

### University of Palermo Department of Physics and Chemistry

## CHIMICA DEI MATERIALI

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## **Our recent research activities**

• Bio-nanocomposites based on halloysite





• Halloysite-surfactant hybrid materials



• Chemical modification of Halloysite

## Halloysite nanotubes





 $Al_2Si_2O_5(OH)_4{\cdot}2H_2O$ 

- Different surface chemistry
- Available cavity

## **Selective adsorption of surfactants**



Hydrophobic/hydrophilic pocket for selective loading

Cavallaro, G.; Lazzara, G.; Milioto, S. J. Phys. Chem. C 2012, 116, 21932 Cavallaro, G.; Lazzara, G.; Milioto, S.; Parisi, F.; Sanzillo, V. ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces 2014, 6, 606 Cavallaro, G.; Lazzara, G.; Milioto, S.; Parisi, F. Langmuir 2015, 31, 7472–7478



DeTAB/HNT HNT NaC12/HNT

**DeTAB/HNT** HNT

T NaC12/HNT

## The structure of the hybrid material

#### Small Angle Neutron Scattering



#### ILL Neutron facility in Grenoble (France)



BENSC facility in Berlin (Germany)

#### Small Angle Neutron Scattering (SANS) HNT/D<sub>2</sub>O







## **Eco-friendly sponge for organic solvents**





#### Good nanoclay dispersion in the polymer matrix

Cavallaro, G.; Lazzara, G.; Konnova, S.; Fakhrullin, R.; Lvov, Y. Green Materials 2014, 2, 232–242.

## **Reverse inorganic micelles**



## Partition between water and oil



Cavallaro, G.; Lazzara, G.; Milioto, S.; Parisi, F. Langmuir 2015, 31, 7472–7478

## **Applications for Cultural Heritage**

#### Cleaning







#### Paper

Cavallaro, G; Lazzara,G; Milioto, S; Parisi, F. Halloysite nanotubes with fluorinated cavity: an innovative consolidant for paper treatment Journal of Clay Minerals **2016**, *just accepted* 

#### **Consolidation**:

#### Wood 🖌

Cavallaro G, Lazzara G, Milioto S, Parisi F, Sparacino V. Thermal and dynamic mechanical properties of beeswax-halloysite nanocomposites for consolidating waterlogged archaeological woods. Polymer Degradation and Stability. 2015;120:220–5.

## Waterlogged Archaeological Woods





17th century ship - Vasa Museum, Stockholm



Consolidation is a key issue!

#### General conservation state:

- highly degraded
- high porosity (even more than 90% !)
- low mechanical resistance

# Macroscopic observation of beeswax/HNT nanocomposites

Beeswax



Beeswax + HNT 60 %



T:75 °C t:0 s

T : 75 °C t : 7 min

Cavallaro, G.; Lazzara, G.; Milioto, S.; Parisi, F.; Sparacino, V. Polym.Degrad. Stab. 2015, 120, 220–225. Zhao, Y.; Thapa, S.; Weiss, L.; Lvov, Y. Advanced Engineering Materials 2014, 16, 1391–1399.

# DSC characterization of beeswax/HNT nanocomposites



## **Tanδ data for beeswax/HNT**



Shear

## SEM images from waterlogged wood treated with beeswax/HNT



# Waterlogged Archaeological Woods shrinking effect

Before drying	After drying			
a	b	Untreated sample		
a Maria	b	Sample treated with beeswax/HNT	HNT% in the dried consolidant	$\Delta V(\%)$
			Untreated wood	40,6
	홍옥왕산 공중원들이 탄원동보의 유원동물감		0	11,61

6,2

30

Cavallaro, G.; Lazzara, G.; Milioto, S.; Parisi, F.; Sparacino, V. Polym. Degrad. Stab. 2015, 120, 220-225.

## Metodi

Analisi termica: TGA, DMA, DSC, micro-DSC

Termodinamica in soluzione: nano-ITC, velocità del suono, densità, osmometria

Large facilities: SANS

Superficie: angolo di contatto, tensione superficiale

## **Collaborations**

**TU-Berlin** { • Prof. M. Gradzielski

ILL-Grenoble { • Dr. I. Grillo

**Kazan Federal University** { • Prof. R. F. Fakhrullin

La-Tech { • Prof. Y. Lvov

Monash University { • Dr. P. Pasbakhsh