

Harvard-MIT Division of Health Sciences and Technology  
HST.535: Principles and Practice of Tissue Engineering  
Instructor: Shuguang Zhang

***Fabricate Biological Nanomaterials***  
***For Tissue Engineering***  
**HST-535**

**Wednesday, 17 Sept., 2003**

**Shuguang Zhang**

***Center for Biomedical Engineering, Center for Bits & Atoms***  
***Massachusetts Institute of Technology***  
***Cambridge, MA 02139, USA***

<http://web.mit.edu/lms/www>

# *Tissue Engineering requires 2 key ingredient:*

- *Stem cells*

*Embryonic stem cells*

*Adult stem cells*

- *Biological scaffolds*

*Polymer inert scaffolds*

*Designed functional biological scaffolds*

# *Self-assembly is ubiquitous in Nature*

**Each fish is about 5--50 centimeters in length**



Photo courtesy of USGS.

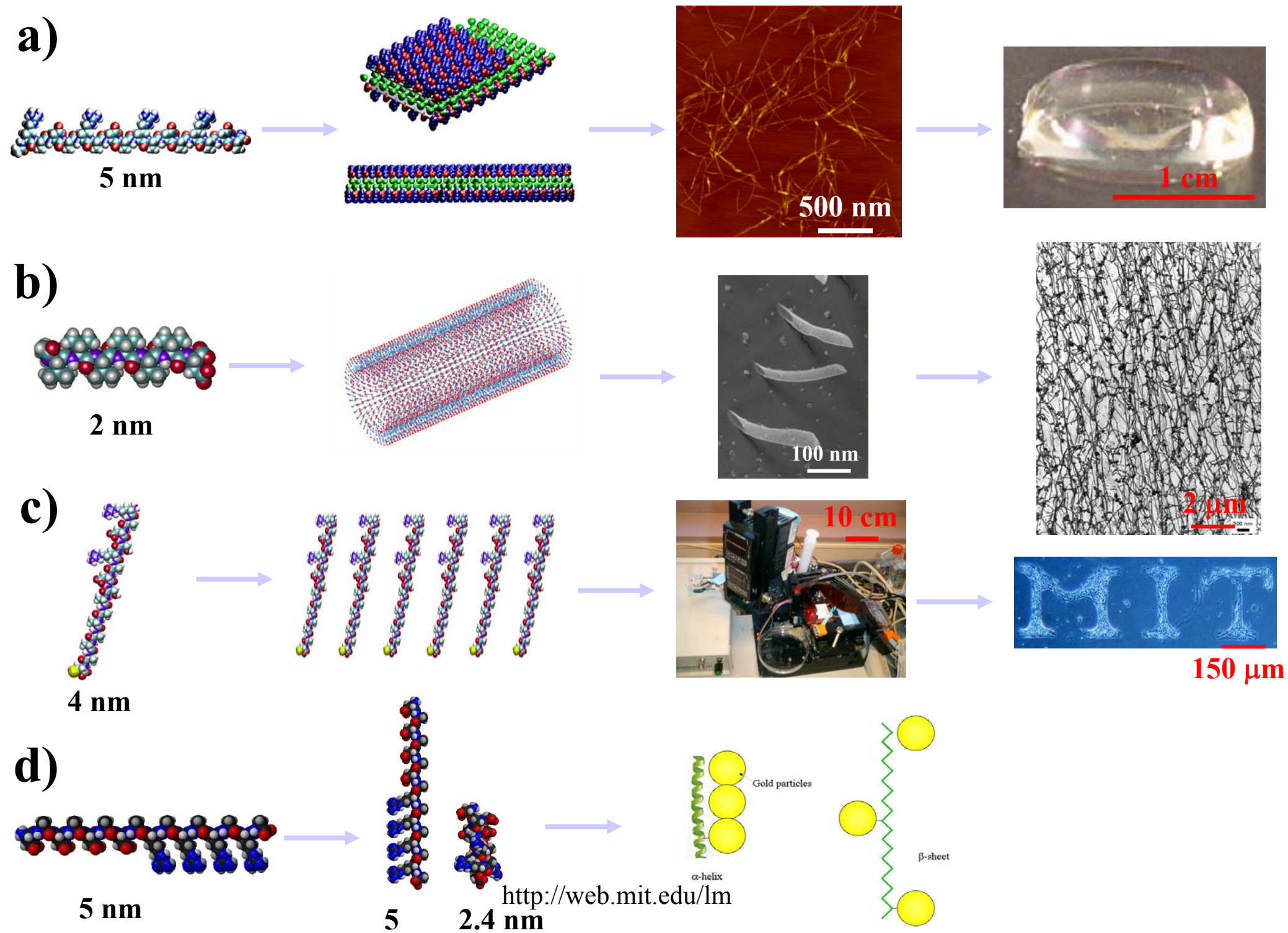
# *Molecular Self-assembly of Tetrameric Hemoglobin Polypeptides*

Image removed for copyright reasons.

**6.4 nm in diameter**

# ***Molecular Self-assembly Through Weak Interactions***

- **Hydrogen Bonds**
- **Ionic Bonds (Electric static interaction, salt bridges)**
- **van der Waals Interactions**
- **Hydrophobic interactions**
- **H<sub>2</sub>O mediated interactions (Water-mediated H-bonds)**



**Introducing:**

**the self-assembling peptide  
nanofiber scaffold to culture,  
to grow and to study tissue  
cells in 3-dimensions:**

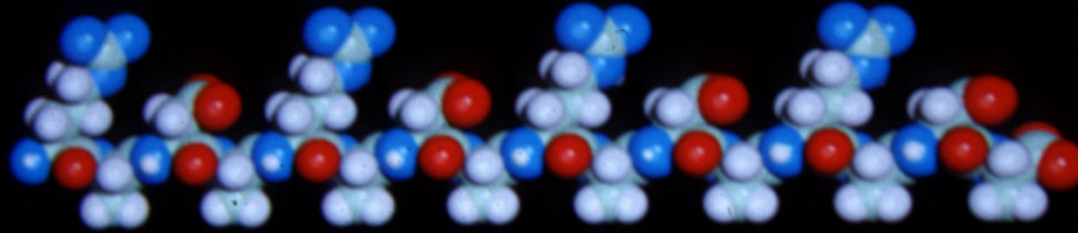
***“Molecular Cement”***

# *Discovery of Peptide Nanofibers Scaffolds*



# *Self-assembling Peptides Inspired from Nature*

**RAD16-I**



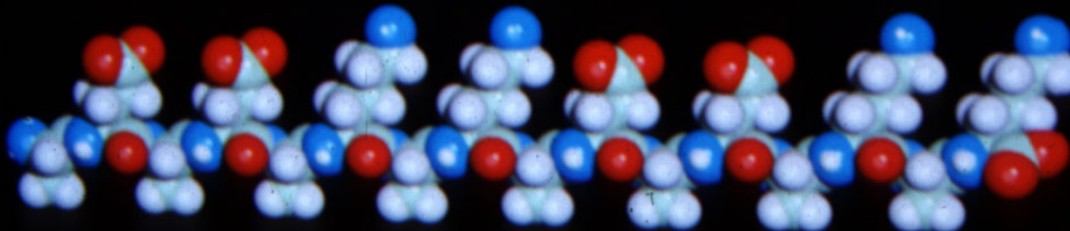
**RAD16-II**



**EAK16-I**



**EAK16-II**



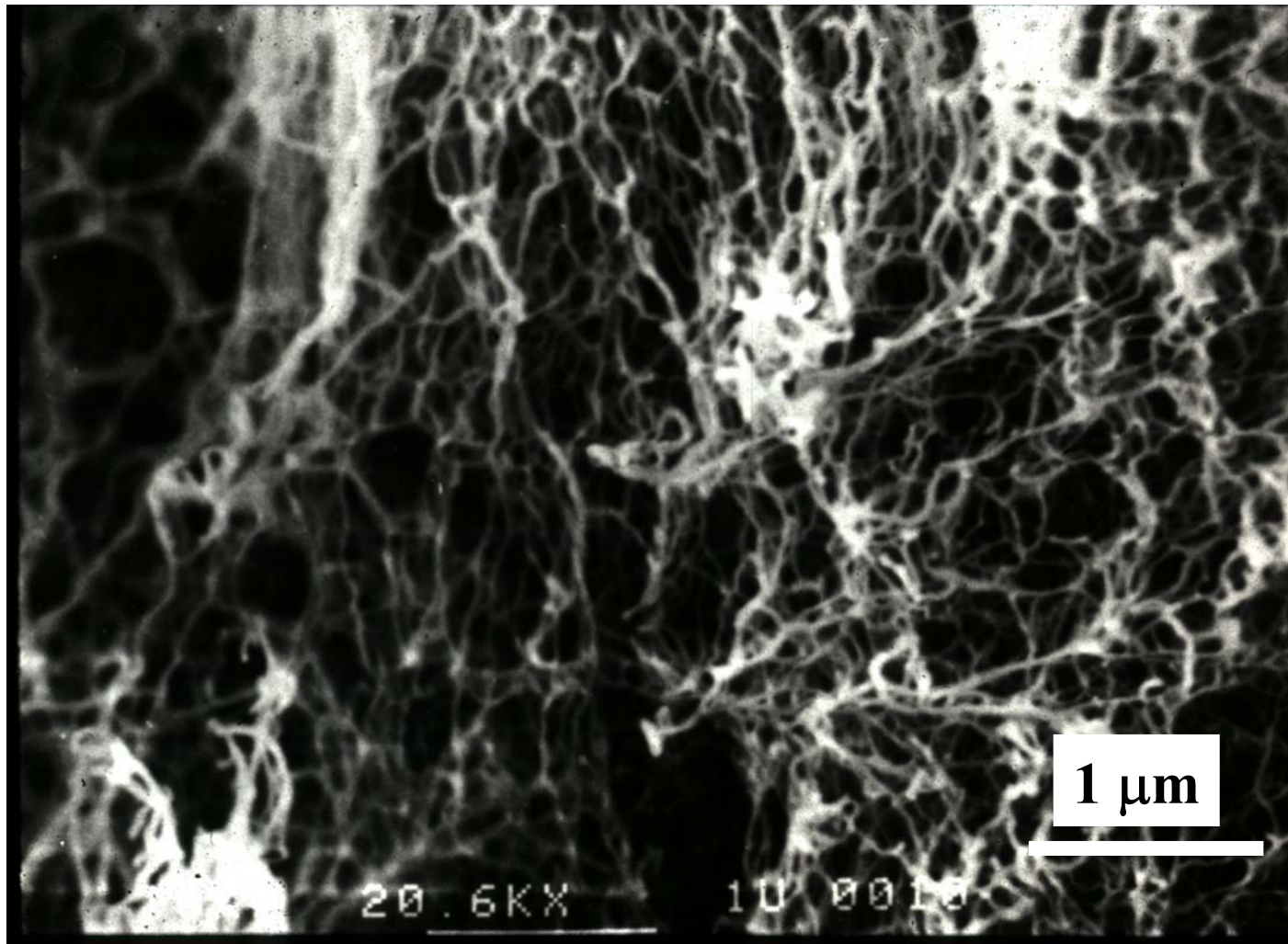
**Found in a yeast protein, Zuotin**

Zhang, et al., *PNAS*, April, 1993, Zhang, et al., *Biomaterials*, Dec. 1995

<http://web.mit.edu/lms/www>

# *Self-assembling Peptide Nanofibers*

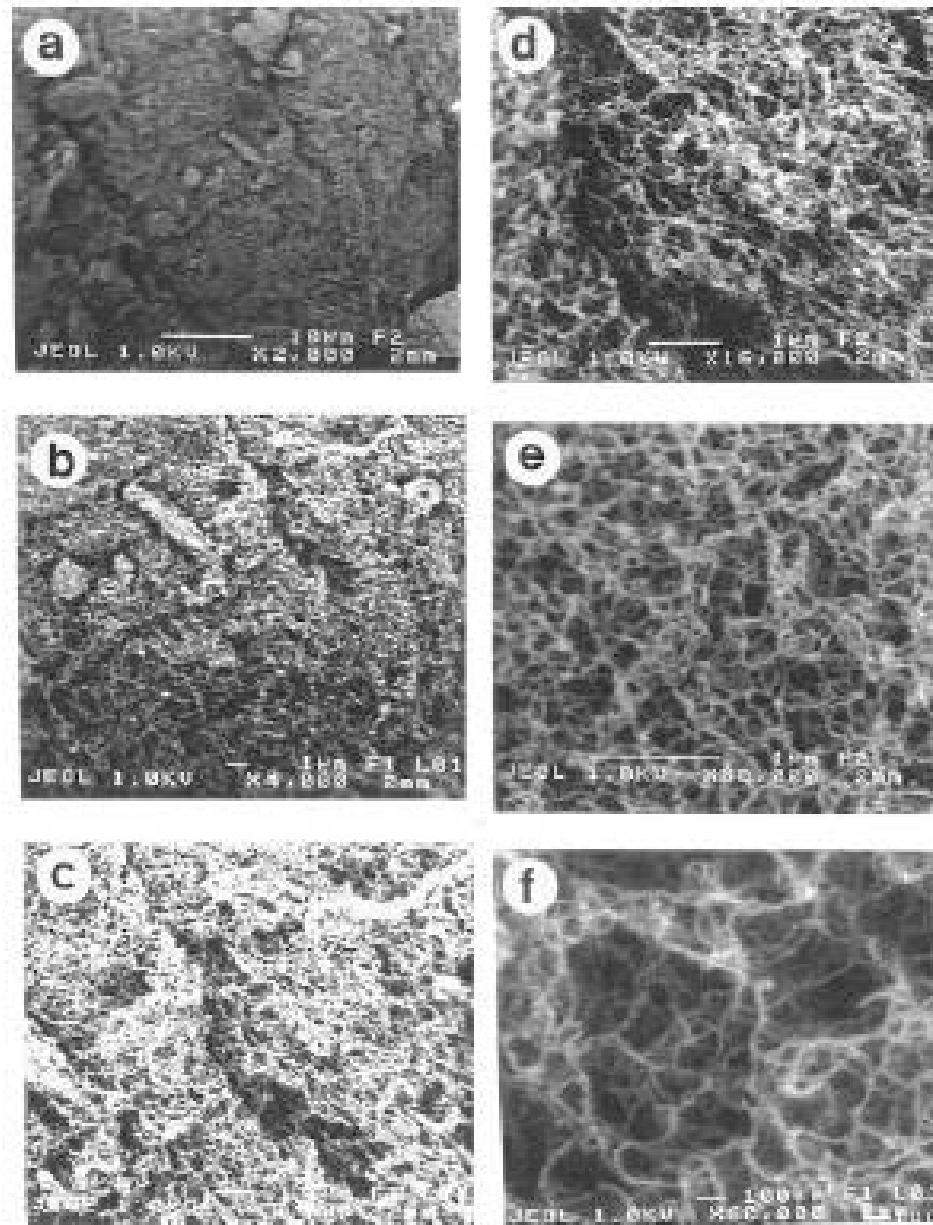
Scanning EM Image, EKA16-II



Zhang, et al., *PNAS*, April, 1993 <http://web.mit.edu/lms/www>

# *Self-assembling peptide nanofiber scaffold*

## RADA16-I (SEM)



<http://web.mit.edu/lms/www>

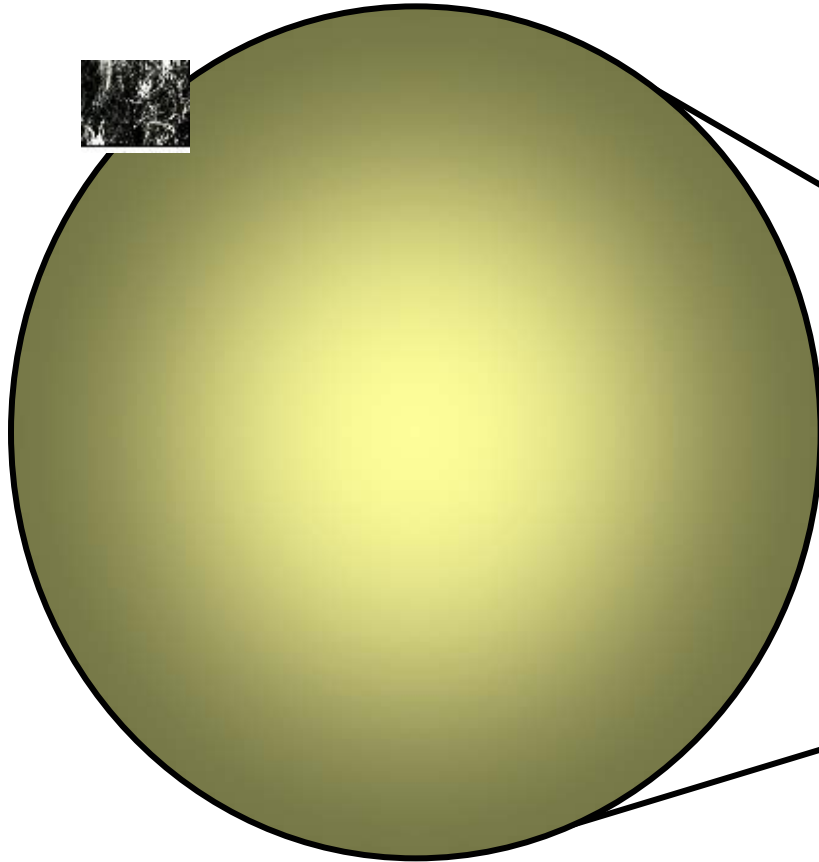
# ***Biopolymers PGA/PLLA microfibers used as scaffold***

Photo removed for copyright reasons.

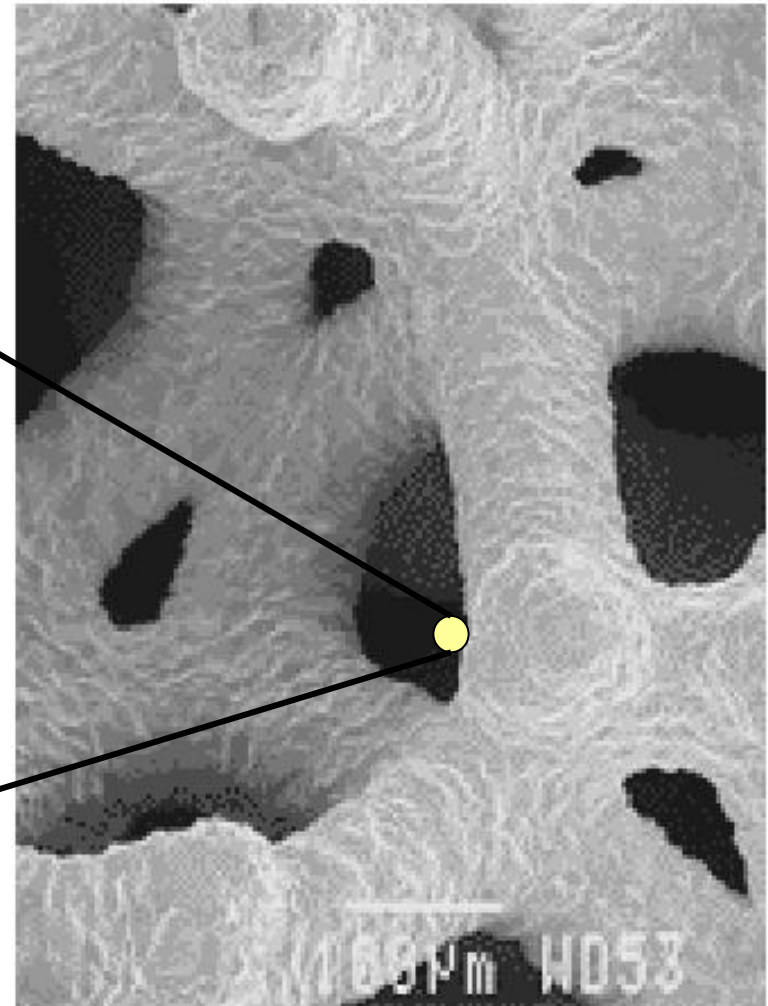
**Mikos, et al., (1993) *J. Biomed. Mater. Res.* 27, 183-189**  
**The yellow dot is about the size of most tissue cells.**

<http://web.mit.edu/lms/www>

# *Drastic Size Difference*



**Typical cell dwarfs the peptide scaffold microstructure, with nanometer-sized fibers and pores which structure and hold large amounts of water and nutrients.**

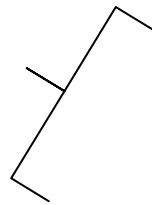


**Typical synthetic matrix far too large and rigid for cells to truly grow in 3D.**

# *Molecular Model of EFK8 (FEFKFEFK)*

(Davide Marini, Mechanical Engineering, MIT)

0.9 nm



Molecular diagram removed  
for copyright reasons.

1.4 nm

2.5 nm

Marini, et al., *NanoLetters*, April, 2002

# *Atomic force Microscopy Image of EFK8 (FEFKFEFK)*

**8 minutes after in water** (Davide Marini, Mechanical Engineering, MIT)

Figure removed for  
copyright reasons.

**Marini, et al., *NanoLetters*, April, 2002**

<http://web.mit.edu/lms/www>

# ***Atomic force Microscopy Image of EFK8***

**2 hours after in water (Davide Marini, Mechanical Engineering, MIT)**

Figure removed for  
copyright reasons.

**Marini, et al., *NanoLetters*, April, 2002**

<http://web.mit.edu/lms/www>



# *AFM & Cryo-TEM images of EFK8 nanofiber intermediate*

**Daive Marini, Mechanical Engineering**

Marini, et al., *NanoLetters*, April, 2002

**AFM**

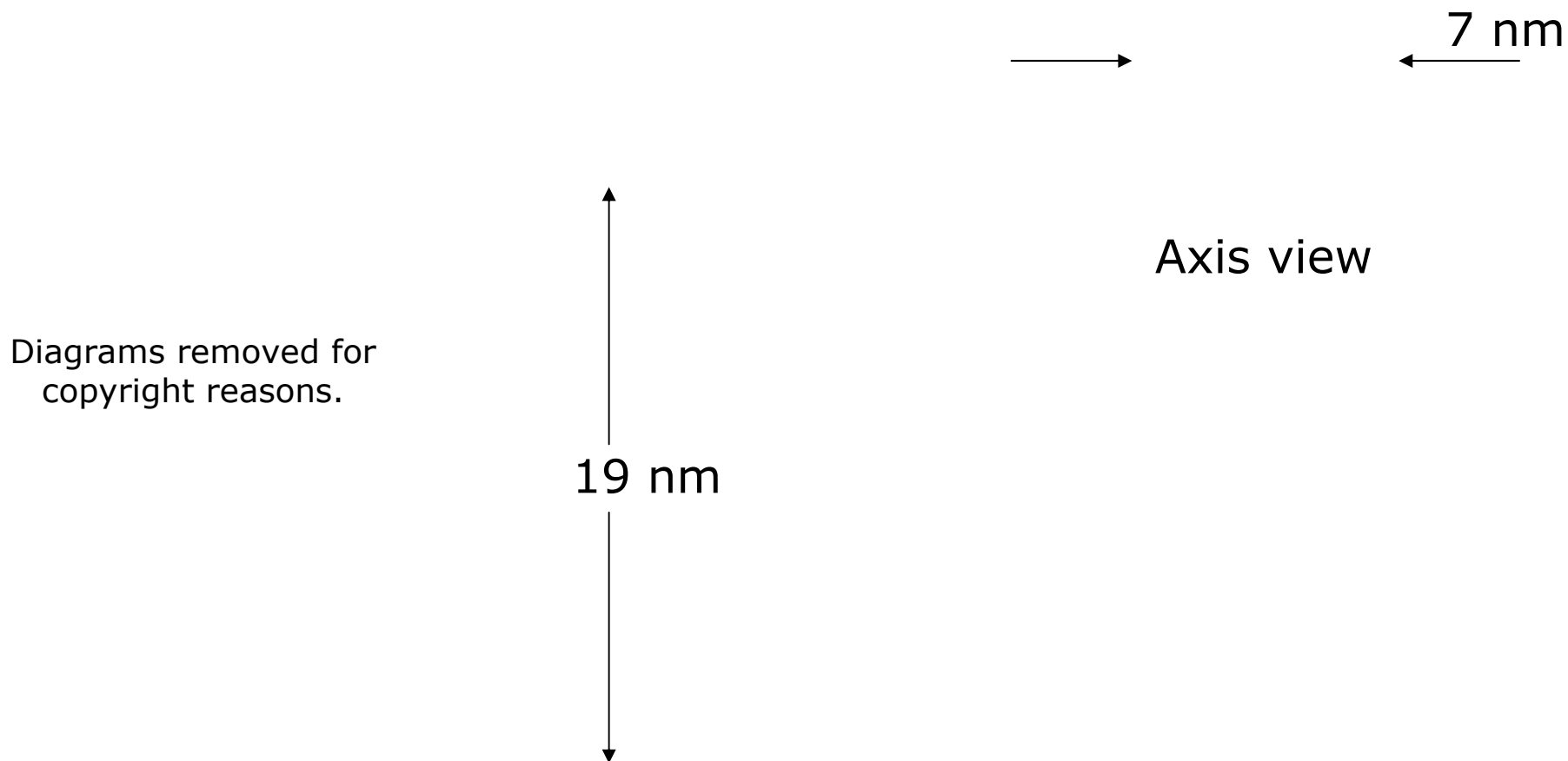
**Cryo-TEM**

Two figures removed for  
copyright reasons.

**Left-handed  
double helix**

# *The molecular modeling & simulations*

Marini, et al., *NanoLetters*, April, 2002



Inner sheet  
(S13)

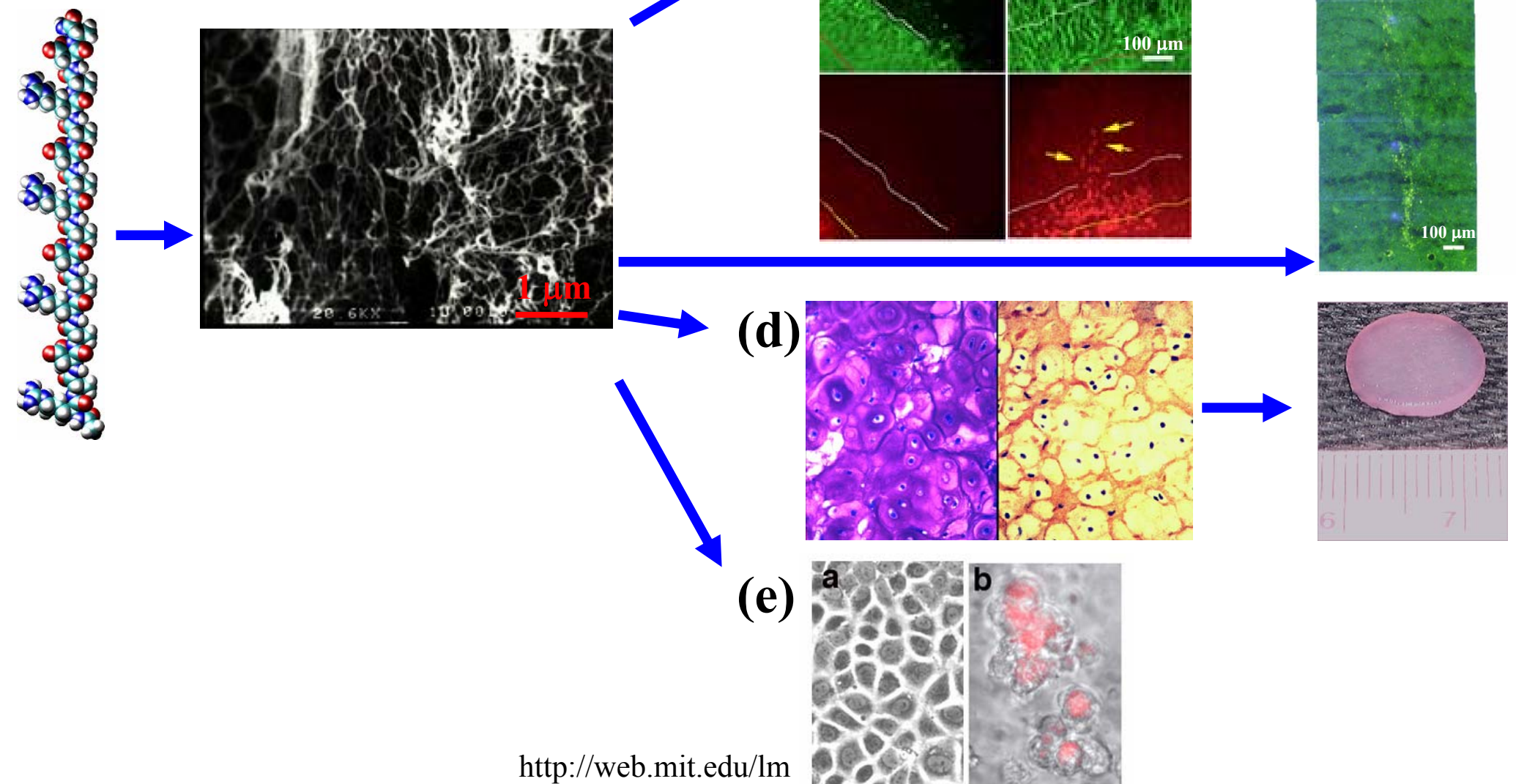
Outer sheet  
(S24)

Double sheet

AFM image

<http://web.mit.edu/lms/www>

Images from Zhang, S. "Fabrication of novel biomaterials through molecular self-assembly." Nature Biotechnology 21 no. 10 (Oct. 2003): 1171-1178. Used with permission.



# *Chondrocytes encapsulated in KLD peptide scaffold*

*John Kisiday (Electric Engineering & Biological Engineering, MIT)*



Source: Fig 1b in Kisiday, et al. "Self-assembling Peptide Hydrogel Fosters Chondrocyte Extracellular Matrix Production and Cell Division: Implications for Cartilage Tissue Repair." *PNAS* 99 (July 2002). Copyright 2002, National Academy of Sciences, U.S.A. Courtesy of National Academy of Sciences, U.S.A. Used with permission.

50  $\mu\text{m}$

# *Culture brain hippocampal slice on peptide scaffold*

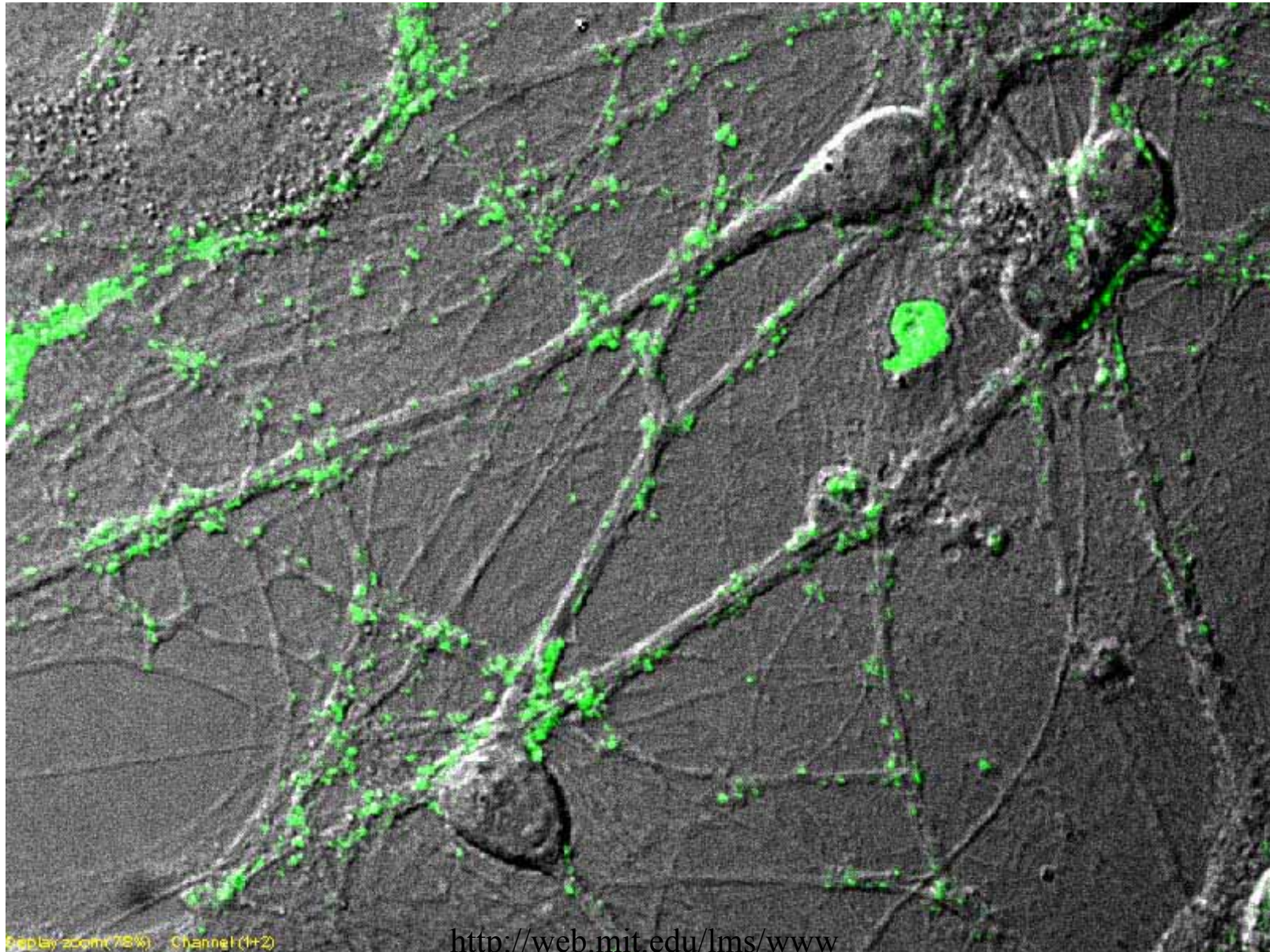
Photos removed for  
copyright reasons.

**Carlos Semino**  
**(Submitted)**

<http://web.mit.edu/lms/www>

*Hippocampal Neurons form active connections on the self-assembling RAD16 peptide scaffold*

Holmes, et al, June 2000



<http://web.mit.edu/lms/www>

Source: Figure 5a in Holmes, et al. "Extensive Neurite Outgrowth and Active Synapse Formation on Self-assembling Peptide Scaffolds." *PNAS* 97, no. 12 (June 6, 2000): 6728–6733. Copyright 2000, National Academy of Sciences, U.S.A. Courtesy of National Academy of Sciences, U.S.A. Used with permission.

# ***Peptide scaffold bridges the gap & repairs brain lesion***

**Rutledge Ellis-Behnke, et al., Brain & Cognitive Science, MIT**

Photos removed for  
copyright reasons.

# *Systems Studied using Peptide Scaffolds*



## **Cell Types**

## **Cell Lines**

## **Animals**

Mouse fibroblast	NIH-3T3	Mouse
Chicken embryo fibroblast	CEF	Rat
Chinese hamster ovary	CHO	Hamsters
Human cervical carcinoma	Hela	Rabbits
Human osteosarcoma	MG63	Goats
Human hepato-cellular carcinoma	HepG2	Monkey*
Hamster pancreas	HIT-T15	Horse*
Human embryonic Kidney	HEK293	
Human neuroblastoma†	SH-SY5Y	
Rat pheochromocytoma†	PC12	
Mouse cerebellum granule cells*†		
Mouse & rat hippocampal cells*†		
Human foreskin fibroblast*		
Human epidermal keratinocytes*		
Bovine chondrocytes*		
Bovine endothelial cells*		
Rat liver stem cells*		
Mouse cardiac myocytes*		
Rat neural stem cells*†		
Rat hippocampal neural tissue slice*†		



**Think3-D!**

# *Surface Self-assembling Peptide and EG<sub>6</sub>SH*

Zhang, et al, Biomaterials, Dec. 1999

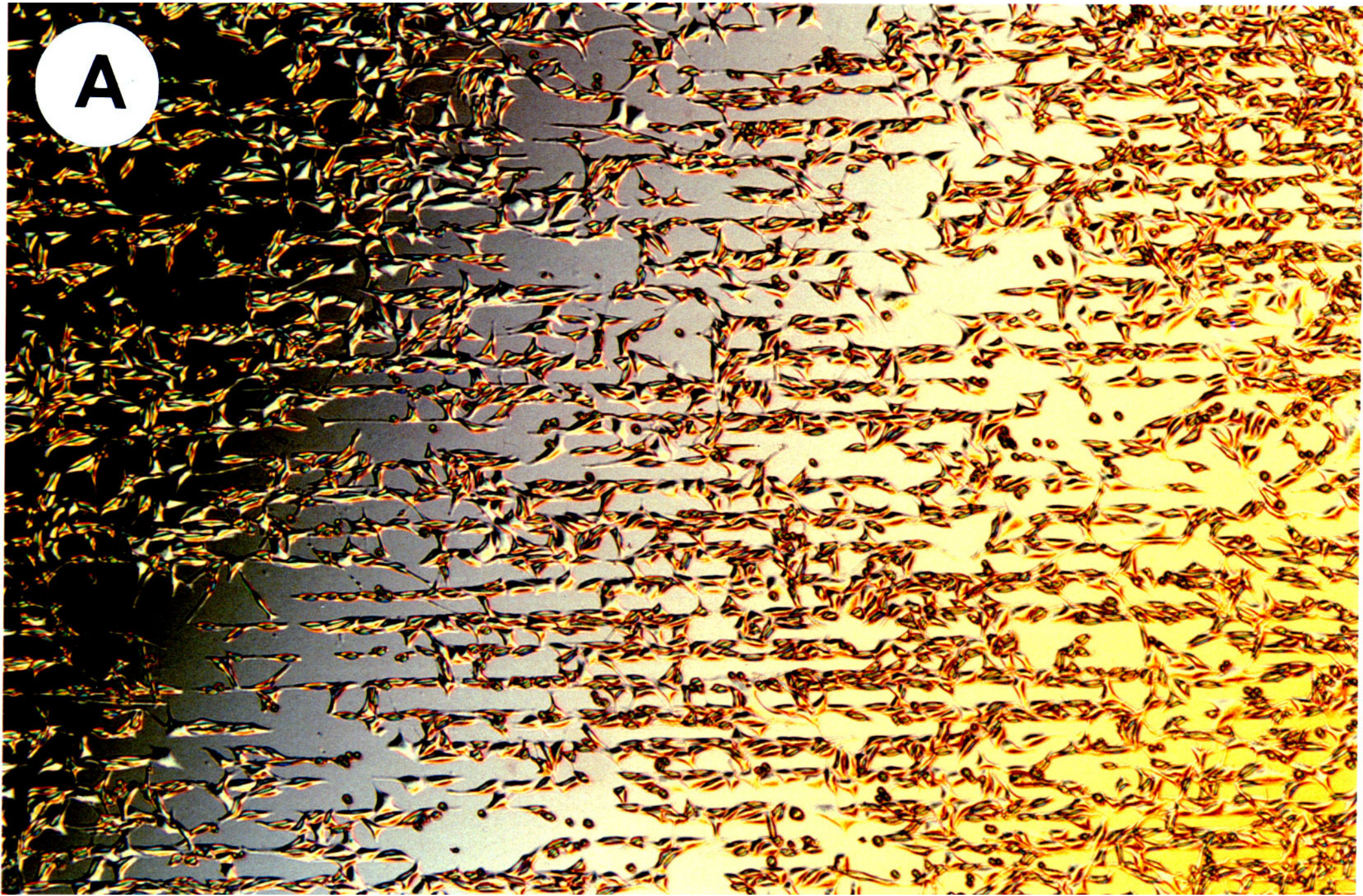
EG<sub>6</sub>SH 3 nm

RADS Peptide 4 nm

Figure removed for  
copyright reasons.

# *Cell Tracks on the Peptide/EG Surface*

A



# ***Cells Stations and Tracks***

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**Zhang, et al, Biomaterials, Dec. 1999**

Figure removed for  
copyright reasons.

# *Remarks and Perspectives*

- **Building from bottom-up for new **Biological materials**.**
- **Self-assembling peptides can serve as **Nanoscale scaffolds**.**
- **Peptides could be important as one of the components of the “**Designed Materials**”.**
- **Many unexpected biological events and cell behaviors may be discovered when study cells in a **3-dimensional environment**.**

*In nature hybrid species are usually sterile,  
but in science the reverse is often true.  
Hybrid subjects are often astonishingly fertile,  
whereas if a scientific discipline remains too  
pure it usually wilts.*

**Francis Crick**

*What Mad Pursuit, 1988*

*Imagination is more important than knowledge.*

**Albert Einstein**

# *What do they have in common?*

## **Made by Human**

### **Machines**

**Transportation**

**Assembly lines**

**Digital database**

**Copy machines**

**Bulldozer/Destroyer**

**Chain couplers**

**Train control center**

**Train tracks**

**Mail sorting machine**

**Electric Fences**

**Gates/keys & passes**

**Internet/www**

## **Made by Nature**

### **Molecular machines**

**Hemoglobin**

**Ribosomes**

**Nucleosomes**

**Polymerases**

**Proteases/proteosome**

**Ligases**

**Centrosome**

**Actin filament network**

**Protein sorting**

**Membranes**

**Ion channels**

**Neuron synapse**