

# Current situation of Nanocellulose in Japan

Hiroyuki Yano

Research Institute for Sustainable Humanosphere,  
Kyoto University

At the beginning, we, attendees from Japan, would like to express our sincere appreciation for your heartfelt sympathy which you have shown to us, Japanese, for the terrible earthquakes and Tsunami.



- There are many activities on nanocellulose in Japan, ranging from fundamental research to commercial products.
- Many Japanese companies have a great interest in standardization in nanocellulose, especially, EHS.

# Key players

## University:

Univ. of Tokyo (Prof. Isogai group), Kyoto Univ. (Prof. Yano group),  
Kyushu Univ (Prof. Kondo group),  
+5-10 group

## Public research organizations:

Advanced Industrial Sci. & Techol. ( AIST, Dr. Endo & Dr. Lee group)  
Kyoto Municipal Research Institute (Dr. Kitagawa group)  
+3-5 group

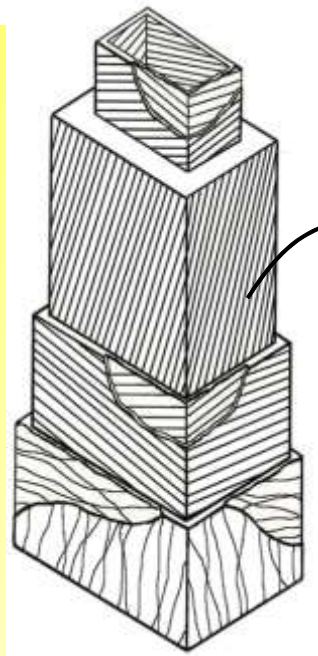
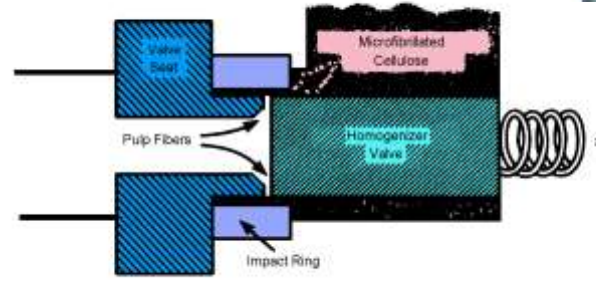
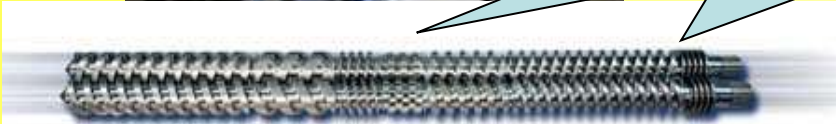
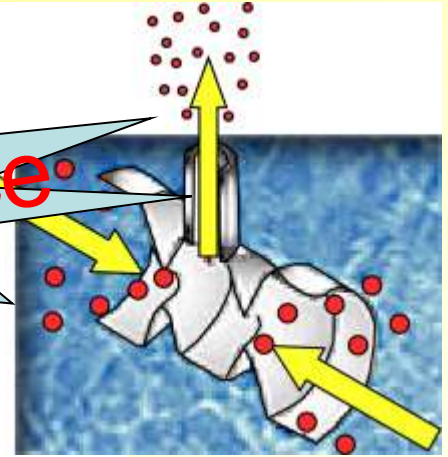
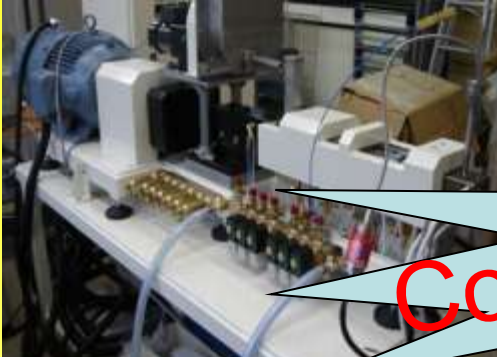
## Company:

Oji Paper, Nippon Paper Industry, Sugino Machine, Masuko Sangyo,  
Mitsubishi Paper, Daicel Chemical, Asahi Kasei Fibers, Mitsubishi  
Chemical, DIC, Sumitomo Rubber, Kao, Toppan  
+5-10 companies

RISH, Kyoto Univ.

# Extraction of nanofibers from wood/plant fibers

Cost and Performance



# Facilities for fibrillation

High speed blender



High pressure homogenizer



Ultra high pressure homogenizer



Grinder



Batch-type beads mill



Continuous beads mill



Twin screw extruder

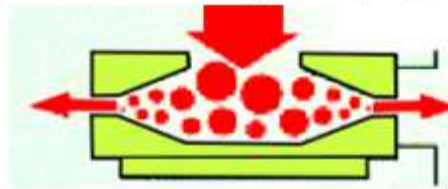


# Grinder treatment

Never- dried pulp



1% conc. suspension  
of Radiata pine pulp



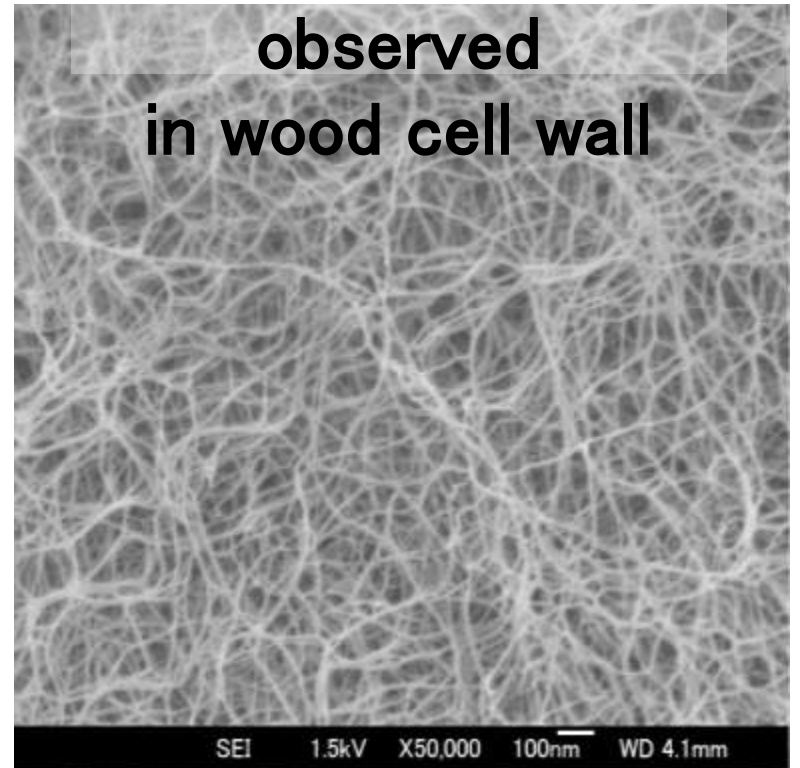
Set of grindstones





Cellulose nanofibers  
isolated from wood

**Nanofibers  
observed  
in wood cell wall**



SEI 1.5kV X50,000 100nm WD 4.1mm

SEI 1.5kV X30,000 100nm WD 3.1mm

# Cellulose Nanofiber Sources

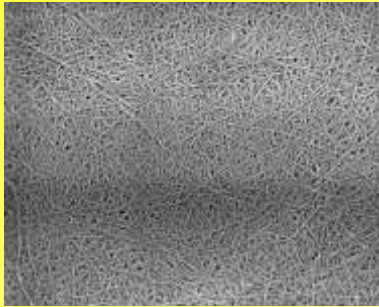
**Wood (including pulps), Bamboo, Wheat straw, Rice straw, Potato tuber (pulp), Sugar beet (pulp), Sugarcane bagasse, Water weed, Hemp, Flax, Ramie, Cotton, etc**



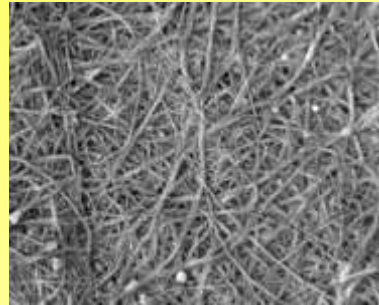
# Comparison of Nanofibers

K.Abe, 2007

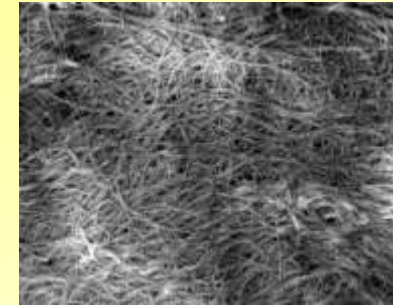
Wood



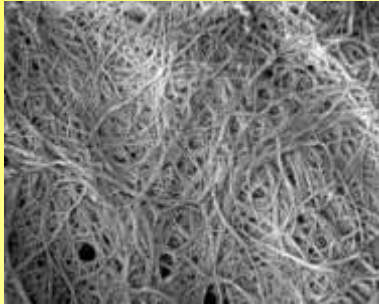
Sea weed



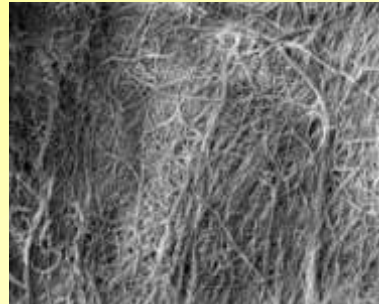
Rice straw



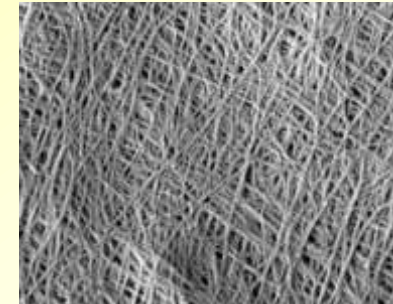
Potato tuber



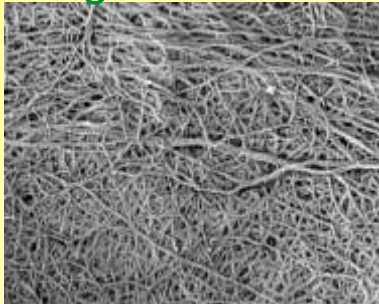
Water weed



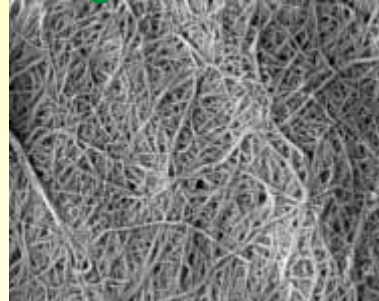
Cassava



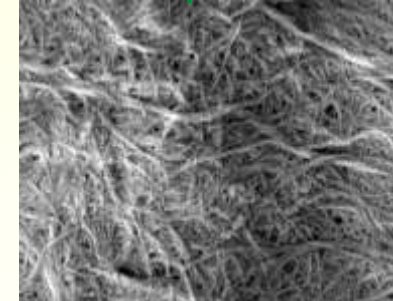
Sugarcane



Sugar beet



Sweet potato

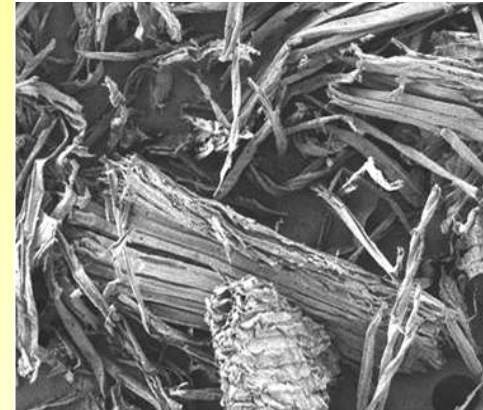


# Nanofibrillation using High-speed Blender



Blender, 37000rpm

Never-dried pulp  
( $\text{NaClO}_2$  treated)

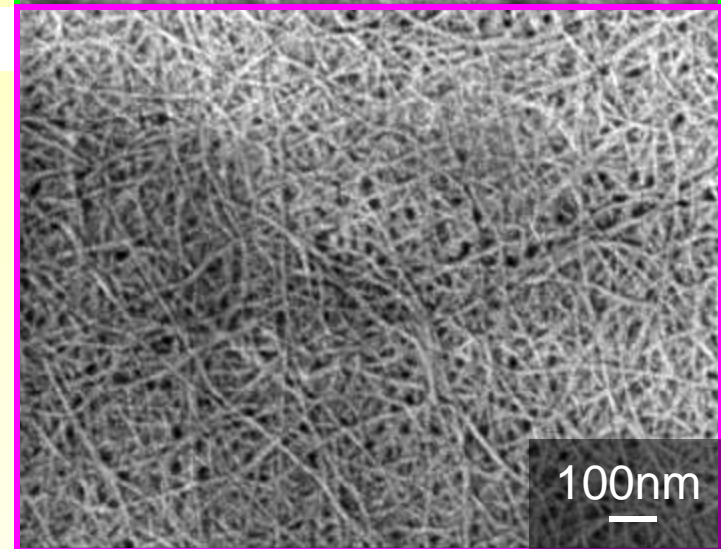
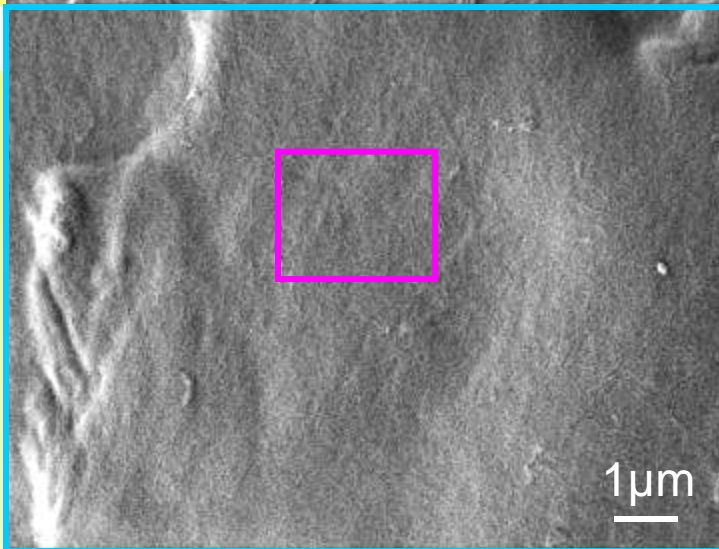
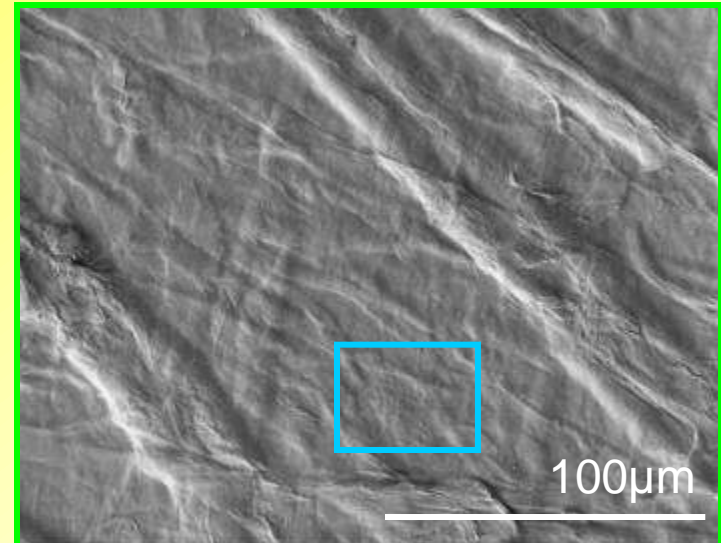
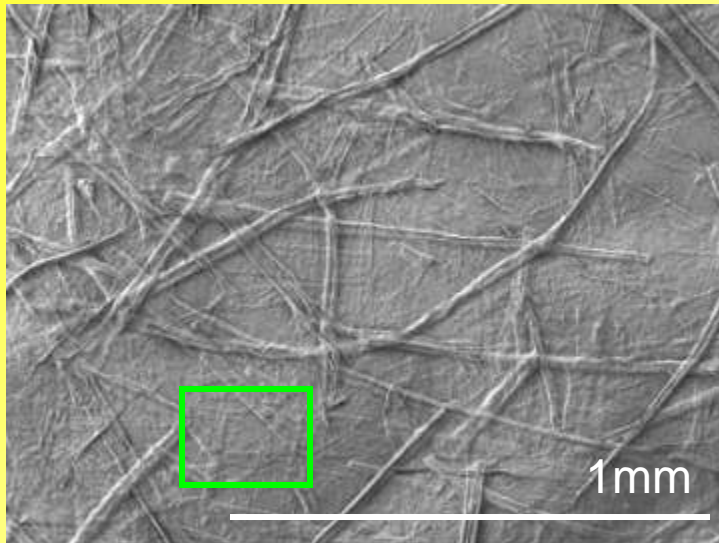


0.7wt% water  
slurry



Uetani and Yano, 2008

# Agitation for 1 min by high speed blender



# Kneading using twin screw extruder

Wood Pulp (KP)



Disk Refiner



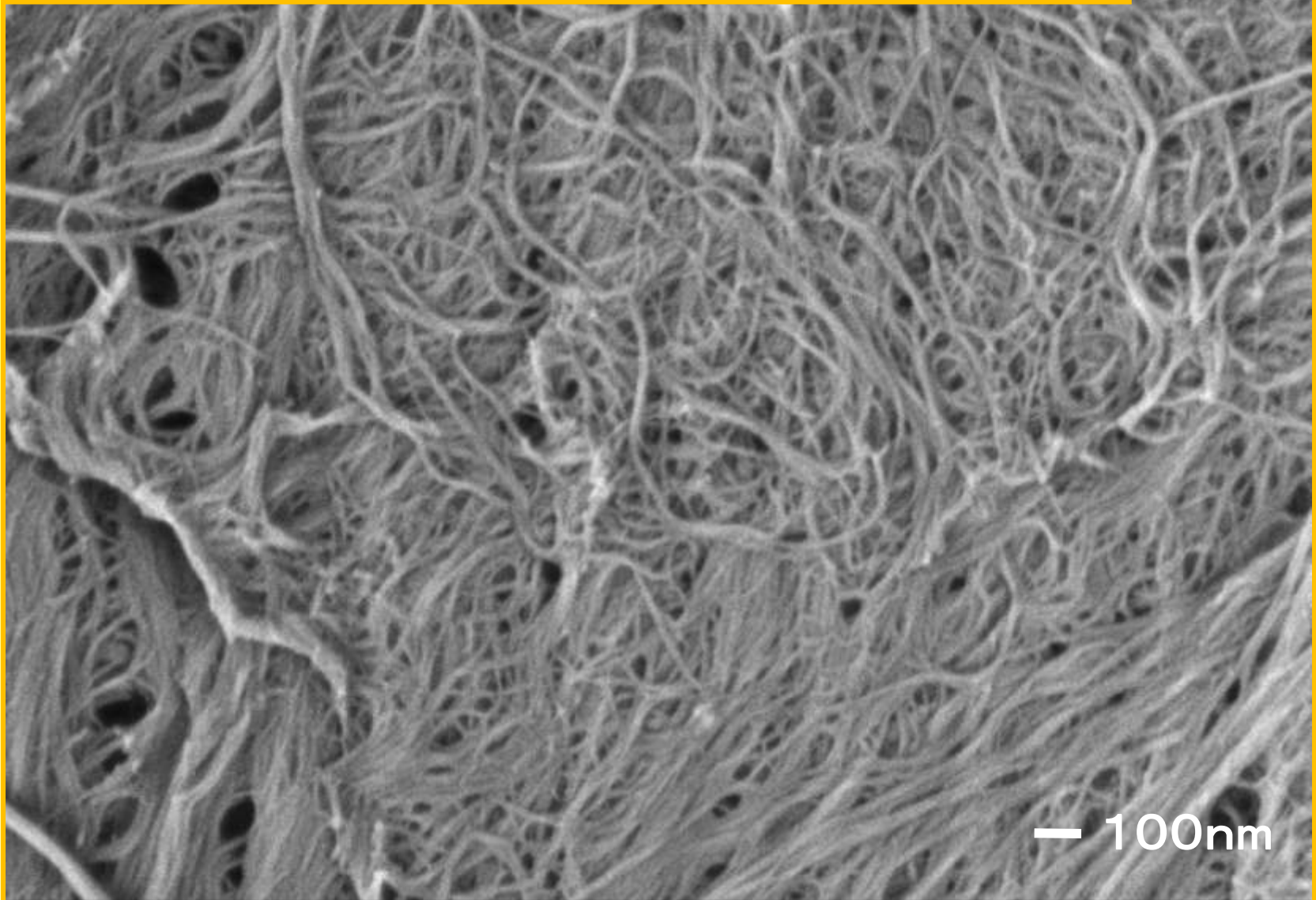
Kneading



Solid content: 30-50%



+Cationized Pulp, Extruder fibrillated  
(Productivity rate: 600g/hr), 2010



— 100nm

LEI

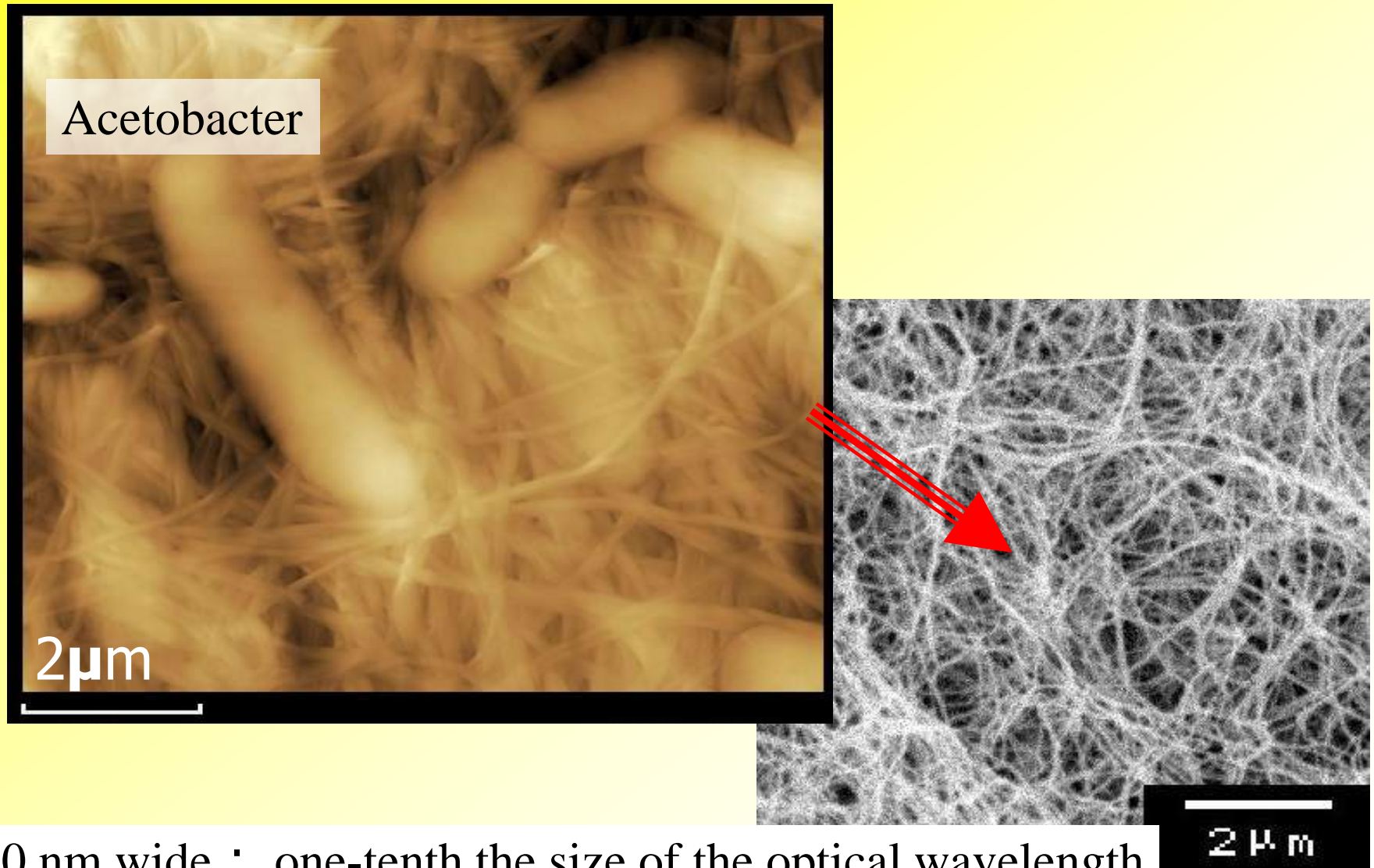
1.5kV

X40,000

100nm

WD 7.7mm

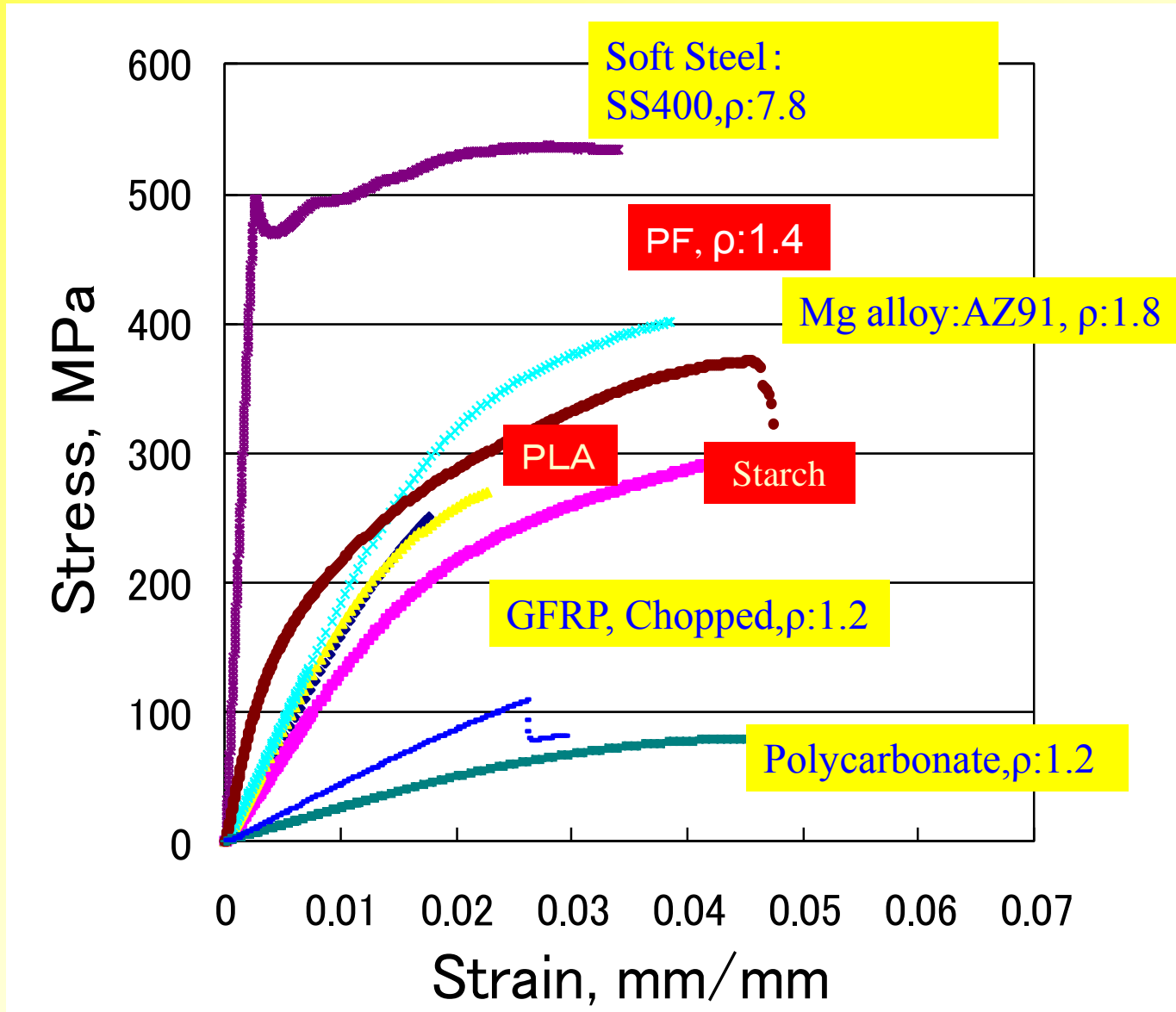
# Bacterial Cellulose





# Applications

# 1) Light weight and High strength Cellulose NF-based Composites



# NEDO Green Sustainable Chemical Process Programs from 2009 to 2013



**NEDO:** New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization of Japan, and is an affiliated organization of Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry

## *Project Title*

**Development of high performance cellulose nanofibers reinforced plastics for automotive parts**

**Organizations:** Kyoto University, Kyoto Municipal Institute, Oji Paper, Mitsubishi Chemical , DIC

**Advisers:** Toyota Autobody, Nissan, Suzuki, Denso, Japan Steel Works

The project consists of three parts as follows:

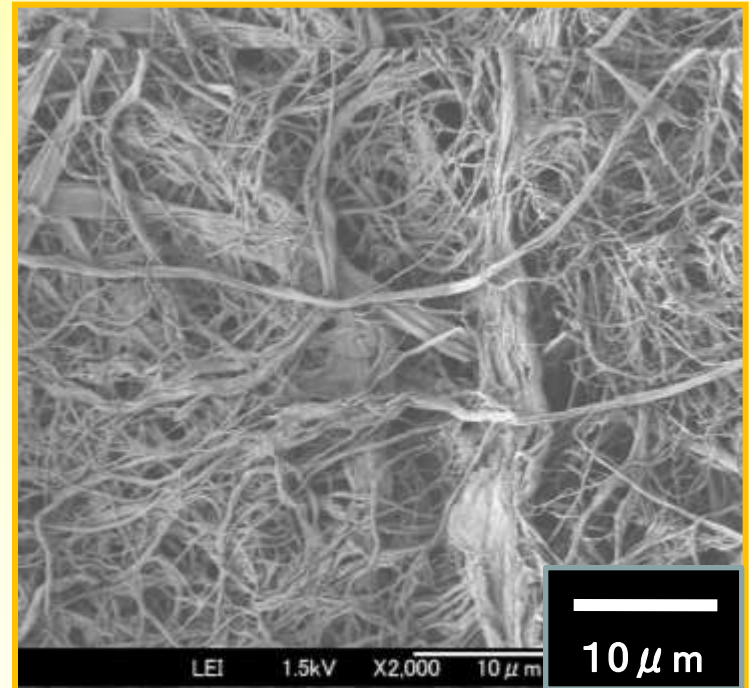
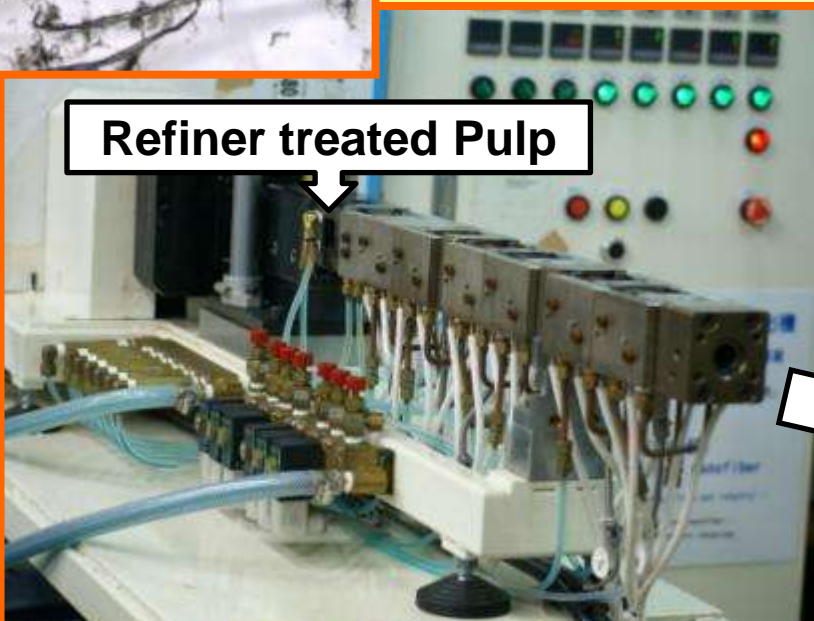
- 1) development of the technology for the chemical modification of cellulose nanofibers
- 2) development of the technology for the living radical polymerization on the surface of cellulose nanofibers
- 3) development of the compatibilizer for interphase control

In parallel, CNF-reinforced plastic compounds are supplied to automotive companies, who joined in this project as advisers and supply their evaluations.

# Nanofibrillation using twin screw extruder



Refiner treated Pulp



# Preparation of Cellulose NF/PP composites: Injection molding

Refiner treated Pulp:NBKP



Polypropylene:PP

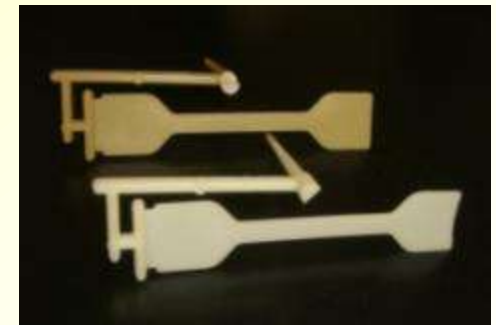


additives

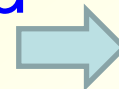
PP: ca 60% of plastics used for automotive parts

Twin Screw Extruder

Nanofibrillation & Compounding



Allowing nanofibrillation and well-mixed compounds,



Injection Molding

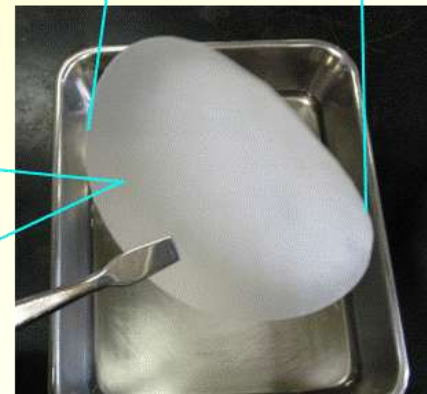
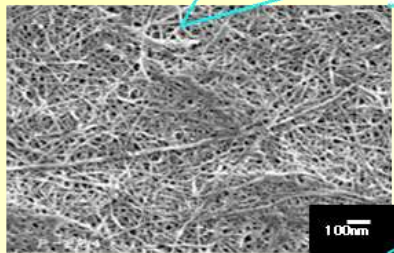
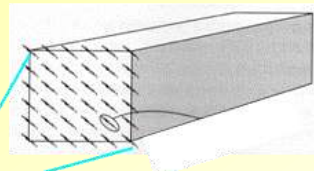
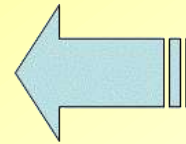
## 2. Optically Transparent Cellulose Nanofiber Reinforced Composite



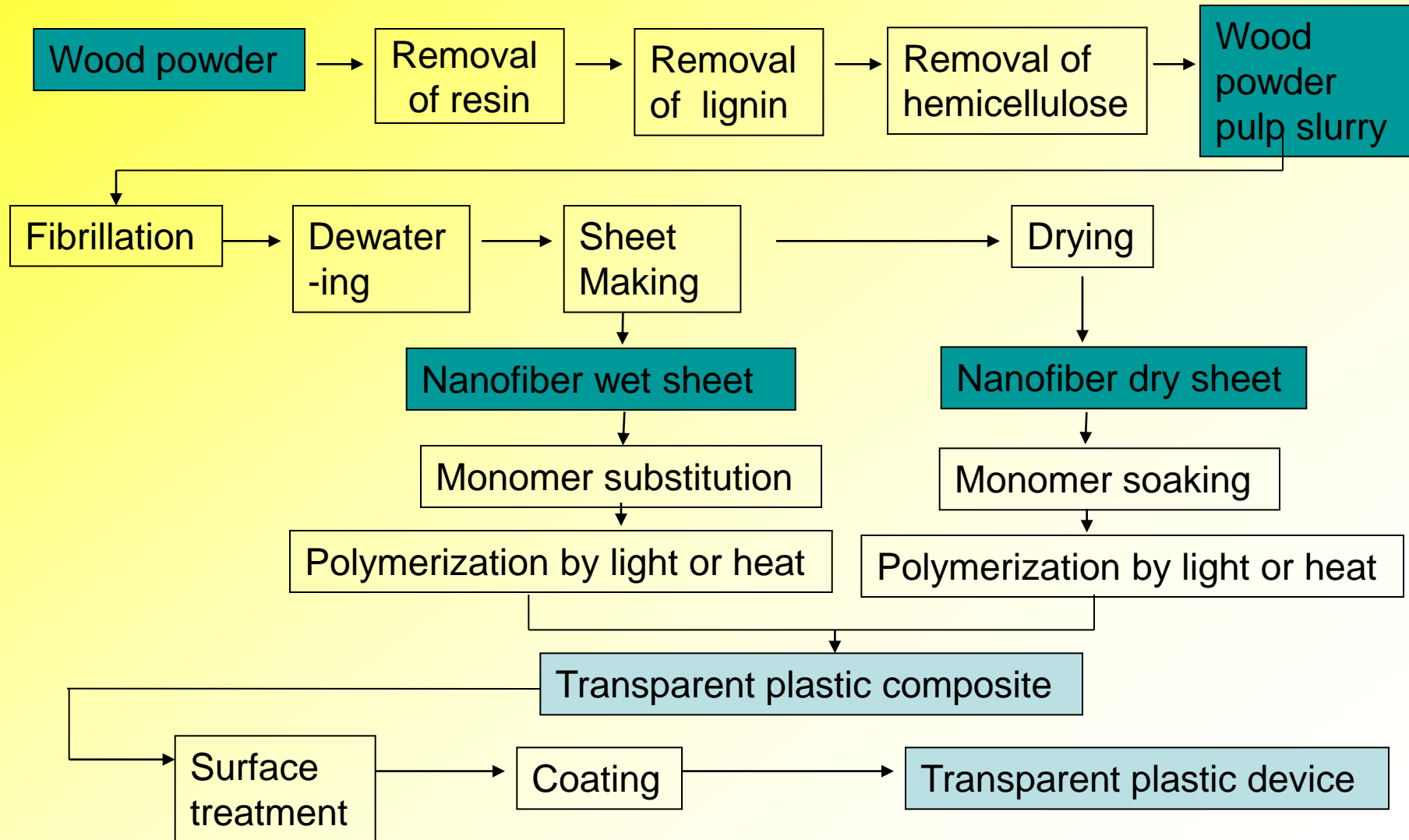
Optically transparent composite reinforced with cellulose nanofiber (left).  
Organic EL (OLED) emitted on the transparent composite (right).

**As strong as steel, as thermally stable as glass,  
and as bendable as plastics**

# 2010-2012 Collaborative Research for the Commercialization of Nano Fiber Cellulose Composite Sheet for Plastic Substrate



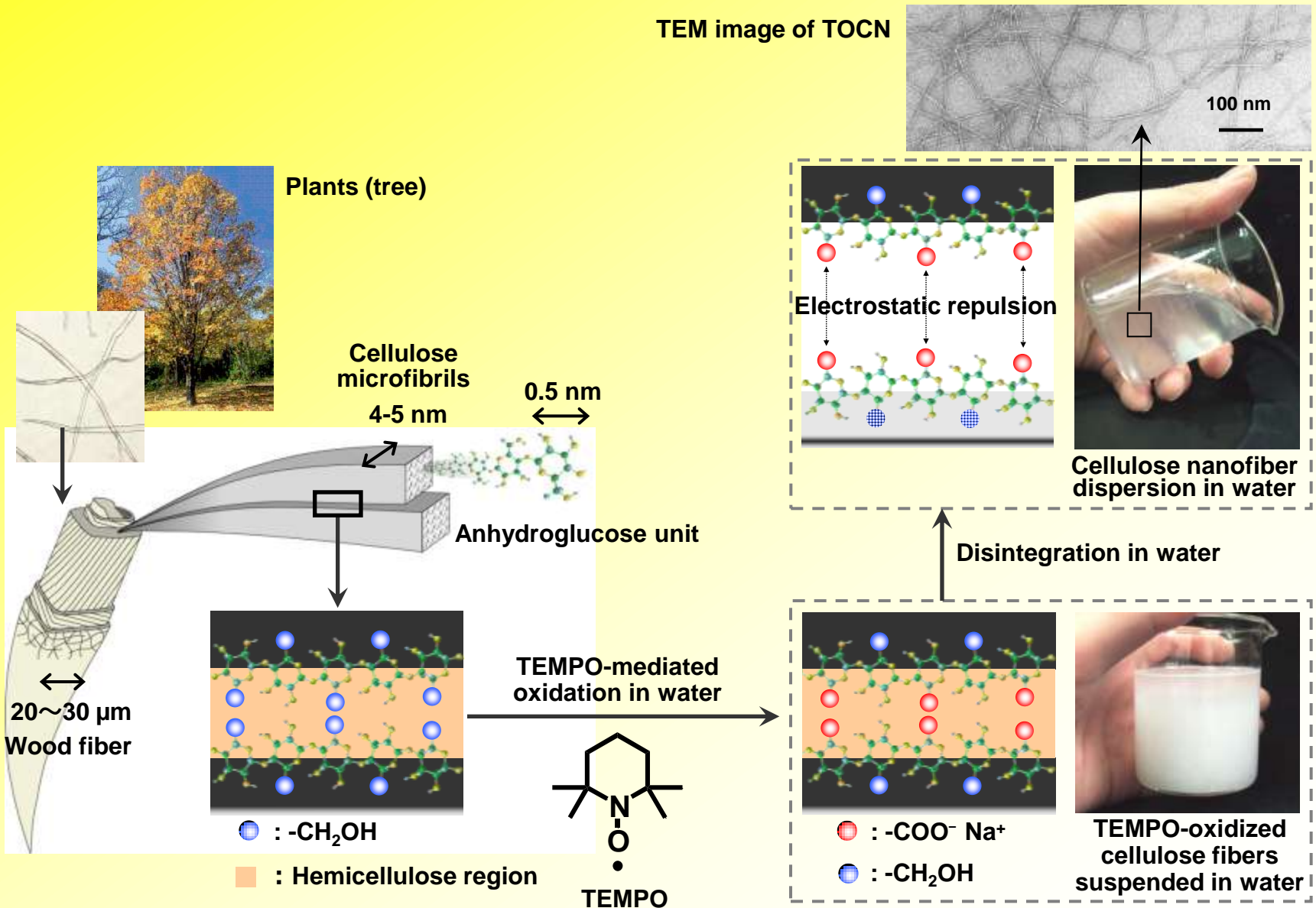
# Development for mill scale Manufacturing





Prof. A. Isogai, Univ. of Tokyo

# TEMPO-oxidized cellulose nanofibers (TOCNs) as new bio-based materials from abundant wood biomass resource



# NEDO Nanotech Challenge Programs Stages I and II from 2007 to 2013



**NEDO:** New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization of Japan, and is an affiliated organization of Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry

## *Project Title*

**Development of environment compliant high-gas-barrier & highly functionalized packaging materials using TEMPO-oxidized cellulose nanofibers**

**Organizations:** Nippon Paper Ind., Kao Corp., TOPPAN Printing. Co. Ltd. ,and The University of Tokyo



**TOPPAN**



# Total concept of wood biomass refinery, utilizing TEMPO-oxidized cellulose nanofibers



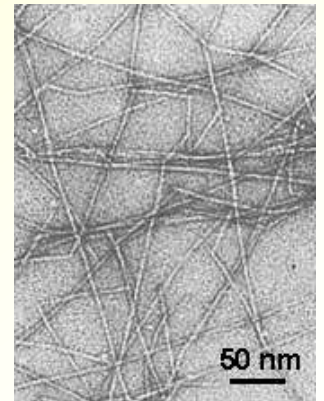
Forest biomass resources

Pulping / bleaching



Wood cellulose

TEMPO-oxidation  
Disintegration  
in water

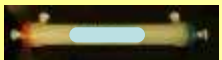


TEMPO-oxidized  
cellulose nanofibers

TEMPO-oxidized cellulose nanofibers are **New bio-based nanomaterials** with high strengths, high transparency, low CTE, high gas-barrier properties, possibly supporting sustainable society, secure / safe society, information technology etc.

Carbon neutral

Modification  
Compositing  
Processing



Bio filters



Medical & healthcare



Bio-fibers for industrial use



Electronics devices



High-performance packaging materials



Metal catalyst support



Electronics devices



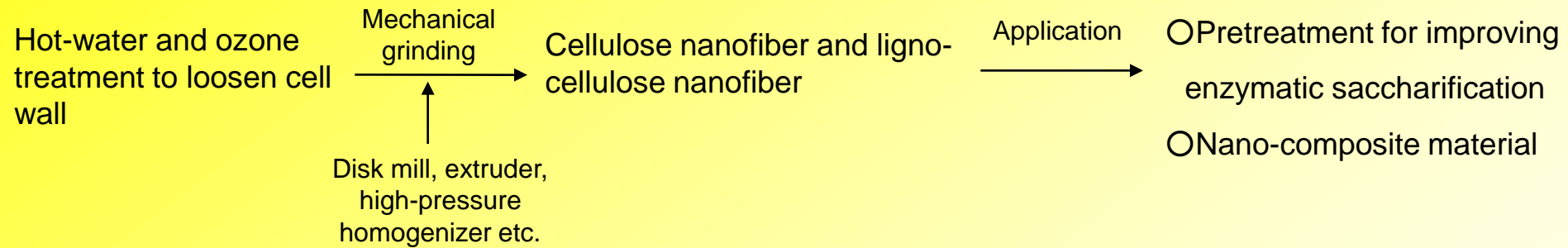
Research activities in

Biomass Technology Research Center (BTRC),

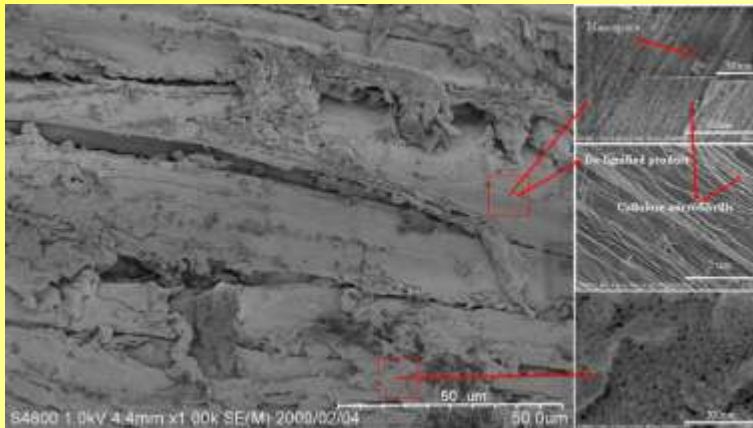
National Institute of Advanced Industrial  
Science and Technology (AIST)

Dr Endo & Dr Lee

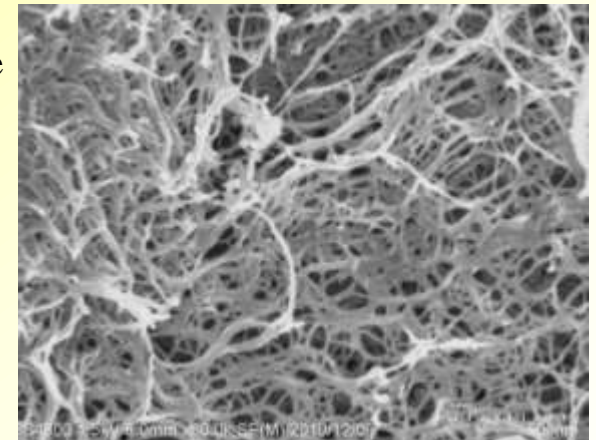
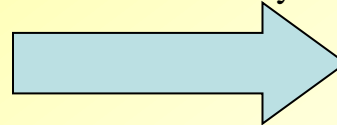
# Nanofibrillation and Nanocomposites



## 1. Hot-water treatment and mechanical grinding



Loosened cell wall structure is effective to improve fibrillation efficiency

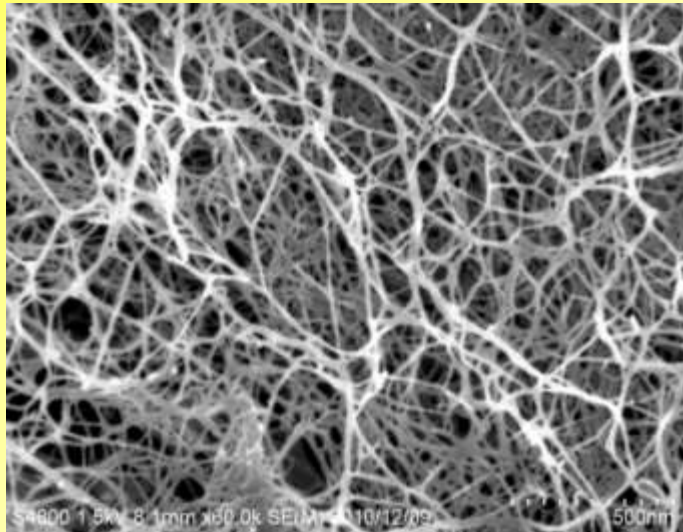


- Material: wood powder, non-bleached pulp, etc.
- Temperature 130-200°C, Pressure 1Mpa-5Mpa
- Mainly hemicellulose extraction
- Producing porous structure

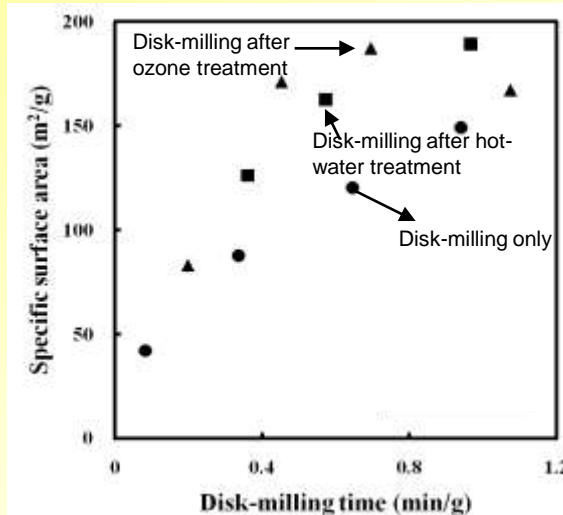
- Wide range of fiber diameter can be obtained.
- Increase of surface area to enhance enzymatic degradation
- Application for improving mechanical properties of conventional wood-plastic composite

## 2. Ozone treatment to loosen cell wall before and after mechanical grinding

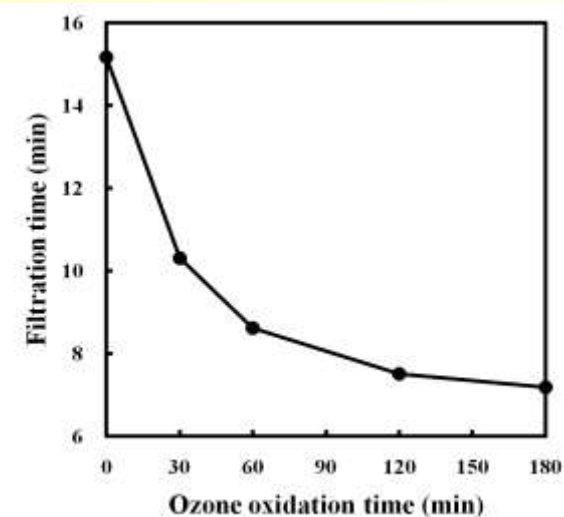
- Lignin degradation is effective to improve mechanical fibrillation efficiency
- Can be combined with hot-water treatment
- Surface oxidation and surface charge change
- Reduction of filtration time for preparing nanopaper
- Control of molecular weight (degree of polymerization)
- Treating ozone amount can be adjusted, depending on raw materials



Nanofiber after disk-milling of nut-pine treated by ozone



Increase of surface area by hot-water and ozone treatment



Reduction of filtration time for preparing nanofiber sheets

# *Other Companies*



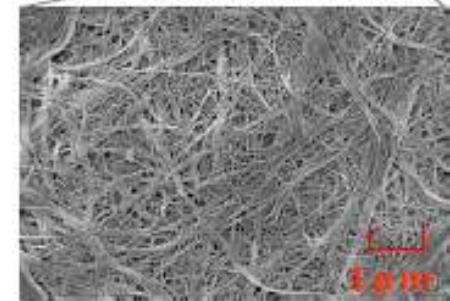
— Development article —

## Cellulose Nanofiber non woven *Fabrics* (*CNF*)



Cellulose Nanofiber non woven Fabrics (*CNF*) is **a new sheet material** made by cellulose nanofibers **below 100 nm** in diameter.

*CNF* has **large surface area** and **high porosity**, and will be applicable in the various fields.



< Structural Factors and Property >

< Features of *CNF* >

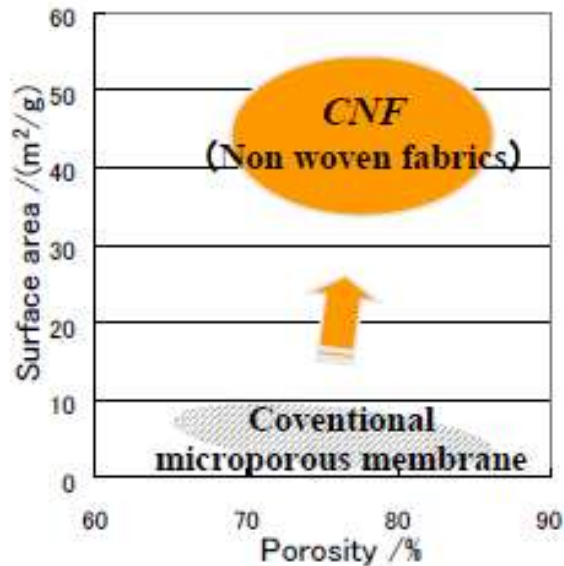
- 1) Large surface area and high porosity
- 2) Possible to add a new functionality by a surface modification technique
- 3) High resistance for general organic solvents (insoluble and non swollen)
- 4) High heat resistance properties (showing no thermal transition up to 200°C, low CTE value)

Av. Fiber diameter (nm)	<b>30~100</b>
Seet weight (g/m <sup>2</sup> )	<b>3~20</b>
Thickness (μm)	<b>7~80</b>
Porosity (vol%)	<b>~85</b>
Surface area (m <sup>2</sup> /g)*	<b>~55</b>
CTE **	<b>~10</b>

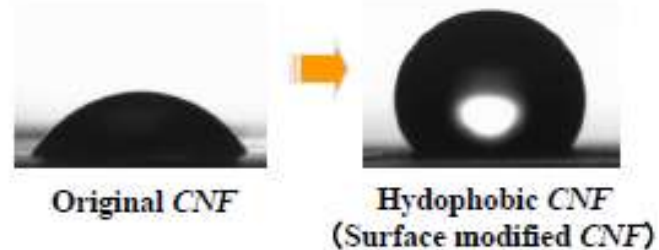
\* B.E.T. method

\*\* Coefficient for a thermal expansion between 50~200°C

## Lagre surface area and high porosity



## Example of addition of a new functionality: Control of a surface hydrophilicity



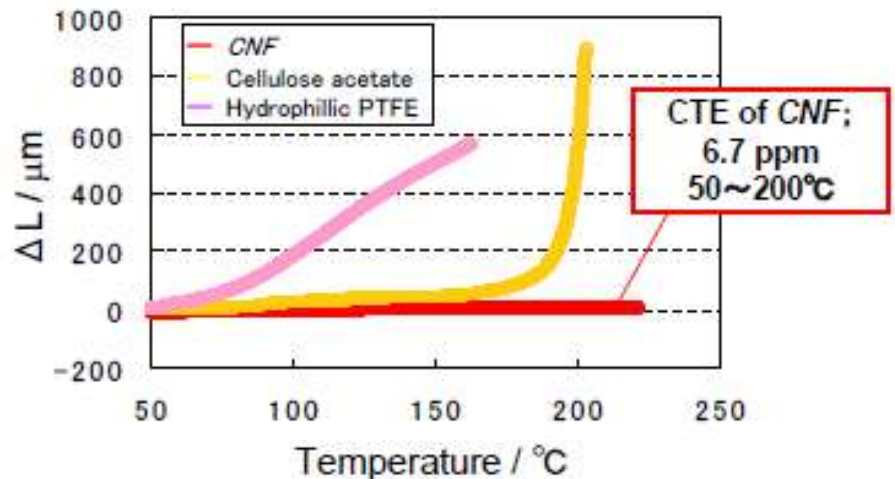
		Original CNF	Hydrophobic CNF
Wet/Dry tenacity	kg/15mm	- * /1.3	1.2/1.3
Wet/Dry tenacity ratio	%	-	90

\* break at even very low tension

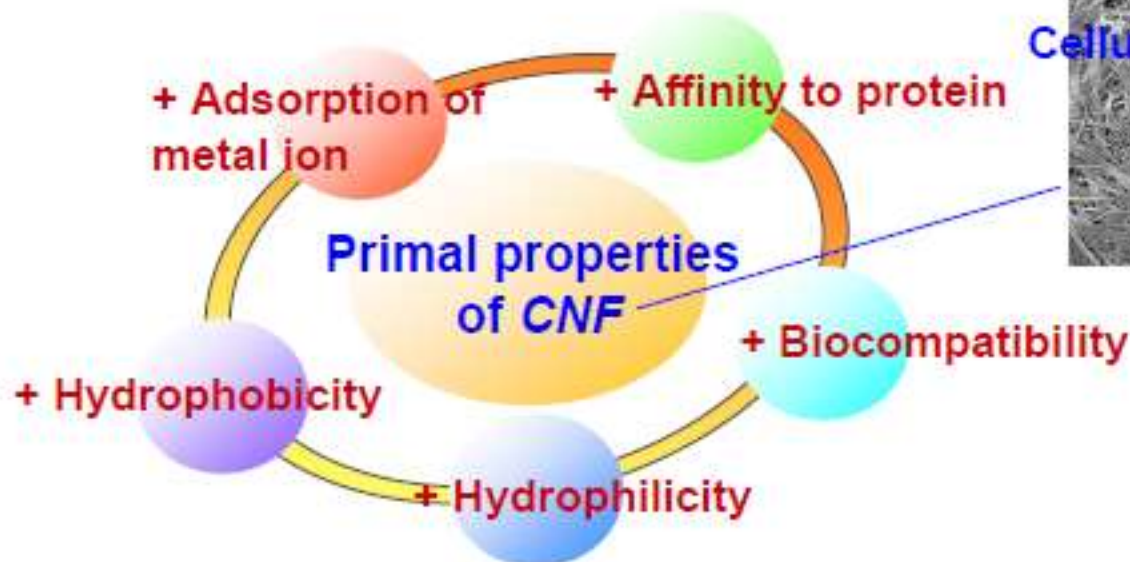
## High resistance for general organic solvents

	MeOH	Acetone	DMSO
CNF	Non swollen	Non swollen	Non swollen
Cellulose acatate	swollen	soluble	soluble
Cellulose nitrate	soluble	soluble	soluble

## Low CTE value



Examples of Application



Cellulose nanofiber sheet



- \* Functional Filter
- \* Basic material for a medical use
- \* Basic material for a low CTE film
- \* Separator for battery or capacitor
- ... etc



# ナノセルリッシュ

nano-CELISH (Cellulose Nano Fiber)

開発品

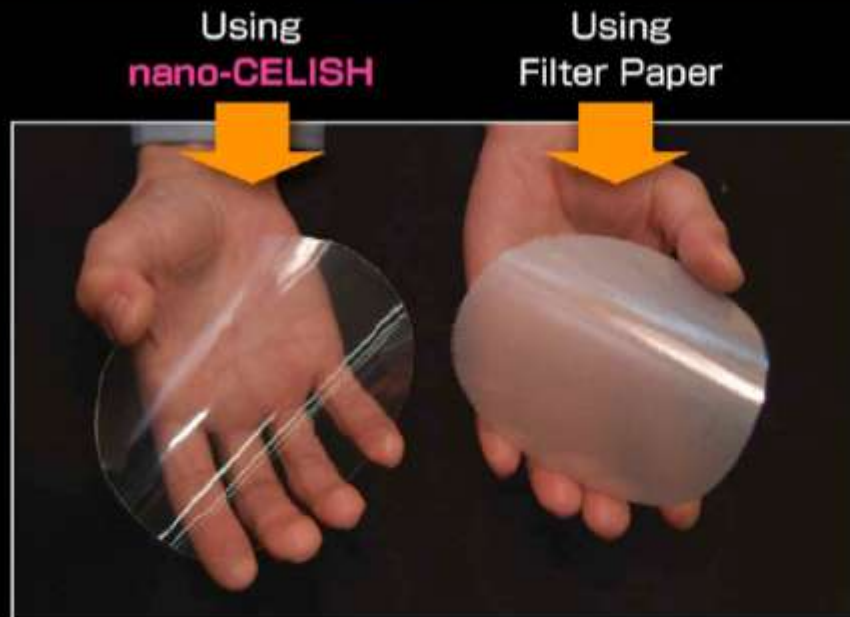
Application 1 : ナノセルリッシュシート nano-CELISH Sheet



nano-CELISH Sheet (Trial Product)

	nano-CELISH Sheet
Thickness	20 $\mu$ m
CTE	7ppm
Tensile Strength	18N/15mm

## Application 2 : 透明・低線膨張シート Transparent Sheet



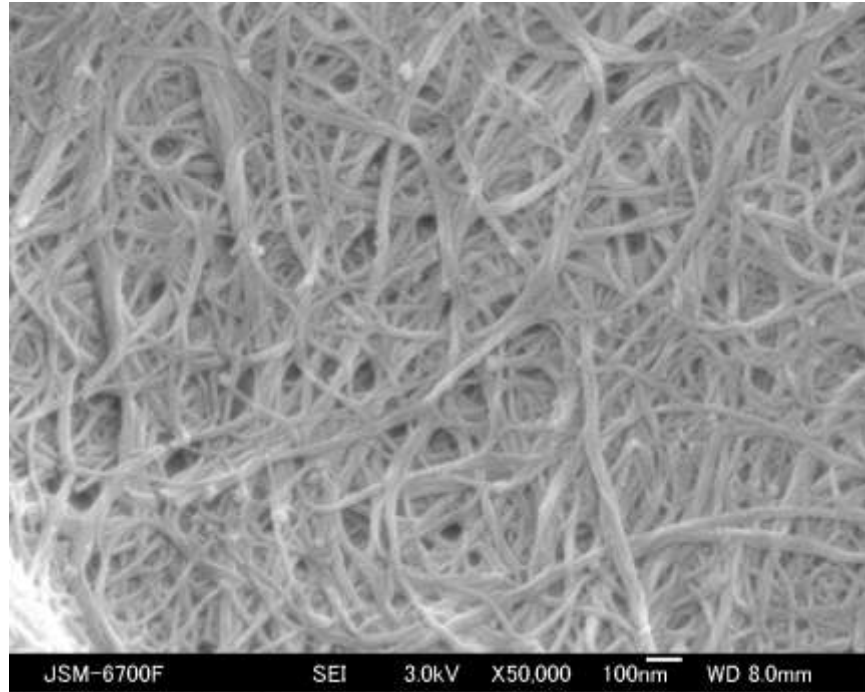
- 優れた透明性 Transparent
- フレキシブル Flexible
- 高寸法安定性 Low CTE

Each sample permeated with epoxy resin

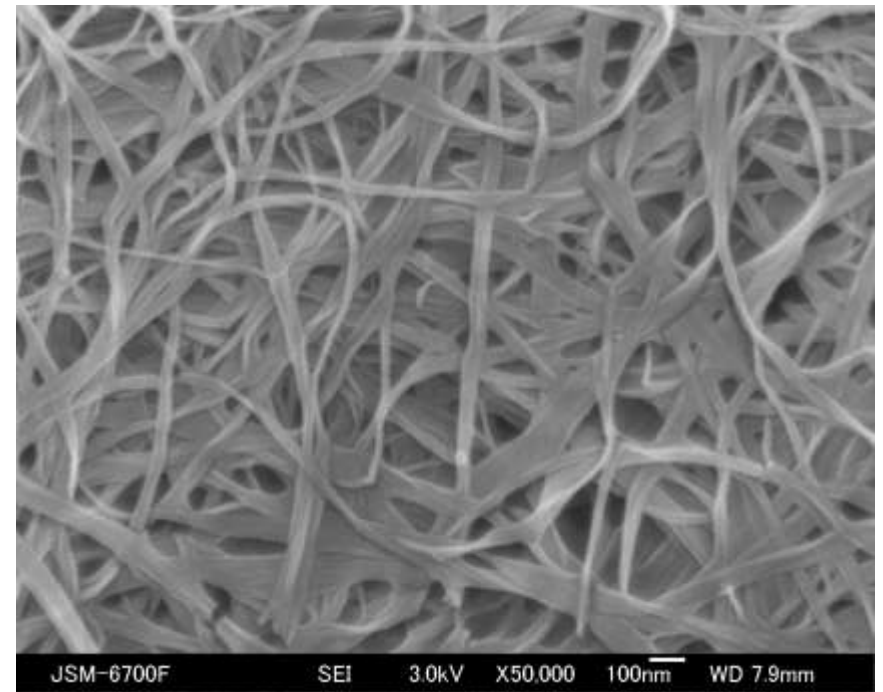
	Transparent Sheet with nano-CELISH
Thickness	100 $\mu$ m
Total Transparency	90%
CTE	20ppm





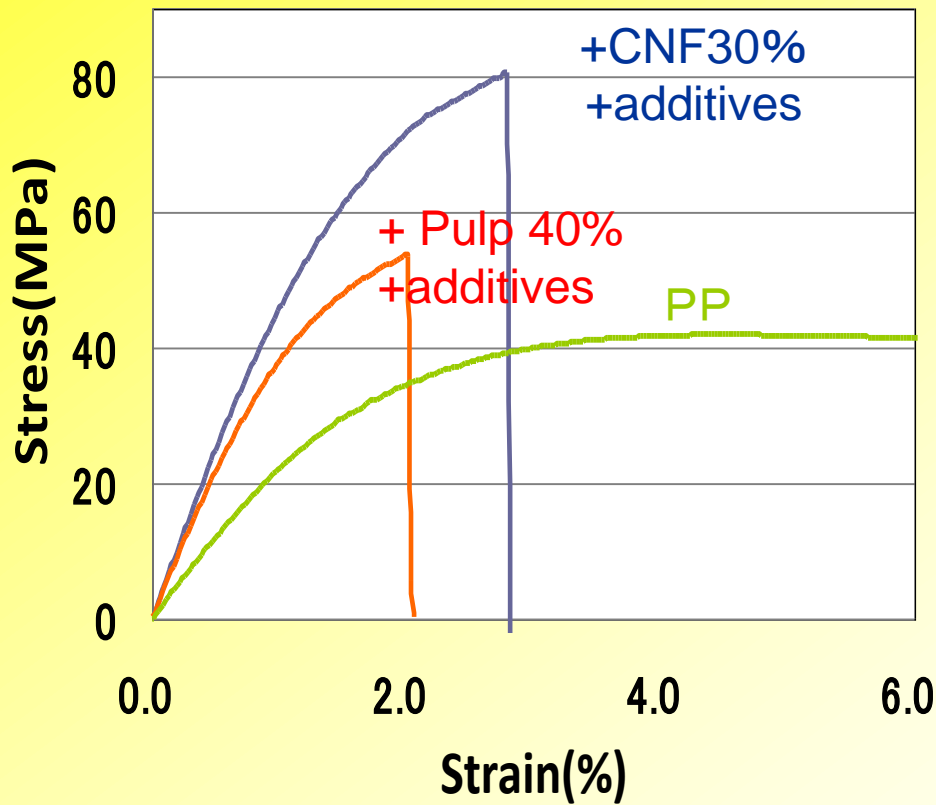


Nano-CELISH



Bacterial cellulose

# CNF Reinforced Polypropylene



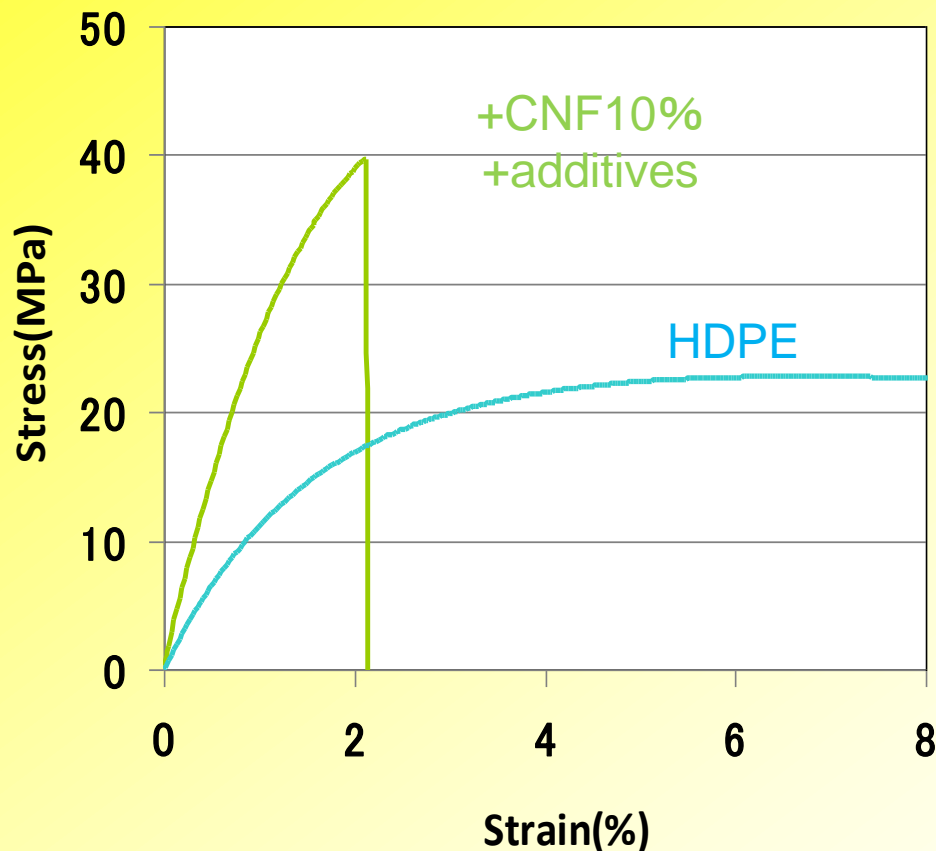
Not enough!. Goal is 10% nanofibers with same performance

Comparison of CTE (23-100°C)

	Density (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	CTE (ppm/K)
<b>Polypropylene: PP</b>	<b>0.91</b>	<b>130</b>
<b>PP+CNF30%+additives</b>	<b>1.09</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>PP+Pulp40%+additives</b>	<b>1.07</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Alluminum alloy</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>24</b>



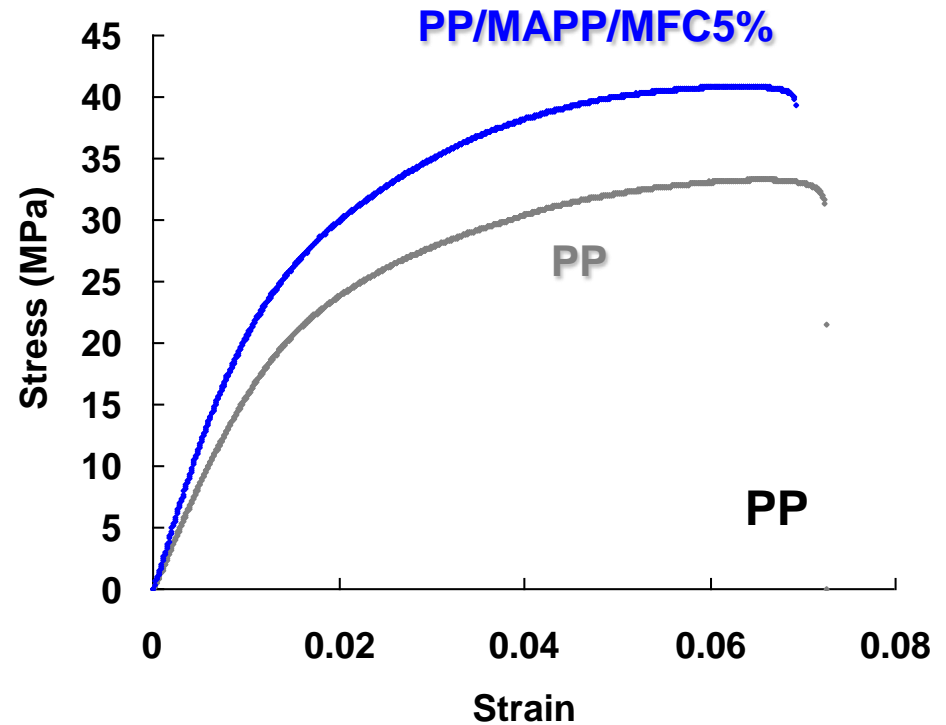
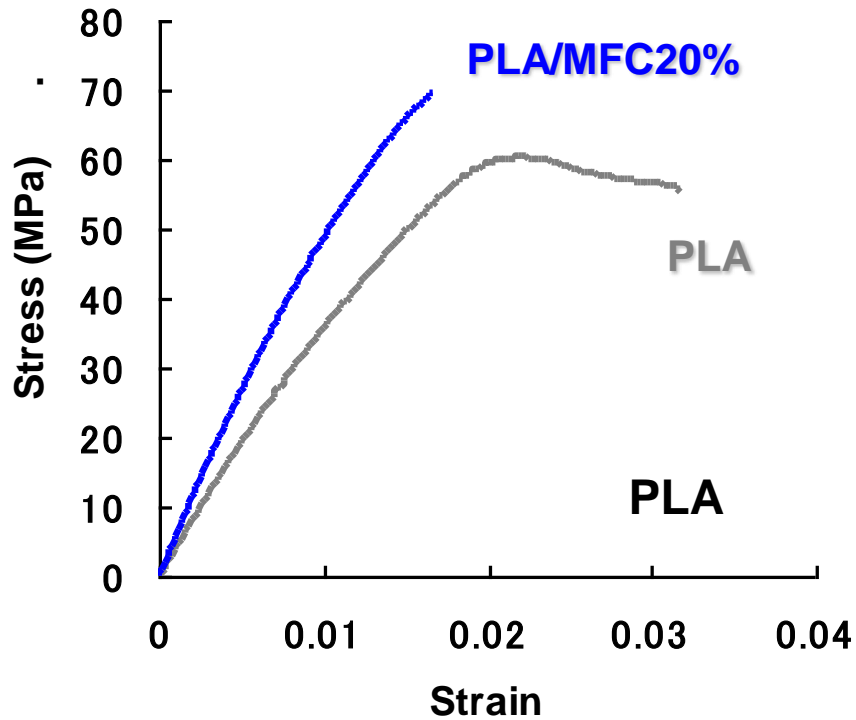
# CNF Reinforced Polyethylene



Comparison of CTE (23-100°C)

	Density (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	CTE (ppm/K)
HDPE	0.96	222.2
HDPE +additives +MFC20%	1.06	26.9

## 2. Cellulose Nanofiber Reinforced PLA/PP



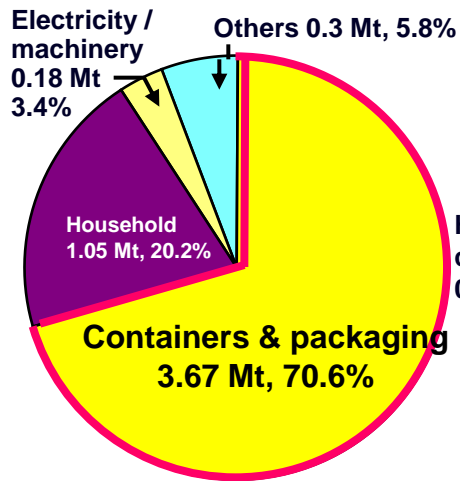
PLA/10%MFC Injection Molded Products



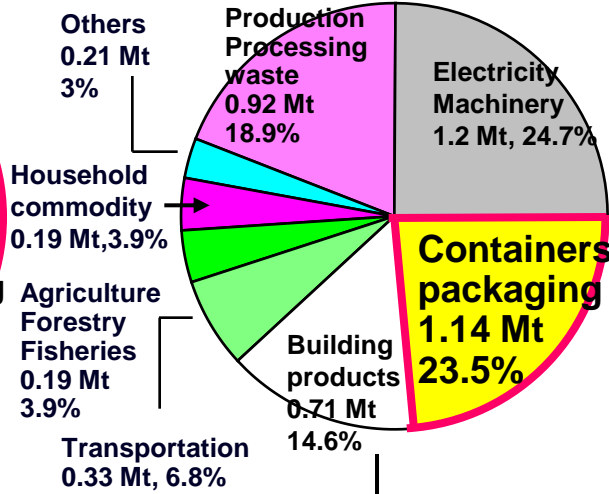
# Background & Motivation

## – CO<sub>2</sub> emission from wastes of packaging materials by incineration –

**General waste in Japan**  
5.2 Mt / y



**Industrial waste in Japan**  
4.9 Mt / y

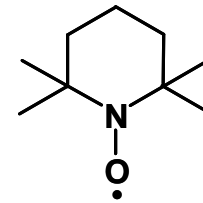


**Incineration disposal: 53% (5.4 Mt / y)**

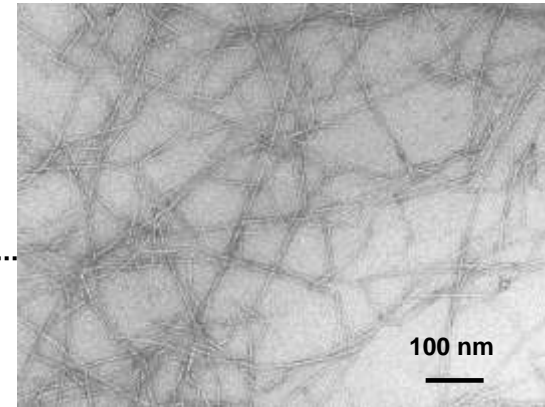
**CO<sub>2</sub> emission: 6.7 Mt / year**

**New environmentally compatible packaging materials are needed.**

**TEMPO**



**Wood cellulose**




**TEMPO-oxidized cellulose nanofibers having extremely high oxygen barrier properties**

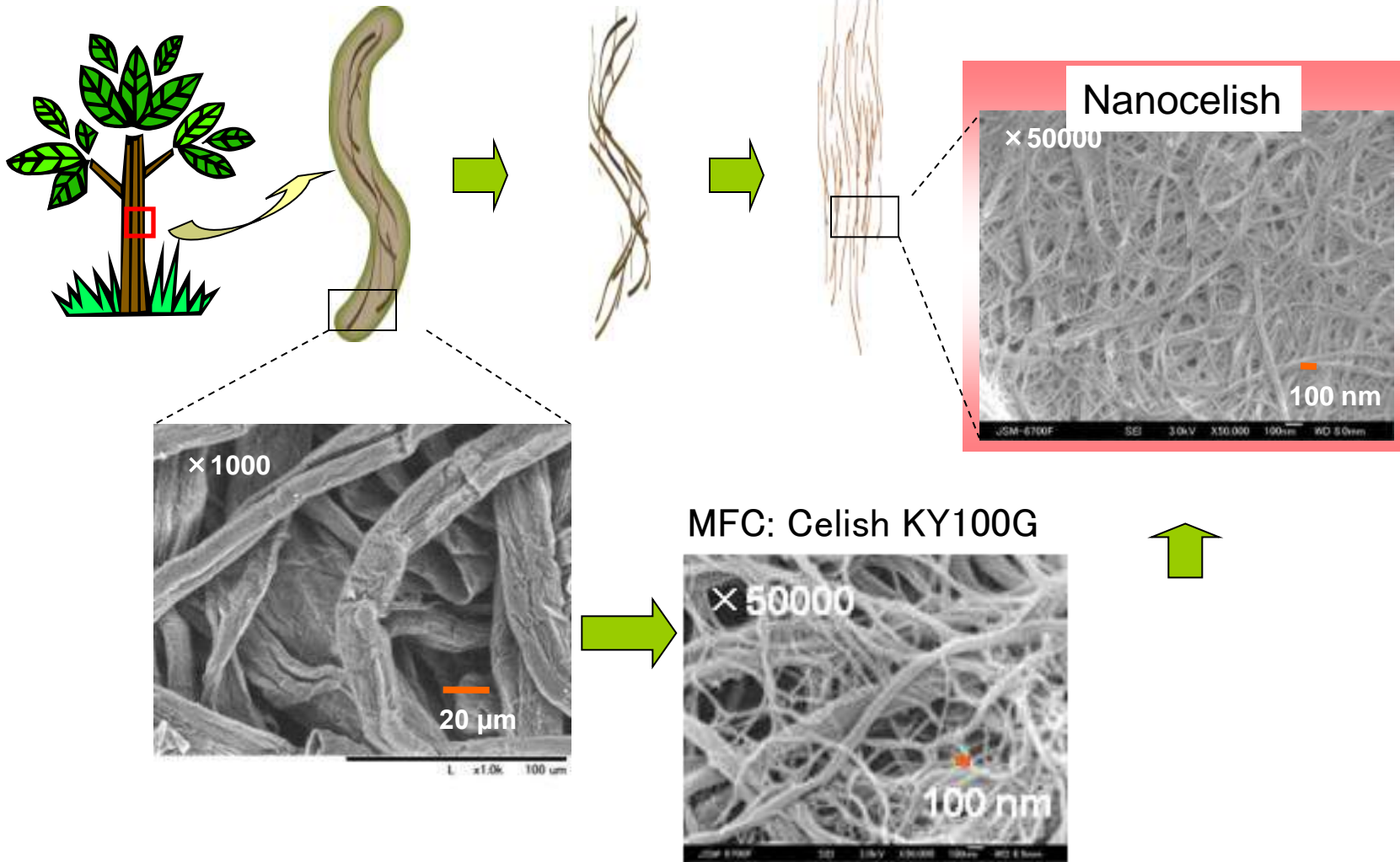
**Matching**

Nippon Paper has developed a lab production system of 0.5 kg-scale TEMPO-oxidized pulp in one batch process with TEMPO recycling system.

## 『ナノセリツシュ』のご紹介

現在、弊社研究所の動き  DAICEL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES, LTD. 化樹脂の開発の優先順位は低い状態で、薬品添加、機能性食品、再生医療、機能性フィルムの開発に特化しております。

# Cellulose nanofibers: Nanocelish

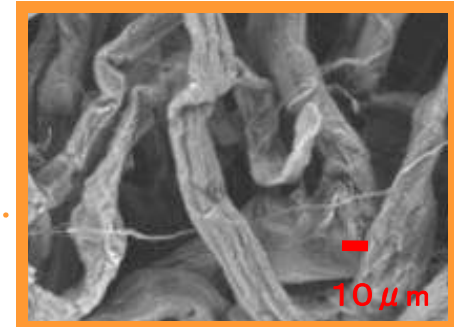
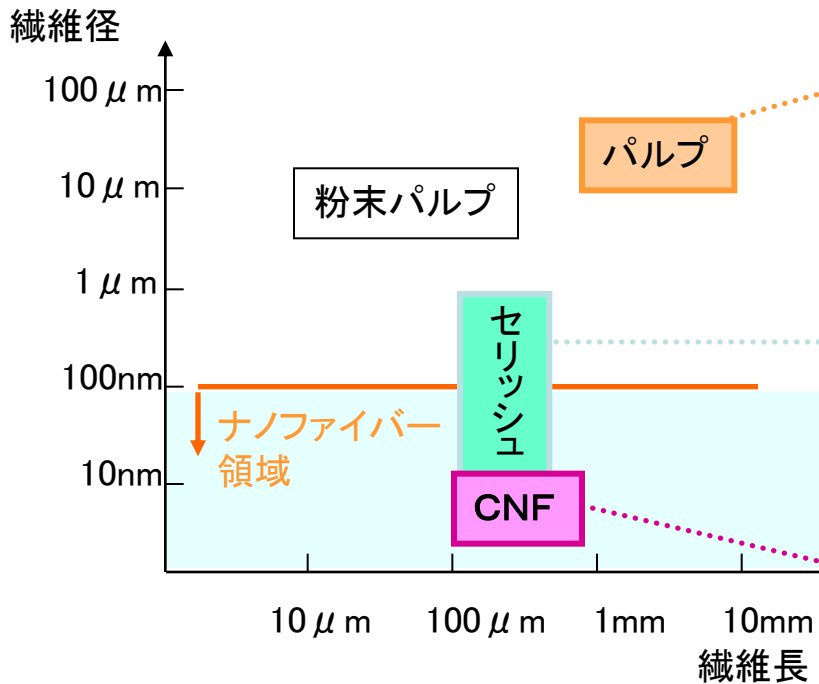


Based on the technology developed during the production of microfibrillated cellulose (MFC), we newly developed “Nanocelish”

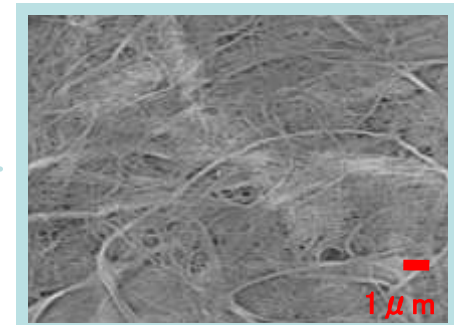
# セルロースナノファイバーについて

CNF: 繊維径4nm ~ 100nm, アスペクト比 > 100

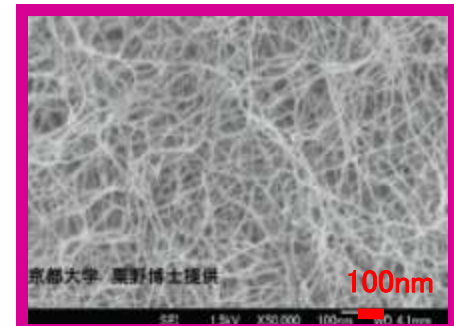
目標アスペクト比 (L/D) = 1000以上 Ex) L: 100 $\mu$ m、D: 100nm



原料パルプの繊維: 数10 $\mu$



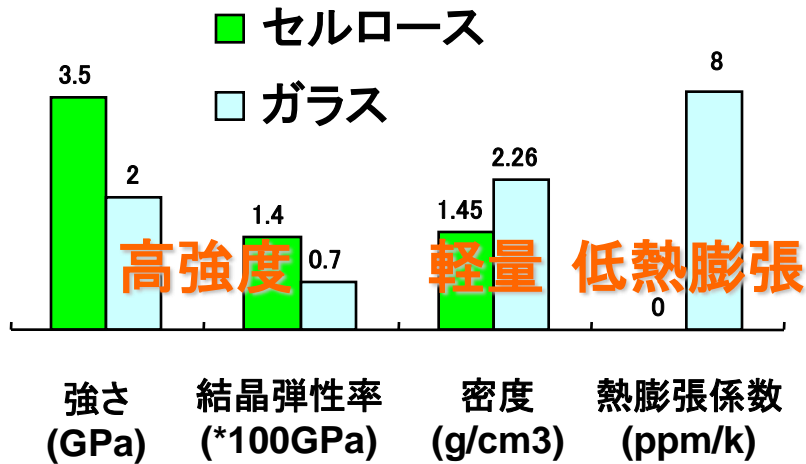
セリッシュKY-100G: ~1  $\mu$  の繊維の混合物



セルロースナノファイバー

## セルロース繊維本来の性質

- 材料特性の優位性
  - 力学特性(強度・弾性率)
  - 低比重(軽量)
  - 低線膨張係数

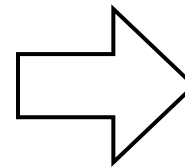


- 環境にやさしい材料
  - CO<sub>2</sub>削減

+

## ナノファイバー効果

- ナノサイズ効果
  - 光学特性(透明)
- 超大比表面積効果
  - 界面増 → 表面機能化



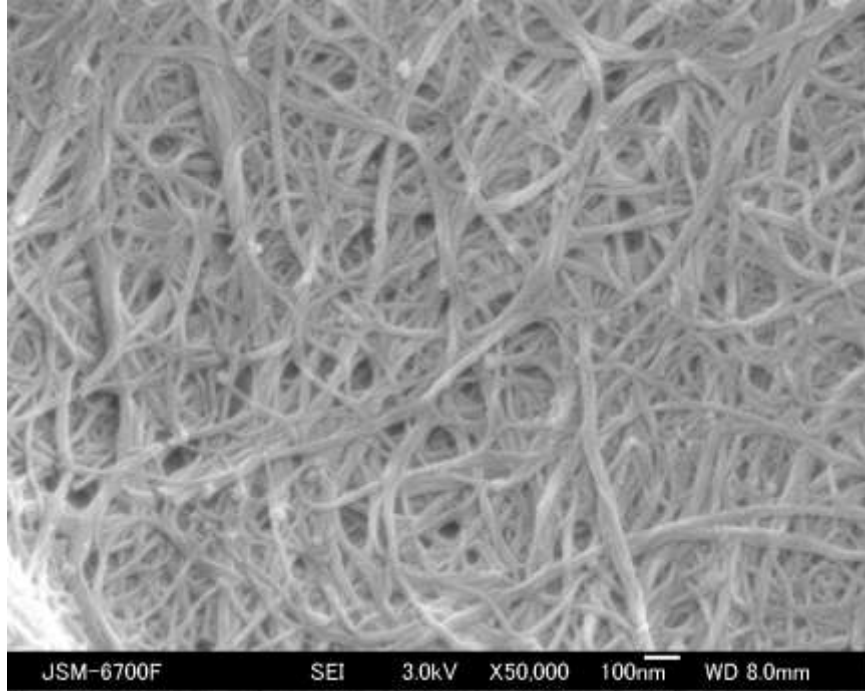
## 『ナノセルリッシュ』で、

- ・高強度/軽量/低熱膨張率
  - ・環境対応
- を生かし、新規材料の創出が可能になります。

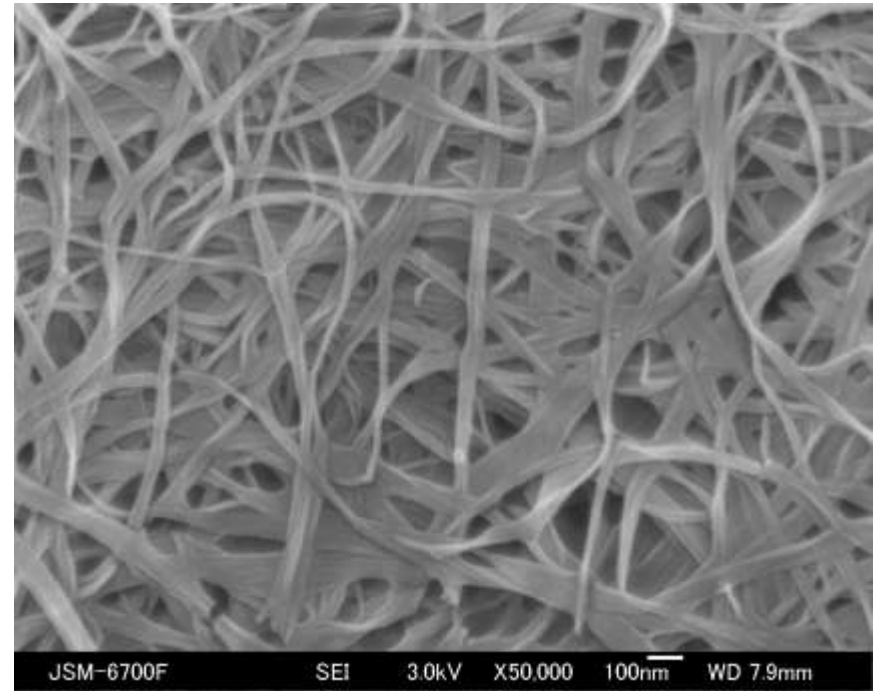
- 『ナノセリッシュ』は機械特性と光学特性に優れる高機能発現素材であり、新たな高機能材の創出に大きく寄与する可能性を秘めています。
- 『ナノセリッシュ』は他に例を見ない高アスペクト比を示す繊維であり、複合材料のハイパフォーマンス化に有効です。
- ダイセル化学グループはセリッシュの製造・販売実績を持つだけでなく、セルロースの取り扱い技術はもとより豊富な樹脂群とそれらを加工する技術も保有しています。

**ダイセル化学グループのナノファイバーと技術を生かした新規素材は  
様々な新規製品の開発を加速させることができます。**



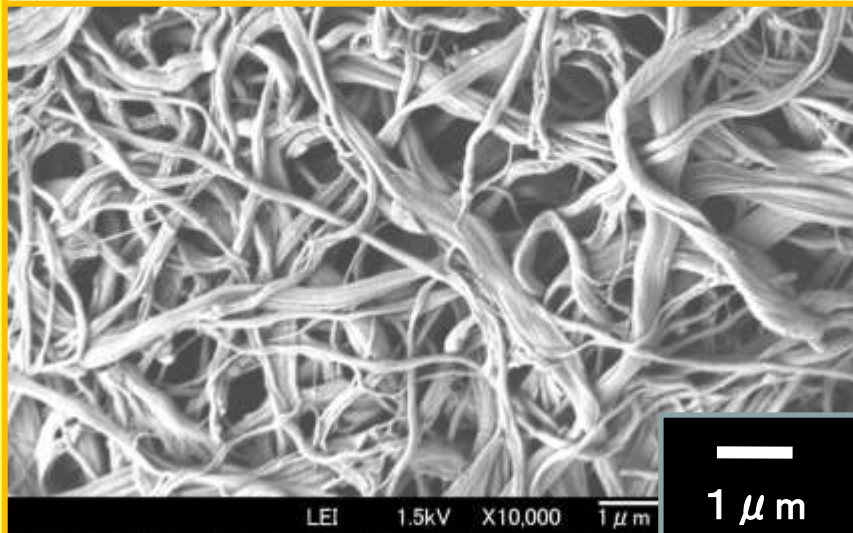


ナノセリッシュ

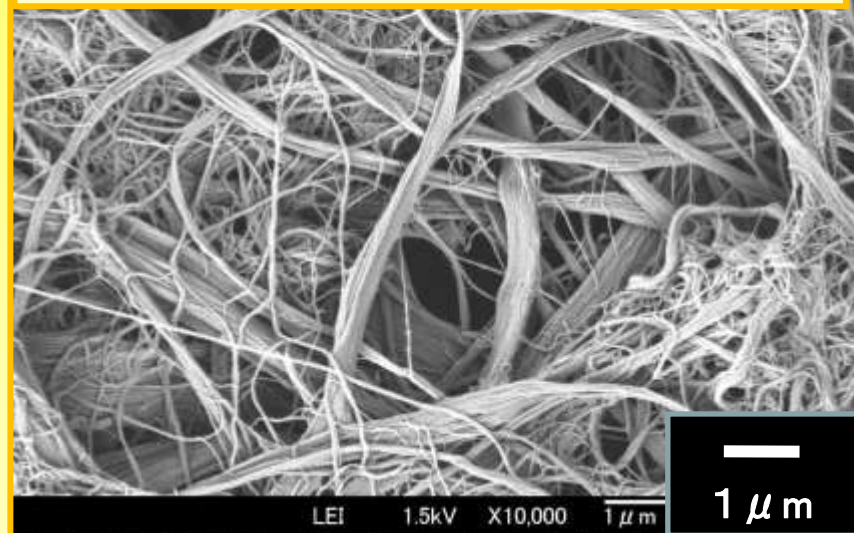


ナタデココ

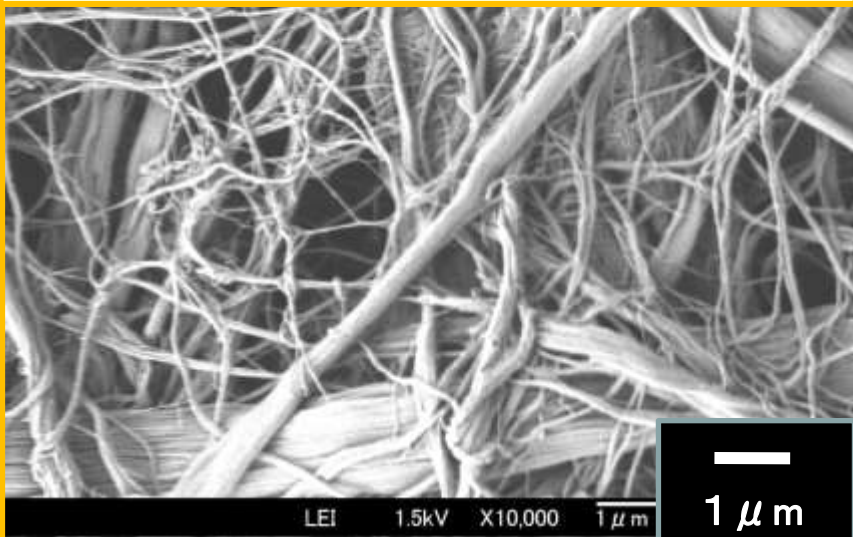
Twin Screw Extruder, **15mm diameter**  
(Productivity rate : 56g/hr)



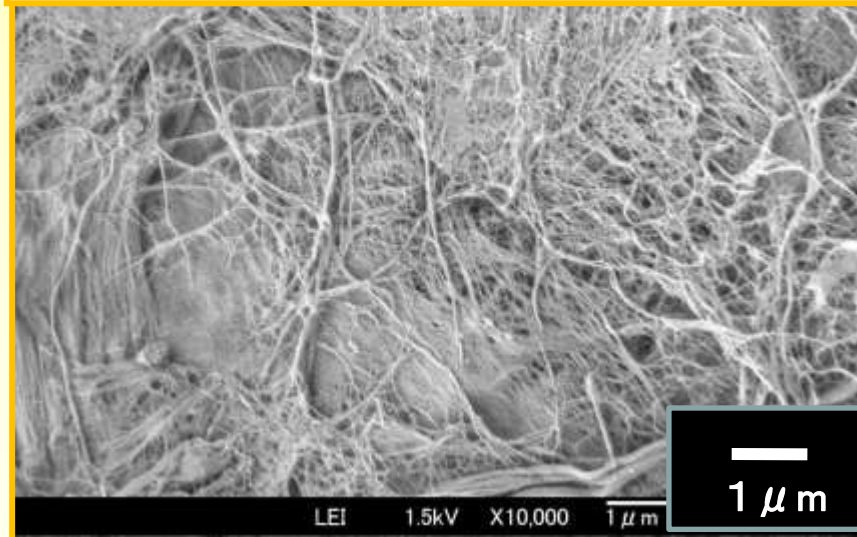
High pressure homogenizer, 14  
passes



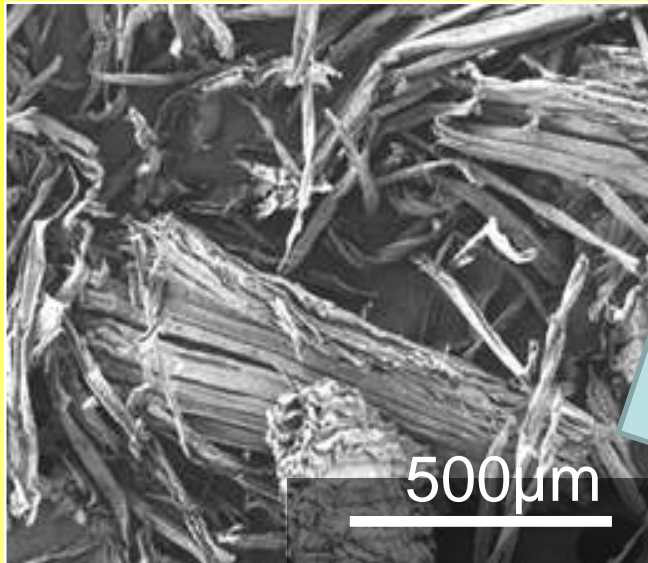
**High shear speed**, Extruder, **15mm**  
(Productivity rate : 600g/hr)



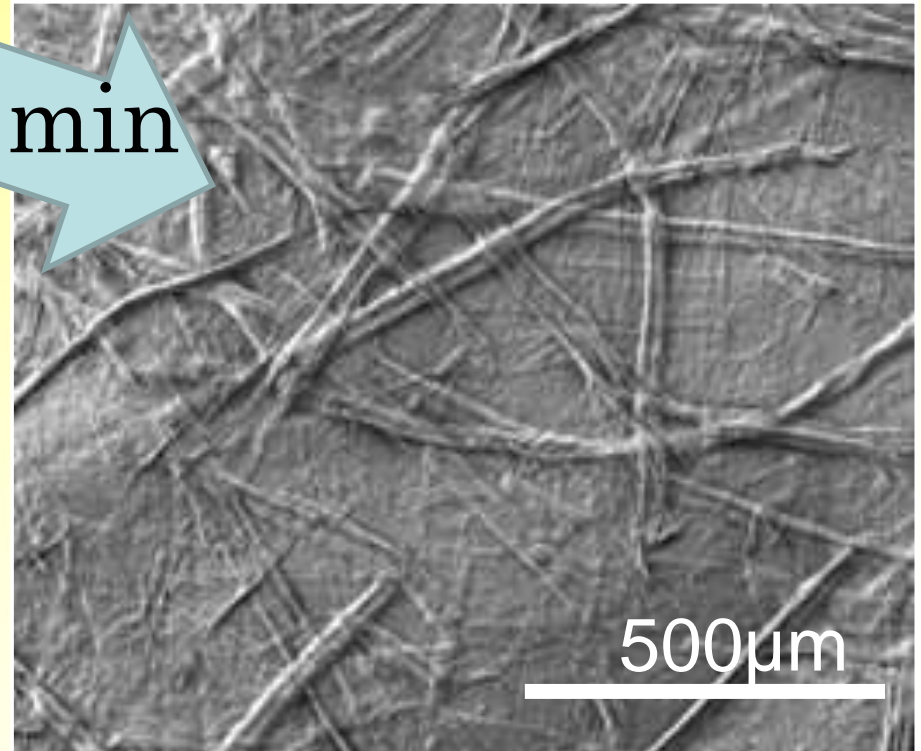
+ **Cationized pulp**, Extruder, **15mm**  
(Productivity rate : 600gr/hr)



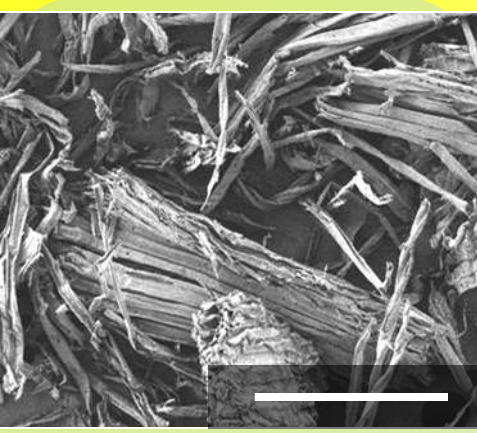
# Agitation for 1 min by high speed blender



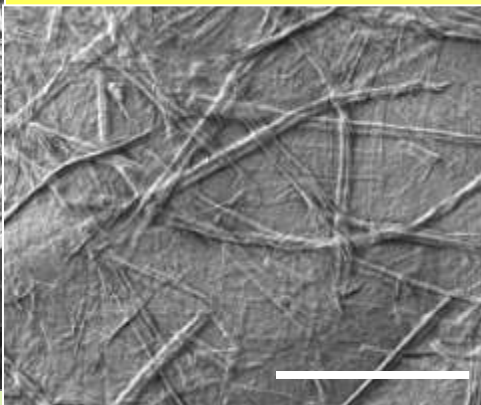
Wood Pulp



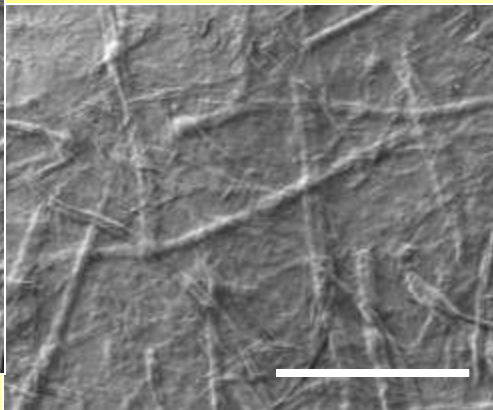
# Nanofibrillation of Pulp by High Speed Agitation



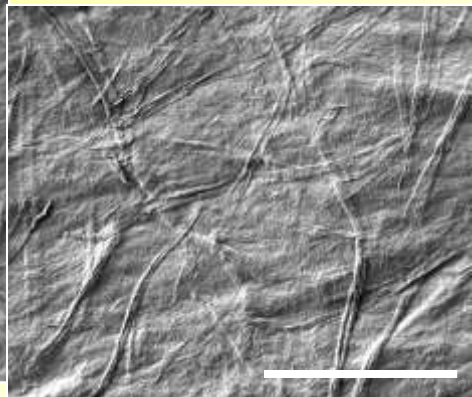
Pulp



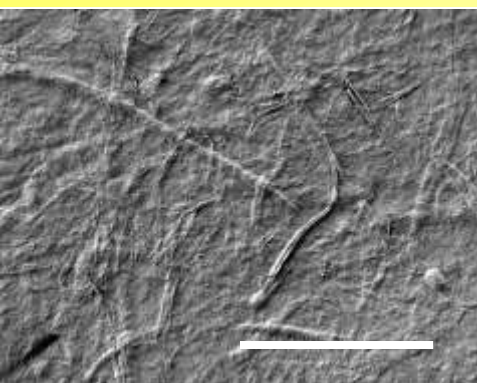
1 min



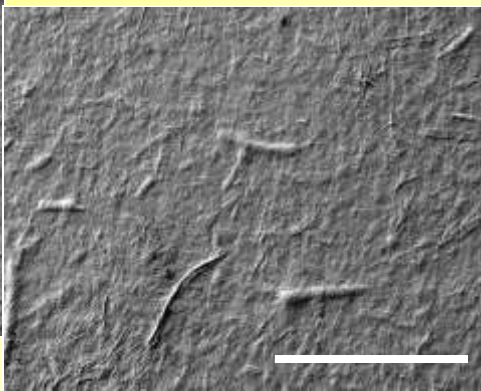
3 min



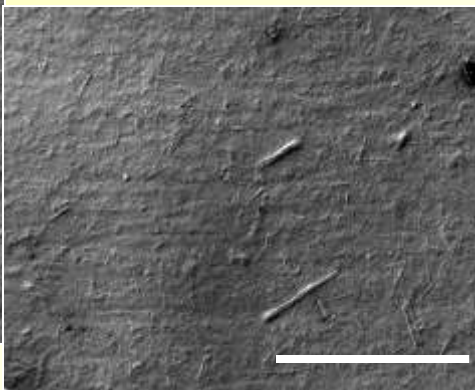
5 min



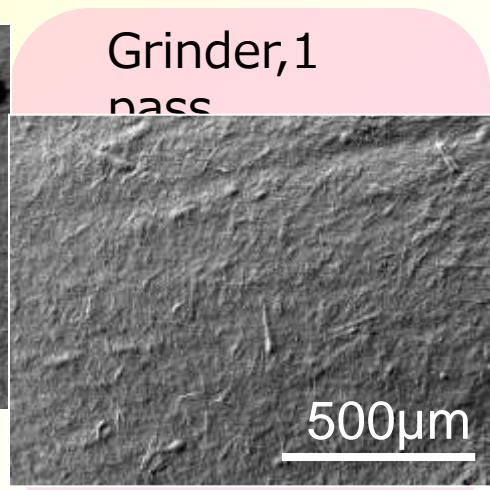
10 min



30 min



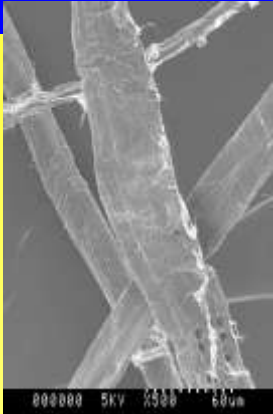
60 min



Grinder, 1 pass

500μm

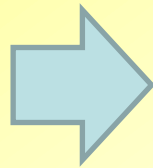
# 5. Nanofibrillation of pulp by kneading



1% pulp slurry



Disk Refiner

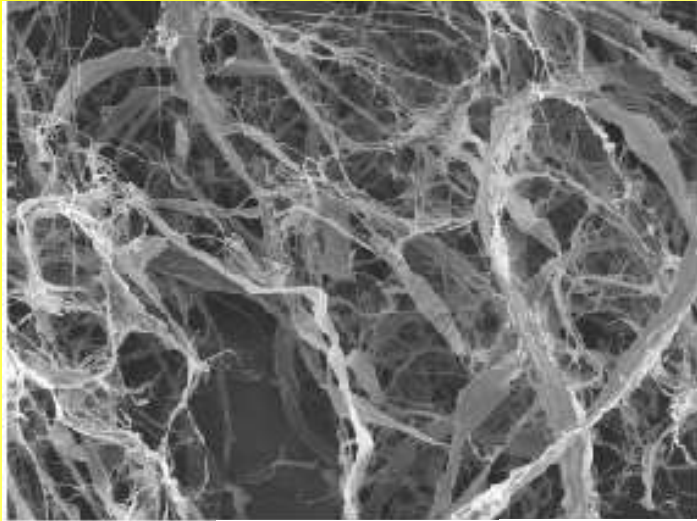


Solid content:  
30%

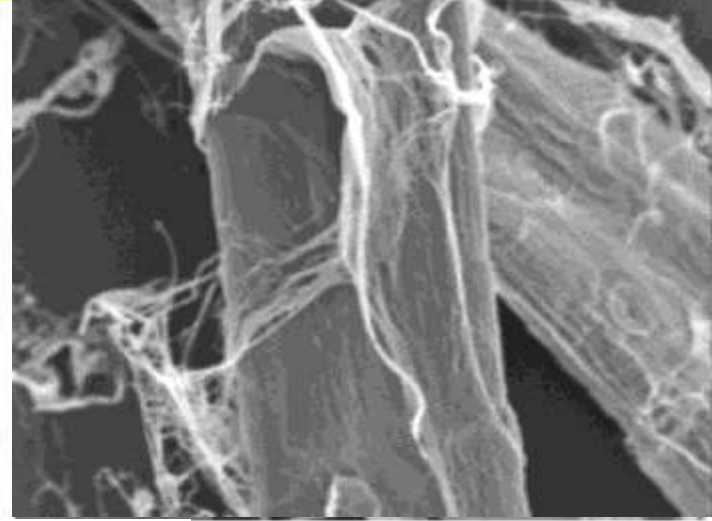


Kneading machine :  
60rpm, 20min

Yano,  
2002



× 200 Surface fibrillation by refiner × 2000



After kneading