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Biofilm ^{al}chem_y^{ist}ery

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Despite more than three decades of intense scrutiny, understanding the unique properties that differentiate bacterial biofilm from individual microorganisms still raises important scientific and technical challenges.

Biofilms are indeed still full of surprises and eradicating them from medical or industrial surfaces or using biofilm consortia for practical purposes are still considered as hard-to-reach goals.

I will try to convey my long-standing awe for the biofilm lifestyle and discuss our personal journey into a multidisciplinary field that contributed to transitioning from classical pure culture studies to multi-species microbiology.