Chapter 8. Polymers in Hyperstructures

8.1. Microstructure Based on Block Copolymers

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- 8.3.1. Commercialized Applications
- 8.3.2. Potential Applications

8.1. Microstructure based on block copolymers

8.1.1 Definition of copolymers

: polymer having more than two different repeat units.

~ABABABABABAABABABABA~

(Alternating copolymer)

~AABABBABAAABBABBBAAB~

(Random copolymer)

~AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA~
B
B
B
B
B
B
B
~

(Graft copolymer)

~AAAAAAAAAABBBBBBBBBB~

(Block copolymer)

A_mB_p	diblock
$A_mB_pA_m$	triblock
$A_mB_pA_mB_p$	tetrablock
$(A_mB_p)_n$	multiblock

A, B: repeating units

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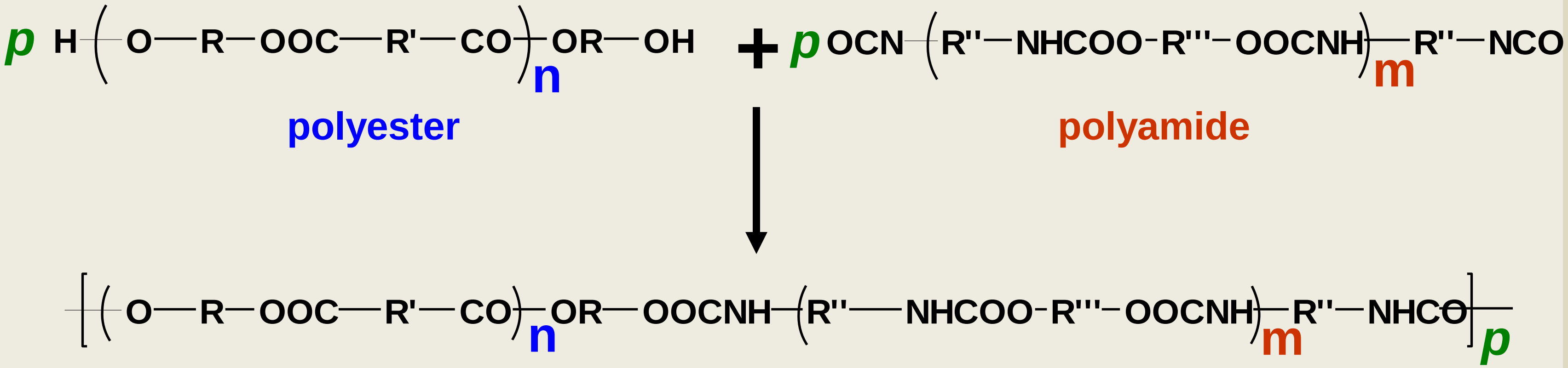
8.1. Microstructure based on block copolymers

8.1.2 Synthesis Methods for Block Copolymers

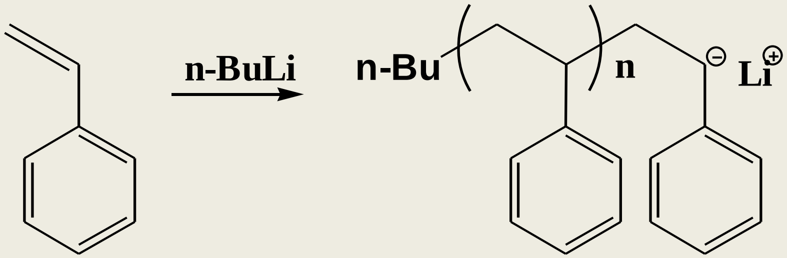
- **Step copolymerization**
  → The reaction between two different functional end groups of polymers



8.1. Microstructure based on block copolymers

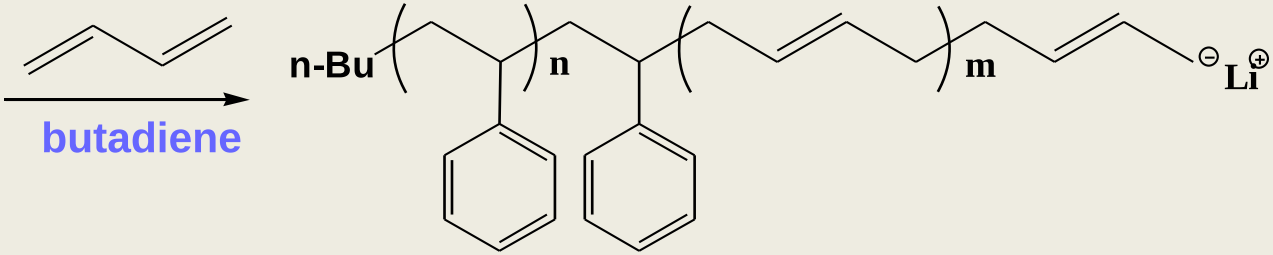
- **Sequential polymerization (Anionic polymerization)**

  → A polymer is synthesized by anionic polymerization. Another monomer is then added to the living polymer carbanions.



styrene

Polystyrene

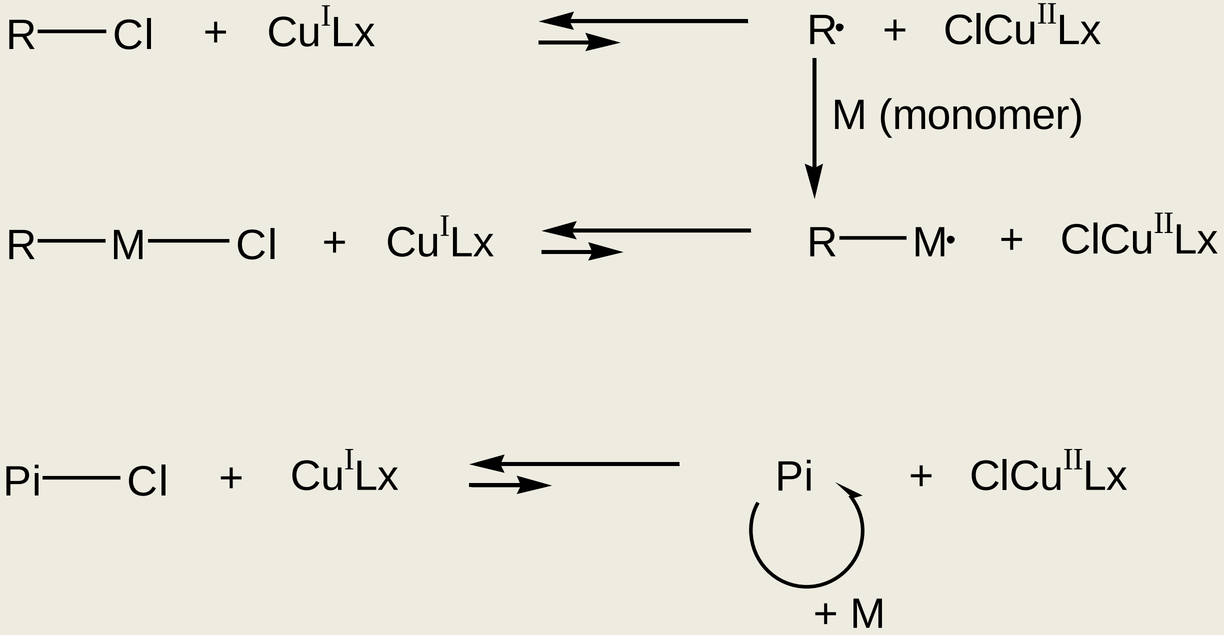


Polystyrene-block-Poly(1,4-butadiene)

8.1. Microstructure based on block copolymers

Sequential polymerization (Living radical polymerization)

- ATRP (Atom transfer radical polymerization)



$$\mathrm{R{-}Cl} + \mathrm{Cu^{I}Lx} \rightleftharpoons \mathrm{R\cdot} + \mathrm{ClCu^{II}Lx}$$

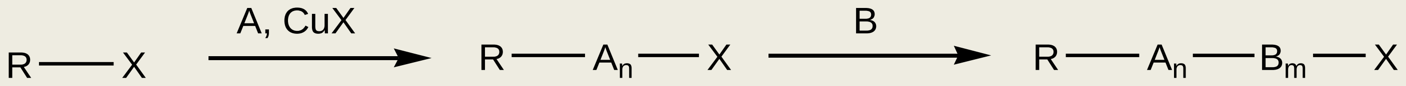
M (monomer)

$$\mathrm{R{-}M{-}Cl} + \mathrm{Cu^{I}Lx} \rightleftharpoons \mathrm{R{-}M\cdot} + \mathrm{ClCu^{II}Lx}$$

$$\mathrm{Pi{-}Cl} + \mathrm{Cu^{I}Lx} \rightleftharpoons \mathrm{Pi\cdot} + \mathrm{ClCu^{II}Lx}$$

+ M

- Copolymerization via ATRP



$$\mathrm{R{-}X} \xrightarrow{\mathrm{A,\ CuX}} \mathrm{R{-}A_n{-}X} \xrightarrow{\mathrm{B}} \mathrm{R{-}A_n{-}B_m{-}X}$$

A, B ; monomer

8.1. Microstructure based on block copolymers

8.1.3. Block Copolymer Aggregate and Self-assembly

❖ **Low-molecular-weight surfactants**

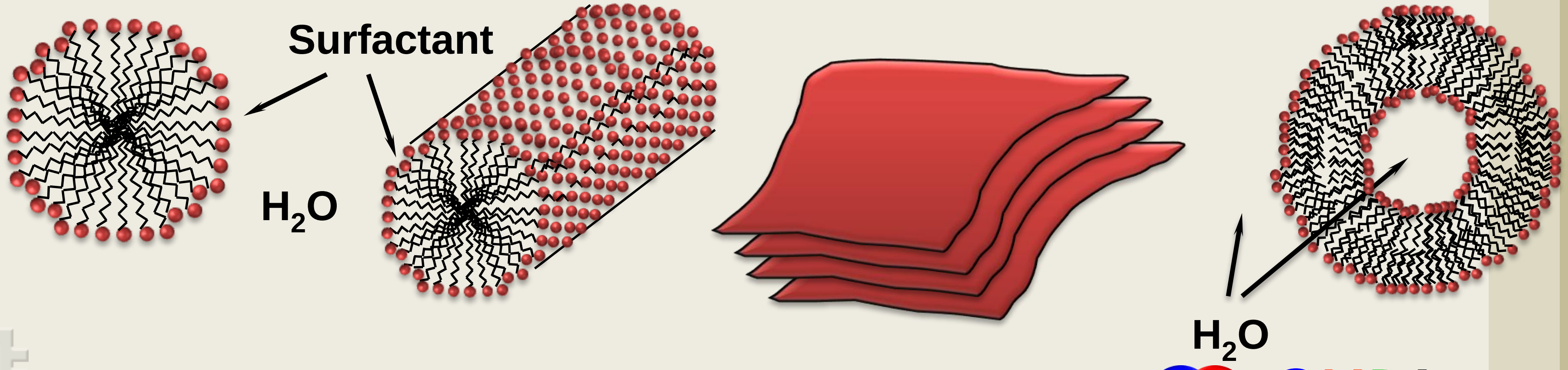
Hydrophobic tail
CH_3-CH_2-CH_2- …
CF_3-CF_2-CF_2- …

Hydrophilic head
$SO_3^-Na^+$
$NH_3^+Cl^-$
-$(OCH_2CH_2)_n$-

When surfactants are dissolved in water

- *reduce the surface tension because they are adsorbed on the surfaces*
- *form variety of aggregates – micelles, lamellae, vesicles, etc*

Spherical micelles **Cylindrical micelles** **Lamellae** **Vesicles**



Surfactant

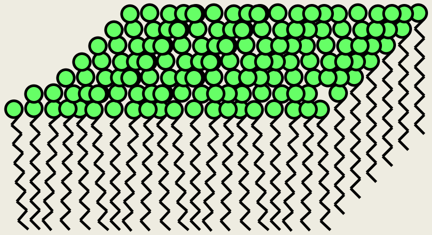
H_2O

H_2O

8.1. Microstructure based on block copolymers

※Properties of the surfactant film

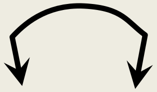
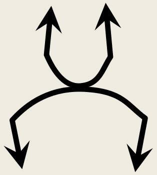
Surfactant film



Properties of the surfactant film change with:

- Molecular structure
- Additives
- Ionic strength
- Co-surfactant
- Temperature, pressure etc.

Properties of the surfactant film:

- Interfacial tension 
- Lateral elasticity 
- Spontaneous curvature 
- Bending elasticity 
- Saddle splay elasticity 

8.1. Microstructure based on block copolymers

- **Block copolymer & Low-molecular-weight surfactant**

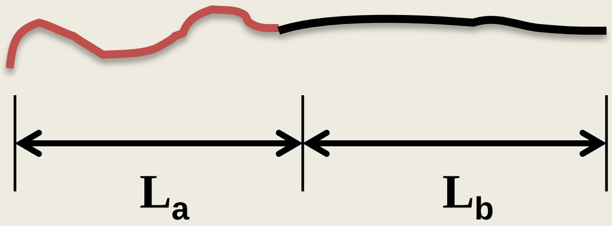
Surfactant

Hydrophobic tail

Hydrophilic head

≒

Block copolymer



More than two polymeric units (different solubility)

HLB value (hydorphilic-liphophilic balance)
Geometrical factor (size)
→ Appendix 8.1

Length and ratio of polymer segments

Like surfactant, block copolymers can form various aggregates as varied polymer segments.

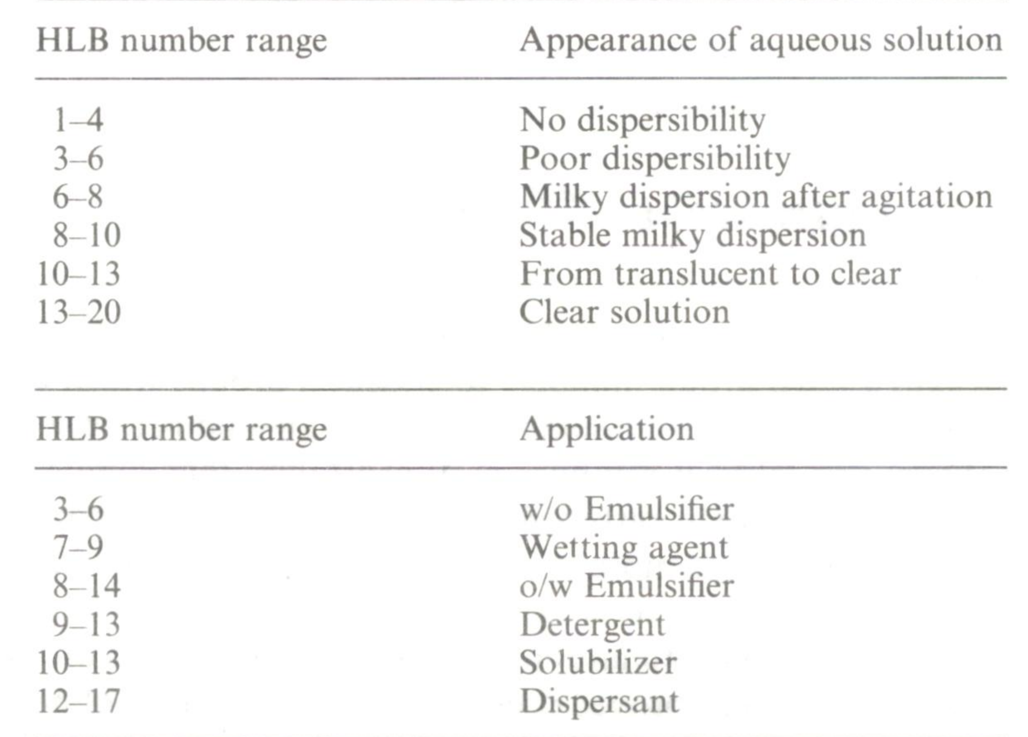
※Appendix 8.1 : HLB Concept

- In an attempt to extend it into some kind of quantitative relationship between surfactant hydrophilicity and function in solution, Griffin introduced the concept of the hydrophilic-lipophilic balance (HLB) of a surfactant.

- Griffin's HLB numbers were restricted to non-ionic surfactants.

An arbitrary scale of 0 to 20 :
: 0 ~ completely hydrophobic molecule
20 ~ completely hydrophilic molecule

Table. Use of Griffin's HLB number concept



HLB number range	Appearance of aqueous solution
1–4	No dispersibility
3–6	Poor dispersibility
6–8	Milky dispersion after agitation
8–10	Stable milky dispersion
10–13	From translucent to clear
13–20	Clear solution

HLB number range	Application
3–6	w/o Emulsifier
7–9	Wetting agent
8–14	o/w Emulsifier
9–13	Detergent
10–13	Solubilizer
12–17	Dispersant

Ref.) W.C.Griffin, Journal of the Society of Cosmetic Chemists, 1949, 1, 311
W.C.Griffin, Journal of the Society of Cosmetic Chemists, 1954, 5, 259

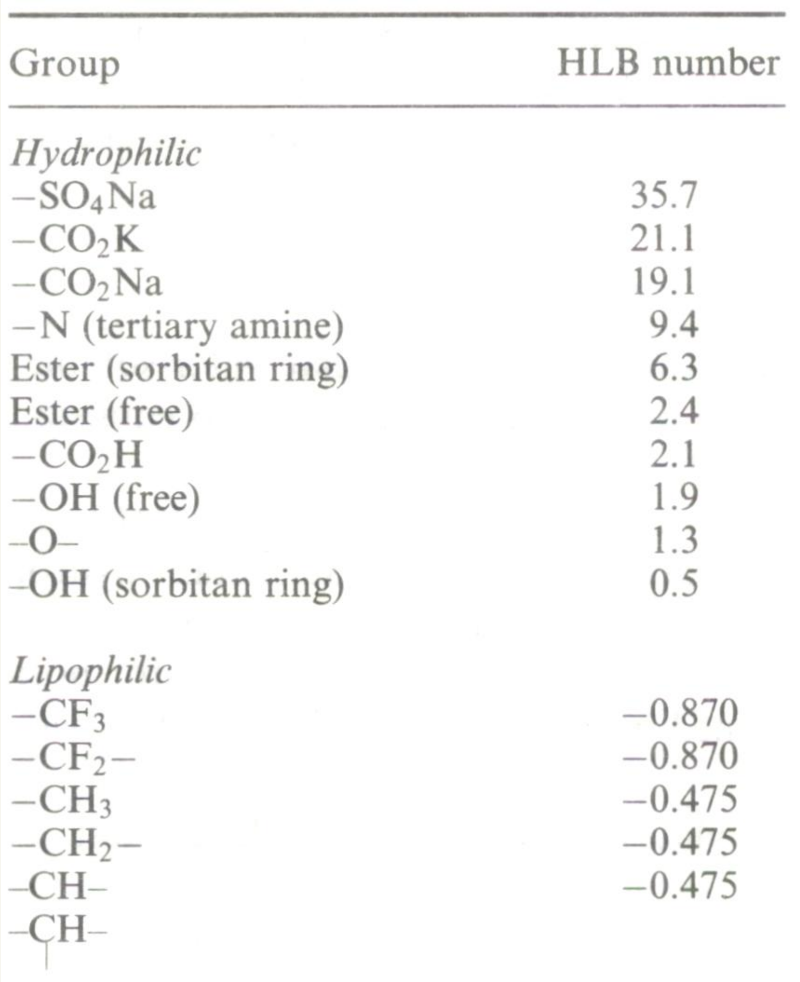
※Appendix 8.1 : HLB Concept

- Griffin's HLB number concept was later extended by Davies, who introduced a scheme to assign HLB numbers to chemical groups which compose as surfactant.

HLB =
7 + ∑ (hydrophilic group numbers)
+ ∑ (lipophilic group numbers)

Ref.) K.Holmberg, Surfactants and polymers in aqueous solution, 2nd Ed., John Wiley & Sons Ltd, England, 2003, p.460
J.T.Davies, Proceedings of the International Congress of Surface Activity, 1957, 426-438

Determination of HLB numbers according to Davies



Group	HLB number
Hydrophilic	
$-SO_4Na$	35.7
$-CO_2K$	21.1
$-CO_2Na$	19.1
–N (tertiary amine)	9.4
Ester (sorbitan ring)	6.3
Ester (free)	2.4
$-CO_2H$	2.1
–OH (free)	1.9
–O–	1.3
–OH (sorbitan ring)	0.5
Lipophilic	
$-CF_3$	–0.870
$-CF_2-$	–0.870
$-CH_3$	–0.475
$-CH_2-$	–0.475
–CH–	–0.475
–CH–	

"The HLB method of selecting an emulsifier is crude but simple."

- Some general guidelines for the selection of surfactants as emulsifier

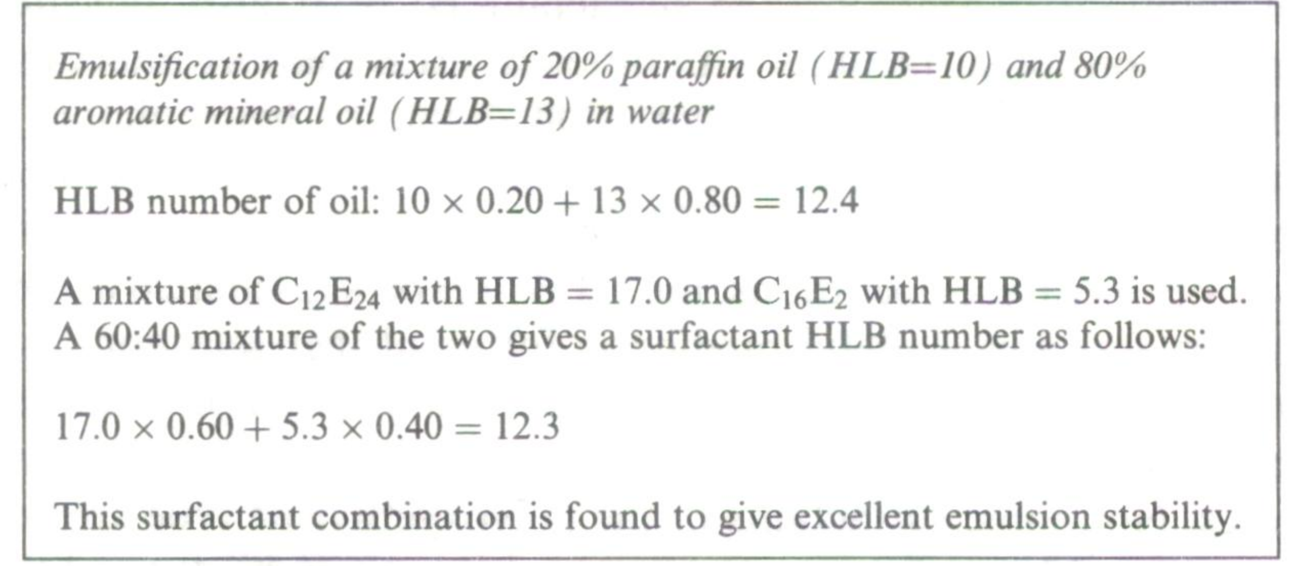
(1) The surfactant should have a strong tendency to migrate to the oil-water interface.

(2) Oil-soluble surfactants preferably form w/o emulsions, and vice versa.

(3) Good emulsions are often formed by using a mixture of one hydrophilic and one hydrophobic surfactant.

(4) The more polar the oil phase, then the more hydrophilic the emulsifier should be, and vice versa.

Table. The use of the HLB method in selecting an emulsifier.



Emulsification of a mixture of 20% paraffin oil (HLB=10) and 80% aromatic mineral oil (HLB=13) in water

HLB number of oil: $10 \times 0.20 + 13 \times 0.80 = 12.4$

A mixture of $C_{12}E_{24}$ with HLB = 17.0 and $C_{16}E_2$ with HLB = 5.3 is used. A 60:40 mixture of the two gives a surfactant HLB number as follows:

$17.0 \times 0.60 + 5.3 \times 0.40 = 12.3$

This surfactant combination is found to give excellent emulsion stability.

Ref. M.J.Rosen, Surfactants and interfacial phenomena, 2^{nd} Ed., Wiley, New York, 1989, p.327

※Appendix 8.1 : Geometric Factors

- The structures of micelle can be simply determined by the geometric factors of the surfactant at the interface.

- **Critical packing parameter (CPP)**

$$\frac{v}{a_0 l_c}$$

v : partial molecular volume of surfactant
a_o : area of head group of surfactant
l_c : maximum chain length

(1) Spherical micelles : CPP < 1/3
(2) Non-spherical micelles : 1/3 < CPP < 1/2
(3) Vesicles or bilayers : 1/2 < CPP < 1
(4) Inverted micelles : 1< CPP

- The change of environment (pH, temperature, ionic strength) will affect these parameters.

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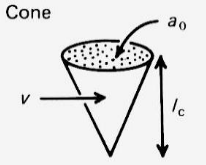
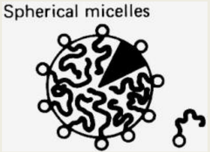
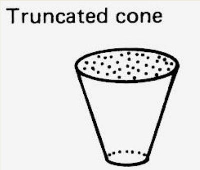
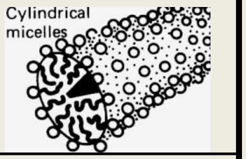
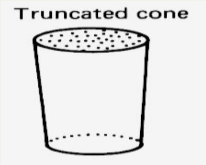
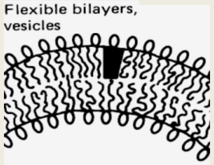
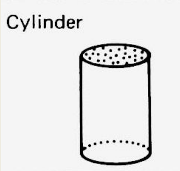
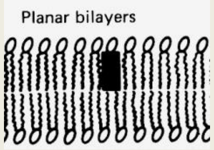
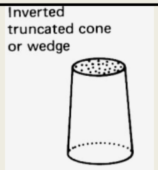
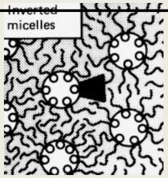
※Appendix 8.1 : Geometric Factors

Packing parameter	Critical packing shape	Structures formed
<1/3		
1/3-1/2		
1/2-1		
~1		
>1		

-The relationship between aggregate type and geometry on the packing requirements of surfactant head group and chains

Ref. Intermolecular and Surface Forces, Israelachvili, Jacob N.

※Appendix 8.1 : Geometric Factors

(1) Spherical micelles

- Usually formed by anionic surfactants
- For an o/w micelles, this can be done by adjusting the repulsion between head groups, resulting in large values for a_0.

(2) Cylindrical micelles

- It is a quite common phenomenon that micelles grow as the preferred surface curvature decreases. Any change that reduces the effective head group area will lead to the growth of micelles.
- Basic three ways to form cylindrical micelles

① addition of a cosurfactant with a very compact head group (i.e. n-alkanol)

② changing the counterion (i.e. changing Na^+ to Mg^{2+} reduce the effective volume of head groups.)

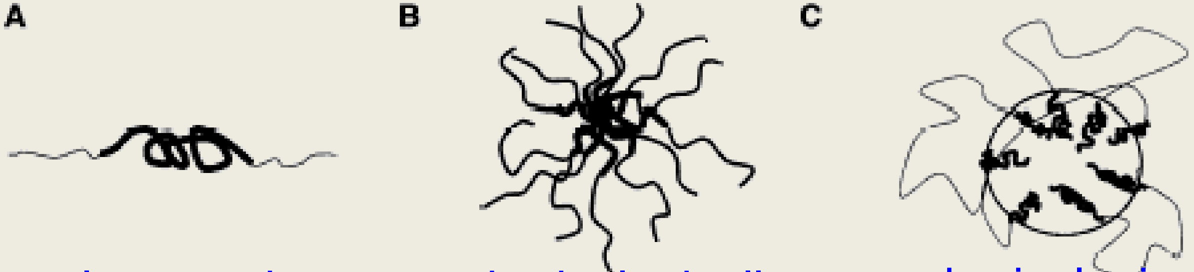
③ by electrolyte addition or temperature change (i.e. reduce the area of the head groups)

8.1. Microstructure based on block copolymers

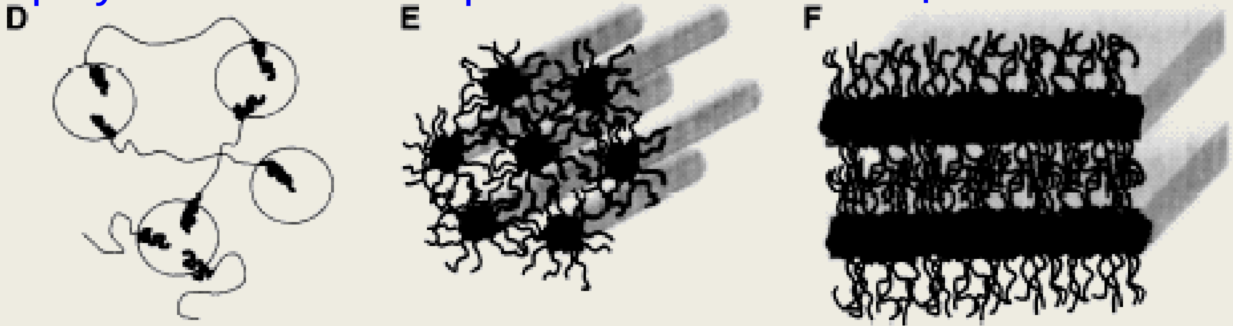
❖ **Micelle formation of block copolymer**

; A solvent that is good for one of the units but poor for the other(s) leads to an amphiphilic behavior. (similar to low-molecular-weight surfactant solution)

; Block copolymer micelles are aggregates that resemble many properties of micelles formed by low-molecular weight surfactants.



copolymer unimer spherical micelle spherical micelle



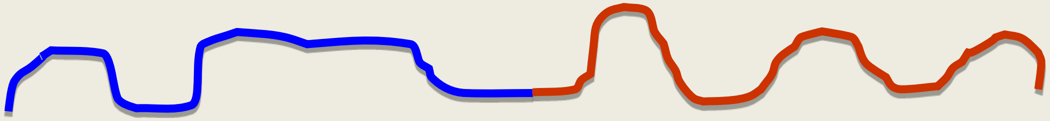
spherical micelle cylindrical micelle lamellar structure

8.1. Microstructure based on block copolymers

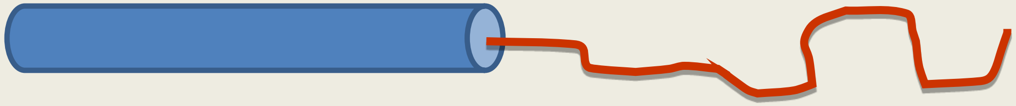
- **Self-assembly of Block copolymer based on type of polymer segments**

; The types of polymer segments can affect block copolymer aggregation. (self-assembly)

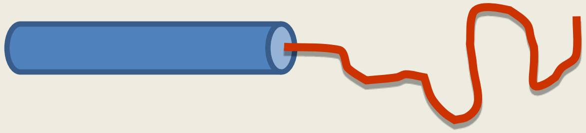
; Three different classes of diblock copolymer type will be discussed in this section.



Coil-coil diblock copolymer



Rod-coil diblock copolymer
(Total MW > 20,000 g/mol)



Rod-coil diblock oligomer
(Total MW < 20,000 g/mol)

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8.1. Microstructure based on block copolymers

- **Coil-coil diblock copolymers**

; Block copolymers comprised of two flexible, chemcally incompatible and dissimilar blocks can microphase separated into a variety of morphologies.
eg) Polystyrene-*b*-Polyisoprene

; The degree of microphase separation is determined by χN.
→ χ : Flory interaction parameter,
a measure for the incompatibility between the two block,
be written in terms of solubility parameter(δ)

$$\chi = \frac{V_0}{kT}(\delta_A - \delta_B)^2 \qquad \delta_A = \sqrt{\frac{\Delta E_A}{V_A}}$$

V_o : the lattice site volume
k : Boltzmann constant
T : temperature
ΔE_A : the evergy of vapourization of A molecule
V_A : molecular volume of A units

※ Solubility parameter ↔ cohesive energy density, interaction energy per unit volume between the molecules

→ N : Total degree of polymerization, $N=N_A+N_B$

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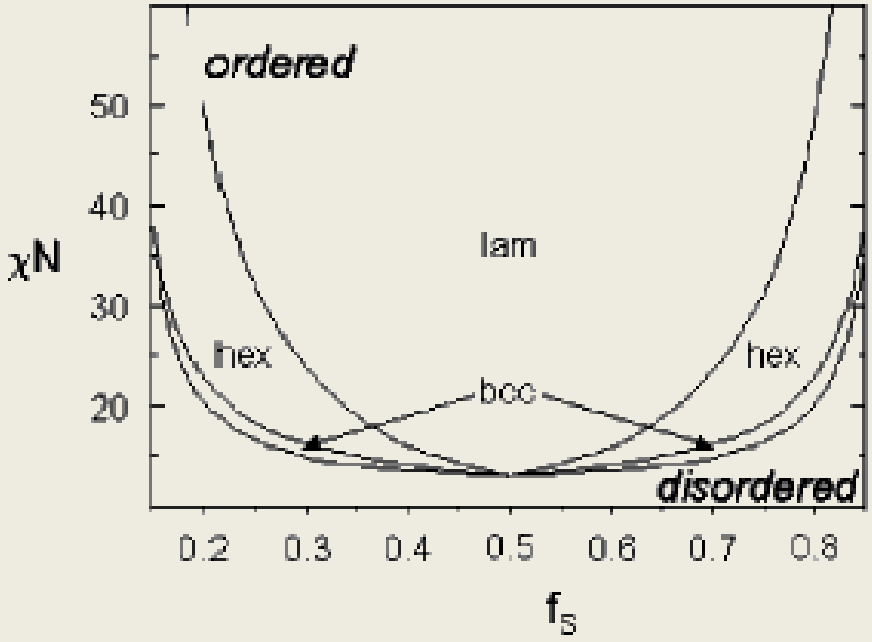
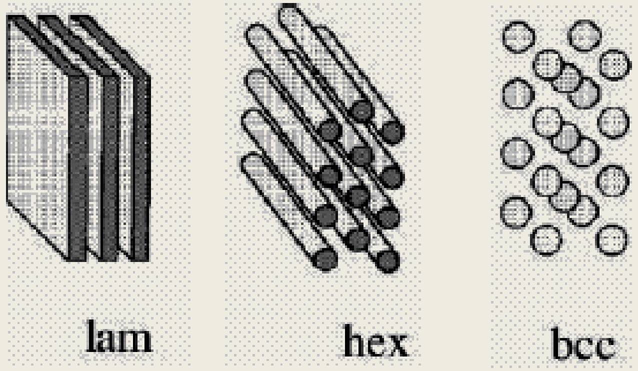
8.1. Microstructure based on block copolymers

; Separated morphology can be varied from spheres via lamellae to inverse spheres by changing the volume fractions of the blocks (f).

※ Experimental phase diagram for polystyrene-b-polyisoprene





→ f_s : volum fraction of styrene segment

$\chi N \leq 10$, weak-segregation limit

$10 < \chi N \leq 50$, intermediate segregation region

$\chi N \rightarrow \infty$, strong segregation limit

8.1. Microstructure based on block copolymers

- **Rod-coil diblock copolymers**

; Replacing one of the blocks of a coil-coil diblock copolymer by a stiff, rigid segment results in a rod-coil type diblock copolymer.
eg) poly(*p*-phenylene)-*b*-poly(styrene), poly(phenylquinoline)-*b*-poly(styrene), poly(heyl isocyanate)-*b*-poly(styrene)

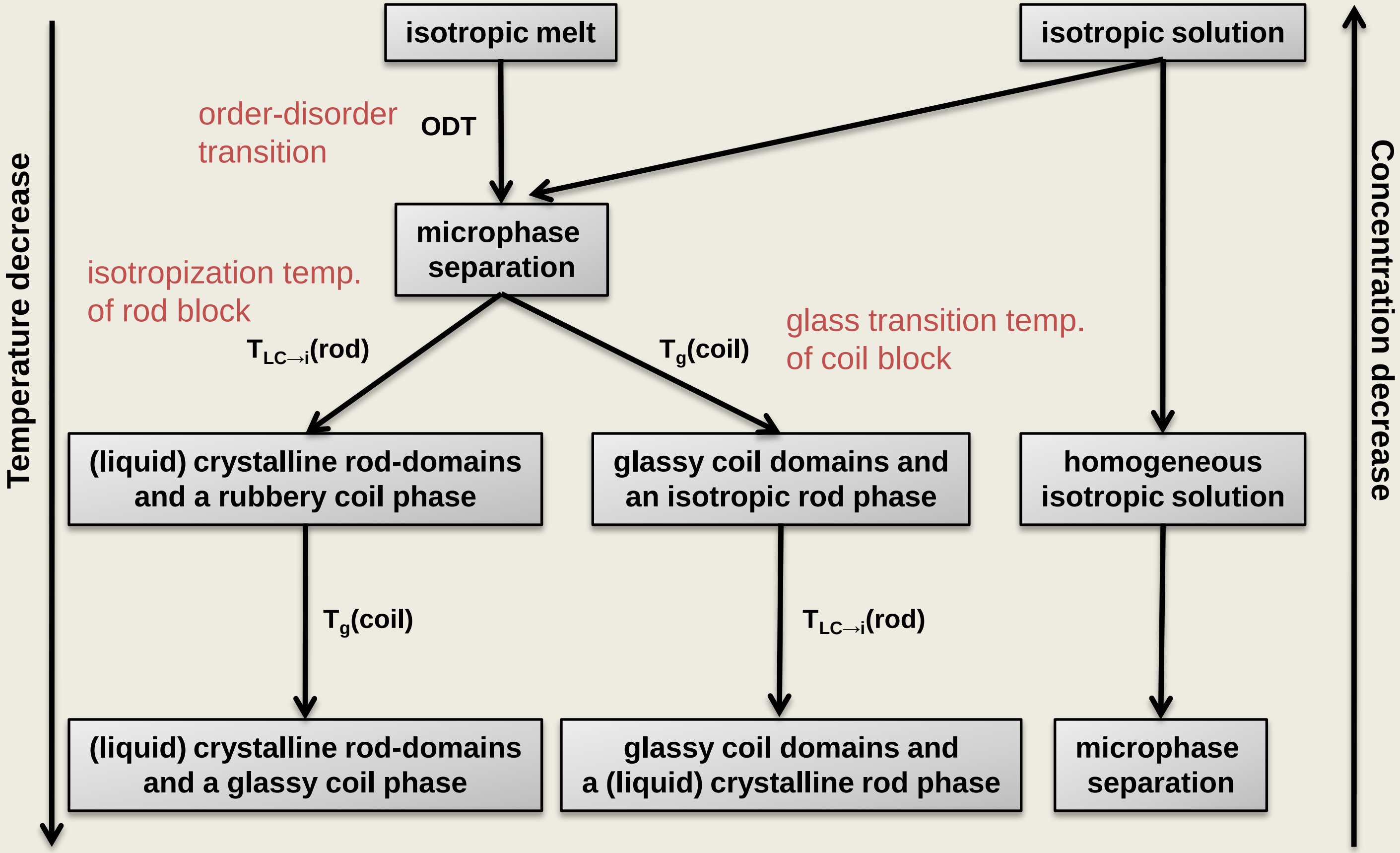
; The self-assembly is no longer solely determined by phase-separation, but is also affect by several other process.
→ aggregation of the rigid segments into (liquid-)crystalline domains
→ increase in the Flory interaction parameter due to stiffness asymmetry

$(\delta_A' - \delta_B)^2 > (\delta_A - \delta_B)^2$ ∴ χ is increased in rod-coil diblock copolymers

8.1. Microstructure based on block copolymers

reference 6

※ Possible routes for the self-assembly of rod-coil type diblock copolymer



Temperature decrease

Concentration decrease

isotropic melt

isotropic solution

order-disorder transition

ODT

microphase separation

isotropization temp. of rod block

$T_{LC\rightarrow i}$(rod)

T_g(coil)

glass transition temp. of coil block

(liquid) crystalline rod-domains and a rubbery coil phase

glassy coil domains and an isotropic rod phase

homogeneous isotropic solution

T_g(coil)

$T_{LC\rightarrow i}$(rod)

(liquid) crystalline rod-domains and a glassy coil phase

glassy coil domains and a (liquid) crystalline rod phase

microphase separation

8.1. Microstructure based on block copolymers

; Cooling from an isotropic melt

1) The system passes ODT and undergo microphase separation

2) If $T_{LC\rightarrow i}$ of rod > T_g of coil,
further cooling 1 - formation of (liquid-)crystalline domains
surrounded by a layer of rubbery coils
further cooling 2 - (liquid-)crystalline domains of rod segments
surrounded by glassy phase of coil segments

If $T_{LC\rightarrow i}$ of rod < T_g of coil,
further cooling 1 - formation of glassy matrix
further cooling 2 - crystallization of rod blocks can only take place in confined
domains imposed by the glassy matrix formed by the coils

8.1. Microstructure based on block copolymers

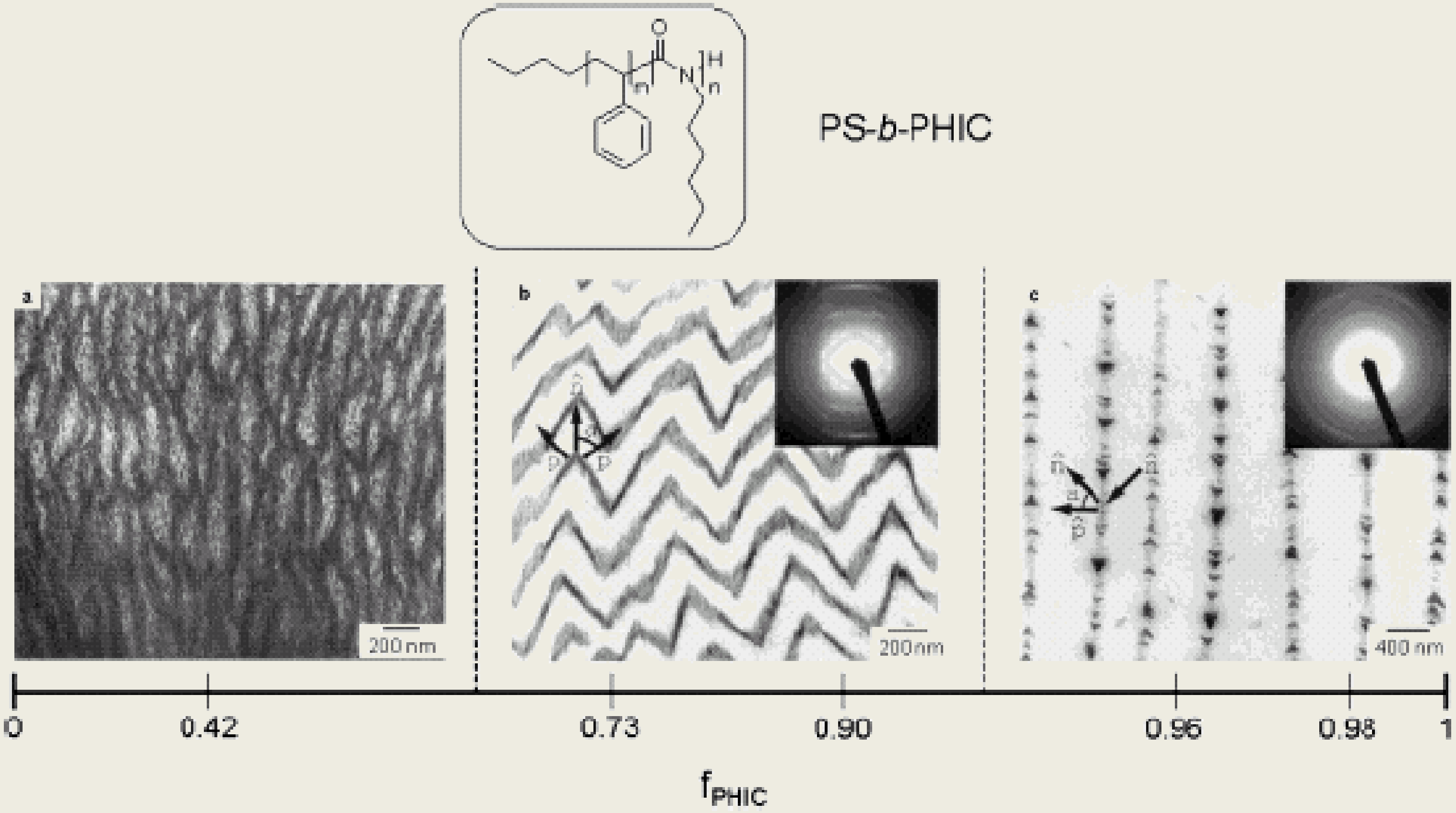
; Evaporation of the solvent from isotropic solution

1) If a good solvent for both blocks is used,
microphase separation will continuously complete with crystallization of the rod segments during the evaporation of solvent until a stable structure is obtained.

2) If a good solvent for only one block is used,
the rod-coil block copolymers can already be pre-assembled into a particular supramolecular structure prior to film casting and evaporation of the solvent.

8.1. Microstructure based on block copolymers

※ Self-assembly of Poly(styrene)-*b*-poly(hexyl isocynate) with the volum fraction of hexyl isocynate segment



8.1. Microstructure based on block copolymers

- **Rod-coil diblock oligomers**

; Like rod-coil diblock copolymer, the oligomers also indicates the competition between microphase separation of the blocks and aggregation of the rigid rods.

→ increase in the Flory interaction parameter due to their stiffness-asymmetry
→ Rod-coil diblock oligomers can allow access to phase-separated morphologies with domain sizes that can not be attained with traditional coil-coil diblock copolymers.

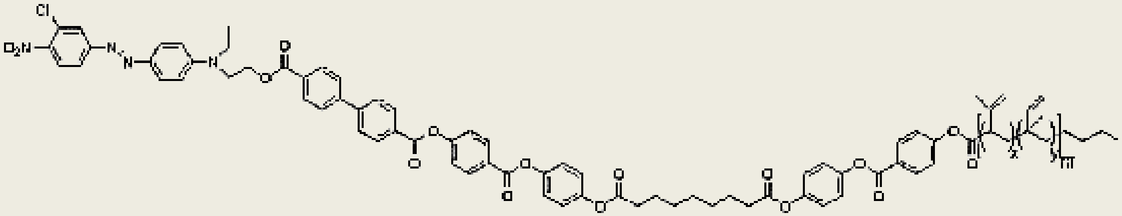
; Rod-coil diblock copolymers can be divided into two major classes.

→ i) perfectly monodisperse rod-segments, ii) polydisperse rigid rod
→ Diblock oligomers can be simply synthesized by organic reactions,
so monodisperse rod-segments can be obtained.
cf) Polymer's MW is polydisperse

※ Polydispersity (MW) is known to have a strong influence on the liquid crystalline properties of rod-like macromolecules.

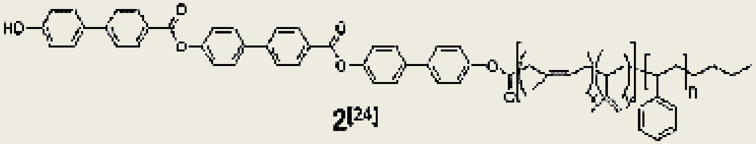
8.1. Microstructure based on block copolymers

Reference 6



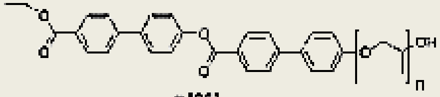
1[23]

$\bar{m} \approx 50 - 110$ $\bar{m} = x + y$



2[24]

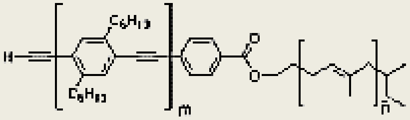
$\bar{m} \approx 9$; $\bar{n} \approx 9$ $\bar{m} = x + y$



3[25]

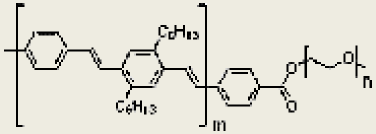
$n = 7, ..., 20$

※ **Example of rod-coil oilgomers**



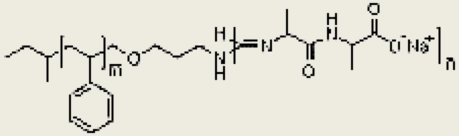
4[26]

$m = 2$; $\bar{n} \approx 100$



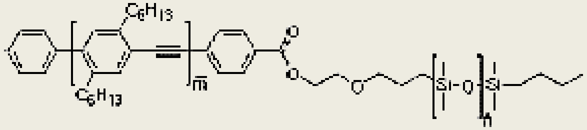
5[27]

$m = 4, 6$; $\bar{n} \approx 45 - 110$



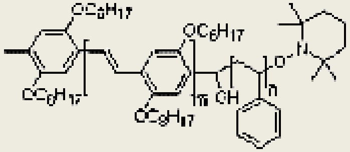
6[31]

$\bar{m} \approx 40$; $\bar{n} \approx 10, 20, 30$



7[32]

$\bar{m} = 12$; $\bar{n} \approx 15$



8[34]

$\bar{m} \approx 8$; $\bar{n} \approx 115$

8.2. A Closer Look at Microstructure

8.2.1 Block Copolymer Phase Behavior (in the "melt" state)

(1) One-component block copolymer system

- The different blocks of a block copolymer are able to segregate (microphase separation) and form domains with different morphologies.
- The stability of different morphologies
  → From an interplay between enthalpic (contact between chemically different blocks) and entropic (chain stretching, confinement, frustration) contribution to the system free energy.
  → Described in terms of a χN vs f phase (Fig 8.1)

χ : Flory-Huggins interaction parameter between the different blocks
→ Enthalpic contribution
N : degree of polymerization (copolymer molecular weight)
→ Tendency for block segregation → Entropic contribution
f : volume fraction of one block (composition variable)

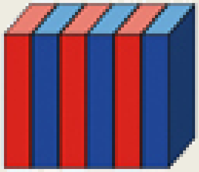
- The higher χN → higher degree of segregation between the different blocks
  → higher tendency for forming ordered microstructures
- Order-disorder transition : at $\chi N \approx 10.5$
- The morphologies (sphere, cylinder, lamellar) depend on the composition f

8.2. A Closer Look at Microstructure

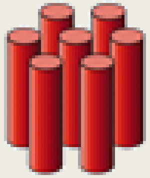
Fig 8.1 χN vs f phase diagram for symmetric AB block copolymer, predicted from mean-field theory. L (lamellar), H (hexagonal-packed cylinders), Q_{Ia3d} (gyroid), Q_{Im3m} (bcc spheres), CPS (close-packed FCC spheres), and DIS (disorderd).
Ref. M. W. Matsen and F. S. Bates, Macromolecules, 29 (1996) 478

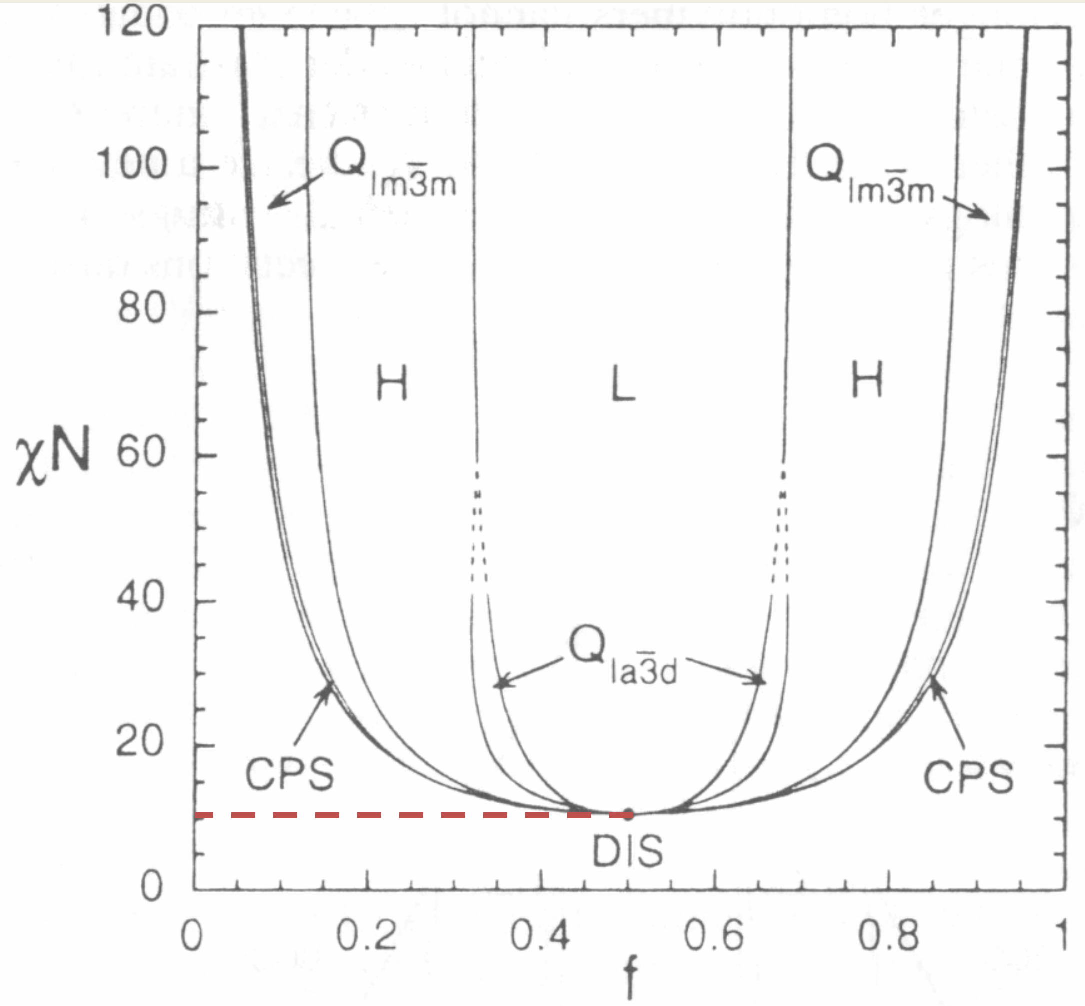
Appendix 8-3

Lammellar



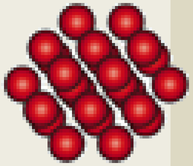
Hexagonal cylinder





Gyroid

Sphere



8.2. A Closer Look at Microstructure

(2) Two- and three-component block copolymer system

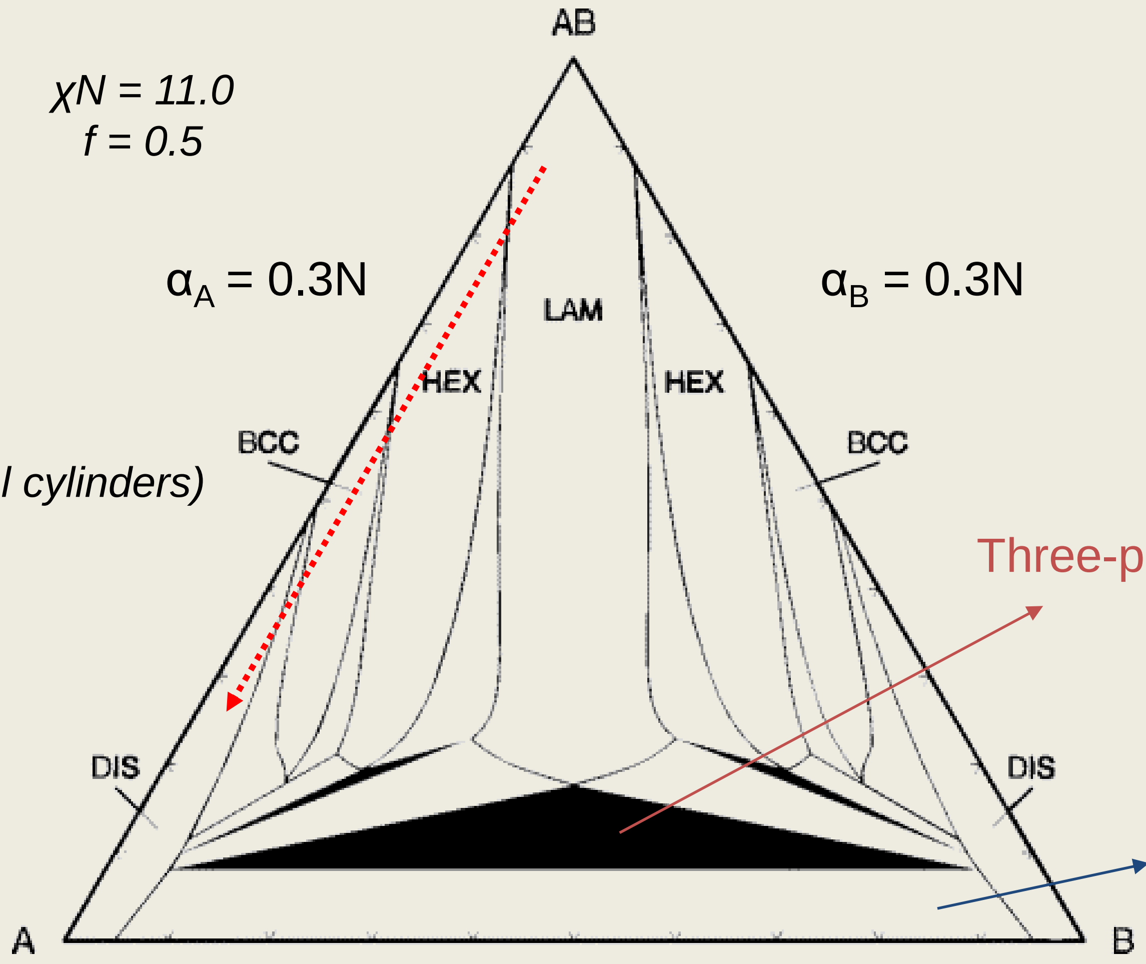
- The interfacial curvature in solvent-free block copolymers → by the composition *f*
  → At given block composition can result in only one type of microstructure
  → For different structures, different composition are required (synthesis of other polymers)
- Multicomponent system: homopolymer or copolymer added to a block copolymer
  → can result into a wide variety of morphologies
- For example, addition of an A-homopolymer to an AB-block copolymer
  → modifying the ratio of A and B: increase of A → shift the phase stability
  → predicting by self-consistent field theory (Appendix 8-4)

- Fig 8.2 : isothermal (constant χN) phase diagram
  : AB-block copolymer + A-homopolymer + B-homopolymer
  → Morphologies change: lamellar → cylinder → sphere (red dotted line)

➔ Reducing the need to synthesize a new block copolymer for a specific morphology

8.2. A Closer Look at Microstructure

Fig 8.2 Phase diagram for a symmetric AB-diblock copolymer (N) with an A-homopolymer (0.3N) and a B-homopolymer (0.3N), predicted from mean-field theory.
Three-phase coexistence; shaded and biphasic region; unlabeled
Ref. P. K. Janert and M. Schick, Macromolecules, 30 (1997) 137



$\chi N = 11.0$
$f = 0.5$

$\alpha_A = 0.3N$

$\alpha_B = 0.3N$

LAM (lamellar)
HEX (hexagonal cylinders)
DIS (disorderd).

Three-phase coexistence

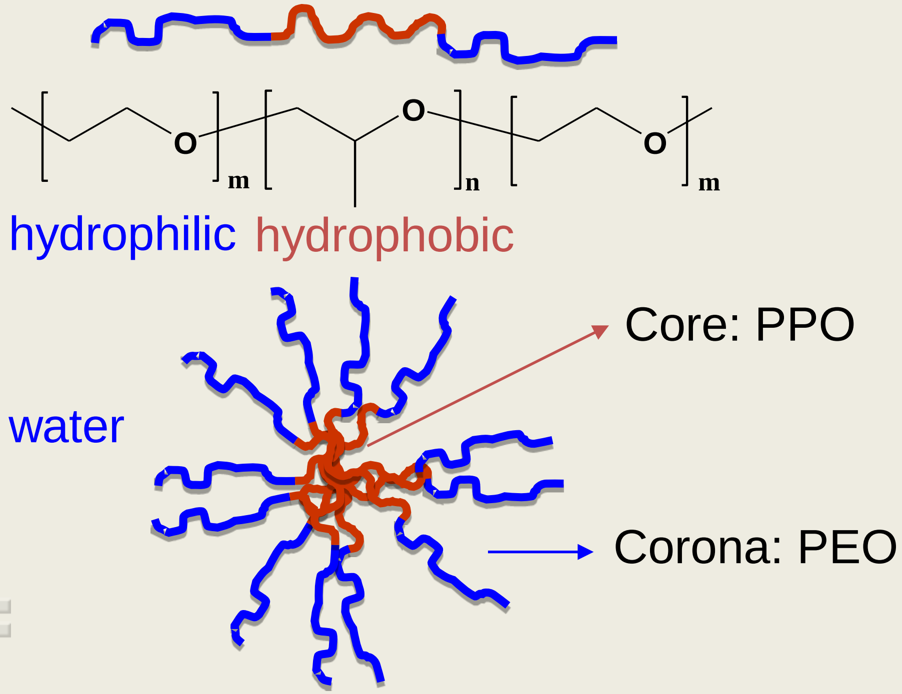
Biphasic region

8.2.2 Amphiphilic Block Copolymers in Mixtures with Water and Oil

: The main features of the self-assembly of block copolymers in binary and ternary systems with solvents and effects on self-assembly of the block copolymer MW and composition

(1) Binary amphiphilic block copolymer - water system

PEO-PPO-PEO

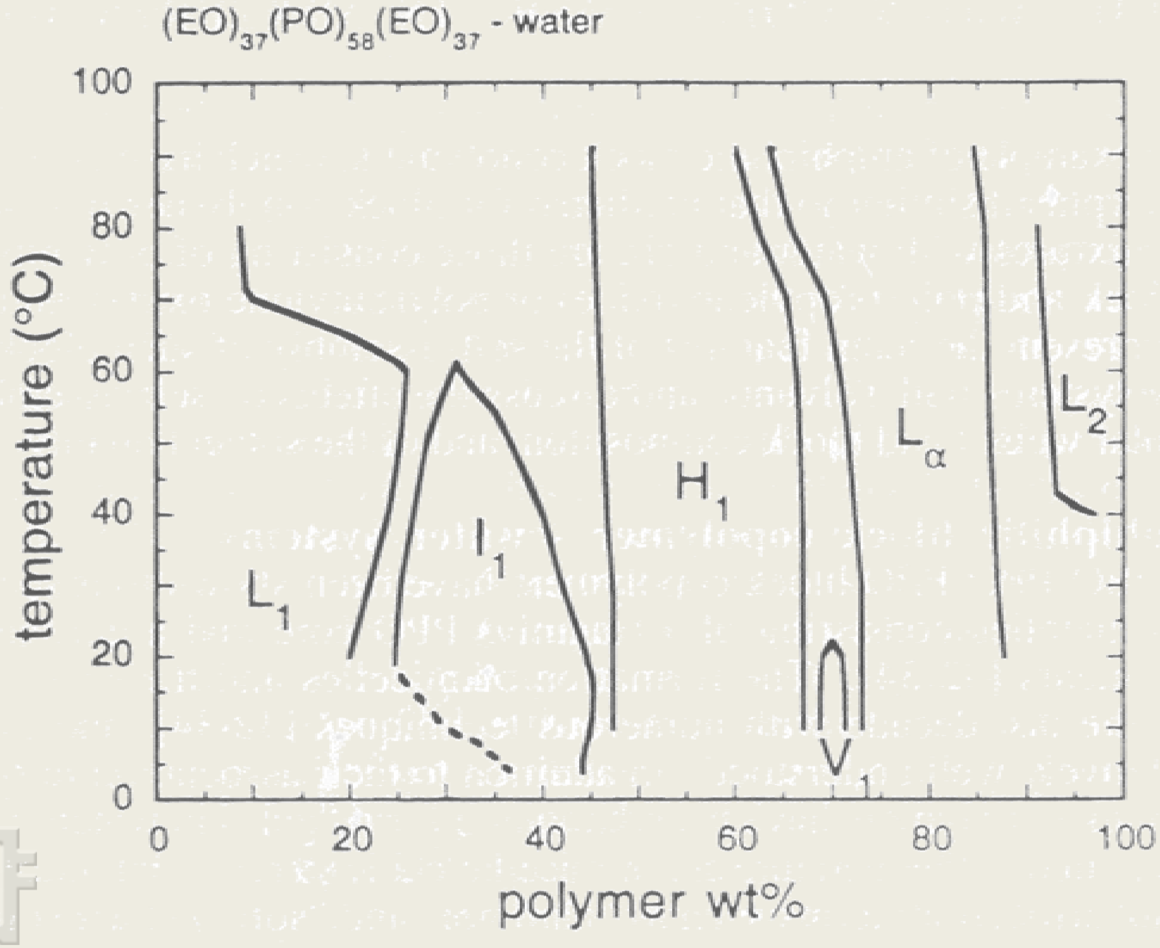


- The temperature effects on the phase behavior of copolymers → understood by invoking the <u>reverse solubility</u>
  (temperature↑ → solubility↓)
- The temp.↑
  → PEO-water and PPO-water interaction parameter χ ↑
  → PEO-PPO interaction parameter χ↓
  → hydrophobicity of the polymer ↑
  → solubility ↓
- At Fig 8.3, Lα regions shift to lower polymer concentration as the temp ↑

CNDL

8.2. A Closer Look at Microstructure

Fig 8.3 The concentration-temperature phase diagram of the $EO_{37}PO_{58}EO_{37}$ (Pluronic P105) block copolymer-H_2O binary system.
Ref. P. Alexandridis, D. Zhou, A. Khan, Langmuir, 12 (1996) 2690



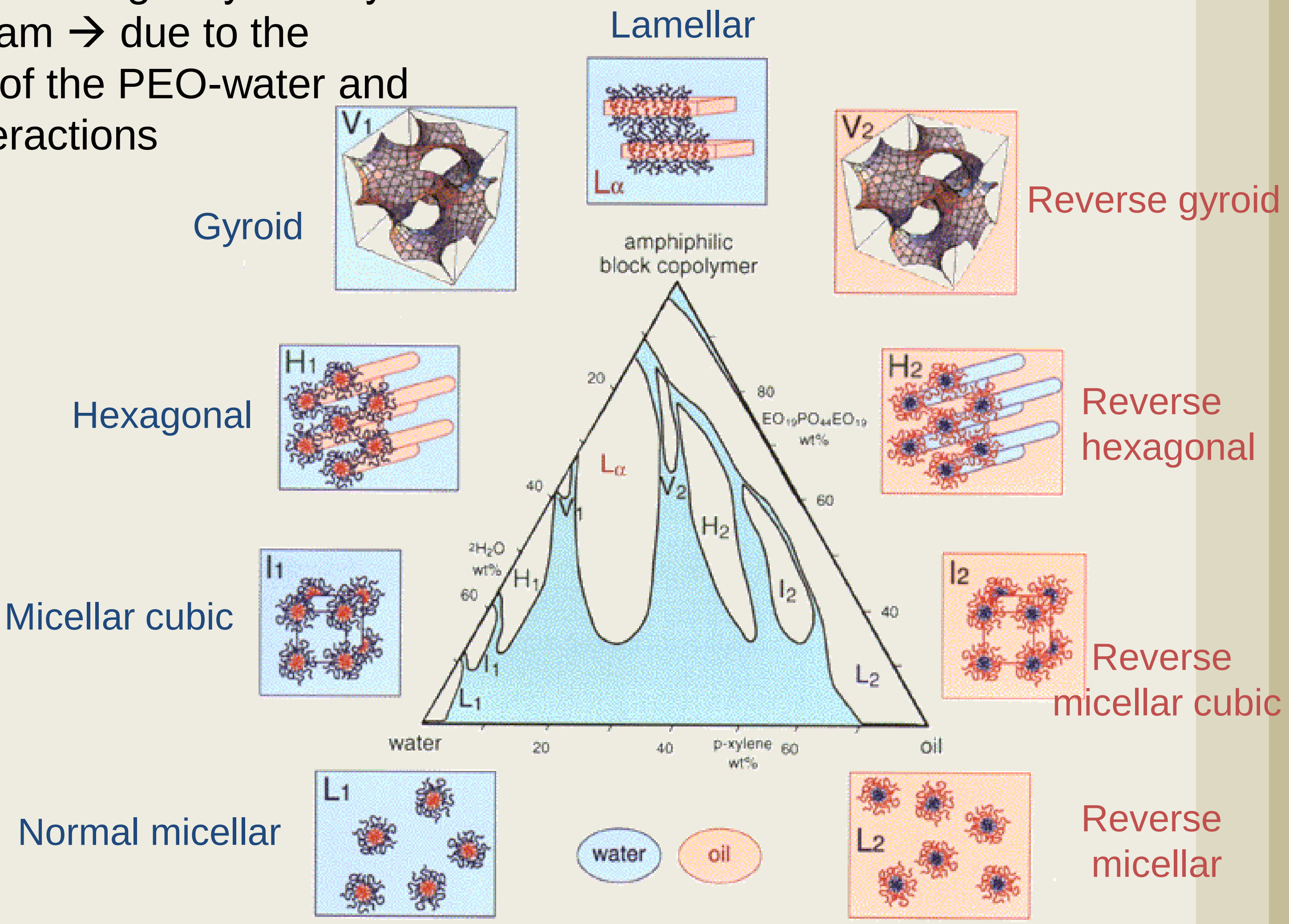
I_1 : micellar cubic
H_1 : hexagonal cylinder
V_1 : gyroid
L_α : lamellar
L_1 : water-rich solutions
L_2 : polymer-rich solutions

8.2. A Closer Look at Microstructure

(2) Ternary amphiphilic block copolymer – water – oil system

- The lack of “mirror image” symmetry in the phase diagram → due to the different nature of the PEO-water and PPO-xylene interactions

Fig 8.4 Phase diagram of the $(EO)_{19}(PO)_{43}(EO)_{19}$ -H_2O- p-xylene ternary system.



Lamellar

Gyroid

Reverse gyroid

Hexagonal

Reverse hexagonal

Micellar cubic

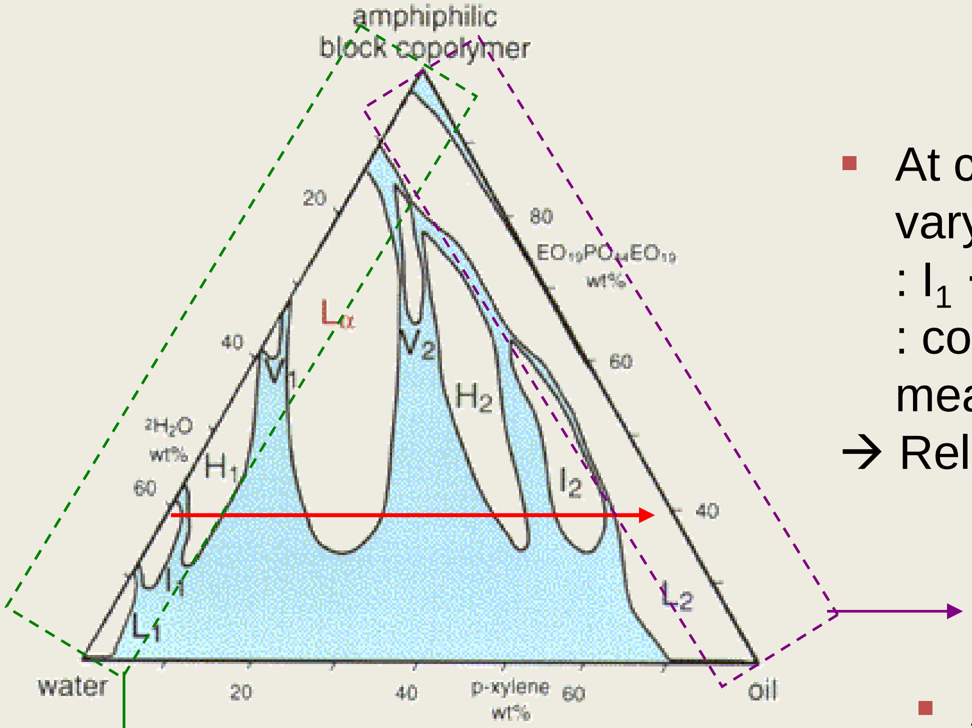
Reverse micellar cubic

Normal micellar

Reverse micellar

8.2. A Closer Look at Microstructure

(3) Progression of microstructure in block copolymer



- At constant copolymer content (40 wt%), varying the water/oil ratio → phase changes
  : $I_1 \rightarrow H_1 \rightarrow L_\alpha \rightarrow H_2 \rightarrow I_2 \rightarrow L_2$ (→)
  : consistent with a decreasing interfacial mean curvature (H); H=0 in lamellar phase

→ Relates to geometric factor (Appendix 8-1)

Fig 8.5 (bottom)

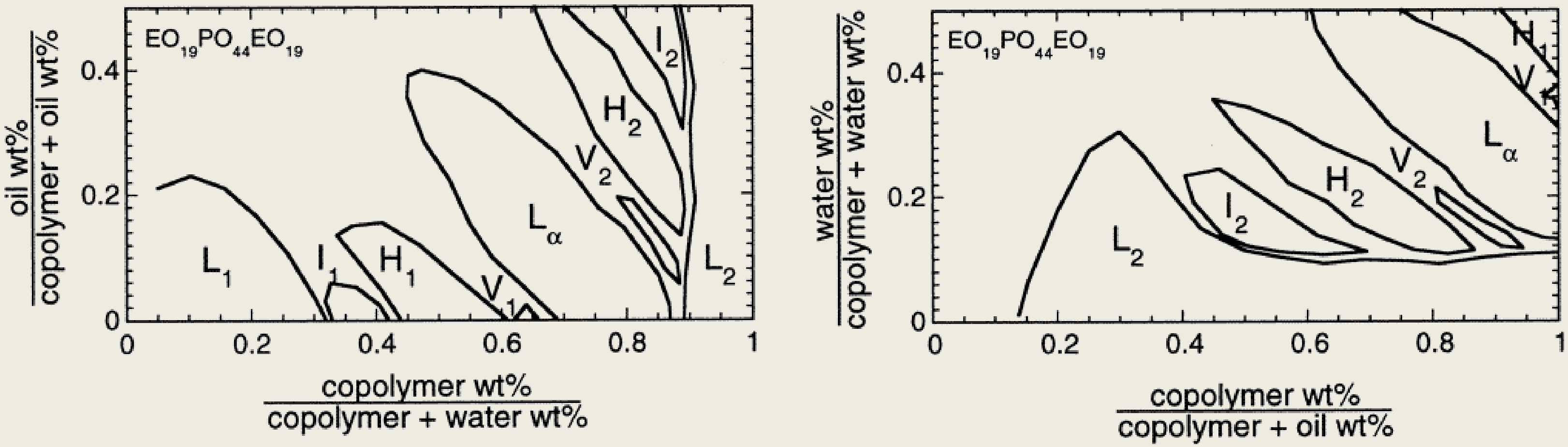
- At constant copolymer/water ratio

Fig 8.5 (top)

- At constant copolymer/oil ratio
  : $L_1 \rightarrow I_1 \rightarrow H_1 \rightarrow V_1 \rightarrow L_\alpha \rightarrow L_2$

8.2. A Closer Look at Microstructure

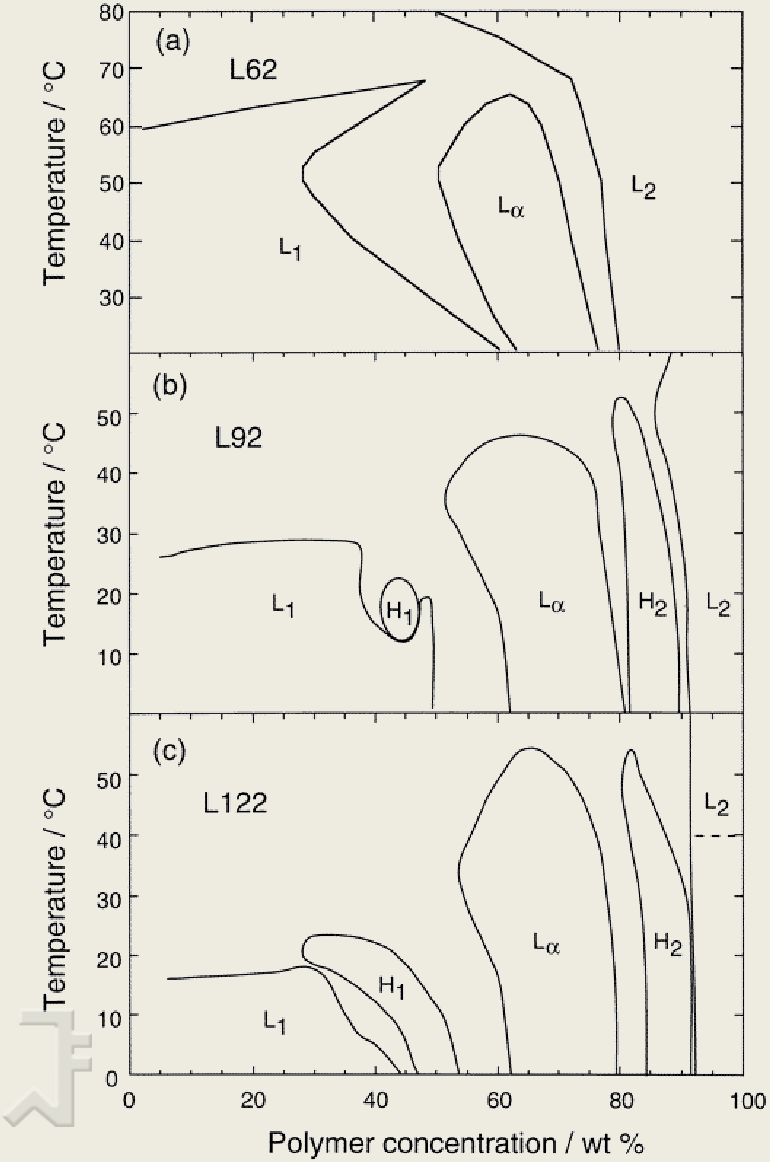
Fig 8.5 (top) Boundaries of the various phases along the copolymer-water side of the ternary phase diagram (x-axis: copolymer weight fraction; y-axis: oil weight fraction). (bottom) Boundaries of the various phases along the copolymer-oil side of the ternary phase diagram (x-axis: copolymer weight fraction; y-axis: water weight fraction).



- For a PEO/PPO block copolymer of a given block composition and molecular weight, the types of structures appear to be a function of the volume fraction of the polar (water-like) / apolar (oil-like) components.
- The microstructure in such systems is not tied up to a specific block copolymer molecular weight and block composition, which define a point in the χN vs f phase diagram

8.2. A Closer Look at Microstructure

(4) Effect of block copolymer molecular weight



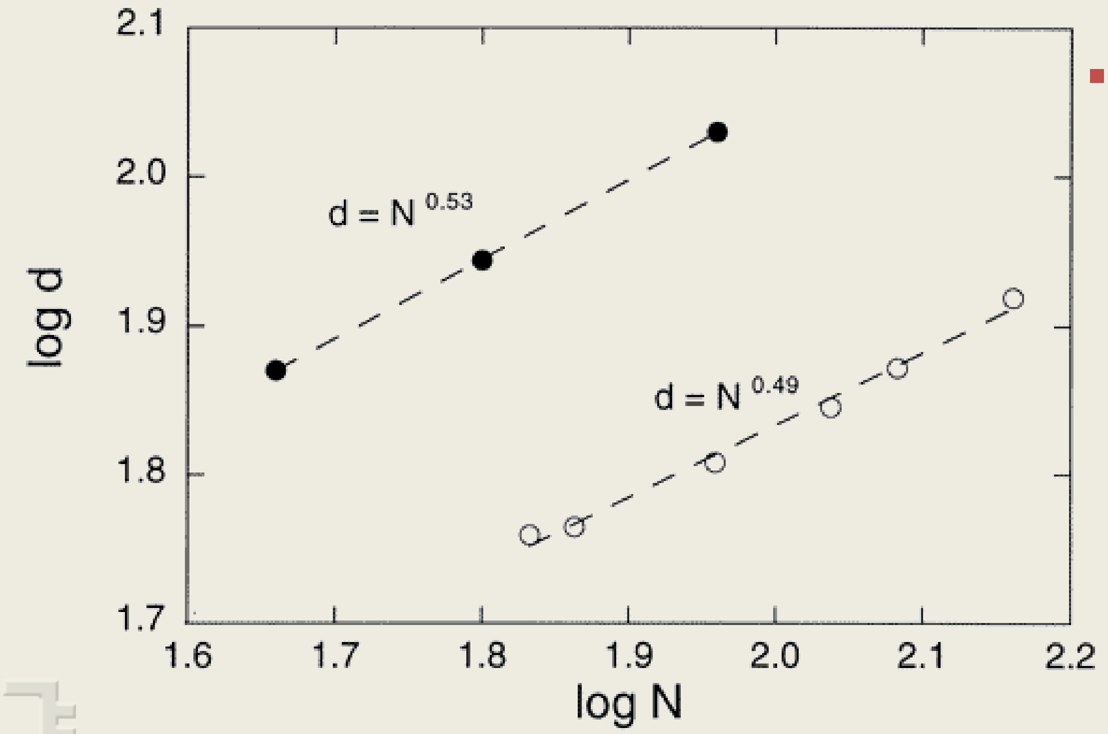
- An increase in copolymer MW → increase the block segregation and the tendency for organization
- Fig 8.6 confirms that a certain minimum MW is required for PEO and PPO blocks to segregate
  (a) only one mesophase L_α
  (b), (c) three mesophase and the increase of the range of the hexagonal regions when L92 → L122

Fig 8.6 Concentration-temperature phase diagrams for the (a) Pluronic L62/water, (b) Pluronic L92/water, and (c) Pluronic L122/water systems. L62, L92, and L122 have the same EO/PO ratio but different molecular weight (increasing in the order L62<L92<L122).

8.2. A Closer Look at Microstructure

- An important result from the study of MW affects concerns the dependence of the lamellar characteristic spacing on the polymer MW

Fig 8.8 Logarithm of the lamellar domain spacing d, vs the logarithm of number of polymer monomers N, for aqueous solution of Pluronic L62, L92, and L122 at 75 wt% (filled symbols) and calculated values from mean field theory (open symbols)



- $d \sim N^{1/2}$
  → characteristic of a random coil
  → the block copolymer chains are in the weak segregation regime

8.2. A Closer Look at Microstructure

(5) Effect of block copolymer composition

- The block composition is the main determinant of the microstructure observed in solvent-free block copolymers, and the chemical composition of typical surfactants affects their hydrophile/lipophile ratio and self-assembly properties.

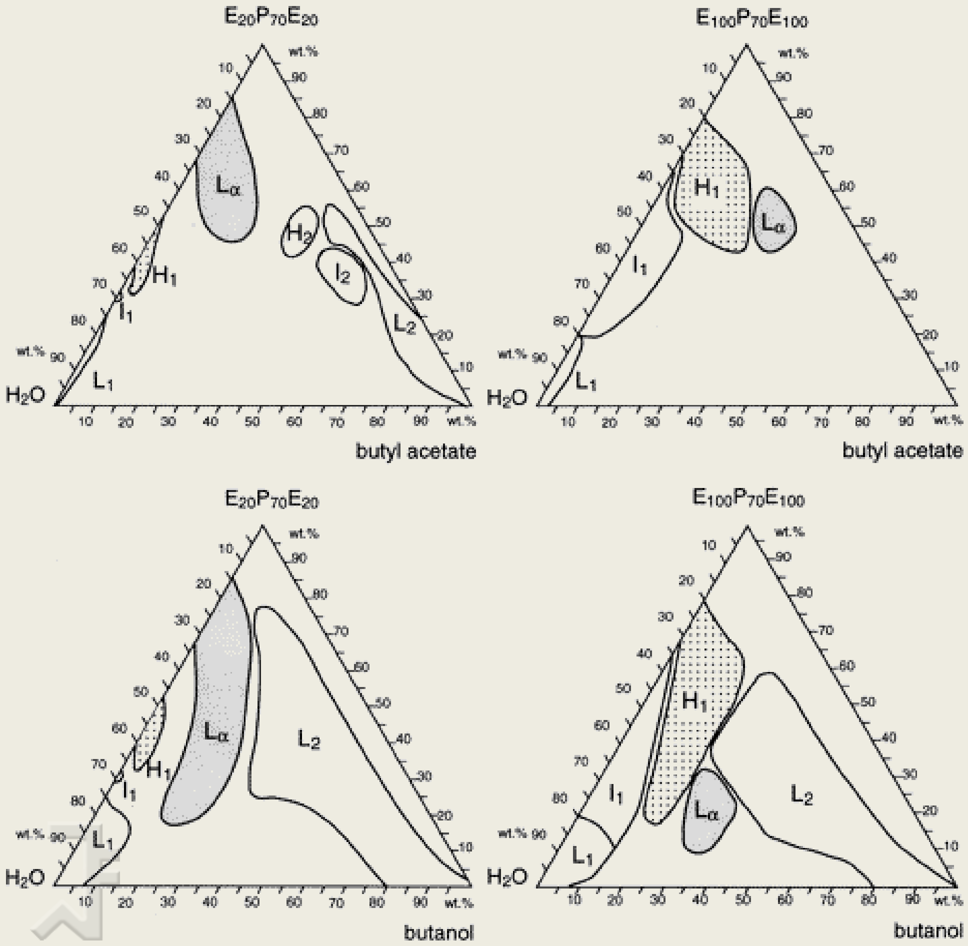
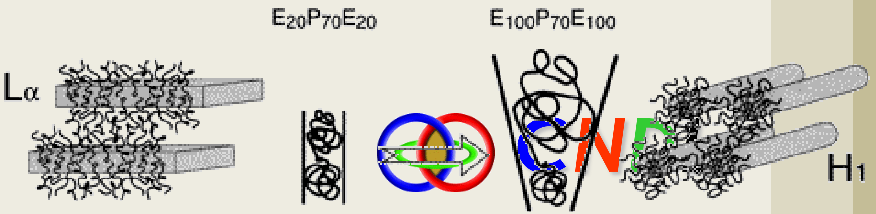


Fig 8.8 Phase diagrams of the copolymer-oil-water ternary systems.

The change in phase behavior when

(i) the size of the copolymer E block changes from E_{20} to E_{100}

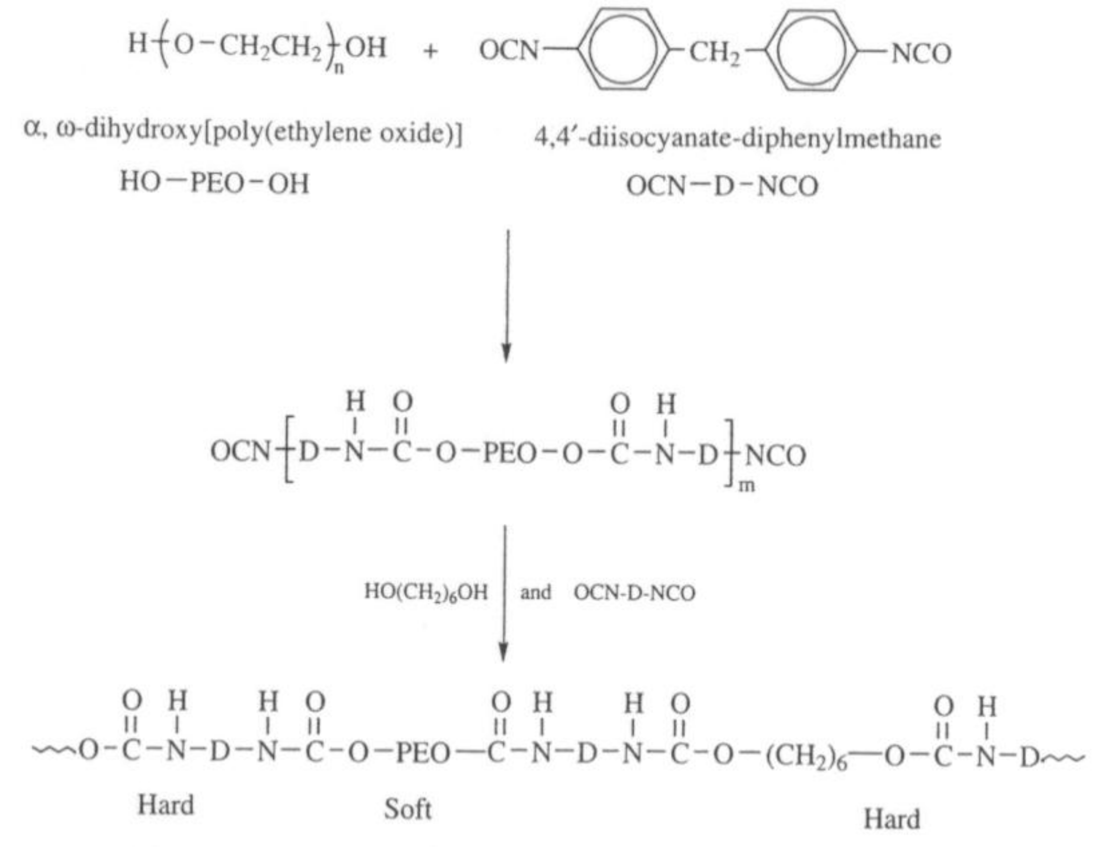
(ii) the "oil“ changes from butyl acetate to butanol (top to bottom). The schematic represents the change of the self-organization of the amphiphilic block copolymers from the lamellar (L) to the normal hexagonal (H_1) structures upon an increase of the E block size and the corresponding increase in the interfacial curvature. The shaded areas represent the apolar domains.



8.3. Applications of Copolymers

8.3.1 Commercialized applications

- TPU
  → linear multiblock copolymer
  → the first commercially available TPEs which based on polyurethanes
  → automotive bumpers, snowmobile treads, etc.

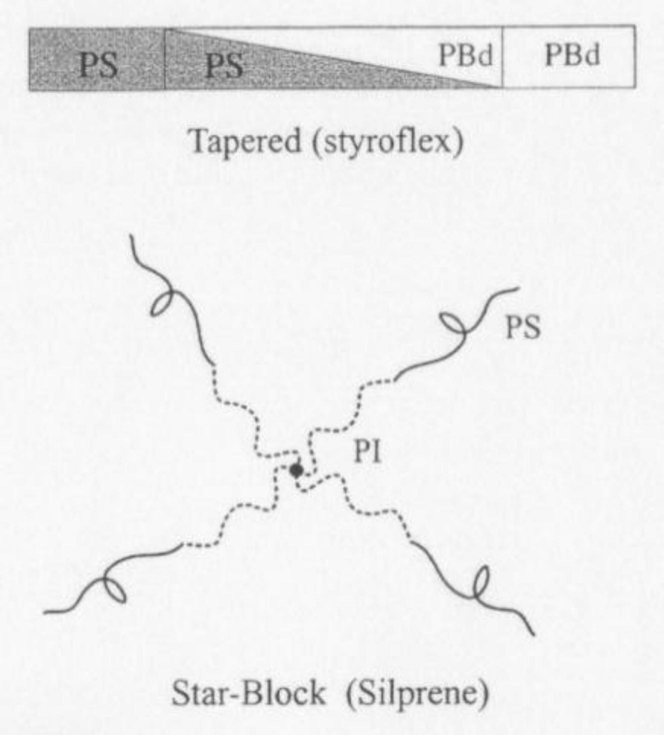


Scheme.
General reactions scheme for the synthesis of TPU

8.3. Applications of Copolymers

- Kraton – shell introduced the styrenic TPEs

→ linear triblock copolymer, made by anionic polymerization
→ well-defined materials with low molecular weight and compositional heterogeneity
→ include footwear, bitumen modification, thermoplastic blending, adhesive, and cable insulation and gaskets.



Scheme.
Tapered and star block copolymers

8.3. Applications of Copolymers

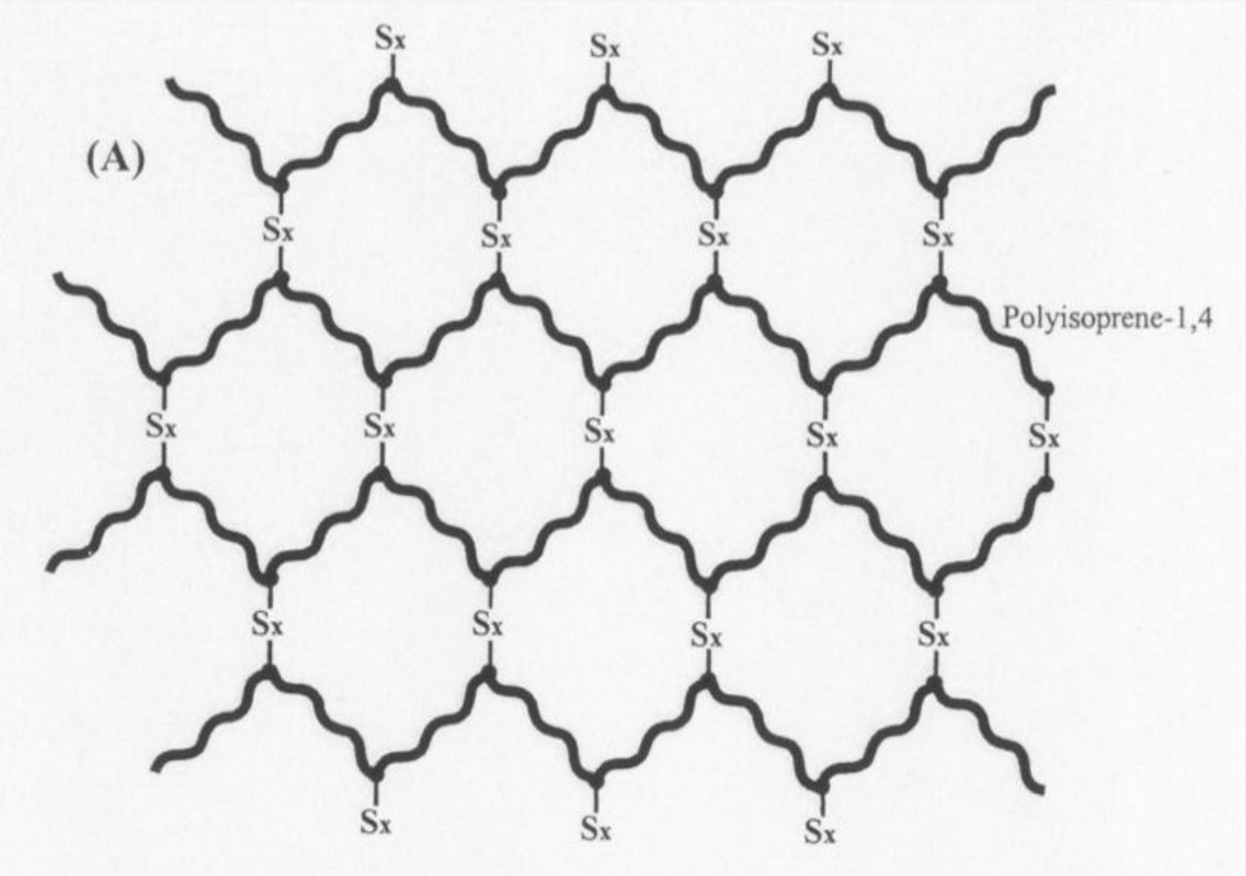
• TPEs based on polyesters, TEPS (du Pont), and polyamides, TPA (Huls and Ato Chimie)
→Linear or polyamide multiblock copolymers
→Linked together by ester or amide linkage instead of urethane
→hose tubing, sport goods, automotive components, etc.

•All TPEs exhibit properties characteristic of chemically crosslinked elastomers at room temperature
→ At elevated temperature, behave as thermoplastics.
•They can be processed with high speed, efficiency and economy on conventional thermoplastic equipment.
•TPEs were considered to be one of the breakthroughs in rubber technology.

• On the molecular level,
Thermoplasticity – consequence of noncrosslinked chains
Thermoelasticity – consequence of crosslinked chains

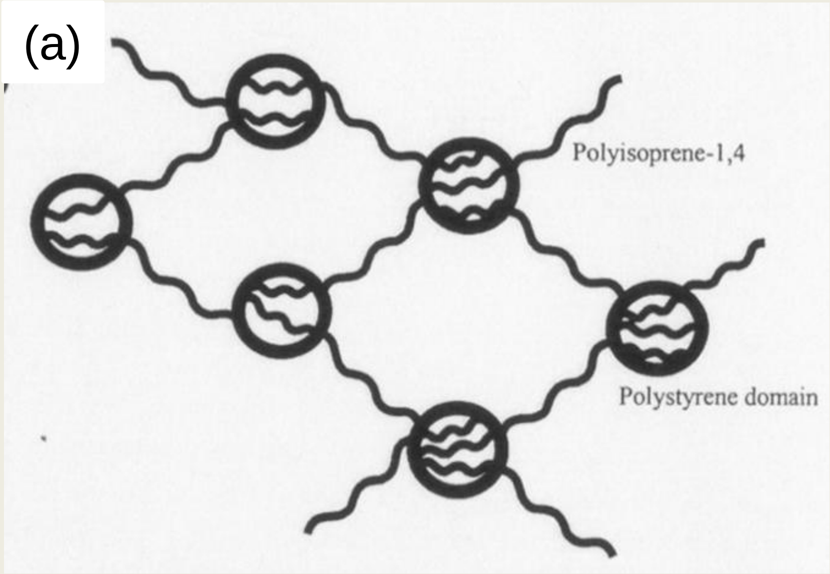
8.3. Applications of Copolymers

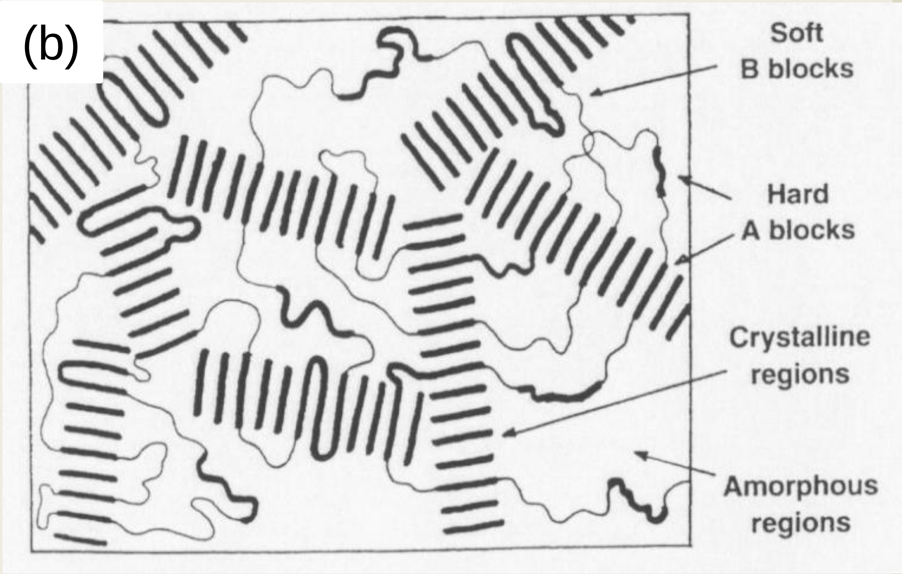
- In TPEs the crosslinks are physical rather than chemical, which is the case of vulcanized rubber.
- Thus, the hard domains lose their strength when the material is heated (thermoreversible) or dissolved in a solvent (solvoreversible).



8.3. Applications of Copolymers

- Thermoplastic elasticity is illustrated schematically for (a) styrenic TPEs and (b) multiblock TPEs.





- Crystallinity (TPES, TPA), hydrogen bonding (TPU,TPA), and van der Waals interactions (styrenic) all have been shown to cause microphase separation in these systems.

8.3. Applications of Copolymers

- Triblock copolymers with polydienes end blocks and diblock copolymers are not TPEs because the flexible chains are not immobilized at both ends by the glassy hard domains of PS and, consequently, cannot be elastic.

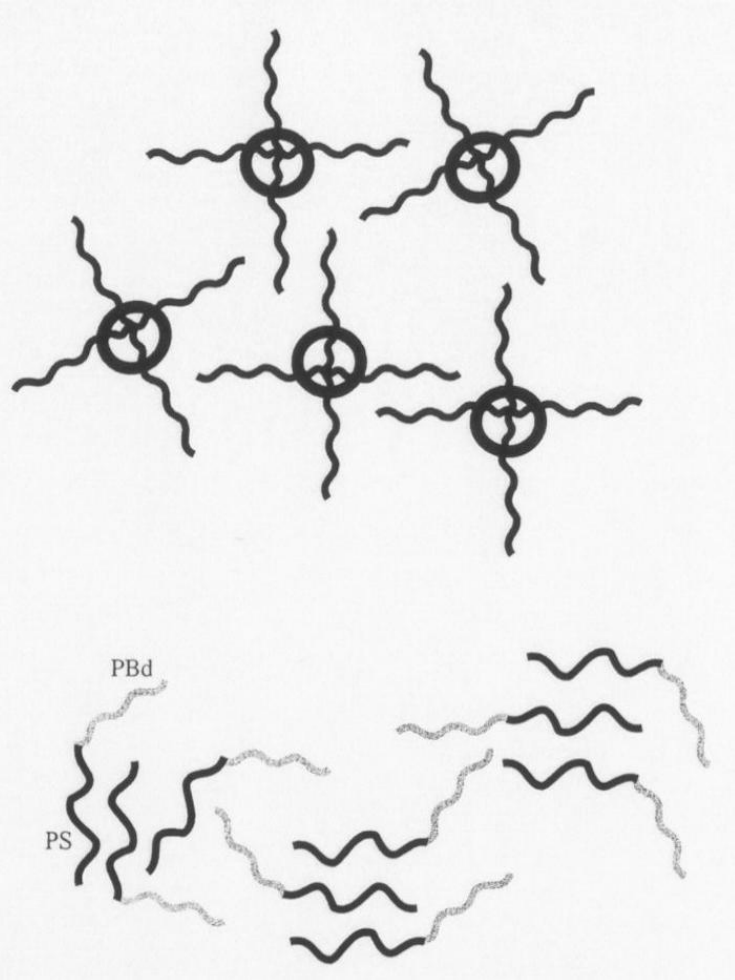


Figure 8.9
Styrenic triblock copolymer with polydiene external block or diblock copolymers (styrene or PU) are not elastic.

8.3. Applications of Copolymers

8.3.2 Potential Applications

(1) Drug release in target cells

- A block copolymer for use in drug delivery as a microcontainer device must consist of a water-soluble block(hydrophilic), in order to impart blood solubility of the microcontainer, and a water-insoluble block (hydrophobic) compatible with the drug to be carried.

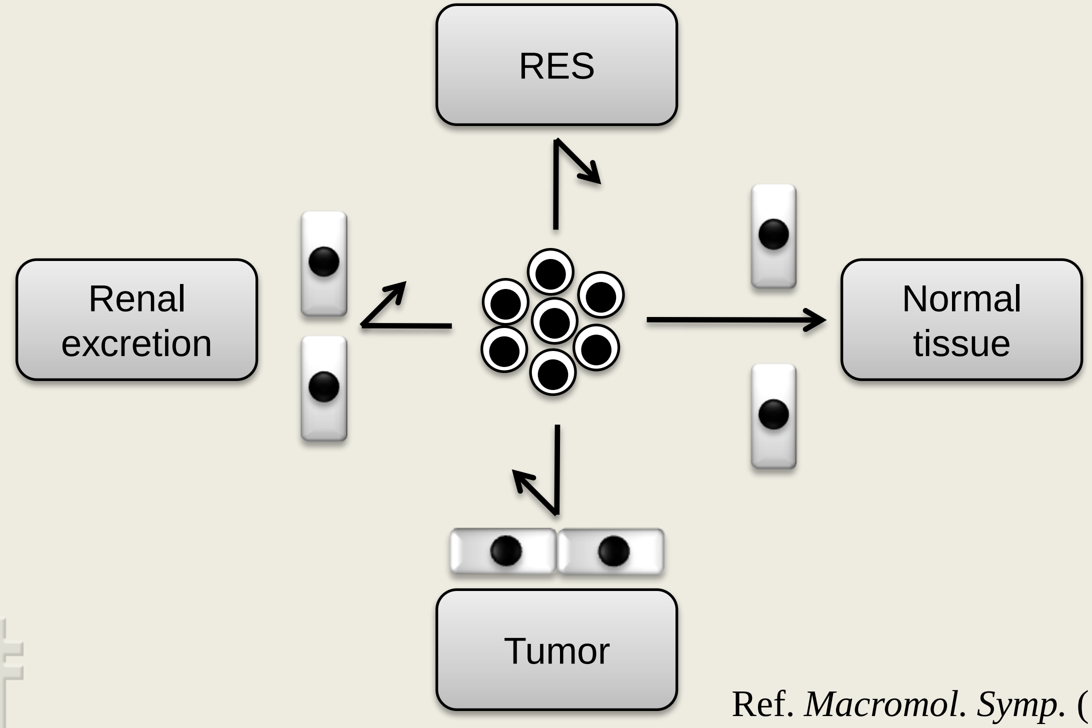


Figure 8.10
Accumulation of micelle-forming microcapsules in a tumor utilizing enhanced permeability of tumor vasculature

Ref. *Macromol. Symp.* (1997) **118**, 577

8.3. Applications of Copolymers

(2) Nanopatterning

- Sizes less than 30nm are not easily obtained standard lithography (photolithography, electron beam lithography).
- One way to overcome this problem is by using block copolymer

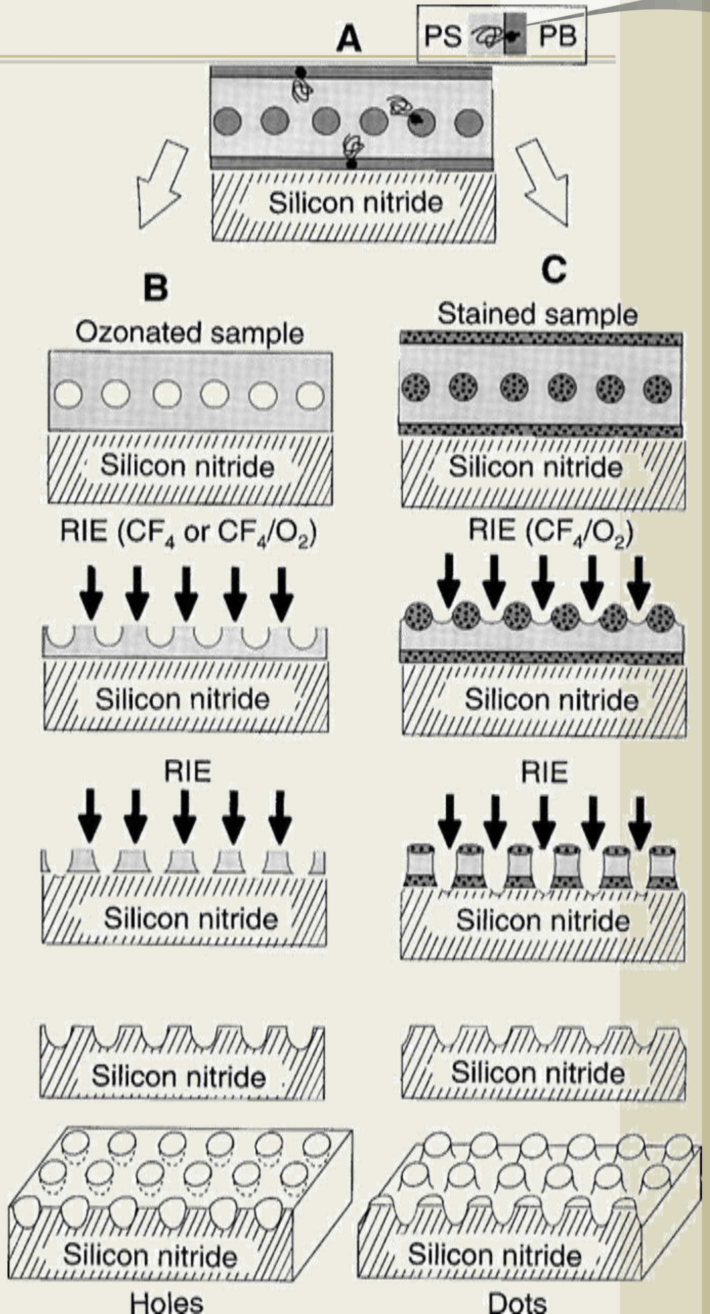


Fig. 8.11 (A) Schematic cross-sectional view of a nanolithography template consisting of a uniform monolayer of PB spherical microdomains on silicon nitride. PB wets the air and substrate interfaces. (B) Schematic of the processing flow when an ozonated copolymer film is used, which produces holes in silicon nitride. (C) Schematic of the processing flow when an osmium-stained copolymer film is used, which produces dots in silicon nitride.
Ref. Science (1997) 276, 1401

8.3. Applications of Copolymers

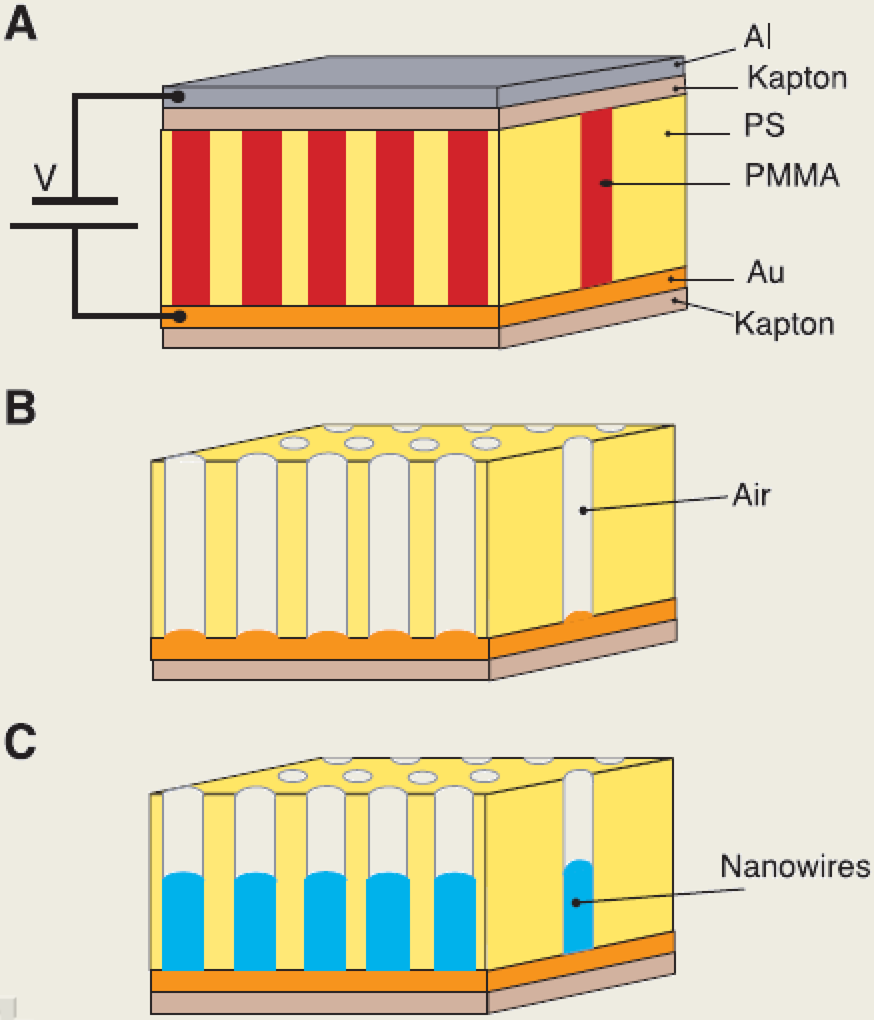


Fig. 8.12**.** A schematic representation of high density nanowire fabrication in a polymer matrix.
(**A)** An asymmetric diblock copolymer annealed above the glass transition temperature of the copolymer between two electrodes under an applied electric field, forming a hexagonal array of cylinders oriented normal to the film surface. (**B)** After removal of the minor component, a nanoporous film is formed. (**C)** By electrode position, nanowires can be grown in the porous template, forming an array of nanowires in a polymer matrix.

Ref. *Science* (2000) **290**, 2126.

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8.3. Applications of Copolymers

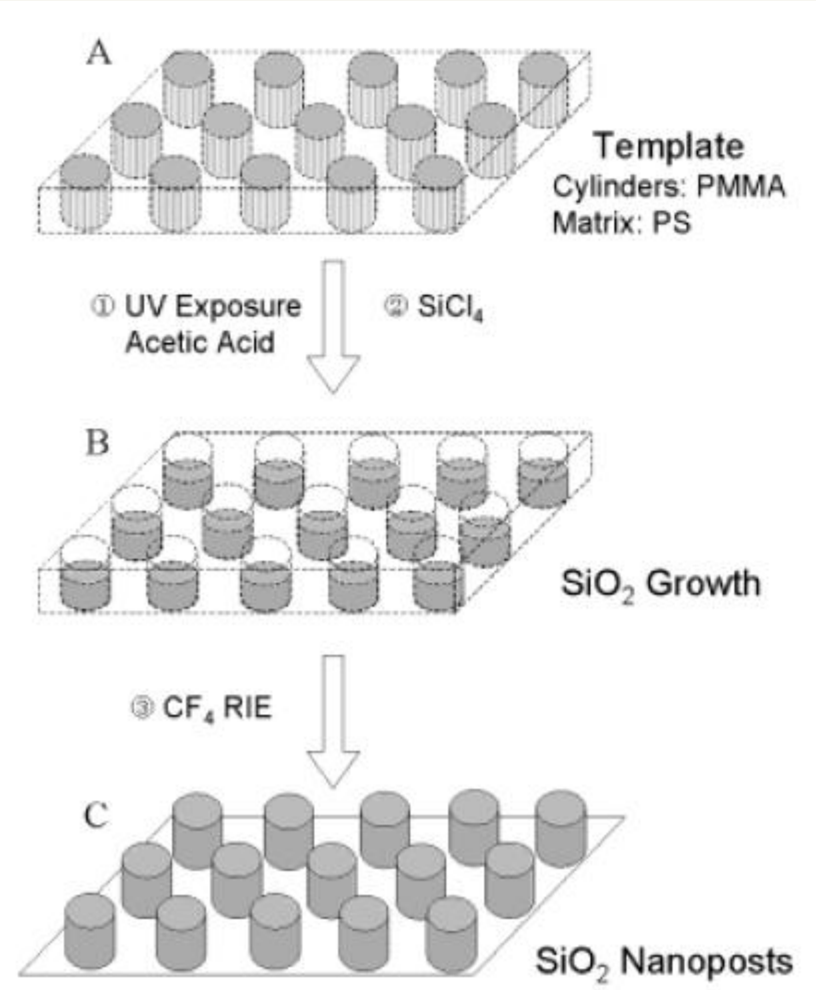

Fig. 8.13 Schematic diagram of the steps required to generate SiO_2 nanoposts.

A) Block copolymer films having cylindrical microdomains oriented normal to the surface. B) Growth of SiO_2 within the nanopores generated by selective elimination of PMMA cylinders. C) Array of SiO_2 nanoposts after removing PS matrix with CF_4 RIE.

Ref. *Adv. Mater.* (2001) **13**, 795.

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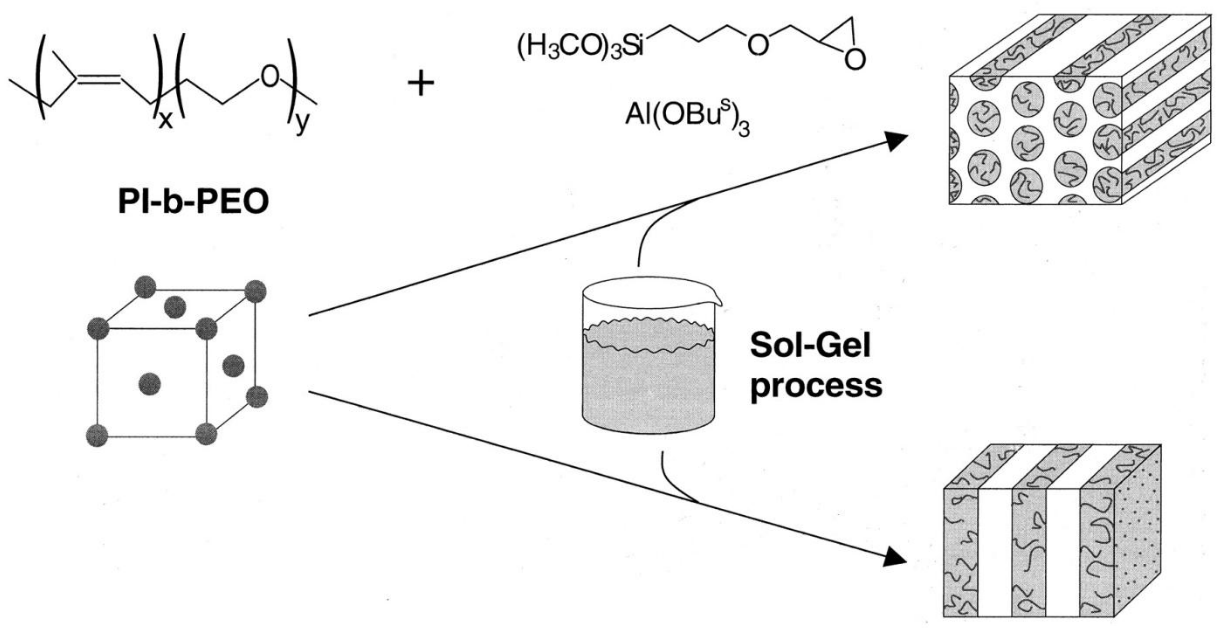
8.3. Applications of Copolymers

(3) Organic-inorganic hybrid mesostructures

- By using an amphiphilic block copolymer as a structure-directing agent, organic-inorganic hybrid materials with nanoscale structures can be prepared.



Figu 8.14 Schematic drawing of our approach for synthesizing organically modified silica mesostructures.
Ref. Science (1997) 278, 1795.

8.3. Applications of Copolymers

- By thermal treatment, single ceramic nanoobjects of different shapes and sizes can be prepared.

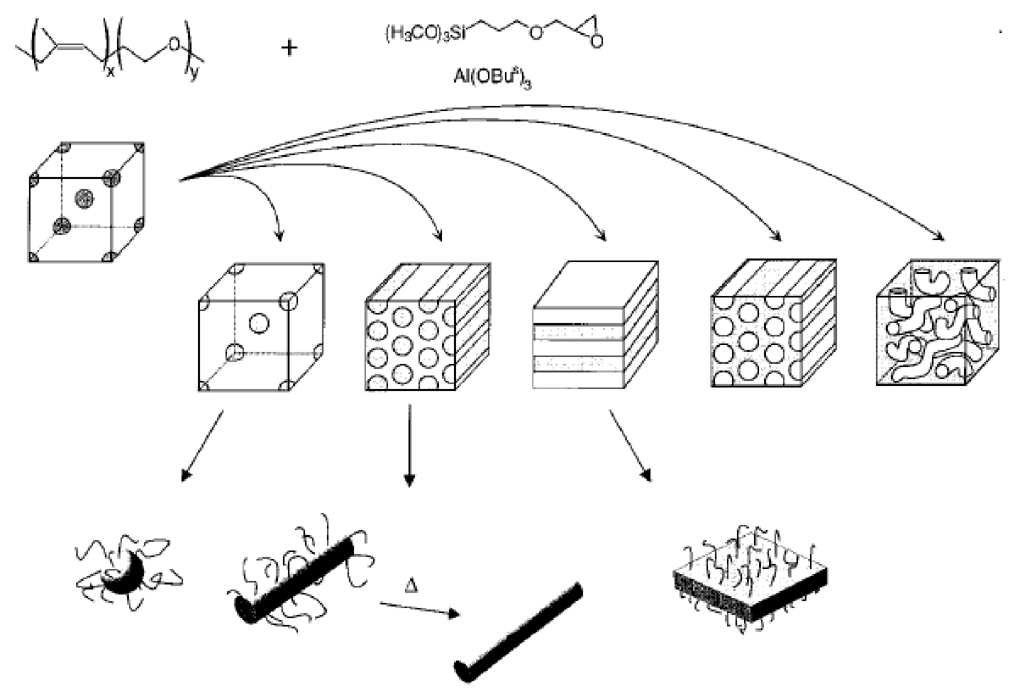


Fig. 8.15 Schematic drawing of our approach for synthesis of single nano-objects with controlled shape, size, and composition. In the upper part all morphologies obtained from PI-b-PEO and different amounts of metal alkoxides are shown. As displayed in the lower part of the figure, the single “hairy” hybrid nano-objects of different shape are isolated by dissolution.

Ref. *Adv. Mater.* (1999) **11**, 141.

Keywords in Chapter 9

- Five regions of viscoelastic behavior

- DSC (Differential Scanning Calorimetry)

- The free volume theory for glass transition

- The Gibbs and DiMarzio theory for glass transition

-Factors Influencing on the glass transition temperature

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