Cryomesh[™]: A new grid substrate for Cryo-EM

Craig Yoshioka NRAMM Cryo Course '09



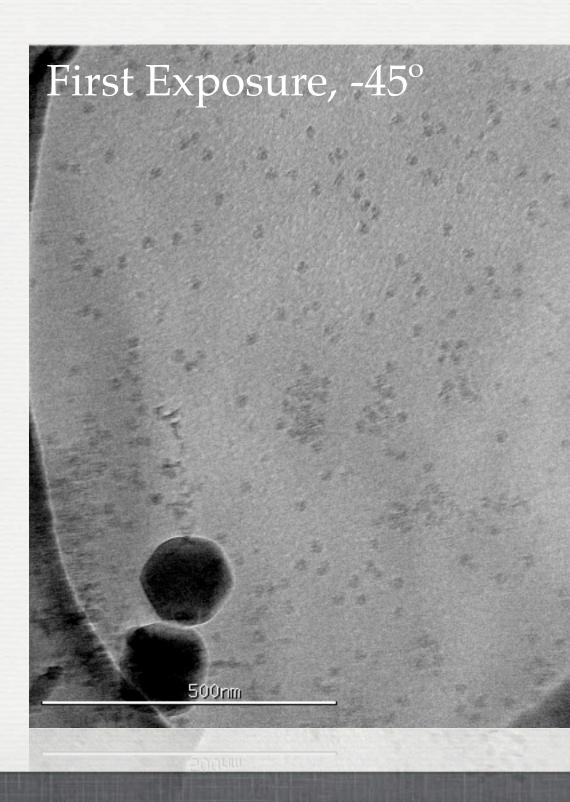
Motivation For New Grid Tech

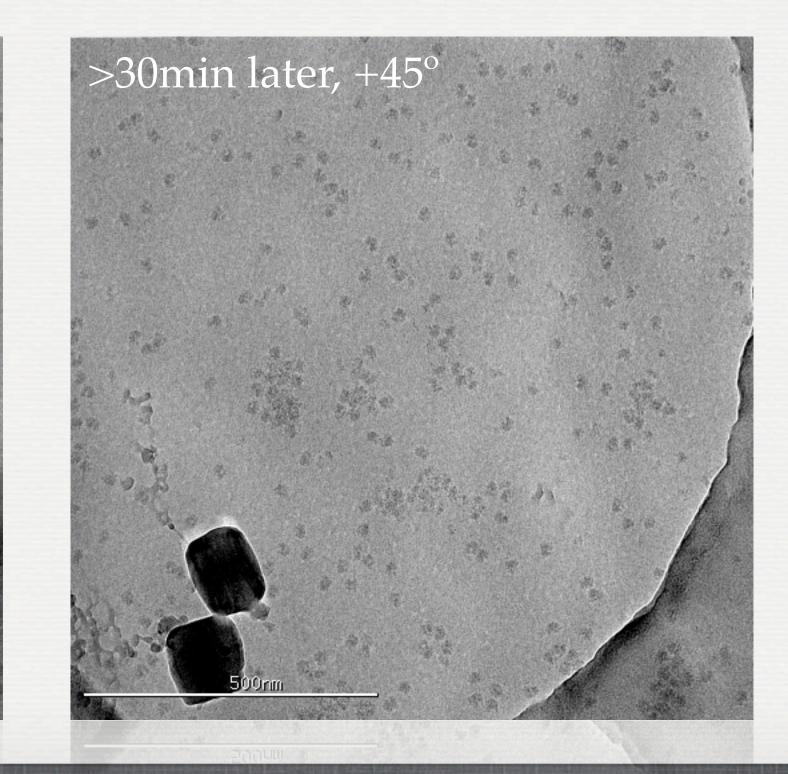
Reduction in beam-induced motion (BIM) !! Tilted cryo data collection Improve resolution?

- Improved Imaging Platform
 - Faster, more consistent imaging
 - Automated microscope calibration?

Beam-Induced Movement

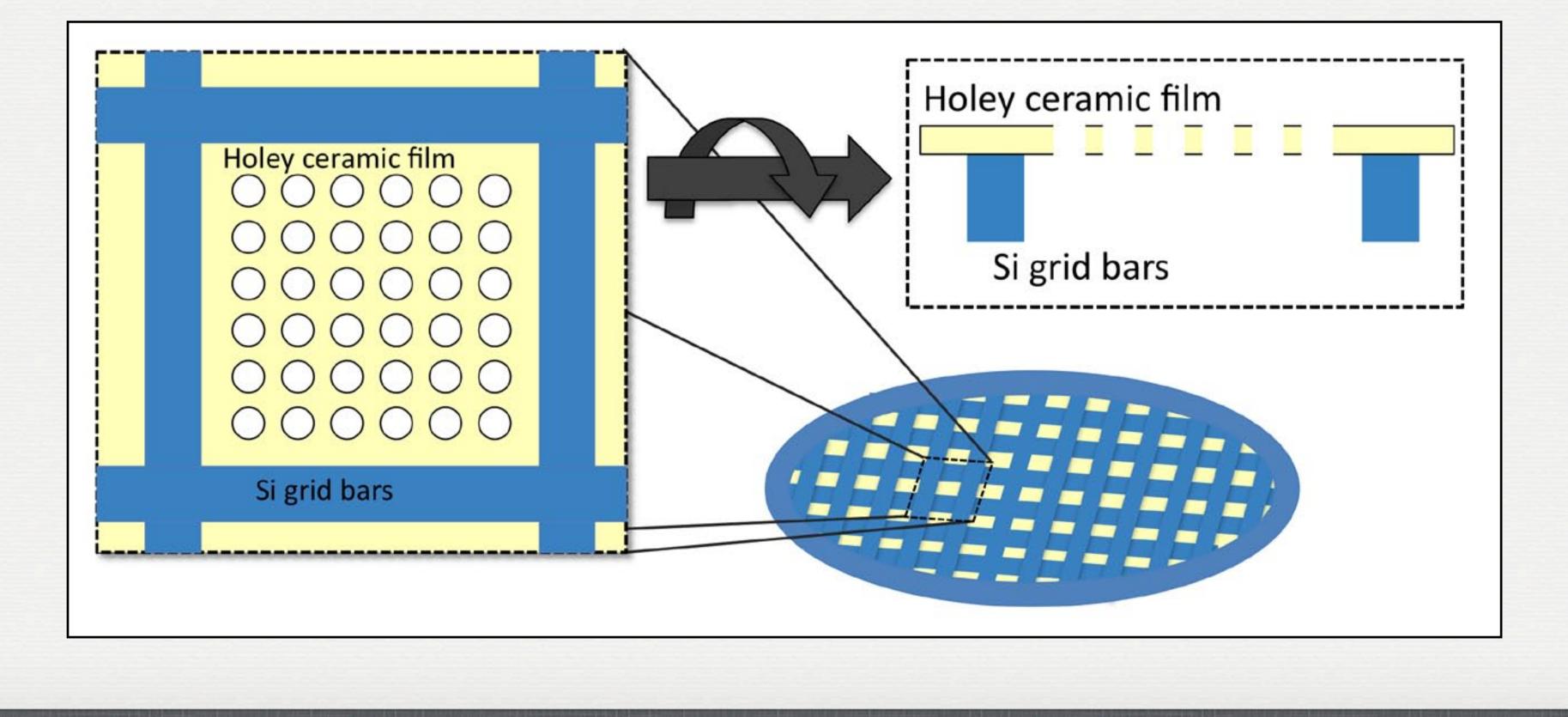
- A phenomenon (commonly observed, not entirely understood)
 - Arises from charge build-up in specimen
 - Mechanical Movement, i.e. tension release?
 - Electrostatic Lensing Effect?
 - Both?



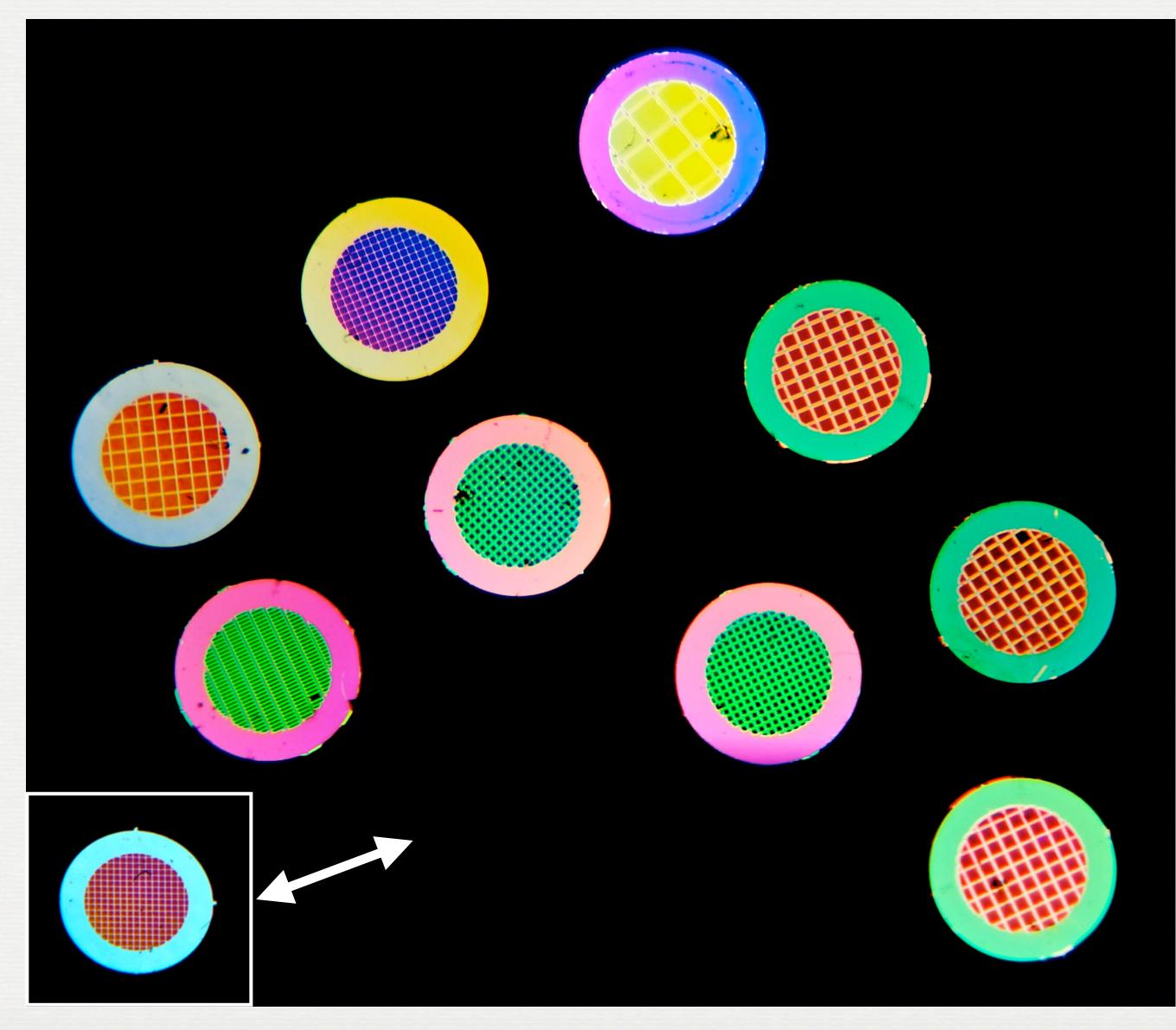


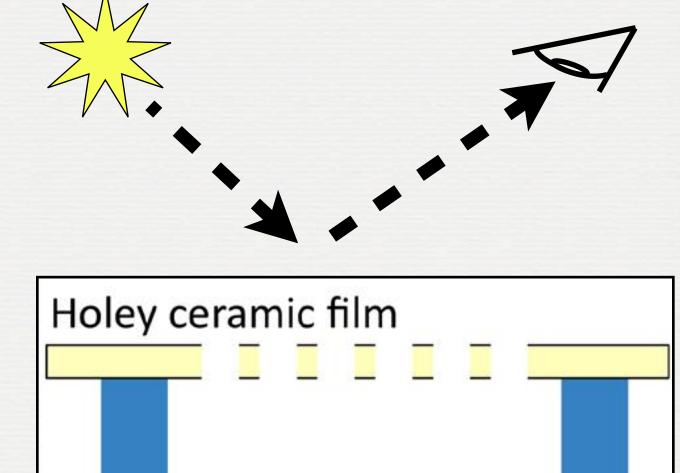
Hence: Cryomesh

More conductive at all temps than carbon Stronger and more rigid than carbon



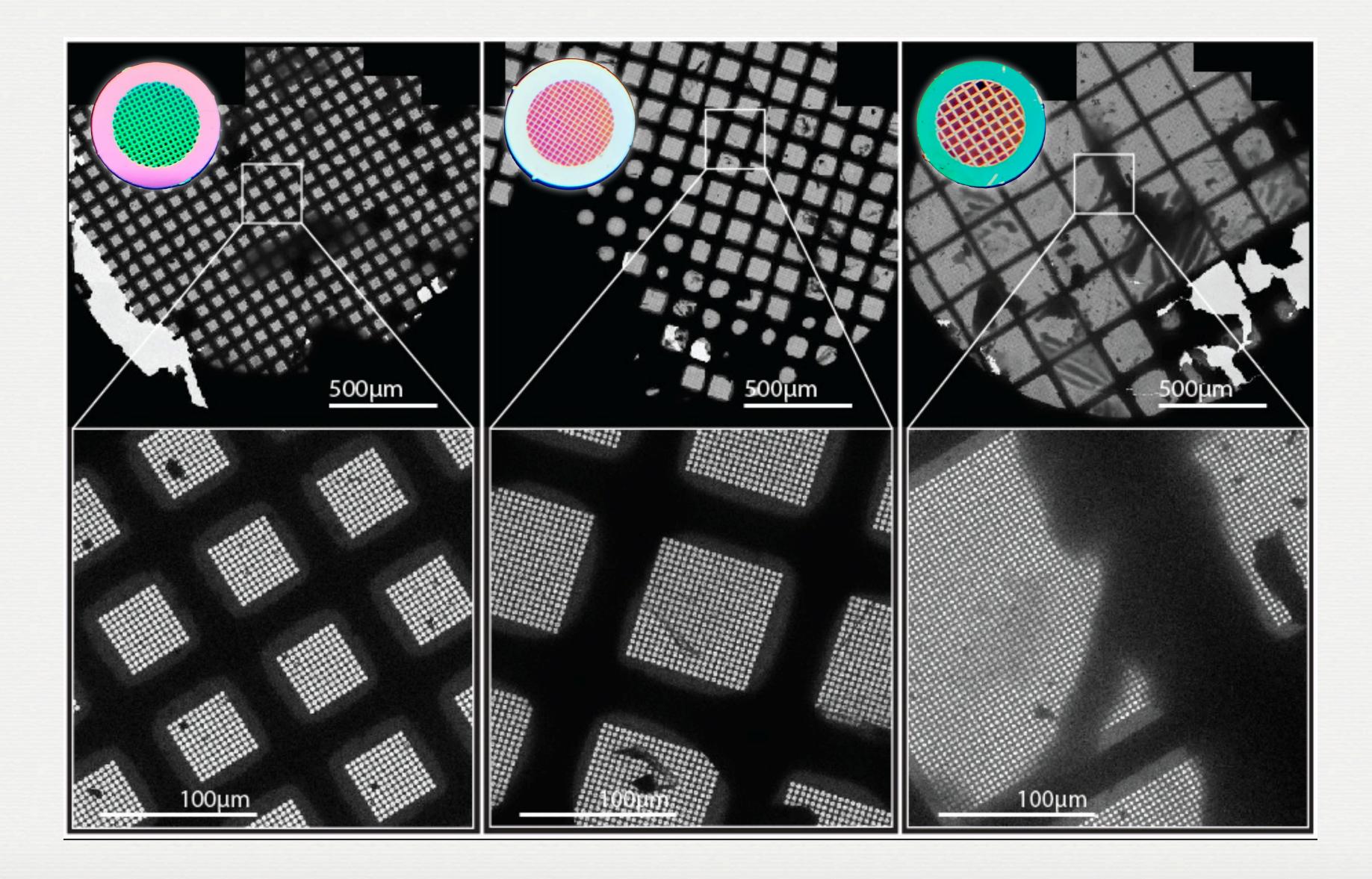
Cryomesh Characteristics

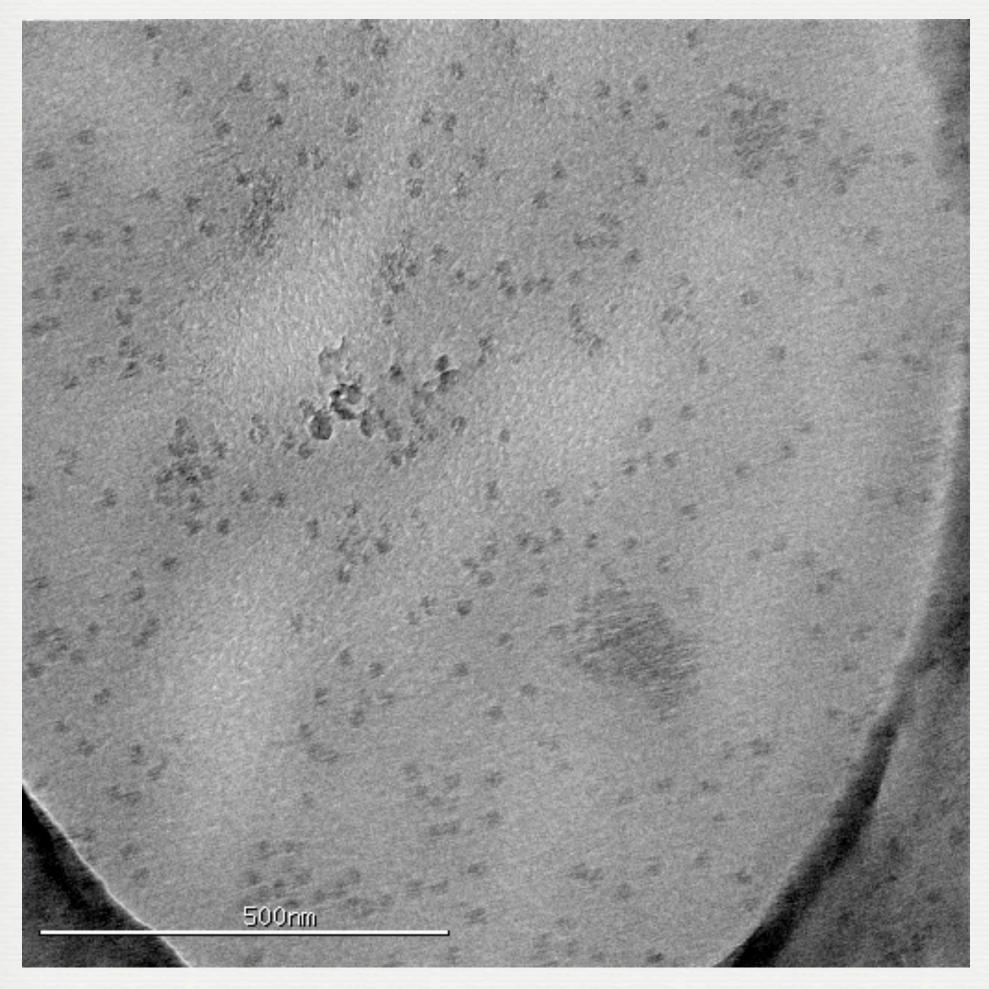


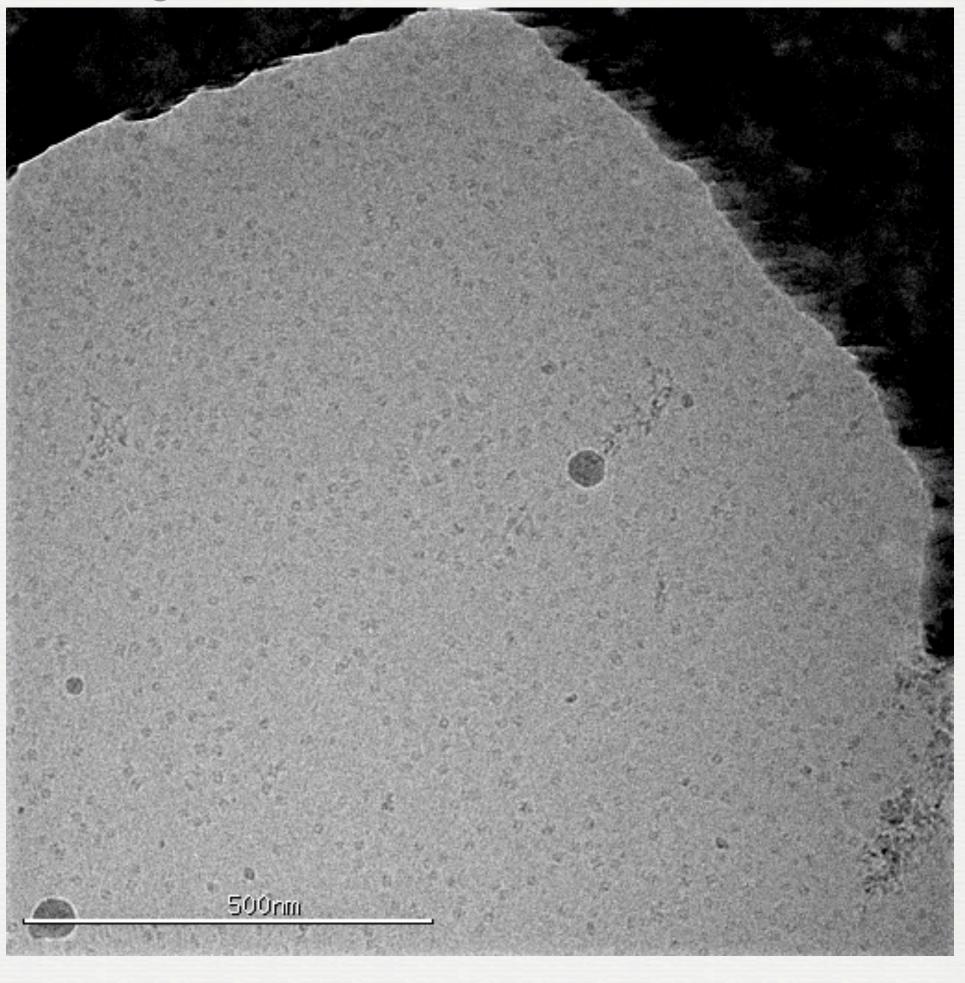


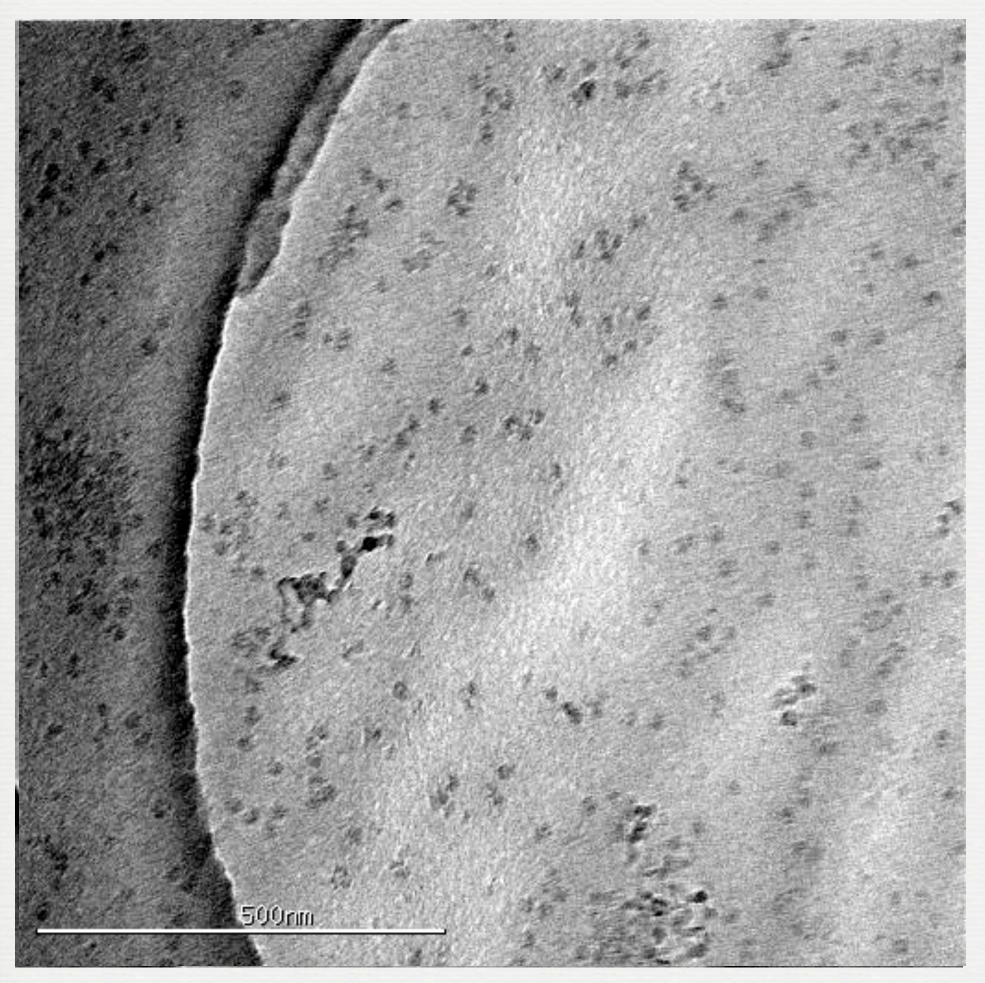
Si grid bars

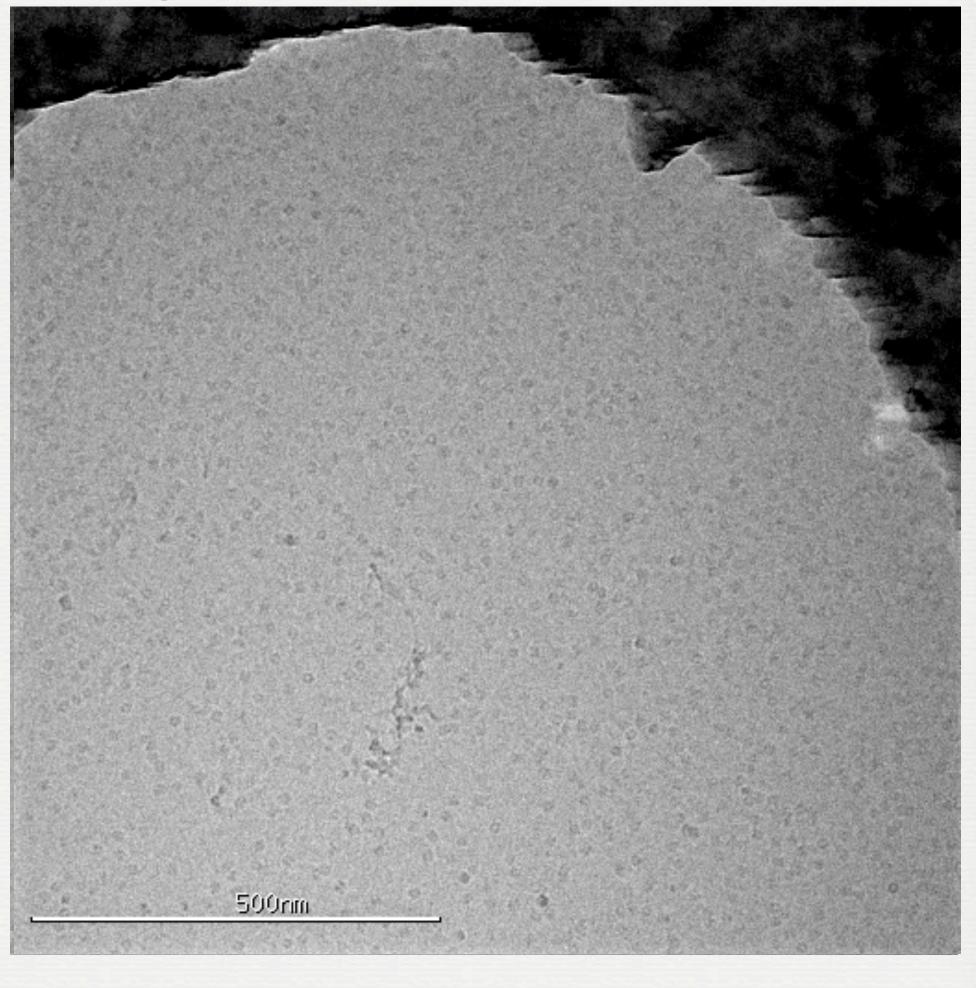
Cryomesh Characteristics

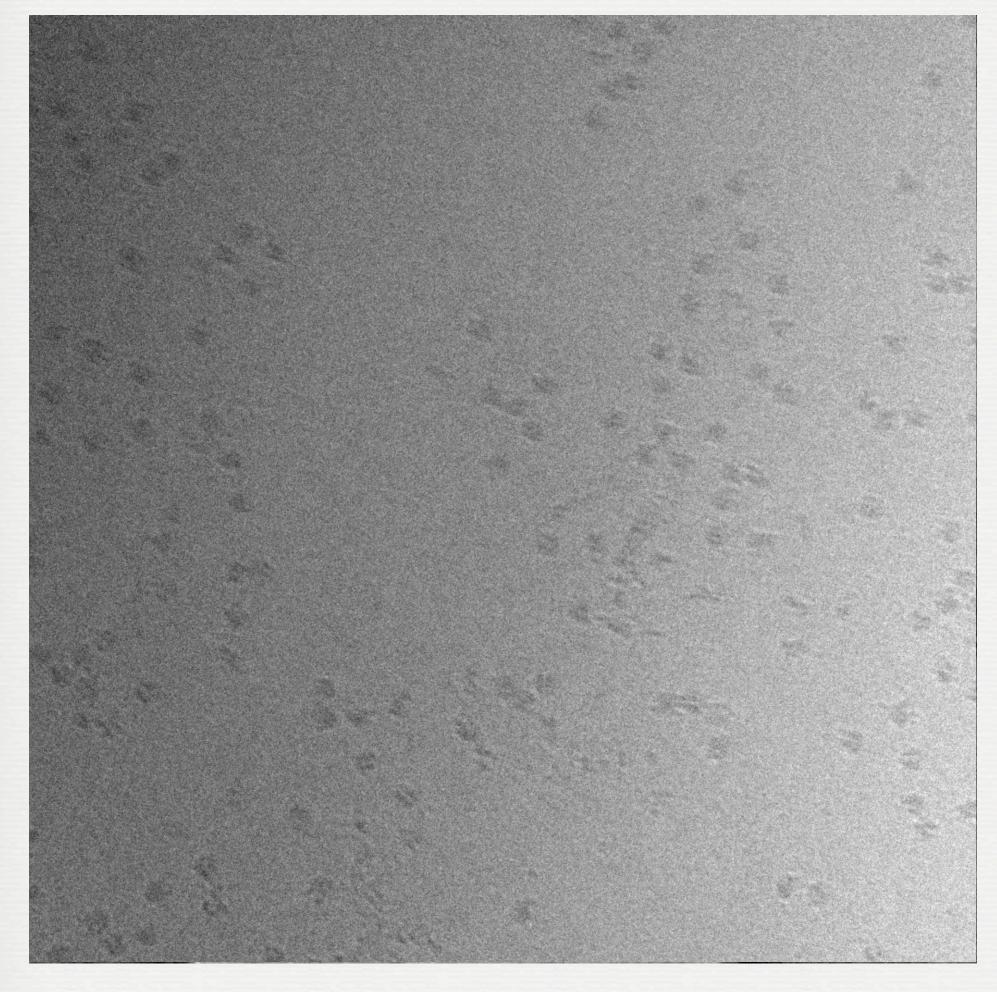


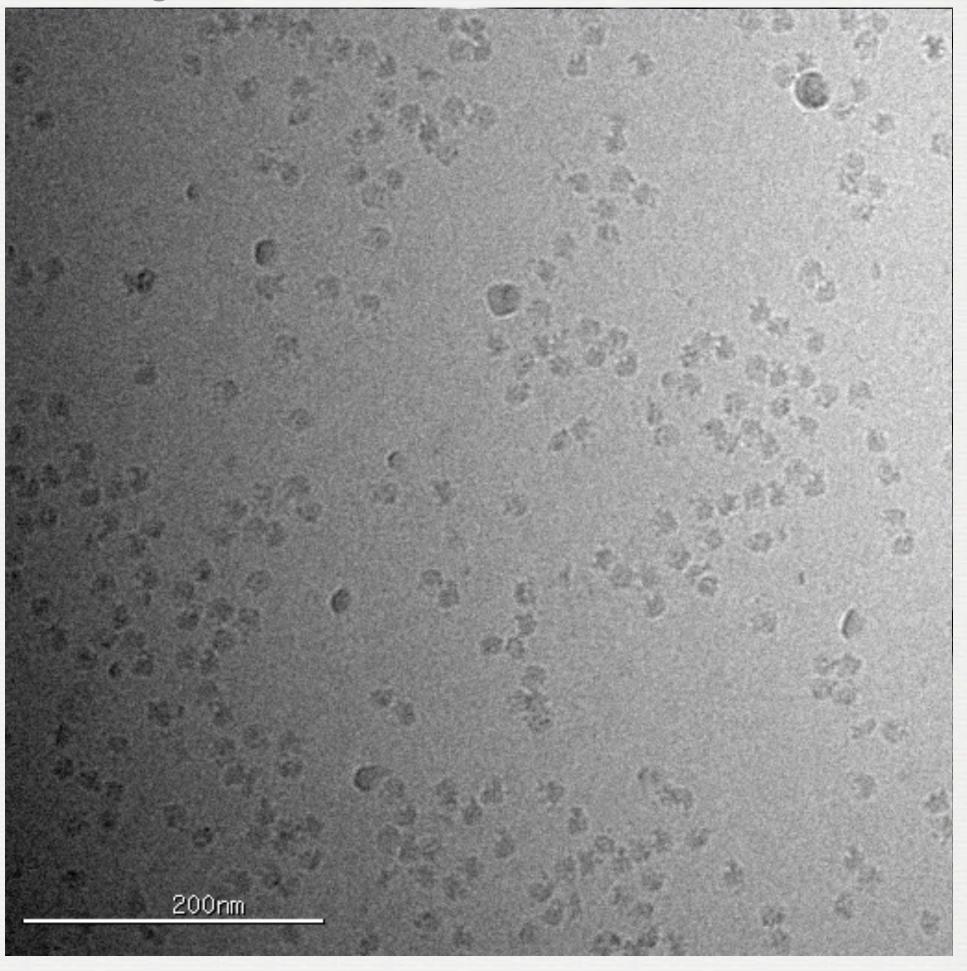


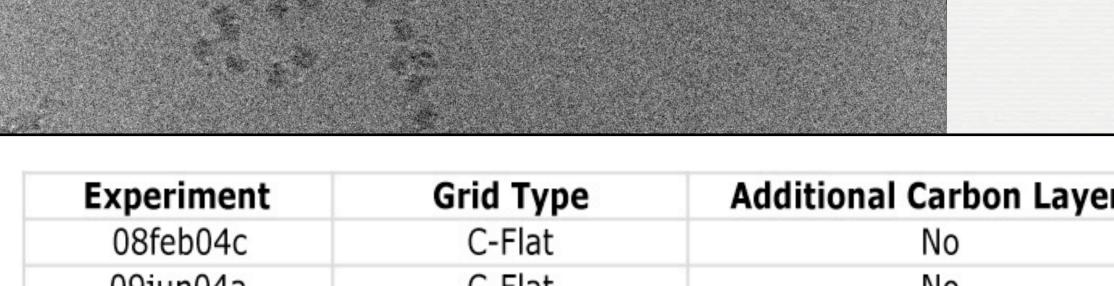




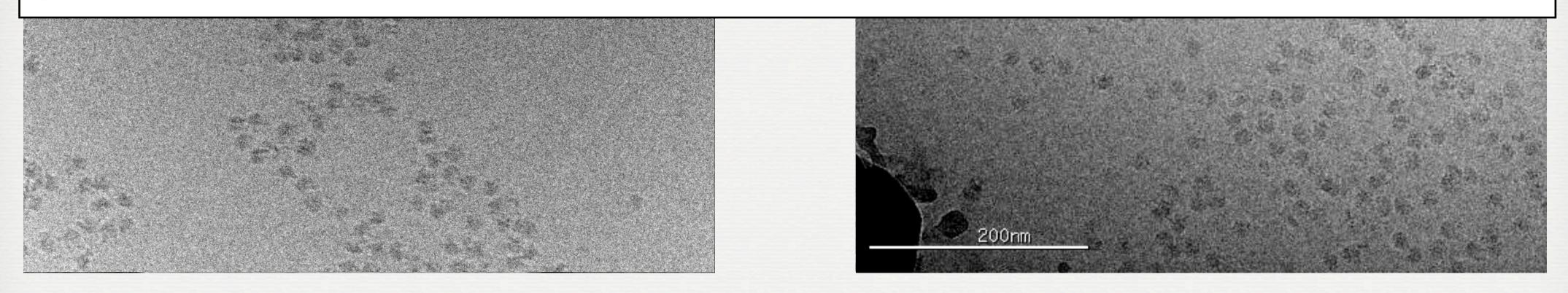




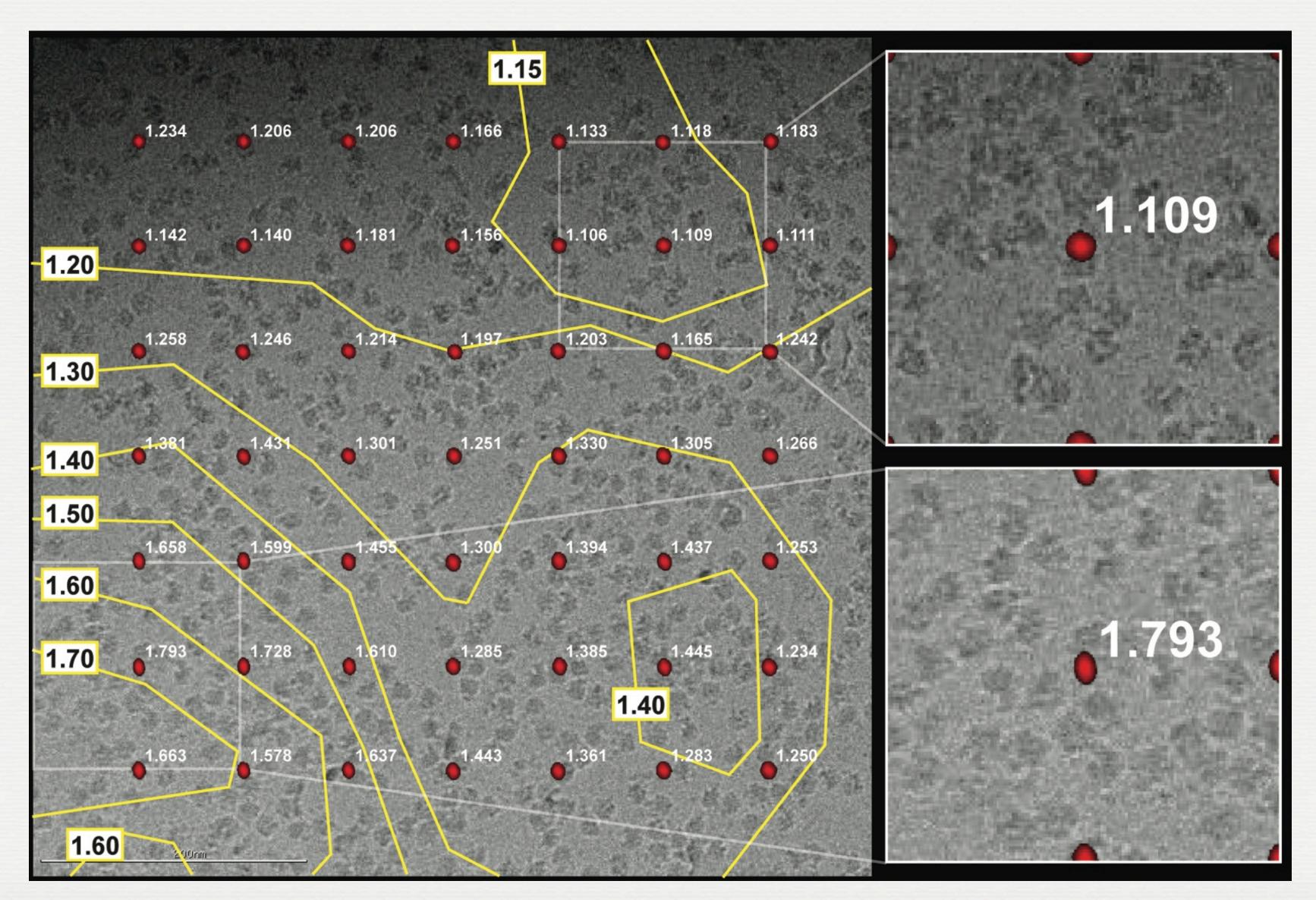




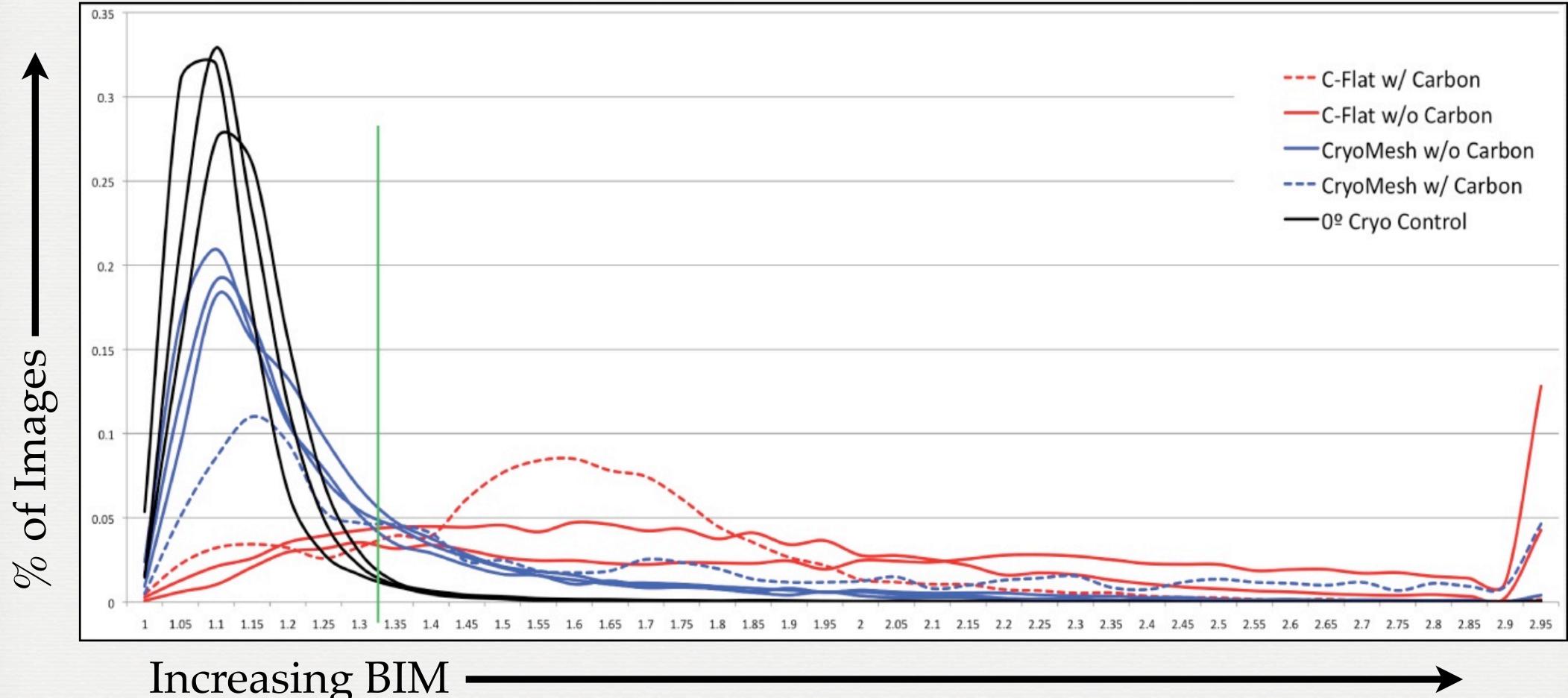
| Experiment | Grid Type | Additional Carbon Layer ? | % BIM free | # of images |
|------------|-----------|---------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| 08feb04c | C-Flat | No | 16% (9/57) | 83 |
| 09jun04a | C-Flat | No | 13.9% (10/72) | 68 |
| 07nov27b | C-Flat | Yes | 5% (4/81) | 52 |
| 09jun11a | CryoMesh | No | 73.4% (179/244) | 138 |
| 09mar12c | CryoMesh | No | 63.8% (74/116) | 197 |
| 08feb05c | CryoMesh | Yes | 48.2% (137/284) | 32 |



Evaluating BIM Locality and Severity

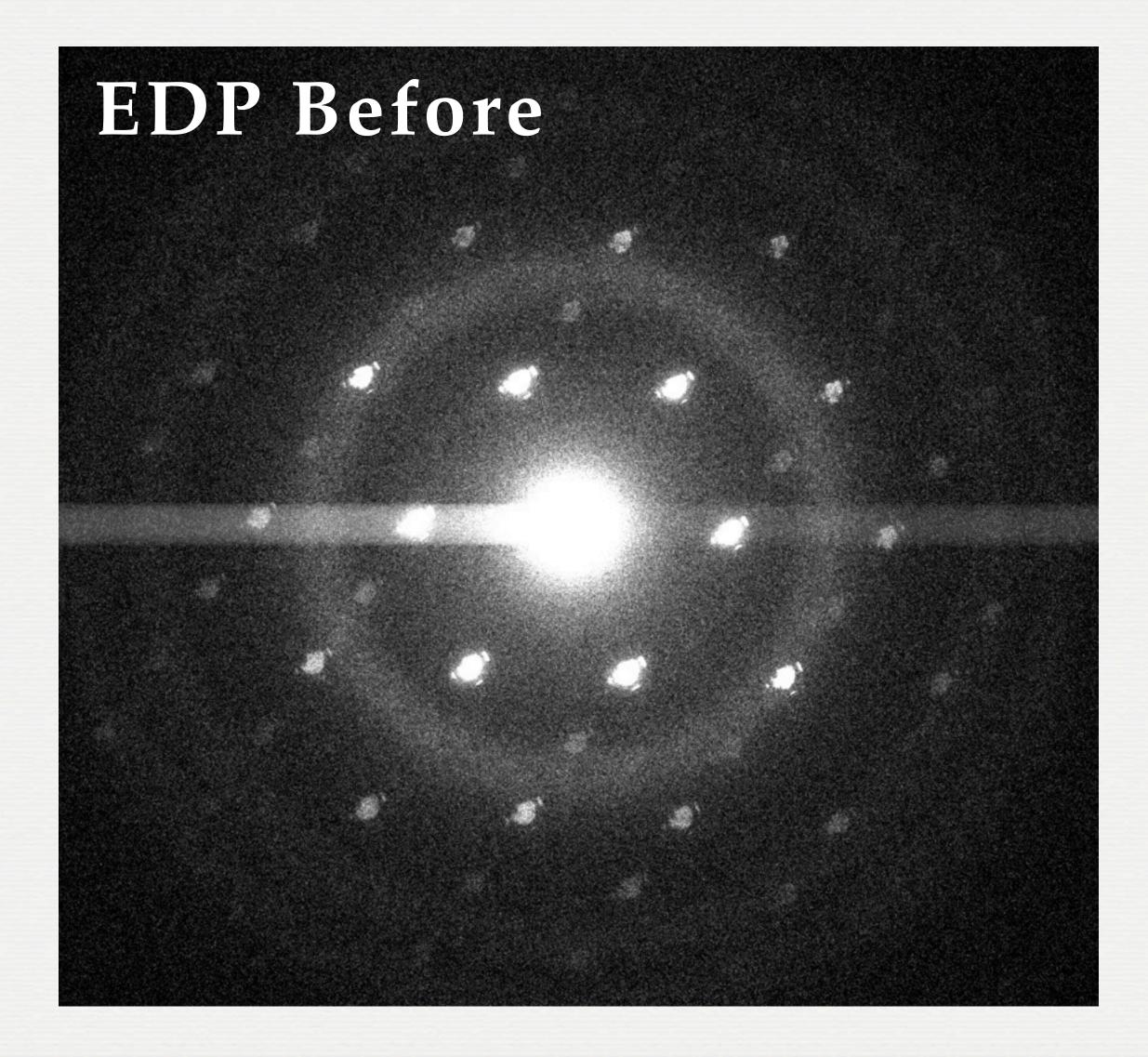


Evaluating BIM Locality and Severity



Increasing BIM

CryoMesh Paraffin Diffraction



Cryomesh Paraffin Diffraction

Image Power Spectrum (Cryomesh Grid)



Cryomesh Paraffin Diffraction



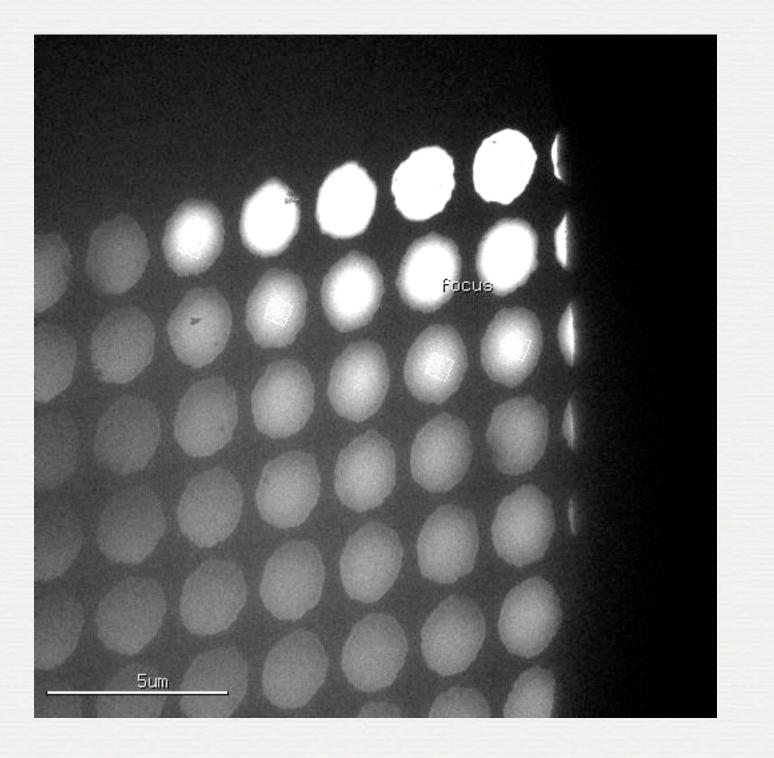


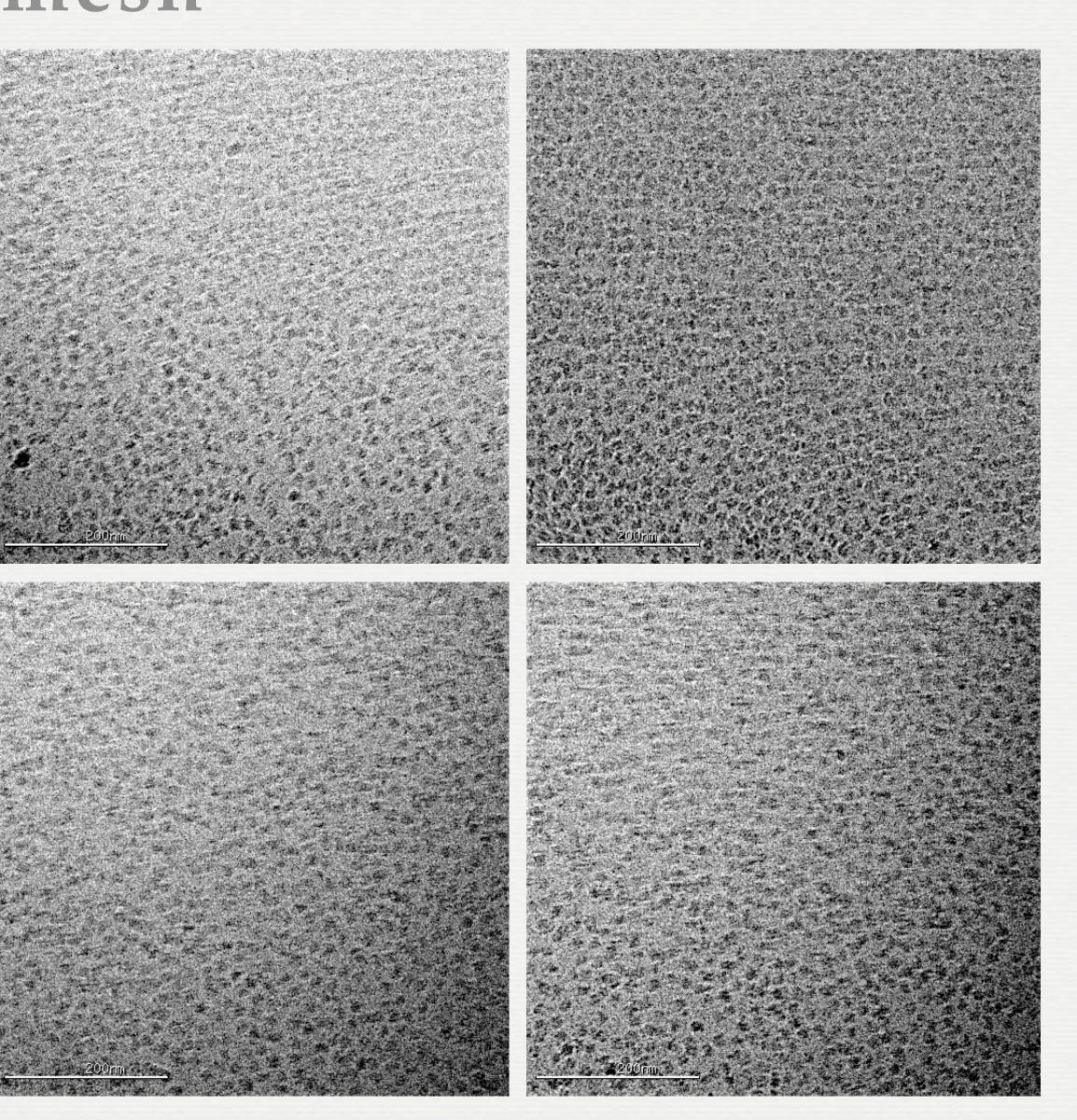
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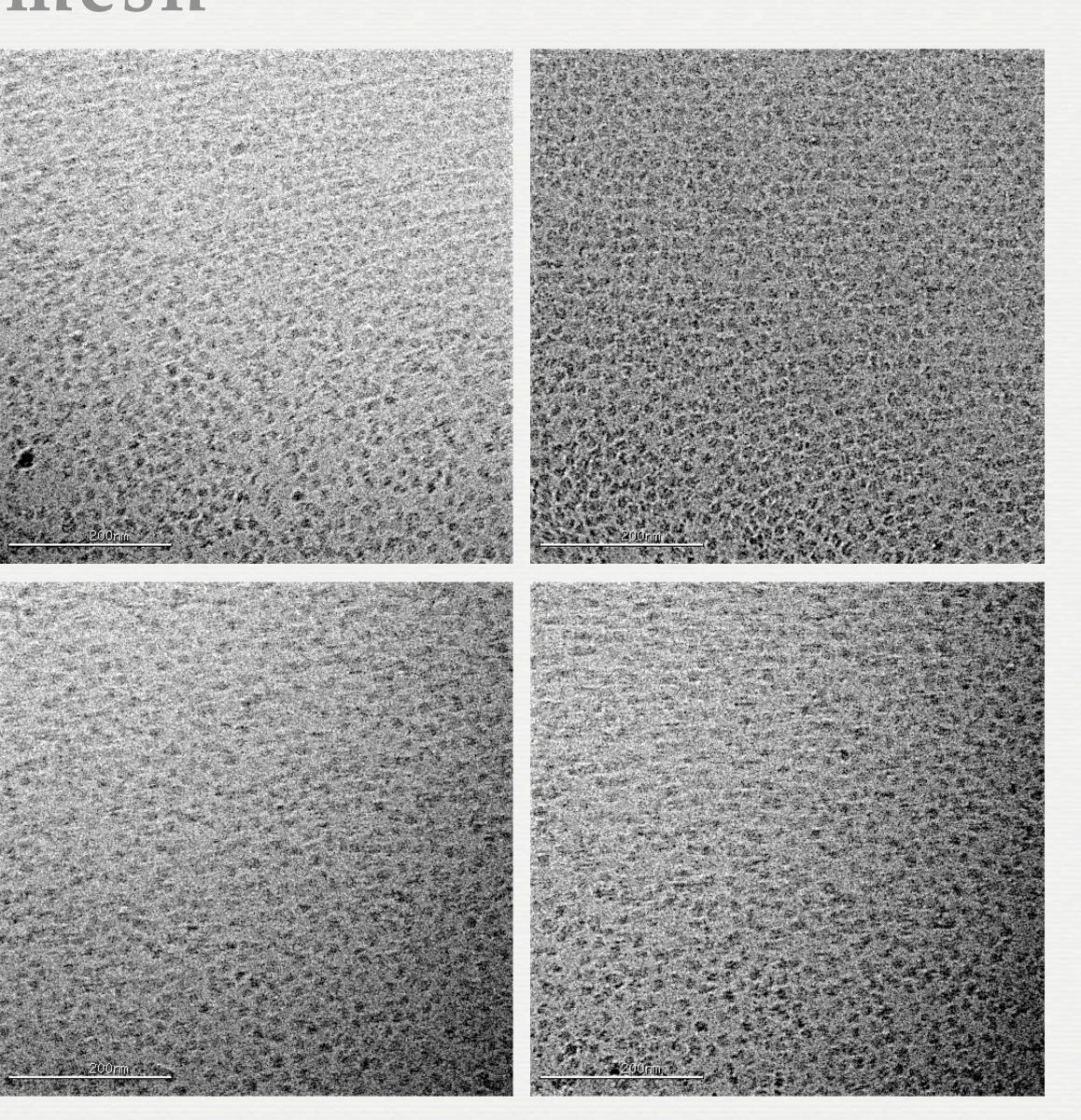
Mb Gri

| am | | | |
|------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| | Max Ig/Io | Min Ig/Io | Overall Avg |
| lesh | 0.0365 | 0.0138 | 0.0245 |
| rids | 0.00927 | 0.00358 | 0.00634 |

Uneven Ice On Cryomesh

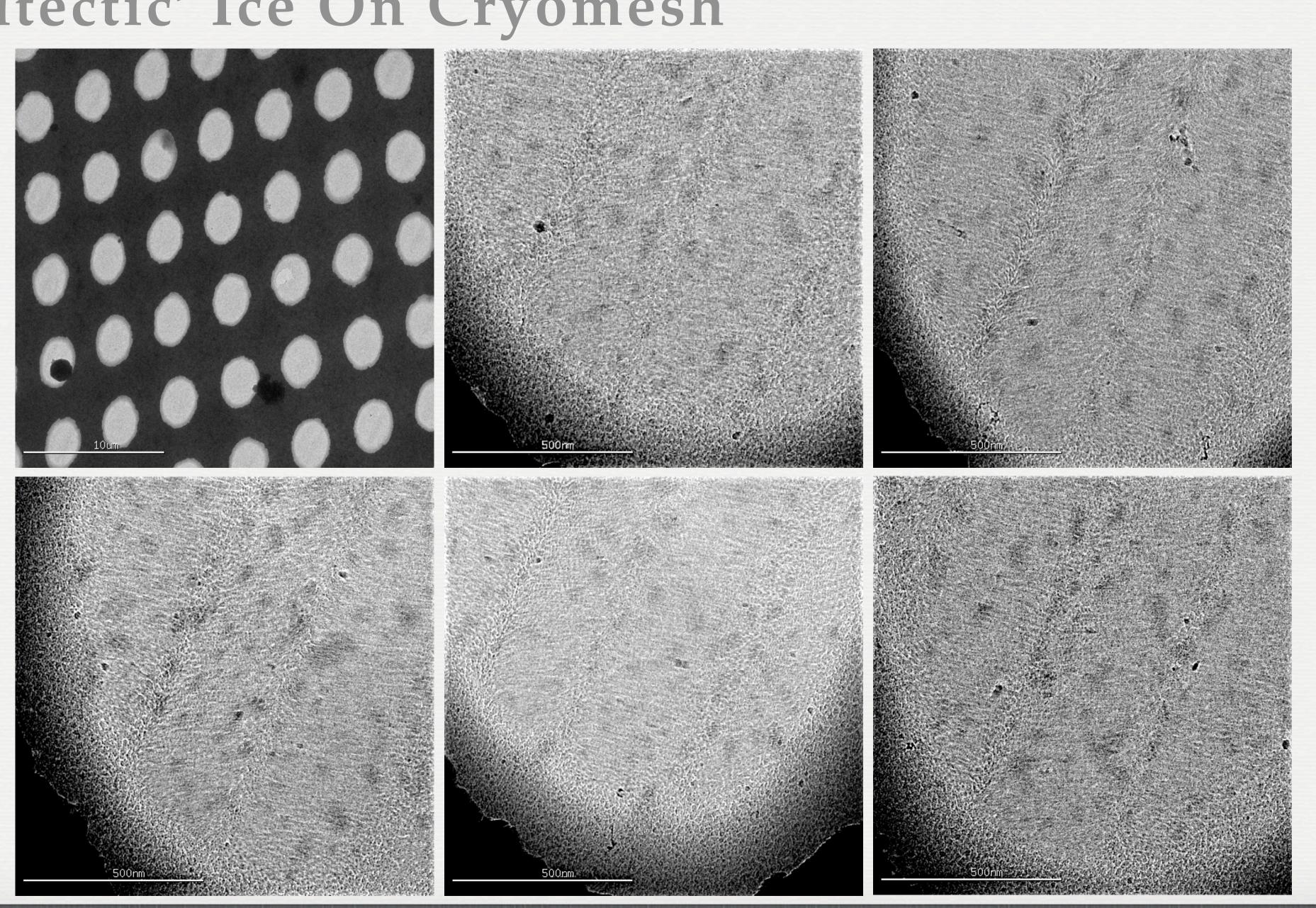




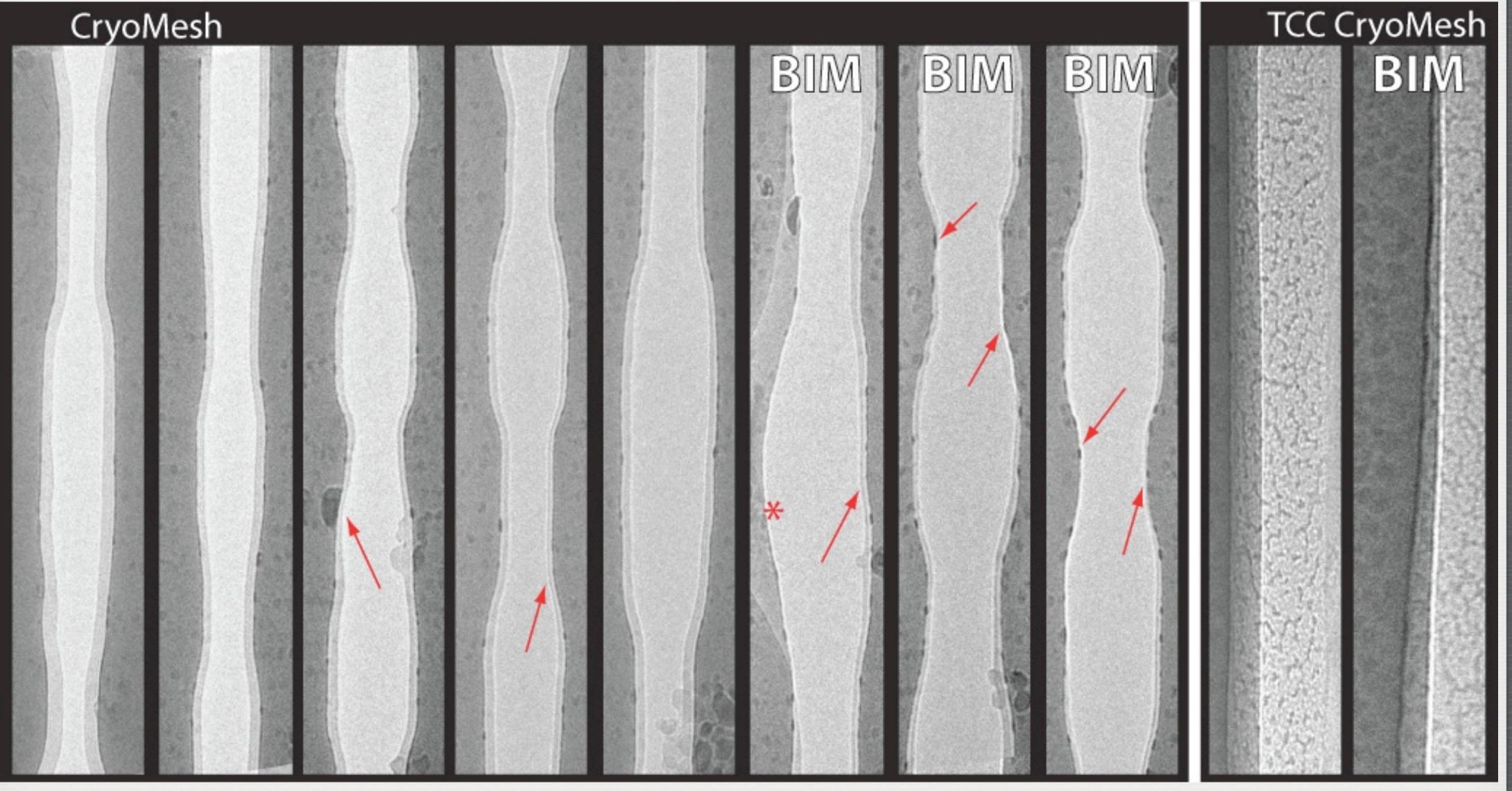


Thursday, December 3, 2009

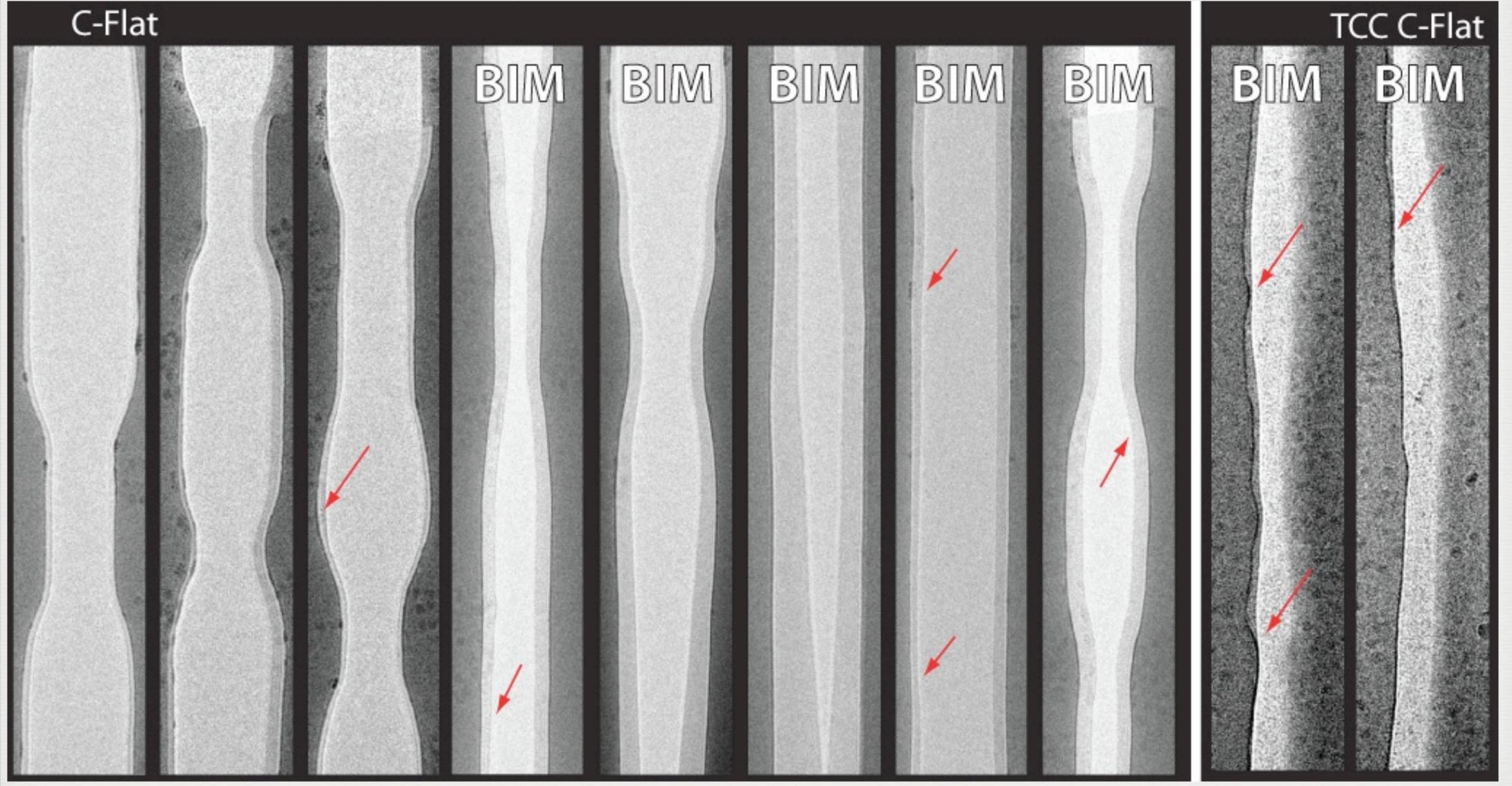
'Eutectic' Ice On Cryomesh



Ice Channels In Cryomesh



Ice Channels In C-Flats



Summary

BIM Observations

Exact mechanism undetermined, but 'quality' of ice appears important

CryoMesh Observations

- Their flatness/rigidity appears to be an important characteristic
- Brittle (hard to work with), tend toward thick ice, difficult to focus on
- Could increase useable cryo images at tilt from ~10% to ~75% (or higher)

Acknowledgements





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Cryomesh Catalase Diffraction at Tilt

