

# Small-Angle X-ray Scattering Basics & Applications

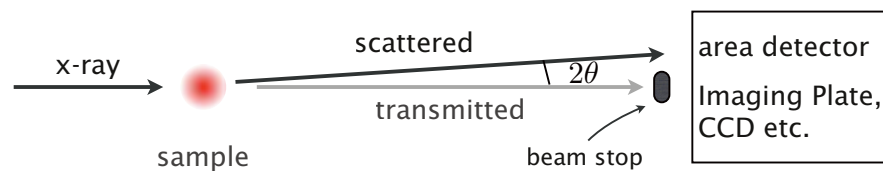
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The University of Tokyo

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## What's Small-Angle X-ray Scattering ?



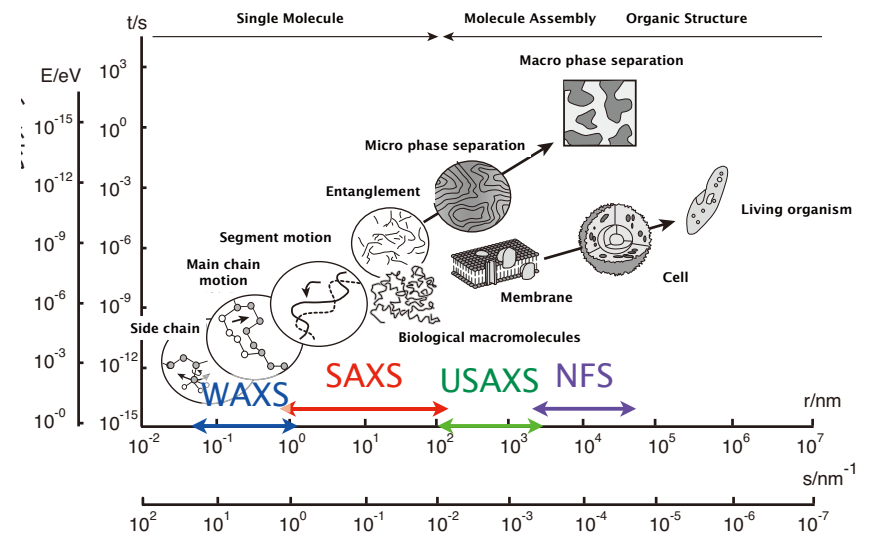
Bragg's law:  $\lambda = 2d \sin \theta$

small angle → large structure  
(1 – 100 nm)

crystalline sample → small-angle X-ray diffraction: SAXD  
solution scattering / inhomogeneous structure → SAXS

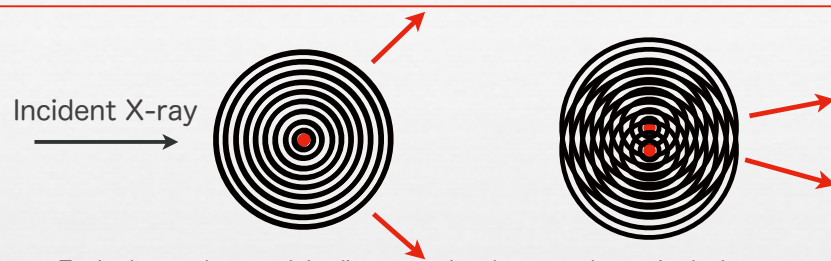
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## Hierarchical Structure of Soft Matter



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## Interference of secondary waves



Each electron in materials vibrates and emits secondary spherical wave

When there are two electrons.

- interference between secondary waves from electrons
- when a distance between electrons is small  
--> scattering at large angle is intensified
- when a distance between electrons is large  
--> scattering at small angle is intensified --> **SAXS**



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## History of SAXS (< 1936)

**Krishnamurty** (1930)

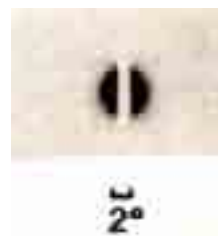
**Hendricks** (1932)

**Mark** (1932)

**Warren** (1936)

Observation of scattering

from powders, fibers, and colloidal dispersions



carbon black



Molten silica - silica gel  
(above) (below)

courtesy to Dr. I.L.Torriani 6

## History (> 1936)



**A. Guinier** (1937, 1939, 1943)

Interpretation of inhomogeneities in Al alloys "G-P zones", introducing the concept of "particle scattering" and formalism necessary to solve the problem of a diluted system of particles.

**O. Kratky** (1938, 1942, 1962)

**G. Porod** (1942, 1960, 1961)

Description of dense systems of colloidal particles, micelles, and fibers.

Macromolecules in solution.



Single crystals of Al-Cu hardened alloy



Hemoglobin

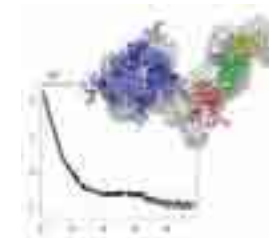
courtesy to Dr. I.L.Torriani

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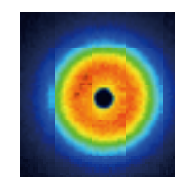
## Application of SAXS



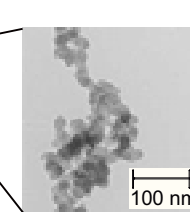
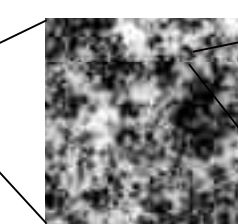
gel



Proteins in solution (Dr. Svergun, EMBL)



Typical SAXS image



Nanocomposite

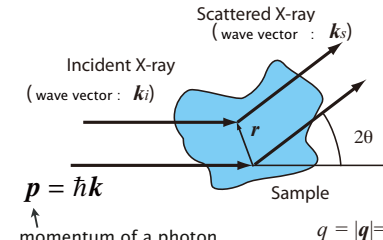
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# Basic of X-ray scattering



Incident X-ray (wave vector :  $k_i$ )

Scattered X-ray (wave vector :  $k_s$ )

Scattering vector  $q = k_s - k_i$

$\rho(r)$ : electron density

$p = \hbar k$   
momentum of a photon

Sample

$2\theta$

$q = |q| = 4\pi \sin \theta / \lambda$

Complex number

$dr = dx dy dz$  around  $r$

Amplitude of scattered X-ray  $A(q) = \int_V \rho(r) \exp(-i q \cdot r) dr$

**Fourier transform of electron density**

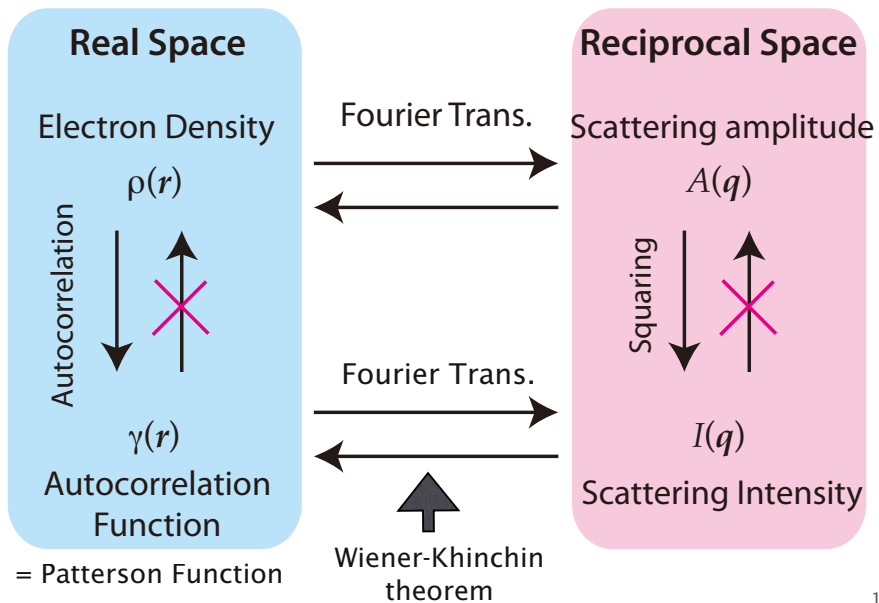
Intensity of scattered X-ray :  $I(q) = A(q)A^*(q) = |A(q)|^2$   
(Extensive variable)

Intensity of scattered X-ray per volume:  $I(q) = \frac{A(q)A^*(q)}{V} = \frac{|A(q)|^2}{V}$   
(Intensive variable)

This doesn't depend on sample volume, and is used to obtain the absolute intensity

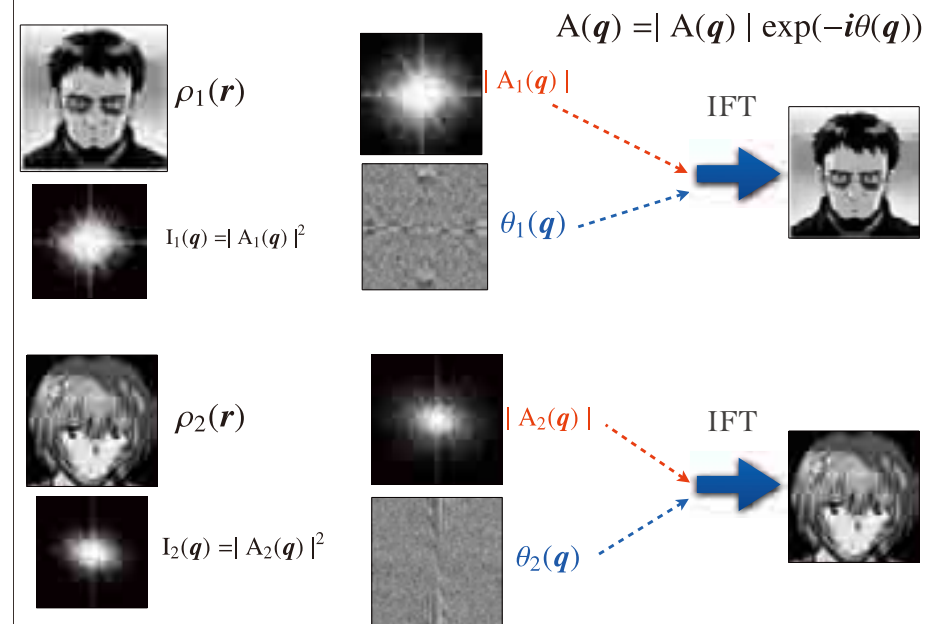
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# Real space and Reciprocal Space

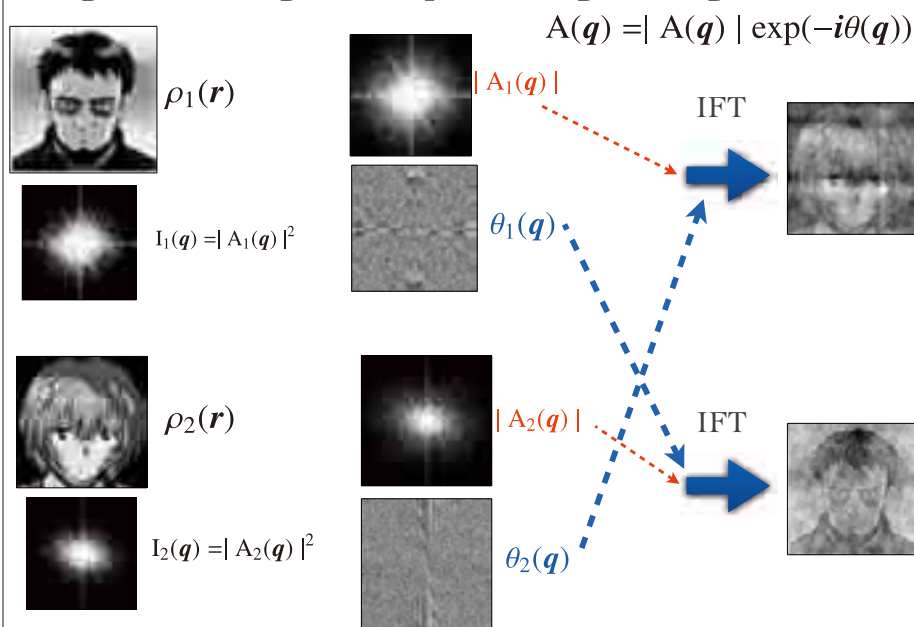


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# Importance of phase, $\theta(q)$ of complex amplitude



## Importance of phase, $\theta(q)$ of complex amplitude



## Autocorrelation Function & Scattering Intensity

### Autocorrelation function of electron density

$$\gamma(r) = \frac{1}{V} \int_V \rho(r') \rho(r+r') dr' = \frac{1}{V} \overline{P(r)}$$

(Debye & Bueche 1949) **Patterson Function**

asymptotic behavior of the autocorrelation function

$$\gamma(0) = \langle \rho^2 \rangle \quad \gamma(\infty) = \langle \rho \rangle^2$$

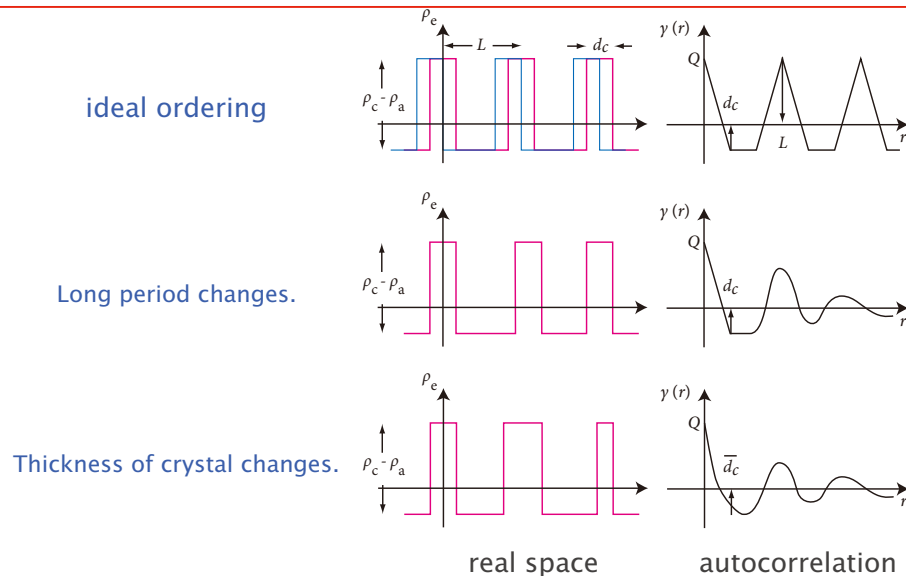
### Scattering Intensity : Fourier Transform of autocorrelation function

$$I(q) = \int_V \gamma(r) \exp(-iq \cdot r) dr$$

cf. Wiener-Khinchin theorem

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## Example of $\rho(r)$ & $\gamma(r)$ : in case of lamellar



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## Normalized Autocorrelation Function:

Introducing the relative electron density,  $\eta(r)$ , as

$$\eta(r) = \rho(r) - \langle \rho \rangle \quad \longrightarrow \quad \langle \eta^2 \rangle = \langle (\rho(r) - \langle \rho \rangle)^2 \rangle = \langle \rho^2 \rangle - \langle \rho \rangle^2$$

Introducing the normalized autocorrelation function,  $\gamma_0(r)$ , as

$$\gamma_0(r) = \frac{1}{\langle \eta^2 \rangle} \frac{1}{V} \int_V \langle \eta(r') \eta(r+r') \rangle dr'$$

$$\text{then, } \gamma_0(r) = \frac{\gamma(r) - \langle \rho \rangle^2}{\langle \eta^2 \rangle} \quad \text{where } \gamma_0(0) = 1 \quad \gamma_0(\infty) = 0$$

$$\text{then, } I(q) = \langle \eta^2 \rangle \int_V \gamma_0(r) e^{-iq \cdot r} dr + \langle \rho \rangle^2 \delta(q)$$

The average of the relative electron density fluctuations determines the magnitude of  $I(q)$ . The normalized autocorrelation function  $\gamma_0(r)$  determines the shape of  $I(q)$ .

Not observable.

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## Invariant Q

**Invariant:**  $Q = \int_0^\infty I(q) dq \Rightarrow \int_0^\infty I(q) 4\pi q^2 dq$   
 (when isotropic)  
 $= (2\pi)^3 \langle \eta^2 \rangle$  ← It doesn't depend on the structure

( $\therefore$ )  $Q = \int_0^\infty I(q) dq = \langle \eta^2 \rangle \int_V \gamma_0(r) e^{-iq \cdot r} dr dq$   
 $= \langle \eta^2 \rangle \int_V \gamma_0(r) \int_0^\infty e^{-iq \cdot r} dq dr$   
 $= (2\pi)^3 \langle \eta^2 \rangle \int_V \gamma_0(r) \delta(0) dr = (2\pi)^3 \langle \eta^2 \rangle \gamma_0(0) = (2\pi)^3 \langle \eta^2 \rangle$

$I(q) = \langle \eta^2 \rangle \int_V \gamma_0(r) e^{-iq \cdot r} dr + \underbrace{\langle \rho \rangle^2 \delta(q)}_{\text{Omitted.}}$

### Parseval's theorem

Fourier Trans.  
 $A(q) \longleftrightarrow \eta(r)$   
 $\int |A(q)|^2 dq = (2\pi)^3 \int |\eta(r)|^2 dr$

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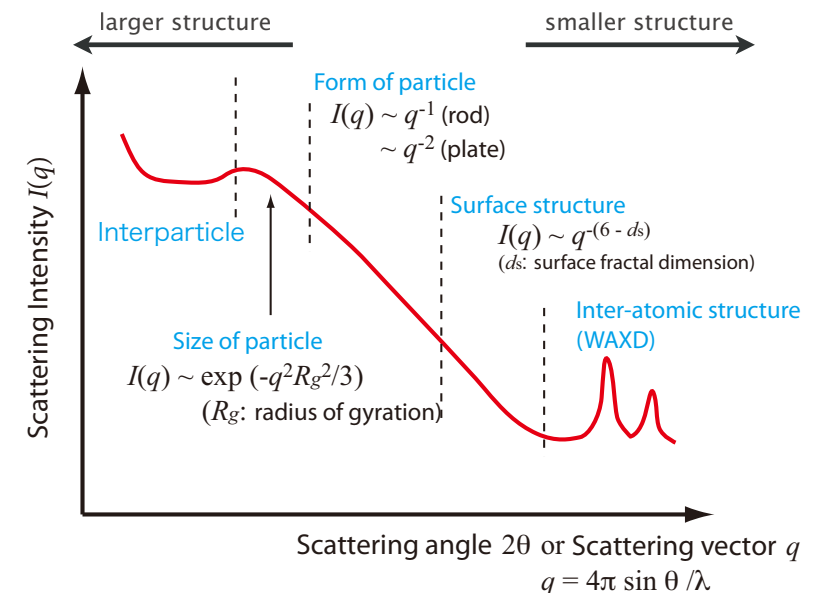
## Information obtained from SAXS

1. Size and form of particulate system
  - Colloids, Globular proteins, etc...
2. Correlation length of inhomogeneous structure
  - Polymer chain, two-phase system etc.
3. Lattice parameters of distorted crystals (para-crystal)
4. Degree of crystallinity, crystal size, crystal distortion
  - Crystalline polymer

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## SAXS of particulate system

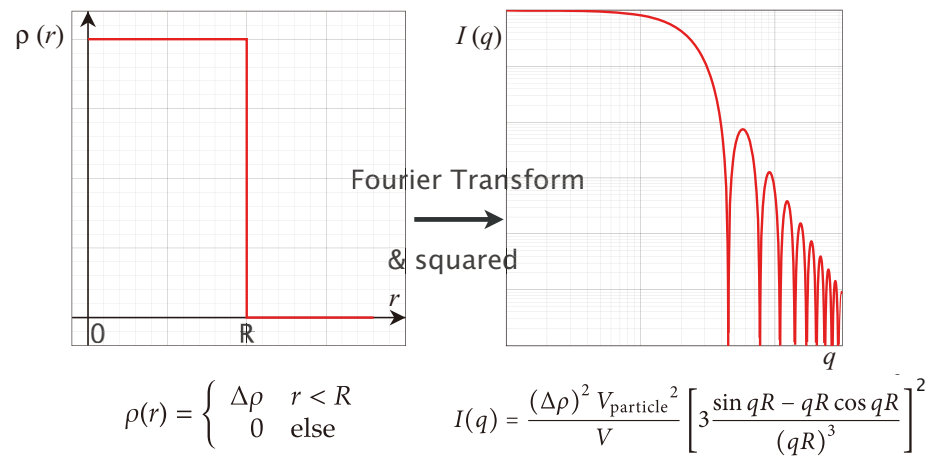
Relation between SAXS pattern and Structural information



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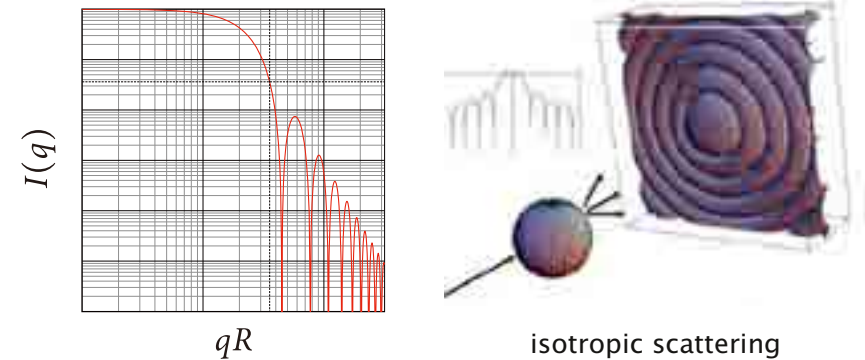
## Spherical sample



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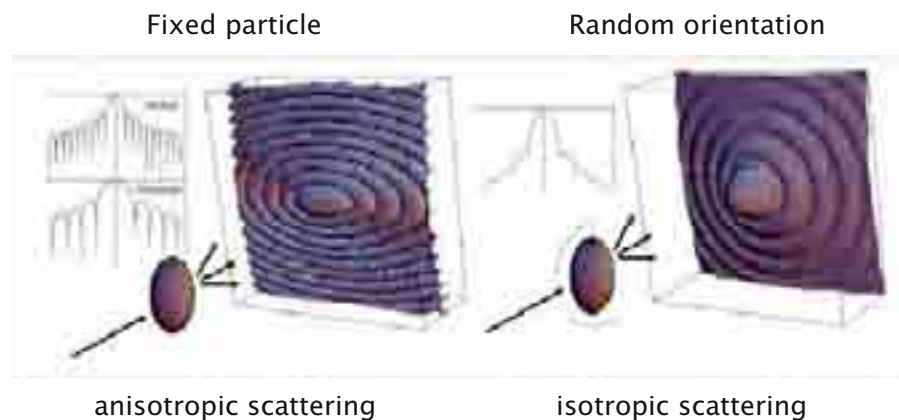
## Homogeneous sphere

$$I(q) = \frac{(\Delta\rho)^2 V_{\text{particle}}^2}{V} \left[ 3 \frac{\sin qR - qR \cos qR}{(qR)^3} \right]^2$$



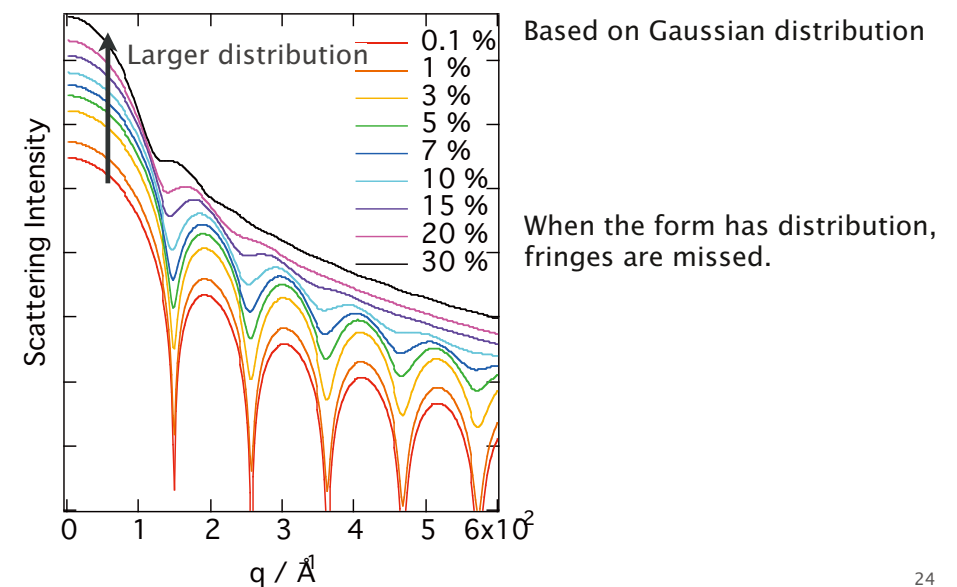
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## Homogeneous ellipsoid



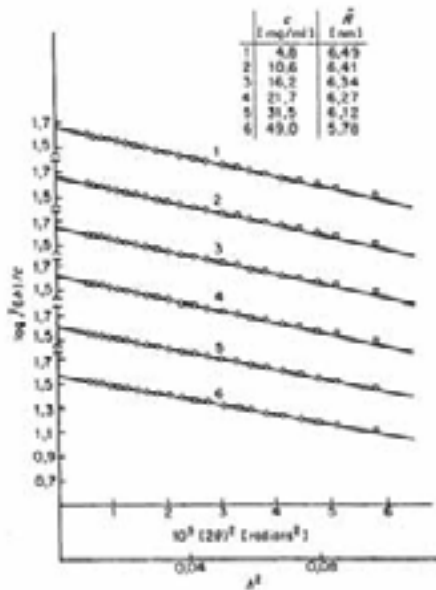
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## Size distribution



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Radius of Gyration:  $R_g$  ( $R_g^2 = \frac{\int r^2 \rho(r) dr}{\int \rho(r) dr}$ ) ----- Guinier Plot



$$I(q) \sim \exp\left(-\frac{q^2 R_g^2}{3}\right)$$

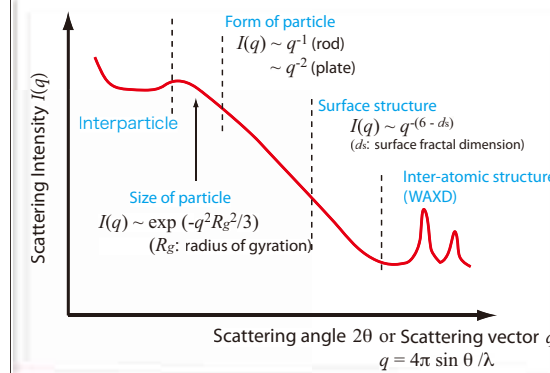
$$\log(I(q)) = -\frac{q^2 R_g^2}{3}$$

Guinier plot:  $\log(I(q))$  vs  $q^2$

O. Glatter & O. Kratky ed., "Small Angle X-ray Scattering", Academic Press (1982).

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## Structure Factor & Form Factor



$$I(q) = \phi V_{\text{particle}} S(q) F(q)$$

Structure Factor  $S(q)$  Form Factor  $F(q)$

inter-particle structure intra-particle structure

Separation of  $S(q)$  &  $F(q)$

→ Everlasting issue (especially, for non-crystalline sample)

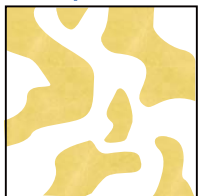
Proposed remedy:

• GIFT (Generalized Inverse Fourier Trans.) by O. Glatter

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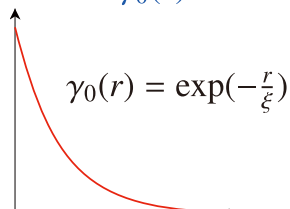
## Scattering from Inhomogeneous Structure

Electron Density  $\rho(r)$

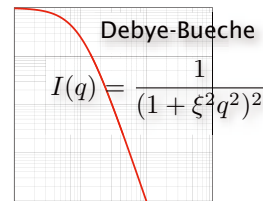


two phase system

Autocorrelation Function  $\gamma_0(r)$

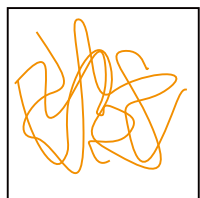


Scattering Intensity



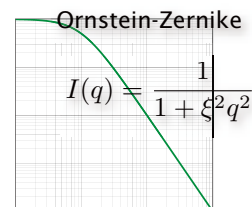
Autocorrelation

Fourier trans.



polymer chain etc.

$$\gamma_0(r) = \frac{\xi}{r} \exp\left(-\frac{r}{\xi}\right)$$



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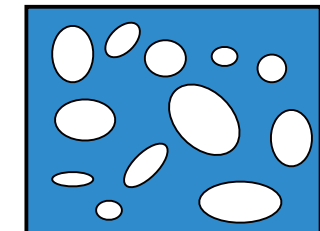
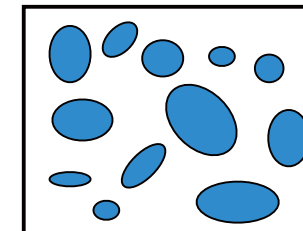
## Two-phase system

Phase 1:  $\rho_1$ , volume fraction  $\phi$  Phase 2:  $\rho_2$  volume fraction  $1 - \phi$

$$A(q) = \int_V \phi \rho_1 e^{-i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}} d\mathbf{r} + \int_V (1-\phi) \rho_2 e^{-i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}} d\mathbf{r}$$

$$= \int_V (\rho_1 - \rho_2) e^{-i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}} d\mathbf{r} + \rho_2 \int_V e^{-i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}} d\mathbf{r}$$

$$A(q) = \int_V \Delta \rho e^{-i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}} d\mathbf{r} + \rho_2 \delta(q)$$



Babinet's principle

Two complementary structures produce the same scattering.

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## Two-phase system -- cont.

Averaged square fluctuation of electron density

$$\langle \eta^2 \rangle = \phi(1 - \phi)(\Delta\rho)^2 \quad \text{where} \quad \Delta\rho = \rho_1 - \rho_2$$

$\phi$  : volume fraction

$$I(q) = 4\pi \langle \eta^2 \rangle \int_0^\infty \gamma_0(r) \frac{\sin(qr)}{qr} r^2 dr$$

$$I(q) = 4\pi \phi(1 - \phi)(\Delta\rho)^2 \int_0^\infty \gamma_0(r) \frac{\sin(qr)}{qr} r^2 dr$$

$$Q = \int_0^\infty I(q) q^2 dq = 2\pi^2 \phi(1 - \phi)(\Delta\rho)^2$$

**Invariant:** does not depend on the structure of the two phases but only on the **volume fractions** and **the contrast between the two phases**.

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## Porod's law

For a sharp interface, the scattered intensity decreases as  **$q^{-4}$** .

$$I(q) \rightarrow (\Delta\rho)^2 \frac{2\pi}{q^4} \frac{S}{V}$$

**internal surface area**

Combination of Porod's law & Invariant Q

$$\pi \cdot \frac{\lim_{q \rightarrow \infty} I(q) q^4}{Q} = \frac{S}{V}$$

**surface-volume ratio**

important for the characterization of porous materials

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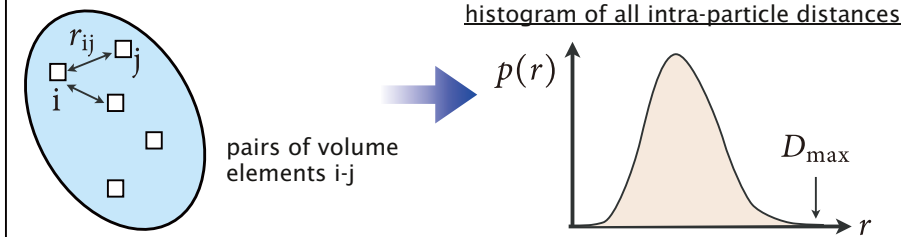
## Pair Distance Distribution Function: PDDF

Scattering intensity:  $I(q) = 4\pi \int_0^\infty \gamma_0(r) \frac{\sin(qr)}{qr} r^2 dr$   
(when isotropic)

PDDF :  $p(r) = r^2 \gamma_0(r)$

the set of distances joining the volume elements within a particle, including the case of non-uniform density distribution.

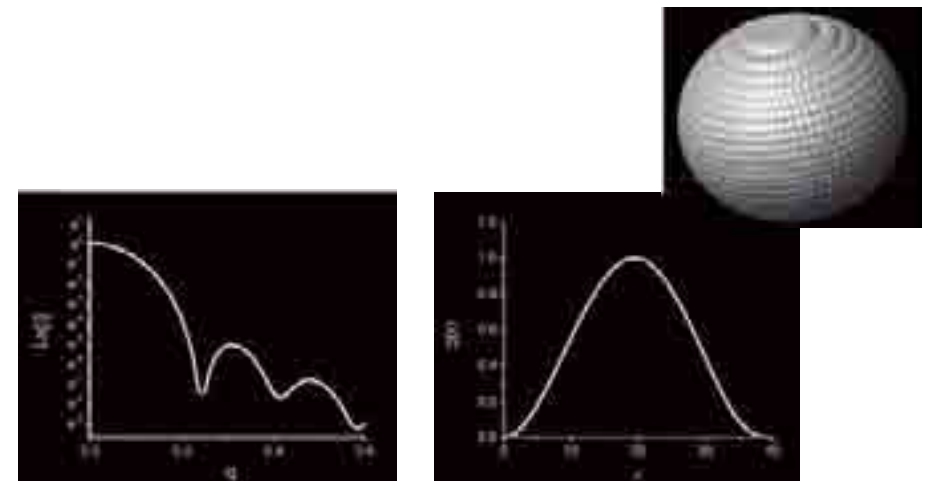
Particle's **SHAPE** and maximum **DIMENSION**.



$$I(q) = 4\pi \int_0^\infty p(r) \frac{\sin(qr)}{qr} dr$$

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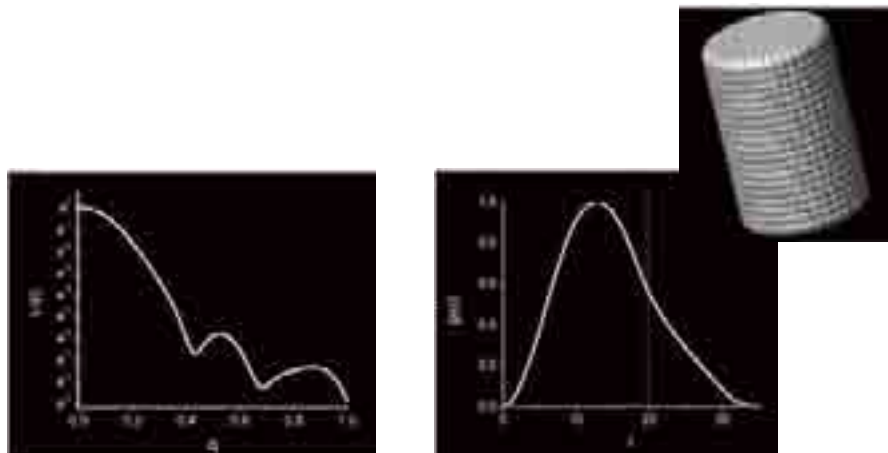
## I(q) & P(r) of Spherical particle



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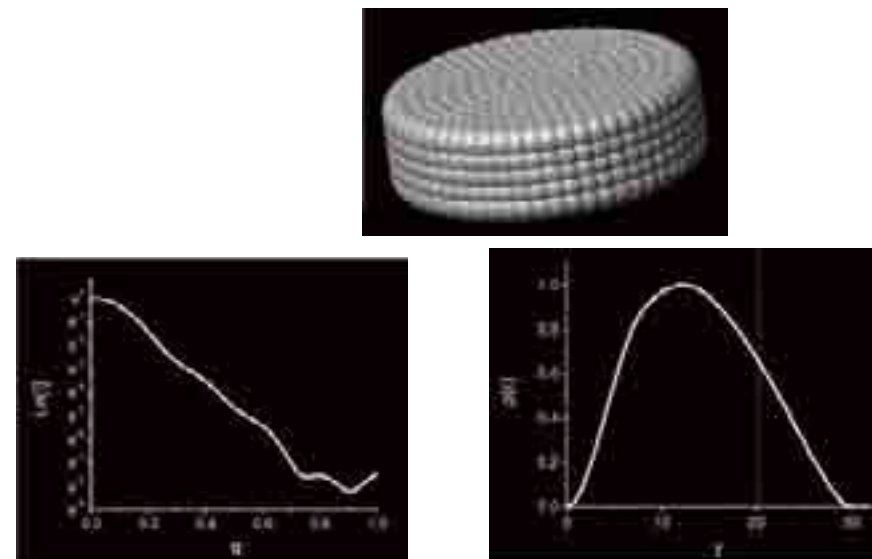


## I(q) & P(r) of Cylindrical particle



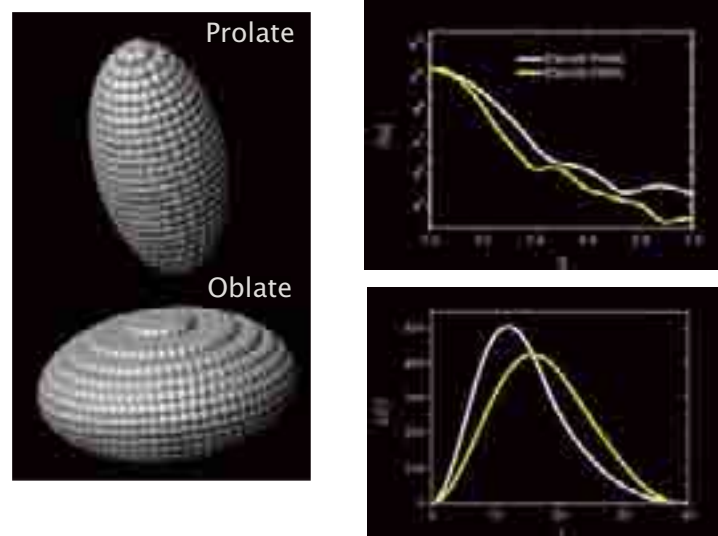
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## I(q) & P(r) of Flat particle



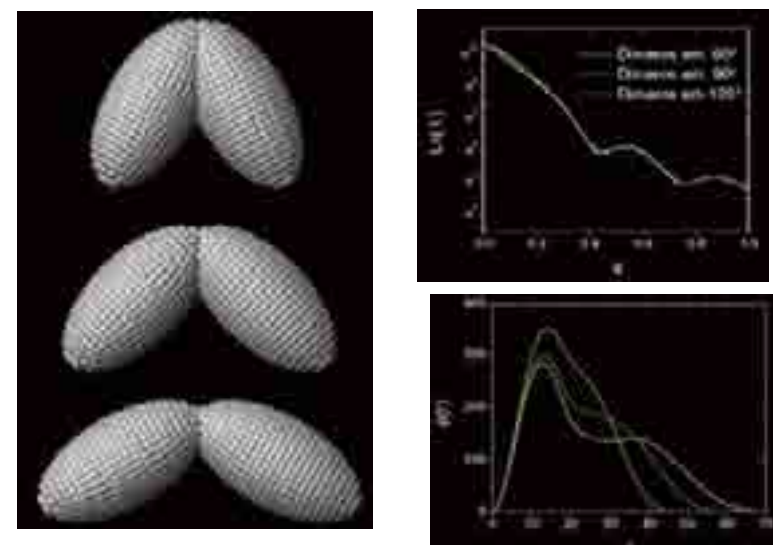
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## I(q) & P(r) of Ellipsoids



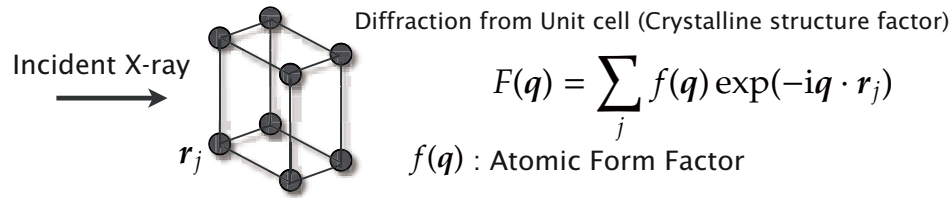
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## I(q) & P(r) of Two ellipsoid = dimer



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# Diffraction from Periodic Structure



$$F(q) = \sum_j f(q) \exp(-iq \cdot r_j)$$

$f(q)$  : Atomic Form Factor

Diffraction Intensity:  $I(q) \sim G(q)^2 F(q)^2$

Laue function:  $|G(q)|^2 = \frac{\sin^2(\pi N q \cdot r)}{\sin^2(\pi q \cdot r)}$

- Maximum  $\sim N^2$
- FWHM  $\sim 2\pi/N$
- FWHM  $\rightarrow$  Size of crystal

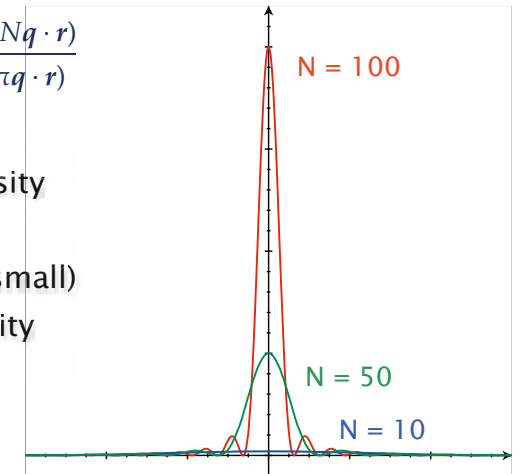
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# Laue Function

Laue function:  $|G(q)|^2 = \frac{\sin^2(\pi N q \cdot r)}{\sin^2(\pi q \cdot r)}$

- Large crystal
  - High diffraction intensity
  - Narrow FWHM
- Soft matter (crystal size: small)
  - Low diffraction intensity
  - Wide FWHM

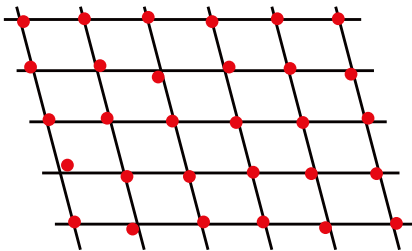
$\rightarrow$  low S/N



Crystal size  $\rightarrow$  Intensity & FWHM of diffraction

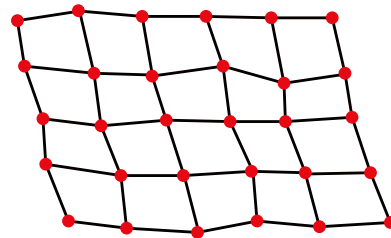
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# Imperfection of crystal (2D)



Imperfection of 1st kind

Thermal fluctuation etc.



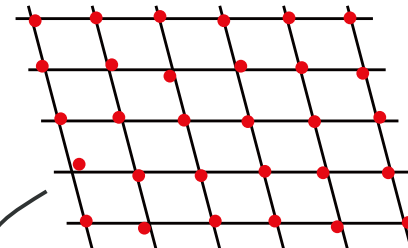
Imperfection of 2nd kind

in the case of soft matter

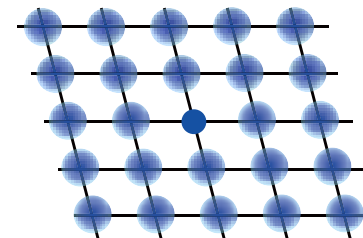
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# Imperfection of crystal

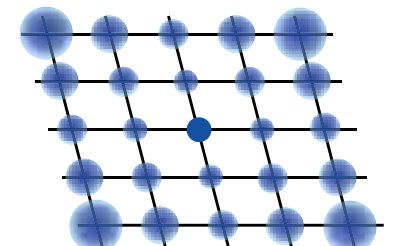
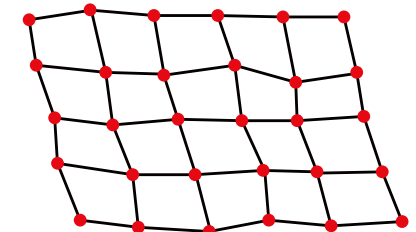
Imperfection of 1st kind



Autocorrelation



Imperfection of 2nd kind



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## Imperfection of lattice (1D)

Perfect lattice 

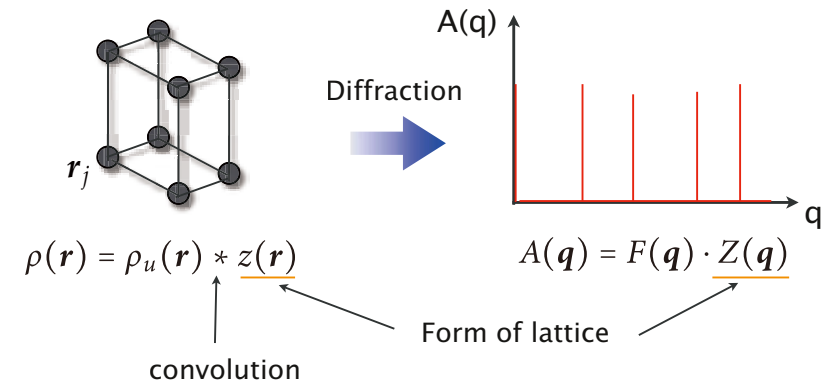
Imperfection of 1st kind 

Imperfection of 2nd kind 

☛ Effect of imperfections on diffraction ?

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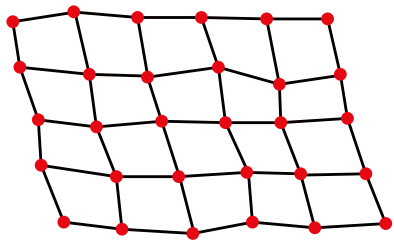
## Diffraction from lattice-structure



$z(\mathbf{r})$  with imperfection ---> calculate  $Z(\mathbf{q})$

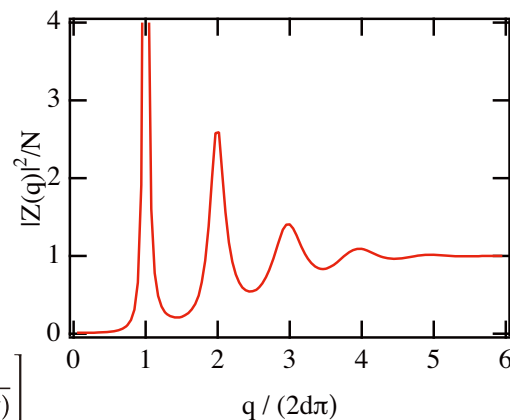
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## Imperfection of 2nd kind



Paracrystal theory

$$|Z(q)|^2 = N \left[ 1 + \frac{P(q)}{1 - P(q)} + \frac{P^*(q)}{1 - P^*(q)} \right]$$



Decrease of diffraction intensity and  
Increase of FWHM

R. Hosemann, S. N. Bagchi, Direct Analysis of Diffraction  
by Matter, North-Holland, Amsterdam (1962).

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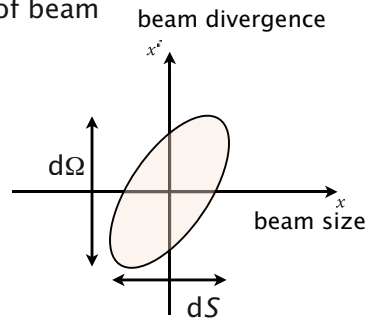
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## X-ray Source for SAXS

Emittance -- Product of size and divergence of beam

$$\text{Brilliance} = \frac{d^4 N}{dt \cdot d\Omega \cdot dS \cdot d\lambda/\lambda}$$

[photons/(s · mrad<sup>2</sup> · mm<sup>2</sup> · 0.1% rel.bandwidth)]



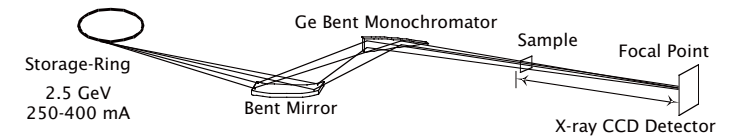
SAXS needs to use a low divergence and small beam

→ High brilliance beam is required !

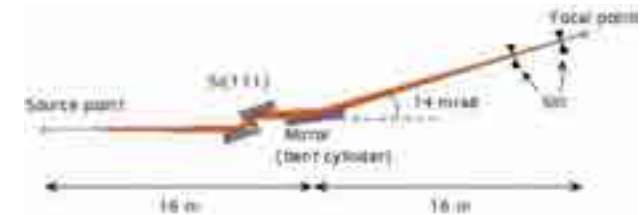
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## X-ray Optics for SAXS

PF BL-15A

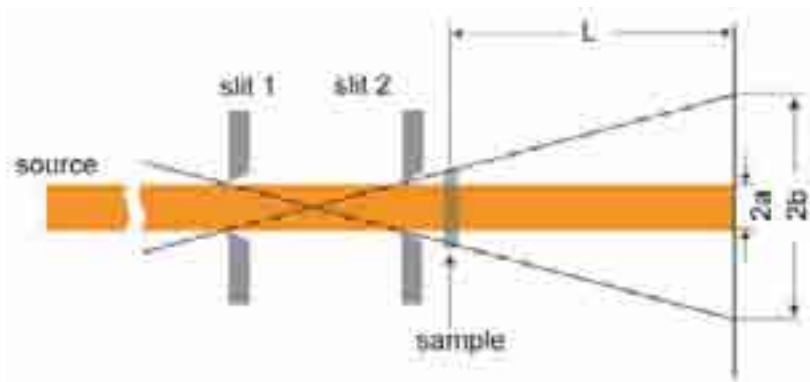


PF BL-10C



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## Slits for SAXS



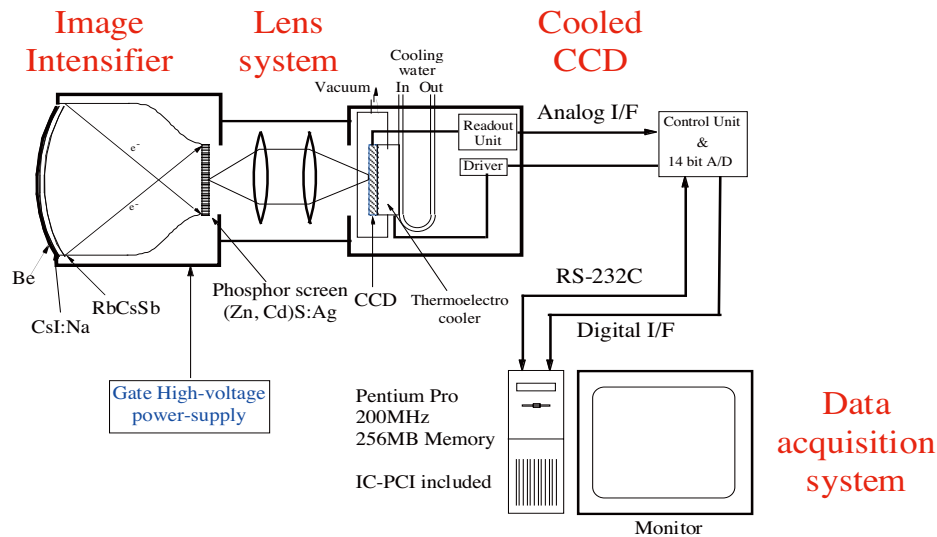
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## Detectors for SAXS

|                            | Good Point                                                                                                  | Drawback                                                                                      |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| PSPC                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>time-resolved</li> <li>photon-counting</li> <li>low noise</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>counting-rate limitation</li> </ul>                    |
| Imaging Plate              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>wide dynamic range</li> <li>large active area</li> </ul>             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>slow read-out</li> </ul>                               |
| CCD with Image Intensifier | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>time-resolved</li> <li>high sensitivity</li> </ul>                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>image distortion</li> <li>low dynamic range</li> </ul> |
| Fiber-tapered CCD          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>fast read-out</li> <li>automated measurement</li> </ul>              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>not good for time-resolved</li> </ul>                  |

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# X-ray CCD detector with Image Intensifier



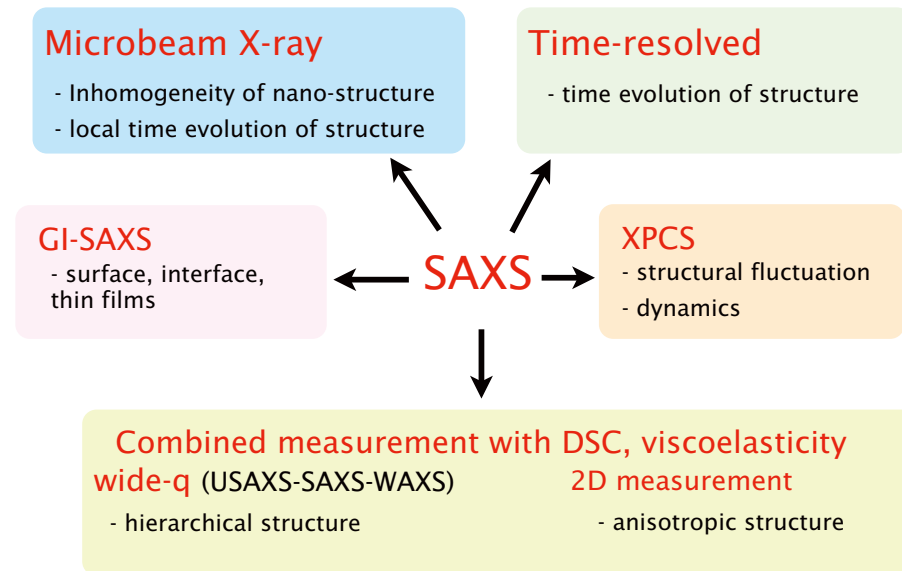
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  - What's SAXS ?
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  - X-ray Detectors
- **Advanced SAXS**
  - **Microbeam, GI-SAXS, USAXS, XPCS etc...**

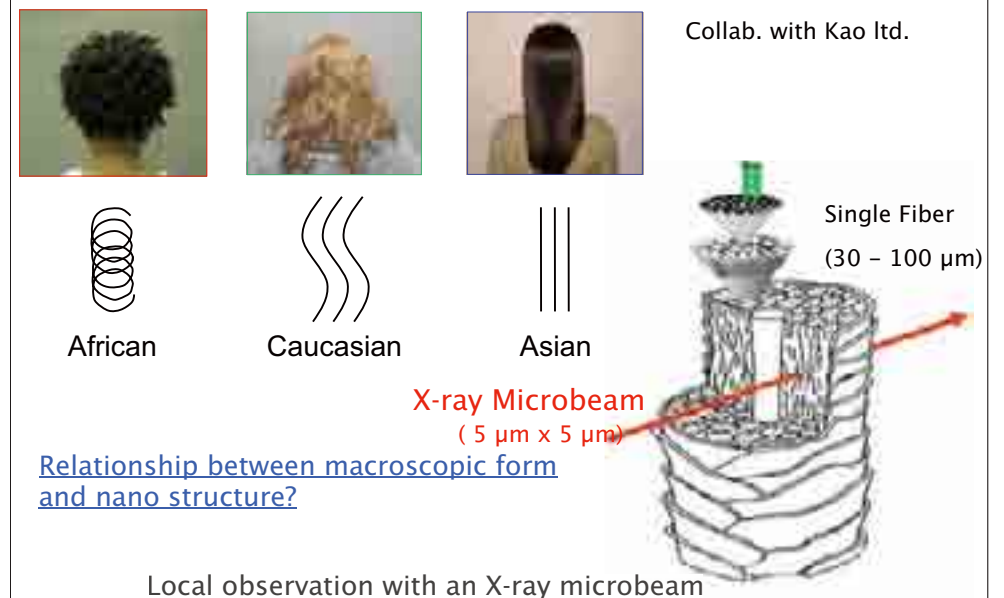
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## Advanced SAXS



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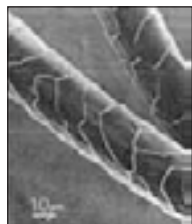
## Application of paracrystal theory



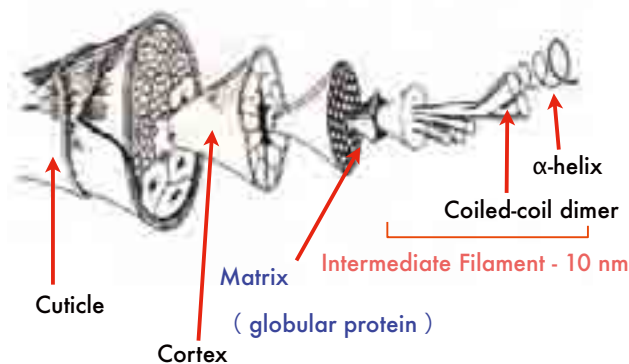
## Internal structure of wool



SEM 像



H. Ito et al., Textile Res. J. 54, 397-402 (1986).



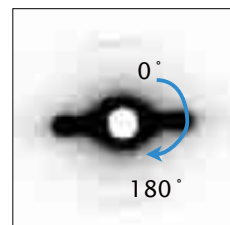
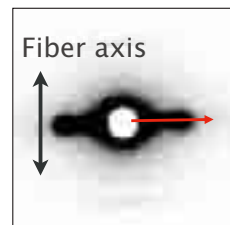
R. D. B. Fraser et al., Proc. Int. Wool Text. Res. Conf., Tokyo, II, 37, (1985) partially changed.

**Relationship between IF distribution and hair curliness?**

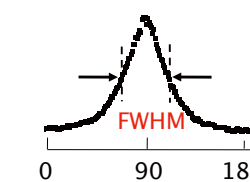
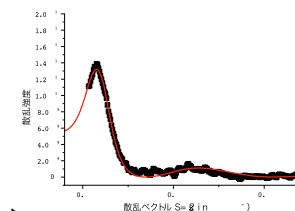
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## Structure of Intermediate Filament

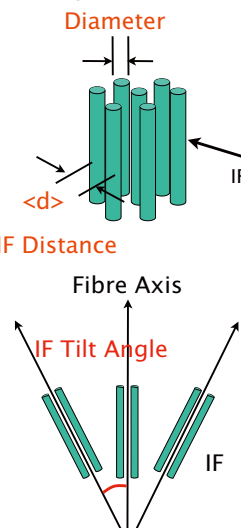
Scattering pattern



1D intensity profile

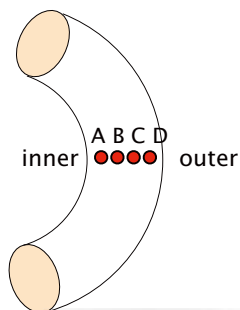


Real space structure

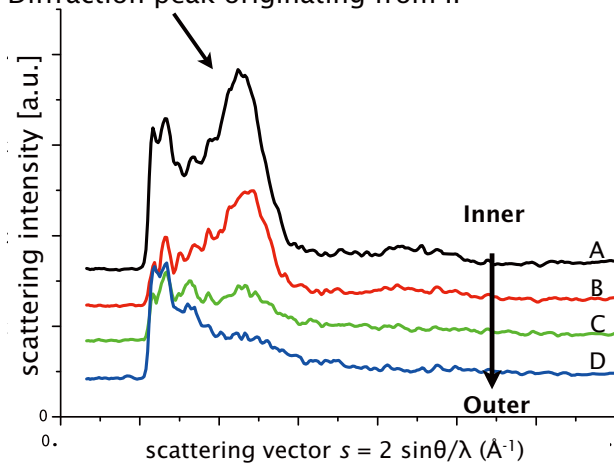


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## Diffraction intensity profiles

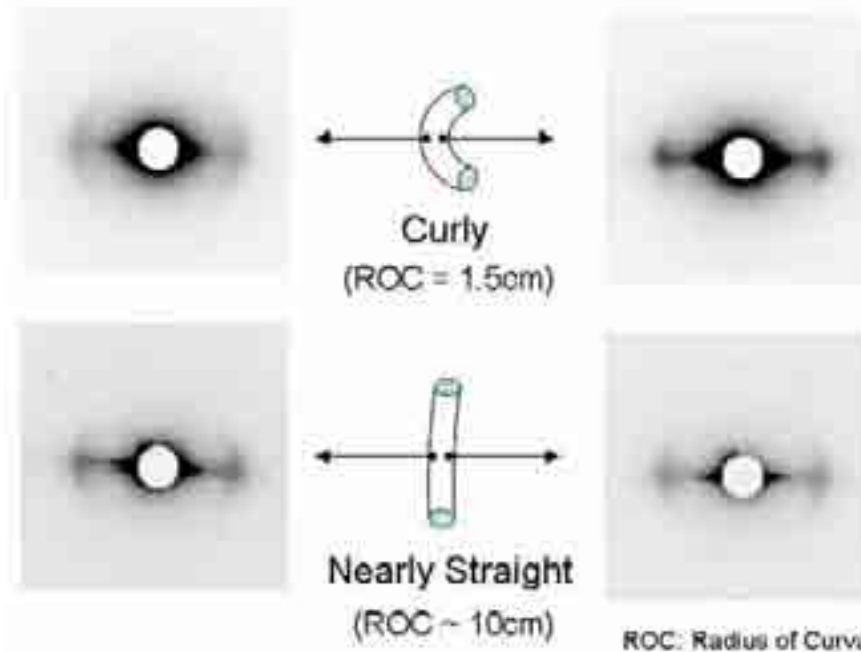


Diffraction peak originating from IF



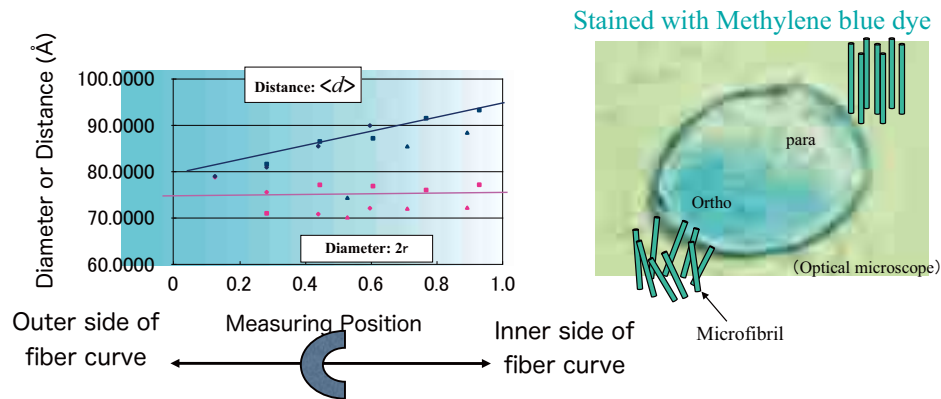
Difference in diffraction intensity  
--> Structural difference in cortex.

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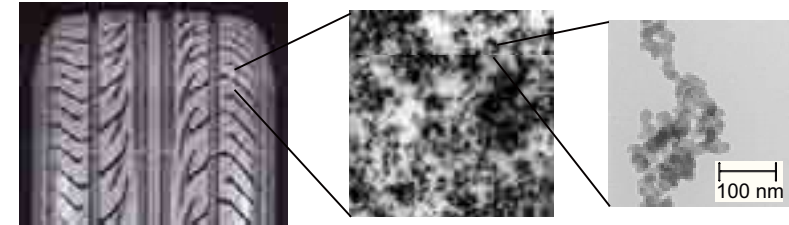


## Distribution of Intermediate Filament (IF)



- Diameter of Intermediate filament (IF) is almost constant
- Distance between IFs increases from outer to inner sides.

## USAXS for nano-composite in rubber



Nanocomposite

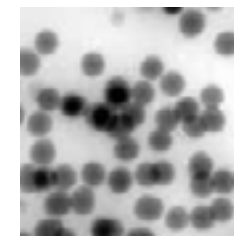
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## USAXS using medium-length beamline



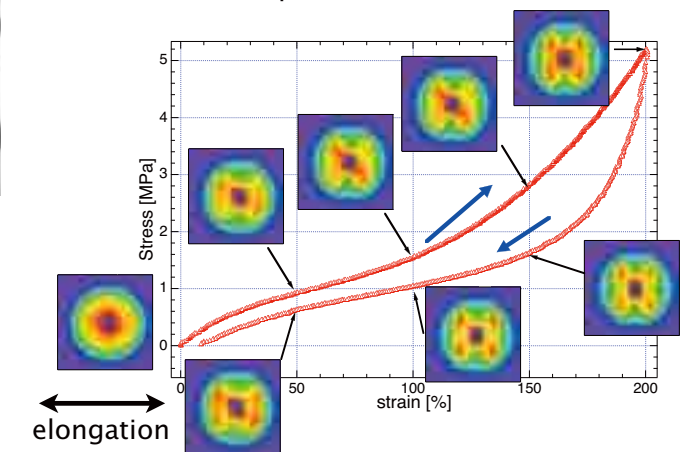
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## USAXS patterns from elongated rubber



TEM image

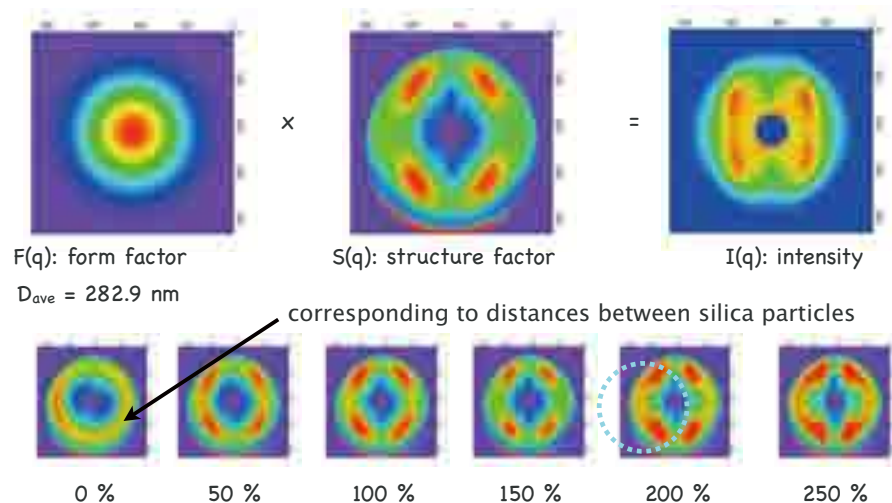
Rubber filled with spherical silica



Scattering pattern also shows hysteresis.

Y. Shinohara et al., J. Appl. Cryst., 40, s397 (2007).<sup>60</sup>

## Separation of Structure factor $S(q)$

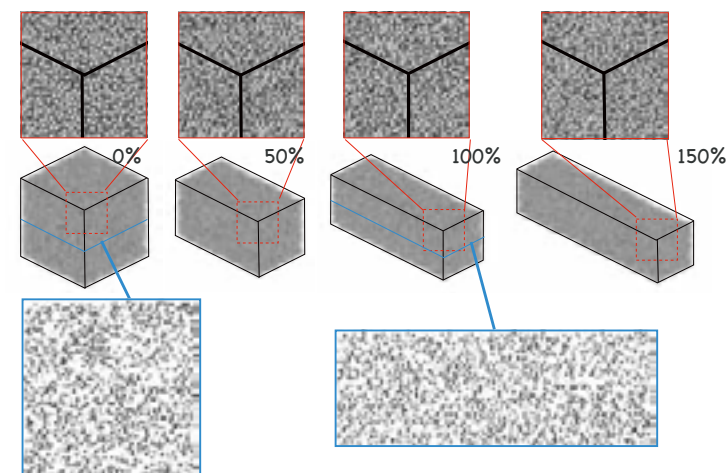


Y. Shinohara et al., J. Appl. Cryst., 40, s397 (2007).

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## Analysis by RMC (Reverse Monte Carlo)

Sample : monodisperse silica spheres in rubber

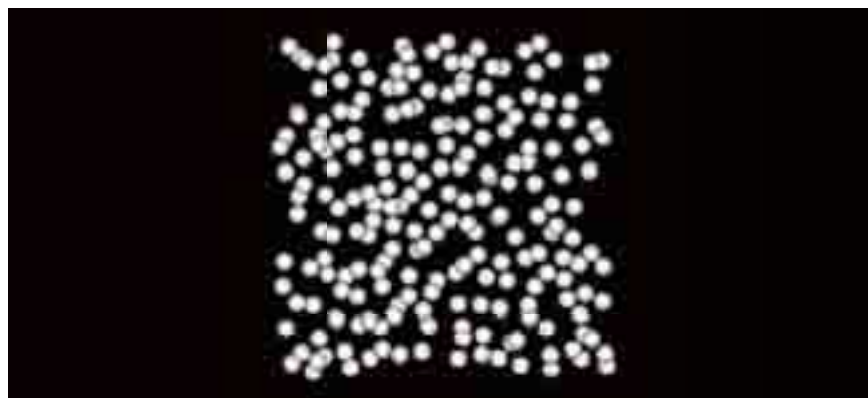


Courtesy to Dr.Hagita & Prof. Arai

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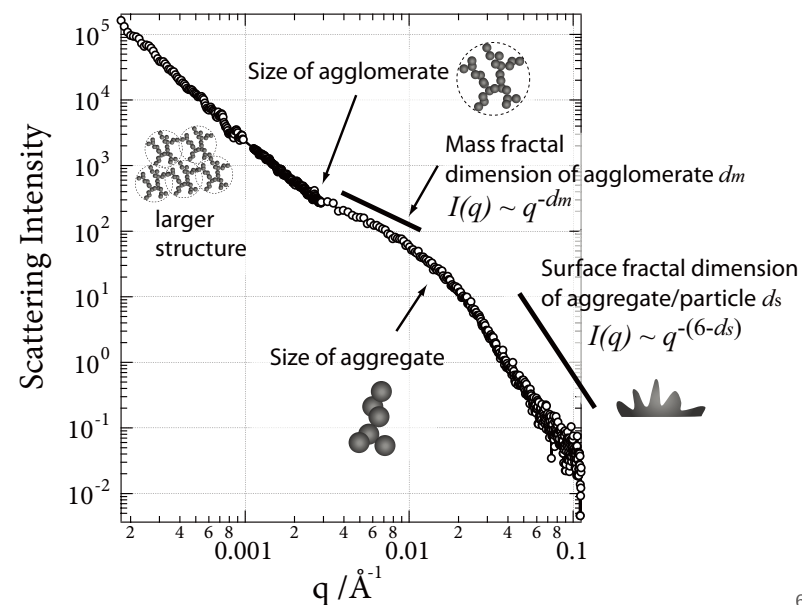
## Visualization of structure change of fillers during elongation of rubber by using SAXS and RMC

0 → 150% : elongation process



non-uniformity increases along the elongation direction.

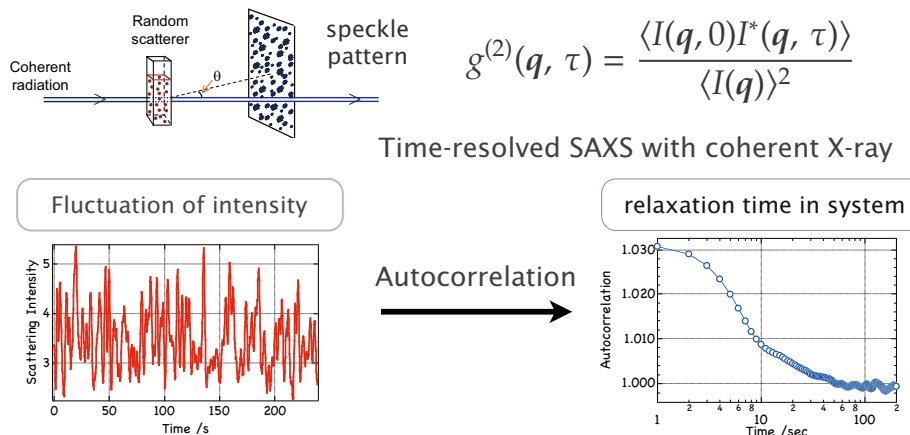
## Structural information from USAXS



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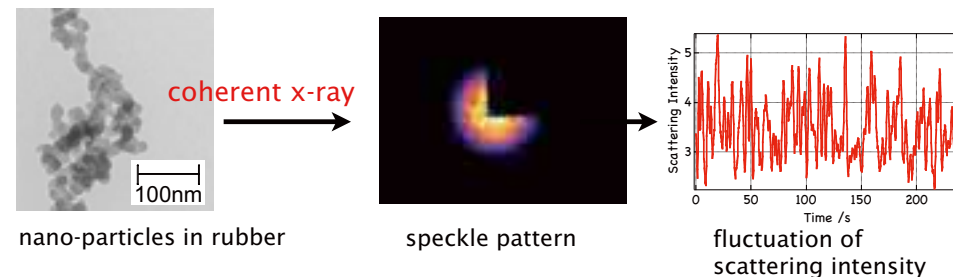
## X-ray Photon Correlation Spectroscopy: XPCS

- Measurement of fluctuation of X-ray scattering intensity  
--> Structural fluctuation in sample



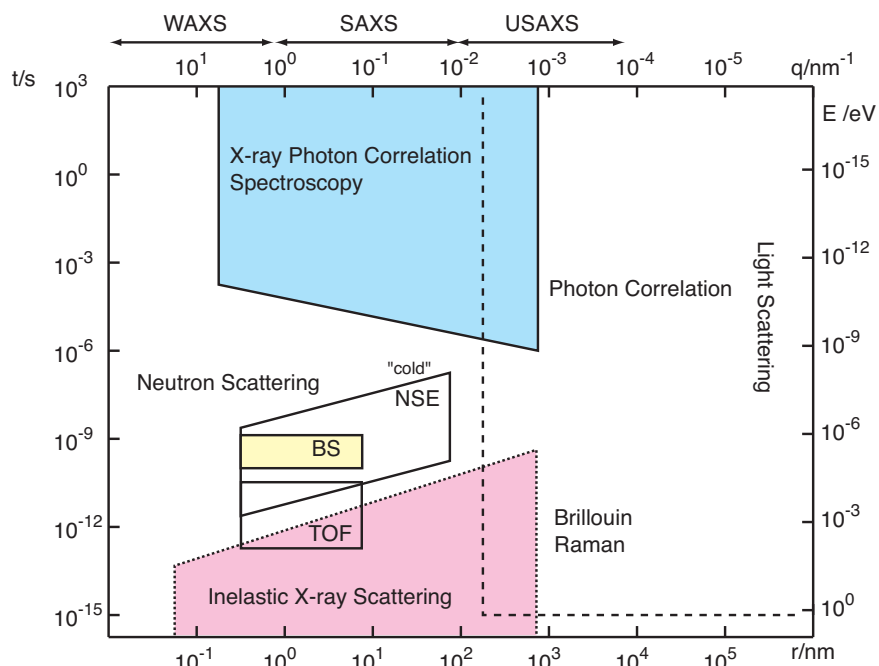
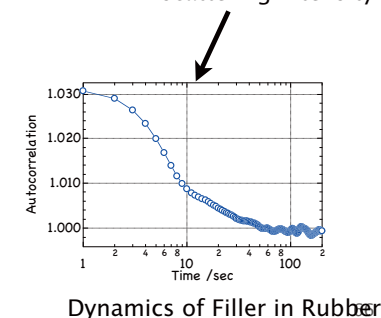
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## Dynamics of nanoparticles observed with XPCS



### Dependence of dynamics on...

- Volume fraction of nano-particles
- Vulcanization (cross-linking)
- Type of nano-particles
- Temperature etc.



## Bibliography

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- O. Glatter and O. Kratky ed. (1982) "Small Angle X-ray Scattering" Academic Press, London. [out-of-print](#)
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- P. Lindner and Th. Zemb ed. (2002) "Neutron, X-ray and Light Scattering: Soft Condensed Matter", Elsevier.
- Proceedings of SAS meeting (2003 & 2006). Published in J. Appl. Cryst.
- R-J. Roe (2000) "Methods of X-ray and Neutron Scattering in Polymer Science", Oxford University Press.

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