

# Online orientation measurements of elongated particles by X-ray scattering

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*WWSC is a joint research center at KTH and Chalmers*

# Bulletproof Vest from Trees?

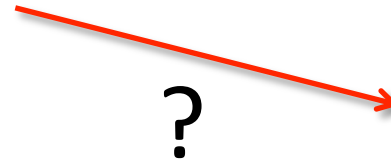
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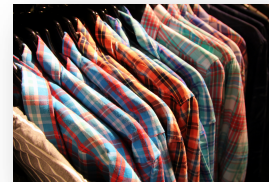
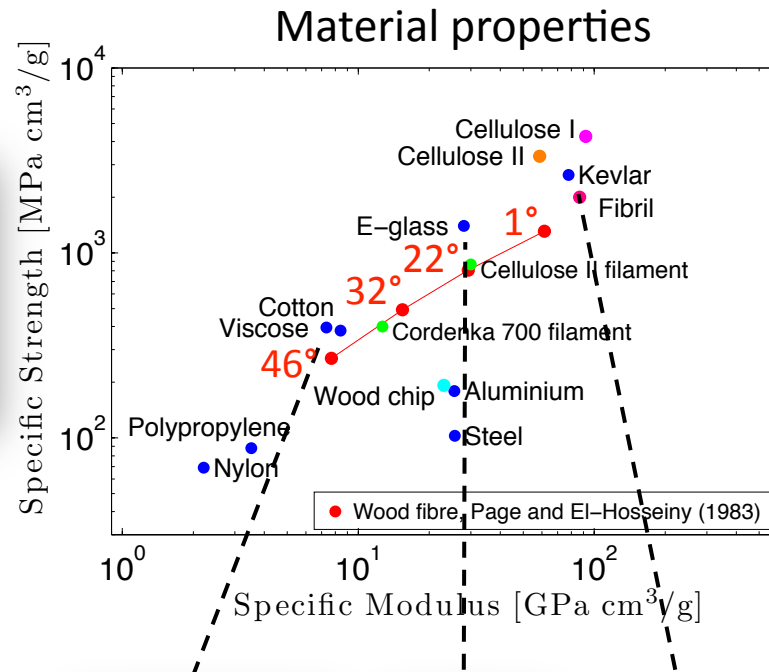
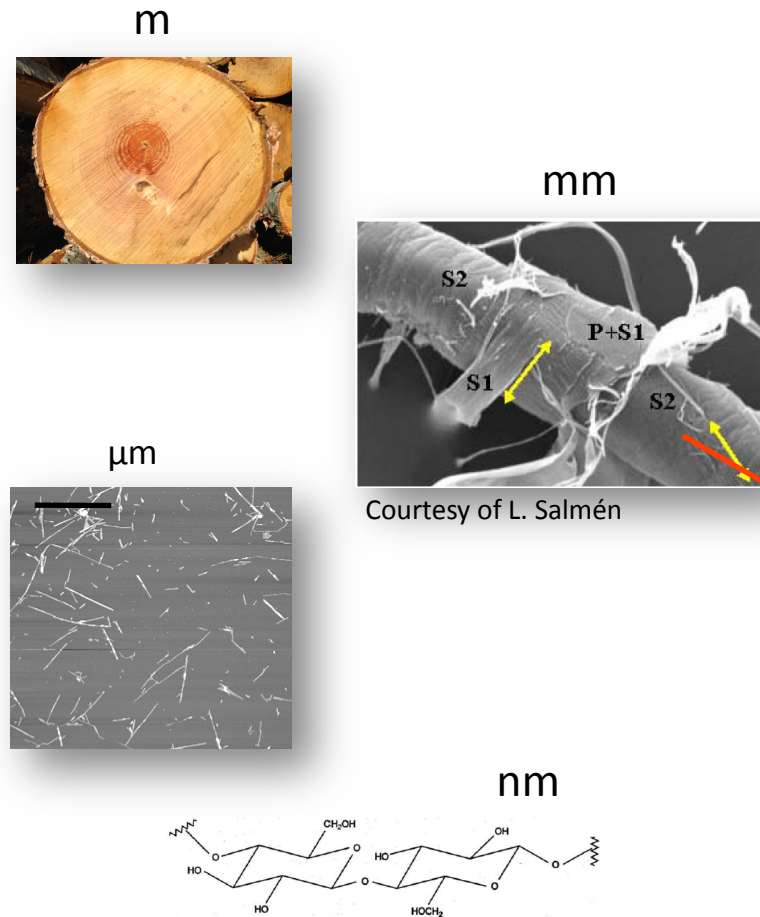
Courtesy of E. Arkema



Courtesy of E. Arkema



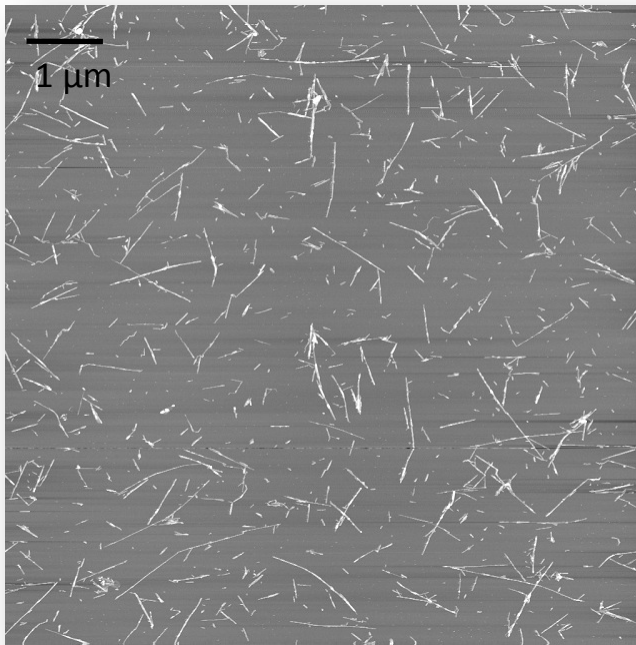
# Wood Structure and Properties



# Cellulose nanofibrils, CNF

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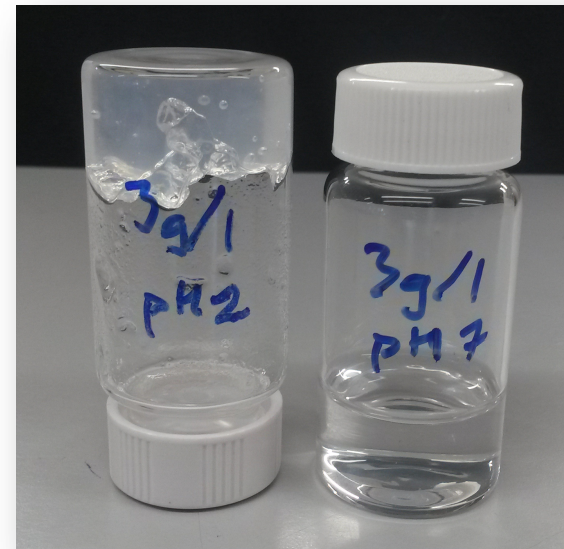
AFM image of CNF



Courtesy of A. Fall and G. Nyström

Gel  
Locked

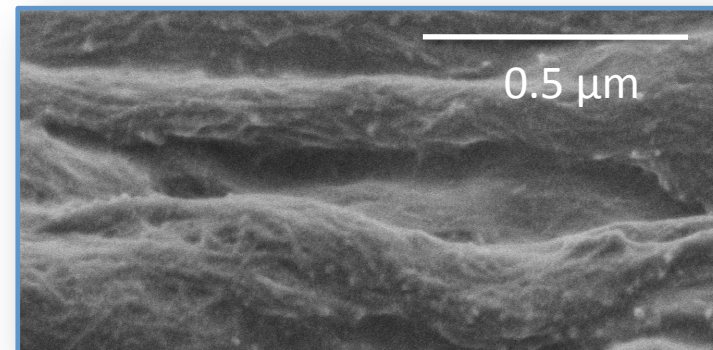
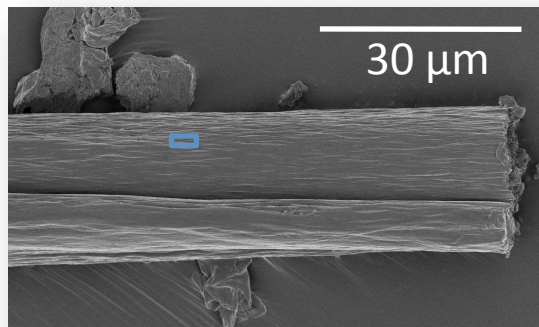
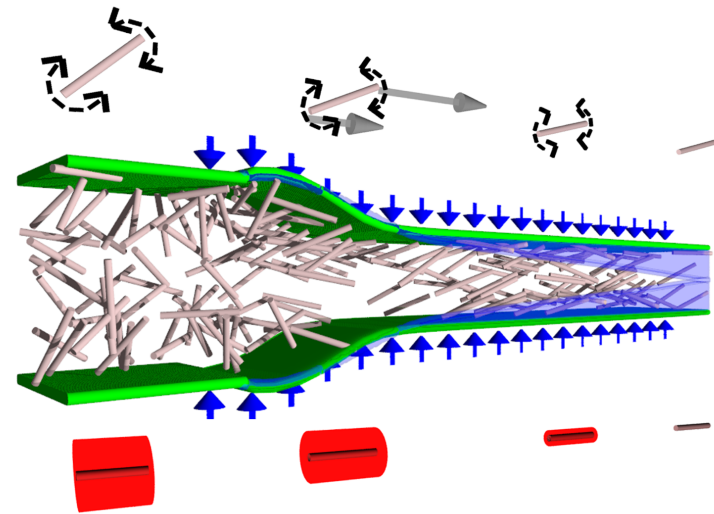
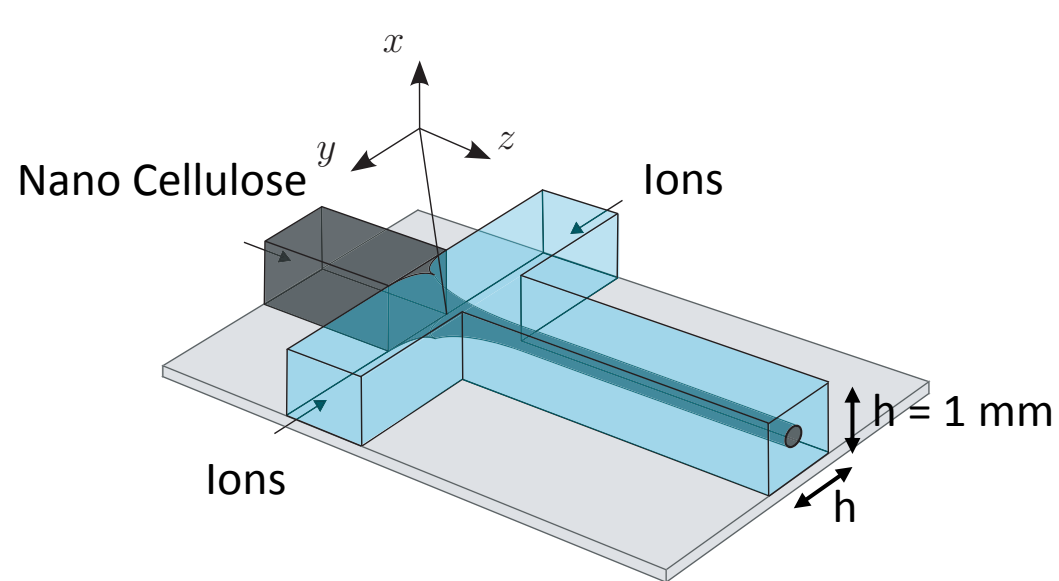
Dispersion  
Freely moving



3 g/l  $\approx$  0.3 % by weight

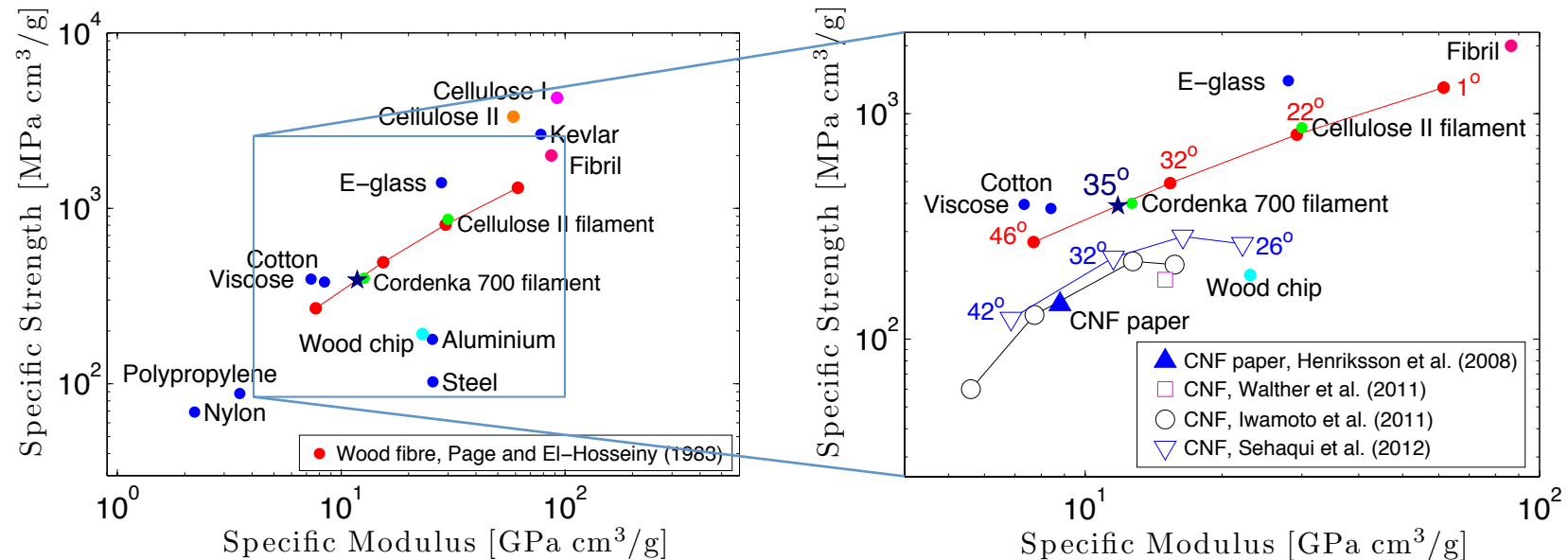


# Fibre process and dry fibre



# Material Properties, updated!

★ Our first filament



# Aims

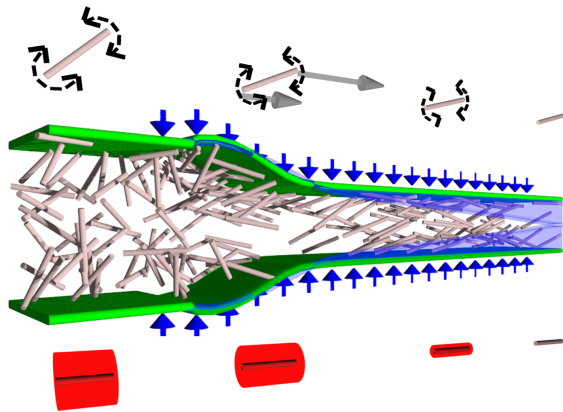
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Align the nano scale fibrils with a macro scale fluid flow.

Quantify the alignment by performing:

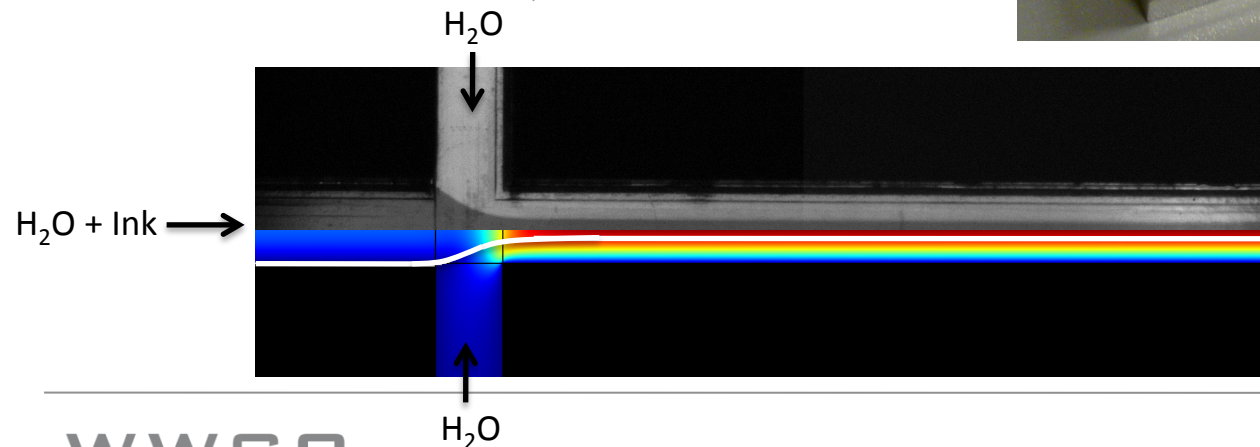
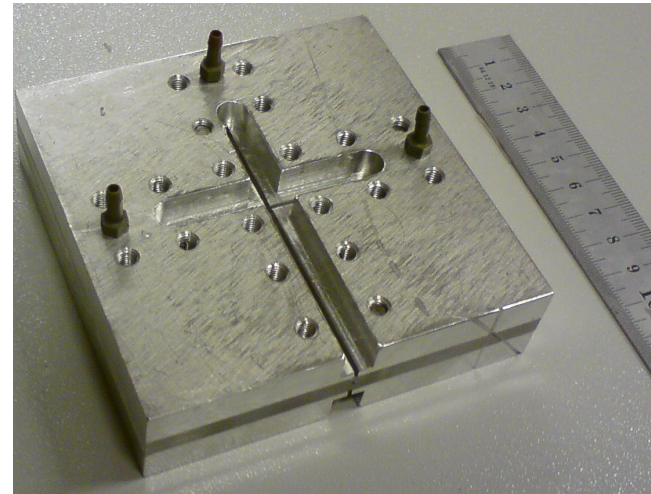
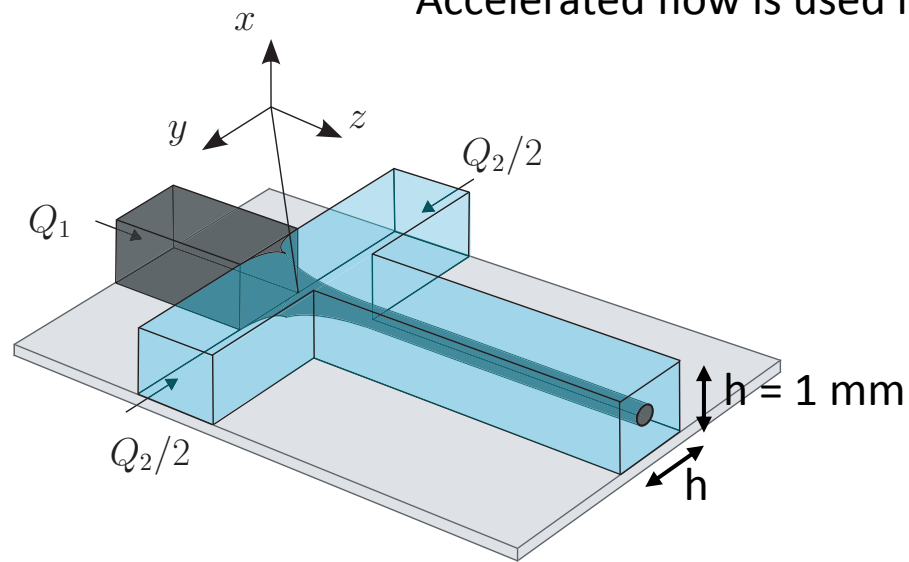
X-ray scattering experiments

Modelling the alignment



# Experimental Setup

Accelerated flow is used in order to align nano-cellulose





# Parameters

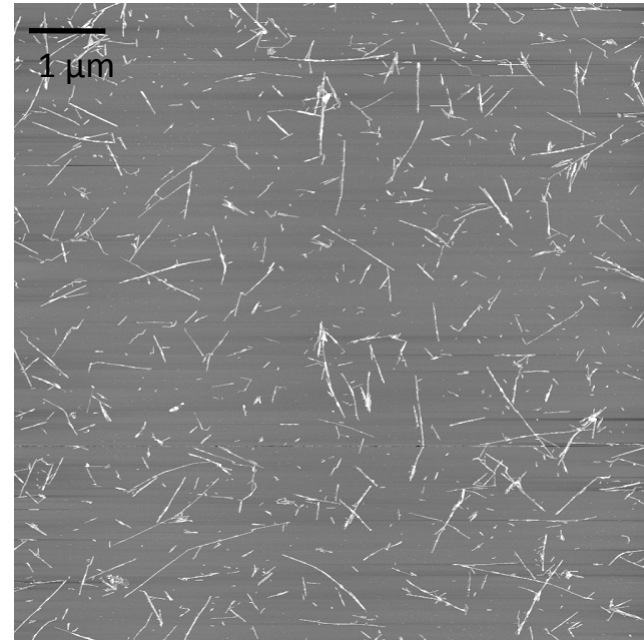
NFC, Innventia gen 2  
 $c_v = 0.3 \%$   
 $nl^3 = 10-20 \Rightarrow$  semi-dilute

$Q_1 = 6.5 \text{ mm}^3/\text{s}$   
 $h = 1 \text{ mm}$

$$1 \leq Re_i = \frac{\rho_i Q_i}{\eta_i h} \leq 50$$

$\eta$ , Dynamic viscosity  
 $Q_i$ , Volume flow rate  
 $\rho$ , Density  
 $h$ , Channel height

Atomic force microscopic  
image of nanofibrils

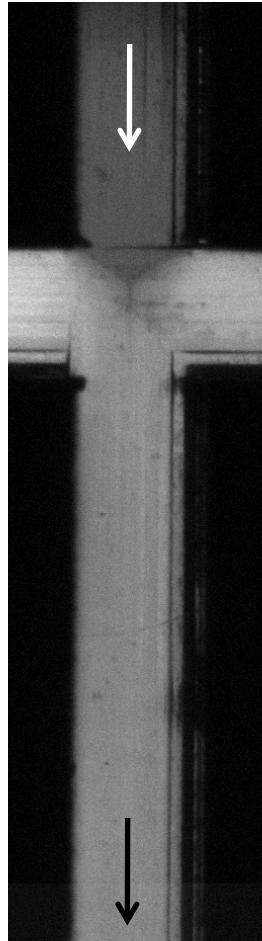


Courtesy of A. Fall and G. Nyström

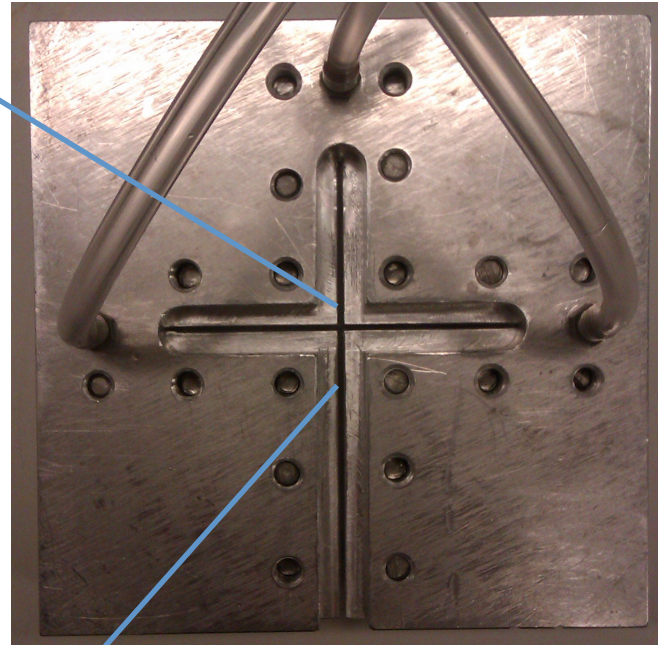
# Hydrodynamic Alignment

Nano-cellulose  
liquid dispersion

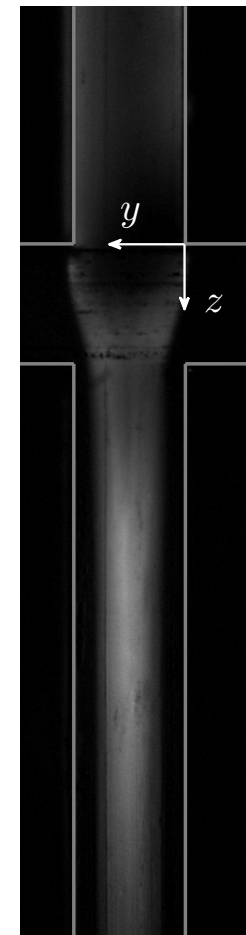
$H_2O$



$H_2O$



Polarization filters



# PETRA III, Synchrotron in Hamburg

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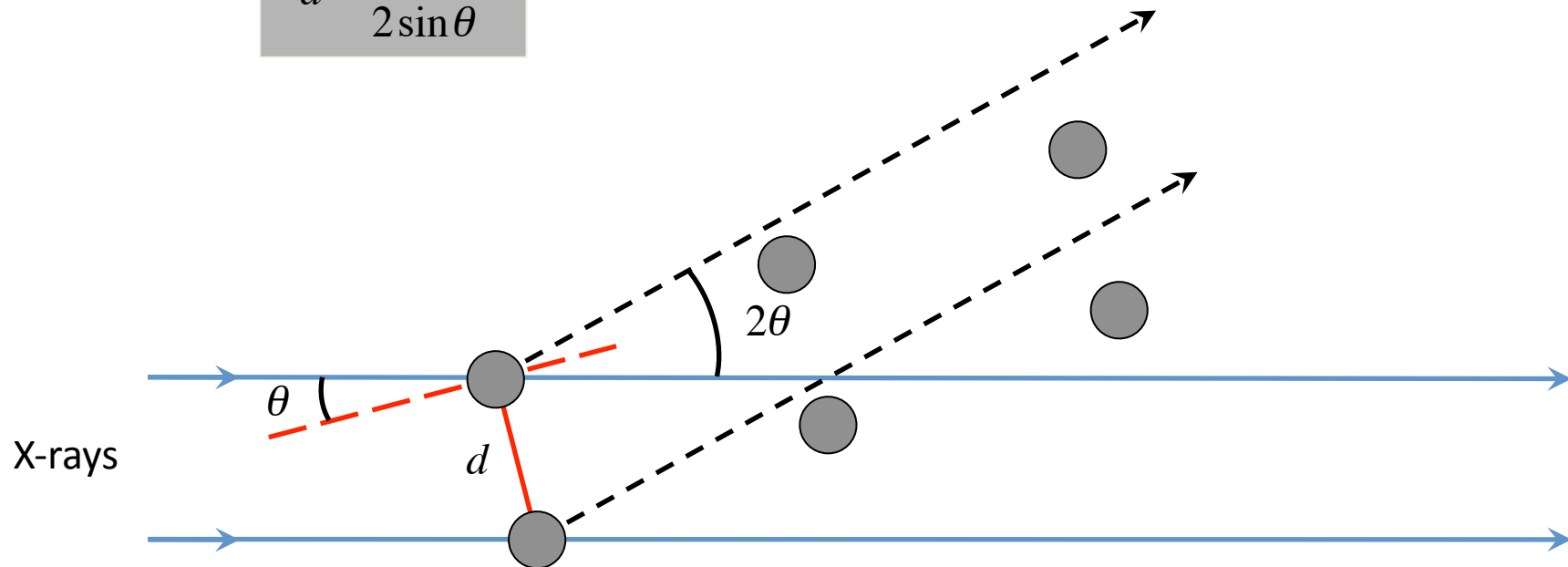




# X-ray Scattering

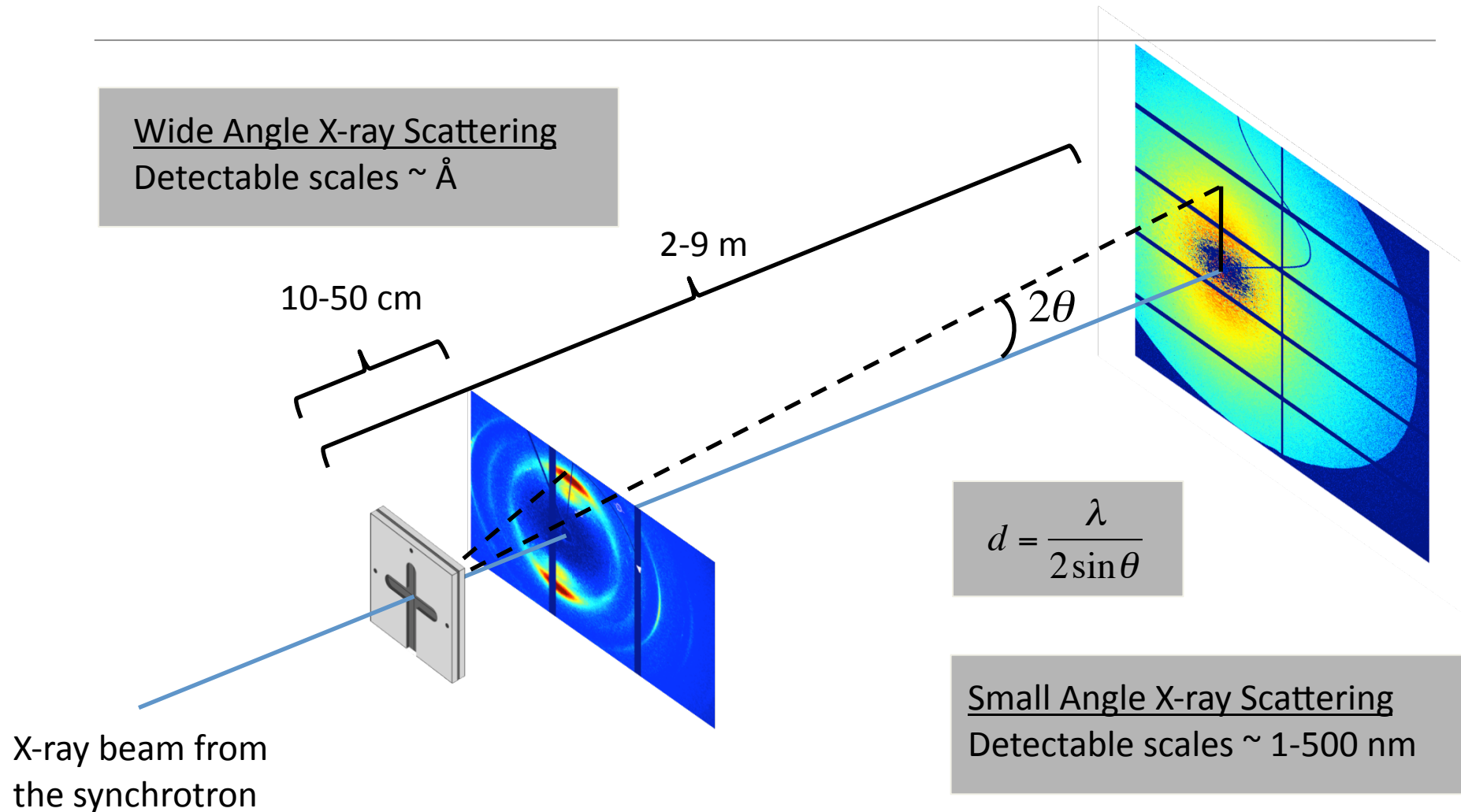
Constructive interference when:

$$d = \frac{\lambda}{2 \sin \theta}$$



# X-ray Scattering

Wide Angle X-ray Scattering  
Detectable scales  $\sim \text{\AA}$

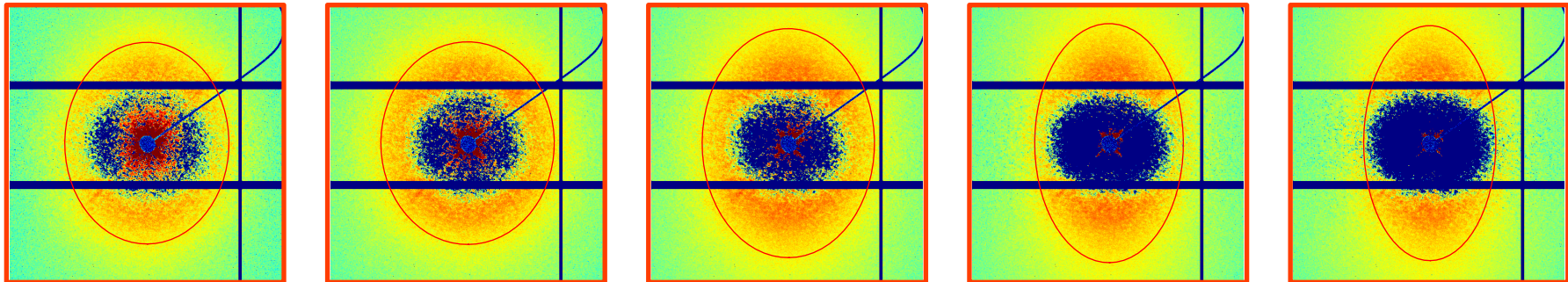
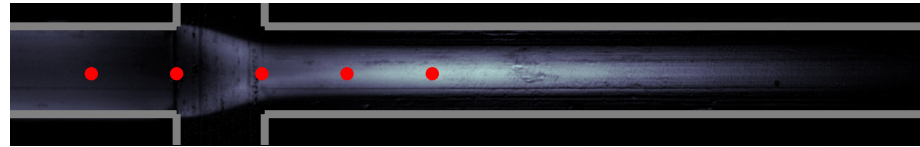




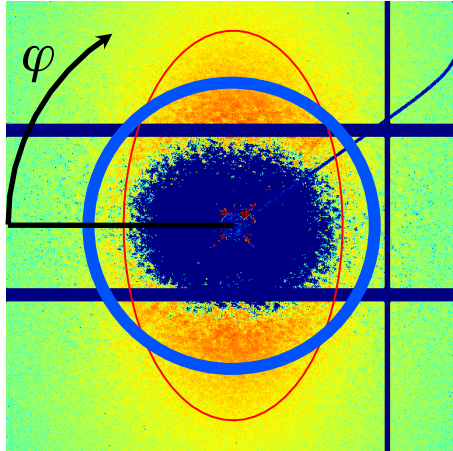
# Small Angle X-ray Scattering

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Wavelength: 0.957 Å  
Beam size: 25 x 10 μm<sup>2</sup>  
Sample detector dist: 8422 mm  
Scales: 5-20 nm



# Orientation from X-ray data

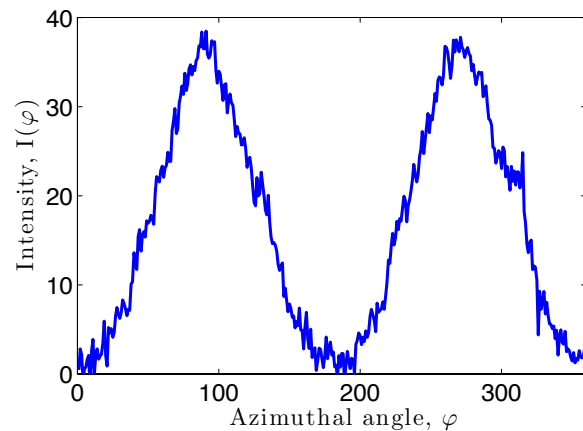


The order parameter, S:

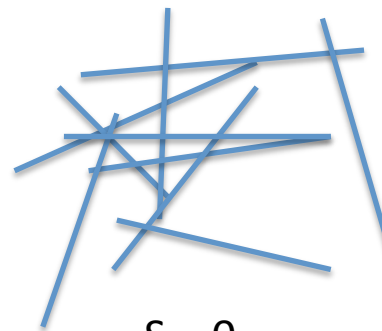
$$S = \langle P_2(\cos\varphi) \rangle = \left\langle \frac{3}{2} \cos^2 \varphi - \frac{1}{2} \right\rangle$$

In this case:

$$S = \int_0^\pi I(\varphi) \left( \frac{3}{2} \cos^2 \varphi - \frac{1}{2} \right) \sin \varphi d\varphi$$

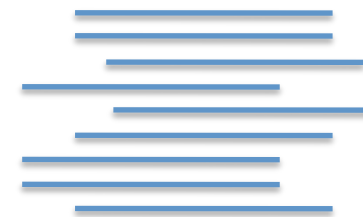


Random orientation



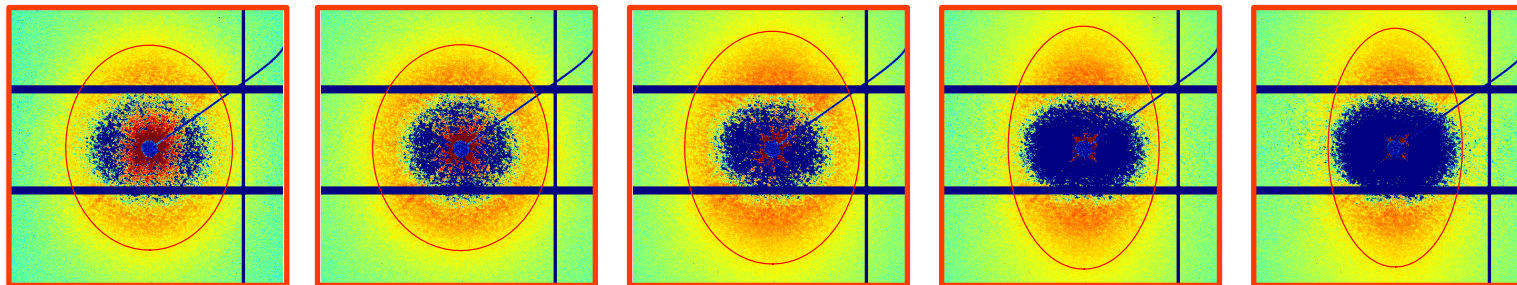
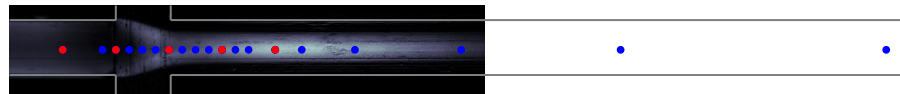
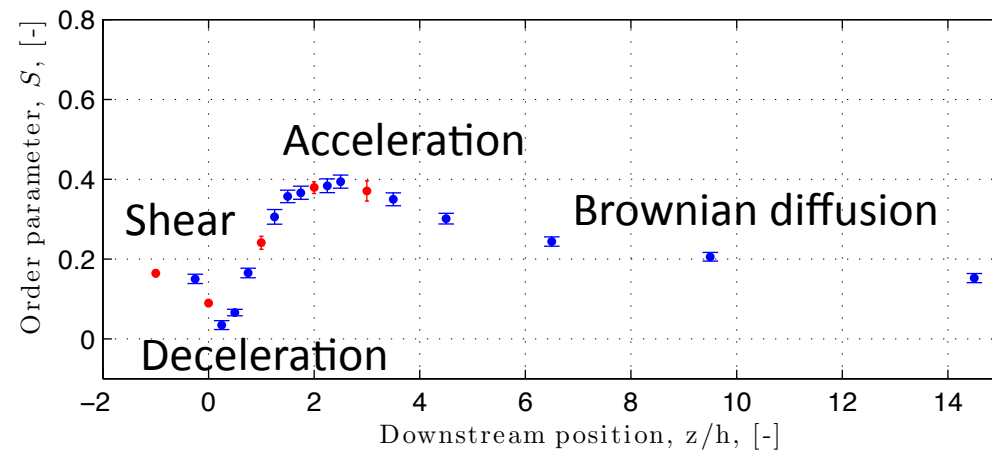
$S = 0$

Aligned



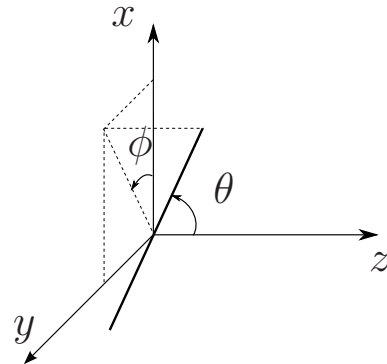
$S = 1$

# Extensional Flow and Fibril Orientation



# Computation, Smoluchowski eq.

The development of the orientation distribution,  $\Psi(z, \theta)$ , along the centre line is studied.



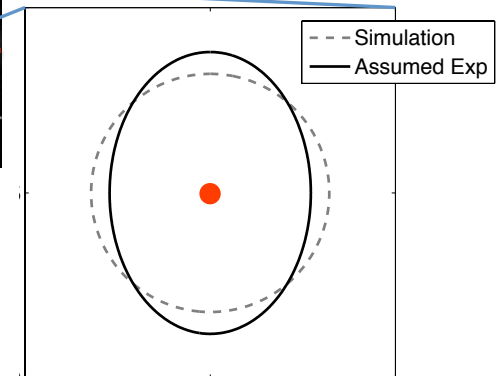
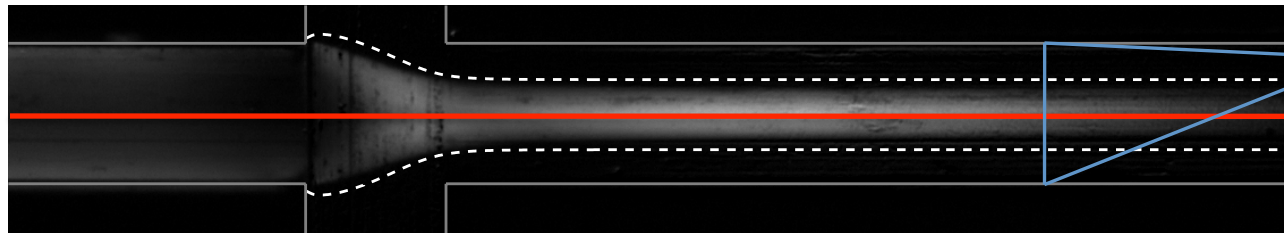
1D and biaxial symmetry:

$$w^* \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial z^*} = \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \hat{D}_r^* \sin \theta \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial \theta} - \sin \theta \dot{\theta} \Psi \right)$$

Convection

Diffusion

Force from flow



Rotational diffusion coefficient,  $\hat{D}_r^*$   
Velocity in z-direction,  $w$



# Computation, Smoluchowski eq.

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1D Smoluchowski equation:

$$w^* \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial z^*} = \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \hat{D}_r^* \sin \theta \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial \theta} - \sin \theta \dot{\theta} \Psi \right)$$

Rotational diffusion coefficient,  $\hat{D}_r^*$

Aspect ratio,  $r_p$

Velocity in z-direction,  $w$

Orientation distribution,  $\Psi$

Rotational diffusion coefficient, Doi & Edwards (2086):

$$\hat{D}_r = \frac{3k_B T (2\ln(2r_p) - 1)}{16\pi\eta_s a^3} \beta (nl^3)^{-2} \left[ \frac{4}{\pi} \int d\mathbf{p}' |\mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{p}'| \Psi_s(\mathbf{p}') \right]^{-2}$$

Brownian diffusion

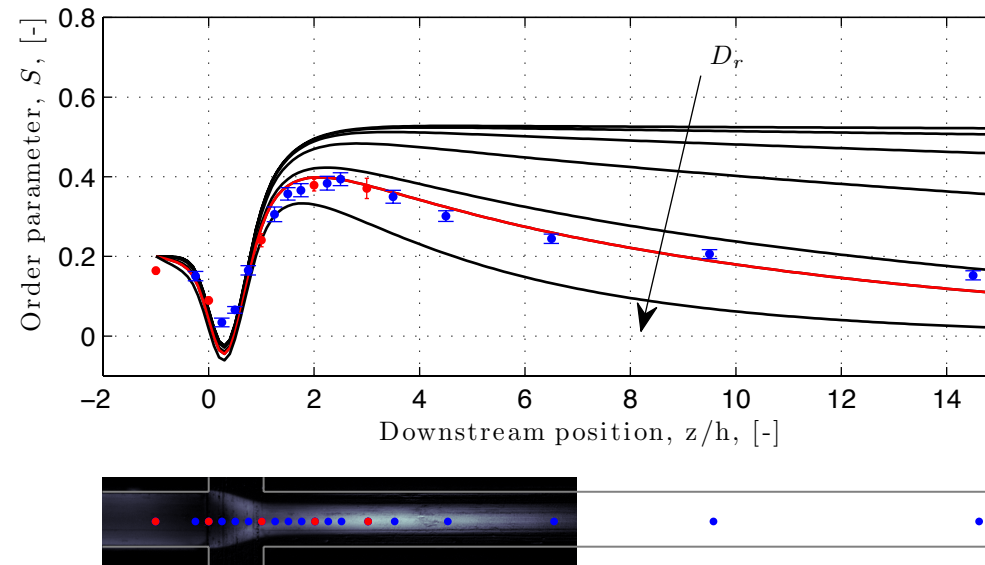
Conc

Orientation

Angular velocity from Jeffery (2022) for a biaxial flow:

$$\dot{\theta} = \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial t^*} = - \frac{\partial w^*}{\partial z^*} \left( \frac{r_p - 1}{r_p + 1} \right) \frac{3}{2} \cos \theta \sin \theta$$

# Fibril Alignment Calculation



1D Smoluchowski equation with velocity,  $w$ :

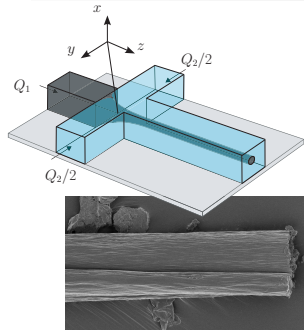
$$w^* \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial z^*} = \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \hat{D}_r^* \sin \theta \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial \theta} - \sin \theta \dot{\theta} \Psi \right)$$

Rotational diffusion coefficient,  $\hat{D}_r^*$

Velocity in  $z$ -direction,  $w$

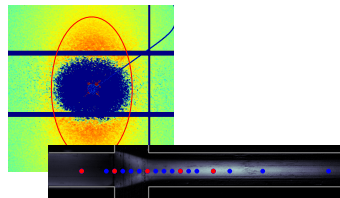
Orientation distribution,  $\Psi$

# Conclusions

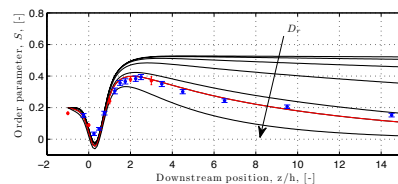


A filament manufacturing process was designed and tested.

The first filament showed unique properties.



The orientation of fibrils in a laminar semi-dilute dispersion was studied with SAXS.



The Smoluchowski equation could be used to describe the orientation evolution.

# Thank You and Thanks to:

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Kungliga Tekniska Högskolan (KTH)  
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*Prof. L. Berglund*

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*Prof. M. Rigdahl*

## KTH Mechanics:

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*Ass. Prof. F. Lundell*

*PhD. L. Prahl Wittberg*

*Lic. M. Kvik*

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*PhD. G. Santoro*

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