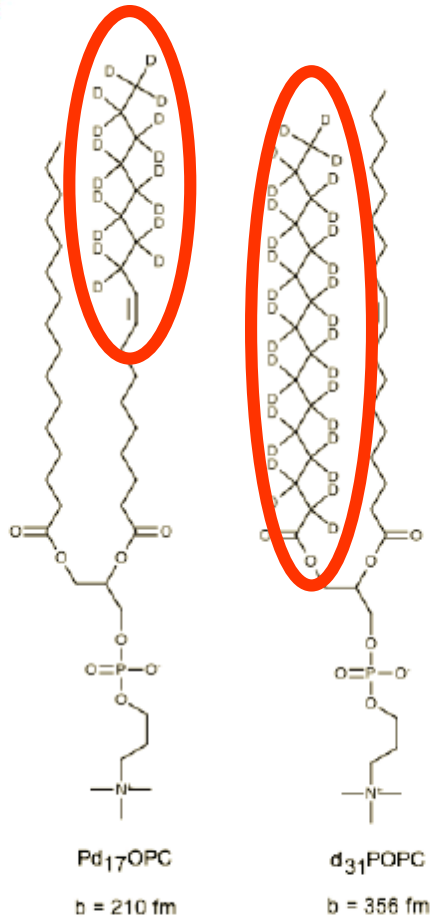
Observe Reflectivity changes during a reaction





Lung Surfactant – a simple model

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UNI



Deuterium labelling clarifies
ozone damage mechanism

Compare deuterated palmitic
chain and oleic chain

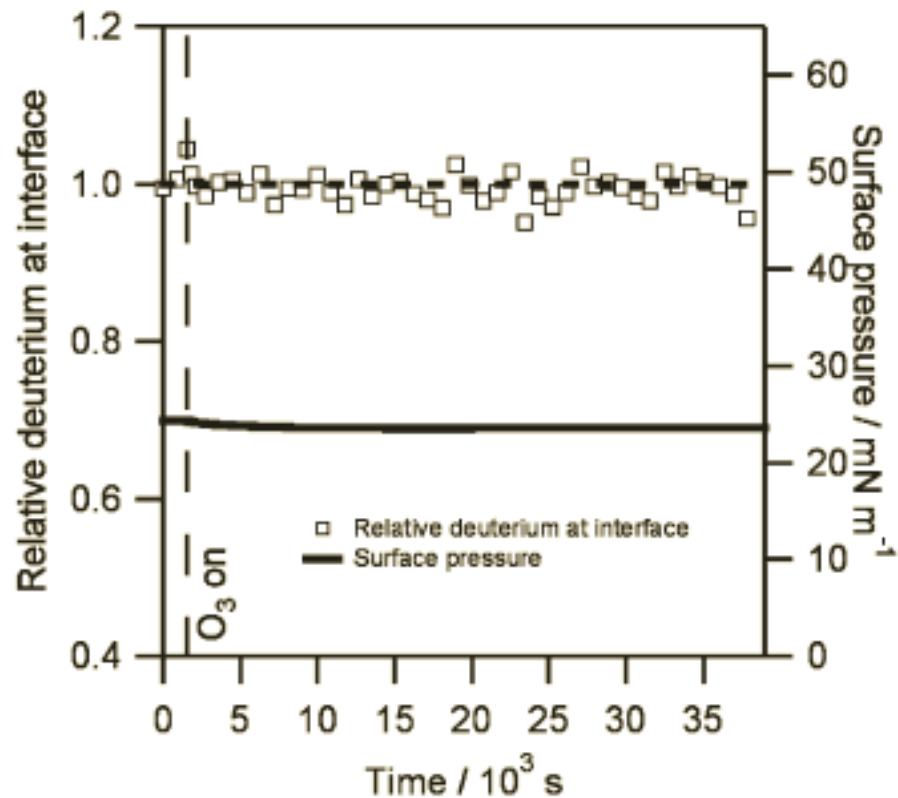
Research: Uppsala, Birkbeck, ISIS



Saturated Lipid

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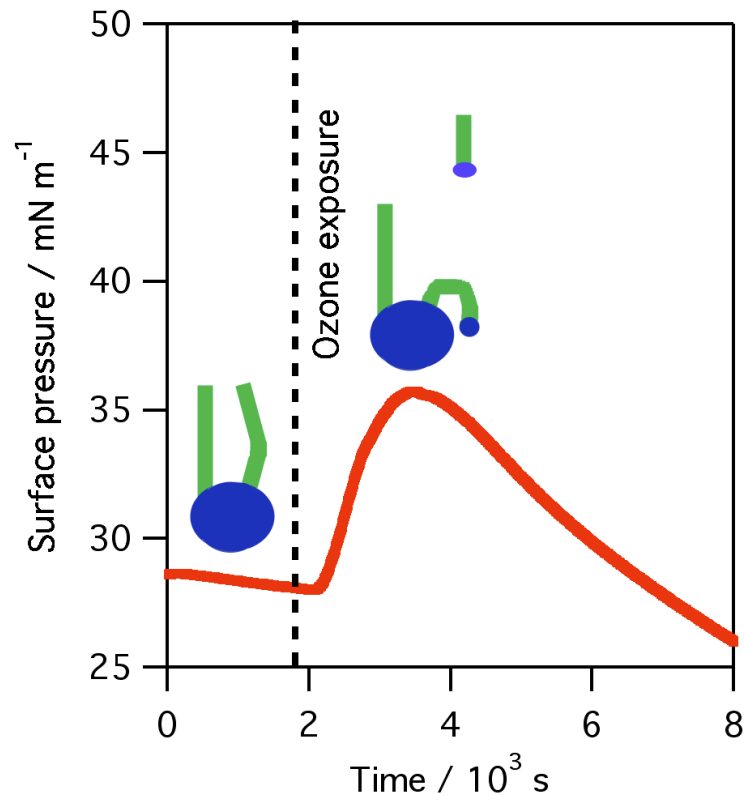
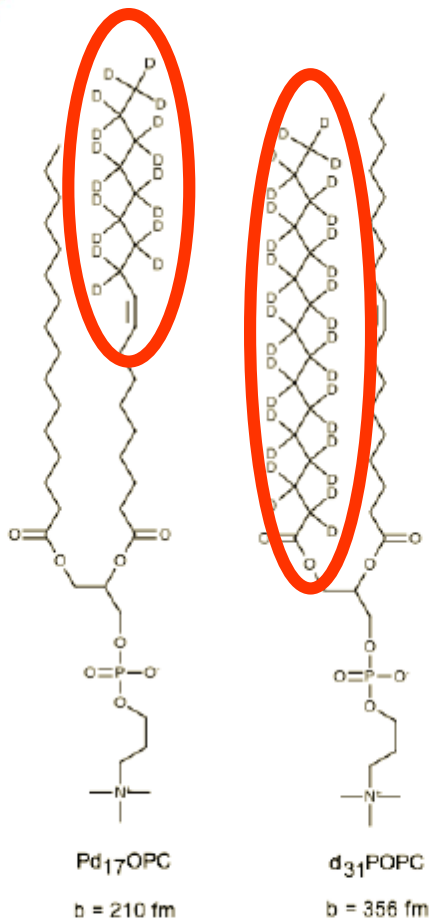
DPPC – saturated
lipid





'Model' Lung Surfactant

UI
UNI

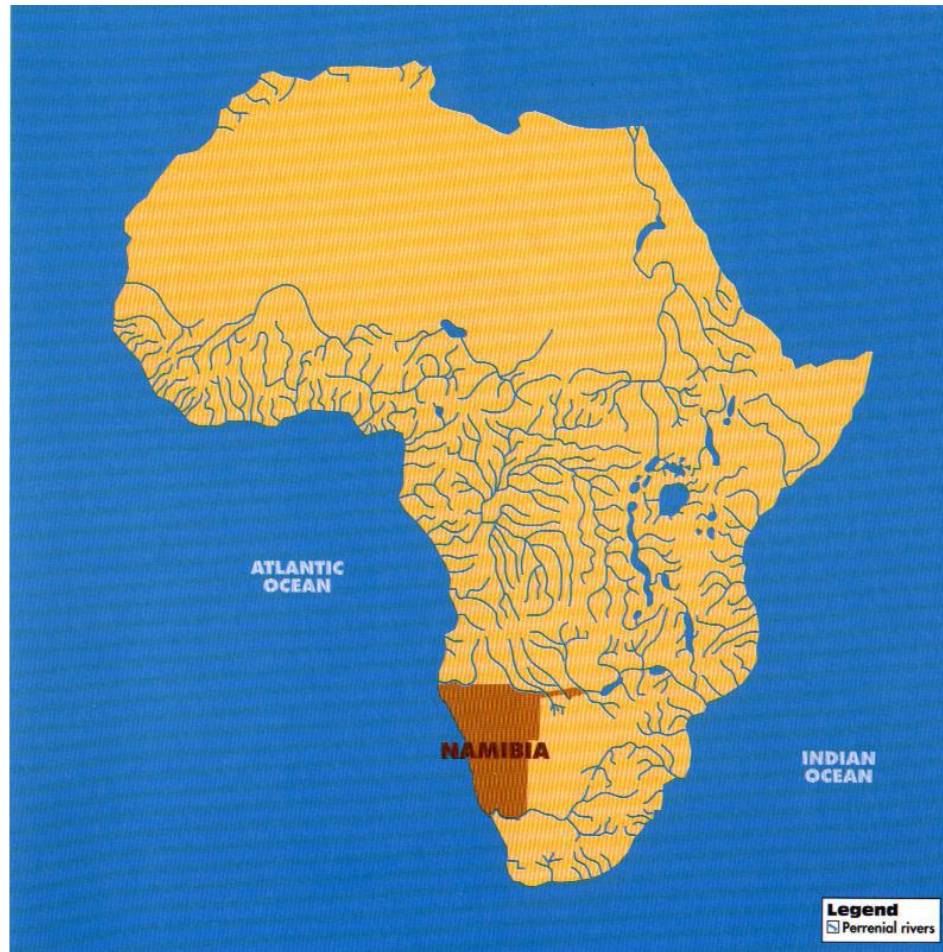


End of one chain is lost and gives transient surface pressure increase



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Perennial Rivers in Africa





Supply Technology

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Village Scale

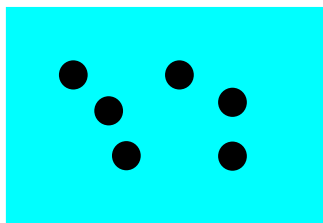




Major Steps in Purification

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Ground
Water

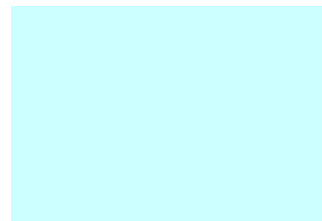


Clarification

Chemical
flocculent

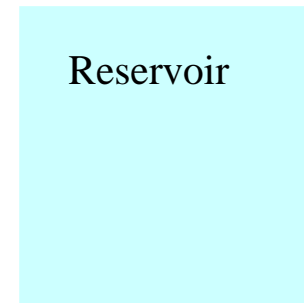


Bactericide



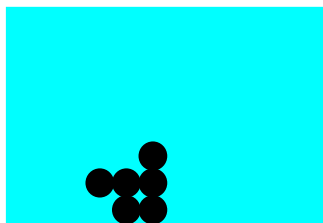
Disinfection

Adjust pH

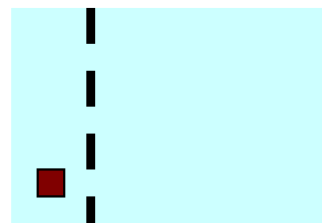


Reservoir

Distribution



Filtration



Details vary according to initial
water source and requirements



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Muddy Water treated with crushed *Moringa oleifera* seeds





Comparative tests

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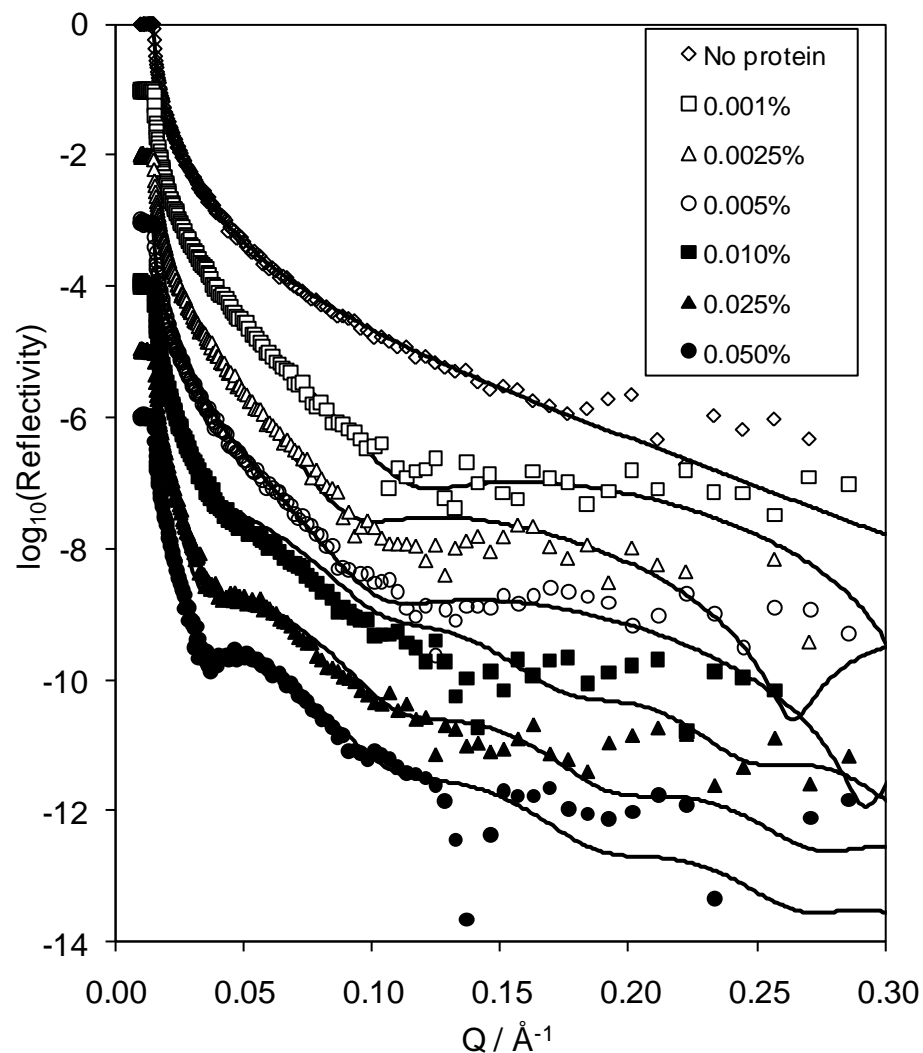




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Moringa oleifera
protein in D₂O at
silica surface as
model for mineral

Effect of concentration

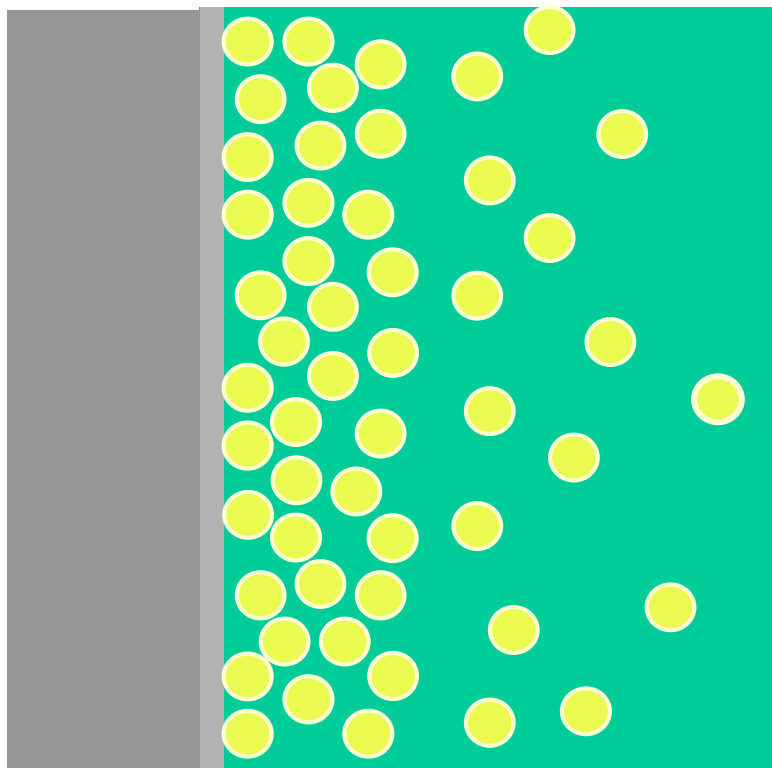




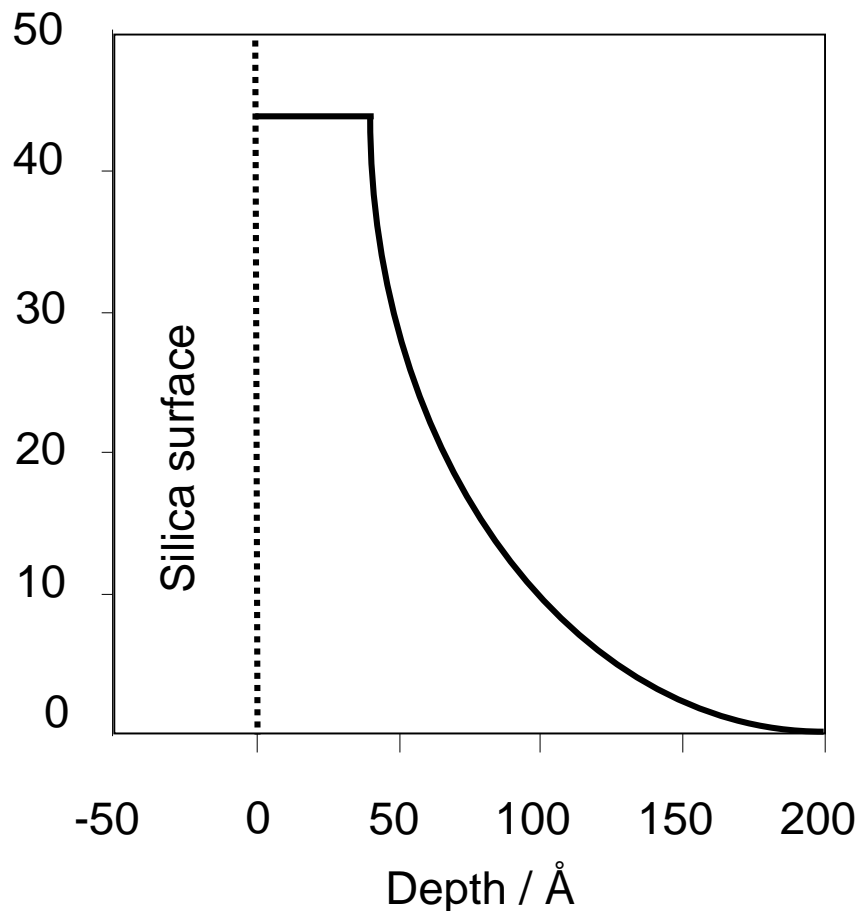
MO Protein Adsorbed Layer on SiO₂

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0.05 % Protein



Protein %



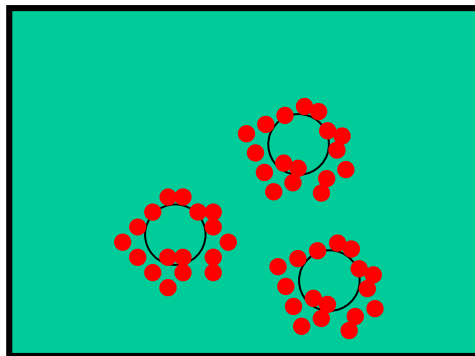
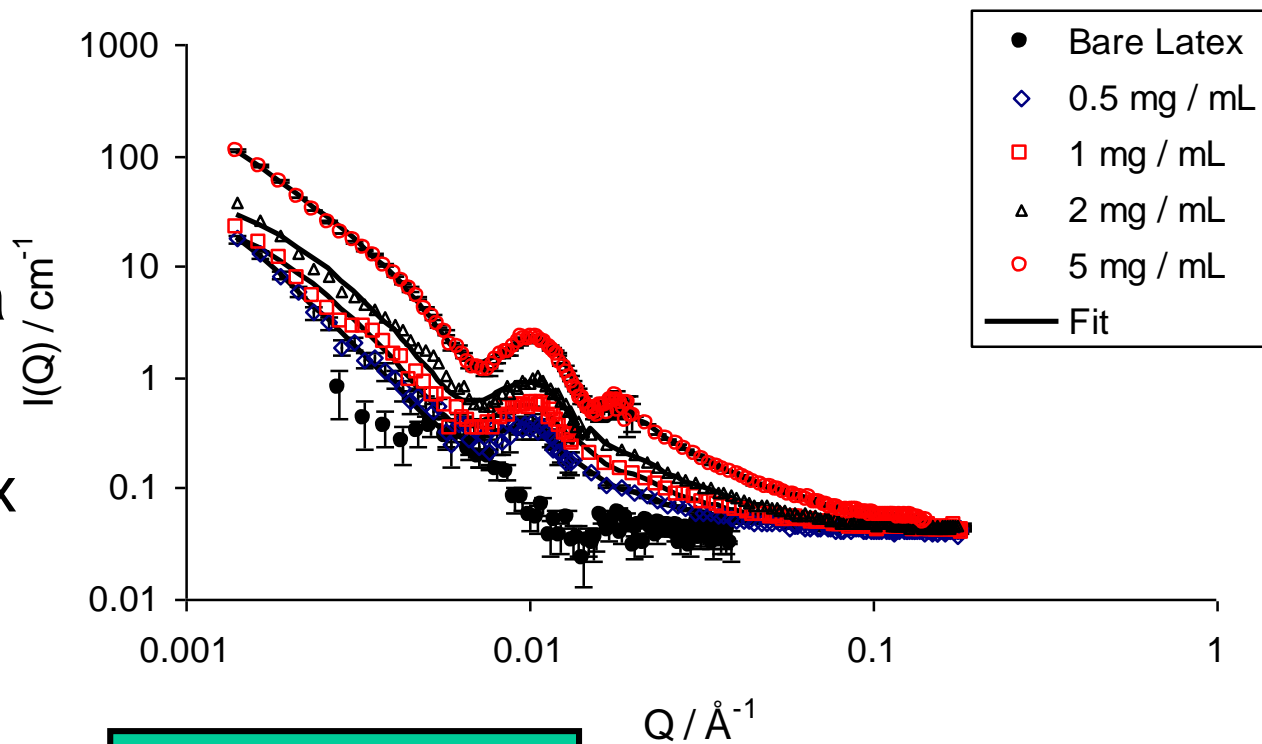
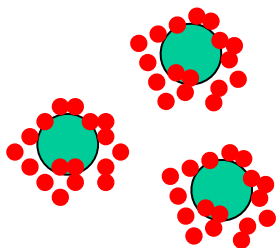


Adsorption to PS Latex Particles

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Moringa oleifera
protein.

Deuterated latex
in D_2O



$Q / \text{\AA}^{-1}$

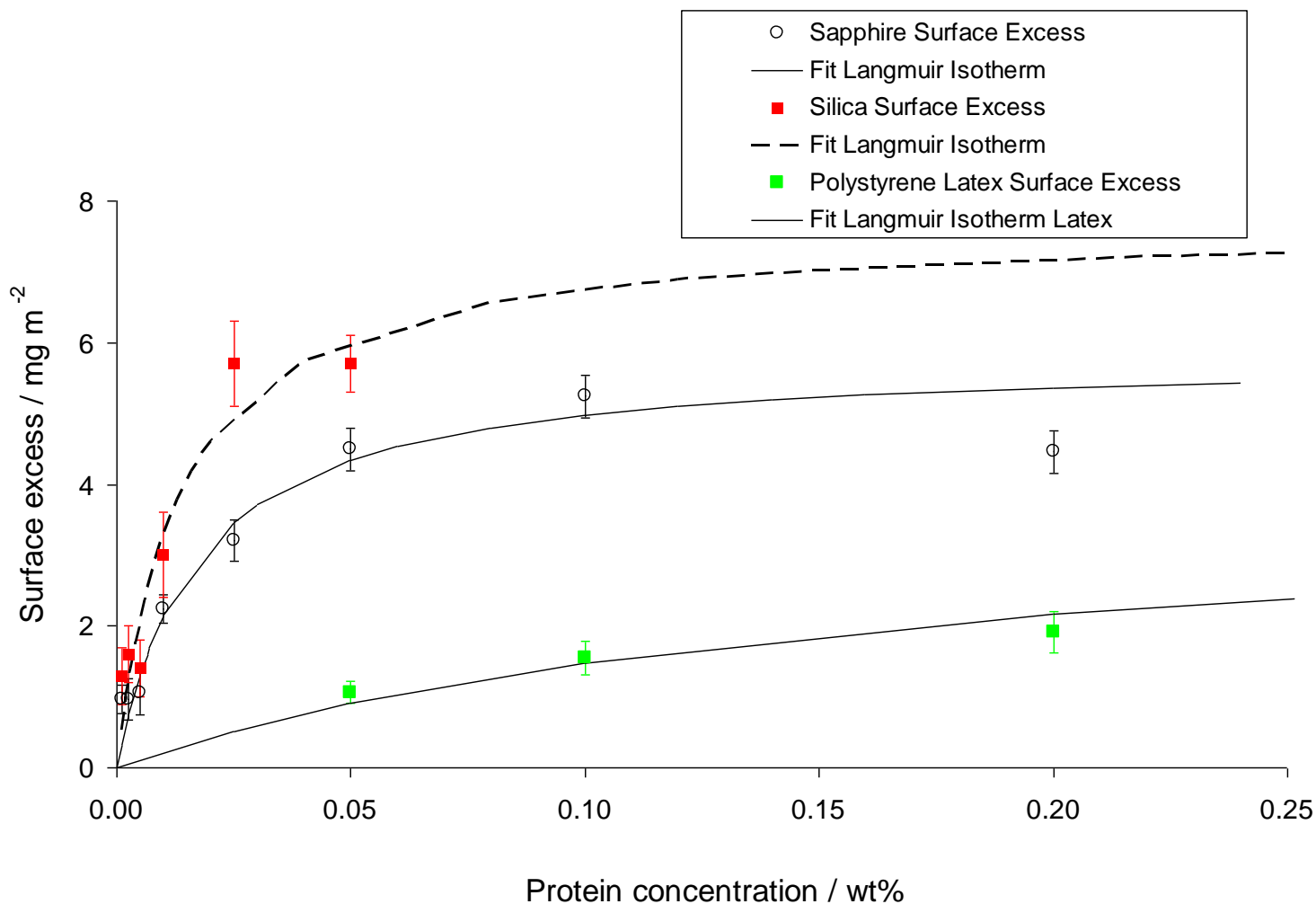
SANS Data – D22 ILL

Use ‘contrast matching’
with D_2O



Adsorption Different Surfaces

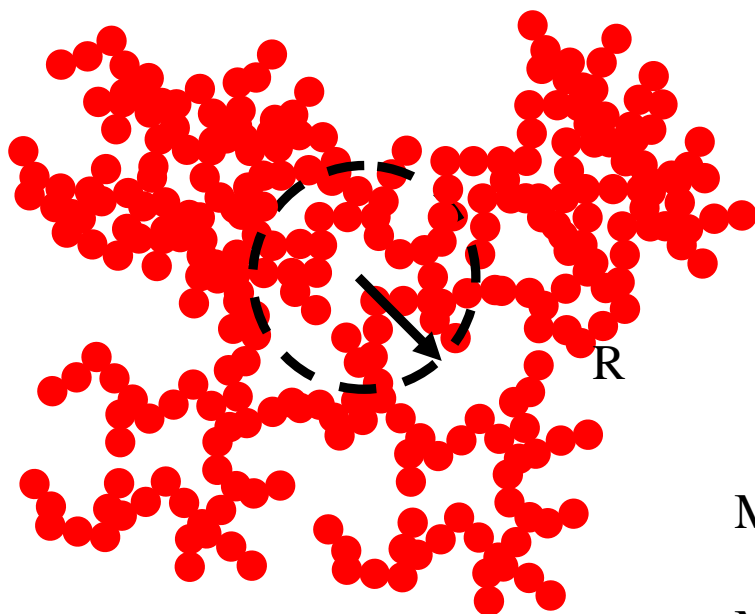
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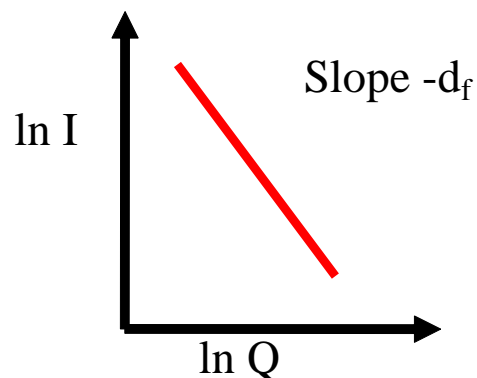
Describing Flocs - Fractal Aggregates

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Mass fractal

$$M \sim R^d$$



Scattered Intensity

$$Q = (4\pi/\lambda) \sin(\theta/2)$$

Diffusion limited $d_f \sim 1.75$

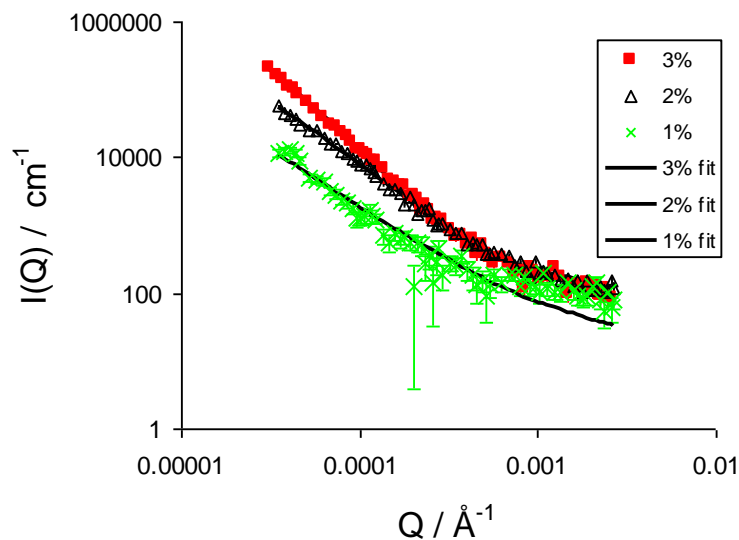
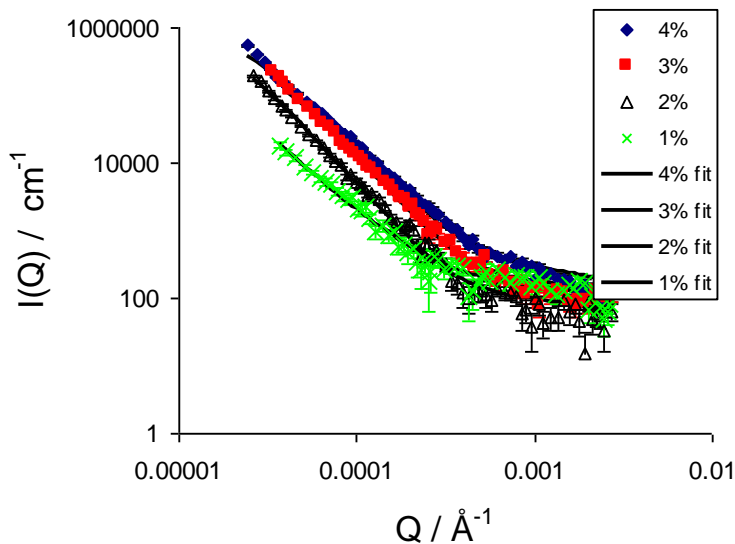
Reaction limited $d_f \sim 2.3$

Weitz, Meakin et al.



USANS – hydrogenous latex

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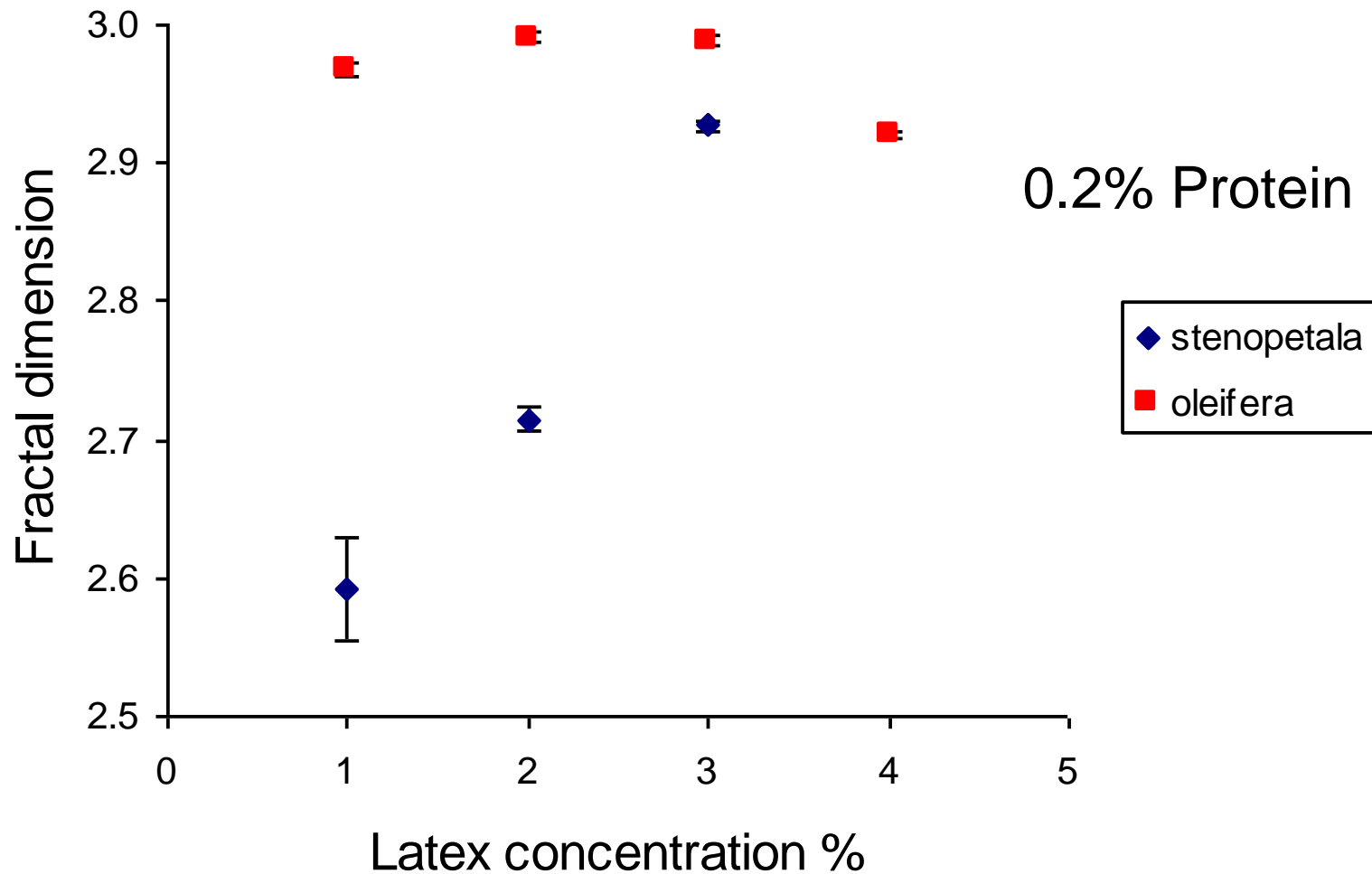
0.2% *Moringa Oleifera* protein

0.2% *Moringa Stenopetala* protein

Flocs – change with particle concentration



Fractal Dimensions

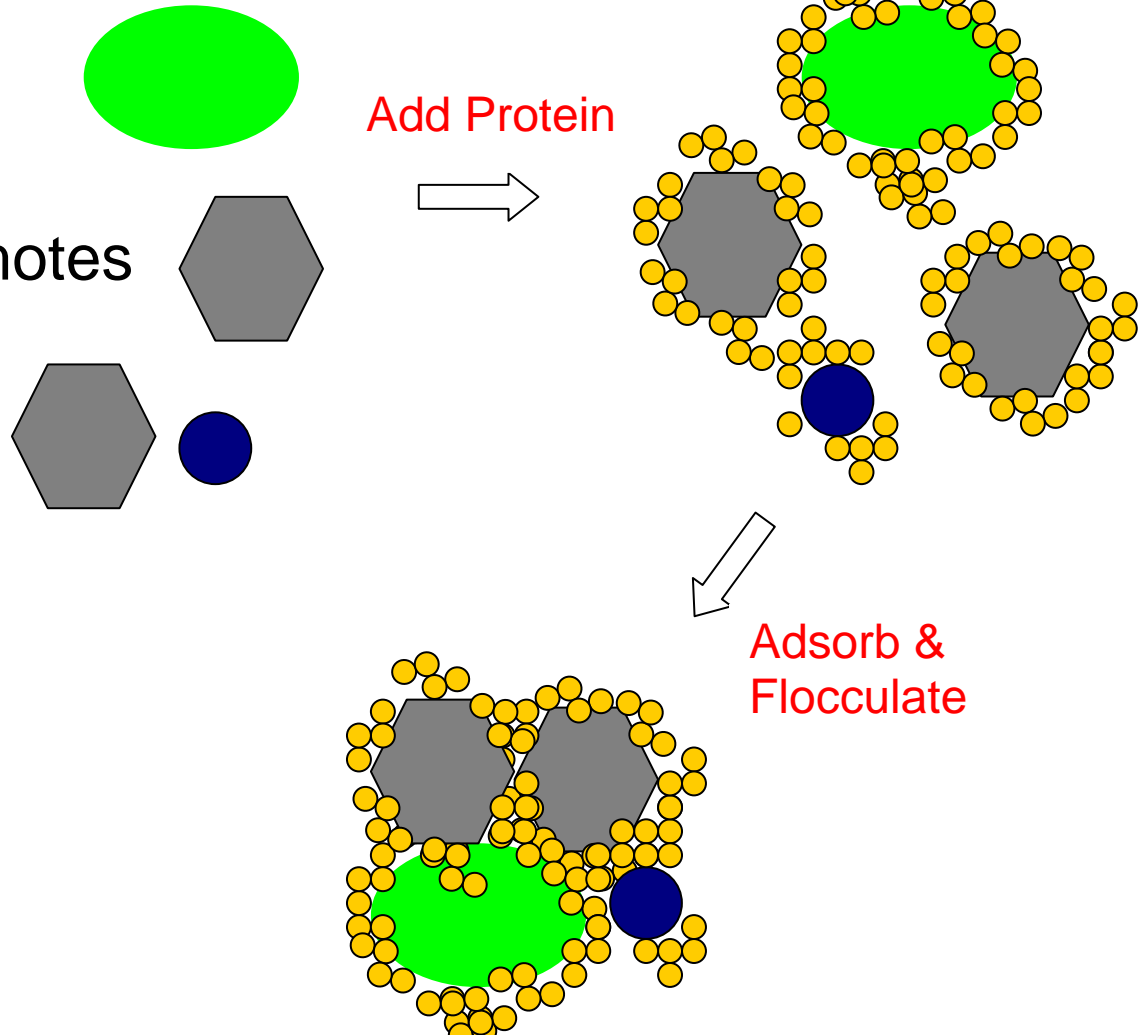




How does MO protein work?

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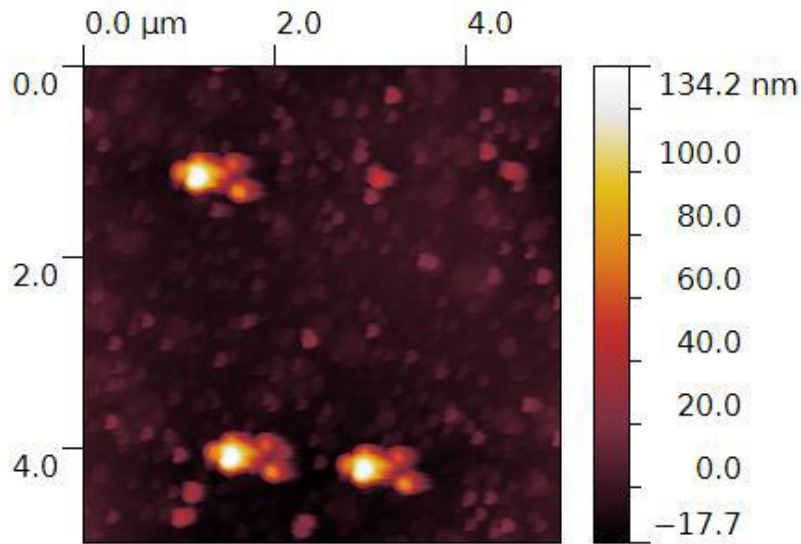
Adsorption to range of
different particles promotes
heterocoagulation



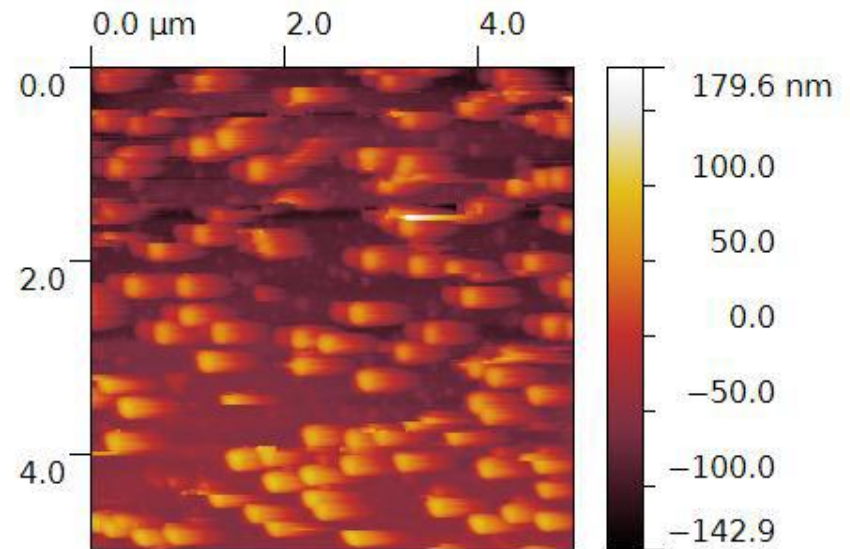


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Can we stick particles at a surface?



Acid cleaned
glass

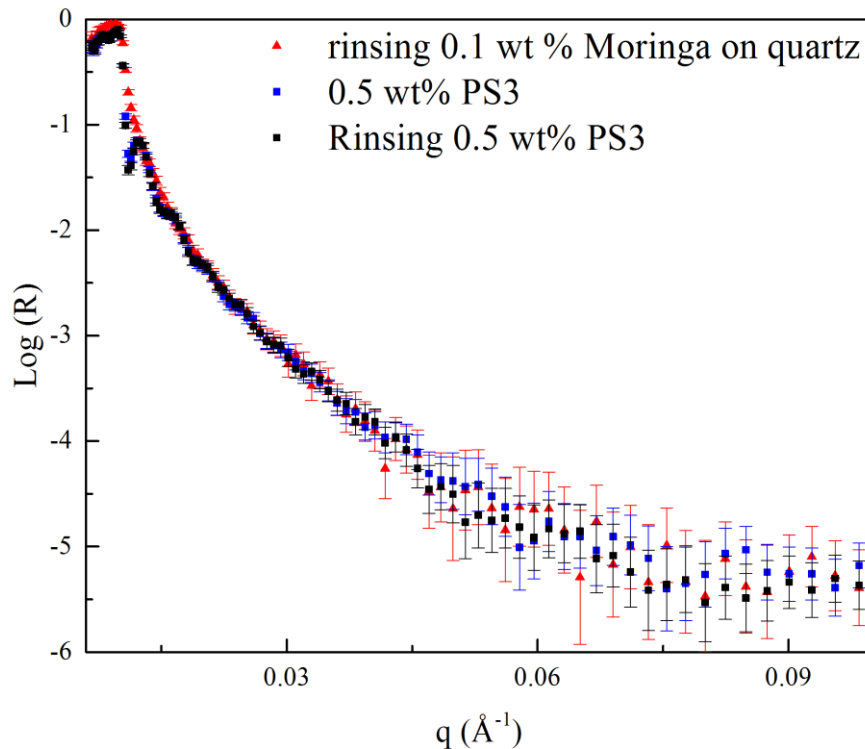


Glass rinsed with *Moringa
oleifera* seed protein



Controlled Binding

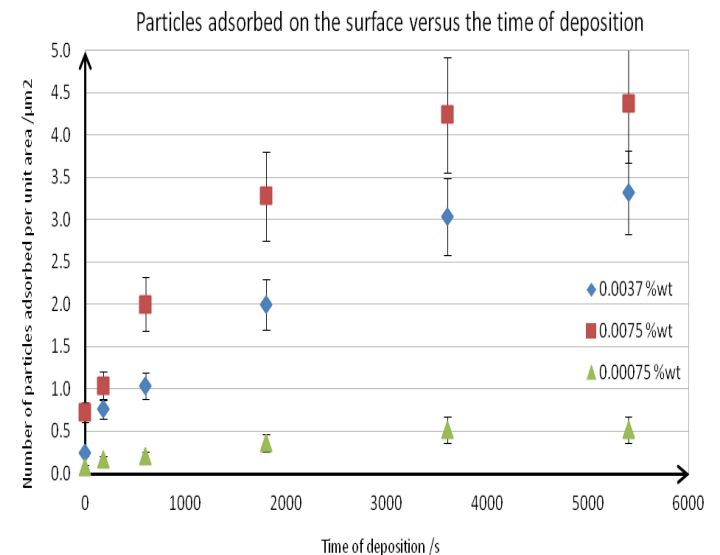
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Depends:

Square root of time

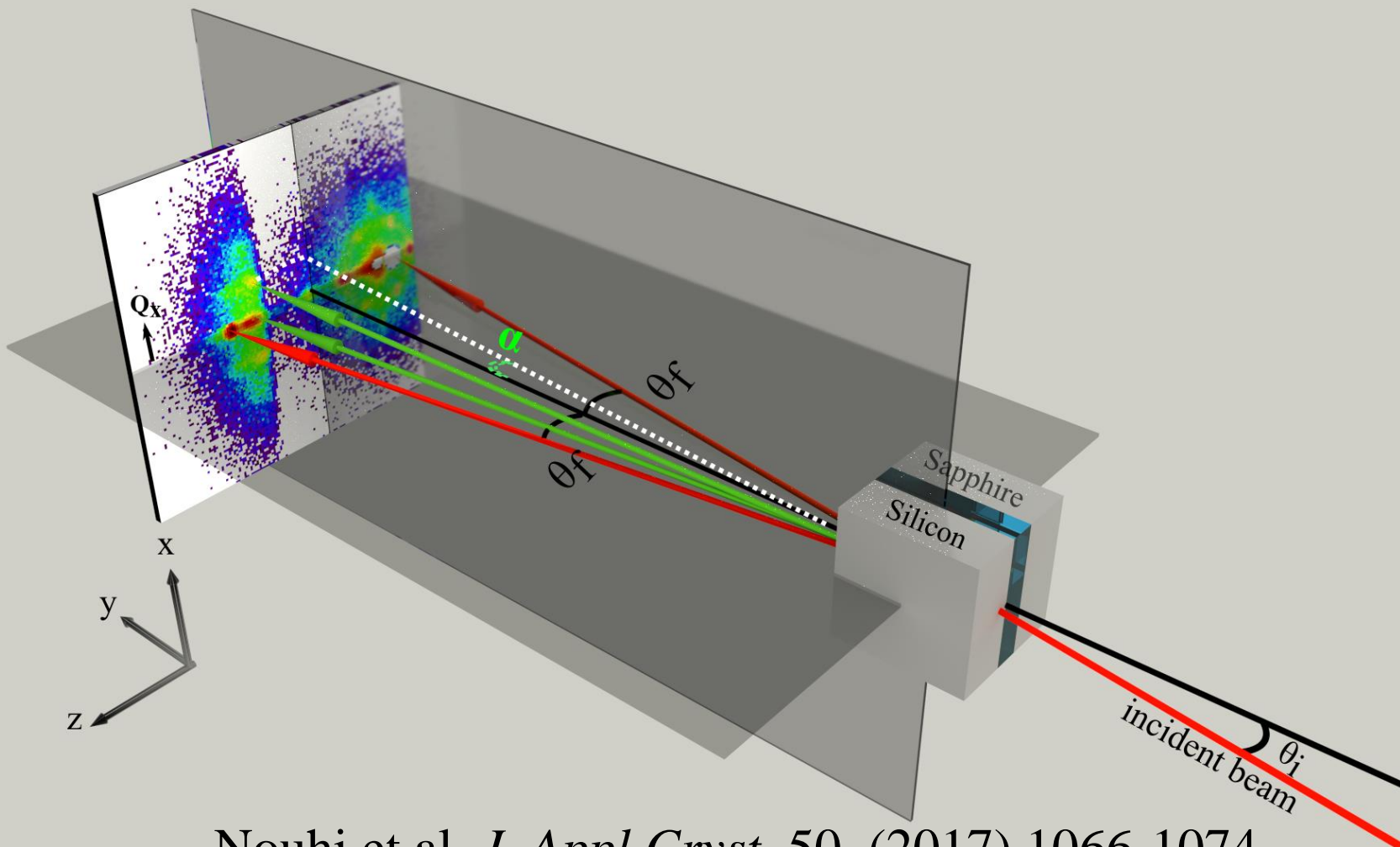
Concentration





Interfacial structure: GISANS

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Nouhi et al. *J. Appl. Cryst.* 50, (2017) 1066-1074.



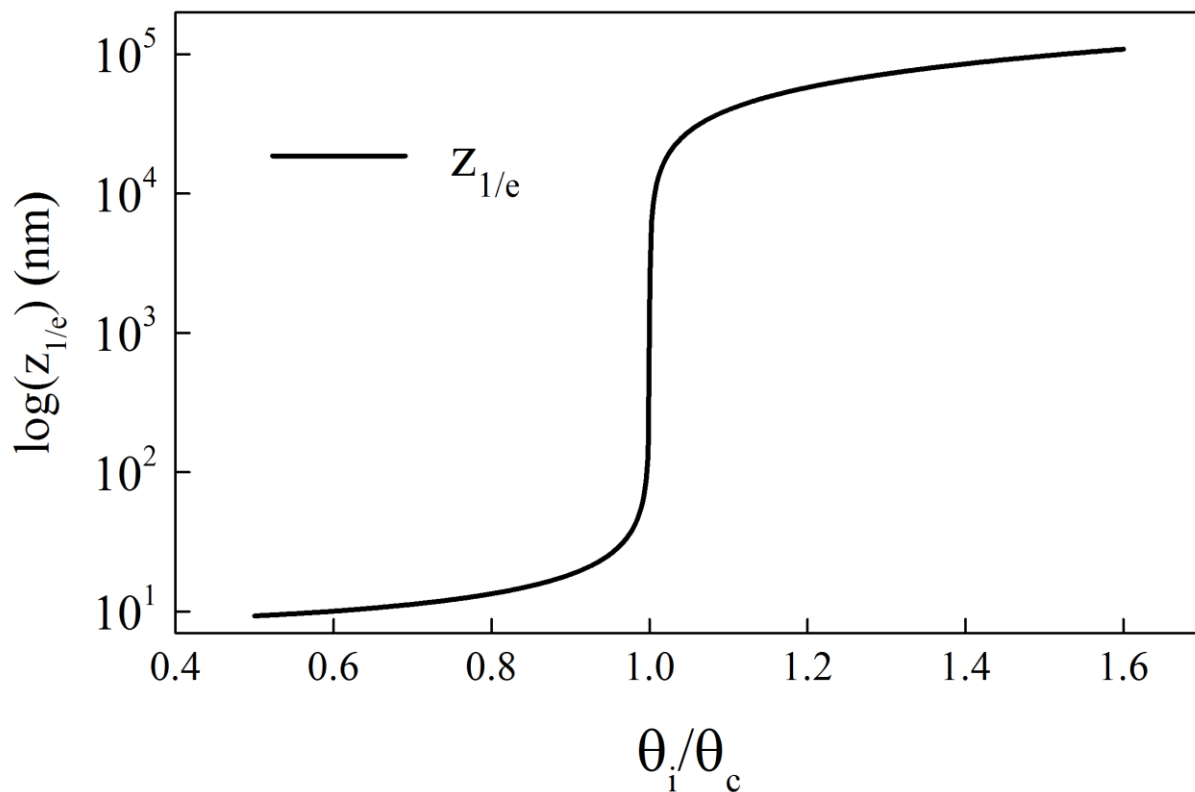
Penetration depth

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$$z_{1/e} = \sqrt{2}\lambda / 4\pi \left[\sqrt{(\theta_i^2 - \theta_c^2)^2 + \left(\frac{\lambda}{2\pi}\mu\right)^2} - (\theta_i^2 - \theta_c^2) \right]^{1/2}$$

A depth sensitive
technique:

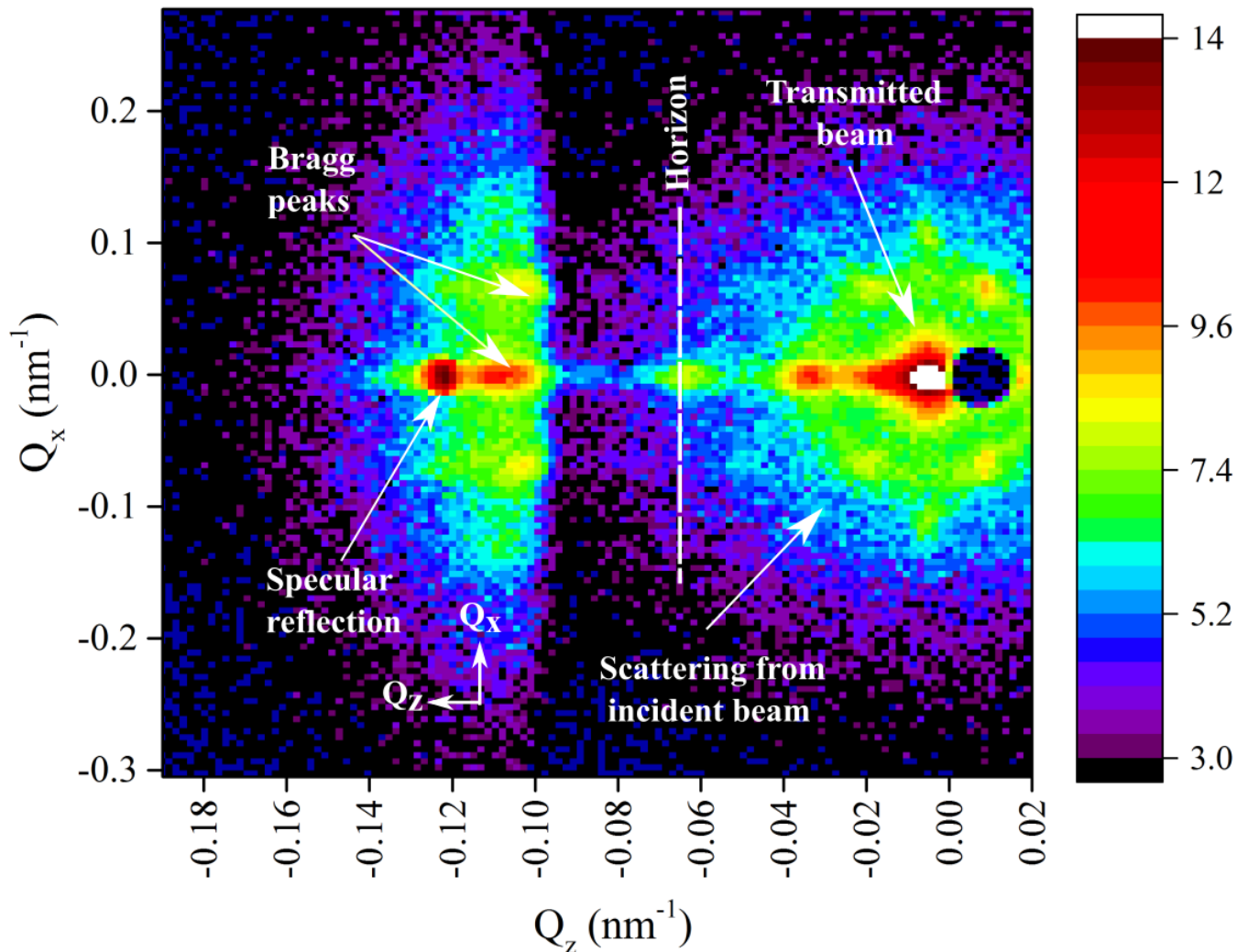
- Wavelength
- Incident angle





Diffraction from Surface Layers

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Thank you for your attention

Questions?