

PhD studentship in Soft Condensed Matter/Physical Chemistry with the University of Oxford and Syngenta

Title: Improving non-aqueous dispersions for agrochemical application

Industrial sponsor: Syngenta through an EPSRC iCASE

Oxford supervisor: Prof Dirk Aarts

Intended start date: 1 October 2021 (for 4 years)

PhD position in the Oxford Colloid Group on interactions between colloidal particles with applications to agrochemistry.

A fully funded 4-year PhD position is available in the lab of Professor Dirk Aarts (Oxford Colloid Group <http://colloid.chem.ox.ac.uk>). The project, sponsored by Syngenta and EPSRC through an iCASE award, aims to measure the interactions between colloidal particles in non-aqueous dispersions used in the agrochemical industry. The work will combine a range of experimental techniques from colloid science with some modelling and theoretical aspects. This will provide a collaborative and stimulating environment for the postgraduate student. Moreover, the work ties in to one of this century's major societal challenges of global food security through increases in food supply

Syngenta is a leading agriculture company helping to improve global food security by enabling millions of farmers to make better use of available resources. Through world class science and innovative crop solutions, 28,000 people in over 90 countries are working to transform how crops are grown. Syngenta is committed to rescuing land from degradation, enhancing biodiversity and revitalizing rural communities. To learn more visit www.syngenta.com and www.goodgrowthplan.com.

The candidate is expected to have a strong interest in soft condensed matter, and should be keen to work in collaboration with industry. Experience in colloid chemistry and microscopy would be an advantage. Applicants should be in possession of, or expect to attain, a first or upper second class honours degree, or equivalent, in a relevant discipline (Chemistry, Physics, Materials science).

The studentship will cover course fees at a Home rate and provide a stipend of no less than the standard UK Research Council rate, currently set at £15,285 per annum, for up to 4 years. Please note the eligibility criteria set out by the UKRI EPSRC at:

<https://epsrc.ukri.org/skills/students/guidance-on-epsrc-studentships/eligibility/>

Candidates should submit a formal application for [DPhil in Physical and Theoretical Chemistry](#) via the Oxford online application system: <http://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate/applying-to-oxford>, quoting **DA/iCASE/Chem/2021**.

For further information please see: <http://postgraduate.chem.ox.ac.uk/prospective-students.aspx>

Application deadline: **12.00 noon UK time on Tuesday, 1st June 2021**

For enquires relating to the application and admissions process please contact:

Aga Borkowska, Graduate Studies Administrator:

+44 (0) 1865 272569

graduate.admissions@chem.ox.ac.uk

For informal enquiries regarding the research project please contact:

dirk.aarts@chem.ox.ac.uk

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