

# **Biomimetic Hierarchical Structures for Low Power Gas Detection**

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# Contents

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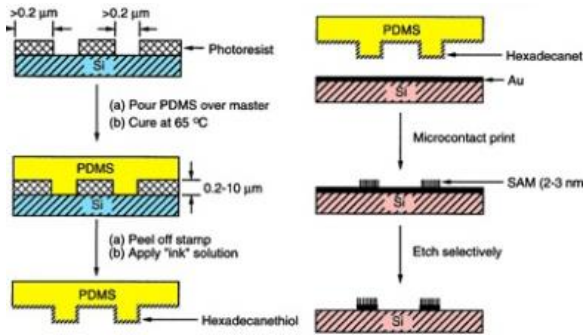
**Introduction**

**Nanocellulose**

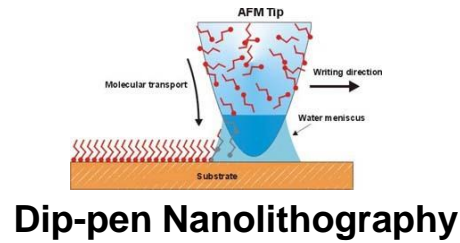
**Peptide Nanowires**

**Conclusions**

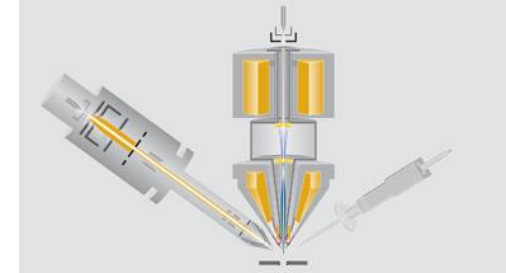
# Man-made Hierarchical Structures



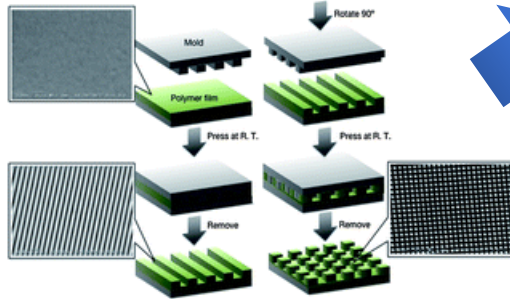
Soft Lithography



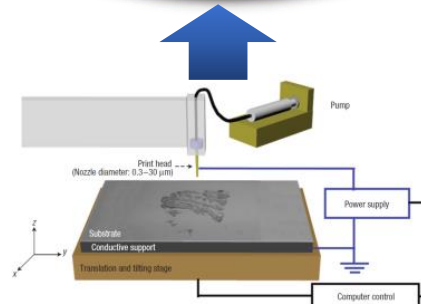
Dip-pen Nanolithography



FIB Lithography



Nanoimprint Lithography



Jet-printing Lithography

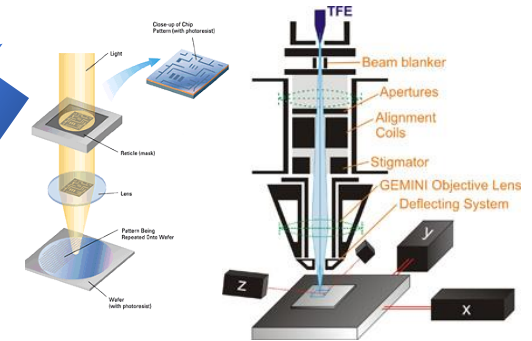
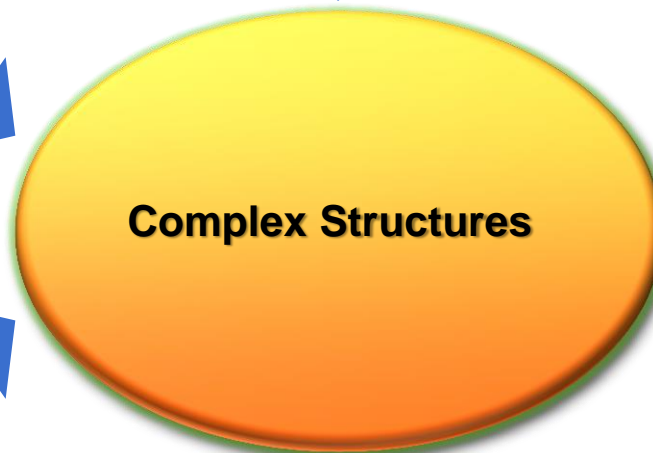
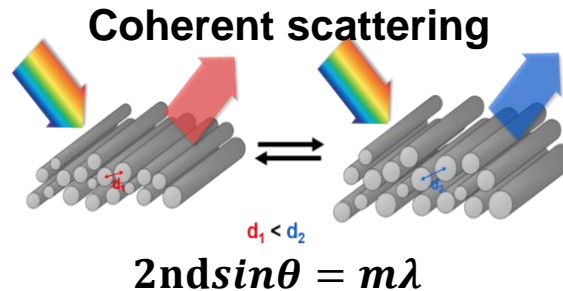
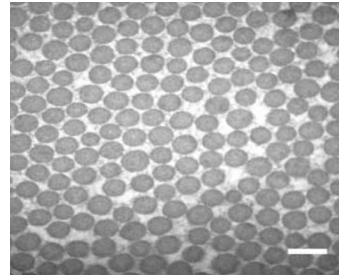
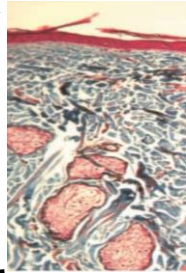
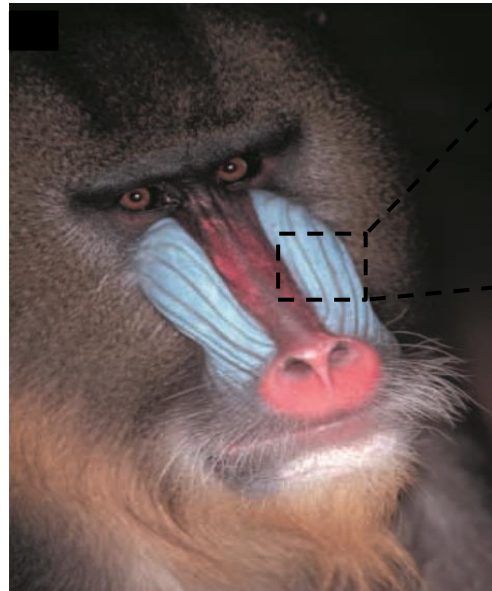
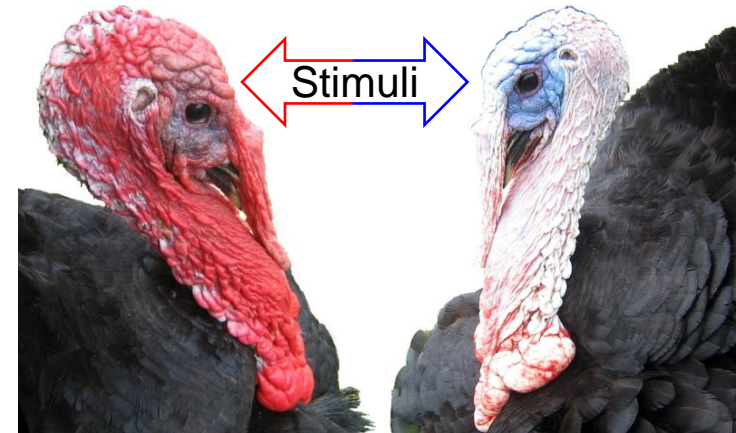


Photo & E-beam Lithography





**Seven-faced Bird (七面鳥)**



In nature, **structural color** can be achieved through the interference effect of ordered fibrous nanostructures which scatter light coherently

Turkey can change their skin color by expansion of the collagen structures.

# One Example: Cellulose

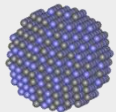


- ▷ Structural color in plants
  - Circularly polarized reflectance of cellulose film
- ▷ Structural color of leaf beetles
  - Vivid color of Cellulose nanocrystals self-assembly

# Let's Learn from Nature



## Nano & Biomaterials (Basic Building Blocks)



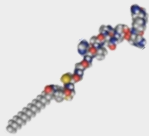
NPs



Chitosan



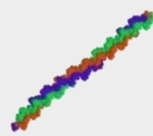
Cellulose



Proteins



Virus



Peptide



## Assembly of Nano & biomaterials



## New Function Devices (Complex Building)



High-power Energy Devices  
(Piezoelectric Devices, Solar Cells)



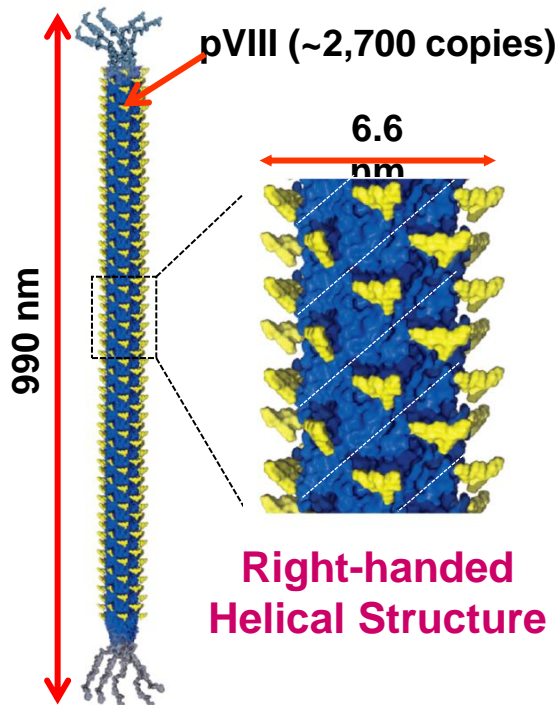
High-efficiency Electric  
Devices  
(Photodetectors, FETs, FEDs)



Highly Sensitive  
Sensors

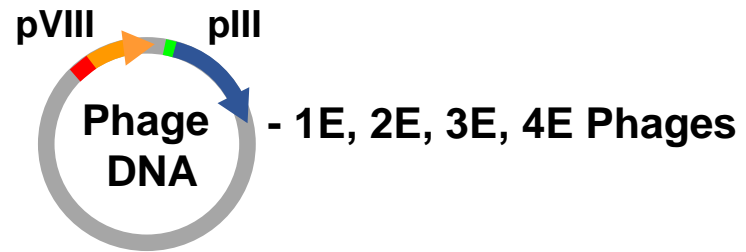
# M13 Bacteriophage (Virus)

- **Structure of M13 Phages (Monodispersity)**

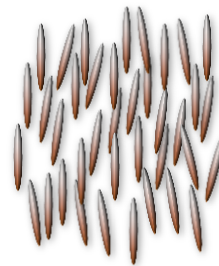


: Genetically incorporated functional peptide

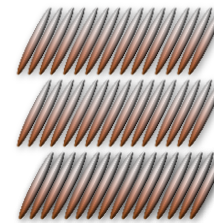
- **Surface Modification via Genetic Engineering**



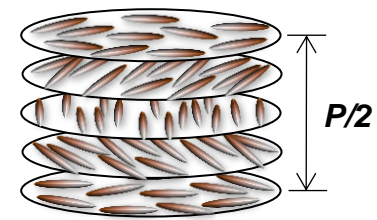
- **Liquid Crystalline Behavior**



**Nematic**



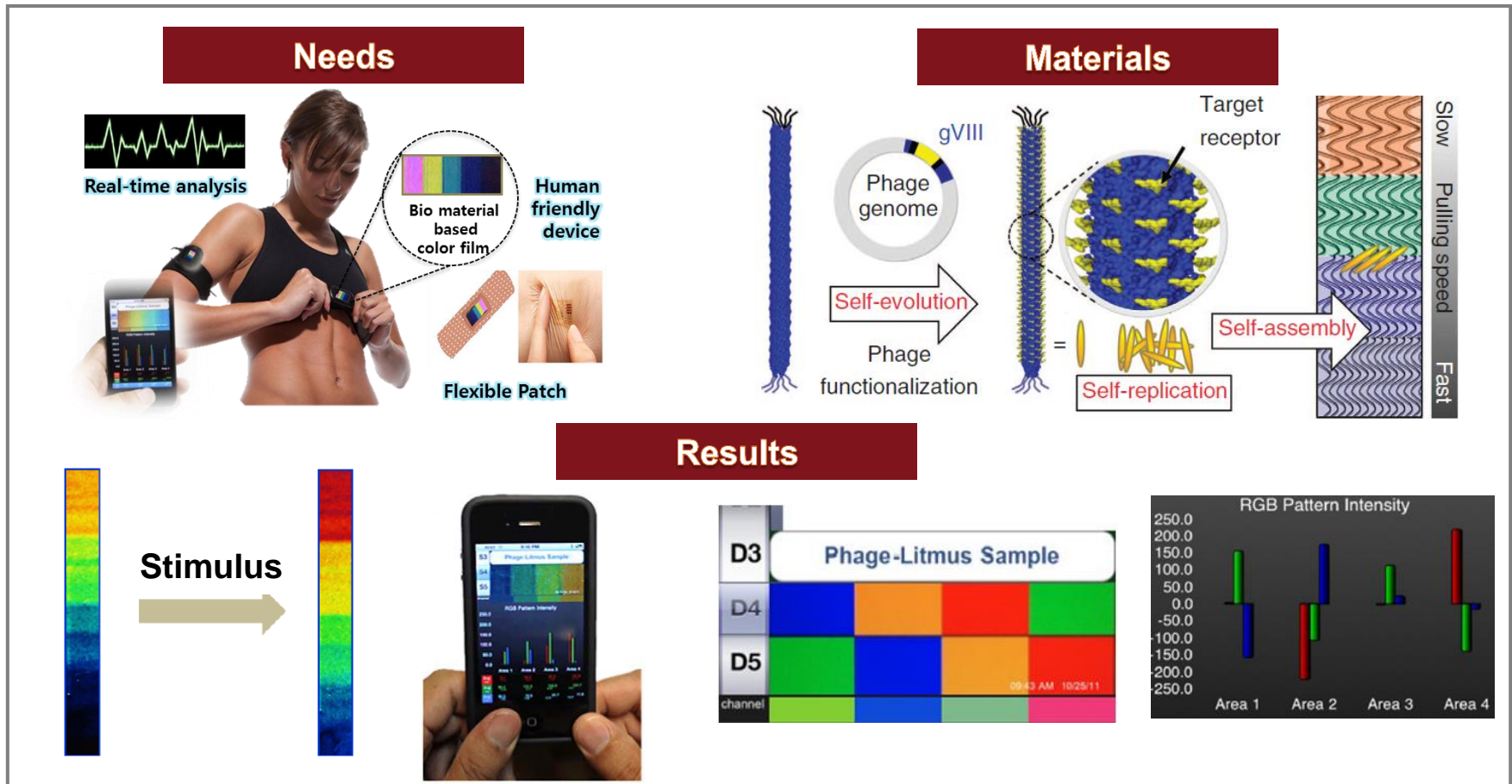
**Smectic**



**Cholesteric**

# Virus-based Colorimetric Sensor

- Measuring environmental hormones; Early Detection of Food Deterioration; Disease Diagnosis
- Material: Self-assembled virus film (M13 bacteriophage)
- Mechanism: Swelling/Deswelling of Phage Film → Color Change of the Film





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## Part 1 . Cellulose nanocrystal (CNC films)

- Previous research
- Research concept
- Results

# Research motivation : Nanocellulose

## Cellulose in Nature



Low price



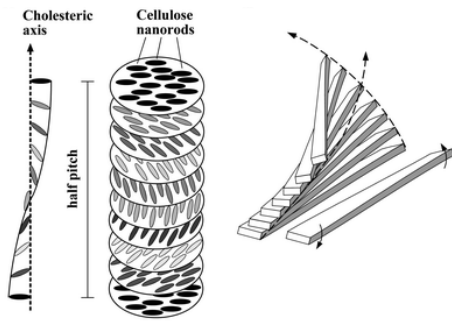
Bio-friendly



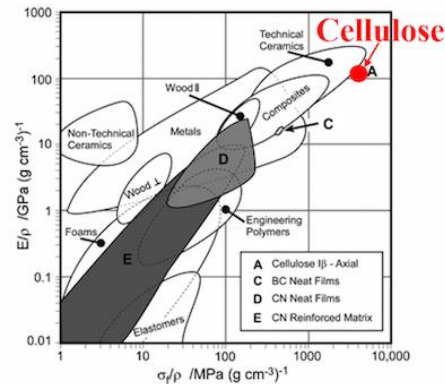
Bio-degradable



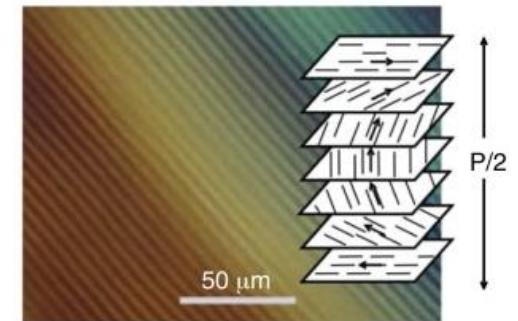
## Cellulose in nanoscale



Self-assembly



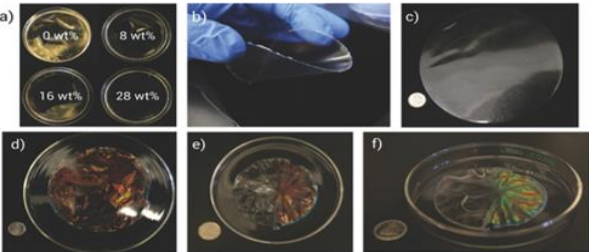
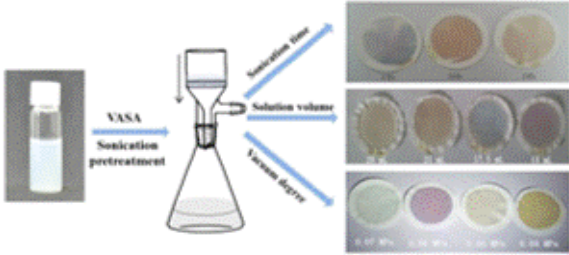
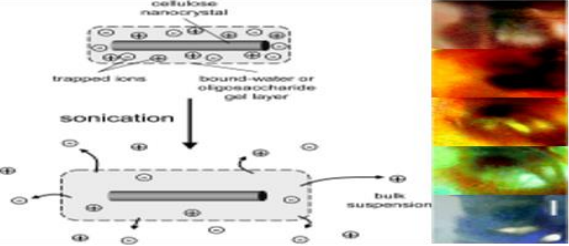
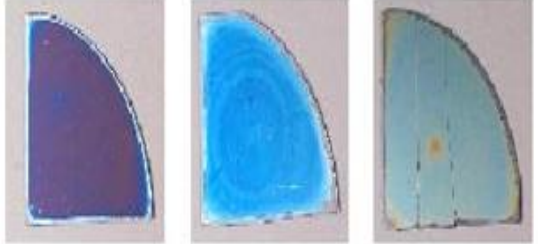
High mechanical property



Optical property

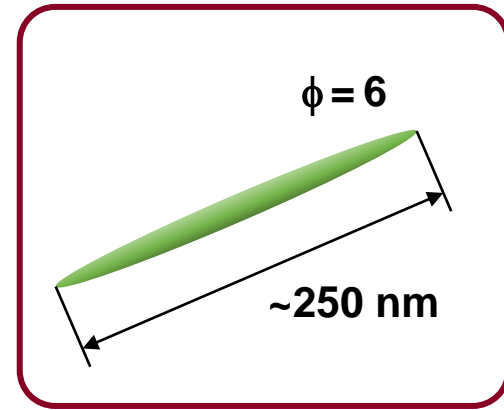
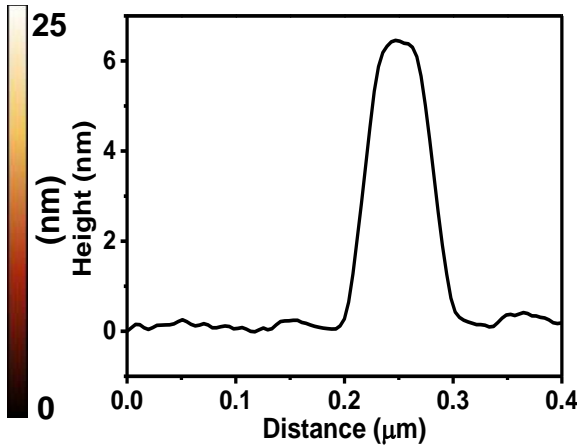
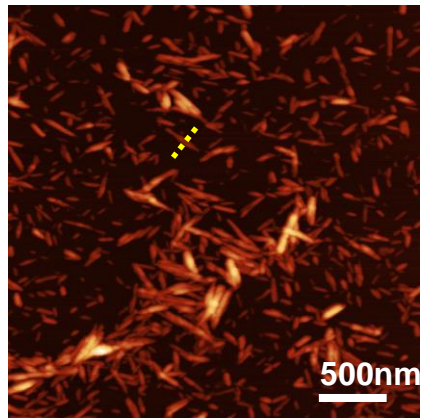
# Crystalline Nanocellulose Films

Previously four major techniques has been proposed...

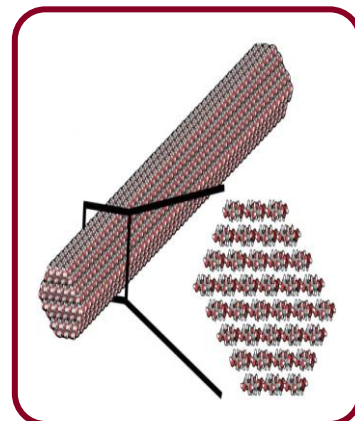
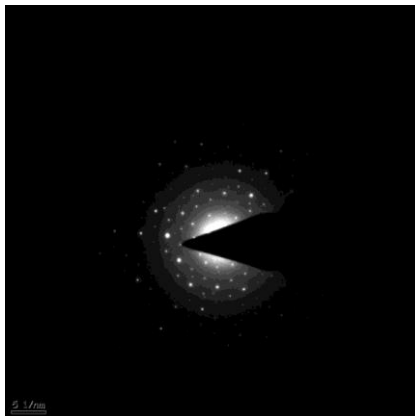
<p>1. Chemical-additives</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add chemical additives <b>to control the intervals of CNCs</b></li> <li>• Ionic liquid, PEG, Glycerin, etc...</li> </ul>
<p>2. Vacuum-assisted</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add chemical additives <b>to control the intervals of CNCs</b></li> <li>• Fastest fabrication method</li> <li>• Limited substrate</li> </ul>
<p>3. Sonication-induced</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add vibration energy <b>to control the intervals of CNCs</b></li> <li>• Reversible process, hard to maintain</li> </ul>
<p>4. Spin-coated</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mechanically laminated thin film</li> <li>• Limited thickness</li> </ul>

# Property of CNCs

- **Nanoscale Size**



- **Crystallinity**

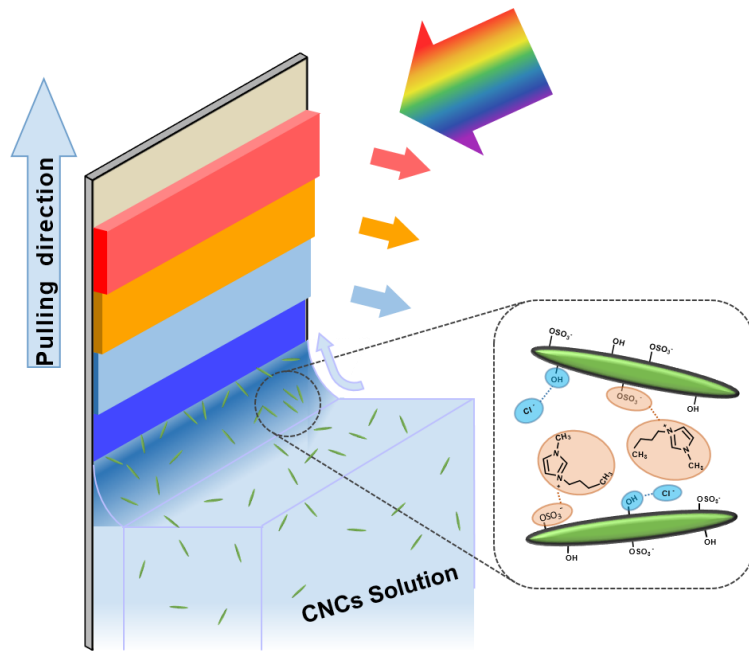


- **Iridescence**



Lagerwall, Jan PF, et al. *NPG Asia Materials* 6, 80 (2014).

- Prepared rod-like CNCs have property of crystallinity and helical self-assembly properties



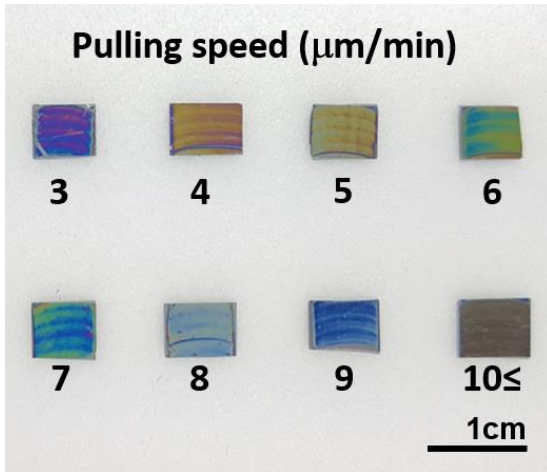
## Experiment setup



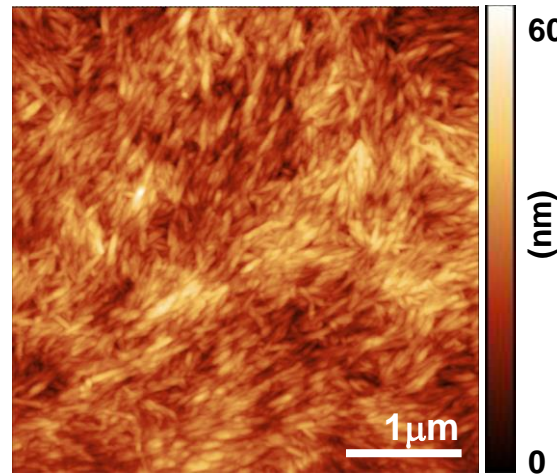
- Schematic of the fabrication of the CNCs-based color film.
- Ionic liquid (BimimCl) interacts among CNCs as described in insert figure.
- The substrate was extracted in slowly controlled manner from the ionic CNCs solution.
- According to the speed, the thickness of CNC films and their reflection were varied.

# CNC films – Surface & Cross-sectional view

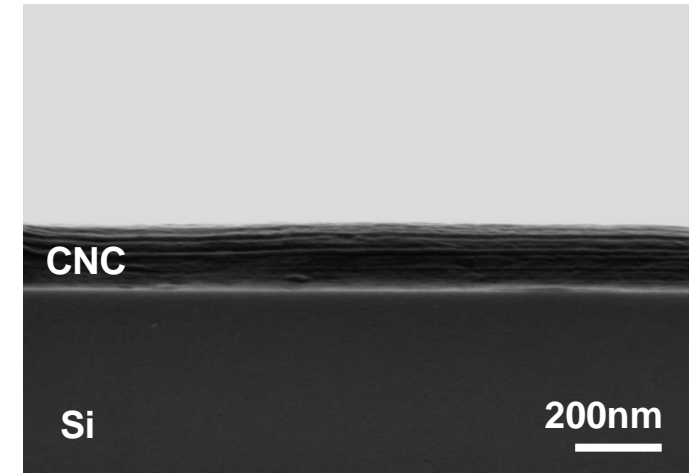
- Optic image of CNC films



- AFM surface topograph



- Side view of SEM image

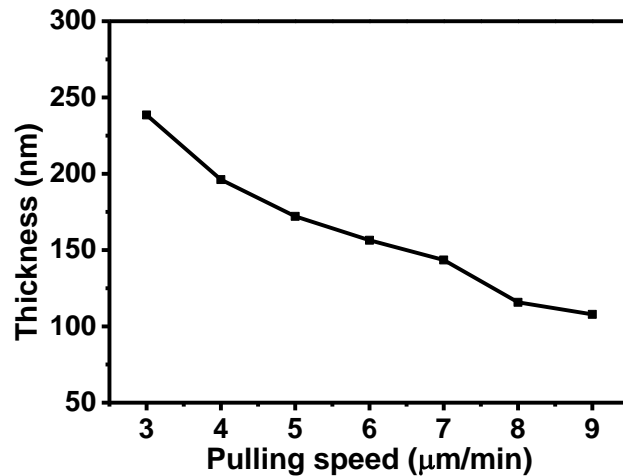


- AFM images of the film showed localized alignment.
- SEM Side view image of CNC-based colored film showed layered structure.

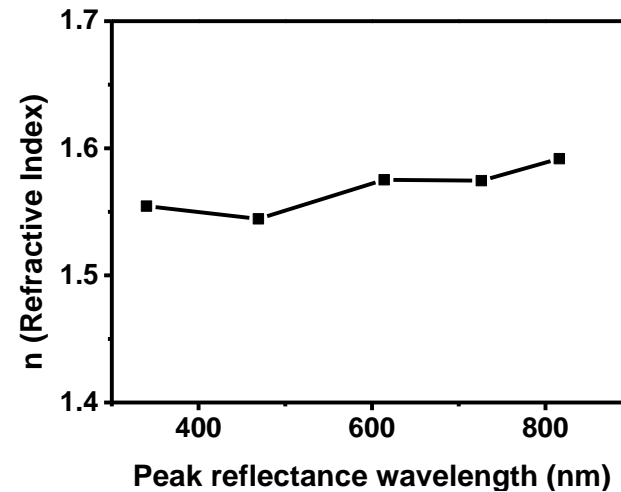
# CNC films – Thickness & Refractive index



- AFM height measure

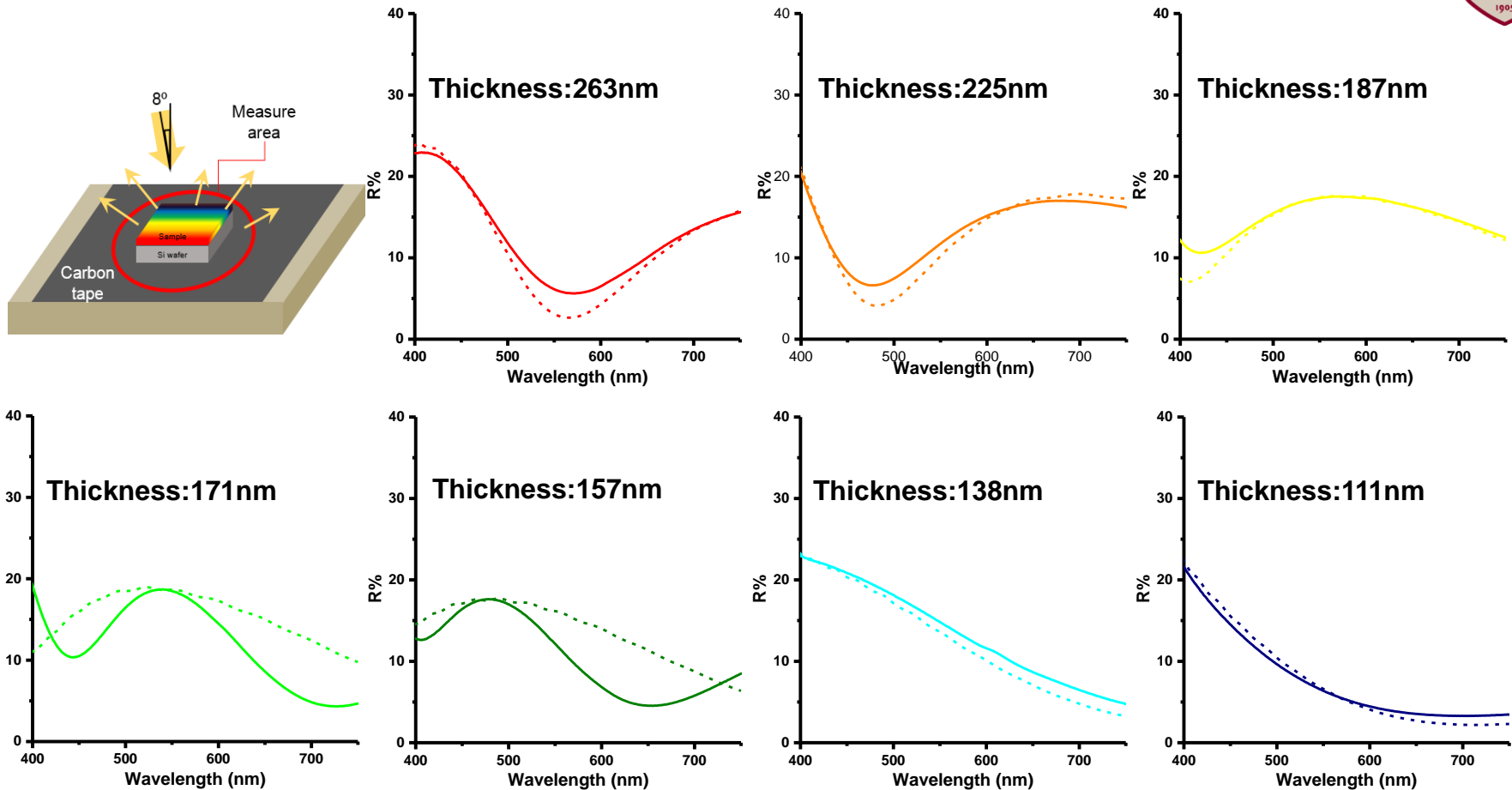


- Ellipsometry (Refractive index)



- The thickness was controlled by pulling speed during assembly process.
- The colors were controlled by modulating the pulling speed during assembly process.
- Refractive index was constant, regardless of pulling speed

# CNC films – Thin film model simulation (FDTD)

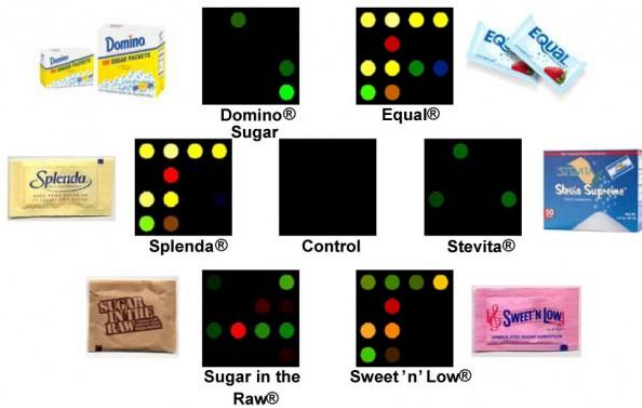


- For constant refractive index, and increasing thickness as a variable, we fitted reflectance of the CNC films with FDTD
- Deviation was caused by roughness of the surface



## **Part II . CNC color film gas sensors for aldehyde gas detection**

Nanocellulose + structural color Gas sensor



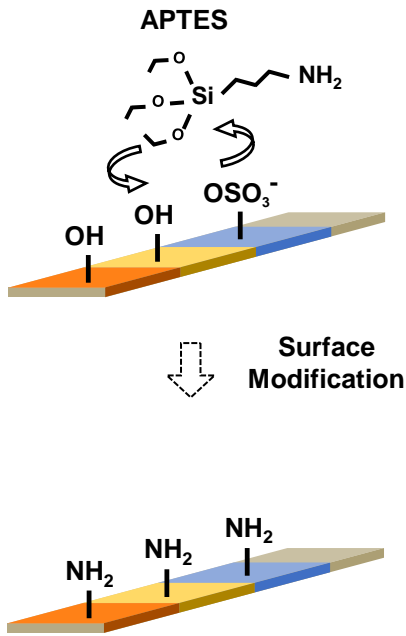
Chemical reaction induced  
mechanical structural change



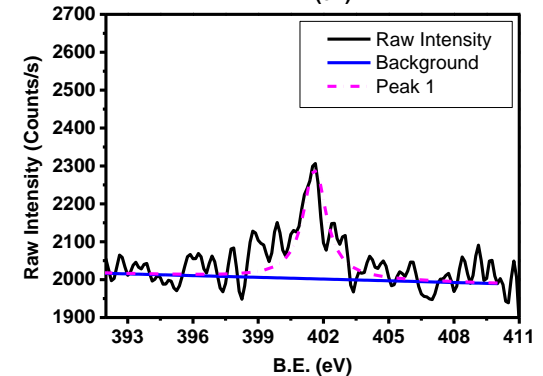
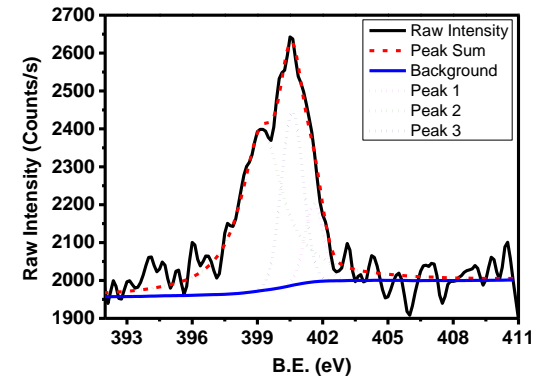
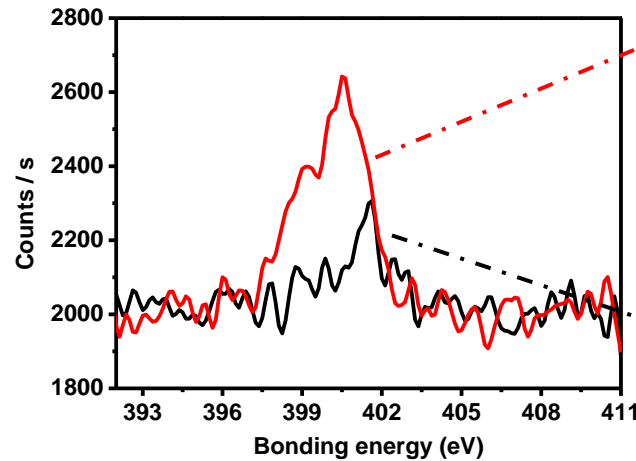
**Disposable convenient  
gas sensor**

- Environmental friendly
- Low cost
- Degradable device

(UIUC, Suslick Group)

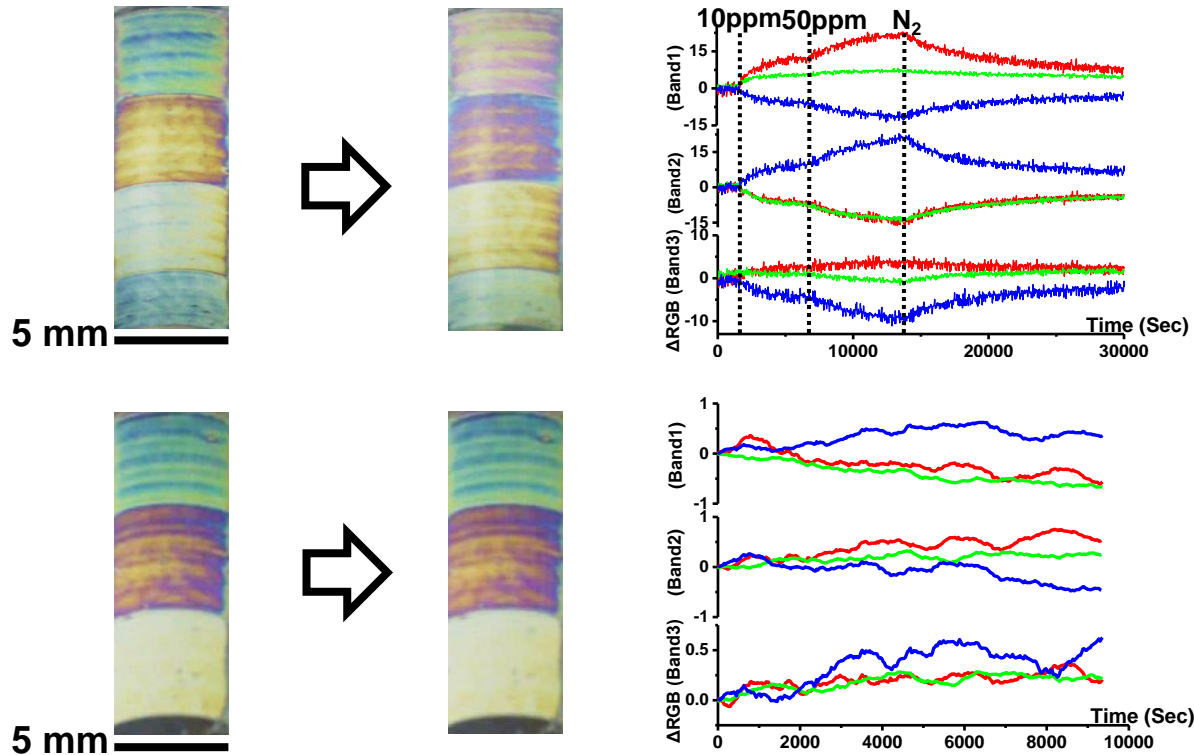


- XPS analysis  
(Before and after surface modification)



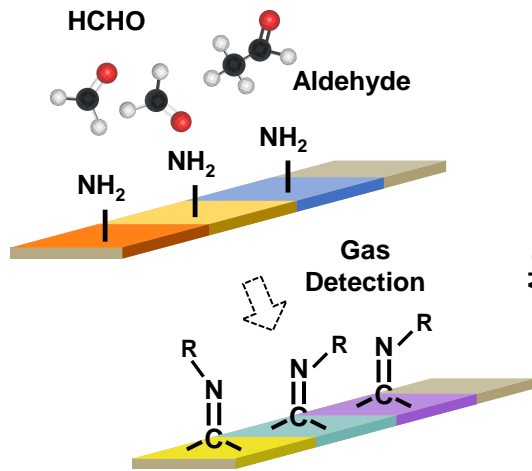
- At surface of the CNC color film, hydroxyl functional groups were substituted with amine functional groups.
- The increasement indicates that numerous APTES molecules attached to the surface of the CNCs thin film, at XPS bonding energy range of 399–401 eV. (S1 shell electron of nitrogen).

# CNC sensors – Detection with color shifting

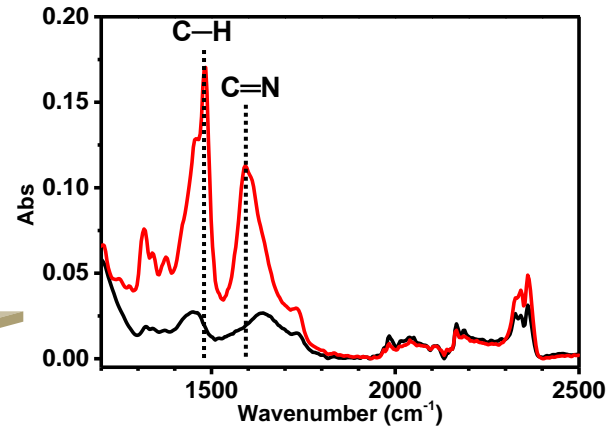


- Optical images of film's and trend of RGB color intensity change during target gas detection and recovery (formaldehyde, N<sub>2</sub> ambient).
- No amine functionalization → no color change

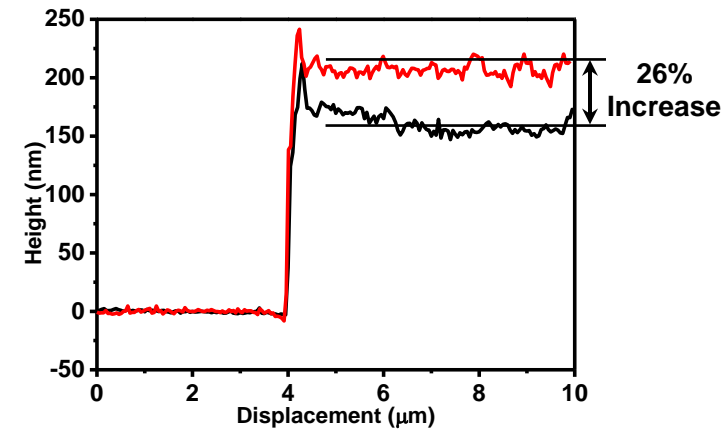
# CNC sensors – Chemical & mechanical analysis



- FTIR (Before and after aldehyde sensing)



- AFM Height measure (Before and after aldehyde sensing)

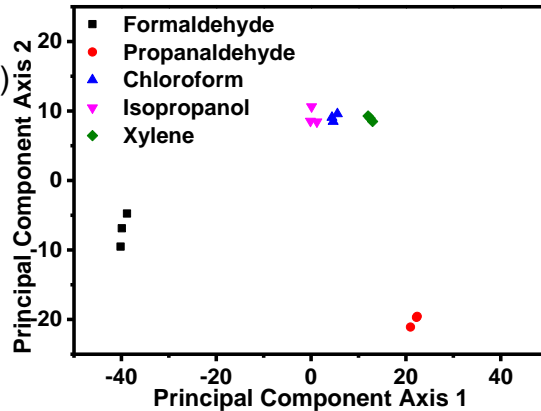


- Increase in C-H and C=N bond indicates etherification between aldehyde and amine functionalized CNCs surface.
- Chemical reaction caused mechanical swelling of CNCs bundles, so the thickness of the CNC film increased and the colors of the CNC film changed.

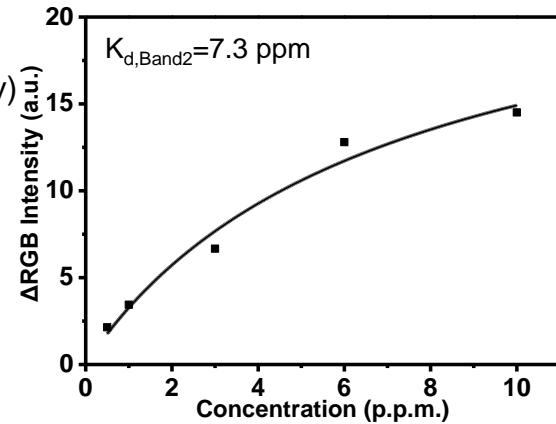
# CNC sensors – Sensitivity & Selectivity



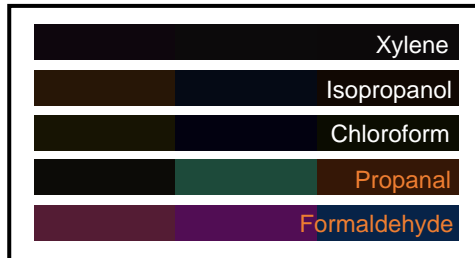
• PCA  
(selectivity)



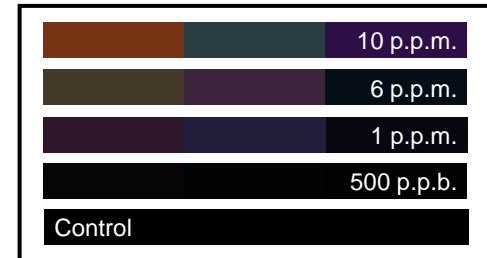
• Hill's equ.  
(sensitivity)



• ΔRGB  
visualization  
(For various  
gases)



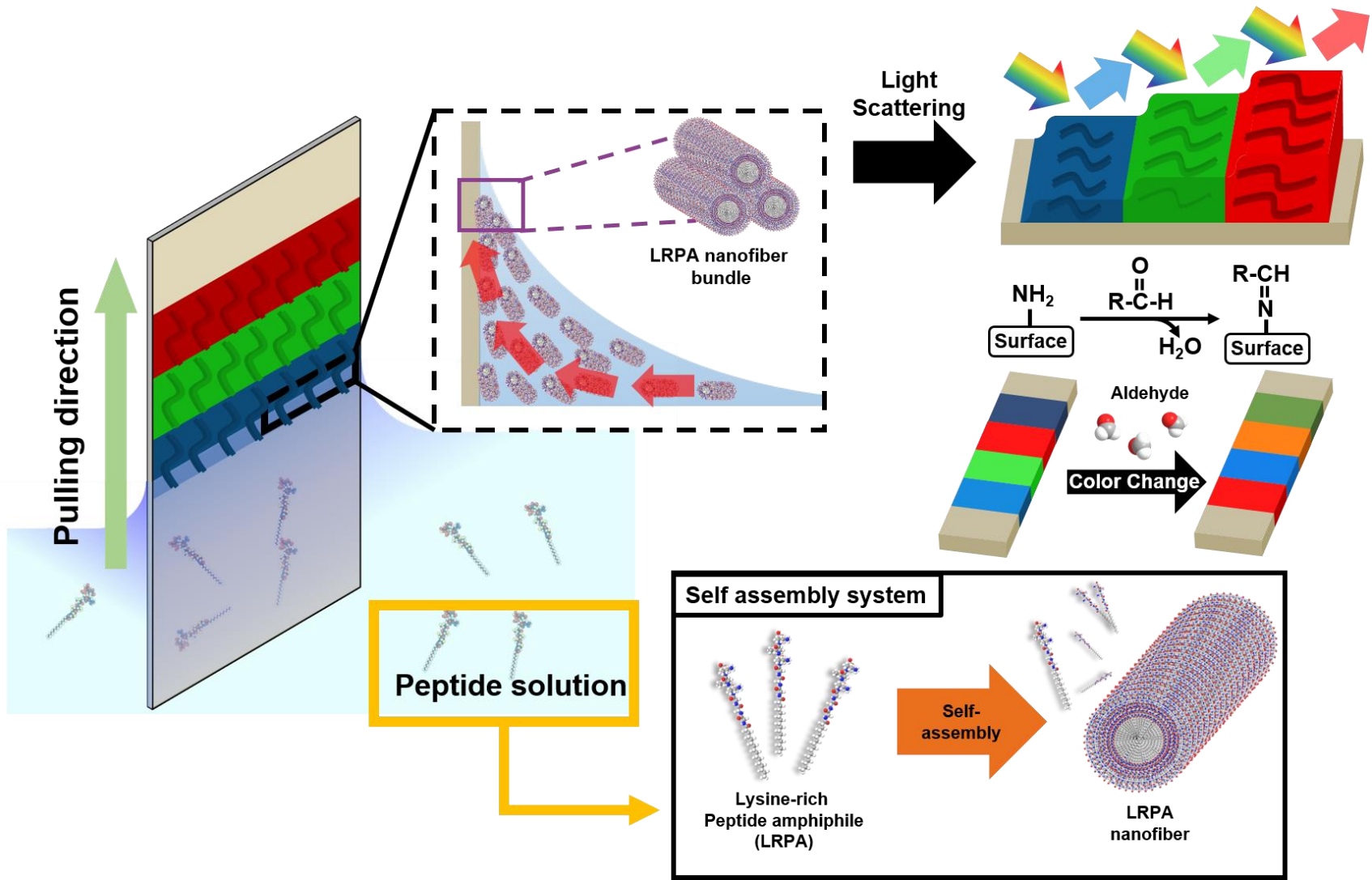
• ΔRGB  
visualization  
(For various  
concentration)



- PCA of color shift reaction enables distinguishing various types of gases
- ΔRGB visualization generally shows the selectivity to aldehyde gas against non-aldehyde gas.
- The dissociation constant  $K_d$  (7.3 ppm) shows the sensitivity of the color film sensor quantitatively.

## Part III. Lysine-rich Peptide Nanowires

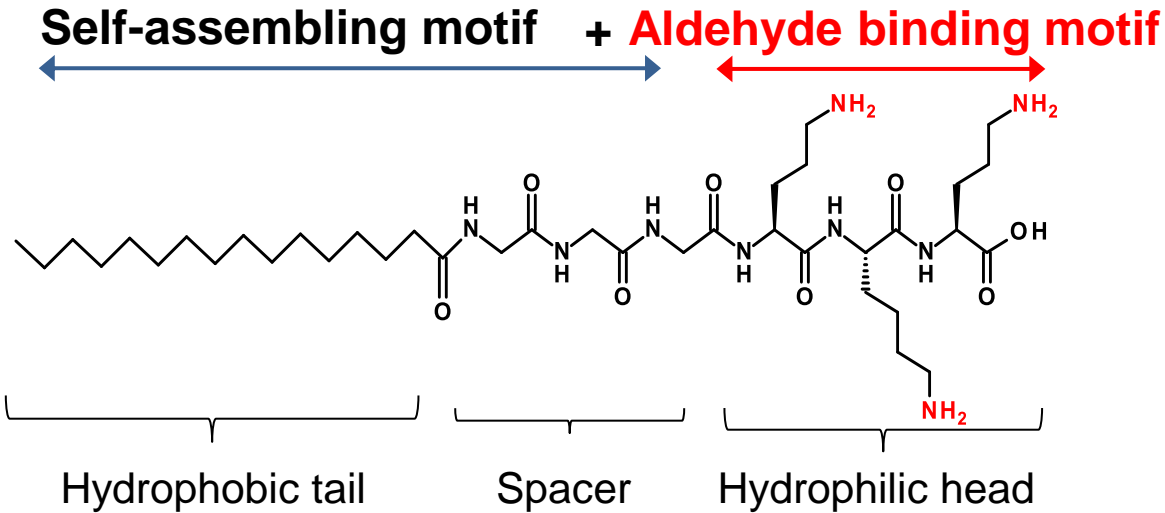
# Lysine-rich Peptide Amphiphiles (LRPAs)



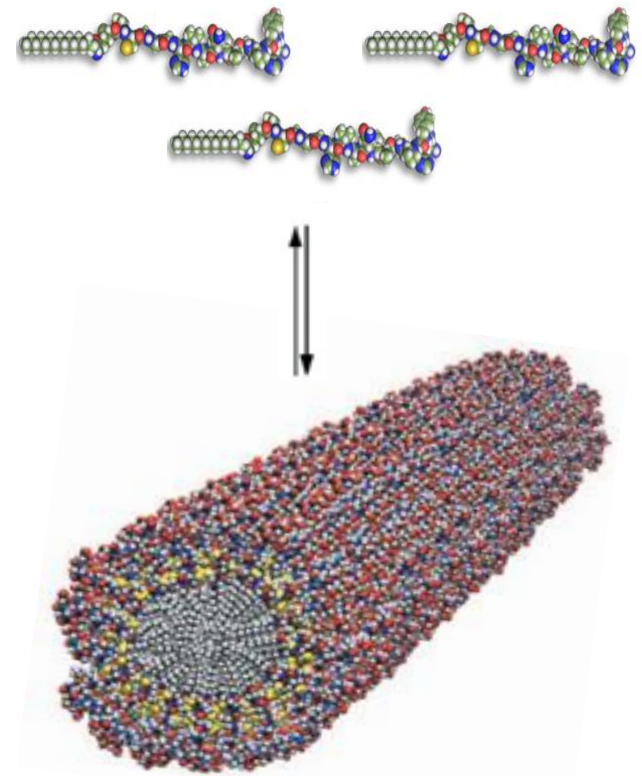


# Peptide Amphiphiles

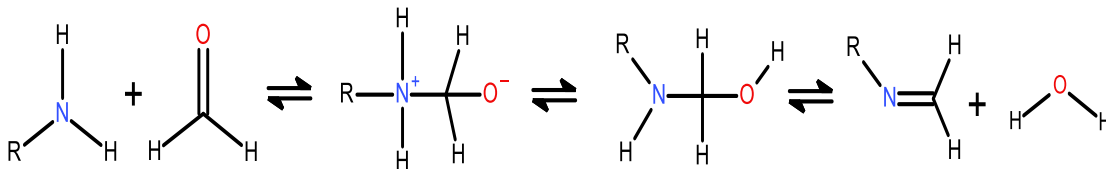
## Palmitoyl-GGGKKK [Peptide Amphiphile(PA)]



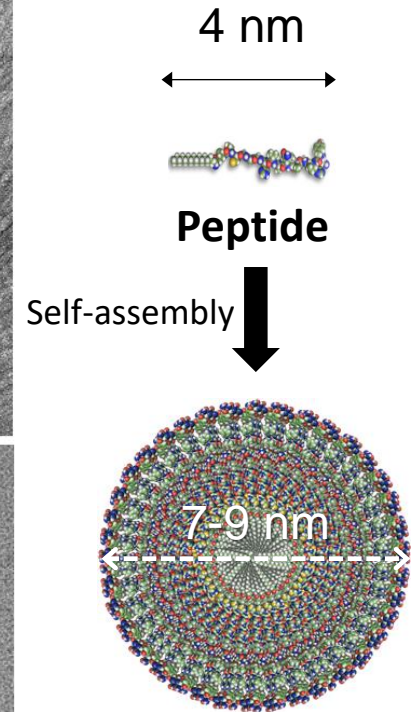
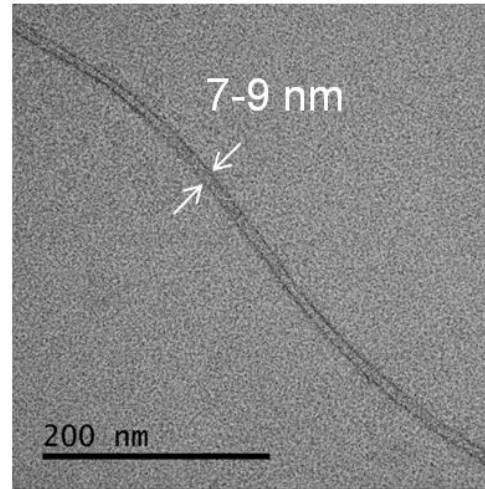
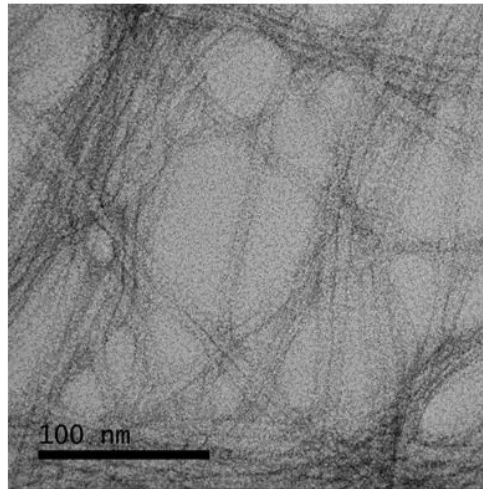
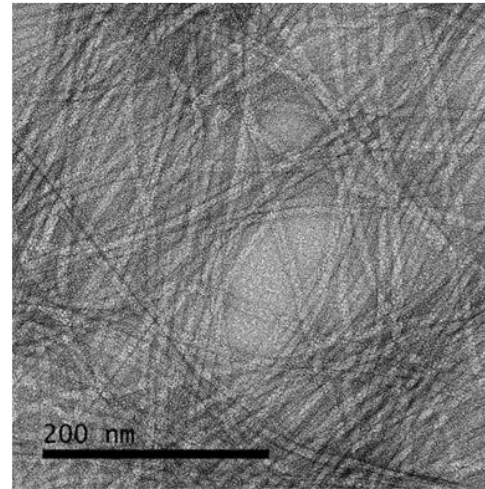
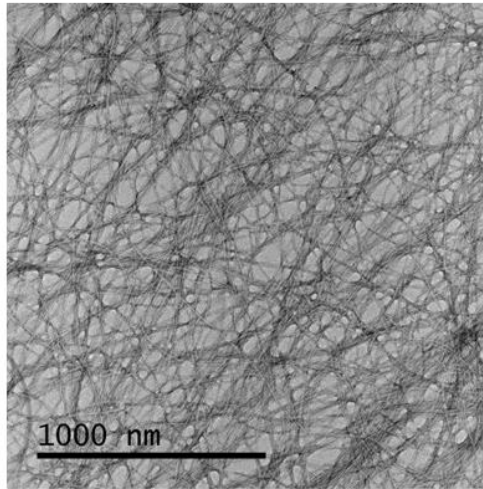
Nanofiber formation by self-assembly



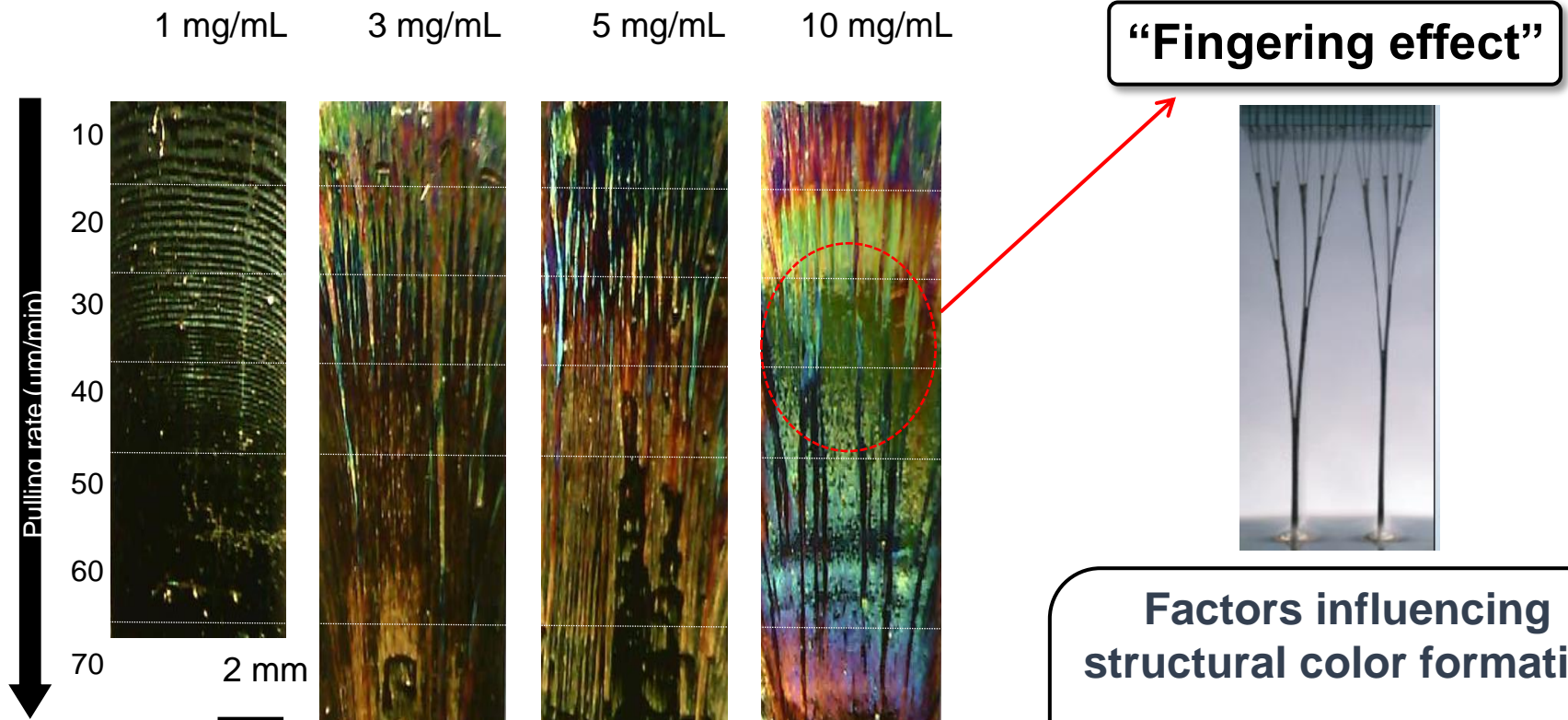
### Mechanism of imine formation



# Peptide Nanowires



# Fingering Effect: Not Good



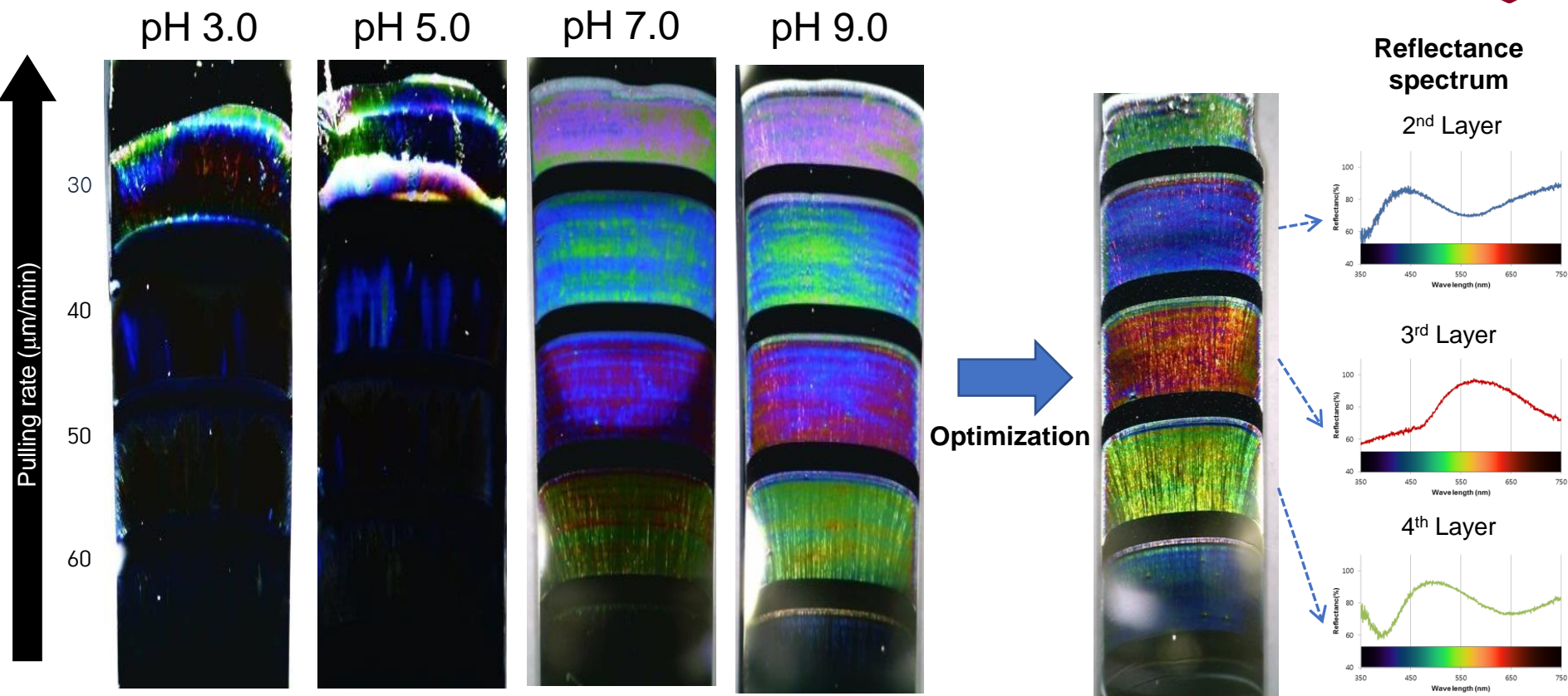
## Factors influencing structural color formation

1. Adhesion of Peptide to substrate
  - Substrate surface modification (using thiol or silane chemistry)
2. Interaction between Peptides
  - pH, ionic concentration

## Condition

Substrate	Gold-coated silicon wafer
Pal-G3K3 Solution	Solvent : DI water Concentration : 1, 3, 5, 10 mg/mL

# Control of pH



## Condition

Substrate	Aluminum-coated silicon wafer
Pal-G3K3 Solution	Solvent : Phosphate buffer (20mM / pH 3, 5, 7, 9) Concentration : 10 mg/mL

# Structural Color Matrix Characterization

Pulling rate

Color band

AFM analysis

2D-FFT analysis

M-13 phage

30  $\mu\text{m}/\text{min}$

B1

40  $\mu\text{m}/\text{min}$

B2

50  $\mu\text{m}/\text{min}$

B3

60  $\mu\text{m}/\text{min}$

B4

1 mm

Bundle diameter decrease

1  $\mu\text{m}$

Pulling rate

1st

2nd

3rd

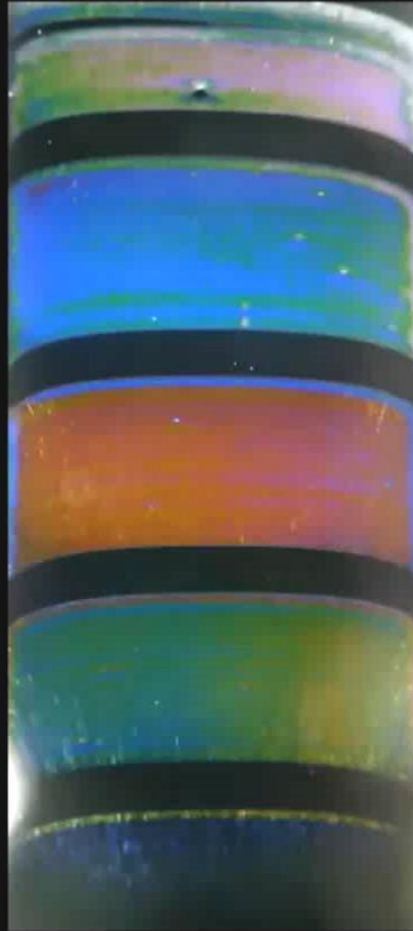
4th

JW Oh, B.Y.Lee et al. *Nature Communications* 5, 3043 (2014)

- Pulling rate affects on structure of the nanofibers.

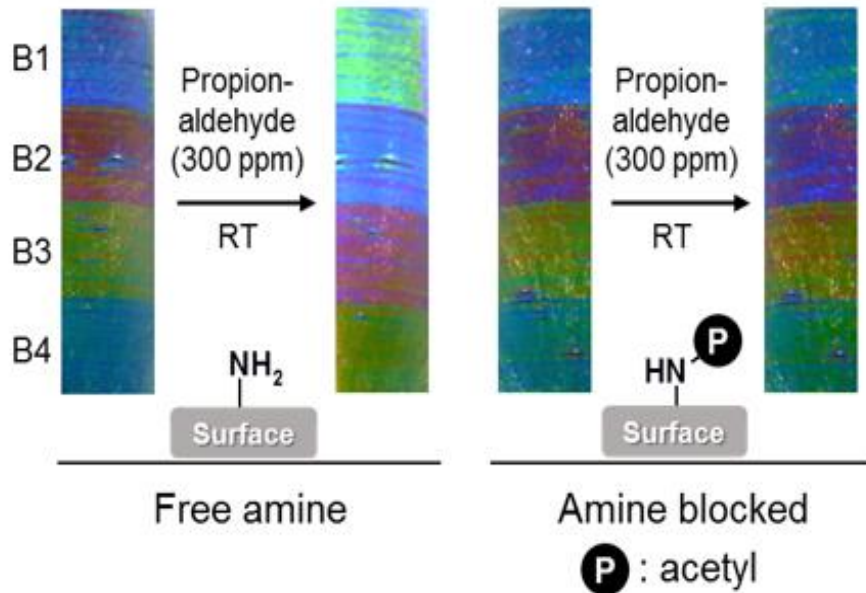
# Propanal Gas Detection

Water injection

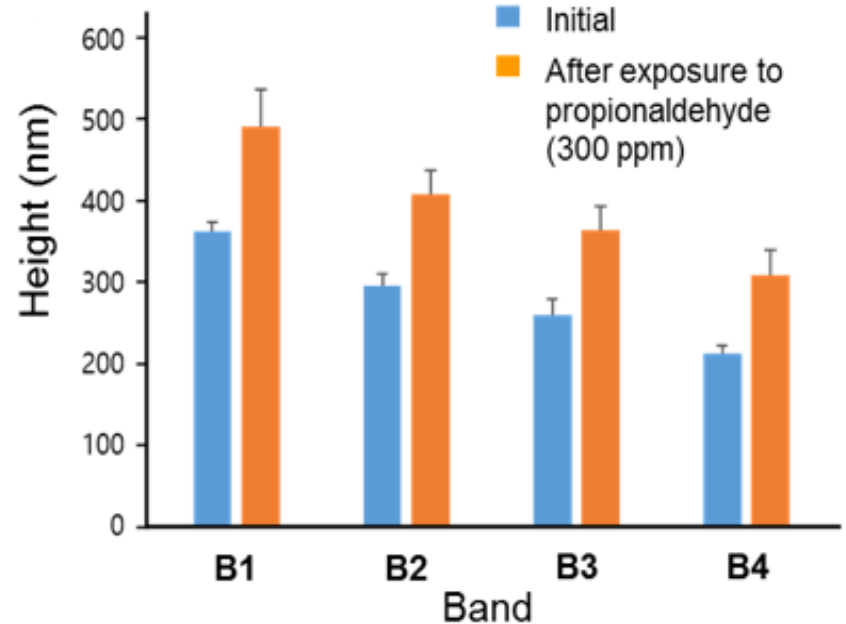


# Structural Color Change

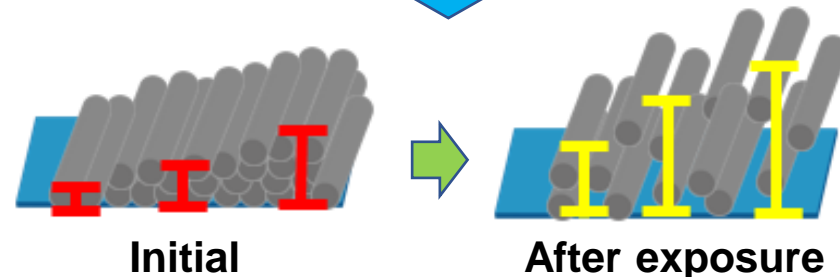
## Importance of amino groups



## Thickness upon aldehyde exposure



Swelling effect

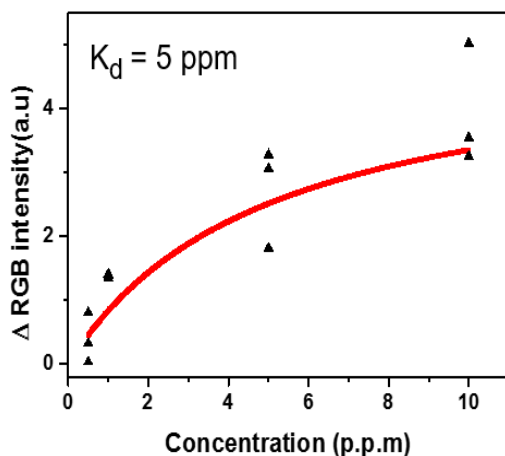


- After amine blocking (by acetylation) the pattern shows inappreciable color changes upon propionaldehyde exposure.
- Peptide amphiphile-assembled structures showed swelling with thickness increase upon interaction with aldehydes. (profilers)

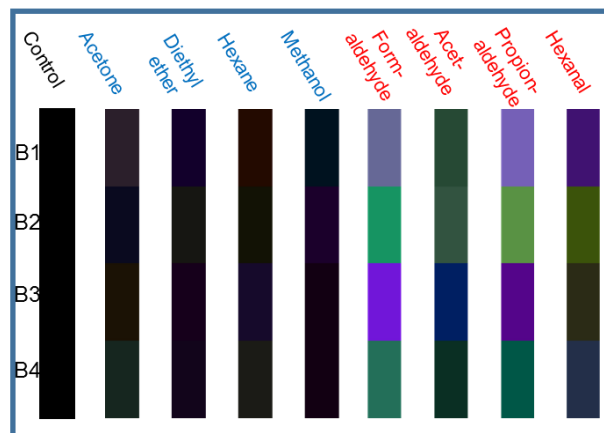
# Quantitative and Color Change Pattern Analysis



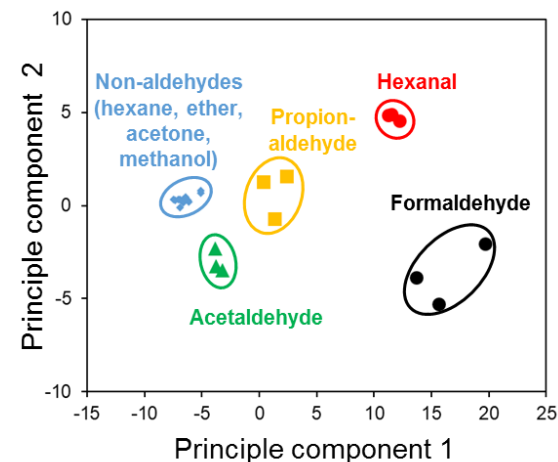
## Sensor sensitivity



## Aldehyde specific sensor



## PCA analysis



- Measurement of DRGB between aldehydes and non-aldehydes
- 2D-PCA analysis shows the separation between aldehydes and non-aldehydes
- The results confirmed that peptide color-film sensor has great potential of aldehyde-specific sensor.



# Future Applications



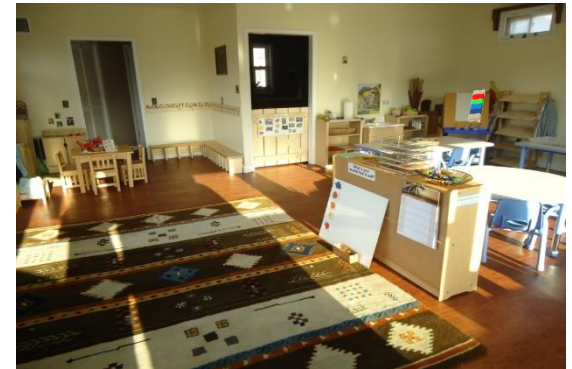
**Food Deterioration**  
(~10 ppm)



**Industry (2~6 ppm)**



**Easy to use,  
Low-cost,  
Distributed  
Monitoring**



**IAQ (~0.2 ppm)**



**Public Safety (~40 ppb)**

# Conclusions

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- **Basic Building Blocks → Structures → Functions**
    - Biomimetic
    - Biological
    - Nature-extracted
  - **Challenges: Efficient Film Fabrication Methods, Large-Area, Repeatability, Quantitative Detection**
  - **Diverse Applications:**
    - Gas Detection
    - Paper Electronics
    - Food Spoilage, etc
-

# Acknowledgments

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- **Students**

- **Wonbin Song, Gyuyeob Oh, Hyung Soo Kim, Do Hoon Lee**

- **Research Groups**

- **Prof. Woojae Chung (SKKU)**
- **Prof. Jinwoo Oh (Pusan National Univ)**
- **Prof. Seung-Wuk Lee (UC, Berkeley)**



National Research  
Foundation of Korea



MINISTRY OF  
ENVIRONMENT



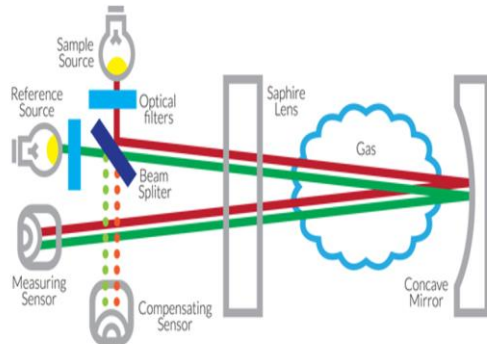
**LG Electronics**

**Thank you for your attention.**

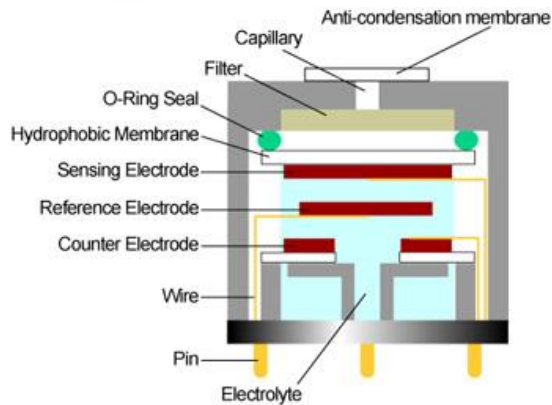
# Structural color for sensor application

## Conventional gas sensor

Optical  
23%



Electro-chemical  
52%



Electro-catalytic  
23%



Toxic  
chemicals

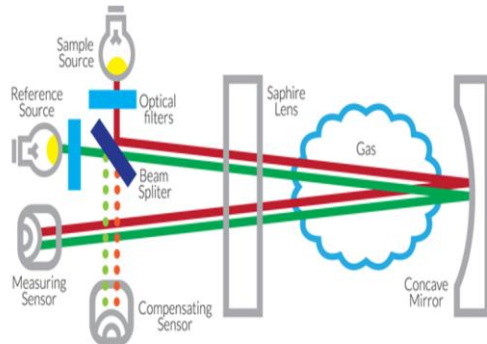
Expansive

Power  
consumption

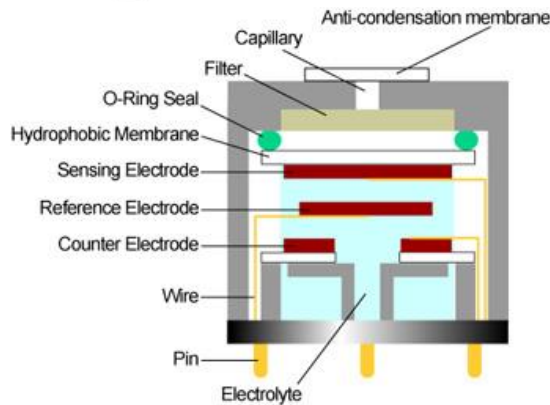
# Structural color for sensor application

## Conventional gas sensor

Optical  
23%



Electro-chemical  
52%



Electro-catalytic  
20%



**Structural  
color  
sensor**

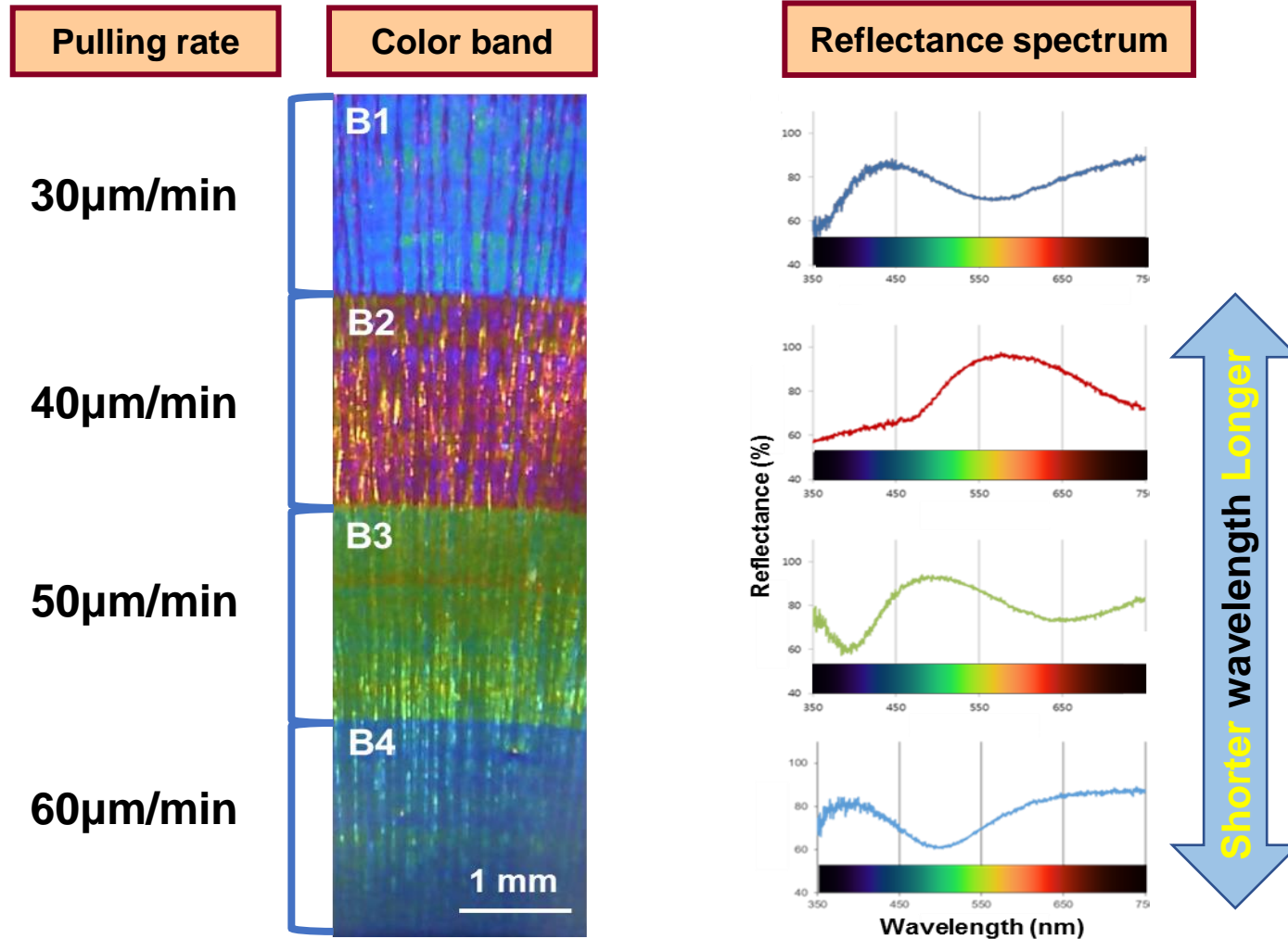
**Simple  
production**

**Low price**

**Power free  
system**



# Structural Color Matrix Characterization

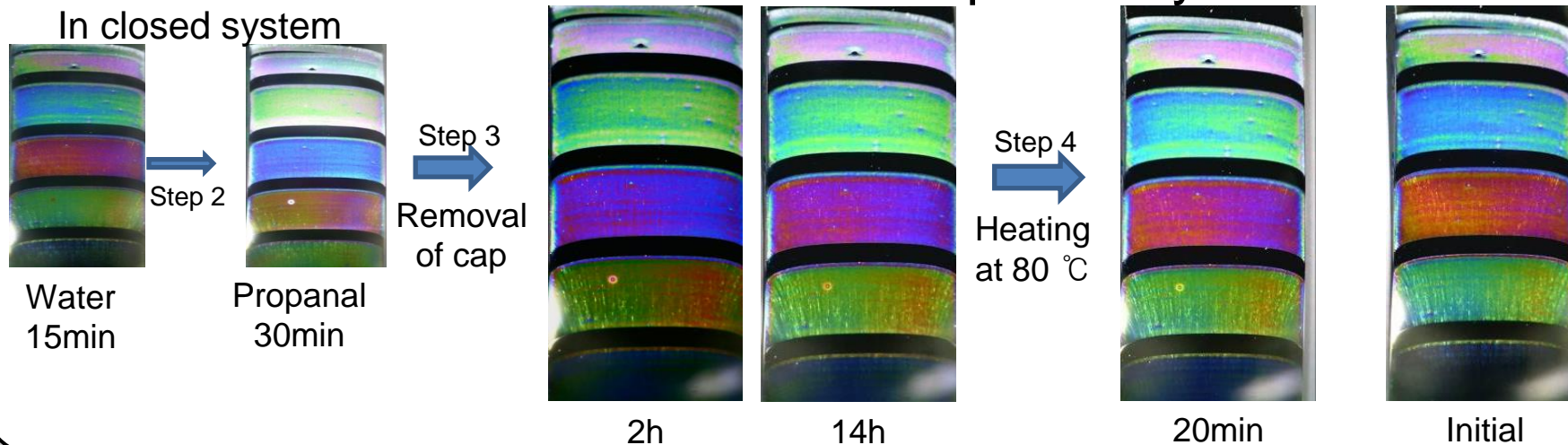


- The nanofibrous structures with larger diameter exhibited a longer wavelength colors.

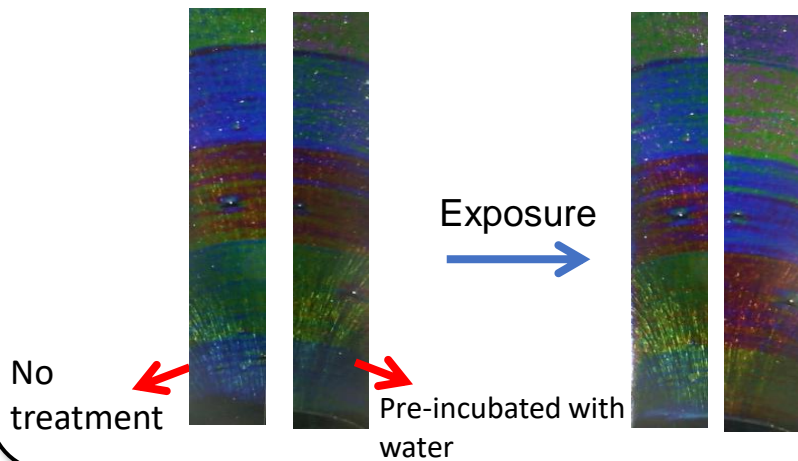
# 타겟 가스와의 결합 반응 연구

## Reversibility

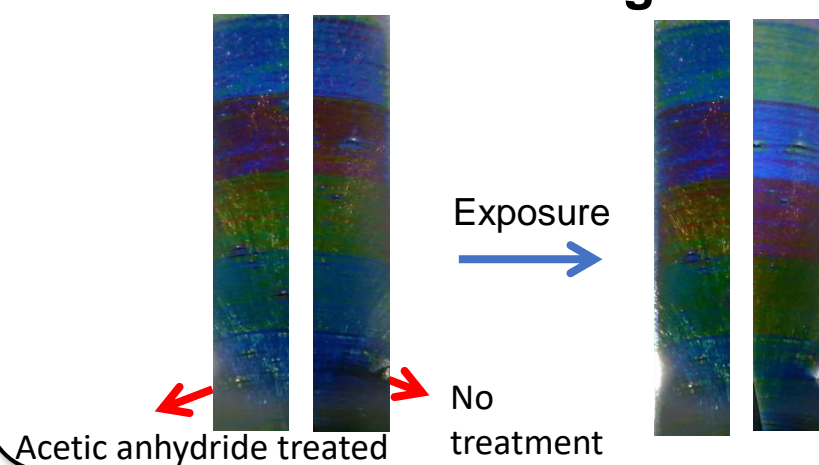
## In opened system



## Pre-incubation with water



## Amine blocking





## Cellulose nanocrystal colored thin films

- ▷ Developed method for tuning color of nanocellulose film utilizing material's unique properties.
- ▷ Observed micro/nano structure of the color film and deviation caused by fabrication condition variance.

## CNC color film for aldehyde gas sensors

- ▷ Developed method for tuning color of nanocellulose film utilizing its unique properties.
- ▷ Observed micro/nano structure of the color film and deviation caused by the fabrication condition variance.