Liquid structure in nano-space probed by x-ray scattering methods

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Fluids geometrically constrained in small volume. At least one of the volume dimensions is comparable to the molecular size of the liquid.

X-ray







Template Materials – prose materials with pore size of ten to hundreds of nm

Silica Powder and Membranes



Template Materials - micelles and slit-geometry



Applications in life science

confinement between two parallel substrates: slit-geometry setups

In-situ changing the gap size

Surface Force Apparatus (early 70s) - (SFA) confined area -100 μm



D (Å)



Atom Force Microscope Very small confined area



X-ray Surface Force Apparatus (XSFA)



Confined liquid setup DESY

Applications

Confinement in porous membranes - Metamaterials







Metamaterials

The pore size is smaller than the optical wavelength. Special optical properties tunable on the nanometer scale.

in material science and engineering

Confinement in slit is explored to study the friction reduction in sliding contact



decreasing of energy losses



Increasing of the life time of the artificial joints The ageing causes inflammation

in tribology, lubrication in sliding contact

Properties of the confined fluids

Properties of the confined fluids



Internal Energy in confined system is controlled by the entropy excess and surface potential

→ Confinement change strongly the Phase Diagram of the Liquids

It is manifested in:

- → Deceasing / increasing of the freezing / melting temperatures
- → Hysteresis in the Phase Diagram
- ➔ Confinement-Induced Crystallization

Surface Potential

- → Liquids layer at the interfaces in confinement
 Dynamic in confinement
- → Computer simulations predict continuous jamming of the confined system from liquid to solid phase and back.

Kathrin Sentker, et al. Nanoscale, 2019



Phase Diagram of the liquid changes in confinement

P08, X-ray diffraction, beam size ca. 1 mm, Energy 18 keV



Kathrin Sentker, et al., PRL, **120**, 067801, (2018)

P06, X-ray nano-diffraction, beam size ~ 100nm , Energy 15 keV

X-ray diffraction from single pore The samples are strongly textured



Confinement-Induce Crystallization

Klein, and Kumacheva, Science **269**, 816 (1995) suggested: **The geometrical constrain drives a confinement-induced crystallization. In contradiction to:** The solidification on reduction of the confining gap is due to continuously approaching a glassy state.

The simulation of non-polar particles, with **Lennerd-Johns** or **Hard-Core** interacting potential and experimental work on confined colloid particles confirm the confinement-induce crystallization.



S. Neser, C Bechiner, P. Liedere, T. Palberg, Phys. Rev. Letters, 1997

Properties of the confined fluids



J. N. Israelachvili, G. E. Adams, Nature 262, 774 (1976).

Willem Jan Huisman et al., Nature, 390, 1997 E. DiMasi et al., Phys. Rev. B, 58, 418, 1998



Simulation:



DESY. | Liquid structure in nano-space probed by x-ray scattering methods| Milena Lippmann, May, 2021

Experiment, x-ray reflectivity E. Perret et al., J. Phys.: Condens. Matter, 2010, 22, 235102

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Crossed mica cylinder X-ray SFA

Liquid: tetrakis(trimethyl)siloxysilane (TTMSS) Molecular diameter 9 Å



mica

mica

mica

H. Weiss, Langmuir, 2019, 35, 16679-16692

Experiment: x-ray reflectivity, in-plan scattering, Energy 40-80 keV

Liquid: 8CB liquid crystal, min Gap Size 100 nm

top view (a) 10 CCD camera X-ray SFA 100 (b) (a) Intensity (arb. units) N b 9 8 10⁻¹ 10⁻² green filter beam spliter man spectrometer (b) 10^{-4} objective micrometer screw (z) 0 10 15 20 2.0 1.0 3.0 5 $q_{\rm m} \, ({\rm nm}^{-1})$ q, (nm⁻¹) One Period 136s Decompression X-rav piezostage (xy) units) goniometer double cantilever (tilt) (arb. Compression springs (with strain gauge) white light Intensity (a) top view (b) spectrometer Newton lines FECO pattern Decompression contact 0 X-ray 2 Period n crystal width (x) wavelength (z)

Confined-Induce Crystallization, slit-geometry

experimentally observed at P08, Energy 18 keV, x-ray reflectivity and in-plane scattering



top microscope

coarse *z*-translation



Thank you!



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