

# Sivasurender Chandran Ph.D.

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

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Kanpur 208016, India.  
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## RESEARCH INTEREST

### Experimental Soft Matter Physics

Structure formation and dynamic behavior of polymers, including glass transition and crystallization; Aging; Relaxation and viscoelastic behavior of polymers in restrictive spaces; Wetting and dewetting; Surfaces and interfaces; Self-assembly; Living liquid crystals.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

### Assistant Professor, Since June. 2020

**Department of Physics, Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur,** Kanpur, India  
*Research:* Experimental Polymer and Soft Matter Physics

### Post-Doctoral Researcher, Jan. 2020 to Mar. 2020

**Department of Physics, University of Tübingen,** Tübingen, Germany  
*Research:* Epitaxial growth of small organic molecules

### Research Project Leader, Jan. 2017 to Dec. 2019

**Institute of Physics, University of Freiburg,** Freiburg, Germany  
*Research:* Behavior of polymers in non-equilibrium conditions

### Post-Doctoral Researcher, Mar. 2014 to Dec. 2016

**Institute of Physics, University of Freiburg,** Freiburg, Germany  
*Research:* Structure formation and dewetting dynamics of polymers

### Junior Research Associate, Aug. 2013 to Feb. 2014

**Indian Institute of Science,** Bengaluru, India  
*Research:* Microrheology of polymers and soft nanocolloids

## EDUCATION

### Ph.D. Physics, Aug. 2008 to Jul. 2013

UGC Meritorious Fellow, **Indian Institute of Science,** Bengaluru

### M.Sc. Materials Science, Jul. 2006 to May 2008

University Gold Medalist [CGPA: 9.38/10], **Anna University,** Chennai

### B.Sc. Physics, Jul. 2003 to Apr. 2006

Best outgoing student [Marks: 85/100], **Thiruvalluvar University,** Vellore

## RESEARCH GRANTS

- Jan. 2017 to Dec. 2019 (Duration: *36 Months*)

*Title:* Identifying the transient cooperative processes behind the dynamic behavior of sheared polymer melts

*Grant Value:* 274300 €- grant for self-funding and research

*Organization:* German Research Foundation (DFG)

- Apr. 2018 to Sep. 2018 (Duration: *6 Months*)

*Title:* Microfluidic processing for tuning the properties of thin polymer fibers

*Grant Value:* 24200 €- seed grant for preparing proposal for external funding

*Organization:* Freiburg Research Services, University of Freiburg

- Nov. 2015 to Apr. 2016 (Duration: *6 Months*)

*Title:* Novel approaches for tuning the properties of polymer films

*Grant Value:* 24750 €- seed grant for preparing proposal for external funding

*Organization:* Freiburg Research Services, University of Freiburg

MENTORING EXPERIENCE	<i>Ph.D.</i> : Mentored 3 Ph.D. students. <i>Others</i> : Supervised 6 students, with 2 in each (M.Sc., B.Sc., and B.Tech.,) degree.
REVIEWER	Scientific Reports, Journal of Applied Physics, Applied Physics Letters, Review of Scientific Instruments, and Journal of Applied Crystallography.
TECHNICAL EXPERIENCE	I have hands-on experience on the following X-ray synchrotron and free-electron facilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• European X-ray Free-Electron Laser, Hamburg, Germany (2019)</li> <li>• Argonne National Lab, Argonne, United States of America (2010)</li> <li>• Deutsches Electronen-Synchrotron, Hamburg, Germany (2012 - 2019)</li> <li>• Photon Factory, Tsukuba, Japan (2011, 2013)</li> <li>• Raja Ramanna Center for Advanced Technology, Indore, India (2013).</li> </ul>
TEACHING & TUTORING EXPERIENCE	<p><b>In the University of Freiburg, Germany</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Experimental polymer physics and modeling</i> for graduate students Period: 2017-2018 – Winter semester</li> <li>• <i>Experimental physics – I</i> for under graduate students Period: 2014-2015, 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 – Winter semesters</li> <li>• <i>Experimental physics – II</i> for under graduate students Period: 2014 – Summer semester</li> <li>• <i>Experimental physics – IV</i> for advanced under graduate students Period: 2015 and 2016 – Summer semesters</li> </ul> <p><b>In the Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Physics of soft condensed matter</i> for graduate students Period: 2012 and 2013 – summer semesters</li> </ul>
AWARDS & HONORS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Innovation fund</i> as a co-investigator from the Freiburg research services, University of Freiburg, Germany: Apr. 2018 to Sep. 2018</li> <li>• <i>Research grant</i> as a principal investigator from the German research foundation (DFG): Jan. 2017 to Dec. 2019</li> <li>• <i>Innovation fund</i> as a principal investigator from the Freiburg research services, University of Freiburg, Germany: Nov. 2015 to Apr. 2016</li> <li>• <i>Meritorious fellowship</i> from the University Grants Commission (UGC), India for pursuing PhD: Sept. 2008 to Jul. 2013</li> <li>• <i>University topper for all the 4 semesters</i> during my postgraduate studies in Anna University, Chennai: Dec. 2006 to Jun. 2008</li> <li>• <i>College topper</i>, in Physics and English, during my undergraduate studies in Muthurangam Govt. Arts College, Thiruvalluvar University, Vellore: May. 2004 to Jun. 2006</li> <li>• Invited for a <i>Master Class</i> talk in the Summer school on soft materials under external constraints, organized by the International Research Training group - Soft matter science, held at Center de Mittelwihr, France: 2014</li> </ul>
PUBLICATIONS	[1] " <i>Engineering interfacial entropic effects to generate giant viscosity changes in nanoparticle embedded polymer thin films</i> ", A. Swain, N. Begam, <b>S. Chandran</b> , M. S. Bobji, and J. K. Basu, accepted for publication, Soft Matter, 16, 4065 (2020).

- [2] "Thermal stability and dynamics of soft nanoparticle membranes: Role of entropy, enthalpy and membrane compressibility", N. Das, N. Begam, **S. Chandran**, A. Swain, M. Sprung, and J. K. Basu, *Soft Matter*, 16, 1117 (2020).
- [3] "Dewetting rheology for determining viscoelastic properties of non-equilibrated thin polymer films", A. Maulama, **S. Chandran**, K. Roumpos, A. O. Oduor, and G. Reiter, *Macromolecules*, 52, 7894 (2019).
- [4] "Perspective: Processing pathways decide polymer properties at the molecular level", **S. Chandran\***, J. Baschnagel, D. Cangialosi, K. Fukao, E. Glynnos, L. M. C. Janssen, M. Müller, M. Muthukumar, U. Steiner, J. Xu, S. Napolitano and G. Reiter, *Macromolecules*, 52, 7146 (2019). This work is selected as **ACS editor's choice**. Graphic summarizing the work is published as the cover art for this issue.
- [5] "Segmental rearrangements relax stresses in nonequilibrated polymer films" **S. Chandran\*** and G. Reiter, *ACS Macro Letters*, 8, 646 (2019).
- [6] "Viscosity and fragility of confined polymer nanocomposites: A tale of two interfaces", N. Das, N. Begam, M. Ibrahim, **S. Chandran**, V. Padmanabhan, M. Sprung, and J. K. Basu, *Nanoscale*, 11, 8546 (2019).
- [7] "Formation of periodically modulated polymer crystals", P. Poudel, S. Majumder, **S. Chandran**, H. Zhang, and G. Reiter, *Macromolecules*, 51, 6119 (2018).
- [8] "Nanoparticle-polymer interfacial layer properties tune fragility and dynamic heterogeneity of athermal polymer nanocomposite films", N. Begam, N. Das, **S. Chandran**, M. Ibrahim, M. Sprung, V. Padmanabhan, and J. K. Basu, *Soft Matter*, 14, 8853 (2018).
- [9] "Tuning relaxation dynamics and mechanical properties of polymer films of identical thickness", M. Kchaou, P. Alcouffe, **S. Chandran**, P. Cassagnau, G. Reiter and S. Al-Akhrass, *Phys. Rev. E*, 97, 032507 (2018).
- [10] "Controlling polymer crystallization kinetics by sample history", P. Poudel, **S. Chandran\***, S. Majumder, and G. Reiter, *Macromol. Chem. Phys.*, 219, 1700315 (2018).
- [11] "Time allowed for equilibration quantifies the preparation induced nonequilibrium behavior of polymer films", **S. Chandran\***, R. Handa, M. Kchaou, S. Al-Akhrass, A. N. Semenov, and G. Reiter, *ACS Macro Letters*, 6, 1296 (2017).
- [12] "Transient cooperative processes in dewetting polymer melts", **S. Chandran\*** and G. Reiter, *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, 116, 088301 (2016).
- [13] "Coherent X-ray scattering reveals nature of dynamical transitions in nanoparticle-polymer suspensions", **S. Chandran**, N. Begam, M. Sprung and J. K. Basu, *Polymer*, 105, 500 (2016).
- [14] "Tuning morphologies of Langmuir polymer films through controlled relaxations of non-equilibrium states", **S. Chandran**, S. Dold, A. Buvignier, K-S. Krannig, H. Schlaad, G. Reiter and R. Reiter, *Langmuir* 31, 6426 (2015).
- [15] "Suspensions of polymer-grafted nanoparticles with added polymers – Structure and effective pair-interactions", **S. Chandran**, S. Saw, A. K. Kandar, C. Dasgupta, M. Sprung and J. K. Basu, *J. Chem. Phys.*, 143, 084902 (2015).
- [16] "Anomalous viscosity reduction and hydrodynamic interactions of polymeric nanocolloids in polymers", N. Begam, **S. Chandran**, M. Sprung and J. K. Basu, *Macromolecules*, 48, 6646 (2015).

- [17] "*Kinetics of dispersion of nanoparticles in thin polymer films at high temperature*", N. Begam, **S. Chandran**, N. Biswas and J. K. Basu, Soft Matter, 11, 1165 (2015).
- [18] "*Dispersion of polymer grafted nanoparticles in polymer nanocomposite films: Insights from surface X-ray scattering and microscopy*", **S. Chandran**, N. Begam, N. Biswas and J. K. Basu, J. Appl. Phys., 116, 222203 (2014).
- [19] "*Confinement enhances dispersion in nanoparticle-polymer blend films*", **S. Chandran**, N. Begam, V. Padmanabhan and J. K. Basu, Nat. Commun., 5, 3697 (2014).
- [20] "*Variation in glass transition temperature of polymer nanocomposite films driven by morphological transitions*", **S. Chandran**, J. K. Basu and M. K. Mukhopadhyay, J. Chem. Phys., 138, 014902 (2013).
- [21] "*Effect of nanoparticle dispersion on glass transition in thin films of polymer nanocomposites*", **S. Chandran** and J. K. Basu, Eur. Phys. J. E, 34, 99 (2011).
- [22] "*Re-entrant behavior in dynamics of binary mixtures of soft hybrid nanocolloids and homopolymers*", **S. Chandran**, C. K. Sarika, A. K. Kandar, J. K. Basu, S. Narayanan and A. Sandy, J. Chem. Phys., 135, 134901 (2011). This work is accepted for publication in Virtual journal of nanoscience and technology.
- [23] "*Communication: Unusual dynamics of hybrid nanoparticles and their binary mixtures*", S. Srivastava, **S. Chandran**, A. K. Kandar, C. K. Sarika, J. K. Basu, S. Narayanan and A. Sandy, J. Chem. Phys., 133, 151105 (2010). This work is accepted for publication in Virtual journal of nanoscience and technology.

\* - corresponding author of the paper

RECENT INVITED  
TALKS

- *Different faces of entropy for soft materials*, Sathyabama Institute of Science and Technology, Chennai, India (2020)
- *Entropic effects in soft matter*, Muthurangam Government Arts College, Vellore, India (2020)
- *Segmental rearrangements relax stresses in polymer films prepared under non-equilibrium conditions*, Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB), Bruxelles, Belgium (2019)
- *History dependent behavior of polymer melts*, Tata Centre for Interdisciplinary Sciences, Hyderabad, India (2019)
- *Time matters: Predicting and tailoring the non-equilibrium properties of polymer melts*, Indian Institute of Technology-Madras, Chennai, India (2018)
- *Transient cooperative processes in sheared polymer melts*, Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, India (2018)
- *Time matters in characterizing the preparation induced non equilibrium behavior of polymers*, Max Planck Institute of Polymer Research, Mainz, Germany (2017)
- *Transient cooperative processes in dewetting polymer melts*, Workshop on Amorphous Materials and Viscoelasticity, University of Strasbourg, Strasbourg, France (2017)