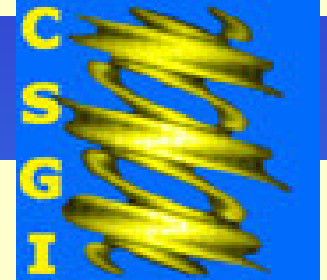


# Structure, Dynamics, and Phase Behavior of Lecithin-Based Microemulsions

Gerardo Palazzo

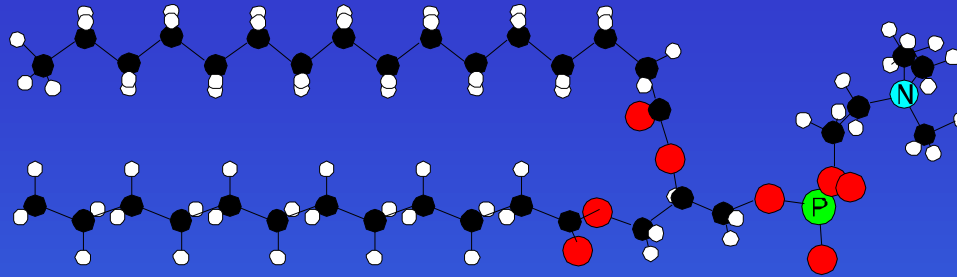
*Dipartimento di Chimica, Università di Bari*

*CSGI, Colloid & Surface Group - ITALY*



*Presented at the ECI conference  
ASSOCIATIONS IN SOLUTION: FUNCTION, PERFORMANCE, AND SYNTHESIS  
(July 22-26 2007 Barga, Italy)*

Lecithin = 1,2-diacyl-*sn*-glycero-3-phosphocholine

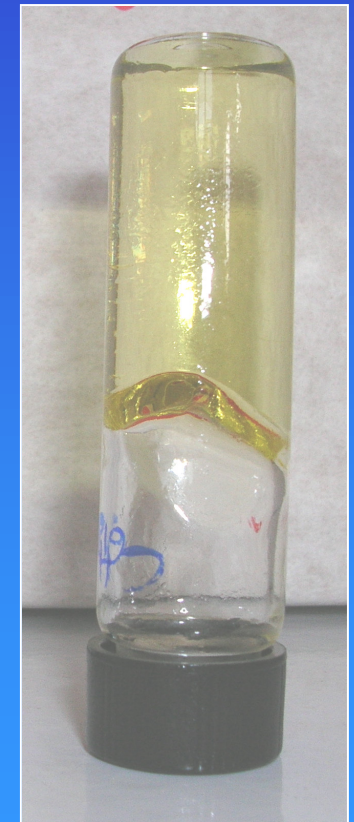


LS & SANS investigations\*

water addition induces the formation of giant cylindrical reverse micelles

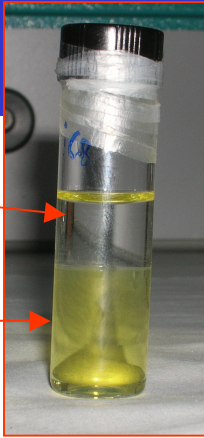
Organogel: transparent, isotropic, highly viscous

\* Schurtenberger et al. *J. Phys. Chem.* **1990**, 94, 3695  
Schurtenberger & Cavaco *Langmuir* **1994**, 10, 100.  
Schurtenberger et al. *Langmuir* **1996**, 12, 2433.



pure oil

gel



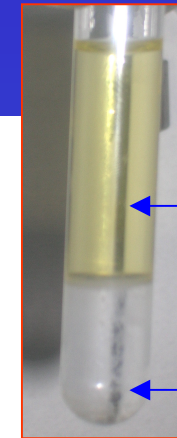
• different phase separation upon water dilution: Winsor II ( $C_6$ ) or liquid-gas ( $iC_8$ )

• drop in viscosity

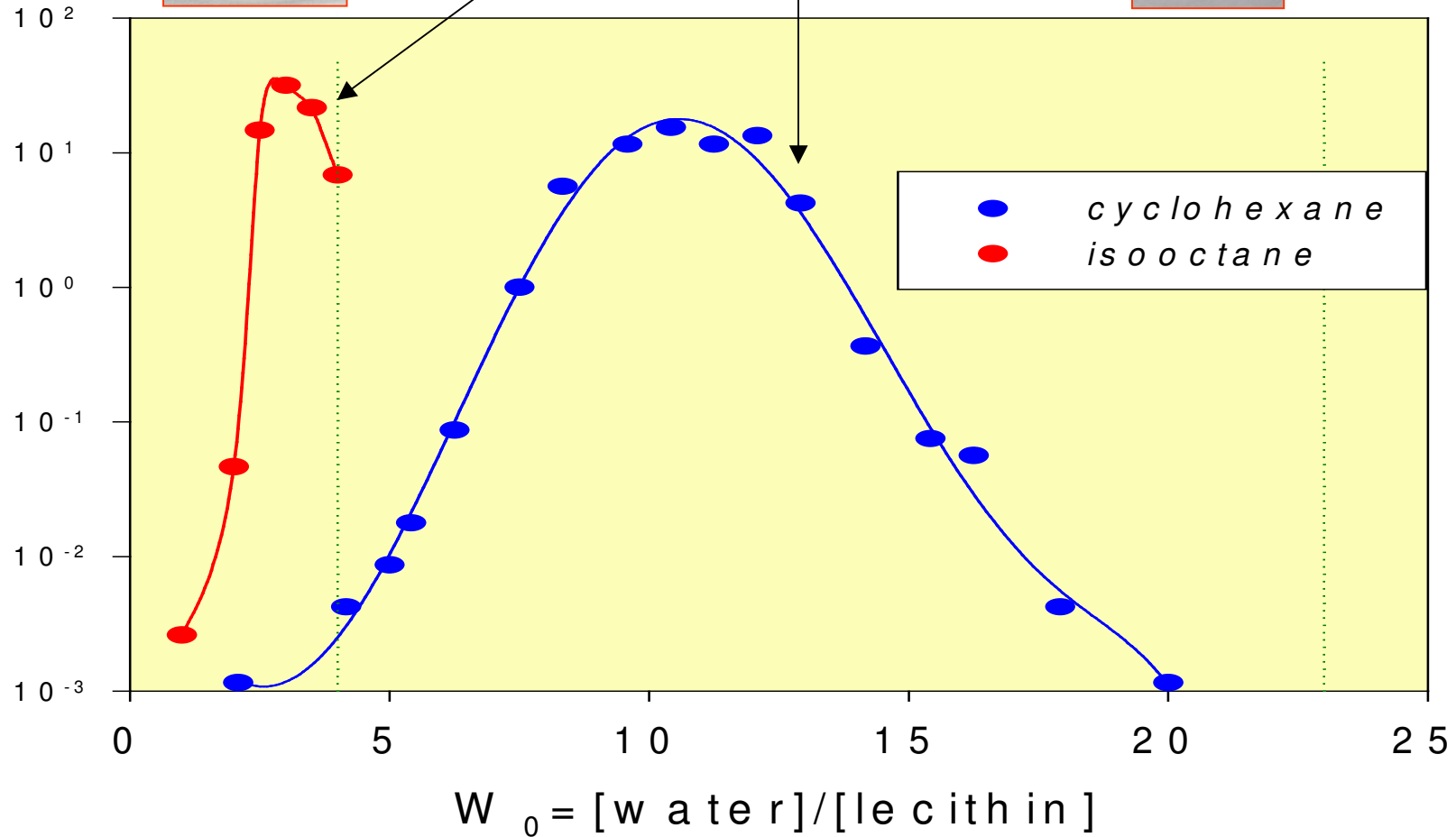
$$\Phi = 0.036$$

reverse micelles

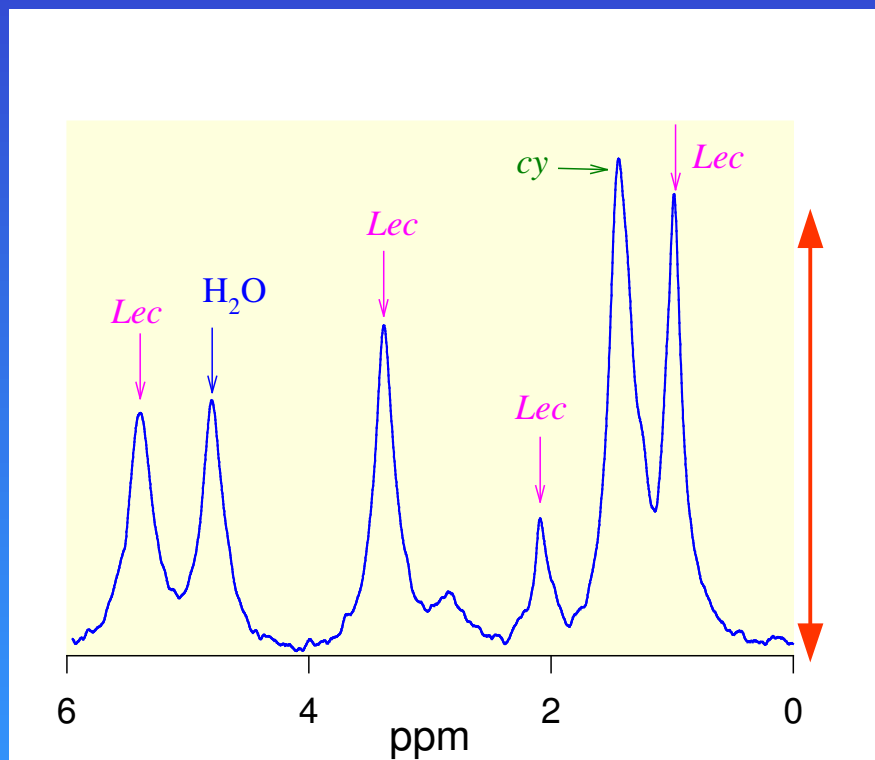
water



$\eta$  / Pa s

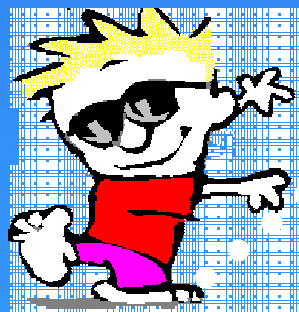


# The Measurement of Molecular *Motion* Using PGSE-NMR



Echo attenuation  $E(q,t)$

$q$  &  $t$  : instrumental parameters

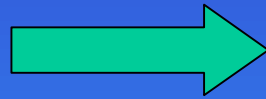


$$E(q, t) = \int P(Z, t) e^{iqZ} dZ$$

P(Z,t) Gaussian

$$P(Z, t) = \frac{\exp\left(-\frac{Z^2}{4Dt}\right)}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}}$$

Simple liquid

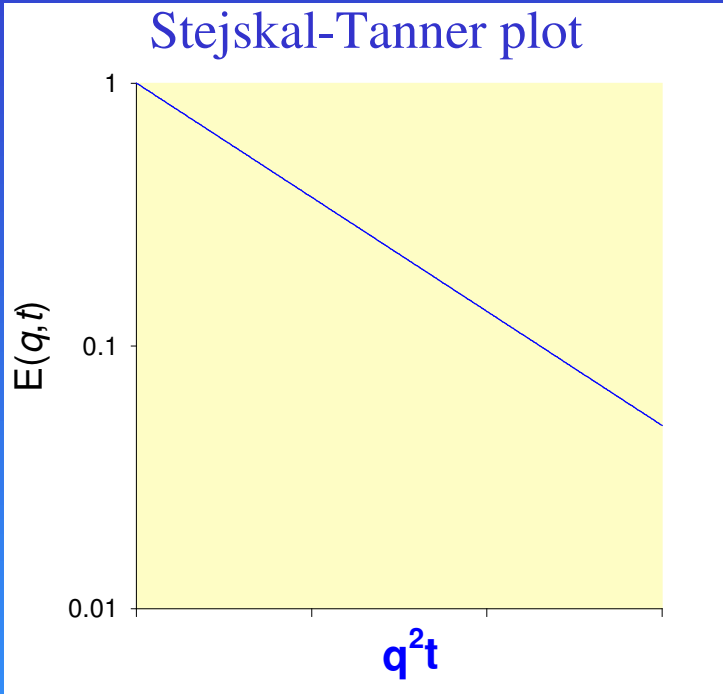


$$E(q, t) = \exp(-\mathbf{D}tq^2)$$

Unknown P(Z,t)

$$\lim_{q^2 \rightarrow 0} E(q, t) = 1 - \frac{\langle Z^2 \rangle q^2}{2}$$

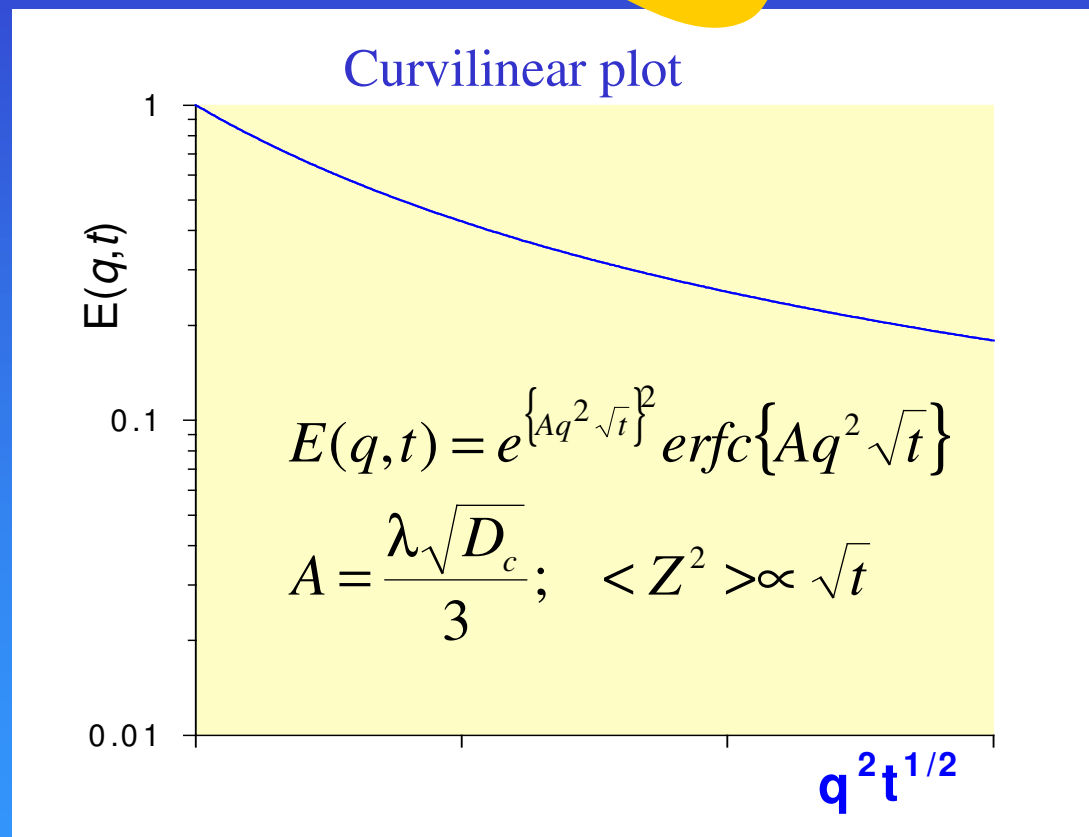
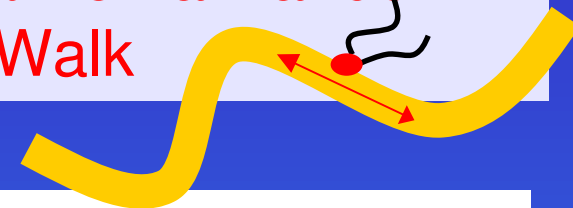
## Gaussian diffusion: Random Walk



$$E(q,t) = e^{-Dq^2 t}$$

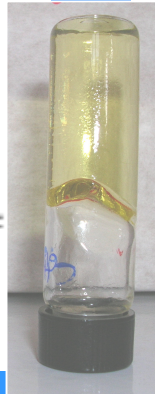
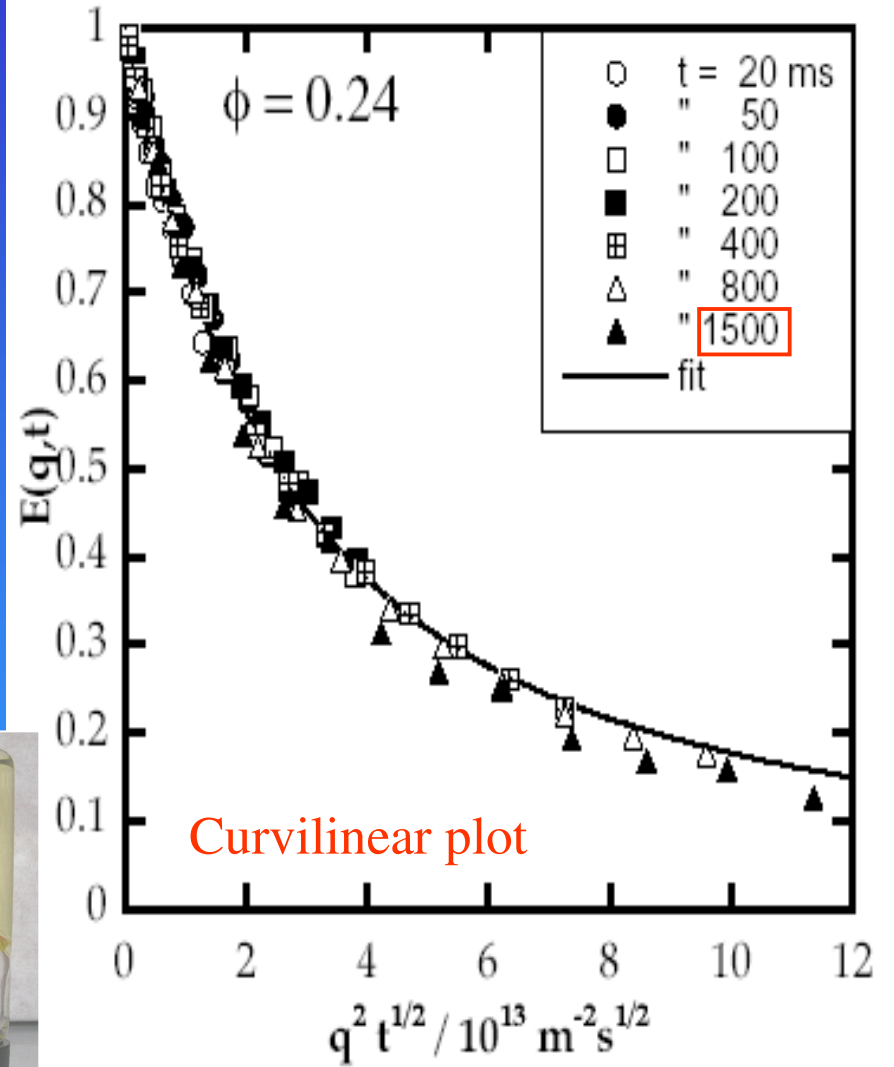
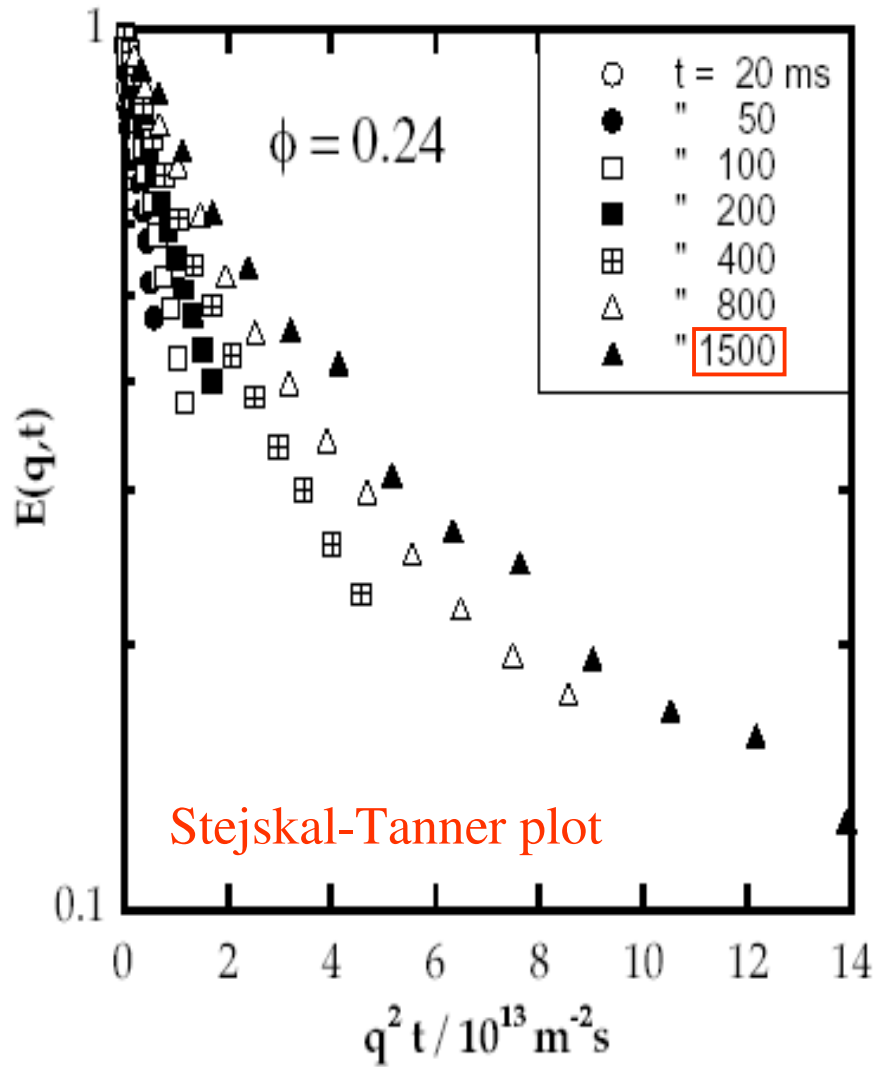
$$\langle Z^2 \rangle = 2Dt$$

## Curvilinear diffusion: Random Walk on a Random Walk



# Cyclohexane $W_0=10$

Angelico, Olsson, Palazzo, Ceglie *Phys. Rev. Letters* 1998, 81, 2823



In *cC6* lecithin experiences pure curvilinear diffusion  
up to an observation time of 1.5 s

very long micelles (in 1.5 s lecithin explore about 2  $\mu\text{m}$ )

micellar lifetime and the lecithin residence time  $> 1.5$  s

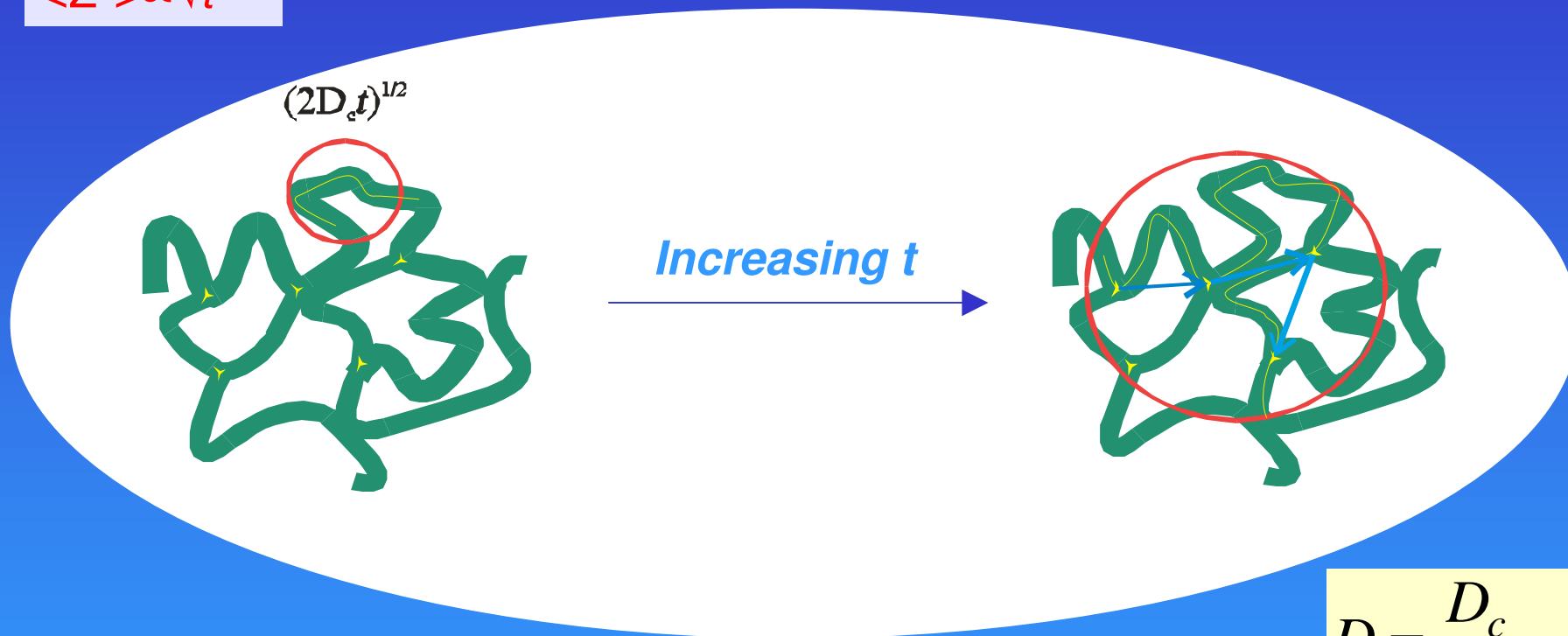
disconnected micelles (not branched)



diffusion experiment in a branched network ?

Curvilinear  
 $\langle Z^2 \rangle \propto \sqrt{t}$

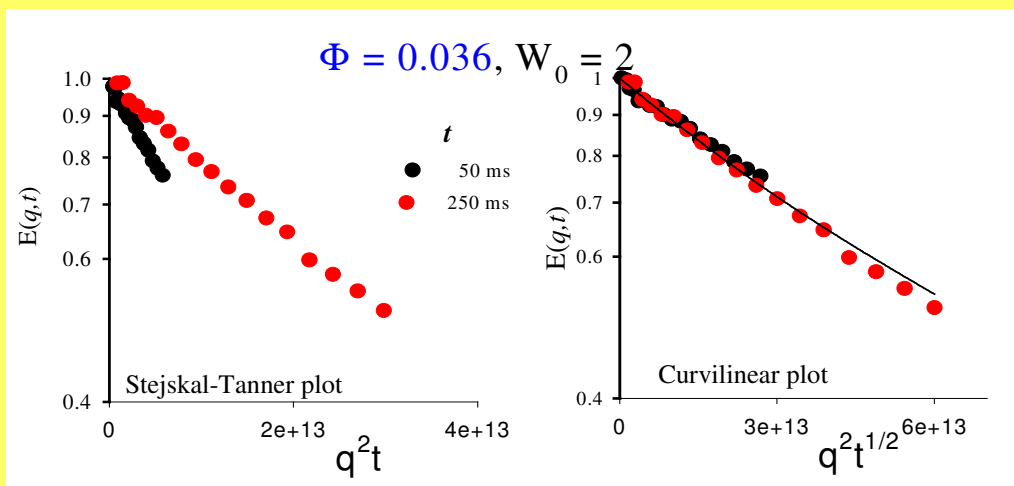
Random walk (Gaussian)  
 $\langle Z^2 \rangle \propto t$



Ambrosone, Angelico, Ceglie, Olsson, Palazzo  
*Langmuir* 2001, 22, 6822

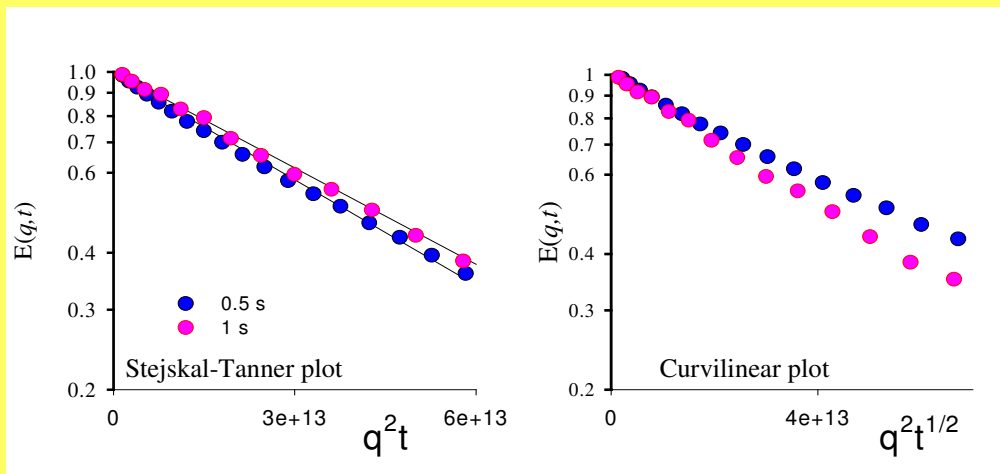
$$D = \frac{D_c}{3N}$$
$$N = \frac{L_{branch}}{2\lambda}$$

Isooctane,  $W_0=2$  low concentration



Low  $\Phi$ , short times

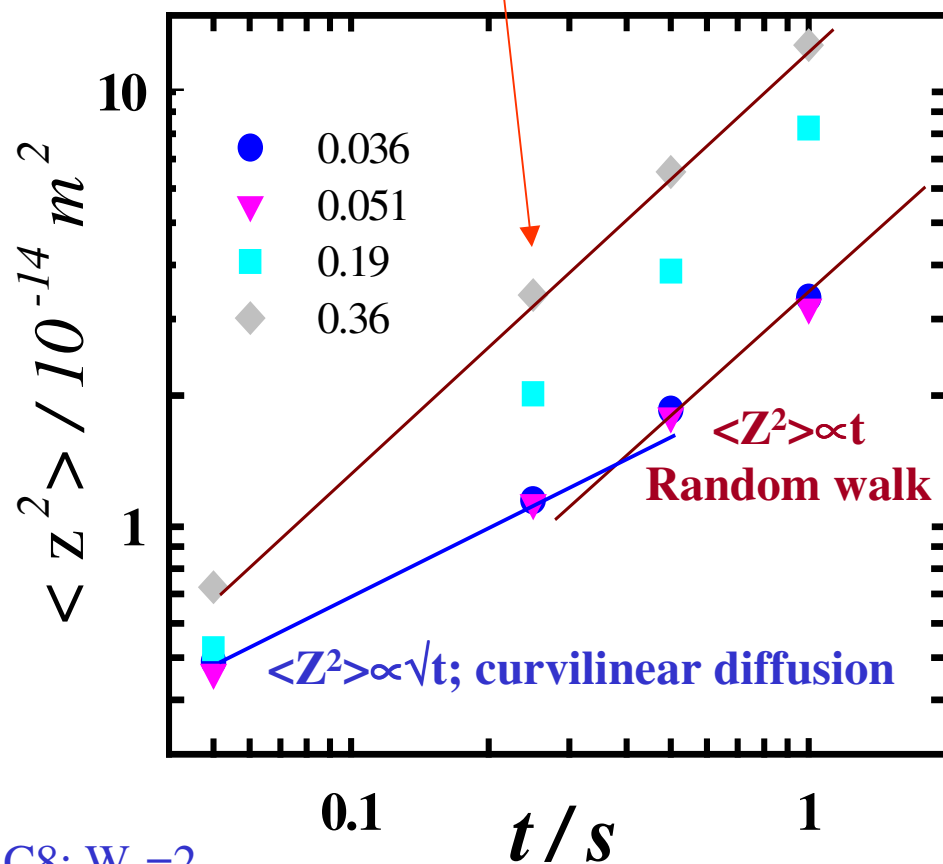
curvilinear diffusion  
 $\lambda=150 \text{ \AA}$



Low  $\Phi$ , long times

almost Gaussian

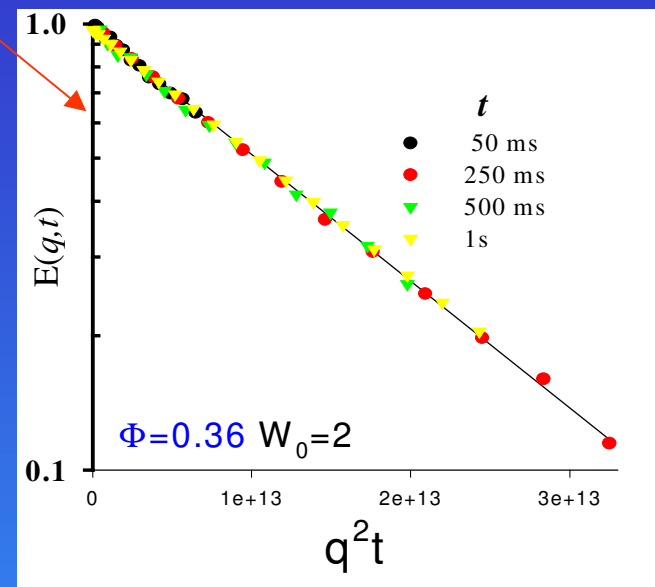
higher concentration: Gaussian diffusion in the whole timescale range



Gels in iC8;  $W_0=2$

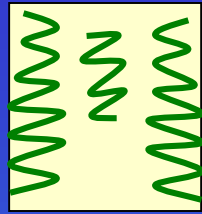
Lecithin mean squared displacement as a function of observation time

More connections



Increasing the  $W_0$ : Gaussian diffusion also at very low volume fraction

# Phase separation

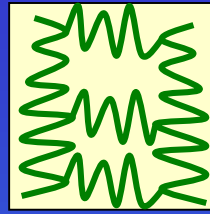


branches



$W_0$

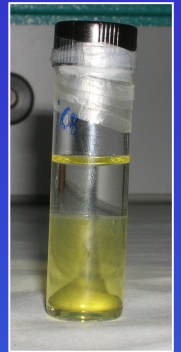
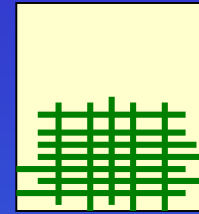
$\eta$  decreases



more branches

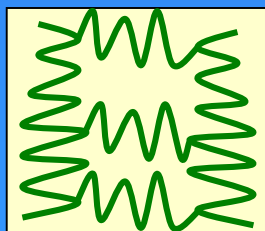


$W_0$



$\Phi$

more branches



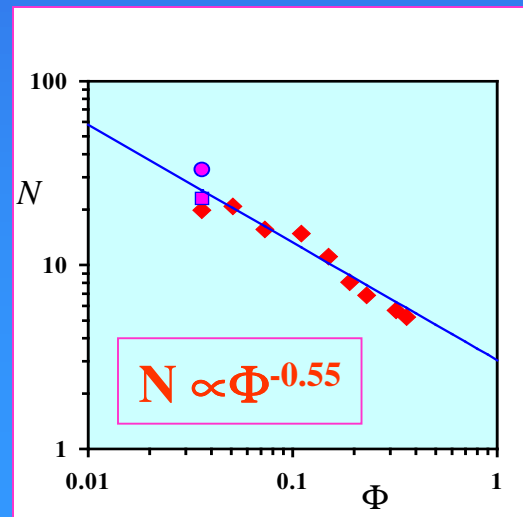
$$D = \frac{D_c}{3N}$$

## Theory

Drye & Cates *J.Chem. Phys.* **1992**, 96,1367

Tlusty & Safran *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **2000**, 84,1244

Zilman & Safran *Phys. Rev. E* **2002**, 66, art. N. 051107



$$N \propto L_{\text{branch}} \propto \Phi^{-1/2}$$

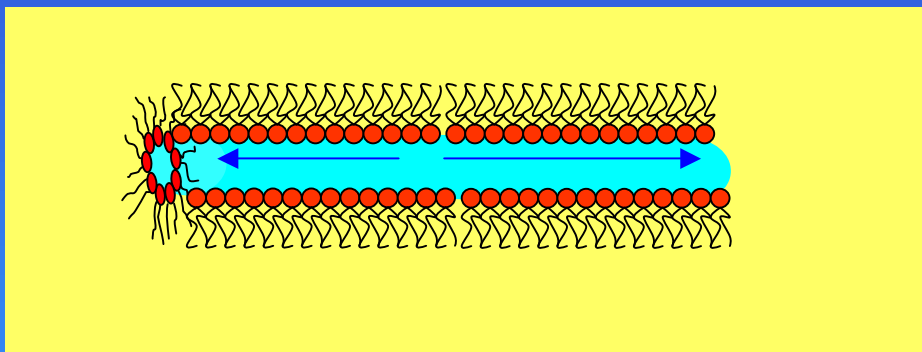
# Cyclohexane: water diffusion

For water the residence time is  $\sim 1\mu\text{s}$  (Gaussian diffusion)

## Water self-diffusion coefficient $D_w$

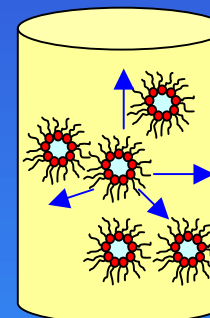
giant slow moving micelles

$D_w$  reflects the water motion inside the micelle



Small fast moving micelles

$D_w$  reflects the overall micelle motion



the motion of water parallel to oriented lipid bilayers was previously studied\*

for lamellae  $D_w$  increases upon increase in  $W_0$

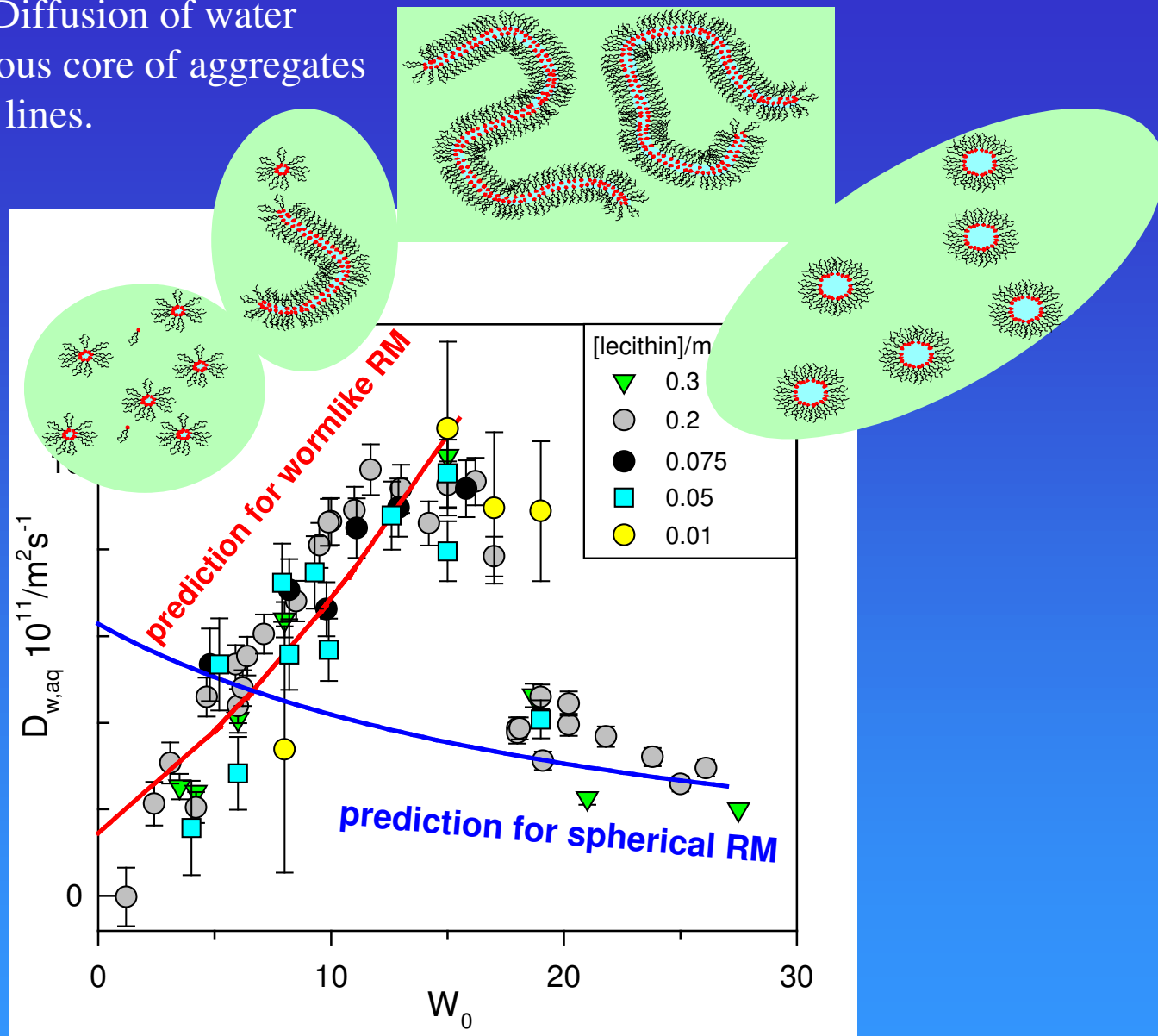
$$D_w(\text{cylinders}) = \frac{1}{3} D_w$$

\* *Wassel Biophys. J.* **1996**, 71, 2724.

$D_w$  can be calculated for spherical RM

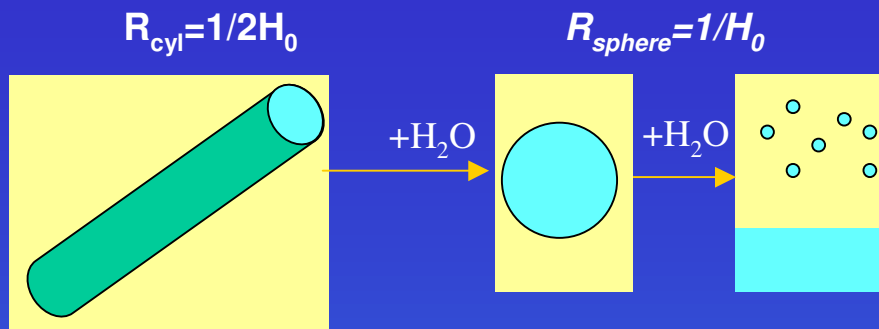
$D_w$  decreases upon increase in  $W_0$

Organogels in cC6: Diffusion of water confined in the aqueous core of aggregates along water-dilution lines.



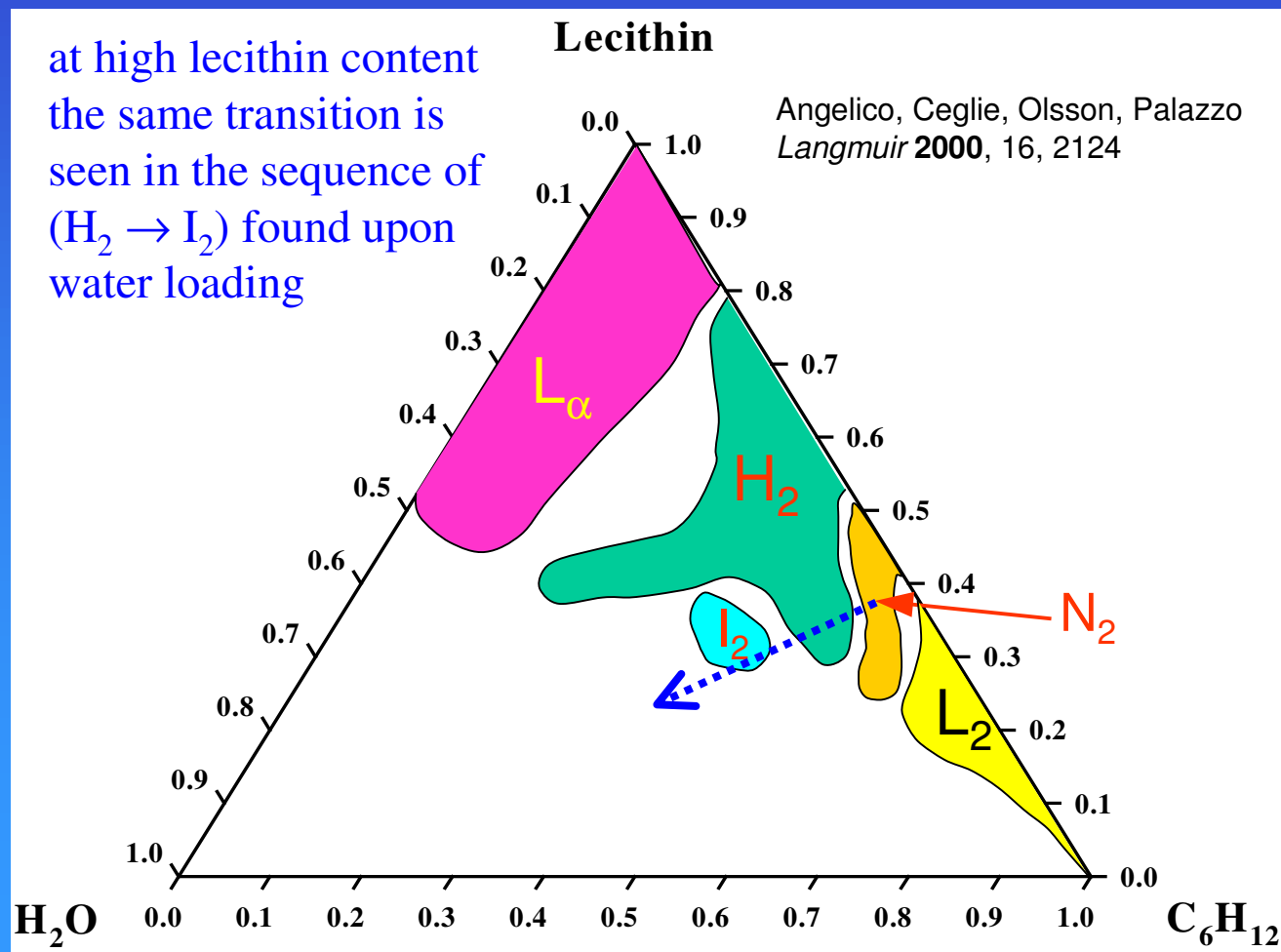
Angelico, Palazzo, Colafemmina, Cirkel, Giustini, Ceglie *J. Phys. Chem. B* **1998**, *102*, 2883

Angelico, Balinov, Ceglie, Olsson, Palazzo, Soderman *Langmuir*, **1999**, *15*, 1679



The rod-to-spheres transition accommodates a larger amount of water, leaving constant the mean curvature at the optimal value  $H_0$ .

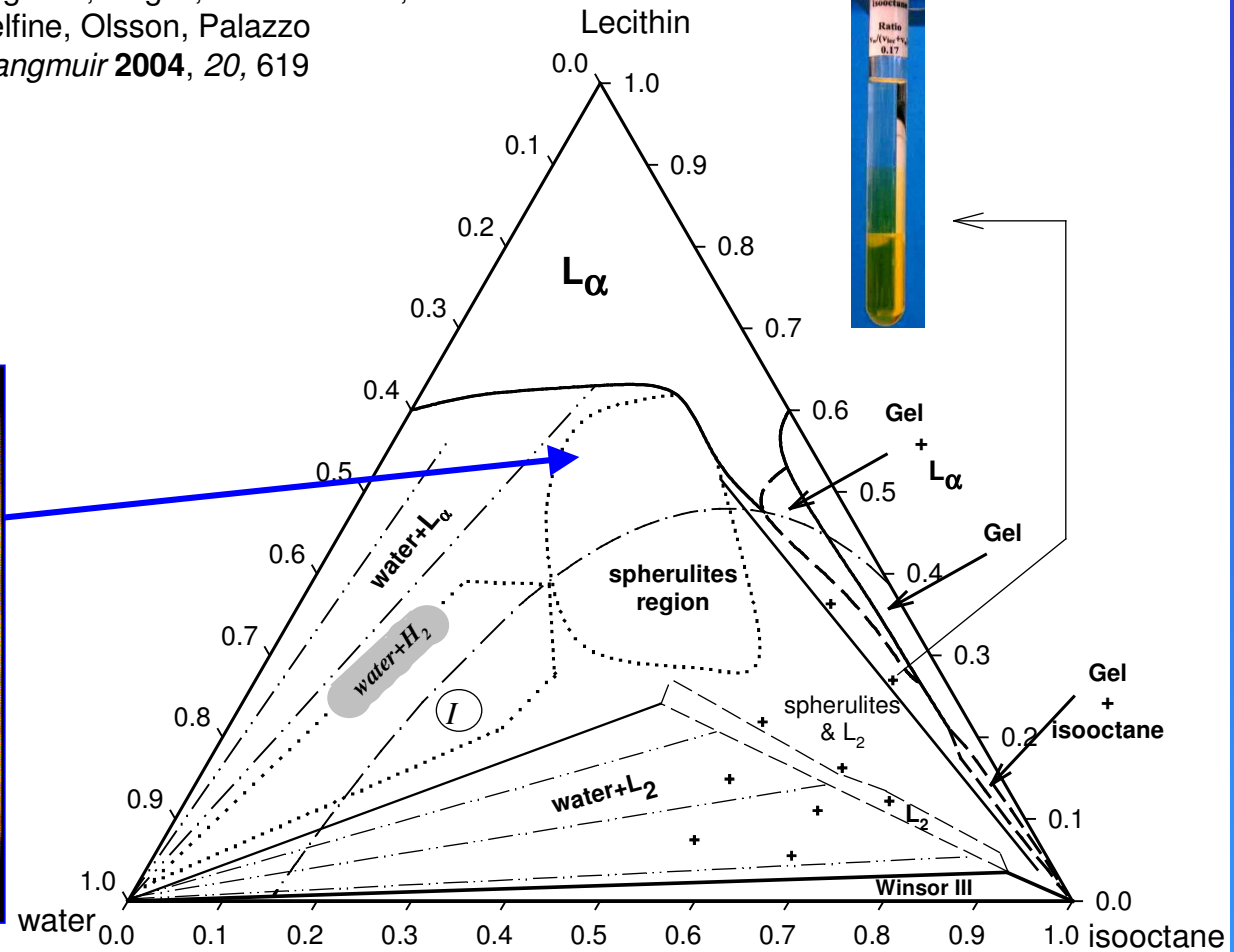
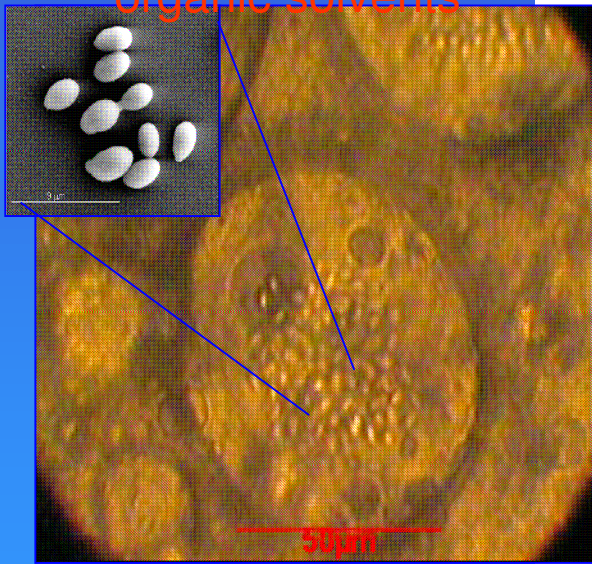
Upon further water addition the system expels excess water



For isooctane and linear alkanes the system is governed by *local* curvature energy and large-scale network fluctuations

Angelico, Ceglie, Colafemmina,  
Delfino, Olsson, Palazzo  
*Langmuir* **2004**, *20*, 619

whole-cell  
biocatalysis in  
organic solvents



Stefan, Palazzo, Ceglie, Panzavolta, Hochkoepler  
*Biotech. Bioeng.* **2003**, *81*, 323.8

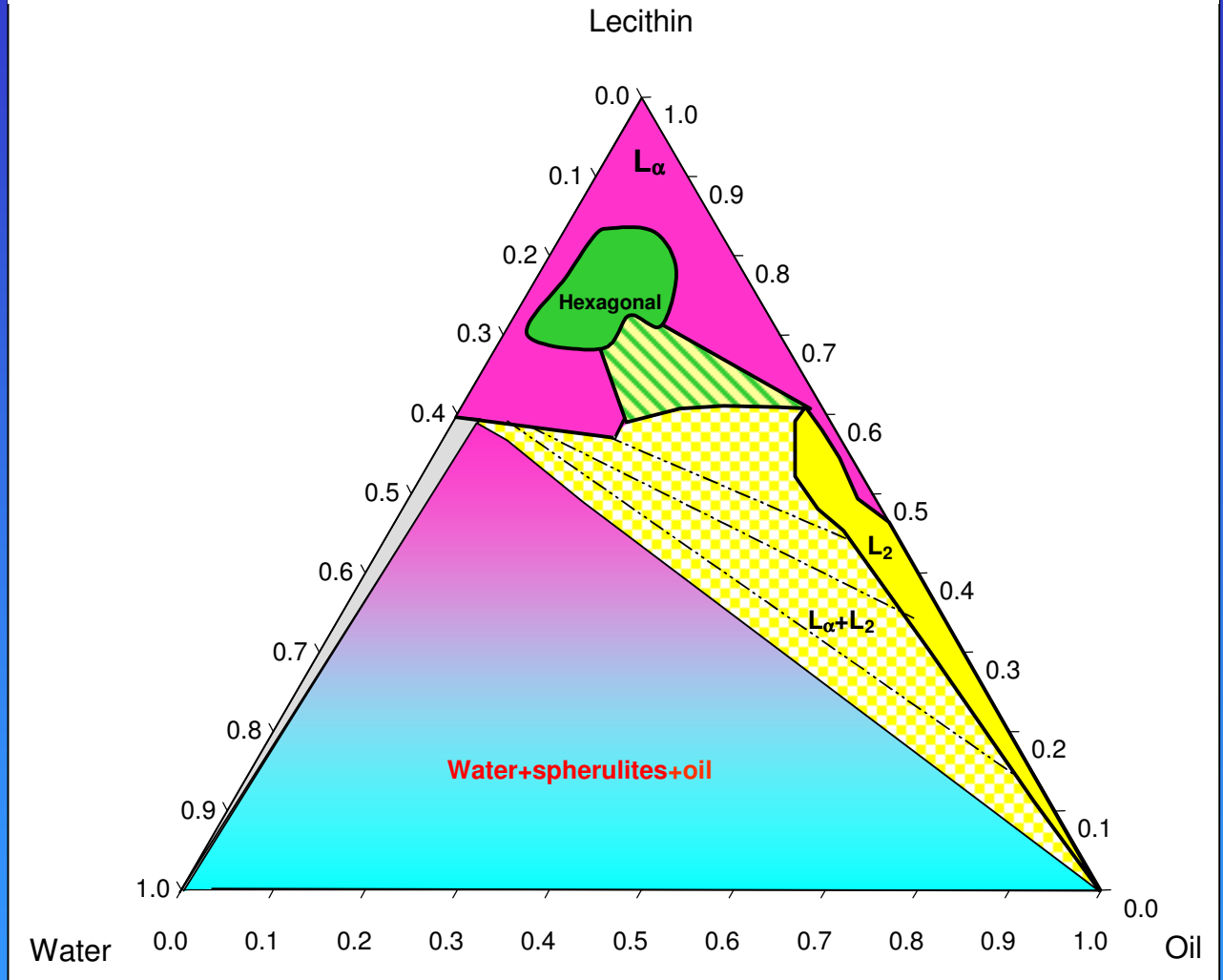


# Biocompatible fatty acid esters

Use as controlled drug  
release system

Mackeben, Müller, Müller-Goymann  
*Colloids Surf. A* **2001**, 699, 183.

Angelico, Ceglie, Colafemmina, Lopez, Olsson, Palazzo  
*Langmuir* **2005**, 21,140



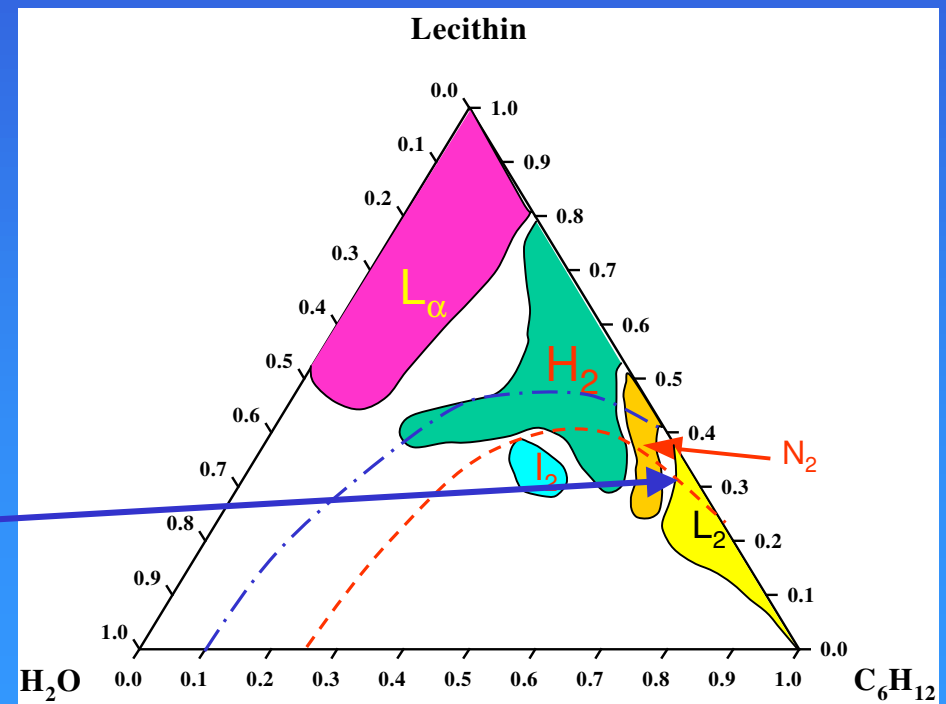
# Micellar Dynamics

# water residence time of about  $1\mu\text{s}$

# micellar lifetime and lecithin residence time  $> 1\text{ s}$

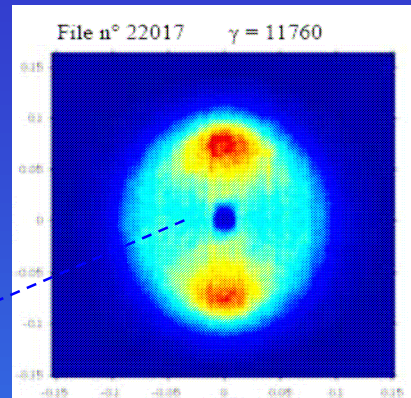
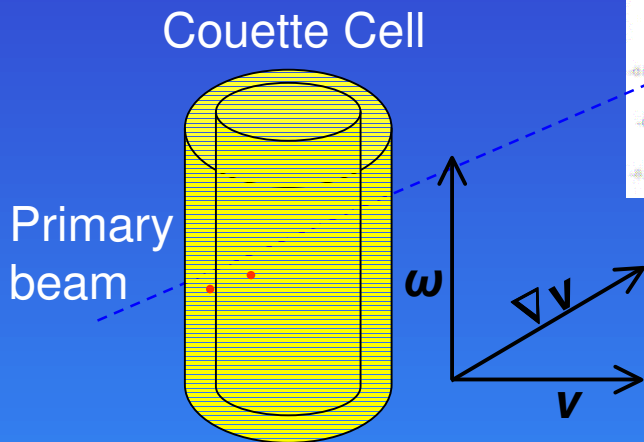
A more precise estimation of upper limit for the micellar lifetime can be obtained in cyclohexane

For isotropic samples close to the boundary of  $L_2$  phase a moderate shear is sufficient to induce the alignment of the micelles into a nematic state.

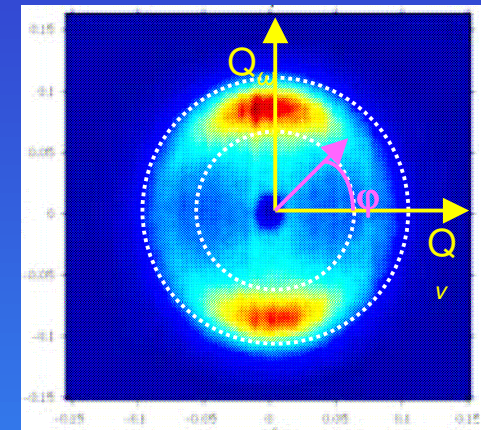


# Relaxation of shear-aligned reverse micelles: SANS experiments

Setup:  
Hayter, Penfold  
*J. Phys. Chem.* **1984**, 88, 4589



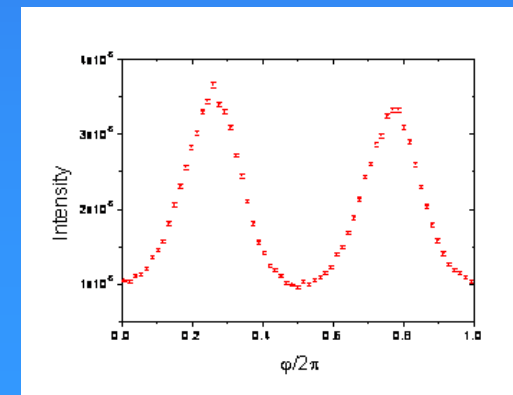
Linear micelles scatter mainly in a direction perpendicular to their long axis.



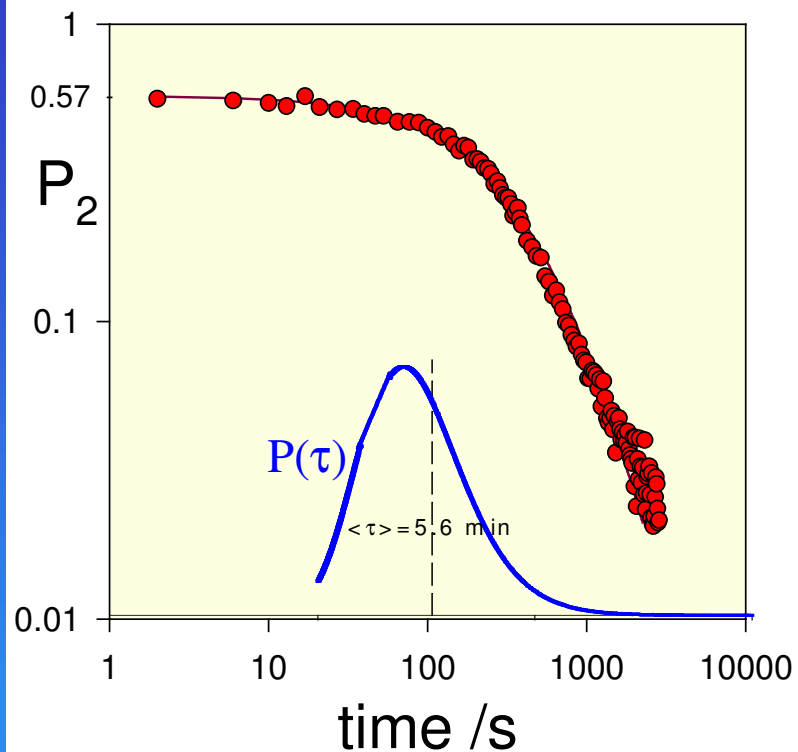
The anisotropy can be analyzed by plotting the scattered intensity as a function of the azimuthal angle,  $\phi$

from this azimuthal representation, the orientational order can be quantified in terms of the second rank order parameter  $P_2$

Deutsch, *Phys. Rev. A* **1991**, 44, 8264

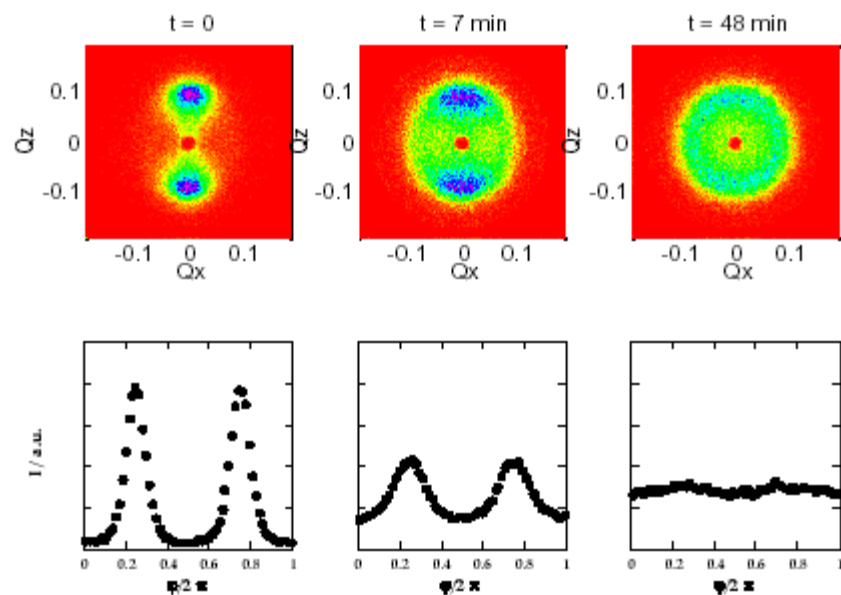


Variation of the second rank order parameter with time after cessation of shear ( $dy/dt = 10 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ). A fit to  $P_2 = P_2(0)(1+t/\langle\tau\rangle)^{-n}$  is shown as solid line.



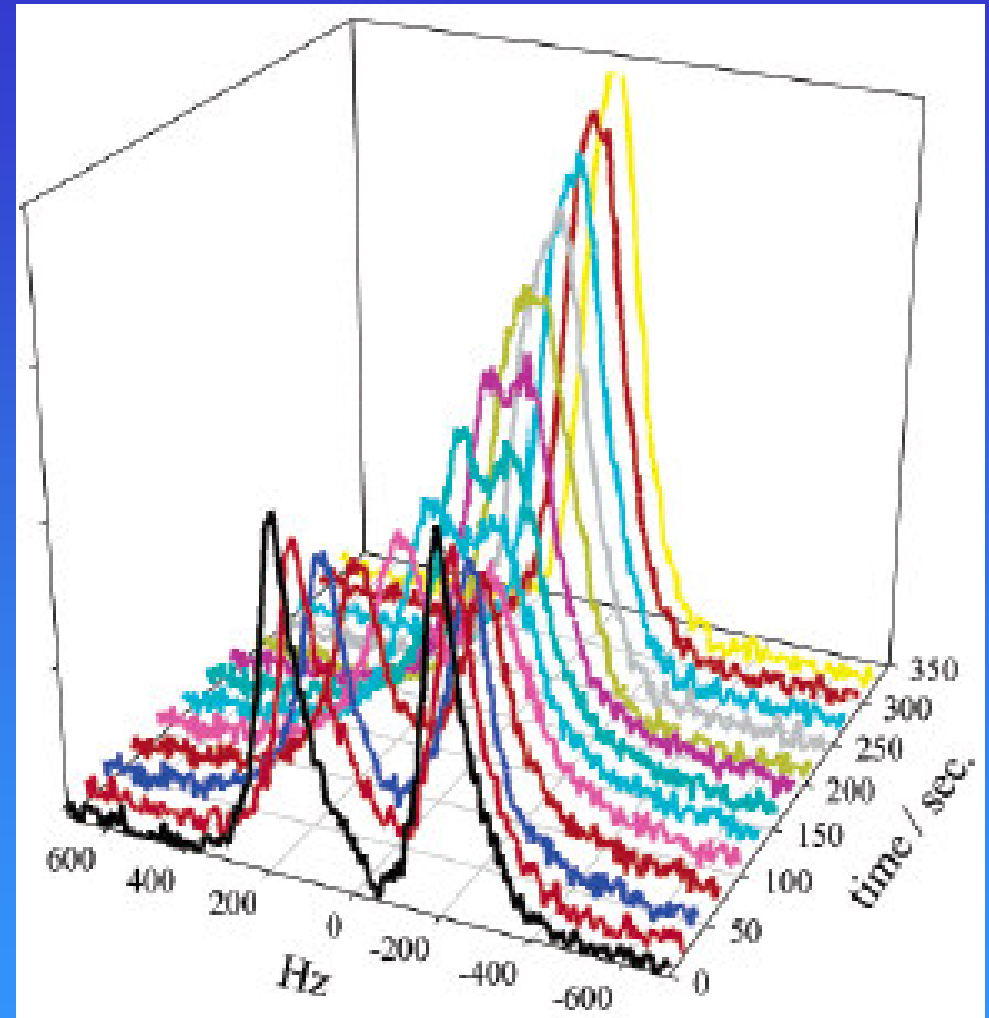
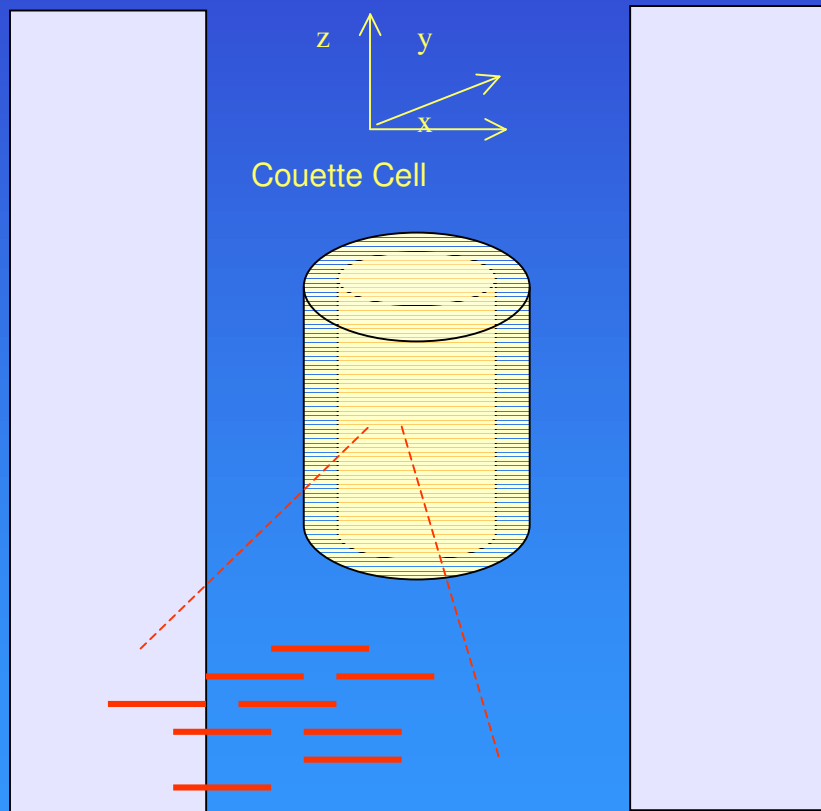
By SANS one can follow the decay of  $P_2$ . The time scale of the order parameter decay is of the order of minutes

**The relaxation from  $N_2$  to  $L_2$  is characterized by a gradual decay of orientational order (no nucleation and growth)**



# Relaxation of shear-aligned reverse micelles: Rheo-NMR experiments

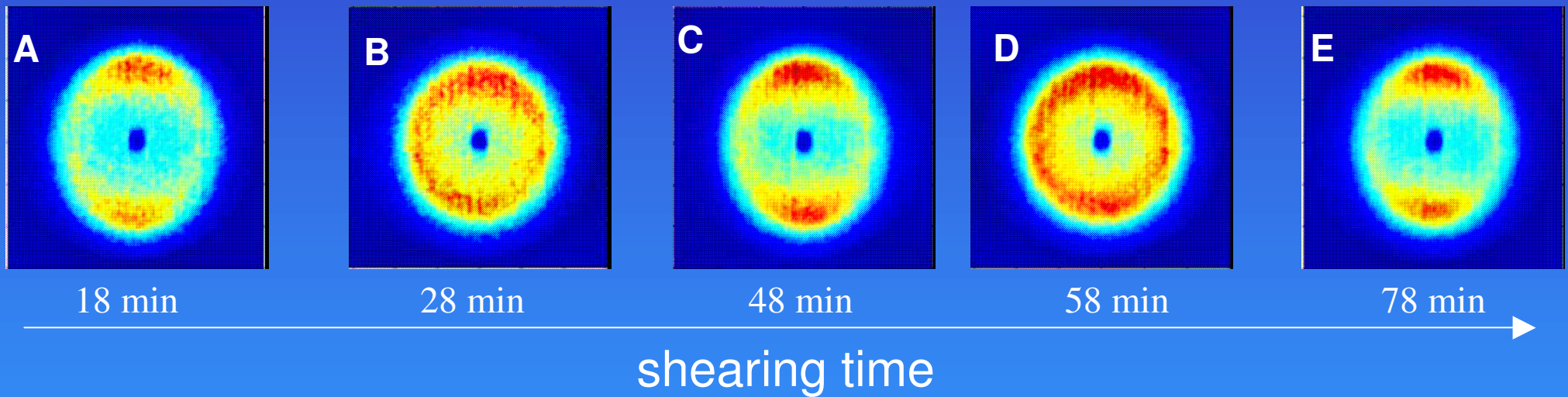
experimental

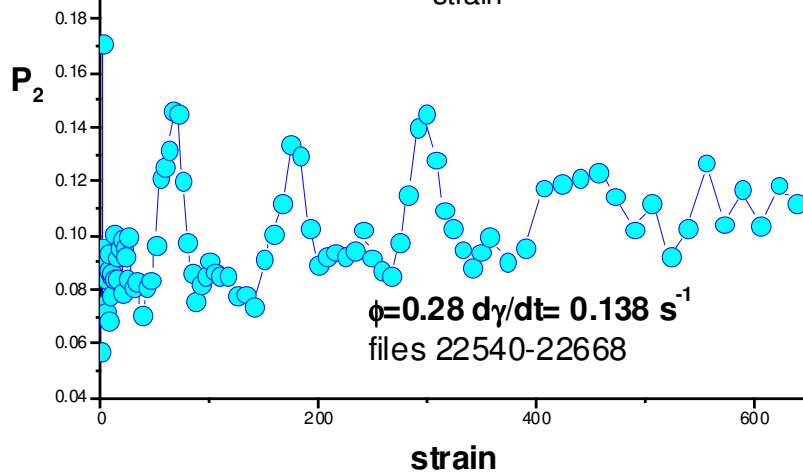
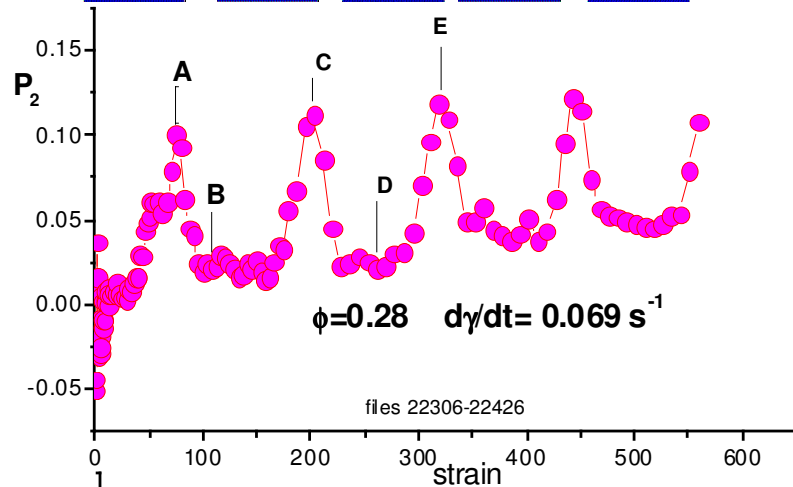
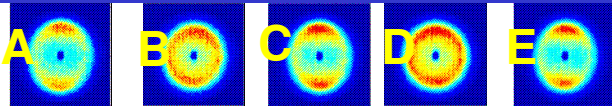


Angelico, Burgemeister, Ceglie, Olsson, Palazzo, Schmidt  
*J. Phys. Chem. B* **2003**, *107*, 10325

# Rheo-SANS start-up experiments at very low shear rate

$$\phi=0.28 \quad d\gamma/dt = 0.069 \text{ s}^{-1}$$





$P_2$  exhibits damped oscillations scaling with the strain

Working hypothesis:

oscillations reflect the tumbling dynamics of nematic polydomains during the shear-induced isotropic-nematic transition

*Caveat:*

*more measurements are required*

# acknowledgements

Ruggero ANGELICO & Andrea CEGLIE – Campobasso, Italy

***grazie!!!***

Kell MORTENSEN - Copenhagen, Denmark

***tak!!!***

Claudia SCHMIDT - Paderborn, Germany

***danke!!!***

Ulf OLSSON – Lund, Sweden

***tack!!!***



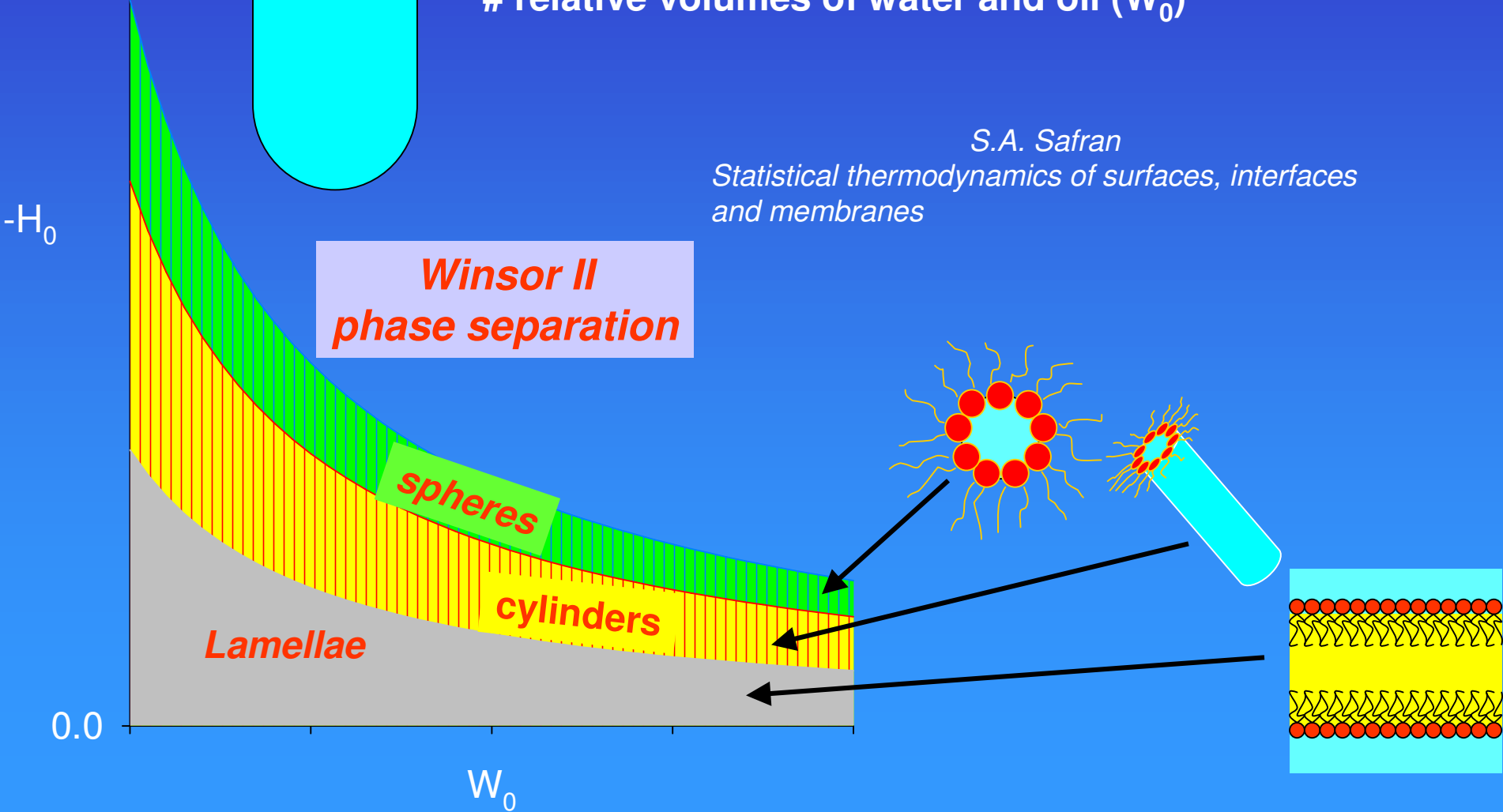
# Effect of oil

Aggregates shapes is dictated by:  
#  $H_0$  function of polar head hydration and oil penetration  
# relative volumes of water and oil ( $W_0$ )

S.A. Safran

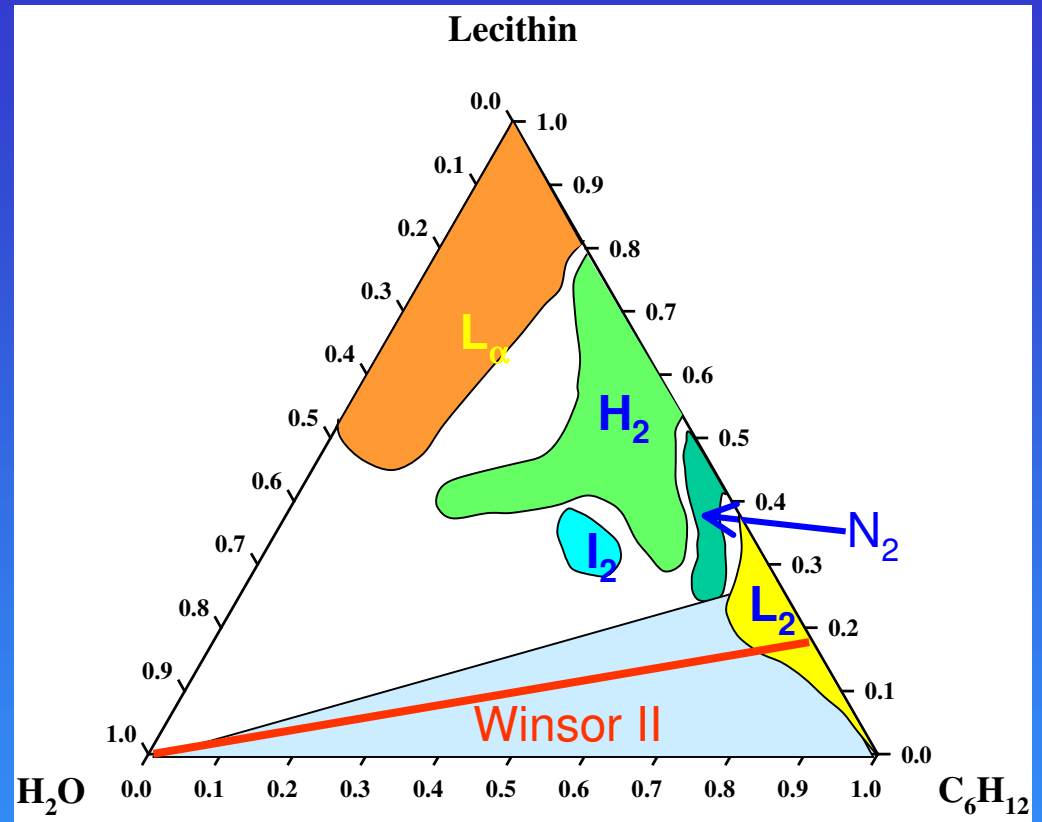
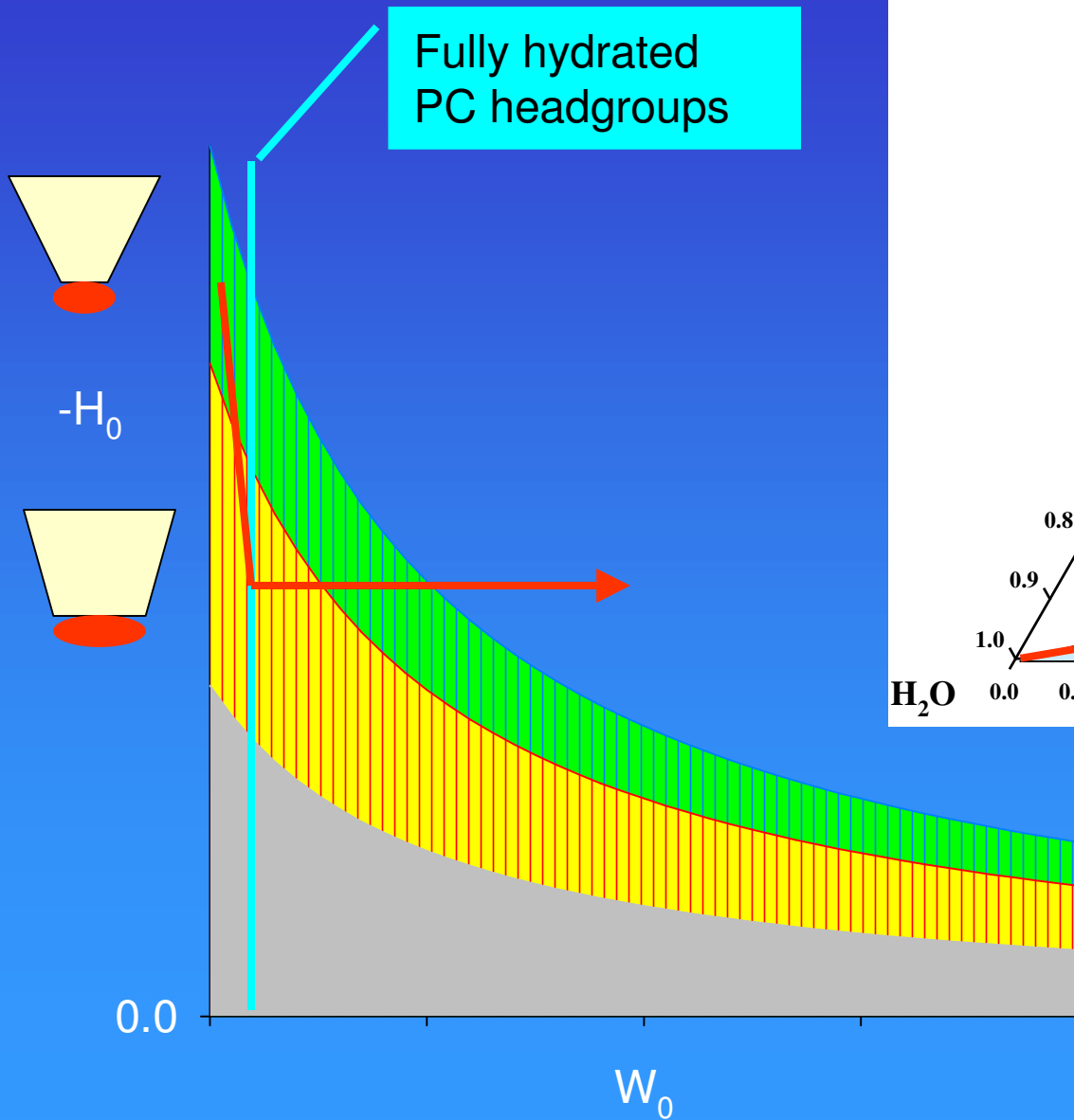
*Statistical thermodynamics of surfaces, interfaces and membranes*

**Winsor II  
phase separation**



Angelico, Ceglie, Olsson, Palazzo  
*Langmuir* **2000**, 16, 2124

# Highly penetrable oil:cyclohexane

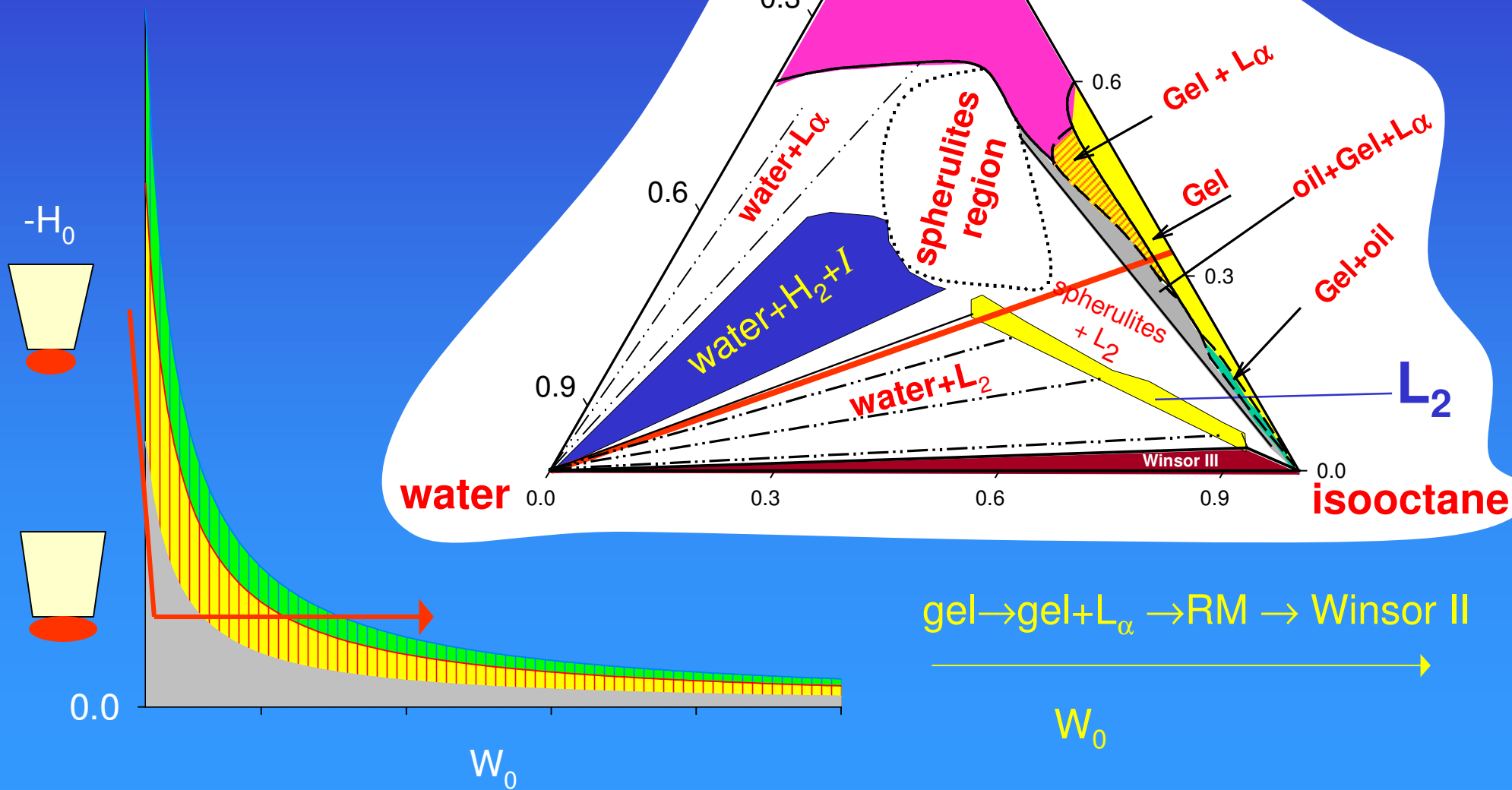


Small RM  $\rightarrow$  gel  $\rightarrow$  Winsor II

$W_0$

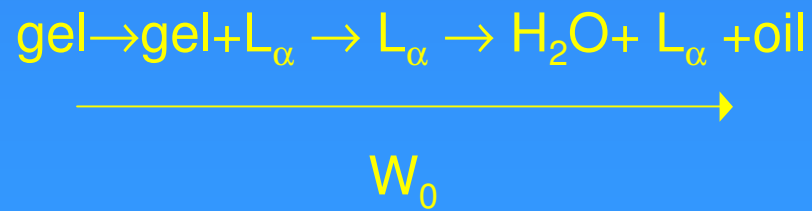
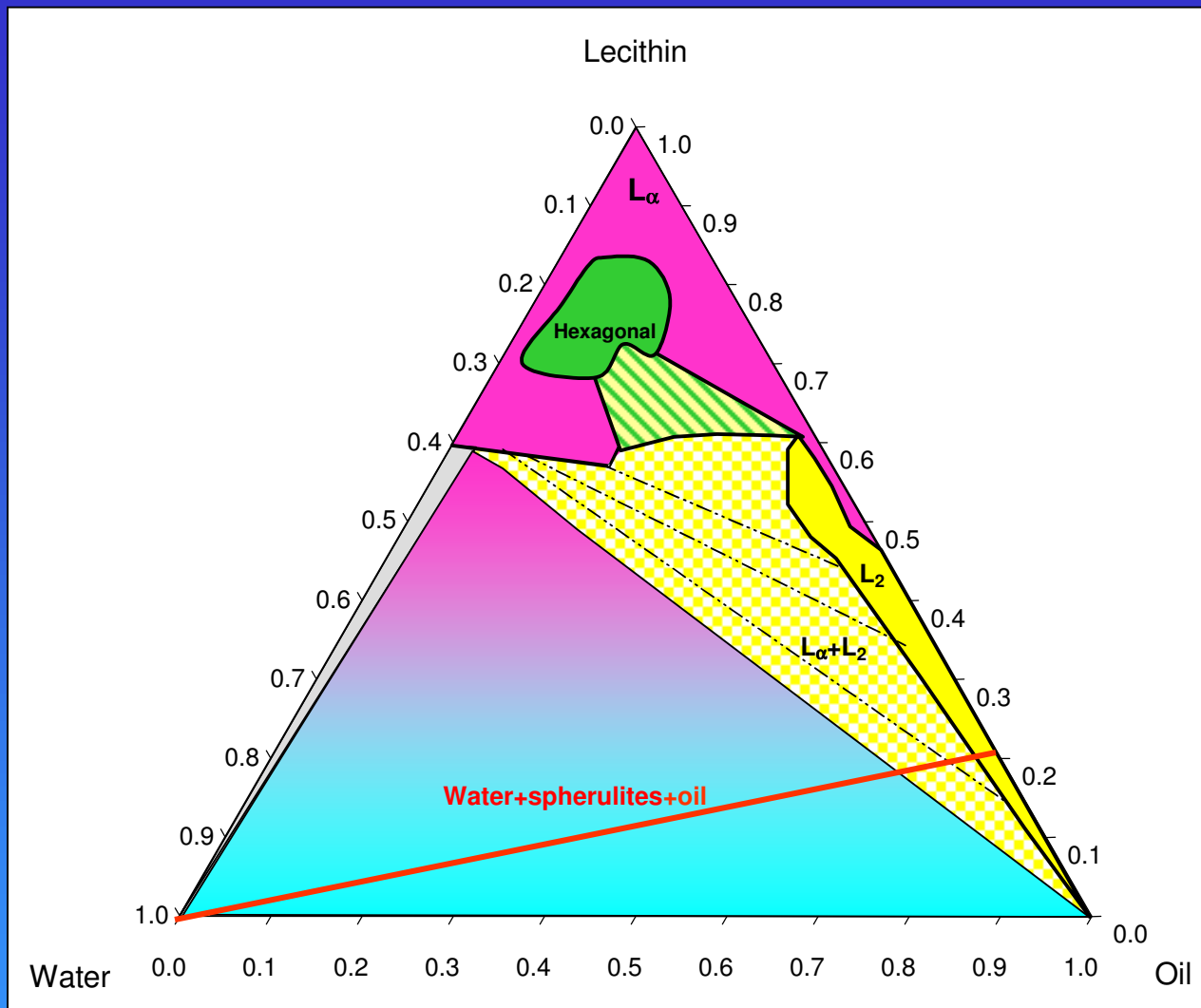
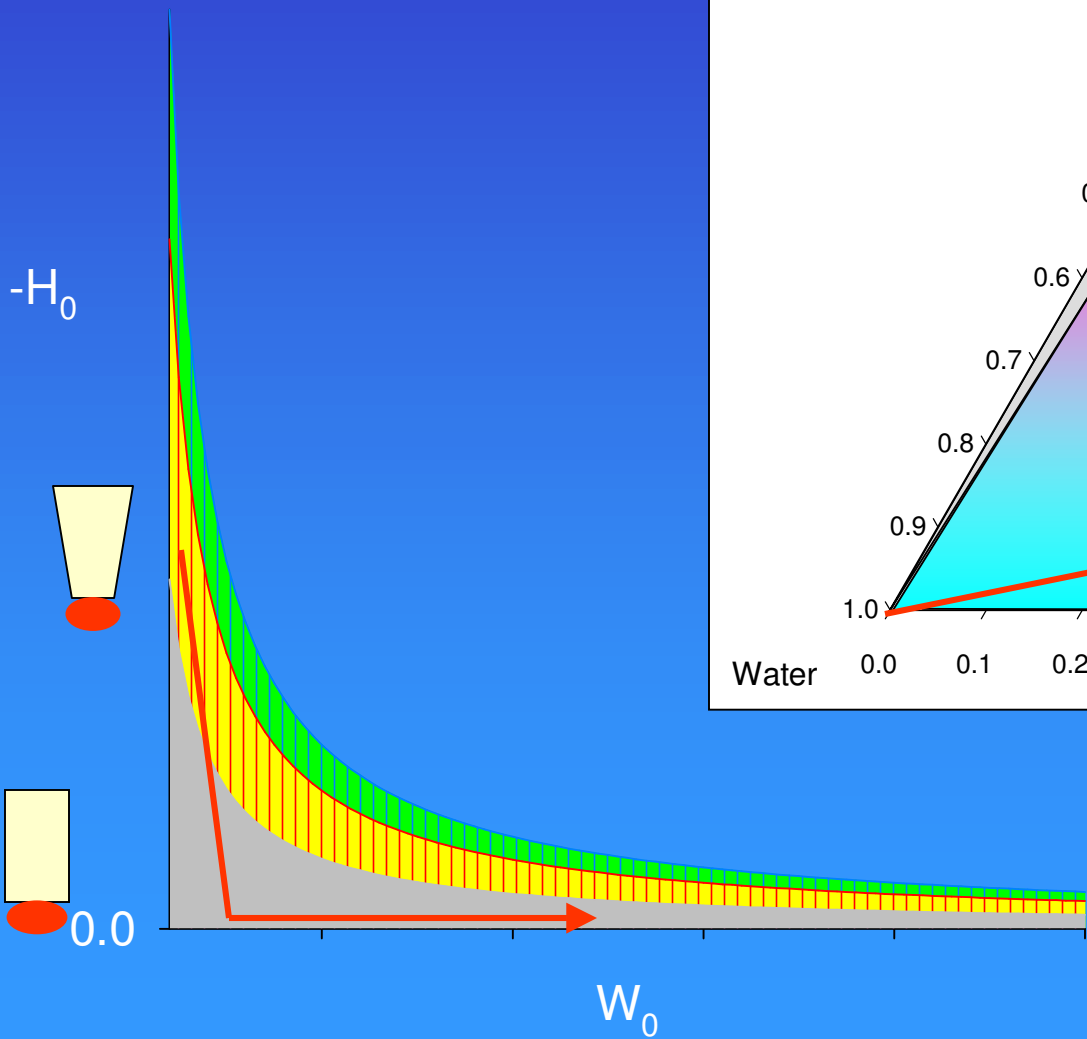
# Less penetrable oil: isooctane

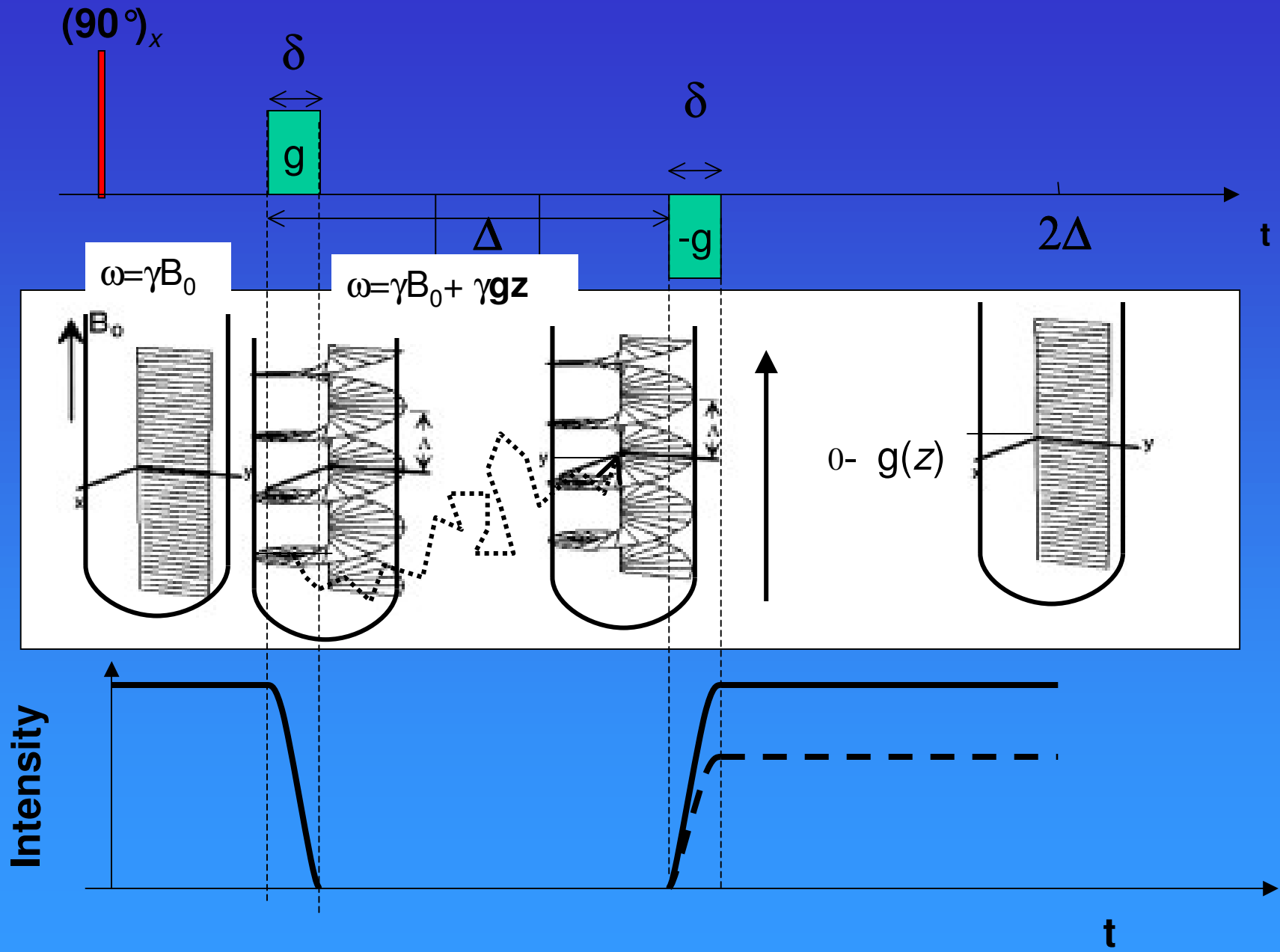
Angelico, Ceglie, Colafemmina, Delfino, Olsson, Palazzo  
*Langmuir* 2004, 20, 619



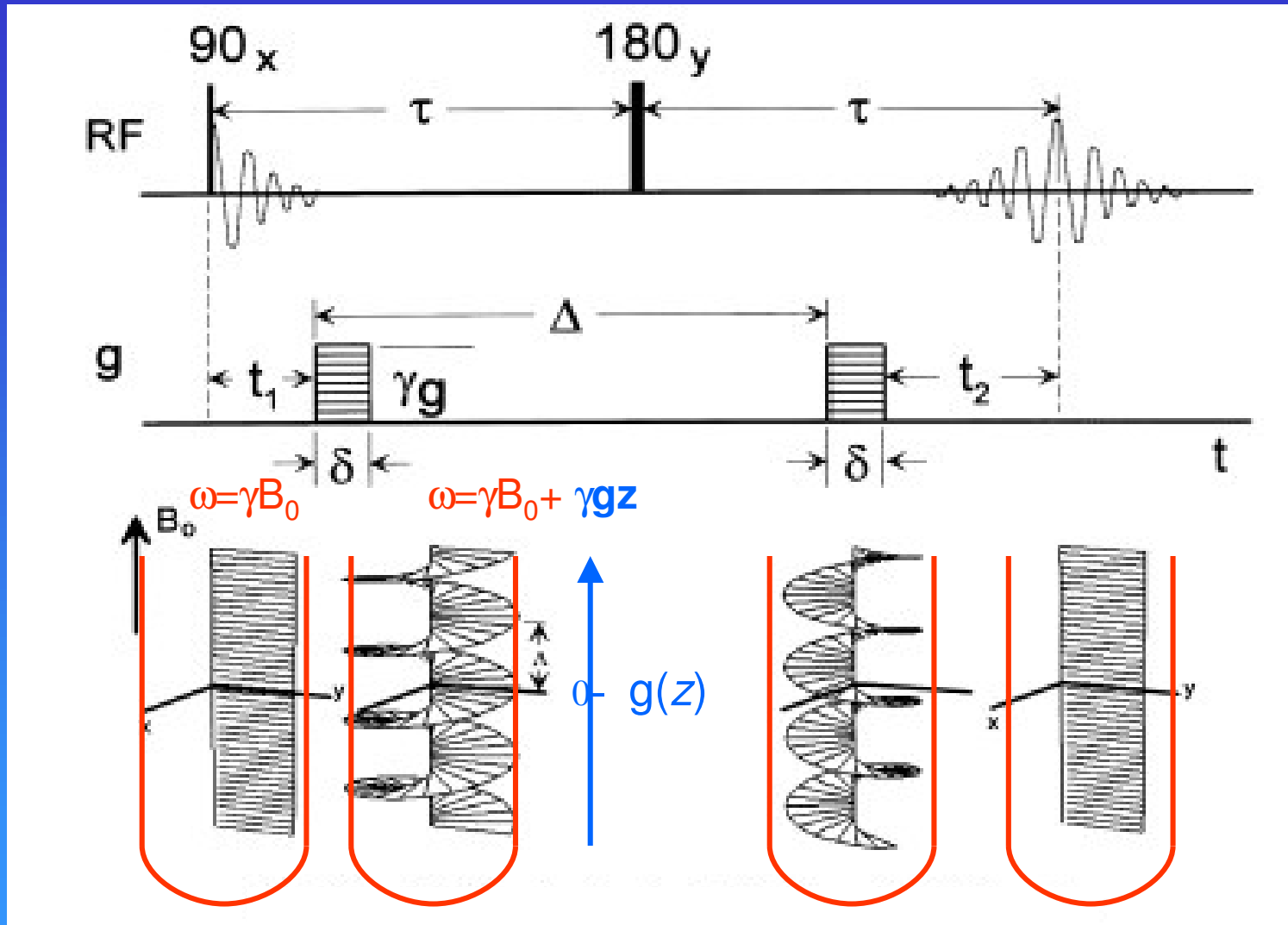
# Almost non-penetrable oil: isopropylpalmitate

Angelico, Ceglie, Colafemmina, Lopez, Olsson, Palazzo  
 Langmuir 2005

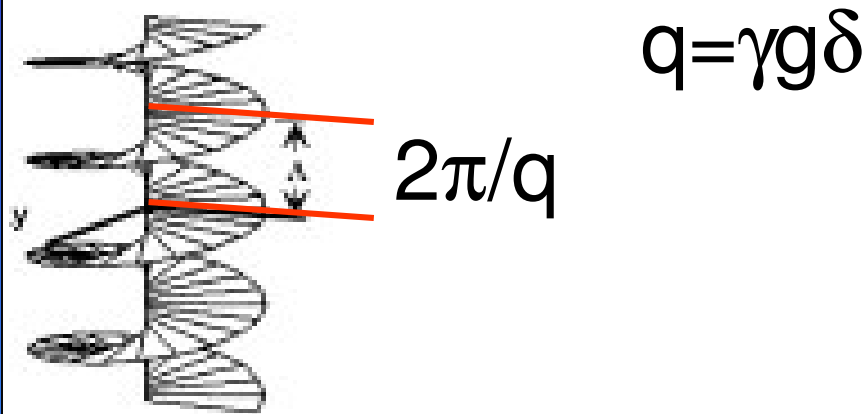




# Determinazione di D via PGSE-NMR



$$E(q,t) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \overline{P}(z,t) e^{iqz} dz$$



For a simple liquid

$$\overline{P}(z,t) = (4\pi Dt)^{-\frac{1}{2}} e^{-\frac{z^2}{4Dt}}$$

$$E(q,t) = e^{-q^2 Dt}$$

