## Additive Layer Manufacture for Healthcare Applications

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- Look at the application of additive manufacturing techniques in two healthcare applications:
  - Foot and ankle-foot orthoses
  - Tissue engineering for osteoarthritis



#### Foot and ankle-foot orthoses







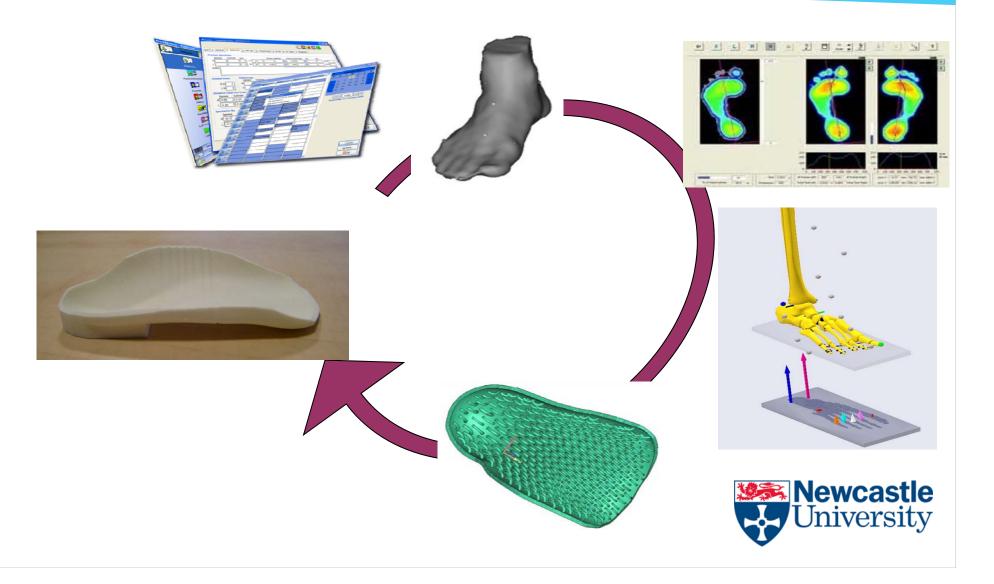




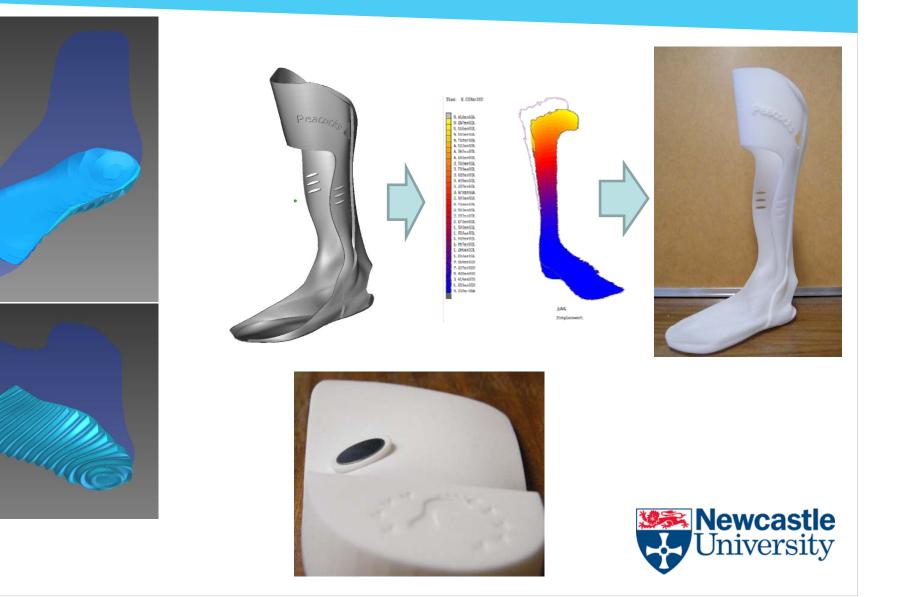
Ankle & Foot Orthotic Personalisation via Rapid Manufacturing NMP2-SE-2009-228893 led by Jim Woodburn at GCU



### a-footprint integrated model



### Why additive manufacture?



### **About Additive Manufacturing**

• High end > €200k

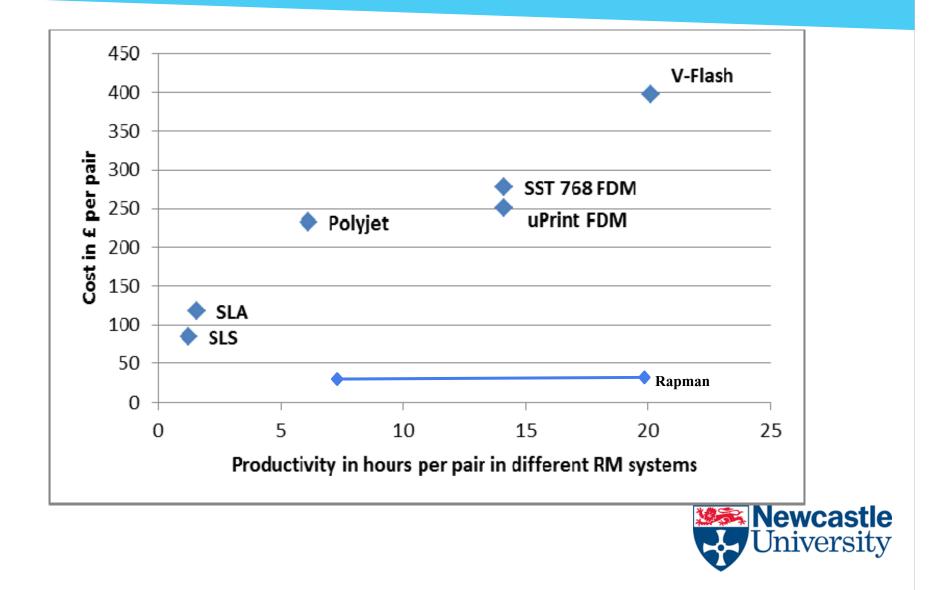


 Mid-moderate €20k – €200k

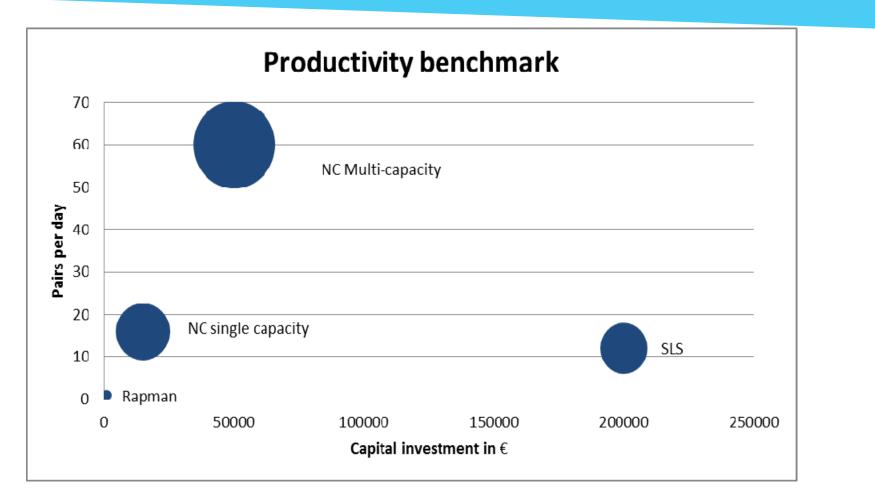




#### **Benchmarking Machines for FOs**

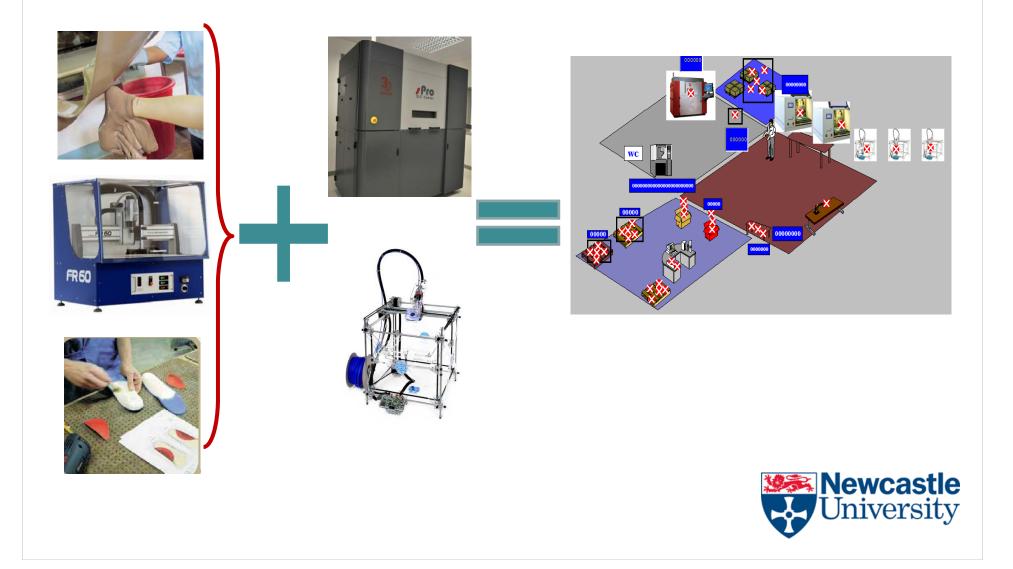


#### How does it compare to machining?





#### Best of both worlds – hybrid approach

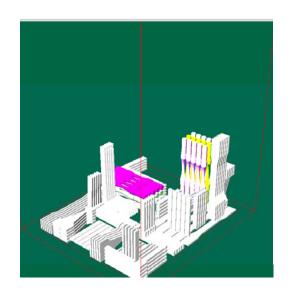


#### Need a Quality System

Quality Assurance System being developed as part of demonstrator facility based at Peacocks Medical Group – what's the minimum you can measure to be sure an SLS build is good?

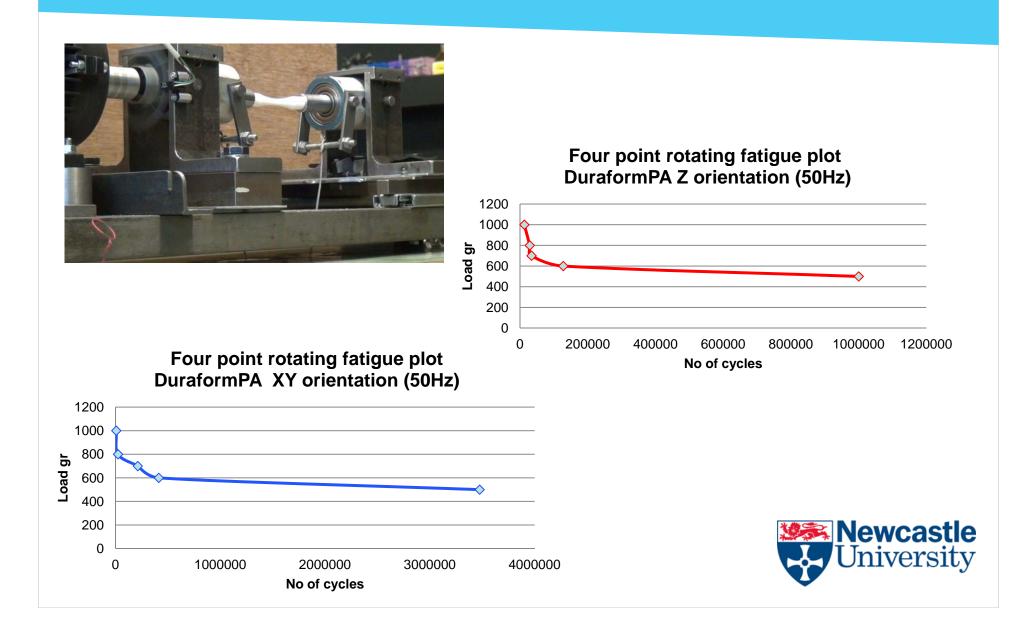


- Powder management
  & control
- On-site benchmark part mechanical testing



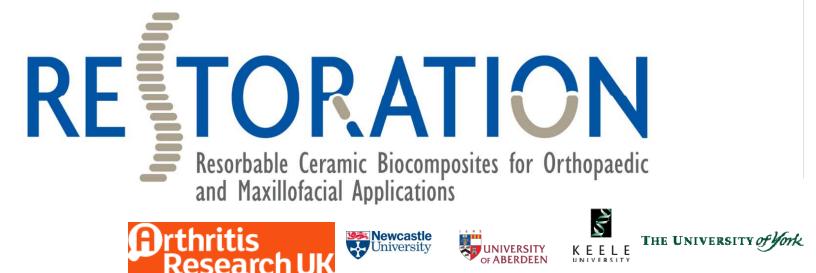


#### Fatigue

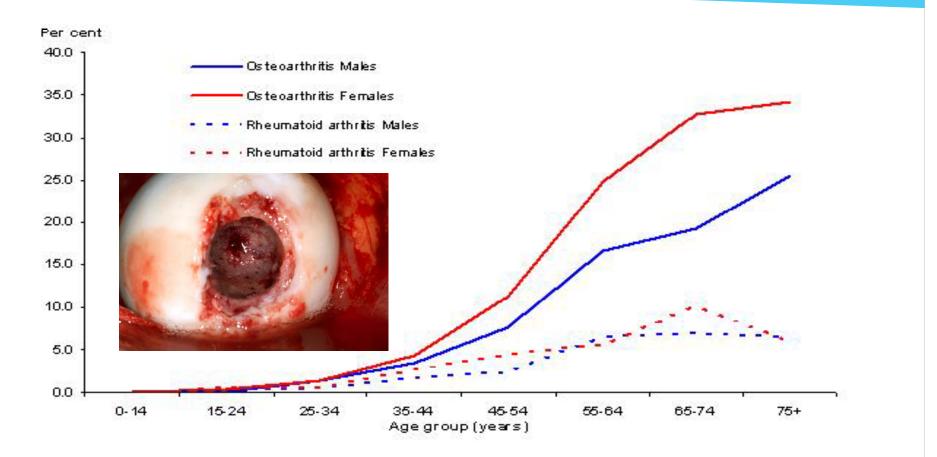


### **Tissue Engineering**

- Two projects:
  - Arthritis Research UK Tissue Engineering Centre
    - Led by Andrew McCaskie at Newcastle University
    - Aim to provide practical tissue engineering solutions for bone/cartilage interface
  - Restoration, FP7-NMP-2011-SME-5-280575



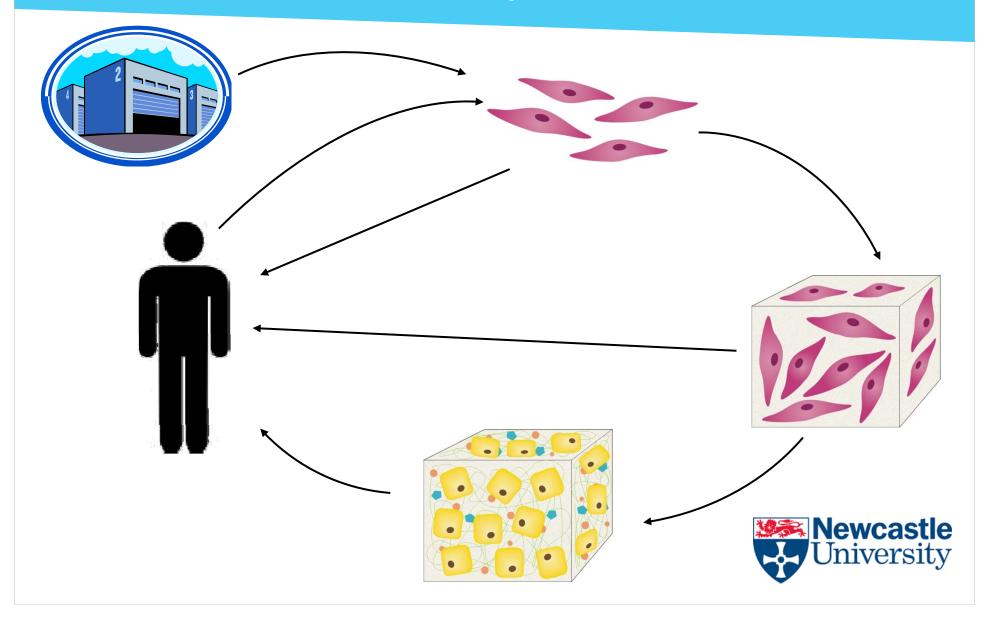
#### Osteoarthritis



Age-specific prevalence of osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis, Australia, 2004-05 Source: AIHW analysis of ABS 2004-05 National Health Survey.



# How might tissue engineering work in practice?



# What does "practical" tissue engineering mean?

- For most people: early stage interventions with injectable or minimally invasive approaches
  - small or injectable scaffolds
  - functionally gradient
- Where it's needed, move to larger, probably customised, approaches
  - personalised scaffolds, again functionally gradient

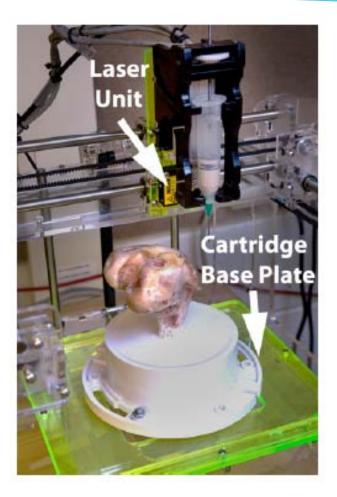


#### Scaffold Functional Requirements

- Appropriate mechanical properties
- Defined topology generally highly porous to support tissue integration, cell transport, nutrient supply
- Appropriate surface properties and surface chemistry
- Bioactive: able to resorb at a similar rate to that at which the natural tissue grows
- Bioceramics, biopolymers, and polymer-ceramic biocomposites the starting materials



#### Additive manufacture in the knee?



#### IOP PUBLISHING

Biofabrication 2 (2010) 035004 (12pp)

BIOFABRICATION doi:10.1088/1758-5082/2/3/035004

# Additive manufacturing for *in situ* repair of osteochondral defects

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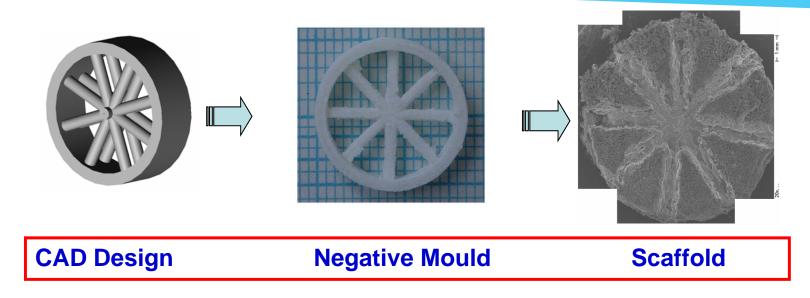
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#### **3D Printing Moulds for Collagen**

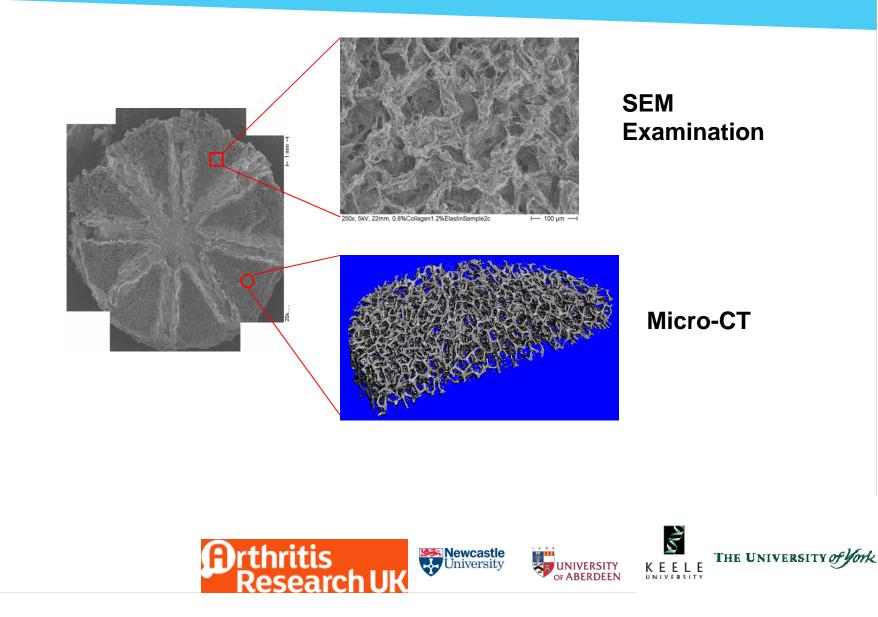


**Features:** 

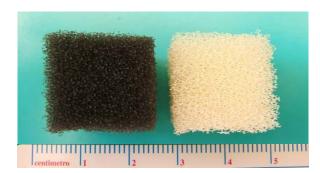
- Pre-defined channels; with highly porous structured matrix;
- With suitable chemistry for tissue growth Collagen+ HA
- Controlled degradation rate;
- No toxic solvent involved.



#### **3D Printing Moulds for Collagen**



#### **Highly Porous Bioceramic**

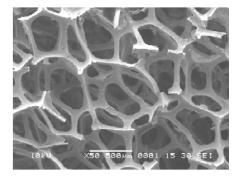


#### polyurethane foams

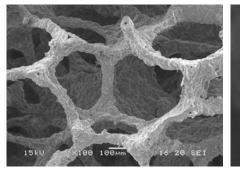


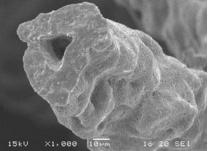


#### glass-ceramic scaffolds







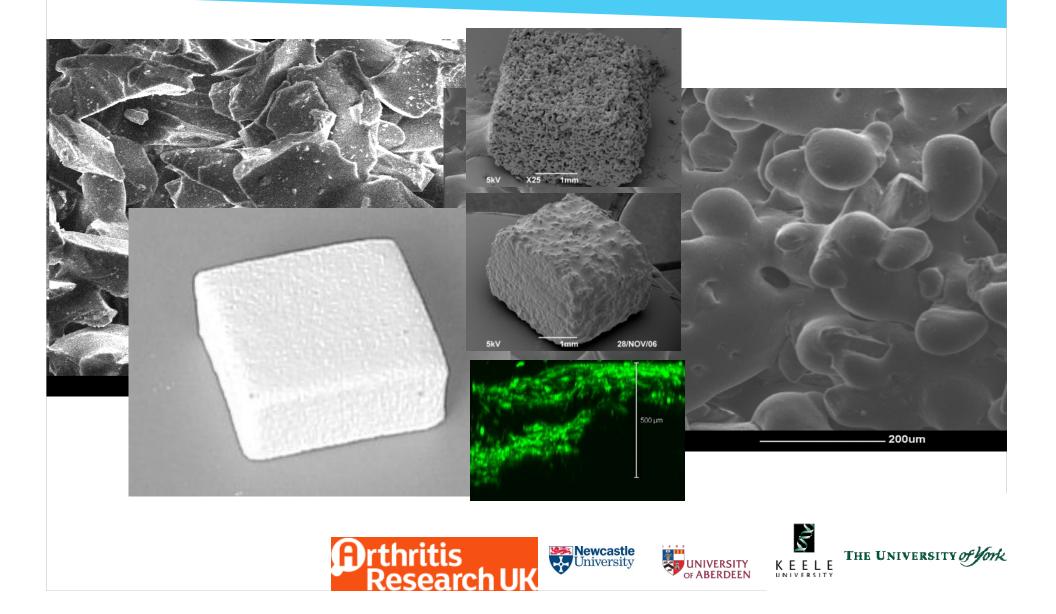








# Apatite wollastonite glass ceramic scaffolds made using additive manufacture





Year	1	3	5
Cells	Adult autologous MSC	Best autologous and allogeneic MSC's	Improved allogeneic MSC's
Scaffold	None/ Bioceramic	Functionally Gradient Hydrogel/ Bioceramic Composite	Improved Functionally Gradient Hydrogel/ Bioceramic Composite
Delivery	ACI/ Arthroscope for Knee	Injection/ Arthroscope for Knee & Hip	Injection/ Arthroscope for Knee, Hip & Ankle







#### Conclusions

- Additive Manufacture:
  - Machines are getting better, cheaper and quicker
  - Most materials can be processed to most shapes in research labs
  - Applications growing but need systems level evaluation
  - Bioprinters a growing research area printing structural and functional materials alongside cells and bioactive agents to create complex gradient structures in clinic for regenerative medicine
- For healthcare applications integration and everyday usability and reliability are key

#### Acknowledgements

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### **Questions?**