Thermal Properties of Magnetic Nanofluids

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Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research [IGCAR], established in the year 1971, upder the Department of Atomic Energy, Government of India.

The centre is engaged in scientific research and advanced Engineering of sodium cooled Fast Breeder Reactor [FBR] technology

Apart from nuclear technology, the centre is also engaged research

in basic sciences.

Staff strength is 2463 including 1037 Engineers and Scientists

The annual outlay of the Centre is around 670 million rupees (11 million Euro) towards the R & D activities.

Nanoscience activities

CoFe2O4 nanocrystal Synthesis (2008)

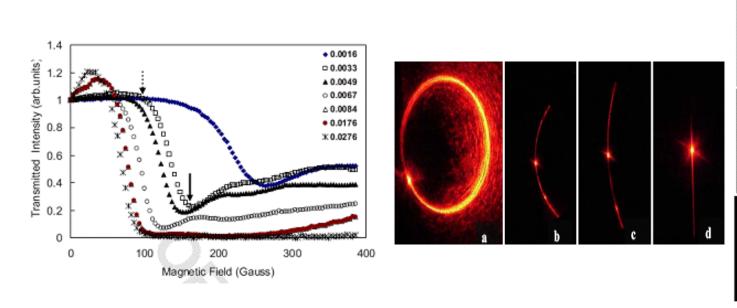
- S.Ayyappan, ... J. Philip "Effect of surfactant monolayer on reduction of Fe3O4 nanoparticles under vacuum"
 (Journal of Physical Chemistry C 2008 - In press)
- S.Ayyappan, J. Philip & B. Raj "Tuning the size and magnetic properties of CoFe2O4 nanocrystal by varying Co2+ ion activity" (Mat.Letters)
- S.Ayyappan, J. Philip and B. Raj "Effect of solvent dielectric constant on the size and magnetic properties of precipitated CoFe2O4 nanoparticles" (MCP)
- S.Ayyappan, J. Philip & B. Raj "Solvent polarity effect on physical properties of CoFe2O4 nanoparticles" (J.Phys.Chem)
- Simple approach to synthesis monodispered metal nanoparticles (To communicate)

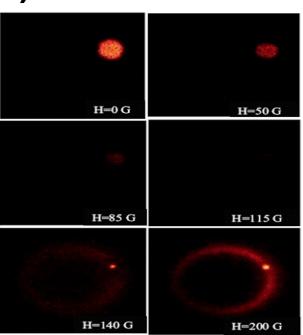
Synthesis (2007)

- G. Prakash, J. Philip, B. Raj "Effect of Digestion Time and Alkali Addition Rate on the Physical Properties of Magnetite Nanoparticles"
 J. Phys. Chem. B 2007, 111, 7978-7986
- G.Prakash, S.Ayyappan, T.Jayakumar, J. Philip & B. Raj "A simple method to produce magnetic nanoparticles with enhanced alpha to gamma-Fe2O3 phase transition temperature" Nanotechnology 17 (2006) 5851-5857.
- J. Philip, .. B. Raj. "Effect of thermal annealing under vacuum on the crystal structure, size and magnetic properties of ZnFe2O4 nanoparticles"
 Journal of Applied Physics, 102, 054305, 2007
- G.Prakash, J. Philip & B. Raj "Effect of divalent metal hydroxide solubility product on the size of ferrite nanoparticles"
 Materials Letters 61 (2007) 4545–4548
- G.Prakash, ..., J. Philip & B. Raj "Effect of initial pH and temperature of iron salt solutions on formation of magnetite nanoparticles during coprecipitation" Materials Chemistry and Physics 103 (2007) pp 168-175
- S.Mahadevan, G.Prakash, J.Philip, B.P.C.Rao, T.Jayakumar "X-ray diffraction based characterization of magnetic nanoparticles in presence of goethite and correlation with magnetic properties" Physica E. 39 (2007) 20–25

Light scattering in Nanofluids (2008)

- J.M.Laskar, J. Philip, and Baldev Raj "Light Scattering in a magnetically polarizable nanoparticle suspension" Phys.Rev E, 78, 031404 (2008)
- J. Philip, J.M.Laskar and Baldev Raj "Magnetic Field induced extinction of light in a suspension of Fe3O4 nanoparticles" Applied Physics Letters 92, 221911 (2008)
 - * Virtual Journal of Nanoscale Science & Technology June 23, 2008
- Kinetics of structural transitions (Phys.Rev E)





Colloidal forces measurement

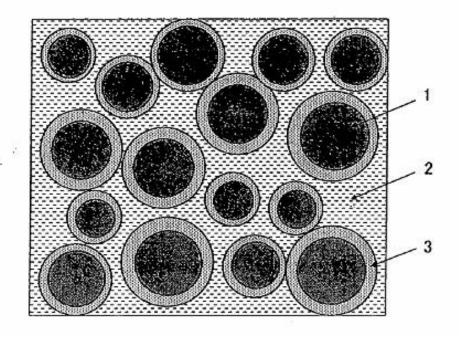
- J. Philip, G.Prakash, T.J.Kumar, P.K.Sundaram & Baldev Raj, "Three distict scenario under polymer-surfactant and colloid interaction" Macromolecule 36 (2003) 9230-9236
- J.Philip, G.Prakash, T.J.Kumar, P.K.Sundaram, Baldev Raj "Stretching and Collapse of Neutral Polymer layers under Association with Ionic Surfactants" Physical Review Letters 89 (26) 2002 268301
- J.Philip, T.J.Kumar, P.K.Sundaram, Baldev Raj, O.M.Monval "Effect of polymer-surfactant association on colloidal force"
 Physical Review E 2002 66 011406:1-8
- J.Philip, G.Prakash, T.J.Kumar, P.K.Sundaram, O.M.Monval & Baldev Raj, "Interaction between emulsion droplets in the presence of polymer surfactant complexes" Langmuir 2002, 18, 4625-4631.

Applications

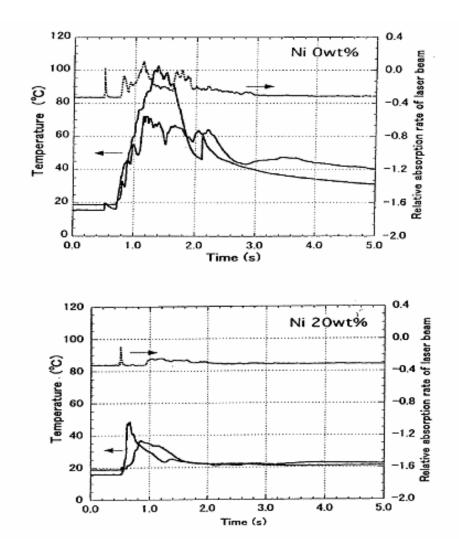
- J.Philip, T.J.Kumar, P.K.Sundaram, Baldev Raj
 "Tunable Optical Filter" Meas. Science & Tech. 14 (2003) 1289-1294
- J.Philip, C.B.Rao, T.J.Kumar & B.Raj
 "A new optical technique for detection of defects in ferromagnetic materials and components" NDT&E International, 33 (2000) 289-295
- J.Philip, C.B. Rao, B.Raj & T.J.Kumar
 "An optical technique for the detection of surface defects in ferromagnetic samples" Measurement Science & Technology, 10 (1999) N71- 75

Reducing Na Reactivity with water

Pub. No.: US 2006/0054869 A1



- •Without Ni nanoparticles, the temperature rise was 70-102°C
- •With Ni np of 20 wt%, the temperature rise was 37-50°C



Change in temperature with time and change in the outputs of the displacement sensor (change in the concentration of the reaction product)

Thermal properties of Nanofluid (2007-2008)

• J.Philip, P.D.Shima.. B. Raj, "Evidence for enhanced thermal conduction through percolating structures in nanofluids"

Nanotechnology 19 (2008) 305706

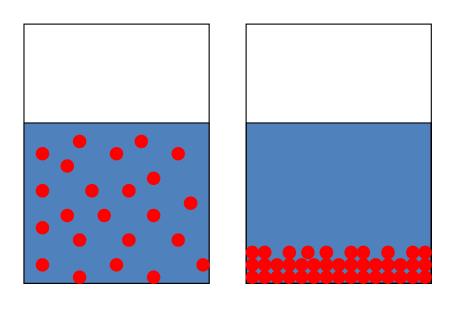
- J.Philip, P.D.Shima,B. Raj, "Nanofluid with tunable thermal properties"
 Applied Physics Letters 92, 043108 (2008)
 - *Nature Nanotechnology, Research Highlights 8 February 2008
 - *Virtual Journal of Nanoscale Science & Technology Feb. 11, 2008
 - * Appeared as editor's choice NanotechWeb, Institute of Physics in the UK *News story(S&T) Hindu Daily May 8, 2008
 - *News Institute of metals and minerals Review, No.6 June 28, pp28-31
- J.Philip, P.D.Shima, B. Raj, "Experimental Evidence for enhancement of thermal conductivity under clustering"
 - **Applied Physics Letters** 91, 2007, 203108
 - *Virtual Journal of Nanoscale Science & Technology 16, Nov 26, 2007.
- Karthekeyan, J. Philip & B. Raj "Thermal properties of CuO nanofluid"
 Materials Chemistry and Physics Vol. 109 (2008) pp 50–55

Outline

- Nanofluid Basics
- Thermal properties of Nanofluids
- Applications
- Mechanism of heat conduction in Nanofluid
- Magnetic Nanofluids
- Thermal conductivity results
- Conclusions

Nanofluids

Nano-particles suspended in a carrier fluid



- •Metallic NP (Cu, Ag, Au, Al...)
- •Ceramics [oxides Al₂O3, CuO, carbides SiC, nitrides AlN, SiN..]
- Metal Oxides
- •Nonmetallic (CNT, graphite)

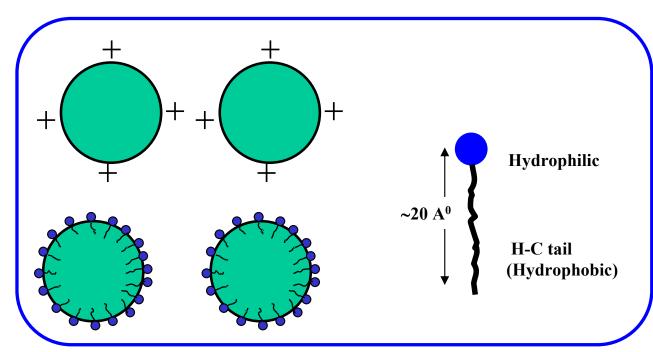
$$V_0 = \frac{2\Delta \rho g d^2}{9\eta}$$

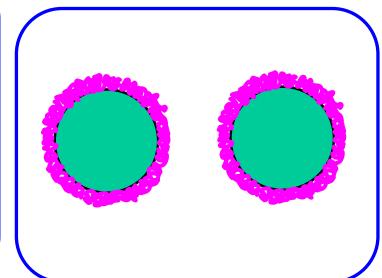
For $\Delta \rho = 4100$ Kg/m², g =9.81 m/s², $\eta = 3$ m.Pa.s, $\phi = 0.1$ and d = 6.7 nm, sedimentation velocity $V_0 = 0.002$ m/sec.

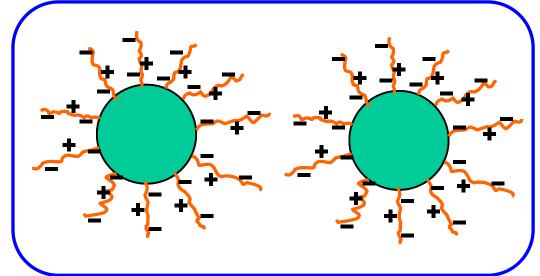
CuO nanofluid

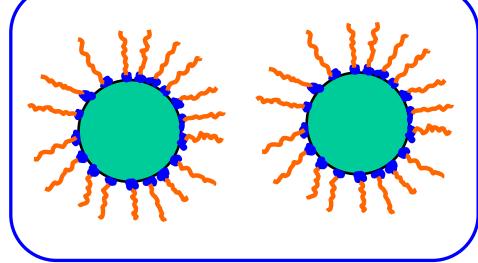


Stabilization methods





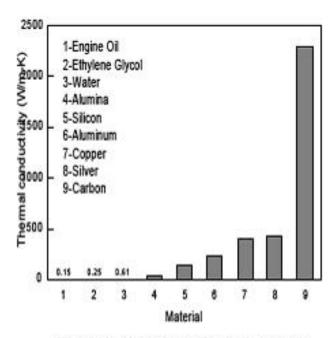




Why Nanofluids?

Traditional heat transfer fluids have low thermal conductivity compared to solids.

Material	Thermal Conductivity (W/m-K)
Liquids:	
• Water	0.613
• Ethylene Glycol	0.253
• Engine Oil	0.145
Metals:	
• Silver	429
• Copper	401
• Aluminum	237
Nonmetallic solids:	
• Diamond	3300
• Carbon	2300
• Silicon	148
Alumina (Al2O3)	40



Thermal conductivity of typical materials

S.U.S.Choi, J.AEastman.....

Thermal properties of Nanofluids

H. Masuda, 1993

Netsu Bussei 7 (4) (1993) 227, 233

超微粒子分散による液体の熱伝導率と粘性率の変化 (Al₂O₃, SiO₂, TiO₂ 超微粒子の分散)

Thermal conductivity of water based oxide nanofluids

 At 4 vol.% particle loading, the observed k enhancement was

 \sim 30% for Al₂O₃

~10% for TiO₂

~1% for SiO₂

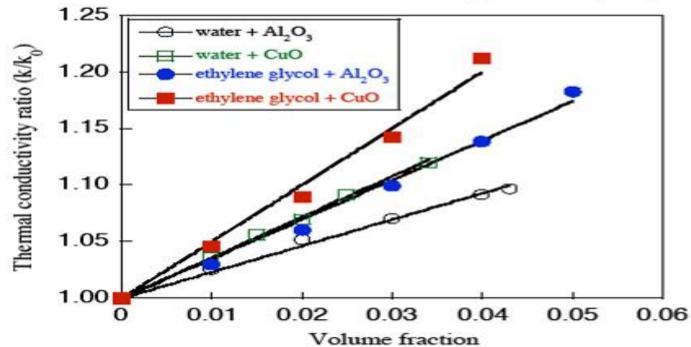
Thermal properties of Nanofluids

S. Lee, U.-S. Choi, S. Li, J.A. Eastman ASME J. Heat Transfer 121 (1999)

Water and ethylene glycol based CuO than Al₂O₃ nanoparticles (k/kf ~1.08- 1.20)

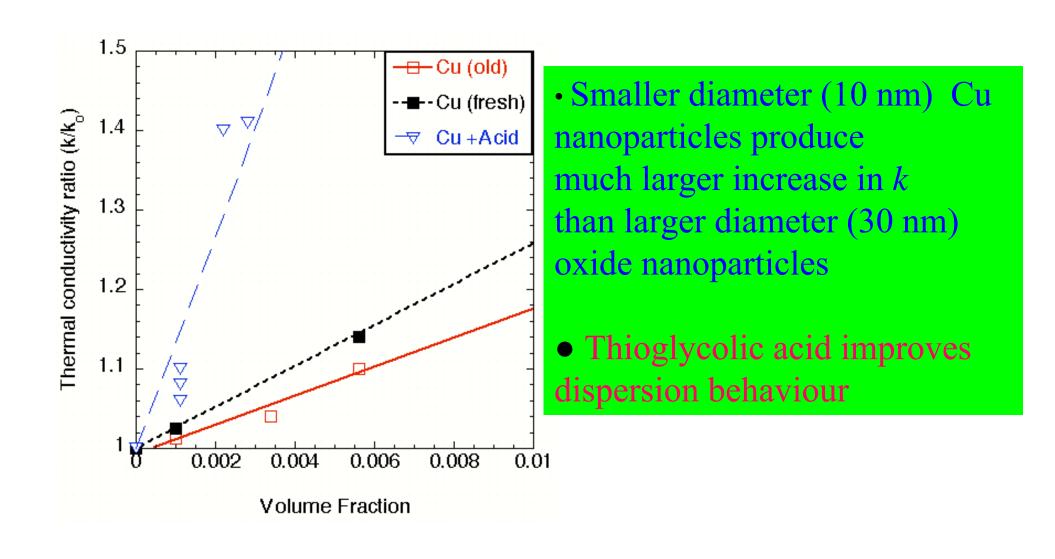
Larger enhancement in EG than water

S. Lee, U.-S. Choi, S. Li, J.A. Eastman ASME Journal of Heat Transfer 121, pp. 280-289 (1999)



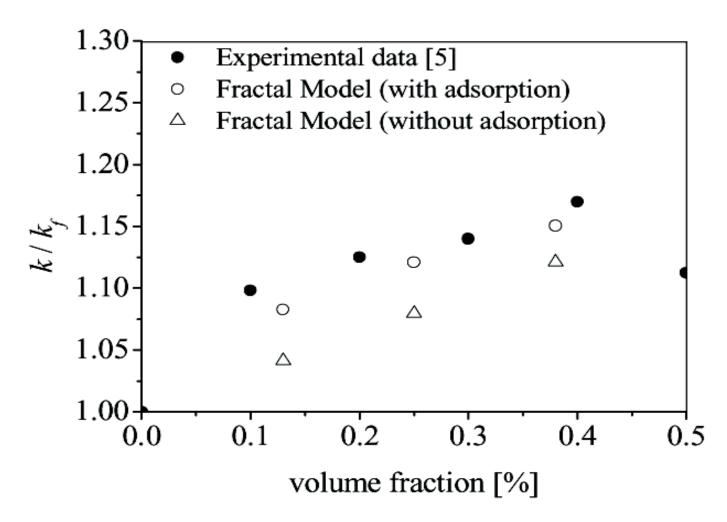
Cu Nanofluid

J.A. Eastman et al., Appl. Phys. Lett., 78, 718 (2001)



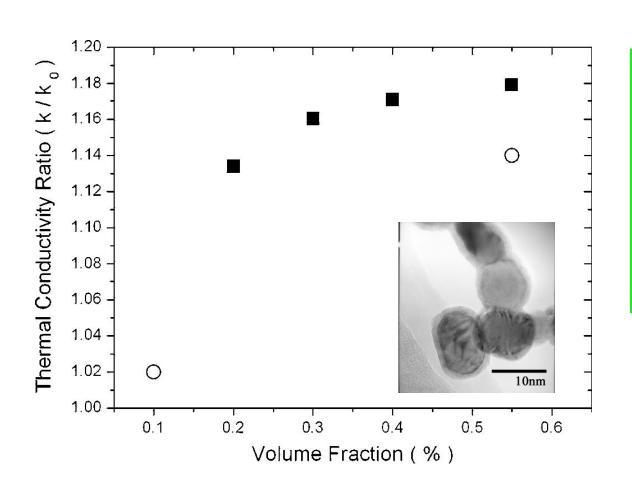
Zhou Wang, Ann. Proc. Chin. Eng. Thermophysics, 889 (2002)

0.4 vol.% CuO (50 nm particle size) in $H_2O \sim 17\%$ enhancement



Fe Nanofluid

T.-K. Hong, H-S. Yang, *J. Appl. Phys.*, **97**, **064311**, **(2005)**



- Fe nanoparticles produced by chemical vapor condensation
- Behavior is similar to Cu
 (without added surfactant)

- •Experimental studies show anomalous enhancement in the thermal conductivity in nanofluids.
- This area acquired a major thrust after the reports from Argonne National Laboratory that nanofluids containing copper oxide nanoparticles, exhibit enhancement in thermal conductivity (60% with 5 vol% of nanoparticles)
 [J. A. Eastman, S. U. S. Choi, S. Li, W. Yu, and L. J. Thompson, Appl. Phys. Lett. 78, 718 2001].
- •Since then, there have been several reports of anomalous enhancement of the thermal conductivity of various nanofluids

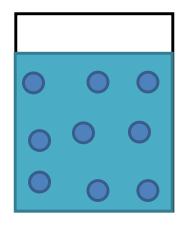
- •Despite numerous studies, neither the magnitude or the mechanism of the thermal conductivity enhancement in nanofluids has been established.
- •Reports show enhancement in the thermal conductivity ranging from anomalously large values to that are similar to or even less than the prediction of effective medium theory.
- •Remarkably these discrepancies occur even for the same base fluid and the same nanoparticles.
- •The situation in the field has been recently described as "investigations of the properties of nanofluids have reached the awkward situation of having a greater number of competing theoretical models than systematic experimental results" [J. Appl. Phys. 99, 084308 2006]

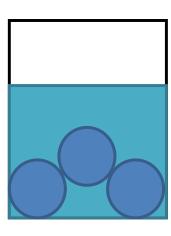
Nano vs. Micron?

• Nanoparticle dispersions show enhanced thermal conductivity

Benefits of using NP

- Stable dispersions
- Less clogging and abrasion
- Large surface area-to- volume ratio





Applications Nanofluids Thermal Management

To cool

- ➤ Car engines
- >Welding equipment
- ➤ High-power lasers, Microwave tubes
- > Electronic Devices
- >MEMS/NEMS (NF can pass through tiny channels)

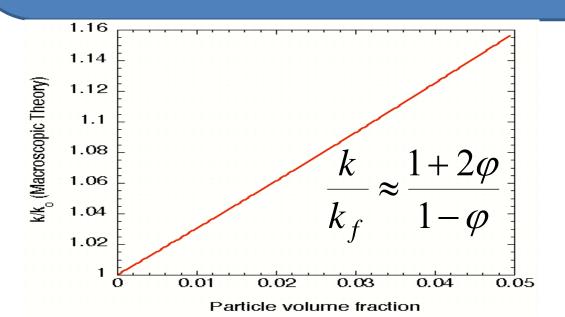
Benefits

- Efficient heat transfer.
- > Reduce pumping power and operating costs.
- ➤ Miniaturize heat exchangers.
- Reduce heat transfer fluid inventory.
- Reduce emissions.
- > Suited for applications in microchannel flow passages.
- •In heat exchangers that use conventional fluids, the pumping power must be increased by a factor of 10 in order to improve the heat transfer by a factor of 2.
- If a nanofluid (with thermal conductivity 3 times that of a conventional fluid), the rate of heat transfer can be doubled without an increase in pumping power.

S.U.S.Choi, Argonne National Laboratory

Theoretical predictions

- The early attempts to explain the anomalous behavior in nanofluids were made with the classical theory of **Maxwell** for composite materials.
- This theory is applicable to statistically homogenous, isotropic composite materials with randomly dispersed spherical particles having uniform particle size
- •Predicts increase in conductivity in nanofluids is approximately independent of particle size and particle conductivity



A few data are in good agreement with effective media theory while other studies show anomalous behavior

Effective medium theory

- •Here, nanoparticles are assumed to be stationary or slowly moving, with the heat diffusing through the "effective medium" composed of particles and fluid.
- •Because the thermal conductivity of solids is usually much greater than that of liquids, the particle-liquid-particle pathways can lead to faster heat conduction through the medium below the percolation threshold.
- •For spherical particles, and at small the volume fraction of nanoparticles; k/kf=1 + 3∮

Heat transport by the Brownian motion of the particles.

- Some studies modeled heat transport based on the Brownian motion of nanoparticles.
- •Also, Brownian velocity of the suspended particle induces a fluctuating hydrodynamic flow, which increases thermal transport.
- This heat transport may provide an alternative mechanism for the enhancement of thermal conductivity of nanofluids.
- •Of course, both of these mechanisms may contribute to the thermal conductivity enhancement in nanofluids; the question is their relative magnitudes.

...... Brownian motion of the particles

- •A key weakness of Brownian transport is that the thermal diffusivity, D_T , of base fluid is several orders of magnitude larger than nanoparticle diffusivity, D_{NP}
- •D_⊤- measures the rate of the heat flow via thermal conduction
- •D_{NP} measures the rate of mass motion due to nanoparticle diffusion.
- •The nanoconvection velocities are of the order of thermophoretic velocities, which for most nanofluids are insignificant [as low as 10⁻⁹ m/s].
- Thus the magnitude of possible nanoconvection effects is negligible

Liquid layering around the particles

- The basic idea is that liquid molecules can form a layer around the solid particles and thereby enhancing the local ordering.
- •Since phonon transfer in crystalline solid is very effective, such local ordering in the liquid can lead to enhanced heat transport.
- "Tunneling of heat carrying phonons" from one particle to another is proposed (Keblinski et al. 2002).
- •The subsequent molecular dynamics simulation work concluded that those mechanisms do not contribute significantly to heat transfer (Xue et al. 2004).

Ballistic transport

- Diffusive transport mechanism may not be valid at nano-scales. Rather, the heat transport in the nanoparticles is more ballistic.
- •So for ballistic transport or even in fast diffusive phonon transport, the solid particles will be essentially at a constant temperature thereby, providing the same boundary condition for heat flow in the liquid regions.
- •If the ballistic phonons initiated in one particle can persist in the liquid and get transmitted to another solid particle, the heat transport can significantly increase.
- •The phonon mean free path in the liquid is typically small because local ordering is limited to few atomic diameters. Since, particles are constantly moving by Brownian motion, there is a possibility that somewhat coherent phonon transfer is possible even with low particle concentrations.

Possible mechanism (Initial thinking)

(P. Keblinski et al., ASME Journal of Heat Transfer 45 (2002)

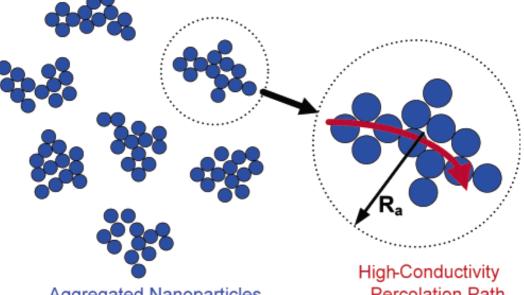
- * Brownian motion
- * Effect of particles on liquid local ordering ('tunnelling' of heat-carrying phonon from one particle to another)
- * Ballistic rather than diffusive thermal transport in the particles
- Nanoparticle clustering

Current thinking

Nanoconvection caused by the BM

Due to the aggregation of the nanoparticles leading to

local percolation



Aggregated Nanoparticles

Percolation Path

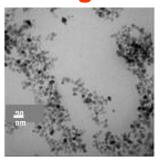
Aggregation will decrease the BM due to the increase in the mass of the aggregates whereas k can increase due to percolation effects in the aggregates

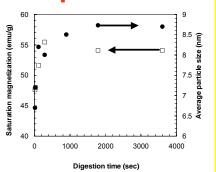
R.Prasher...NANO LETTERS 6 (2006) 1529; Appl. Phys. Lett. 2006, 89, 143119.

Models vs. experiments

- •Large enhancements reported by several groups, can not be explained by effective medium theory
- •Enhancements reported in many cases were beyond Maxwell limit of 3\$\phi\$
- •Greater number of models than systematic experimental studies.

Magnetic nanoparticles

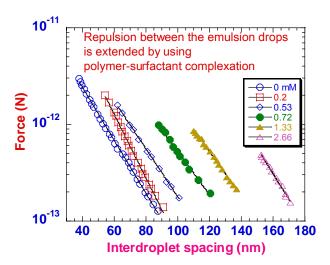




GP, JP.. J. Phys. Chem. C 2008 GP, JP.. J. Phys. Chem. B 2007

GP, JP.. Nanotechnology 2006

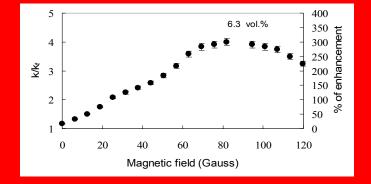
Nano emulsions (Colloidal Force measurement)



JP...B.Raj, Phys. Rev. Letts 2002 JP...B.Raj, Macromolecule 2003

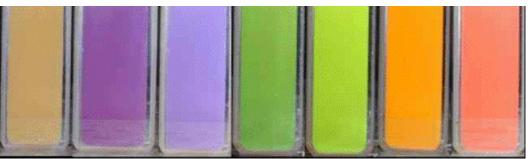
Seals



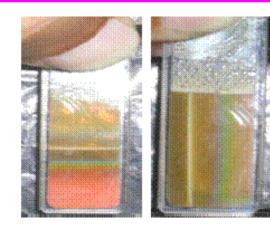


J Philip et al, Appl. Phys. Letts, 2007 J Philip et al, Appl. Phys. Letts, 2008 J.Philip et al. Nanotechnology, 2008

Applications: NDT Sensors, Tunable optical filter



J.Philip...Baldev Raj; Patent 2002; Meas.Sci.Tech. 14, 2003





J.Philip..B.Raj; Patents 186620 &186574; Meas.Sci.Tech. 10, 1999; NDT& E International, 33, 2000

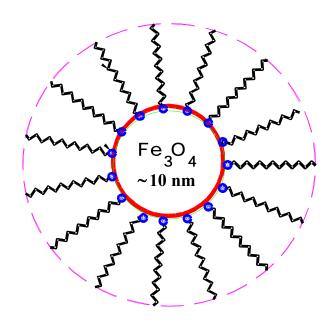
Motivation

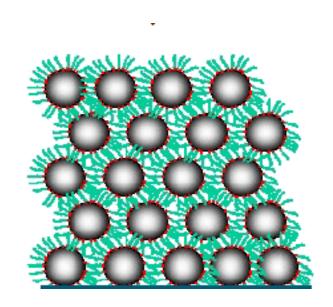
- •To probe the role of Brownian motion and local percolation paths on heat transport
- We have chosen a stable colloidal suspension, which is magnetically polarizable.
- •The advantage is that the aggregation and the chain length could be precisely tuned from nano to micron scales.
- •This facilitate measurement of thermal conductivity under controlled aggregation in a particular direction (chain-like structures)

Magnetic Fluid (Ferrofluid)

➤ Surfactant-coated Magnetite nano-particles (~7 nm) suspended in a carrier fluid

Carrier liquids: Organic (oils, flurocarbon, etc.) and water





Compatibility of surface active molecules with carrier fluid is important

XRD

Crystal Structure

Average Particle size

Lattice parameter

Electronic Microscopy

Particle Size & Shape Self-assembly

SQUID/VSM

Magnetic properties:
Saturation Magnetization,
super paramagnetic
phenomenon

CHARACTERIZATION

Force Apparatus

Long term stability

Fundamental studies

FT-IR & TGA

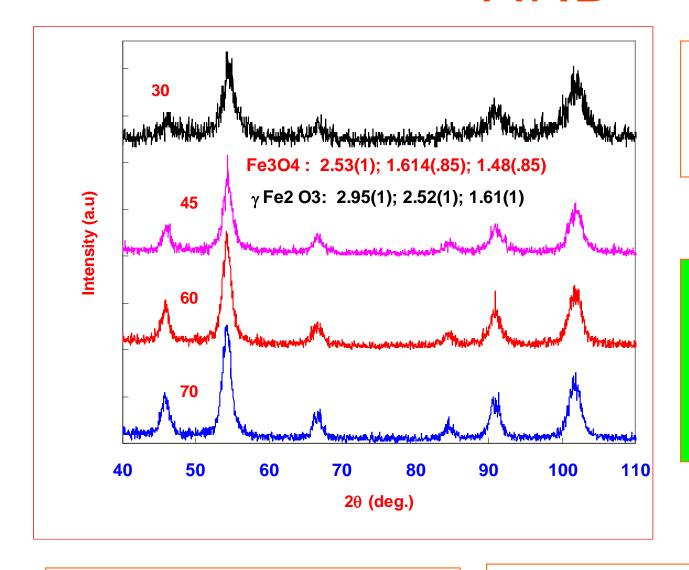
Surfactant related aspects

Optical Microscope

Stability

Field induced ordering, aggregation of nanoparticles, etc

XRD



Lattice Parameter

 γ -Fe₂ O₃ 0.835 nm

 $Fe_3 O_4$ 0.84 nm

The powder pattern of Fe₃O₄ and γ-Fe₂O₃ are very similar because both oxides exhibit closely the same crystallographic structure

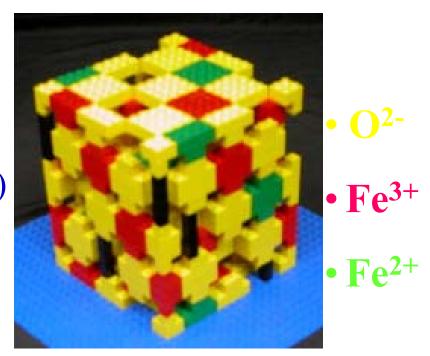
- Crystal structure
- Structural parameters
- Average particle size (D)

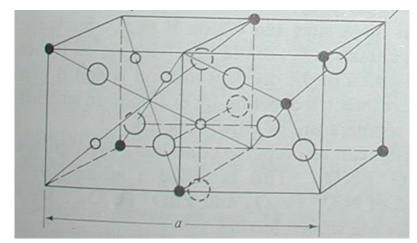
Scherrer formula

 $D = K\lambda /\beta \cos\theta$; β is FWHM

Fe₃O₄ crystal structure

- Inverse spinel structure
- O²- in cubic close-packed arrangement(32)
- Fe²⁺ occupies octahedral sites (8)
- Half of Fe³⁺ occupies octahedral and remaining half in tetrahedral (16).
- Electron spins of Fe³⁺ in octahedral and tetrahedral holes are **anti-parallel**.
- Electron spins of Fe²⁺ & Fe³⁺ in octahedral holes **align parallel** leading to net magnetization (*Ferrimagnetism*)



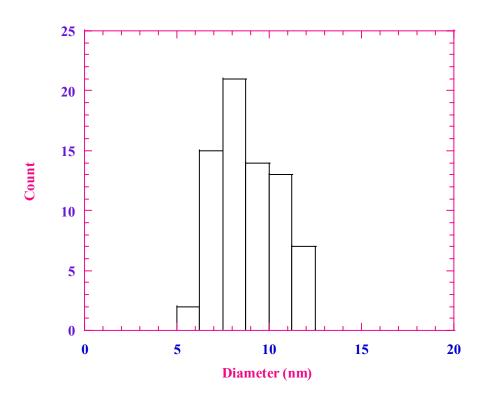


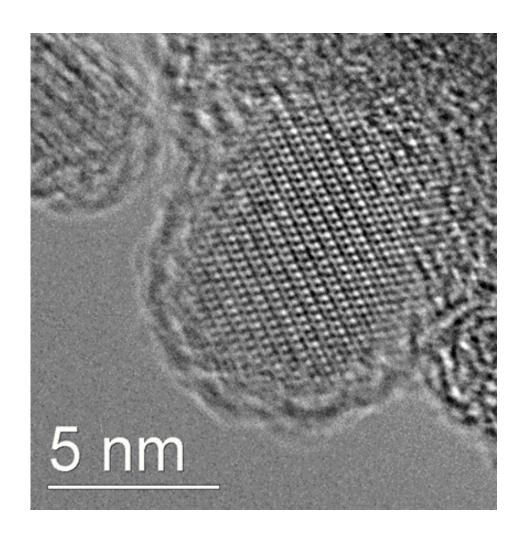




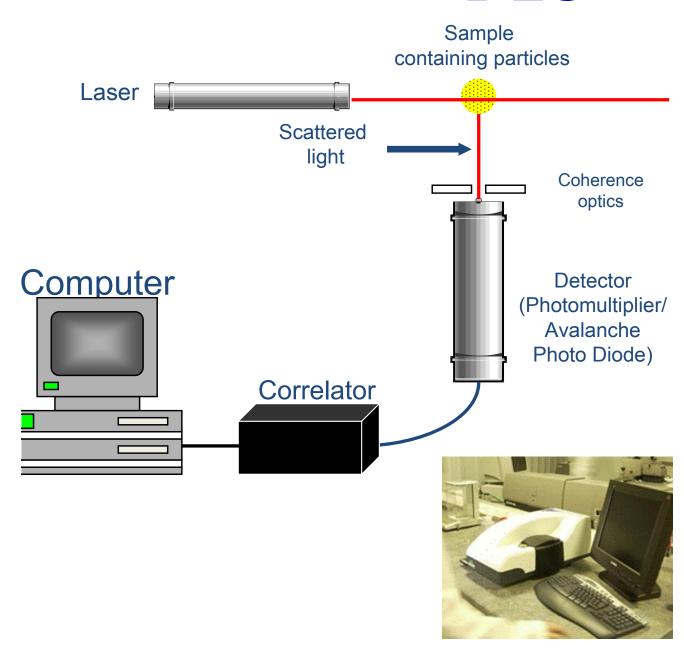


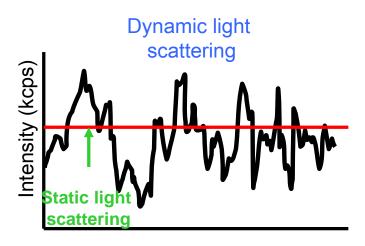
TEM

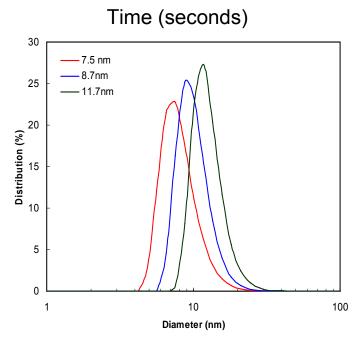




DLS

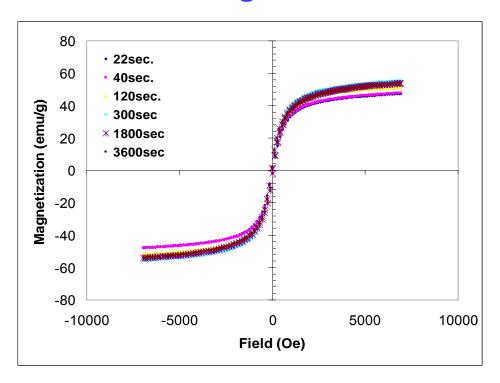


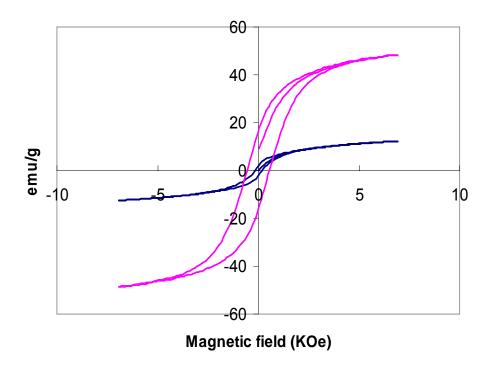




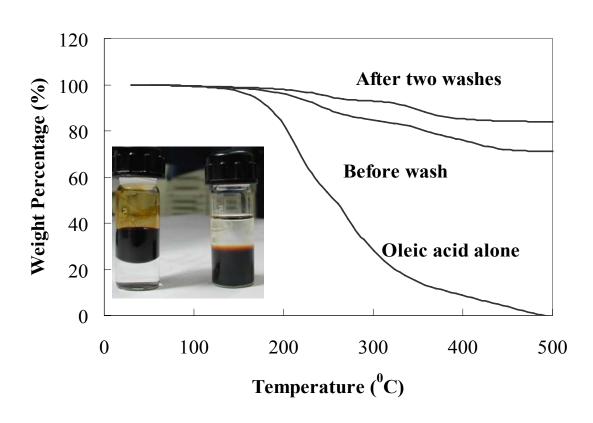
Magnetic Properties

- Superparamagnetic nature
- Saturation magnetization



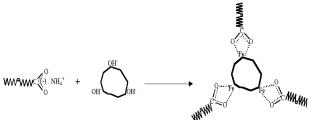


TGA



A two-step weight loss at ≈240 and ≈360°C.

The amount of surfactant present in the system before and after two washings was 28.41and 15.47% respectively.



Strength of surfactant binding

* G. G.Prakash, J Philip, T. J.Kumar &B. Raj *J. Phys. Chem. B* 2007, *111*, 7978

Ferrofluid





>Unusual properties

A unique material that has both magnetic and liquid properties

Ability to conform to any geometry

(The location of the fluid can be precisely controlled)

Viscosity, Apparent density, Birefringence

Nano-particle Size restrictions

• Stability in magnetic field gradient

$$\frac{kT}{\mu_0 MHV} \ge 1 \qquad ; \qquad d \le (6kT/\pi\mu_0 MH) V3$$

• Stability against magnetic agglomeration

Thermal/dipole-dipole contact energy = 24kT/ μ_0 M²V \geq 1; $d \leq (144kT/\pi\mu_0 M^2)^{1/3}$

• Stability against settling in a gravitational field

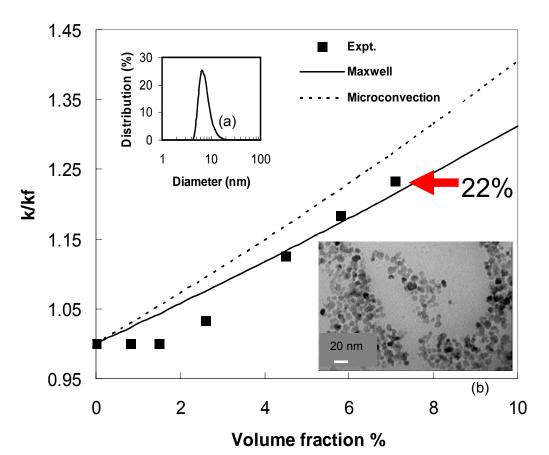
$$\frac{\Delta \rho gL}{\mu_0 MH} \approx 0.047 \qquad \Delta \rho = \rho_{\text{solid}} - \rho_{\text{fluid}}$$

H=1000 G; M=5600 G; T=298K; d < 15 nm

Nanofluid used

- •Fe₃O₄ nanoparticles : ~7 nm
- •Surfactant coating: Oleic acid/ Tetramethyl ammonium hydroxide (TMAOH)
- •Coating thickness: ~ 1.5 nm
- •Carrier Fluid: Organic /water

k vs Volume fraction



- •7.08 vol.% gives an enhancement in thermal conductivity of 22%.
- Maxwell model shows reasonably good agreement, especially at higher volume fractions.

$$\frac{k}{k_f} = \frac{1 + 2\beta\phi}{1 - \beta\phi}$$

$$\beta = \frac{(k_p - k_f)}{(k_p + 2k_f)}$$

$$k_f = k_f + \alpha k_p$$

$$\alpha = \frac{2R_b k_f}{d}$$

J.Philip, Shima, Baldev Raj. Appl. Phys. Letts. 2007

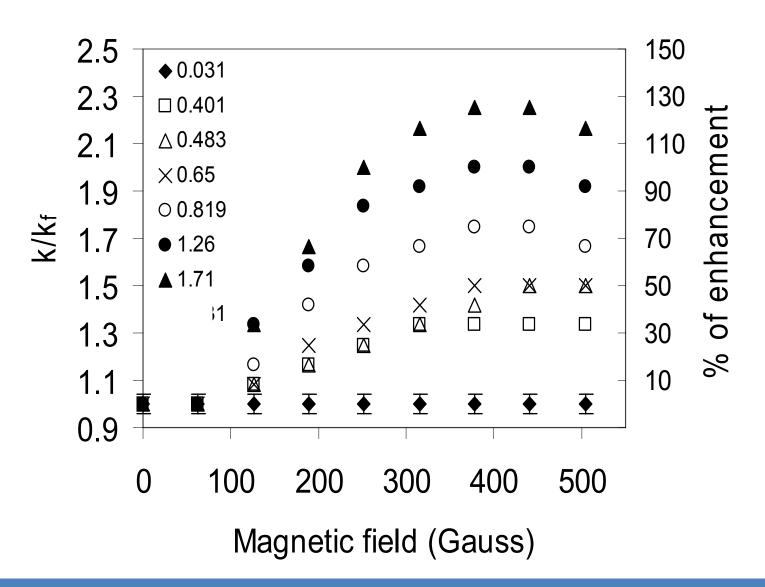
J.Eapen.. Z.Yip, Phys. Rev. Lett. 2007, 99, 095901 (silica nanoparticles)

Microconvection model (R.Prasher...Phys. Rev. Lett. 2005, 94, 025901)

$$\frac{k}{k_f} = (1 + A \operatorname{Re}^{\gamma} \operatorname{Pr}^{0.333} \varphi) \left(\frac{1 + 2\beta \phi}{1 - \beta \phi} \right)$$

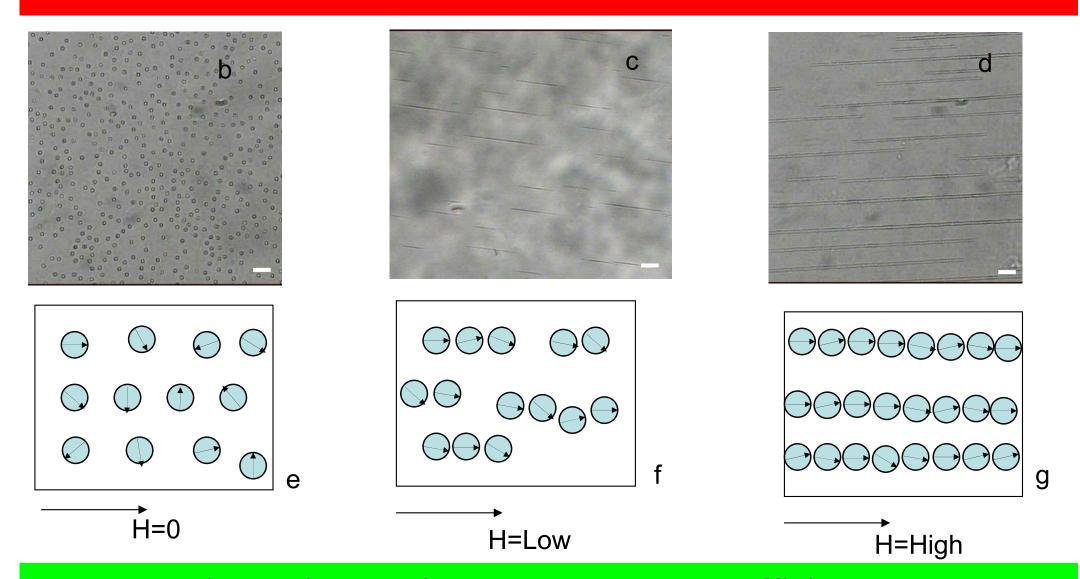
A is a constant, Re and Pr and the Reynolds and Prandlt number nanoparticles and base fluid respectively, γ is a system dependent exponent.

Thermal conductivity under magnetic field in Fe₃O₄ suspensions

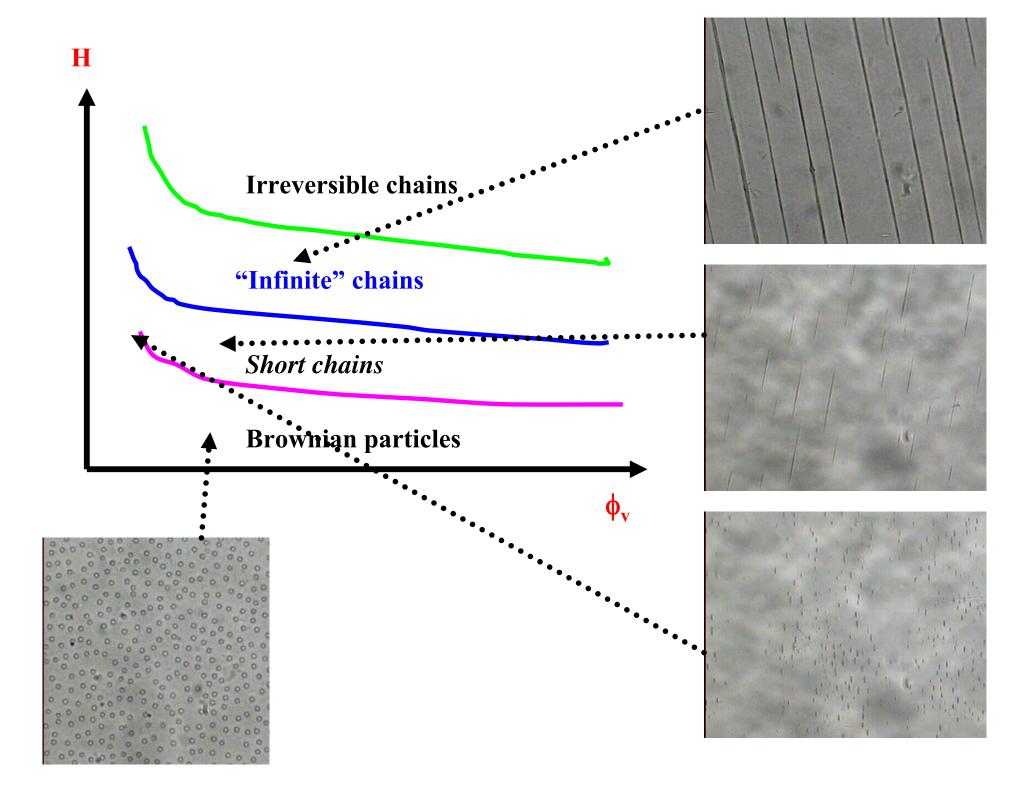


J.Philip, Shima, Baldev Raj. Appl. Phys. Letts. 2007

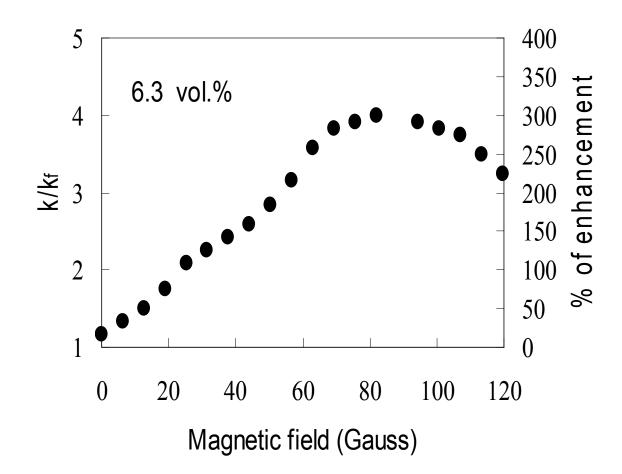
What happens when field is applied?



When the dipolar interaction energy becomes sufficiently strong, the magnetic particles form chain like structure.



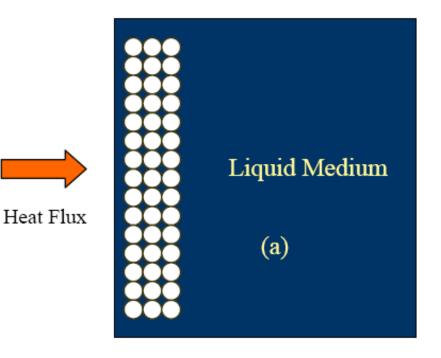
The interparticle dipoledipole interaction between the magnetic particles is



$$U_{d}(ij) = -\left[3\frac{(m_{i}.r_{ij})(m_{j}.r_{ij})}{r_{ij}^{5}} - \frac{(m_{i}.m_{j})}{r_{ij}^{3}}\right] \quad r_{ij} = r_{i} - r_{j}$$

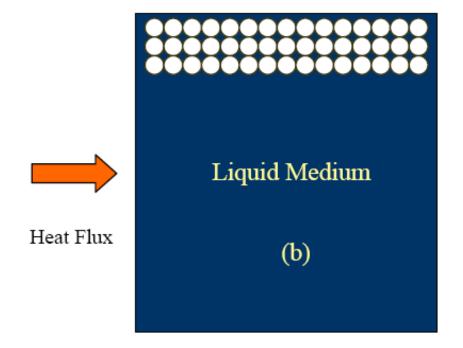
J Philip, Shima, Baldev Raj, Appl. Phys. Letts, 91 (2007) 203108

Mean-Field Models



Modes of conduction: base fluid and np

- Series
- Parallel modes
- •In reality, these possibilities are not strictly possible.



$$\frac{1}{\kappa^{^{=}}} = \frac{\left(1 - \phi\right)}{\kappa_f} + \frac{\phi}{\kappa_p}$$

$$\kappa^{\parallel} = (1 - \phi) \kappa_f + \phi \kappa_p$$

[Hashin Z and Shtrikman S, J. 1962 App. Phys. 33 3125.]

$$k_f \left[1 + \frac{3\phi[k]}{3k_f + (1 - \phi)\kappa} \right] \le k \le \left[1 - \frac{3(1 - \phi)[k]}{3k_p - \phi[k]} \right] k_p$$

In the limit $(\phi kp/kf) >> 1$, the predicted values of k/kf for

Upper HS \rightarrow (2 ϕ /3)kp/kf \sim 245 %

Parallel modes \rightarrow ϕ kp/kf $\sim 367\%$

Observed enhancement ~ 300%

Upper HS limit: Conduction path is through dispersed particles.

Lower HS limit: NPs are well suspended and conduction is through series modes

J Philip, Shima, Baldev Raj, Nanotechnology 2008

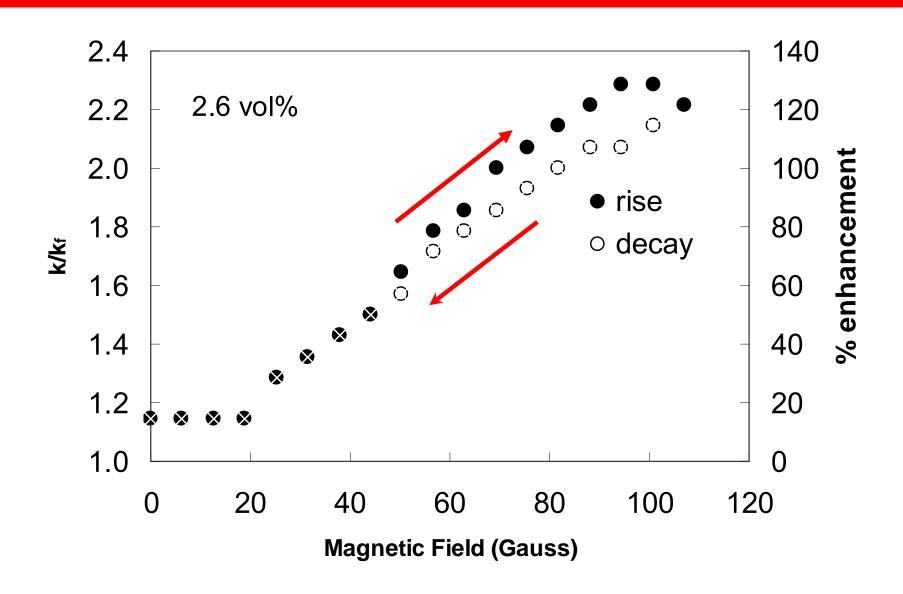
Convection vs. Percoalation

The convection velocity v drops drastically with particle size.

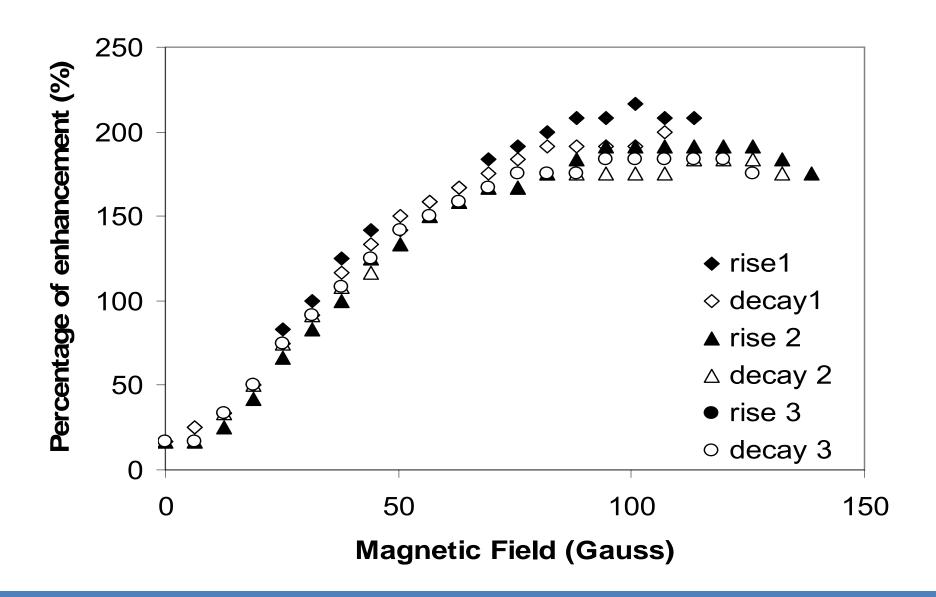
$$v = \sqrt{\frac{18k_BT}{\pi\rho d^3}}$$

Thermal conduction through percolating nanoparticle paths in nanofluids

Reversibility

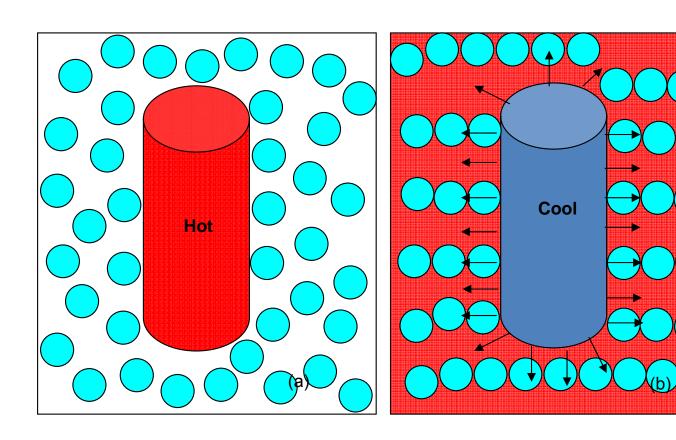


Cycle

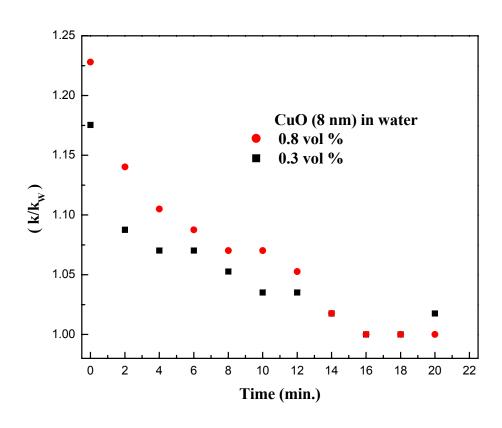


J Philip, Shima, Baldev Raj, Appl. Phys. Letts, 92(4) 2008

Applications



CuO nanoparticles





~30 % enhancement with 1 % vol. of CuO

Karthekeyan, J. Philip & B. Raj; Mat. Chem. and Phys. 109 (2008) pp 50-55

International Nanofluid Properties Benchmark Exercise (INPBE) MIT, USA

Sample	% of enhancement
Sample1 (Al ₂ O ₃ nanorods in water)	1.75
Sample 2 (Al ₂ O ₃ Nanoparticles in oil) Low concentration	6.67
Sample 3 (Al ₂ O ₃ Nanoparticles in oil) High concentration	13.33
Sample 4 (Al ₂ O ₃ Nanorods in oil) Low concentration	6.67
Sample 5 (Al ₂ O ₃ nanorods in oil) High concentration	20.00

Conclusions

- Direct evidence for efficient transport of heat through percolating paths.
- In stable nanofluids, the enhancement was within the Maxwell's limit of 3φ
- Well-dispersed nanoparticles suspensions (without aggregates) do not exhibit significant enhancement of thermal conductivity.

Conclusions

 For magnetite nanofluid, the maximum enhancement in the thermal conductivity observed is 300% (k/kf =4.0) at a particle loading of 6.3 vol.%, under the influence of an applied magnetic field of 80 G.

 The maximum enhancement under magnetic field is about 48φ (~ parallel mode of conduction)

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