



Mission pour les initiatives  
transverses et interdisciplinaires  
(MITI)



**Journée thématique**

# Fonctionnalisation de sonde et analyses de données

Toulouse, 29 novembre 2023

# Adhesion at the interface of nanocellulosic surfaces measured via colloidal probe force microscopy

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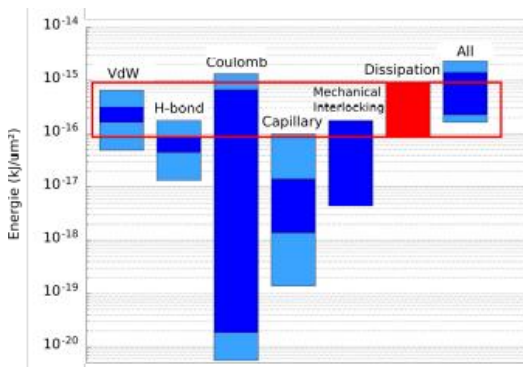
**João Paulo COSAS FERNANDES**

**CTP** Fleur ROL

**FCBA** Sandra TAPIN-LINGUA

**DCM** Hugues BONNET

## Mechanisms of fiber bonding in paper

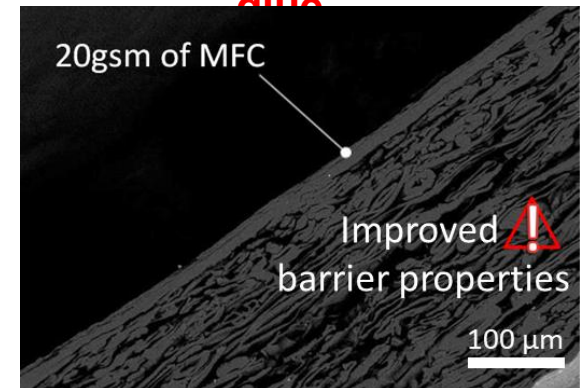


Cellulose fibers bonds via:

- Interdiffusion, entanglement,
- Capillary forces,
- Intermolecular interactions
  - Coulomb forces
  - Hydrogen bonds
  - VdW forces

U. Hirn et al., Sci. Rep. (2015)

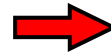
Packaging material made of a layer of MFC film adhered to a paper **without glue**



CTP : Guérin et al.

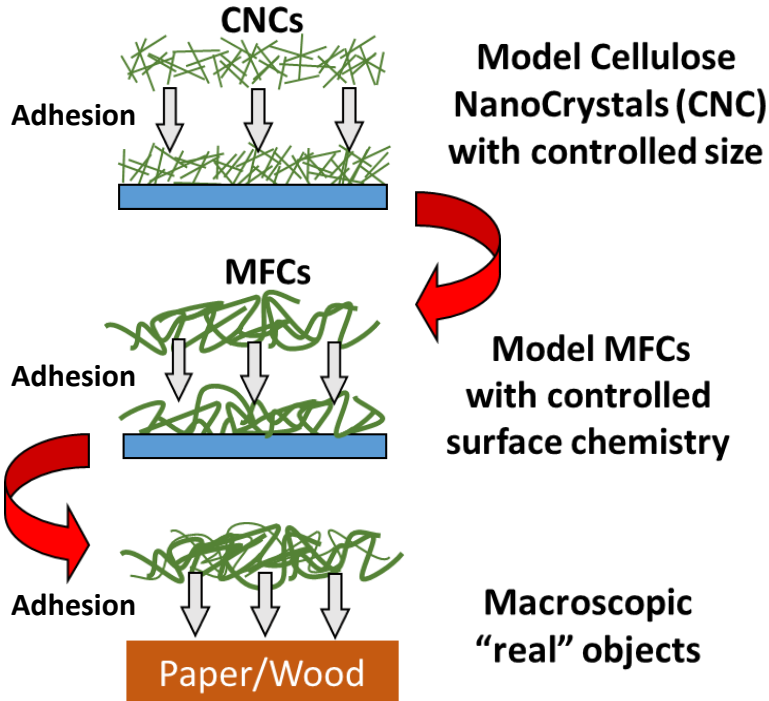
**OBJECTIVE:** Understanding the **parameters** and **mechanisms** contributing to the **adhesion between two nanocellulosic layers** by probing the **morphology, structure and composition** of the films via near-field microscopy:

**Decouple the contributions to Adhesion**

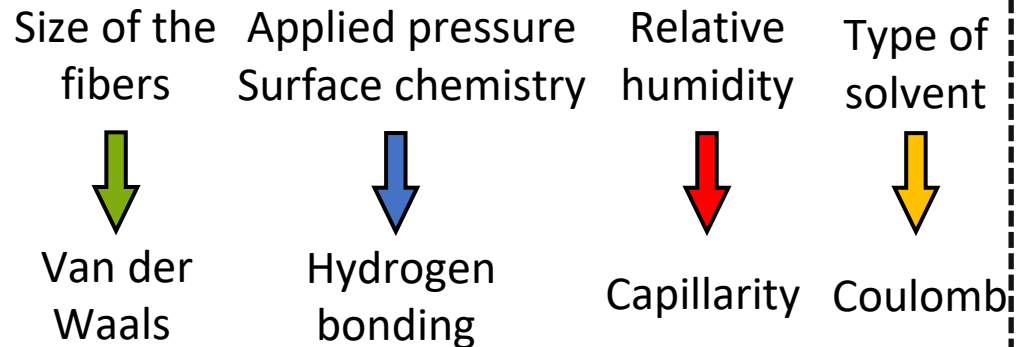


**Better control of the bonding processes**

**STRATEGY:**

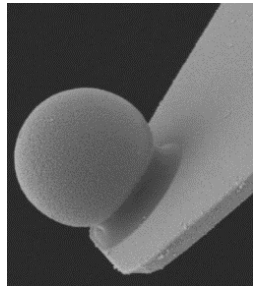


**PARAMETERS**

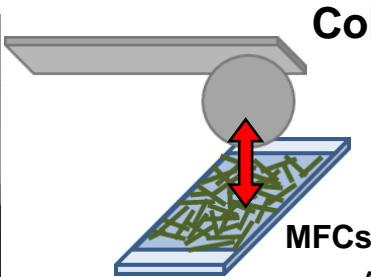


**EXPECTED PREDOMINANT ADHESION MECHANISM**

## Coatings characterizations:



Radius: 2.5 - 5  $\mu\text{m}$

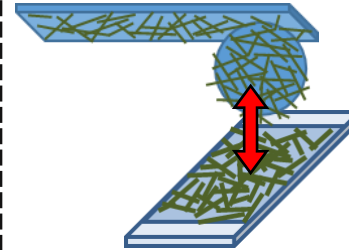


### Colloidal Probe (CP)

- Adhesion
- Force
- Energy

Adhesion between  
“large” surfaces

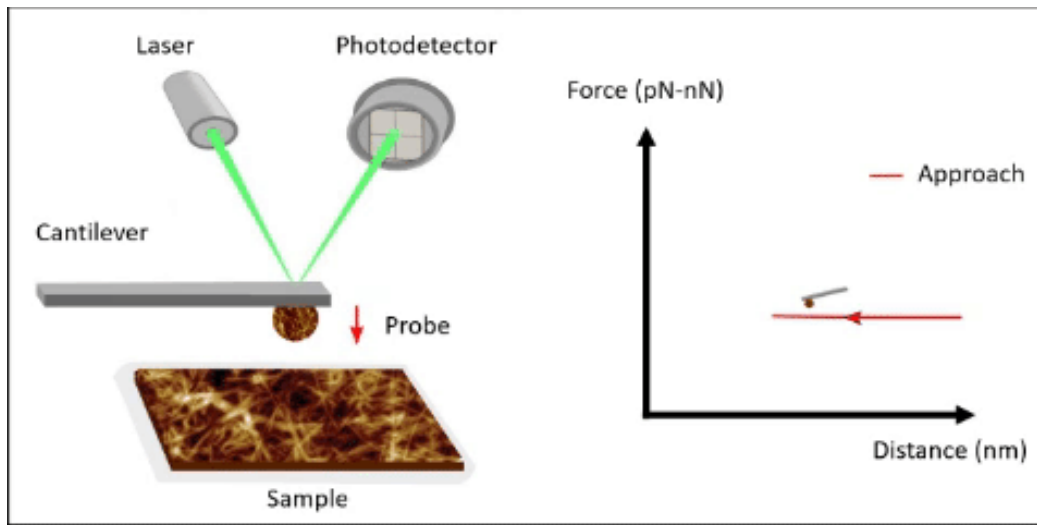
## Probe functionalization



### CP with MFC or CNCs

- MFCs
- T-CNC
- C-CNC
- W-CNC

Adhesion between  
cellulosic surfaces

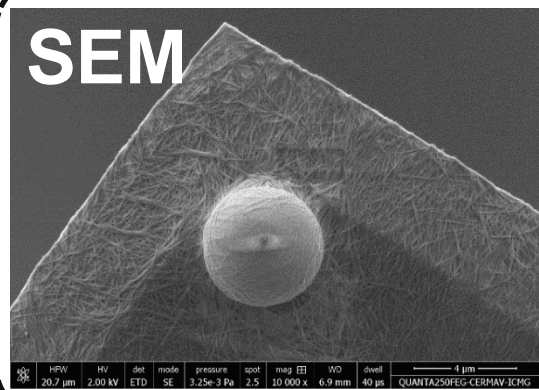


## Peak Force QNM

Acquisition of force-distance curves provides mechanical properties

- Indentation
- Modulus (Hertz, DMT, JKR)
- **Adhesion Force**
- **Adhesion Energy**
- ...

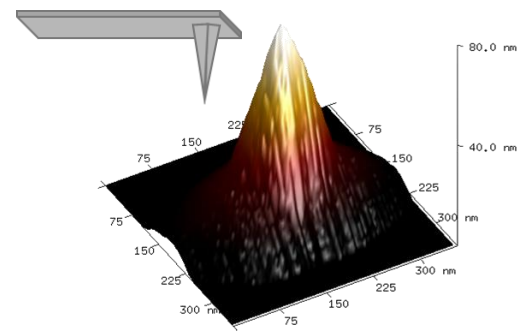
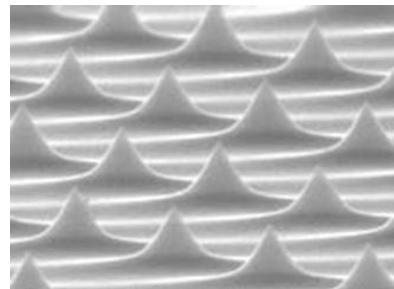




**Problem:**  
Electron beam  
changes the  
surface



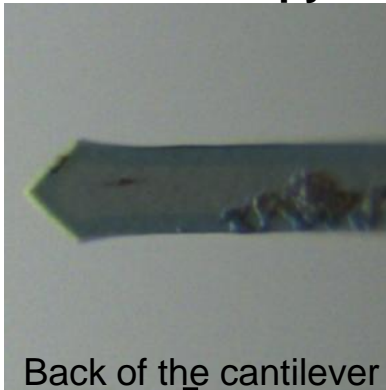
**"Tip Check" sample:**



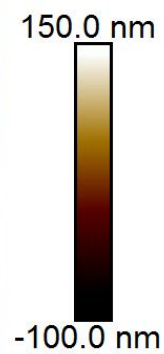
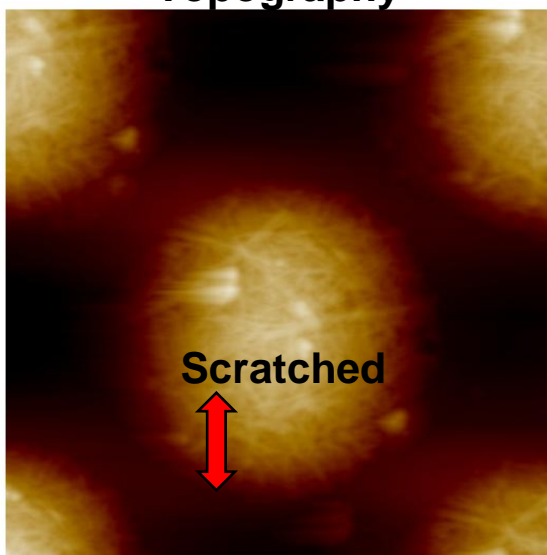
**Images the tip instead of the sample**

**Colloidal Probe on Tip Check**

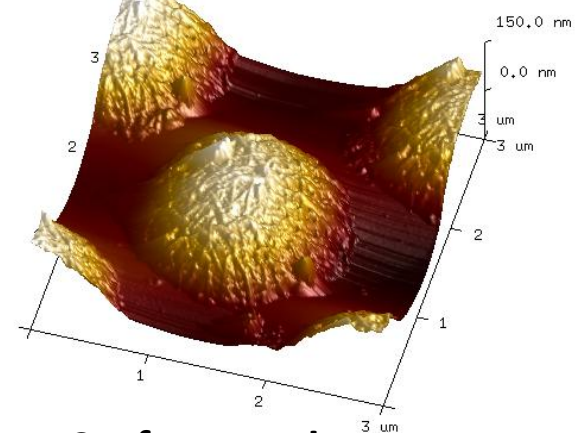
**Optical  
Microscopy**



**Topography**

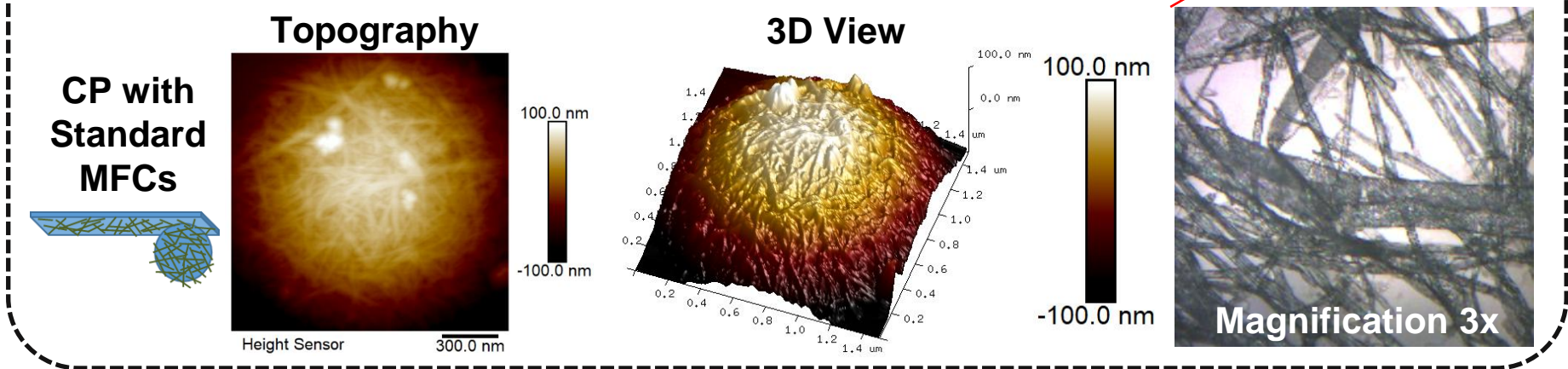
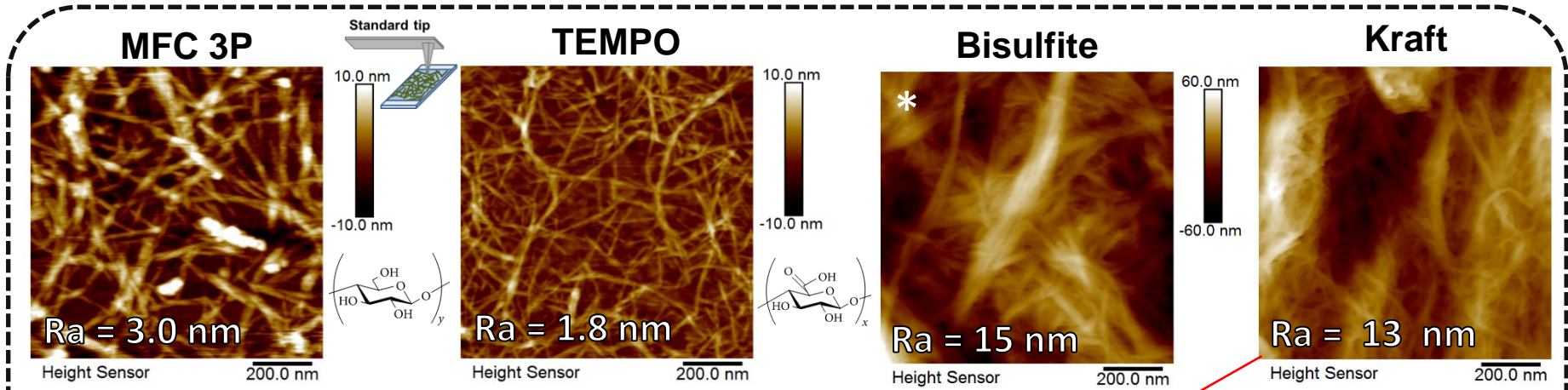
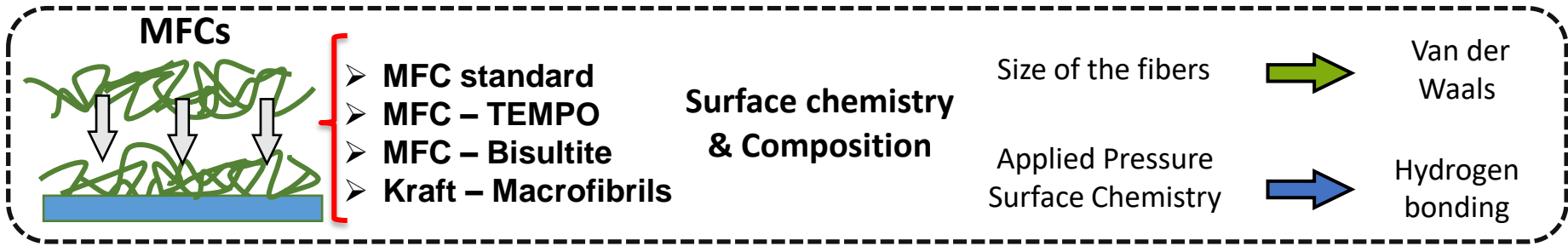


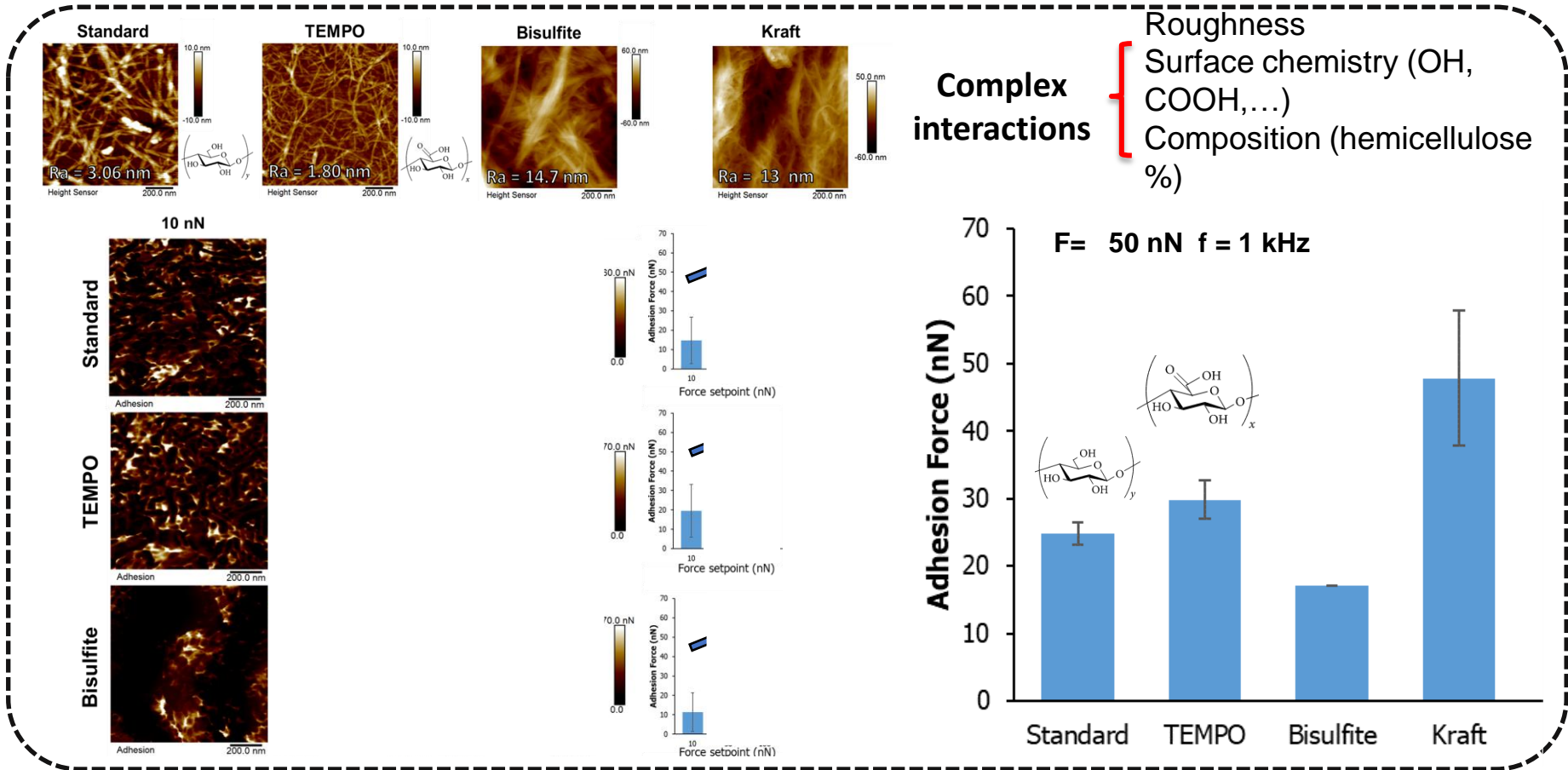
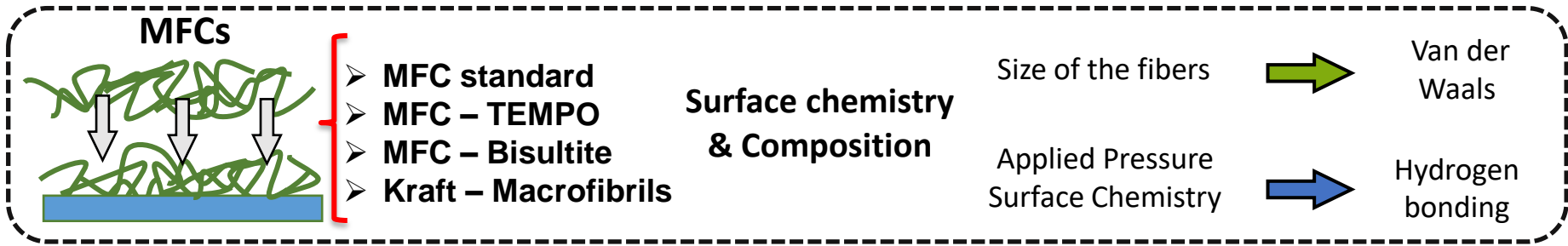
**3D View**



**Surface can be  
characterized without  
damaging the coating  
prior to analyses**

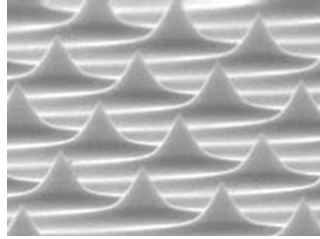




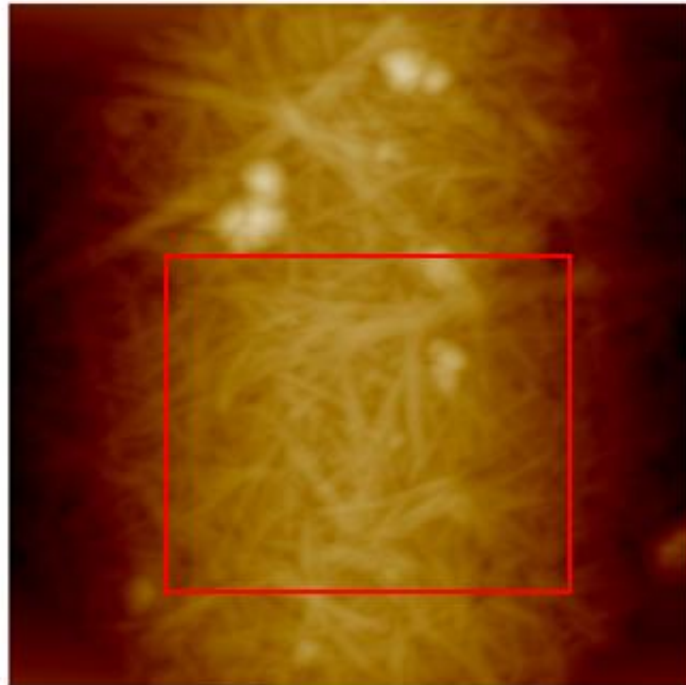




**"Tip Check"**



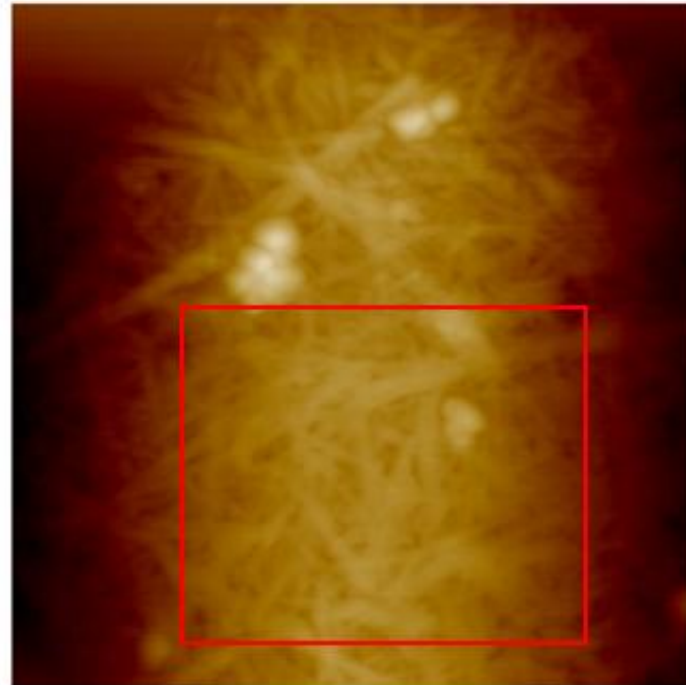
**Before  
analyses**



Height Sensor

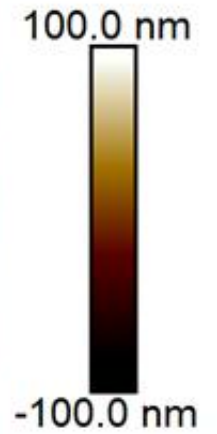
300.0 nm

**After  
analyses**



Height Sensor

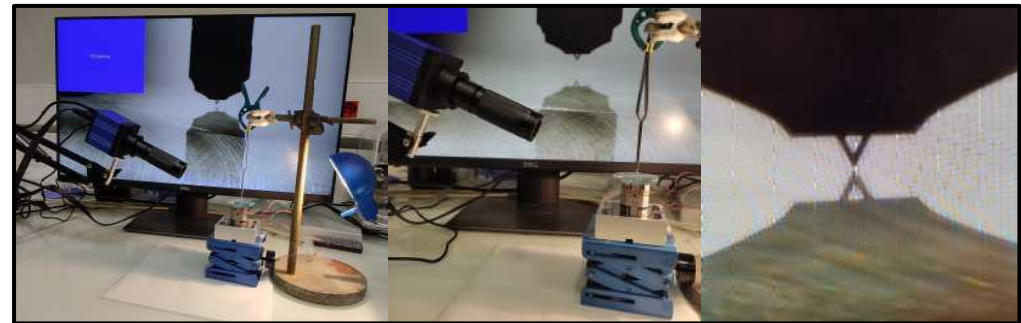
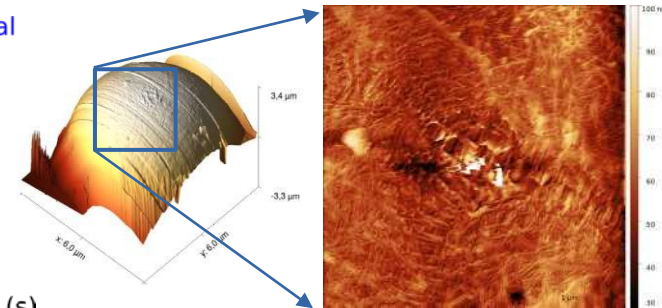
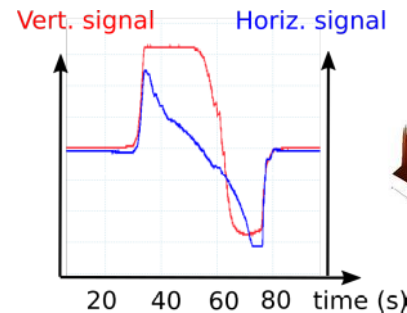
300.0 nm



## Further developments

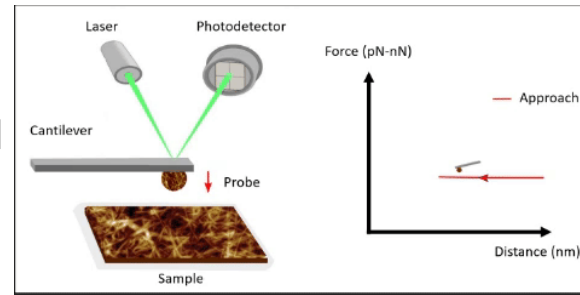
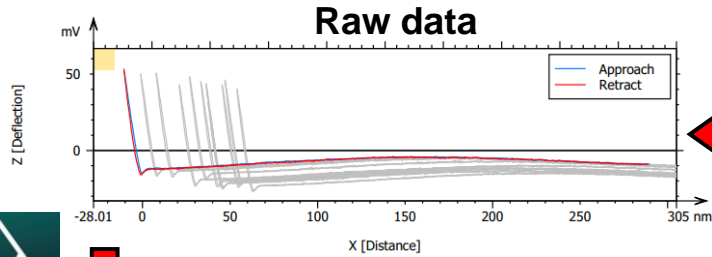
### Testing 3 approaches for dipping the probe in PEI solution

- ▶ **Drop** of the PEI solution directly onto the cantilever-tip  
 → influence on the cantilever sensitivity ?
  
- ▶ **AFM coarse movement and its optical microscope** used to dip the CP into PEI. The **oscilloscope** records the force exerted in real time.
  - suction due to capillarity
  - 'neck' effect
  
- ▶ Fine control of the gap between the CP and the solution using **piezotables and USB-microscope** in order to dip only the probe.



Developed by Franck DAHLEM

# Acquisition of Force Curves by AFM

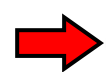
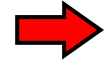


Force curve analysis

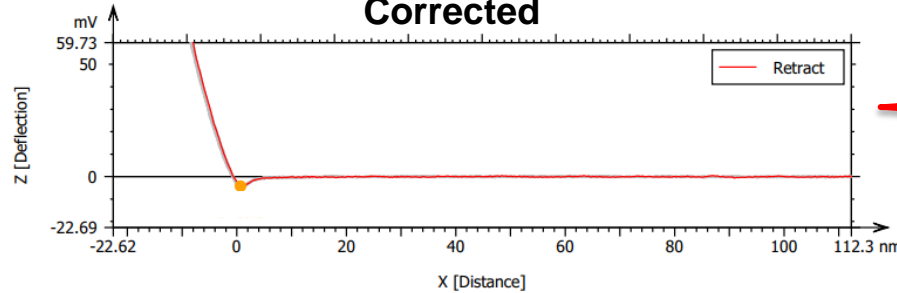
Correct the base-line

Calibrate constants

Calibrated force curve



## Corrected



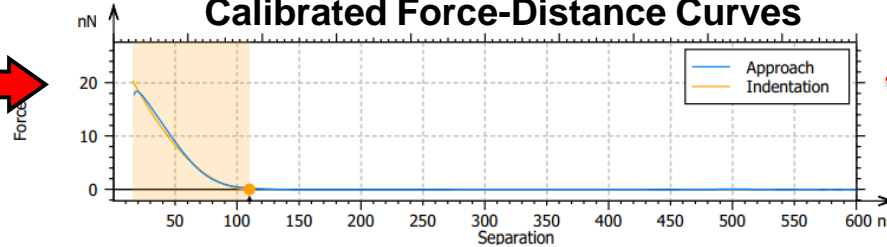
- Baseline correction
- Contact point
- Noise

- Cantilever spring constant ( $k$ )
- Deflection sensitivity
- Tip radius

## Used for nanomechanical analysis

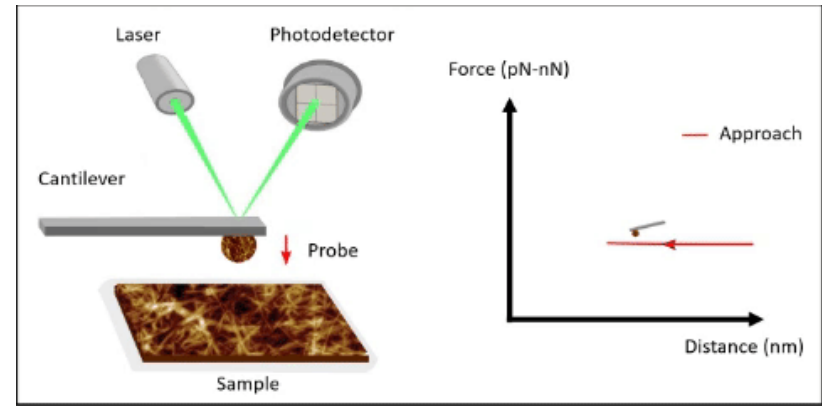
- Indentation
- Modulus (Hertz, DMT, JKR)
- Adhesion Force
- **Adhesion Energy**
- ...

## Calibrated Force-Distance Curves



**MountainsSPIP allows for automatic calibration of hundreds of curves and images**

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**MERCI !**

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