

Bacteria
from
homemade
kombucha
btw



Bacteria MSE 493

Prof. Tiffany Abitbol
2024

s just keep this here cause its awesome



What's on the “menu” today?

- Main dish: Kimchi and miso
- Dessert: Nata de coco
- Beverages: Kefir and kombucha



Miso



Kimchi

Kombucha



Kefir water



Nata de coco

- Probiotics are live microorganisms
- Claims that they provide health benefits when consumed, e.g. by restoring gut microbiota
- Mixed evidence of efficacy



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Probiotic – friend or foe?

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Amir M Mortazavian ², Predrag Putnik ¹✉

Highlights

- Probiotics are very popular addition to human nutrition with proven health benefits.
- They represent lucrative segment of food markets.
- Their manufacturing is not sufficiently regulated on worldwide markets.
- The safety is insufficiently tested while their intake might have adverse effects.
- More work is necessary fully to confirm health benefits and safety of probiotics.



2 stage fermentation:

- **Step 1:** Create starter culture called *kōji* (麹) by growing *Aspergillus oryzae* (fungus) on substrate (rice, soybean); koji produces enzymes that break down protein and starch to smaller and simpler compounds
- **Step 2:** Fermentation with bacteria and yeast of koji + salt + soybean mash, up to 2 years.
- The microbial community is very important to taste, nutrition, and texture of miso – yet, not much is known.





- Salted and fermented vegetables
- Early stage: *Leuconostoc* variety is dominant; lower acid tolerance, produces CO₂, lactic acid and acetic acid
- Middle stage: *Lactobacillus* and other bacteria with higher acid tolerance, continues to produce lactic acid, lowers pH to 4 (prevents growth of pathogenic bacteria)
- Late stage: more *Lactobacillus*, continued fermentation at low T (refrigerated)
- Fermentation: B12, probiotics, unique flavors and textures

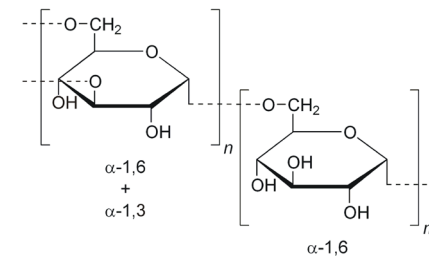
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kimchi>



- a mix of Lactobacillus, Streptococcus, Pediococcus and Leuconostoc bacteria, with yeasts from Saccharomyces, Candida, Kloeckera and possibly others
- Lactobacillus brevis bacteria has been identified as the species responsible for the production of the dextran polysaccharide that forms the "grains"



"grains" - a symbiotic community of bacteria and yeasts (SCOBY) living in translucent "grains" held together by polysaccharide

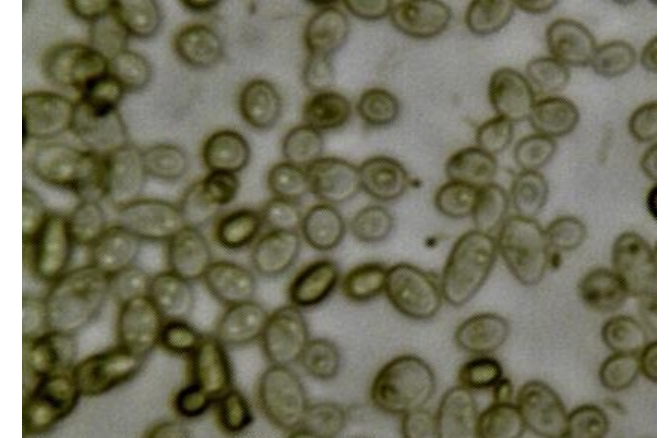


<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tibicos>



- Also a symbiotic culture of bacteria and yeast (SCOBY), commonly called “Mother”
- Cellulose pellicle (hydrogel) holds the SCOBY together, not the desired product
- The yeast component generally includes *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, along with other species; the bacterial component almost always includes *Gluconacetobacter xylinus* to oxidize yeast-produced alcohols to acetic acid (and other acids).

400x



- Bacterial cultures fermented with coconut water
- SCOBY/cellulose pellicle
- *Komagataeibacter xylinus* produces cellulose, in this case, the desired product



Making Nata de Coco



HOW'S NATA DE COCO MADE?

Bacterial cellulose

Iguchi, M., Yamanaka, S.
& Budhiono, A. Bacterial
cellulose—a masterpiece
of nature's arts. *Journal
of Materials Science* 35,
261–270 (2000).
[https://doi.org/10.1023/A:
1004775229149](https://doi.org/10.1023/A:1004775229149)

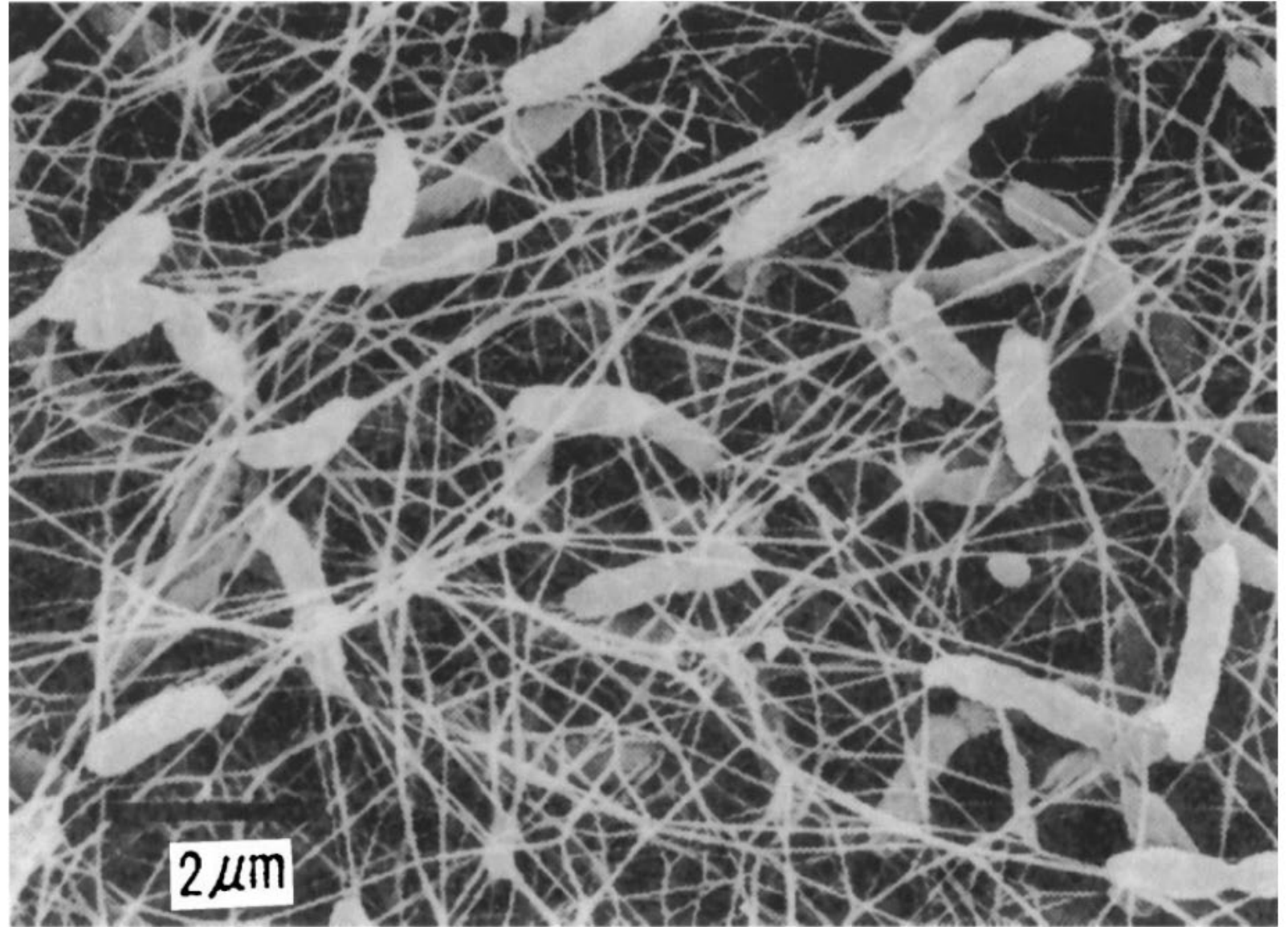
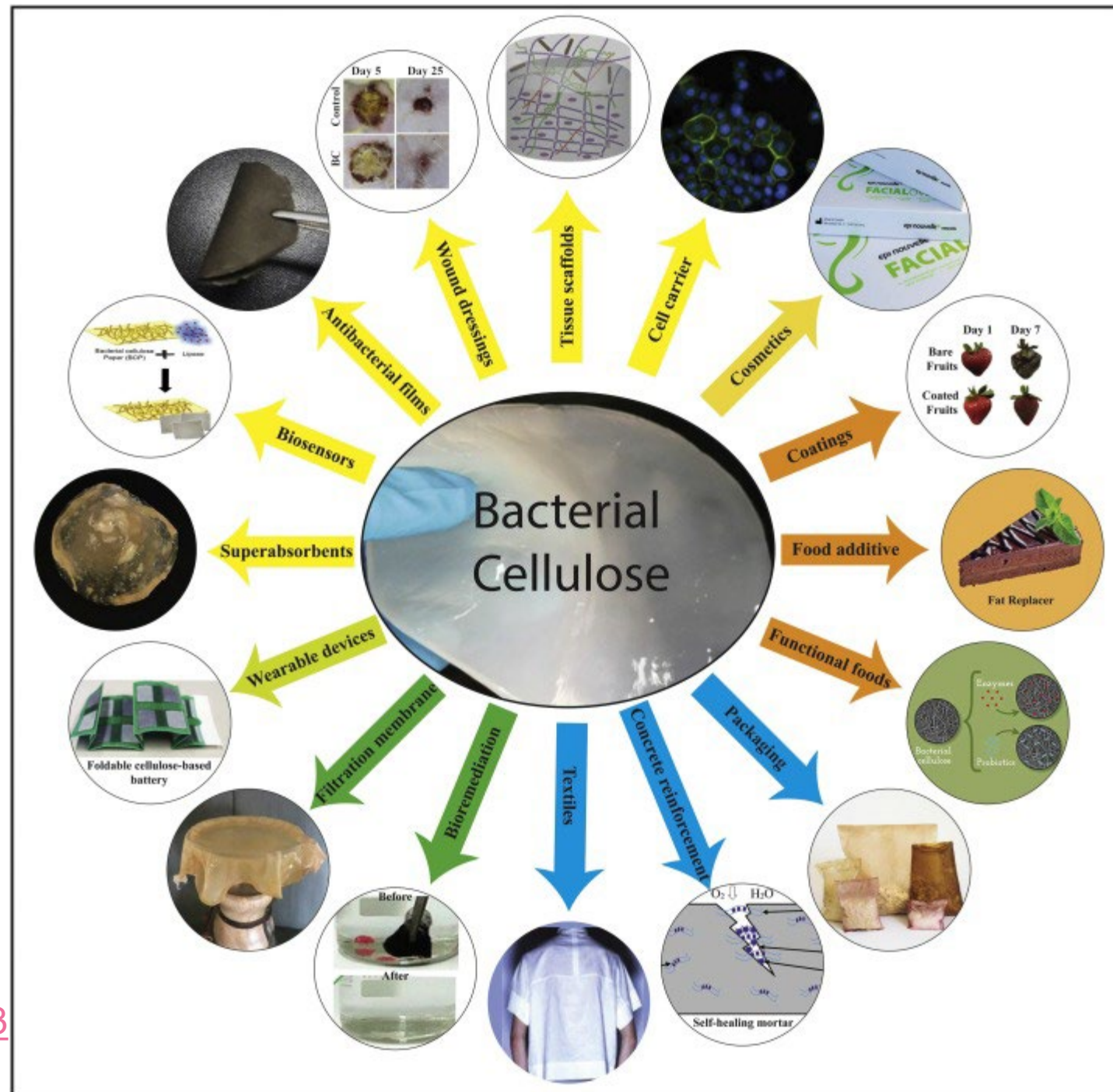


Figure 1 A scanning electron micrograph of freeze-dried surface of bacterial cellulose gel.

Materials science applications of bacterial cellulose

- Biomedicine
- Packaging
- Coatings
- Cosmetics
- Superabsorbents
- Sensors
- Tissue engineering



Bacterial cellulose flashbacks

854
doi:10.1017/S1431927621003354

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Visualization of nanostructural dislocations in microcrystalline cellulose fibrils through super-resolution fluorescence microscopy

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- Trying to understand how nature puts together cellulose microfibrils

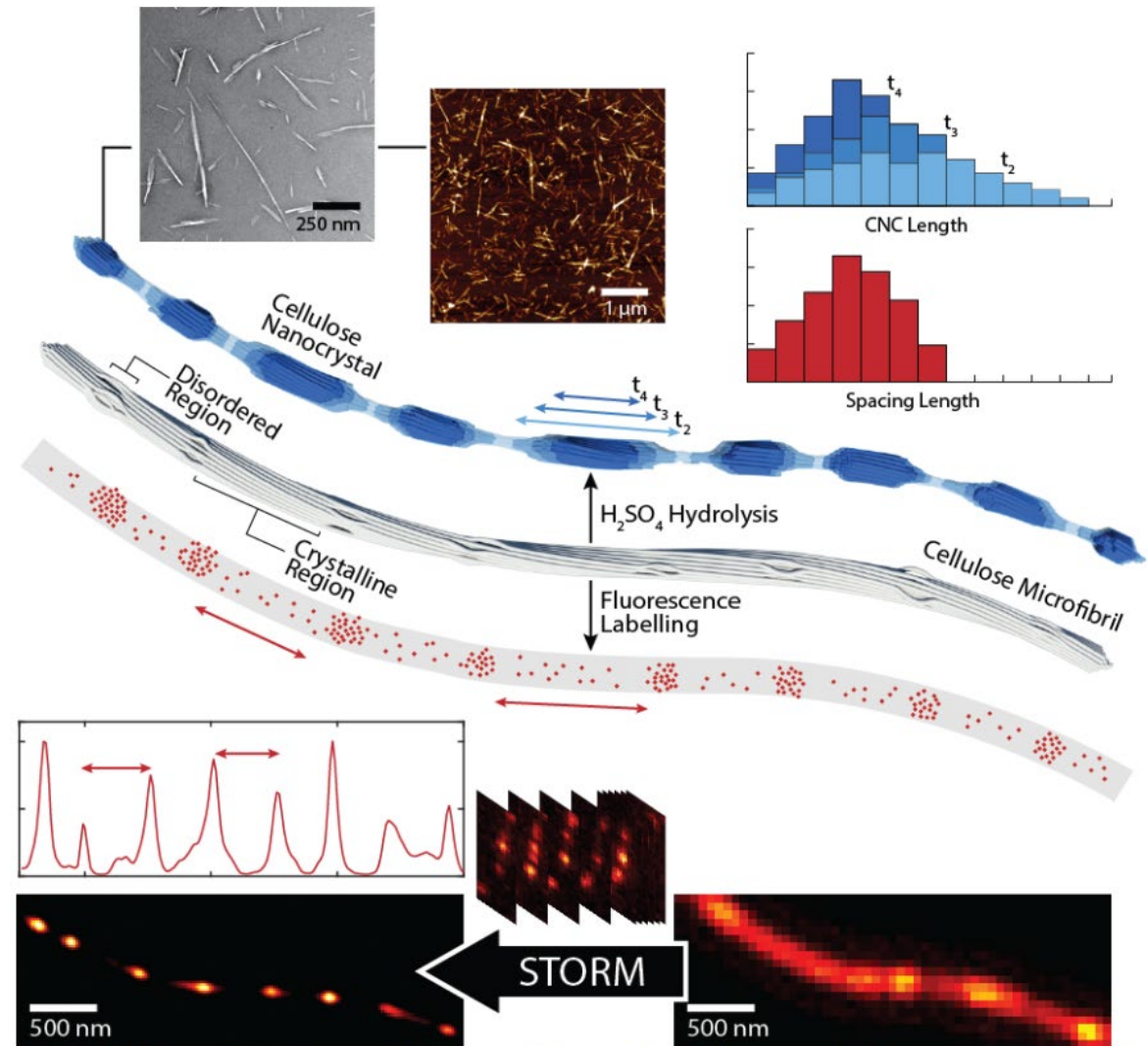


Figure 2. Visualizing dislocations in bacterial cellulose microfibrils using super-resolution fluorescence microscopy. The fringed-micellar structural model of the cellulose microfibril (grey) postulates the presence of