



DÉPÔT LUBRIFIANT MOS₂+TA POUR APPLICATION SPATIALE - MAINTIEN DE LA LUBRIFICATION LORS DE LA TRANSITION AIR/VIDE

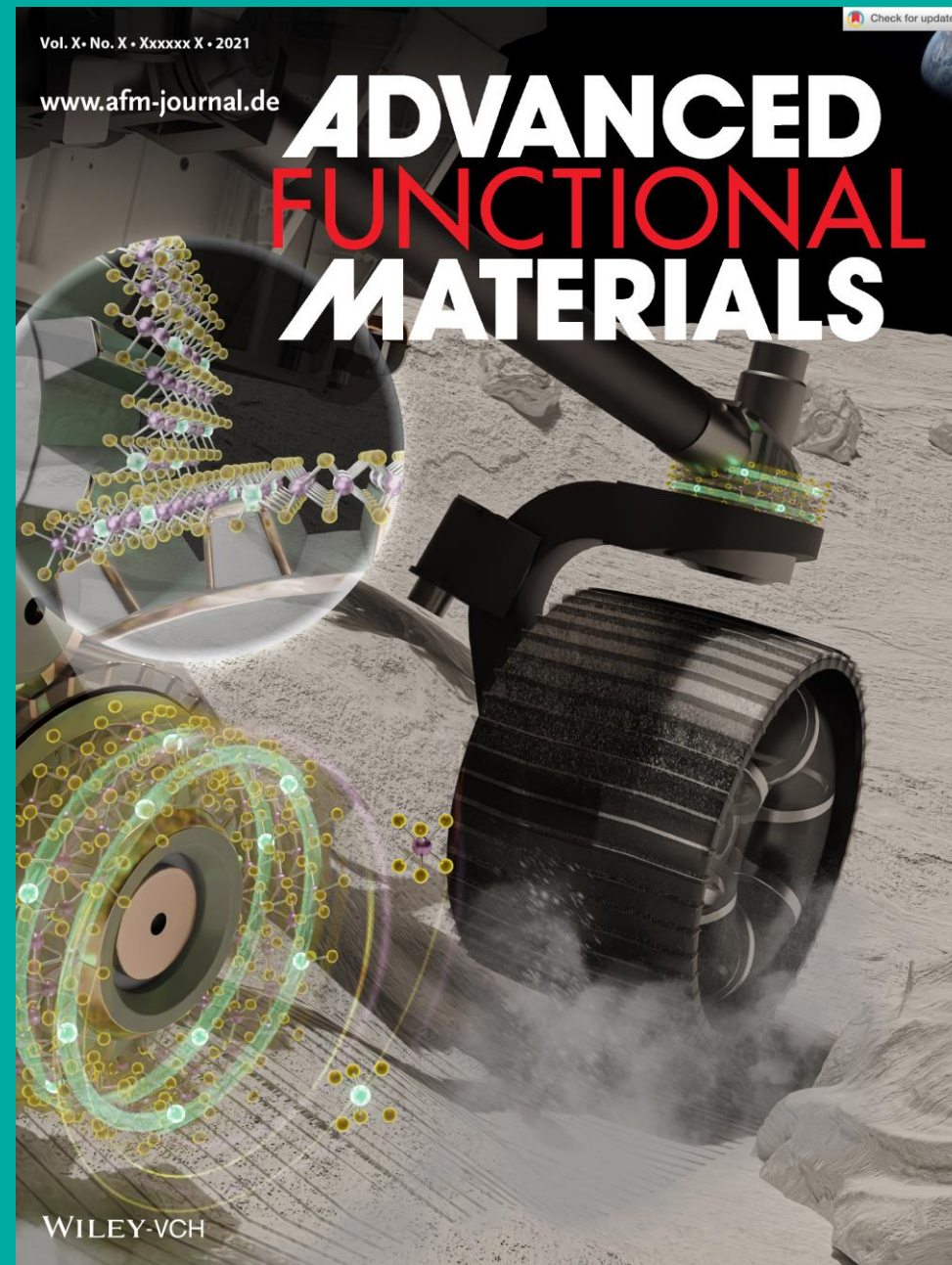
- *Approche de compréhension et design*
- *Performances*

Serles Peter^{1,2}, Nicholson Eric³, Tam Jason³, Barri Nima², Chemin Jean-Baptiste⁴, Wang Guorui¹, Michel Yann⁵, Singh Chandra Veer³, Choquet Patrick⁴, Aurélien Saulot², Filleter Tobin¹

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• Design of a new high performance coating for space application



- *Space environment ?*
- *Space application ?*

3 lives

Launch

Space

Lubrication must be sustained in all those environments!

Multi-env. Tribology

Performances on Ground = Space is critical

Earth



Source: Thalès Alenia Space



Source: Ariane Espace



Source: ESA

Different specific characteristics

- Mechanics
- Physico-chemistry
- Temperatures

Ground tests = up to 30% of the total mechanism life

• Design of a new high performance coating for space application



- *Space environment ?*
- *Space application ?*

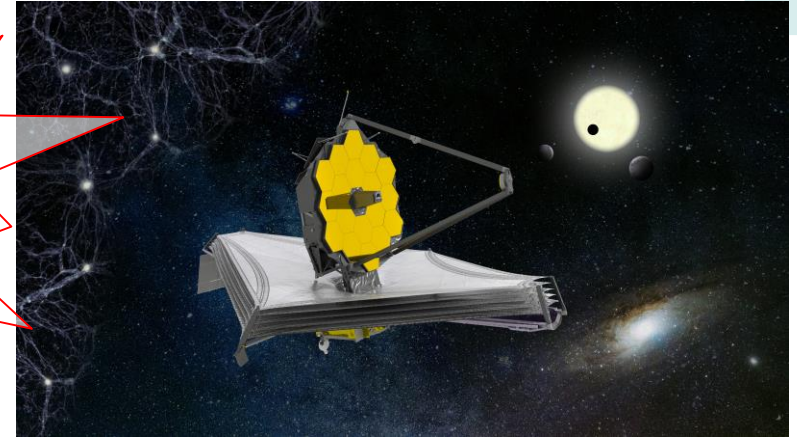
Lubrication must be sustained in all those environments!

Multi-env. Tribology

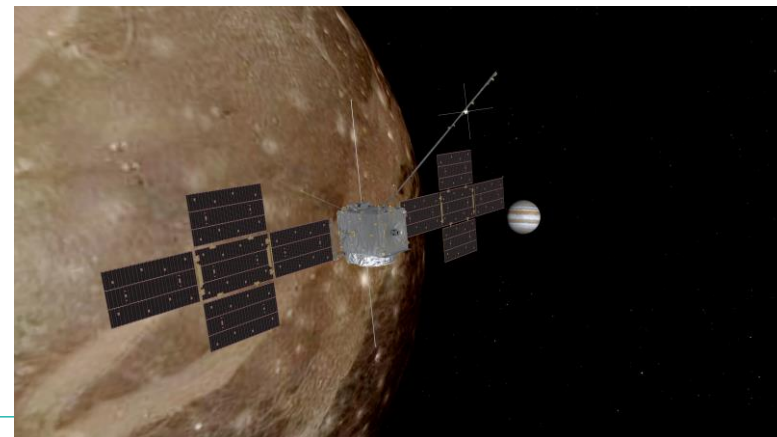
Performances on Ground = Space is critical

Recent issues

2022 - JWST
High friction in MIRI instrument



2023 - JUICE
Boom Antenna deployment (pin stuck)



• Design of a new high performance coating for space application

➤ Literature full of contradictions?

Common thoughts



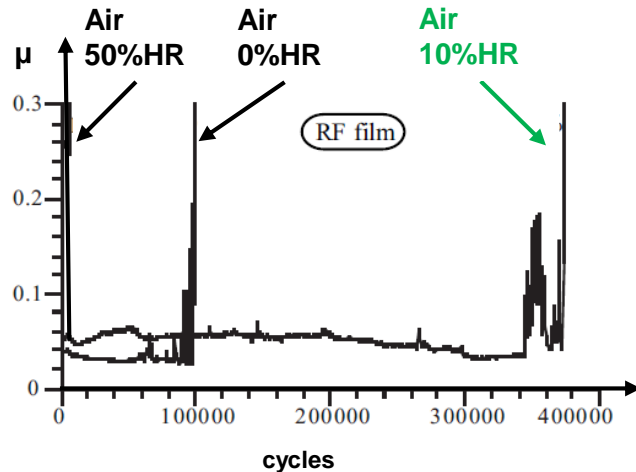
Air
Humidity is detrimental

Vacuum
Internal contamination detrimental

Dry N2 at Patmo mimics UHV

not always

does not mimic



MATSUMOTO K, SUZUKI M ESMATS 1999

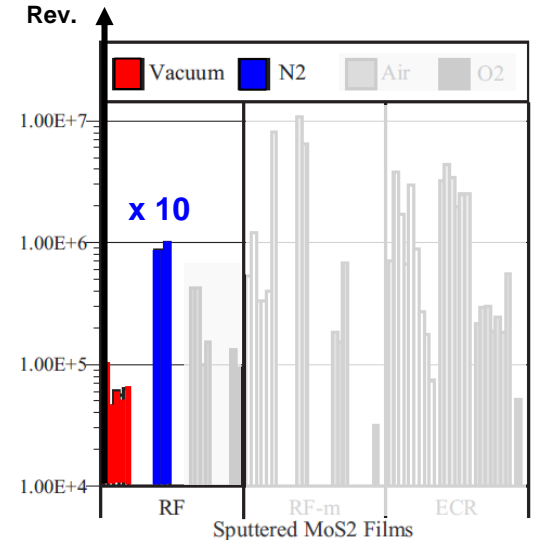
Disagreements

*It is,
Donnet, 1996*

*Not necessarily
Buck 1983 & 1987, Finch 1950*

Depends on vacuum level

Colas 2013 & 2015

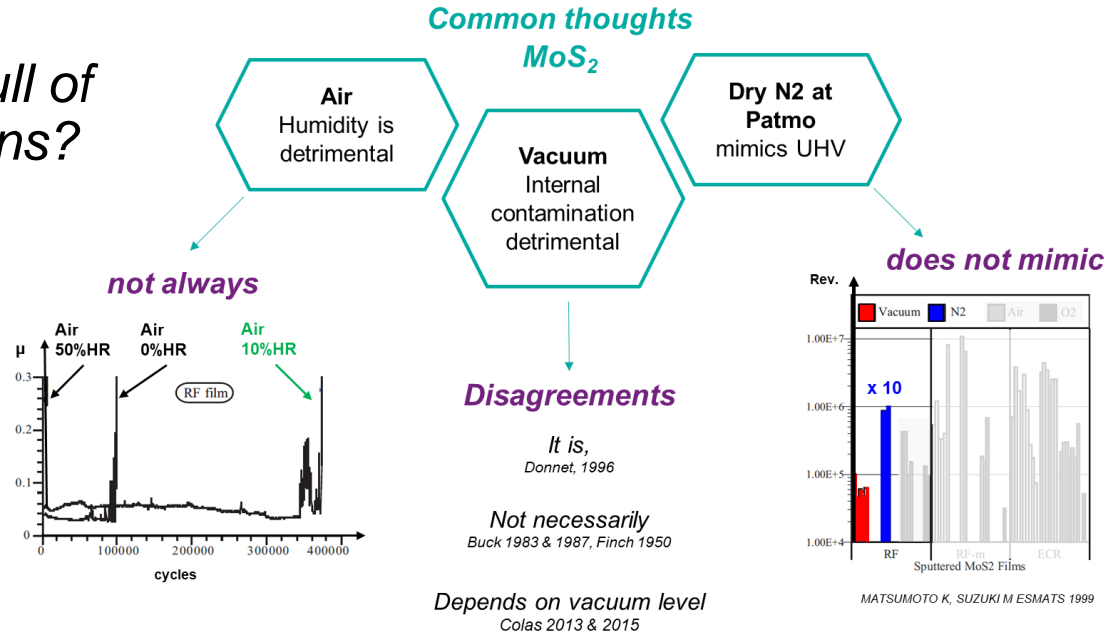


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• Design of a new high performance coating for space application

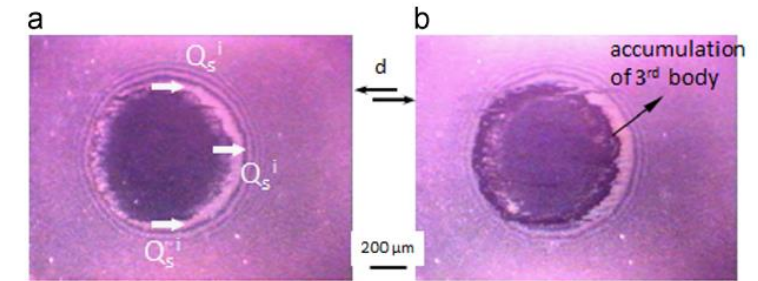
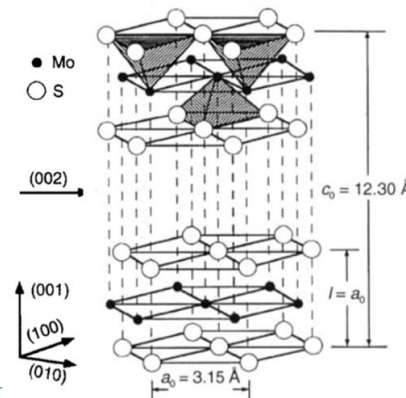
➤ Literature full of contradictions?



Friction coefficient and wear lives alone do not allow understanding nor predicting a tribological behaviour

➤ Any agreements ?

Yes ! Lubrication by shear, sacrificial damage of coating surface, circulation of 3rd body materials

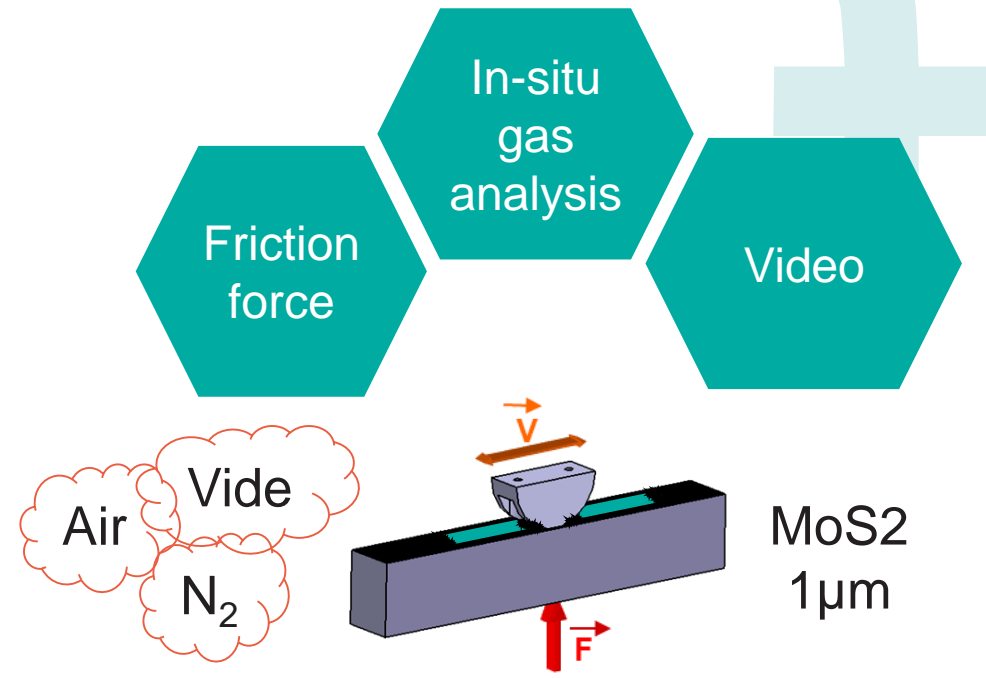


Descartes, et al, 2015.

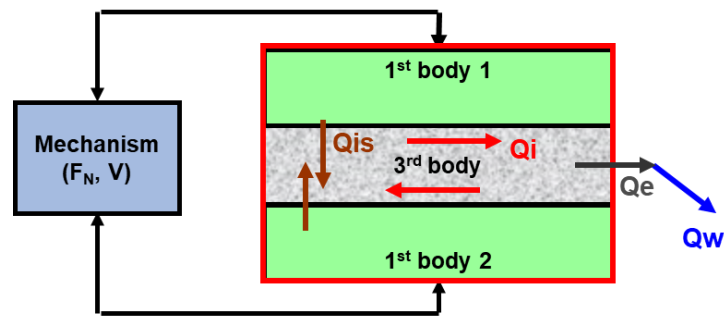
Singer E, et al, 1990 ; Wahl, K, et al, 2000 ; etc....

• Design of a new high performance coating for space application

Find and exploit the link between the creation and evolution of the lubricating layer and its physicochemical nature.env.



➤ Contact life reconstruction



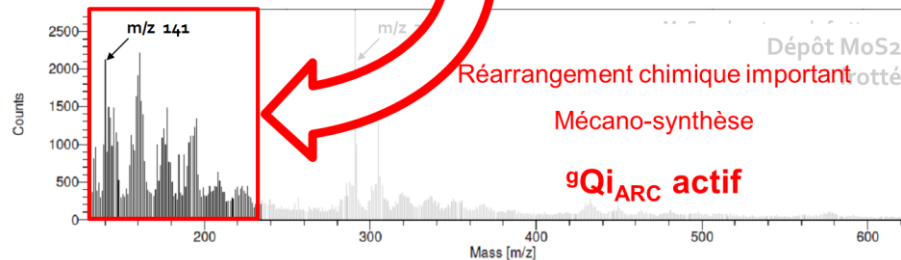
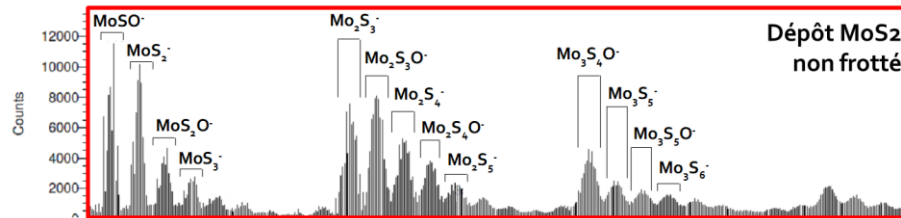
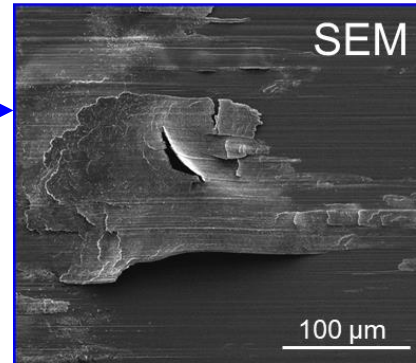
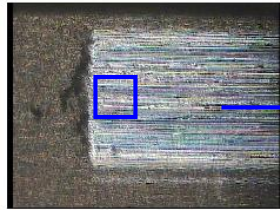
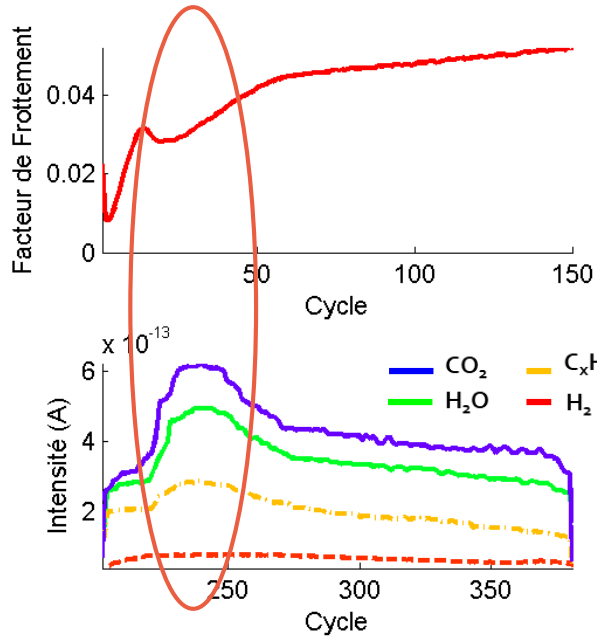
3rd body flows

Solid	Gaseous
Q _{is}	^g Q _{is}
Q _i	^g Q _i
Q _w	^g Q _w
...	...

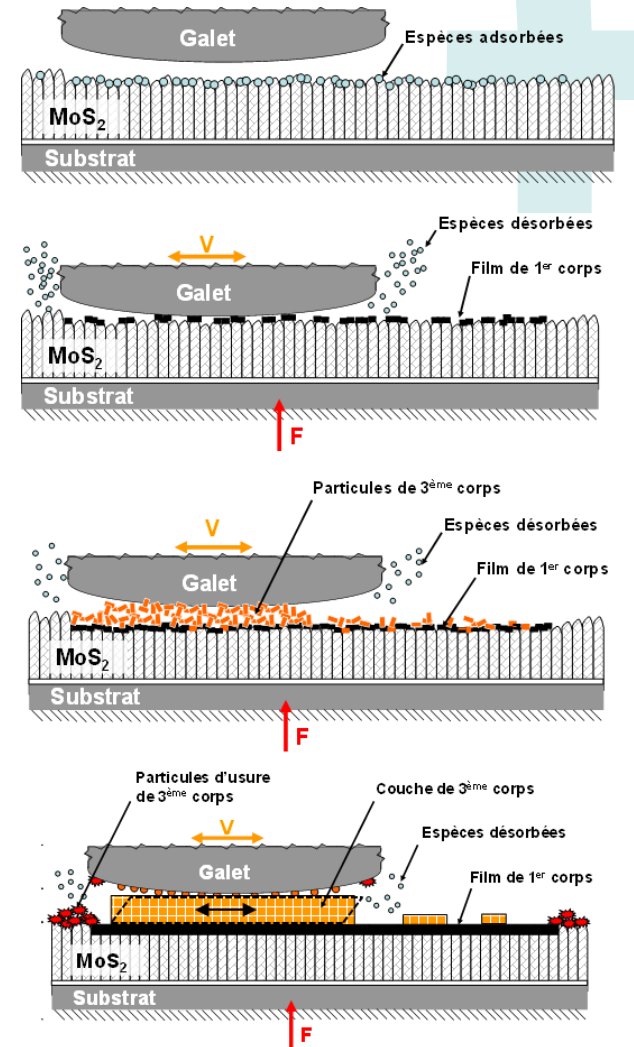


• Design of a new high performance coating for space application

Sous UHV



ToF-SIMS
Top surface chemistry



• Design of a new high performance coating for space application

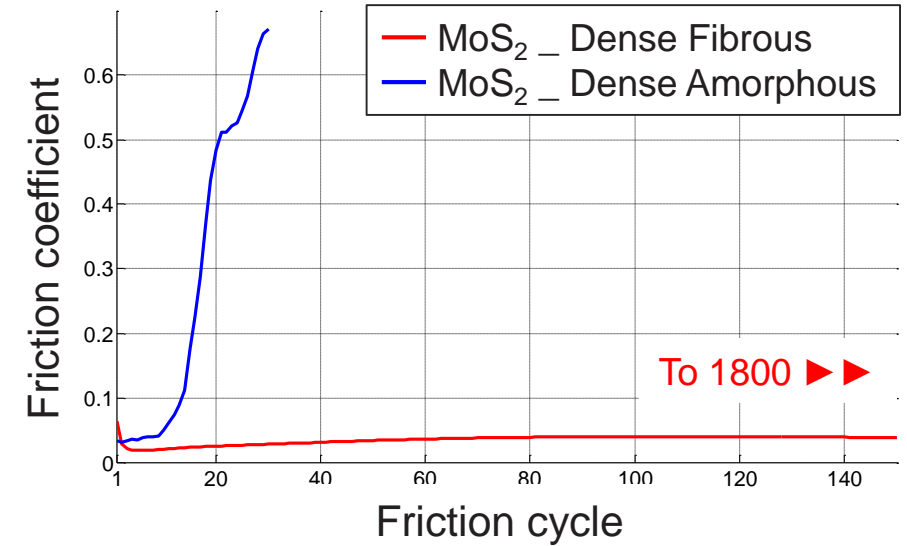
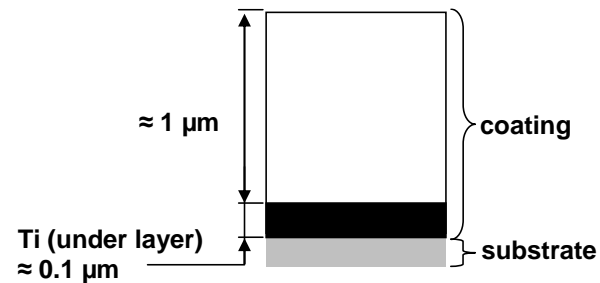
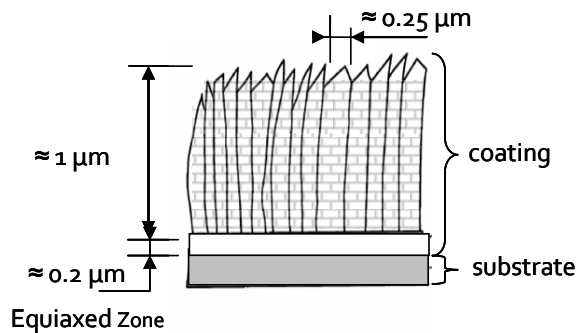
➤ *The denser the better?*



➤ *Two MoS₂ coatings _ Friction in UHV*

Dense Fibrous
Amorphous and
nanocrystalline

Dense amorphous
Fully
nanocrystalline



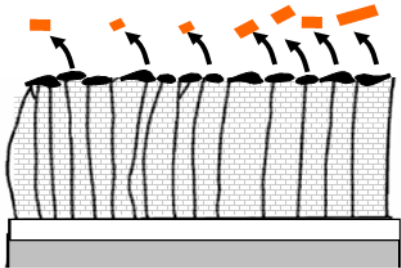
• Design of a new high performance coating for space application

➤ *The denser the better?*



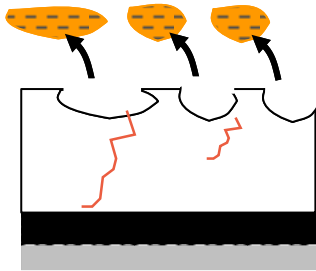
➤ *Two MoS₂ coatings _ Friction in UHV*

Dense Fibrous
Amorphous and
nanocrystalline

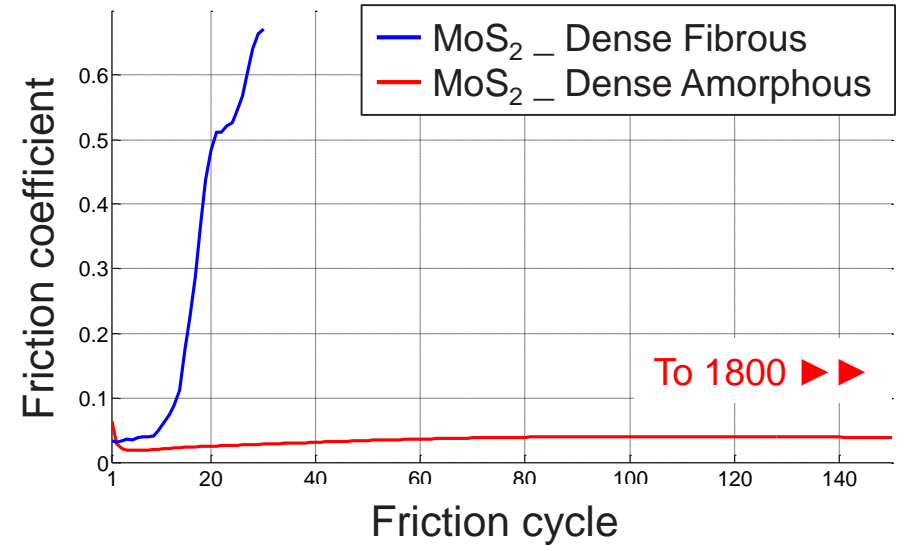


Sacrificial surface
damage, small particle

Dense amorphous
Fully
nanocrystalline



Crack propagation, large
particle, coating depletion



Efficient MoS₂ lubrication in
vacuum

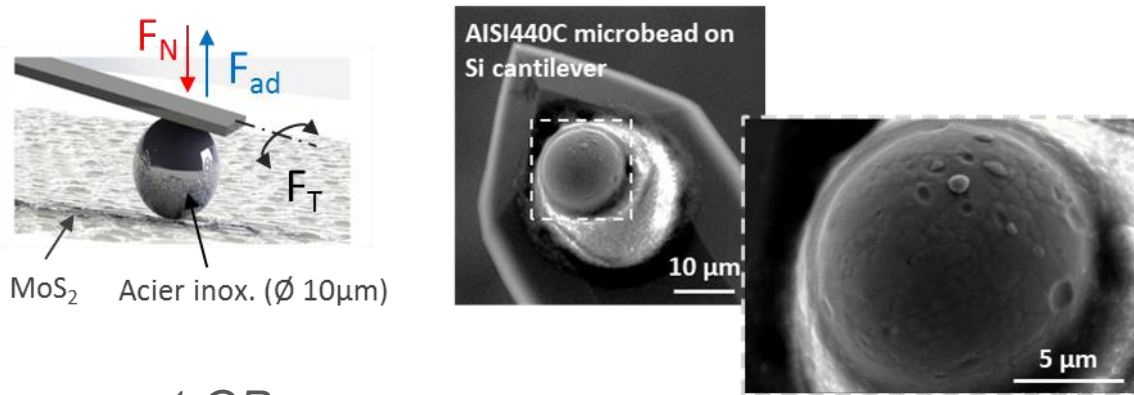
if particles small enough to stay
trapped inside the contact

• Design of a new high performance coating for space application

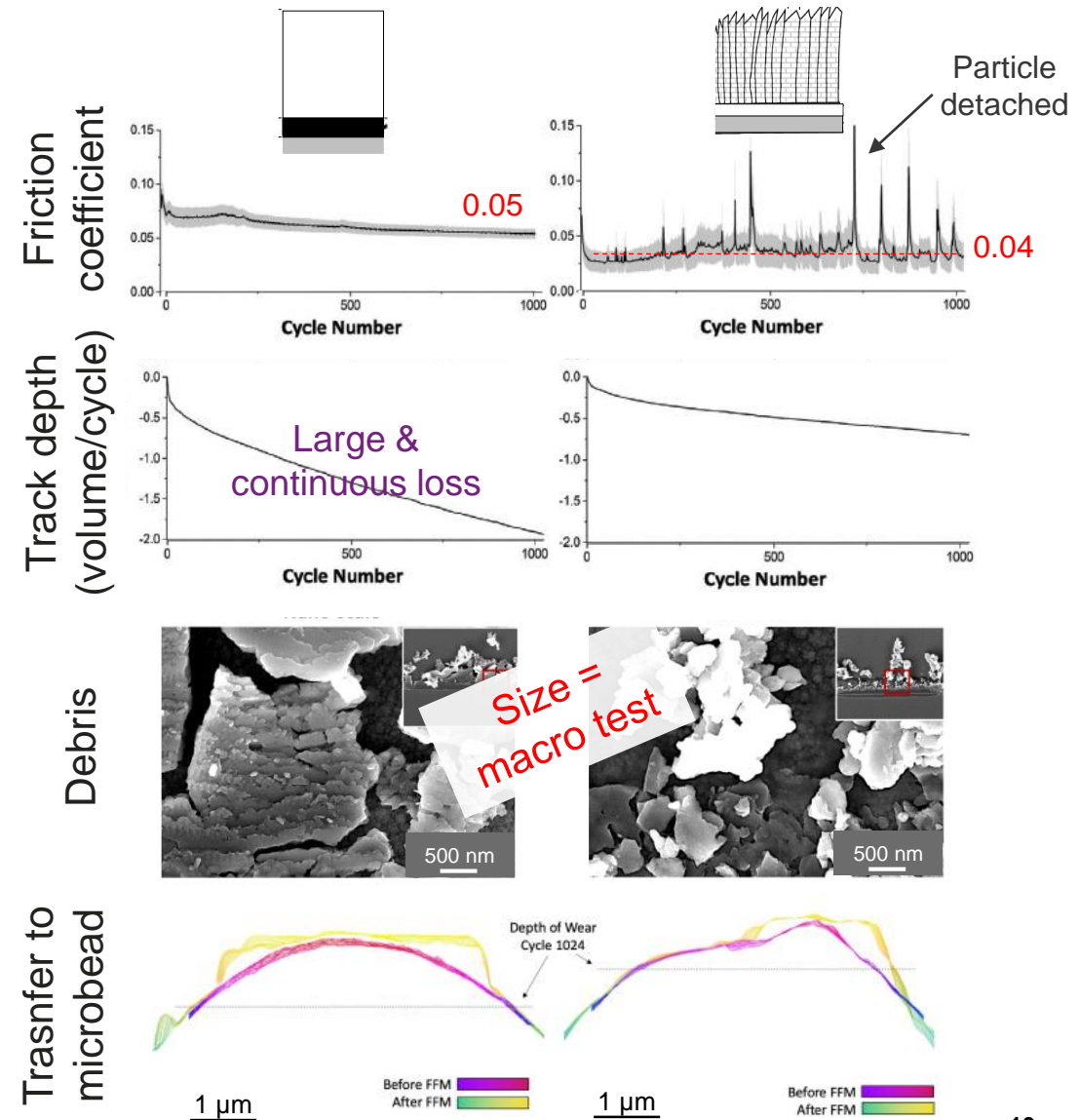
Conclusion based on Qualitative analysis...



➤ AFM Friction test in dry N2



1 GPa (Fuller & Tabor)
 Reciprocating, 60μm track length
 Vs = 15μm/s ; Nb cycle = 1000

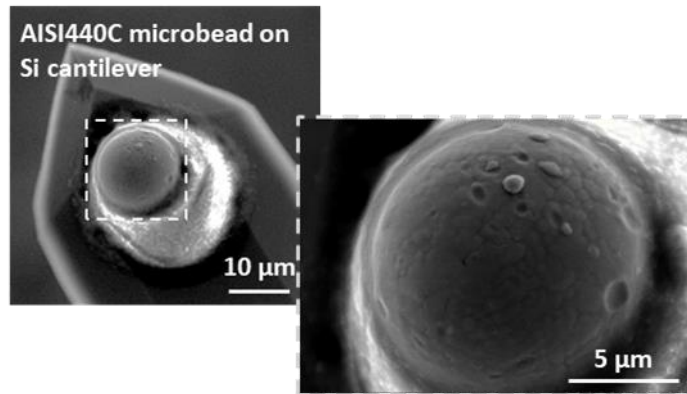
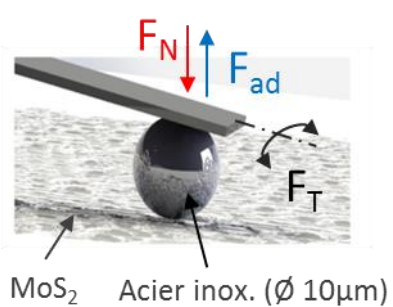


• Design of a new high performance coating for space application

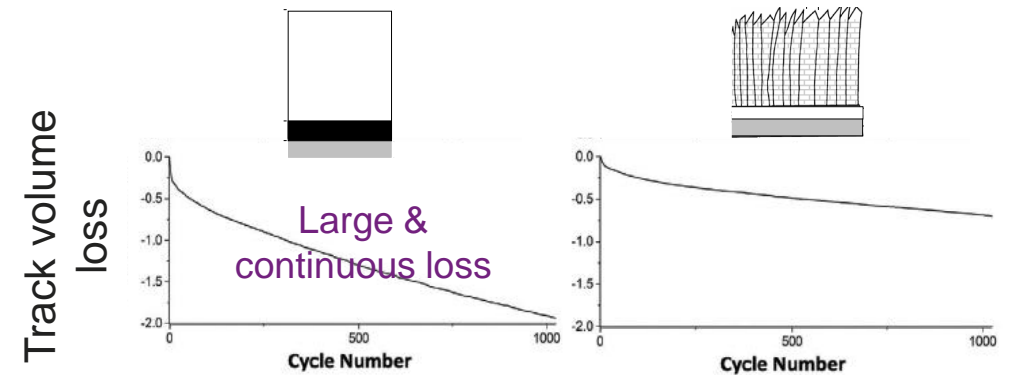
Conclusion based on Qualitative analysis...



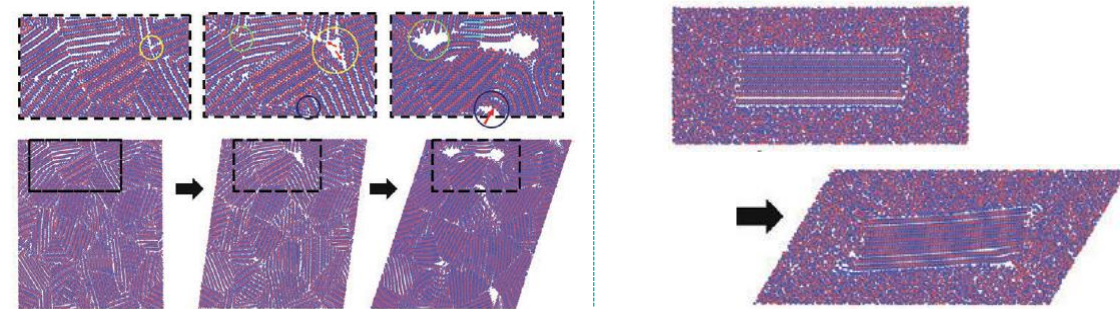
➤ AFM Friction test in dry N2



1 GPa (Fuller & Tabor)
 Reciprocating, 60μm track length
 Vs = 15μm/s ; Nb cycle = 1000



➤ Molecular dynamics



21% lower shear stress, ultimate shear @ 20% lower strain
 Cracks, continuous particle detachment

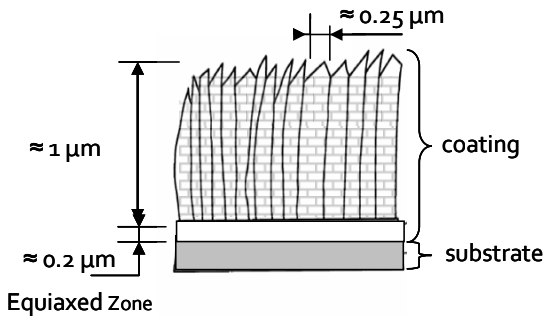
• Design of a new high performance coating for space application

➤ How to make it resist ground to space transition ?



➤ Two Antagonists MoS₂ based coatings

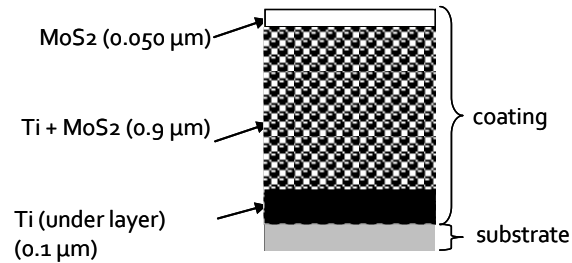
Dense Fibrous
Amorphous and
nanocrystalline



MoS₂

Lub. In Vacuum, dry N₂

Dense amorphous
Fully
nanocrystalline



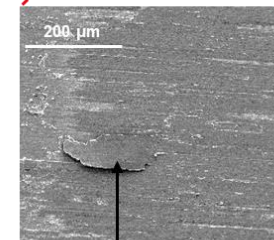
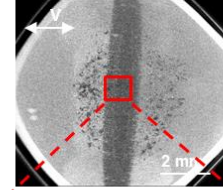
MoS₂ + 10%Ti

Lub. In Air and dry N₂

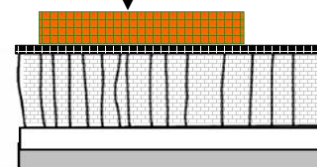
MoS₂

N₂ (10⁵Pa, 0%HR)

μ = 0,06, W = ++



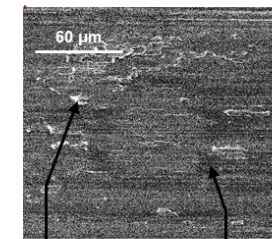
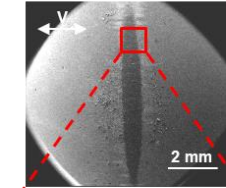
Ductile, [Mo+S+O+N₂]



MoS₂ + 10%Ti

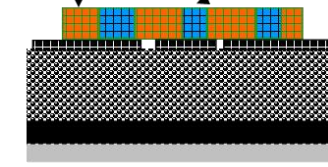
N₂ (10⁵Pa, 0%HR)

μ = 0,01, W = +



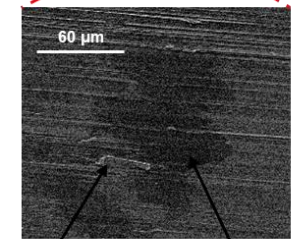
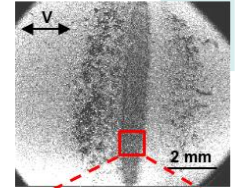
Ductile, [Mo+S+O]

Non ductile, [Ti+O+Mo+(N)]



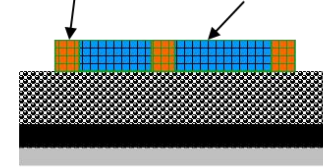
Air (10⁵Pa, 50%HR)

μ = 0,06, W = +++



Ductile, [Mo+S+O]

Non ductile, [Ti+O+N]



➤ N₂ and H₂O Physisorb / chemisorb
➤ MoS_xO_y presence => like MoS₂ in UHV

• Design of a new high performance coating for space application

➤ *To summarize, coating sustaining ground => space working environment ?*



➤ Coating with relevant morphology and partially crystalline

- Localize cracks at coating surface
 - Local detachment of particle small enough to be trapped
 - Agglomeration into ductile 3rd body layer

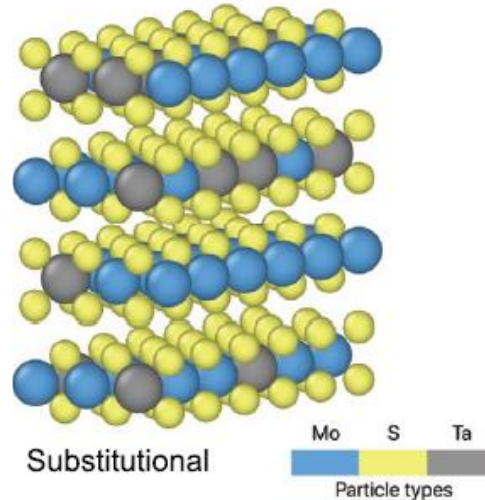
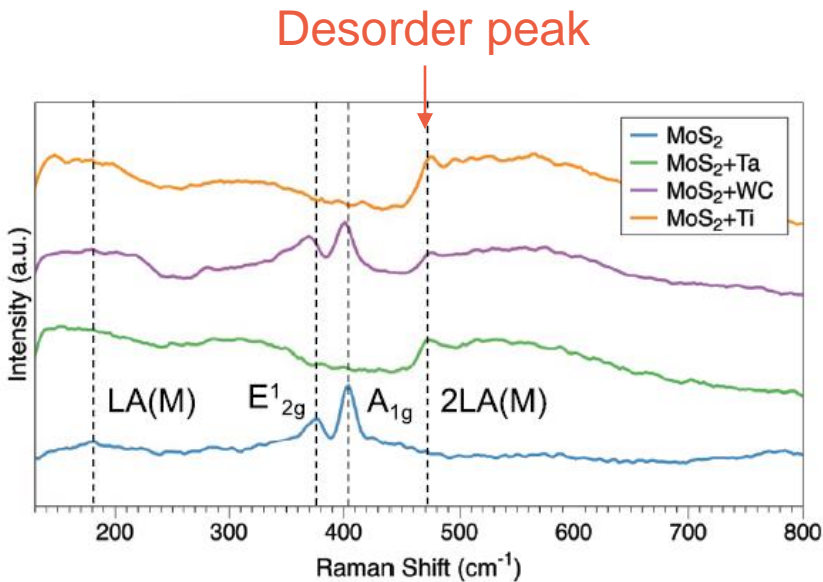
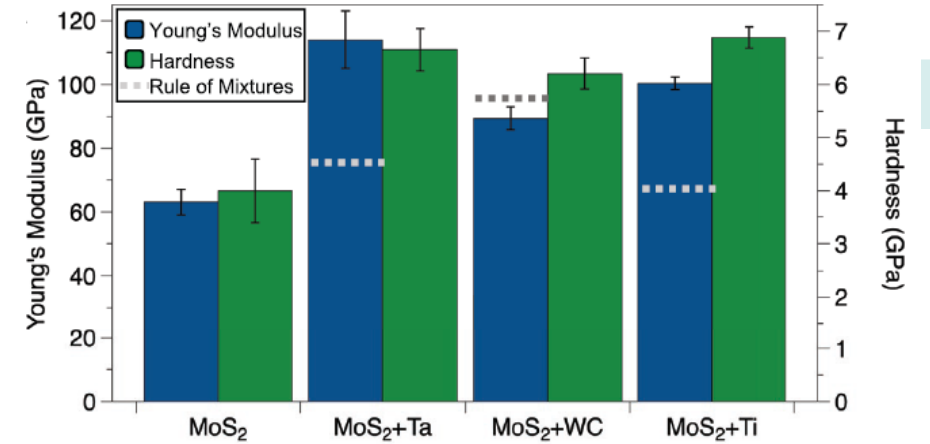
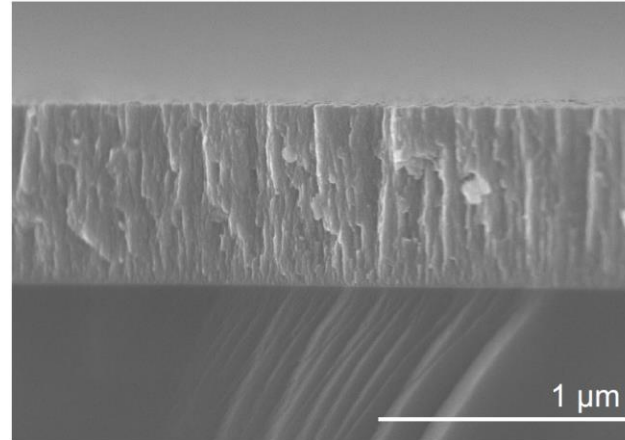
➤ Addition element to protect MoS₂ and Lubricate

- Gaseous in nature => e.g. internal contaminants of MoS₂
 - MoS_xO_y, not perfect but lubricious capabilities
- Solid => getter effect to protect MoS₂ against further oxidation
 - Selective chemisorption
 - But must also be lubricious in vacuum environments

• Our new high performance coating for space application



- $MoS_2 + 10\%Ta + O$
- PVD Deposition
- Dense fibrous
- Hard
- Crystalline ?



Mo substitution by Ta

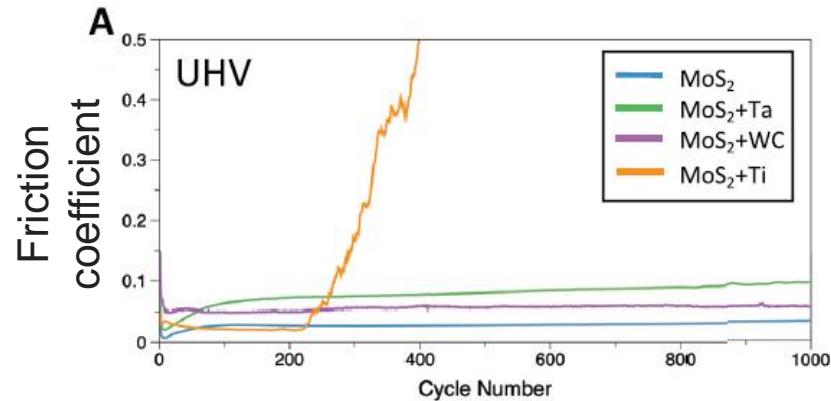
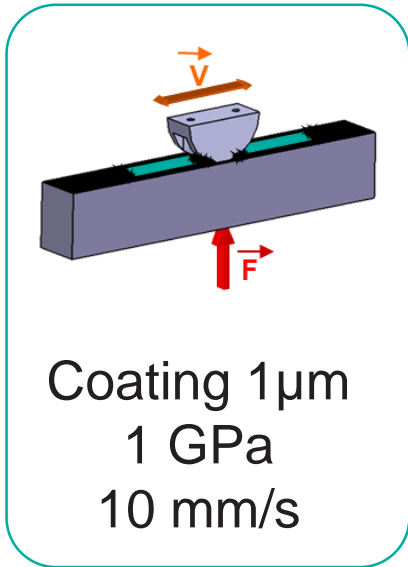
➤ XPS shows

- MoS_2^* ; TaS_2^*
- $Ta_2O_5^*$; peu de MoO_2
- $MoS_xO_y^*$; $TaS_xO_y^{**}$
- *Mo-Ta-S-O most likely*

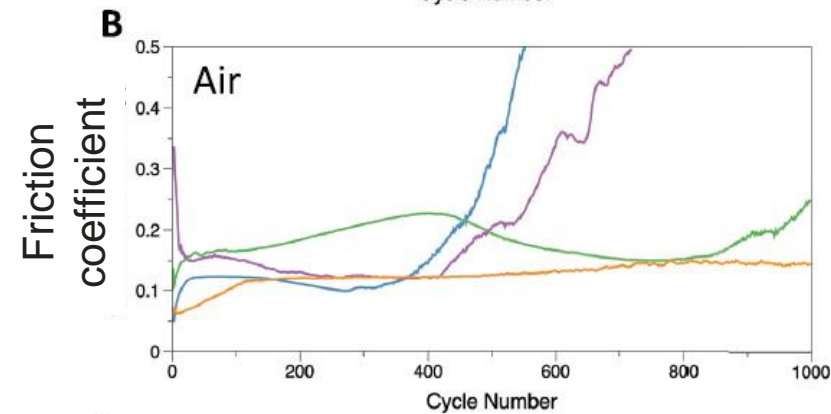
* *Lubricious in vacuum or air ;*
 ** *most likely lubricious*

• Our new high performance coating for space application

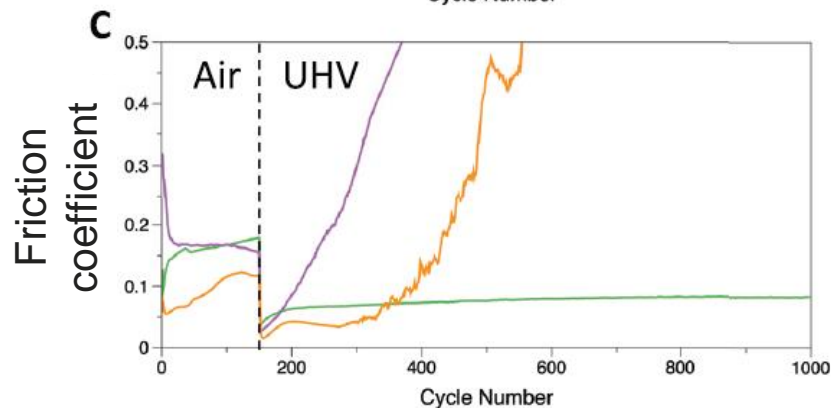
➤ Works?



➔ Below 0.1 => Success



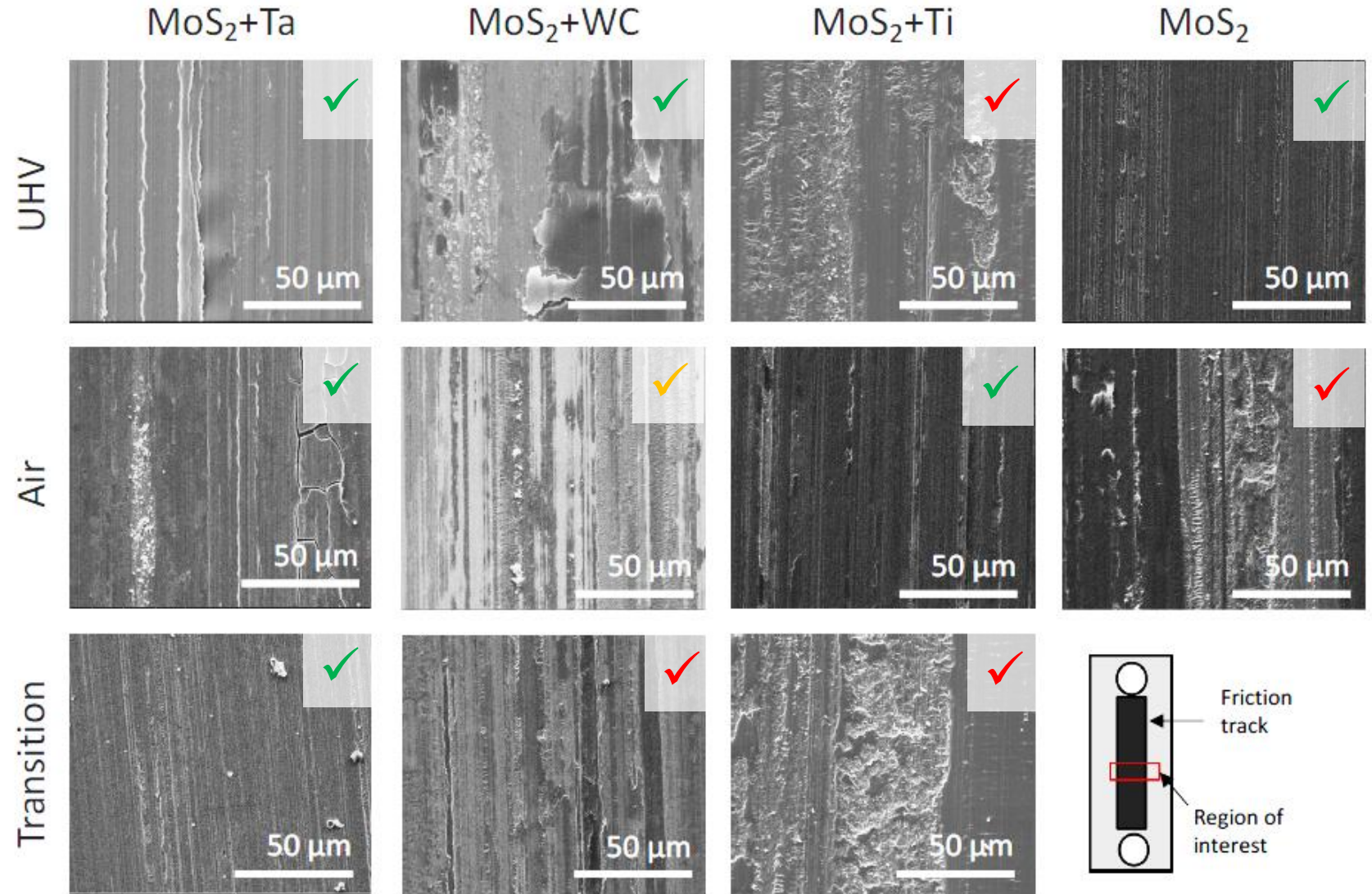
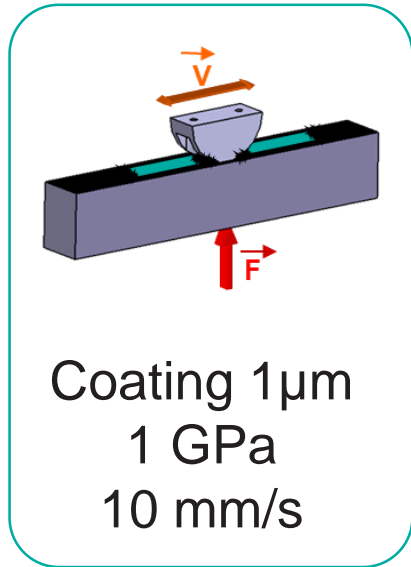
➔ in 0.15 – 0.2 range
No lubrication failure => 2/3 Success
Better than MoS₂



➔ Below 0.1 in UHV
Definitely the best => Success
MoS₂ failed at 150 cycles

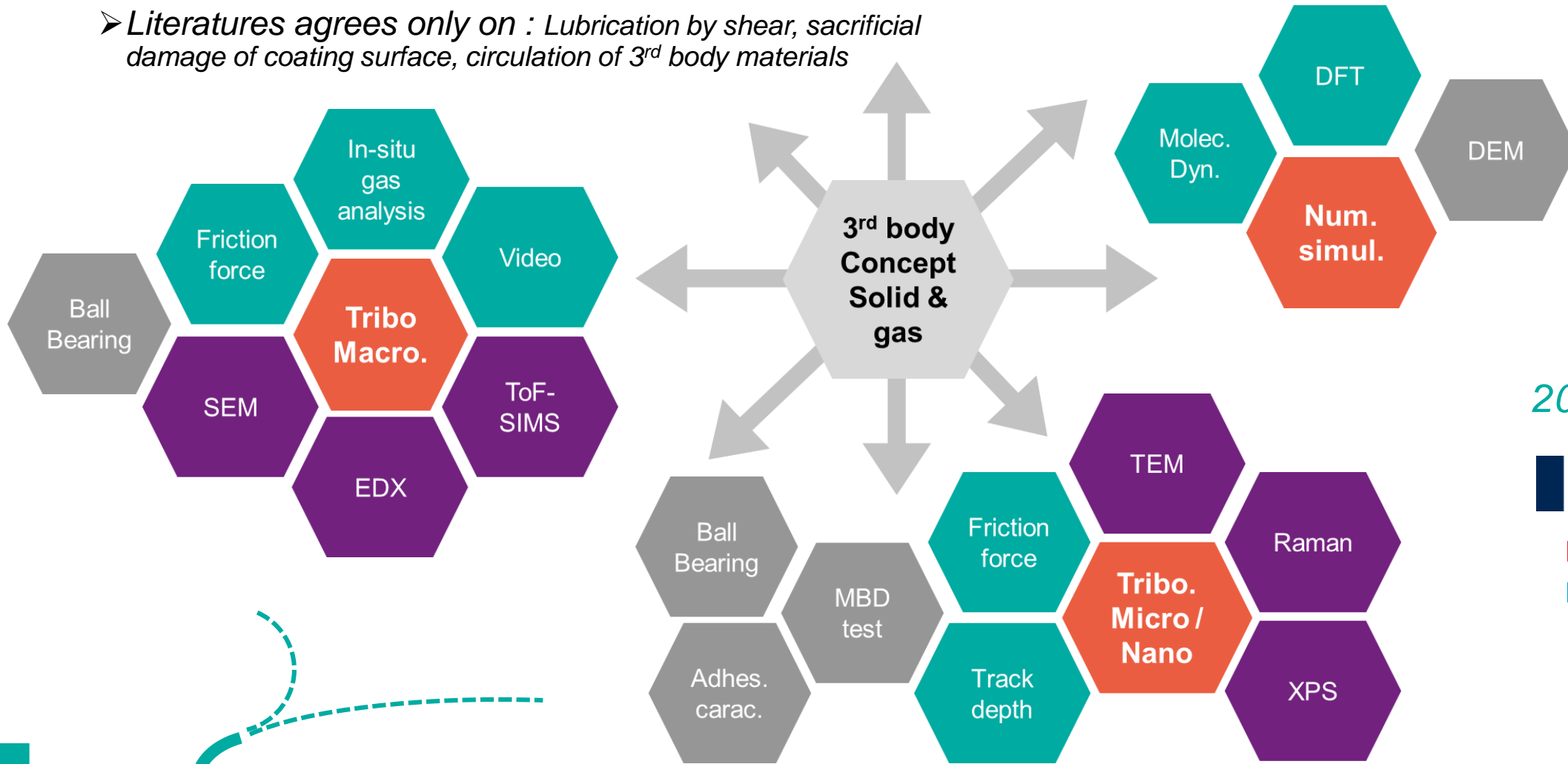
• Our new high performance coating for space application

➤ Works?



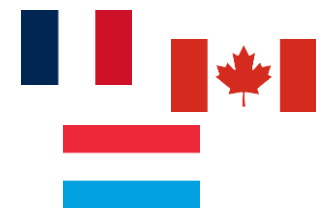
• Conclusion

- *Design coating for space lubrication*
- *Literatures agrees only on : Lubrication by shear, sacrificial damage of coating surface, circulation of 3rd body materials*



Successful design of new coating

2009 to 2022



• Our new high performance coating for space application

➤ 2023 => 2026



➤ TRL 3 => TRL7

➤ Validation to pass to pre-certification / prequalification stage of the coating for space flight

➤ Pure sliding, rolling+sliding

➤ Different environment

➤ Ball bearing level test

➤ 3 laboratories



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➤ 3 space agencies



➤ 1 industrial



Thanks for your attention



Acknowledgements:



Aurélien Saulot
Yves Berthier
Claude Godeau
Didier Leonard
David Philippon
Mathieu Renouf
Yannick Baudassé
Fabrice Champandard
Alain Mistral
.....



Tobin Filleter
Peter Serles
Simo Pajovic
Chandra Veer Singh
Jason Tam
Eric Nicholson
Andrew Gibson
Peter Cameron
Alexander Beaton
.....



Jean-Baptiste Chemin
Patrick Choquet
Thierry Girot

Our papers related to this presentation

- [1] G. Colas, et al, *Tribol. Int.* 65 (2013) 177–189
- [2] G. Colas, et al. *Wear.* 305 (2013) 192–204
- [3] G. Colas, et al, *Wear.* 330–331 (2015) 448–460
- [4] G. Colas, et al. *Thin Solid Films.* 588 (2015) 67–77
- [5] S. Pajovic, et al, *Adv. Eng. Mater.* 1700423 (2017)
- [6] G. Colas, et al, *ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces.* 10 (2018) 20106–20119
- [7] G. Colas, et al, *J. Mech. Phys. Solids.* 128 (2019) 151–161
- [8] P. Serles, et al, *Adv. Mater. Interfaces.* 7 (2020)
- [9] P. Serles, et al, *Adv. Funct. Mater.* 2110429 (2022)

1 patent application (2021)