

**ICME 2016**  
**Simulation of plastic injection for nano roughness replication**  
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# Overview

1. Introduction to aim4np project
2. Simulations of plastic injection at nano level
3. Experiments of plastic injection at nano level

# 1.- Introduction to aim4np project

Aim4np is a FP7 funded project to build an Automated In-line Metrology for (4) Nanoscale Production.



<http://aim4np.eu/>

**aim4np**

# 1.- Introduction to aim4np project

## Production enters nanometer domain

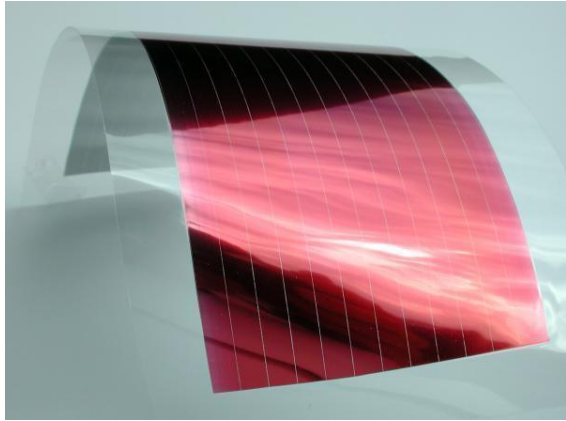


image: www.icsana.com



image: www.syntecoptics.com

Measurement of nanomechanical properties for:

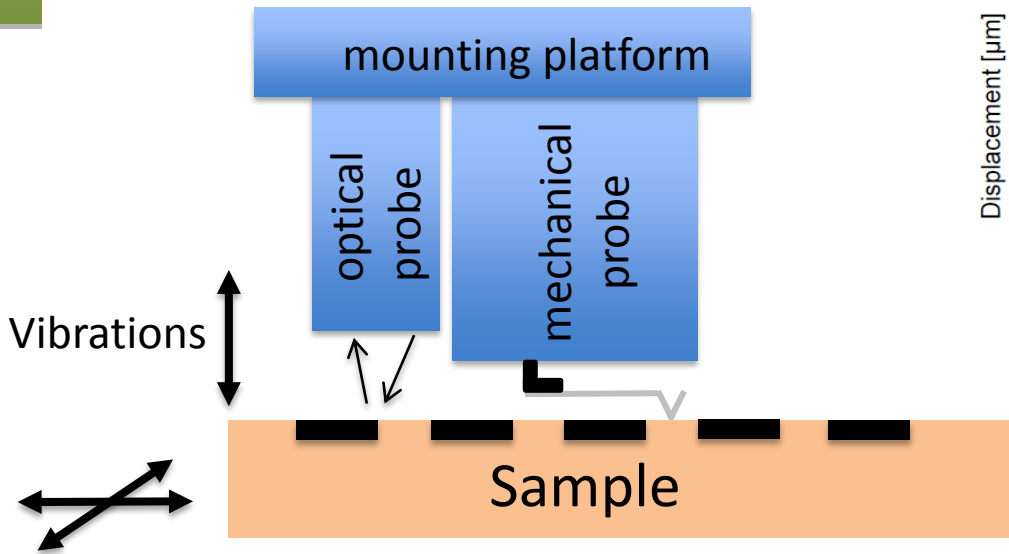
- Quality control
- Tool-lifetime monitoring
- Maintaining precision
- Processing control



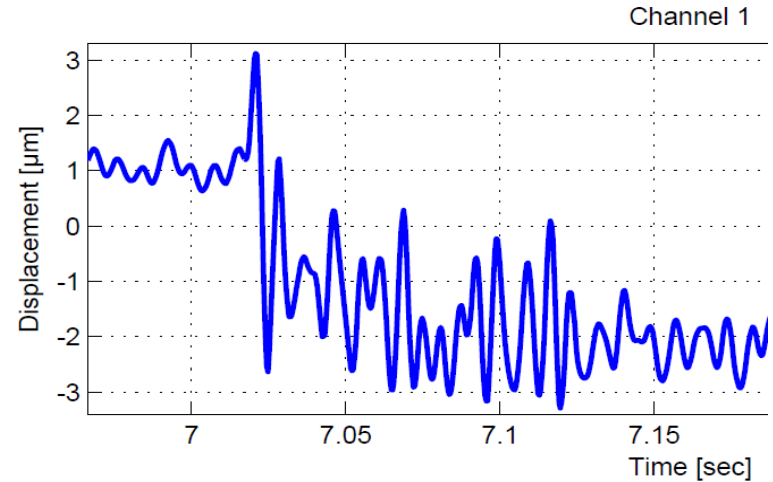
Crucial for an efficient production!

# 1.- Introduction to aim4np project

## Challenge



Sample vibration

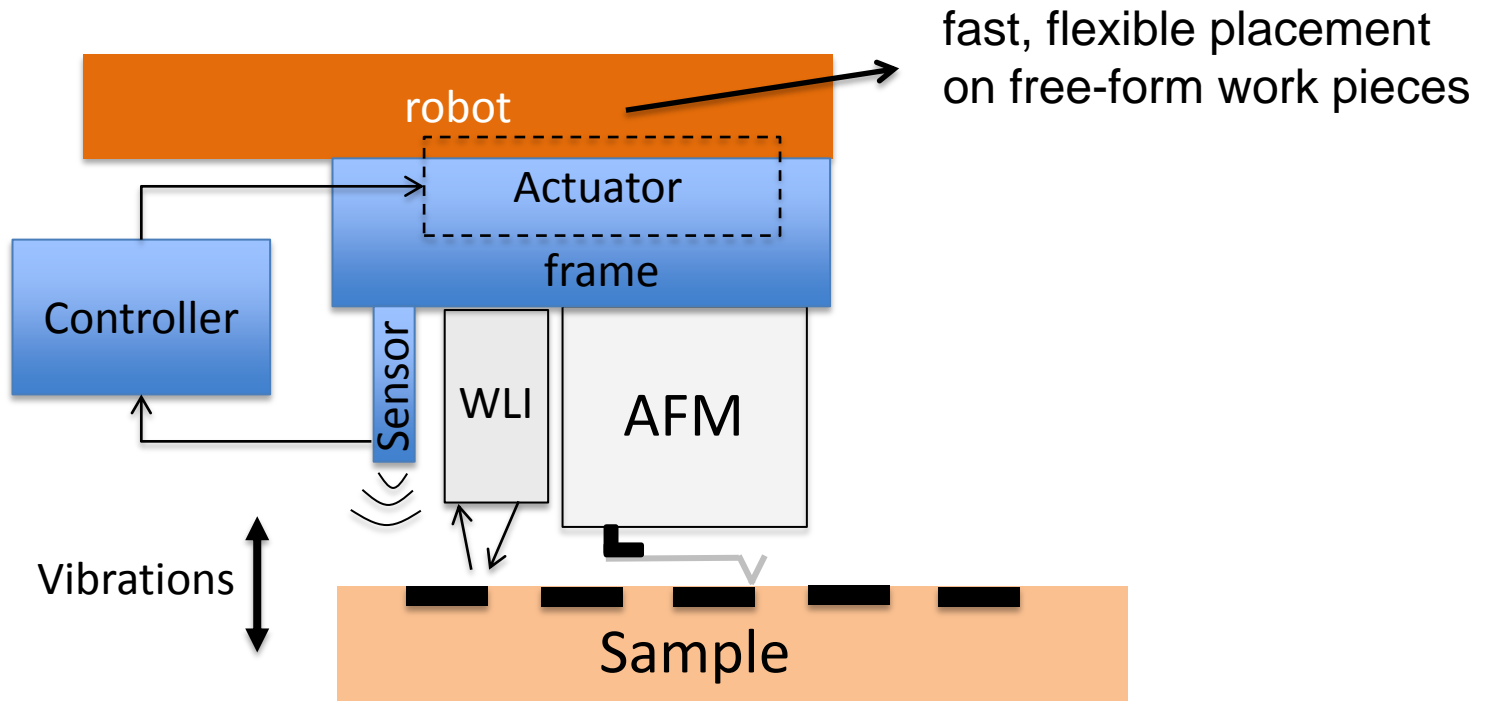


Possible implementation of probes:  
Atomic Force Microscope [AFM]  
White Light Interferometer [WLI]

**Environmental vibrations hinder the stable proximity needed for conducting nanomechanical measurements!**

# 1.- Introduction to aim4np project

## Proposed solution



AFM...Atomic Force Microscope  
WLI...White Light Interferometer  
MP ... Metrology Platform

# 1.- Introduction to aim4np project

## Plastic injection application of aim4np

Plastic injection is selected as a possible application for aim4np to control moulds and plastic parts in-line to assure surface quality.

- Flubetech provides DLC coatings ranging  $Sq=6$  to 35nm.
- CSIC-CNM measure coating on mould  $Sq=6$ nm, and plastic parts from 4nm to 0.6nm.
- IQS carries out simulations of plastic injection.
- External partner plastic injection.

## 2.- Simulations of plastic injection at nano level

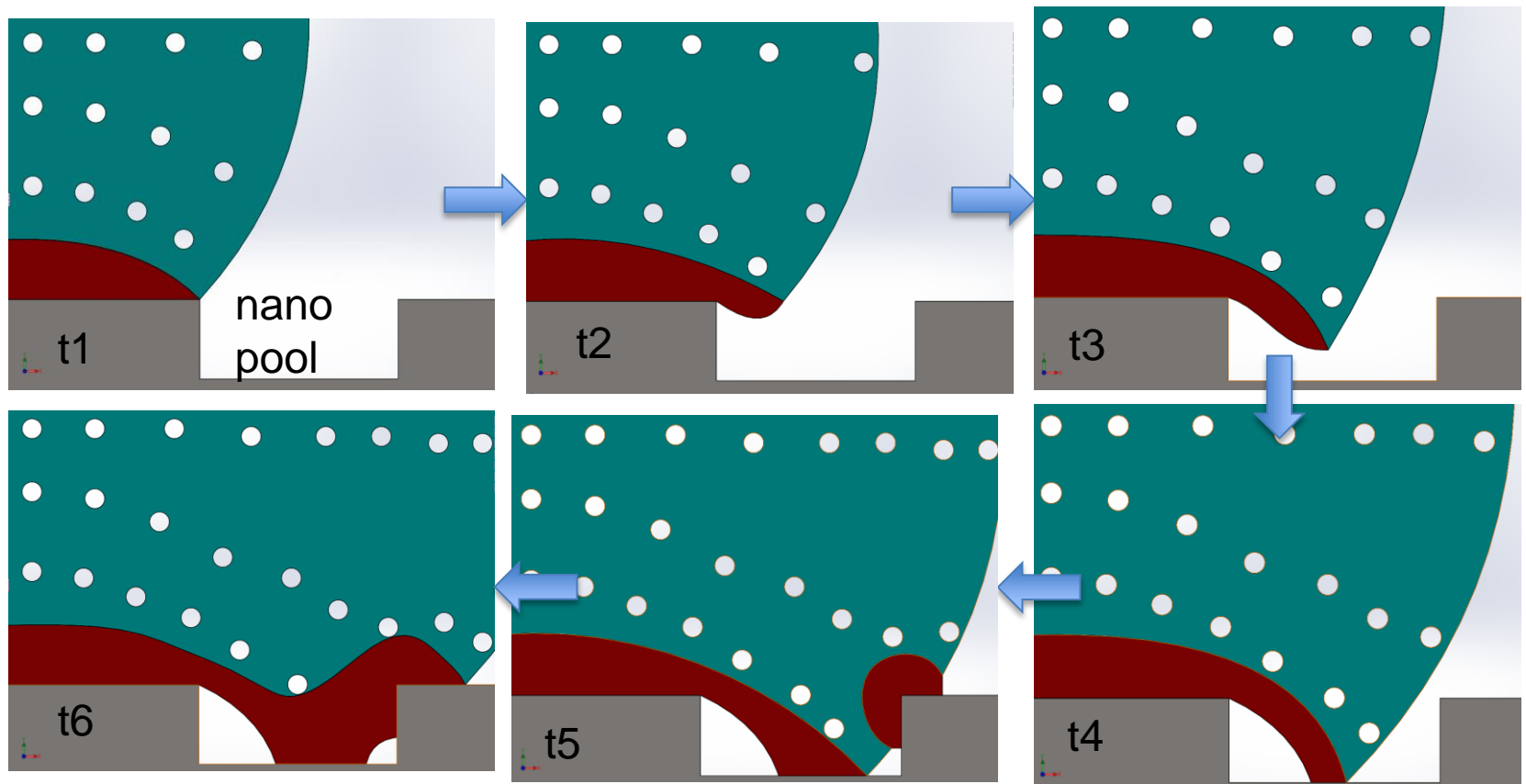
- 2.1. Model to validate
- 2.2. Approaches
- 2.3. Submodeling approach
- 2.4. Results
- 2.5. Roughness applied



# 2.- Simulations of plastic injection at nano level

## 2.1 Model to validate

How does the polymer fill a nanomark? A first intuition could be...



# 2.- Simulations of plastic injection at nano level

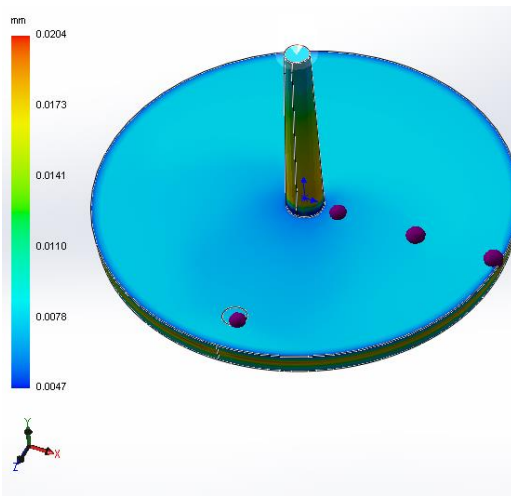
## 2.2 Approaches

**Option 1:** Mesh all the mesh at the nanoscale.

Computationally unaffordable. **X**

**Option 2:** Simulate both size scales in one simulation.

Unphysical results [1, 2] **X**



Air trap is detected on nano pools,  
but also on fine mesh with flat surface

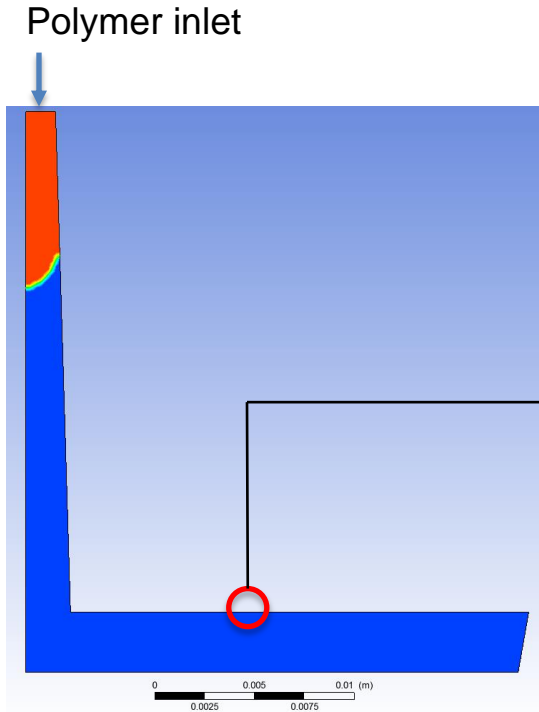
[1] T. Tofteberg; E. Andreassen in PPS Europe/Africa Regional Meeting, Gothenburg, 2007.

[2] L. Yu; L. J. Lee; K. W. Koelling Polym. Eng. Sci. 2004, 44, 1866.

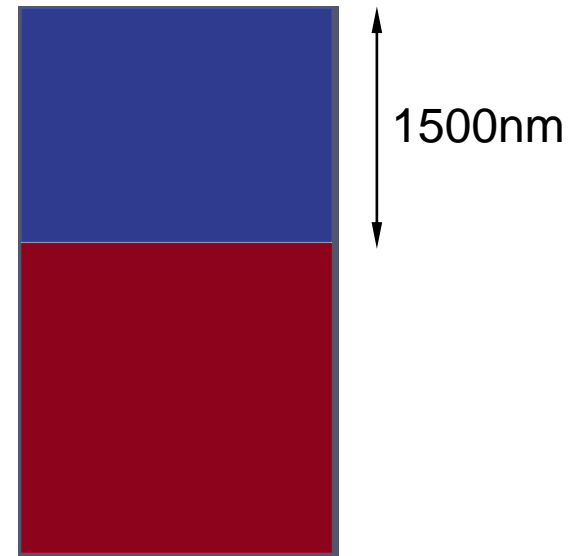
# 2.- Simulations of plastic injection at nano level

## 2.3 Submodeling approach

### Macro simulation



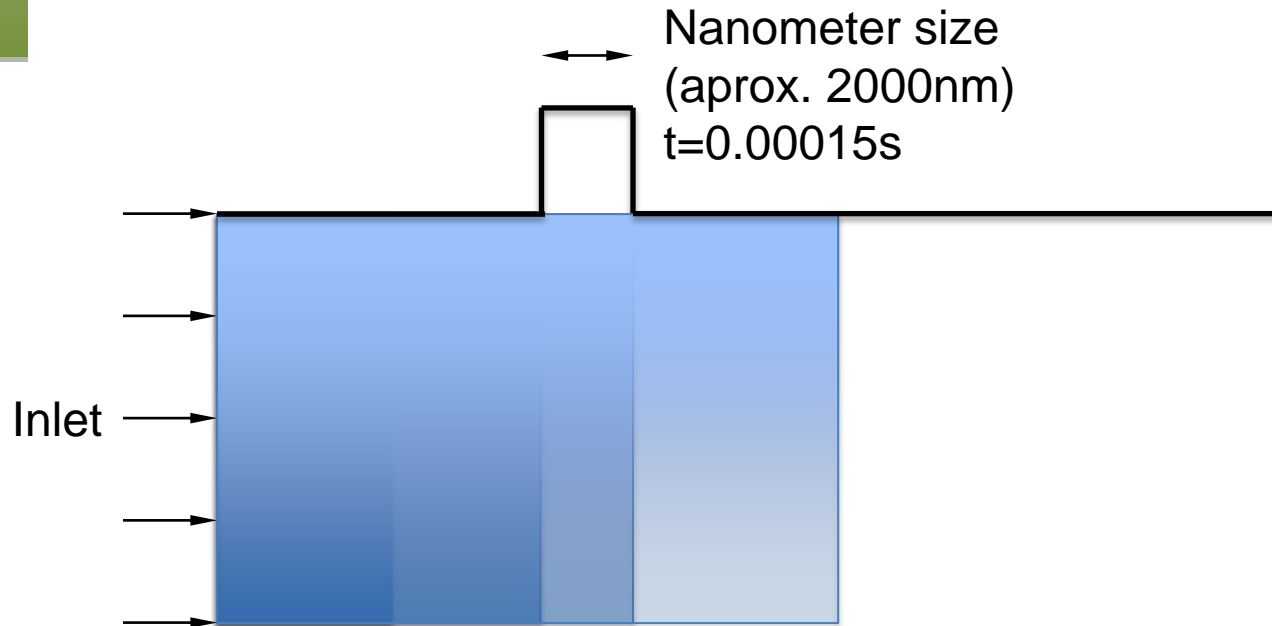
### Nano simulation



# 2.- Simulations of plastic injection at nano level

## 2.3 Submodeling approach

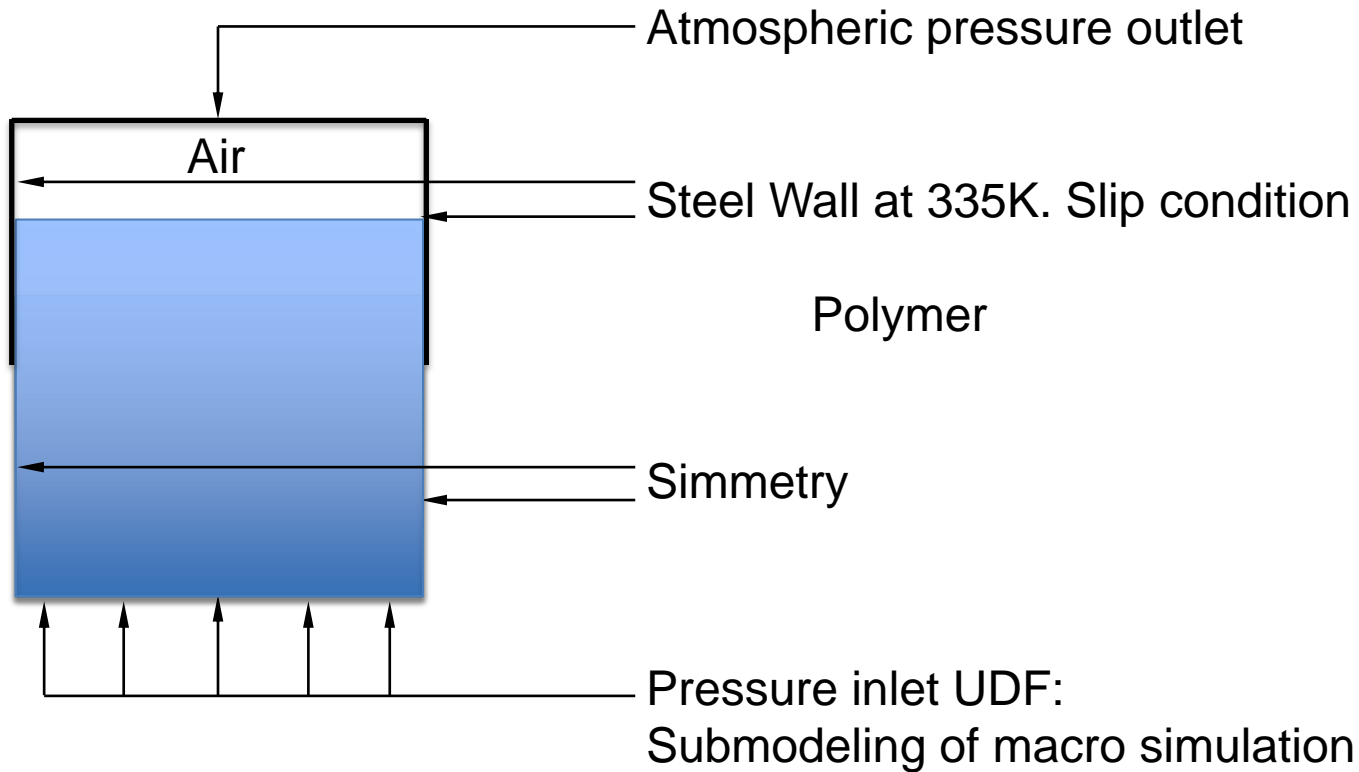
**Part 1:** The polymer goes through the nanomark



# 2.- Simulations of plastic injection at nano level

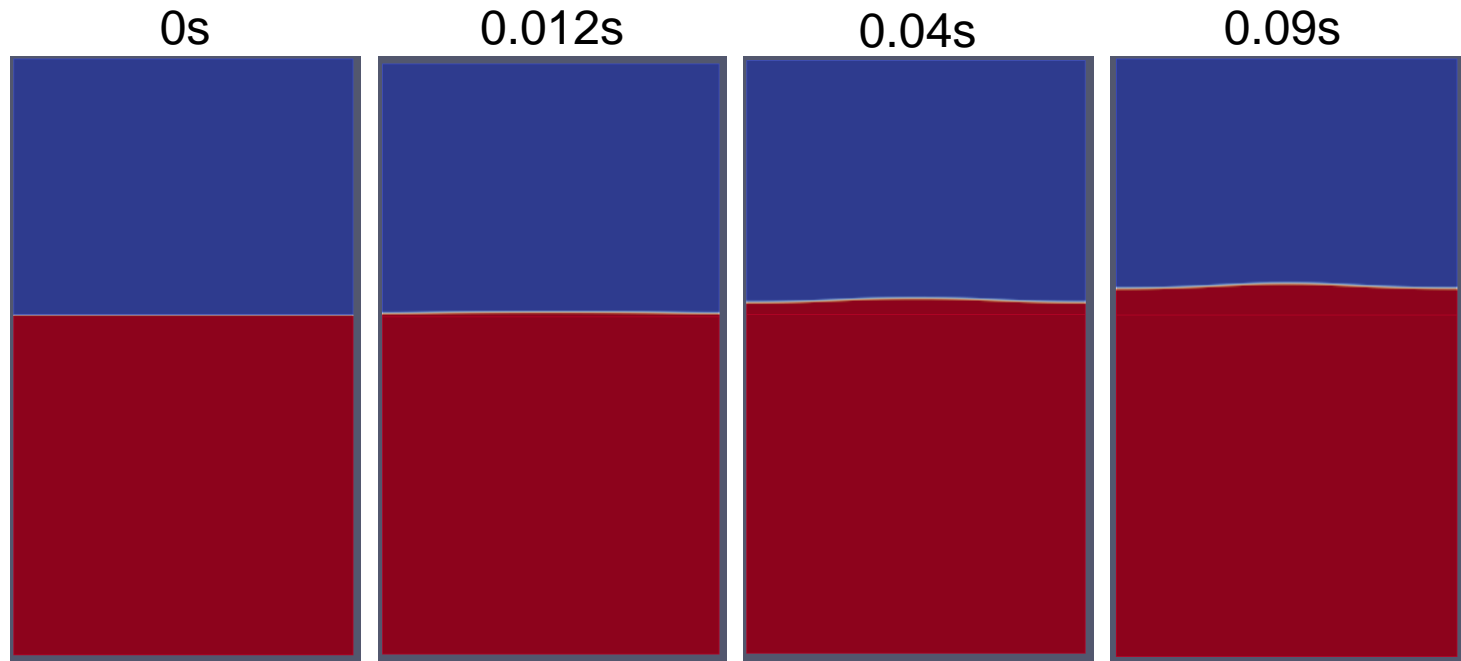
## 2.3 Submodeling approach

**Part 2:** The polymer moves into the nanomark until solidification



# 2.- Simulations of plastic injection at nano level

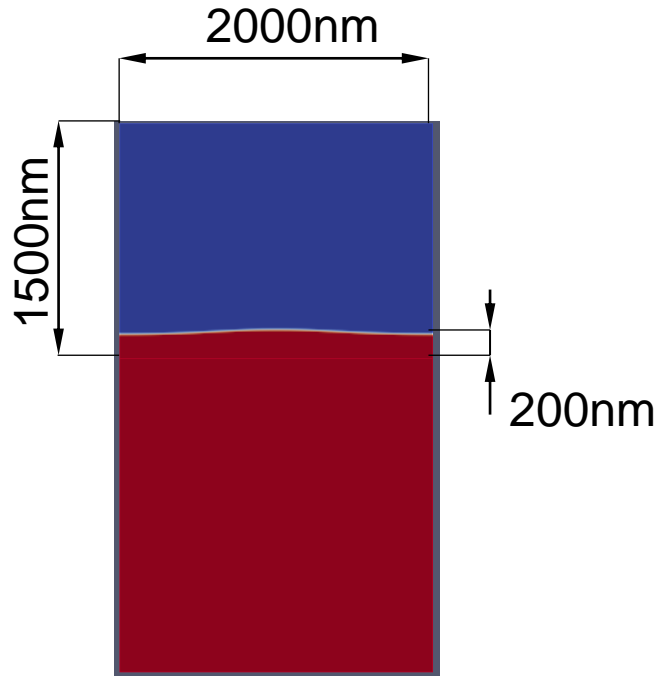
## 2.4 Results



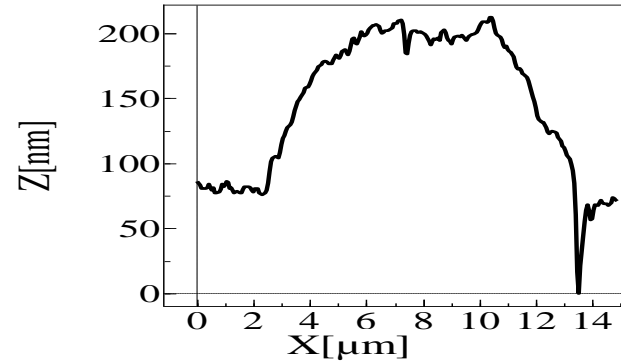
# 2.- Simulations of plastic injection at nano level

## 2.4 Results

Simulation



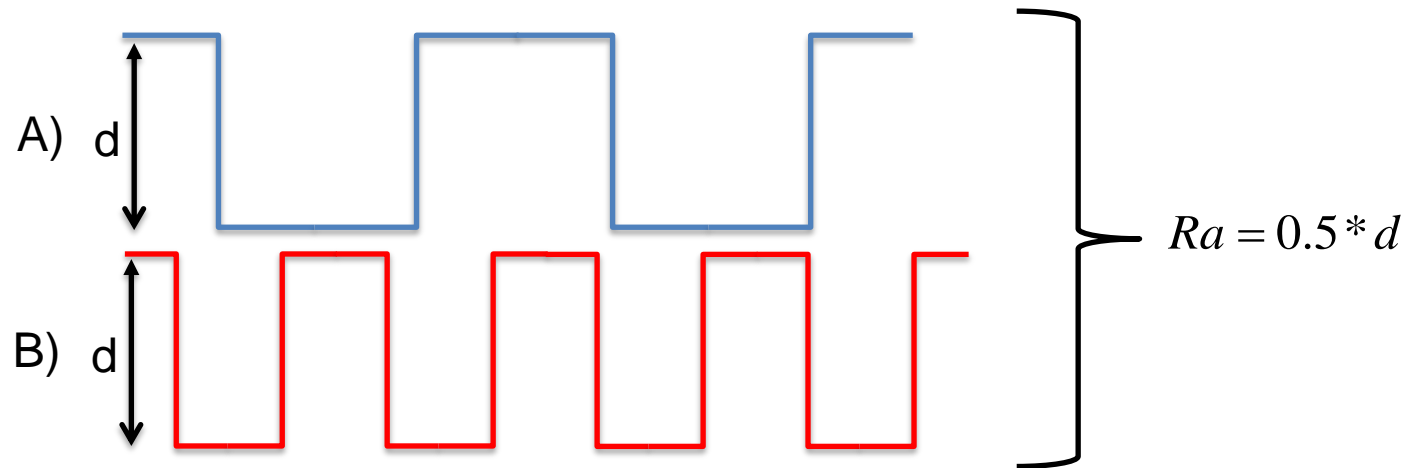
Experimental result



# 2.- Simulations of plastic injection at nano level

## 2.5 Roughness applied

Surface A and surface B have the same roughness...



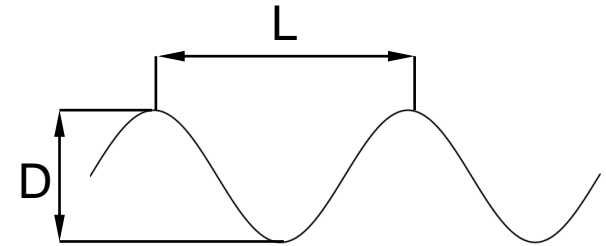
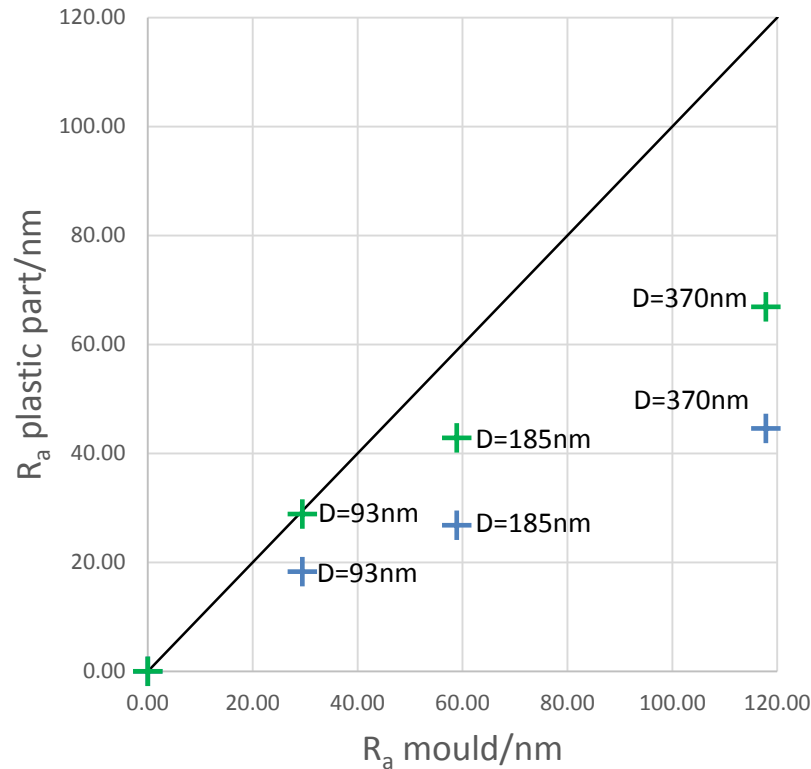
But surface A roughness is replicated easier than surface B.



# 2.- Simulations of plastic injection at nano level

## 2.5 Roughness applied

Ra plastic part vs. Ra mould

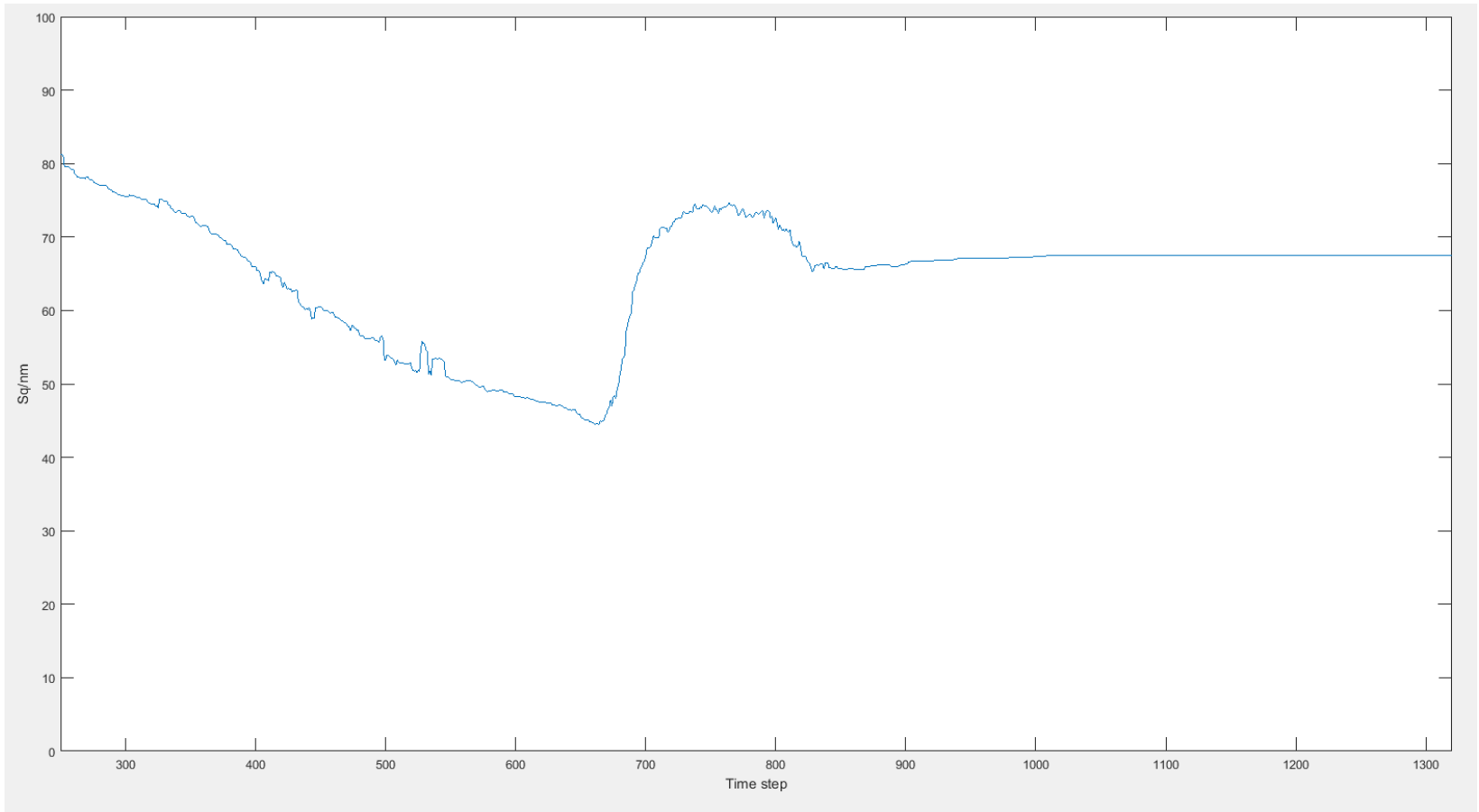


- + L=457nm serie
- Perfect replication
- + L=914nm serie

# 2.- Simulations of plastic injection at nano level

## 2.5 Roughness applied

Evolution of roughness with time



# 3.- Experiments of plastic injection at nano level



MOULD  
Roughness  
Micro pattern  
Nano pattern

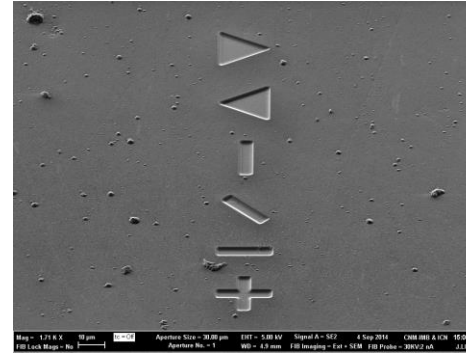
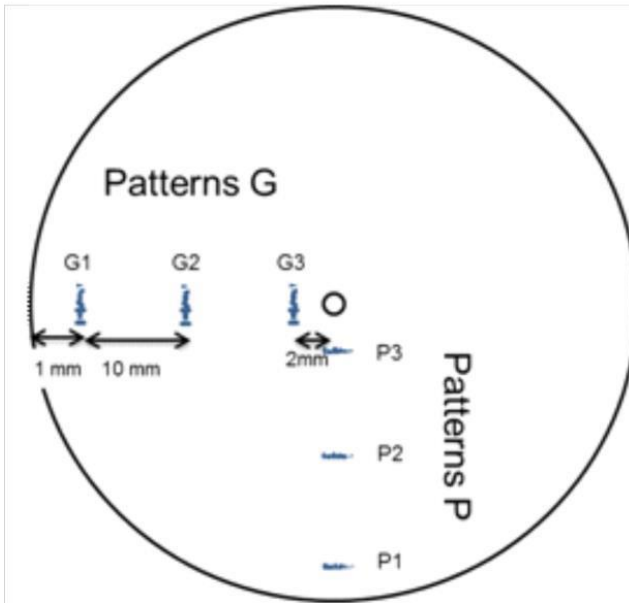


PLASTIC PART  
Roughness?  
Micro pattern?  
Nano pattern?

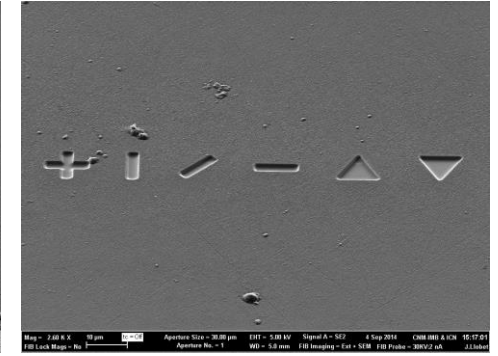


# 3.- Experiments of plastic injection at nano level

SEM images of the mould nano pools:

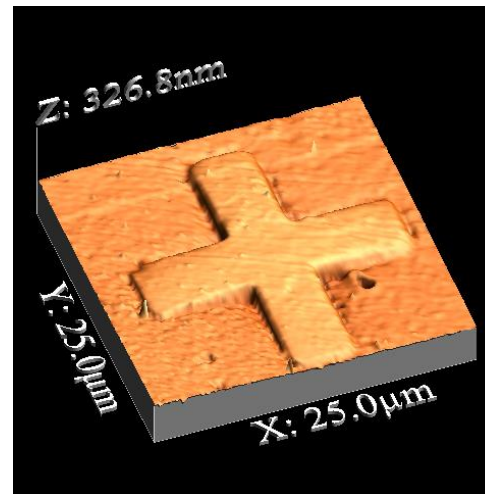


G1. 4x20um



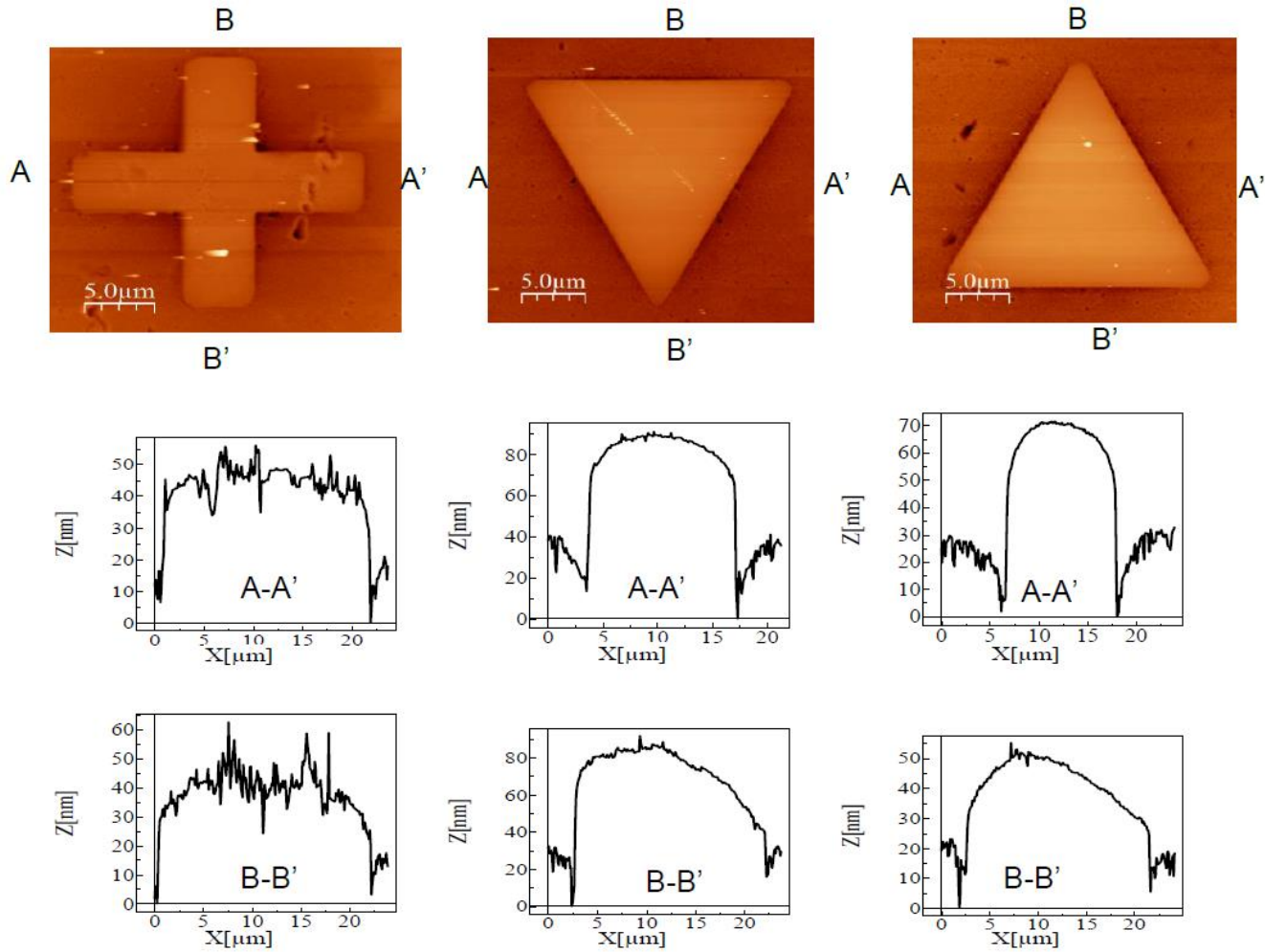
P1: 4x20um

AFM image of the plastic part:

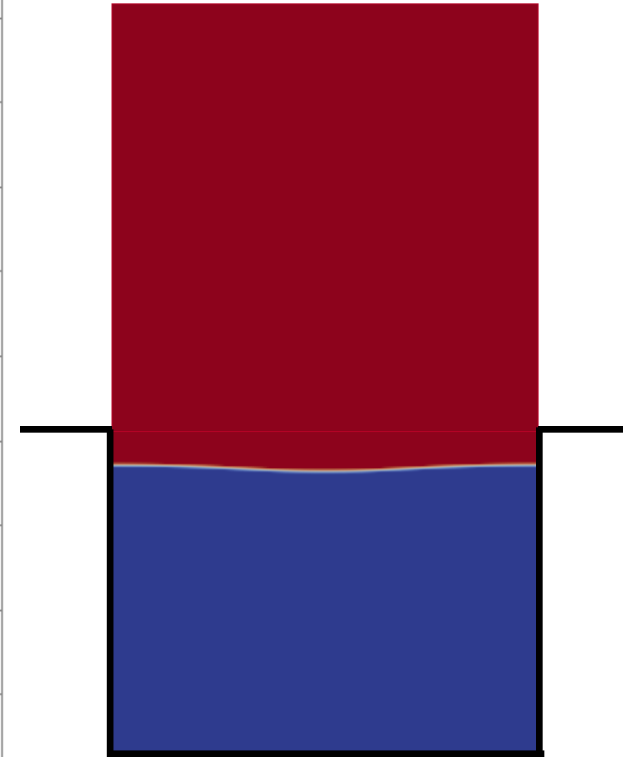
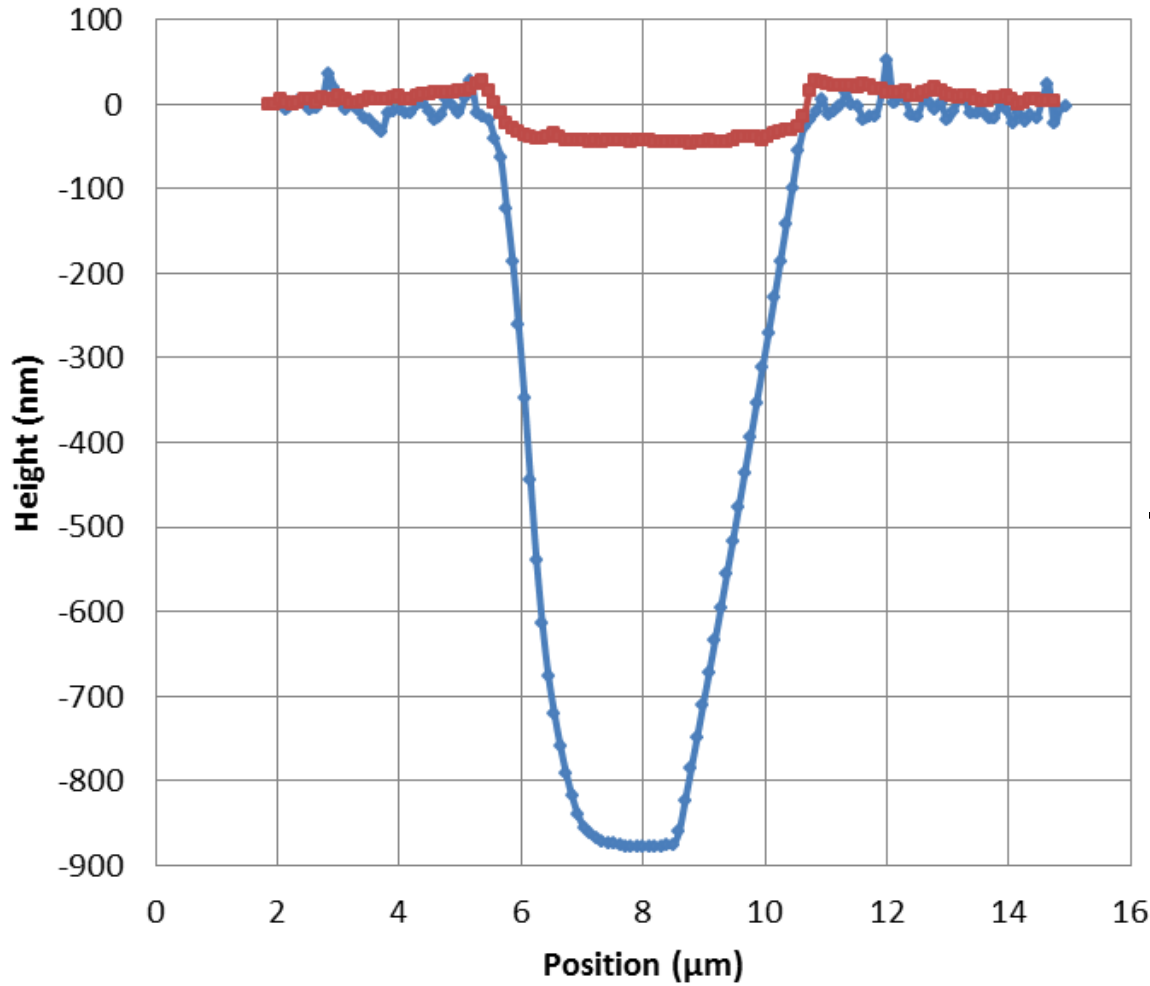


# 3.- Experiments of plastic injection at nano level

## AFM image of the plastic part



# 3.- Experiments of plastic injection at nano level



# 4.- Storage of material properties

We need the creation of a database to store material properties used along this project for current polymers and mould conditions.

Such place should be driven by <https://emmc.info/>



4nm  $\updownarrow$  Thank you  
 $\leftarrow$  2016nm  $\rightarrow$