ソフトマテリアルを基軸とした物質的・分野的に

横断する融合研究

Convergence material research crossing substance and disciplinary boundaries based on soft materials

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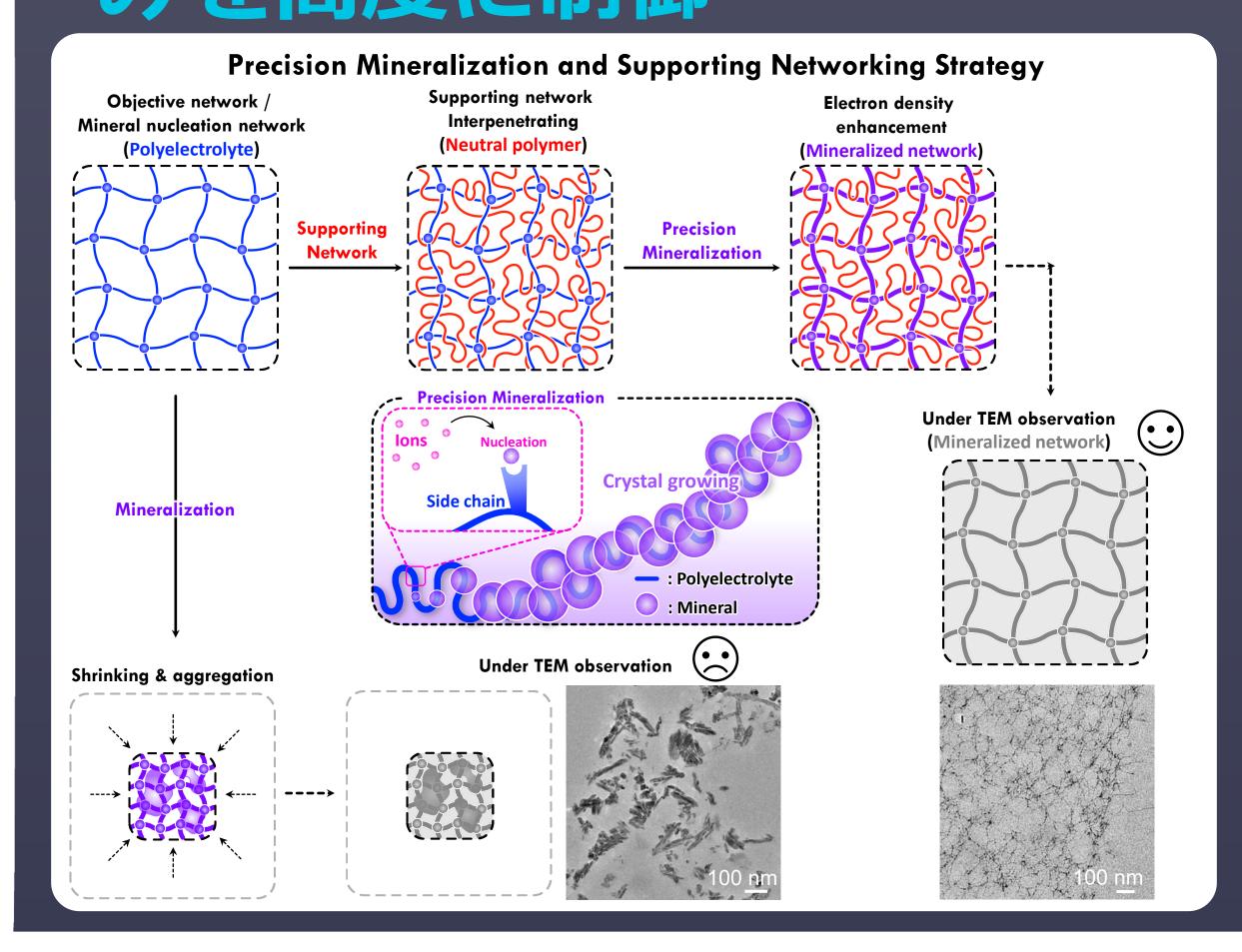
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骨や貝殻などの硬組織ができる仕組

みを高度に制御

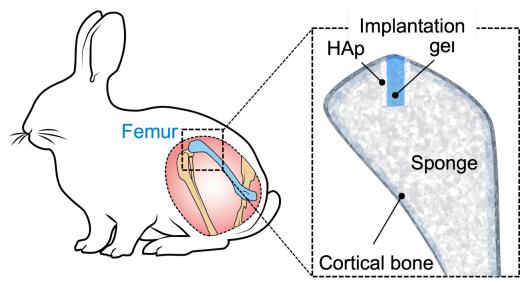


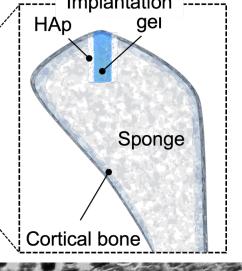
私たちの研究室では、ゲルやゴムなどのソフトマテリアルをプラットフォームとし て、物質的・分野的に融合した多岐に渡る研究を進めています。例えば、ゲルの開 放系としての性質を利用して、ゲルマトリックス内部に骨形成を誘導し、ゲルと骨 を生体内で強固に接着する技術を開発しました。また、バイオミネラルの形成を究 極的に突き詰めることで、高分子網目を電子顕微鏡で直接観察手法として応用し、 世界で初めてゲル網目を実空間観察で観察することに成功しています。 Our lab use soft materials such as gels and rubbers as a platform to conduct a wide range of interdisciplinary and cross-material research. Among these, polymer gel-biomineral hybrid materials, which mimic hard tissues such as bone and shells, have produced unique achievements in both fundamental and applied research. For example, by utilizing the open-system nature of gels, we have developed a technology that induces bone formation within the gel matrix and enables strong in vivo adhesion between the gel and bone. Furthermore, by pushing the precision of biomineral formation to its ultimate limit, we have applied this process to directly observe polymer networks using electron microscopy, successfully achieving the world's first real-space

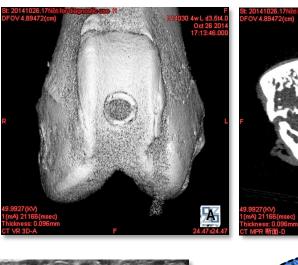


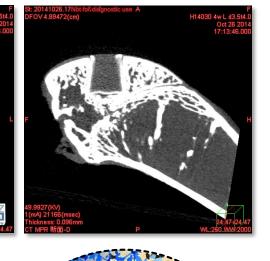
骨と接着するソフトマテリアル

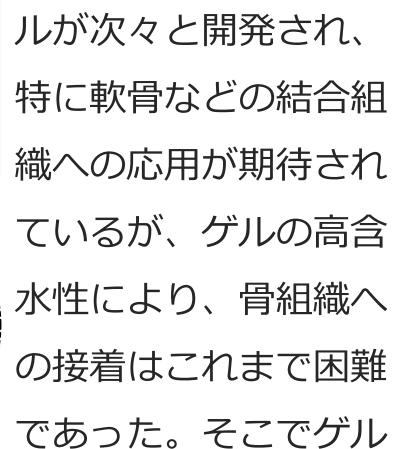
Soft Materials Possessing Bone Bonding Capability







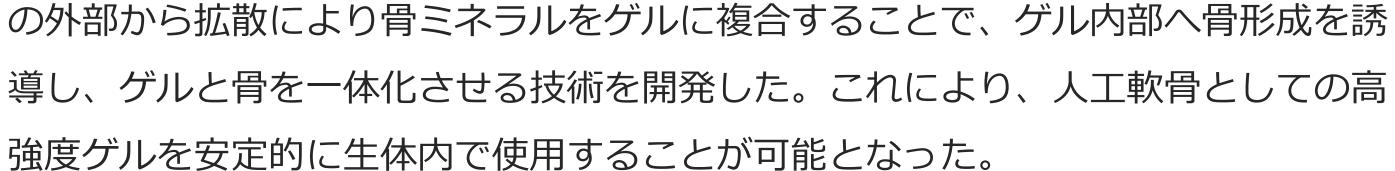




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observation of gel networks.



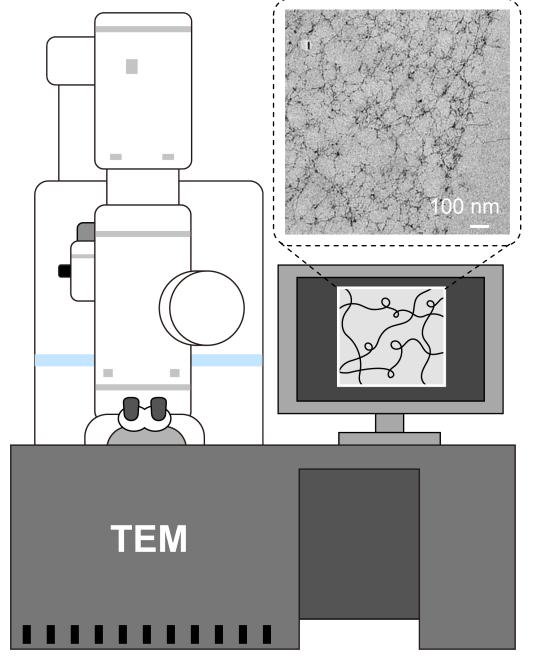


Recently, a number of tough hydrogels have been developed, with particular promise for applications in connective tissues such as cartilage. Nevertheless, their inherently high water content has made stable adhesion to bone tissue difficult to achieve. Creating bone minerals into hydrogels by diffusing ions, we developed a technique to induce bone formation within the hydrogel and integrate it with bone. This achievement makes it possible to stably apply high-strength hydrogels as artificial cartilage.



高分子ゲル網目構造の直接観察手法の開発

Development of Real Space Observation Method for Polymer Network of Hydrogels



高分子ゲルの網目構造は、その物性や機能を支配 する基本的な要素である。現行の主要な網目構造 の解析手法である散乱法を相互に補完する、実空 間観察技術の開発が望まれている。我々はミネラ ルを使った新しい染色手法とゲル網目構造の安定 化技術を合わせることで、これまで難しかった一 本鎖状態の高分子網目構造を透過型電子顕微鏡 (TEM)で観察する手法を開発している。これを 基盤技術として、新たなゲルの構造-物性相関解 析や新規機能性無機材料の創製を進めている。

The network structure of polymer gels is a fundamental factor that governs their physical properties and functions. By combining a novel mineral-based staining method with a technique to stabilize gel networks, we have developed an approach that enables transmission electron microscopy (TEM) observation of single-chain polymer networks, which had previously been difficult. Building upon this core technology, we are pursuing new analyses of the structureproperty relationships in gels and the creation of novel functional inorganic materials.

