

nanoscience and nanotechnology: small is different



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# Nanoimprint lithography and hybrid processes

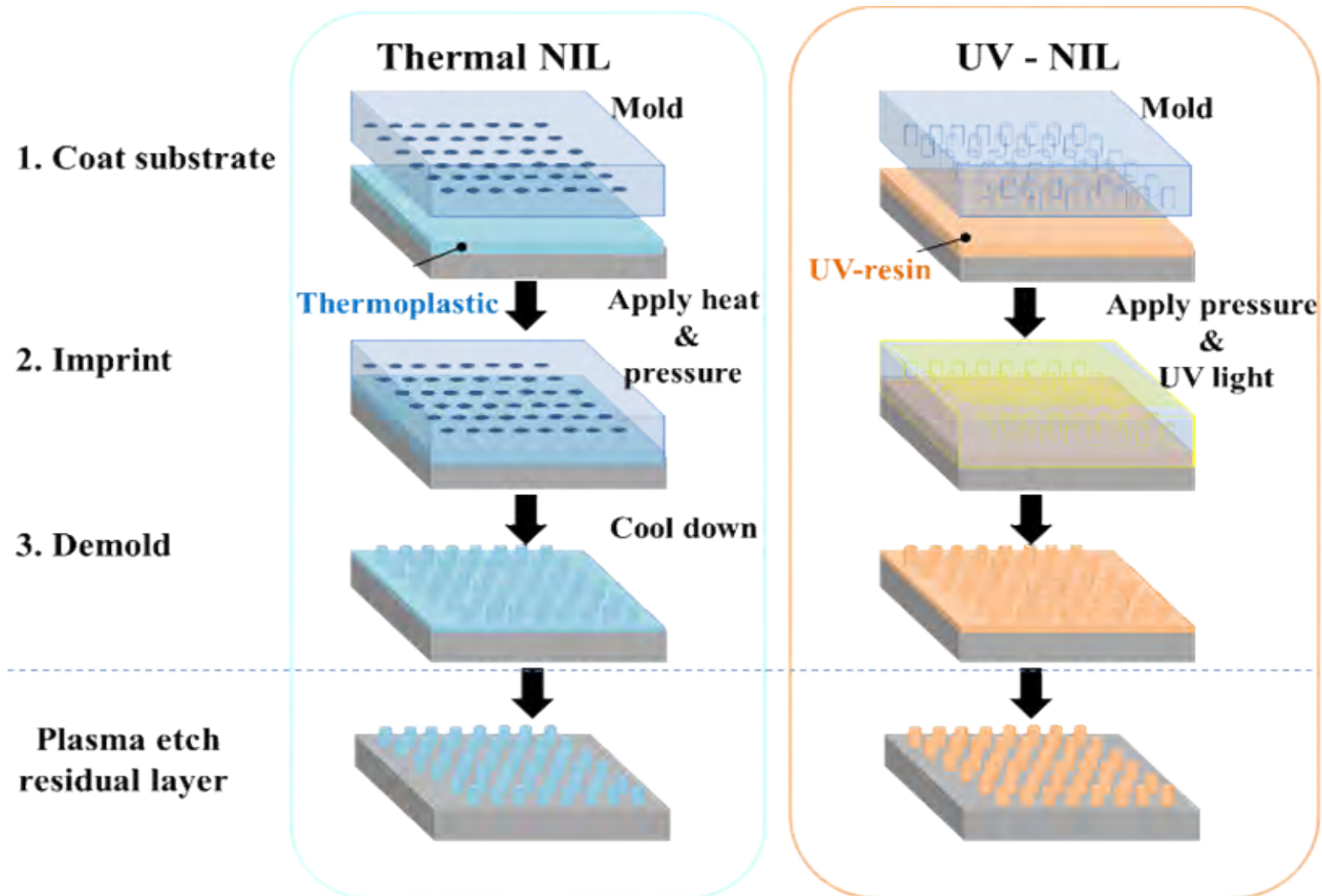
*to produce complex nanostructures*

Isabel Rodríguez  
i.rodriguez@imdea.org



# Nano Imprint Lithography - NIL

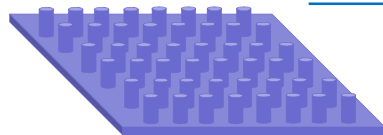
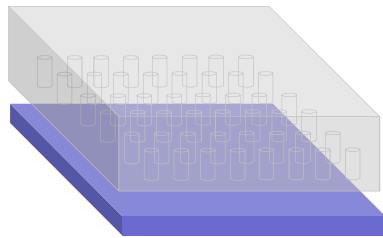
**A replication process** : Pattern transfer by mechanical deformation of a flowing resist material



# Soft -NIL

## Thermal-NIL

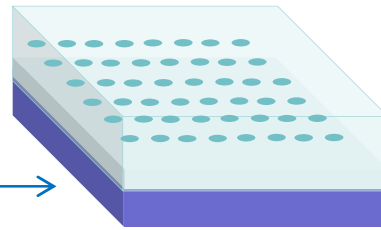
### Hard Mold



### IPS

Intermediate polymer stamp

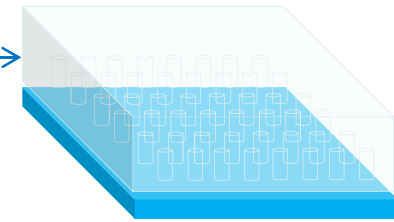
## Soft lithography



### Soft Mold

PDMS  
 PFPE

## Soft NIL



### Patterned polymer

### Soft -NIL:

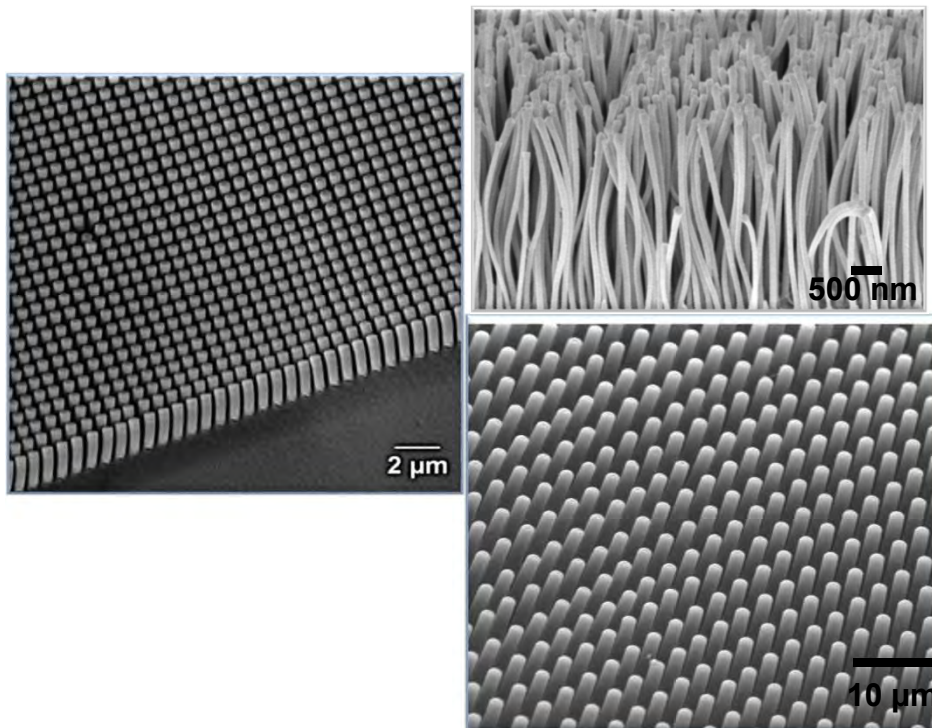
- Sequential action of peeling the mold from substrate
- High gas permeability
- Conformal contact to substrate
- Low surface energy

PDMS: Polydimetilsiloxane

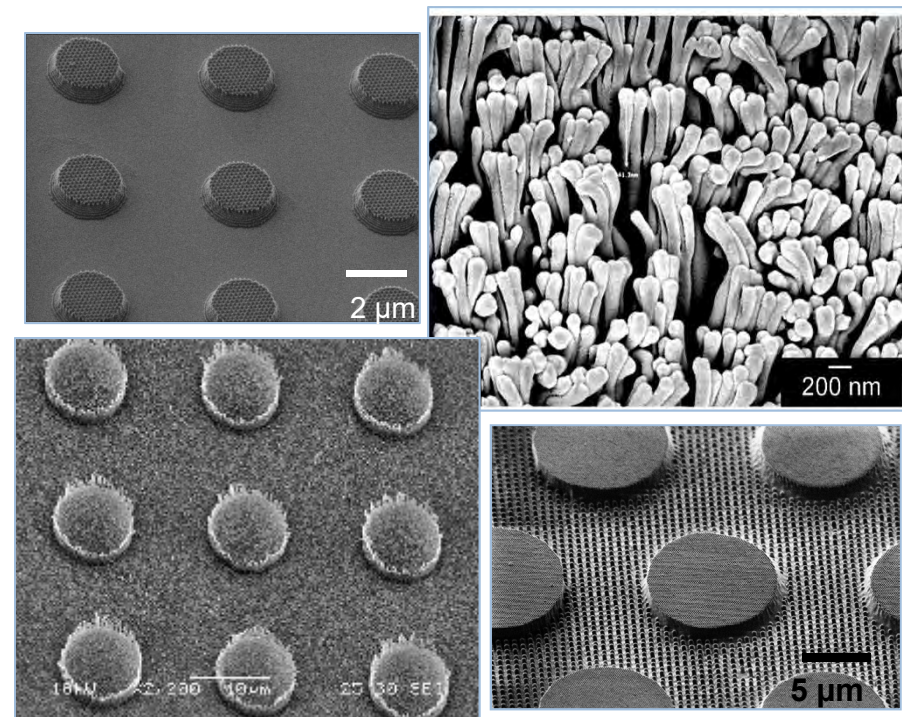
PFPE: Polyurethane based on perfluoropolyether

# Key Technological Expertise

## High Aspect Ratio Topographies



## Complex Hierarchical Topographies

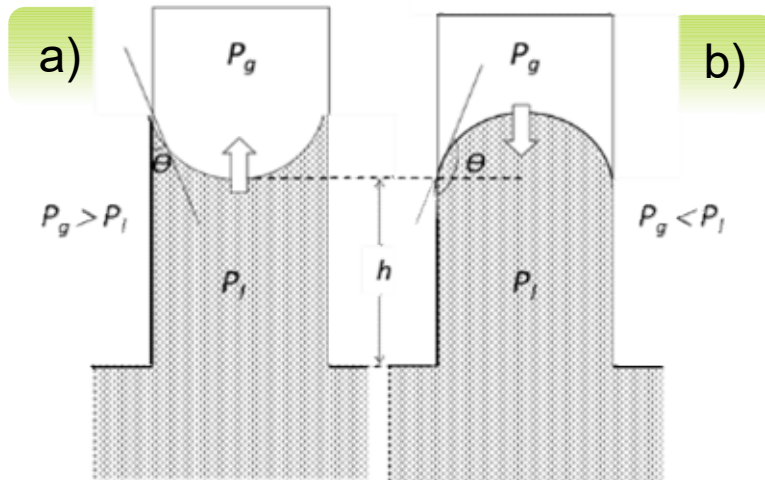


# High Aspect Ratio NIL

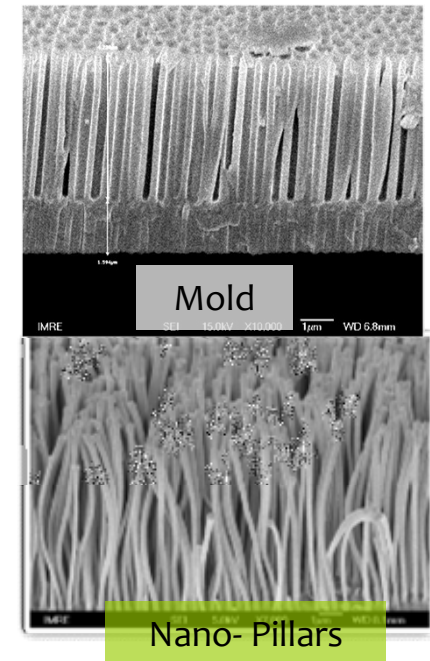
Laplace pressure - Capillary forces



$$\Delta P_c = P_g - P_l = \frac{2 \gamma \cos \theta}{r}$$



- a) polymer wets the capillary ( $\theta < 90^\circ$ )
- b) polymer does not wet the capillary ( $\theta > 90^\circ$ )

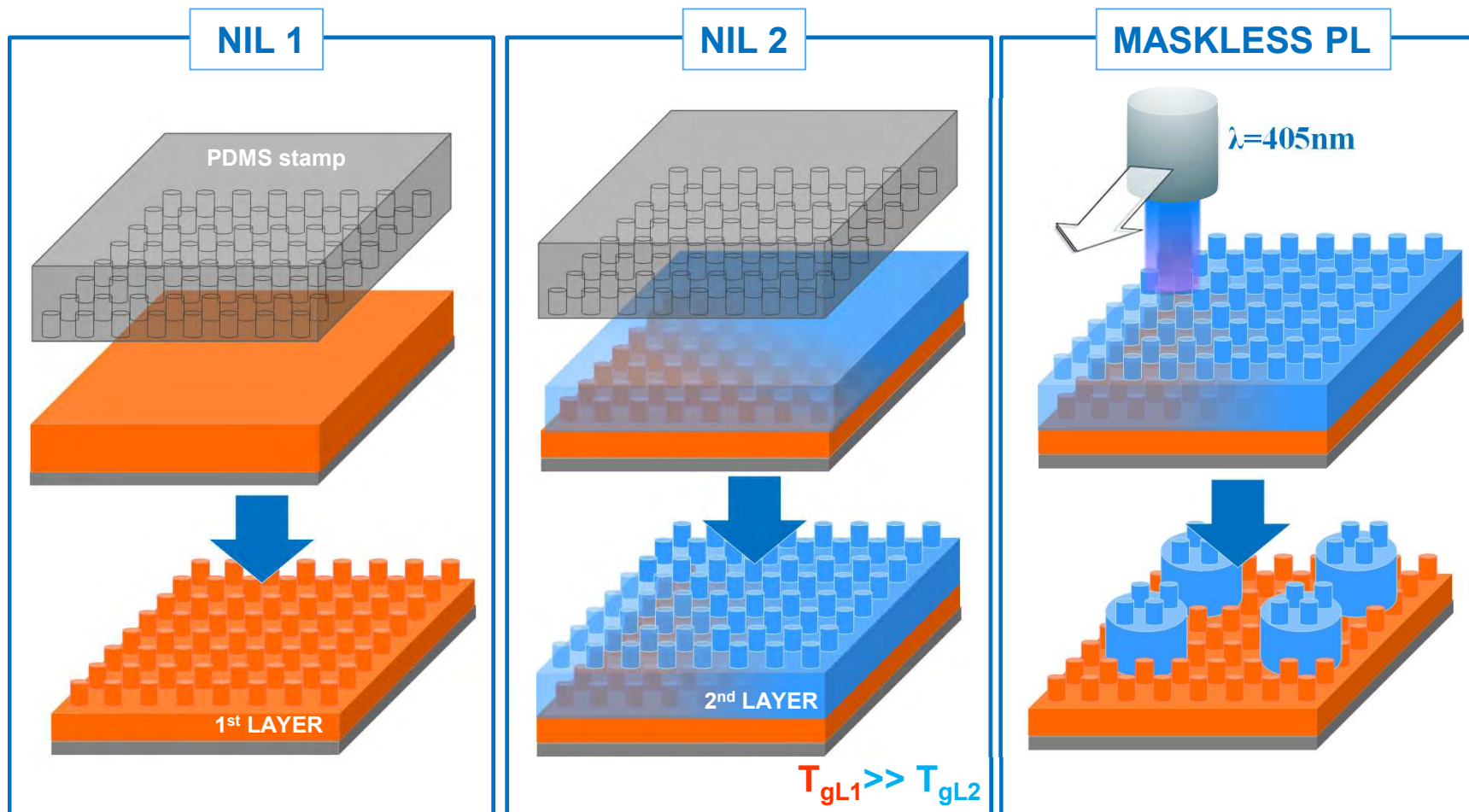


Lucas-Washburn equation:

$$\frac{dh}{dt} = \frac{r \gamma \cos \theta}{4 \eta h} \quad t = \frac{2 \eta h^2}{r \gamma \cos \theta}$$

$\gamma_p$  - surface tension of the viscous polymer  
 $\eta$  - the viscosity  
 $\theta$  - the solid-liquid contact angle  
 $r$  - the capillary radius.

# Hybrid fabrication process: NIL + PL

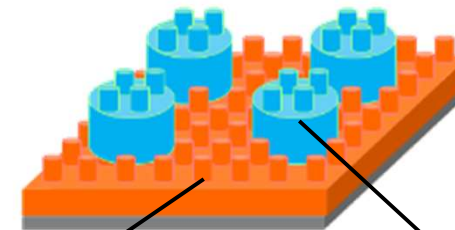
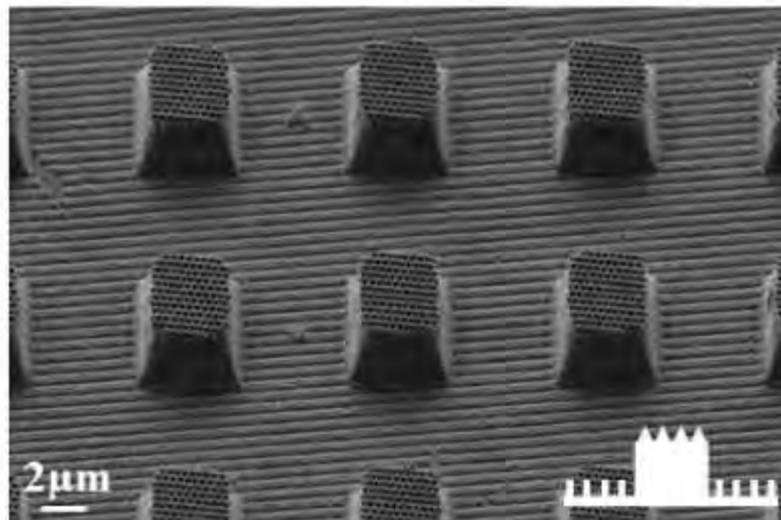
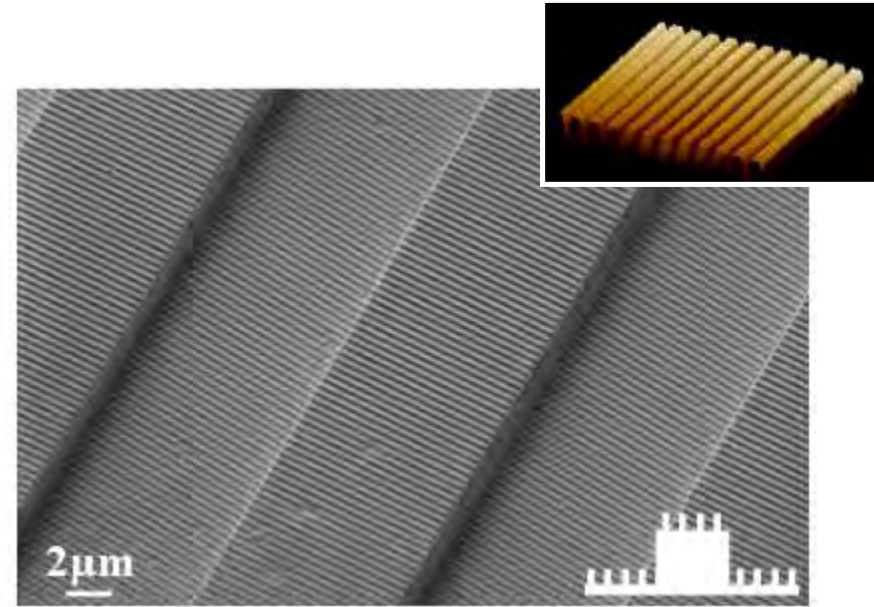
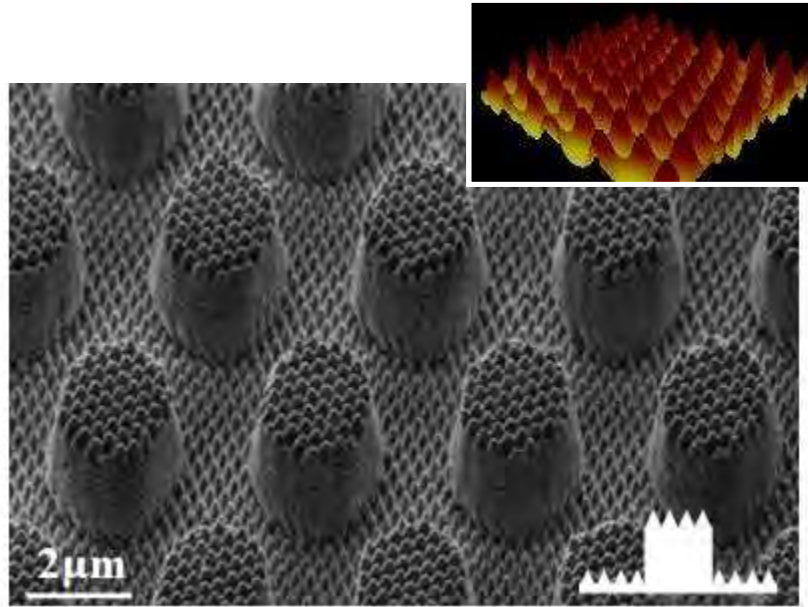


NIL: Nanoimprint Lithography ; PL: Photolithography



# Micro & Nano Hierarchical Structures

## 1<sup>ST</sup> LAYER: THERMOPLASTIC

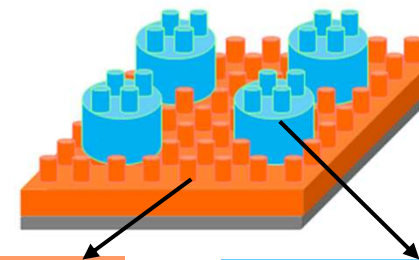
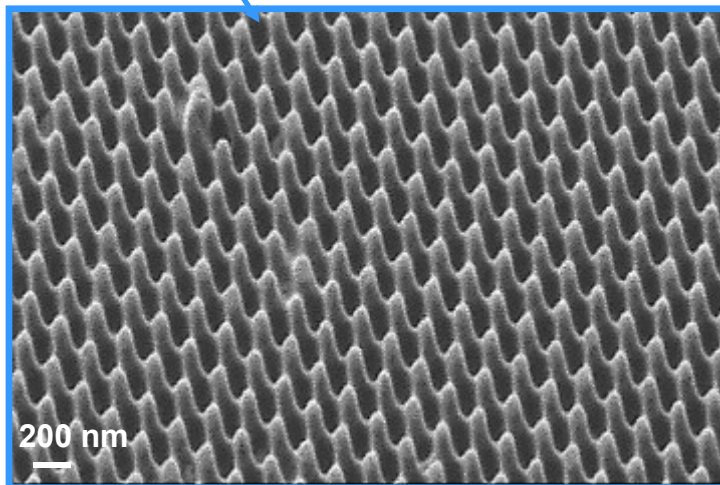
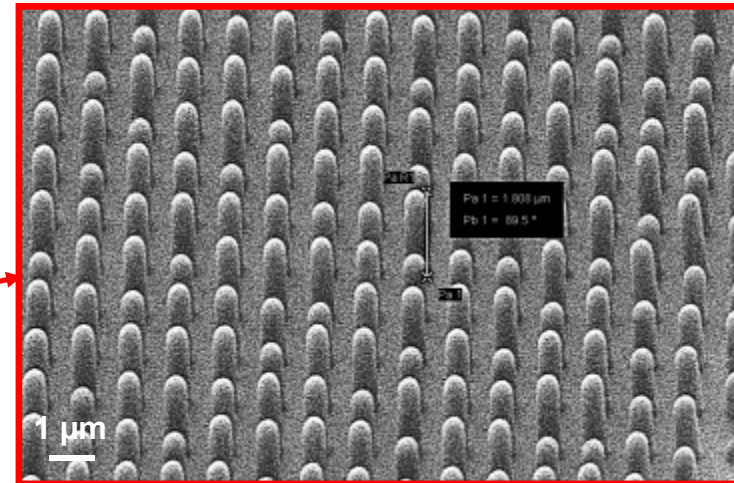
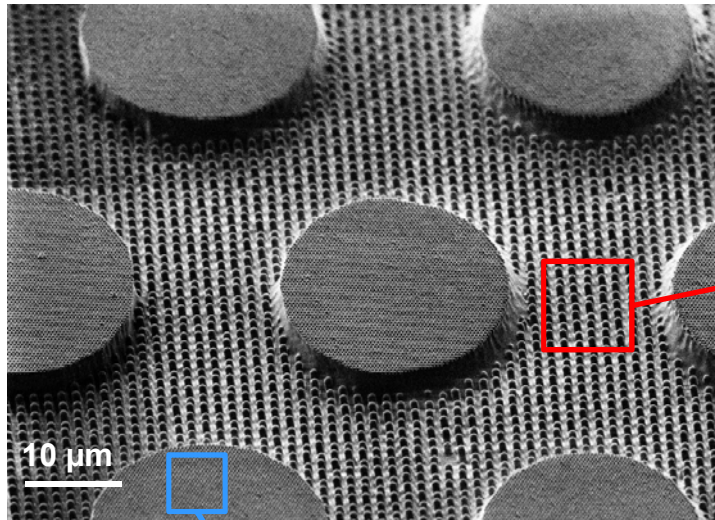


**PMMA-A4**  
 $T_g = 98-106^\circ\text{C}$   
 $T_{NIL} = 170^\circ\text{C}$   
 $P_{NIL} = 30\text{bar}$   
 $t = 5\text{min}$

**AZ1512**  
 S.C: 2000rpm, 1min  
 $T_{NIL} = 100^\circ\text{C}$   
 $P_{NIL} = 30\text{bar}$   
 $t = 5\text{min}$

# Micro & Nano Hierarchical Structures

## 1<sup>ST</sup> LAYER: THERMOSET

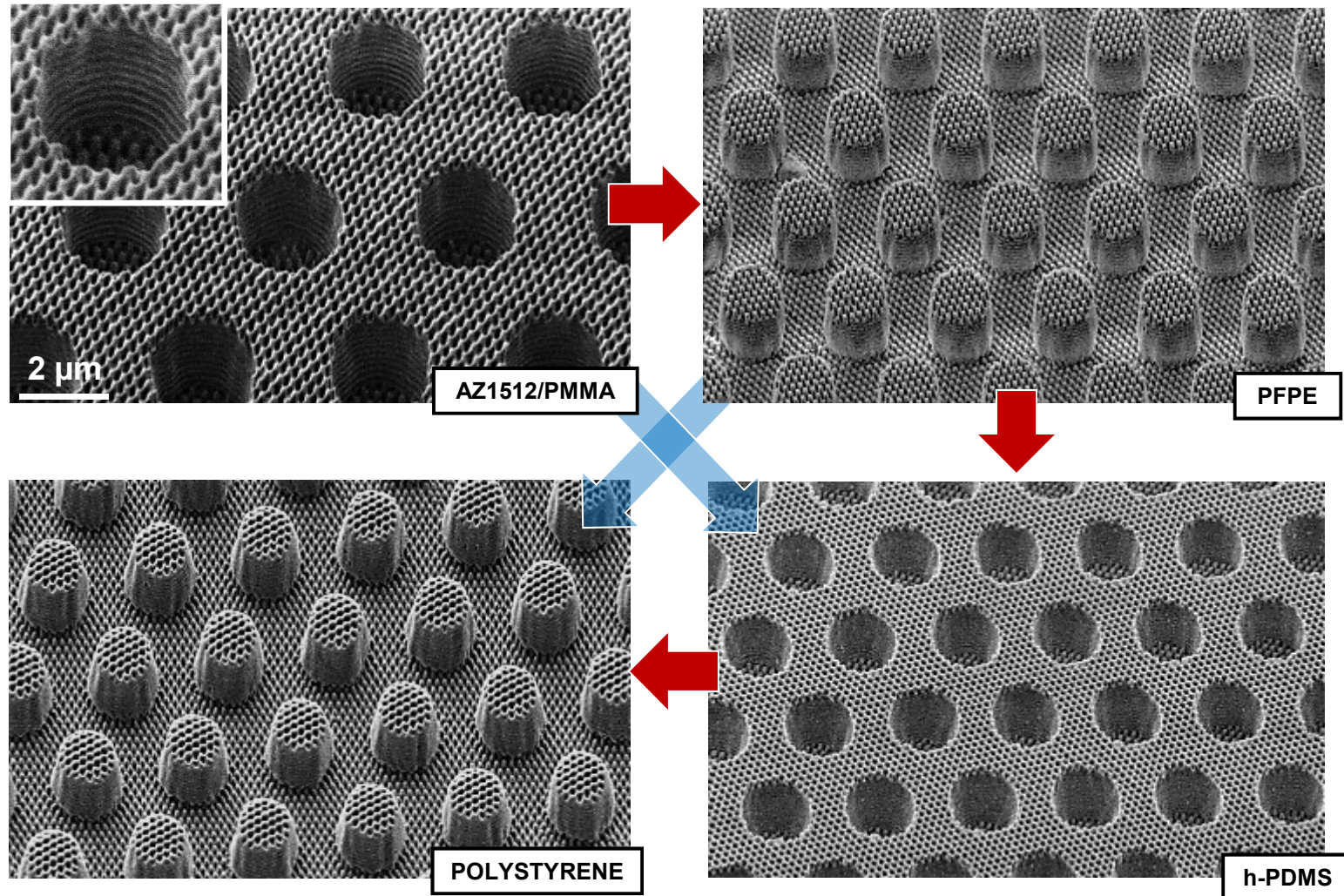


**EpoTek**  
 $T_{UV-NIL} = 60^{\circ}\text{C}$   
 $P_{NIL} = 30\text{bar}$   
 $t = 5\text{min}$

**AZ1512**  
 S.C: 2000rpm, 1min  
 $T_{NIL} = 100^{\circ}\text{C}$   
 $P_{NIL} = 30\text{bar}$   
 $t = 5\text{min}$



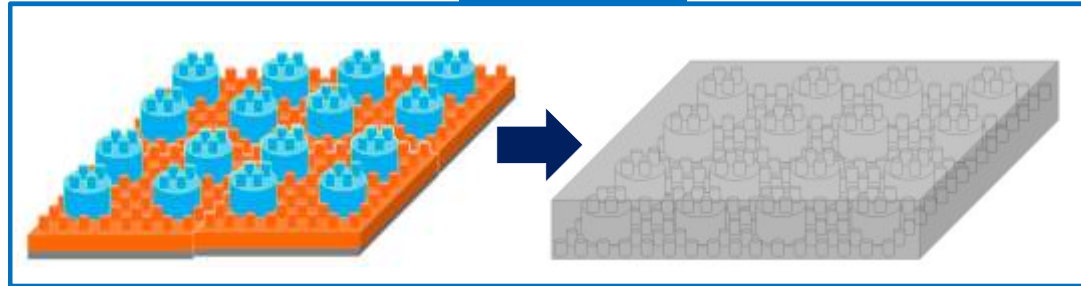
# Soft-NIL - Polymer replication



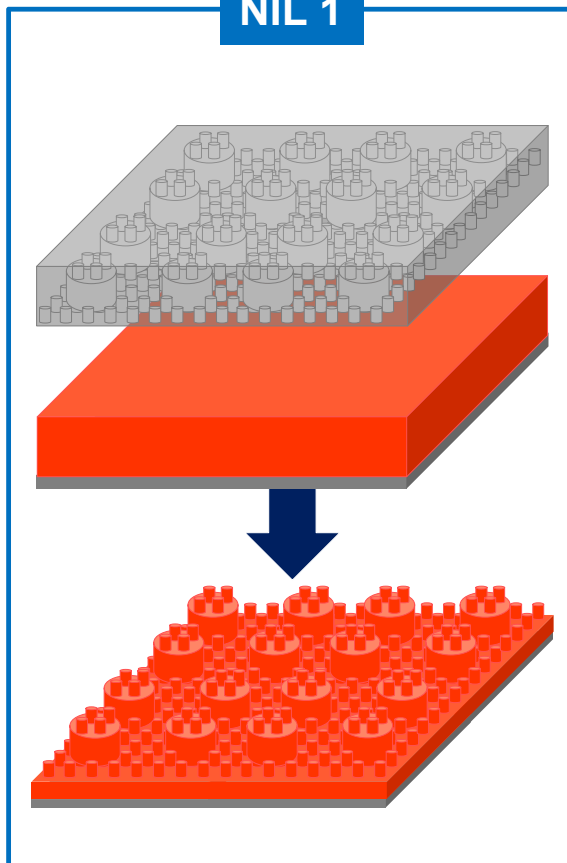
PFPE - Perfluoropolyether  
PMMA - Poly(methyl methacrylate)  
PDMS - Polydimethylsiloxane

# Multilevel Hierarchical Structures

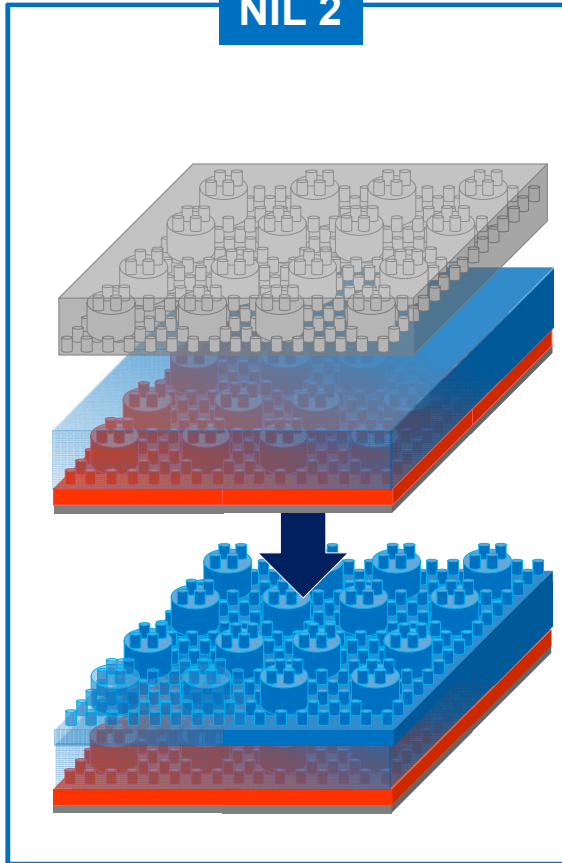
**REPLICA**



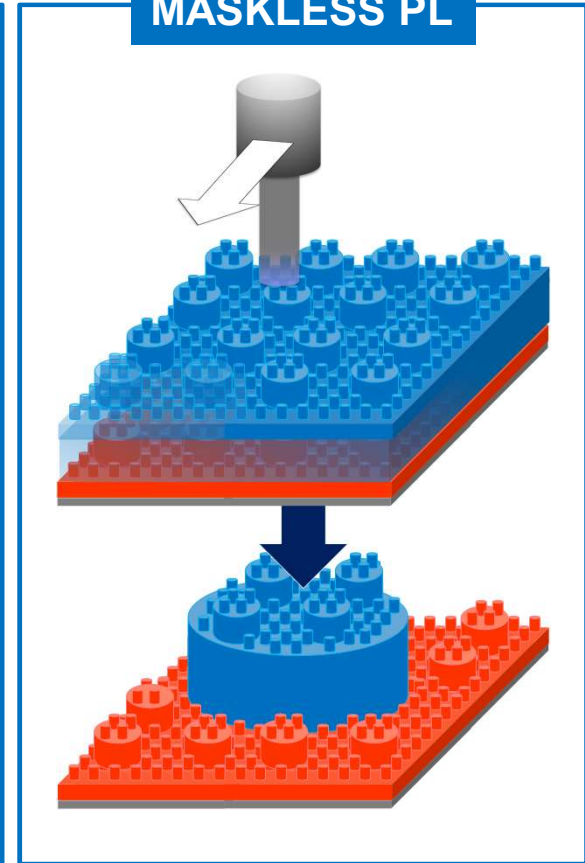
**NIL 1**



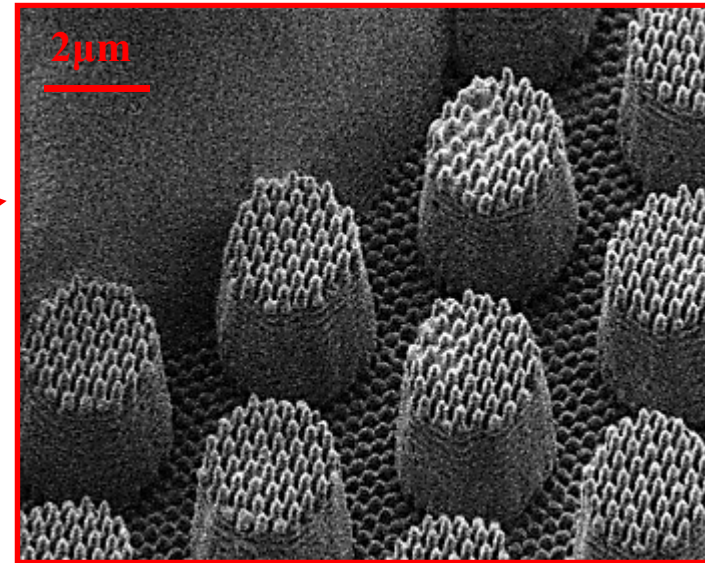
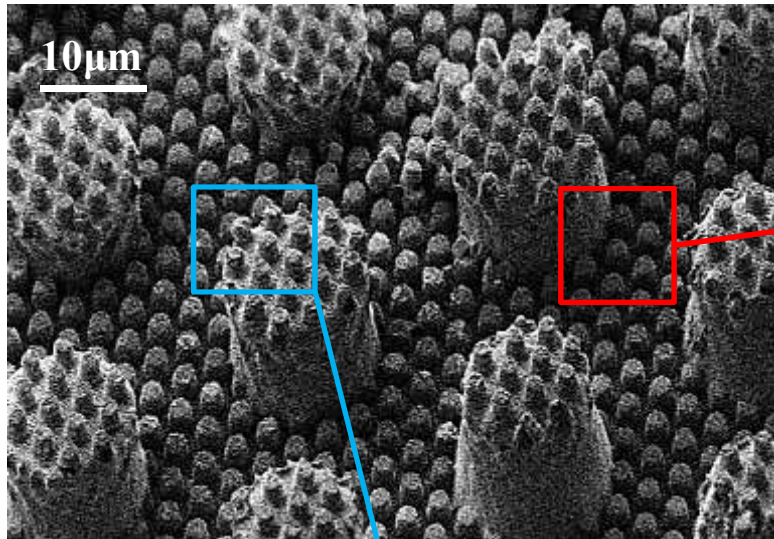
**NIL 2**



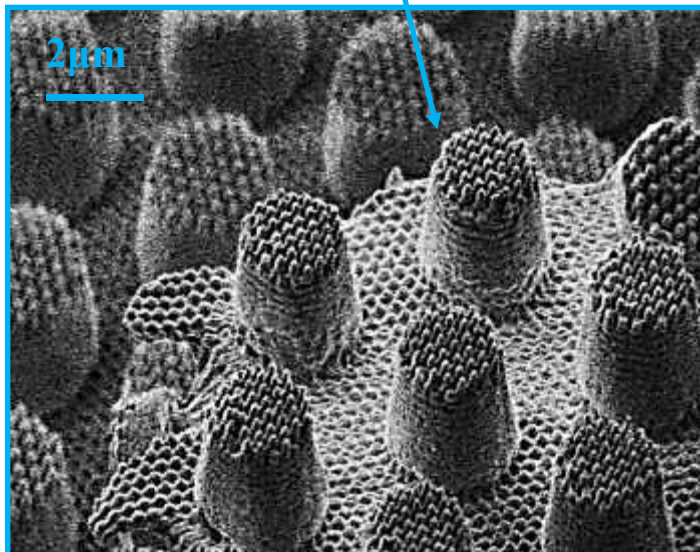
**MASKLESS PL**



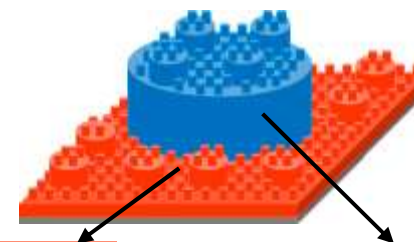
# Multilevel Hierarchical Structures



**BOTTOM**



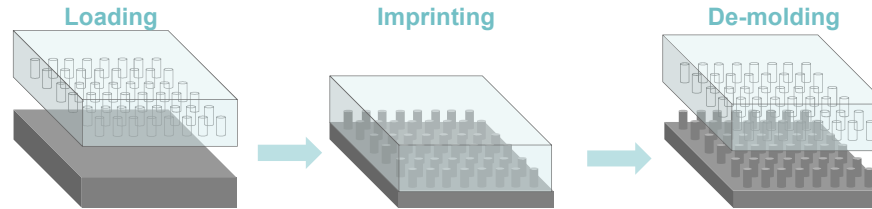
**TOP**



**EpoTek**  
 $T_{UV-NIL} = 60^{\circ}\text{C}$   
 $P_{NIL} = 30\text{bar}$   
 $t = 5\text{min}$

**AZ 9260**  
S.C: 2000rpm, 1min  
 $T_{NIL} = 110^{\circ}\text{C}$   
 $P_{NIL} = 30\text{bar}$   
 $t = 5\text{min}$

# Nanoimprint Lithography (NIL) Tools



3" wafers - UV & Thermal NIL  
Thermosets & thermoplastic materials

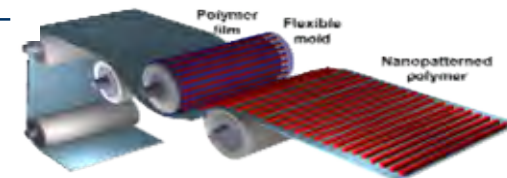
Obducat Eitre® E3



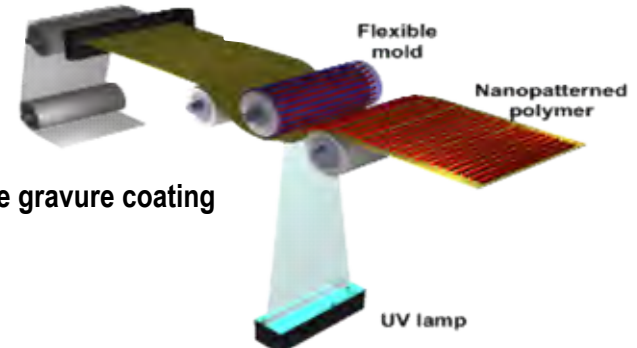
Nº registro: 432



Thermal -NIL



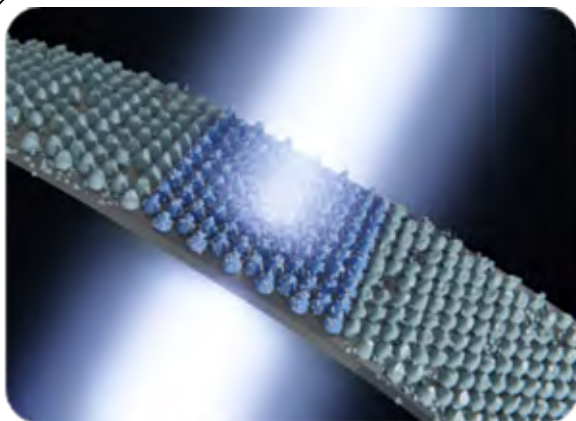
UV-NIL



Reverse gravure coating

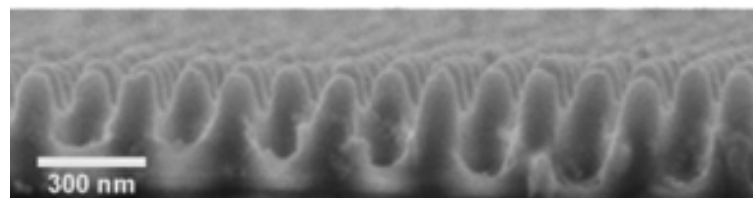
Roll to Roll NIL - Pilot facility for scale-up processing (5 m/min)

# Moth-eye biomimetic anti-reflective surfaces



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Moth-eye  $\text{TiO}_2$  reinforced surface nanocomposite nano patterns



Nanoscale



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**Single-imprint moth-eye anti-reflective and self-cleaning film with enhanced resistance†**

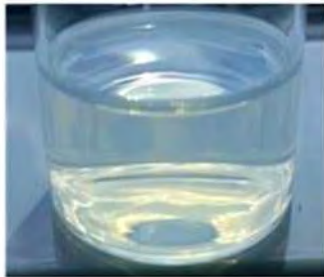
Cite this: *Nanoscale*, 2018, 10, 15496.

Iván Navarro-Baena,<sup>†\*</sup> Alejandra Jacobo-Martín,<sup>†\*</sup> Jaime J. Hernández,<sup>†\*</sup> Jose R. Castro-Smirnov,<sup>†</sup> Felipe Viela,<sup>†\*</sup> Miguel A. Monclús,<sup>††</sup> Manuel R. Osorio,<sup>†\*</sup> Jon M. Molina-Aldareguia<sup>††</sup> and Isabel Rodríguez<sup>†\*\*</sup>

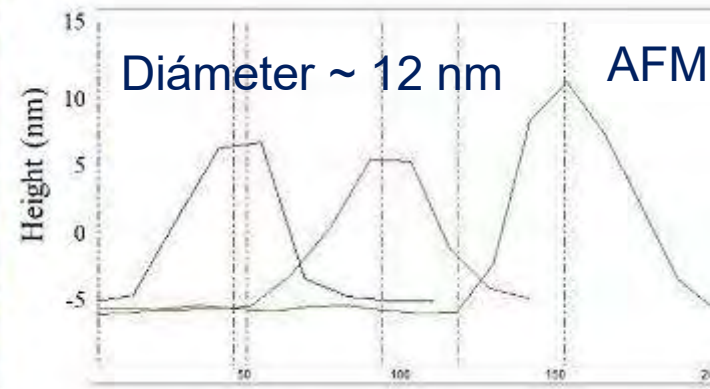
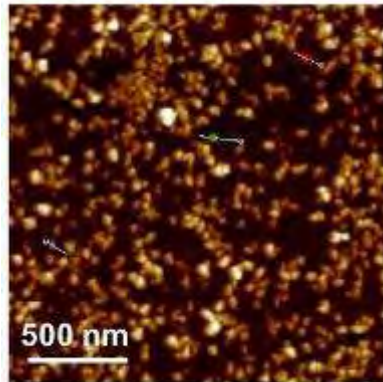
# TiO<sub>2</sub> Surface Nanocomposite

## Preparation of polymer nanocomposite

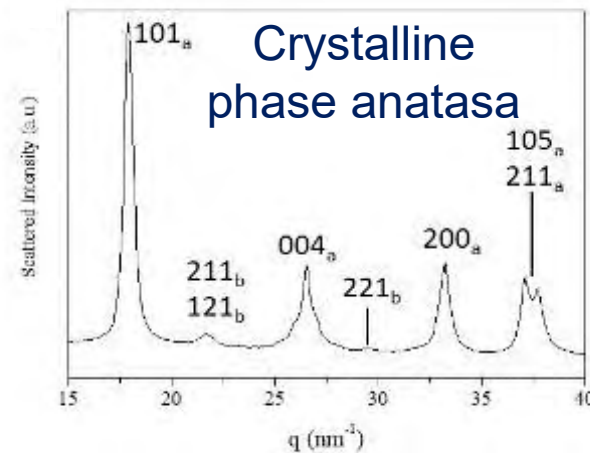
TiO<sub>2</sub> nanoparticles: Hydrothermal synthesis



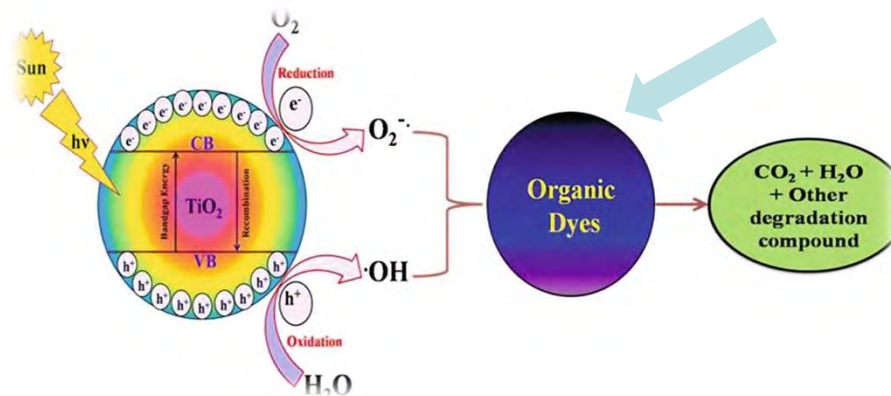
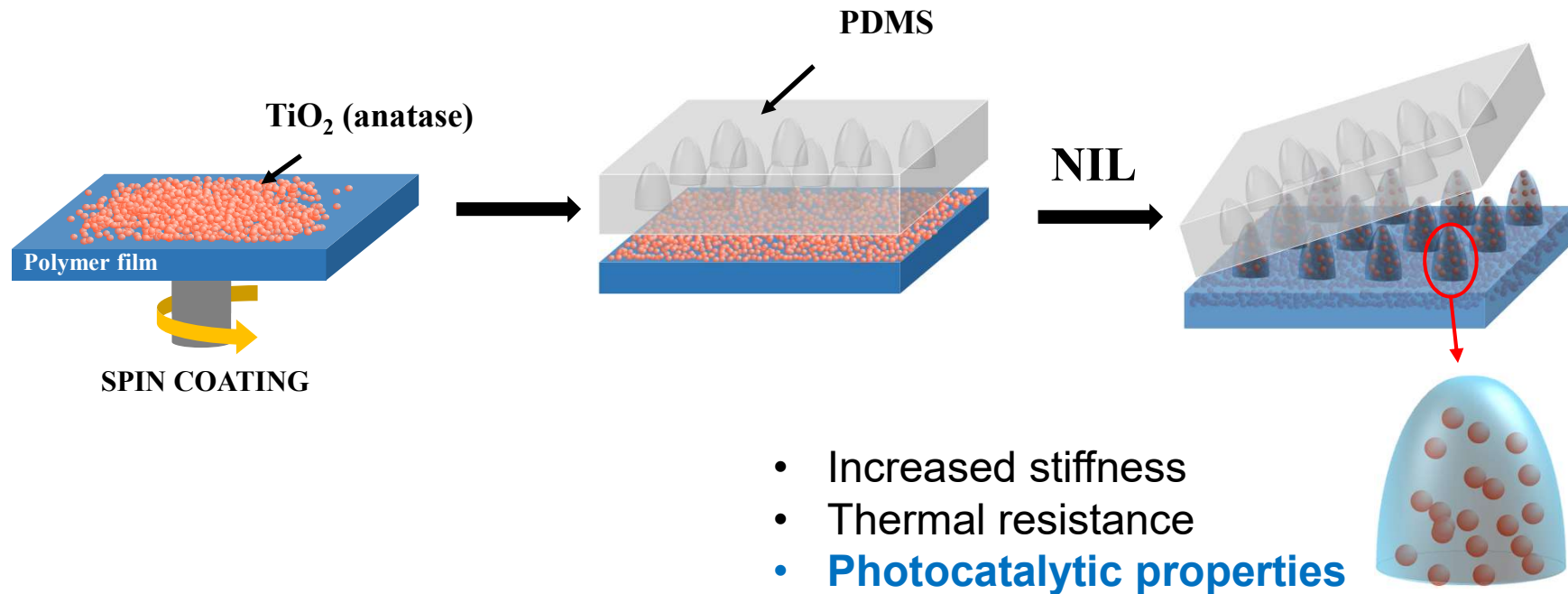
Coloidal suspensión



## WAXS

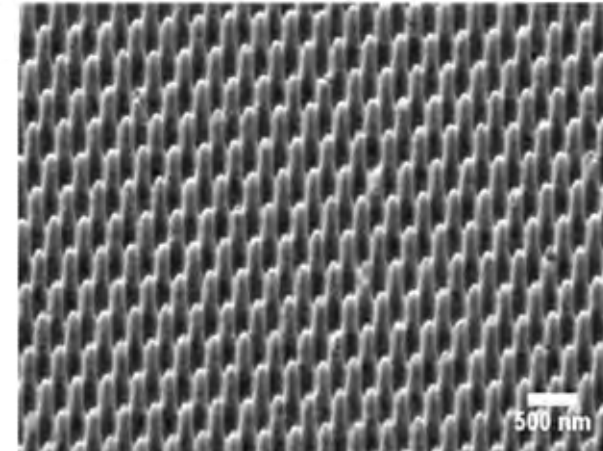
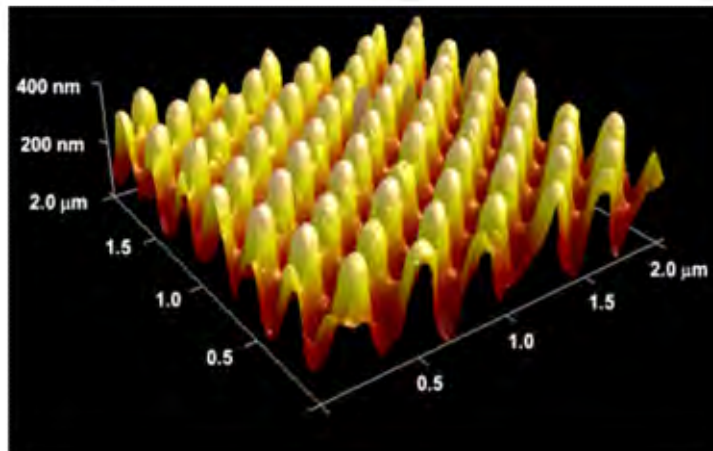


# Anti-reflective surface nanocomposite



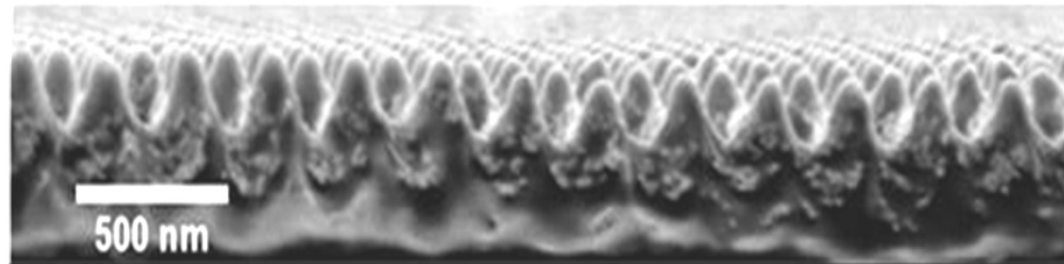
# Moth-eye imprinted topography

## Morphology: SEM & AFM images



Moth-eye Nano-patterns →

Nano-particles →

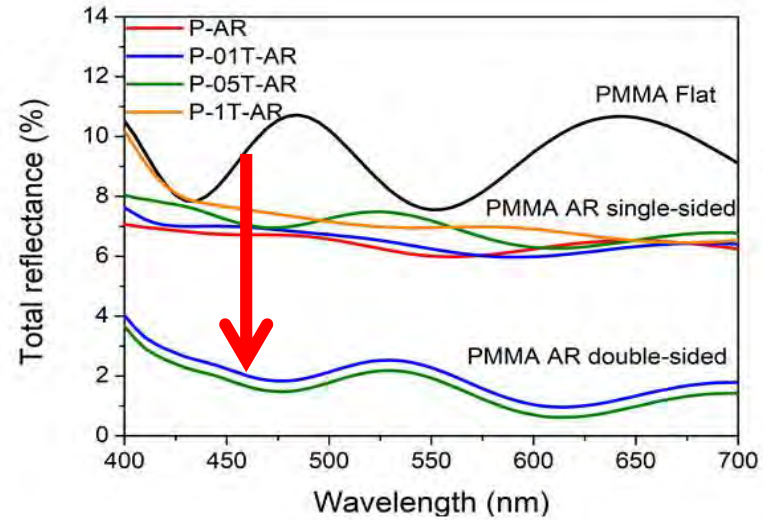


- High fidelity replication of the master mold on PMMA Nanocomposites
- Good nanoparticles dispersion
- Embedded particles within the polymer

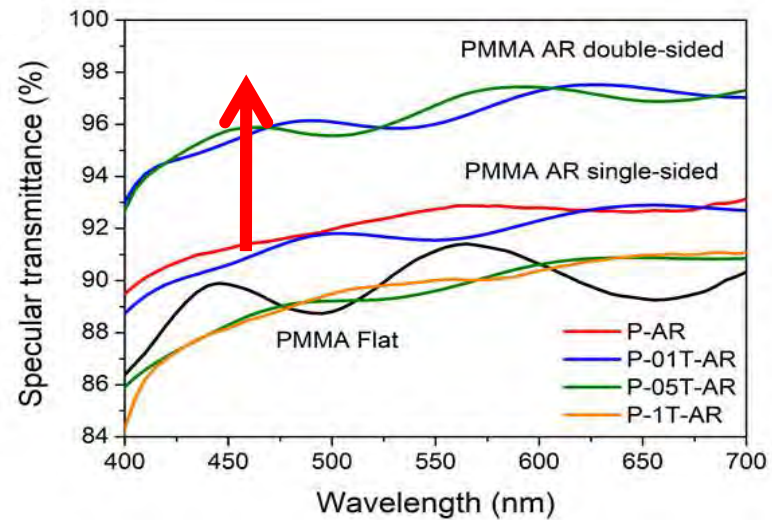


# Moth-eye optical characterization

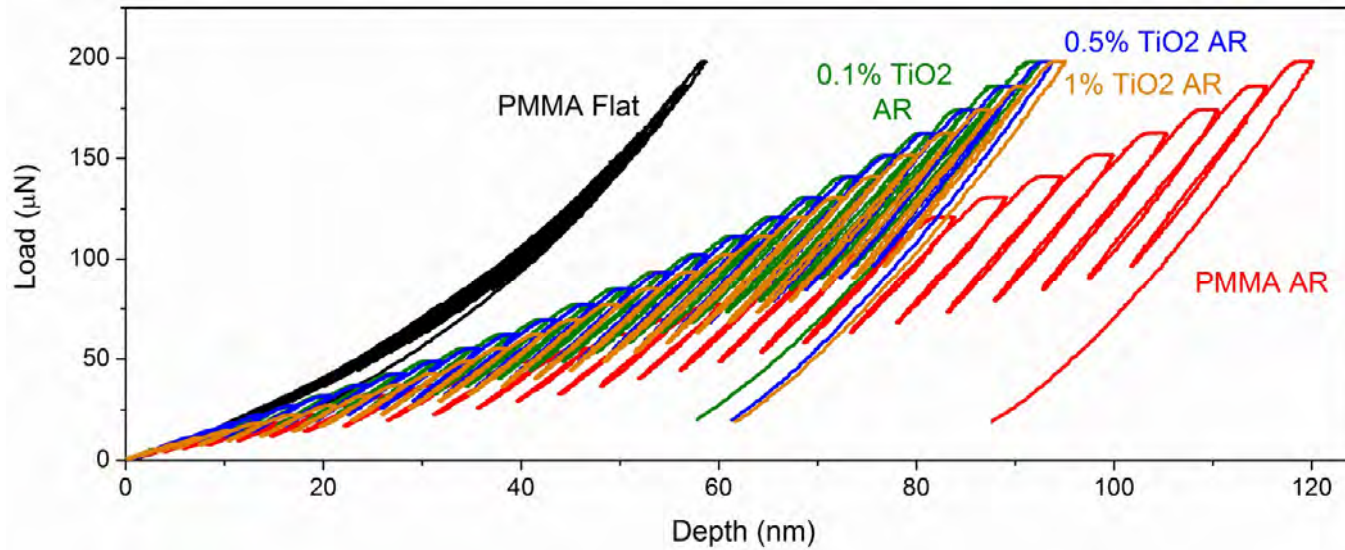
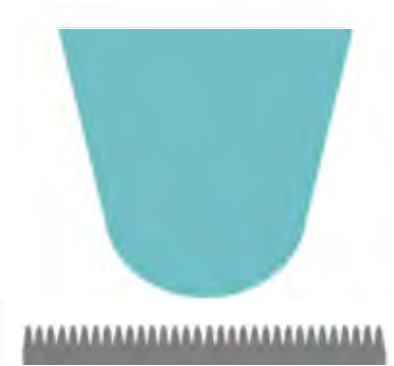
## Total Reflectance



## Transmittance



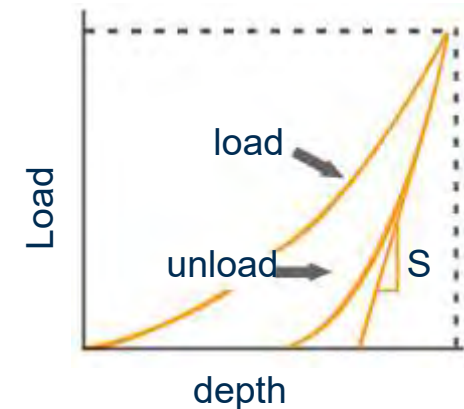
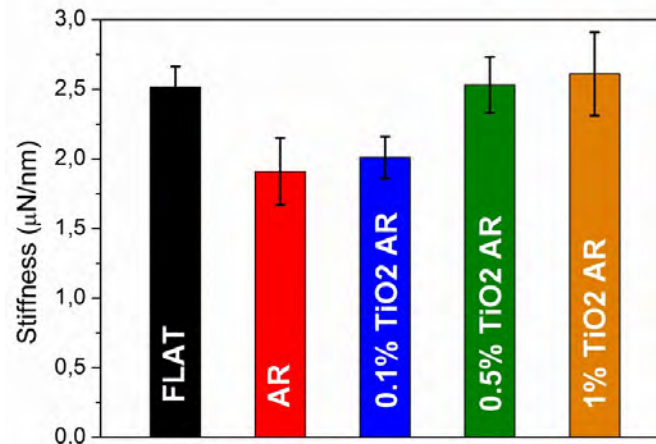
# Mechanical behavior: Nanoindentation



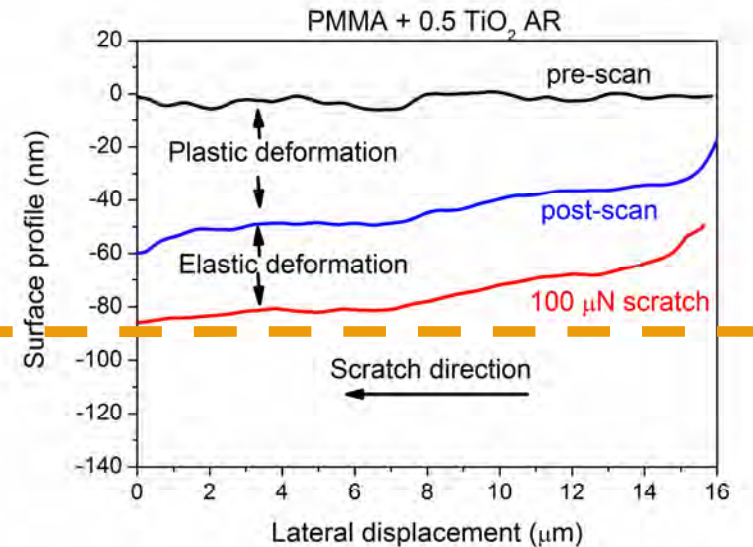
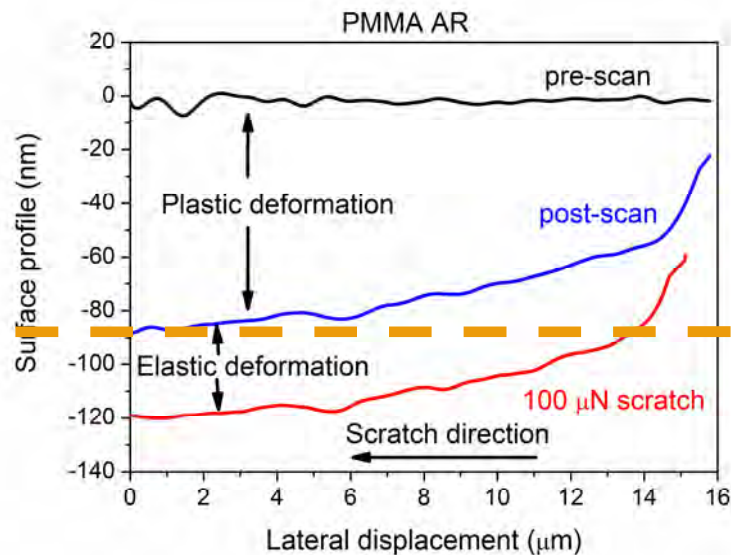
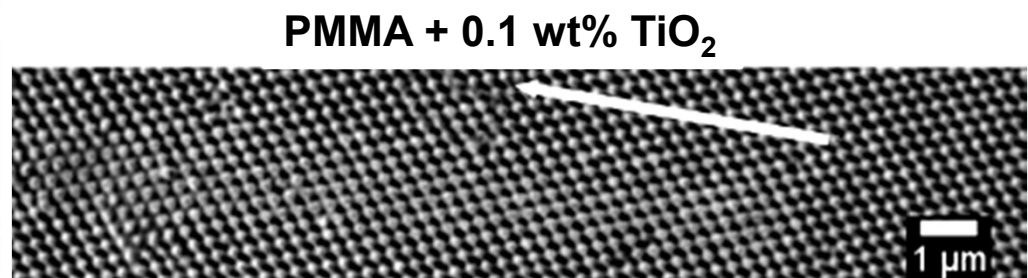
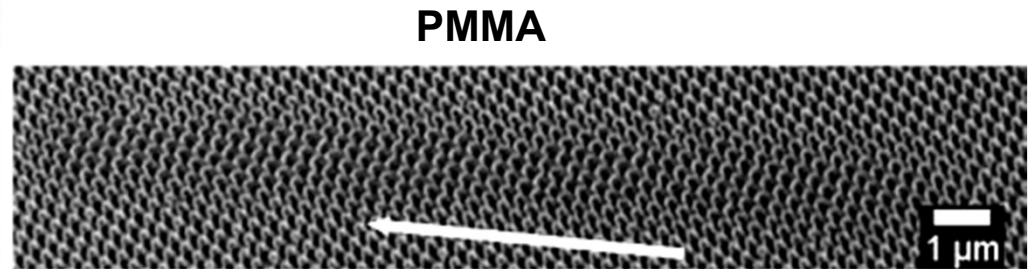
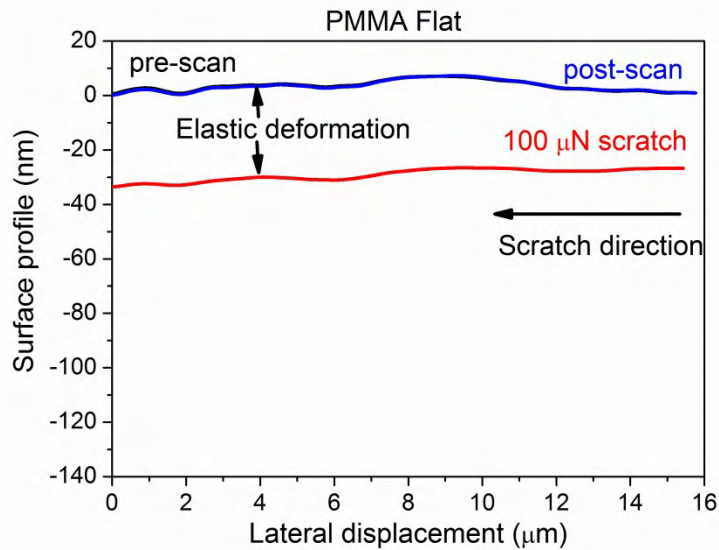
20 load/unload cycles until maximum load of 200  $\mu\text{N}$

## Stiffness

Slope of the curves in the elastic region (maximum of 10 nm)

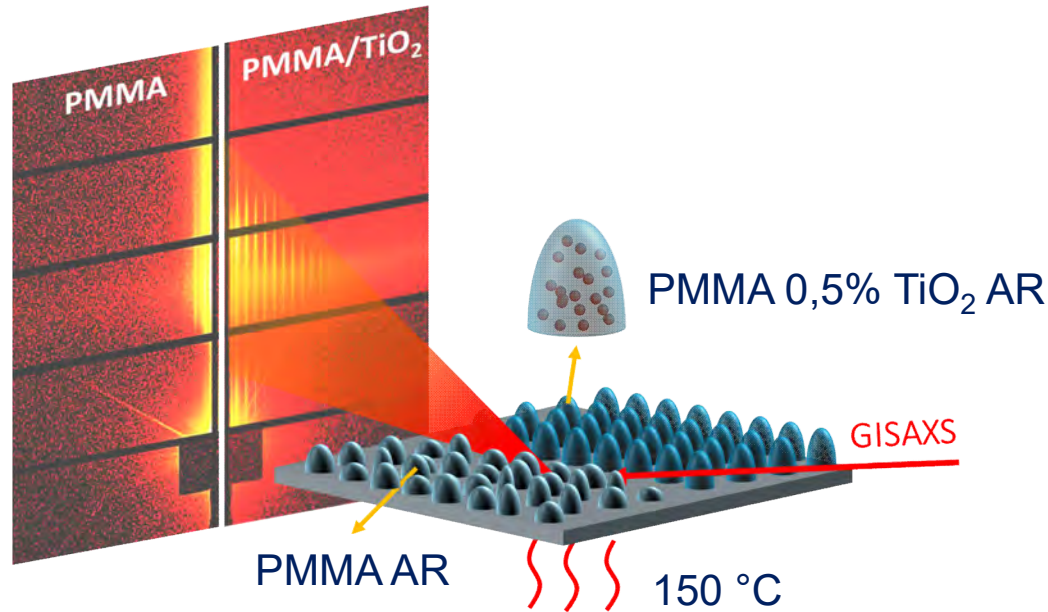


# Mechanical resistance : Nanoscratch



# Thermal stability of AR patterns

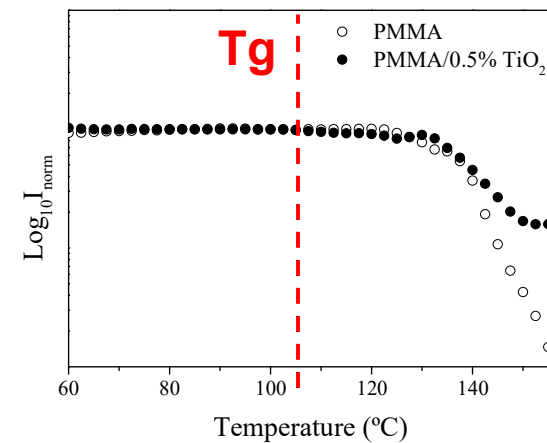
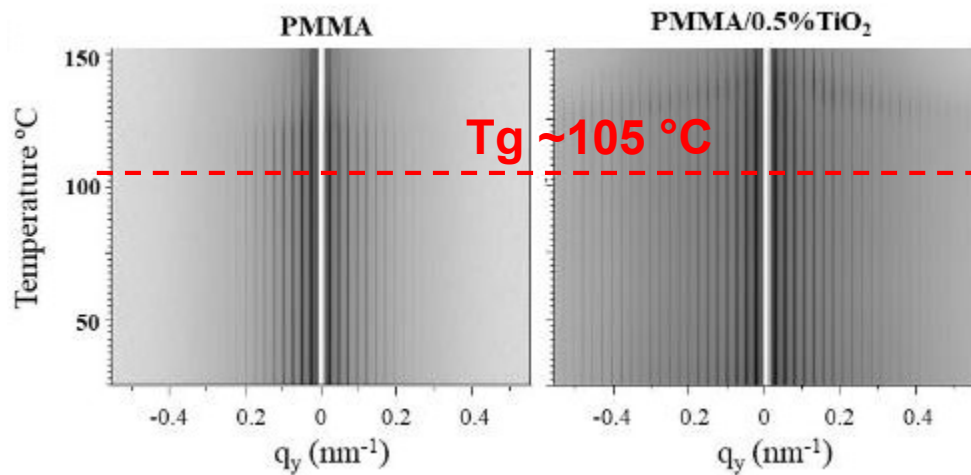
## Grazing Incidence Small Angle X-ray Scattering: GISAXS



*Distortions on the AR pattern*

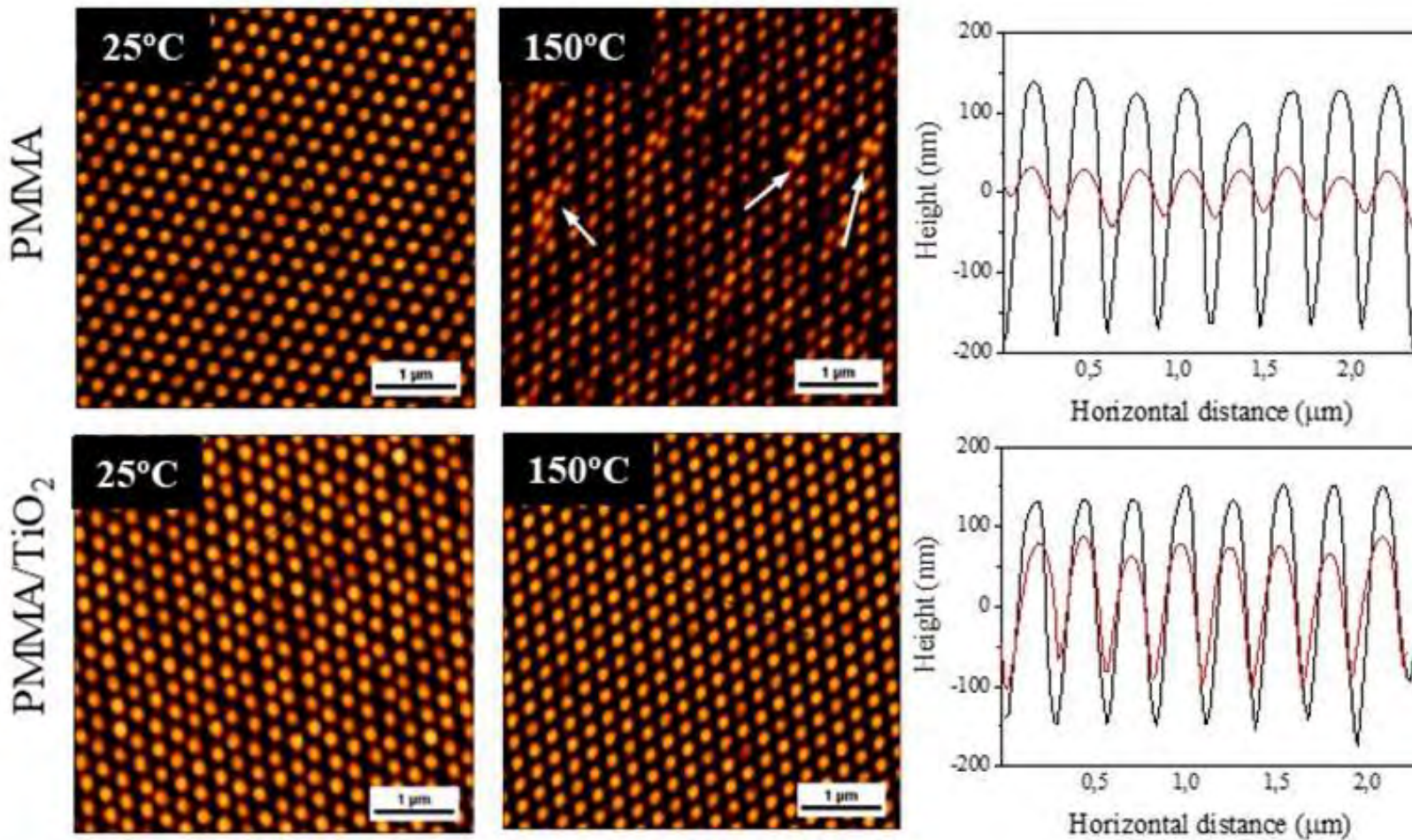
↓  
*Changes on the diffraction pattern*

Integrated scattered intensity plots



# Improved thermal stability

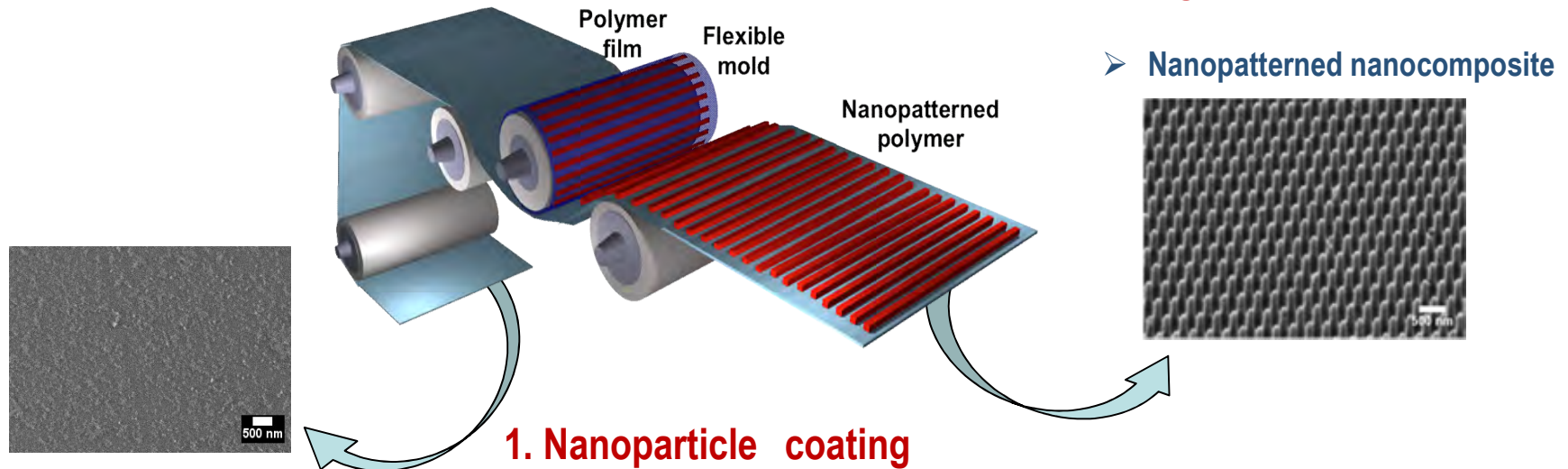
Moth-eye PMMA/TiO<sub>2</sub> surface nanocomposites



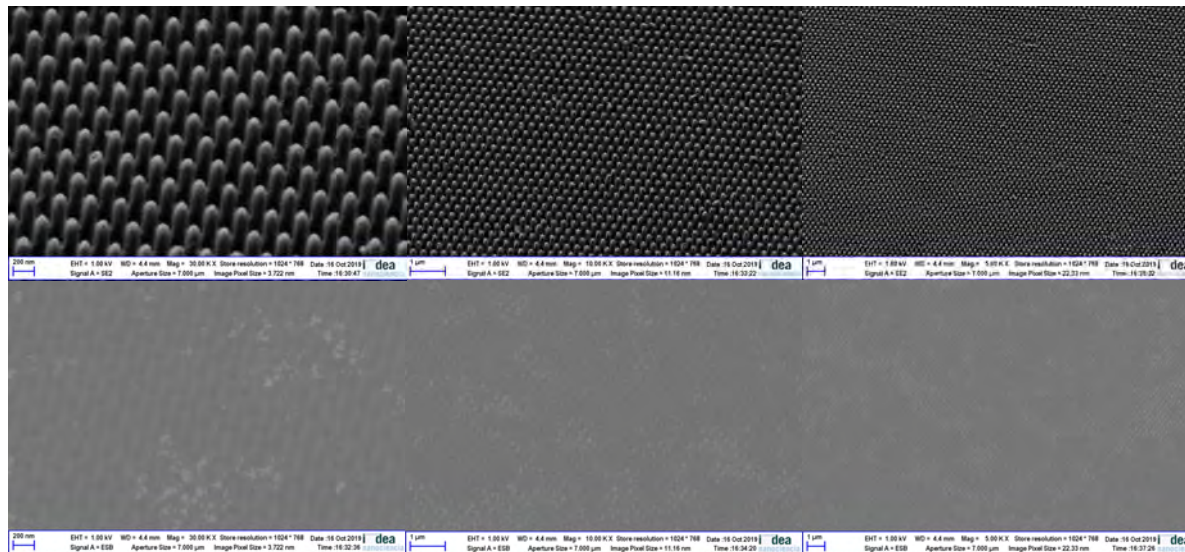
“anchoring effect of the TiO<sub>2</sub> NP to the polymer chain mobility” – pattern stability

# Continuous R2R process

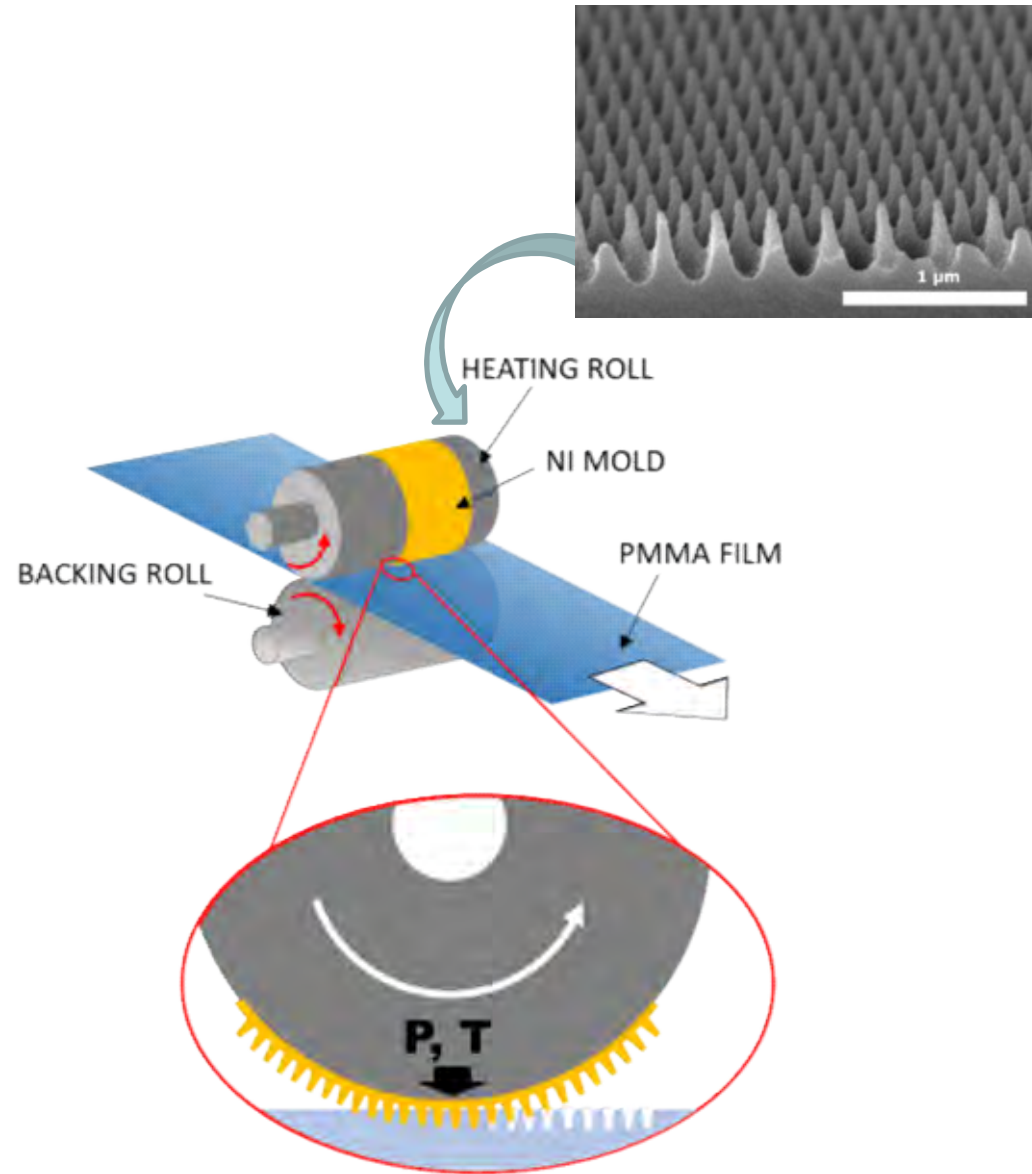
## 2. Surface nanoimprinting



PET + PMMA + 025 % TIO2 ARC (R2R)

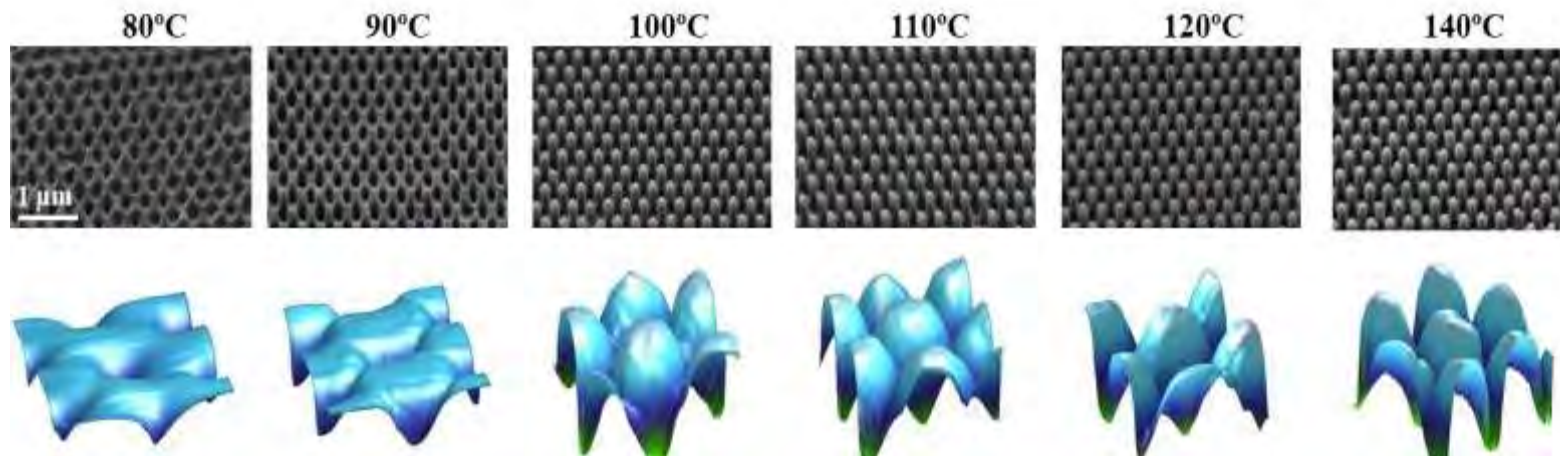


# Thermal R2R imprinting of moth-eye non-reflective films

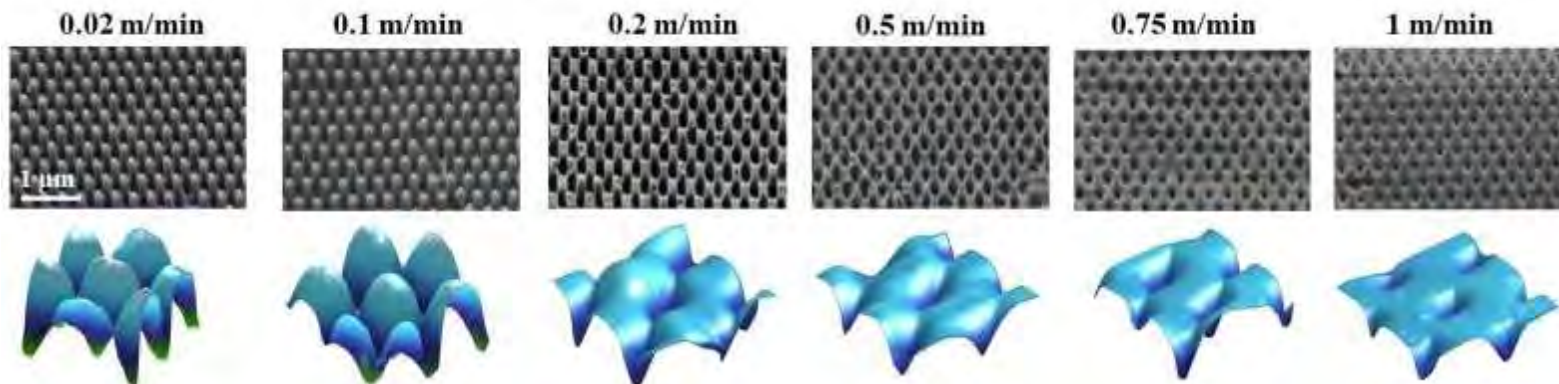


# Thermal R2R imprinting of moth-eye non-reflective films

## @ Variable temperature

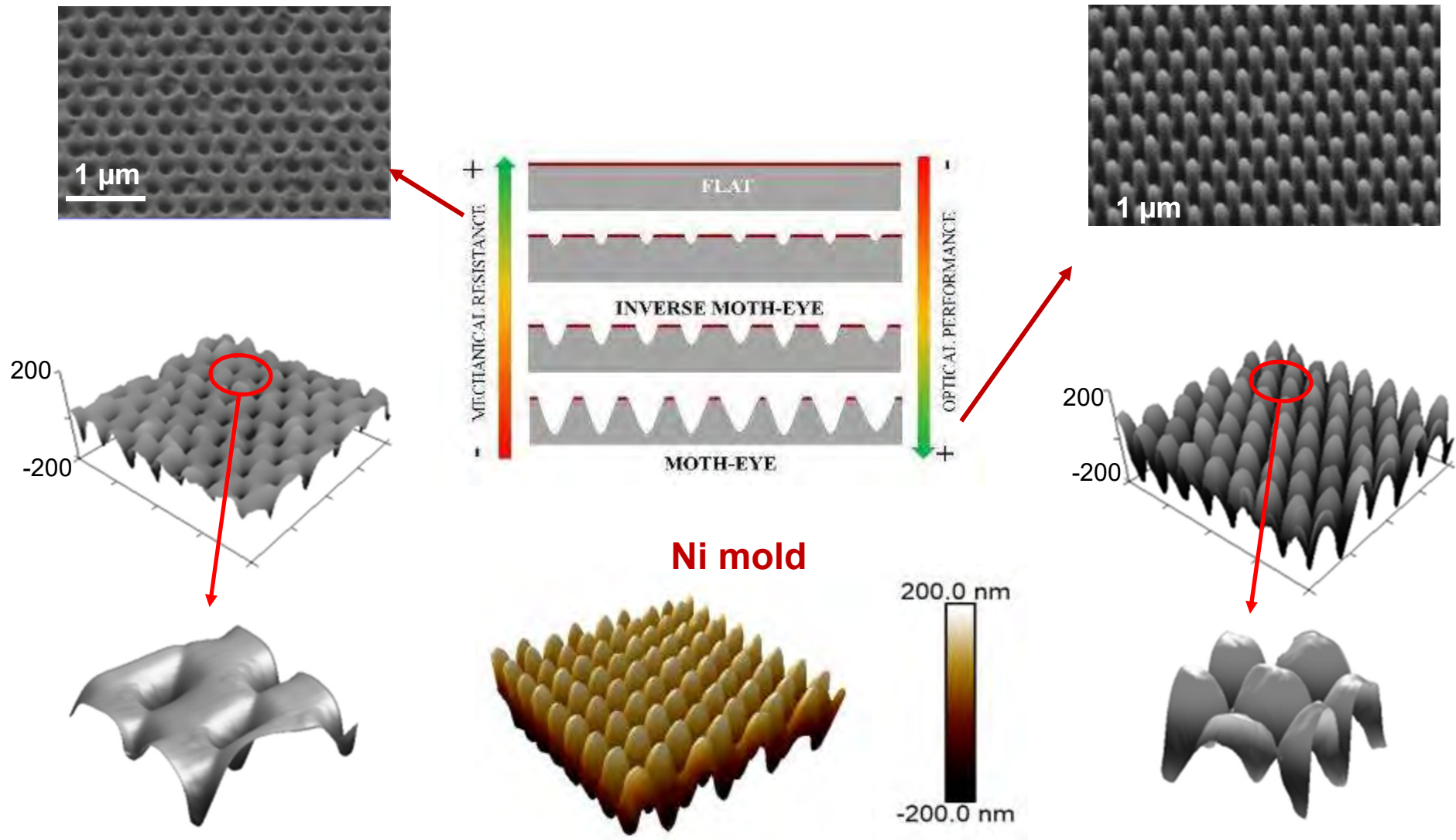


## @ Variable speed



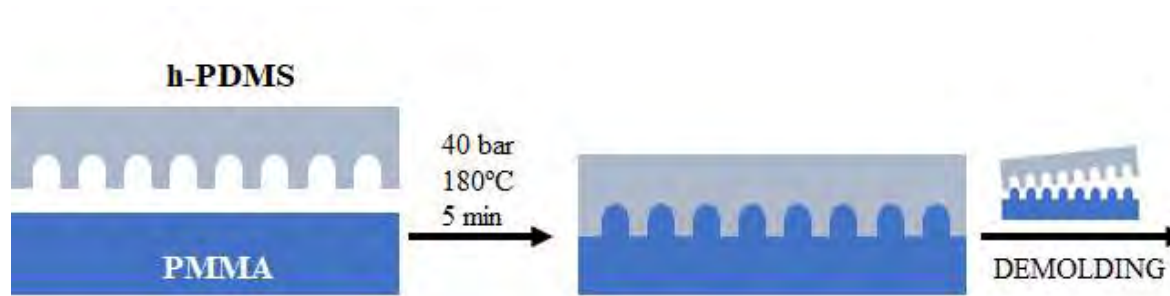


# Thermal R2R imprinting of moth-eye non-reflective films

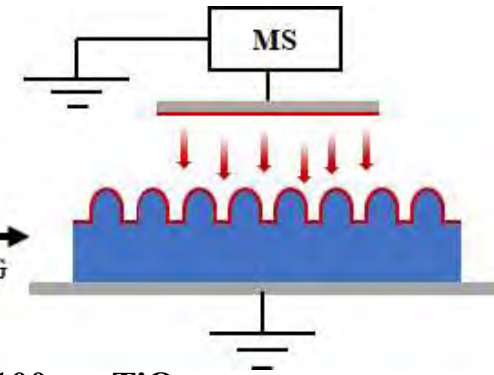


# TiO<sub>2</sub>-PMMA Moth-eye MS coating

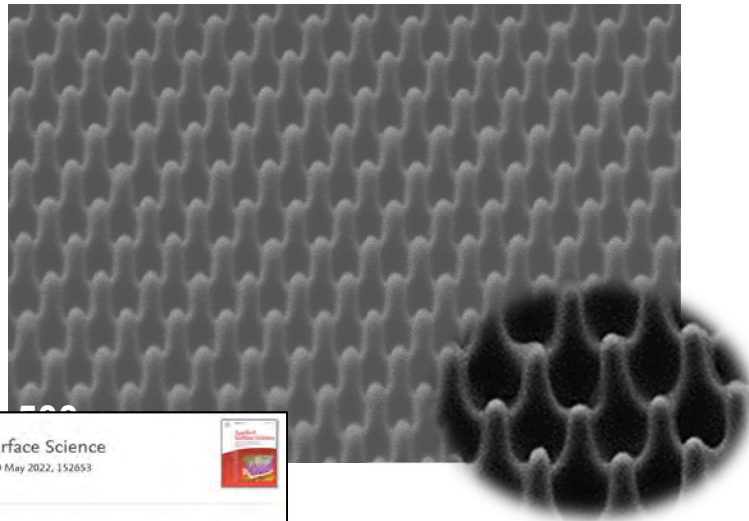
## NANOIMPRINT LITHOGRAPHY



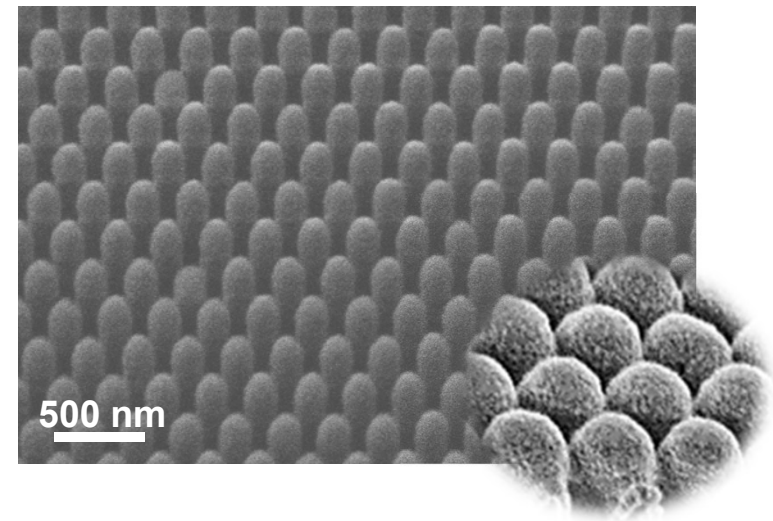
## MAGNETRON SPUTTERING



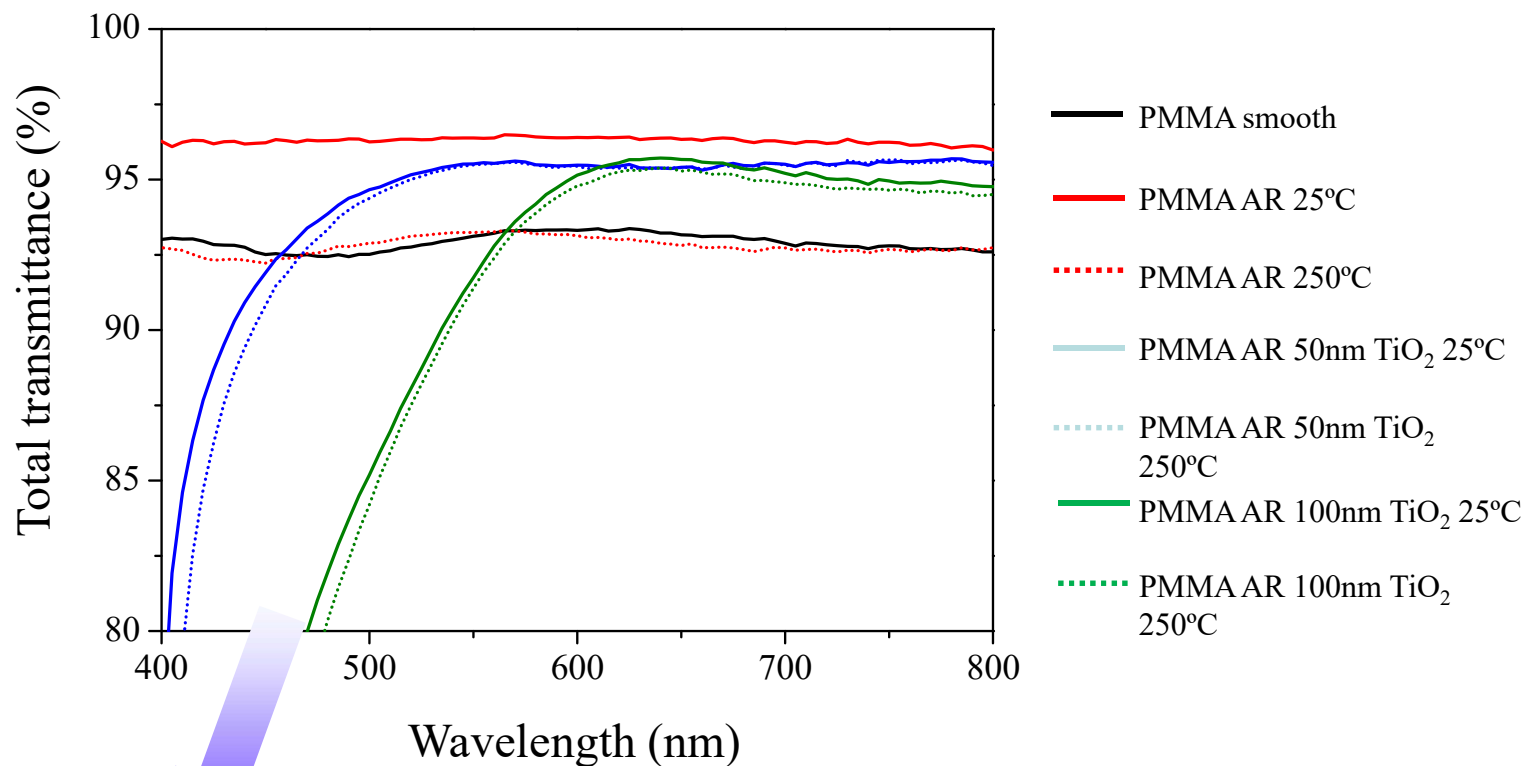
PMMA-AR



PMMA-AR-100nm-TiO<sub>2</sub>



# Optical transmittance



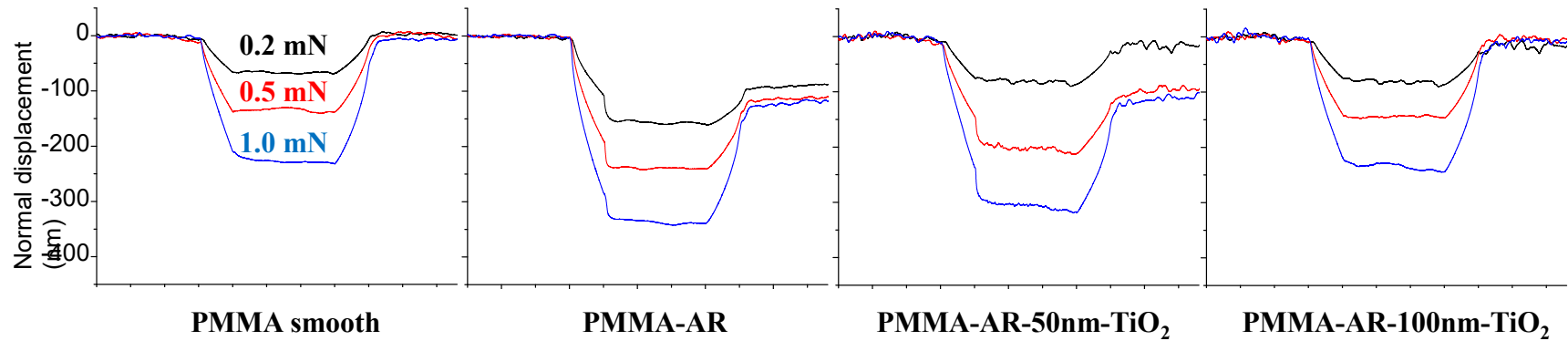
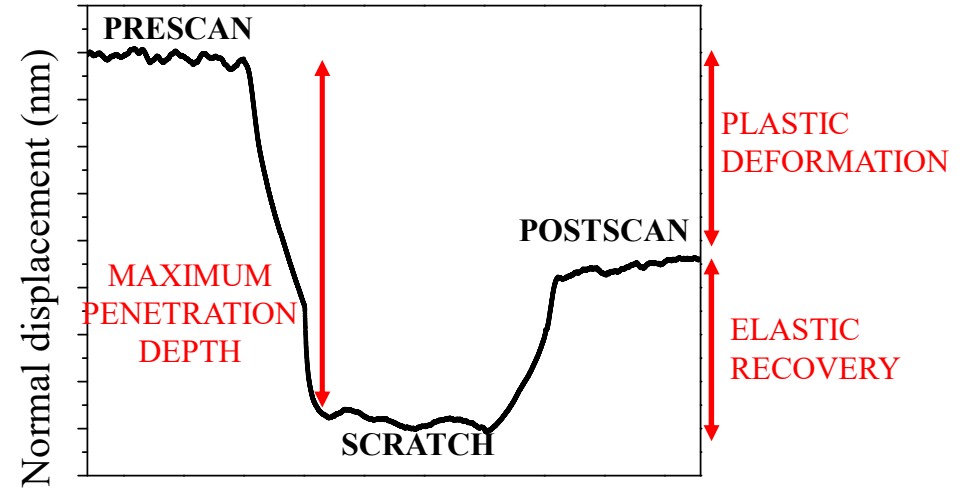
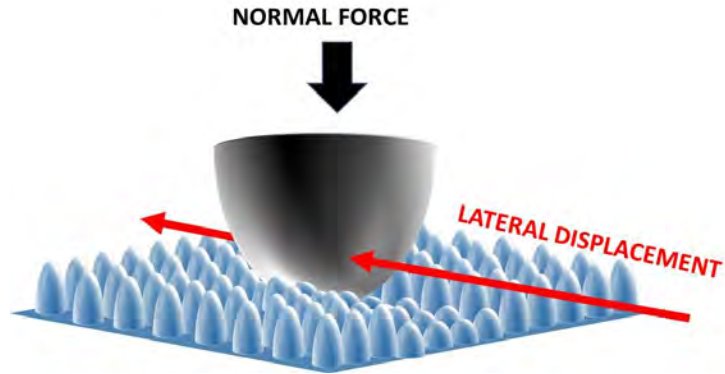
TiO<sub>2</sub> UV  
absorption

**ANTIREFLECTIVE FUNCTIONALITY IS PRESERVED AT  $T \gg T_g$**

# Mechanical resistance

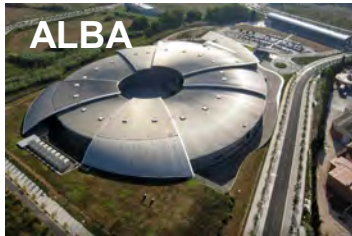
Nanolito 26-27<sup>th</sup> January 2022

## NANOSCRATCH TEST

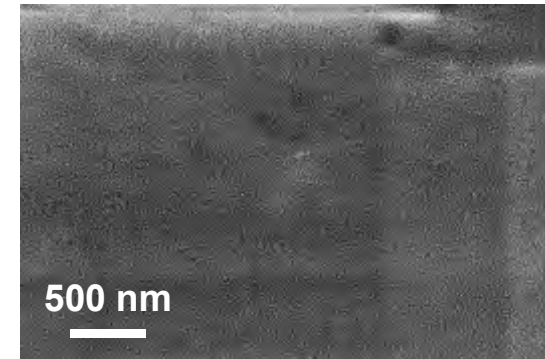
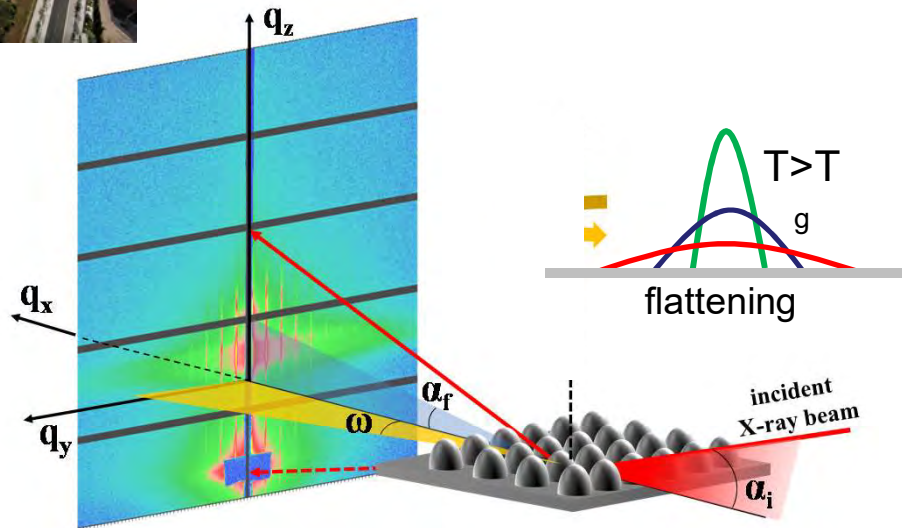


**TiO<sub>2</sub> ENCAPSULATION IMPROVES SCRATCH RESISTANCE OF AR NANOSTRUCTURES**

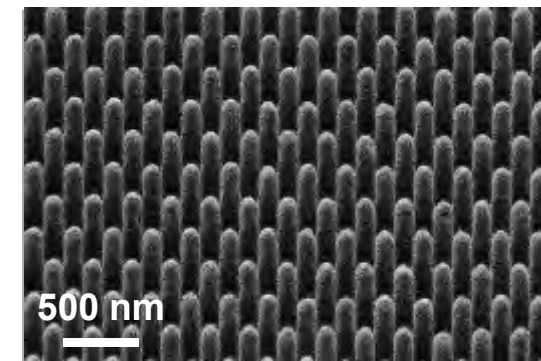
# Thermal resistance



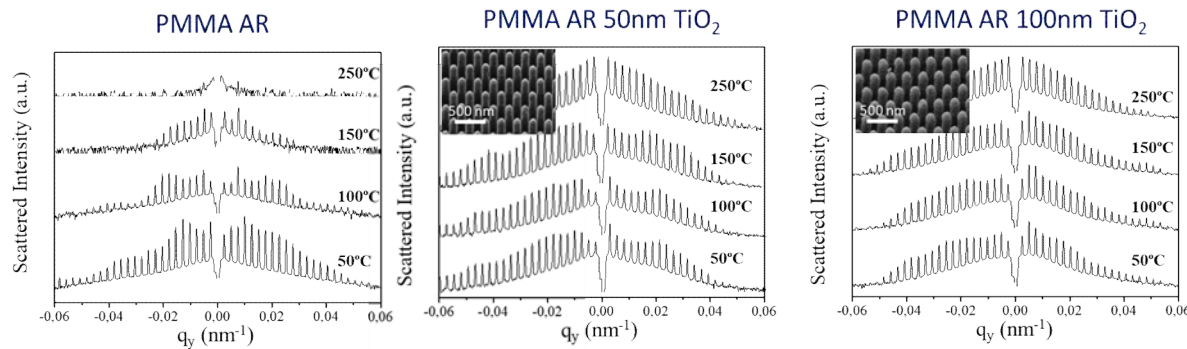
## Grazing Incidence Small Angle X-ray Scattering (GISAXS)



PMMA-AR



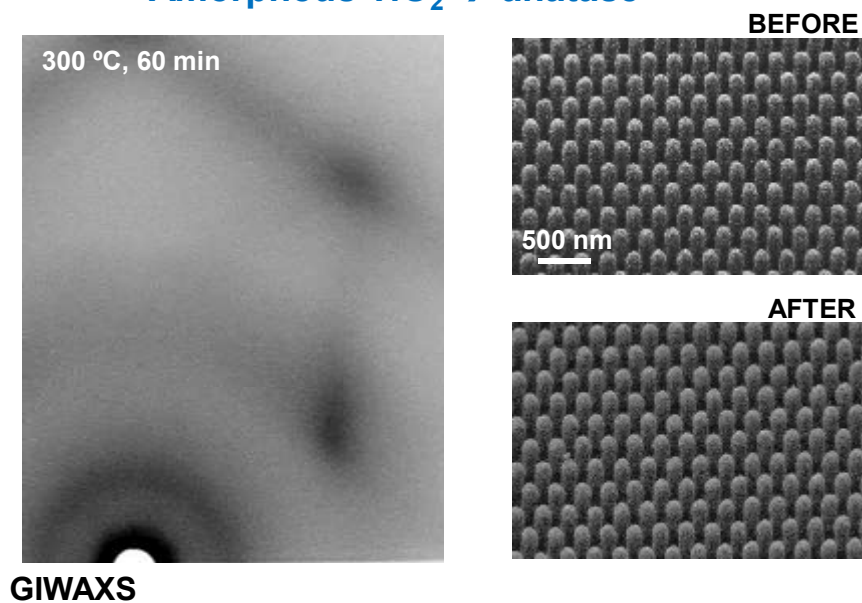
PMMA-50nm TiO<sub>2</sub>-AR



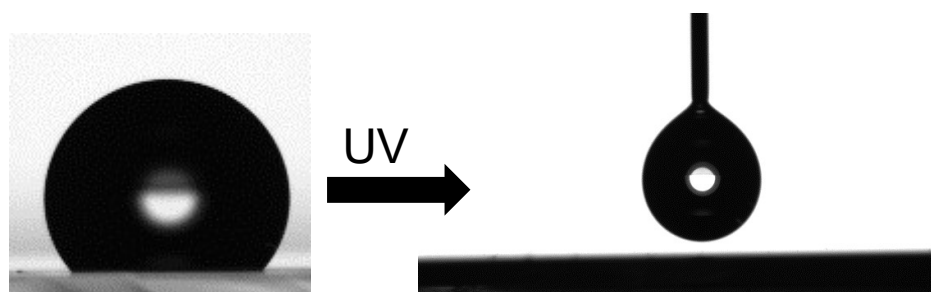
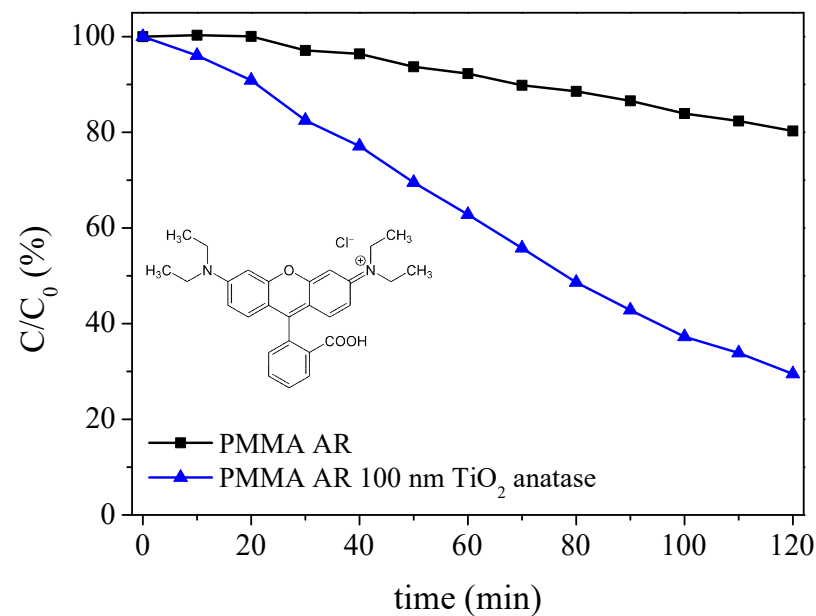
**TiO<sub>2</sub> ENCAPSULATION PREVENTS REFLOW AND DISTORTION EFFECTS up to 250 C**

# Photoinduced self-cleaning

Amorphous  $\text{TiO}_2 \rightarrow$  anatase

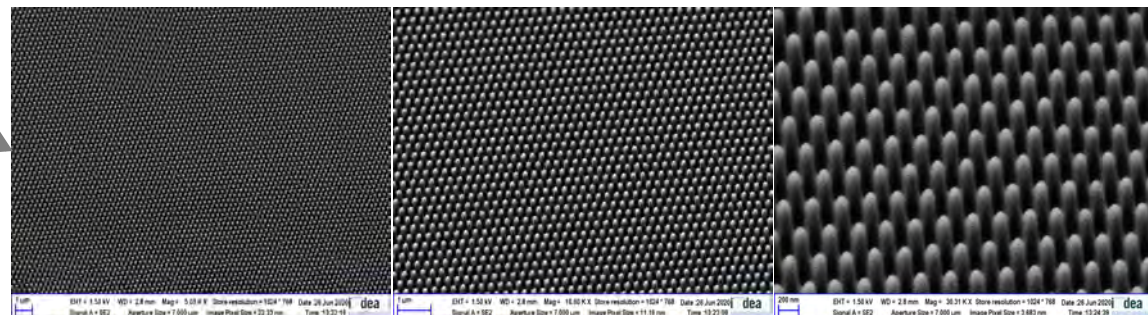
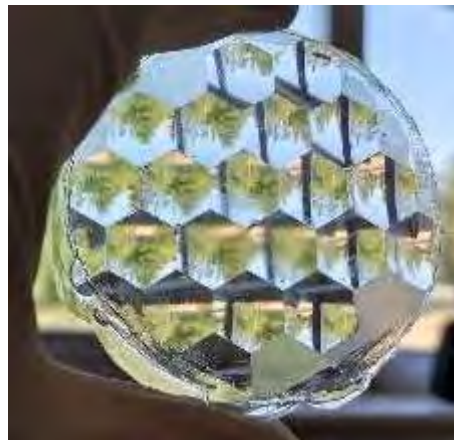
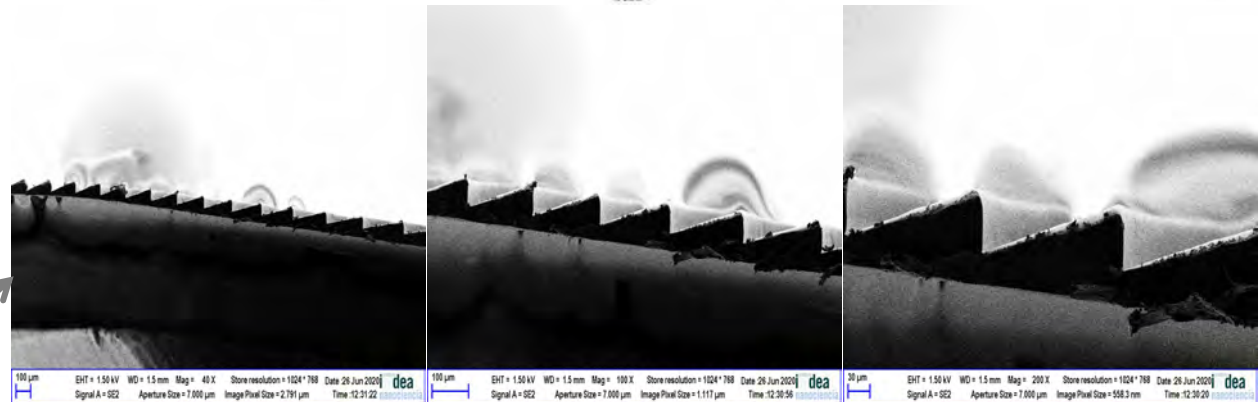
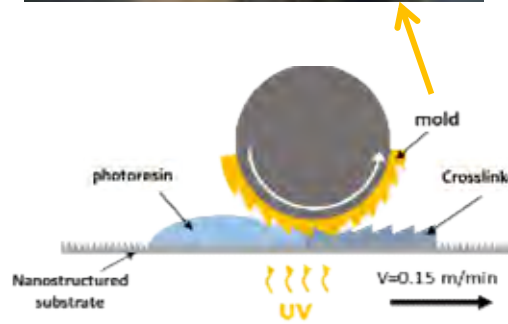
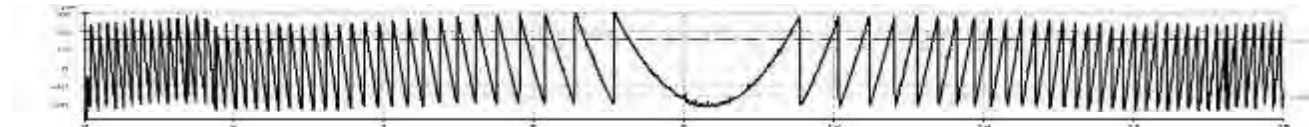
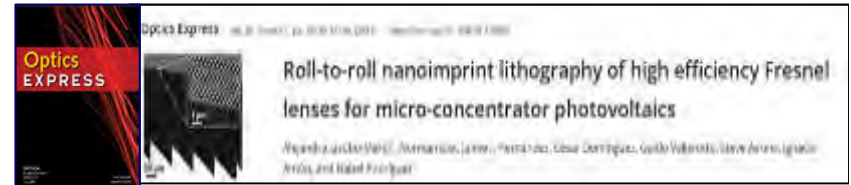


RhB UV degradation assay



POLLUTANT DEGRADATION + SUPERHYDROPHYLICITY = SELF-CLEANING

# UV R2R NIL Fresnel lens with anti-reflective moth eye



# Acknowledgements

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# Thank you for you attention !

