Training school: Non living materials meet living biology Patras, Grece 9-12 May 2017

# Scaffold design, processing, biodegradation and resorption













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Regeneration of hard tissues (bone, cartilage and tooth) is one of the most demanding issues in medecine.

**Synthetic bone scaffolds** have advantages over bone grafts because they are not fraught with uncertainties (e.g. disease transmission, risk of infection, or immunogenicity).

However, these scaffolds have to show high mimicry of the host tissues and be able, with an appropriate porosity, to facilitate the progenitor cells in-growth and communication with neighboring cells to the regeneration of new functional tissue.



How to mímic natural bone for substitute processing?



#### **Bone structure**



Natural composite of collagen and mineral (hydroxycarbonate apatite: HA)

2 types of porous structures: - cortical with dense structure → compact bone (usually outer layer) cancellous or trabecular bone with high porosity → spongy bone (usually interior)



# How to mímíc natural bone structure? 5



Bone scaffolds are porous frameworks with tailored chemical composition and porous architecture intended for inducing cartilage (hydrated proteoglycan hydrogel embedded into a type II collagen network) and bone tissue (type I collagen and hydroxyapatite) regeneration.

They may be referred to as 3D matrices that mimic the natural cellular environment for cells to grow, differentiate, and deposit biomimetic HA.



Therefore, bone tissue engineering is a complex and dynamic process that initiates with migration and recruitment of osteoprogenitor cells. This is followed by their proliferation, differentiation, and bone matrix formation.

#### **3D Scaffold Biomaterial**

- Natural polymers (Collagen, Chitosan)
- Synthetic polymers (PLA, PLGA, PCL, PEKK)
- Ceramics (HA, beta-TCP)
- Bioglasses
- Glass ceramics

#### <u>Cells</u>

- Chondrocytes
- Osteoblasts
- Mesenchymal stem cells

## **Tissue Engineered Solution**

Regulators:Biochemical factors-e.g. cytokines (growth factors)Mechanical environment-e.g. applied strain, fluid shear

## **Scaffold Approaches in Tissue Engineering**



How to mímíc natural bone?

Criteria for an ideal scaffold for bone regeneration:

<sup>1</sup> - Is made from a biocompatible material,

<sup>2</sup>- acts as template for tissue growth in 3 dimensions,

<sup>3</sup>- has an interconnected macro-porous network with **diameters** > **100μm** to allow an ingrowth of cells and the vascularization and an efficient transport of morphogens, cytokines, growth factors, nutrients, oxygen, and waste products,

<sup>4</sup>- bonds to the host tissue

<sup>5</sup>- exhibits a surface texture favorable to cell adhesion

<sup>6</sup>- resorbs at the same rate as the tissue is repaired

<sup>7</sup>- is made from processing technique that can produce irregular shapes to match that of the defect in the bone of the patient,

<sup>8</sup>- exhibits mechanical properties sufficient to be able to regenerate tissue in bone in load bearing sites,

<sup>9</sup>- has the potential to be commercially producible to the required ISO or FDA standards.

J.R.Jones, L.L.Hench Current opinion in solid state and materials science 7 (2003) 301-307

How to mimic natural bone for substitute processing?

## Part I: Requirements for ideal scaffolds

Part II: Fabrication technologies

Part III: Example of comparative study on cell colonization inside ceramic scaffolds presenting different architectures

# How to mímic natural bone for substitute processing? 1<sup>st</sup> Material choice

## Biocompatible material :

- Natural polymers: collagen, chitosan ...
- Synthetic polymers: poly lactic acid (PLA), poly lactic-co-glycolic acid (PLGA), polycaprolactone (PCL), poly-ether-ketone-ketone (PEKK) ...

Bioactive calcium phosphate ceramic scaffolds : HA, beta-TCP

**Bioglasses and Glass ceramics** 

Organic/inorganic composites

#### **Biopolymers**

Natural: alginates, collagen, chitosan, glycosaminoglycans (GAGs) and elastin, gelatin and fibrin

Collagen : protein constituted by polypeptide chains

Chitosan: D-glucosamine extracted from shellfish skeleton

#### Synthetic:

PLA/PGA/copolymers PLGA, PLLA: Biodegradable : Weeks to Months

Biocompatible BUT no natural sites for cell adhesion and the in vivo degradation induces local reduction in pH with possible inflammation response.

PEKK (Poly-ether-ketone-ketone): a thermoplastic polymer Use for long-term implantable human devices: unlimited (years)

Orthopedics, neurological, dental, spinal and cardiovascular implants; PEKK-based 3D-printed bones

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#### local reduction in al







Tm= 60°C Tg= -60°C



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How to mímic natural bone for substitute processing? 1<sup>st</sup> Material choice

Biocompatible material :

Natural polymers: collagen and chitosan

Synthetic polymers: PLA, PLGA, PCL, PEKK

Bioactive calcium phosphate ceramic scaffolds : HA, beta-TCP

Bioglasses and Glass ceramics:

CaP-based scaffolds allow new bone formation and biomineralization by surface-induced CaP crystallization and contact osteogenesis.

Organic/inorganic composites

#### Bioactive calcium phosphate ceramics: CaP





phosphates calciques présents en fonction de la composition et de la température.



 $Ca_3(PO_4)_2 \quad Ca_{10}(PO_4)_6OH_2$ 

|                 | Enamel | Dentine | compact<br>bone | ТСР  | HAP   |
|-----------------|--------|---------|-----------------|------|-------|
| Са              | 36,1   | 35      | 35,5            | 38,8 | 45,2  |
| Р               | 17,3   | 17,1    | 17,1            | 20,0 | 21,0  |
| CO <sub>2</sub> | 3      | 4       | 4,4             | -    | -     |
| Ca/P<br>(molar) | 1,61   | 1,58    | 1,60            | 1,50 | 1,667 |

2 phases:  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ 

#### **Resorption rate:** HAP $< \beta$ -TCP $< \alpha$ -TCP



Bio-degradability is depending on the solubility of CaP (+ enzymatic

C.Combes and C.Rey *Biomatériaux à base de phosphates de calcium*, Techniques de l'ingénieur 2013 J.C.Elliot. – Structure and Chemistry of the Apatites and Other Calcium Orthophosphates, Elsevier (1994).

By adjusting the content of  $\beta$ -tricalcium phosphate ( $\beta$ -TCP), CaP-based scaffolds can be made partially degradable.

#### Bioactive calcium phosphate ceramics: CaP

The resorption rate of the scaffolds depends also on the pore size



Increase with an increase of pore size (or a decrease of surface area) with as consequence a decrease of mechanical properties.

Mahdieh Bashoor-Zadeh, Biomaterials 32 (2011) 6362-6373

Experimental data (mCT analysis ) and simulations of samples implanted in bone defects of sheep for 6, 12 and 24 weeks. (a) 128  $\mu$ m, (c) 365  $\mu$ m

10

5

15

Time(week)

20

25

0

0

How to mímic natural bone for substitute processing? 1<sup>st</sup> Material composition

## Biocompatible material :

Natural polymers: collagen and chitosan

Synthetic polymers: PLA, PLGA, PCL

Bioactive calcium phosphate ceramic scaffolds : HA, beta-TCP

Bioglasses and Glass ceramics:

Organic/inorganic composites





Bioglass scaffolds release calcium and phosphate ions from their surface after implantation; this promotes formation of a hydroxycarbonate apatite (HCA) layer on them, most probably by a surface-induced CaP crystallization mechanism. This HCA layer can significantly enhance osteoblast activity, and also adsorb proteins and growth factors that facilitate new bone formation in vivo.

Bioglass<sup>®</sup> 45S5 of composition (in mol%): 46.1 % SiO<sub>2</sub>, 24.4% Na<sub>2</sub>O, 26.9% CaO and 2.6% P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>

Low mechanical properties of bioglasses.

 $\rightarrow$  Glass ceramics

| Property                      | Cerabone | Bioverit I | Highly bioactive glass-ceramic | Bioglass 45S5 |
|-------------------------------|----------|------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Bioactivity class             | В        | В          | А                              | А             |
| Machinability                 | Low      | Good       | Fair                           | Low           |
| Density (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )  | 3.1      | 2.8        | 2.6                            | 2.66          |
| Three-point flexural          | 215      | 140-180    | 210                            | 42            |
| strength (MPa)                |          |            |                                |               |
| Young's modulus (GPa)         | 120      | 70-90      | 70                             | 35            |
| Vickers hardness (HA)         | 680      | 500        | 600                            | 460           |
| Fracture toughness<br>(MPa√m) | 2.0      | 1.2–2.1    | 0.95                           | -             |

S.Hampshire in Advances ceramis biomaterials : materials, devices and challenges Elsevier 2017

Bioactive calcium phosphate ceramics: CaP

The low mechanical properties of calcium phosphate ceramics have to be overcome



The mechanical properties decrease has be balanced by the new bone formation. To date, no suitable solutions have been found for regenerating long and load-bearing bone segments.

Raghunath et al. (2007).

 $\rightarrow$  limited improvement of mechanical properties can be achieved by optimizing their pore architecture.

 $\rightarrow$  seeding the scaffolds with bone marrow stem cells (BMCs) and/or introducing and harboring drugs, genes, and different growth factors into the scaffolds. Quarto R et al. 2001 N.Engl.J.Med. 344 (5) pp 385-386



# Combination of scaffolds with MSC osteoprogenitor cells



Bone volume fraction at 7, 30 and 90 days after surgery in the defect area.

S.Frasca et al J.Mater.Med. (2017) 28:35

Bioactive calcium phosphate ceramics: CaP

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 $\rightarrow$  employing a composite strategy:

\* Sealing surface defects with a biodegradable polymer coating,

\* or developing an interconnected CaP-polymer scaffold, to take advantage of both CaPs and polymers to meet the mechanical and physiological requirements of the host tissue.

How to mímic natural bone for substitute processing? 1<sup>st</sup> Material composition

### Biocompatible material :

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Organic/inorganic composites

# How to mímic natural bone for substitute processing? 1<sup>st</sup> Material composition

Organic/inorganic composites 1.2



# How to mímic natural bone for substitute processing? 2<sup>nd</sup> Porosity architecture

Porous scaffolds for bone regeneration require well-defined pore architectures to facilitate tissue in-growth:

✓ Interconnecting and tortuosity porosity





Schematic of the different pore types found in tissue engineering scaffolds

Porous scaffolds for bone regeneration require well-defined pore architectures to facilitate tissue in-growth:

#### ✓ Communication with neighboring cells

In this context, fabrication of hybrid PCL scaffolds constituted by 3D plotted fibers ( $\emptyset$ 192 $\mu$ m) with nanofibers ( $\emptyset$ 331nm) deposited onto the fibers.

MC3T3-E1 Cell viability on untreated 3D plotted PCL scaffolds, untreated hybrid PCL scaffolds and hybrid scaffolds coated with HA with low and high carbonate content.



Nathalie Luickx, PhD thesis 2016, Gent University (B)



# How to mímic natural bone for substitute processing? 2<sup>nd</sup> Porosity architecture

Porous scaffolds for bone regeneration require well-defined pore architectures to facilitate tissue in-growth:  $6-13 \mu m$  44-149  $\mu m$ 

- ✓ Optimal pore size depending on cell type:
  - 5  $\mu$ m for neovascularization
  - 5-15  $\mu$ m for fibroblast ingrowth
  - 20  $\mu$ m for hepatocytes
  - 200-350  $\mu$ m for osteoconduction
  - $20-125\mu$ m for adult mammalian skin

|      | Pore size (μm) |          | Lamellar<br>thickness | Porosity (%) |  |
|------|----------------|----------|-----------------------|--------------|--|
|      | а              | b        | (μm)                  |              |  |
| IT 3 | 6 ± 2          | 13 ± 5   | 7 ± 3                 | 53 ± 1       |  |
| IT 7 | 44 ± 11        | 149 ± 60 | 43 ± 29               | 36 ± 1       |  |



MG63 size: 10 µm width, 50 µm length

Porous scaffolds for bone regeneration require well-defined pore architectures to facilitate tissue in-growth:

✓ Shape porosity



M.Lasgorceix, Ph.D. SPCTS Limoges 2014

 $^{\ast}~$  collaboration with  $\mathbf{Dr}~\mathbf{Urda}~\mathbf{R}\mathbf{\ddot{u}}\mathbf{drich}$ 



# How to mímic natural bone for substitute processing? 2<sup>nd</sup> Porosity architecture

✓ Adequate surface properties:

Surface roughness modulates the biological response of tissues in contact with the implant. Direct influence in vitro as well as in vivo on:

- cellular morphology, proliferation,

- phenotype expression





Static osteoblast morphology

# How to mímic natural bone for substitute processing? 2<sup>nd</sup> Porosity architecture

Porous scaffolds for bone regeneration require well-defined pore architectures to facilitate tissue in-growth:

#### ✓ Adequate surface properties:



SEM pictures of MG63 cells attached to PC membrane surfaces with different micropore sizes: (A) 0.2, (B) 0.4, (C) 1.0, (D) 3.0, (E) 5.0, and (F) 8.0 µm. S. J. Lee et al., 2004

Cell adhesion and proliferation were progressively inhibited as the PC membranes had micropores with increasing size, probably due to surface discontinuities

### ✓ Adequate surface properties:

SEM pictures of MG63 cells attached to HA surfaces treated by laser

**D1** 



<u>Surface</u>: **polished** <u>Cell density</u>: low <u>Morphology</u>: random

<u>Surface</u>: **linear patterned** <u>Cell density</u>: medium <u>Morphology</u>: elongated, tendency of elongation along the grooves

<u>Surface</u>: honey patterned <u>Cell density</u>: high <u>Morphology</u>: adjustable

*M.* Lasgorceix et al ,«Micropatterning of beta tricalcium phosphate bioceramic surfaces, by femtosecond laser, for bone marrow stem cells behavior assessment", sent to be published in JECS.

#### ✓ Adequate surface properties:



#### ✓ Adequate surface properties:

## linear

**D1** Elongation along the grooves Ability to adapt morphology to follow the design



Cell density remains sufficiently low to allow cell population growth after day 1

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honey

# MG63 cell behaviour

D7

smooth

linear

honey

а d g

presence of several cell layers on all surfaces

orientation of the cells still clearly identified, even on the top cellular layer

effect of the surface pattern is not limited at the first cell layer covering the surface

M. Lasgorceix, BCRC, 2017

# How to mímic natural bone for substitute processing? 2<sup>nd</sup> Porosíty architecture

Porous scaffolds for bone regeneration require well-defined pore architectures to facilitate tissue in-growth:

#### ✓ Adequate surface properties:

В



Various techniques to prepare polymeric micro- or nano-patterned surfaces for cell engineering purposes:

(A) nanotopography formed via polymers spontaneously phase separate;

(B) colloids act as etch masks for topography formation;

C) Application of electron beam lithography on surface biopatterning





# How to mimic natural bone for substitute processing?

## Part I: Requirements for ideal scaffolds

Porous scaffolds for bone regeneration require well-defined pore architectures (pore size , shape, adequate surface properties ...).

 $\rightarrow$  New processing concepts of free-form fabrication have been developed to prepare scaffolds with tailor-made interconnected macroporosity.

 $\rightarrow$  Scaffolds with customized external geometry may also be prepared on an industrial scale.

## Part II: Fabrication technologies

Part III: Example of comparative study on cell colonization inside ceramic scaffolds presenting different architectures

### 1. Solvent casting & particulate leaching

- Simple and most commonly used method for fabricating polymeric scaffolds.
- Method involves mixing water soluble salt (e.g., NaCl) particles into a biodegradable polymer solution
  - Mixture cast into the mold of the desired shape.
  - Solvent removed by evaporation, vacuum or lyophilization
  - Salt particles are leached out by water to obtain a porous structure



Porous scaffold formed through particulate leaching technique

#### Advantages:

- 1. Simple operation
- 2. Adequate control of pore size and porosity by salt/polymer ratio

and particle size of the added salt, respectively

#### Limitations:

- 1. Cubic crystal shape of the salt
- 2. NaCl residues
- 3. Thickness: 0.5-2 mm
- 4. Issues with pore interconnectivity

### 2.Replica techniques



**Replica technique** is based on the impregnation of a cellular structure with a ceramic slurry in order to produce a macroporous ceramic exhibiting the same morphology as the original porous material.

Many synthetic or natural cellular structures can be used as templates.
#### Scaffold Fabrication technologies a. Replica Synthetic or natural template Synthetic or S

# Synthetic templates:

-Highly porous polymeric sponge (typically polyurethane) is initially soaked into a ceramic suspension until the internal pores are filled in with ceramic material. -The impregnated sponge is then passed through rollers to remove the excess suspension and enable the formation of a thin ceramic coating over the struts of the original cellular structure.

-The ceramic coated polymeric template is dried and pyrolysed and finally the ceramic coating is sintered.





Macropore and interconnection sizes depend on foam characteristics and on CaP slurry properties F. Lelièvre & A. Destainville,

Thèses, Limoges, 1992 & 2005



# Natural templates: Coral CaCO<sub>3</sub>

The coral exhibit the presence of both calcite and aragonite phases and presents a porous structure which depends on coral species:

- Acropora (20% porosity) near to compact bone
- Porites (50% porosity) near to spongy bone

The pore size varies between 150 and 500 microns versus species.  $\rightarrow$  coral can be directly used as bone substitute









# Natural templates: Coral

First method: 1970 White et al. lost-wax method named "replamineform"

-The coral is first impregnated with wax under vacuum to obtain a negative form of the cellular form.

-After hardening the wax, the calcium carbonate of the coralline skeleton is leached out using a strong acidic solution.

-The wax model is impregnated with a ceramic suspension and subsequently removed by pyrolysis.

### Second method: 1974 D. M. Roy and S. K. Linnehan

The coral is directly converted into macroporous scaffolds by hydrothermal treatments at high temperatures and pressures in a phosphate solution. The carbonate ions from the aragonite material ( $CaCO_3$ ) originally present in the coral are partially or totally replaced by phosphate ions to form hydroxyapatite.



# Natural templates: wood

The presence of oriented vessels in the structure of wood enables the preparation of macroporous ceramics with highly anisotropic aligned pores.



**Replica from wood** 

### **CRITERIA OF SELECTION:**

- Hierarchical and anisotropic structure
- Microstructural properties (pore size and distribution, pore interconnection)



### **Replica from wood**

# **RATTAN WOOD REPRODUCES SPONGY BONE**



#### **Replica from wood**







#### MG63 osteoblast-7 days



hydroxyapatite scaffolds derived by rattan for sheep implant

# **3.Sacrificial template technique**



**Sacrificial template technique** consists of the preparation of a biphasic composite comprising a continuous matrix of ceramic particles and a dispersed sacrificial phase. This phase is extracted to generate pores within the structure. This method leads to porous materials displaying a negative replica of the original sacrificial template contrarily to the previous replica methods.



Wide variety of sacrificial materials: synthetic organics : PVB beads, PMMA or PMMA-PEG beads, ... natural organics: sucrose, wax, starch...

The biphasic composite is prepared by various ways:

- a) Pressing a powder mixture of the two components
- b) Forming a two-phase suspension that is processed by wet colloidal routes such as slip or tape casting
- c) Impregnating previously consolidated preforms of the sacrificial material with the ceramic suspension.

The organics are after extracted through pyrolysis by applying long heating times at temperatures between 200 and 600°C depending on organic species.



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- a) Pressing a powder mixture of the two components
- b) Forming a two-phase suspension that is processed by wet colloidal routes such as slip or tape casting
- c) Impregnating previously consolidated preforms of PMMA beads scaffold with the CaP powder suspension.

The organics are after extracted through pyrolysis by applying long heating times at temperatures between 200 and 600°C depending on organic species.



Impregnation of PMMA beads consolidated preforms with CaP powder suspension.



### **Chemical forming** with acetone

#### under pressure





100µm X200

- Bonding between PMMA beads (scaffold)
- Controlled diameter bonding (Interconnection) depends on time, temperature, pressure



### Impregnation of PMMA beads consolidated preforms with CaP powder suspension.



- > Control of pore size depending on PMMA beads size
- Control of interconnection diameters: Id
  PMMA beads (500 600 μm)
  Id : 60 μm





Id: 260 μm



Control of porosity gradient in pore size and interconnection size





# Possibility to add microporosity by mixing graphite as micropore forming agent.



# Impregnation of PMMA beads consolidated preforms with CaP powder suspension.

Debinding: 220°C 30 hours + 400°C 5 hours Sintering: 1115°C 3 hours



B550 pore diameter 400 μm interconnection 45 - 65 μm Density of ceramic walls = 99 % Porosity = 65% Spherical pores homogeneously distributed in space with several interconnecting holes.



Impregnation of PMMA beads consolidated preforms with CaP powder suspension.





# Wide variety of sacrificial materials:

synthetic organics : PVB beads, PMMA or PMMA-PEG beads, ...

natural organics: sucrose, wax, starch...

# liquids: freeze-drying of water

By using liquid pore formers such as water and oils, liquids and volatile oils can be evaporated or sublimated at milder conditions without generating toxic gases and excessive stresses during pore former removal.



# **Freeze Foaming**

- Foaming process is based on pressure reduction in the vacuum chamber of a freeze dryer

- Pores through rising water vapor, procedural air and later sublimation of frozen water (aqueous suspensions)



#### **Freeze Foaming : Advantages**





Patent: DE 10 2008 000 100, Tassilo Moritz

- No pore-forming agents needed (Replica or Placeholder Technique)→ environmentally friendly
- Foam with high amount of open porosity (50 -95%) and bimodal pore size distribution
- Meso- to macropores
- Near-net shaping possibility → personalization
- Different materials → different product lines according to the needs.

# **Freeze casting – ice templating**

The objective was to mimic the nacre structure by using an oriented freezing process to allow oriented pore development.



# **Freeze casting**



S. Deville et al,, Biomaterials 27 (2006) 5480-5489



**Freeze casting** 



Pore long axis size:

- between 150 and 340 μm versus dry matter content
- between 13 and 210 μm versus cooling rate .

Total porosity: 36 to 67 % versus dry matter %

D. Hautcoeur Ph D UMons-BCRC Nov 2014



# **Freeze casting**

# Human bone













#### D. Hautcoeur Ph D UMons-BCRC Nov 2014

# Freeze drying

## Applied also to biopolymers

- Method consists of creating an emulsion by homogenization of a polymer solution (in an organic solvent) or water mixture
- Rapidly cooling the emulsion to lock in the liquid state structure
- Removing solvent (water) by freeze-drying
- Can control pore morphology (to some extent) by controlling rate of freezing and final freezing temperature.









### **Freeze drying**

Aligned porous PVA scaffolds prepared by directional freezing

- Influence of freezing rate and final freezing temperature
- Constant cooling rate technique produced pores with a more uniform size and structure





Porous collagen-GAG scaffolds obtained with cooling rate (0.9C/min), (*O'Brien et al 2004*)

Effect of freeze-drying temperature on mean pore size of CG scaffolds.(*O'Brien et al 2005*)



**Direct foaming technique** consists of the incorporation of air into a suspension to create air bubbles.

The incorporation of bubbles can be carried out by mechanical agitation or by chemical reaction accompanied by degassing.

The total porosity of sintered foamed ceramics is proportional to the amount of gas incorporated into the liquid and is between 40% - 97%. The pore size depends on the stability of the wet foam before setting takes place  $\rightarrow$  foam stabilization with surfactant is necessary to control bubble size and final pore size (10 µm - 300 µm).

Schematic dependence of the disjoining pressure among two interacting gas bubbles as a function of their distance D.



Coalescence is favored by attractive van der Waals forces (a)

and can only be hindered by providing steric and/or electrostatic repulsion among the interacting bubbles (b) by adding long-chain surfactants or proteins or by adding colloidal particles.

A.R.Studart et al JACS 89 [6]1771-1789 (2006)

#### Direct foaming with long chain surfactant



The stabilisation with colloidal particles produces macroporous ceramics with smaller pore sizes (10 to 100  $\mu$ m instead of 35 to 1200  $\mu$ m).



Direct foaming with colloidal particles

#### Direct foaming with surfactant



Direct foaming with particles

The foam lifetime can be increased to several hours by adsorbing long-chain surfactants.



The foam lifetime can be increased to several days by adsorbing colloidal particles in the air bubbles.



## Direct foaming technique

The direct foaming technique leads usually to close porosity (Fig a)

but open porosity ceramics can be obtained - by decreasing the concentration of stabilizing particles -or by adding minor amounts (<1wt%) of a sacrificial phase (e.g. graphite particles) (Fig b).

A.R.Studart et al JACS 89 [6]1771-1789 (2006)



# Direct foaming by gel casting technique

Another way to stabilise the bubbles is to gelify the slurry. Suspensions of CaP particles in water with dispersing agents and organic monomers are foamed by agitation with surfactant under a nitrogen atmosphere. In situ polymerisation of the monomers is initiated to provoke cross-linking and form a 3D polymeric network (gel) before casting. Porous samples are sintered. Foam volume (and hence porosity) could be controlled by the surfactant concentration in the slurry, producing pores of maximum diameter of 100–200  $\mu$ m.

### **Direct foaming technique**



**Fig:** Fabrication of porous scaffolds by gas foaming/particulate leaching: Sieved effervescent salt particles are dispersed in polymer gel paste, cast on a Teflon mold for solvent evaporation, immersed in water for gas foaming/salt leaching, and freeze dried. (*Jung Chung 2007, Adv Drug Delivery Reviews*)


|                   | Method      | Porosity<br>(%) | Pore size (µm) | Pore size<br>distribution | Pore shape  | Space<br>distribution |
|-------------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| Replica           | PU sponge   | 40 to 95        | 150 to 1300    | Wide                      | Random      | Anisotropic           |
|                   | Coral       | 20 to 50        | 150 to 500     | Wide                      | Random      | Anisotropic           |
|                   | Wood        | 25 to 95        | 10 to 300      | Trimodal                  | Elongated   | Columnar              |
|                   | PMMA        | 25 to 90        | 250 to 1000    | Monomodal or              | Spherical   | Isotropic             |
|                   | beads       |                 |                | multimodal                |             |                       |
|                   | Freeze      | 50 to 95        | 2 to 90        | Bimodal                   | Spherical   | Isotropic             |
| Sacrificial       | foaming     |                 |                |                           |             | -                     |
| templates         | Ice-        | 30 to 65        | 5 to 200 width | Monomodal                 | Ellipsoidal | Columnar              |
| -                 | templating  |                 | 10 to 500      |                           |             |                       |
|                   | (freeze     |                 | length         |                           |             |                       |
|                   | casting)    |                 |                |                           |             |                       |
| Direct<br>foaming | With        | 40 to 95        | 30 to 1000     | Wide                      | Spherical   | Isotropic             |
|                   | surfactant  |                 |                |                           |             |                       |
|                   | With        | 40 to 90        | 20 to 300      | Wide                      | Spherical   | Isotropic             |
|                   | particles   |                 |                |                           |             |                       |
|                   | Gel casting | 40 to 90        | 100 to 1000    | Wide                      | Spherical   | Isotropic             |

## **5. 3D-Additive manufacturing technique**

**3D Additive manufacturing technique** consists of production of highly complex 3D objects using data generated by computer aided design (CAD) systems.

An image of a defect in a patient can be taken (e.g. by X-ray microtomography, CT scan), which is used to develop 3D CAD computer model. The computer can then reduce the model to slices or layers.

The 3D objects are constructed layer-by-layer using rapid prototyping techniques :

- Paste extrusion techniques,
- Selective laser sintering,
- Binder jetting,
- Stereo lithography.

These techniques are traditionally applied to polymers and recently extended to ceramics.



### **Additive Manufacturing**

### Scaffold Fabrication technologies

### **1.Paste extrusion**

### **FDM** : fused deposition modeling

- Incandescent material extruded through a nozzle
- The solidification of each layer takes place instantly in contact with the previous one

### **3DPlot** : threedimensional-plotting

Liquid or paste extruded through a mobile head, using compressed air

### MJS : multiphase jet solidification

- Binder-powder mixture heated and extruded through a nozzle by a pumping system
- The nozzle scans horizontally to deposit the melting loading

[Kupp et al., Proceedings of the SFF Symposium. 1997]

### **ROD** : robotic dispensing

- Ejection of a slurry in a solvent to induce precipitation
- Freezing and lyophilizing



Polymer [Zein et al., Biomaterials. 2002;23:1169–85]



### Hydroxyapatite

[Dellinger et al., J Biomed Mater Res. 2007;82A:383-94]



### HA/Chitosan

[Ang et al., Mater. Sci. Eng. 2002;20:35–42]

### Robocasting

Robocasting of a preceramic polymer + fillers paste for the production of bioceramic scaffolds. A.Zocca, G. Franchin, H. Elsayed, E. Bernardo, P. Colombo. Department of Industrial Engineering, University of Padova, Italy

### Paste extrusion technique

### Robocasting

Robotic-assisted deposition consists of the robotic deposition of inks capable to fully supporting their own weight during assembly.





Surface Strut thickness : 200 to 500 μm Line spacing : 75 to 500 μm



β-TCP scaffold (P. Miranda González)



HA part with a gradient in porosity after printing and sintering (P=45%,  $\sigma_c = 25$ -40 MPa)

Scaffold Fabrication technologies

## 2.Selective laser consolidation

### **SLS** : selective laser sintering

- A laser beam scans the surface of a powder bed, mixed with a binder
  - → formation of a layer of material by selective sintering
- The non-sintered powder is then removed by brushing and / or blowing





Polymer ; CaP ; polymer/CaP composite [Duan et al., Acta Biomater. 2010;6:4495–505]



CaP craniofacial implant Polymer/HA composite [Lee et al., Proc. Solid Free. Fabr. Symp. 1994;191–7] [Eosoly et al., Acta Biomater. 2010;6:2511–7]

Scaffold Fabrication technologies

### **SLM** : selective laser melting

The powder is melted under the laser irradiation



**2.Selective laser consolidation** 

#### Titanium

[Fukuda et al., Acta *Biomater.* 2011;7:2327–36]



### $\beta$ -TCP / PDLLA composite

[Lindner et al., J. Biomed. Mater. Res. A. 2011;97:466-71]



[Van Bael et al.,

Acta Biomater. 2012;8:2824-34]

## **3.Binder jetting**

 Binder jetting – a liquid bonding agent is selectively deposited to consolidate a powder bed

**3DP** : threedimensional-printing



[Warnke et al., J. Biomed. Mater. Res. B Appl. Biomater. 2010;93:212-7]

#### Scaffold Fabrication technologies

## 4.Stereolithography (SLA) and microstereolithography (µ-SLA)



#### Scaffold Fabrication technologies

## 4.Stereolithography (SLA) and microstereolithography (µ-SLA)

### **HAP Biactive Implant**



| 3D AM techniques                 | Tolerance     | Advantages   | Limitations   |
|----------------------------------|---------------|--|---|
| Material extrusion               | 0.5 to 1mm    | <ul> <li>Ease of support removal</li> <li>Good mechanical properties</li> <li>No material waste</li> </ul>                     | - Precision limited by the filament diameter (about 1mm)  |
| Binder jetting                   | 0.05 to 0.1mm | <ul> <li>Wide variety of materials</li> <li>Simple technology</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>High roughness of the surface</li> <li>Expensive technology</li> <li>Poor mechanical properties</li> <li>Use of toxic organic binders</li> </ul> |
| Selective laser<br>consolidation | 0.2 to 0.5mm  | <ul> <li>High production rates possible</li> <li>Complex designs</li> <li>Low costs</li> <li>Good surface finishing</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>High roughness of the surface</li> <li>Poor mechanical properties</li> <li>Limited to materials which absorb IR light</li> </ul>                 |
| Stereolithography                | 0.01 to 0.1mm | <ul> <li>Complex designs</li> <li>Good surface finishing</li> <li>Good mechanical properties</li> <li>High accuracy</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Expensive photosensitive resins</li> <li>Cleaning step necessary</li> <li>Control of the vertical accuracy</li> </ul>                            |

Review: Additive Manufacturing to Produce Complex 3D Ceramic Parts T. Chartier, C. Dupas, M. Lasgorceix, J. Brie, E. Champion, N. Delhote, Chr. Chaput *J. Ceram. Sci. Tech.*, **xx** [xx] xx (2015) DOI: 10.4416/JCST2014-00040

# How to mimic natural bone for substitute processing?

## Part I: Requirements for ideal scaffolds

## Part II: Fabrication technologies

Many techniques are today employed to produce macroporous bioceramics with varying structural and mechanical properties.

Most of them are already commercially used.

The more recent 3D-manufacturing methods are promising to producing specific interconnected scaffold architectures with various pore size and morphologies and pore size gradient, not achievable by the usual techniques .

# How to mímic natural bone for substitute processing? 2nd Porosity architecture

### ✓ Porosity gradient

### **3D- printing**

TCP paste was extruded from Simulation of cortico-cancellous bone structure by 3D printing (3D bio plotting system EnvisionTEC, Germany) of bilayer calcium phosphate-based Scaffolds

Thafar Almela et al Bioprinting 2017 DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.bprint.2017.04.001



# How to mímic natural bone for substitute processing? 2nd Porosity architecture

✓ Porosity gradient

# Freeze casting by ice-templating + PMMA route

- •Add few mL of slurry inside the mould at -20°C
- Wait few minutes to freeze and place at the centre the pre-sintered ceramic scaffold.
- Wait until it is blocked by ice before adding more slurry and wait for a total freezing





## **Freeze casting by ice-templating + PMMA route**



S.Chamary et al Journal Ceramics International 2017

How to mimic natural bone for substitute processing?

## Part I: Requirements for ideal scaffolds

Part II: Fabrication technologies

Part III: Example of comparative study on cell colonization inside ceramic scaffolds presenting different architectures

# Objectives: Study of influence of $\beta$ -TCP porous architecture on cell invasion, proliferation and osteogenesis

|                          | Samples                 | Shaping techniques             | Porosity (%)   | Ø pore and interconnexion (µm)   |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|
|                          | 3D                      | stereo lithography             | 50             | 500 / 100                        |
|                          | PS                      | Polymer                        | 65             | 400 – 500 / 100                  |
| 30KU X35 500FA 607360    | BIO 1<br>BIO 4<br>BIO 7 | Freeze casting                 | 50<br>50<br>36 | 150 / 40<br>360 / 55<br>150 / 45 |
| MG63<br>Osteoblasts      |                         | 2 x 10 <sup>5</sup> cells/well | 11             | mm                               |
| HMSC<br>Osteoprogenitors |                         | 2 x 10 <sup>4</sup> cells/well |                | 3 mm                             |

- Cell morphology: OM and SEM and Cell activity : MTT et Resazurine
- Proteic activity: alkaline phosphatase biochemical marker of cellular differenciation

Training school Non Living Materials Meet Living Biology, Patras, Greece 9-12 May, 2017

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### **Cell colonization with MG63 osteoblasts**



## 4 days PMMA beads 450μm



**Ice-templating** 366/54 μm, P= 51%, t=52μm



**Stereolithography** 450μm













#### HMSC Osteoprogenitors

Cell proliferation

150/45 μm

Bio7





36%



- not visible after 21 days
- Penetration starting at day 28, increase at day 35 but much lower than for the other freeze cast scaffolds



• Cellular proliferation (Resazurine)

-Latence period followed by regular growth

-Confluence reached at day 28 for all the samples and at day 21 for the control

-PS and 3D are very good substrates for cell culture

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### **Alkaline phosphatase - HMSC**





The freeze cast scaffolds due to their particular pore morphology present a more rapid cell differentiation into osteoblasts.

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# Conclusion

- The choice of the shaping technique has to be done according to the desired pore size range and architecture in relation to the application (implantation site : load or non load bearing area, defect size,...)
- The cell differentiation is influenced by pore architecture.
- The additive manufacturing techniques are very promising to achieve mimic porous architectures and hybrid composites constituted by both mineral and polymeric materials. These techniques can manufacture pore size and shape gradient favorable to a fast cell invasion into the center of scaffolds.

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### Replica from wood STAGES OF BIOMORPHIC TRANSFORMATION OF WOOD



Slow heating/cooling (1°C/h) to decompose the organic component and maintain the wood structure



1mm

Carburization Carbon  $\rightarrow$  CaC<sub>2</sub>

Highly controlled heterogeneous gas/solid reaction between gaseous Ca and solid carbon.

Oxidation  $CaC_2 \rightarrow CaO$ 



### Two chemical reactions are competing in the

oxidation process.

| $CaC_2 + 2H_2O \rightarrow Ca(OH)_2 + C_2H_2$ | $2CaC_2 + 5O_2 \rightarrow 2CaCO_3 + 2CO_2$ |
|---|---|
| $Ca(OH)_2 \rightarrow CaO + H_2O$             | $CaCO_3 \rightarrow CaO + CO_2$             |
| $CaC_2 + H_2O \rightarrow CaO + C_2H_2$       | $2CaC_2 + 5O_2 \rightarrow 2CaO + 4CO_2$    |

3mm

### STAGES OF BIOMORPHIC TRANSFORMATION OF WOOD

 $CaO + CO_2 \rightarrow CaCO_3$ 



Carbonation of CaO is carried out at high temperature and  $CO_2$  pressure to achieve effective  $CO_2$  diffusion in the whole scaffold.





 $10CaCO_3 + 6(NH_4)_2HPO_4 + 2H_2O = Ca_{10}(PO_4)_6(OH)_2 + 6(NH_4)_2CO_3 + 4H_2CO_3$ 



## **Diffusion Constraints of Scaffolds**



 Tissue engineering scaffold is typically an open-cell foam structure. Oxygen and nutrients are supplied from the liquid cell culture medium via diffusion.



**2. Cell seeding** on scaffold. Many techniques available. Simplest form is pipetting.

## **Diffusion Constraints of Scaffolds**



**3. Cells start to proliferate and migrate** into the pores of the scaffold.



4. Cells fully **colonise the pores** and start to **lay down** their own extracellular matrix **(ECM)** 

## **Diffusion Constraints of Scaffolds**



5. Top layer of cells consume most oxygen and nutrients in addition to limiting the diffusion of these components

6. Reducing amount available for pioneering cells migrating deep into the scaffold.

7. Eventually, **cellular migration/ECM deposition is halted** due to the lack of oxygen and nutrients supply.

8. Layer of cells that can survive on the diffusion of oxygen and nutrients from the medium is called the cellular penetration depth (Dp).

# **Scaffold Fabrication Techniques**

| Methods                                     | Merits   | Demerits  | References                         |
|---|--|---|------------------------------------|
| Solvent casting/<br>particulate<br>leaching | Control over<br>Porosity, pore size<br>and crystallinity                     | Limited mechanical<br>property, residual<br>solvents and porogen<br>material  | Ma, 2007;<br>Xiang et al.,<br>2006 |
| Porogen leaching                            | Controlled over<br>porosity and pore<br>geometry                             | Inadequate pore size<br>and pore<br>interconnectivity                         | Mano et al.,<br>2007               |
| Gas foaming                                 | Free of harsh organic<br>solvents, control over<br>porosity and pore<br>size | Limited mechanical<br>property, inadequate<br>pore interconnectivity          | Ikada., 2006                       |
| Self assembly                               | Control over<br>porosity, pore size<br>and fiber diameter                    | Expensive material,<br>complex design<br>parameters                           | Zhang et al.,<br>2003; 2006        |
| Electrospinning                             | Control over<br>porosity, pore size<br>and fiber diameter                    | Limited mechanical<br>property, pore size<br>decrease with fiber<br>thickness | Liang et al.,<br>2007              |
| Phase separation                            | No decrease in the activity of the molecule                                  | Difficult to control<br>precisely scaffold<br>morphology                      | Smith et al.,<br>2006              |

# **Scaffold Fabrication Techniques**

| Rapid<br>prototyping   | Excellent control over<br>geometry, porosity,<br>no supporting<br>material required | Limited polymer type,<br>highly expensive<br>equipment                        | Hutmacher et<br>al., 2000; 2001                    |
|------------------------|---|---|--|
| Fiber mesh             | Large surface area for<br>cell attachment, rapid<br>nutrient diffusion              | Lack the structural stability   | Chen et al.,<br>2002                               |
| Fiber bonding          | High surface to<br>volume ratio, high<br>porosity                                   | Poor mechanical<br>property, limited<br>applications to other<br>polymers     | Mooney et al.,<br>1996                             |
| Melt molding           | Independent control<br>over porosity and<br>pore size                               | Required high<br>temperature for non<br>amorphous polymer                     | Thompson et al., 1995 a; b                         |
| Membrane<br>lamination | Provide 3D matrix   | Lack required<br>mechanical strength,<br>inadequate pore<br>interconnectivity | Maquet &<br>Jerome, 1997                           |
| Freeze drying          | High temperature<br>and separate leaching<br>step not required                      | Small pore size and long processing time                                      | Boland et al.,<br>2004; Mandal<br>& Kundu,<br>2008 |

# How to mímic natural bone for substitute processing? 1<sup>st</sup> Material composition



Cells in various tissues can sense the elasticity of the matrix and transduce the mechanical signals into various physiological responds.

Therefore, biomaterials with matched mechanical properties with the defective tissue have good bioadaptability

A.J. Engler, S. Sen, H.L. Sweeney, D.E. Discher, Cell 126 (2006) 677–689.

Tissue elasticity (A) and stem cell differentiation on glass matrix with various mechanical properties
## Comparison of the three different macroporosities

**Ice-templating** 

## Cell colonization with MG63 osteoblasts?

366/54 μm, P= 51%, t=52μm

## **PMMA beads** 450μm

1 day















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