OMICS Group Conferences
Accelerating Scientific Discovery

3rd International Conference on
Nanotek & Expo

December 02-04, 2013 Hampton Inn Tropicana, Las Vegas, NV, USA

Nanobubble assisted changes of surface nanomorphology

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Nanobubbles and micropancakes are formed at the interface of aqueous solution and the hydrophobic surface. Compact and smooth polystyrene (PS) film spin coated on Si/SiO_2 wafer was used as a hydrophobic supporting surface with sub-nanometer roughness. In our presentation we show nanobubble-assisted nanopatterning of polystyrene surface exposed to aqueous media under conditions when nanobubbles are formed. The fact, that the position of polystyrene nanoprotrusions corresponds with position of nanobubbles, allows us to study nanobubble existence by *ex situ* AFM. Relatively short time interval of nanobubble-assisted imprint formation allows us to investigate the dynamics and mechanism of nanobubble creation. We demonstrate in this work that ex post, *ex situ* AFM imaging of PS surface after its exposition to nanobubbles in deionized water represents suitable technique for examination of nano- and microbubble formation, distribution and arrangement without influence of AFM scanning tip and avoiding the *in situ* AFM imaging complications respectively.

Biography

Hana Tarabkova received her Ph.D. degree from Faculty of Science, Charles University in Prague in 2003. Since then she has worked as a staff scientist in Department of Electrochemical Materials at the J. Heyrovsky Institute of Physical Chemistry, Academy of Science of the Czech Republic. Her research interests are focused on characterization of nanostructured materials by scanning probe microscopy, both *ex situ* and *in situ* as well as in combination with electrochemical methods.

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