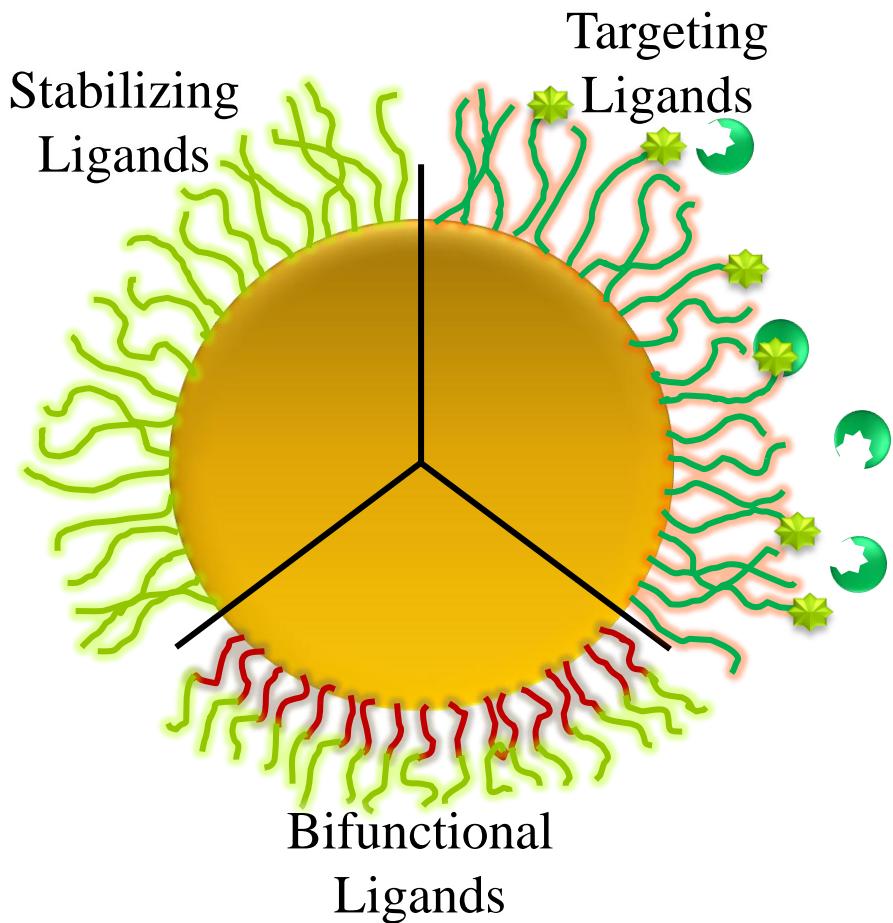


# **SYNTHESIS AND PROCESSING OF METALLIC NANOMATERIALS USING $\text{CO}_2$ EXPANDED LIQUIDS AS A GREEN SOLVENT MEDIUM**

**Christopher Kitchens**

**Dept. of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering  
Clemson University, SC**

# ENGINEERED NANOPARTICLES



## Role of Surface Chemistry

- Stability
- Size and Shape Control
- Compatibility
- Reactivity
- Functionality
  - Targeting
  - Sensing

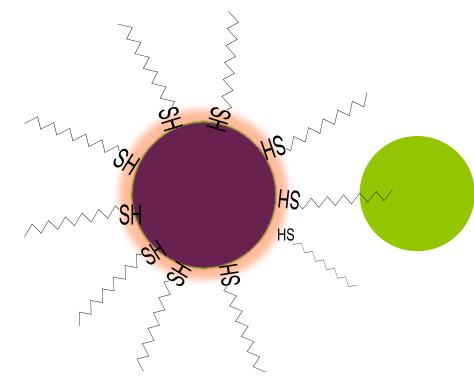
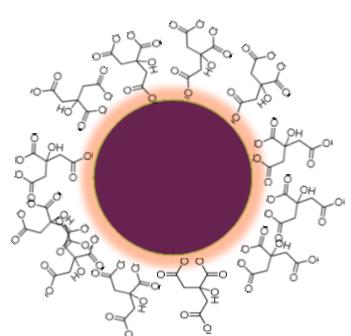
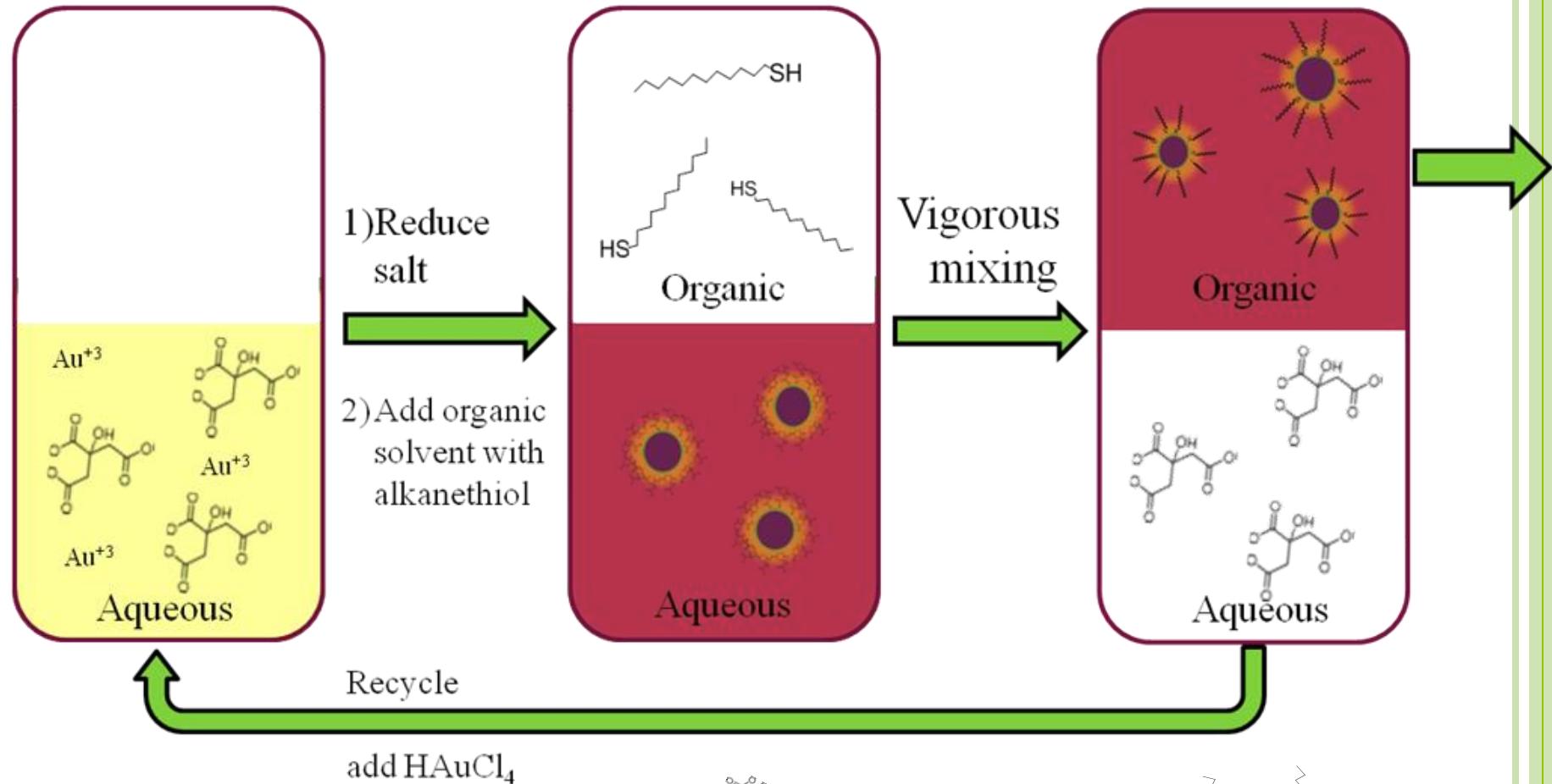


# OUTLINE

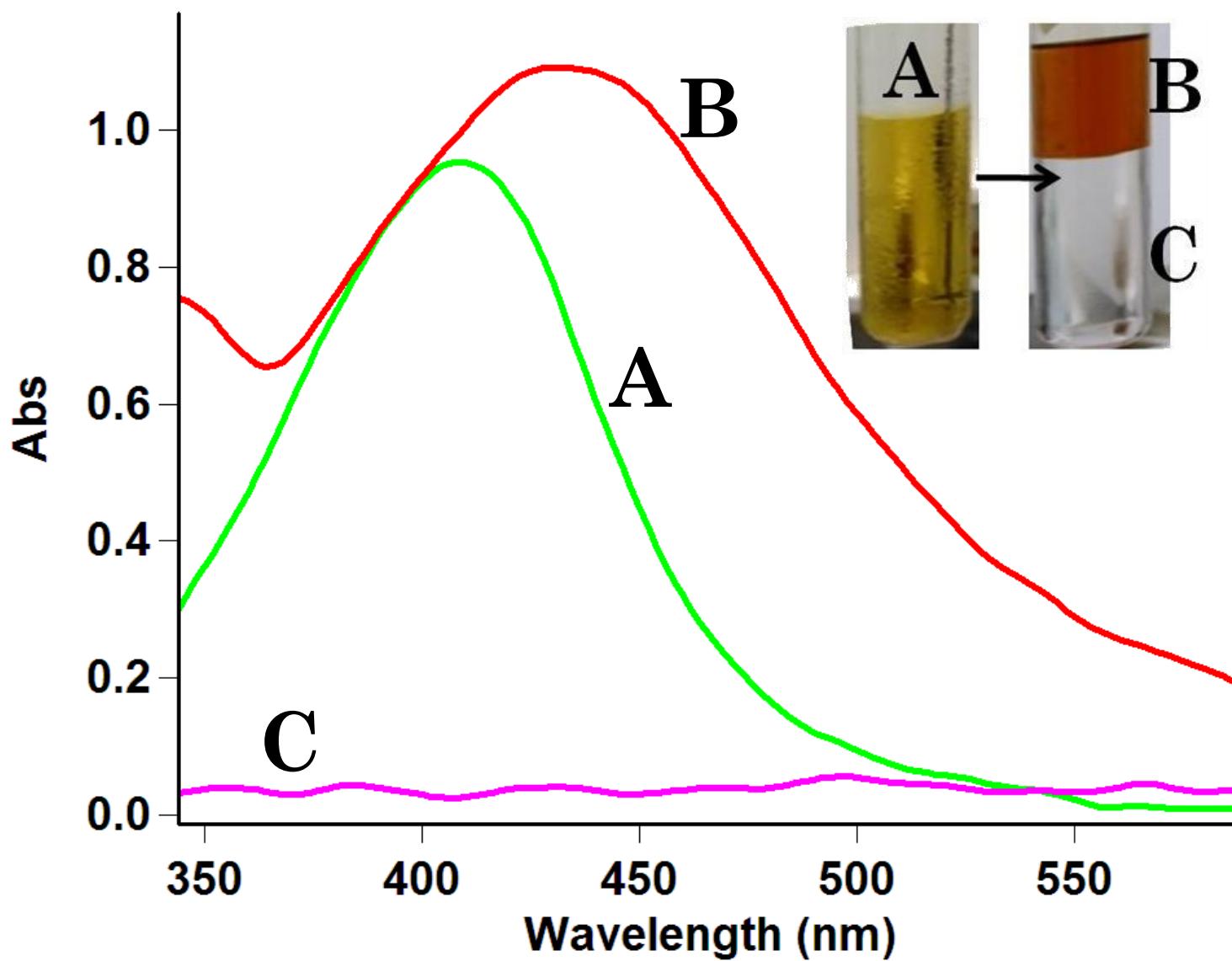
- Greener Synthesis of Metal Nanoparticles
- Processing of Gold Nanoparticles and Nanorods using Gas eXpanded Liquids (GXLs)
- Tunable Nanoparticle Synthesis in GXLs
- Organic Aqueous Tunable Systems



# SYNTHESIS AND LIGAND EXCHANGE



# LIGAND EXCHANGE (SILVER NANOPARTICLES)



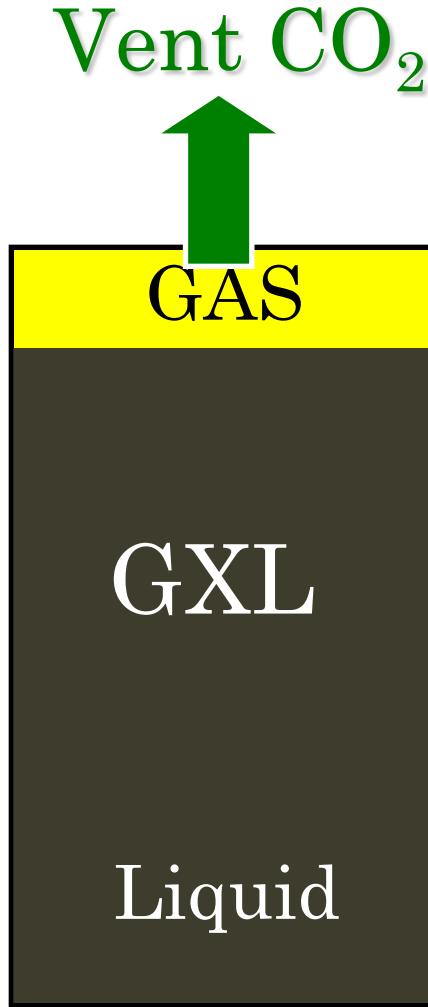
# TUNABLE ORGANIC-CO<sub>2</sub> MIXTURES: GAS EXPANDED LIQUIDS (GXLS)



- CO<sub>2</sub> Miscibility
- Tunability
- Reversibility
- Advantages over Solvents
  - Better Transport Properties
  - Better Gas Solubility
- Advantages over SCFs
  - Lower Pressures
  - Better Solubility



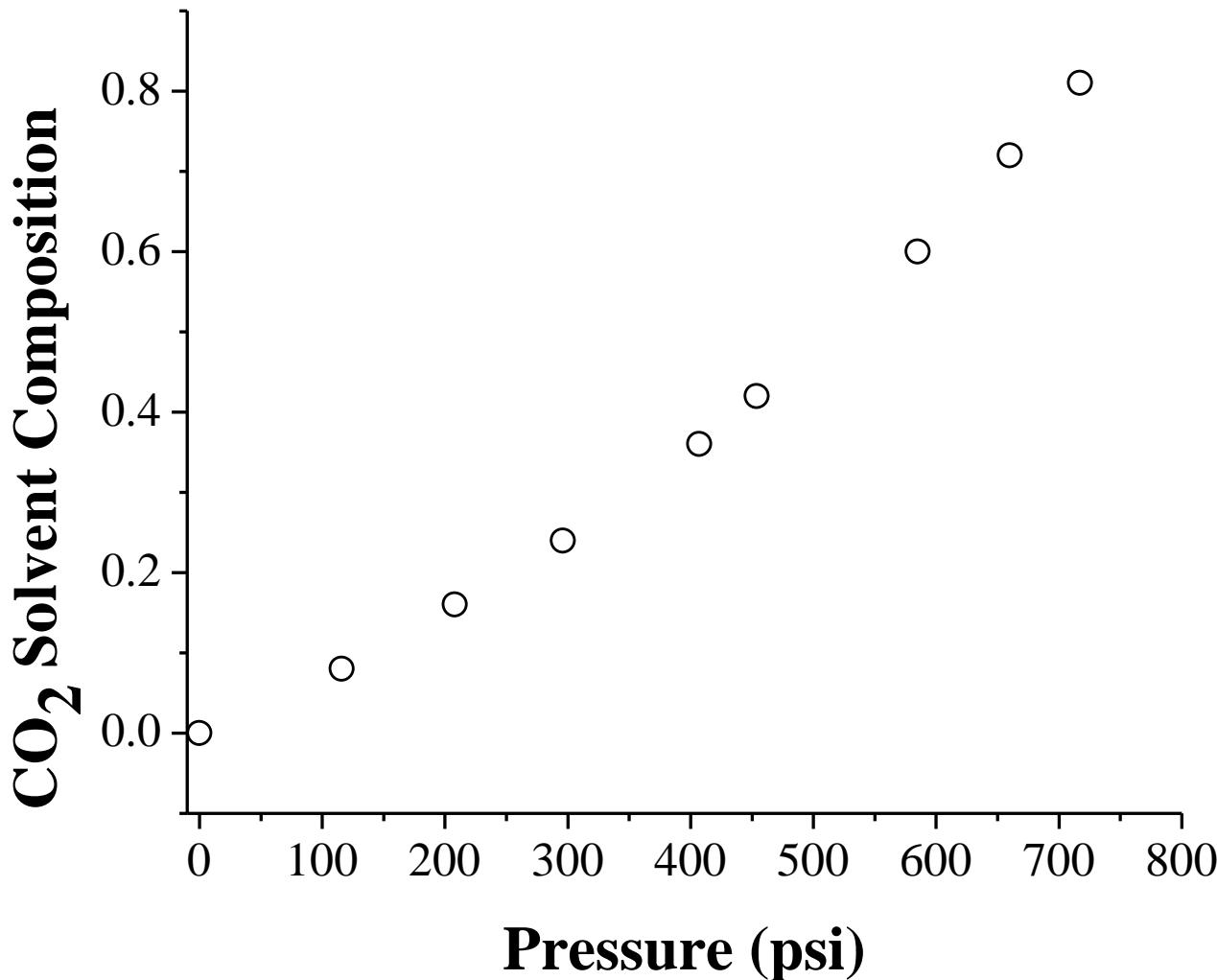
# TUNABLE ORGANIC-CO<sub>2</sub> MIXTURES: GAS EXPANDED LIQUIDS (GXLS)



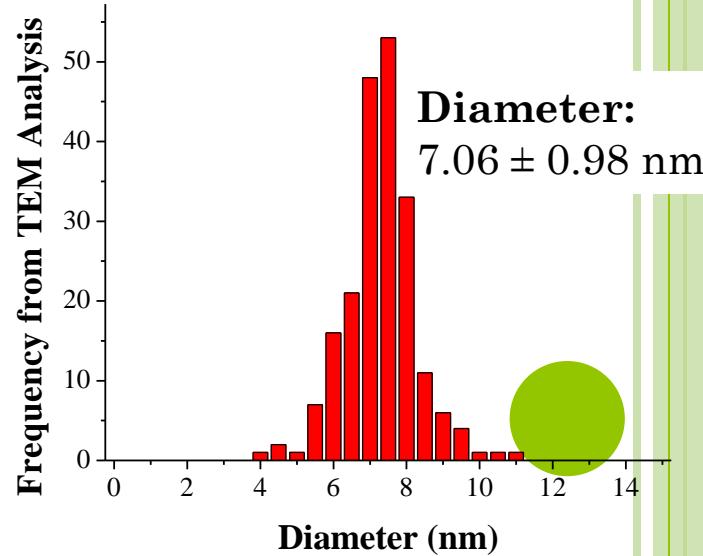
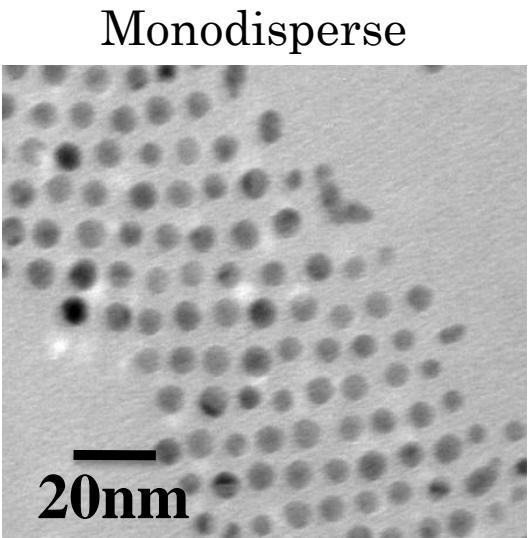
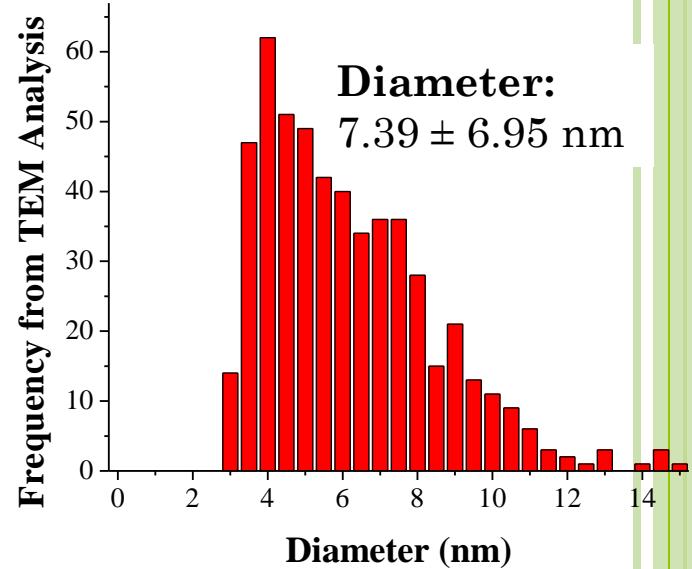
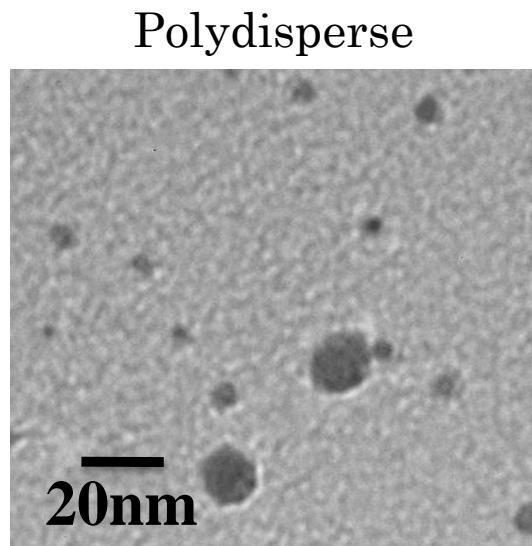
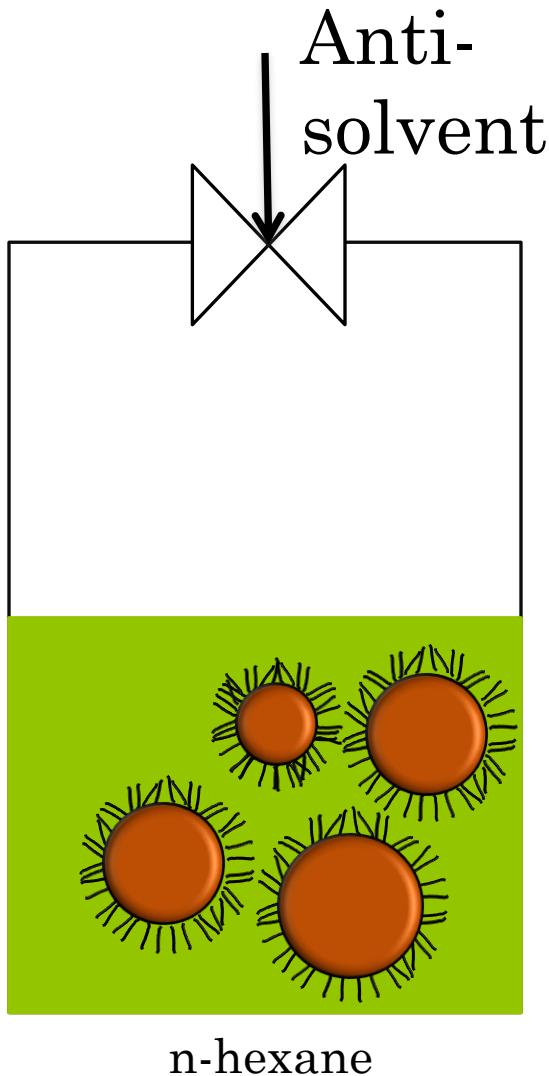
- CO<sub>2</sub> Miscibility
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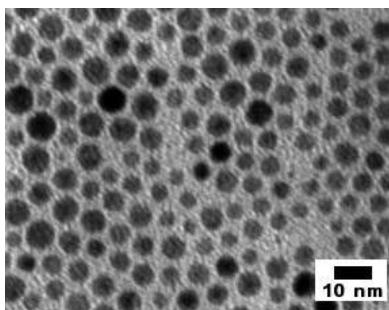
# COMPOSITION OF N-HEXANE, D14 WITH CO<sub>2</sub>



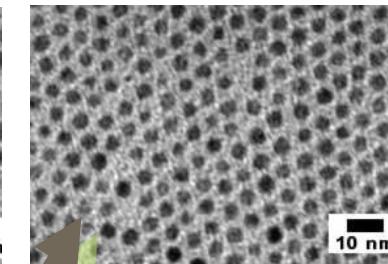
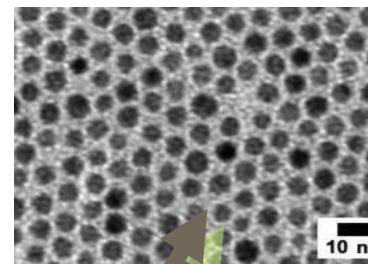
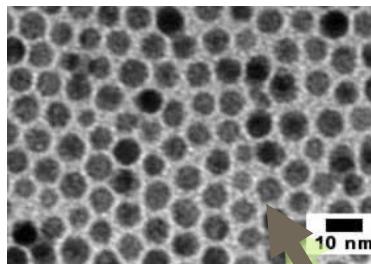
# POST-SYNTHESIS PROCESSING



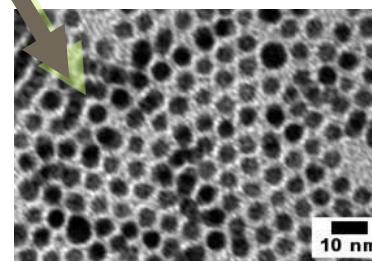
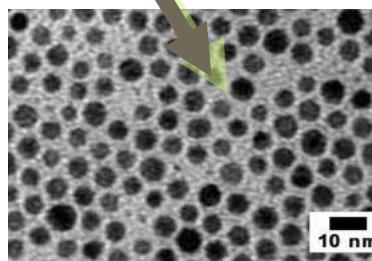
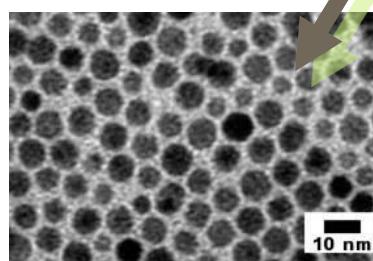
# SILVER NANOPARTICLE SIZE FRACTIONATION AND UNIFORM DEPOSITION



Original  
Polydisperse  
Population



Recovered  
Liquid



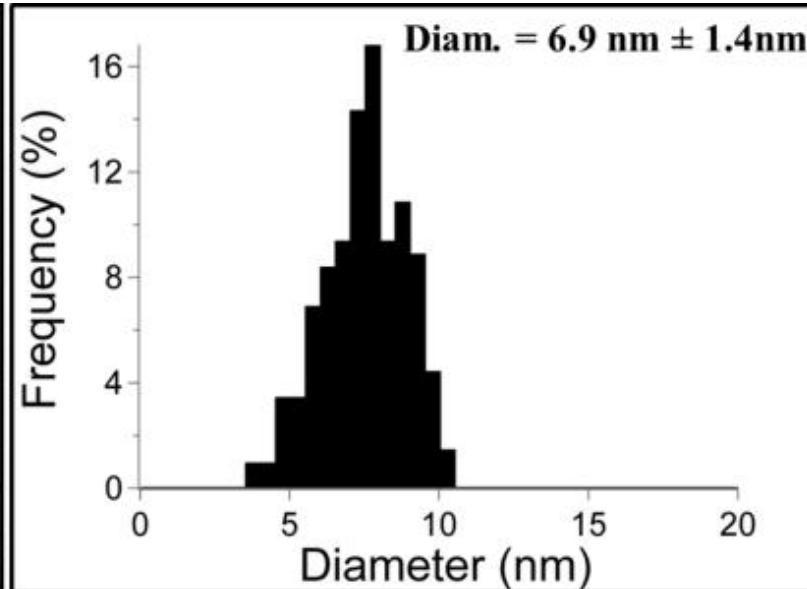
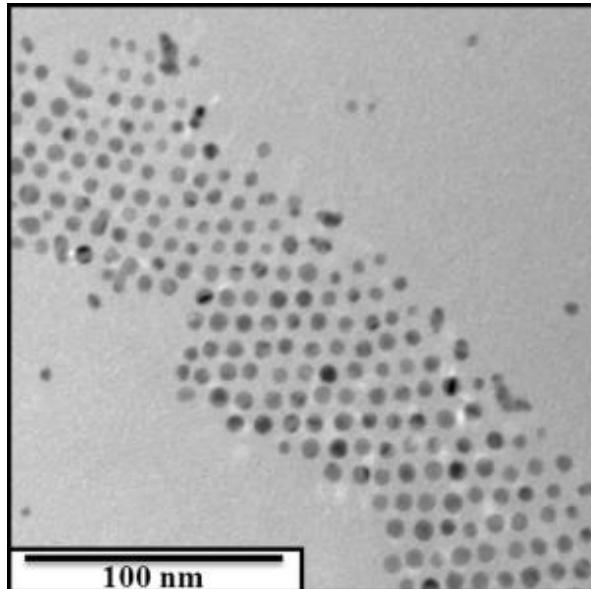
Air Dried  
Hexane

Precipitated by  
Hexane/CO<sub>2</sub>

50 nm

# $\text{CO}_2$ ANTI-SOLVENT FRACTIONATION OF AGNPs IN N-HEXANE,D14

Fraction (psi)	$\text{CO}_2$ Fraction of GXL	Mean (nm)	Standard Deviation (nm)	Surface Coverage
400 to 450	37 to 44%	7.2 (7.1*)	1.4(1.5*)	44%
450 to 500	44 to 51%	7.0(6.9*)	1.3(1.4*)	55%
500 to 550	51 to 58%	6.6	1	62%
550 to 600	58 to 66%	5.9	0.9	60%



# CURVATURE EFFECTS AND SURFACE COVERAGE (DETERMINED BY SANS)

Diameter (nm)	Curvature (Å <sup>-1</sup> )	Surface Coverage	Ligand Solvation	L <sub>o</sub> (Å)	L <sub>f</sub> (Å)
7.1	0.282	44%	19%	13.0	7
6.9	0.29	55%	19%	13.6	7
6.6	0.303	62%	17%	12.3	7
5.9	0.339	60%	27%	9.4	7

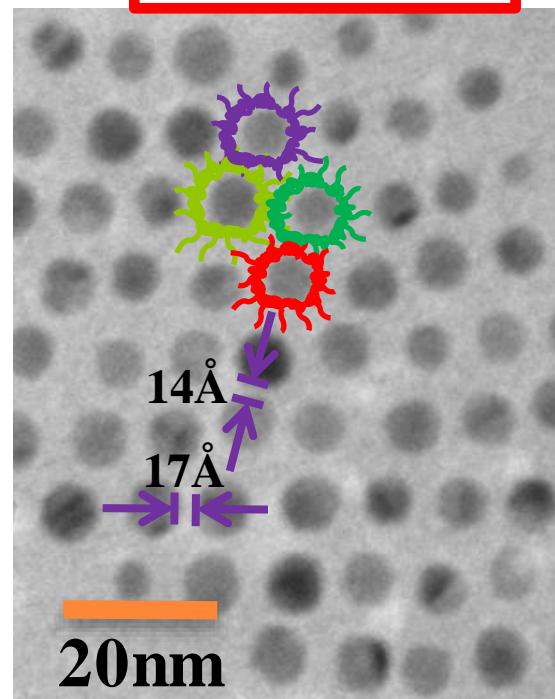
- Fractionation with Increasing CO<sub>2</sub> Pressure
- Similar Curvature, Varying Surface Coverage
  - ↑ Surface Coverage = ↑ Shell Thickness, ↓ Ligand Solvation
- Similar Surface Coverage, Varying Curvature
  - ↑ Curvature = ↑ Ligand Solvation



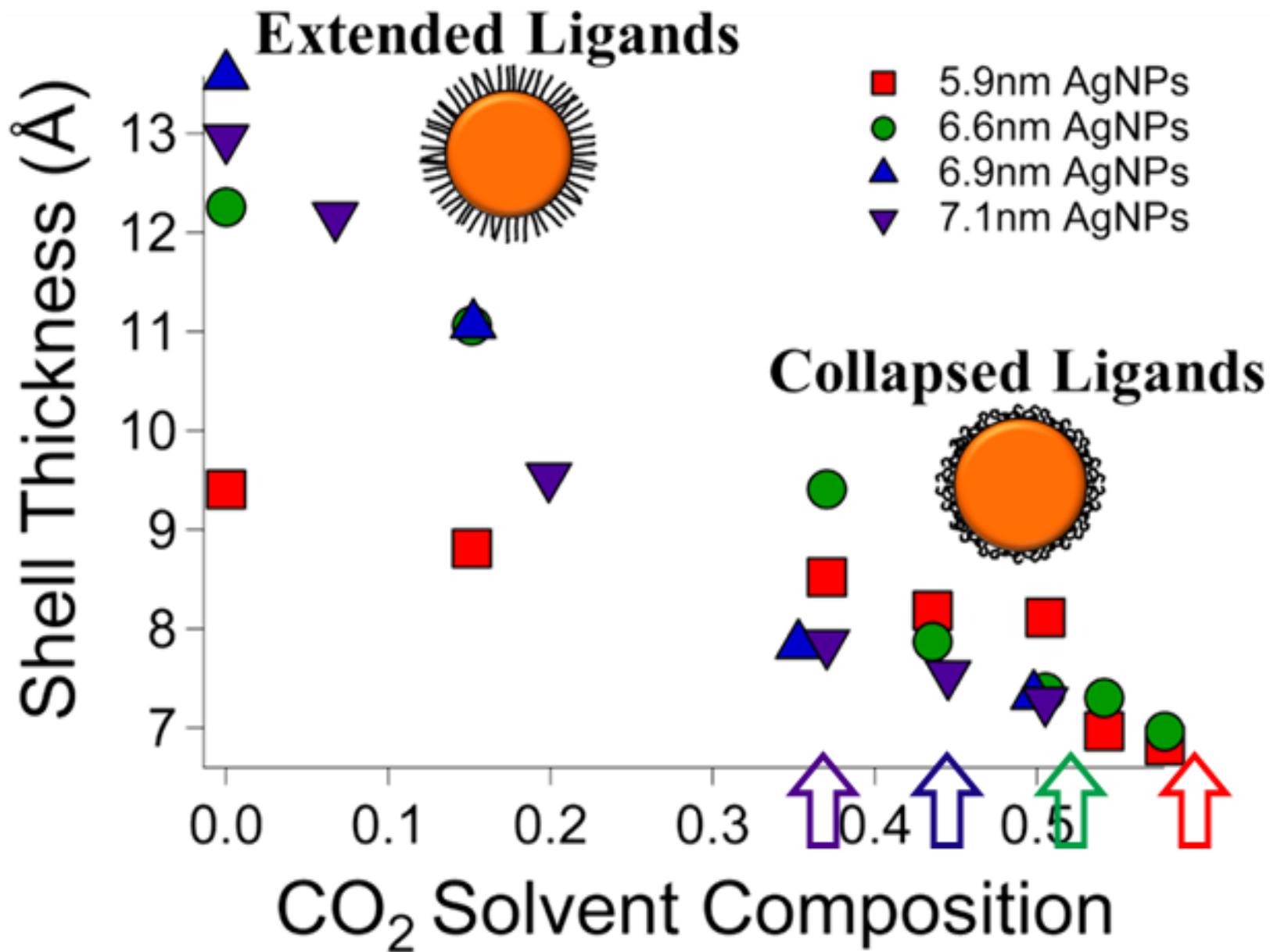
# CURVATURE EFFECTS AND SURFACE COVERAGE (DETERMINED BY SANS)

Diameter (nm)	Curvature (Å <sup>-1</sup> )	Surface Coverage	Ligand Solvation	$L_o$ (Å)	$L_f$ (Å)
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5.9	0.339	60%	27%	9.4	7

- Thin Film Interparticle Spacing
- Ligand Collapse vs Ligand Interdigitation

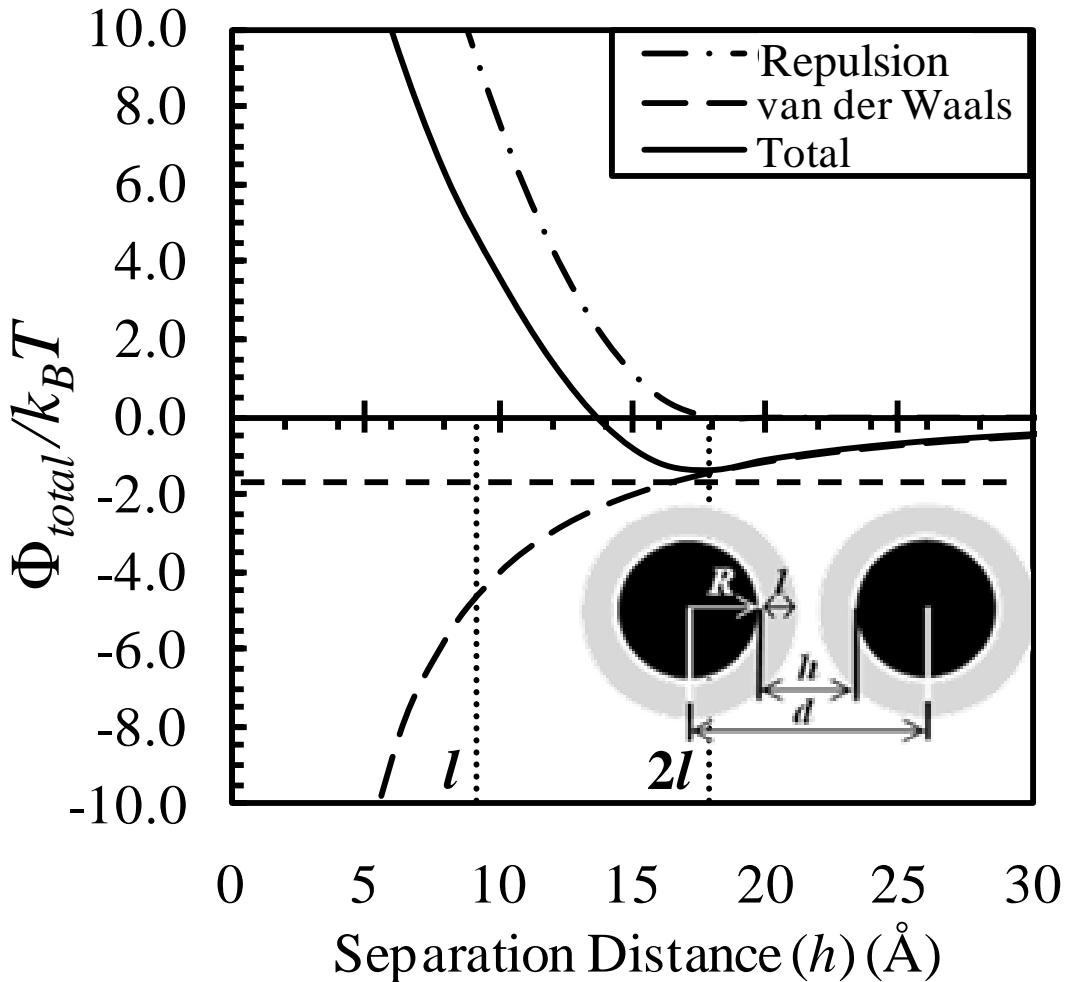


# SHELL THICKNESS OF DODECANETHIOL



# PREDICTION OF NANOPARTICLE DISPERSION – INTERPARTICLE POTENTIAL

$$\Phi_{\text{total}} = \Phi_{\text{vdW}} + \Phi_{\text{Repulsion}}$$



- Repulsion forces dependent on ligand:
  - Shell Thickness\*
  - Solvation\*
  - Surface Coverage\*
  - Electrostatics
- \*Measured by SANS



# POST-SYNTHESIS PROCESSING

- Liquid Anti-Solvent Precipitation
  - Ethanol
  - Requires large amounts of anti-solvent and centrifugation
  - Effective for lab-scale volumes
- CO<sub>2</sub> Anti-Solvent Precipitation
  - Non-toxic, abundant, moderate pressures required
  - High miscibility with organic solvents
  - Highly tunable with pressure
  - Facile solvent recovery
  - Enhanced transport properties
  - Elimination of liquid/vapor interface for NP deposition
  - **Fractionate NPs based on Size, Surface Chemistry, and Shape**



# GOLD NANORODS (GNRs)

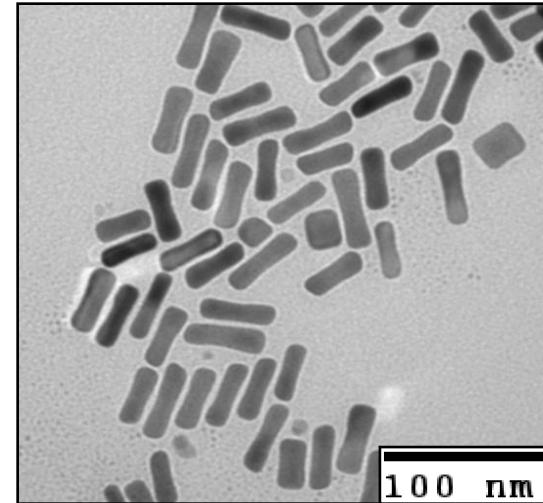
## ○ Nanorod Applications

- Sensors and Electronics
- Biomedical Contrast Agents
- Thin Film Optical Limiters
- Polymer Fillers

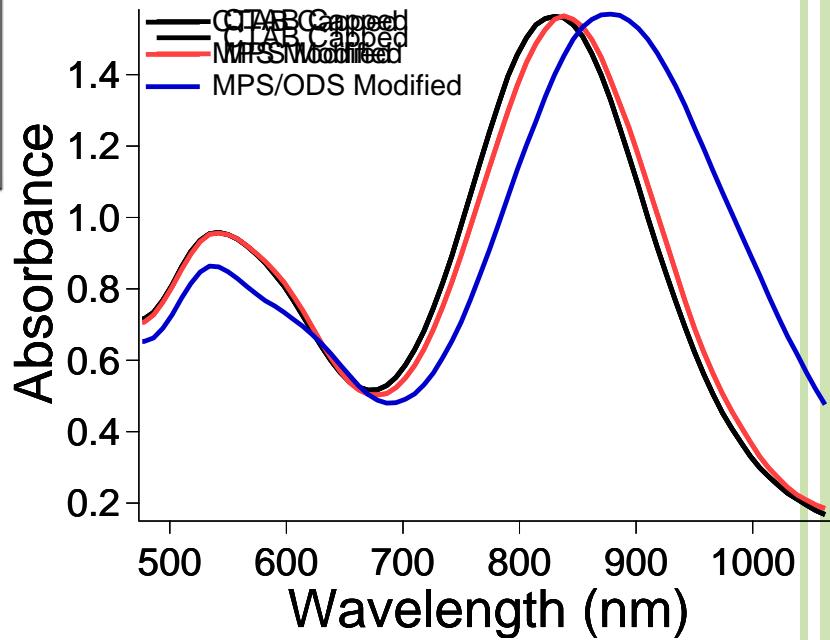
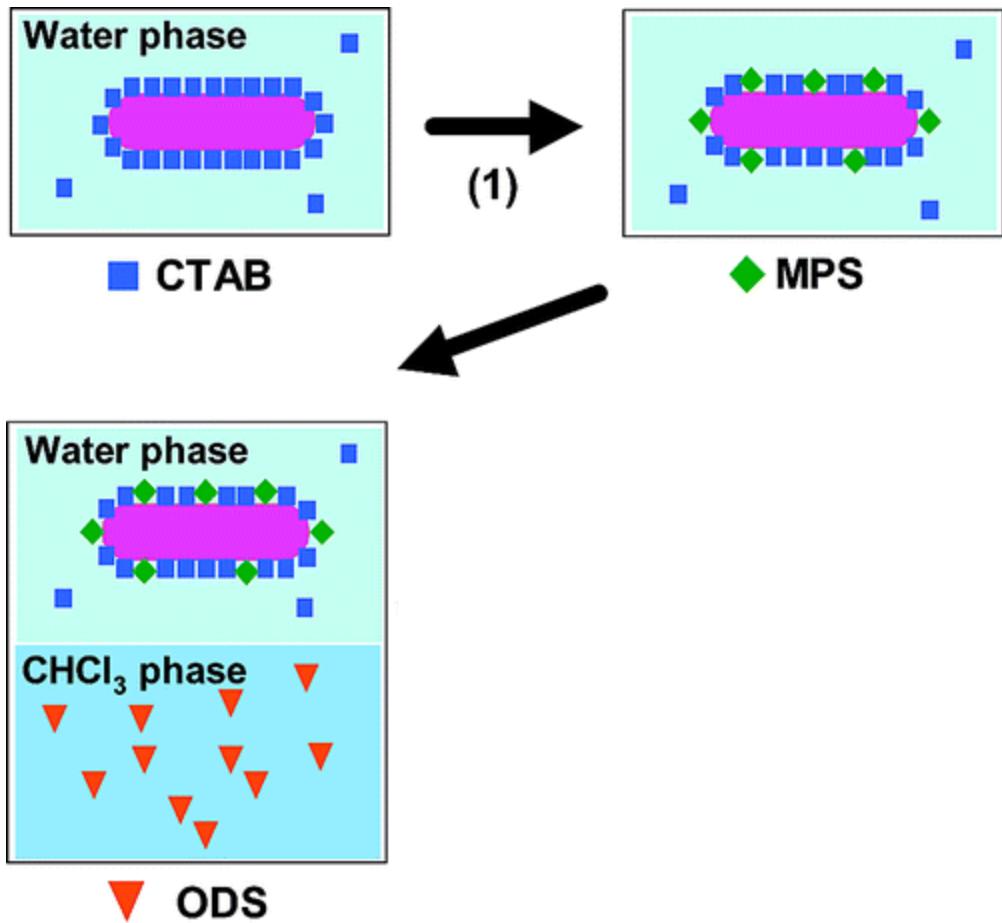
## ○ *GXL Fractionation?*

## ○ Drawbacks

- Difficult to Redisperse CTAB Stabilized GNRs in Organic Solvents
- No High Yield Wet-Chemical Synthesis Protocols for GNRs with Hydrophobic Surface Chemistry

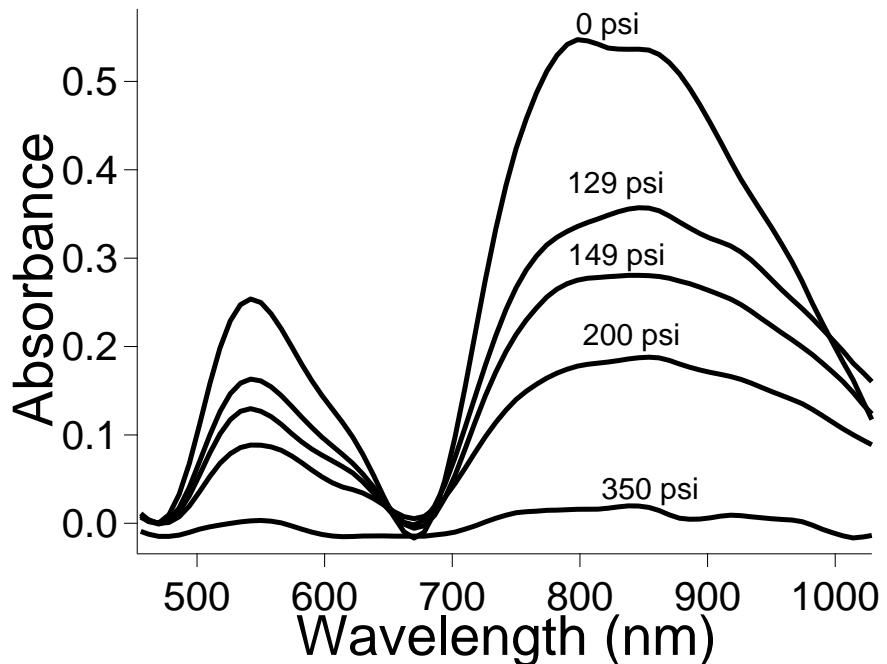


# GNR SURFACE MODIFICATION



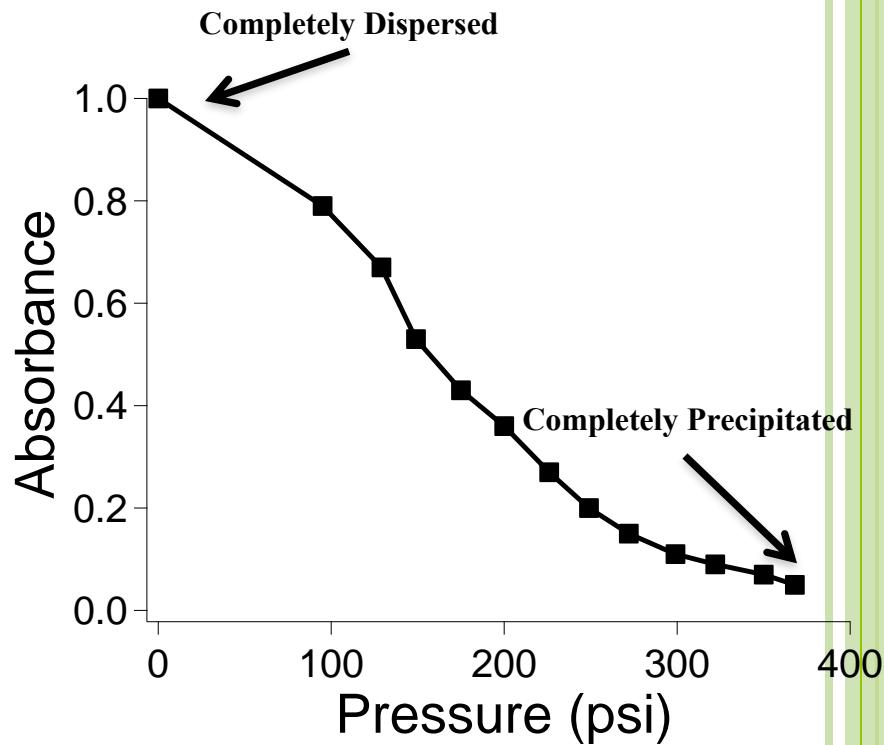
\*DDS can be substituted for ODS.  
GNRs stabilized by either ODS or DDS must be co-stabilized by either dodecanethiol or octadecanethiol

# Dispersibility of GNRs



GNRs capped by ODS/C18SH in  
 $\text{CO}_2$ -Expanded Toluene (aspect ratio ~3)

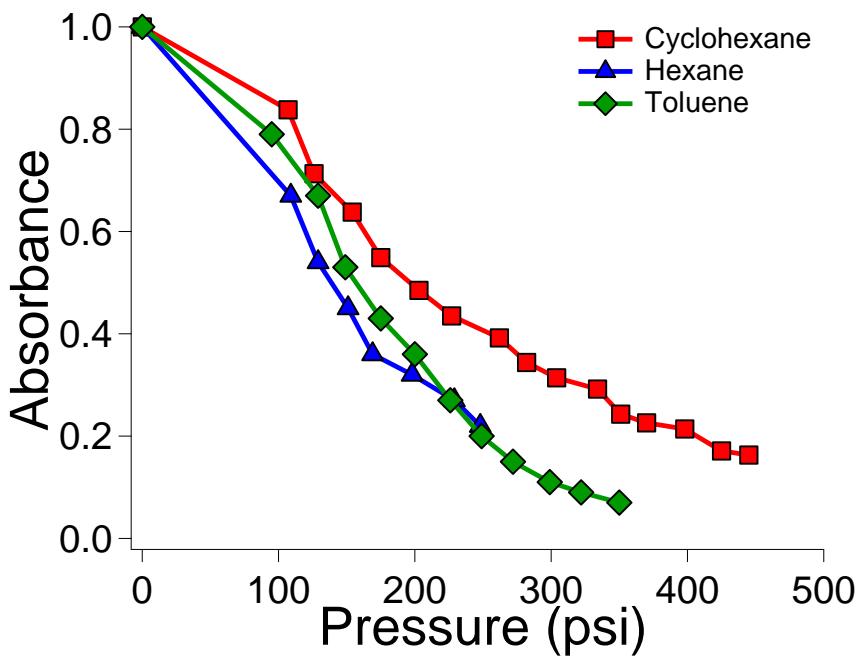
**GNRs were reversibly precipitated out of  
 $\text{CO}_2$ -Expanded Toluene at 350 psi**



Max UV-VIS with varying  $\text{CO}_2$  Pressure

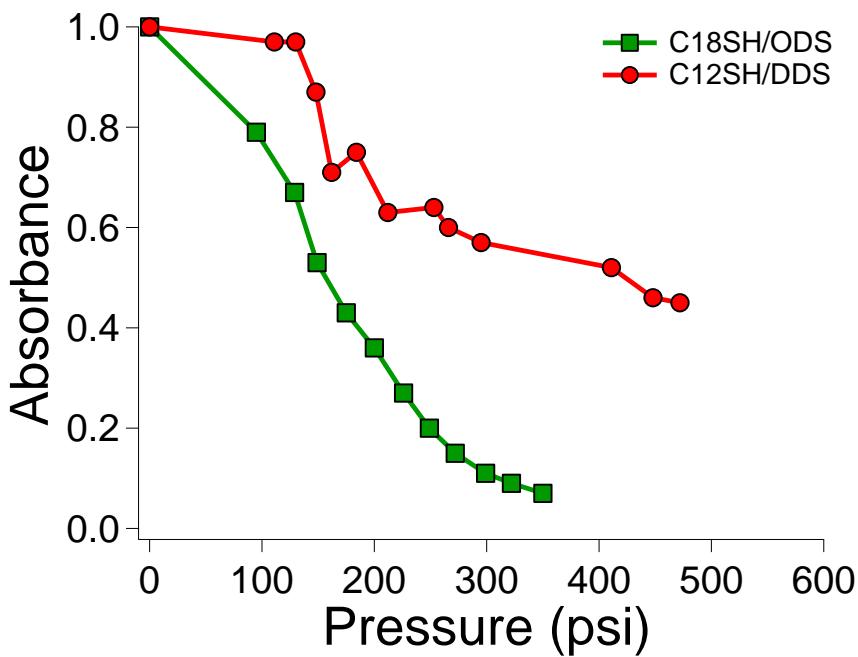


# Dispersibility of GNRs



GNRs capped by ODS/C18SH in  
CO<sub>2</sub>-Expanded Solvents

GNRs have an aspect ratio of 3.3 : 0.6, Width = 42.1 nm, Length = 14.7 nm

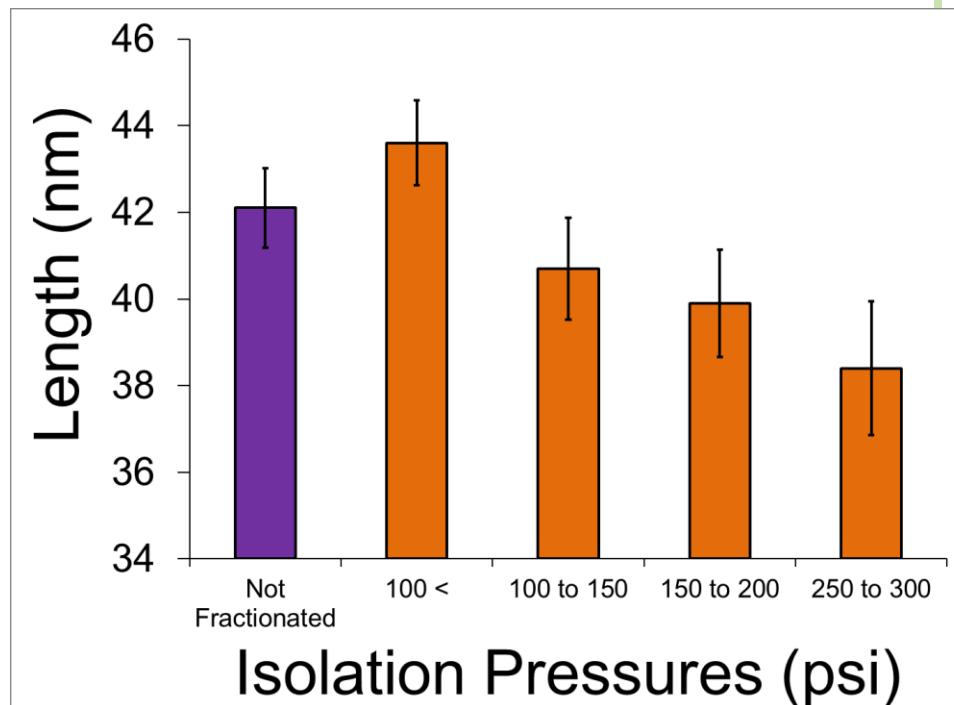
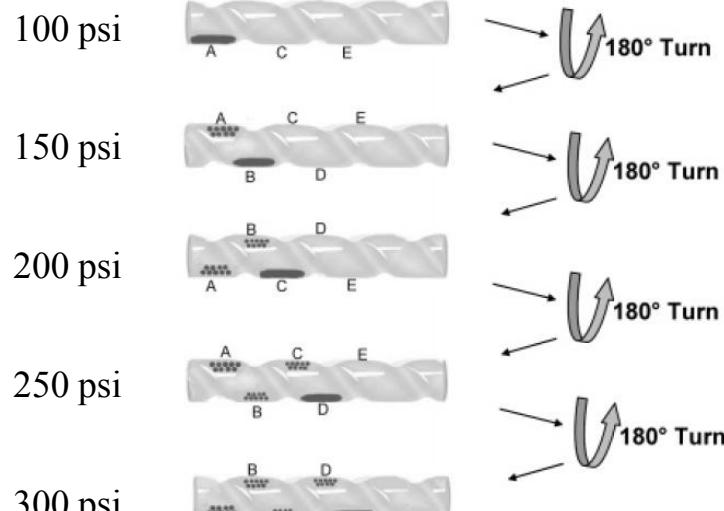


GNRs in CO<sub>2</sub>-Expanded Toluene  
Capped by Varying Ligands

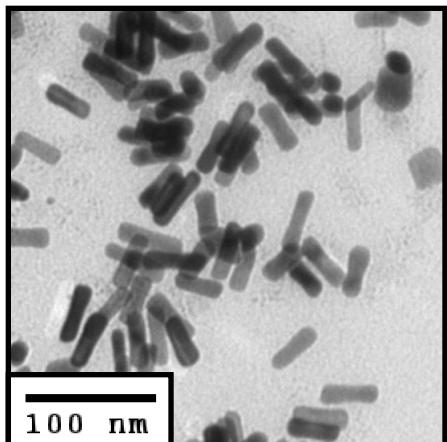


# GNR FRACTIONATION

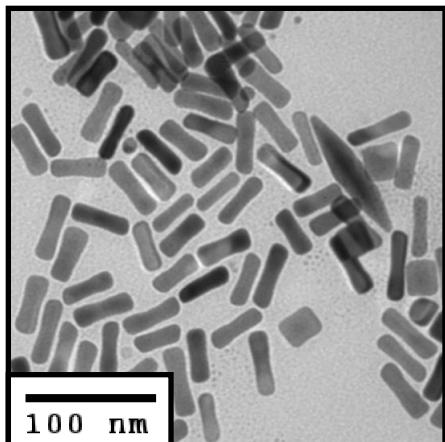
Anand et al. *J. Phys. Chem. B*, Vol. 109, No. 48, 2005



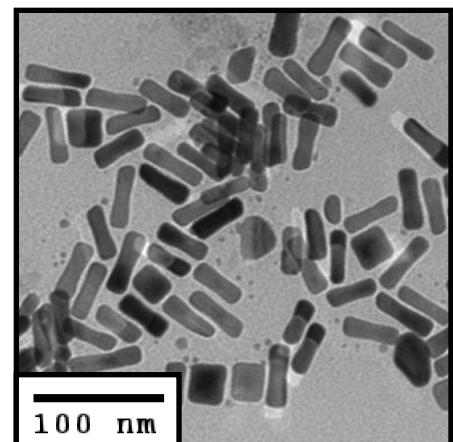
0 psi

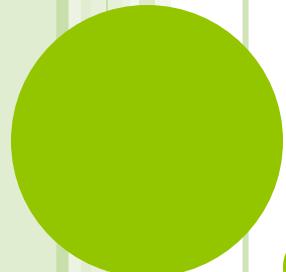


100 psi <



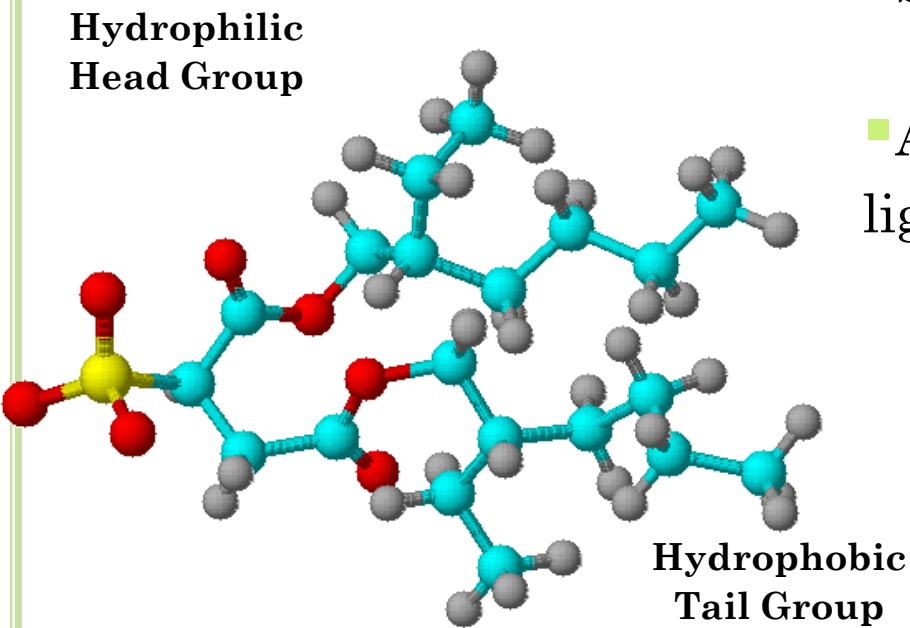
250 to 300 psi



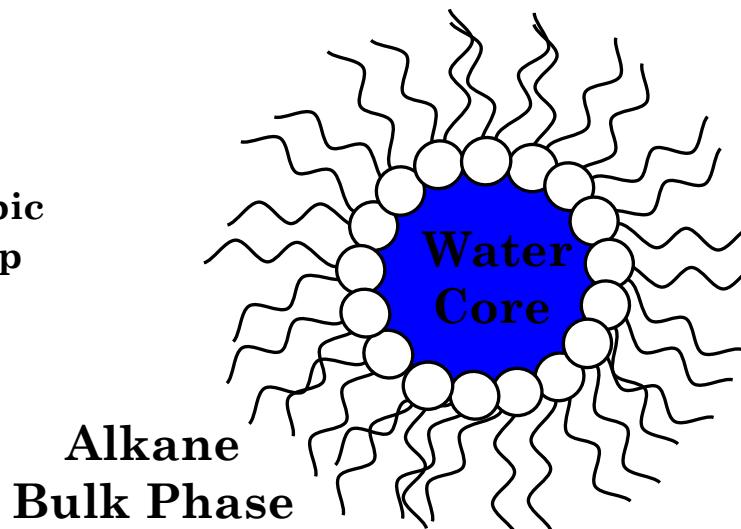


# NANOPARTICLE SYNTHESIS IN GXL

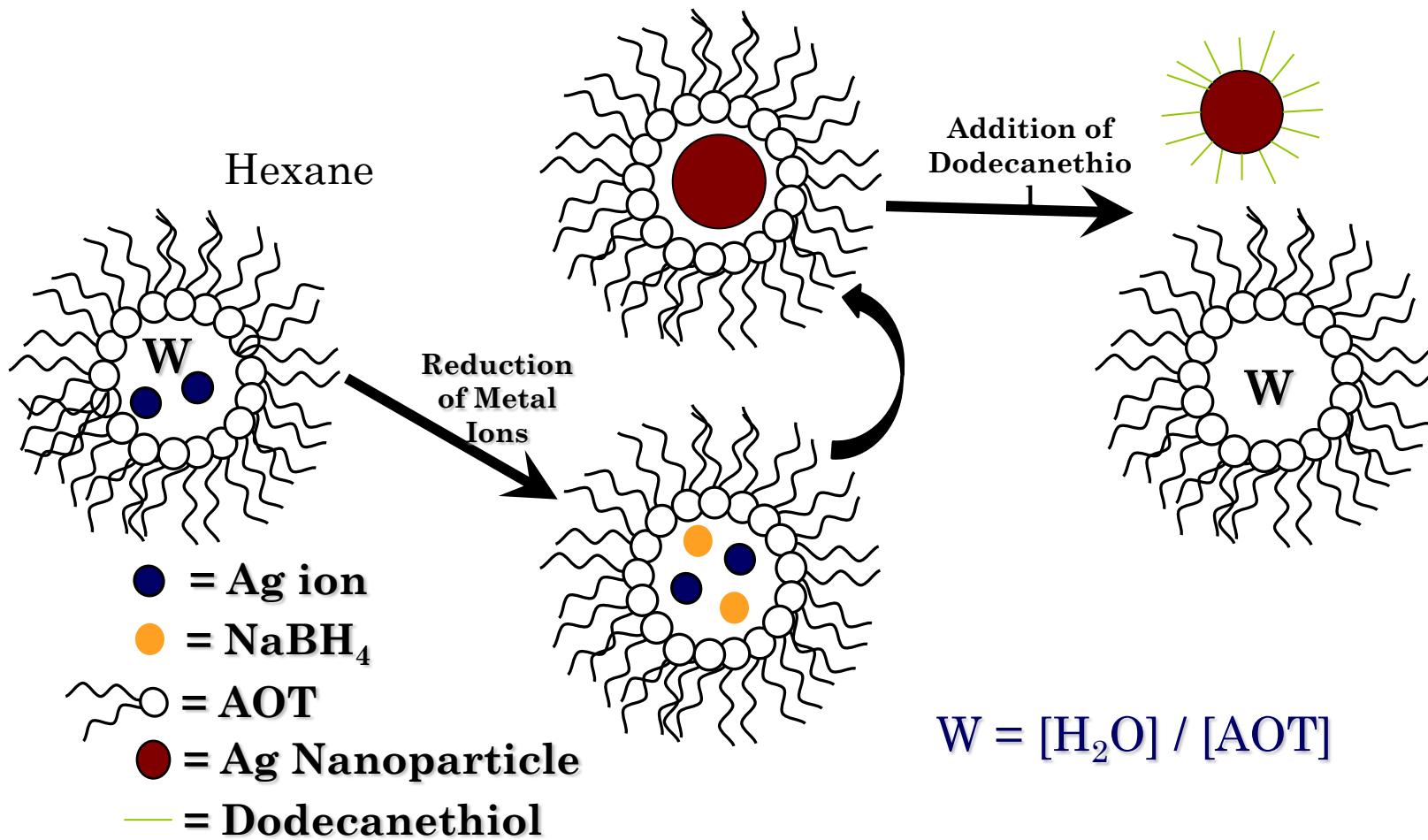
# SURFACTANTS AND REVERSE MICELLES



- AOT: sodium bis(2-ethylhexyl) sulfosuccinate
- Size of Micelle Determined by W  
$$W = [\text{Moles H}_2\text{O}] / [\text{Moles AOT}]$$
- Act as stabilizing agents until ligand is introduced



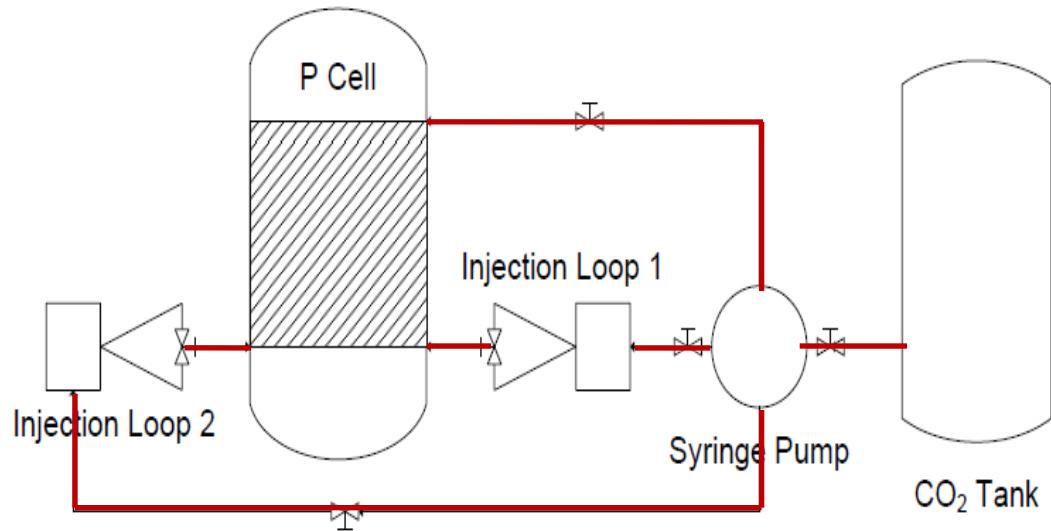
# REVERSE MICELLE NANOPARTICLE SYNTHESIS



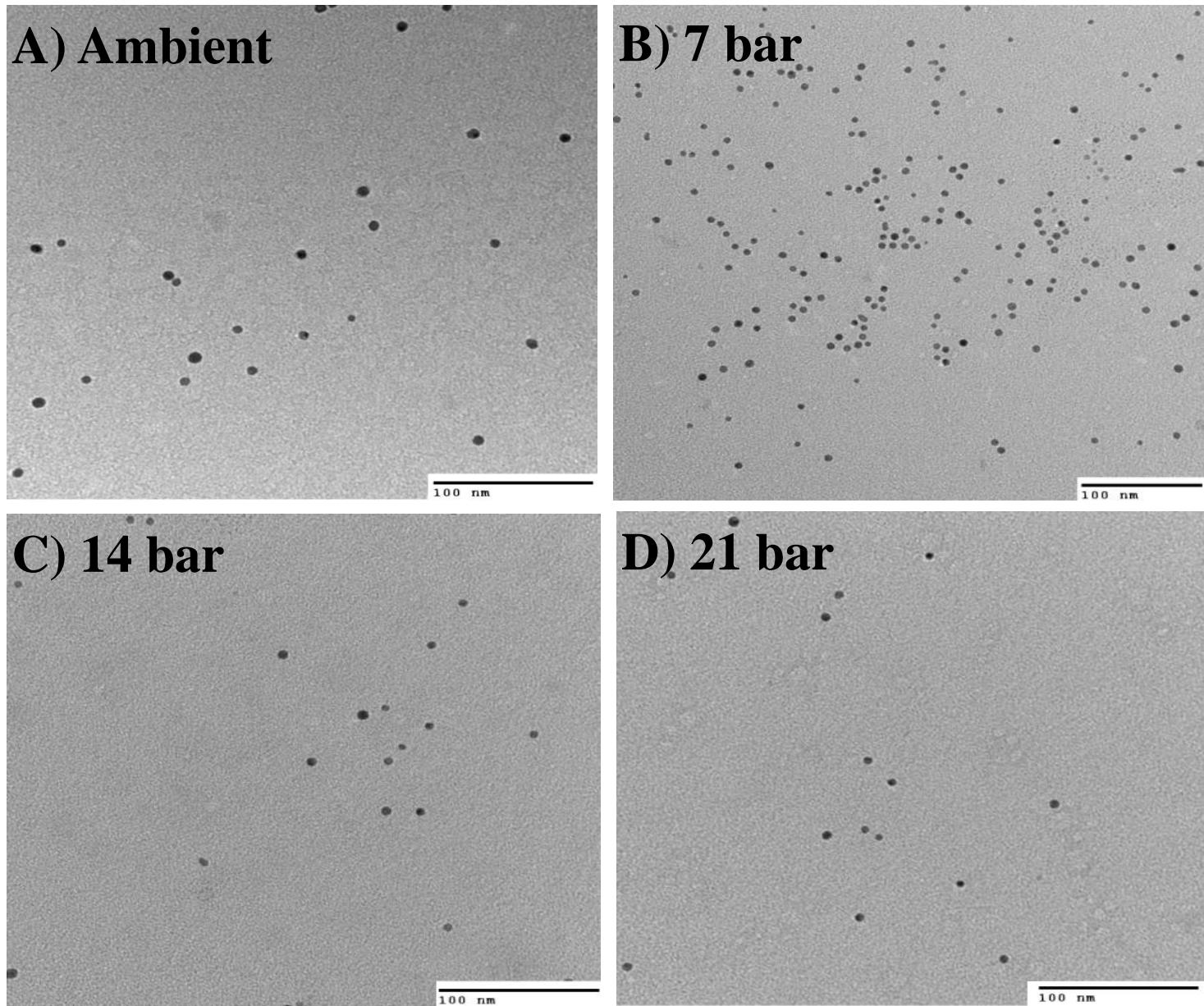
# SYNTHESIS AND CHARACTERIZATION

- Experimental conditions:
  - W = 20 and W = 40
  - Ambient Pressure to 41 bar
- Stabilized by dodecanethiol
- Washed 2x with ethanol
- TEM
- ImageJ analysis

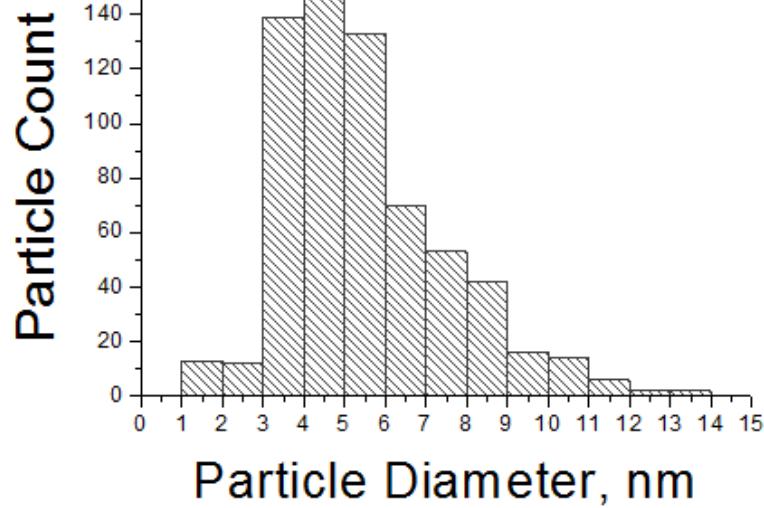
<b>W-Value</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Total H<sub>2</sub>O (mL)</b>	0.2	0.4
<b>0.1M AOT, (mL)</b>	5.55	5.55
<b>NaBH<sub>4</sub>, (mL)</b>	0.1	0.25
<b>AgNO<sub>3</sub>, (mL)</b>	0.1	0.15
<b>NaBH<sub>4</sub> Conc., (M)</b>	0.25	0.1
<b>AgNO<sub>3</sub> Conc., (M)</b>	0.01	0.01
<b>Metal:NaBH<sub>4</sub></b>	0.04	0.04



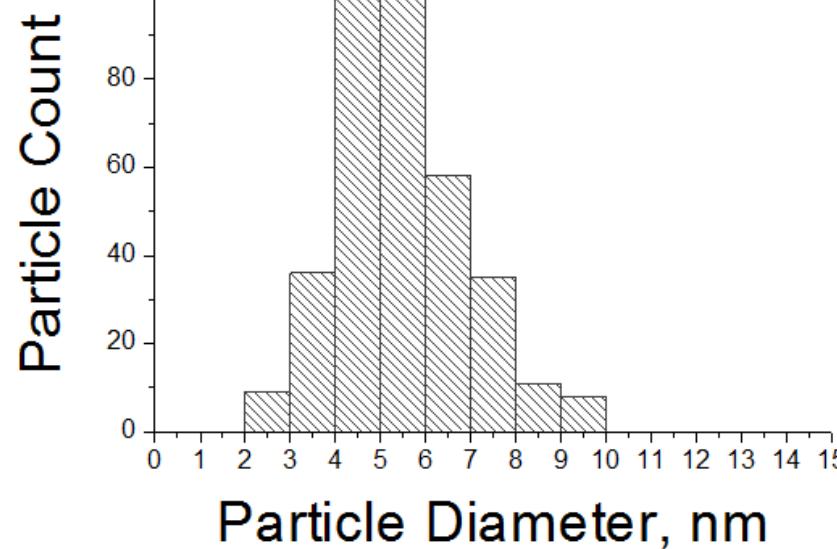
# TEM IMAGES W = 20



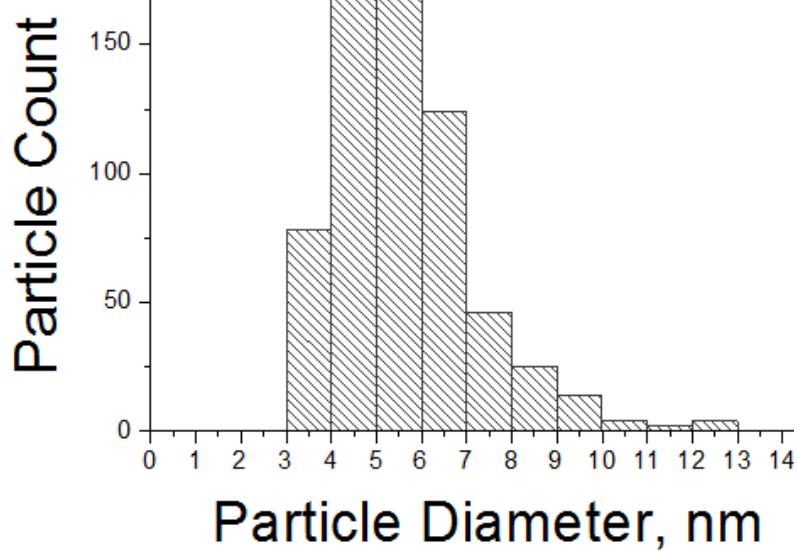
A.) Ambient:  $5.5\pm2.0$  nm



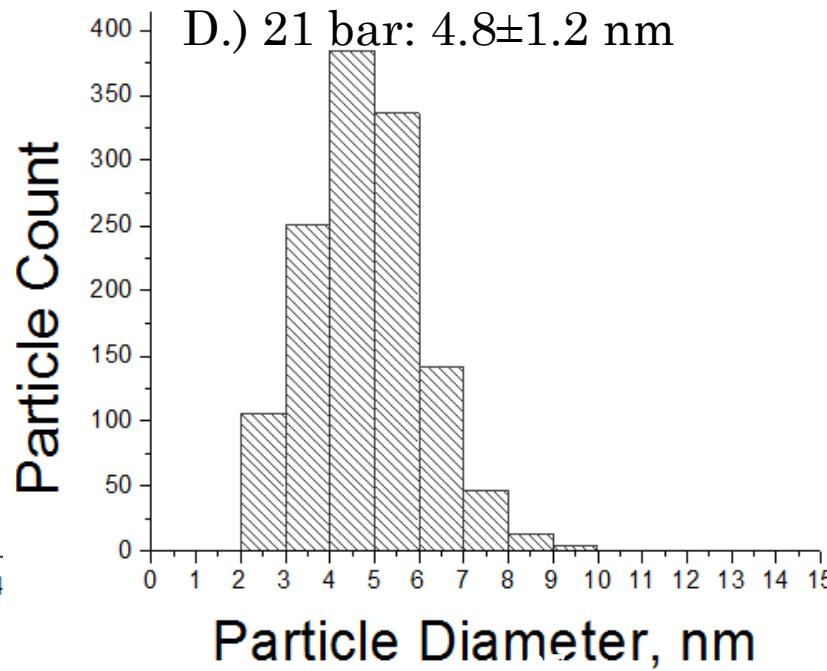
B.) 7 bar:  $5.6\pm1.3$  nm



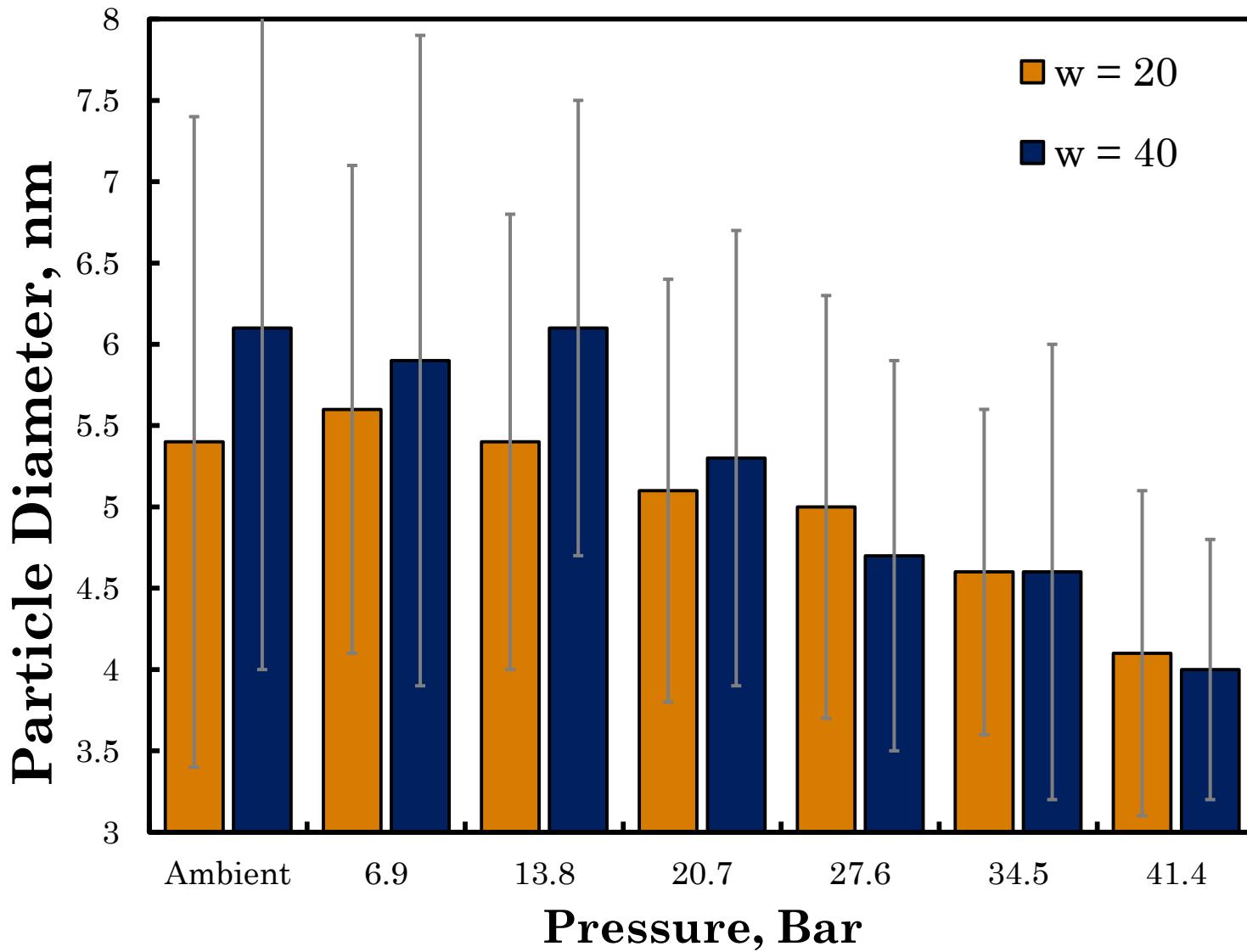
C.) 14 bar:  $5.6\pm1.5$  nm

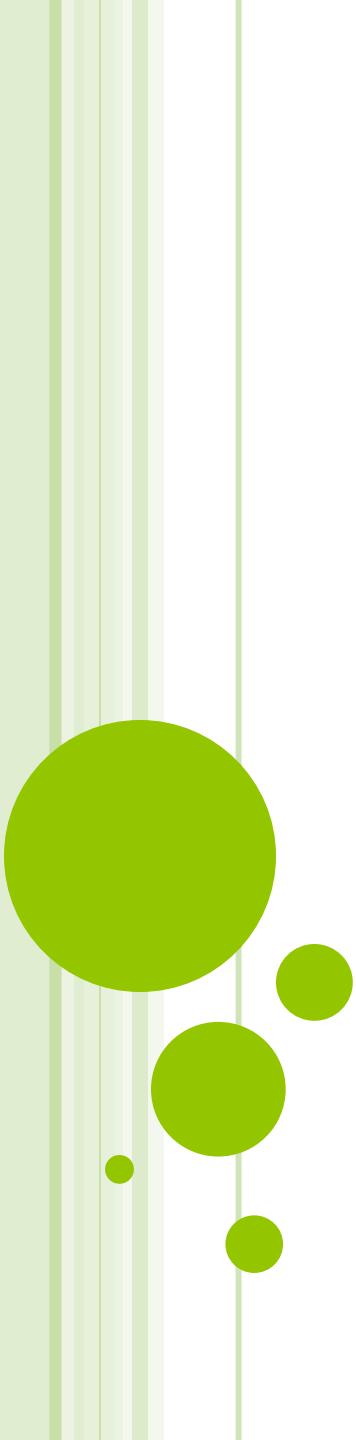


D.) 21 bar:  $4.8\pm1.2$  nm



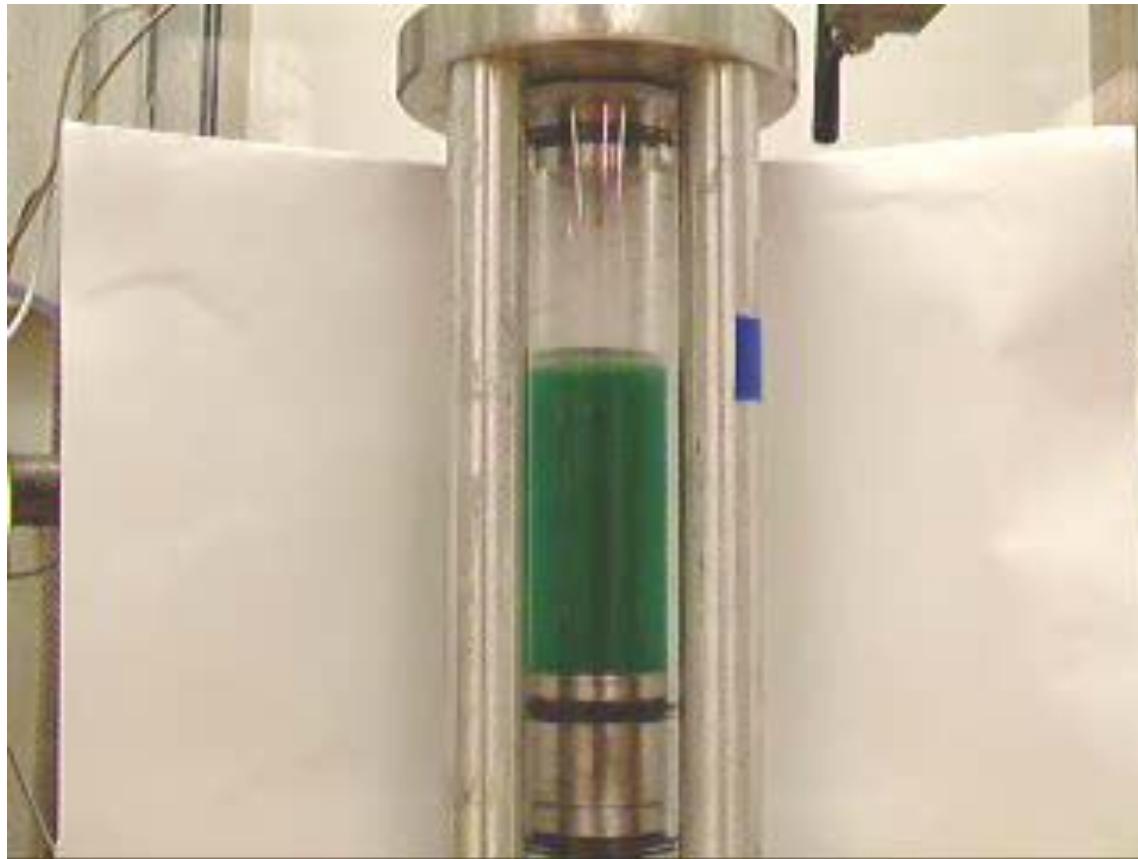
# RESULTS





# NANOPARTICLE PROCESSING IN ORGANIC – AQUEOUS TUNABLE SOLVENTS (OATS)

# ORGANIC – AQUEOUS TUNABLE SOLVENTS (OATS)



Organic  
Reactants/  
Products

Water  
Soluble  
Catalyst  
Ionic  
Reactant

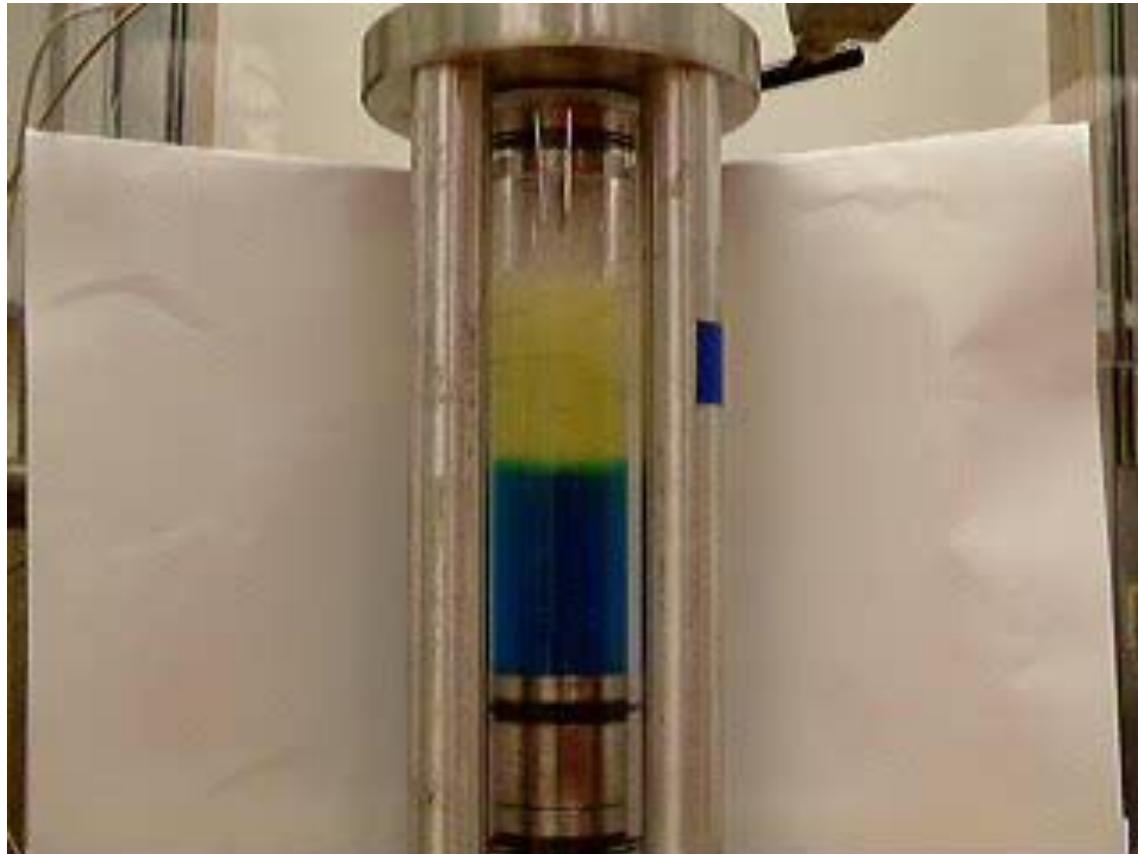
1 bar  $\text{CO}_2$



20 bar  $\text{CO}_2$



# ORGANIC – AQUEOUS TUNABLE SOLVENTS (OATS)



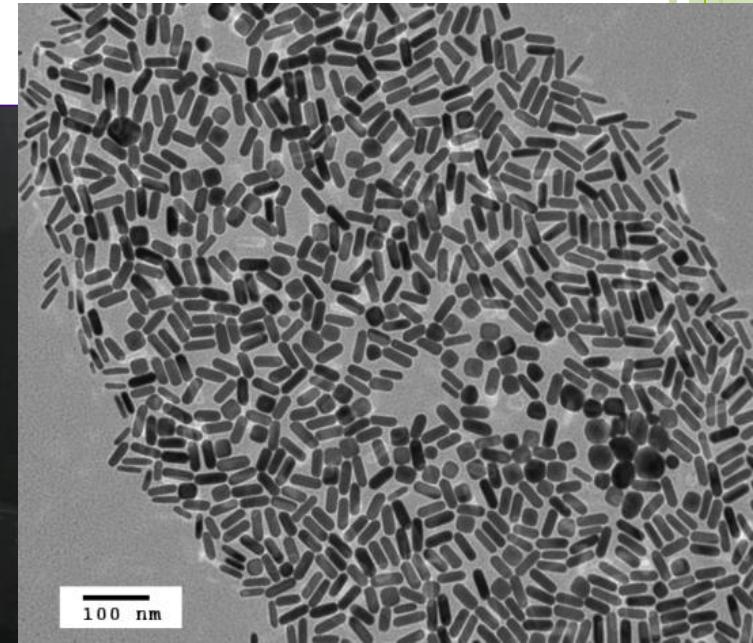
20 bar CO<sub>2</sub> → 1 bar CO<sub>2</sub>

Organic  
Reactants/  
Products

Water  
Soluble  
Catalyst  
Ionic  
Reactant



# OATS FOR NANOPARTICLE SYNTHESIS AND PROCESSING



Gold Nanorod synthesis and surface modification.

## CONCLUSIONS

- GXL for effective fractionation of nanoparticles based on:
  - Size              Shape              Surface Chemistry
- Controllable with CO<sub>2</sub> pressure and completely reversible
- SANS to characterize stabilization ligands
- GXL to control silver nanoparticle size synthesized in AOT reverse micelle system
  - Decrease in particle size with increasing CO<sub>2</sub> composition
- Future work with OATS

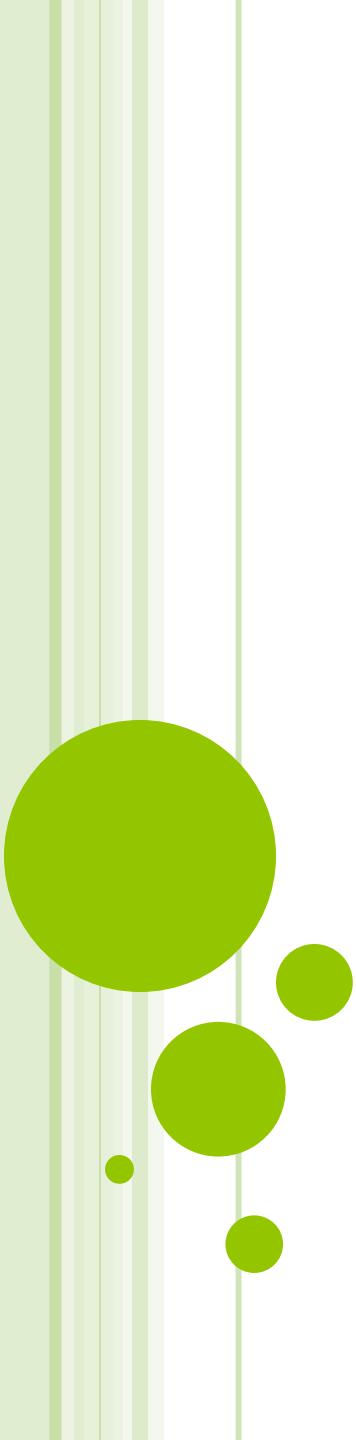


# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



- National Science Foundation
- PSA-NGGF fellowship at Clemson University
- NIST Center for Neutron Scattering

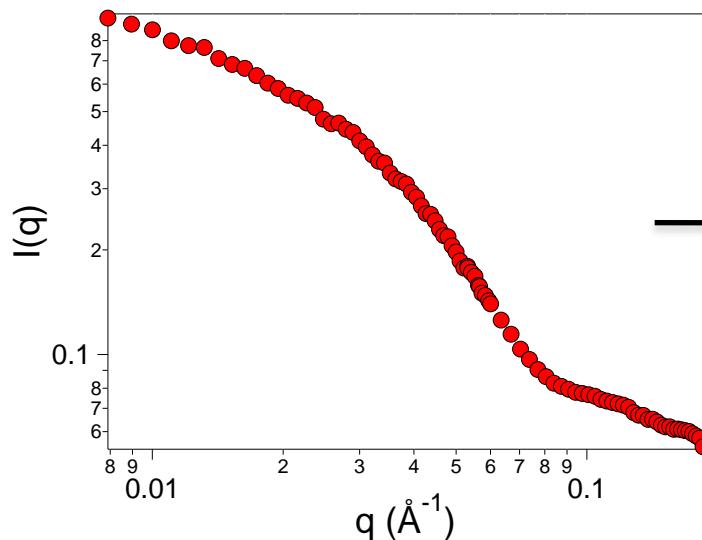




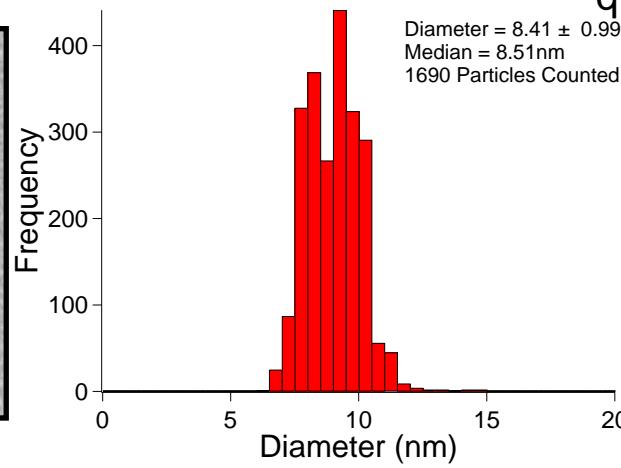
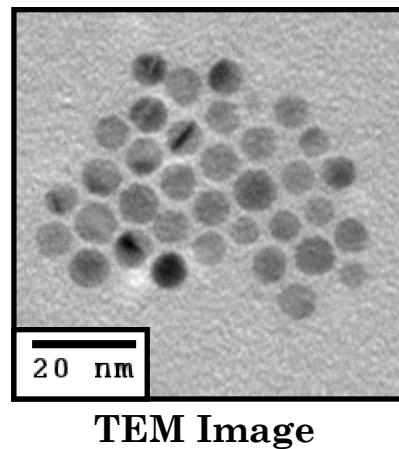
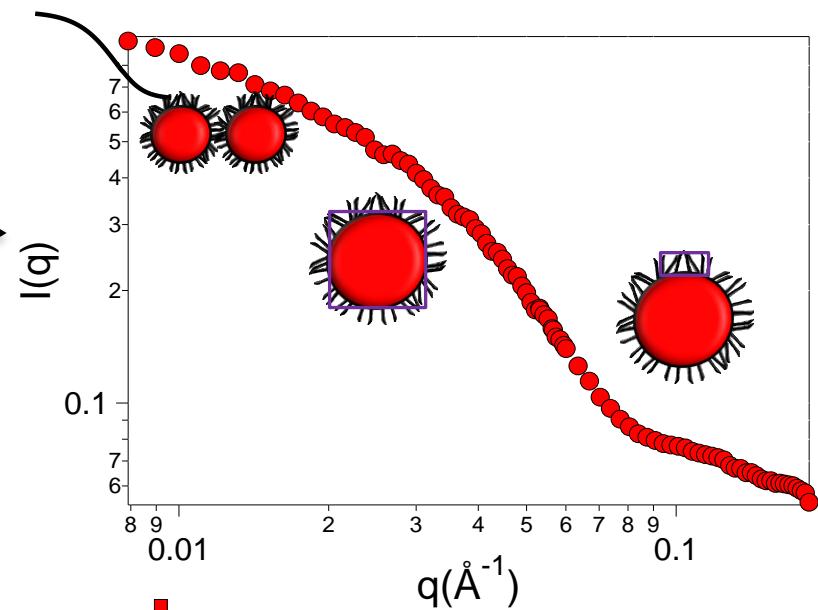
# LIGAND BEHAVIOR VIA. SMALL ANGLE NEUTRON SCATTERING (SANS)

# SMALL-ANGLE NEUTRON SCATTERING (SANS) INTRODUCTION

Reduced 1-D  
SANS Data



Fit 1-D  
SANS Data

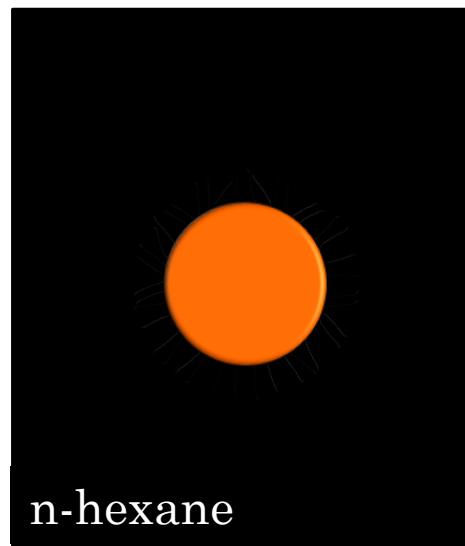


# SMALL-ANGLE NEUTRON SCATTERING (SANS) INTRODUCTION

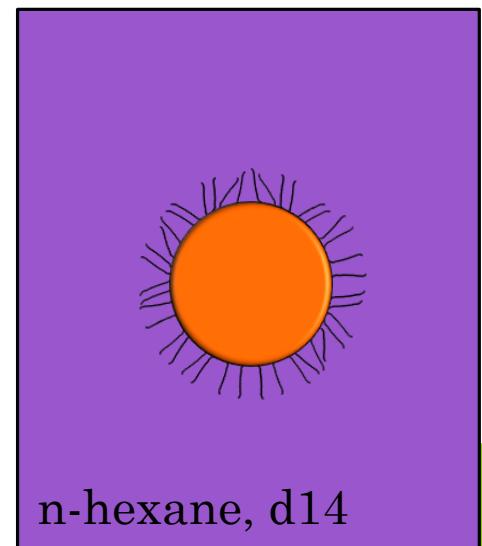
## ○ Scattering Length Density (SLD)

- Dependent on atomic number/composition
- Allows for great contrast between hydrogen and deuterium

Material	SLD ( $\text{\AA}^{-2}$ )
Gold	4.50E-06
Dodecanethiol	-3.67E-07
1-Octadecanethiol	-3.49E-07
n-hexane, d14	6.14E-06
n-hexane	-5.71E-07
toluene, d8	5.66E-06



n-hexane



n-hexane, d14

# SANS DATA ANALYSIS

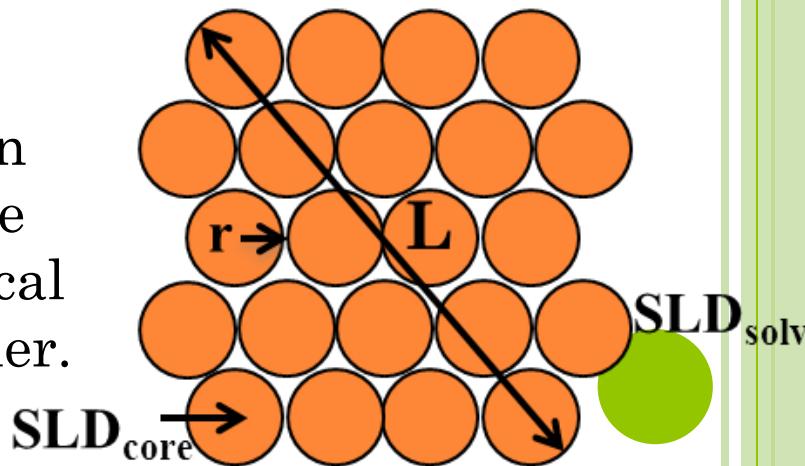
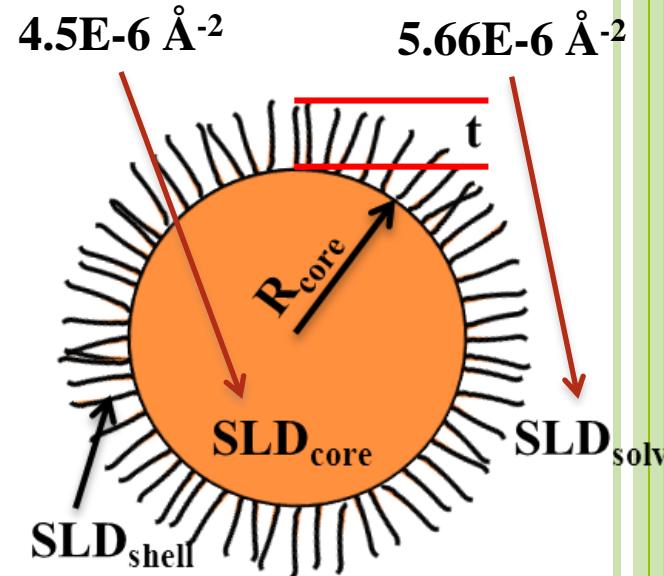
Two different Models were used to analyze the SANS Data

- Polydisperse Core-Shell Form

- Calculates the form factor  $P(q)$  for polydisperse spherical particles with a core-shell structure.

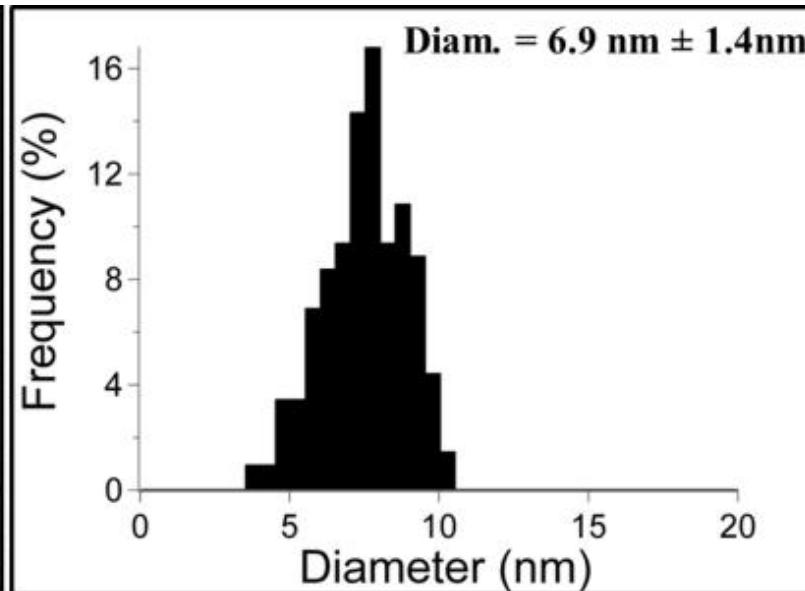
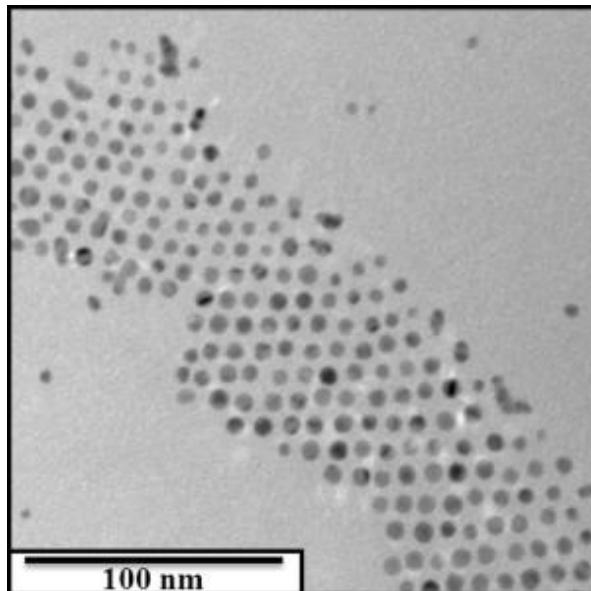
- Fractal Model

- Calculates the form factor  $P(q)$  for fractal like aggregates dispersed in solution. The aggregates are made up of randomly distributed spherical particles which have joined together.

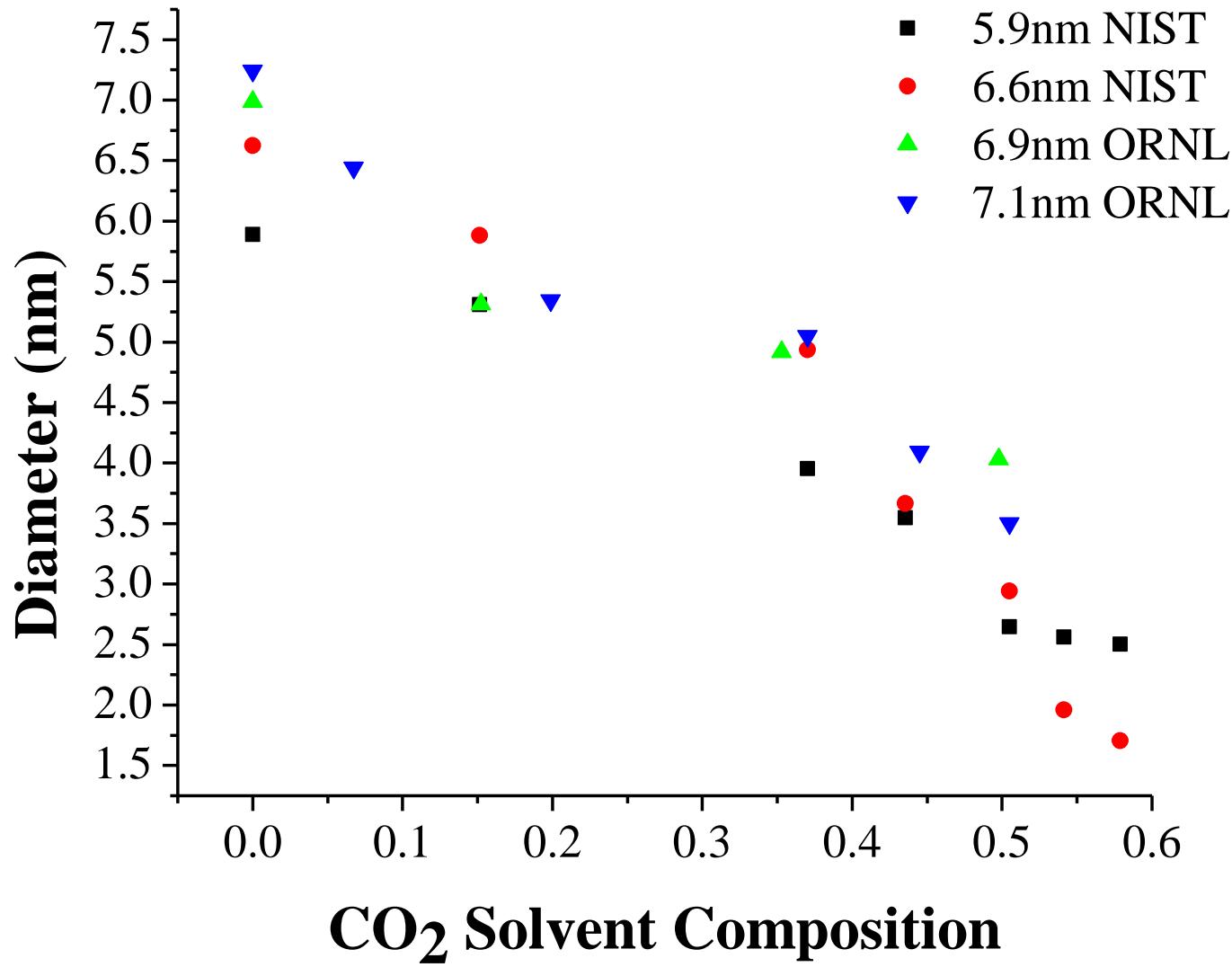


# NANOPARTICLES INVESTIGATED

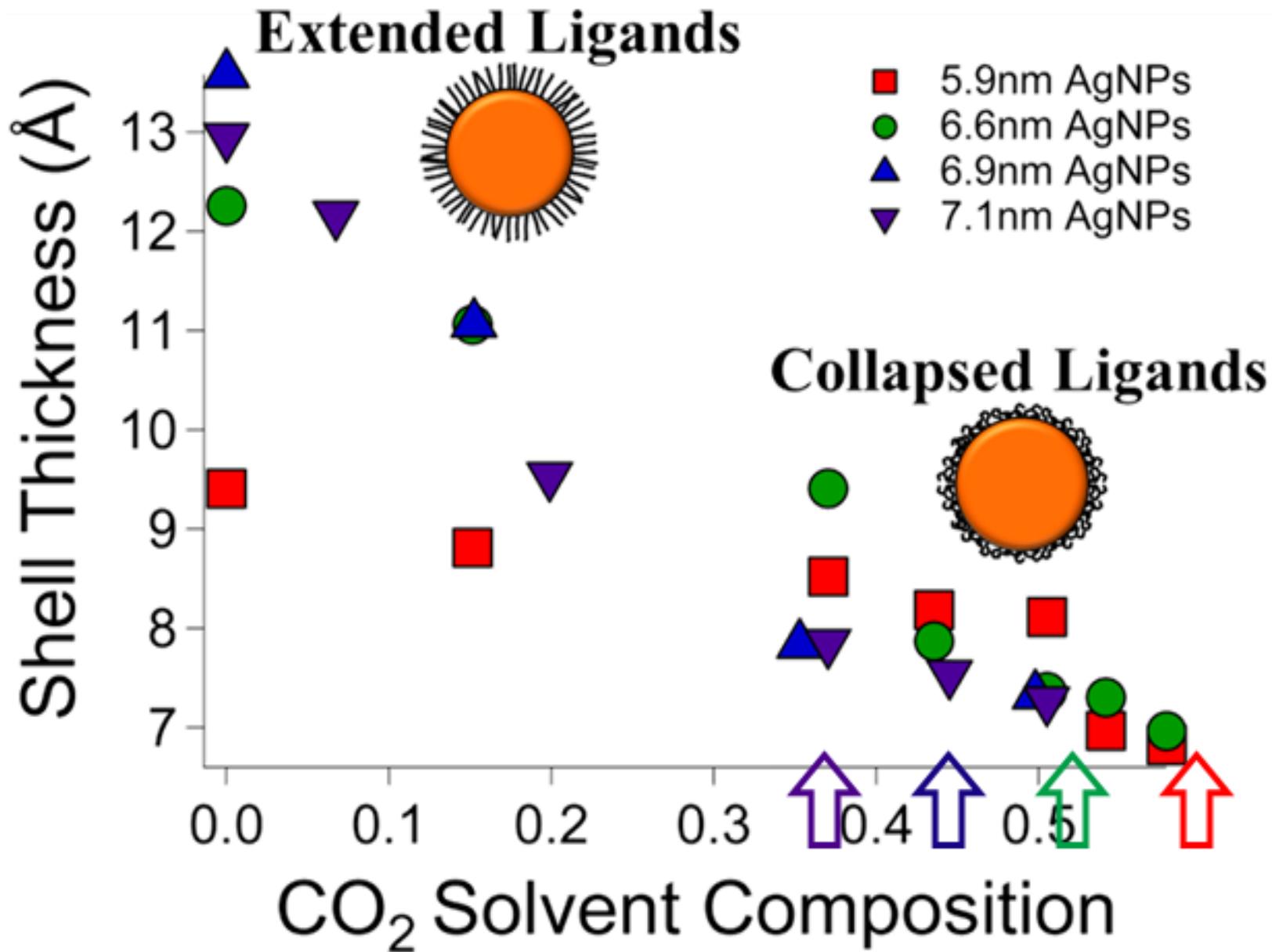
Fraction (psi)	CO <sub>2</sub> Fraction of GXL	Mean (nm)	Standard Deviation (nm)	Surface Coverage
400 to 450	37 to 44%	7.2 (7.1*)	1.4(1.5*)	44%
450 to 500	44 to 51%	7.0(6.9*)	1.3(1.4*)	55%
500 to 550	51 to 58%	6.6	1	62%
550 to 600	58 to 66%	5.9	0.9	60%



# DIAMETER OF SILVER NANOPARTICLES VS CO<sub>2</sub> COMPOSITION



# SHELL THICKNESS OF DODECANETHIOL



# DODECANETHIOL LIGAND SOLVATION

