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Novel Methodology for the Highly-Efficient Separation of Oil and Water

16 March 2014

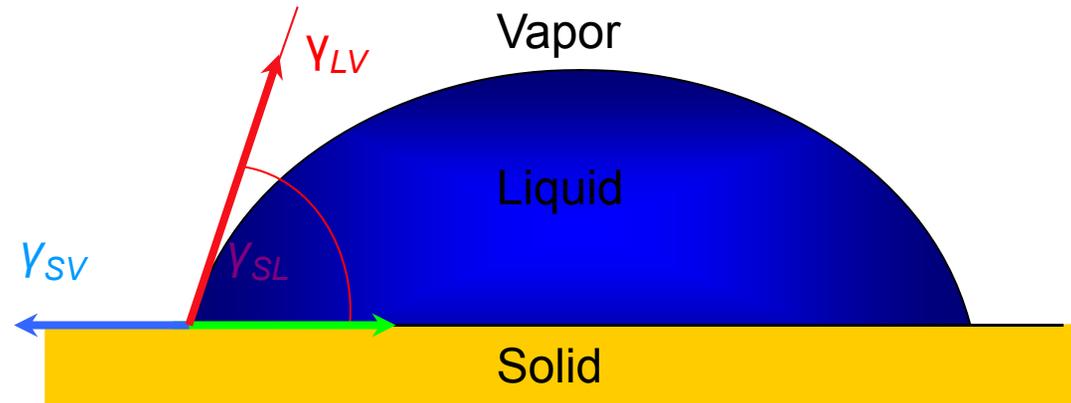


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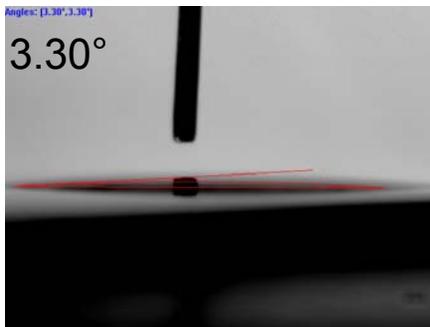
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Non-wetting surfaces



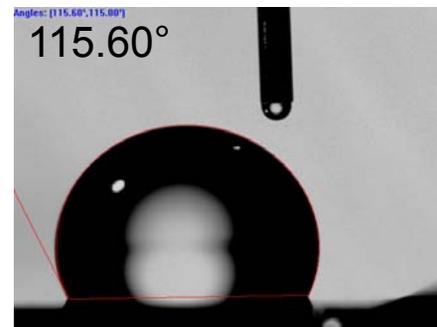
Contact angles with water:



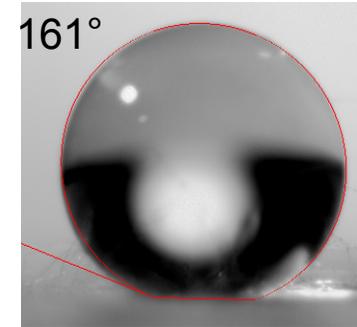
Superhydrophilic
 $\theta \sim 0^\circ$



Hydrophilic
 $0^\circ < \theta < 90^\circ$



Hydrophobic
 $\theta > 90^\circ$

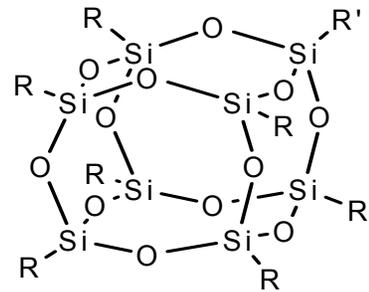


Superhydrophobic
 $\theta^* > 150^\circ$

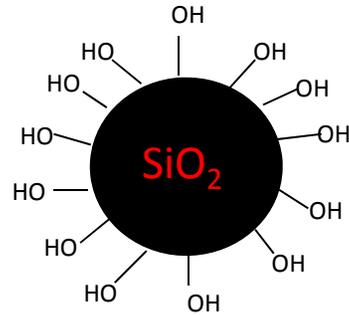
Similarly, superoleophobic surfaces display contact angle $\theta^* > 150^\circ$ with oils or alkanes



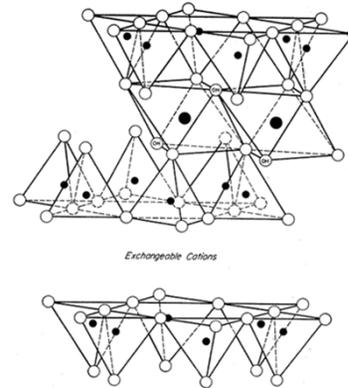
Nanocomposite Materials



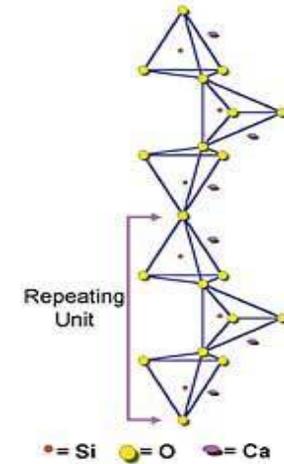
POSS



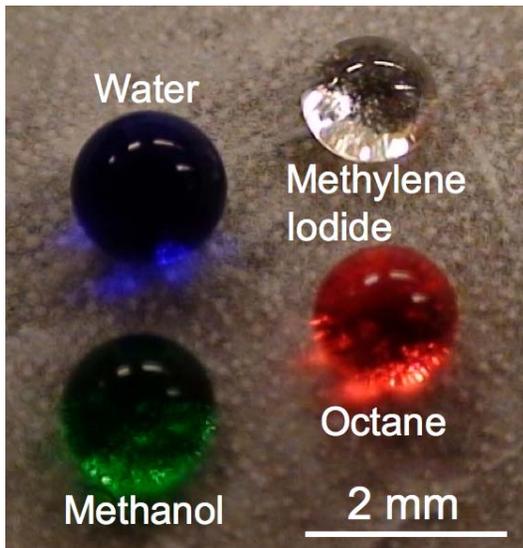
Nanosilicas



Layered silicates



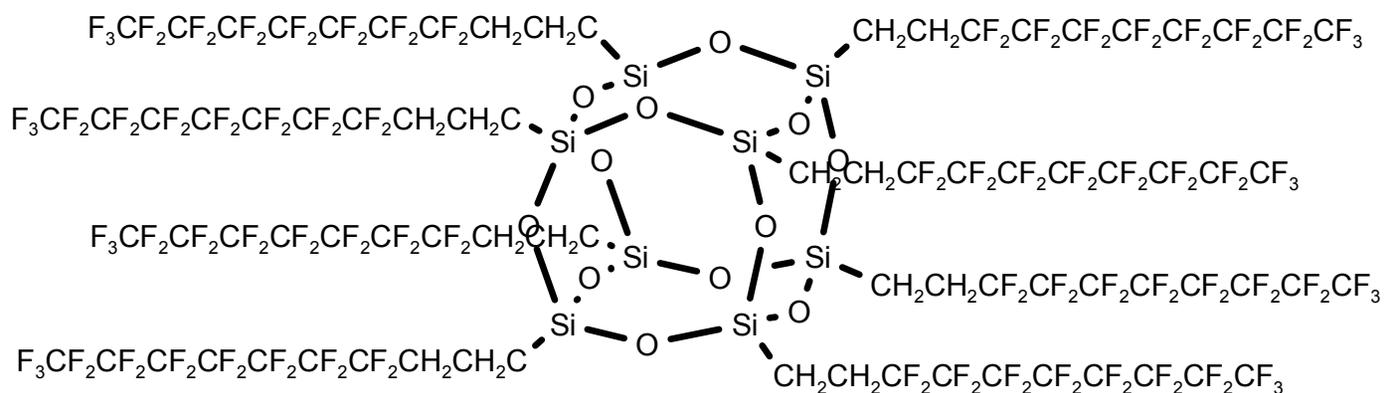
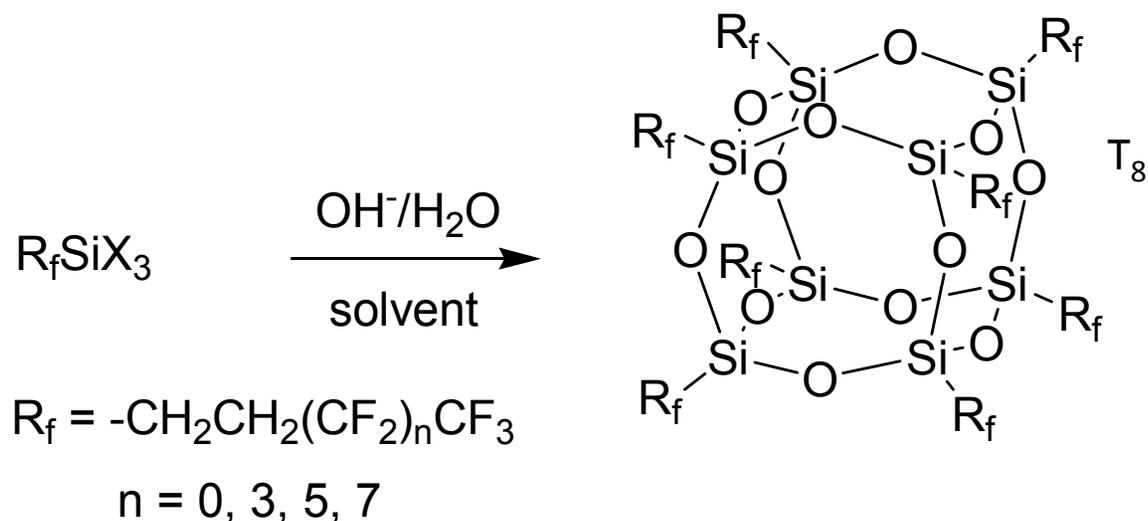
Linear silicates



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Fluorinated POSS Synthesis

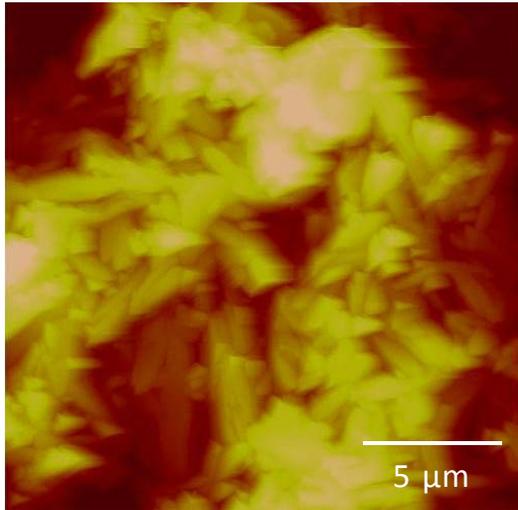


Angew Chem 2008

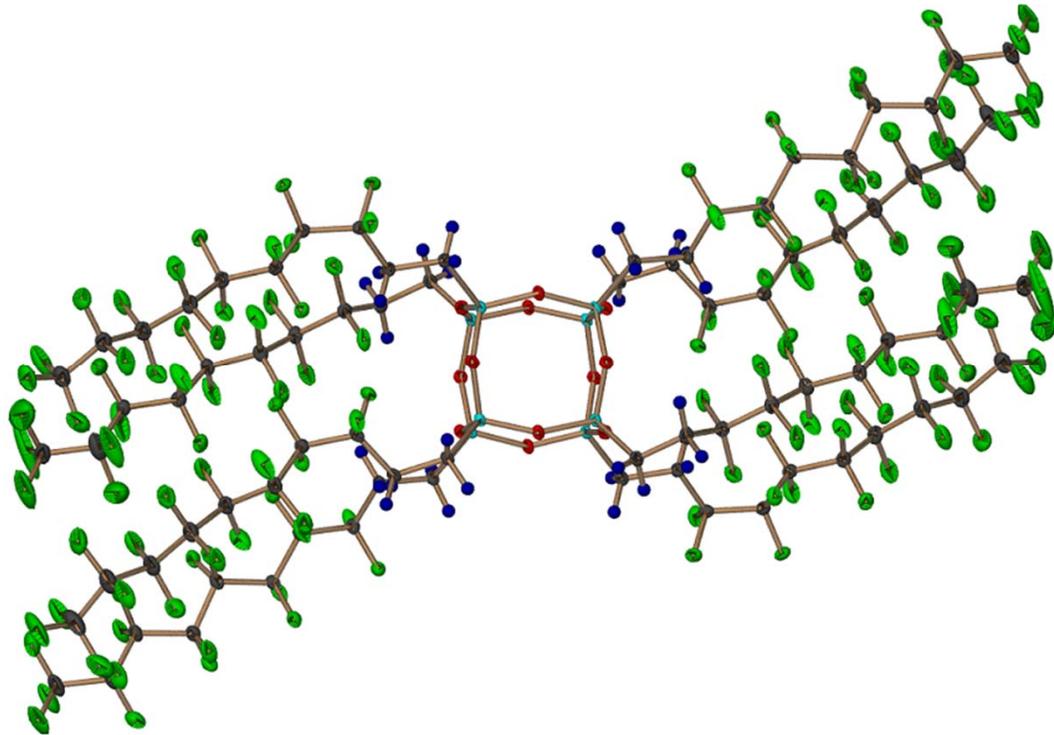
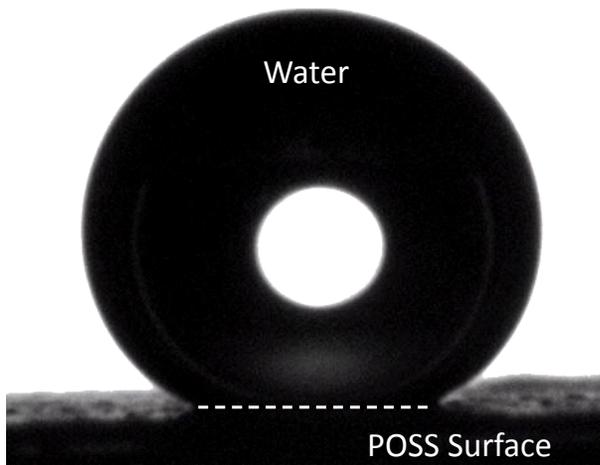
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Hydrophobic Materials

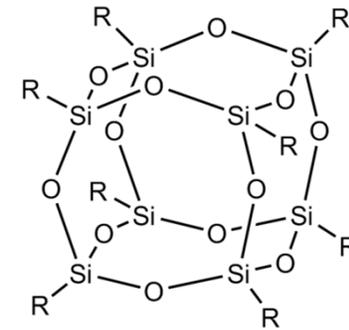
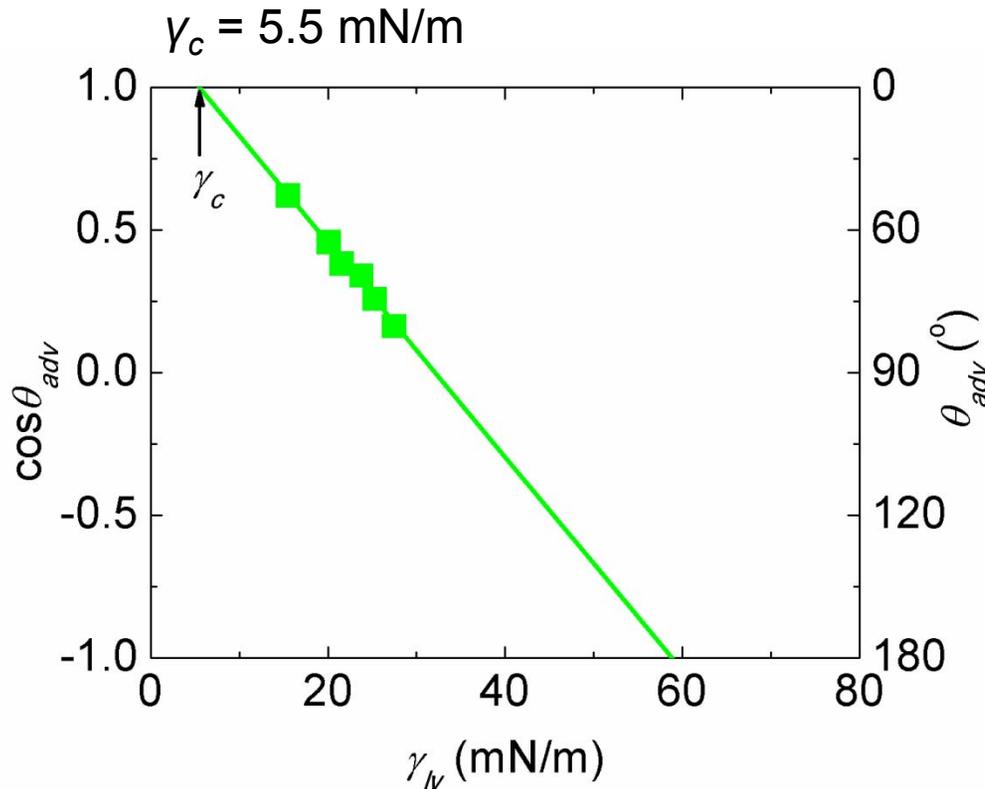


- Spin-cast surface of Fluorodecyl POSS
- $\sim 4 \mu\text{m}$ rms roughness by AFM
- 154° Water contact angle





Zisman Analysis



Fluorodecyl:



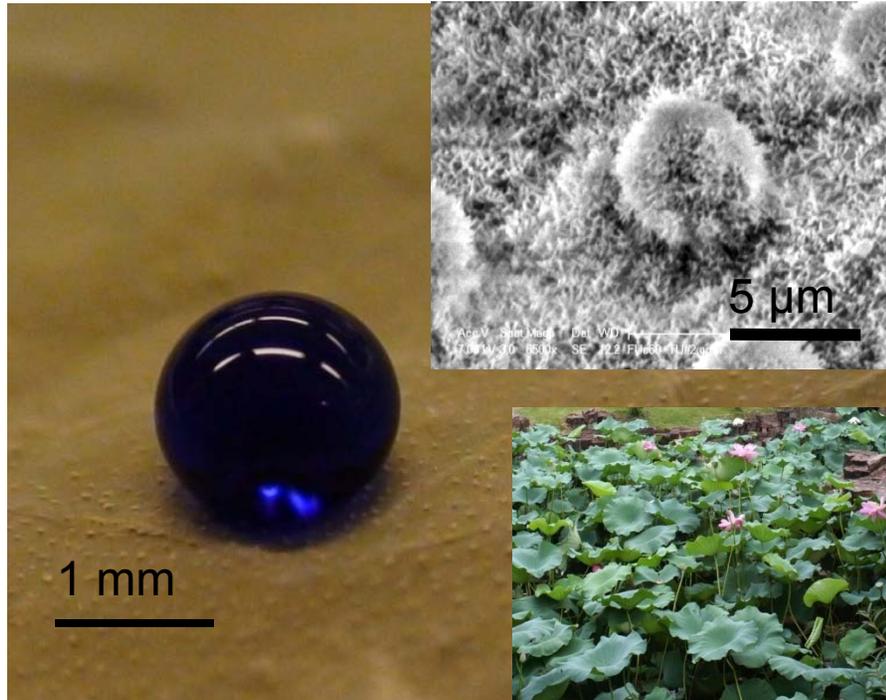
GG analysis results in surface energy calculation of: $\gamma_c = 8 \text{ mN/m}$

Contacting liquids:

hexadecane ($\gamma_{lv} = 27.5 \text{ mN/m}$), dodecane (25.3), decane (23.8), octane (21.6), heptane (20.1) and pentane (15.5)



The Lotus Leaf



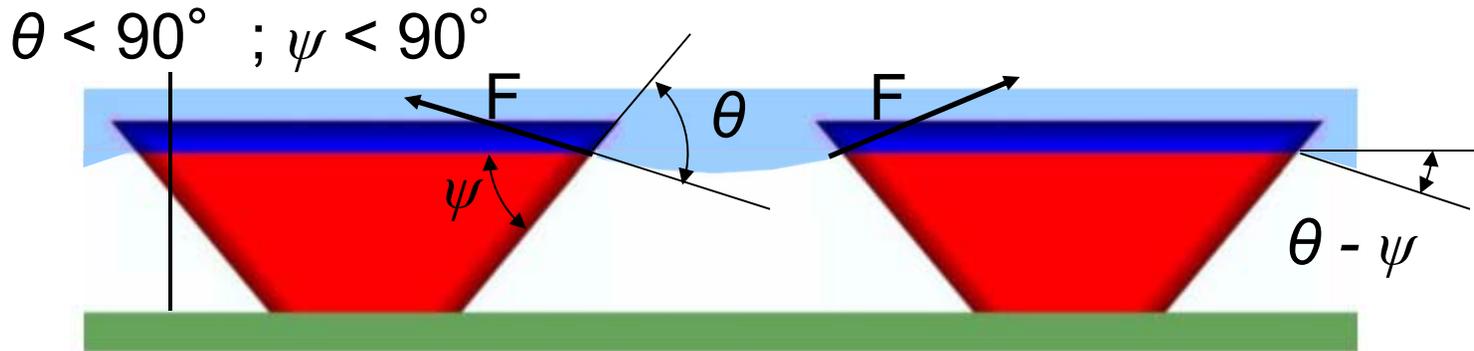
Water, $\gamma_{LV} = 72.1 \text{ mN/m}$

Hexadecane, $\gamma_{LV} = 27.5 \text{ mN/m}$

On most surfaces, $\theta_{oil} < \theta_{water}$. This is because the surface tension (γ_{LV}) of water is significantly higher than that for oils.

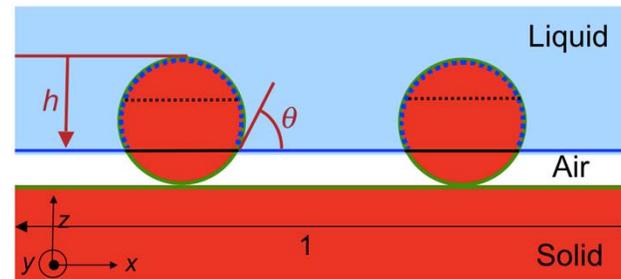
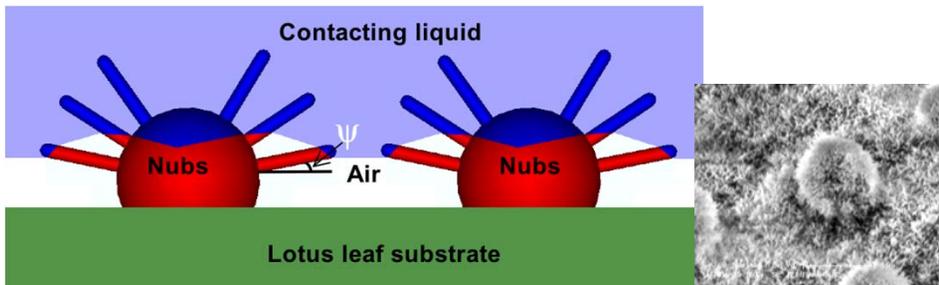


Critical role of re-entrant texture ($\psi < 90^\circ$)



It is possible to support a composite interface even if $\theta < 90^\circ$

Re-entrant curvature : $180^\circ > \theta > 0^\circ$



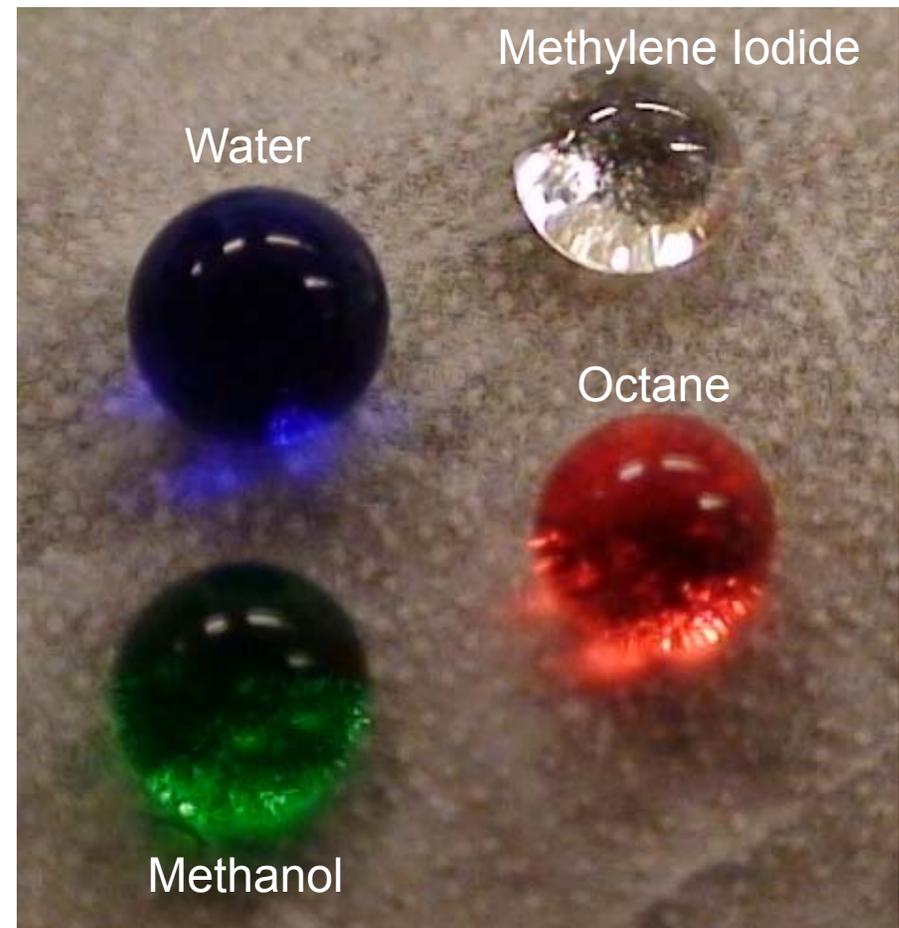
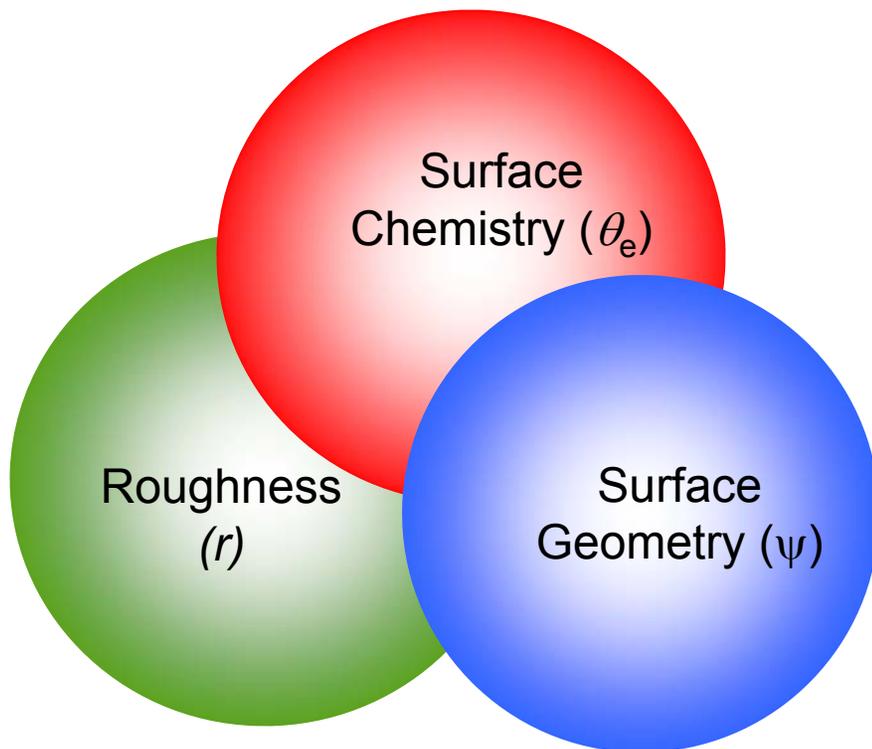
Herminghaus, *Euro. Phys. Lett.* (2000), Tuteja *et al. Science* (2007); Tuteja *et al., PNAS*, (2008).



Designing Omniphobic Surfaces



- **Constructing super-repellent surfaces**
 - Three key ingredients



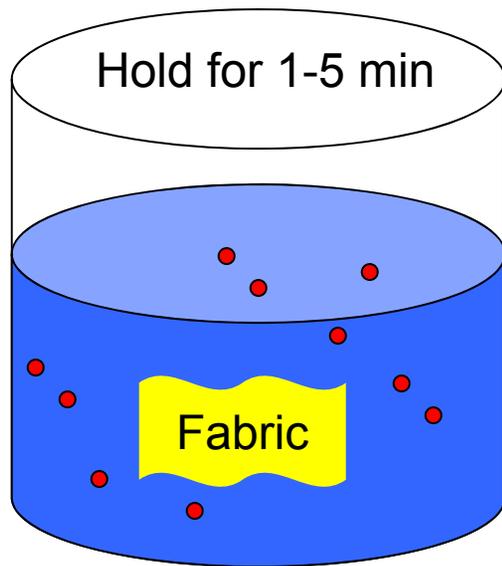
PMMA + 44 wt% POSS
electrospun coating (beads on a string) morphology



The Dip-Coating Process

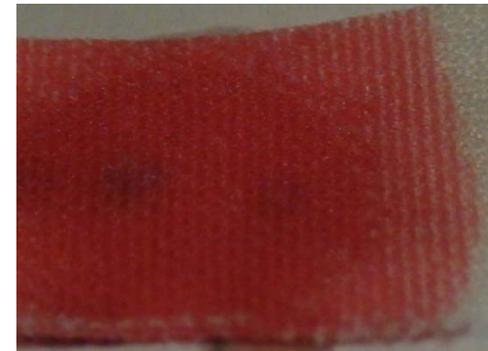


Hexadecane ($\gamma_V = 27.5 \text{ mN/m}$) on an as-received commercial polyester fabric



Solution of fluorodecyl POSS in Asahiklin (30 mg/ml)

Dip



Before

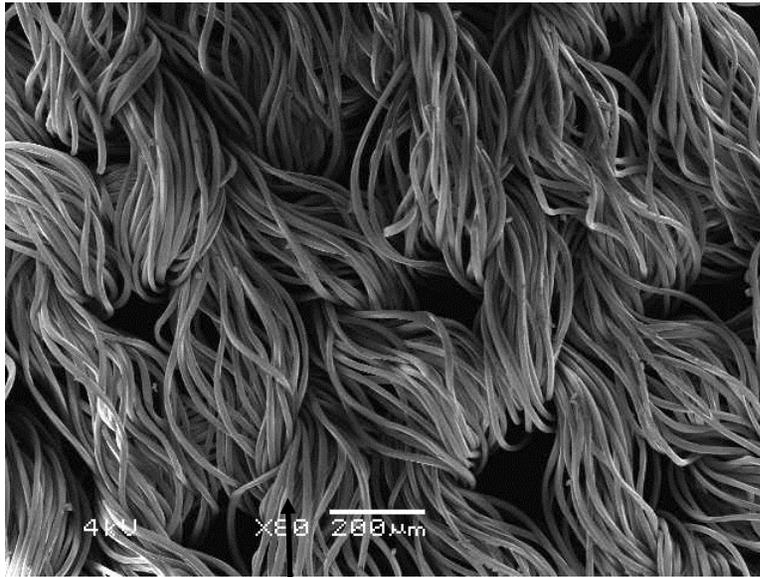
Dry (heat in oven at 60° C for 20 minutes)



After dip-coating with a solution of fluorodecyl POSS



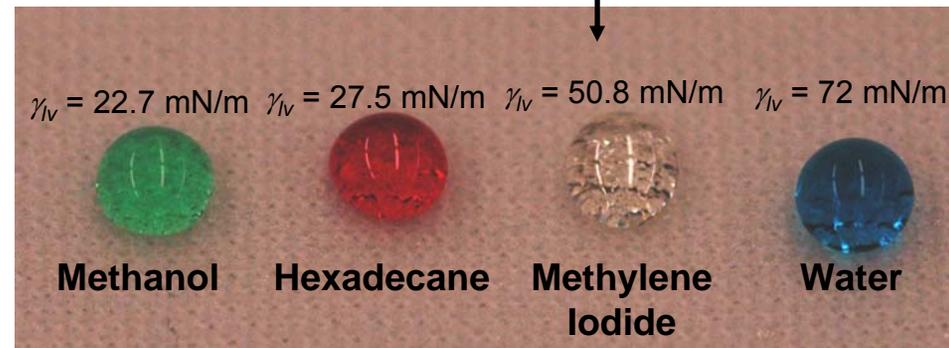
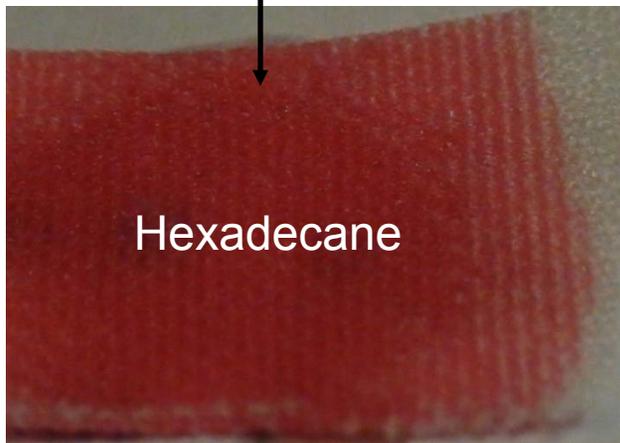
Dip-Coated Polyester Fabric



Before coating

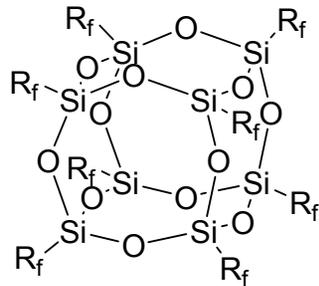


After coating with fluorodecyl POSS in Asahiklin (30 mg/ml)



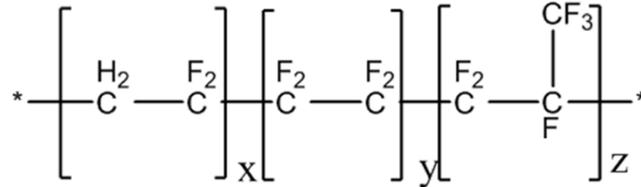


Dip-coating process for conformal coating of textured surfaces



R_f = -CH₂-CH₂-(CF₂)₇-CF₃
 Fluorodecyl POSS

$\gamma_{sv} \approx 8 \text{ mN/m}$



Tecnoflon® (BR9151)

Fluoro-elastomer from
 Solvay-Solexis

$\gamma_{sv} \approx 18 \text{ mN/m}$

Anticon 100 polyester fabric



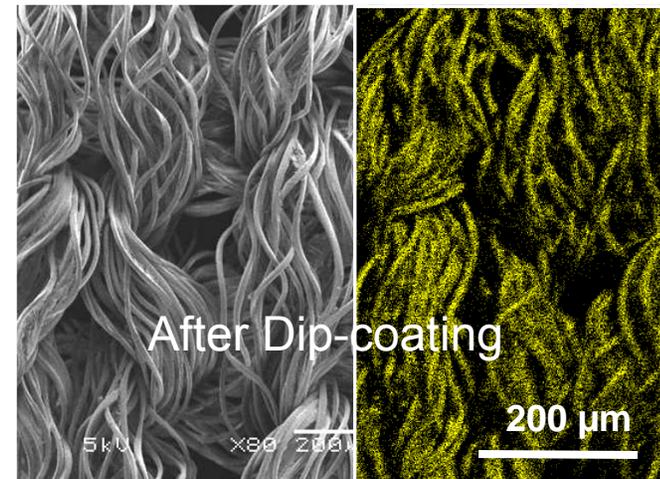
50:50 mixture, total solids = 10 mg/ml

Dip in Asahiklin solution for 5 minutes

Air dry to remove solvent

Heat treat at 60 °C for 30 minutes

EDAXS spectrum for fluorine



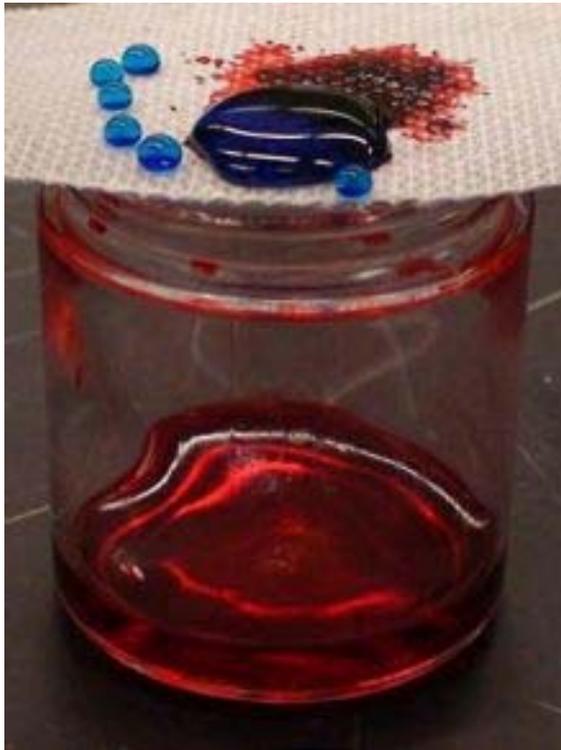


Superhydrophobic/Superoleophilic

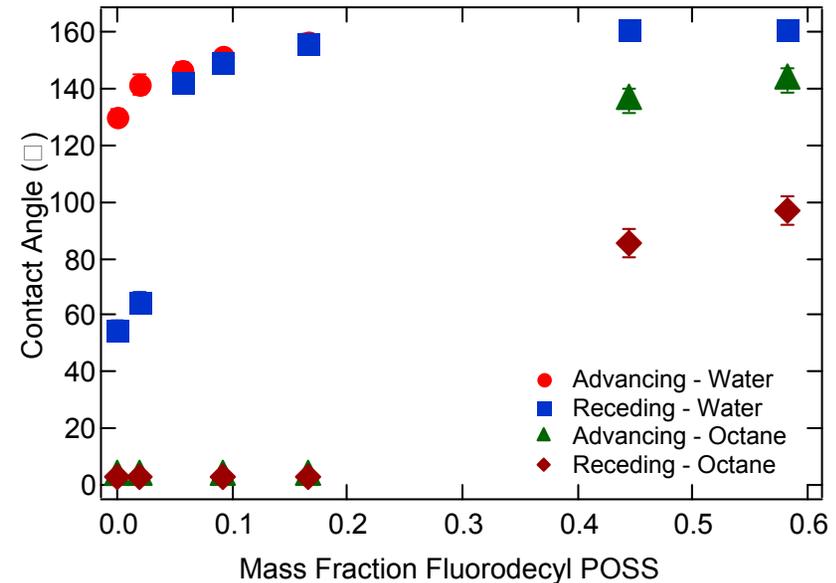


Designing Superoleophobic Surfaces

Anish Tuteja,¹ Wonjae Choi,² Minglin Ma,¹ Joseph M. Mabry,³ Sarah A. Mazzella,³ Gregory C. Rutledge,¹ Gareth H. McKinley,^{2*} Robert E. Cohen^{1*}



**Superhydrophobic
Superoleophilic**



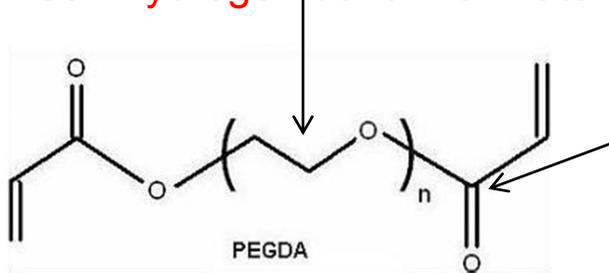
At low POSS concentrations many surfaces are *both* superhydrophobic and superoleophilic ($\theta^*_{alkane} \approx 0^\circ$). Thus, these porous surfaces form ideal membranes for separating mixtures / dispersions of alkanes (oils) and water

Science, **2007**, *318*, 1618.

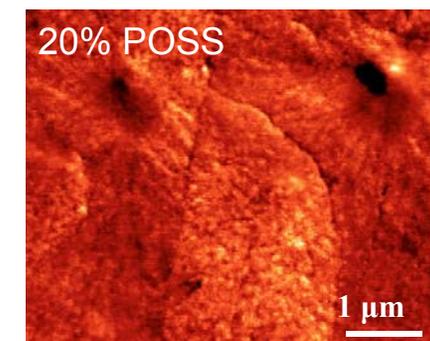
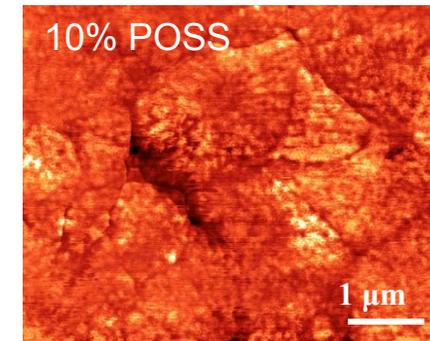
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PEGDA + Fluorodecyl POSS

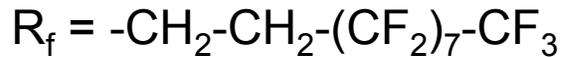
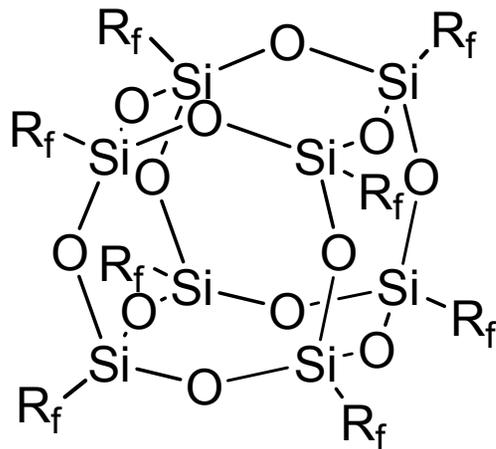
Can hydrogen bond with water



AFM Phase images of spin-coated PEGDA + POSS films



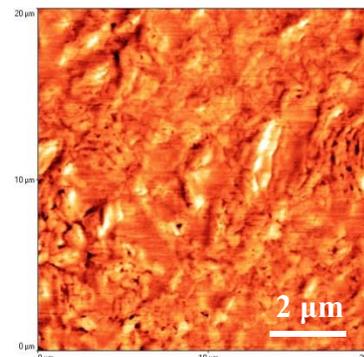
Fluorodecyl POSS molecules preferentially segregate to the air interface and crystallize.



Fluorodecyl POSS

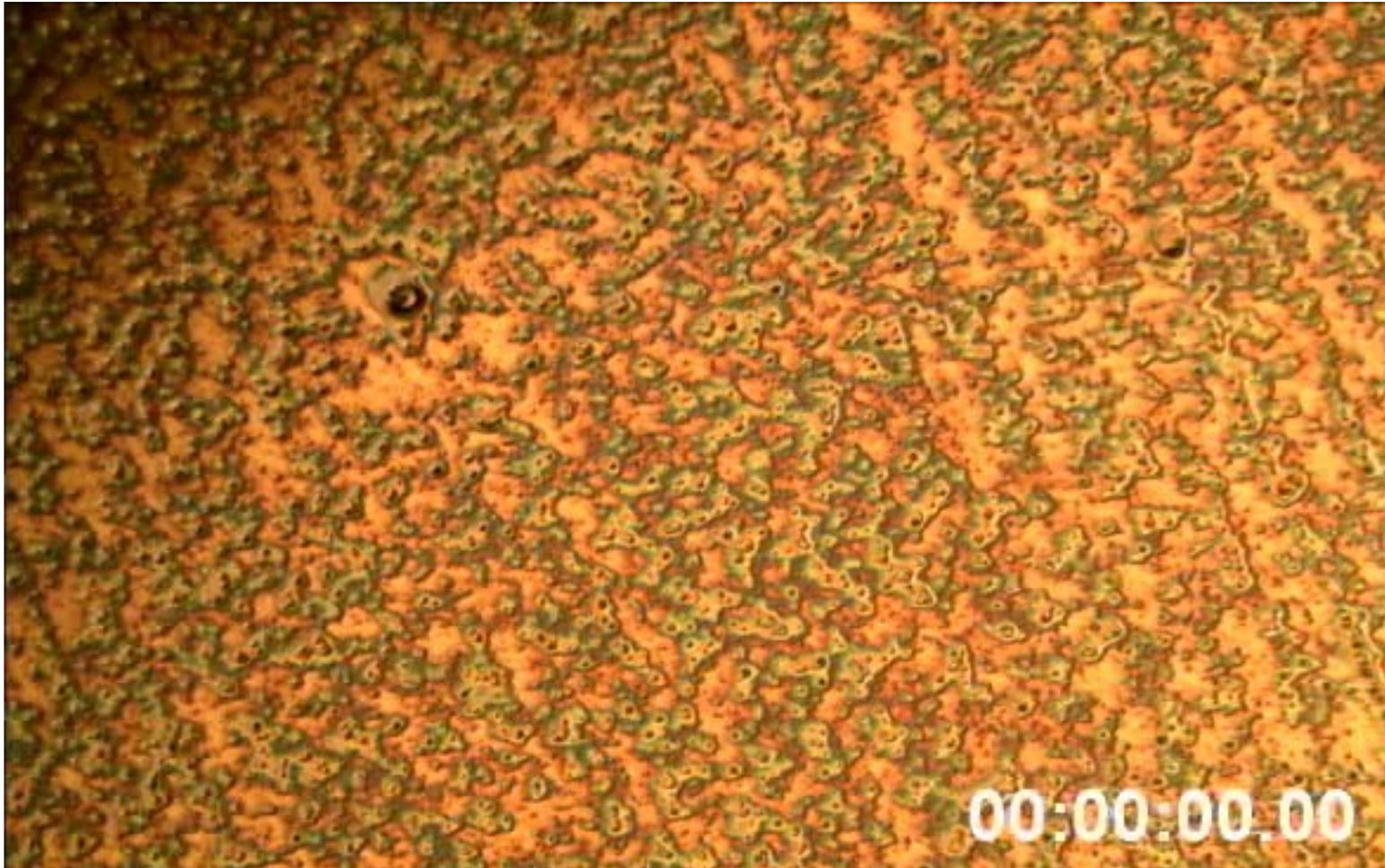
$$\gamma_{sv} \approx 8 \text{ mN/m}$$

20% POSS
Under water



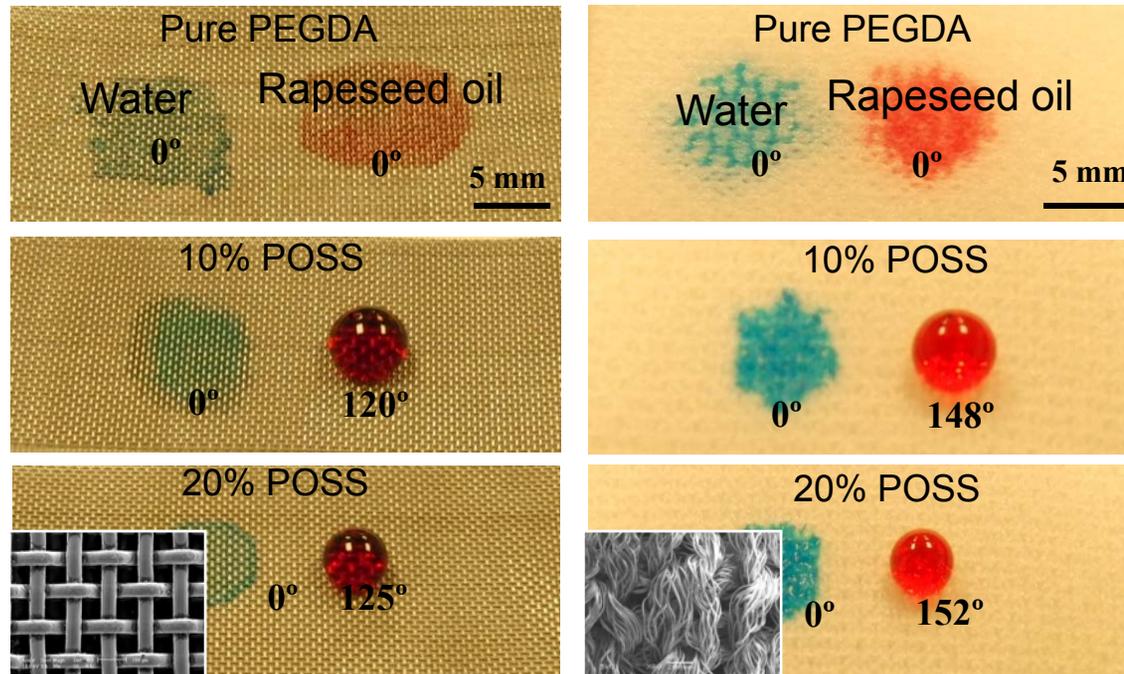


PEGDA + Fluorodecyl POSS



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Surfaces with inherent re-entrant curvature **dip-coated** with PEGDA + POSS blends



Stainless Steel Wire Mesh

Commercial Polyester Fabric

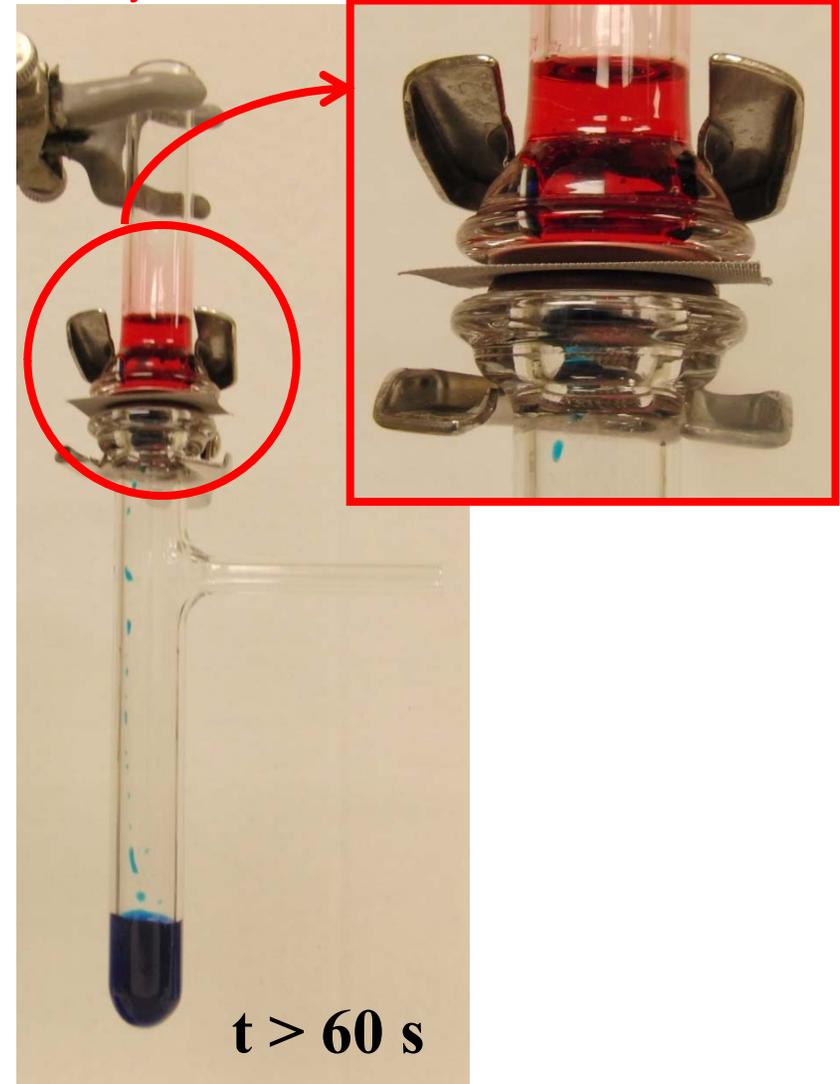
PEGDA surface reconfiguration leads to superhydrophilic behavior.



Free oil – water separation



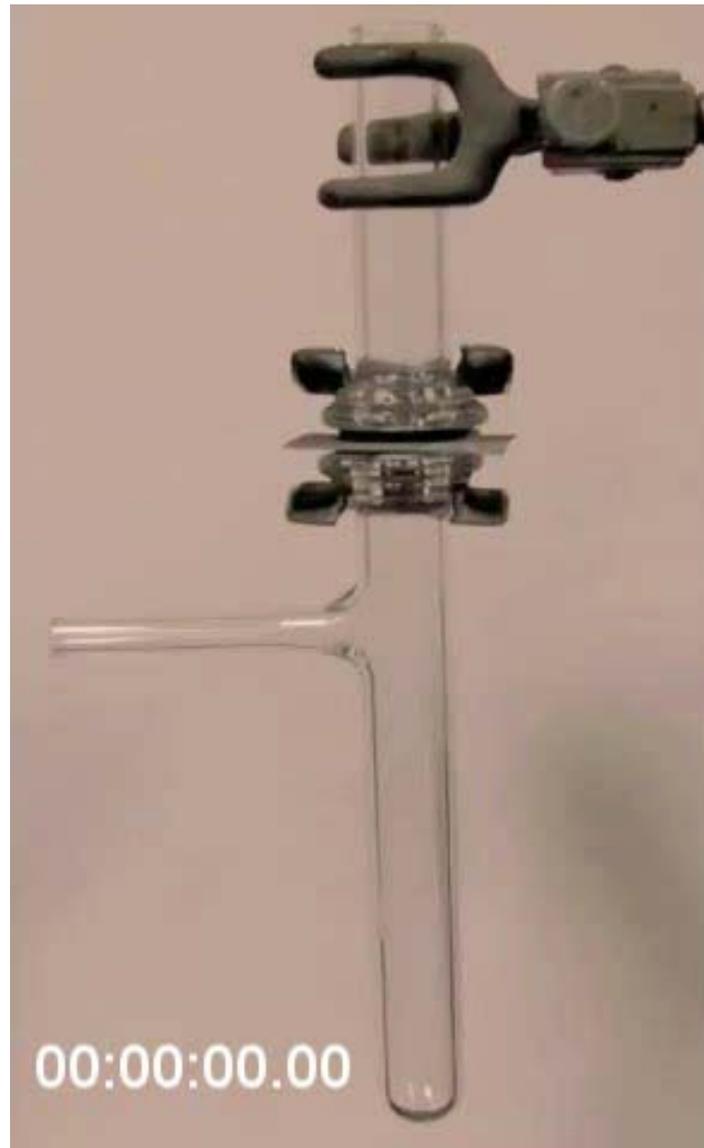
Stainless steel mesh coated with PEGDA + 20 wt% fluorodecyl POSS.



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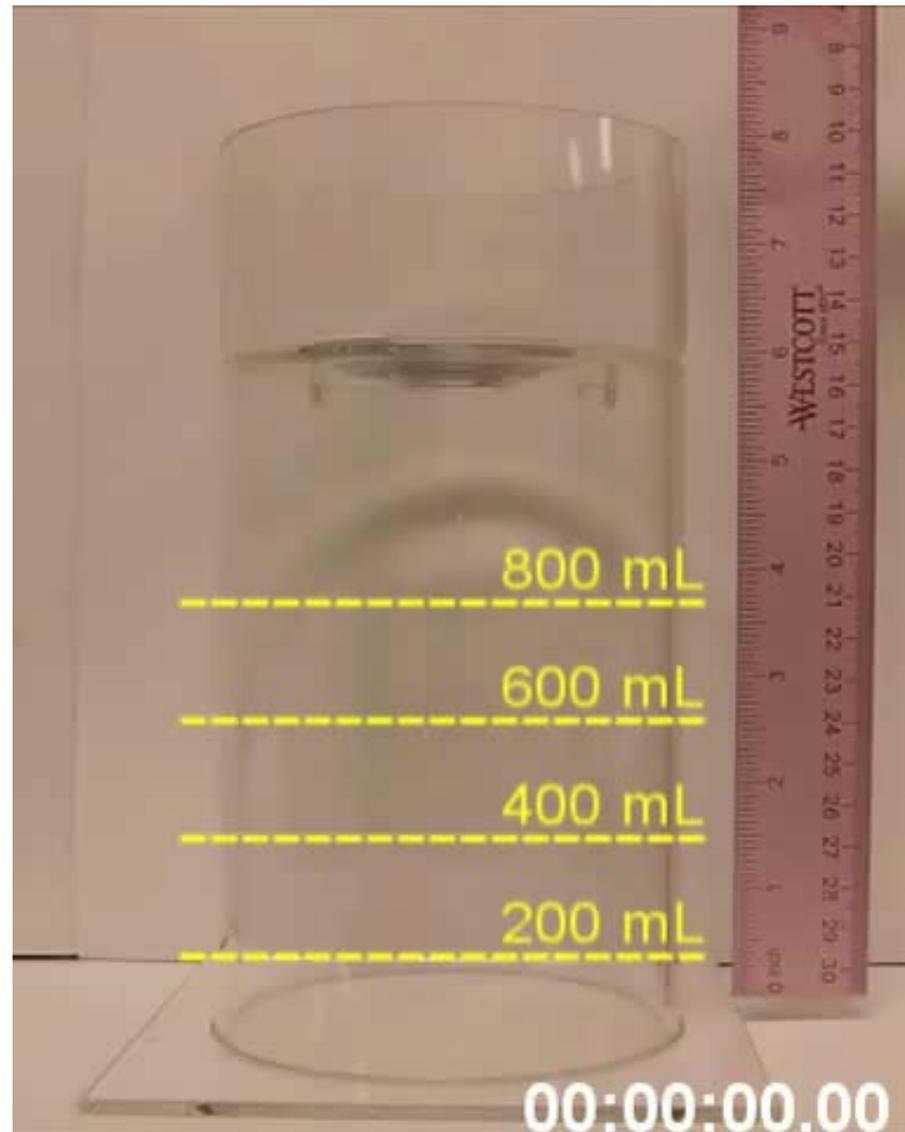
Free oil – water separation



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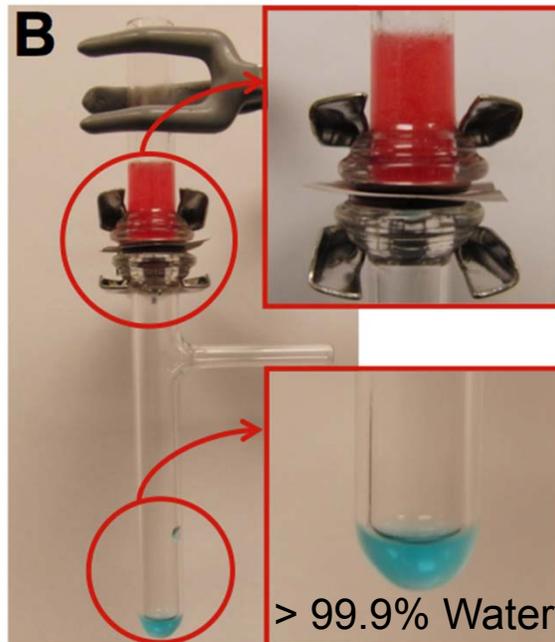


1-Liter scale separation

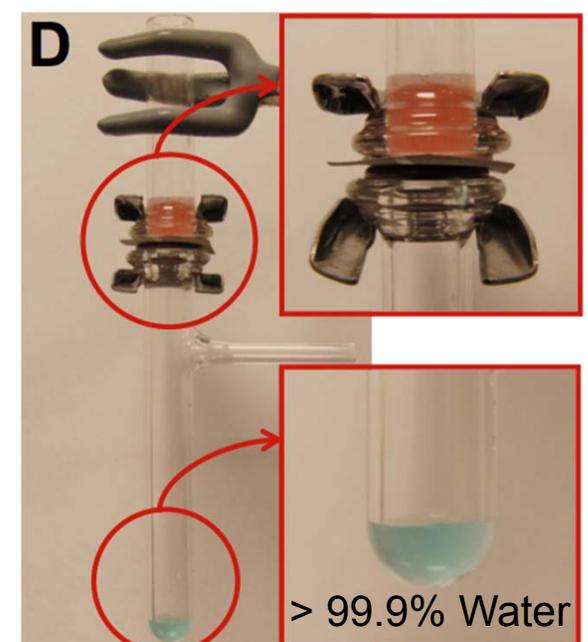


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Water-in-Oil Emulsion

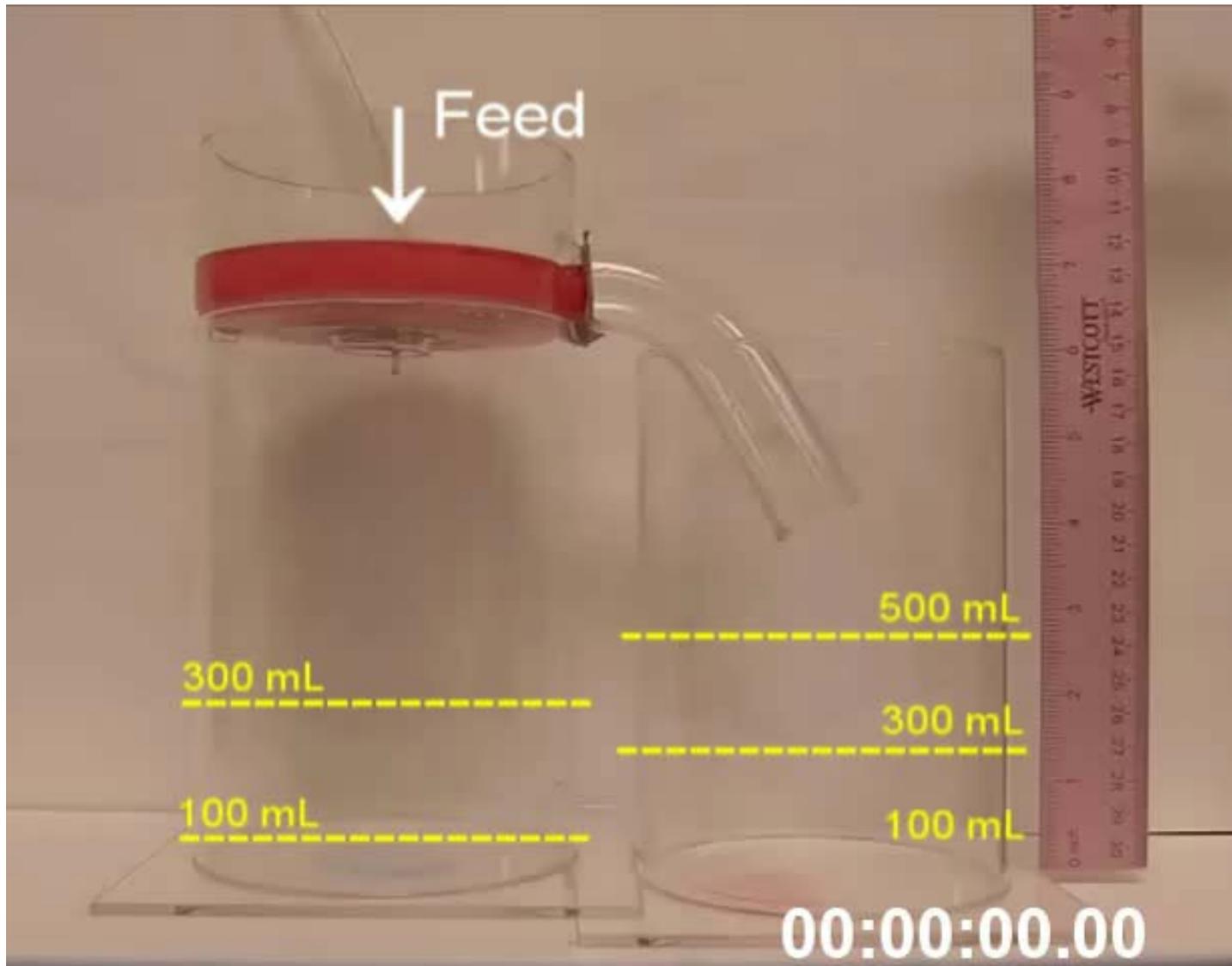


Oil-in-Water Emulsion



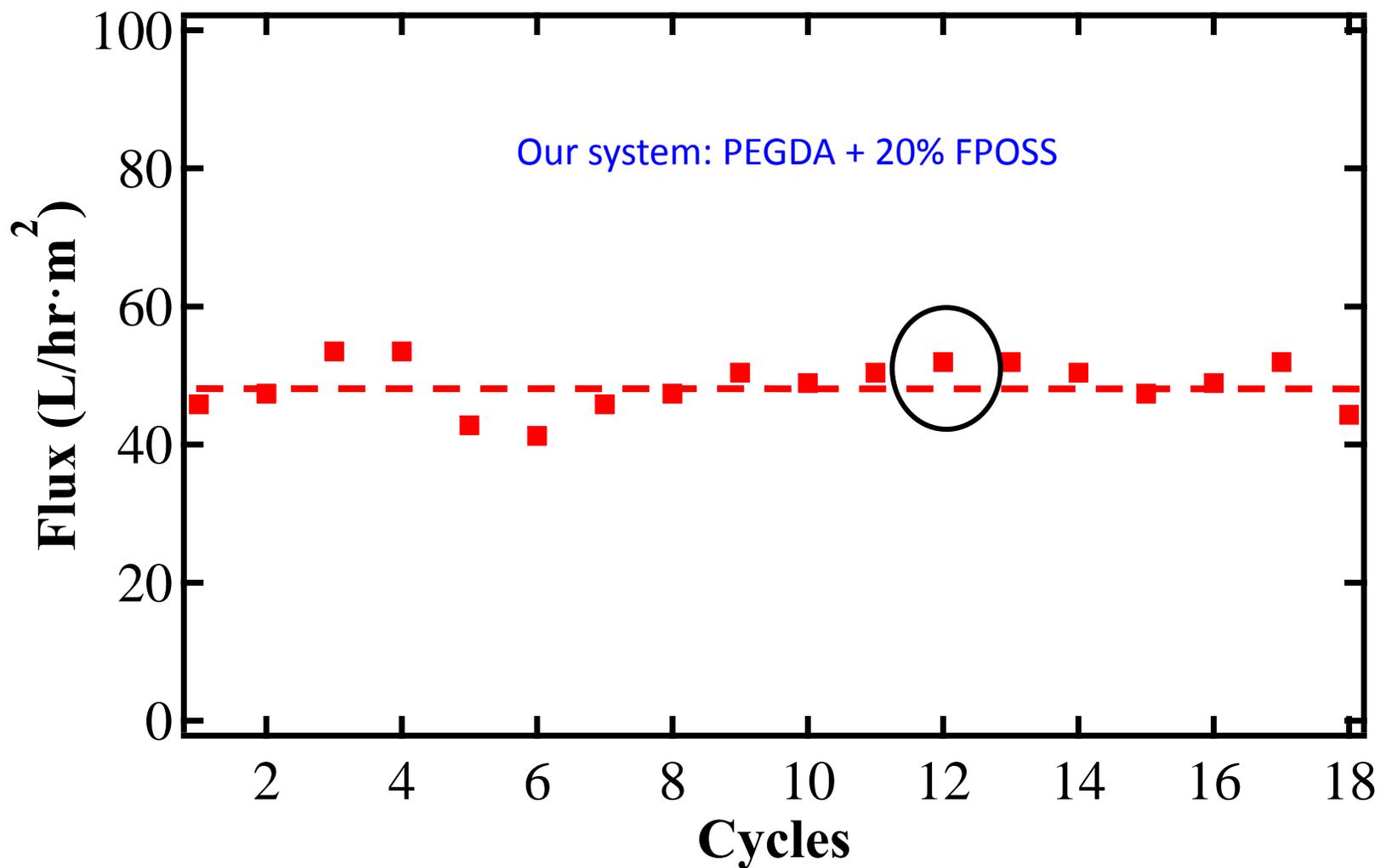
A simple, scalable, gravity-based system for the separation of both oil-in-water and water-in-oil emulsions. This is one of the first gravity-based systems to achieve such high emulsion separation efficiencies.

Gravity-driven, continuous-flow device



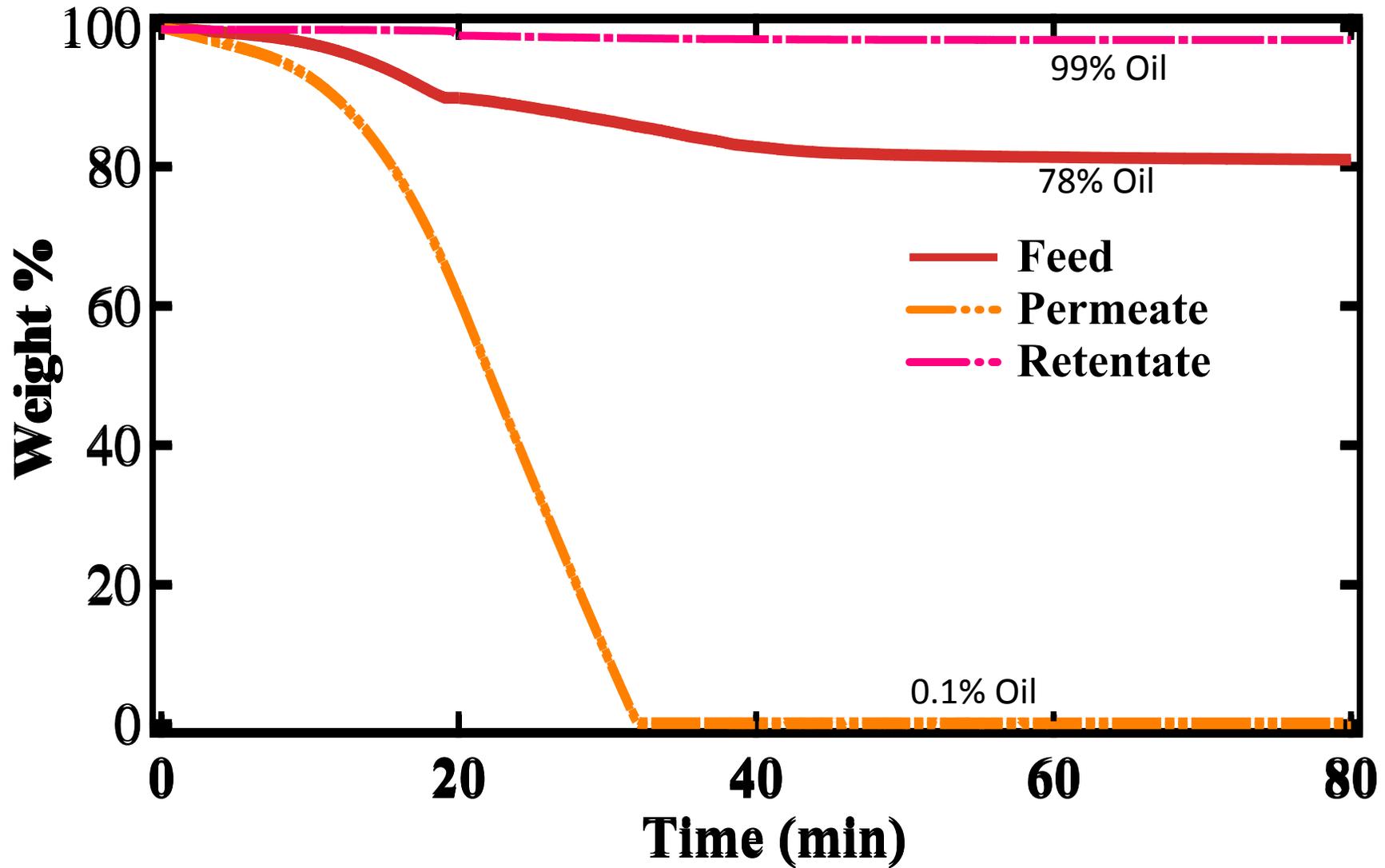


Oil-Water Emulsion Separation





Separation Efficiency





Summary



- We have developed surfaces that for the first time are superhydrophilic and superoleophobic.
- Such surfaces are ideal for the separation of both free-oil and oil-water emulsions.
- The designed membranes, for the first time, allow continuous-flow oil-water emulsion separation.



Acknowledgements



Professor Anish Tuteja
Oil/Water Separation Membranes



Polymer Working Group
Fluorinated POSS

Financial Support



Air Force Office of Scientific Research



Air Force Research Laboratory, Propulsion Directorate



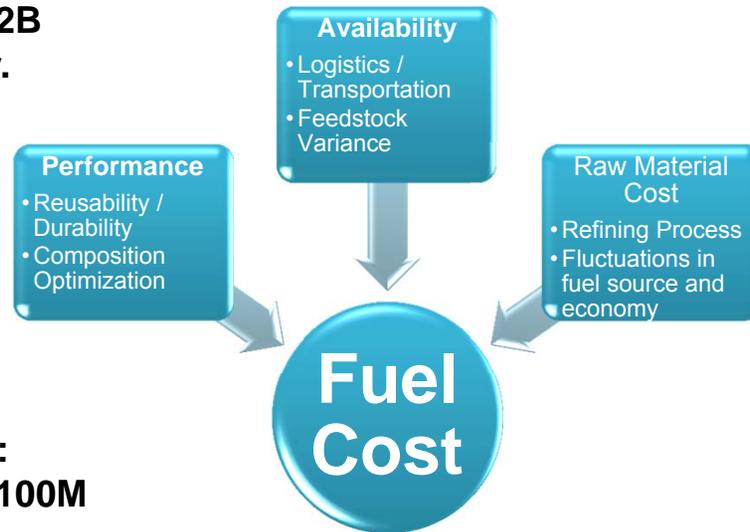
Impact of a Novel Fuel Processing Technique



Payload:
\$0.5B - 2B
10-15 yr.

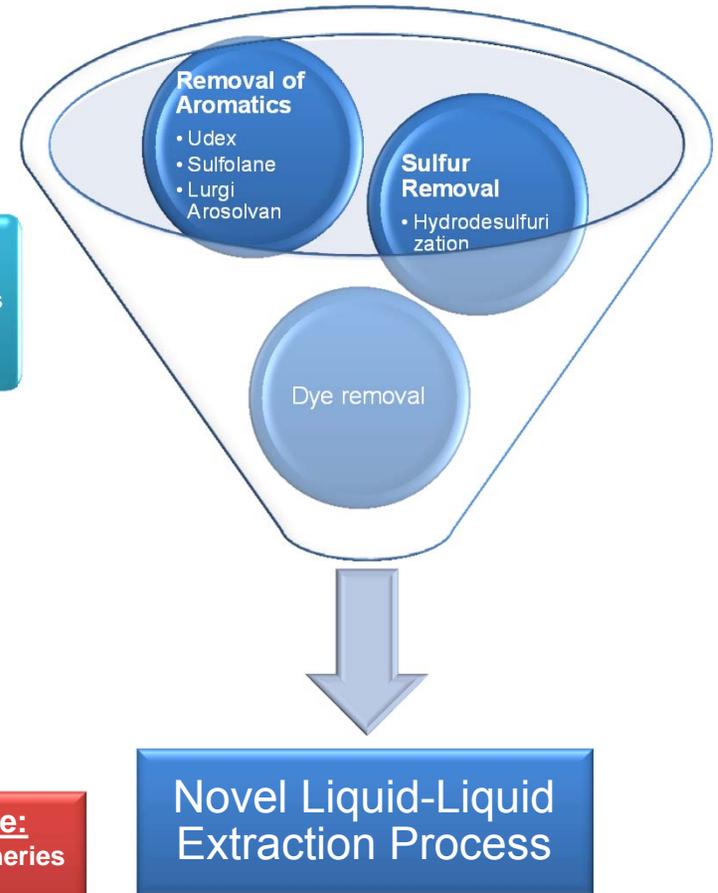
Launch Vehicle:
\$40M - 100M

Fuel
\$100k



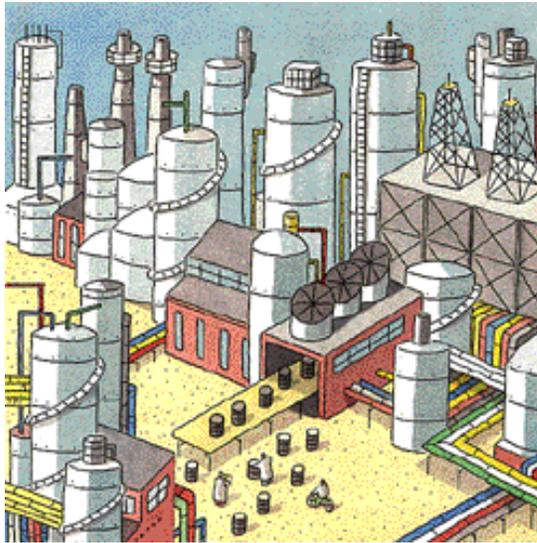
Price of fuel is influenced by many variables other than raw material cost

A novel fuel processing technique will enable:
Composition modification without the need of large refineries
Preparation of fuel in remote locations
Assured access
Reduced logistics costs





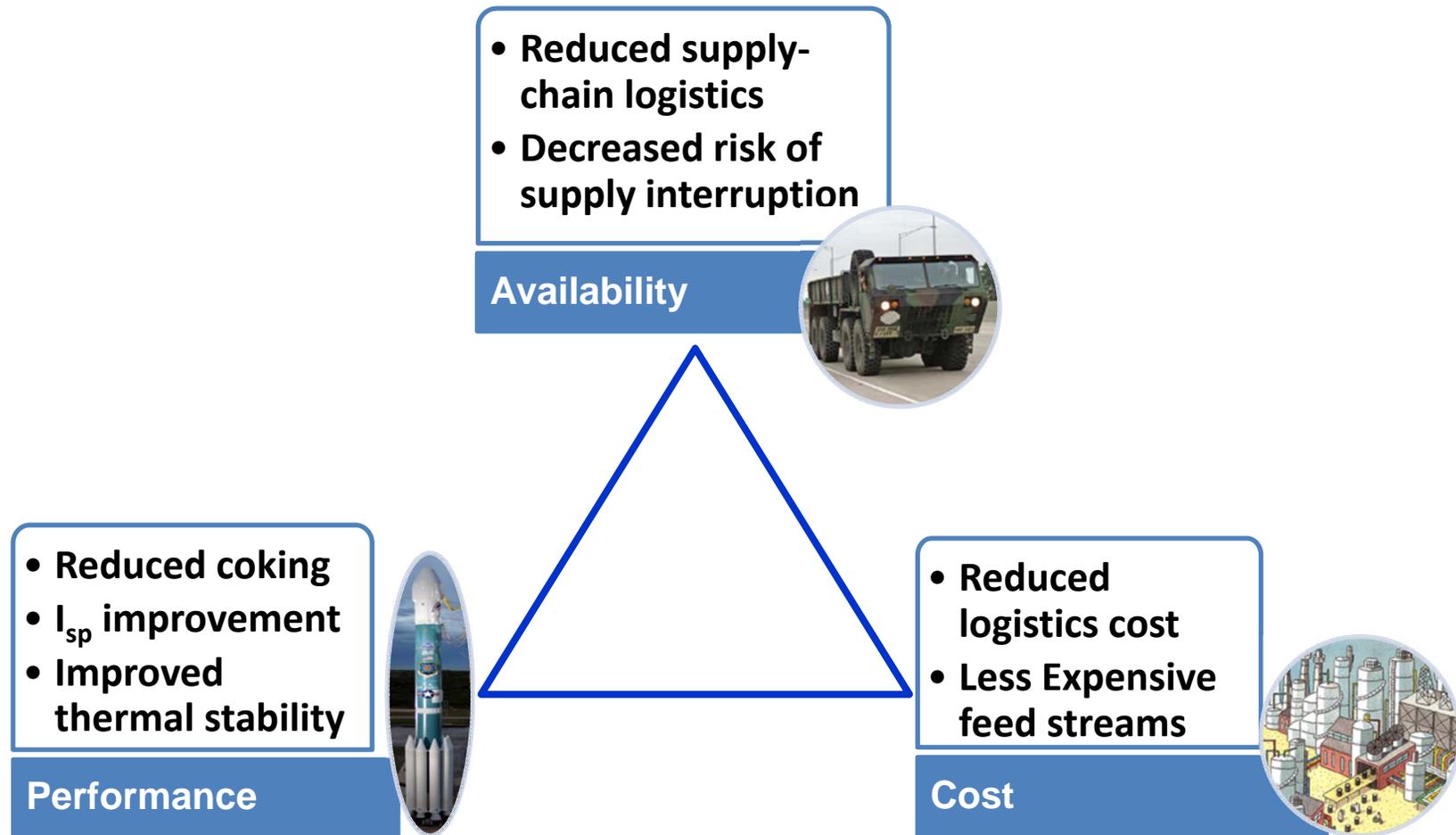
Vision



To develop the capability to produce high-performance military fuels at reduced cost with increased availability.



Thesis: Use *ll* extraction to provide improvements in several critical areas



Objective: Utilize liquid/liquid extraction process to improve performance, increase availability, and reduce cost of RP by producing these fuels from less expensive feed streams.

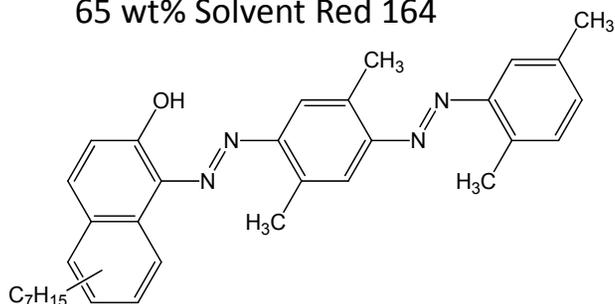


Undesirables in RP-1

Oil Red B4 (ORB4)

Dye in RP-1

65 wt% Solvent Red 164



15-30 wt% xylene

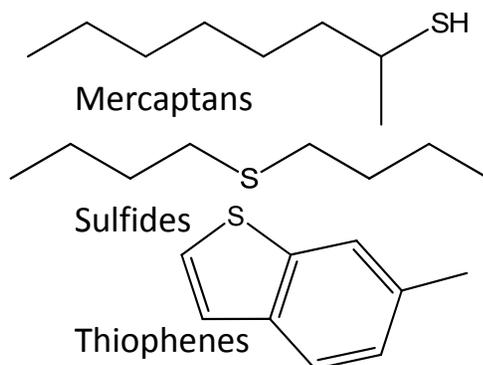
5-10 wt% ethylbenzene

Detrimental to Thermal Stability!

Sulfur Compounds

Present in RP-1

Concentration varies

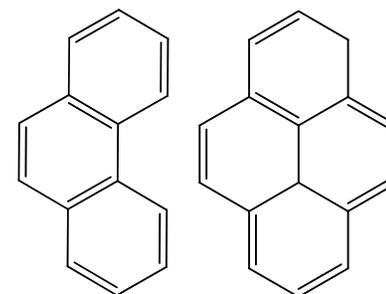


Catalysts for Coking Reactions

Aromatics

Present in RP-1

Concentration varies



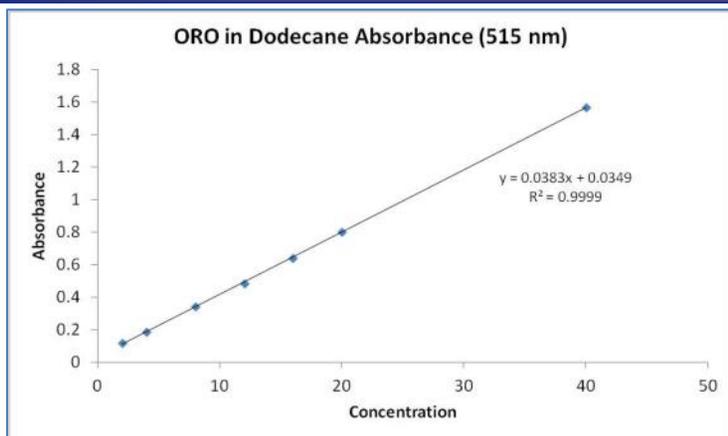
Detrimental to Performance

RP-2 is expensive and requires an additional supply chain, which also consumes resources and may be put at risk due to unforeseen circumstances.

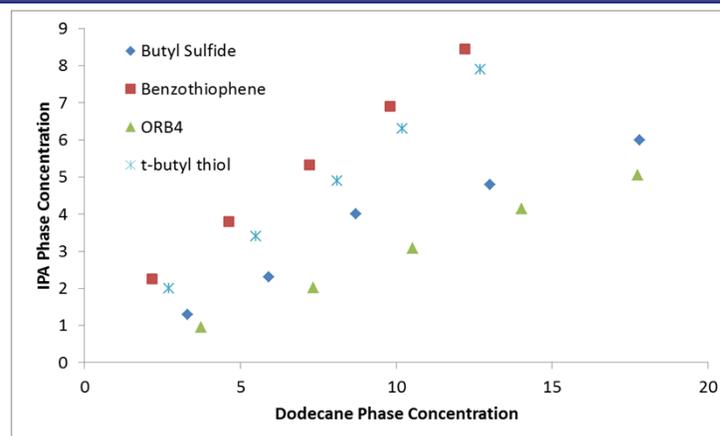
Removal from less expensive feed streams will increase availability, reduce supply risk, reduce cost, and improve performance.



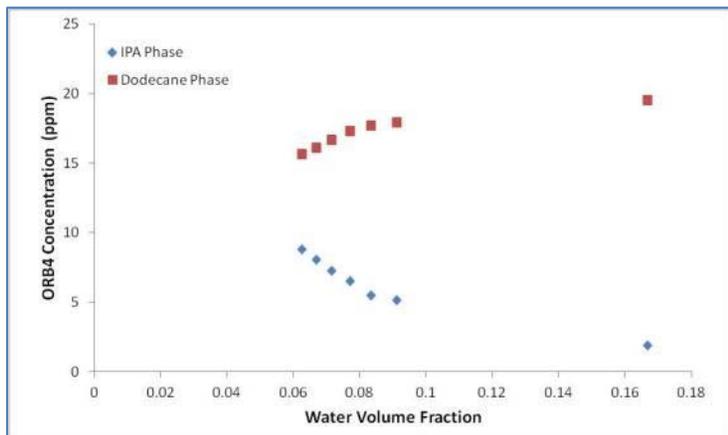
Extraction Parameter Determination



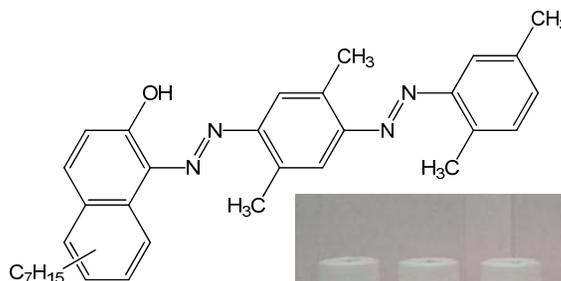
Visible spectroscopy was used to determine concentration of dye from 2-40 ppm.



Small scale extractions show IPA is the most efficient extraction solvent for dyes.



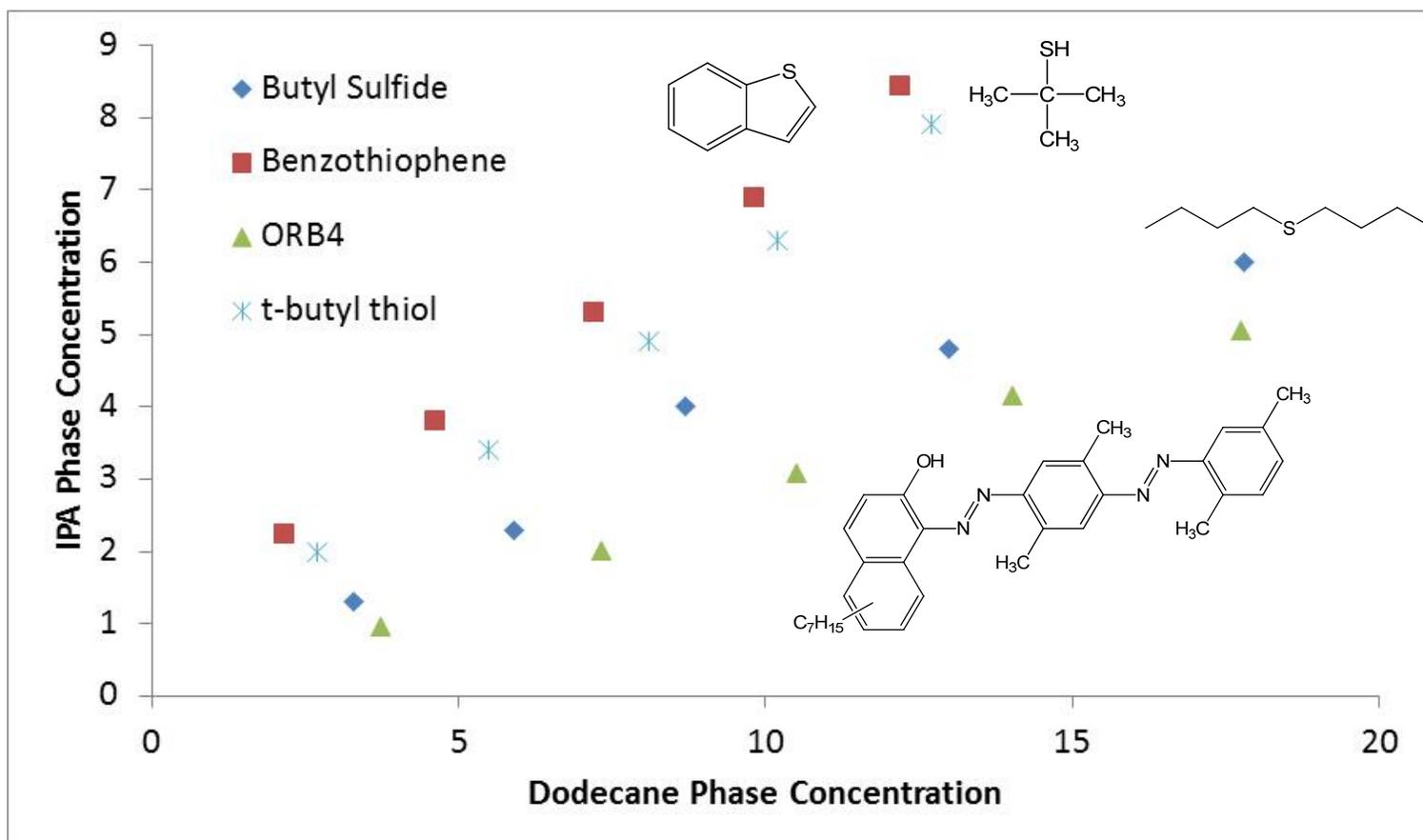
Higher IPA : Water ratio results in higher dye concentration.



Optimum IPA : Water ratio is ~13 : 1 based on small scale extractions.



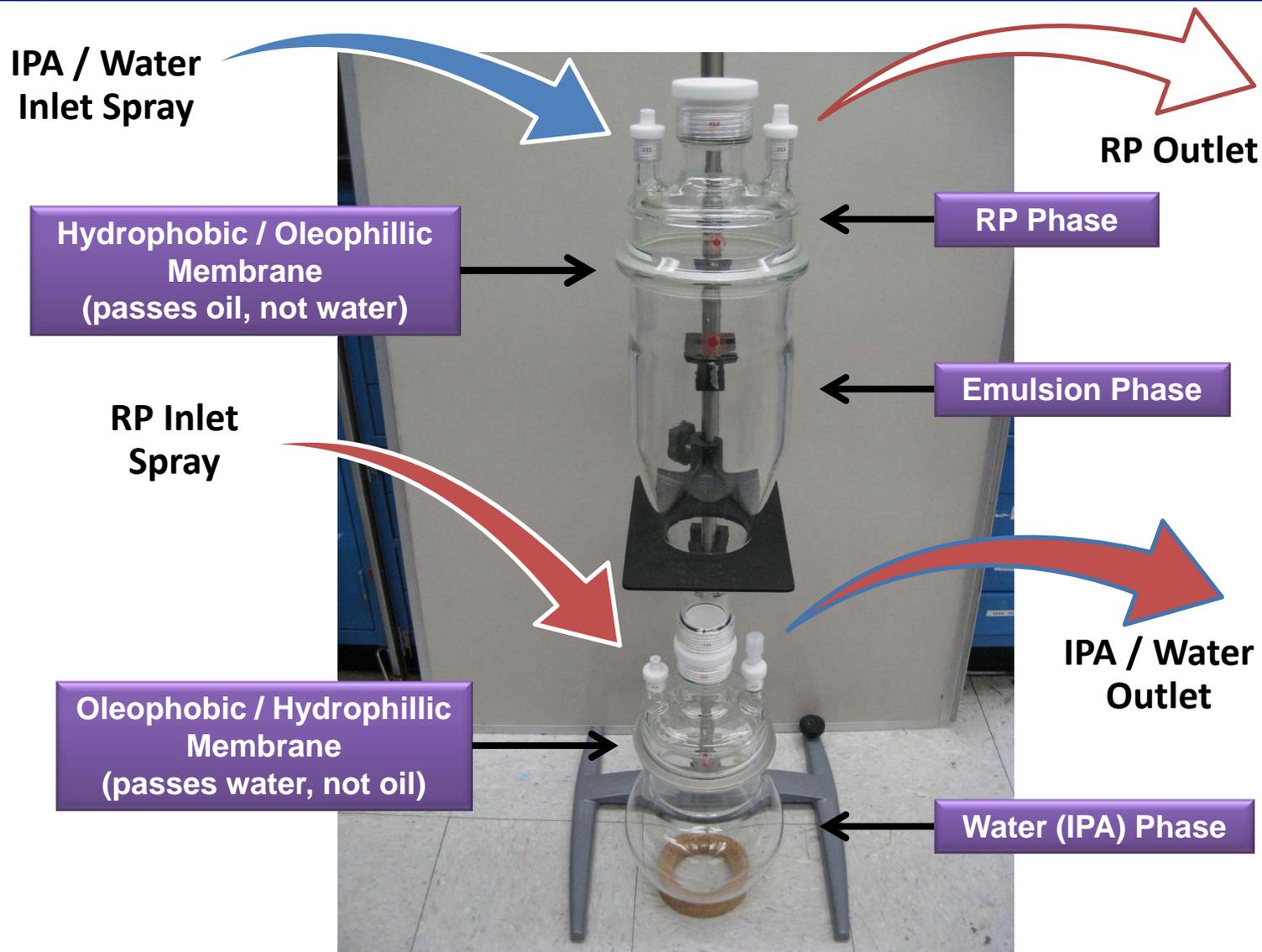
Extraction Curves



Equilibrium curve for compounds extracted from dodecane with IPA:water 10:1 v:v ratio



Extraction Apparatus





Extraction of Sulfur from RP-1



Sulfur Compounds by GC-SCD (Sulfur Speciation)	Concentration (ppm)
C2 Thiophenes	<0.1
C3-C4 Thiophenes	1.6
C5 Thiophenes	6.3
C6 Thiophenes	6.1
C7 Thiophenes	5.8
C8-C9 Thiophenes	4.9
C10 Thiophenes	1.3
C11 Thiophenes	0.9
C12+ Thiophenes	2.0



Sulfur Compounds by GC-SCD (Sulfur Speciation)	Concentration (ppm)
C2 Thiophenes	0.3
C3-C4 Thiophenes	1.4
C5 Thiophenes	3.7
C6 Thiophenes	3.5
C7 Thiophenes	4.1
C8-C9 Thiophenes	2.9
C10 Thiophenes	0.6
C11 Thiophenes	0.6
C12+ Thiophenes	<0.1

Standard Grade RP-1
(Errors are ± 0.3 ppm)



Standard Grade RP-1 after extraction with 10:1 IPA water in extraction apparatus



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QUESTIONS?



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