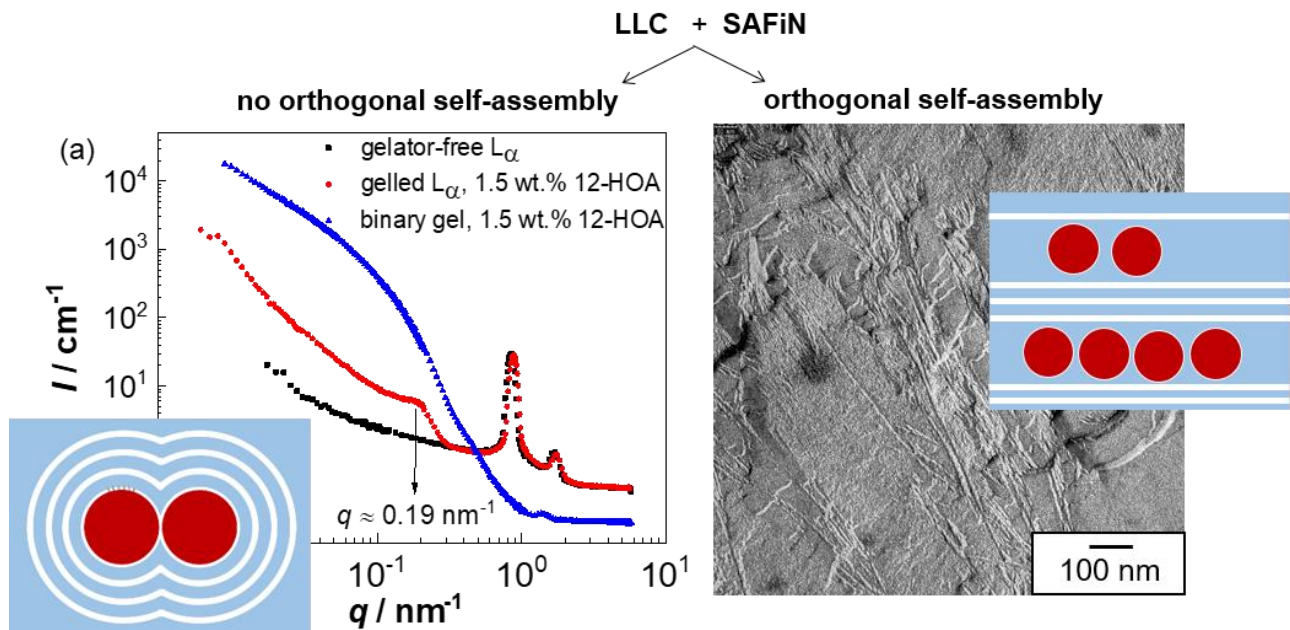


Surfactant-Based Lyotropic Liquid Crystal Gels

- The Interplay between Anisotropic Order & Gel Formation -

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Surfactant-based lyotropic liquid crystal gels (LLCGs) are **soft materials** which combine the **anisotropic order of a surfactant-based lyotropic liquid crystal** with the **mechanical stability of a gel**. The most prominent example of a „natural“ LLCG is **the cell**. This presentation is about potential applications of LLCGs and the different strategies via which LLCGs can be obtained. The main focus is on gelation with **low molecular weight gelators (LMWG)**, which form self-assembled fibrillar networks (SAFiN). We will discuss whether or not the resulting LLCGs are **orthogonal self-assembled systems**, i.e. systems where the two coexisting structures (lyotropic liquid crystal and SAFiN) form independently.



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