

# Development of Spiropyran Immobilization and Characterization Protocols for Reversible Photo-Patterning of SiO<sub>2</sub> Surfaces

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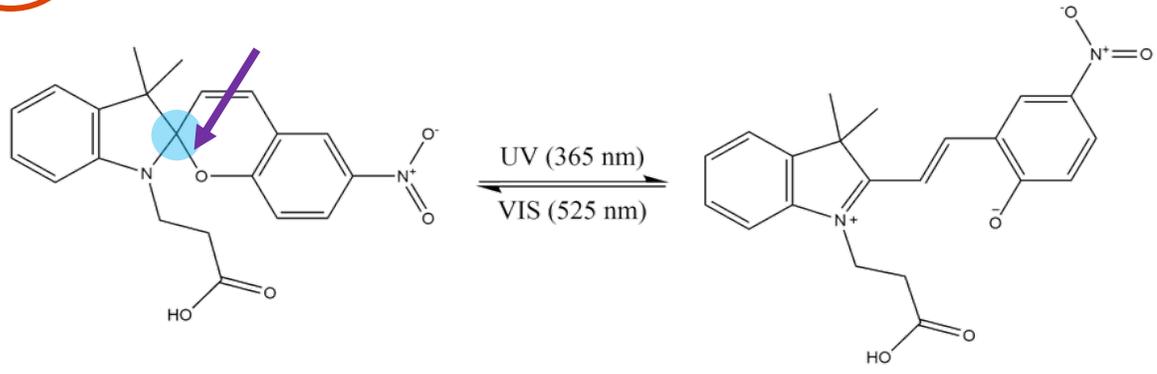
**Oregon State**  
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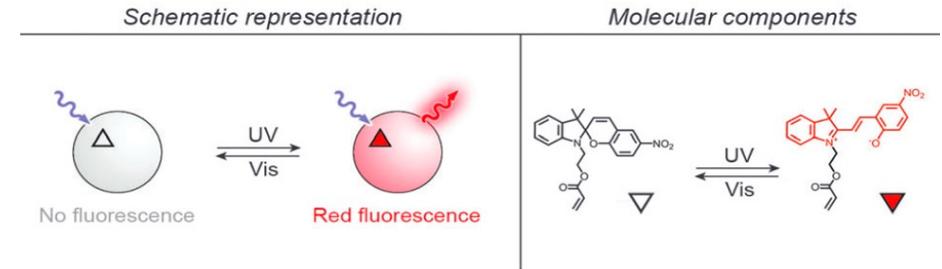
# Properties of Spiropyran



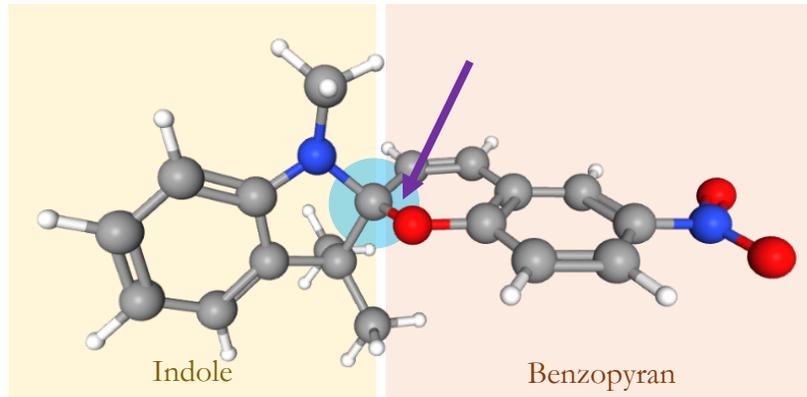
**Spiropyran (SP)**  
hydrophobic, colorless  
closed form

**Merocyanine (MC)**  
hydrophilic, purple  
open form

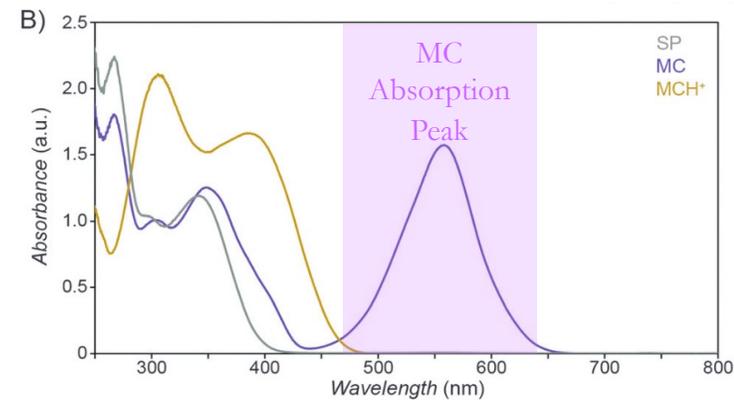
- Photochromism
  - Reversible conversion
  - Triggered by lights



MC form is fluorescent at red 630nm<sup>[1]</sup>



Chemical structure of a common spiropyran



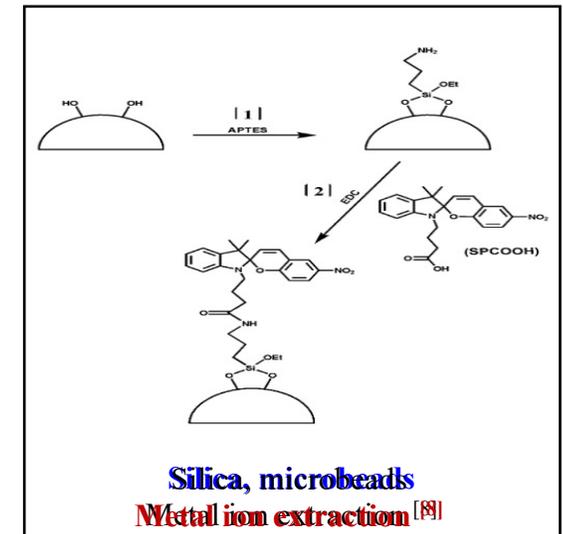
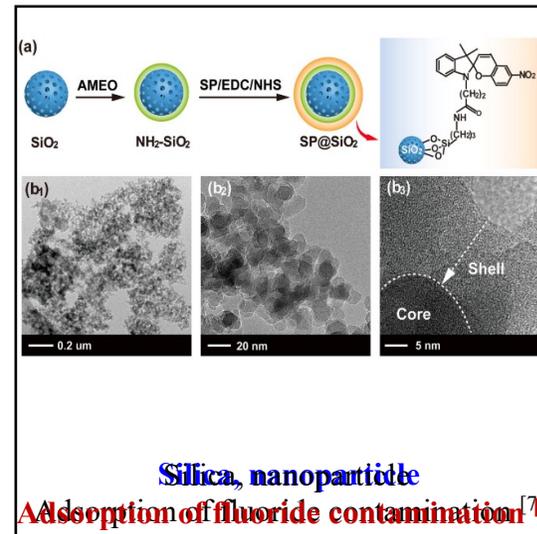
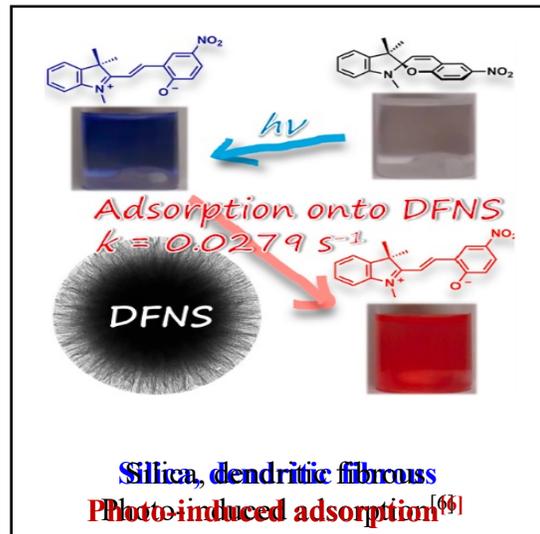
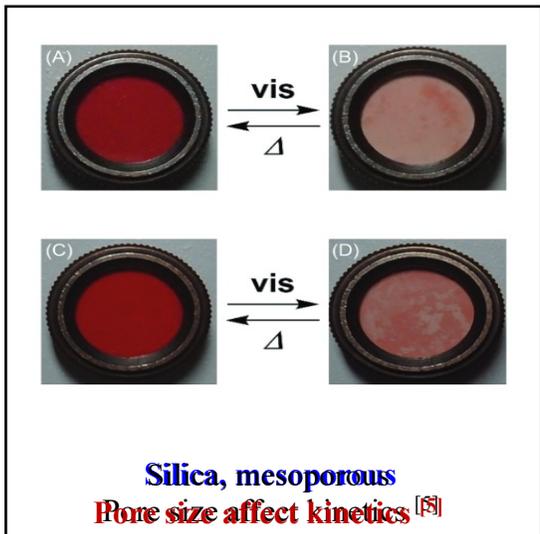
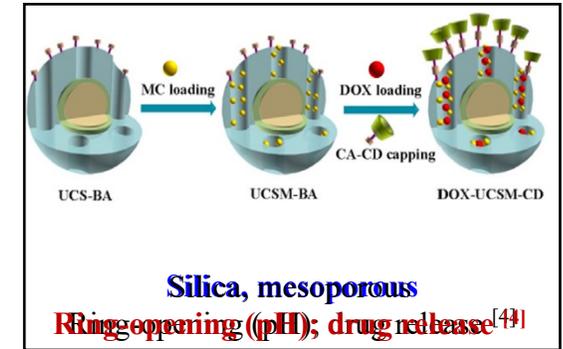
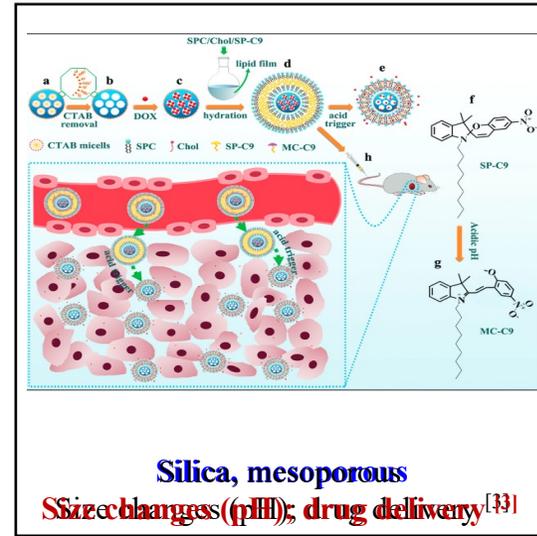
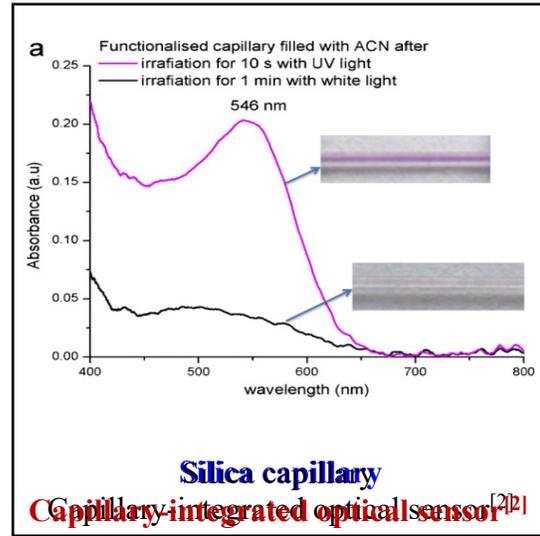
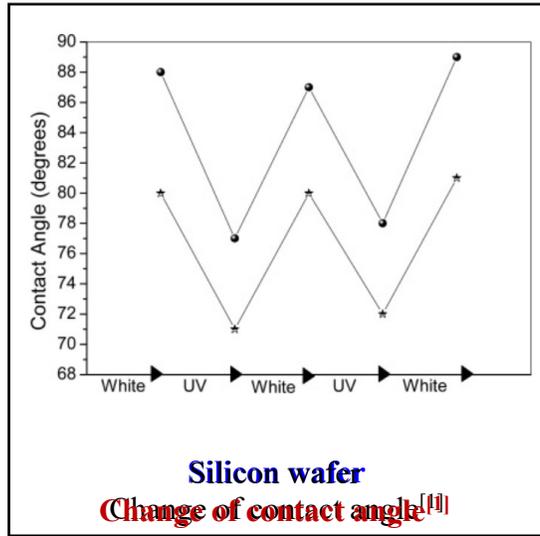
UV-VIS spectra of SP, MC and protonated MC<sup>[1]</sup>

Sensitive to various stimuli <sup>[1]</sup>

- Light
- Temperature
- pH
- Solvent polarity
- Metal ions
- Redox potential
- Mechanical stress

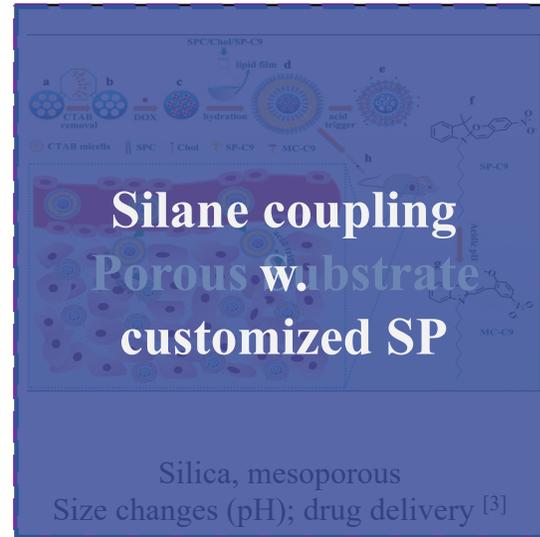
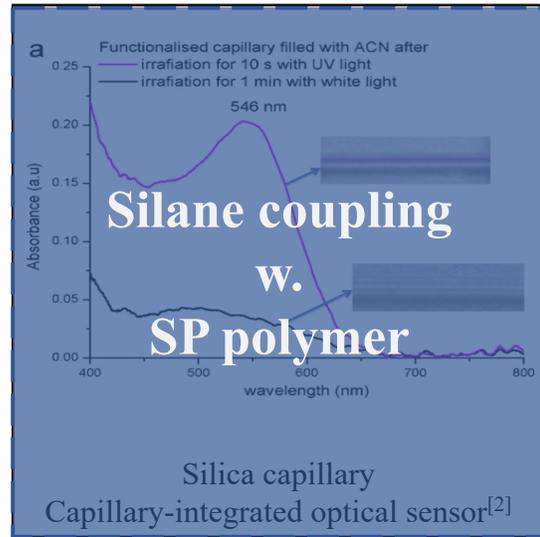
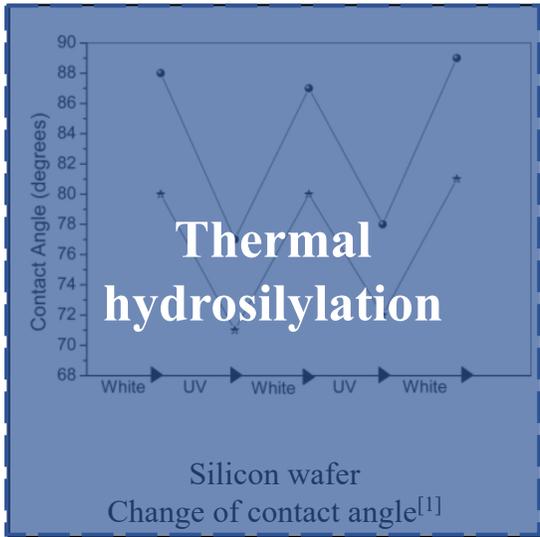


# Spiropyran Applications with SiO<sub>2</sub>



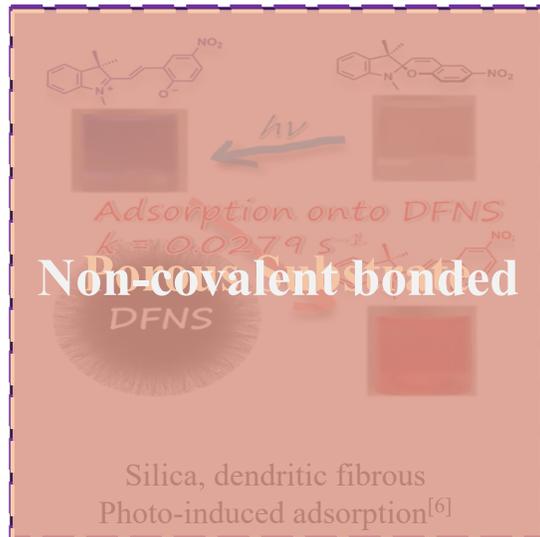
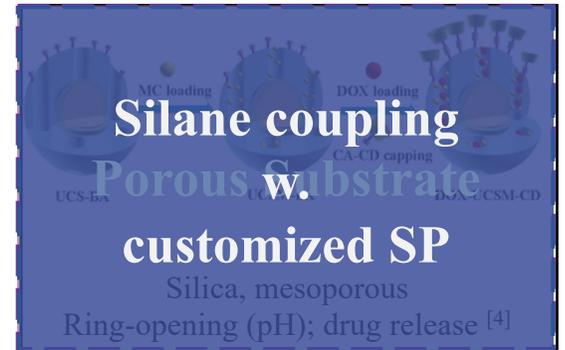


# Spiropyran Applications with SiO<sub>2</sub>



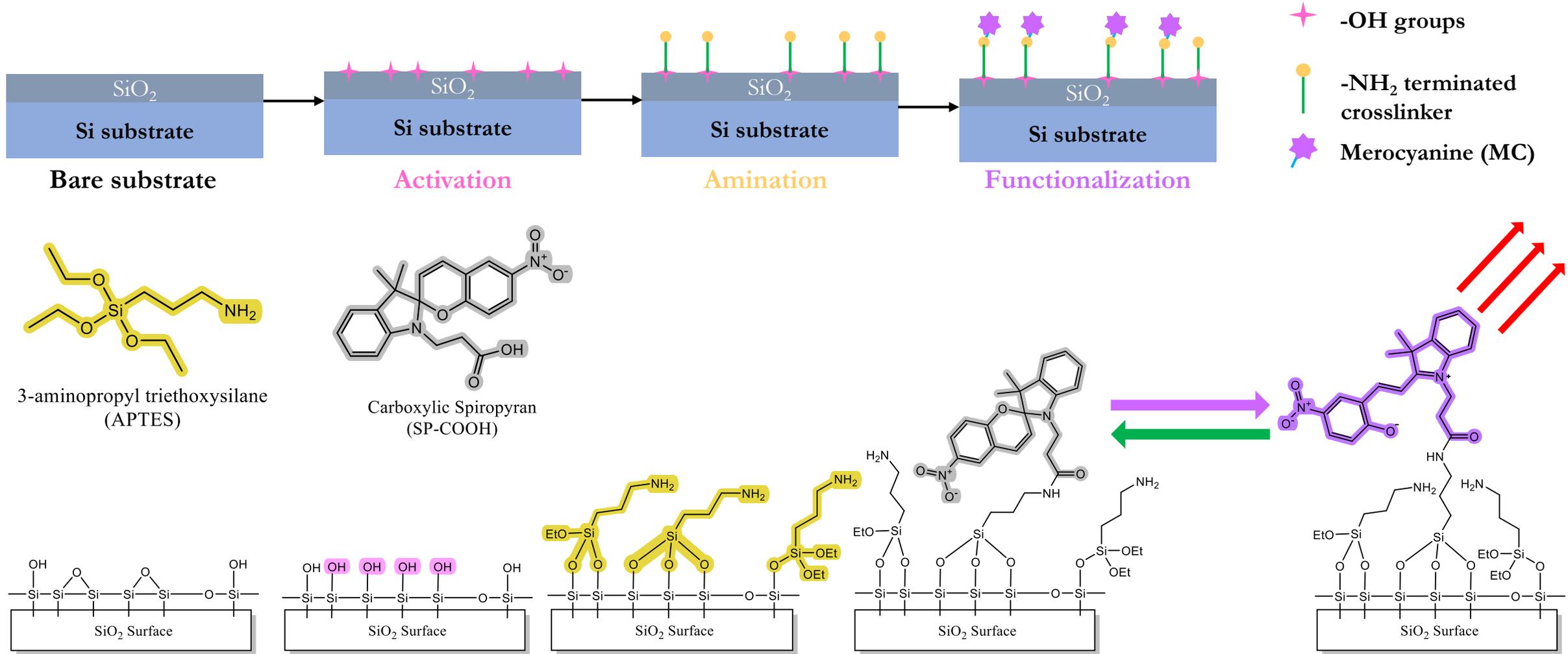
**Aim of this work**

- Robust immobilization, optimized
- Quick and effective characterization



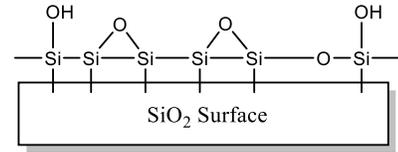


# Technical Approach (this work)



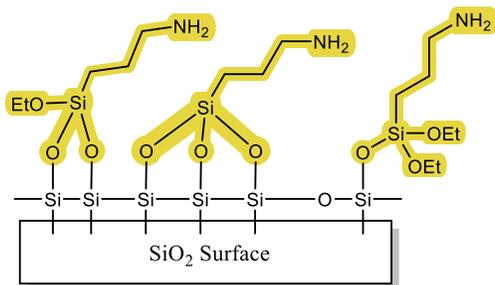
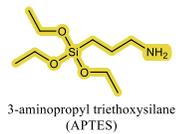
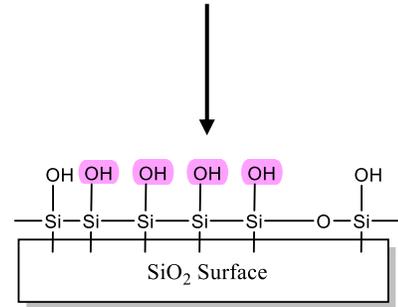


# Immobilization: effective activation and amination



## Selected Activation Methods

1. Oxygen plasma treatment
2. Acid treatment (1M HCl)
3. Piranha solution: (H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> + H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>)



## Surface Atomic Concentration by XPS and Contact Angle

### Activation Step

	C 1s	O 1s	Si 2p	Contact Angle
Untreated SiO <sub>2</sub> Surface	2.8%	67.1%	30.1%	60° – 70°
Activated with O <sub>2</sub> plasma	3.8%	67.5%	28.8%	10° – 15°
Activated with HCl	2.8%	67.6%	29.6%	10° – 15°
Activated with H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	2.7%	67.6%	29.7%	10° – 15°

## Surface Atomic Concentration Table by XPS

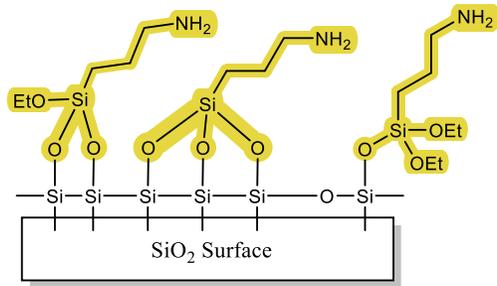
### Amination Step

Amination Process Condition	C 1s	O 1s	Si 2p	N 1s	% organosilicon*	<b>C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>Si</b> N : % organosilicon
2% APTES 5min@RT	22.4%	50.7%	24.1%	2.8%	2.7%	1.0
2% APTES 10min@RT	40%	36.9%	18.0%	5.1%	4.7%	1.1

\*: from the immobilized APTES



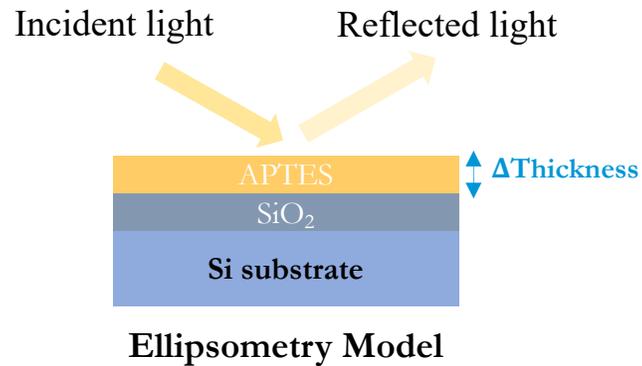
# Immobilization: thin layer of APTES amination



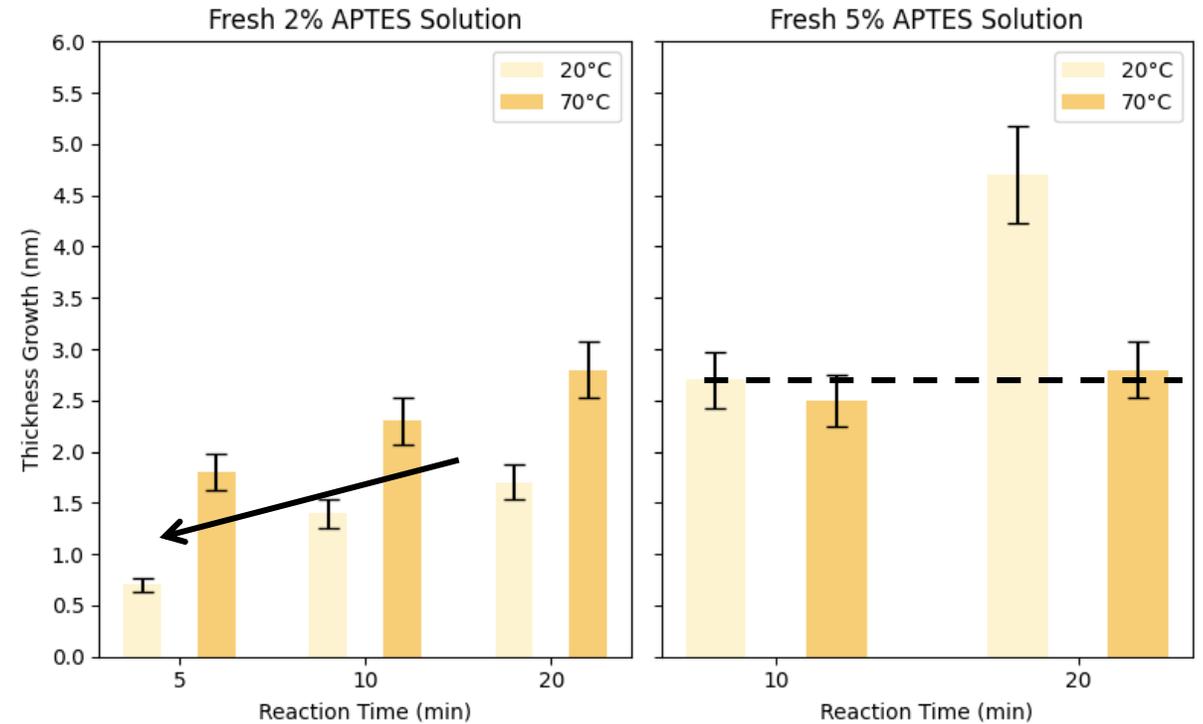
Thin layer, ideally mono-layer

## Incubation with APTES

- Reaction Time
- Reaction Temperature
- APTES Concentration



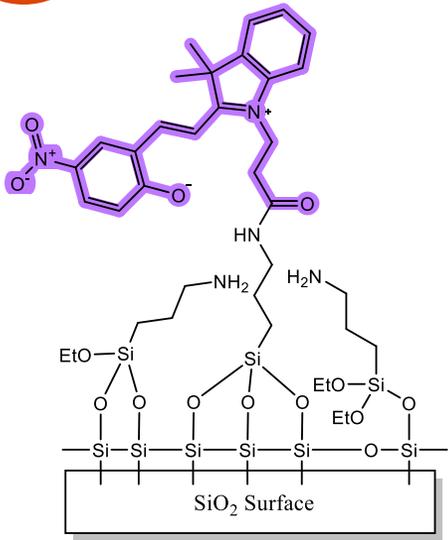
Ellipsometry Model



- To reduce self-reaction
  - Freshly prepared APTES solution
  - 2% APTES at room temperature for 5min → 0.5 – 0.7 nm
- From XPS results, N:O organosilicon is approximately 1:1.
- Together, the results verifies a successful thin layer amination.

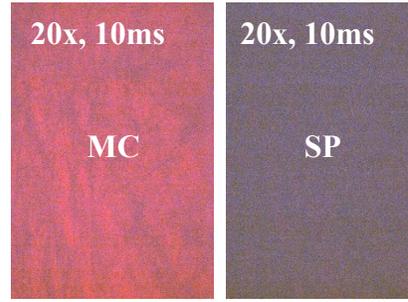
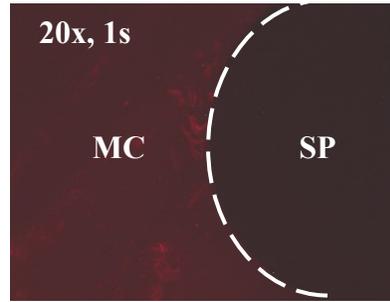


# Immobilization: functionalized surface with fluorescence



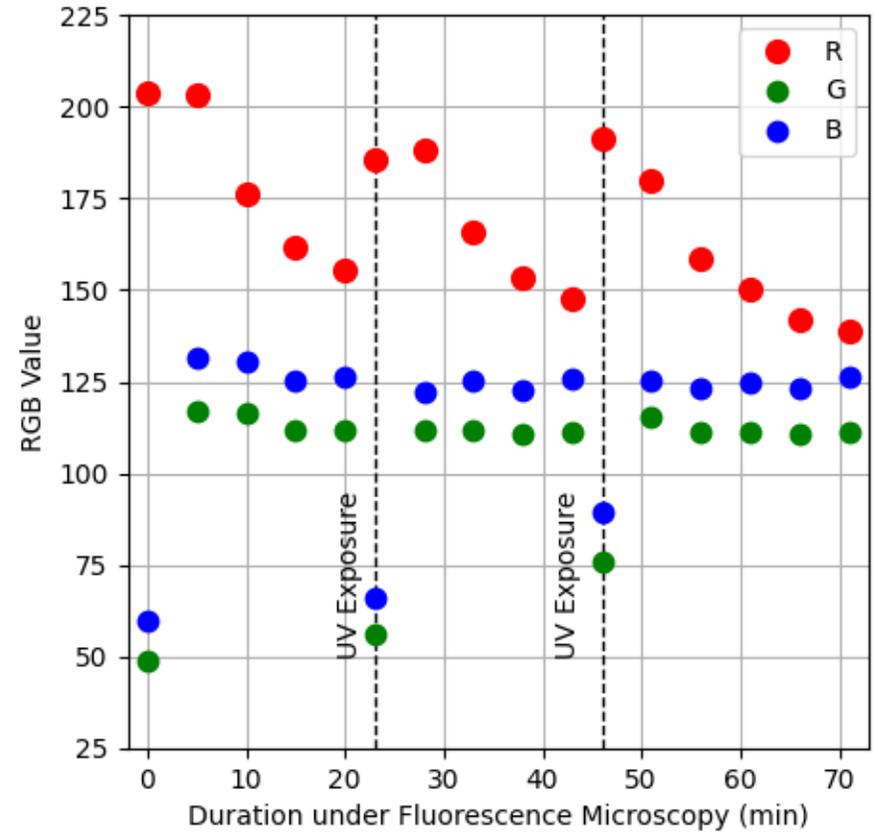
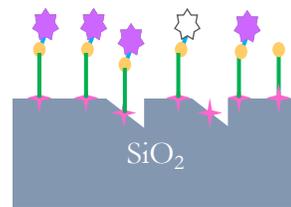
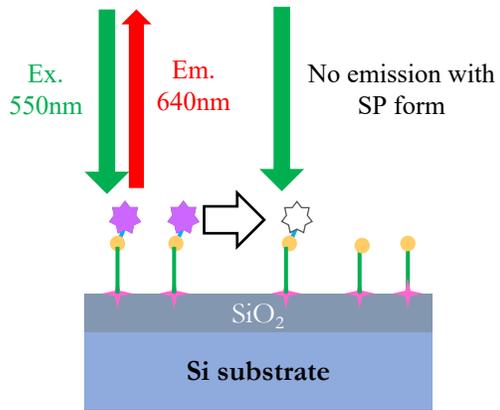
## Incubation with SP-COOH and EDC

- EDC-mediated coupling of carboxylic acids and amines
- Extracting RGB value from fluorescence images, taken at setting of 20x, 20ms



MC-immobilized SiO<sub>2</sub> sample

MC-immobilized glass microfiber sample





# Summary and Future Work

- ✓ Immobilization Protocol
  - ✓ Effective activation
  - ✓ Thin layer amination
  - ✓ Fluorescence functionalization
- ✓ Characterization Protocol: XPS, contact angle, ellipsometry, fluorescence
  - ✓ Change in surface chemistry / surface energy
  - ✓ Controlled thickness growth
  - ✓ Reversible photo-patterning and fluorescence

## ➤ Surface density of functional groups

➤ -OH is limited by surface type

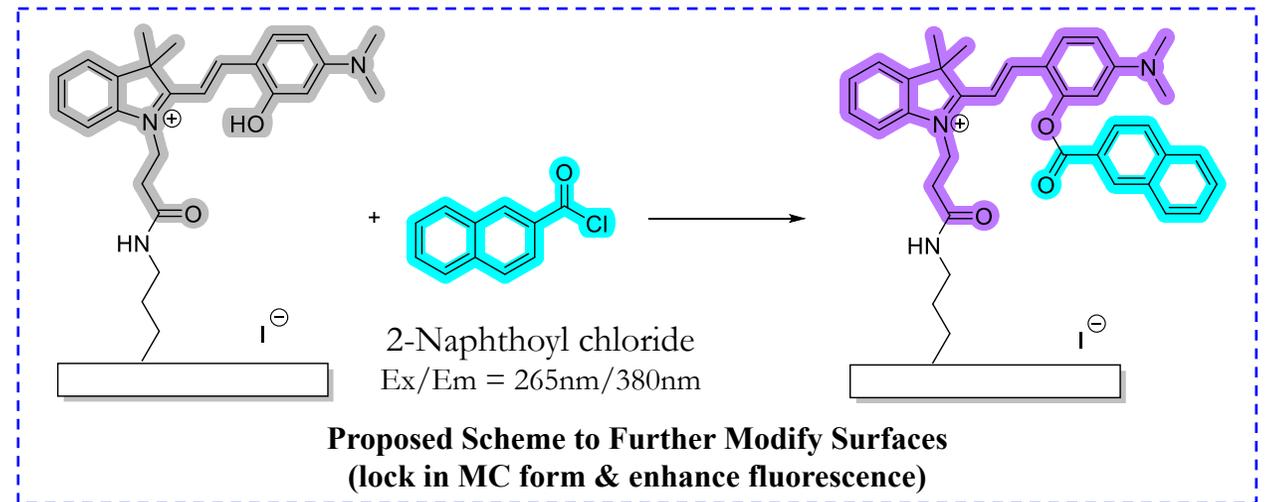
➤ On average, there are 4.9 #/nm<sup>2</sup> OH groups on amorphous silica.<sup>[1]</sup>

## ➤ Sensitivity of fluorescence detection

➤ Measurement setup

MC-SP conversation

Low quantum yield of MC fluorescence





# References

## Review Paper

[1] R. Klajn, “Spiropyran-based dynamic materials,” *Chem. Soc. Rev.*, vol. 43, no. 1, pp. 148–184, 2014, doi: [10.1039/c3cs60181a](https://doi.org/10.1039/c3cs60181a).

## Spiropyran Application with SiO<sub>2</sub> Surface

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## Limitation on –OH Surface Density

[1] L. T. Zhuravlev, “Concentration of hydroxyl groups on the surface of amorphous silicas,” *Langmuir*, vol. 3, no. 3, pp. 316–318, May 1987, doi: [10.1021/la00075a004](https://doi.org/10.1021/la00075a004).



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# Q & A

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*THANK YOU*



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