

Dopamine as a Bridge for Tailoring $Ti_3C_2T_x$ MXene Film Properties

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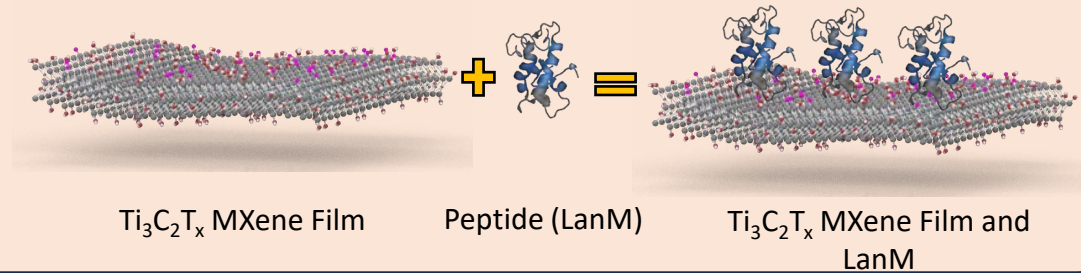
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PA #: AFRL-2024-6034

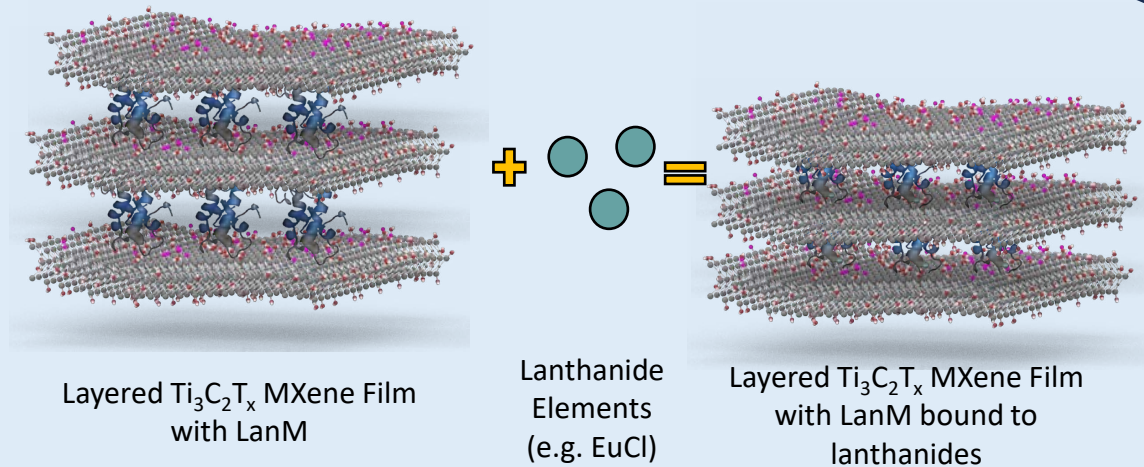
GOAL

Tune the electrical, mechanical, and optical properties of $\text{Ti}_3\text{C}_2\text{T}_x$ MXene by binding peptides

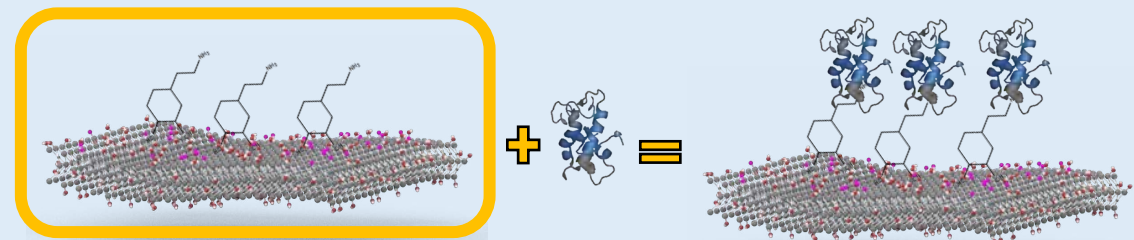


OBJECTIVES

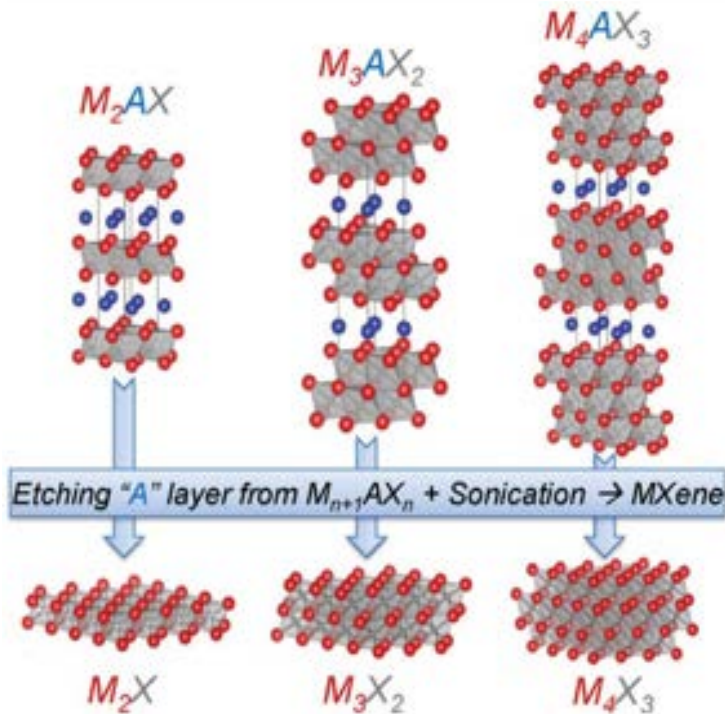
Using LanM's conformational change with lanthanides (e.g. Cerium and Europium) to alter films



Bind LanM to MXene with dopamine bridges



MXene – 2D transition metal carbides/nitrides

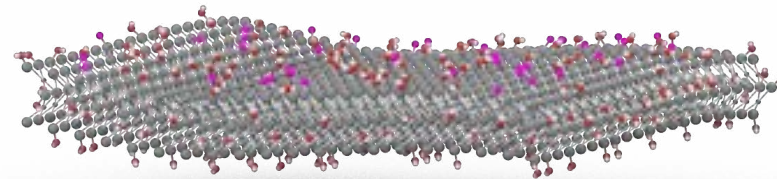


$M_{n+1}AX_n$, (MAX)

M - Early transition metal

A- (mostly IIIA and IVA) element

X - carbon and/or nitrogen.



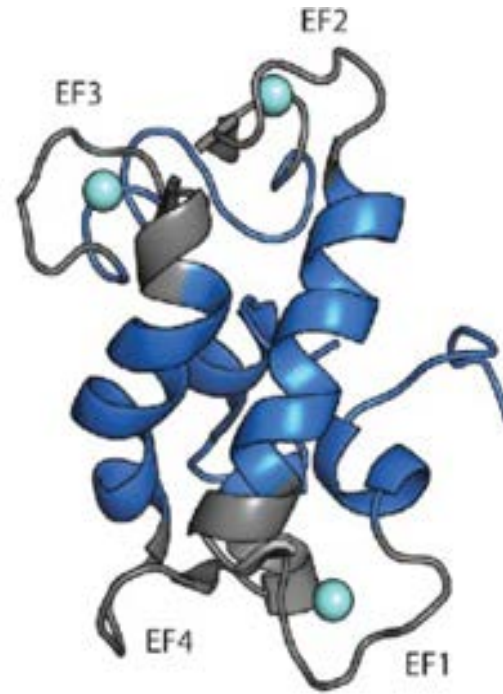
Lipatov et al., Sci. Adv. 2018;4: eaat0491

- ✓ **Highly Conductive**
- ✓ **Excellent Mechanical Properties**
- ✓ **Tailorable optical properties**
- ✓ **Excellent thermal conductivity**
- ✓ **30+ different compositions**
- ✓ **Hydrophilic Surface**

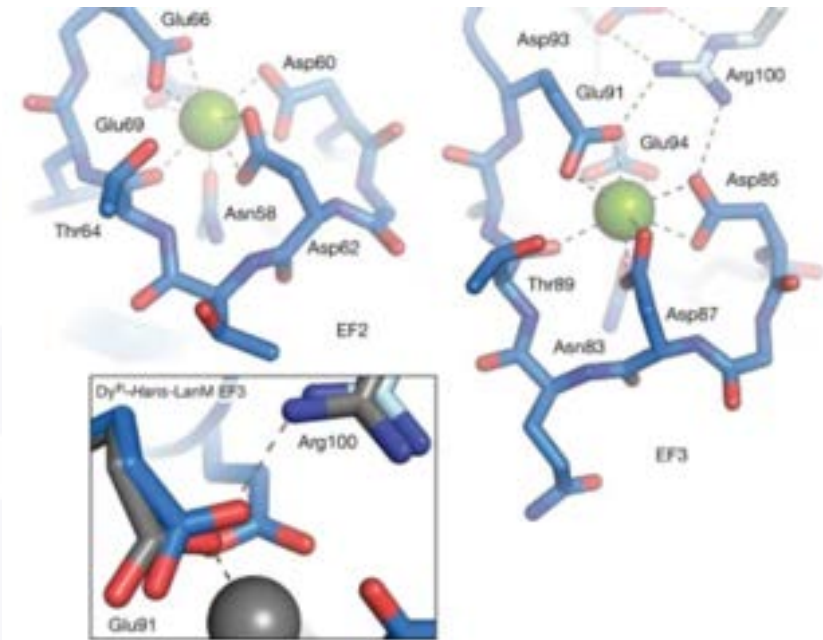
The EF-hands of LanM obtain pico-molarity affinity for lanthanides

Periodic table highlighting lanthanides (La-Lu) and actinides (Ac-Lr). The lanthanide series is highlighted in yellow, and the actinide series is highlighted in blue. The table is color-coded by groups: Nonmetals (red), Alkali metals (orange), Alkaline Earth metals (yellow), Transition elements (purple), Other metals (light blue), Metalloids (green), Halogens (light green), Noble gases (light blue), and Actinides (blue).

Source: [Rare Earth Elements \(rareelementresources.com\)](http://rareelementresources.com)



[Lanmodulin as a model system to study biological principles of... | Download Scientific Diagram \(researchgate.net\)](#)



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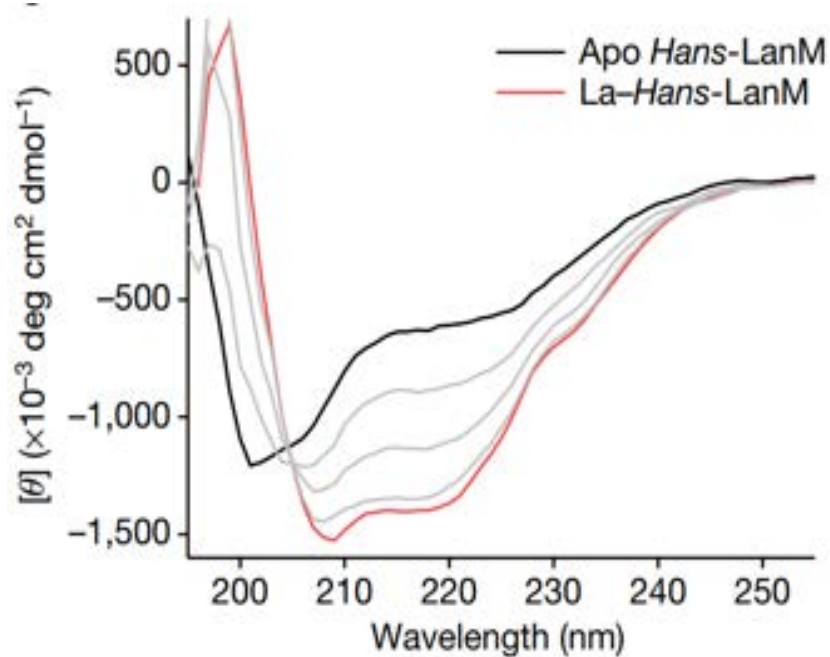
EF1  34  N K D N D D S L E I A E  45
EF2  58  N P D G D T T L E S G E  69
EF3  83  N K D G D Q T L E M D E  94
EF4 107  D A N K D G K L T A A E 118
    
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[Enhanced rare-earth separation with a metal-sensitive lanmodulin dimer | Nature \(oclc.org\)](#)

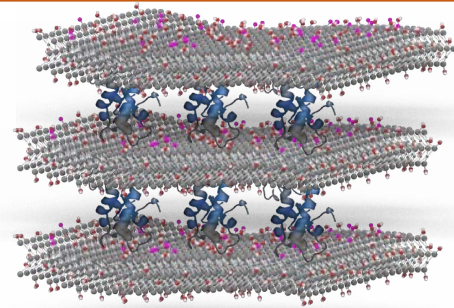
- LanM was discovered in methylotrophic bacteria to obtain unique lanthanide binding properties
- The bind occurs at EF hands (12 amino acids that form metal-binding loops)
 - LanM has 4 EF hands, 3 of which have a pico-molarity affinity to lanthanides

Using LanM's conformation change in multilayered MXene films

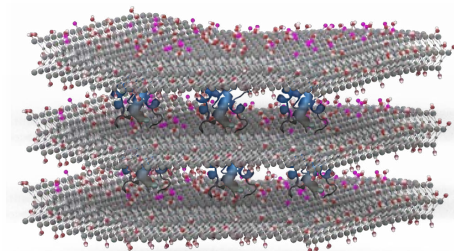
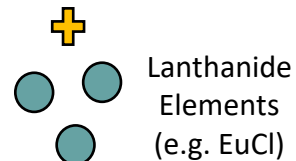
Using circular dichroism (CD) spectrum, showed metal associated conformational response



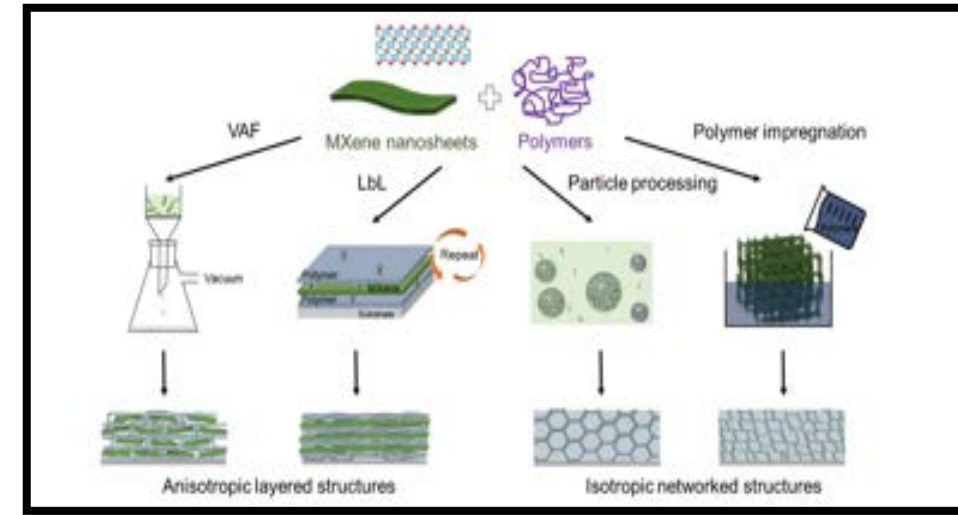
Enhanced rare-earth separation with a metal-sensitive lanmodulin dimer | Nature (oclc.org)



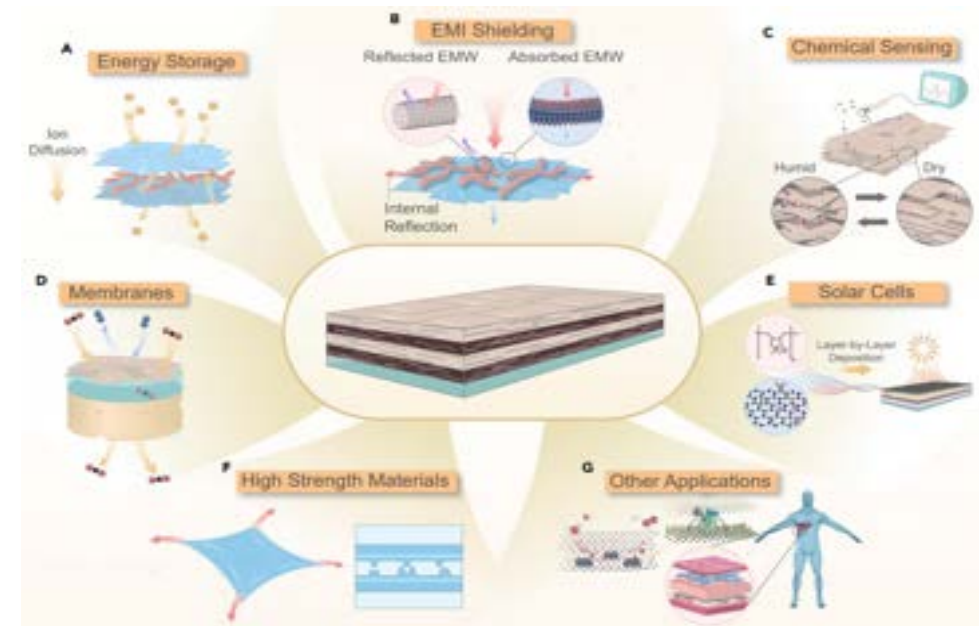
Layered $Ti_3C_2T_x$ MXene Film with LanM



Layered $Ti_3C_2T_x$ MXene Film with LanM bound to lanthanides

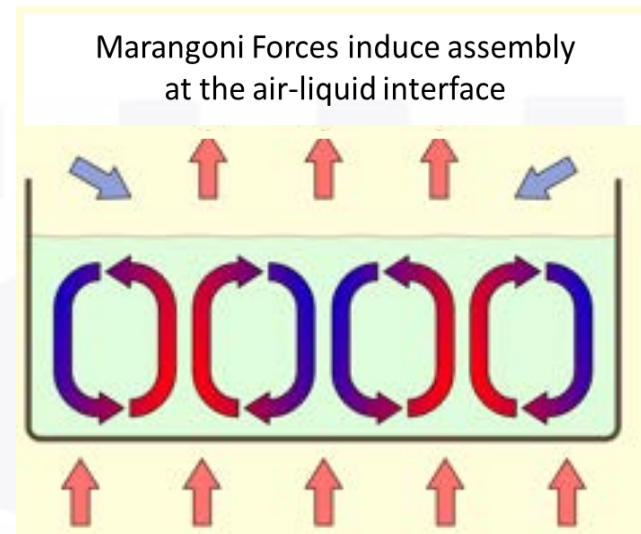
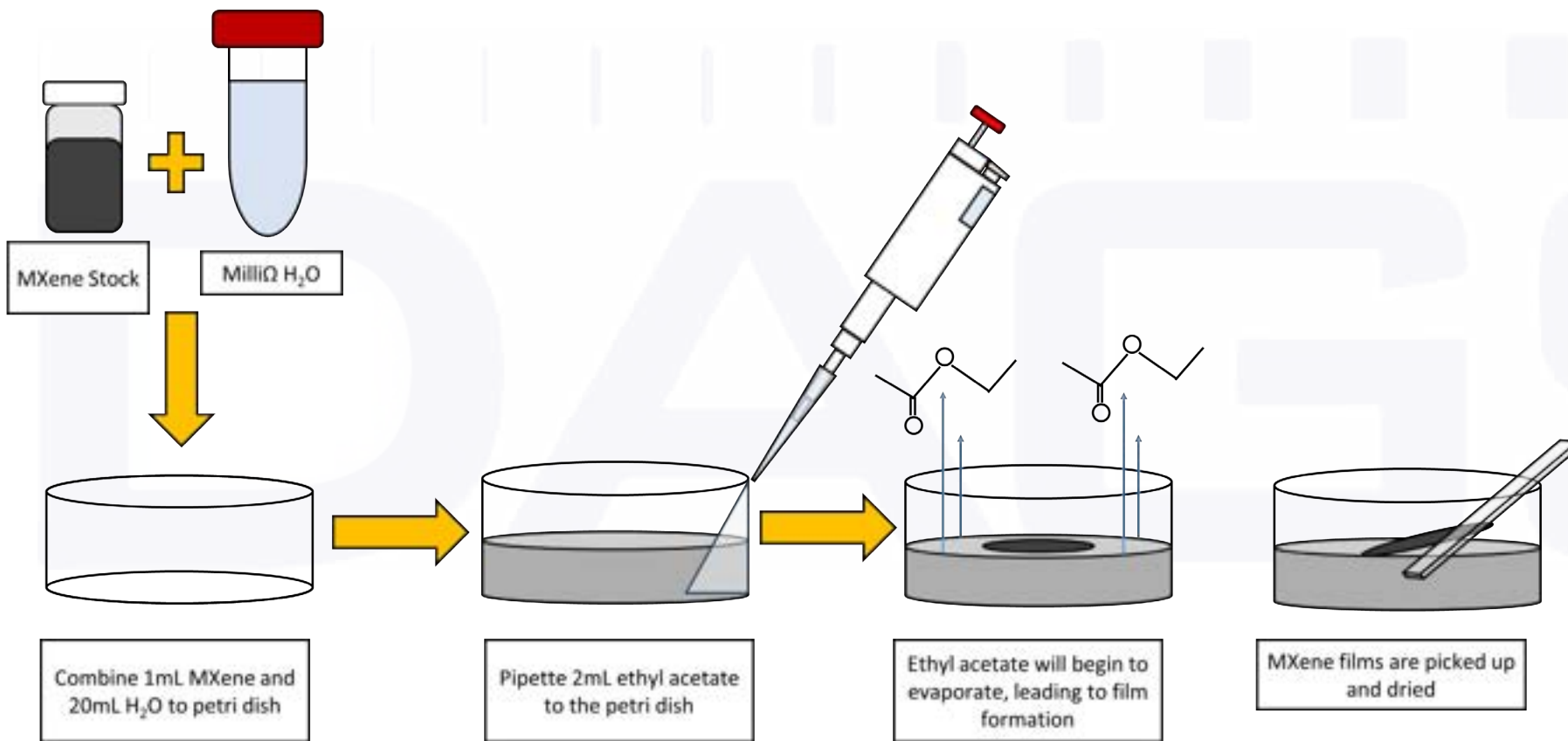


Architecting MXenes in polymer composites (sciencedirectassets.com)

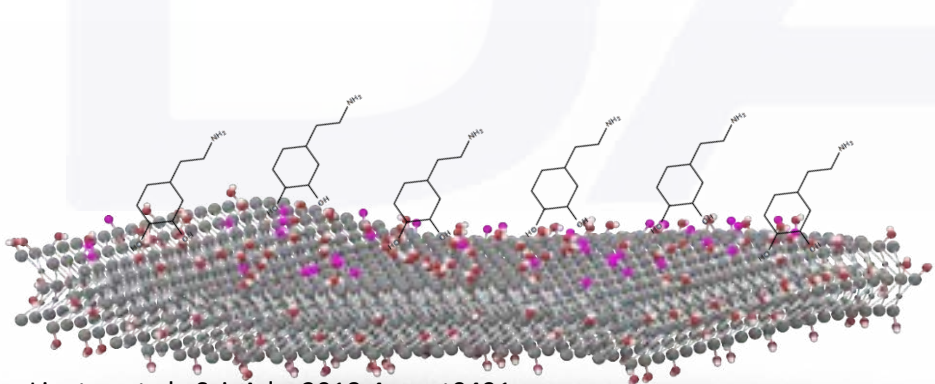
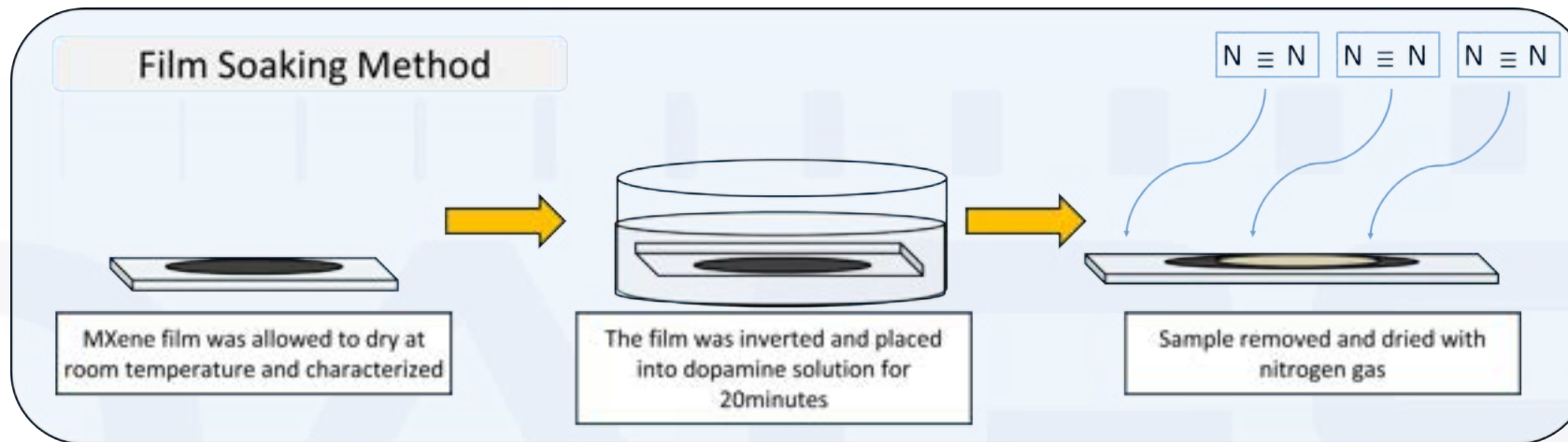


Layer-by-Layer Assembly of Two-Dimensional Materials: Meticulous Control on the Nanoscale (cell.com)

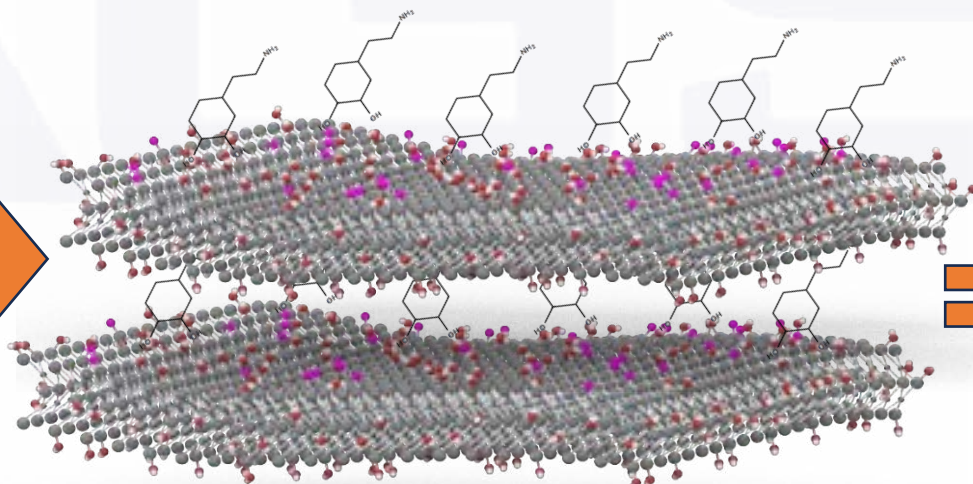
Making $Ti_3C_2T_x$ MXene Films



Functionalization of MXene Surface with Dopamine



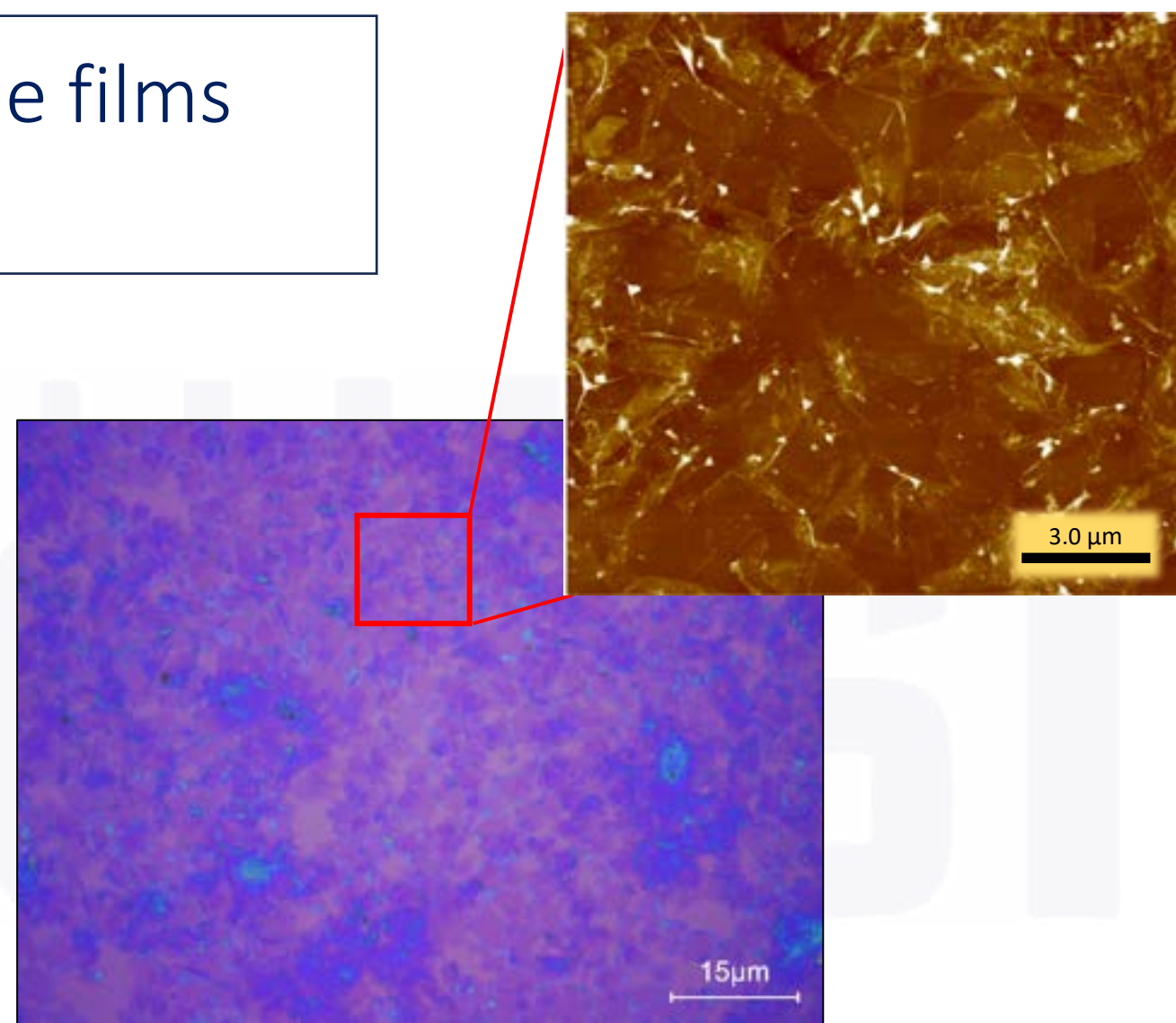
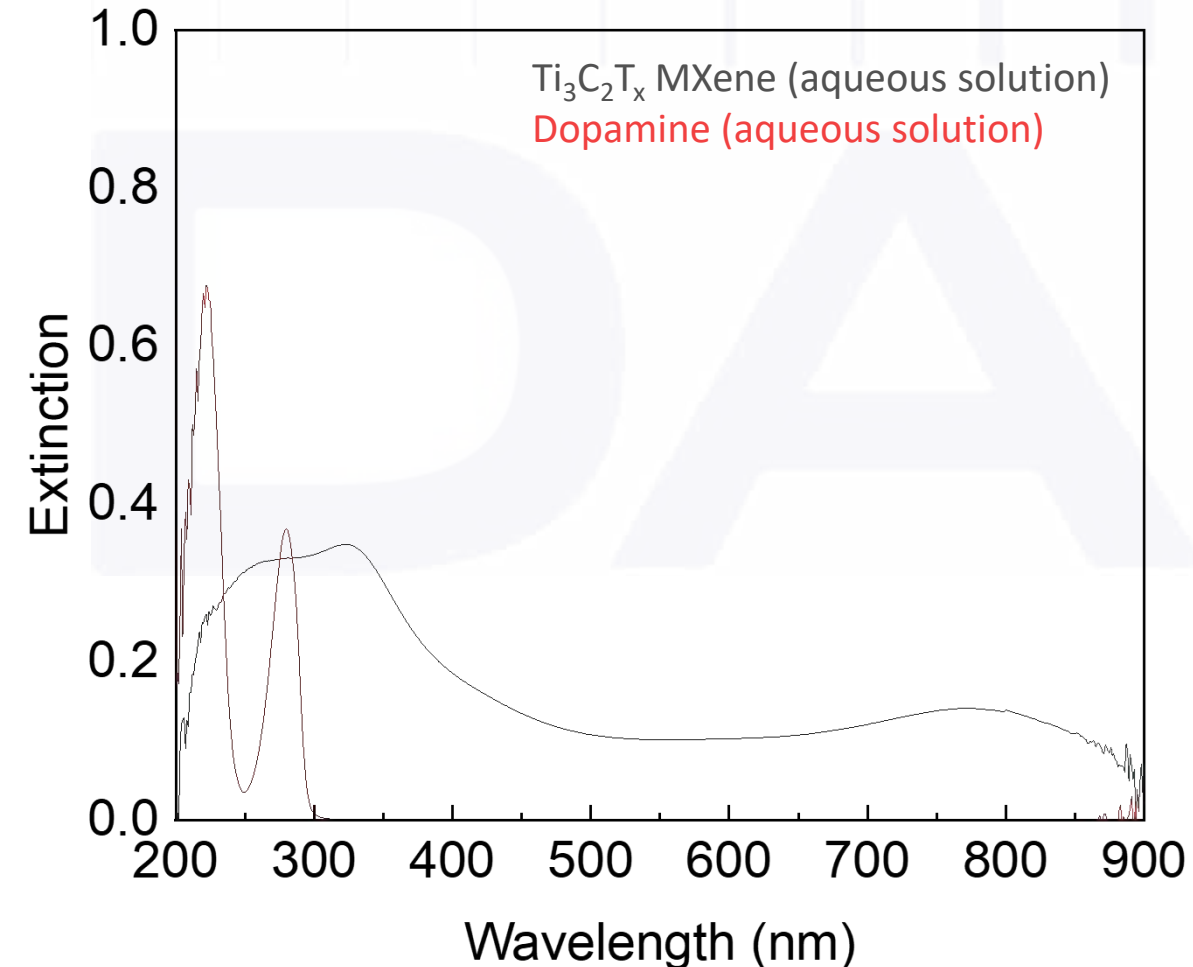
Lipatov et al., Sci. Adv. 2018;4: eaat0491



Dopamine
MXene
Dopamine
MXene
Quartz

Characterization of MXene films and Dopamine

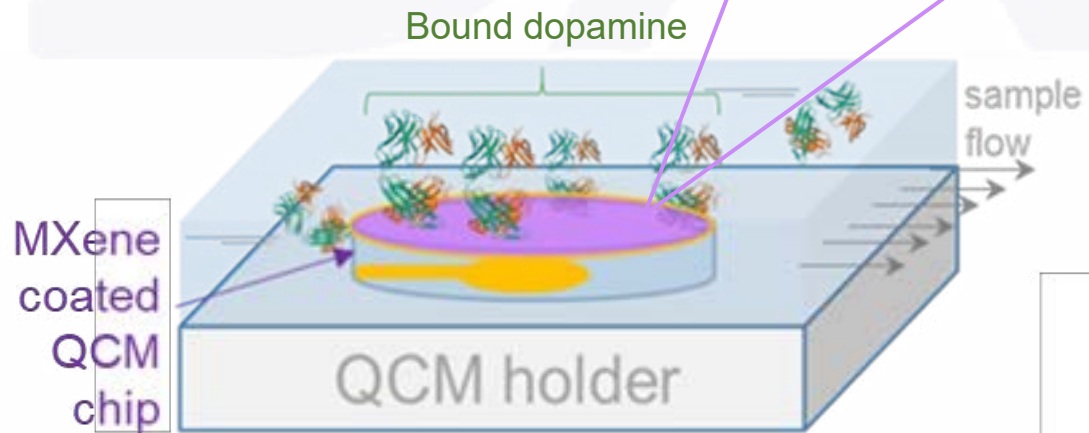
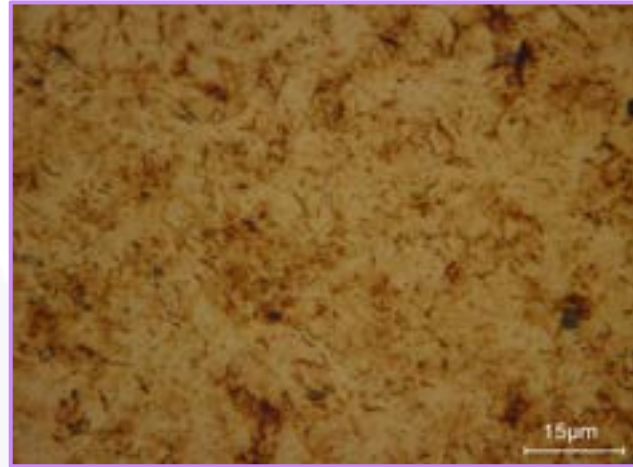
UV-Vis Spectra of $\text{Ti}_3\text{C}_2\text{T}_x$ MXene (black) and Dopamine (red) in solution.



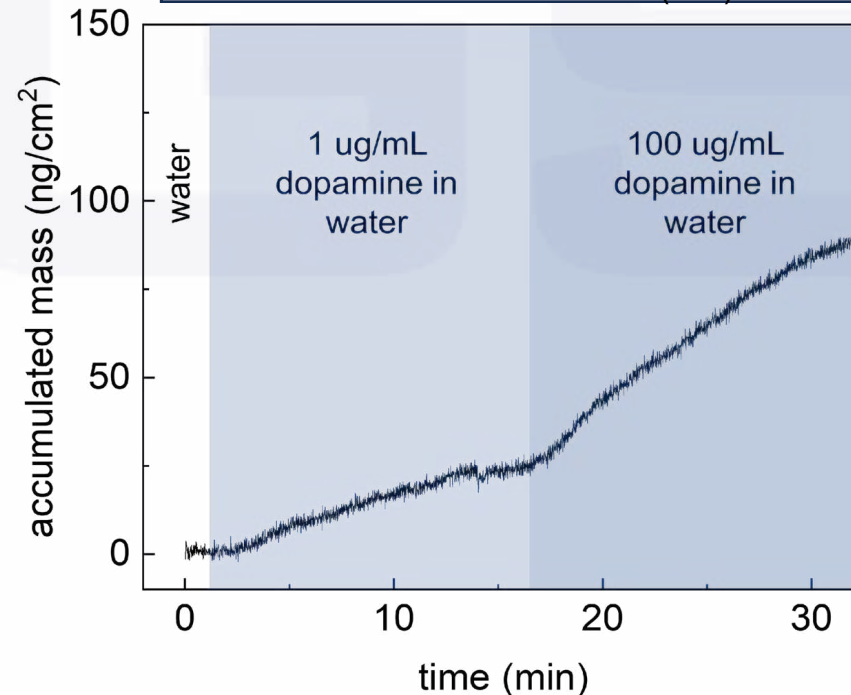
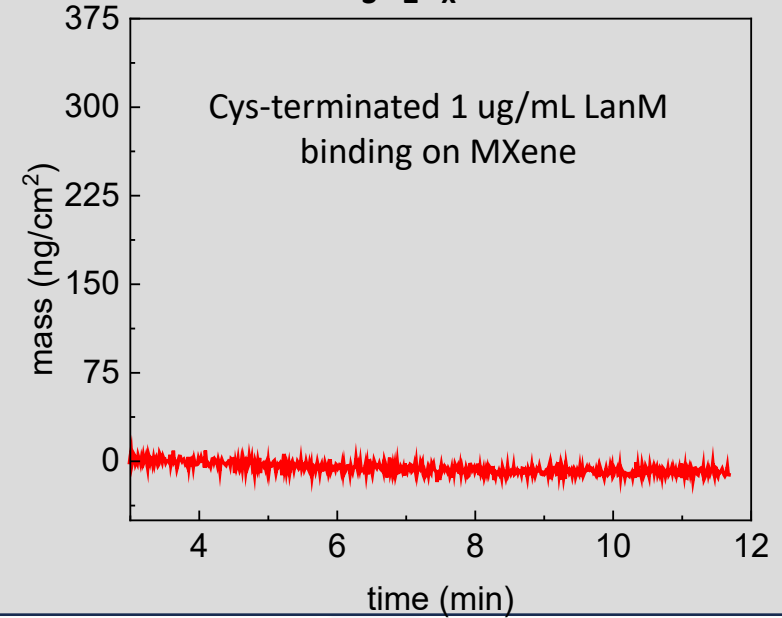
Ultrathin uniform $\text{Ti}_3\text{C}_2\text{T}_x$ MXene film over a large area. (Right Image) Optical image at 150X magnification and (Left Image) AFM topography image zoomed into the film to see individual flakes.

Will Dopamine Bind to $Ti_3C_2T_x$ MXene?

Quartz Crystal Microbalance (QCM) was used to determine surface adhesion of either LanM or dopamine onto $Ti_3C_2T_x$ MXene surface



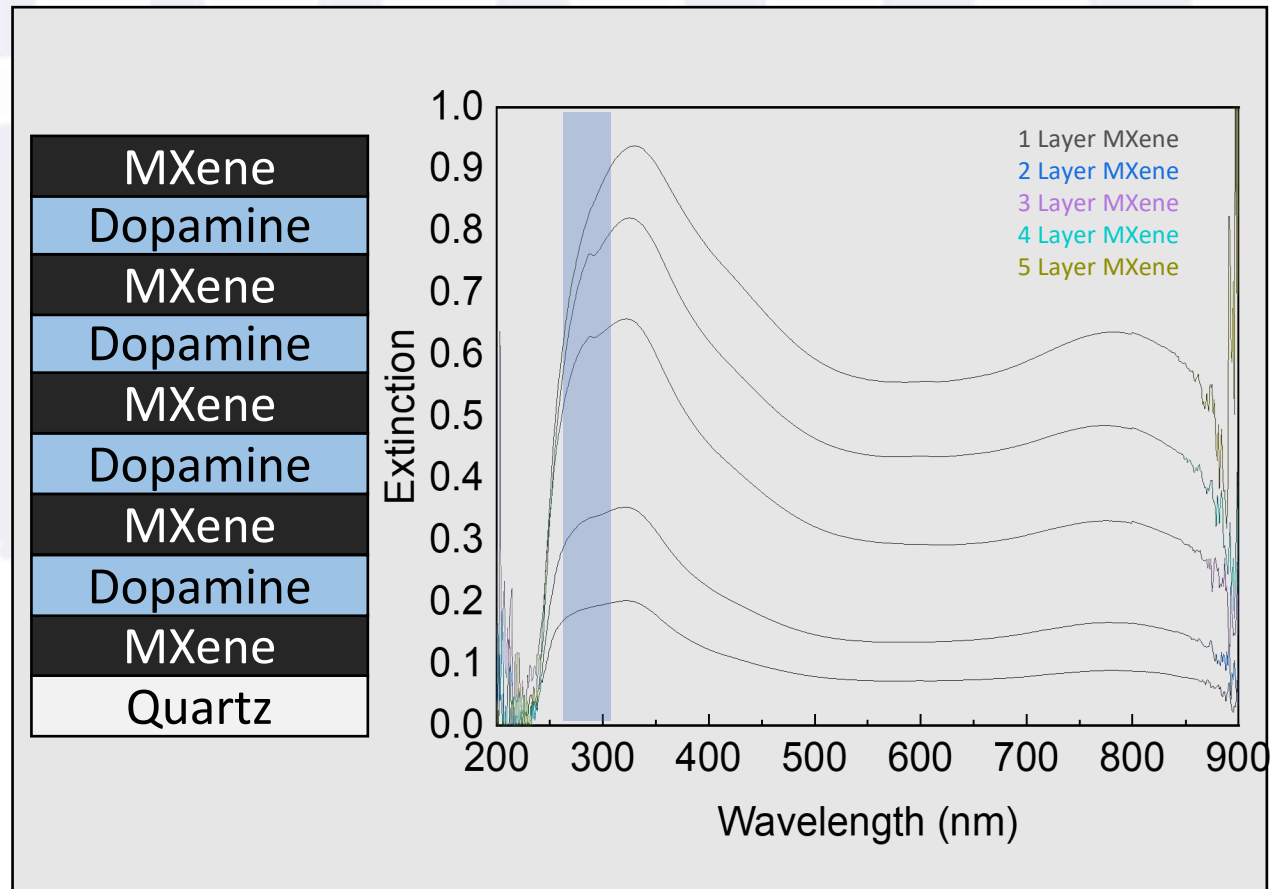
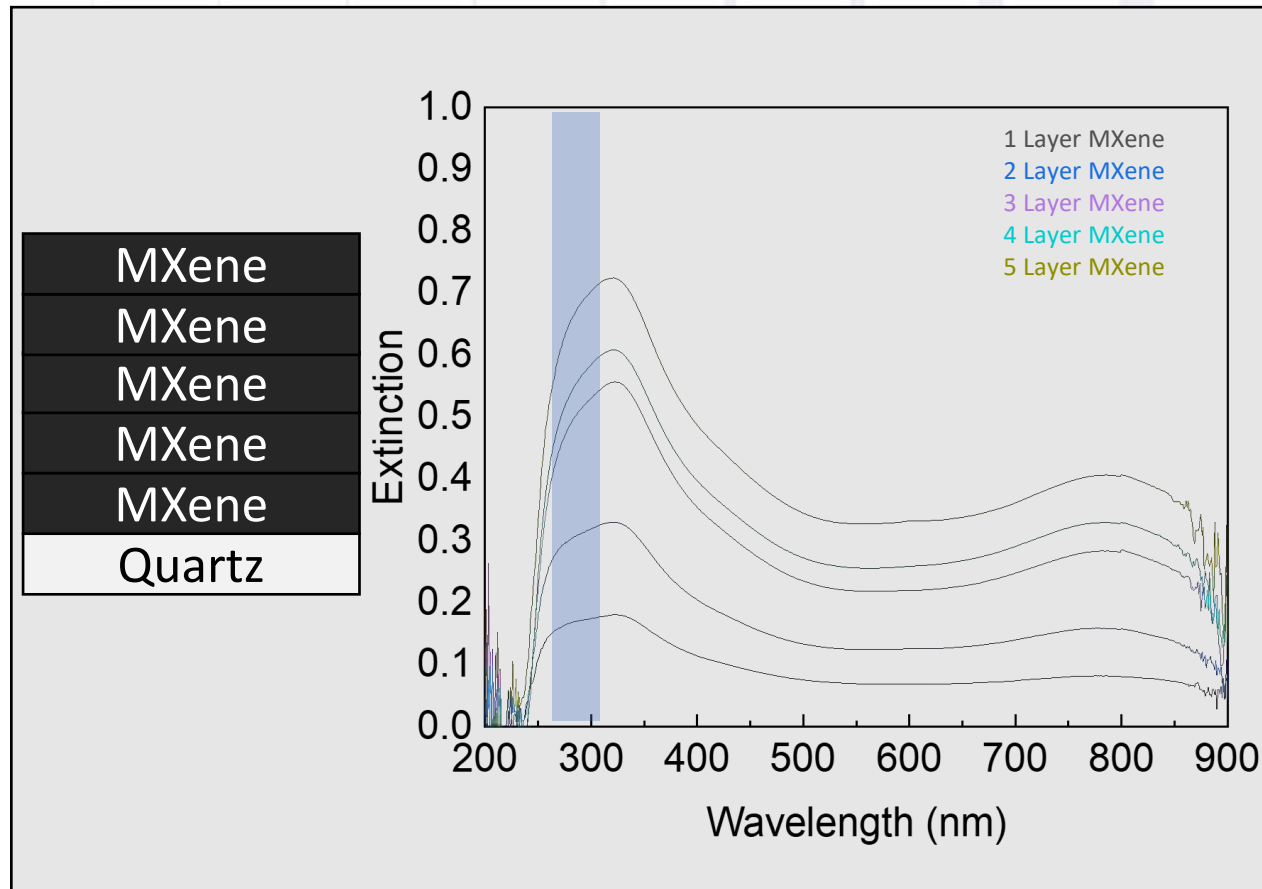
Determined that LanM does not bind directly to $Ti_3C_2T_x$ MXene



QCM data displayed adhesion of dopamine onto the surface of $Ti_3C_2T_x$ MXene

Characterizing MXene + Dopamine Layered Films

UV-Vis Spectra was taken to monitor layer growth

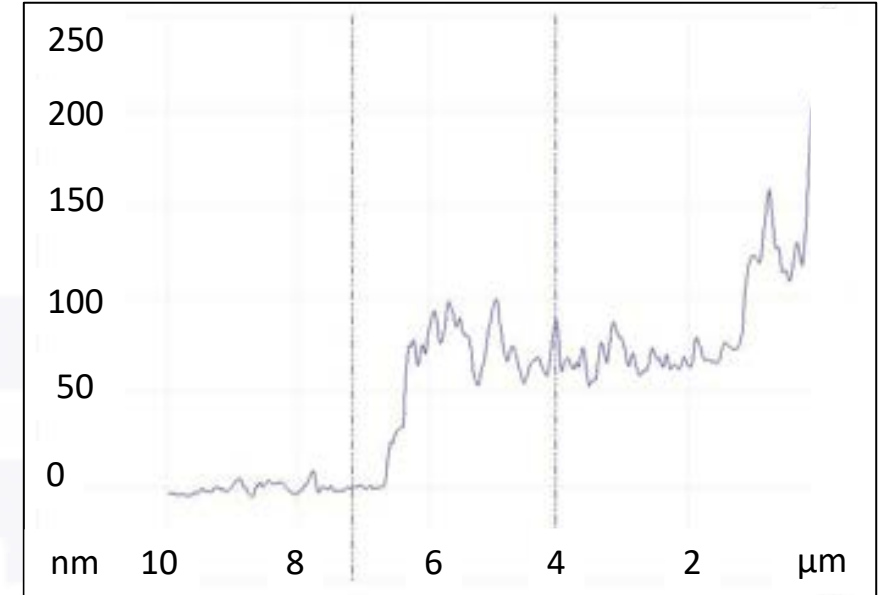
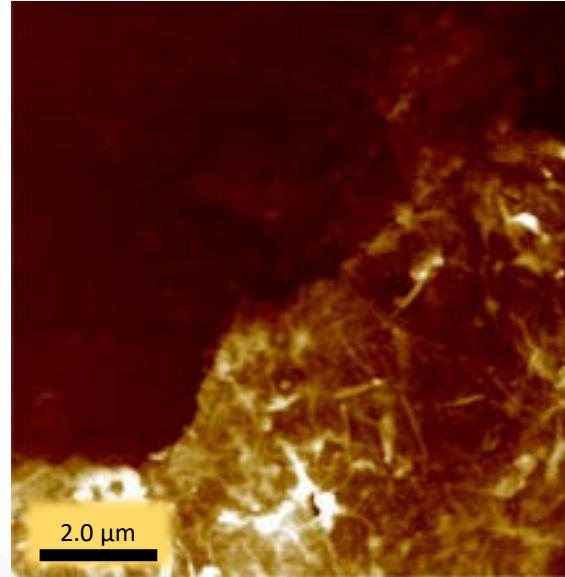


Height Changes with the Presence of Dopamine

- Using an AFM Height image, the thickness of the 5 layered film could be measured
- MXene-MXene films had a thickness $\sim 50\text{nm}$
 - 10nm per layer
- MXene-Dopamine films had a thickness $\sim 100\text{nm}$
 - 20nm per layer
 - The surface was overall rougher

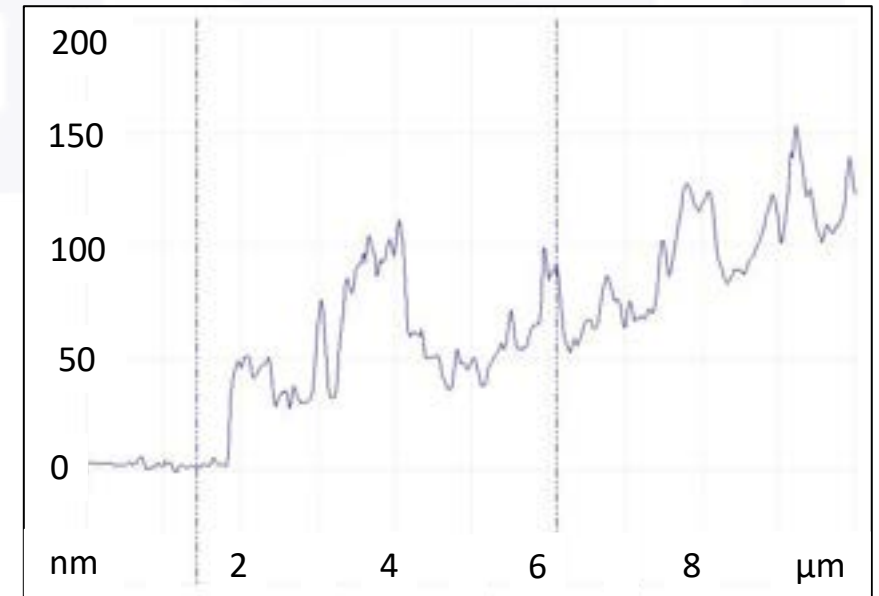
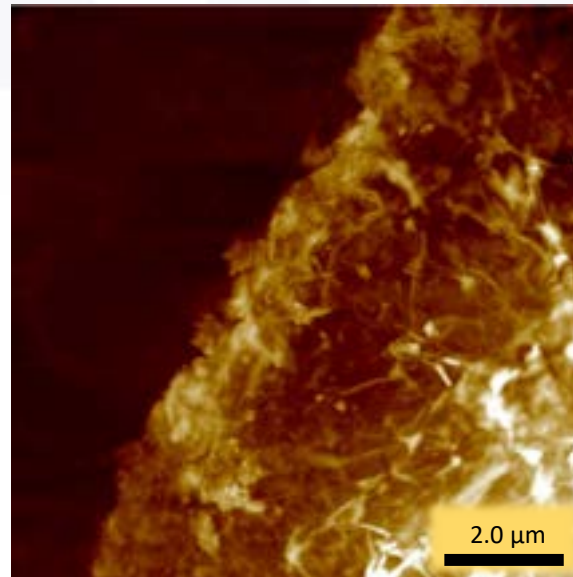
MXene-MXene Layered Sample

MXene
MXene
MXene
MXene
MXene
Quartz



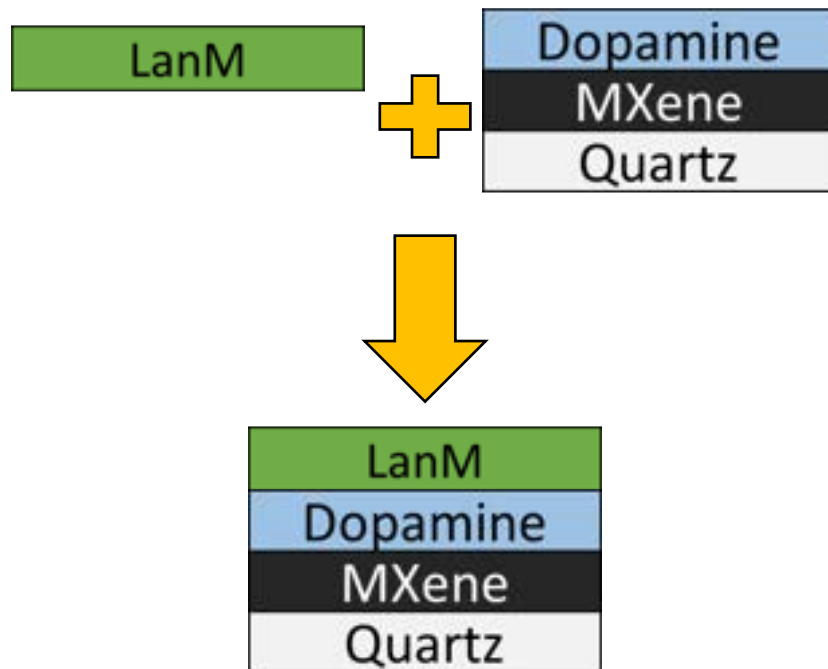
MXene-Dopamine Layered Sample

MXene
Dopamine
MXene
Dopamine
MXene
Dopamine
MXene
Dopamine
MXene
Quartz

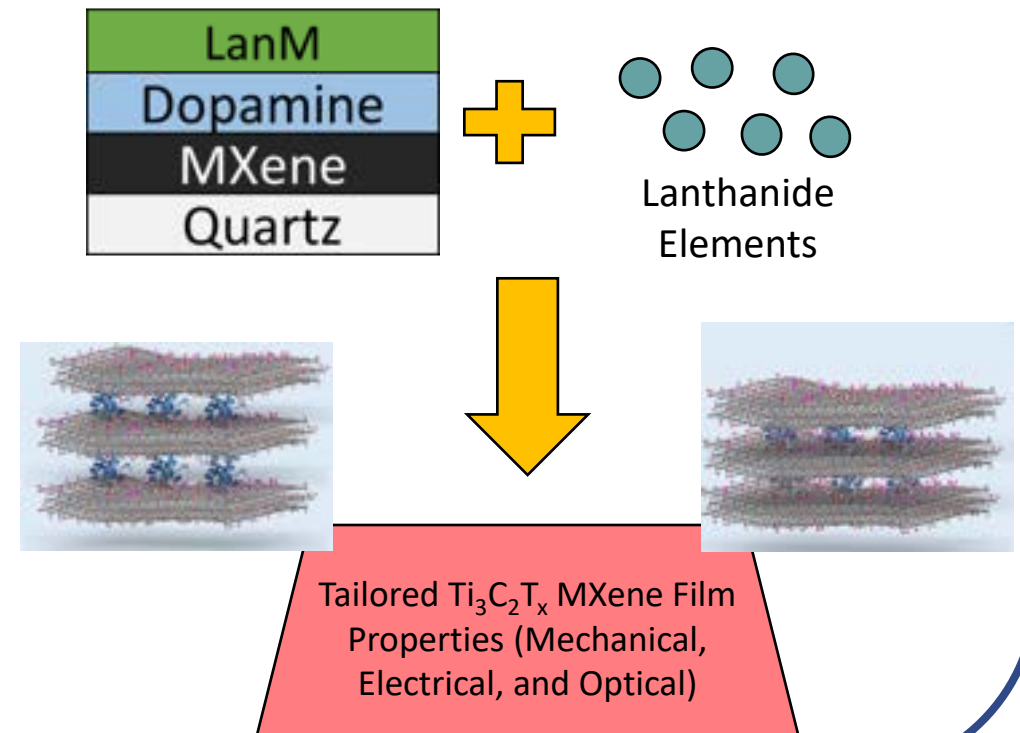


Future Work

Step 1: Determine if MXene-Dopamine films can bind LanM peptide



Step 2: Introduce various lanthanides to these films and determine if properties are altered



Acknowledgements

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DAAGSI

Title

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