

# Self Assembly of Ultrahydrophobic “Teflon®-Mimicking” Fluorinated (Polyhedral Oligomeric Silsesquioxanes) POSS Nano Columns



*14<sup>th</sup> European Symposium on Fluorine  
Chemistry, Poznań (Poland)*

*July 15, 2004*

**Ashwani Vij & Joseph Mabry**  
**Air Force Research Laboratory/PRSP-PRSM**  
**Edwards, California (USA)**  
**[ashwani.vij@edwards.af.mil](mailto:ashwani.vij@edwards.af.mil)**

# Report Documentation Page

Form Approved  
OMB No. 0704-0188

Public reporting burden for the collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Washington Headquarters Services, Directorate for Information Operations and Reports, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington VA 22202-4302. Respondents should be aware that notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person shall be subject to a penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if it does not display a currently valid OMB control number.

1. REPORT DATE <b>09 JUN 2004</b>		2. REPORT TYPE		3. DATES COVERED -	
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE <b>Self Assembly of ULtrahydrophobic</b>				5a. CONTRACT NUMBER <b>F04611-99-C-0025</b>	
				5b. GRANT NUMBER	
				5c. PROGRAM ELEMENT NUMBER	
6. AUTHOR(S) <b>Ashwani Vij; Joseph Mabry</b>				5d. PROJECT NUMBER <b>2303</b>	
				5e. TASK NUMBER <b>M1A3</b>	
				5f. WORK UNIT NUMBER <b>2303M1A3</b>	
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) <b>ERC INCORPORATED,555 Sparkman Drive,Huntsville,AL,35816-0000</b>				8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER	
9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)				10. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S ACRONYM(S)	
				11. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S REPORT NUMBER(S)	
12. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT <b>Approved for public release; distribution unlimited</b>					
13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES					
14. ABSTRACT <b>Goal: Develop High Performance Polymers that REDEFINE material properties</b>					
15. SUBJECT TERMS					
16. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF:			17. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT	18. NUMBER OF PAGES <b>52</b>	19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON
a. REPORT <b>unclassified</b>	b. ABSTRACT <b>unclassified</b>	c. THIS PAGE <b>unclassified</b>			



## *Coworkers & Collaborators*



Dr. Brent Viers  
Dr. Connie Schlaefer

Dr. Joseph Reibenspies (Texas A&M University)  
Dr. Charles Campana ( Bruker AXS)  
Prof. Katerine Kantardjeff (California State University,  
Fullerton)

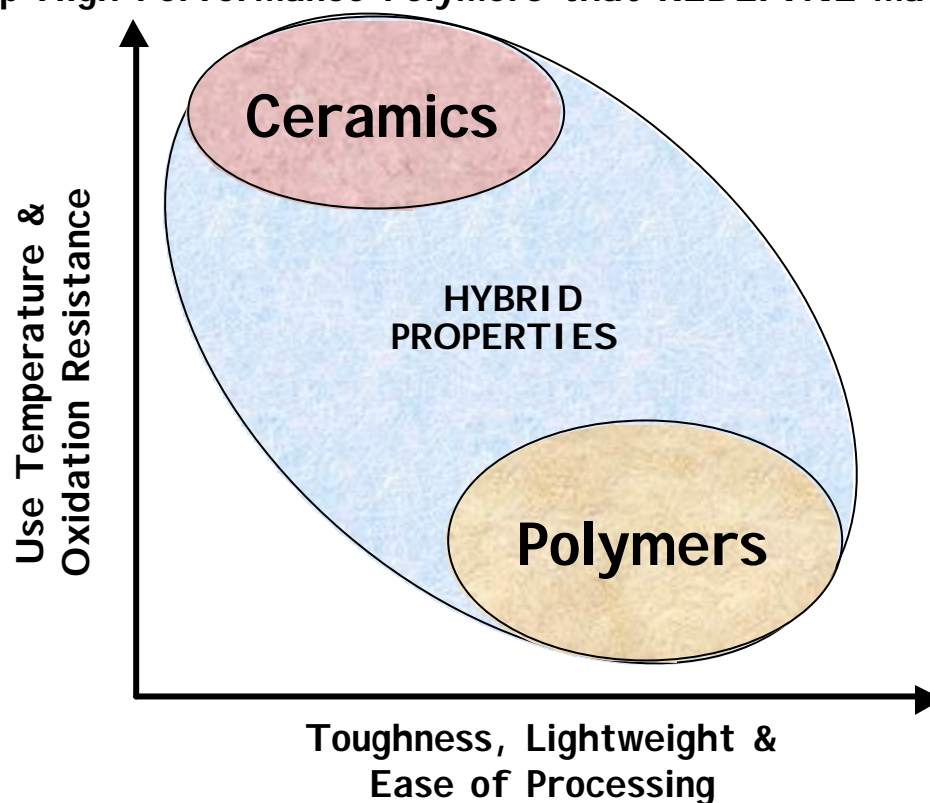
Financial Support:  
Air Force Office of Scientific Research  
Air Force Research Laboratory, Propulsion Directorate



# Hybrid Inorganic/Organic Polymers



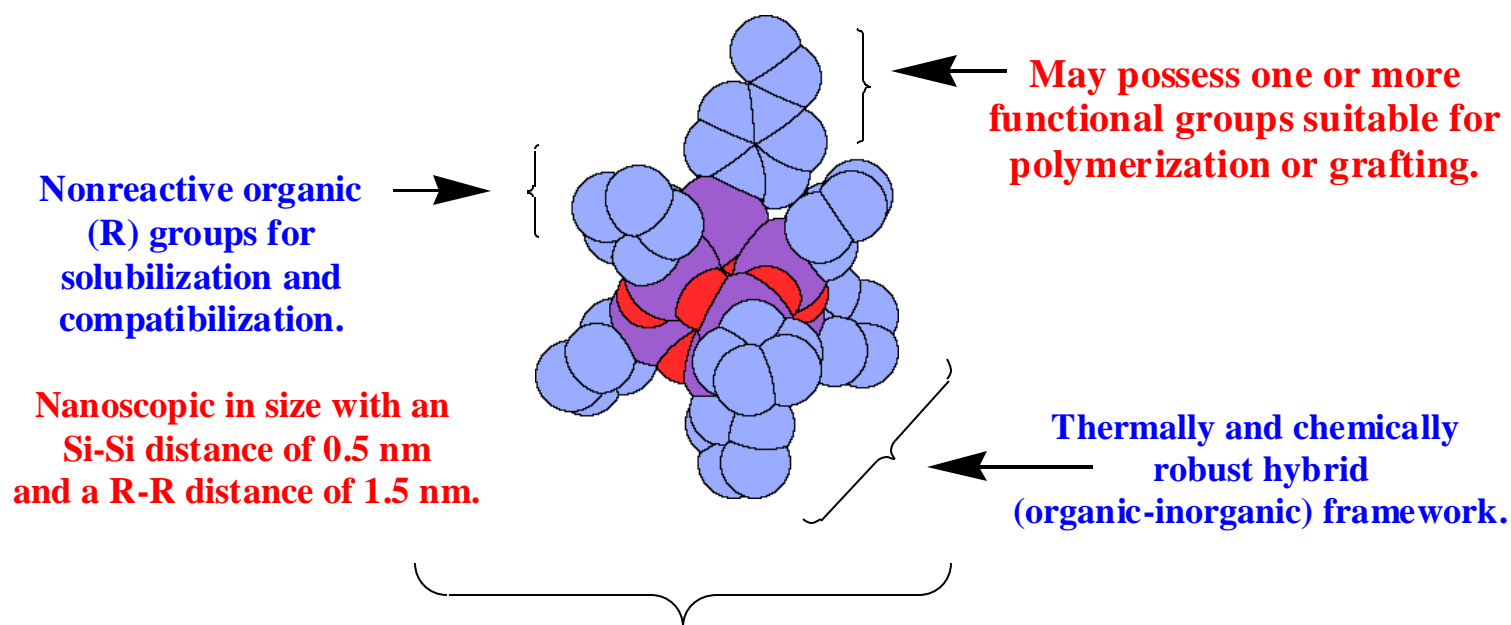
Goal: Develop High Performance Polymers that REDEFINE material properties



•Hybrid plastics bridge the differences between ceramics and polymers



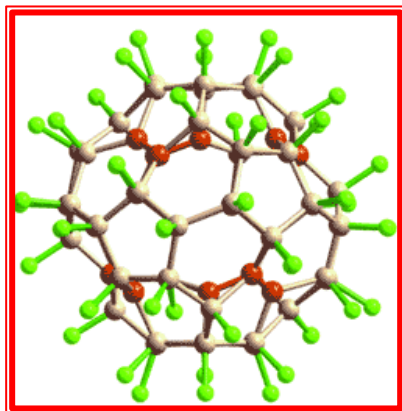
# Anatomy of a POSS Nanostructure



**Precise three-dimensional structure for molecular level reinforcement of polymer segments and coils.**

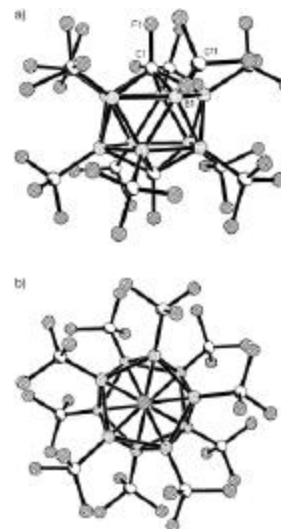


# Fluorinated Ball/Nanospheres



**Fluorinated Fullerene ( $C_{60}F_{48}$ )**

Troyanov, S. I.; Troshin, P. A.; Boltalina, O. V.; Ioffe, I. N.; Sidorov, L. N.; Kemnitz, E. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl.* **2001**, *40*, 2285.

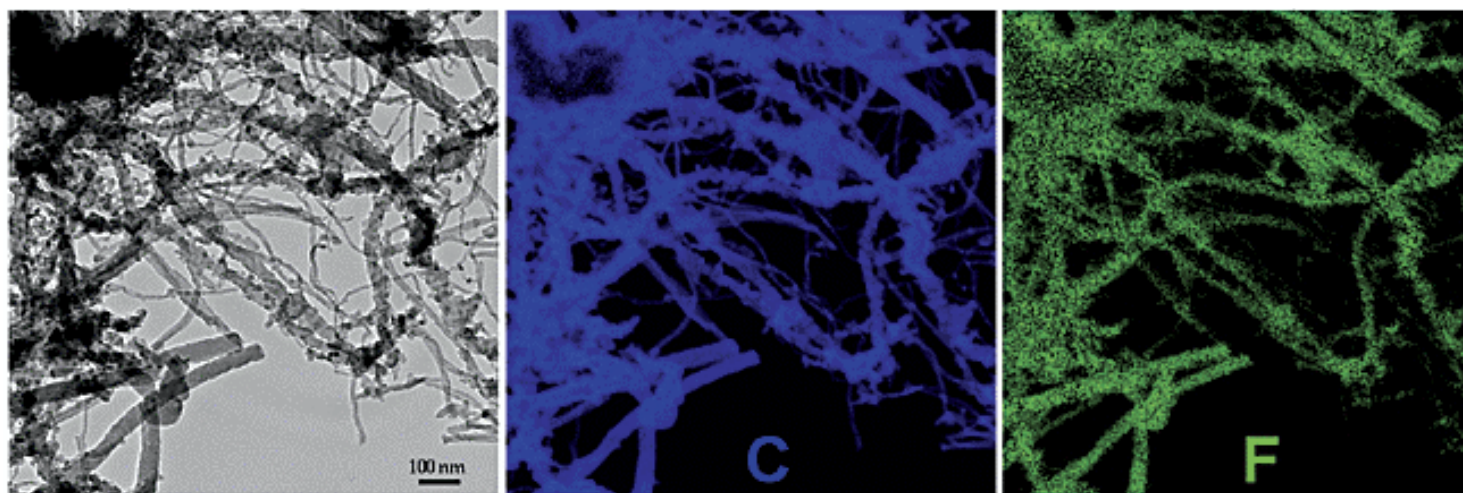


**Perfluoro-deca-*B*-methyl-*para*-carborane**

Herzog, A; Callahan, R. P.; MacDonald, C. L. B.; Lynch, V. M.; Hawthorne, M. F.; Lagow, R. *J. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl.* **2001**, *40*, 2121.



# NanoTeflons



## Fluorinated Carbon Nanotubes and Nanofibers

Hayashi, T.; Terrones, M.; Scheu, C.; Kim, Y. A.; Ruhle, M.; Nakajima, T.; Endo, M.  
*Nano Lett.* **2002**, *2*, 491.

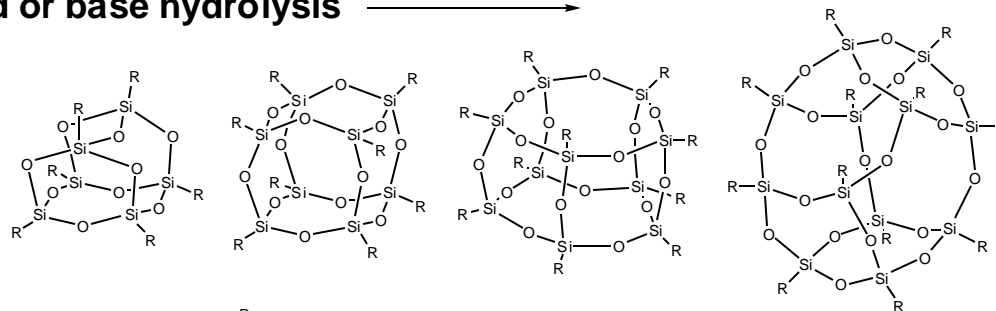


# POSS Synthesis

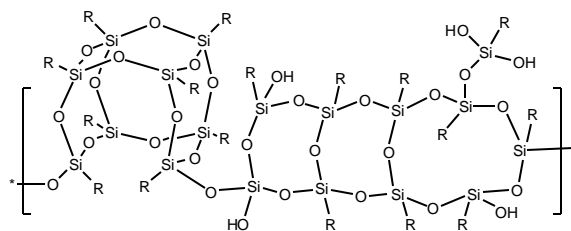


$\text{RSiX}_3$  acid or base hydrolysis  $\longrightarrow$

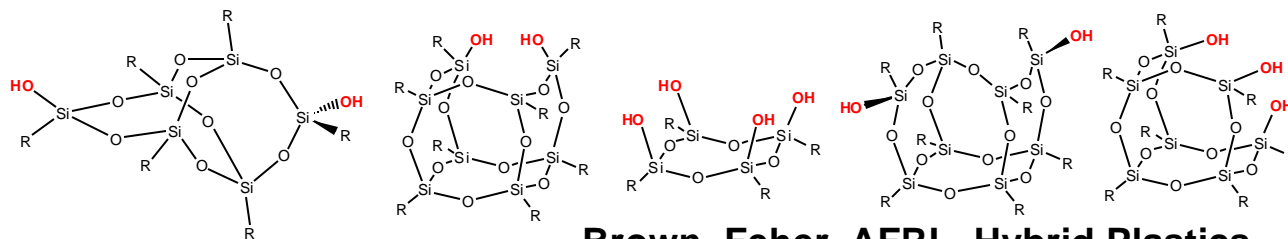
Blendables



Resin



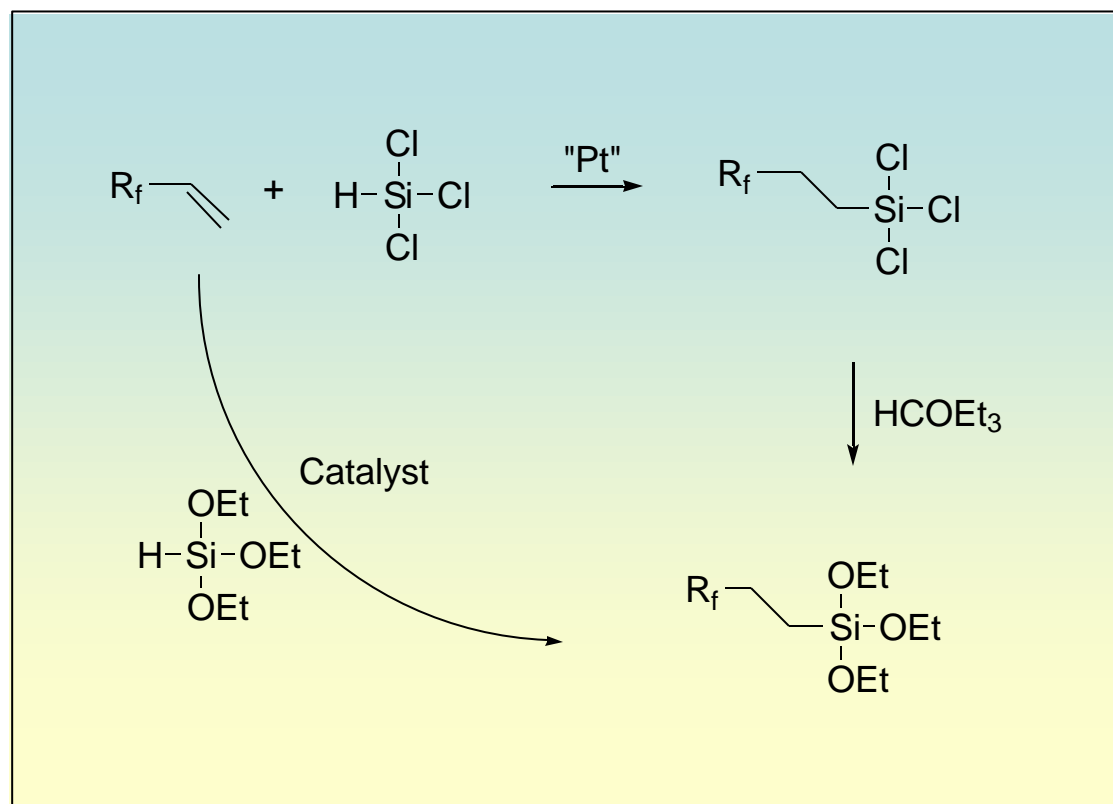
Incompletely condensed cages



Brown, Feher, AFRL, Hybrid Plastics



# Synthesis using hydrosilylation





# Hydrosilylation

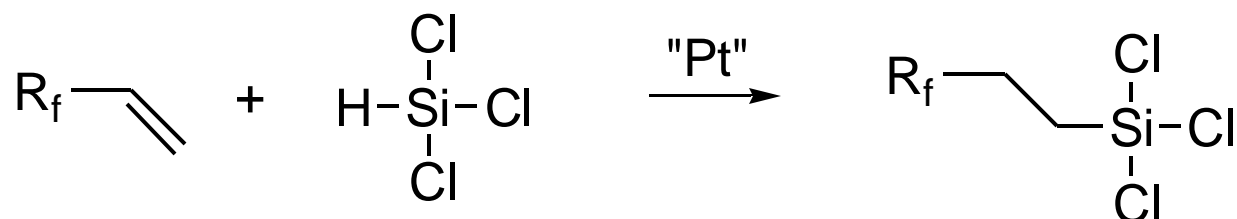


<u>Catalyst</u>	<u>Result</u>
Karstedt (Pt)	No Reaction
H <sub>2</sub> PtCl <sub>6</sub>	No Reaction
RuH <sub>2</sub> (CO)(PPh <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	< 50% Yield
RhCl(PPh <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	~ 50% Yield

Yield based on methylene to vinyl proton ratio in <sup>1</sup>H NMR.



# Hydrosilylation

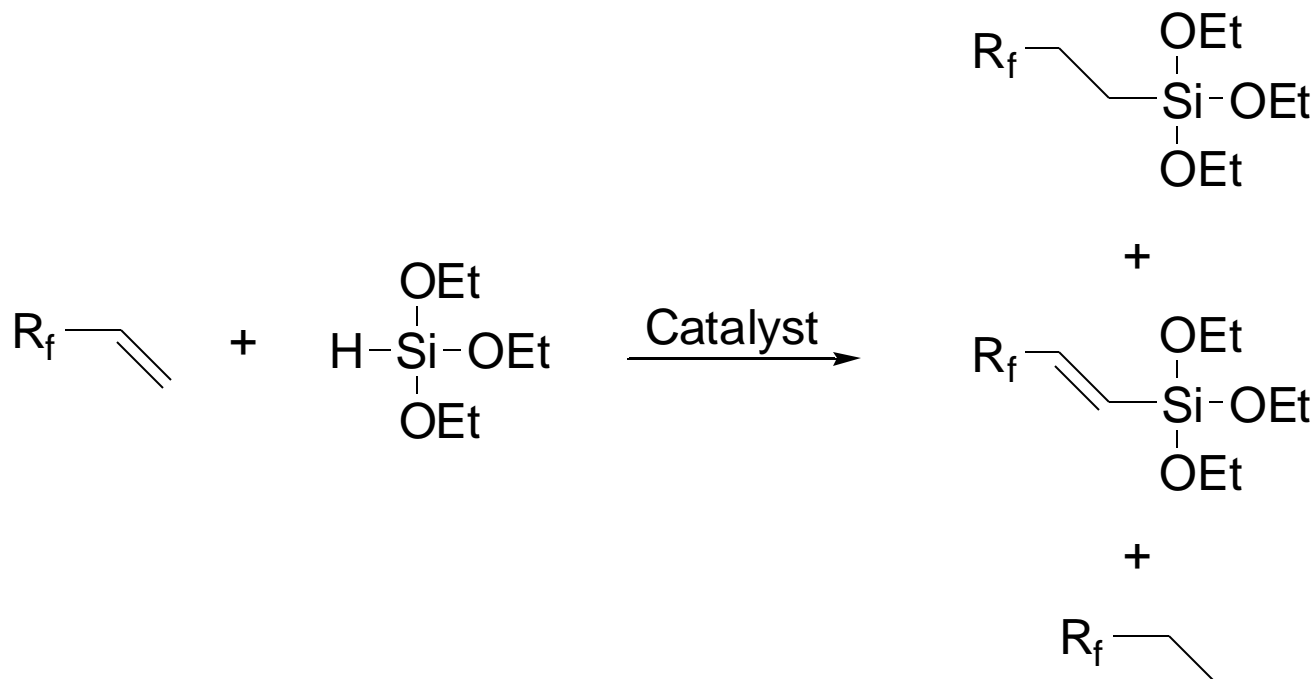


Yield based on methylene to vinyl proton ratio in  $^1\text{H}$  NMR.

$\text{H}_2\text{PtCl}_6$  produces quantitative yield at high temperatures with long reaction times in pressure vessel.



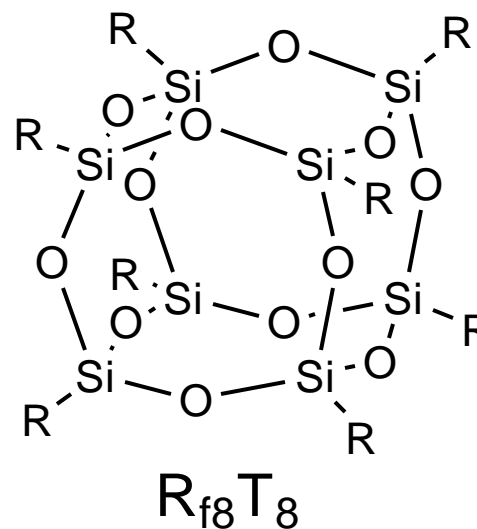
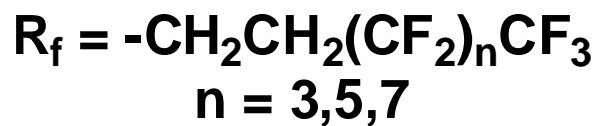
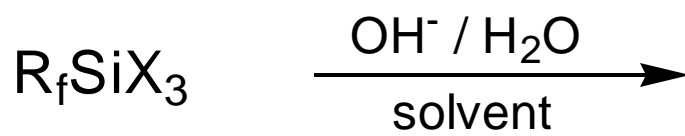
# Side Reaction



Problem:  
Dehydrogenative silylation product also gives vinyl peaks  
in  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra



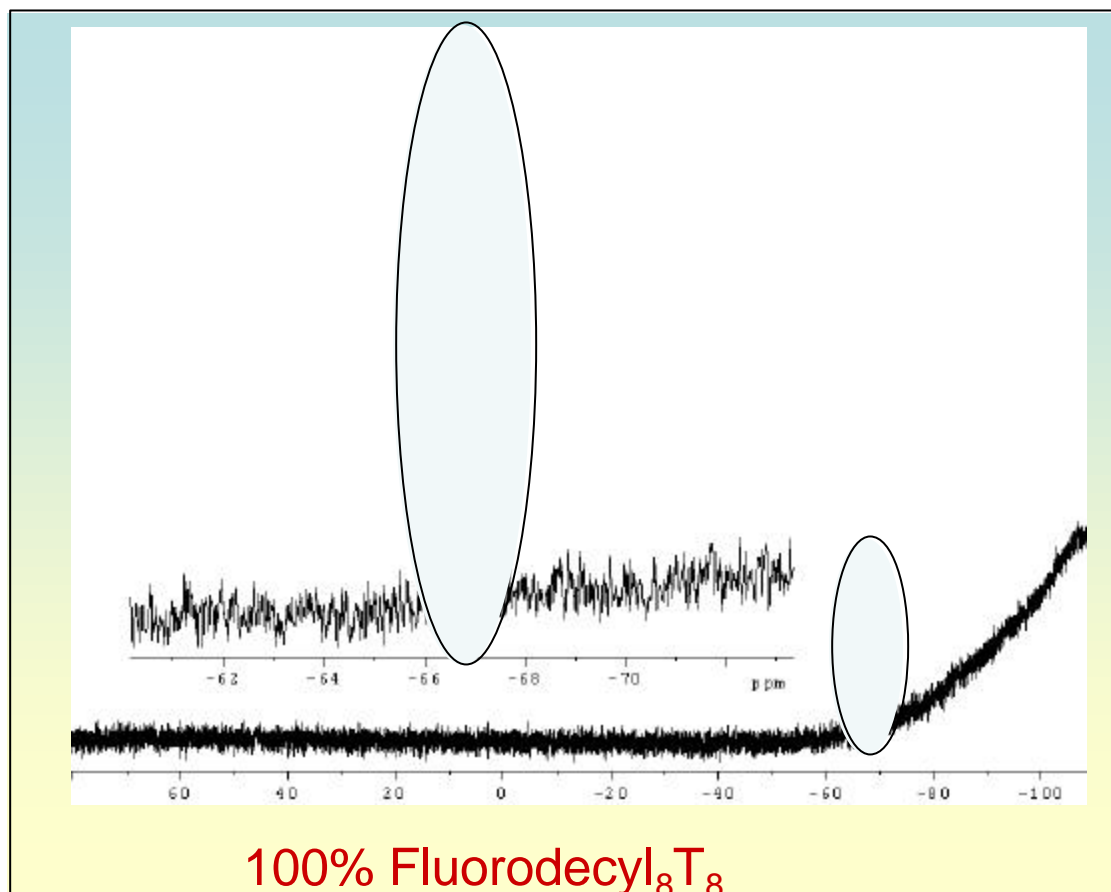
# FluoroPOSS Synthesis



Cage mixtures can also be obtained by modifying solvent systems.

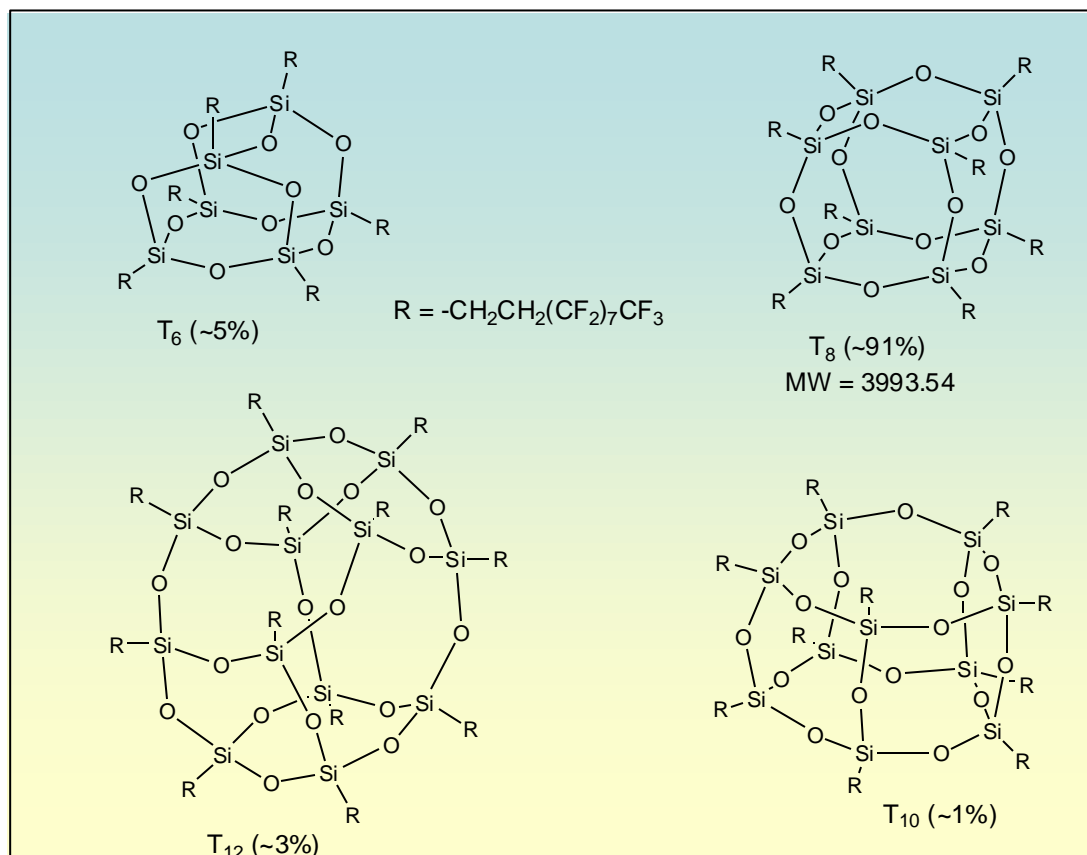


# $^{29}\text{Si}$ NMR of Fluorodecyl<sub>8</sub>T<sub>8</sub>





# Isomers of Fluorodecyl<sub>n</sub>T<sub>n</sub>

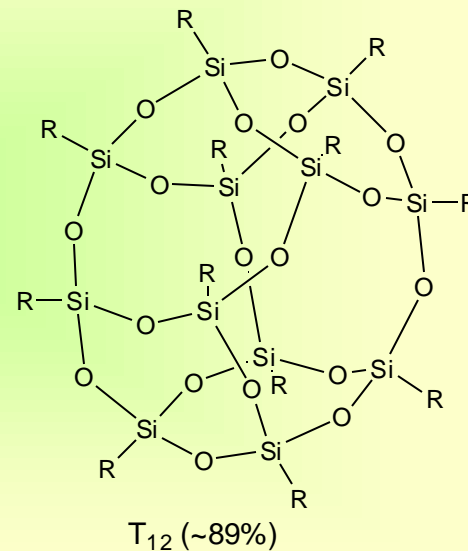
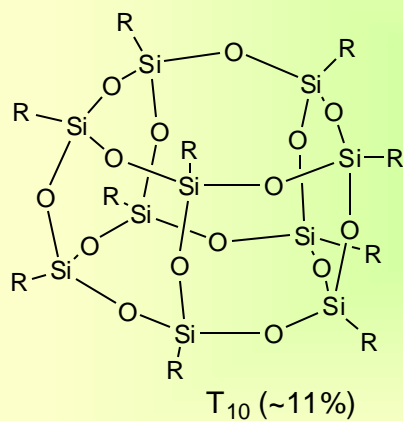




# 3,3,3-Trifluoropropyl<sub>n</sub>T<sub>n</sub>



R = -CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CF<sub>3</sub>

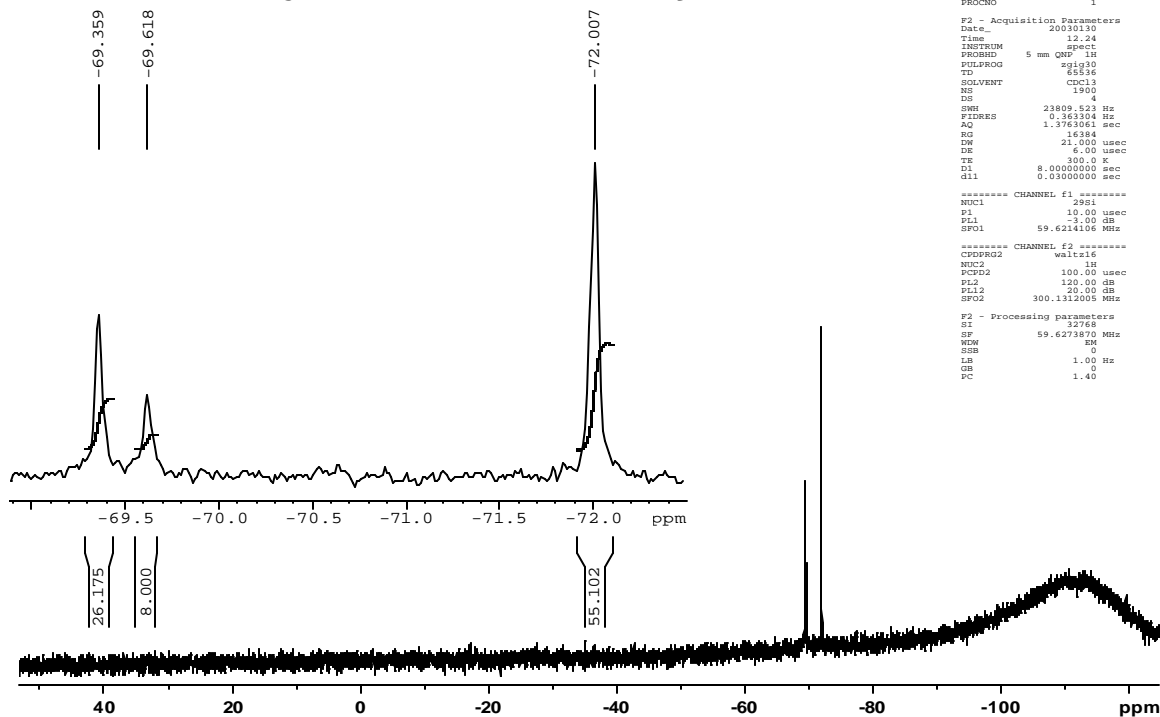




# 3,3,3-Trifluoropropyl<sub>n</sub>T<sub>n</sub>

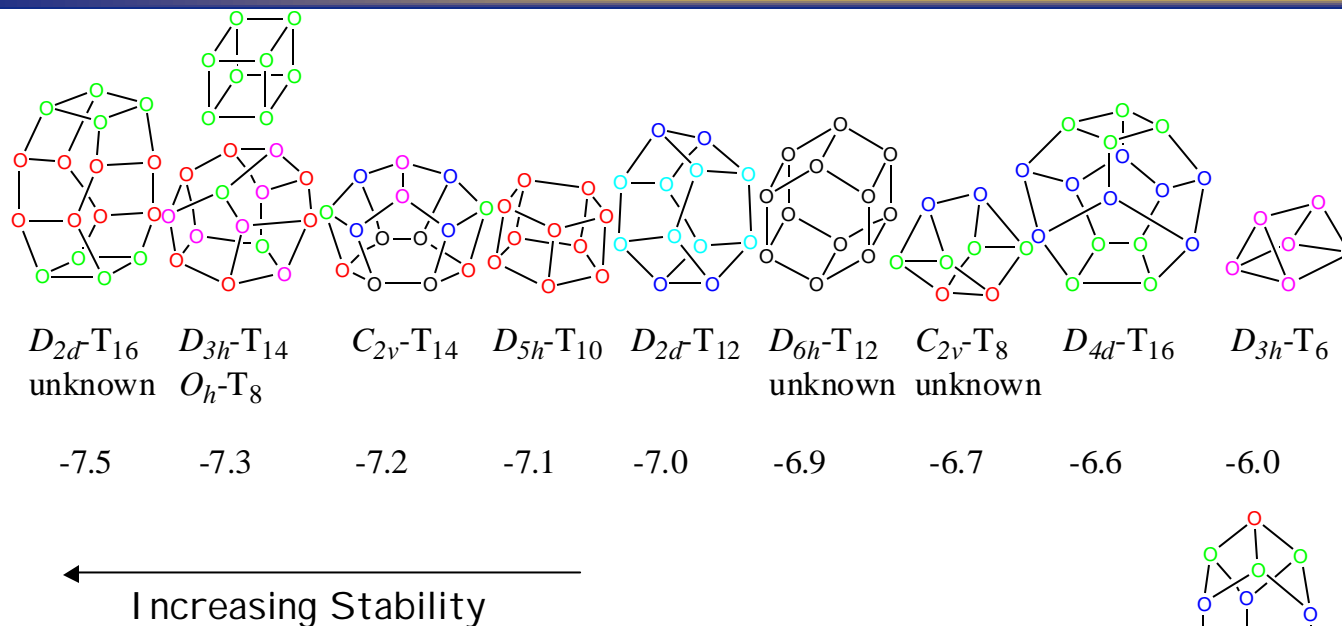


## 3jm1-43 TFPnTn Mabry 01-30-03

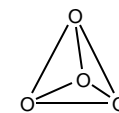




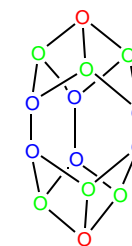
## Relative energy per silicon atom (kcal/mol) for the $H_nT_n$ series



For  $H_nT_n$  polyhedra  
Pandey: J. Phys. Chem., 1998, 8704.



$T_dT_4$   
unknown  
0.0



$D_{3h}T_{14}$   
unknown  
+18.4 ???



## Relative energy per silicon atom (kcal/mol) for the $\text{Methyl}_n\text{T}_n$ series



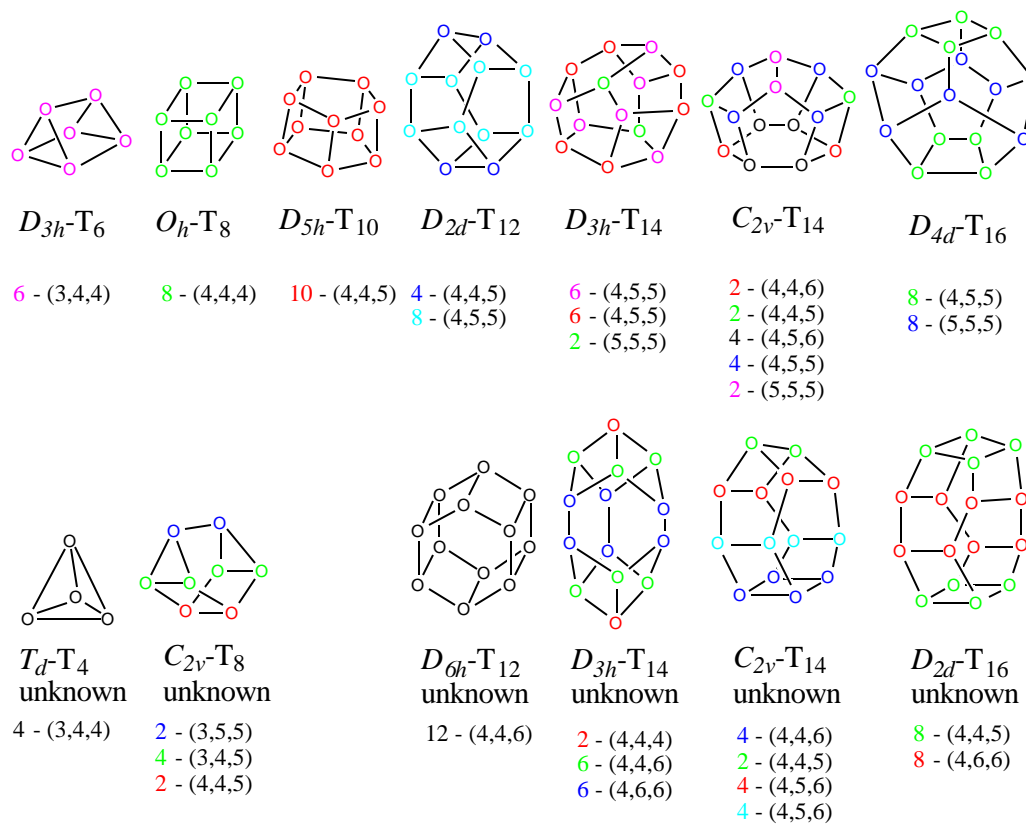
$D_{5h}\text{-T}_{10}$ $D_{2d}\text{-T}_{12}$ $D_{3h}\text{-T}_{14}$	$C_{2v}\text{-T}_{14}$	$O_h\text{-T}_8$	$D_{4d}\text{-T}_{16}$ $D_{2d}\text{-T}_{16}$ unknown	$D_{6h}\text{-T}_{12}$ unknown	$C_{2v}\text{-T}_8$ unknown	$D_{3h}\text{-T}_6$	$T_d\text{-T}_4$ unknown	$D_{3h}\text{-T}_{14}$ unknown
-8.1	-7.9	-7.8	-7.7	-7.5	-7.4	-6.7	0	+19.1

← Increasing Stability

For  $\text{Me}_n\text{T}_n$  polyhedra Pandey: J. Phys. Chem., 2002, 1709.



There are **9** possible  $T_{18}$ 's. **10-12** isomers are seen by GC-MS

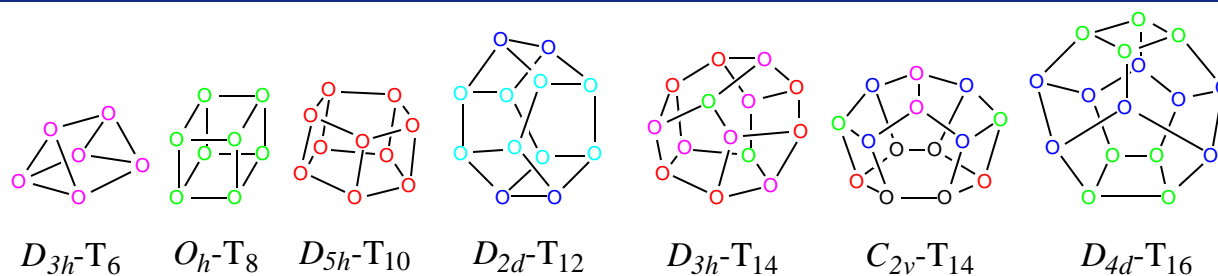




## $^{29}\text{Si}$ NMR of $\text{H}_n\text{T}_n$ :



The assignment for the  $\text{T}_{16}$  is likely but not definitive. The  $\text{T}_6$  is unknown.



$D_{3h}\text{-T}_6$

$O_h\text{-T}_8$

$D_{5h}\text{-T}_{10}$

$D_{2d}\text{-T}_{12}$

$D_{3h}\text{-T}_{14}$

$C_{2v}\text{-T}_{14}$

$D_{4d}\text{-T}_{16}$

6 - (3,4,4)  
predict -72.5

8 - (4,4,4)  
-84.45

10 - (4,4,5)  
-86.26

4 - (4,4,5)  
-85.78

8 - (4,5,5)  
-87.76

6 - (4,5,5)  
-87.89

6 - (4,5,5)  
-88.03

2 - (5,5,5)  
-89.71

2 - (4,4,6)  
-85.35

2 - (4,4,5)  
-85.76

4 - (4,5,6)  
-87.68

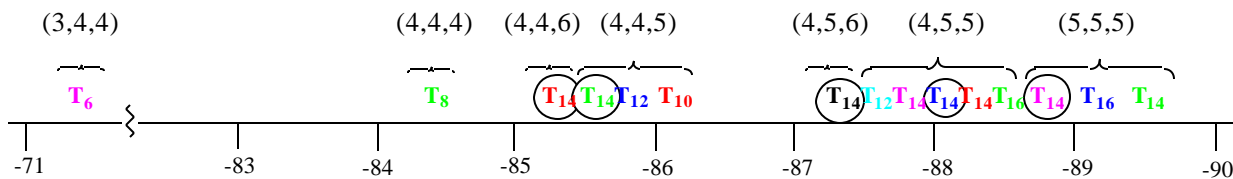
4 - (4,5,5)  
-87.95

2 - (5,5,5)  
-88.72

8 - (4,5,5)  
-88.10

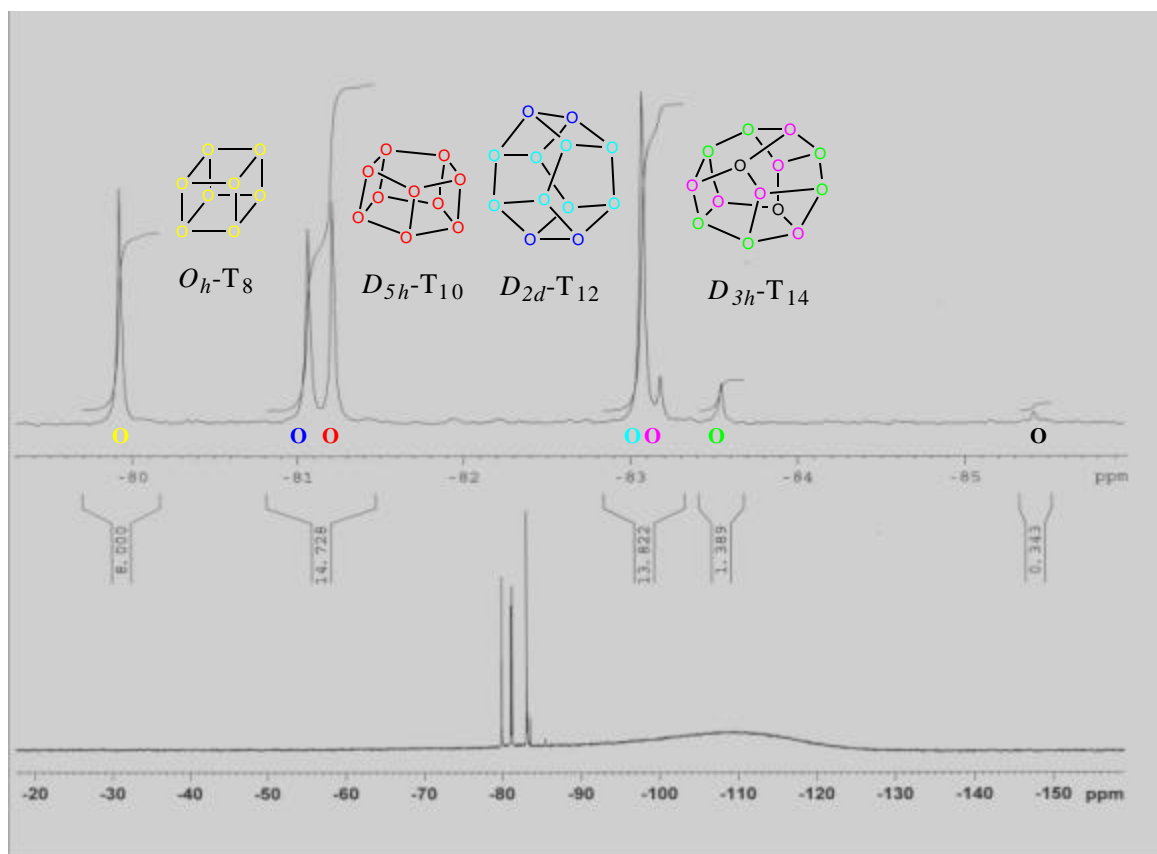
8 - (5,5,5)  
-89.27

Agaskar: Inorg. Chim. Acta. Vol 229, 1995, p.355.





# $^{29}\text{Si}$ NMR Spectrum of Hybrids $\text{Vi}_n\text{T}_n$ mixture



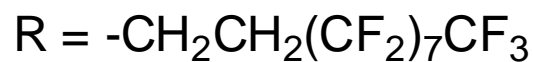
July 15, 2004

14<sup>th</sup> European Symposium on Fluorine Chemistry, Poznań, Poland  
DISTRIBUTION A: Approved for public release, distribution unlimited

21



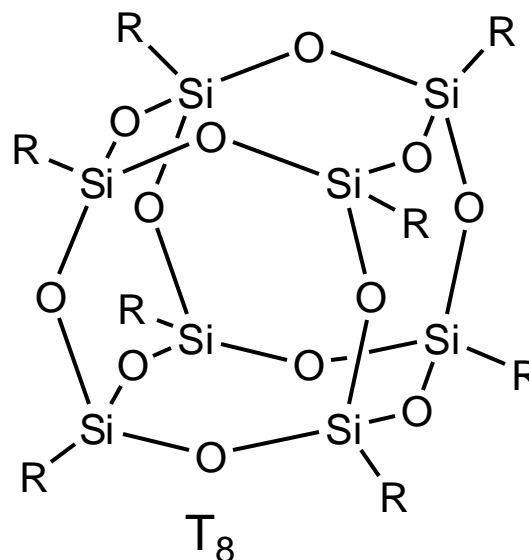
# Fluorodecyl<sub>8</sub>T<sub>8</sub>



$$M_W = 3993.54 \text{ g/mol}$$

$$\rho = 1.95 \text{ g/mL (powder)}$$

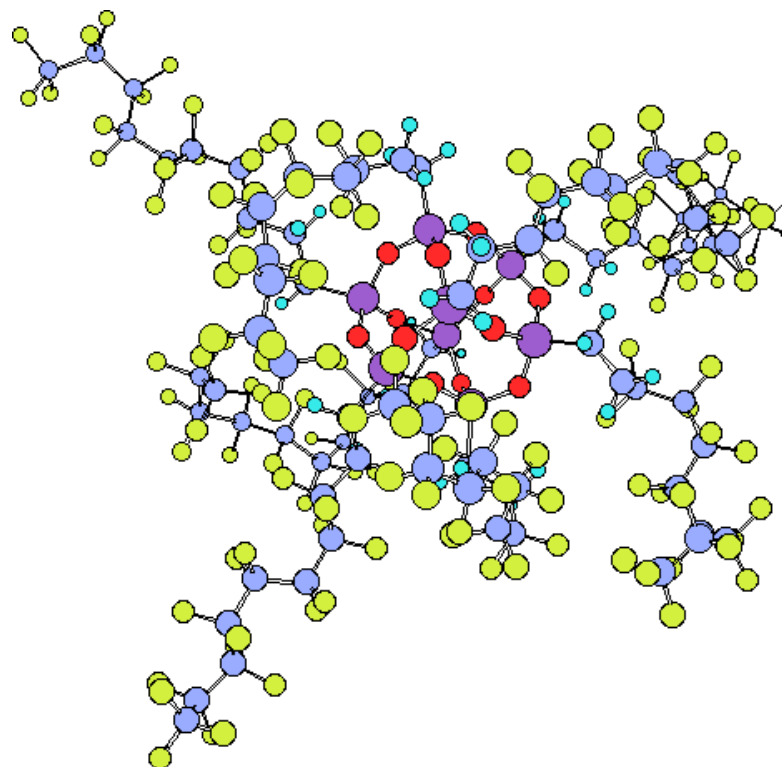
**(-C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>4</sub>F<sub>17</sub> = Fluorodecyl)**



Cage mixtures can also be obtained by modifying solvent systems.

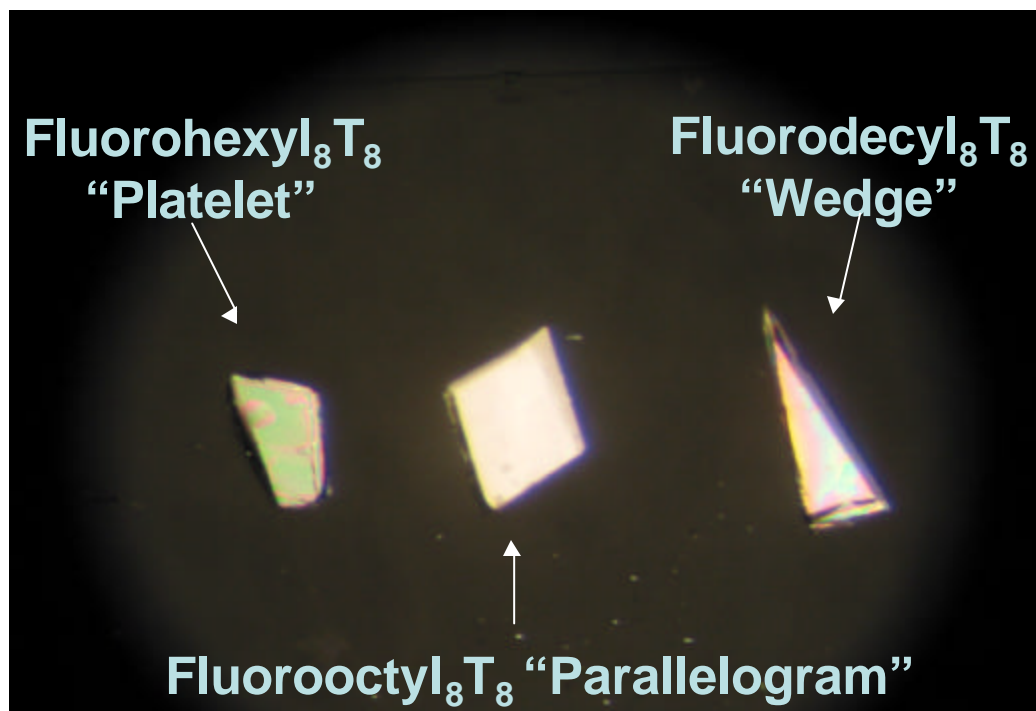


# Gas Phase Model of Fluorodecyl<sub>8</sub>T<sub>8</sub>





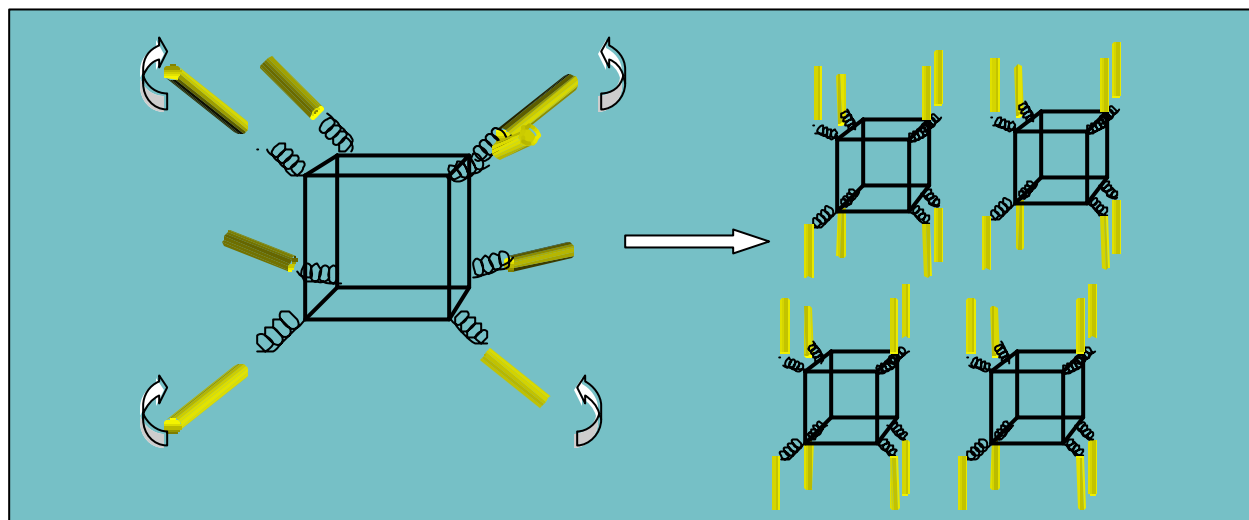
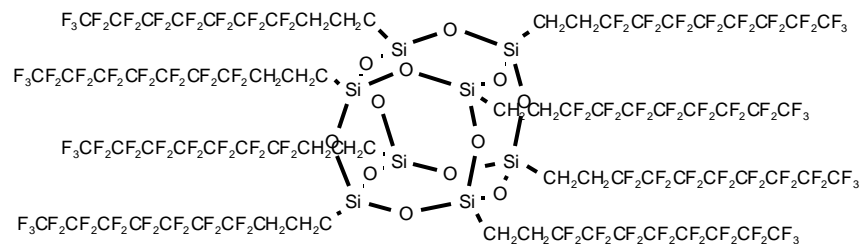
# FluoroPOSS Crystals



FluoroPOSS compounds crystallize in distinctly different shapes. All structures are triclinic.



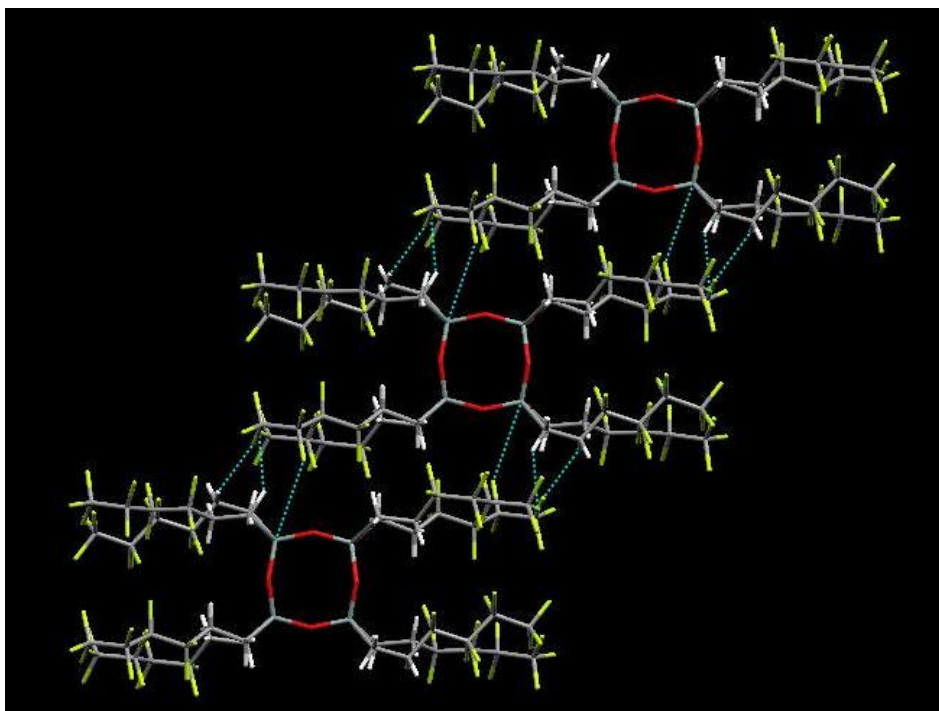
# Crystal Packing



Rigid chains may be expected to extend out in all directions.



# Fluorohexyl<sub>8</sub>T<sub>8</sub>



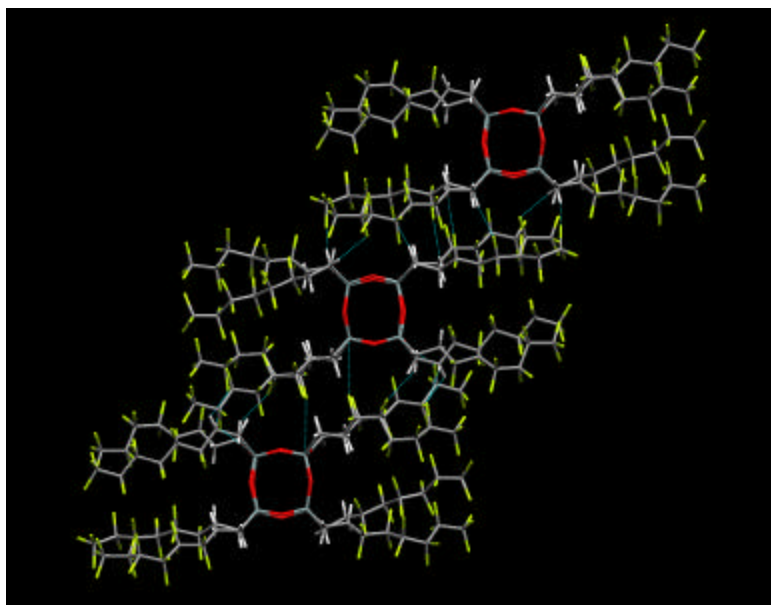
$$\rho = 1.98 \text{ g/mL}$$

$$M_w = 2393.33 \text{ g/mol}$$

- Both H-F and Si-F contacts lead to the increased packing efficiency.
- Si atoms in POSS cage line up with fluorine atoms on 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> carbons in adjacent POSS fluorohexyl chains.



# Fluorooctyl<sub>8</sub>T<sub>8</sub>



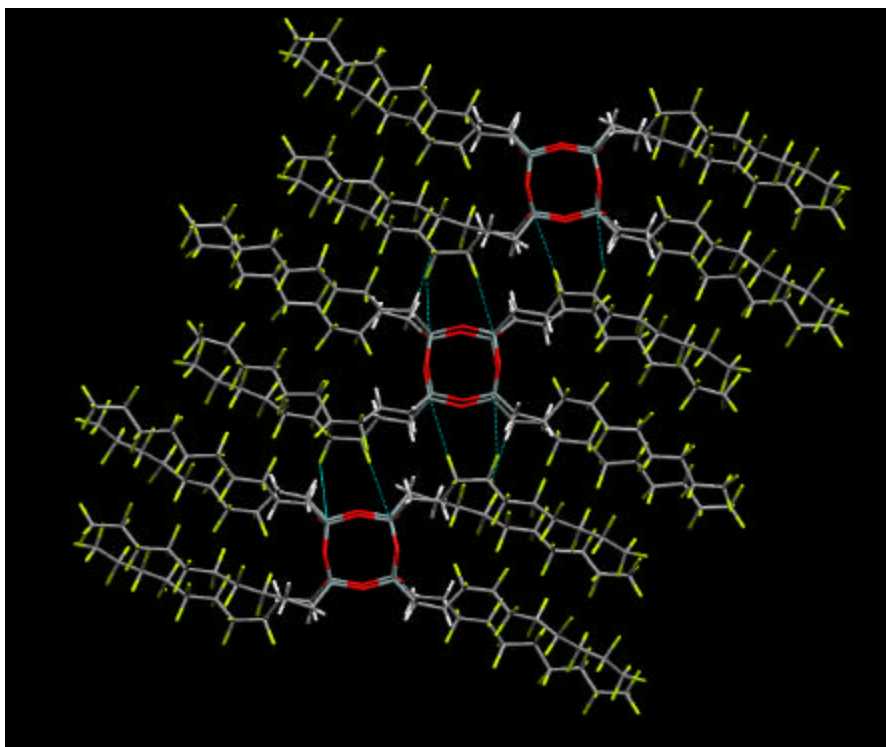
$$\rho = 2.05 \text{ g/mL}$$

$$M_w = 3193.45 \text{ g/mol}$$

- Longer fluorooctyl chain allows additional H-F contacts on each side of POSS cage.
- Si atoms also line up with fluorine atoms on 5th and 6th carbons in adjacent fluorooctyl chains.



# Fluorodecyl<sub>8</sub>T<sub>8</sub>



$$\rho = 2.09 \text{ g/mL}$$

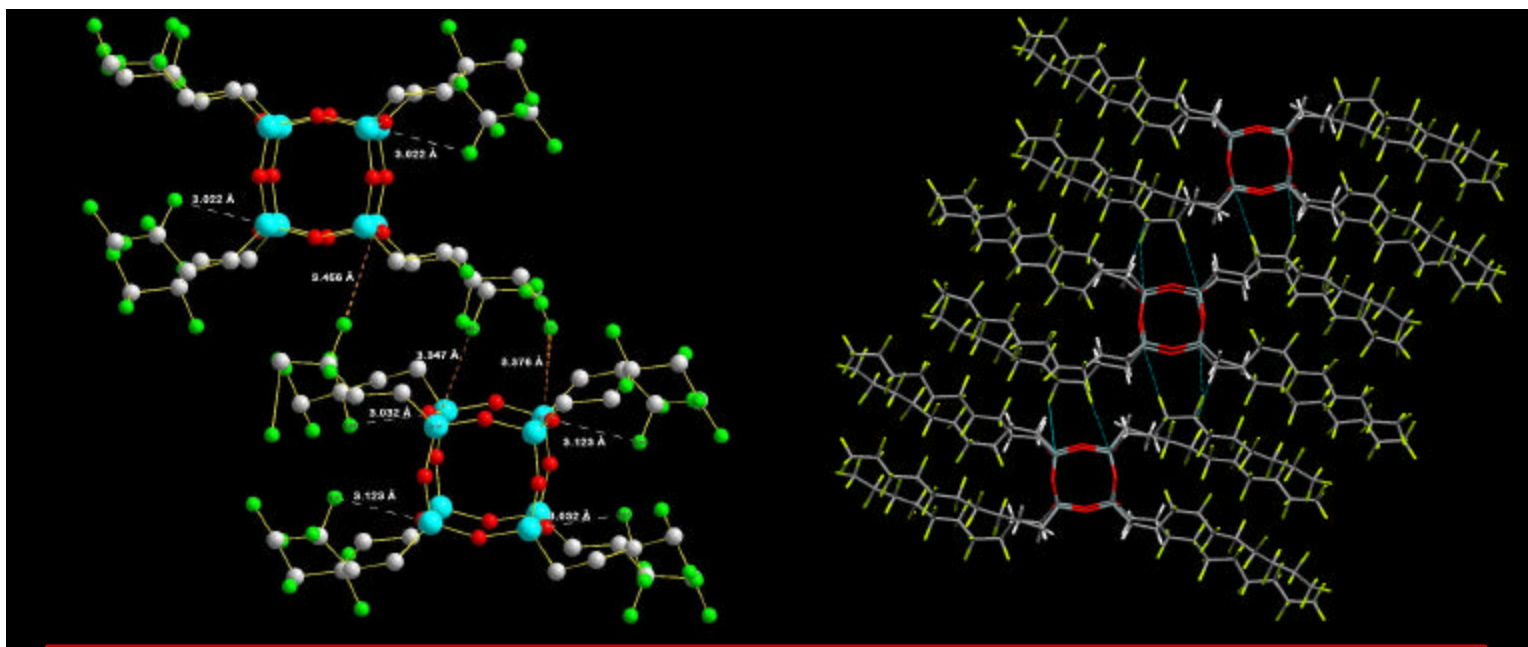
$$M_w = 3993.54 \text{ g/mol}$$

- Decreased number of H-F contacts.
- Increased number of Si-F contacts.

- Si atoms in POSS cage line up with fluorine atoms on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> carbons in adjacent POSS fluorodecyl chains.



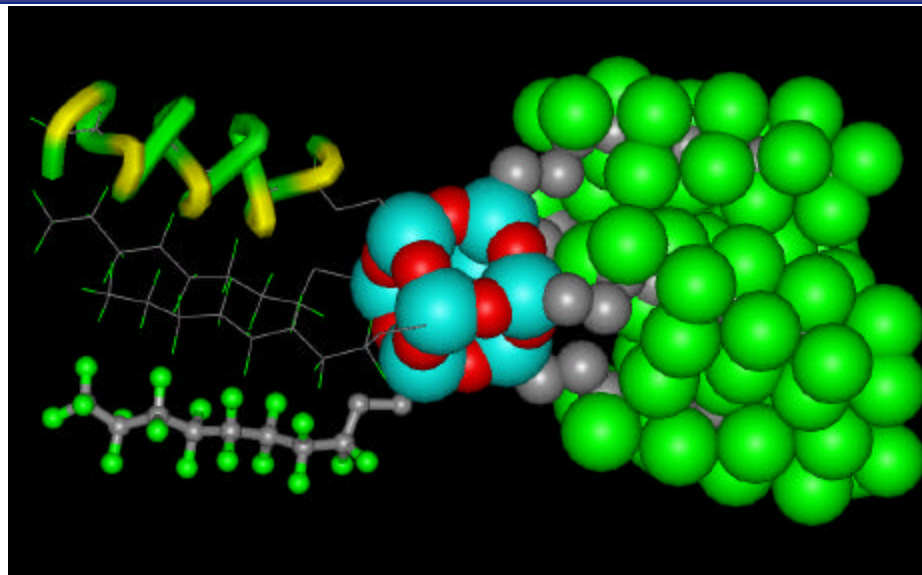
# Fluorodecyl<sub>8</sub>T<sub>8</sub>



- Si atoms in POSS cage line up with fluorine atoms on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> carbons in adjacent POSS fluorodecyl chains.
- Inter- and intra-molecular Si-F contacts maximize crystal packing.



# Teflon-Like Fluorodecyl<sub>8</sub>T<sub>8</sub>

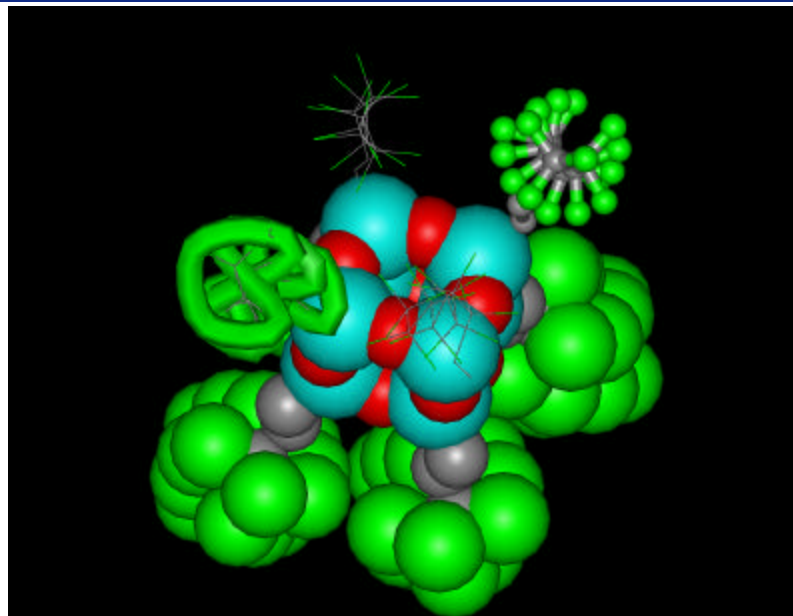


- Free space surrounds fluorophilic core.
- Inter- and intramolecular fluorocarbon chains distances are  $\sim 5.2 \text{ \AA}$ , similar to that of Phase II PTFE at  $-173 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ .

Holt, D. B.; Farmer, B. L. *Polymer* **40**, 1999, 4673.



# Teflon-Like Fluorodecyl<sub>8</sub>T<sub>8</sub>



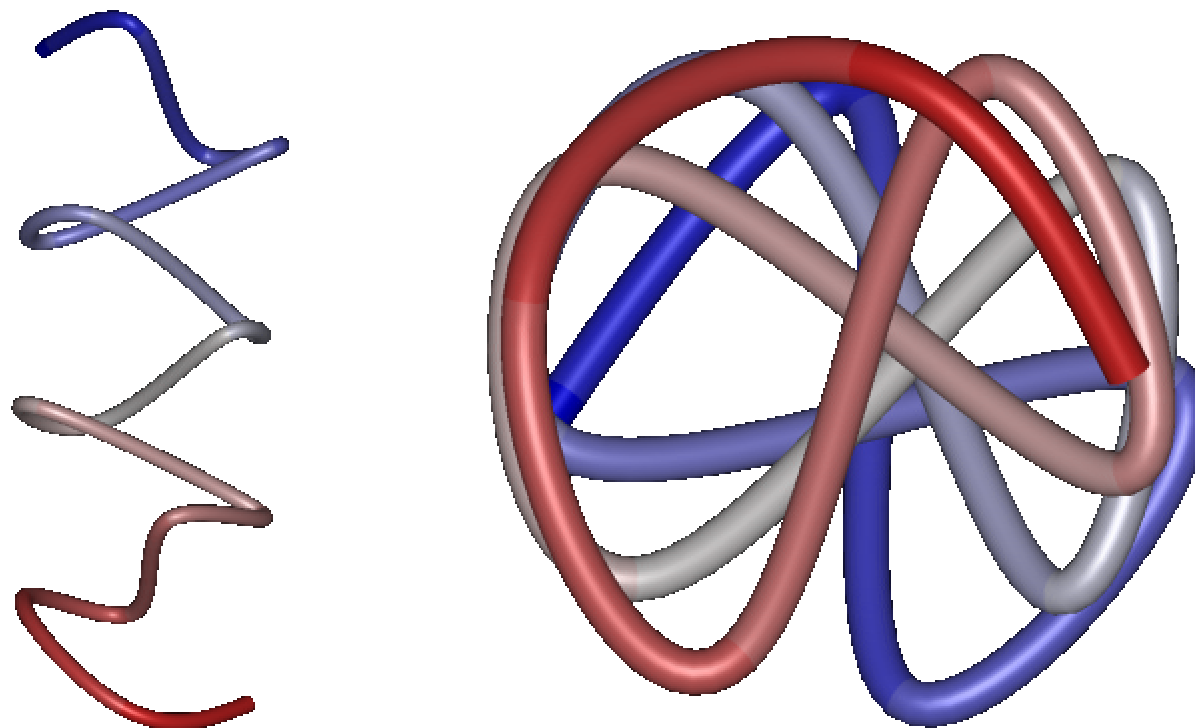
Fluoroalkyl chains have a helix of  $7/3.24$  (2.16), virtually identical to that of Phase II PTFE at  $54/25$  (2.16) or  $13/6$  (2.17).

Holt, D. B.; Farmer, B. L. *Polymer* **40**, 1999, 4673.

Kerbow, D. L. In "Polymer Data Handbook"; Mark, J. E. Ed.; Oxford University Press: New York, NY, 1999, pp 842-847.



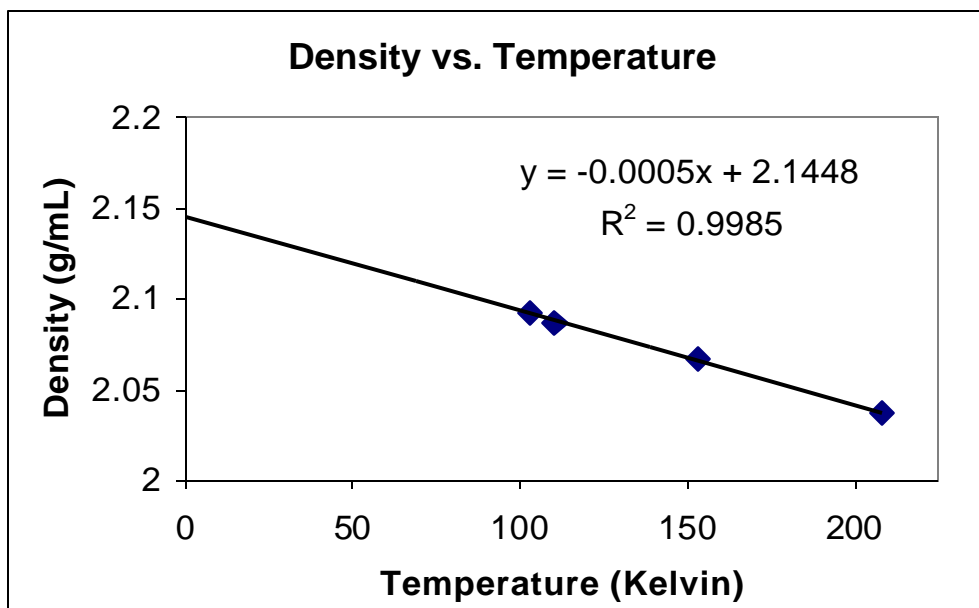
## Small Molecule vs. Protein X-Ray



Trace of fluorine atoms on one fluoroalkyl group of Fluorodecyl<sub>8</sub>T<sub>8</sub>.



# Teflon-Like Fluorodecyl<sub>8</sub>T<sub>8</sub>



- Fluorodecyl<sub>8</sub>T<sub>8</sub> density decreases as a rate of  $5 \times 10^{-4}$  g/mL/K.
- Extrapolated density at absolute zero is **2.145** g/mL.
- Reversible thermal transition between -75 and -80 °C.
- Density lower than PTFE (**2.3**), probably due to free space in core.



# Teflon-Mimicking Summary



Property	Phase II Teflon (below 19 °C)	Fluorodecyl <sub>8</sub> T <sub>8</sub>
Intermolecular Chain Distance	~5.0 Å	~5.2 Å
Intermolecular Chain Distance	~5.0 Å	~5.2 Å
Chain Helix	54/25 (2.16) or 13/6 (2.17)	7/3.24 (2.16)
Density	2.3 g/mL	2.1 g/mL

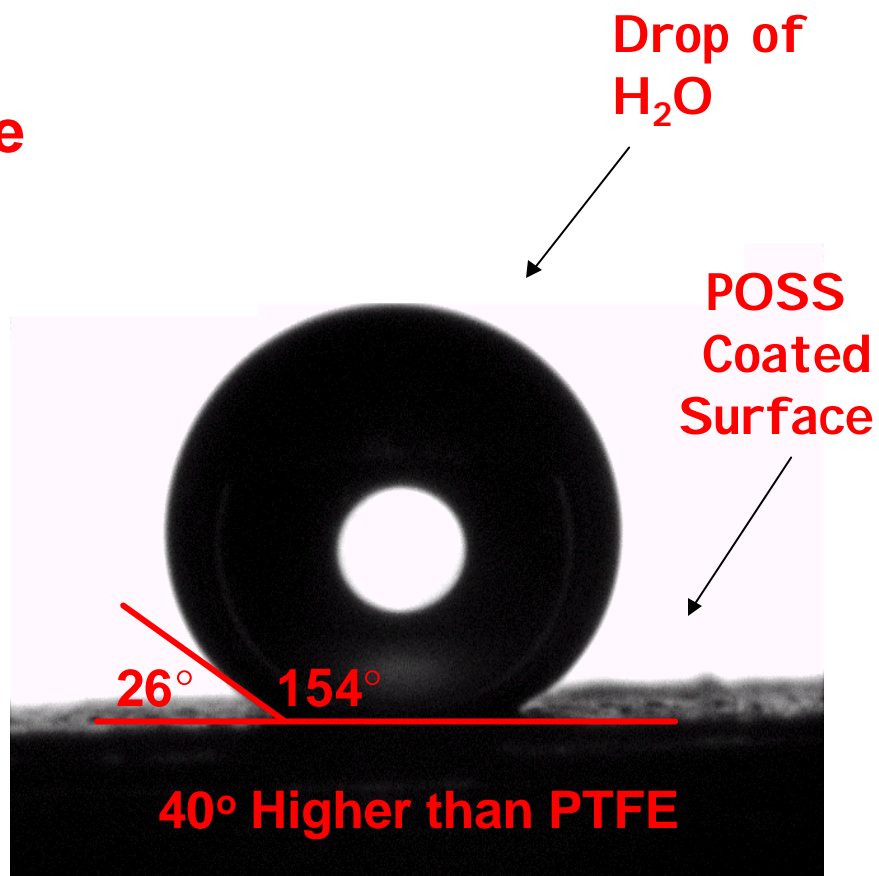


# Ultrahydrophobic Nanoparticles



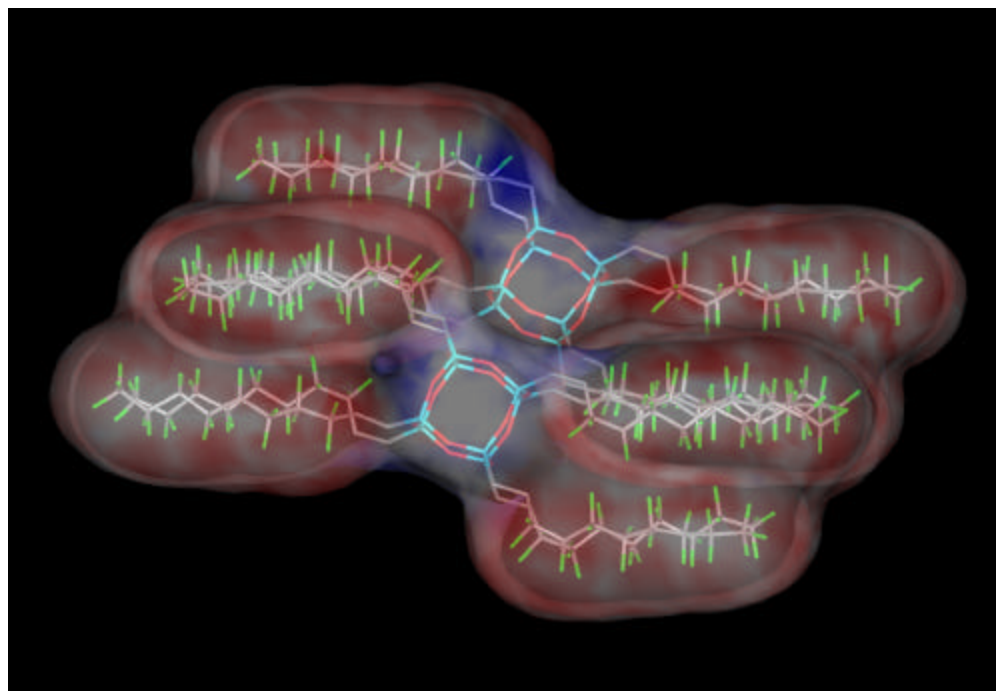
**154° Contact Angle**

- Ultrahydrophobic
- Improve the surface properties of polymers into which it is blended





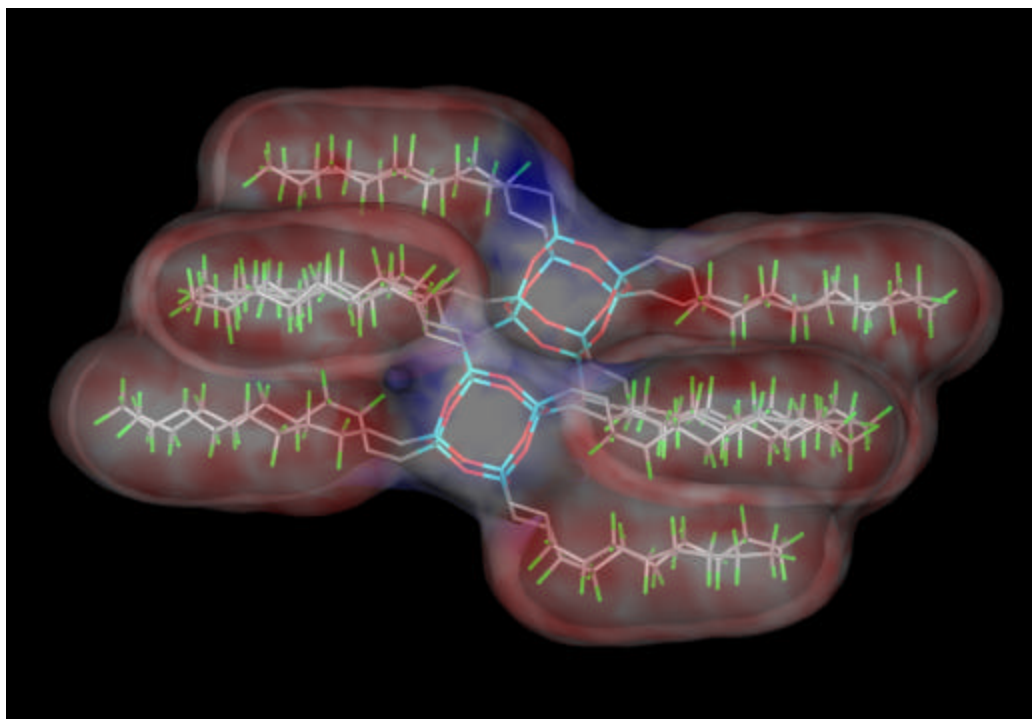
# Fluorodecyl<sub>8</sub>T<sub>8</sub>



- Electrostatic potential surface of fluorodecyl POSS crystal.
- The surface appears to form a bent conformation.



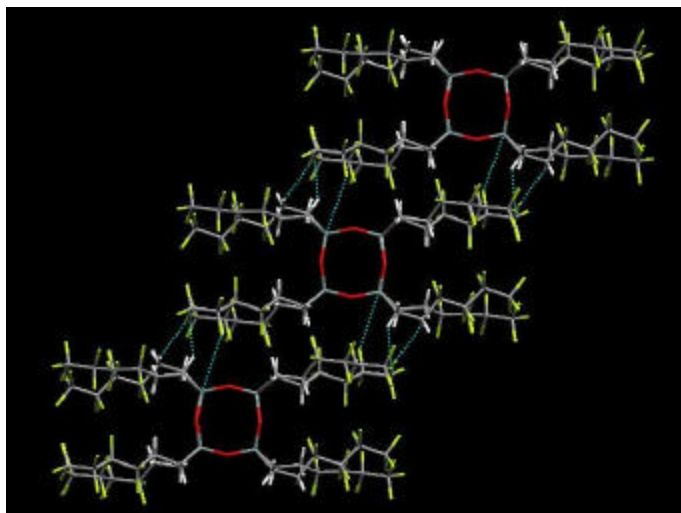
# Fluorodecyl<sub>8</sub>T<sub>8</sub>



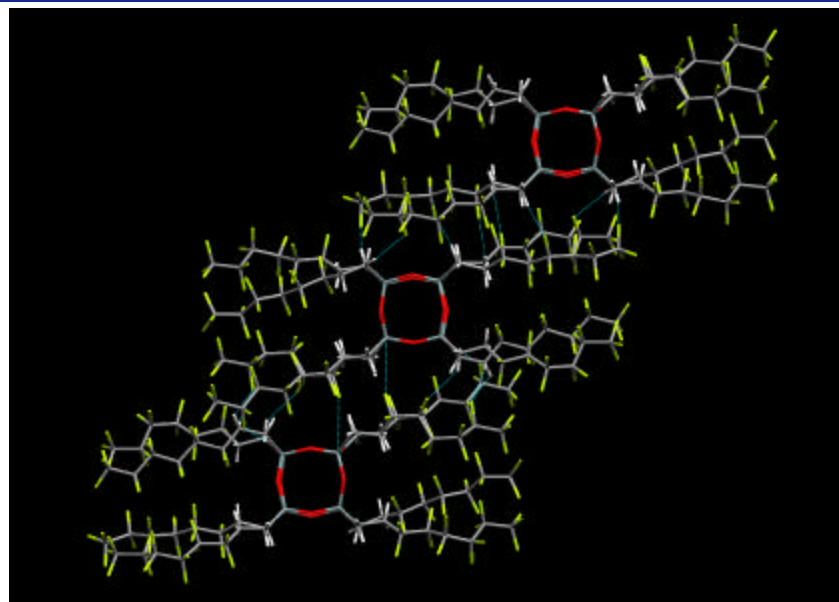
Electrostatic potential surface of fluorodecyl POSS crystal shows the negative area surrounding the fluoroalkyl chains and the positive area surrounding the core.



# Fluorohexyl<sub>8</sub>T<sub>8</sub> and Fluorooctyl<sub>8</sub>T<sub>8</sub>



**Fluorohexyl<sub>8</sub>T<sub>8</sub>**

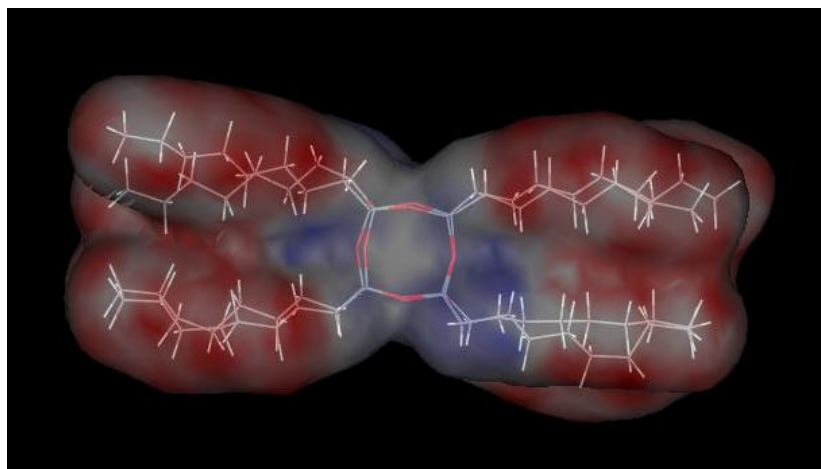


**Fluorooctyl<sub>8</sub>T<sub>8</sub>**

- Both H-F and Si-F contacts lead to the increased packing efficiency.
- Si atoms in POSS cage line up with fluorine atoms on 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> carbons in adjacent POSS fluorohexyl chains.

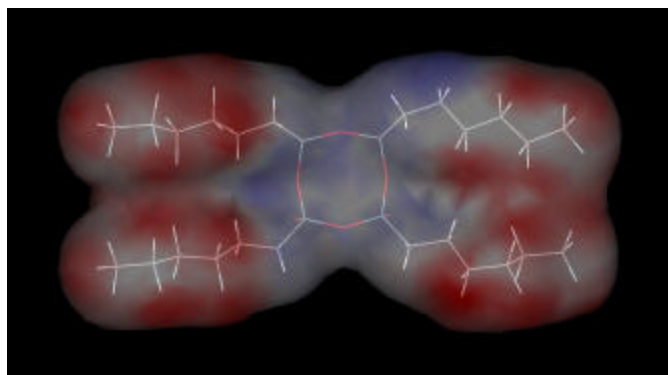


# Fluorooctyl<sub>8</sub>T<sub>8</sub> and Fluorohexyl<sub>8</sub>T<sub>8</sub>



**Fluorooctyl<sub>8</sub>T<sub>8</sub>**

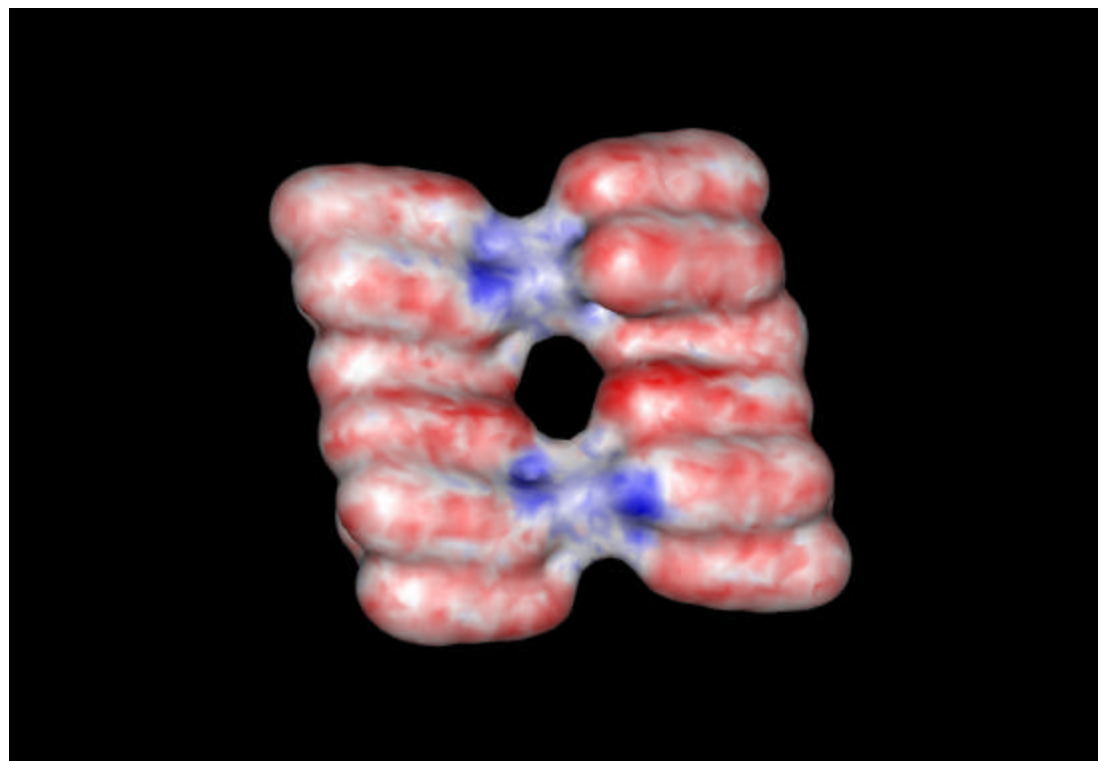
These compounds appear to form a flatter surface than the Fluorodecyl<sub>8</sub>T<sub>8</sub>.



**Fluorohexyl<sub>8</sub>T<sub>8</sub>**



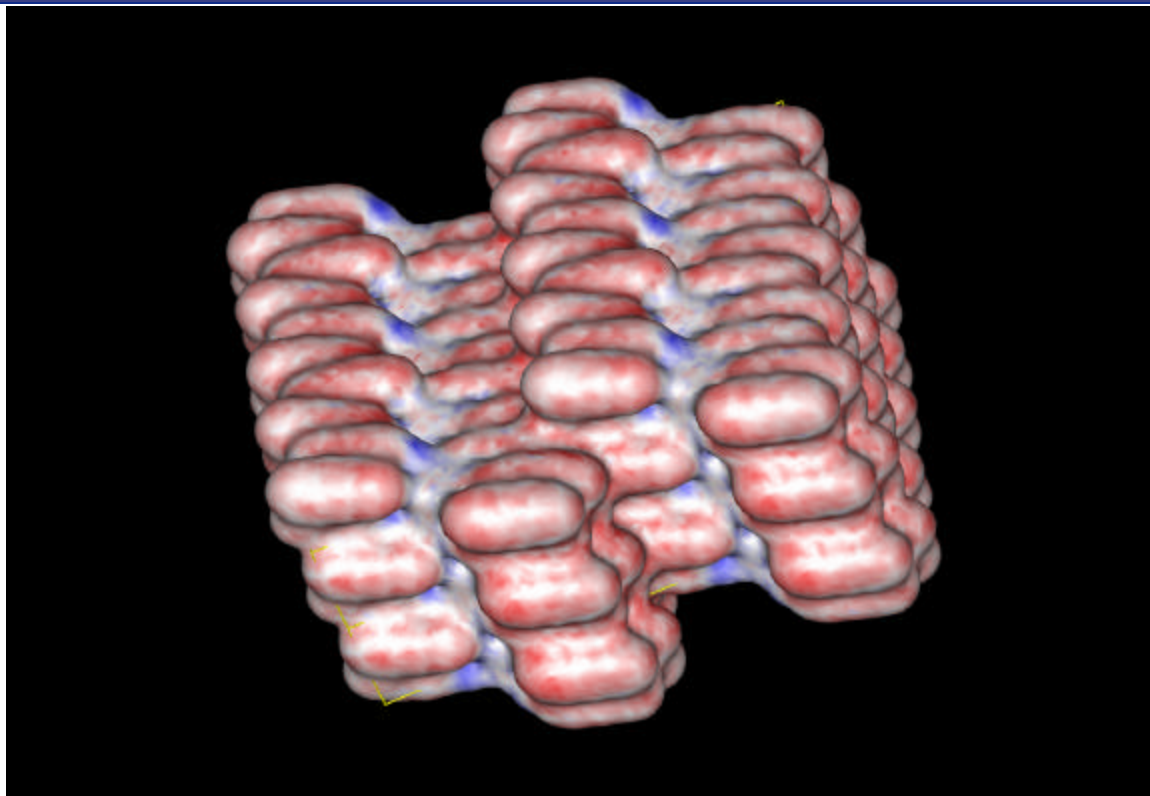
# Electrostatic Potential



- Unique molecules within unit cell line up together, maximizing fluorine interactions.



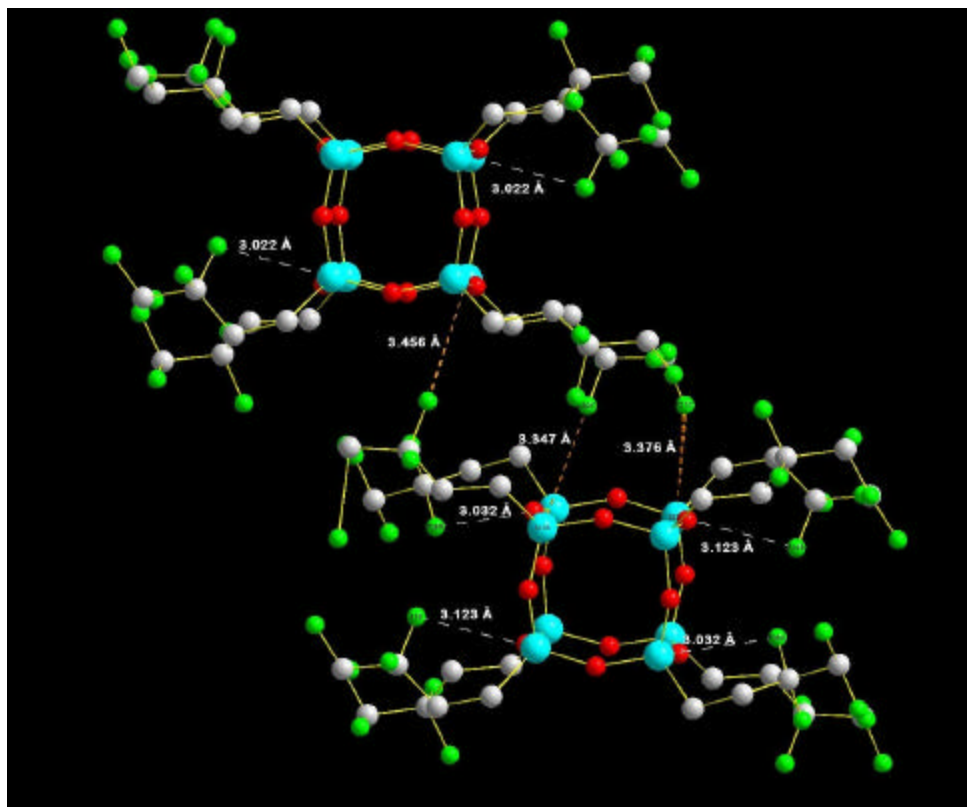
# Fluorodecyl<sub>8</sub>T<sub>8</sub>



Crystal packing maximizes positive-negative electrostatic interactions.



# Fluorodecyl<sub>8</sub>T<sub>8</sub>



Inter- and intra-molecular Si-F contacts maximize crystal packing.

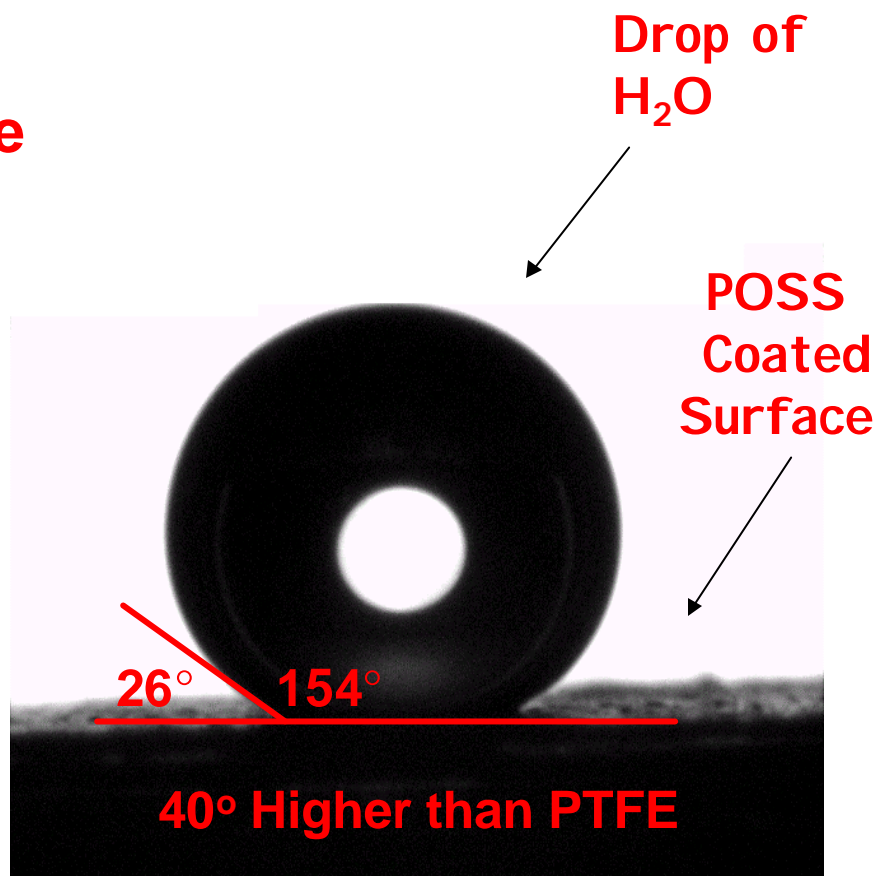


# Ultrahydrophobic Nanoparticles



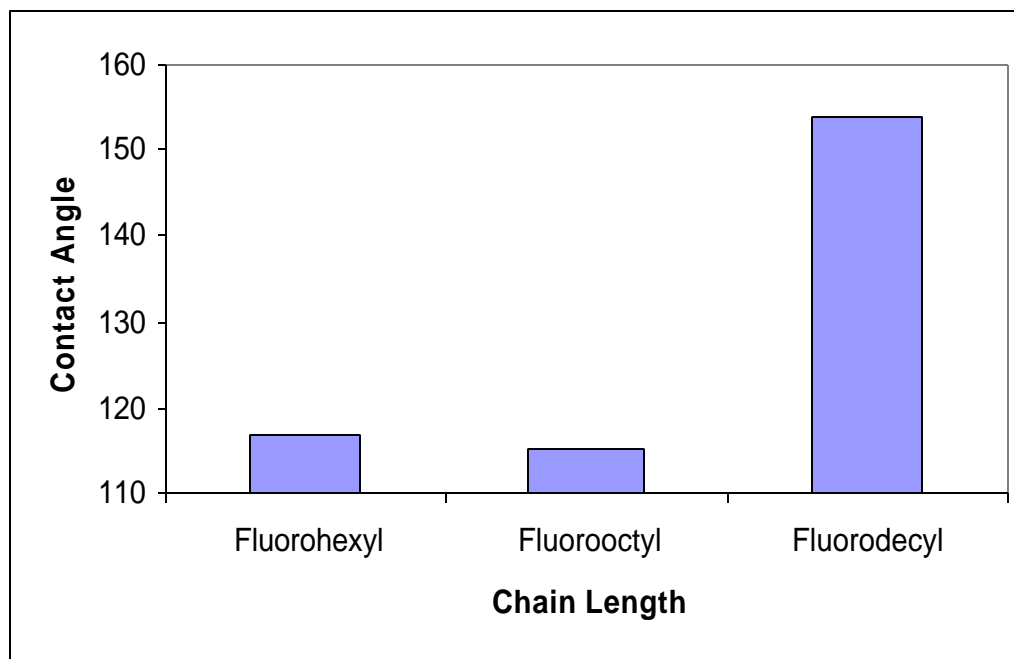
**154° Contact Angle**

- Ultrahydrophobic
- Improve the surface properties of polymers into which it is blended





## FluoroPOSS Contact Angles



- Fluorohexyl and Fluorooctyl POSS have similar water contact angles.
- Fluorodecyl<sub>8</sub>T<sub>8</sub> contact angle is much higher.



## Possible Cause of Hydrophobicity



- Both surface chemistry and surface roughness contribute to hydrophobicity.
- **Surface chemistry is similar for all FluoroPOSS compounds.**
  
- Fluorohexyl and Fluorooctyl POSS have similar water contact angles.
- **Fluorodecyl<sub>8</sub>T<sub>8</sub> contact angle is much higher.**
  
- Fluorohexyl and Fluorooctyl POSS have much flatter molecular surfaces.
- **Fluorodecyl<sub>8</sub>T<sub>8</sub> appears to have a rougher surface on a molecular scale.**



# Density



<u>Compound</u>	<u>Density (g/mL)</u>
• PVDF	1.75-1.78
• PCTFE	2.08-2.19
• FEP	2.12-2.17
• PTFE	2.3-2.7
• Fluoropropyl POSS	1.59
• Fluorohexyl POSS (crystal)	1.86 (1.98)
• Fluorooctyl POSS (crystal)	1.88 (2.05)
• Fluorodecyl POSS (crystal)	1.95 (2.09)

Blended POSS fluoropolymers have higher than expected densities.  
This may be due to POSS induced crystallite nucleation.



# Conclusions



- Fluorodecyl POSS chains can be viewed as **PTFE models**.
- Fluorodecyl POSS surface is **ultrahydrophobic**.
- Hydrophobicity may be caused by **surface roughness**.
- FluoroPOSS **increase hydrophobicity of fluoropolymers** into which they are incorporated.



# Summary



- Si-F and H-F contacts in crystals maximize packing density.
- Fluorodecyl POSS chains can be viewed as PTFE models.
- Bridges gap between small molecule and protein X-ray diffraction.
- Fluorodecyl POSS surface is ultrahydrophobic.
- FluoroPOSS increase hydrophobicity of fluoropolymers into which they are incorporated.
- FluoroPOSS act as a processing aid during fluoropolymer processing.



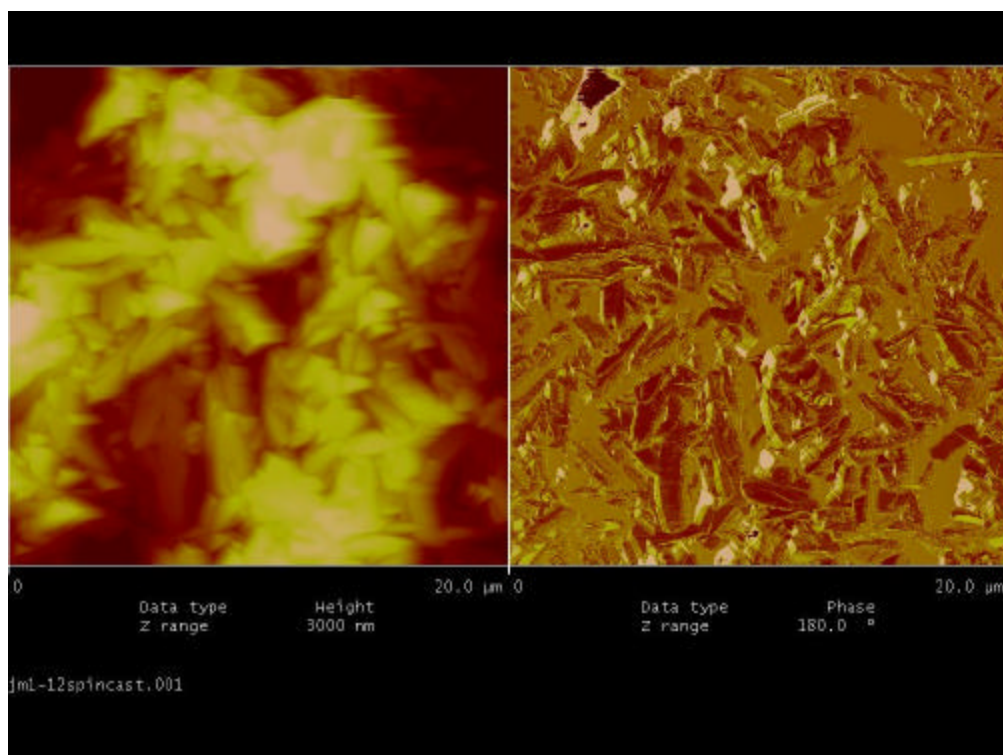
# Backup Slides

PAS-03-061  
July 15, 2004

14<sup>th</sup> European Symposium on Fluorine Chemistry, Poznań, Poland  
DISTRIBUTION A: Approved for public release, distribution unlimited



# AFM Image of Spin-Cast Fluorodecyl<sub>8</sub>T<sub>8</sub> Surface



AFM image of spin-cast surface shows micron scale roughness.



# Water Contact Angles



Polymer	No POSS	FO <sub>8</sub> T <sub>8</sub>	FD <sub>8</sub> T <sub>8</sub>
PCTFE	88°	108°	128°
FEP	97°	110°	114°
Amor. FEP	92°	100°	103°

Fluoropropyl POSS (FP <sub>n</sub> T <sub>n</sub> )	101°
Fluorohexyl POSS (FH <sub>8</sub> T <sub>8</sub> )	117°
Fluorooctyl POSS (FO <sub>8</sub> T <sub>8</sub> )	115°
Fluorodecyl POSS (FD <sub>8</sub> T <sub>8</sub> )	154°



# Contact Angle and Chain Length

