

Influence of whey protein denaturation on adherence of soiling particles to stainless steel

Y. Touré, P.G. Rouxhet, C.C. Dupont-Gillain and M. Sindic

yetioman.toure@doct.ulg.ac.be

*Fouling and Cleaning in Food Processing 2014,
Cambridge, UK, 31 March- 2 April*

Presentation outline

1. Introduction

Background

Objectives

2. Experimental aspects

Material

Methods

3. Results and discussion

4. Conclusion

Concern ?

Particulate deposition on surface - drying

→ natural environments

→ industrial equipments

Where ?

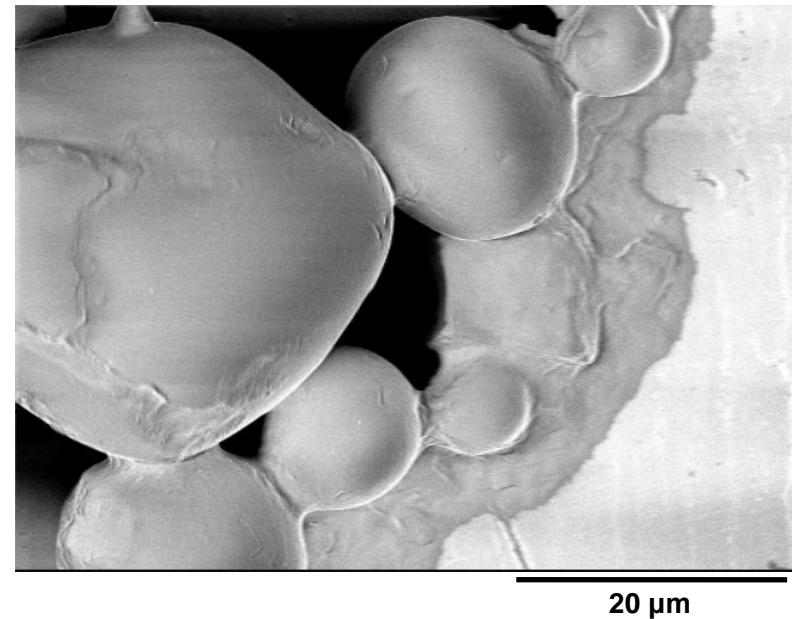
- Storage tanks
- Ducts
- Plates of heaters
coolers

→ Food processing

Soil attachment and removal: influence of macromolecules at particule-substrate interface

Detry et al. (2011): starch deposit

- **presence of macromolecules (polysaccarides, proteins)**
- **accumulation at substrate-particulate interface**
- **influence of:**
 - **details in the mode of drying**
 - **exposure to moisture**

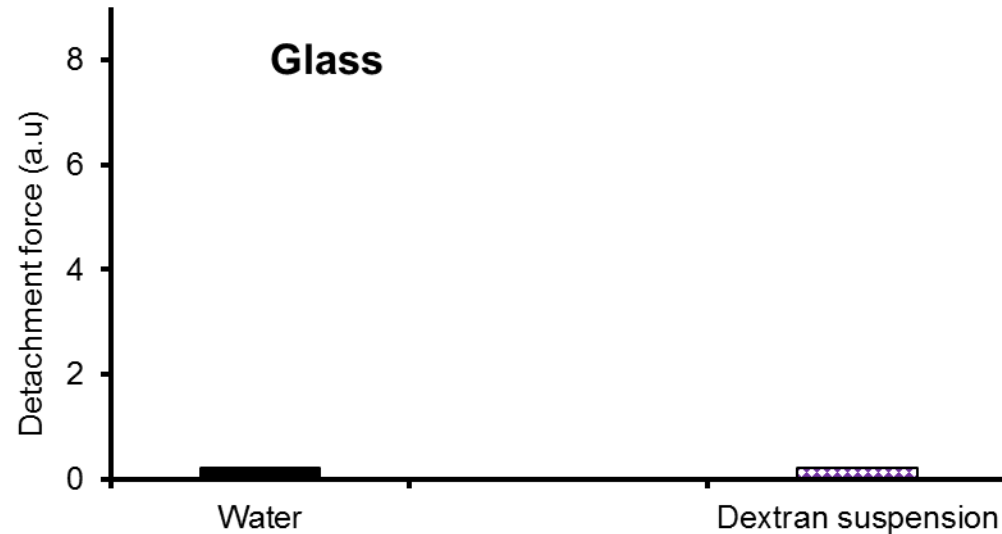
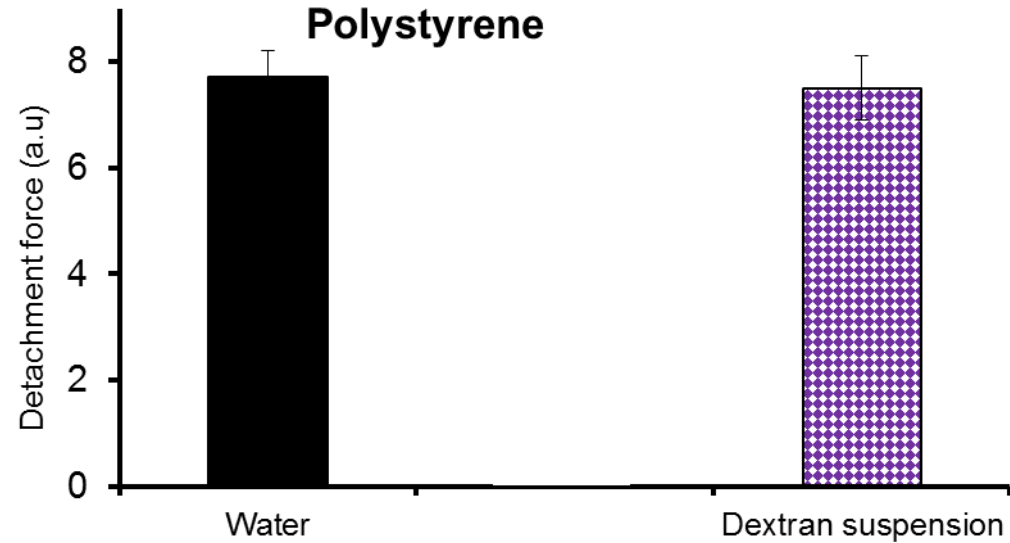


1. Introduction

Background

**Touré et al et al. (2011; 2013):
quartz particles deposit**

- **dextran, weak effect,
low adsorption
easy desorption**

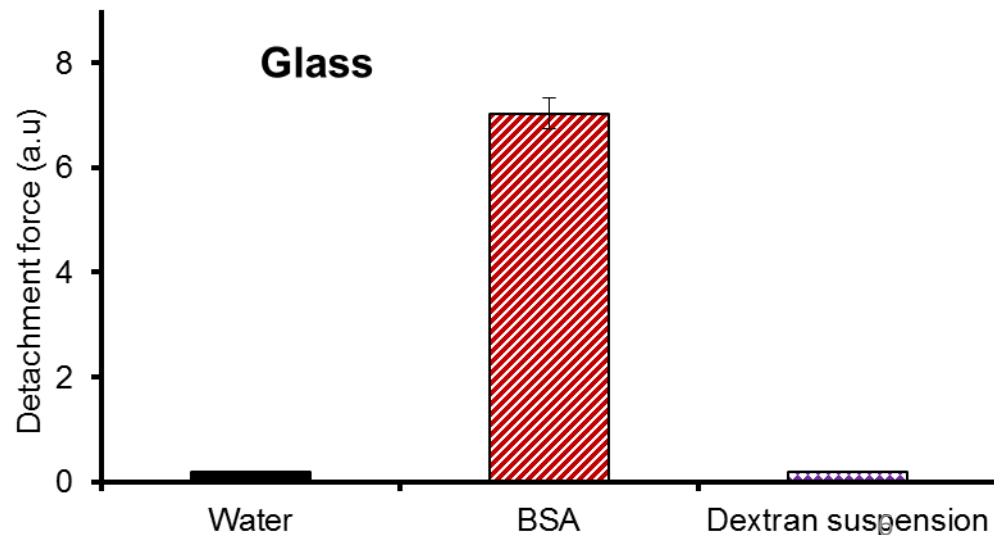
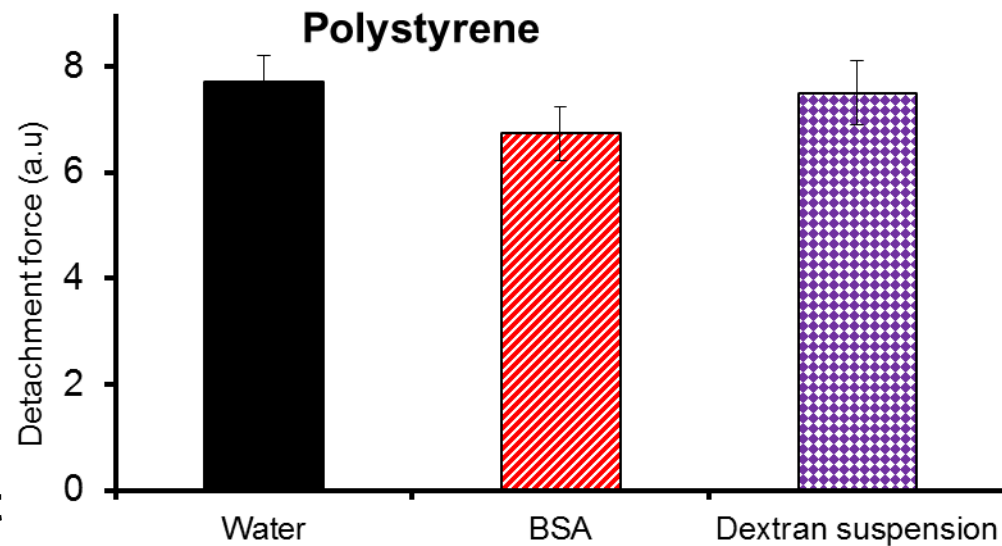


1. Introduction

Background

**Touré et al et al. (2011; 2013):
quartz particles deposit**

- **BSA:**
 - on polystyrene: negligible effect
 - on glass: drastic ↗ cleanability
prevention of tight bonds
induction of a repulsion



Protein used in food industry improves

fabricated foods qualities

- texture**
- appearance**

Denaturation of whey protein and fouling:

- deposit build-up and removal
controversial question**
- particle soil adherence
no data available**

Understanding the influence of protein denaturation on particulate soils adherence and removal

- **practical information on**
 - incidence of surface properties of soil and substrate
 - influence of biomacromolecules
- **physico-chemical mechanisms involved :**
 - interactions solid-solution, solid-solid
 - biomacromolecules at interfaces
- **designing easy-to-clean surfaces**

Understanding the influence of protein denaturation on particulate soils adherence and removal

This work:

to improve

- **evaluating cleanability**
- **understanding mechanisms involved**

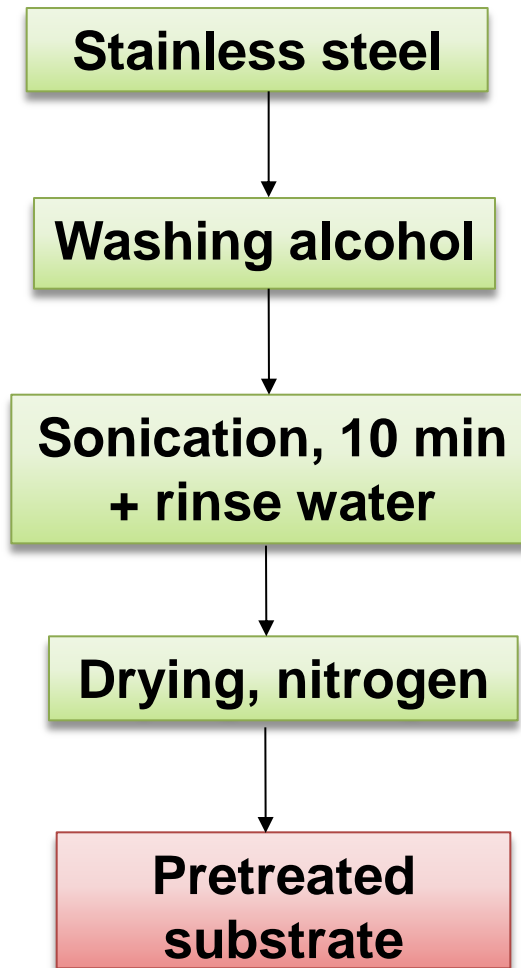
2. Experimental aspects

Material

Model of whey protein : **β -lactoglobulin (β -LGB)**

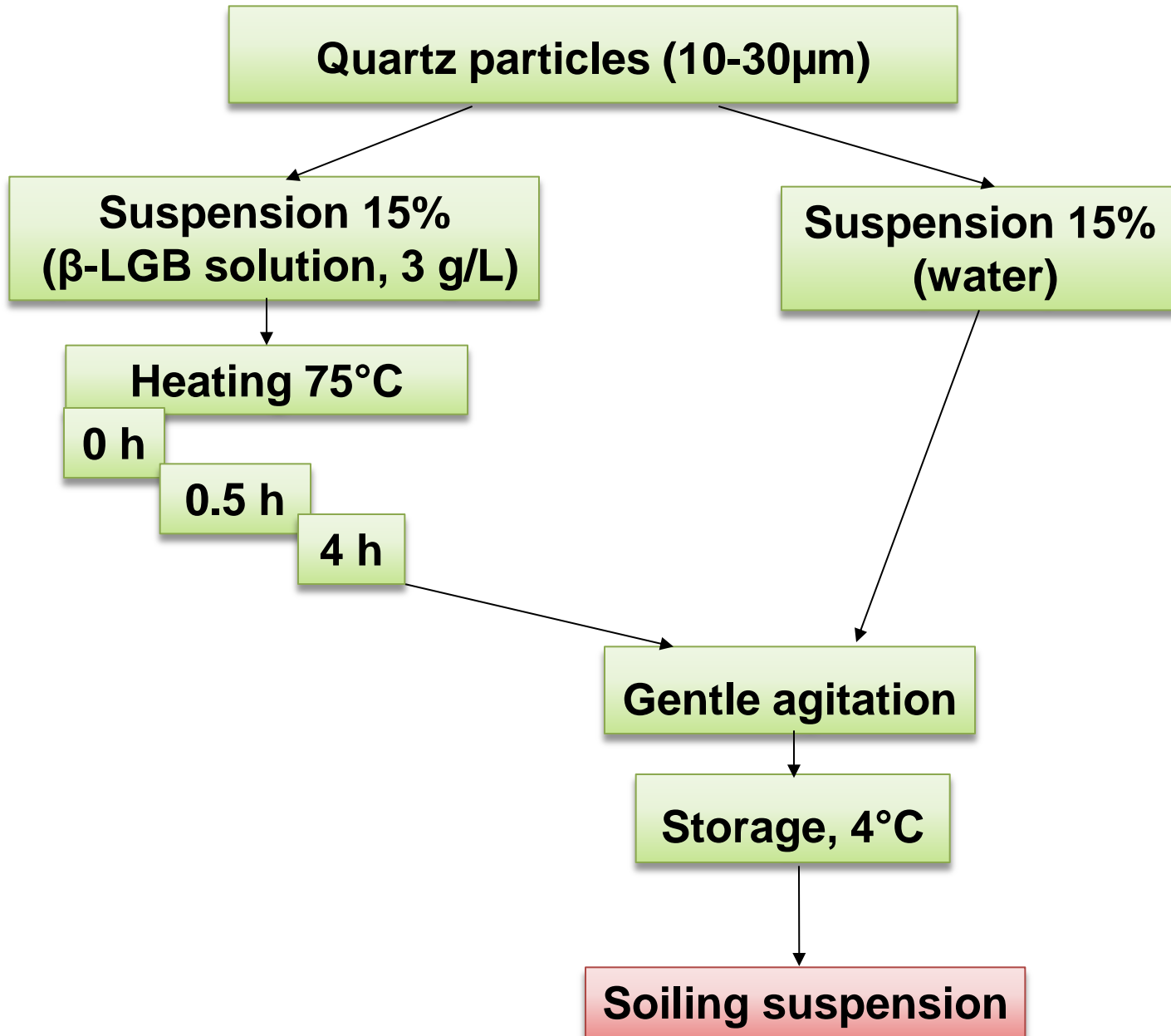
Model of substrate : **stainless steel**

Model of particulate soil : **suspension of quartz particles
(10-30 μ m)**



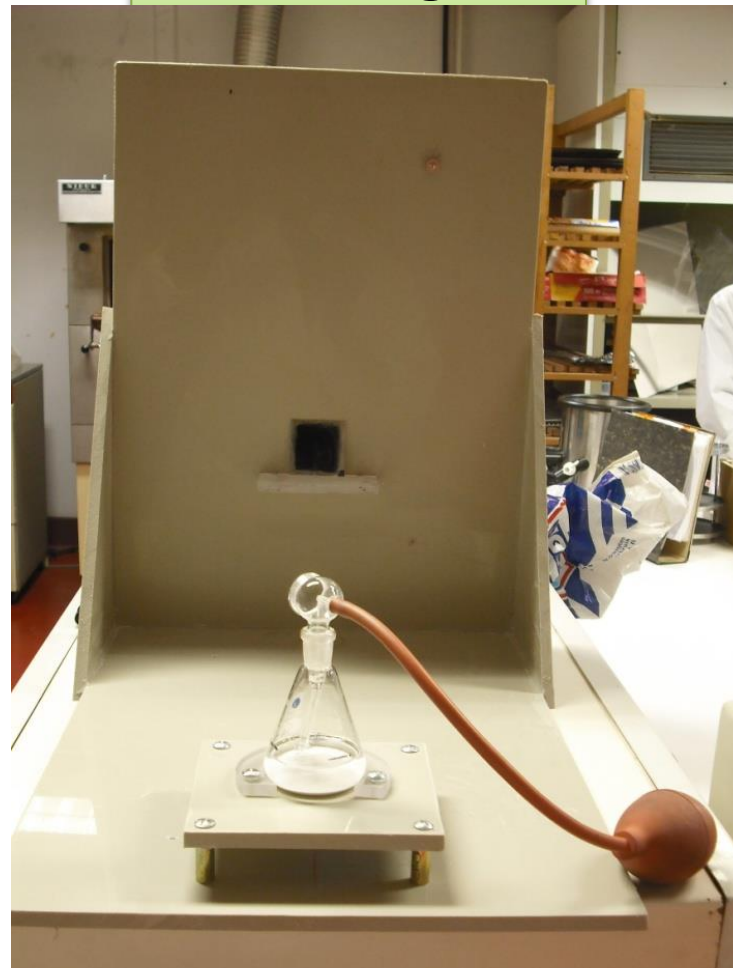
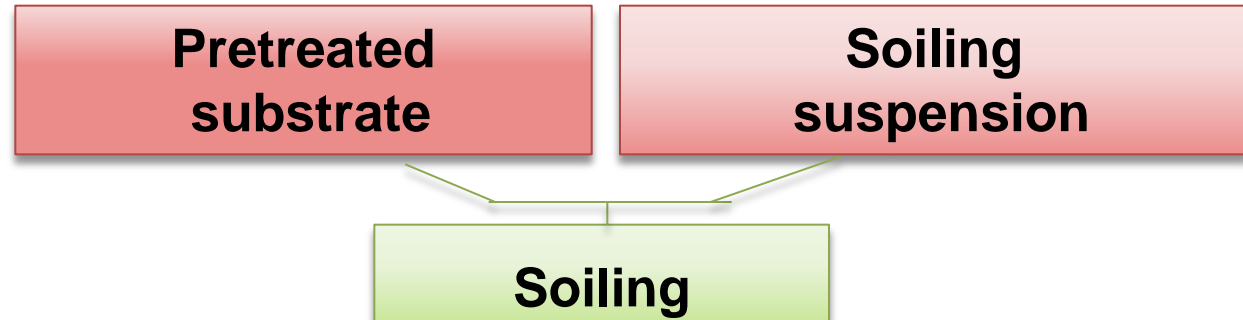
2. Experimental aspects

Soil preparation



2. Experimental aspects

Soiling procedure



2. Experimental aspects

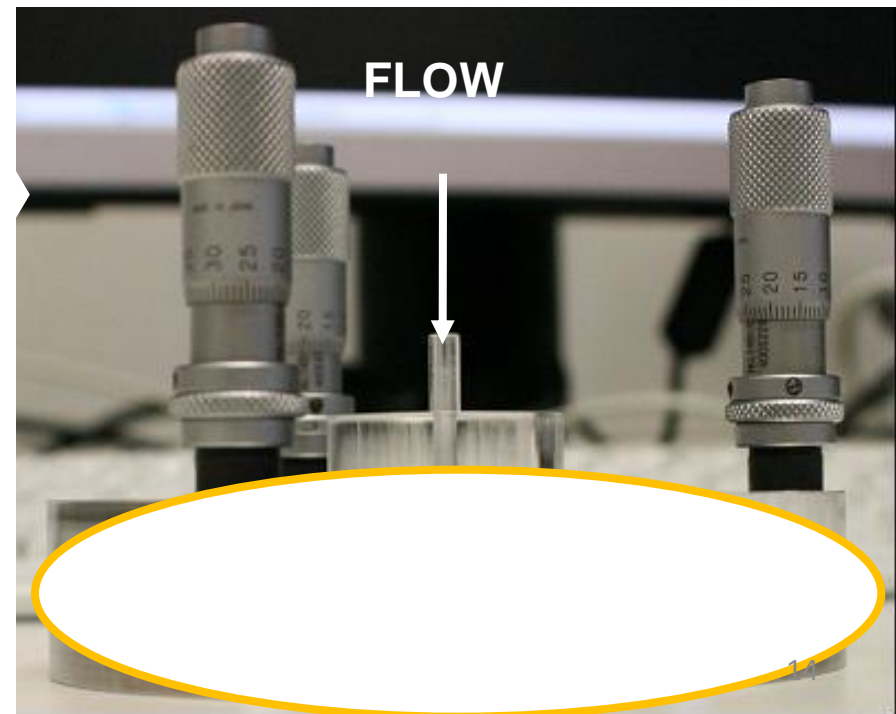
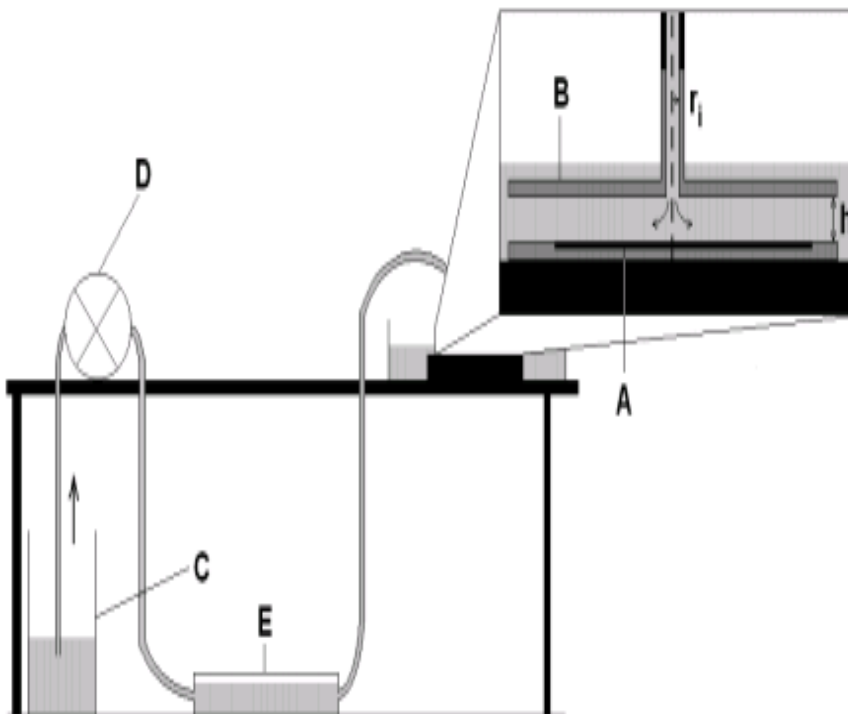
Cleaning test

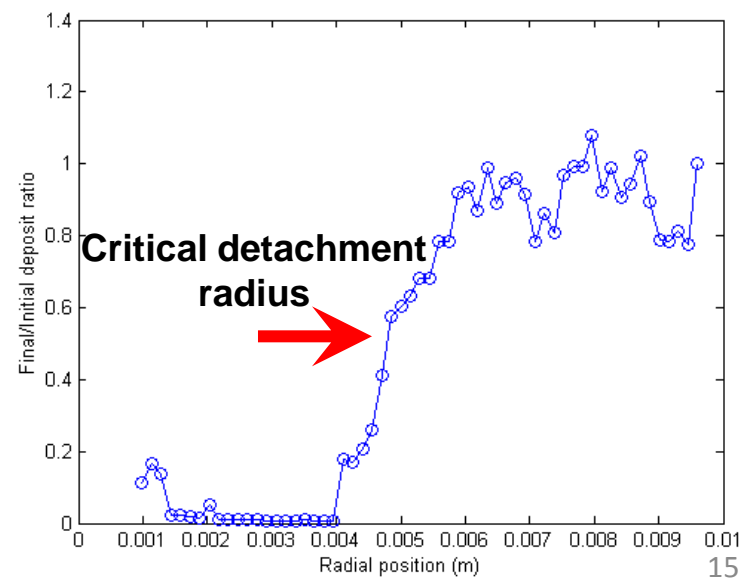
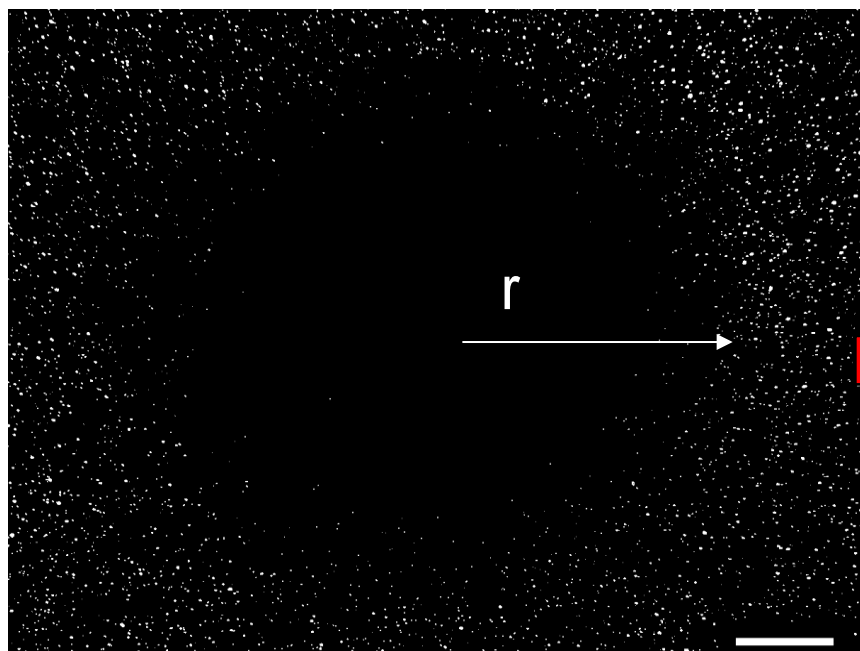
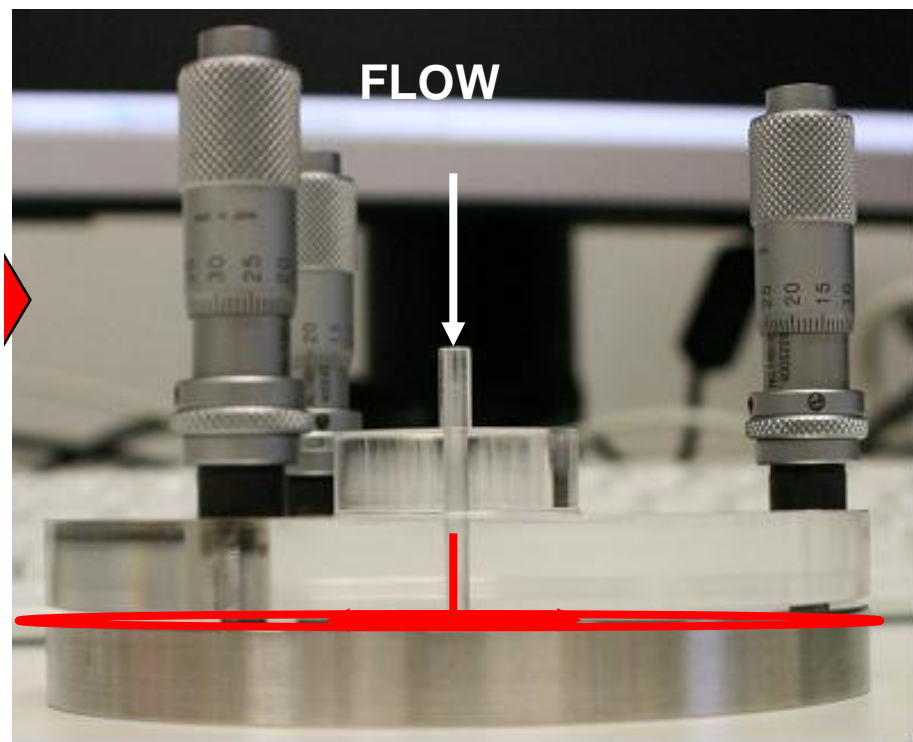
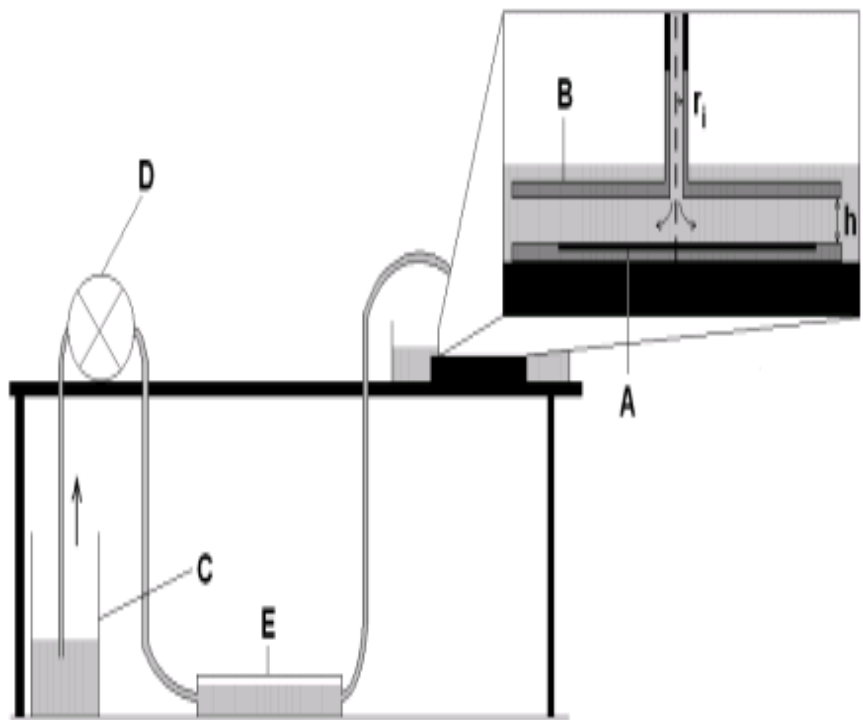
Drying, 30 min,
 $19 \pm 5^\circ\text{C}$, 39% H

Drying, 30 min,
 $75 \pm 5^\circ\text{C}$

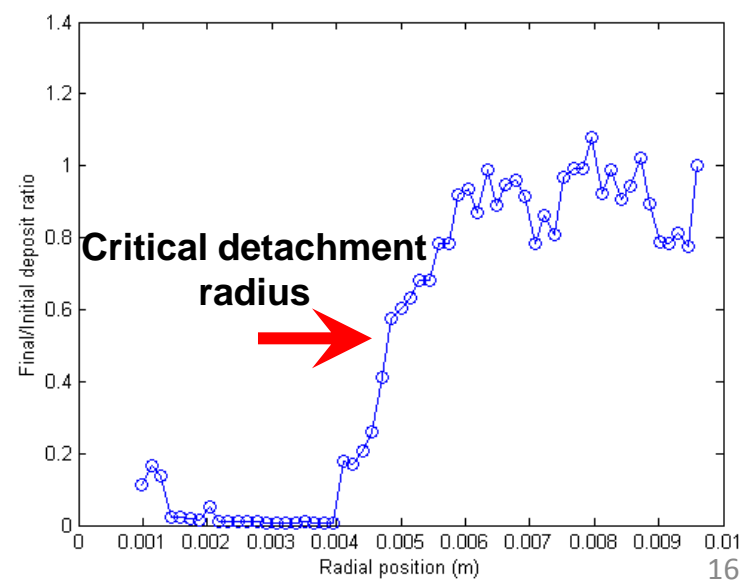
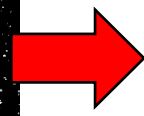
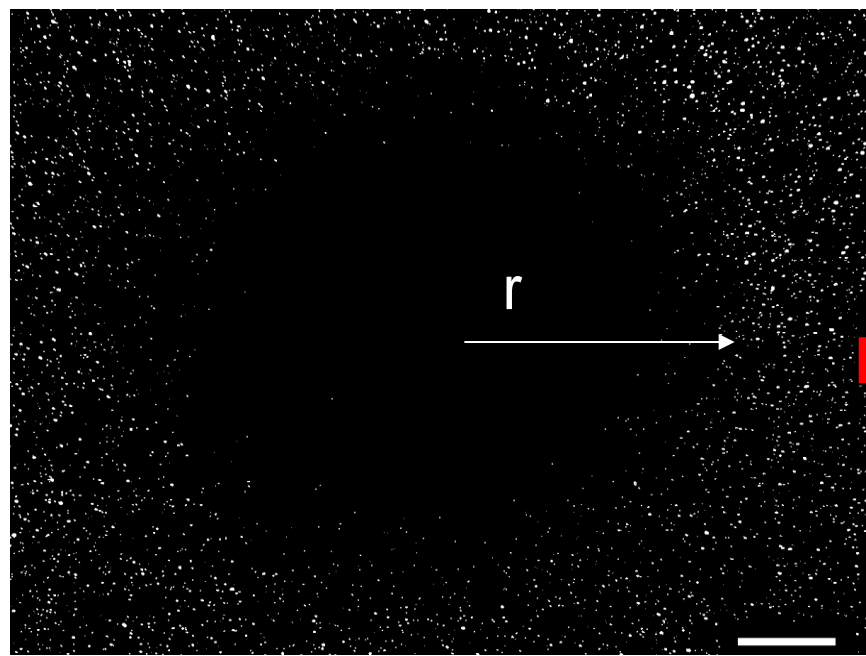
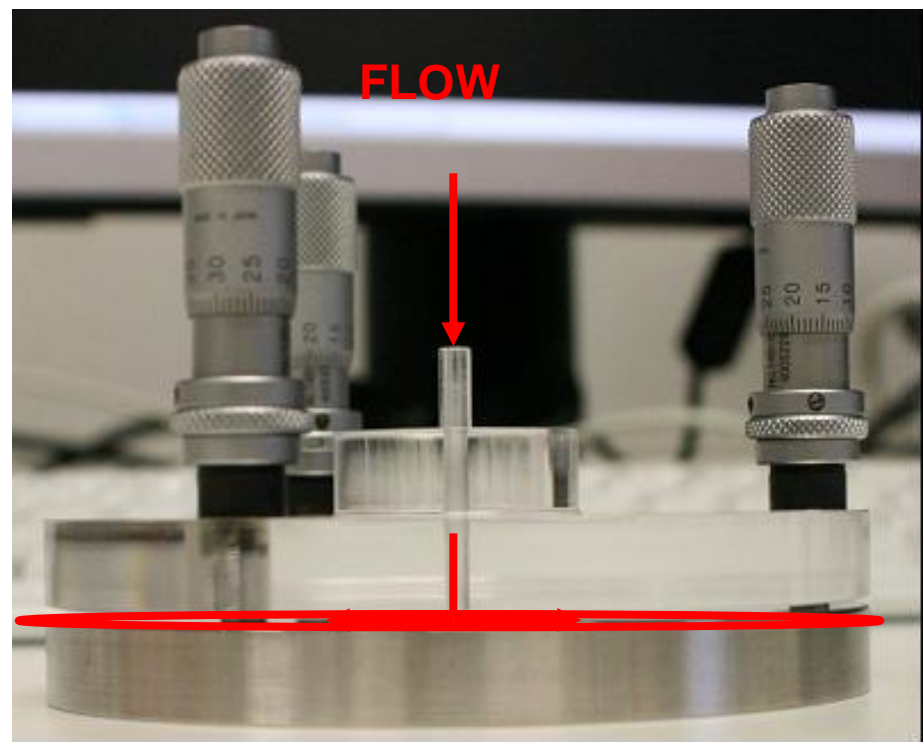
Picture I

Radial-flow cell
(40 ml/min)

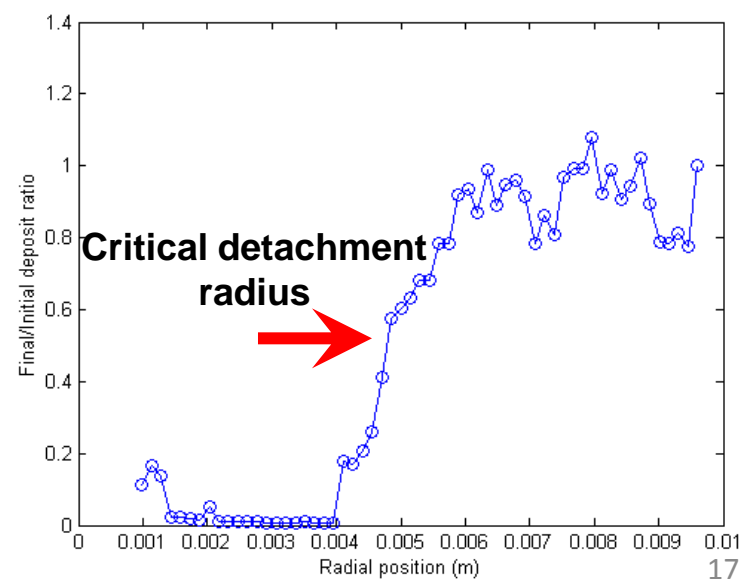
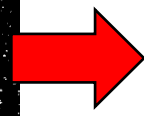
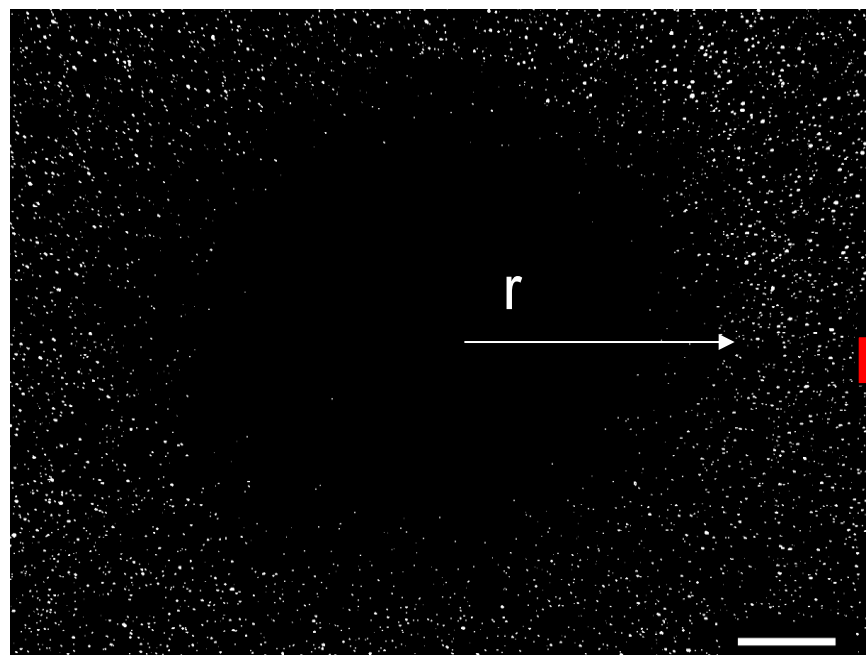
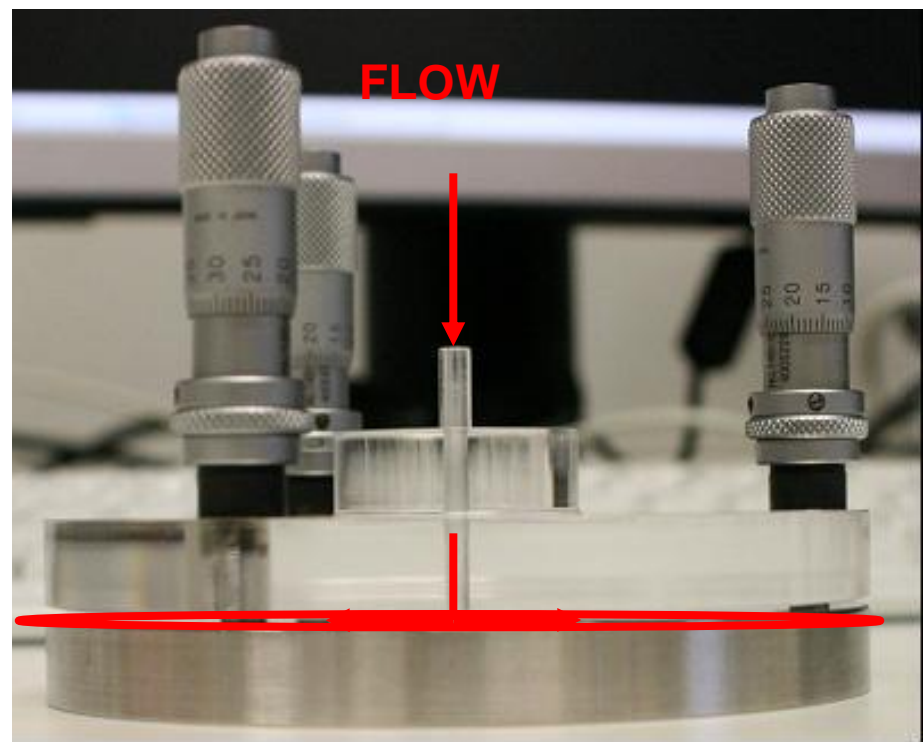




- **At given flow rate:**
larger critical detachment radius
↔ lower hydrodynamic drag force
required to detach particles



- **At given flow rate:**
larger critical detachment radius
↔ lower hydrodynamic drag force
required to detach particles
- **Increasing the flow rate**
same critical detachment radius
↔ increasing drag force
required to detach particles

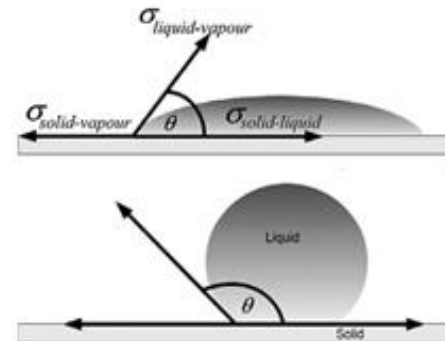


Solution and supernatants

- UV-visible absorption
- soluble protein concentration
- liquid surface tension

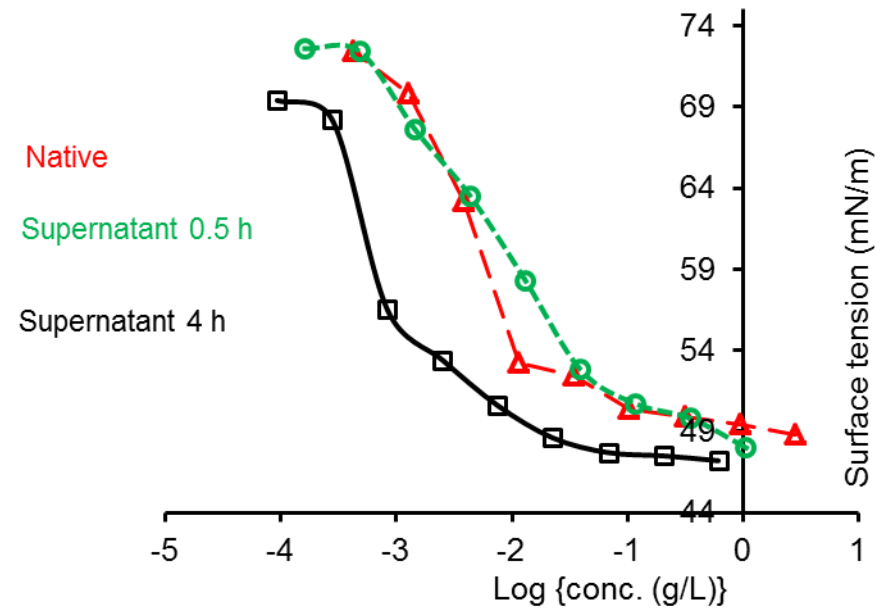
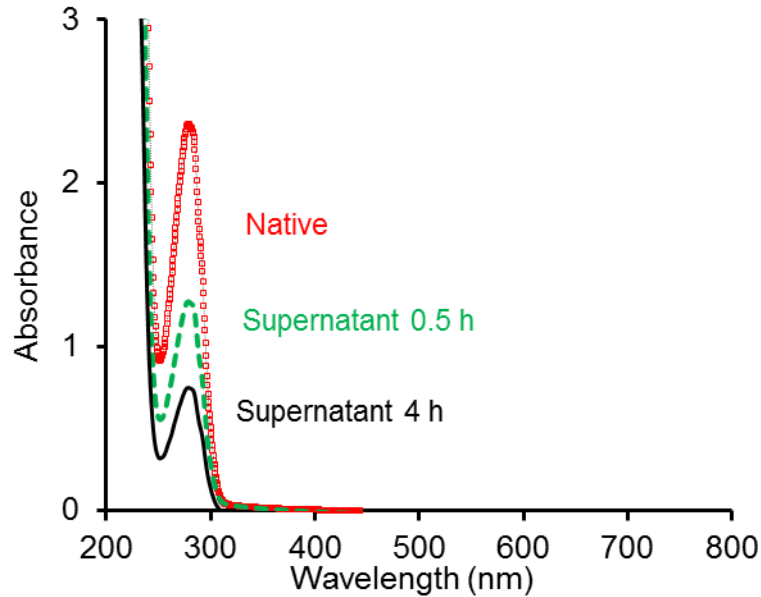
Substrate

- static contact angle
 - water
 - supernatants
- XPS analysis
 - bare substrate
 - conditioned substrates



3. Results & discussion

Solution and supernatants



	Native	Supernatant 0.5 h	Supernatant 4 h
Concentration (g/L)	2.5 ± 0.2	1.1 ± 0.2	0.6 ± 0.1

Heating β -LGB solution at 75°C

- 0.5 h → aggregation 50%
- 4 h → aggregation 75%,
lower surface tension

→ higher activity at water/air interface

3. Results & discussion

Surface chemical composition

Conditioning liquid	Heating Rinsing		Proportion (%) of elements due to		Molar ratios in organic adlayer		
			adlayer	substrate	O_{org}/C_{tot}	N/C_{tot}	O_{org}/N
none	none	4 h					
β-LGB	none	none twice					
	0.5 h	none twice					
	4 h	none twice					
supernatant 0.5 h	none	none twice					
supernatant 4 h	none	none twice					
computed for β-LGB							

Computation

O_{org} and O_{inorg} from XPS spectra

$$\text{adlayer} = C_{tot} + N + O_{org}$$

$$\text{substrate} = Fe + Cr + O_{inorg}$$

3. Results & discussion

Surface chemical composition

Conditioning liquid	Heating Rinsing		Proportion (%) of elements due to		Molar ratios in organic adlayer		
			adlayer	substrate	O _{org} /C _{tot}	N/C _{tot}	O _{org} /N
none	none		55	45	...	...	...
	4 h		58	42	...	...	...
β-LGB	none	none	96	4	...	...	...
		twice	81	19	...	...	...
	0.5 h	none	96	4	...	...	...
		twice	78	22	...	...	...
	4 h	none	101	-1	...	...	...
		twice	103	-3	...	...	...
supernatant 0.5 h	none	none	98	2	...	...	...
		twice	94	6	...	...	...
supernatant 4 h	none	none	82	18	...	...	...
		twice	77	23	...	...	...
computed for β-LGB			100	0	...	...	...

Bare samples

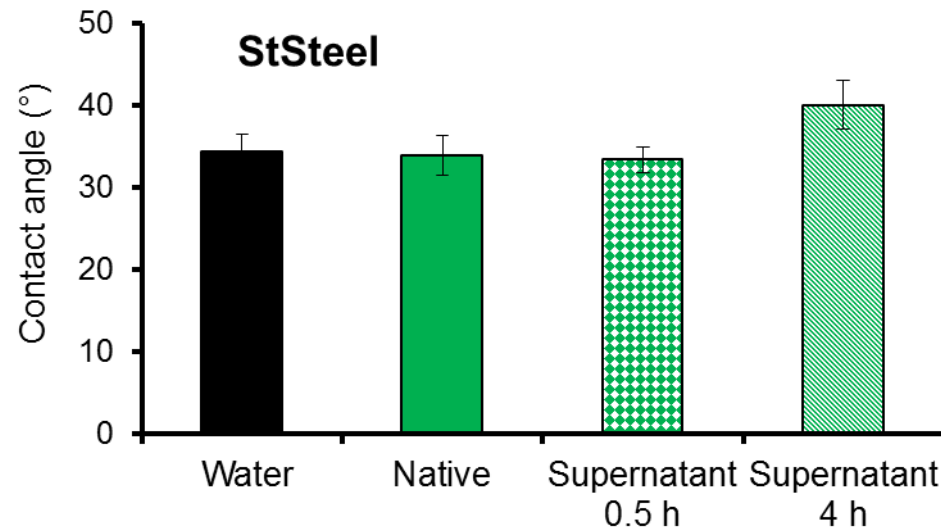
presence of organic contaminants

Conditioned samples

- organic layer: dominated by protein
- rinsing : weak desorption, same as BSA and others substrates
 → β-LGB, not quickly desorbed during cleaning test

3. Results & discussion

Contact angle

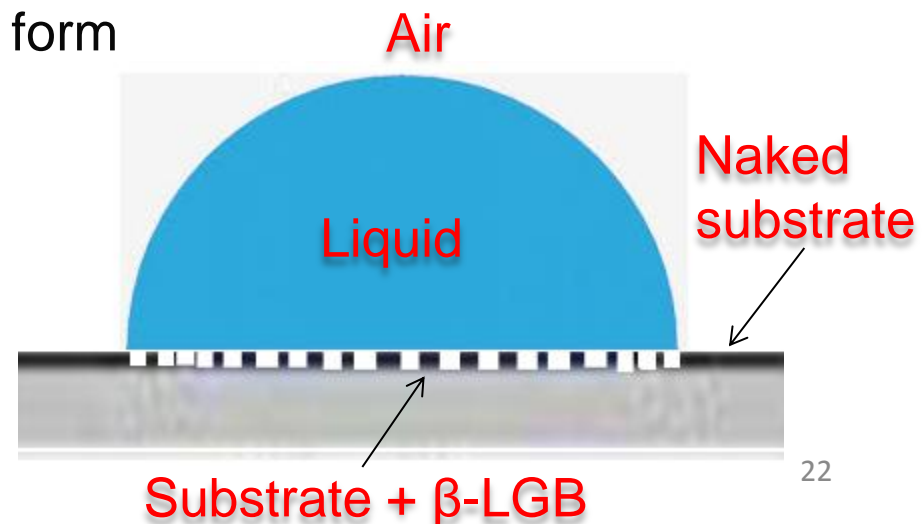


Water contact angle

higher than expected for surface consisting of chromium and iron oxides:
presence of organic contaminants

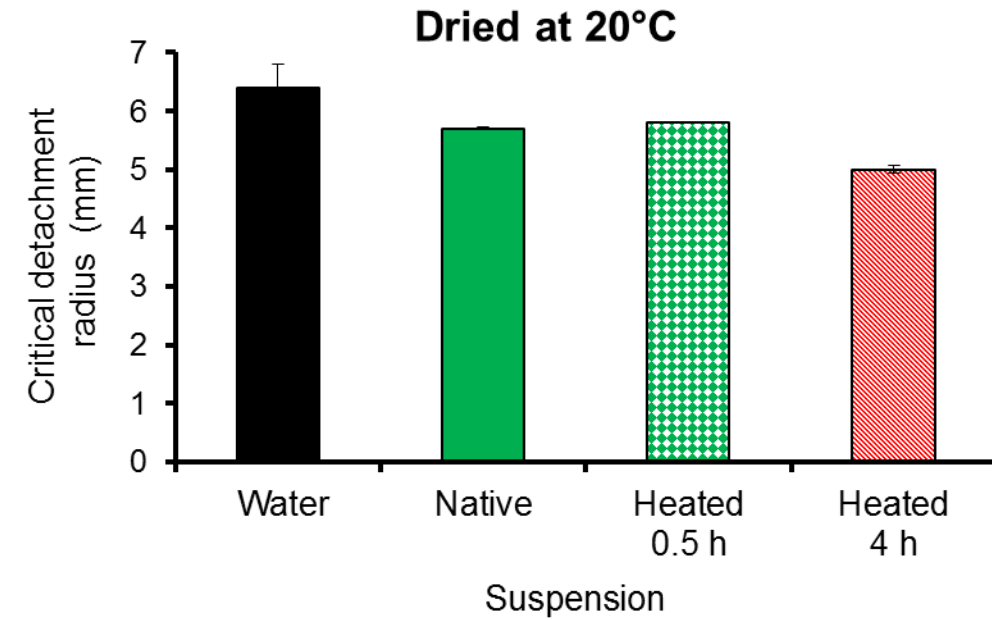
Supernatant 4 h

low concentration of β -LGB, denatured form
contact angle slightly higher
difficult to interpret:
4 phases instead of 3



3. Results & discussion

Critical detachment radius

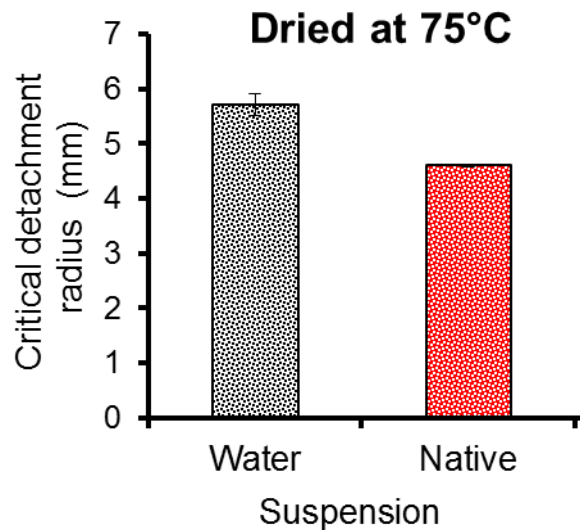
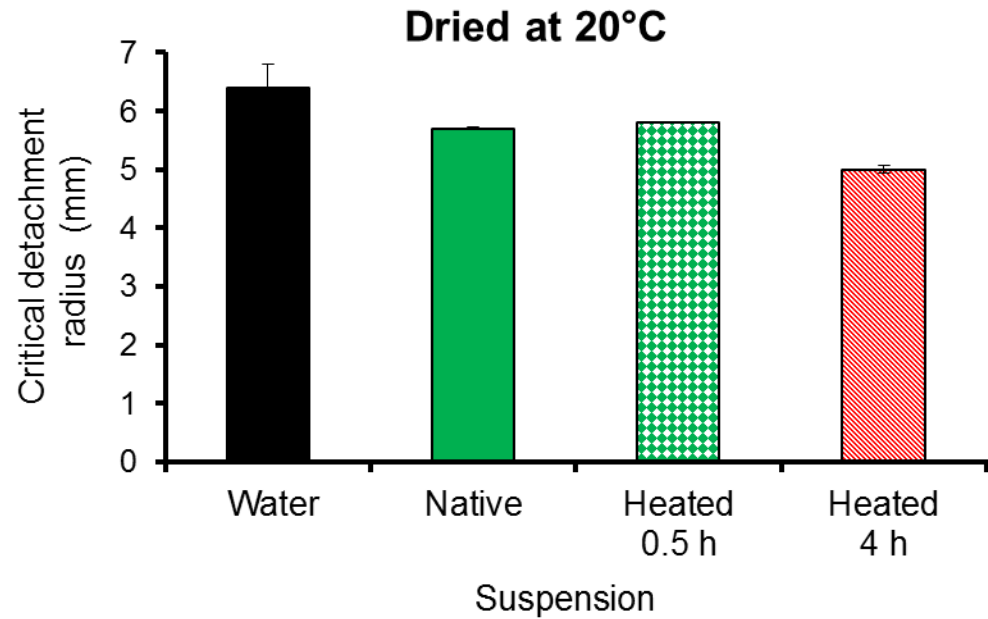


Presence of β -LGB :

- native : decrease of critical detachment radius
= higher adherence
- denatured (heated 4 h) : further increase of adherence

3. Results & discussion

Critical detachment radius

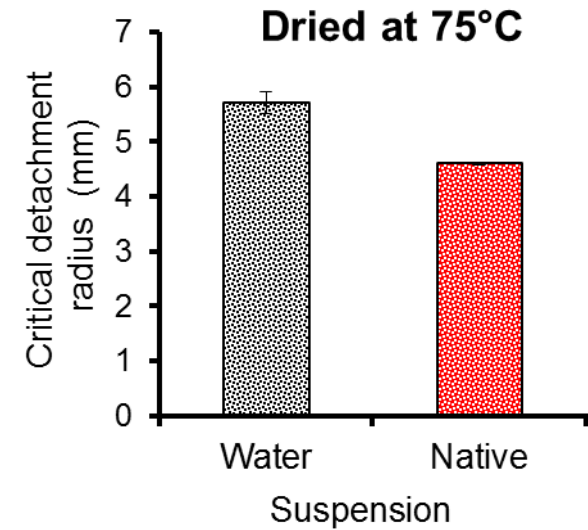
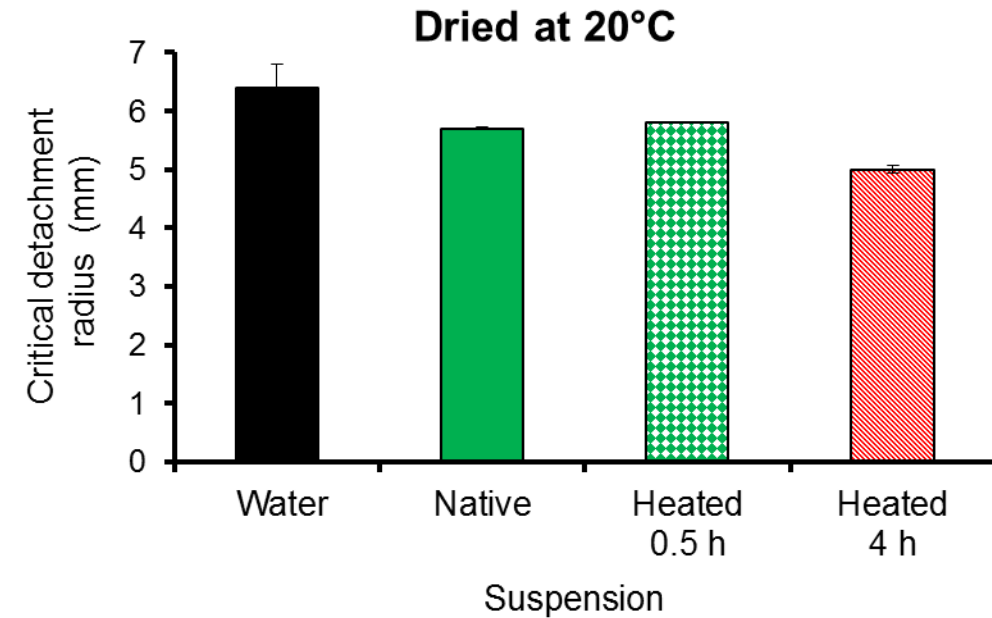


Heating after soiling with

- **suspension in water**
higher adherence
↔ capillary forces
- **suspension in native β -LGB**
still higher adherence

3. Results & discussion

Critical detachment radius



Presence of β -LGB

- slightly increased adherence
- contradiction with

BSA/glass, β -LGB/glass, β -LGB/stainless steel cleaned UVO
due to surface contamination with organic compounds

Presence of denatured β -LGB

further increased adherence of soiling particles

4. Conclusion

Presence of β -LGB:

- **in soiling quartz particles suspension,**
 - adsorption and domination of in organic layer
 - limited desorption upon rinsing
- **at the quartz particle/stainless steel interface,**
particle adherence ↗, enhanced by denaturation

Stainless steel vs systems investigated before:

protein influence via

- droplet spreading
- soiling particles aggregation



minor importance
with respect to
direct effects at interface

Remark on influence of stainless steel surface state

stainless steel does not behave as a hydrophilic substrate

owing to surface contamination with organic compounds

Broader study, including substrate hydrophobicity is under way

Thank you for your attention!
Are there any questions?