What's Kelvin's Problem?

Randall D. Kamien Physics & Astronomy

Ziherl and RDK, *PRL* **85** (2000) 3528 Ziherl and RDK, *J. Phys. Chem.* B **105** (2001) 10147 Kung, Ziherl and RDK, *PRE* **65** (2002) 050401R Grason, DiDonna and RDK, *PRL* **91** (2003)

www.physics.upenn.edu/~kamien/





What's Kelvin's Problem?

Randall D. Kamien Physics & Astronomy

Dendrimers and Diblocks Sphere Packings Minimal Surfaces & Soap Froths Diblock Copolymers Experiment

Ziherl and RDK, *PRL* **85** (2000) 3528 Ziherl and RDK, *J. Phys. Chem.* B **105** (2001) 10147 Kung, Ziherl and RDK, *PRE* **65** (2002) 050401R Grason, DiDonna and RDK, *PRL* **91** (2003)

www.physics.upenn.edu/~kamien/





Percec's Dendrimers





Rational Design of Geometry









Antimicrobials





Nanopores and Nanoreactors









Penn

Self-Assembly of Lattices



Pm3n Symmetry AI5 Lattice





Self-Assembly of Macromolecular Assemblies





Qualitative Pair Interaction



distance









Hard Core Bulk Free Energy



Hard Core Bulk Free Energy

Soft Corona Interfacial Free Energy





Triangular Lattice



























Johannes Kepler (1571-1630)













BCC





FCC

A15









Zentsuji, Japan





Bit Bip Bap Bab Bob Bog Dog Dig



Bit	Bit
Bip	
Bap	Bap
Bab	
Bob	Bob
Bog	
Dog	Dog
Dig	
	Detect Errors!



Bit	Bit	Bit
Bip		
Bap	Bap	
Bab		Bab
Bob	Bob	
Bog		
Dog	Dog	Dog
Dig	Ŭ	Ŭ
0	Detect Errors!	Correct Errors!











Packing Density Depends on Dimension!



Sloane, Documenta Mathematika, Vol. III (1998) 387



Bulk Free Energy

F=-TS



- FCC has more entropy than HCP
- Global, not local



Hard Core Bulk Free Energy

Soft Corona Interfacial Free Energy



Minimizing the Perimeter





Minimizing the Perimeter



Area = hard cores + matrix of coronas





Minimizing the Perimeter



Area = hard cores + matrix of coronas



Area= perimeter x thickness











Joseph Antoine Ferdinand Plateau (1801-1883)





Minimal Surfaces

Catenoid

Four-End Handled



Costa-Hoffman-Meeks

Scherk's First Surface

Graphics from MSRI - http://www.msri.org/publications/sgp/ © 1998, James T. Hoffman and MSRI



Minimal Surfaces

Schwartz P

Neovius



Diamond

Gyroid

Graphics from MSRI - http://www.msri.org/publications/sgp/ © 1998, James T. Hoffman and MSRI







William Thomson Lord Kelvin (1824-1907)





Kelvin's Problem

What regular partition of space into cells of equal volume has minimal surface area?



1943: Hexagon best polygon 1999: Honeycomb best (Hales)



Kelvin's Conjecture (1887)



Rhombic Dodecahedra

Thomson, Phil. Mag. 24 (1887) 503



Weaire and Phelan's Conjecture (1994)



Smaller than Kelvin's!





Weaire & Phelan, Phil. Mag. Lett. 69 (1994) 107

The Numbers





Interfacial Free Energy









Percec's Dendrimers

Intermicellar Potential

$$U = \frac{2\ell N k_{\rm B} T}{d}$$

- N: chains per micelle
- d: thickness of chain matrix
- *l*: Flory-like parameter

transition	l	entropy per chain
FCC-BCC	0. I R	0.5k _B
BCC-AI5	0.3R	I.5k _B

at melting point



Diblock Copolymers





Diblock Copolymers



Graphics from MSRI - http://www.msri.org/publications/sgp/ © 1998, James T. Hoffman and MSRI



Diblock Copolymers





Spherical Micelles

Voronoi Cells



Frustration in Diblocks (Strong Segregation)



 As φ→0, interface ignores shape of unit cell due to high curvature

Uniform Interface Curvature vs. Uniform Domain Thickness



 As φ→1, tension imposed by of cell wall is propagated to interface



Free Energy: Tension vs. Stretching



Grason, DiDonna & RDK, Phys. Rev. Lett. 91 (2003)



Interfacial Energy





Free Energy: Tension vs. Stretching





Lattice Problems

• Packing maximize the inradius of the Voronoi Cell

• Covering minimize the circumradius of the Voronoi Cell





• Quantizing minimize the "moment" $\int_{\Pi} x^{2}$ $G(\Pi) = \frac{\int_{\Pi} (d+2)/d}{d \operatorname{Vol}(\Pi)^{(d+2)/d}}$

• Channel Coding minimize the error

$$P_{e}=1-\mathcal{N}\int_{\Pi}e^{-x^{2}/2\sigma}$$



Lattice Problems

• Quantizing

• Packing maximize the inradius of the Voronoi Cell

• Covering minimize the circumradius of the Voronoi Cell





minimize the "moment" $G(\Pi) = \frac{\int_{\Pi} x^{2}}{d \operatorname{Vol}(\Pi)^{(d+2)/d}}$ appel Coding

 Channel Coding minimize the error

$$P_e = 1 - \mathcal{N} \int_{\Pi} e^{-x^2/2\sigma}$$







G(∏)



0.0787 +0.26 %

0.0785



A15

BCC



0.0787 +0.26 %



Final Energy

FCC	G(∏)	Area	Free Energy
	0.0787	5.345	
BCC	0.0785	5.315	
A15	0.0787	5.297	

Penn

Grason, DiDonna & RDK, Phys. Rev. Lett. 91 (2003)

Final Energy

FCC	G(∏)	Area	Free Energy
	0.0787	5.345	1.077 +0.61%
BCC	0.0785	5.315	1.072 +0.14%
A15	0.0787	5.297	1.071
	Sphere energy: 1		



Grason, DiDonna & RDK, Phys. Rev. Lett. 91 (2003)

Self-Consistent Field - Linear



Matsen & Schick, PRL 72 (1994) 2660



SCFT Results for Miktoarm Diblock Copolymers



Grason & Kamien, Macromolecules 37 (2004) 7371.

Experimental System





Frustration



diblock micelles in solution



Conclusions and Summary

mathematics of minimal surfaces & lattices

chemical synthesis

thermodynamics

designer crystals



Conclusions and Summary

mathematics of minimal surfaces & lattices

chemical synthesis

thermodynamics

designer crystals

When you see a branch, take it



Acknowledgments

 Theory
 (www.physics.upenn.edu/~kamien/kamiengroup/)

 Primoz Ziherl (University of Ljubljana)

 Gregory Grason (PENN)

 Olivia Halt

 William Kung (Syracuse)

 Brian DiDonna (Minnesota)

<u>Experiment</u> Virgil Percec (PENN)

<u>Support</u>

NSF: NIRT DMR01-02459 DMR01-29804 INT99-10017 (with Orsay) Pennsylvania Nanotechnology Institute Petroleum Research Fund (ACS)

