

Layer by layer assembly of PET textile fabrics with flame retardant properties

Federico Carosio¹, Galina Sukhonosova², Jaime Grunlan², Jenny Alongi¹, Giovanni Camino¹

federico.carosio@polito.it

¹ *Dipartimento di Scienza dei Materiali e Ingegneria Chimica, Politecnico di Torino – Sede di Alessandria, Viale Teresa Michel 5, 15121 Alessandria, Italy*

² *Department of Mechanical Engineering, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas 77843 -3123*



Outline

- **Introduction:**
Layer by layer deposition technique
- **Materials and methods:**
Sample preparation
Vertical flame test
Cone calorimetry
- **Results and discussion:**
Surface morphology
Flammability
Combustion behavior
- **Conclusions**

Layer-by-Layer (LbL) Deposition Technique

- The principle was apparently first described by Iler in 1966^[*]
- A practical method for LbL was developed only in the early 1990s by the group of Decher^[**]
- Nowadays....

.... It's studied and used
in a wide range of application fields
with a thousands of variations^[***]

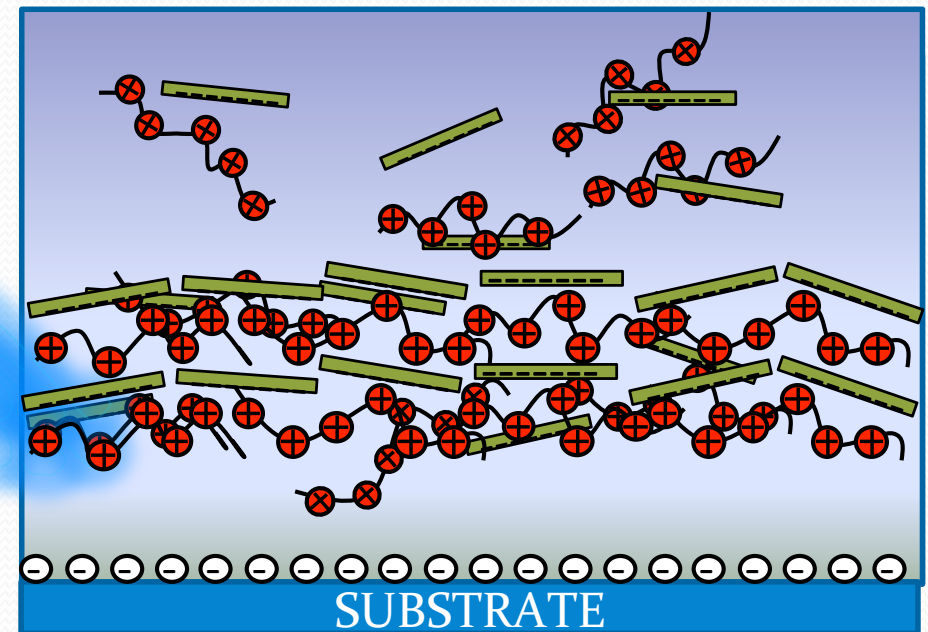
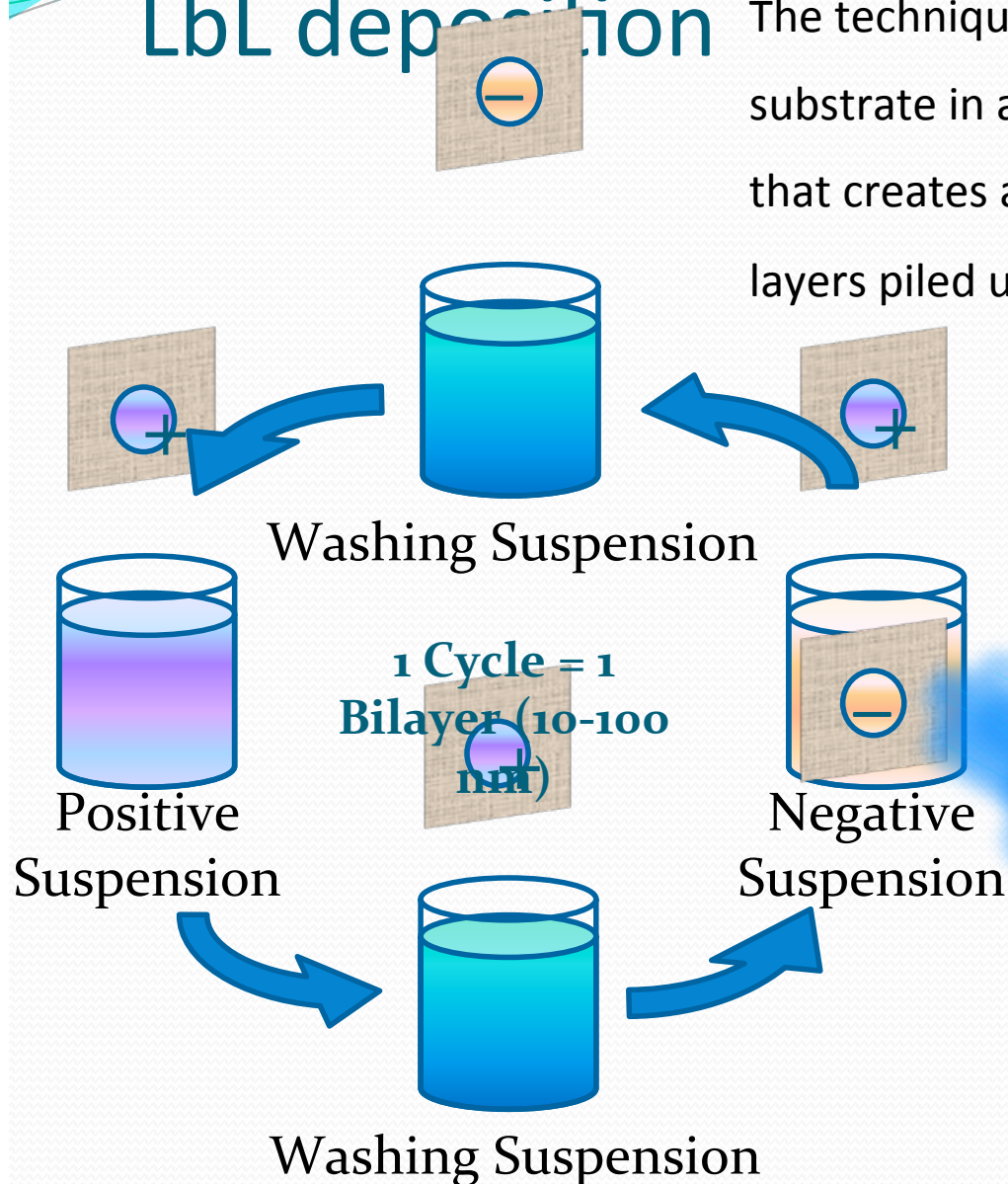
[*] Iler, R. K., *Multilayers of Colloidal Particles*, J. Colloid Interface Sci. 1966, 21, 569.

[**] Decher, G., Hong, J.-D., *Buildup of Ultrathin Multilayer Films by a Self-Assembly Process: I. Consecutive Adsorption of Anionic and Cationic Bipolar Amphiphiles*, Makromol. Chem., Macromol. Symp. 1991, 46, 321.

[***] Ariga, K., Hill, P. H., Ji, Q.; *Layer-by-layer assembly as a versatile bottom-up nanofabrication technique for exploratory research and realistic application*, Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys. 2007, 9, 2319.

LbL deposition

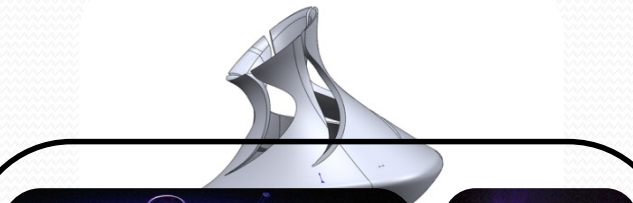
The technique consists in an alternate immersion of the substrate in an oppositely charged polyelectrolyte solutions that creates a coating of positively and negatively charged layers piled up on the substrate surface



LbL Deposition: Substrate outlook

Substrate:

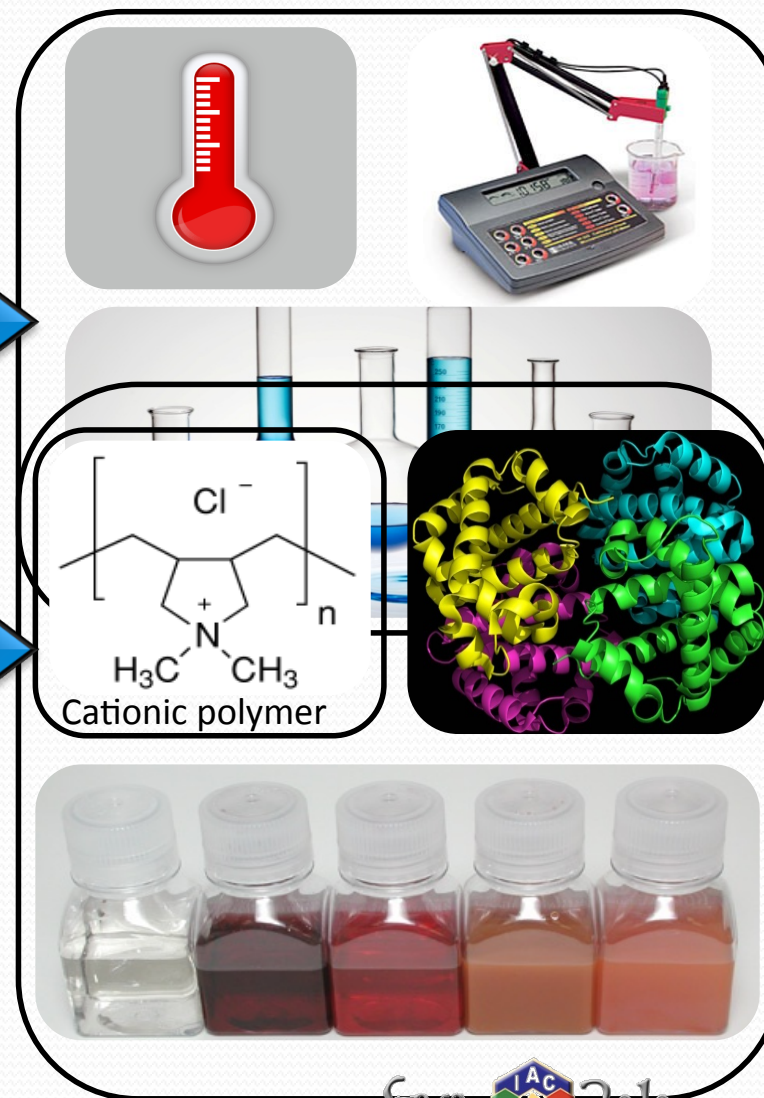
- Wide range of substrates (polymers, metals, textiles...)
- Simple and complex shapes
- Surfaces can be pre-treated using classical process (chemical activation, corona treatment, plasma etching...)



LbL Deposition: Coating outlook

Coating:

- The roughness, thickness and porosity of the film can be controlled adjusting experimental parameters
- Thousand of reagents can be used for layer building



Coatings and characterization

CL/TM
system



5, 10, 20 Bilayers

Negative silica nanoparticles:

Average size 30 nm

Zeta potential -39.4 mV

Positive silica (coated with Alumina) nanoparticles:

Average size 10 nm

Zeta potential 32.2 mV

CL/SM
system



5, 10, 20 Bilayers

Negative silica nanoparticles:

Average size 10 nm

Zeta potential -19.2 mV

Positive silica (coated with Alumina) nanoparticles:

Average size 10 nm

Zeta potential 32.2 mV

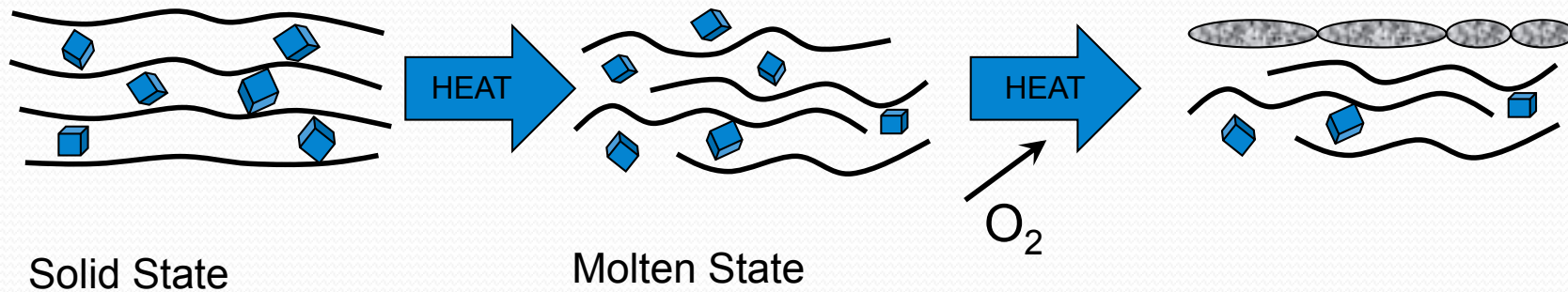
SEM

Vertical Flame test

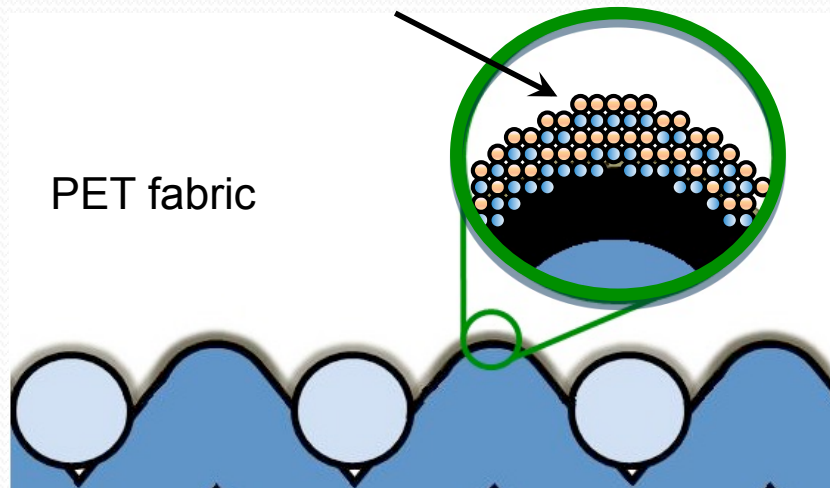
Cone Calorimetry

Coating effect

Polymer Nanocomposite

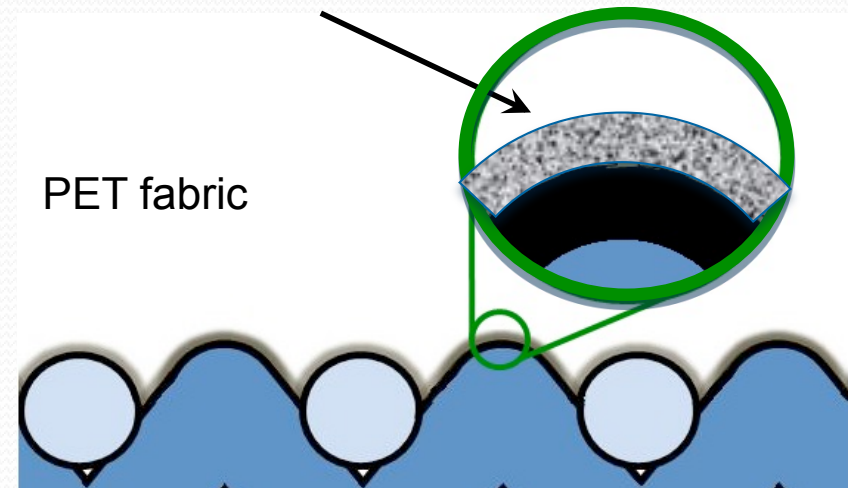


Inorganic silica coating



HEAT

Ceramic protective layer



Vertical Flame Test

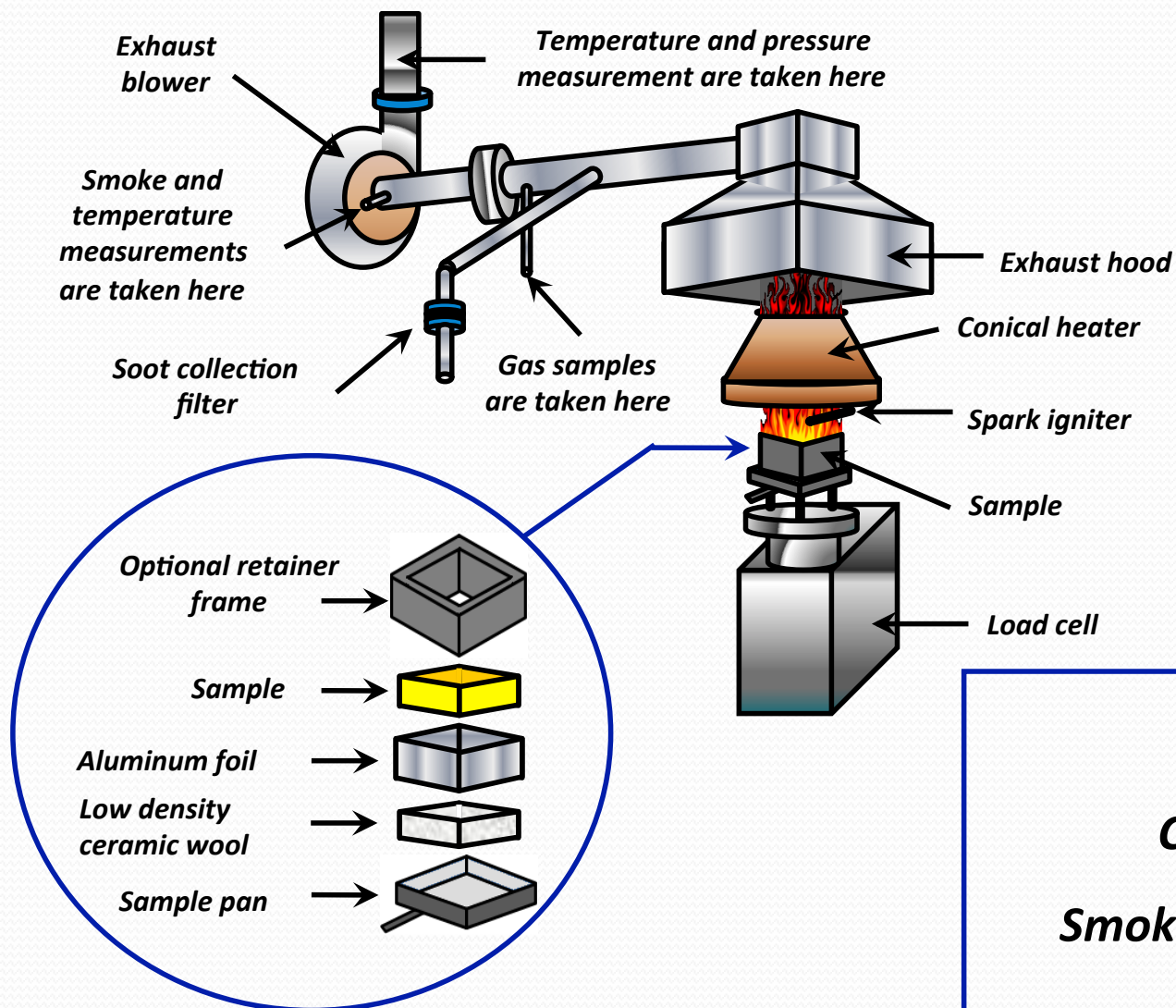


Sample size
30.5 x 7.6 cm

Characteristics observed:

- Afterflame and Afterglow time
- Dripping
- Char formation
- Weight loss

Cone calorimetry



Specimen size:
100x100x0.5 mm
Heat Flux: 35 kW/m²



Time to ignition
Combustion kinetics
Smoke production and optical density

Results and discussion

- *PET CL/TM System:*

Surface morphology

Vertical flame test

Cone calorimetry

SEM CL/TM System

Reference

5 BL CL/TM

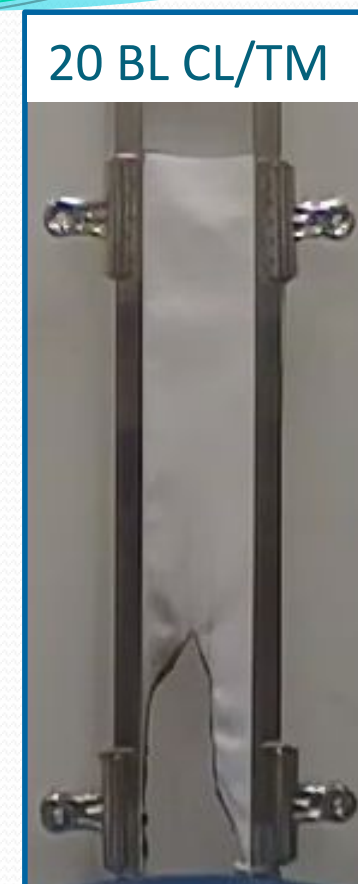
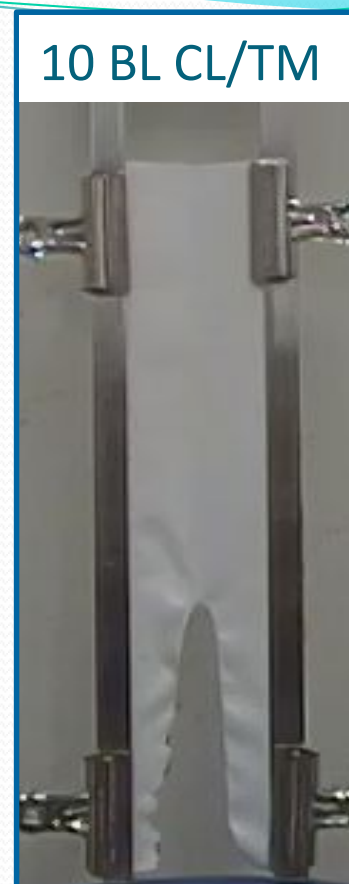
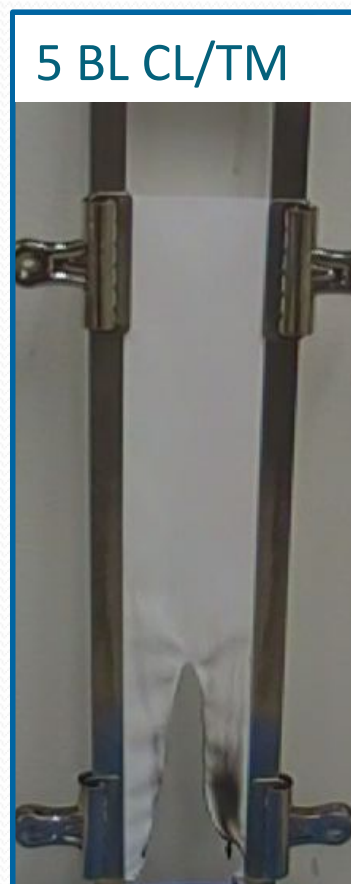
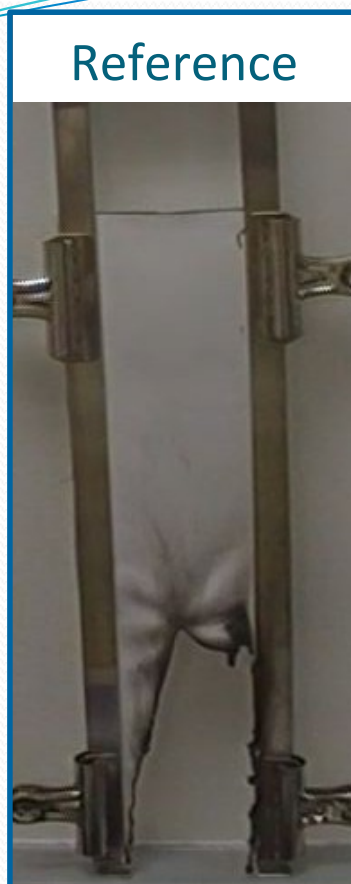
10 BL CL/TM

20 BL CL/TM

5 μm

10 μm

Vertical Flame Test CL/TM System



	Reference	5 BL CL/TM	10 BL CL/TM	20 BL CL/TM
Burning time [sec]	32	6	9	22
Δ %	-	-81%	-71%	-29%
Δ wt %	-7.6%	-2.4%	-1.2%	-2.7%
Dripping	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

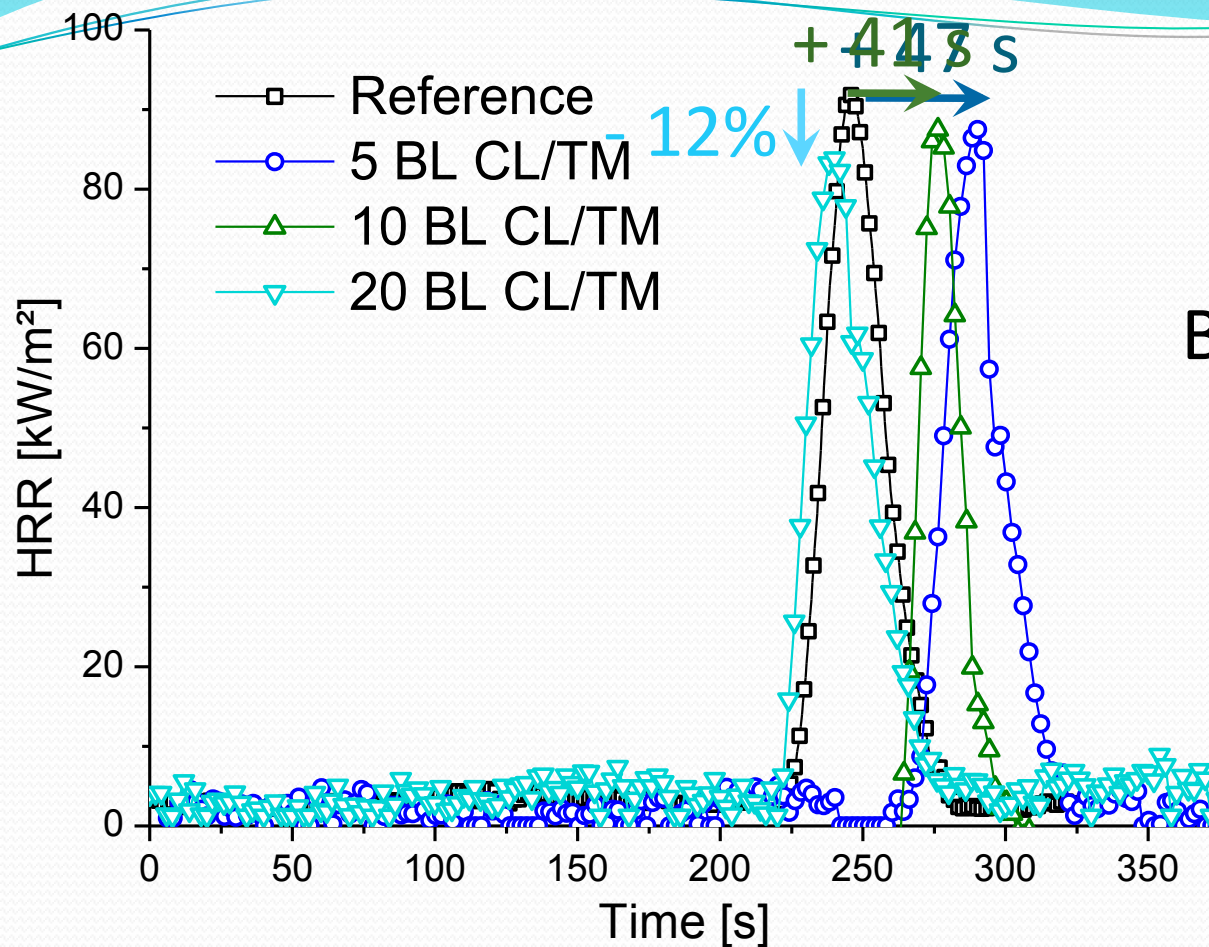
Vertical Flame Test CL/TM System



Reference	
Burning time [sec]	32
Δ %	-
Δ wt %	-7.6%
Dripping	Yes

5 BL CL/TM	
Burning time [sec]	6
Δ %	-81%
Δ wt %	-2.4%
Dripping	Yes

Cone Calorimetry CL/TM System



Best system 10 BL
+ 41 s on TTI
- 6% on HRR

	Reference	5 BL CL/TM	10 BL CL/TM	20 BL CL/TM
$TTI \pm \sigma$ [s]	222±3	269±21	263±10	218±3
Δ [s]	-	+47	+41	-4
$Peak\ HRR \pm \sigma$ [kW/m ²]	93±7	88±2	86±9	82±5
Δ [%]	-	-5%	-6%	-12%

Results and discussion

- *PET CL/SM System:*

Surface morphology

Vertical flame test

Cone calorimetry

SEM CL/SM System

Reference

5 BL CL/SM

10 BL CL/SM

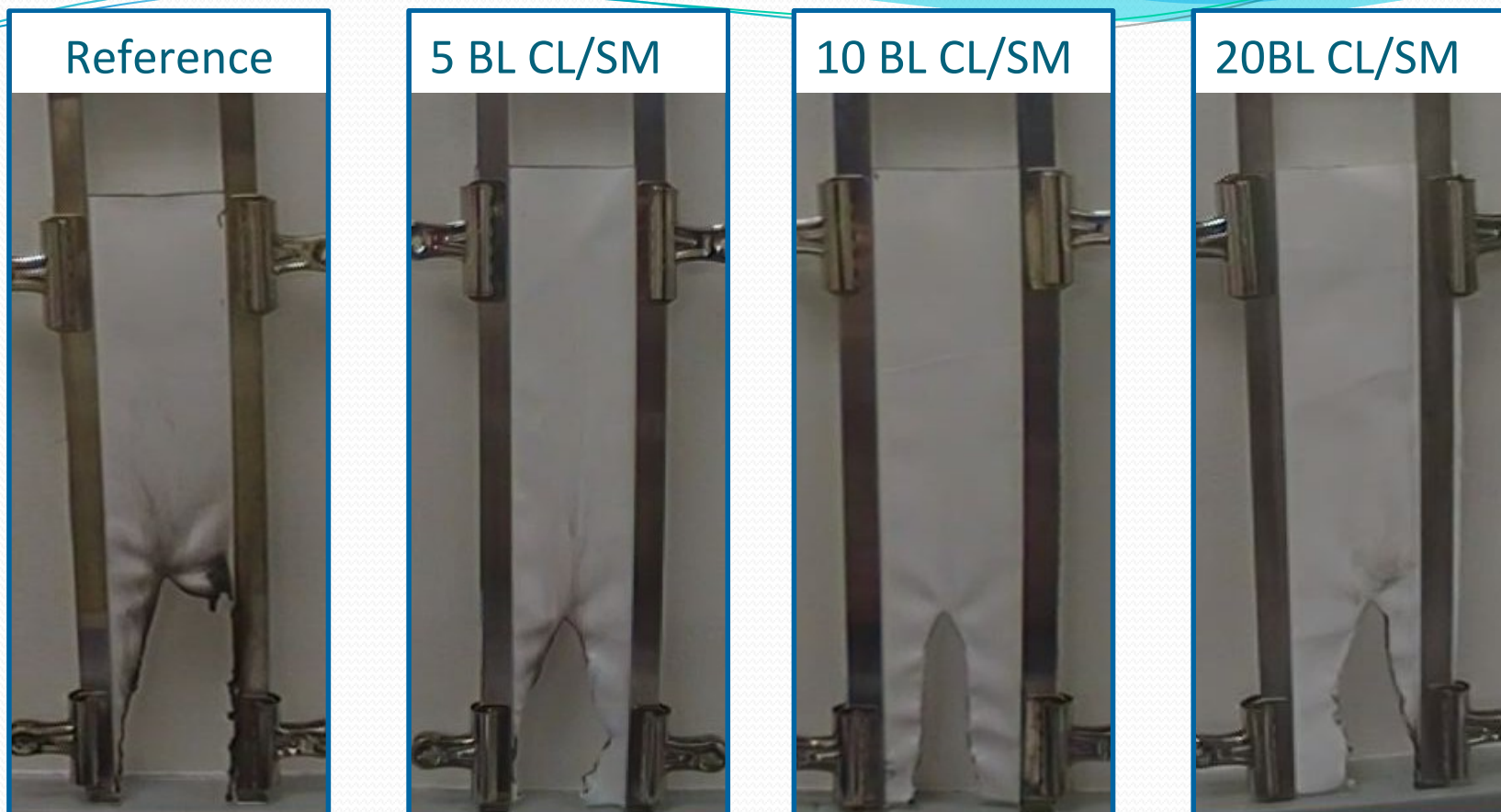
20 BL CL/SM

5 μ m

10 μ m

Vertical Flame Test

CL/SM System



	Reference	5 BL CL/SM	10 BL CL/SM	20 BL CL/SM
Burning time [sec]	32	10	2	10
Δ %	-	-69%	-94%	-69%
Δ wt %	-7.6%	-0.8%	-0.2%	-1.9%
Dripping	Yes	No	No	Yes

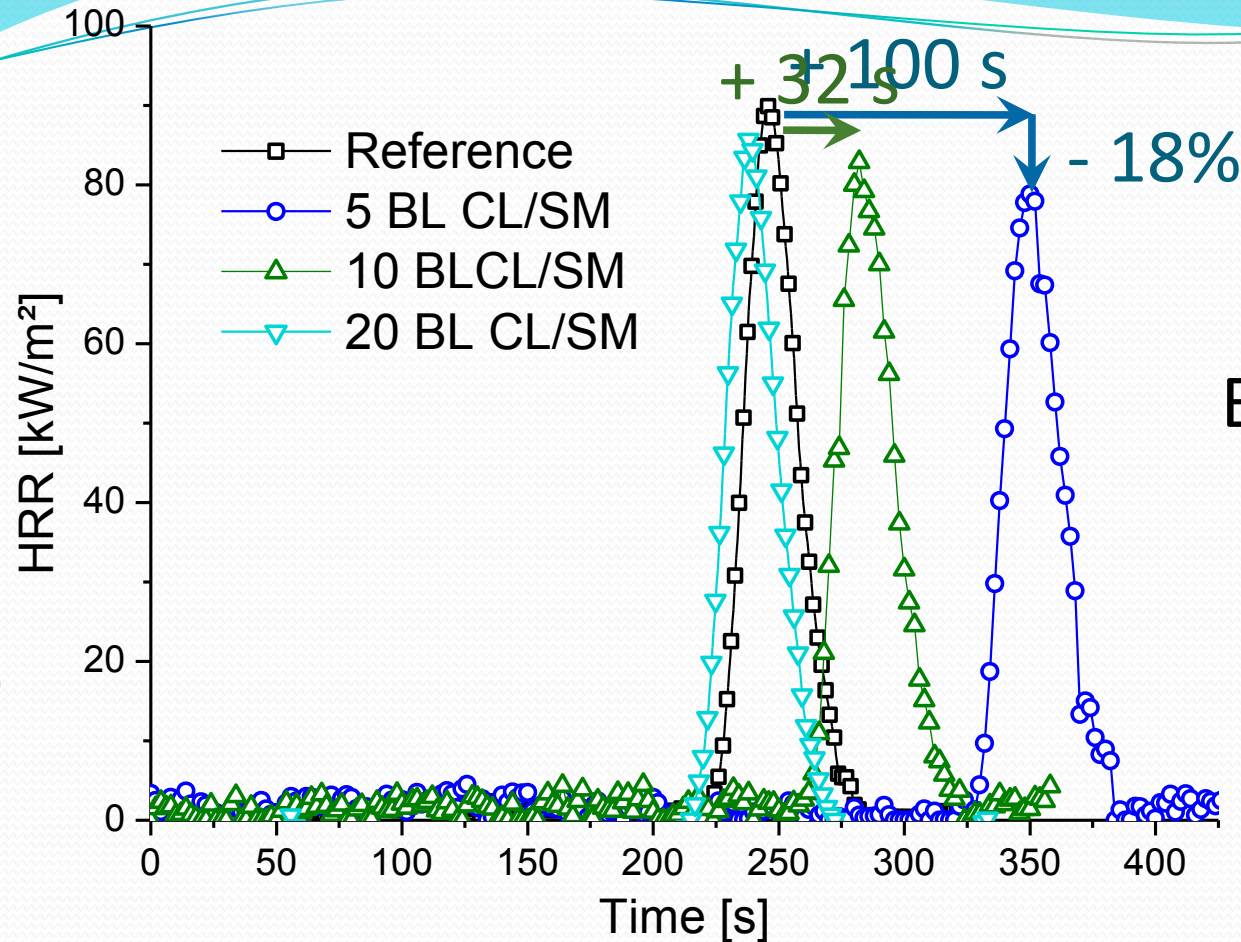
Vertical Flame Test CL/SM System



Reference	
Burning time [sec]	32
Δ %	-
Δ wt %	-7.6%
Dripping	Yes

10 BL CL/SM	
Burning time [sec]	2
Δ %	-94%
Δ wt %	-0.2%
Dripping	No

Cone Calorimetry CL/SM System



Best system 5 BL
+ 100 s on TTI
- 18% on HRR

	Reference	5 BL CL/SM	10 BL CL/SM	20 BL CL/SM
$TTI \pm \sigma$ [s]	222 $\pm$ 3	322 $\pm$ 31	254 $\pm$ 32	212 $\pm$ 3
Δ [s]	-	+100	+32	-10
Peak HRR $\pm\sigma$ [kW/m ²]	93 $\pm$ 7	76 $\pm$ 1	89 $\pm$ 5	90 $\pm$ 8
Δ [%]	-	-18%	-4%	-

Conclusions

- LbL was successfully used to make inorganic coatings of different size silica nanoparticles on PET fabrics
- SEM analysis showed a change in surface morphology for treated fabrics with an increased presence of the coating as a function of bilayer number
- Flammability and combustion properties were found to be highly affected by the morphology of the coating and its physical and solid stability during the test
- Best sample on vertical flame test had a combustion of 2 seconds and no dripping of incandescent drops
- Best sample on cone calorimetry had an increase of 100 seconds in TTI and a reduction of 18% in HRR



Thank you for your attention