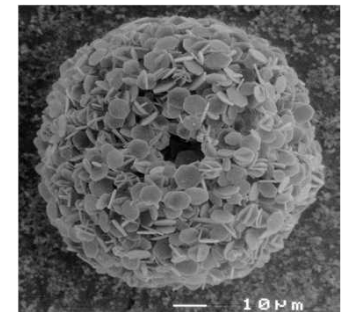
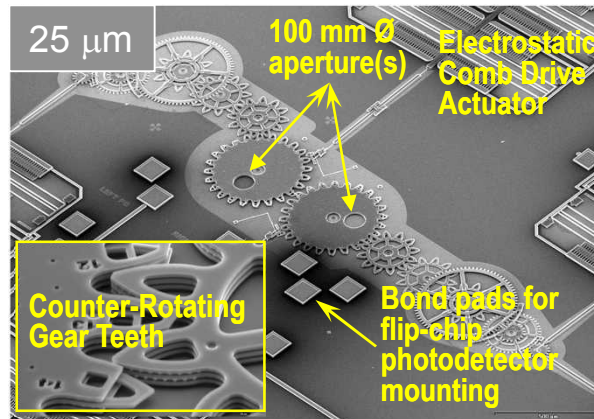
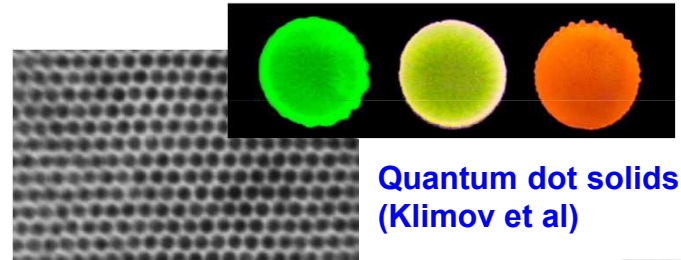
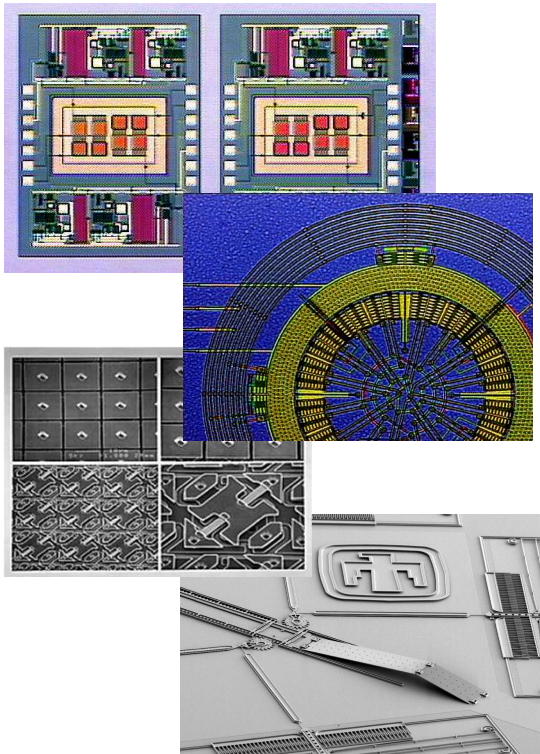


# **Modeling & Simulation Enabled Nano-Engineering:** ***Moving from Nanotechnologies*** ***to Emerging Applications***

***H. Eliot Fang***

***Manager / Deputy & Technical Assistant to the Vice President of ST&E***  
***VP Office of Science, Technology and Research Foundations***  
***Sandia National Laboratories***  
***New Mexico, USA***

# We want to take advantage on new functions from complex & hierarchical micro/nano materials

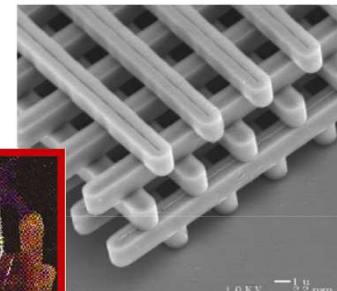


Capillary induced aggregate formation (Bell and Adair)

## Future systems will be able to:

- Sense
- Think
- Act
- Communicate

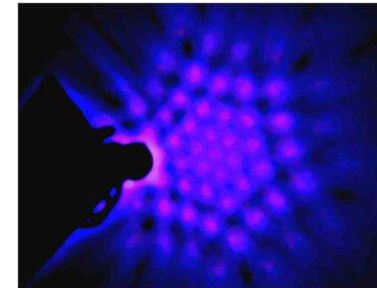
Photonic crystals  
(Lin et al)



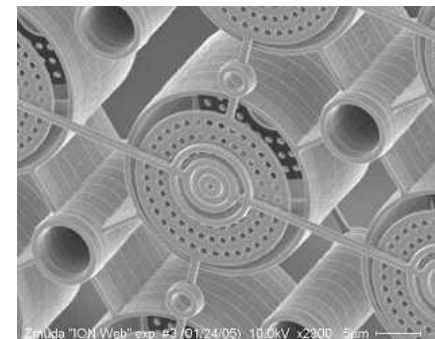
***“There is plenty of room at the bottom.”***

**– Nobel Laureate Richard P. Feynman**

- Micro- and nano-scale devising will revolutionize engineering.
- Manufacturing micro- and nano-scale devices requires understanding phenomena over many length scales.
- But ... such small scales challenge conventional engineering approaches
  - Unexpected physical behaviors
  - Experiments are difficult
  - Intuition is suspect
  - Can't just scale down from macro-scale
    - » “Micro-sizing” doesn't work
- Profound implications for engineering education in the 21st century

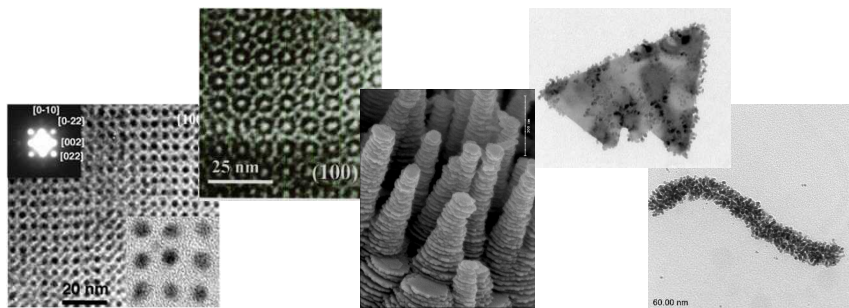


**Photonic  
Lattice LED**



**Micro-ion traps for quantum  
information processing**

# Nanotechnology is not a far-off, fuzzy, futuristic technology any more



## Phase 1 (4-7 years ago)

- Making building blocks
  - Quantum dots, nanotubes, nanoparticles, nanocrystals, ...

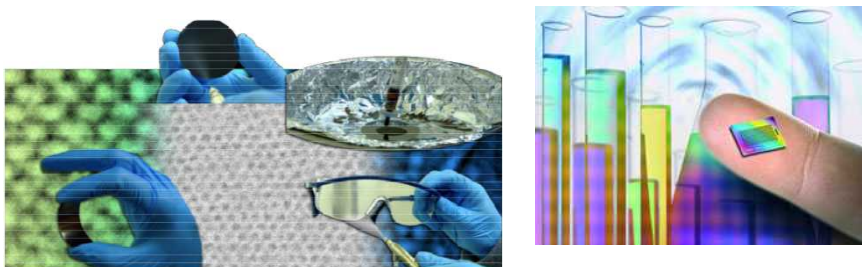


## Phase 2 (2-3 years ago)

- Mixing building blocks into traditional bulk materials
  - Has already established a beachhead in the economy

## Phase 3 (current)

- Building systems with carefully designed nanostructured materials



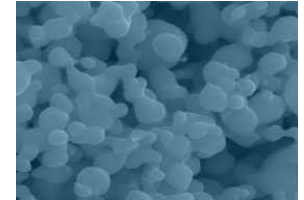


# There are 3 enabling capabilities critical to the maturation of nano-engineering

## 1. Dimension Control for the Building Blocks

- Simple and cost effective processes to control the size and geometry of the building blocks precisely
  - Better understanding of the growth processes in controlled environments is needed.

Silver Nanoparticles



## 2. Nanomanipulation

- Distribute and/or arrange the building blocks into a desired pattern
  - A great challenge when dealing with a system including many dissimilar materials
  - We are still in the early stage of R&D.



## 3. Modeling and Simulation

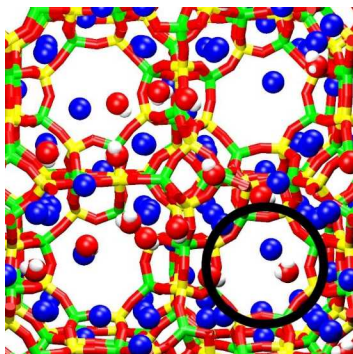
- Although many challenges exist, it is a highly promising tool.



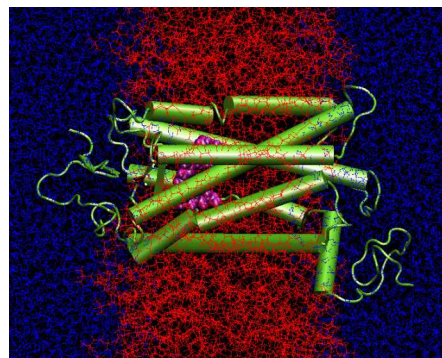
# Modeling & simulation has an essential role

Integrate *state-of-the-art modeling techniques* and *high performance computing* to:

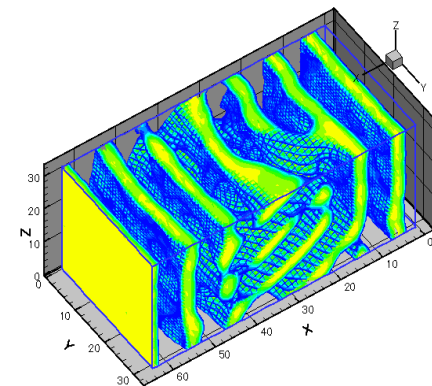
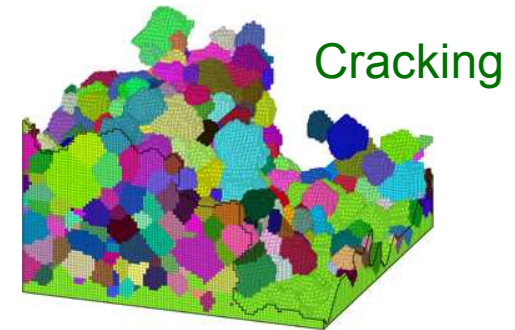
- Elucidate mechanisms of materials behaviors
- Describe details in materials processing
- Predict material properties
- Design material substructure for desired performance



Chemistry in  
nanoporous materials

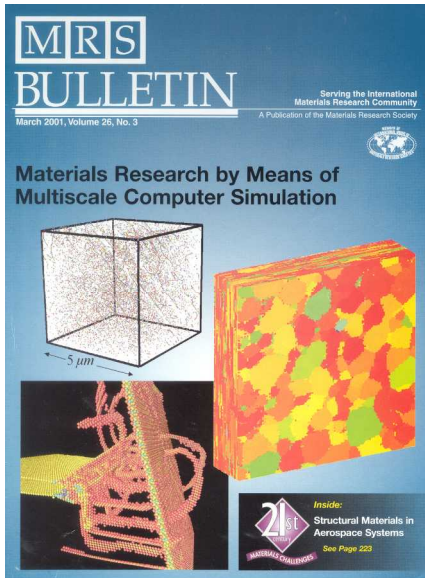


Molecular physics  
in bio-materials



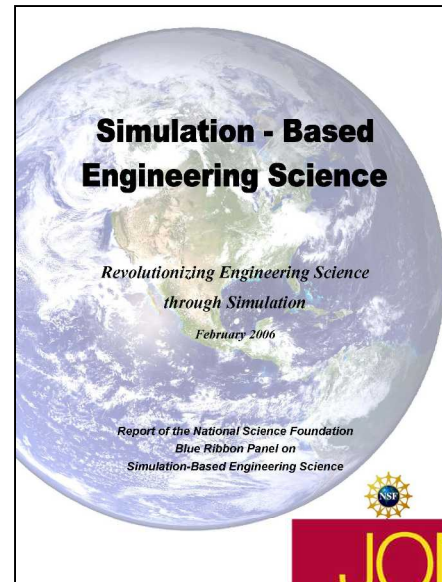
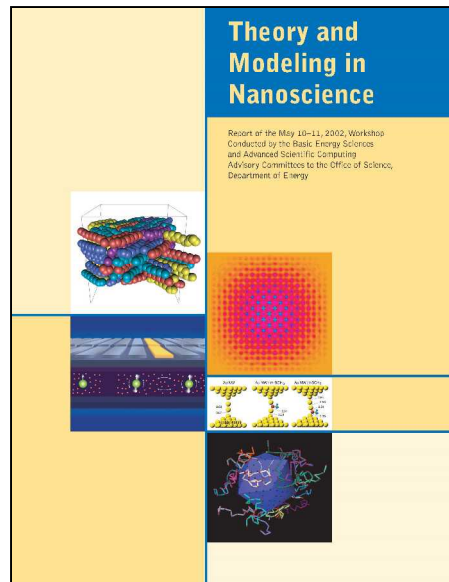
Self-assembly of  
nanostructure

# Computational materials & nanosciences are young, but steady progress is being made



R. Phillips, “Crystals, Defects, and Microstructures – Modeling Across Scales.”  
MRS Bulletin v.26 #3,  
March 2001

Report from a workshop,  
hosted by **Basic Energy  
Sciences** and **Advanced  
Scientific Computing**  
Advisory Committees, on  
May 10-11, 2002 in San  
Francisco, CA.



Report of the **NSF**  
Blue Ribbon Panel on  
Simulation-Based  
Engineering Science  
(2006)



(Aug 2005)

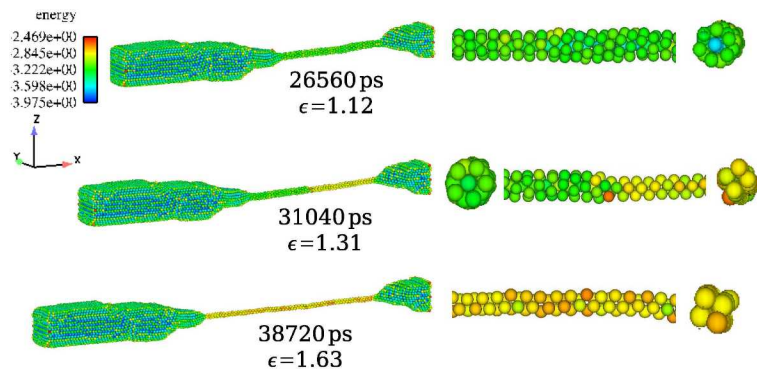


(Sep 2006)

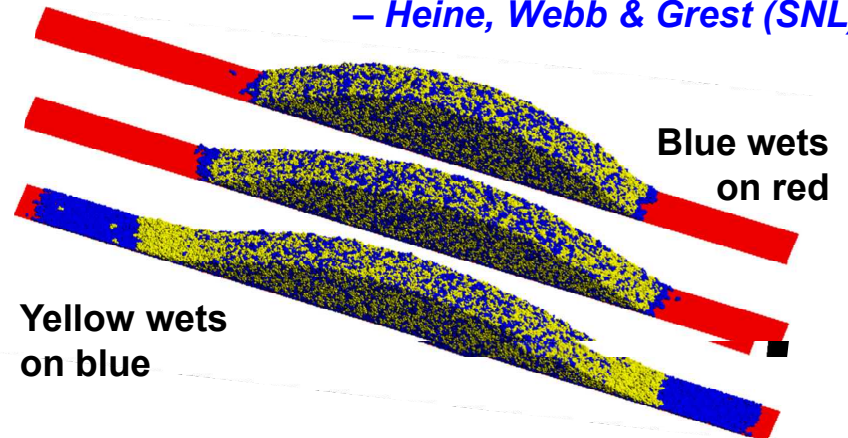


# Examples of Recent Accomplishments on Atomistic Modeling of Nanomaterials

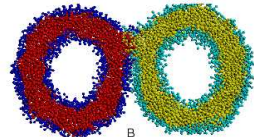
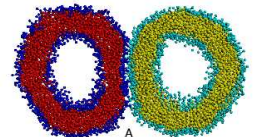
## Deformation of Gold Nanowire – Zimmerman (SNL) & Park (CU-Boulder)



## Wetting & Spreading of polymer droplets – Heine, Webb & Grest (SNL)

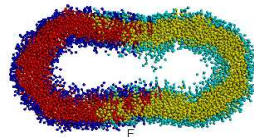
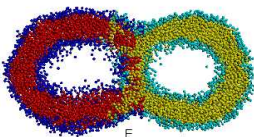
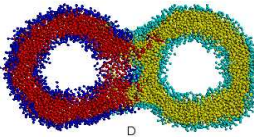
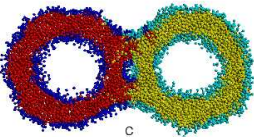


Flat interface forms.



Fusion stalk initiates

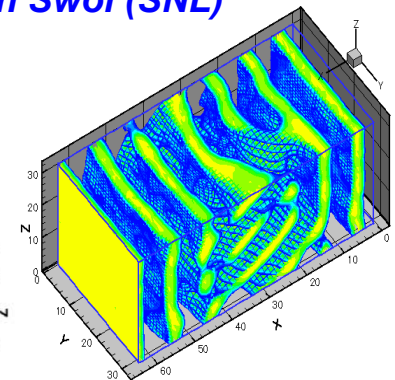
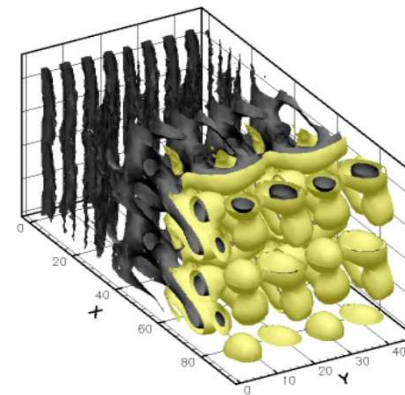
Stalk grows.  
Solvent cavity forms.



Complete fusion.

## Coarse-Grained Model of Membrane Fusion – Stevens (SNL)

## 3D Self Assembly – van Swol (SNL)





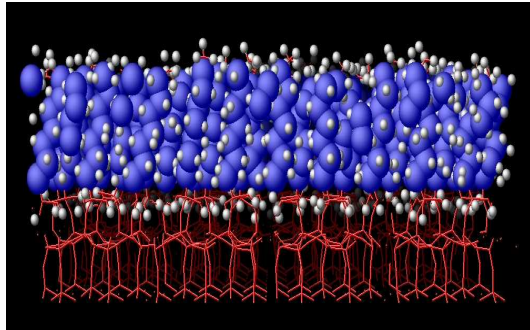


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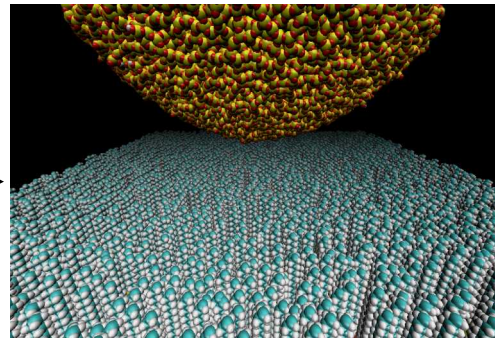
***Direct comparison between simulation  
and experiment is becoming achievable.***

# MD Simulation of Experimental AFM Study on the Reliability of MEMS Coating

*M. Chandross, SNL (2005)*

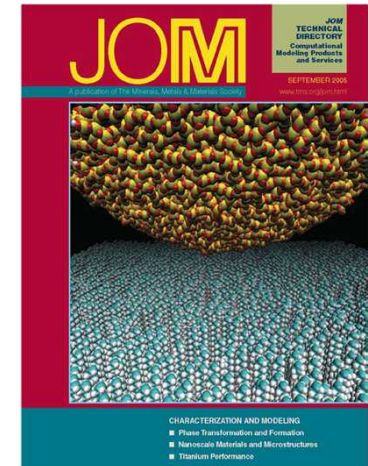


Polymer coating (blue) on polysilicon surface (red)

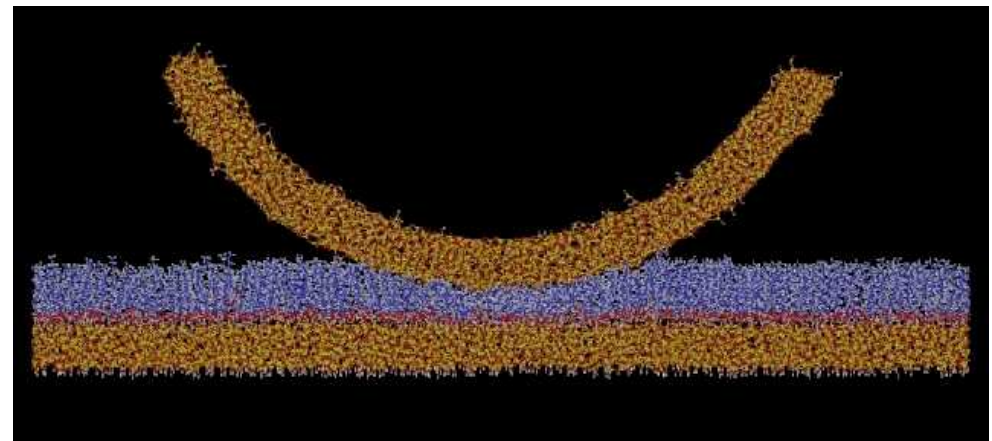
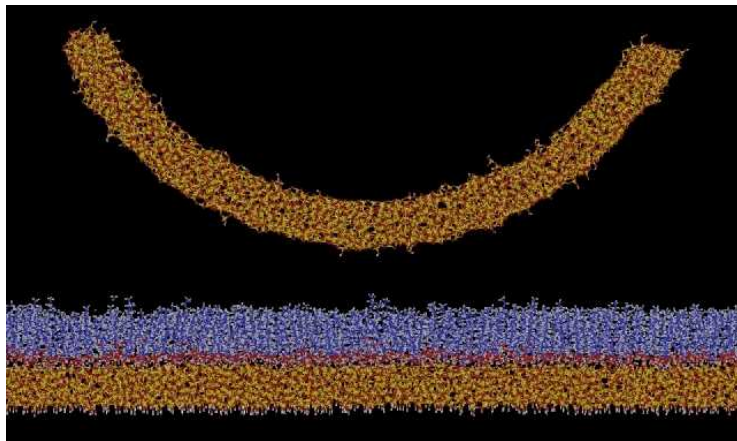


Over 200,000 atoms in the model  
Radius of the tip = 10 nm

Curved tips  
mimic AFM  
and single  
asperity  
contacts



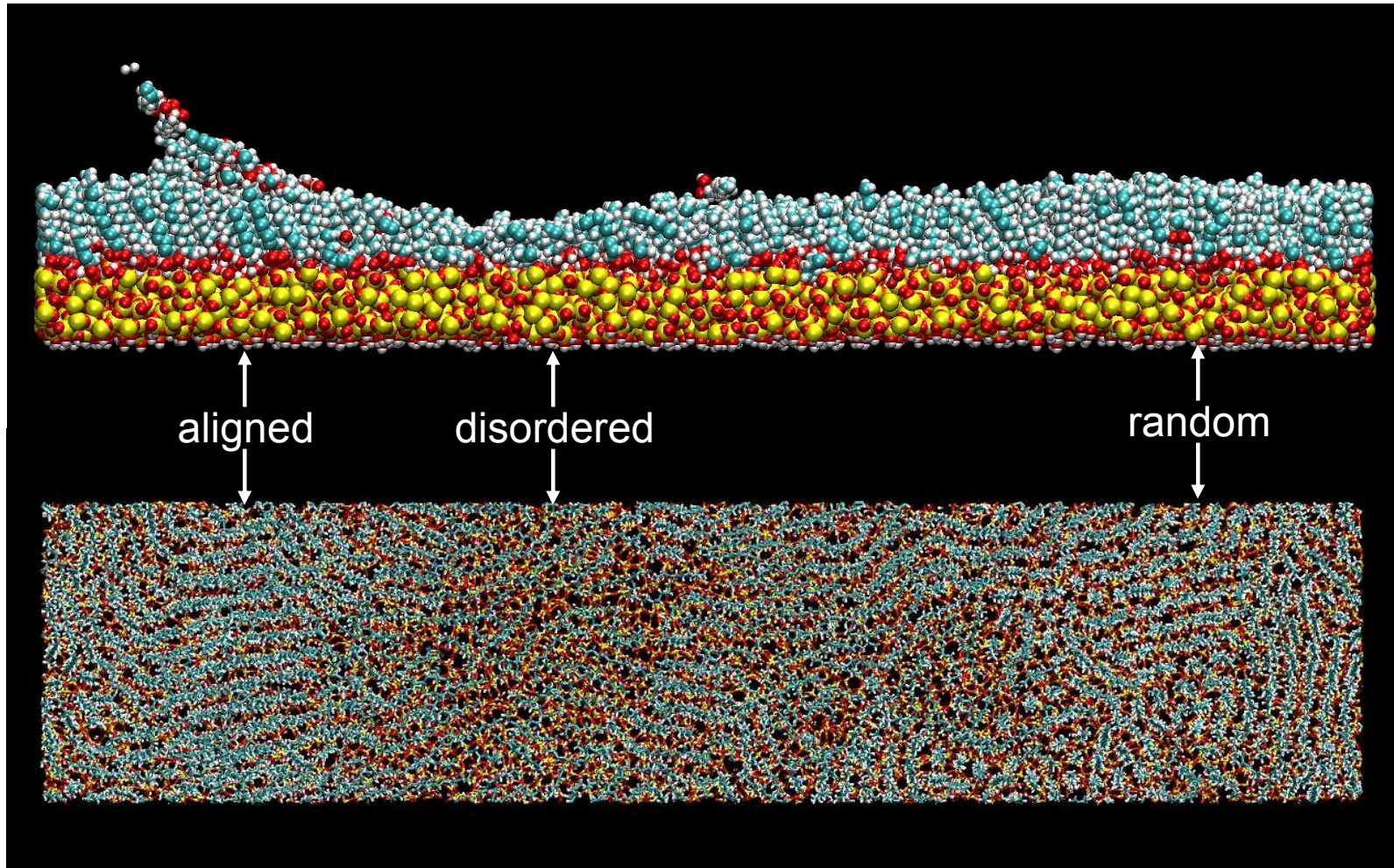
Vol. 57, Issue 9, 2005



- Coated & uncoated tips
- Amorphous & crystalline substrates

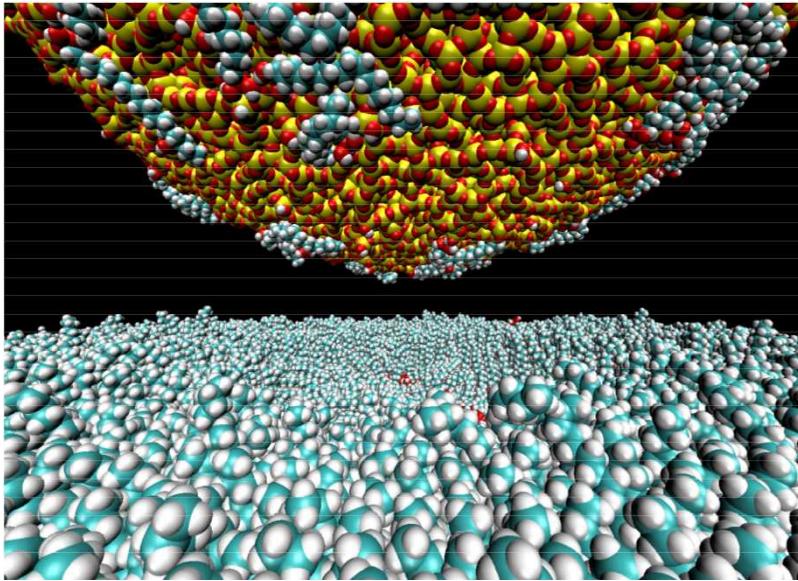


# Chain Alignment with Shear

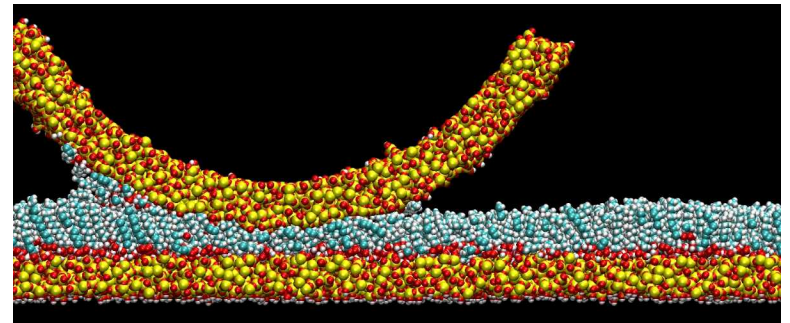
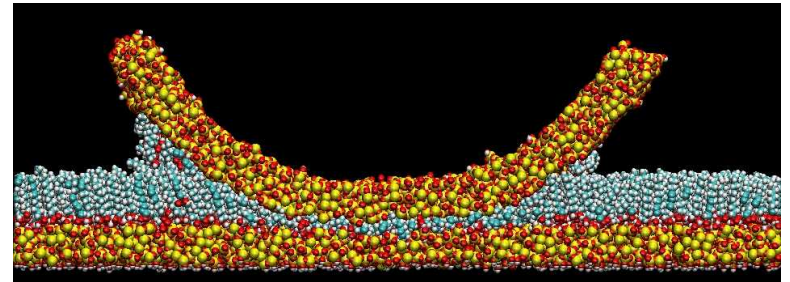
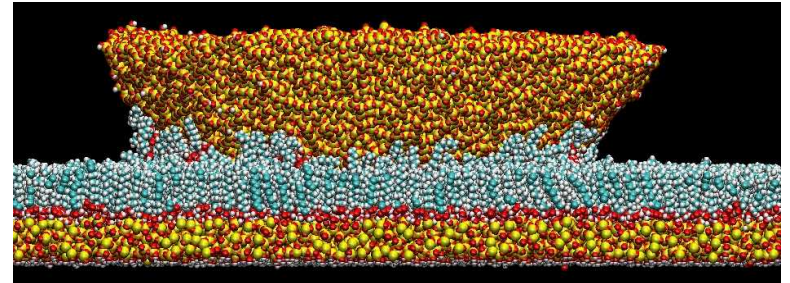




# Simulated Results of the AFM Experiment

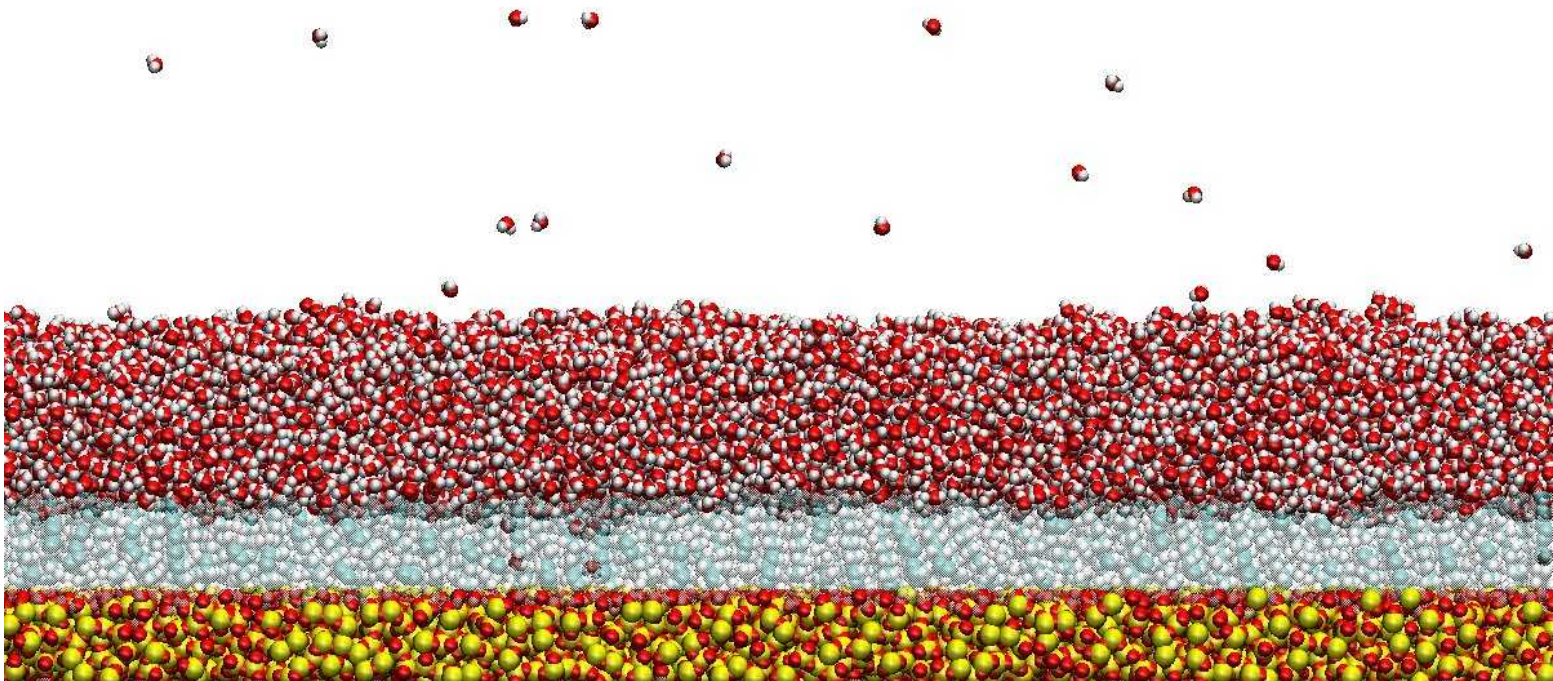


Rendering of simulations demonstrates, even with very low loads ( $<15$  nN), coating material is transferred from the substrate to the AFM probe tip during shear.



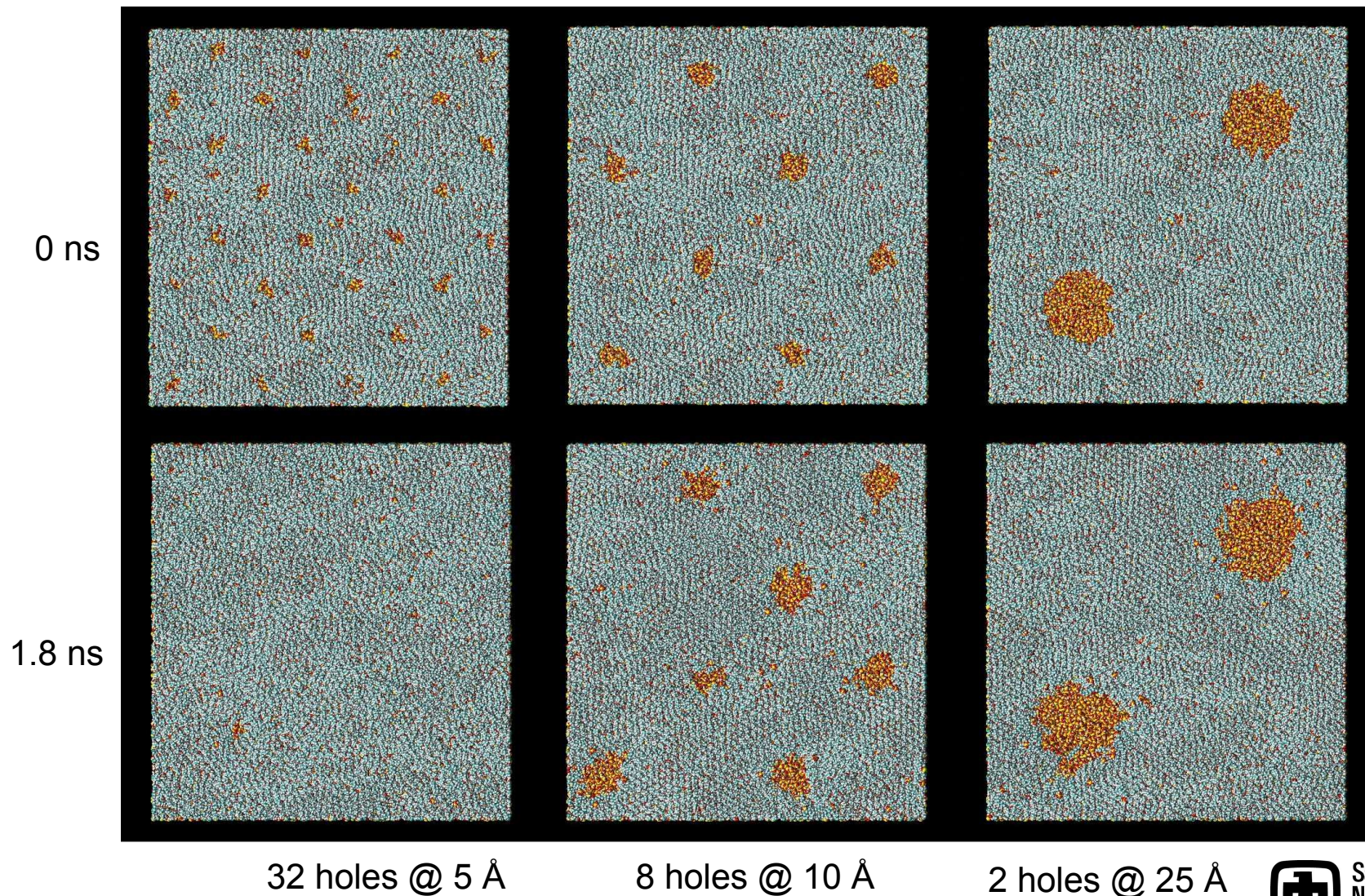
# Water Penetration – Undamaged SAM

25 Å thick slab with 40K molecules in liquid  
Minor penetration at defect sites





# Water Penetration – Damaged SAMs





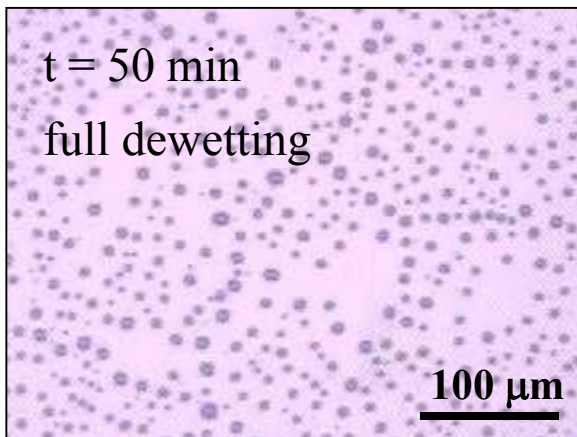
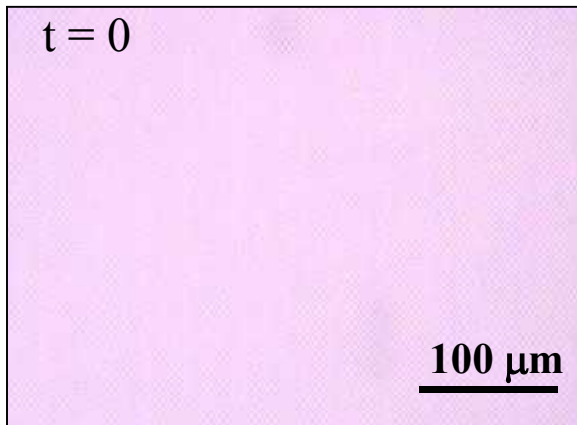


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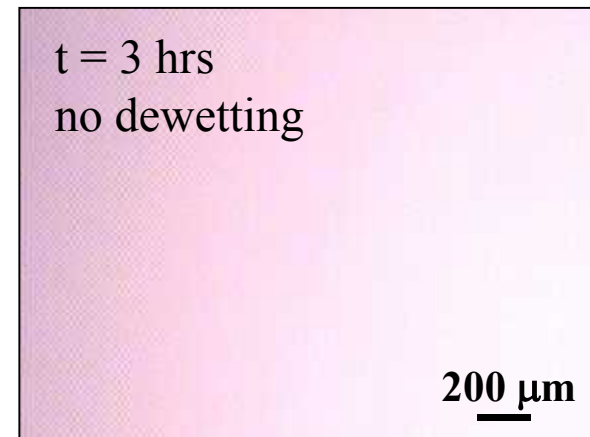
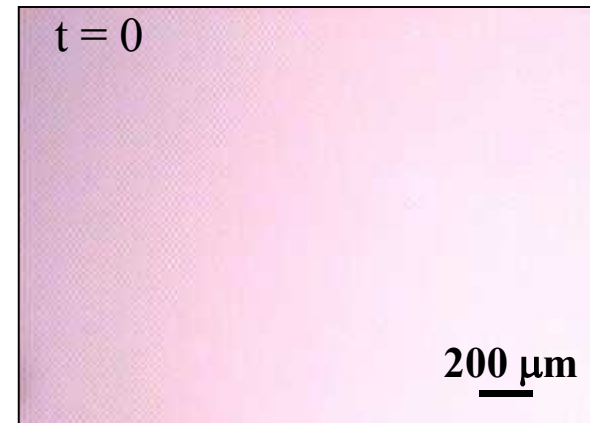
***Running bigger simulations  
is not always the right way to go!***

# Prevention of Dewetting in Polymer Films

33 nm polystyrene film on  
“piranha” cleaned Si wafer

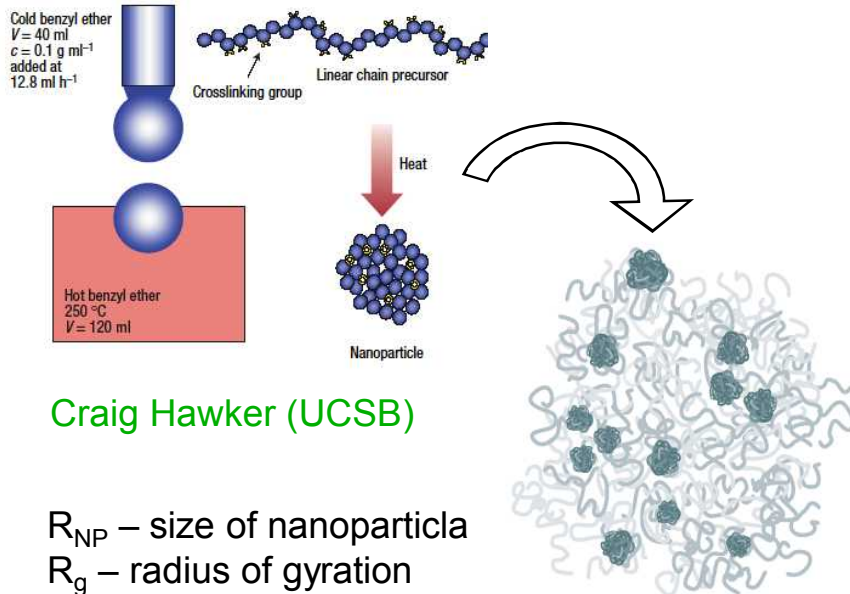


33 nm polystyrene film with 3 weight %  
fullerenes on “piranha” cleaned Si wafer



*Mackay et al (Michigan State University)*

# Modeling Polymer Nanocomposites



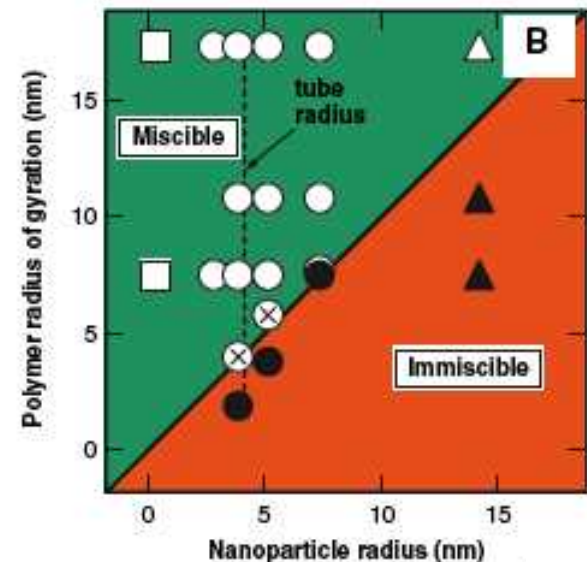
## Nanoscale phenomena:

- Gap between particles  $\approx R_{\text{NP}}$
- Chains stretch when add particles.
- NPs disperse well for  $R_{\text{NP}} < R_g$  (but not if too small).

## An “ideal” system:

Hard-sphere like PS nanoparticles mixed with linear PS

- Nanoparticle radii  $R_{\text{NP}}$ : 2.5nm - 14nm
- Polymer  $R_g$ : 4nm - 14nm
- Monomer size:  $\approx 1 \text{ nm}$



*Mackay et al, Science 311, 1740 (2006)*



# How do we model / simulate this?

**Atomistically?** No!!! System is too big (even bulk PS is hard).

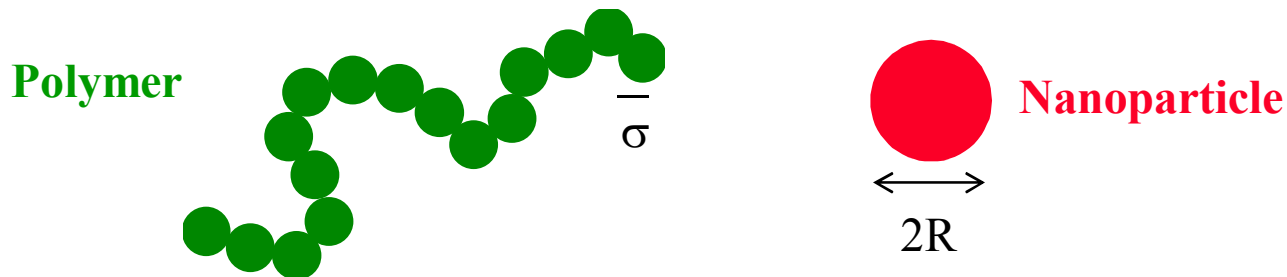
**Important length scales:**

- Size of monomers, size of particles, & chains from 1 nm to 10's of nm



**Coarse-Grained (CG) Model:**

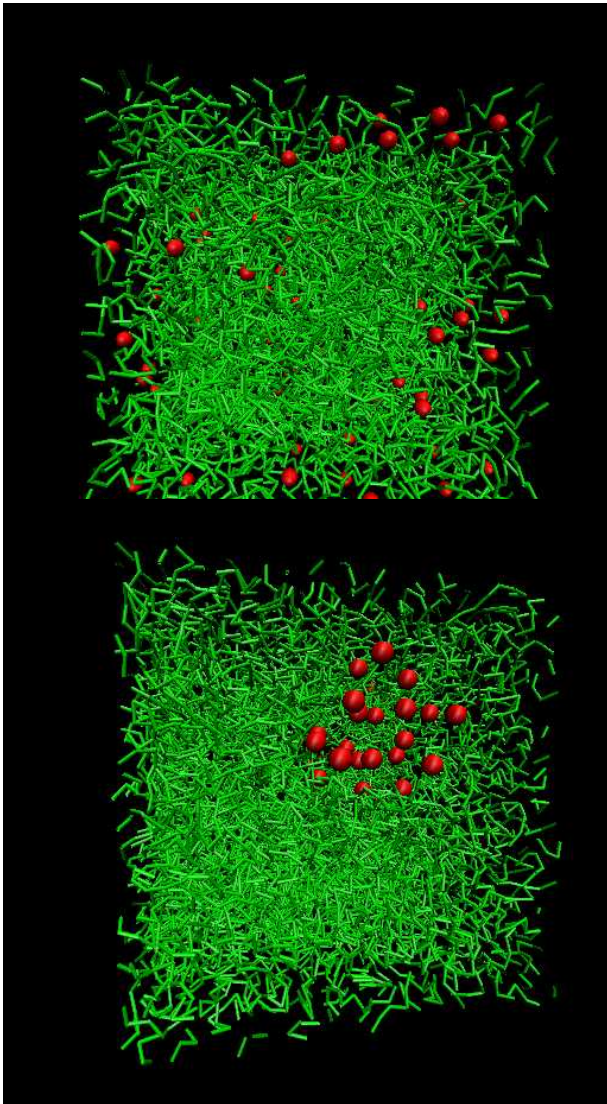
**Repulsive LJ spheres**



Length where PS is a random walk: 1.26 nm

$$1\sigma = 1.26 \text{ nm}$$

# Result of MD Simulations



- 30 nanoparticles
- $R_{NP} = 2.2$  nm
- 145 polymer chains, 80 monomers/chain
- $R_g = 4.7$  nm
- NP volume fraction 10%
- Repulsive LJ interactions

**Aggregated! But not in experiments...**

***Problem: CG model not quite right!***



## A more accurate model ...

---

### Need:

- Longer chains: 150 monomers/chain
- Bigger particles:  $R_{NP} = 4 \times$  monomer size
- Attractions: Range of  $2.2 \times$  monomer size

### “Small” Simulation

10 NPs, 10% volume fraction, 46060 monomers  
Run on 32 processors

For particle to move its own size: 8960 CPU days

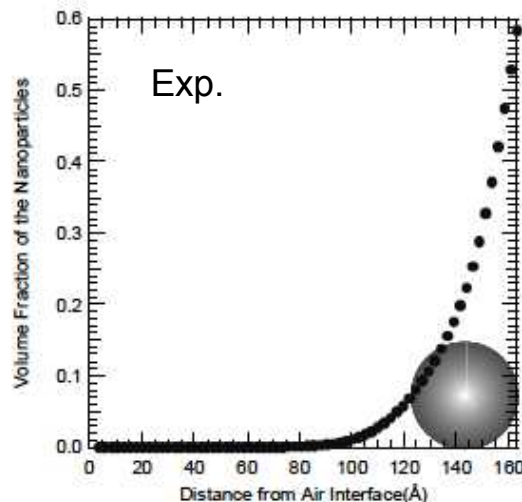
MD simulation not practical!

So, try theory instead....

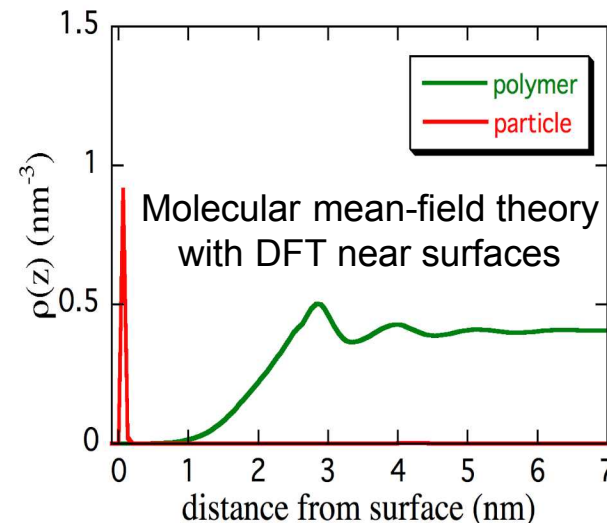


# Coupled experiment & theory study has explained the phenomenon, but more can be done

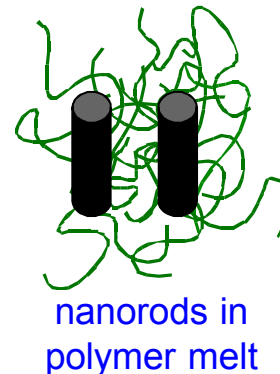
PS NPs/PS thin films  
particles go to surface



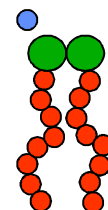
80 monomers/chain  
 $R_{NP} = 3.5 \times \text{monomer size}$



- How about different sizes and shapes of nanoparticle?
- How about different materials for nanoparticle?
- How about mix of different nanoparticles?
- How nanoparticles disperse or aggregate in different materials?



inclusions in  
lipid bilayers



# Linking length and time scales is still a grand challenge

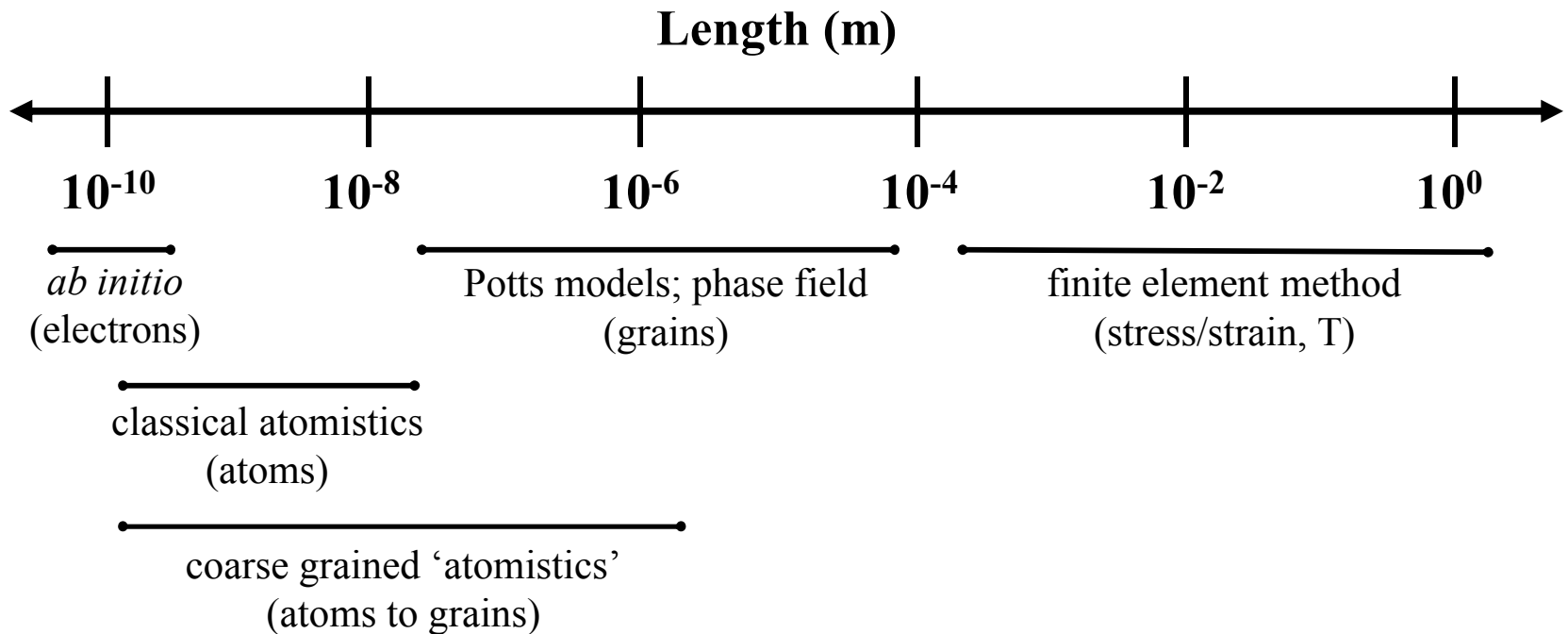
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***“Materials modeling is like an onion!”***

*--- an anonymous SHREK lover*

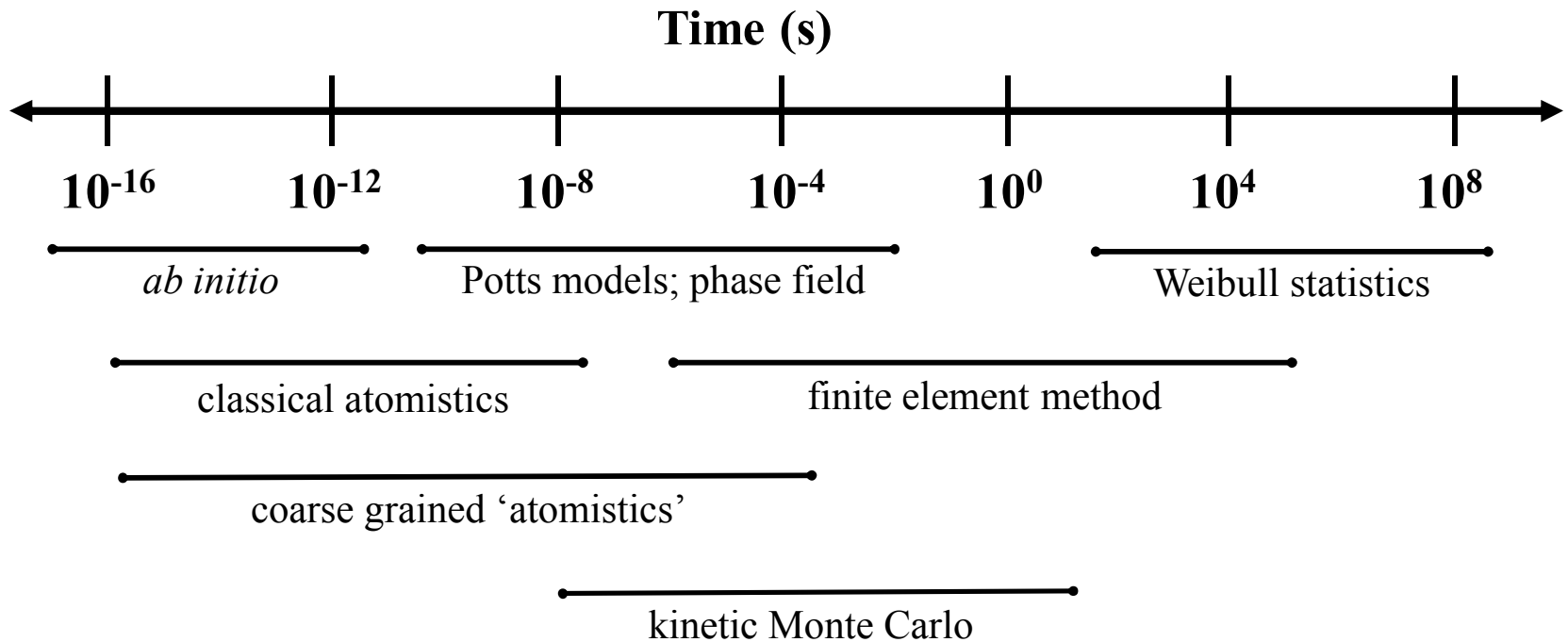
# Materials Modeling Across Length Scales



**10 orders of magnitude!!**



# Materials Modeling Across Time Scales



**24 orders of magnitude!!**

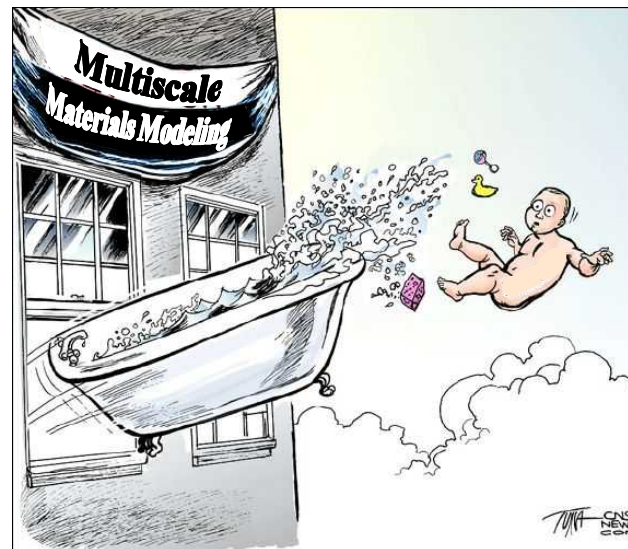
# Linking length and time scales is still a grand challenge



***“Materials modeling is like an onion!”***

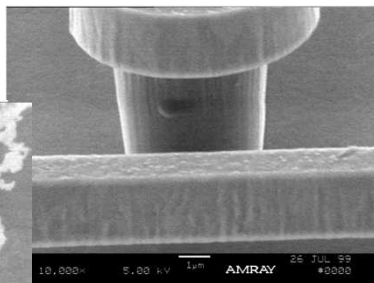
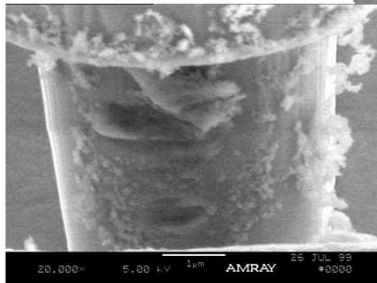
*--- an anonymous SHREK lover*

***How to throw out the bathwater  
and still save the baby?***



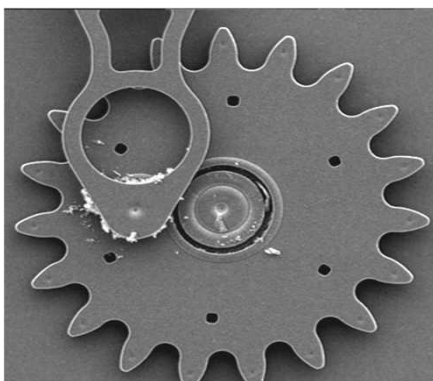
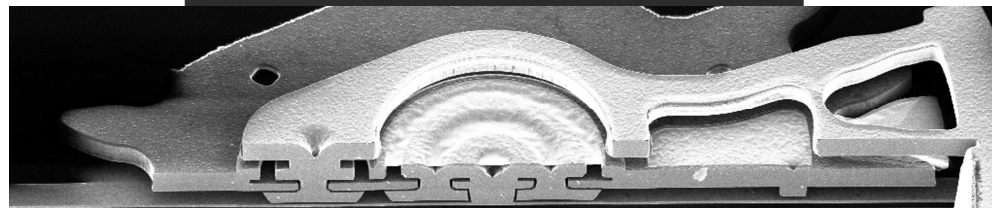
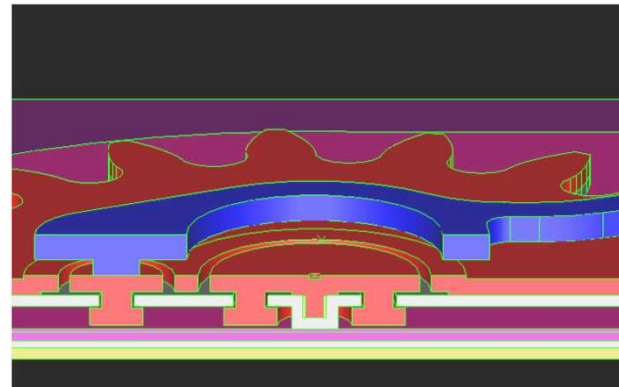
# Challenges is not on modeling the geometry, but on simulating the real performance

100,000 cycles  
1.5 vol% H<sub>2</sub>O

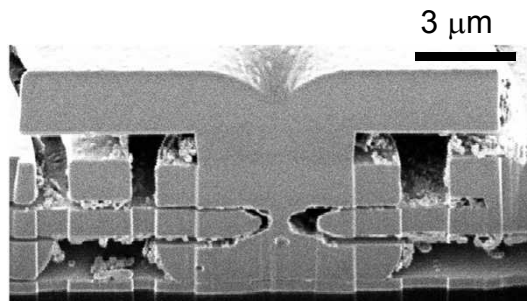


500,000 cycles  
Dry air

Breakdown of SAM coatings  
with time and environment



1 million cycles



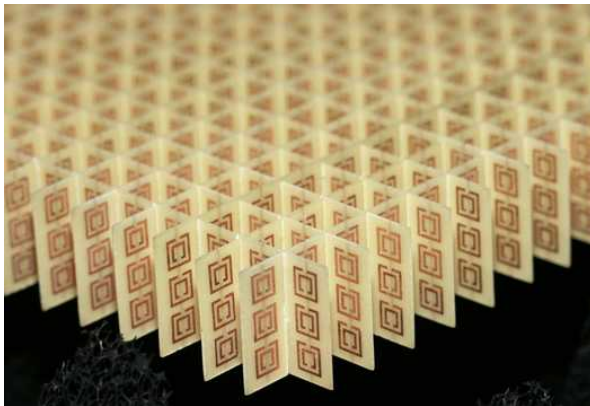
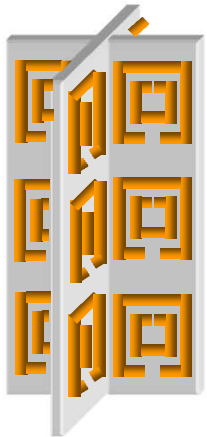
607,000 cycles

Abrasive wear  
limits life

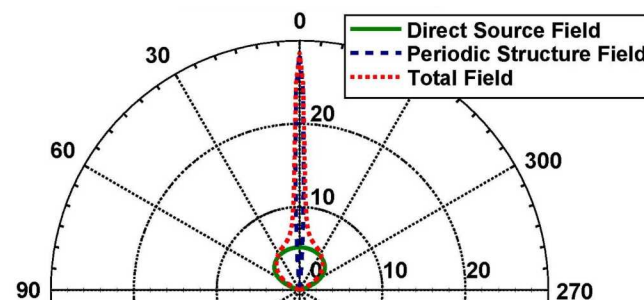
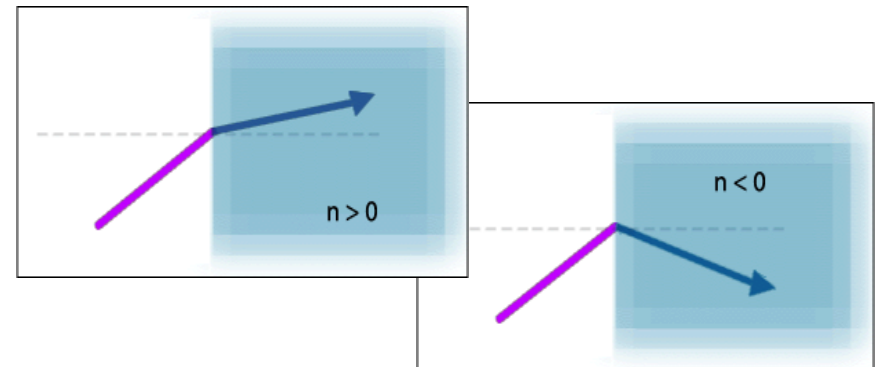


# Metamaterials make light waves flow backward and behave in many counterintuitive ways

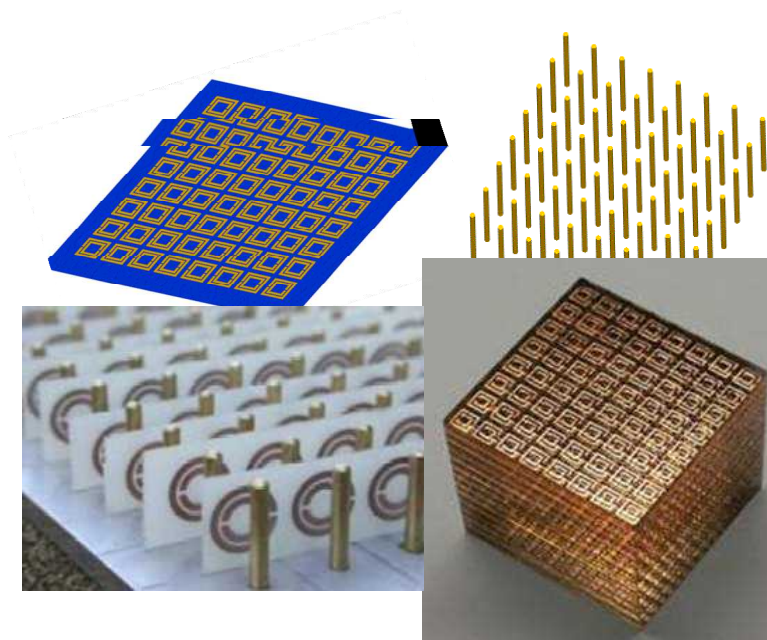
- Metamaterials are artificial electromagnetic materials that comprise an array of subwavelength unit cell structures periodically arranged in space
  - very small relative to their resonant wavelength
  - can be used to exhibit both a negative permittivity and negative permeability near its resonance frequency



Split-ring resonator based unit cell forming a metamaterial structure



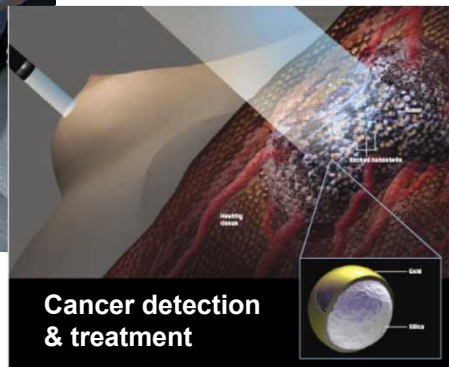
# Study on metamaterials asks more work to correlate structure and properties



- Optical transmission enhancement
  - Design of miniaturized devices
  - Optical lithography
  - High-density optical storage
  - Biological and chemical sensors
  - Superlens
- Cloaking – making objects nearly “invisible” or “transparent”
- Reflect or transmit electromagnetic waves with frequency discrimination
- Improve radiation pattern performance



Cloaking



Cancer detection  
& treatment

# The journey is not impossible, but we still have a long way to go

- Nano-engineering in the future will involve **simulations at different levels** (quantum, atomistic, coarse-grained, modified-continuum) that **probe different phenomena** much like different experimental techniques measure different aspects of a system.
- We need to encourage **out-of-box thinking** to address issues in modeling **integrated science** (i.e. multi-scale in length & time; multi-physics; multi-functionality; ...)
  - Don't get spoiled by supercomputers.
- There is **no single solution or approach** for bridging between all scales of length and time, or even for bridging between a pair of neighboring scale.
  - Solutions are material and application specific.
- Transition between scales is the essential challenge. It is **not an engineering or algorithm** issue but a **science** issue.
  - A model should be as simple as possible but not any simpler.

