

# The Statistical Mechanics of Sliced Graphene Ribbons

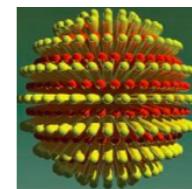
Geometry, elasticity, fluctuations, and order in 2D  
soft matter (sheets)

KITP Feb 22, 2016

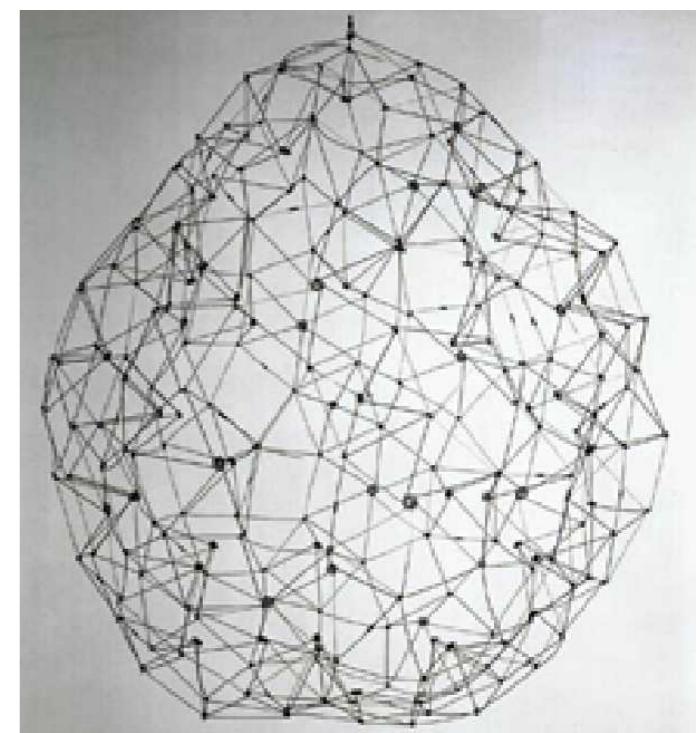
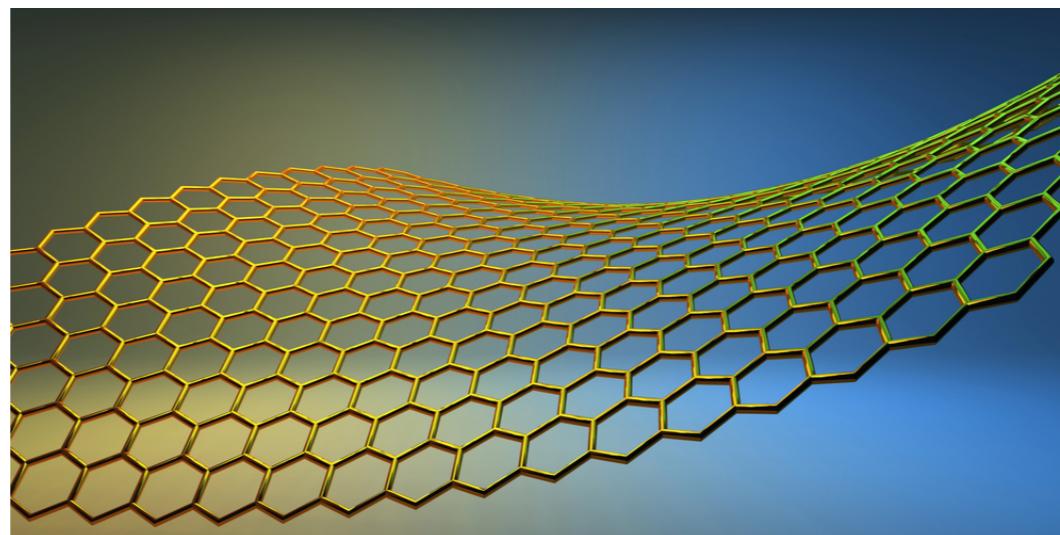
Mark Bowick

Syracuse Soft Matter Program and Physics Department

<http://syrsoftmatter.syr.edu>



Soft Matter  
Program @SU



# Elastic (polymerized) membranes

## Entropically-stabilized phases

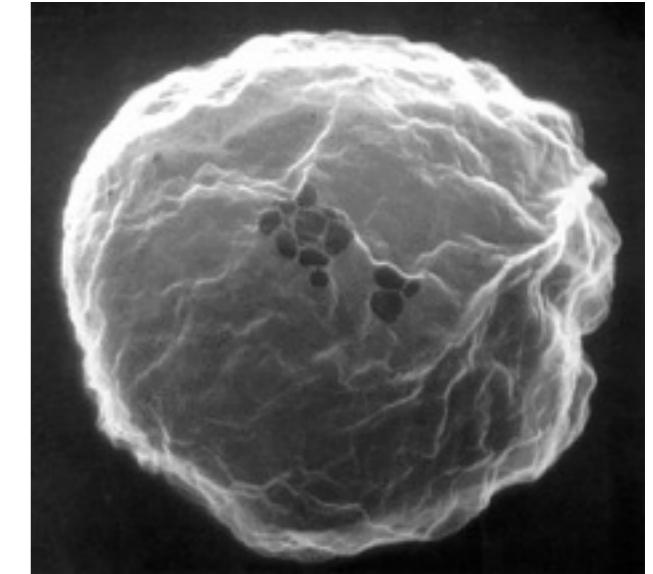


Bowick et al. (1996)

$$E = E_{el} + E_{bend}$$

↑

shear ( $\mu$ ) + compression (K)



RBC Ghost: Steck (77)

$$d^2r = d^2r_0 + 2u_{ij}dx_idx_j \quad \text{displacement}$$

$$E_{el} = \frac{1}{2} \int d^2x [2\mu u_{ij}^2 + \lambda u_{kk}^2]$$

where  $u_{ij} = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_i u_j + \partial_j u_i + \partial_i h \partial_j h)$  strain tensor

$$E_{bend} = \frac{\kappa}{2} \int d^2x (\nabla^2 h)^2$$

$$A_{ij}(\vec{x}) = \partial_i h \partial_j h$$

Nelson-Peliti (1987)

$$A_{ij} = \partial_i h \partial_j h \equiv \frac{1}{2} [\partial_i \phi_j(\vec{x}) + \partial_j \phi(\vec{x})] + P_{ij}^T \Phi(\vec{x})$$

$$P_{ij}^T = \delta_{ij} - \frac{\partial_i \partial_j}{\nabla^2}$$

$\int$  out the phonons

$$\int \mathcal{D}u(\vec{x}) e^{-\beta E} = e^{-\beta F_{eff}}$$

$$F_{eff} = \frac{1}{2} \kappa \int d^2x (\nabla^2 h)^2 + \frac{1}{2} Y \int d^2x \left( \frac{1}{2} P_{ij}^T (\partial_i h)(\partial_j h) \right)^2$$

Nonlinear stretching energy

$$Y = \frac{4\mu(\mu + \lambda)}{2\mu + \lambda} = \frac{4\mu K}{\mu + K}$$

2D Young's modulus

# Gaussian curvature suppression of height fluctuations

$$\nabla^2 \left( \frac{1}{2} P_{ij}^T \partial_i h \partial_j h \right) = -\det(\partial_i \partial_j h) = -S(\vec{x})$$

$$F_{eff} = \frac{1}{2} \kappa \int d^2x (\nabla^2 h)^2 + \frac{1}{2} Y \iint d^2x d^2y S(\vec{x}) G(\vec{x}, \vec{y}) S(\vec{y})$$

IR suppression via Gaussian curvature

$$\Delta^2 G(\vec{x}, \vec{y}) = \nabla^4 G(\vec{x}, \vec{y}) = \delta(\vec{x}, \vec{y})$$

$$G(\vec{x}, \vec{y}) \sim |\vec{x} - \vec{y}|^2 \ln(|\vec{x} - \vec{y}|)$$

Running bending rigidity

$$k_B T \kappa_R^{-1}(q) \equiv q^4 \langle |\tilde{h}(\vec{q})|^2 \rangle$$

Calculate perturbatively in  $\Upsilon$

$$\kappa_R(q) = \kappa + \frac{(k_B T) Y}{\kappa_R} \mathcal{I}(\vec{q})$$

$$\mathcal{I}(\vec{q}) = \int \frac{d^2 k}{(2\pi)^2} \frac{[\hat{q}_i P_{ij}^T(\vec{k}) \hat{q}_j]^2}{|\vec{q} + \vec{k}|^4}$$

## Power counting

As  $|\vec{q}| \rightarrow 0$ ,  $\mathcal{I}(\vec{q})$  diverges like  $1/|\vec{q}|^2$

**IR Stiffening!**

$$\kappa \rightarrow \kappa_R(\vec{q} + \vec{k}) \text{ in } \mathcal{I}(\vec{q})$$

$$\kappa_R(q) = \frac{k_B T Y}{\kappa_R(q) q^2}$$

$$\kappa_R(q) \sim \sqrt{k_B T Y} \frac{1}{q}$$

## Fluctuations of surface normals

$$\langle \Theta^2(\vec{x}) \rangle = \langle (\partial h)^2(\vec{x}) \rangle = k_B T \int \frac{d^2 q}{(2\pi)^2} \frac{1}{\kappa_R(q) q^2} \approx \sqrt{\frac{k_B T}{Y}} \int \frac{d^2 q}{(2\pi)^2} \frac{1}{q} < \infty$$

**Order from Disorder!**

Aronovitz, Golubovic & Lubensky (1989)  
LeDoussal & Radzihovsky (1992) (SCSA)

$$\langle h^2 \rangle \sim L^{2\zeta} = \int \frac{d^2 q}{(2\pi)^2} \frac{1}{\kappa_R(q) q^4} \sim L^{2-\eta} \quad (\zeta = 1 - \eta/2)$$

$$\kappa_R(q) \sim q^{-\eta}$$

$$\mu(q) \sim q^{\eta_u}; \lambda(q) \sim q^{\eta_u}$$

$\eta_u = 2(1 - \eta)$  Ward identities (remnant rotational symmetry)

$\eta = 1$  (Nelson&Peliti)     $\eta \approx 0.8$     SCSA

$\eta = 0.72(4)$  MJB et al. Monte Carlo (1996)

## Poisson Ratio

$$\nu = \frac{\text{Transverse contractile strain}}{\text{Longitudinal Tensile Strain}} = -\frac{\delta y/y}{\delta x/x}$$

$$\nu \equiv \lim_{q \rightarrow 0} \frac{K(q) - \mu(q)}{K(q) + \mu(q)}$$

Flat phase fixed point

$$K(0) = \frac{1}{2}\mu(0) \quad (\text{anti-rubber})$$

$$\implies \nu = -1/3 \quad \text{Auxetic}$$

MJB, Falcioni, Gitter and Thorleifsson (1997)

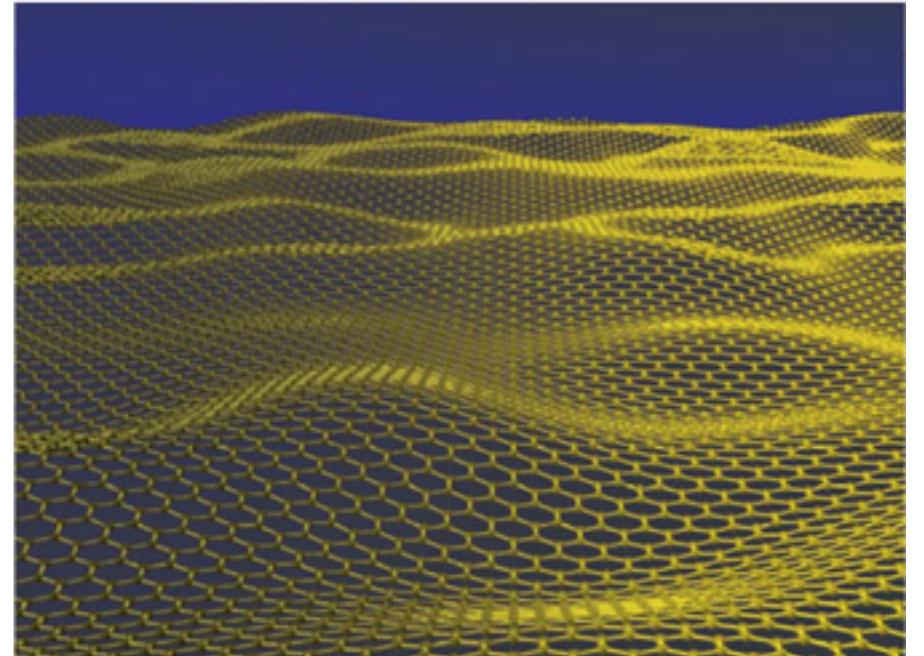
# Graphene as Atomic Paper

$$Y \approx 20 \text{ eV}\text{\AA}^{-2} \quad \kappa_0 \approx 1.2 \text{ eV} \quad k_B T \approx 1/40 \text{ eV}$$

$$\kappa_R(l) = \kappa_0 + \frac{(k_B T) Y}{\kappa_0} l^2$$

$$\kappa_R(l)/(k_B T) = \kappa_0/(k_B T) + vK(l)$$

$$vK = \text{Foppl-von Karman \#} = Yl^2/\kappa_0$$



200 $\mu\text{m}$  sheet of graphene  $vK \approx (L/h)^2 = 10^{12}$  cf. paper  $vK \approx 10^6$

$$\kappa_R(l_{th}) = 2\kappa_0 \text{ for } l_{th} = \frac{\kappa_0}{\sqrt{Yk_B T}} \approx 1.5 \text{\AA}!$$

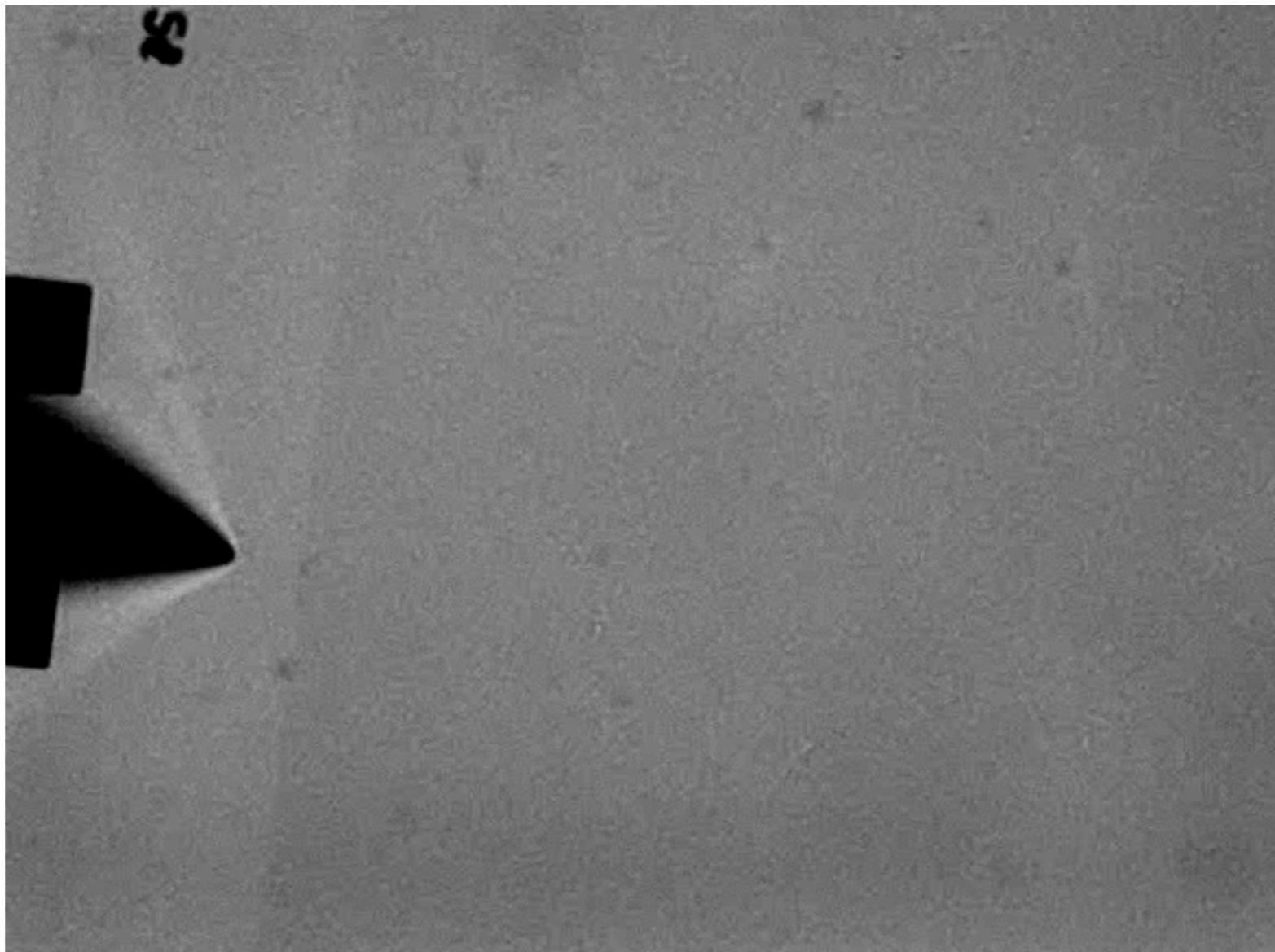
Foppl graphene is self-stiffening to bend via soft thermal fluctuations of a hard material

$$\frac{\kappa_R(l)}{\kappa_0} \approx \left(\frac{l}{l_{th}}\right)^\eta$$

For  $l = 10\mu m \approx 10^8 l_{th}$   $\kappa_R/\kappa_0 \approx 10^6$

Makes vK (micron scale graphene) like vK of paper!

Experiments: Blees et al. (McEuen group, Cornell) Nature (2015)

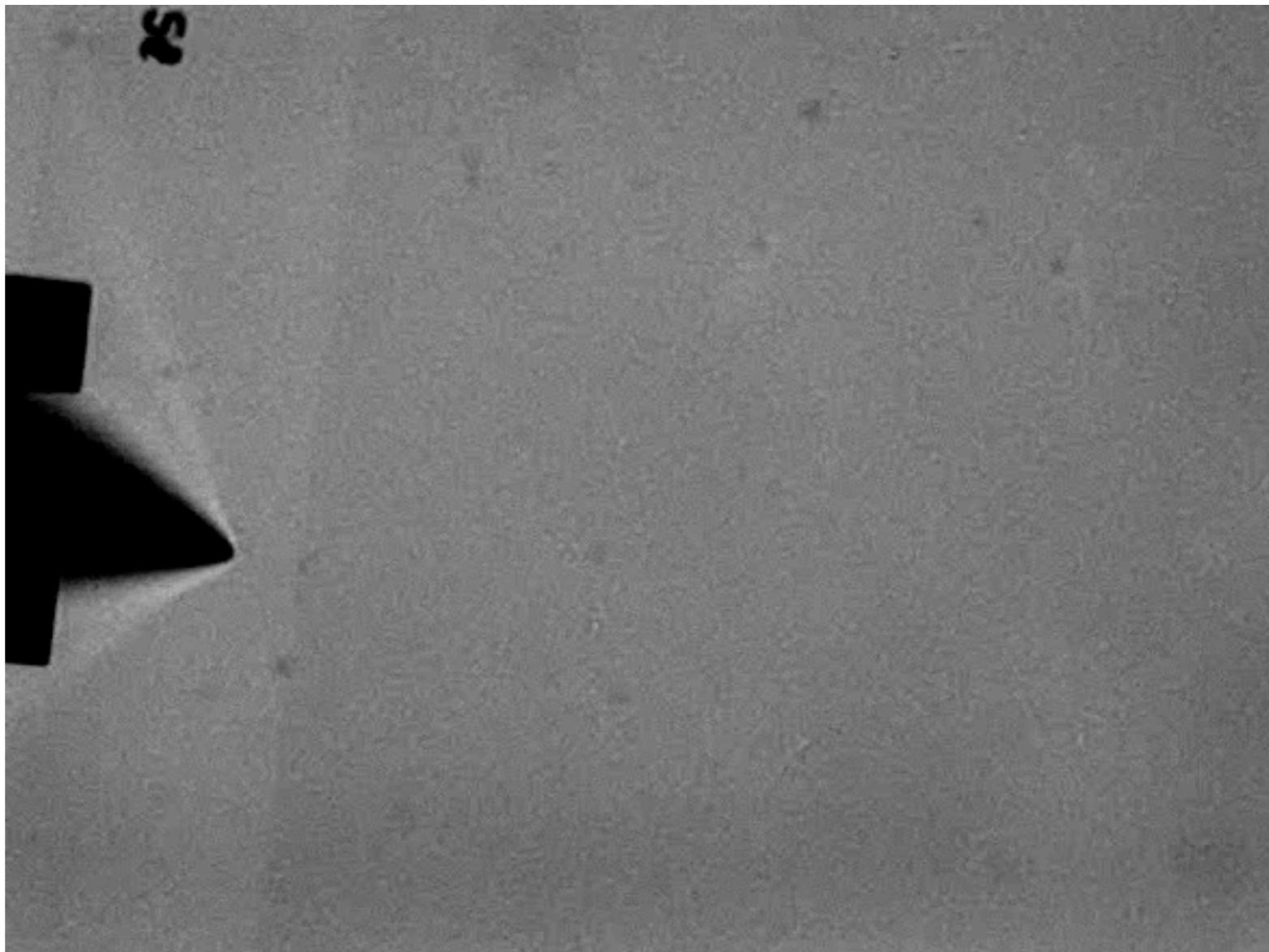


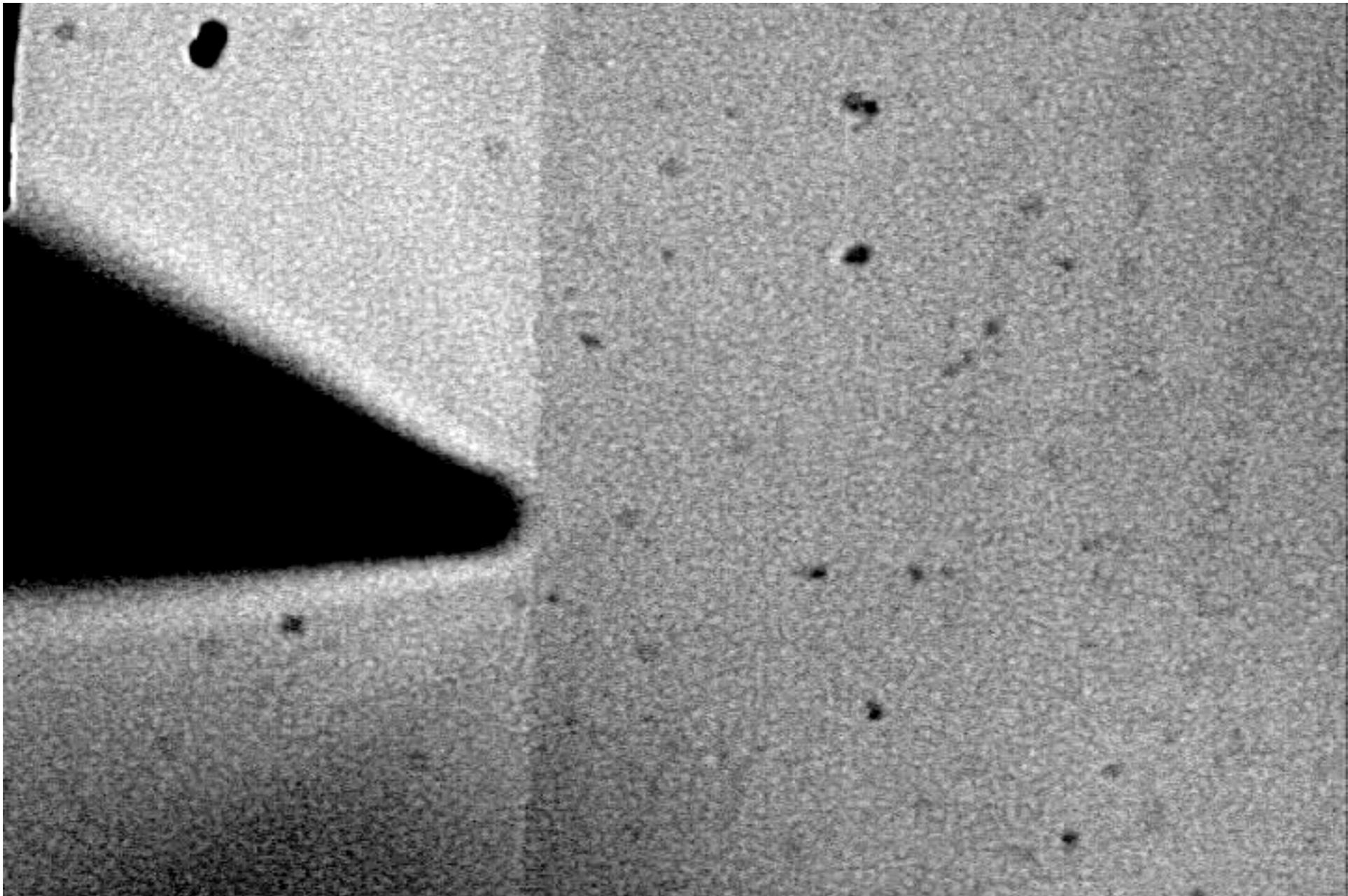
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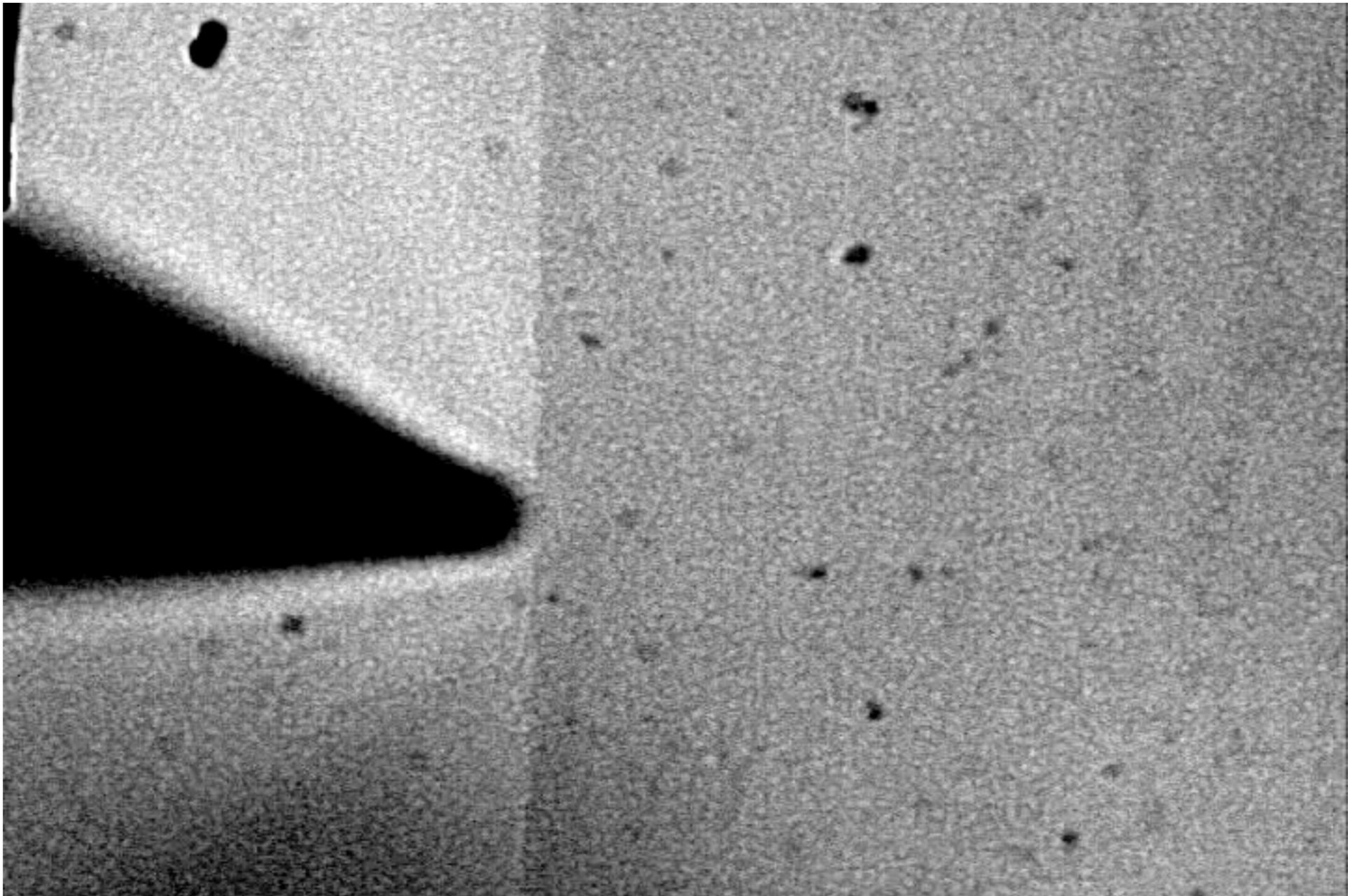
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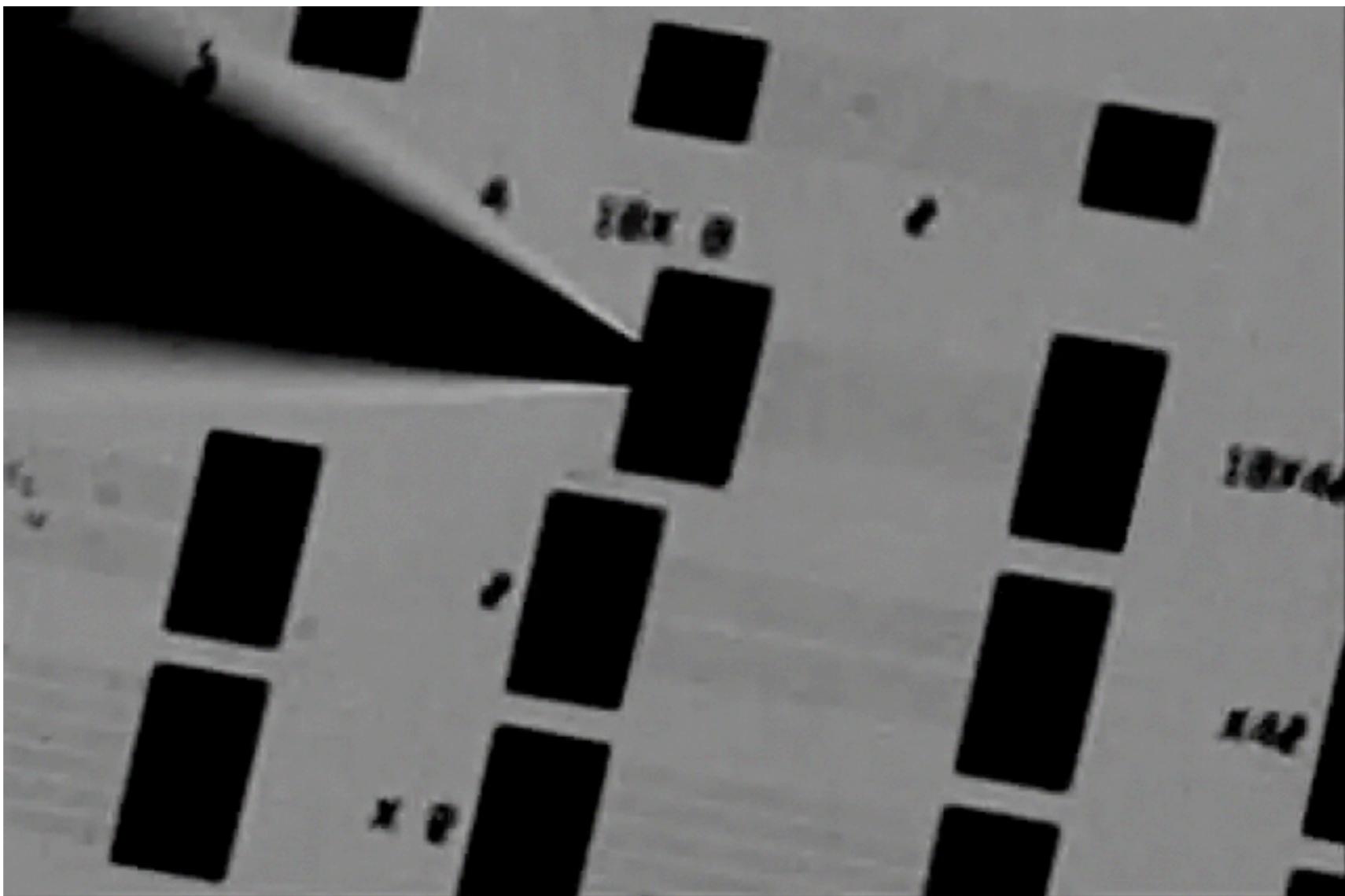
Melina Blees (McEuen group, Cornell)



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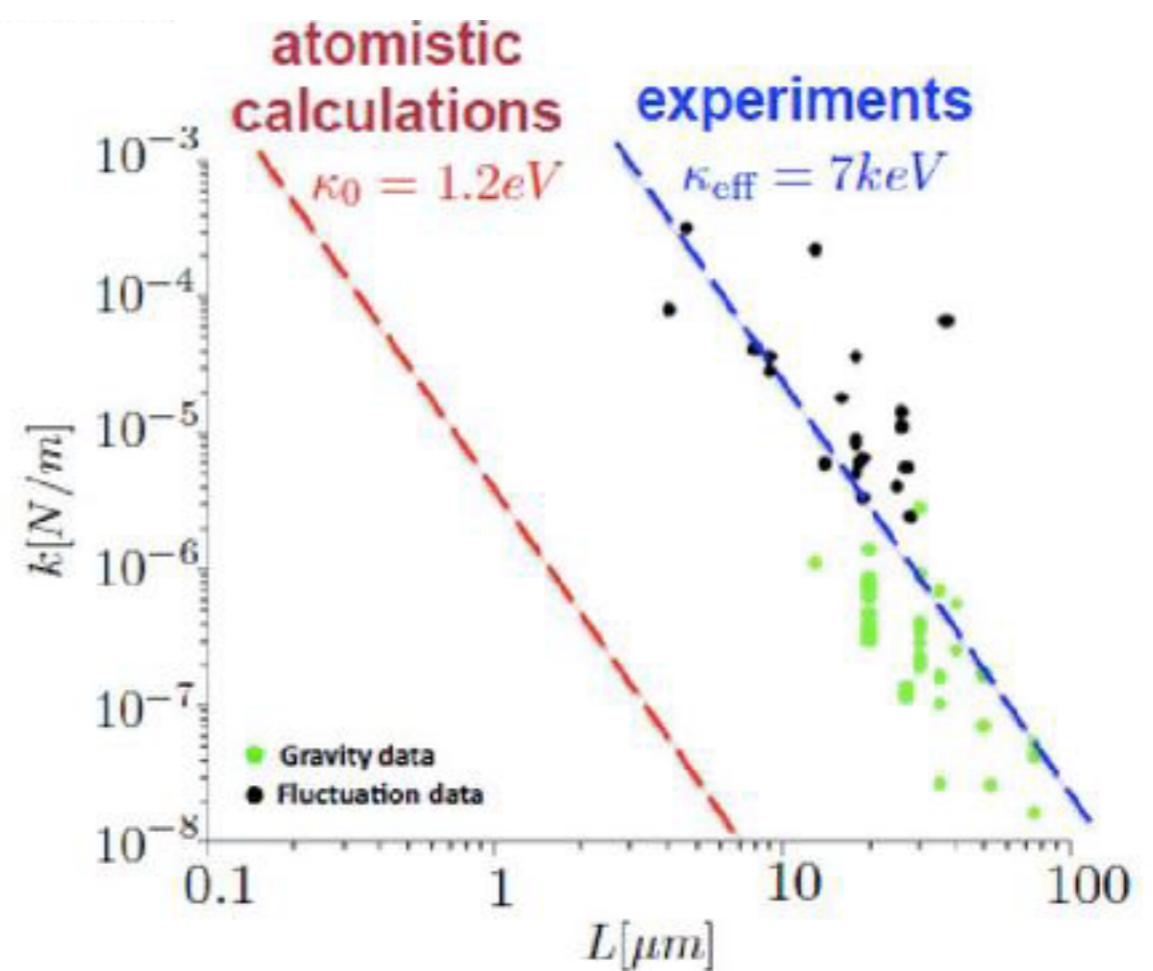
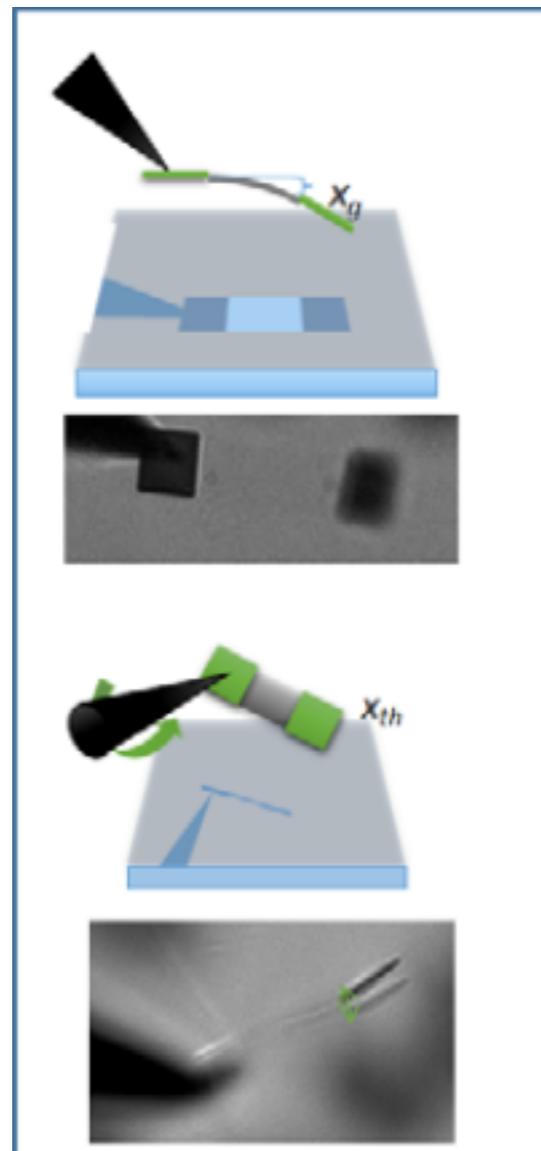


McEuen group



McEuen group

# Bending Rigidity Measurements



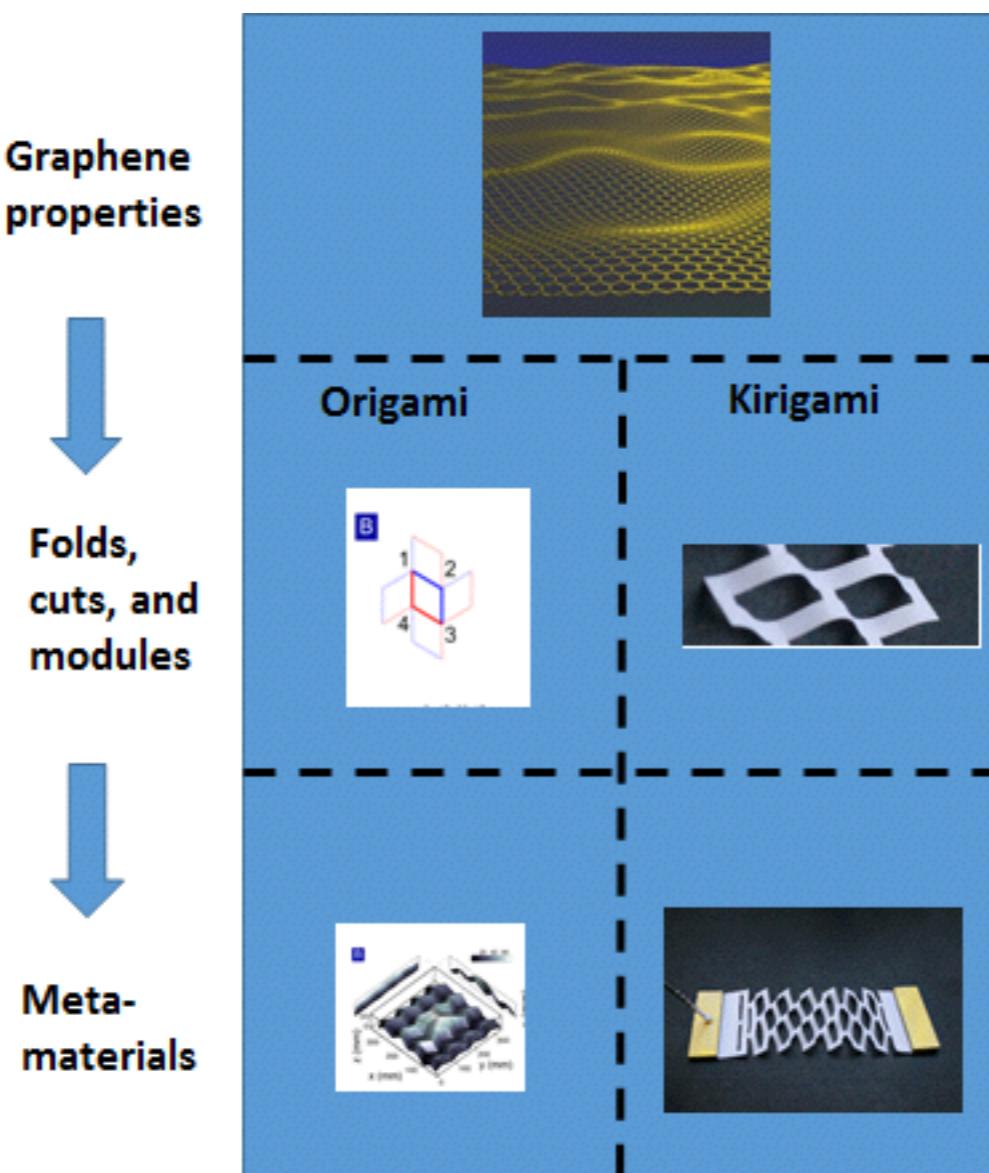
McEuen group

# Graphene Kirigami

w/ Itai Cohen, Paul McEuen and David Nelson

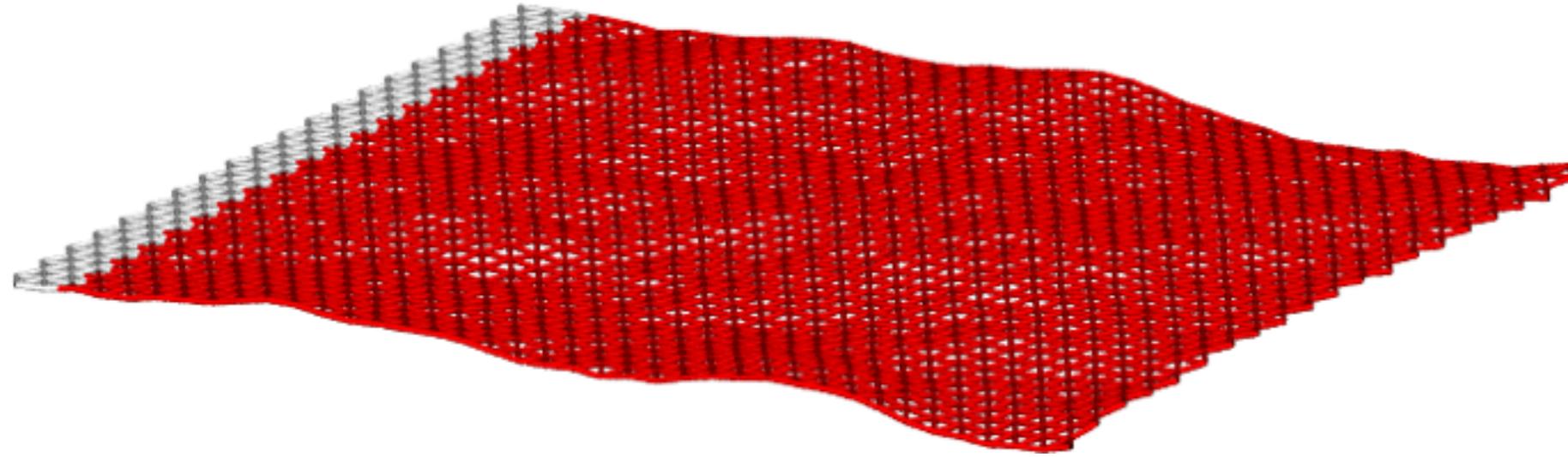
Graphene material properties depend on the geometry through thermal fluctuations

Slice and dice pure graphene to produce metamaterials with distinct elastic moduli and mechanical response



## Simple scaling: Ribbons

w/ Andrej Kosmrlj, David Nelson and Rastko Sknepnek



Two system size scales to play with: length  $L$  and width  $W$

1. short ribbon  $L < W$ :  $L$  controls the scaling       $\kappa_R(L, W) \approx \kappa_0(L/l_{\text{th}})^{\eta}$
2. long ribbon  $L \gg W$ :  $W$  controls the scaling       $\kappa_R(L, W) \approx \kappa_0(W/l_{\text{th}})^{\eta}$

# MD simulations



$W=10, L=100$



$W=10, L=200$

## MD simulations



$W=10, L=100$



$W=10, L=200$

## MD simulations

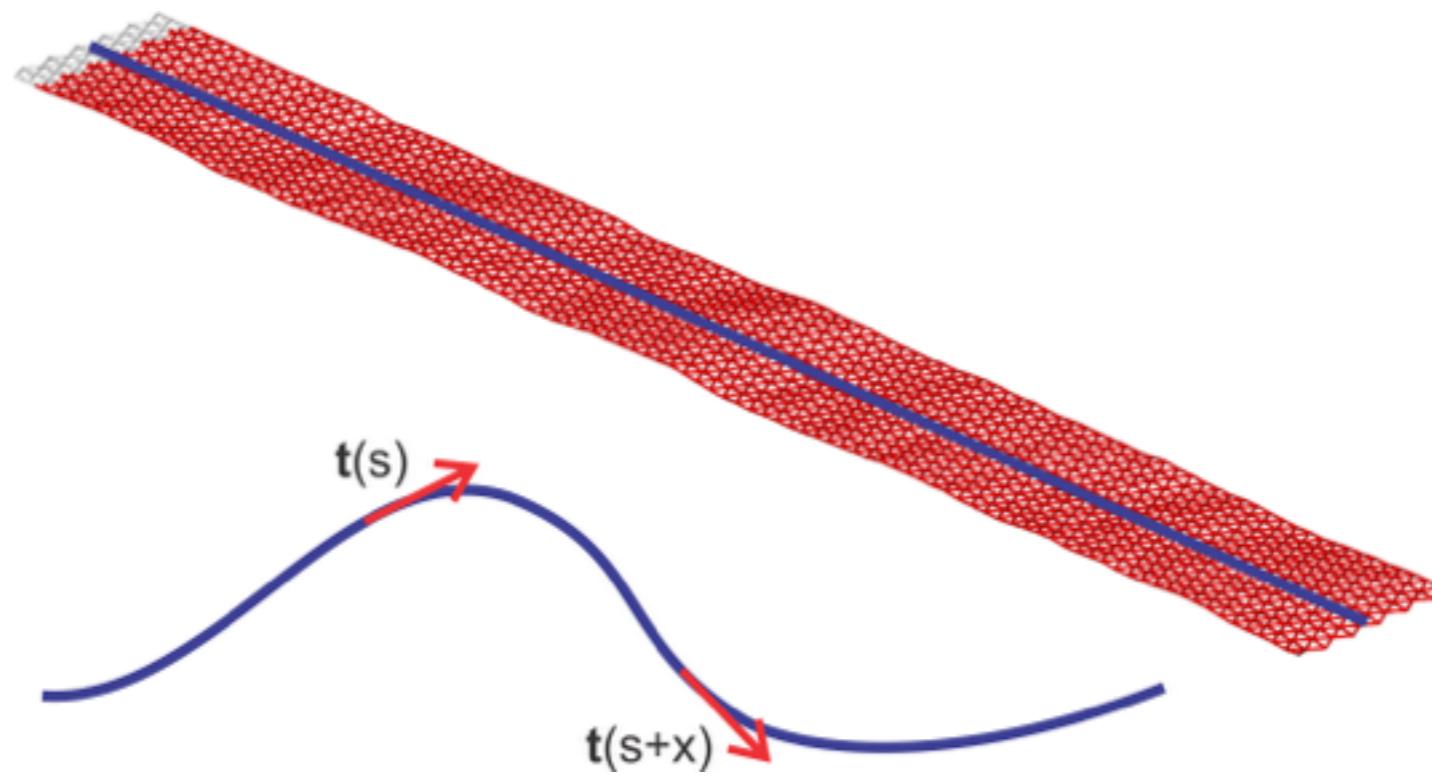


$W=10, L=100$



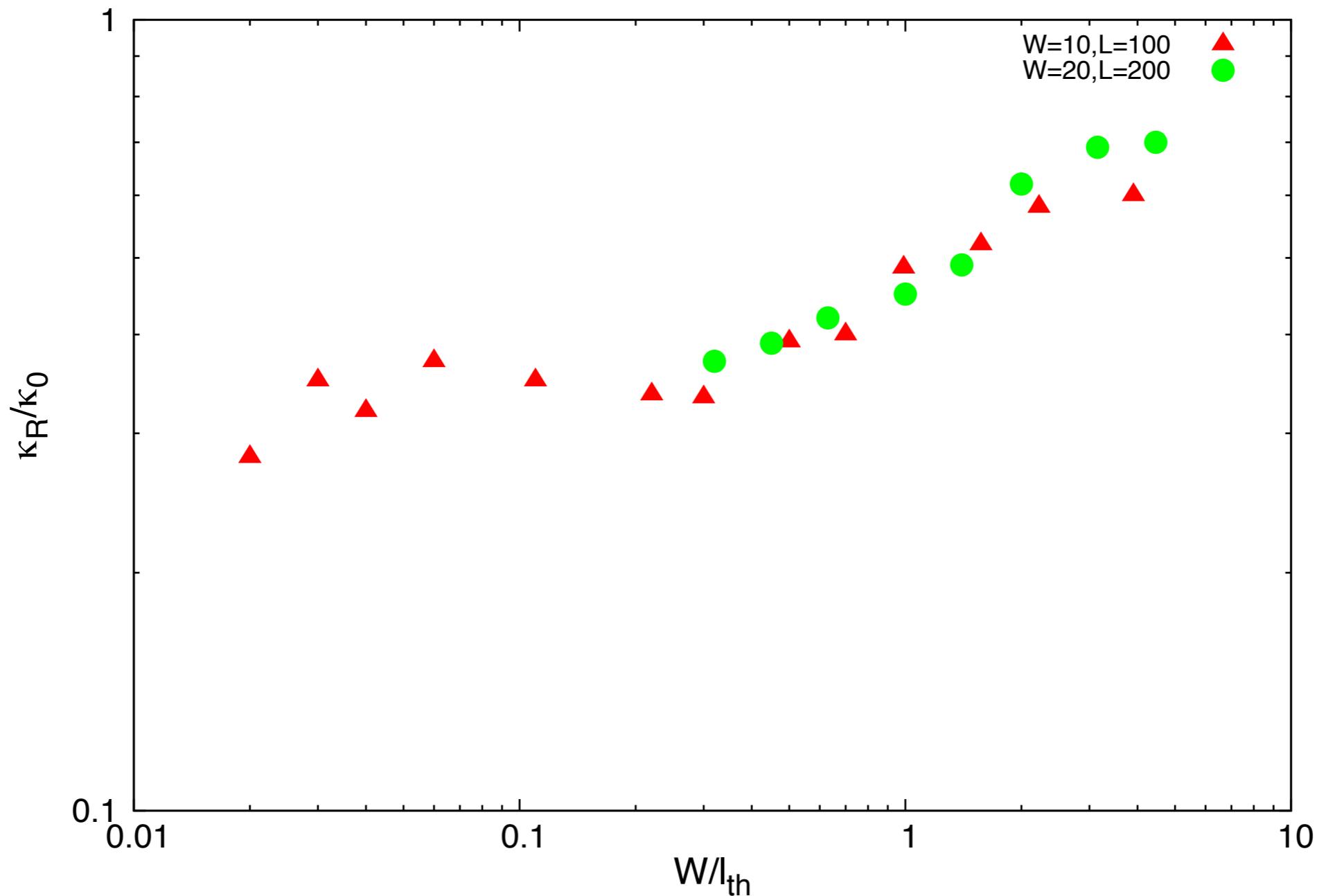
$W=10, L=200$

We can extract  $\kappa_R$  from the persistence length obtained from the tangent-tangent correlation function



$$\langle \vec{t}(s+x) \vec{t}(s) \rangle \sim \exp(-x/l_p)$$

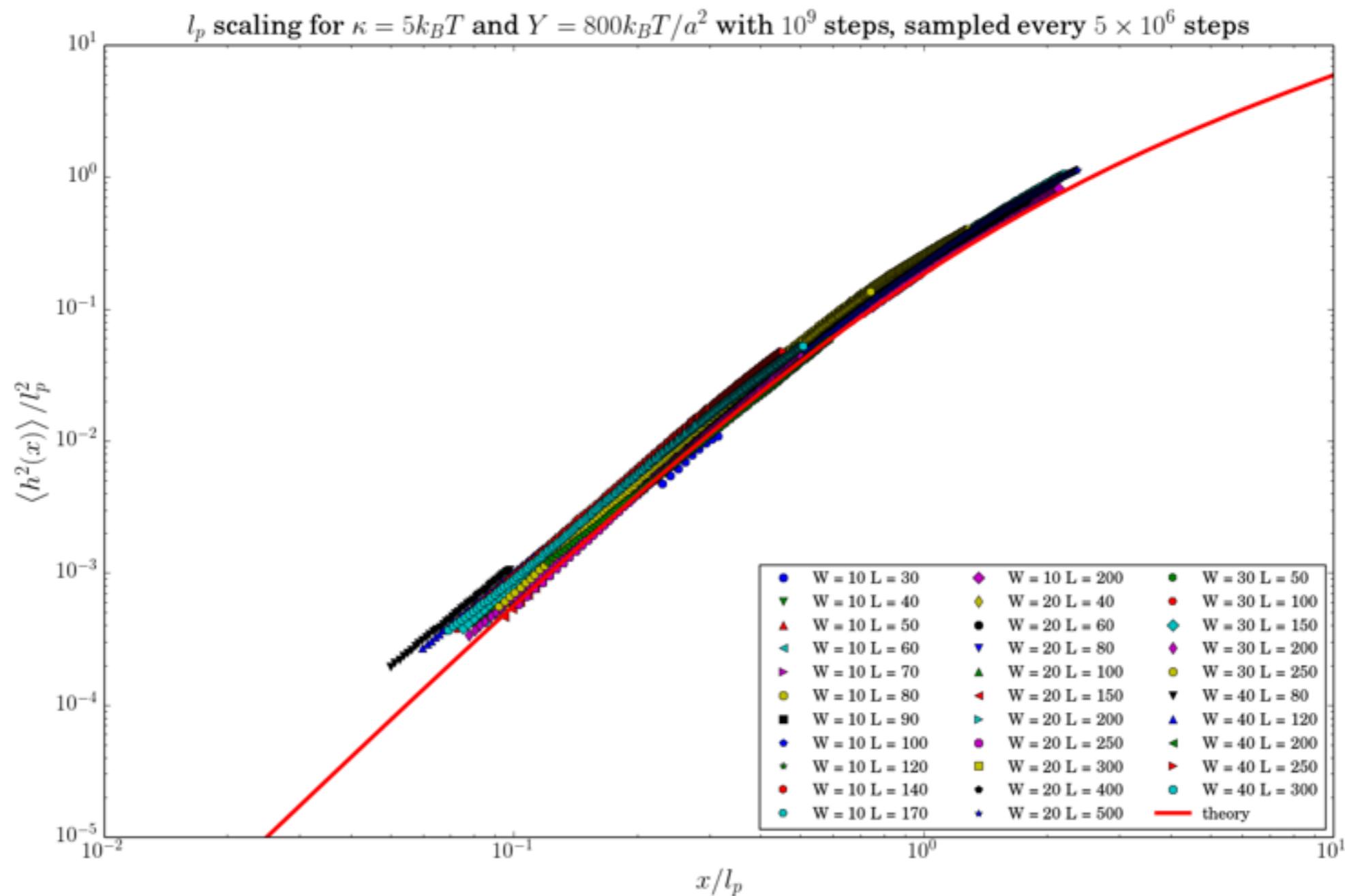
Following Panyukov & Rabin PRE **62** (2000)  $l_p \approx 2W\kappa_R/k_B T$



$$\kappa_R/\kappa_0 \sim \left(\frac{W}{l_{th}}\right)^\eta$$

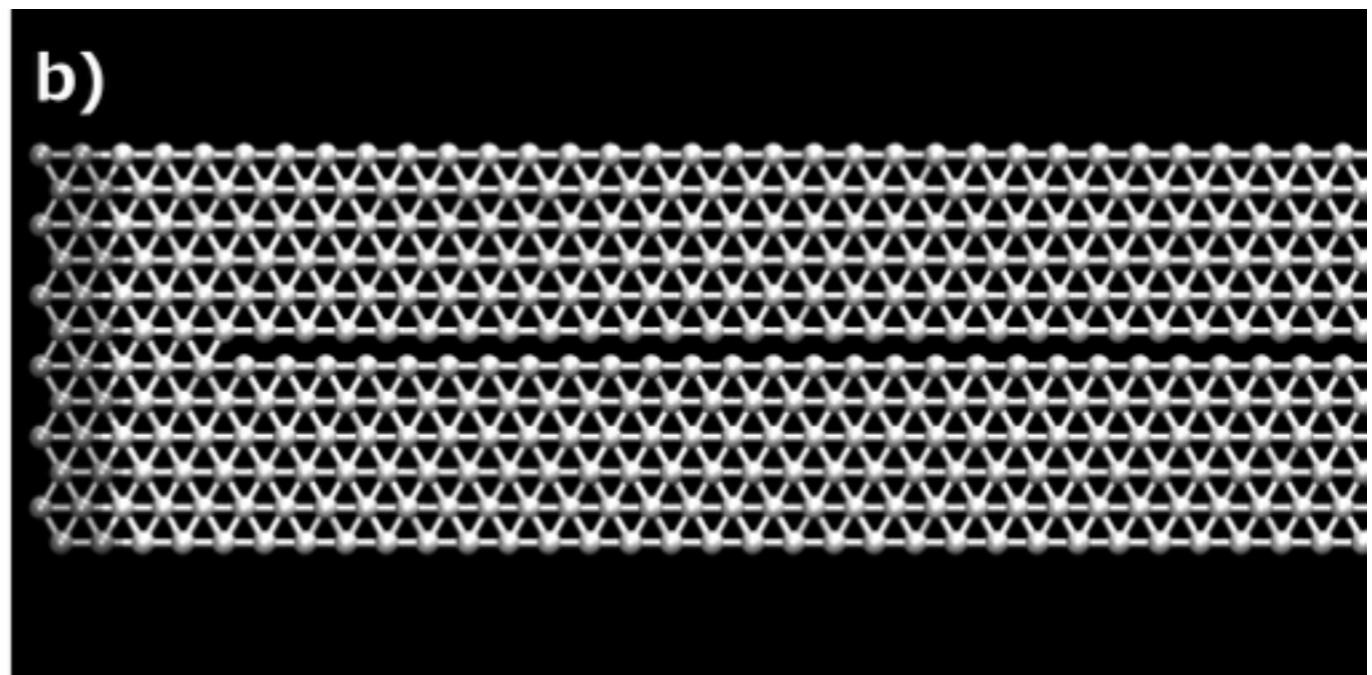
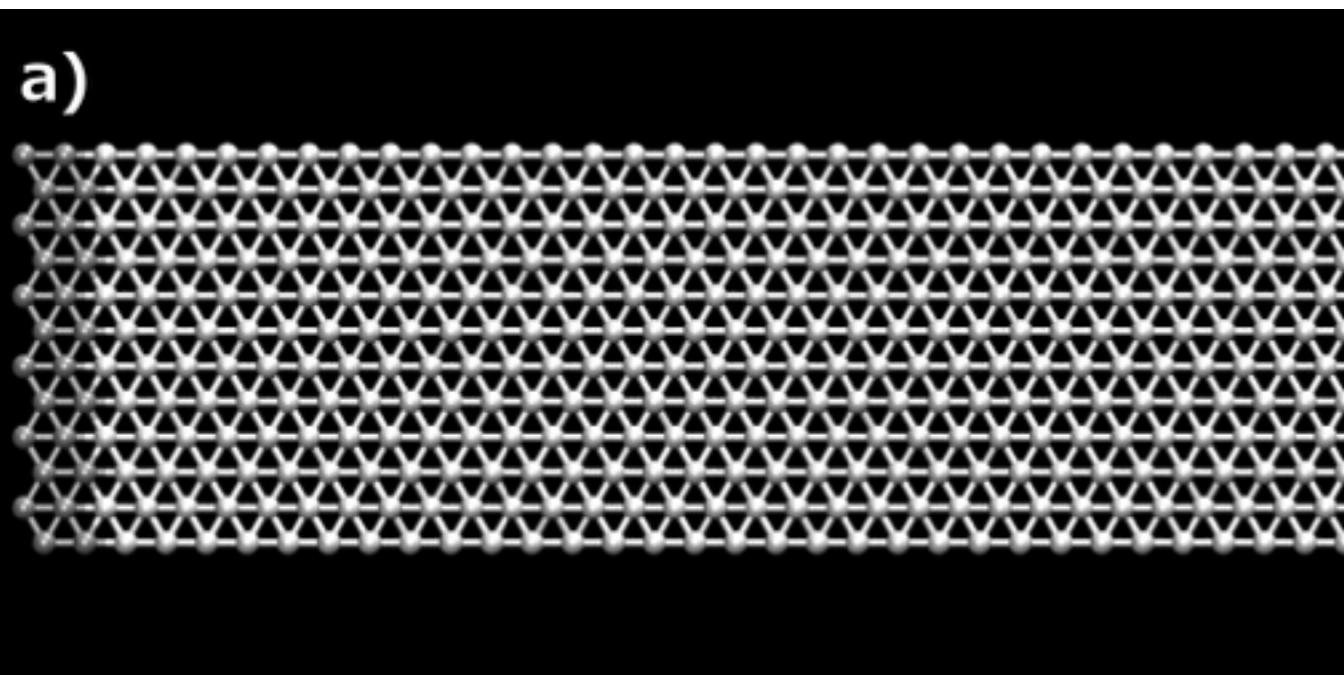
# Height Fluctuations

$$\Phi(x) = \frac{1}{W} \int dy \langle h^2(x, y) \rangle / l_p^2 \quad \Phi(x) \sim (x/l_p)^3 \quad (x > W)$$



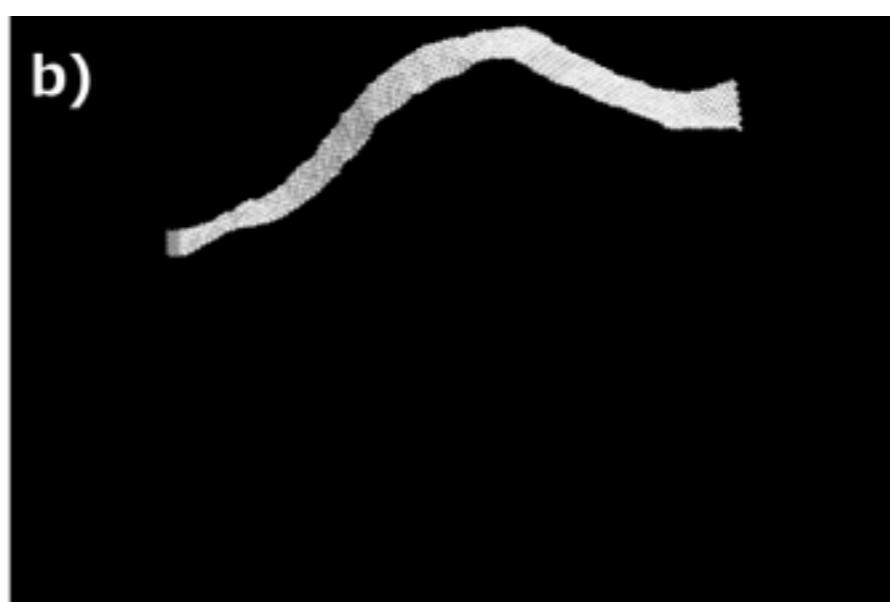
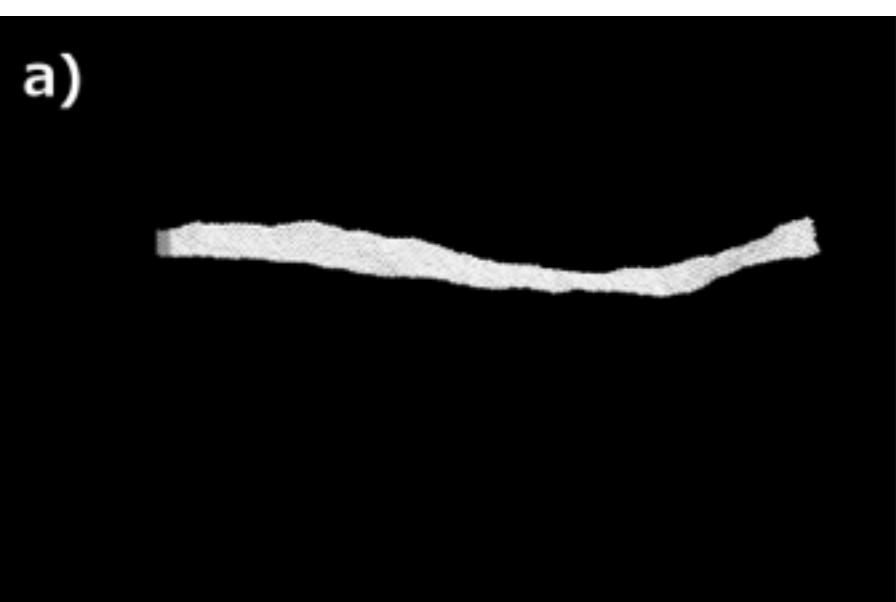
# MD simulations of slits

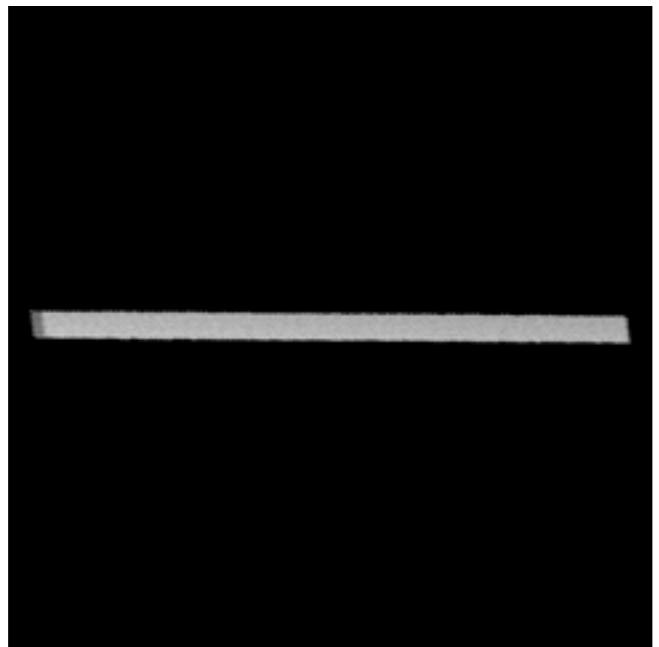
Emily Russell, R. Sknepnek and MJB  
arXiv:1512.04670



$$L = 100a \quad W = 10a \quad N = 1188 \text{ vertices}$$

$$k = 3600k_B T \quad \kappa = 5k_B T \quad vK = \frac{YLW}{\kappa} \approx 2 \times 10^6$$

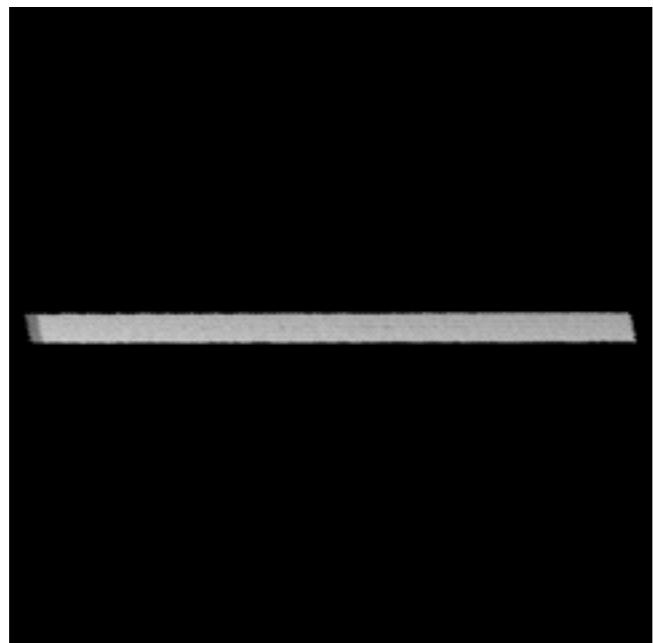




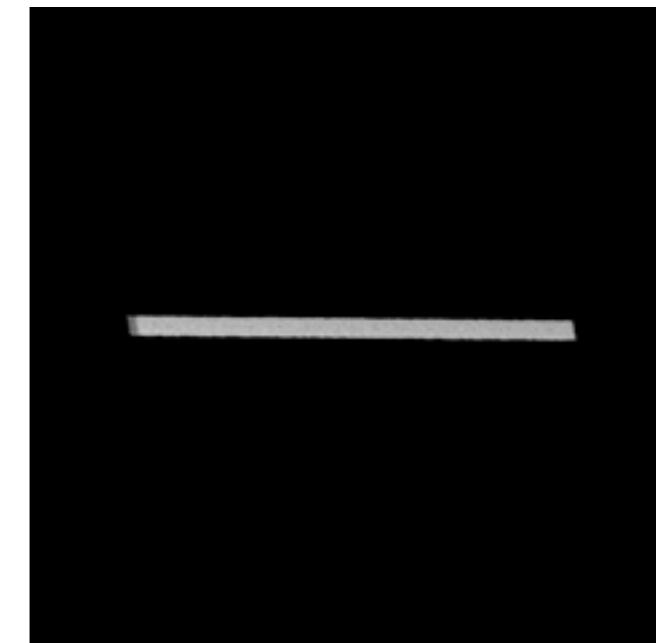
Reference Ribbon



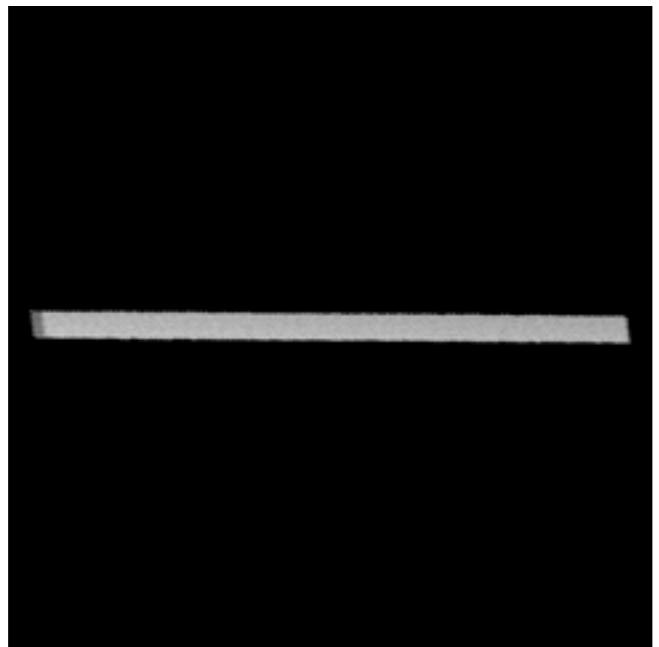
Short slit



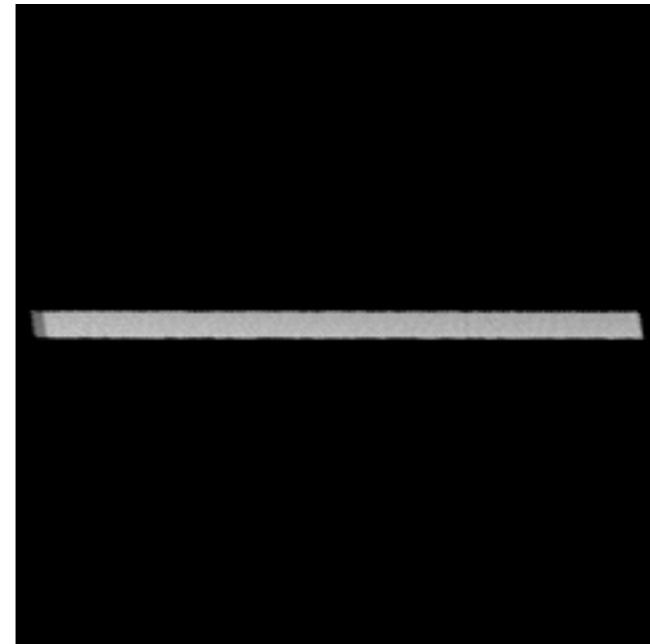
Longer slit



End-to-end slit



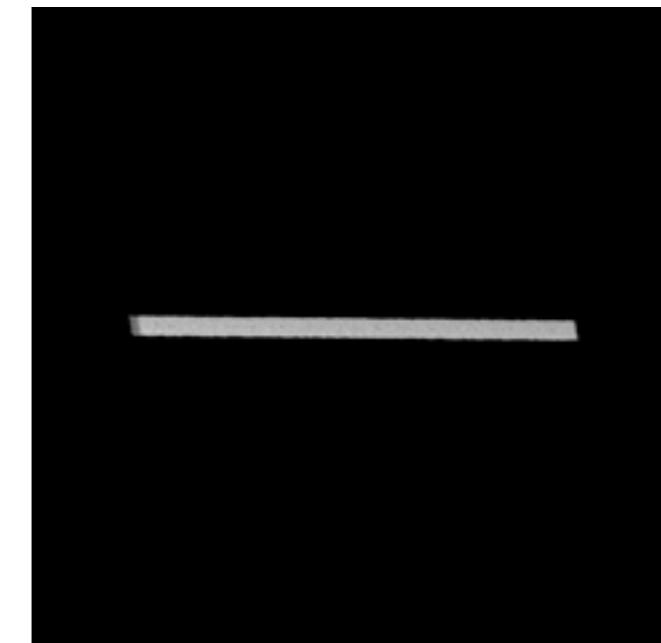
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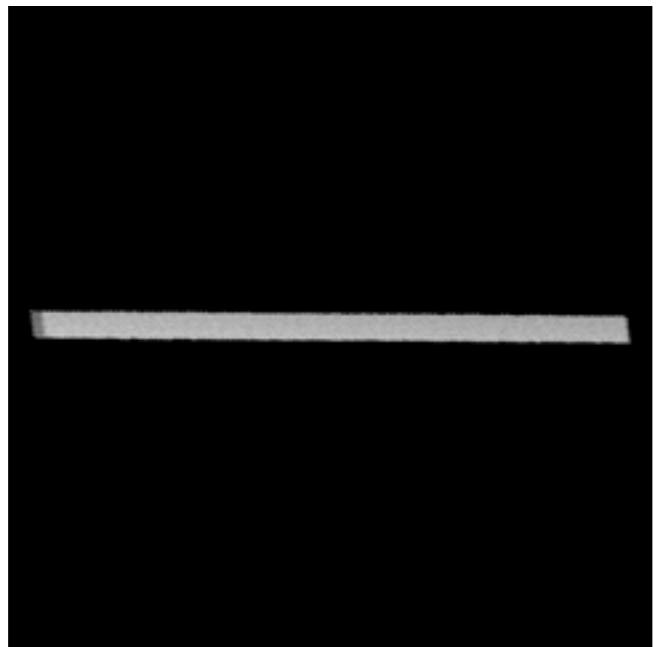
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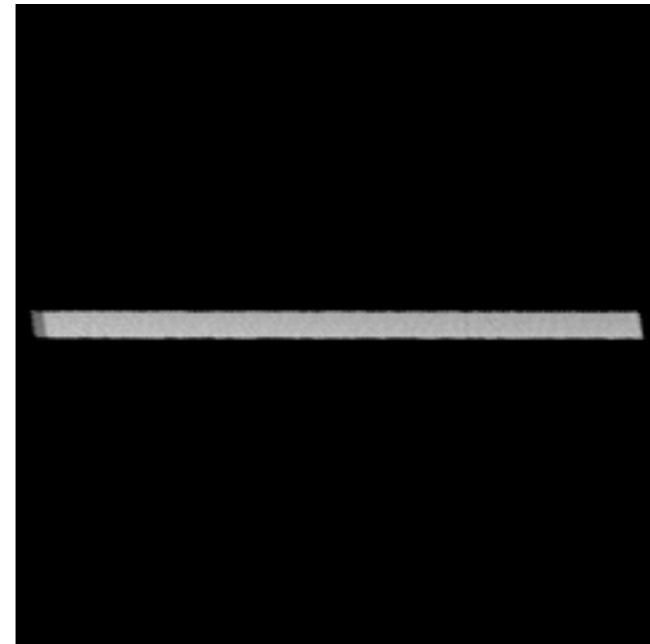
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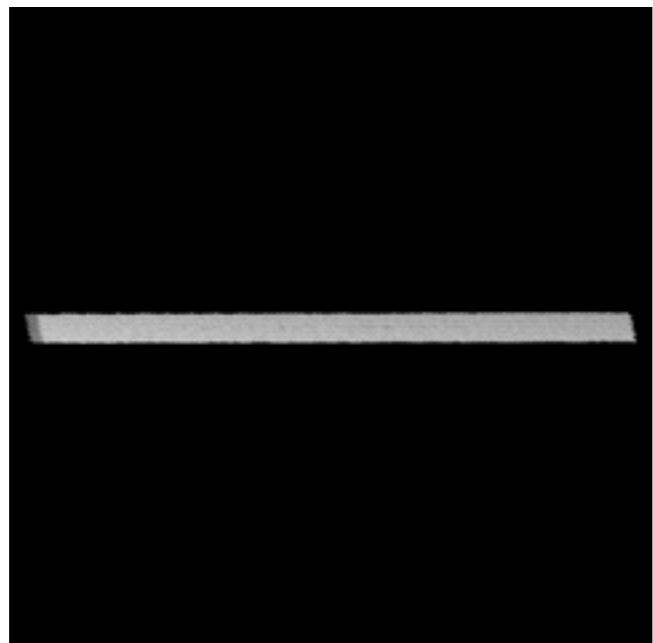
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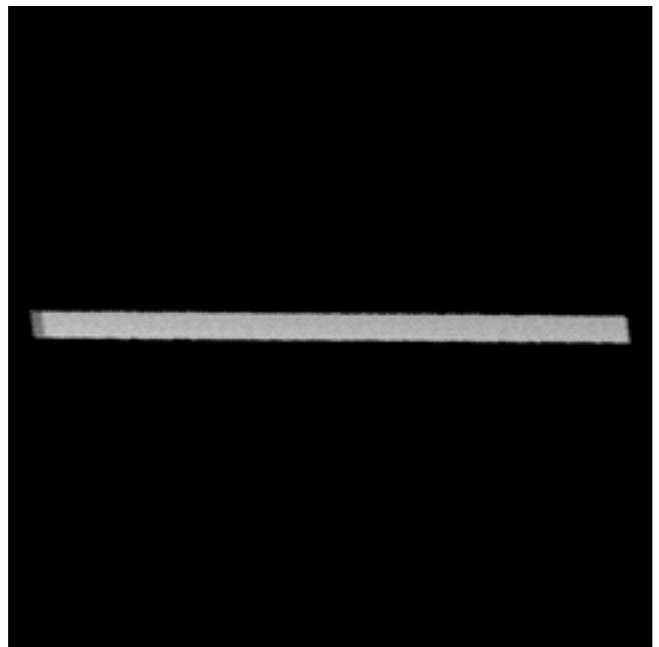
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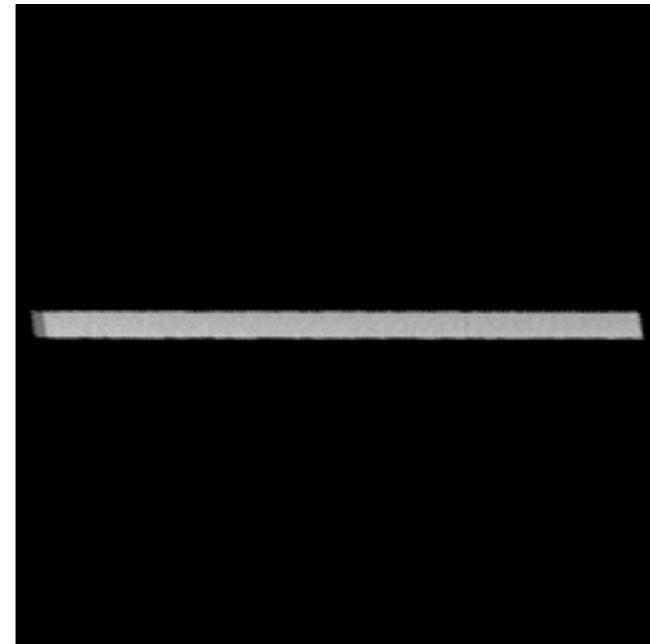
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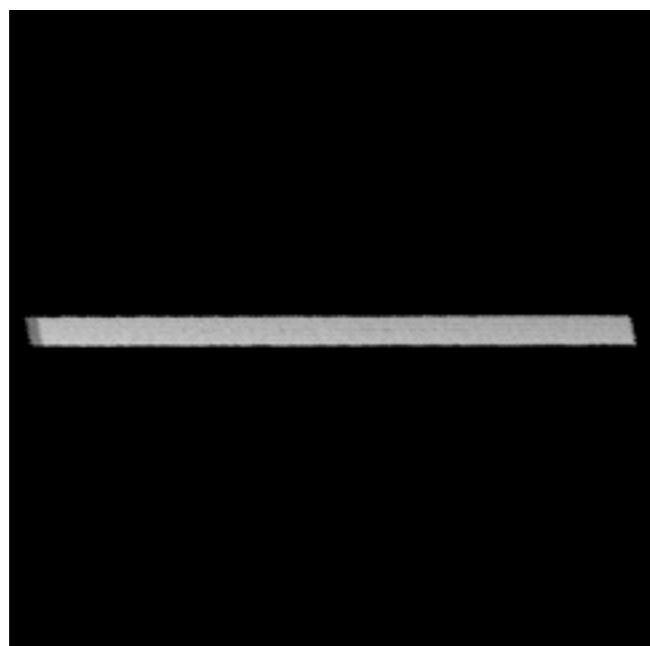
End-to-end slit



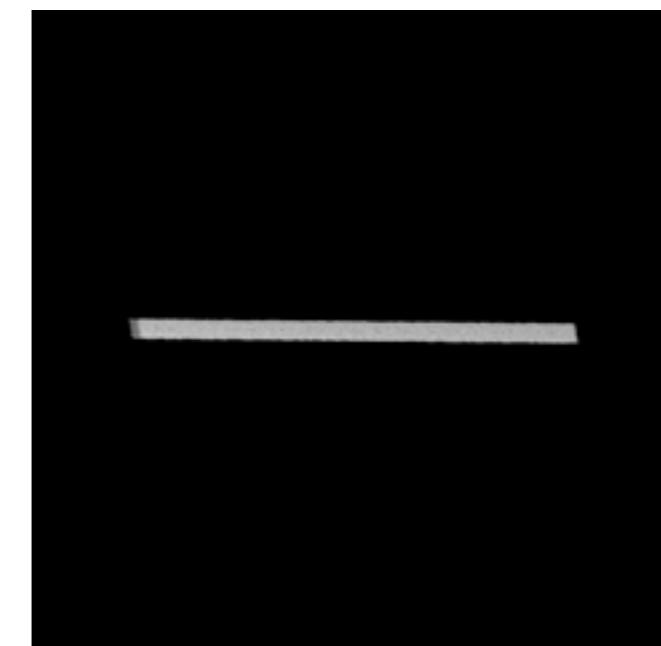
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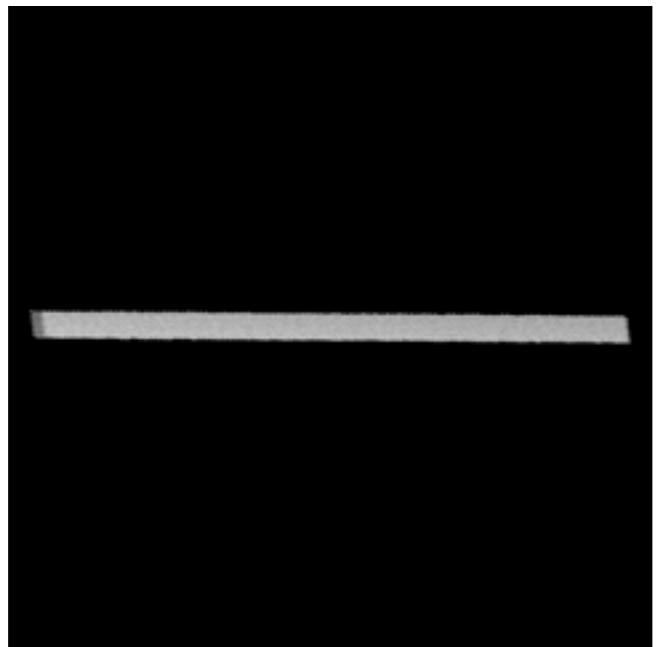
Short slit



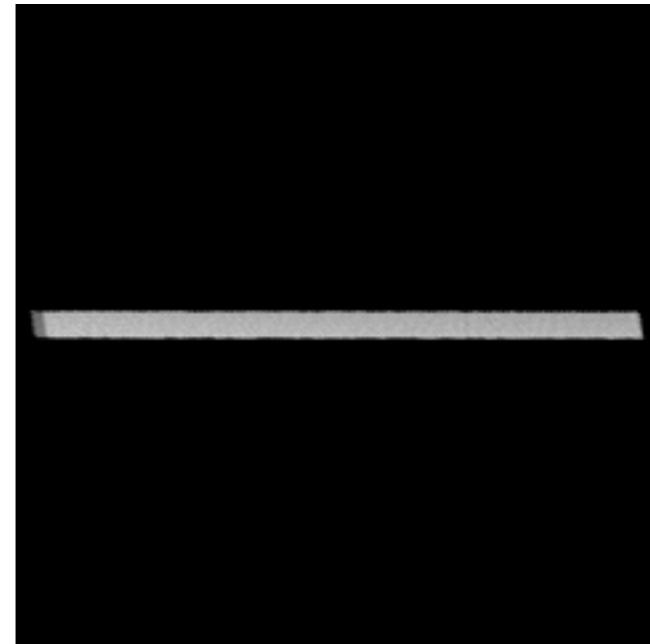
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End-to-end slit



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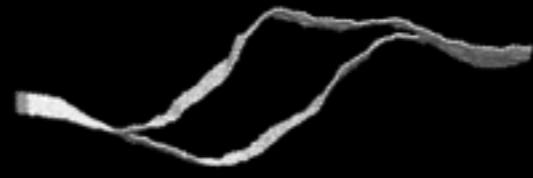
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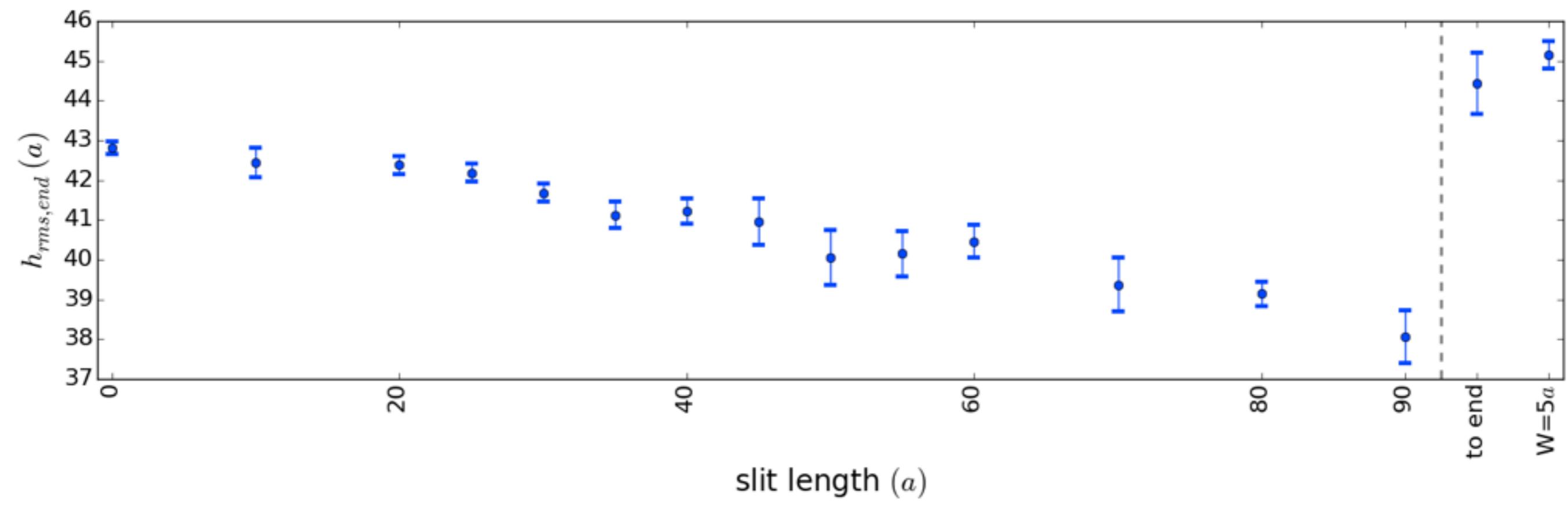
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End-to-end slit

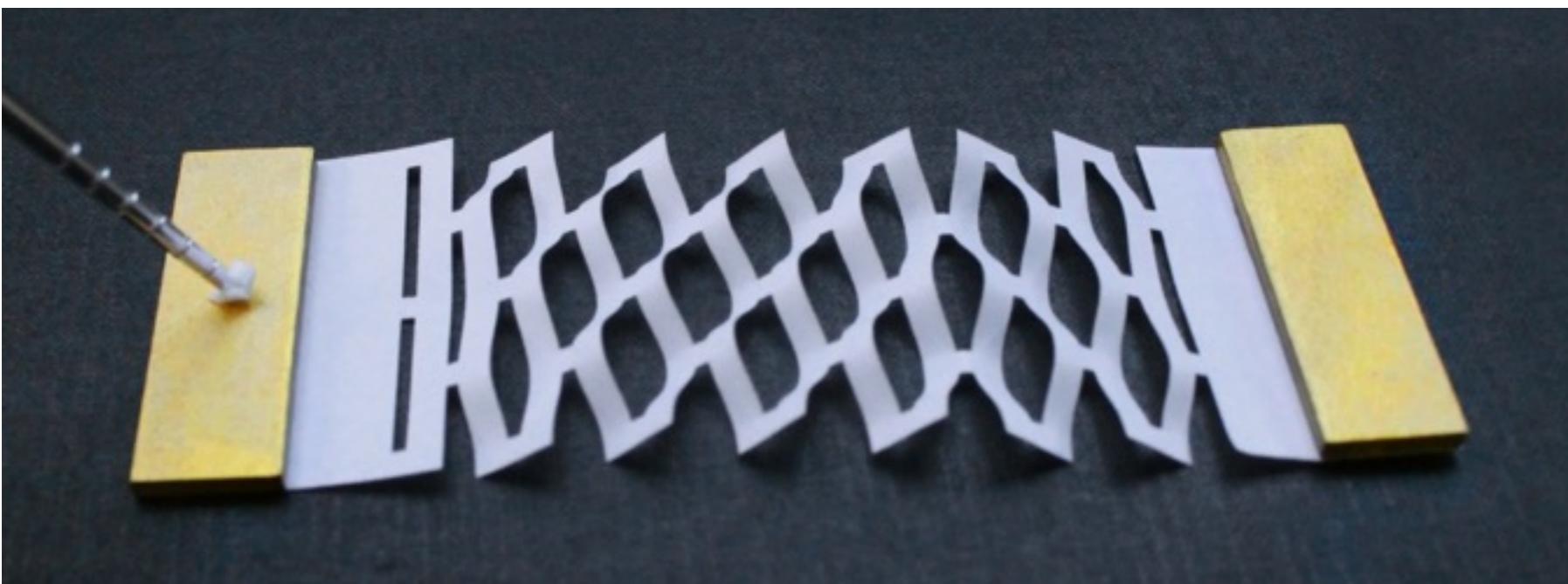
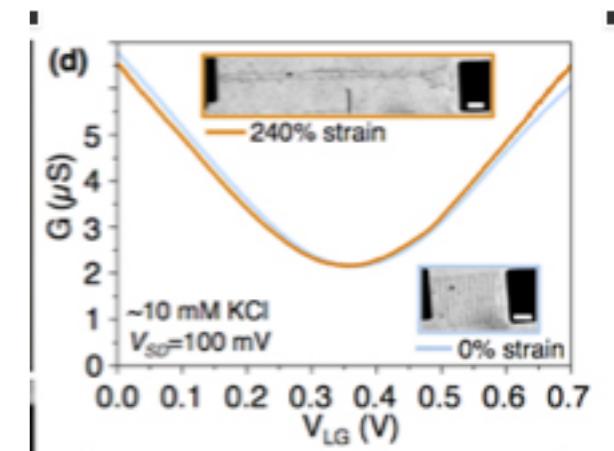
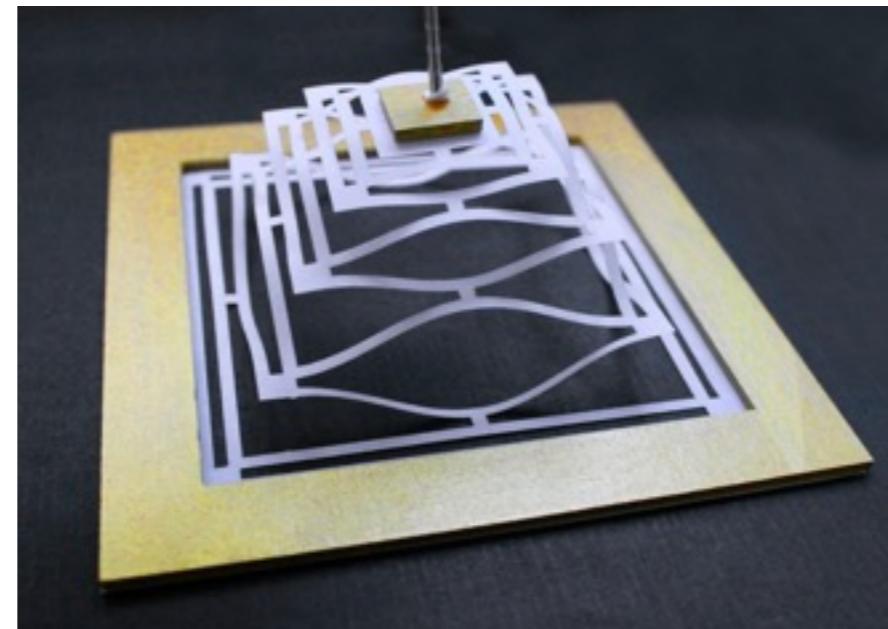
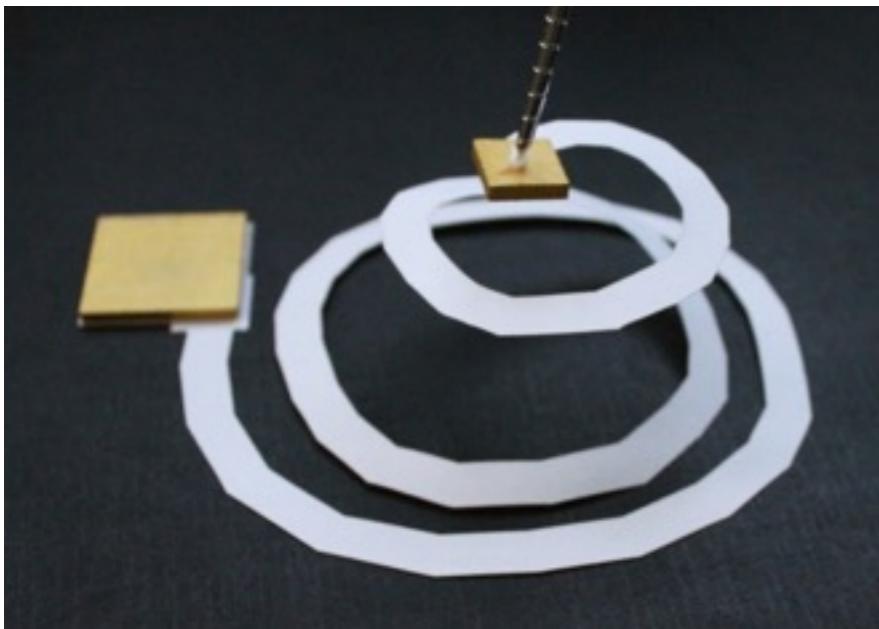
**a)****b)****c)****d)****e)****f)**

## RMS Height Fluctuations vs slit length



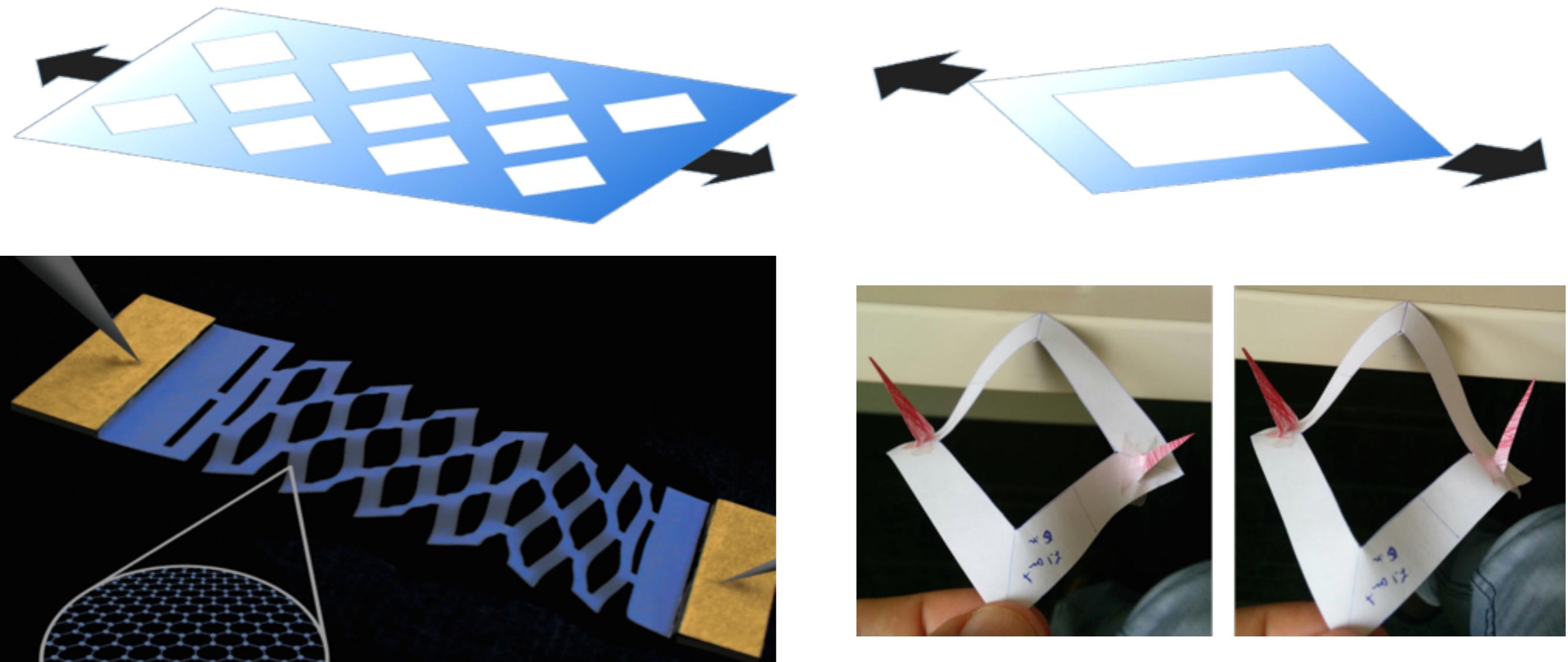
Order from disorder!

Ultimately we want to understand the mechanical/thermal properties of flexible structures such as



# Mechanics of periodic arrays of holes

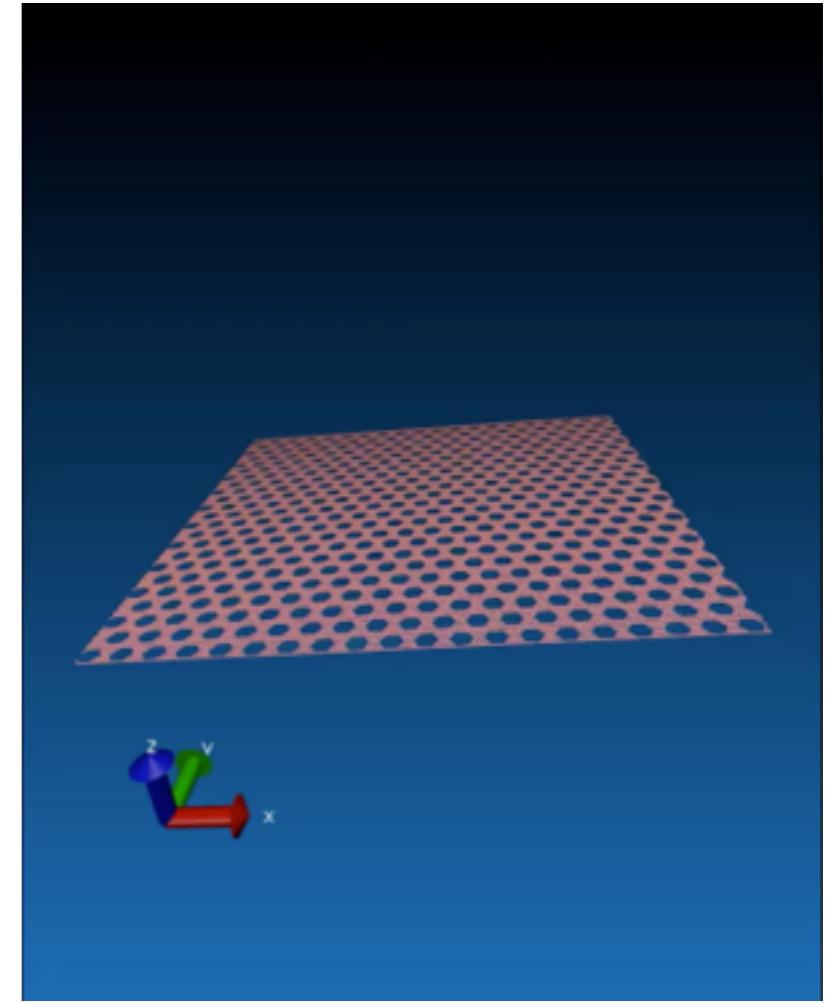
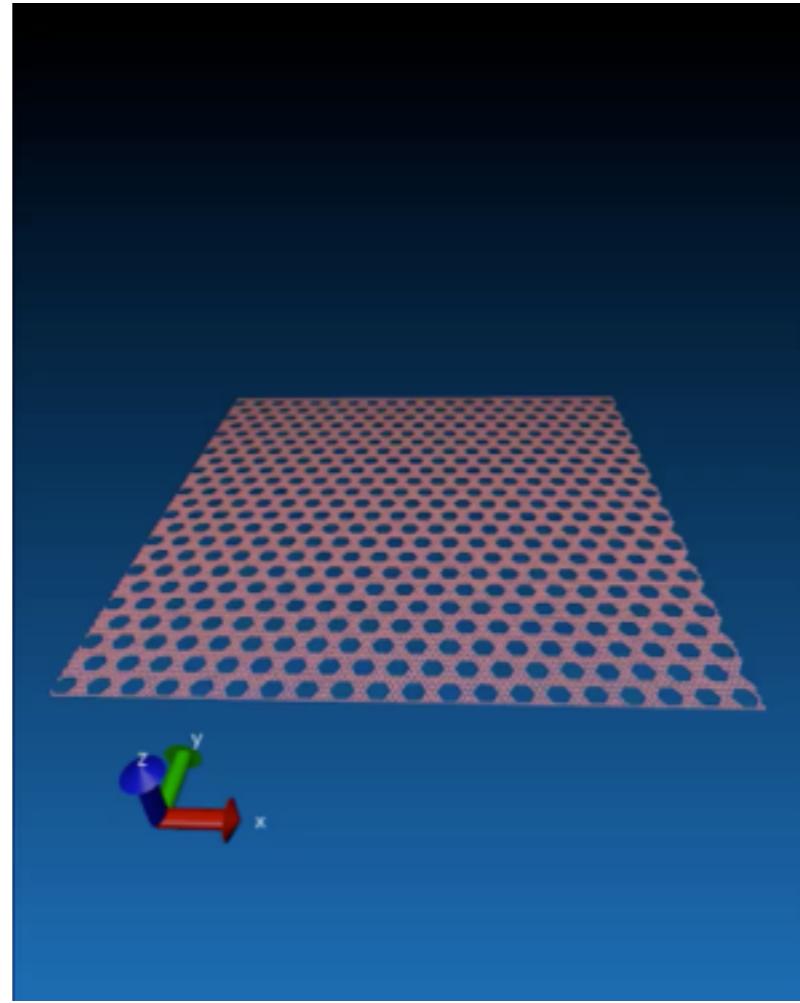
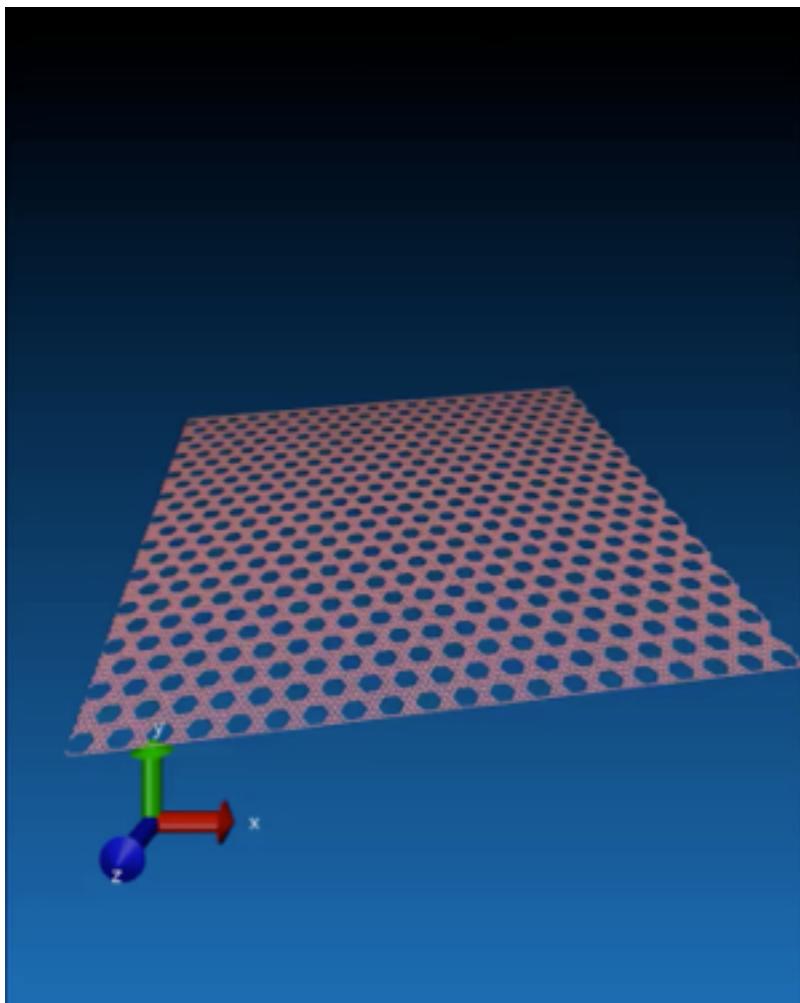
## Michael Moshe and Suraj Shankar



Dramatic change in response to external stress

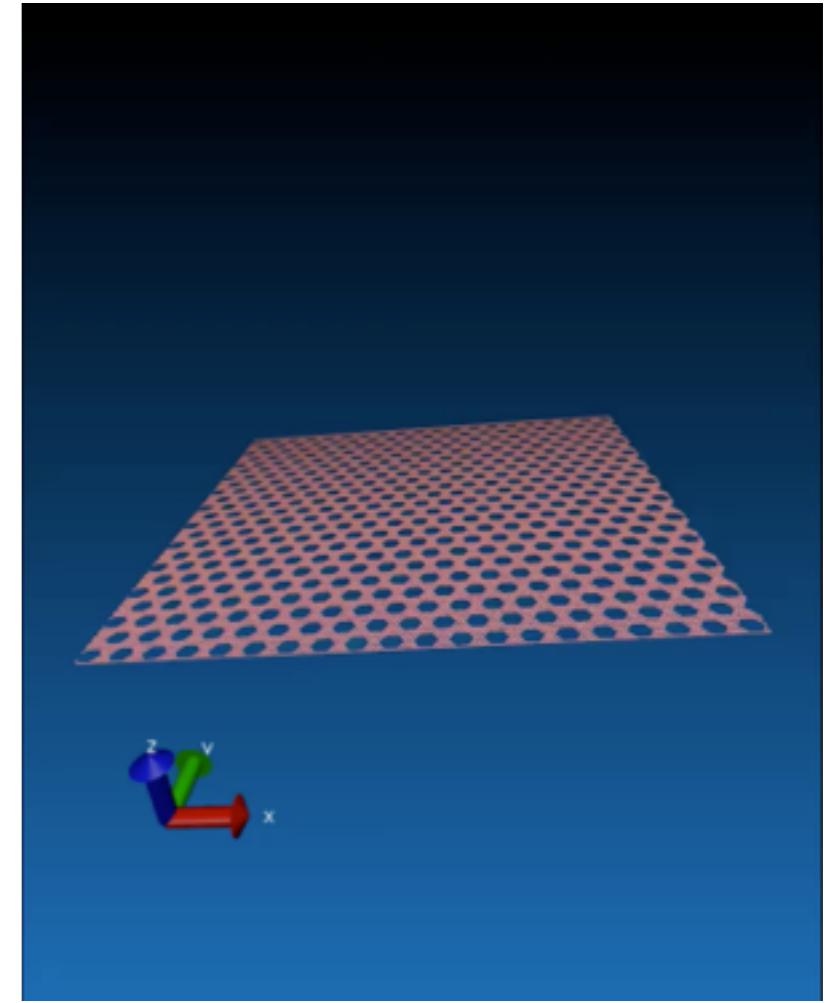
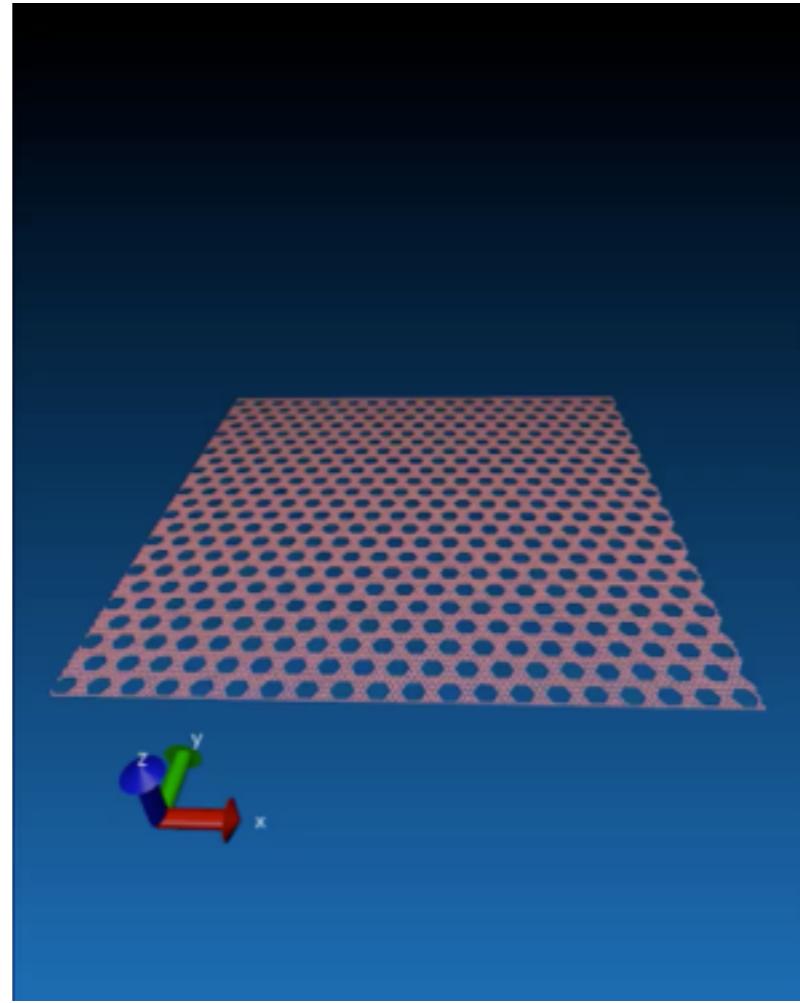
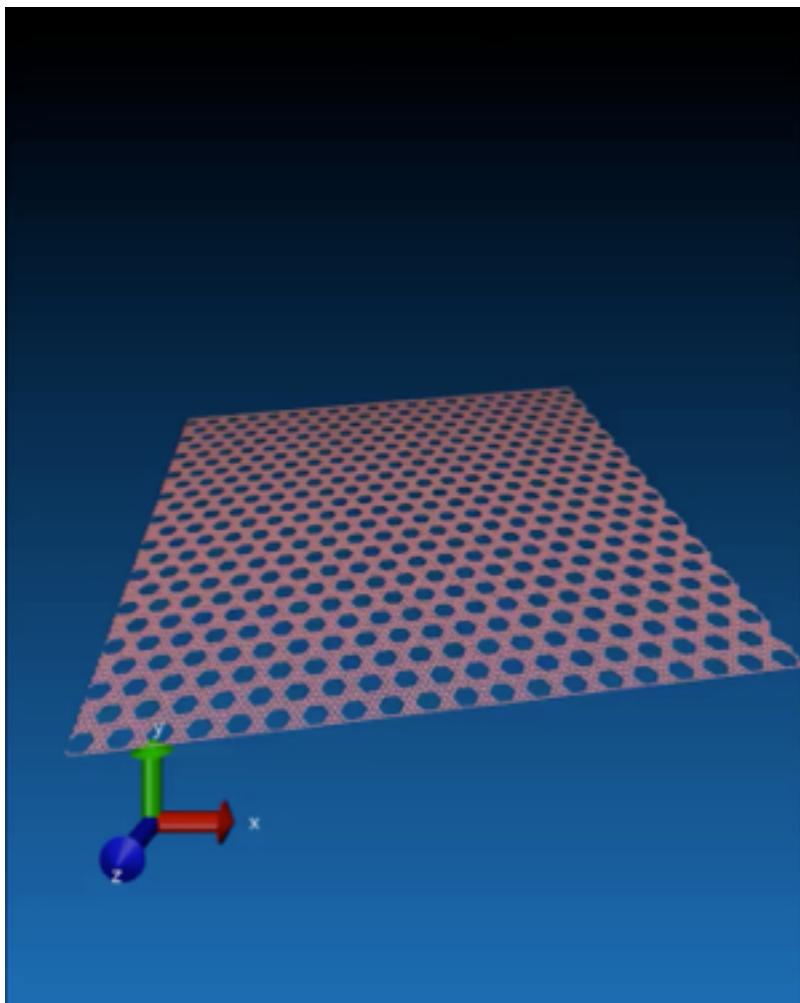
# Perforated (*Holey*) Membranes

## David Yllanes and MJB



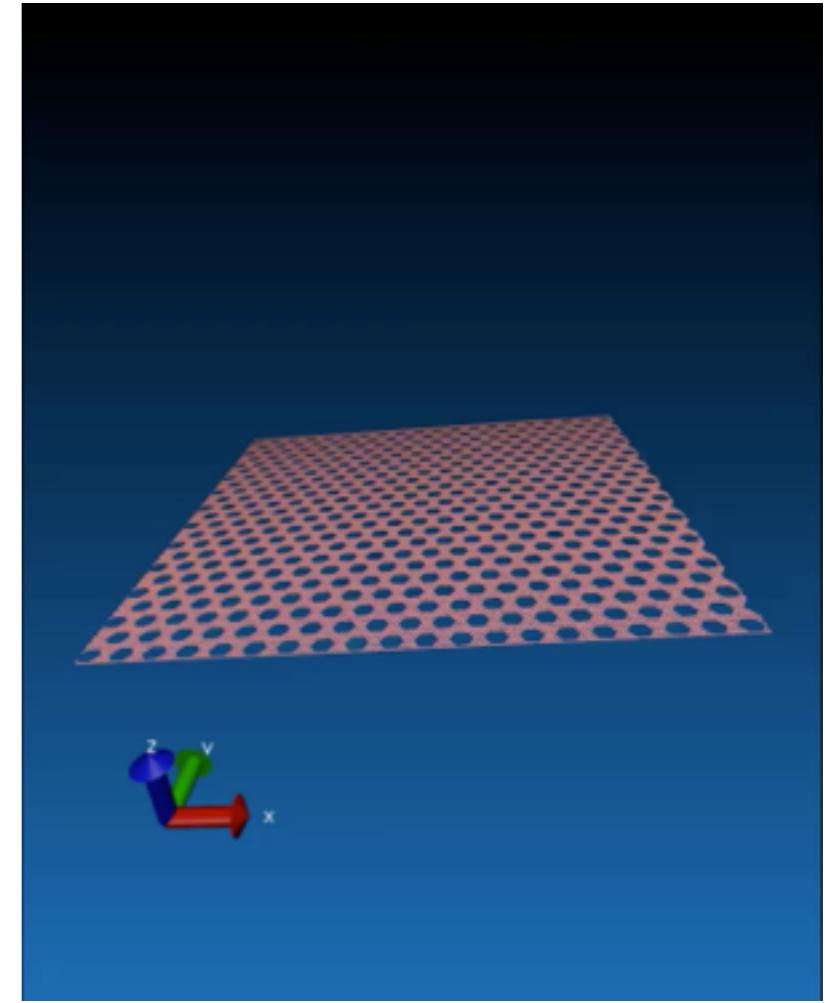
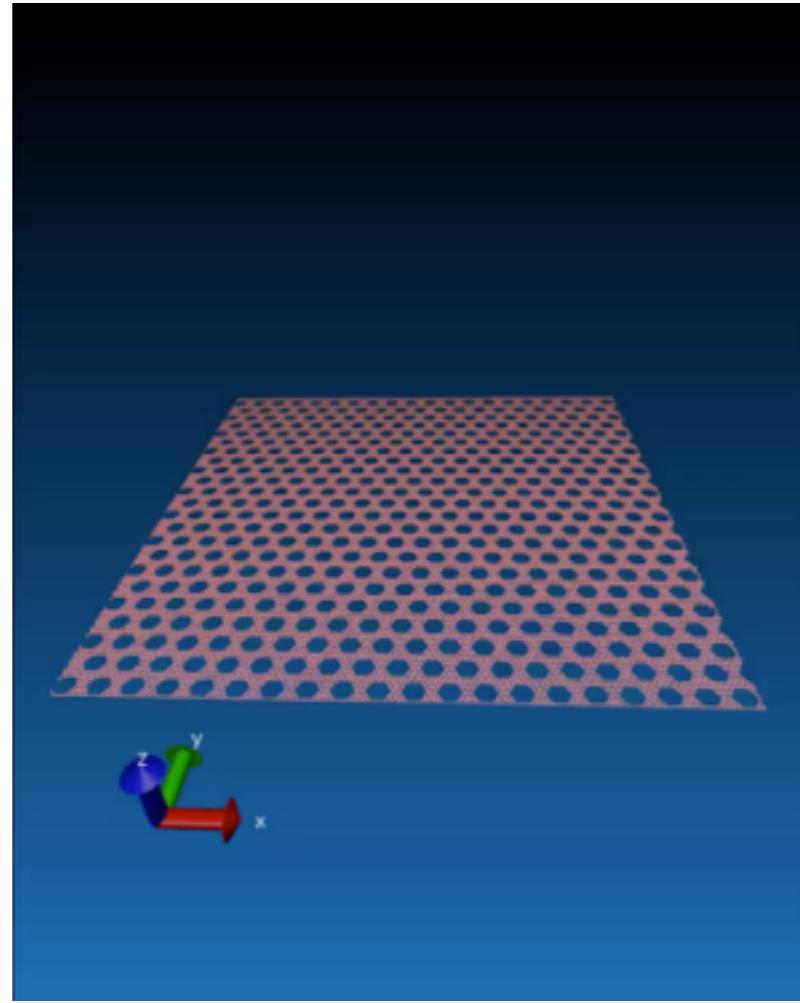
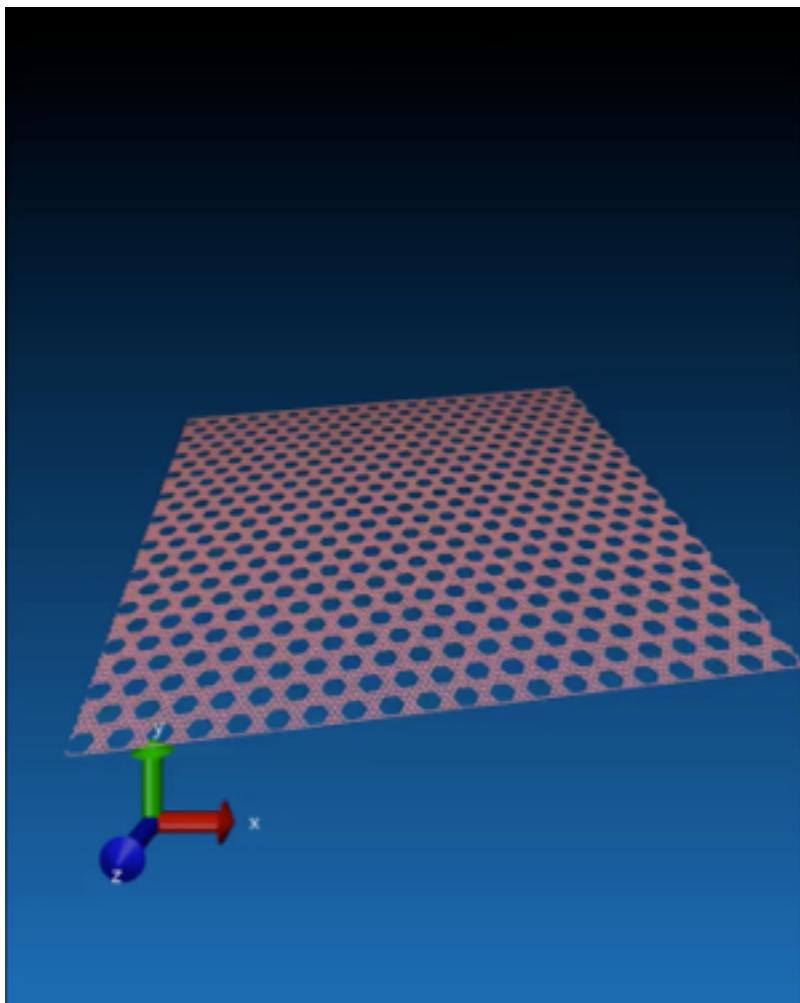
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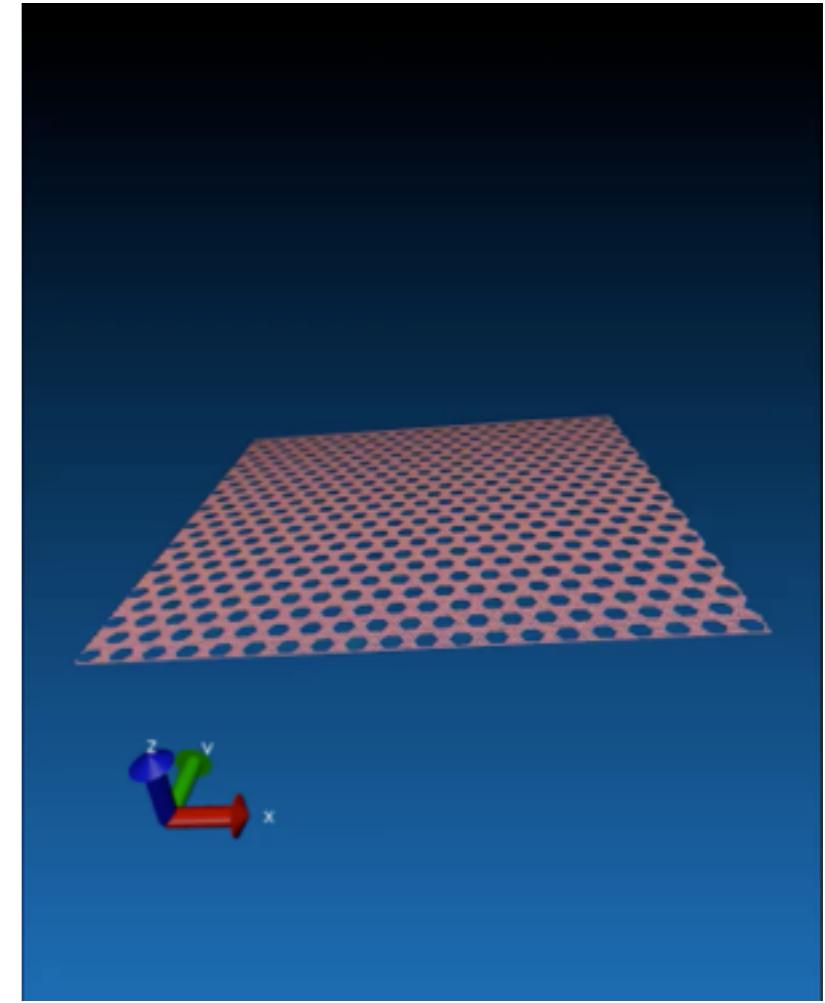
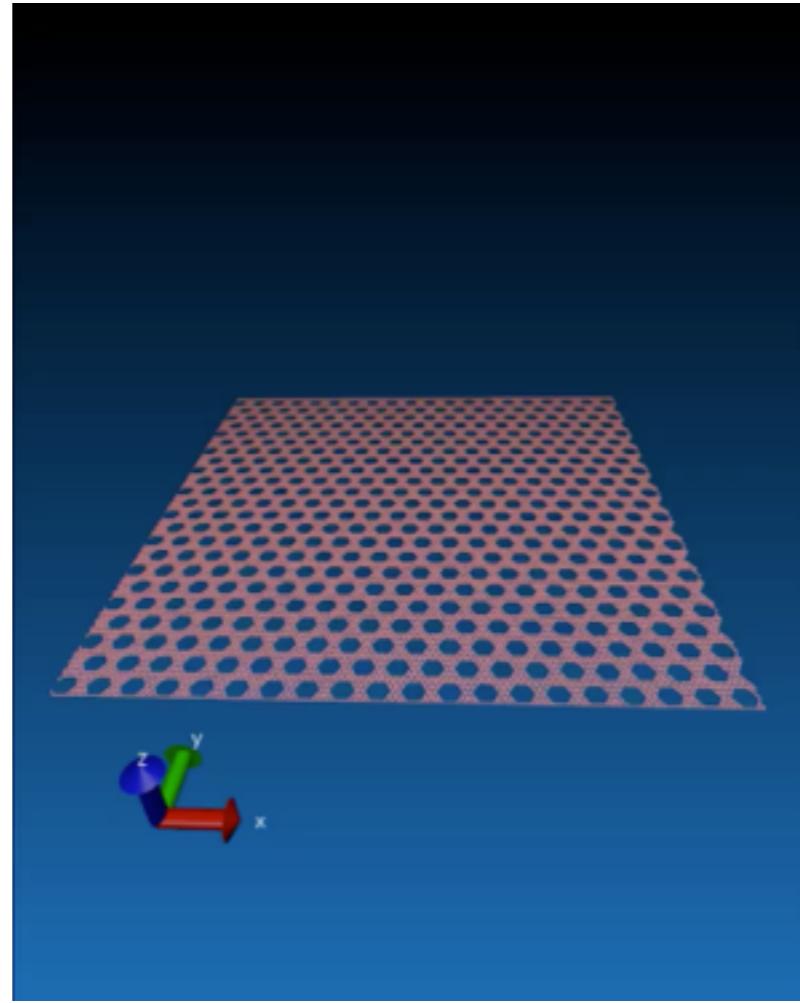
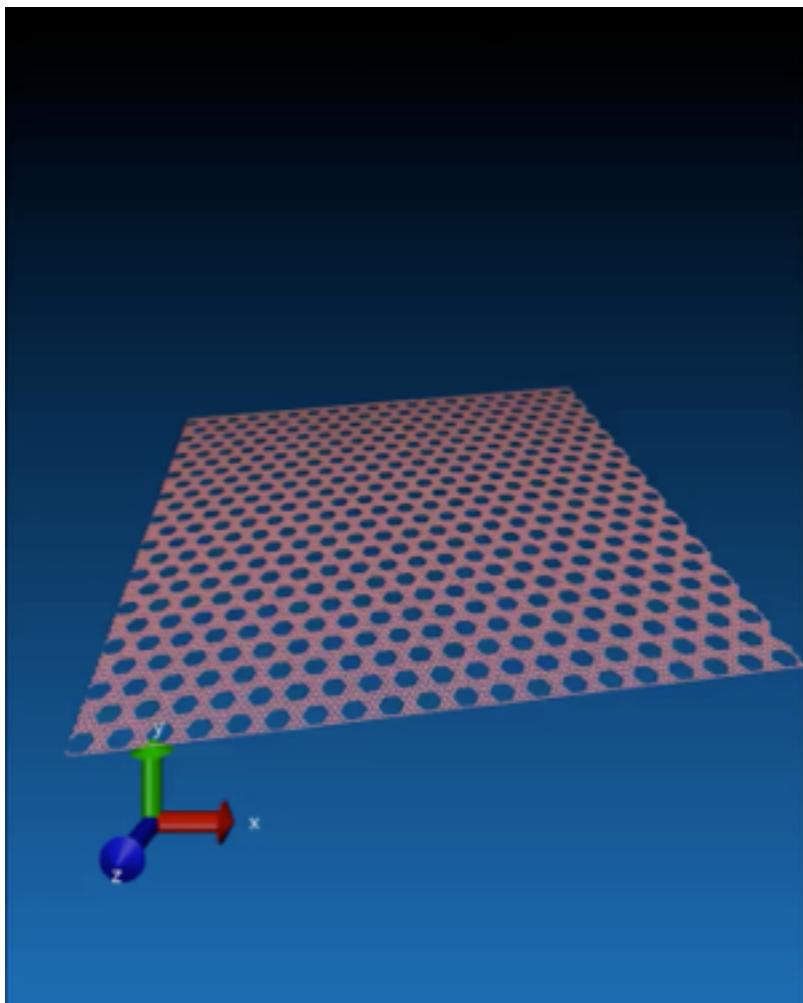
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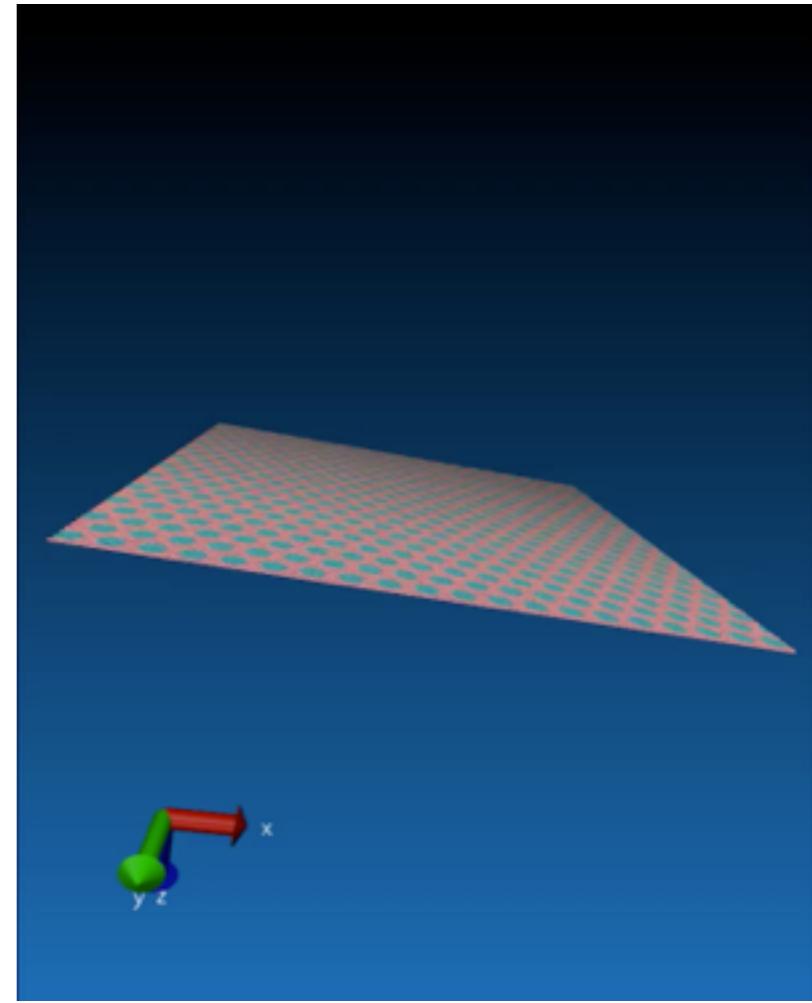
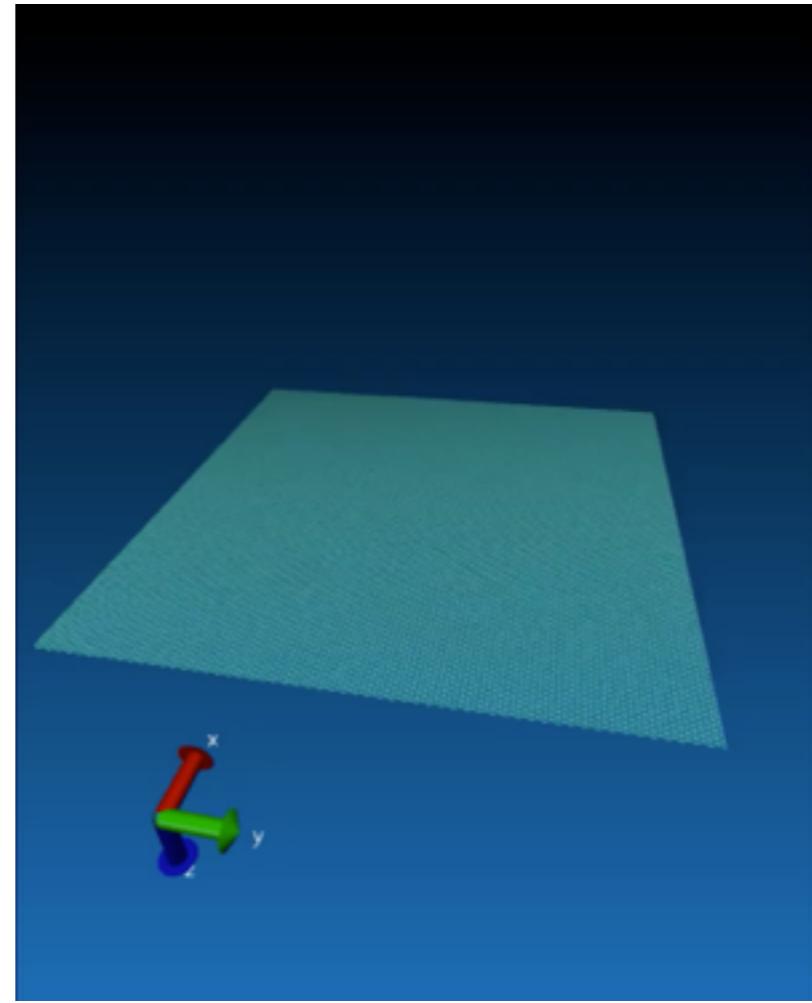
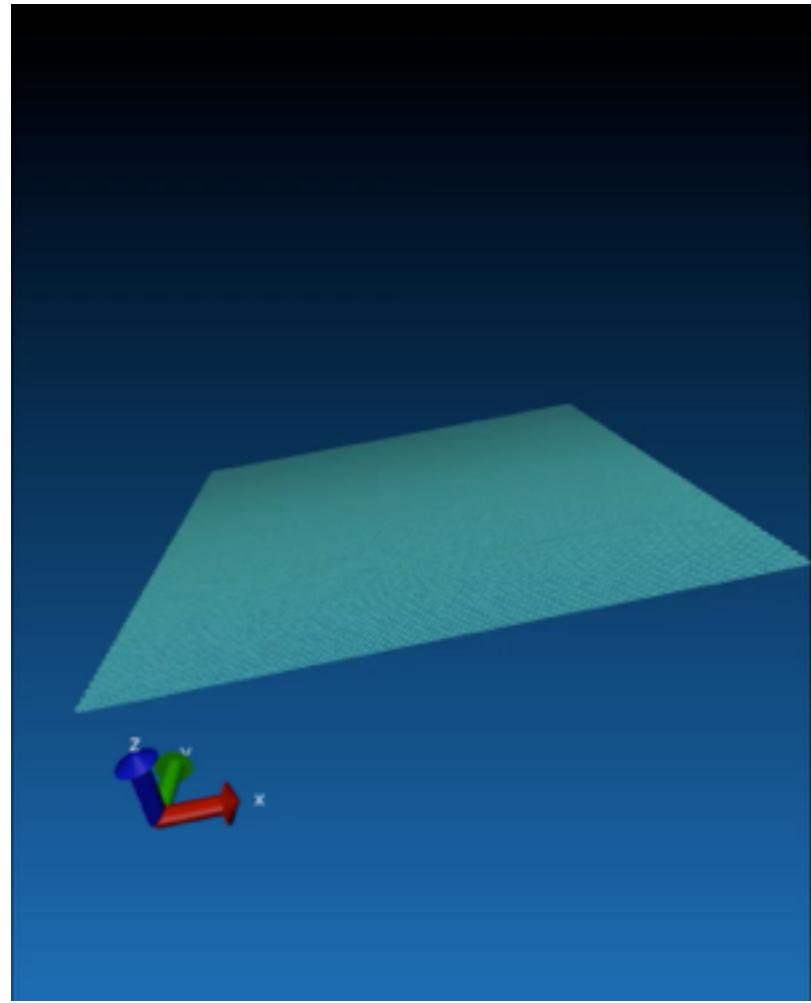
## David Yllanes and MJB

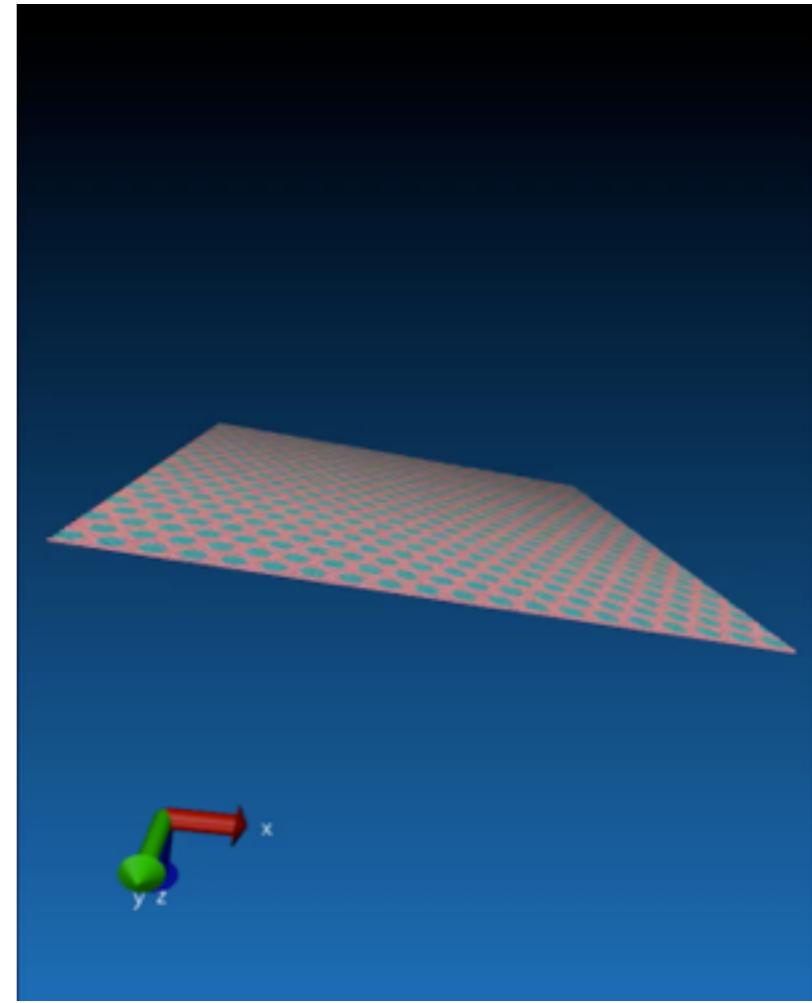
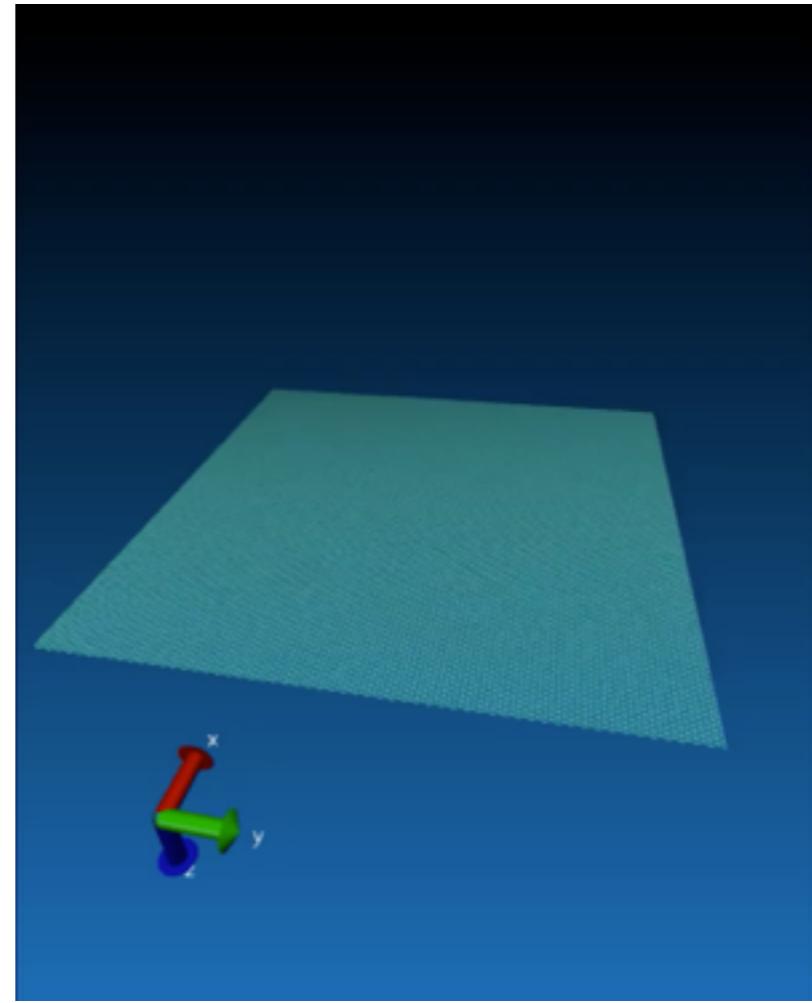
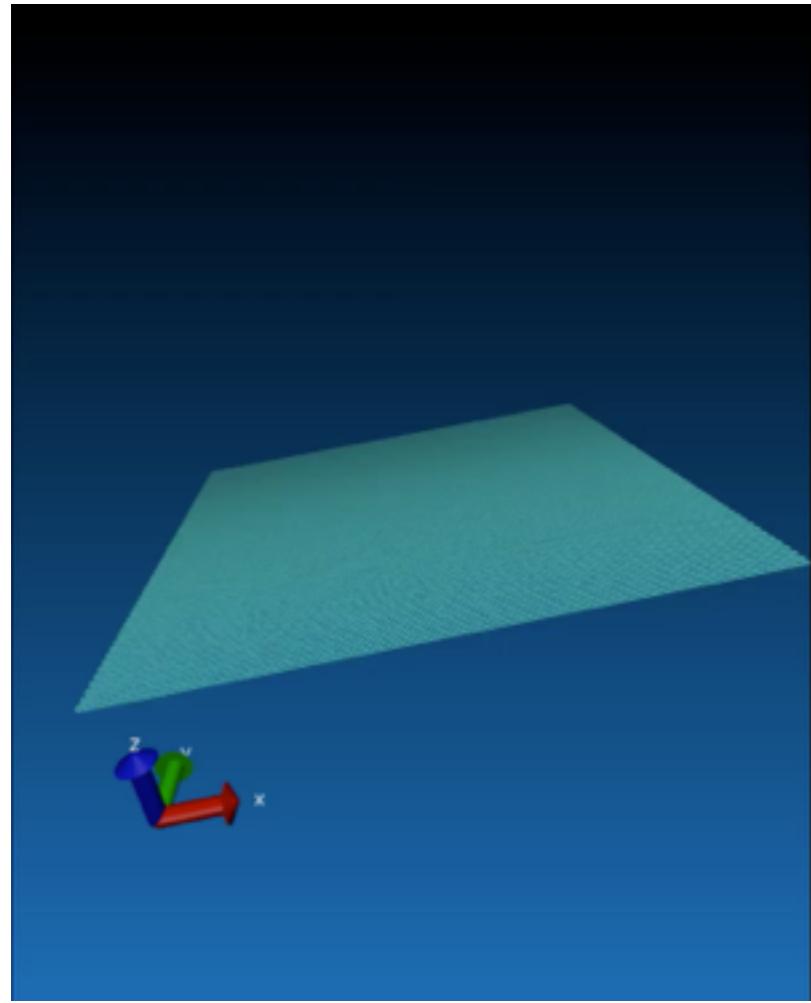


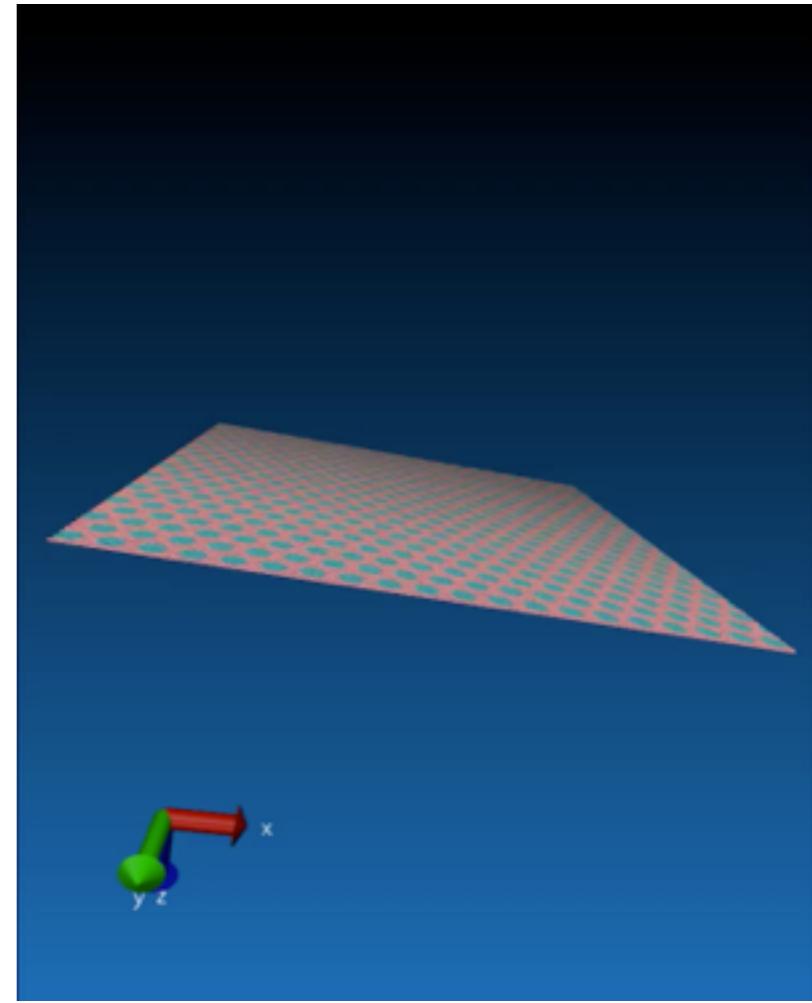
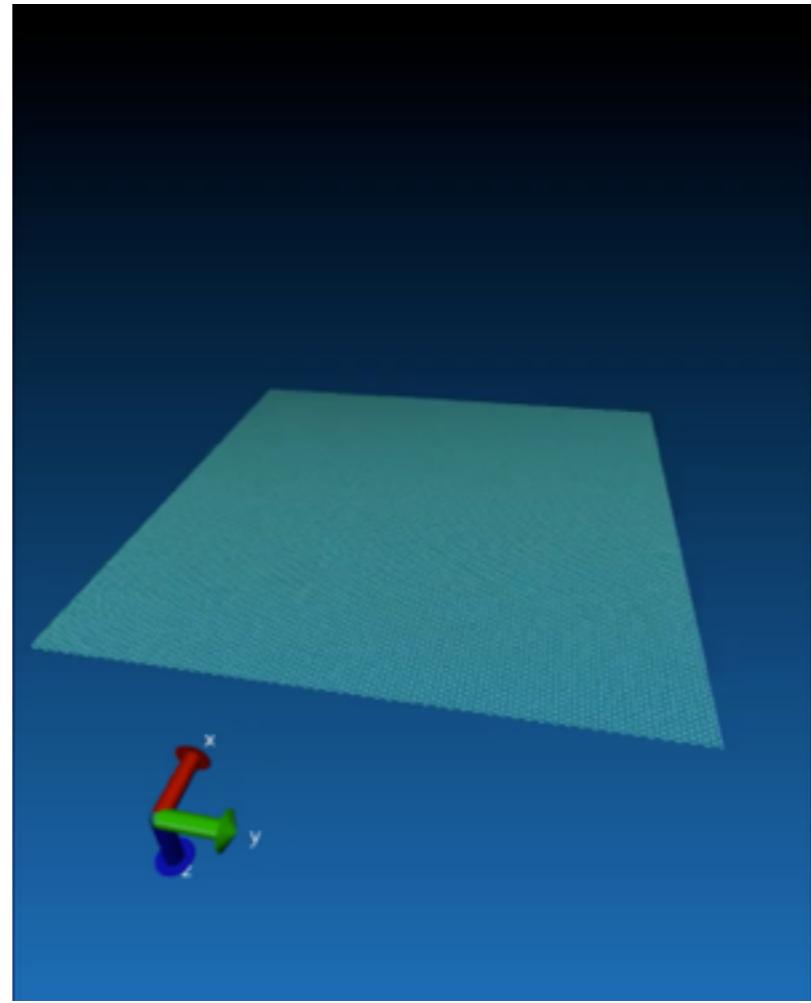
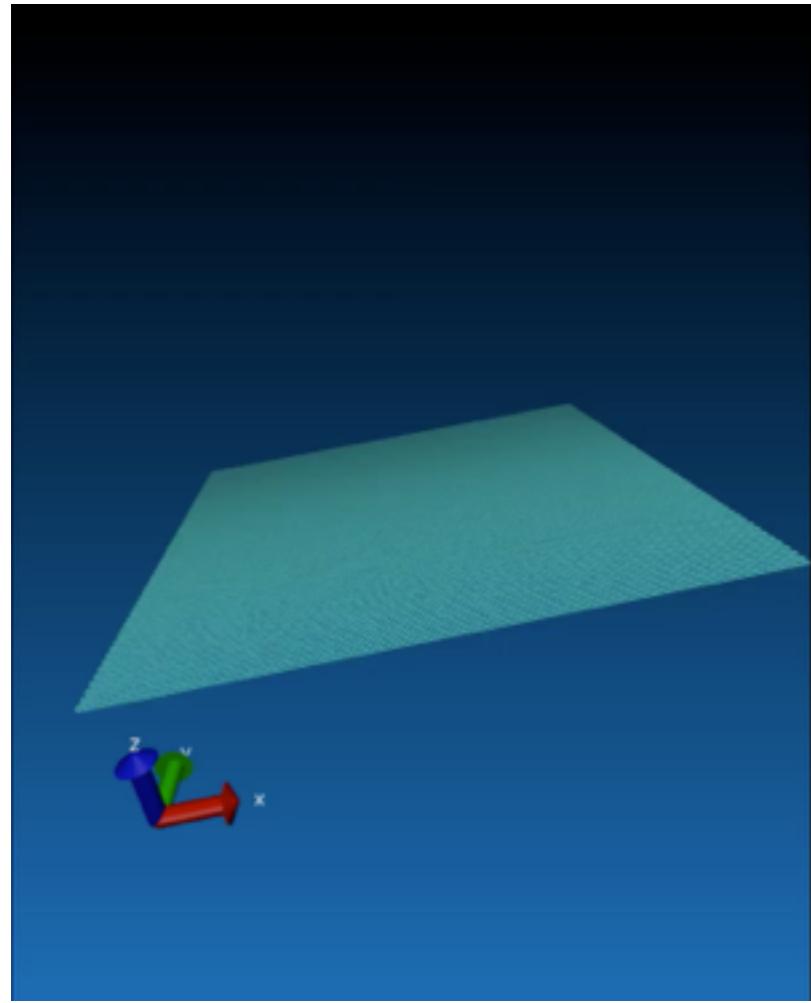
# Perforated (*Holey*) Membranes

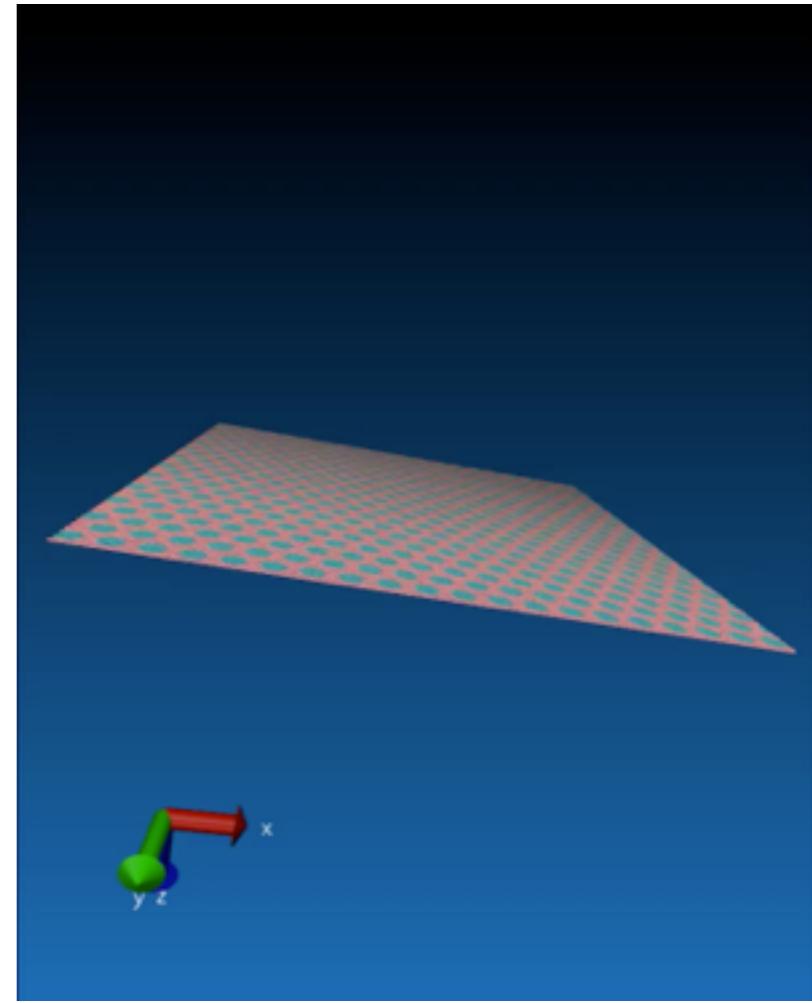
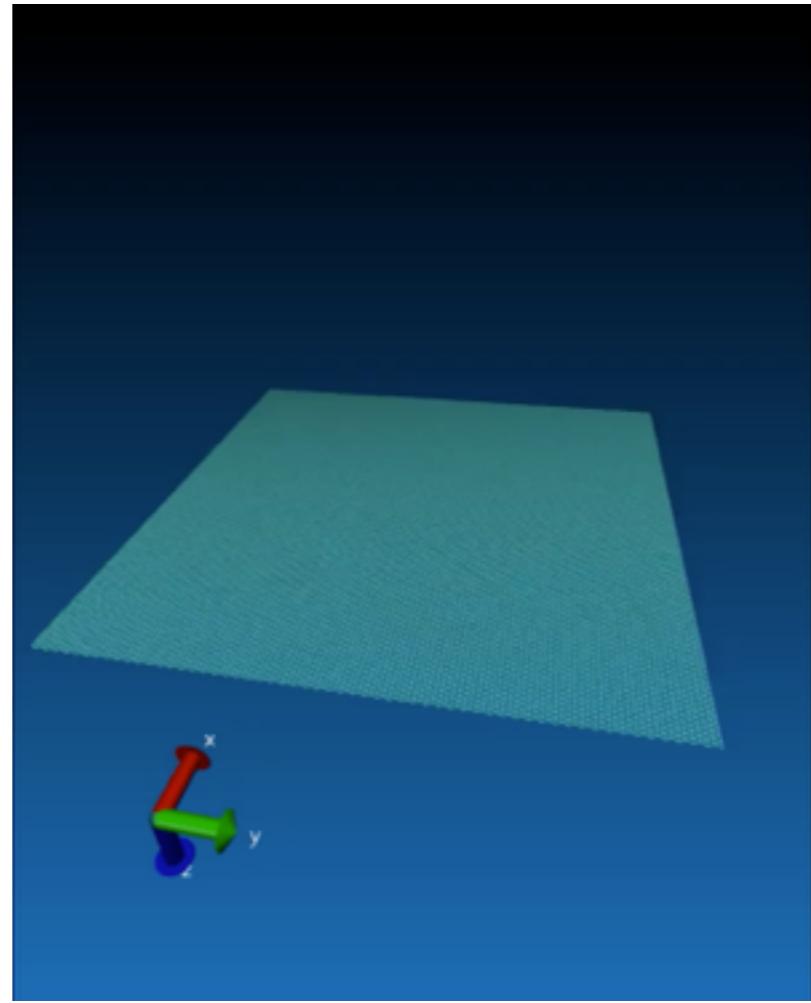
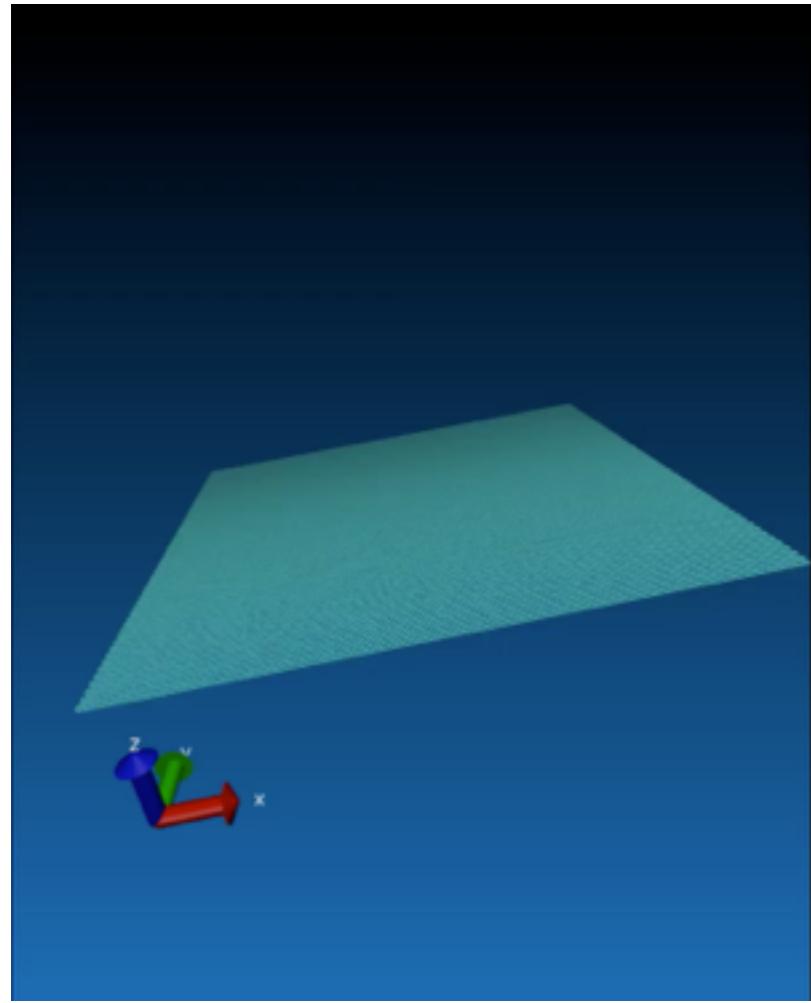
## David Yllanes and MJB











## Conclusions

Remarkable interplay of hard and soft matter in  
graphene statistical mechanics

Wonderful realization of a 2d elastic membrane

Material properties are strongly geometry dependent

Controlling the geometry may allow us to design distinct  
metamaterials with a variety of mechanical properties  
starting from graphene alone