



# ISCST 2016 Featured/Plenary Session

## Micro-/Nano-Replication Technology

Session Chairs: Shuzo Fuchigami and Satish Kumar

**8:15 AM Randy Schunk** The fundamentals of micro- and nano-replication manufacturing: challenges and opportunities

**8:45 AM Benjamin Leever** NextFlex: Enabling a Domestic Manufacturing Ecosystem for Flexible Hybrid Electronics

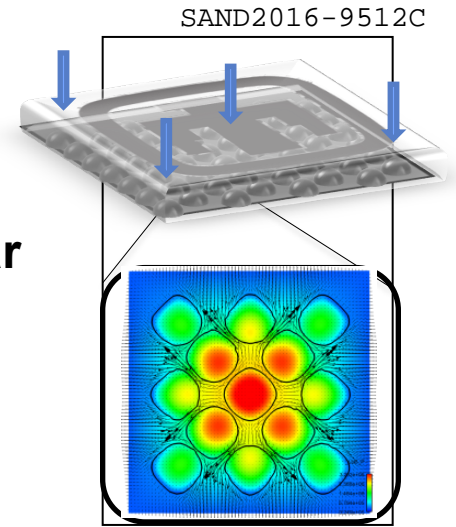
**9:15 AM Roger Bonnecaze** Multiscale Fluid and Solid Mechanics of UV Nanoimprint Lithography

**9:45 AM Break**

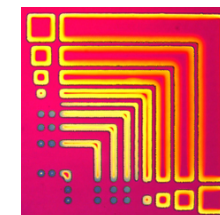
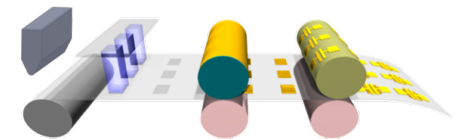
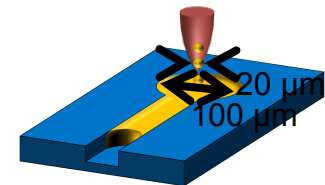
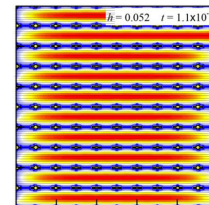
**10:20 AM Lorraine Francis** Self-Aligned Capillarity-Assisted Lithography for Electronics

**10:50 AM Vivek Subramanian** High-speed printing of transistors: From Inks to Devices

**11:20 AM Hayden Taylor** Polymeric microembossing and nanoimprinting: computationally inexpensive process models for designing inline optical metrology



NEXT FLEX



For Presentation at the 18<sup>th</sup> Symposium of International Society of Coating Science and Technology, 19-21 September 2016

# The fundamentals of micro- and nano-replication manufacturing: challenges and opportunities

**P. Randall Schunk**

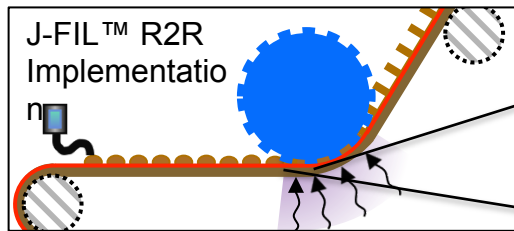
**National Laboratory Professor**

**Department of Chemical and Nuclear Engineering**

**University of New Mexico**

**Manager, Advanced Materials Laboratory**

**Sandia National Laboratories**



*Contributions from N. Bell, T. Boyle, K. Tjiptowidjojo, A. Cochrane, S. A. Roberts, D. Hariprasad, R. Malahkov*

Sandia is a multiprogram laboratory operated by Sandia Corporation, a Lockheed Martin Company, for the United States Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-AC04-94AL85000.





# OUTLINE

*Goal: Frame this special session on micro- and nano-replication*

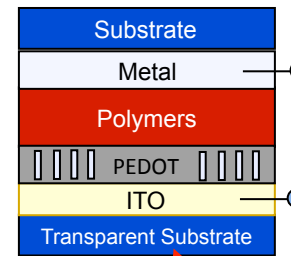
- **Advanced Manufacturing and printed electronics**  
*(From a Material Science point of view....)*
  - Current roadmap elements that present technical challenges - **Leever**
  - Micro/Nano Replication – From 3D printing to R2R
    - *Why R2R? –Faster*
    - *Why nano-manufacturing - performance*
    - *What can we learn from a century of manufacturing technology development?*
- **Science and engineering challenges**
- **Meeting some these challenges with integrated particle-to-ink-to-print lab**
- **Meeting some of these challenges with M/S.**



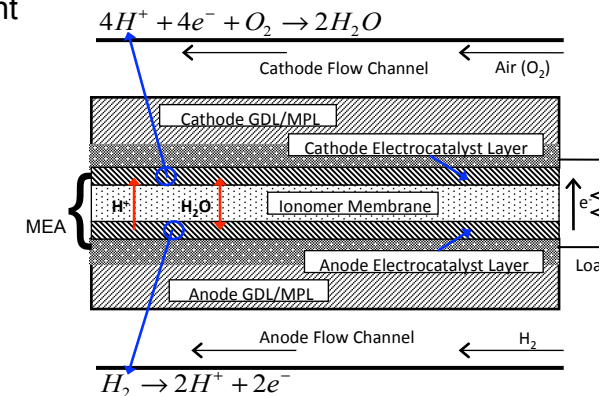
# Energy/Mobile Computing/Sensing Technologies and Manufacturing

- **Materials/devices for these apps (e.g. energy storage, generation, conversion) needed in volume!**
- **Successful insertion (transportation, grid, whatever) often impeded by unfavorable cost model (manufacturing and performance, reliability)**
- **All these technologies are demanding smaller feature sizes, thinner films, etc. over large areas volumes.**

Energy Storage/Generation Materials



Marine/hydrokinetic



Fuel Cell Technology



Mobile computing Flexible electronics



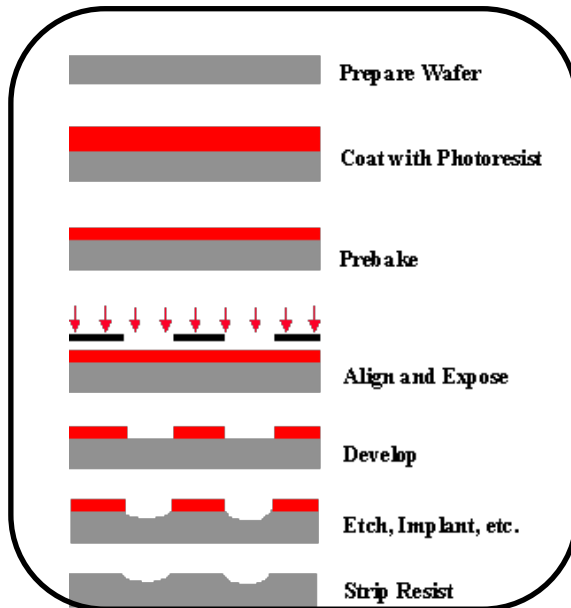




# Printing vs. silicon/microfab – The motivation is obvious

## Optical Lithography/Microfabrication

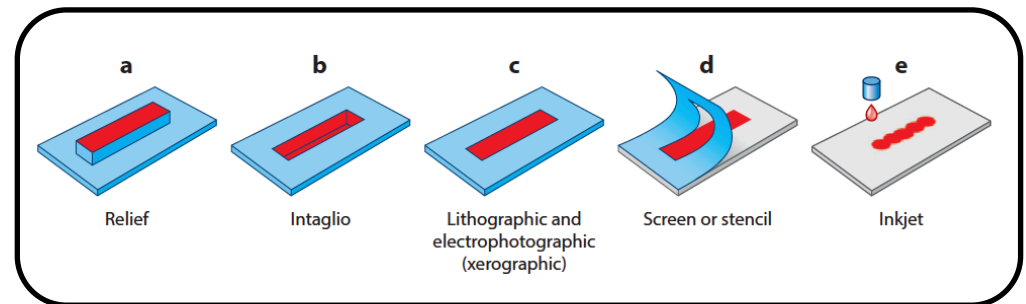
- Feature size/Resolution 10->50 nm (multiple-patterning, EUV)
- Material density/purity – High – Vapor deposition.
- Throughput – **1 m<sup>2</sup>/hr**
- Overlay/registration to 100 nm



## Direct write/print Additive

- Feature size/Resolution 500 nm - 2 micron
- Material density/purity - average
- Throughput – **1000 m<sup>2</sup>/hr**
- Overlay – to 5-10 micron

Gravure, Screen, flexography, inkjet...with electrically functional conducting or optical inks...



From S. Kumar, Ann. Rev. Fluid Mech. 2015

*Multiple, batch steps: LELM-lift*

*Two Steps: Deposit, Solidify*

*Comes down to cost advantage (economy of scale) vs. performance*



# “Micro” electronics: Cost model includes performance, fab cost, durability

## Printed Electronics

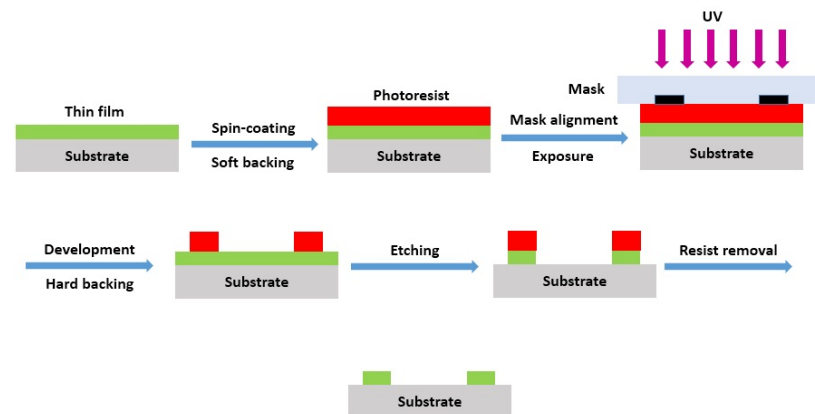
- Long switching times (clockspeed)
- Low integration density (transistors)

- Large areas
- Flexible form factors
- Simple fabrication
- Low cost



## Conventional electronics

- Extremely short times (fast clockspeed)
- Extremely high integration density
- Small areas
- Rigid substrates
- Complex fabrication
- High fab cost



*Materials research (breadth) in the printing realm is an unknown frontier relative to conventional electronics*



# Challenges and opportunities: What do the industry roadmaps say? (printed electronics)

**Key Challenges\*** (From the Organization of Organic and Printed Electronics - [www.oe-a.org](http://www.oe-a.org))

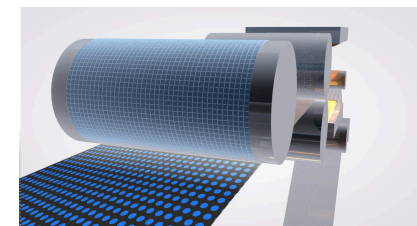
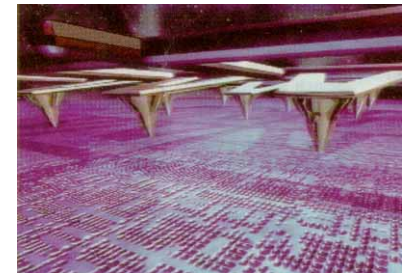
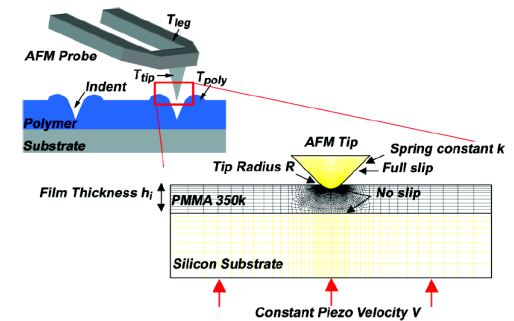
- Based on an analysis of the application and technology parameters, the recent progress in materials and process technology and the expected future technology development, the following key challenges ("Red Brick Walls") were identified for which major breakthroughs are needed:
  - **Processes:** [resolution](#), [registration](#), [uniformity](#) and characterization/[metrology](#) —*All addressed in this session.*
  - **Encapsulation:** flexible transparent barriers at low cost
  - **Materials:** [improvement of electrical performance](#), [processability](#) and [stability](#)
  - Development of appropriate **standards and regulations** for organic electronics

*Further boiling down, these challenges to [colloidal capillary hydrodynamics](#), [consolidation and sintering](#) and [structural mechanics](#)—[mechanical and optical engineering](#)*



# Replication Manufacturing

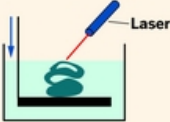
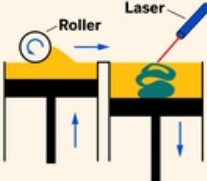
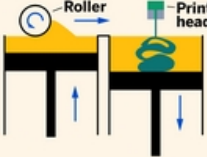
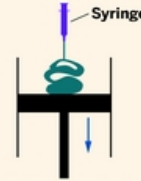
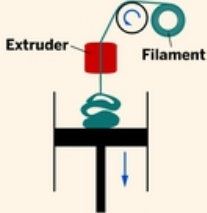
- Manufacturing – “Making something practically”
- Replication - Achieve practicality through repetition – *From assembly-line through continuous processing (scales of granularity)*
  - Digital/advanced manufacturing
    - 3D printing AM, stereo-litho, ink-jet... -- **Digital template**
  - Physical/Advanced manufacturing: Lithography
    - Opens up to **parallel** processing single feature to multiple features over surfaces (**physical template**) – molding, printing, imprinting, embossing, optical
  - Continuous manufacturing (**physical template**)
    - Extrusion, coating, milling/machining...
- Replication with “nanocomponents” nanoparticles through chemistry – *is this replication?*

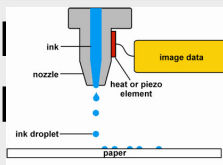
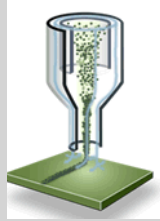
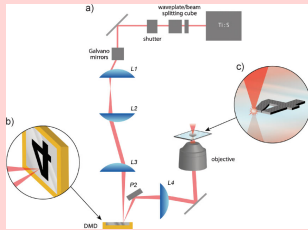




# Additive Manufacturing Approaches

*Digital/advanced manufacturing (digital replication)*

	TECHNIQUE	SMALLEST PRINTABLE FEATURE	MATERIALS
	<b>Stereolithography:</b> Laser cures photopolymer as platform lowers into liquid vat.	1–70 $\mu\text{m}$	Photopolymers
	<b>Laser sintering:</b> Laser melts powder rolled onto platform. Platform lowers with each layer printed.	45–100 $\mu\text{m}$	Metals Polymers
	<b>Powder-bed ink-jet printing:</b> Print head sprays liquid binder onto powder to fuse layers. Platform lowers with each layer printed.	350–500 $\mu\text{m}$	Ceramics Metals Polymers
	<b>Robocasting:</b> Syringes extrude fluid materials that harden on lowering platform.	200–400 $\mu\text{m}$	Biopolymers Some metals Food
	<b>Fused deposition modeling:</b> Heated extruder melts plastic filament, which cools on lowering platform.	260–700 $\mu\text{m}$	Thermoplastics

	<b>Ink-jet</b> Liquid droplet delivery on substrate	10–20 micron	Colloidal inks
	<b>Aerosol-jet</b> – atomized ink focused into narrow stream for precision writing	10–20 micron	Colloidal inks
	<b>Multiphoton Lithography (MPL)</b>	<100 nm	Photopolymers, biopolymers, some metals and ceramics

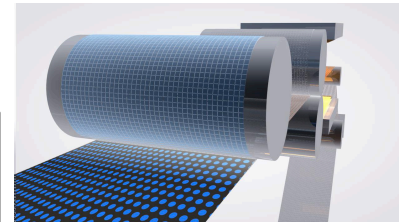
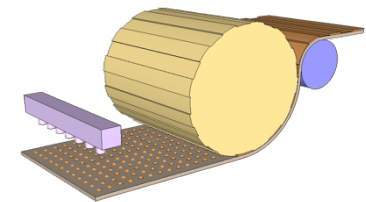
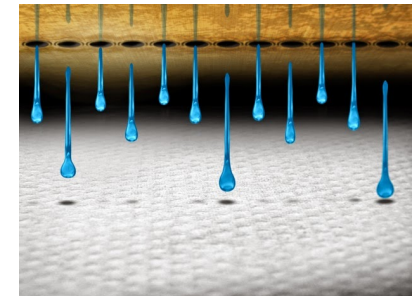
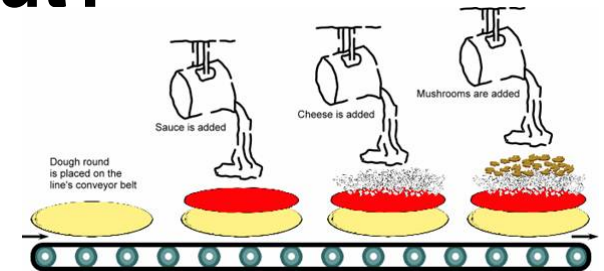
*One manufacturing dimension  
not covered here is throughput!  
-- Job Shop, specialty apps*





## How increase throughput?

- **Conceivably, all additive approaches can be configured in a “batch-step assembly line”**
  - Semi-continuous step-by-step
- **Multiple tool heads could be configured in parallel to cover greater areas**
- **Additionally, the base could be flexible, and the features and the web can be rolled for compact storage**
  - Could be configured R2R
- **Precision, continuous R2R using such replication best carried out with a physical template (extrusion die or patterned ink well)**

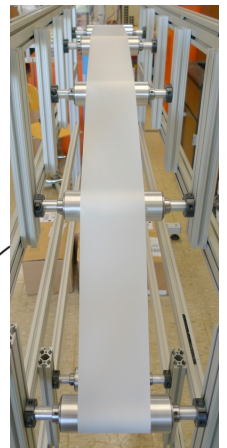
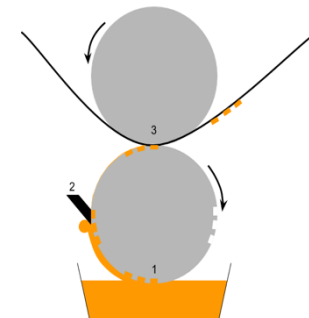
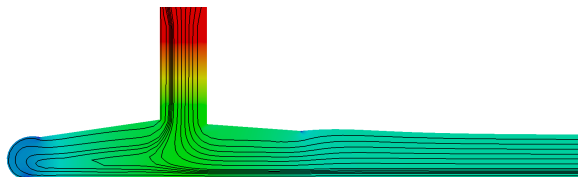
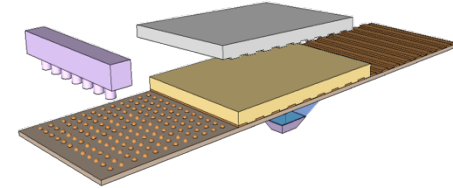
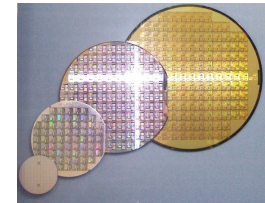


*Can true nanomanufacturing be realized?*



# Additive/subtractive Manufacturing for Volume Production

- **Wafer-scale or step-and-process roll-scale lines**
  - Configurations involving solution deposition, etching, vapor deposition, optical litho, etc.. – *Microelectronics industry!*
- **Wafer-scale and roll-scale Imprint lithography**
  - Imprint/contact print *Bonnecaze et al.*
  - Embossing/etching *Taylor et al.*
    - *Only with this class of manufacturing routes can nano-scale features be achieved without particles – See *Bonnecaze et al.**
- **Continuous R2R-scalable techniques (truly “additive”!)**
  - Printing/lithography – “Mechanical replication”
    - microGravure, flexography, aerosol, screen *Subramanian et al.*
  - Continuous Coating (Extrusion, slide, roll)



*How does one push these into “nanomanufacturing” scales?*

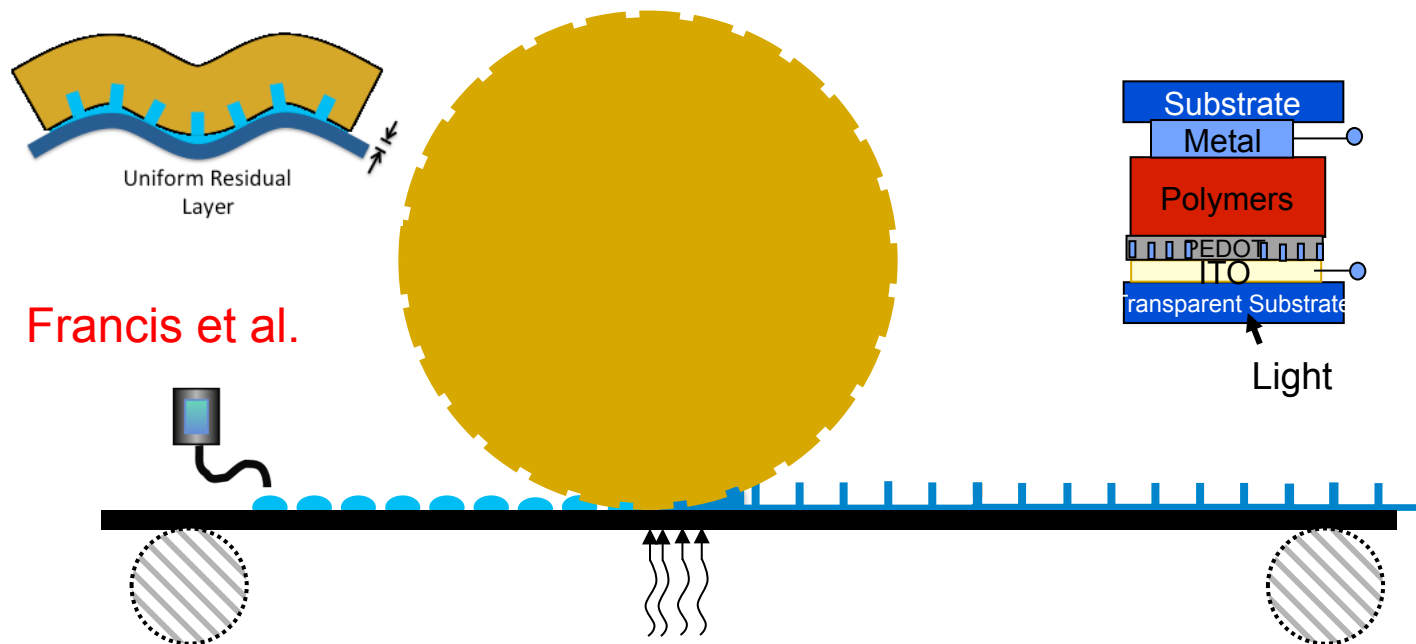
# Subtractive and Hybrid Additive/Subtractive Manufacturing

## Jet Flash Imprint Lithography™ (J-FIL™)



Courtesy of MolecularImprints

## Roll-to-Roll Nanoimprint Lithography (R2R\_NIL)



High density storage

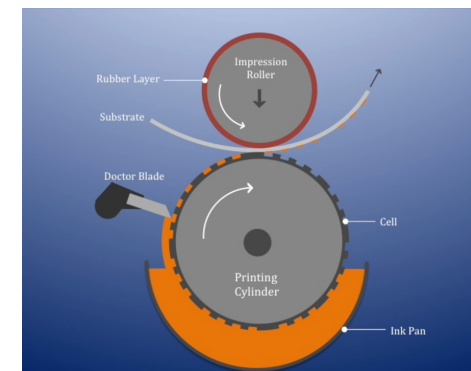
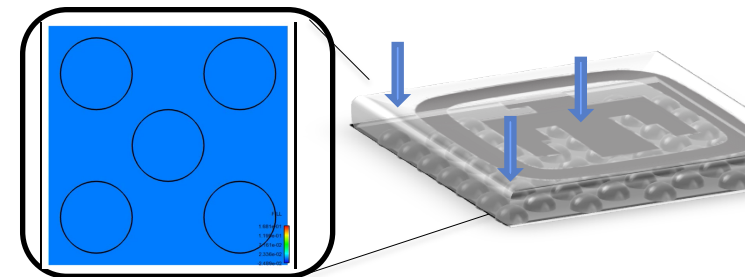
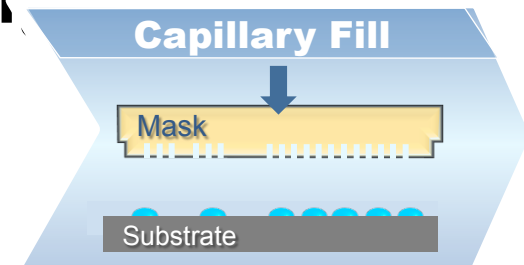


Courtesy of Sandia National Laboratories

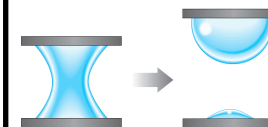


# The goals/challenges of patterning by imprinting or printing

- Imprinting (press or stamp) – Low viscosity/high viscosity – really mold filling or forming
  - Achieving a **uniform RLT** over wide areas
  - Minimizing trapped-gas defects (**gas matters!**)
- Printing lithography – Additive
  - Ink **printability** (operating window)
    - Feature size limited by lack of control of capillary fluid mechanics, rheology, wettability



***Uniformity, printability, entrainment...***  
***Sound familiar? To get to sub-micron  
featured, patterned, functional prints at  
scale?***

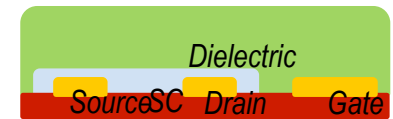




## Challenges of print/imprint, continued

- Multilayer registration (exponentially more difficult the smaller the feature). Easy for 3D printing due to larger feature size....

- *Not an issue for coating. **Francis et al. for printing***



- Delivery of nano-colloid materials for controlled structures

- *Fluid mechanical/tribological challenges both printing and coating*

- Addressed by **Subramanian (reference)**, others.

- *Solidification challenges –densification for function – **Many, E.G. Advanced Materials Laboratory, SNL***

- Process science challenges remain – Devices/ functions often need thinner (sub micron), higher resolution.

- *Metrology challenges at the 100 nm scale and less- Coating and printing (**addressed by Taylor, others**)*

- *Surface science (substrate, liquid, colloidal)*





# What are these challenges in liquid thin liquid film coating?

**Goal – “Thin” functional films with long range uniformity (low defect rate), possibly at high speed**

- **Coatability**

- Continuous thin uniform wet film over wide areas
  - Common defects – Ribbing, barring, air entrainment, mottle, interfacial instabilities

- **Uniformity**

- Solidification and uniform microstructure/thickness over wide areas
  - Common defects – marangoni, starry night, etc.
- Quality control (on-line/at line defect detection)

**The underpinning physical barriers to success are the same!**



# To surmount challenges requires fundamentals

- **Printing/imprinting: smaller features, faster**

- *Capillary hydrodynamics of delivery and transfer (Kumar)*
- *Two phase flow (gas matters)*
- *Structural mechanics (gravure and flexography) – Thin structure and bulk structure and elastohydrodynamics*

- **Bottom-up/Top-down - Delivering nanomaterials**

- *Ink design*
  - *Rheology*
  - *Stability*
  - *Wettability*
- *Drying/solidification control for function*

## **Coatability – thinner/faster**

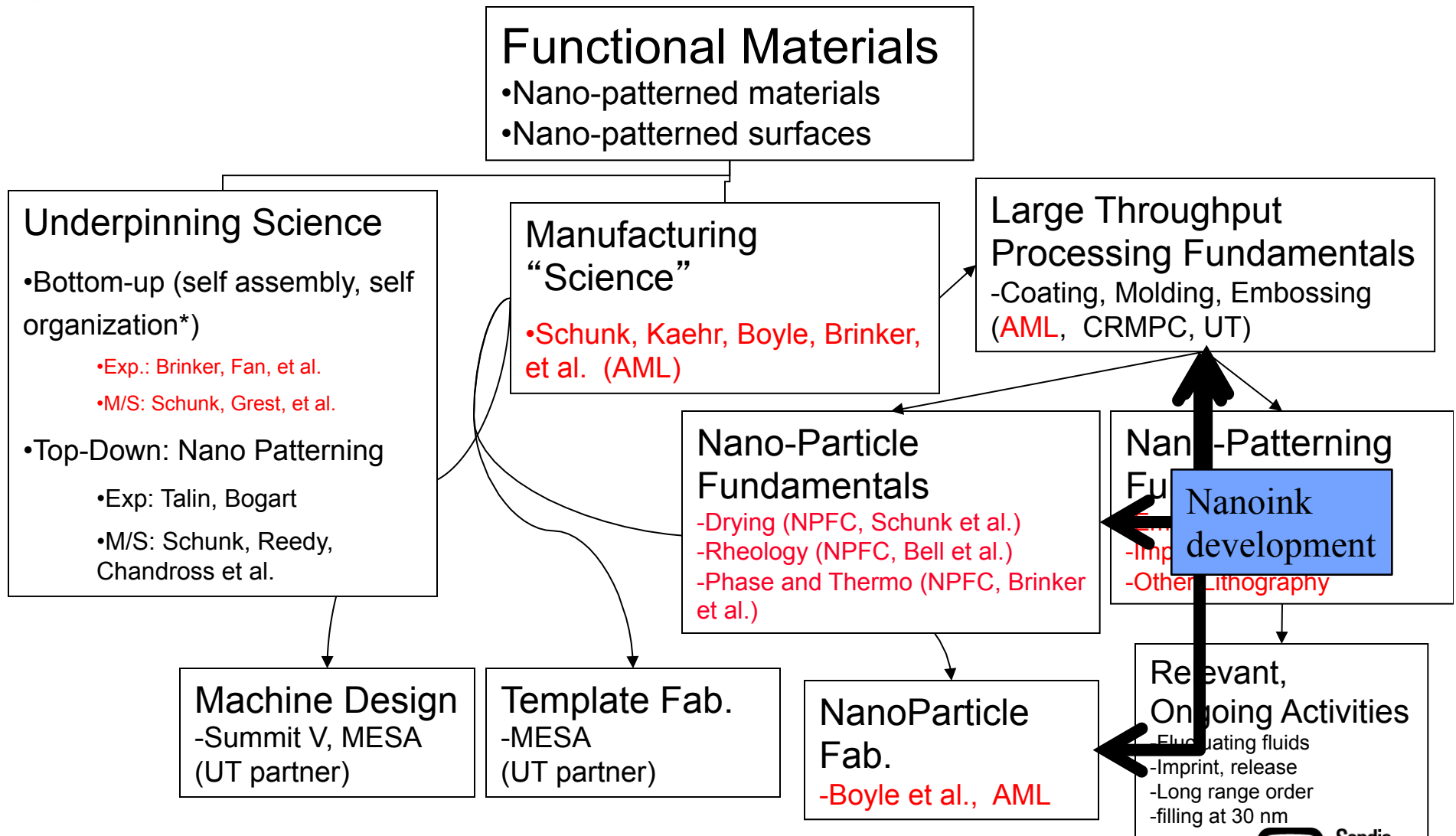
- *Capillary hydrodynamics*
- *Dynamic Wetting and spreading (dewetting)*
- *Air entrainment*
- *Rheology – Colloidal/polymer*
- *Structural mechanics (tension web)*

## **Uniformity**

- *Drying/solidification science*
- *Polymerization*
- *Colloidal stability/directed assembly*



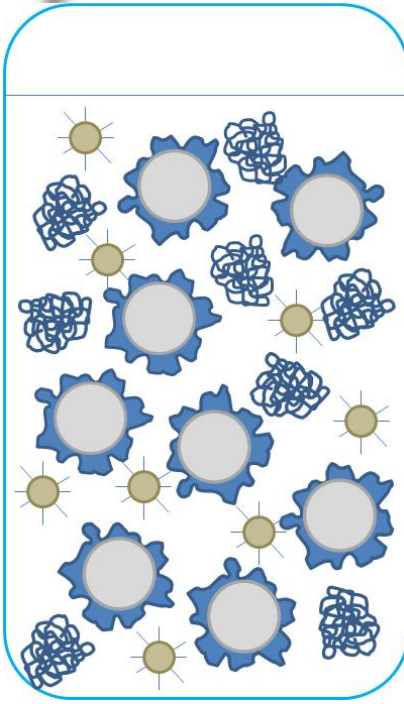
# Meeting these challenges at Sandia's Advanced Materials Laboratory



\*Made practical by Pre-Processing to Concentrated form, before thermo takes over



# Development of Ink Compositions for Printing



Ink Systems are formed from multiple components:

- Solvents (s), wetting agents, soluble polymers or micelles, & nanoparticle(s)
- Control over viscosity, surface tension, drying rate, and wetting are required.

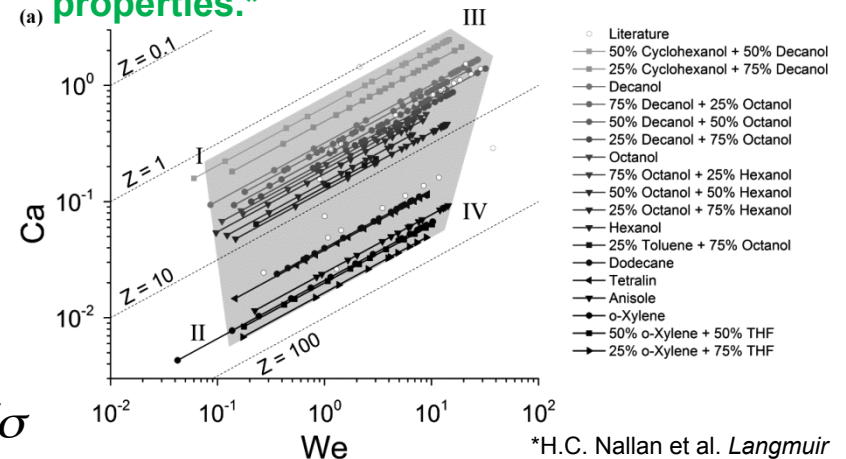
$$Ca = \mu V / \sigma$$

$$We = \rho V^2 d / \sigma$$

**B. Effective dispersion is critical for printing using DOD or gravure/ flexo printers.**

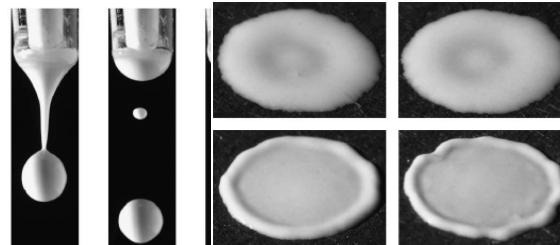
- Solids loading increased by proper dispersant choice, up to ~15-20%
- Surface tensions are low : between 15 – 40 mN/m
- Viscosity vary from 1-10 mPas.
- Surfactant concentrations tailored to surface area

**A. Develop solvent compositions within the printing window of fluid properties.\***



**C. Adjust wetting and drying agents to minimize satellite drops and surface wetting concerns.**

Dependent on surface interactions with substrate, and drying rate.



R. Guo et al. *JECerS* **23** (2003) 115-122.  
 X. Zhao, et al. *Ceram.Intl.* **29** (2003) 887-892.  
 N. Ramakrishnan, et al. *J. Mat. Proc. Tech.* **169** (2005) 372-381.  
 P.S.R. Krishna Prasad et al. *J. Mat. Proc. Tech.* **176** (2006) 222-229.

**All experimental capabilities and SMEs exist at the AML!**

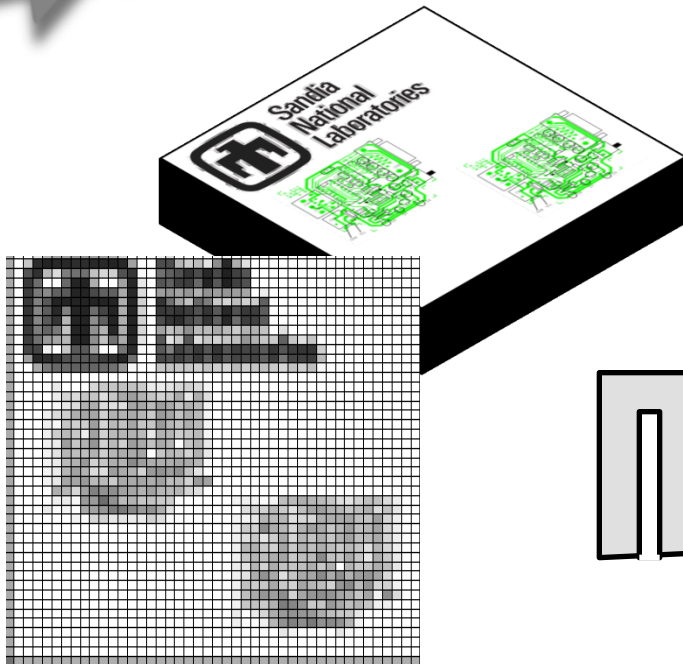




# Bridging multiple scales

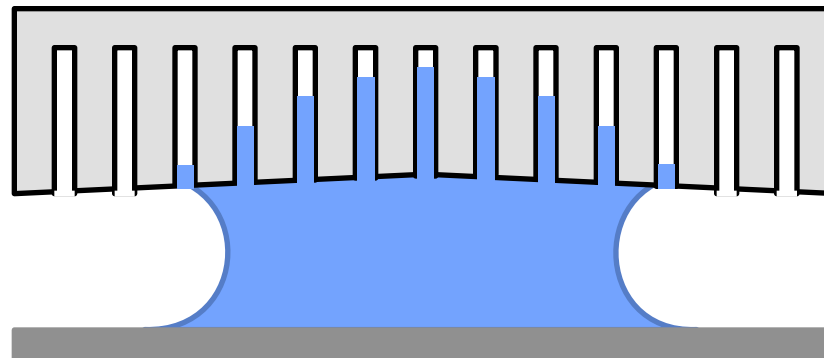
## Important features:

- Six orders of magnitude difference in length scales
- Different physics at each scale



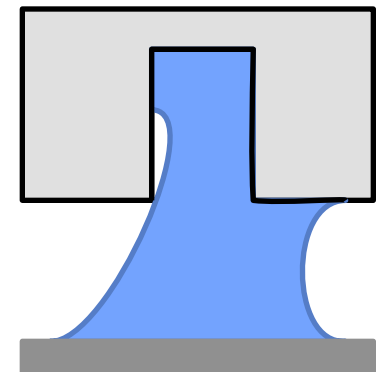
### Machine-scale model

- 3-D Shell FEM
- Coarse-grained models
- Highly-parallel simulations
- 10 cm



### Meso-scale model

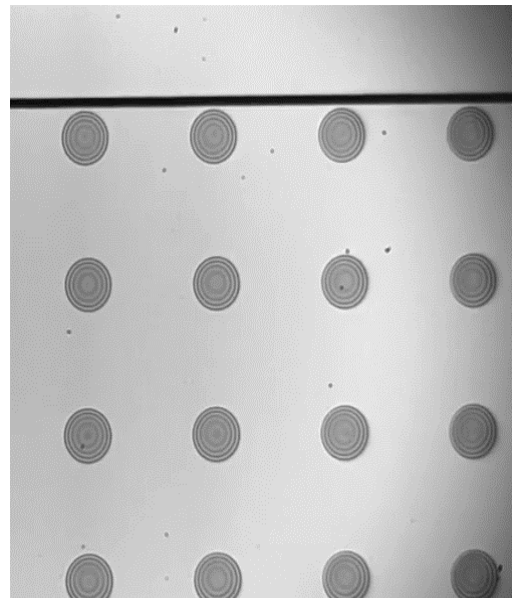
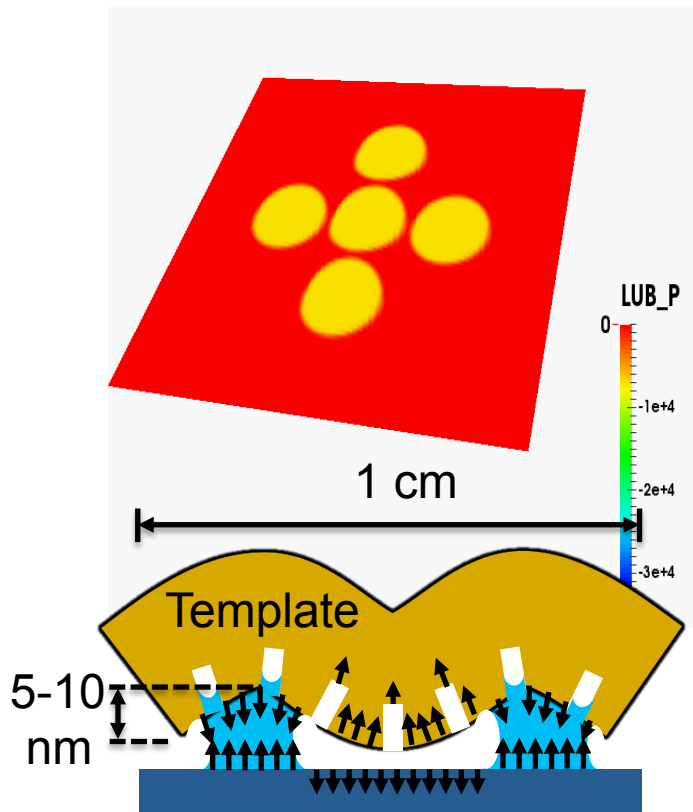
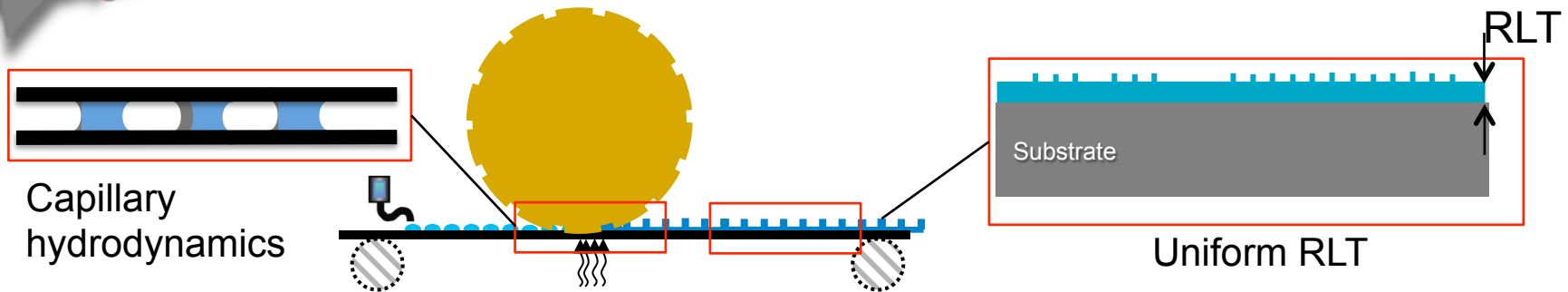
- 3-D FEM
- Analytical model development
- Effective medium approach
- 1  $\mu\text{m}$



### Feature Scale

- 3-D FEM
- Atomistics
- 10 nm

# NIL: Gas and Structural Mechanics Matter!



Courtesy of Molecular Imprints and Dr. Shrawan Singhal, UT

*Just like many high-speed, ultra-thin film coating systems*

# Doctoring in gravure printing

Doctoring process

Loading Force

Blade Holder

Doctor Blade

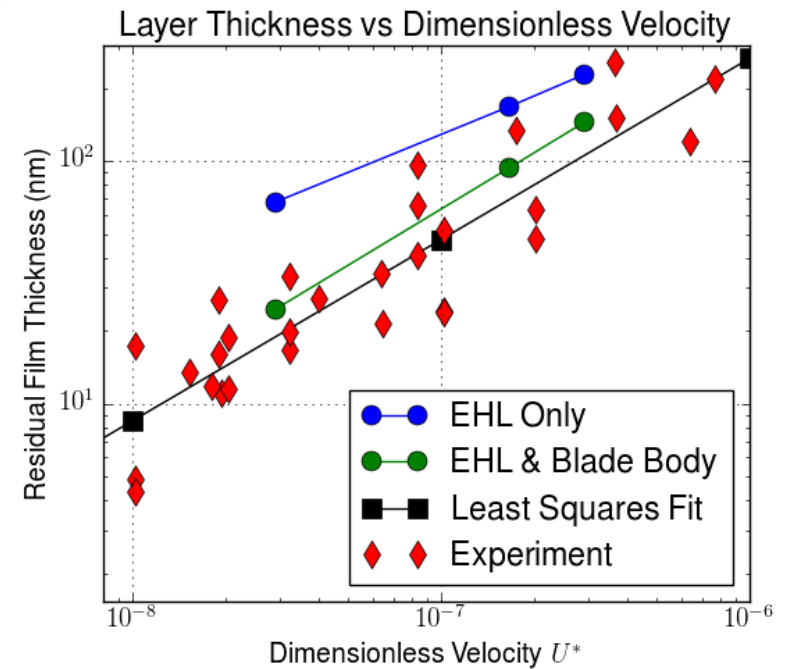
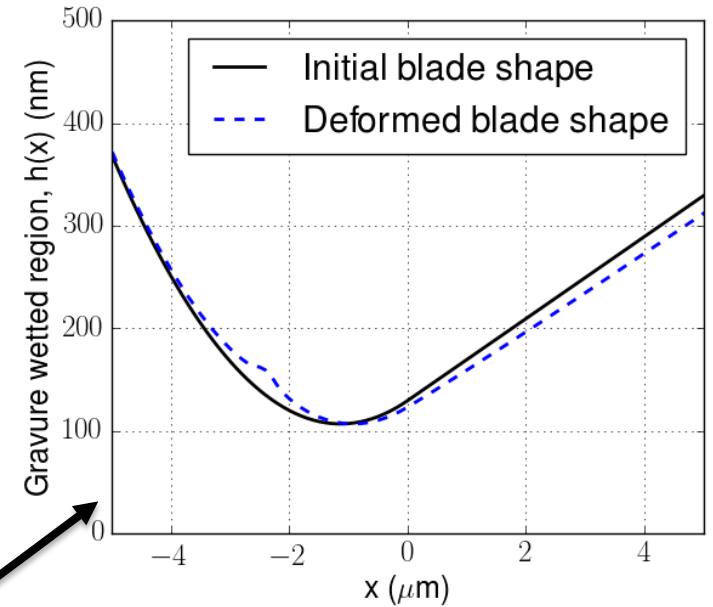
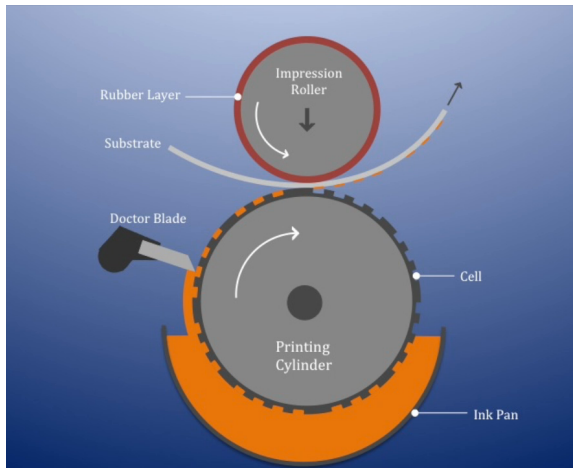
Residual Fluid Film

Doctoring Model

Loading Force

3D elements

Shell elements





# Summary & Future Work

- Micro-/Nano-replication in R2R remains topical:  
*Unprecedented feature resolution (< 1 micron inks, <100 nm imprint) define the research challenges*
- Printing (liquid-bridge or liquid drop transfer) and imprinting (mold filling and release) share common goals with thin liquid film coating  
*Uniform film (RLT), material microstructure for intended properties, etc.*
- Physical barriers to higher throughput and smaller features are rooted in
  - Capillary hydrodynamics
  - Wetting and spreading
  - Structural mechanics (thin sheet)
  - Metrology (on-line/at-line)
  - Colloidal dispersion dynamics
  - Solidification and microstructure
- The following presentations will address many of these barriers and challenges and then some (multilayer registration)