

# MY ACTIVITIES AT THE IMID

## 2020-2024

**Martin Vrbka**

30 years  
at **FME BUT**  
1995-2025

20 years  
at **IMID**  
2004-2024

Biotribology Research Group

Department of Tribology  
Institute of Machine and Industrial Design  
Faculty of Mechanical Engineering  
Brno University of Technology

Brno, 26<sup>th</sup> February 2025

# CONTENT OF PRESENTATION

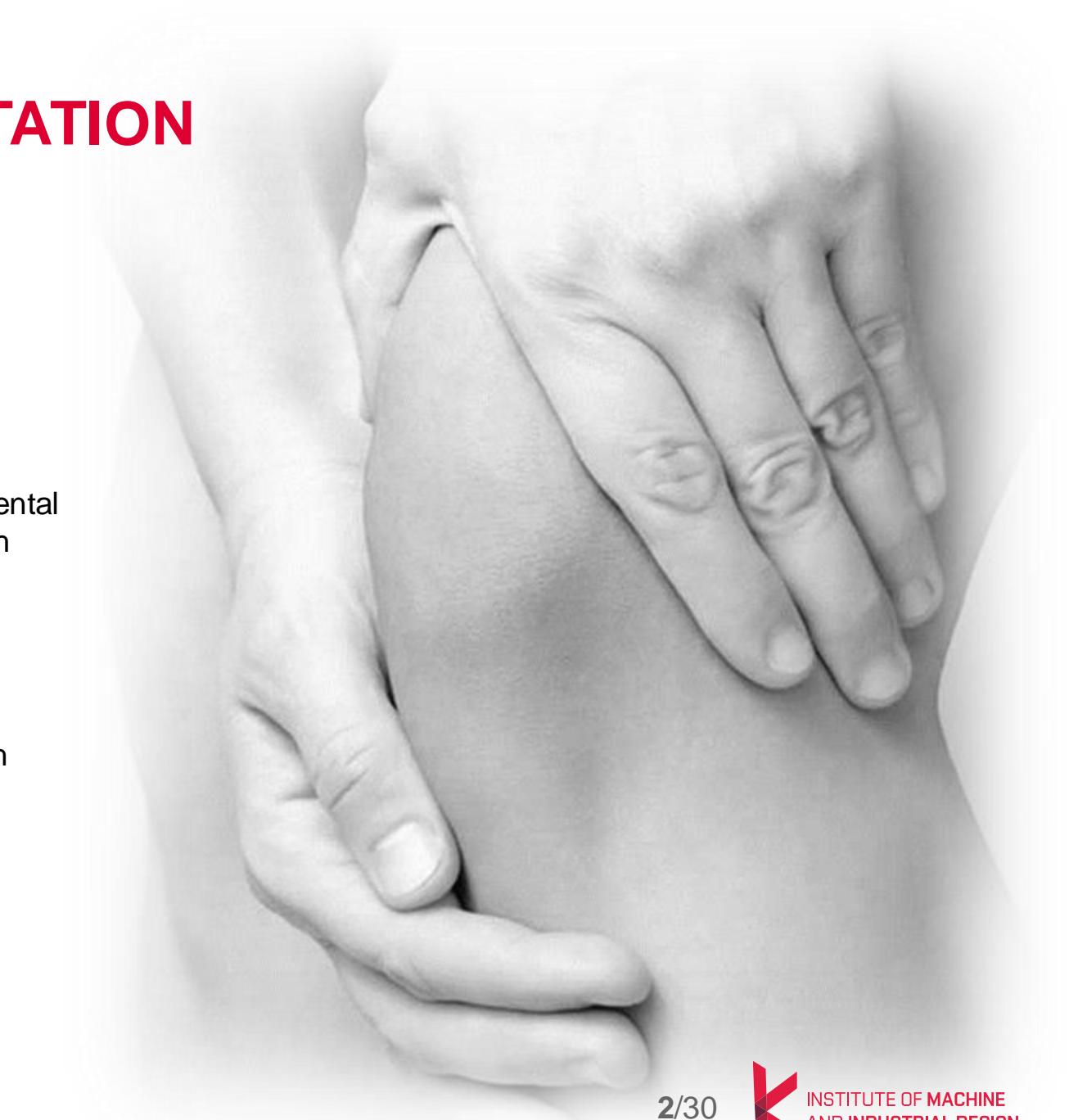
- Biotribology as a part of Biomedical Engineering
- Biotribology Research Group

- 
- Viscosupplementation of articular cartilage
  - Superlubricity of synovial joint
  - Lubrication of 3D printed joint implants
  - Loss of shoe outsole adhesion
  - Treatment of dry eye syndrome
  - Treatment of lower back pain
  - Effect of toothpaste on teeth brushing
  - Development of dental lacquer

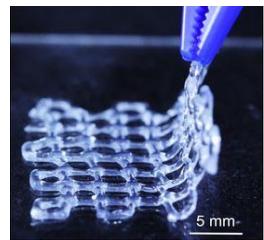
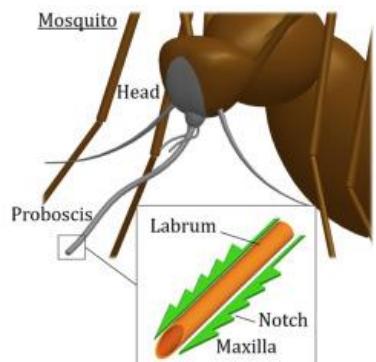
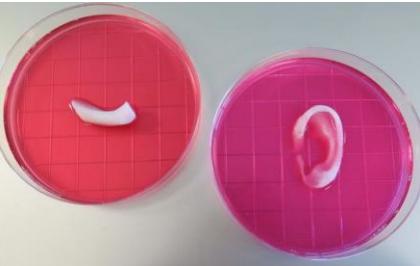
fundamental  
research

applied  
research

- 
- Teaching & other activities
  - About me & my hobbies



# BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING (BME)



Molecular, cell, and tissue engineering

Drug design and delivery systems

Regenerative medicine and cell therapies

Personalized medicine, genomics, and proteomics

Biomimetics

Micro and nanotechnology and bioMEMs

Prosthetic devices and artificial organs

Telemedicine and E-health

Clinical engineering

Biomechanics

Biotribology

Human performance engineering

Rehabilitation engineering

Bioelectric and physiologic systems modeling

Biosignals and biosensors

Biomedical instrumentation and devices

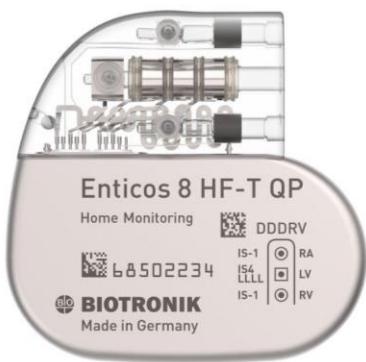
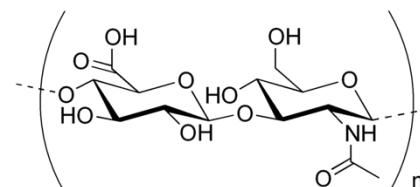
Neural engineering

Medical and infrared imaging

Medical robotics

Medical and biological analysis

Biotechnology



# BIOTRIBOLOGY RESEARCH GROUP



Prof., IMID  
director



Prof., Head of  
Dept. of Tribology

- Established in **2010**
- Members: **~20**
- PhD students: **4**
- Defended PhD: **5**
- Defended MSc: **20**
- Defended BSc: **20**
- Papers in IF journals: **44**
- Papers in Scopus: **11**
- Received projects: **13**
- Project funds: **\*45/88 mil. CZK**  
\*without MEBioSys
- Awards: **8**



Prof., Head of Biotribology  
Research Group



Assoc. Prof.



Assist. Prof. (postdoc)



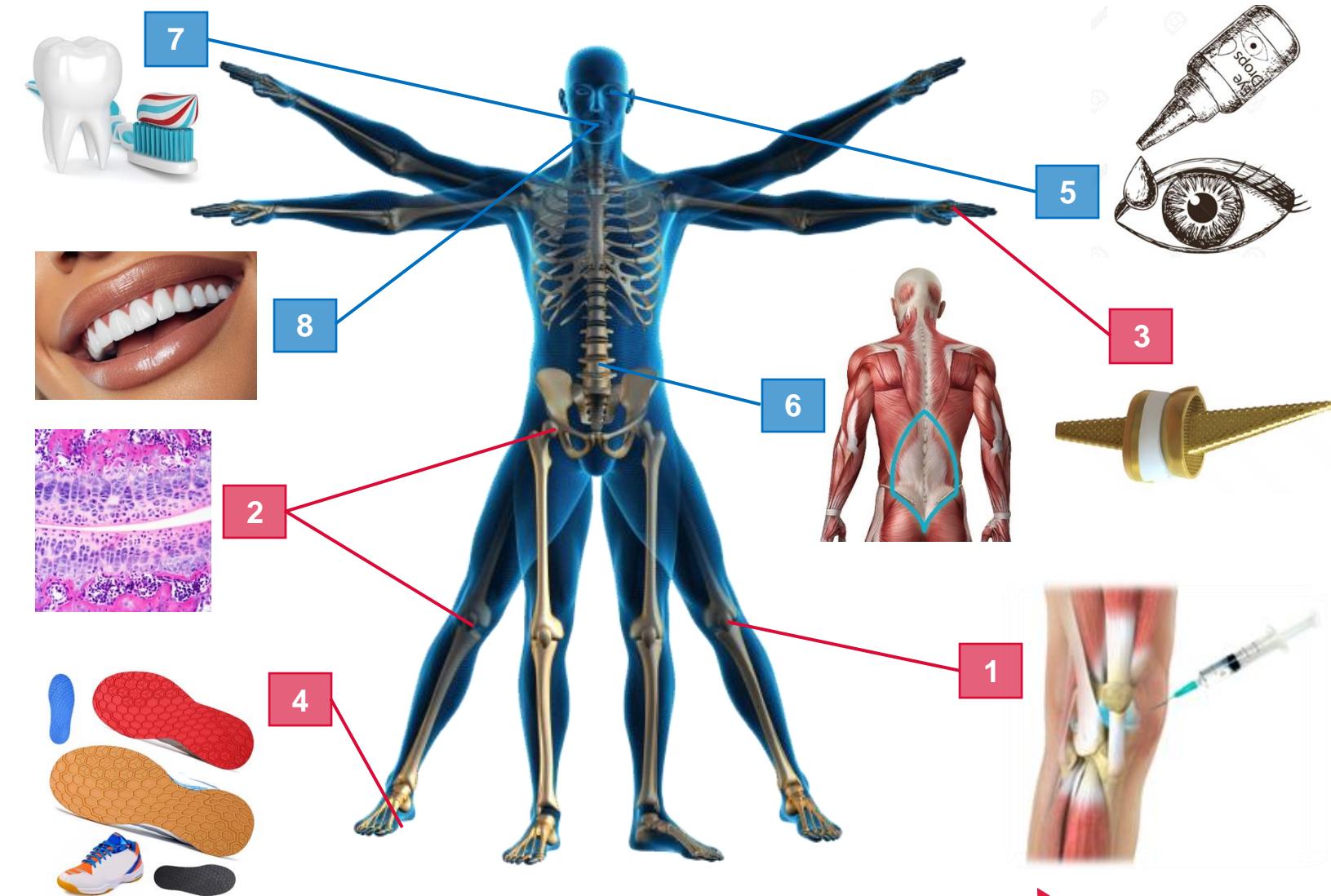
PhD students – 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> year



MSc students – 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> year

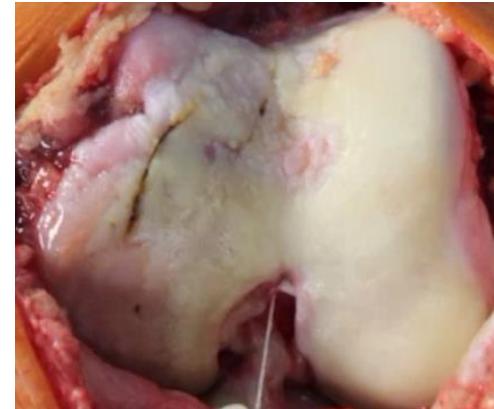
# OUR RESEARCH TASKS IN BIOTRIBOLOGY (2020-2024)

1. Viscosupplementation of articul. cartilage  
**GA ČR Standard (2020-2022)**
2. Superlubricity of the synovial joint  
**MŠMT OP JAK, WP A.2.1 (2023-2028)**
3. Lubrication of 3D printed joint implants  
**GA ČR Standard (2022-2024)**
4. Loss of shoe outsole adhesion  
**Specific University Research (2024)**
5. Treatment of dry eye syndrome  
**TA ČR Trend (2020-2023)**
6. Treatment of lower back pain  
**OP PIK Applications (2020-2022)**
7. Effect of toothpaste on teeth brushing  
**Innovation vouchers (2023 & 2024)**
8. Development of dental lacquer  
**OP PIK Applications (2021-2023)**

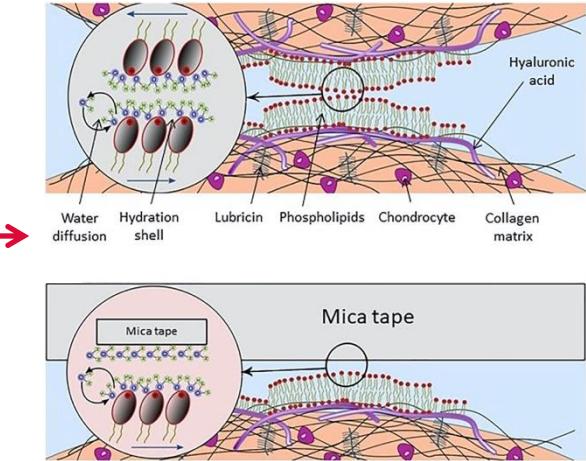
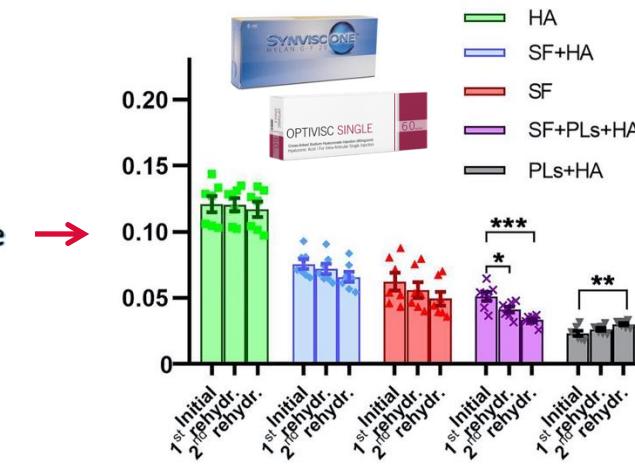
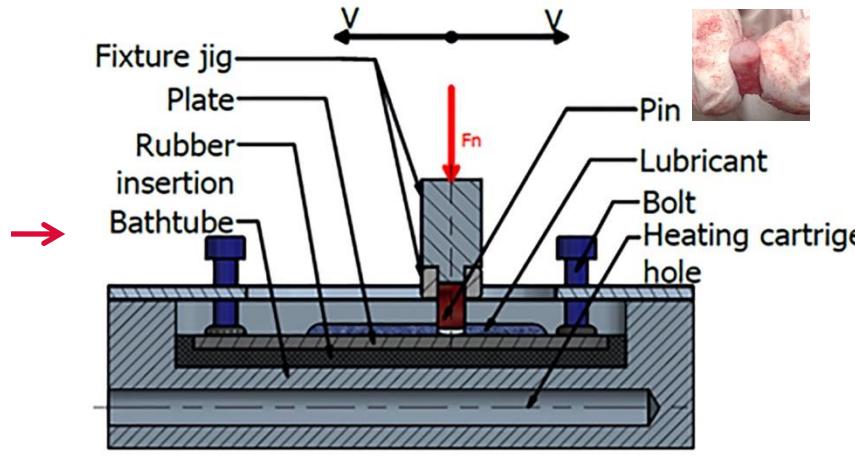


# VISCOSUPPLEMENTATION OF ART. CARTILAGE

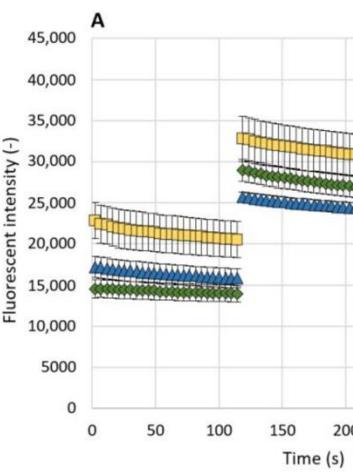
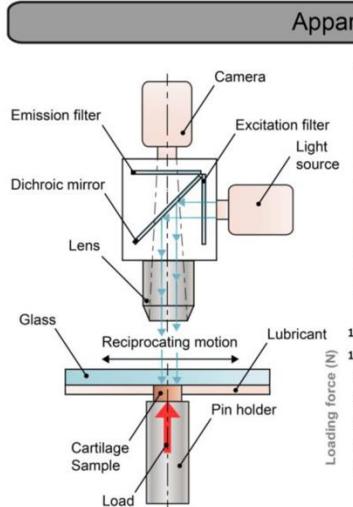
- THR and TKR = radical treatment
- Revision operation is complex and costly
- Delaying implantation until the patient is older
- Viscosupplementation = conservative treatment
- Injection of HA preparation into the joint
- Viscosupplementation as a placebo effect



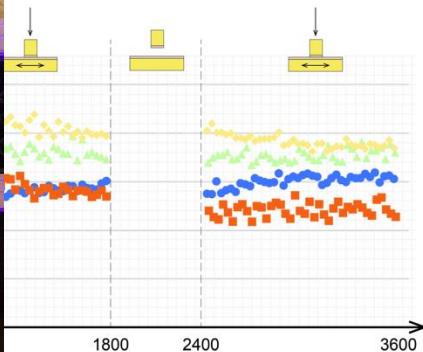
**AIM:** experimentally describe the mechanism of viscosupplementation



# VISCOSUPPLEMENTATION OF ART. CARTILAGE



RESULTS

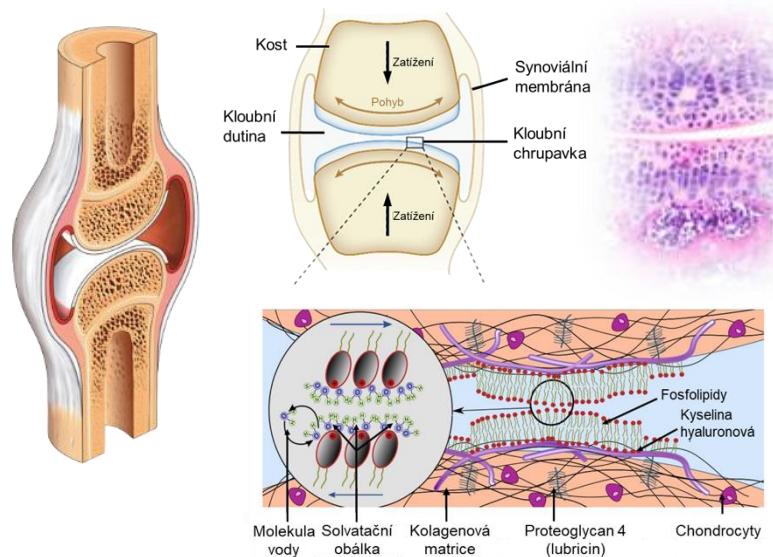


1800 2400 3600

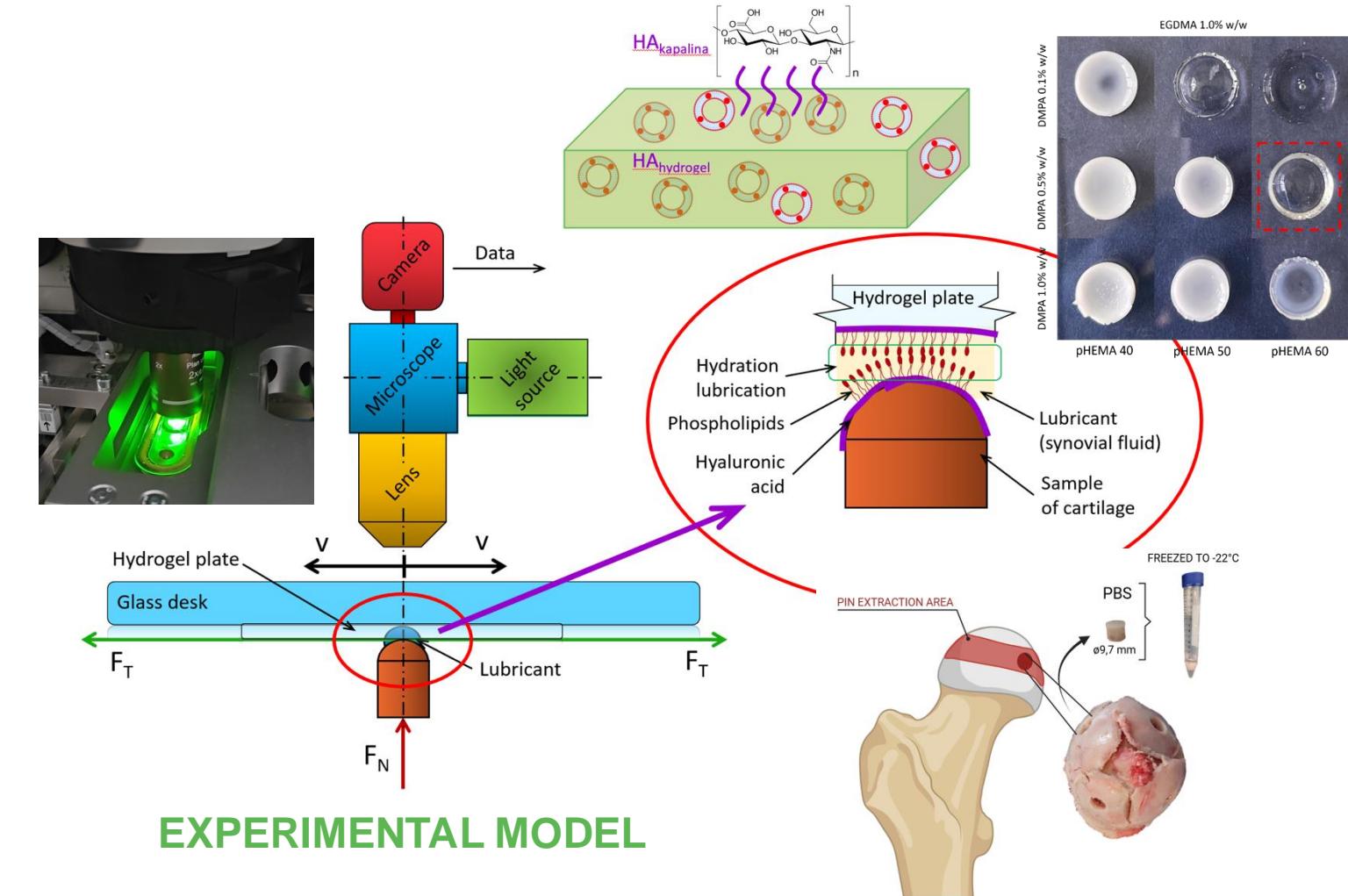
Model SF  
Bovine and knee  
articular cartilage



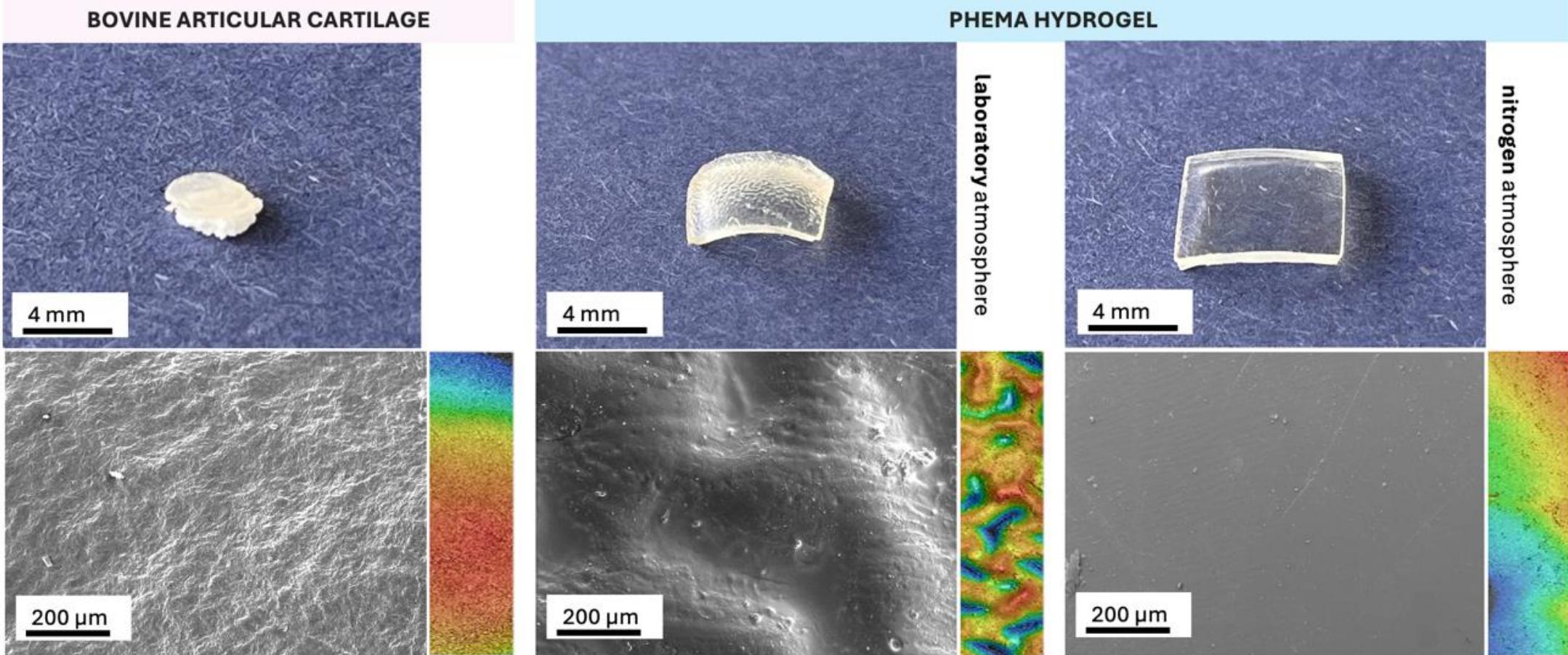
# SUPERLUBRICITY OF SYNOVIAL JOINT



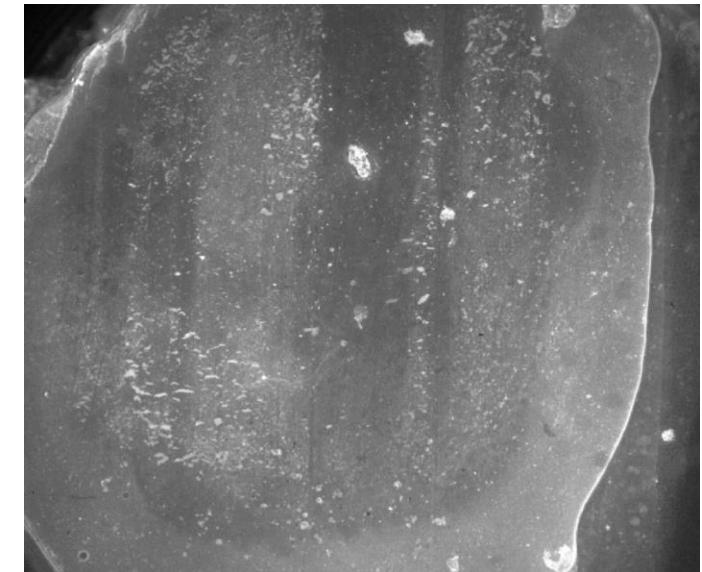
**Coefficient of friction = 0.01-0.001  
(SUPERLUBRICITY)**



# SUPERLUBRICITY OF SYNOVIAL JOINT



# SUPERLUBRICITY OF SYNOVIAL JOINT

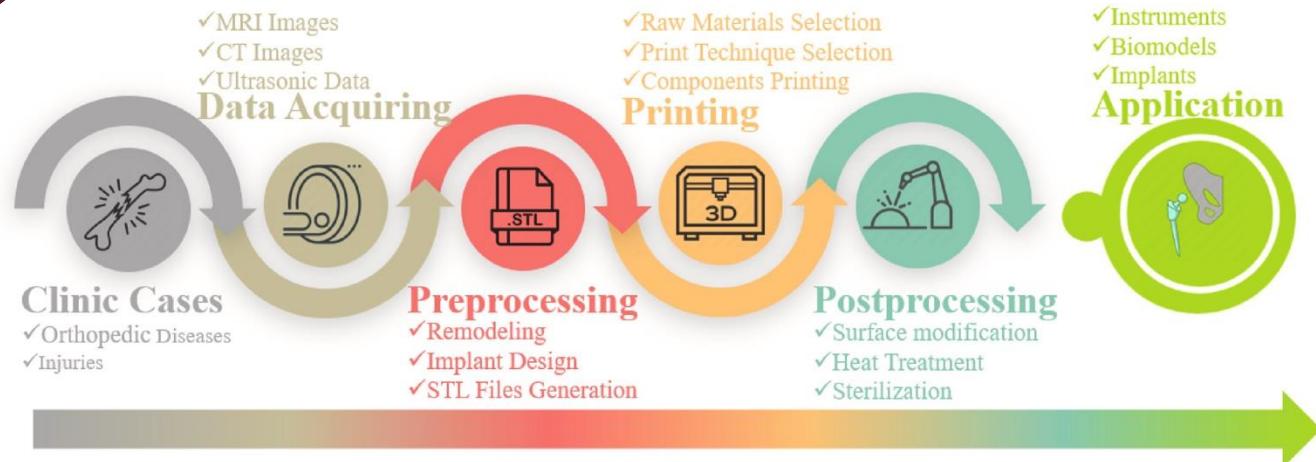


Swelling

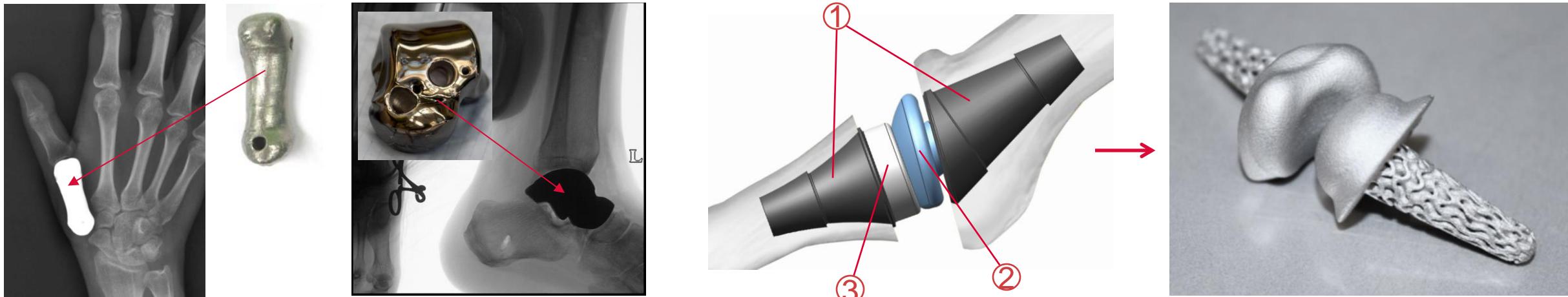
Coefficient of friction

Visualization of synovial fluid components

# 3D PRINTING OF SMALL JOINT IMPLANTS

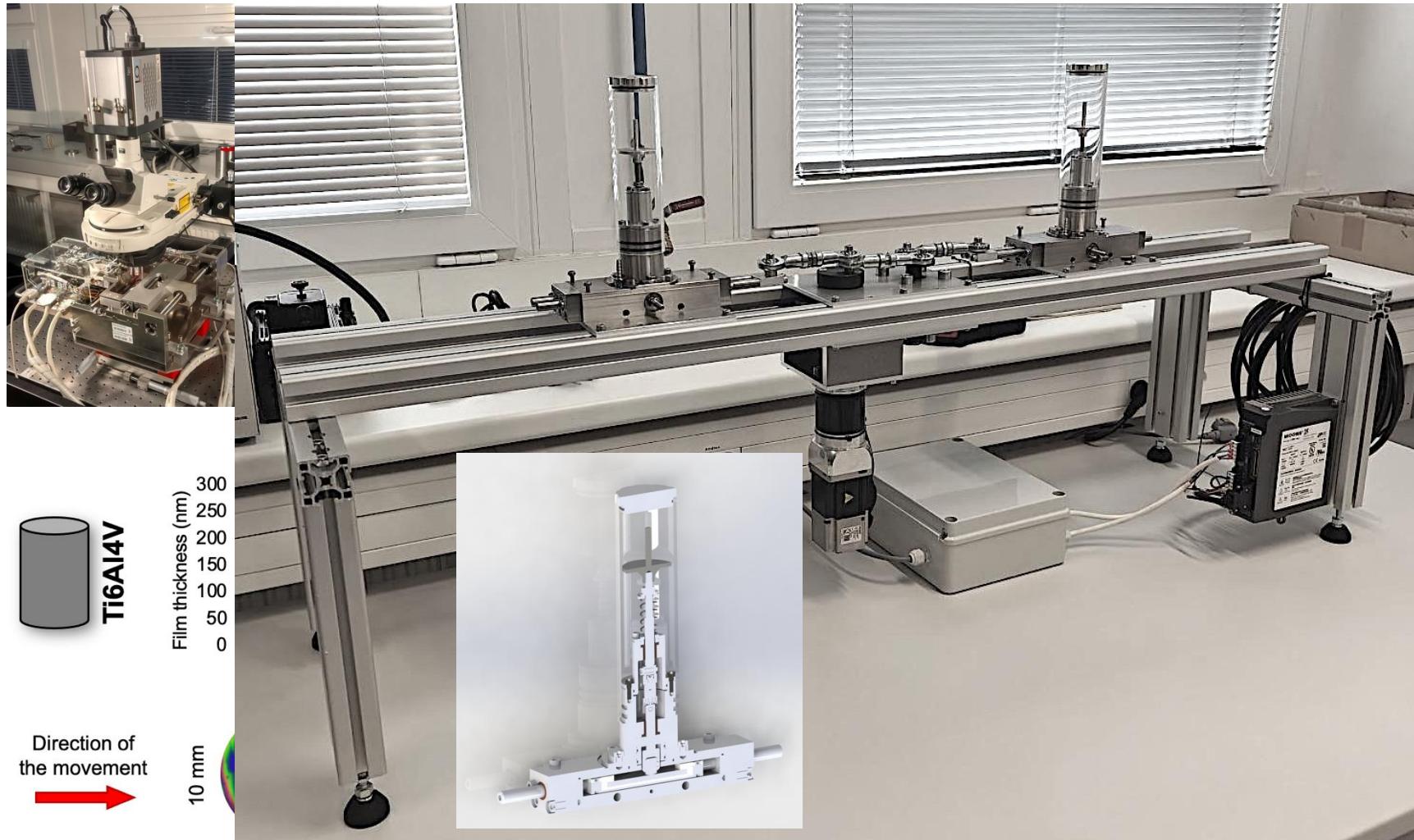


**AIM:** exp. describe the friction and lubrication mechanisms of 3D printed surfaces

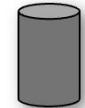
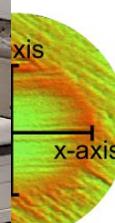


GA ČR, 22-02154S, Standard project, Friction and lubrication of small joint implants produced by 3D metal printing additive technology, 2022-2024, principal investigator: MV, under evaluation

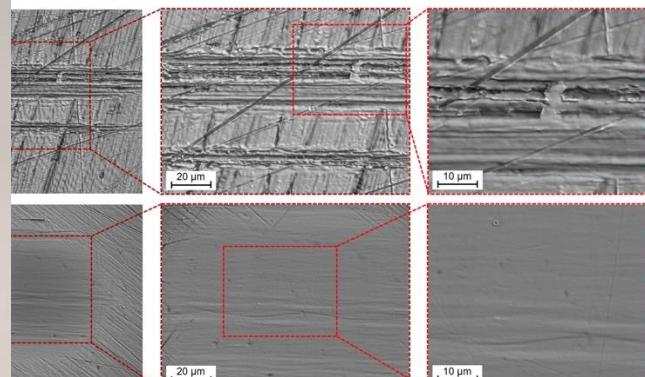
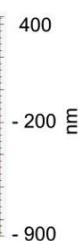
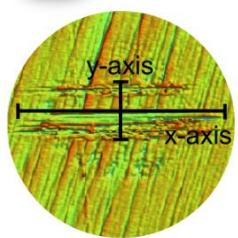
# 3D PRINTING OF SMALL JOINT IMPLANTS



CoCrMo

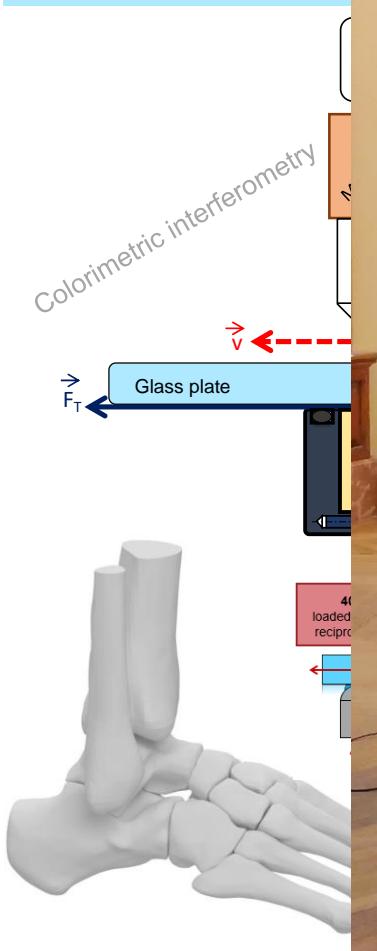


Ti6Al4V



# 3D PRINTING OF SMALL JOINT IMPLANTS

## Materials and

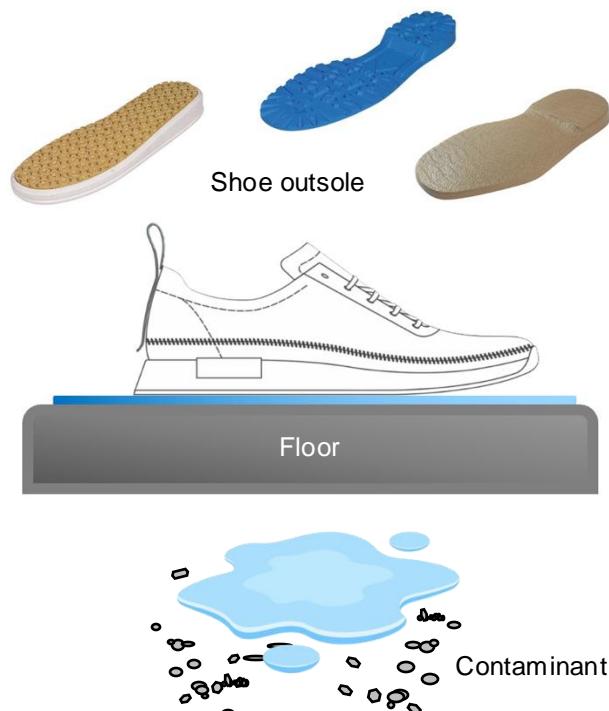


GA ČR, 22-02154S, Standard project, Friction and lubrication of small joint implants produced by 3D metal printing additive technology, 2022-2024, principal investigator: MV, under evaluation

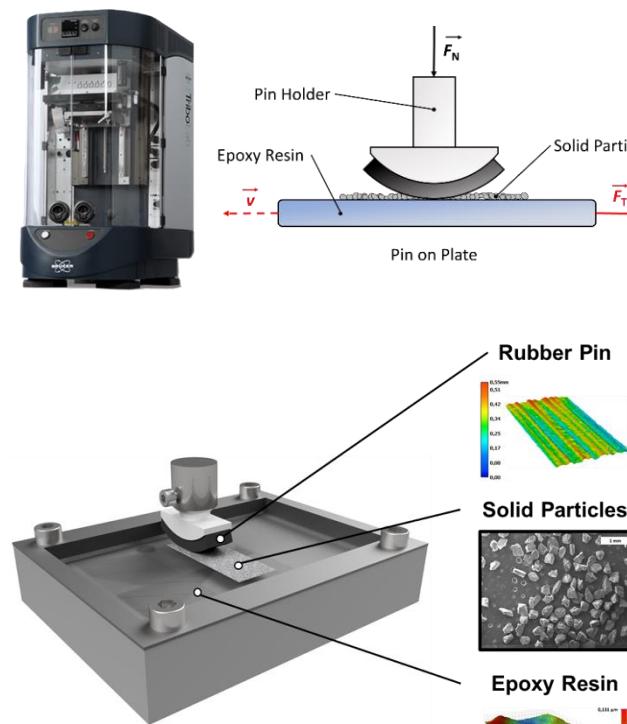
# LOSS OF SHOE OUTSOLE ADHESION



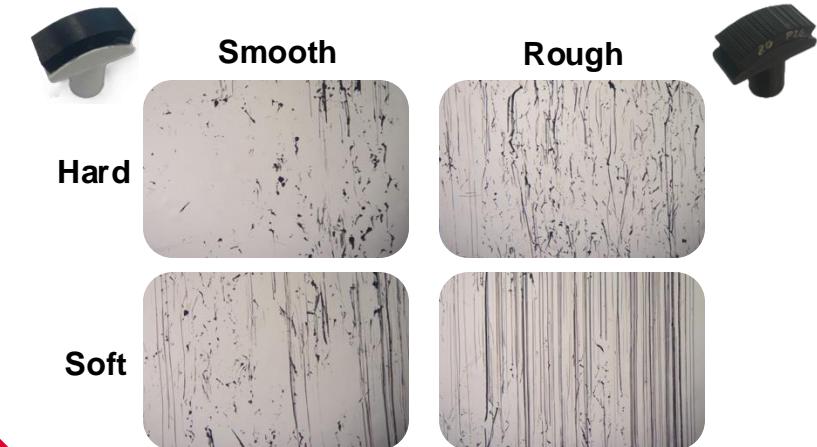
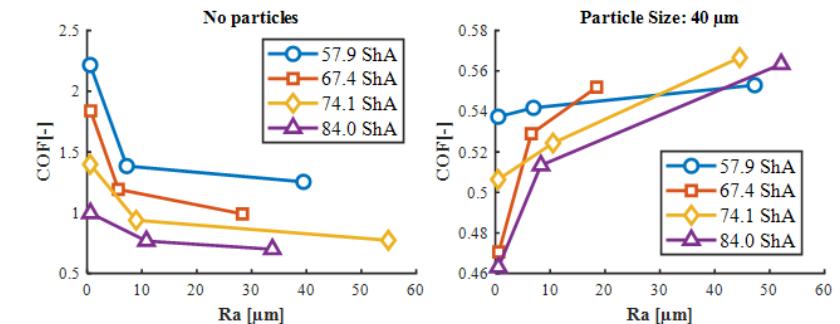
## Shoe-floor contact



## Lab-scale simulation



## COF & Floor Wear

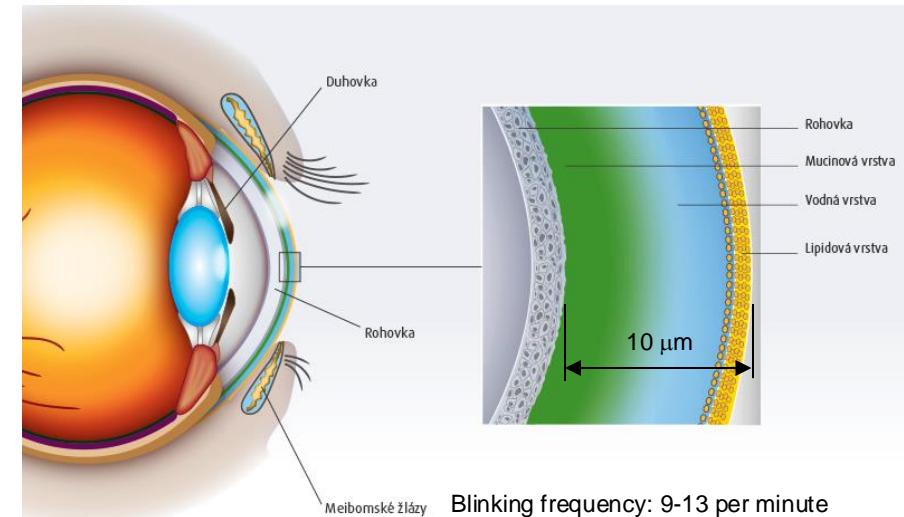


# TREATMENT OF DRY EYE SYNDROME

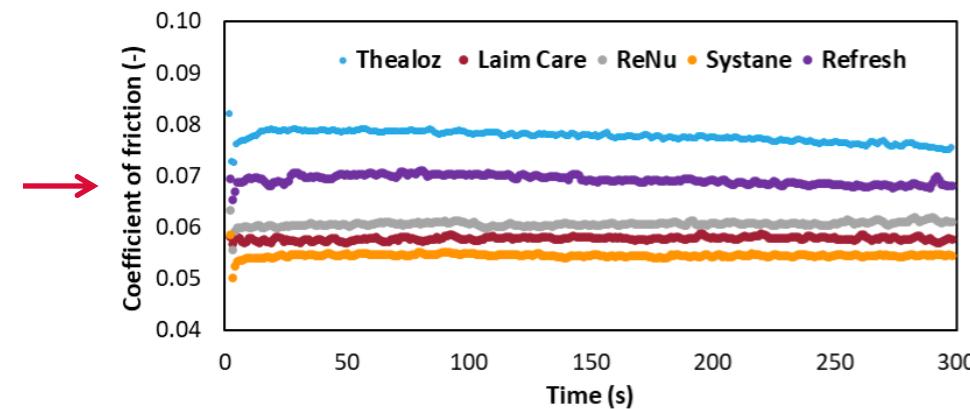
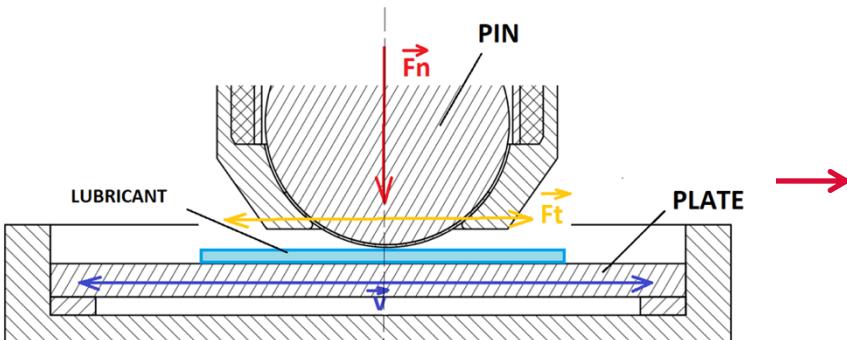
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- Ageing population, diabetes
- Monitor, TV and phone viewing
- Tear film quality and its evaporation
- Increased friction = cornea damage
- Artificial tears in the form of eye drops
- Cooperation with Contipro, Inc.



**AIM:** optimize the composition of artificial tears based on HA

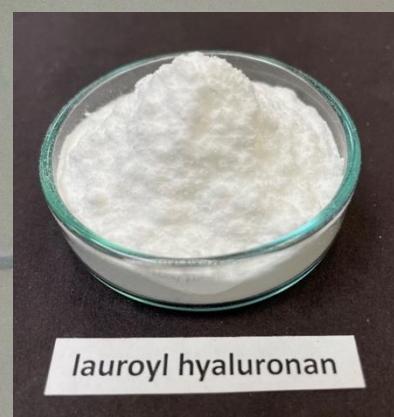


# TREATMENT OF DRY EYE SYNDROME

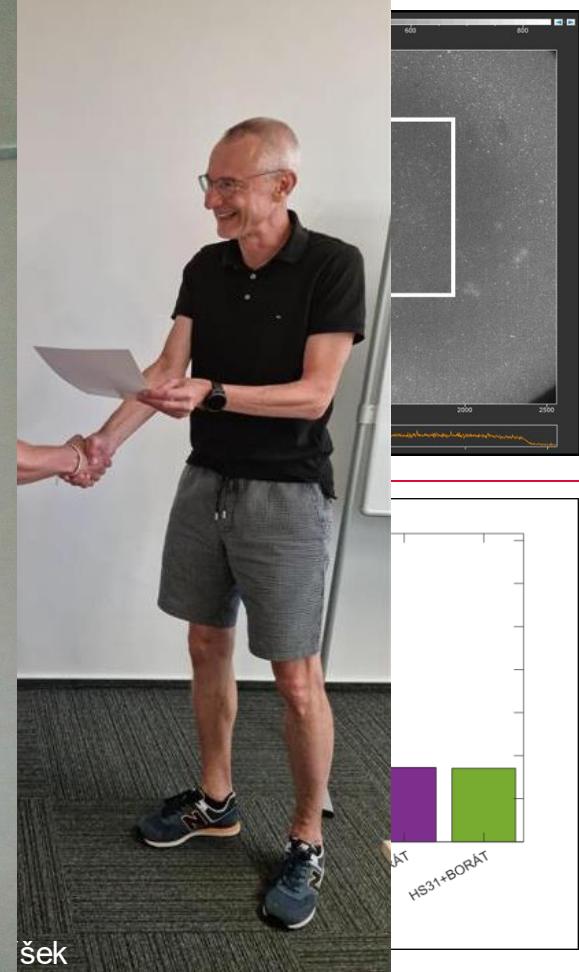
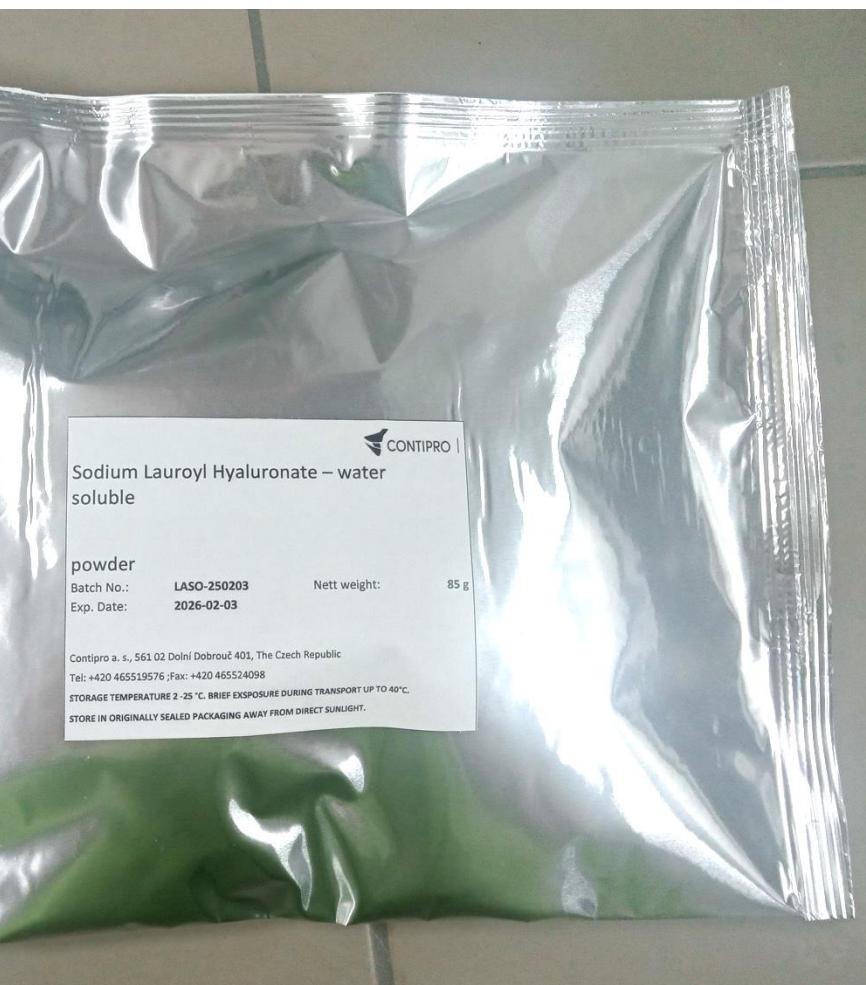
Reciprocal pin-on-plate simulator



Experiment scheme - in situ observation



Friction coefficient as a function of time + images of the observed area



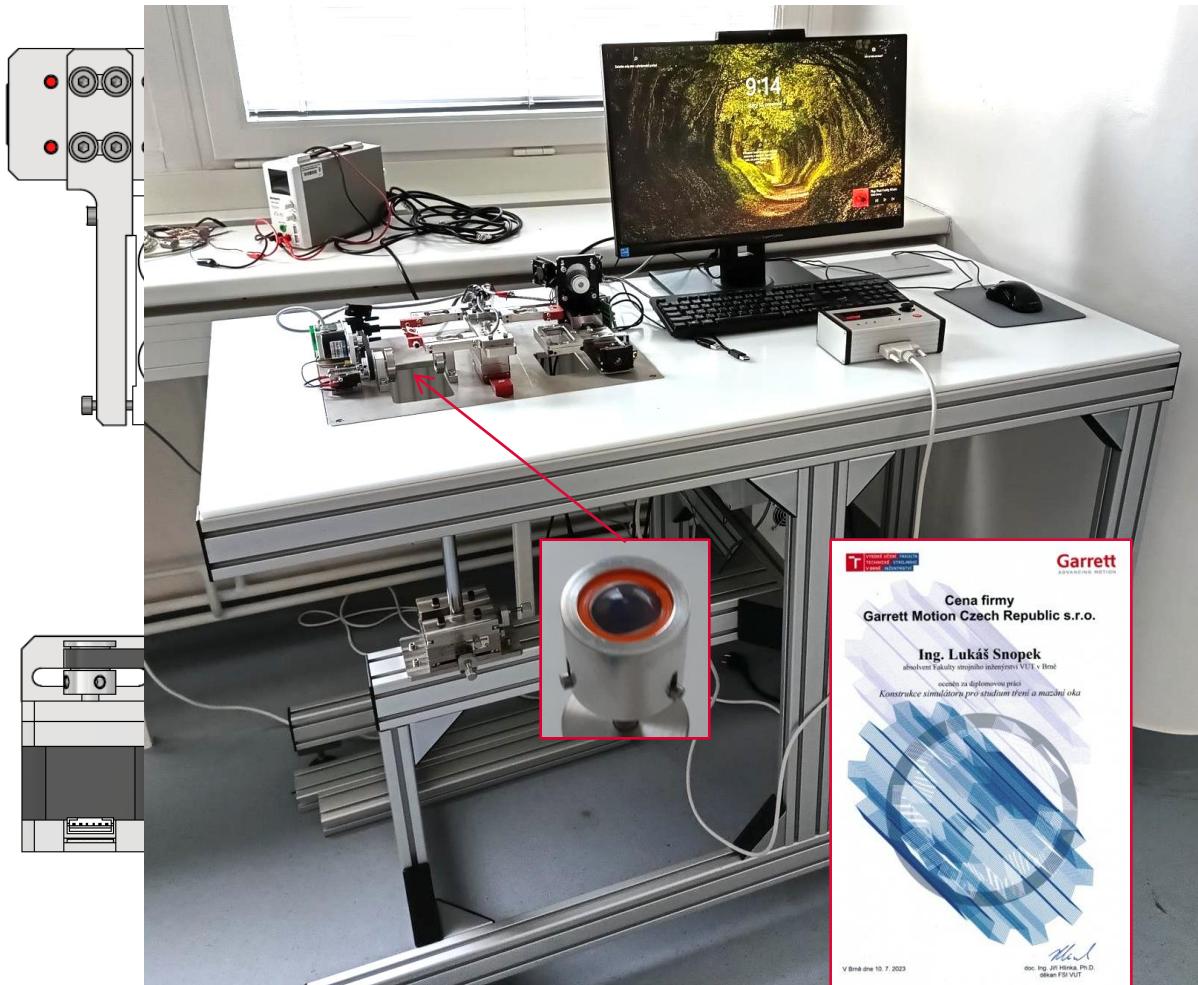
Coefficient of friction

Lubrication vs. coefficient of friction

Contact lens performance

TA ČR, TREND, FW01010060, Research and development of pharmaceutical ingredient to artificial tears for the treatment of dry eye syndrome, Contipro, 2020-2023, principal investigator: MV, evaluation: Excellent

# TREATMENT OF DRY EYE SYNDROME



Ing. Lukáš Snopek

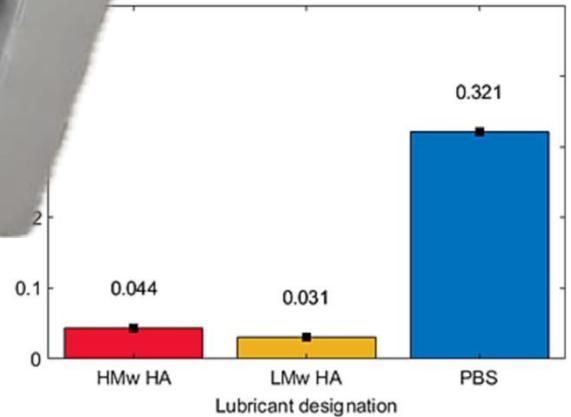
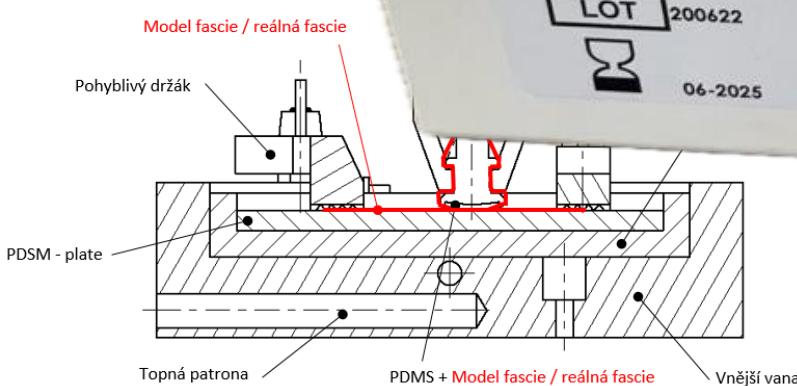
TA ČR, TREND, FW01010060, Research and development of pharmaceutical ingredient to artificial tears for the treatment of dry eye syndrome, Contipro, 2020-2023, principal investigator: MV, evaluation: Excellent

# TREATMENT OF LOWER BACK PAIN



- Myofascial pain in the L1-L5 vertebral region
- Fibrosis and densification of thoracolumbar fascia
- Limitation
- Increased fatigue
- Injection of therapeutic substances
- Cooperation

**AIM:** optimise



# TREATMENT OF LOWER BACK PAIN



**Alexandra**  
propojuje strojní inženýrství s medicínou. Hledá řešení, jak ulevit od bolesti dolních zad. Ve svém výzkumu se zaměřuje na vlastnosti a chování fascií v závislosti na přítomnosti maziva na bázi kyseliny hyaluronové. Vyhodnocuje procesy tření a mazání, které zde probíhají.

VYSOKÉ UČENÍ FAKULTA  
TECHNICKÉ STROJNÍHO  
V BRNĚ INŽENÝRSTVÍ

OD PŘEVODOVKY K NEKONEČNU:  
UDIVUJÍCÍ SVĚT STROJNÍHO INŽENÝRSTVÍ

**ICoBT 2021**  
**5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on BioTribology**  
26-28 APRIL 2021 | ONLINE - LIVE and ON-DEMAND

**POSTER AWARD WINNER**

[BTP.18] **Alexandra Stred'anksá**  
Development of tribological model of human fascia: The effect of molecular weight and concentration of hyaluronic acid on friction

**Development of tribological model of human fascia: The effect of molecular weight and concentration of hyaluronic acid on friction**

**Motivation**  
Development of human fascie tribological model.  
The need of understanding tribological process between fascia's layers lubricated by hyaluronic acid.

**Background**  
The presence of dimersized hyaluronic acid (HA) between human fascia's layers HA improves lubrication between layers and helps us move without pain. Pathologic changes of fascia lead to different mechanical properties of HA which eventually leads to decreased mobility and pain.  
The present study aims to identify the effect of kinematics, molecular weight (MW) and concentration of HA on tribological properties of human fascia. A pair of two fasciae layers was substituted by the contact of polydimethylsiloxane (PDMS) samples.

**Materials and Methods**  
Friction test (Fig. 1)  
• A tribometer Brüker UMT Tribolab in pin-on-disk configuration was used for the measurements.  
• Disk (PDMS, hardness = 30 Sh) was sliding against pin (PDMS, R = 8.8 mm, hardness = 40 Sh).  
• Applied normal force  $F_n$  was 2 N and frequency of reciprocating motion was 1–4 Hz.  
• Test time was 300 s.

**Conclusion**  
COF between PDMS-PDMS is strongly dependent on MW and concentration of HA.  
• A lower concentration of HA leads to decreased COF.  
• COF is dependent on the frequency of reciprocating motion, where in dependence of MW and also absorption of HA.  
• With an increasing frequency of motion, COF decreased and became more static.  
• The lowest friction occurs under conditions of a low concentration and a high MW of HA at a constant motion and with a higher frequency of motion.

**Results**

Fig. 1 Dependence of COF on the concentration and MW of HA in a solution. Frequency of reciprocating motion is 1 Hz.

Fig. 2 Dependence of COF on the sliding speed.

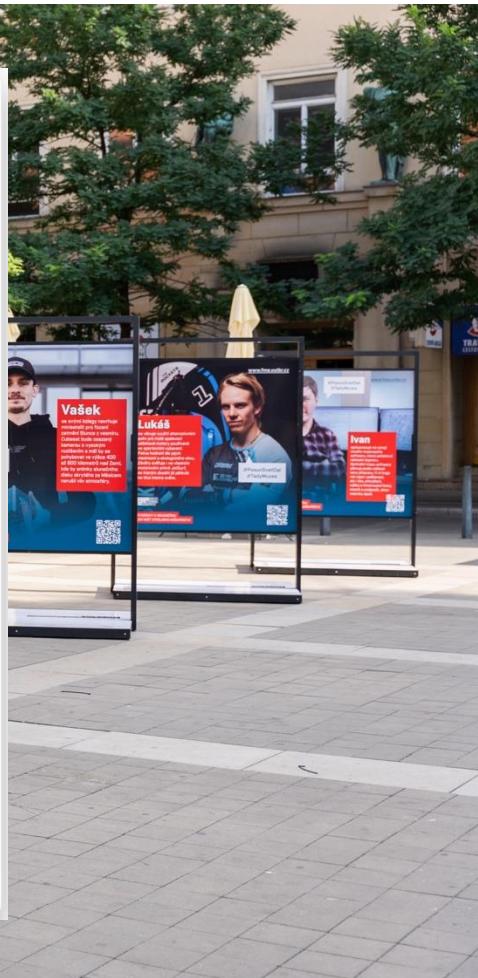
Measurements with two fasciae, describing the effect of the lubricant under different conditions closer to the physiological and/or pathological state.

**What's next?**

Measurements with two fasciae, describing the effect of the lubricant under different conditions closer to the physiological and/or pathological state.

[www.elsevier.com/biotribology-conference](http://www.elsevier.com/biotribology-conference)

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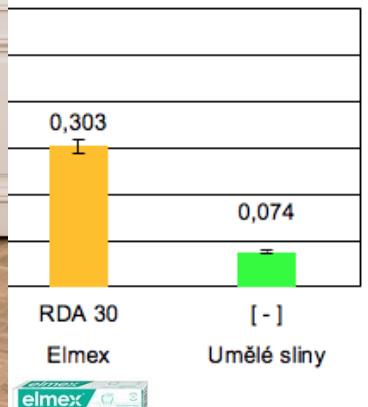




# EFFECT OF TOOTHPASTE ON TEETH BRUSHING

- Actively adhesion
- Wear of natural tooth enamel
- Effect of the abrasive particles
- Effect of abrasion
- Comparisons
- Cooperation

**AIM:** clarify the effect of toothpaste on teeth brushing





# EFFECT OF TOOTHPASTE ON TEETH BRUSHING

SynCare  
stvorené pro krásu • created for beauty



# EFFECTIVENESS OF PLAQUE REMOVAL

1. PŘÍPRAVA - příprava

2. NANÁŠENÍ – aplikace umělého zubního plaku na vzorky zubních

3. ZNAČENÍ – značení

7 8



OP TAK Inovační Vouchery – Výzva II., CZ.01.01.01/05/23\_009/0004317, Odborné posouzení účinnosti čištění vyvíjené dětské zubní pasty (Benjamínek nové generace), Nobilis Tilia, 2024-2025, řešitel: MV

# DEVELOPMENT OF DENTAL LACQUER



SynCare  
stvořeno pro krásu • created for beauty

- Growing
- Drastic p
- Applicati
- Tribologi
- Cooperati

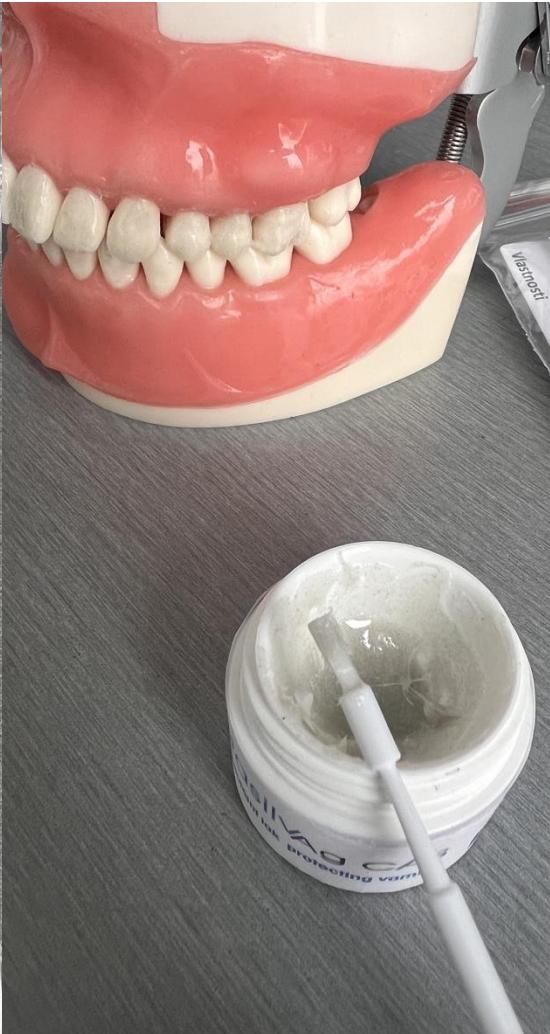
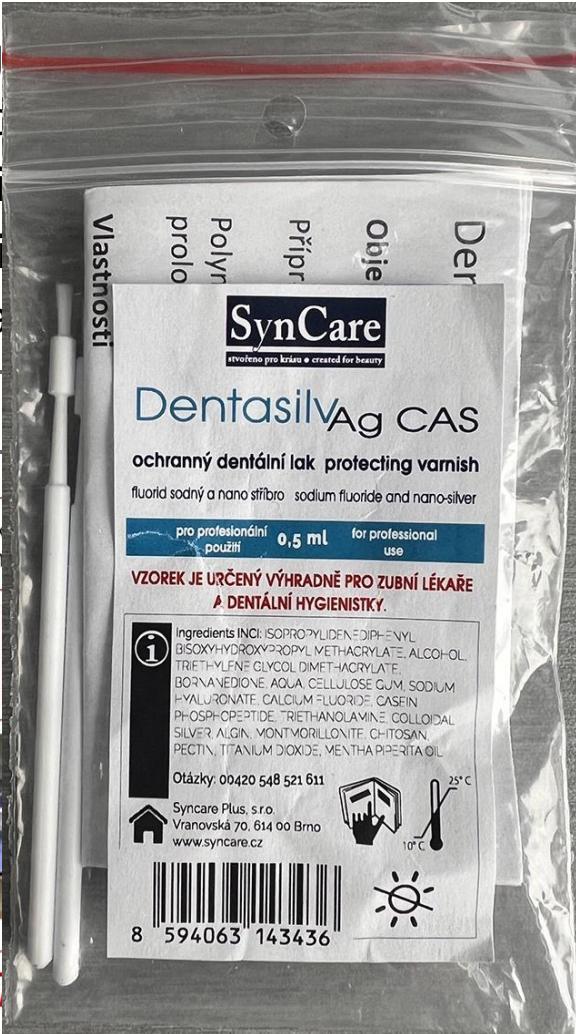
**AIM:** optimizace

1 Snímek vzorku mikroskopem

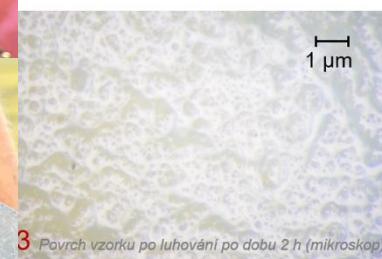
7



1,3,7

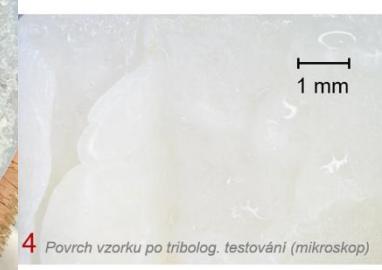


1 μm



3 Povrch vzorku po luhování po dobu 2 h (mikroskop)

1 mm

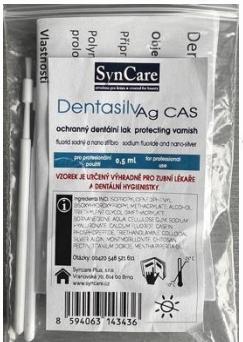


4 Povrch vzorku po tribolog. testování (mikroskop)

# CONTRACTS FOR EXPLOITATION OF RESULTS

V Brně dne:  
20. 1. 2024

Renata Svobodová  
jednatelka  
Syncare Plus, s.r.o.



V Brně dne:  
30 -01- 2024



doc. Ing. Jiří Hlinka, Ph.D.  
děkan FSI  
Vysoké učení technické v Brně

V Dolní Dobrouči dne (dle elektronického podpisu)  
doc. RNDr.  
Vladimír Velebný  
CSc.  
doc. RNDr. Vladimír Velebný, CSc.  
předseda představenstva  
Contipro a.s.



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RNDr. Vladimír Velebný CSc.  
Datum: 2024.03.26 10:58  
+01'00'

V Brně dne (dle elektronického podpisu)  
doc. Ing. Jiří Hlinka, Ph.D.  
děkan Fakulty strojního inženýrství  
Vysoké učení technické v Brně  
na základě plné moci  
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děkan Fakulty strojního inženýrství  
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na základě plné moci



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Velebný CSc.  
doc. RNDr. Vladimír Velebný, CSc.  
předseda představenstva  
Contipro a.s.

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Datum: 2024.06.12 10:31:26  
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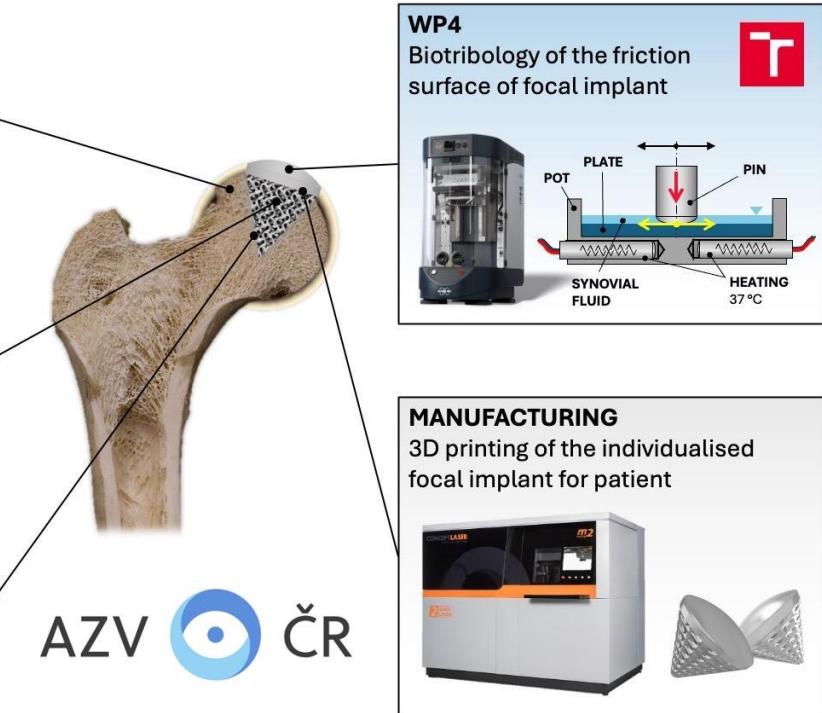
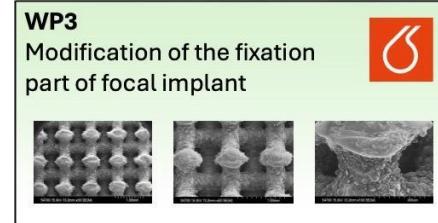
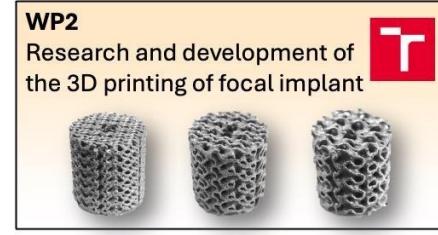
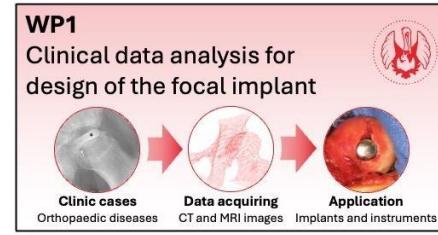
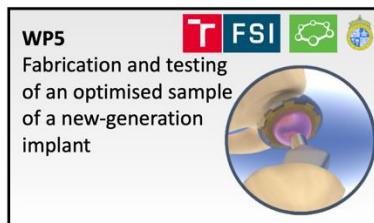
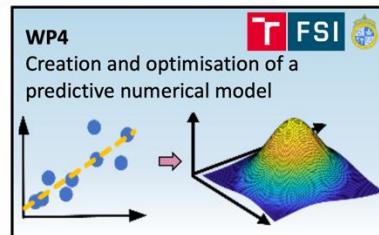
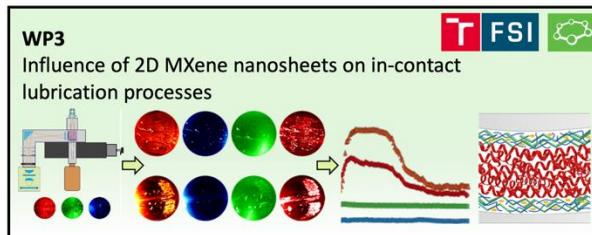
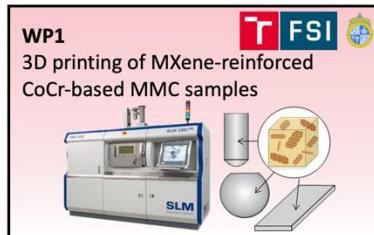
Vysoké učení technické v Brně  
na základě plné moci

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doc. Ing. Jiří Hlinka,  
Ph.D.  
Datum: 2024.06.12  
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doc. Ing. Jiří Hlinka,  
Ph.D.  
Datum: 2024.06.12  
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# NEW PROJECTS (START OF SOLUTION IN 2025)

- **3D printed metal matrix composites reinforced by 2D MXene nanosheets for new-generation biomedical implants**, GA ČR Standard, 25-15390S, 2025-2027, principal investigator: David Nečas
- **3D printed individualised segmental joint implant: optimisation of fixation to bone and biotribology of articular surface**, AZV MZ, NW25-08-00044, 2025-2028, principal investigator: Martin Vrbka



# HOW TO GET PARTNERS FOR COOPERATION?



My activities at the IMID 2020-2024

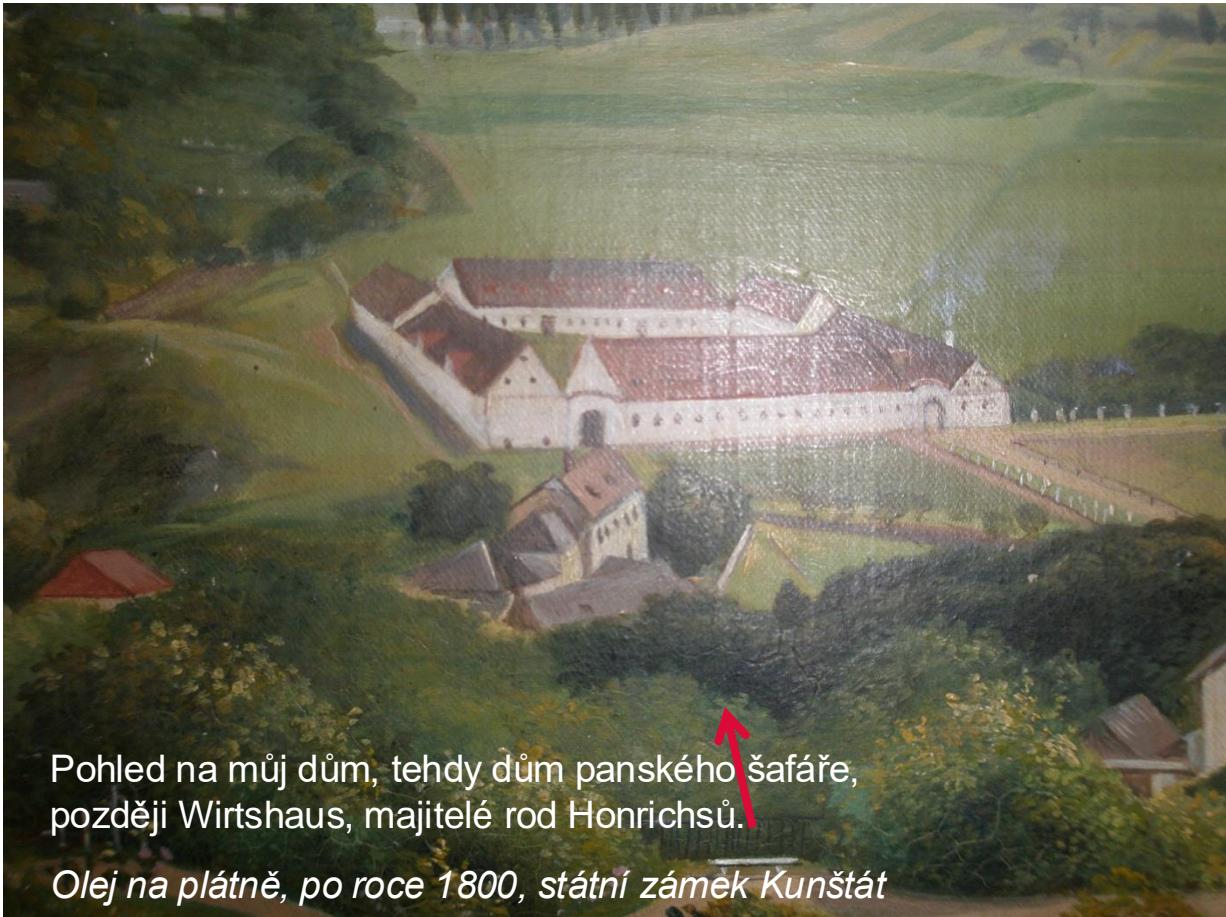


# TEACHING & OTHER ACTIVITIES

- Diploma Project - Concept (ZD1)
- Diploma Project - Bibliography and Goals (ZD2)
- Master Thesis Project - Methods and Results (ZDP)
- Master Thesis Project - Results and Discussion (ZD5)
  
- Biomechanic Systems (ZBS)
  
- Coordinator of teaching in bachelor study programmes  
(3rd year)
- Member of IMID Council
  
- Public Relations lectures (BiGy, GymBos, GyBnP, SPŠ HK, VIDA!, Science and Technology Club, IngCamp)
- Podcast Technicky vzato



# ABOUT ME & MY HOBBIES



Pohled na můj dům, tehdy dům panského šafáře,  
později Wirtshaus, majitelé rod Honrichsů.

Olej na plátně, po roce 1800, státní zámek Kunštát



Ty můj kraji! Jsi tam, kde Vysočina nabírá dech  
a pole skládají slib chudoby...

František Halas, Já se tam vrátím, 1939

# ABOUT ME & MY HOBBIES

- Hiking & Nordic skiing



- MTB & Gravel riding



- HD & MG motorcycle riding



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

**Martin Vrbka**

[martin.vrbka@vut.cz](mailto:martin.vrbka@vut.cz)

<https://www.facebook.com/BioTribo/>

