Formation of particle cluster from rotating particle chains

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Magnetized particles in a homogeneous magnetic field

- 1. Magnetic moments align
- 2. Particles Interact and form chains
- Chains follow the rotation of the applied field

Experimental Setup and Results

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Superparamagnetic particles form into highly ordered patches

Every 2 minutes a new droplet is added

Added particles quickly attach to existing patches

Theoretical description

- Particles interact with each other, due to their inhomogeneous stray fields.
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$$\vec{F}_m = \frac{3\mu_0}{4\pi} \frac{m_i m_j}{r_{ij}^4} \left[(1 - 5(\hat{m} \cdot \hat{r})^2)\hat{r} + 2(\hat{m} \cdot \hat{r})\hat{m} \right]$$

$$\vec{F}_{S} = 6\pi \nu_{viscosity} R \left(\vec{v}_{fluid} - \vec{v}_{particle} \right)$$

$$\vec{F}_{r} = \frac{24\epsilon}{\sigma} \left(\frac{\sigma}{r_{ij}}^{7} - \frac{2\sigma^{13}}{r_{ij}^{13}} \right) \hat{r}$$

Why do particles form a cluster?

No force contribution for one full turn!

Simulation results

Thank you for your attention

Any questions unanswered?