

Temperature-induced hierarchical self-assembly in dipolar hard spheres

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Interactions/Models

a hard or soft spheres

- point dipole in the centre 0
- they can be described with few 0 parameters:

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Gas Case



$$\frac{F[\{g_n\},\{f_n\}]}{Vk_BT} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} g_n \ln \frac{g_n v}{eQ_n} + \sum_{n=5}^{\infty} f_n \ln \frac{f_n v}{eW_n}, \quad (1)$$

where g_n and f_n are the equilibrium volume fractions of chains and rings, respectively; Q_n and W_n denote the corresponding (normalized by V/v) partition functions of an *n*-particle chain and ring. The free-energy functional [Eq. (1)] has to be minimized with respect to the distributions $\{g_n\}$ and $\{f_n\}$ preserving φ ,

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} g_n n + \sum_{n=5}^{\infty} f_n n = \frac{\varphi}{\nu}.$$
 (2)

$$Q_n(T^*) = q^{C(n)};$$
 $W_n(T^*) = Q_n(T^*) \frac{q^{R(n) - C(n)}}{n^{3\nu + 1}},$ (3)

where

$$R(n) = \frac{n}{2} \sin^3 \frac{\pi}{n} \left(\sum_{k=1}^{[(n-1)/2]} \frac{\cos^2(\frac{\pi k}{n}) + 1}{\sin^3(\frac{\pi k}{n})} + R_{(n+1)/2} \right);$$

$$C(n) = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{n-k}{k^3} \sim n\zeta(3) - \frac{\pi^2}{6}, \quad (n \ge 4),$$
(4)

with $\zeta(3)$ denoting the Riemann zeta function of three; $R_{(n+1)/2}$ stands for the residual of division, and [·] has the meaning of the integer part of the expression in the brackets. The low-*T* dimer partition function *q* (note that C(2) = 1 and hence $Q_2(T^*) = q$), derived first by de Gennes and Pincus (), is

$$q(T^*) = \frac{T^{*3}}{3} \exp\left(\frac{2}{T^*}\right).$$
 (5)

In Eq. (3), $\nu = 0.588$ is the self-avoiding random walk exponent. The term $1/n^{3\nu+1}$ in $W_n(T^*)$ captures the difference in entropy between chains and rings arising from the *n* ways of opening a ring to form a chain; the difference between the numbers of self-avoiding paths of chains and rings is proportional to $n^{3\nu}$. Finally, minimizing Eq. (1), one obtains compact expressions for g_n and f_n ,

$$g_n = \frac{1}{v} Q_n p^n, \qquad f_n = \frac{1}{v} W_n p^n. \tag{6}$$

Here, p, the Lagrange multiplier to be found from Eq. (2), has the meaning of activity.

S.K., A. Ivanov, L. Rovigatti, J.M. Tavares, F. Sciortino, PRL 2013

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Gas Phase



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Gelling denser Chains, Rings and various defects! (a) s = 1, w = 3(b) s = 2, w = 2(c) s = 2, w = 4(d) s = 3(e) s = 4, w = 4(f)

L. Rovigatti et al. J.Chem. Phys. 2013



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Moderate DHS concentrations Branching!





Ural Federal University Single defect model universität Wien named after the first (of Russia B.N.Yeltsin $F = k_{\rm B} T \sum_{i} K(\vec{i}) g(\vec{i}) \ln\left(\frac{g(\vec{i})v(\vec{i})}{eO(\vec{i})}\right).$ $\sum K(\vec{i})N(\vec{i})g(\vec{i}) = \frac{\phi}{n}.$ $\vec{i} = (n, k_1, k_2, m_Y, m_X, m_z)$ S. Kantorovich et al. PCCP, 2015 Rome, September 2015

single defect model



Rome, September 2015

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What if the DHS concentration is even higher?

Percolating Network!

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Challenge:





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V IENNA S CIENTIFIC C LUSTER







Der Wissenschaftsfonds.





