

**instituto
imdea
nanociencia**



Nano-engineered (Multi)functional Surfaces

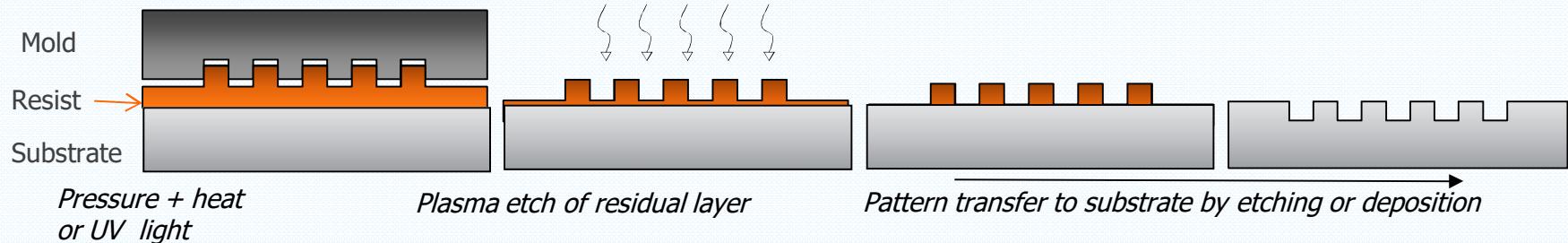
Isabel Rodríguez
i.rodriguez@imdea.org

Nanoimprinting: A replication process

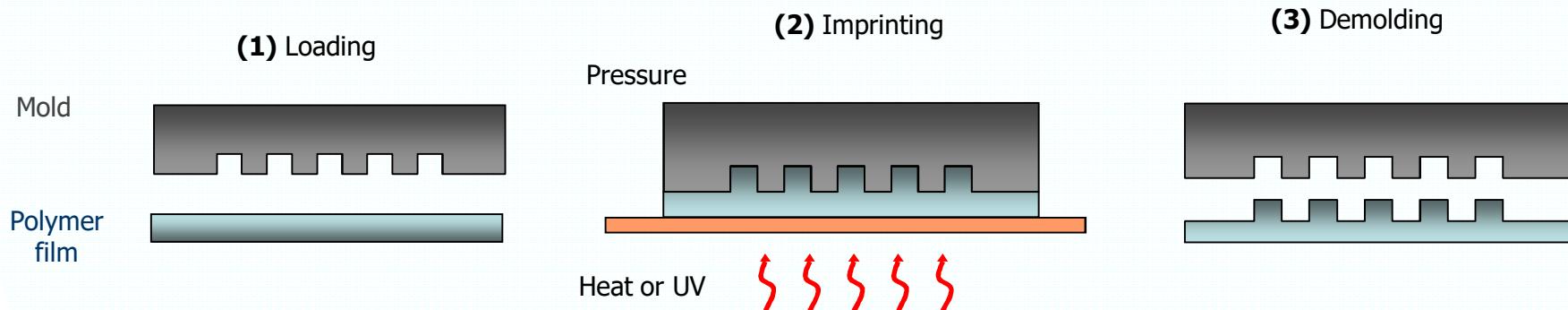
Pattern transfer by mechanical deformation of a resist material

➤ Nanoimprint lithography (NIL) ~ UV - Thermal

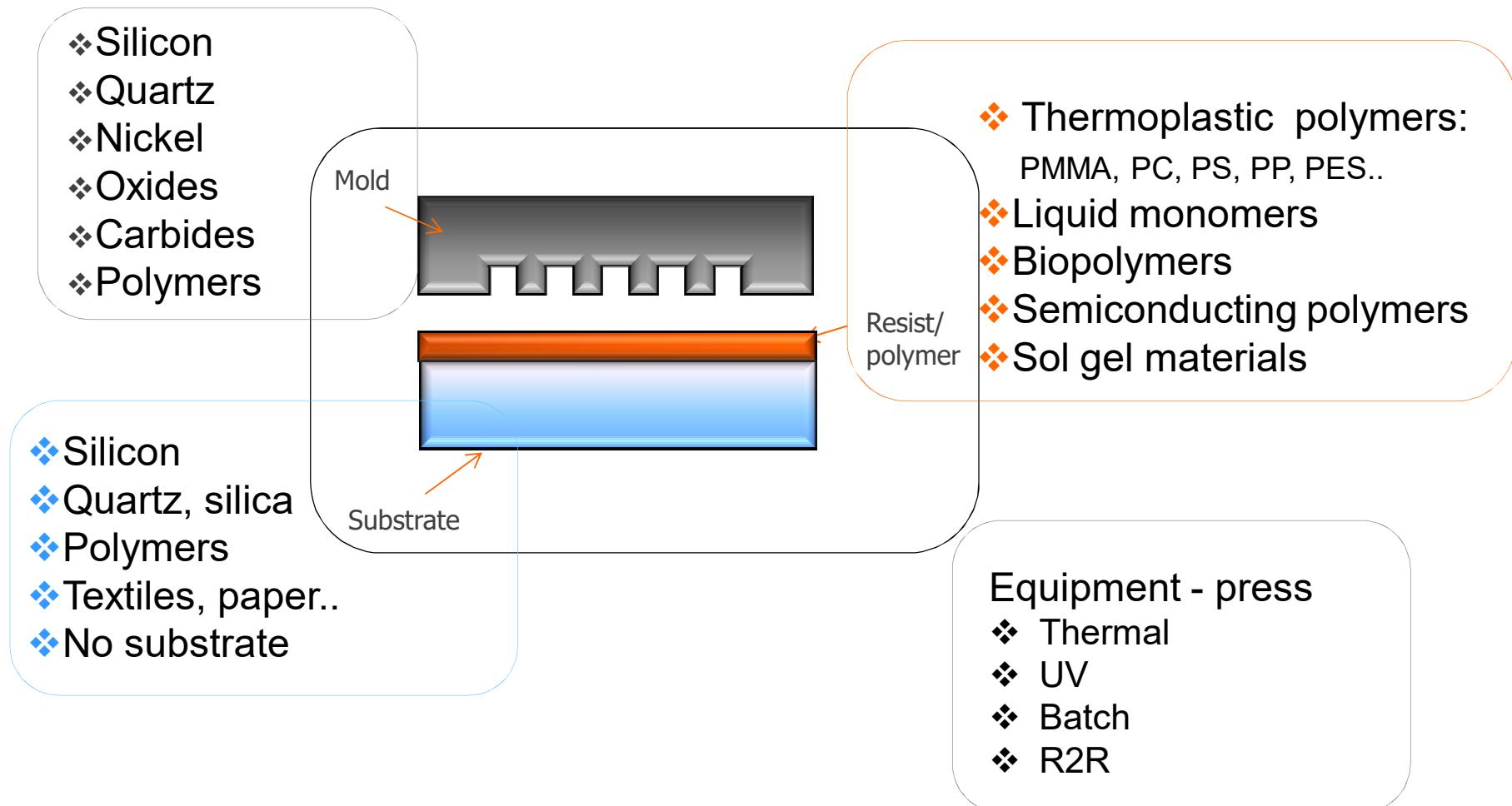
Imprinting



➤ Nanoimprint technology (NIT) ~ UV - Thermal



Nanoimprinting tool box

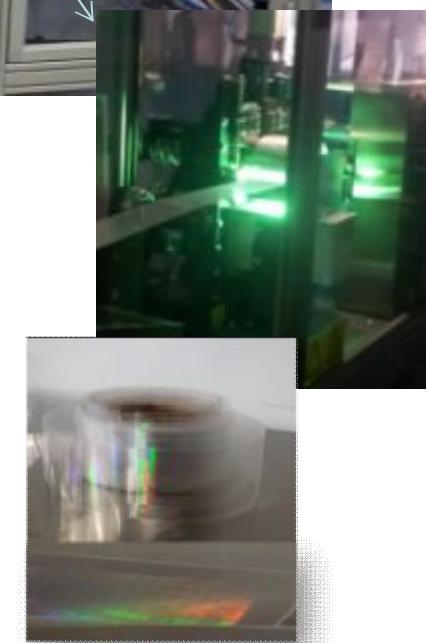
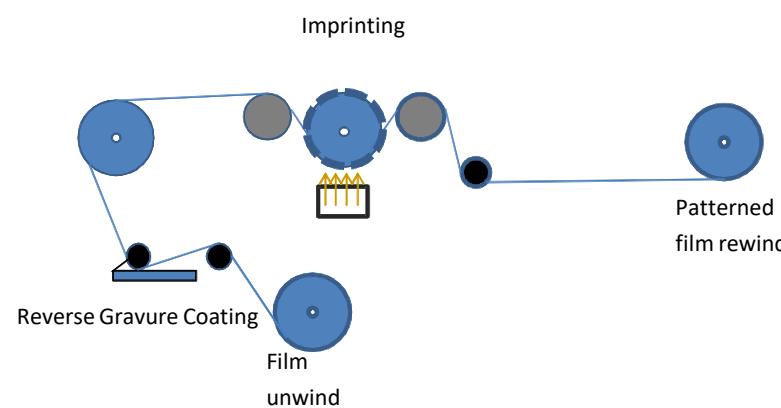
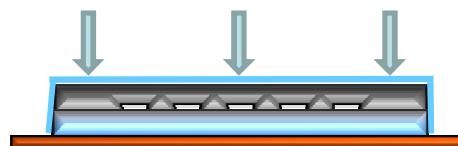


Nanoimprinting machines

Plate

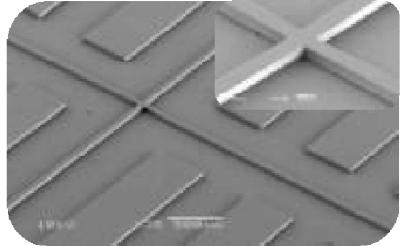


Roll to Roll

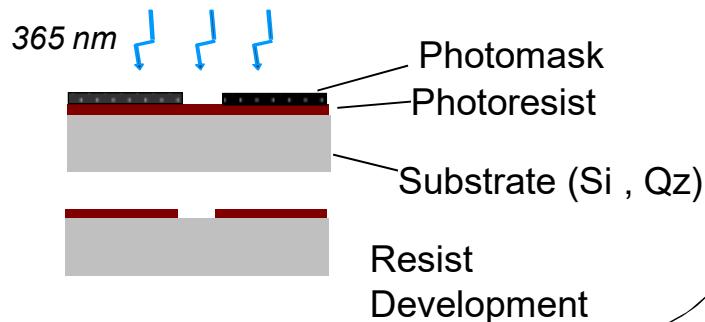


Mold fabrication

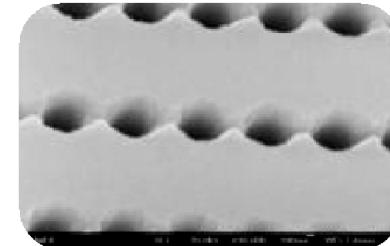
Photo lithography : Micrometer range



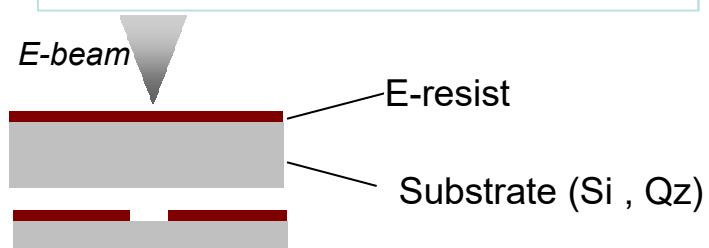
- Limited resolution to $1 \mu\text{m}^2$
- Patterned area – 2 - 12"



E-Beam lithography: Sub-micron and Nanometer range



- Resolution from 600- 5 nm
- Limited writing area



Deep Si Etching "Bosch" Plasma process



Working mold Replication

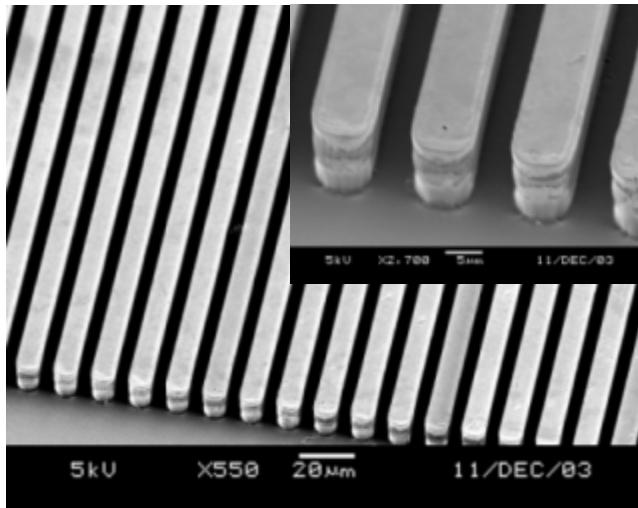


Ni Electroplating

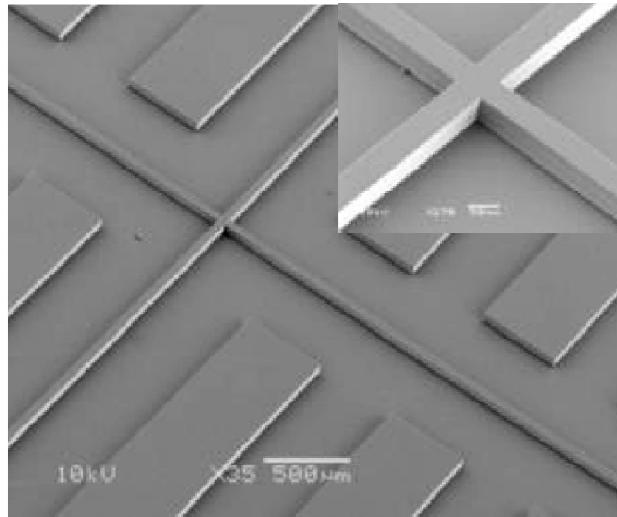
Polymers: PDMS, PTFE ...

Molds - stamps

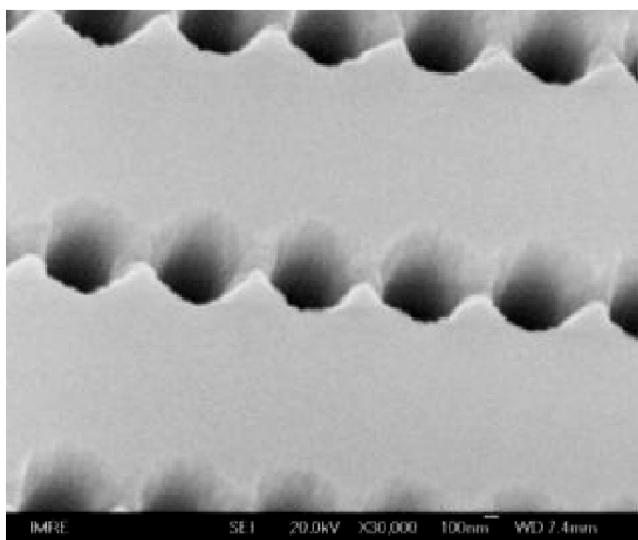
Quartz



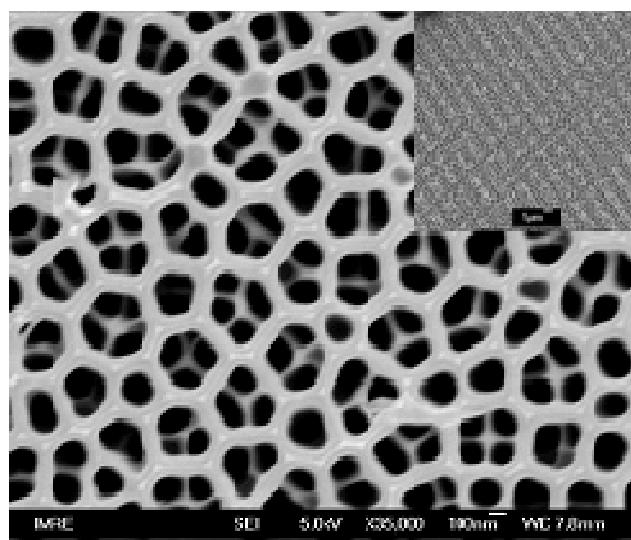
Silicon



PDMS

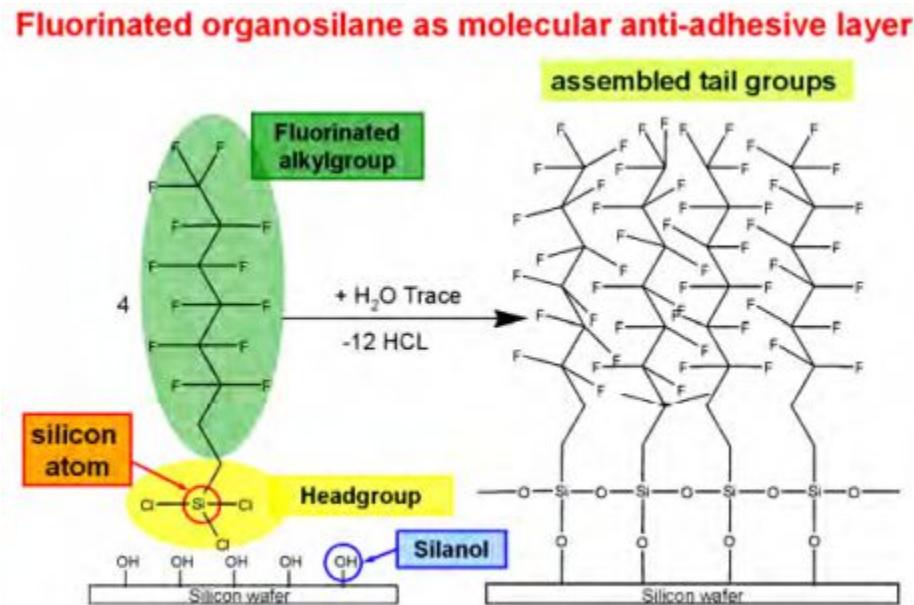


Alumina



Anti-sticking coating

Anti-adhesion surface treatment to reduce the surface energy



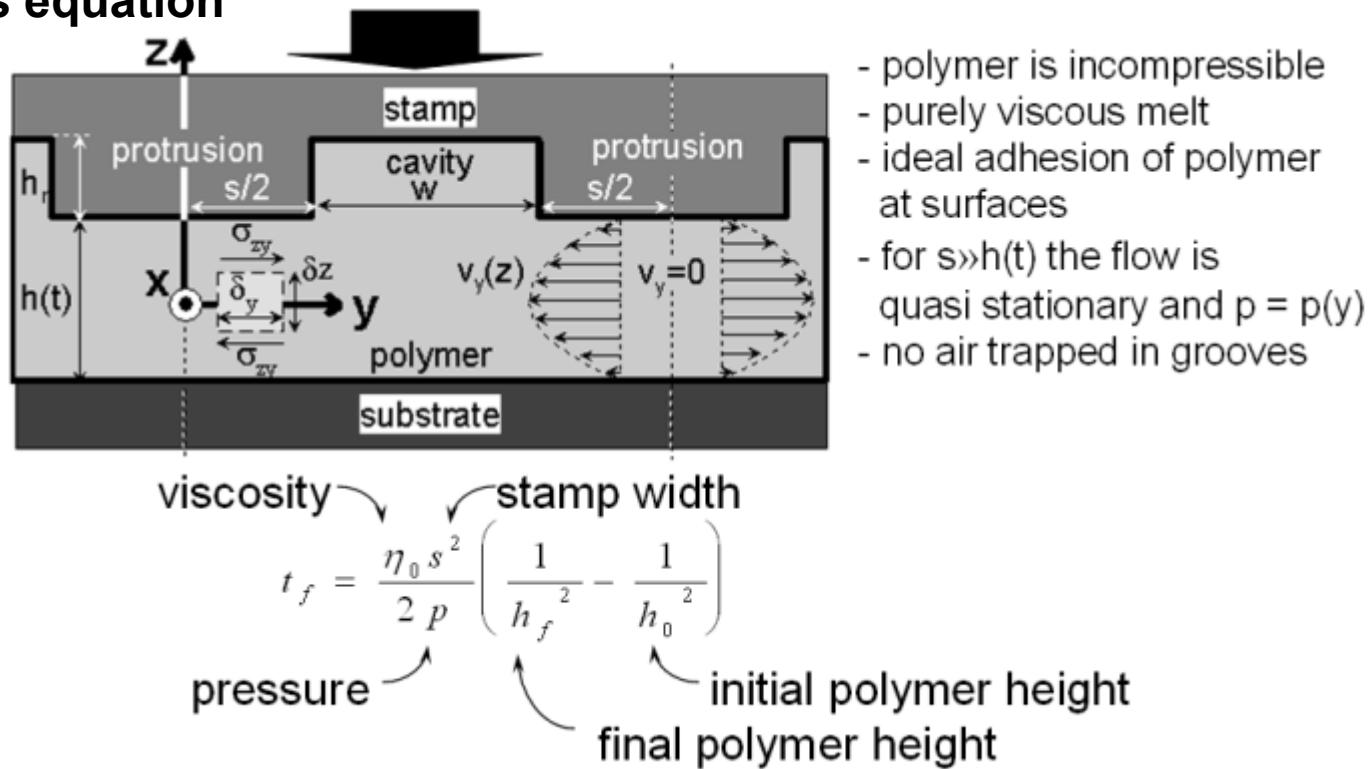
Perfluorodecyltrichlorosilane (FDTs)
Heptadecafluoro-1,1,2,2-tetrahydrooctyl)-trichlorosilane (F13-TFS),

Nanoimprinting process

Mechanical displacement of (polymer) material by pressure

The polymer flow into the stamp protrusions - Newtonian flow behavior

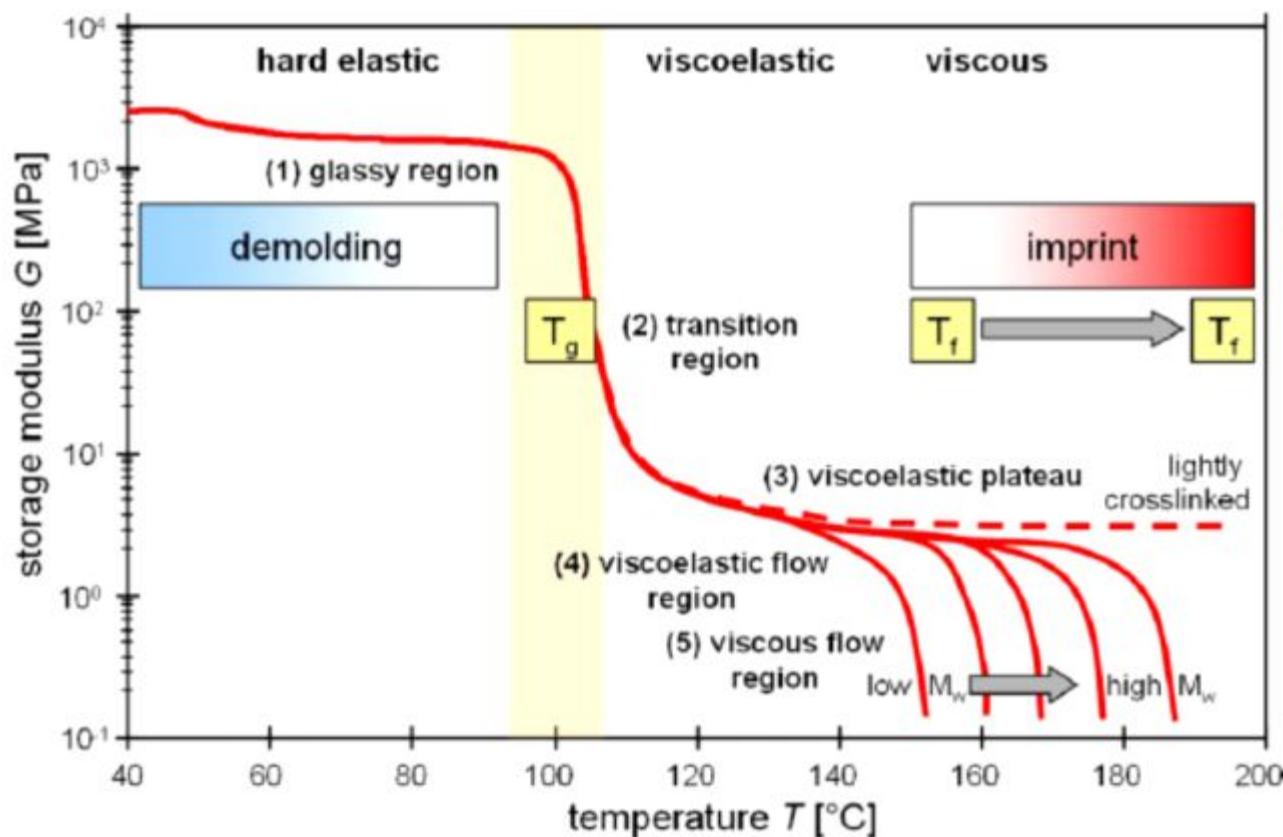
- Stefan's equation



Source: NAPANIL Library process pg 21. Ed H Shift

Choice of process parameters

Mechanical properties change with temperature



$$T_f = T_g + 50 \text{ C}$$

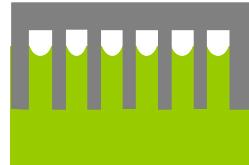
Optimum viscosity : $10^3\text{--}10^7 \text{ Pa s}$

Capillary Nano Imprinting

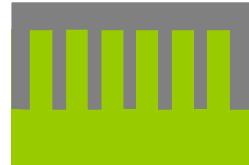
High Aspect Ratio Polymer Patterning



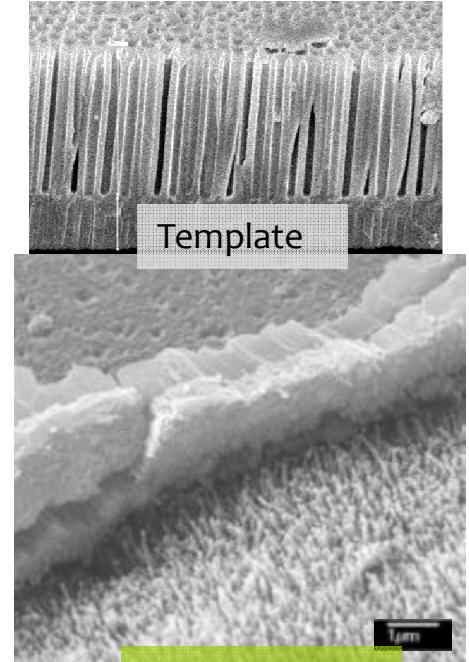
$T = T_m$, $T \gg T_g$,



Capillarity action –filling

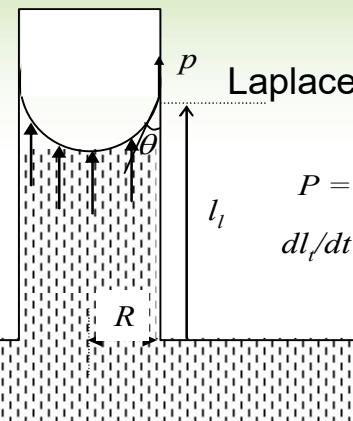


Demolding



1. Polymer is heated above its solidification temperature
2. The pores of templates are wetted and polymer fills-in by capillarity

Capillary action



Laplace pressure:

$$P = 2\gamma \cos\theta/R$$

$$dl/dt = R \gamma \cos\theta / (4\eta l)$$

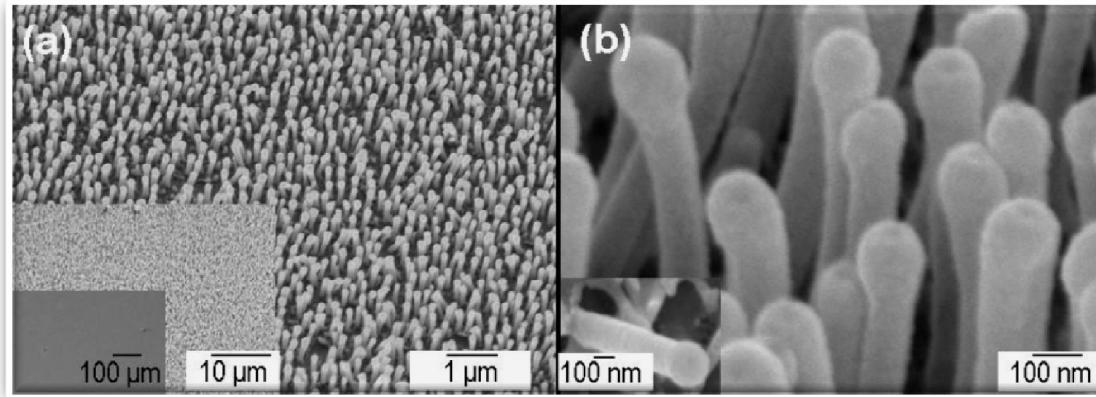
Features

- High aspect ratio – up to 100:1
- High density
- Sub-100 nm polymer structures

Polymer Nano-Pillars

High aspect ratio polymer nano-structures

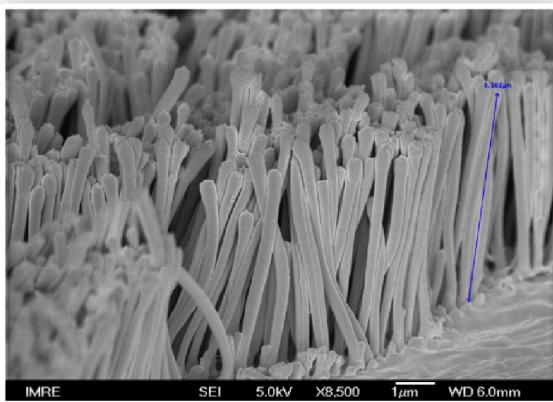
➤ Sub-100 nm. Pilar size, 80-100 nm; AR in the range 10:1



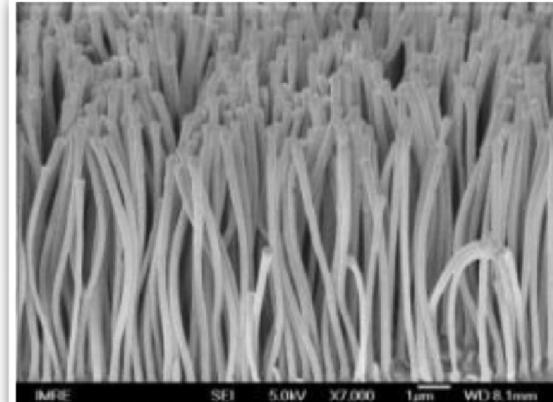
Applications:

- Biomimetic nanophotonics
- Anti reflective, diffractive optics
- Photonic crystals
- Sub wave length optics
- Gecko like dry adhesives
- Substrates for cell biology

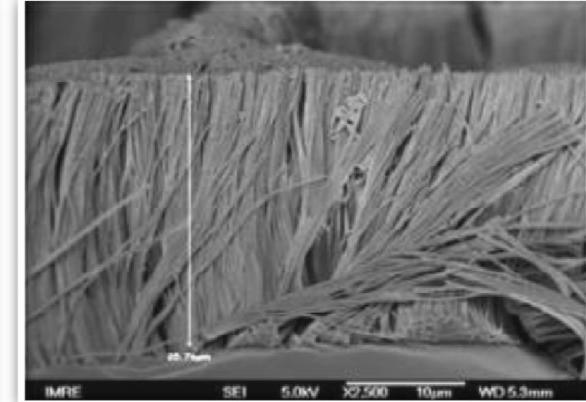
➤ 250 nm pillars, AR 24:1



➤ 200 nm pillars, AR 40:1



➤ 270 nm pillars, AR 100:1



Nanoimprinting facts

- ♣ **High-resolution** - Not limited by diffraction but by the mold size (1 nm resolution demonstrated)
- ♣ **High-throughput** - Roll to roll scalable, roll to plate
- ♣ **Low-cost**
- ♣ **Versatility** - Material flexibility
Process flexibility : UV, thermal
Feature flexibility : micron- nanoscale
- ♣ **Low environmental impact** : Greener - less use of solvent developers etc.

-
- ❖ Defects, mold patterning and mold wear
 - ❖ Mechanical resistance of the nanofeatures

Nanofabrication

Direct writing techniques

E-beam lithography
Ion beam lithography
Scanning probe lithography
Direct Laser Writing Lithography
Two-photon Lithography -3D printing

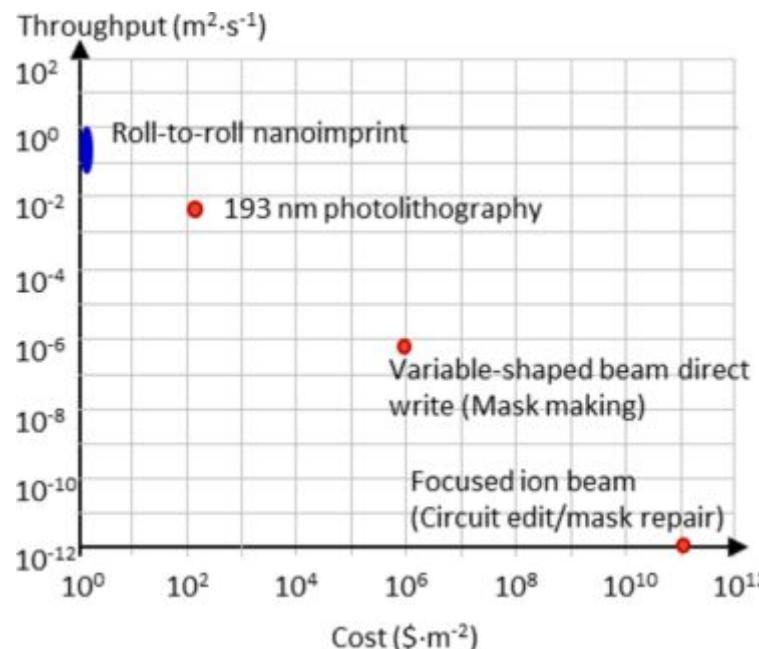
Nanomanufacturing

Replication techniques

mass fabrication processes

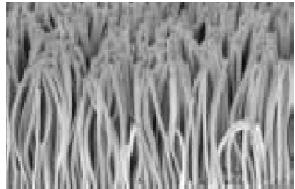
Optical lithography
X-ray lithography
Nanoimprint technology

Resolution ~ Throughput – Cost

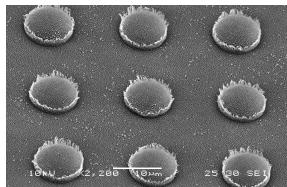


Patterning techniques used in integrated circuit manufacturing.
J. A. Liddle & G. M. Gallatin,
Nanomanufacturing: A Perspective
ACS Nano 2016, 10, 2995.

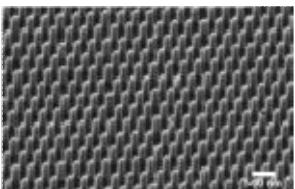
Surface functions & bio-applications



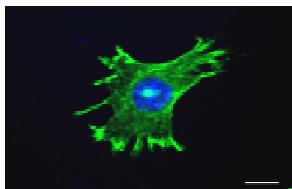
➤ Gecko like dry adhesives



➤ Superhydrophobic lotus



➤ Anti-reflective moth-eye surfaces



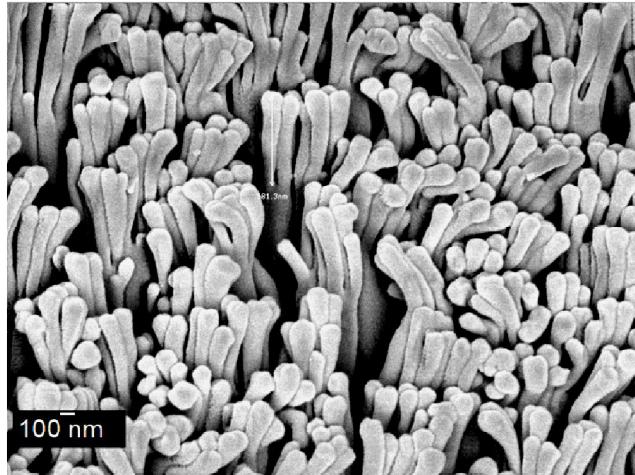
➤ Cell Instructive Patterned Topographies



➤ Bactericidal Moth Eye Inspired Topography

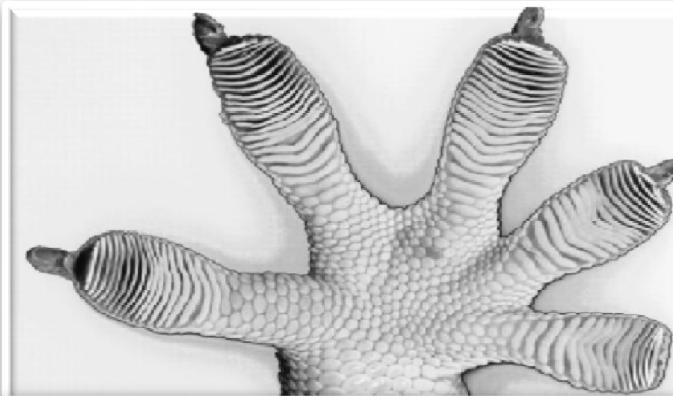
Gecko like dry adhesives

van der Waals adhesion - residue free

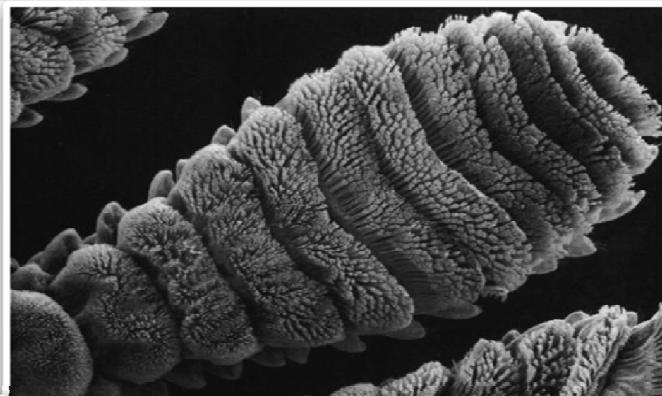


Polymeric
hierarchically
branched fibrils

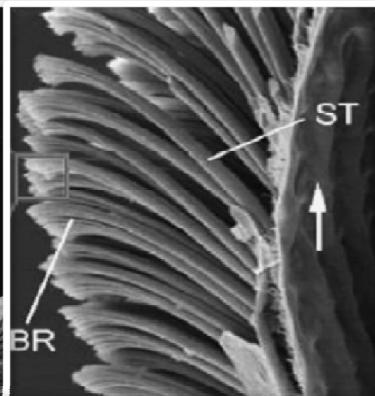
Gecko's Hierarchical Attachment System



Autumn, K., et al., Nature, 2000. **405**(6787): p. 681.



Bhushan, B., J. Adhesion Sci. & Tech., 2007. **21**(12/13): p. 1213.



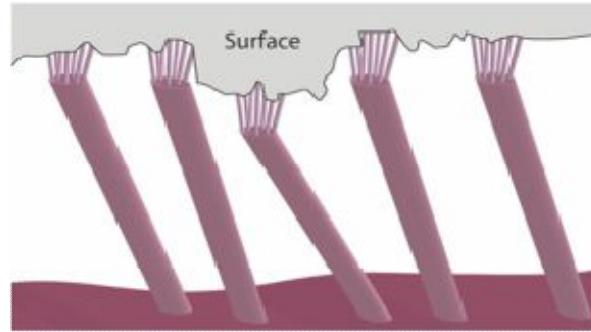
| Hierarchy (β -keratin) | Name | Diameter | Height | Aspect Ratio | Density (#/mm ²) |
|----------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Level 1 | Seta | $\sim 4 \mu\text{m}$ | $\sim 110 \mu\text{m}$ | ~ 25 | 14×10^3 |
| Level 2 | Branch | $\sim 1 \mu\text{m}$ | $\sim 25 \mu\text{m}$ | ~ 25 | - |
| Level 3 | Spatula | $\sim 100 \text{ nm}$ | $\sim 2.5 \mu\text{m}$ | ~ 25 | $1.4 - 14 \times 10^6$ |
| End of Level 3 | Tip of Spatula | Width $200 - 300 \text{ nm}$ | Length 500 nm | Thickness 10 nm | |

Hierarchy allows for conformal contact - Adhesion via van der Waals forces

Gecko adhesive

Hierarchy of compliant structures

Conformational contact to surface roughness

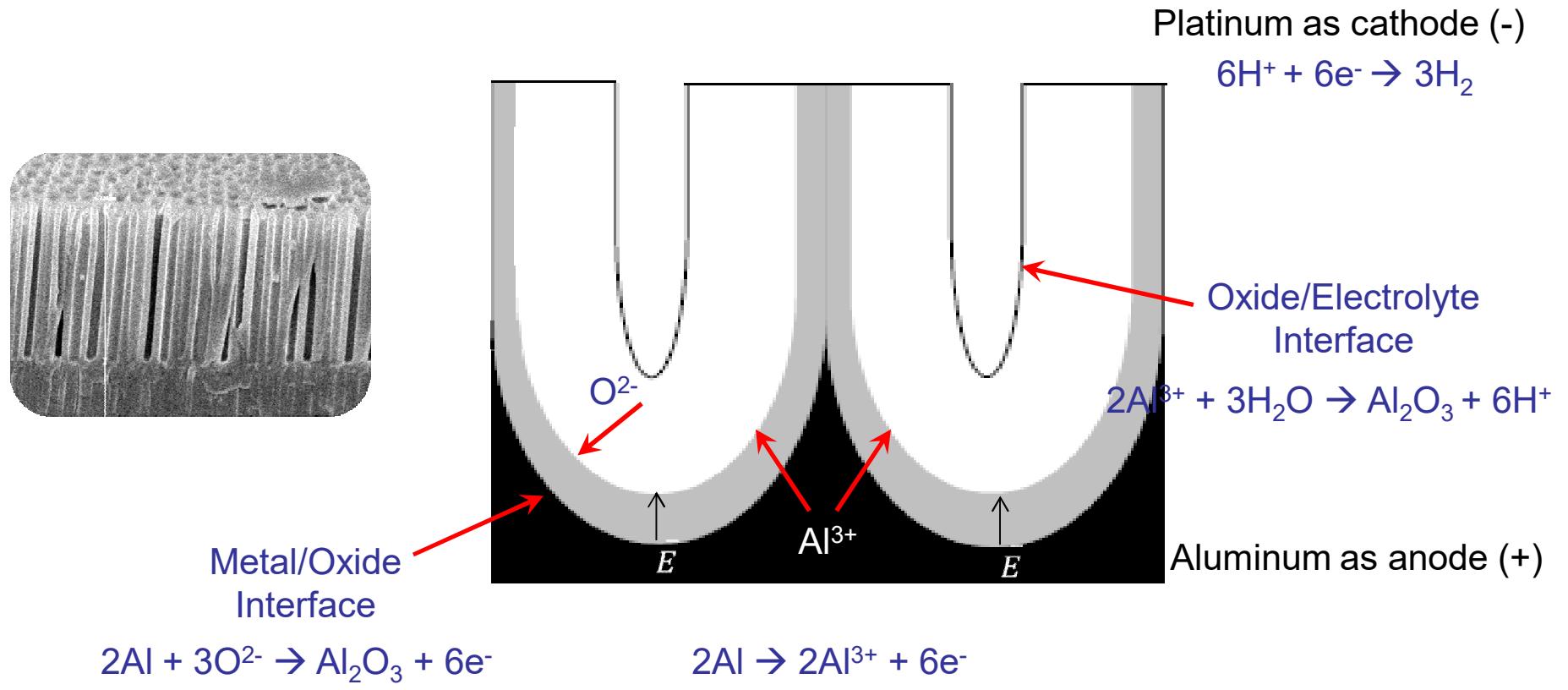


Benchmark functional properties:

1. Anisotropic , directional attachment - shear force adhesion
2. High pull off to preload ratio
3. Low detachment force
4. Material independence / van der Waals adhesion
5. Self-cleaning
6. Anti-self matting
7. Non-sticky in default state

Mold fabrication: Nano porous alumina

Aluminium anodization - Alumina Pore Formation



Overall anodization reaction: $2Al + 3H_2O \rightarrow Al_2O_3 + 3H_2$

Fabrication of hierarchical PAA template



1st-tier anodization

V_1
0.3 M H₃PO₄; 130 V

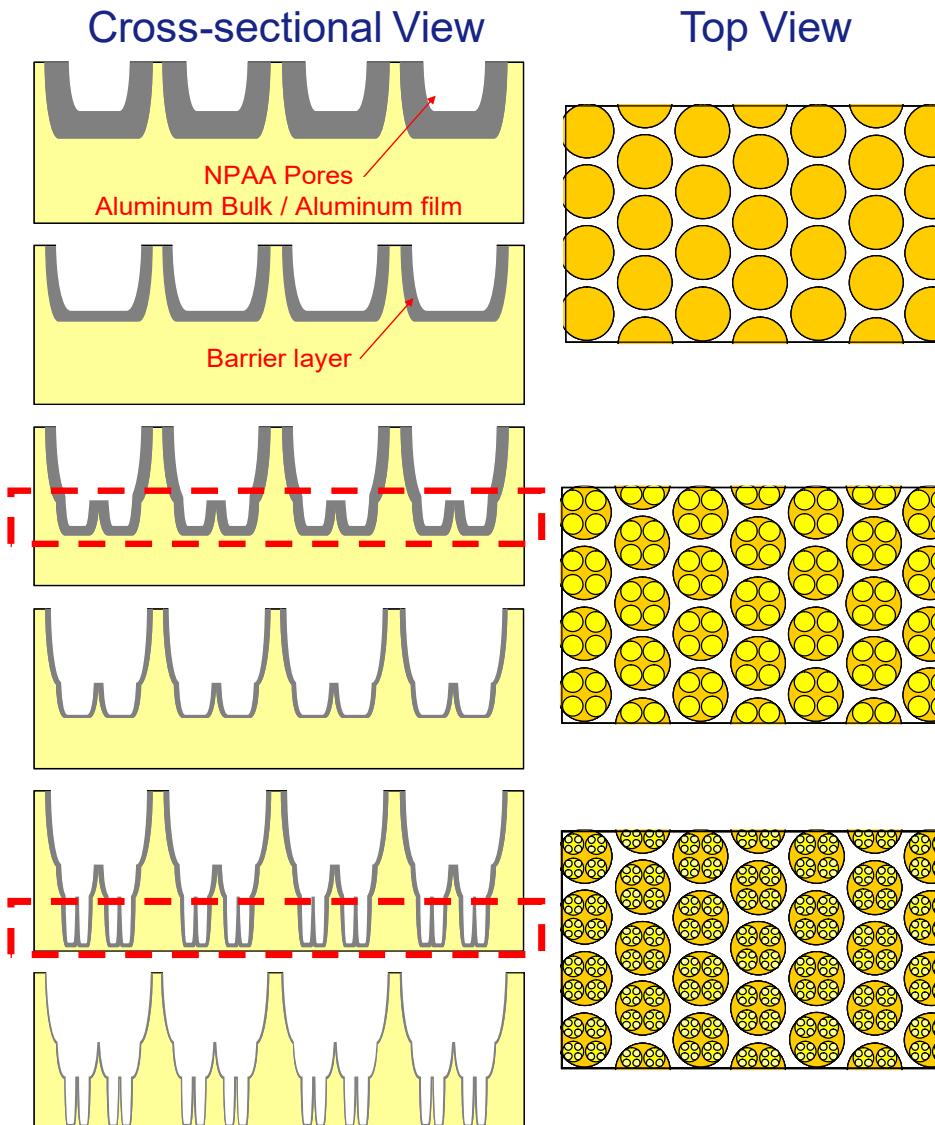
Barrier layer thinning,
5wt% H₃PO₄

2nd-tier anodization
 $V_2 < V_1$

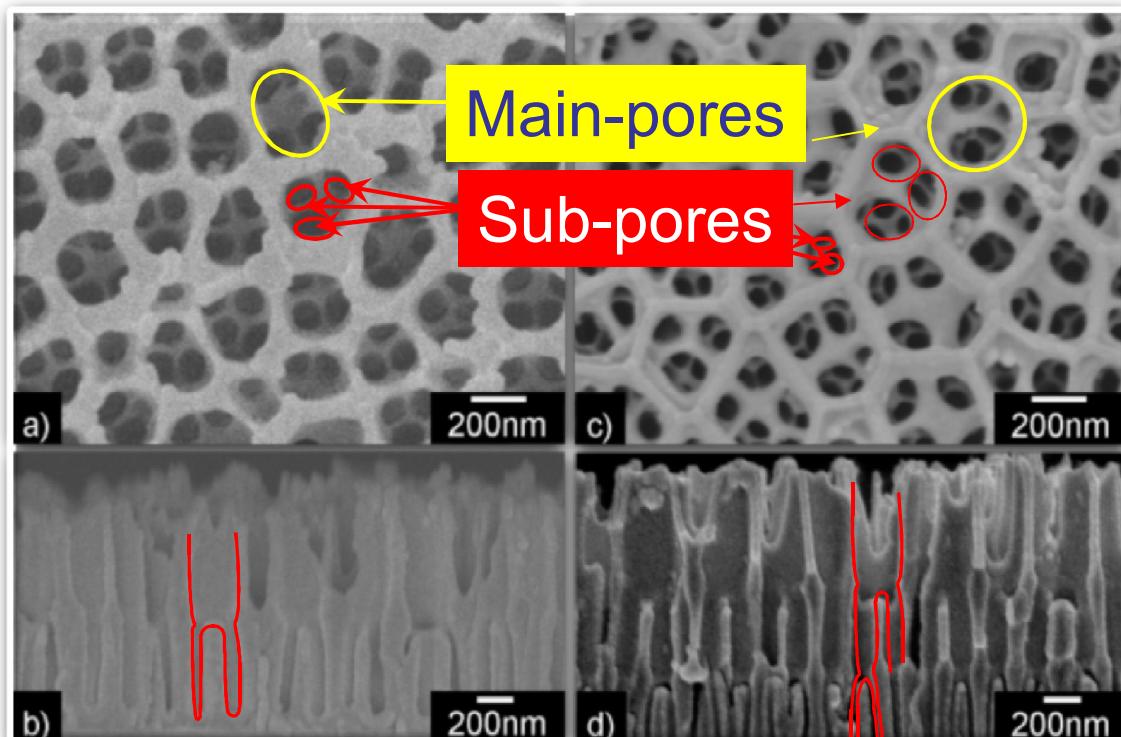
Barrier layer thinning

3rd-tier anodization
 $V_3 < V_2$

Barrier layer thinning

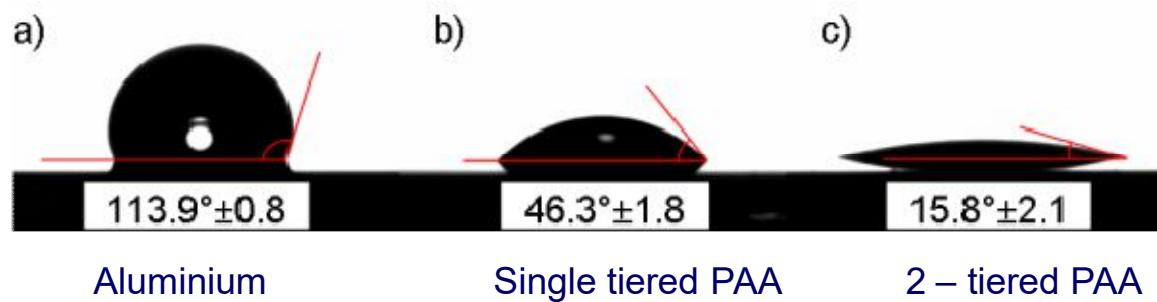
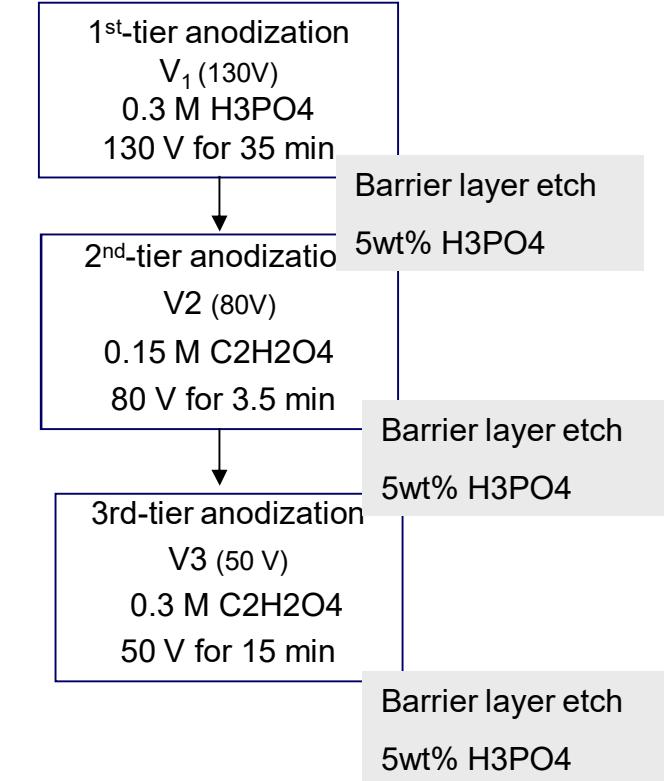


Branched Porous Alumina Template



Advanced Functional Materials 2008, 18, 2057-2063.

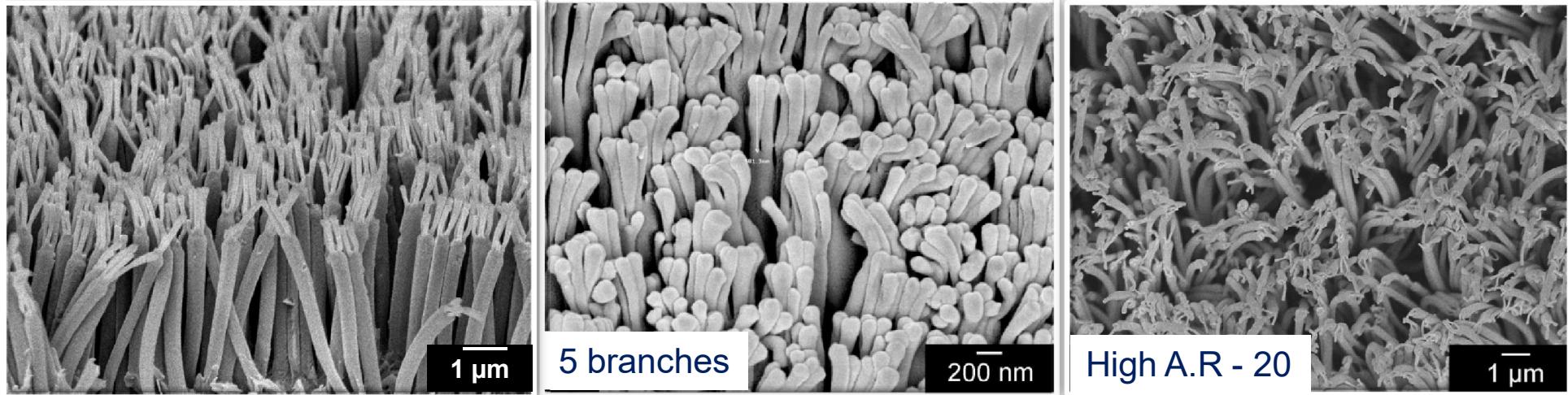
2-3 step aluminum anodization



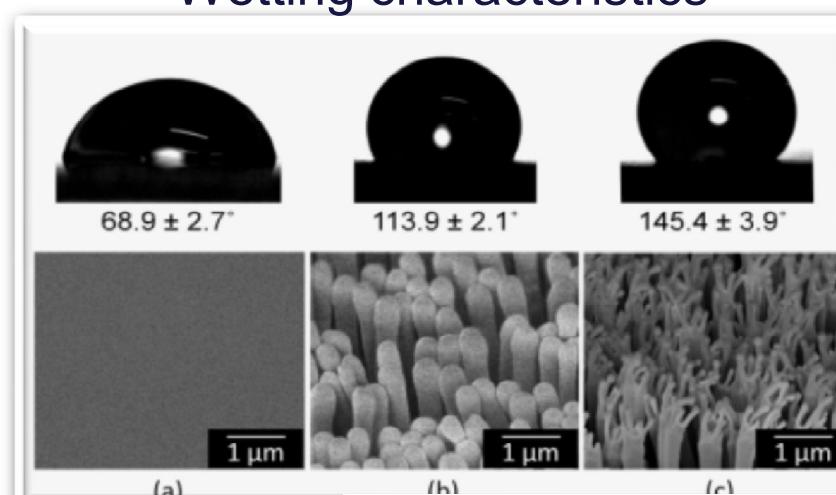
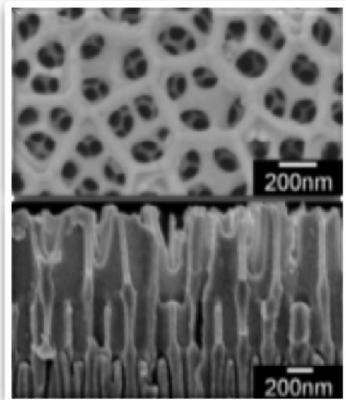
Increased wettability →
- filling of the pores

Hierarchical gecko like dry adhesives

Main fibril's Ø: 250 nm , A.R – 10, ρ – 6.2×10^6 fibrils/mm²

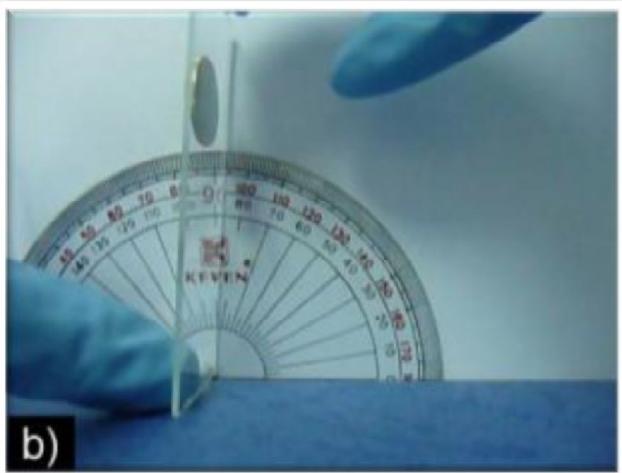
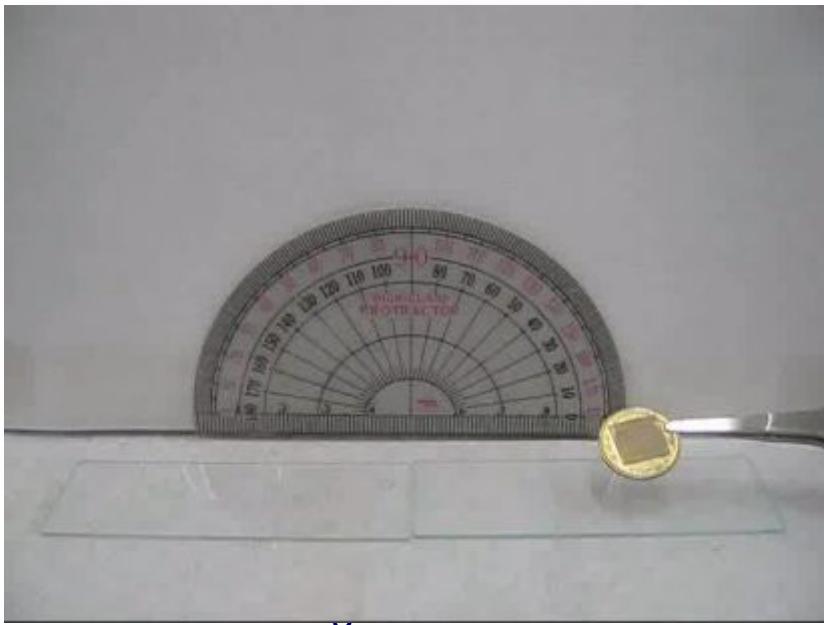


Wetting characteristics

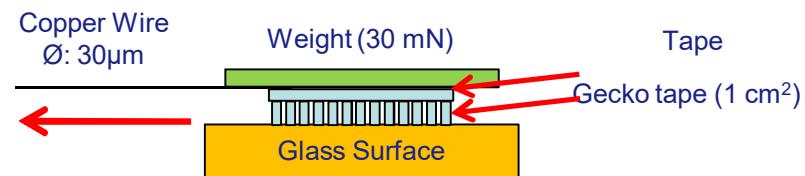


Pristine Polycarbonate Linear pillars Branched pillars

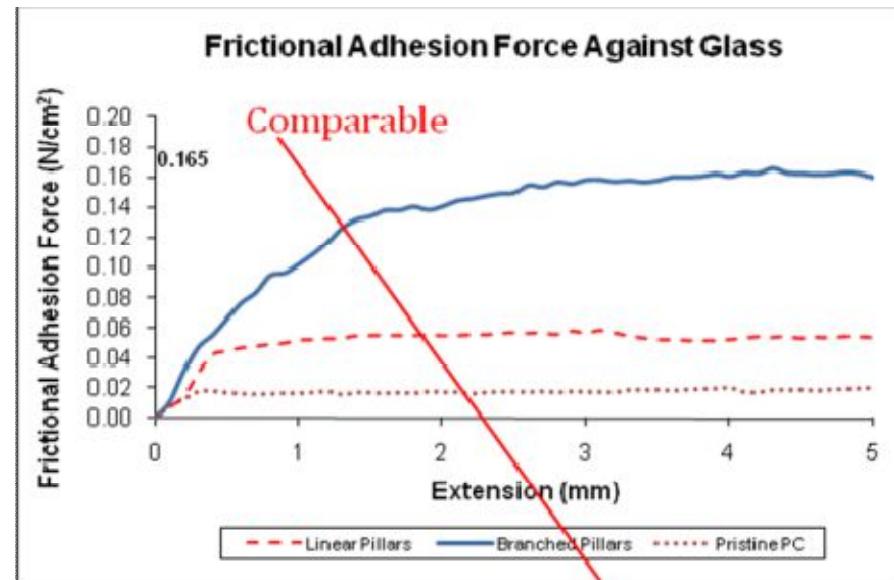
Frictional Adhesion Measurements



Branched pillared tape on a 5 cents coin remaining on the glass-slide at + 90° tilt.



Gecko tape friction test set up



Values by estimating contact region with preload of 0.03 N/sq.cm.

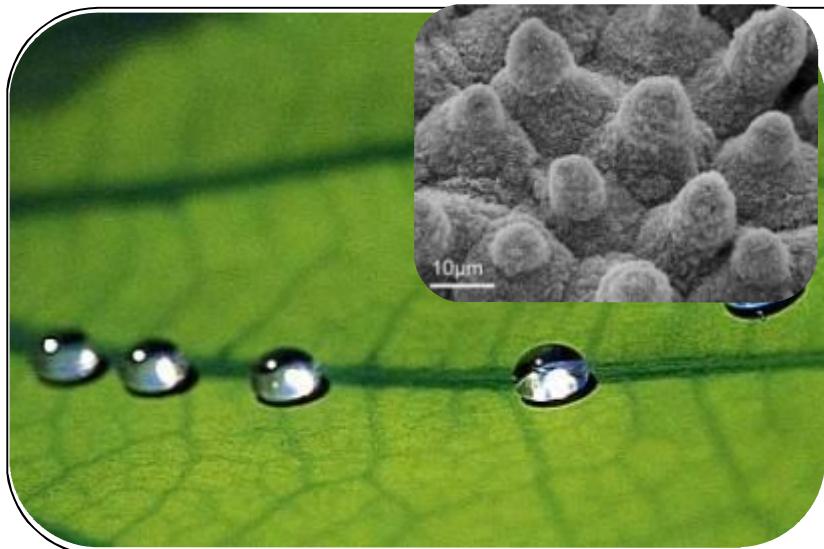
Typical weight of Gekko Gecko : 43.4 ± 1.48 g

Pad area : 2.271 ± 0.109 cm²

→ Frictional Adhesion Force : 0.188 N/cm²

D.J. Irschick et al., *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society* (1996), 59: 21-95.

Superhydrophobic, self cleaning lotus leave

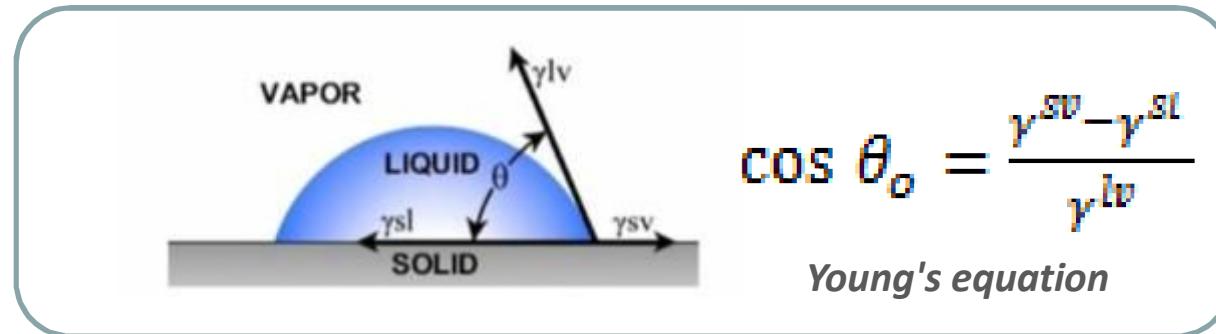


Hierarchical
micro/nano
topography

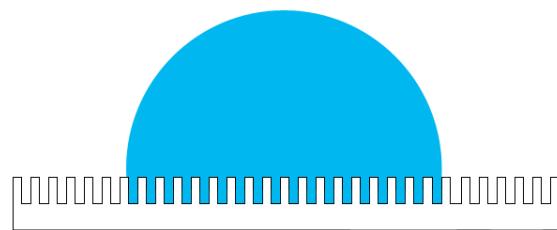
Ho, Audrey et al. *Lotus bioinspired superhydrophobic, self-cleaning surfaces from hierarchically assembled templates*. *Journal of Polymer Science Part B: Polymer Physics*, 2014, 52, 603.

Wetting properties : contact angle

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ultrahydrophobicity>

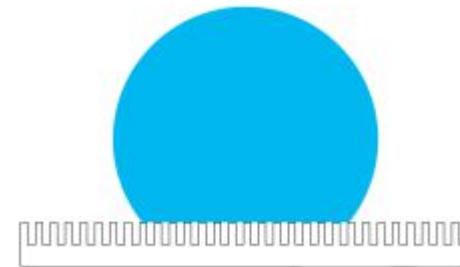


Wenzel state



$$\cos \theta = r \cos \theta_o$$

Cassie- Baxter state



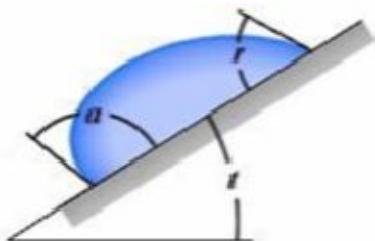
$$\cos \theta = r f \cos \theta_o - 1 + f$$

Super hydrophobic surfaces

~ Synergy : surface energy + topography ~
Apparent contact angle (θ) above 150°



Self-cleaning surfaces



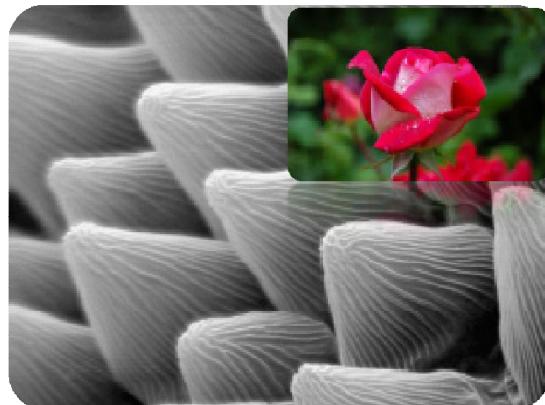
~ Synergy : surface energy + topography ~

apparent contact angle (θ) above 150°
+ contact angle hysteresis below 10 °

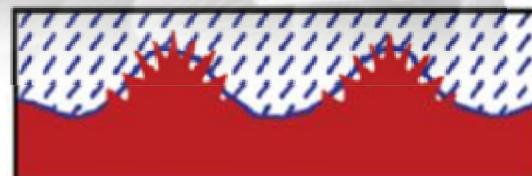
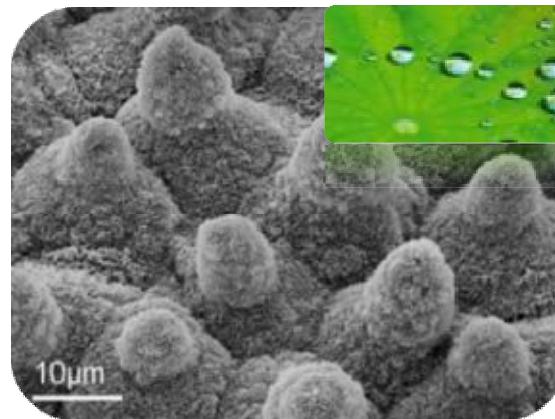
$$H = \theta_a - \theta_r$$

Topography modulated wettability

Self-pinning



Self-cleaning



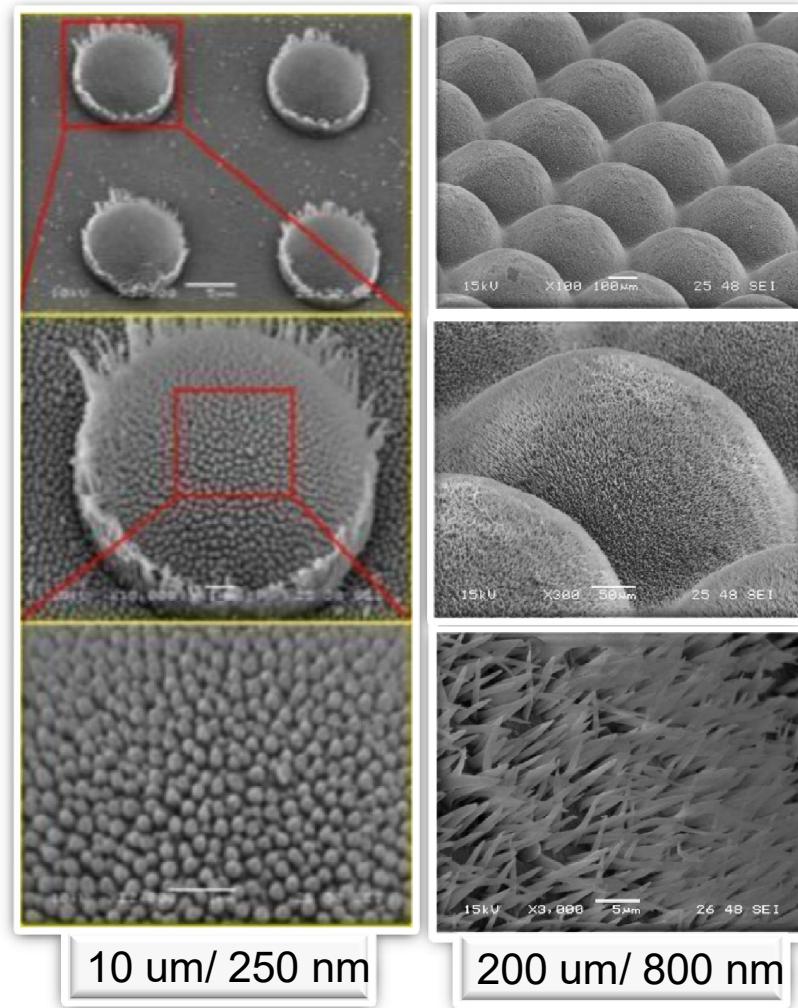
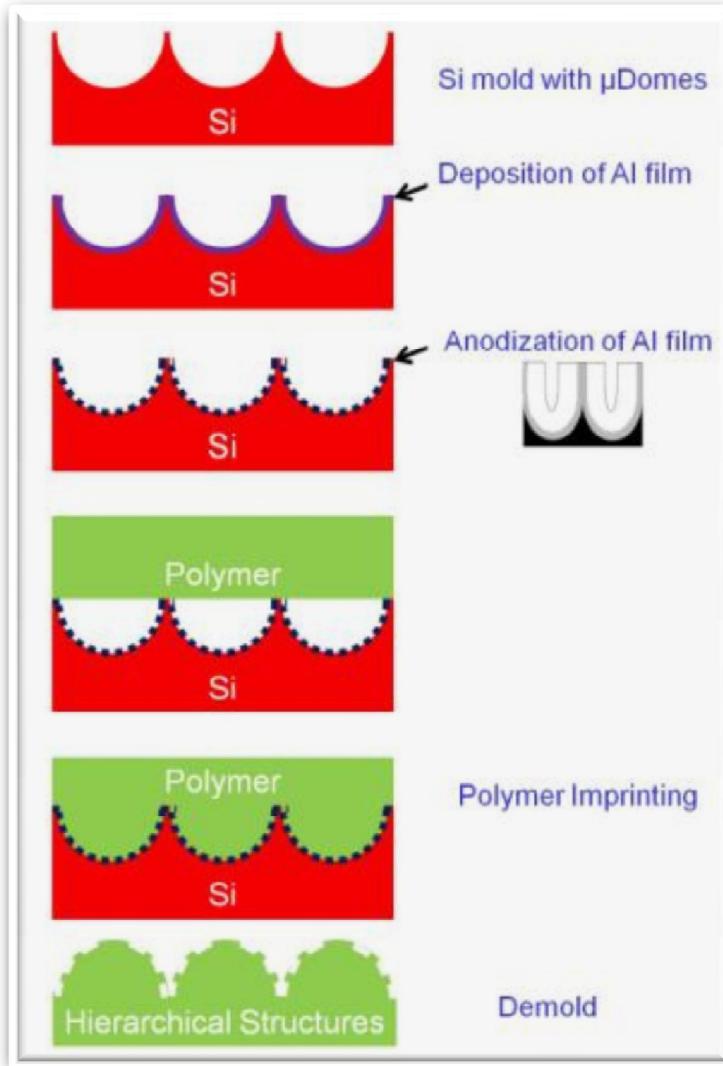
Petal (Cassie impregnating wetting state)



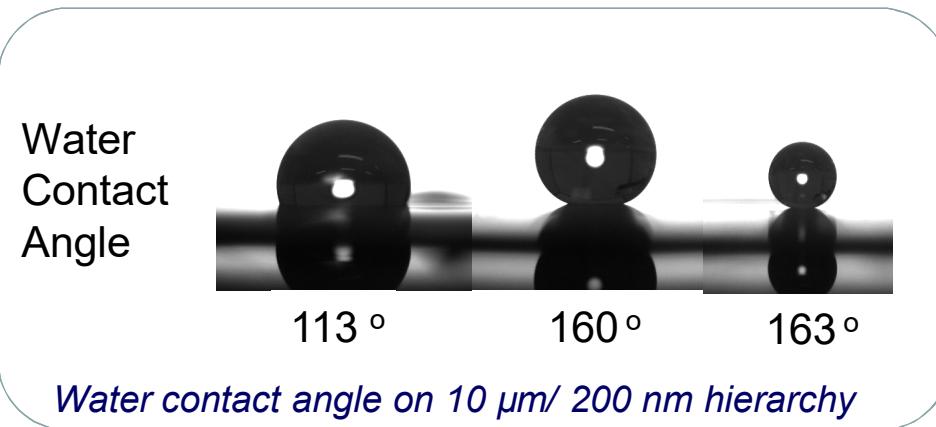
Lotus (Cassie's state)

Lotus-like structure fabrication

Fabrication process steps



SHS - Wetting properties



| Topographies | Static contact angle(deg) | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|-----------|--------------|
| | Flat | Micro | Hierarchical |
| Pristine (PP) | 103 ± 3 | - | - |
| 400 μm / 0.8 μm | | 104 ± 9.1 | 153 ± 4.6 |
| 10 μm /200 nm | 113± 2.4 | 160 ± 2 | |

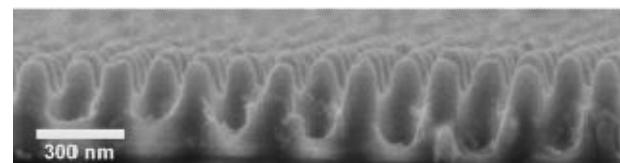
| Topographies | Contact angles (deg) | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|------------|---------|
| | Static | Hysteresis | Sliding |
| 400 μm / 0.8 μm | 154 ± 0.5 | 10 ± 4 | 8 ± 1.7 |
| 10 μm / 200 nm | 160 ± 2 | 9 ± 1 | 4 ± 0.3 |



Anti-reflective surfaces



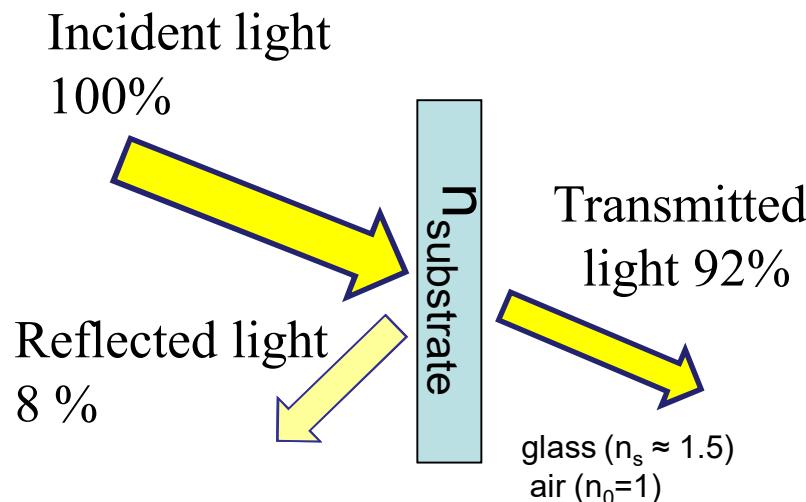
Graded
Refractive Index



Single-imprint Moth-eye Anti-Reflective and Photoinduced Self-cleaning Film with Enhanced Resistance.

Navarro-Baena et al, Nanoscale 2018 . DOI: 10.1039/C8NR02386G

Light Reflection

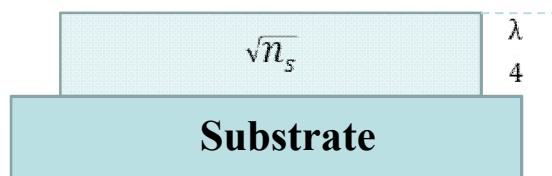


Fresnel's Equation:

$$R = \left| \frac{n_s - n_0}{n_s + n_0} \right|^2$$

Anti-reflection: current solutions available

Single layer



Refractive index for an ideal AR coating:

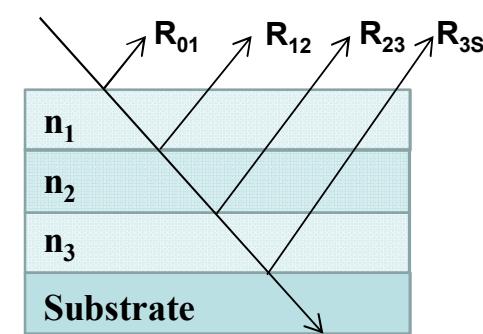
$$(1) n_c = (n_a n_s)^{1/2}$$

$$(2) d = \lambda/4$$

} Glass $\rightarrow n_s = 1.2$
 MgF_2 (with an index of 1.38)

Few materials and high price!!!

Multiple layer

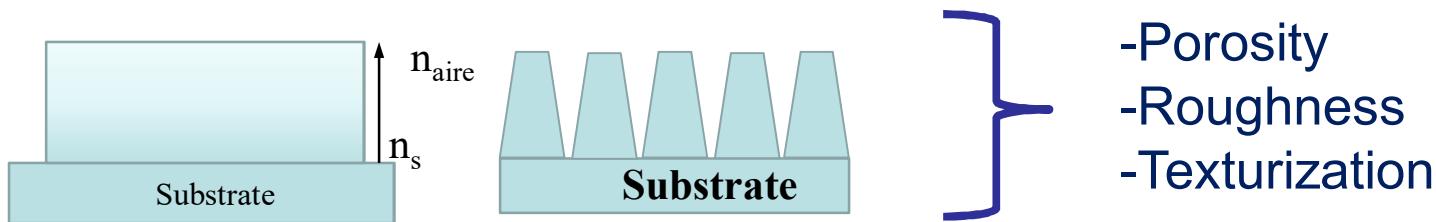


$$R_{\text{sum}} = R_{01} + R_{12} + R_{23} + R_{3s}$$

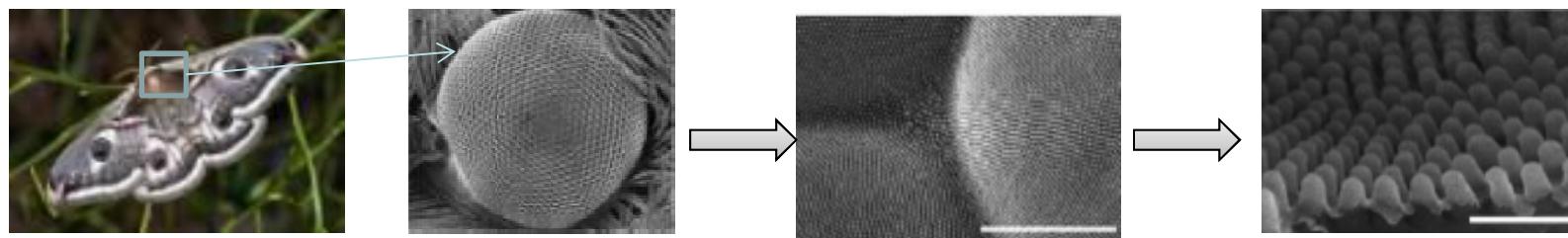
Expensive approach!!!

Anti- reflective strategy:

Graded refractive index



Moth's eye natural antireflective topography – subwavelength nanocone features



Pros of AR textured surfaces

- AR Broad spectral range
- Easy scalable ->R2R
- Cheap

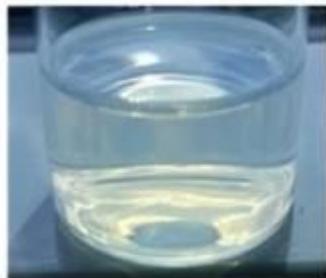
Cons of AR textured surfaces

- Poor mechanical behavior
- Cleaning

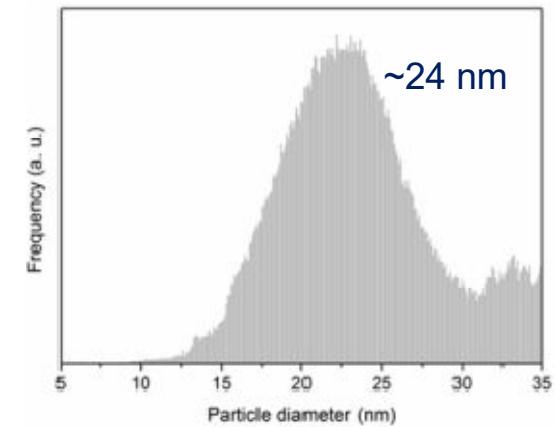
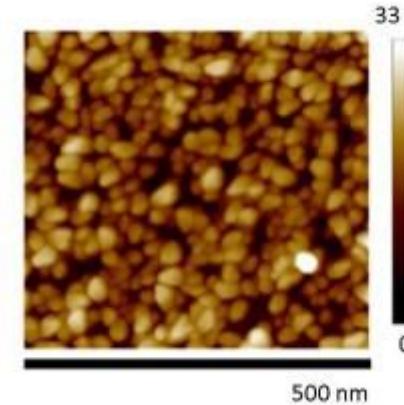
TiO₂ Surface Nanocomposite

Preparation of polymer nanocomposite

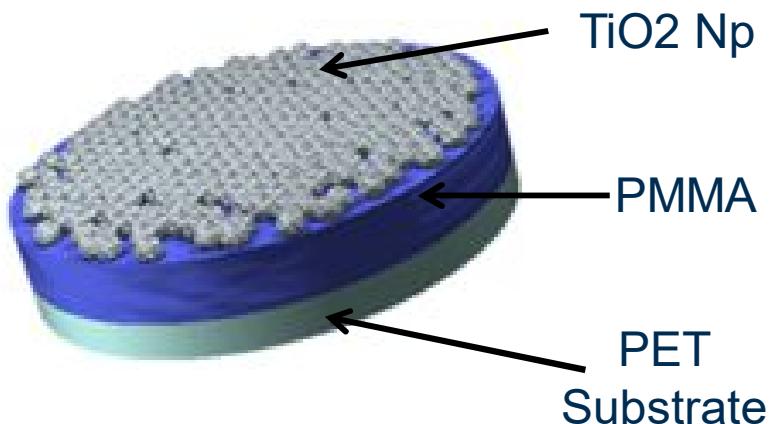
TiO₂ nanoparticles: Hydrothermal synthesis



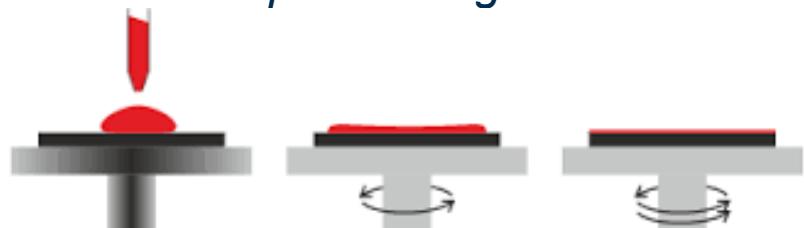
Colloidal suspension



Nanocomposite preparation



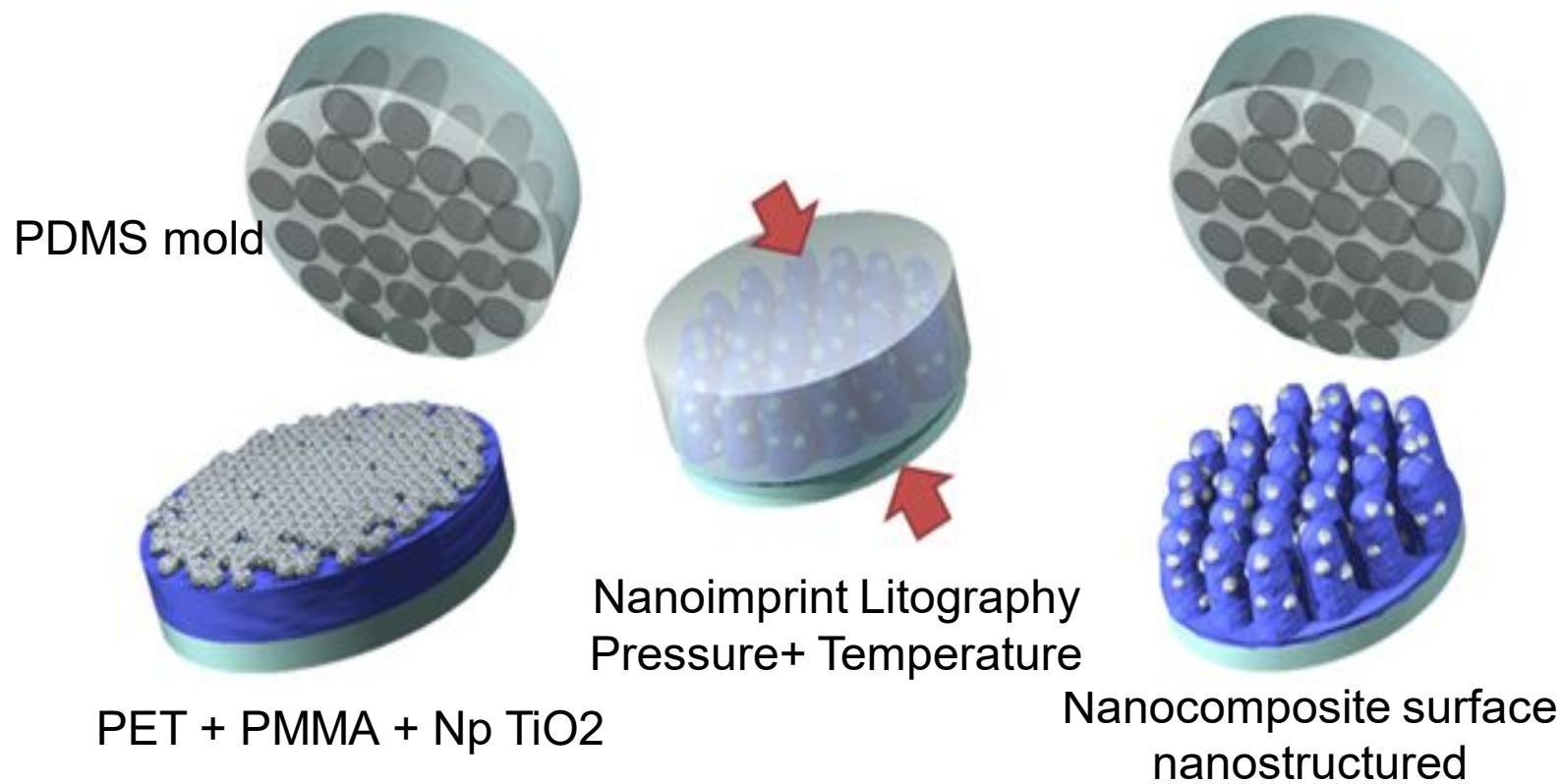
Spin coating



Different amounts
of nanoparticles were
deposited

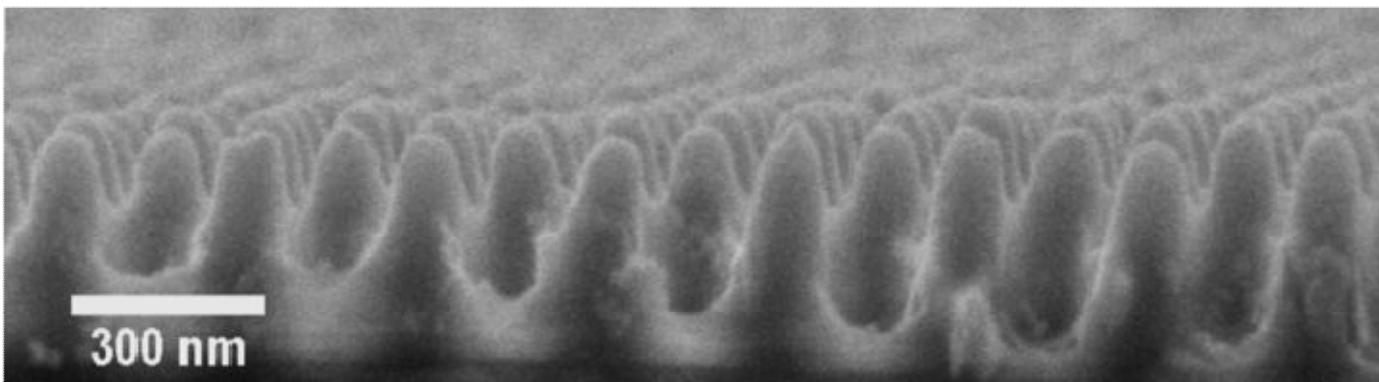
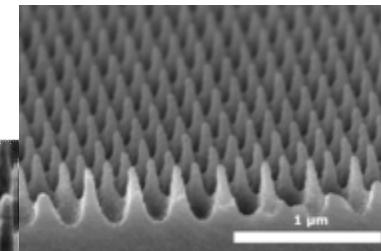
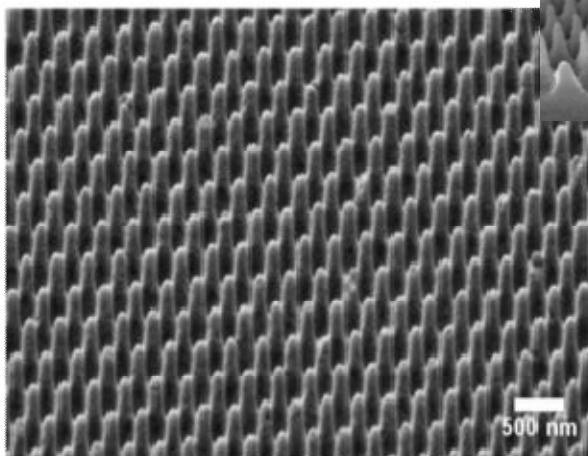
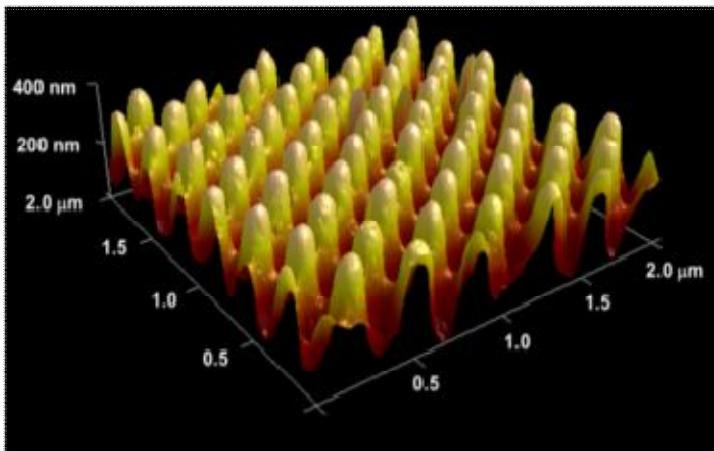
Moth-eye Nanoimprinting

Nanocomposite - Thermal Nanoimprinting

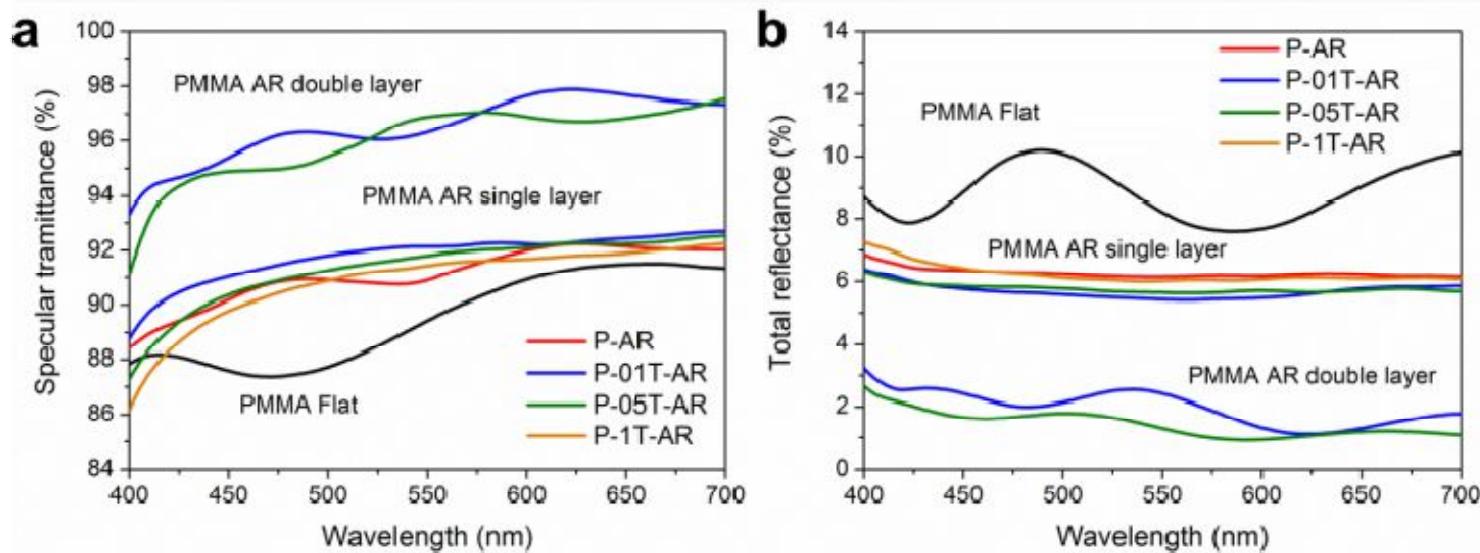


Moth-eye nanostructures

Morphology: SEM & AFM images



Moth-eye optical characterization



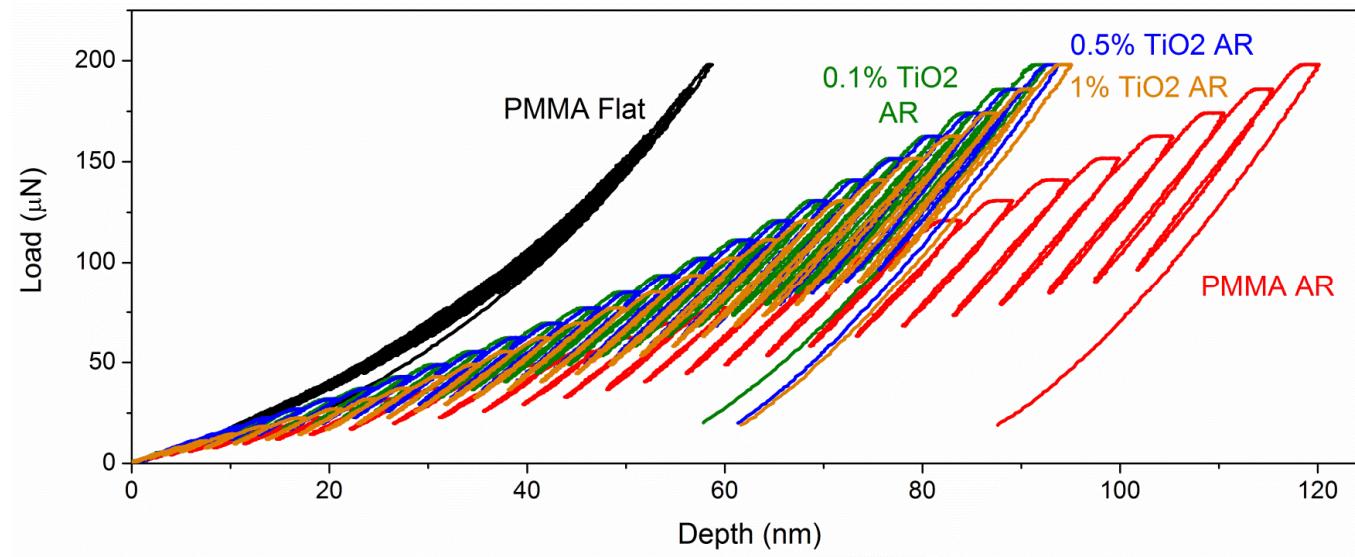
Flat



AR

TiO₂ Nps do not
impact the optical
properties!!!

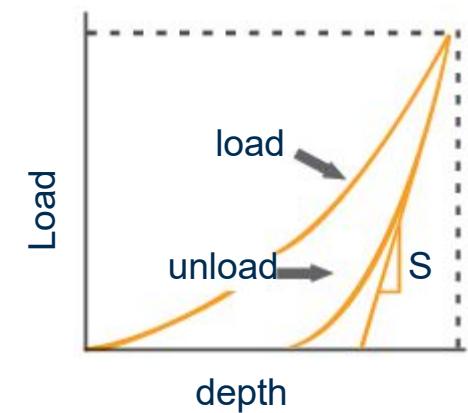
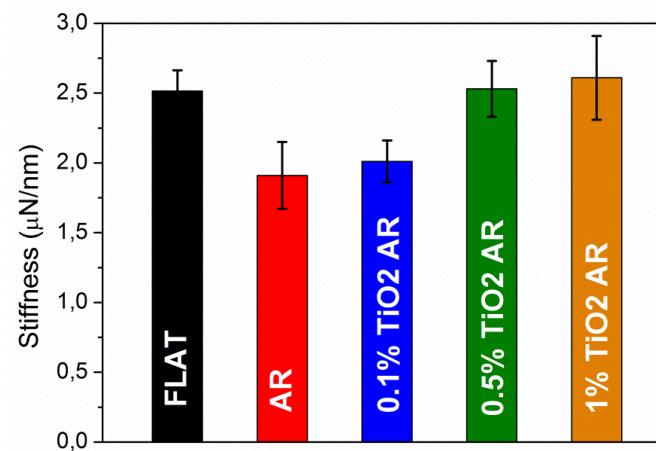
Mechanical behavior: Nanoindentation

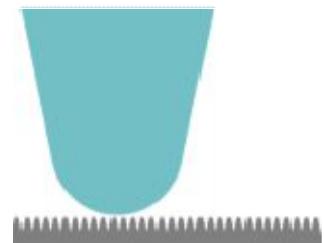


20 load/unload cycles until maximum load of 200 μN

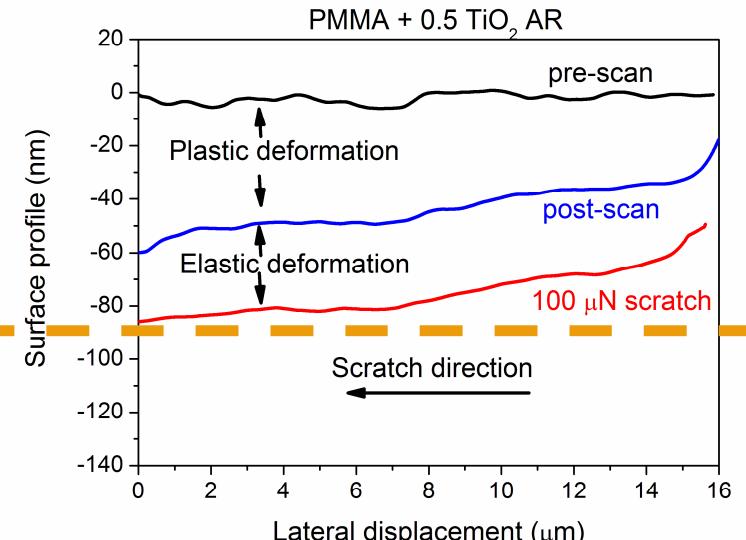
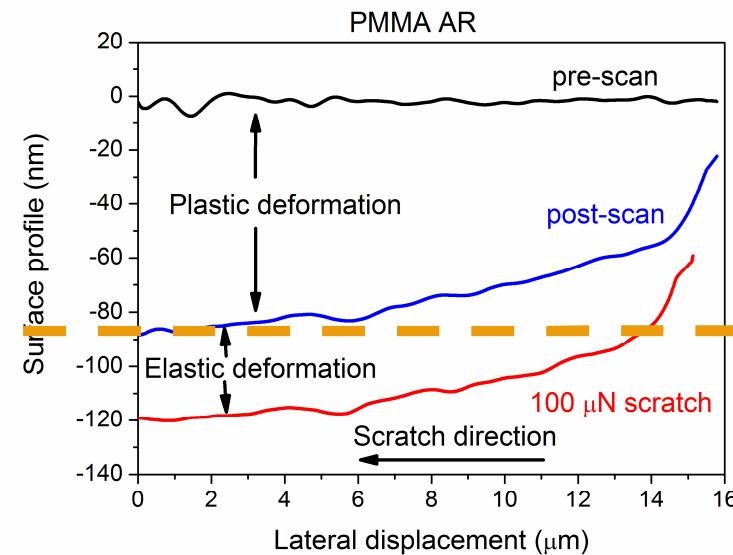
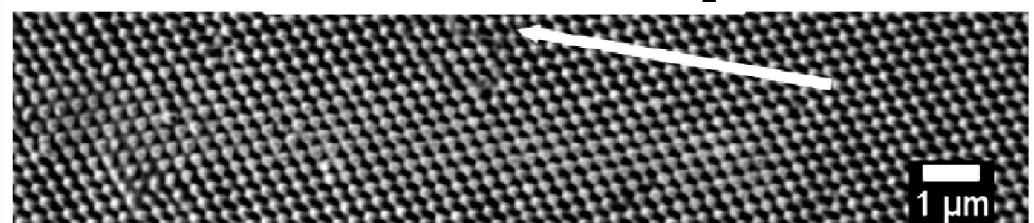
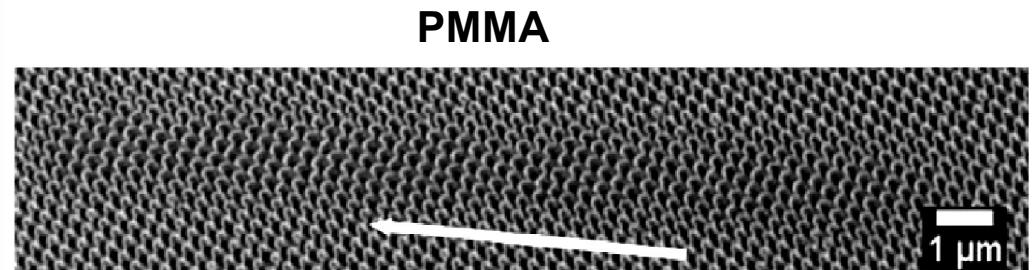
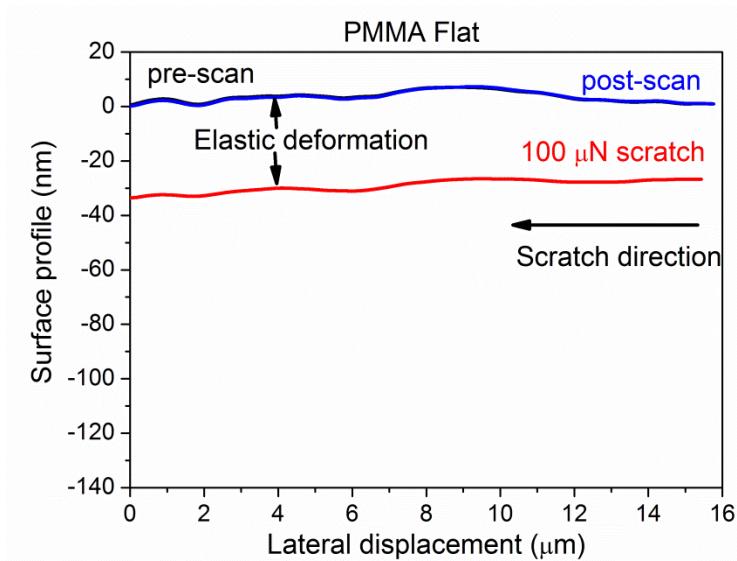
Stiffness

Slope of the curves
in the elastic region
(maximum of 10 nm)





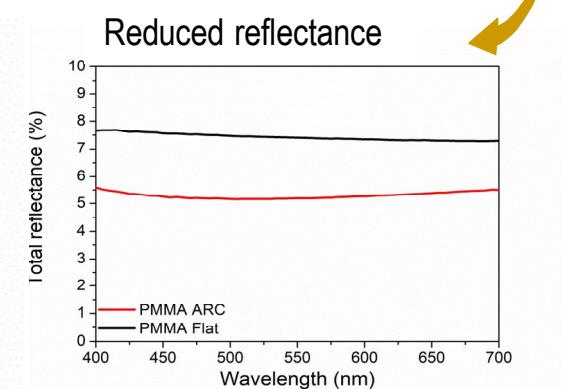
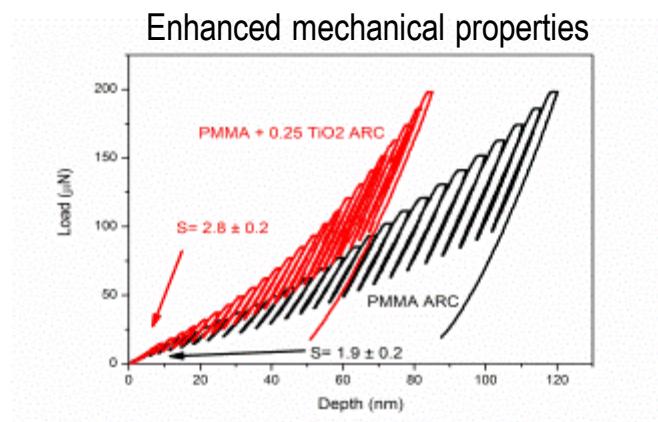
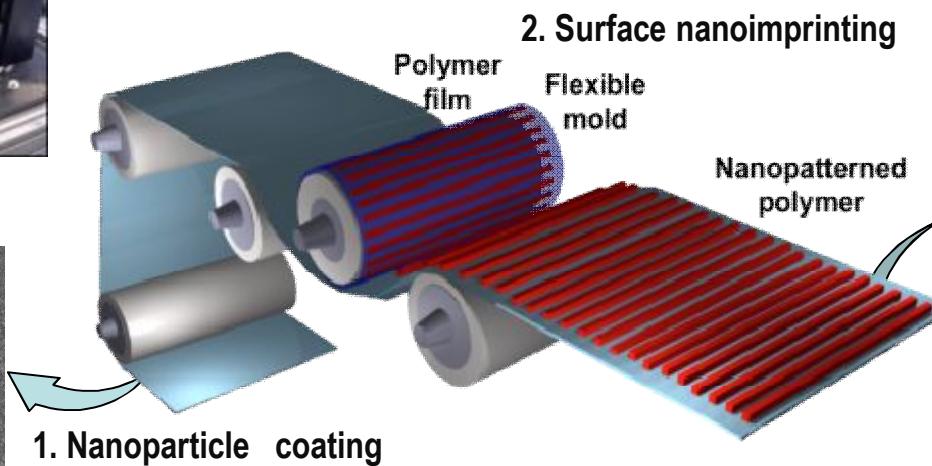
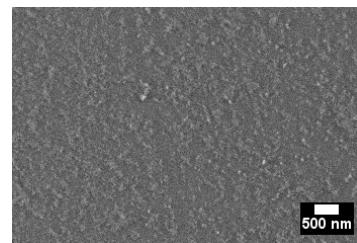
Mechanical behavior: Nanoscratch



R2R implementation

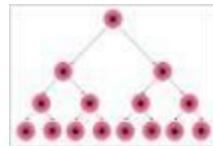


Continuos proceses

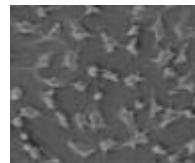


Bio-applications

1. Cell Instructive Patterned Topographies



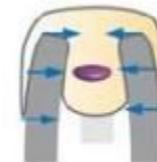
Proliferation



Morphology



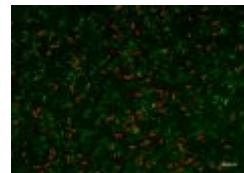
Migration



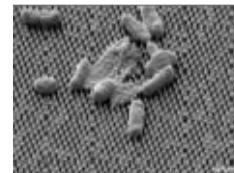
Cell Traction Force

2. Bactericidal Moth Eye Inspired Topography

Fluorescence
Microscopy

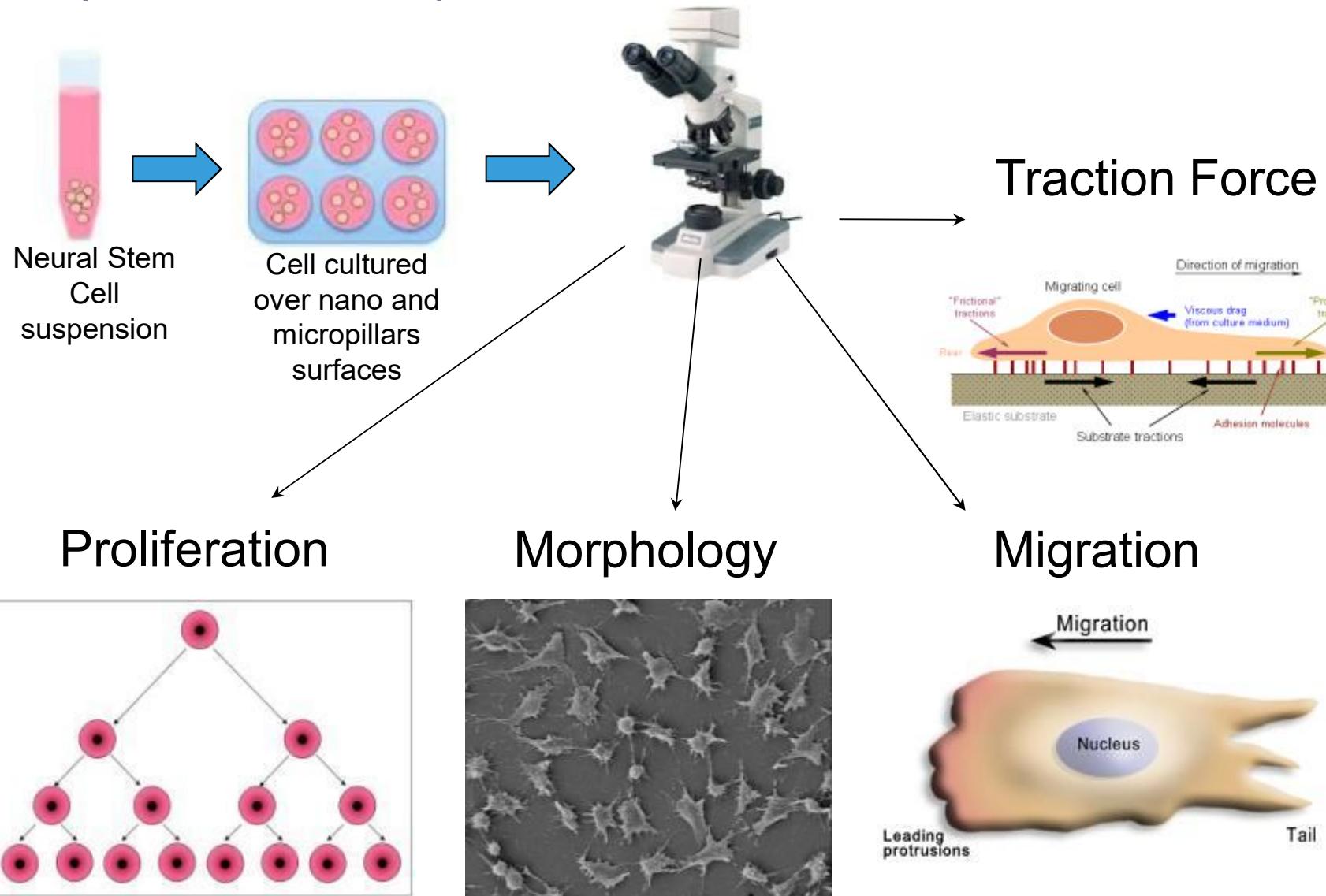


SEM

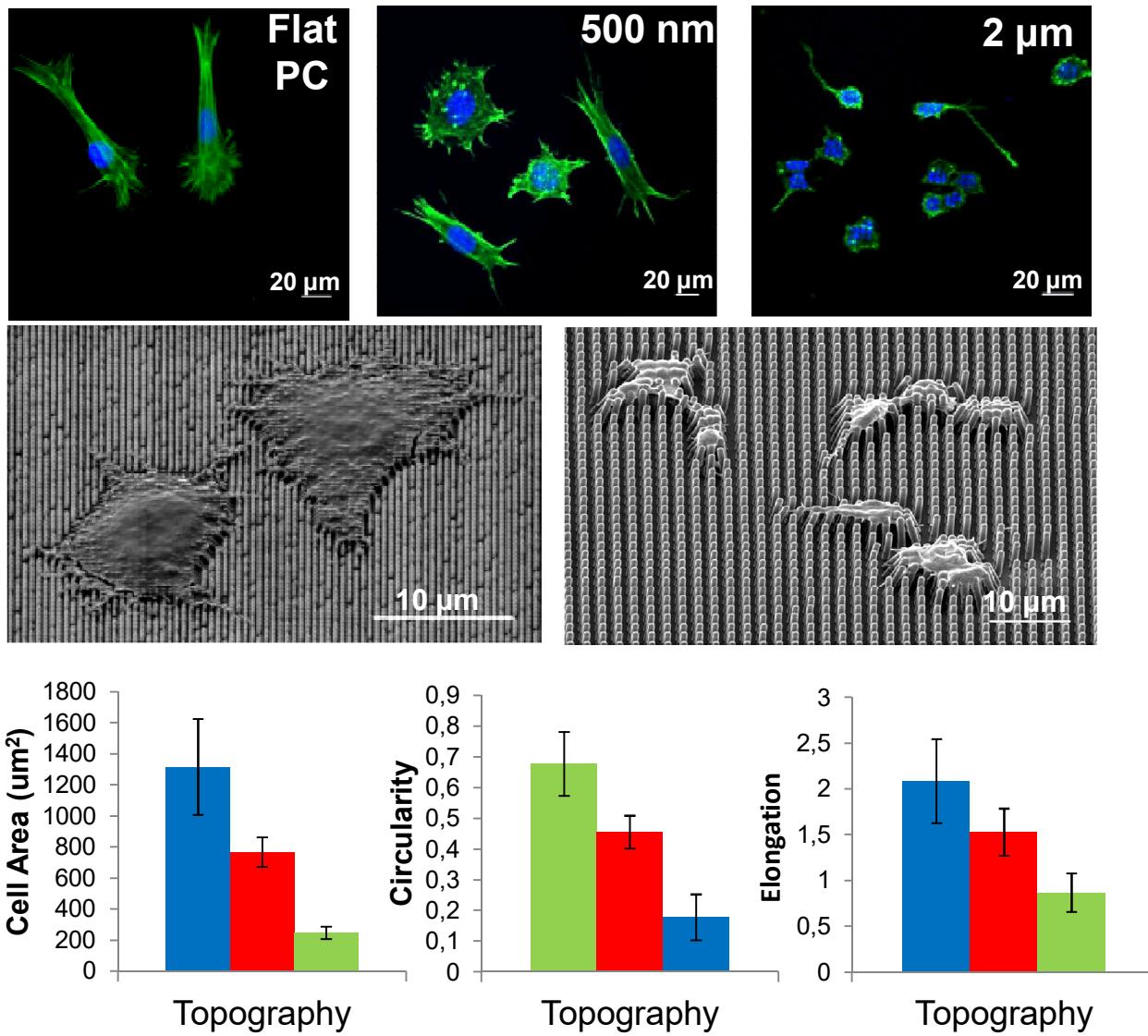
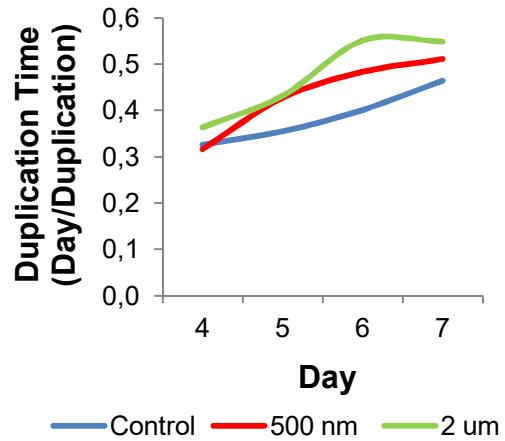
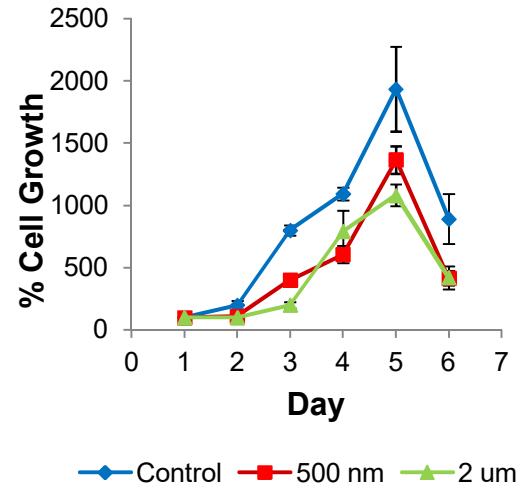


Cell Instructive Patterned Topographies

Experimental Setup

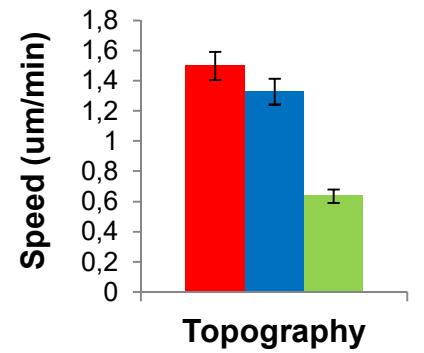
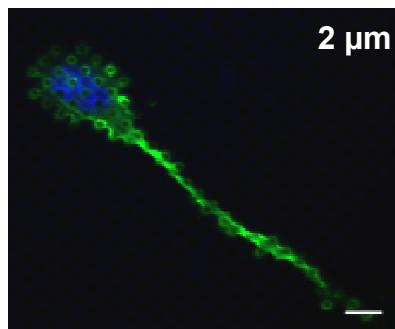
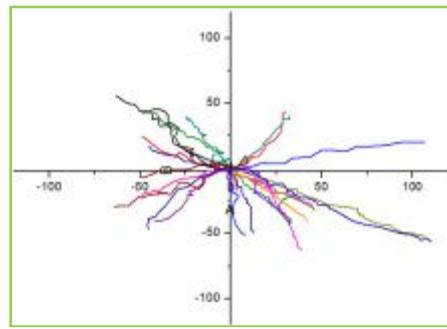
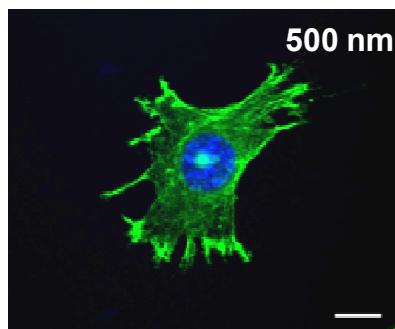
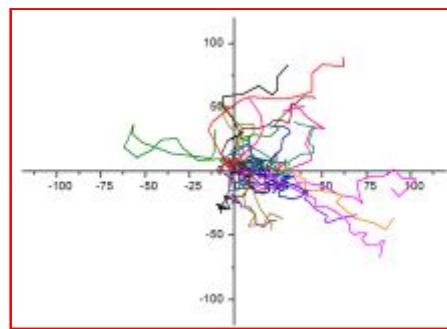
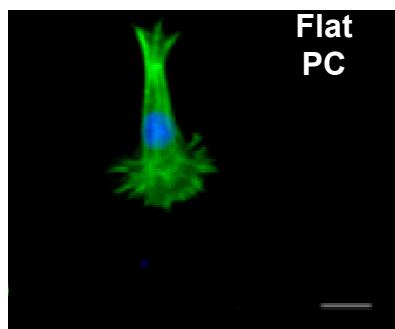
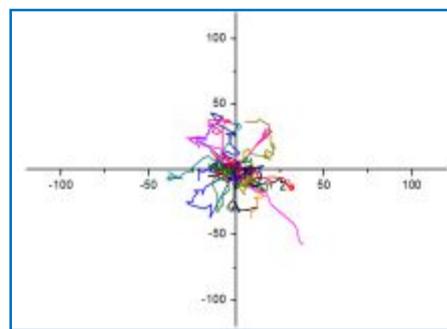


Cell Proliferation & Morphology

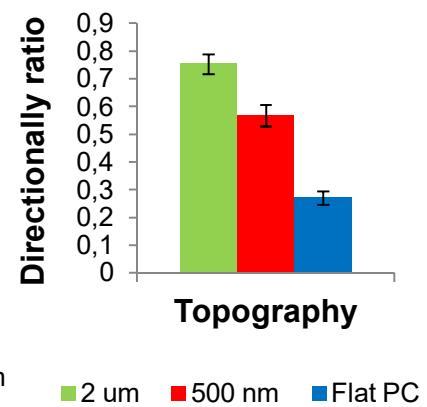


Cell Directional Migration

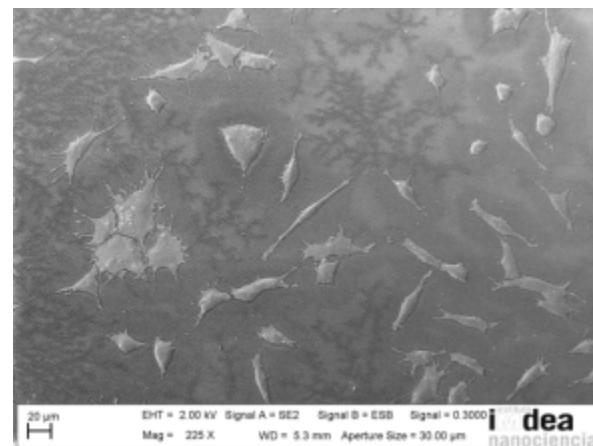
Windrose plots of cell trajectories



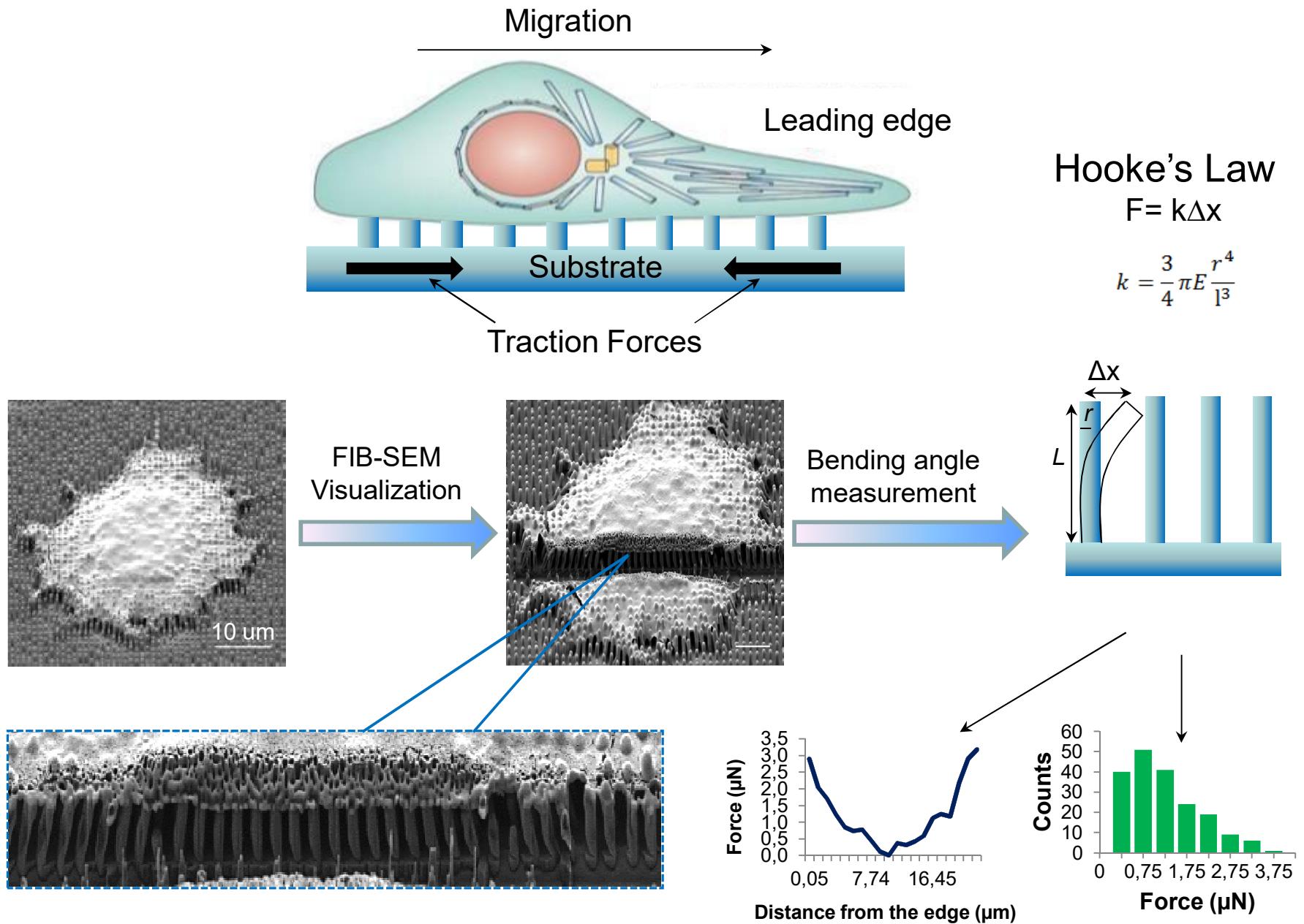
■ 500 nm ■ Flat PC ■ 2 μm



■ 2 μm ■ 500 nm ■ Flat PC

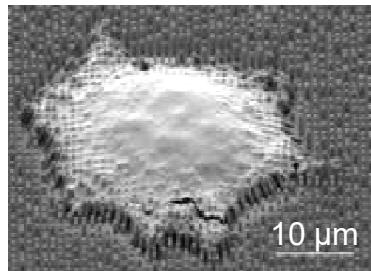


Cell Traction Force

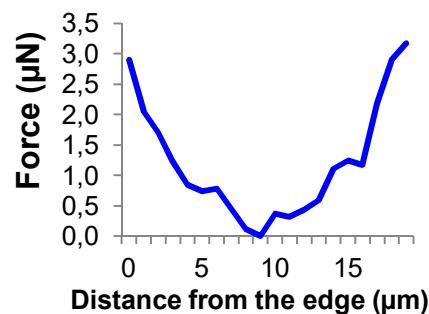


Cell Traction Force

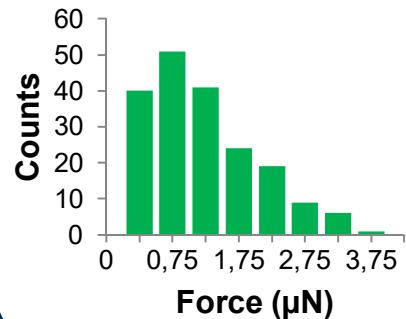
No Migration



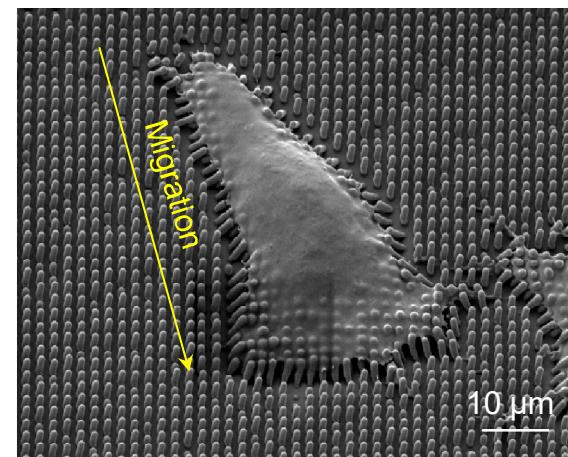
Single cell force profile



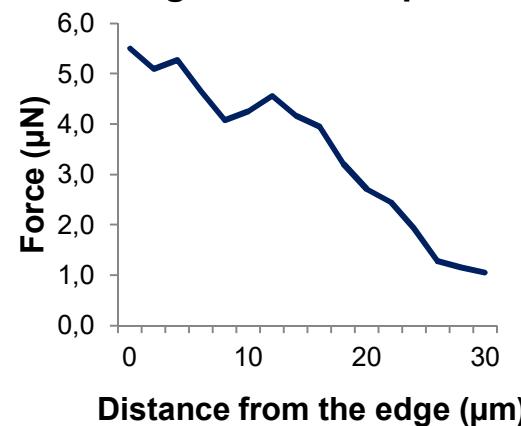
Mean force value



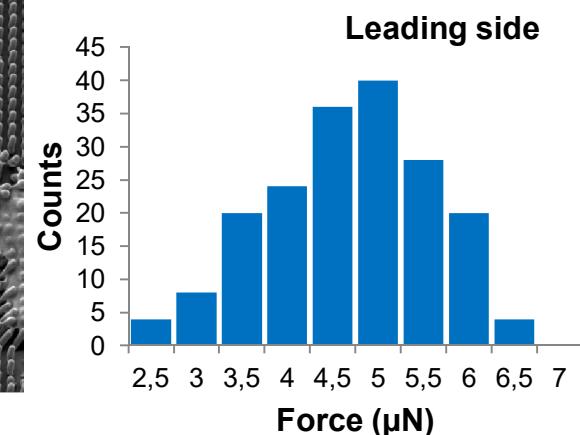
Migration



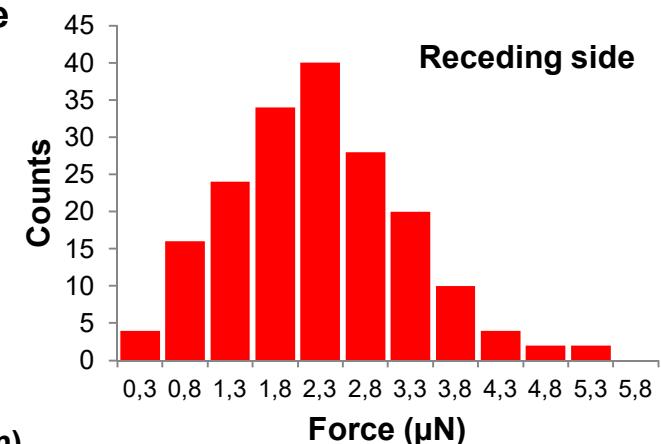
Single cell force profile



Mean force value

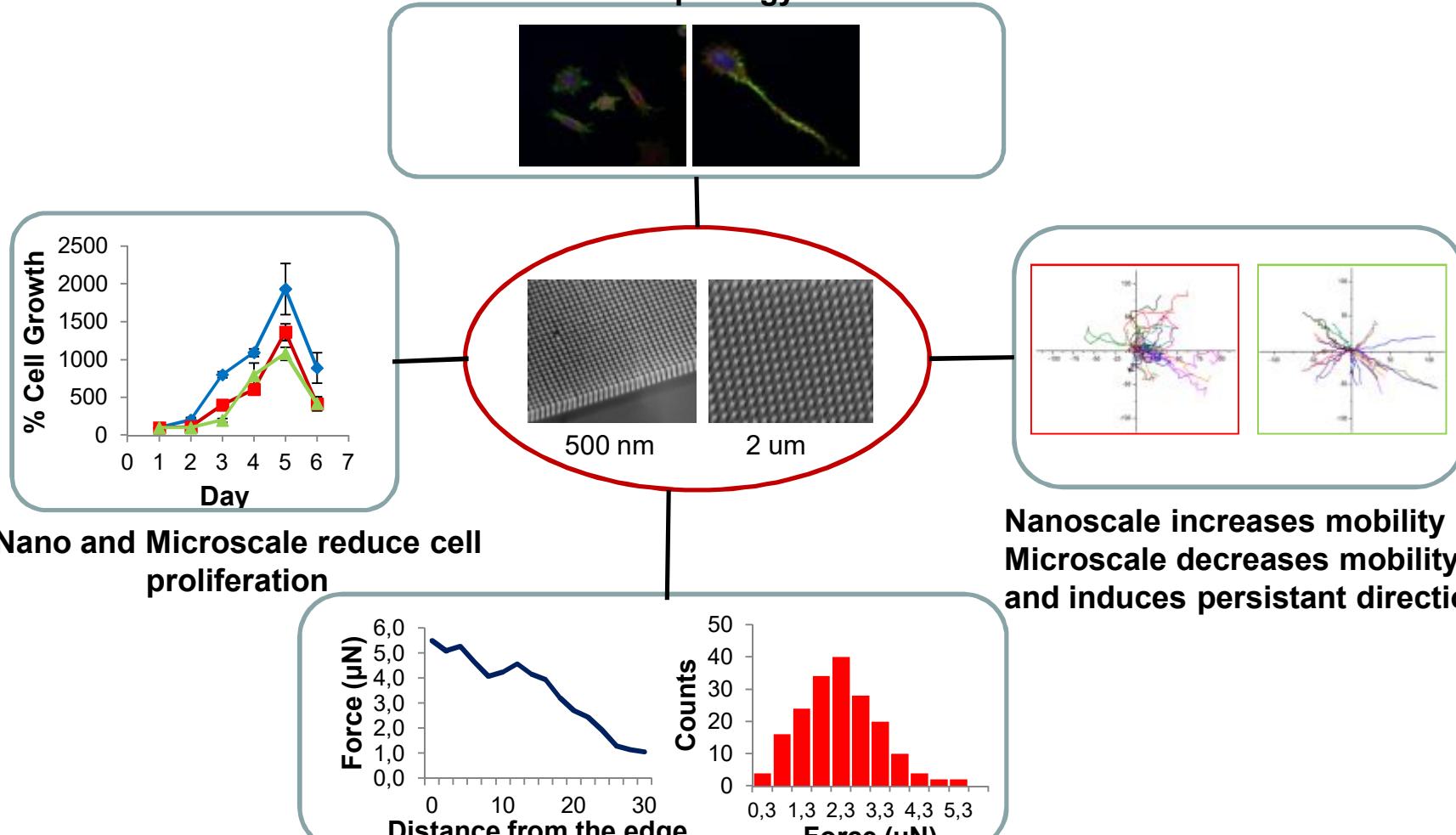


Receding side



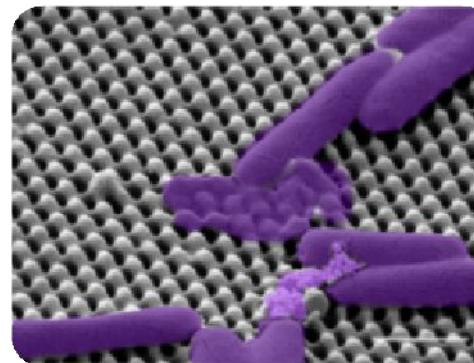
Summary

Nano and Microscale determine cell morphology



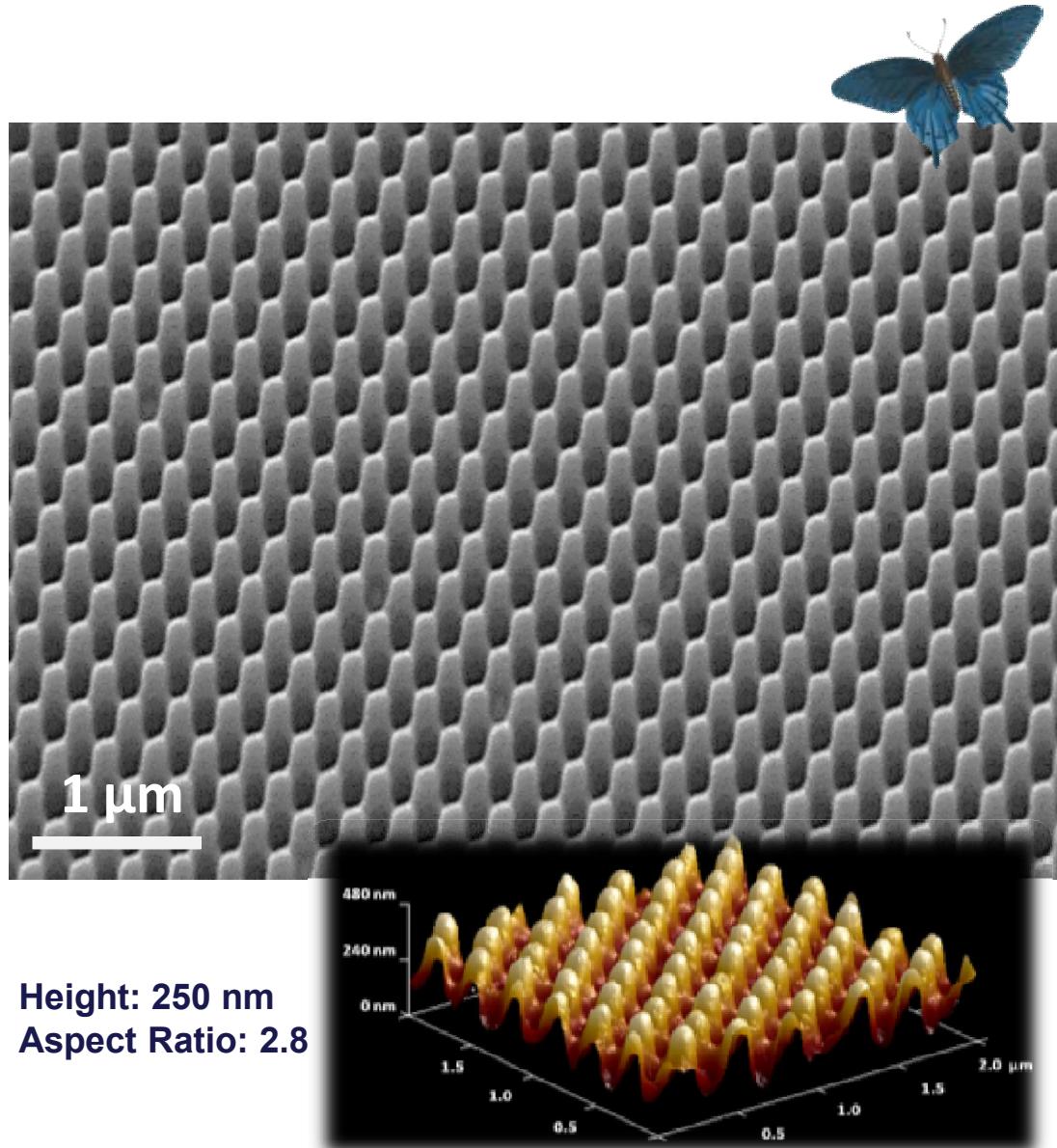
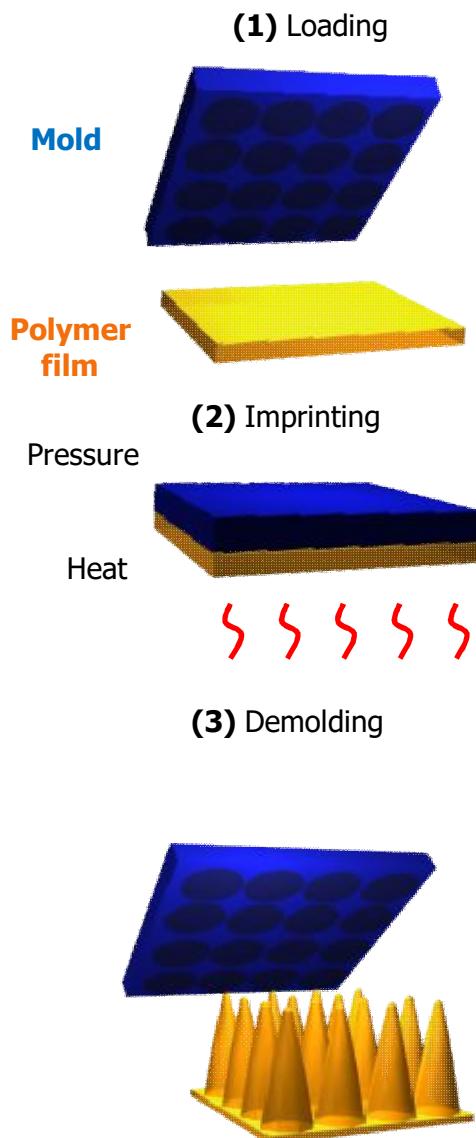
Vielva, Felipe, et al. "Biomechanical cell regulation by high aspect ratio nanoimprinted pillars." *Advanced Functional Materials* 26.31 (2016): 5599-5609.

2. Bactericidal Moth Eye Inspired Topography

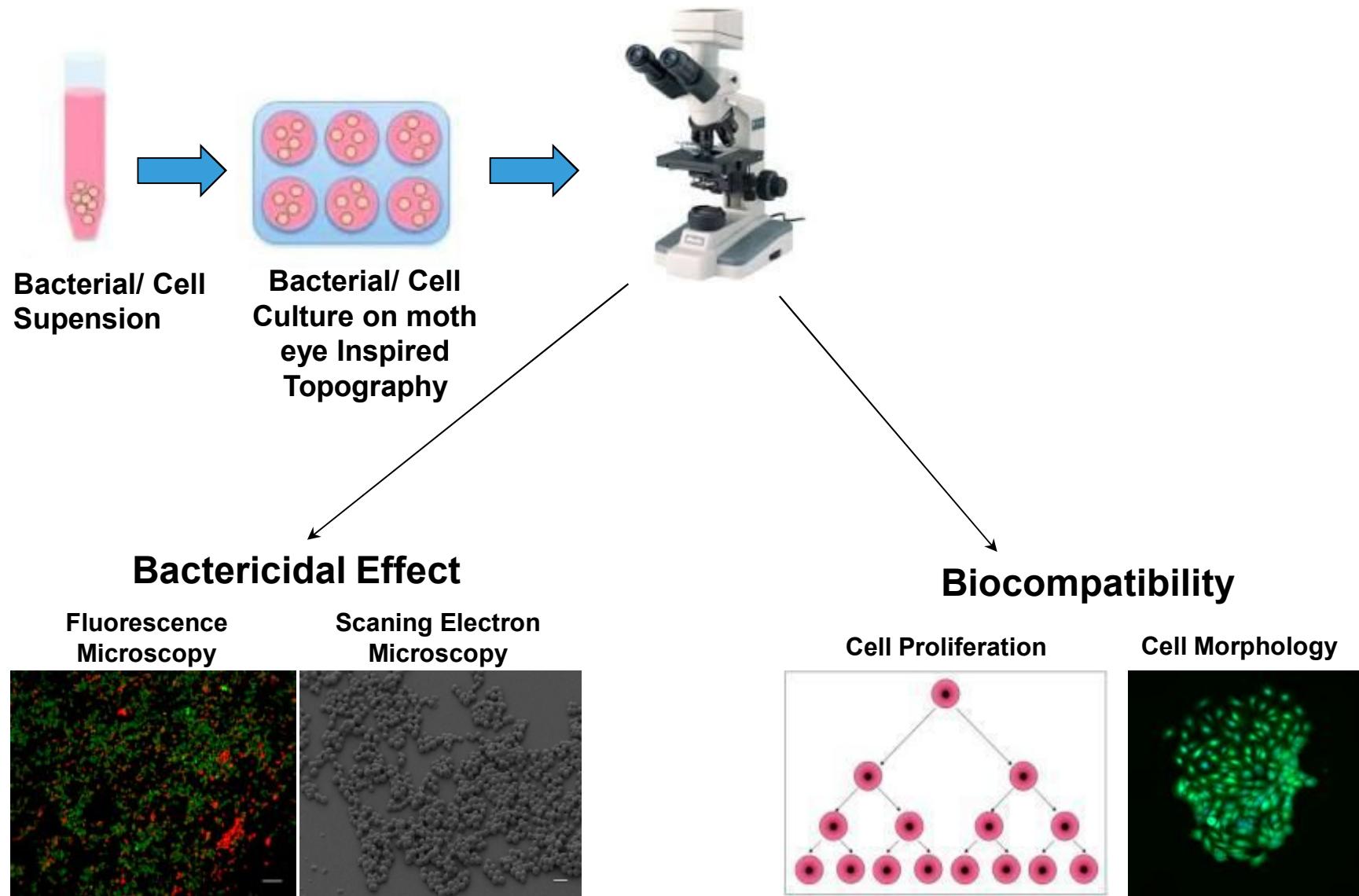


Viela, F, et al. Moth-eye mimetic cytocompatible bactericidal nanotopography: a convergent design. *Bioinspiration & Biomimetics*, 2018, 13, 026011.

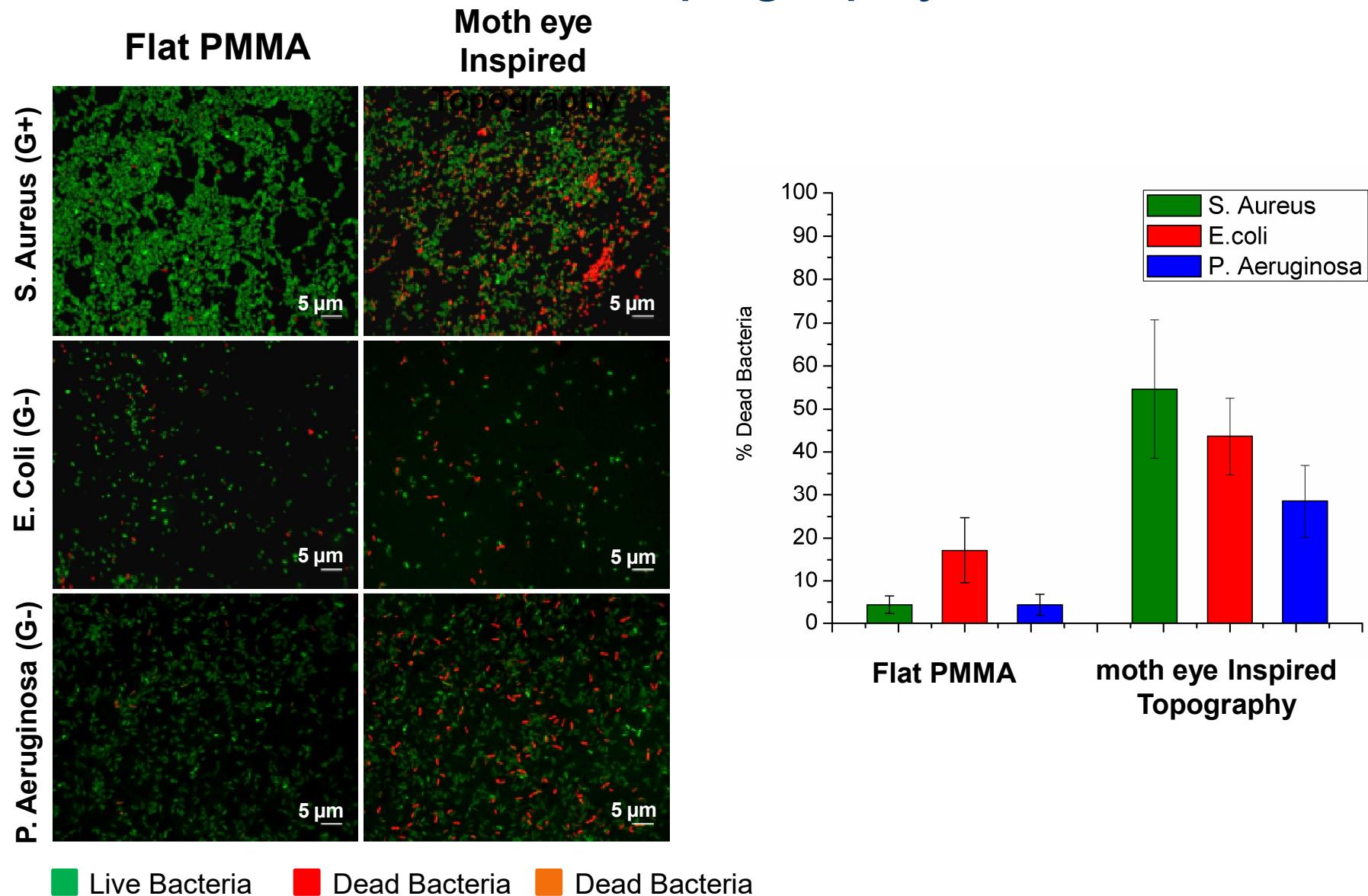
Moth-eye mimetic topography



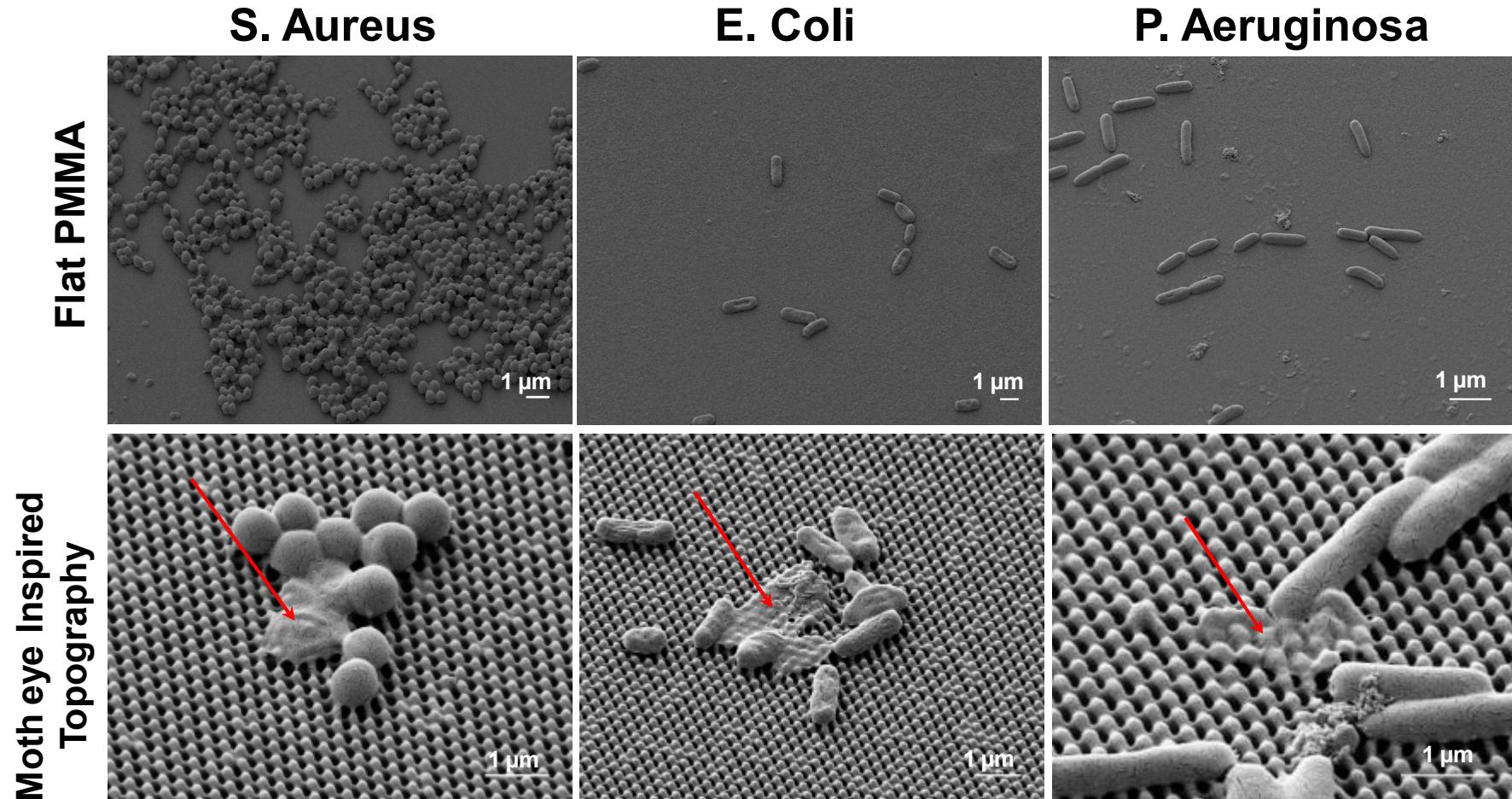
EXPERIMENTAL SETUP



Bactericidal Efficacy of Moth Eye Topography



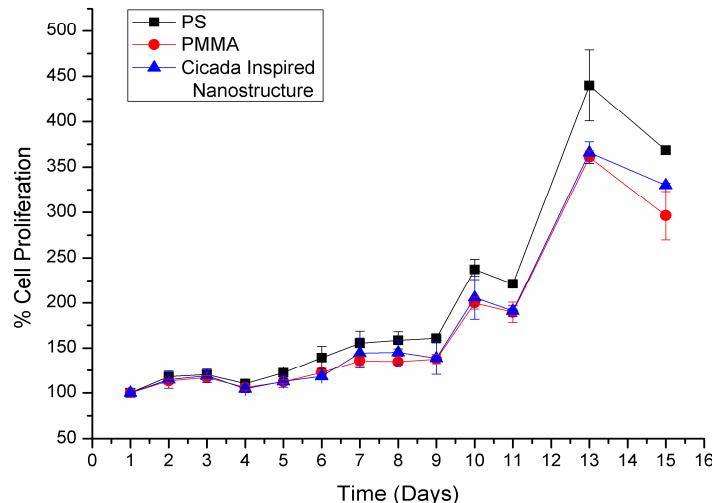
Moth Eye Bactericidal Effect



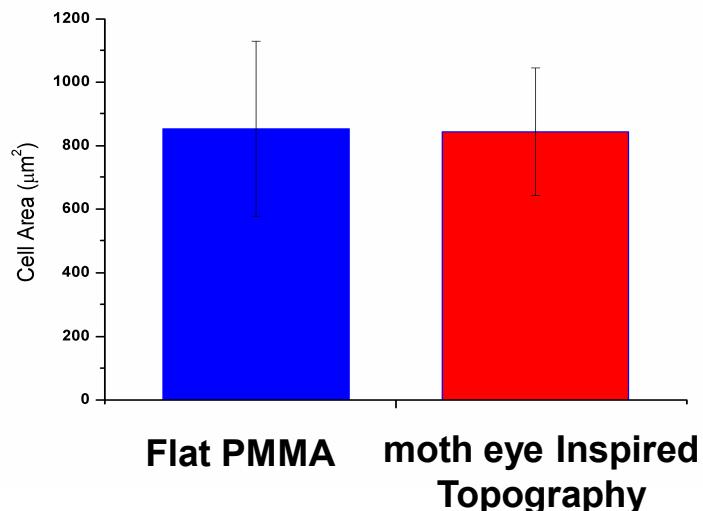
“Mechanical rupture – membrane stretching to optimize adhesion”

Biocompatibility of Moth Eye Topography

Cell Proliferation- HaCaT cells

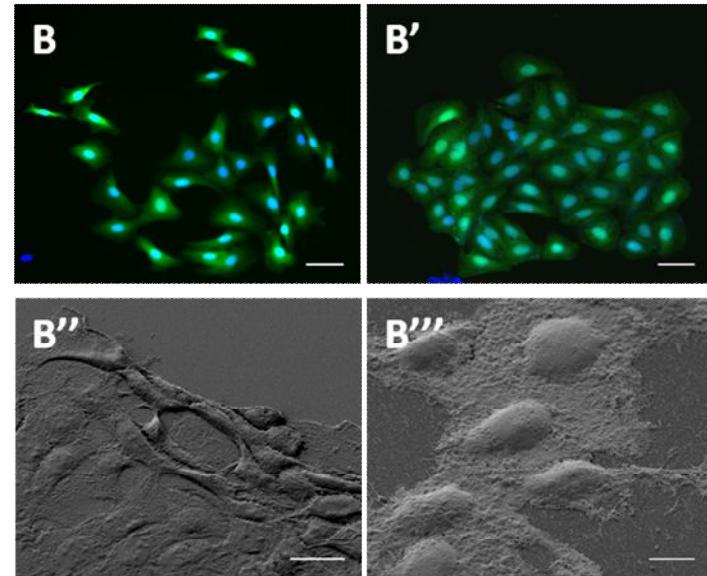


Cell Spreading

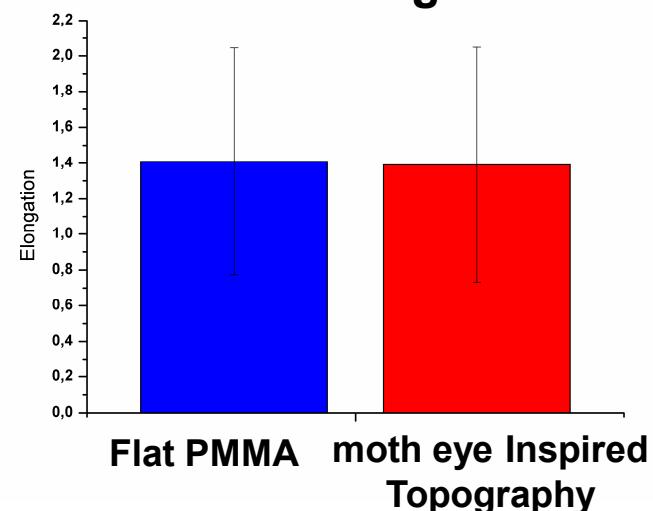


Smooth
PMMA

Moth Eye Inspired
Topography

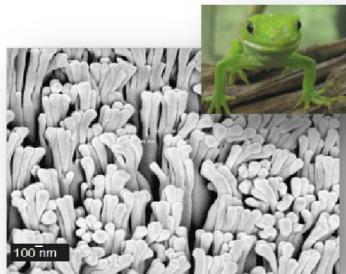


Cell Elongation

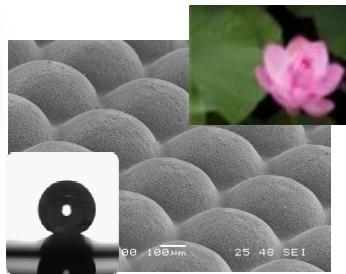


Summary

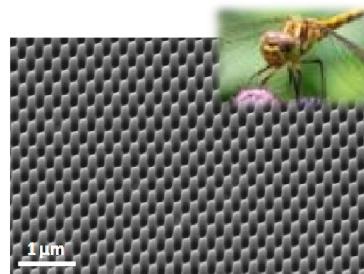
•Polymer micro/nano imprinting



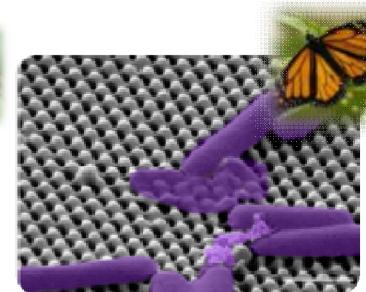
Gecko like dry adhesives



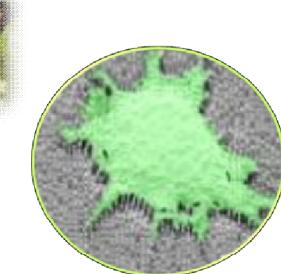
Superhydrophobic, self cleaning



Anti-reflective surfaces



Bactericidal surfaces



- ❖ Patterning is a valuable tool to exploit the functionality of materials into new applications . Design is key to achieve specific functions.
- ❖ Structuring imparts function by physical means regardless the chemical nature.
- ❖ Patterning -using replication (NIT) is a suitable methodology for sustainable product development / nanomanufacturing

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Dr Ivan Navarro
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Dr Emma van Luong
Dr Low Hong Yee

