

Morphology of Polymer Materials and their Characterization

Hans-Georg Braun

Leibniz Institute of Polymers
Max Bergmann Center of Biomaterials

Polymer based materials

Synthetic polymer materials

Polymer blends

Fibres

Fibre reinforced materials

Particle filled polymers

Foams

Hydrogels

Biomaterials

Natural fibres (Silk, Cellulose)

Wood, ivory

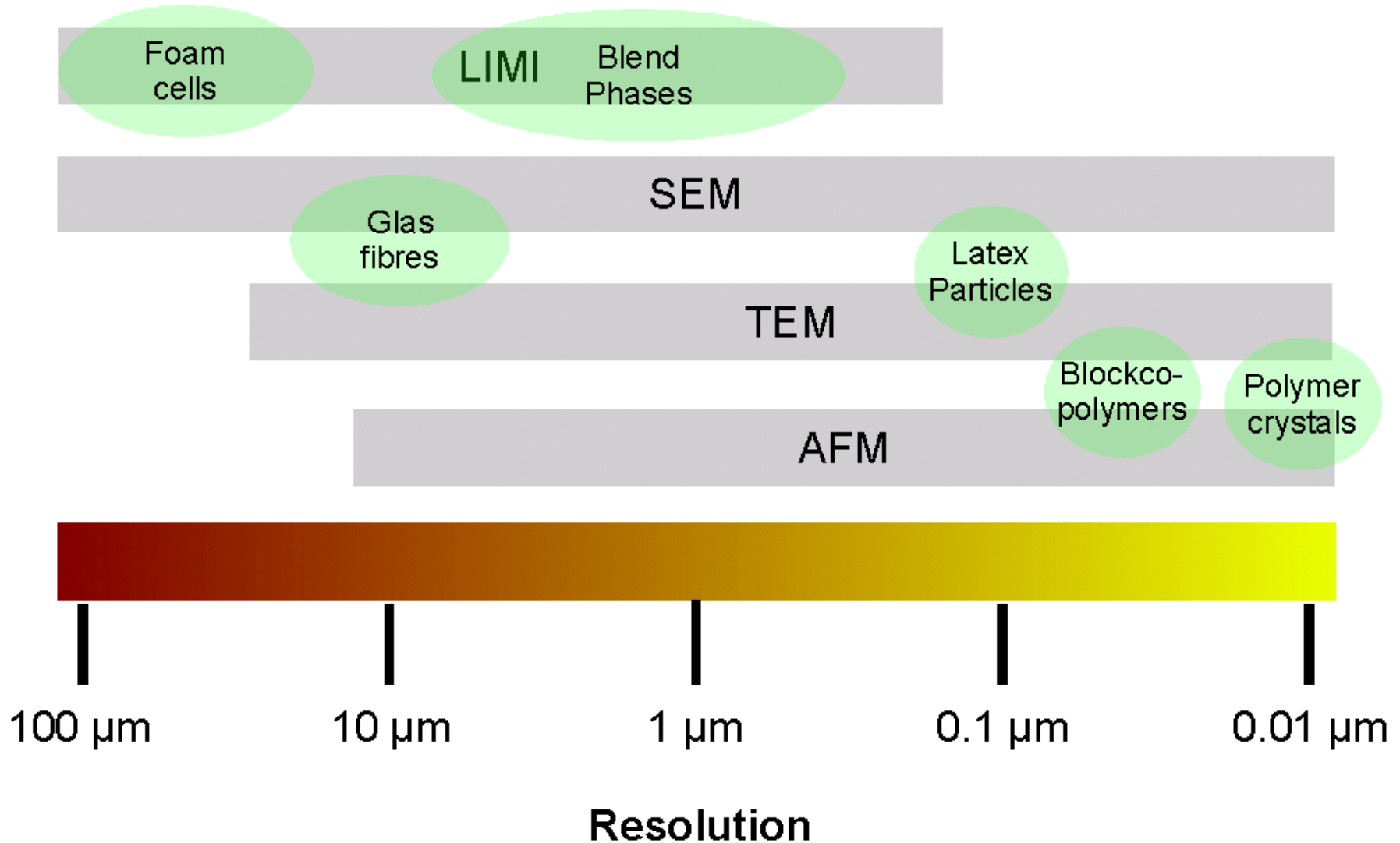
Bone, Mussel shells

Diatomes, cork

Agarose

Microscopic techniques

Microscopic technique



Optical microscopic techniques

Light Microscopy

Confocal Laser Scanning
Microscopy

Electron Microscopy

Scanning Electron
Microscopy

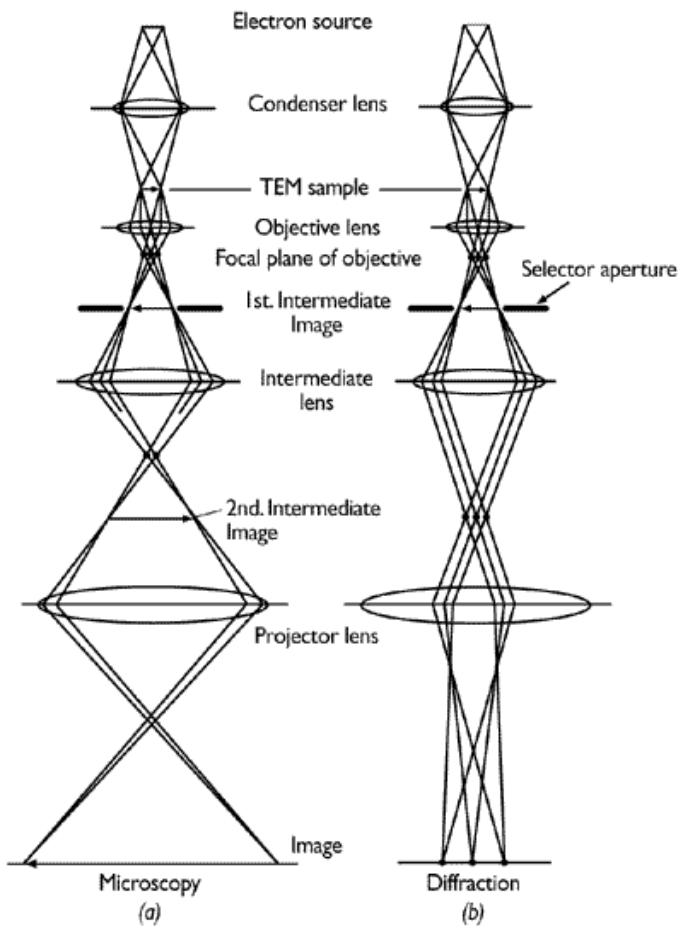
Conventional Light
Microscopy

Transmission Electron
Microscopy

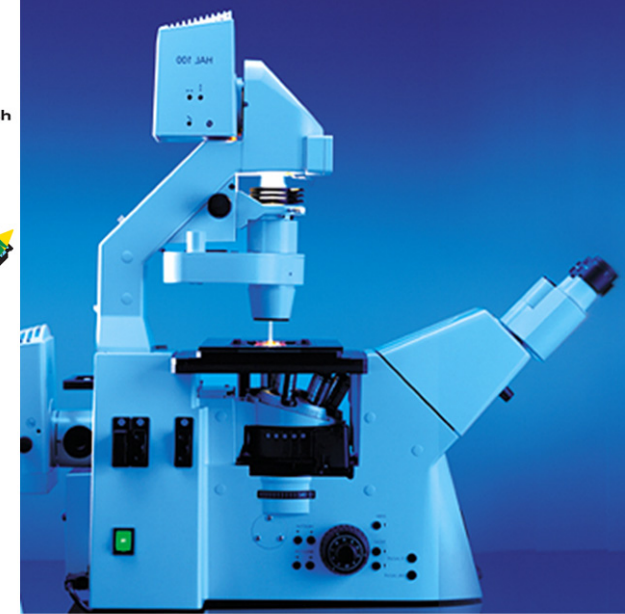
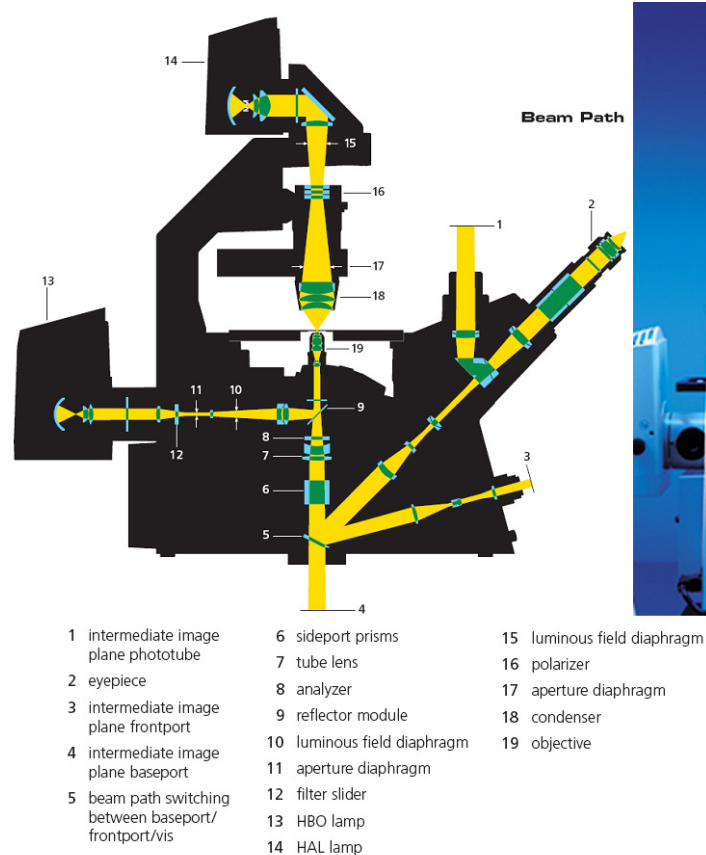
Similar optical principles but different

- b) Resolution
- c) Contrast mechanisms
- d) Technical Realisation

Optical beam path and basic optical elements



TEM

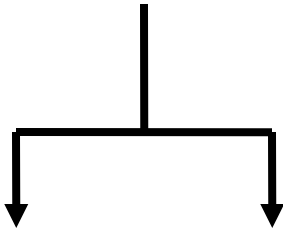
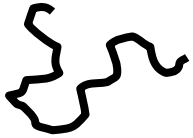


Winfried Wiegraebe, Stowers Institute for Medical Research

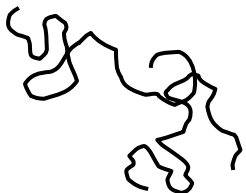
Light microscope

Polymer morphology

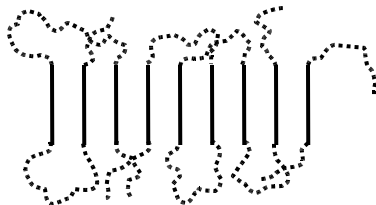
Homopolymer



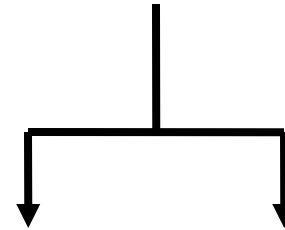
amorphous



crystalline



Copolymer



blockcopolymer



statistical



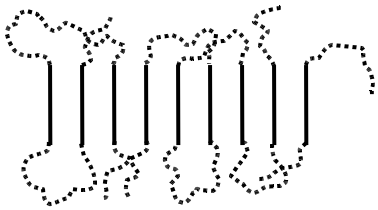
Polymer morphology

Homopolymer

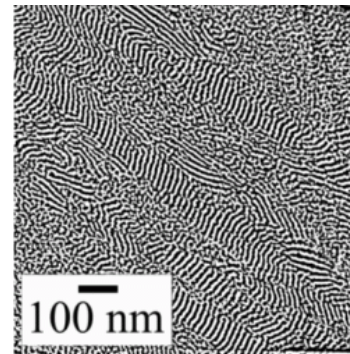
Copolymer

crystalline

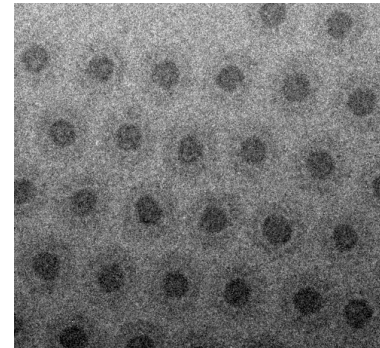
blockcopolymer



Solid state

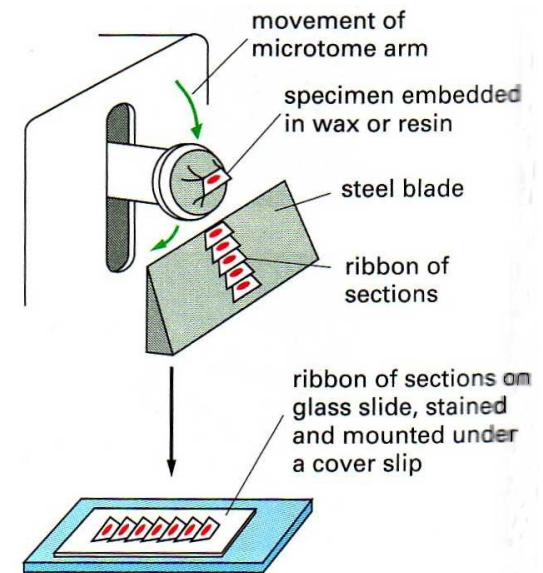
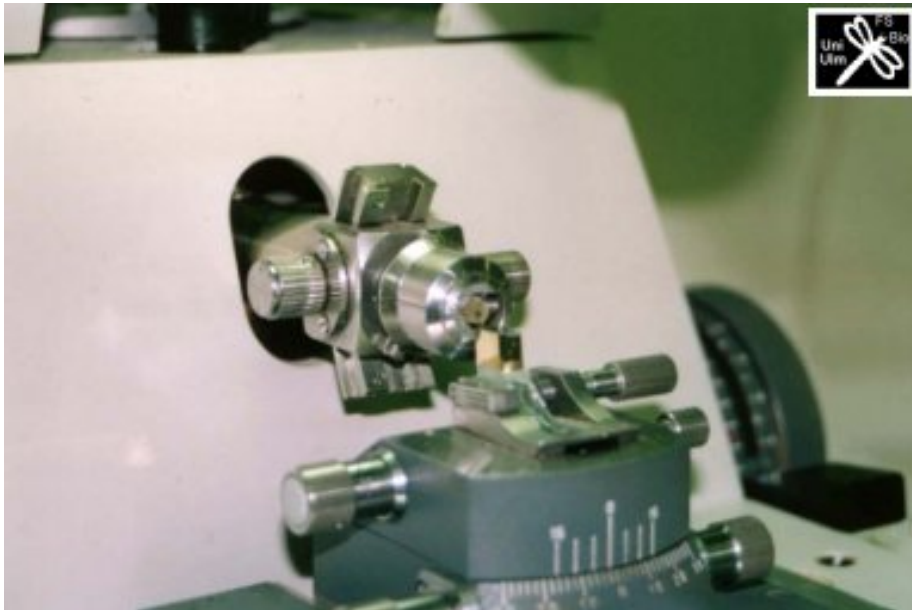


Solid state



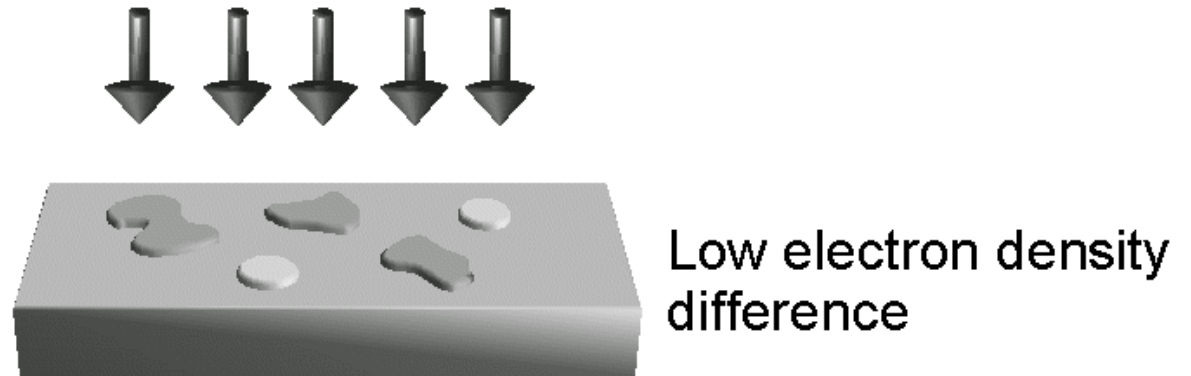
Aqueous

Microtome sectioning

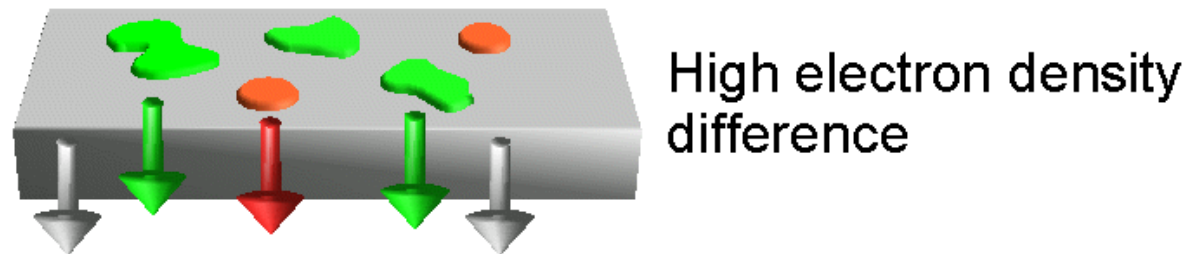
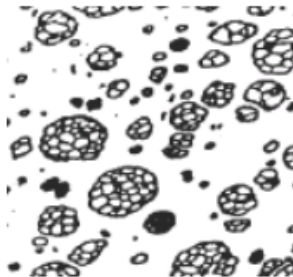


Microscopic techniques

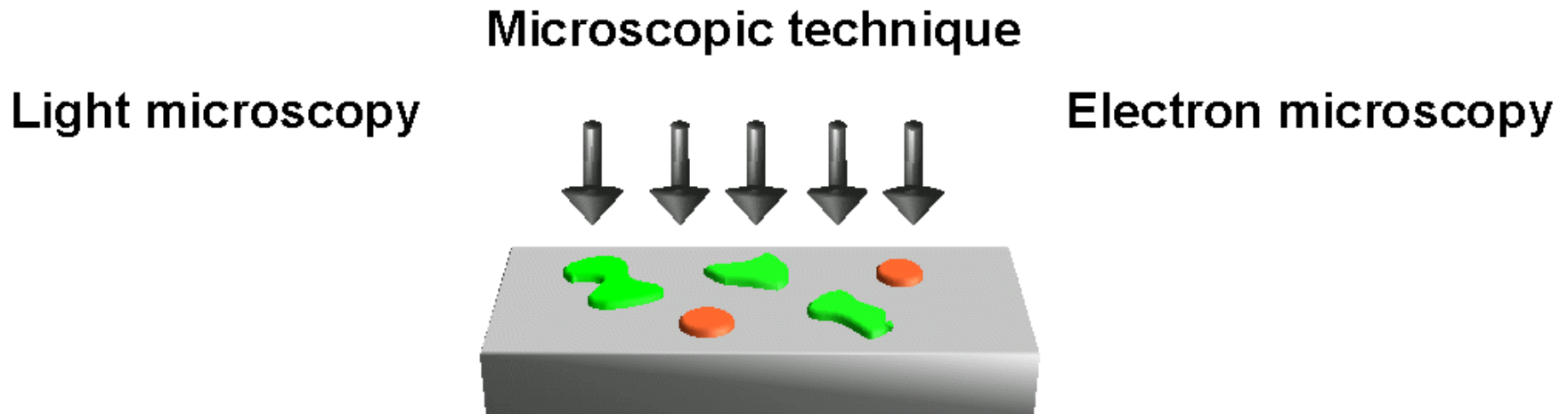
Electron microscopy



Contrast enhancement through selective staining



Microscopic techniques



Refractive Index

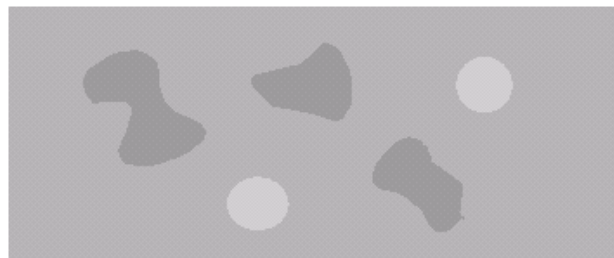
Contrast mechanism

Electron density

Polarizability

Atomic number

Polymers: C,O,H,N



G1

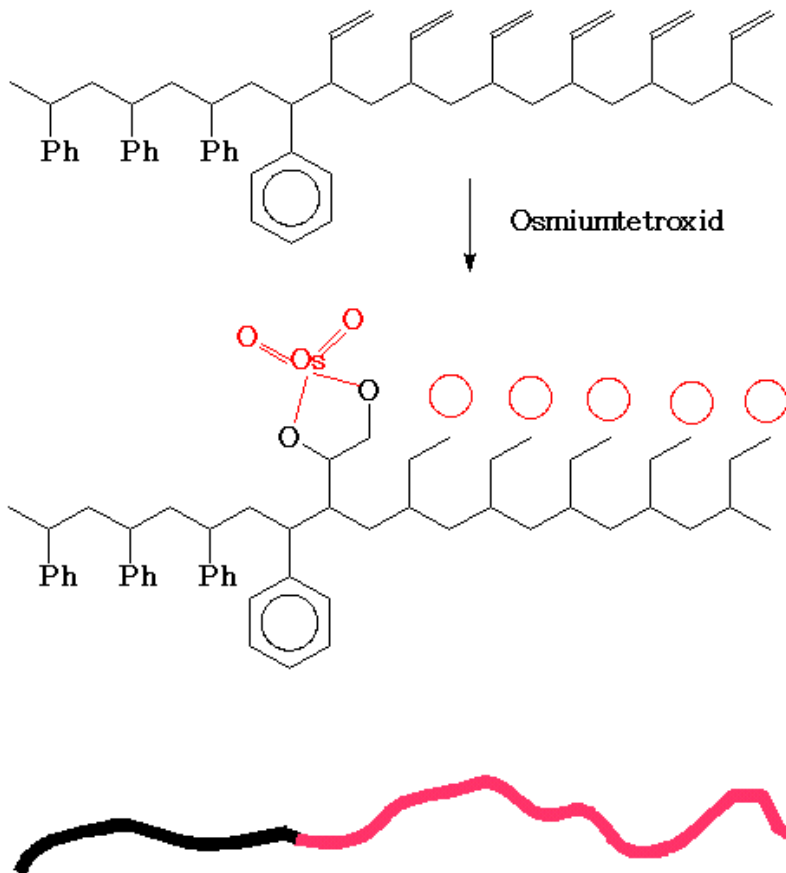
G2

G3

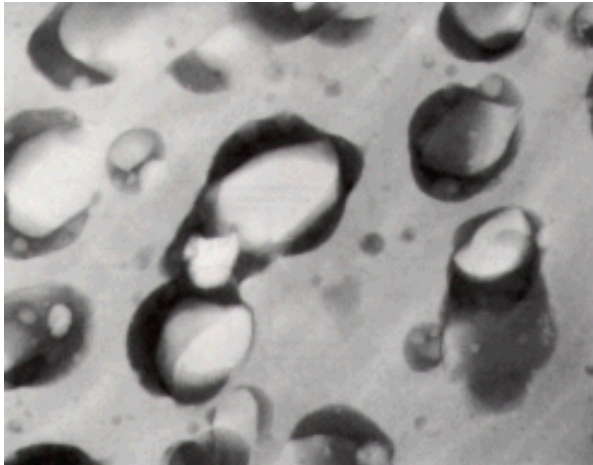
$$C = (G1 - G2) / G1 + G2$$

Microscopic techniques

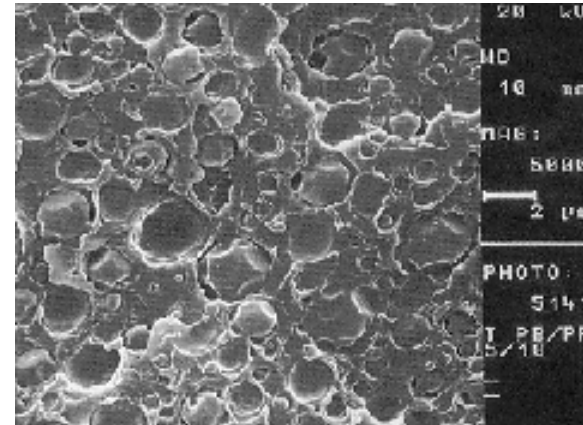
Staining



Typical Blend morphology

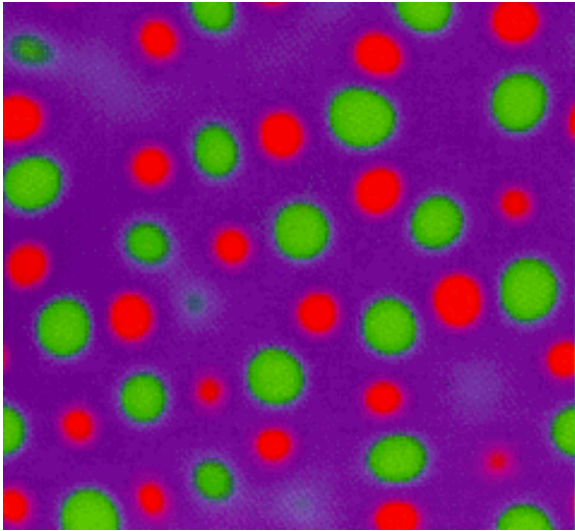


Dispersed phase
TEM

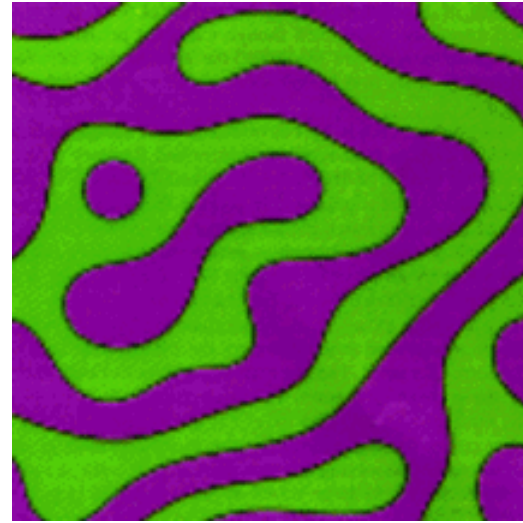


Bicontinuous phase
Fracture surface SEM

Typical Blend morphology



Dispersed phase



Bicontinuous phase

Particle morphologies

High Impact Polystyrene – HIPS – TEM stained

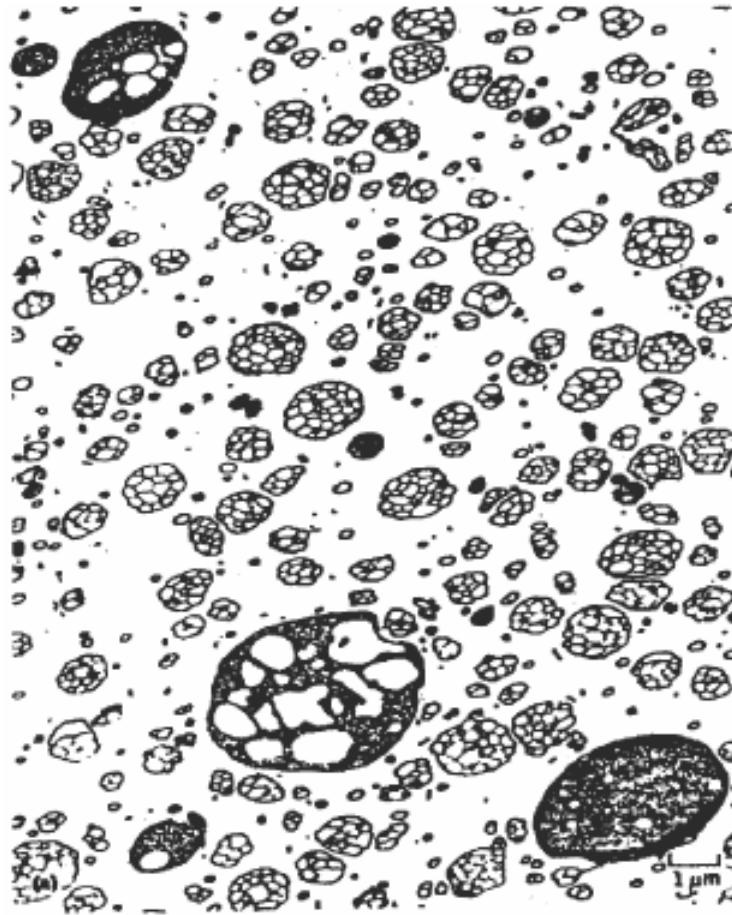
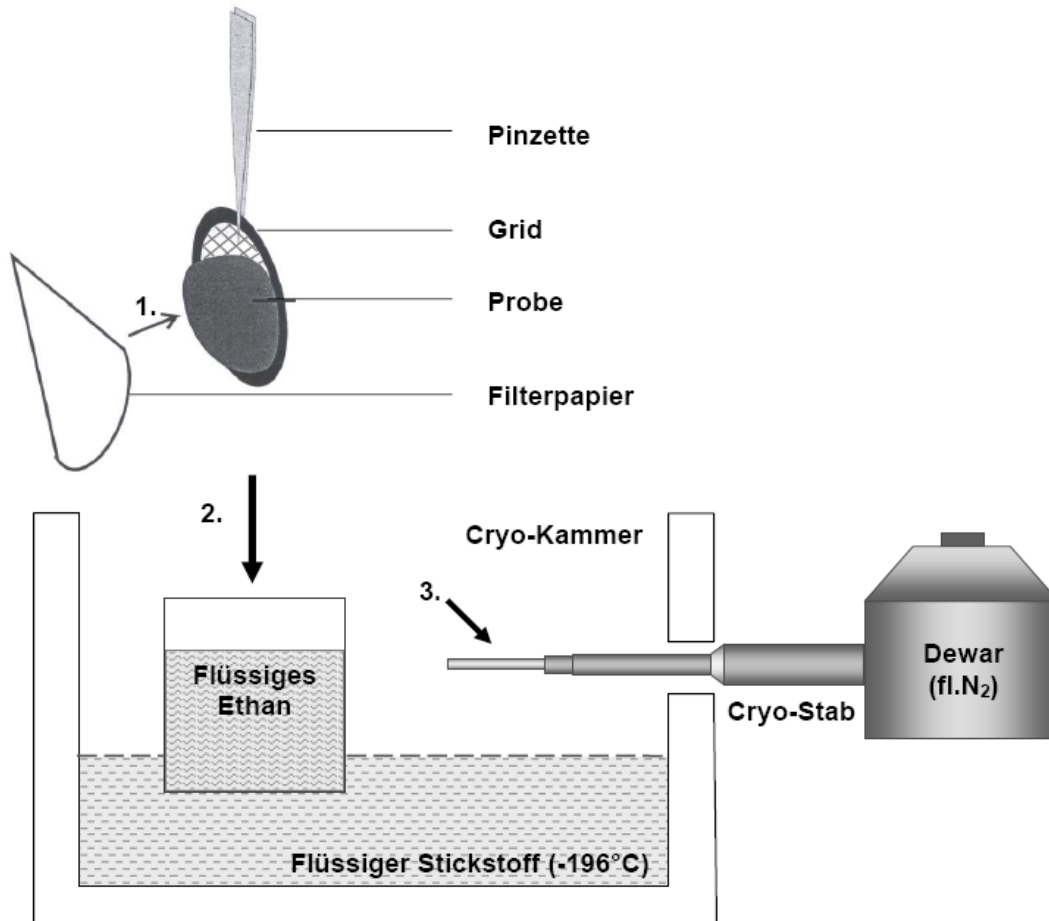


Figura 4. Imagem MET de HIPS produzido por polimerização em massa ou solução. Morfologia tipo *salami*^[3] A parte escura (fase dispersa) identifica a borracha e a parte clara (fase contínua e inclusões) o poliestireno.

Cryo Electron Microscopy

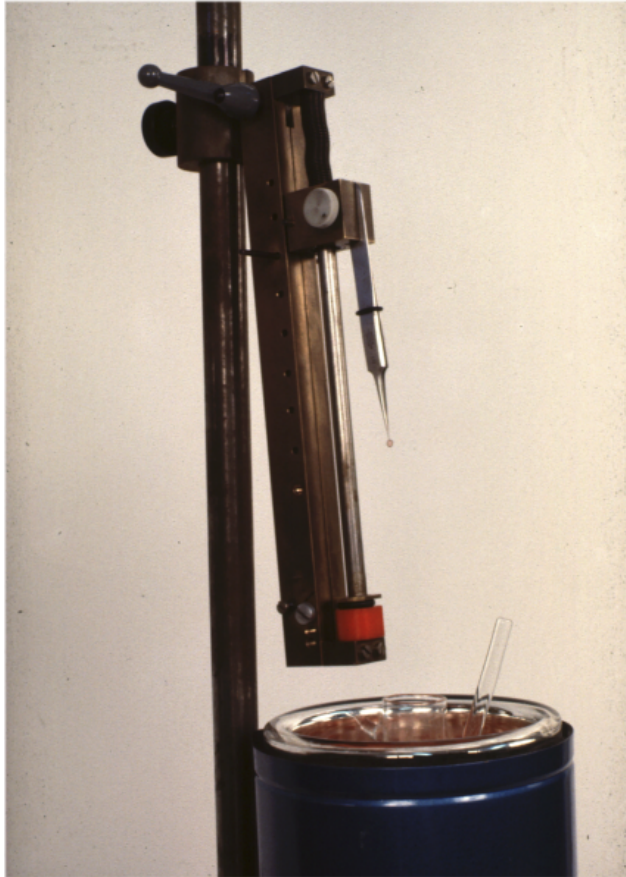
Frozen hydrated specimen preparation



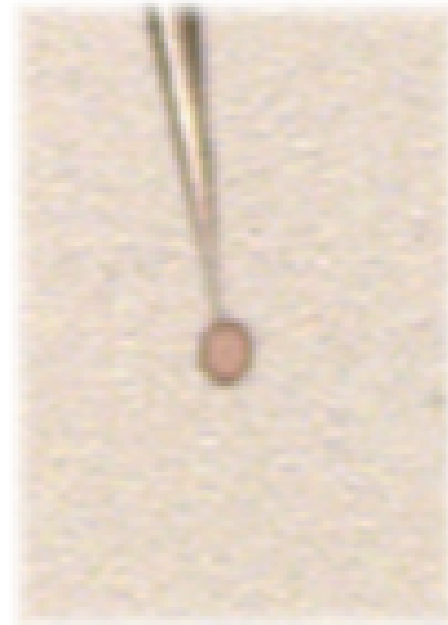
Anja Rank
Diss. Uni. Freiburg
Herstellung und Charakterisierung
von
Vesikeln aus amphiphilen
Blockcopolymeren

Cryo Electron Microscopy

Rapid freezing with a simple freeze punger

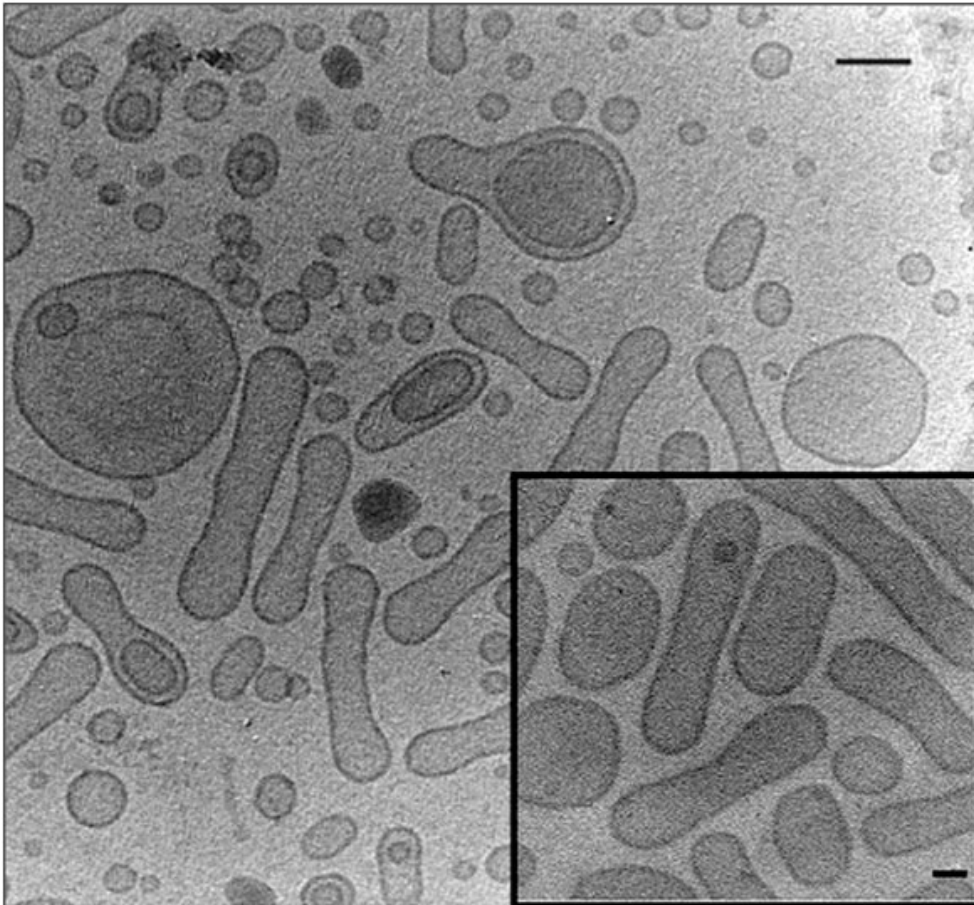


$V_c > 10^4 \text{ K/s}$ (cooling rate)



Cryo Electron Microscopy

Frozen hydrated specimen



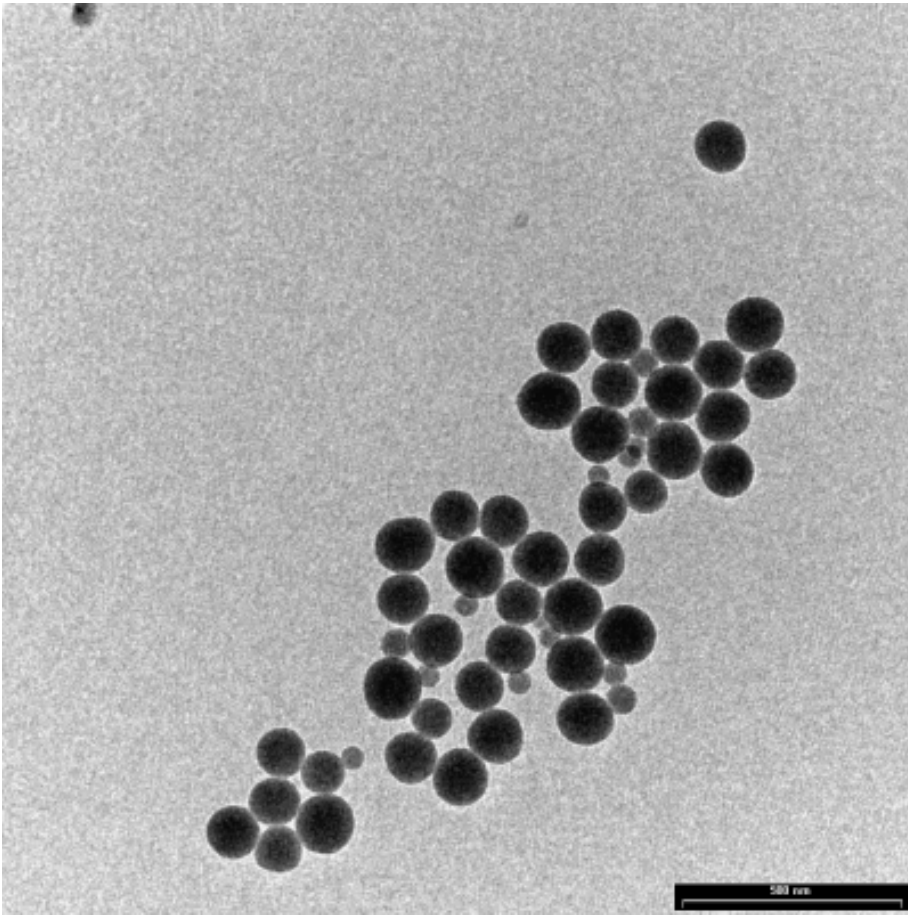
Polymerosomes

EG₁₆ PS₅₀ EG₁₆

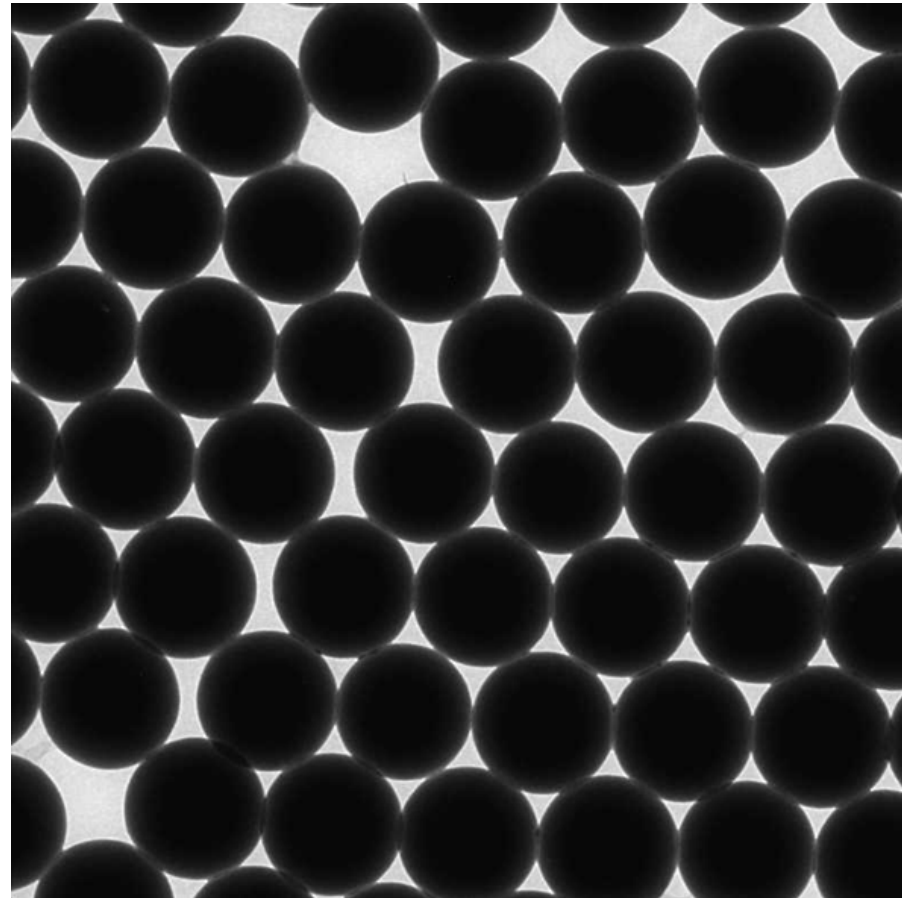
ALESSANDRO NAPOLI,
MASSIMILIANO VALENTINI,
NICOLA TIRELLI, MARTIN MÜLLER
and JEFFREY A. HUBBELL
Nature Materials 3, 183–189 (2004)

Particle morphologies

Latex particles

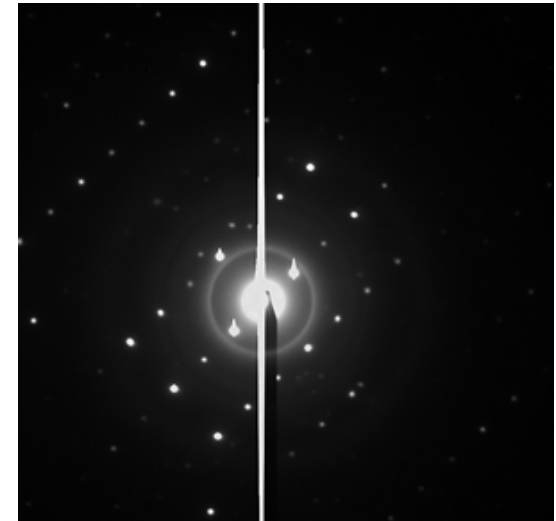
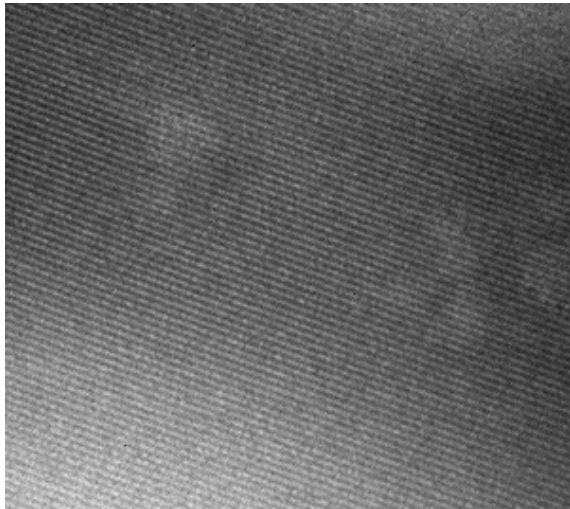
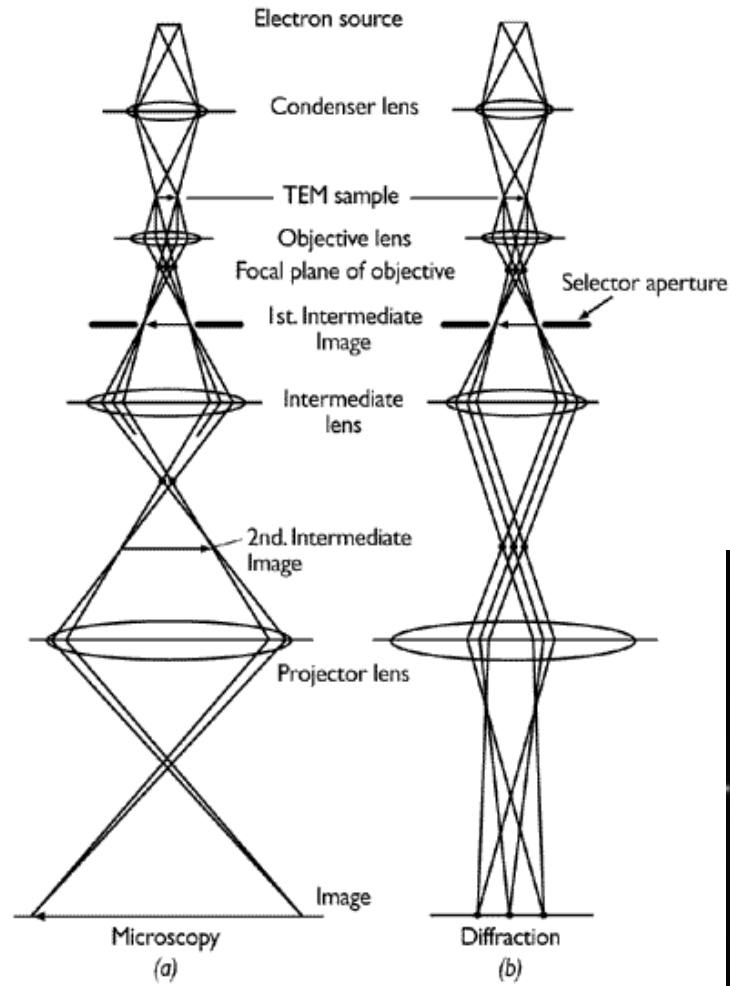


bimodal



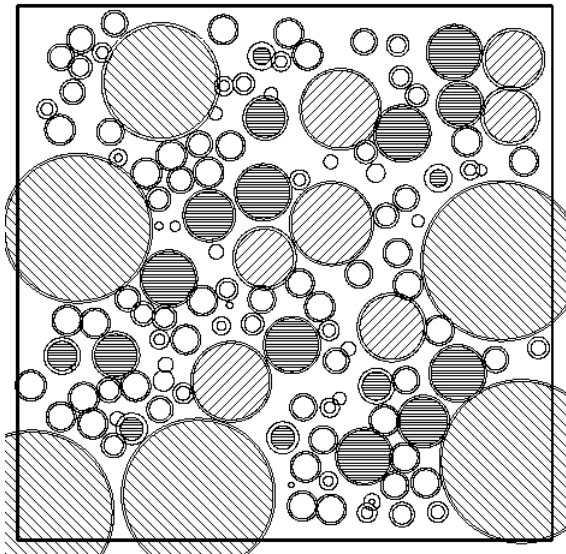
unimodal

Transmission Electron Microscope

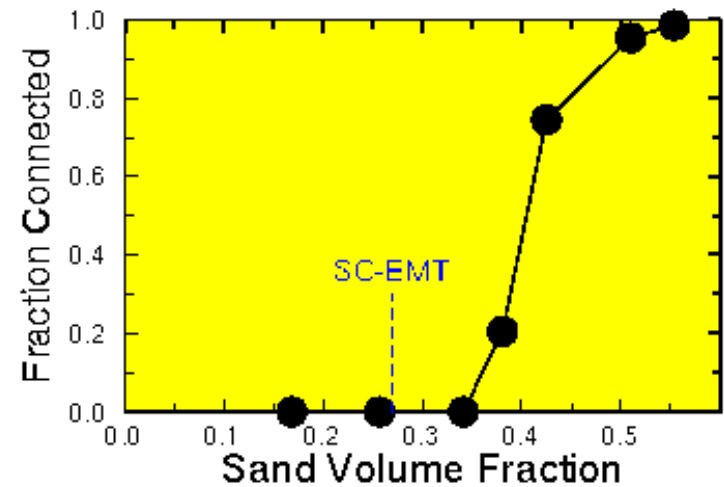


Percolating structures

(Sand particles in cement)

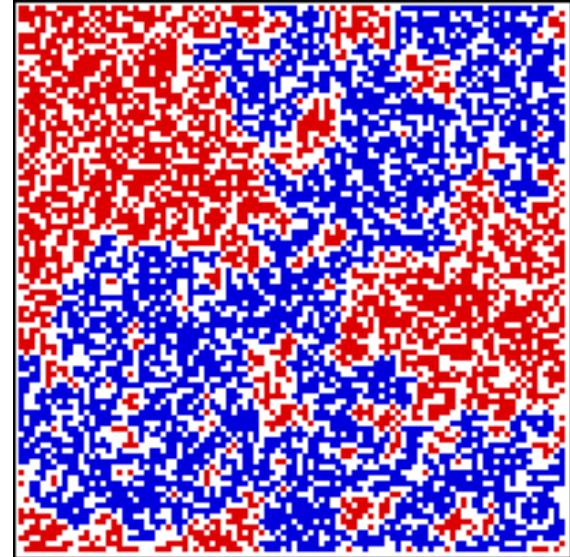
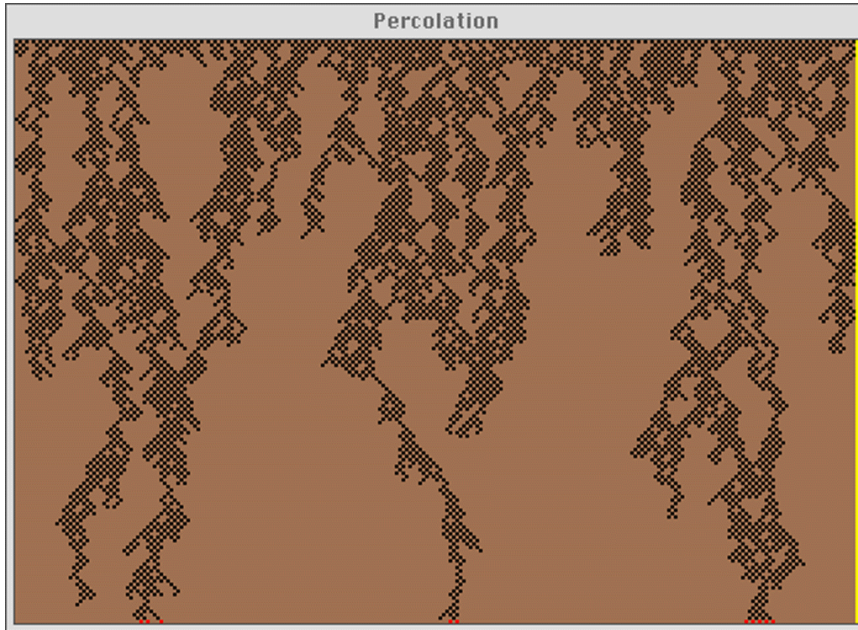


Percolation

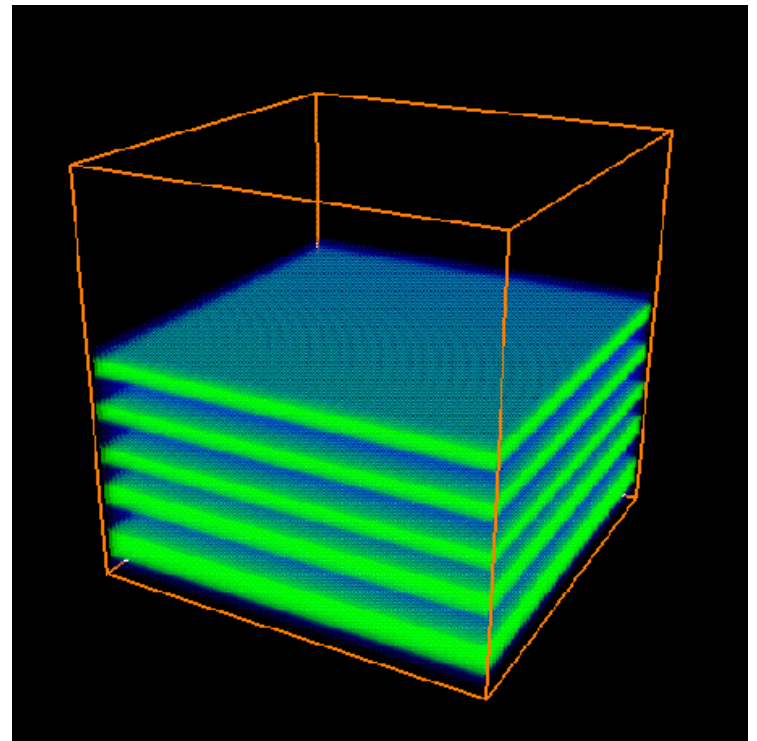
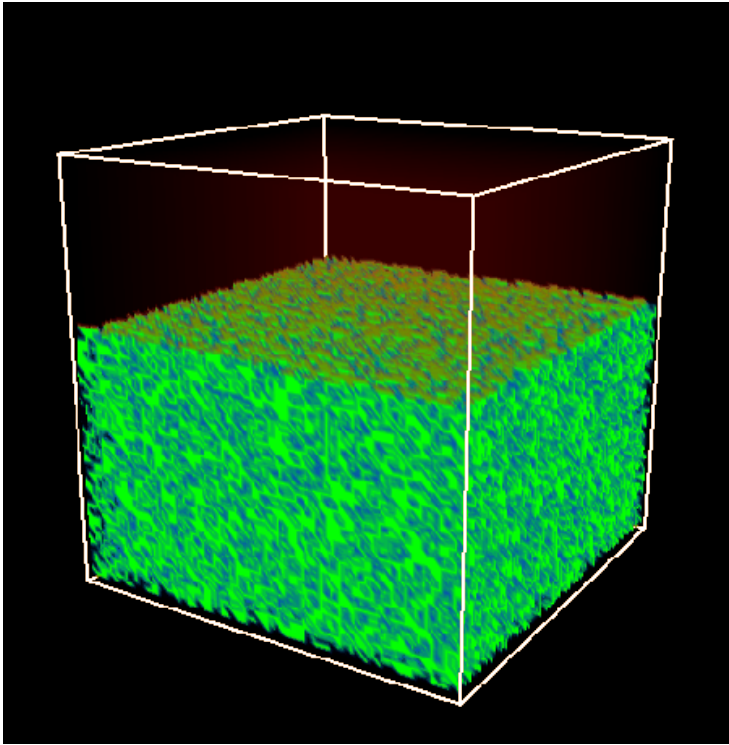


Percolation threshold

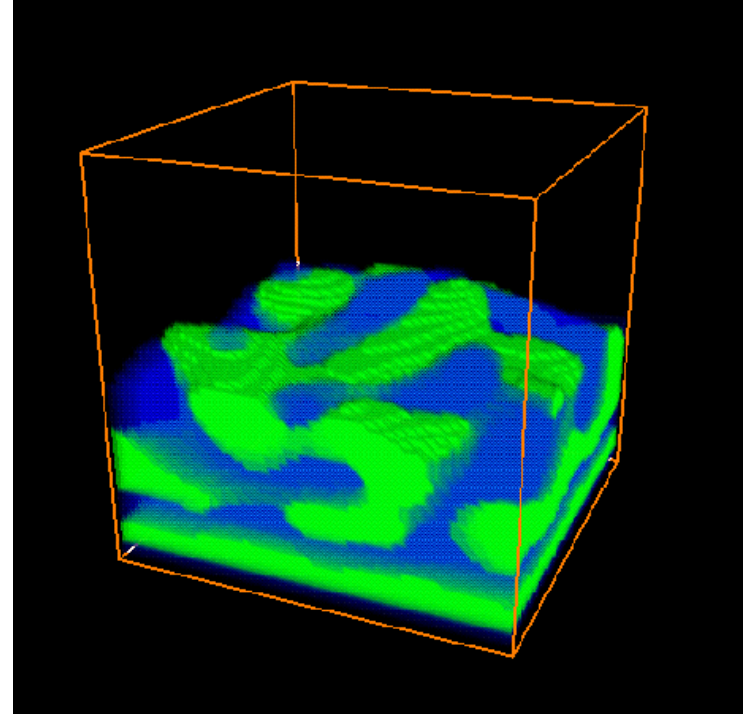
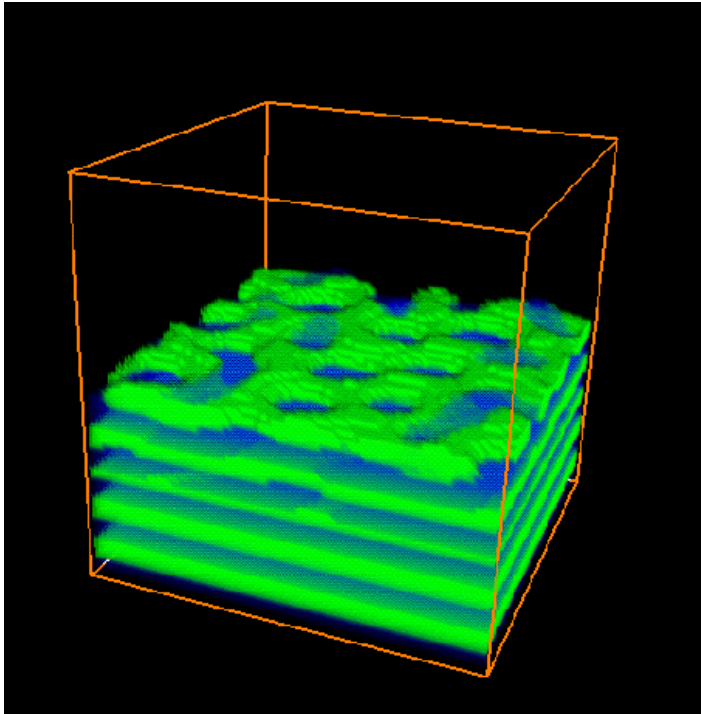
Percolating structures



Surface induced structures

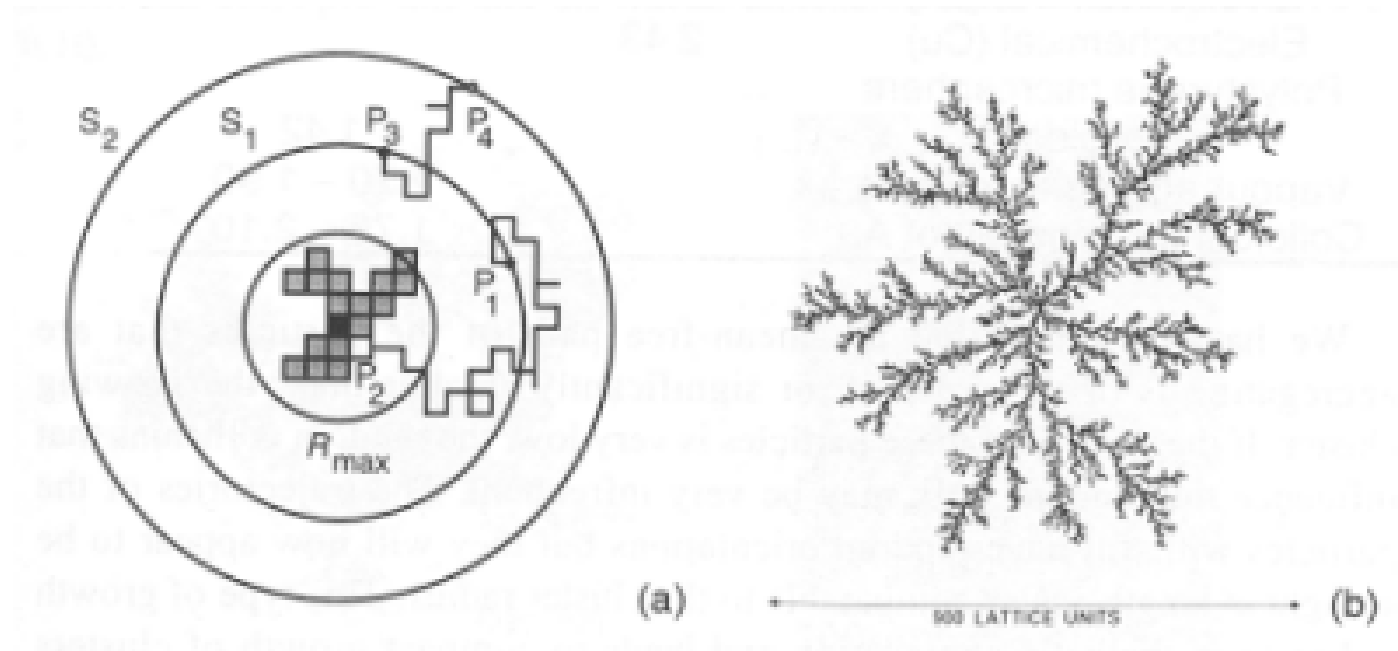


Surface induced structures

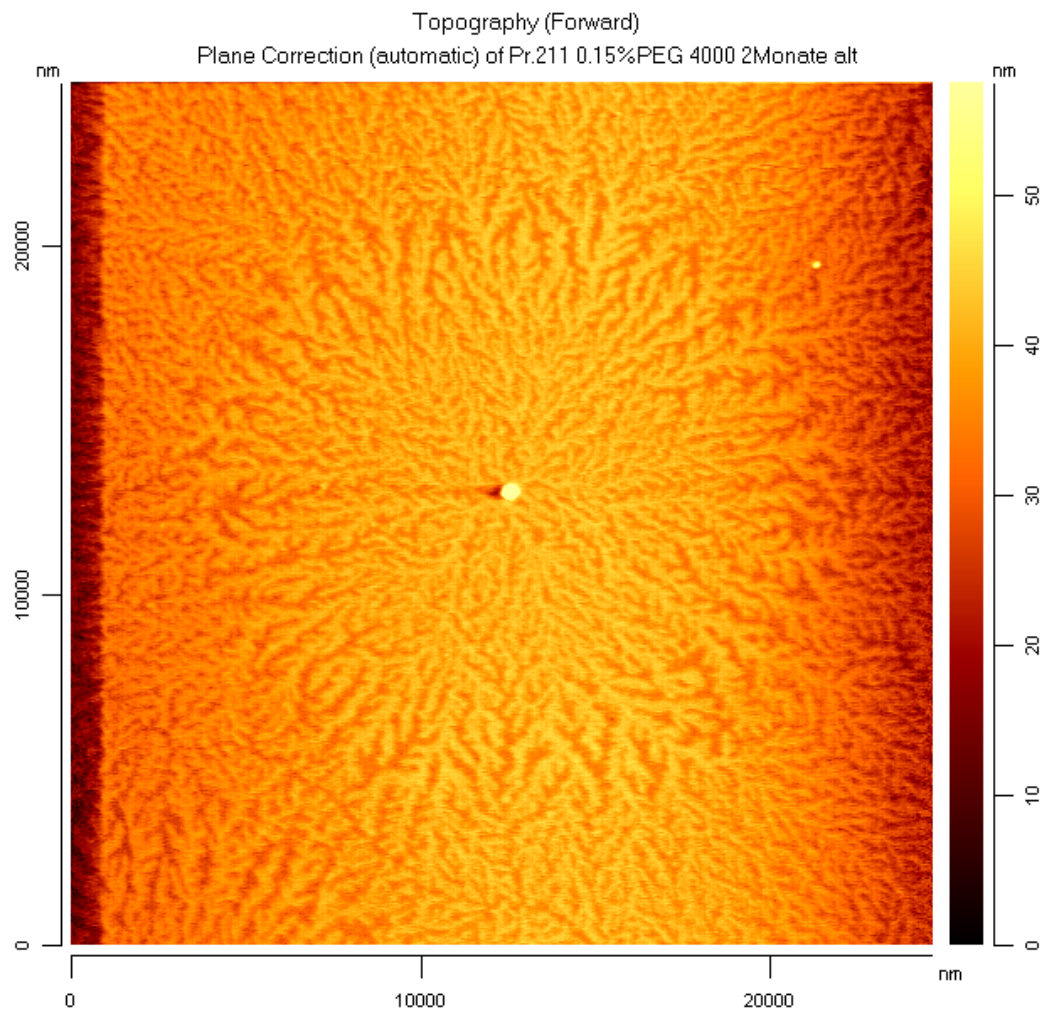


Fractal structures

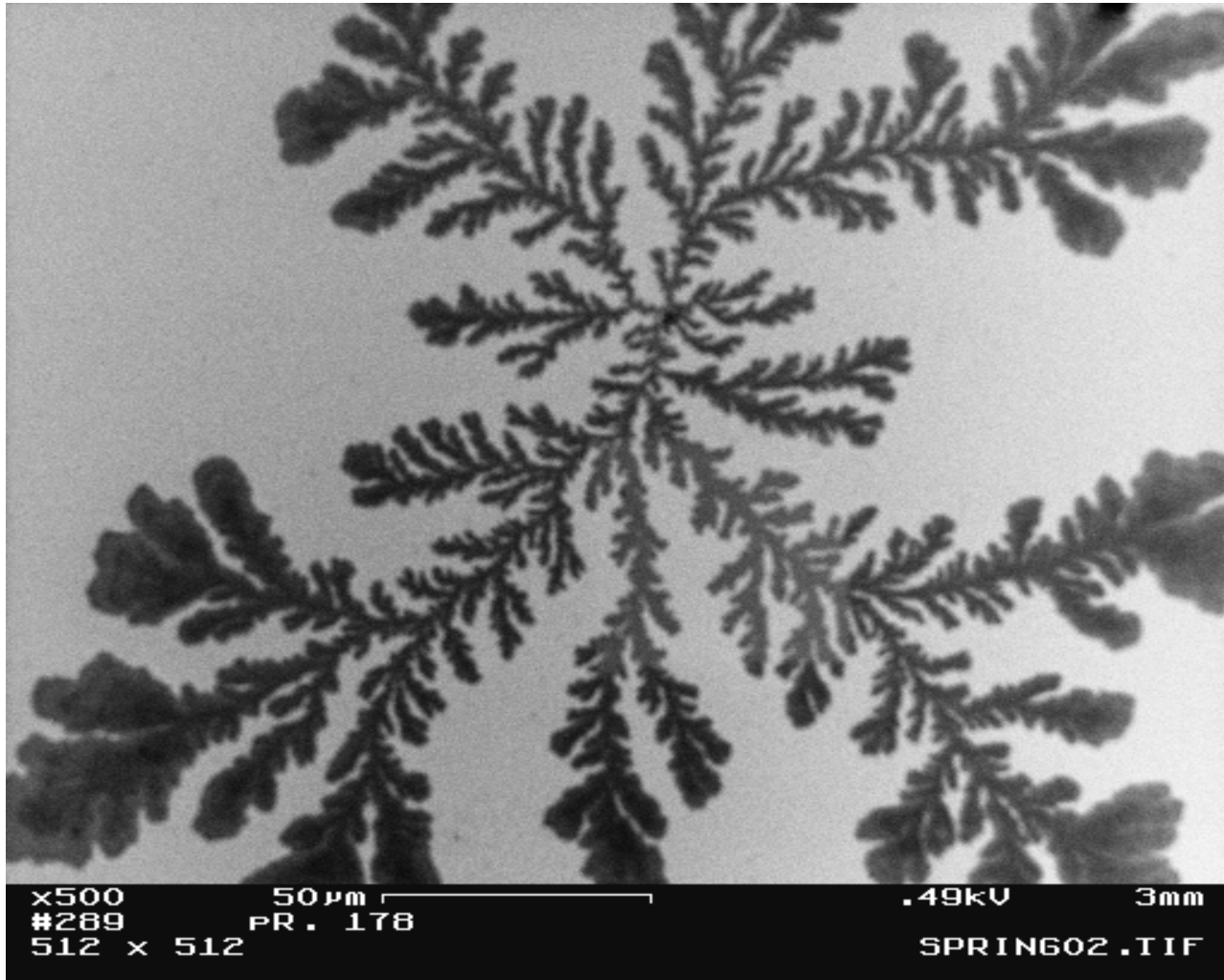
DLA Clusters



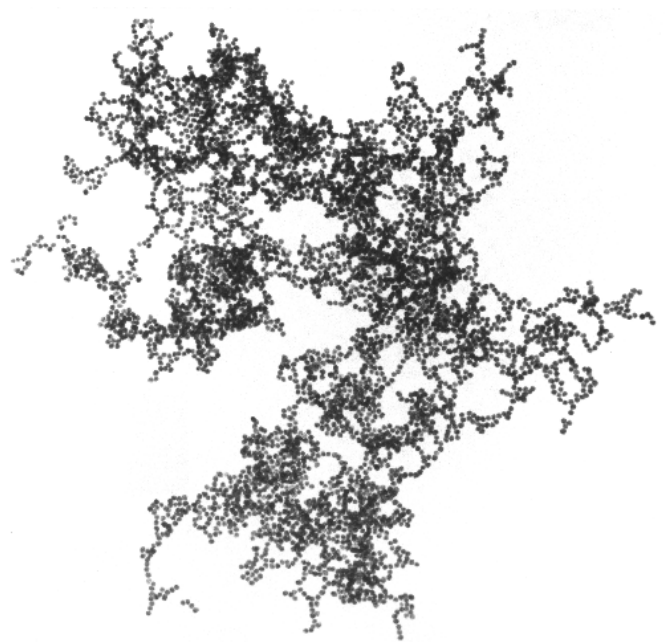
DLA Clusters



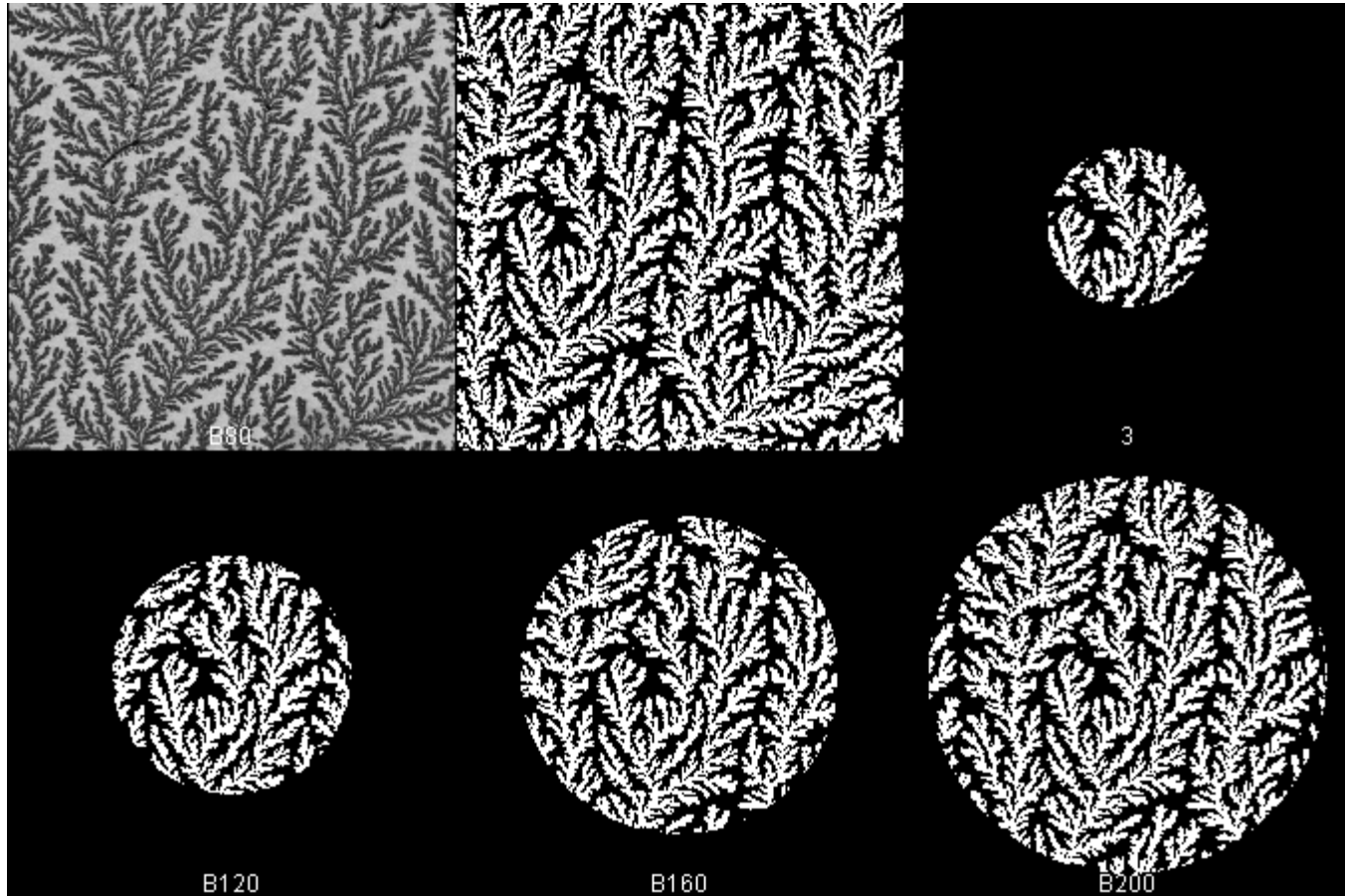
DLA Clusters



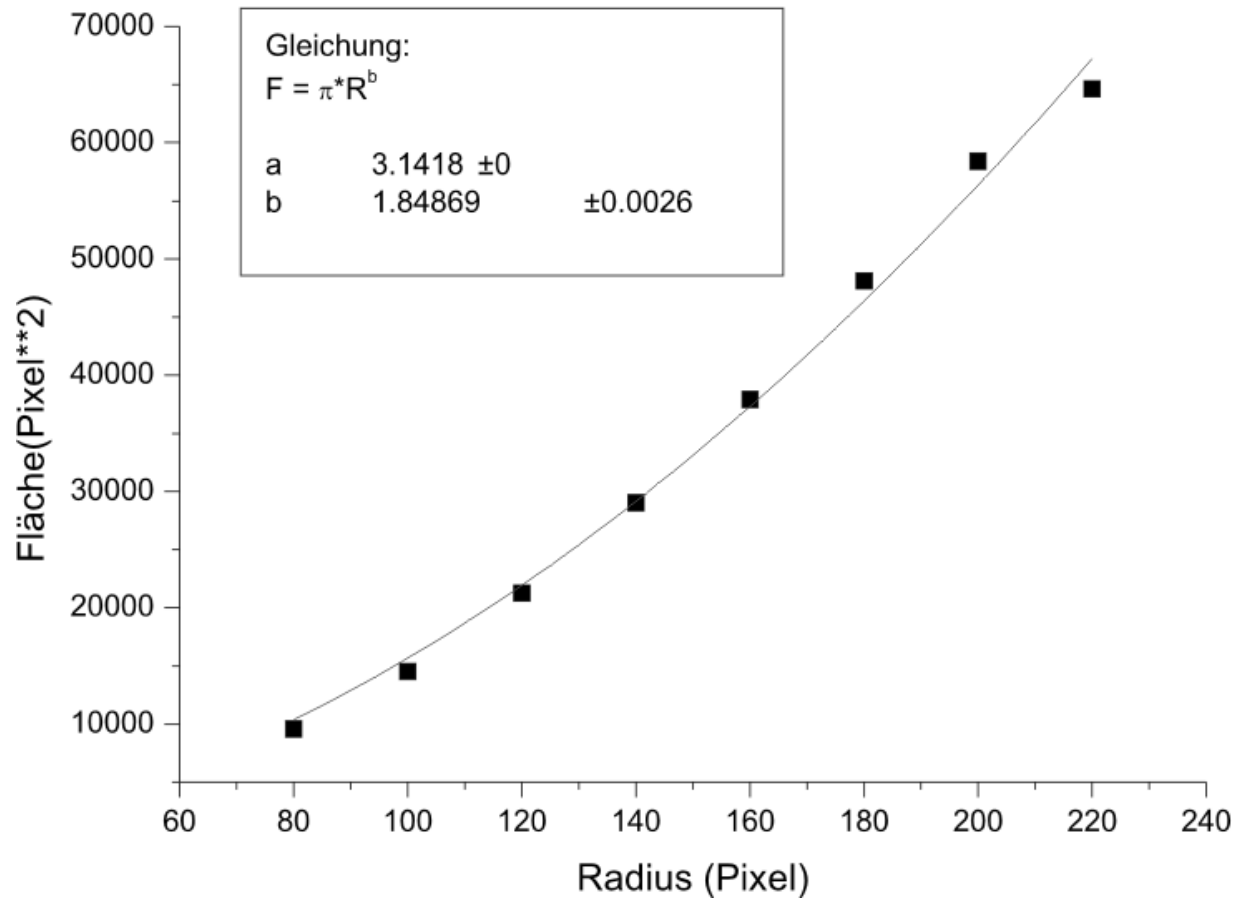
DLA Clusters in nature



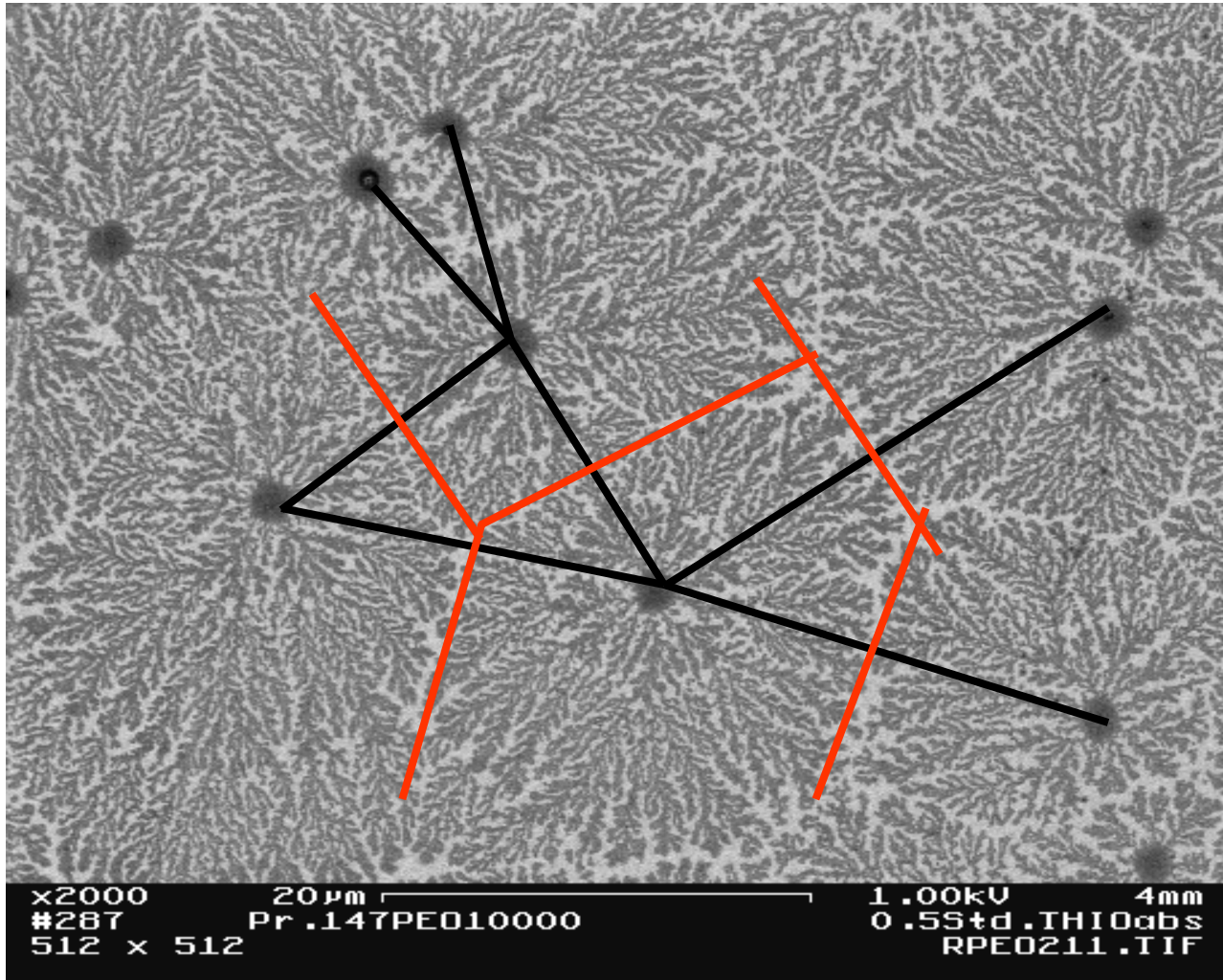
Fractal characterisation



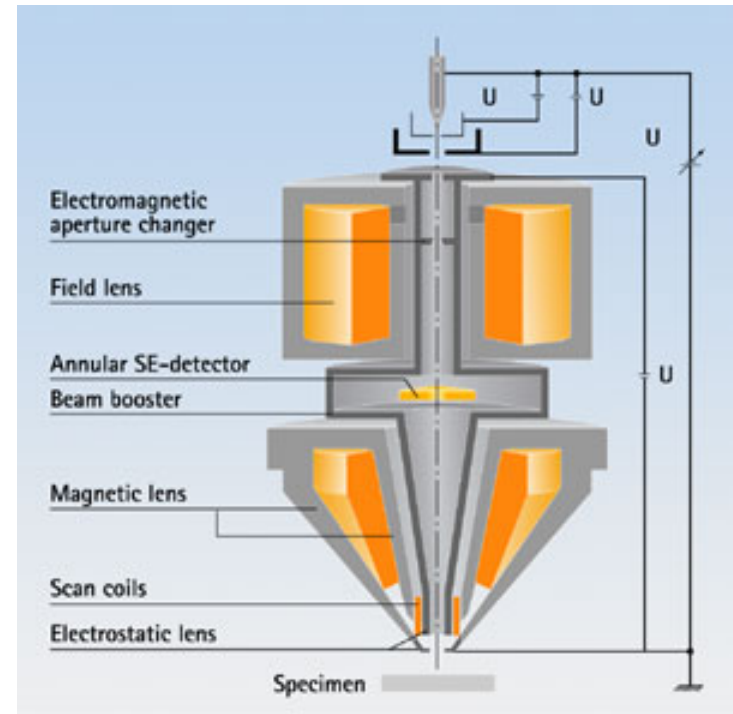
Fractal characterisation



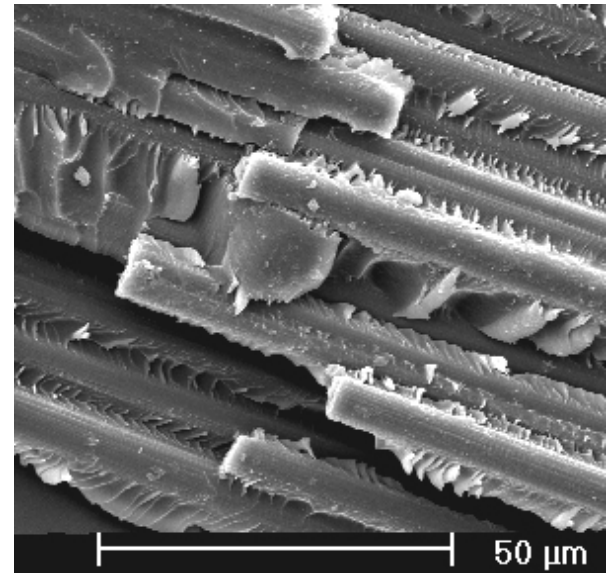
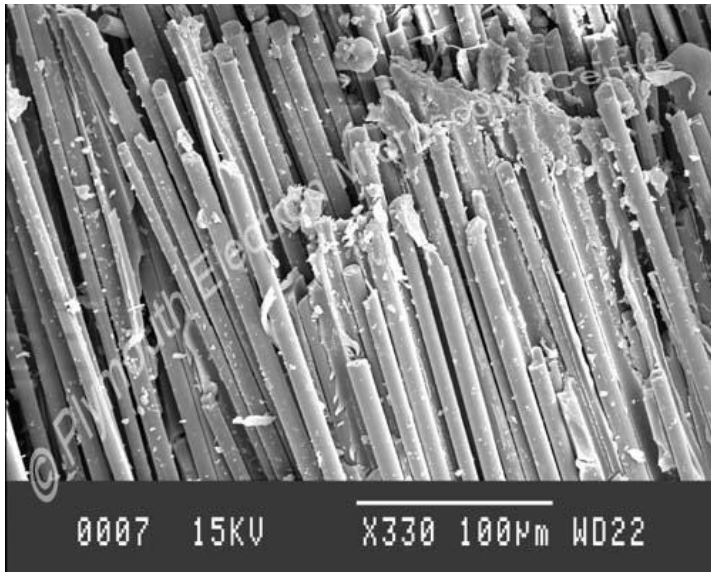
Voronoi Polyhedra



Low Voltage Scanning Electron Microscope

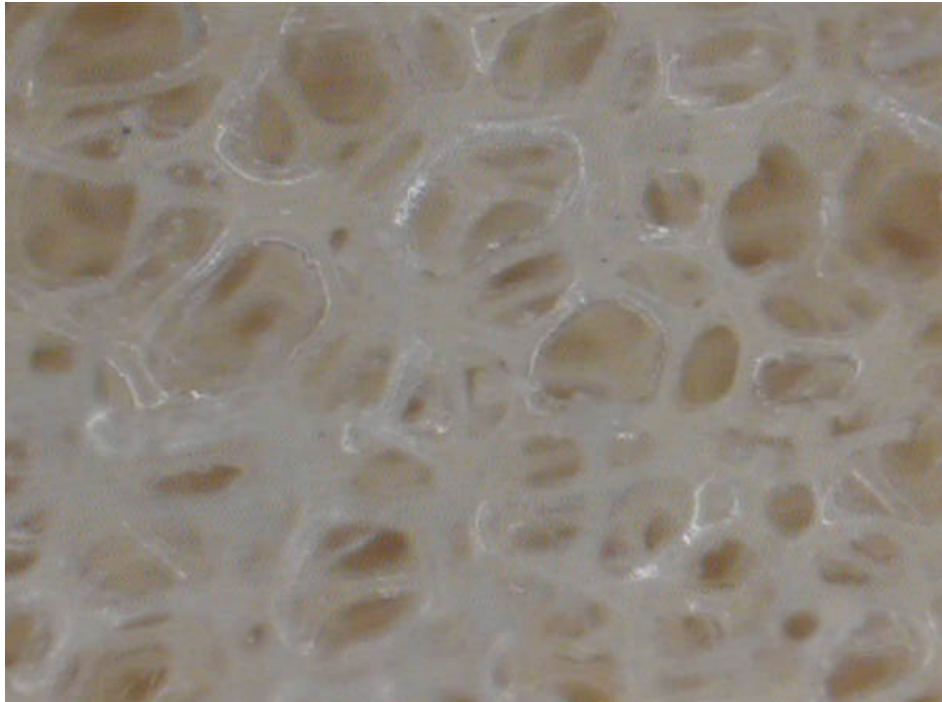


Carbon fibres composites

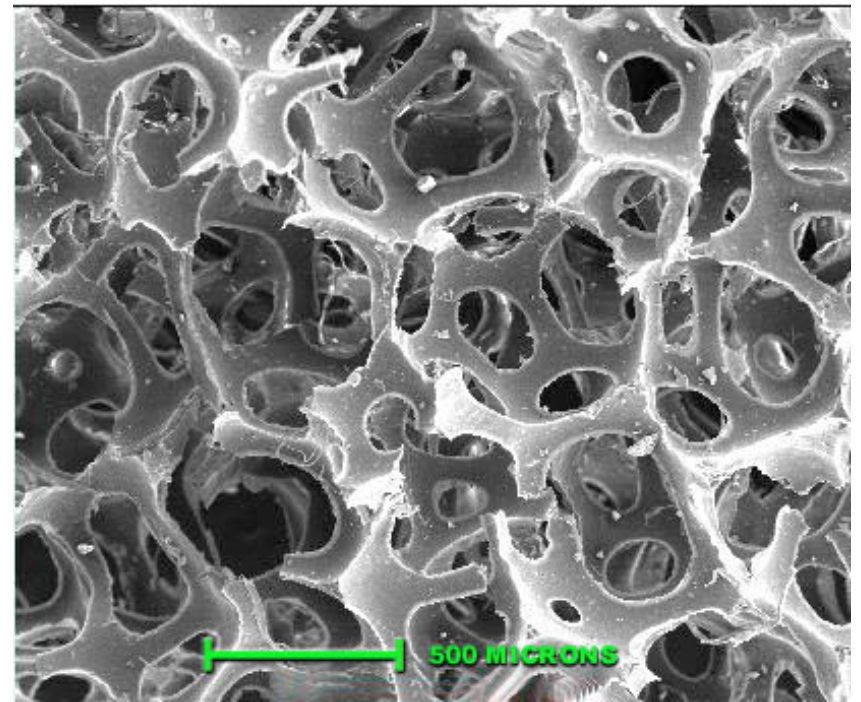


Fracture surfaces

Foam structures



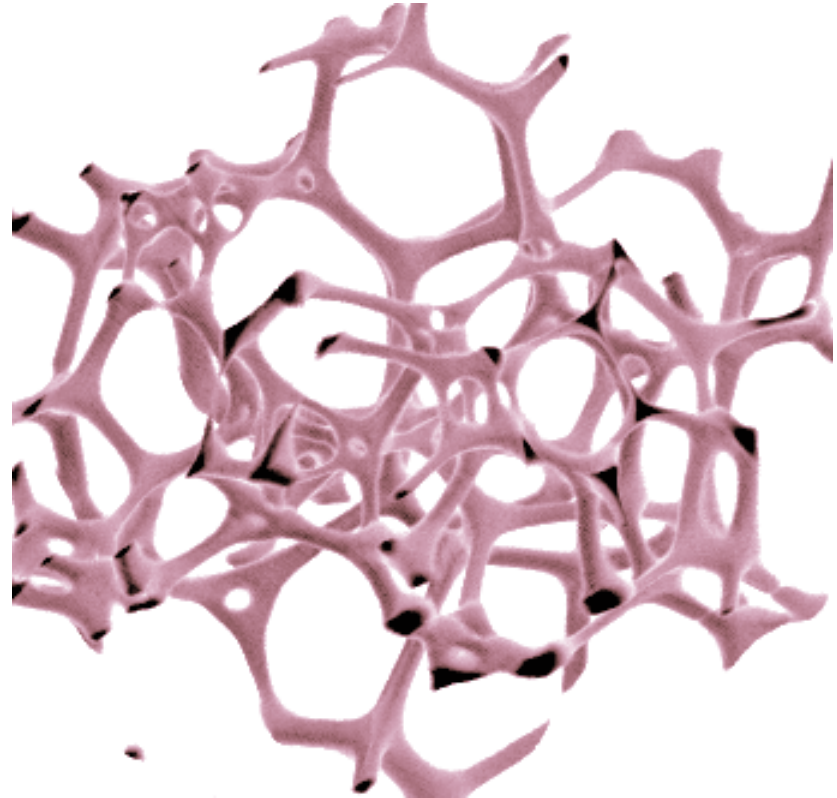
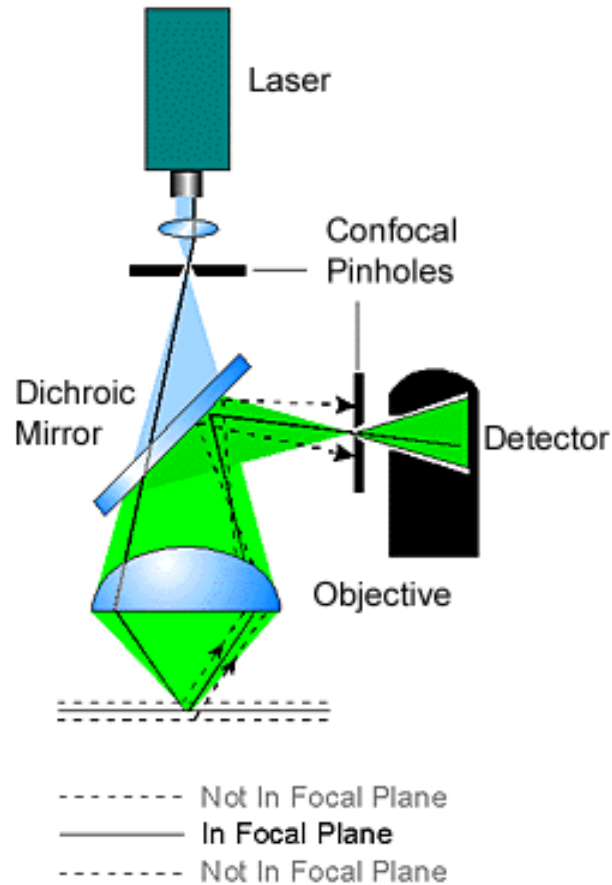
Light microscope



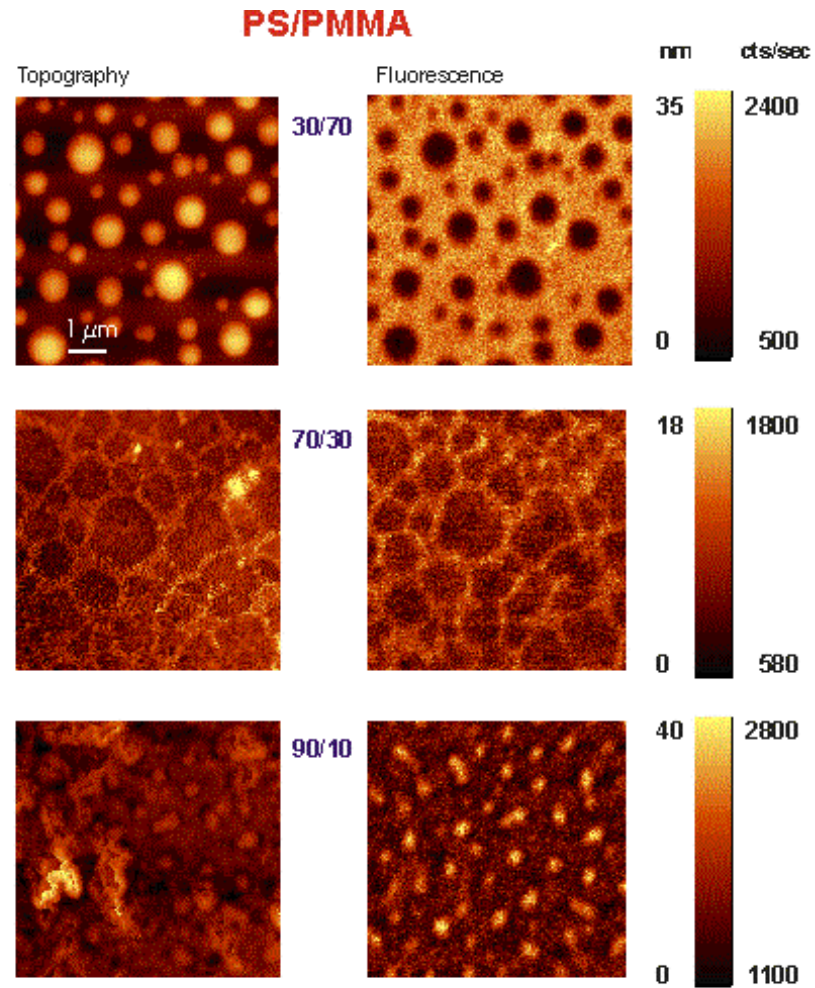
Scanning Electron Microscope

3 dimensional information by LSM

How It Works



Fluorescence Microscopy



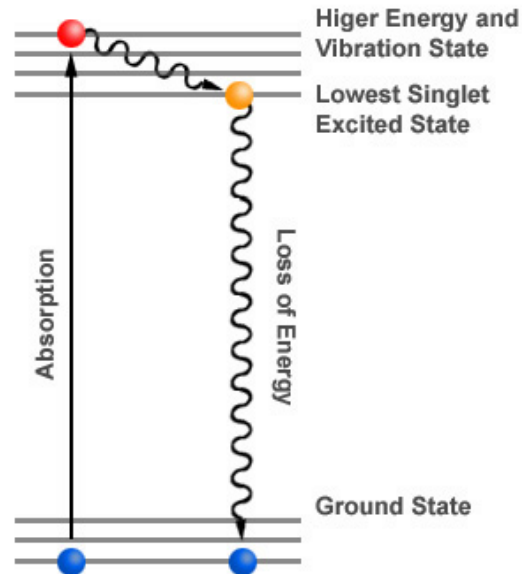
Phase characterisation in PS/PMMA blends

Fluorescence Microscopy



Fluorescence dyes

Fluorescence Microscopy

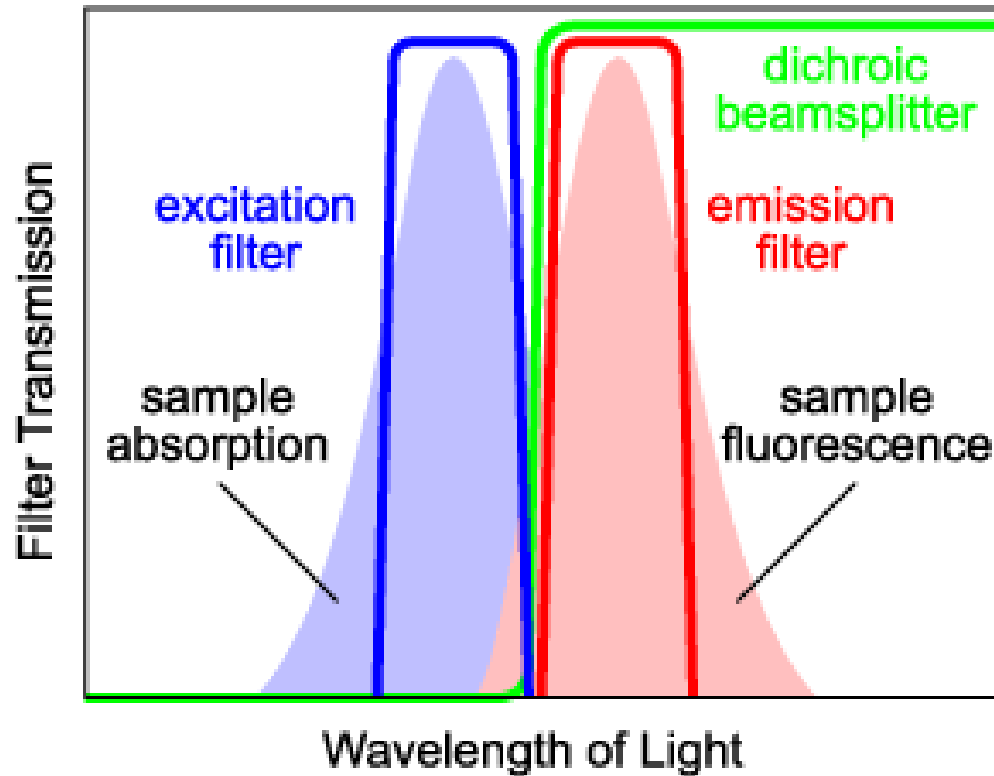


Fluorescence

Within femtoseconds after light excites the fluorophore at an appropriate wavelength, its electrons jump from the ground state to a higher vibrational state. Within picoseconds these electrons decay to the lowest excited state, and then decay more slowly (nsec) back to the ground state with the emission of a photon whose wavelength is longer than the exciting wavelength. [Click to continue >>](#)

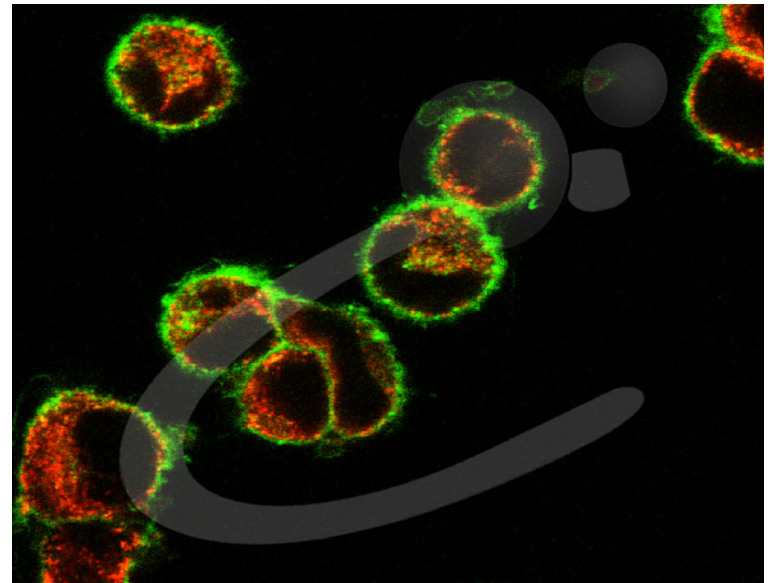
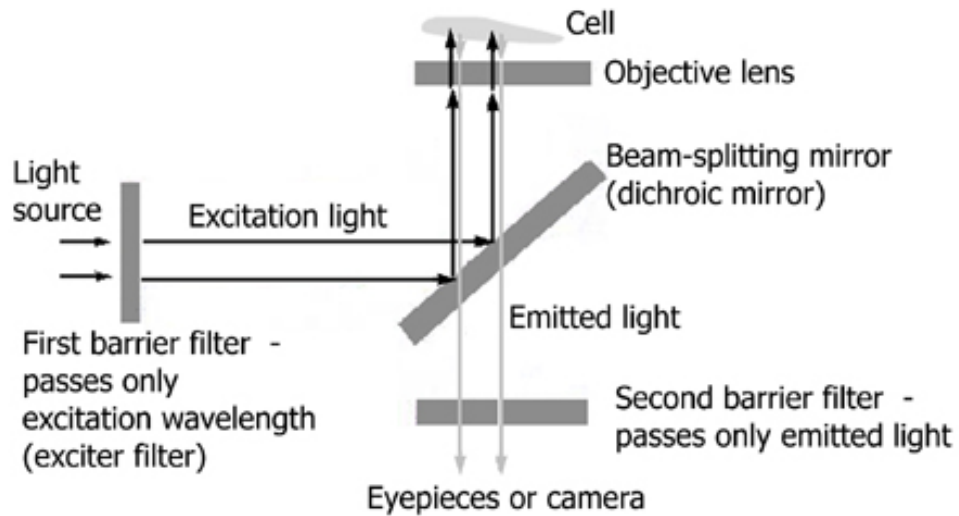
Fluorescence dyes – the physical principle

Fluorescence Microscopy



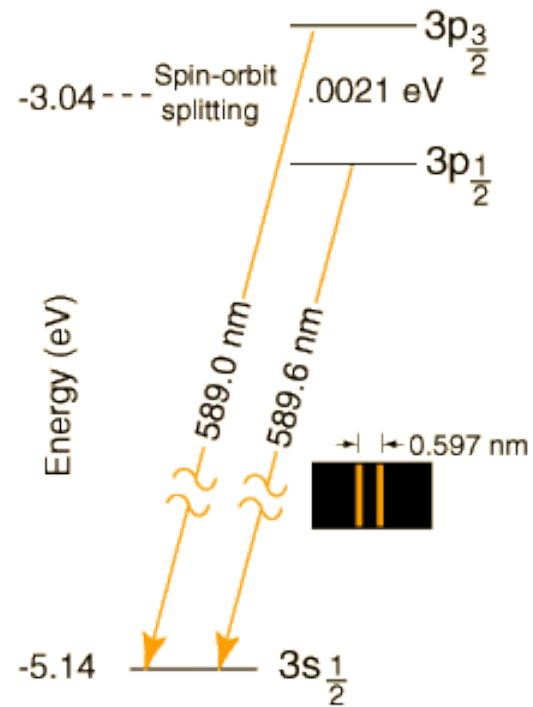
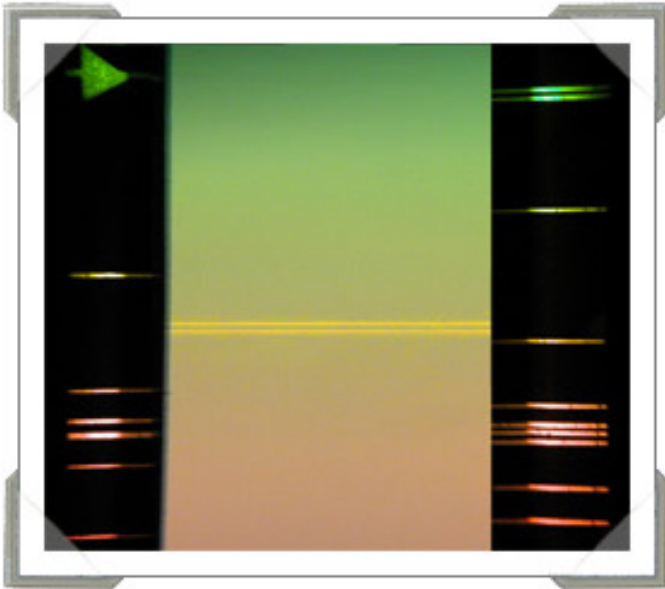
Fluorescence absorption – emission – optical elements

Fluorescence Microscopy



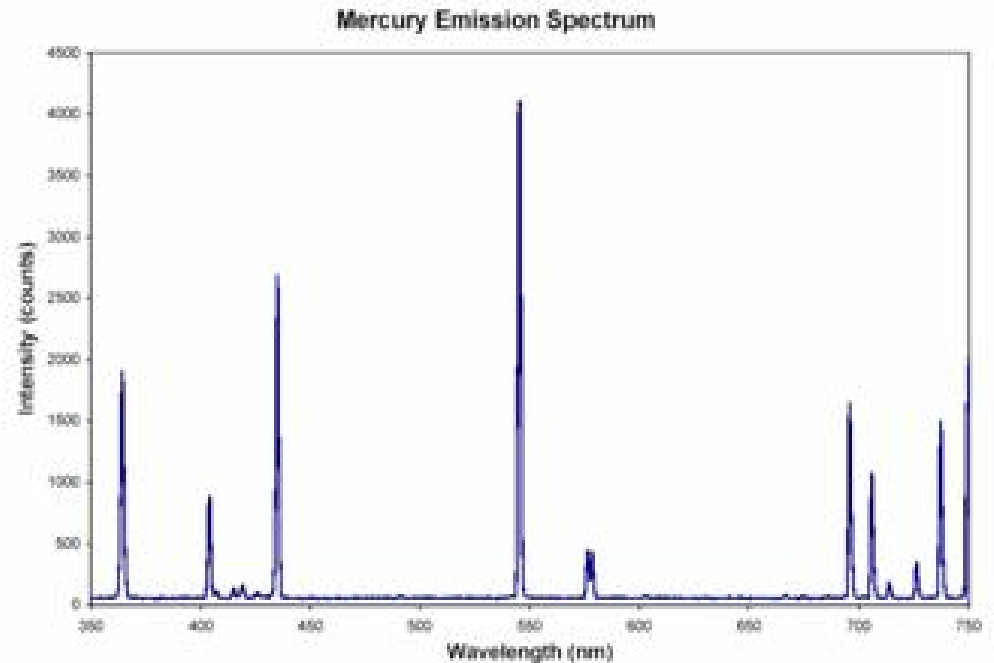
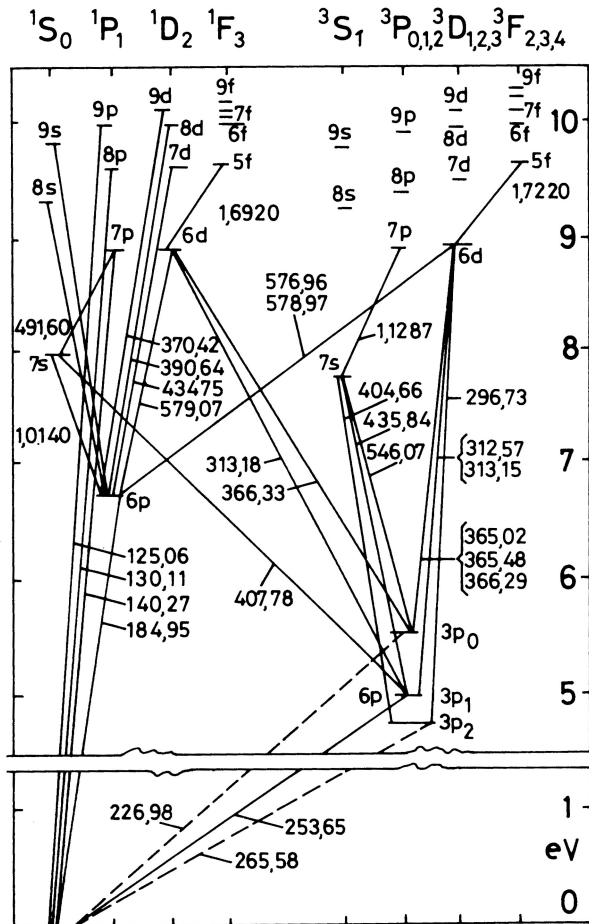
Fluorescence microscop image

Fluorescence Microscopy



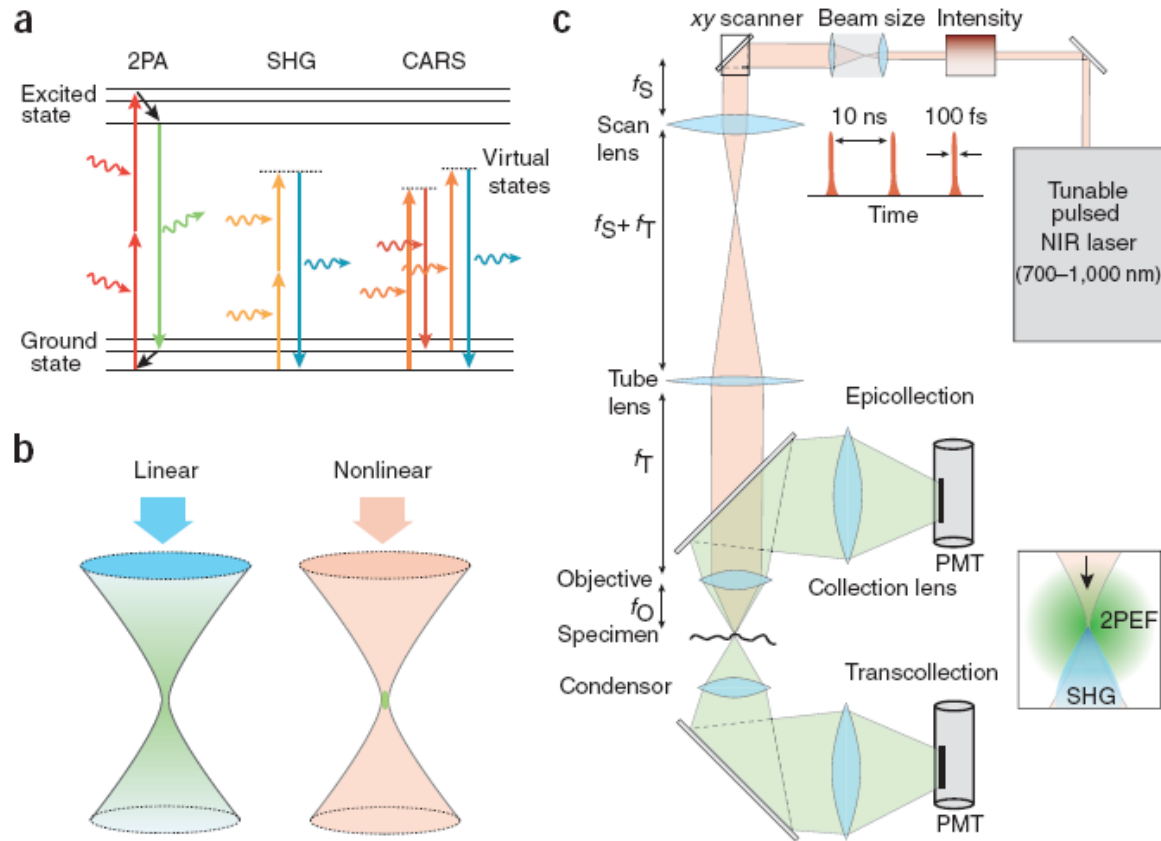
Na Emission spectra

Fluorescence Microscopy

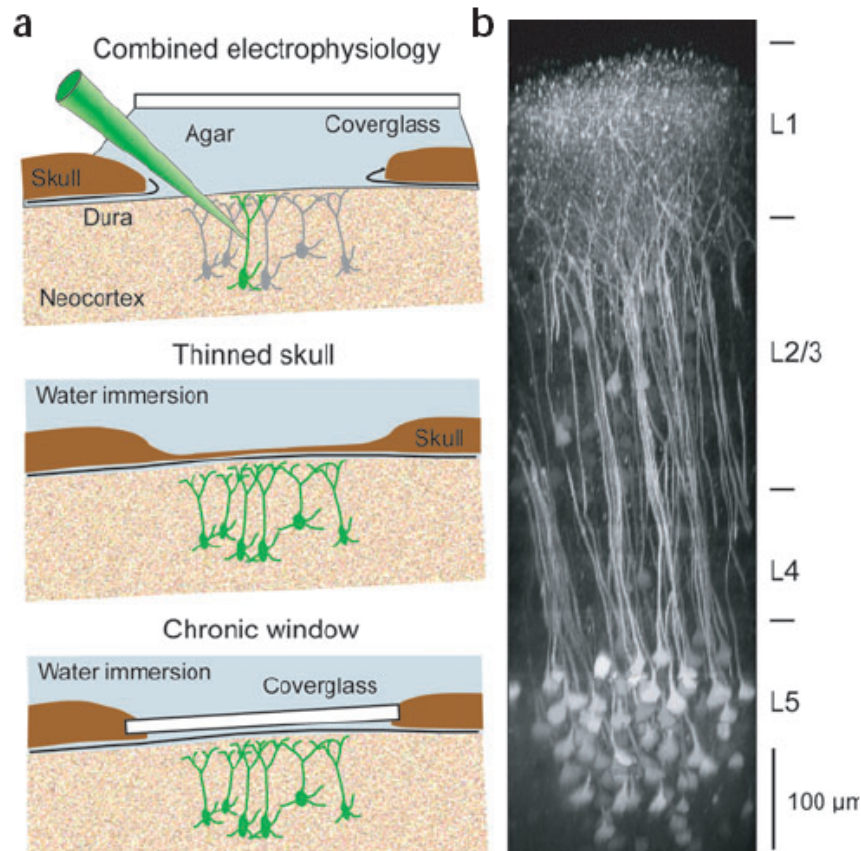


Hg emission spectra

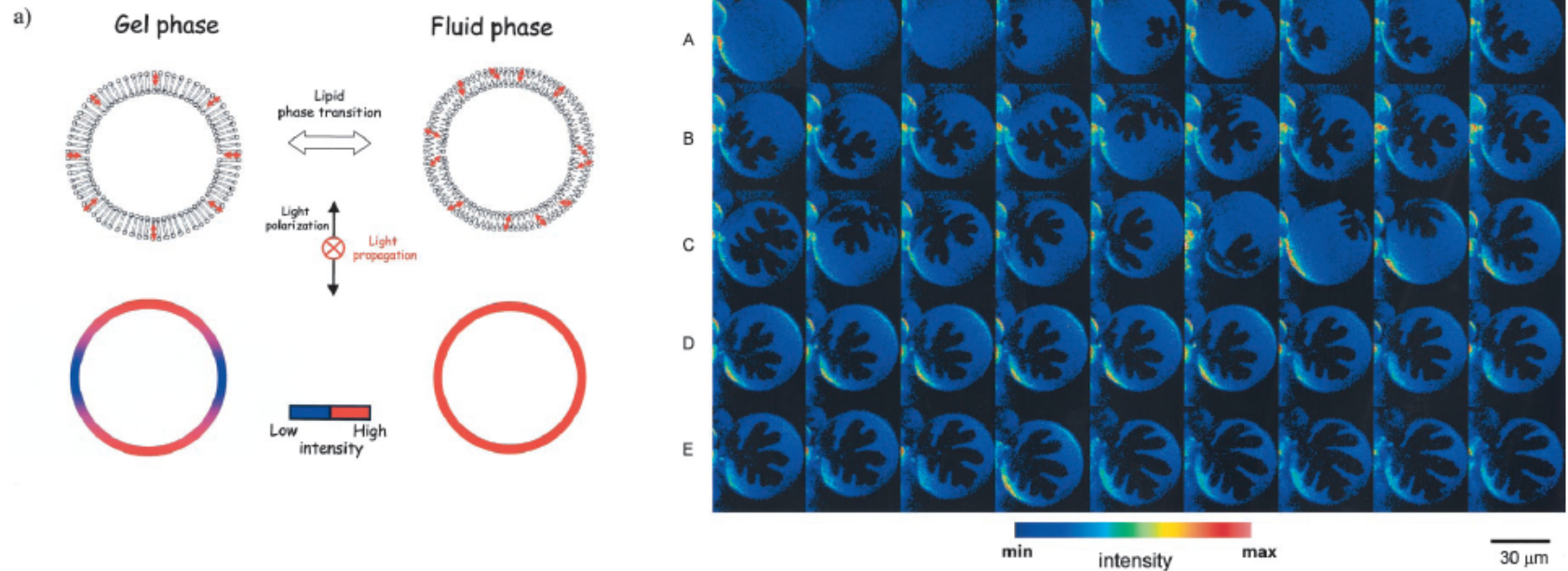
Two-Photon Fluorescence Microscopy Principles



Two-Photon Fluorescence Microscopy Applications



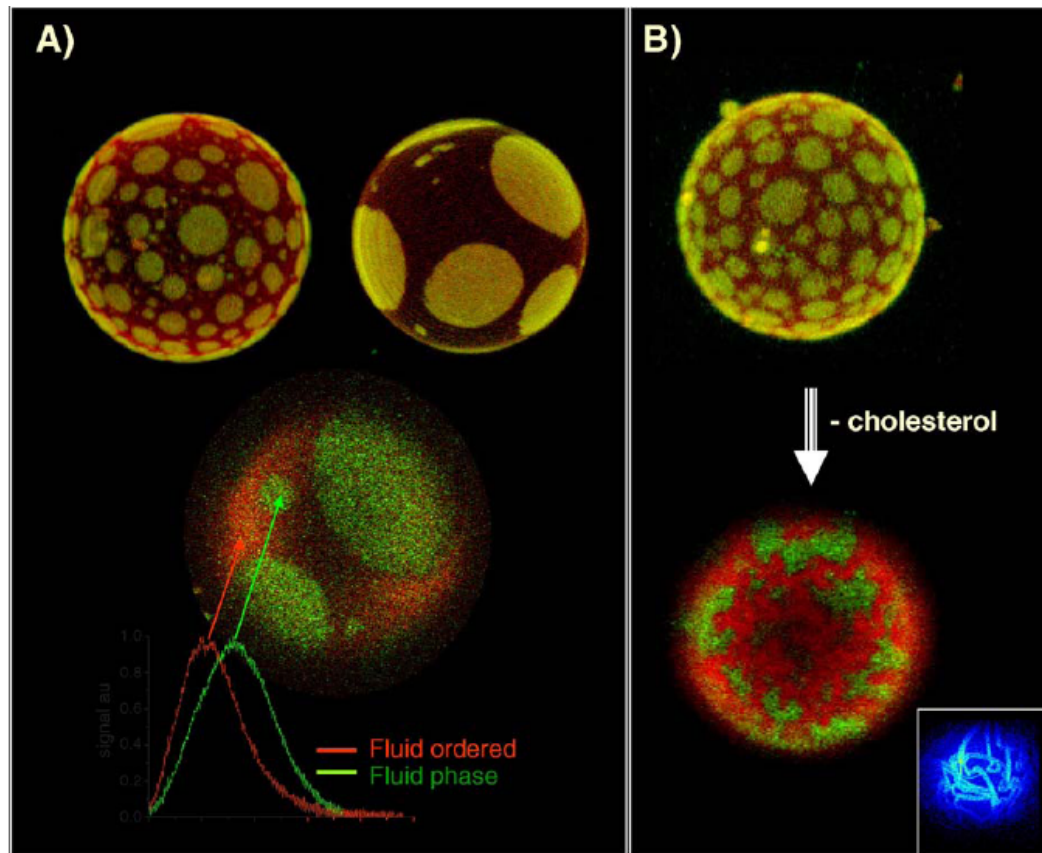
Two-Photon Fluorescence Microscopy



Phase separation and diffusion limited growth in Phospholipid membranes

Bagatolli, Gratton , Biophysical Journal **78**. (2000), 290

Two-Photon Fluorescence Microscopy Applications



Phase separation and diffusion limited growth in Phospholipid membranes

Bagatolli, Gratton , Biophysical Journal **78**. (2000), 290

Ein gesundes und erfolgreiches Jahr

