"ωφελέειν, εἰ μη βλάπτειν"



'benefit and do not harm'



National & Kapodistrian University of Athens

# Pharmaceutical Nanotechnology Liposomes as drug delivery systems

Biopysical and Thermodynamical considerations

# **Costas Demetzos**



**Professor in Pharmaceutical Nanotechnology** 

Director in the Laboratory of Pharmaceutical Technology Faculty of Pharmacy, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

**President of Hellenic Pharmaceutical Society** 

Member of the Executive Committee of European Federation of Pharmaceutical Sciences (EUFEPS)

## What is nanotechnology ? Milestones

- Nanotechnology is defined as the application of the technology in the gray area between the classical mechanism and quantum mechanics.
- The first report of nanotechnology was from Richard Feyman
- Prof. Nario Tanaguchi was the first to introduce the term nanotechnology from the University of Sciences in Tokyo, in 1974.
- □ In 1995, FDA approved Doxil (liposomal doxorubicin) to cure cancer.
- In 2012 the first report on bio-mimetic drug delivery nano systems was published
- In 2015 ThermoDox (thermosensitive liposomal doxorubicin) successfully evaluated in clinical trials (Phse III).
- In 2015 FDA approves Onivyde (liposomal irinotecan) for adavanced pancreatic cancer

Ref. Saladin Nanotechnology for the development word. *Chaos Solition Fractals* 30 (4): 769–773, 2006

Ref. C. Demetzos. Pharmaceutical Nanotechnology. 2016, Springer



<u>Nanotechnology is the art for producing little</u> <u>devices and machines at the mesoscopic and</u> <u>molecular scale.</u>



Could be defined as the novel and practical applications of the scientific knowledge



#### According to National Nanotechnology Initiative (U.S.A)

Nanotechnology is the understanding and control of matter at dimensions between 1 to 100 nanometers

#### Pharmaceutical Nanotechnology

is considered to be an attractive area of colloidal drug delivery nanocarriers.

#### Nanotechnological platforms can

- alter the pharmacokinetic properties and tissue distribution
- ↑ therapeutic efficiency
- ↓ adverse effects

According to E.M.A : Nanotechnology is defined as the production and application of structures, devices and systems by controlling the **shape** and size.....

Ref. National Nanotechnology Initiative. U.S.A government initiative launched in 2001 2007; <u>http://www.nano.gov;</u> Bloomberg Law Reports, Bloomber Finance L.P.2010

# Biomimetic materials with self-assembly abilities are used for producing nano-

systems.

These nano-systems can be used as drug delivery platform, in imaging and in

diagnosis





- Liposomes
- Lipidic nanostructures
- Nanotubes
- Nanoemulsions
- Polymeric micelles
- Polyelectrolytes
- Dendrimers
- Chimeric nanostructures
- Nanocapsules and nanospheres (10-1000nm)
- Nanoshells
- Nanocrystals Qd
- Magnetic nanoparticles
- 📕 etc.









M. Estanqueiro et al. / Colloids and Surfaces B: Biointerfaces 126 (2015)631-648

#### LIPIDIC NANO-PARTICULATE DRIG DELIVERY NANO-SYSTEMS



Liposome



Ref. Demetzos C., 'Pharmaceutical Nanotechnology. Fundamentals and Practical Applications', Springer, 2016.

#### ARTIFICIAL PHOSPHOLIPIDIC MEMBRANES FORMING BILAYER CAN MIMIC THE FUNCTIONALITY OF BIOMEMBRANES AND MIMIC THEIR BEHAVIOUR.

The Differences in fatty acid acyl chain of phospholipids explain differences in fluidity of lipid bilayers while the *tans-gauche* conformational transitions are affect biophysical properties and their thermodynamics







VIDEO



#### Ribbon-like particles

Carrier lipids: DMPC, DMPG Particle size (µm): 1.6-11



#### Disk-like particles

Carrier lipids: Cholesteryl sulfate Particle size (µm): 0.12-0.14



#### Unilaminar liposome

Carrier lipids: HSPC, DSPG, cholesterol Particle size (µm) : 0.08

# VIDEO

# LIPOSOMAL AMPHOTERICIN B

Ambisome <sup>®</sup> L-AMB

Water



#### Unilaminar liposome

Carrier lipids: HSPC, DSPG, cholesterol Particle size (µm) : 0.08





## Liposomal medicines in market

Encapsulated	Trade Name	Company	Indication	Approval	Innovator Company
arug					
Amphotericin B	Abelcet	Sigma-Tau PharmaSource, Inc,	Sever fungal	1995	The Liposome
		Indianapolis, IN	infections		Company
Amphotericin B	Ambisome	Gilead Sciences, Inc, San	Sever fungal	1997	Vestar
		Dimas, CA	infections		
Amphotericin B	Amphotec	Ben Venue Laboratories, Inc,	Sever fungal	1996	Sequus,
		Bedford, OH	infections		Pharmaceutical Inc.
Cytarabine	DepoCyte	Enzon/Skye Pharma	Lymphomatous	1999	Chiron Corporation
			meningitis		and SkyePharma
			(intrathecal		
			administration)		
Daunorubicine	DaunoXome	Gilead Sciences, Inc	Kaposi sarcoma	1996	Gilead
Doxorubicin	LipoDox (generic of	TTY Biopharm Company Ltd,	Kaposi's sarcoma,	2013 (FDA approved;	Sun Pharma
	Doxil)	Taipei Taiwan	ovarian/breast	USA)	
			cancer		
Doxorubicin	Doxil (USA), Caelyx	Essex (Europe) Ortho Biotech	Breast and ovarian	1995 (conditional)	Sequus, Inc.
	(Europe)	(USA)	cancer, Kaposi		
			sarcoma		
Doxorubicin	Myocet	Novartis Pharma AG, Basel,	Breast cancer	2000 (EU)	The Liposome
luin ata ann	Oniurada	Switzerland		2015 (EDA approved)	Company
Innotecan	Onivyde	Merrimack Pharmaceutical Inc.	Advanced pancreatic	2015 (FDA approved;	Dharmagauticala
		of Cambridge, Massachussetts	cancer	USA)	Pharmaceuticais
Verteporfin	Visudyne	Novartis Pharma AG, Basel,	Age-related	2000	QLT
		Switzerland	molecular		
			degerneration,		
			pathologic myopia,		
			ocular histoplasmosis		
Vincristine	Marquibo	Spectrum	Philadelphia	2012 (FDA approved;	Inex and Enzon
			chromosome-	USA)	
		Pharmaceuticals Inc.	negative (Ph-) acute		
			lymphoblastic		
			leukemia (ALL)		

# Advanced Liposomal Drug Delivery nanoSystems

**STIMULI - RESPONSIVE LIPOSOMAL nanoSYSTEMS** 



### CHIMERIC LIPOSOMAL nanoSYSTEMS

#### Stimuli-responsive liposomes Thermosensitive liposomes as drug delivery systems

# ThermoDox Chemothera



Thermodox® is a nanoengineered drug delivery system in Phase III and is a temperature sensitive liposomal formulation incorporating doxorubicin (anthracycline) for the treatment of metastatic malignant melanoma and liver cancer.

►ThermoDox is the first heat-activated liposomal formulation, which is consisted of three synthetic low phase transition temperature phospholipids and release the anticancer agent at **39.5°C** 



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

#### International Journal of Pharmaceutics

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ijpharm

Pharmaceutical nanotechnology

Temperature-dependent drug release from DPPC:C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>25</sub>-PNIPAM-COOH liposomes: Control of the drug loading/release by modulation of the nanocarriers' components



HARMACEUTIC

Natassa Pippa<sup>a,b</sup>, Anastasia Meristoudi<sup>b</sup>, Stergios Pispas<sup>b</sup>, Costas Demetzos<sup>a,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Pharmaceutical Technology, Faculty of Pharmacy, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Panepistimioupolis Zografou 15771, Athens, Greece

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- The presence of the polymeric component plays a key role in the thermal behavior of mixed lipid based nanovectors due to the structural rearrangement of liposomal membrane.
- Temperature-dependent release of IND was observed from chimeric liposomes, due to the well known thermotropic conformational transition of the grafted PNIPAM chains.

# **Polymers in Pharmaceutics:**

- Polymers are materials that are widely used in the pharmaceutical industry in various technological formulations and in bioactive molecule delivery system coating.
- 2) Polymer behavior is directly related to their chemical structure. Also, their abilities depend on the way that monomers are Random copolymer connected to each other.
- Polymers can have linear or branched chains that may cross each other. Copolymers are composed of more than one monomer and develop new polymers with completely new properties.

Altering copolymer **Block copolymer** Graft copolymer

# *Chimeric* liposomal systems are composed of phospholipids and polymers

**Polymer grafted liposomes** 

# 

#### Soft Matter

Cite this: Soft Matter, 2013, 9, 4073

**RSC**Publishing

PAPER

PEO-b-PCL-DPPC chimeric nanocarriers: self-assembly aspects in aqueous and biological media and drug incorporation<sup>†</sup>

Natassa Pippa,<sup>ab</sup> Eleni Kaditi,<sup>a</sup> Stergios Pispas\*<sup>a</sup> and Costas Demetzos<sup>b</sup>

J Nanopart Res (2013) 15:1685 DOI 10.1007/s11051-013-1685-3

RESEARCH PAPER

#### DPPC/poly(2-methyl-2-oxazoline)-grad-poly(2-phenyl-2oxazoline) chimeric nanostructures as potential drug nanocarriers

Natassa Pippa · Eleni Kaditi · Stergios Pispas · Costas Demetzos







# What we need ...

We need specific tools that can meet the requirements for characterizing nanoparticulete medicines and to control the manufacturing process for their development.

Determination of the physicochemical functionality of

nanomedicines is related to their surface characteristics.

size, size distribution,  $\zeta$ -potential, shape, surface properties, etc

- □ The nature and stability of surface properties/coatings in the final nanomedicine product can be very important in determining safety and efficacy.
- □ Thus, the need for sensitive and accurate **analytical methods** to identify and quantify the nanomedicine is considered as essential for its quality in part and as final product

# Methods:

# Thermodynamic and Biophysical Characterization

• Differential Scanning Calorimetry

**Physicochemical Characterization** 

• Dynamic and Electrophoretic Light Scattering

## Morphological Characterization

• Static Light Scattering, cryo-TEM, Atomic Force Microscopy

# **Biological evaluation**

• In vitro screening, in vivo toxicity

## BASIC SCIENTIFIC TOOLS FOR STUDYING LIPOSOMAL PHOSPHOLIPIDIC MEMBRANES

The **Biophysics** and **Thermodynamics** are considered as the basic scientific elements for studying artificial cell membranes and provide projection of the behavior of nano systems as artificial cell models.

The synergy regarding the biophysical behavior of artificial biomembranes and of cell biology has promoted nanoparticulate systems as drug delivery nano-platforms, while their thermotropic behavior can be correlated with cell functionality



Ref. Demetzos C (2015) *Biophysics and Thermodynamics: the scientific blocks of bio-inspired drug delivery nano systems.* AAPS PharmSciTEch 16(3):491–495.

#### Mini-Review

#### Biophysics and Thermodynamics: The Scientific Building Blocks of Bio-inspired Drug Delivery Nano Systems

#### Costas Demetzos<sup>1,2</sup>

Received 9 March 2015; accepted 7 April 2015; published online 22 April 2015

Abstract. Biophysics and thermodynamics are considered as the scientific milestones for investigating the properties of materials. The relationship between the changes of temperature with the biophysical variables of biomaterials is important in the process of the development of drug delivery systems. Biophysics is a challenge sector of physics and should be used complementary with the biochemistry in order to discover new and promising technological platforms (*i.e.*, drug delivery systems) and to disclose the 'silence functionality' of bio-inspired biological and artificial membranes. Thermal analysis and biophysical approaches in pharmaceuticals present reliable and versatile tools for their characterization and for the successful development of pharmaceutical products. The metastable phases of self-assembled nanostructures such as liposomes should be taken into consideration because they represent the thermal events can affect the functionality of advanced drug delivery nano systems. In conclusion, biophysics and thermodynamics are characterized as the building blocks for design and development of bio-inspired drug delivery systems.

KEY WORDS: biophysics; drug delivery nano systems; pharmaceutics; thermal analysis; thermodynamics.

Thermodynamics is the fundamental scientific element that could efficiently be used for studying and analyzing the behavior of artificial biological membranes that could be correlated with biological networks and create scientific platforms for the system therapeutics concept.

Liquid crystalline phases of phospholipids



**Ref.** Koynova R., Caffrey M., Phases and phase transition of the phosphatidylocholines, Biochim. Biophys. Acta 1376, 91-145, **1998** 

 Journal of Liposome Research, 18:159–173, 2008

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 DOI: 10.1080/08982100802310261



#### concerning the drug development process have incorporated DSC as a valuable technique for analysis the of the physical and energetic properties of drugs and of excipients, and its use essential is under standard procedures, as is described in the *United* States Pharmacopeia.

regulatory

The

#### Differential Scanning Calorimetry (DSC): A Tool to Study the Thermal Behavior of Lipid Bilayers and Liposomal Stability

#### COSTAS DEMETZOS

Department of Pharmaceutical Technology, School of Pharmacy, University of Athens, Greece

DSC is a useful tool for designing lipidic drug delivery systems by determining the cooperativeness of the mixed substances.

# **VINBLASTINE** is an anticancer drug.

✓It is toxic to the normal tissues and appropriate <u>DDSs are</u> needed in order to reduce its toxicity and improve its pharmacokinetic parameters.
 ✓Studies concerning the thermotropic properties of Lipid Bilayers composed of DPPC phospholipids incorporating

phospholipidsincorporatingVinblastine and changes of thethermodynamic parameters canbe used to predict the PhysicalStabilityofLiposomalFormulation composed by DPPCPhospholipids.



Ref: Maswadeh, Demetzos, Mavromoustakos et al., BBA, 2002

#### Large Unilamellar liposomal Vesicles and Multi Lamellar liposomal Vesicles have been prepared

#### Quantitative Thermal data for DPPC LUVs and MLVs liposomal vesicles



Ref: Kyrikou, Daliani, Mavromoustakos, Demetzos et al., BBA-Biomembranes, 2004.

The results from the DSC experiments based on calculated thermodynamic parameters could be used to select appropriate biomaterials for designing an effective and stable liposomal DDnS incorporating the anticancer drug vinblastine.



An Innovative excipient is an excipient that has self-assembled behavior and can create functionality and new surface properties

Ref. C. Demetzos, Pharmaceutical Nanotechnology, Springer, 2016

#### INNOVATIVE PHARMACOLOGICALLY INACTIVE EXCIPIENTS-BIOMATERILAS THAT ARE ABLE TO CREATE SELF-ASSEMBLED NANOSTRUCTURES



Προλογίζει Gregory Gregoriadis, PhD, DSc Professor Emeritus, UCL School of Pharmacy London



.....It has been therefore a great personal pleasure to write the Preface of the present book by Professor Costas Demetzos. His monograph, 'Pharmaceutical Nanotechnology', is a unique publication .



Costas Demetzos

Pharmaceutical Nanotechnology Laboratory of Pharmaceutical Nanotechnology University of Athens, Greece

#### http://nanopharmlab.gr/index.php/en/









# Conclusions:

➢Basic sciences such as Physics (biophysics and thermodynamics) and Mathematics are needed to assist the research and development process of nanomedicines

A regulatory approach that promotes self-assembled nanoparticulate systems as innovative excipients complementary to the already existing regulatory framework for the classical and functional excipients, could produce new guidelines for the regulatory authorities to create a framework process for the approval of nanomedicines and consequently of nanosimilars.

An analytical concept on **fractal analysis** based on non Euclidian approach of the geometry of nanoparticles (complementary to the QbD approach) has been proposed from our lab. to EMA offering an added value to the *'mapping process'* for developing nanomedicinal products.
The regulatory authorities should take into consideration that efficient analytical evaluation of nanomedicines should be developed and new analytical tools should be considered as part of the dossier to be submitted to the regulatory body of experts.

Demetzos C., Pippa N., 2015. Fractal geometry as a new approach for proving the nanosimilarity. Int. J. Pharm. 483:1-5.

#### **Our contribution.....**

	International Journal of Pharmaceutics 465 (2014) 63-69
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Journal of Liposome Research

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informa healthcare

#### Incorporation of dimethoxycurcumin into charged liposomes and the formation kinetics of fractal aggregates of uncharged vectors

Marilena Hadjidemetriou<sup>1</sup>, Natassa Pippa<sup>1,2</sup>, Stergios Pispas<sup>2</sup>, and Costas Demetzos<sup>1</sup>

#### The interplay between the rate of release from polymer grafted liposomes and their fractal morphology

CrossMark

Natassa Pippa<sup>a,b</sup>, Aristides Dokoumetzidis<sup>a</sup>, Stergios Pispas<sup>b</sup>, Costas Demetzos<sup>a,\*</sup>

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J Nanopart Res (2013) 15:1685 DOI 10.1007/s11051-013-1685-3

RESEARCH PAPER

DPPC/poly(2-methyl-2-oxazoline)-grad-poly(2-phenyl-2oxazoline) chimeric nanostructures as potential drug nanocarriers

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ФАРМАКЕҮТІКН 24, III, 57-62, 2012

REVIEW ARTICI

PHARMAKEFTIKI 24, III, 57-62, 2012

#### Fractal Analysis of Liposomal Aggregation.

DPPC:MPOx chimeric advanced Drug Delivery nano Systems (chi-aDDnSs): Physicochemical and structural characterization, stability and drug release studies

Natassa Pippa, Costas Demetzos\* Faculty of Pharmacy, Department of Pharmaceutical Technology, University of Athens, University Campus Zografou, 15784 Athens, Greece

Natassa Pippa<sup>a,b</sup>, Maria Merkouraki<sup>a</sup>, Stergios Pispas<sup>b</sup>, Costas Demetzos<sup>a,\*</sup>

#### Our contribution.....

#### International Journal of Pharmaceutics 430 (2012) 65-73



The fractal hologram and elucidation of the structure of liposomal carriers in aqueous and biological media

Natassa Pippa<sup>a,b</sup>, Stergios Pispas<sup>b</sup>, Costas Demetzos<sup>a,\*</sup>

#### Pharm Res DOI 10.1007/s11095-013-1082-8

RESEARCH PAPER

# The Shape/Morphology Balance: A Study of Stealth Liposomes via Fractal Analysis and Drug Encapsulation

Natassa Pippa · Faidra Psarommati · Stergios Pispas · Costas Demetzos

Journal of Liposame Research, 2012; 22(1); 55–61 0 2012 Informa Healthcare USA, Inc. ISSN 0898-2104 print/ISSN 1532-2394 online DOI: 10.3109/08982104.2011.590142

#### RESEARCH ARTICLE

The formalism of fractal aggregation phenomena of colloidal drug delivery systems

Natassa Pippa<sup>1</sup>, Costas Demetzos<sup>1,\*</sup>, and Emmanuel Danezis<sup>2</sup>

Our research group has published several research articles on **the fractal morphology** of nanoparticles.

A comment was submitted to the EMA regarding the 'concept paper on the revision of the guideline on immunogenicity assessment of biotech therapeutic proteins –EMA/CHMP/BMWP/42832/2005). This comment included the adaption of fractal analysis in the evaluation process of biotech biosimilar and nanomedicinal products

International Journal of Pharmaceutics 437 (2012) 264-274

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International Journal of Pharmaceutics

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ijpharm

Pharmaceutical Nanotechnology

The delineation of the morphology of charged liposomal vectors via a fractal analysis in aqueous and biological media: Physicochemical and self-assembly studies

Natassa Pippa<sup>a,b</sup>, Stergios Pispas<sup>b</sup>, Costas Demetzos<sup>a,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Pharmaceutical Technology, Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Athens, Panepistimioupolis Zografou, 15771 Athens, Greece <sup>b</sup> Theoretical and Physical Chemistry Institute, National Hellenic Research Foundation, 48 Vass. Constantinou Avenue, 11635 Athens, Greece

#### Soft Matter

**RSC**Publishing

PAPER

Cite this: Soft Matter, 2013, 9, 4073

PEO-b-PCL-DPPC chimeric nanocarriers: self-assembly aspects in aqueous and biological media and drug incorporation†

Natassa Pippa,<sup>ab</sup> Eleni Kaditi,<sup>a</sup> Stergios Pispas\*a and Costas Demetzos<sup>b</sup>

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Dr. Stergios Pispas

#### Prof. Nissim Garti

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#### Prof. Dimitrios Fessas,

Department of Food Science, Technology and Microbiology, University of Milan, Milan, Italy











Dr. Zoe Cournia, BRFAA



Prof. D.Tomalia Prof. M. Makropoulou, NTUA,

## Thank you for your kind attention

Vincent van Gogh Branch of almond – tree in flowers, 1890

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