



# Molecular Mobility in Polyelectrolyte Multi-Layers and Heterogeneous Polymers

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### I. Polyelectrolyte multi-layers

- Introduction
- Local structure of layered systems
- Polymer mobility in PEMs
- Water mobility in PEMs
- **PEM Summary**

### II. Heterogeneous Polymers

- Poly-phenylenes with PEO sidechains
- Information from separate local field experiments
- Recoupled polarization transfer experiments
- Order-parameters from <sup>1</sup>H double quantum NMR
- Conclusions



















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### **DQ NMR Investigation of Structure: PEM vs. PEC**























### Localization of Water in Polyelectrolyte Multilayers





### <sup>1</sup>H MAS NMR Spectra

<sup>1</sup>H Chemical Shift







#### I. Complexation:

- (i) Polycation-polyanion complexation of polyelectrolyte multi-layers (PEM) is similar to that in the bulk polyelectrolyte complex (PEC).
- (ii) Water-polymer association in PEMs is much stronger than in PEC.

#### II. Polymer Dynamics:

- (i) Addition of water increases the polymer mobility in PEMs but not in the PEC.
- (ii) Enhanced polymer mobility is observed for hydrated PDADMAC-capped films relative to PSS capped films.
- (iii) This oscillation in the polymer mobility dampens and is superimposed on a gradient of decreasing mobility with film thickness. No changes with layer number are observed for dry films.

#### II. Adsorbed Water:

- (i) Mobility of adsorbed water is more restricted in PEMs than in the PEC.
- (ii) Water mobility is lower and water content is higher in PSS capped films as compared to PDADMAC capped PEMs.
- (iii) <sup>1</sup>H NMR peak intensity increases monotonically and its chemical shift oscillates between the PEC bulk and the bulk PDADMAC value.







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- **PP-PEO Summary**

























### Local Dynamics via RePT-HDOR Sideband Pattern







SPIESS



### Molecular Dynamics of PPPEO via <sup>1</sup>H DQ NMR











#### I. Qualitative information about dynamics via separate local field experiments :

- (i) At room temperature, the Poly-(Ethylene oxide) (PEO) chains and unsubstituted phenyl rings of the polymer backbone are highly mobile.
- (ii) The first CH<sub>2</sub> group of the PEO side chains bound to phenyl rings of the Poly-Phenylene (PP) backbone and these phenyl rings are less mobile.

#### II. Identification of dynamic processes via recoupled polarization transfer NMR experiments :

- (i) For temperatures below 300K, the PP backbone is rigid.
- (ii) For T > 290K substituted phenyl groups, bound to PEO side chains, show substantial fluctuations.
- (iii) Unsubstituted phenyl groups undergo additional phenyl flips around the chain axis.

#### II. Bending dynamics of the poly-phenylene main chain via <sup>1</sup>H double quantum NMR:

- (i) For T > 300 K bending fluctuations of the PP backbone are observed.
- (ii) The loss of dynamic anisotropy with increasing temperature is more pronounced for the PEO side chains the for the PP backbone of the polymer.







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#### **PP-PEO Dynamics:**

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