

# University of Birmingham Business Club

## Breakfast Briefing

**‘Innovative surface  
coatings and food  
hygiene’**



Tuesday 10 October 2017

**EPSRC**

Engineering and Physical Sciences  
Research Council

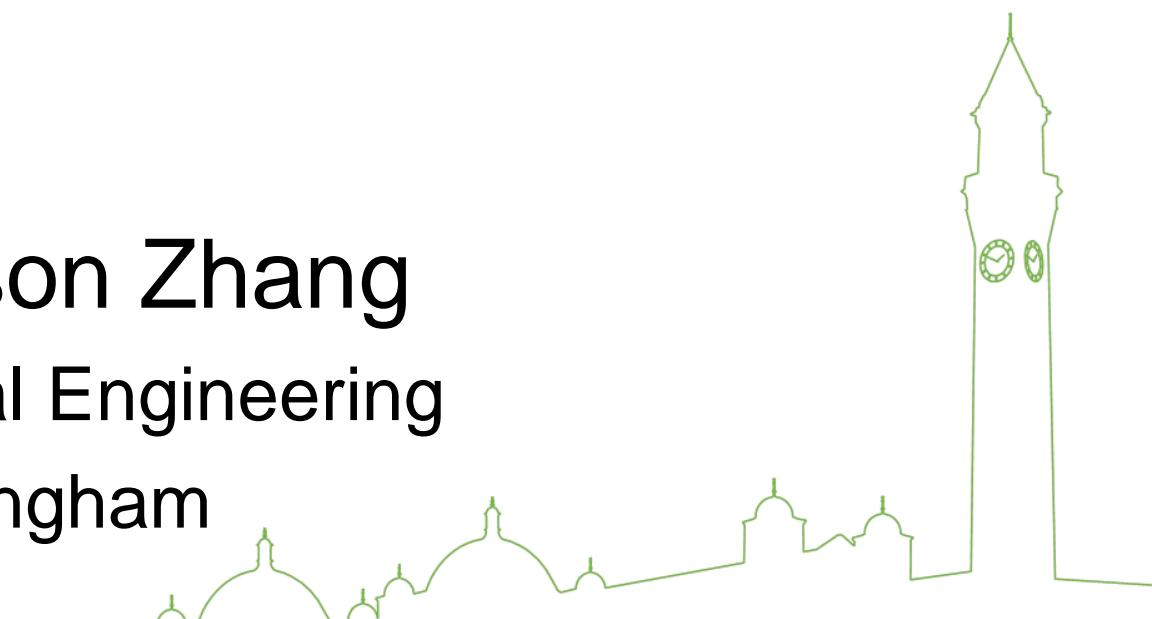
**BB** Business *with*  
Birmingham

UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM

# Innovative Surface Coatings & Hygiene

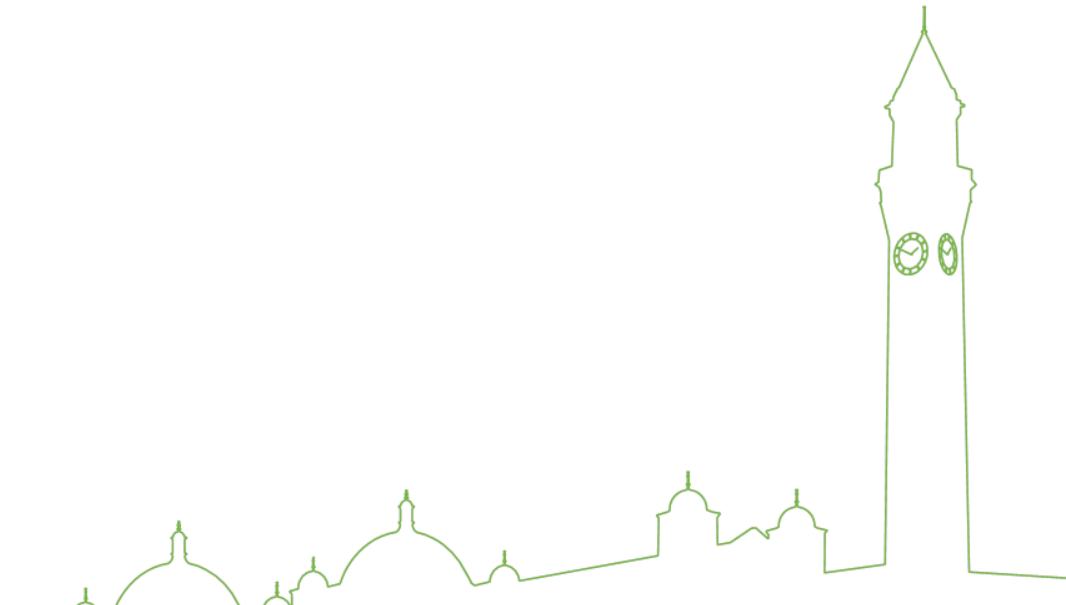
Dr Zhenyu Jason Zhang  
School of Chemical Engineering  
University of Birmingham

[z.j.zhang@bham.ac.uk](mailto:z.j.zhang@bham.ac.uk)

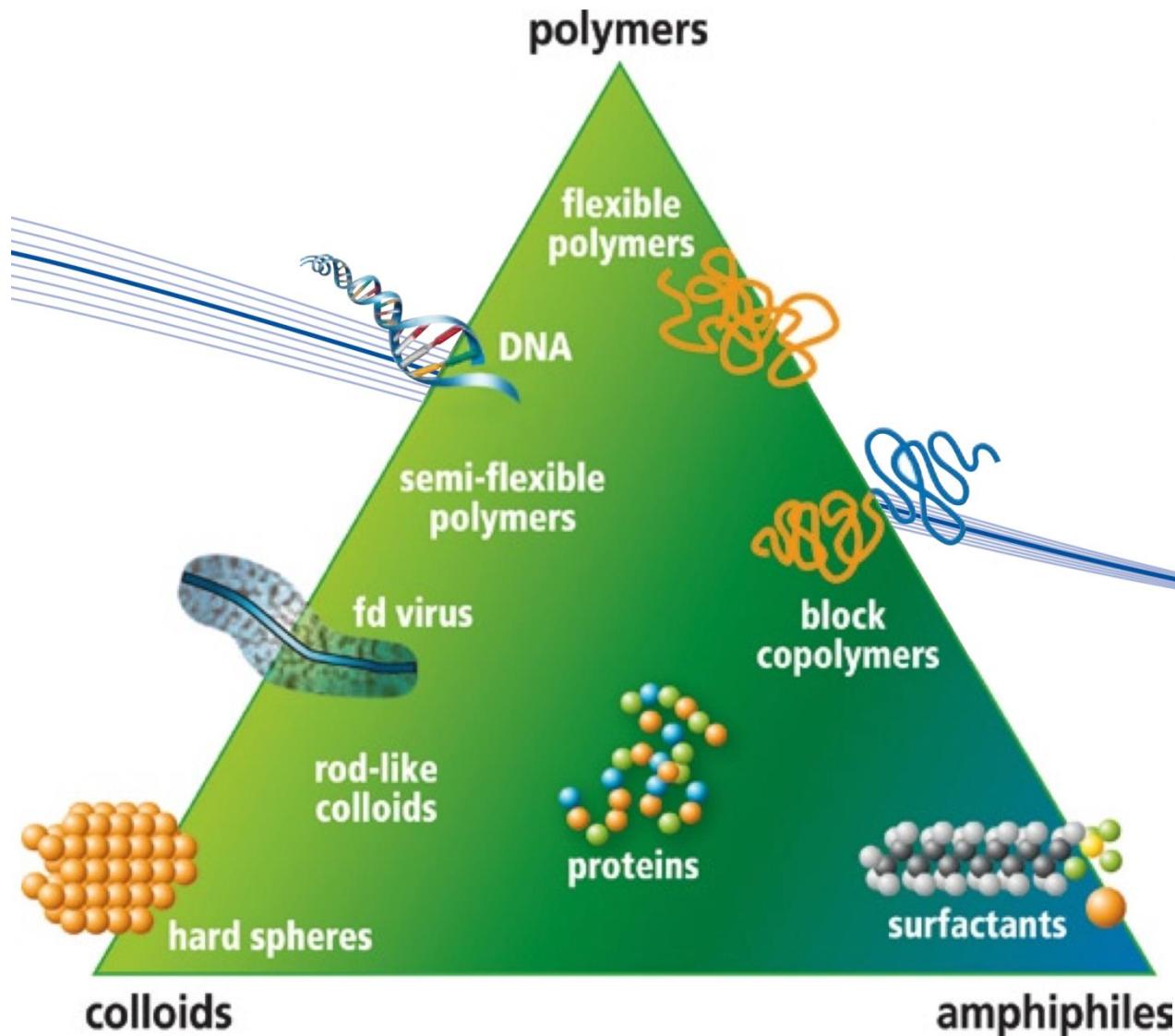


# Outline

- Overview
- Surface coating strategies
- Antimicrobial surface coating
- Our approaches
  - Design
  - Testing



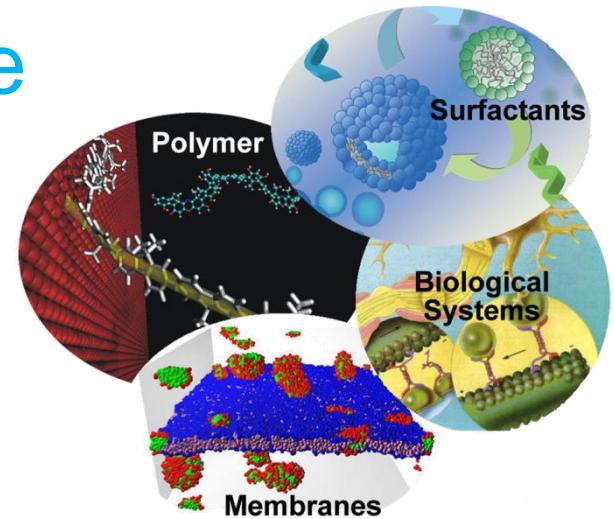
# What I am interested



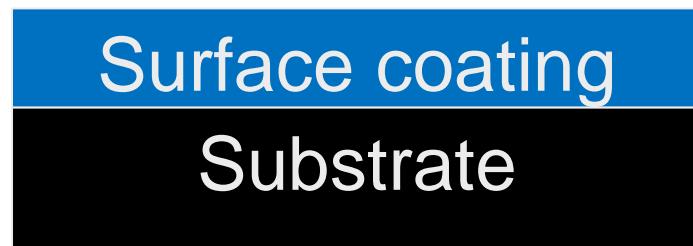
# Why am I interested in Soft matter at surface/interface

- Surface functionalization / coating
- Colloidal stabilization
- Lubrication
- Detergents
- Fouling/Cleaning

- Biomaterials
- Drug delivery
- Cell mechanics
- etc.

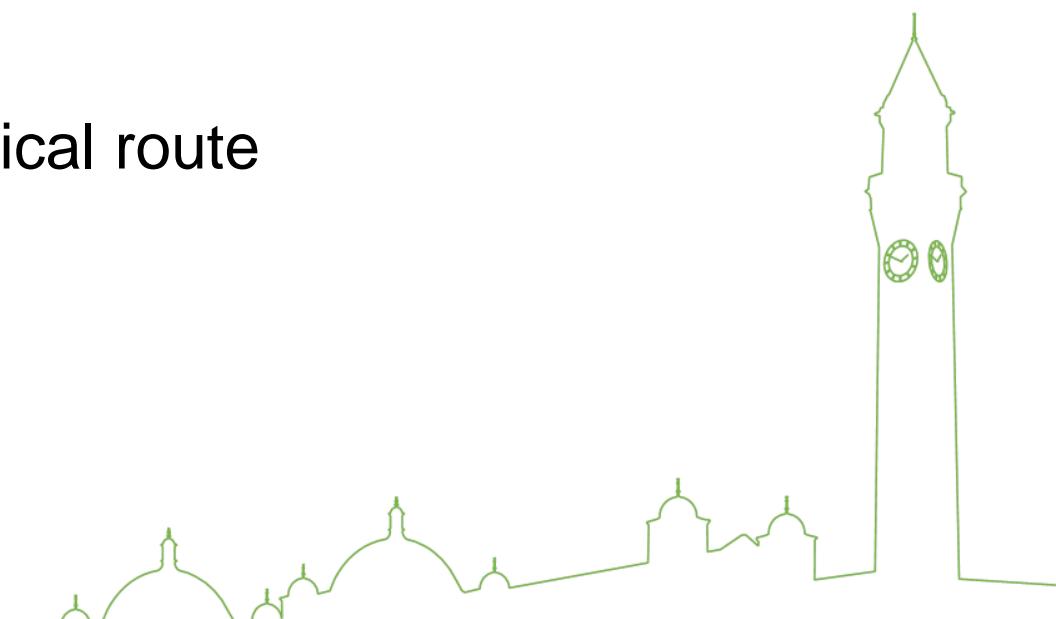


# Surface coating strategies



- Vapour deposition
- Chemical & electrochemical route
- Spraying
- Roller coating
- Physical coating

Surface  
Coating  
Interface

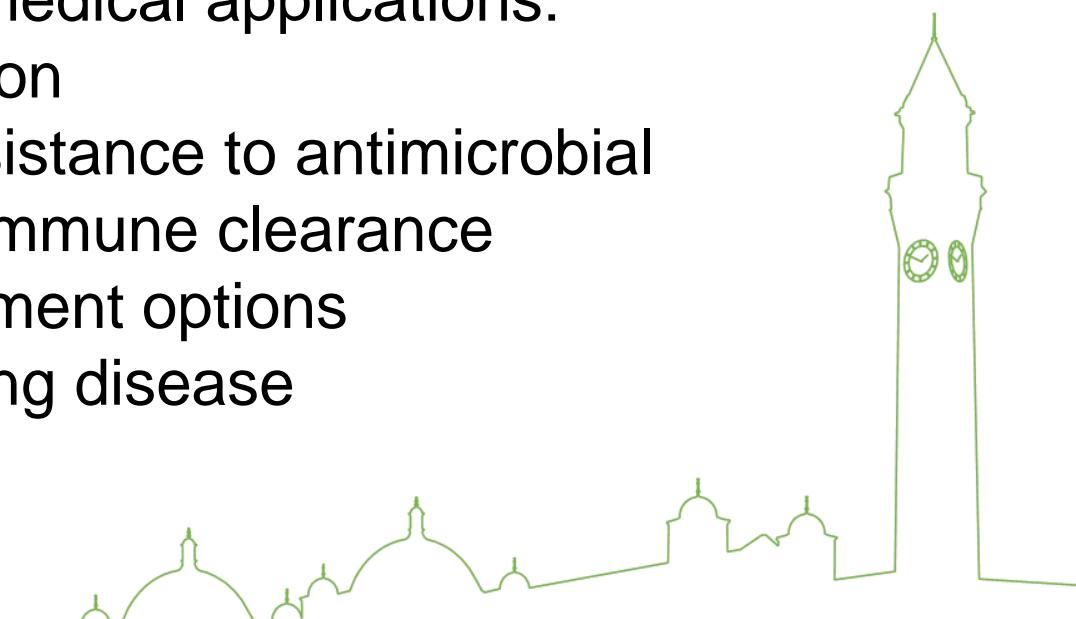


# Antimicrobial surface coating

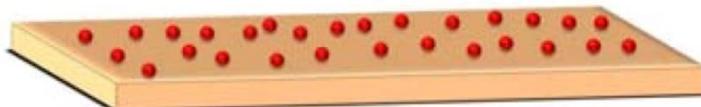
- Medical device
- Consumer goods
- Food packaging

Implications in medical applications:

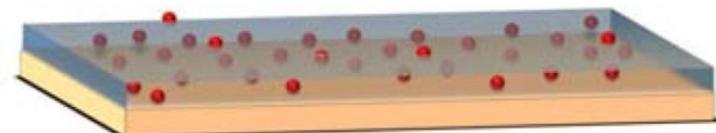
- Biofilm infection
- Increased resistance to antimicrobial therapy and immune clearance
- Limiting treatment options
- Life threatening disease



# Development - concept



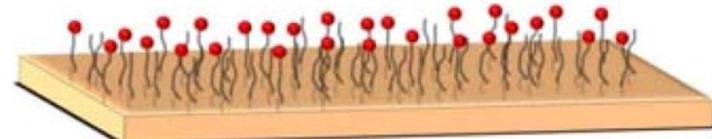
Surface immobilized antimicrobials



Antimicrobial releasing surface coating



Hydrogel contained antimicrobials

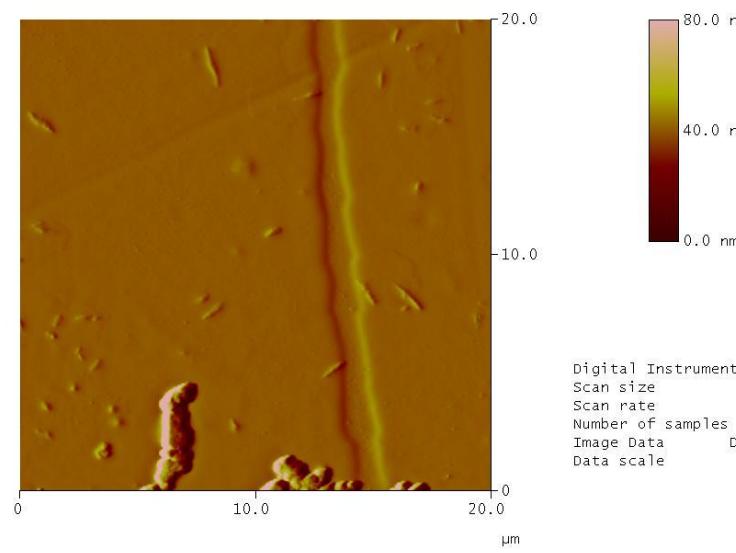
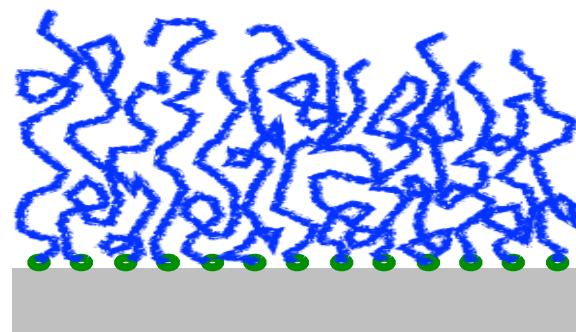
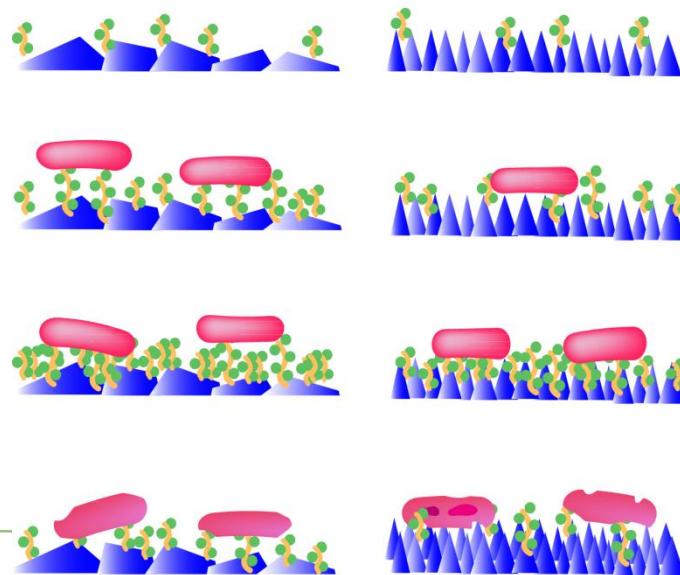
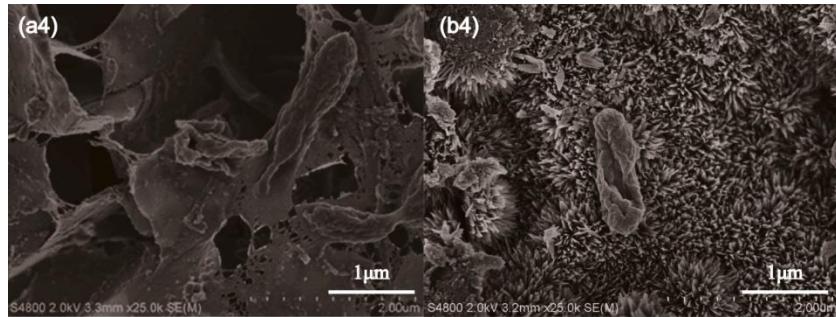


Surface tethered antimicrobials

- Two major strategies
  - Anti-adhesive: polymer, hydrogel, superhydrophobic
  - Bactericide: antimicrobial peptides, antibiotics, chitosan, etc.
- Multi-functional coating
- Application dependent
- Expectation

# Surface modification – chemical routes

- Polyelectrolyte layer
- Inorganic film

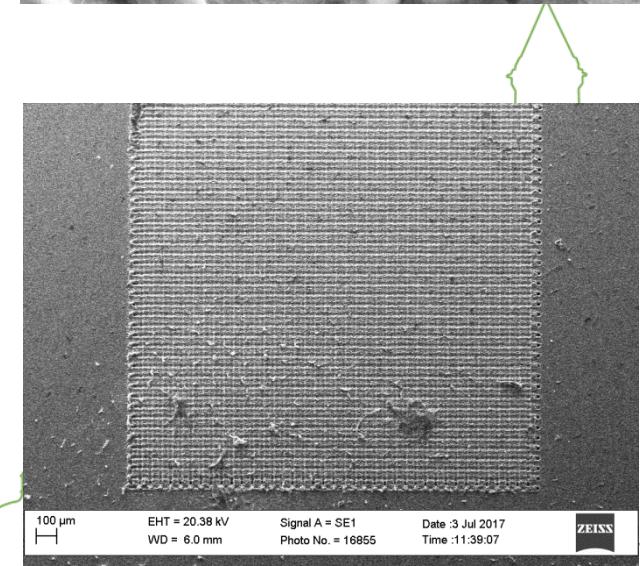
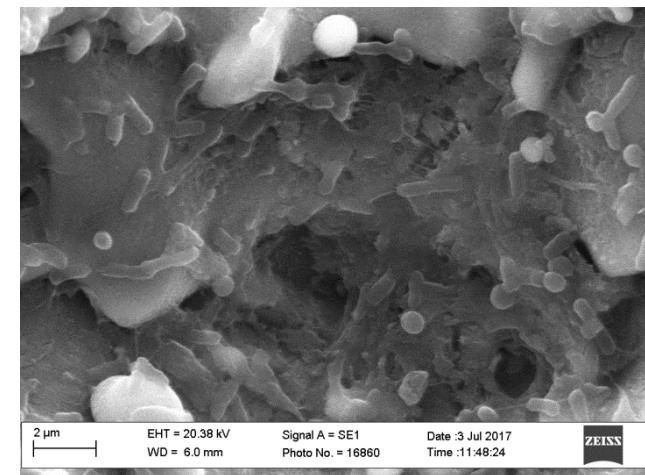
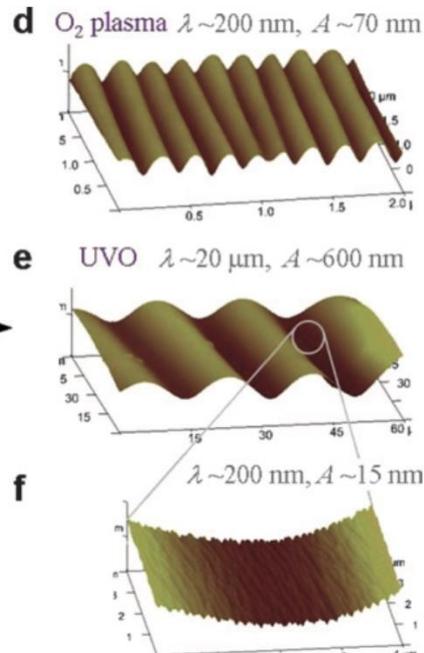
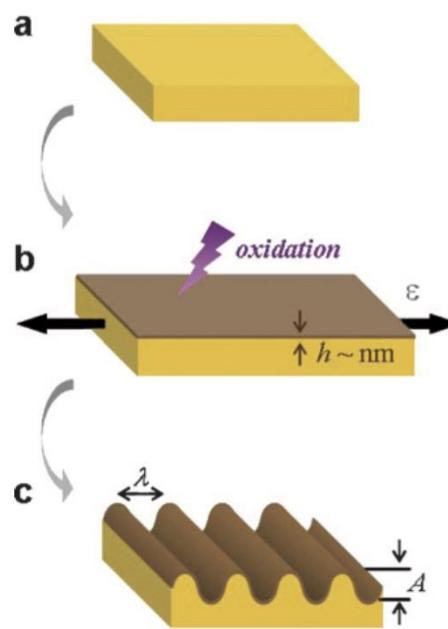


Digital Instrument  
Scan size  
Scan rate  
Number of samples  
Image Data  
Data scale

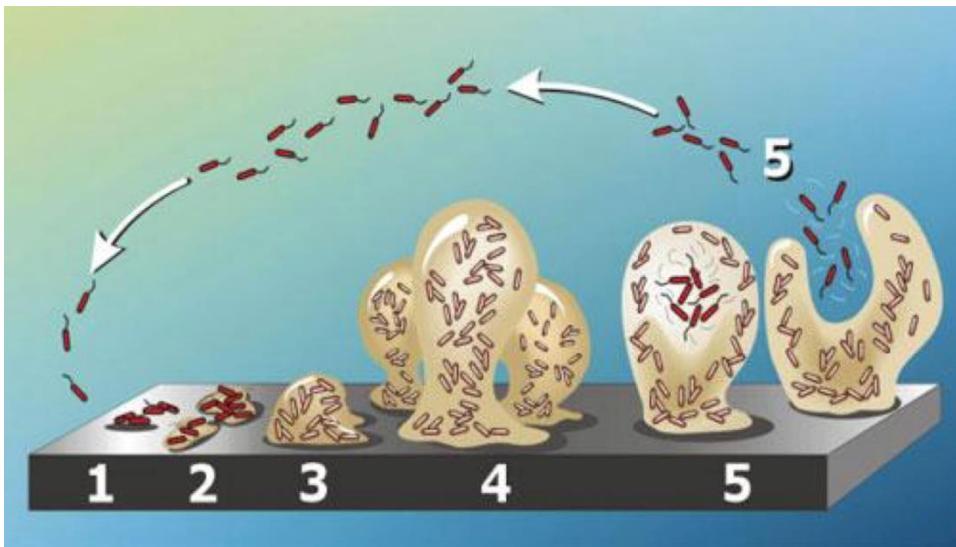
alm220110brush.013

# Surface modification – physical routes

- Organic film
- Precision machining

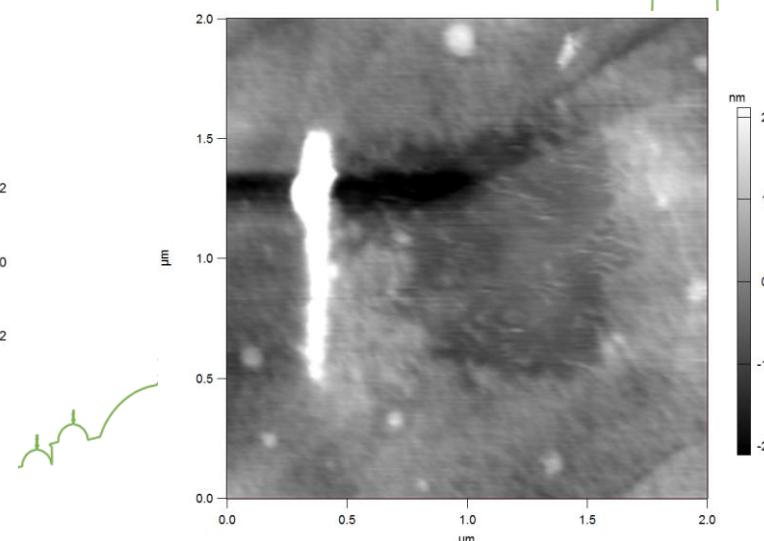
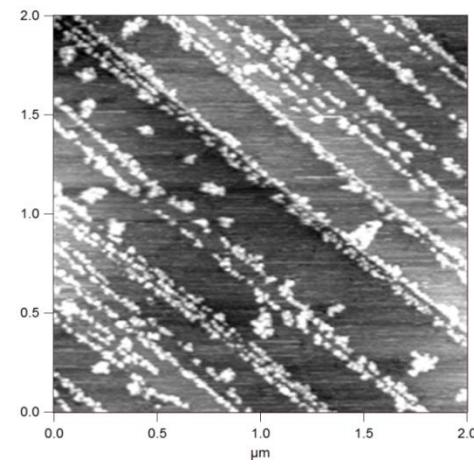
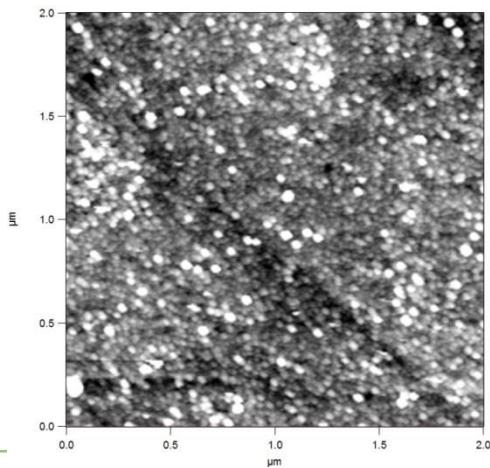
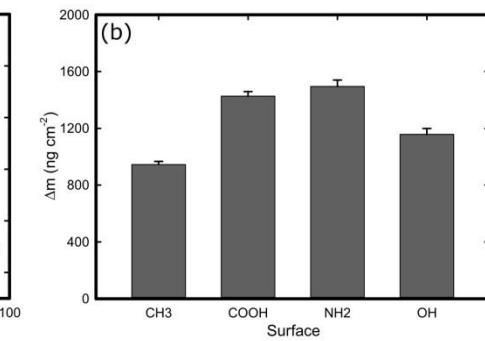
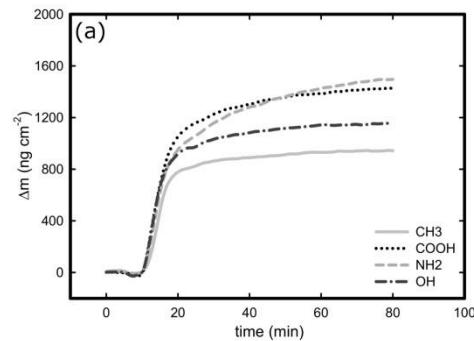


# Testing – initial stage



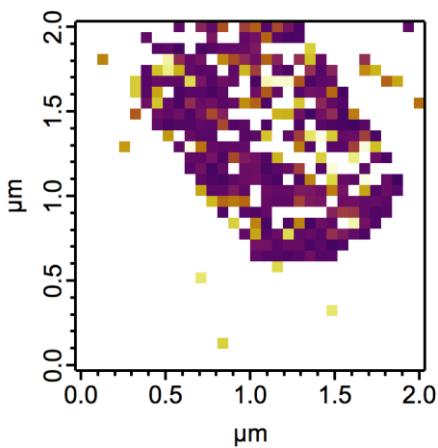
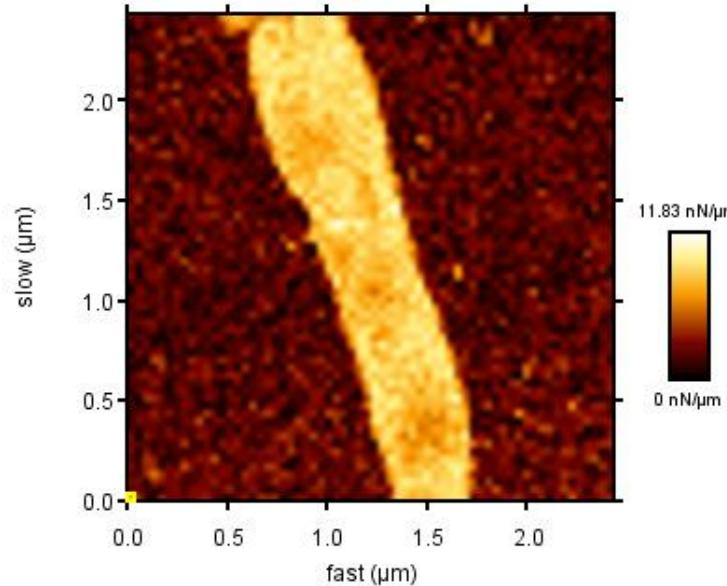
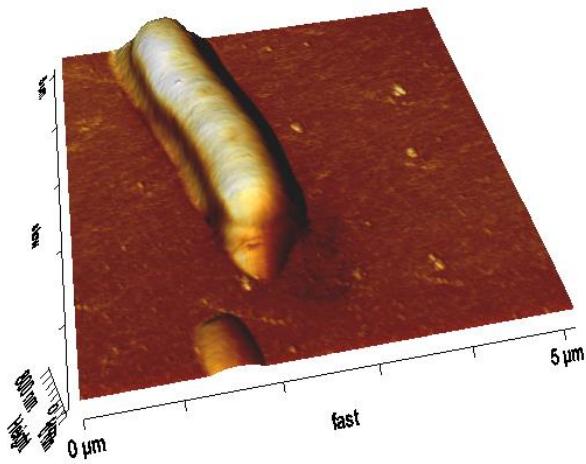
## Protein adsorption

- Adsorption kinetics
- Adsorption amount
- Distribution on surfaces
- Response to environment
- Removal force required

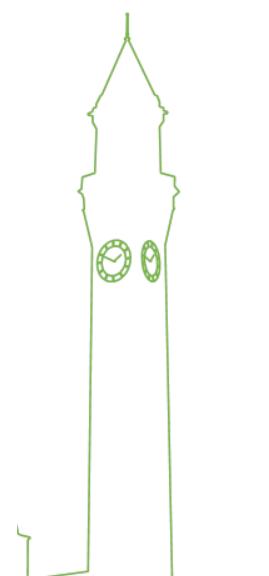
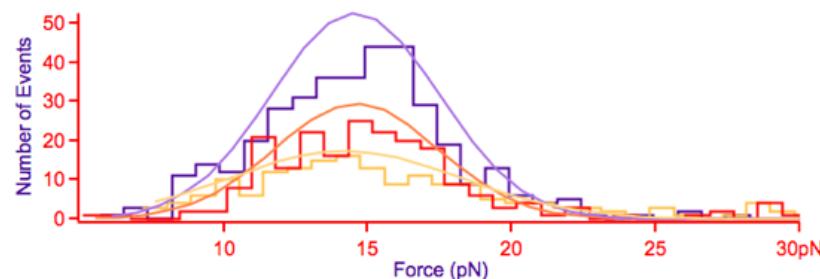


# Testing – individual cell

*Escherichia coli*

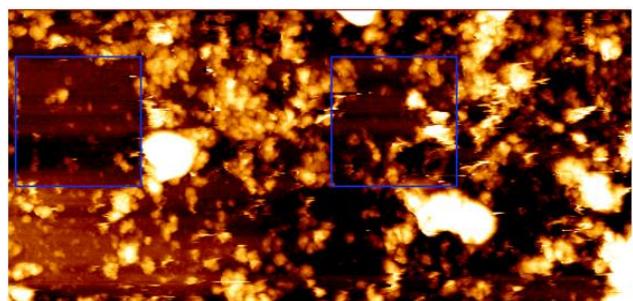
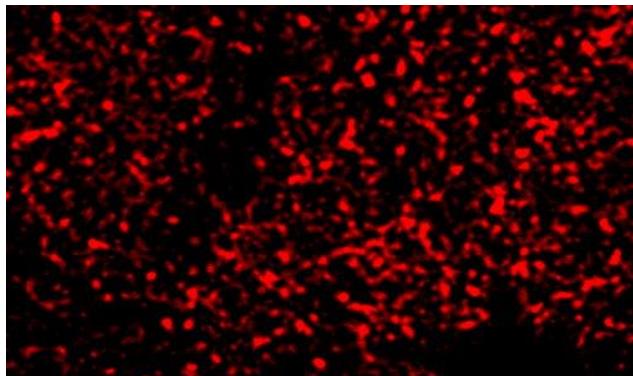


*Pseudomonas putida*

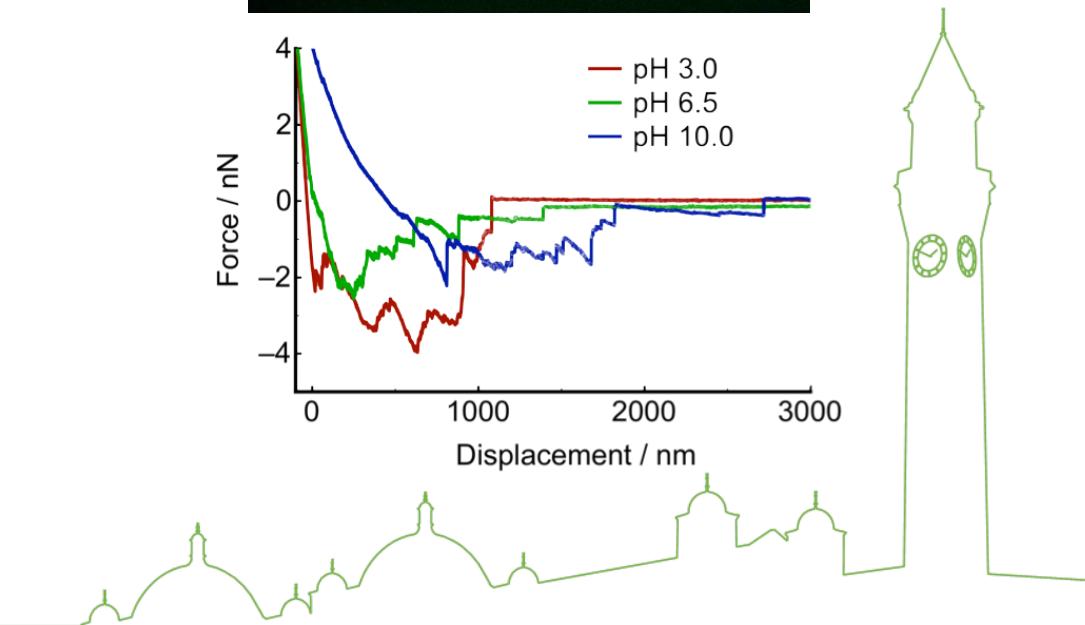
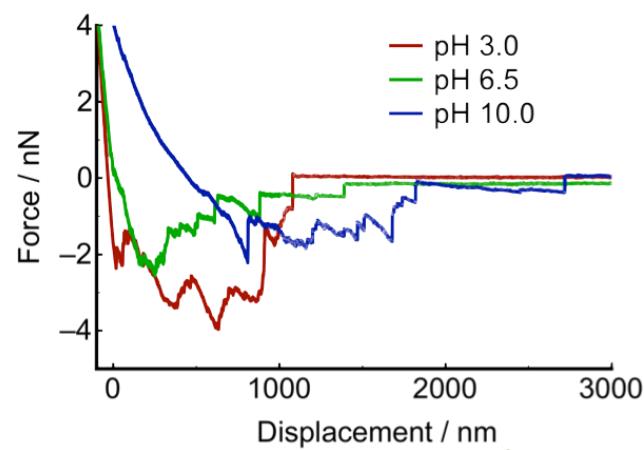
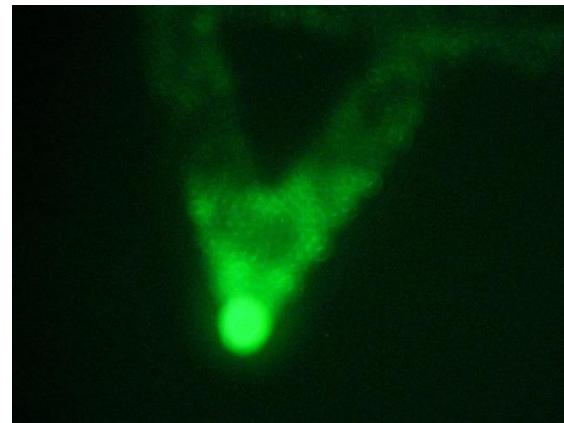


# Testing - biofilm

*Enterococcus faecalis*



*Rhodococcus sp.*



Thank you!



And now  
Pitches

# Dr Felicity de Cogan

*Royal Academy of Engineering  
Enterprise Fellowship*

Institute of Microbiology and  
Infection

[f.decogan@bham.ac.uk](mailto:f.decogan@bham.ac.uk)

@FelicitydeCogan

[www.nitropep.com](http://www.nitropep.com)

@NitroPep



UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM



**N<sup>+</sup>troPep**

# The Problem

*What is growing on the surfaces you touch everyday?*

Micrococcus

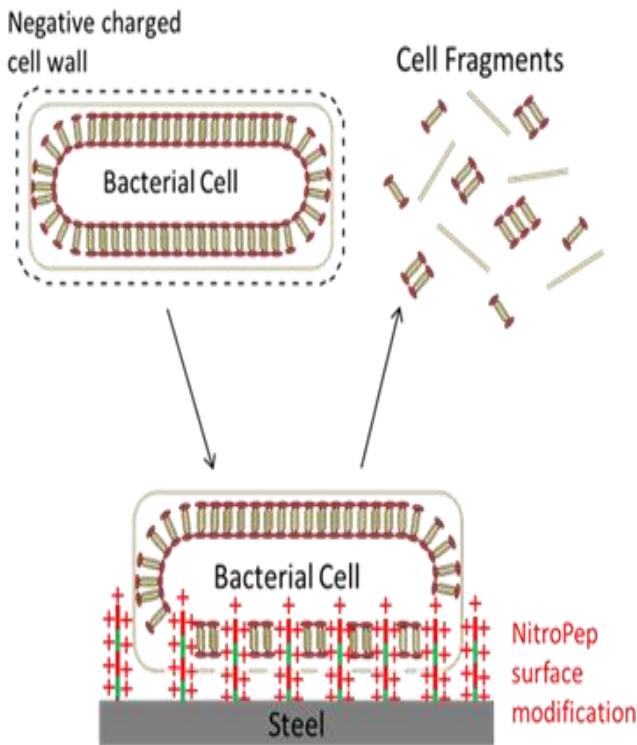


MRSA

Pseudomonas  
aeruginosa

N<sup>+</sup>troPep

# The Solution



- Durable, non-toxic and efficacious.
- Significantly reduces bacteria number in laboratory tests.
- Greater than 99 % effective in trials with potential customers

N<sup>+</sup>troPep

# Trials



Queen Elizabeth Hospital  
Trial – NitroPep surface  
modification showed  
greater than 99 % efficacy



N<sup>+</sup><sub>I</sub>troPep

# What We Need!

Innovative companies who are looking for disruptive technologies in the market

Sales representatives with expertise in the healthcare market, especially the NHS.

N<sup>+</sup><sub>I</sub>troPep

# How to get in touch

Dr Felicity de Cogan

[f.decogan@bham.ac.uk](mailto:f.decogan@bham.ac.uk)

07727611651

@FelicitydeCogan

N<sup>+</sup><sub>I</sub>troPep

Next...

# Firm performance and wage setting

Anne Green

Professor of Regional Economic Development

[a.e.green.1@bham.ac.uk](mailto:a.e.green.1@bham.ac.uk)

0121 414 9666

# Firm performance and wage setting

Funded by the **Joseph Rowntree Foundation** *City-REDI* is investigating the **hospitality, retail** and **manufacturing** sectors with regard to the following:

- What metrics do you use to measure firm performance?
- What approaches are you using to increase productivity?
- What factors do you consider when setting wages?
- (How) do workers gain from productivity increases?

- Up to an hour* of your time for a discussion
- Confidentiality and anonymity guaranteed**

**What this is for –**

Research to inform and influence policy

Next...

# A.T.E.T.A

## Opportunities - Future Energy Systems

David Terry  
Business Engagement Manager  
[D.Terry@bham.ac.uk](mailto:D.Terry@bham.ac.uk)  
07973 984485



**European Union**  
European Regional  
Development Fund



# ATETA

## What we do

Business support for energy technology companies and energy users

## What we offer

Multi disciplinary team – smart grid and electrical systems, thermal energy material and storage, bio-energy generation

## What we need

- Free service to all SME businesses in Birmingham, Bromsgrove, Cannock Chase, East Staffordshire, Lichfield, Redditch, Solihull Tamworth and Wyre Forest

## Our USP

Take advantage of opportunities in a changing energy market place. Access expertise and facilities in a World leading Energy institute

# ENERGY CAPITAL

---

ERA ENERGY  
RESEARCH  
ACCELERATOR

---

At the forefront of energy transformation

**CATAPULT**  
Energy Systems



**European Union**  
European Regional  
Development Fund

# Get in touch...

**David Terry**

Business Engagement Manager

D.Terry@bham.ac.uk

07973 984485



**European Union**  
European Regional  
Development Fund

Thank you to our  
speakers and for  
your attention