

Abstract Submitted
for the MAR06 Meeting of
The American Physical Society

Dynamics of Polymer Thin Film Mixtures BRIAN M. BESANCON, Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Texas at Austin, PETER F. GREEN, Department of Materials Science and Engineering, University of Michigan, CHRISTOPHER L. SOLES, NIST Polymers Division — We examined the influence of film thickness and composition on the glass transition temperature (T_g) and mean square atomic displacements (MSD) of thin film mixtures of deuterated polystyrene (dPS) and tetramethyl bisphenol-A polycarbonate (TMPC) on Si/SiO_x substrates using incoherent elastic neutron scattering (ICNS). The onset of dissipative motions, such as those associated with the glass transition and sub-T_g relaxations, are manifested as “kinks” in the curve of elastic intensity (or MSD) versus temperature. From the relevant kinks, the T_g was determined as a function of composition and of film thickness. The dependence of the T_g on film thickness exhibited qualitatively similar trends, at a given composition, as determined by the ICNS and ellipsometry measurements. However, with increasing PS content, the values of T_g measured by INS were consistently larger than those measured by ellipsometry. These results are examined in light of existing models on the thin film glass transition and component blend dynamics.

Brian M. Besancon
Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Texas at Austin

Date submitted: 30 Nov 2005

Electronic form version 1.4