

# Nanoparticle Characterization Needs – From Composite Properties to Product Stewardship

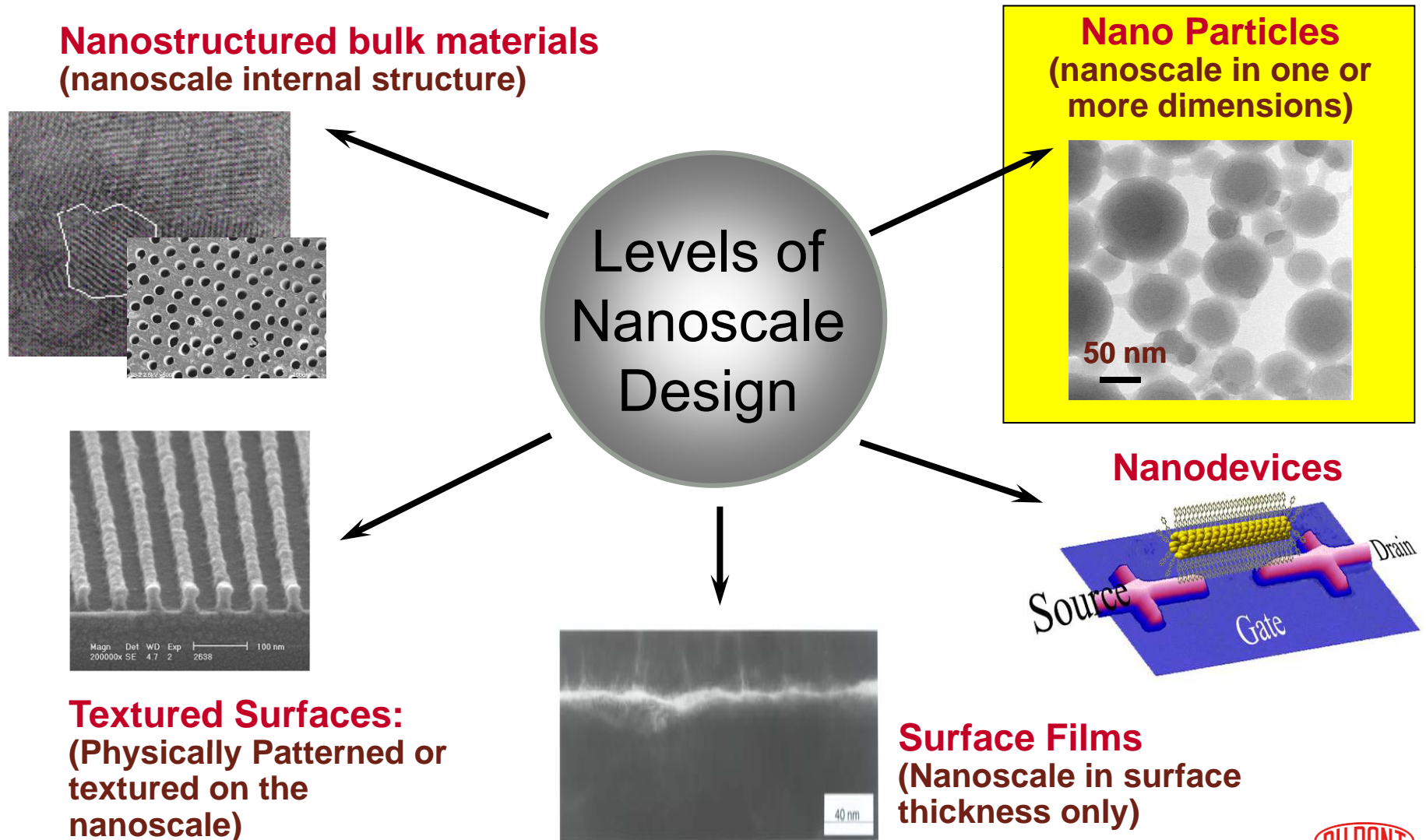
The New Steel?  
February 28, 2011

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DuPont Nanocomposite Technologies  
Central Research and Development  
Wilmington, Delaware



*The miracles of science™*

# Partitioning Nanotechnology Space

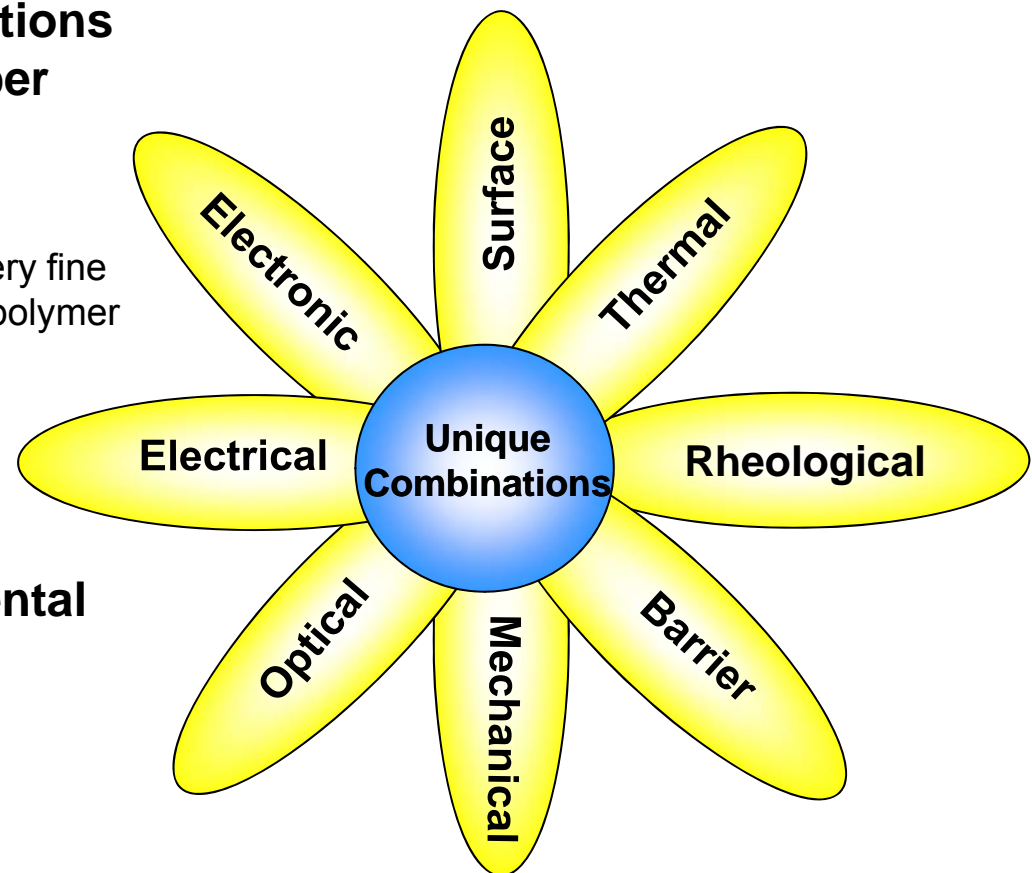


# Nanomaterials are an Enabling Technology for Composites

**Desired property combinations can be achieved with proper selection of materials and microstructure**

- Manipulation of materials on very fine scale is broadly useful across polymer platforms
- Resulting materials have more function and value in use

**Structure/property relationships are fundamental to material development**



# Nanoscale Science and Engineering and Product Stewardship:

**Many nanostructures do NOT involve nanoparticles.**

**But most if not all nano-specific SHE questions that are being discussed relate to particles with nanoscale dimensions..**

- “There is an important distinction between applications that use nanoscale active areas on larger objects and chemicals or pharmaceuticals in which the nanometre-scale ‘active area’ is a discrete nanoparticle or nanotube .... Exposures to substances and materials other than nanoparticles are covered by existing understanding and regulation.... They are not considered further in this report except in that they may be in the form of discrete particles incorporated into materials in the nanometre size range.”

Excerpted from *Nanoscience and nanotechnologies: opportunities and uncertainties*; Royal Society and the Royal Academy of Engineering, 2004

## Environmental, Health and Safety, and Product Stewardship Requires Data

**“All fiber types capable of depositing in the thorax are not alike in their pathogenic potential...”**

**A complete characterization (i.e., dimensions, fiber number, mass, and aerodynamic diameter) of the fiber aerosol and retained dose is essential.”**

- R. McClellan, et. al. – Regul Toxicol Pharmacol, 16 (1992) 321-64

**“A robust structure/activity paradigm has emerged from (research on fibre toxicology) that highlights fibre length, thinness, and biopersistence as major factors in determining the pathogenicity of a fibre.”**

- K. Donaldson, Crit. Rev. Toxicol. 39 (2009) 487-500

**Therefore product stewardship requires extensive characterization**

# Environmental Defense – DuPont Nano Risk Framework

**“A framework to facilitate the responsible development, production, use and disposal of nano-scale materials.”**

**Collaboration begun in October 2005**

**Objective: A systematic and disciplined process, developed with broad collaboration**

- Identify, manage and reduce potential health, safety and environmental risks throughout the lifecycle of such nanomaterials”
- Model and tool for industry, public interest groups, academia and government
- Make available information, tools and methods developed

**Framework was published on June 21, 2007**

**[www.nanoriskframework.com](http://www.nanoriskframework.com)**

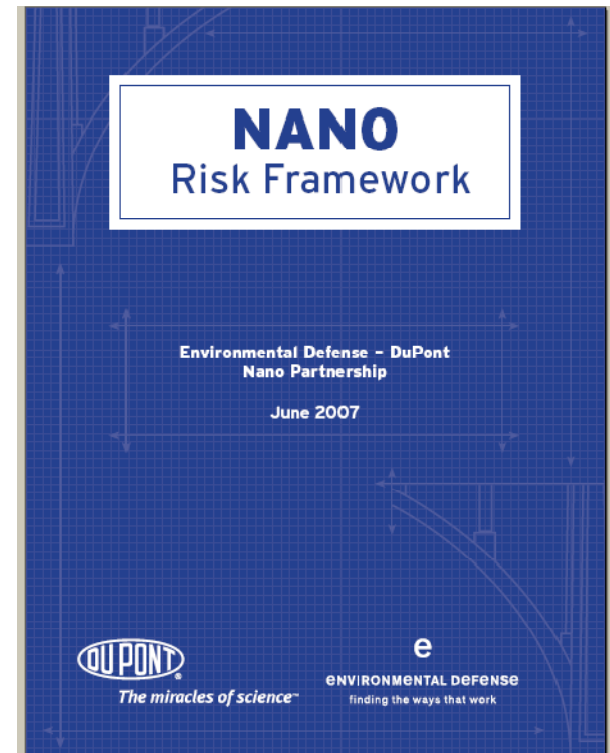
# A Mix of Familiar and New Elements

## Familiar risk management paradigm

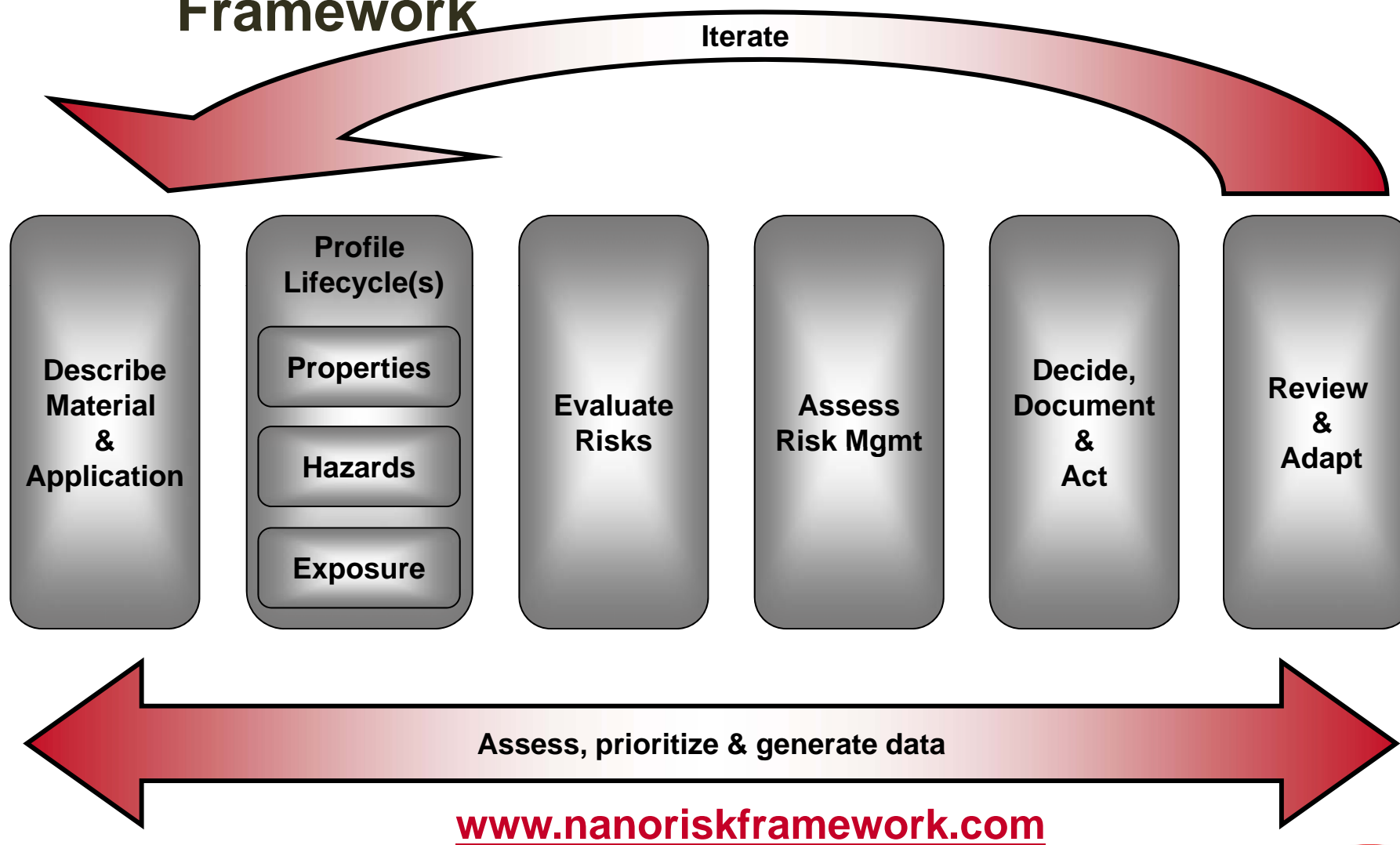
- Development of informational profiles (base sets)
- Information driven
- Reasonable worse case assumptions
- Appropriate bridging
- Applying life cycle thinking

## As of 2/1/2011

- Total visits to website – 20,365
- Total Downloads – 9144
- Total Countries – 134



# Environmental Defense – DuPont NanoRisk Framework





# Environmental Defense – DuPont NanoRisk Framework

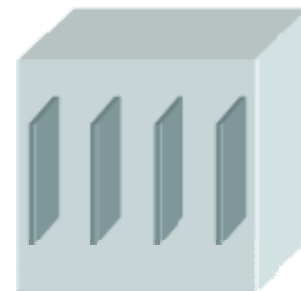
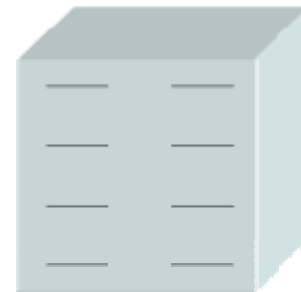
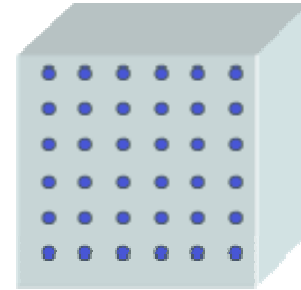
## Typical Information

Properties

<b>Commercial Name</b>	<b>Particle Size</b>
<b>Technical Name</b>	<b>Size Distribution</b>
<b>Common Form</b>	<b>Surface-Area</b>
<b>Chemical Composition</b>	<b>Particle Density</b>
<b>Molecular Structure</b>	<b>Solubility</b>
<b>Crystal Structure</b>	<b>Dispersability</b>
<b>Physical Form</b>	<b>Agglomeration State</b>
<b>Bulk Density</b>	<b>Chemical Reactivity</b>
	<b>Surface Reactivity</b>
	<b>Porosity</b>
	<b>Surface Charge</b>

# Nanocomposite Design Rules: Particle Dimensionality Defines Properties

Properties/uses	
Isotropy, transparency, electronic, magnetic, photonic, model systems	spheres
electrical conductivity, thermomechanical, network structures, fillers for fibers	rods
Barrier, thermomechanical, flame retardancy, CTE in plane, very high interfacial area	plates

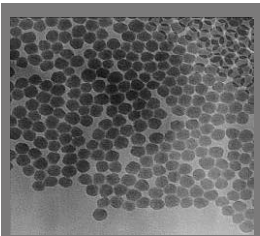


# Nanocomposite Systems Require Compatible Particles, Polymers and Processes

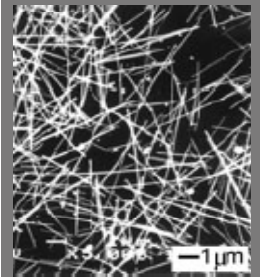
Nanoparticles



Polymers



**TiO<sub>2</sub>, SiO<sub>2</sub>, BaTiO<sub>3</sub>, AlN, diamonds, Q-dots, polymers...**



**CNT, Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, SiC, TiO<sub>2</sub> tubes....**



**Clay, exfoliated graphite..**

## Dispersion & Compatibilization

### Interfacial Chemistry

- Surfactants
- Coupling agents

### Structures & Interphase

- Dendrimers
- Multiblock polymers
- Flexible links

### Process Technology

- Polymer processing
- Milling/grinding
- Particle formation/modification

**Polyimide  
Fluoropolymers**

Thermoset

Polyamide

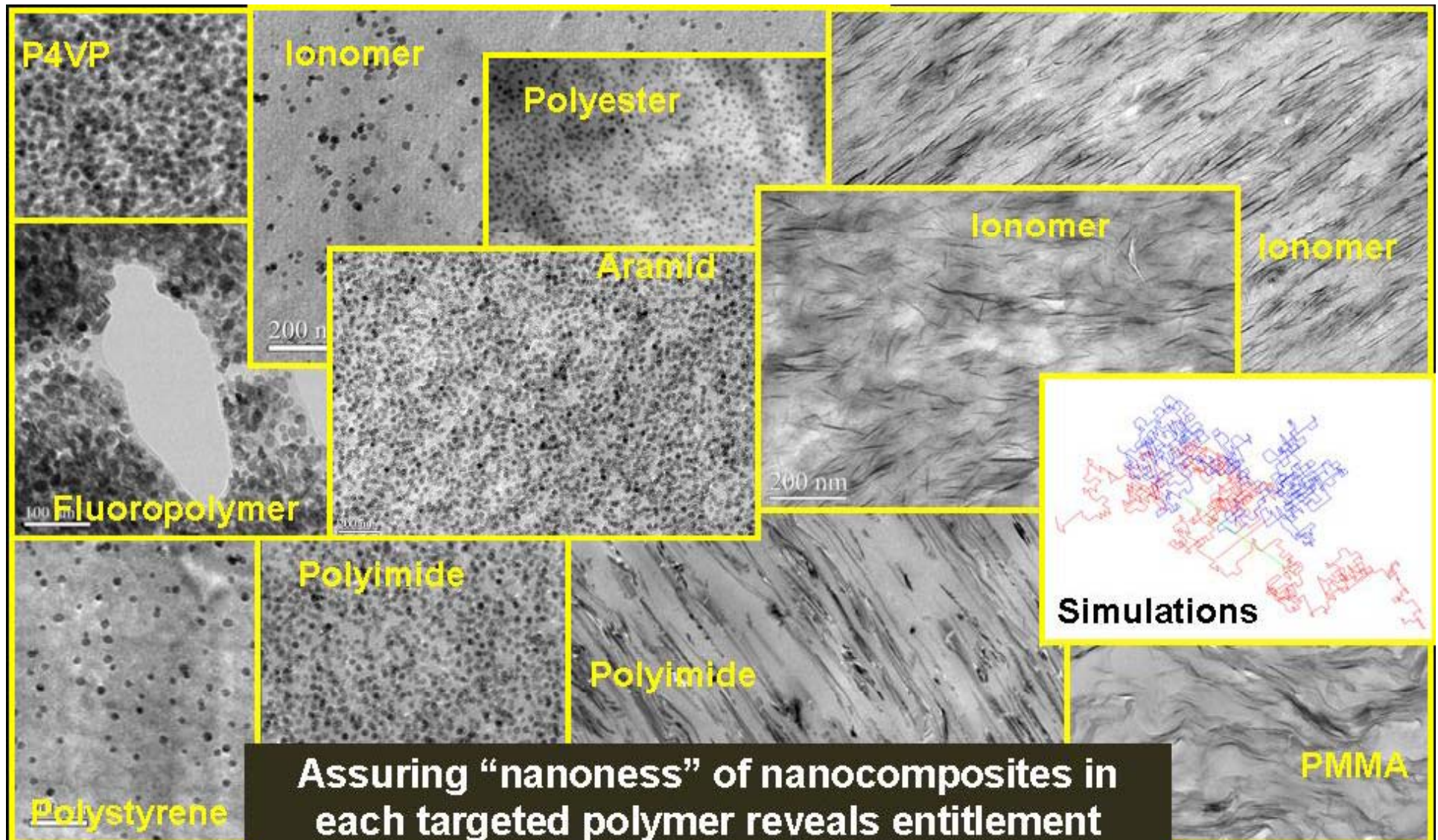
**Polyester**

Polyolefins

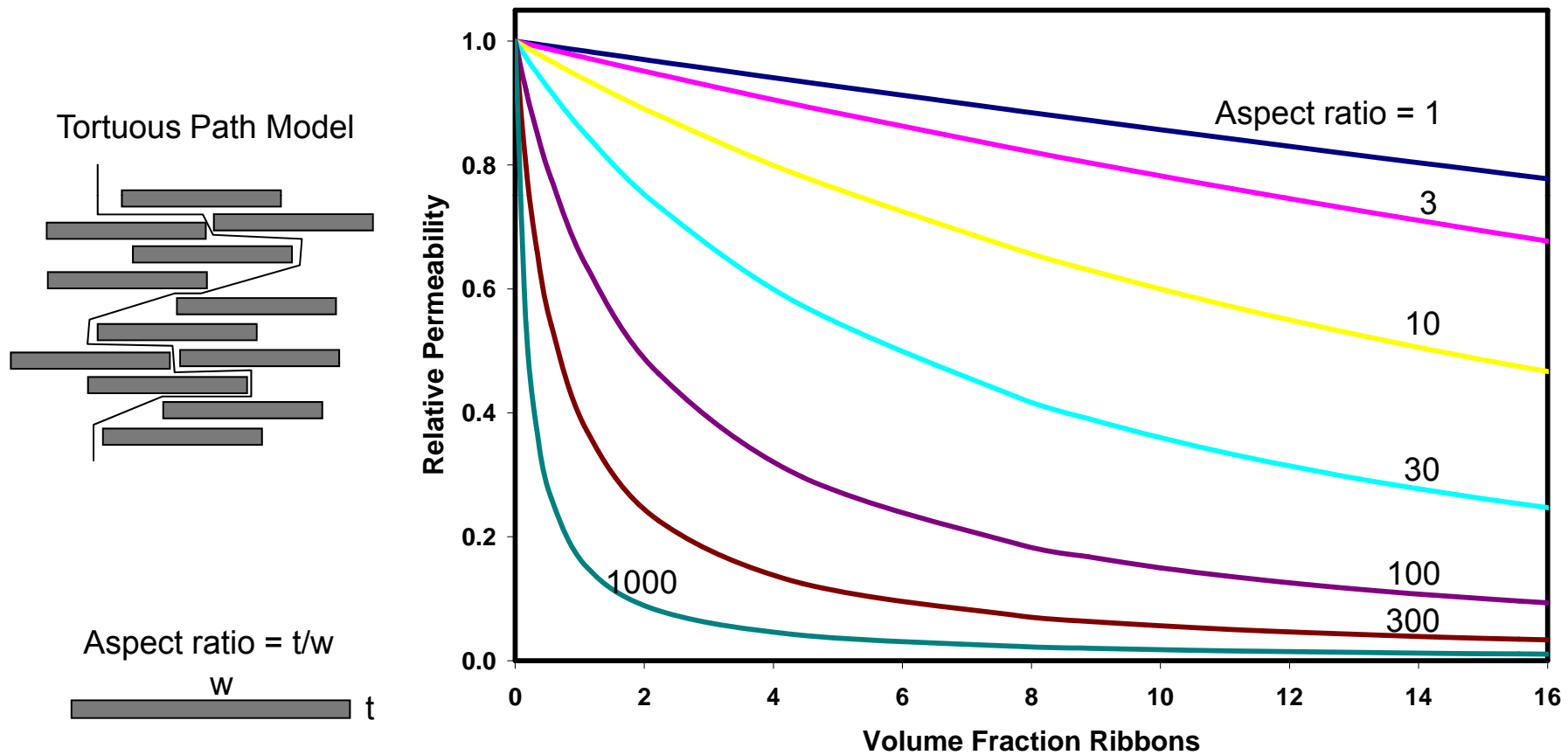
**Ionomers**

Others...

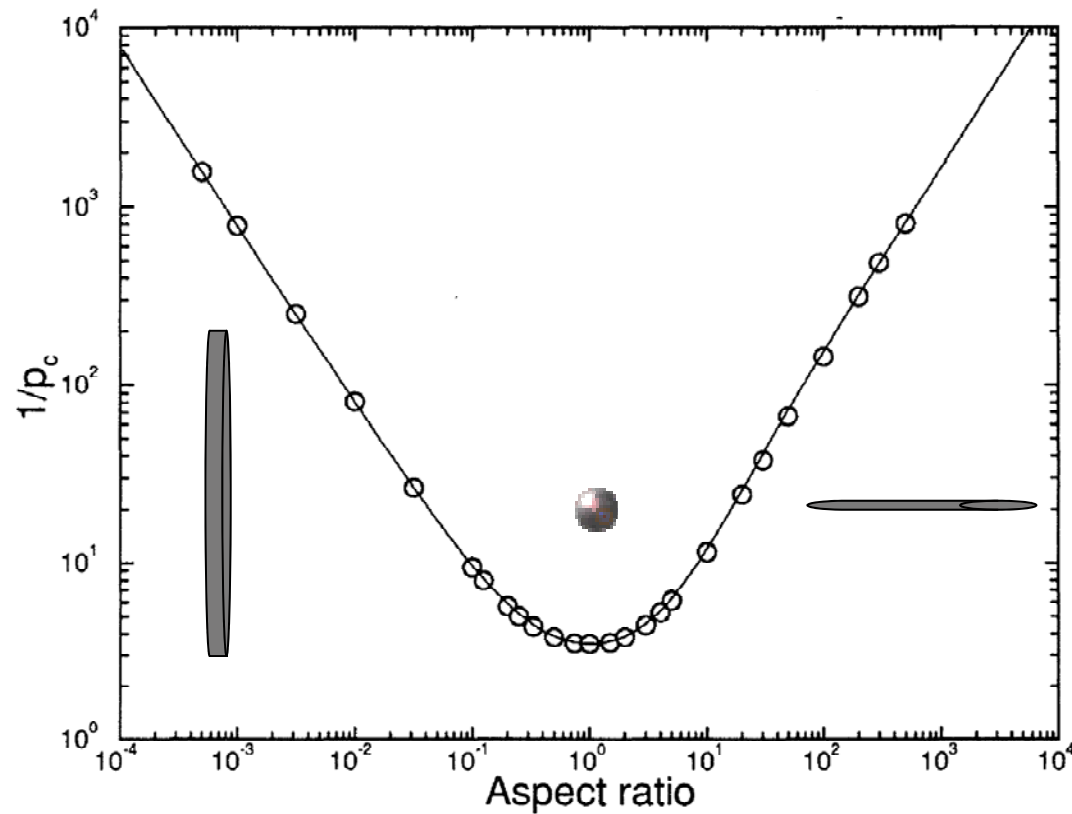
## Processes Developed to Create Excellent Dispersions in Multiple Polymers



# Diffusion Barrier vs. Filler Aspect Ratio (Nielsen Model)

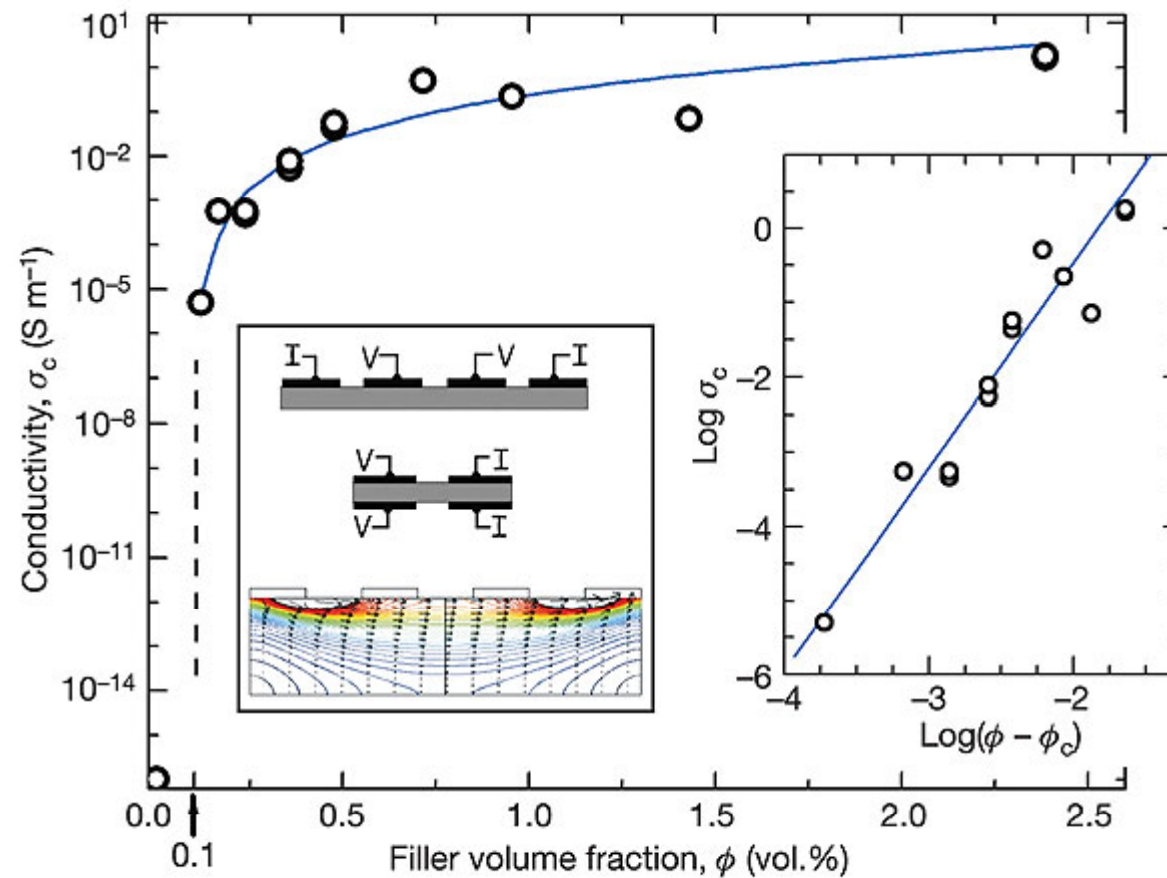


# Percolation Threshold to Aspect Ratio (Garboczi Model)

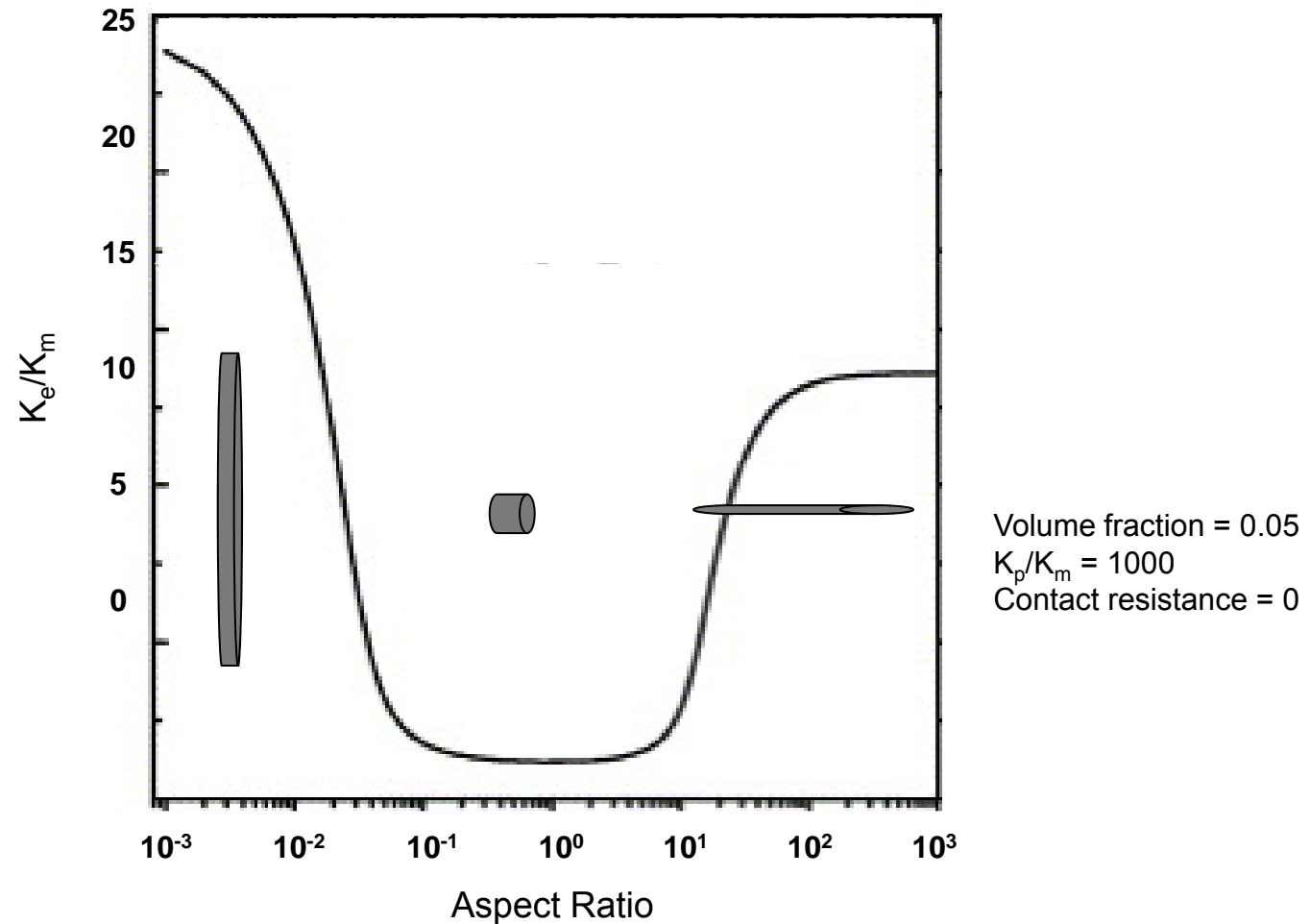


$P_c \equiv$  critical volume fraction  
for ellipsoid percolation

# Graphene/Polystyrene Electrical Conductivity Fits Garboczi Model

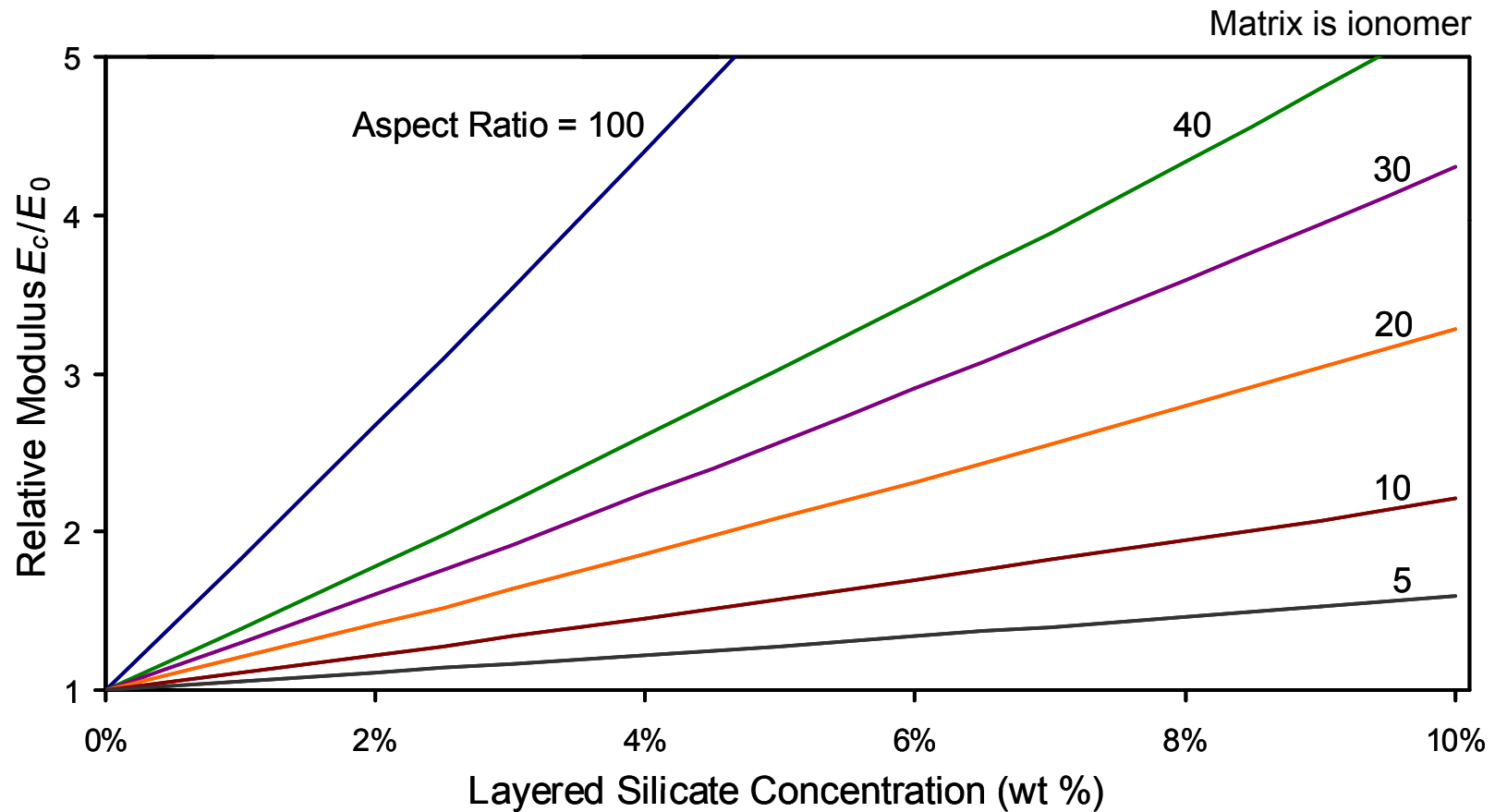


# Thermal Conductivity vs. Aspect Ratio (Gao Model)






































# Elastic Modulus to Filler Aspect Ratio (Halpin-Tsai)



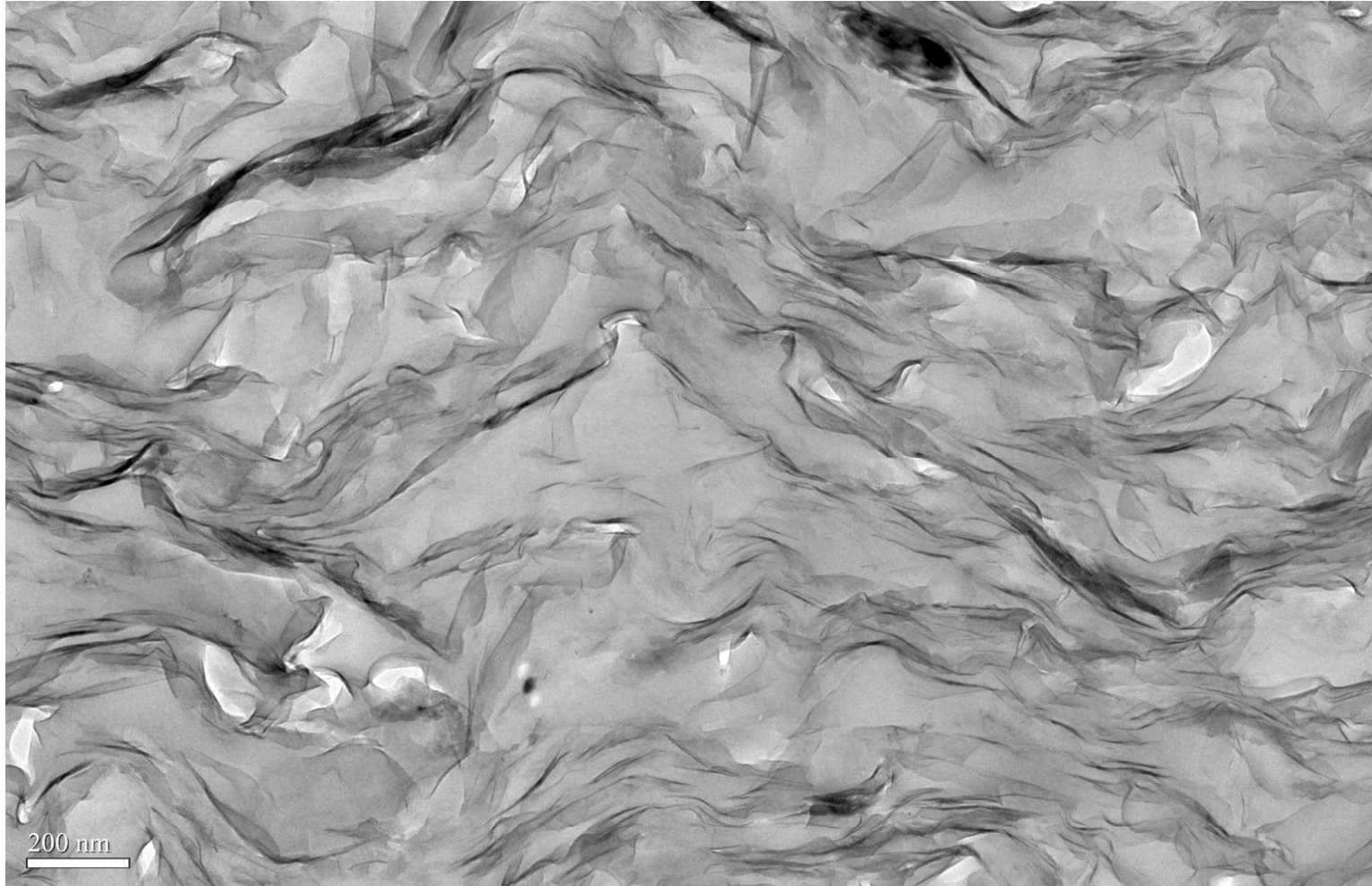
# Techniques for Measuring Nanoparticle Size

Method	Dry/Solvent Dispersed			Composite		
	Plates	Spheres	Rods	Plates	Spheres	Rods
Surface Area (BET)						
Static Light Scattering (SLS)						
Dynamic light scattering (DLS)						
Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)						
Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM)						
Scanning Probe Microscopy (SPM)						
Small Angle X-ray Scattering (SAXS)						

# Techniques for Measuring Nanoparticle Size

Method	Composite						
	Plate	Sphere	Rod	Distribution	Multi-modal	Faceted	Re-entrant
Surface Area (BET)							
Static Light Scattering (SLS)							
Dynamic light scattering (DLS)							
Scanning Electron Micr. (SEM)							
Transmission Electron Micr. (TEM)							
Scanning Probe Micr. (SPM)							
Small Angle X-ray Scattering (SAXS)							

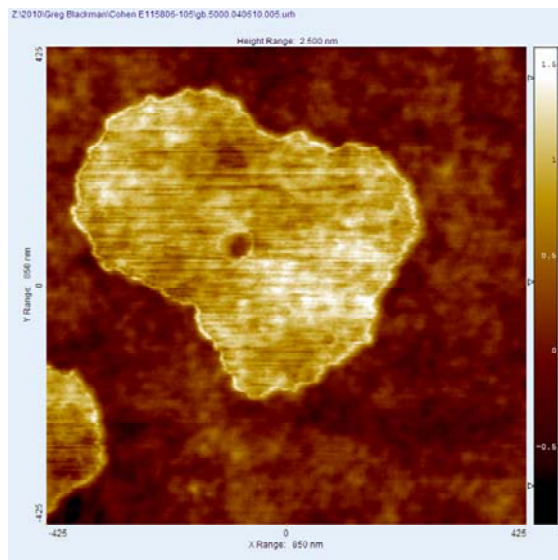
# Electron Microscopy can be Ambiguous



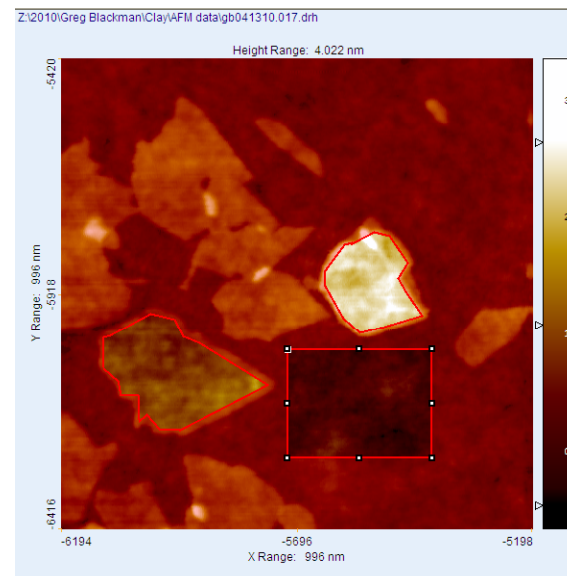
5 v% clay in PMMA

# Individual Clay Sheets ARE Irregular

Height images (AFM)

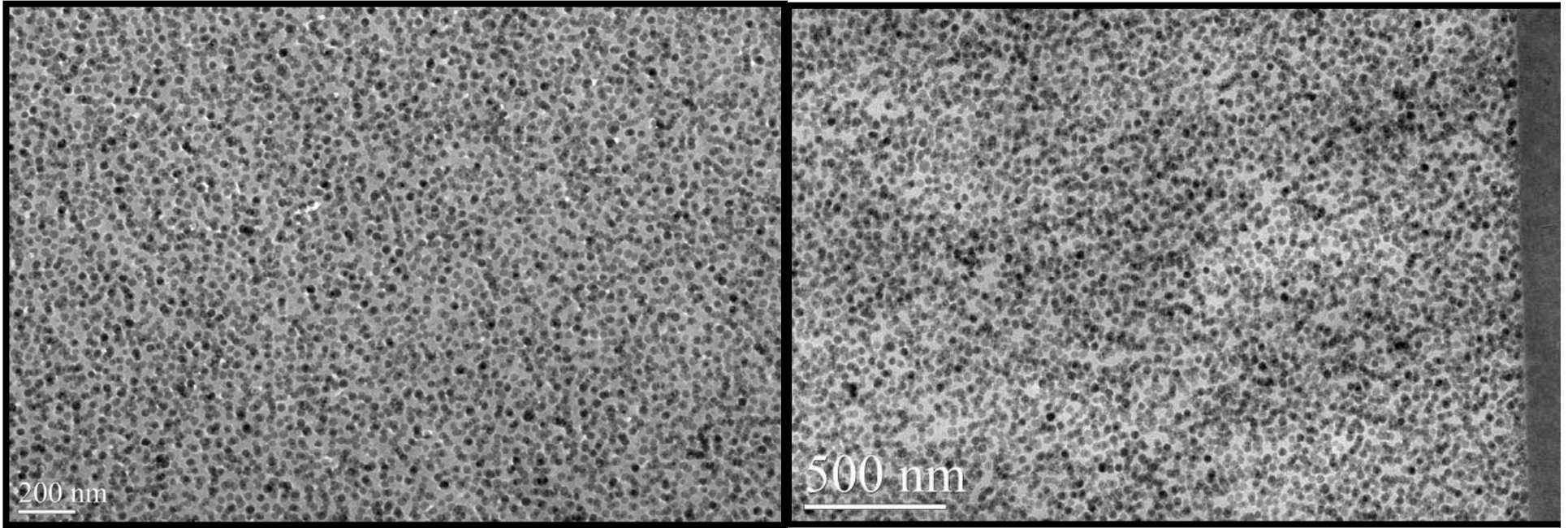


Laponite



Montmorillonite

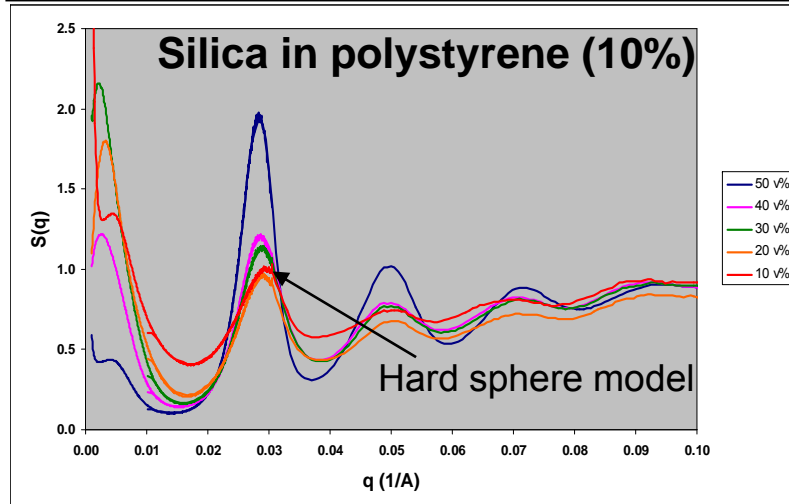
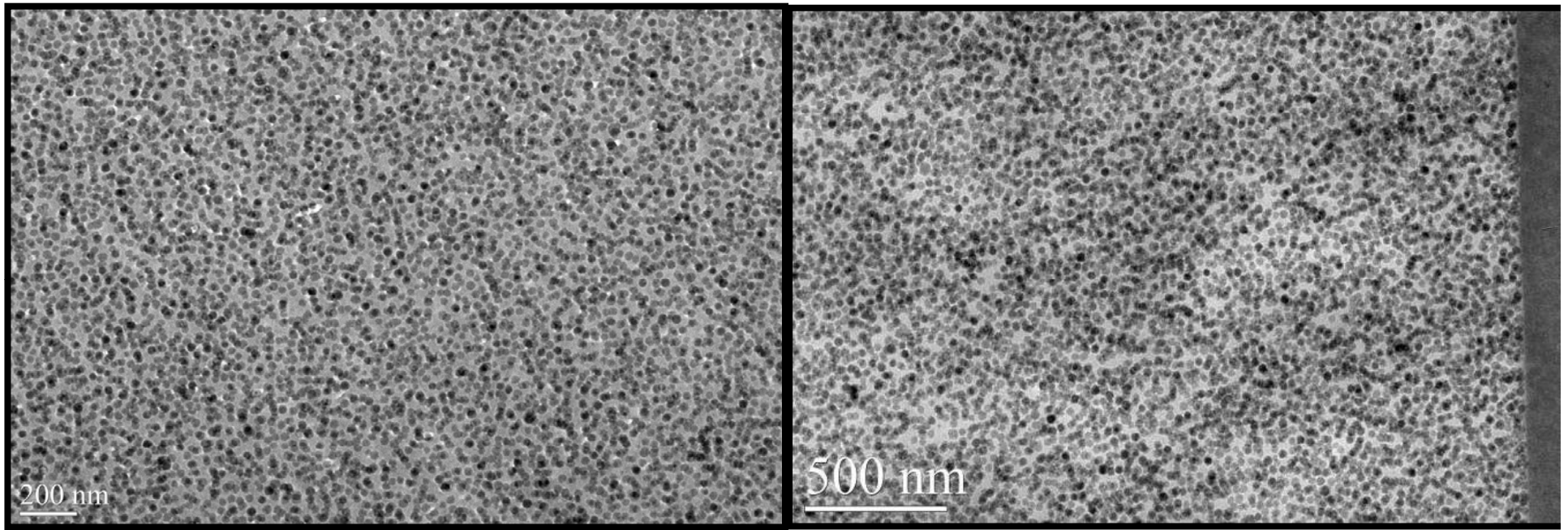
## Are These Microstructures Different?



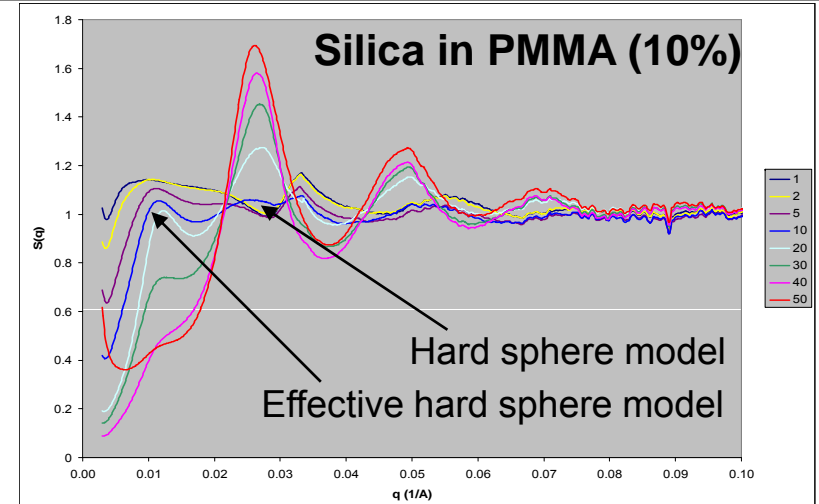
**Silica in polystyrene (10%)**

**Silica in PMMA (10%)**

# Need to Measure the Spaces (Dispersion)!



SAXS Data



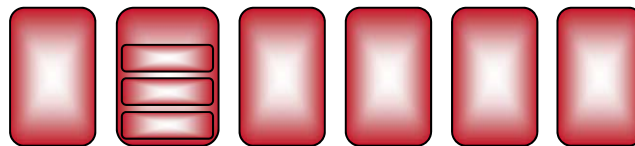
# Nanoparticle Characterization Required for Product Stewardship, Property Understanding

## NanoRisk Framework is rigorous and data driven assessment tool

- Materials and application descriptions
- Lifecycle profiles
- Risk evaluation and Management
- Decide, document and act
- Review and adapt

**Nanoparticle characterization is a fundamental part of the product stewardship process**

**Protecting people and environment is our highest priority**



[www.nanoriskframework.com](http://www.nanoriskframework.com)





# Nanoparticle Characterization is Required for Understanding Property Development

**Particle size, shape, distribution responsible for properties**

**Characterization of platy and rod-like particles onerous at best**

- Best done in highly oriented systems and low particle concentrations
- This is rarely the case in nanocomposites

**Characterization almost impossible in nanocomposites**

- Size distributions (especially multimodal)
- Faceted particles
- Highly irregular particles (especially re-entrant shapes)
- High loadings

**Dispersion very important also**

- But is the subject of another (lengthy) discussion