



BACTERIAL NANOCELLULOSE

a sophisticated biomaterial

Fernando Dourado, Miguel Gama

OUTLINE



BACTERIAL NANO CELLULOSE

- Production
- Properties
- Biomedical Applications
- Non-Biomedical Appls



FUNCARB RESEARCH GROUP

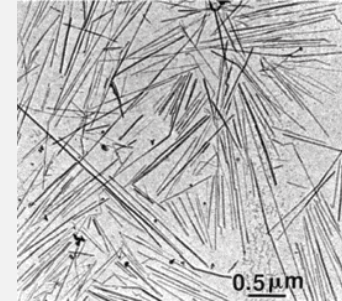
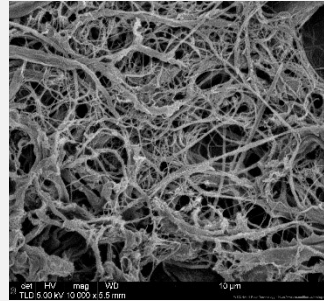
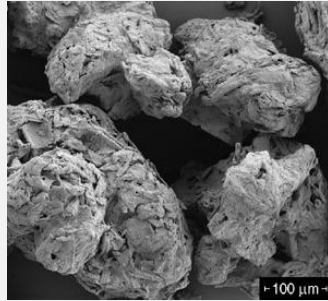
- Aims & Scopes
- Research Activities
- BC production & Applications



BC TECHNOLOGIES

- Innovation
- Entrepreneurship
- Market entry

PLANT CELLULOSE

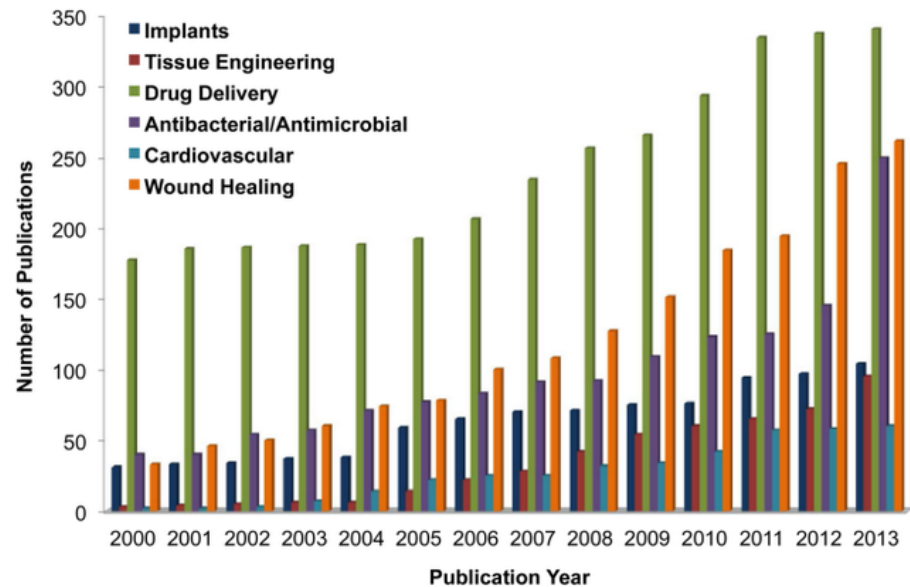


Microcrystalline cellulose

Microfibrillated cellulose

Cellulose whiskers

Cellulose derivatives



PLANT CELLULOSE

Food



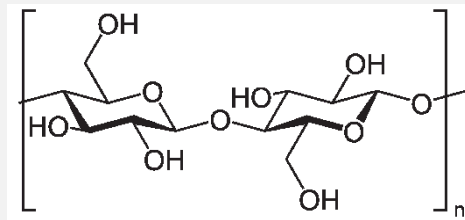
Pharmaceutical



Cosmetics



Tissue Engineering





RAW MATERIALS

PROCESS

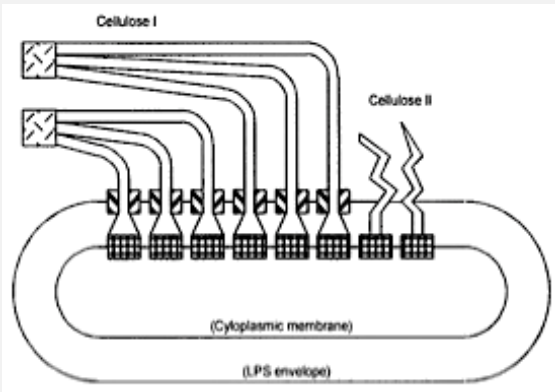
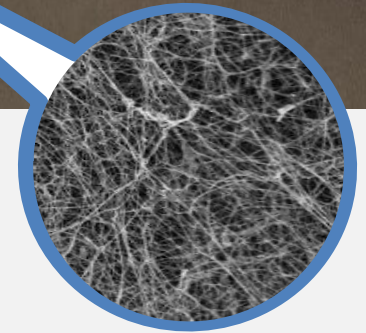
PROGRESS



***Komagataeibacter sucrofermentans* (*Gluconacetobacter xylinus*)**



BACTERIAL NANOCELLULOSE



Iguchi, *et al.* 2000. *J. Mat. Sci.* 35:261-270;
Czaja, *et al.* 2006. *Biomat.* 27:145-151;
Klemm, *et al.* 2001. *Prog. Polym. Sci.* 26:1561-1603.

BNC: PROPERTIES

PURITY

- Cellulose is the only synthesized biopolymer
- Biodegradable and recyclable

HIGH CRYSTALLINITY

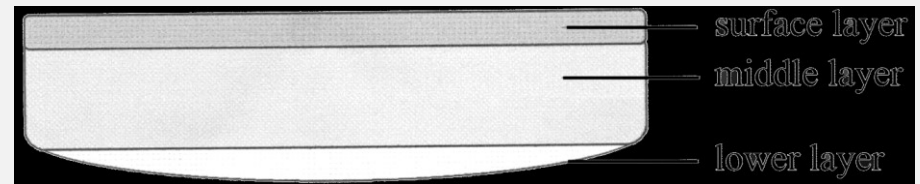
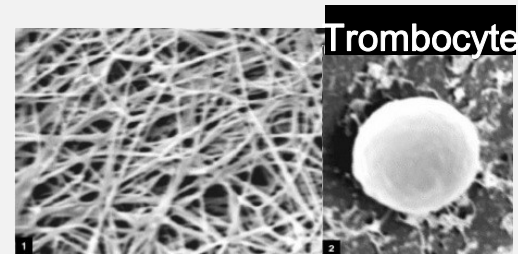
- 60-90% CI

ULTRAFINE FIBER NETWORK

- Cross-sectional dimensions of 3-4nm by 70-100nm; length 1-9 μm

HIGH MECHANICAL STRENGTH

- Young Modulus of 15-35GPa



Klemm, *et al.* 2001. *Prog. Polym. Sci.* 26:1561-1603; Klemm, *et al.* 2005. *Angew. Chem Int. Ed.* 44:3358-3393; White & Brown, Jr. 1989. In: Cellulose and Wood - Chemistry and Technology, p.573-590.; Klemm, *et al.* 2001. *Prog. Polym. Sci.* 26:1561-1603

BNC: PROPERTIES

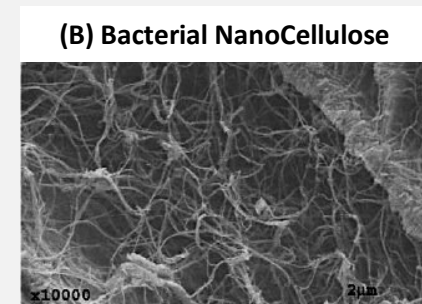
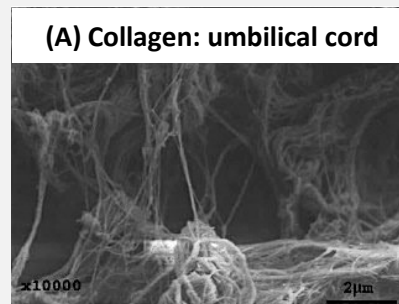
HIGH ABSORBENCE CAPACITY

- Remarkable capacity to hold water (up to 200 times its dry mass)



IN SITU MOLDABILITY AND IN/EX SITU MODIFICATION

NATURAL MIMIC OF THE ECM



Klemm, *et al.* 2001. *Prog. Polym. Sci.* 26:1561-1603; Klemm, *et al.* 2005. *Angew. Chem Int. Ed.* 44:3358-3393; White & Brown, Jr. 1989. In: *Cellulose and Wood - Chemistry and Technology*, p.573-590.; Klemm, *et al.* 2001. *Prog. Polym. Sci.* 26:1561-1603

FUNCTIONAL CARBOHYDRATES NANOBIOTECHNOLOGY



Highlights



Dextrine hydrogel for biomedical applications

September 09, 2015 YouTube

[Read More](#)



New spinoff of Minho University: BCTechnologies

September 02, 2013 Braga

Development of applications of Bacterial NanoCellulose - using science-based approaches to meet industry needs

Recent publications

Superhydrophilic poly(L-lactic acid) electrospun membranes for biomedical applications obtained by argon and oxygen plasma treatment

Laccase immobilization on bacterial nanocellulose membranes: antimicrobial, kinetic and stability properties

Bacterial cellulose-lactoferrin as an antimicrobial edible packaging

In vivo imaging of glycol chitosan-based nanogel biodistribution

Proving the suitability of magnetoelectric stimuli for tissue engineering applications

[List More](#)

Miguel Gama
(Group Coordinator)



RESEARCH

AIMS

MATERIALS

Biotechnology & Biomedical Engineering

Development of new Biomaterials & tolls for biomedical applications

Natural polysaccharide



FUNCTIONAL CARBOHYDRATES
NANOBIOTECHNOLOGY



Controlled/Targeted Drug Delivery

**Dextrin
Chitosan**

**Hydrogels ,
Self-assembled nanogels**

Improved biocompatibility and
resorption properties

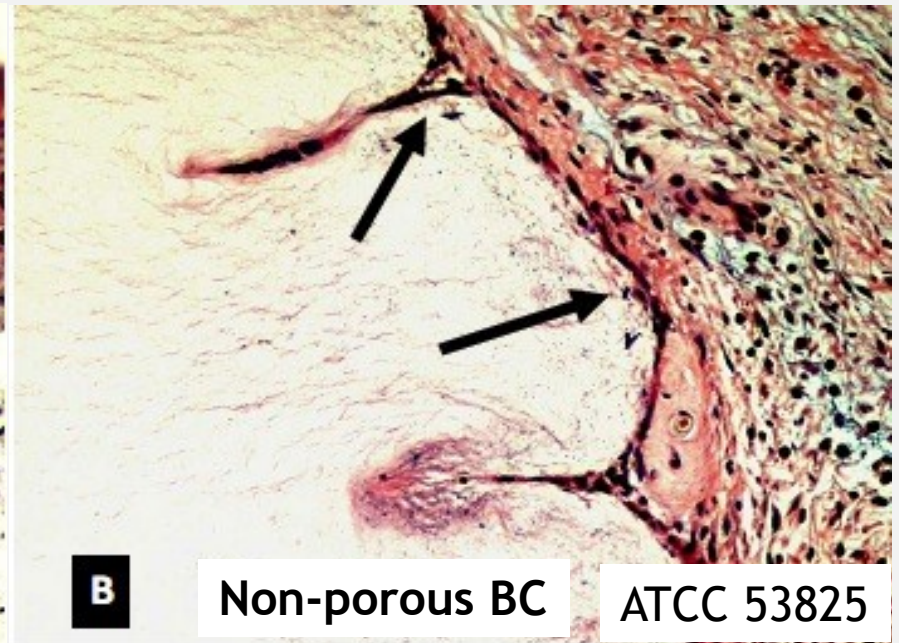
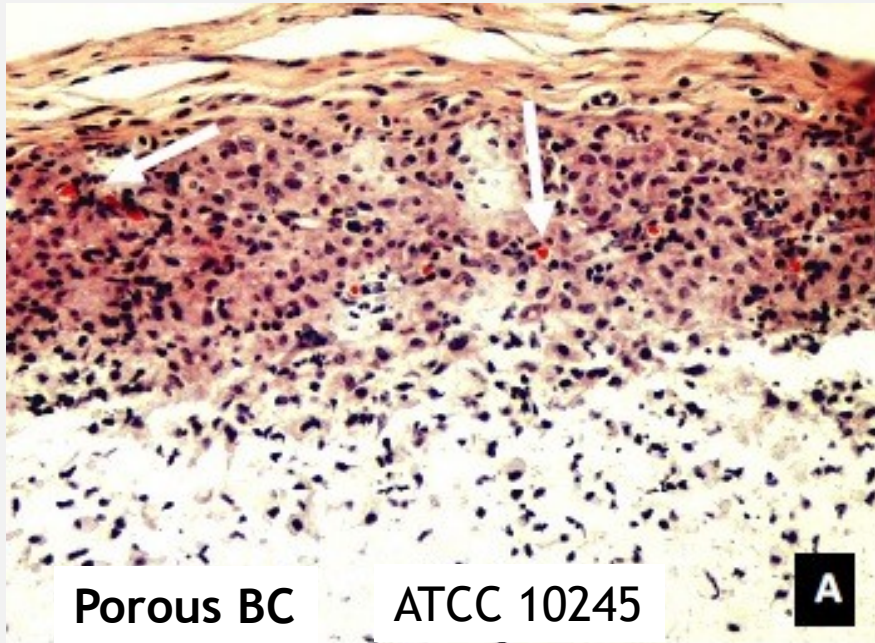
**Bacterial
NanoCellulose**

**Artificial Vascular Prosthesis
Tissue Engineering of:**

Cartilage,
Nerve,
Bladder

**Novel BNC production and
modification techniques**

BIOMEDICAL APPLICATIONS



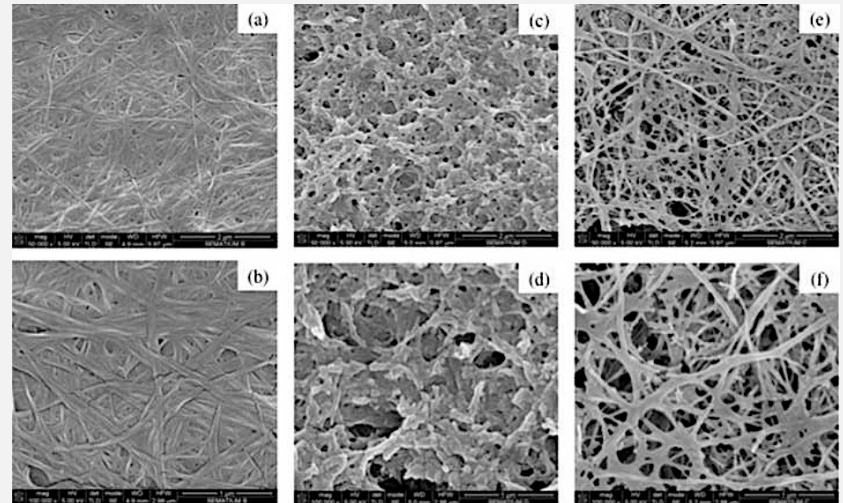
BC subcutaneous implants, in mice, demonstrate the excellent biocompatibility. Furthermore, the effect of porosity on the proliferation of cells inside the implant was analysed using different BC producing strains: vascularization of the more porous material was observed.

Engineering porosity by nitrogen plasma treatments

Surface modification	Autoclaved (Y/N)	Oxygen (%)	Carbon (%)	Nitrogen (%)	O/C	N/C
BC	N	45.20	54.79	0.01	0.82	0.0001
BCP	N	38.31	55.79	5.90	0.69	0.1057
	Y	36.66	59.75	3.59	0.61	0.0600

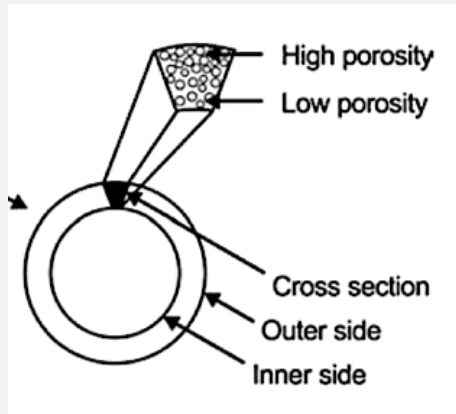
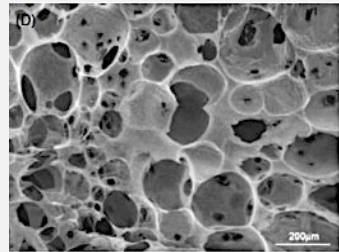
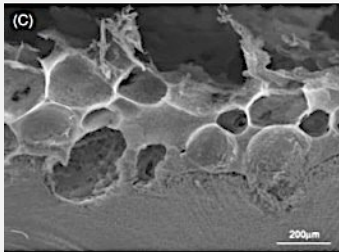
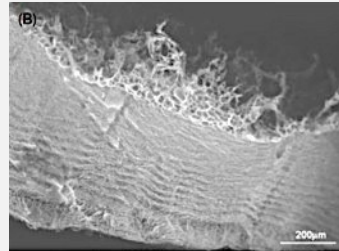
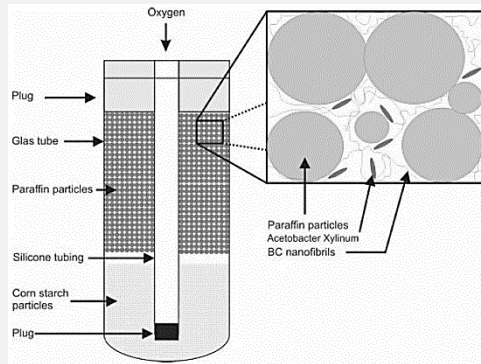
X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS)
 scanning electron microscopy (SEM).
 Adhesion of microvascular (HMEC-1), neuroblast (N1E-115)
 and fibroblast (3T3) cell lines

- Nitrogen plasma treatment allowed to increasing the concentration of functional groups on BC surface;
- Surface modifications was stable over time;
- Plasma treatment allowed improved adhesion of endothelial and neuroblast cells to the material;
- The modified material showed enhanced porosity



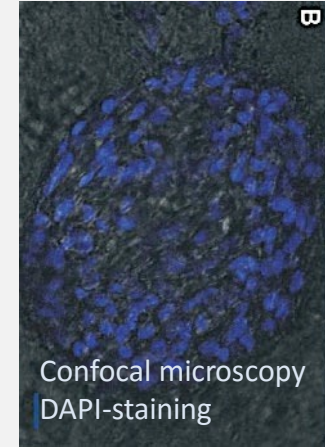
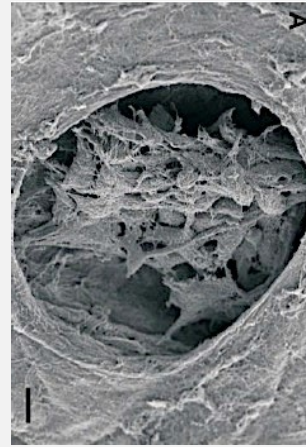
Andrade et al. 2010. *Journal of Biomedical Materials Research Part A*. 92A, (1):9-17.

TAILORING MICROPOROSITY



- + Microporosity and pore interconnectivity
- +/- Non-homogeneous porosity (no control)
- Poor mechanical properties

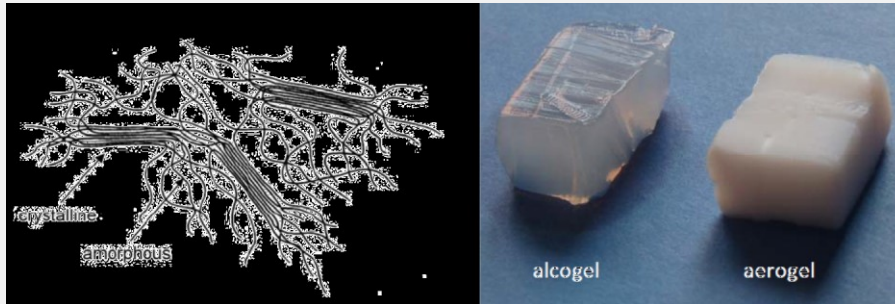
Human smooth muscle cells



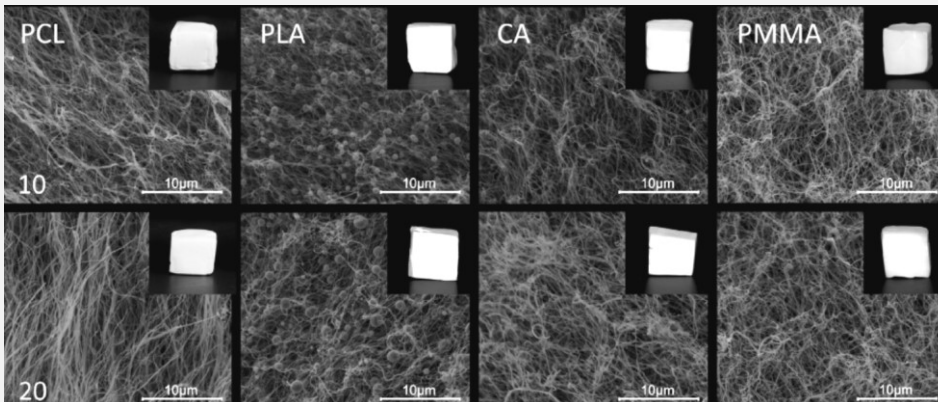
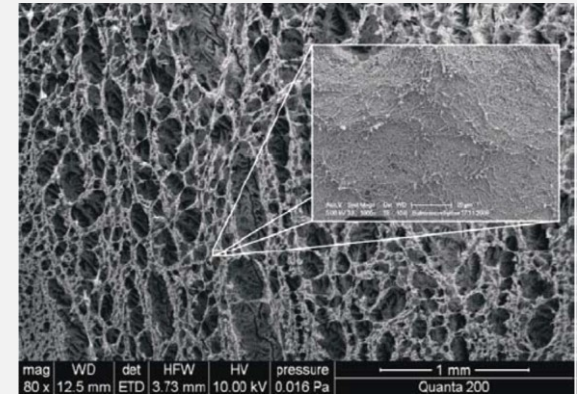
Bäckdahl et al. 2008. *J Tissue Eng Regen Med.* 2(6):320-330

AEROGELS FROM BACTERIAL CELLULOSE

controlled release matrices



Loading bioactive
scCO₂ drying



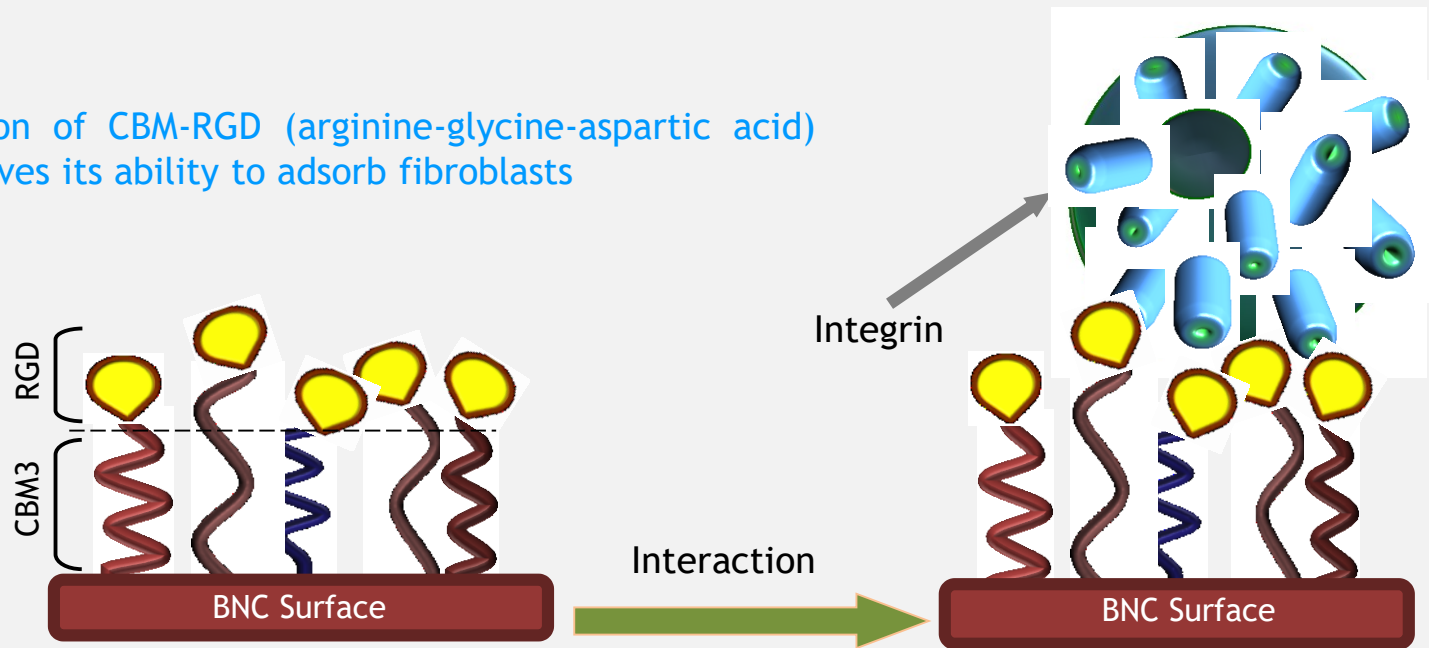
biocompatible polymers:
polylactic acid (PLA),
poly-caprolactone (PCL),
cellulose acetate (CA),
poly(methyl methacrylate) (PMMA),

Liebner *et al.* 2010. *Macromolecular Bioscience*. 10(4):349-352
Haimer *et al.* 2010. *Macromolecular Symposia*. 294(2):64-74
Pircher *et al.* 2014. *Carbohydrate Polymers*. 11:505-513

➤ Surface-activation of BNC with CBMs (Carbohydrate Binding Modules) conjugated and bioactive peptides for biomedical applications:

- **CBM-RGD** or **GRGDY** and **CBM-LL37** to improve cell adhesion and angiogenesis

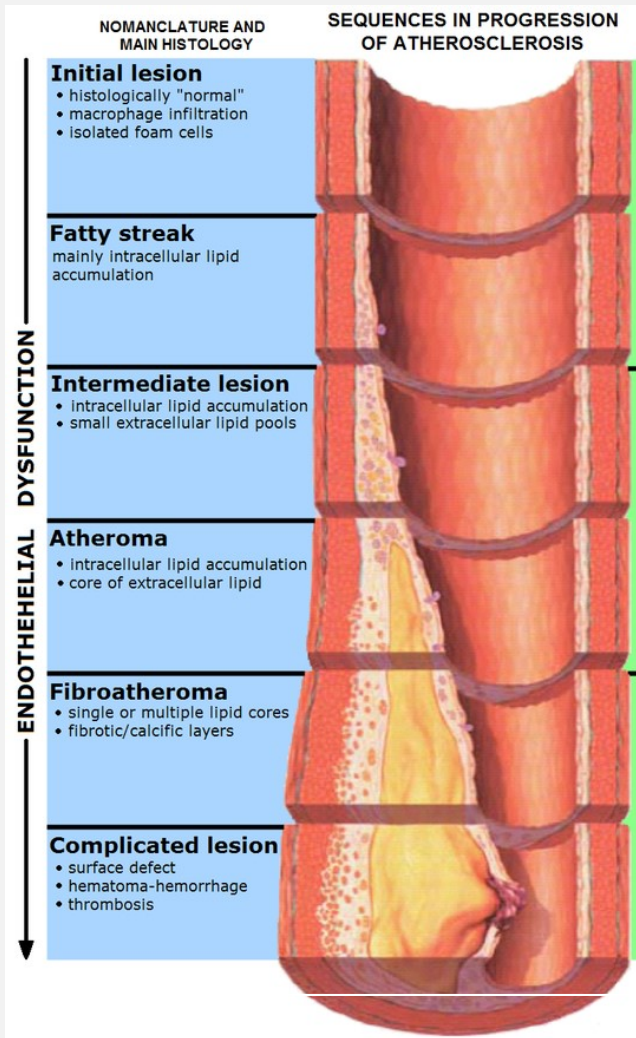
- The adsorption of CBM-RGD (arginine-glycine-aspartic acid) onto BNC improves its ability to adsorb fibroblasts



Andrade *et al.* 2010. *J. Biomed. Mater. Res.: A.* 2010 Jan;92(1):9-17.

Andrade *et al.* 2010. *Acta Biomaterialia* 6:4034-4041

TISSUE ENGINEERING BLOOD VESSELS



Polytetrafluoroethylene (Teflon), polyester (Dacron), polyurethane, and polyacrylate

thrombosis and infection,

limited durability,

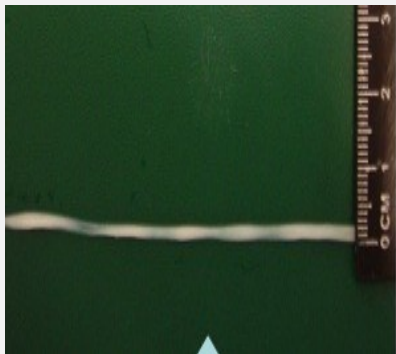
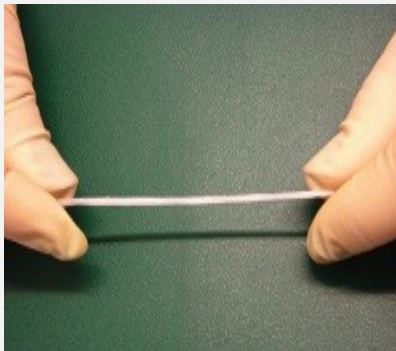
lack of compliance both of the graft and around the anastomosis,

failure due to restenosis

Microvessels (i.d. < 1-3 mm)

high risk of thrombosis

no clinical applications

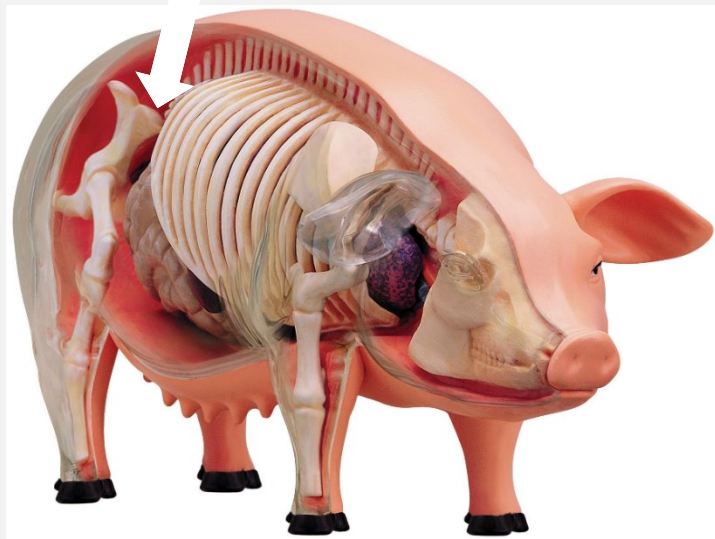


Surgery at ICBAS' facilities
(Instituto de Ciências Biomédicas Abel Salazar)

In vivo vascular grafts replacement in pig:
(4mm internal diameter BC tubes)

Functionality, tissue integration, hemocompatibility, endothelialization





Surgery at ICBAS' facilities (Instituto de Ciências Biomédicas Abel Salazar)

Patency: 1 month
Endothelization of the luminal wall
Neovascularization

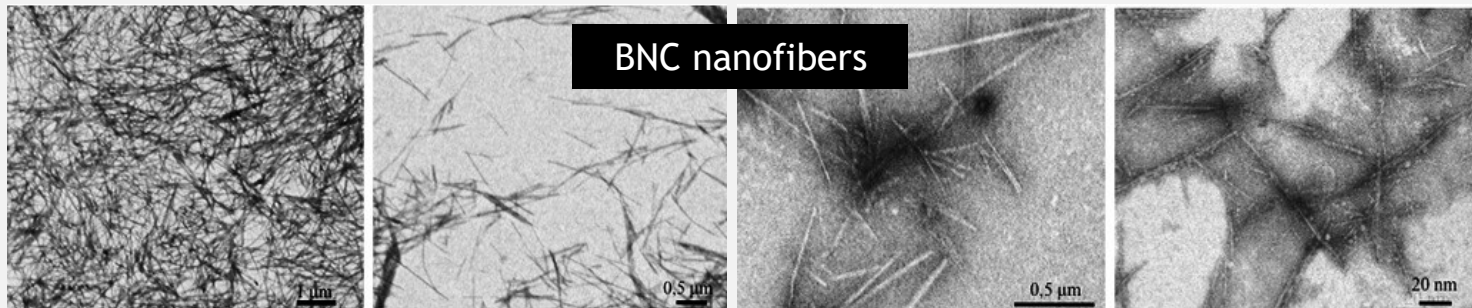
- A major concern with fibres (ex. asbestos) is their carcinogenic potential;
- The cytotoxicity of a nanomaterial is many times cell-specific



Inflammatory response of BNC implants may yield BNC nanofibers



The toxicity of BNC nanofibers must be evaluated if considering biomedical applications



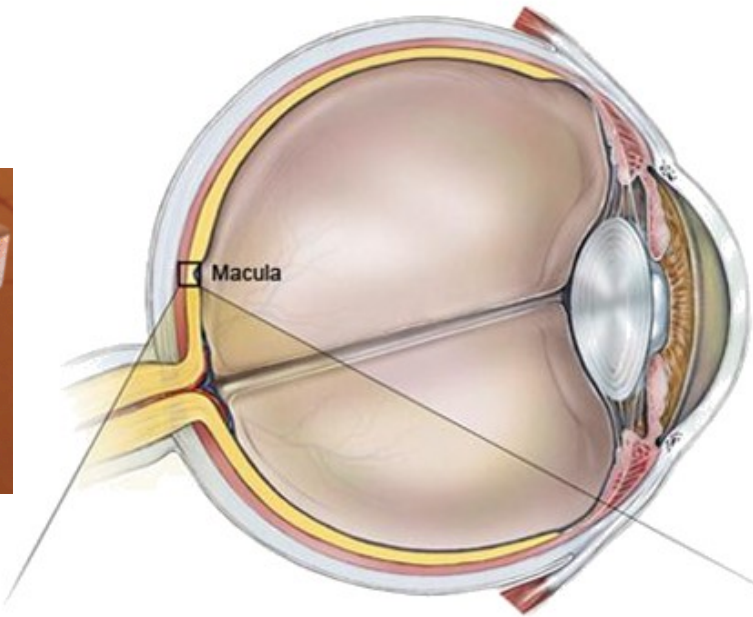
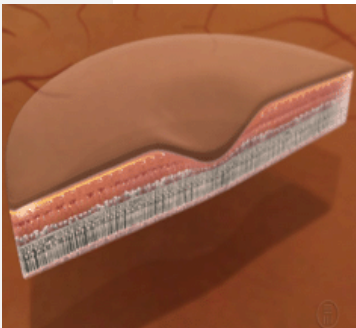
Moreira, S.; Silva, N.B.; Almeida-Lima, J.; Rocha, H.A.; Medeiros, S.R.; Alves, C. Jr.; Gama, F.M. *Toxicol Lett.* 2009. Sep 28;189(3):235-241.

Evaluation of cellulose nanofibres **mutagenicity** by *Salmonella* reversion assay
Proliferation assays (Chinese Hamster Ovary CHO or mouse embryo fibroblast 3T3)
Evaluation of cellulose nanofibres **genotoxicity** by single cell gel assay (**comet assay**)

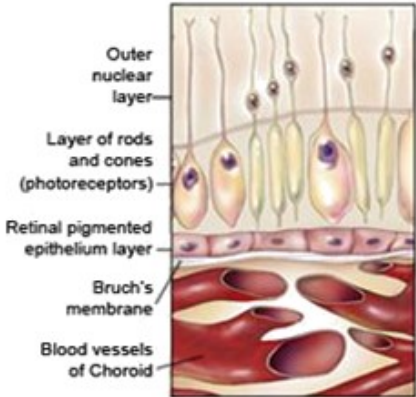
- BC nanofibers do not present a mutagenic behaviour
- Proliferation was only 15-20% lower in the presence of NFs
- BC nanofibers do not cause detectable DNA alterations

Moreira, S.; Silva, N.B.; Almeida-Lima, J.; Rocha, H.A.; Medeiros, S.R.; Alves, C. Jr.; Gama, F.M. *Toxicol Lett.* 2009. Sep 28;189(3):235-241.

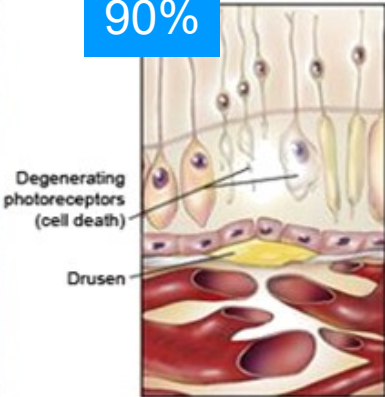
Age-related macular degeneration (AMD or ARMD)



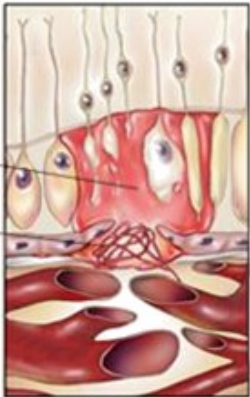
90%



Normal Macula

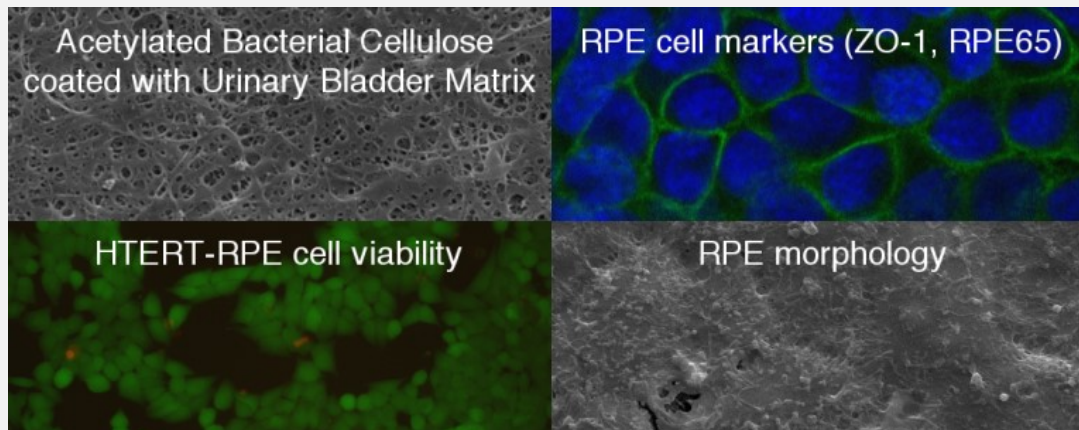
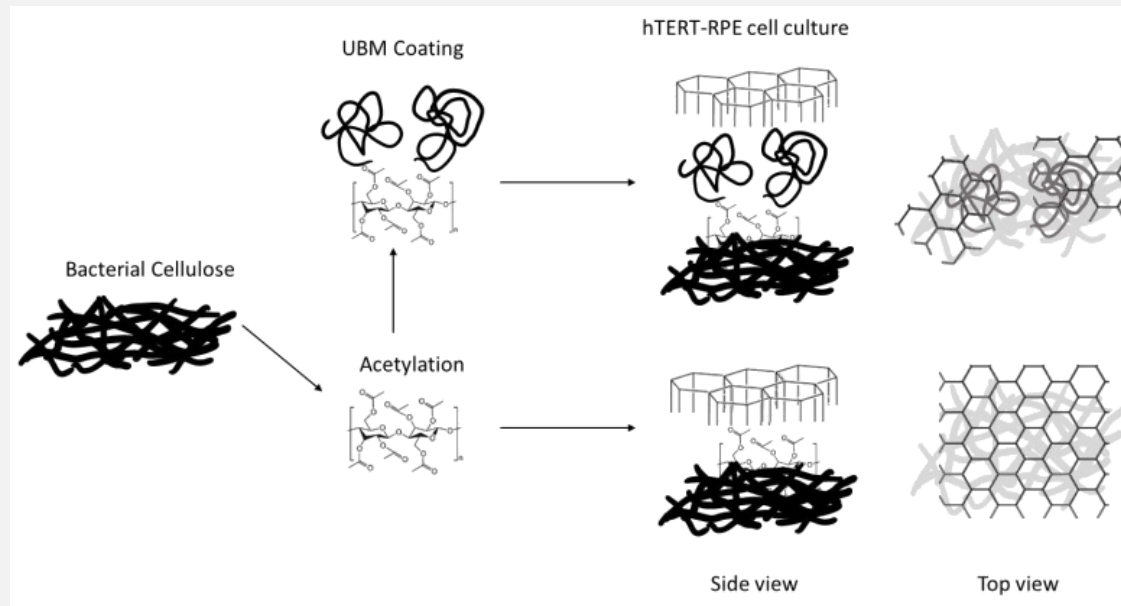


Dry Macular Degeneration



Wet Macular Degeneration





Gonçalves *et al.* 2016. *Colloids and Surfaces B: Biointerfaces*. 139:1-9.

Gonçalves *et al.* 2015. *Biomacromolecules*. DOI: 10.1021/acs.biomac.5b00129.

WOUND DRESSINGS



Czaja et al. 2006. *Biomater.* 27:145-151.
Czaja et al. 2007. Springer; pp. 307-321

- (a) A moist environment for tissue regeneration;
- (b) Significant pain reduction;
- (c) the specific microbial cellulose nano-morphology which appears to promote cell interaction and, tissue re-growth;
- (d) significant reduction of scar formation; and,
- (e) easy and safe release of wound care materials from the burn site during treatment.

OVERVIEW

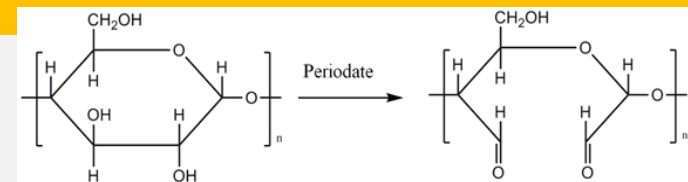
Cell adhesion & Biocompatibility

- **Surface chemical modifications: (ex situ)**
 - Trimethyl ammonium betahydroxy propyl-BC,
 - Diethyl aminoethyl-BC,
 - Aminoethyl-BC
 - Carboxymethyl-BC (CM-BC)
- Adhesive proteins (collagen type I, collagen type IV, fibrin, fibronectin or laminin)
- Arg-Gly-Asp (RGD)
- Phosphorylation and sulfation (mimick glucosaminoglycans of cartilage tissue *in vivo*)

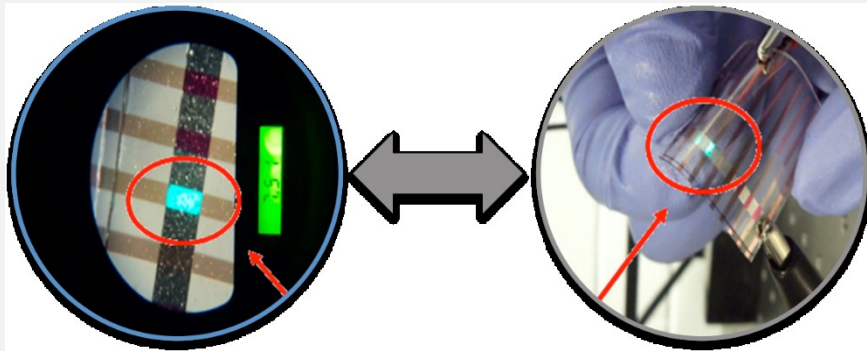
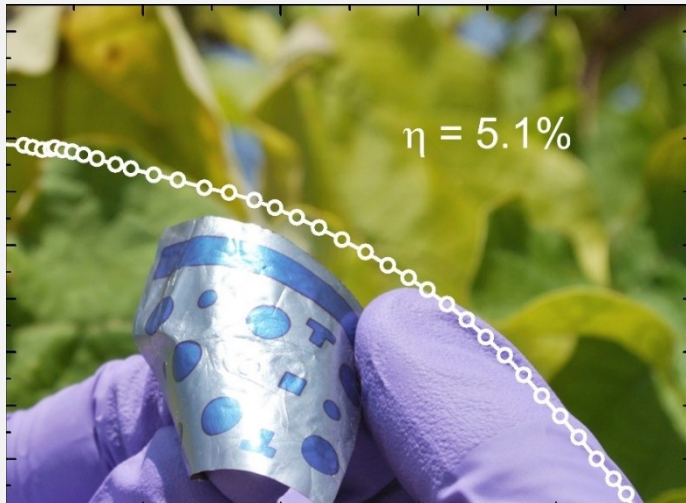
Ciechanska, D. 2004. *Fibr. Text. East. Europe.* 12(4):69-72
Li *et al.* 2009. *Mat. Sci. Engin.* 29:1635-1642
Lee *et al.* 2001. *App. Environ. Microbiol.* 67(9):3970-3975
Ogawa *et al.* 1992. *Int. J. Biol. Macromol.* 14(6):343-347

Porosity and biodegradability

- **Bulk modifications (in situ):**
 - N-acetylglucosamine (GlcNac)
 - Chitosan
- Porogens (starch, paraffin)
- **Surface chemical modifications (ex situ):**
 - Periodate oxidation
- Aerogels



e-DEVICES



OVERVIEW

- Excellent in vivo biocompatibility
- No foreign body reaction
- Nanofibrilar 3D structure (mimics extracellular matrix)
- High mechanical strength & Crystallinity (Young Modulus of 15-35GPa; 60-90% CI)
- High water retention (up to 200 times its dry weight)
- High shape retention
- In situ moldability /modification

- Not degradable in human body
- Low porosity (Low cell and tissue ingrowth)
- Strain variability
- High cost

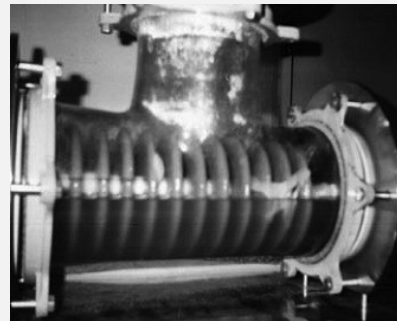
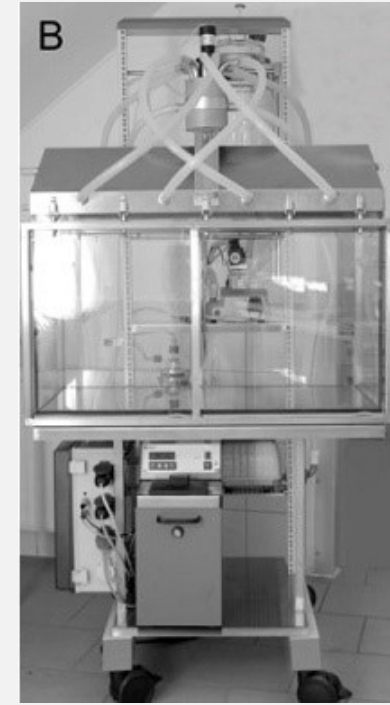
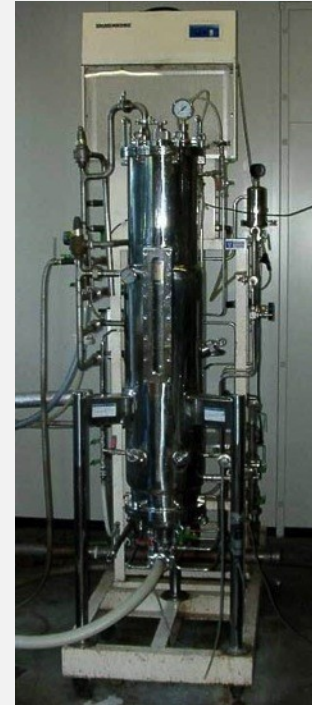
HIGH PRODUCTION COSTS

NICHE MARKETS (HIGH VALUE-ADDED)

INDUSTRIAL BNC PRODUCTION

STRATEGIES

- **Specific fermentation media:**
 - Agro-industrial wastes,
 - Defined media,
- **Over-producing mutant strains**
- **Bioreactors:**
 - Air-lift
 - Agitated systems
 - Membrane bioreactors (silicone rubber)
 - Film bioreactors (horizontal disks)
 - Aerosol bioreactor



FOOD APPLICATIONS

NATA DE COCO

NATA DE COCO



<http://www.bi.go.id/sipuk/en/?id=4&no=52323&idrb=46501>

Bacterial Cellulose Technologies

Miguel Gama

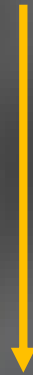


Fernando Dourado



To identify **new ideas & inovative oportunities**, which high added-value in the:

Roadmap

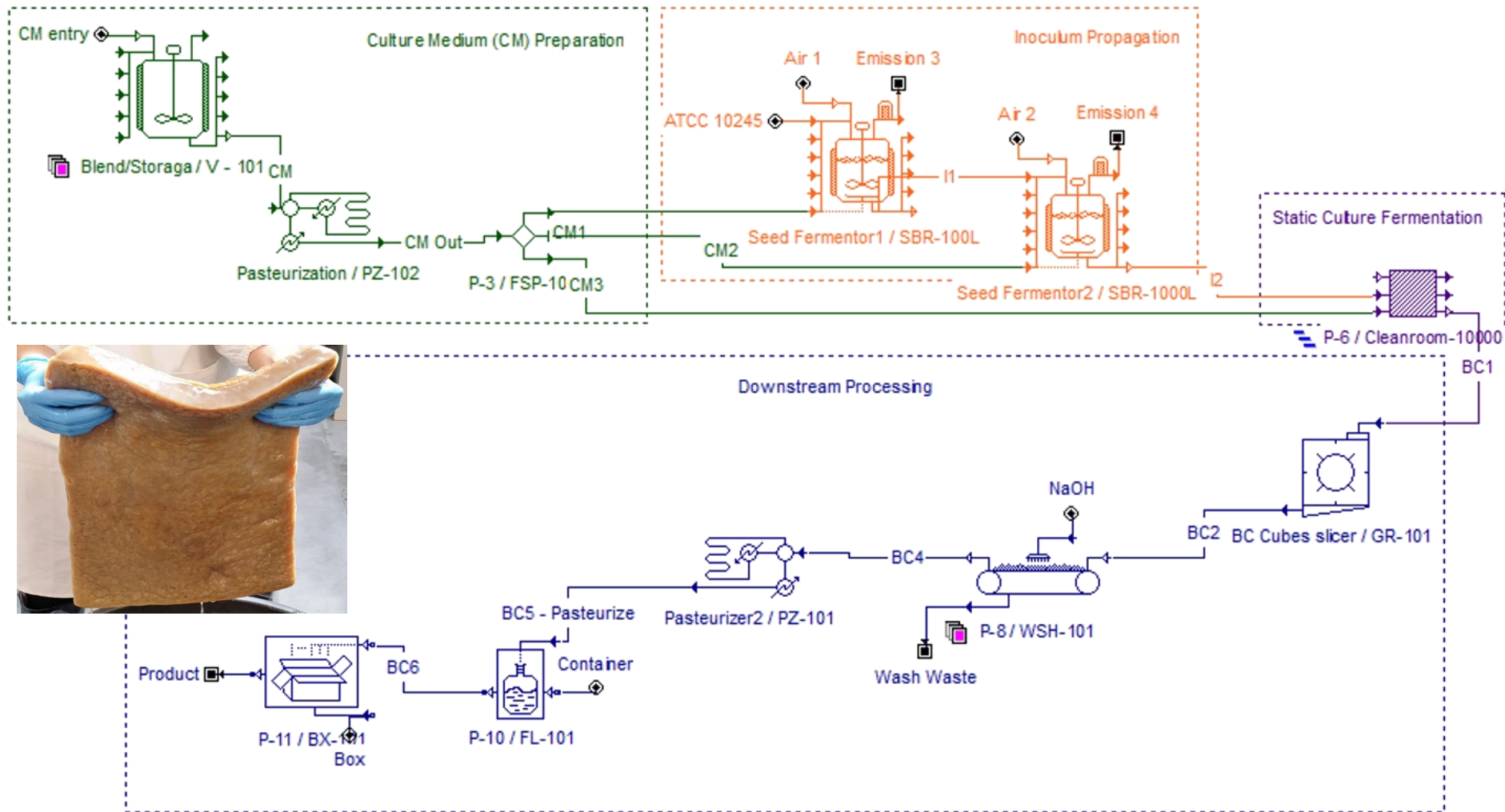


- Food (food ingrediente/additive)
- Biomedical (small calibre artificial blood vessels, wound dressings)
- Composites (bio-plastics, electronic displays, pulp & paper)

and create complimentary sinergies with industry, to market new products based on bacterial cellulose.

BC Bacterial Cellulose
TECHNOLOGIES

Bacterial Cellulose Technologies



Bacterial Cellulose Technologies

Fibrous Tofu



Fibrous Falafel



“Mousse” (milk/yogurt)



Low calorie fibrous Gummies



Fibrous Meat Burger



Novel Food Regulation

(EC) No 258/97: defines “**novel food**” as a food or food ingredient that does not have a significant history of consumption within the European Union before 15 May 1997.



Novel Food Additives

(EC) No 1331/2008, Article 3(2)(a): defines “food additives” as “any substance not normally consumed as a food in itself and not normally used as a characteristic ingredient of food, whether or not it has nutritive value, the intentional addition of which to food for a technological purpose in the manufacture, processing, preparation, treatment, packaging, transport or storage of such food results, or may be reasonably expected to result, in it or its by-products becoming directly or indirectly a component of such foods”.



Bacterial Cellulose Technologies

Industrial BNC Production

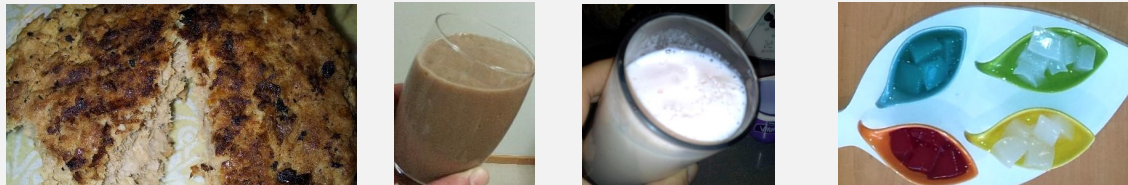
Biomedical applications

Electronics

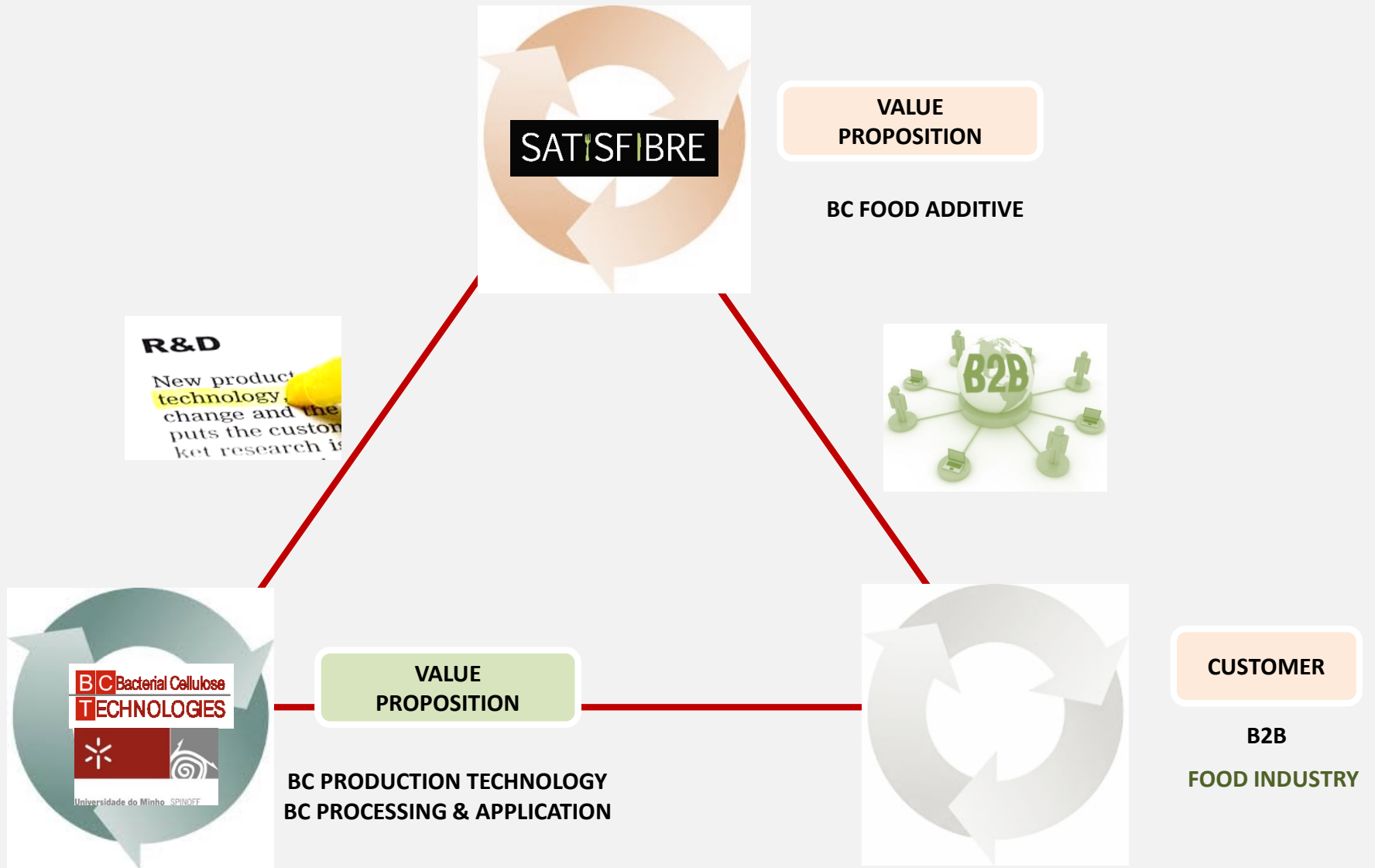
Footwear (BNC eco-leather)

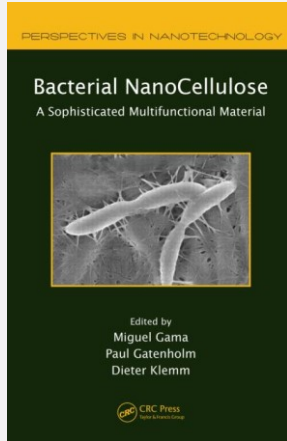


Food applications

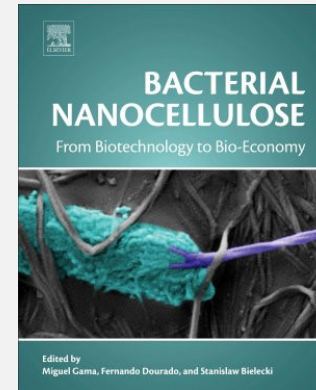


Bacterial Cellulose Technologies





Miguel Gama, Paul Gatenholm, Dieter Klemm
CRC Press, 2012



Francisco Gama Fernando Dourado Stanislaw Bielecki
Elsevier, 2016



1st International Symposium on Bacterial NanoCellulose,
New Orleans, USA



2nd International Symposium on Bacterial NanoCellulose,
Gdańsk, Poland

Thank you
for your attention

