
Basic 14

Micro-Nano Tribology

- Ultra low friction of Carbon Nitride (CN_x)
and
Low adhesion and friction of rubber -

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**Dept. of Mechanical Science and Engineering,
Nagoya University**



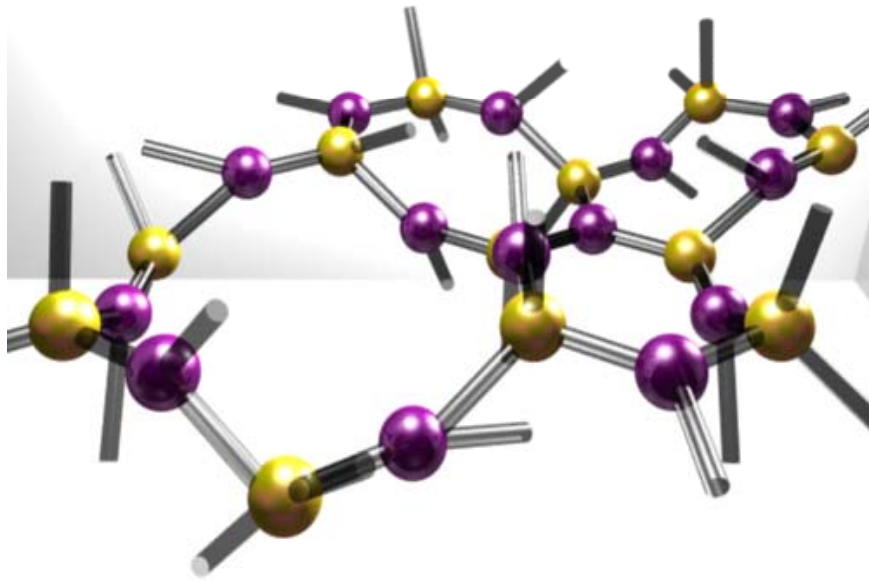
1. Ultra low friction of Carbon Nitride (CNx)

- Mechanism
- Effect of carbon overcoat on friction

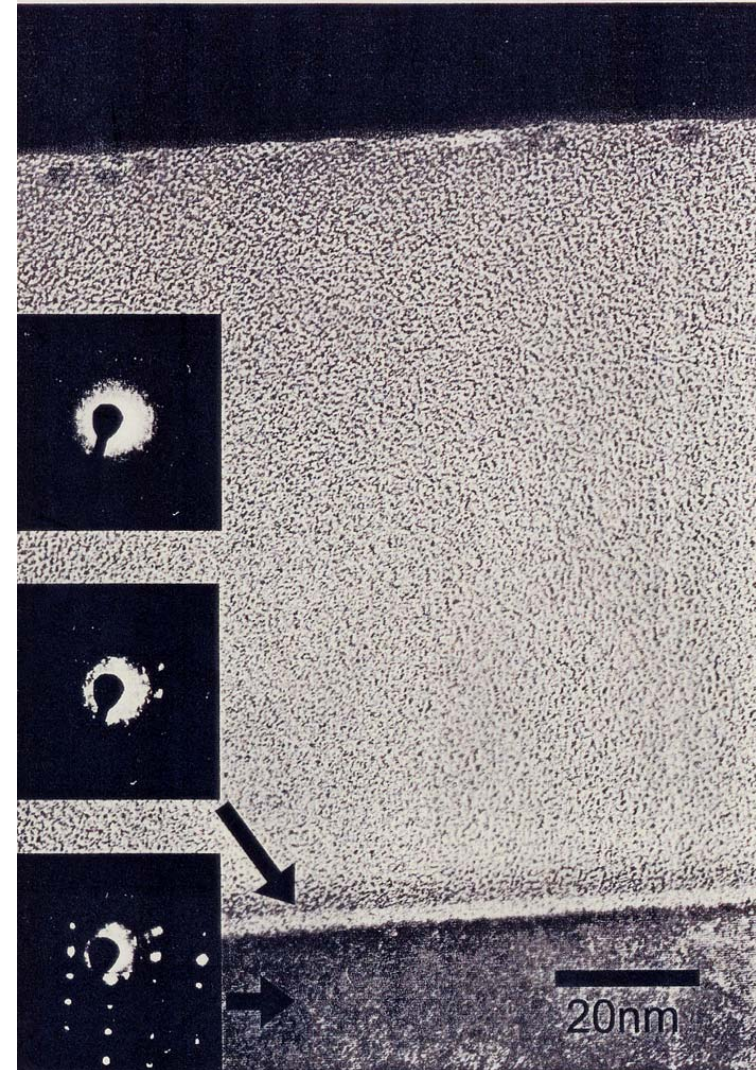
2. Low adhesion and friction of rubber

- High dense plasma irradiation to CIIR
- UV ray irradiation to TPE with PFPE

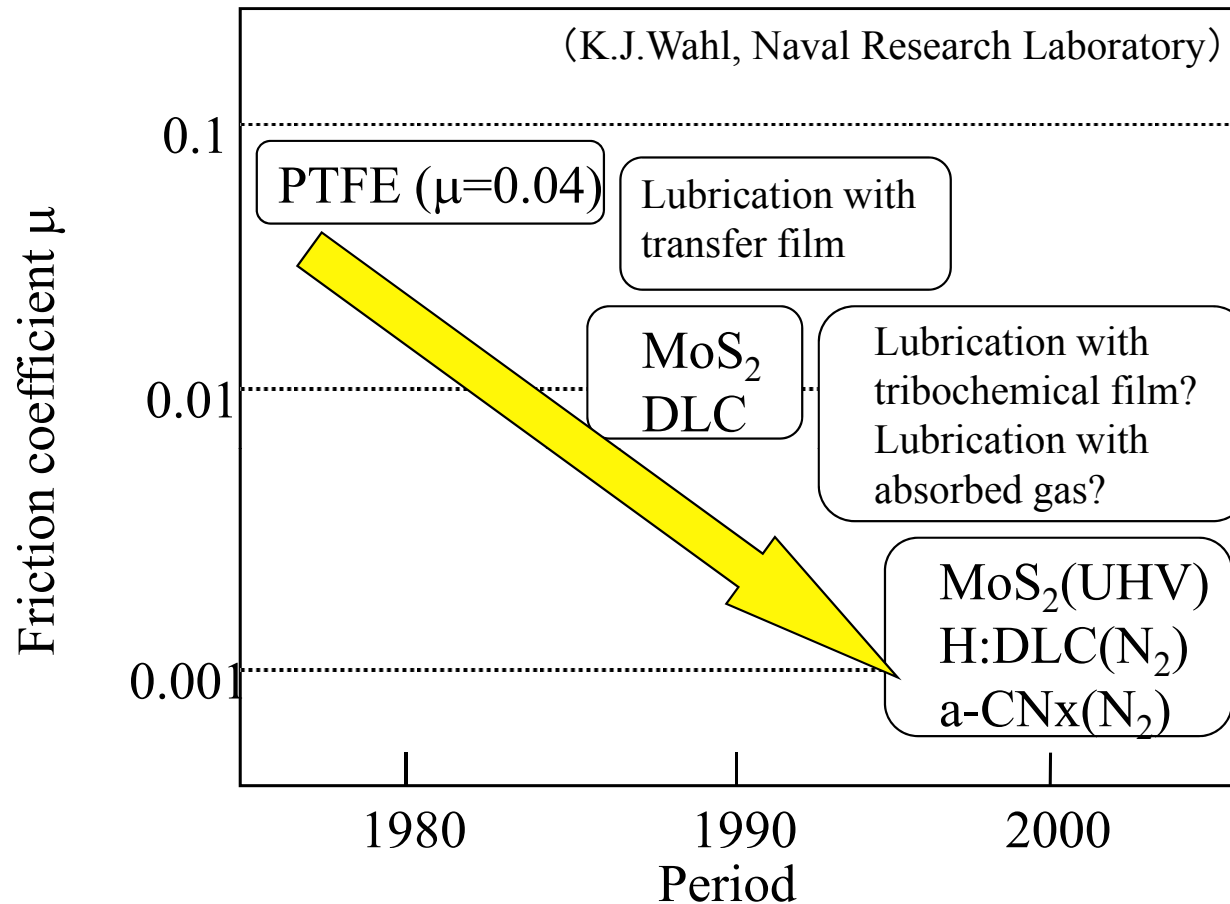
1. Ultra low friction of Carbon Nitride(CNx)



A.Y.Liu, M.L.Cohen, Prediction of new low compressibility solids, *Science*, 245 (1989) 841-842.



Introduction



After the annual meeting of STLE, 2001

MoS₂; W.E.Jamison (1986)

DLC; A.Erdemir (1991), J.Franks, K.Enke and A.Richardt (1990)

H:DLC; A.Erdemir (1999), C.Donnet(1998)

a-CN_x; N.Umehara, K.Kato(1998)



Carbon nitride(a-CN_x) coating

High hardness

High wear resistance

Low friction



Excellent tribological properties

Hardness: $H_{a-CN_x}/H_{a-C}=1.31$

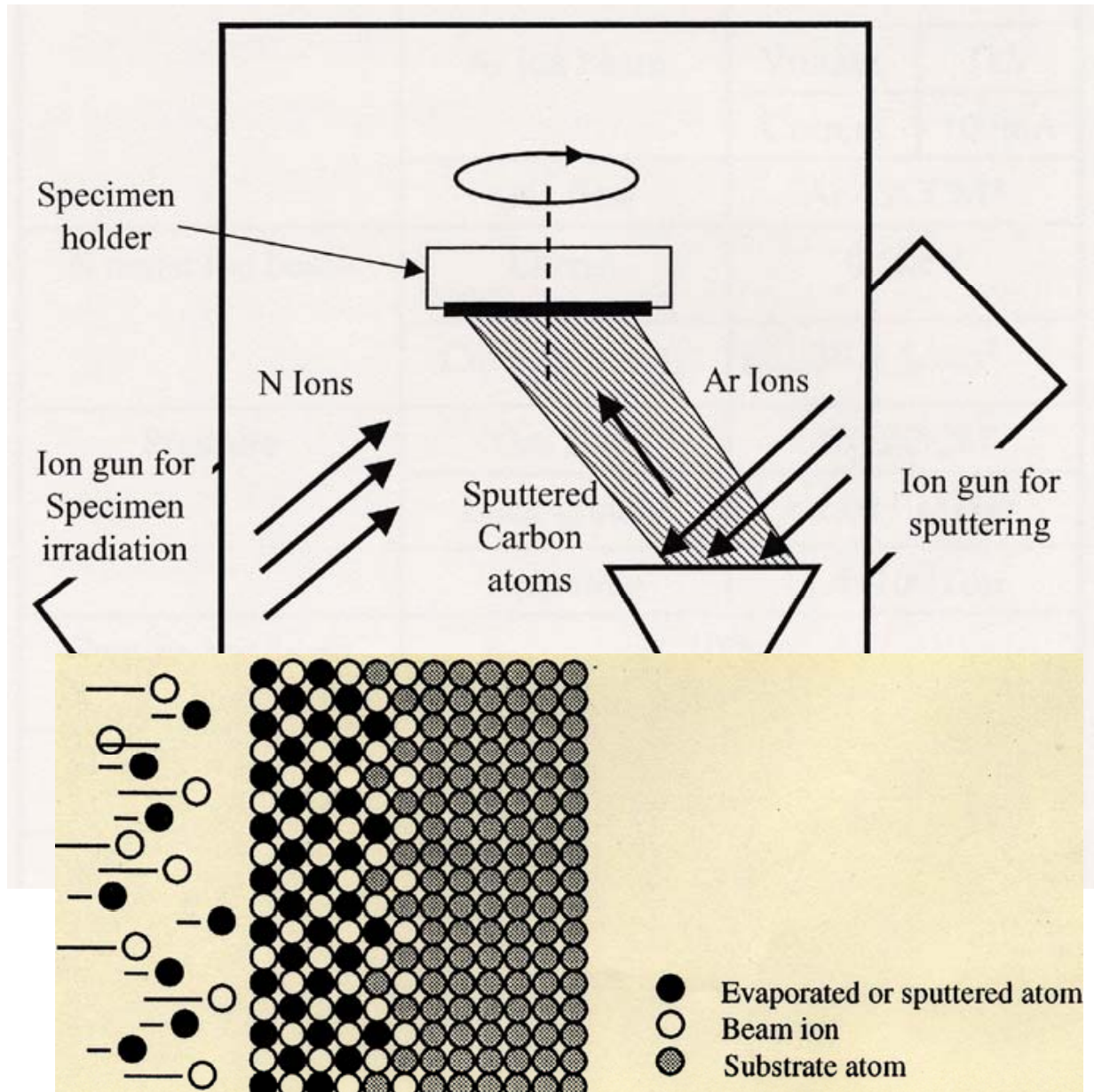
Low friction coefficient(against Al₂O₃/TiC slider)

B.Weil et al. (1998)

Durability: $D_{a-CN_x}/D_{a-C}=3\sim 4$ (against Al₂O₃/TiC pin)

E.C.Cutiongco et al. (1996)

Ion Beam Assisted Deposition



Sputtering:

Ar ion beam 1kV, 100mA

Mixing:

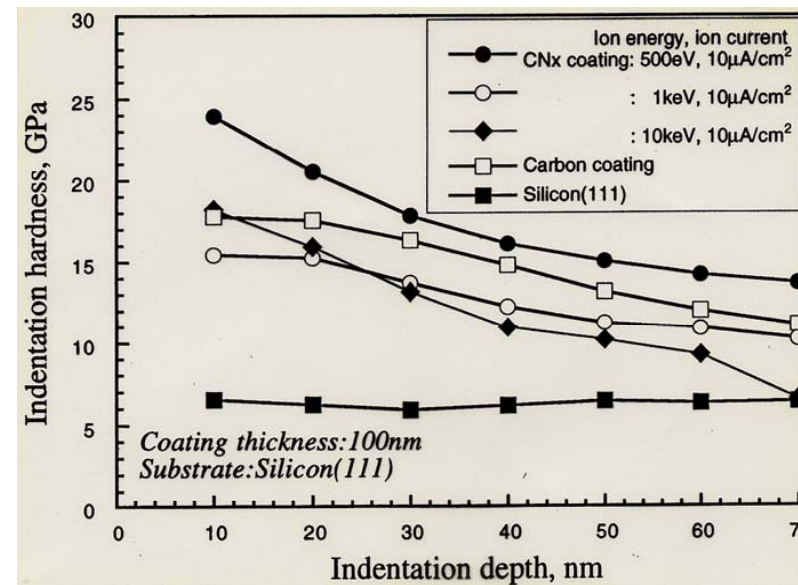
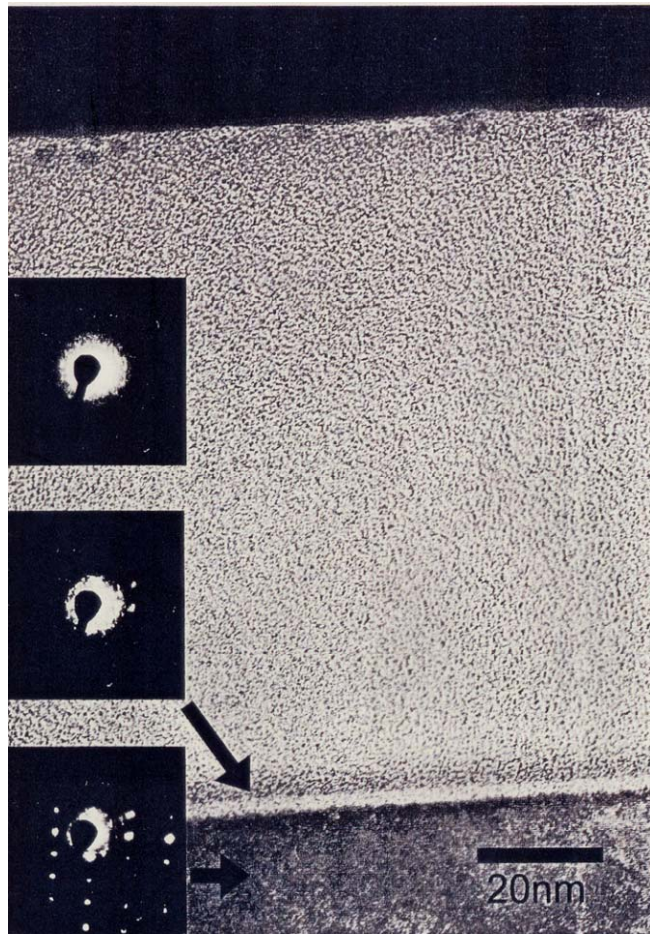
N ion beam 0.5keV,

$30\mu\text{A}/\text{cm}^2$

Coating time: 90min

Thickness of coating: 100nm

TEM photo of CNx by IBAD and Hardness

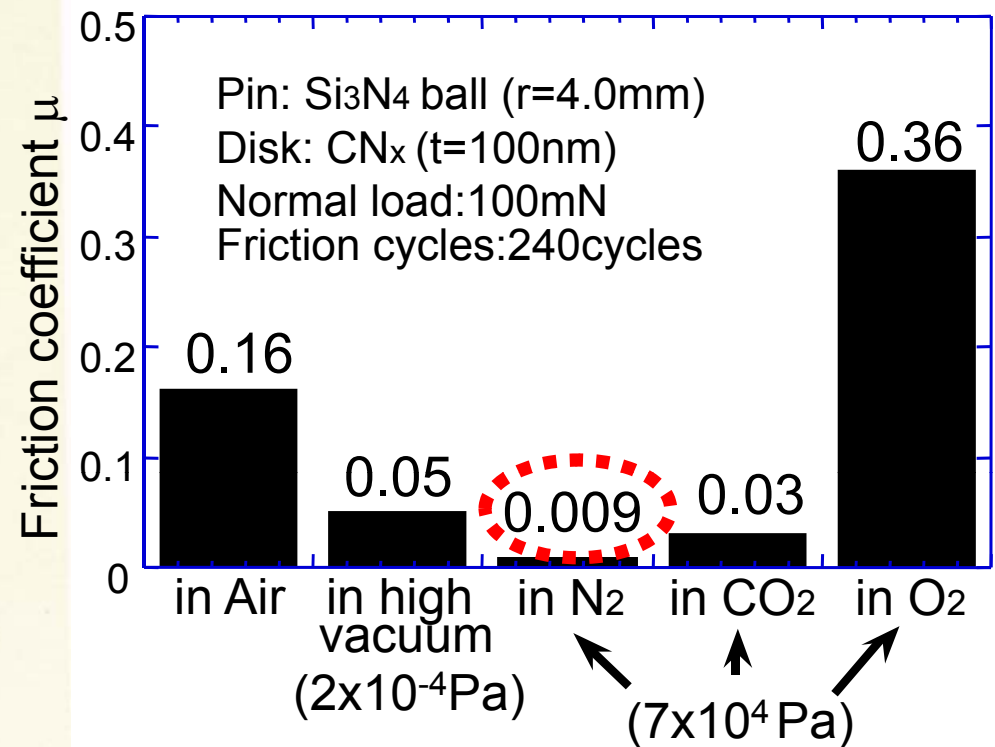
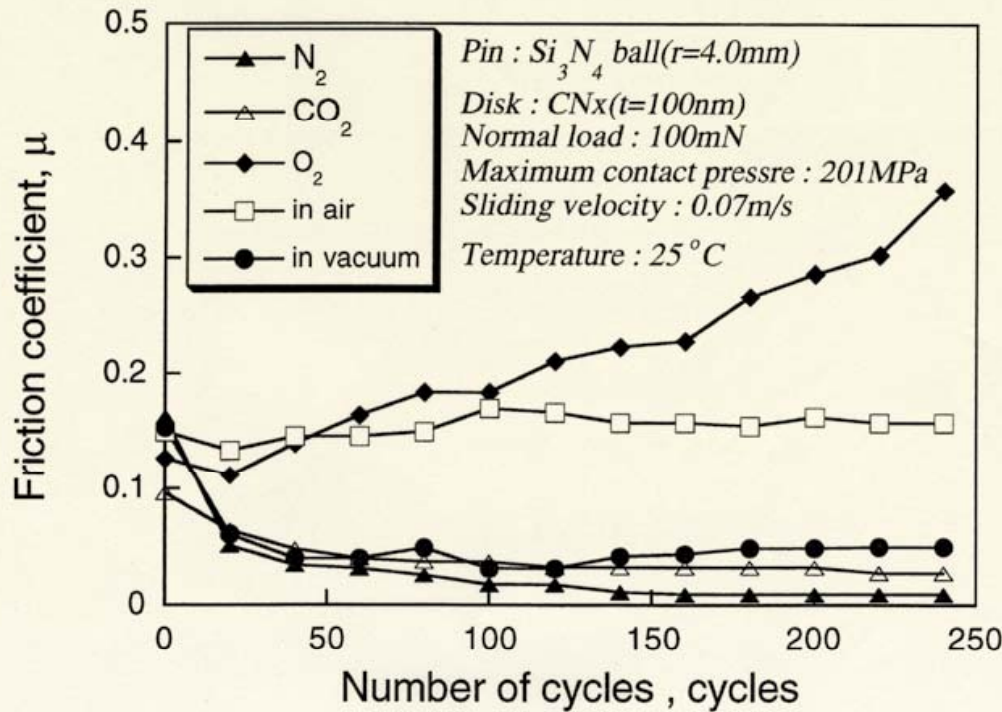


- Hardness 21GPa
- Amorphous structure
- N=C bonds

38) Micro-wear Mechanisms of Thin Hard Coatings Sliding against Diamond Tip of AFM, ASME, Advances in Information Storage Systems, 9 (1998)289-302.

K. Kato, H. Koide, and N. Umehara

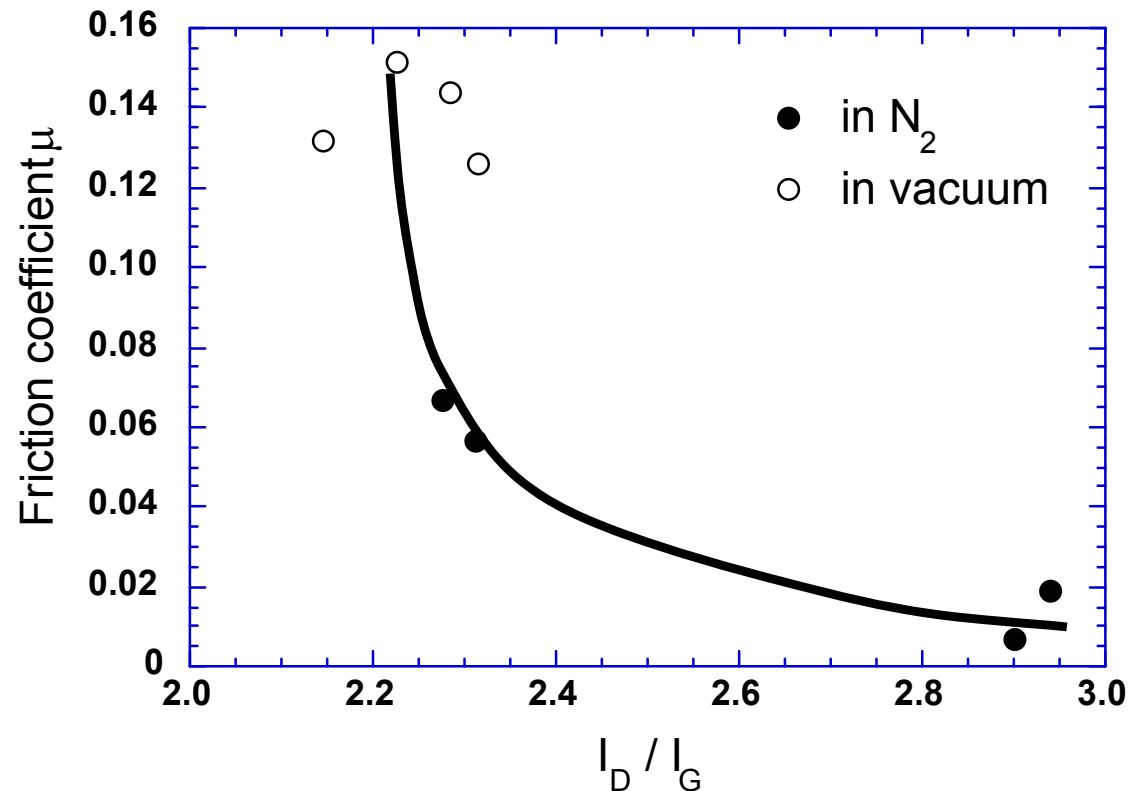
Effect of ambient gas on friction coefficient



(N. Umehara and K. Kato , 1998)

Running-in is important for ultra low friction of CN_x .
 Something changed during running-in.

Raman spectroscopy after running-in



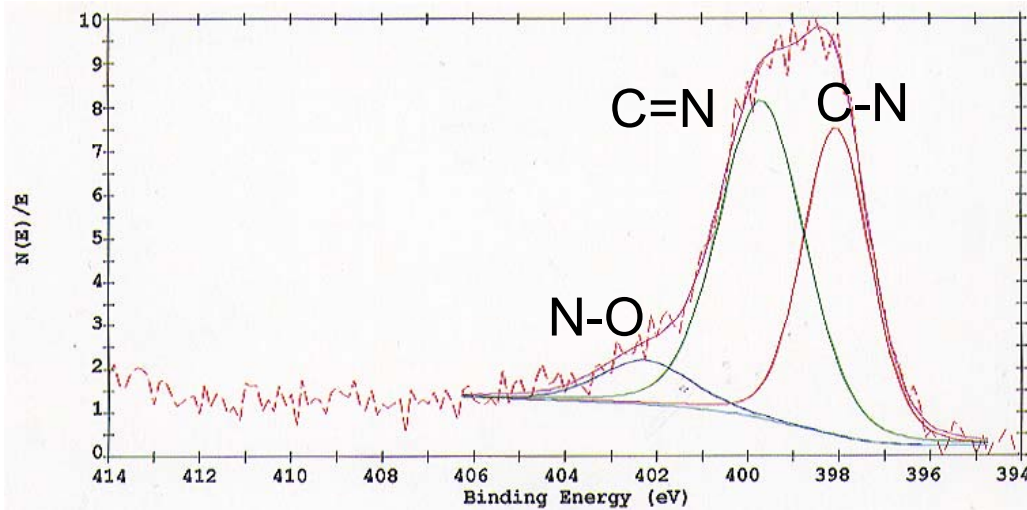
Large I_D / I_G provides small friction coefficient

Increase in the number or size of **small graphitic domain**

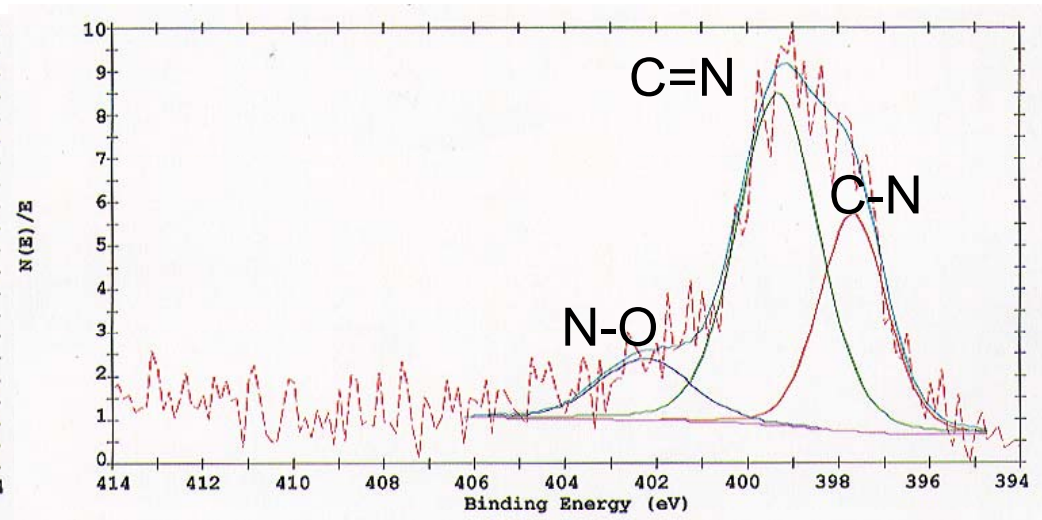
N. Umehara, M. Tatsuno, K. Kato, Proc. Int. Trib. Conf. Nagasaki(2000)1007.



XPS before and after running-in



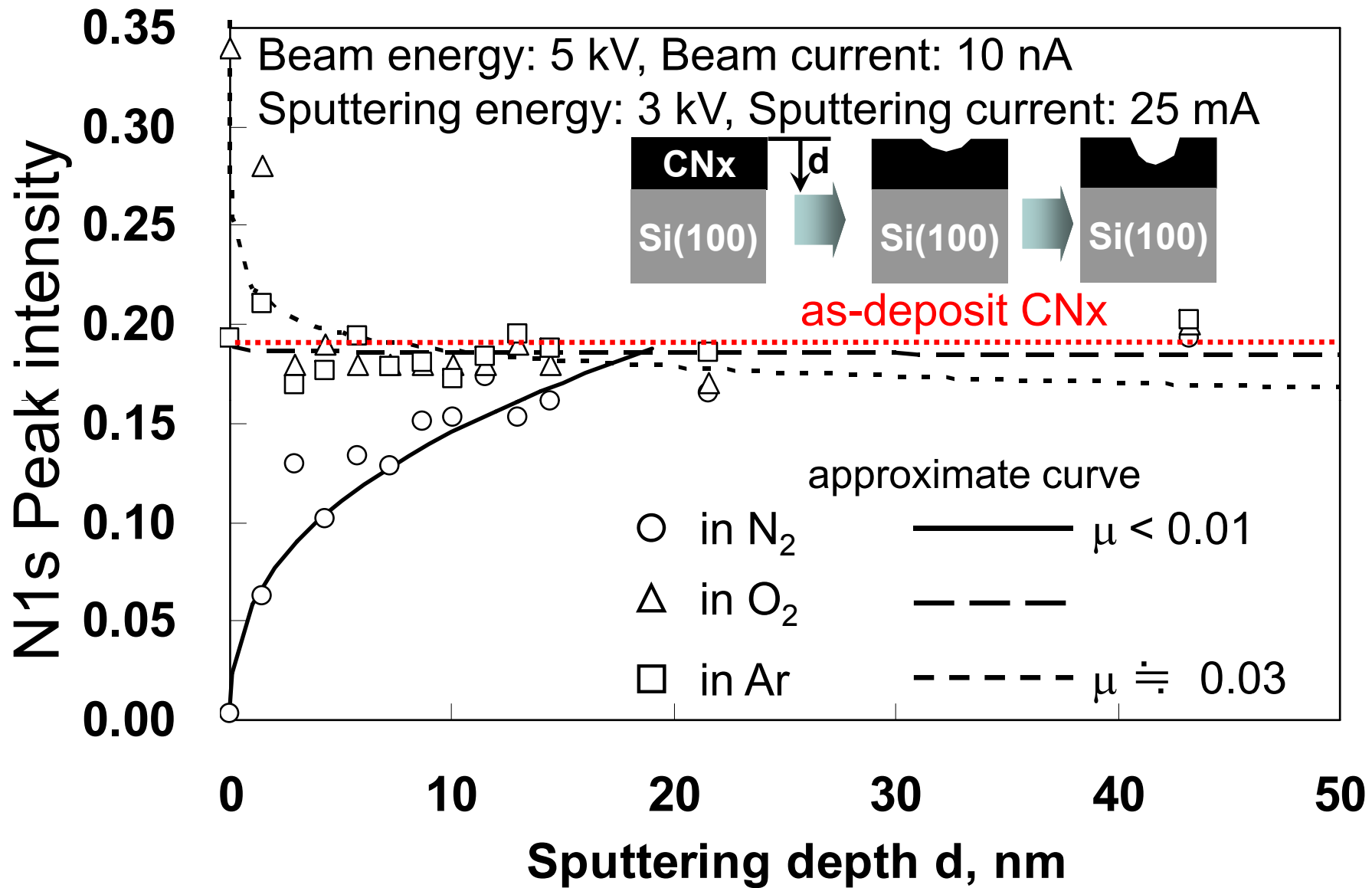
(a) a-CNx coating



(b) wear track after 240 cycles
in N₂ gas

After running-in in N₂ gas,
C=N increases larger than C-N.

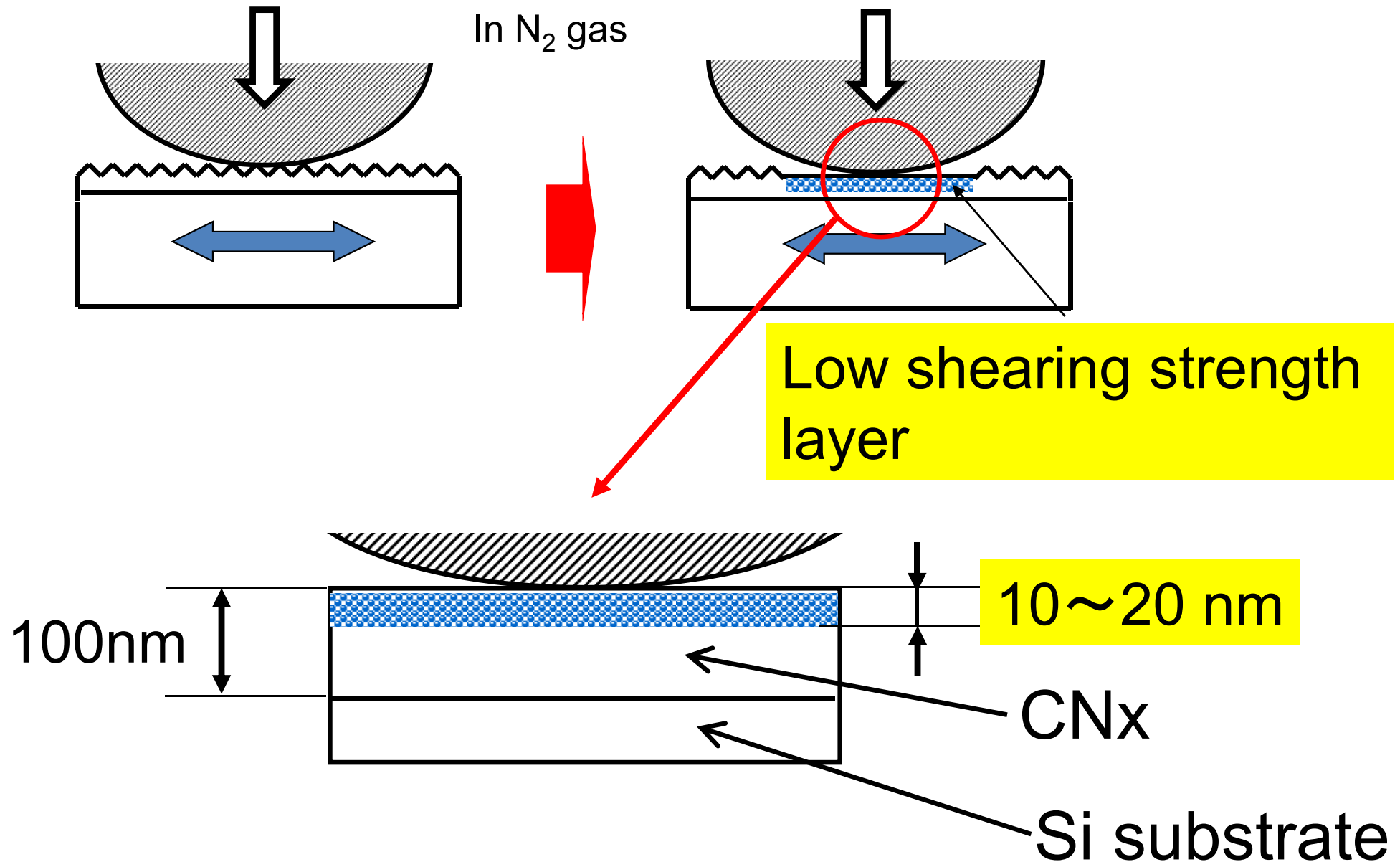
Depth profile of N after running-in in various environment



Tokoroyama, Umehara, IIP Session, Annual meeting of JSME, Sept. 11, 2007



Self surface modification in the running-in process

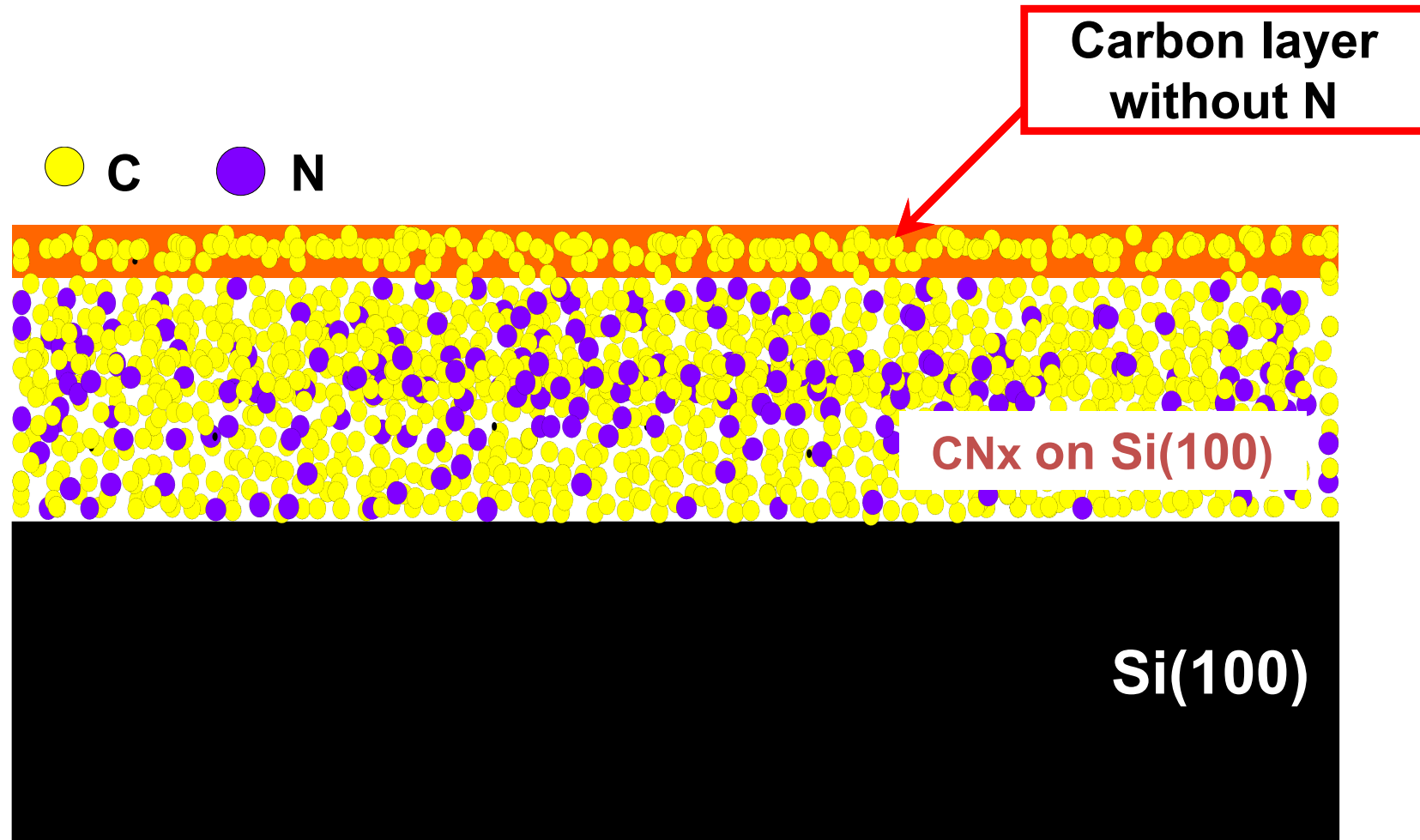


Outline & Summary

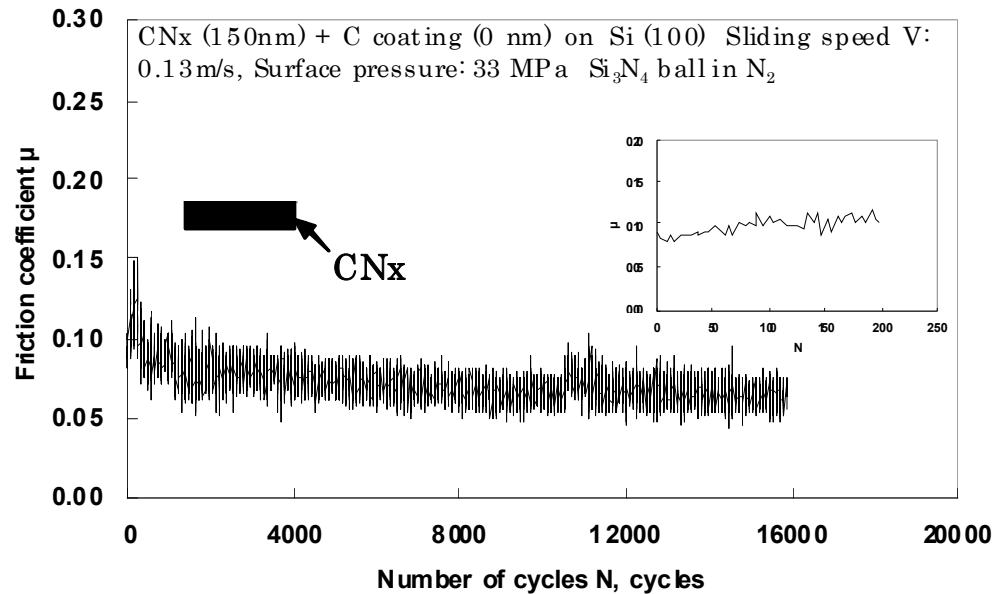
1. Ultra low friction of Carbon Nitride (CN_x)
 - Mechanism **Self modification in nm thickness**
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 - Effect of Ultraviolet (UV) ray irradiation on friction
2. Low adhesion and friction of rubber
 - High dense plasma irradiation to CIIR
 - UV ray irradiation to TPE with PFPE



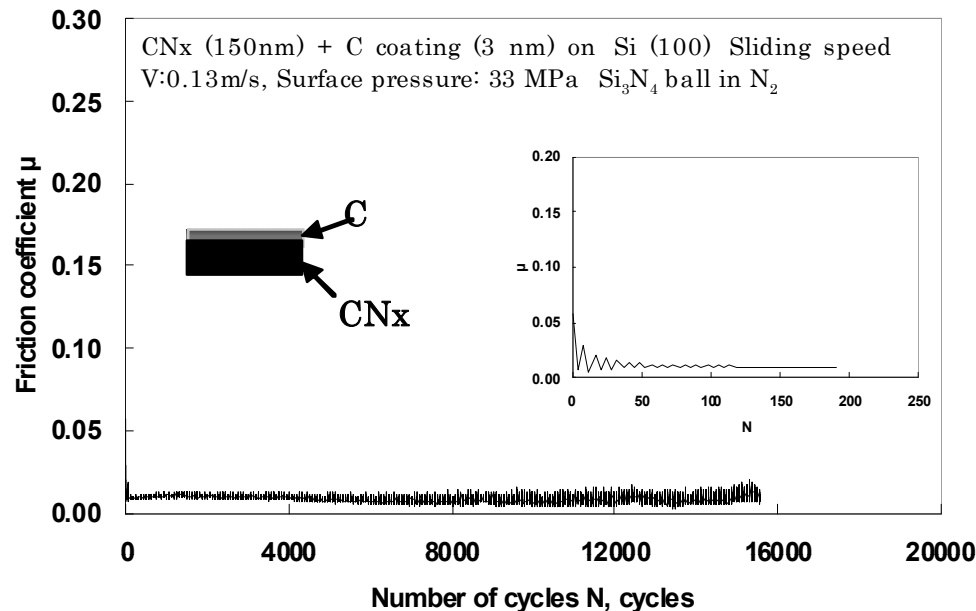
Enhancement of running-in of CNx with nm thickness carbon overcoat



Effect of 3nm thickness carbon overcoat on friction of CNx



Only CNx



3nm C + CNx

Proc. ICMDT
Sapporo, 2007,
Tokoroyama, Wang,
Umehara, Fuwa



Outline & Summary

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The expectation of ultraviolet ray irradiation to CNx

C-N bond: 305 kJ/mol

The light energy

Energy of photon

$$E = h\nu = h\frac{c}{\lambda}$$

h : Planck's constant, ν : frequency,
 c : light velocity, λ : wavelength

Energy of photon per mol

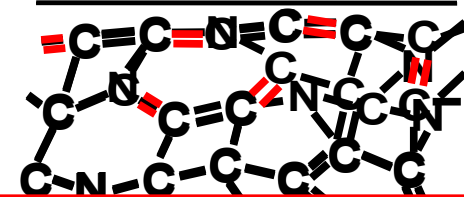
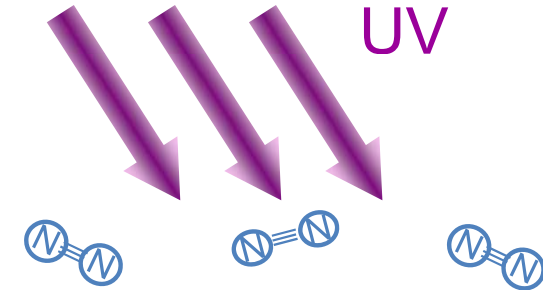
$$E = h\frac{c}{\lambda} \times N_A$$

N_A : Avogadro's constant

Wavelength
< 390 nm

Braking of
C-N bond

Expected result



Nitrogen desorption \Rightarrow Structural change

We focused on Nitrogen content in CNx. J. Wei et al. Surf Interface Anal. 28(1999) 208-211

We assumed that the variable UV wavelength to obtain superlow friction changed with the Nitrogen content in CNx coating because of its structure.

Nitrogen content ratio 0,9,12,19% was prepared

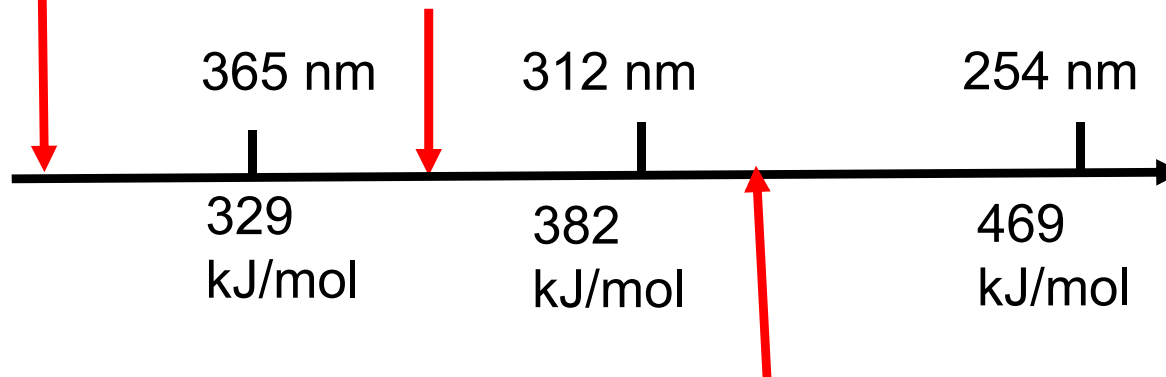
e.g.
 $CN_{0.09}$ (x=content)



Background –Effect of UV irradiation

C-N bond: 305 kJ/mol

C – C bond: 348 kJ/mol



C – H bond for CH₄ : 416 kJ/mol

Energy of photon

$$E = h\nu = h\frac{c}{\lambda}$$

h : Planck's constant, ν : frequency,
 c : light velocity, λ : wavelength



Experimental – Ultraviolet ray irradiation to CN_x coating

Did Nitrogen atoms desorb from CN_x coating with UV irradiation?

Table 1 The energy of each wavelength

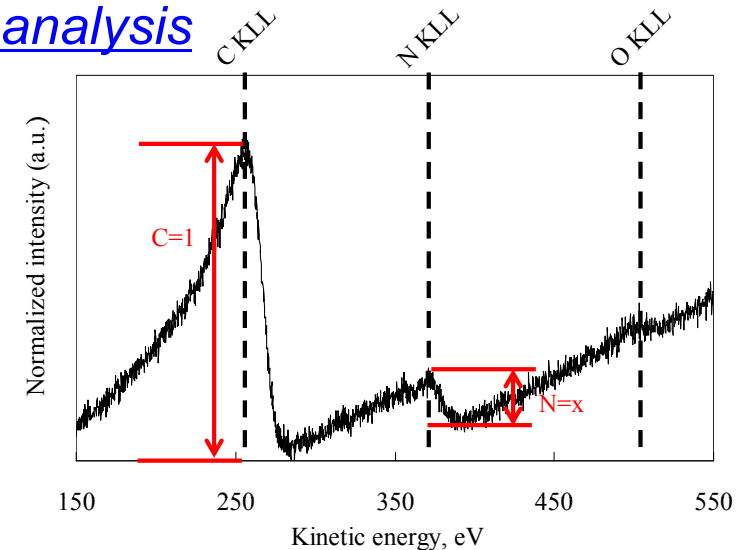
Wavelength λ , nm	Energy, kJ/mol
365	326
312	382
254	469

Table 2 UV irradiation condition

Test pieces	Irradiation time
•CN ₀	•60 min
•CN _{0.09}	•120 min
•CN _{0.12}	•180 min
•CN _{0.19}	•240 min



AES analysis

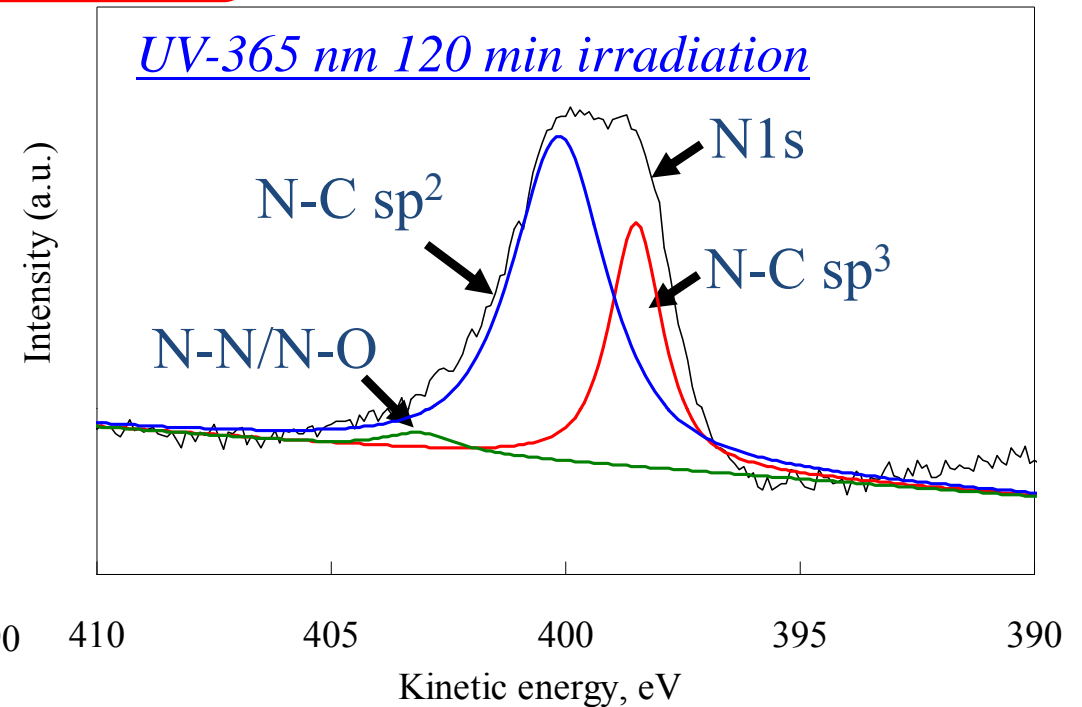
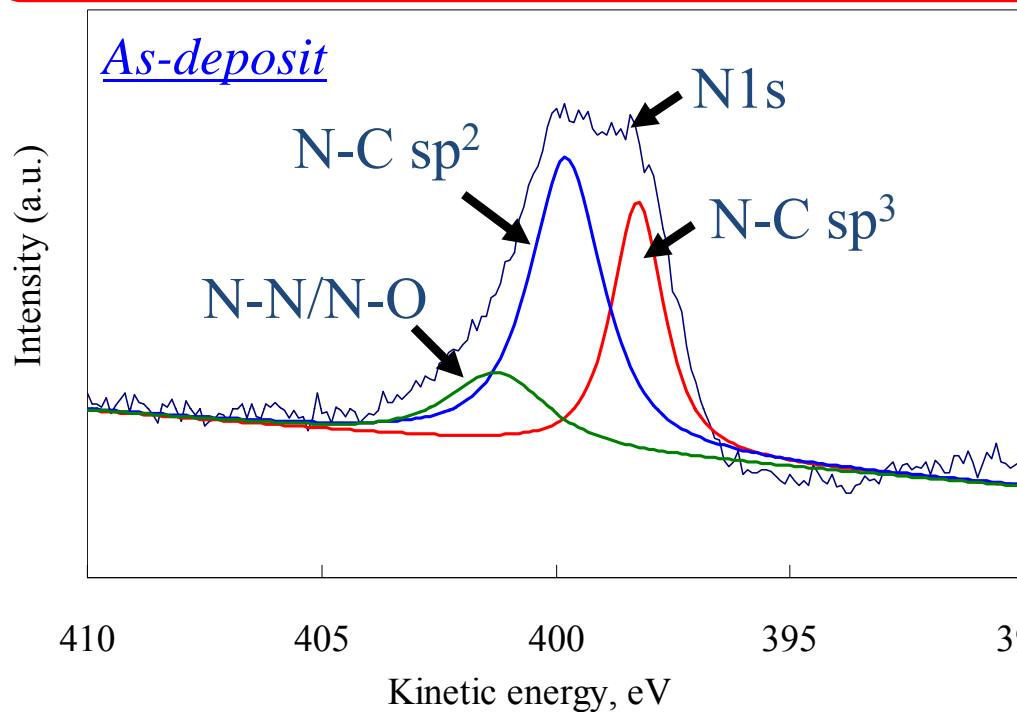


N/C ratio: $N/C = x/1$

XPS analysis results

What kind of deformation did it take place?

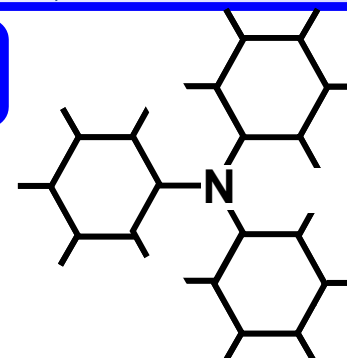
CN_{0.12} N1s peak



In the case of no nitrogen desorption, structural deformation took place.

CN_{0.09}, CN_{0.19} showed deformation.

In the case of UV irradiation to CN_x, the bond originated from N-C sp² increased.

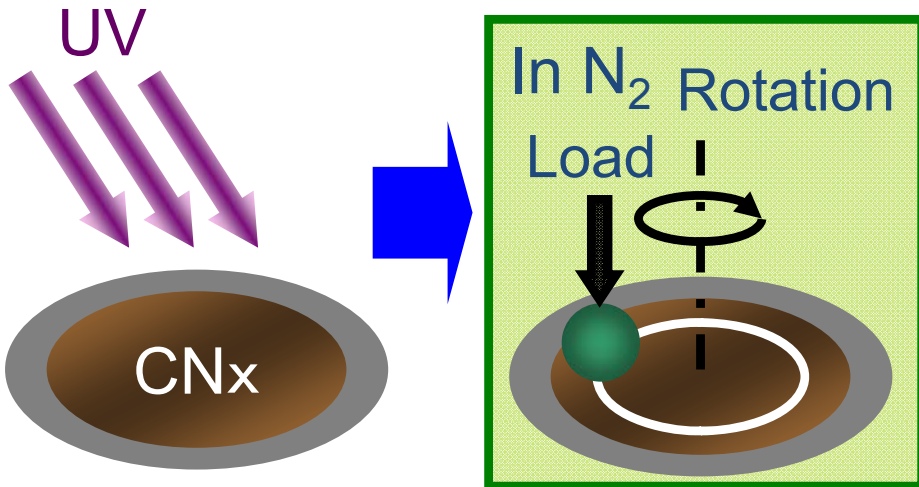


Triphenylamine

The bond shows like graphite was assumed to increase.

Experimental of tribological property under N_2

UV irradiation \Rightarrow Friction in N_2

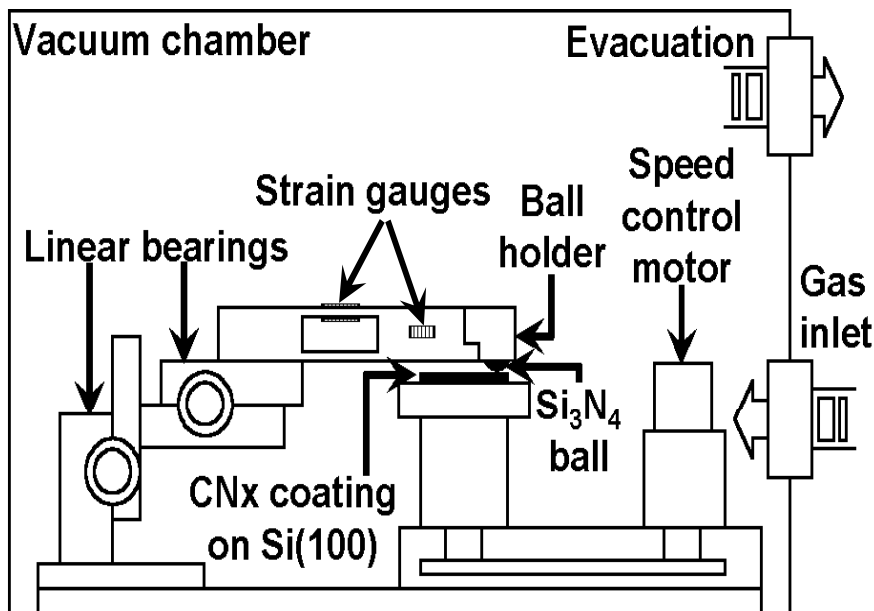


UV irradiation conditions

Wavelength λ	Irradiation time
•365 nm	•60 min
•312 nm	•120 min
•254 nm	•180 min
	•240 min

Friction test conditions

Load	0.1 N
Sliding speed	4.19×10^{-2} m/s
Rotation speed	200 rpm
Rotation radius	2.0 mm
Ambient	Nitrogen

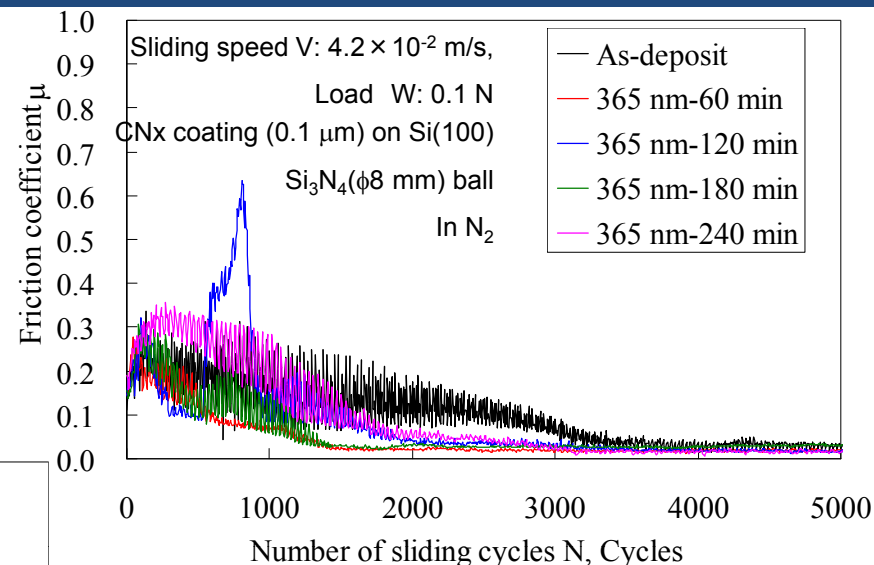
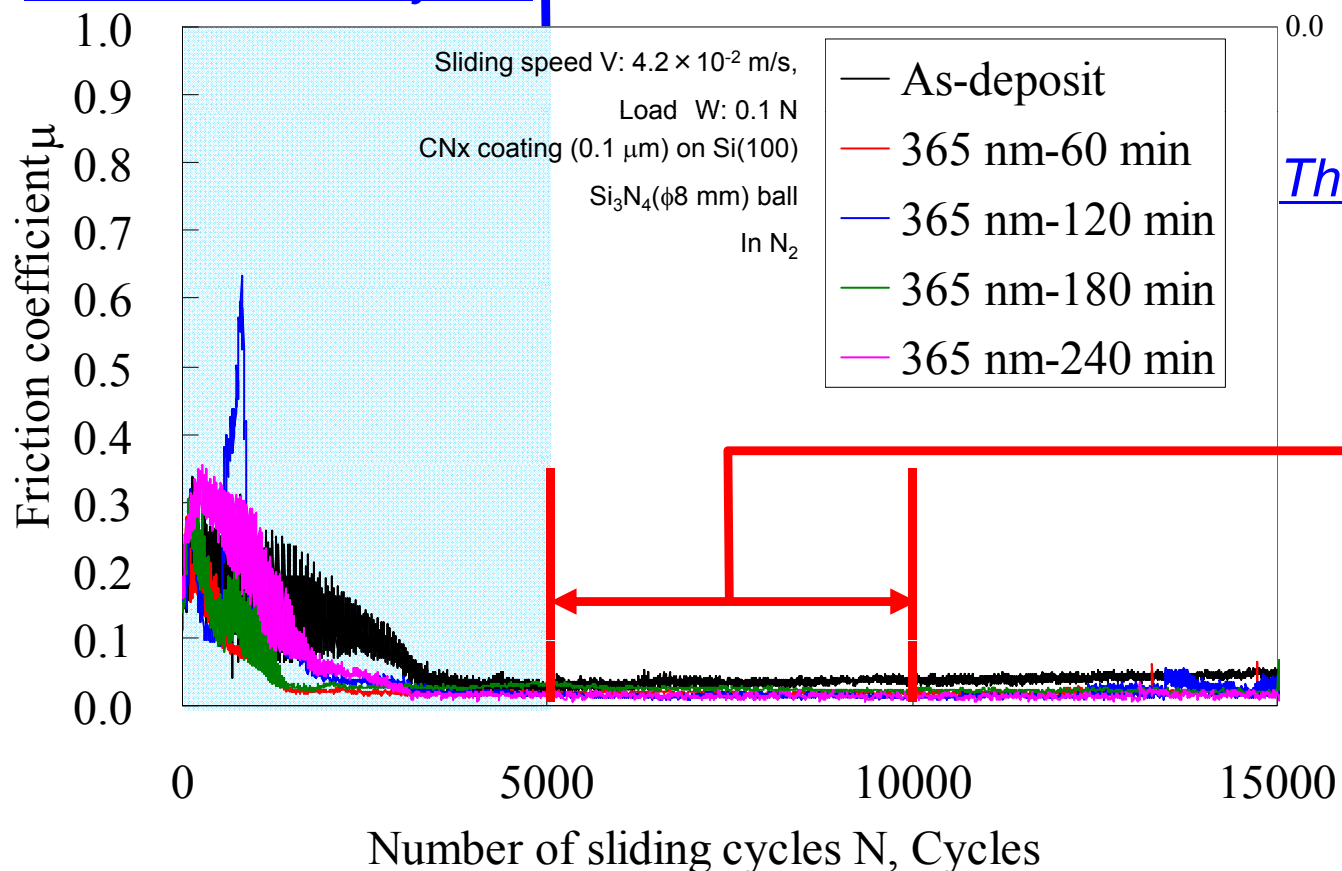


Friction test results under N_2 environment

CN_{0.12} 365 nm-UV irradiation

The running-in period of CN_{0.12} was decreased by UV irradiation

The variation of μ with number of cycles



The average of 5000~10000 cycles

As-deposit: $\mu=0.040$
60 min: $\mu=0.019 \downarrow$
120 min: $\mu=0.018 \downarrow$
180 min: $\mu=0.022 \downarrow$
240 min: $\mu=0.015 \downarrow$

μ decreased by UV irradiation.



The effect of UV irradiation on running-in period

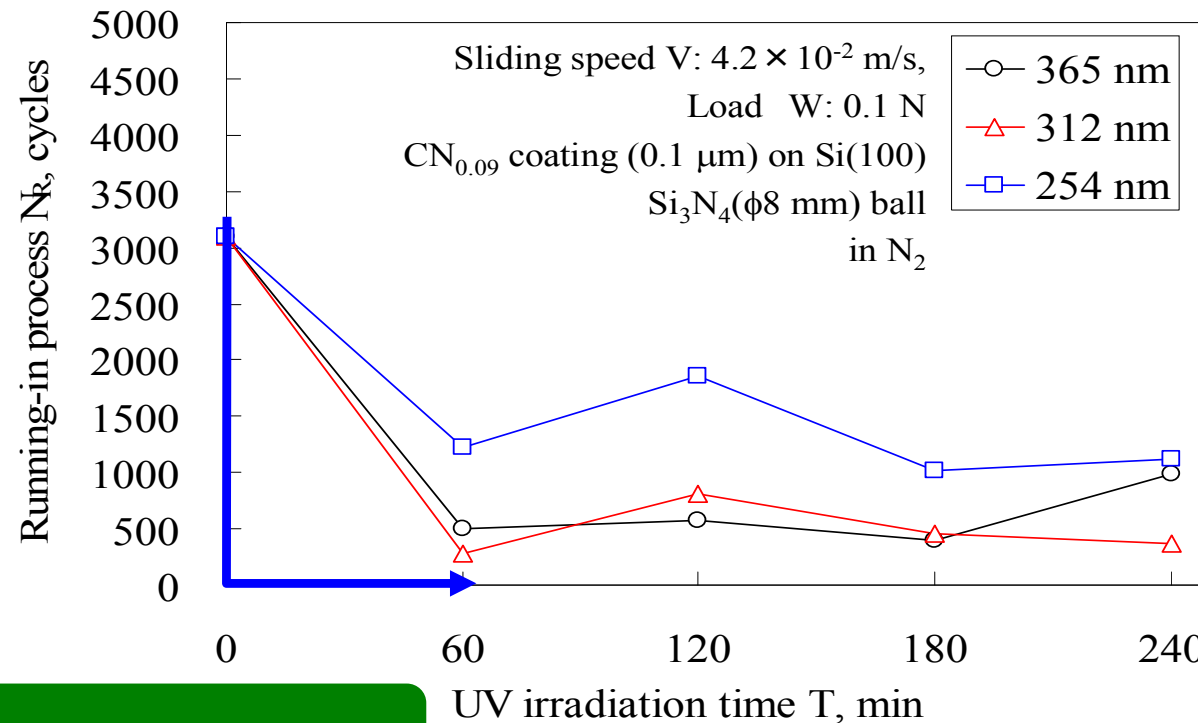
Running-in

$\mu < 0.05$, $\Delta\mu < 0.02$

As-deposit: **3100 cycles**

\Rightarrow 312 nm-60 min: **280 cycles**

CN_{0.09}



The effect of shorten running-in

CN_{0.12} As-deposit: **3100 cycles** \Rightarrow 365 nm-60 min: **563 cycles**

CN_{0.19} As-deposit: **2440 cycles** \Rightarrow 312 nm-240 min: **750 cycles**

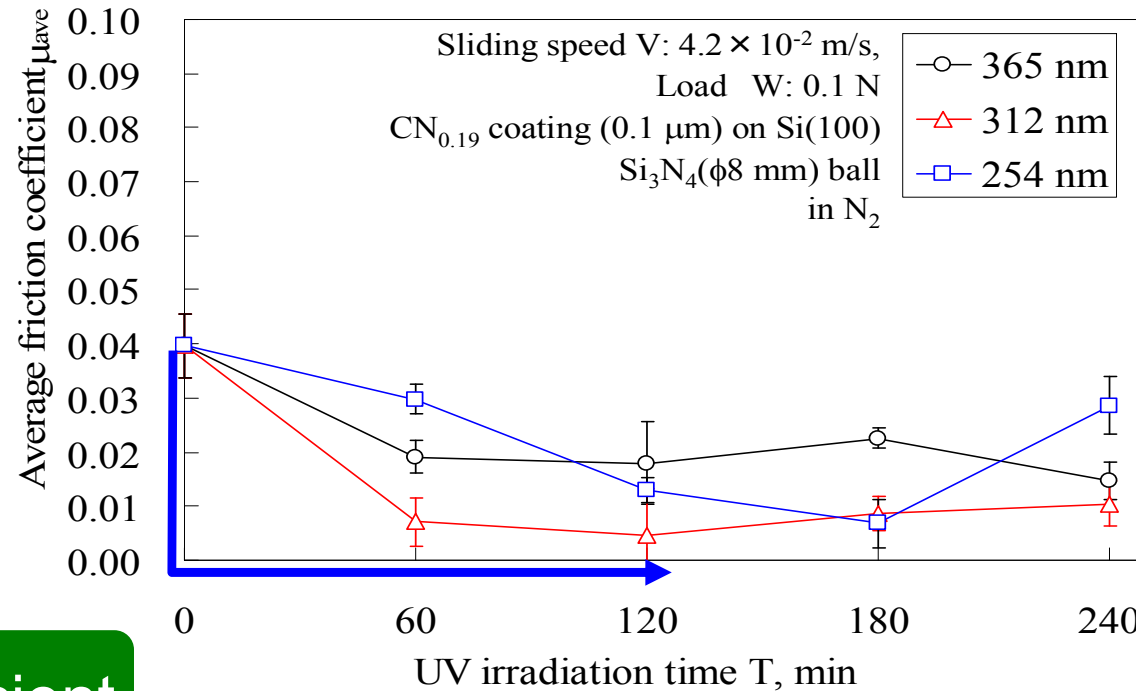


3.4 The effect of UV irradiation on minimum μ

CN_{0.19}

The minimum friction coefficient: μ_{min}

As-deposit: $\mu=0.040 \Rightarrow$ 312 nm-120 min: $\mu=0.004$



Minimum friction coefficient

CN_{0.09} As-deposit: $\mu=0.028 \Rightarrow$ 254 nm-120 min: $\mu=0.002$

CN_{0.12} As-deposit: $\mu=0.033 \Rightarrow$ 365 nm-60 min: $\mu=0.008$

The friction coefficient decreased by UV irradiation.



Outline & Summary

1. Ultra low friction of Carbon Nitride (CN_x)
 - Mechanism **Self modification in nm thickness**
 - Effect of carbon overcoat on friction
not need running-in
 - Effect of Ultraviolet (UV) ray irradiation on friction **More rapid running-in by 1/10 ,
Lower minimum friction by 1/10**
2. Low adhesion and friction of rubber
 - High dense plasma irradiation to CIIR
 - UV ray irradiation to TPE with PFPE



Industrial products and issue

Rubber Products

Widely used as components of various industrial products as Oil seal, Packing, Tire etc.



Tire



Packing

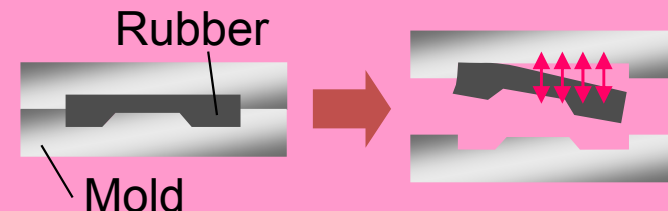


Oil seal

Production methods

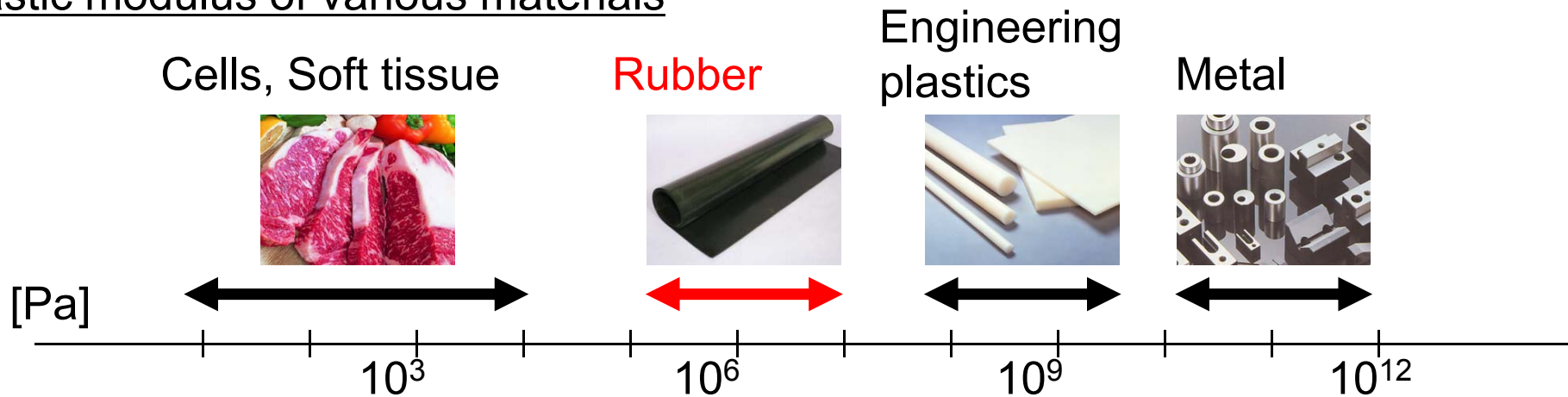
Injection forming
Press forming

Issue: Adhesion to mold or conveying equipment



Why rubber can stick to surface?

Elastic modulus of various materials



■ The Contact between Rubber and Steel

Elastic energy

$$U_{el} \approx E\lambda h^2$$

Adhesion energy

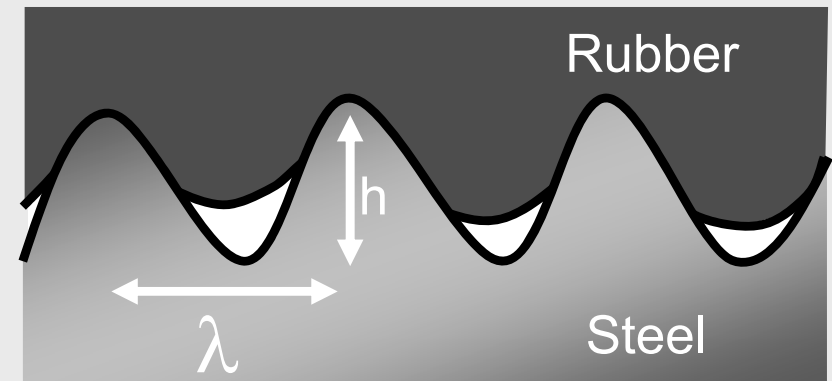
$$U_{ad} \approx -\Delta\gamma\lambda^2$$

Adhesion parameter

$$\theta = -\frac{U_{el}}{U_{ad}} \approx 10^{-1} \rightarrow \theta < 1$$

Adhesive!

B.N.J. Persson at el.



$$\Delta\gamma \sim 10 \text{ mJ/m}^2 = 10^{-2} \text{ J/m}^2$$

$$\lambda \sim 1 \text{ } \mu\text{m} = 10^{-6} \text{ m}$$

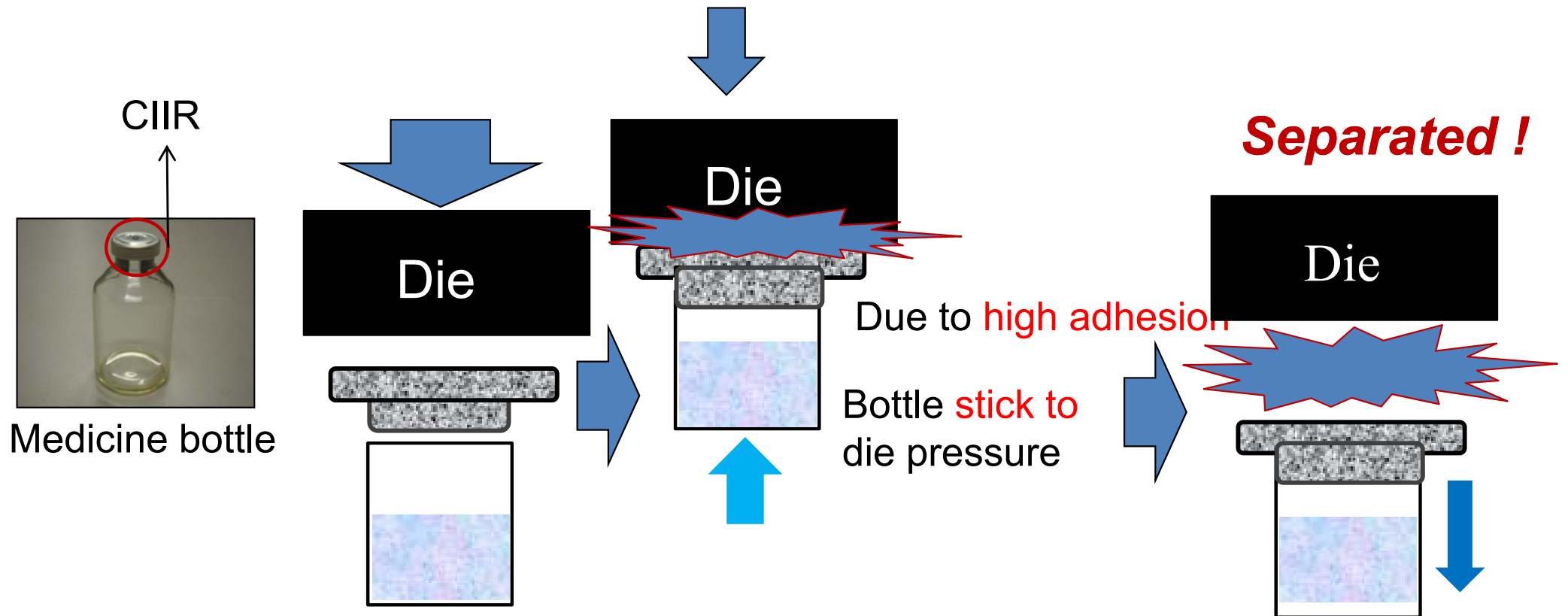
$$E \sim 10 \text{ MPa} = 10^7 \text{ Pa}$$

$$h \sim 0.01 \text{ } \mu\text{m} = 10^{-8} \text{ m}$$

Another issue for medicine bottle

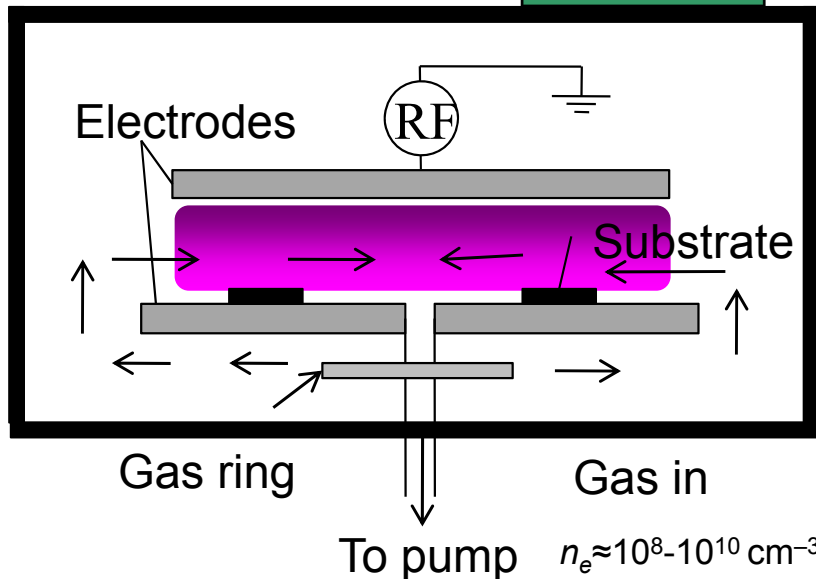
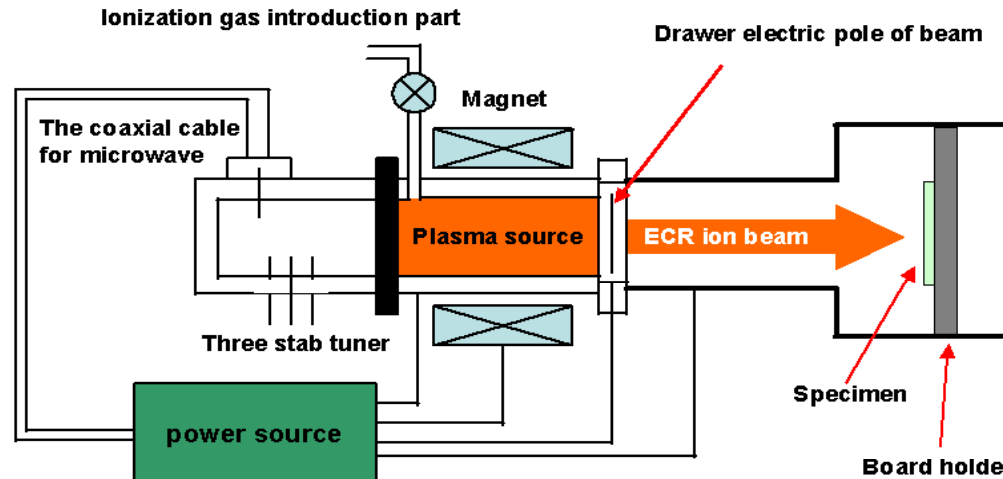
Issue:

Strong adhesion of rubber for medicine bottle against mold

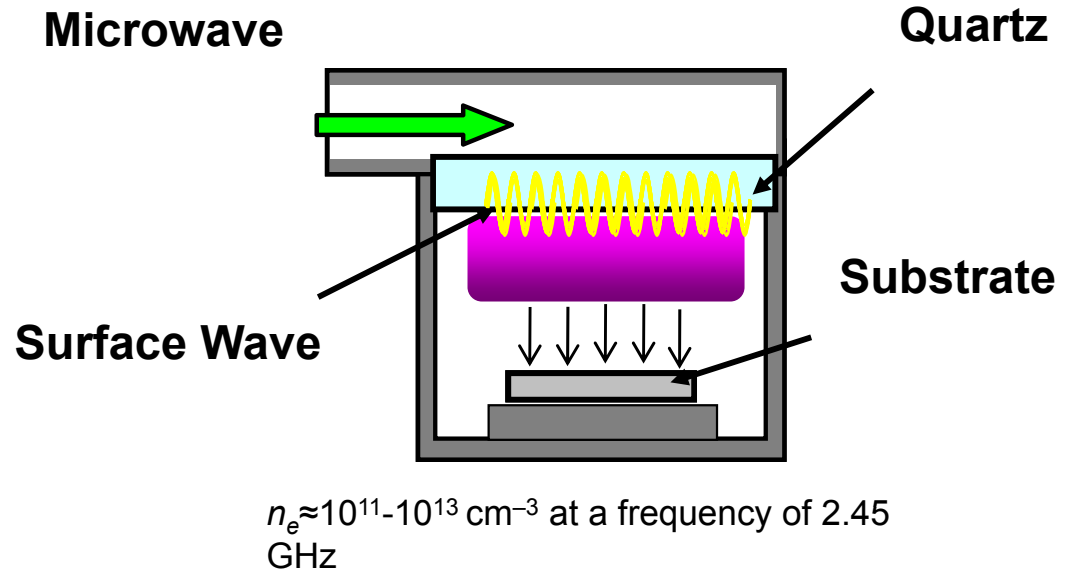


Various plasma treatment

The generator of ion beam irradiation treatment



RF plasma treatment

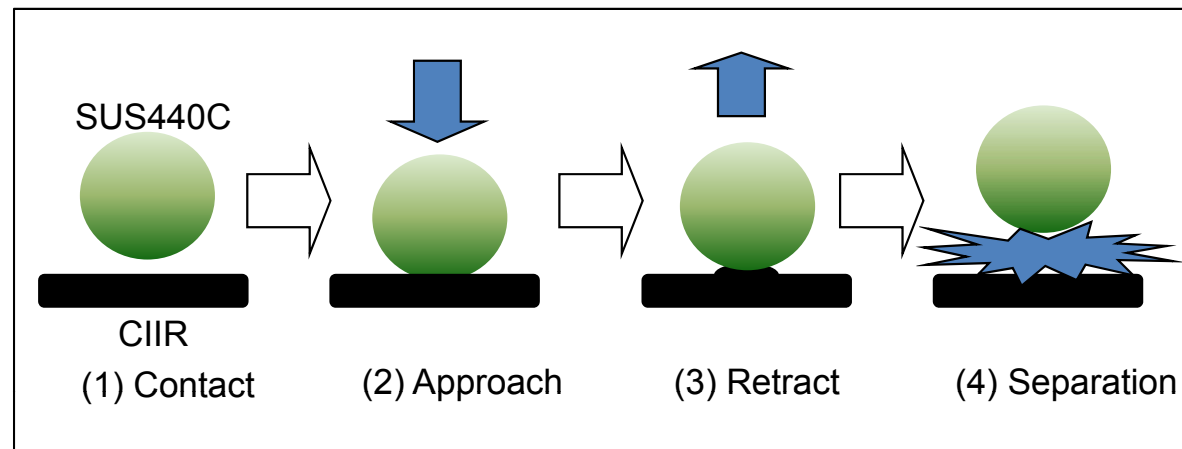
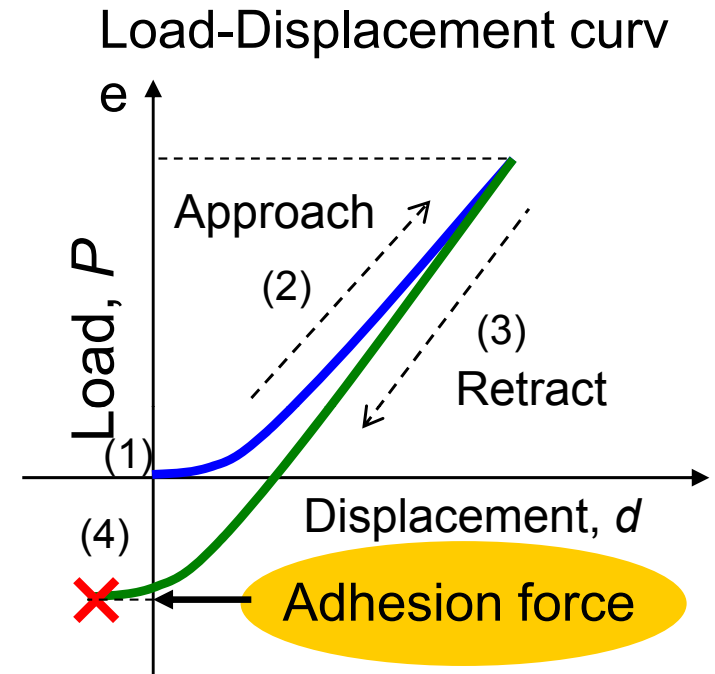
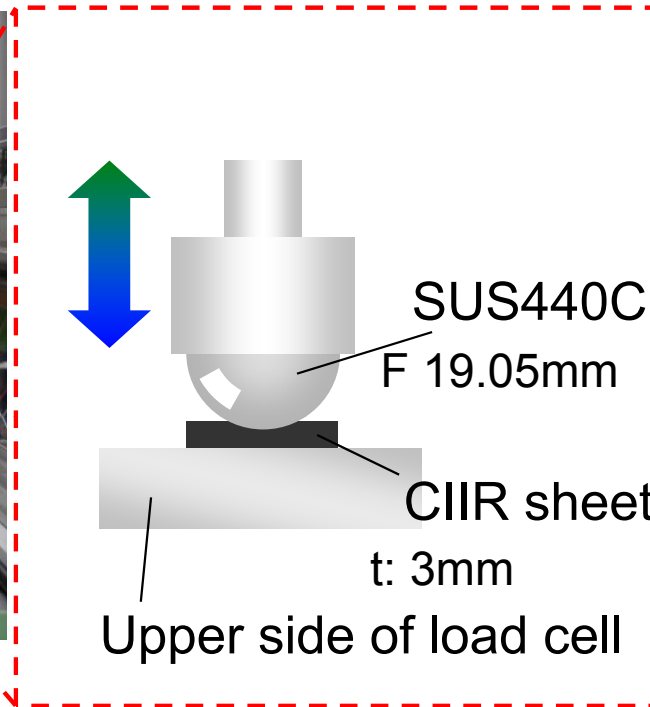
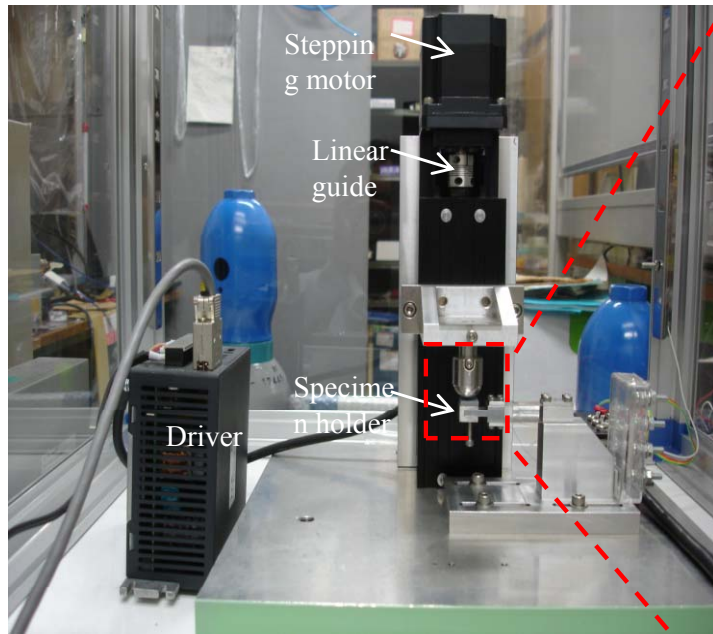


Surface -wave excited plasma treatment

Plasma density : RF plasma < SWP plasma

Adhesion force measurement

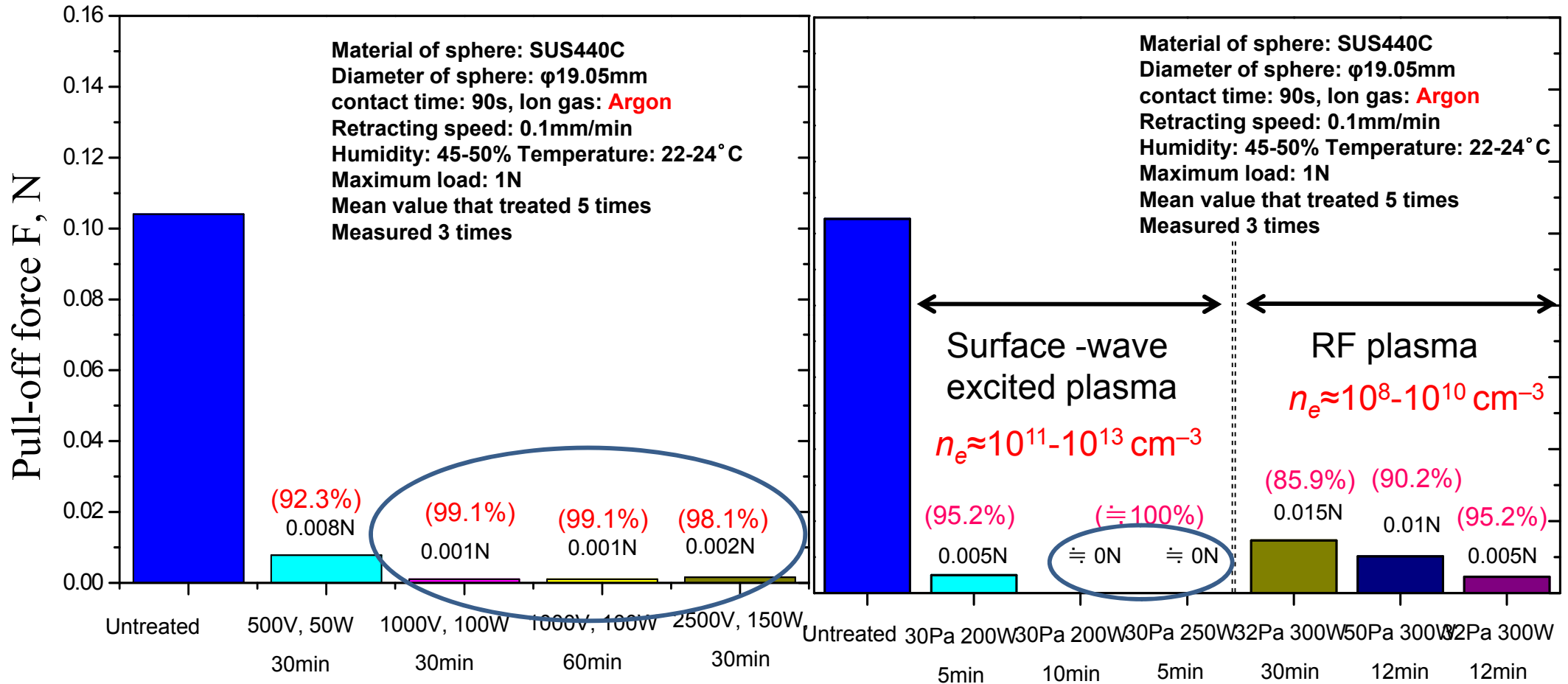
Adhesion force apparatus



Effect of plasma irradiation on adhesion

Ion beam irradiation treatment

Plasma treatment

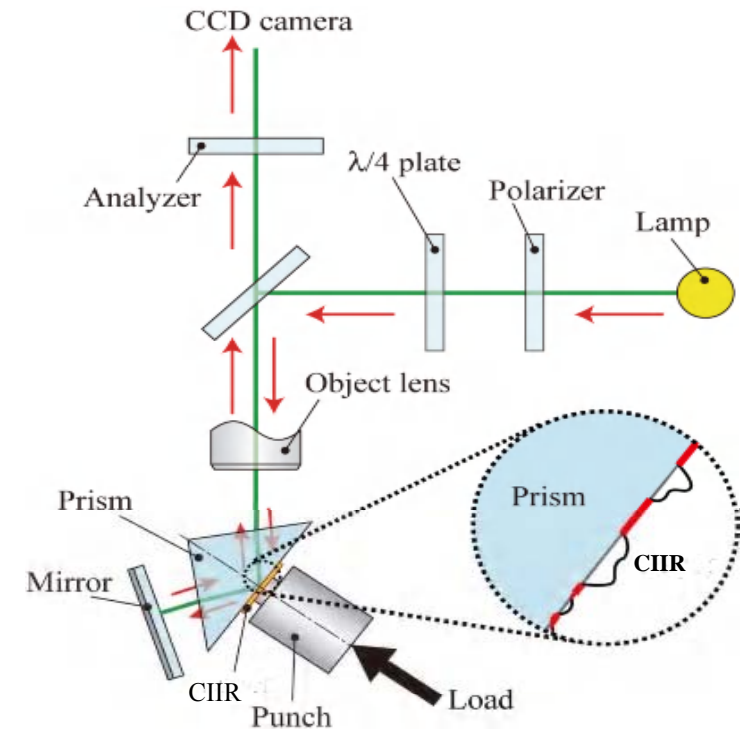
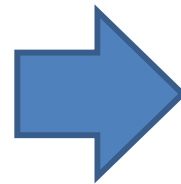


Treatment time Ion beam >> surface-wave plasma treatment Surface-wave plasma treatment reduced adhesion almost 0 N between stainless steel ball and CIIR sheet



Contact microscope device

Prof. Isami NITTA, Niigata University, Japan



Schematic diagram of a contact microscope with an elliptically polarized light

The procedure of calculate the real contact area

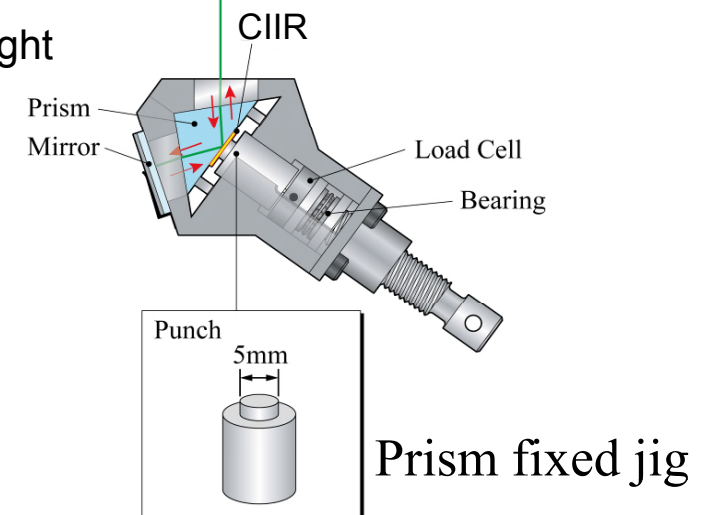
Lights pass through the prism



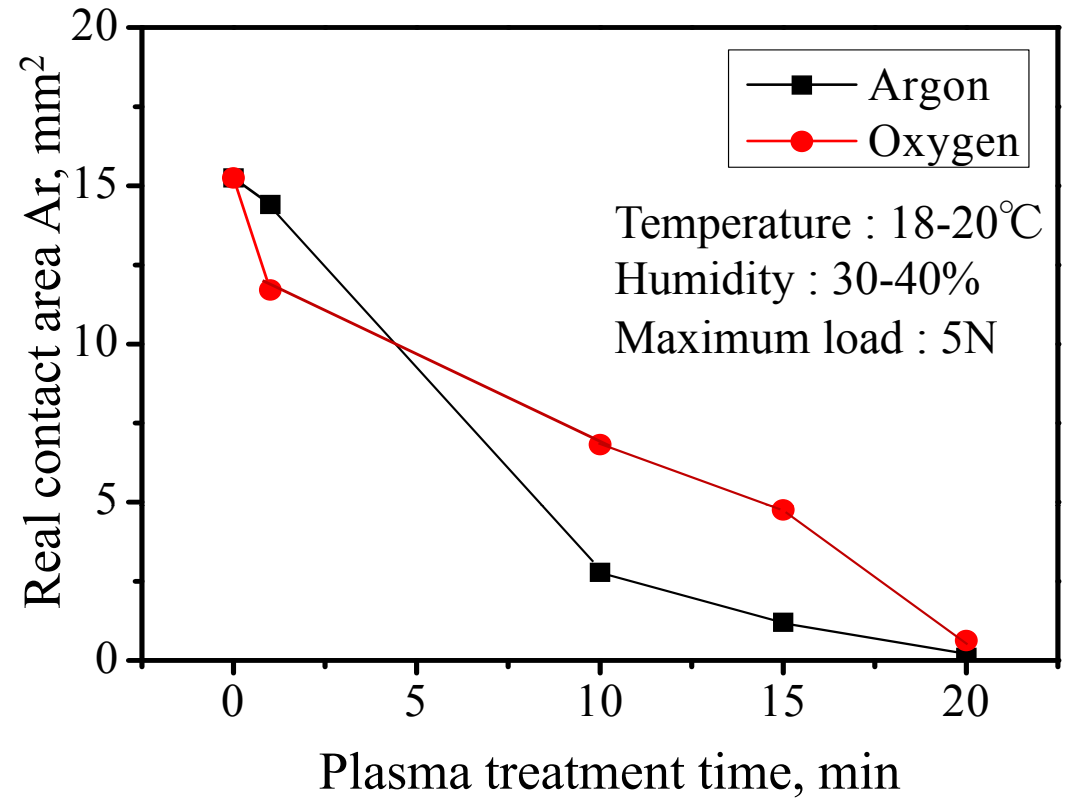
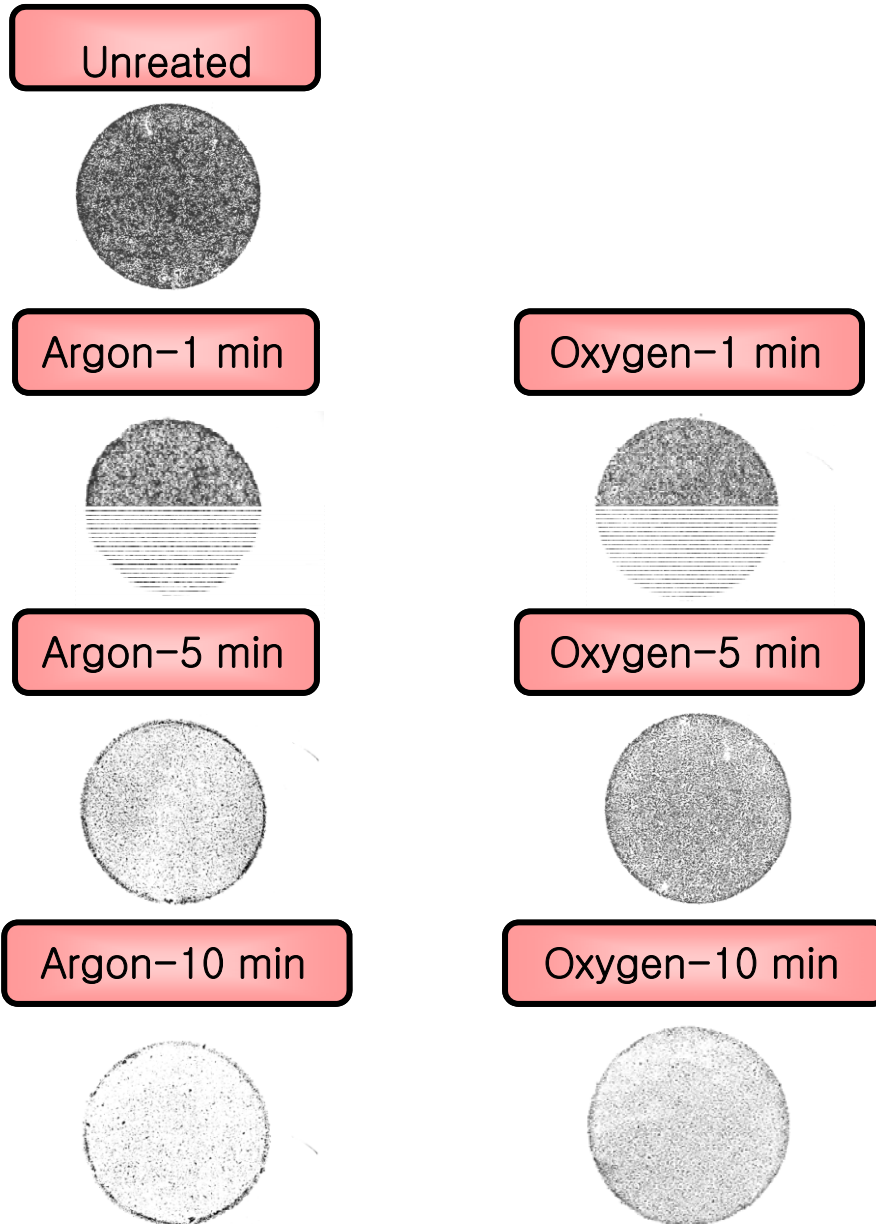
The analyzer blocks the light when the asperity exists between prism and CIIR



The asperity appear to be dark dot.

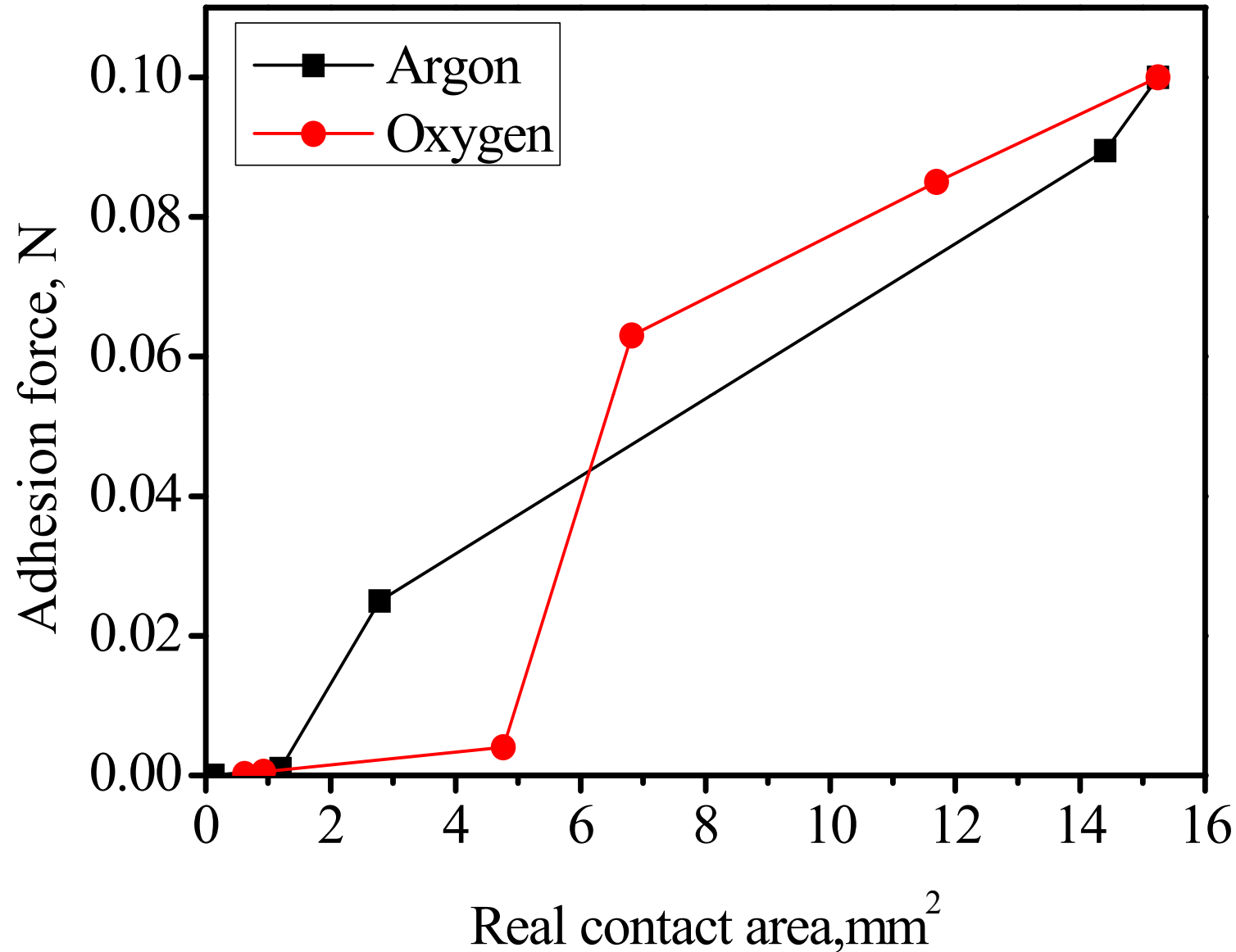


Real contact area



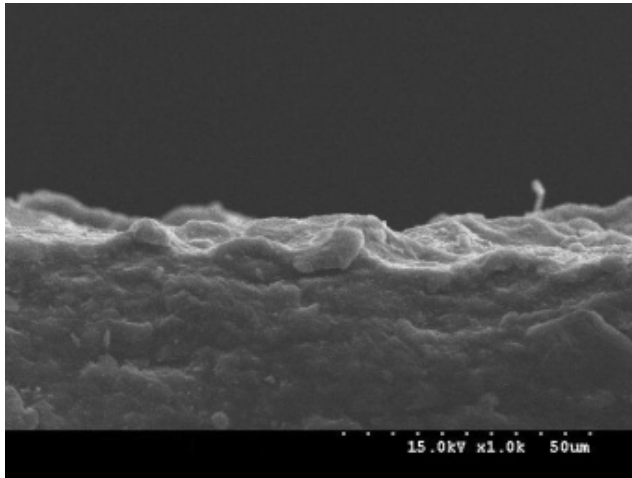
Real contact areas were decreased in all conditions !

Effect of real contact area on adhesion

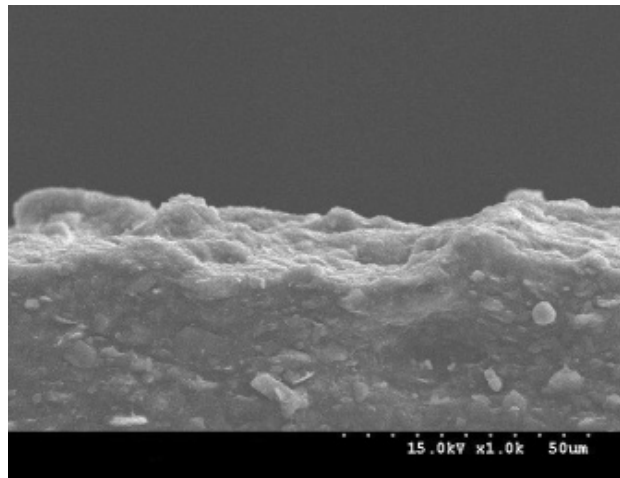


Surface topography of rubber surface

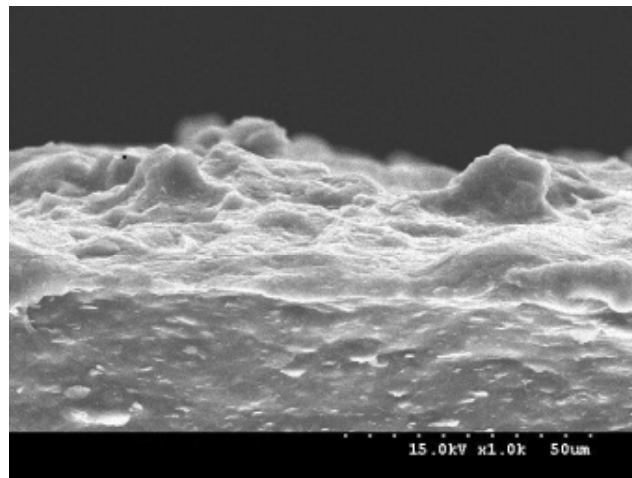
Sputter coated with platinum for 1mintues



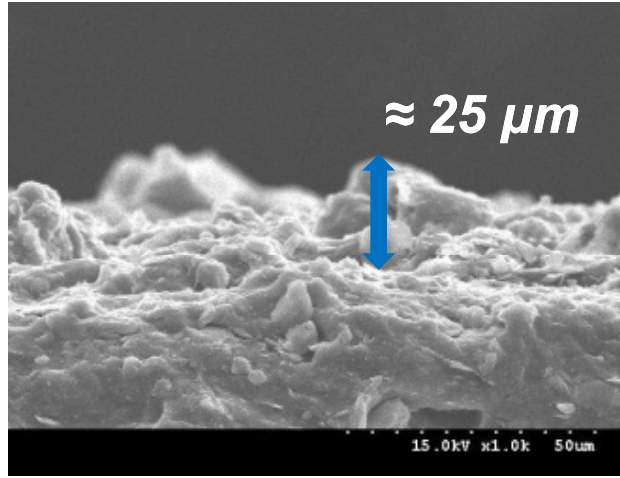
(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)

(a)
The subsurface on the CIIR looks less granular and generally has a smoother shape

(c)
Growing rougher as the treating time increasing

(d)
Microwave power pattern has changed
- **Roughest surface observed**

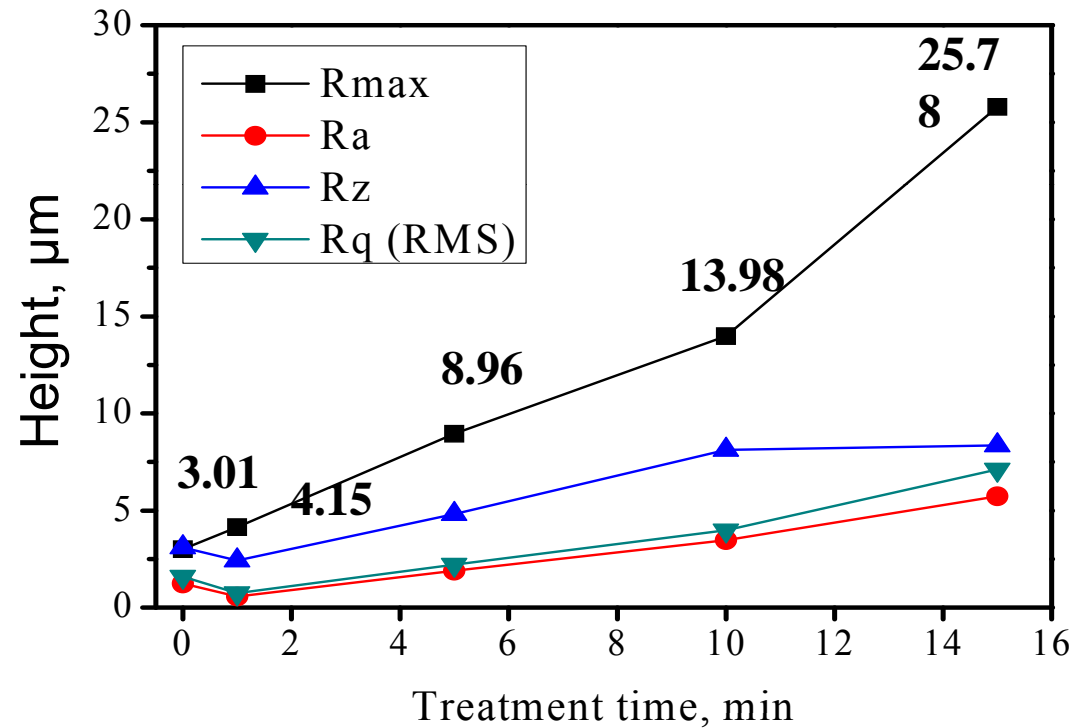
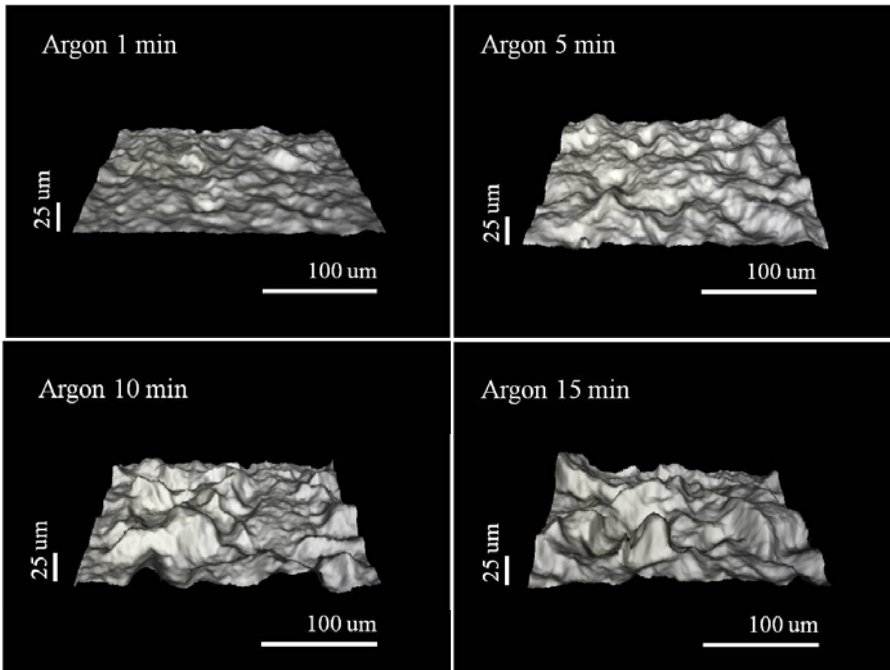
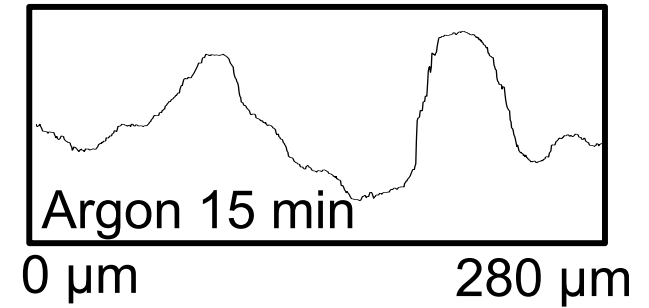
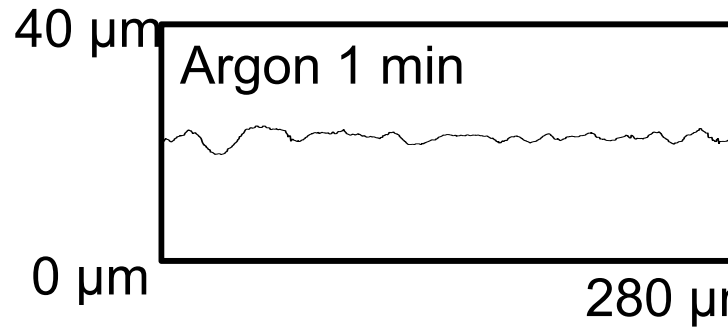
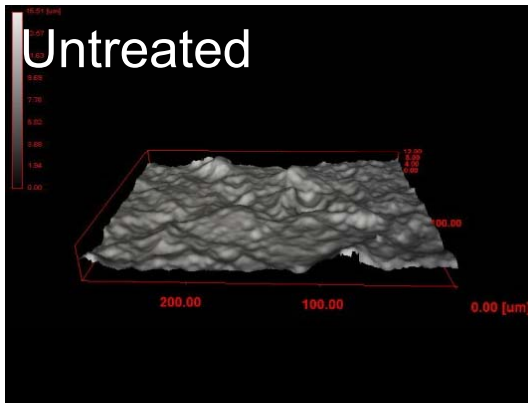


Etching effect !

The cross-section FE-SEM micrographs of oxygen plasma treated to CIIR rubber for (a) Untreated (b) 200 W, 5 min (c) 200 W, 10 min and, (d) 200 W 20 min



Surface roughness of argon plasma treated to CIIR rubber

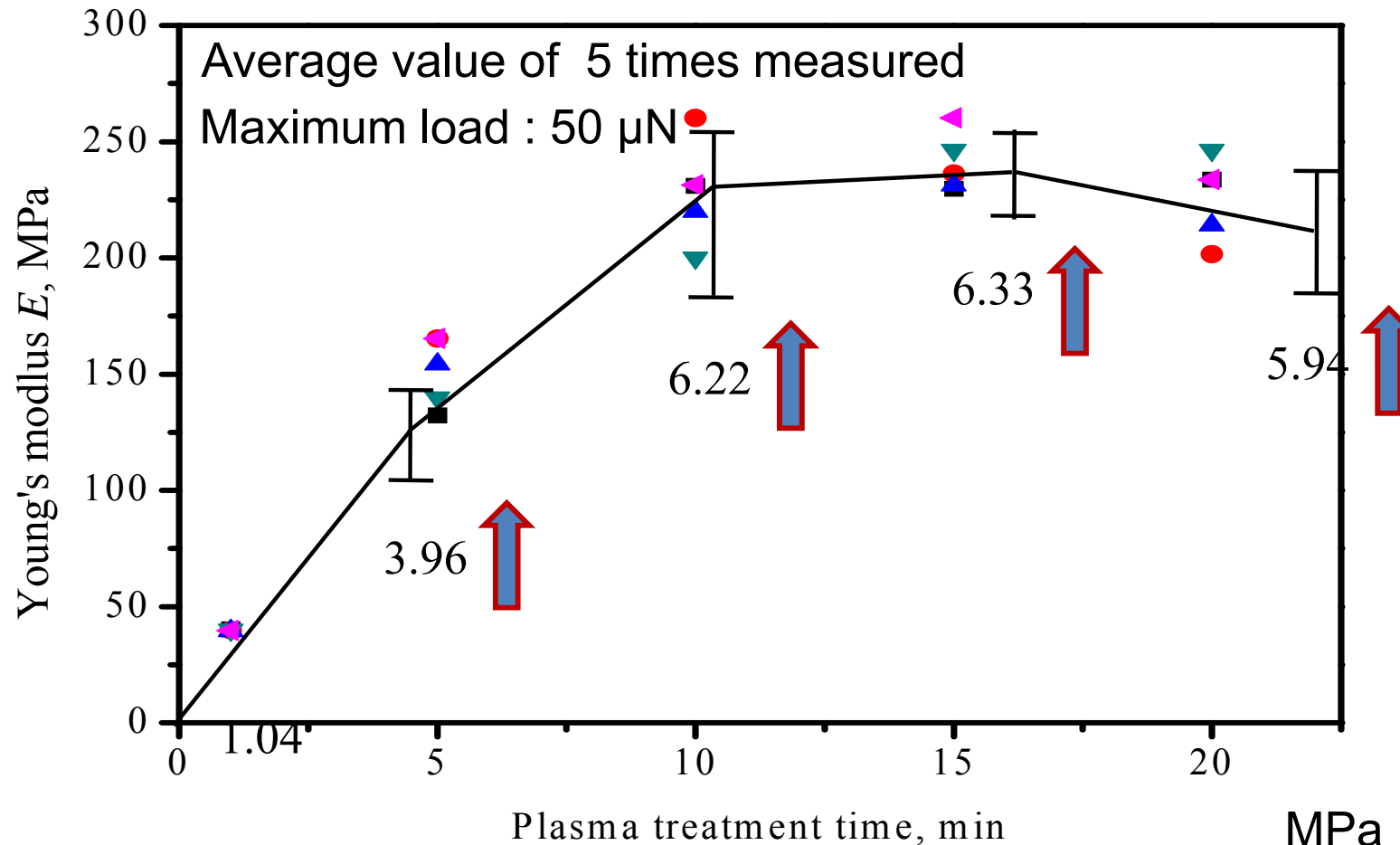


Surface profile with argon plasma treatment, as a function of treatment time

3D laser scanning microscope images of CIIR sheets after oxygen plasma treatment with 200 W at a gas pressure of 30 Pa for treatment times of (a)1, (b)5, (c)10, and (d)15 min.



Young's modulus of CIIR rubber



untreated	1	5	10	15	20
38	39.8	151.4	236.4	240.8	225.9

Explanation by the GW model

$$A_{re} \propto \frac{3.2 P_a A_a}{E^* (\sigma_p / R_p)^{1/2}}$$

$$\frac{1}{E^*} = \frac{(1-\nu_1^2)}{E_1} + \frac{(1-\nu_2^2)}{E_2}$$

σ_p : RMS

R_p : asperity of radius = 1 μ m

P_a : apparent pressure

A_a : apparent area

Poisson's ratio ν

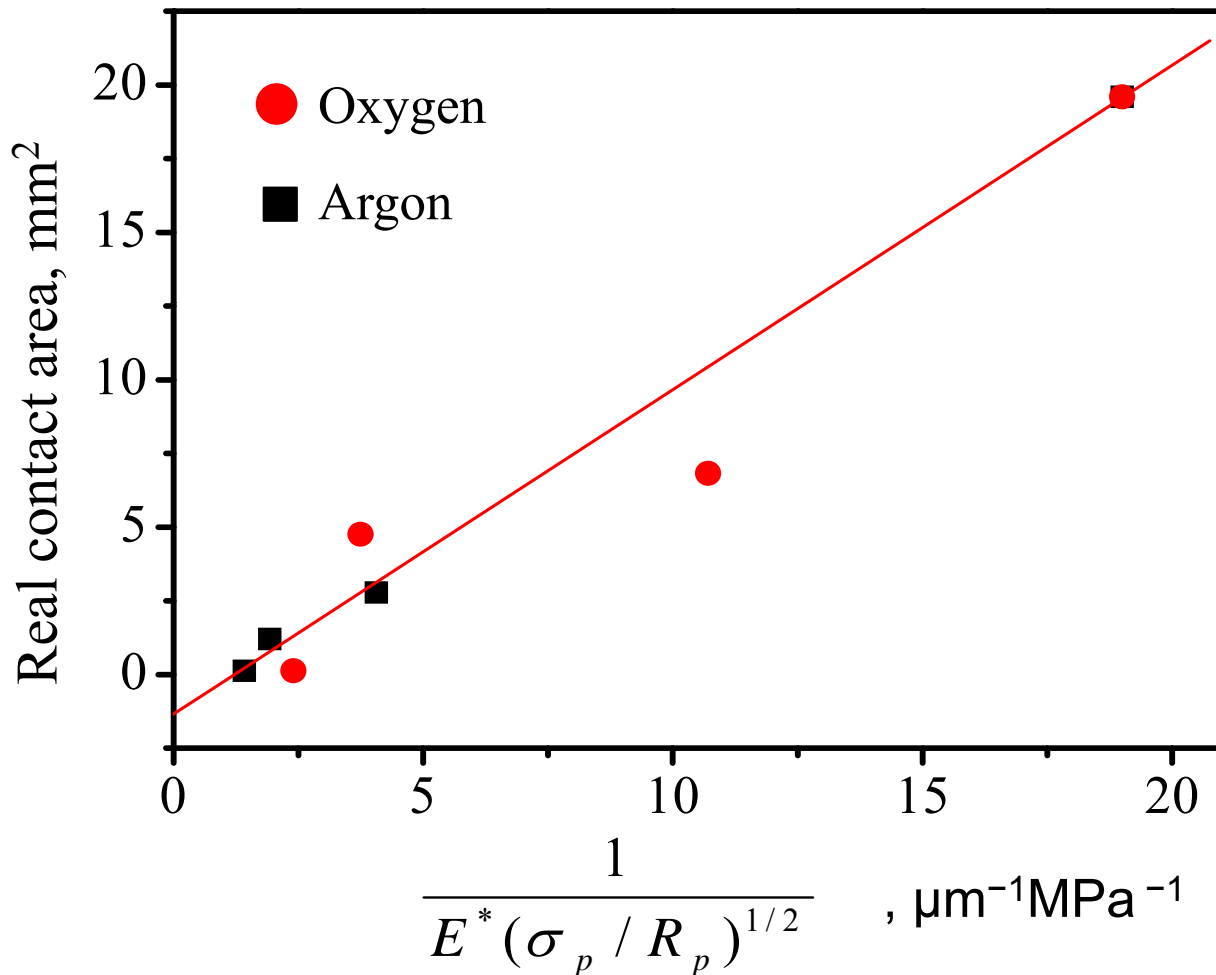
stainless steel ball : 0.3

CIIR rubber : 0.5

Young's modulus of

stainless steel ball : 210 Gpa

CIIR rubber : Measured



$$(W = P_r A_{re} = P_a A_a = 1N)$$

Comparison between GW model & real contact area (Stainless steel ball and CIIR contact)



Outline & Summary

1. Ultra low friction of Carbon Nitride (CN_x)
 - Mechanism **Self modification in nm thickness**
 - Effect of carbon overcoat on friction
not need running-in
 - Effect of Ultraviolet (UV) ray irradiation on friction **More rapid running-in by 1/10 ,
Lower minimum friction by 1/10**
2. Low adhesion and friction of rubber
 - High dense plasma irradiation to CIIR **<1/100**
by Larger E & Roughness → Smaller Ar
 - UV ray irradiation to TPE with PFPE



Tendency in Medical syringe products

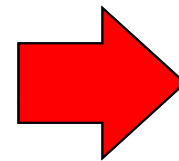
Medical syringe

Glass syringe

- Easy to crack
- High cost
- inferior to the size accuracy

Plastic syringe

- Productive
- Lubricated with **silicone oil**



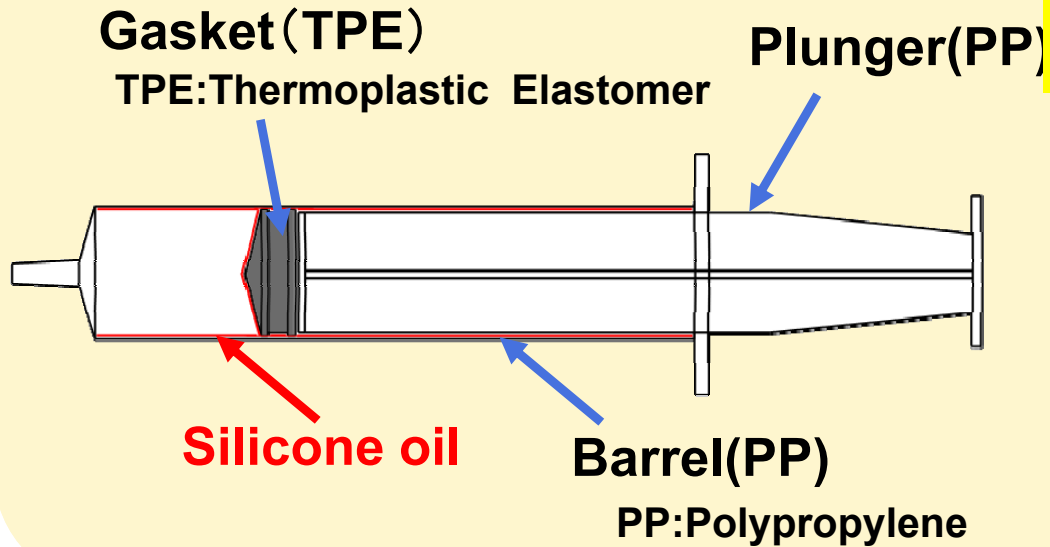
Undesirable



Replacing glass syringes with plastic ones is desired.

Issues in advanced plastic syringe

Plastic syringe



Float of silicone oil droplets

Issue

✘ In certain medicines

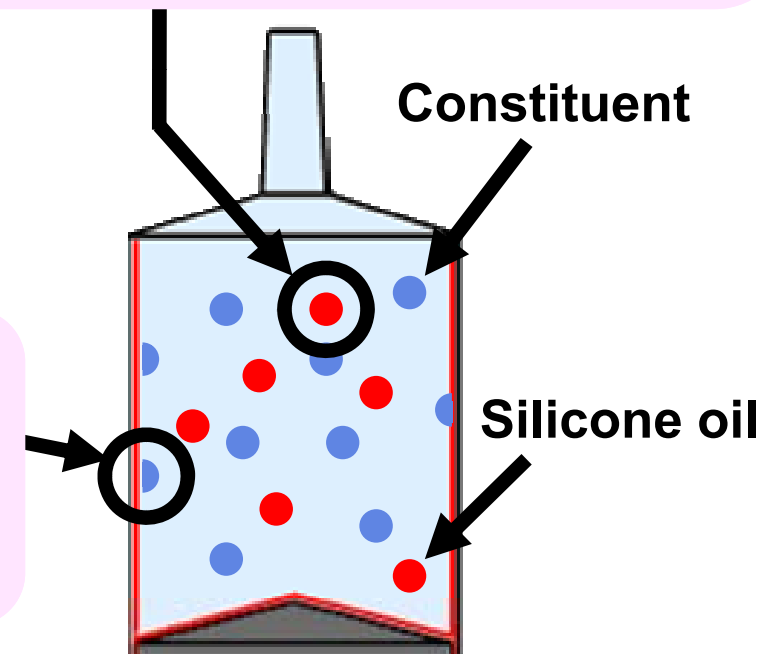
Risk of the accumulation in the body

Issue

Adsorption of medicine

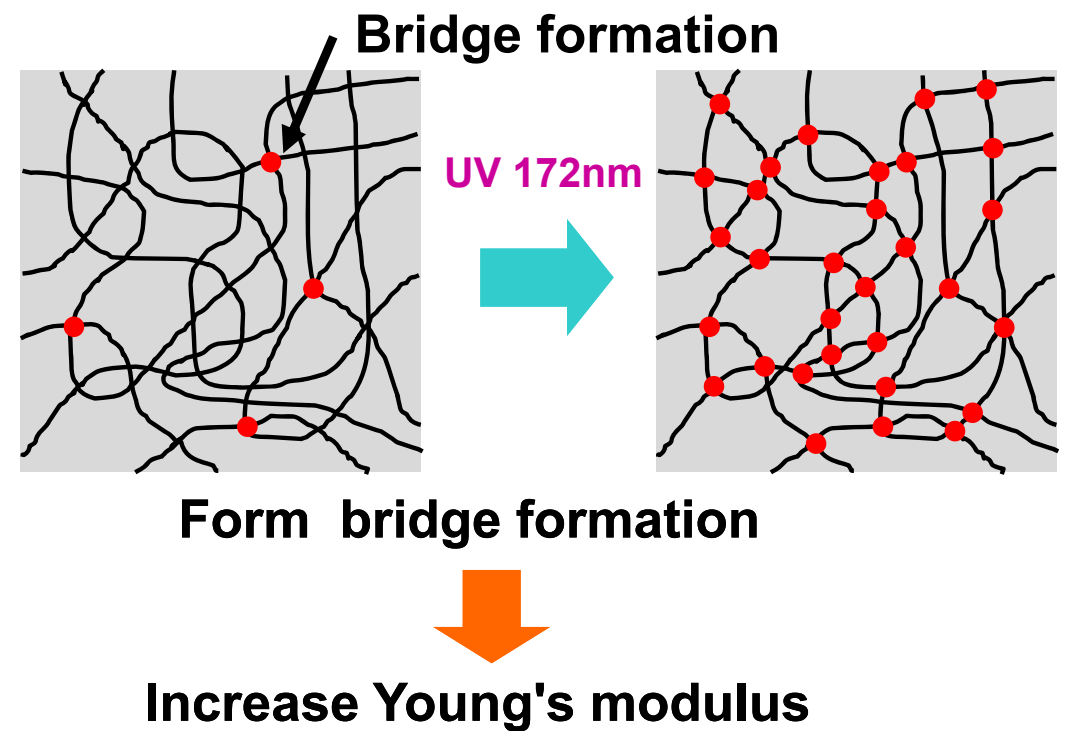
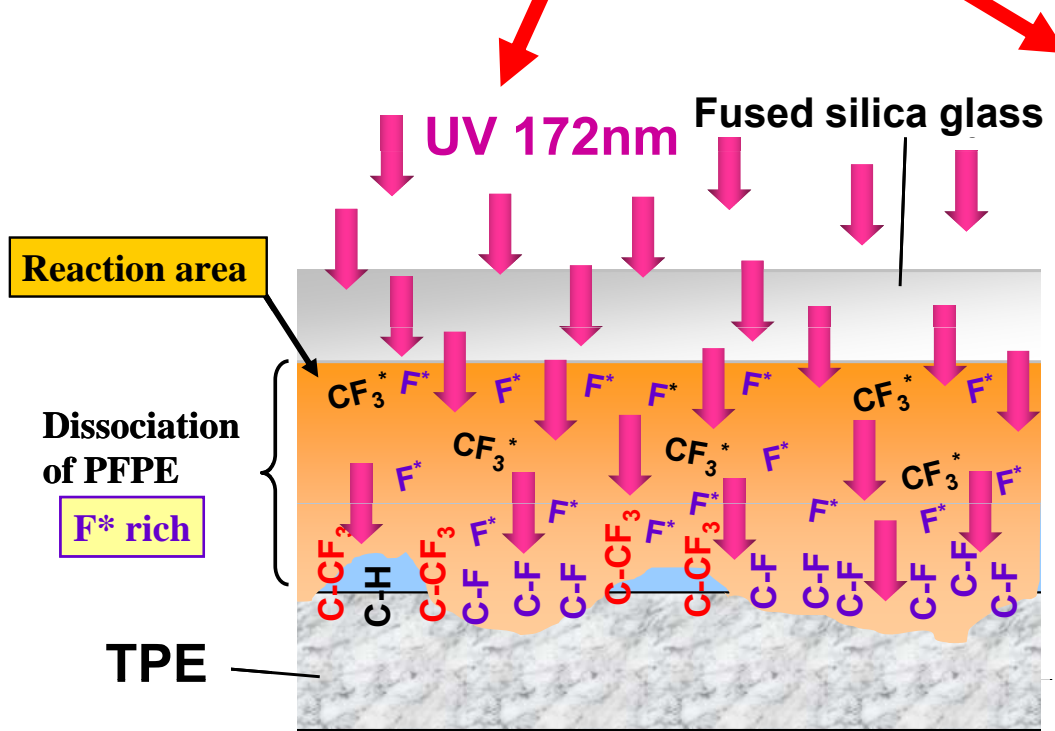
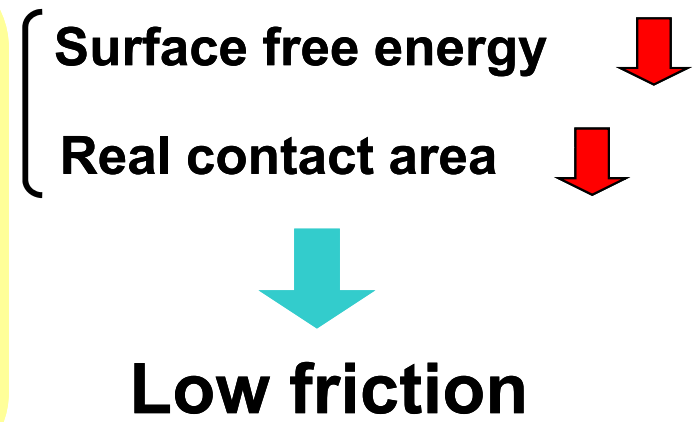
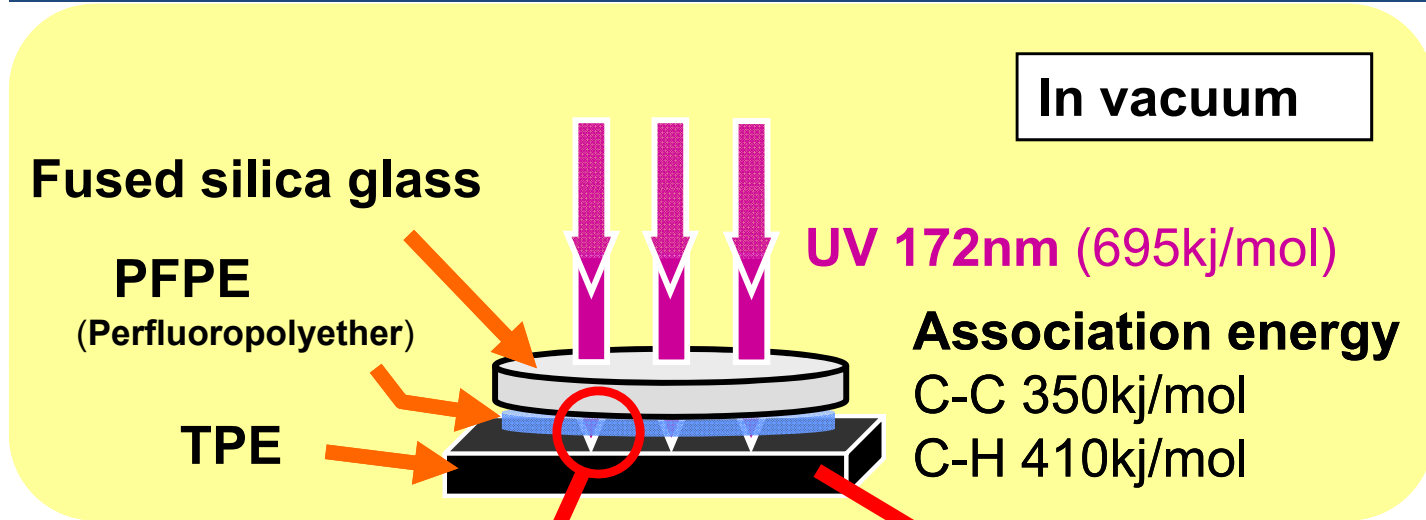
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Improper dosage



To design the plastic syringe without the silicone oil

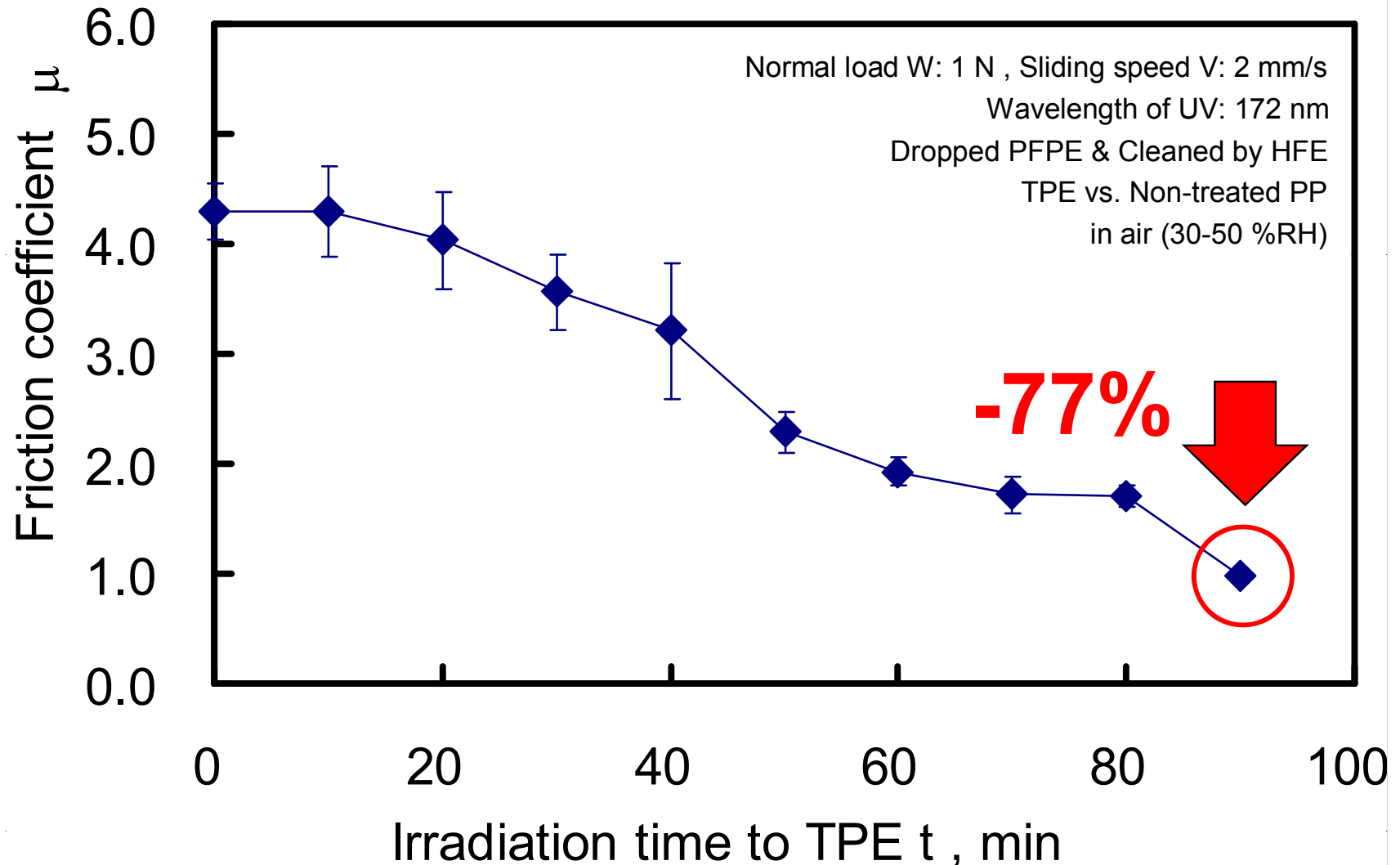
Photochemically fluorination



Effect of Photochemically fluorination on friction

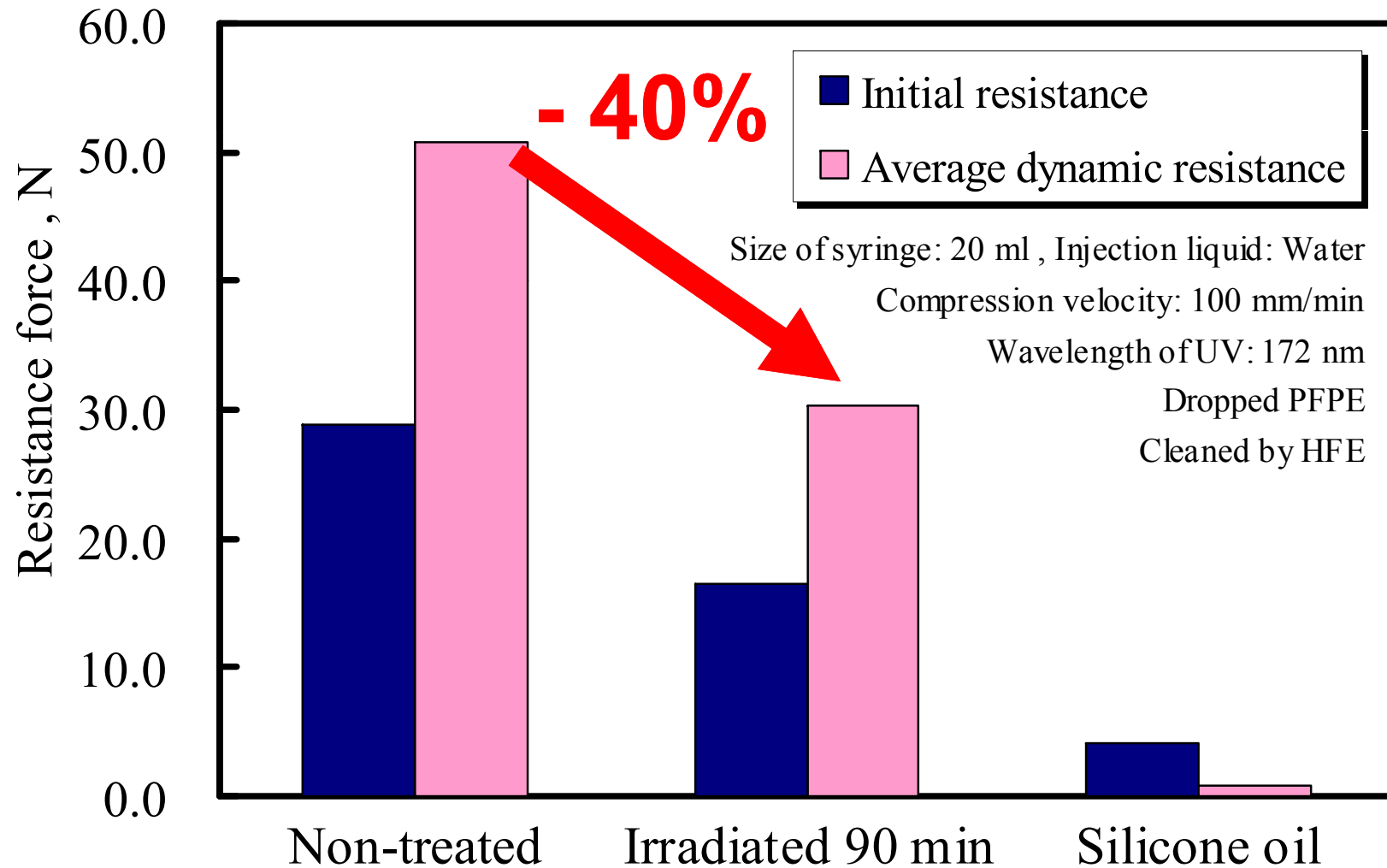
Friction test in flat specimen

W=1 N



Effect of Photochemically fluorination on friction

Friction test in TPE gasket



Outline & Summary

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2. Low adhesion and friction of rubber

- High dense plasma irradiation to CIIR **<1/100**
by Larger E & Roughness → Smaller Ar
- UV ray irradiation to TPE with PFPE **1/4**
by Larger E → Smaller Ar, Smaller surface energy

