

The Science Behind NanoDays: Part 1



NanoDays™
The Biggest Event for the Smallest Science!

March 29 to April 6th 2014


Digital kits available @

<http://nisenet.org/nanodays/NanoDays-2014-digital-kit>

Activities We'll Cover Today

Exploring Materials— Ferrofluid

Can a liquid be a magnet?




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Exploring Materials— Oobleck

When is a liquid like a solid?



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(What do you think these activities have in common?)

Ferrofluids

Exploring Materials— Ferrofluid

Can a liquid be a magnet?



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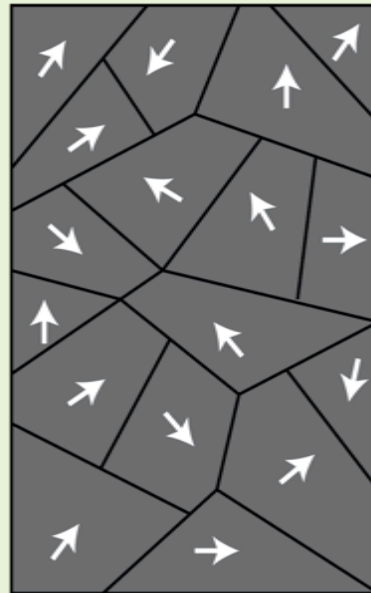
A **ferrofluid** is a unique material that acts like a magnetic solid *and* like a liquid.



Ferromagnets

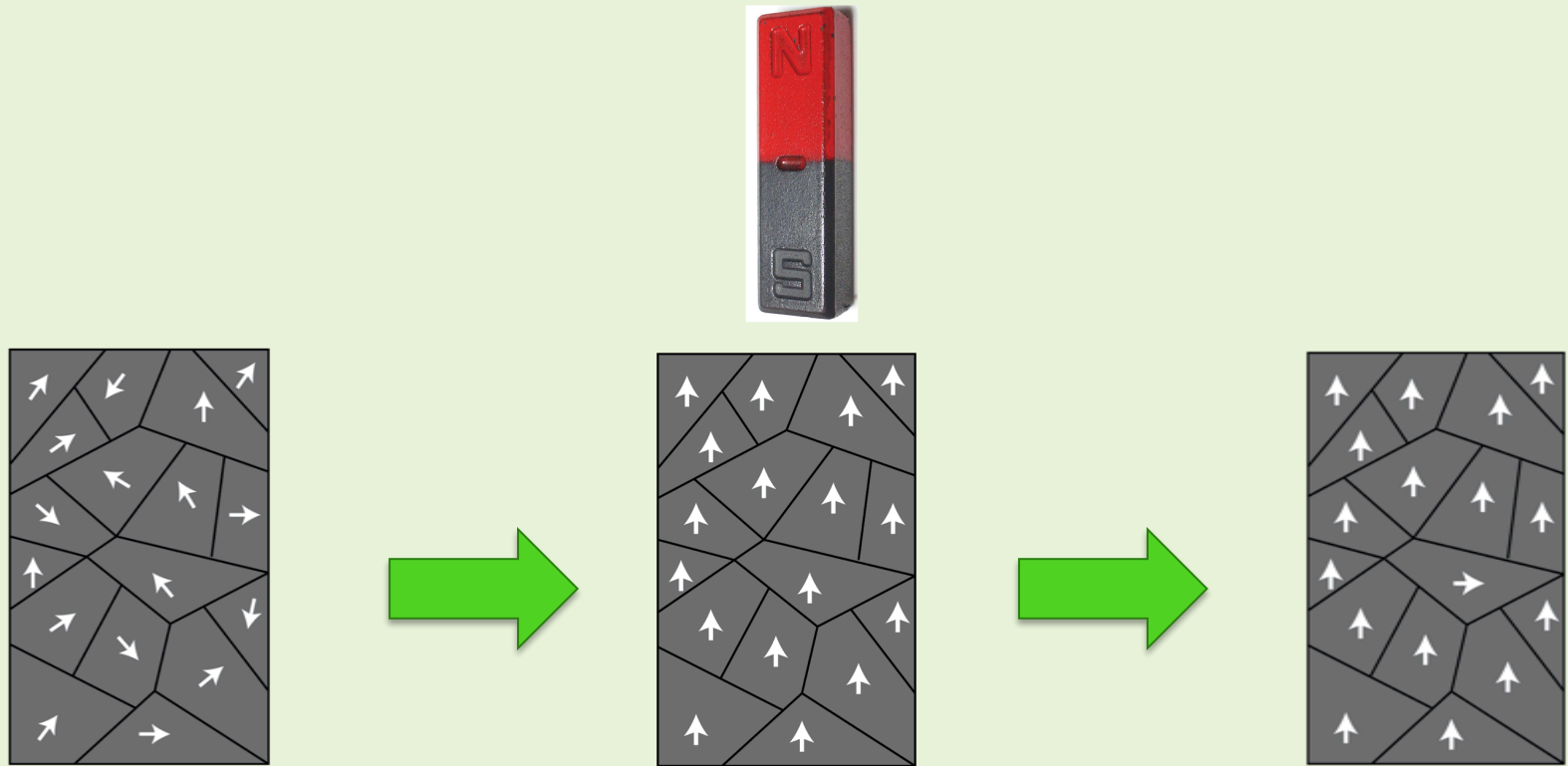
This schematic shows the **magnetic domains** in a ferromagnetic material. A domain is a region where the magnetic fields of the atoms are aligned.

You can think of magnetic domains as miniature magnets within a larger magnet.



Ferromagnets

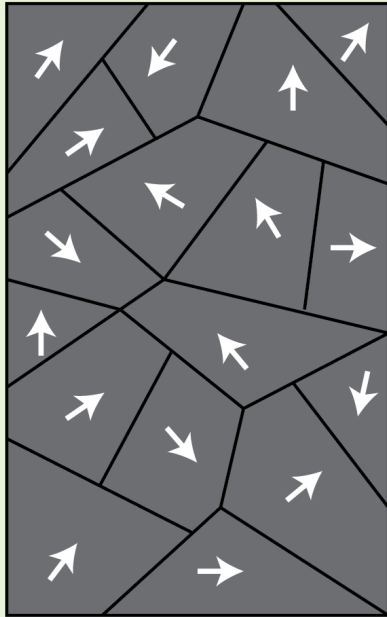
Examples: nails, fridge doors, anything that sticks to a magnet



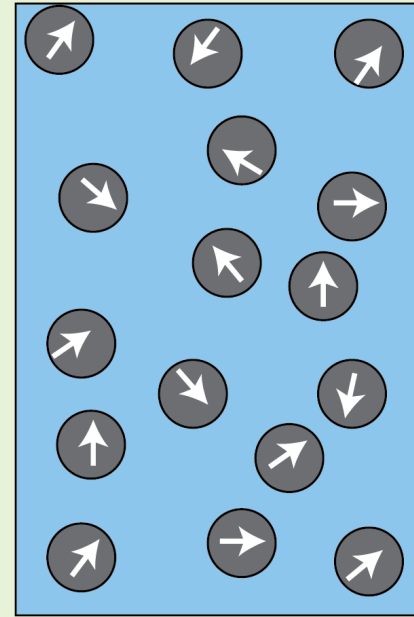
Basically, magnets are ferromagnetic materials that have been magnetized

Ferrofluids – How Do They Work?

The magnetic particles in a ferrofluid are so small that they each contain only 1 magnetic domain!

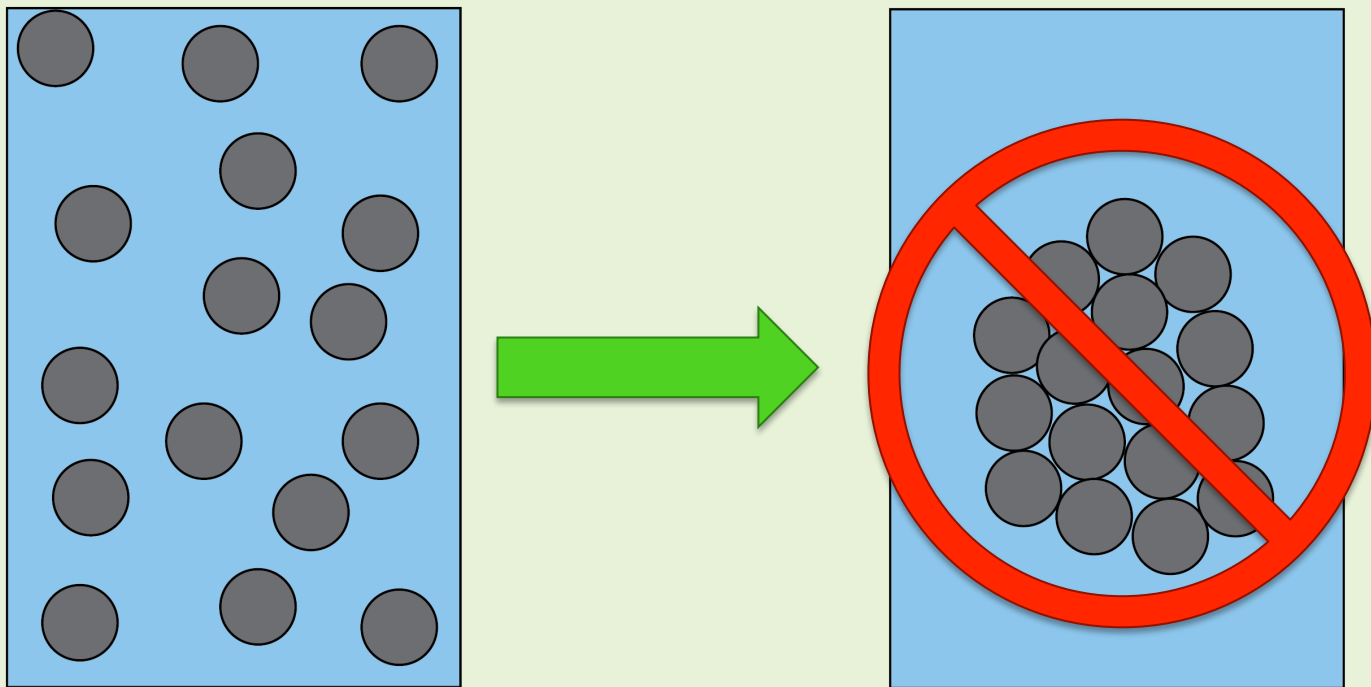


Bulk ferromagnetic material



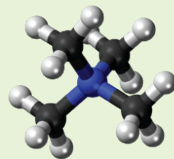
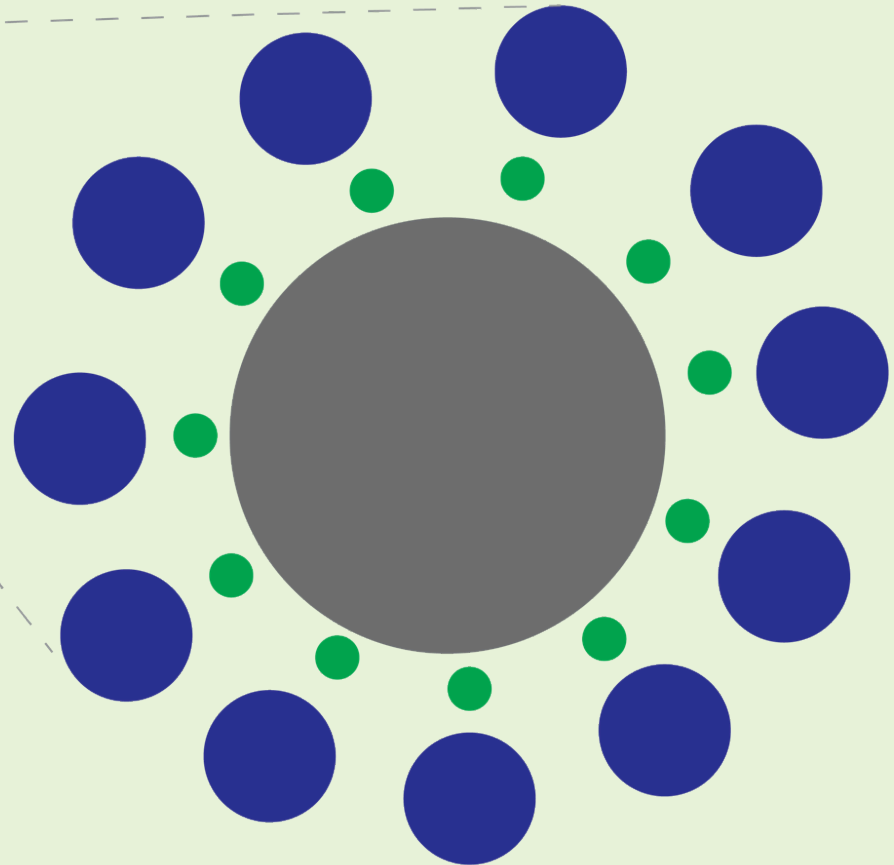
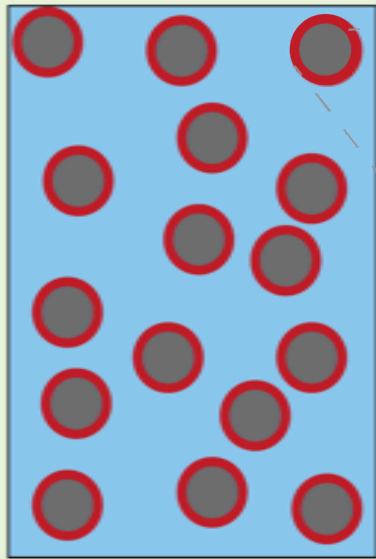
Ferromagnetic nanoparticles in a fluid

Ferrofluids – How Do They Work?



Need to prevent clumping/aggregation!

Ferrofluids – How Do They Work?



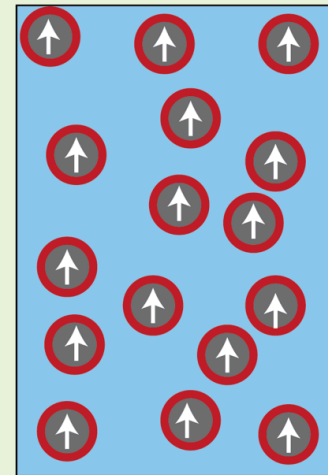
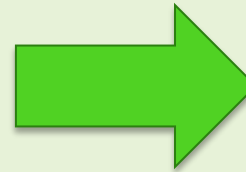
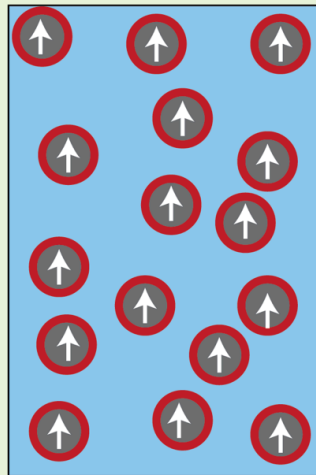
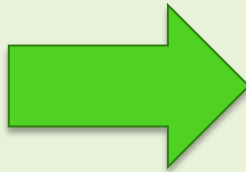
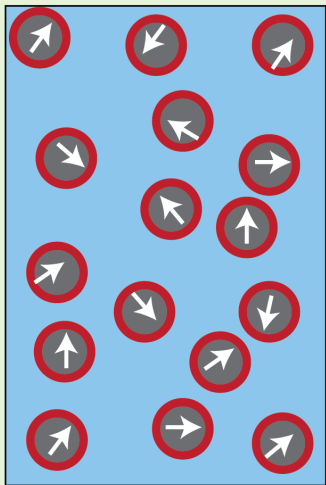
→ Tetramethylammonium
(positively charged)



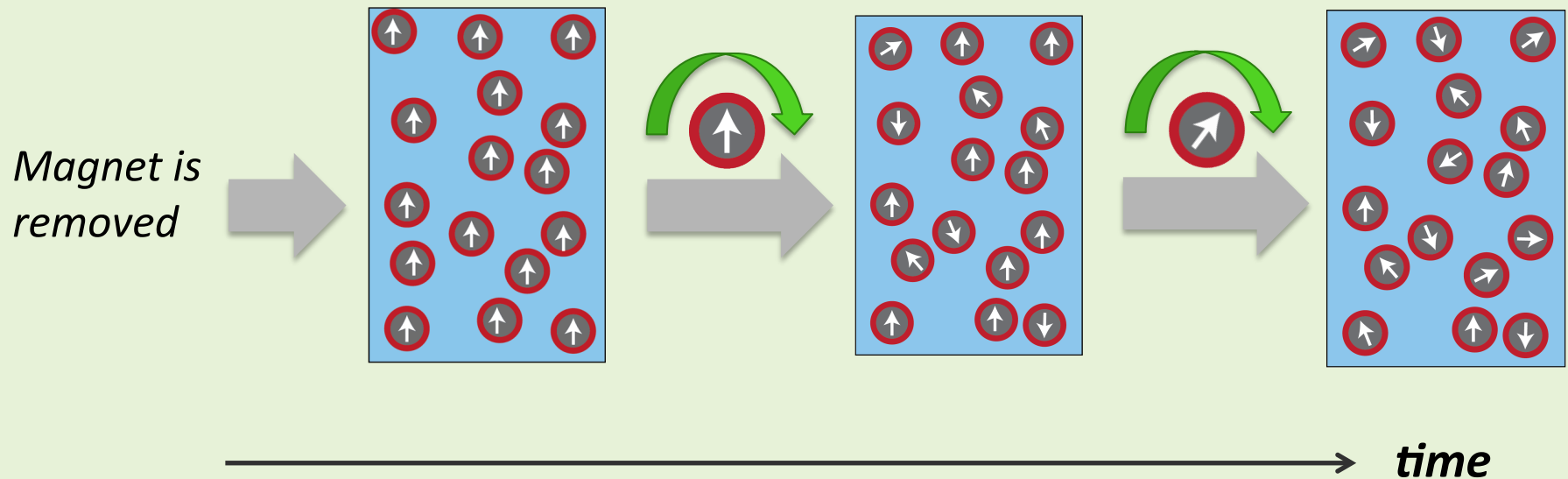
Hydroxide
(negatively charged)

Ferrofluids – Why Are They Special?

Ferromagnetic nanoparticles respond to a magnet the same way a bulk ferromagnetic material does

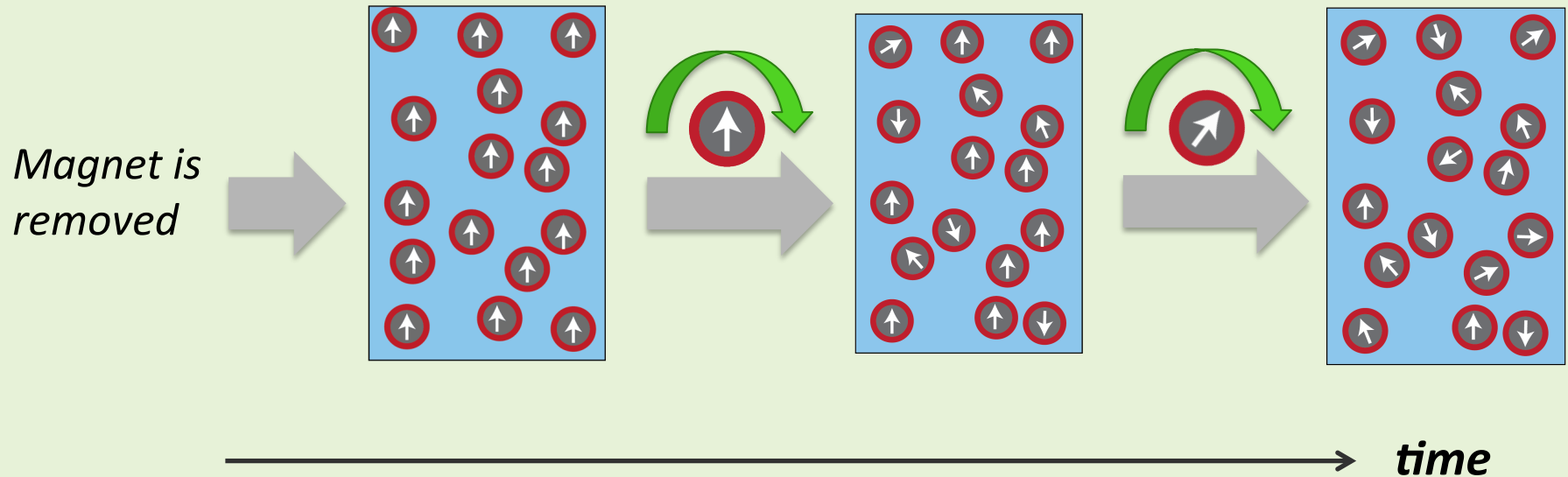


Ferrofluids – Why Are They Special?



Unlike domains in large magnets, nanoparticles suspended in solution can rotate due to Brownian motion (which is always happening)

Ferrofluids – Why Are They Special?



It only takes 10-100 micro-seconds (10-100 μs)
for the magnetization directions to change

Ferrofluids – Paramagnets!

Because ferrofluids don't retain their magnetization for long, they don't follow the definition of a ferromagnet

So, what are they??

The nanoparticles in ferrofluids are made of a *ferromagnetic material*

But the ferrofluid – a collection of these nanoparticles – is *paramagnetic*

Imaging and Disease Treatment

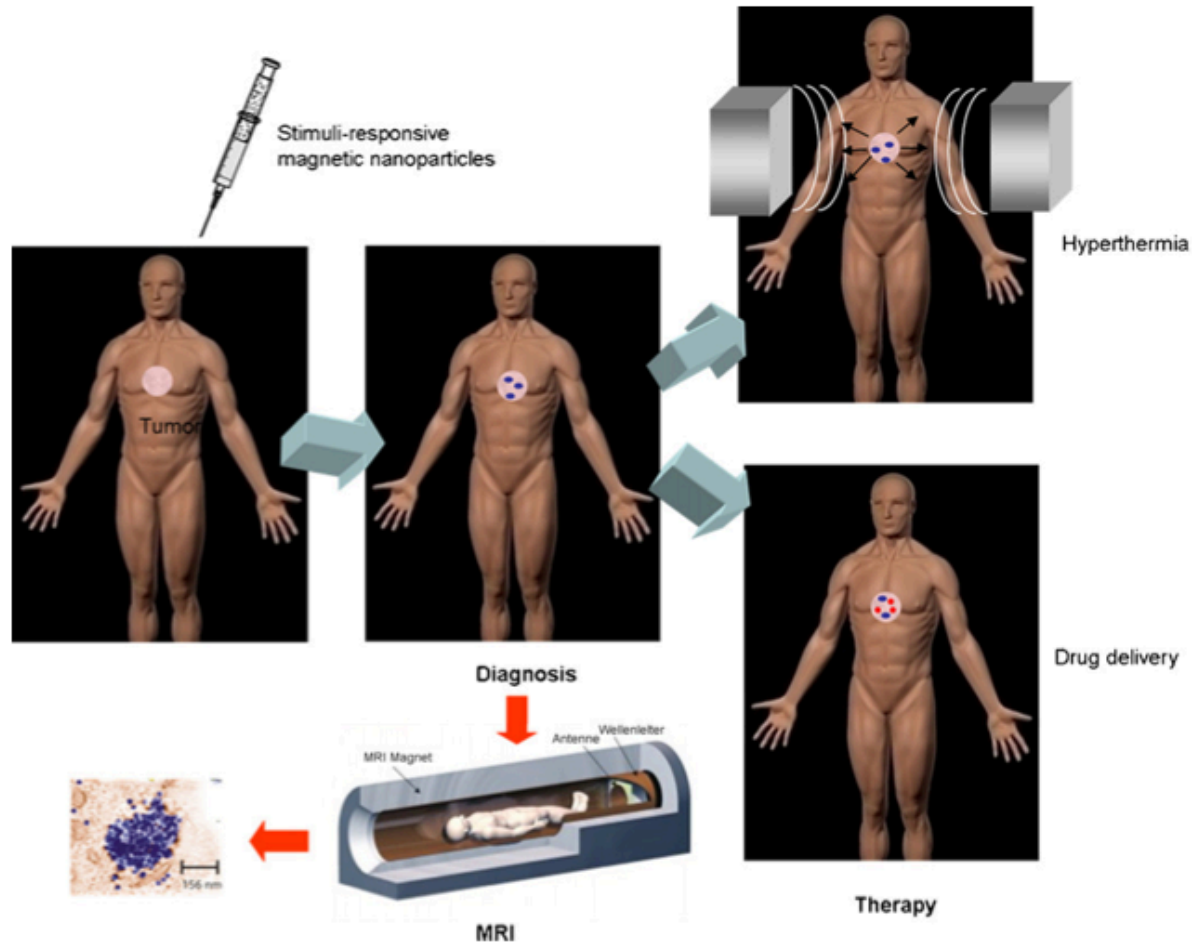
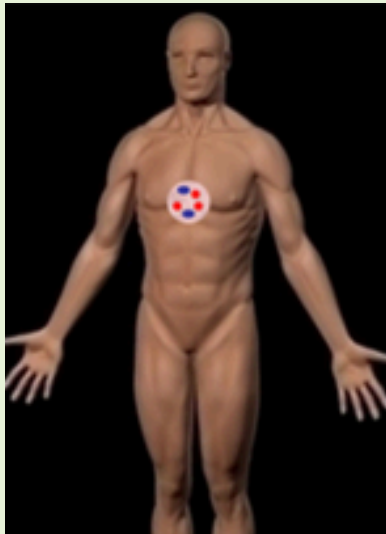
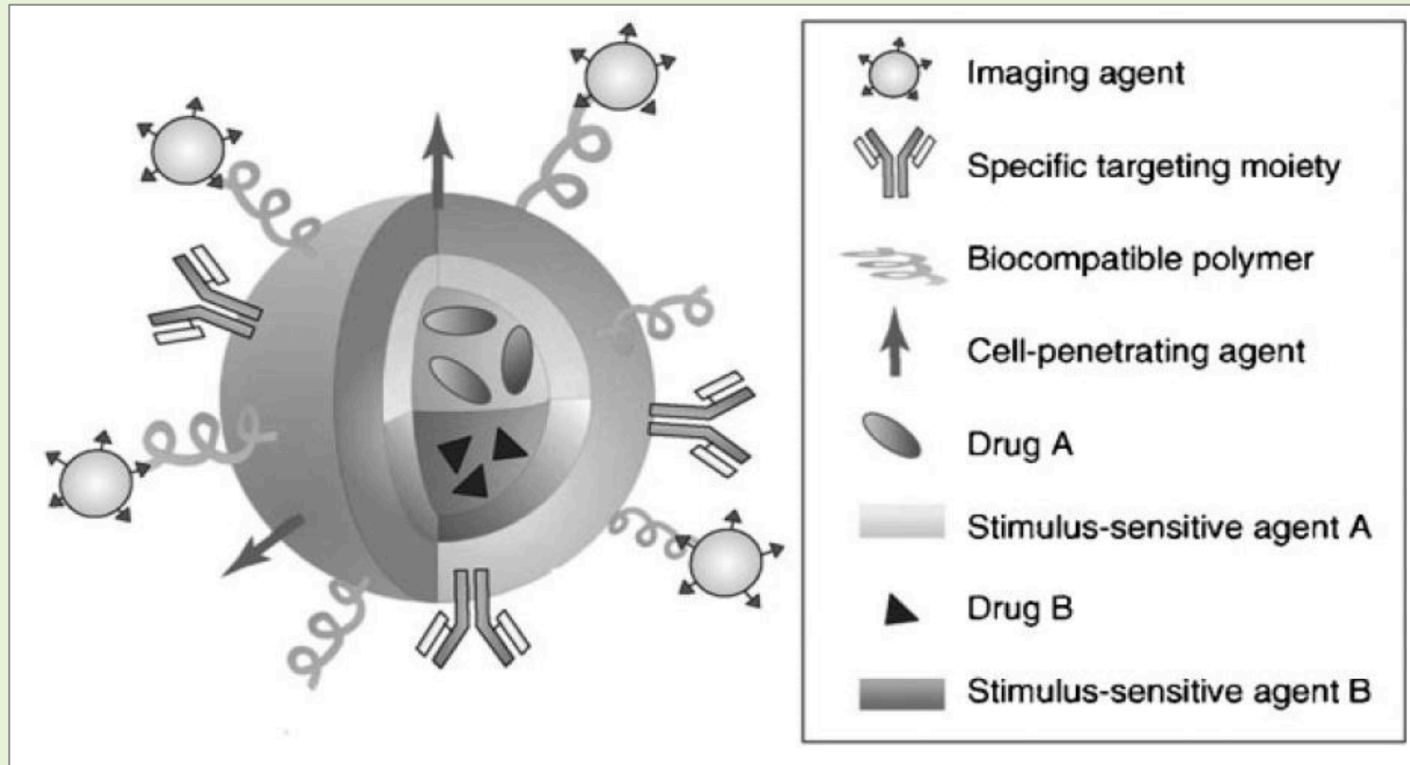
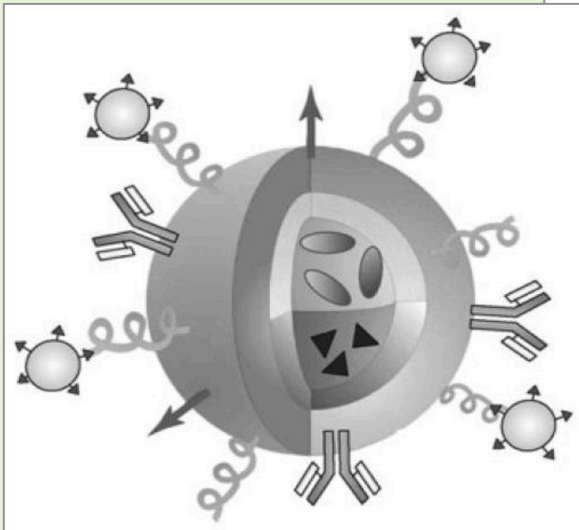
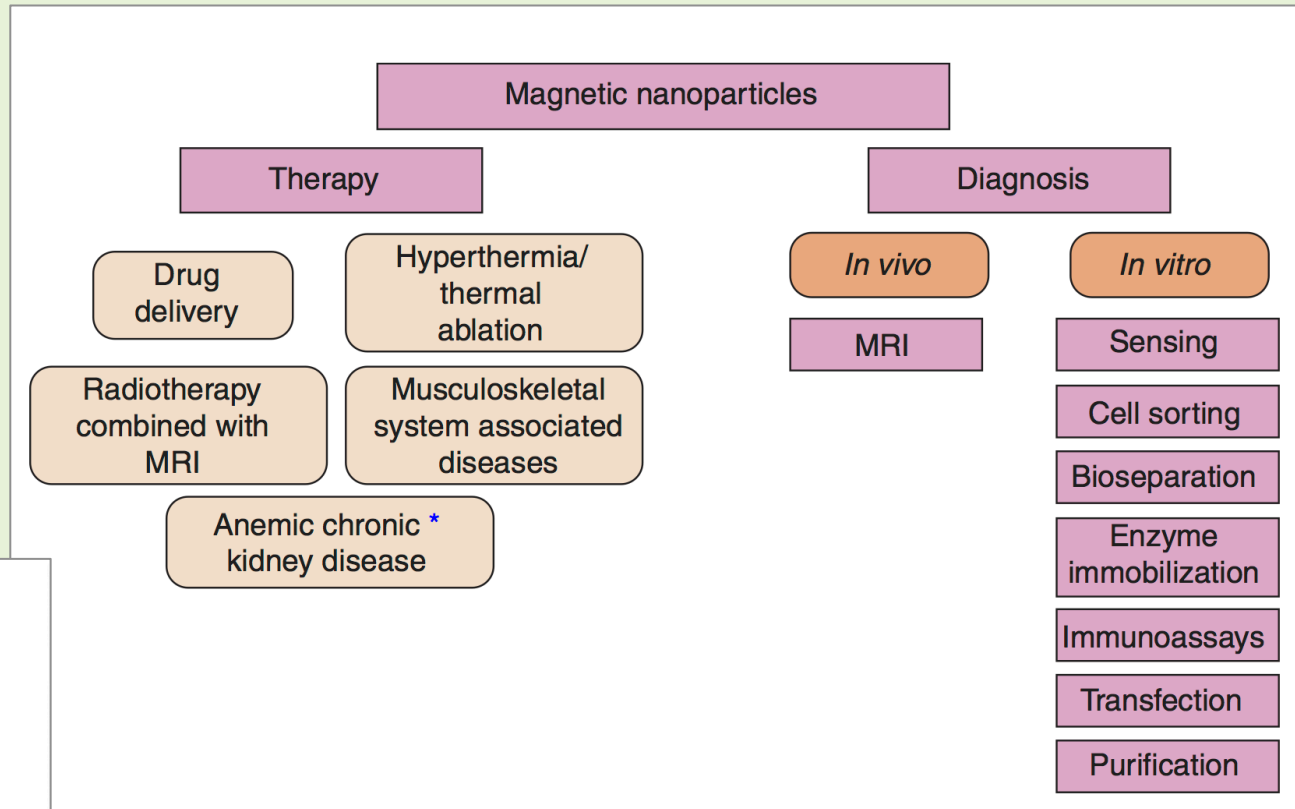


Fig. 15. Schematic representation of the drug-loaded magnetic nanoparticles localization by MRI followed by the treatment of the tumour either by hyperthermia or by the drug release.

Ferrofluids for Cancer Treatment



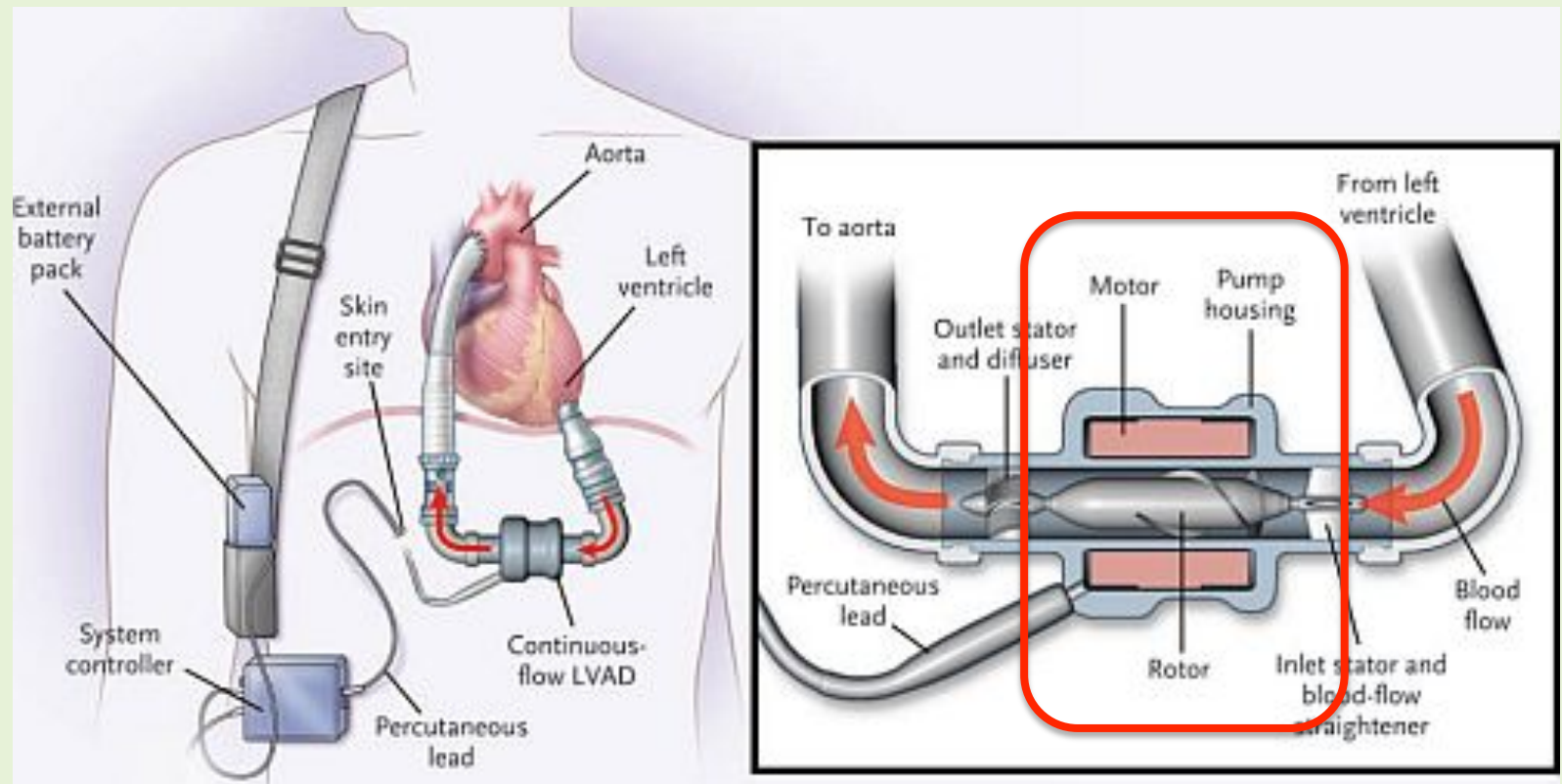
Ferrofluids for Cancer Treatment



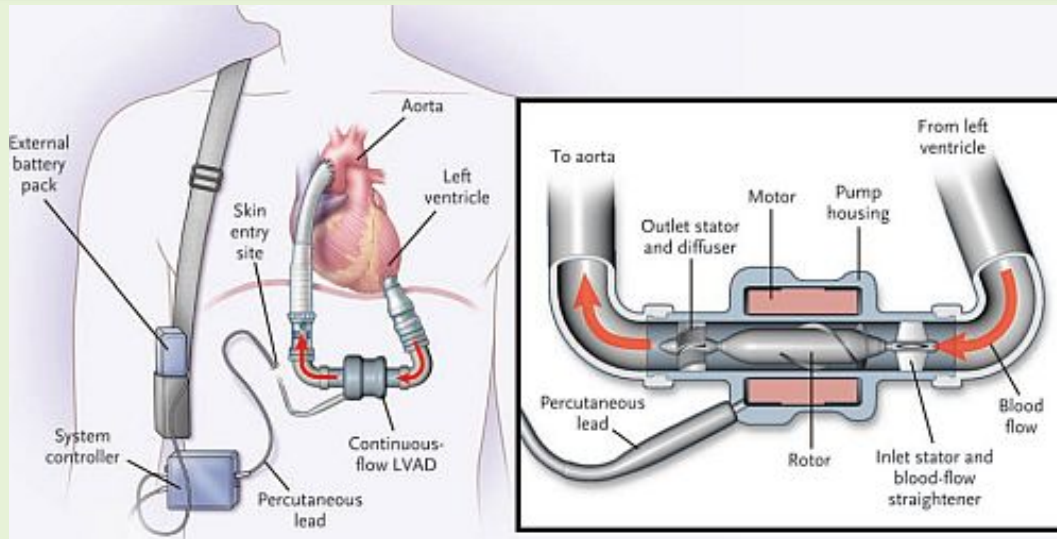
Arruebo et al, *Nano Today*, 2007

Mahapatro and Singh, *J Nanobiotechnology*, 2011

Applications of Ferrofluids: Artificial Heart (?)



Applications of Ferrofluids: Artificial Heart (?)

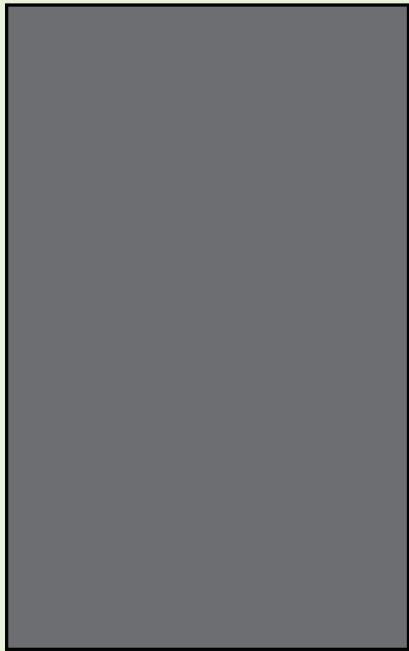


<http://www.popsci.com/technology/article/2012-08/new-artificial-heart-pump-acts-real-thing>

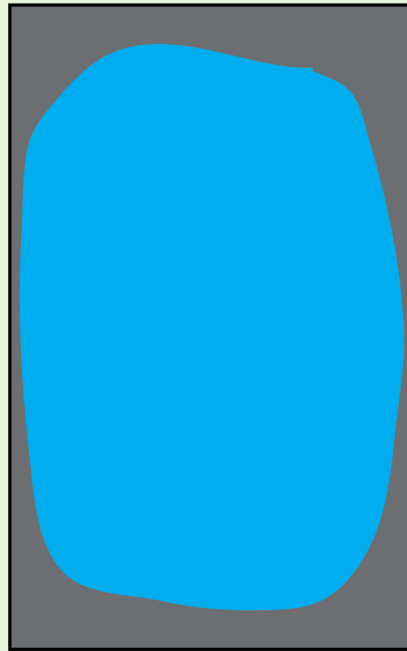


Imaging Magnetic Domains

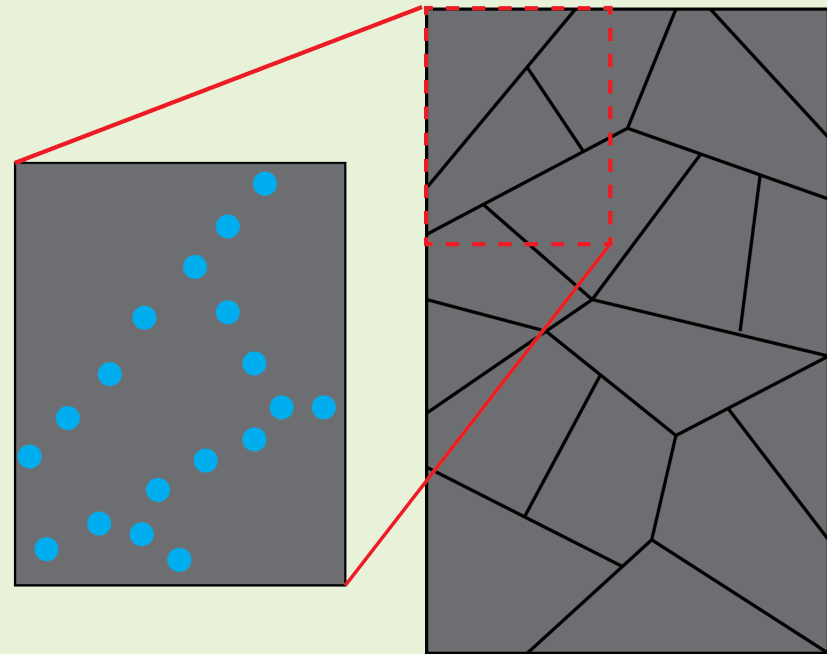
Sample with unknown magnetic structure



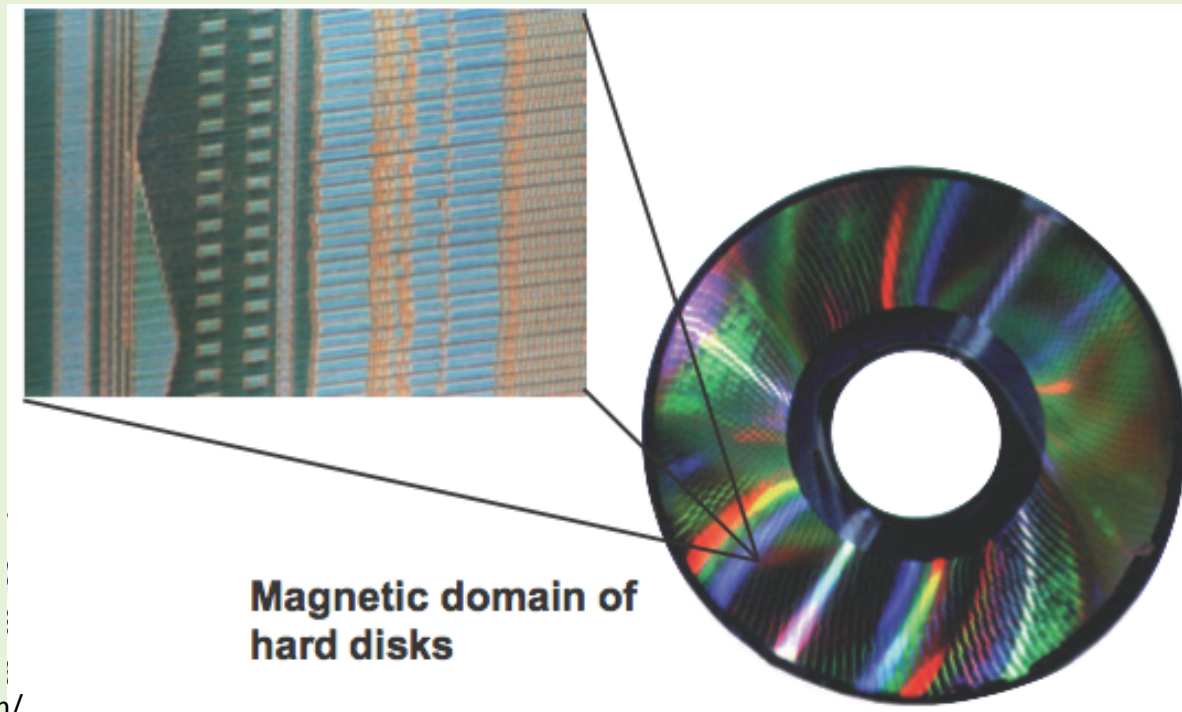
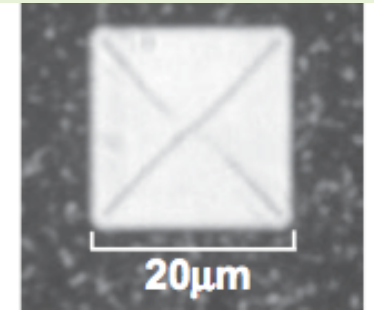
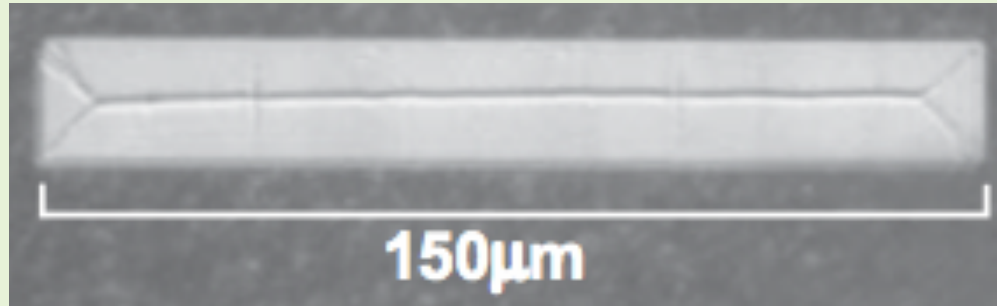
Drop ferrofluid on sample, then wait for solvent to evaporate



Magnetic particles conglomerate at boundaries, indicating domains



Imaging Magnetic Domains



Shear Thickening Fluids (Oobleck)

Exploring Materials— Oobleck

When is a liquid like a solid?

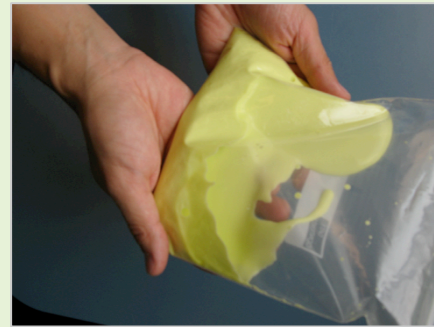


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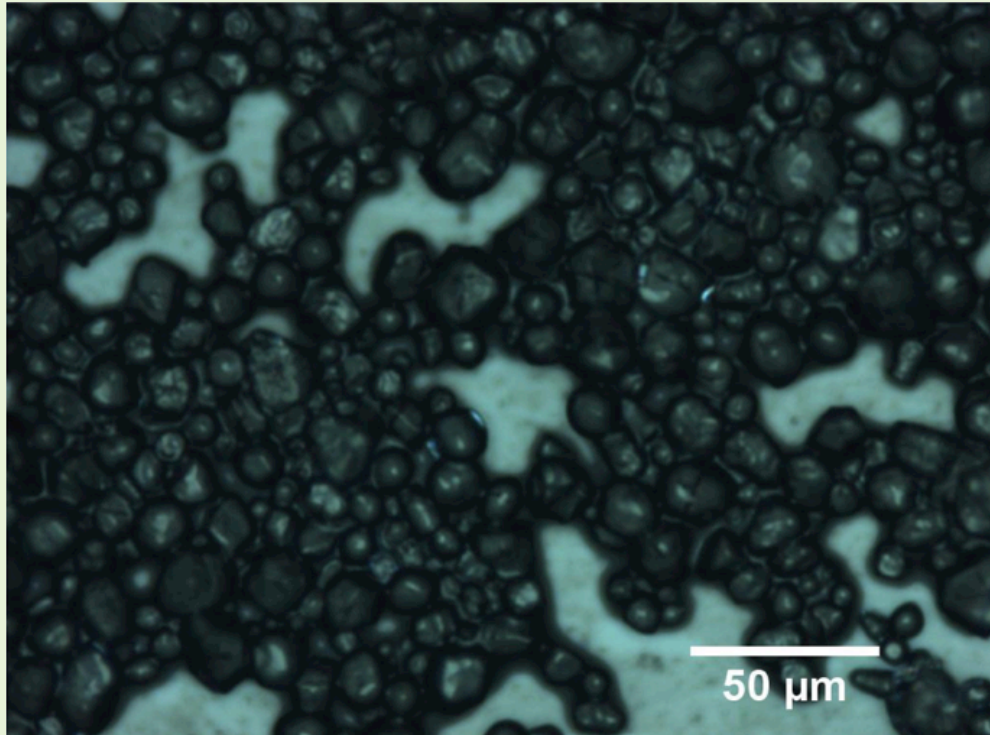
whatisnano.org

When you quickly apply a lot of pressure to Oobleck, like by tapping or squeezing, it firms up like a solid.

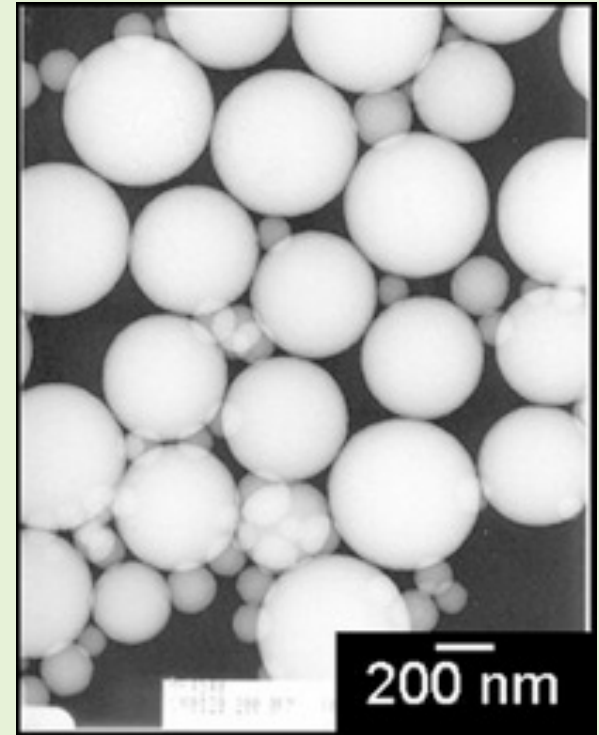
When no pressure is applied, it flows like a liquid.



What Fluids does Liquid Armor Use?

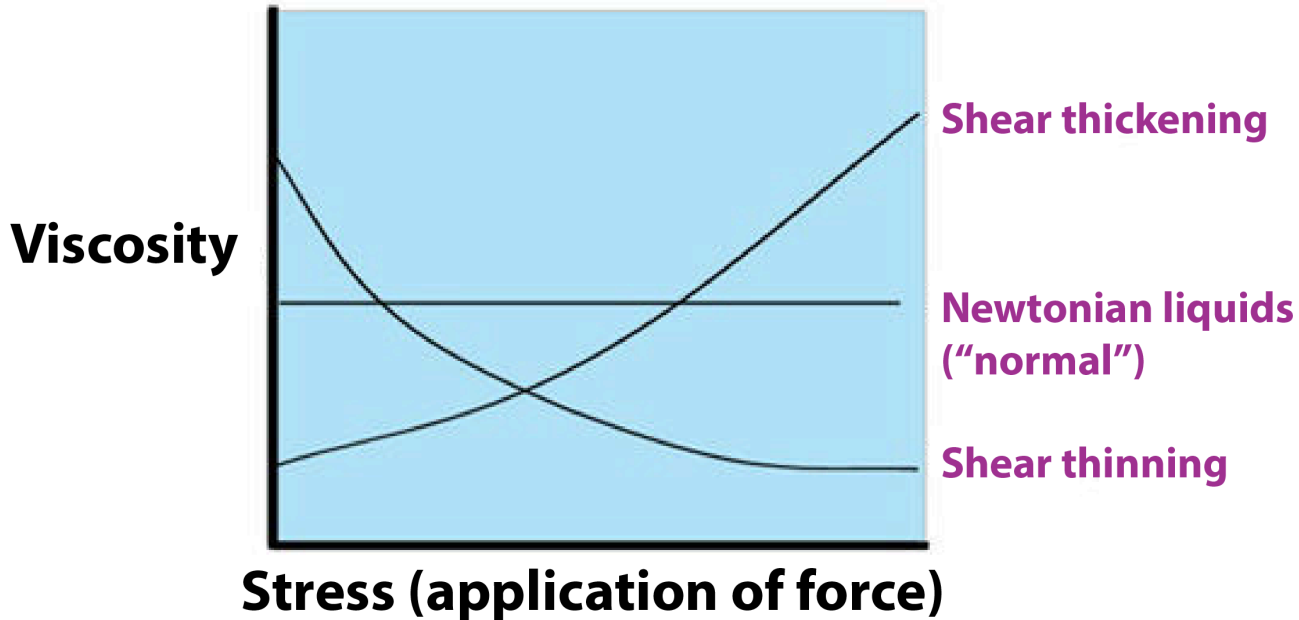


Oobleck (cornstarch and water)



Silica nanoparticles in ethylene glycol

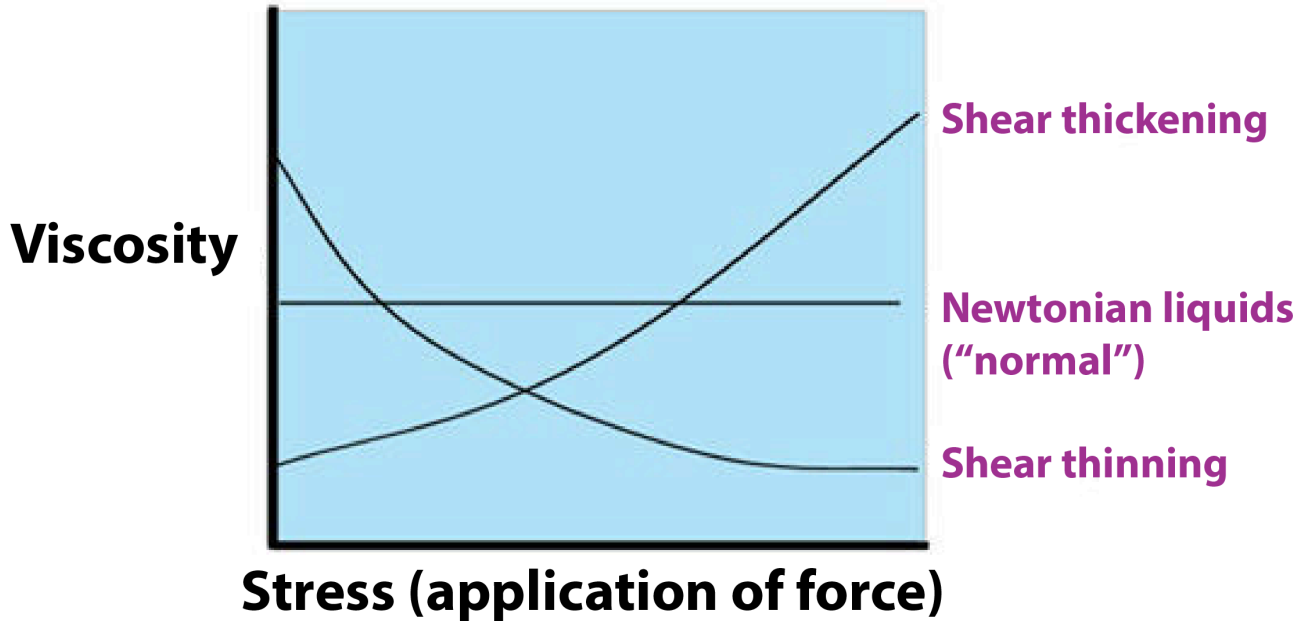
Science Behind Shear Thickening Fluids



The viscosity of certain fluids depends on whether they're under shear stress

Viscosity = resistance to flow → more viscous = thicker

Science Behind Shear Thickening Fluids



Newtonian:

water, milk, mineral oil, kerosene

Shear thinning:

ketchup, paint, blood, nail polish

Shear thickening:

Oobleck, Silly Putty, wet beach sand

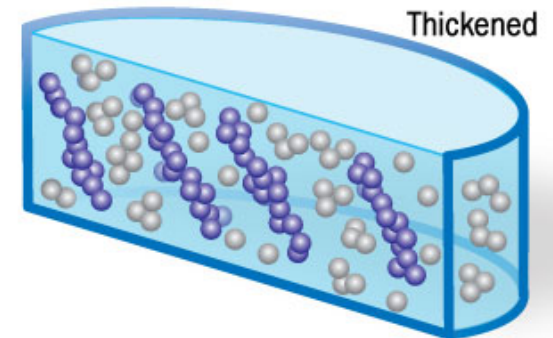
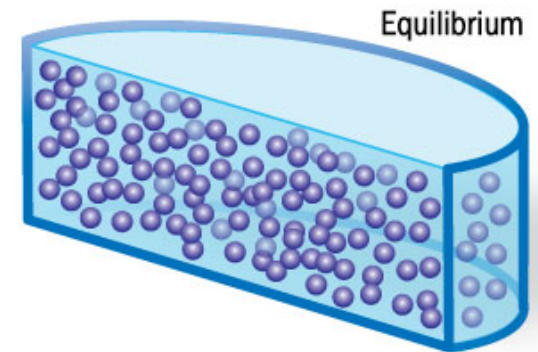
Science Behind Shear Thickening Fluids

Suspensions become thicker when...

- (For certain fluids) A shear stress is applied
- The volume fraction of particles is increased
- The volume fraction is kept constant, but smaller particles are used

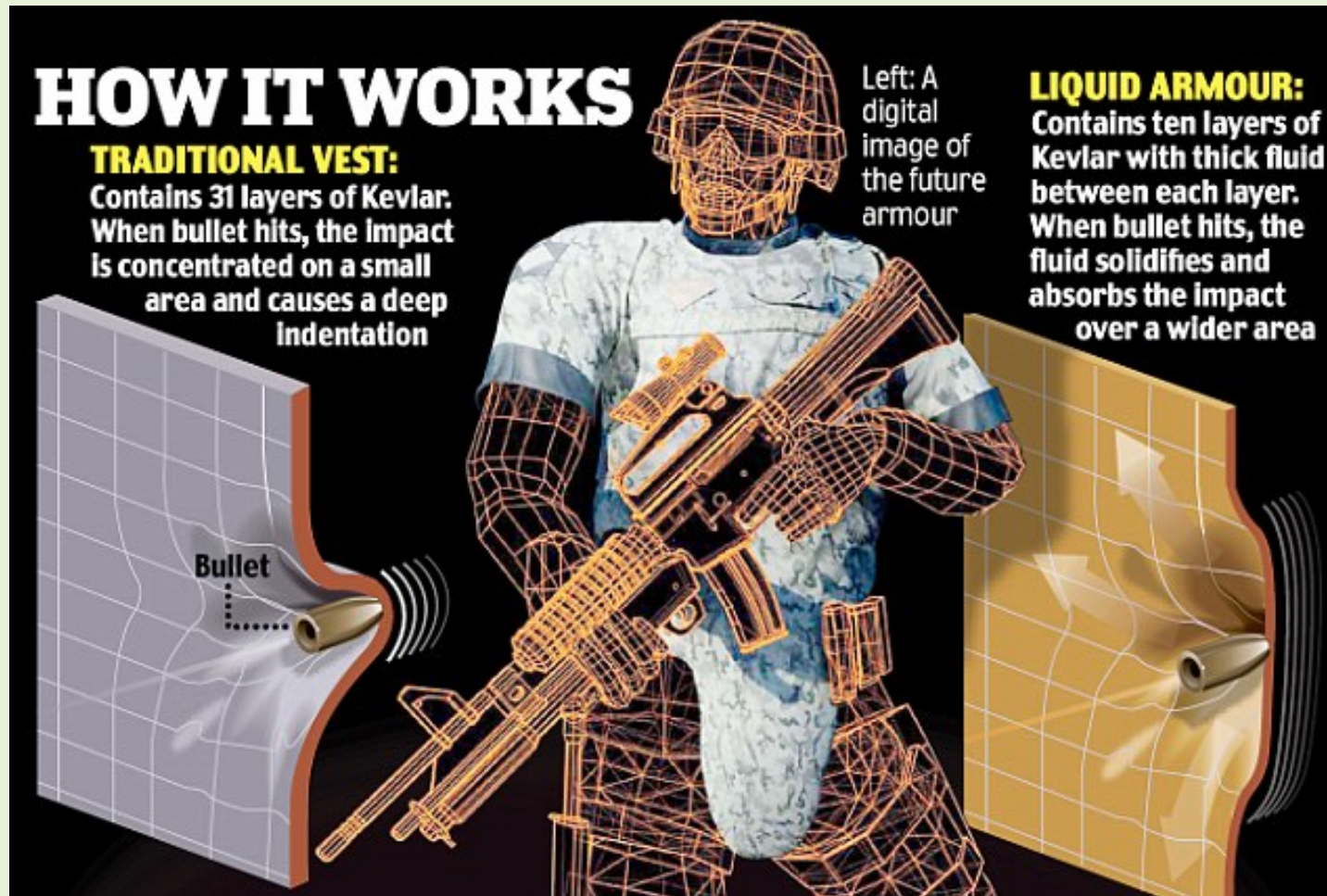
**More particle-particle interactions
= higher viscosity (thicker fluids)**

Shear-thickening fluid



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Liquid Armor



Horse Boots and Hip Protectors



<http://www.popsci.com/beanie/article/2006-02/better-headgear-through-chemistry>

Ski cap



<http://files.mcrcsafety.com/specs/products/gloves/ZB100L.php>

Safety gloves – *applications include* impact tools, jack hammer, vibrating tools, carpentry, demolition, grinding, heavy equipment operators

Safety Gloves and Protective Footwear



<http://www.d3o.com/markets/footwear/>

Protective footwear



<http://www.popsci.com/entertainment-gaming/article/2008-03/pumas-crazy-chemistry-ball>

Soccer ball

Pointe (Ballet) Shoes



As featured in *Popular Science*

<http://www.popsci.com/score/article/2008-05/modern-twist-ancient-shoe>

After hundreds of years, there's finally a new way to make pointe shoes!

http://www.capuletworld.com/pointe_d3o_evolution.htm

Other Applications

Shear thickening fluids can also

- Limit vibration during an earthquake or windstorm
- Protect power and phone lines from being cut or punctured

Future Applications



Issues with Liquid Body Armor

Basically, the shear thickening fluid can evaporate and leak out of the fabric

Drawbacks:

Evaporation

Sensitivity to humidity

Reduced permeability

Related Topics

- **Magnetism (related to Ferrofluid)**
 - Exploring Products – Computer Hard Drives (2014)
 - Exploring Tools – Mystery Shapes (2013)
 - Exploring Tools – Special Microscopes (2011)
- **Colloidal solutions (related to both)**
 - Exploring Materials: Nano Gold (2012)
- **Smart Materials (related to both)**
 - Exploring Properties: Electric Squeeze (2014)
 - Exploring Products: Liquid Crystal Display (2013)
 - Exploring Materials: Memory Metal (2013)

Science Behind NanoDays: Part 2

March 18th, 10am PST

Check out the NanoDays 2014 Training Videos:

http://www.nisenet.org/blog/nanodays/nanodays_2014_training_videos_now_available

Cool! Ferrofluid Soap Bubbles



<https://vimeo.com/28304264>

Ferrofluids: Other Applications

- Damping vibrations and dissipating heat (in loud speakers)
- Seals for computer hard drives
- Adaptive liquid lenses

Horse Boots and Hip Protectors



<http://www.d3o.com/markets/sports/>

Horse boots



<http://www.d3o.com/markets/industrial-and-medical/>

Flexible and comfortable
hip protectors