



MATERIAIS 2022

Exploring a Better Future

# Controlling morphological development during Additive Manufacturing: a route to mapping of properties

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## SUMMARY

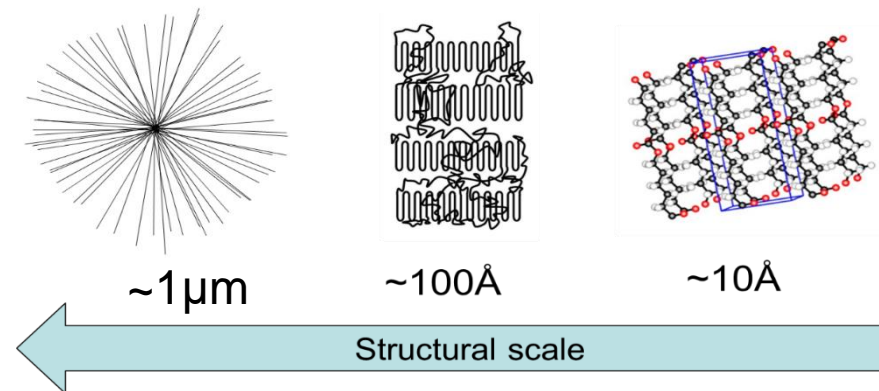
- Polymer morphology
- Morphology in extrusion
- 3D Printing – FDM
- Experiment description
- Results
- Conclusion
- Future Work



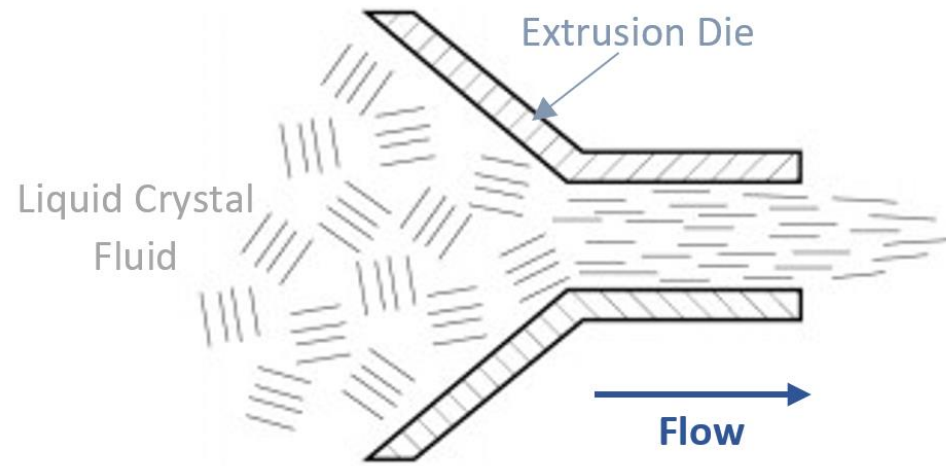
## INTRODUCTION

### Polymer morphology - Semi-crystalline thermoplastics

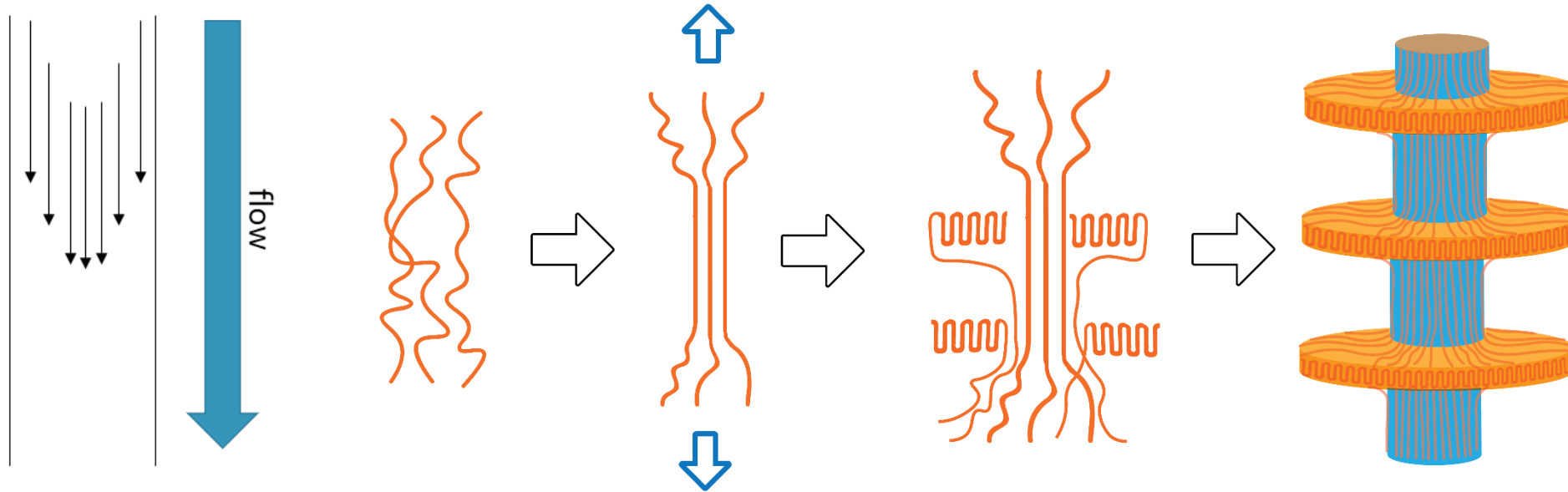
- Spherulite are assemblies of chain folded lamella that grow radially from a point in space;
- Under flow, polymer chains may create linear nuclei parallel to flow direction;
- Shish kebab structures result from lamella growing perpendicular to a nucleating surface.



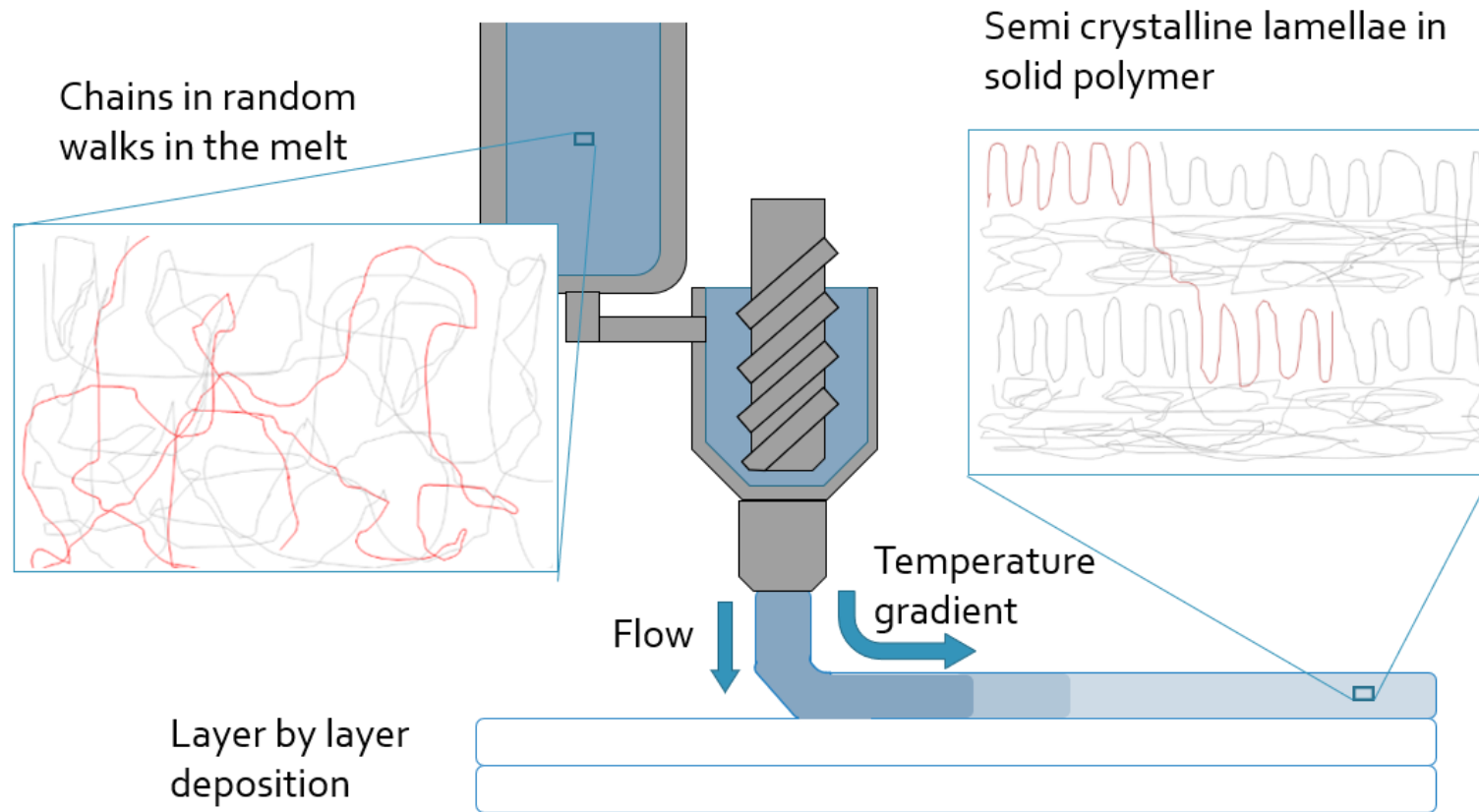
# Morphology in extrusion



# Morphology in extrusion



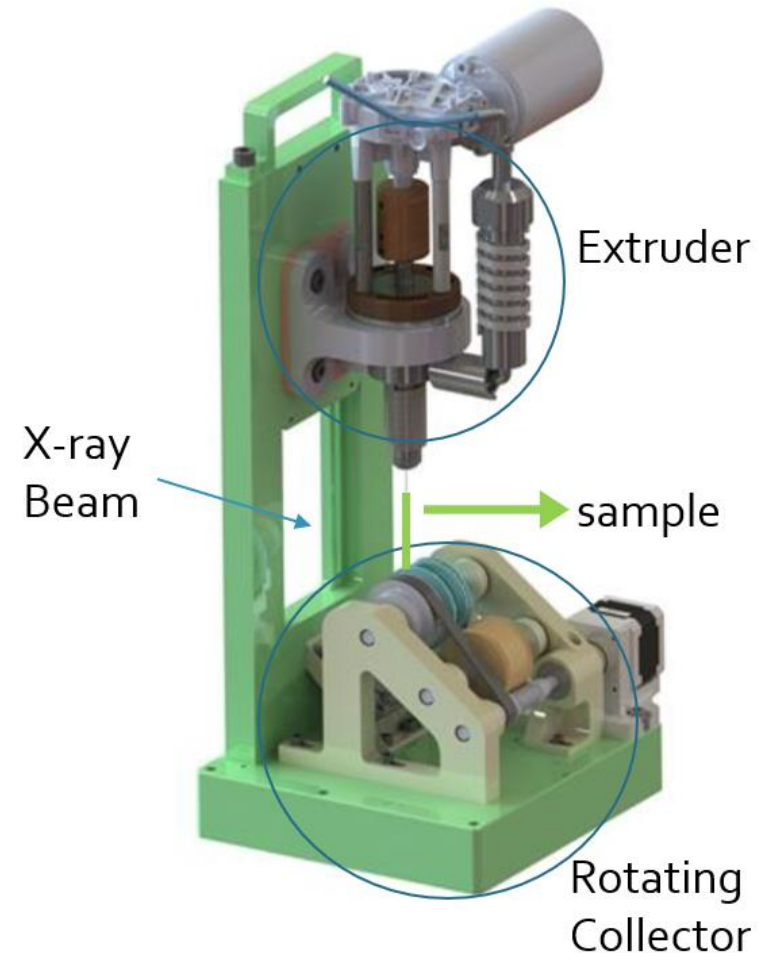
# 3d Printing – Fused Deposition Modelling



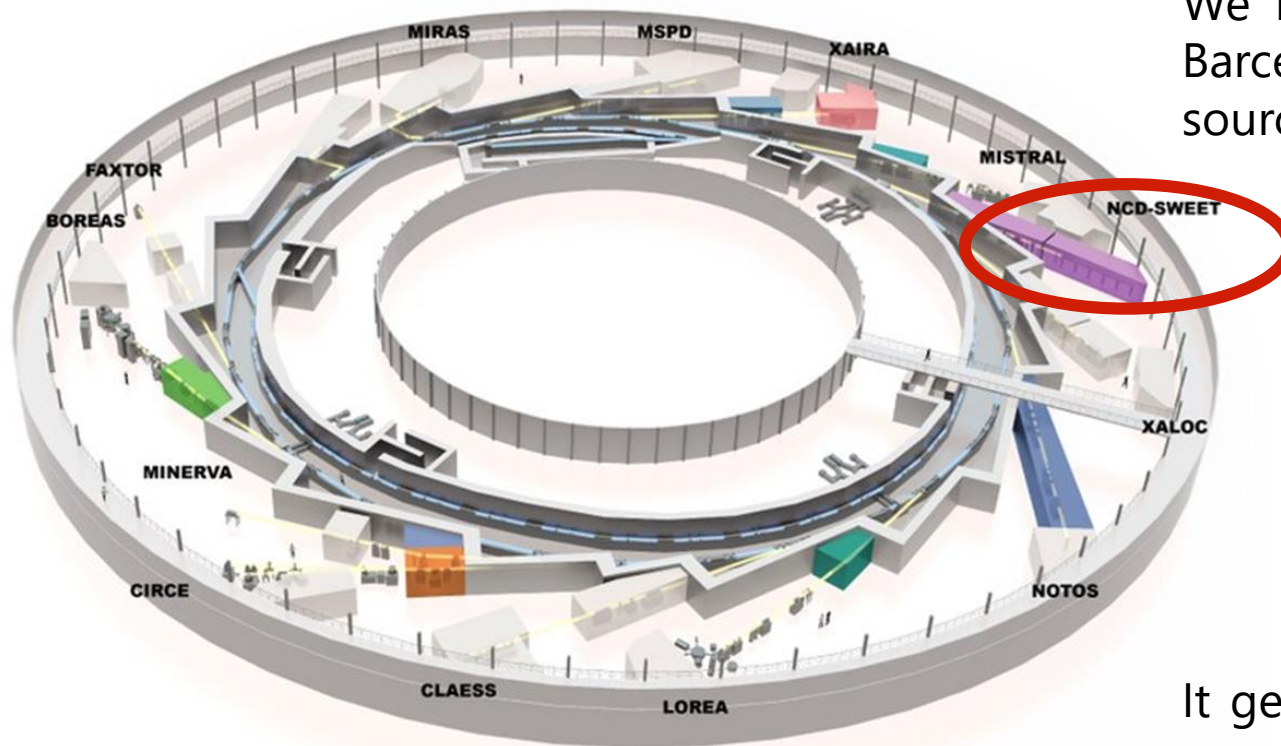
## THE EXPERIMENT

### Concept

- In-situ extrusion;
- Observe crystallization as is happening;
- Control of parameters while processing;
- Time resolved SAXS/WAXS analysis.



# ALBA Synchrotron light source



We make use of the ALBA Synchrotron Light Source in Barcelona which is a 3<sup>rd</sup> generation synchrotron light source

- It is essential for
- ✓ Time –resolving studies
  - ✓ Small samples
  - ✓ Spatial mapping
  - ✓ Weak Scatterers



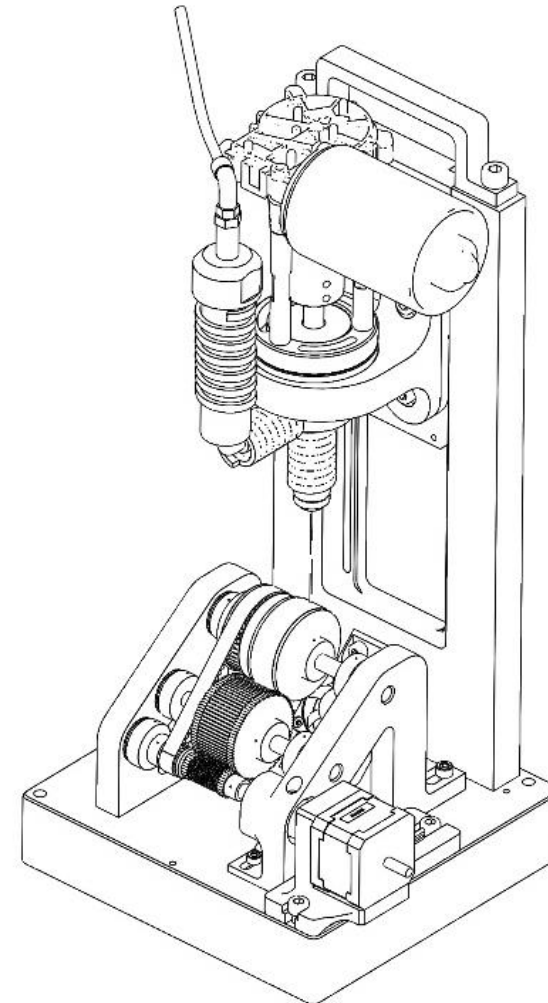
It generates intense beams of x-rays and other radiation, more than a million times as bright as a laboratory source

<https://www.cells.es/en/beamlines/bl11-ncd>

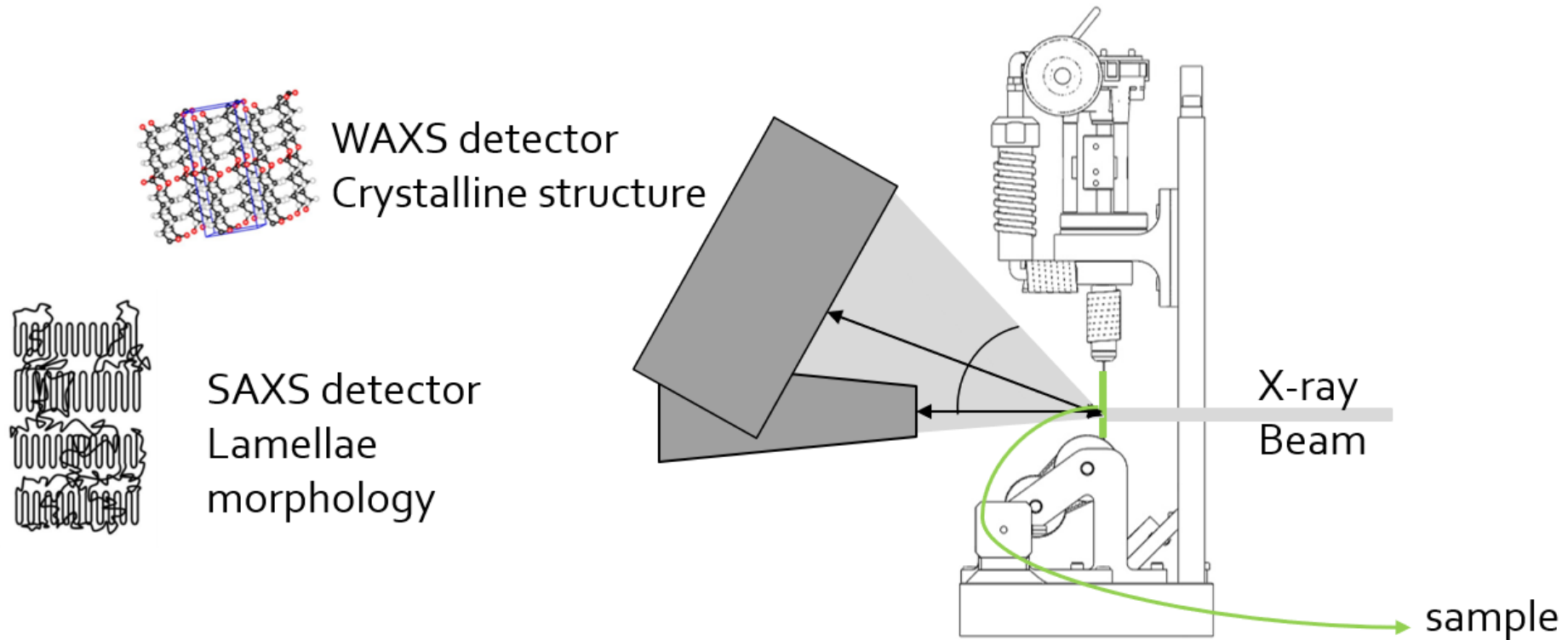


## Developed equipment

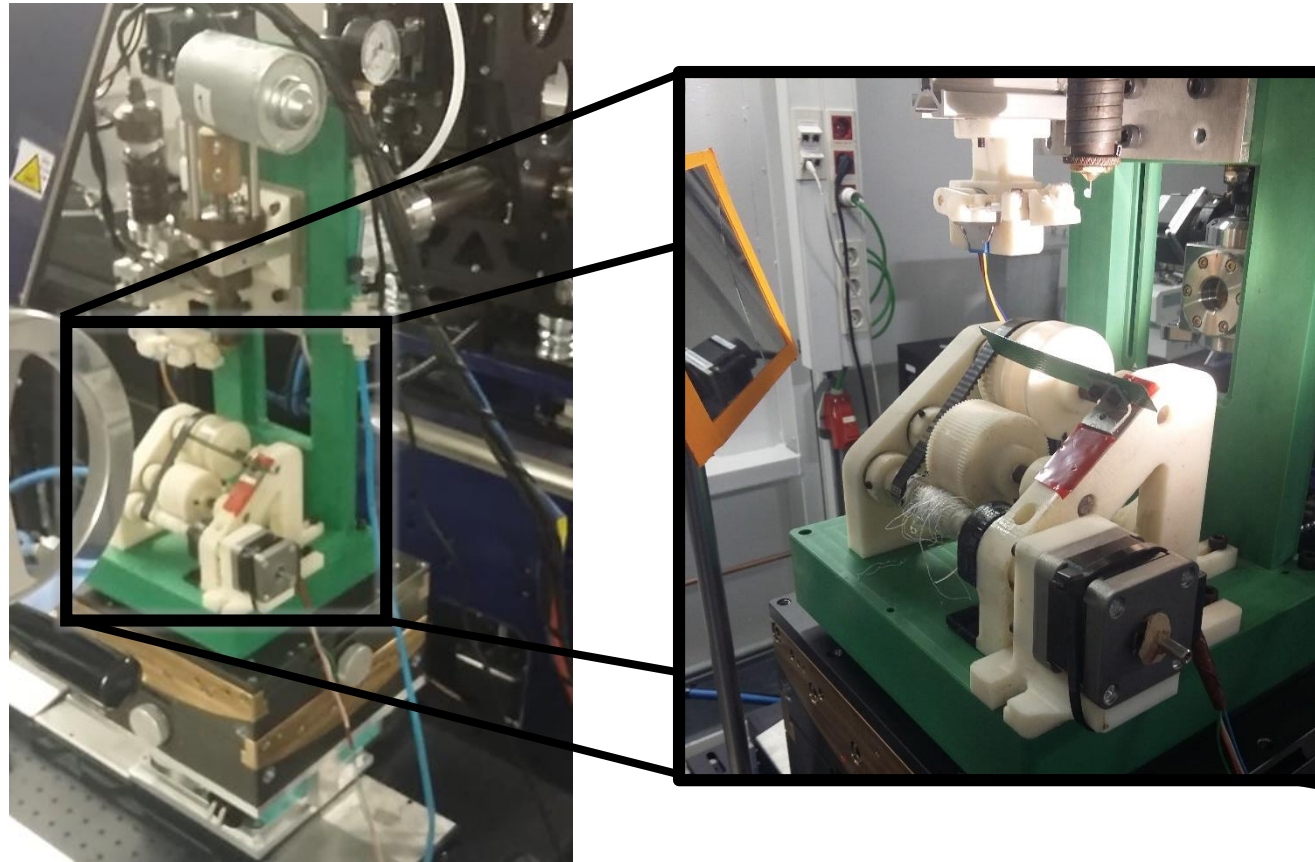
- Positioning accuracy of  $\pm 100 \mu\text{m}$ ;
- Range up to 55 degrees on WAXS;
- Extrusion and collector velocity control;
- Vertical range of 50 mm.



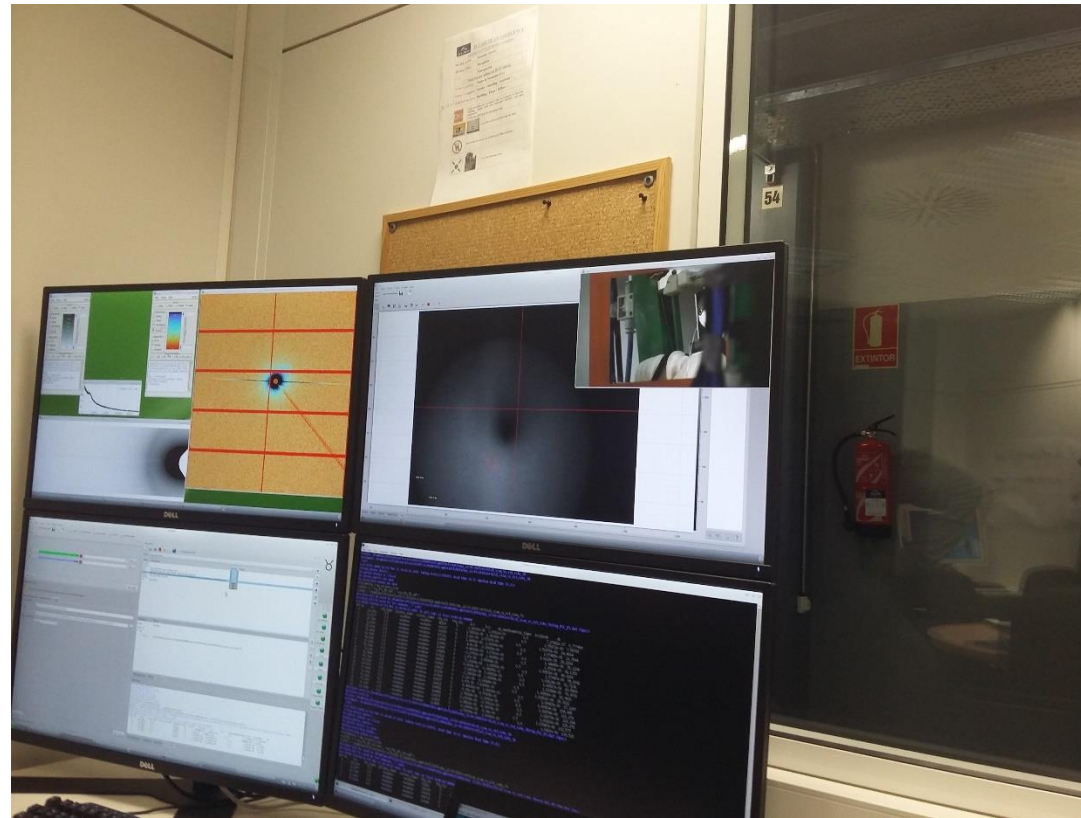
# Experimental Assembly



# Experimental Assembly

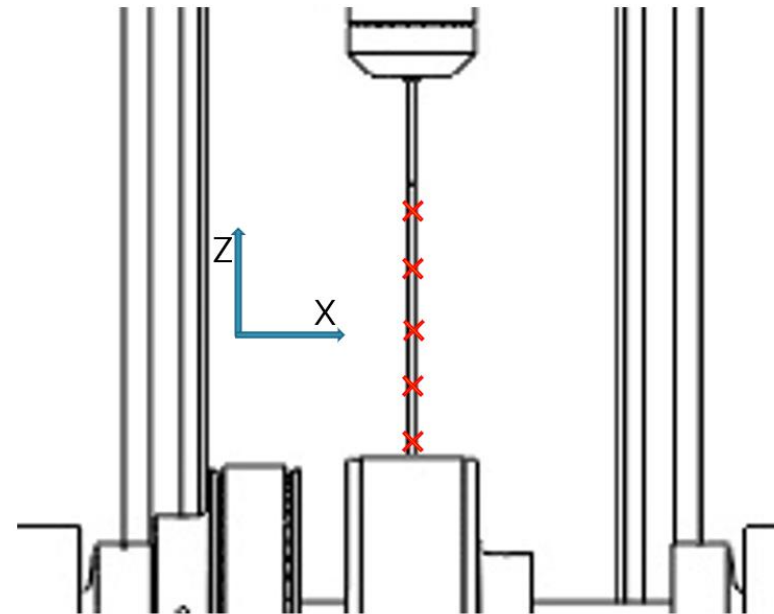


# Experimental Assembly



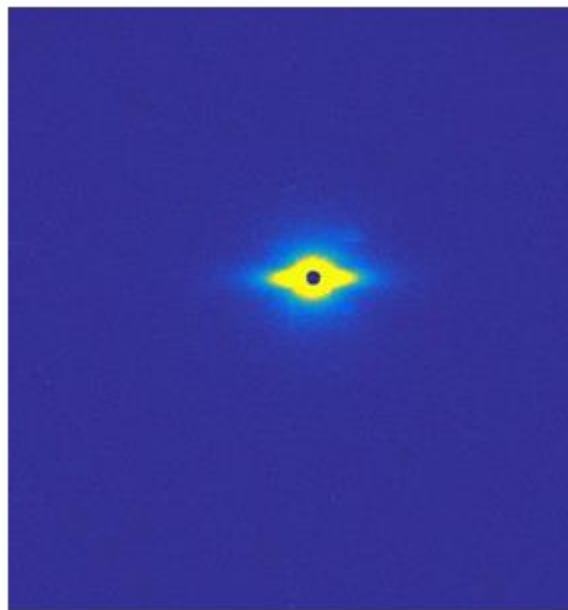
## Extrudate scanning

- Point measurements on the Z direction, observing the polymer scattering **as it crystallizes**;
- Static extrusion means that measurements along the Z axis relate to the **evolution in time**.

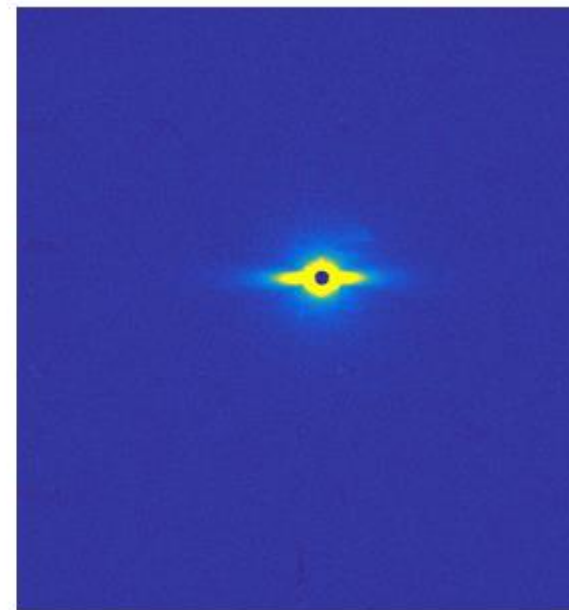


## RESULTS

### Filament analysis - SAXS

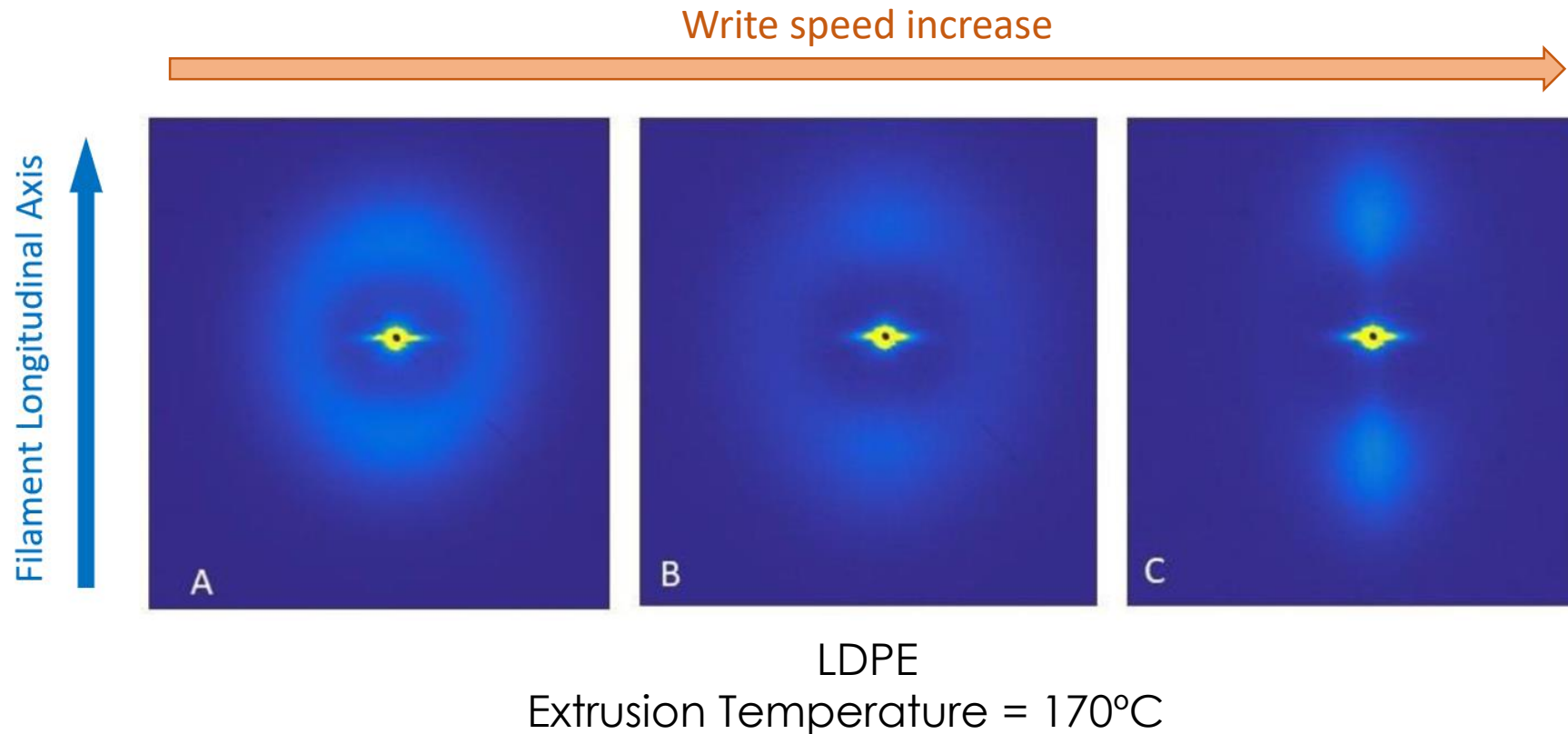


Lower collector velocity

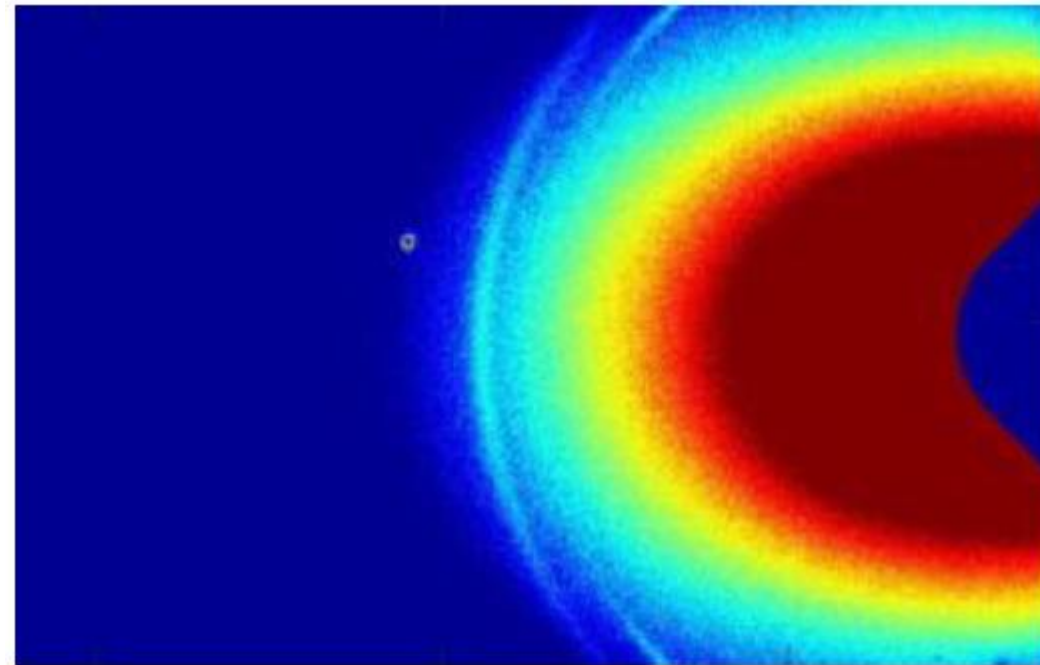


Higher Collector Velocity

## *in-situ* Analysis - SAXS



## *in-situ* Analysis - WAXS



LDPE  
Extrusion Temperature = 170°C



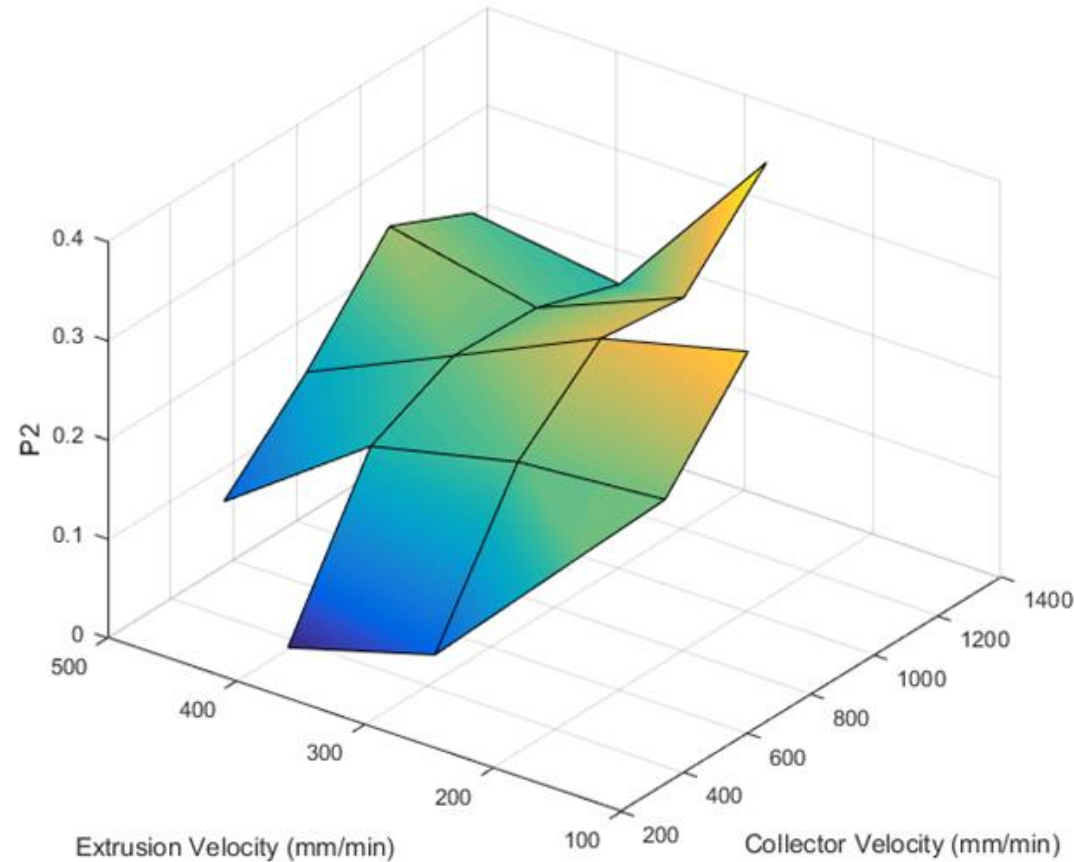


# Processing and Morphology

Orientation factor:

$$\langle P_2 \rangle = \frac{\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} I(|\vec{Q}|, \alpha) P_2(\cos(\alpha)) \sin(\alpha) d\alpha}{\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} I(|\vec{Q}|, \alpha) \sin(\alpha) d\alpha}$$

**P<sub>2</sub>=1** – uniform orientation of crystals



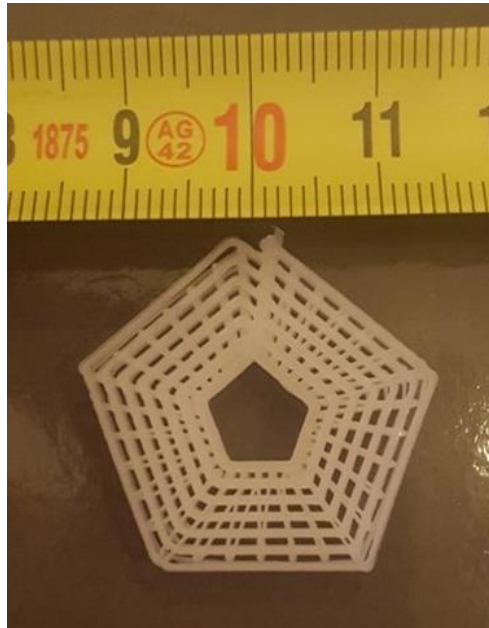
## CONCLUSIONS

- **Processing and structure relationships** in extruded filaments were successfully observed at the ALBA synchrotron light source;
- Higher write speeds lead to faster cooling – **extended chains during crystallization**
- Production of 3d printed parts with targeted morphology **possible based on parameters control.**



## Future Research

- Exploring the design of products to take advantage of this new approach.



## THE TEAM



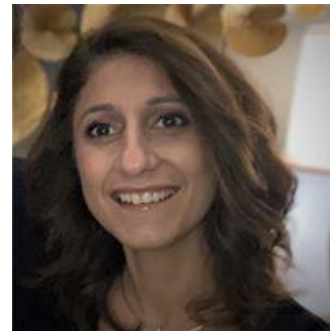
CDRSP CENTRE FOR  
RAPID AND SUSTAINABLE  
PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT



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# Thanks for your attention.

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