



Synthesis of Polymer Nanoparticles

Prof. Radmila Tomovska

The subject covers 3 credits:

- 20 hours of theoretical lectures
- 8 hours laboratory exercise
- 2 hours invited seminars

20 hours of theoretical lectures

1. Reactive pathways to nanoparticle formation

- 1.1 <u>Conventional radical polymerization in heterogeneous media</u>: Polymerization in emulsion, miniemulsion, microemulsion, dispersion, suspension, inverse emulsion (in organic phase).
- 1.2 <u>Controlled radical polymerization in heterogeneous media</u>: Nitroxide-mediated polymerization, radical addition fragmentation transfer polymerization, etc.
- 1.3 <u>Polymerization systems:</u> Semi-batch and batch processes; continuous processes
- 1.4 <u>Particles morphology:</u> Two-phase polymer-polymer structured particles

2. Non-reactive pathways to nanoparticles formation

- 2.1 Self-assembling in soft and hard templates
- 2.2 Stretching
- 2.3 Compression
- 2.4 Nanoprecipitation
- 2.5 Solvent evaporation





- 2.6 Heterocoagulation
- 2.7 Supercritical fluid technology

3. Characterization of polymeric nanoparticles

- 3.1 Molecular structure: NMR, UV, IR, Raman and mass spectroscopy
- 3.2 <u>Molecular size</u>: Average molar masses and the molar mass distribution (MMD) by Size exclusion chromatography (SEC) and Field Flow Fractionation (FFF),

Particle size and distribution (Electron Microscopy (SEM; TEM; AFM); Ensemble techniques (laser diffraction and light scattering methods: dynamic light scattering (DLS); Particle movement methods capillary hydrodynamic chromatography (CHDF) and Disc Centrifuge Photosedimentometer (DCP);

3.3 <u>Molecular organization:</u> Branching density (NMR spectroscopy); Cross-linking density (spectroscopy methods, swelling experiments and DMTA analysis).

4. Application of polymeric nanoparticles

- 4.1 Waterborne paints, Adhesives and Coatings
- 4.2 Electronics and Optoelectronics
- 4.3 Biotechnological and Biomedical products

8 Hours Laboratory Exercises

- 4 h Synthesis of polymer nanoparticles using techniques of emulsion and miniemulsion polymerization
- 4h Characterization of the synthesised polymer nanoparticles





Two invited seminars:

- Application of Matrix-Assisted Laser Desorption/Ionization Time Of Flight Mass Spectrometry (MALDI-TOF MS) technique for polymer characterization
- 2. Capillary hydrodynamic fractionation (CHDF) for high-resolution determination of particle size distribution in aqueous polymer dispersions