### ME290R: Topics in Manufacturing Fall 2017

### Nanoscale manipulation of materials

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# Three-dimensional photopolymerized microstructures for *in vitro* stem cell studies

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#### **Relevant extra-cellular matrix length-scales and** stiffnesses span several orders of magnitude



### Existing approaches to introducing artificial ECM structure are either 2-D or serial

- 2-D
  - Microfluidic creation of stiffness gradients
  - Photopolymerization using transparency masks



Burdick et al., *Langmuir* **20** 5153 (2004)

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## Existing approaches to introducing artificial ECM structure are either 2-D or serial

- 3-D
  - Two-photon laser-scanning lithography
  - Layer-by-layer cell encapsulation using stereolithography
  - Layer-by-layer hydrogel microfluidic network construction
  - Dispenser printing
  - Attempts to parallelize using digital micromirror devices



# **3D Holographic Lithography:** static 2D diffractive pattern on a substrate directs 3D photopatterning



- Minimal external optics
- Microstructures could be created on demand in a few seconds
- Adds little to cost of device
- Potential for large-area patterning

### Can a diffractive element be designed to pattern any given 3D structure in one step?

#### **3-D Gerchberg Saxton algorithm?**



*Instead*: independent holographic 'tiles' map to different axial slices of the target volume

#### Whyte New J Phys 7 117 (2005)



## Hologram and lens are superimposed: focused image size depends on pixel size and focal length



### The Gerchberg-Saxton algorithm iteratively extracts hologram phase from a target amplitude



Hologram