

# *Lian Yu lab projects*

## *(space for 1 or 2 students)*

- (1) Crystallization in polymorphic systems (NSF, Abbvie, Lilly)
- (2) Ultra-stable molecular glasses and amorphous drugs (NSF, Gates Foundation, BMS)
- (3) Glasses with liquid-crystalline order (NSF)



abbvie

Lilly

BILL & MELINDA  
GATES foundation

# Solid-state chemistry

Dosage form                      Number/200 most  
prescribed drugs in US

**Oral solids**                      166 (**83 %**)

(tablets, capsules)

Injections                      7

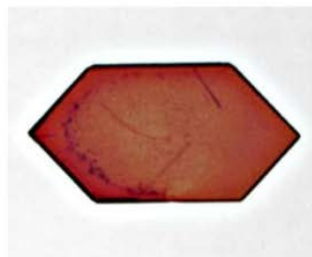
Subcutaneous                      4

Ophthalmological                      3, ...

This is a powerful motivation for work in this area <sup>2</sup>

# Molecules do amazing things in the solid state! ROY polymorphs

**Polymorphs are important for all drugs, all solid materials**



**OP**  $P2_1/c$   
mp 112.7 °C  
 $\theta = 46.1^\circ$



**ON**  $P2_1/c$   
mp 114.8 °C  
 $\theta = 52.6^\circ$

**YN P-1**  
mp 99 °C  
 $\theta = 104.1^\circ$

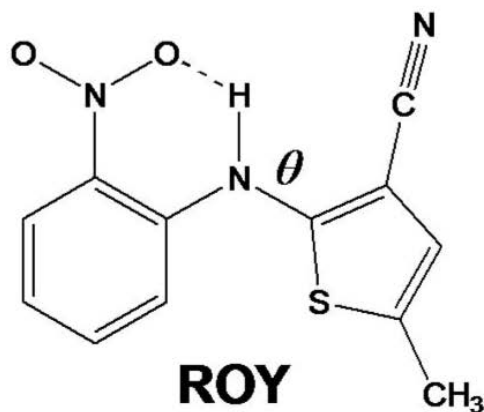


ROY was discovered 2 decades ago, still an international model

Most recent polymorph: Y19 (yellow, discovered in 2019)



**ORP**  $Pbca$   
mp 97 °C  
 $\theta = 39.4^\circ$

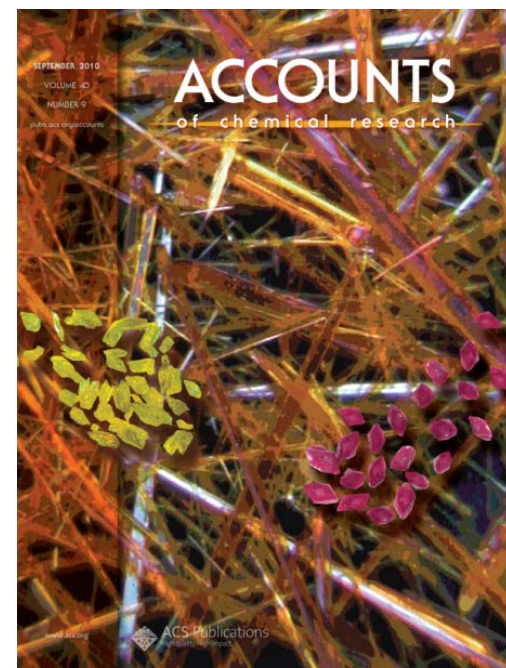


**Y**  $P2_1/c$   
mp 109.8 °C  
 $\theta = 104.7^\circ$

**R**  $P-1$   
mp 106.2 °C  
 $\theta = 21.7^\circ$

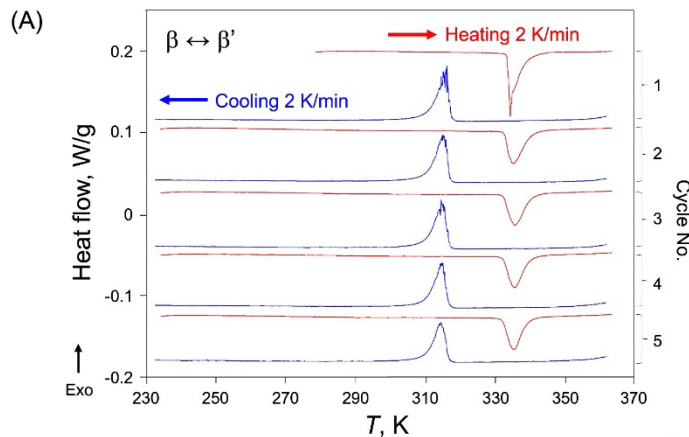
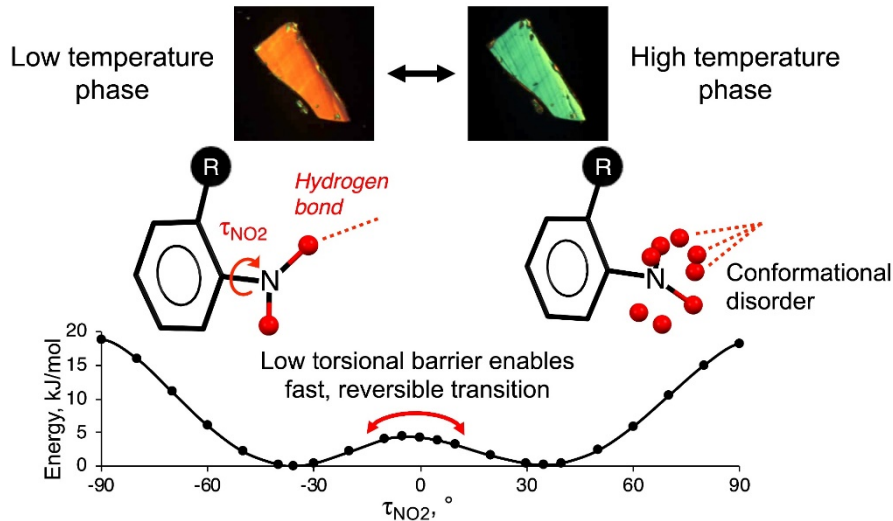


**YT04**  $P2_1/c$   
mp 107.0 °C  
 $\theta = 112.8^\circ$



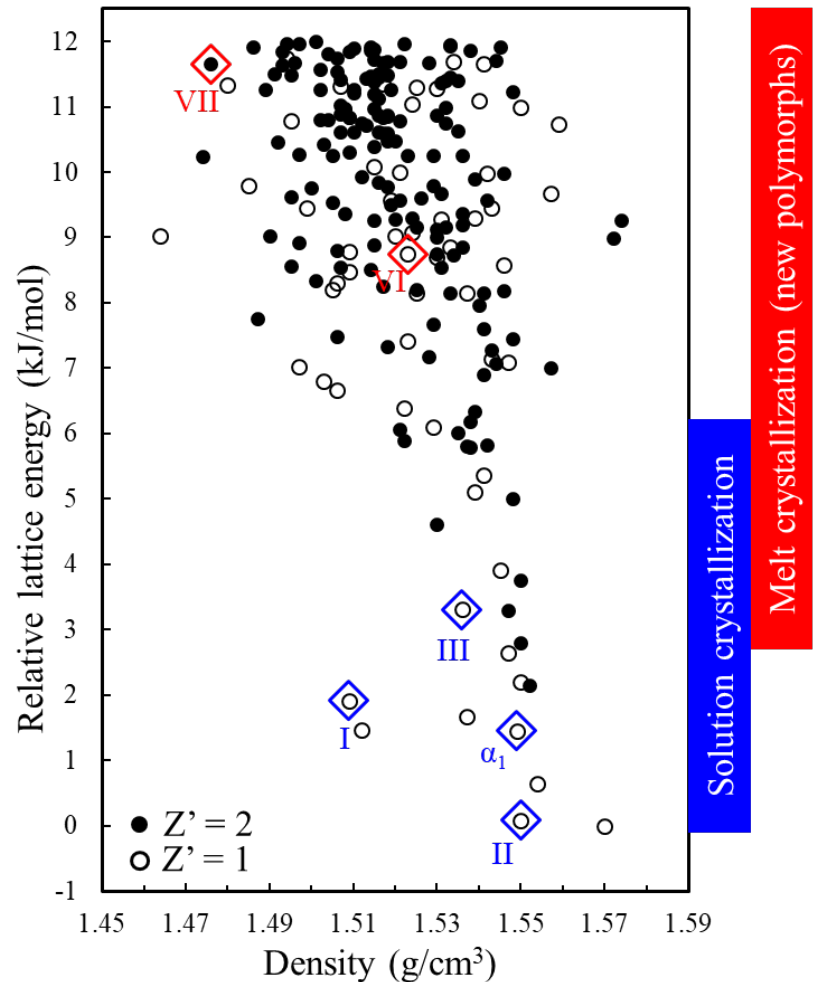
# NSF/Abbvie/Lilly project: Nucleation, materials design, and prediction of polymorphs

Reversible transitions for smart materials



Yue Gui

Computational chemistry to aid polymorph discovery

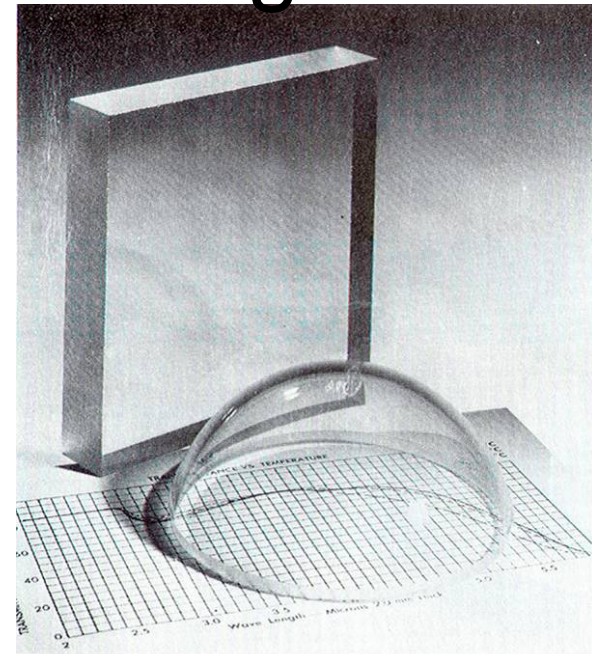




# Solids can be crystals and glasses

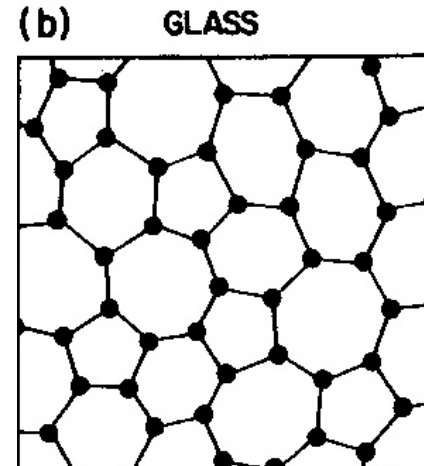
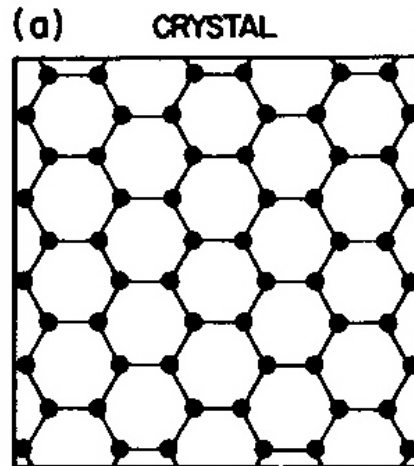


Crystalline  $\text{SiO}_2$  (quartz)  
Density  $2.65 \text{ g/cm}^3$



Amorphous  $\text{SiO}_2$  (glass)  
Density  $2.20 \text{ g/cm}^3$

The packing of atoms is regular and repeated in space



The packing has short-range order but lacks long-range order

# Glasses are great materials!

## Drug delivery

Amorphous drugs  
more soluble than  
crystals



AIDS drug Kaletra

## Bio-preservation

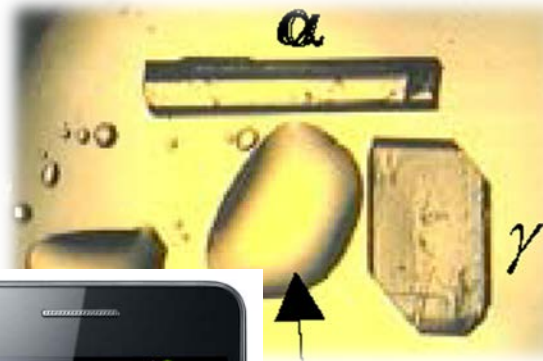


*In sugar glasses*

*In amber*



**Food**



**OLED**



# Glasses are great materials!

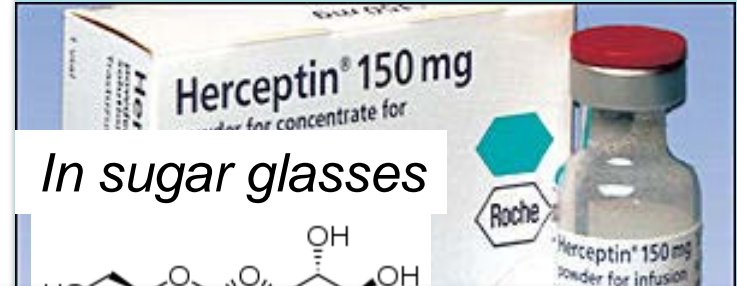
## Drug delivery

Amorphous drugs  
more soluble than  
crystals



AIDS drug Kaletra

## Bio-preservation



But must be stable against  
crystallization!



## OLED





# Glasses are great materials!

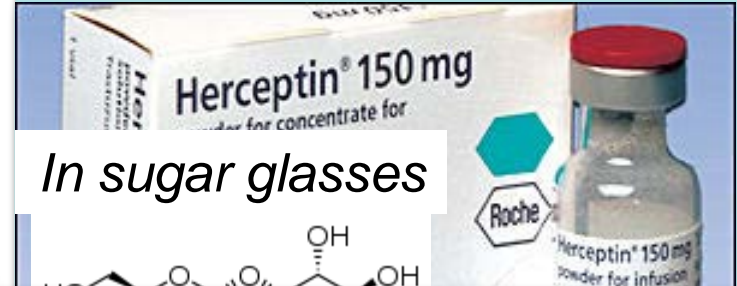
## Drug delivery

Amorphous drugs  
more soluble than  
crystals



AIDS drug Kaletra

## Bio-preservation



Should have tunable structures  
(as in the case of polymorphs)!

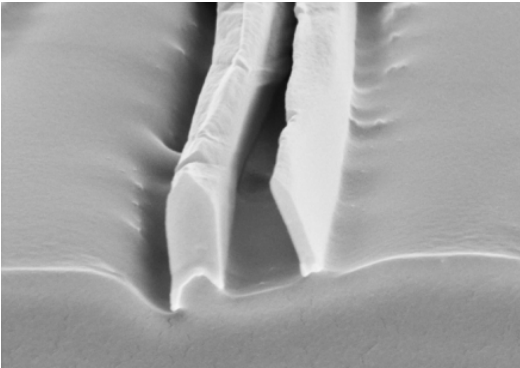
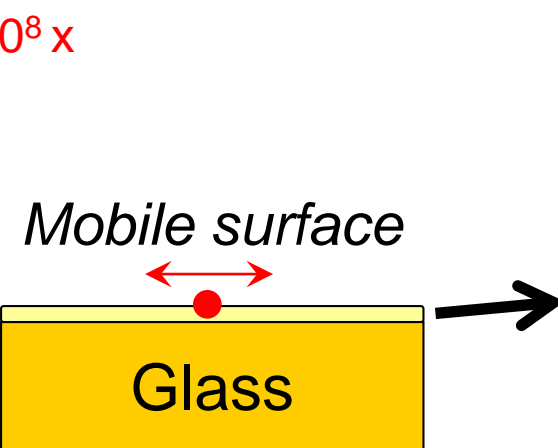
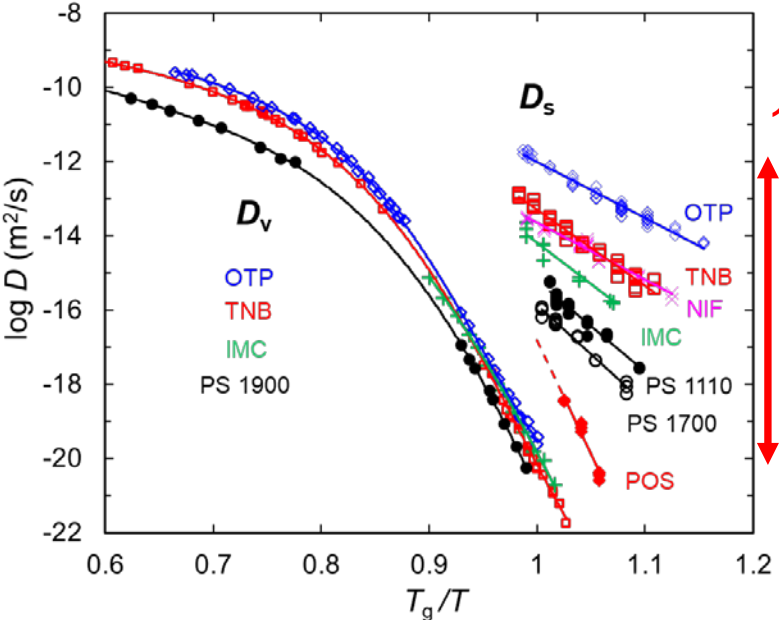


## OLED



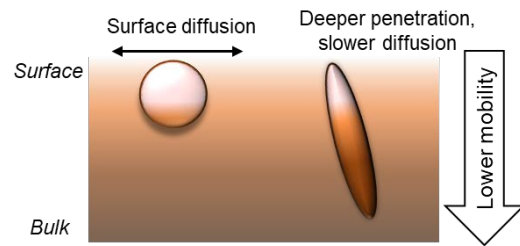


# NSF project: Surface is the source of instability

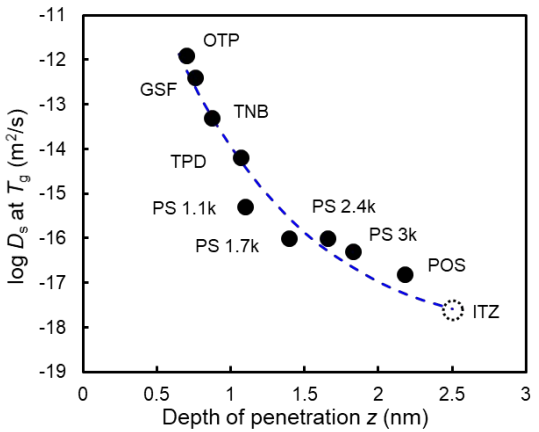


Fast surface crystallization

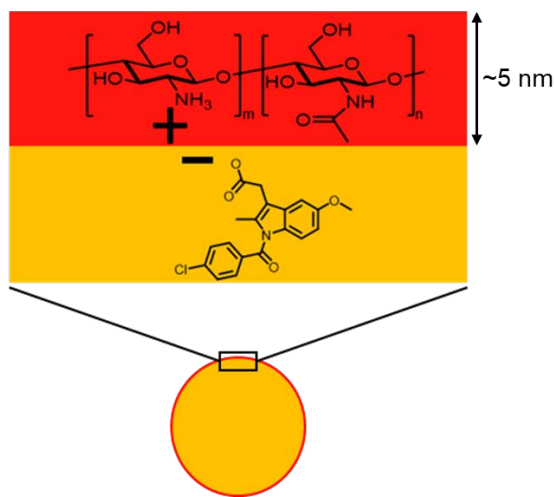
*Penetration depth controls surface diffusion*



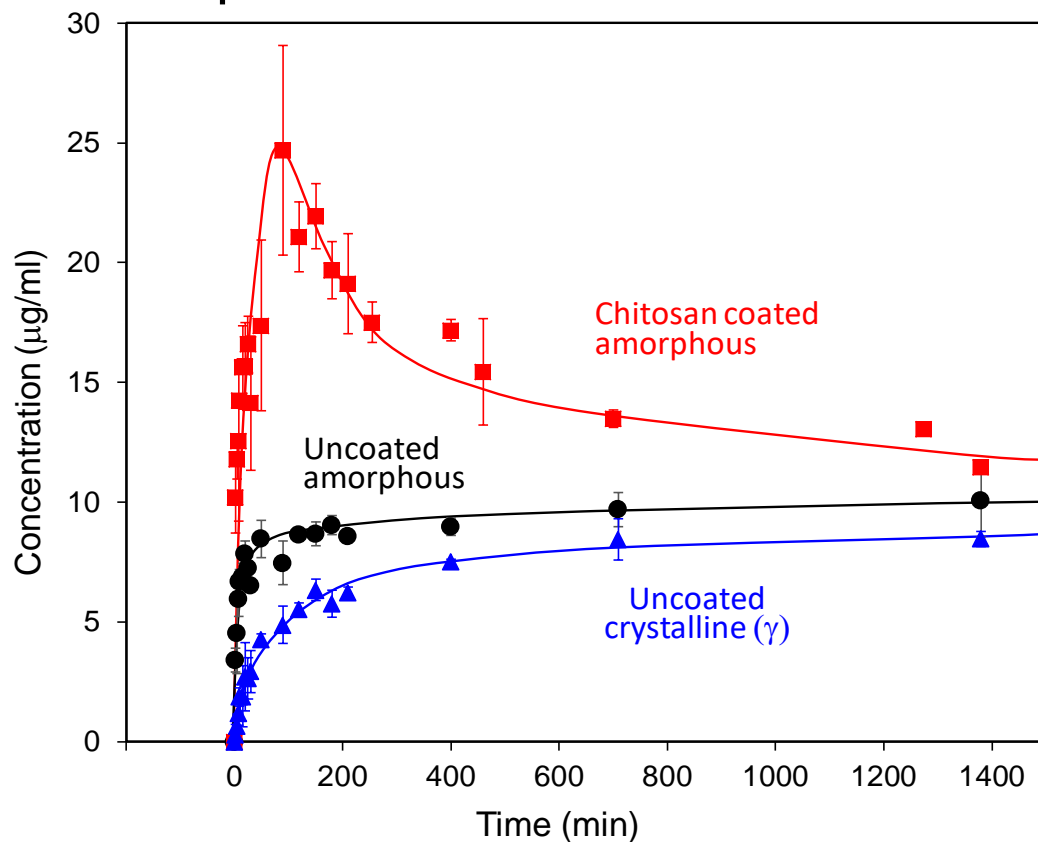
Yuhui Li  
Soft Matter, 2020



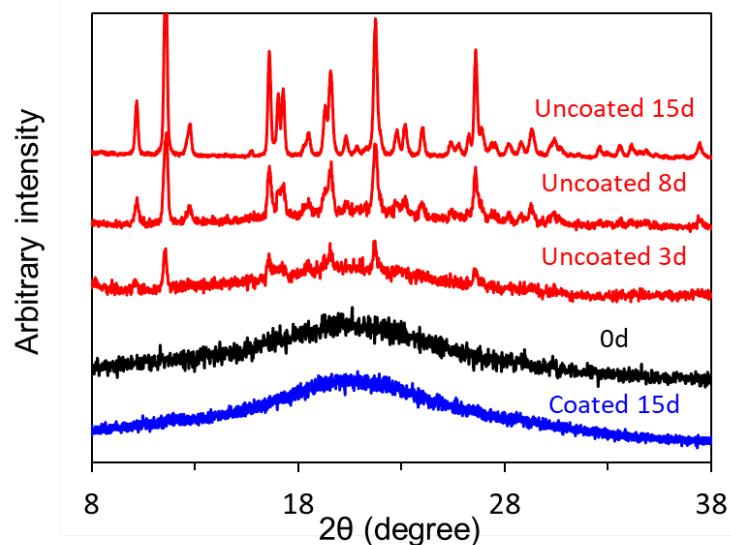
# Gates Foundation project: Polymer coating to inhibit surface crystallization, enhance dissolution



## Improved dissolution rate



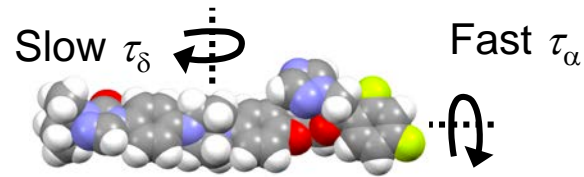
## Improved stability



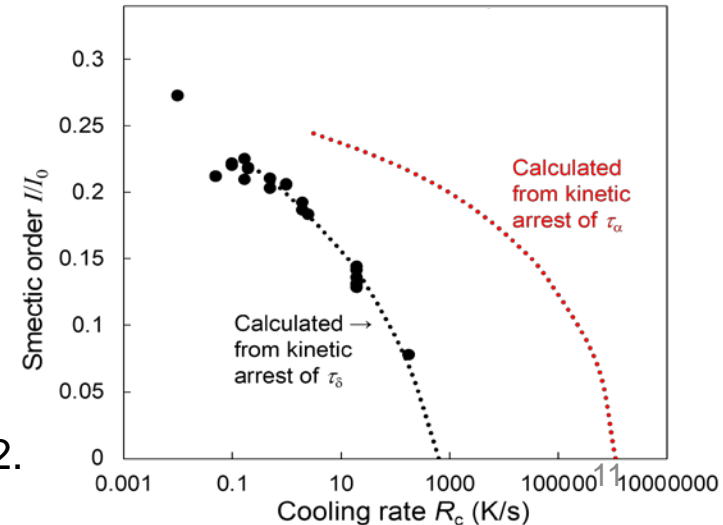
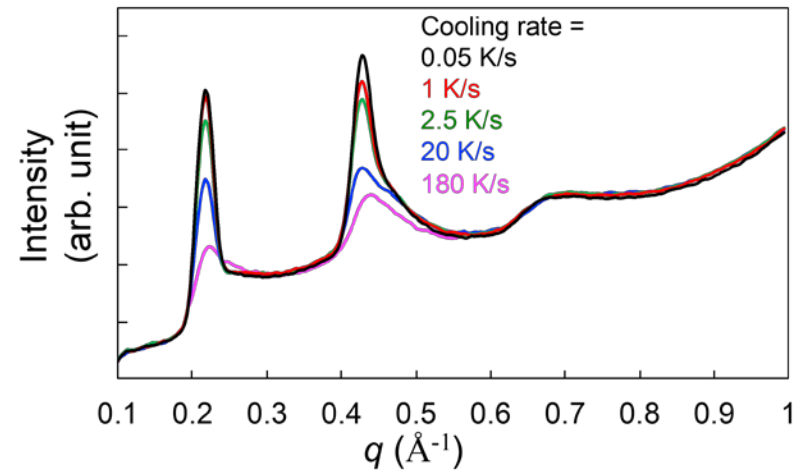
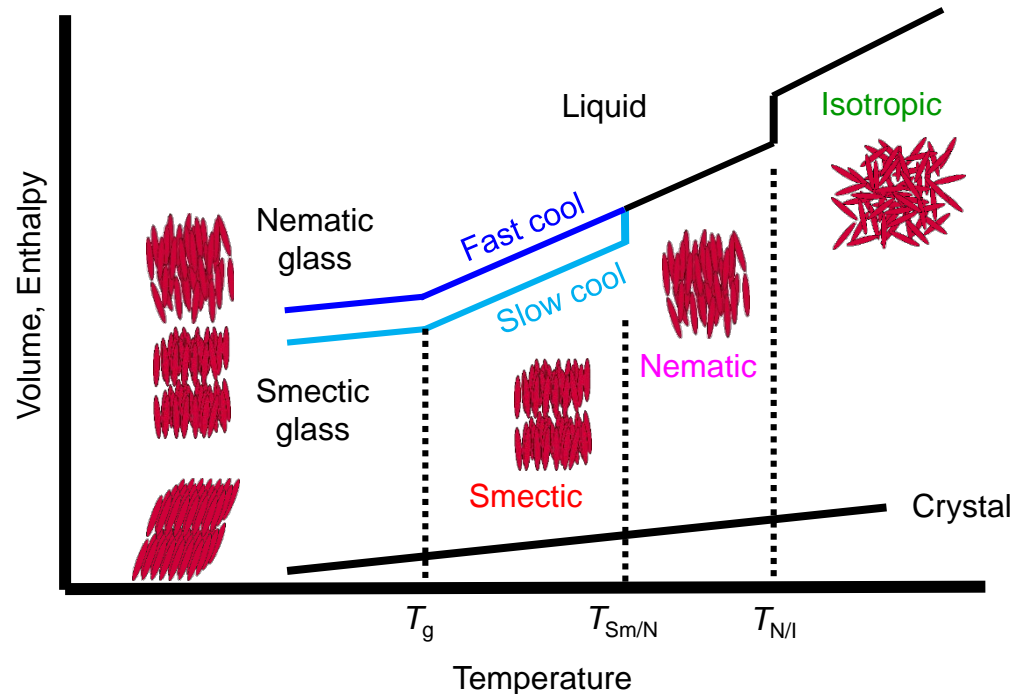
We are applying this strategy to develop drugs for global health

# NSF project: Organic glasses with liquid-crystalline order

- Ordinary glasses are “structure-less”
- We introduce LC order into glasses
- LC order is controlled by the arrest of the end-over-end rotation
- Useful for electronics and drug delivery



Zhenxuan Chen



R. Teerakapibal, ..., L. Yu. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **2018**, 120, 055502.

Z. Chen, ..., L. Yu. *Soft Matter*, **2020**, 16(8), 2025-2030.

# What experiments you may do?

AFM



Calorimetry



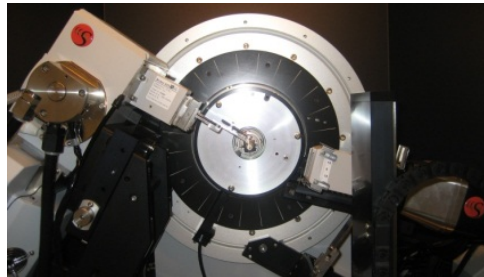
Raman microscopy



Light microscopy



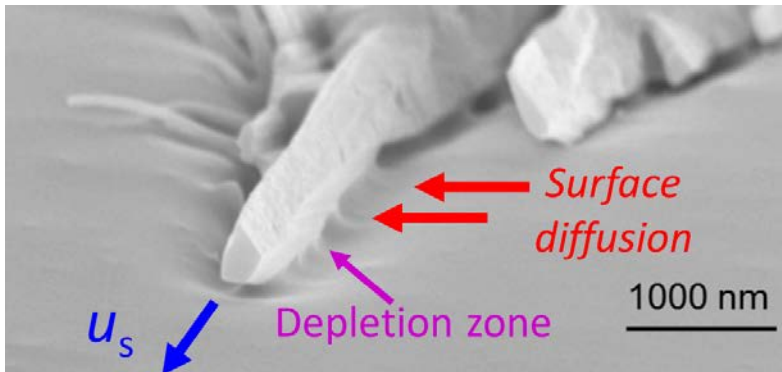
X-ray diffraction



Argonne  
NATIONAL LABORATORY



SEM





# *Industrial connection*

40 % funding from industry, 60 % from NSF

12 years in industry

Research covers fundamentals & applications

Student benefits

Internship (usually Year 3)

Job opportunities

# Former students

Pfizer                      AbbVie (3)                      Verseon

Merck (4)                      Aptuit                      Mylan

Genentech (2)                      3 M                      XtalPi

Amgen                      L'Oréal

Bristol Myers Squibb (3)

City University of New York

Simmons College

China Pharmaceutical University

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abbvie

Lilly



# Questions?

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Yue Gui: [ygui@wisc.edu](mailto:ygui@wisc.edu)

Group meeting 9 am, Tue





# **Pressure makes diamond**

*(wisdom from solid-state chemistry)*