



Distinguished Lecture Series



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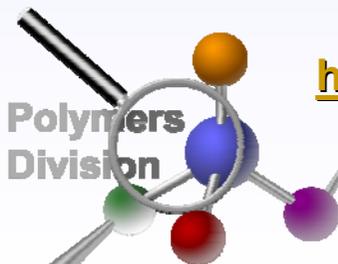


Polyelectrolyte Brushes in Various Ionic Environments

Polyelectrolytes remain among the least understood materials in condensed matter science, despite their widespread presence and use. The barrier to understanding is connected with the entwined correlations of chain configurations and charge, coupled with the long-range interactions inherent to these structures. As a natural extension of the study of neutral polymer brushes, end-tethered polyelectrolytes are the central models of many important systems, for example, colloid stabilization, or lubrication. Polyelectrolyte brushes bring to polyelectrolyte solution physics the additional feature of end-tethering and the resultant confinement to a small surface region. However, this controlled confinement also gives us a well-defined “grip” on one end of every polyelectrolyte chain, thereby giving us a new avenue to study polyelectrolyte chain stretching under the influence on intermolecular interactions, pH, salt and other controllable parameters of the environment.



**Thursday, February 22, 2007
New Time! 1:30 PM
Building 224, Room B-245**



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