

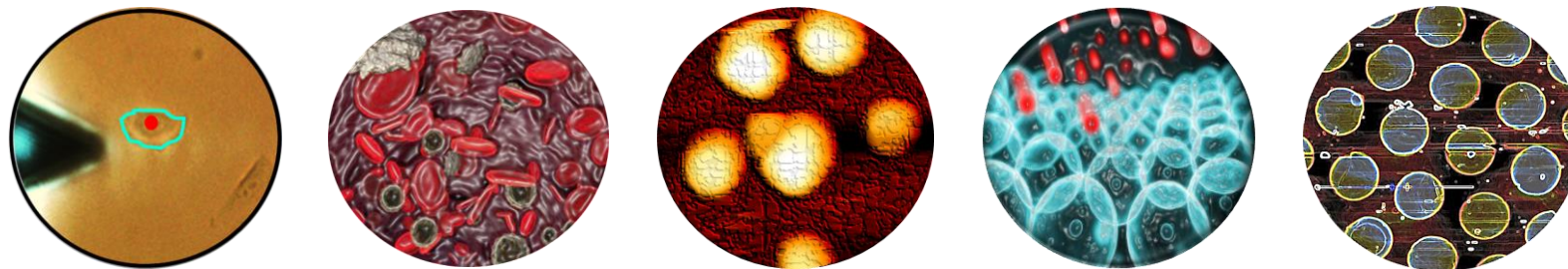
Investigating Cell-Substrate and Cell-Cell Interactions by means of Single-Cell-Probe Force Spectroscopy

Dr. Jagoba Iturri

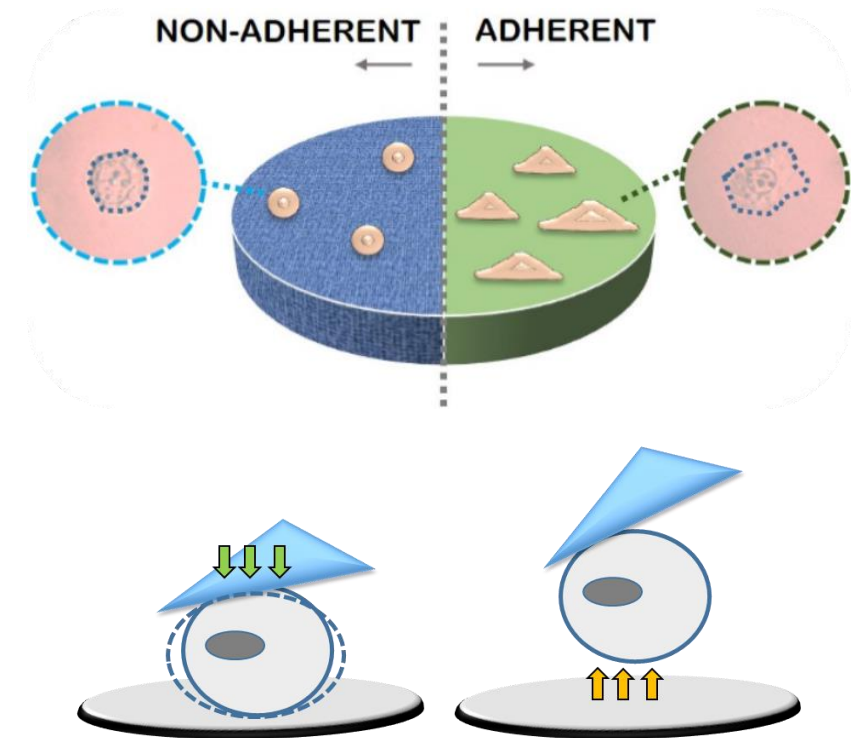
[Research Associate]

Institute for Biophysics – DNBT

BOKU University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna

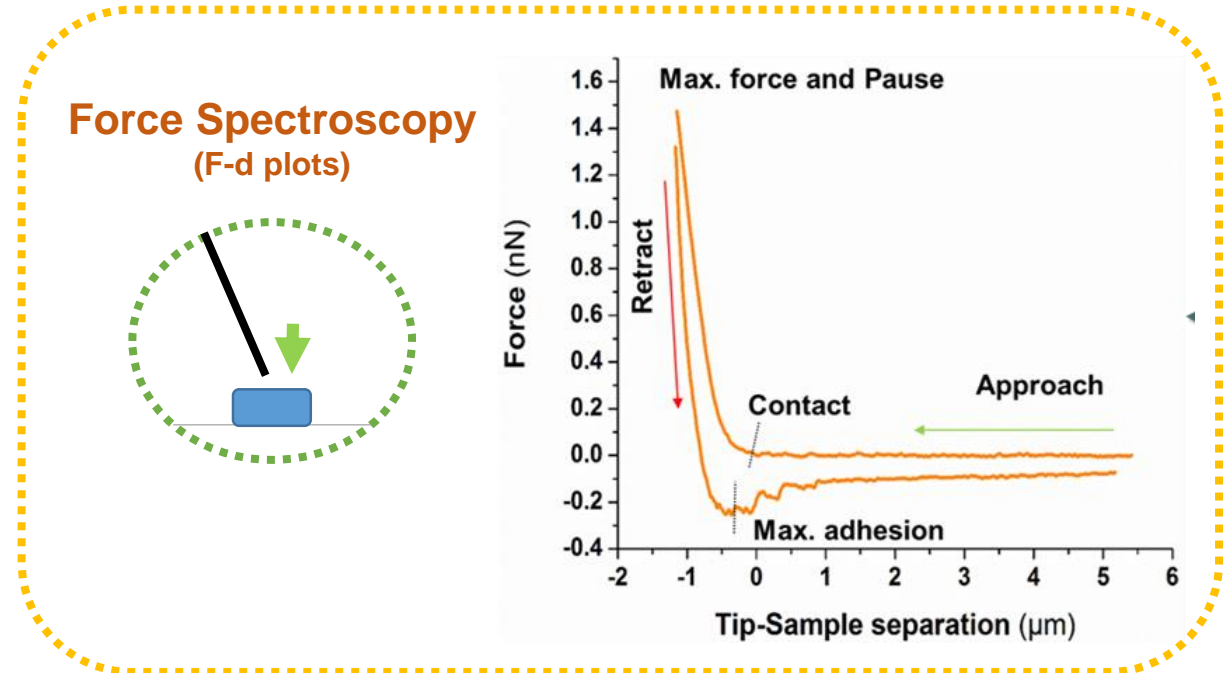
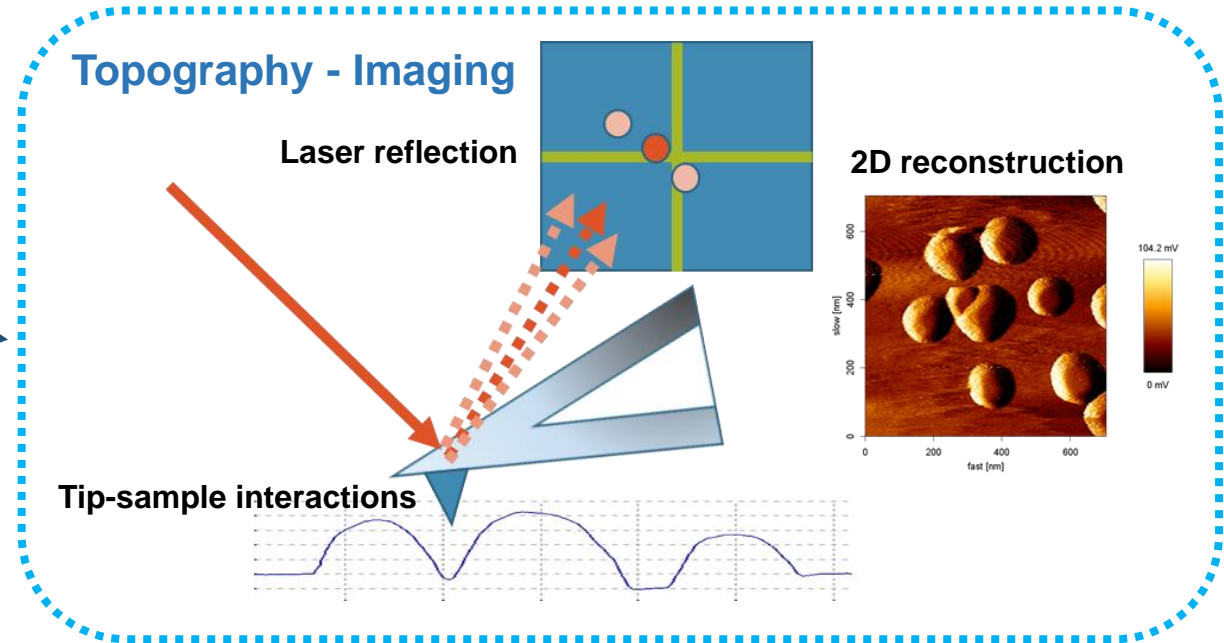
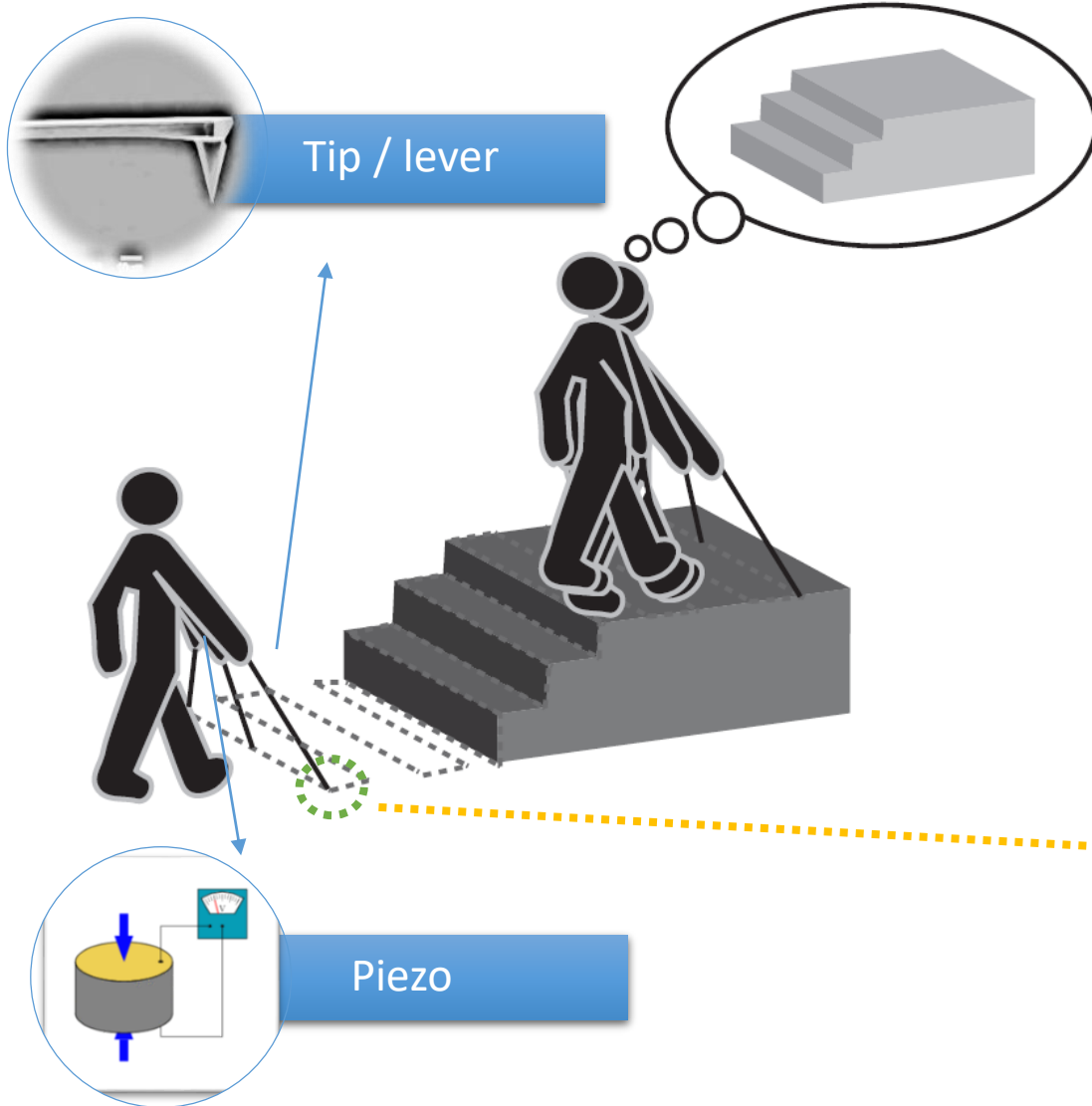


- Defining Single-Cell-Probe Force Spectroscopy
- Methodology
 - Current techniques
 - New Design: Two half-slide system
- Interacting force analysis
 - Cell-Substrate
 - Cell-Cell
- Conclusions



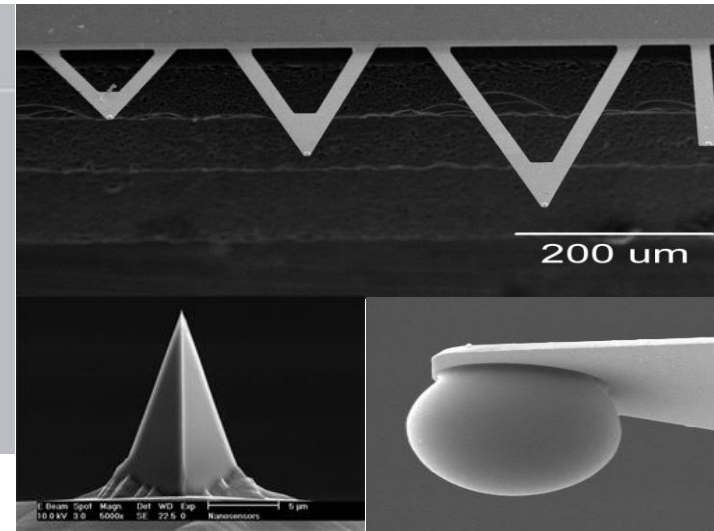
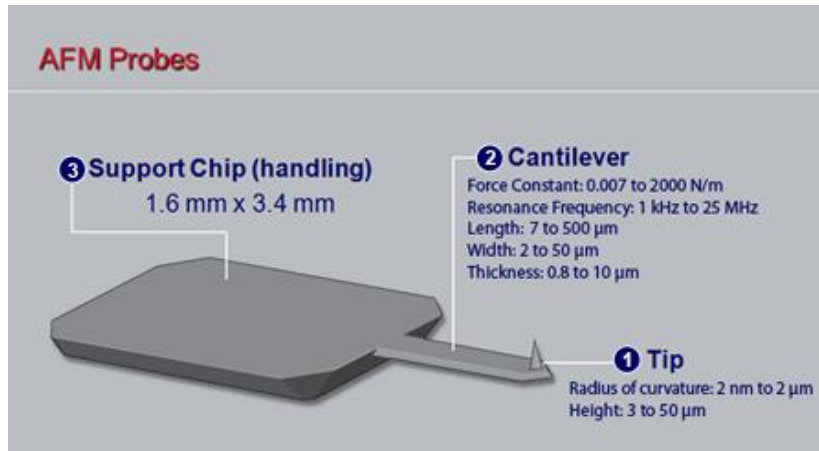
Atomic Force Microscopy

- Born in the 80s (Binnig and Rohrer)
- Scanning Probe Microscopy

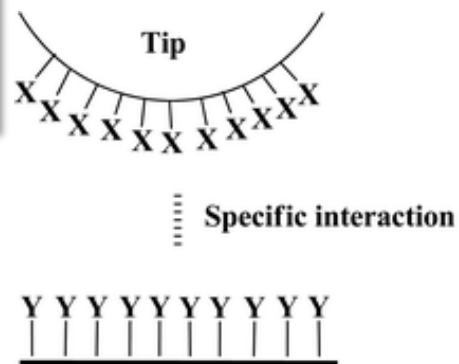
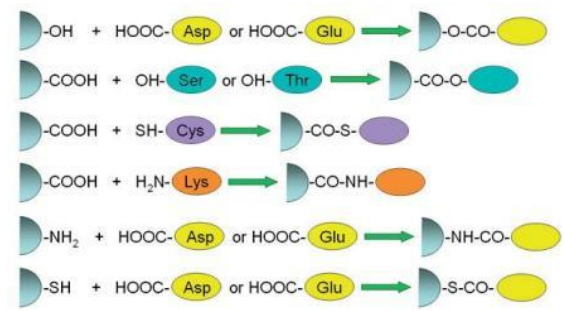


Atomic Force Microscopy

Cantilever selection



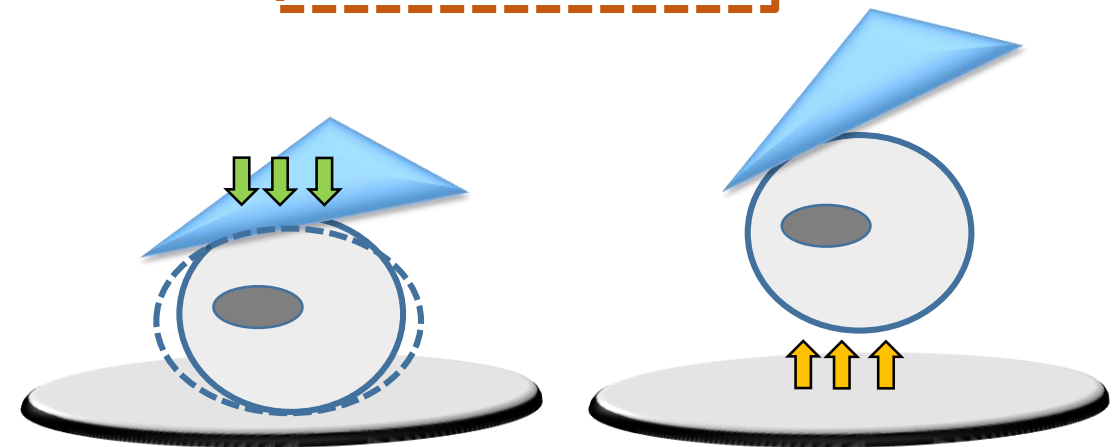
- **Spring constant** – force range (sample)
- **Tip geometry**: pyramidal vs colloidal vs flat
- **Chemical properties** of/on the tip



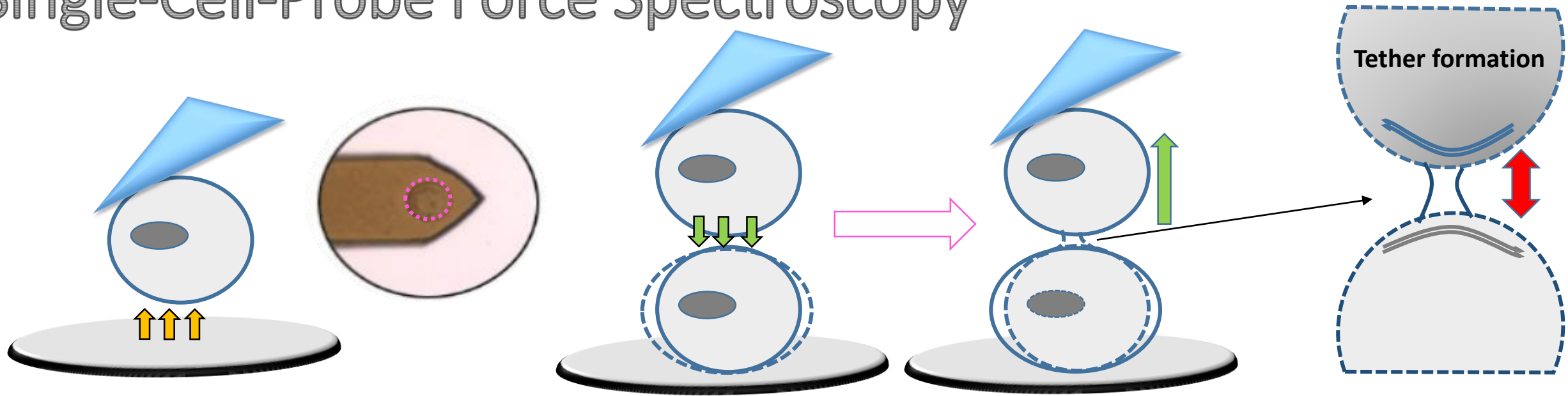
(non) Specific forces

{ X = Host group
Y = Guest group

Cell Capturing



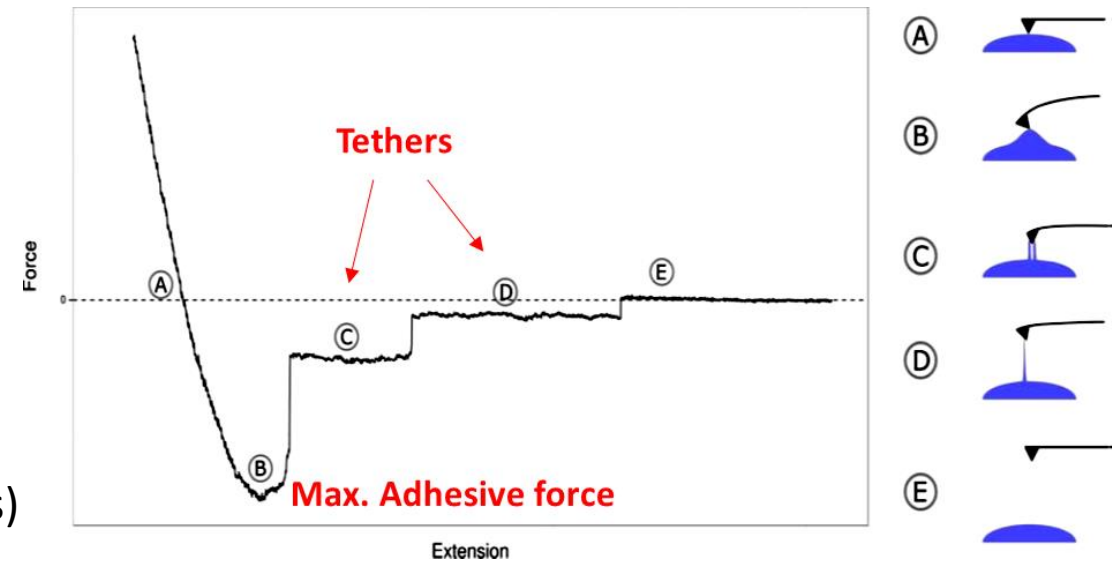
Single-Cell-Probe Force Spectroscopy



Living cell as measuring probe

Controlled manipulation supported by OM

Interacting Forces: Substrate vs Tissue formation
(Force-distance plots)



Applied Methodology

- High cell-cantilever affinity
- Substrate-promoted capture enhancement

Cantilever Activation

Concavalin A – Carbohydrate groups

Streptavidin – Biotinylated cells

Poly L-Lysine (PLL) – Electrostatic charges

Fibronectin – Cell adhesion receptors

Dopamine (BD Cell Tak) – Polyphenolic proteins

Surface Passivation

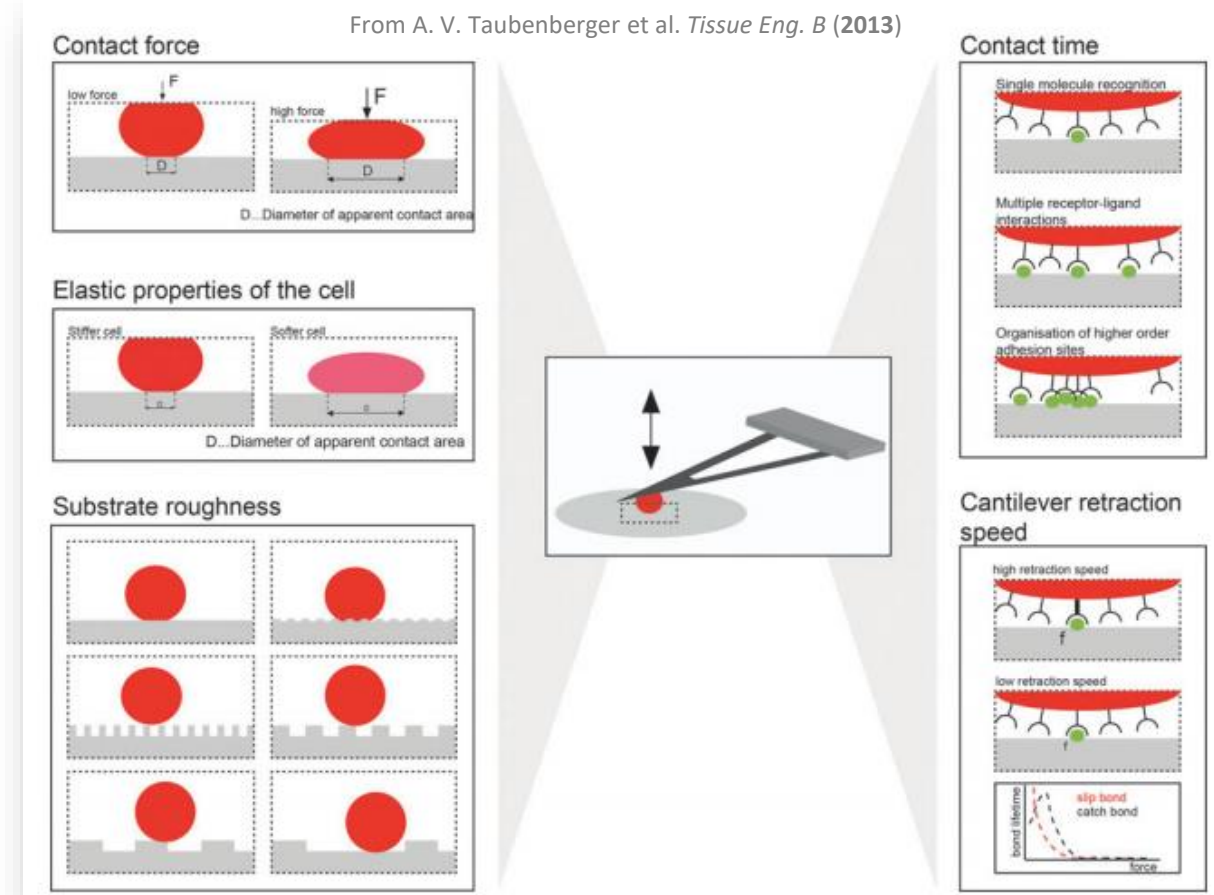
BSA – not 100% efficient

PEG (-PLL)

Additional methods

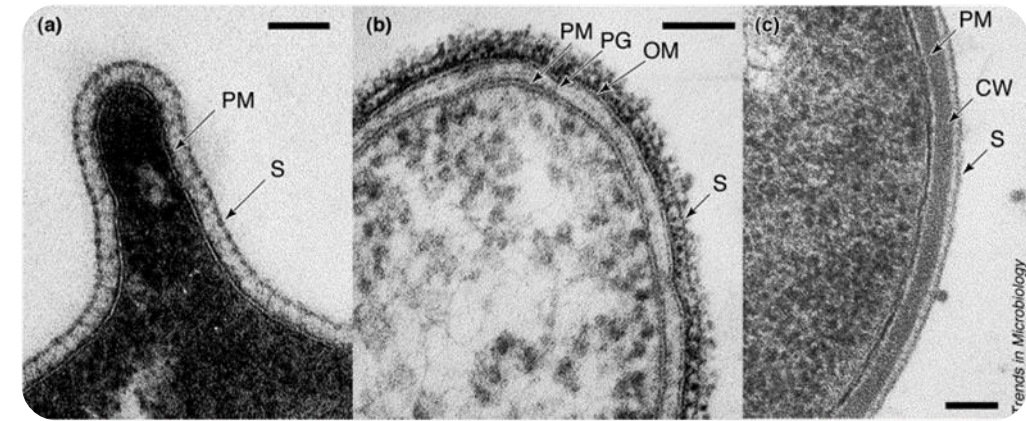
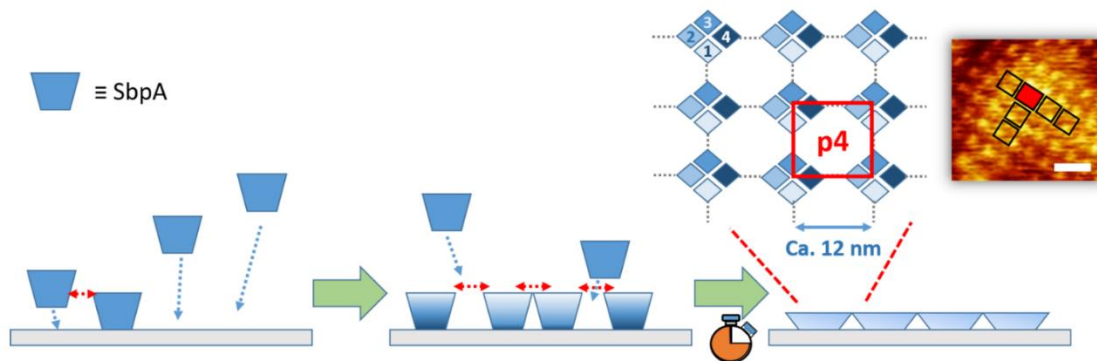
Light-switchable compounds

Maintenance of Round structure
Anti-Fouling activity



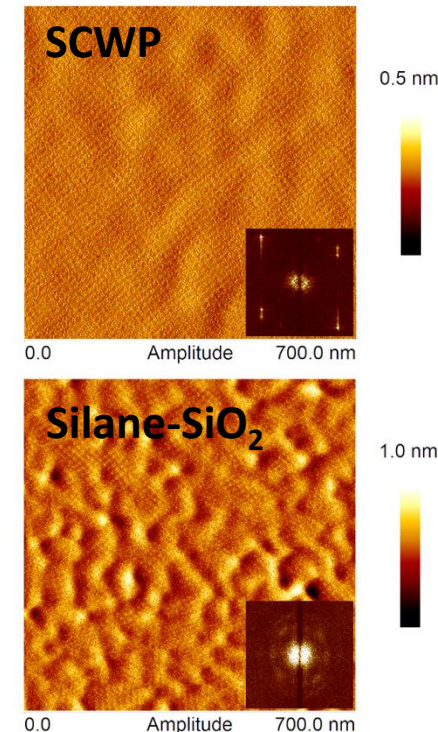
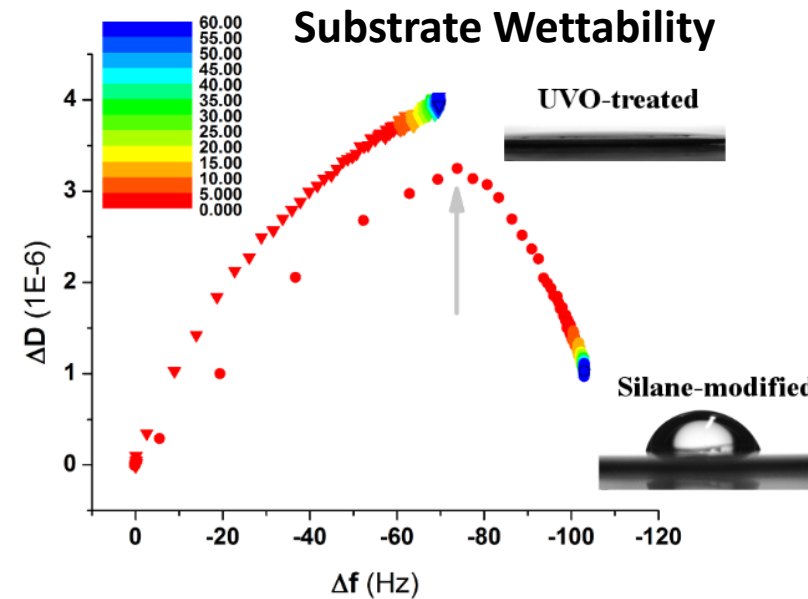
S-layer proteins - SbpA [Lysinibacillus sphaericus]

- Common in bacterial cell envelope (Archaea, Gram +/-)
- Identical proteins or glycoproteins and built via self-assembly.
- Different lattice symmetry: *oblique* (p1, p2), **square (p4)** or *hexagonal* (p3, p6) depending of the protein subunits involved.
- Thickness between 5 and 25 nm
- Recrystallization after **isolation and purification**
- Successfully tested on diverse 2D and 3D interfaces



Electron micrographs of thin sections of (a) an archeon (*Sulfolobus acidocaldarius*), (b) a Gram-negative bacterium (*Aeromonas salmonicida*) and (c) a Gram-positive bacterium (***Bacillus thuringiensis***), all of which possess a crystalline cell surface layer (S-layer). Abbreviations: CW, Gram-positive cell wall; OM, outer membrane; PG, peptidoglycan layer; PM, plasma membrane; **S, S-layer**. Scale bar = 50 nm.

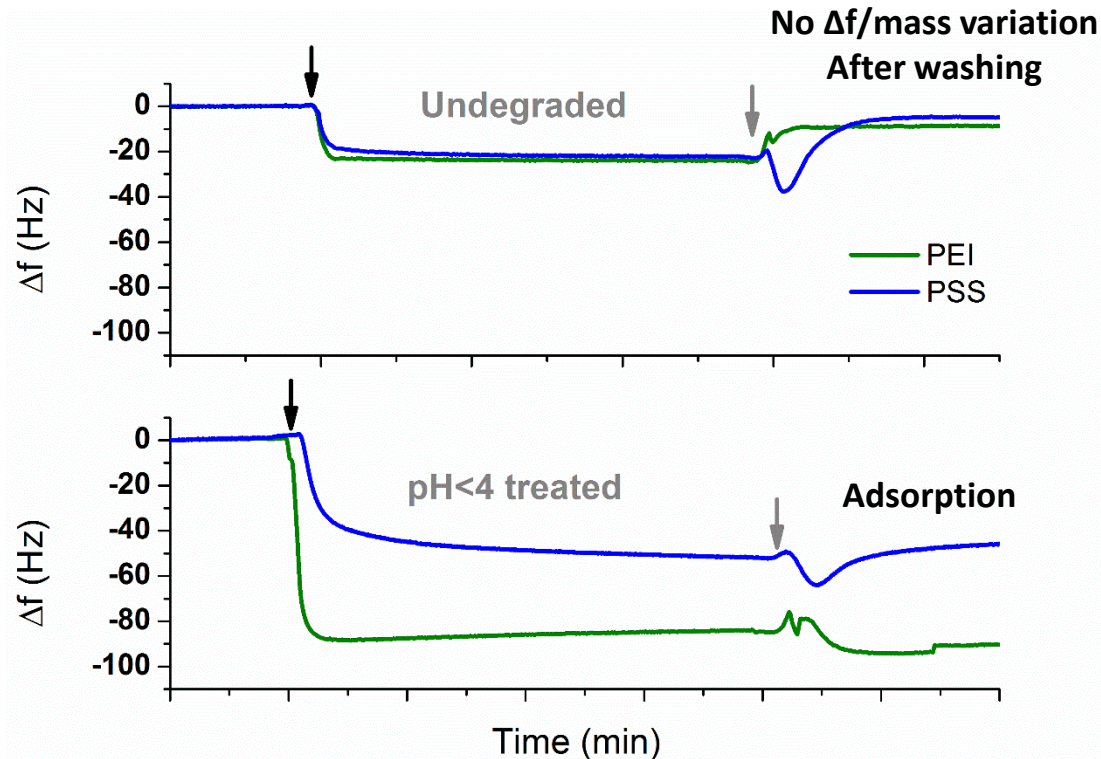
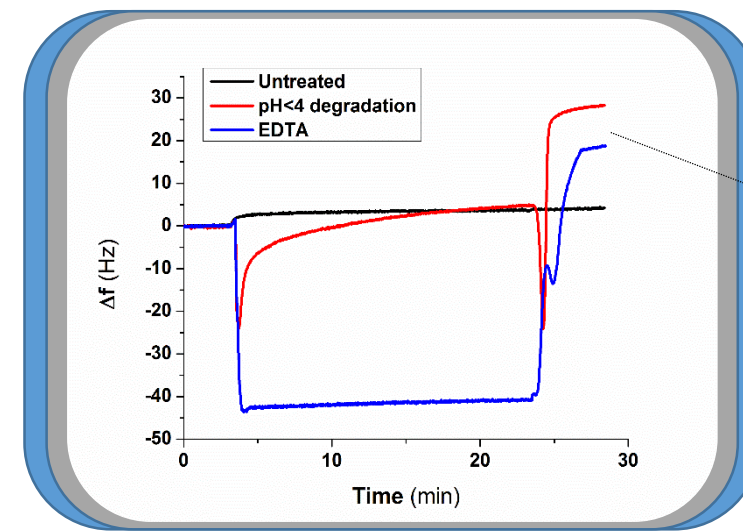
U. B. Sleytr, T. J. Beveridge. *Trends in Microbiology* (1999) 7 (6), 253-260



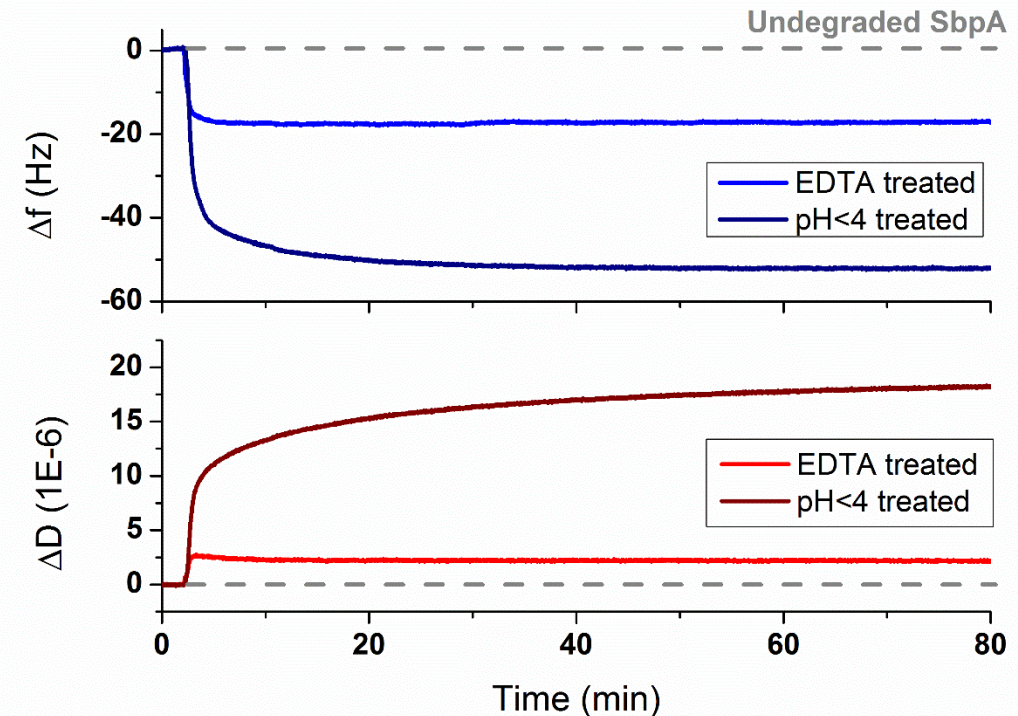
S-layer proteins - SbpA [Lysinibacillus sphaericus]

Antifouling activity vs Controlled degradation

- **EDTA** as Ca^{2+} chelating agent
- Full structural disruption at $\text{pH} < \text{pI}$ (**Citrate buffer**)



Proteins/Polyelectrolytes



Cell adsorption



Developed Methodology

- **2x** precision cut half-covers (allows individual modification)
- Supportive cover slide underneath
- MCF-7 cell line

Specific binding to integrins

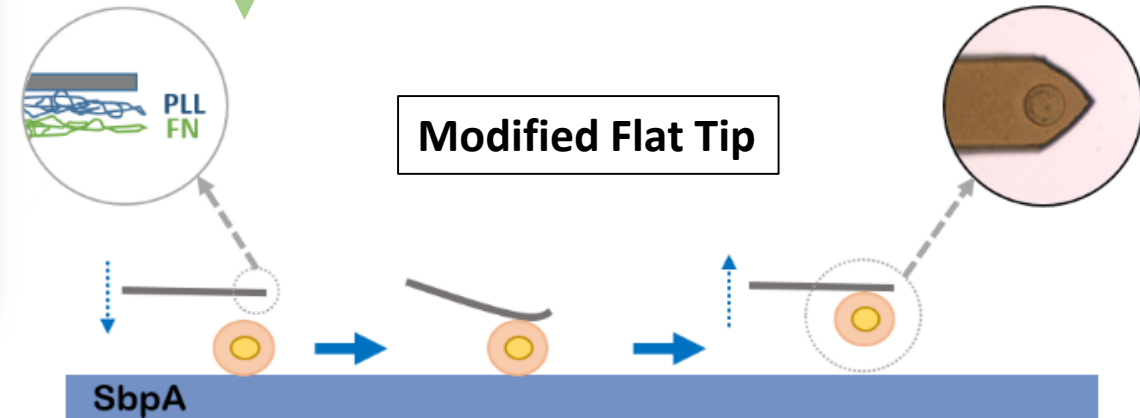
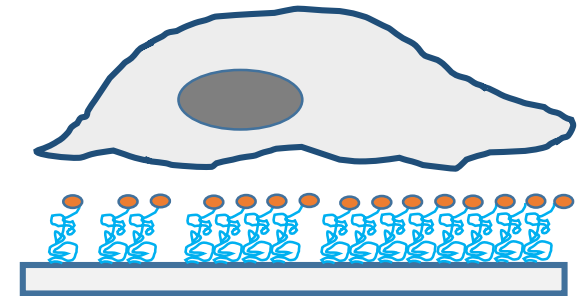
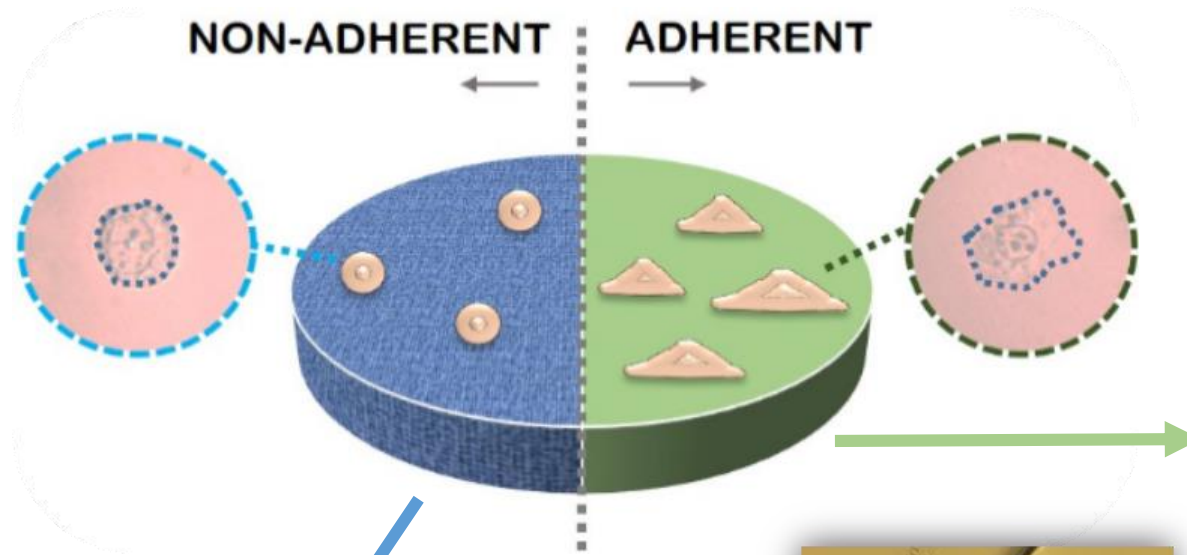
Fibronectin

Modified Flat Tip

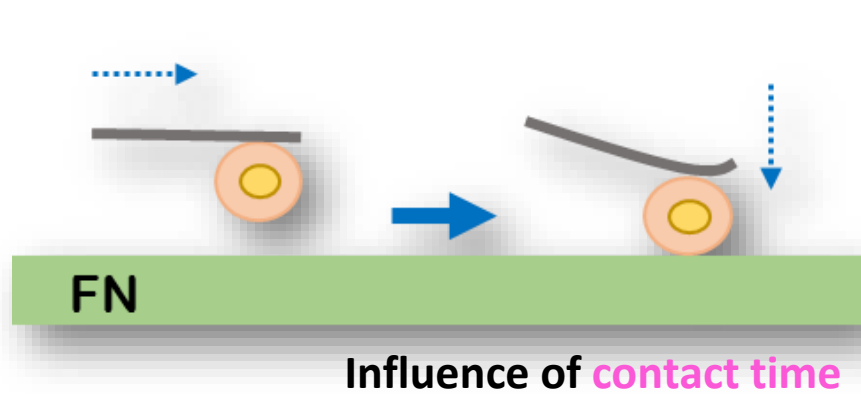
SbpA

Bacterial Crystalline S-layer

Physical boundary

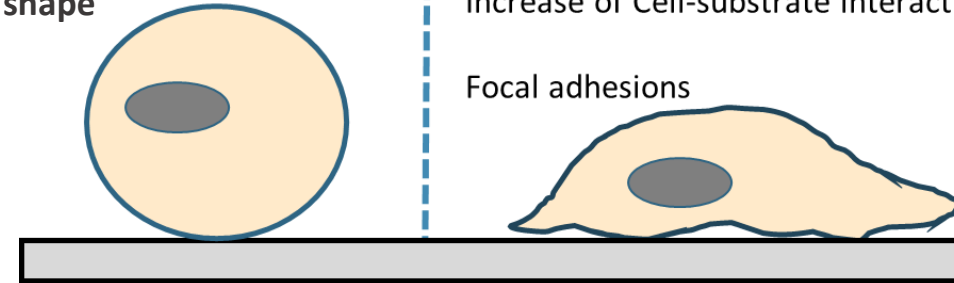


Results - Cell to surface: SbpA vs FN

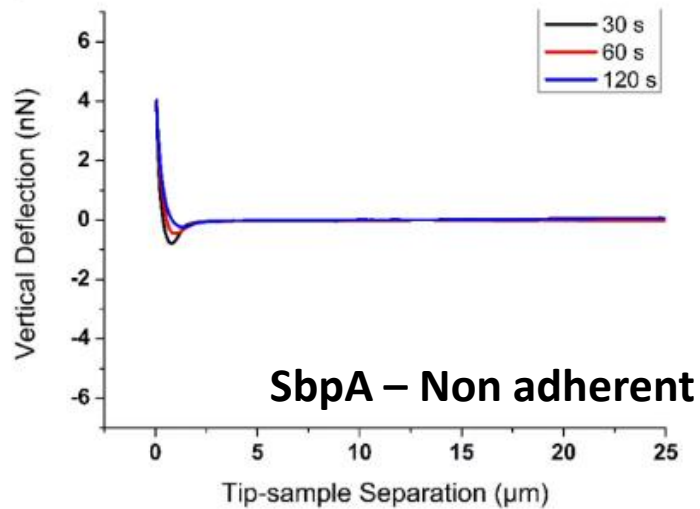


Anti-fouling activity

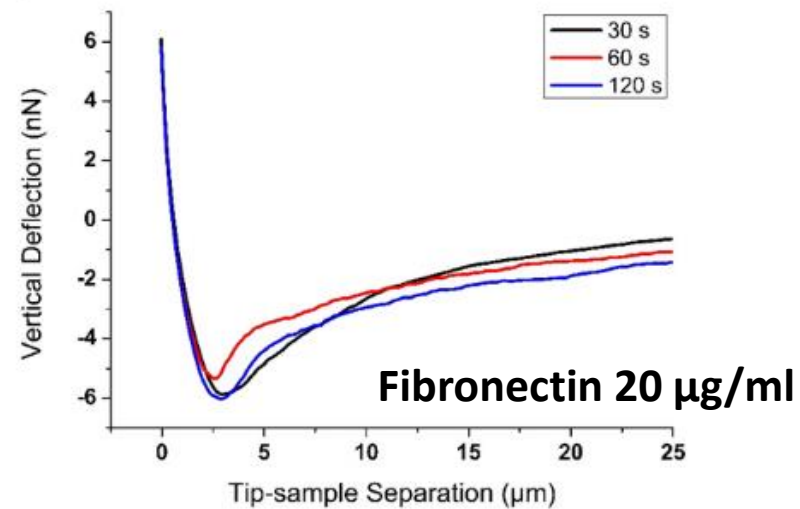
Round shape



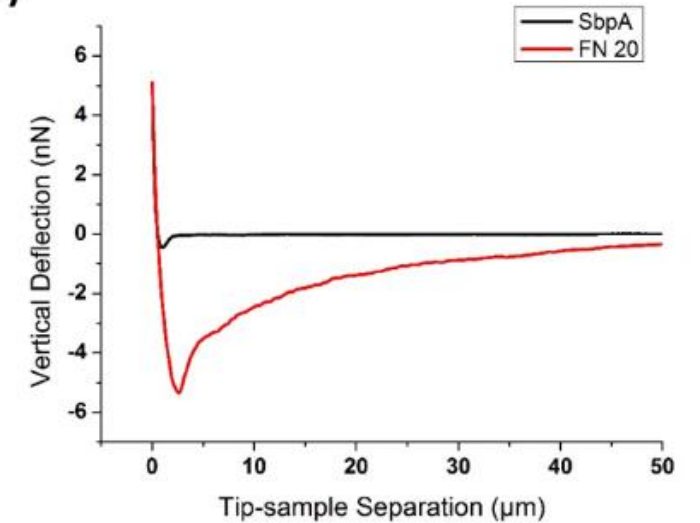
a)



b)

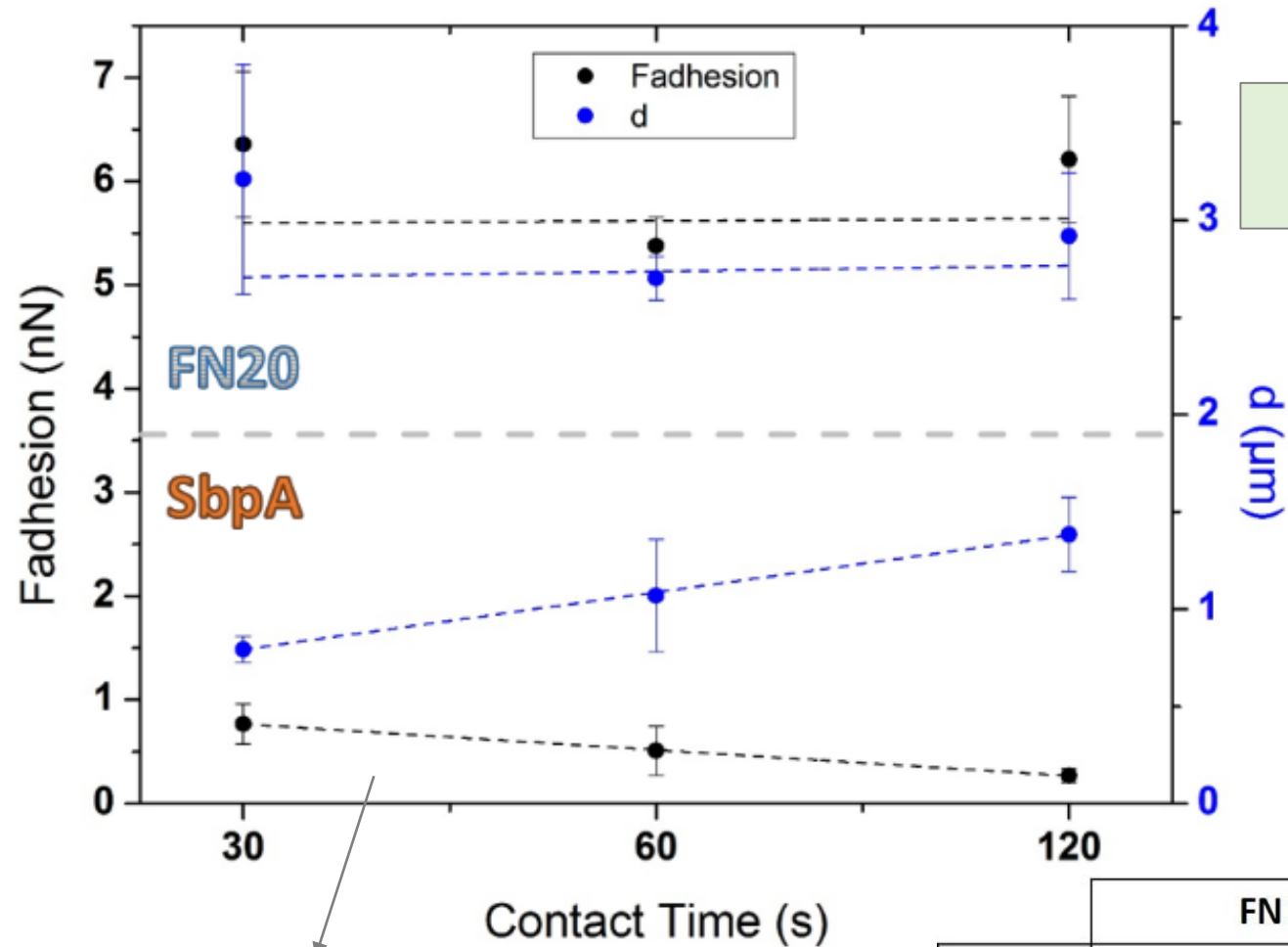
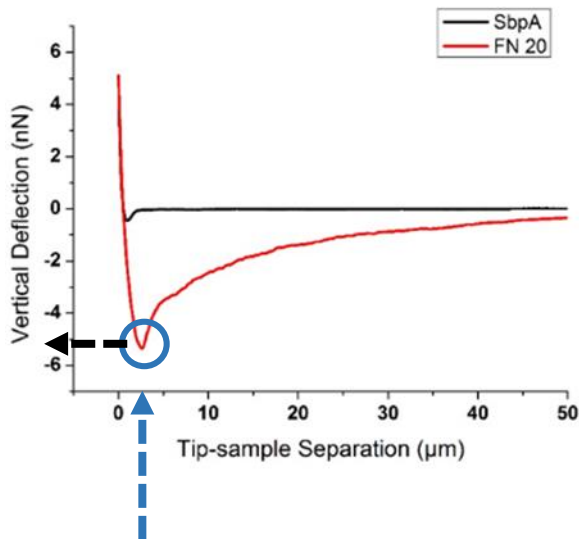


c)



Very low MCF7-SbpA adhesive force

Results - Cell to surface: SbpA vs FN



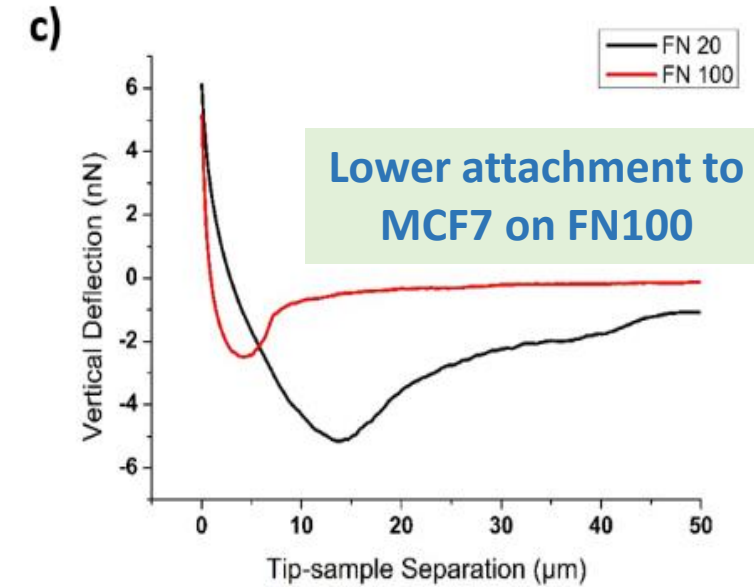
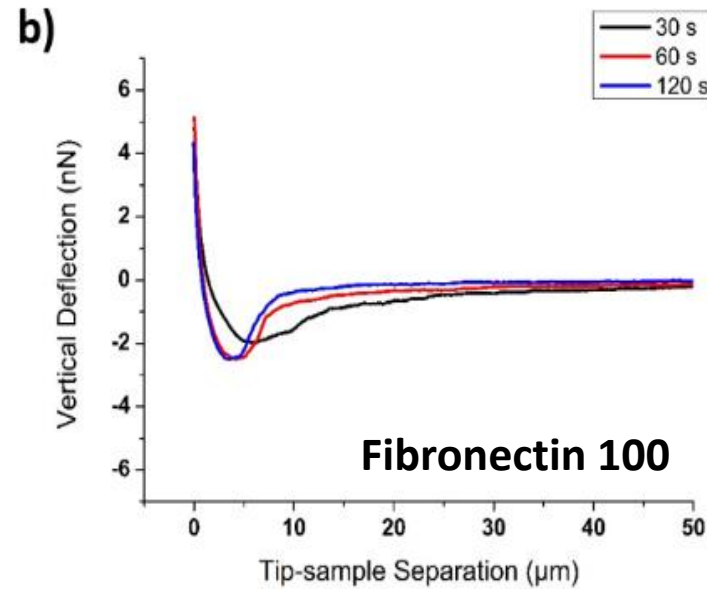
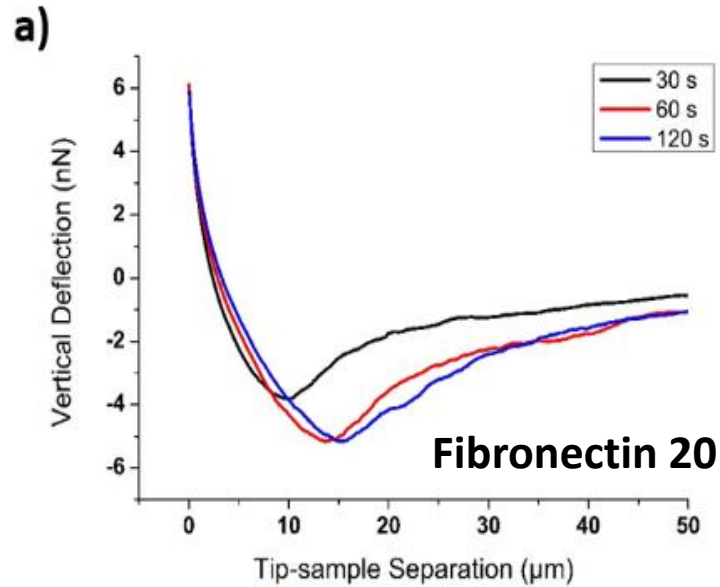
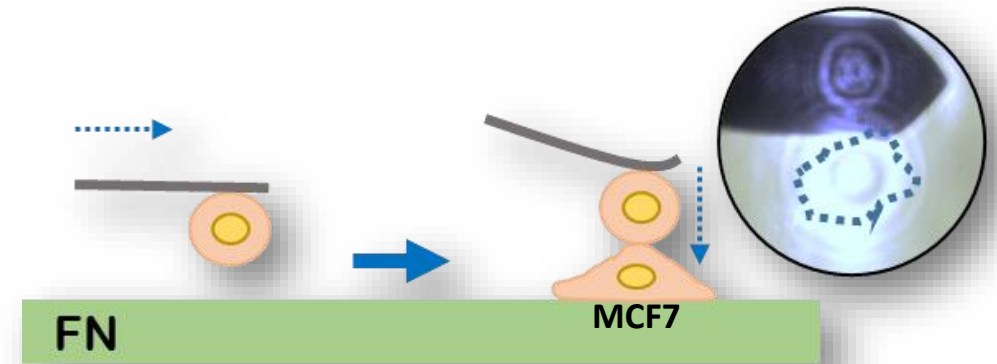
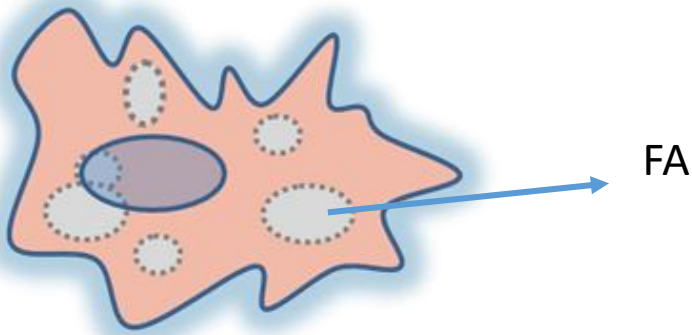
Unaltered MCF7-FN
adhesive forces

Low MCF7-SbpA adhesive force for longer contacts

Contact (s)	FN 20		SbpA	
	F (nN)	d (μm)	F (nN)	d (μm)
30	6.357 ± 0.699	3.211 ± 0.591	0.768 ± 0.193	0.793 ± 0.066
60	5.375 ± 0.280	2.701 ± 0.112	0.509 ± 0.236	1.070 ± 0.289
120	6.213 ± 0.609	2.918 ± 0.324	0.268 ± 0.067	1.384 ± 0.190

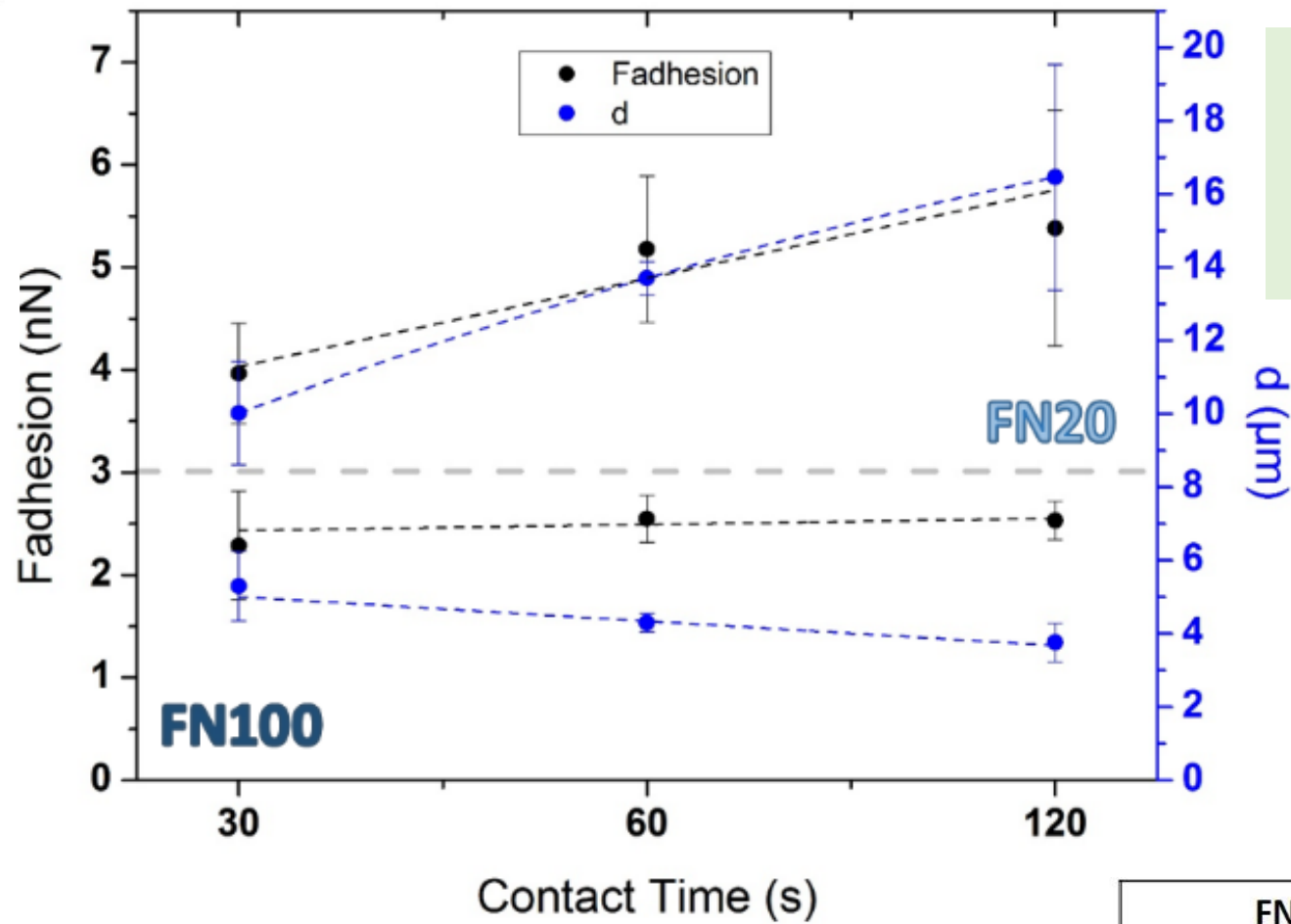
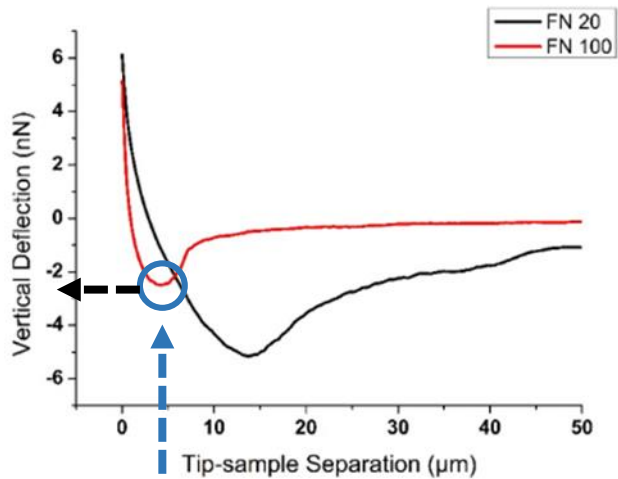
Results - Cell to cell: FN 20 vs 100

Higher concentration promotes spreading & focal adhesions



Higher affinity for the surface induces hardening of the cell membrane
More limited cell-cell interaction

Results - Cell to cell: FN 20 vs 100



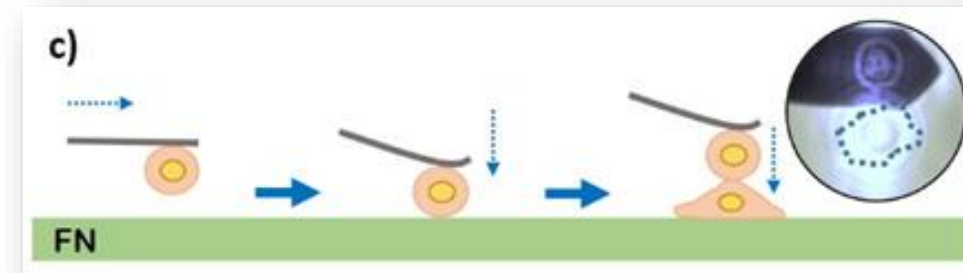
Stronger cell-cell binding for “rounder” cells under increasing contact times.

Higher surface affinity induces weak MCF7-MCF7 contact

Contact (s)	FN 100		FN 20	
	F (nN)	d (μm)	F (nN)	d (μm)
30	2.289 ± 0.528	5.303 ± 0.956	3.965 ± 0.490	10.019 ± 1.411
60	2.549 ± 0.230	4.301 ± 0.254	5.179 ± 0.713	13.704 ± 0.446
120	2.534 ± 0.186	3.769 ± 0.530	5.382 ± 1.150	16.462 ± 3.082

Conclusions

- Successful S-layer based procedure for Single-Cell-Probe
- MCF-7:
 - Low affinity for SbpA proven vs Specific FN
 - Substrate-supported Cell: Increasing surface affinity, lowered cell-cell
- Infinite possibilities: Cell lines / Substrates...
- Tissue formation studies, pathologies, Influence of drugs/nutrients.....



Acknowledgements

- **BOKU - Inst. Biophysics (Austria)**

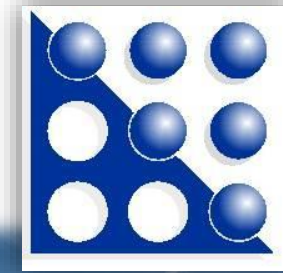
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Dr. Jagoba Iturri

Research Associate - Institute for Biophysics – DNBT

BOKU University for Natural Resources and Life Sciences

