## **California Institute of Technology**

Materials and Process Simulation Center

Jason Crowley, David Lehtihet, Seung Geol Lee, Andres Jaramillo-Botero and William A. Goddard III

# DOW 11-30-2011

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- Density of dry polymer: 0.81 g/cm^3
- Density increases with water content
- Tends toward the density of bulk water at high water content

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• Uncertainty in densities: 10.004 - 0.005

Hydrophilic Density Profile





Same figure, zoomed in







#### Hydrophobic

Hydrophilic



### Hydrophobic



30 wt % water content

40 wt % water content

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#### Hydrophilic

#### Hydrophilic Water Fragmentation Profile



Fragmentation profile. A value of 100% places all water molecules in the same fragment (percolation). The threshold occurs in the 10-15 wt% range for both systems.

#### **Hydrophobic Water Fragmentation Profile**



Fragmentation profile. A value of 100% places all water molecules in the same fragment (percolation). The threshold occurs in the 10-15 wt% range for both systems. DOW 11-30-2011



**Occupied volume of water per water molecule** 

Occupied volume of water per water molecules is decreased with increasing water content & flat after 20 wt  $\frac{6}{12}$  water content  $\frac{12}{12}$   $\frac{12}{12}$   $\rightarrow$  Water molecules are clusterized & percolated.



Void volumes tell us how much space we have to put in more waters. The trend is consistent with the density/volume behavior: oscillations at low water content, general decreasing, critical behavior at 20%. Void volume decreases as we add more and more water.

Voids distribution (fewer larger voids)



Void volume increases, flattens after water percolates



Void volume flattens after water percolates We will do void+water volume



Notice swelling of bulk polymer as water is added

#### Hydrophilic Total Free Energy Profile



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Hydrophilic Polymer Entropy Profile



#### Water Entropy Profile





Polymer entropy PER ATOM Entropy, NOT -TS



Entropy of water only (PER ATO Entropy, NOT -TS



Consider radial distribution between chains (ie, consider for each atom in one chain all the atoms belonging to a different chain within a certain distance)

If the system is fully entangled, we should see all the atoms of the other chains by one van der Waals radius (first peak). For an amorphous polymer this may not be one van der Waals radius.

This is suggesting we may need larger chains, which was already evident from our entanglement tests (strain) DOW 11-30-2011 29



Coordination number (integral of radial distribution function) would give us this information. The radial distribution function itself gives us the van der Waals radius to use.