

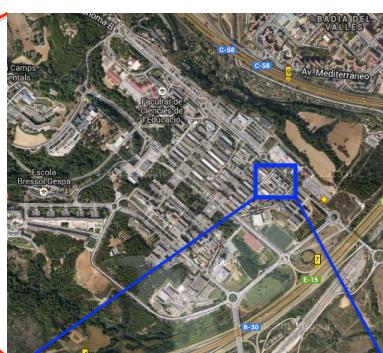
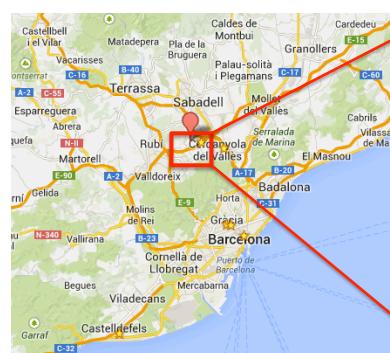


# Large-area ordered nanostructures by directed self-assembly

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Summer School of Nanofabrication – Nanolito Network  
Jaca, Spain, 15th July



<http://www.icn.cat/>

## Large-area ordered nanostructures by directed self-assembly

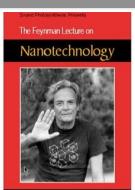
### Outline

- General introduction to self-assembled systems
- **Molecular self-assembly (SA) systems**
  - Molecular and biomolecular SA
  - Large area Molecular SA case study: self-assembly monolayers
- **Nano to Micro SA systems**
- **Micro to Mili SA systems**
  - Large area SA case study: Block copolymers
- Conclusions

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**The kick-off of nanotechnology**

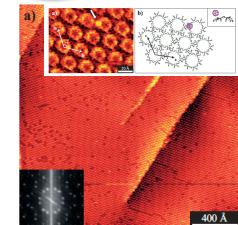
Richard P. Feynman made the first suggestion of nanotechnology in his notorious speech '*Theres plenty of room at the bottom*', in early 1960s.

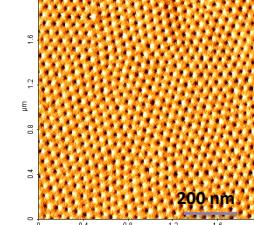


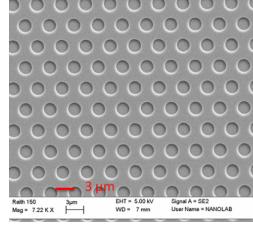
**Building-blocks nm-sized = Molecules!**



**Bottom-up**  **Top-Down** 

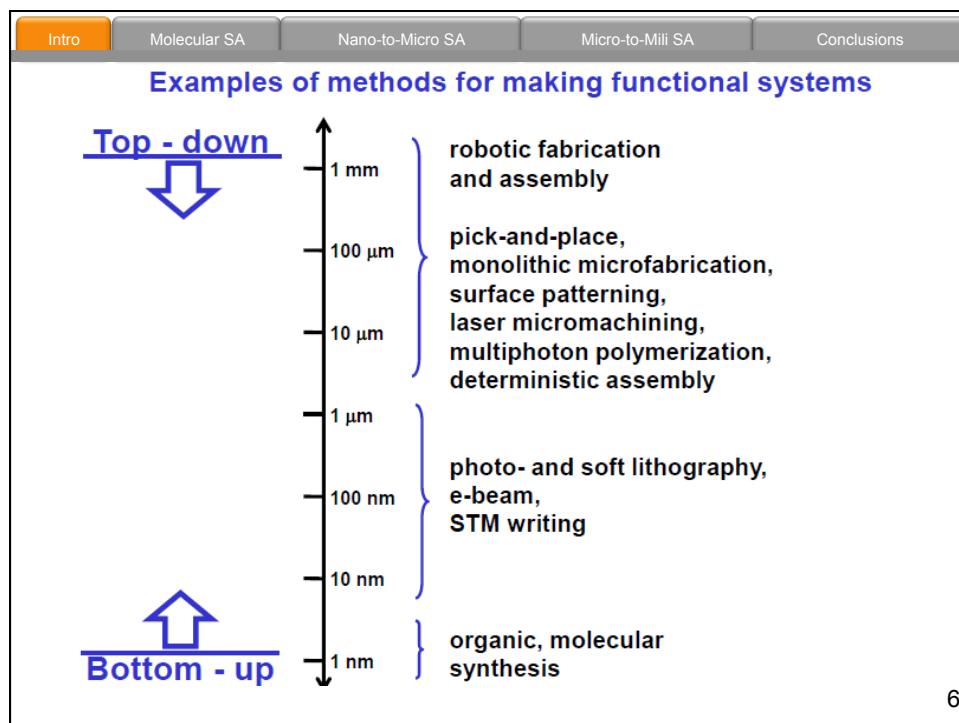
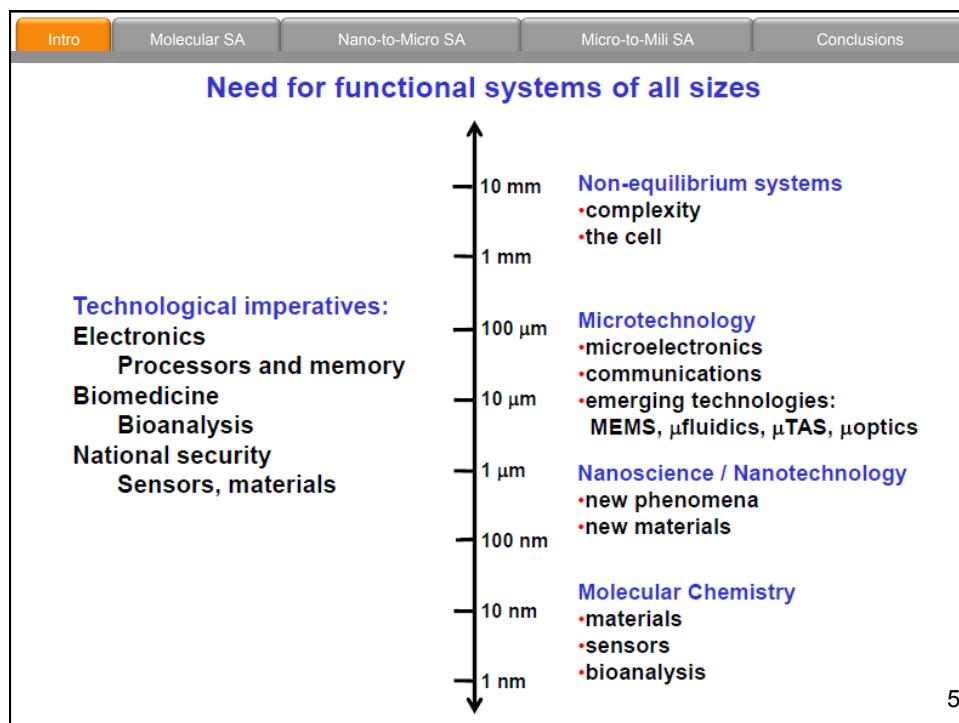






E. Mena-Osteritz, Adv. Mater. 2006, 18, 447–451 T. Kehoe et al., 2011 MRS Fall Meeting

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Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

## Making functional systems: Why do we need a new method?

**Evolution:**  
When old methods are “no good”:  
cost, range of materials, precision,...

**Revolution:**  
When there are no old methods:  
new size or type of components,  
new phenomena, ...

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## Using self-assembly to make functional systems:

**Top - down**

- To connect top-down and bottom-up
- To stand alone

**Bottom - up**

Scale	Techniques
1 mm	robotic fabrication and assembly
100 µm	pick-and-place, monolithic microfabrication, surface patterning, laser micromachining, multiphoton polymerization, deterministic assembly
10 µm	
1 µm	
100 nm	photo- and soft lithography, e-beam, STM writing
10 nm	
1 nm	organic, molecular synthesis

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## Why self-assembly?

**1. Functional, self-assembled systems are ubiquitous in biology**

- 3D structure
- Information storage and processing
- Efficient use of energy
- Self-healing
- Self-replicating
- Material properties
- Signal transduction
- Molecular recognition

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## Why self-assembly?

**2. Self-assembly is ubiquitous in chemistry**

molecular crystals

non-molecular crystals

organized amphiphiles

molecular recognition

protein folding

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Intro      Molecular SA      Nano-to-Micro SA      Micro-to-Mili SA      Conclusions

## Self-assembly: The spontaneous generation of order in systems of pre-existing components

**This definition implies:**

- Information for self-assembly is encoded in the components (e.g., shape, topology, sequence, surface properties)
- Less ordered → higher order (e.g., form, function)
- Σ components ≠ result (e.g., new property)
- Reversible, adjustable interactions

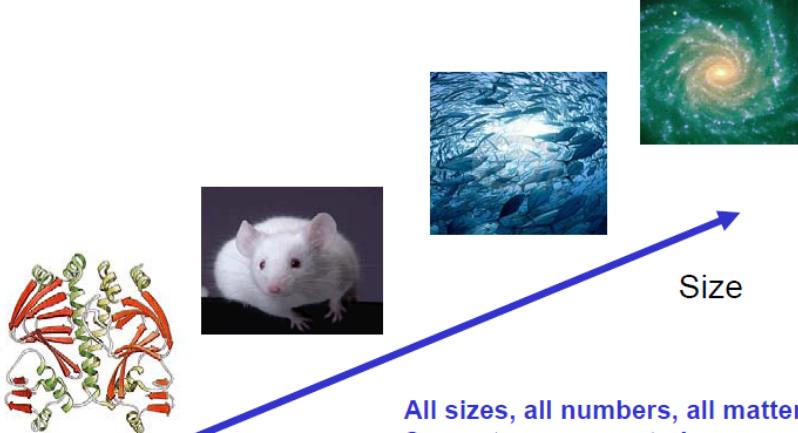
**This definition excludes:**

- “Order, reversibility”: no precipitation, ripening, coagulation processes
- “Pre-existing components”: no pattern formation in continuous medium

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Intro      Molecular SA      Nano-to-Micro SA      Micro-to-Mili SA      Conclusions

## Characteristics of self-assembled systems: 1. Components

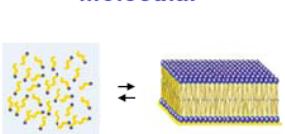
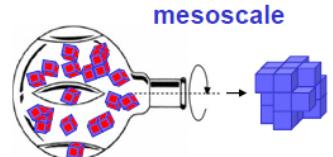


All sizes, all numbers, all matter  
Separate or connected

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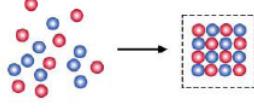
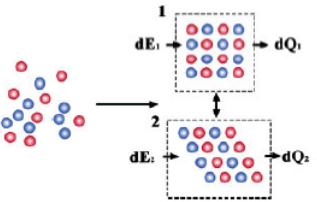
### Characteristics of self-assembled systems: 2. Motion

<b>Molecular</b> 	<b>Non-molecular, mesoscale</b> 	
<b>kT</b> <b>few layers</b>	<b>Temperature/agitation</b> <b>Wall Effects</b>	effectively 0 °K; external <b>few layers</b>

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### Characteristics of self-assembled systems: 3. Structures formed

<b>Static</b> 	<b>Dynamic</b> 
<b>Result:</b> Equilibrium structures, at global or local energy minima	<b>Result:</b> Non-equilibrium, energy dissipating structures, maintained in a steady state by constant supply of energy

**NB:** The classification is based on the final structure, not on the self-assembly processes!

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*J. Phys. Chem. B* 110 (2006) 2482

Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

## Characteristics of self-assembled systems: 4. Interactions

- Recognition motifs
- Van der Waals
- Hydrogen bonding
- Electrostatic
- Capillary
- Surface tension

- Molecule-Molecule
- Molecule-Interface
- Molecule-Media
- Rheology

- Thermodynamic rule  
 $\Delta G_{SA} = \Delta H_{SA} - T\Delta S_{SA}$
- Kinetic rule  
 $k = A e^{(-E_a)/(RT)}$

**Boundary conditions that affect the SA → Directed SA!**

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## Characteristics of self-assembled systems: 4. Interactions

The graph shows energy on the y-axis and distance  $r$  on the x-axis. The green curve represents repulsion, starting at a very high value and decreasing towards zero. The blue curve represents attraction, starting near zero and increasing towards zero. The red curve represents the net interaction, which is the sum of attraction and repulsion. It starts at a positive value, reaches a minimum (the depth of the well), and then approaches zero from below.

Reversibility gives crystals ...

Irreversibility gives glasses.

... and ordered macromolecules.

PNAS 99 (2002) 4769

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**Minimal thermodynamic potential**

for $T, P, N = const$ ,	for $T, V, N = const$ ,
SA when $G = H - TS = \min$ G: Gibbs free energy	SA when $F = U - TS = \min$ F: Helmholtz free energy
spontaneous process: $\Delta G = \Delta H - T\Delta S < 0$	spontaneous process: $\Delta F = \Delta U - T\Delta S < 0$

Static SA can be driven by:

- enthalpic/energetic effects:  $\Delta H$  or  $\Delta U < 0$  when  $\Delta S \approx 0$
- entropic effects:  $\Delta S > 0$  when  $\Delta H$  or  $\Delta U \approx 0$
- combination of both

*Soft Matter* 5 (2009) 1110

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**Interactions for molecular self-assembly**

weak (~0.5-20 kJ/mol); comparable to thermal energies (~2.5 kJ/mol)  
unlike kinetically-stable covalent bonds (~80-1000 kJ/mol)

Interaction	Range	Scaling relations
Screened Ionic (attractive/repulsive)	1 nm–1 μm	$U \propto \pm e^{\kappa r}/r$ where $\kappa^{-1} = (2e^2 c_s/k_B T \epsilon_0 \epsilon)^{-1/2}$ is the screening length ( $k_B T$ , thermal energy; $\epsilon_0 \epsilon$ , dielectric permittivity of solvent; $e$ , fundamental charge; $c_s$ , salt concentration)
van der Waals (attractive) <sup>a</sup>	1 nm–10 nm	$U \propto -1/r^6$ (London dispersion energy). The strength is $\approx 10 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ for two alkane molecules (e.g., CH <sub>4</sub> , C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> or C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>12</sub> ) in water
Dipole-dipole (attractive/repulsive)	0.1 nm–1 nm	$U \propto -1/r^3$ (fixed) and $U \propto -1/r^6$ (rotating, Keesom energy). The strength is $\approx 10 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ for two dipoles of strength 1D separated by 0.2 nm
Hydrogen-bond (attractive)	0.1 nm–1 nm	$U \propto -1/r^6$ (roughly). The strength of most hydrogen-bonds is between 10 and 40 kJ mol <sup>-1</sup>
Aromatic ( $\pi$ - $\pi$ ) (attractive)	0.1 nm–1 nm	Arise from overlapping of p-orbitals in $\pi$ -conjugated systems. Magnitude scales with the number of $\pi$ -electrons Typically the length scale of interaction is $\approx 3.4 \text{ \AA}$

*Soft Matter* 5 (2009) 1110  
*Science* 254 (1991) 1312

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## Particularities of molecular self-assembly

$\Delta H$

$$\Delta H \sim -2 - 20 \text{ kcal/nm}^2$$

$T\Delta S$  translation

$$T\Delta S_{\text{trans}} \sim RT \ln \frac{[c]_{\text{soln}}}{[c]_{\text{pure}}} \sim 0.6 \ln \frac{[c]_{\text{soln}}}{10} \sim -5.5 \text{ kcal/mol}$$

$T\Delta S$  conformation

$$T\Delta S_{\text{conf}} \sim RT \ln \frac{1}{3} \sim -0.7 \text{ kcal/mol}$$

$\Delta G = \Delta H - T\Delta S < 0$

**Lessons from biology:**

- Multiple, weak interactions
- Often, 3D recognition surfaces
- Modular process / “convergent”
- Small number of types of molecules
- Positive cooperativity
- Water!

⇒ make big contact surfaces  
to maximize enthalpic return  
⇒ use rigid molecules  
to minimize entropic losses

Science 254 (1991) 1312

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## Molecular self-assembled systems

Opportunities for self-assembly:

**Understand biological self-assembled systems**

- Protein-ligand interactions
- Rational drug design
- Protein folding

**Make things that cannot be made by covalent synthesis:**

- Big molecules
- Materials (structured, self-healing)
- Nano-structures
- Patterned surfaces

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## Understanding biomolecular self-assembly

### Contribution of water to ligand-receptor binding

The free energy of the process is dominated by the water contributions, NOT by the direct L-R interactions!

- $L^{+/-} R^{-/+} < L^0 R^0$
- $L^+ R^- \neq L^- R^+$
- hydrophobic binding is driven by  $\Delta H$ !  
H gain: from  $H_2O$  release from binding pocket  
S loss: from elimination of solvent fluctuations in the binding pocket

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*J. Chem. Theory Comput.* 6 (2010) 2866      *JACS* 132 (2010) 12091

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## Self-assembly of DNA

Structure	Loop: # bases	DNA: nM	yield:
Tetrahedron	5 bases	75 nM	90%
Dodecahedron	3 bases	50 nM	76%
Buckyball	3 bases	500 nM	69%

*Nature* 452 (2008) 198      20 nm      50 nm      100 nm

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### DNA nano-origami: a breadboard for molecular components

**Mechanism:**  
Single-step assembly of single-stranded scaffold and short oligonucleotide "staple strands".

*Nature* 440 (2006) 297

**Mechanism:**  
stacking of GC/GC base-pairs (-2.17 kcal/mol)

*Nature Chem.* 3 (2011) 620

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### Self-assembled little machines out of molecules: possible, but we're not there yet

**A** **B**

**C** **D**

*Science* 317 (2007) 333

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## Rational drug design based on polyvalency

Multivalent adhesion in pathogenesis:  
 virus-cell association  
 toxins (anthrax, ricin, cholera)  
 bacteria  
 inflammation  
 metastasis

$$\Delta G_3 = 3 * \Delta G_1, \text{ and } \Delta G = -RT \ln K$$

$$\Rightarrow K_3 = K_1^3$$

$K_3 = 4 \times 10^{-17} \text{ M}$  Science 280 (1998) 708

### General case

$\Delta G_n = \Delta H_n - T\Delta S_n$

- 1)  $\Delta H_n \approx n * \Delta H_1 \uparrow \text{ or } \downarrow$  (depending on strain)
- 2)  $\Delta S = \text{rotational + translational + conformational + water}$ 
  - \* if  $\Delta S_{\text{conf}} = 0$  (no loss of degrees of freedom)  
entropic enhancement:  
 $|\Delta S_{\text{rot, transl. } n}| \sim |\Delta S_{\text{rot, transl. } 1}| < n * |\Delta S_{\text{rot, transl. } 1}|$
  - \* if  $\Delta S_{\text{conf}} \neq 0$   
neutral, enhancement  $\uparrow$ , or interference  $\downarrow$
- 3) steric shielding of R (adhesion inhibition)

Angew. Chem. 37 (1998) 2754

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## Self-assembly for synthesis

### Complex molecules and structures from simple components

Covalent synthesis: very good for making 100-3000 D

palytoxin  
MW 2680.13

No simple strategy to make  $10^4$ - $10^6$  kD (3-20 nm big)

**Self-assembly:**

- Simple components: by covalent chemistry (organic, organometallic)
- Molecules are formed under TD equilibrium, i.e., can correct errors in the synthesis
- Reversibility, entropy

Science 295 (2002) 2403

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## Self-assembly for tough synthetic targets

### Molecular shuttles and switches

**Rotaxanes**  
F. Stoddart

**Catenanes**  
J.P. Sauvage

### Biosynthesis, drug design

**Melamine cyanurate**  
G.M. Whitesides

### Chirality

J.-M. Lehn

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## Host-guest chemistry

- molecular vessels (for catalysis, sensing)
- stabilization of reaction intermediates
- induction of stereoisomerism

2x

J. Rebek, Jr.

P. Stang

cycloaddition  
without resorcinarene dimer: years  
with : days

Review: Chem. Rev. 105 (2005) 1445

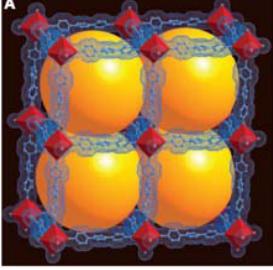
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### Self-assembled materials

### Crystal engineering for separation, storage, catalysis

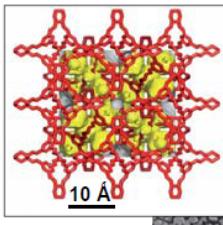
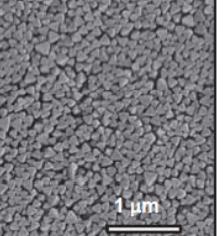
**Octahedral Zn and organic bis-carboxylates**



**A**

!!!  
density: 0.21 g/cm<sup>3</sup>  
free volume: 91.1 %

**Predictable assembly  
of porous organic crystals**

[Review: Science 295 \(2002\) 2410](#)      [Nature 474 \(2011\) 367](#)      29

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### Phase-segregated liquid crystals



**Smectic to hexagonal columnar phase change:  
potential readout for sensor applications.**

[Science 295 \(2002\) 2414](#)      30

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## Self-healing materials

**partial cross-linking through H-bonds  
=> elastic, not crystalline material**

**healing: 15 min contact at RT**

*Nature* 451 (2008) 977

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OC(=O)C + OC(=O)CC(=O)C  $\xrightarrow{1^\circ \text{ } 2^\circ}$

**1) diethylene triamine  
2) urea**

**plasticizer:**  
**11% dodecane**  
**Tg: 8 °C**

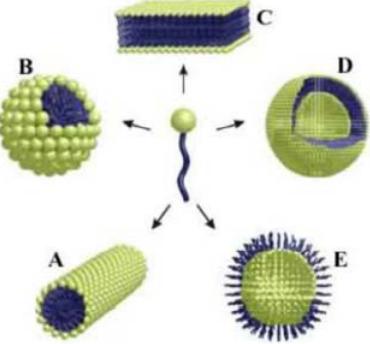
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## Making nanostructures and patterned surfaces Self-assembly of amphiphiles



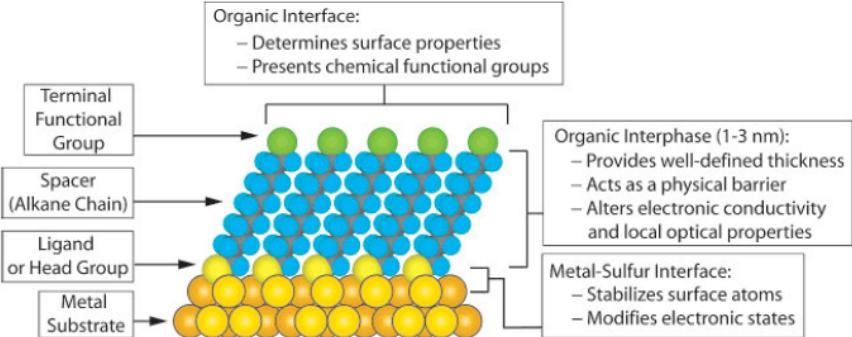
*Sumi nagashi*  
ca. 900 AD



Review: <http://www.physmathcentral.com/1757-5036/2/3> 33

Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

## Self-assembled monolayers (SAMs): design of macroscopic surfaces with nanoscale control of surface properties



A must-read: Chem. Rev. 105 (2005) 1103

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**Case study: Self-assembly for organic and molecular electronics**

Is the field dedicated to the *study and application of organic molecules building blocks* for the fabrication of electronic components.

The diagram consists of three overlapping circles. The top circle is light blue and labeled "Chemistry". The bottom-left circle is light green and labeled "Materials Science". The bottom-right circle is light red and labeled "Physics". The central area where all three circles overlap is shaded white and contains the text "Organic Electronics" in blue.

A 3D rendering of a complex organic molecule is shown against a light green background. Below it is a photograph of a printed circuit board (PCB) with various electronic components. A yellow rectangular box highlights a specific area on the PCB, which is magnified in a larger inset below it. The URL "http://electronicandyou.com" is visible on the right side of the PCB image.

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**Advantages of OE:**

- ✓ Miniaturization
- ✓ Soft fabrication techniques
- ✓ More environmental friendly
- ✓ More cost effective
- ✓ Less power consumption

**Current challenges in OE:**

- ❑ Functional molecules
- ❑ Electron transfer yield
- ❑ Large-area devices
- ❑ Reproducibility

**OE Development**

The infographic features a 3D bar chart titled "Organic electronics growth, \$B". The vertical axis represents billions of dollars, ranging from 0 to 40. The horizontal axis shows years from 2007 to 2015. Each bar is composed of several colored segments representing different market segments. The total height of the bars shows a steady increase over time, with a significant jump between 2014 and 2015. A legend at the bottom identifies the segments: Games, gadgets and gizmos (blue), e-paper (orange), Paper substrates (yellow), RFID (green), Disposable electronics (purple), and OLEDs (pink).

Worldwide Organic Electronics Market September 2009 press release

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## Molecular devices

In the last years, many examples of molecular systems have been published behaving as wires, diodes or switches.

**Wires**

a) Polythiophene  $\xrightarrow{-1e^-}$  Polythiophenium-Ion

b)

**Rectifiers**

**Switches**

cis  $\xrightarrow{300 \text{ nm}} \xleftarrow{> 380 \text{ nm}}$  trans

Carrol, Gorman, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*, 41 (2002), 4378-4400  
R. M. Metzger, *Colloids and Surfaces A: Physicochem. Eng. Aspects*, 284–285 (2006), pp. 2–10  
M. Irie, *Chem. Rev.*, 100 (2000), 1685-1716

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### Molecular-level switch

A molecule having two stable and fully reversible states exhibiting a different secondary property.

**Bistable systems**

ON

↔

OFF

Stimuli

Read-out mechanisms

Chemical\*  
Electric\*  
Optical\*  
Magnetic\*

**Switches: ON/OFF** ↔ **Memory devices: 1/0**

A molecular-level switch should be:

1. Controllable
2. Reversible
3. Readable at molecular scale

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### Bistability mechanisms in molecular switches

**Redox**

**Magnetic spin orientation**

**Electronic excitation**

**Conformational**

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### Bistability mechanisms in molecular switches

**Redox**

**Magnetic spin orientation**

**Electronic excitation**

**Conformational**

$\zeta = +20.1 \pm 1.3 \text{ mV}$

$\zeta = +30.4 \pm 1.6 \text{ mV}$

Ox =  $\text{Fe}(\text{ClO}_4)_3$   
Red = Ascorbic Acid

A  
Under Irradiation  
Open  
Closed  
Assembled  
Closed  
Open  
UV vs  
Time / s

10<sup>7</sup>  
10<sup>6</sup>  
10<sup>5</sup>  
10<sup>4</sup>  
10<sup>3</sup>  
10<sup>2</sup>  
10<sup>1</sup>

J / A/m<sup>2</sup>

Voltage / V  
-0.6 -0.4 -0.2 0 0.2 0.4 0.6

Open Assembled  
Closed Assembled  
Open+UV Irradiation

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Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

### Approaches to use molecules for molecular devices

**Molecules can be used as a single component:**

**A single-molecule junction or wire**

**Or as a group of molecules:**

**A large-area molecular junction**

**Self-assembled monolayers**

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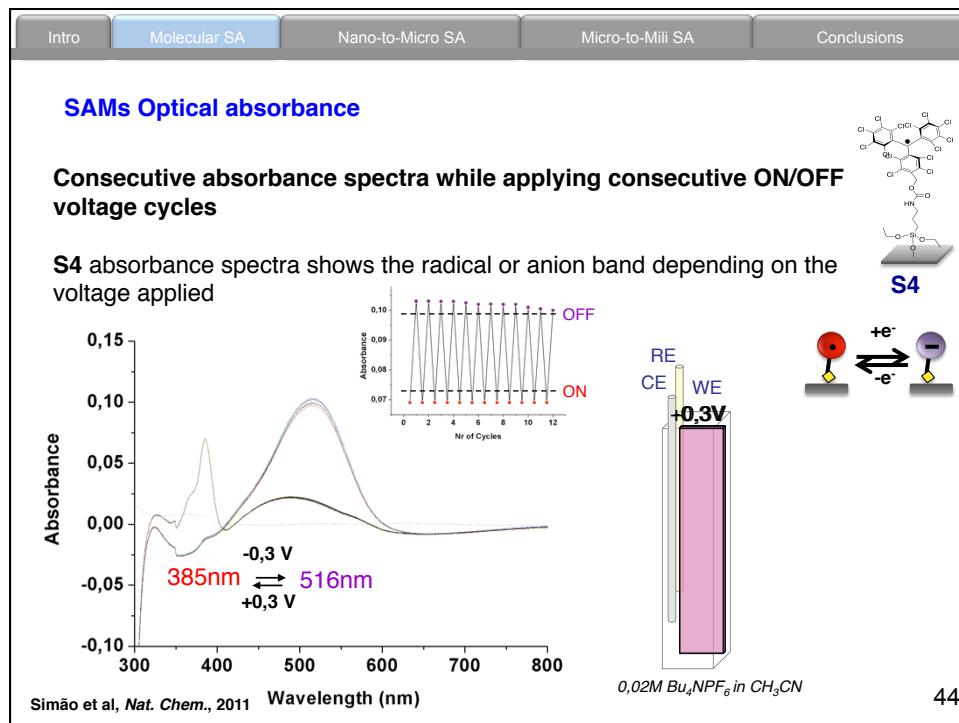
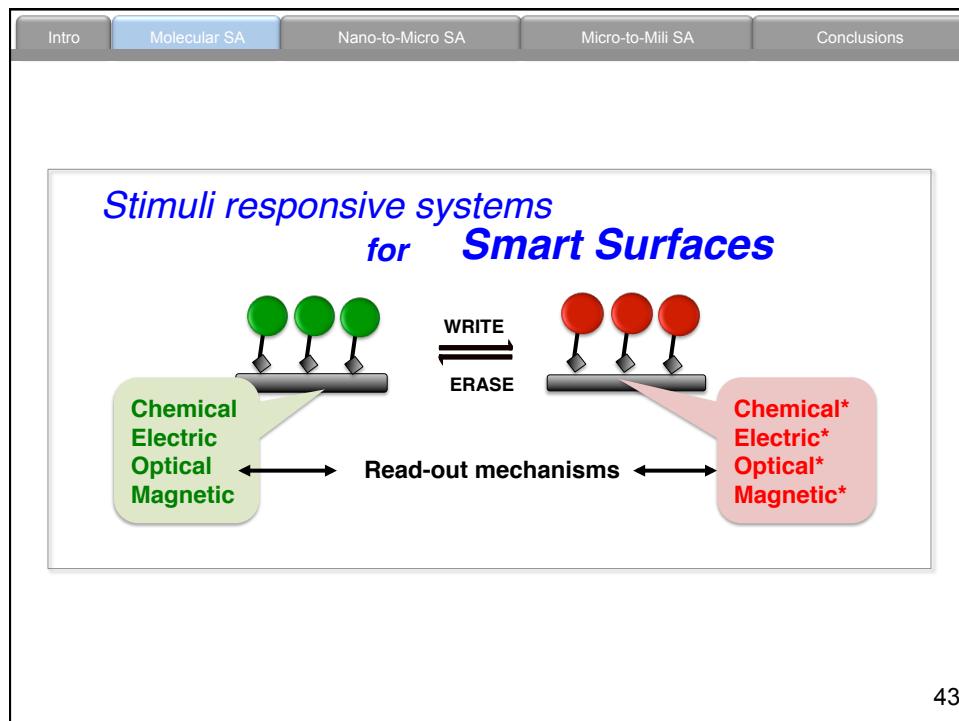
### Towards devices: Self-Assembled Monolayers

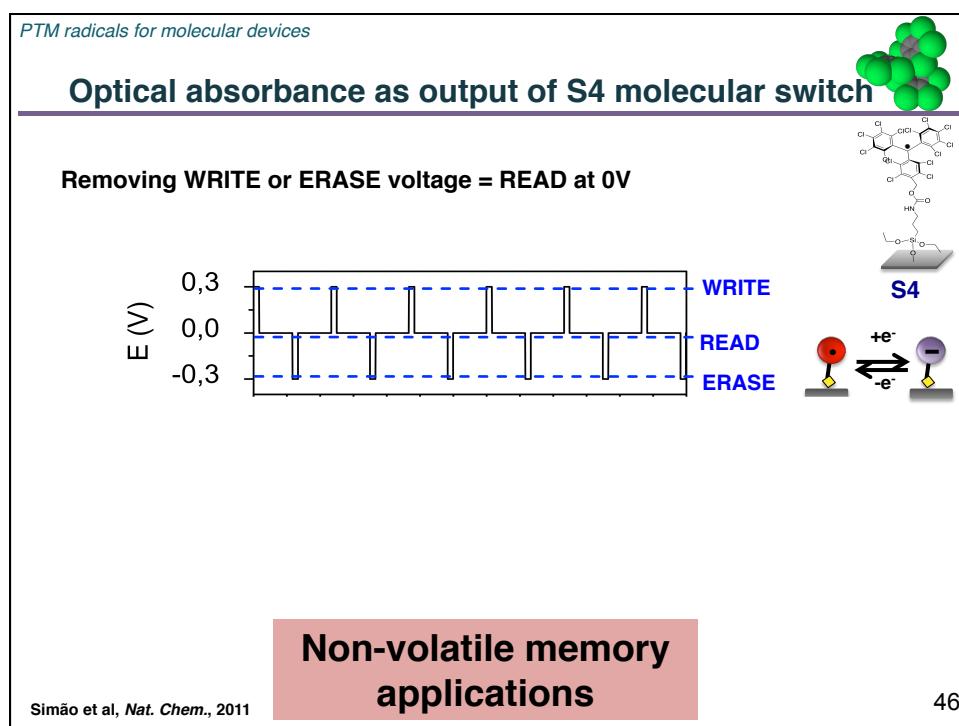
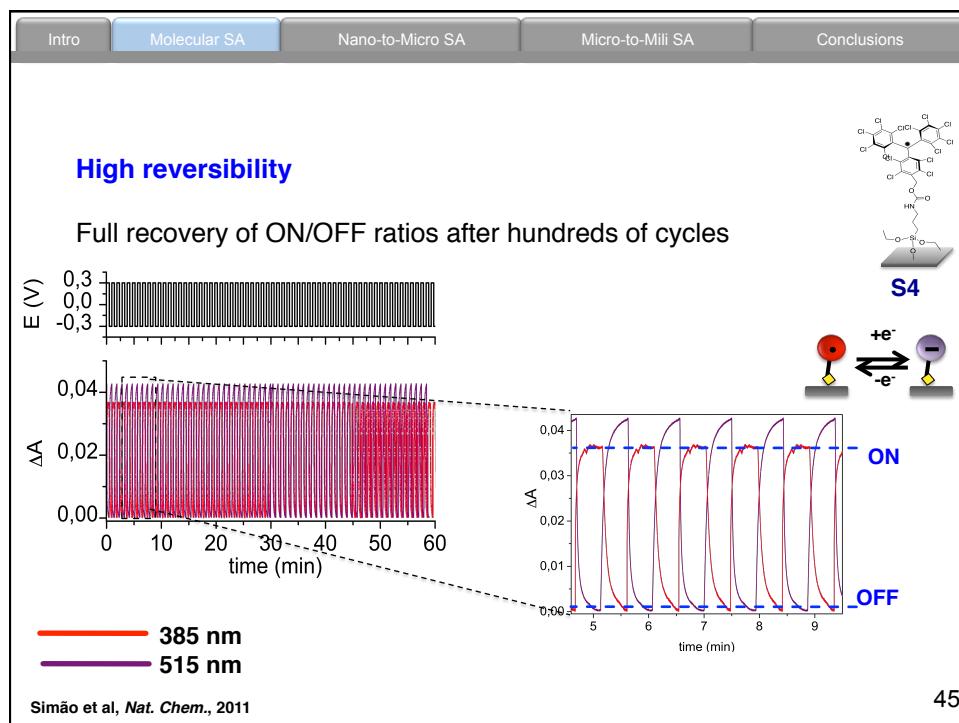
SAMs are a ordered layer formed by the chemisorption of hydrophilic groups onto a substrate from vapor or liquid phase.

**Important advantages**

- ✓ High stability layers
- ✓ Single molecule property
- ✓ Versatile
- ✓ Patternable
- ✓ Low cost
- ✓ Fixed physical location

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Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

### Microcontact printing of SAMs

PDMS Stamp  
lateral dimensions: ~50 nm  
depth: 1.5 nm

Gold film  
Thiol 'ink'

Self-Assembled Monolayer (SAM)

*Nature Protocols* 5 (2010) 491

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Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

### Patterning SAMs by μcontact-printing

a) 1 mM 5 in THF:CH<sub>3</sub>CN (3:7)  
+ ITO

b) PDMS

c) PDMS  
P-S4

S4

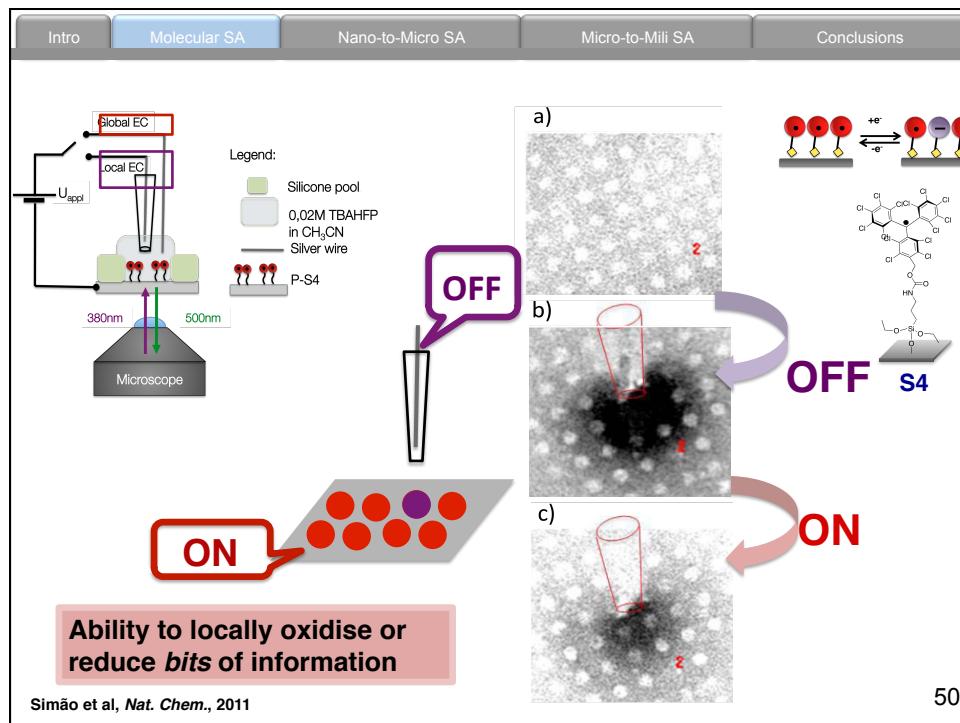
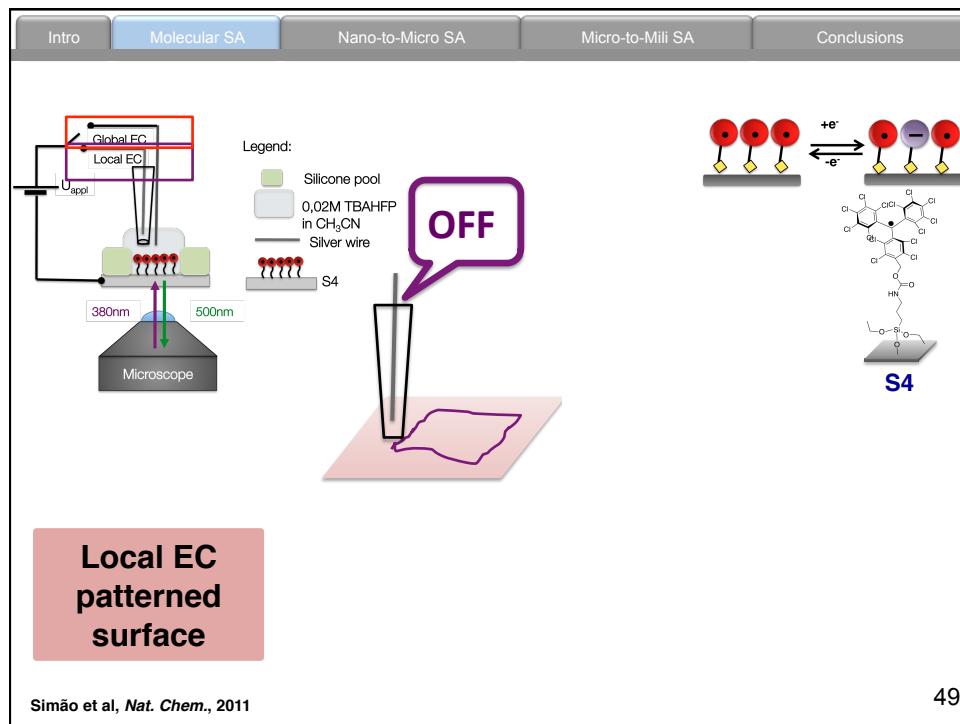
**Applications in memory devices and circuitry printing**

Fluorescence image of patterned S4 as 5 μm dots

$\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 380\text{nm}$   
 $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 500 \text{ nm (DAPI filter)}$

Simão et al, *Nat. Chem.*, 2011

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### Designer surfaces using SAMs

Ligand  
Linker/Spacer  
Protein Resistant Background  
Hydrophobic Organic Layer  
Substrate

Physisorbed Protein on Hydrophobic ( $\text{CH}_3$ -terminated) Regions

*Chem. Rev. 105 (2005) 1103*

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Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

### Cell-based assays: cell shape, size, and function

*Science 264 (1994) 696*

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- Cytoo is a startup of self-assembly monolayers substrates for molecular and bio assays

What was explored on CYTOO's micropatterns?...

CYTOO™

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Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

### SAMs as tools for nano- and microfabrication

etch resists:  
SAM with  $n > 16$   
Pd on Si/SiO<sub>2</sub>

epitaxial self-assembly of domains:  
PS-*b*-PMMA on patterned  
SAM template.

J. Am. Chem. Soc. 124 (2002) 1576

Nature 424 (2003) 411

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Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

### Self-assembly of nano-reactors from amphiphiles: Towards artificial cells

lipids

A  
B  
 $\Delta T$

SUV:  
 $d=20 \text{ nm}$   
 $V=10^{-21} \text{ L!}$

Glass

*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 126 (2004) 8594

diblock co-polymers

Angew. Chem. 50 (2011) 1648

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Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

### Self-assembly of block co-polymers

a b c d e f g h i j k l

GRAPHOEPITAXY

HETEROEPITAXY

aspect ratios:  $\geq 50:1!$

biggest issue: long-range order

*Nature Mater.* 4 (2005) 277

*Science* 321 (2008) 936, 939

PS-*b*-PMMA, PS-*b*-PDMS  
resulting pitch: 20-40 nm;  $d: 20 \text{ nm}$   
over 3 mm !

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Intro      Molecular SA      Nano-to-Micro SA      Micro-to-Mili SA      Conclusions

## SUMMARY

### Functional systems by molecular self-assembly

<b>Biggest success:</b>	<b>Opportunities:</b>
1. Materials for Biomedicine/biomaterials IT/photonics	Targets that require synthesis Crystal engineering Rational drug design Understanding the biophysics of water Protein folding "Things that can't be done" ( <i>hydrophobic interactions in water vs. widely used H-bonding in organic solvents</i> ) Intelligent machines
<b>Issues:</b>	
1. Limited functionality 2. No flexibility in the design of components	

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### Non-molecular self-assembled systems: nano- to micro-



"It's function and cost that count, not size!"

**Opportunities for self-assembly:**

**Large numbers of components**  
 High-density technologies (e.g., memory)  
 New optics (photonic bandgap materials)

**New materials**  
 Ultrahigh surface area  
 Low defects

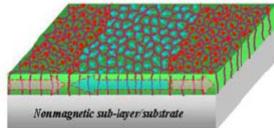
**Hierarchical structures: bottom-up and top-down**

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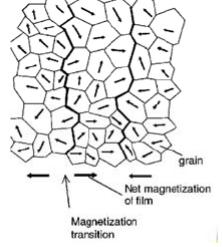
Intro Molecular SA **Nano-to-Micro SA** Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

### Nano-structured materials for magnetic storage

Longitudinal magnetic storage:  
grain size and thermal stability

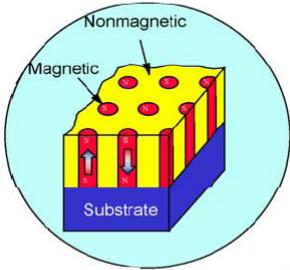


*Nonmagnetic sub-layer substrate*



*grain*  
*Magnetization transition*  
*Net magnetization of film*

Alternatives:  
Perpendicular recording  
and/or  
One grain per bit



*Nonmagnetic*  
*Magnetic*  
*Substrate*

Fabrication in a controllable process at low cost ?!?!?

schemes: M. Dumoulin, T. Veres;  
*J. Appl. Phys.* 76 (1994) 6673

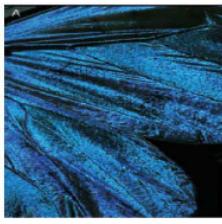
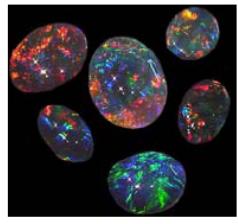
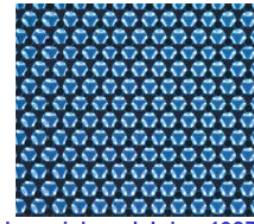
IBM J. Res. Develop. 44 (2000) 311

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Intro Molecular SA **Nano-to-Micro SA** Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

### Structured materials for optics

Photonic crystals, "the semiconductors of light"

*Image: F. Frankel*

*Yablonovich and John, 1987*

Confine, control, and manipulate photons in 3D:  
by the long-range order in the material

*Sci. Amer. Dec (2001) 47*    *NPG Asia Mater. 3 (2011) 25*

60

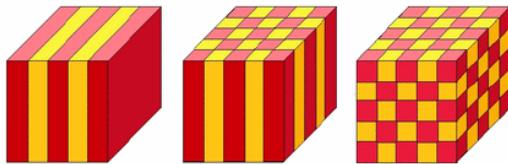
Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

## Photonic crystals: Periodic electromagnetic media

**Bandgap:** prohibited electromagnetic propagation throughout a specific frequency band

**Bandgap depends on:**

- crystalline lattice
- symmetry of the lattice points
- contrast in  $\epsilon$



**Long-distance optical fiber communications:** 1.5  $\mu\text{m}$

**For UV or Vis:**  
100-300/400-800 nm in all 3D, registration  $\leq 10$  nm

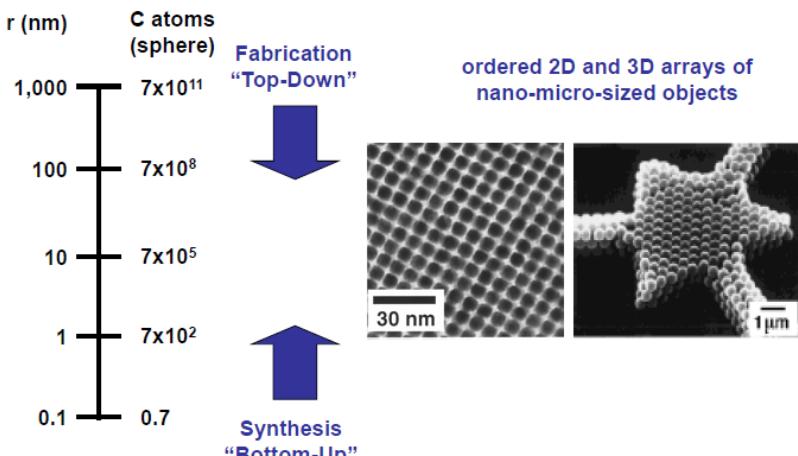
**Fabrication of big amounts in a controllable process at low cost**  
?!?!

<http://ab-initio.mit.edu/photons/tutorial/>

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Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

## Why self-assembly: To bridge the gap between synthesis and fabrication



$r$  (nm)

C atoms (sphere)

1,000	$7 \times 10^{11}$	Fabrication "Top-Down"	ordered 2D and 3D arrays of nano-micro-sized objects
100	$7 \times 10^8$		
10	$7 \times 10^5$		
1	$7 \times 10^2$		
0.1	0.7	Synthesis "Bottom-Up"	

30 nm

1  $\mu\text{m}$

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Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

### Particularities of mesoscale SA (nm–μm)

**Motion/Temperature**      "0 K", non-Boltzmann distribution  
**Agitation**      often steady state and not equilibrium  
                           External, non-uniform spatially

**Electrostatic**  
**Hydrophobic**  
**van der Waals**  
**Hydrodynamic**  
**Magnetic**  
**Capillary**  
**Fluid Shear**  
**Gravitational**  
**Centrifugal**  
**Osmotic**  
**Light**

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Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

### Interactions between colloidal particles in solution

uncharged (hard) spheres:  
short-range steric repulsion  
+ long-range (100 nm) VdW attraction

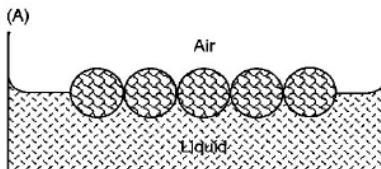
charged (soft) spheres:  
+ additional long-range Coulombic repulsion  
shielded by electrolytes  
= DLVO

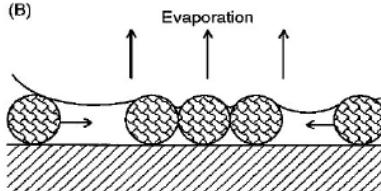
Adv. Mater. 12 (2000) 693

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Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Milli SA Conclusions

### Self-assembly of 2D arrays of colloids

(A)  surface-modified particles attraction by induced dipoles at an asymmetric interface

(B)  slow solvent evaporation

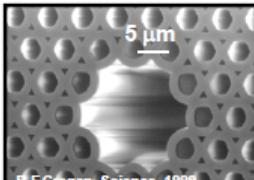
major limitation: small arrays (< 10,000 particles/single domain)

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### Non-molecular (mesoscale) self-assembled systems: micro- to milli-

1 nm      100 nm      1  $\mu$ m      100  $\mu$ m      1 mm

"It's function and cost that count, not size!"

**Micrometers** 

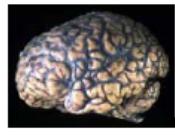
**Millimeters** 

Why that big: application-specific needs  
simple models for smaller sizes

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Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Milli SA Conclusions

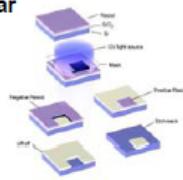
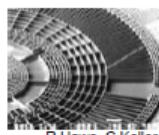
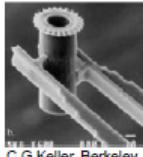
## Possible and optimal design: 2D vs. 3D

	
~ 40 M Transistors	$10^5$ M nerve cells
<b>Density</b>	$n^2$ components
<b>Speed</b>	long interconnects lead to low speed
<b>Architecture</b>	weakly connected networks
	$n^3$ components shorter interconnects lead to higher speed
	strongly connected networks
	<b>???</b> <b>Fabrication</b> <b>Defects</b> <b>Cooling</b>

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Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Milli SA Conclusions

## Micromanufacturing technologies: How to make and position small things?

<b>Photolithography:</b> massively parallel But: planar	<b>Wafer-to-wafer:</b> 10-4000 $\mu\text{m}$ , yield > 99%, precision $\pm 0.1 \mu\text{m}$ But: not for numerous parts; planar
	 R. Howe, C. Keller
<b>Monolithic microfabrication</b> and surface patterning in 3D: But: serial, slow, costly	<b>Micro-gripper arrays:</b> massively parallel But: not $< 100 \mu\text{m}$
 C.G.Keller, Berkeley BallSemi, Texas	 C.G.Keller, Berkeley

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Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

## Problems / opportunities in microelectronics and microfabrication

- Registration and assembly of many components
- Formation of micro-/nano- 3D structures
- New materials: structured, composite
- New structures: self-healing and defect-free
- Strategies for lowering costs
- Differentiation/development (sensors smaller than the cell)

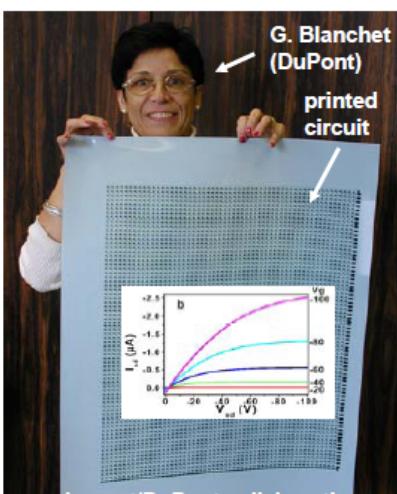
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Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

## Macroelectronics: distributed active systems that cover large areas

Smart artificial skins,  
Wearable electronics,  
Large-area radars, antennas,  
Flexible displays,  
Electronic paper,  
X-ray imagers,  
Solar cell arrays,  
Structural health monitoring,  
etc.

*Proc. IEEE 93 (2005):  
Special issue on  
Flexible electronics technology*



G. Blanchet (DuPont)  
printed circuit

Lucent/DuPont collaboration

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Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

## Particularities of mesoscale SA ( $\mu\text{m-mm}$ )

**Interactions:**

- Electrostatic
- Hydrophobic
- van der Waals
- Hydrodynamic
- Magnetic
- Capillary**
- Fluid Shear
- Gravitational
- Centrifugal
- Osmotic
- Light

**Motion/Temperature**  
“0 K”, non-Boltzmann distribution  
often steady state and not equilibrium

**Agitation**  
External, spatially non-uniform

**Capillary interactions:**

- controlled strength
- mathematically modeled
- act in 2D and in 3D
- can impart function

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Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

## Case study: Large area nanofabrication with Block Copolymers

**Asymmetric Diblock Copolymer**

**Symmetric Diblock Copolymer**

PS PEO, PDMS, PMMA

Hydrophobic chain — Hydrophilic chain

**Entangled Polymer Chains**

++++ Chains

**Microphase Separation head-to-head fashion**

Anneal

$\chi = V_m(\delta_A - \delta_B)^2/RT$

$R_g$  is the chain radius of gyration  
 $R_g^2 = N_a^2/6$

$L_0$  is the period between features in a bulk annealed BCP  
 $L_0 = 4.05R_g$

Confinement

Hexagonal  
200 nm  
Lamellae

**Thin film morphology**

X. Man et al., *Macromolecules* 2011, 44, 2206–2211

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Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

### Lithography techniques for Nanofabrication

Techniques	Resolution	Process	Limitation
Immersion	Approx 30 nm	Parallel	High cost, Precision
Extreme-UV	10 -14 nm	Parallel	interlayer interference, resist issues
X-ray interference (XIL)	<10 nm	Parallel	Synchrotron, complexity
Scanning Beam Lithography	10 nm	Serial	Slow rate, precision
<b>NIL</b>	<b>10 nm</b>	<b>Parallel</b>	<b>Template patterning/wear</b>
<b>BCP Self-Assembly</b>	<b>5 nm</b>	<b>Parallel</b>	<b>Long range order</b>
Soft Lithography	2 nm	Parallel	Distortion
Scanning Probe Lithography	1 nm	Serial	Slow rate

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Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

The diagram illustrates the Nanolithography (NIL) process. It starts with a 'Stamp (Si, Quartz, etc)' above a 'Resist (polymer, monomer)' layer on a 'Substrate'. Blue arrows show the stamp being applied to the resist. This leads to an 'Imprint' step, indicated by a curved arrow, followed by a 'Release' step (cool down). Finally, 'RIE of residual layer' is shown, resulting in 'Complex patterns' and 'Functional devices'.

**NIL**

**Advantages**

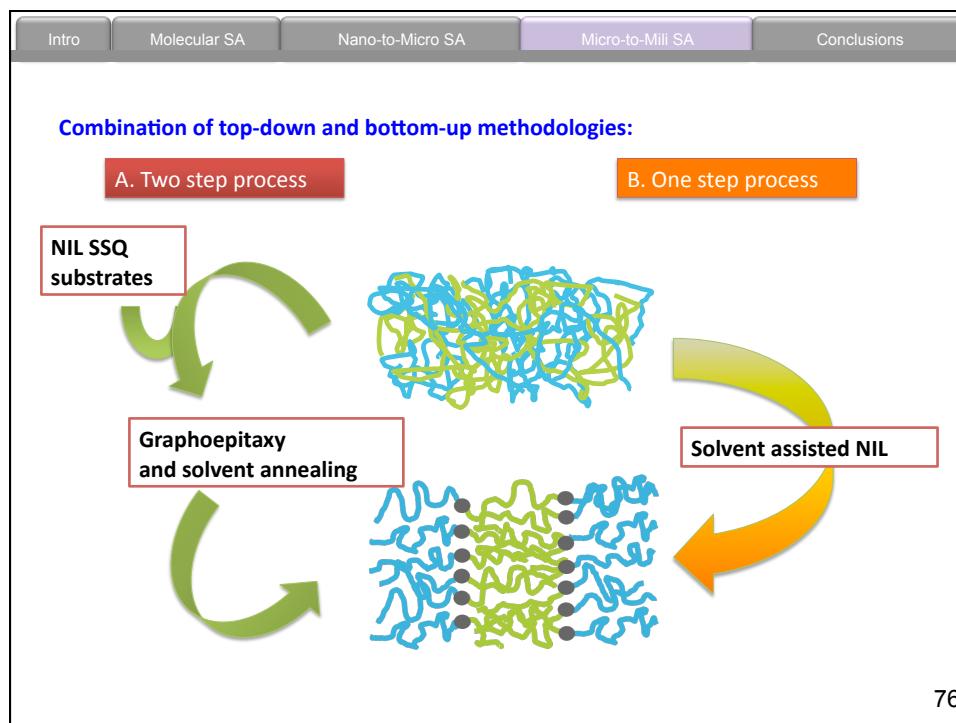
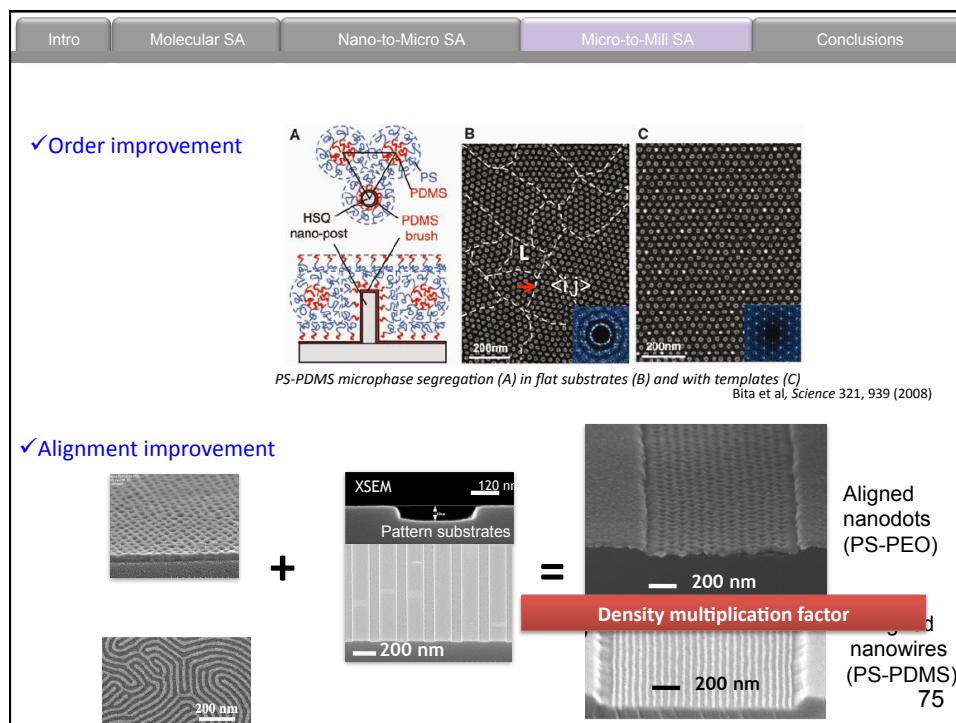
- Resolution
- Soft materials compatible
- Fast (sec/cycle)
- Low cost (\$0.2M vs \$25M)
- Simple
- Flexible (UV, heat)

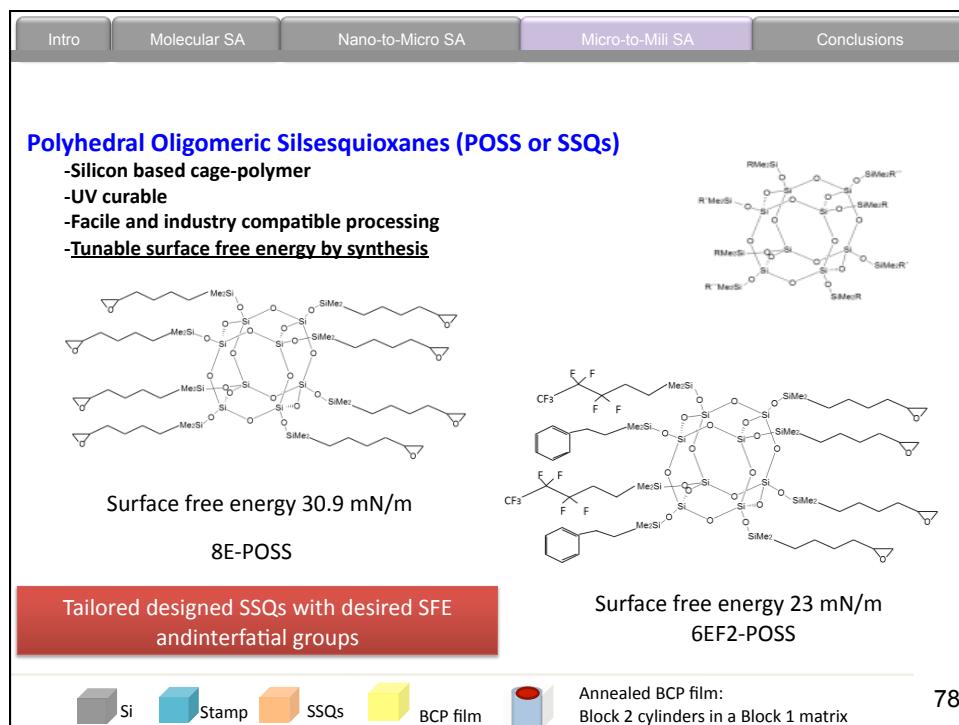
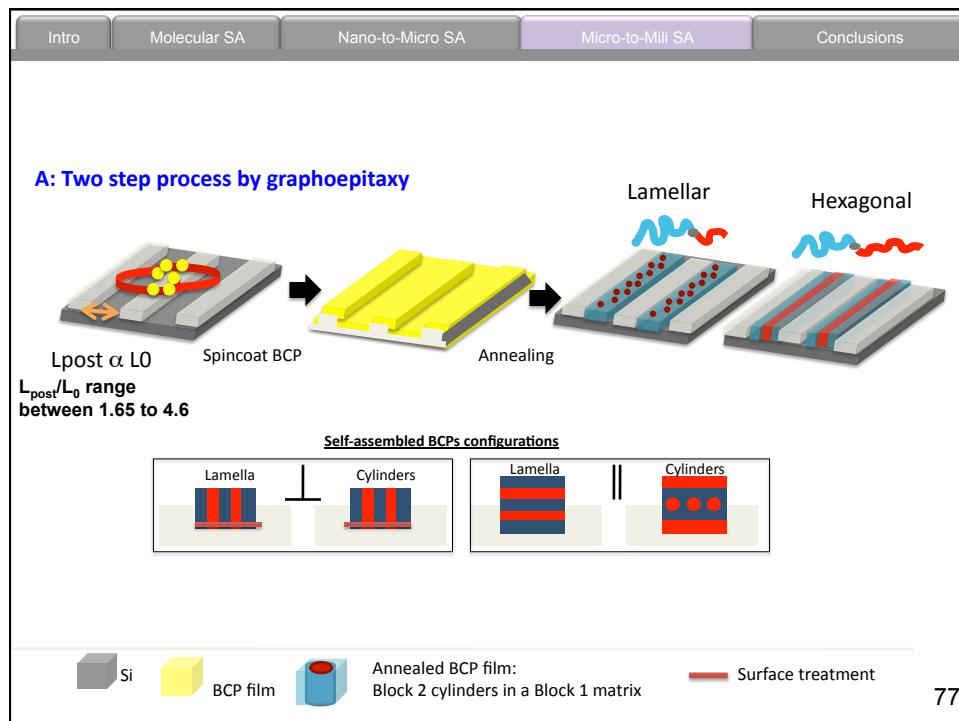
**Complex patterns      Functional devices**

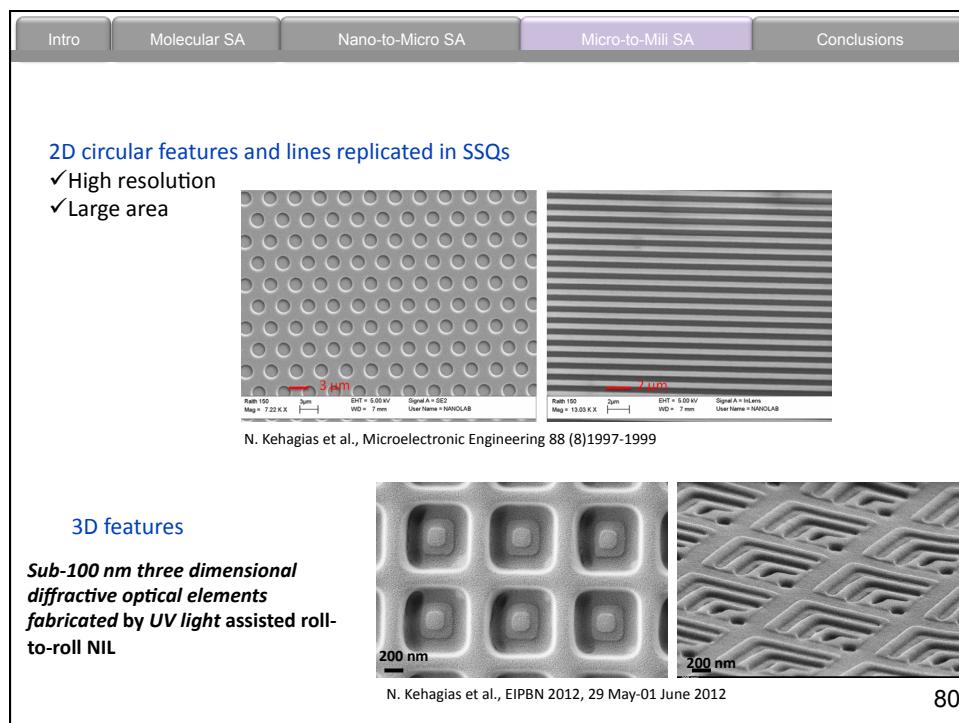
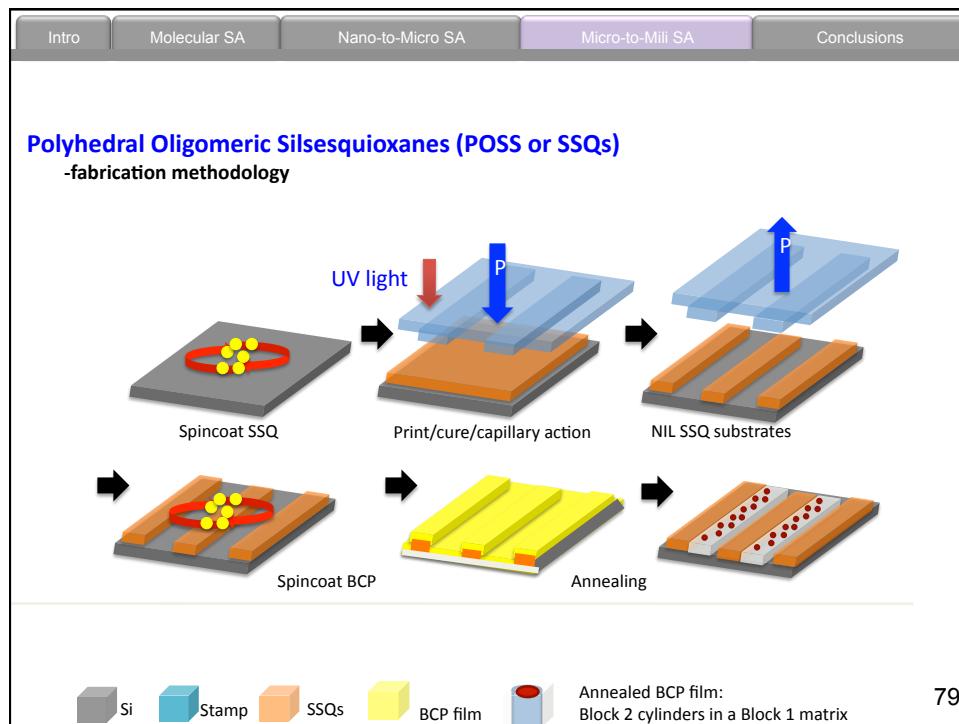
**Semiconductors; Optics; Bio; Organic electronics; Sensors**

N.Kehagias, *Nanotechnology* 18 (2007)  
V.Reboud, *Jpn. J. Appl. Phys.*, 47 (2008)

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Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

### DSA of PS-b-PMMA in SSQ patterned substrates

Patterned SSQ by UVNIL      Spincoat PS-PMMA      Micro/nano microdroplet array

**c**

Longitudinal mesa: 710 nm  
Diagonal mesa: 1100 nm  
Via: 200 nm  
Droplet: 1000 nm

**f**

300 nm

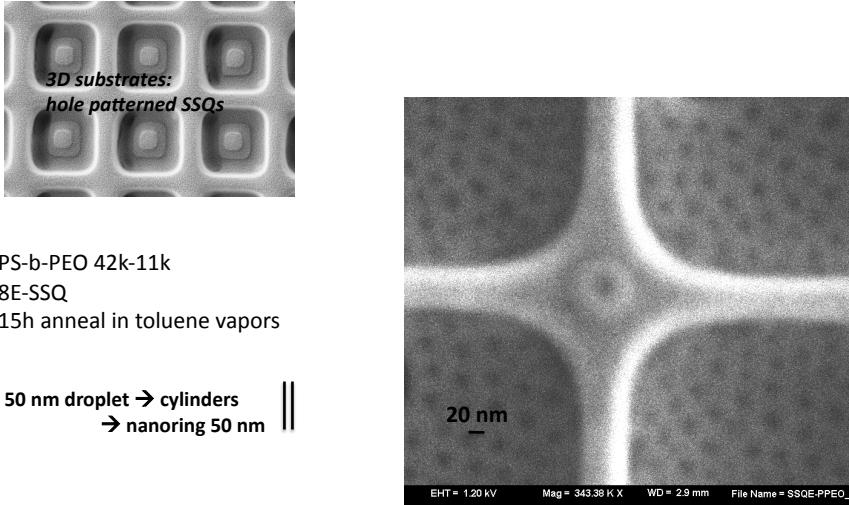
**g**

SSQ  
150 nm

R.A. Farrell et al, ACS Nano, 5 (2011) 1073.

The BCP film was inside and on top of the nanoimprinted features, where the last formed dewetted nanodroplets due to the SSQ SFE.

Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions



**3D substrates:**  
*hole patterned SSQs*

PS-b-PEO 42k-11k  
8E-SSQ  
15h anneal in toluene vapors

50 nm droplet → cylinders  
→ nanoring 50 nm

Ongoing work

C. Simao et al, in preparation..

EHT = 1.20 kV      Mag = 343.36 KX      WD = 2.9 mm      File Name = SSQE-PPEO\_0  
ESB Grid = 1200 V      Signal A = SE2

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Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

### SSQs with residual layer

Table 1. Nanoimprinted POSS substrates SFE.

SSQ derivative	Contact angle (deg)	SFE (mN/m)
C6-SSQ	72	42
8E-SSQ	84	30

PDMS nanorings (pore size 25 nm)  
a)

PDMS toroidal structures (pore size 25 nm)  
b)

**Orientation is dependent on the substrate interfacial surface SFE and terminal groups of the film**

C. Simao et al, *J. Photopolymer Sci. & Technol.*, 2012

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Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

### SSQs without residual layer

### Improved long range order

(a)

(b)

PS-PDMS 31k-14k, 15 h toluene annealing

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Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

**Tuning SSQ terminal groups and surface free energy → Control of alignment and orientation in a predictable way**

**PS-b-PDMS graphoepitaxy: substrate chemistry**

Library of processes

POSS 1      POSS 2      POSS 3

No RL

RL

Solvent annealing in Toluene

M. Zelmann et al, *Nano Letters*, submitted.

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Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

**Approach B: One-step process NIL+BCP DSA**

**Solvent vapors assisted nanoimprint lithography (SAIL)**

$L=200\text{ nm}$

Solvent exposure →

Pressure applied to stamp →

Demold →

Legend  
● Toluene   ● Water   ■ PEO block   ■ PS block

Orientation of the features dependent on the groove height

SAIL chamber:  
Transparent window for *in situ* optical characterization

C. Simão et al, 2013, submitted.

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Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

**Asymmetric Diblock Copolymer**

PS-PEO 42k-11k  
Hexagonal phase 35 nm pitch

**Field emission SEM**

1 μm

- 4" wafer imprint
- High resolution
- No dewetting

**Large area ordered nanodot hexagonal arrays**

100 nm

→Only one step process and overall time decreased from 3 hours to 35 minutes

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Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

### What can self-assembly offer to microfabrication:

1. Organization of small and numerous components into ordered 2D and 3D structures in a parallel process  
Compatible with variety of materials, flat and curved surfaces  
Electric/electronic and optical functionality  
Can eliminate process incompatibilities (e.g., CMOS & III IV tech.)
2. Parallel, fast process  
Current best *pick-and-place*: ~26,000 pph, 300 μm  
Alien Technologies: 2,000,000 pph, 10-100 μm  
cut the price of RFID tags from 0.5 \$ to 0.2 \$
3. High accuracy of registration  
MEMS micro-mirrors, 150-400 μm: ±0.2 μm, 0.3°  
out-of-plane rotation: ≤0.1°
4. Low defect rates and high yields  
Correction mechanisms: assemble only working devices  
misaligned components are unstable  
multiple assembly steps

MRS Bull. 30 (2005) 736

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Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

## SUMMARY

### Functional systems by non-molecular ( $\mu\text{m}$ to $\text{mm}$ ) self-assembly

**Opportunities:**

1. Plausible engineering strategy
  - Microfabrication
  - Micro- and macro- electronics
2. A new route to functional 3D structures
  - Templating
  - Molecule-mimetic and biomimetic strategies
3. Versatile and simple models

**Issues: operational, not intrinsic**

1. Fabrication of 3D and functional components
2. Design of patterns for recognition and binding

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Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

### Using self-assembly to make functional systems:

- bridge top-down and bottom-up
- stand alone

Scale	Associated Features
10 mm	Low cost Simple processes Fewer defects New route to 3D structures Reconfigurable and conformal structures Assembly in inaccessible spaces
100 μm	New, non-molecular materials Self-healing and reject defects Ultra-high surface areas Optical properties High density
10 μm	Bio-medicine, delivery, manipulation New technology based on nano-sized components
1 nm	Big molecules Nano-structures New molecular materials Patterned surfaces

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Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

## Main problems (cont'd)

Tradeoffs between size, complexity, and functionality of components

Topology/topography of “recognition” in self-assembly

Generation of asymmetry: “proteins” rather than “crystals”

Theoretical basis:

- Molecular self-assembly: solvent, entropy
- Analogue of thermodynamics/statistical mechanics for nano / micro
- Range of structures that can be formed
- Perfection of the structures, nature of defects
- Prediction of yield by shape, size of components, and conditions of assembly
- Dynamic self-assembly

Design

- fail-safe or adaptive (redundant); flow of materials or information

*PNAS 99 (2002) 4769*

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Intro Molecular SA Nano-to-Micro SA Micro-to-Mili SA Conclusions

## Self-assembly: opportunities

New tools

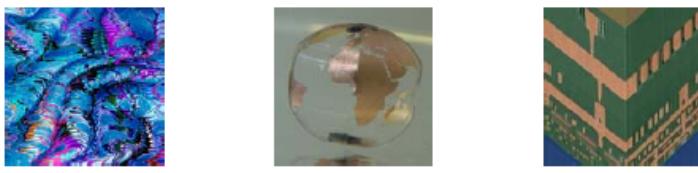
New science  
New materials  
New technology

New devices

<b>Mesoscale structured materials</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• magnetic assemblies</li> <li>• structured colloids</li> <li>• catalysts</li> </ul> <b>Composites</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• high- and low-<math>k</math> dielectrics</li> <li>• mechanical reinforcement</li> <li>• new electronic properties</li> </ul> <b>Photonics</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sub-<math>\lambda</math> optics</li> <li>• fluidic optics</li> <li>• PBG materials</li> </ul>	<b>Electronics</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3D vs. 2D</li> <li>• biomimetics</li> <li>• molecular electronics</li> <li>• flexible electronics</li> <li>• macroelectronics</li> </ul>	<b>Dynamic self-assembly</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• complexity</li> <li>• the cell</li> </ul>
<b>The far future</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nano-IC</li> <li>• Bio/IT interface</li> <li>• Quantum computation</li> <li>• Mechanical genomic surgery</li> <li>• Synthetic complexity</li> <li>• ... ??</li> </ul>		

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Intro      Molecular SA      Nano-to-Micro SA      Micro-to-Mili SA      Conclusions



### Integration / Synergy

- Size boundaries: “**It’s function and cost that count, not size!**”
- Disciplines: physics, chemistry, biology, materials science, engineering
- Divisions: applied, fundamental, and exploratory R&D

### Cross-talk and collaboration

Strategies, concepts ↔ Synthesis, fabrication ↔ Characterization ↔ Applications

**12<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Nanoimprint and Nanoprint Technology**  
Barcelona, Spain - October 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> 2013

**Conference chair:**  
Clivia M Sotomayor Torres, Catalan Institute of Nanoscience and Nanotechnology, Spain

**Conference co-chair:**  
Helmut Schiff, Paul Scherrer Institute, Switzerland

**Program Committee chair:**  
Jouni Ahopelto, VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland

**Program Committee co-chairs:**  
Marc Verschueren, Philips Research, The Netherlands  
Stefan Landis, CEA-LETI, France

**Topics**

- » Processes
- » Large area approaches
- » Materials
- » Stamps
- » Tools
- » Modelling and simulation
- » Related & emerging methods: soft lithography, self-assembly & dip-pen lithography ...
- » Applications in electronics, optoelectronics, solar cells, displays, LEDs, magnetics, materials, self-assembly, chemistry, biology and pharmaceuticals

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**Invited Speakers**

- » Prof. Stephen Y. Chou, Princeton University
- » Dr. David Peyrade, LTM-CNRS
- » Prof. Sungook Park, Louisiana State University
- » Dr. Alexander Weigl, Ulm Photonics
- » Dr. Akihiro Miyazaki, Hitachi Ltd
- » Prof. Hong Yee Low, Singapore University of Technology and Design

**Industrial Session**

- » Dr. Douglas J. Resnick, Molecular Imprints, Inc
- » Mr. Brian Bilenberg, NIL Technology
- » Prof. Dr.-Ing. Lothar Pfitzner, Fraunhofer Institute for Integrated Systems and Device Technology IISB

Any doubts?

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