



**The Abdus Salam  
International Centre for Theoretical Physics**



**2268-19**

**Conference on Nanotechnology for Biological and Biomedical  
Applications (Nano-Bio-Med)**

*10 - 14 October 2011*

**From Bio- to Nano-Interfaces**

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ÉCOLE POLYTECHNIQUE  
FÉDÉRALE DE LAUSANNE

**Supramolecular NanoMaterials and Interfaces Laboratory**

INSTITUTE OF MATERIALS - INSTITUT DE MATÉRIAUX

SuNMIL

桑蜜儿

썸밀

सानमिल

ΣουNMιΛ

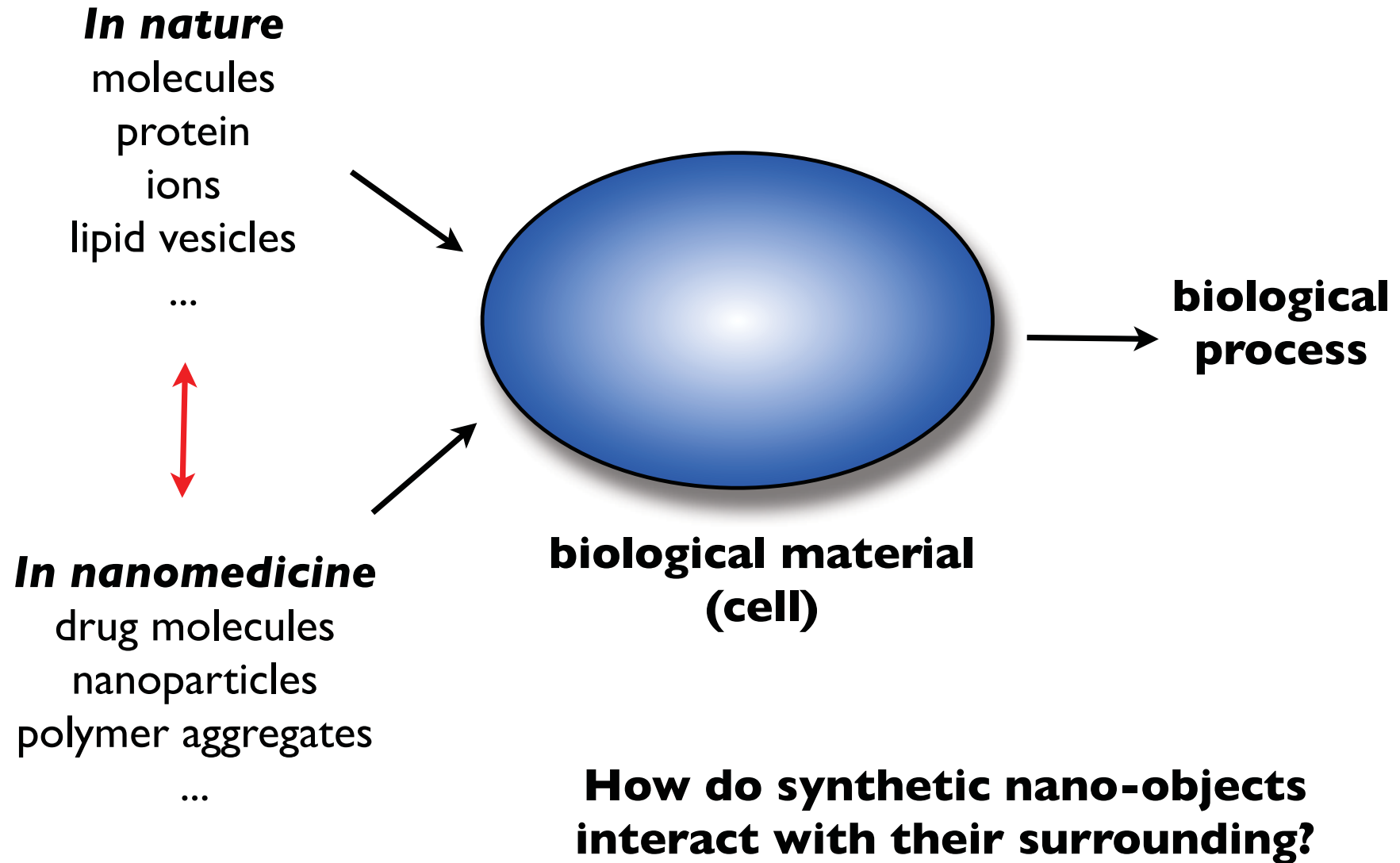
سنمیل

# From Bio- to Nano-Interfaces

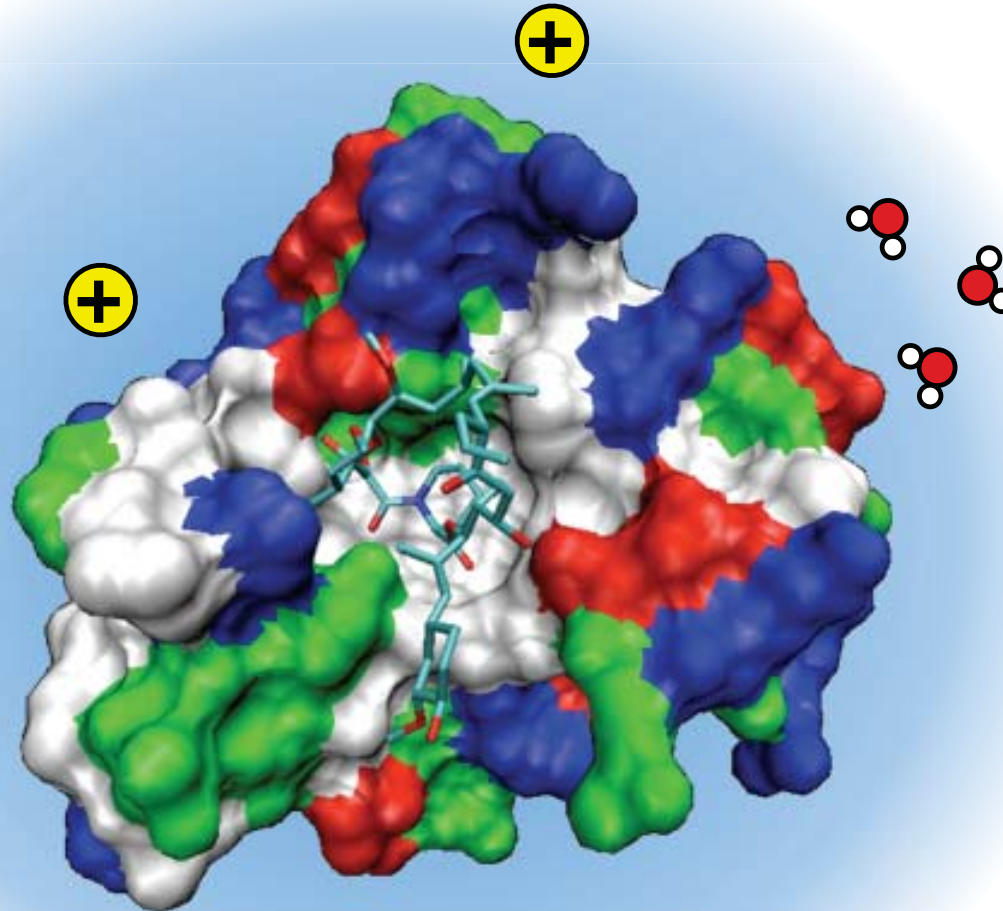
**Kislon Voitchovsky**

*kislon.voitchovsky@epfl.ch*

ICTP-KFAS NanoBioMed Conference, Trieste, 11 October 2011



# Trypsin

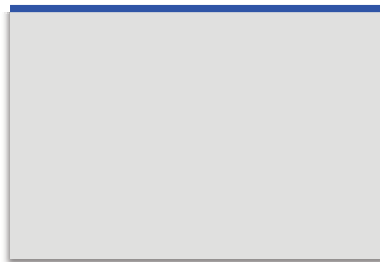


**How are interfaces at the nanoscale?**

**Does the coexistence of hydrophobic and hydrophilic nanoscale domains (e.g. on proteins) provide surfaces with special properties?**



vacuum



Energy cost:

$$\gamma_{MM} = \gamma_M + \gamma_M = 2\gamma_M$$

Interfacial energy:

$$\gamma_{M1M2} = \gamma_{M1} + \gamma_{M2} - W_{M1M2}$$

## Thermodynamics at the interface: the work of adhesion



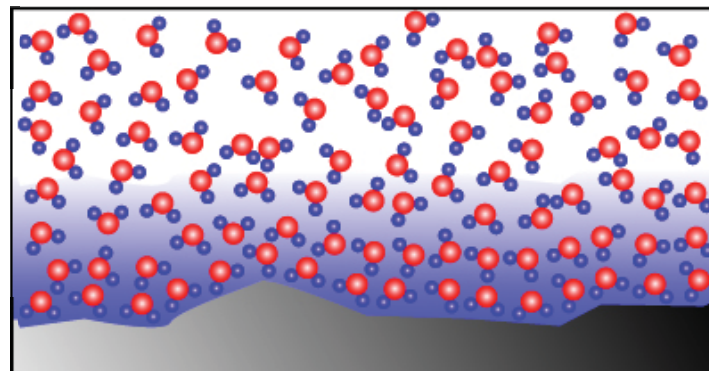
Interfacial energy  $\gamma_{SL}$  :

$$\gamma_{SL} = \gamma_s + \gamma_L - W_{SL} \quad (\text{Dupré equation})$$

interfacial energy ~ **work of adhesion**

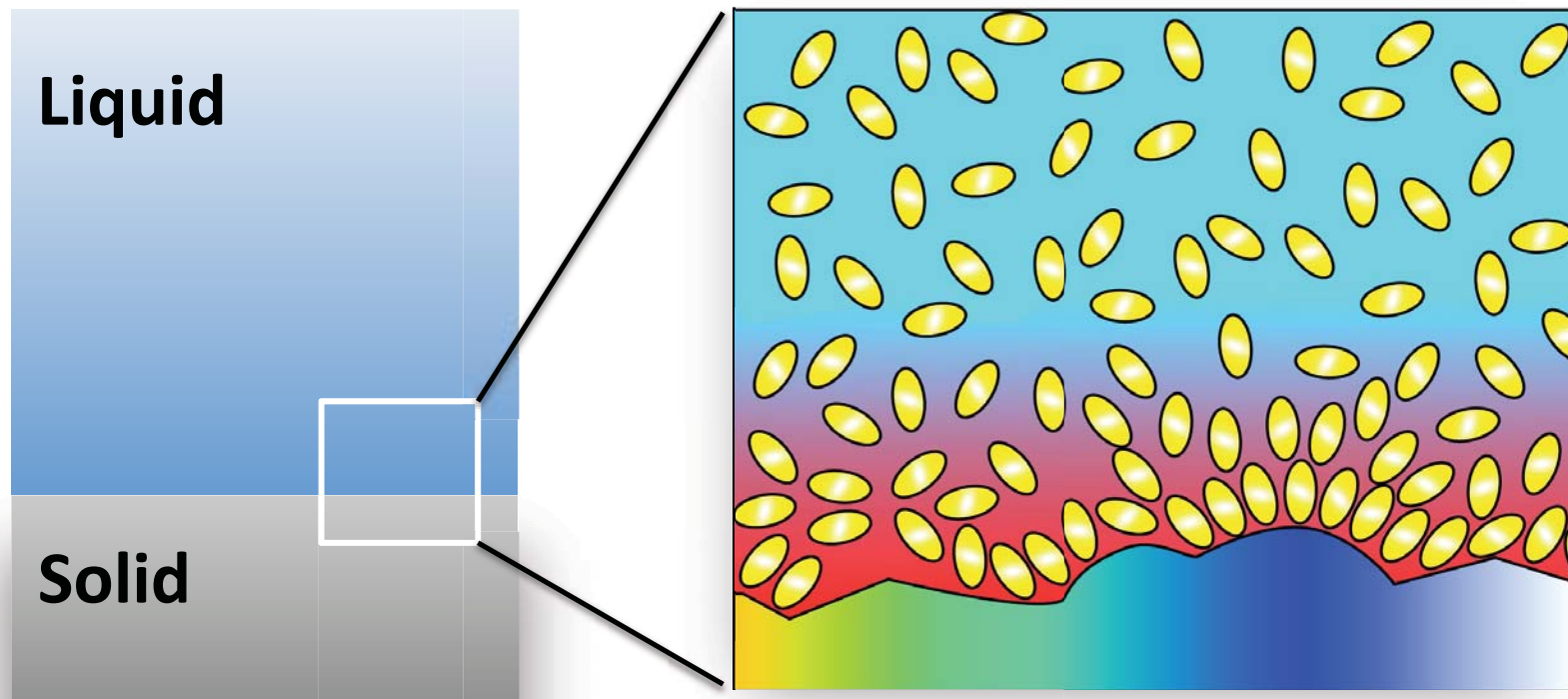
Bulk liquid

Solid



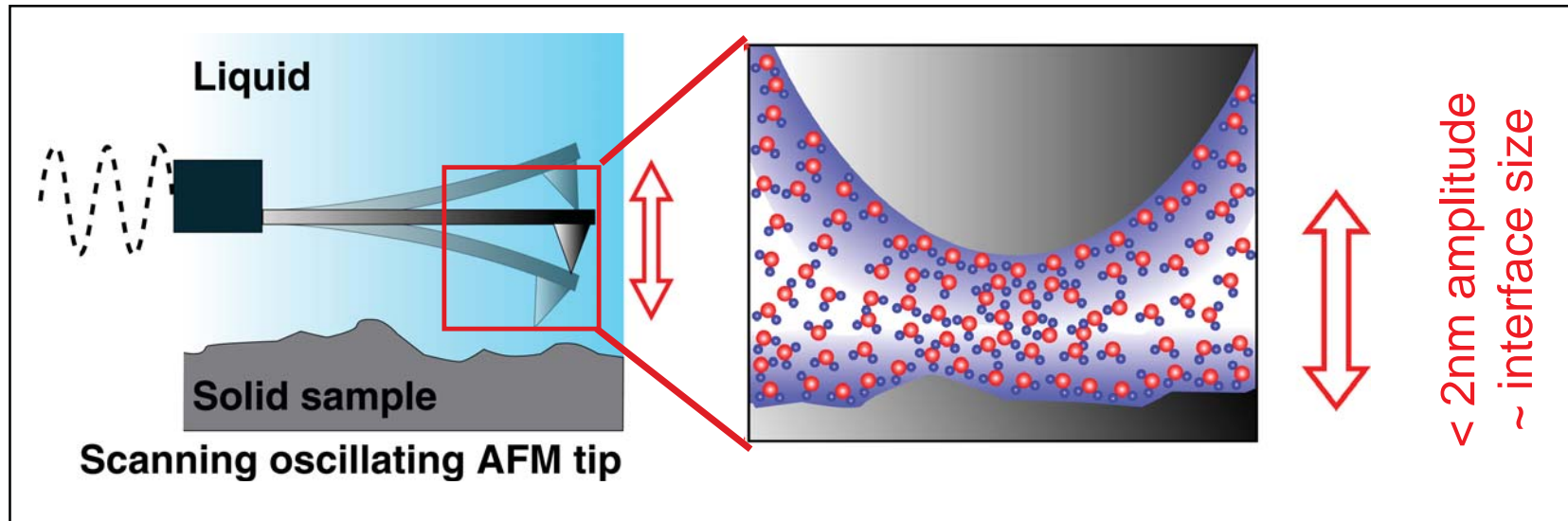
**Interfacial  
liquid**

## Solid-liquid interfaces at the nanoscale

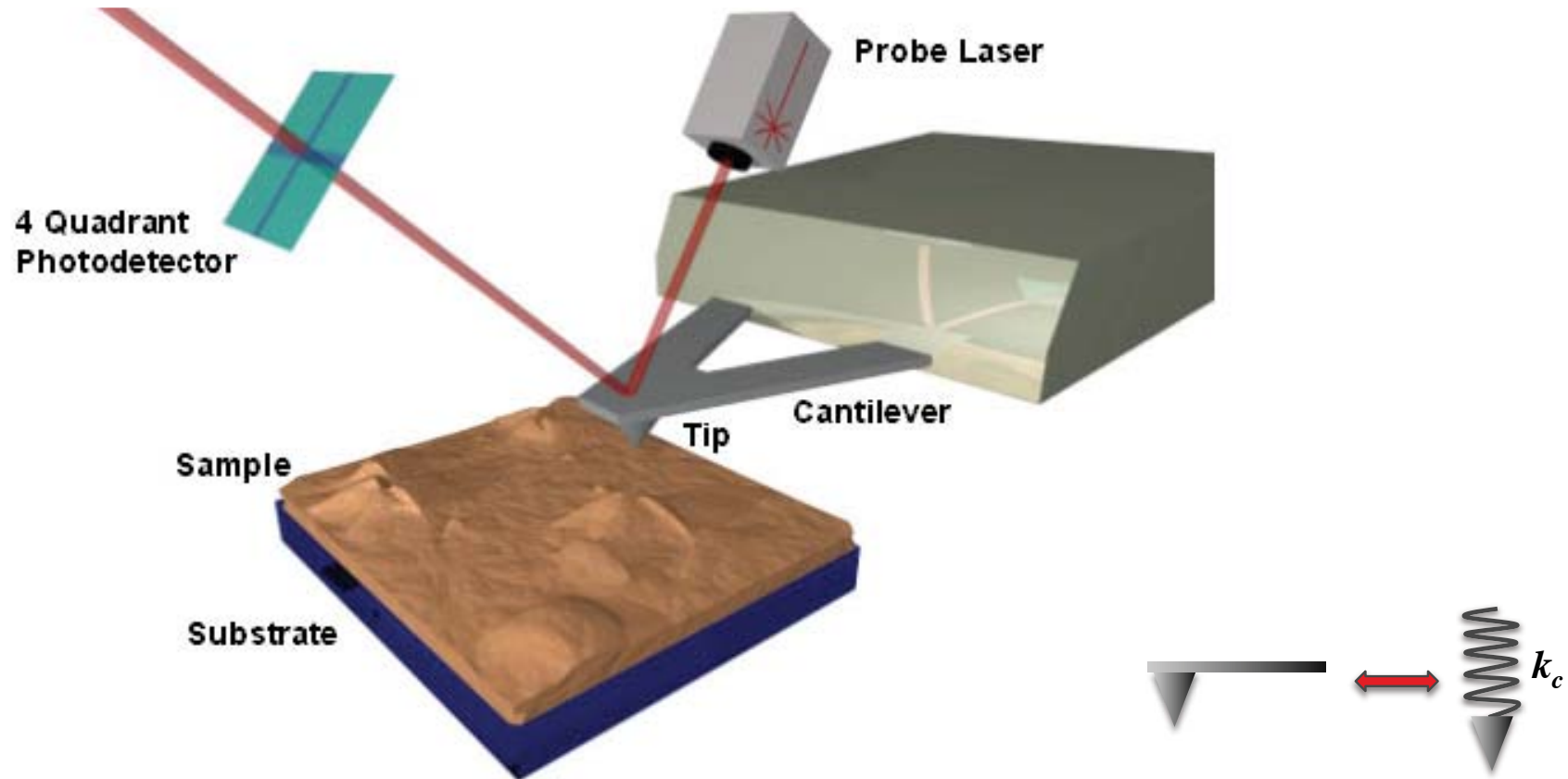


A more realistic interface

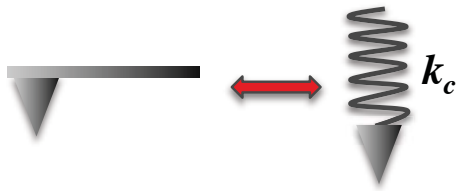
## Probing the solid-liquid interface with AFM



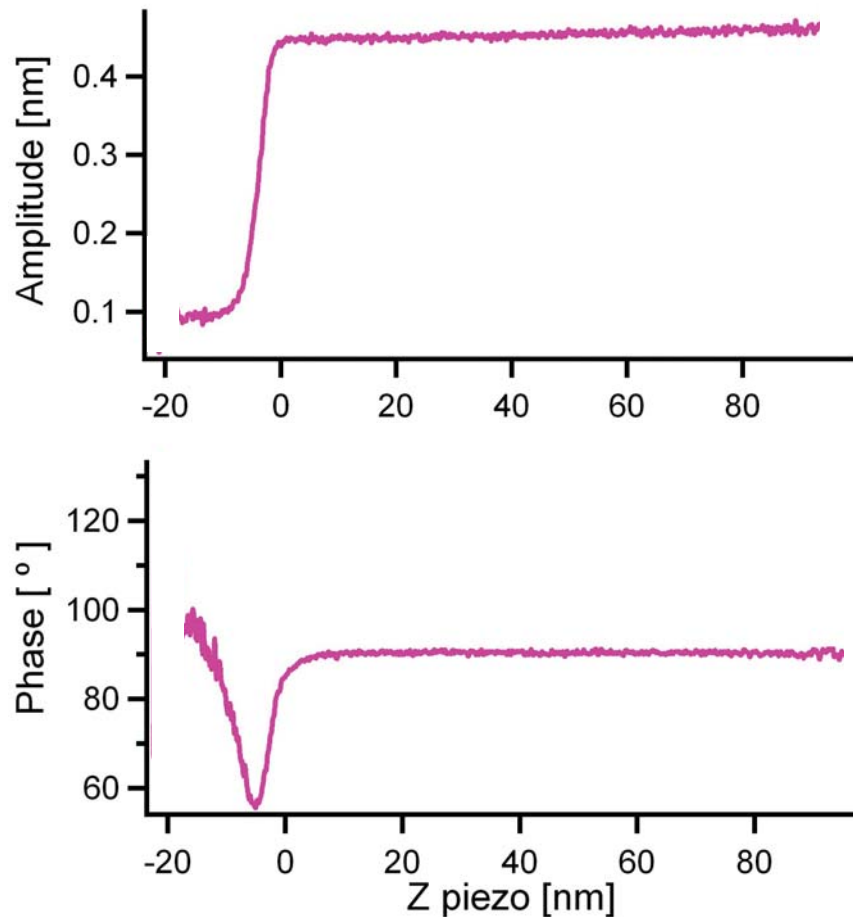




**A nanoscale tip mounted on a flexible cantilever is used to probe a sample locally**

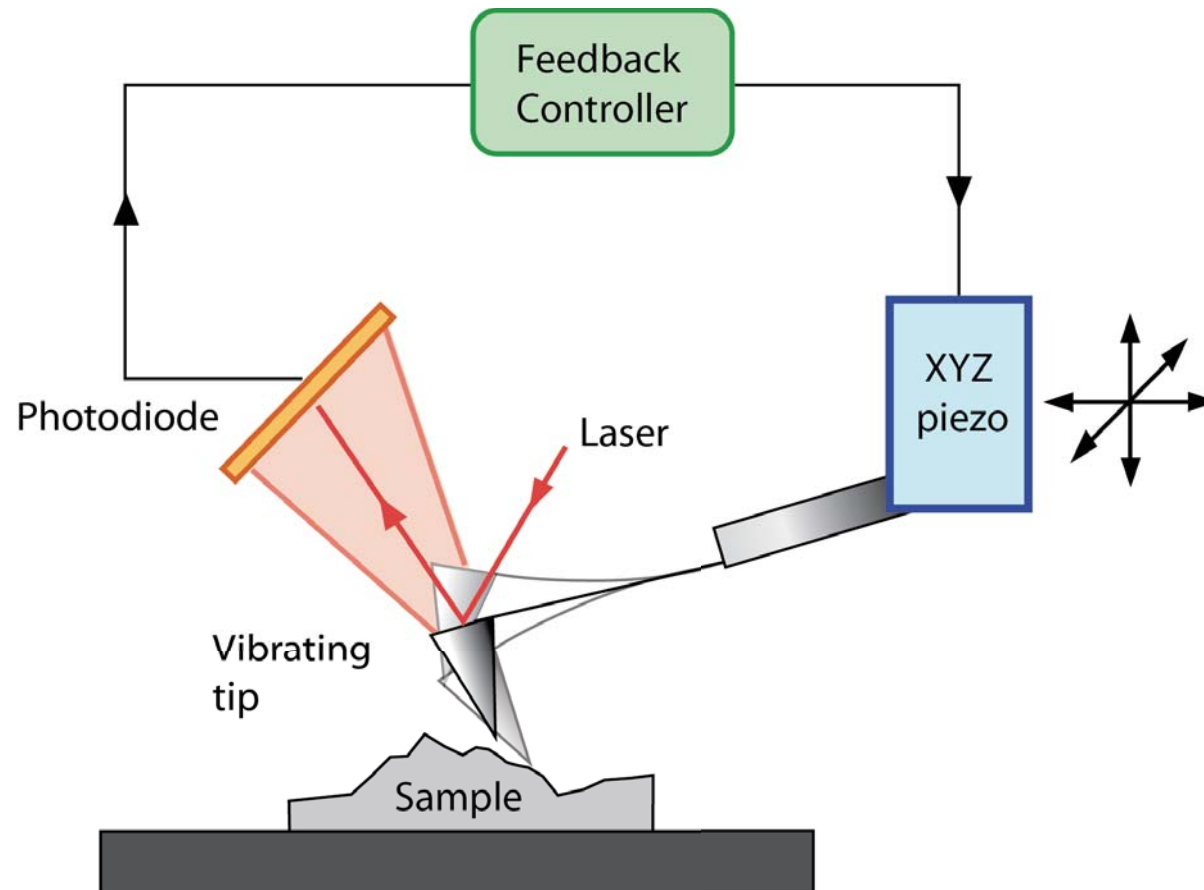


A vibrating tip  $\Rightarrow$  Amplitude  $A$  and phase  $\phi$



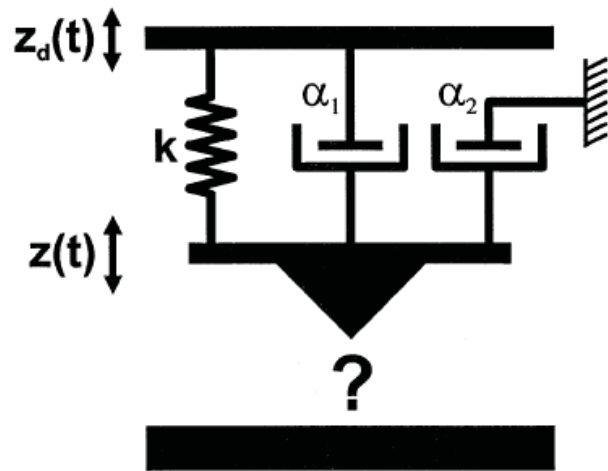
The tip vibration is damped by as the cantilever approaches the surface (here in liquid)

A feedback loop keeps the cantilever vibration amplitude **A** constant



Detection: amplitude **A** and phase  $\phi$

## The harmonic oscillator formalism



Flow of energy:  $\bar{P}_{in} = \bar{P}_o + \bar{P}_{tip}$

Equation of motion of the tip:

$$m\ddot{z} - \gamma_{TS}\dot{z} + (k_c + k_{TS})z = A_0k_c \cos(\omega t)$$

Solution of the type:  $z(t) = A \cos(\omega t + \varphi)$

Amplitude **A**

Phase  $\varphi$

Linear damping  $\gamma_{TS}$

Interaction stiffness  $k_{TS}$

Energy dissipation  $E_{TS}$

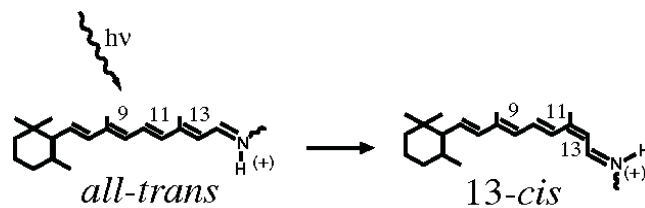
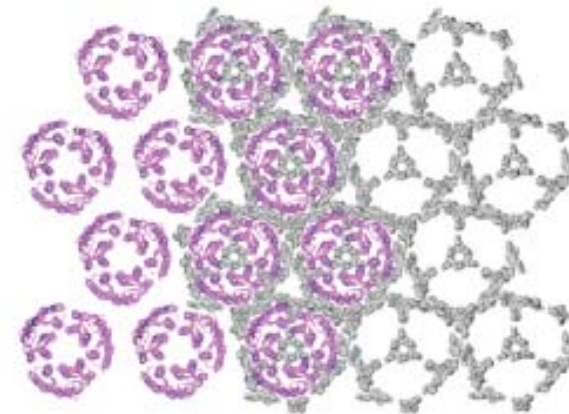
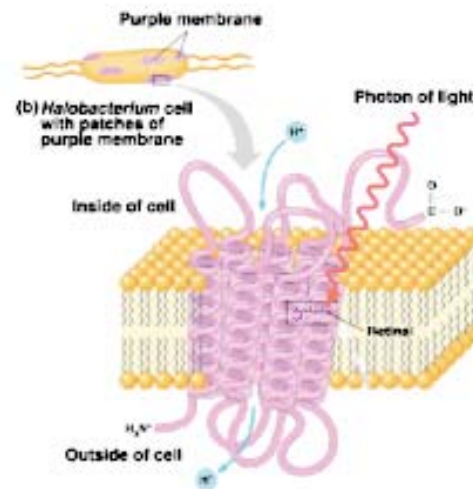
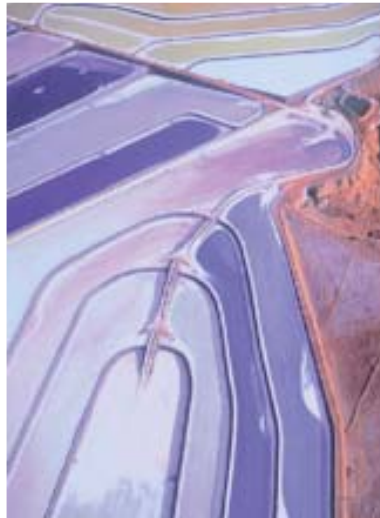
In AM-AFM, the amplitude is kept constant

- only the phase  $\phi$  can vary freely
- the phase  $\phi$  is directly related to the energy dissipation

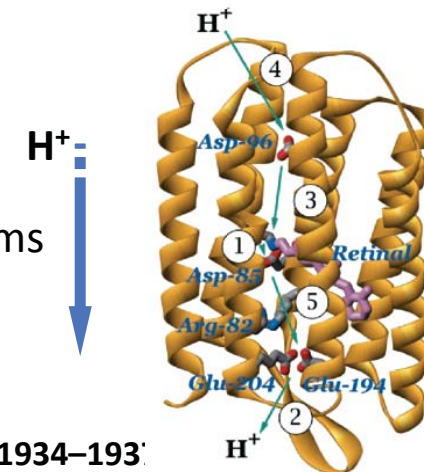
**Local energy dissipation by the tip  $\sim$  local phase contrast**

**No indication on the origin of the dissipation! (and hence on the origin of the local phase contrast)**

# A model bio-interface: Purple membranes from *H. salinarium* in solution

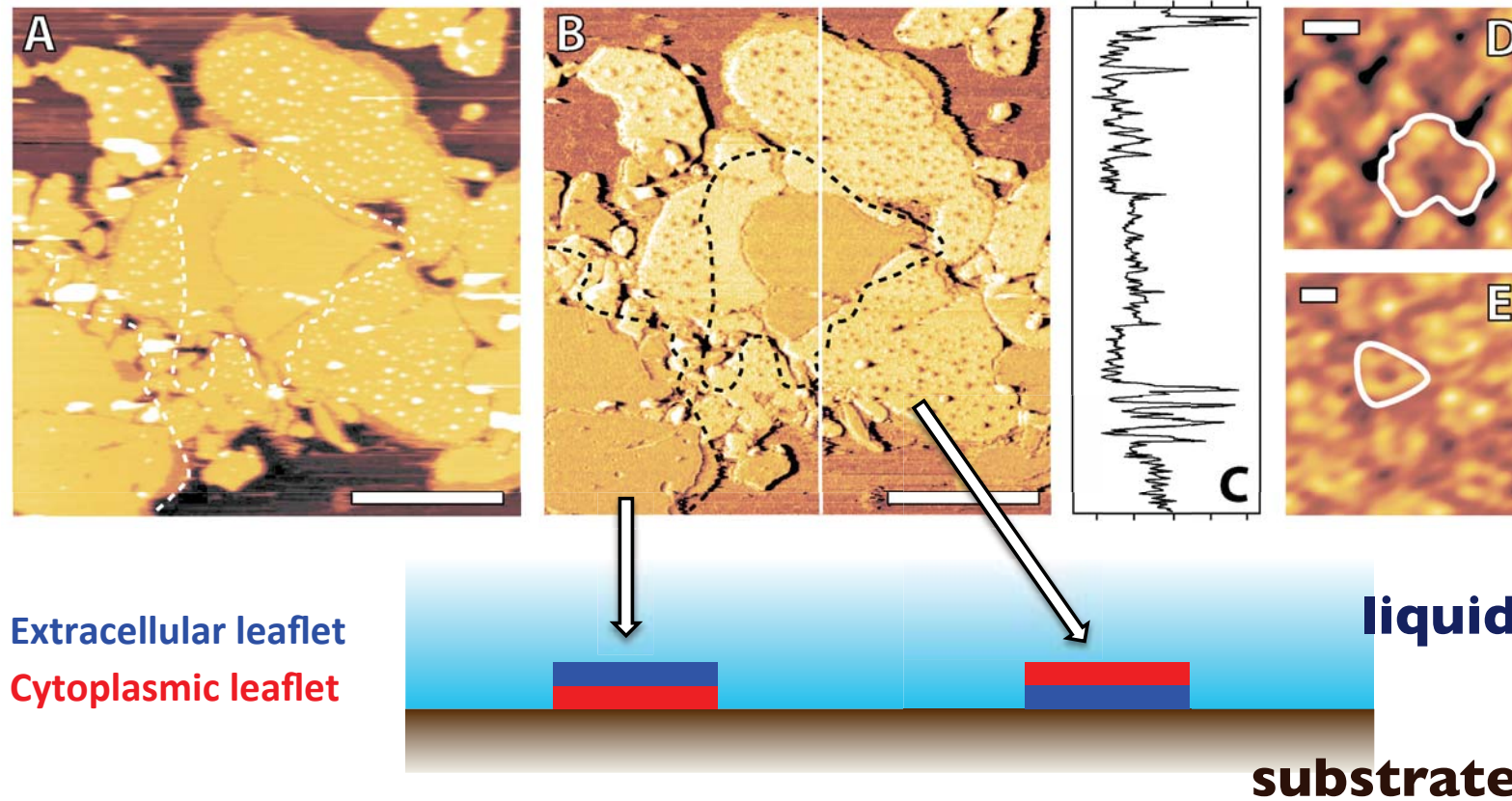


10 – 20 ms  
QE ~ 0.6



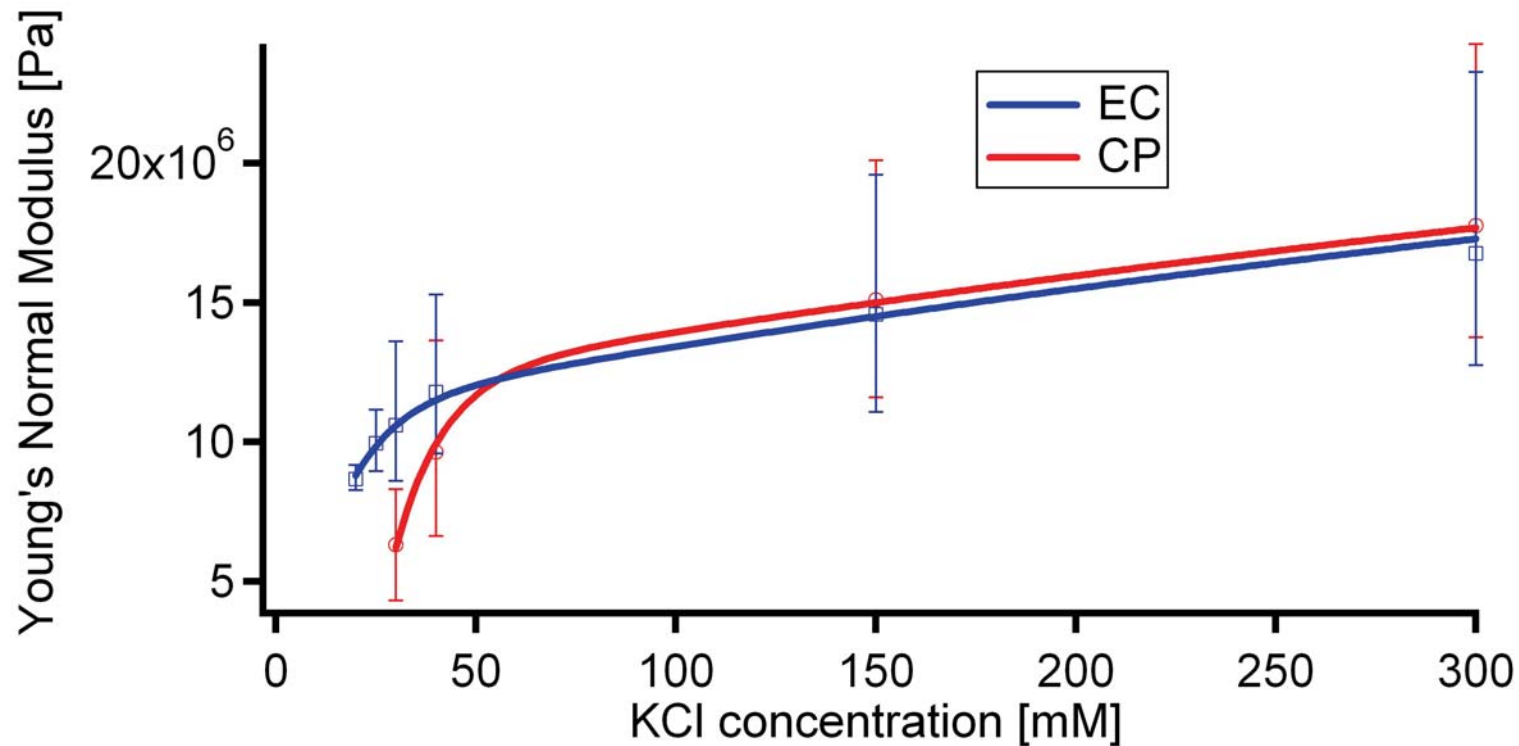
Luecke *et al.* Science, 280 (1998), 1934–1937

## AM-AFM of purple membrane in liquid



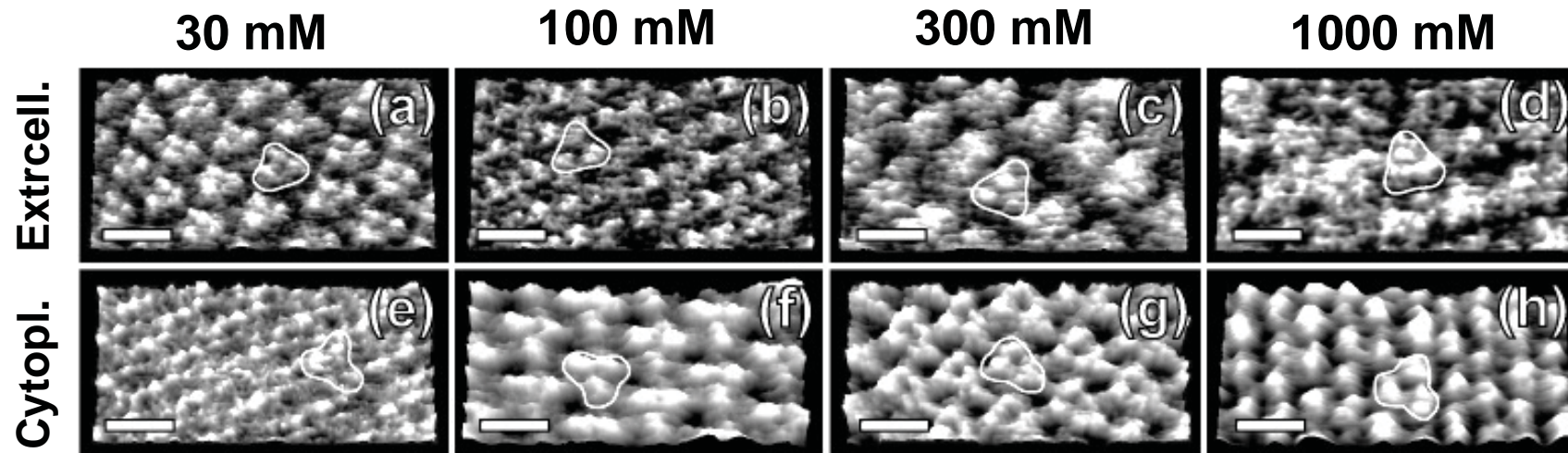
*Biophysical Journal* (2006) 90, 2075-2085

## Nano-indentation at different ionic concentrations show *leaflet-specific effects*





## Ionic effects on the membrane/interface with KCl

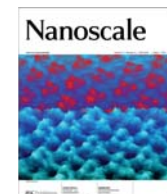


5 nm bar

RMS extracell.: 0.15 nm / 0.15 nm / 0.15 nm / 0.13 nm

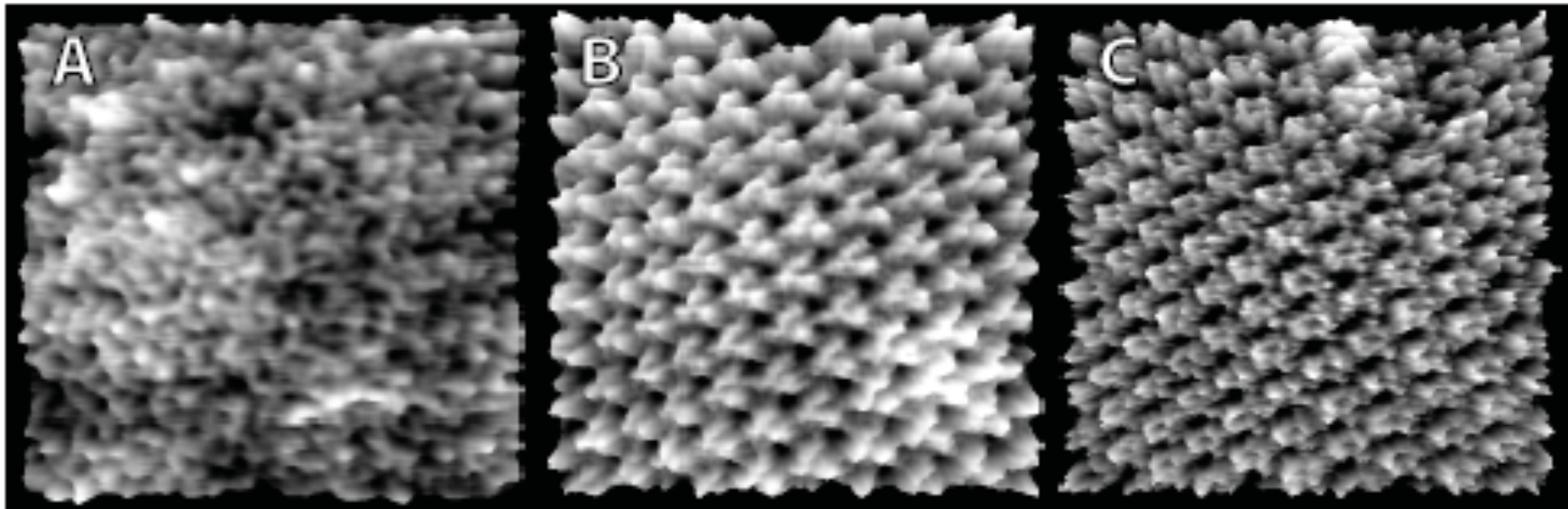
RMS cytopl.: 0.15 nm / 0.25 nm / 0.25 nm / 0.26 nm

*Nanoscale* (2010) 2, 222-29



Looking at specific ionic effects:  $\text{Li}^+$ ,  $\text{K}^+$  and  $\text{Cs}^+$

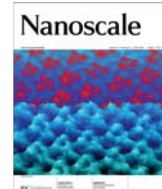
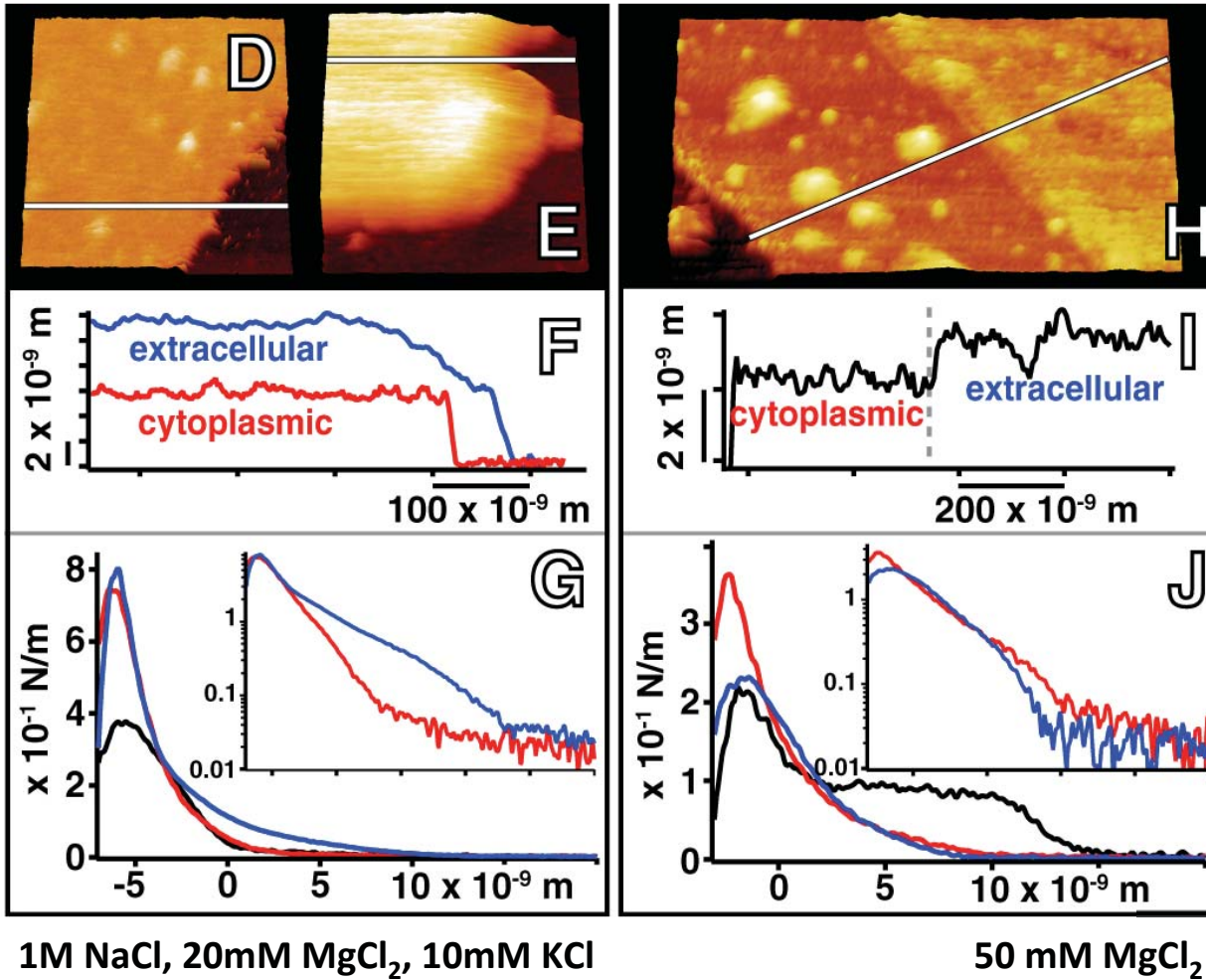
Purple Membrane cytoplasmic surface at 50mM salt concentration



50nm x 50nm

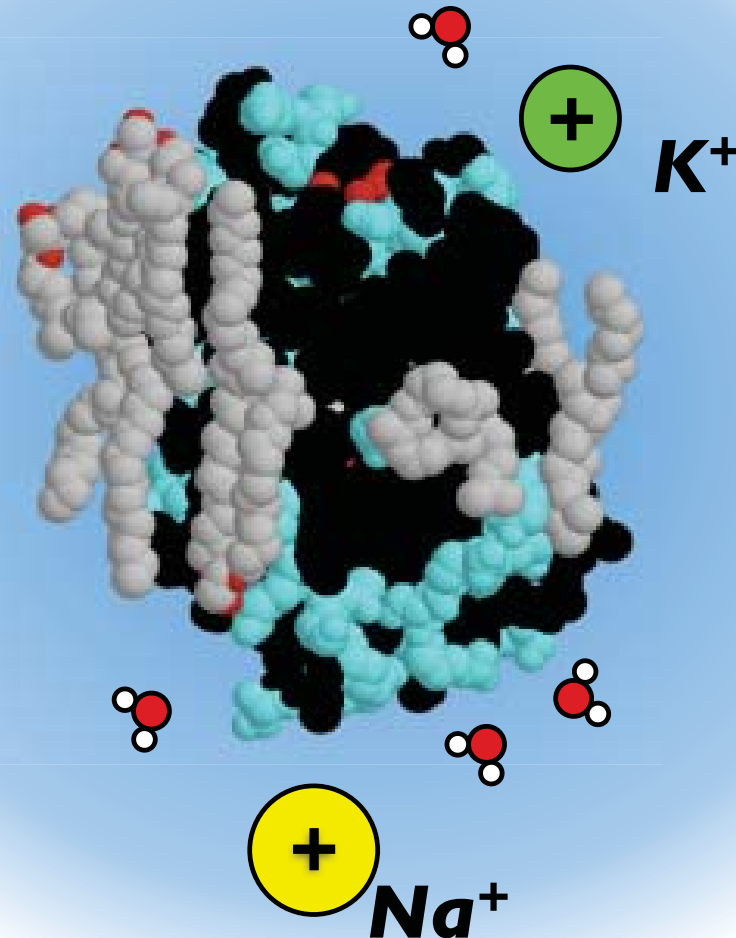
Voitchovsky *et al.* 2007

## Modification of the membrane/interface with specific ions



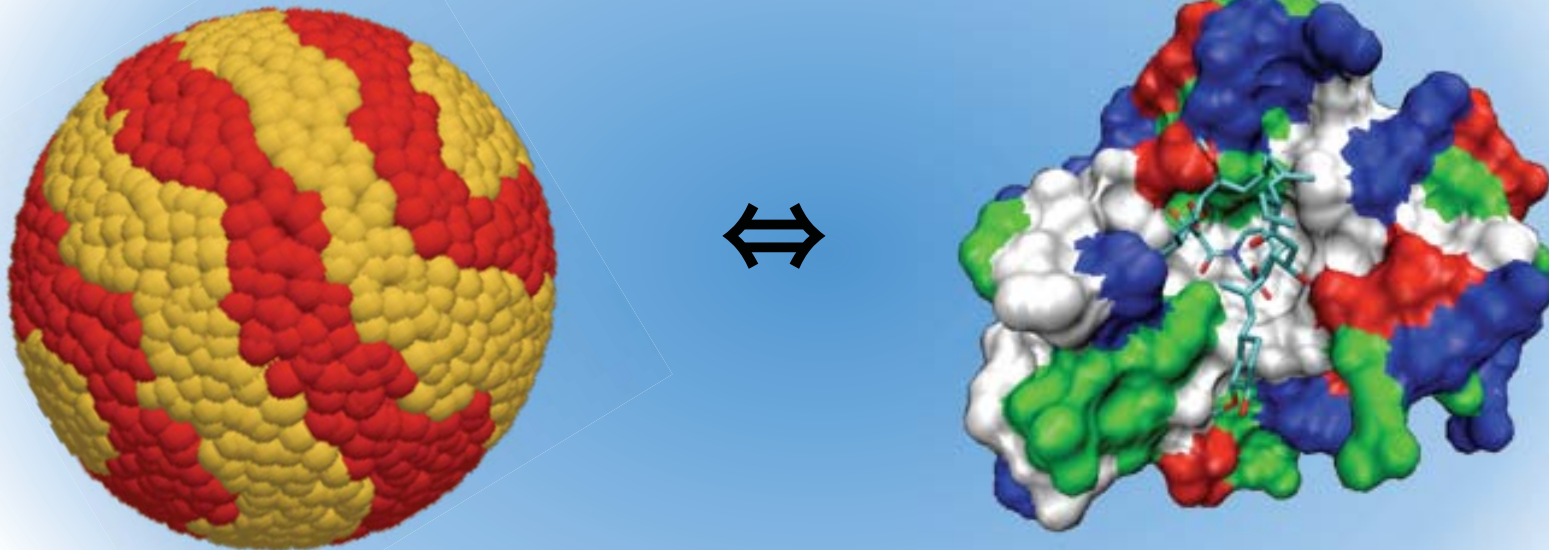
*Nanoscale* (2010) 2, 222-29

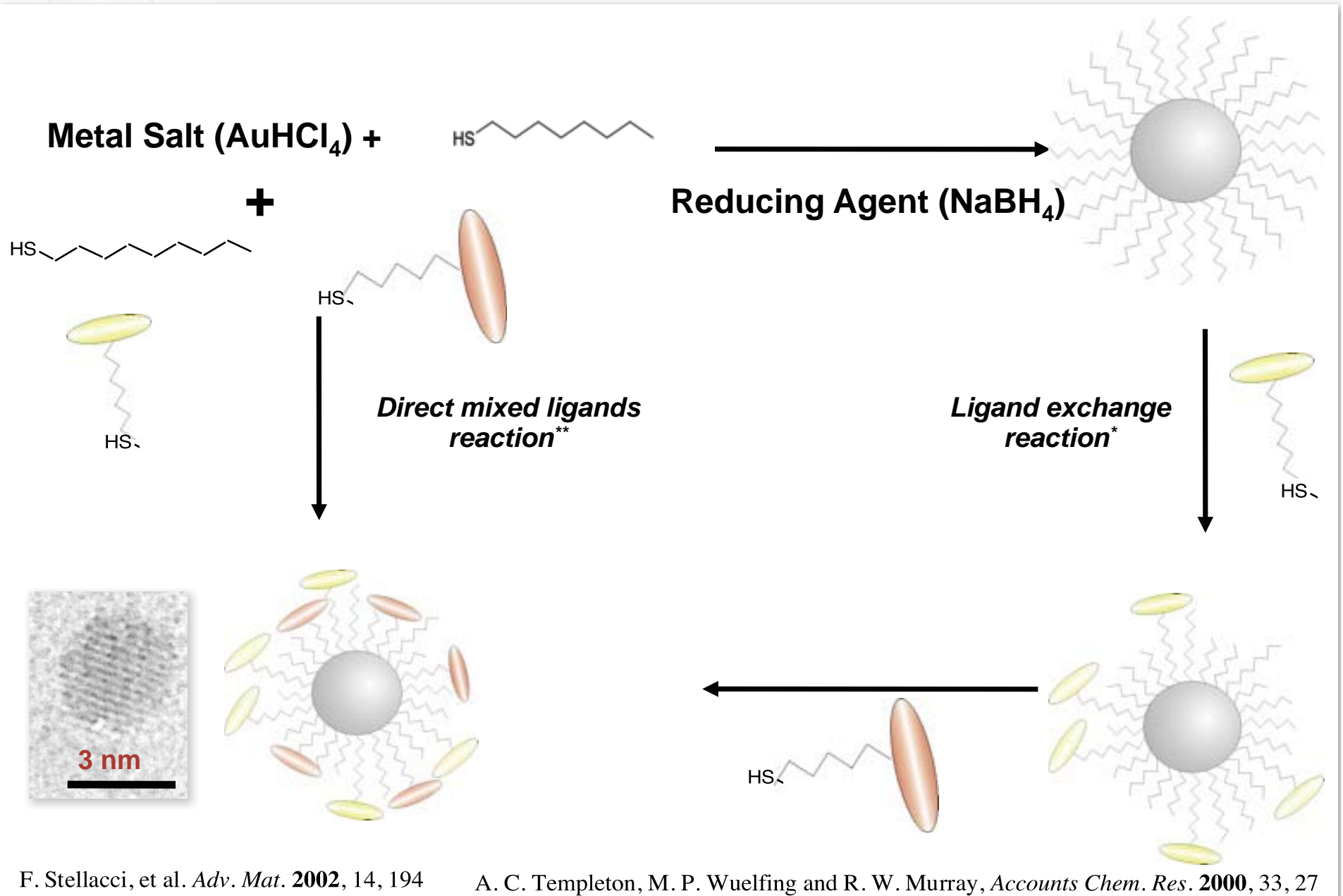
⇒ Importance of the **protein surface structure** in determining the membrane **unique** interfacial properties



- **Alternation of hydrophobic/philic domains**
- **Specific ionic effects**
- **Controlled local flexibility**
- **...**

**Striped nanoparticles can mimic the interface of proteins with the surrounding liquid**

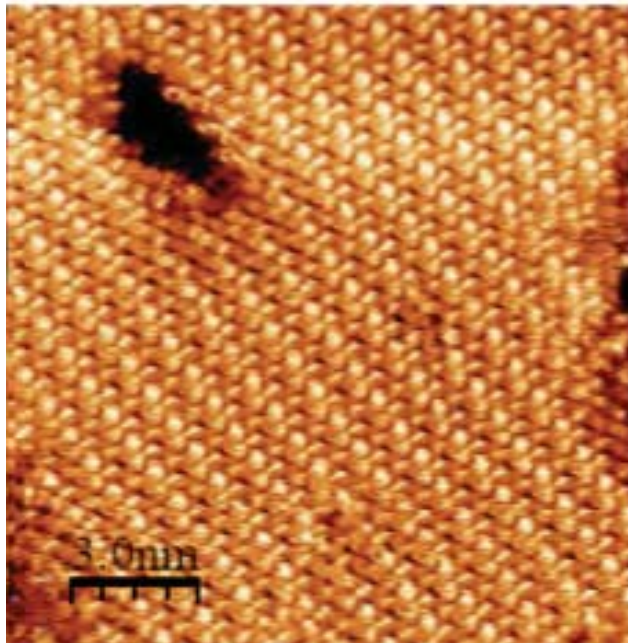
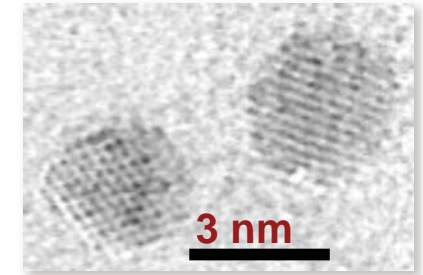
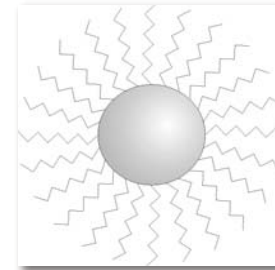
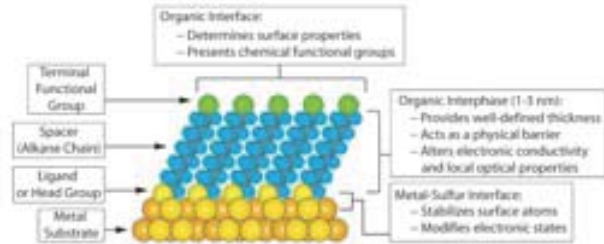




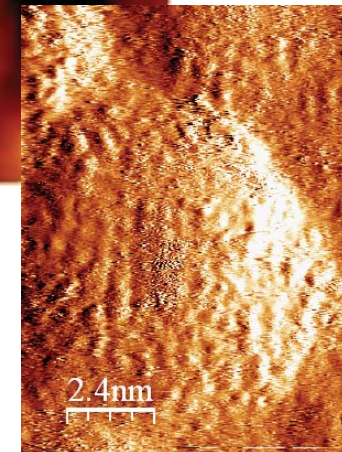
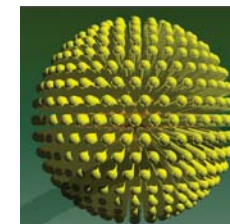
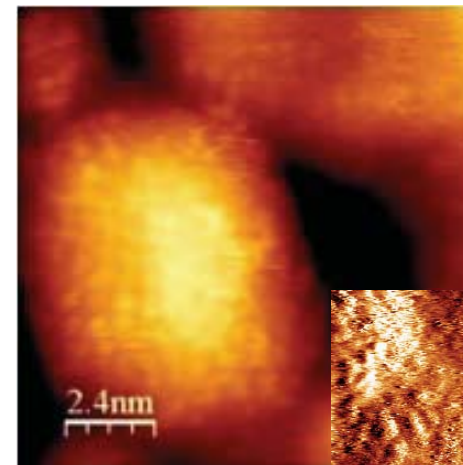
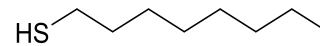
F. Stellacci, et al. *Adv. Mat.* **2002**, 14, 194

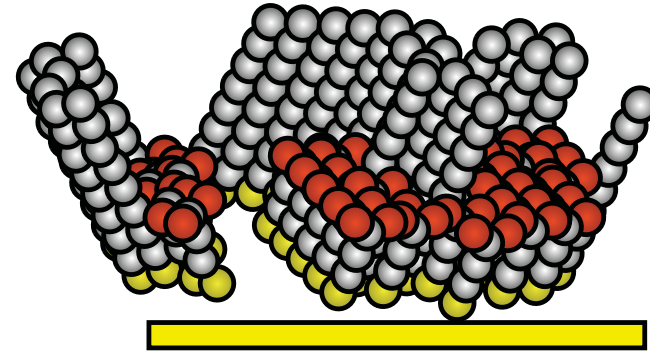
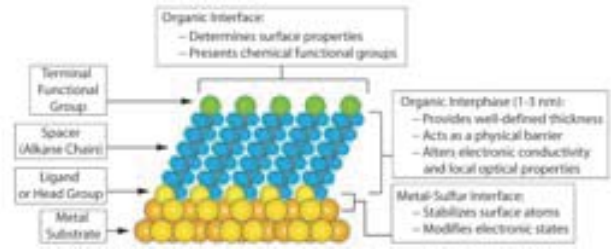
A. C. Templeton, M. P. Wuelfing and R. W. Murray, *Accounts Chem. Res.* **2000**, 33, 27

# Scanning Tunneling Microscopy

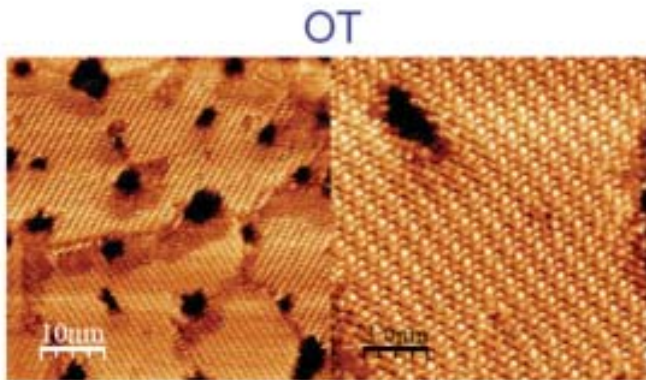


OT

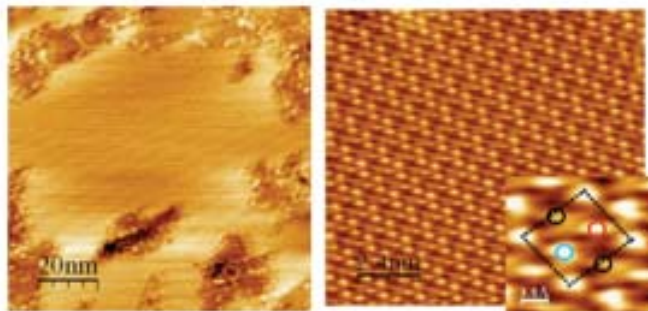




Au (111)

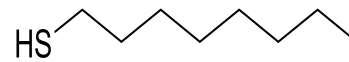


c(4 x 2)

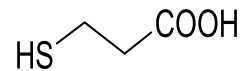


MPA

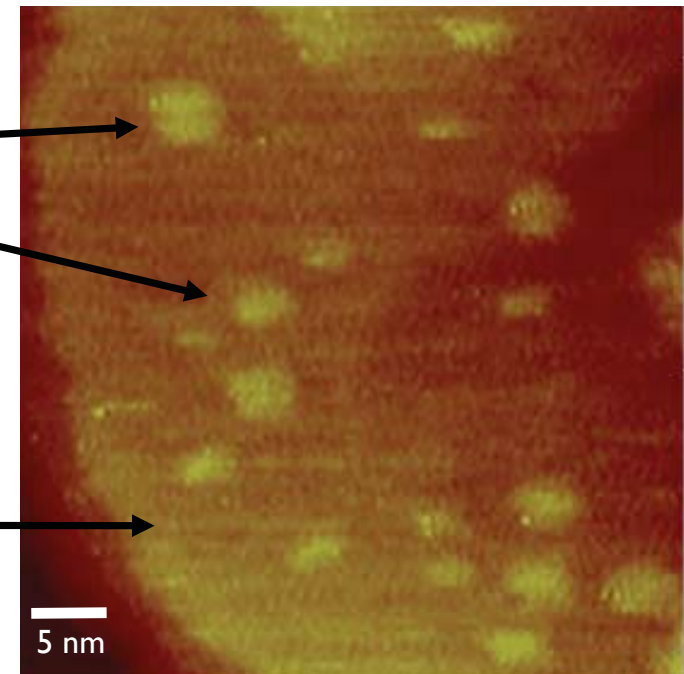
Dubois, Stellacci, *J. Phys. Chem. C* 2008



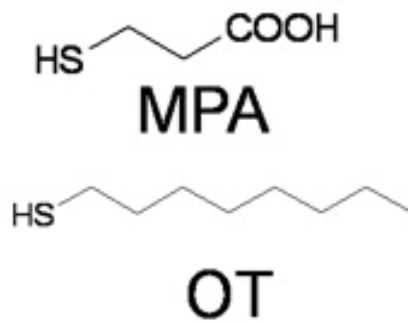
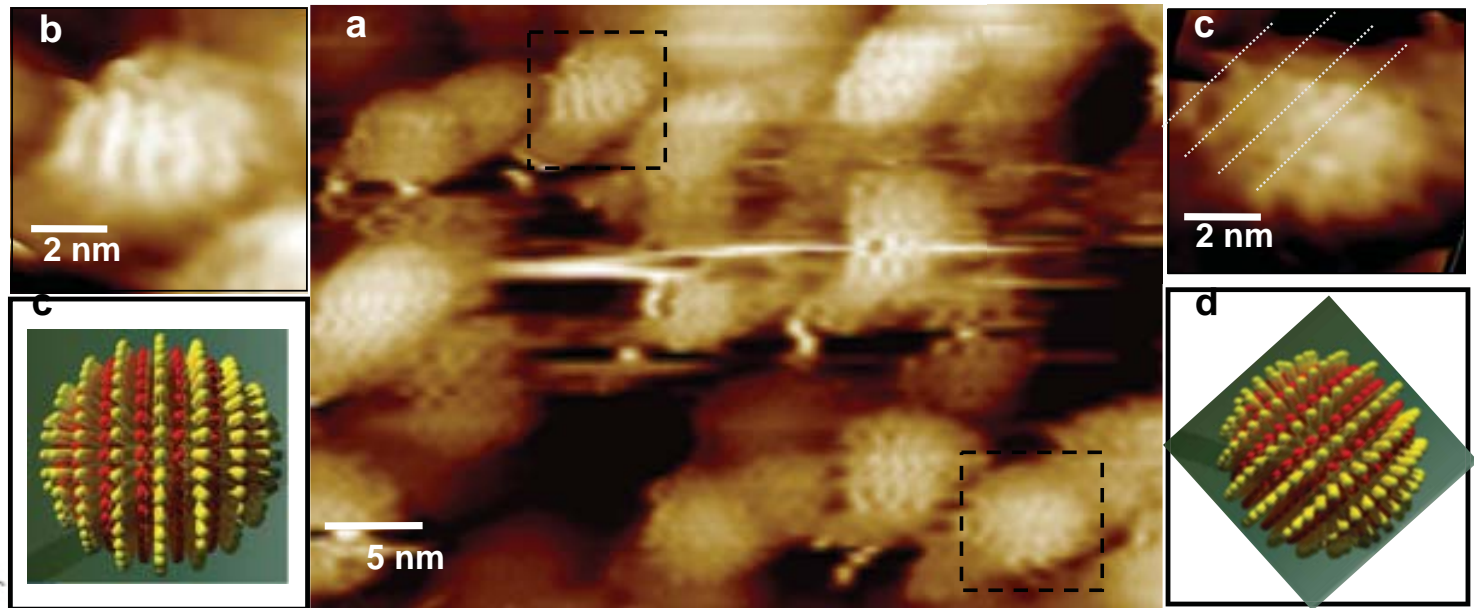
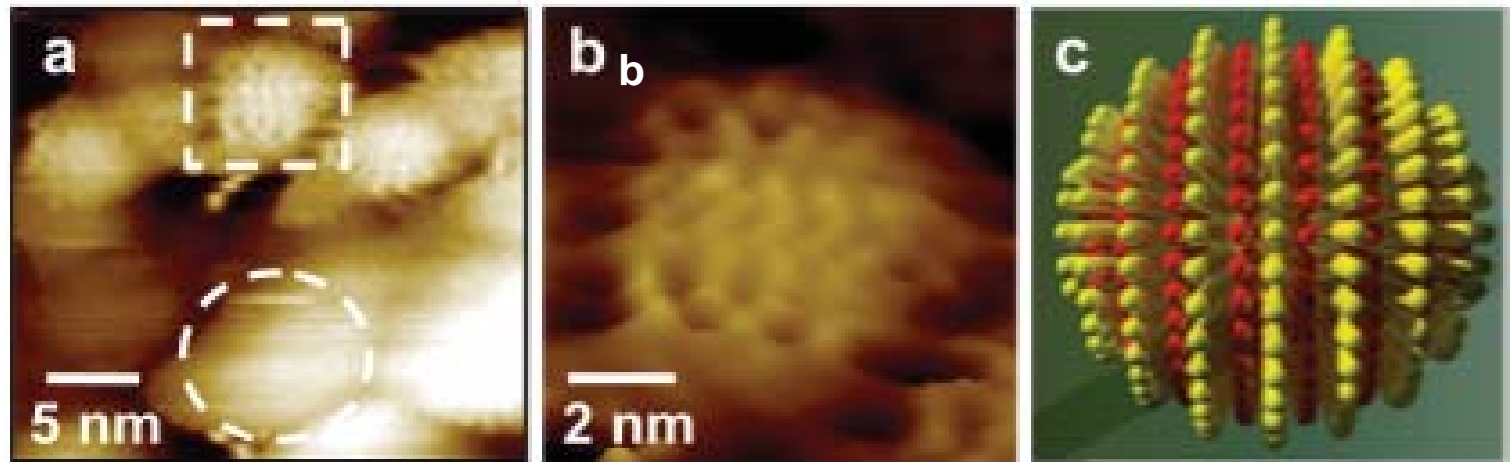
OT



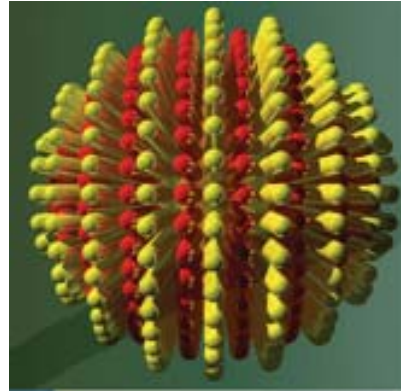
MPA



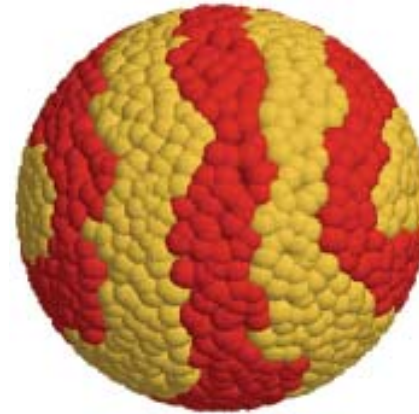




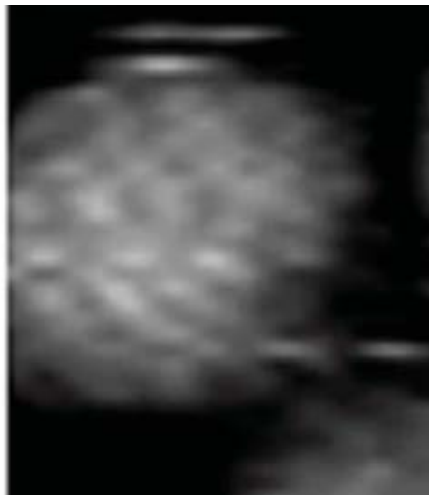
Cartoon



Simulations

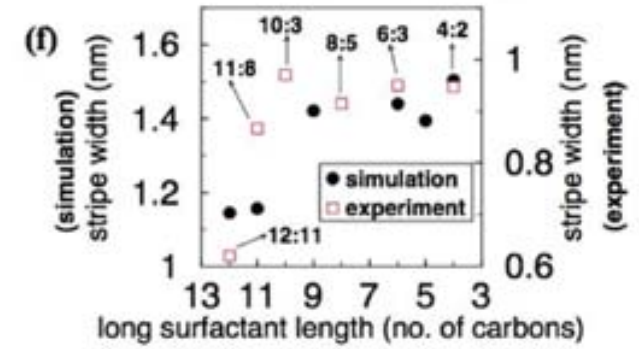
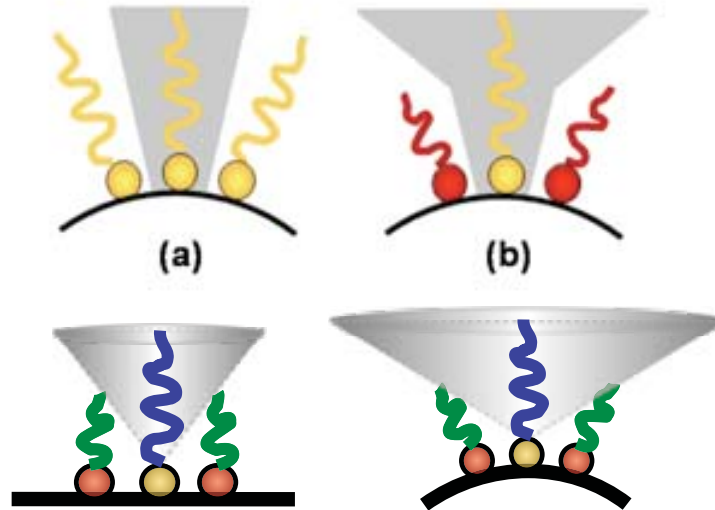


Microscopy Images

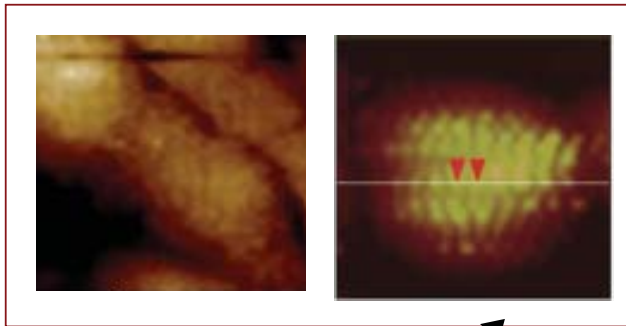


Entropy gain  
in stripe formation

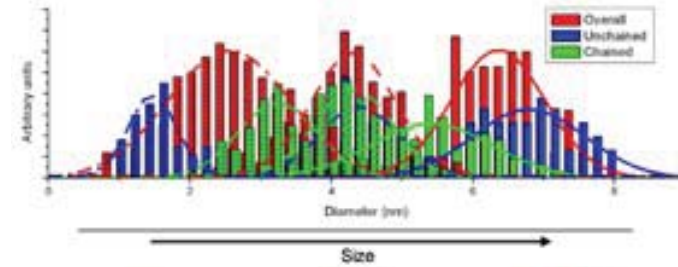
with Sharon Glotzer, U. Mich; PRL 2007



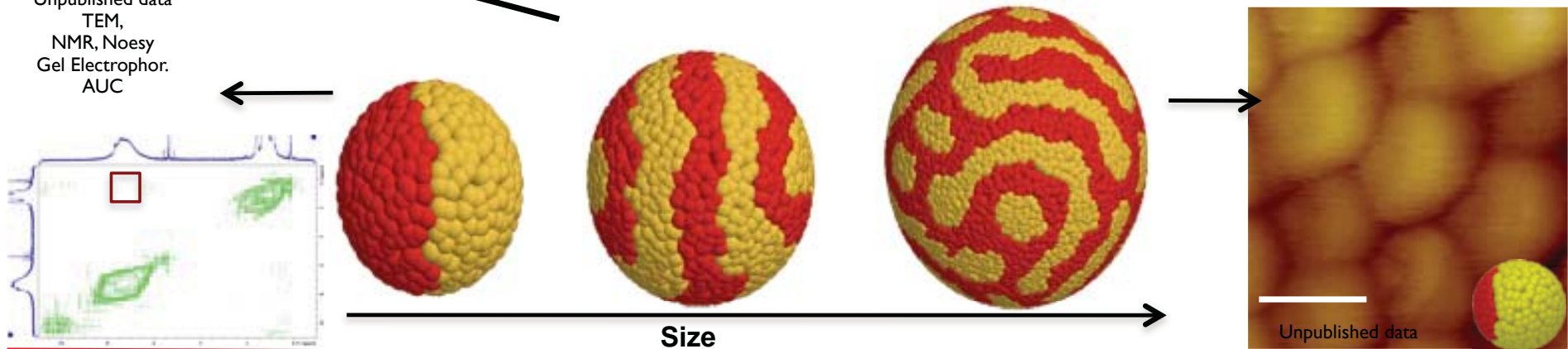
Singh, PRL 2007



Unpublished data  
TEM,  
NMR, Noesy  
Gel Electrophor.  
AUC



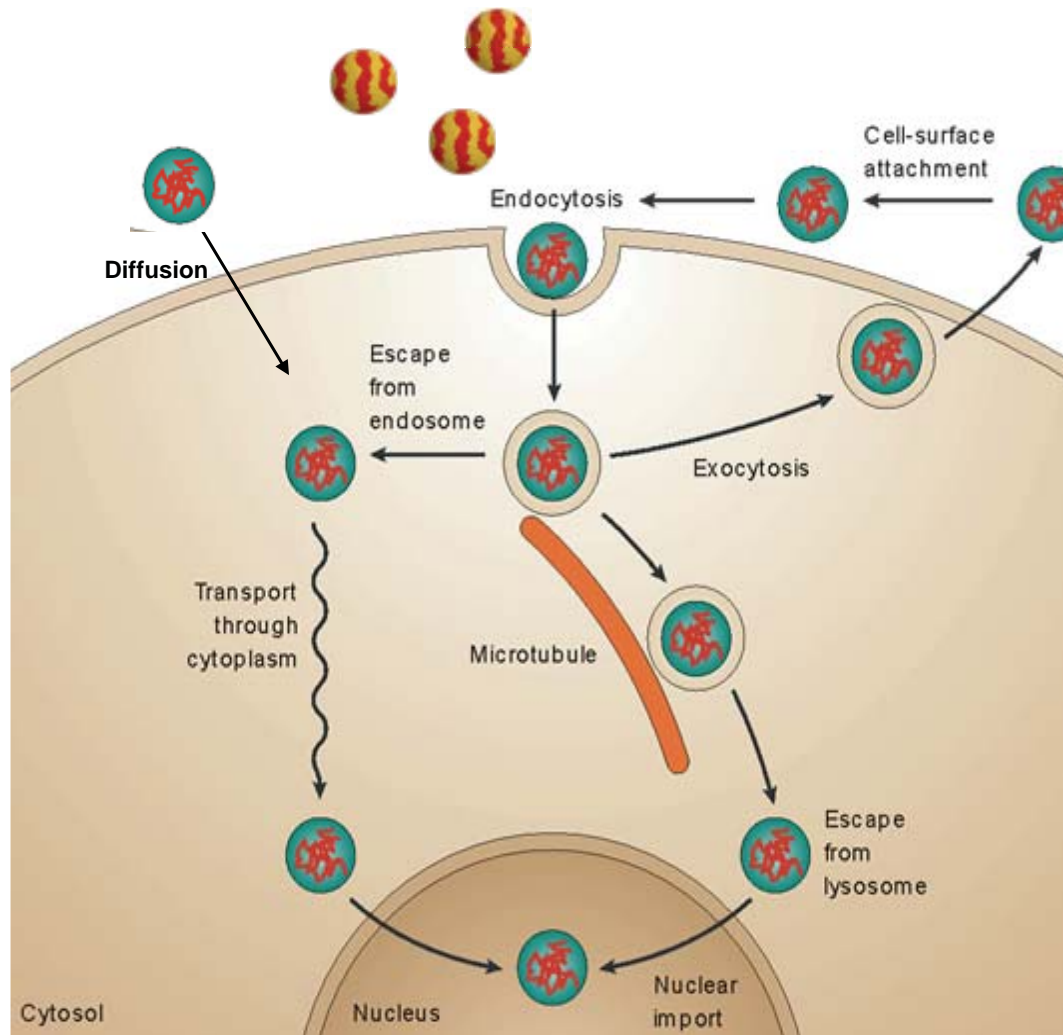
DeVries, Stellacci, Science 315, 358, 2007; Carney, JACS 2008



Size




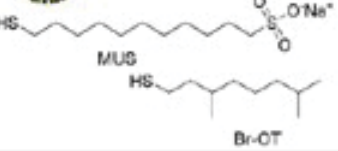

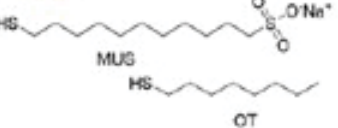
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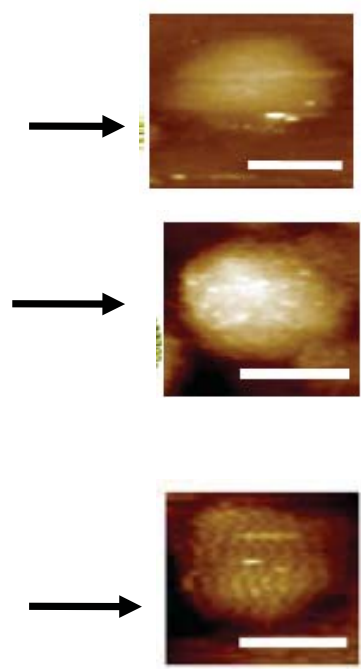
## How do these 'synthetic proteins' interact with biological cells?



Challenge of cell-membrane penetration

Adapted from:  
Nature Reviews Drug Discovery (2005)  
4 581-593

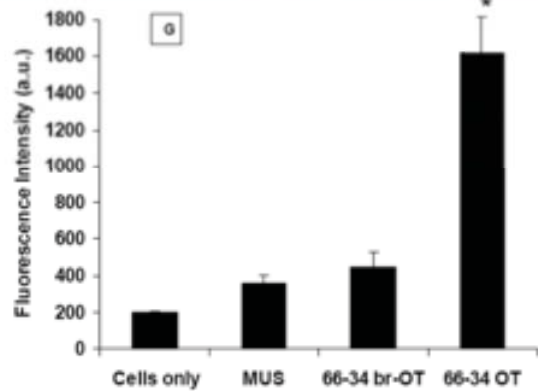
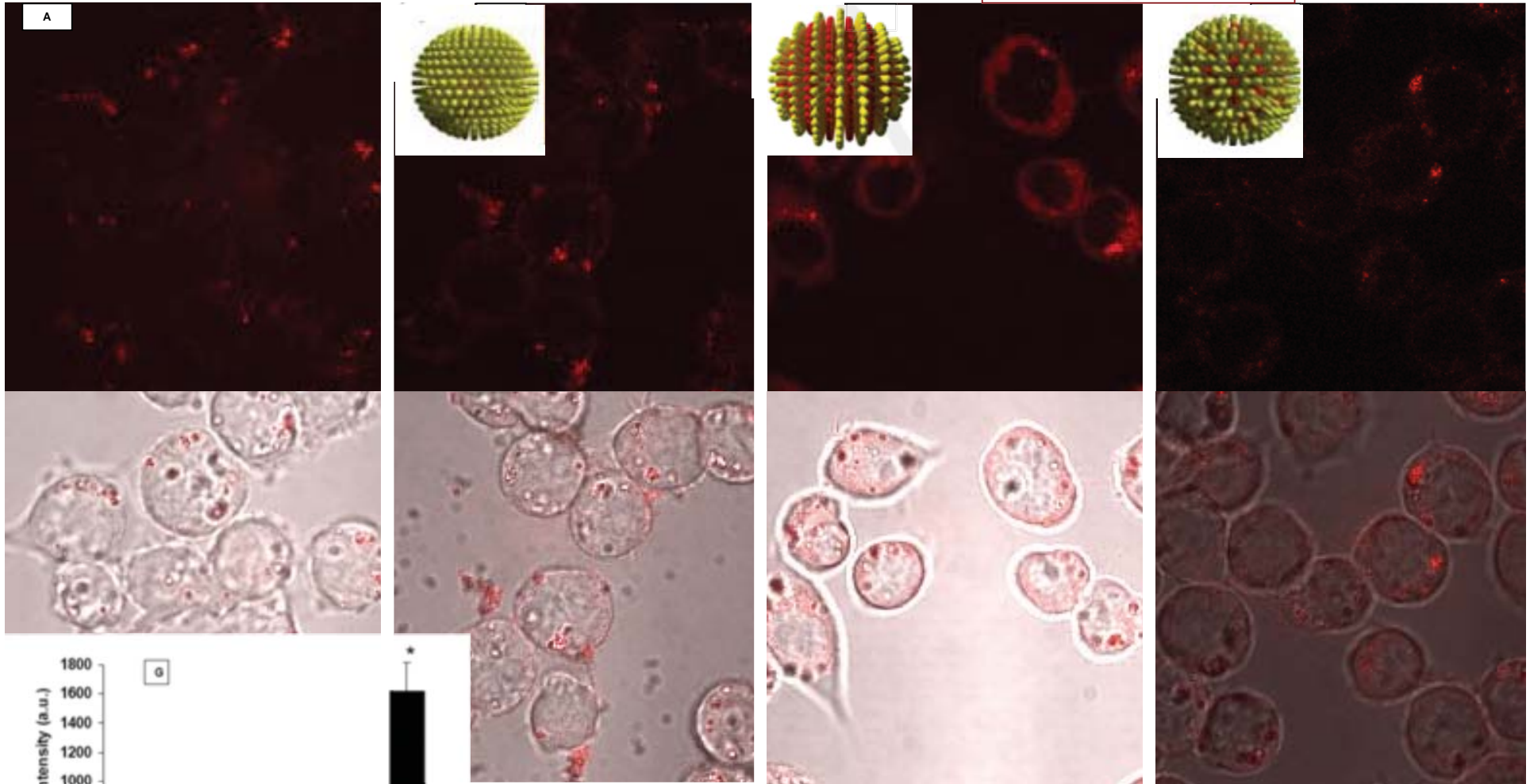
Nano-particles	Ligand Shell Composition <sup>a</sup>	Core Size <sup>b</sup> (nm)	TGA <sup>c</sup>	ζ Potential <sup>d</sup> (mV)	Ligand shell morphology/ chemical structures
MUS	100% MUS	4.3±1.3	15	-38±5.3	 <p>homogenous</p> 
66-34 br-OT	67% MUS	4.3±1.2	13	-31.1±0.73	 <p>unstructured</p> 
66-34 OT	66% MUS	4.5±1.0	15	-33.1±0.64	 <p>structured</p> 



	TEM total diameter <sup>a</sup> before incubation (nm)	TEM total diameter <sup>a</sup> after incubation (nm)	DLS diameter before incubation (nm)	DLS diameter after incubation (nm)
MUS	7.4±1.3	7.5±0.9	6.8±0.2	12.0±0.4
66-34 br-OT	7.4±1.2	7.4±0.9	8.0±0.2	10.0±0.4
66-34 OT	7.6±1.0	7.4±0.8	7.2±0.2	7.8±0.2

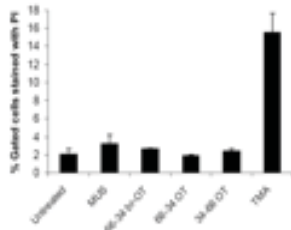
## Protein Interactions

4 °C Experiment

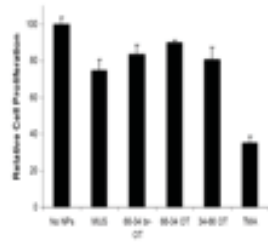


The absence of endocytosis has been independently confirmed via TEM studies

Calcein Only



PI Staining

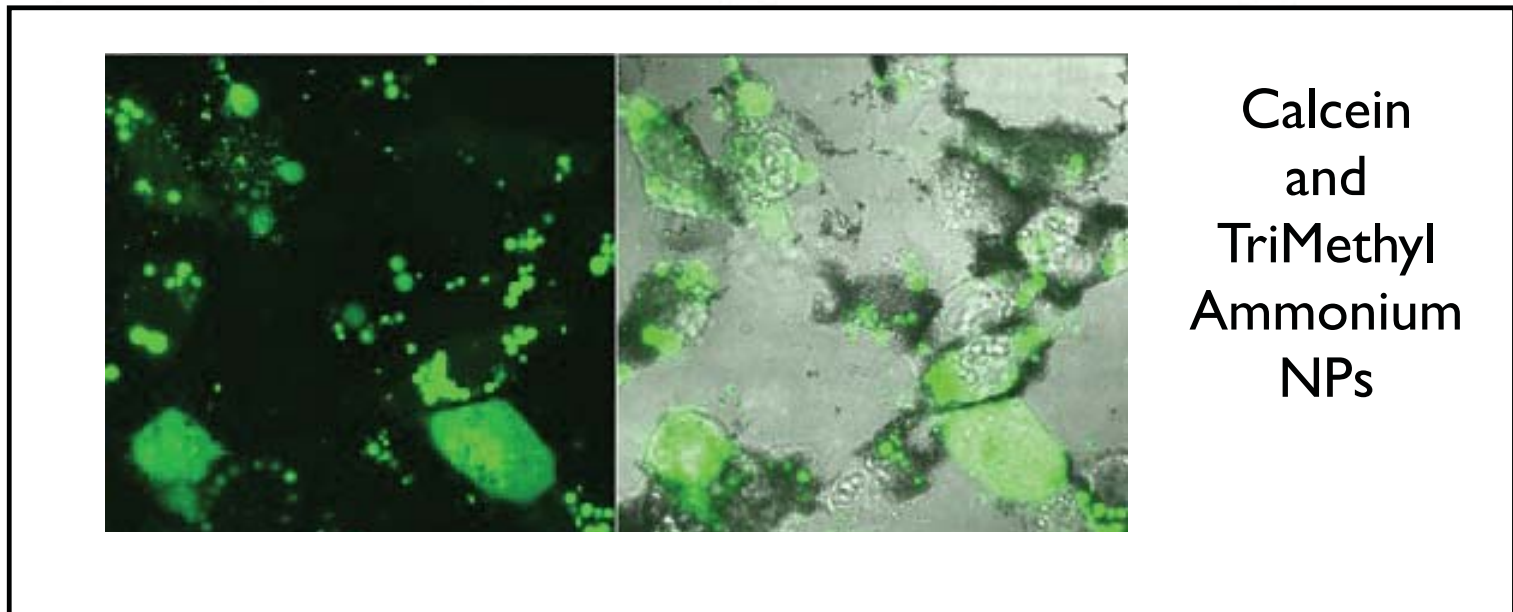
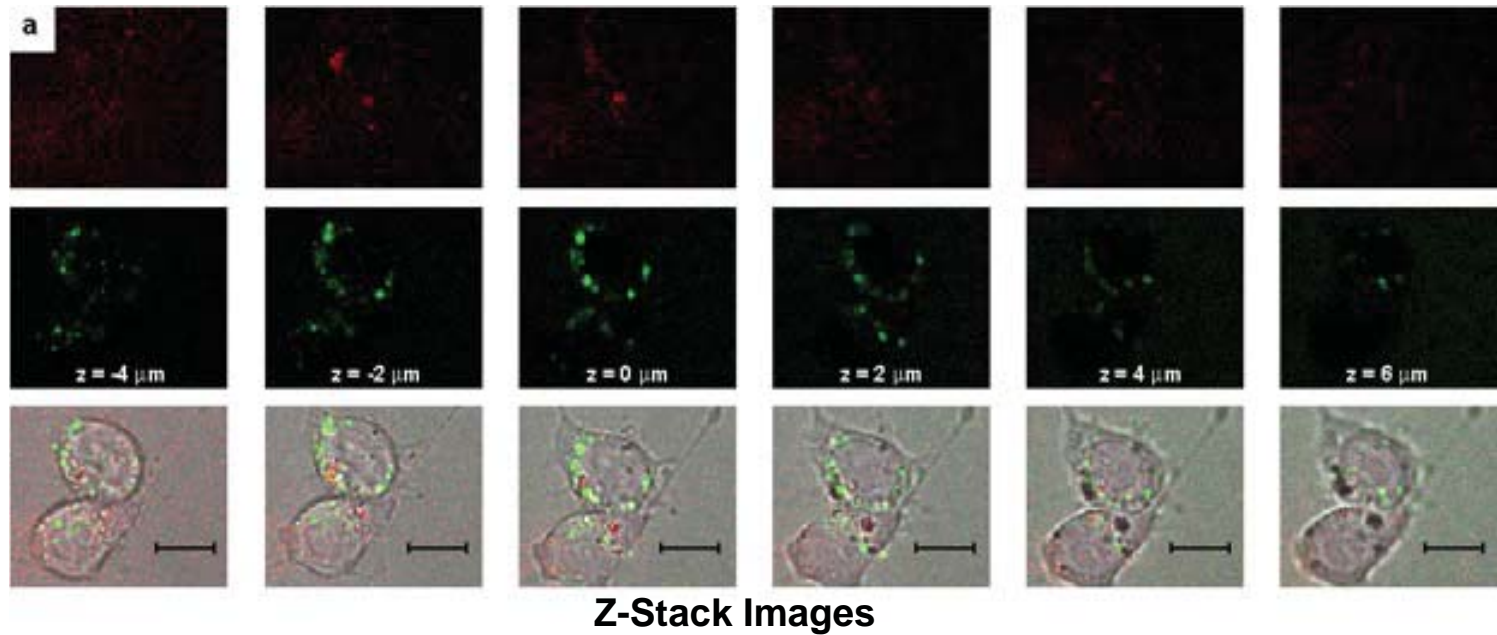


CyQuant

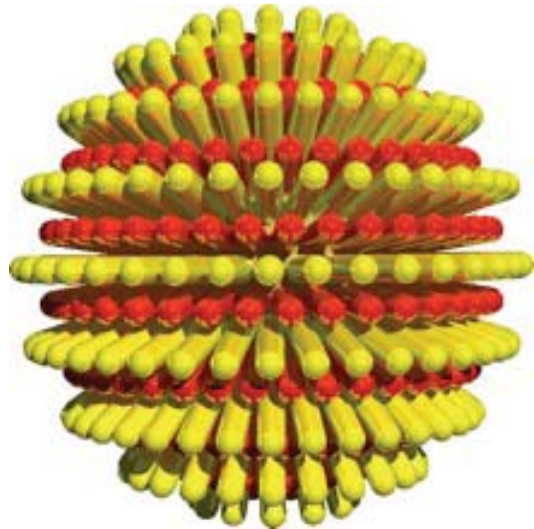
Calcein and 'Striped' NPs

No sodium azide and 2-deoxyglucose

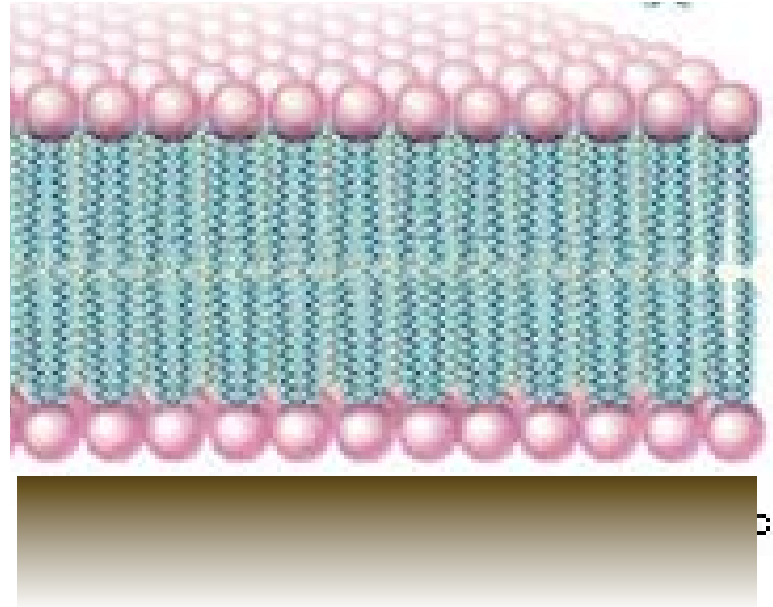
sodium azide and 2-deoxyglucose



## Striped Nanoparticles

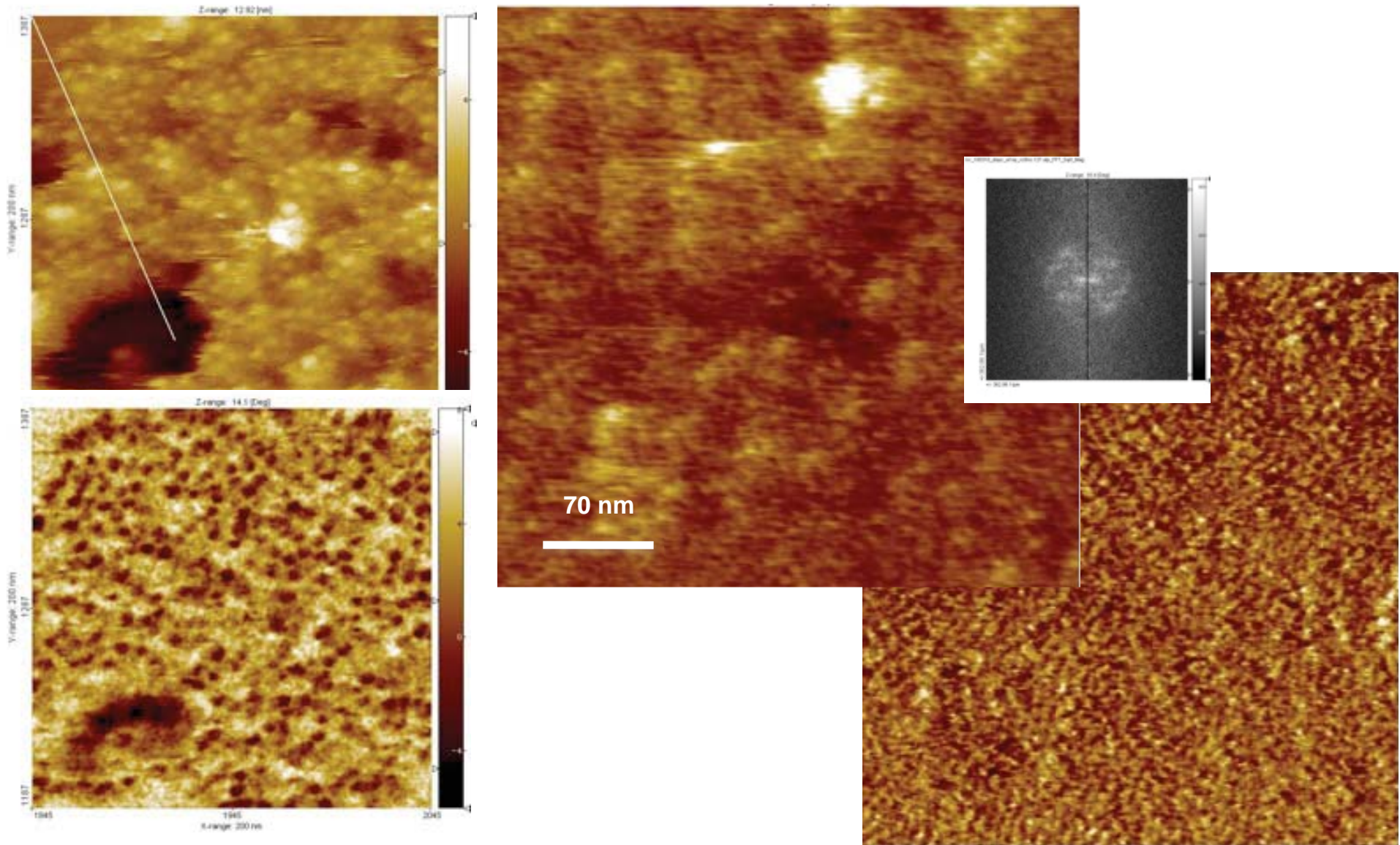


## Lipid Bilayers

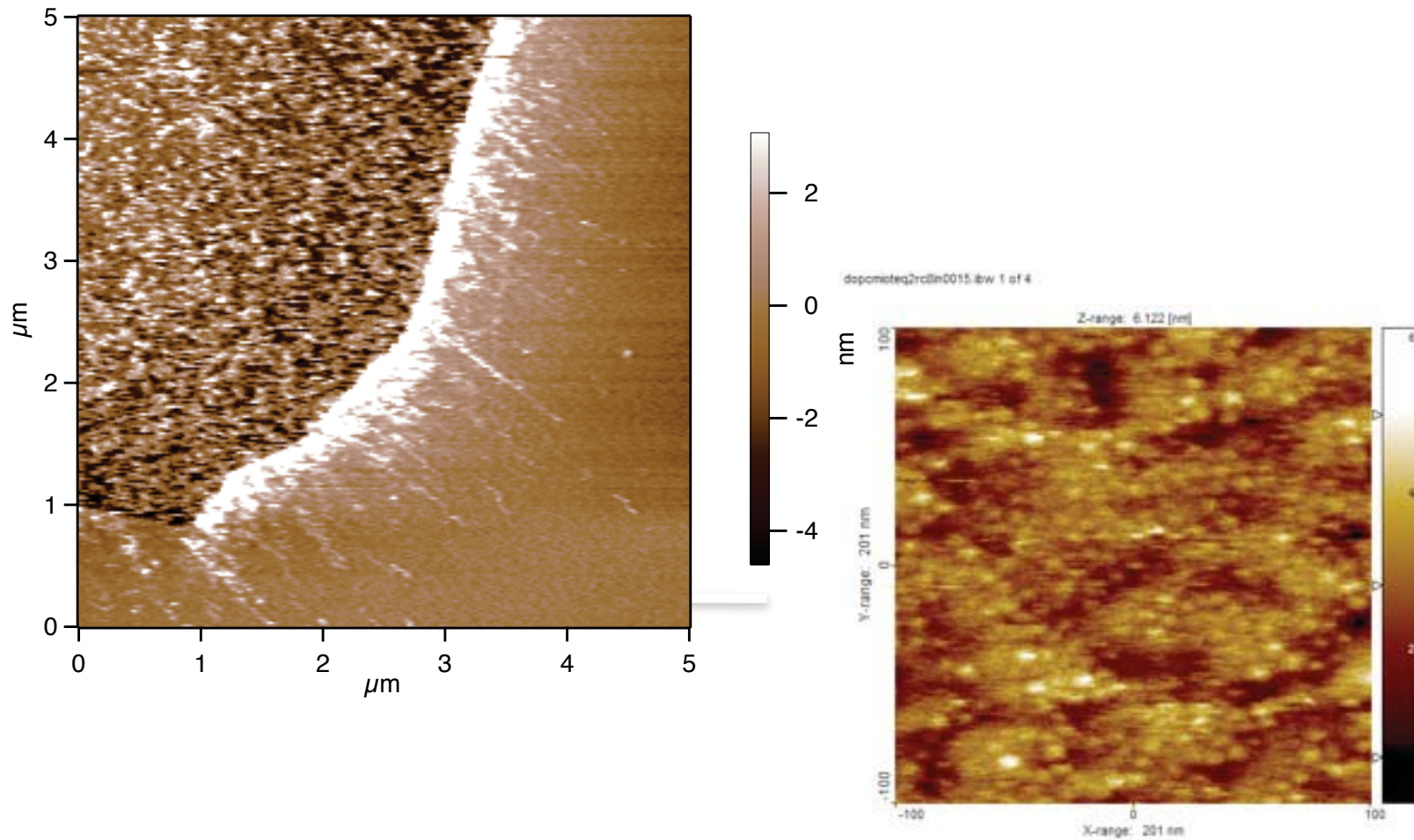




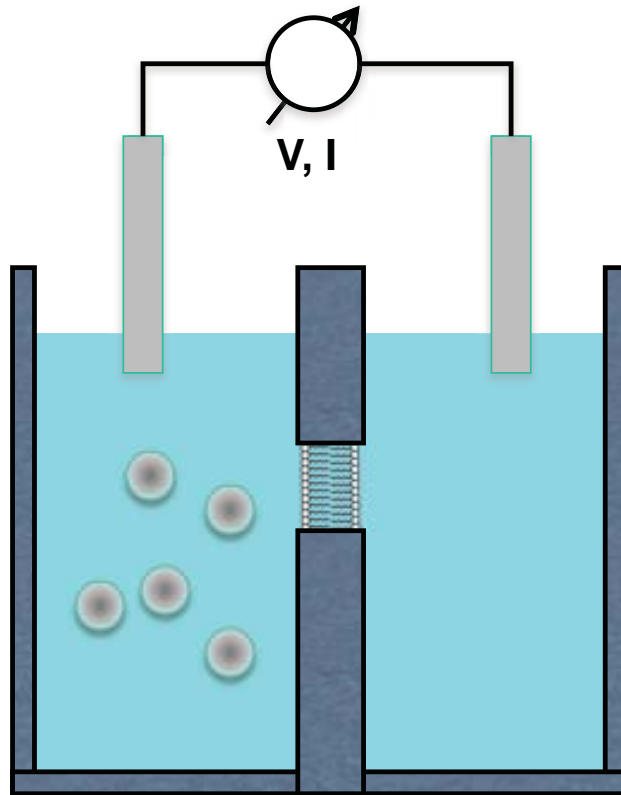
AFM images of supported bilayers and striped particles



## AFM study of Nanoparticles-bilayer interactions

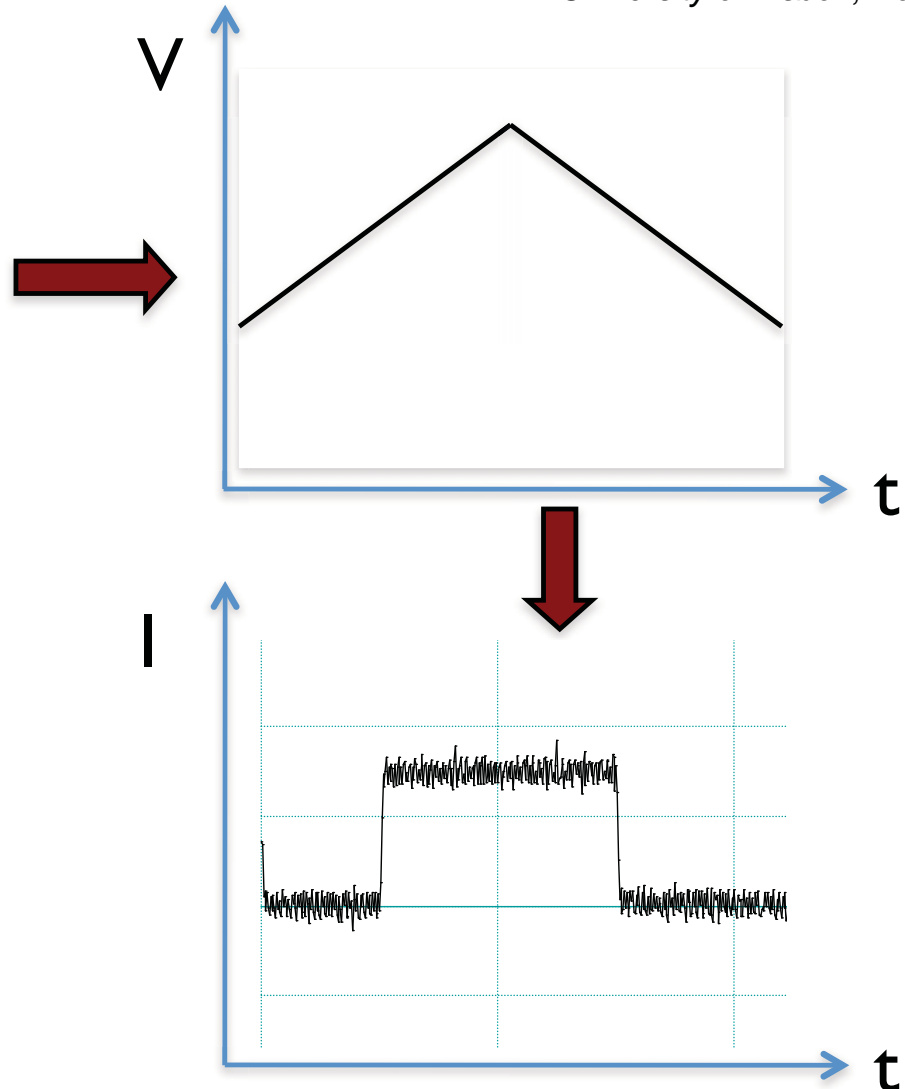


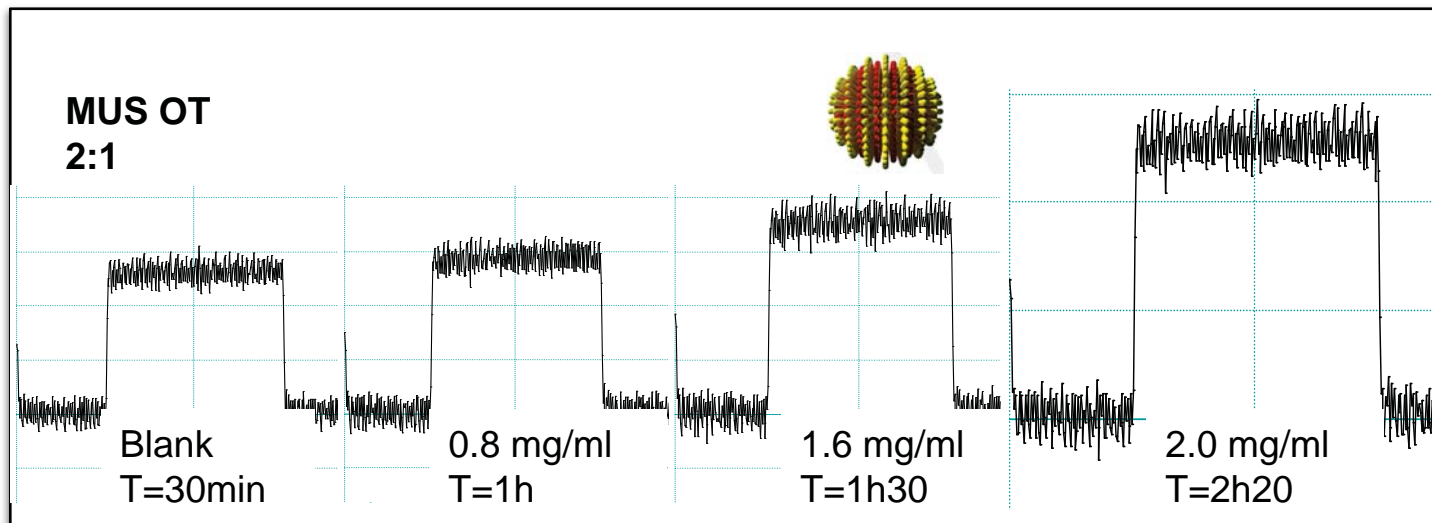
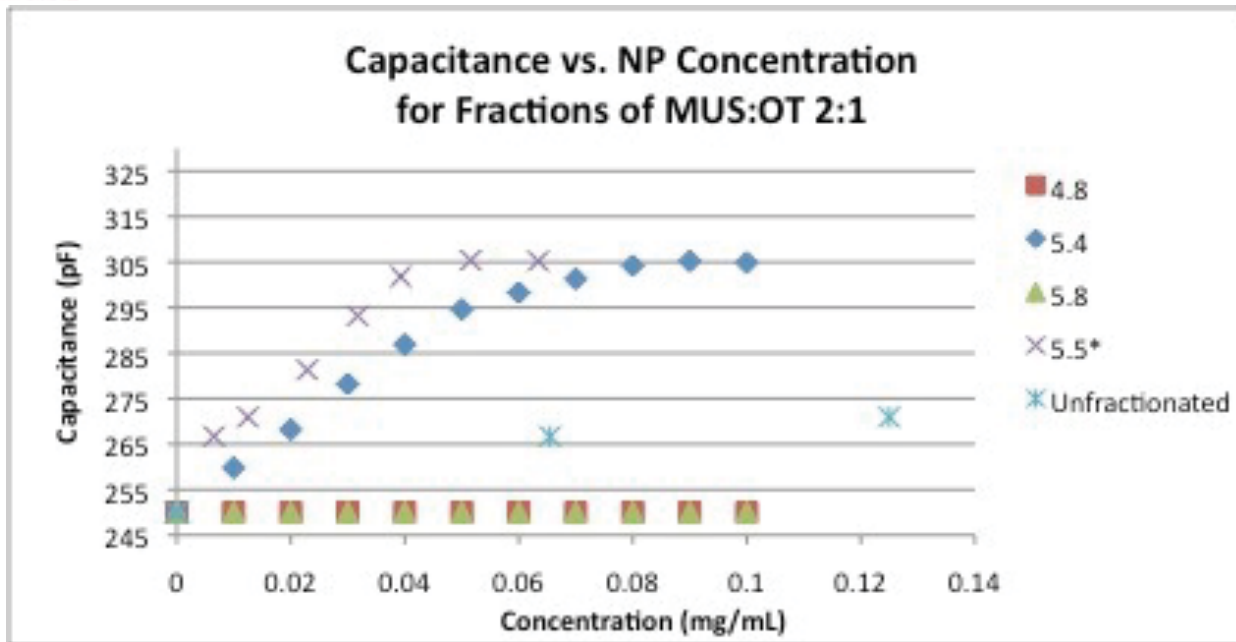
Poster: Maria RICCI

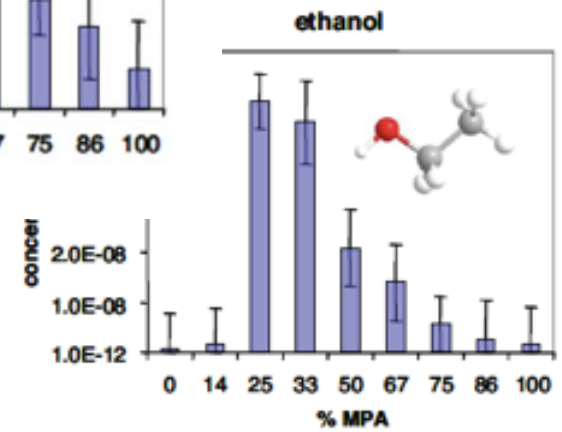
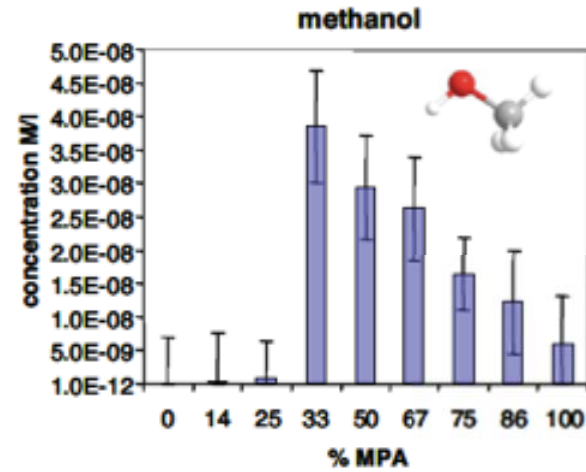
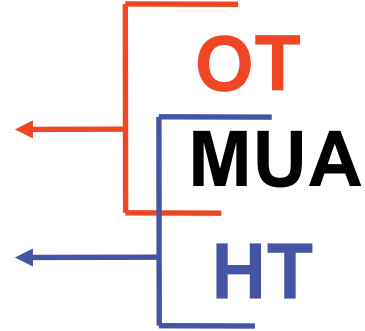
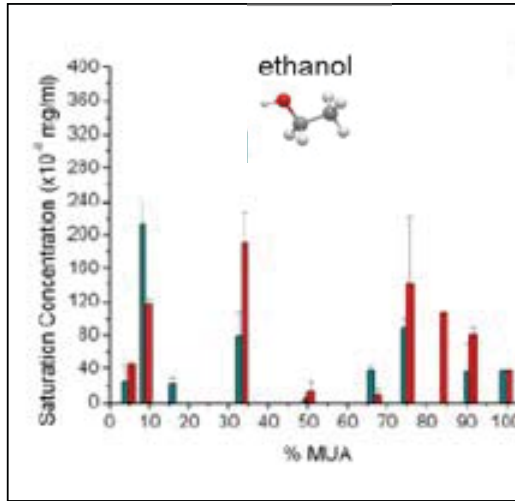


- 1,2 diphytanoyl-sn-glycero phosphocholine lipid bilayer
- pH 8.1 Tris-HCl 0.1 M, KCl 2 M
- Reference Ag/AgCl electrodes

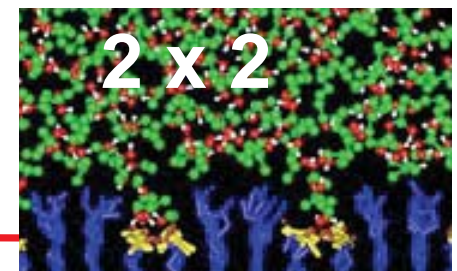
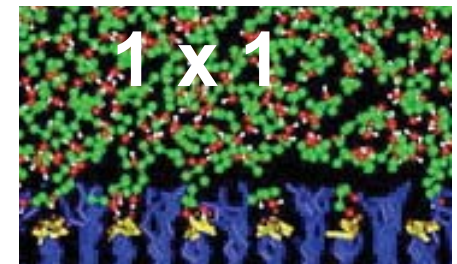
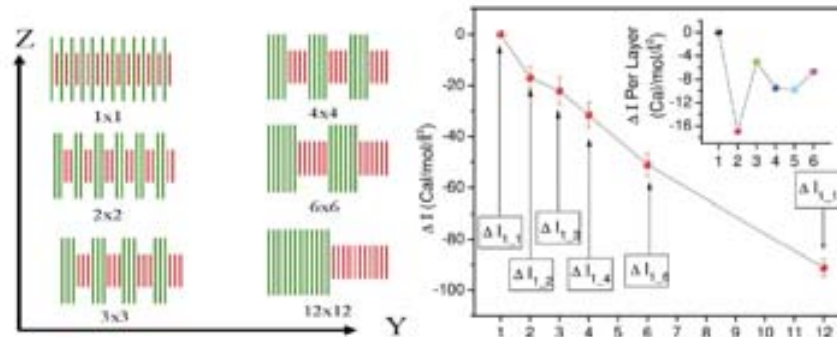
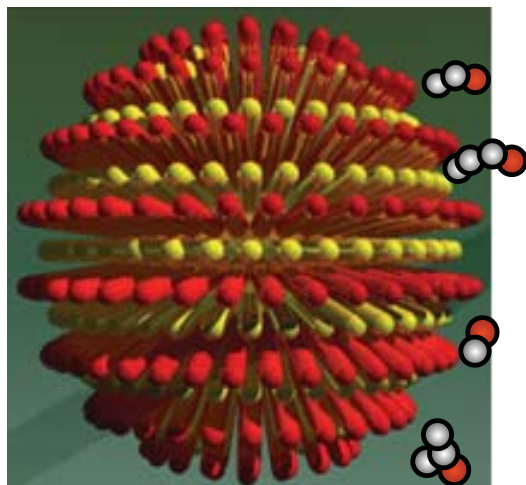
*In collab. with Prof. Yann Astier,  
University of Lisbon, Portugal*



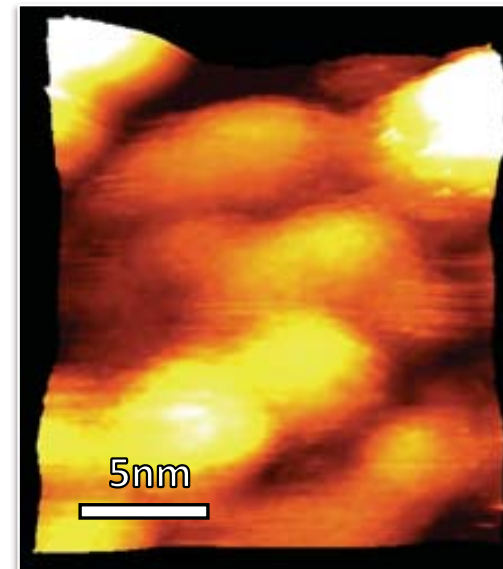
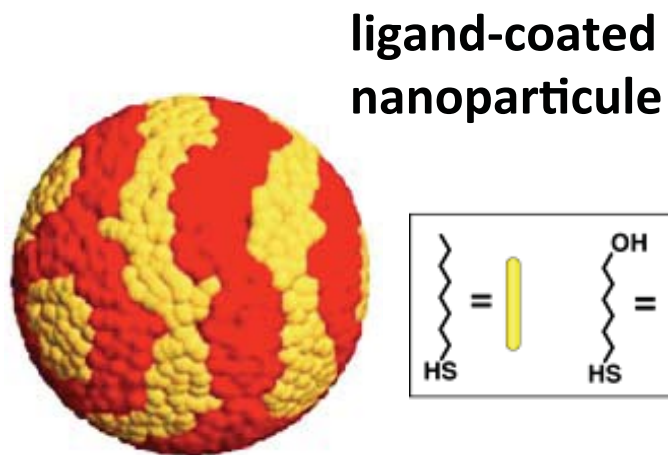
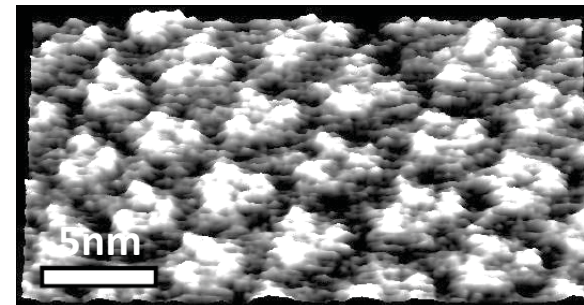
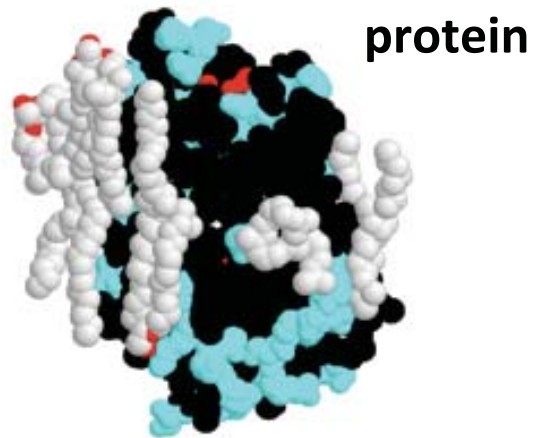




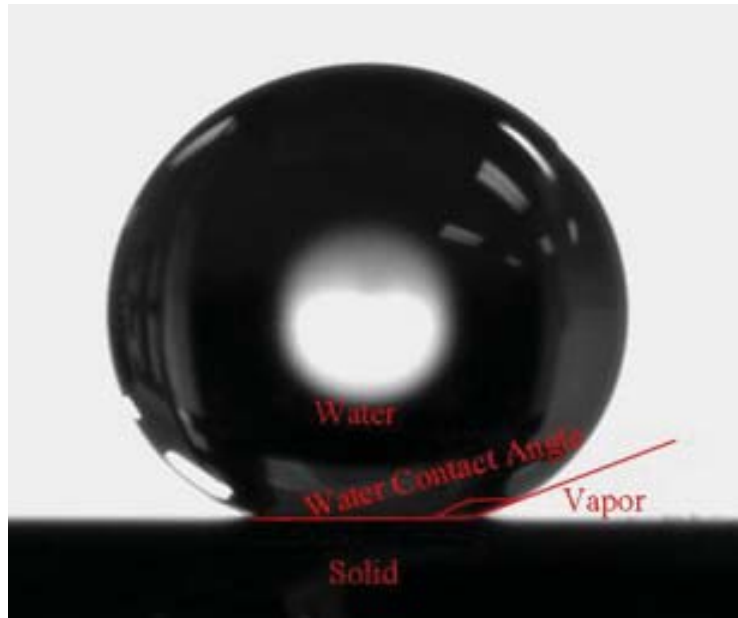
with N. Marzari, MIT;  
PNAS 9886, 2008



What is so special about these nanoparticles?  
Is it possible to quantify their interface with the surrounding?

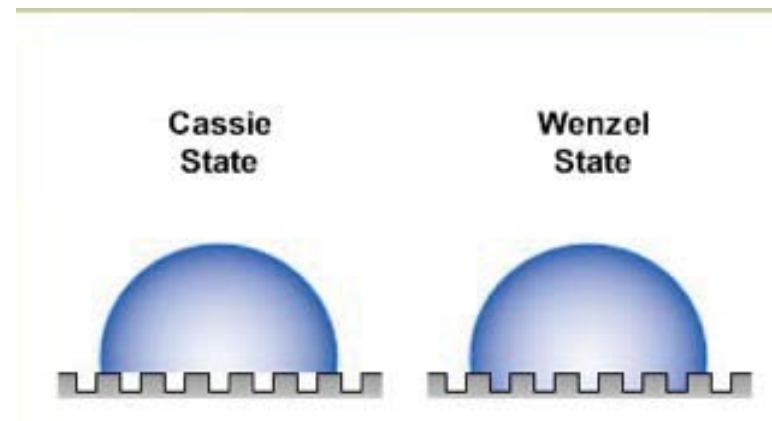


$$I.E. = \frac{1}{2}W_{11} + \frac{1}{2}W_{22} - W_{12} = \gamma_S + \gamma_L - W_{SL}$$



$$W_{SL} = \gamma_{LV} (1 + \cos \theta_{CA}) \approx \gamma_L (1 + \cos \theta_{CA})$$

At the micron/nano scale

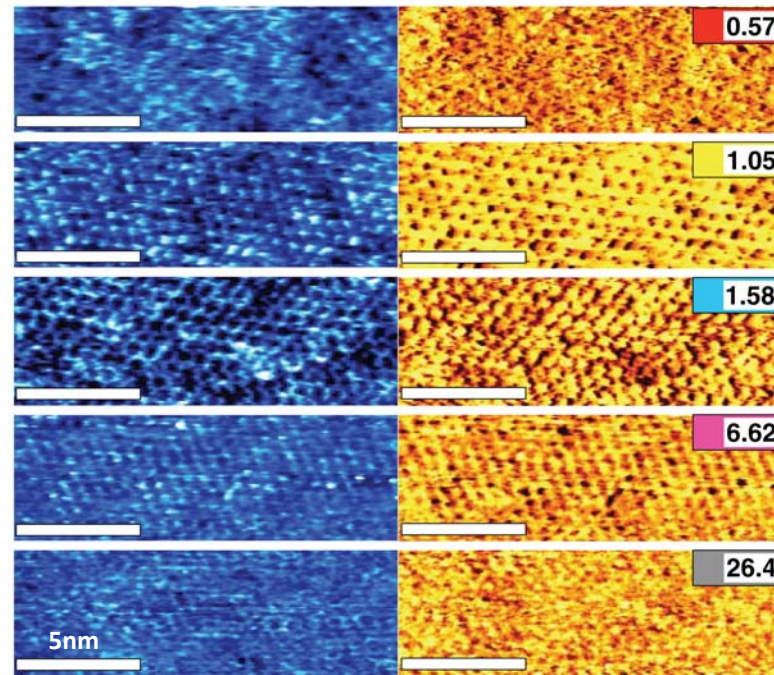
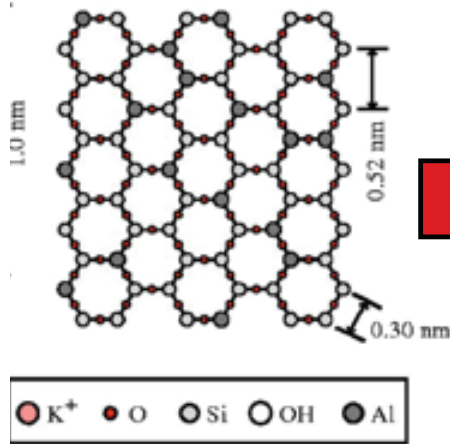
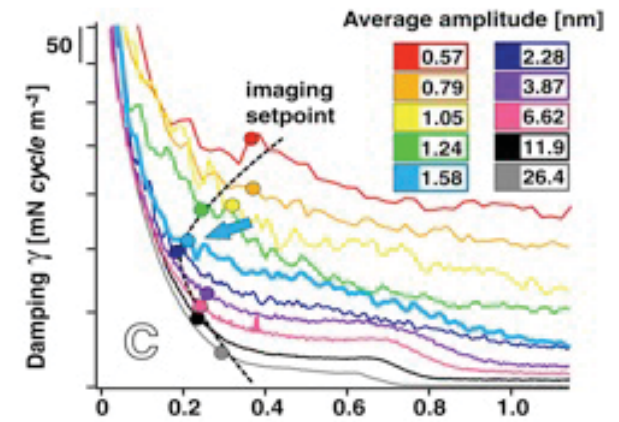
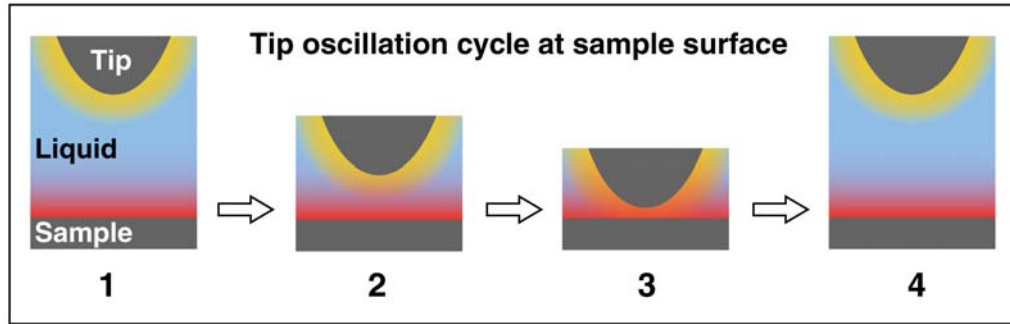


*Cassie State:*

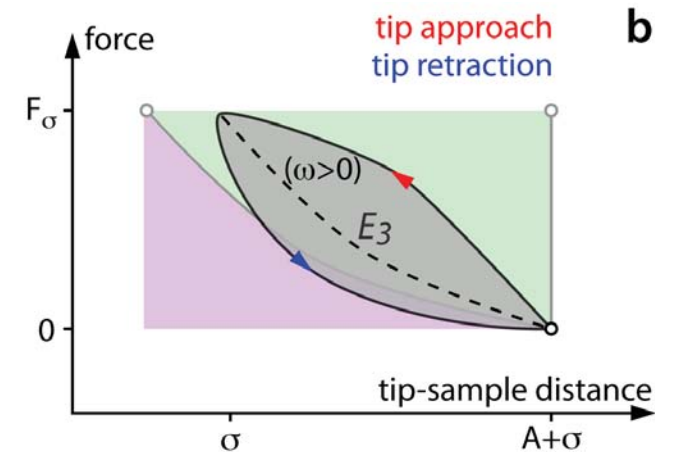
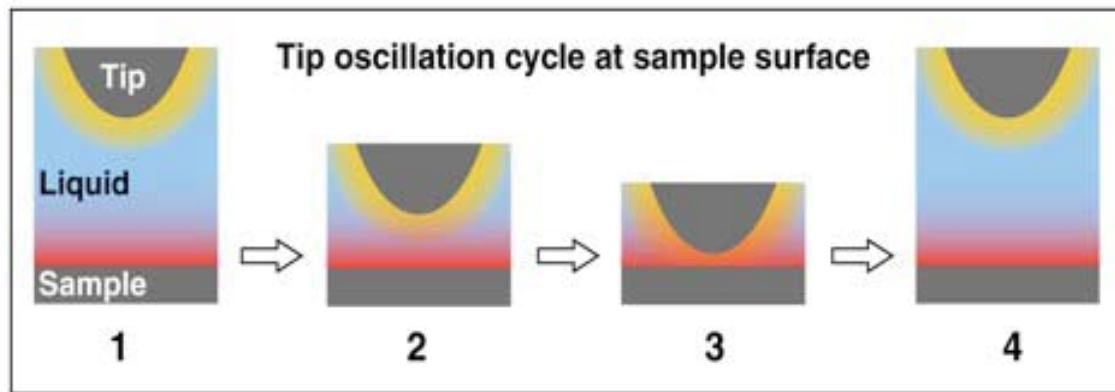
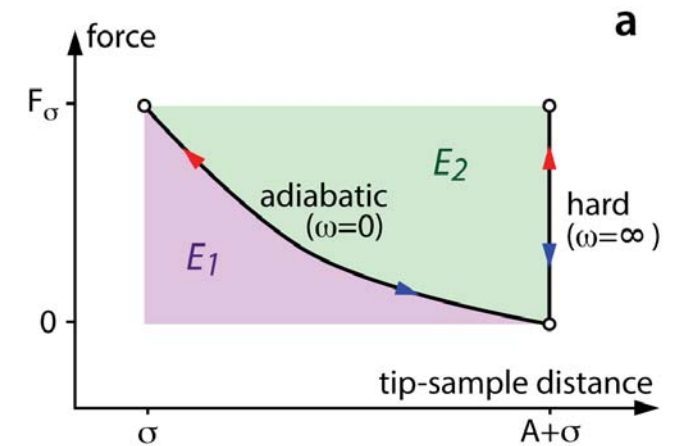
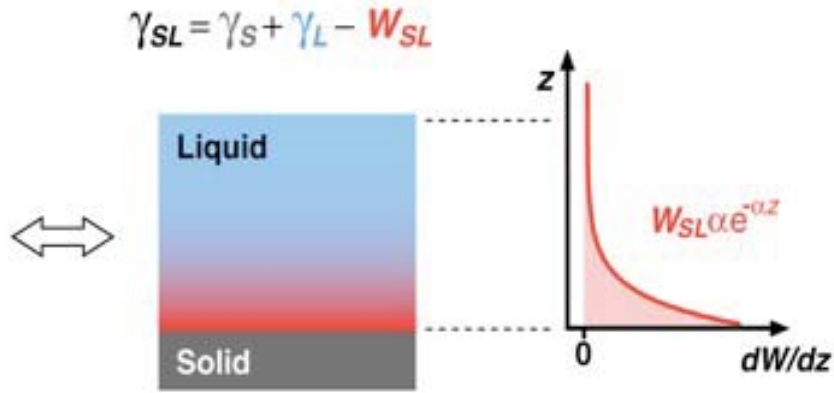
$$(\cos \theta_{CA})^{obs} = f_1 (\cos \theta_{CA})_1 + f_2 (\cos \theta_{CA})_2 = f_1 + f_2 (\cos \theta_{CA})_2$$

*Wenzel State:*

$$(\cos \theta_{CA})^{obs} = r (\cos \theta_{CA})$$



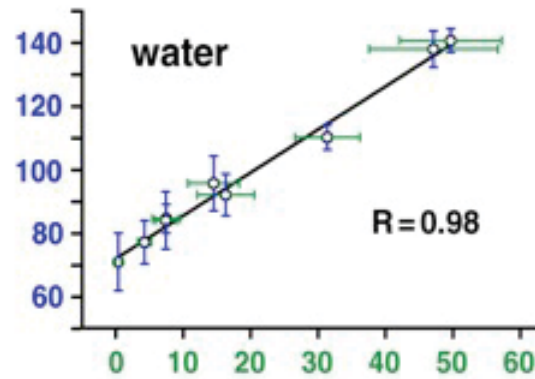
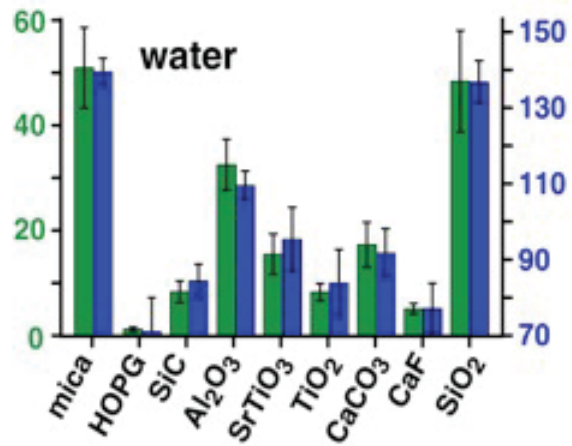




Pressure to remove liquid near the sample and the tip surfaces:

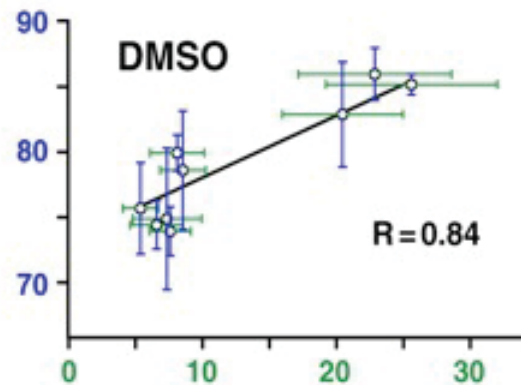
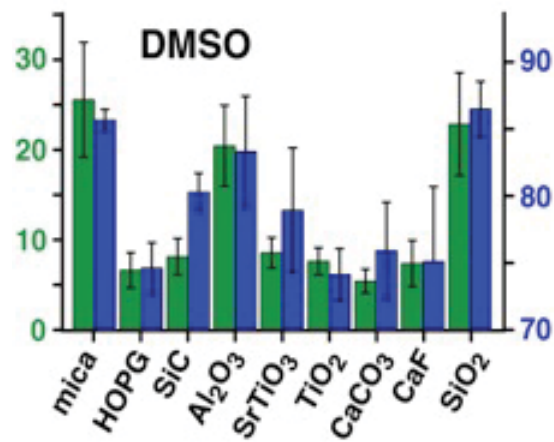
$$\left. \begin{aligned} P_S(z) &\approx W_S \alpha e^{-\alpha z} \\ P_T(z, D) &\approx W_T \beta e^{\beta(z-D)} \end{aligned} \right\} \alpha \sim \beta$$

$$E_{cycl,ext} \propto \frac{R}{\alpha} \sqrt{W_S W_T} \left( 1 - e^{-\frac{\alpha}{2} A} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$



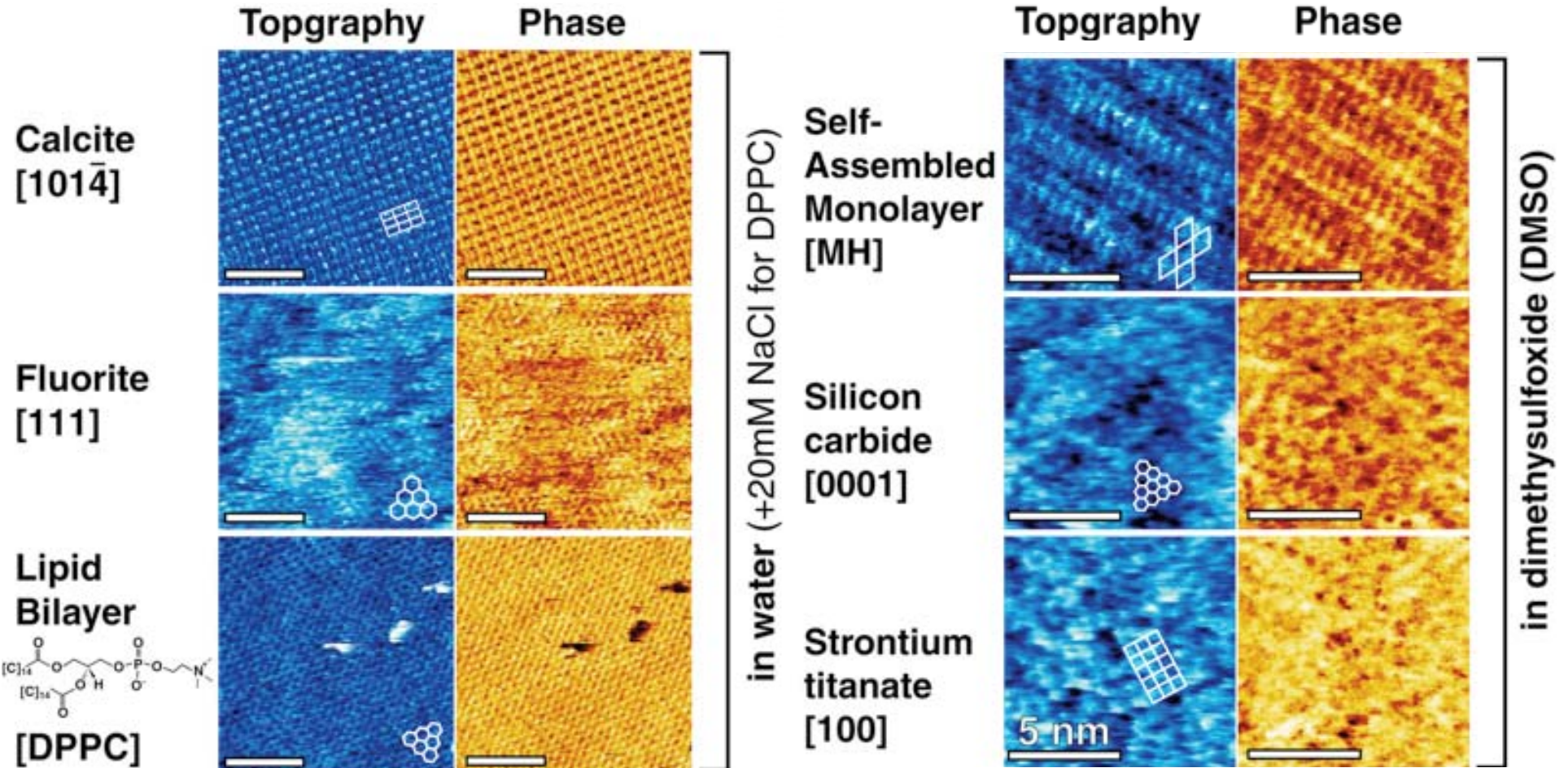
$$E_{cycl,ext} \propto \frac{R}{\alpha} \sqrt{W_S W_T} \left( 1 - e^{\frac{-\alpha}{2} A} \right)$$

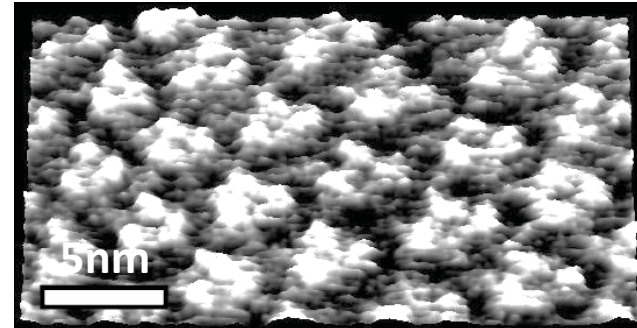
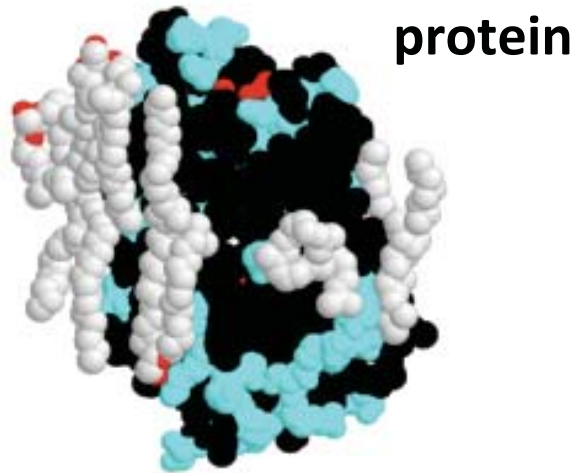
⇒ high-resolution



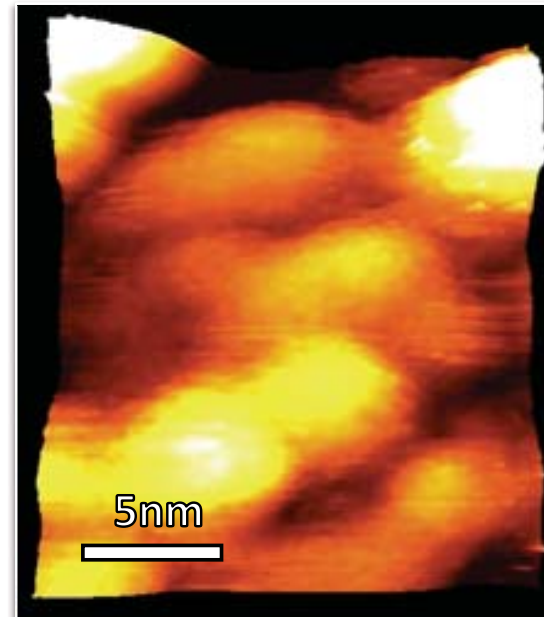
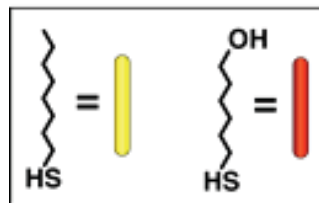
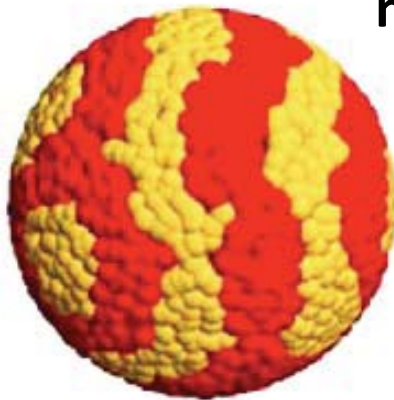
phase  $\phi \approx E_{cycl,ext}$

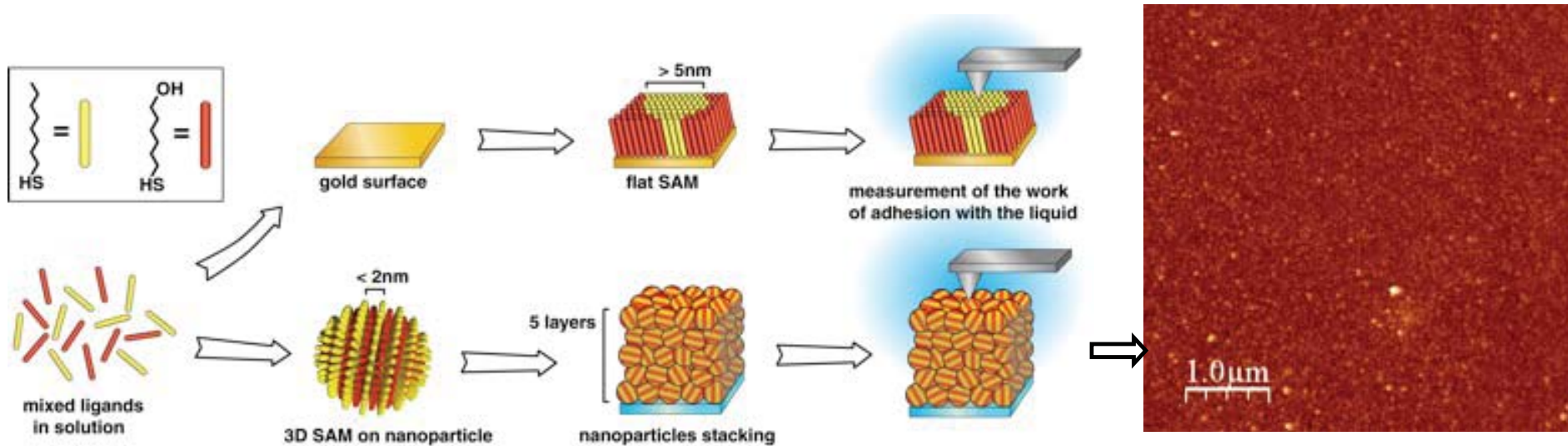
⇒ phase  $\phi \approx local\ wetting$  (work of adhesion)





ligand-coated  
nanoparticle

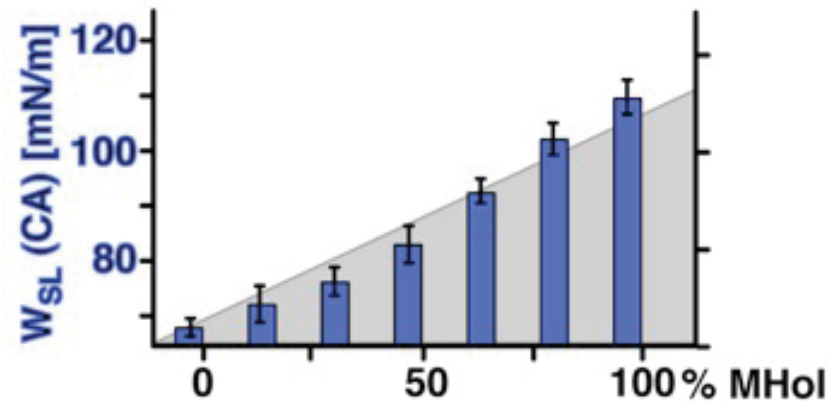


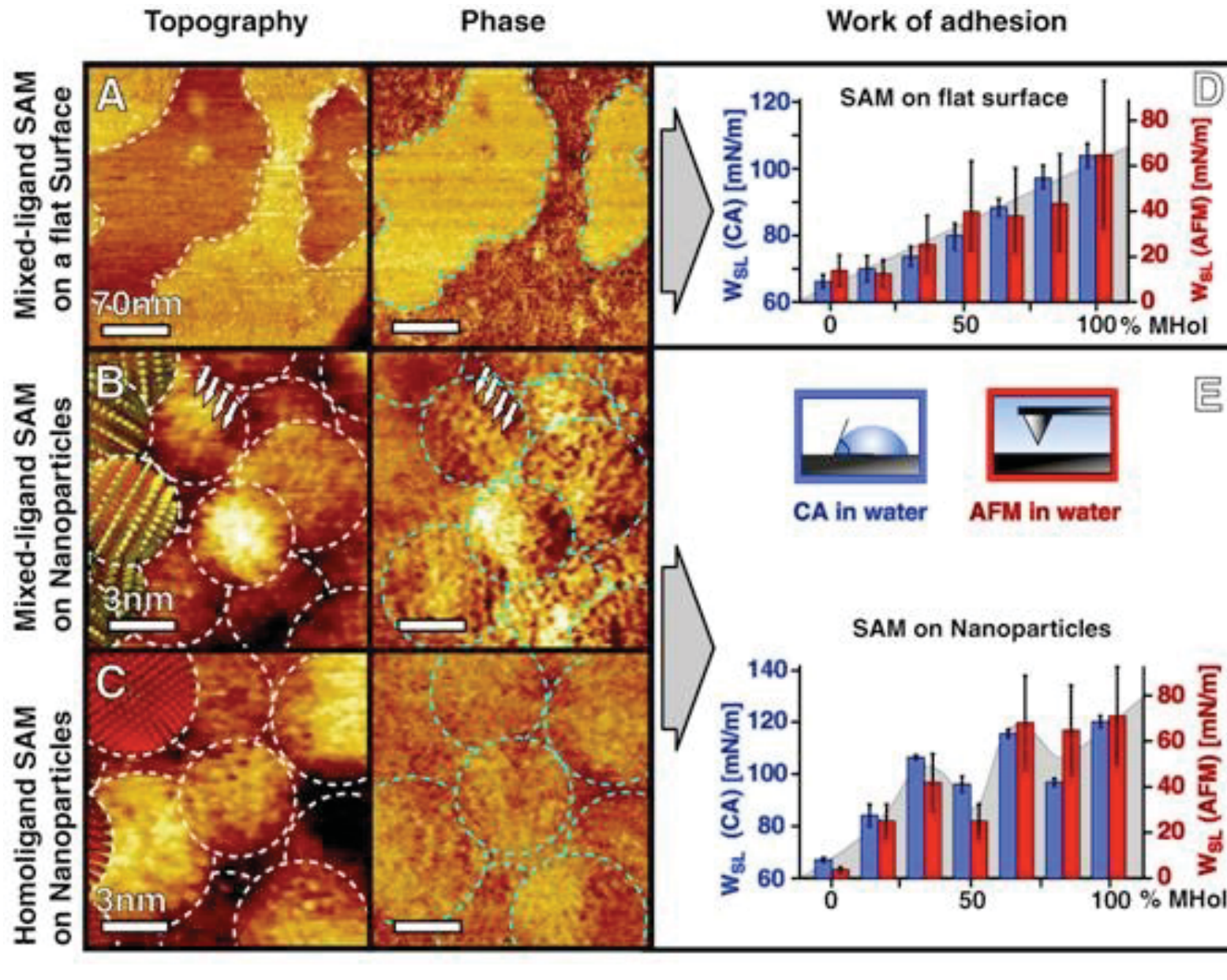


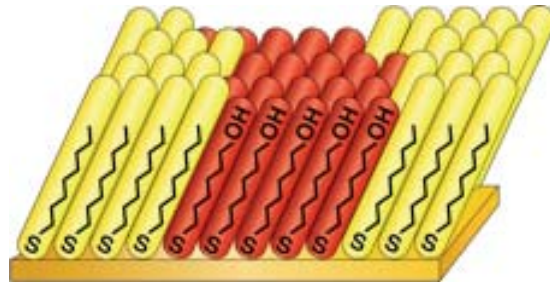
$$W_{sl} = x_A W_{sl}^A + x_B W_{sl}^B$$

$x_A$  = component A surface fraction

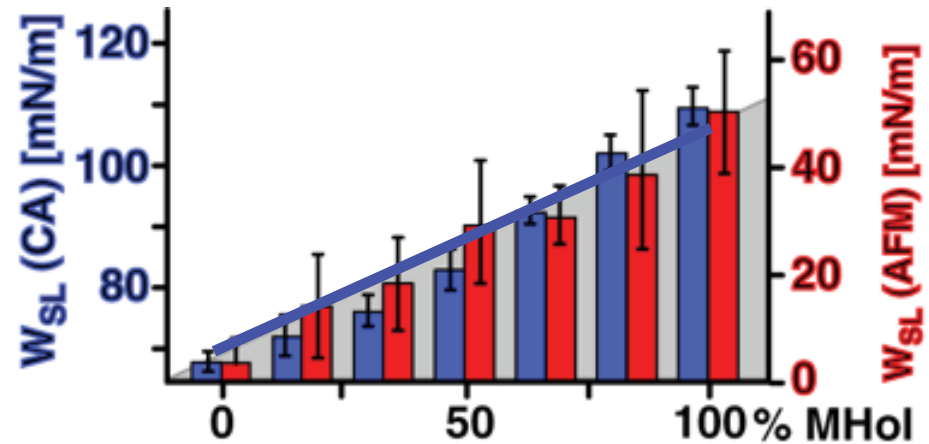
$$x_B = 1 - x_A$$



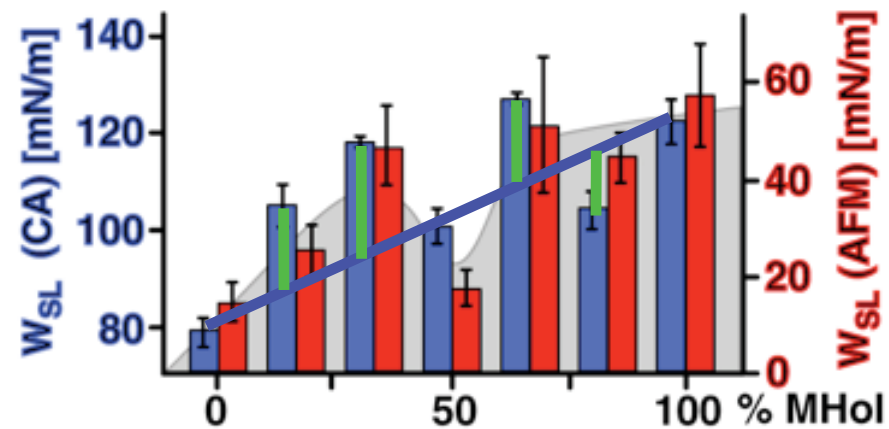


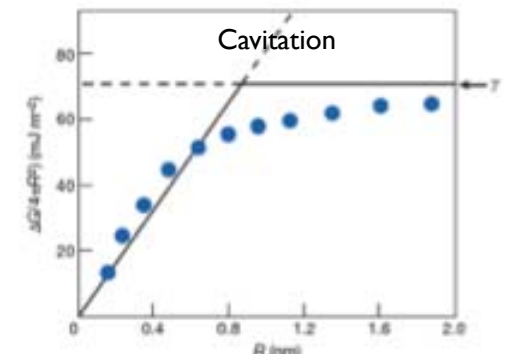
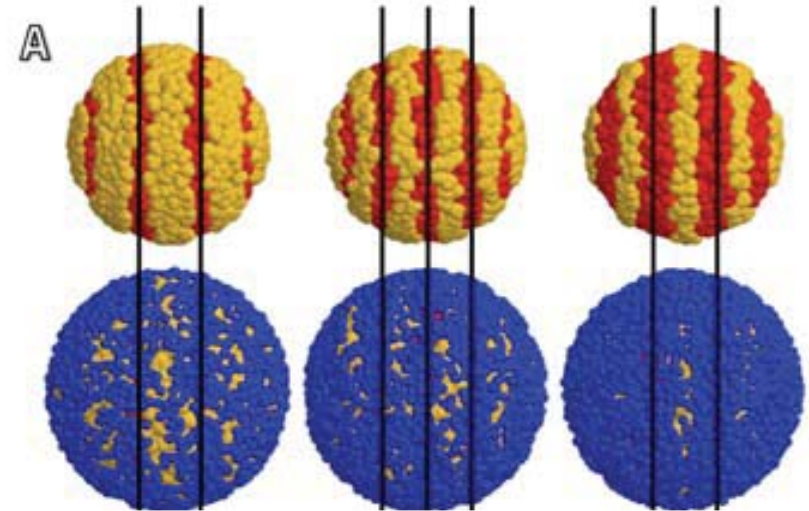
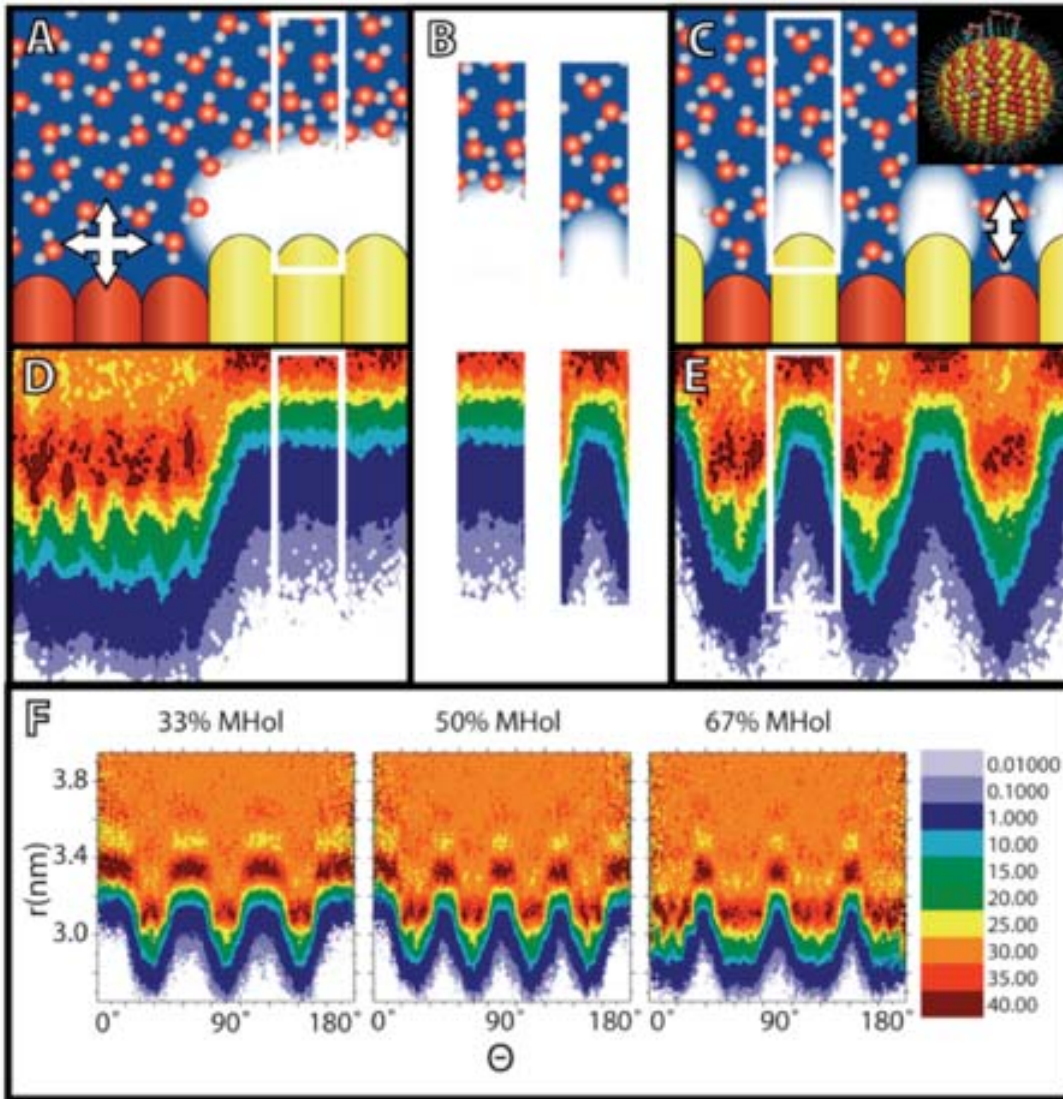


$$W_{SL}^{AB} = x_A W_{SL}^A + x_B W_{SL}^B$$



$$W_{sl} = x_A W_{sl}^A + x_B W_{sl}^B + f(\text{structure})$$

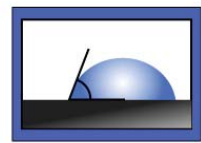




From D. Chandler, *Nature*, 2005



# Adding salt should decrease cavitation...

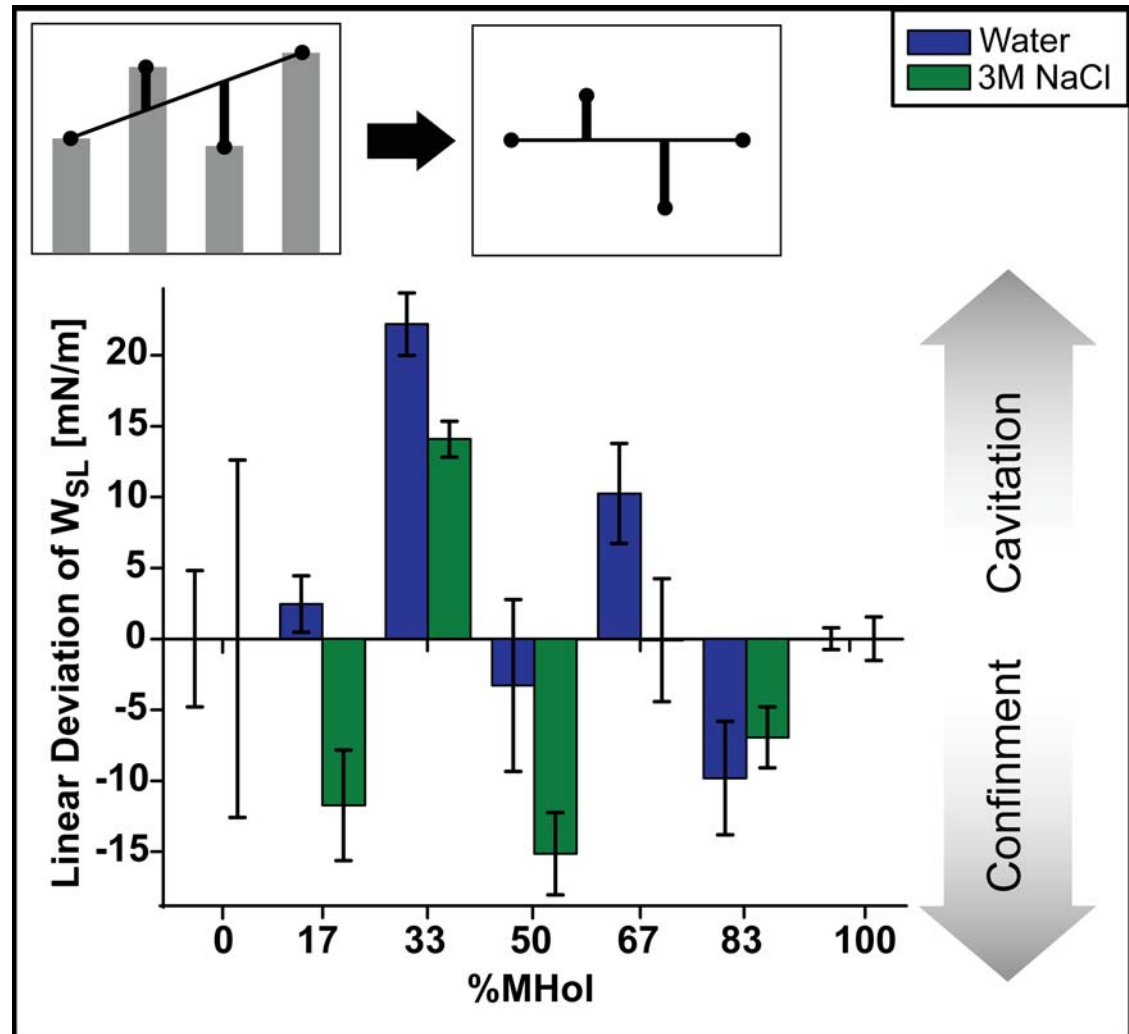
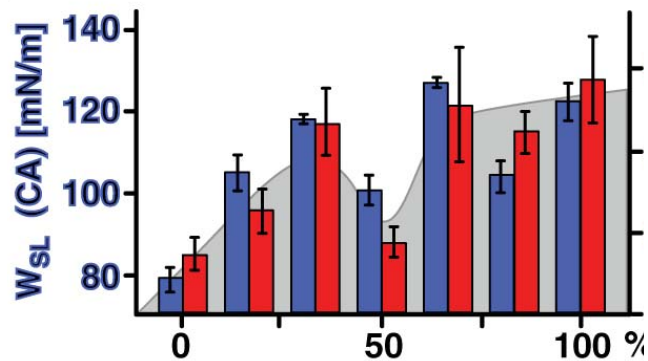


CA in water

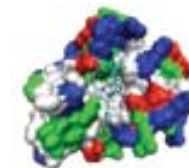
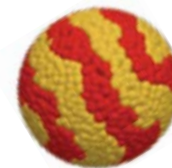


AFM in water

SAM on Nanoparticles



- **Atomic Force Microscopy can be used to locally probe and map solid-liquid interfaces**
- **At the nanoscale, interfacial properties (interfacial energy) strongly depend on structure.**
- **This becomes particularly important when the size of the different interaction sites (hydrophilic/phobic) becomes commensurate with that of the solvent molecules, as illustrated here with nanoparticles**
- **This is the norm in biology!**



### **EPFL/MIT**

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