

## MEETING

**ITA FIRB (2001-2007) RBNEO14589\_006,**

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M. Casavola<sup>1</sup>, S. Lovascio<sup>1</sup>, R. Gristina<sup>2</sup>;  
M. Nardulli<sup>1</sup>, P. Favia<sup>1</sup>; R. d'Agostino<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Chemistry, University of Bari (Italy)

<sup>2</sup>Institute of Inorganic Methods & Plasmas, IMIP, CNR-Bari (Italy);

# UNIBA

# Other Units

➤ PLASMA DEPOSITION OF  
TEFLON-like COATINGS

➤ PLASMA TREATMENT TO  
IMPROVE Hyal/material  
interactions

➤ PLASMA DEPOSITION OF  
NANO-COMPOSITE  
COATINGS

➤ PLASMA-AIDED NANO-  
PATTERNING

➤ UNINA (Barbarisi);

UNISI (Ziche)

UNIBO (Bigi) \*

➤ UNISI (Barbucci)

➤ NOBILBIO RICERCHE  
(Morra )

➤ ...

# Abstracts

- E. Sardella, R. Gristina, D. Gilliland, G. Ceccone, G.S. Senesi, F. Rossi, R. d'Agostino, P. Favia; Plasmadeposited nanopatterned and nanocomposite coatings for biomedical applications; **17th International Symposium on Plasma Chemistry (ISPC-17)** Toronto, Canada, Aug 2005
- E. Sardella, R. Gristina, G. Ceccone, D. Gilliland, A. Papadopoulou-Bouraoui, F. Rossi, P. Favia; R. d'Agostino; Bactericidal Silver containing nanocomposites deposited by Means of RF (13.56 MHz) Glow Discharges; **19th European Conference on Biomaterials (ESB-19)**, Sorrento, Sett 2005
- P. Favia, E. Sardella, M. Nardulli, R. Gristina; R. d'Agostino; Plasma-deposited Silver Containing Nanocomposite coatings with Bactericidal properties; **52nd AVS Meeting**, Boston, US, Nov 2005.
- E. Sardella, R. Gristina, P. Favia, R. d'Agostino, bactericidal silver containing composites deposited by means of RF (13.56MHz) Glow Discharges; **National Congress on Biomaterials GIB-SIB**, Milano, Ott 2005

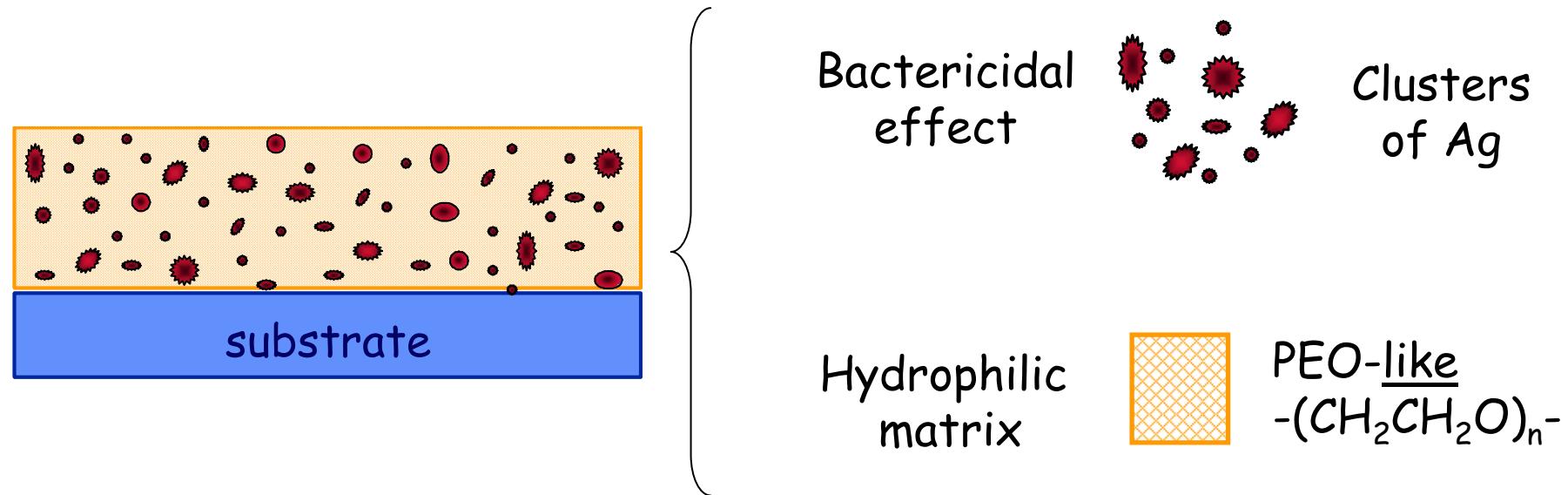
# PAPERS

- E. Sardella; R. Gristina; A. Mangone, M. Casavola; P.Favia; R. d'Agostino; Plasma Deposition of Ag containing Nano-composite coatings; **Journal of Applied Biomaterials & Biomechanics**, submitted 2005
- F. Rosso, G. Marino, L. Muscariello, G. Cafiero, A. Barbarisi, P. Favia, E. D'Aloia, R. d'Agostino, Adhesion and proliferation of fibroblasts on plasma-deposited nanostructured fluorocarbon coatings: evidence of FAK activation. **Journal of Cellular Physiology**. Accettato 2005.

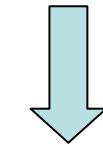
# PLASMA DEPOSITION OF NANO-COMPOSITE COATINGS

FIRB : E. Sardella, M. Casavola, R. Gristina; M. Nardulli, M. Morra, C. Cassinelli, P. Favia, R. d'Agostino;

Collaboration: A. Mangone (ICP-MS), G. Ceccone (XPS); D. Gilliland (ToF SIMS); A. Papadopoulou-Bouraoui (QCM-D)

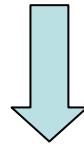


...Phoenicians used silver to keep water from spoiling when sailing on long voyages...



NOWDAYS:

Colloidal Silver

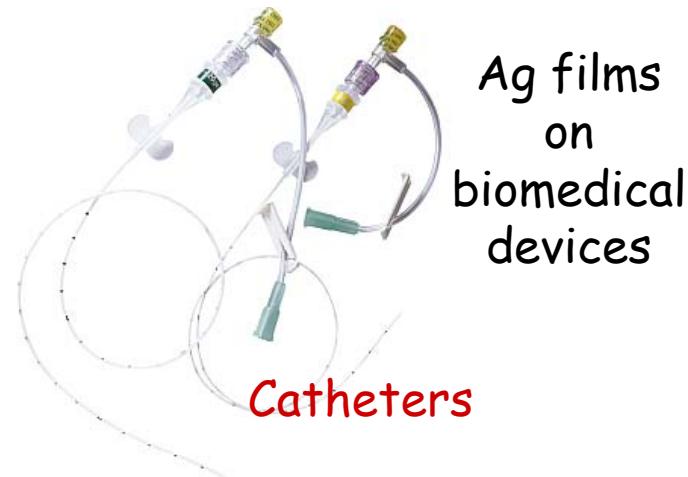


PROBLEMS !

SYSTEMIC  
THERAPY

OR/AND

TOPICAL  
THERAPY



Toxicity related to excess  
Ag ions released in the blood \*

Local treatments partially substitute  
systemic therapies:

anti-infective coatings directly on biomaterials

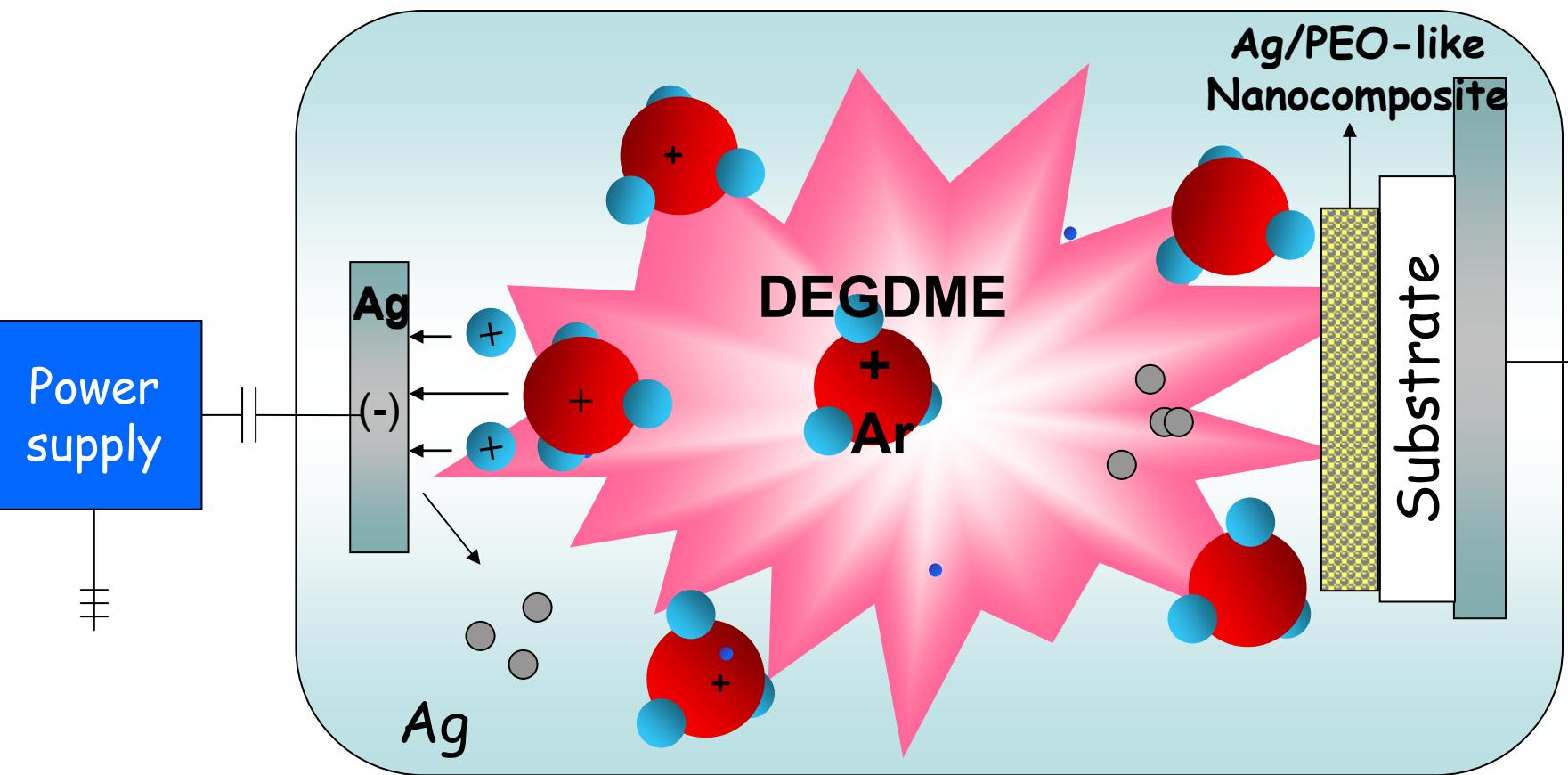
IT IS DIFFICULT TO CONTROL  
THE AMOUNT OF RELEASED SILVER



NANO-COMPOSITE MATERIALS:  
CLUSTERS OF SILVER  
EMBEDDED INTO A SWELLABLE MATRIX

RF (13.56MHz) Glow discharges  
“cold plasmas”

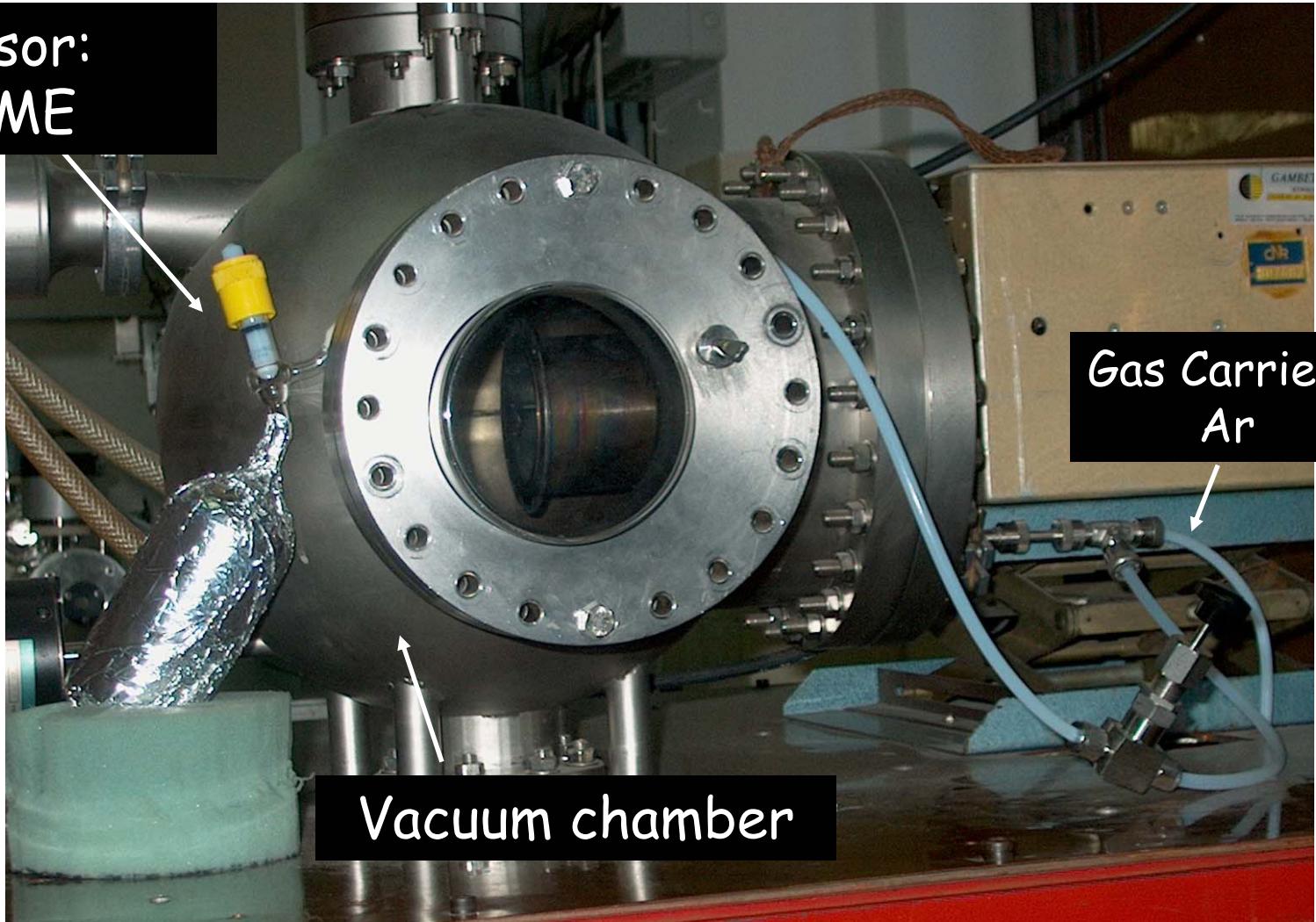
# PLASMA DEPOSITION OF Ag NANOCOMPOSITE COATINGS



DEGDME: di-ethylene glycole di-methyl ether,  $\text{CH}_3\text{O}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_2\text{CH}_3$

# PLASMA DEPOSITION OF Ag NANOCOMPOSITE COATINGS

Precursor:  
DEGDME

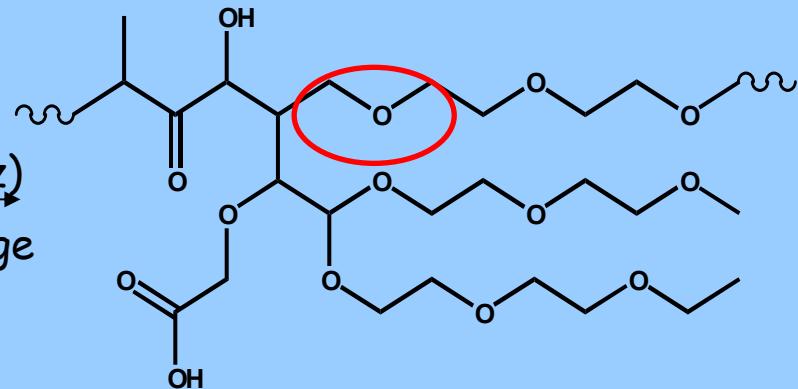


DEGDME: di-ethylene glycole di-methyl ether;  $\text{CH}_3\text{O}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})\text{CH}_3$

# Plasma deposition of PEO-like coatings

$\text{CH}_3\text{O}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_2\text{CH}_3 + \text{Ar}$   
Diethylene glycol  
dimethyl ether  
**DEGDME**

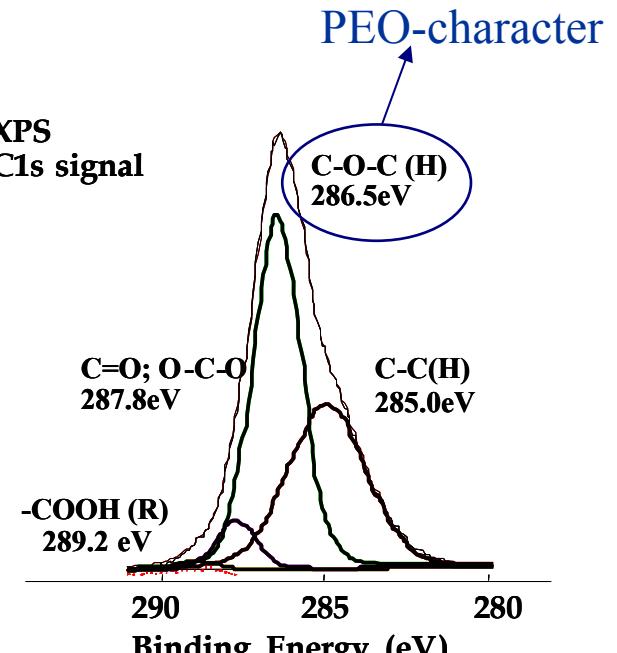
$\xrightarrow[\text{Glow discharge}]{\text{RF}(13,56\text{MHz})}$



Polyethyleneoxide-like (PEO-like)

**Key parameter:**  
retention of the EO,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O}-$   
structure in the coating

\* Andrade *et al.* *Biomaterials* 1988, 9, 76  
Lee *et al.* *Prog. Polym. Sci.* 1995, 20, 1043  
Many papers from Hoffman and Ratner  
Many papers from Timmons *et al*



# EXPERIMENTAL CONDITIONS

RF electrode	DEGDME (sccm)	Ar (sccm)	Power (W)	Pressure (mTorr)	Depth
Ag	0.25	10	10	50	60nm
Ag	0.25	20	10	50	60nm
Ag	0.25	20	20	50	60nm
SS	0.25	10	10	50	60nm
SS	0.25	20	10	50	60nm
SS	0.25	20	20	50	60nm

SS: Stainless Steel

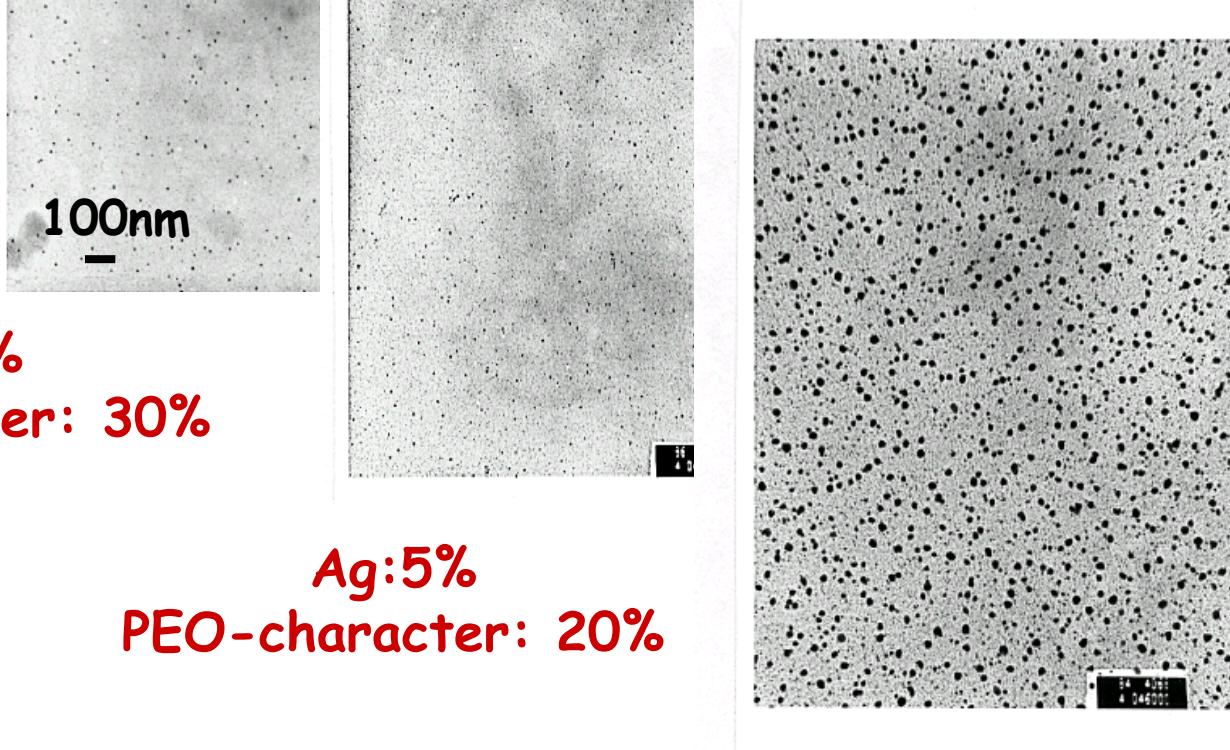
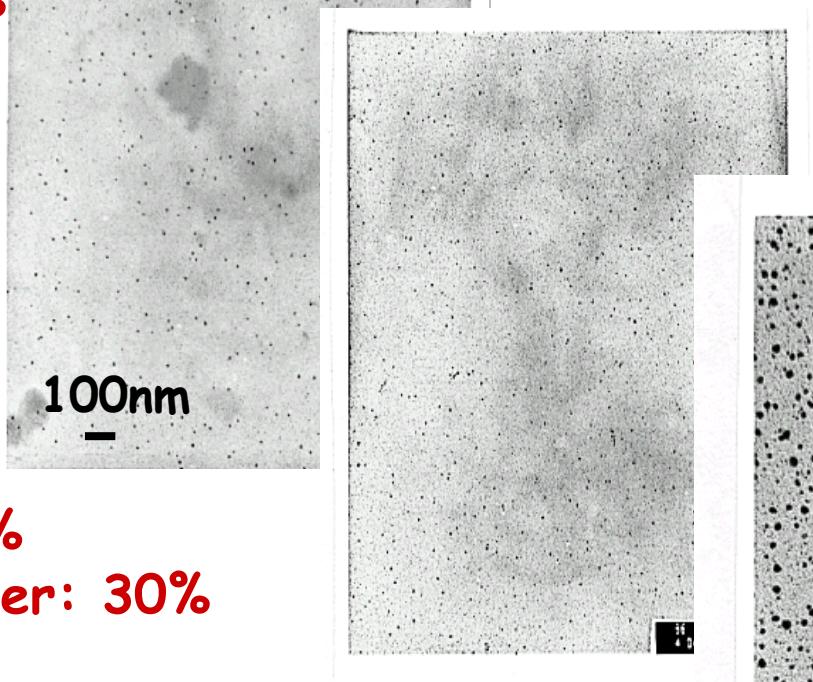
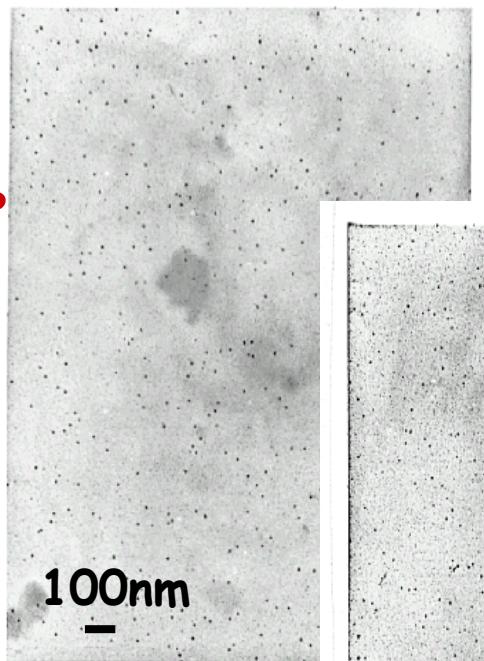
# CHEMICAL-PHYSICAL-BIOLOGICAL CHARACTERIZATION

- X-ray Photoelectron Spectroscopy (XPS)
- Water Contact Angle (WCA)
- Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM)
- Atomic Force Microscopy, AFM (non contact and lateral force modes)
- Z-Potential
- Quartz Crystal Microbalance with dissipation monitoring (QCM-D)
- Inductively Coupled Plasma- Mass Spectrometry (ICP-MS)
- Biological *in vitro* tests with 3T3 Murine Fibroblasts
- Disk diffusion Susceptibility testing with *S. epidermidis*

**OBJECTIVE 1:** Synthesize different Ag/PEO-like coatings with different amounts of embedded silver;

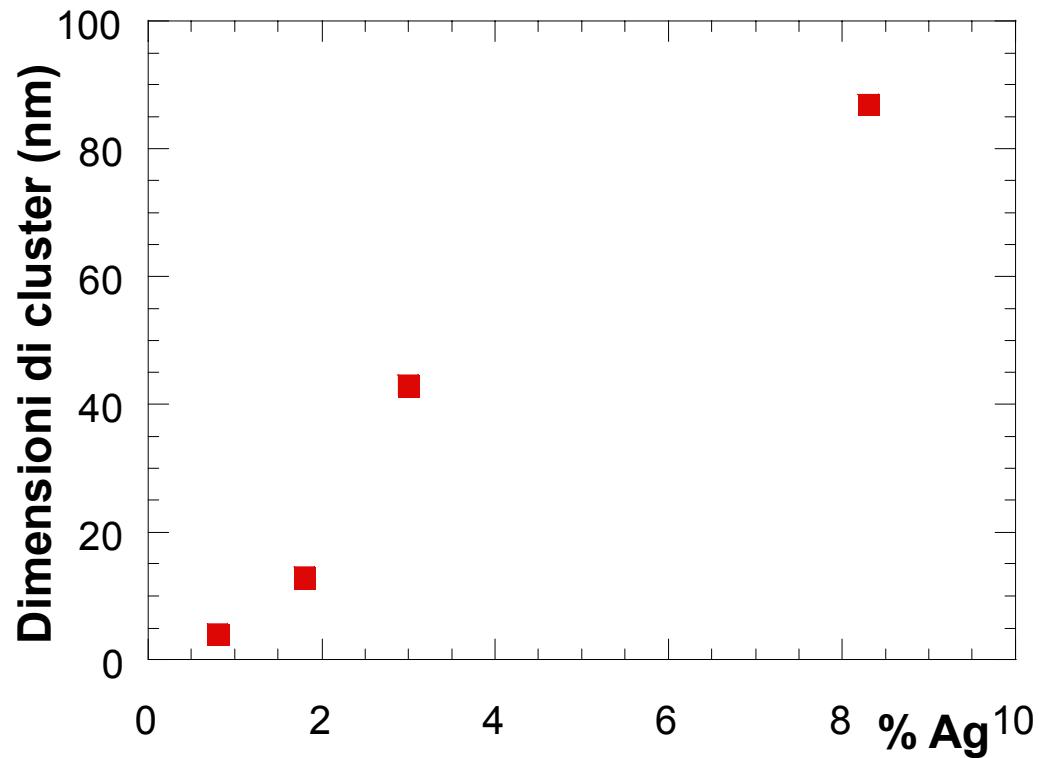
Ag:1%

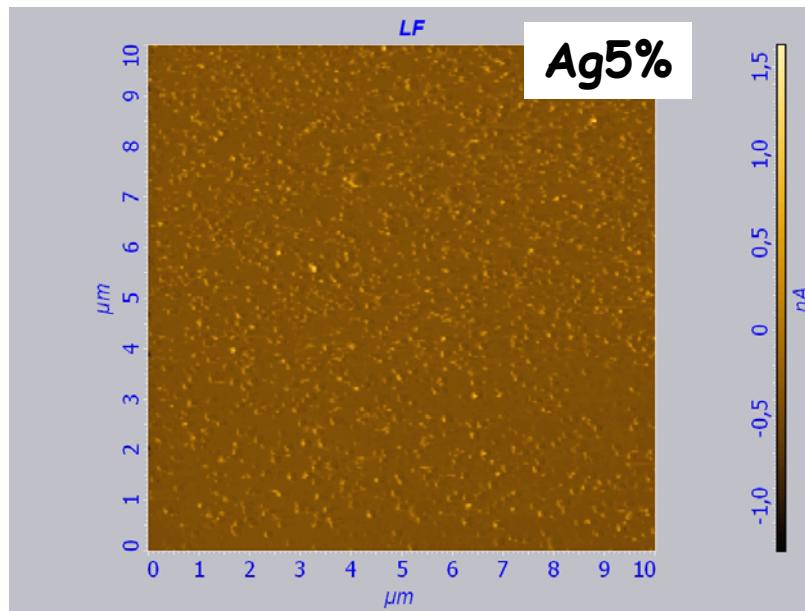
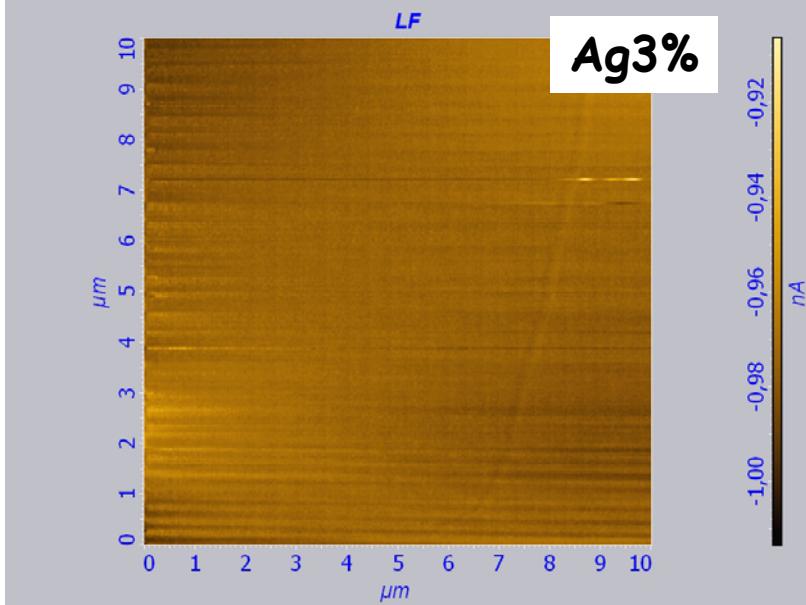
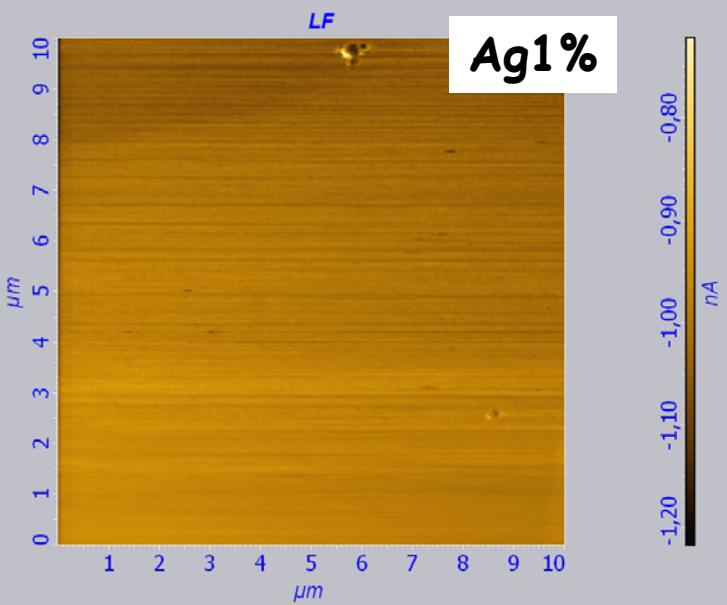
EO-character: 40%



TEM IMAGES OF Ag/PEO-like COATINGS

## CORRELAZIONE TRA LA DIMENSIONE DEI CLUSTER DI AG CON LA PERCENTUALE DI AG CONTENUTO NEL COATING

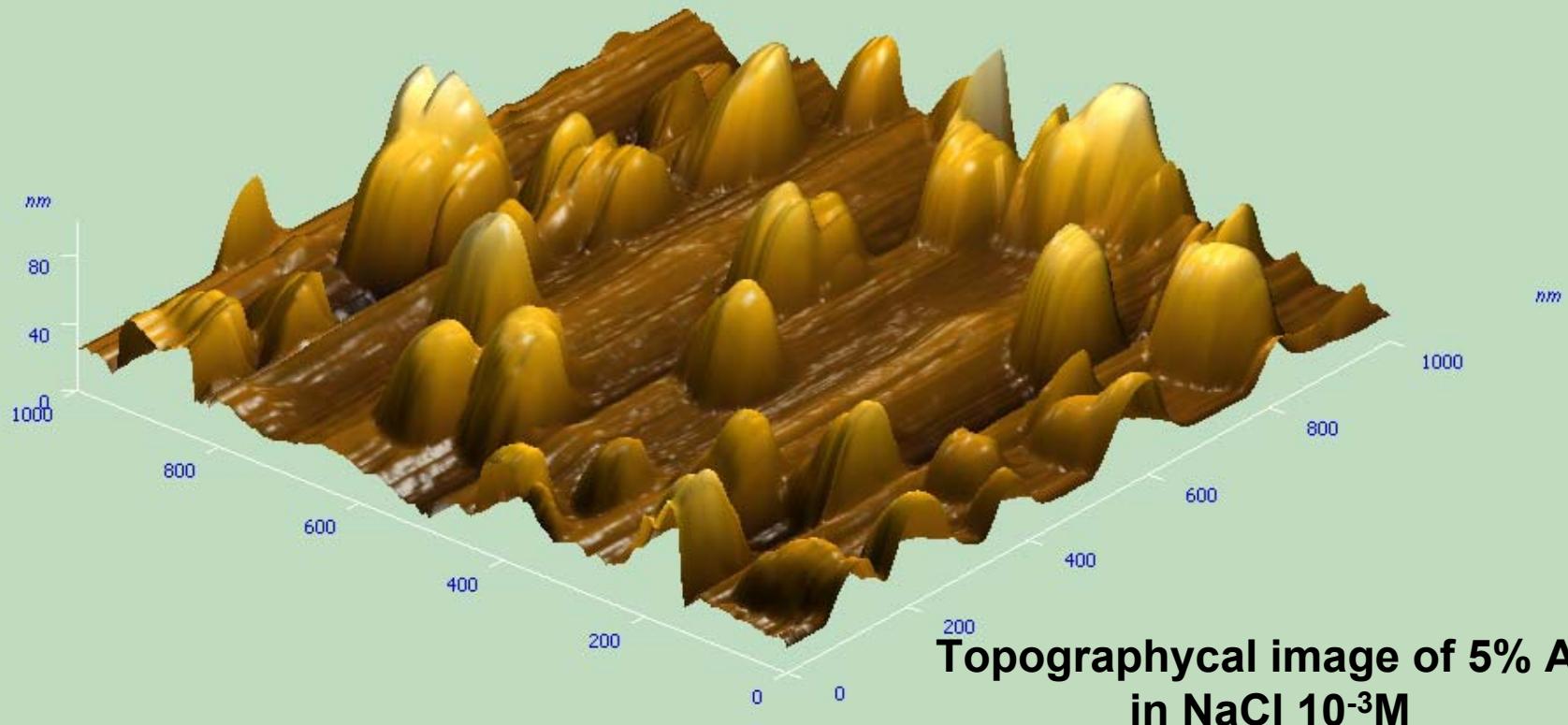




Lateral Force mode  
in NaCl  $10^{-3} M$

**ONLY 5% Ag coatings are ROUGH (nano-patterned)!**

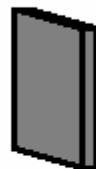
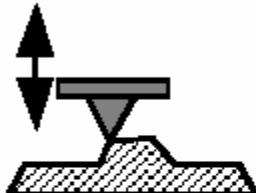
# ARE THE CLUSTERS RESPONSIBLE OF TOPOGRAPHICAL DIFFERENCES AMONG SAMPLES?



ONLY 5% Ag coatings are ROUGH (nano-patterned)!

## •OBJECTIVE 2: Understand the mechanism of SILVER DELIVERY

### LATERAL FORCE

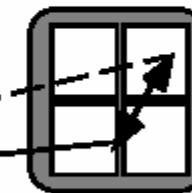


topographical picture

flessione

flessione +  
torsione

due fotodiod:



quattro fotod

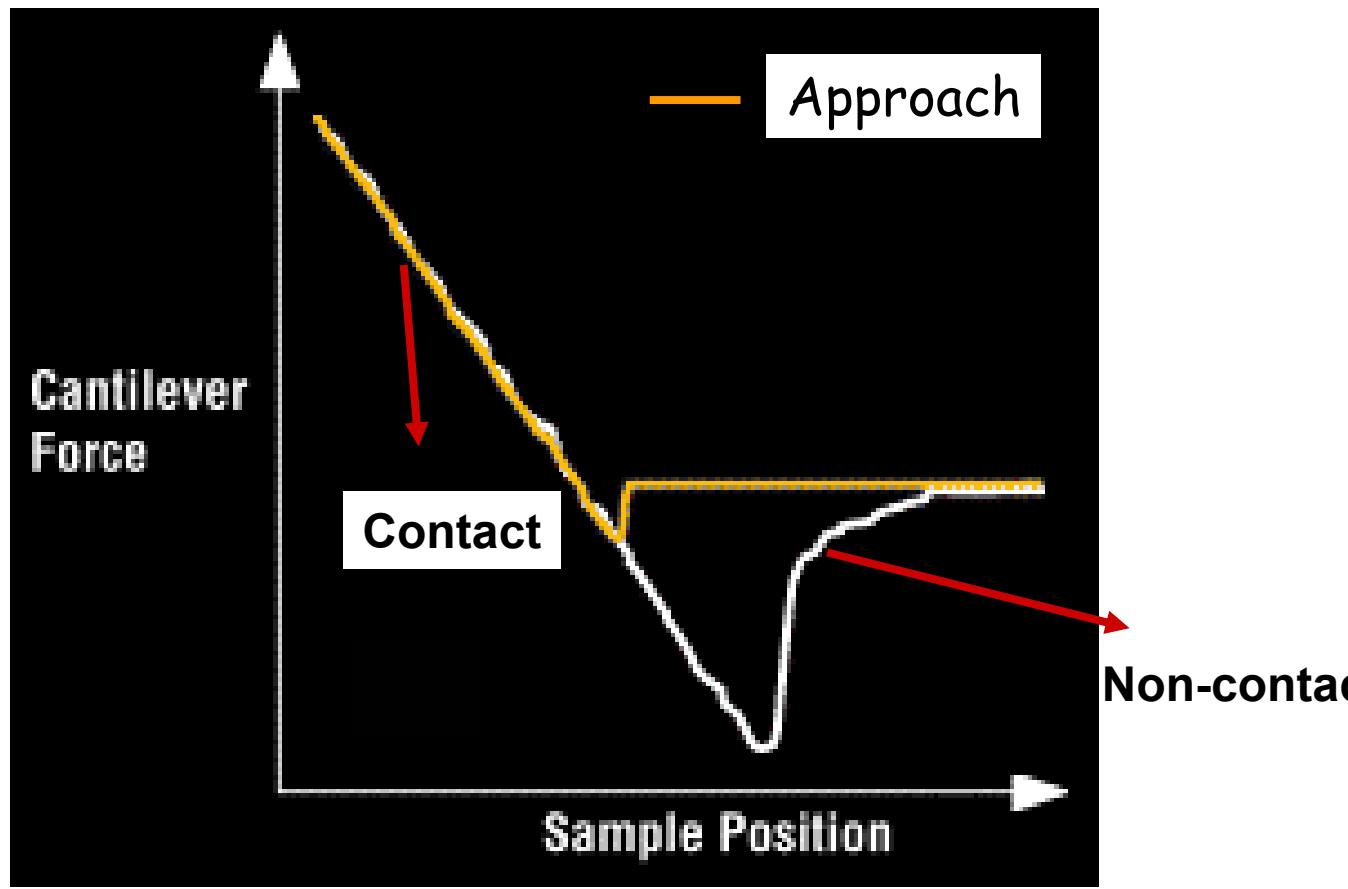
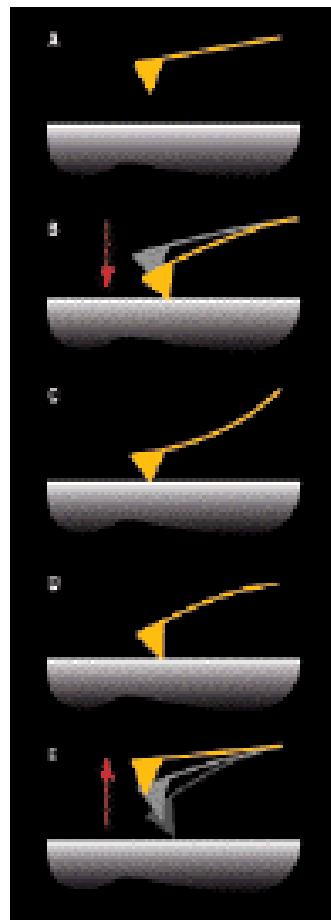
Lateral Force picture



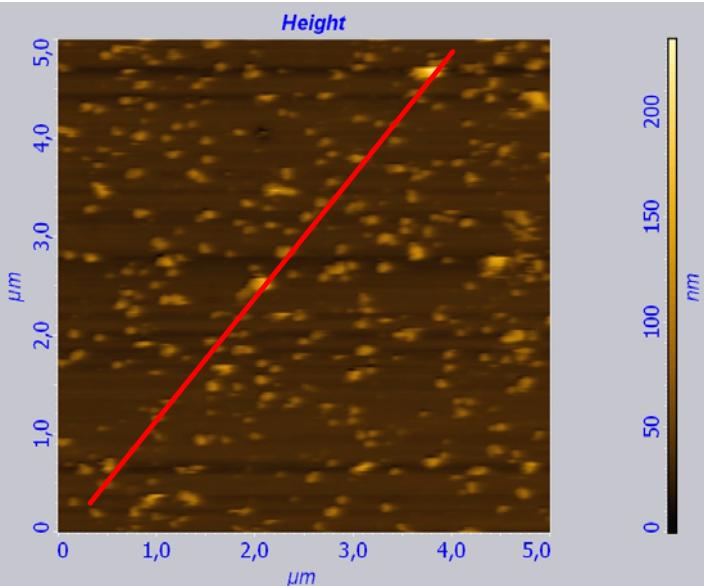
AFM in  $10^{-3}$  M NaCl

Are the clusters embedded in the PEO-like matrix?

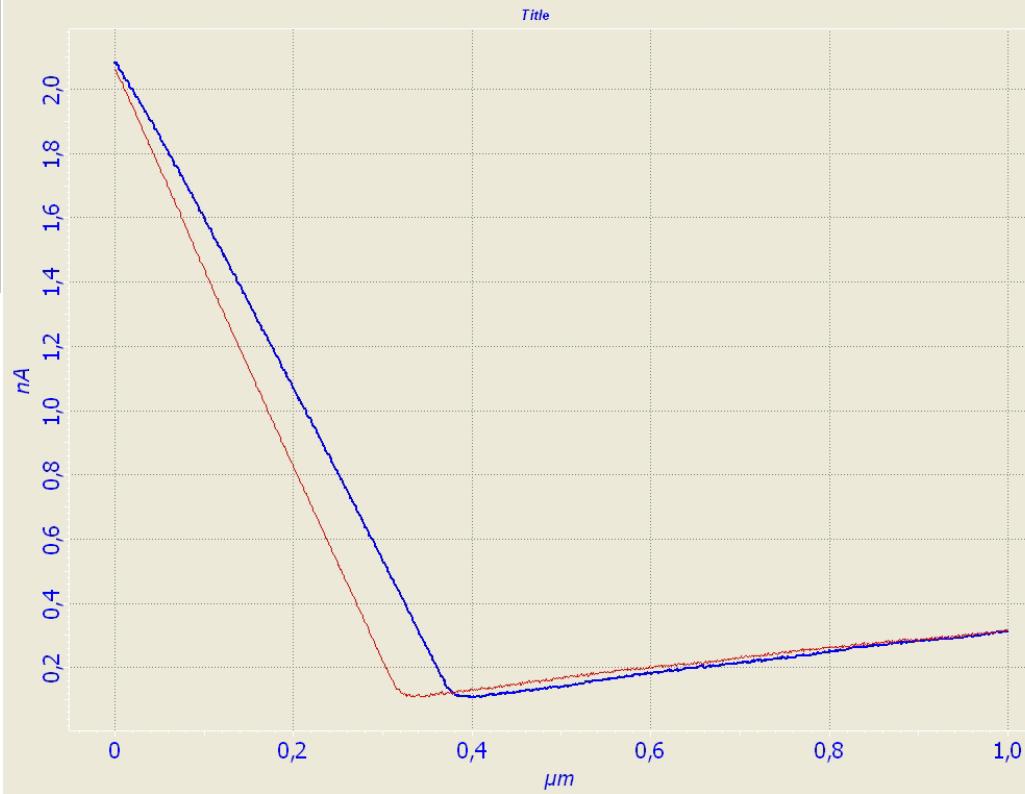
# SEPARATION CURVES in $10^{-3}$ M NaCl



5% Ag coatings

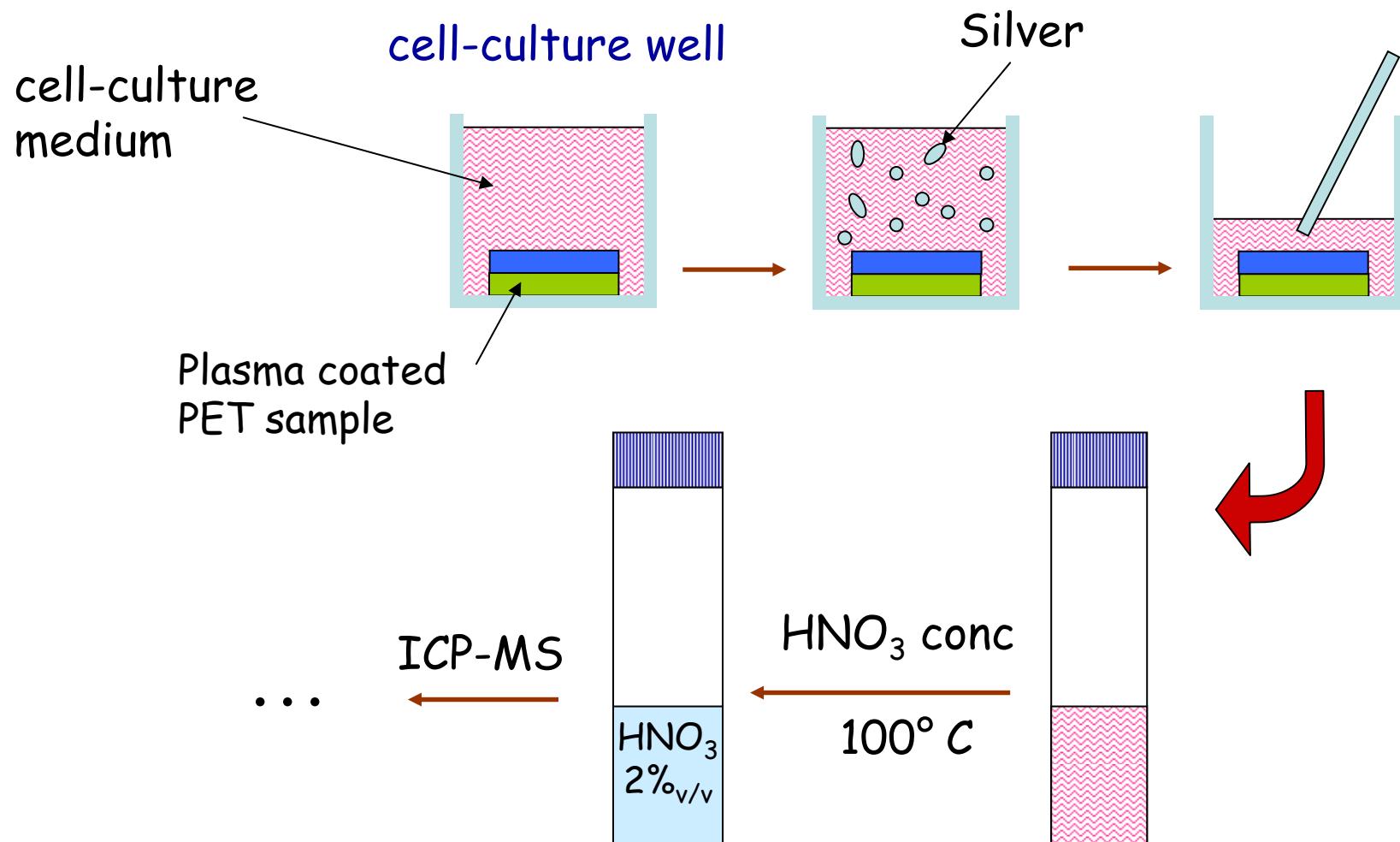


SIMILAR CURVES for each point of analysis attesting for the presence of an hydrophilic (PEO-like) coating also on silver clusters

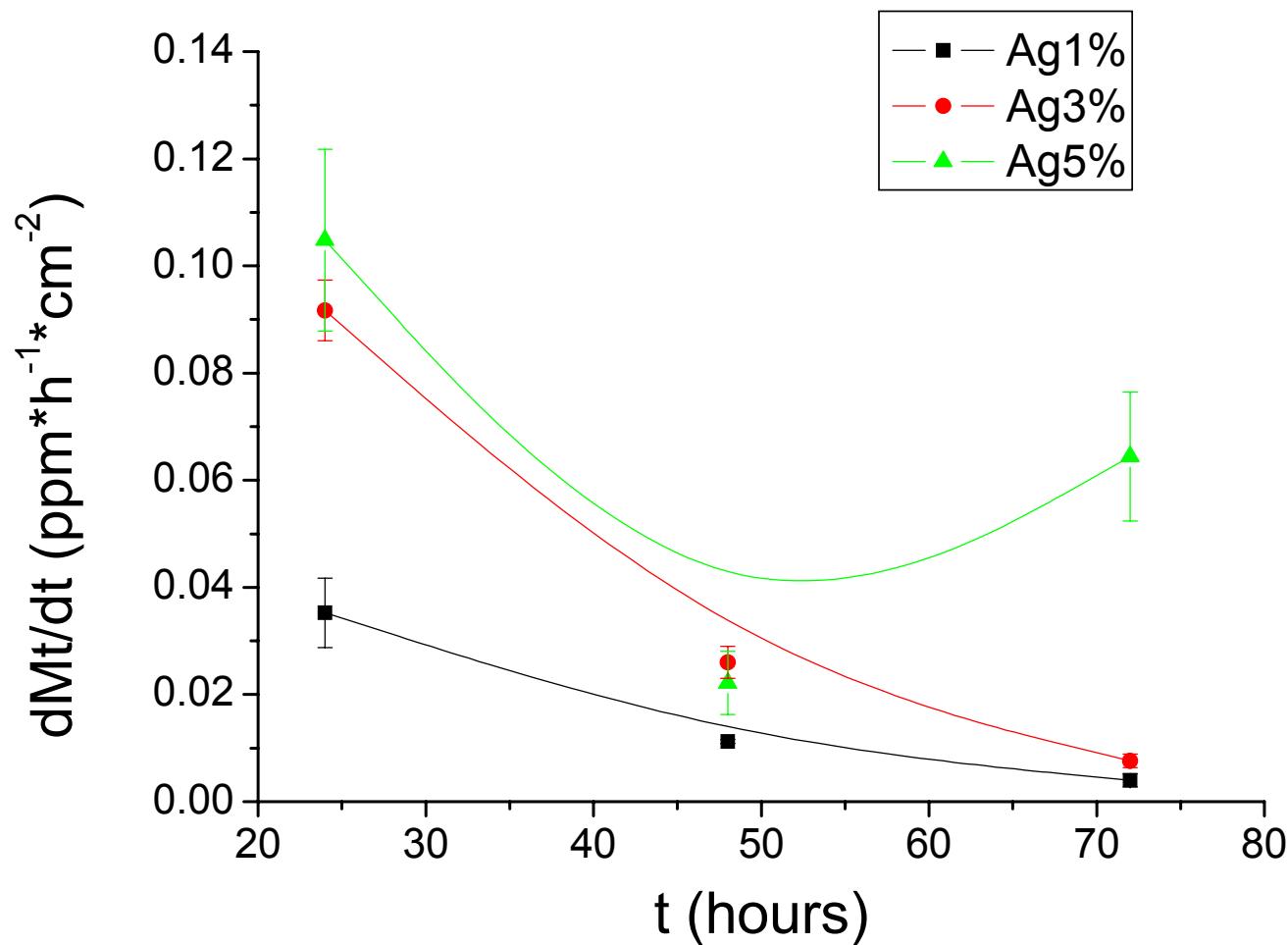


Ag clusters appear to be embedded in the PEO-like matrix

# Silver release in the cell-culture medium



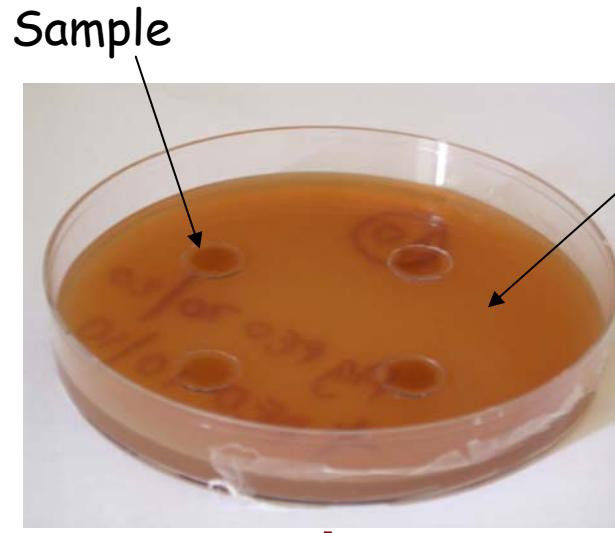
# Silver release in the cell-culture medium



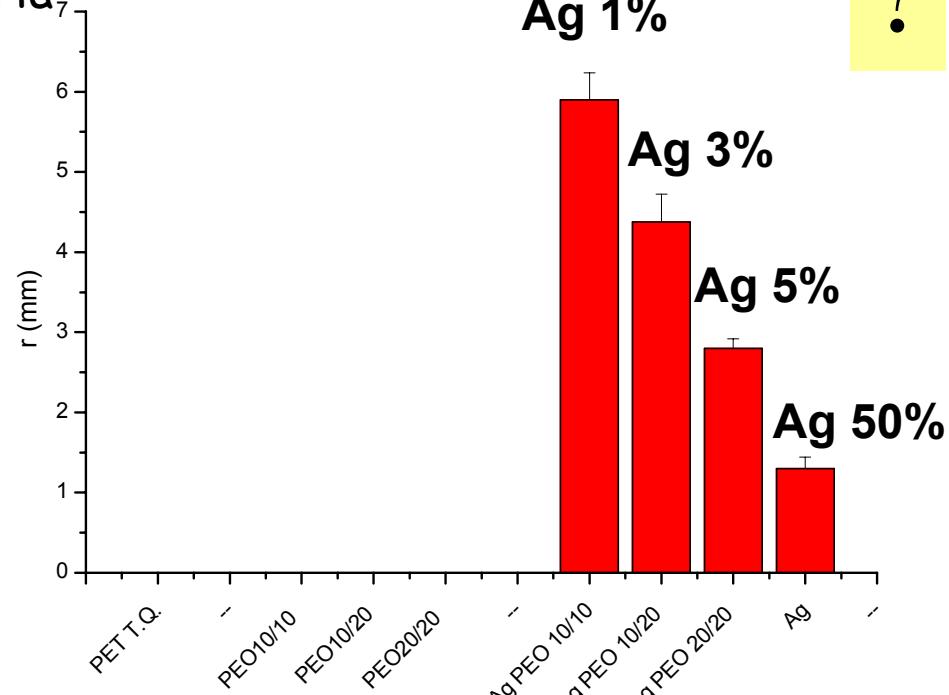
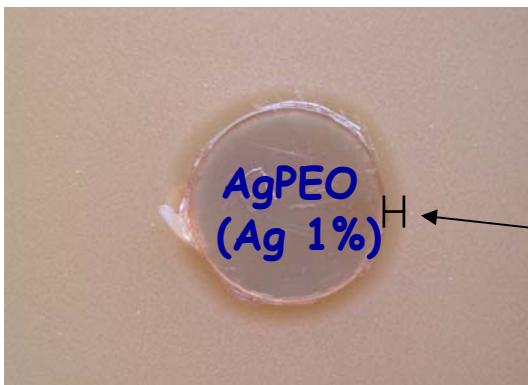
**OBJECTIVE 3:** Correlate cell (prokaryotic and eukaryotic) behaviours with chemical-physical characteristics of the coatings;

# DISK DIFFUSION SUSCEPTIBILITY TESTING

*Staphylococcus epidermidis* RP62A ATCC 35984  
(slime producer, Gram +;  $1 \times 10^8$  cfu/mL into Tryptic Soy Agar )



72 hours  
37°C



Zone of inhibition

# 3T3 MURINE FIBROBLASTS ( $1 \times 10^4$ cells/ml)

24hr

AgPEO

1% Ag

3% Ag

5% Ag

With Ag

50μm

40 %

50μm

30 %

50μm

20 %

PEO-character

50μm

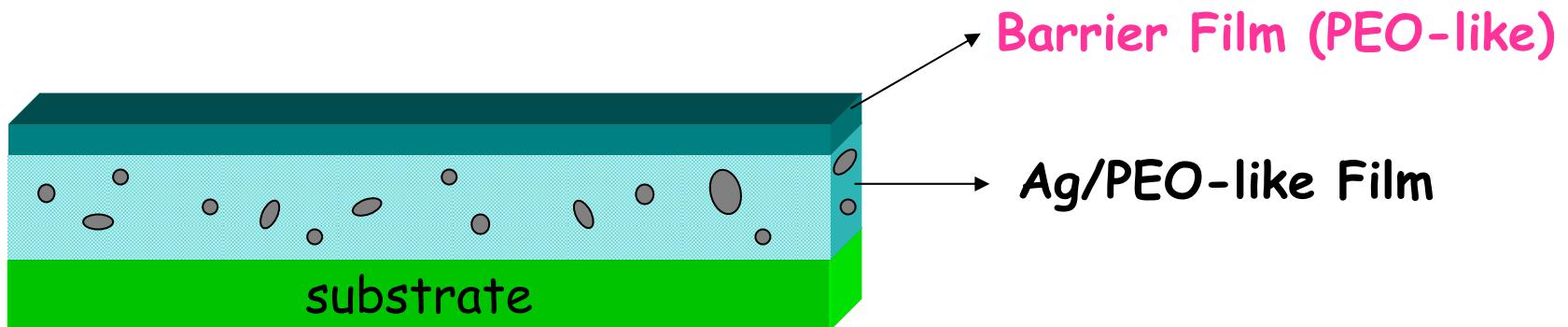
50μm

Without Ag

EO

**OBJECTIVE 4:** Improve medical effectiveness of Ag/PEO-like coatings: obtain an **HIGH** anti-bacterial effect and **LOW** eukaryotic cytotoxicity.

...controlled diffusion of Silver through a barrier film\* ...

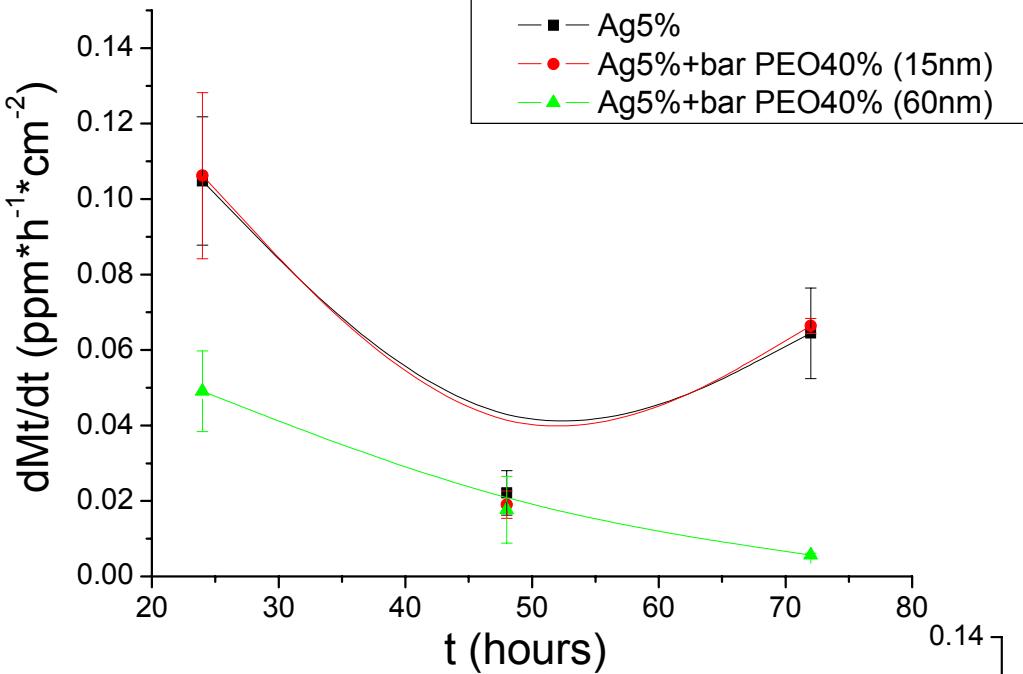


#### THE RATIONALE:

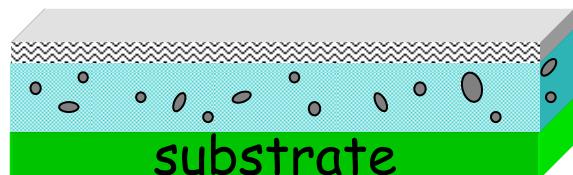
- CHEMICAL COMPOSITION (of the barrier) vs. amount of RELEASED SILVER
- THICKNESS (of the barrier) vs. amount of RELEASED SILVER

\* B.D. Ratner, A.S. Hoffman, F.J. Schoen, J.E. Lemons editors *Biomaterials Science* ElsevierScience; second edition

# Silver release through the barrier

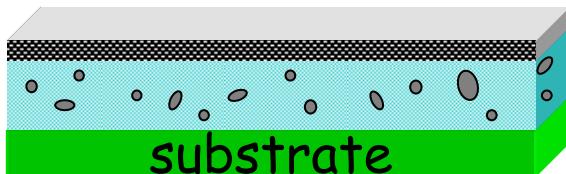


PEO-character 40%

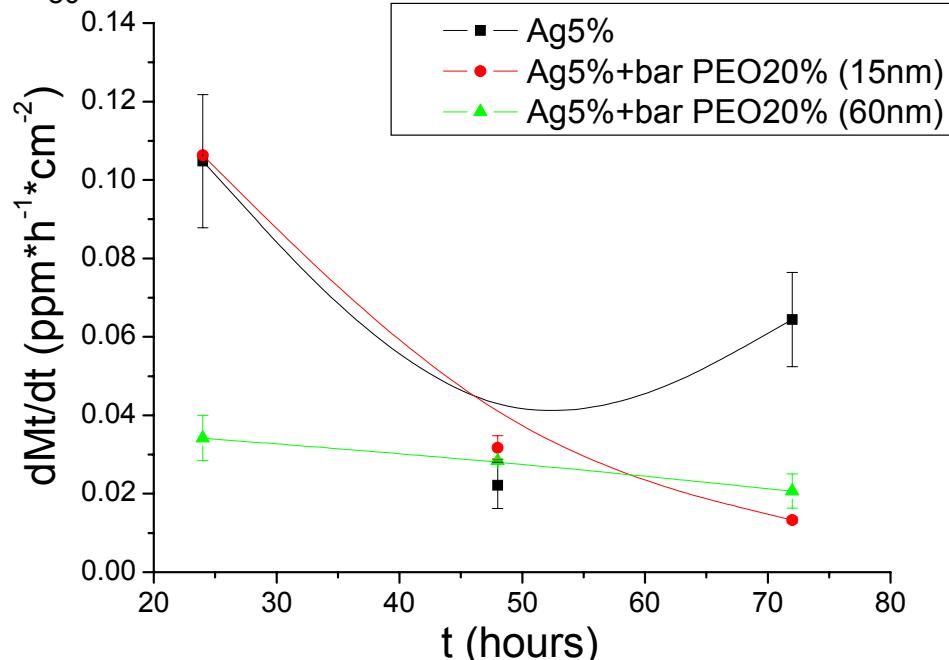


Ether groups  $\uparrow$

PEO-character 20%

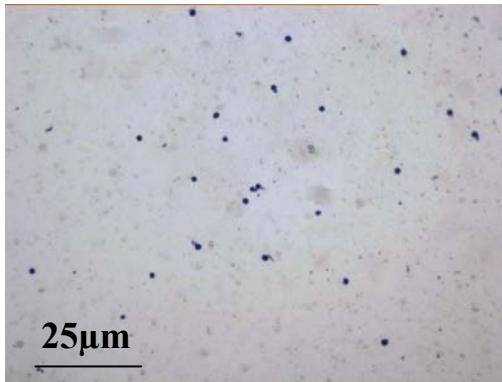


Ether groups  $\downarrow$

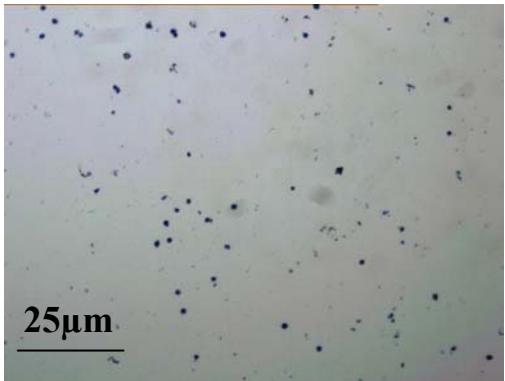


## Ag5% films

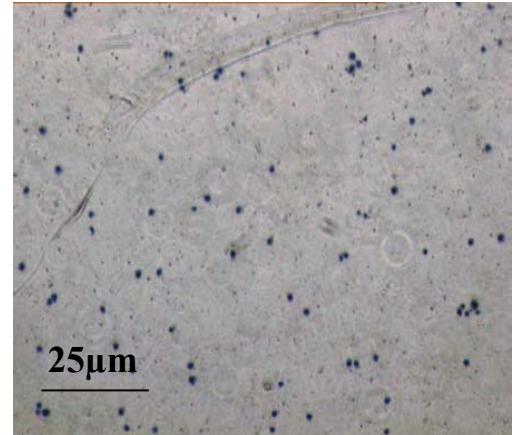
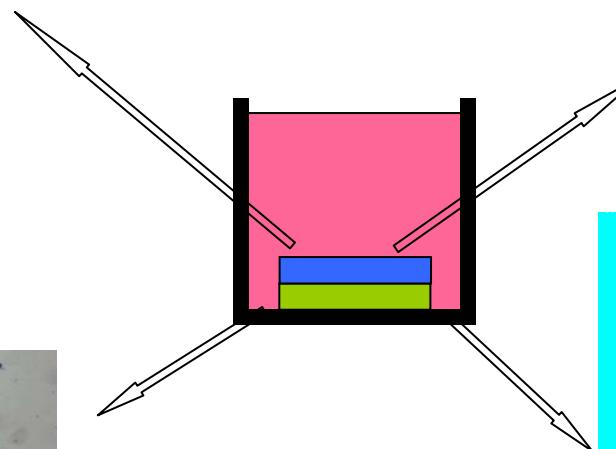
Ag5% films  
+ Barrier (PEO40%) 15nm



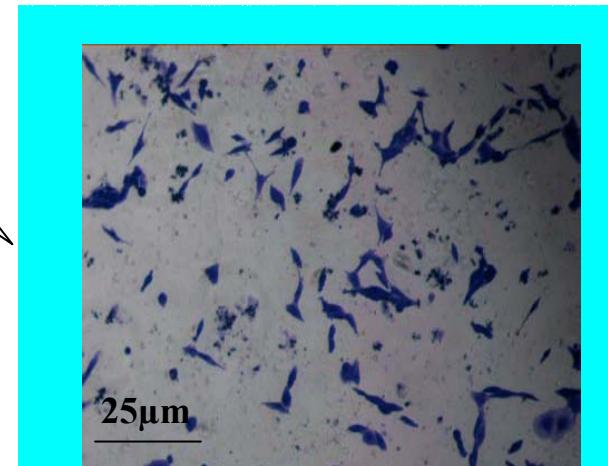
...on the coating



...on the bottom of the well (TCPS)



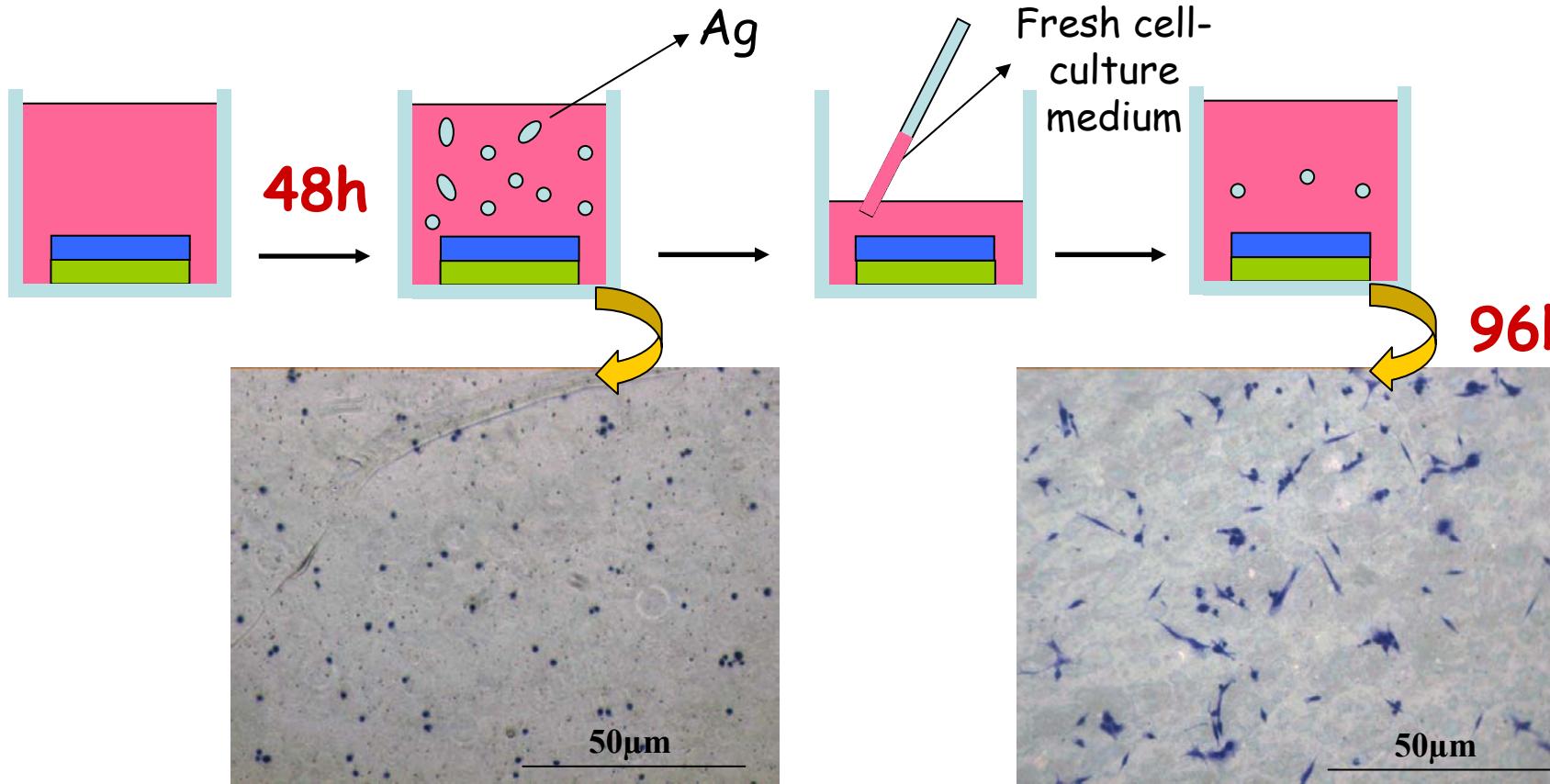
...on the coating



...on the bottom  
of the well  
(TCPS)

NO CYTOTOXIC EFFECT AROUND THE MATERIAL !

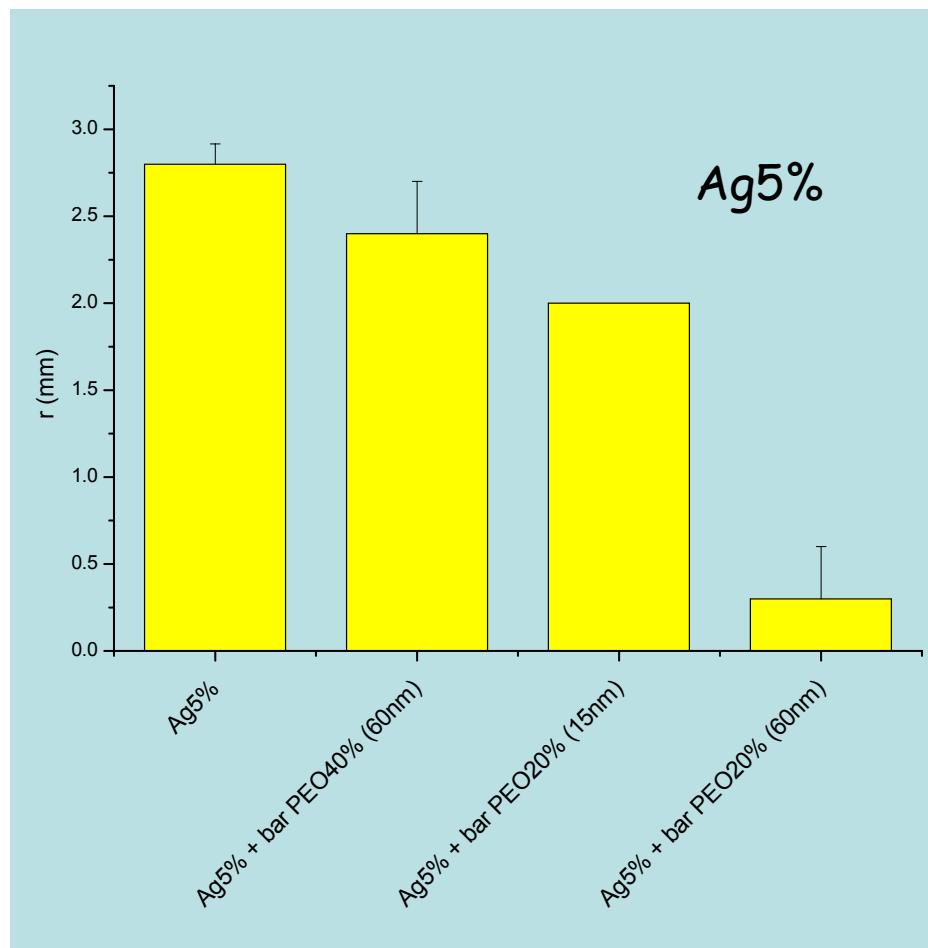
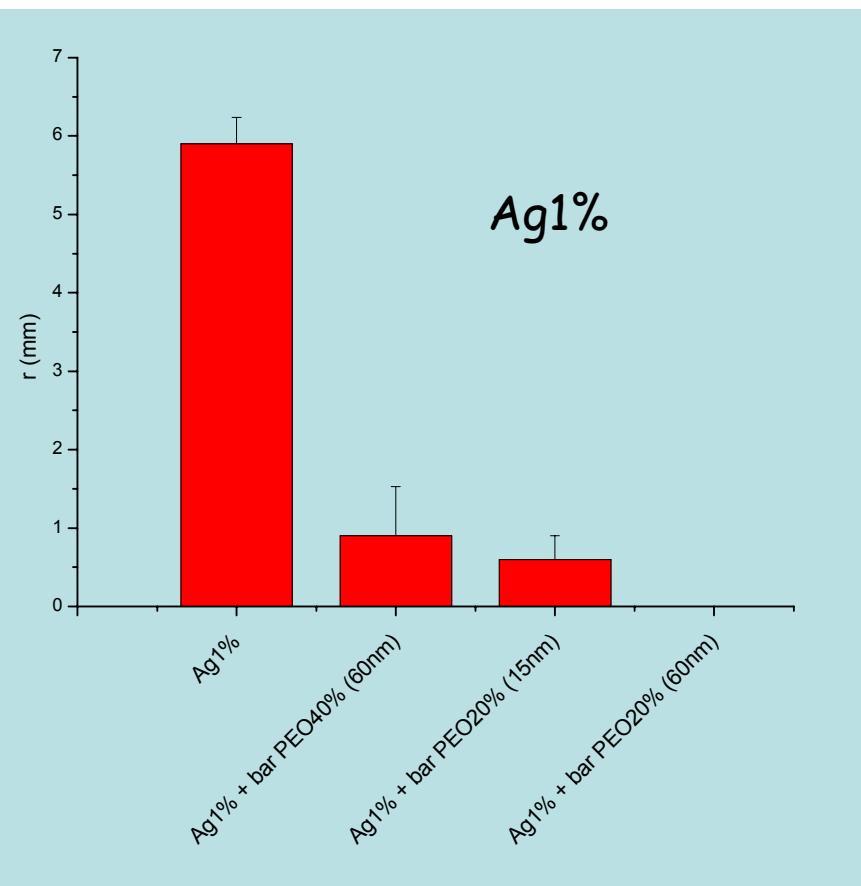
# Substitution of cell-culture medium after 48hrs



... only an inhibition on cell-growth and not a cytotoxic effect

# DISK DIFFUSION SUSCEPTIBILITY TESTING

*Staphylococcus epidermidis* RP62A ATCC 35984  
(slime producer, Gram +;  $1 \times 10^8$  cfu/mL into Tryptic Soy Agar )



## THE BARRIER:

- IMPROVES EUKARYOTIC CELLS BIOCOMPATIBILITY
- STORES THE BACTERIOSTATIC EFFECT

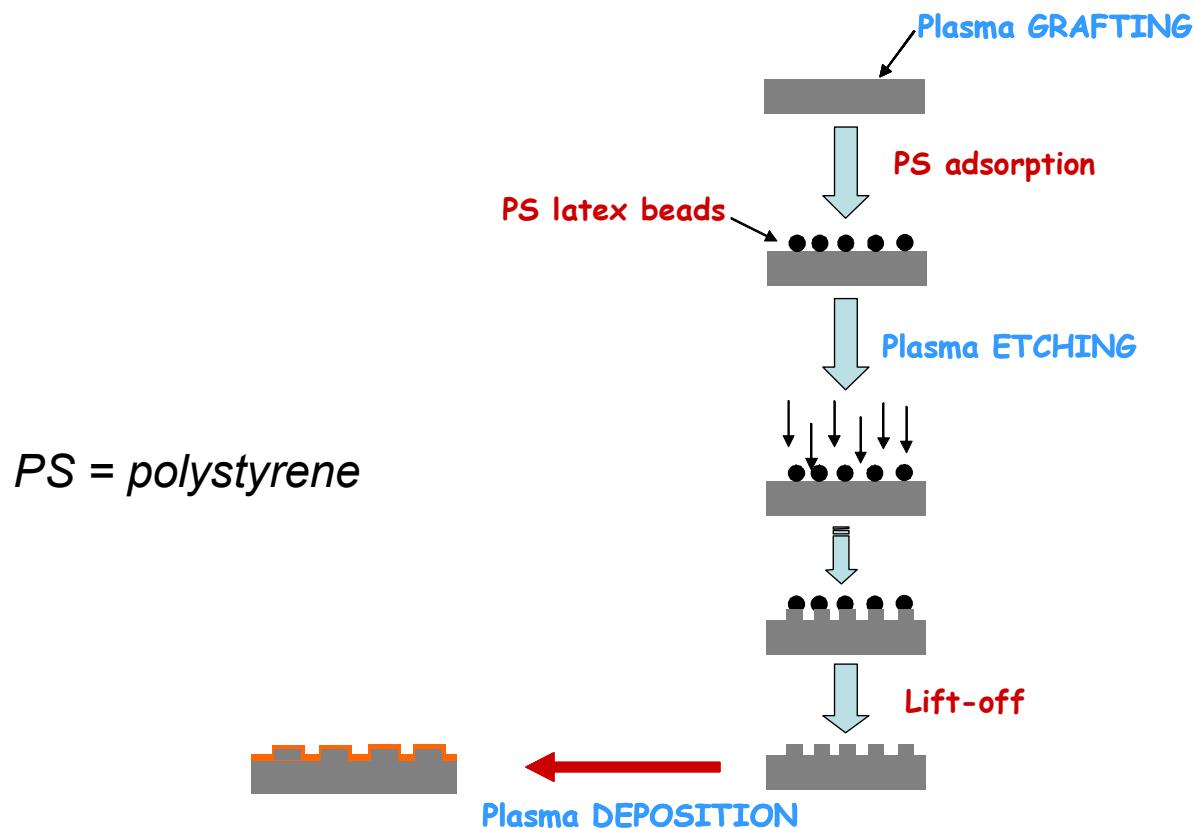
## NEXT

- TEM characterization (diffusion of the clusters through the coating)
- Cell culture tests
- Possible implantation on living systems

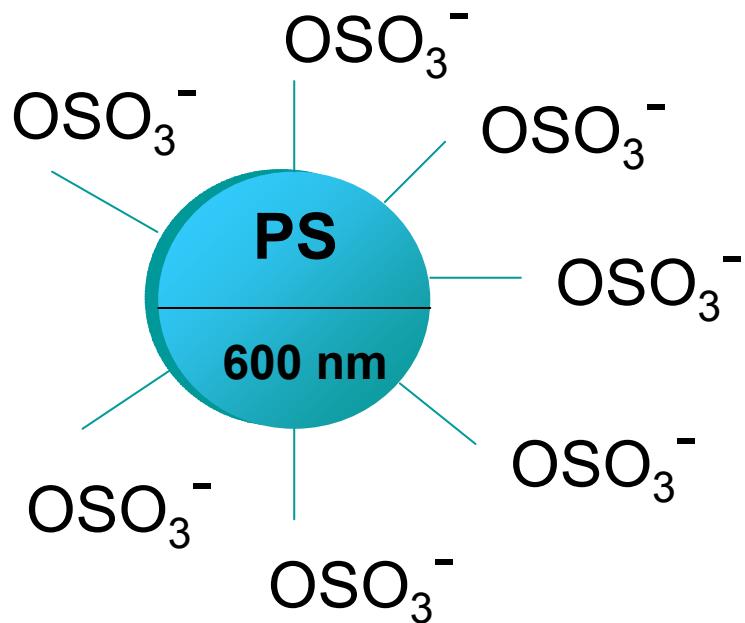
# NANO-PATTERNING by means of COLD PLASMAS

FIRB : E. Sardella, S. Lovascio, R. Gristina; M. Nardulli, G. S. Senesi  
P. Favia, R. d'Agostino

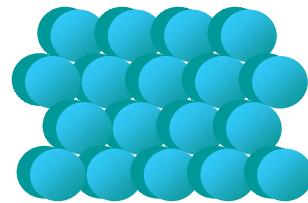
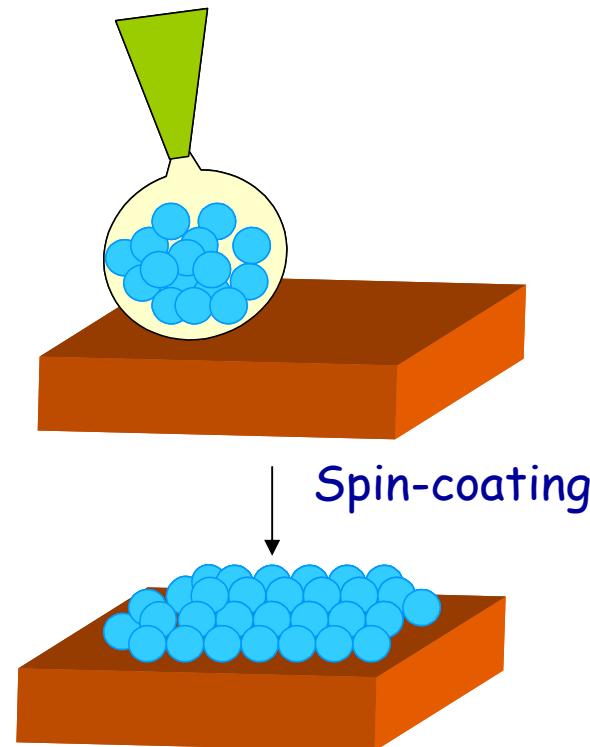
## COLLOIDAL LITHOGRAPHY



# PRODUCTION OF THE PHYSICAL MASK



PS: polystyrene

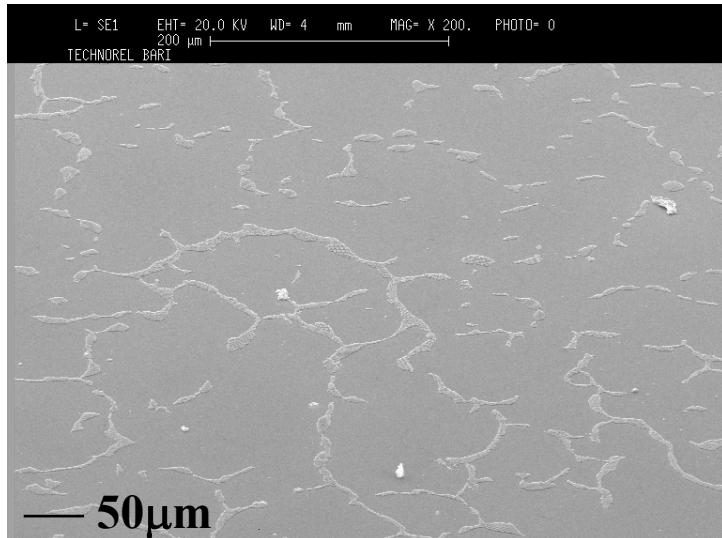


Ordered array of  
hexagonal lattices

# PLASMA GRAFTING TO IMPROVE SUBSTRATE WETTABILITY BEFORE PATTERNING

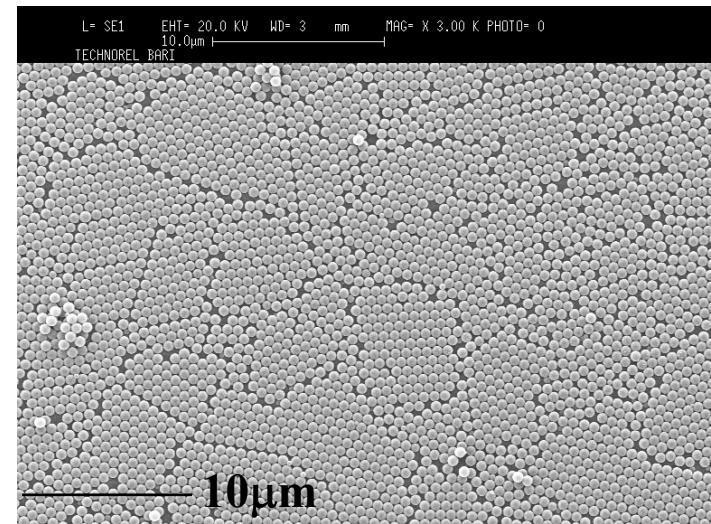
Native polystyrene (PS)

$$\theta_{\text{adv}} = 90^\circ \pm 3^\circ$$



NH<sub>3</sub>- plasma treated PS

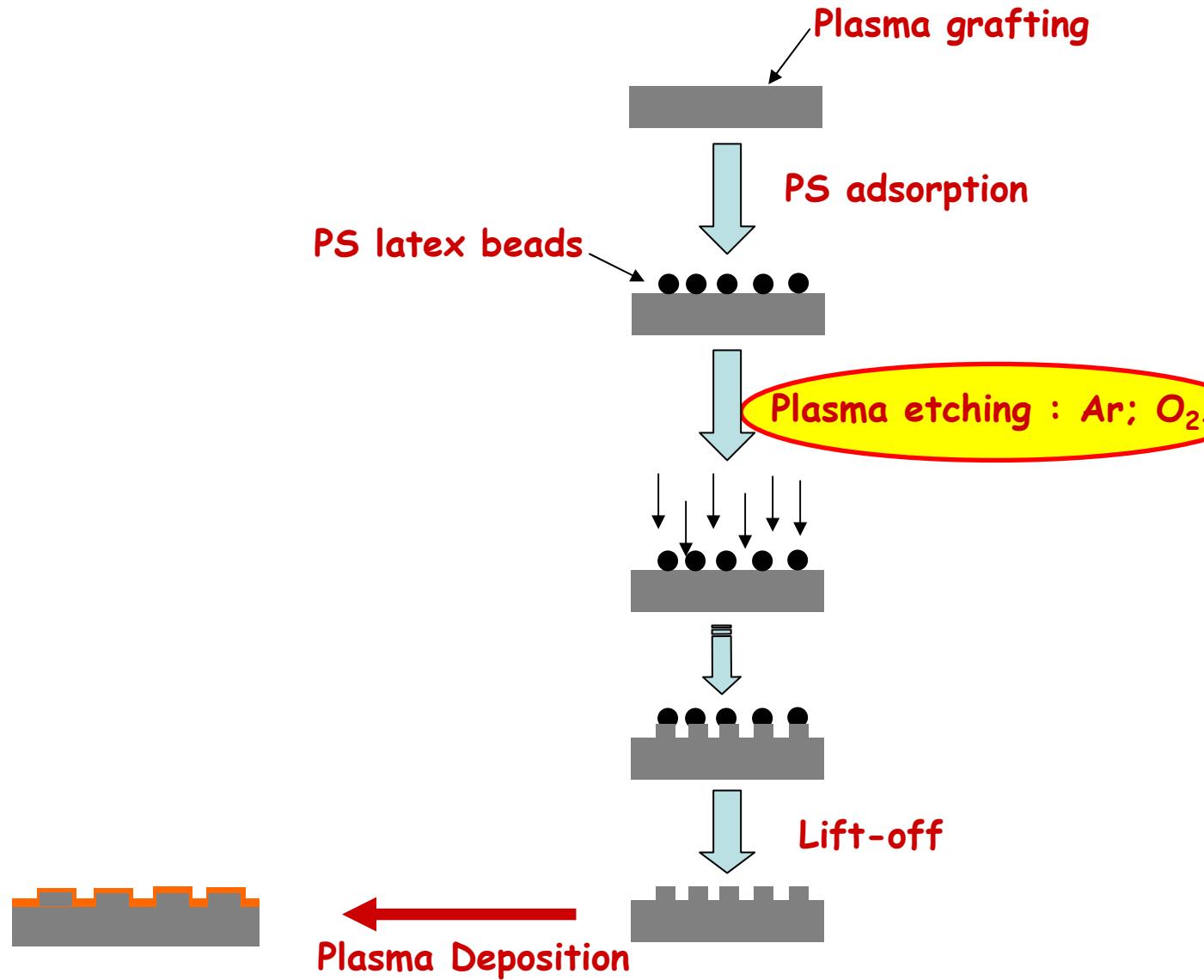
$$\theta_{\text{adv}} = 20^\circ \pm 3^\circ$$



(10 sccm NH<sub>3</sub>, 200 mtorr, 20 W, 1 min)

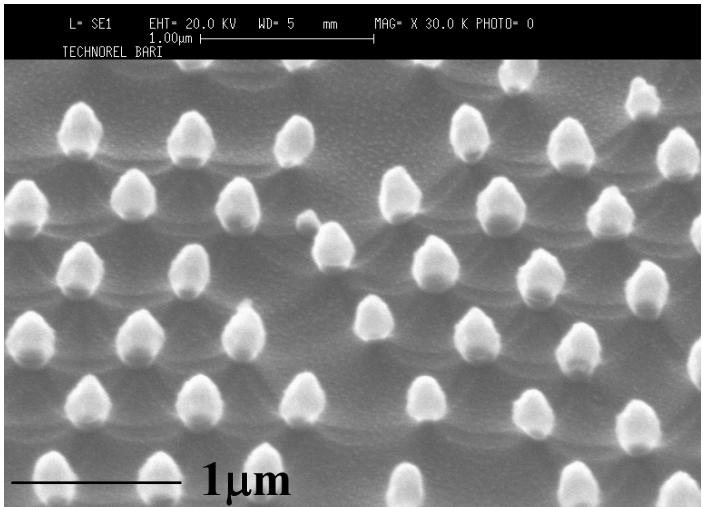
THE SUBSTRATE MUST BE WETTABLE!

# COLLOIDAL LITHOGRAPHY

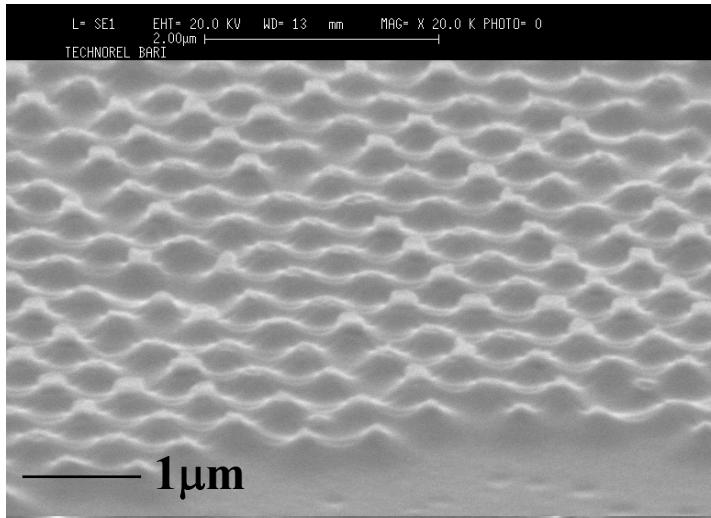


# PATTERN BY MEANS OF O<sub>2</sub> and Ar

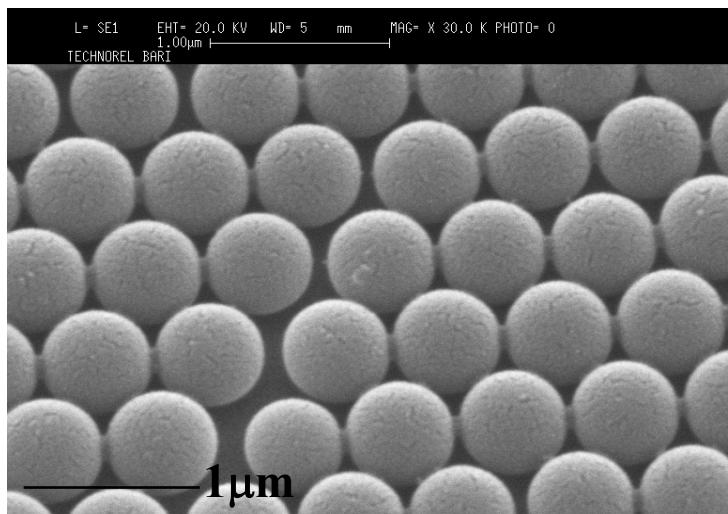
## 10min O<sub>2</sub> treatment



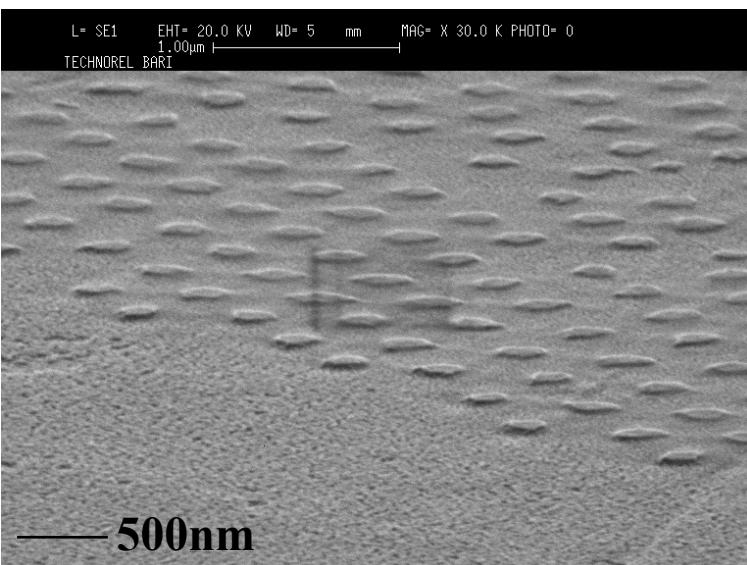
Lift-off →



## 60min Ar treatment



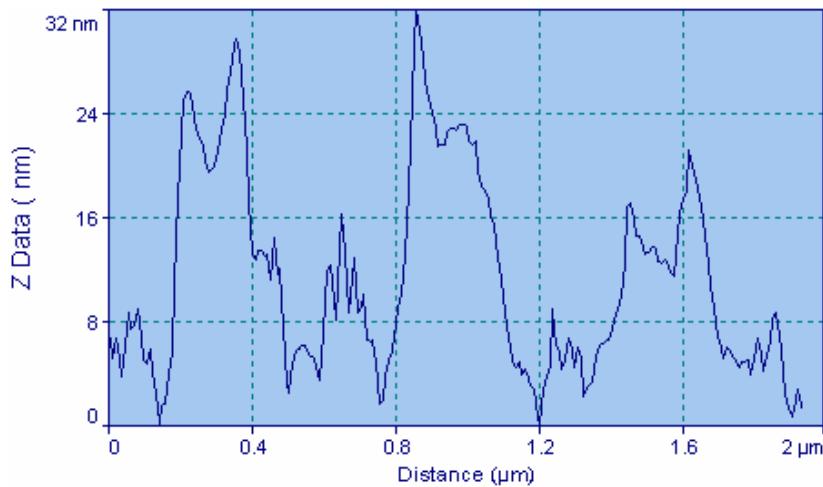
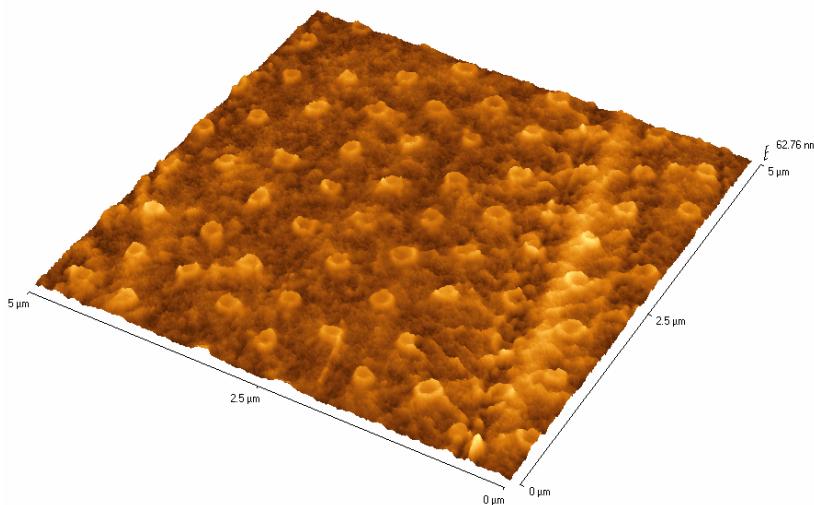
Lift-off →



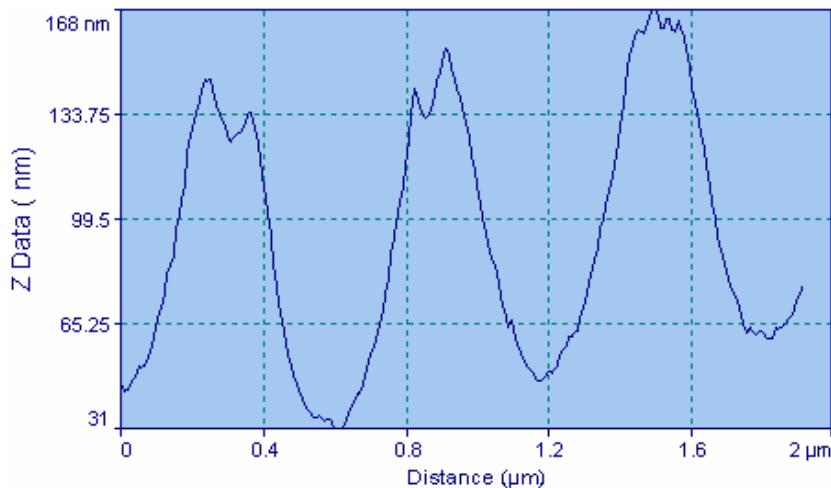
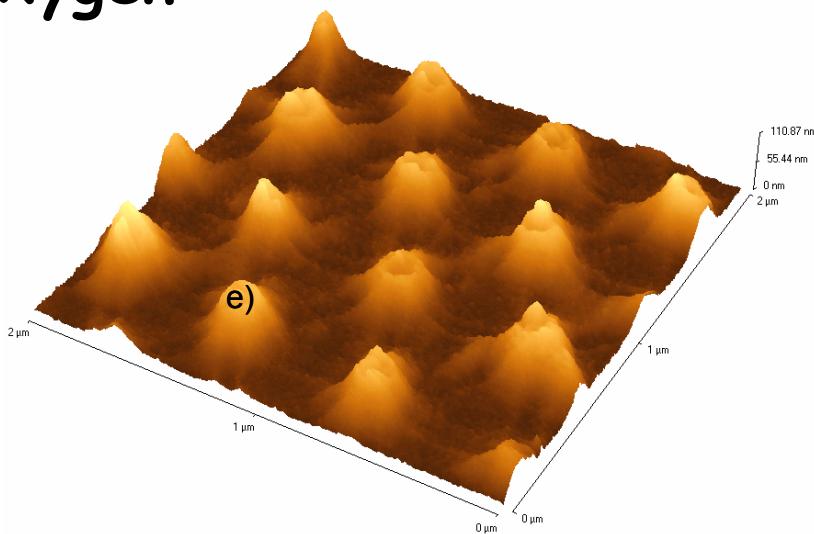
O<sub>2</sub>-Ar 10sccm; 50W; 200mTorr

# Argon

## PATTERN BY MEANS OF O<sub>2</sub> and Ar



# Oxygen



# NOW

We are studying the fundamentals of combination of CL with plasmas :

- effect of the chemical composition of substrate surface ( $H_2O$  and  $O_2$  pre-treatments)
- effect of the plasma-etching during the transfer of the pattern

# FUTURE

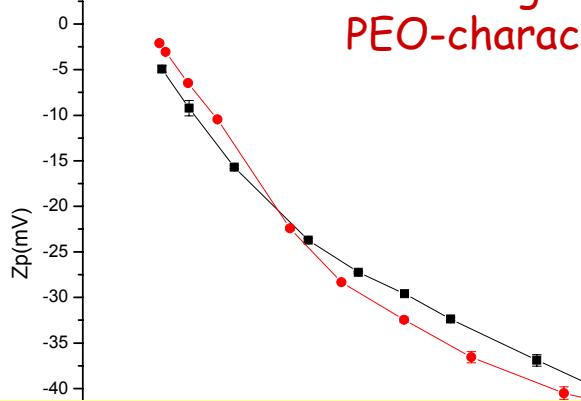
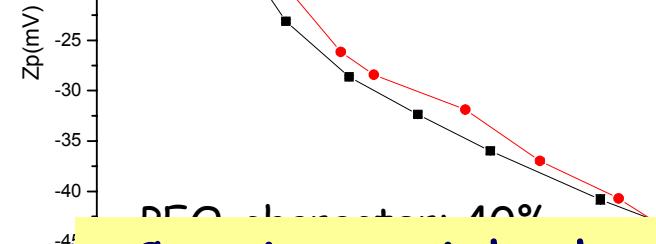
Compare the effect of chemistry and/or topography on cell adhesion

Producing chemical nano-domains spatially resolved (biosensors)

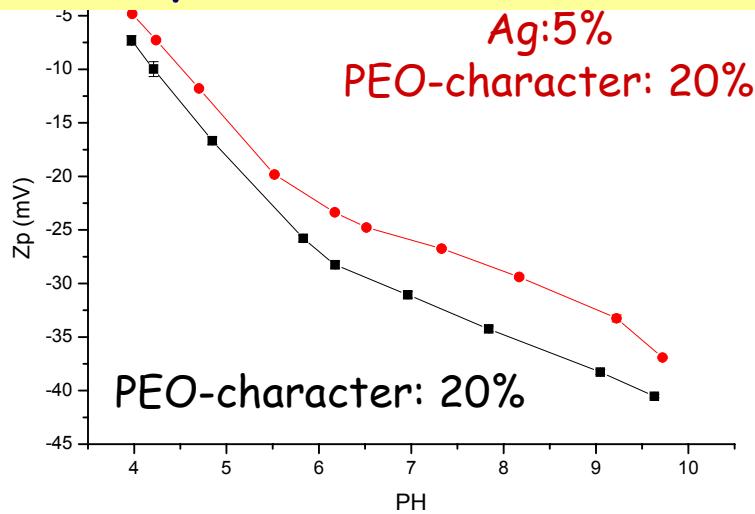
## Z potential

Ag:1%  
PEO-character: 40%

Ag:3%  
PEO-character: 30%

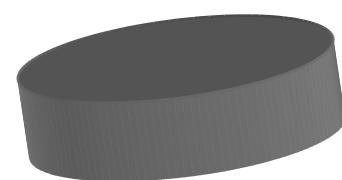


Coatings with the highest percentage of silver have  
a more positive Z potential  
with respect to the other ones

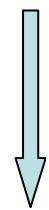


RISULTATO:

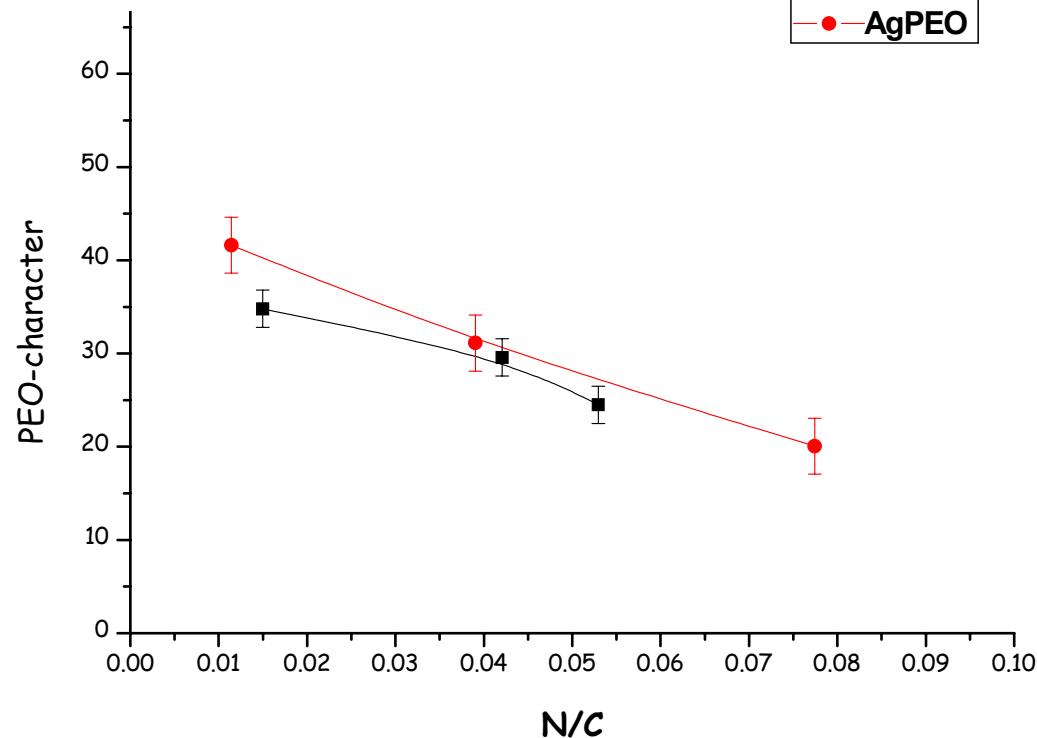
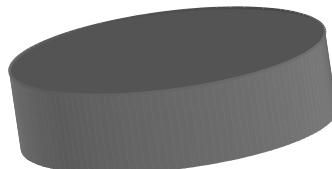
## OBJECTIVE 3: Correlate protein adsorption and cell (prokaryotic and eukaryotic) behaviours with chemical-physical characteristics of the coatings;



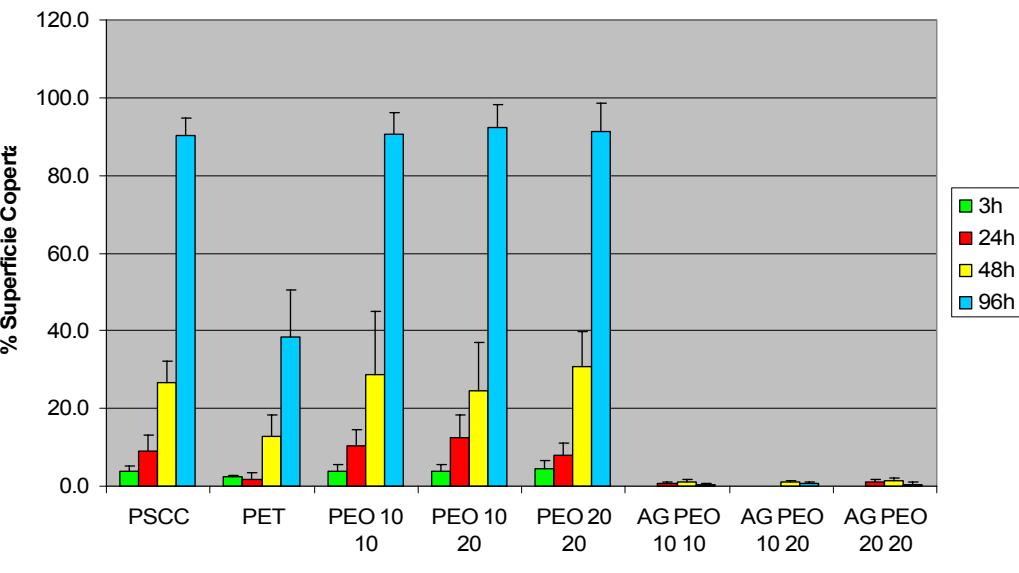
Drop of fibronectin solution  
(50µg/ml) that covers the whole  
substrate surface for 1h at 37°C.



Twice distilled  
water rinsing



Adesione cellulare PEO e AG PEO 3, 24, 48, 96 h



Adesione 3T3 per tempi

