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PRESENT POSITION Assistant professor, Kent State University, August 2006 - present

EDUCATION **Ph.D.** in Applied Mathematics, May 2006
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC
Adviser: Professor M. Gregory Forest

M.S. in Mathematics, July 2001
Jilin University, Changchun, China

B.S. in Mathematics, July 1999
Jilin University, Changchun, China

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Effective properties of nano-composites
- Homogenization & percolation methods
- Liquid Crystal Modeling

GRANTS

- NSF DMS-0807954, 07/01/2008-07/01/2011, PI
- NSF DMS-0821071 SCREMS, by 09/01/2009, CO-PI
- NSF DMS-0908470 SGER, 10/01/2009-10/01/2011, CO-PI

GRANTS SUBMITTED

- OBR, Photoinduced surface relief in liquid crystal elastomers: a paradigm for integrated LabView data acquisition and numerical modeling, Dec. 2008, CO-PI, Not funded.

PUBLICATIONS

1. **X. Zheng**, P. Palffy-Muhoray, *One order parameter tensor mean field theory for biaxial liquid crystals*, Discrete and Continuous Dynamical Systems-Series B, submitted (2009)
2. A. Haji-Akbari, M. Engel, A. S. Keys, **X. Zheng**, R. G. Petschek, P. Palffy-Muhoray, S. C. Glotzer, *Disordered, quasicrystalline and crystalline phases of densely packed tetrahedra*, Nature, **462**, 773-777 (2009)
3. **X. Zheng**, W. Iglesias, P. Palffy-Muhoray, *Distance of closest approach of two arbitrary hard ellipsoids*, Phys. Rev. E, **79**, 057702(2009)
4. **X. Zheng**, M. G. Forest, R. A. Vaia, M. Arlen, R. Zhou, *A strategy for dimensional percolation in sheared nanorod dispersions*, Advanced Mater., **19**(22), 4038-4043(2007)
5. **X. Zheng**, P. Palffy-Muhoray, *Eigenvalue decomposition for tensors of arbitrary rank*, Electronic Liquid Crystals (2007)
6. **X. Zheng**, P. Palffy-Muhoray, *Distance of closest approach of two arbitrary hard ellipses in 2D*, Phys. Rev. E, **75**, 061709 (2007)
7. **X. Zheng**, M. G. Forest, R. Lipton, R. Zhou, *Nematic polymer mechanics: flow-induced anisotropy*, Continuum Mechanics and Thermodynamics, **18**, 377-394 (2007)
8. M. G. Forest, **X. Zheng**, R. Zhou, Q. Wang, R. Lipton, *Anisotropy and dynamic ranges in electrical properties of sheared nematic polymer nano-composites*, Advanced Functional Materials, **15**(12), 2029-2035(2005) (Cover article)

9. **X. Zheng**, M. G. Forest, R. Lipton, R. Zhou, Q. Wang, *Exact scaling laws for electrical conductivity properties of nematic polymer nano-composite monodomains*, *Advanced Functional Materials*, **15**(4), 627-638 (2005)
10. M. G. Forest, R. Zhou, Q. Wang, **X. Zheng**, R. Lipton, *Anisotropy and heterogeneity of nematic polymer nano-composite film properties*, IMA volumes in Mathematics and its Applications, "Modeling of soft matter", **141**, 85-98 (2005)
11. H. Zhou, M. G. Forest, **X. Zheng**, Q. Wang, R. Lipton, *Extension-enhanced conductivity of liquid crystalline polymer nano-composites*, *Macromolecular Symposia*, **288**(1), 81-90 (2005)
12. **X. Zheng**, M. G. Forest, R. Zhou, Q. Wang, *Likelihood & expected-time statistics of monodomain attractors in sheared discotic and rod-like nematic polymers*, *Rheologica Acta*, **44**(3), 219-234 (2005)
13. H. Yuan, **X. Zheng**, *Existence and uniqueness for a quasilinear hyperbolic equation with σ -finite Borel measures as initial conditions*, *Journal of Mathematical Analysis and Applications*, **277**(1), 27-50 (2003)

**INVITED
TALKS**

The distance of closest approach of two ellipsoids & the biaxial phase of nematic liquid crystals, University of Akron, Akron, OH, October 17, 2008

Effective property characterization of Nano-rod/Nano-platelet Composites, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA, April 25, 2008

Angular momentum transportation in anisotropic complex fluids, Workshop on ferroelectric phenomena in liquid crystals, Kent, OH, June 19-28, 2007

Effective Property Characterization of Nano-Composites from Homogenization and Percolation Theory
Liquid Crystal Institute, Kent State University, Kent, OH, October 4, 2006

On the effective properties of nematic polymer nano-composite
University of Colorado at Boulder, Boulder, CO, April 10, 2006
Kent State University, Kent, OH, February 27, 2006
University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT, January 20, 2006

**CONFERENCE
TALKS**

One order parameter tensor mean field theory for biaxial liquid crystals, APS March Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA, March 16-20, 2009

One order parameter tensor mean field theory for biaxial liquid crystals, SIAM Conference on Computational Science and Engineering, Miami, FL, March 2-6, 2009

Angular momentum transport in anisotropic complex fluids, SIAM Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, July 7-11, 2008

Angular momentum transport in anisotropic complex fluids, APS March Meeting, New Orleans, LA, March 10-14, 2008

Transport properties of micro-structured media and composite materials, The 44th Annual Technical Meeting of the Society of Engineering Science, College Station, TX, October 21-24, 2007

Dimensional percolation & induced electrical conductivity of sheared nano-rod dispersions in a weakly conducting matrix, The 79th Society of Rheology Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City,

UT, Oct 9-11, 2007

Distance of closest approach of two hard ellipses, APS March Meeting, Denver, CO, March 5-9, 2007

Percolation thresholds and cluster statistics for quiescent and sheared rigid-rod dispersions, The 43rd Annual Technical Meeting of the Society of Engineering Science, University Park, PA, August 13-17, 2006

Effective Property Characterization of Nano-Composites From Homogenization and Percolation Theory, SIAM Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, July 10-14, 2006

Nano-composite material properties: homogenization over flow-induced orientational distributions, Southeast Atlantic Mathematical Sciences Workshop, Charleston, SC, September 14-17, 2004

Exact scaling laws for electrical conductivity properties of nematic polymer nano-composite monodomains, SIAM Annual Meeting, Portland, OR, July 12-16, 2004

Likelihood & expected-time statistics of monodomain attractors in sheared discotic and rod-like nematic polymers, AMS Sectional Meeting, Chapel Hill, NC, October 24-25, 2003

MEMBERSHIPS American Mathematical Society;
Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics;
American Physical Society;
Society of Rheology