Coatings Inspired by Natural Systems





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Y. Chen



M. Glasper



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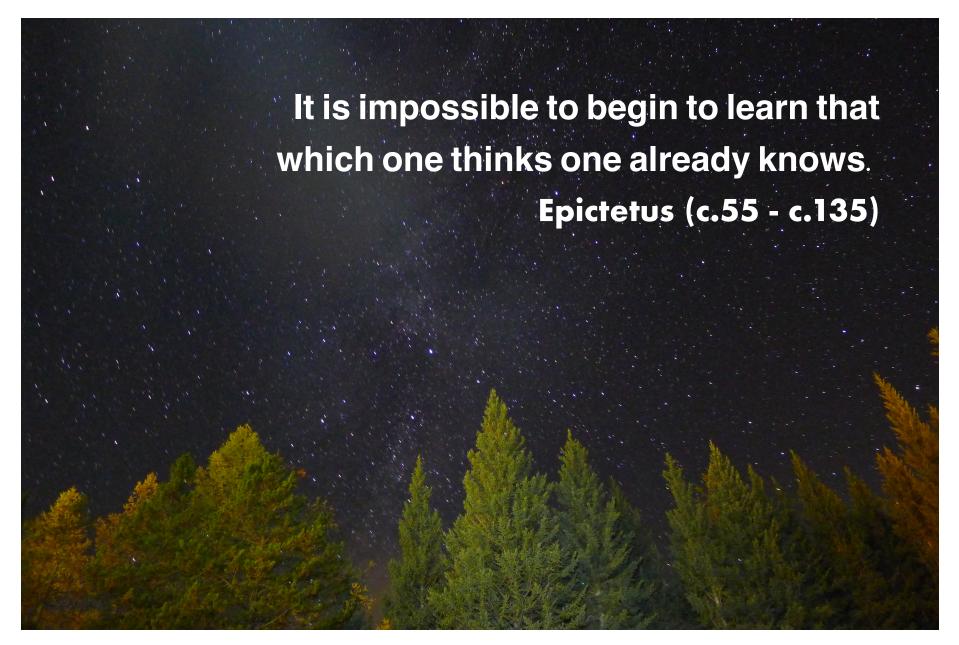
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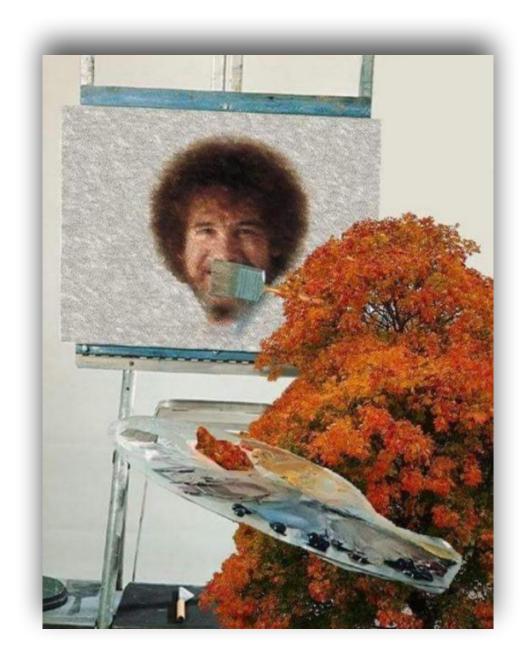






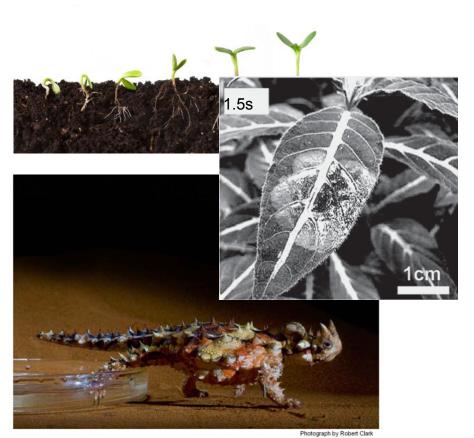






Water-surface interactions

Hydrophilic



Hydrophobic

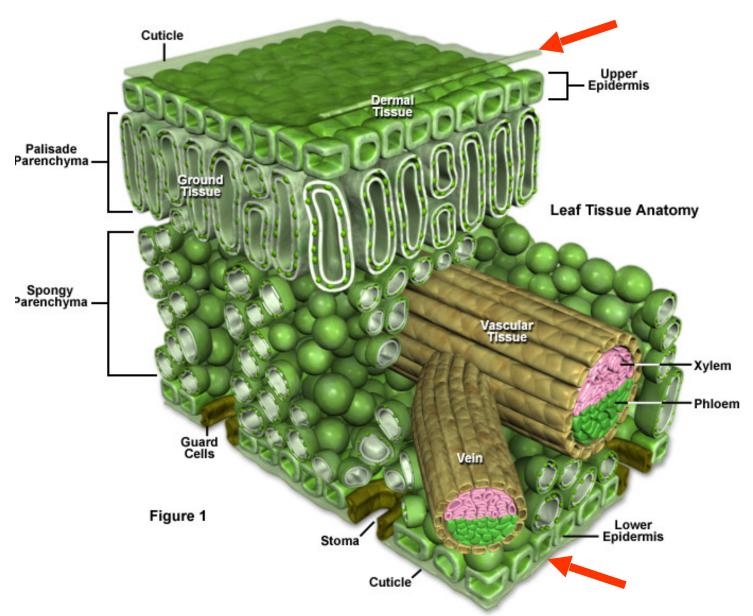




Roots: http://images.sciencedaily.com/2009/07/090707111705-large.jpg

Thorny devil lizard: Design by Nature: http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/2008/04/biomimetics/clark-photography
Tropical herb *Ruellia devosianan* superhyrdrophillic leaf with water drop spreading: Koch *et al.* FUNCT PLANT BIOL, 2009, **36**, 339-350 *Aristolochia elegans* superhydrophobic leaf with water drops, Japanese beetle, © 2010 J.A. Nychka

Leaf structure



Stratification of the outer part of epidermis cells

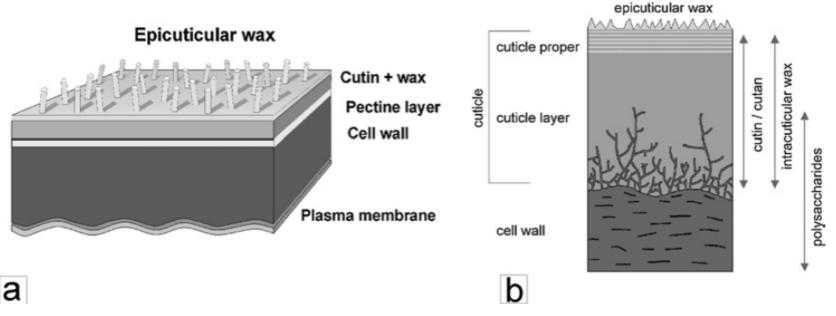
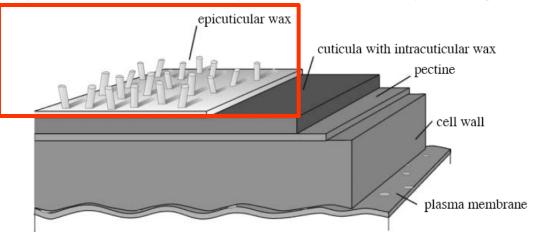
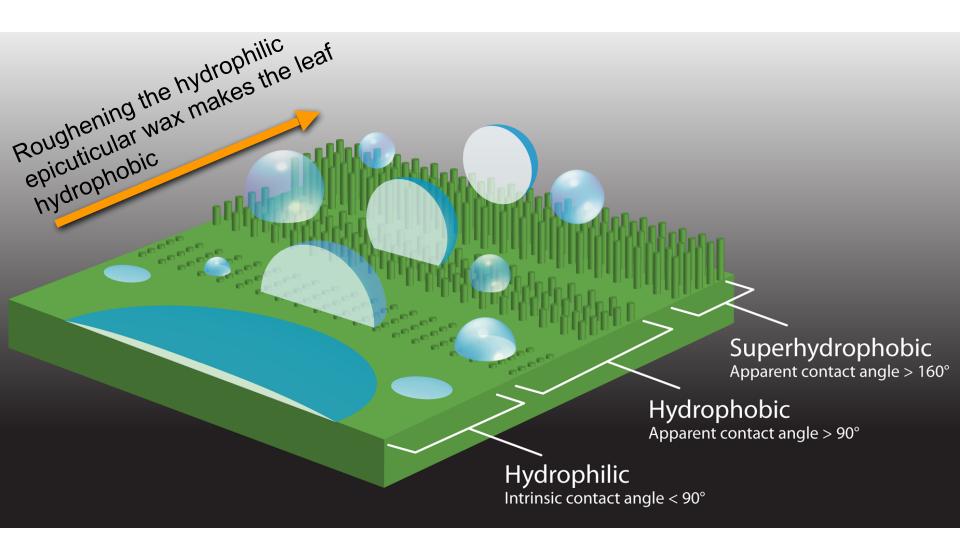


Fig. 2 (a) Shows a simplified model of the stratification of the outermost layers of the plant epidermis cells. The cuticle and its connection to the cell wall is presented in more detail in (b). In this hypothetical scheme of the structural features of the plant cuticle (modified after ref. 28) cellulose fibers and polysaccharides exist in the cuticle layer. Pectin is not visualized as a layer, because evidence for a layered arrangement of pectins exists only for some

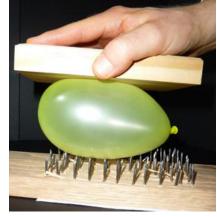
species.



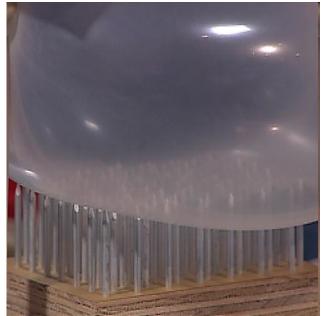
Leaf Surfaces: Stable Cassie-Baxter States

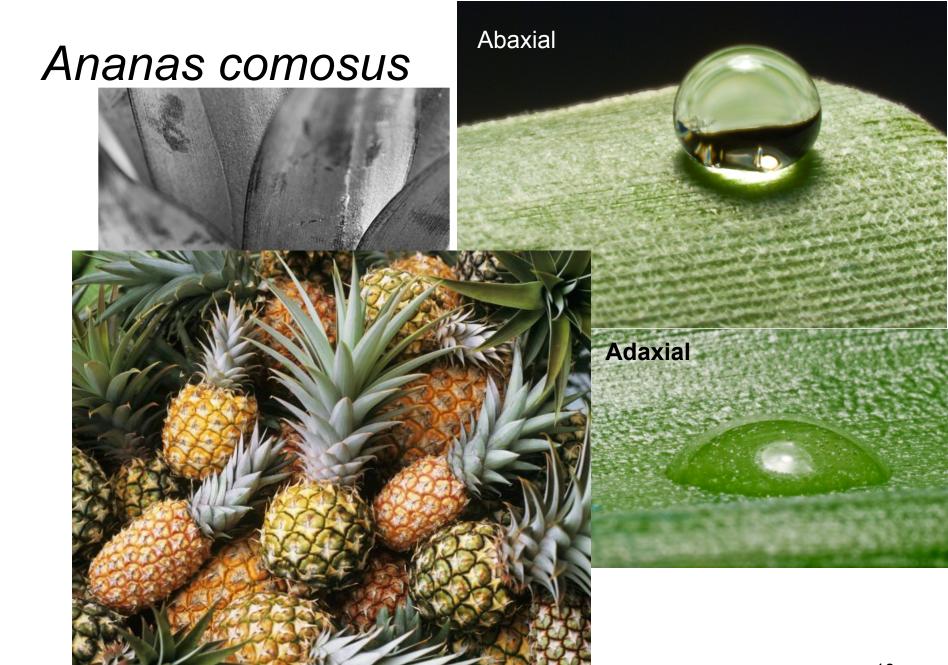


Bed of nails analogy

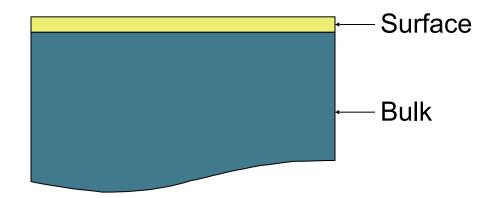




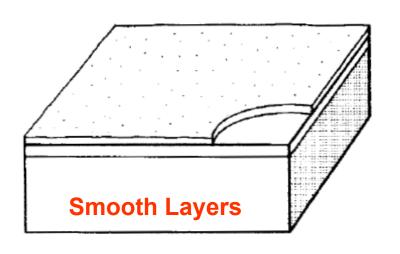


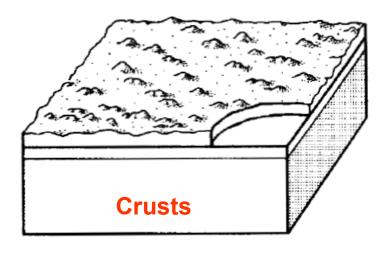


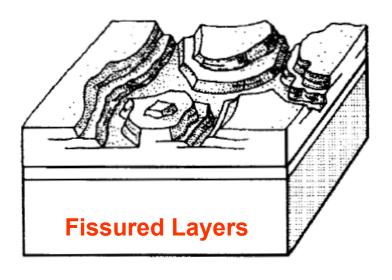
Surface Engineering Design

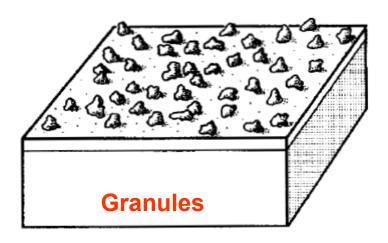


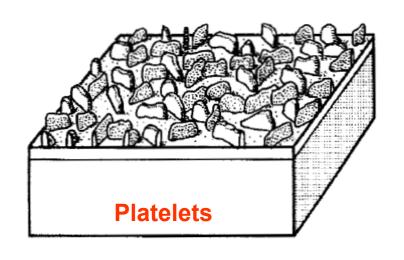
- Bulk properties are not always sufficient...
- Surface engineering is required:
 - Aesthetics, chemical, wear, corrosion, fatigue resistance...
- Alter or coat a surface to achieve desired attributes – the natural world does this!

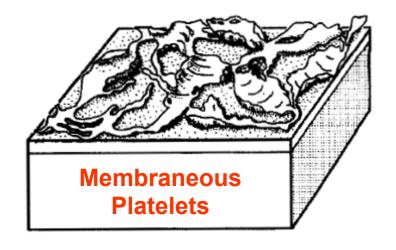


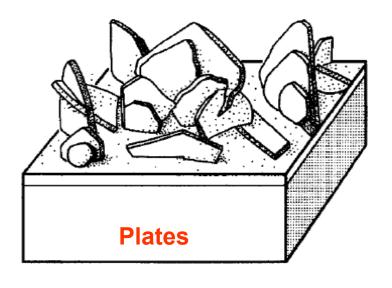


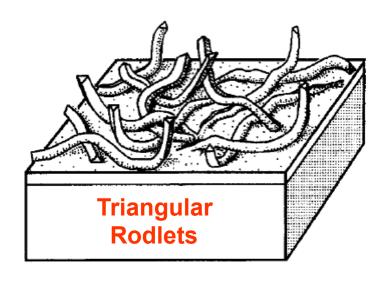


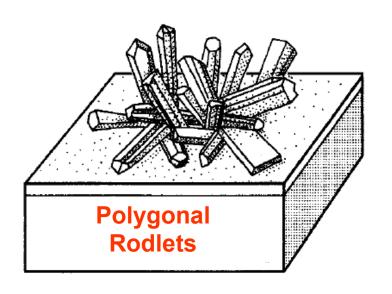


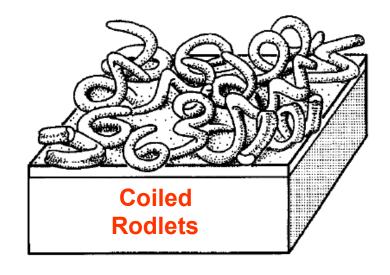


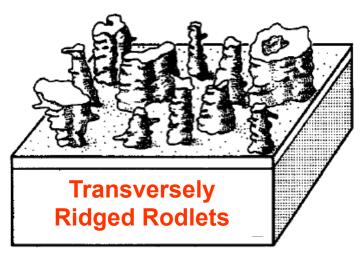


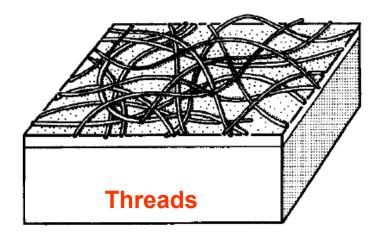


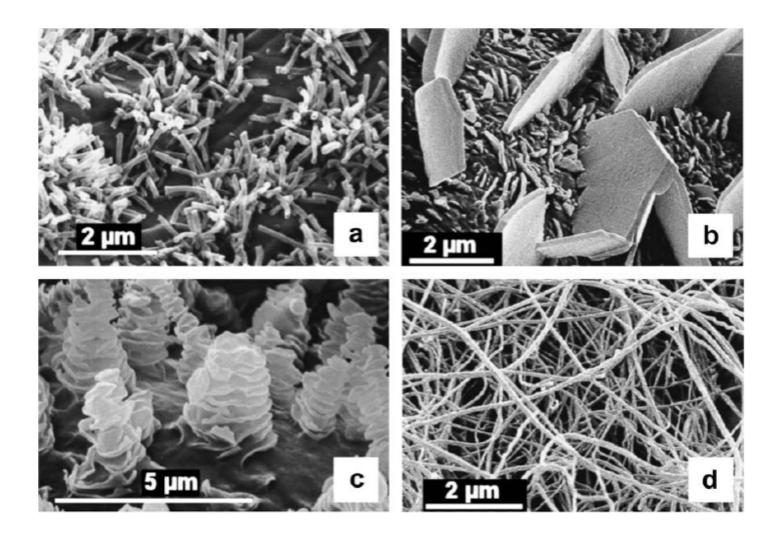












So what?

Now what?

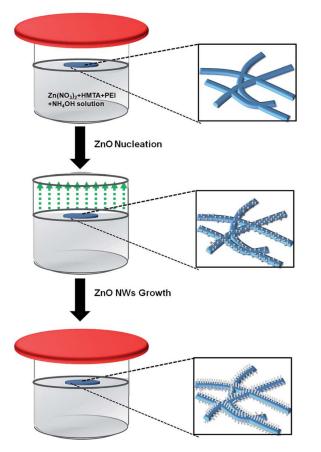


Fig. 1 A schematic illustration of the ZnO NWs growth on filter paper.

Coat filter paper with nanostructures...

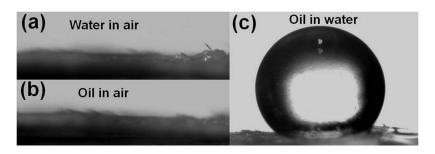
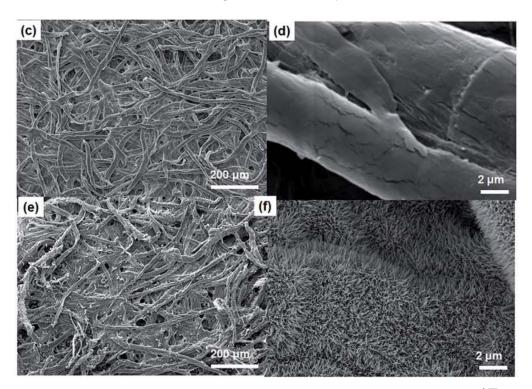


Fig. 3 Wettability of coated filter paper. (a) Photograph of contact angle of water in air (5 μ L drop). (b) Photograph of contact angle of oil in air (5 μ L drop). In both (a) and (b) no visible drops can be seen – the drops have completed wetted the coated filter paper. (c) Photograph of underwater contact angle of oil (5 μ L drop).



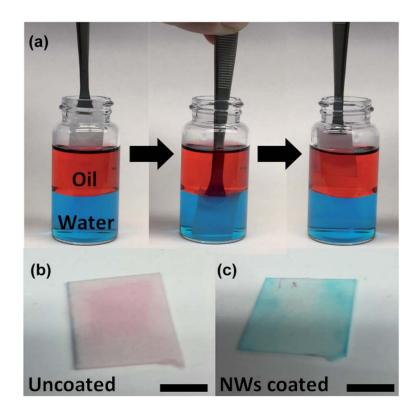


Fig. 4 (a) Demonstration of oil/water selective absorption process. Water was dyed by methylene blue, and oil was dyed by Oil Red O. Optical images of (b) uncoated filter paper after the oil/water absorption – oil was absorbed; (c) ZnO coated filter paper after the oil/water absorption – water was absorbed (scale bar is 1 cm).

Coated filter paper separates oil and water...

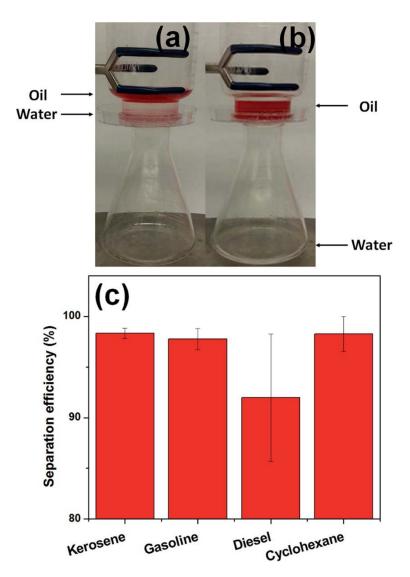
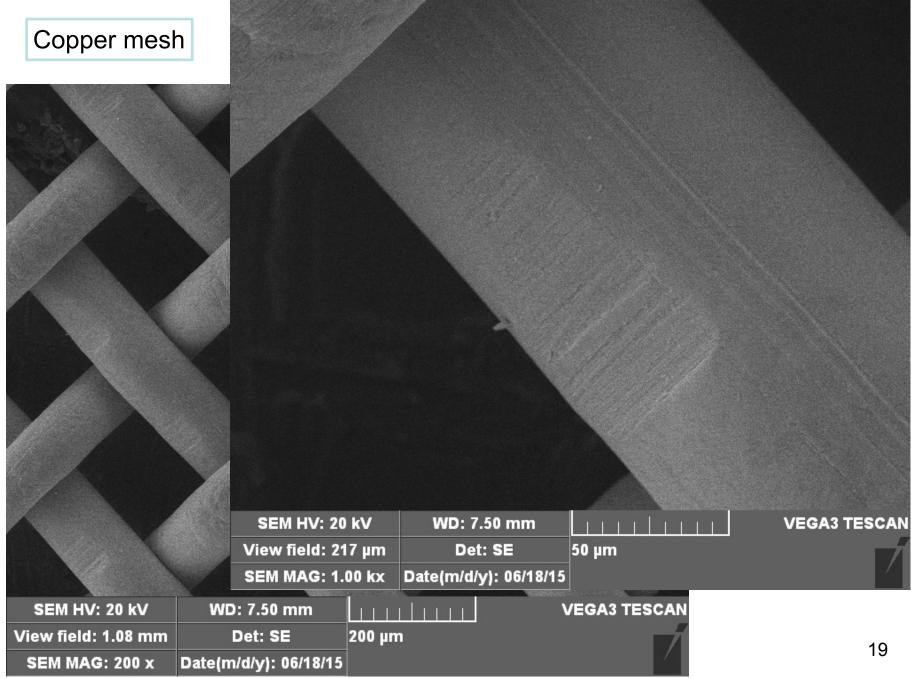
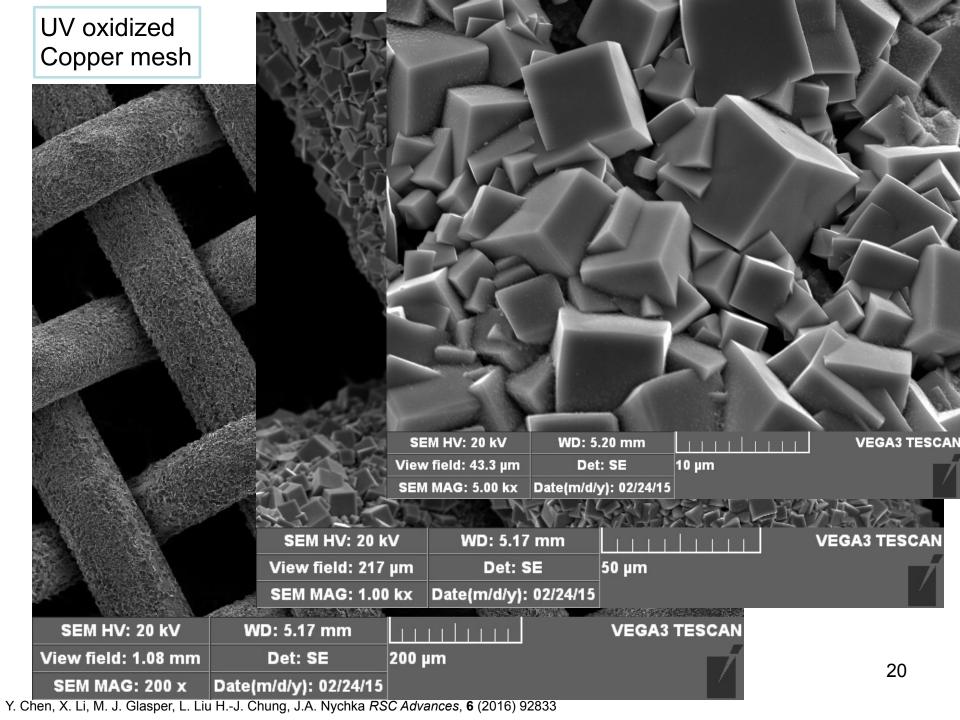
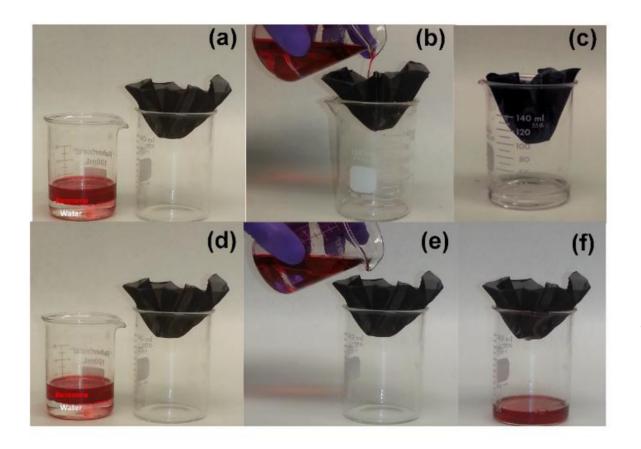


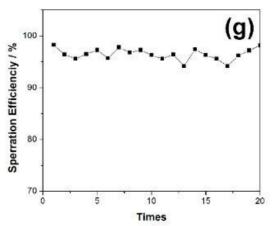
Fig. 5 Photograph of separation test. Digital photo of kerosene (dyed with Oil Red O)/water mixture before (a) and after (b) separation. (c) Separation efficiency of as-prepared filter paper for four different oil/water mixtures.

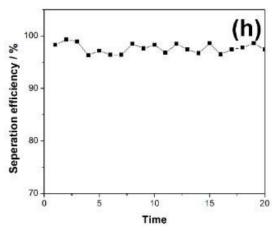


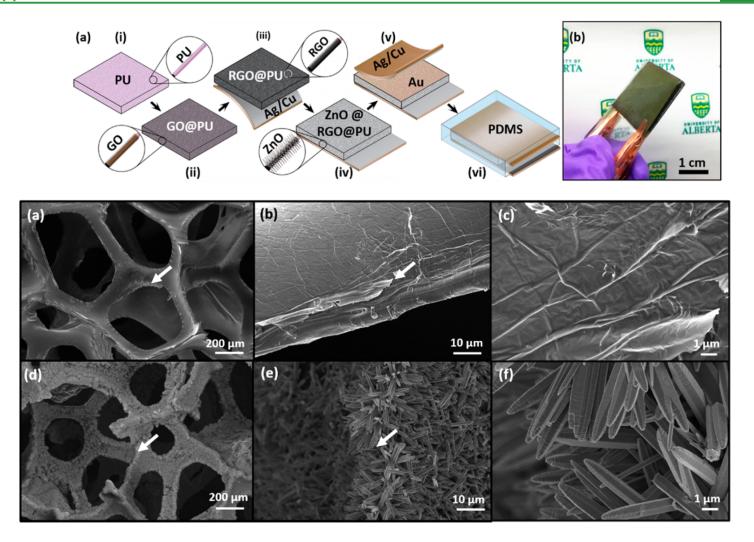




Coated copper mesh can be tuned to separate oil from water, or water from oil!







Sponge-Templated Macroporous Graphene Network for Piezoelectric ZnO Nanogenerator

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Summary

- Plants, although diverse, have evolved to very few surface designs
- Inherently hydrophilic materials can be superhydrophobic or superhydrophilic when the surface is sculptured on many levels
- Nanotechnology is ever present in leaf waxes from their assembly to structure
- Biomimicry of surfaces (self-assembly and structure) is possible through coatings - to do all sorts of things!



