



Pacific  
Northwest  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

# Interfacial dynamics in self-organizing systems

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Physical Sciences Division,  
Pacific Northwest National  
Laboratory

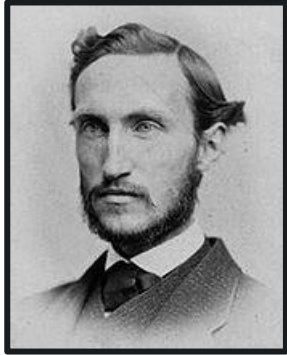
*Basic Energy Sciences Advisory Committee  
Meeting, December 9, 2020*

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY** **BATTELLE**

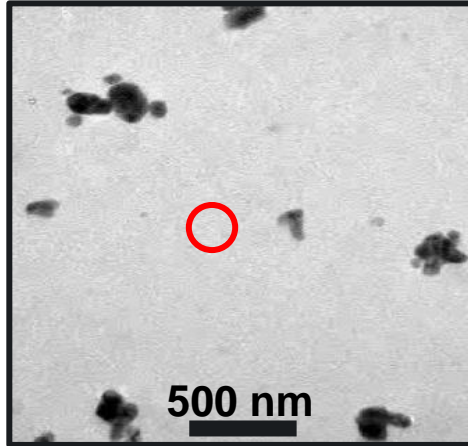
PNNL is operated by Battelle for the U.S. Department of Energy

# The 20<sup>th</sup> century view of materials synthesis was shaped by the theories of Gibbs and Frank

## J.W. Gibbs

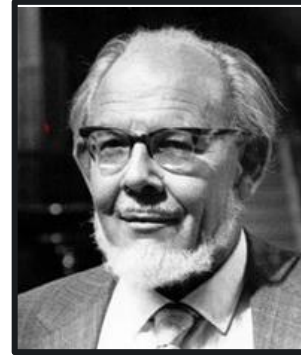


## Au nucleation

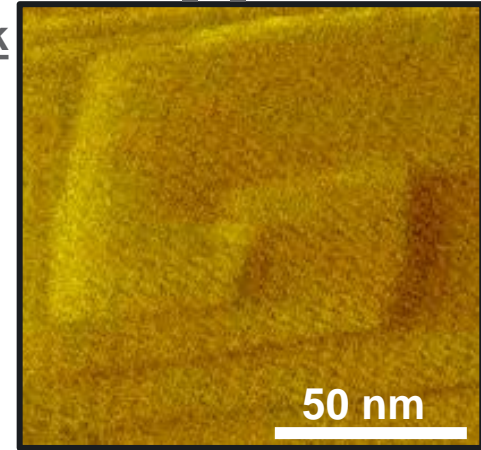


Nielsen et al. *Microsc. Microanal.*, 20 (2014)

## Sir Charles Frank

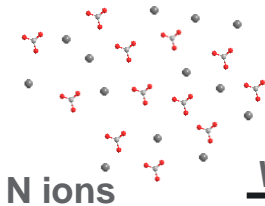


## CaC<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> growth

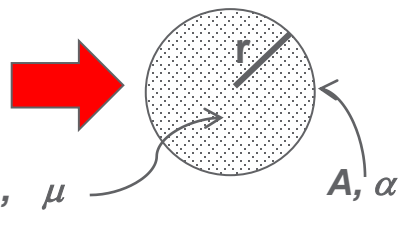


Friddle et al., *Proc. Nat'l Acad. Sci.* 107 (2010)

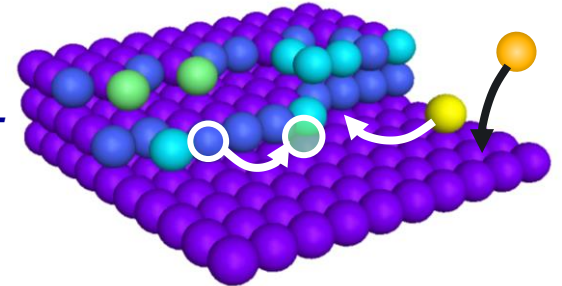
**Free monomers**



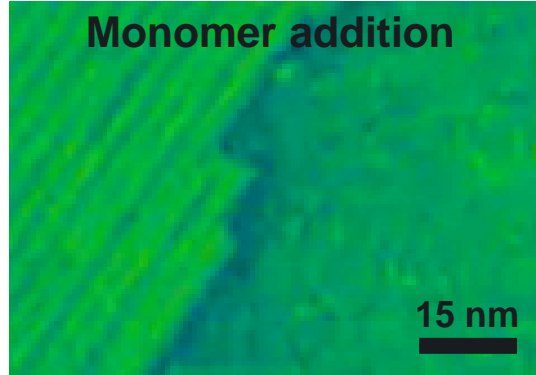
**Nucleus**



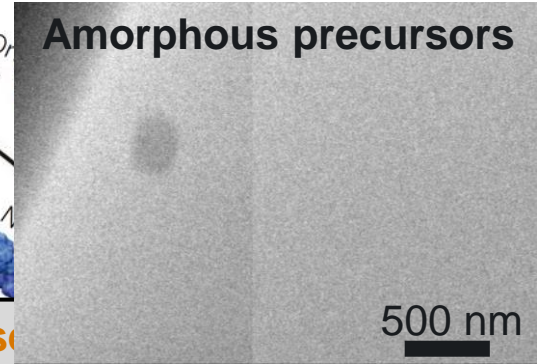
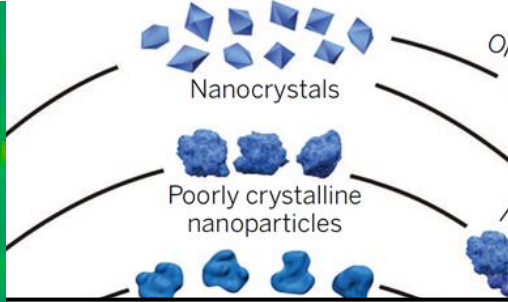
**Terrace-ledge-kink model**



# Discoveries since the start of the millennium have revealed the importance of complex, hierarchical assembly pathways

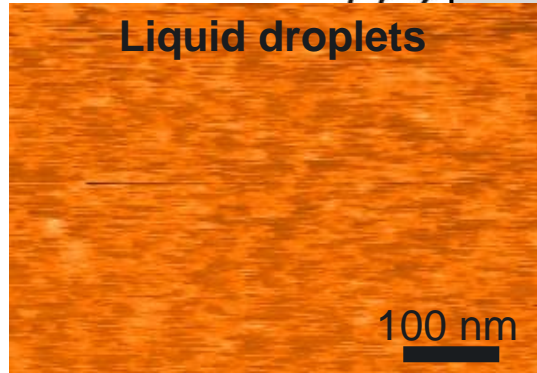


Chen et al., *Science* 362 (2018)

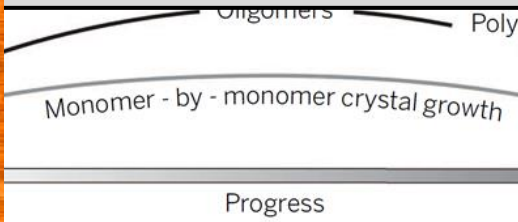


Nielsen et al. *Science* 345 (2014)

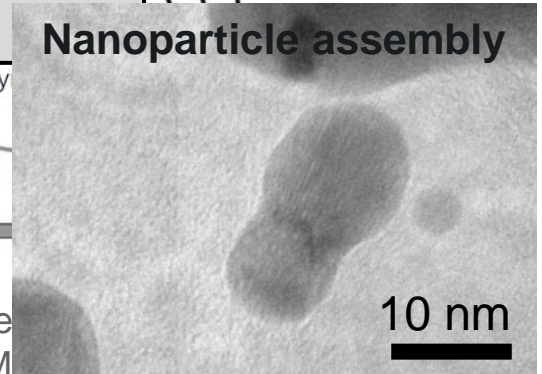
Complex pathways can arise for thermodynamic or kinetic reasons, but in what systems do they occur and why?



Chung et al., *Proc. Nat'l. Acad. Sci.* 107 (2010)



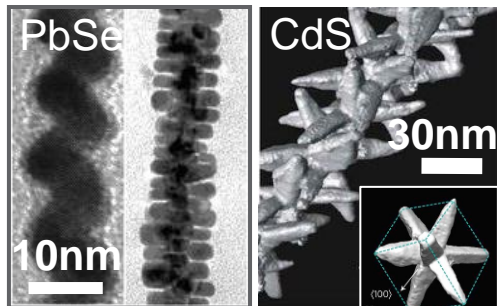
Ilbert, Sommerdijk, Penn, White, Navrotsky, Banfield, Wallace, M...



Li et al. *Science* 366 (2012)

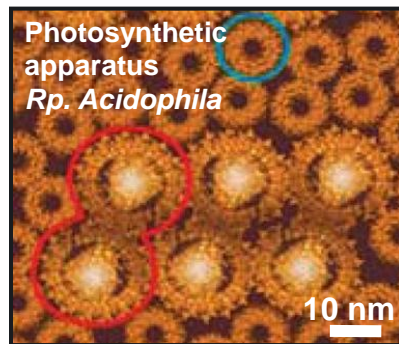
# Dynamic processes leading to self-organization at liquid-solid interfaces underlie synthesis of of many materials

## Synthesis by oriented attachment (OA)



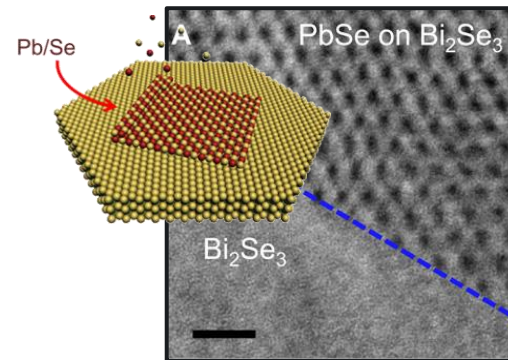
Cho et al., *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.* 127 (2005)  
Miszta et al. *Nature Mater.* 10 (2011)

## Self-assembly of engineered proteins



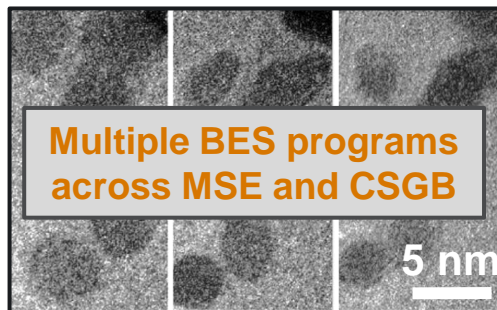
Bahatyrova et al., *Nature* (2004)

## Nucleation of crystalline heterostructures



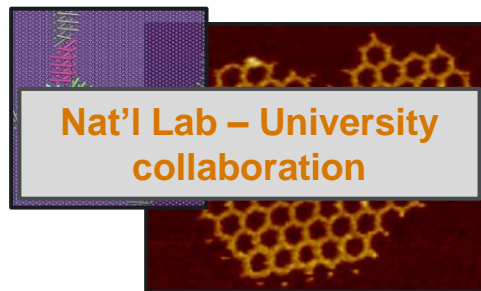
Lin et al., *Sci. Adv.* 2, 2016

## ZnO nanowire growth



Liu et al., *Nature Comm.* 11 (2020)

## De novo designed proteins



Pyles et al., *Nature* 571 (2019)

## Gibbsite on mica



Stubbs et al., *J. Phys. Chem. C*, 129, 2019



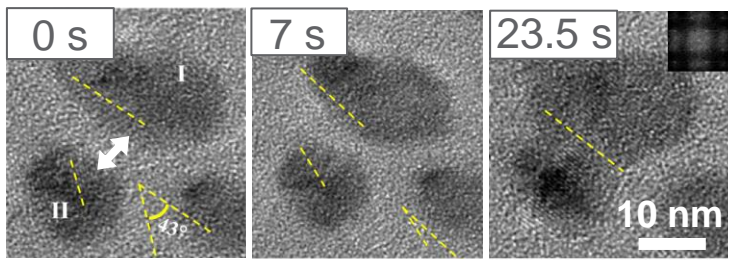
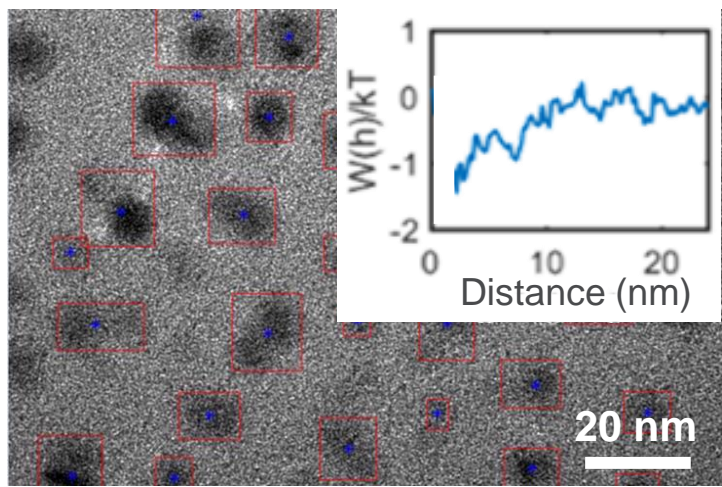
# Oriented attachment is driven by direction-specific forces that must overcome significant hydration barriers



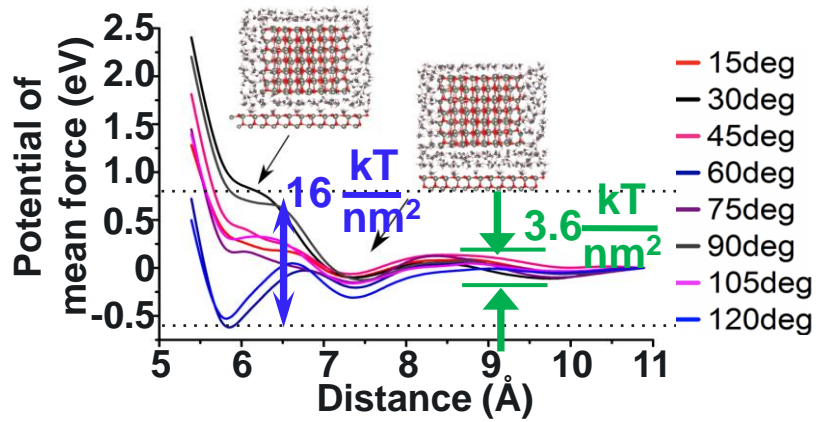
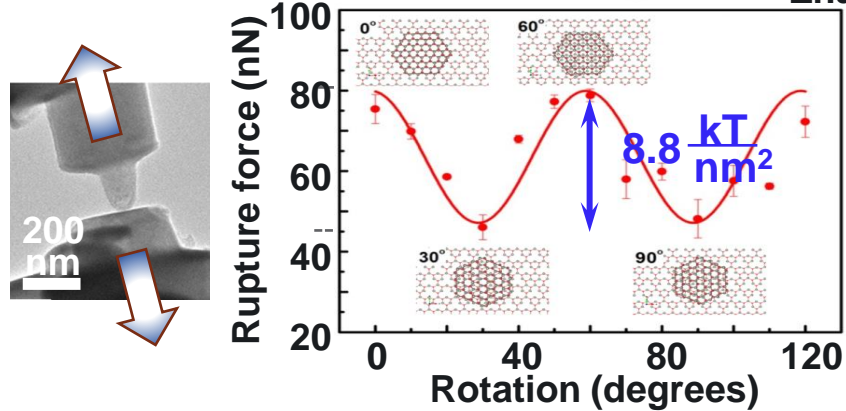
Xin Zhang

Lili Liu

## Oriented attachment of ZnO

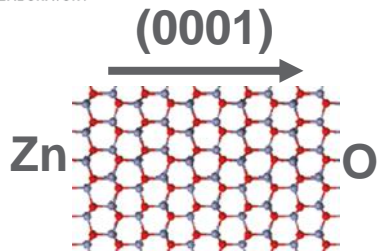


## Orientation dependent forces

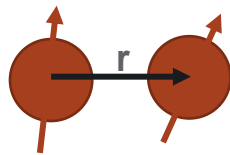


Attractive interactions and torques beyond 5nm!

## Dipole-dipole interactions can provide face selectivity and long-range forces and torques



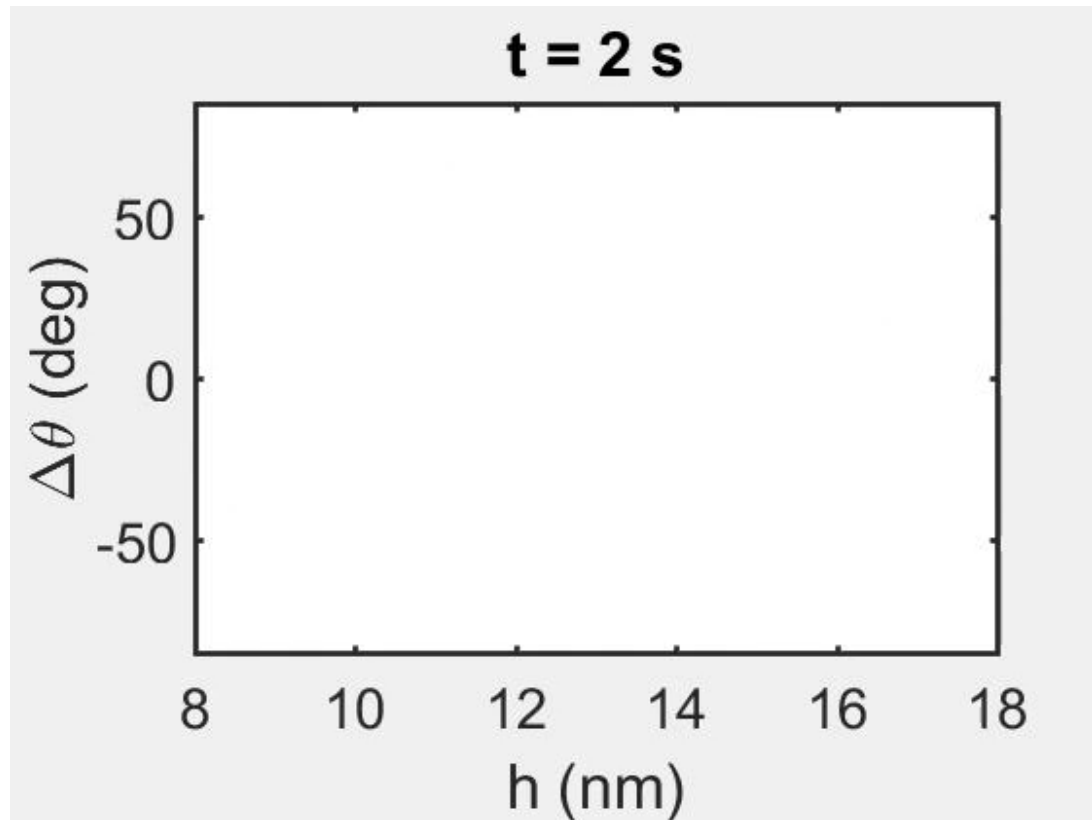
$p = 670\text{D}$  for  $r = 2.2\text{ nm}$

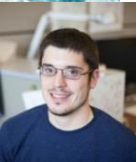


$$W(r) = \frac{\mathbf{p}_1 \cdot \mathbf{p}_2 - 3(\mathbf{p}_1 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}})(\mathbf{p}_2 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}})}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^3}$$

$$\tau(r) = \frac{-\mathbf{p}_1 \times \mathbf{p}_2 + 3(\mathbf{p}_1 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}})(\mathbf{p}_2 \times \hat{\mathbf{r}})}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^3}$$

L. Liu et al., *Nature Comm.* 11 (2020)

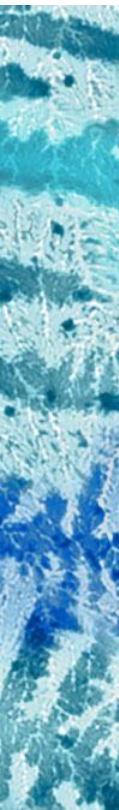




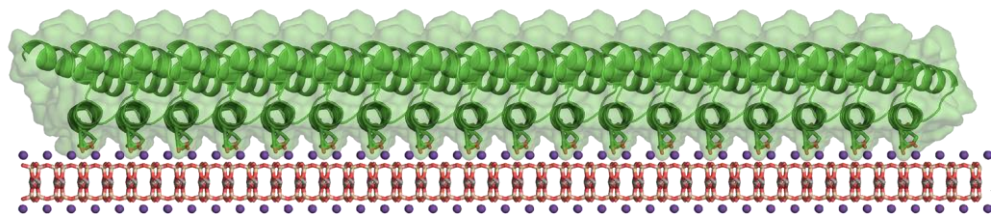
# We designed a helical repeat protein to interface with mica through carboxyl binding to cation sites



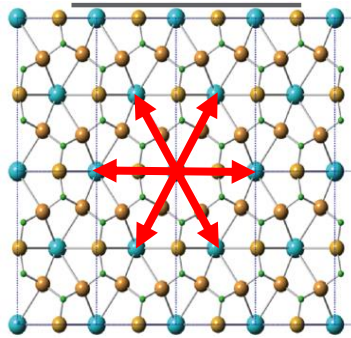
Harley Pyles



## De novo designed protein lattice-matched to mica

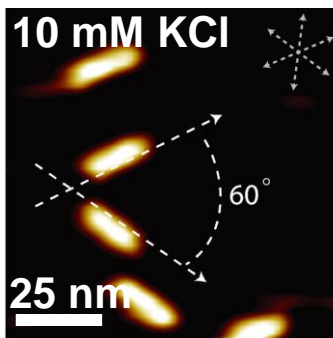
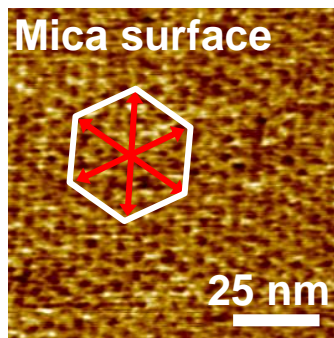


### Mica lattice

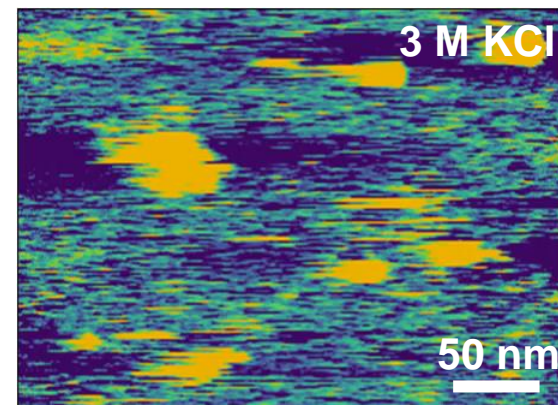
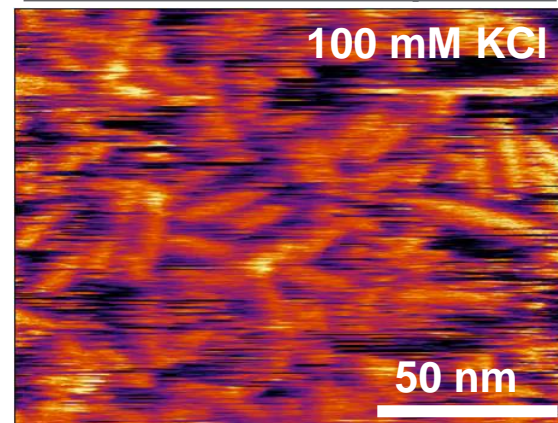


● Si ● O ● K

### Mica surface

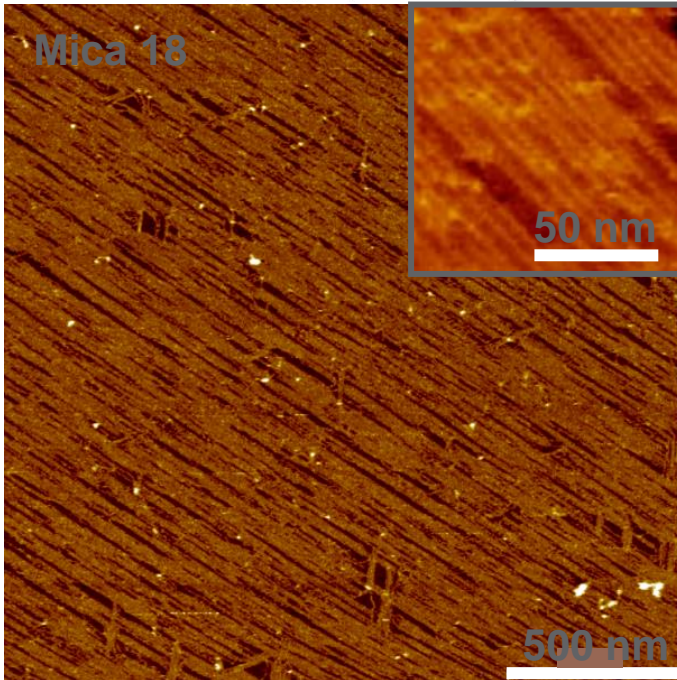
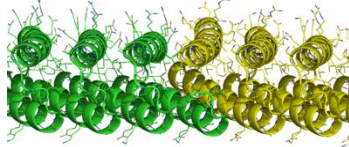


## 2D self-assembled phases

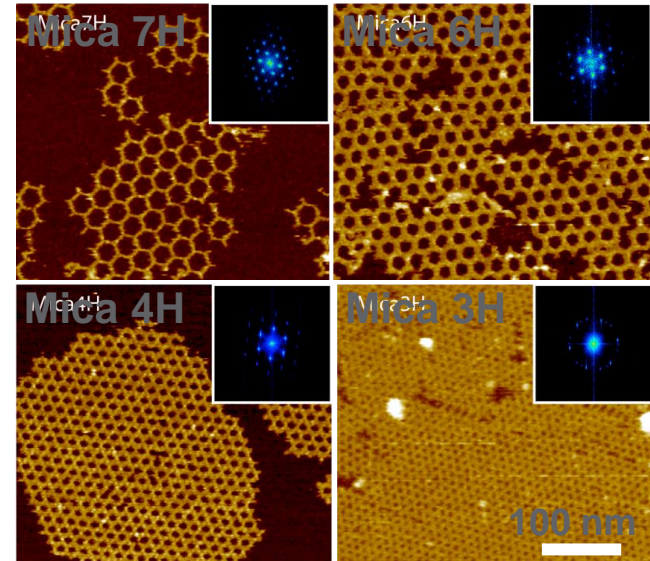
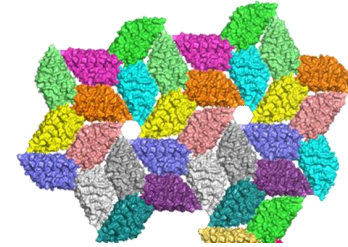


# Introduction of protein-protein interactions generates new phases

## End-to-end (dimeric)

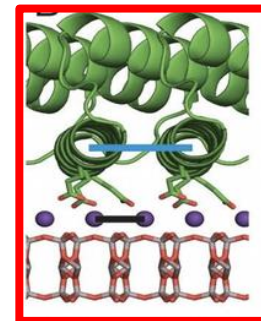
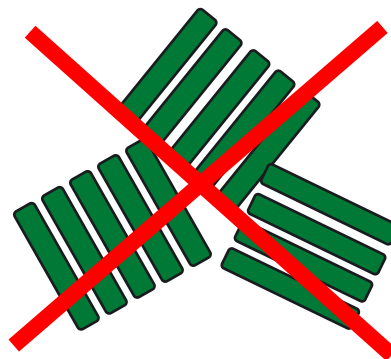
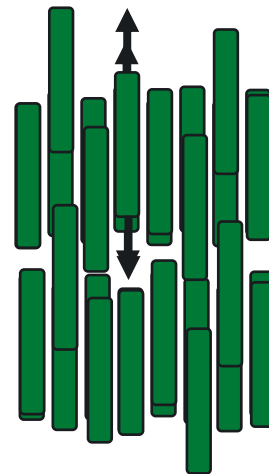
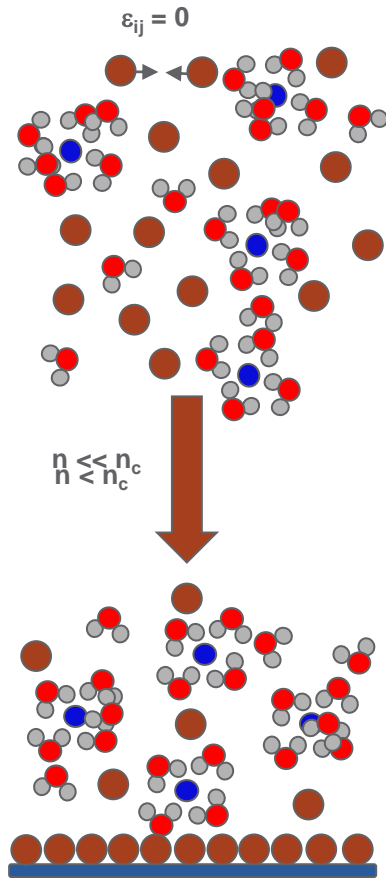
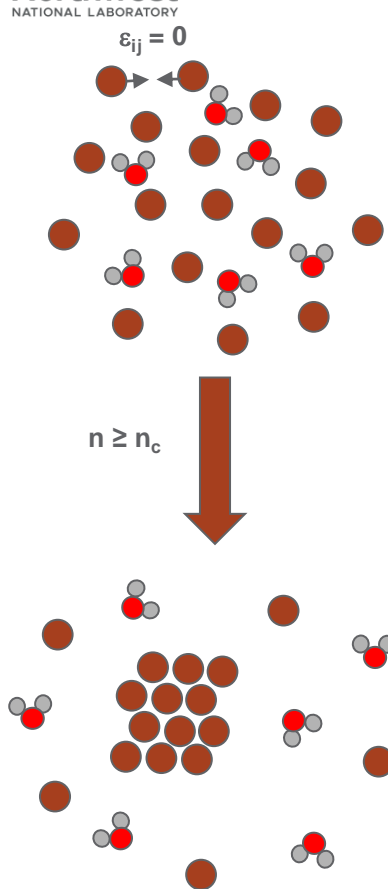


## Dimeric plus trimeric





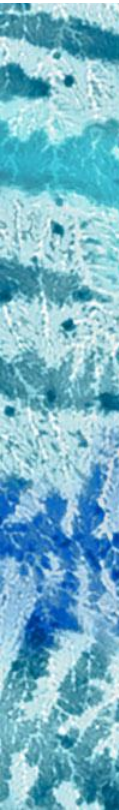
# Effects of surface, salt, and inter-rod interactions reflect entropic drivers of colloid crystallization



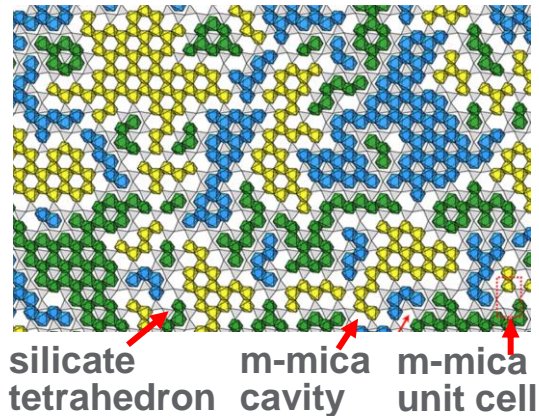
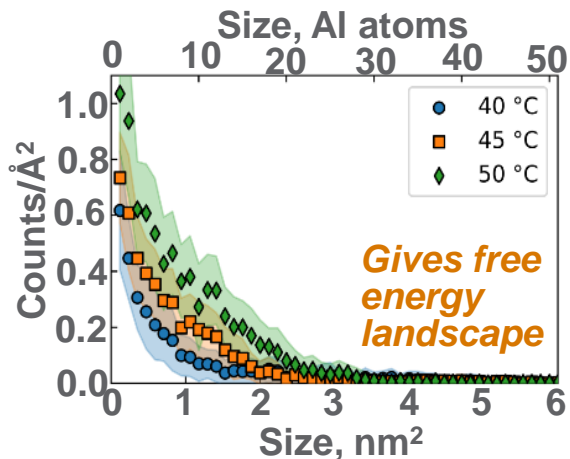
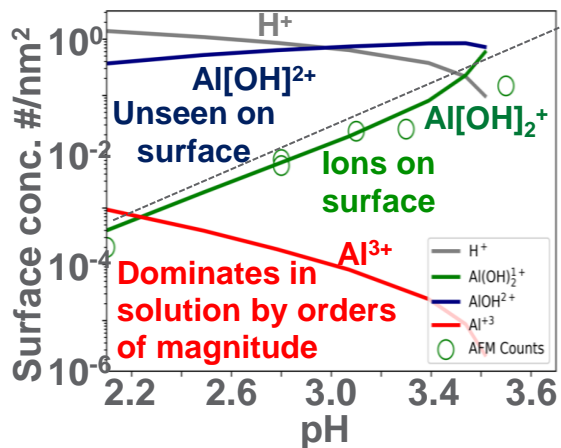
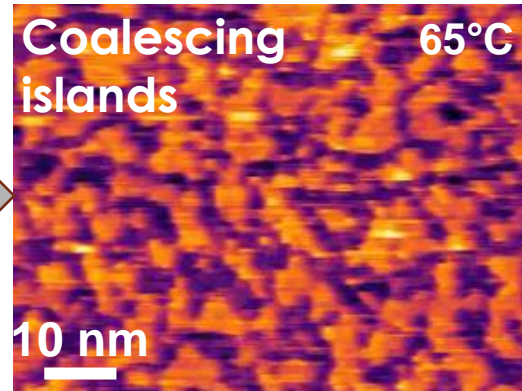
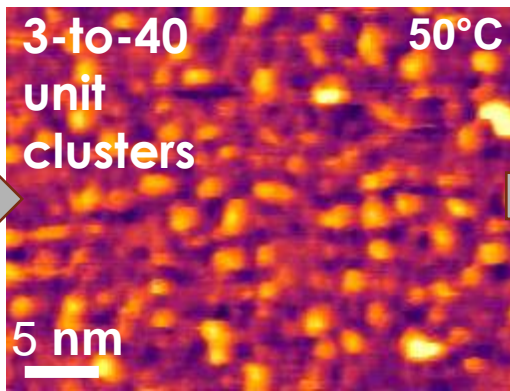
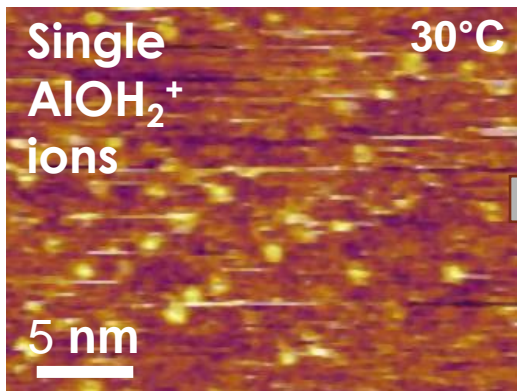
Orientation-specific enthalpy of binding to substrate stabilizes both 2D smectic and disordered state



Ben Legg



# High-speed, atomically-resolved AFM reveals three stages of gibbsite film formation on mica



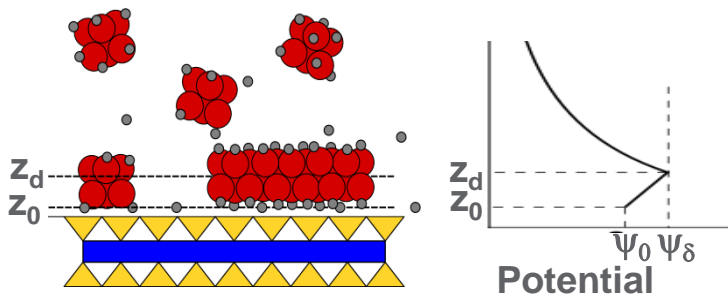
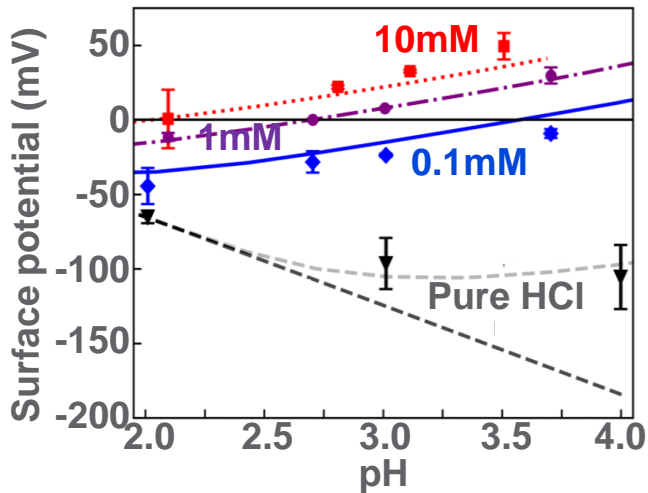
Legg et al, *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.* **142** (2020)

Legg et al. (Submitted)

Stubbs et al., *J. Phys. Chem. C*, **129**, 2019

# Results reveal impact of surface charge on mechanism of nucleation

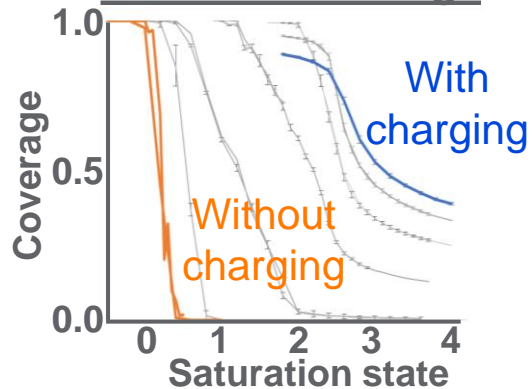
## Surface charge vs. [Al]



Overcharging prevents full coverage

$$\Delta\mu = 1.75$$

## Effect on coverage



Undercharging drives more Al ions to interface

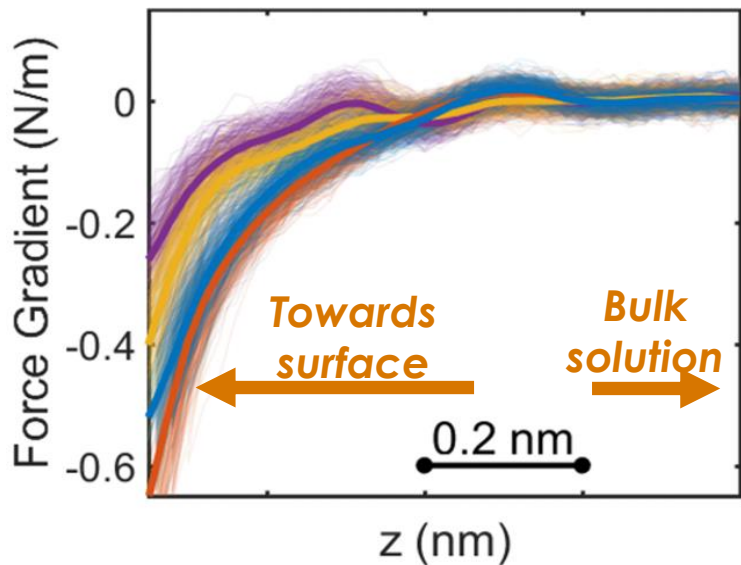
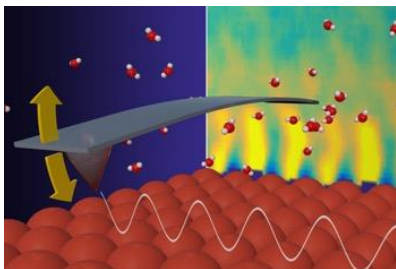
$$\Delta\mu = 2.5$$

# We are using using AFM-based fast force mapping (FFM) to investigate interfacial solvent structure

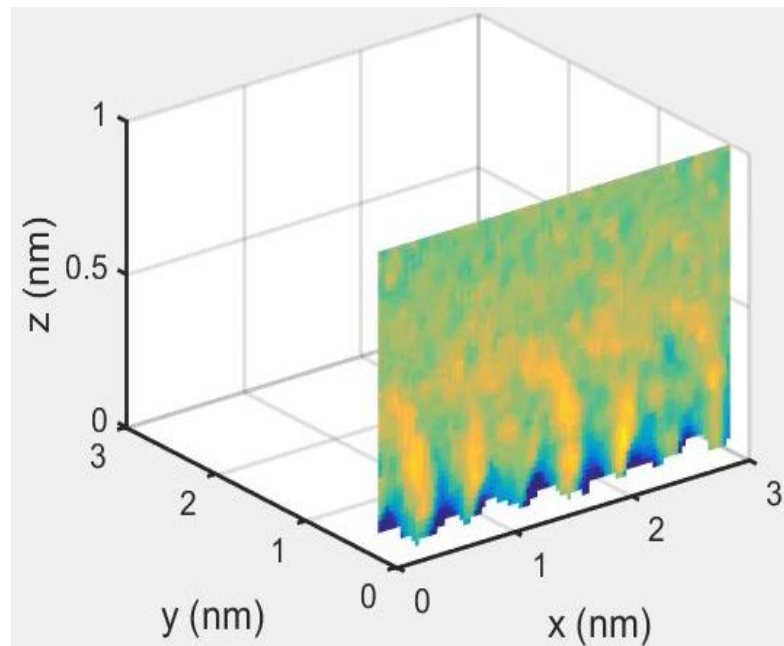


Elias Nakouzi

## Fast force mapping

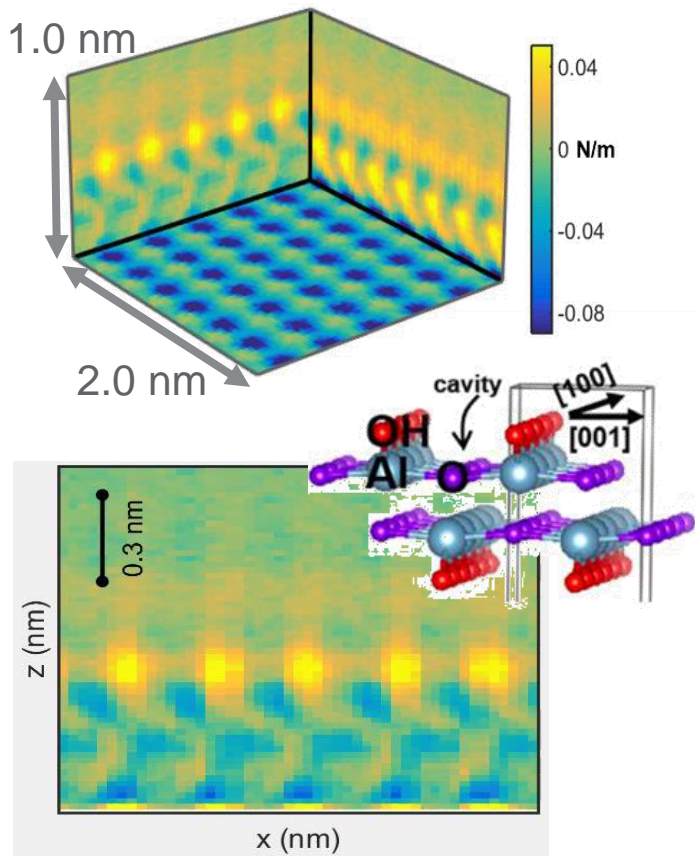


## AIOOH (010), pH11, 1mM Na<sup>+</sup>

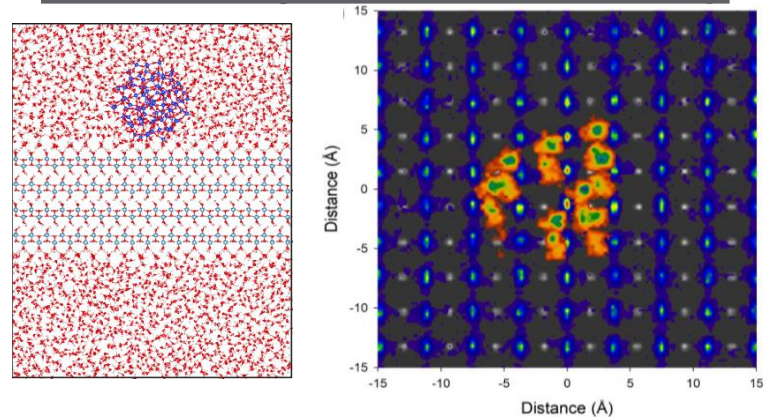


# The outcome is a 3D atomic-level map of interfacial solvent that is correlated with specific lattice sites

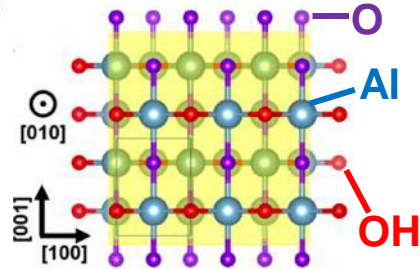
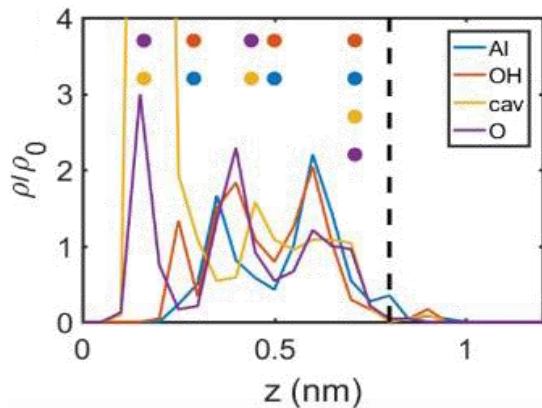
## FFM OF AlOOH (010)



## Molecular dynamics with silica tip



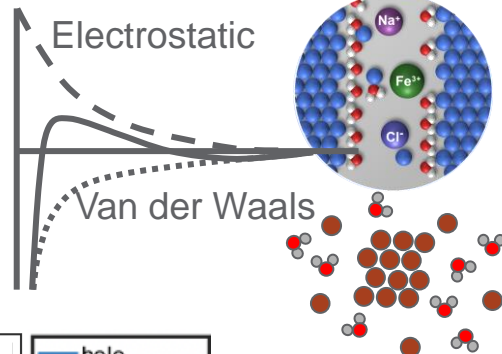
Gray - OH oxygens, Blue - H<sub>2</sub>O, Orange/green - silanols



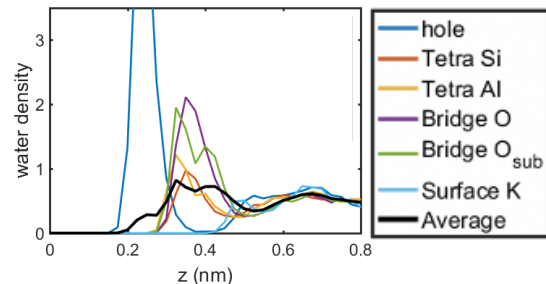
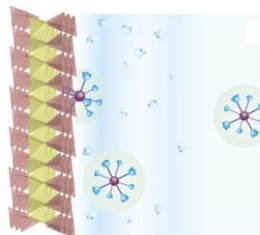
Nakouzi et al., *J. Phys. Chem. C* (In press)

# Essential challenge is to understand collective outcome of three-way interaction between solvent, substrate and solutes

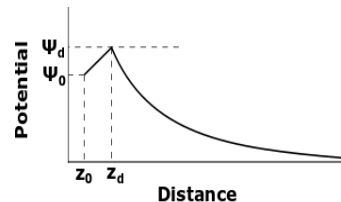
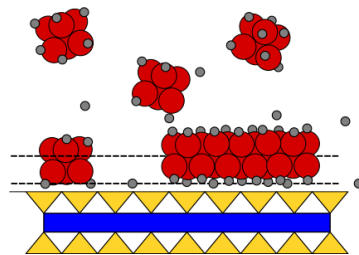
1) How do we deconvolve entropic terms associated with solvent from specific interactions between chemical moieties, electrostatics, and van der Waals forces?



2) How are surface chemistry and symmetry elements of underlying substrate imprinted on overlying solvent?

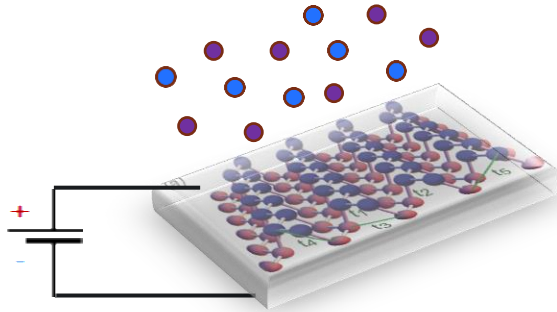


3) What is impact of surface charge and external E-fields in promoting, suppressing or altering organization

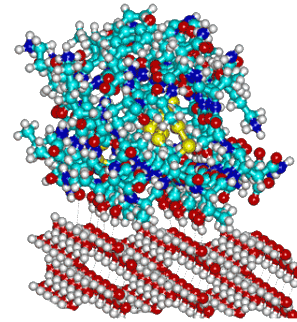


# My SC Distinguished Scientists Fellow project will address these challenges for three interfacially controlled systems

## Mineral films at charged interfaces

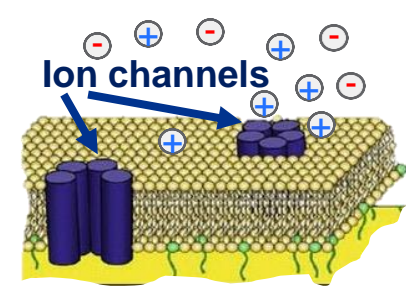


## Lattice-matched synthetic proteins



[http://www1.lsbu.ac.uk/water/protein\\_hydration.html](http://www1.lsbu.ac.uk/water/protein_hydration.html)

## Ion separation membranes



## Collaborators

*University of Washington:* Lilo Pozzo (Neutron reflectivity), David Baker (Protein design), Jim Pfaendtner (Simulations)  
*Argonne Nat'l Laboratory:* Paul Fenter (X-ray reflectivity)  
*UC Riverside:* Younjin Min (Streaming potential)



Outcome: Quantitative, mechanistic picture of relationships between substrate, water structure, solute distribution and resulting interfacial dynamics and organization

# Acknowledgements

## ZnO OA

D. Lili Liu, PNNL  
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Dr. Zhizhang Shen, PNNL  
Dr. Elias Nakouzi, PNNL  
Dr. Maria Sushko, PNNL  
Dr. Greg Schenter, PNNL  
Dr. Chris Mundy, PNNL/UW  
Dr. Jaehun Chun, PNNL/WSU

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CSGB, Geosciences Program

CSSAS: The Center for the Science of Synthesis Across Scales EFRC, UW

IDREAM: Interfacial Dynamics in Radioactive Environments and Materials EFRC, PNNL

## Mica-N proteins

Dr. Shuai Zhang, PNNL/UW  
Dr. Harley Pyles, UW  
Prof. David Baker, UW

## Interfacial structure of water

Dr. Elias Nakouzi, PNNL  
Dr. Sebastien Kerisit, PNNL  
Dr. Andrew Stack, ORNL  
Dr. Greg Schenter, PNNL  
Dr. Chris Mundy, PNNL/UW  
Dr. Jaehun Chun, PNNL/WSU  
Prof. Angelika Kunle, U. Bielefeld

## Gibbsite nucleation

Dr. Ben Legg, PNNL  
Dr. Marcel Baer, PNNL  
Joanne Stubbs, U. Chicago  
Peter Eng, U. Chicago  
Ms. Shifeng Huang, UC Riverside  
Mr. Yuanzhong Zhang, UC Riverside  
Dr. Jaehun Chun, PNNL  
Dr. Chris Mundy, PNNL  
Dr. Greg Schenter, PNNL  
Prof. Younjin Min, UC Riverside  
Dr. Kislou Voichovsky, Durham U.  
Dr. Sang Soo Lee, ANL  
Dr. Paul Fenter, ANL



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**Thank  
you**