

## Nanodiamond and Lubrication Applications

Jason Ballengee January, 2014 AIChE Dallas Chapter Meeting

## SP3 NANOTECH, LLC

- Founded To Commercialize New Markets For Nano-materials
  - Research, Develop And Then Spin-out New Nanotechnologies
  - Focused On Additives That *Enhance* Existing Materials
- Core Competencies
  - Working With Low-aspect Ratio Nano-materials
  - Developing Surface Chemistry For Functionalization Of Nano-materials
- Nanodiamond (Adamight<sup>™</sup> LS) for enhancing lubricants is our first product
  - Lubricants: Reduce friction, reduce wear

## FRICTION AND WEAR: A \$664 Billion Problem

- Current estimates: 2-6% of GDP lost to friction and wear
- ~1% of GDP could be saved
  - ~\$166 Billion in the U.S. alone
  - ~\$664 Billion worldwide
- US Lubricants Industry: \$18.7 Billion revenue in 2013



enduracoatings.com/low-friction.html



gilsonsnowblowers.com/snowparts3.html

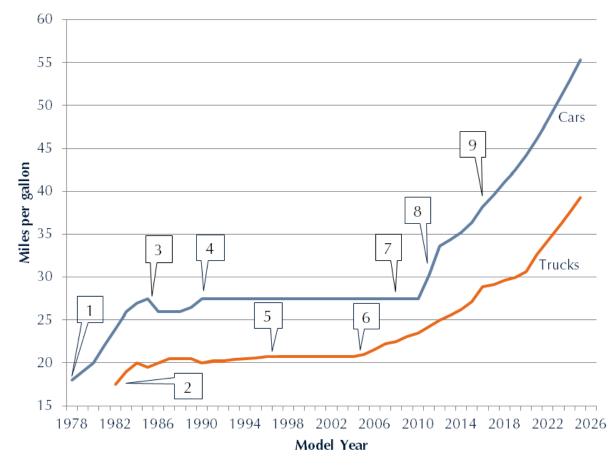
IBISWorld Industry Report 32419 Lubricant Oil Manufacturing in the US

# MOTIVATION FOR IMPROVED LUBRICANTS IN AUTOMOTIVE APPLICATIONS (53% OF U.S. LUBRICANTS MARKET)

- Higher CAFE standards
  - 54.5 MPG by 2025 (Currently 35.5 MPG)

Longer Oil Change Intervals

- 3,000 miles  $\rightarrow$  7,500 miles  $\rightarrow$  15,000 miles



http://www.altenergystocks.com/archives/2011/07/aggressive\_new\_cafe\_standards\_the\_ic\_empire\_strikes\_back.html

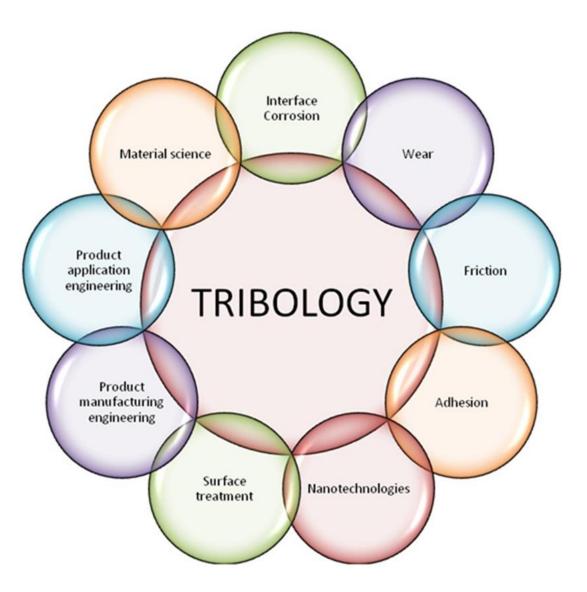
## OUTLINE

- Lubrication/Tribology Basics
- Overview of Nanodiamond
- Application of Nanodiamond to Lubrication
- Application of Nanodiamond to Polymer Composites

# Some Basics of Tribology

Tribology - a study that deals with the design, **friction**, **wear**, and lubrication of interacting surfaces in relative motion (as in bearings or gears)<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>merriam-webster.com



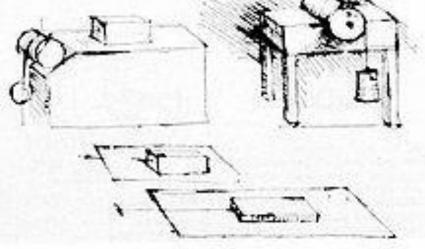
ins-thai.com/customers.html

## TRIBOLOGY: AN ANCIENT ART

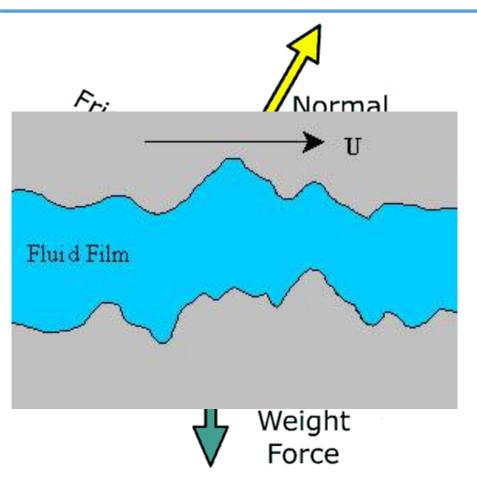


Egyptians transporting a statue and placing a lubricant (probably water) underneath the sled





FRICTION



www.stmary.ws/highschool/physics/home/notes/dynamics/fri ction/introFriction.htm

www.stle.org/resources/lubelearn/lubrication/

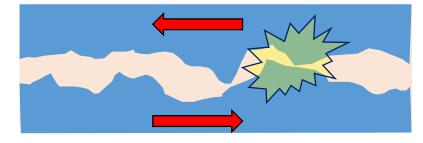
# $F_f = \mu F_n$

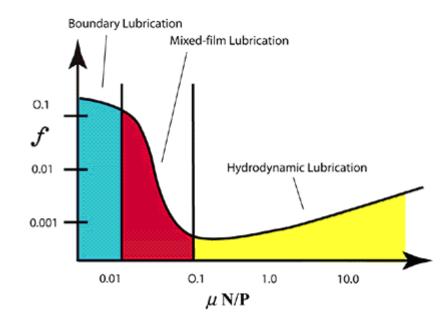
 $F_f = Frictional Force$   $F_n = Normal Force$  $\mu = Coefficient of Friction (CoF)$ 

## FRICTION/LUBRICATION REGIMES

# Hydrodynamic Lubrication

#### **Boundary Lubrication**





- f= coefficient of friction
- $\mu$  = viscosity
- N = speed
- P = Pressure

## OUTLINE

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- Overview of Nanodiamond
- Application of Nanodiamond to Tribology/Lubrication
- Application of Nanodiamond to Polymer Composites

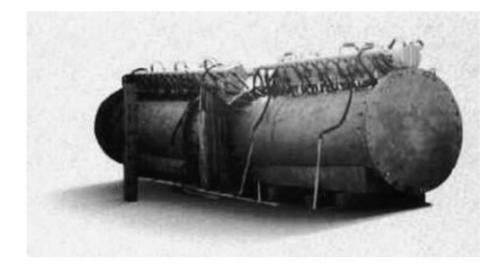
## Nanodiamond





## DETONATION NANODIAMOND PRODUCTION

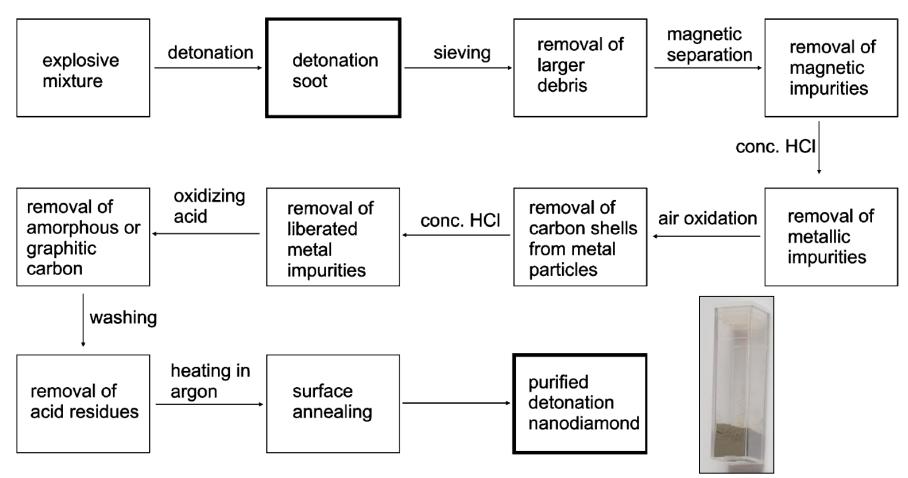
- Production technique developed by Russian scientist in 1960's
- Briefly expose graphitic carbon to highpressure/high-temperatures (i.e. explosion)
- Produce nanoparticles of diamond
- Highly aggregated
- Until recently, primary application was as a polishing compound



Industrial Scale Nanodiamond Reactor

A. Krueger, J. of Mater. Chem., 2008, 18, 1485-1492

## POST-EXPLOSION PROCESSING

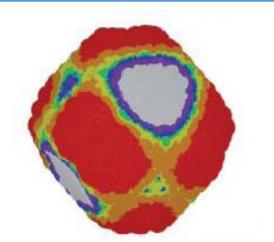


Scheme 1 Example for the purification process of detonation soot for the production of detonation nanodiamond.

J. Mater. Chem., 2008, 18, 1485–1492 | 1487

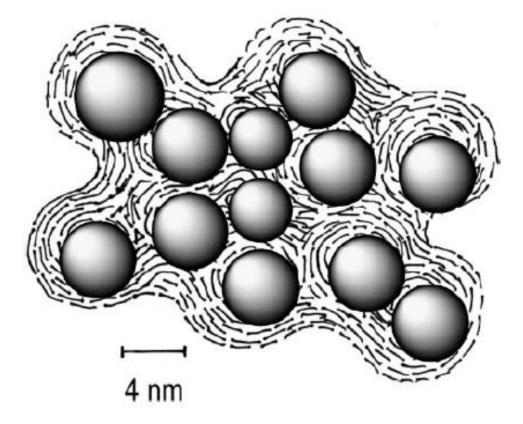
## PURIFIED NANODIAMOND MATERIAL PROPERTIES

- Spheroid core crystals, <10nm
- High modulus diamond core
- High thermal conductivity
- Good dielectric properties
- Surface amenable to chemical modification/tailoring
- Synthetic product large potential supply
- Bio- and eco-friendly



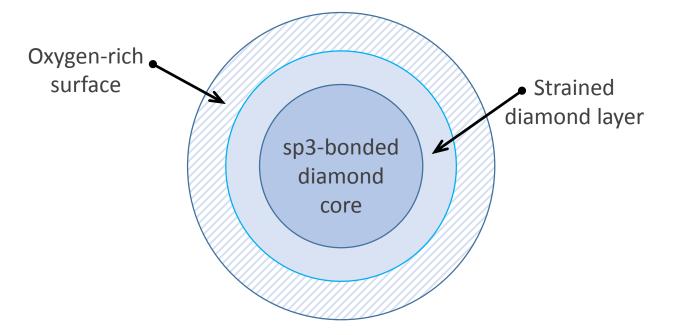
Banard, A. S., Journal of Materials Chemistry 2008, 18, 4038-4041

## NANODIAMOND'S 1<sup>ST</sup> PROBLEM = AGGREGATION & POOR DISPERSION



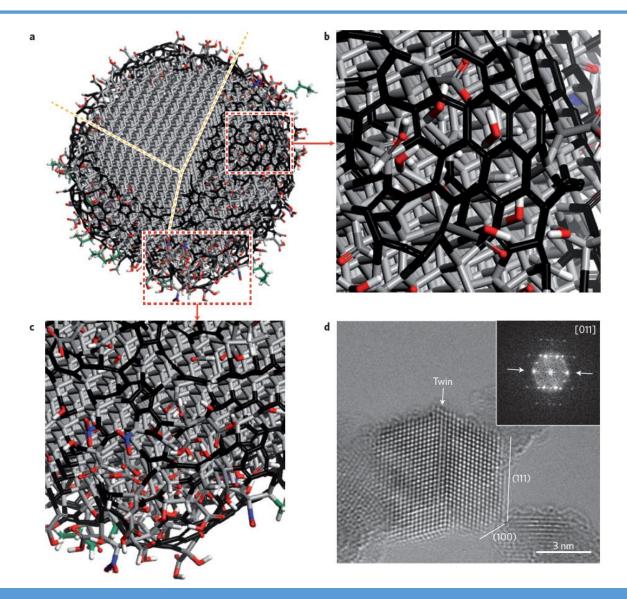
- Abrasive
- Quickly settles/falls out of solution

## WHY DOES NANODIAMOND AGGREGATE?



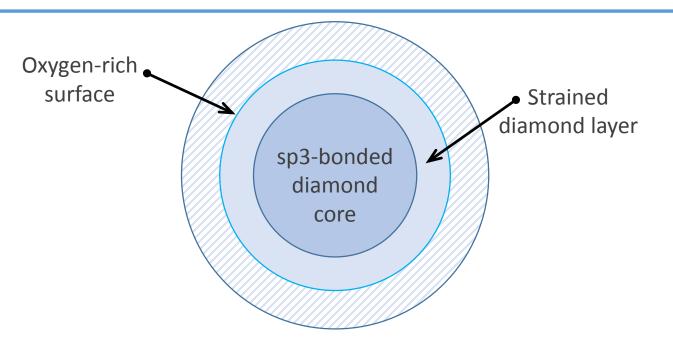
Adapted from: Holt, K. B., *Philisophical Transactions of the Royal Society, A* **2007**, 365, (1861), 2845-2861.

## NANODIAMOND'S AGGREGATION

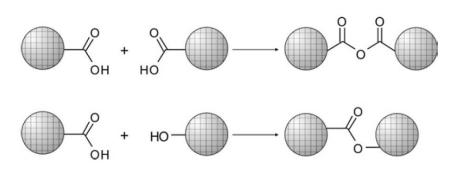


- Diamond (carbon) = gray
- Graphite (carbon) = black
- Oxygen = red
- Hydrogen = white
- Nitrogen = blue

## NANODIAMOND'S AGGREGATION



Adapted from: Holt, K. B.,. *Philisophical Transactions of the Royal Society, A* **2007**, 365, (1861), 2845-2861.

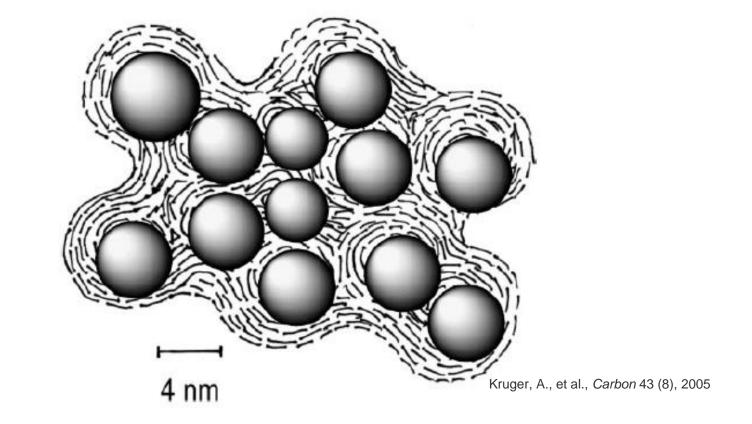


**Fig. 7** A possible structure model for diamond agglomerates in detonation diamond.

J. Mater. Chem., 2008, 18, 1485–1492 | 1487

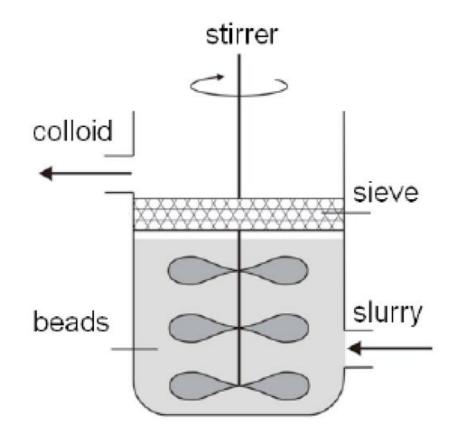
• Aggregation may be aggravated by intra-particle covalent bonding

## NANODIAMOND'S AGGREGATION



- Abrasive
- Quickly settles/falls out of solution

## FIRST KEY TO NANODIAMOND'S POTENTIAL = DE-AGGREGATION

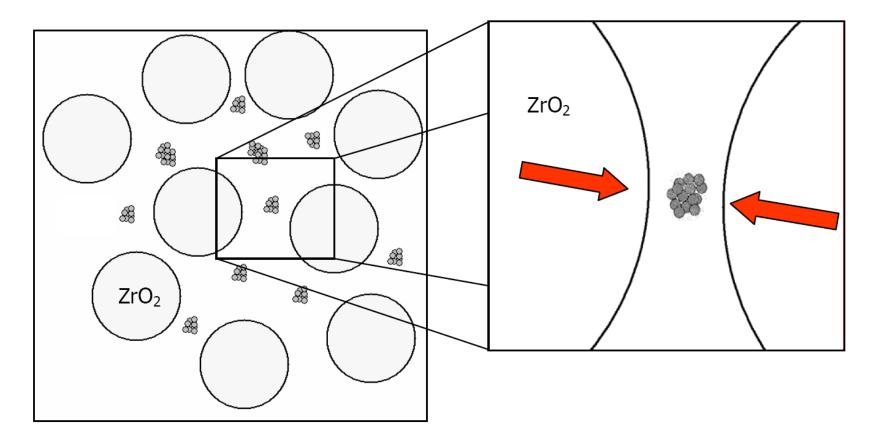


• Stirred media milling

• Zirconia Beads

Krueger et al., physica status solida, 2007, 204 (9), 2881-2887

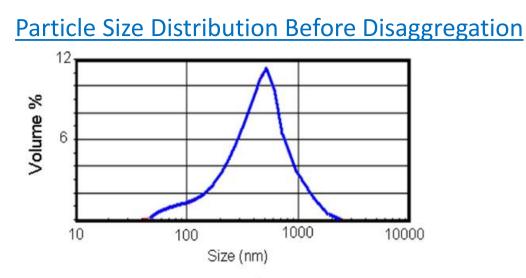
## FIRST KEY TO NANODIAMOND'S POTENTIAL = DE-AGGREGATION



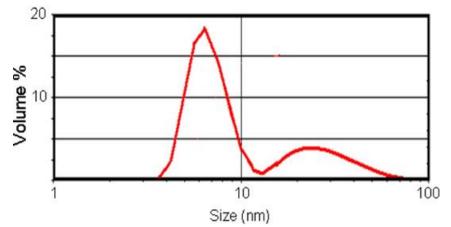
Branson, B., FLUIDS AND POLYMER COMPOSITES COMPRISING DETONATION NANODIAMOND, 2010

• Colliding zirconia beads break-up nanodiamond

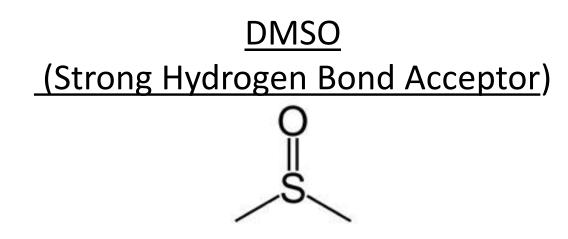
## **DE-AGGREGATION IN DMSO**



#### Particle Size Distribution After Disaggregation



Branson et al, ACS NANO, 2013, 7, (4).



#### **Before/After Pictures**



## WHAT ABOUT OTHER SOLVENTS, I.E. WATER OR OILS, ETC.?

**DMSO** 







#### MOST MAKE NANODIAMOND COMPATIBLE WITH MORE FLUIDS FOR COMMERCIAL APPLICATIONS

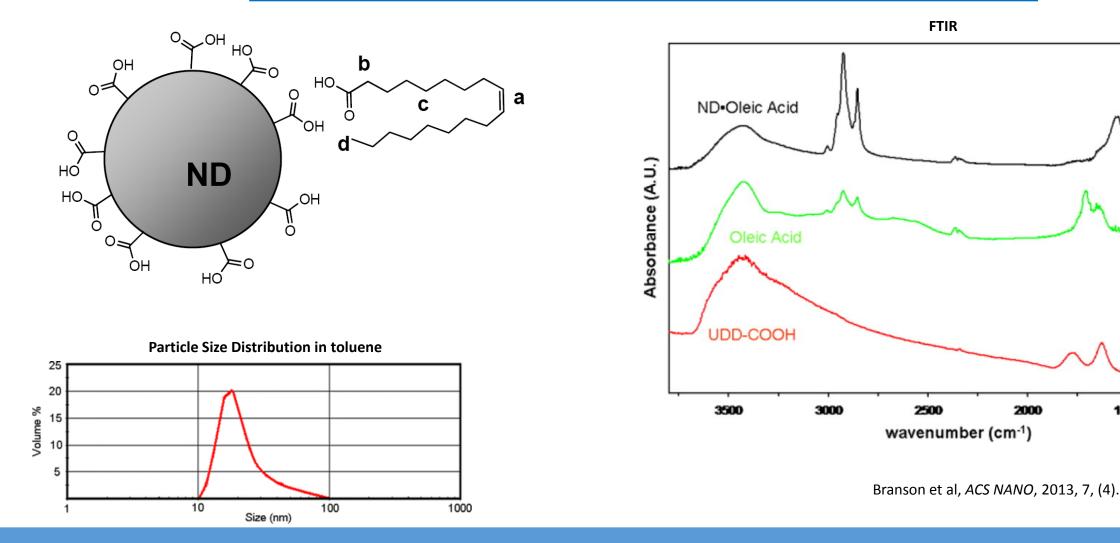
## SECOND KEY TO NANODIAMOND'S POTENTIAL = SURFACE **FUNCTIONALIZATION**

FUNCTIONALIZATION FOR HYDROCARBON SOLVENTS

FTIR

2500

2000

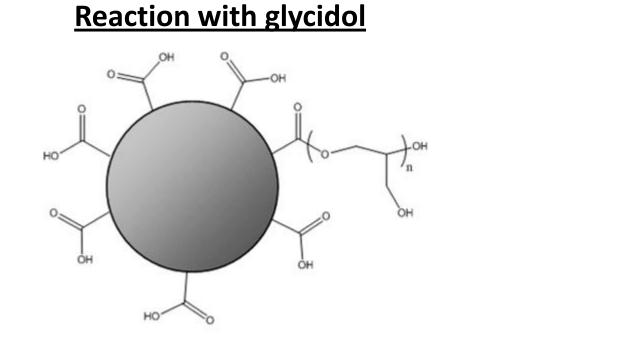


1000

1500

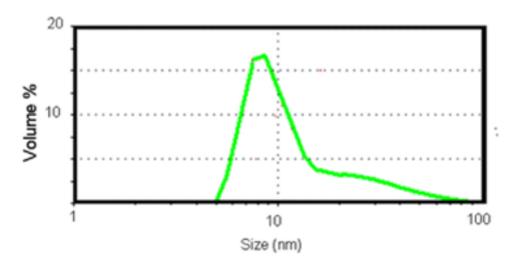
## SECOND KEY TO NANODIAMOND'S POTENTIAL = SURFACE FUNCTIONALIZATION

#### **FUNCTIONALIZATION FOR POLAR SOLVENTS**



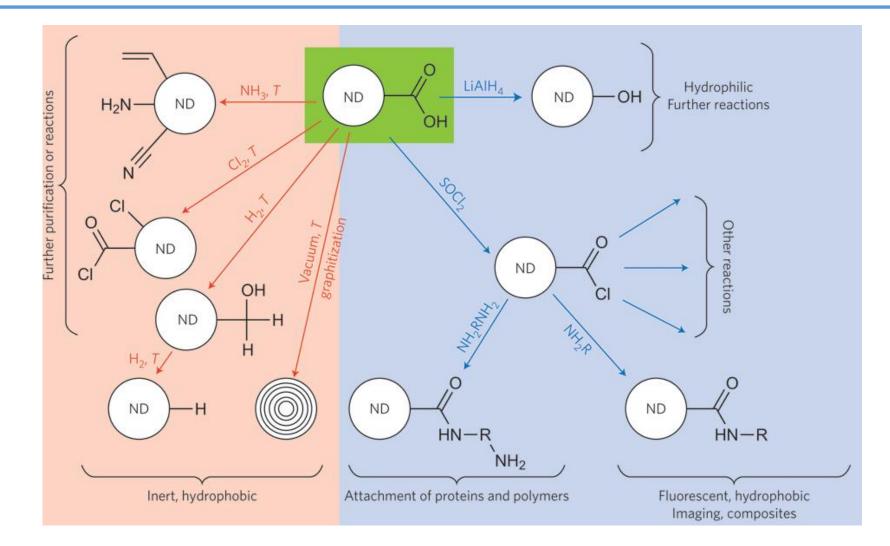
OH

#### **Particle Size Distribution in Water**



Branson et al, ACS NANO, 2013, 7, (4).

## OTHER FUNCTIONALIZATION ROUTES



Mochalin et al, Nature Nanotechnology, 2012, 7.

## CAN NOW DISPERSE IN A WIDE VARIETY OF FLUIDS

## **DMSO**



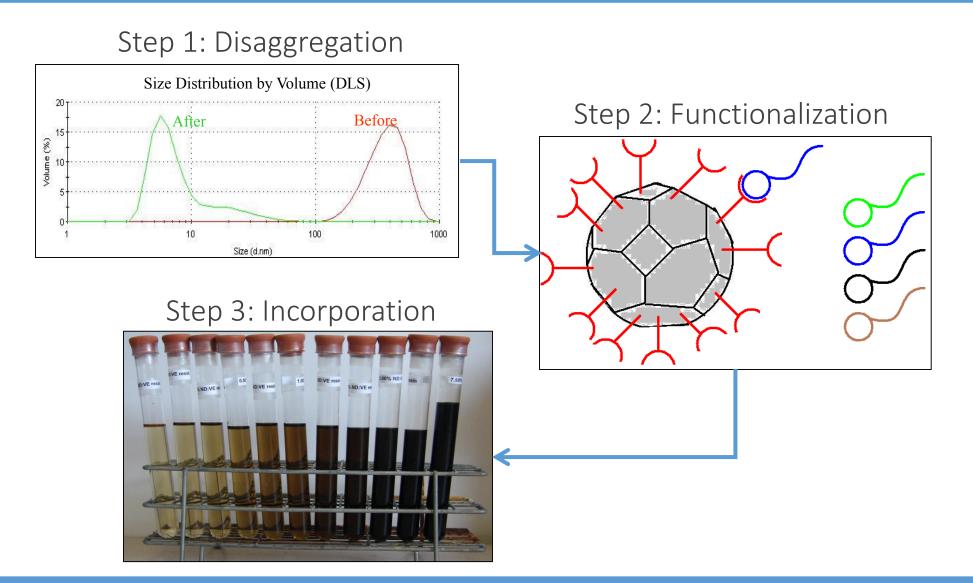
## Synthetic Oil



Water

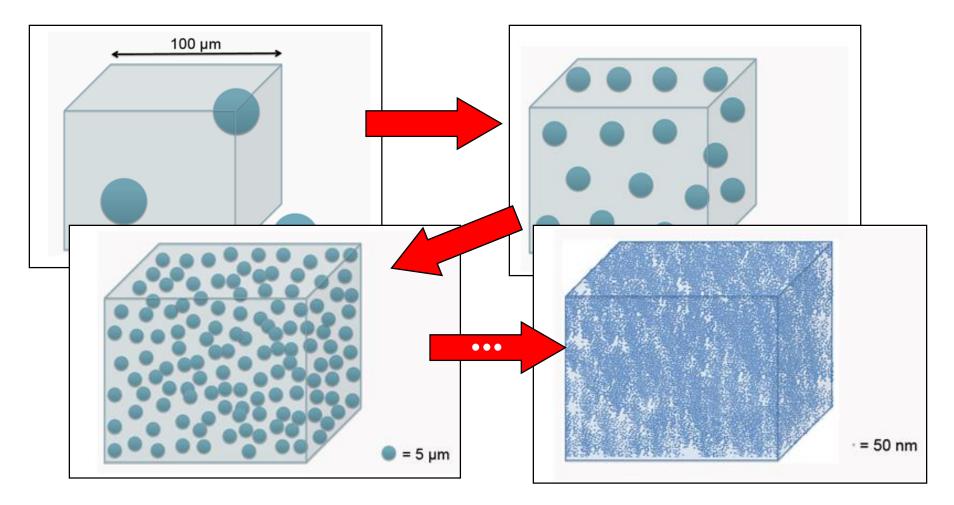


## SUMMARY: SP3'S THREE-STEP PROCESS TO PREPARE NANODIAMOND



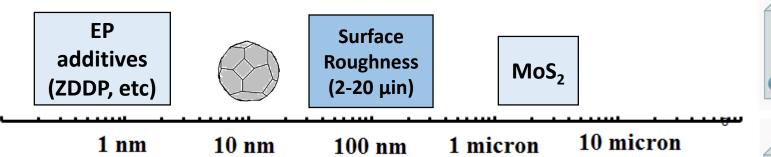
## WHY "NANO"?

• Specific number density is very high

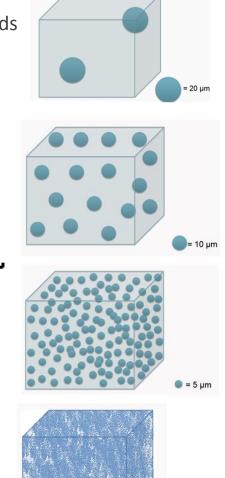


## WHY "NANO"?

- Nanodiamond (ND) Is The Right Size-scale To Best Match Surface Roughness
  - ND Is Larger Than Extreme Presure (EP) Additives such as Molecular Zinc-, Sulfur- Compounds
  - Smaller Than AF Additives such as Moly Disulfides
  - Small Doses = Enormous Numbers of Particles
    - @0.01 wt% (100 ppm), ~100 Trillion NDs/mL of Lube



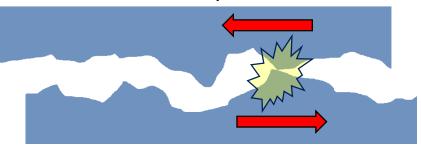
- Nanodiamond Is Not Consumed During Use
- Nanodiamond Does Not Change Bulk Fluid Viscosity at recommended concentrations (<100ppm)



100 um

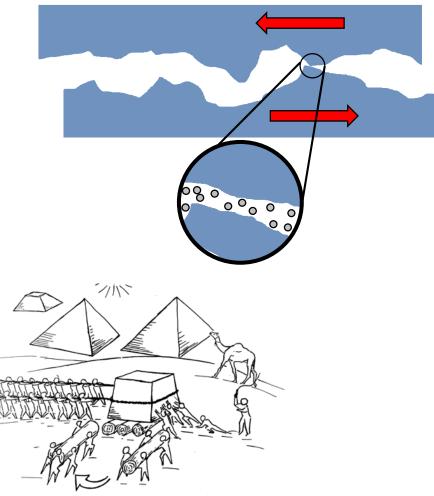
## HOW NANODIAMOND ENHANCES LUBRICATION

#### Traditional Boundary Contact

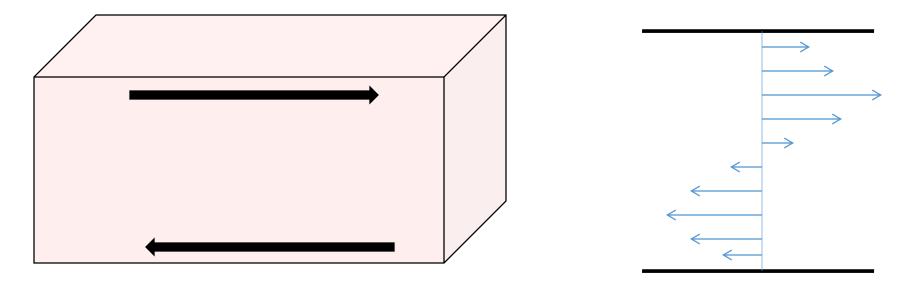


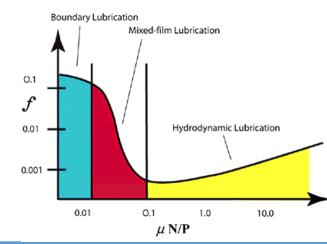
- Many, Many Particles Trapped Between Approaching Surfaces
  - Acts Like Nanoscale Ball-bearings
  - Transfers Sliding Friction to Rolling Friction
- Prevents Asperity-Asperity Contact

#### Lubricant with Nanodiamond



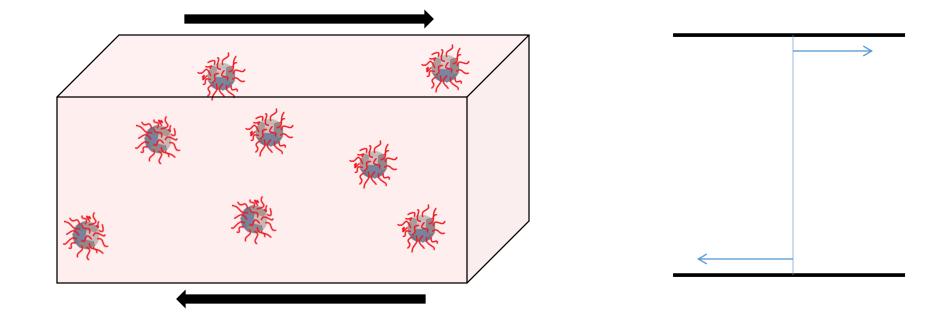
#### MECHANISM FOR ENHANCEMENT – HYDRODYNAMIC LUBRICATION REGIME





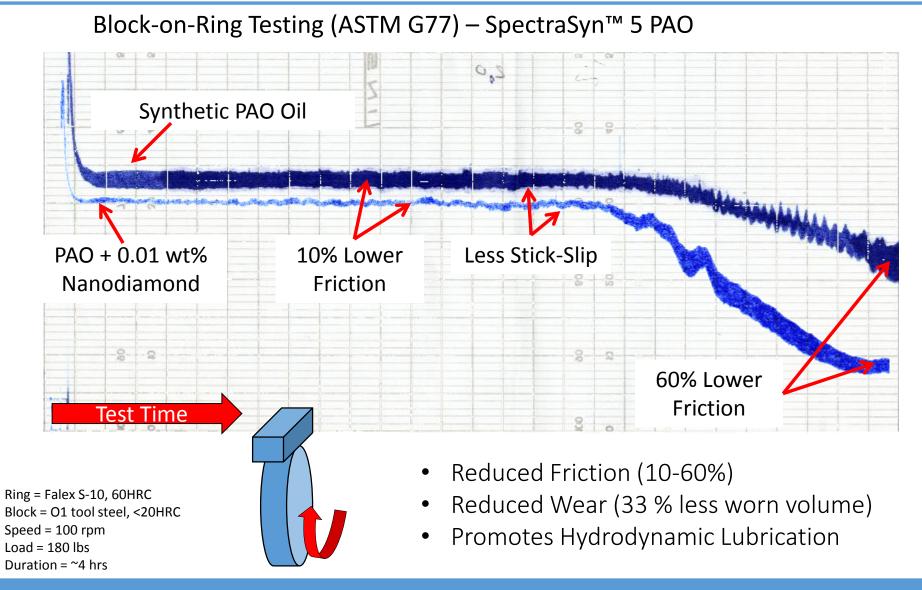
© 2013 sp3 nanotech, LLC

## MECHANISM FOR ENHANCEMENT – HYDRODYNAMIC LUBRICATION REGIME

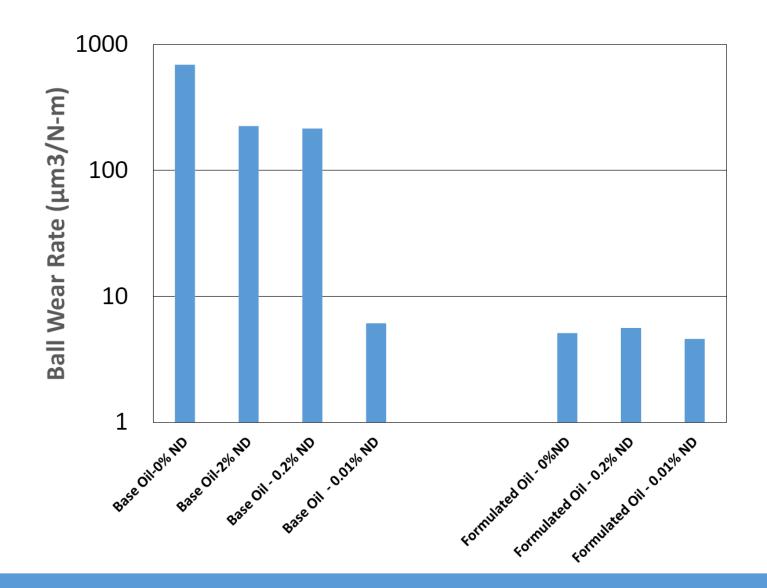


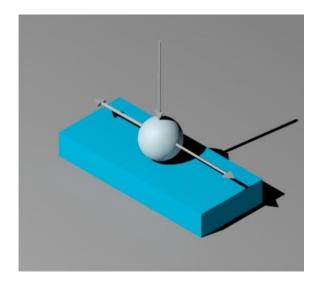
- Nanoparticles impede lubricant molecules
- Lubricant molecules "trapped" localized viscosity increase
- Shear only occurs at edges

### POLYALPHAOLEFIN (PAO) AND NANODIAMOND FRICTION TESTS



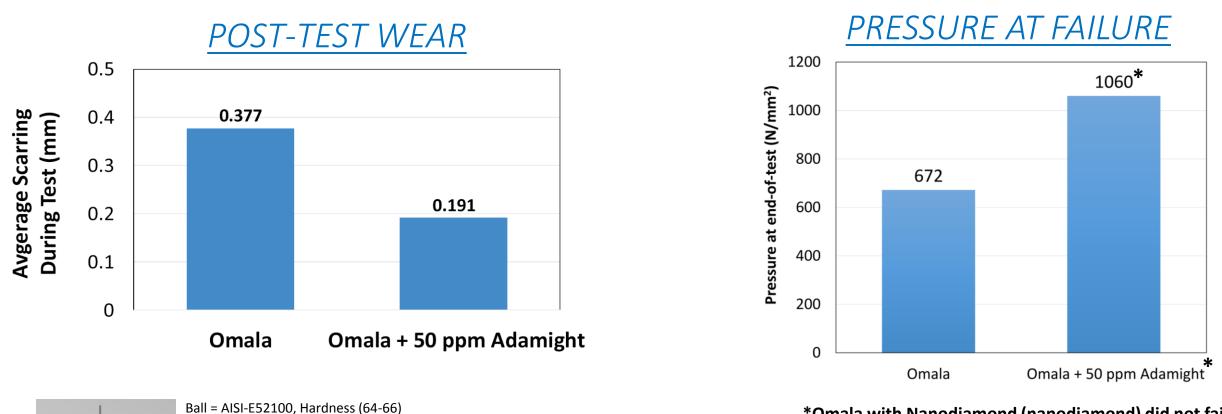
#### TESTING IN FULLY FORMULATED OILS CAN BY TRICKY, EXAMPLE: A DIESEL ENGINE OIL





Flat: hardened 52100 mirror polished, 1.5" x 2" Ball: hardened ½" dia 52100 ball Load: 15.6 N Peak contact pressure: 1 GPa Temperature: 100°C Drops of oil: 10

### TESTING IN FULLY FORMULATED OILS – A GEAR OIL

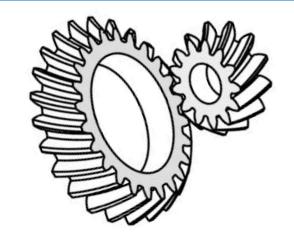


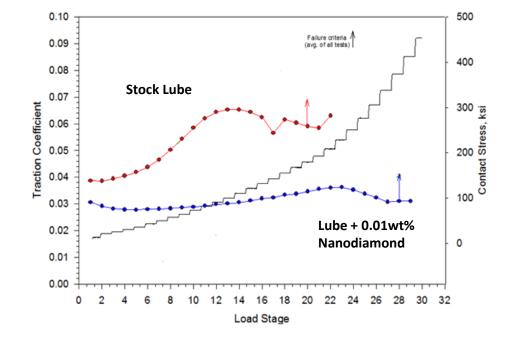
Ball = AISI-E52100, Hardness (64-66) Speed = 600 rpm Load = Increased 10 kg every 10 min. Temp. = 75°C \*Omala with Nanodiamond (nanodiamond) did not fail, it exceeded the bonds of the test

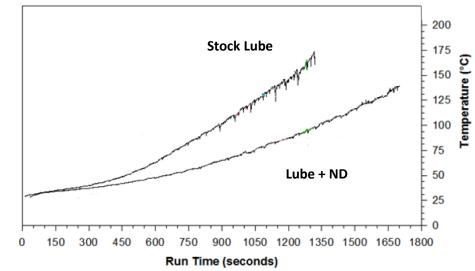
• Nanodiamond reduced wear and increased seizure load in Omala Gear Oil

### APPLICATION – GEARBOX LUBRICANT

- Helicopter gearbox lubricant
- WAM Tests:
  - > 50% Reduction in Friction
  - > 70°C Lower Surface Temperatures
  - >100% Increase in Scuffing Stress







### SOUTHWEST RESEARCH INSTITUTE'S FUEL EFFICIENCY TEST

	Operating Targets						
	Stage #	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Stage 5	Stage 6
SwRI FE Test Results:	Speed, rpm	2000	2000	1500	695	695	695
	Power, kw	22	22	16.5	1.5	1.5	2.9
	Oil temp, °C	115	65	115	115	35	115
	Coolant in temp, °C	109	65	109	109	35	109
	I	FEI1 Fir	nal	<mark>1.05%</mark>			

- GF-5/VID Test Stand
- Improved Fuel Efficiency by 1.05 %
  - Control lubricant is SpectraSyn<sup>™</sup> 4
  - >8 standard deviations above control ( $\sigma = 0.12\%$ )



### APPLICATIONS AREAS FOR NANODIAMOND





4.5 qt oil capacity, 7.5K mi OCI, 30 mpg, \$3.50/gal

### APPLICATIONS AREAS FOR NANODIAMOND



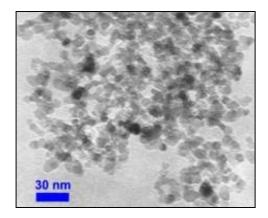
# \$6 = 1% = 5 gal = \$20 to \$2000

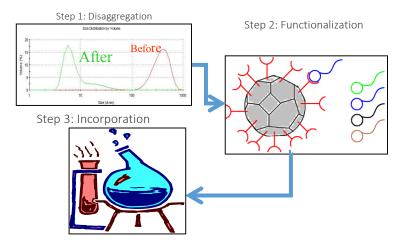
Cost of<br/>Nanodiamond/<br/>VehicleFuel Efficiency<br/>ImprovementFuel Savings/<br/>OCIROI = 300% +++

8 qt oil capacity, 3K mi OCI, 6 mpg, \$4-\$400/gal

#### SUMMARY - NANODIAMOND ADDITIVE FOR LUBRICANTS

- Improves Performance Of Oils
  - Reduces Friction 10-60%
  - Maintains Lubricant Film Integrity
  - Reduces Lubricant/Machinery Temperatures Up To 70°C
- Is Made From Nanodiamond (ND)
  - 4-6 nm Spherical Diamond Particles Hard and Strong
  - Raw Material Is Strongly Aggregated and Hydrophillic
- Is Processed by sp3 Into Oil Additive
  - Functionalize Surface With Tailored Chemistries
  - Disaggregate ND Clusters (~1µm To ~5 nm)
  - Highly Dispersed, Stable Suspensions
  - Easily Blended into Target Fluid



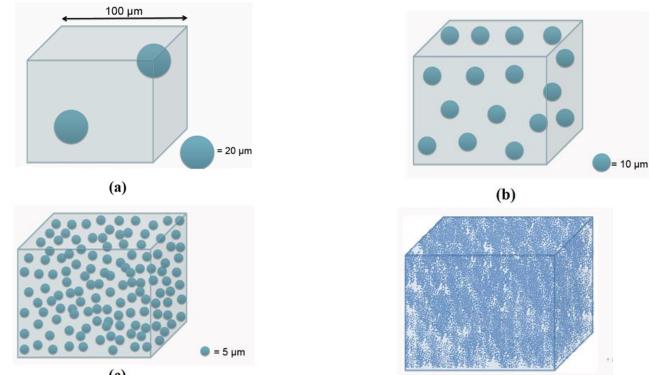


## OUTLINE

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- Application of Nanodiamond to Tribology/Lubrication
- Application of Nanodiamond to Polymer Composites

### WHY "NANO"?

- Enhanced surface area for interaction with polymer matrix phase
- Transparency

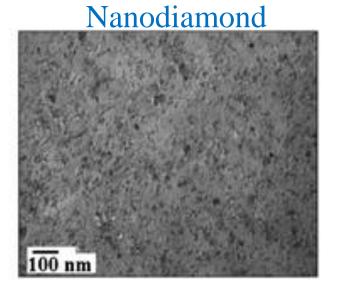




## NANODIAMOND IN POLYACRYLONITRILE (PAN)

- Disperse nanodiamond in DMSO
- Co-dissolve nanodiamond and PAN in DMSO
- Solution-cast a film of nanodiamond-reinforced PAN •
- Anneal at 240°C

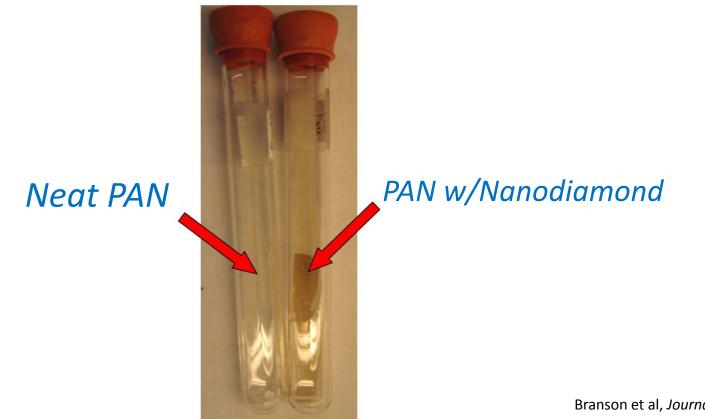
# TEM Images of PAN with Nanodiamond Detonation Nanodiamond

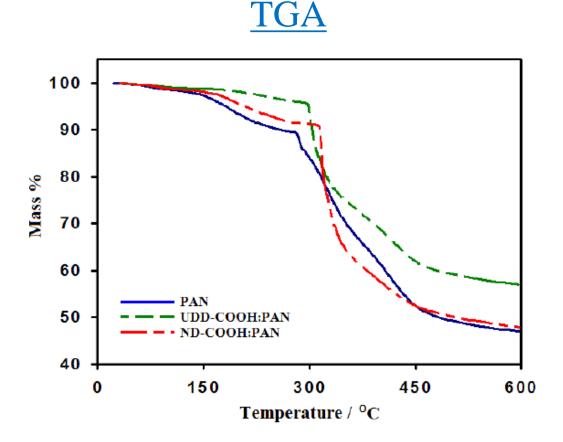


Deaggregated

### NANODIAMOND'S EFFECT ON FILM SOLUBILITY

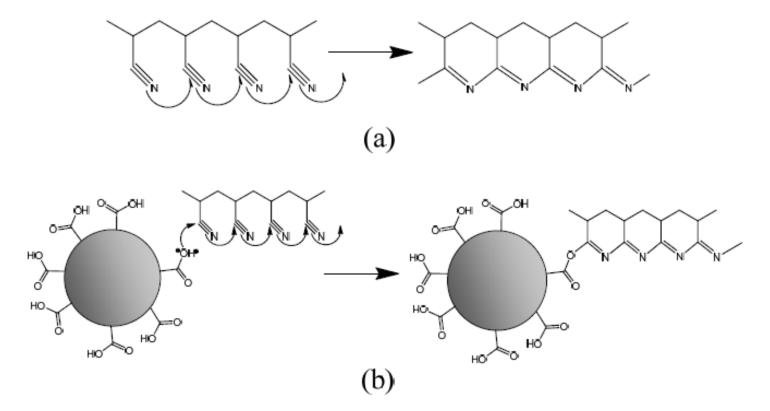
- Neat PAN dissolves in DMSO within one hour
- PAN with Nanodiamond (7 wt%) remains undissolved after several weeks in DMSO





- Addition of diamond increases the degradation temperature
  - 15°C for aggregated diamond (UDD)
  - 30°C for dispersed diamond

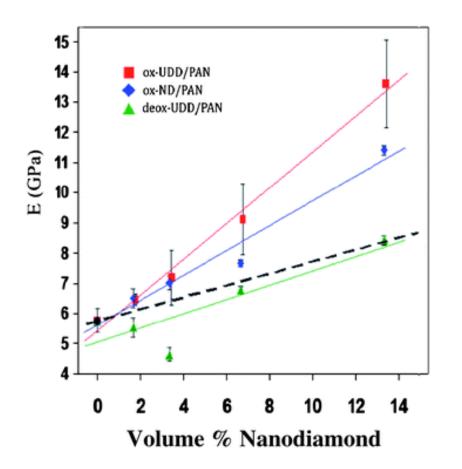
### POSSIBLE CYCLIZATION REACTIONS

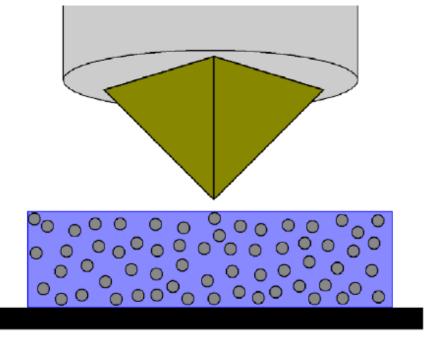


- Upon heating, nanodiamond becomes covalently bond to the polymer matrix
- Chemical and thermal stability increases (upon nanodiamond addition) could be due to steric hindrances as well

### MECHANICAL PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT (NANODINDENTATION)

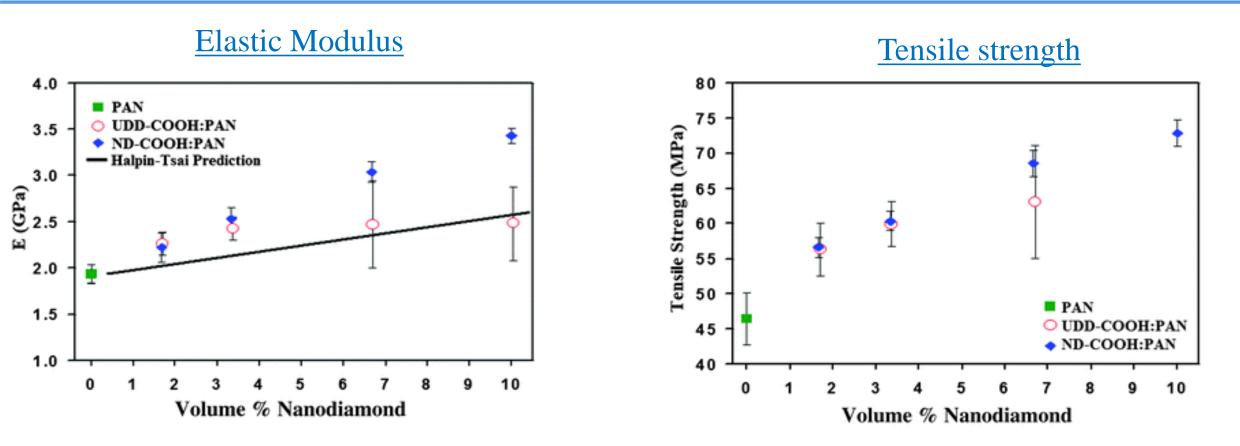
### Elastic hardness (E) versus additive loading



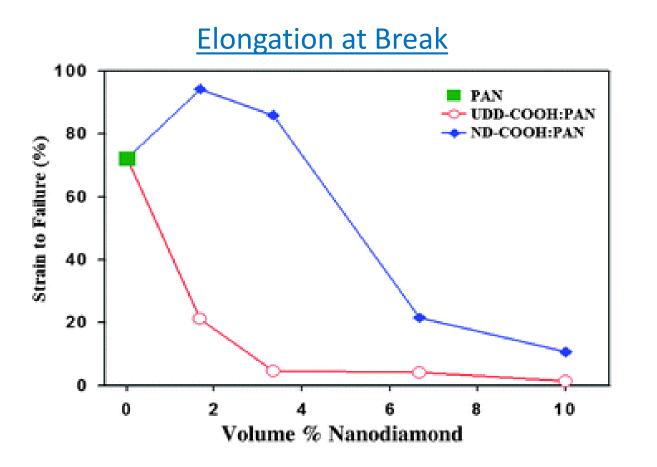


Dashed black line is calculated using the Halpin-Tsai equations.

### MECHANICAL PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS (TENSILE TESTS)



- In "bulk" mechanical testing, de-aggregated/dispersed nanodiamond (ND) outperforms aggregated diamond (UDD)
- At 10 wt% nanodiamond, a ~75% increase in stiffness and ~55% increase in strength

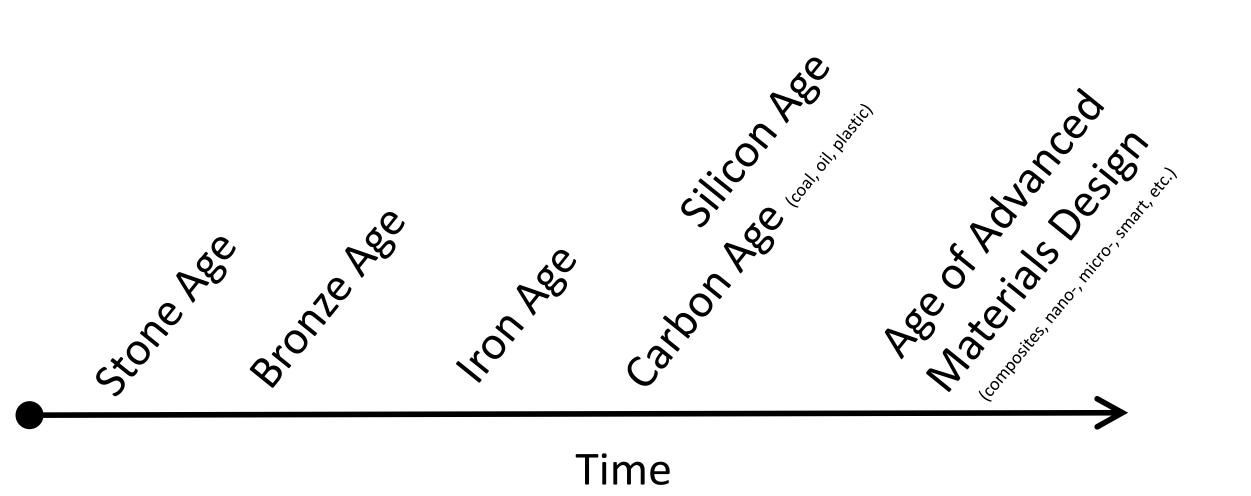


- Dispersed nanodiamond (ND) is much more ductile than aggregated diamond (UDD)
- Dispersed ND better allows polymer chains to reconfigure before covalent bond breakage

### CONCLUSIONS

- Nanodiamond improves the performance of lubricants
  - Lower Friction
  - Lower Wear
  - Better Fuel Efficiency
- Nanodiamond improves the mechanical properties of polymers
  - Higher stiffness
  - Higher Strength

### **HUMAN HISTORY**



### Questions?

