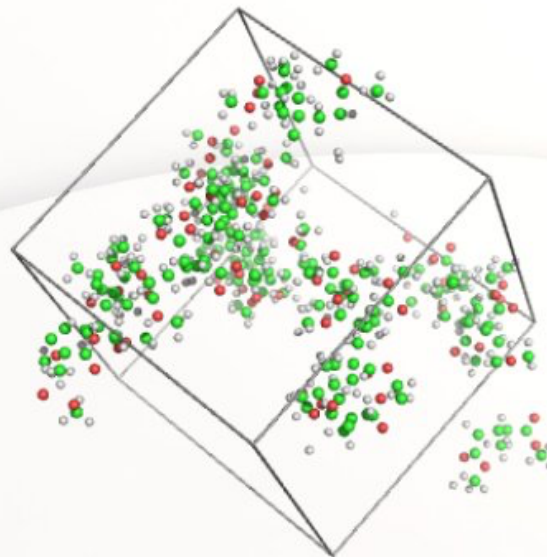


Exploring the Nano World: Building Nanoscale Structures with Polymer Modeler

Friday, June 9, 2023

2:00 - 3:00 PM EDT



Dr. Tongtong (Tanya) Shen
System Model & Algorithm
iPhone Hardware
Apple Inc.

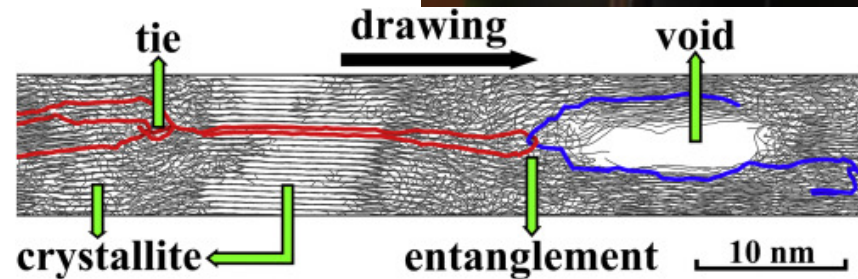
Exploring the Nano World: Building Nanoscale Structures with Polymer Modeler

Crystalization
Lightweight Plastic Materials

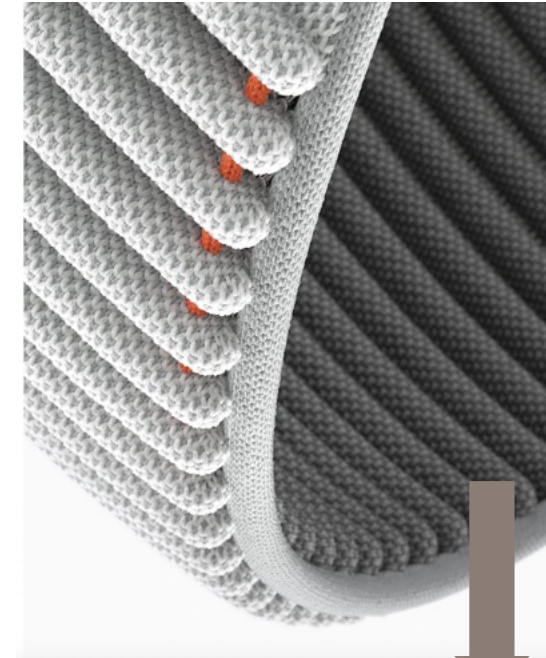
Exploring the Nano World



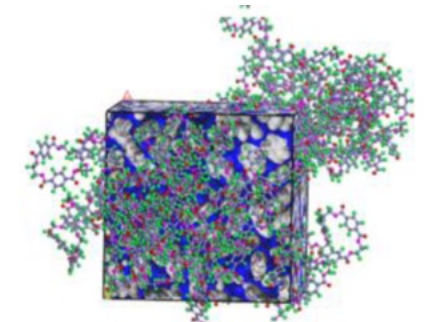
HDPE (High-density polyethylene)



Transfer fabric materials



60%~70% polyester



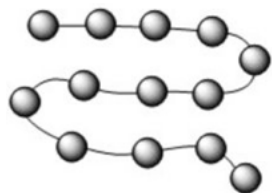
6/9/23

For illustration purpose only, not real material breakdown, Google images

What are Polymer Materials?

Polymers are materials made of long, repeating chains of molecules.

Thermoplastic



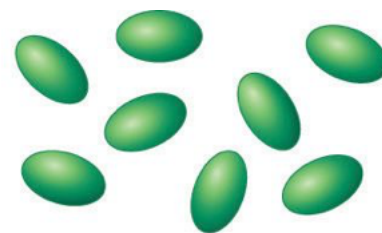
Thermoplastics are materials which become soft when heated and hard when cooled.

Polyvinyl chloride (PVC)

Polyethylene(PE)



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Monomers



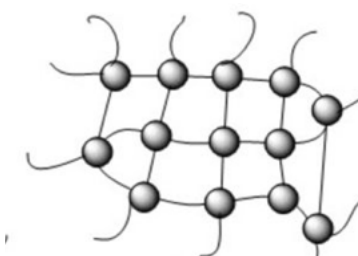
Polymerization



Polymer

(Image credit: LibreTexts)

Thermoset



Thermosets, materials that are irreversibly hardened by curing from a soft solid or viscous liquid prepolymer or resin.

Fiber-reinforced materials



P.R.O. Transfer fabric



Melamine-resin plate

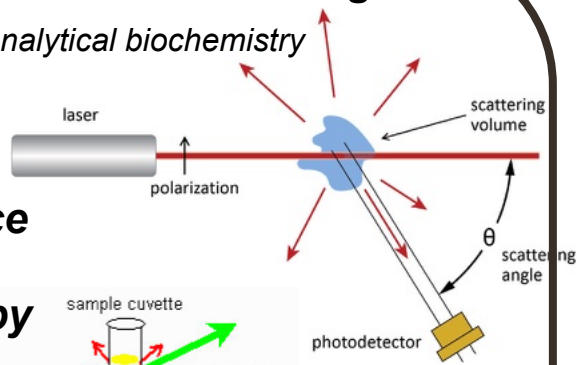
3

Polymer Science Paradigm

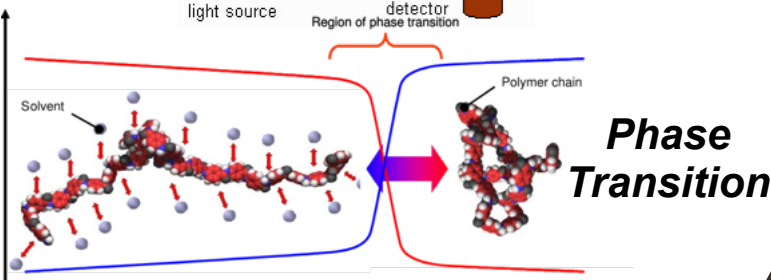
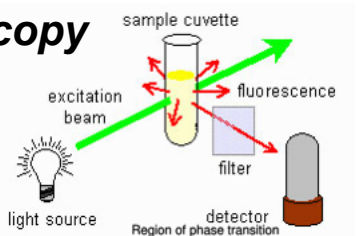
Experimental

Light & Neutron Scattering

Minton, Allen P. *Analytical biochemistry* 2016



Fluorescence & NMR Spectroscopy

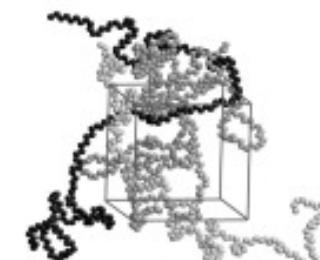
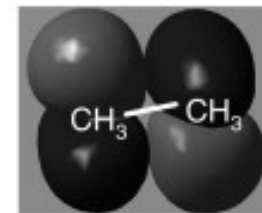


6/9/23 Richter, Andreas, et al. *Sensors* 2008

Simulation

Quantum Models

$$H(t) \left| \Psi(t) \right\rangle = i\hbar \frac{d}{dt} \left| \Psi(t) \right\rangle$$

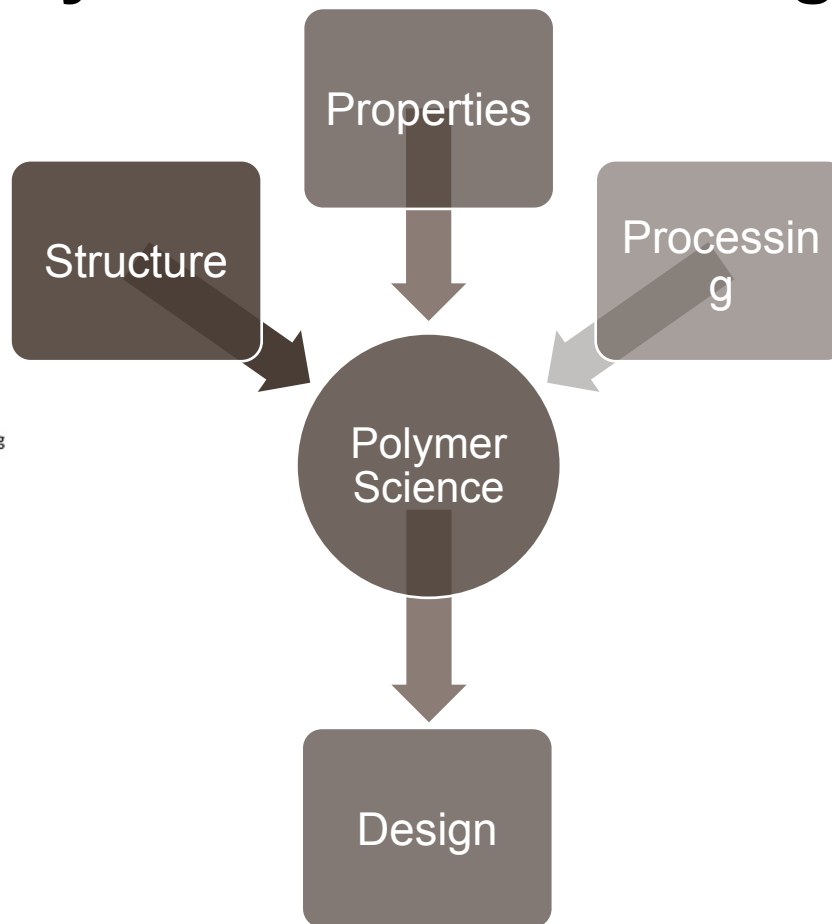
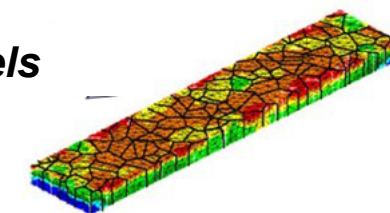
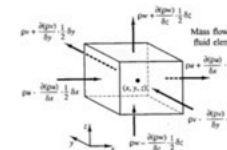


Classical Models

$$\vec{F} = m\vec{a} = -\nabla_r V(r)$$

Alemán, Carlos, et al. *Journal of Molecular Structure* 2009

Continuum Models

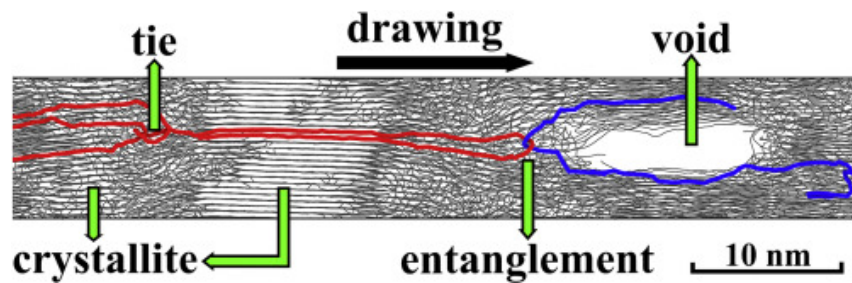


Polymer Modeler Advanced Case Study: Polyethylene Crystallization

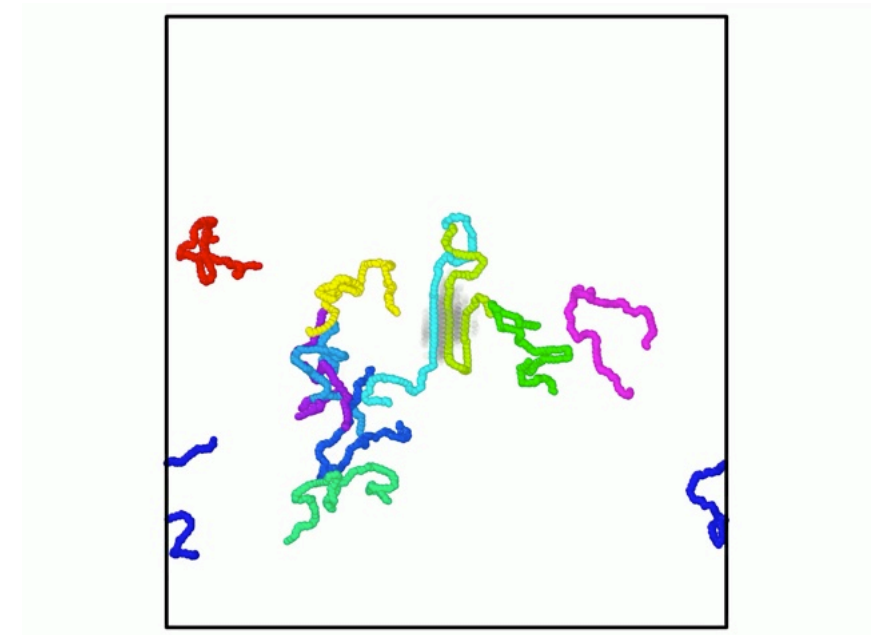
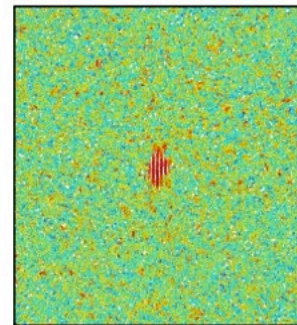
Lightweight Plastic Materials



HDPE (High-density polyethylene)



$T_m \sim 137^\circ\text{C}/278\text{F}$



$137^\circ\text{C}/278\text{K} - 150 \text{ fs}$

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Polymer Modeler Advanced Case Study: Polyethylene Crystallization

77°C/152F – 100 ns

Induced Nucleation Starts **5 ns**

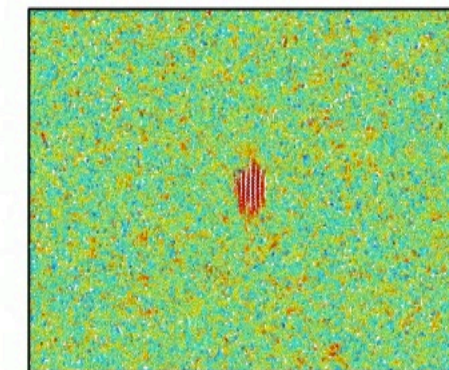
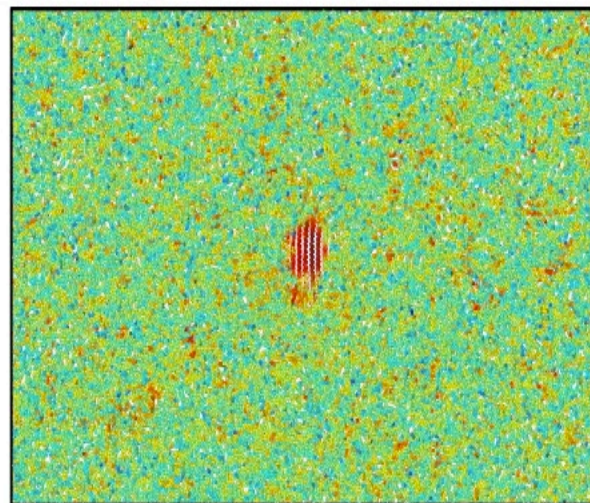
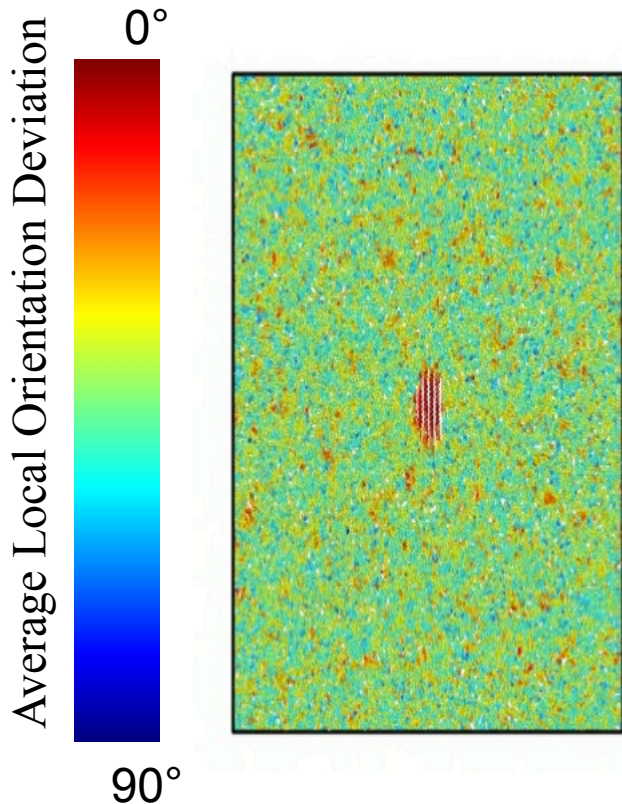
97°C/188F – 100 ns

Induced Nucleation Starts **14 ns**

117°C/224F – 100 ns

Induced Nucleation Starts **35 ns**

Temperature 



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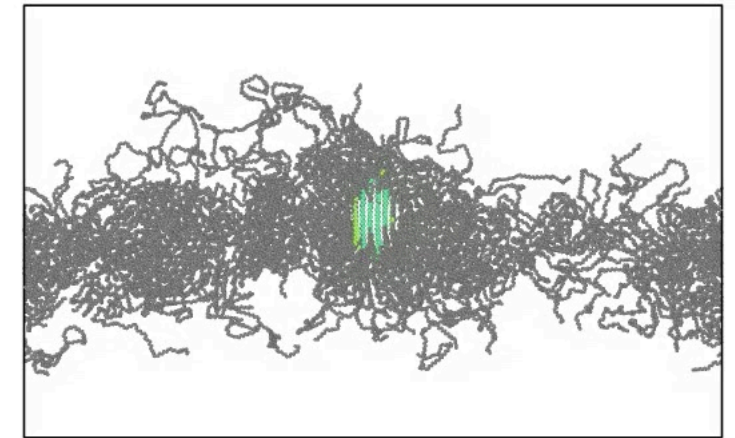
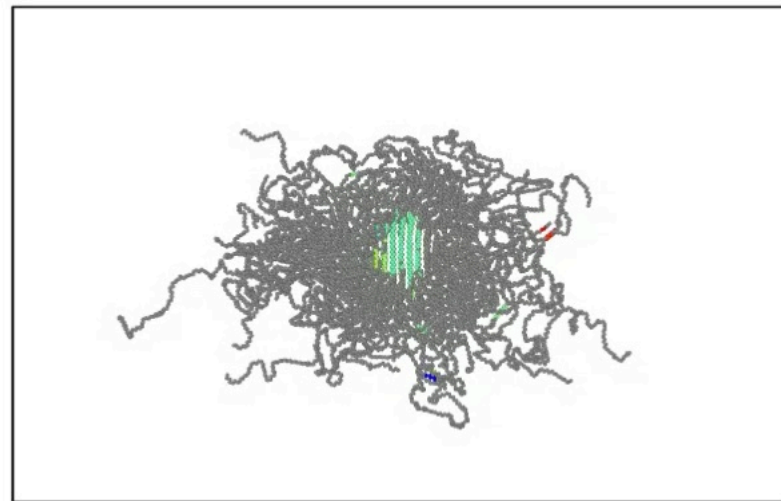
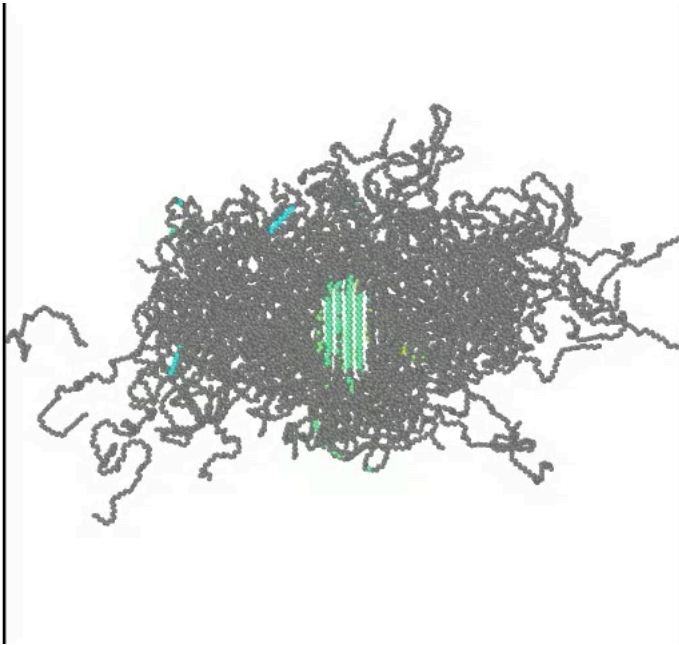
6

Polymer Modeler Advanced Case Study: Polyethylene Crystallization

77°C/152F – 100 ns

97°C/188F – 100 ns

117°C/224F – 100 ns

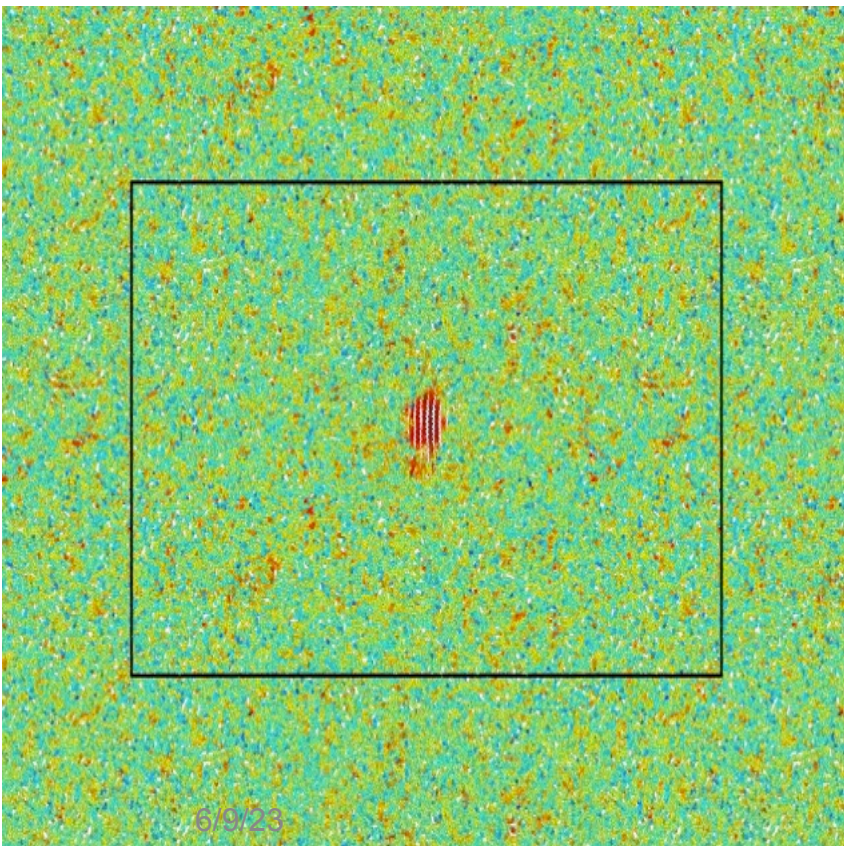


Changing of the shape of the molecules observed

Polymer Modeler Advanced Case Study: Polyethylene Crystallization

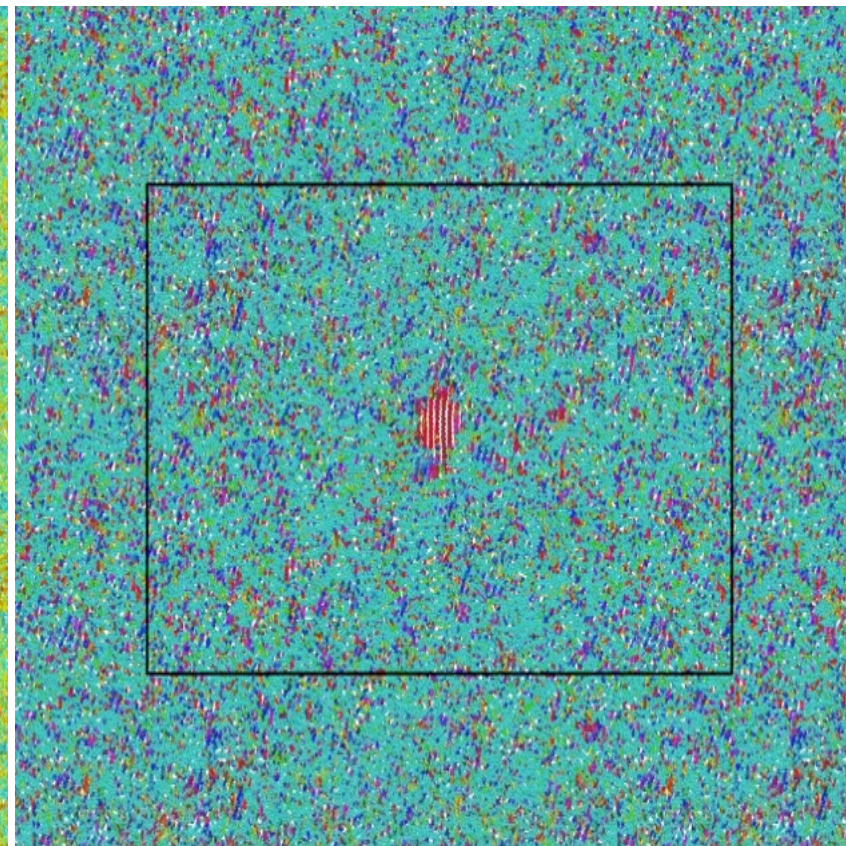
0°  90°

Local Alignment Map



-40°  40°

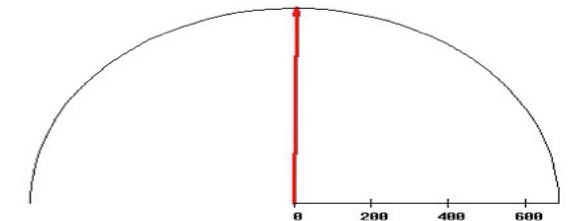
Local Orientation Map



Cluster Orientation

97°C/188F – 100 ns

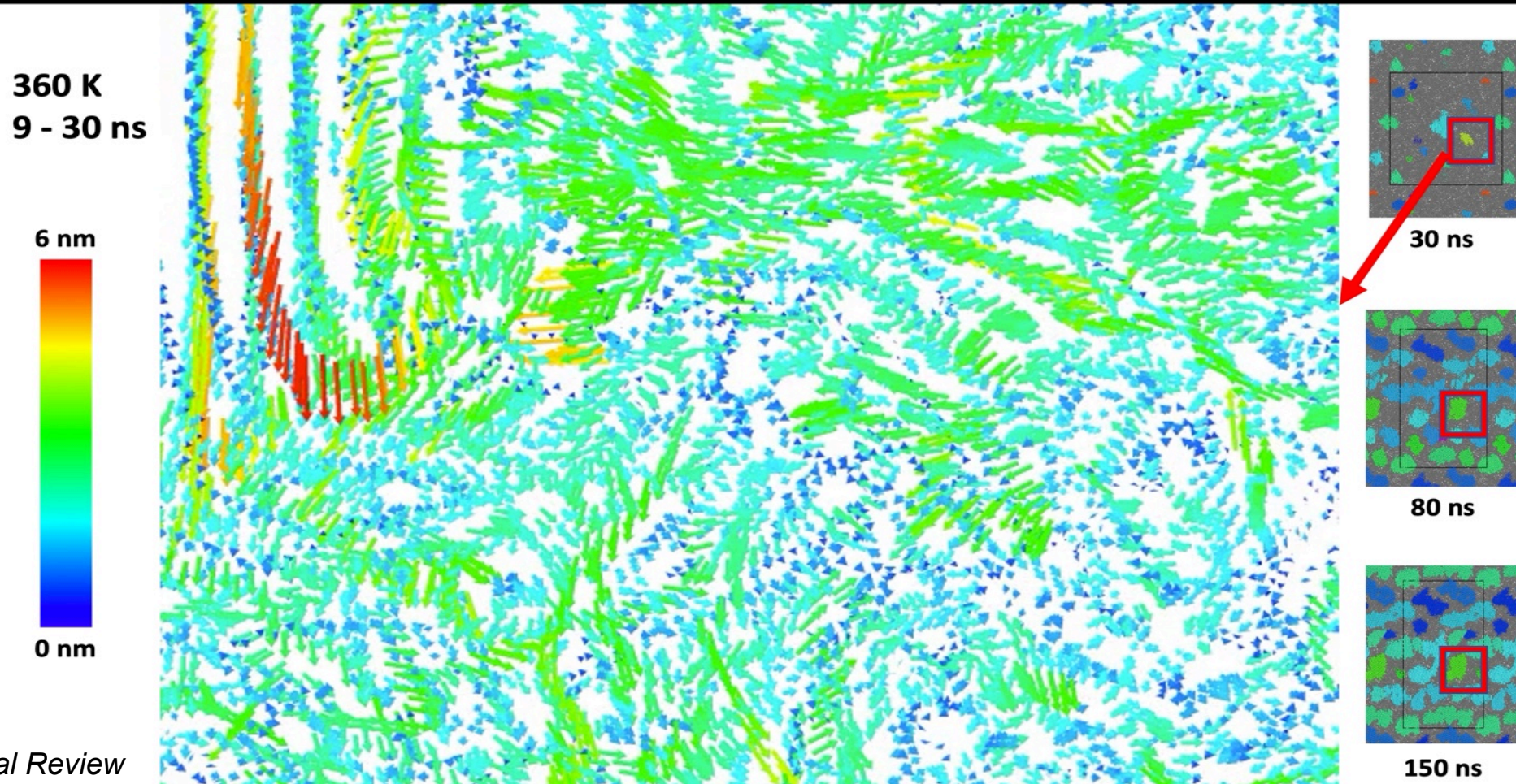
Dynamic Axis



Shen, et al. *Physical Review Letters*, 2020.

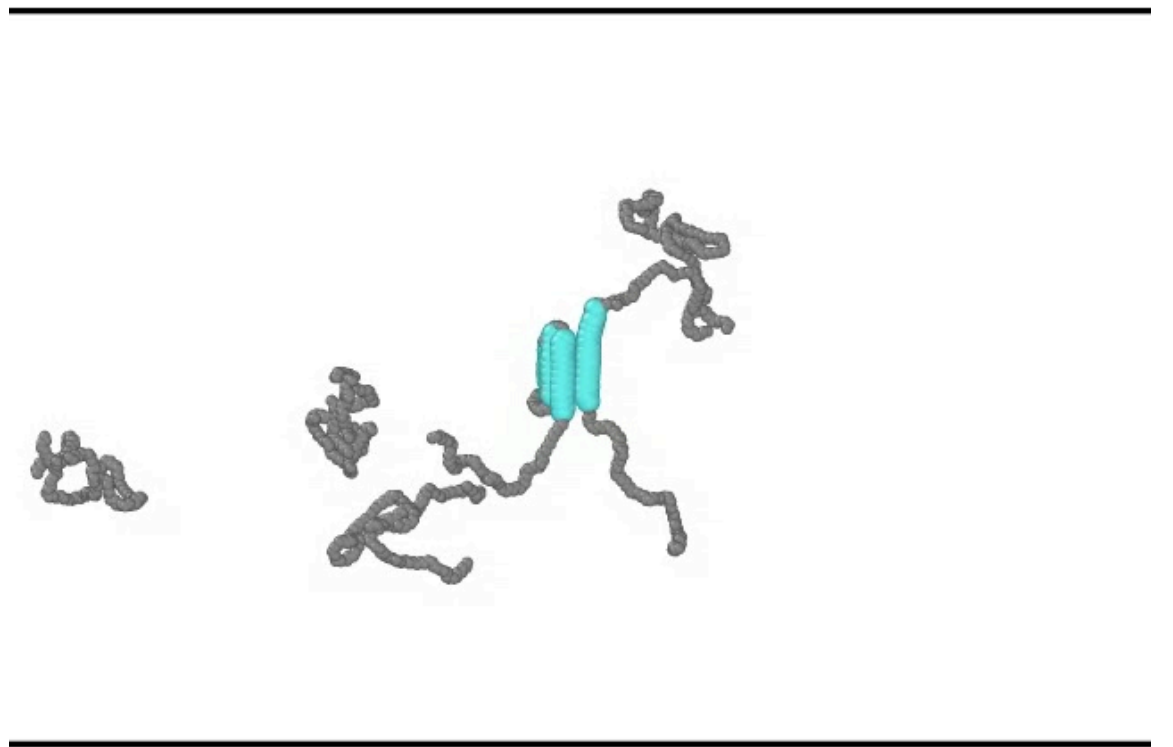
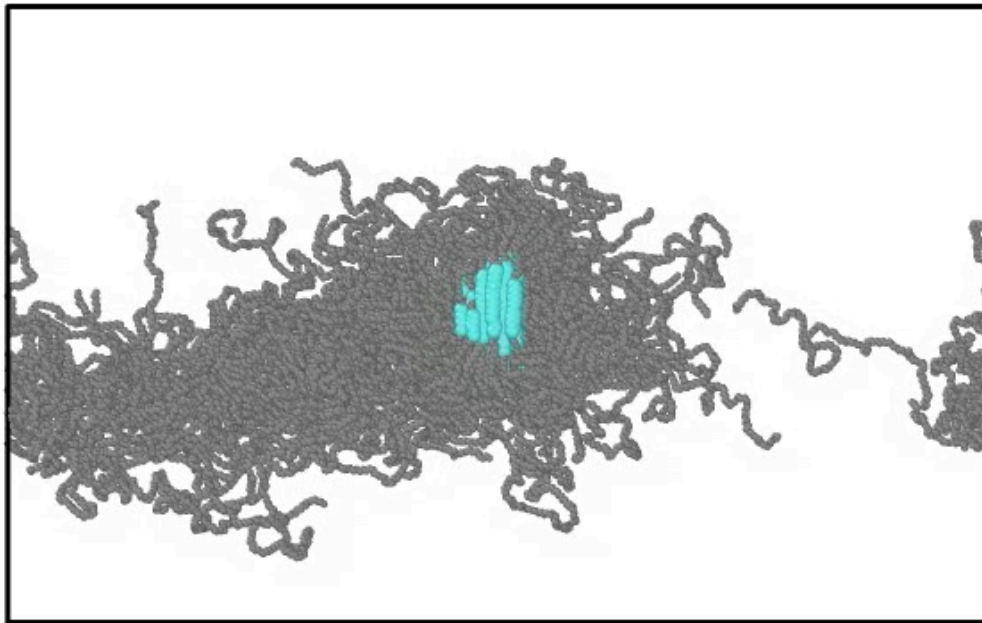
Polymer Modeler Advanced Case Study: Polyethylene Crystallization

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Polymer Modeler Advanced Case Study: Polyethylene Crystallization

360 K – 191 ns



Crystal Structures Generation

- Chain Helix

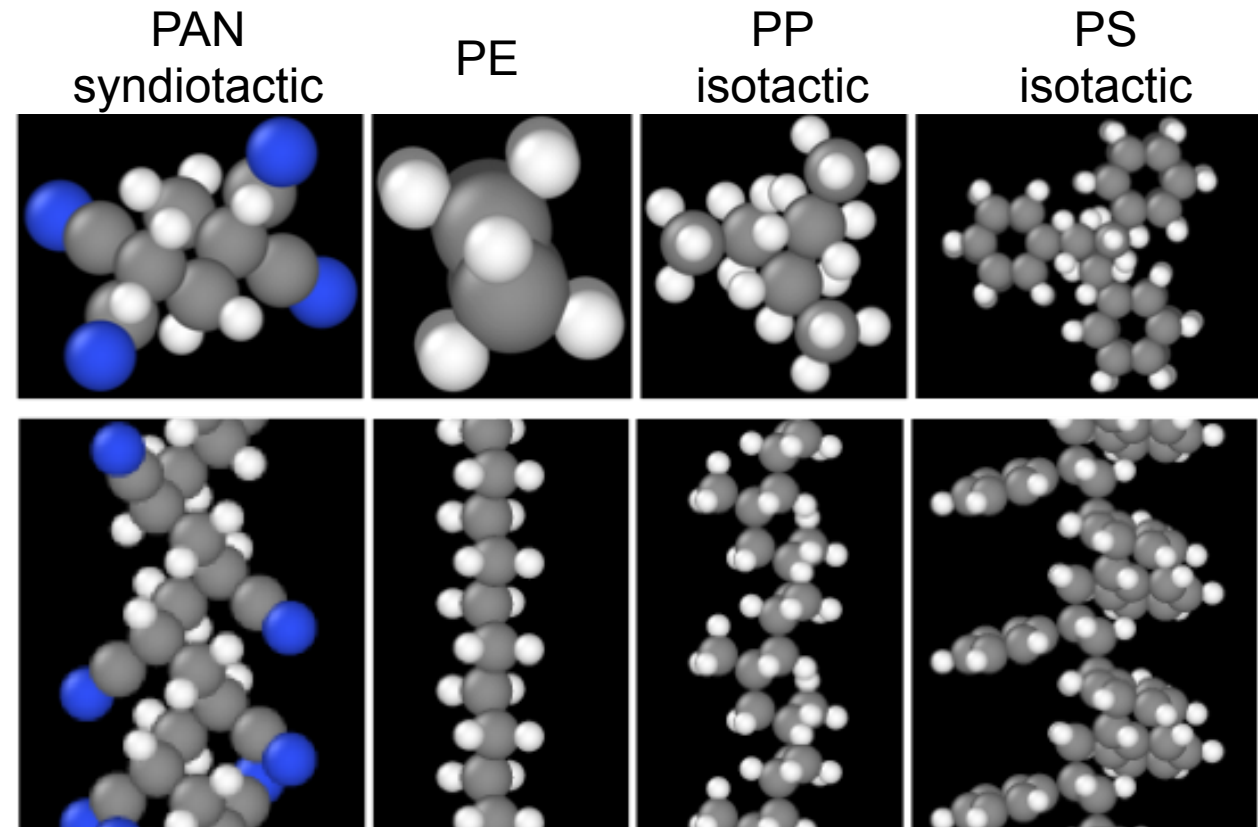
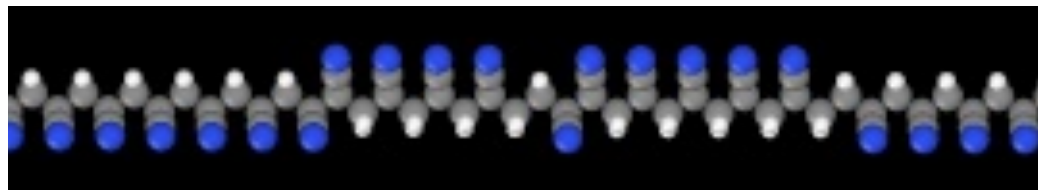
- Input

- Monomer info:**

- Monomer configuration (.pdb, .xyz, .zm);
 - Indices of backbone atoms & side atoms

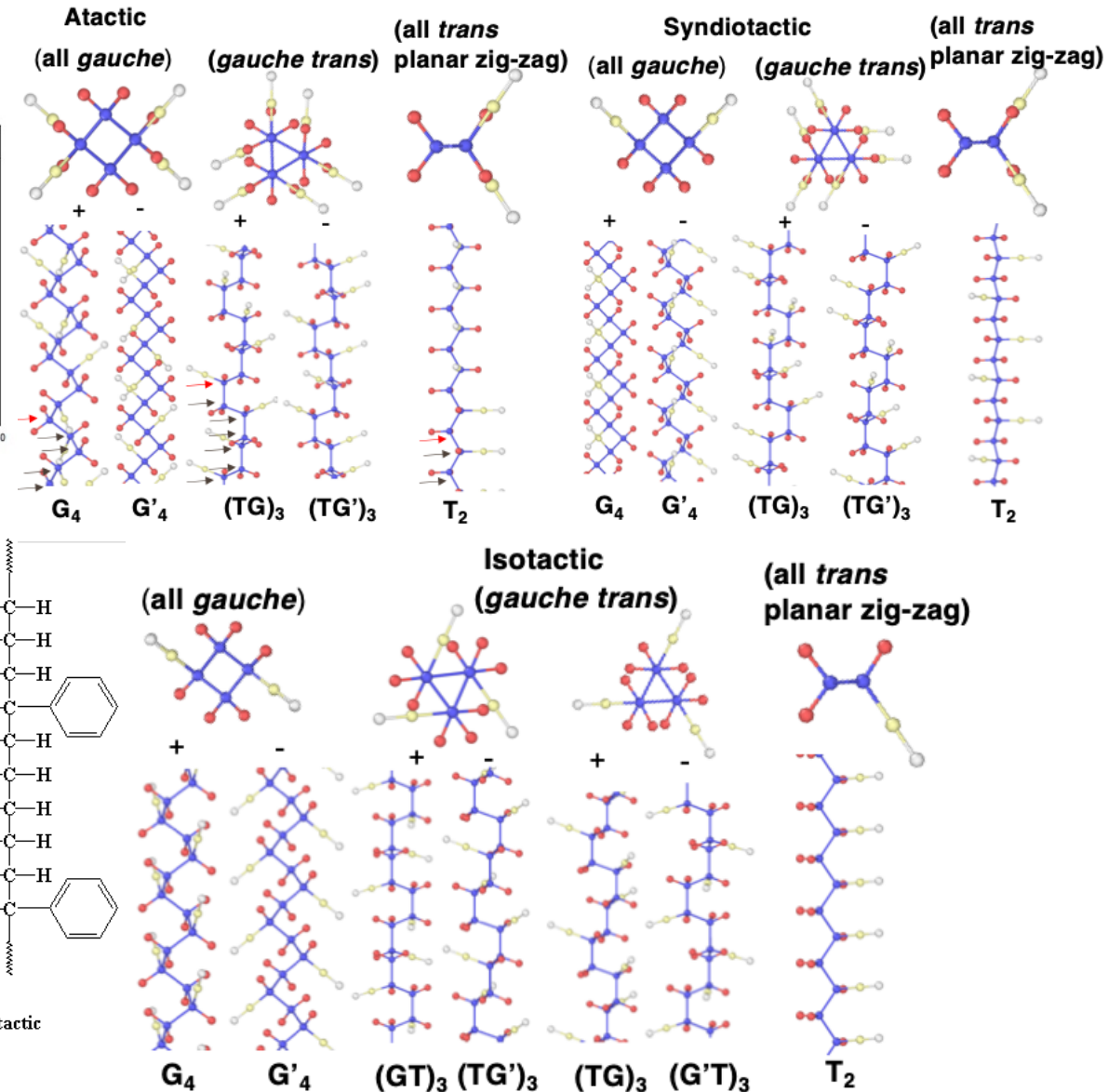
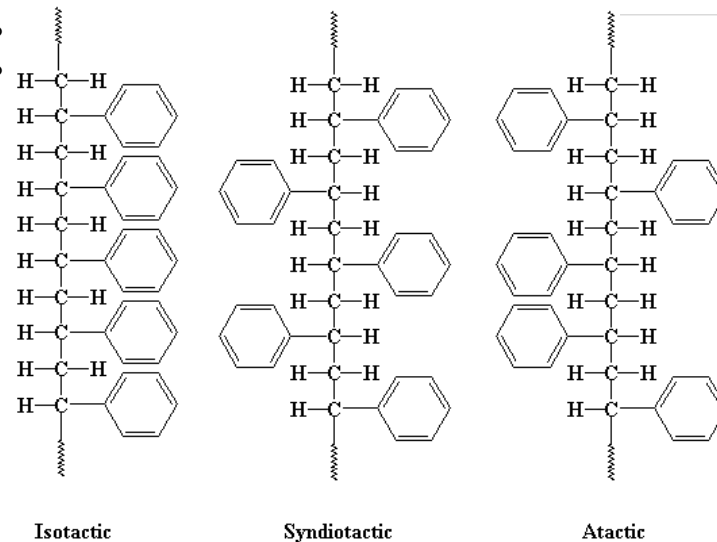
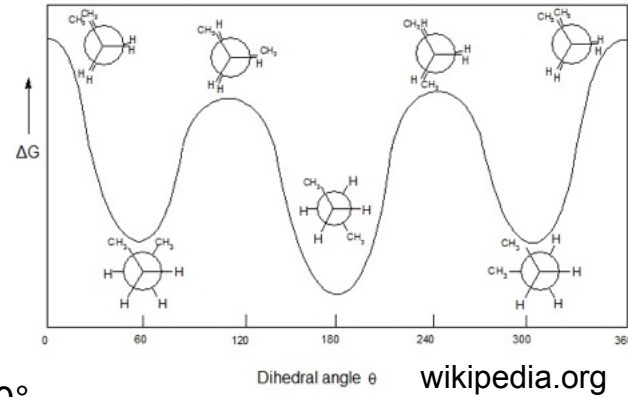
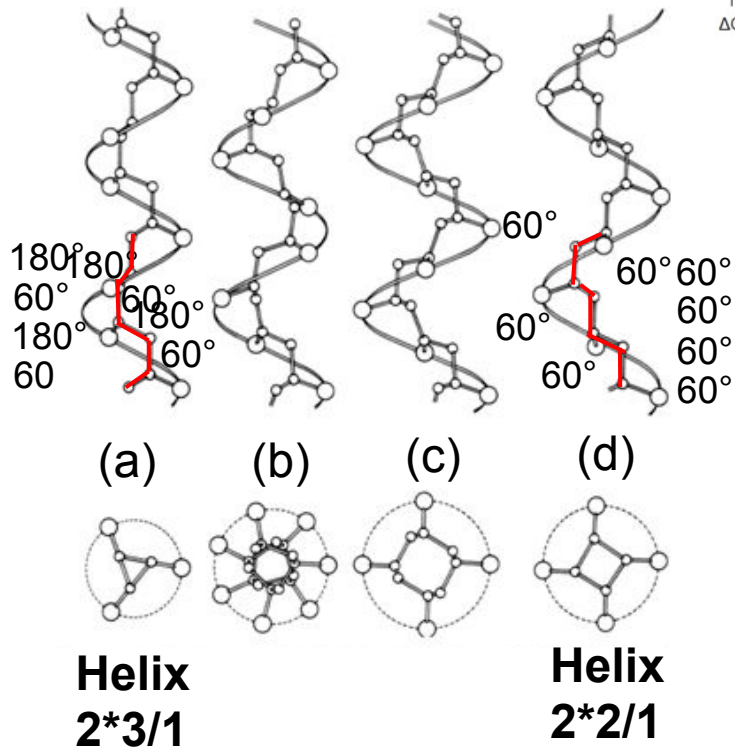
- Chain configuration:**

- Tacticity (isotactic, syndiotactic, atactic)
 - Helicity (helix $2*3/1$, $2*2/1$, $2*1/1$ – planar zigzag)
 - Chirality (left, right)
 - Defect ratio of head-to-head, tail-to-tail connections
 - Example of isotactic PAN with 10% defects*



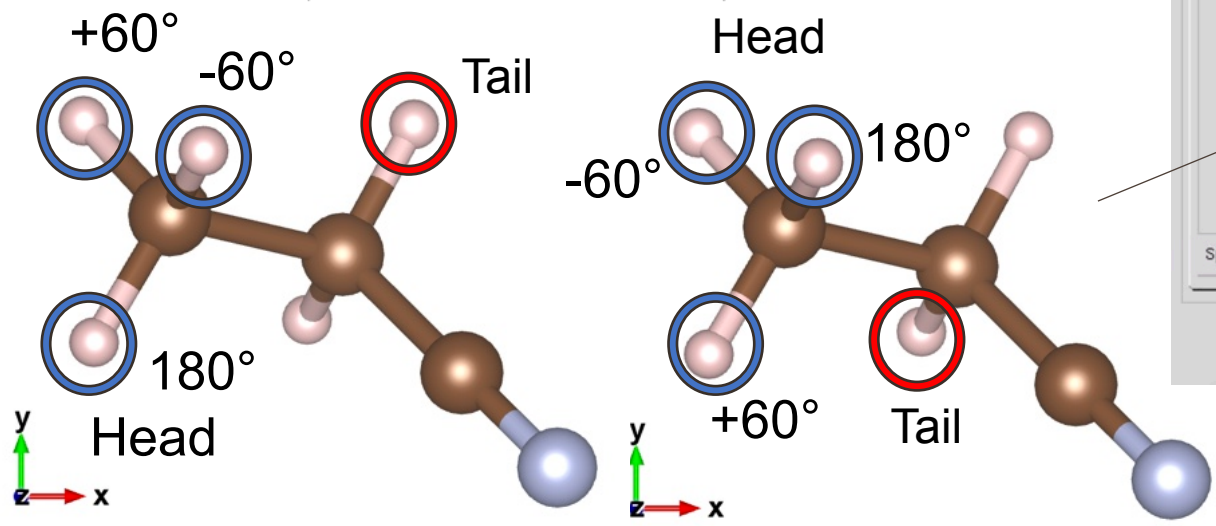
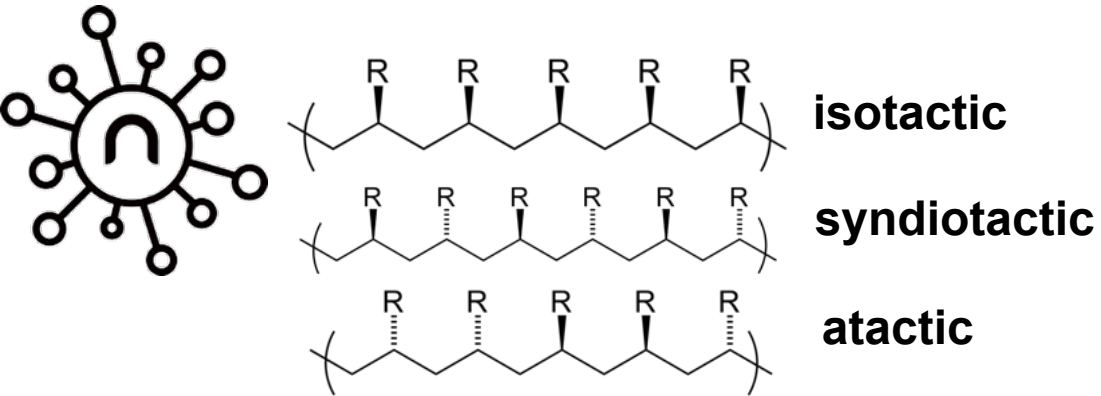
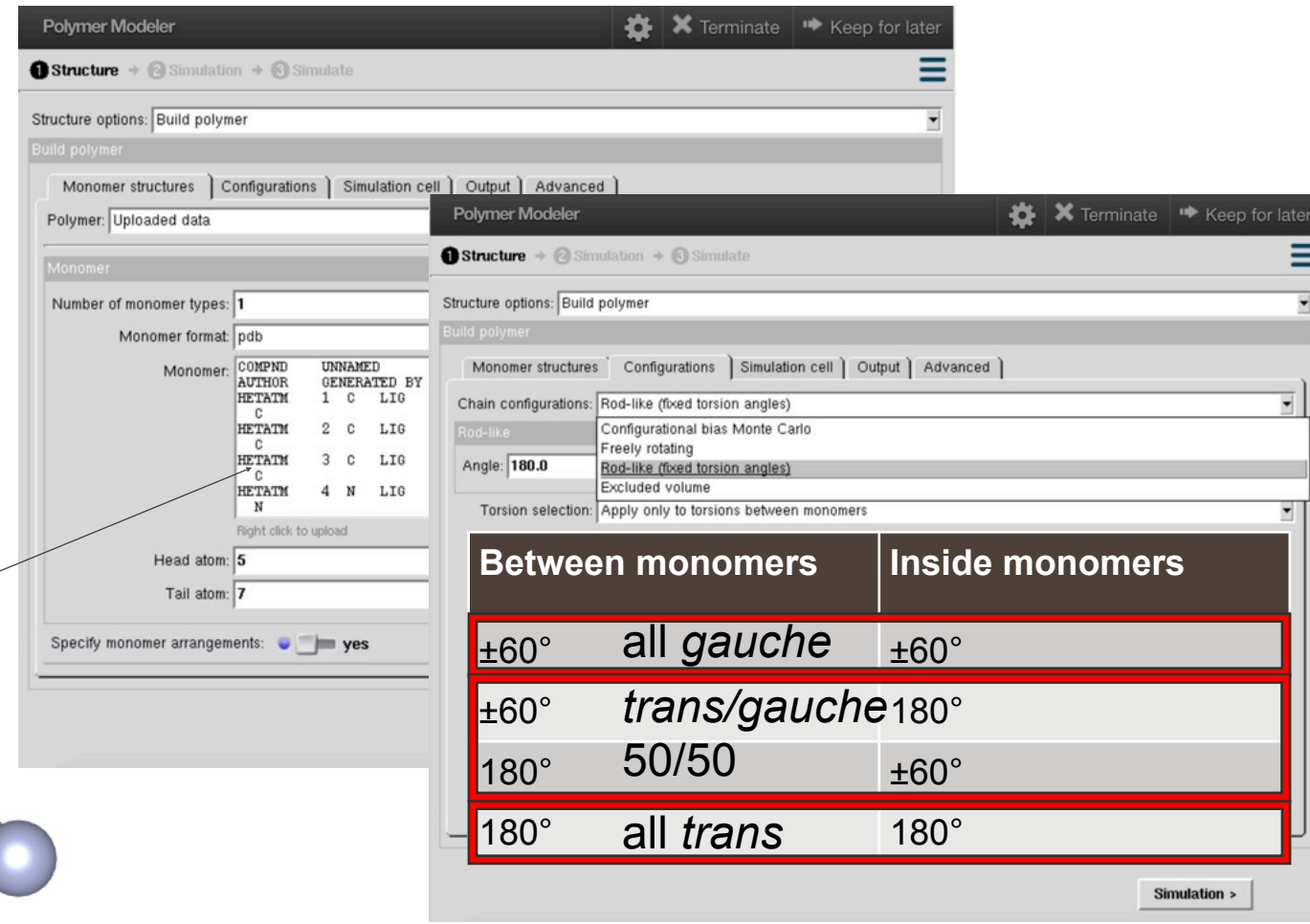
Polymer Stereoregularity

How these helix form?



Exploring the Nano World: Building Nanoscale Structures with Polymer Modeler

Generating rod-like PAN chains with *trans-gauche* conformations

Polymer Modeler

Structure options: Build polymer

Build polymer

Monomer structures | Configurations | Simulation cell | Output | Advanced

Polymer: Uploaded data

Monomer

Number of monomer types: 1

Monomer format: pdb

Monomer	COMPND	UNNAMED	GENERATED BY
HETATM	1	C	LIG
HETATM	2	C	LIG
HETATM	3	C	LIG
HETATM	4	N	LIG

Head atom: 5

Tail atom: 7

Specify monomer arrangements: no yes

Chain configurations: Rod-like (fixed torsion angles)

Rod-like

- Configurational bias Monte Carlo
- Freely rotating
- Rod-like (fixed torsion angles)
- Excluded volume

Angle: 180.0

Torsion selection: Apply only to torsions between monomers

	Between monomers	Inside monomers
±60°	all gauche	±60°
±60°	trans/gauche	180°
180°	50/50	±60°
180°	all trans	180°

Simulation >

THANK YOU