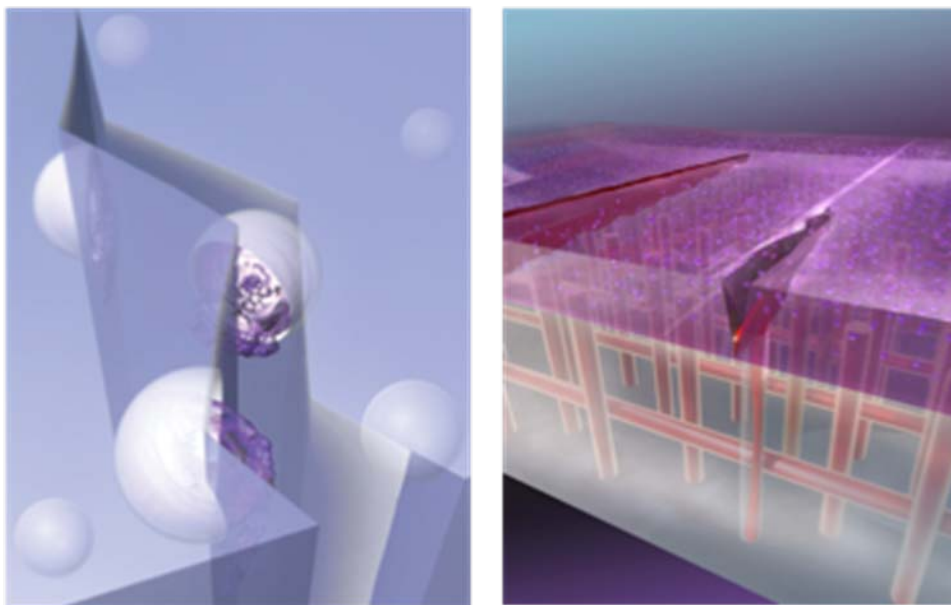


Self-Healing Materials for Recovery of Structural Resilience



Nancy R. Sottos

Department of Materials Science

Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology

University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign

Autonomic Materials Systems Group



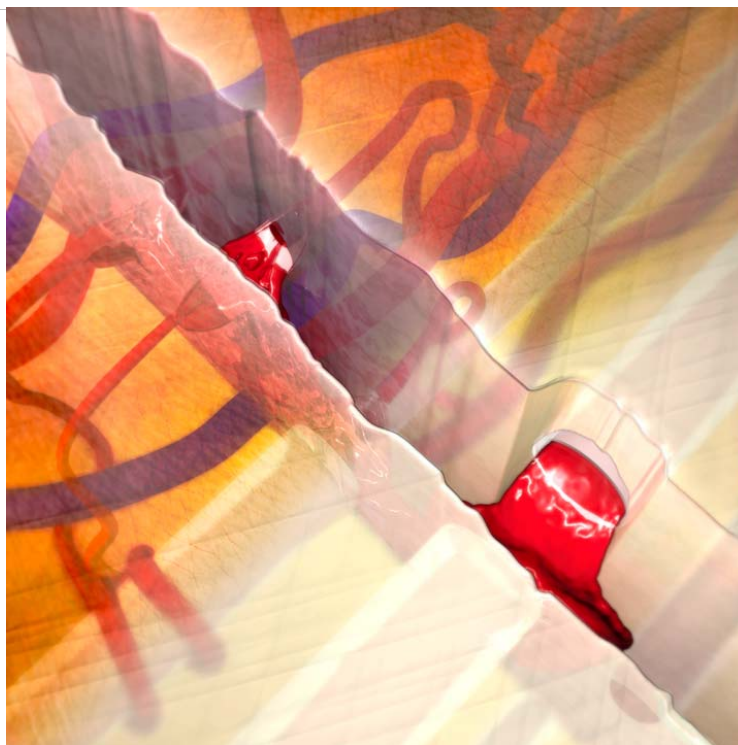
Beckman Institute

for Advanced Science and Technology

UNIVERSITY OF **ILLINOIS**

AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Autonomous Healing



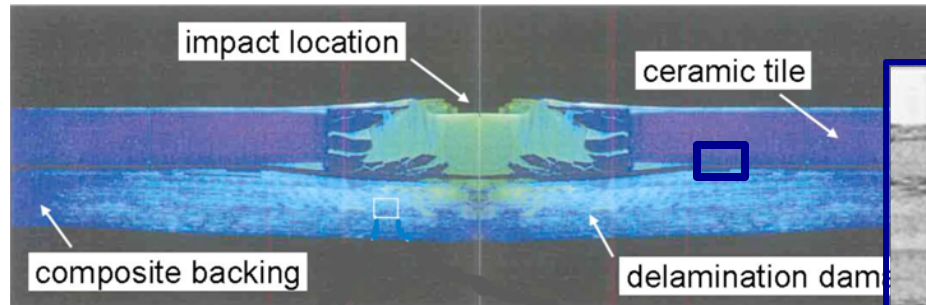
Autonomic or Self-healing Functionality:

The ability to repair damage in an automatic and site specific fashion without manual intervention.

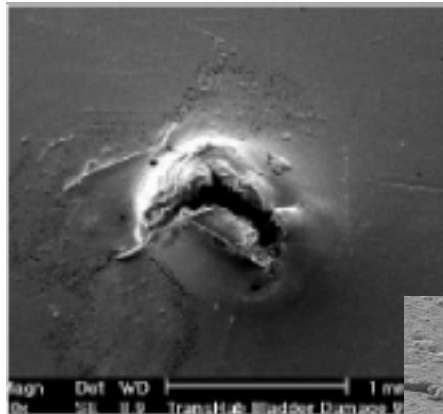
Damage Length Scales

100 mm
1 mm
100 μ m
10 μ m

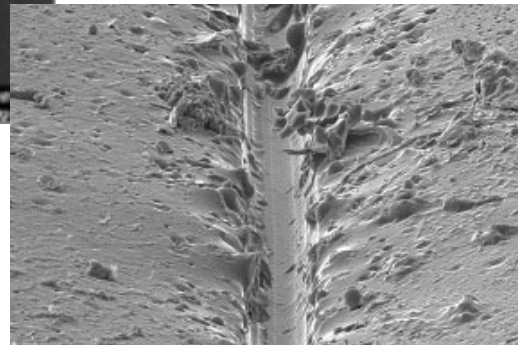
Blast Damage



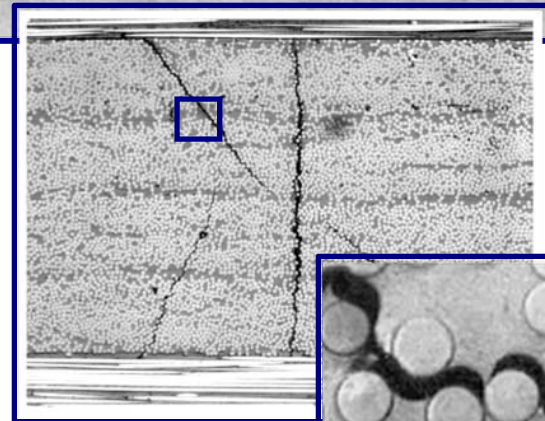
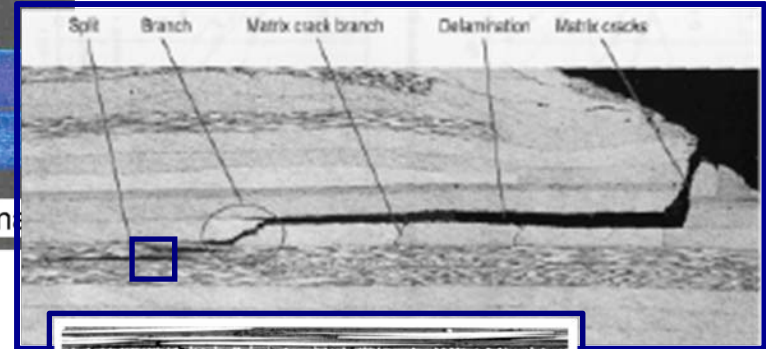
Puncture Damage



Coating Damage

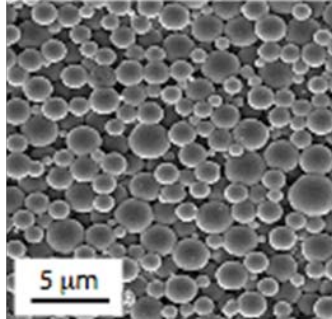


Laminated Composite



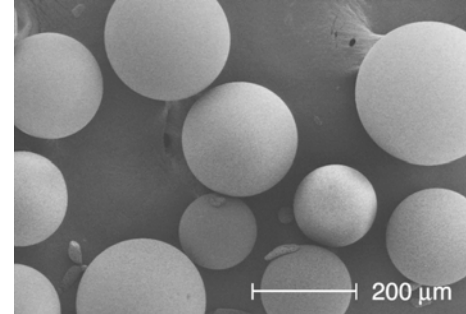
Storage of Liquid Healing Agents

Microcapsules ~1 μm



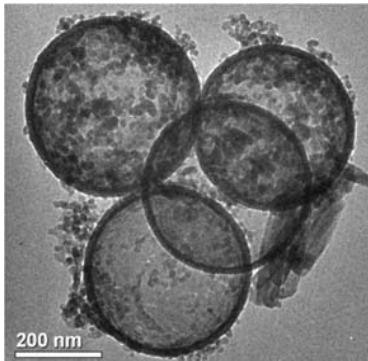
Blaiszik, *Comp. Sci. Tech*, 2008

Microcapsules ~200 μm



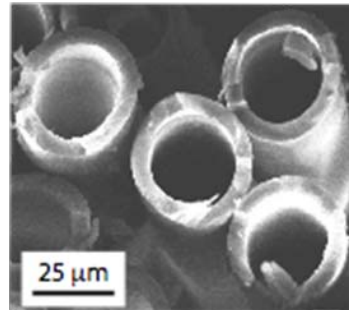
White, *Nature*, 2001

Nanocapsules



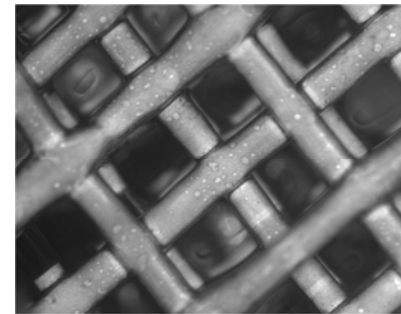
Blaiszik, *Comp. Sci. Tech*, 2008

Hollow glass fibers



Pang, *Comp. A*, (2005)

Microvascular networks



Therriault, *Nat. Mat.*, (2003)

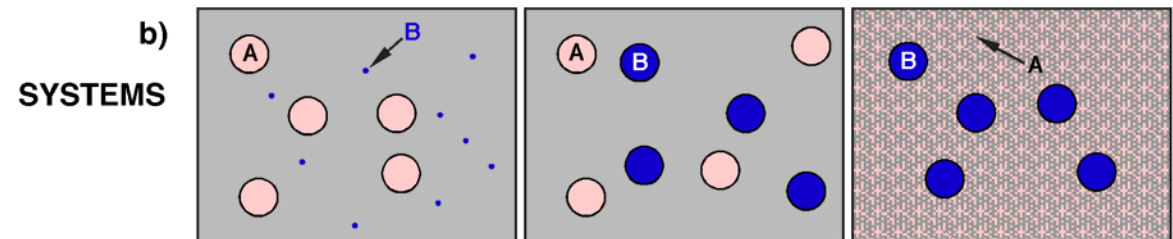
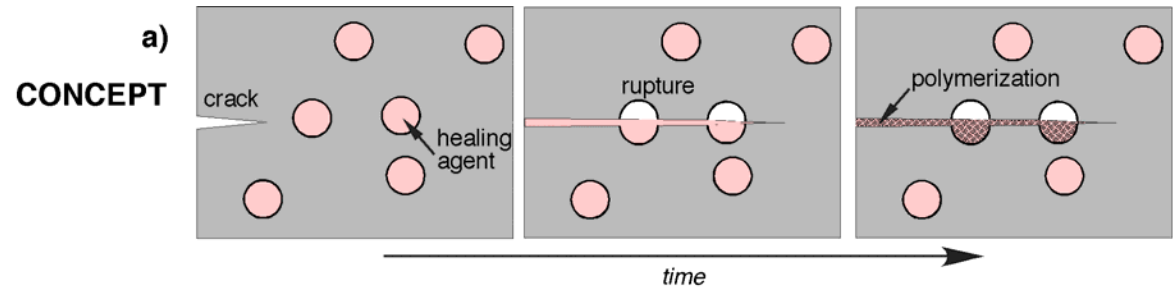
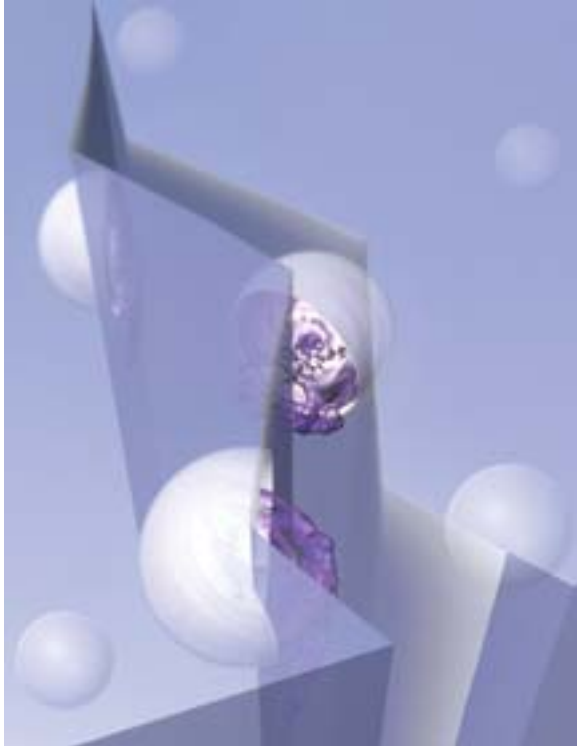
Glass capillary tubes



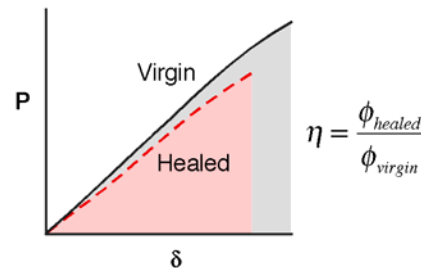
Dry, *Comp. Structures*, 1995

100 nm 10 μm 100 μm 1 mm

Microencapsulated Systems



c) ASSESSMENT

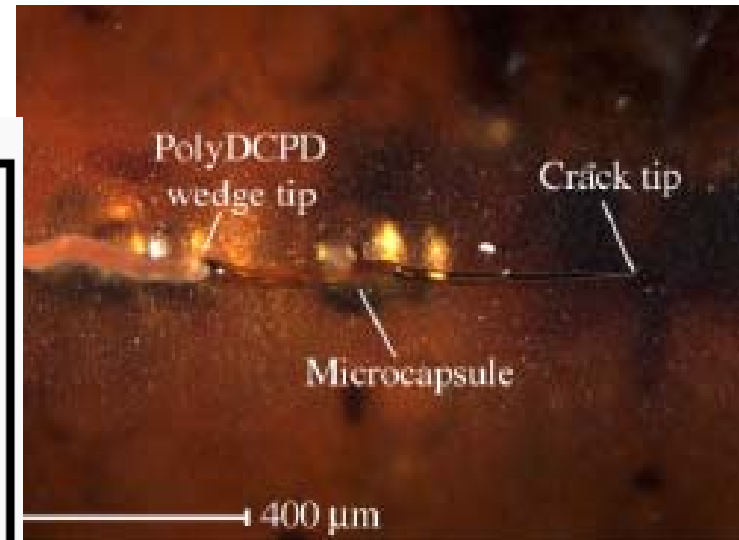
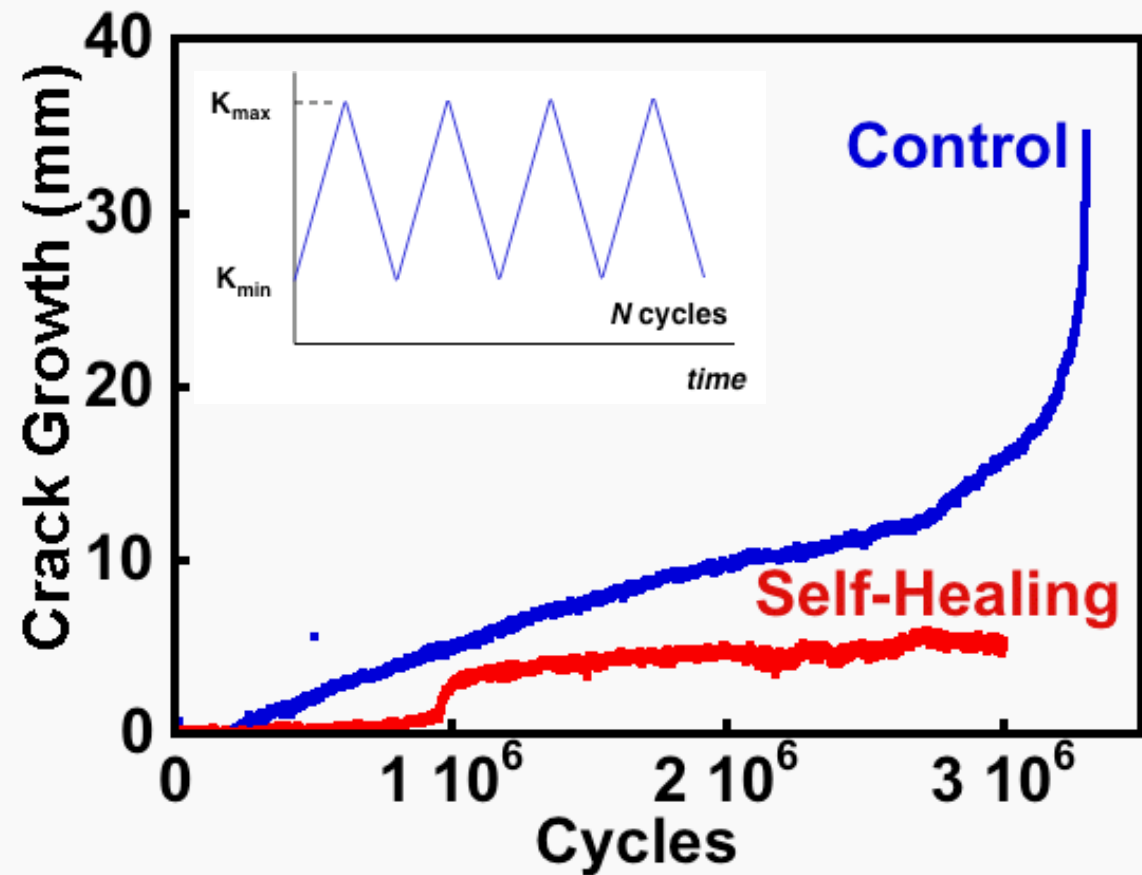


Symbol	ϕ	Metric
η	K_{IC}	fracture toughness
η'	U	fracture energy
η_E	E	stiffness
η_σ	σ_{ult}	ultimate strength
η_T	T	tear strength

White et al., *MRS Bulletin* (2008)

Healing of Mode I Crack Damage in Polymers

Healing “on the fly” during fatigue



2.5 wt% Grubbs catalyst
5 wt% microcapsules

Healing conditions:
room temperature, 48 h

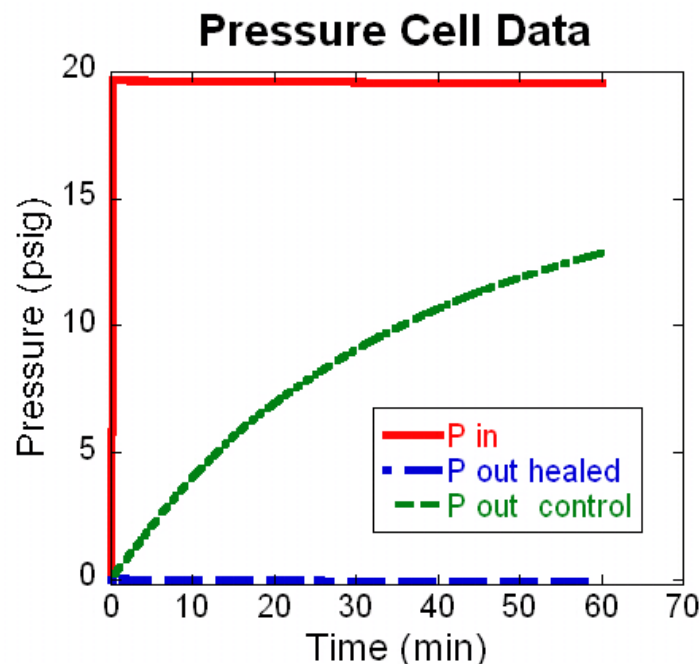
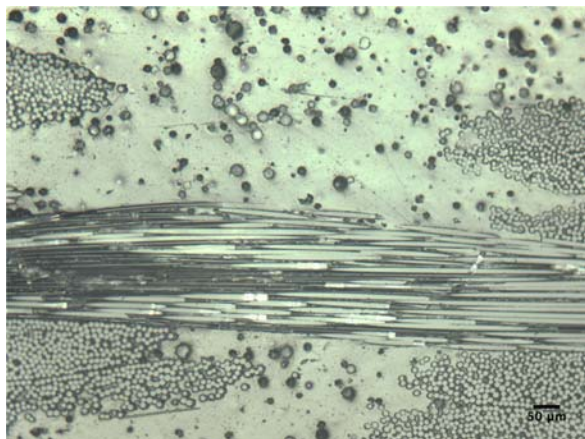
Brown et al., *Experimental Mechanics* (2002)

Self-Sealing of Puncture Damage

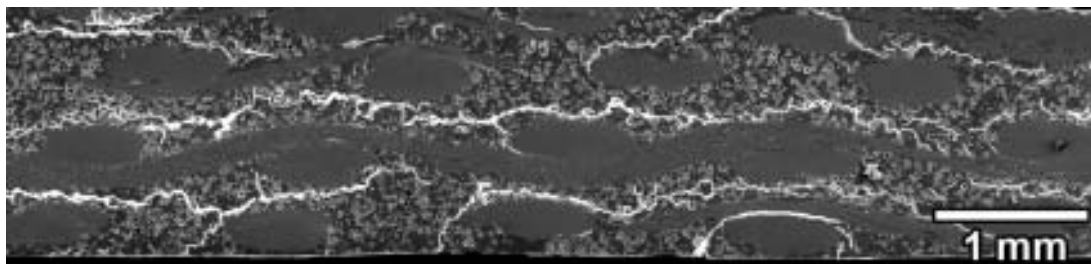
Application: Cryotanks



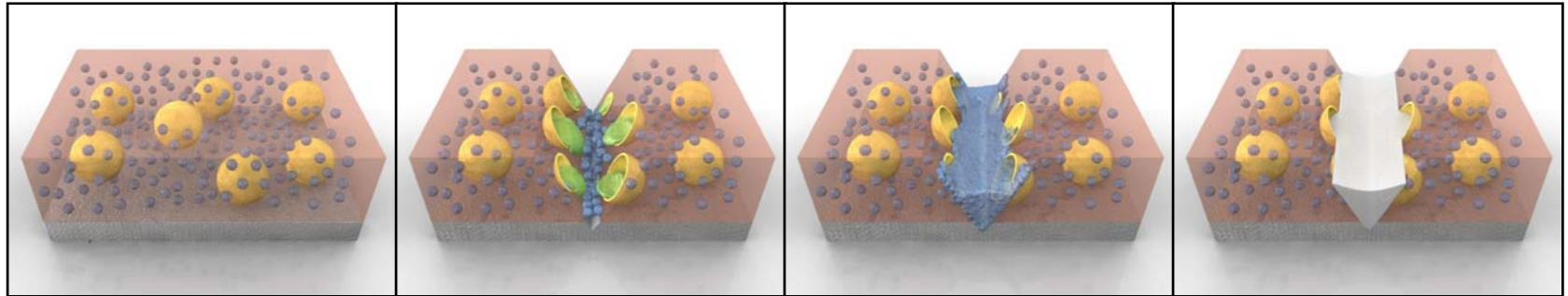
20 μm capsules mixed in epoxy resin with woven glass



Successful self-sealing of microcrack damage in a woven glass composite with 20-50 μm capsules



Self-Healing Coatings



Control

Self-healing

Cho et al. *Advanced Materials* (2009)



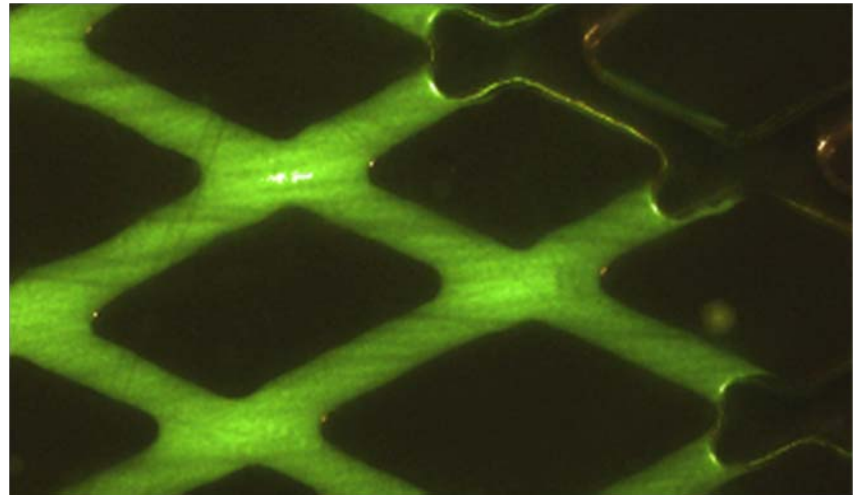
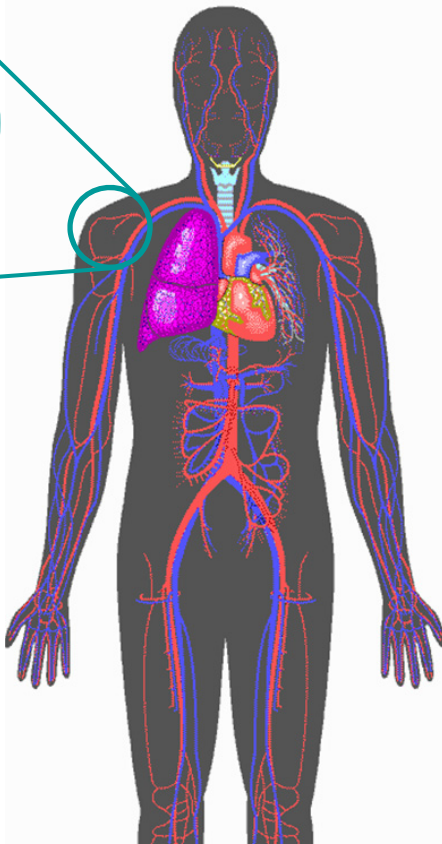
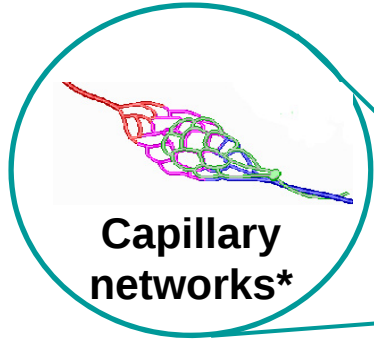
20 hr. exposure
to salt water

Remaining Challenges

- Smaller length scales.... is nano feasible?
- Healing agent stability (high temps, humidity,...)
- Capsule stability
- Repeated healing
- Larger damage volumes

Microvascular Based Systems

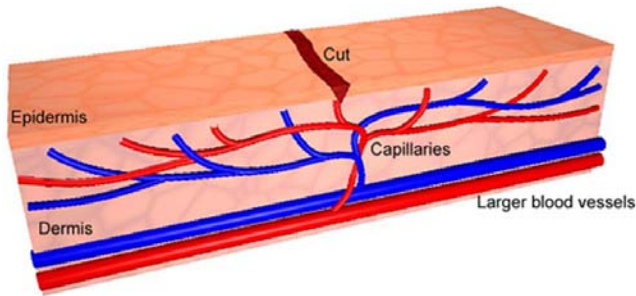
Continuous delivery of healing agent for repeated healing cycles



Continuous Self-Healing Coatings

Bioinspiration

Toohey, *Nature Materials*, 2007

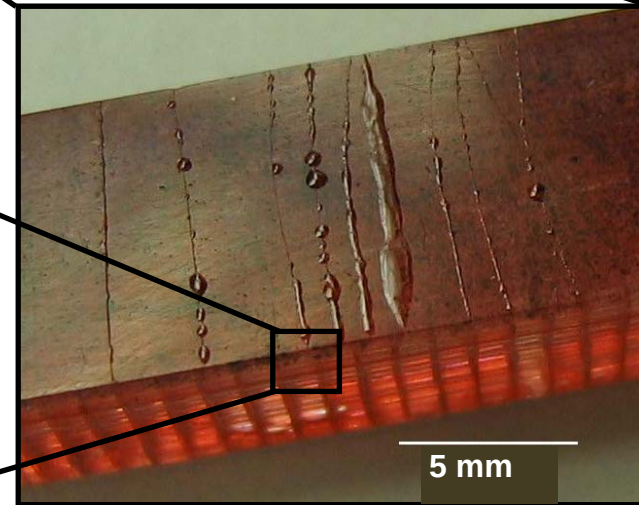
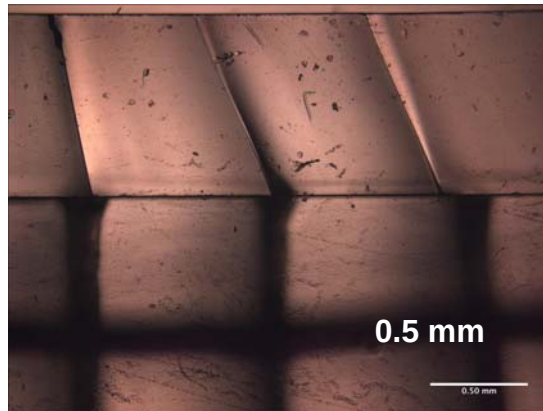


Epoxy coating
w/ catalyst

cracks

[VAC Substrate

coating

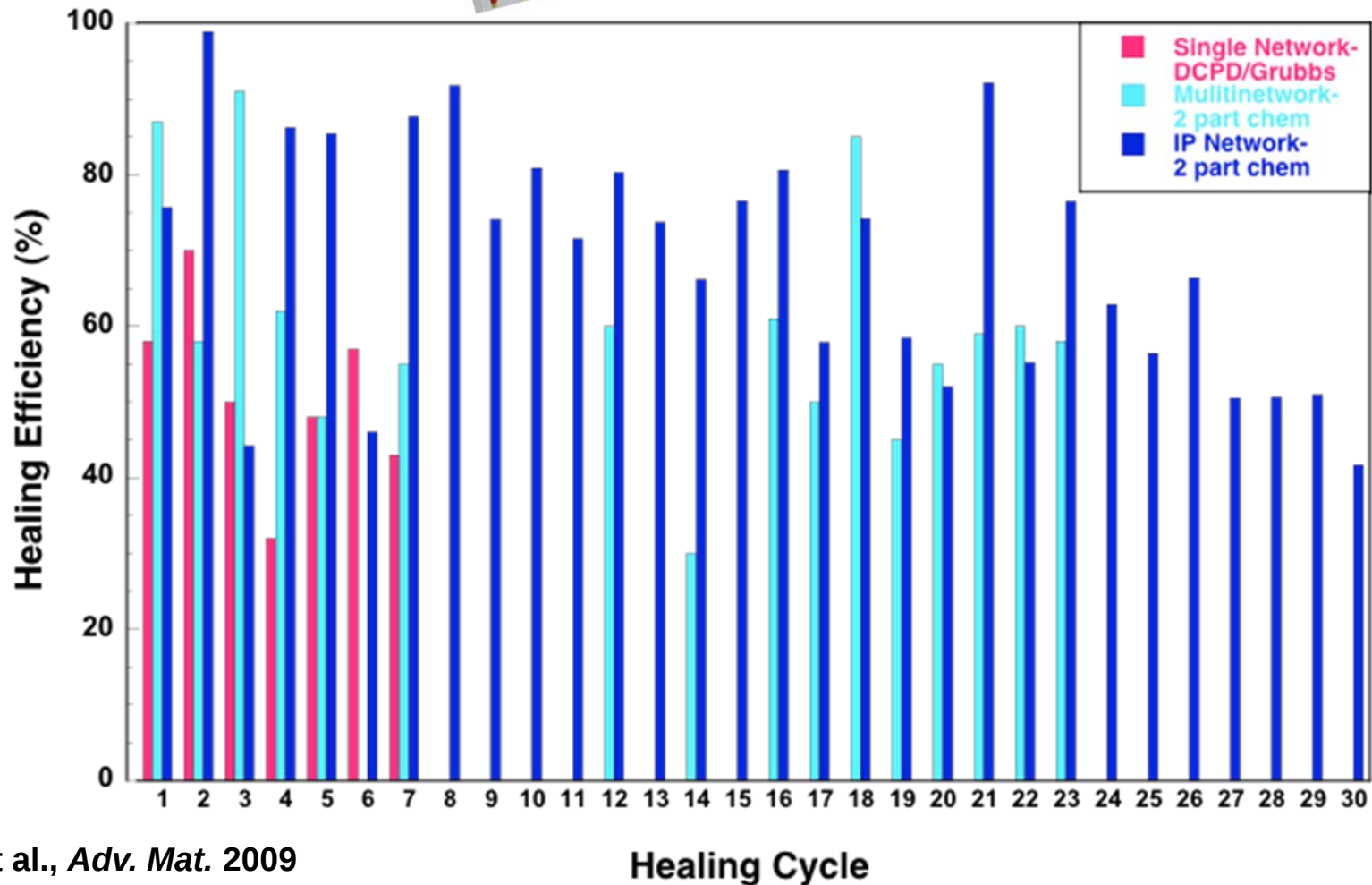
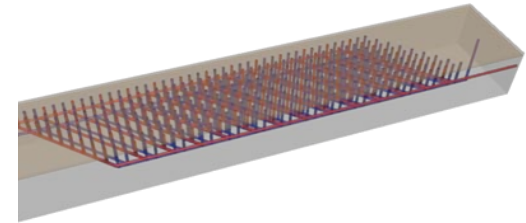
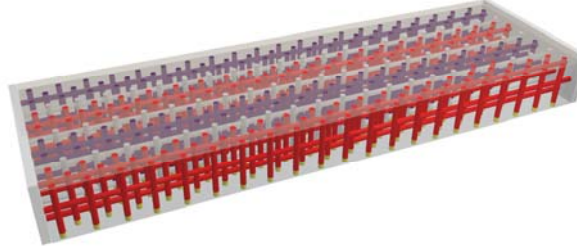
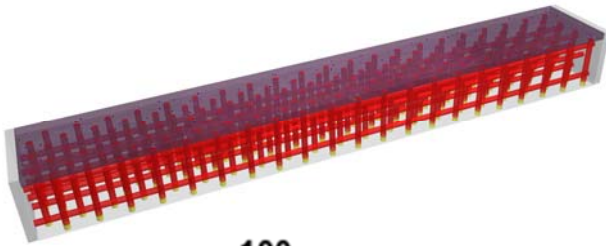


Continuous Self-Healing Coatings

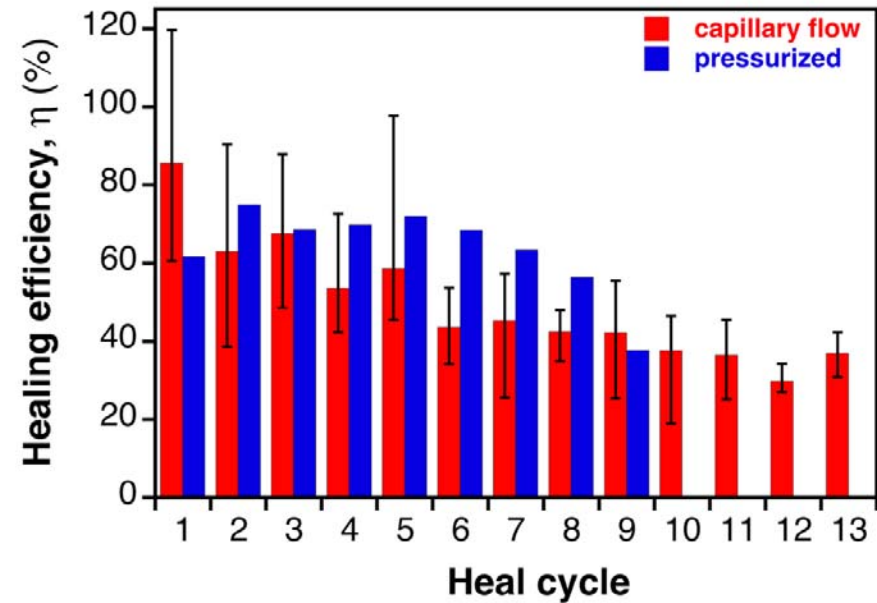
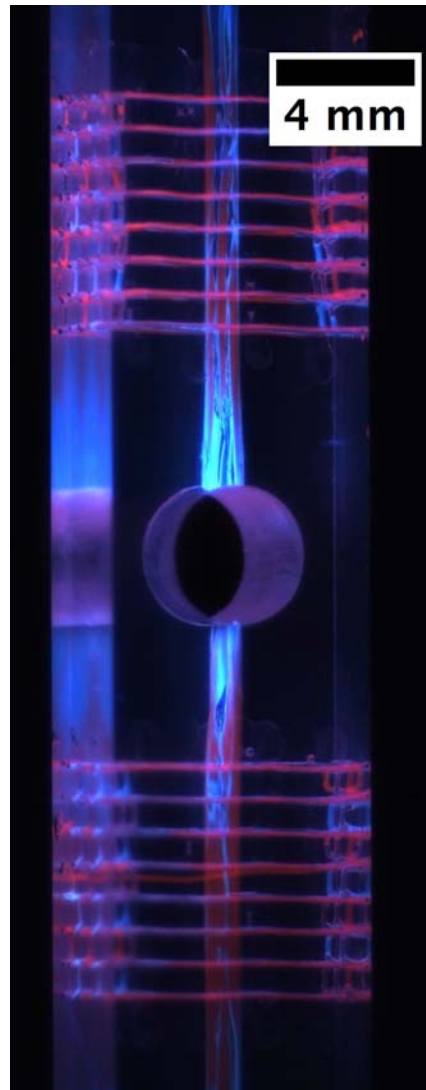
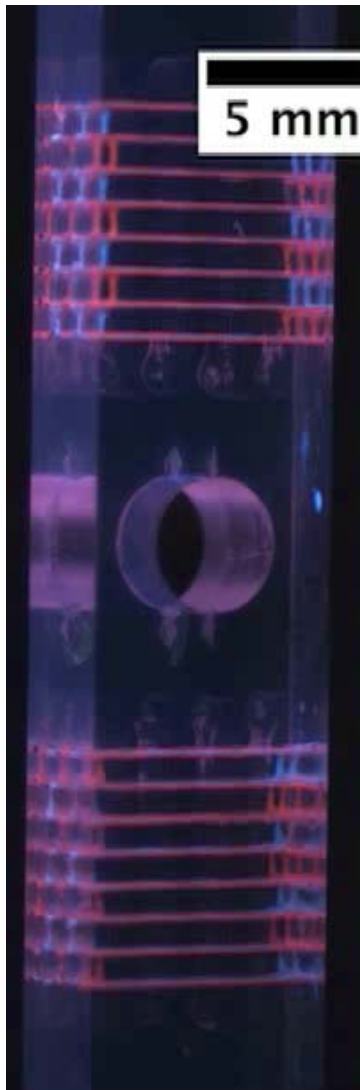
Single network: DCPD/Grubbs

Multi-network: 2 part epoxy

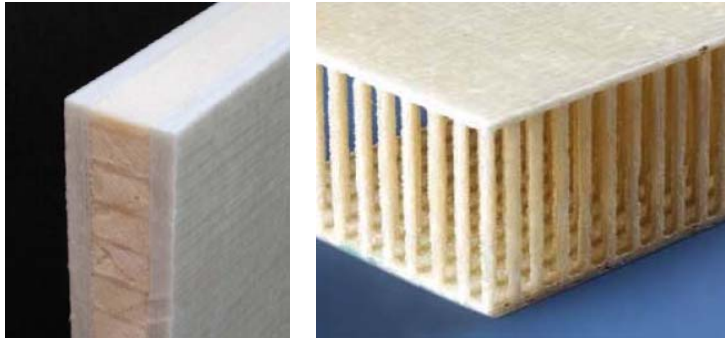
IP-network: 2 part epoxy



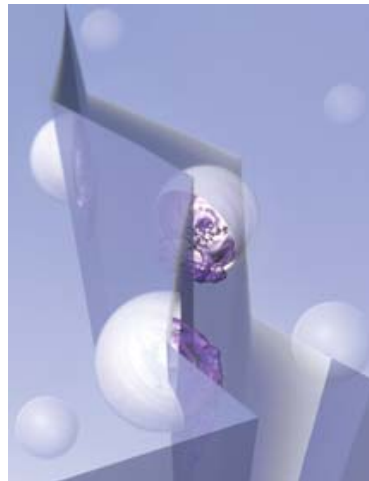
In situ Microvascular Healing



Strategy for Blast Resistant Sandwich Structures



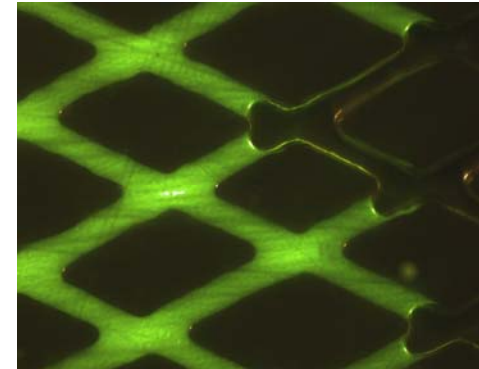
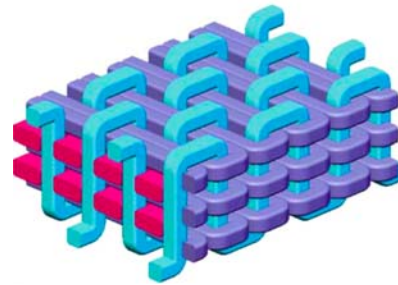
Polyurethane (PU)
foam core shear failure



Microcapsule Healing

3D woven composite
face sheet delamination

3TEX



Microvascular Healing

Remaining Challenges

- **Circulation – mixing and pumping**
- **Channel blockage**
- **Incorporation with structural reinforcement**
- **Addition of other functionalities – e.g. cooling**
- **Is regeneration and remodeling possible?**