Abstract Submitted for the MAR07 Meeting of The American Physical Society

Self-Organization and Chain-Folding in Hybrid Coil-Coil-Cube Triblock Oligomers of Polyethylene-b-Poly(ethylene oxide)-b-Polyhedral Oligomeric Silsesquioxane (POSS)¹ JIANJUN MIAO, LI CUI, LEI ZHU, Institute of Material Science and Department of Chemical, Materials and Bimolecular Engineering, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT 06269-3136 — In this work, the crystallization and self-assembly behaviors of well-defined triblock oligomers polyethylene-b-poly(ethylene oxide)-b-polyhedral oligometric silsesquioxane (POSS) (PE-b-PEO-b-POSS) were studied. The samples were characterized by differential scanning calorimetry, synchrotron small angle X-ray scattering (SAXS), and wide angle X-ray diffraction (WAXD). The orientations of PE and POSS crystals in a shear-oriented sample were determined by 2D WAXD and SAXS. The results also suggest that POSS molecules form an ABCA-stacked four-layer lamellar (trigonal) crystal sandwiched by two PE-PEO layers. The solution-cast sample shows a long period of 13.37 nm, corresponding to an extended chain conformation in the PE crystals. When grown from the melt, the d-spacing decreases to 10.13 nm, indicative of once-folded chain conformation for the PE block.

¹This work was supported by NSF CAREER award DMR-0348724, DuPont Young Professor Grant, and 3M Nontenured Faculty Award.

Lei Zhu Institute of Material Science and Department of Chemical, Materials and Bimolecular Engineering, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT 06269-3136

Date submitted: 02 Dec 2006

Electronic form version 1.4