

1 Supplemental Information

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3 SI Notes S1 – Fluid Mechanics Model

4 As the reservoir rotates at constant angular speed Ω , the fluid escapes through two small circular channels
5 connecting the bottom of the reservoir to the exterior. Within the RJS system two flow regimes of interest
6 are expected. First, there is a transition region as the fluid travels from the reservoir and into the channel.
7 This entry flow, similar to flow through circular-circular contractions⁴⁹, presents high elongational strain
8 rates. The second type of flow occurs inside the channel as the solution travels outwards before being
9 ejected. Shear is dominant in this second flow regime (Fig. 1c and Fig. S6). When the jet exits the RJS
10 system sudden lateral forces and fiber extension ensue as the fiber travels from the reservoir to the
11 collector³⁷.

12 We focus here on the flow inside the RJS system. Extensional flow has been shown to enable protein
13 unfolding and assembly^{49-51,76,77}. Polymers in shear flow in contrast experience fluctuations between
14 folded and stretched configuration, so that extremely high shear flows are usually required to unfold
15 globular proteins^{52,53,78}. We will first estimate the extensional strain rates in our system's entry flow using
16 Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) simulations (Fig. 1c). These values will then be utilized to
17 investigate the propensity of fibronectin (Fn) to unfold using established models of protein dynamics
18 under extensional flow. These models are based on calculations of work (J)⁷⁸, force (N)⁵¹ and the
19 dimensionless Deborah number⁵⁰ and can then be compared to published literature on Fn properties (SI
20 Notes S2). In a second step, we examine the possibility that shear may also affect Fn's molecular
21 conformation as it travels through the reservoir channel. As performed previously, shear rates were
22 estimated and subsequently interpreted using an established model that calculates the dimensionless
23 Weissenberg number, descriptive of protein unfolding in shear flow⁵² (SI Note S3). We conclude by
24 discussing and comparing the different models used in this analysis (SI Note S4).

1 SI Notes S2 – Models of Fn unfolding in extensional flow (entry flow):

2 *Extensional strain rates calculation in entry flow:* CFD simulations allow calculation of the flow profiles.
3 The finite element software COMSOL 5.2a was used. The reservoir has a radius $M = 0.0125$ m and the
4 channel has length $L = 0.0075$ m and radius $R = 200 \times 10^{-6}$ m. Half of the domain was modeled.
5 While the flow inside of the channel is axisymmetric, the entry flow might be affected by the three-
6 dimensional (3D) geometry. Moreover, modeling a smaller domain with only a fraction of the entire fluid
7 domain would require additional assumptions regarding boundary conditions in the vicinity of the channel
8 entry. These considerations were avoided by solving the Navier-Stokes equations in the 3D domain
9 corresponding to half of the reservoir. The geometry is constructed such that the channel centerline is
10 aligned with the x axis and the yz plane is used for the symmetric boundary condition (Fig. S7). The body
11 force due to centrifugal force in this coordinate system is:

$$12 \quad \mathbf{b} = (x\rho\Omega^2, y\rho\Omega^2, 0) \quad (S1)$$

13 At the top of the reservoir an inlet boundary condition is specified with zero pressure. An outlet boundary
14 condition is prescribed at the end of the channel also with zero pressure. The plane yz has a symmetry
15 boundary condition. The rest of the walls have no slip conditions. The fluid density is taken as $\rho =$
16 1400 kg/m^3 , and the viscosity as $\mu = 0.1 \text{ Pa}\cdot\text{s}$ ³⁸. A typical rotation speed for the reservoir is $\Omega = 3000 \text{ s}^{-1}$.
17 The flow was assumed to be laminar. The resulting finite element mesh was composed of tetrahedral
18 elements inside of the domain and quadrilaterals near the boundary. The element size was chosen to be
19 extremely fine leading to a system of 4,297,332 degrees of freedom. Simulations were run until they
20 converged to a relative error of 10^{-7} . The computational cost of each simulation was approximately 1.5
21 hr in a machine equipped with an Intel Xeon E5-1630 v4 processor consisting of four cores operating at
22 3.7 GHz, and 16GB RAM.

23 Supplementary Fig. S7 shows a cross section of the domain on the xz plane passing through the centerline
24 of the channel. The velocity in the majority of the reservoir is close to zero, followed by a region of high

1 acceleration as the fluid is pushed into the channel. Once the fluid enters the channel, the velocity profile
 2 gradually resembles that of a Poiseuille flow. Even though there is a body force that increases away from
 3 the center of the reservoir, the speed inside of the channel does not change significantly (Fig. 1c). The
 4 velocity u in the x direction has a maximum of 29.6 m/s. The strain rate in the x direction is $\dot{\epsilon} = \partial u / \partial x$
 5 and has a peak value of $0.76 \times 10^5 \text{ s}^{-1}$ along the axis of the channel and a maximum of $1.3 \times 10^5 \text{ s}^{-1}$
 6 overall.

7 To verify that the assumption of laminar flow is consistent, the Reynolds number is calculated:

$$8 \quad Re = \frac{\rho \bar{u} R}{\mu} \quad (S2)$$

9 Where $\bar{u} = 14.8 \text{ m/s}$ is the mean velocity in the channel. In this case, $Re = 41.44$ and laminar flow can
 10 be assumed.

11

12 *1st Model of Fn unfolding in extensional flow:* Next the extensional force on Fn due to the strain rate is
 13 estimated. Fn can be modeled as a string of 56 globular modules or spherical beads of $a = 2.5 \text{ nm}$
 14 diameter with a contour length of $L_c = 160 \text{ nm}^{79-82}$. The main assumption is that under the influence of
 15 the strong extensional flow the molecule begins to unfold just enough such that two spherical sub-clusters
 16 are formed separated by a small string of beads⁷⁸. The two spherical sub-clusters consist of n beads and
 17 the volume of each sub-cluster is (Fig. S6):

$$18 \quad v = nv_b = \frac{4}{3} \pi r^3 \quad (S3)$$

19 Where v_b is the volume of an individual bead and r is the radius of the sub-cluster. The distance between
 20 the two sub-clusters can be estimated as $(N - 2n)d$ with d the distance between any two beads. The
 21 difference in velocity between the two sub-clusters is:

$$22 \quad v_2 - v_1 = (N - 2n)d\dot{\epsilon} \quad (S4)$$

1 The corresponding tension that is created due to the difference in drag force between front and back is:

$$2 \quad T = T_2 - T_1 = 3\pi\mu r\dot{\epsilon}(N - 2n)d \quad (\text{S5})$$

3 The value of the tension changes from the initial point in which there is a single bead between the two
4 sub-clusters, to the final fully extended conformation. The integral of the tension as the molecule is
5 completely unfolded yields the total work that will be done on the molecule by the fluid⁷⁸:

$$6 \quad W = \frac{27}{28}\pi\mu d^2 N^{7/3} \left(\frac{3v_b}{8\pi}\right)^{1/3} \dot{\epsilon} \quad (\text{S6})$$

7 For the rotation speed of $\Omega = 3000 \text{ s}^{-1}$ (~28'000 rpm), the calculated work done on a single molecule
8 with this model along the centerline is $W = 0.00235 \text{ fJ}$ and at its maximum is $W = 0.00382 \text{ fJ}$.
9 Conversely, in previous experiments on Fn nanotextiles⁴², the force required to unfold a single molecule
10 was estimated. From the corresponding force-strain relationship the work needed to unfold a single
11 molecule from 15 nm to 60 nm is calculated to be 0.00399 fJ. These values are remarkably close. The
12 analysis suggests that the elongational strain rate produced by the RJS system at rotation speeds of
13 $\Omega = 3000 \text{ s}^{-1}$ would transfer energy to the Fn molecule in sufficient amounts to induce at least partial
14 unfolding.

15

16 *2nd Model of Fn unfolding in extensional flow:* Alternatively, following the analysis of DNA stretching in
17 extensional flow previously described⁵¹, the tension in the stretched polymer should balance the drag
18 forces at equilibrium:

$$19 \quad \xi\dot{\epsilon}x - F(x) = 0 \quad (\text{S7})$$

20 Where ξ is the drag coefficient, x is the length of the polymer in the current configuration, and $F(x)$ is
21 the force in the molecule due to unfolding or stretching. The force can be calculated based on a worm-like
22 chain model for flexible molecules⁵¹:

$$1 \quad \frac{F(x)l_p}{k_B T} = \frac{1}{4} \left(1 - \frac{x}{L_c}\right)^{-2} - \frac{1}{4} + \frac{x}{L_c} \quad (\text{S8})$$

2 Where l_p is the persistence length. For Fn $l_p = 7$ to 14 nm ⁸⁰. The drag coefficient can be approximated
 3 using Batchelor's theory of slender bodies in Stokes flow⁸³:

$$4 \quad \xi = \frac{\mu 2\pi L_c}{\ln\left(\frac{L_c}{a}\right)} \quad (\text{S9})$$

5 Solving Eq. (S7) the stretch value of $x/L_c = 0.98$ is obtained, and a tension of 494 pN is the one that
 6 satisfies equilibrium. This very high force is obtained because the force in the worm-like chain model
 7 increases sharply near full extension. According to the literature, forces ranging from 50 to 200 pN have
 8 demonstrated unfolding of globular Fn⁸⁴, suggesting that the strain rate of $1.3 \times 10^5 \text{ s}^{-1}$ should generate
 9 enough tension to keep a Fn molecule in a fully extended configuration.

10

11 *3rd Model of Fn unfolding in extensional flow:* Finally, the Weissenberg (Wi) number, also called
 12 Deborah (De) number, is a nondimensional number that relates elastic and viscous forces or the times
 13 scales of relaxation and observation, and is defined as:

$$14 \quad De = \tau_r \dot{\epsilon} \quad (= Wi) \quad (\text{S10})$$

15 Where τ_r is the longest relaxation time of the polymer, and can be estimated from the Rouse model as⁸³:

$$16 \quad \tau_r = \frac{\xi \langle r_{ee}^2 \rangle_0}{6\pi^2 k_B T} \quad (\text{S11})$$

17 Where ξ is the drag coefficient, $\langle r_{ee}^2 \rangle_0$ is the chain end-to-end distance, k_B is the Boltzmann constant, and
 18 T is the temperature. The end-to-end distance can be calculated based on the persistence and contour
 19 lengths as:

$$20 \quad \langle r_{ee}^2 \rangle_0 = 2l_p L_c \quad (\text{S12})$$

1 The relaxation time of Fn is then estimated to be $222 \mu\text{s}$. Thus, at the centerline strain rate the Deborah
2 number is $De = 16.6$ and at the maximum strain rate it is $De = 28.9$. It has been determined that a coil-
3 stretch transition occurs at $De = 0.5$, such that for $De > 0.5$ there will be at least some unfolding of the
4 polymer⁵⁰. As the strain rate and, consequently, the Deborah (or Weissenberg) number increases, the
5 polymer is stretched more. For instance, with DNA, which is a flexible chain, a stretch of $x/L_c = 0.82$ is
6 achieved at $De = 4.1$ ^{50,51}. Thus we expect that De values between 16.6 and 28.9 will be enough to induce
7 Fn unfolding.

8 Additionally, it must also be noted that the relaxation time and the corresponding critical strain rate are
9 determined for dilute concentrations. Fn has an intrinsic viscosity of 10 mg/L at low ionic strengths and
10 pH 7.4⁸⁵. Thus, the critical concentration to reach a semi-dilute solution is 77 mg/mL⁸⁶, whereas the
11 solutions used in this study have a Fn concentrations of 20 mg/mL. Nonetheless, it has been shown that
12 even small deformations of polymer chains in extensional flow fields sharply lower the critical
13 concentration needed for coil-coil interactions between molecules – indicative of semi-dilute regimes⁵³.
14 Transitioning to a non-dilute regime can have significant effect on the relaxation time as the molecules
15 aggregate, consequently increasing the local De and Wi values in our flow system. Recent investigations
16 on collagen assembly also showed that solutions in the semi-dilute regime increased the relaxation time
17 by orders of magnitude or, equivalently, reduced the critical strain rate needed for unfolding⁷⁷. In the case
18 of Fn, where fibrillogenesis has even been demonstrated with relatively low strain rates^{32,40}, this dynamic
19 flow regime should be largely sufficient to prompt molecular unfolding and assembly.

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1 **SI Notes S3 – Model of Fn unfolding in shear flow (channel flow):**

2 *Shear rates calculation in channel flow:* While extensional flow at the channel entry might be the
 3 strongest contribution to the initial unfolding of Fn⁴⁹, shear flow has been shown to also influence the
 4 conformation of flexible polymers^{52,53}. Therefore, the shear flow in the channel is now considered (Fig.
 5 1c).

6 Based on the numerical simulation, even though there is a body force that increases as the fluid moves
 7 along the channel, the velocity stays nearly constant. This is consistent with Poiseuille flow through the
 8 channel. Let x remain the coordinate along the channel, and r and θ be the radial and circumferential
 9 coordinates respectively. Under the assumption of Poiseuille flow, the velocity field is at steady state, is
 10 axisymmetric, and only has a nonzero component in the x direction that depends solely on the radial
 11 coordinate (Fig. S7):

$$12 \quad u_x(r) = -\frac{1}{4\mu} \left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial x} - b \right) (R^2 - r^2) \quad (\text{S13})$$

13 where p is the pressure, R is the radius of the orifice, μ denotes dynamic viscosity, and b is a body force.
 14 In this coordinate system the centrifugal force is:

$$15 \quad b = \rho \Omega^2 x \quad (\text{S14})$$

16 The force of gravity is neglected since for the channel the centripetal acceleration is dominant $g \ll \Omega^2 x$,
 17 $x \in [M, M + L]$. To determine the pressure distribution, a quadratic dependence on x is proposed:

$$18 \quad p(x) = a_1 + a_2 x + a_3 x^2 \quad (\text{S15})$$

19 The quadratic dependence is needed to satisfy the continuity equation in Poiseuille flow $\partial u_x / \partial x = 0$.
 20 Taking the derivative of Equation (S13) with respect to x and setting the expression equal to zero leads
 21 to:

$$1 \quad a_3 = \frac{1}{2}\rho\Omega^2 \quad (\text{S16})$$

2 And the velocity profile becomes:

$$3 \quad u_x(r) = -\frac{1}{4\mu}(a_2)(R^2 - r^2) \quad (\text{S17})$$

4 Next, to determine the constant a_2 , the pressure drop along the pipe is determined. Inside of the reservoir
 5 the fluid is rotating at constant angular speed and therefore it pushes on the inside walls of the reservoir
 6 according to the centripetal acceleration $a = \Omega^2 x$. The pressure distribution of the rotating fluid inside the
 7 reservoir ignoring gravity is⁸⁷:

$$8 \quad p = \frac{1}{2}\rho\Omega^2 x^2 \quad (\text{S18})$$

9 Therefore, the pressure at the inner wall of the reservoir is:

$$10 \quad p_{in} = \frac{1}{2}\rho\Omega^2 M^2 = a_1 + a_2 M + \frac{1}{2}\rho\Omega^2 M^2 = p(M) \quad (\text{S19})$$

11 The pressure at the outlet of the channel is zero.

$$12 \quad p_{out} = 0 = a_1 + a_2(M + L) + \frac{1}{2}\rho\Omega^2(M + L)^2 = p(M + L) \quad (\text{S20})$$

13 From Eq. (S19) and (S20) the missing constant is determined:

$$14 \quad a_2 = -\frac{\rho\Omega^2(M+L)^2}{2L} \quad (\text{S21})$$

15 And the final expression for the velocity is obtained:

$$16 \quad u_x(r) = \frac{1}{4\mu}\left(\frac{\rho\Omega^2(M+L)^2}{2L}\right)(R^2 - r^2) \quad (\text{S22})$$

17 And the shear rate is readily calculated as

$$18 \quad \dot{\gamma} = -\frac{\rho\Omega^2(M+L)^2 r}{4\mu L} \quad (\text{S23})$$

19 Thus the shear rate depends linearly on the radial coordinate and is quadratic on the angular velocity. This
 20 analytical result is in very good agreement with the numerical simulation. For a rotation speed of $\Omega =$

1 3000 s⁻¹ the maximum velocity using Eq. S22 is 31.9 m/s whereas the simulation predicts 29.5 m/s.

2 Similarly, the shear rate using S23 is $\dot{\gamma} = 3.19 \times 10^5 \text{ s}^{-1}$ while the numerical result is $2.9 \times 10^5 \text{ s}^{-1}$.

3 *Model for Fn unfolding in shear flow:* The conformational changes of polymers in shear flow are
4 governed by the Weissenberg (Wi) number, which is a nondimensional measure that relates elastic and
5 viscous forces:

$$6 \quad Wi = \dot{\gamma} \tau_r \quad (S24)$$

7 The Weissenbergh (Wi) number at the wall can be calculated using (S18) and gives $Wi = 79.0$. The Wi
8 number is expected to have significant effect on the stretching of the molecules in shear flow⁵², measuring
9 the strength of the shear force relative to the relaxation time of the polymer. As the Wi number increases
10 the polymer molecules are expected to present more frequent and larger extensions. When Wi is below 1,
11 the molecules will have Brownian motion and oscillate between coiled and stretched conformations but
12 the effect of the flow remains weak⁵³. As Wi increases, oscillation will persist, but it will become more
13 likely to find the molecules in their extended conformation.

14 For Fn in the rotating reservoir channel, fluctuations of the molecule between different conformational
15 extensions should still be expected. Nonetheless, non-dimensional simulations on wormlike chain models
16 and Kramer bead and rod models for different polymer flexibilities show that the expected mean of
17 relative elongation is in the range of 0.2 to 0.6⁵³. Moreover, this behavior is representative of smaller
18 values of Wi, and for the simulations with Wi approaching 80 the elongation achieves an asymptotic limit
19 close to 0.5 for flexible molecules. Considering these Brownian dynamic simulations, we expect that the
20 Wi numbers in the RJS system are thus large enough to further contribute to conformational changes of
21 the Fn molecules in addition to the extensional flow at the channel entry.

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1 SI Notes S4 – Models discussion

2 Using CFD simulations of the extensional and shear rates (Fig. 1c) as well as established analytical
3 models for predicting protein unfolding under flow (Supplementary Notes S2 and S3), we were able to
4 assess the propensity of Fn to undergo fibrillogenesis in RJS.

5 The models described above allow comparison of previous work on protein unfolding in different flow
6 regimes with literature on Fn mechanical behavior. However, to elucidate the detailed mechanisms of Fn
7 unfolding and assembly, a more thorough understanding of the spinning process would likely be required.
8 In particular, Brownian dynamic simulations similar to those described previously⁵³ could provide
9 additional insights into this process. Simpler models can nonetheless provide insight into the physics of
10 the process. The equilibrium model to estimate the force on the molecule disregards the unfolding
11 process⁵¹, yet it supports the idea that an unfolded Fn molecule can be kept in the extended configuration
12 in the RJS' extensional flow field. The work calculation provides a simple characterization of the
13 unfolding process⁷⁸ and allows comparison with previous data on Fn force-strain curves⁴² also supporting
14 the idea of Fn unfolding in elongational flow. The dimensionless Deborah number or the Weissenberg
15 number enable a wider comparison to theory and experiments done with other flexible polymers such as
16 DNA^{50,52} and collagen⁷⁷ and further suggests that the strain or shear rates in our system are large enough
17 to induce Fn unfolding.

18 Finally, we have only considered the flow at the entrance and inside the channel; however conformational
19 changes of Fn may also be induced as the jet exits the channel and is suddenly exposed to large lateral
20 forces. This analysis is beyond the scope of the present work.

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1 **SI Methods and Materials**

2 **Staining and Imaging: *Haematoxylin and Eosin Staining (H&E)*.** H&E staining was performed
3 following standard protocols. De-paraffinized sections were stained with Mayers Haematoxylin (Sigma)
4 at room temperature for 3 minutes. Blue staining was performed by rinsing in tap water while
5 differentiation was performed by rinsing in 1% acid ethanol. Samples were counterstained by rinsing with
6 eosin (Sigma) for 30 seconds and dehydrated by sequential washing with 95% ethanol, 100% ethanol and
7 Histo-Clear (National Diagnostics, Atlanta, GA). Slides were covered with cover-slips using DPX (Agar
8 Scientific, UK) and examined by light microscopy using a Olympus VS120 Whole Slide Scanner.

9 *Masson's Trichrome Staining:* Masson's Trichrome was performed using Sigma's HT15 Trichrome
10 staining kit according to the manufacturer's instructions (Sigma). Briefly, paraffin embedded tissues were
11 de-paraffinized and rehydrated gradually in graded ethanol. The samples were then fixed in Bouin's
12 solution and incubated in Weigert's Iron Hematoxylin solution. The slides were stained with Biebrich
13 Scarlet-Acid Fuchsin and Aniline Blue, followed by dehydration in ethanol and xylene. The collagen
14 fibers were stained blue, the cell nuclei were stained brown, and keratin and muscle fibers were stained
15 red. Samples were then monitored under a Olympus VS120 Whole Slide Scanner.

16 *Alkaline Phosphatase Staining:* Alkaline phosphatase activity was monitored using VectorLab SK-5100
17 kit (Vector Laboratories, Burlingame, CA) according to manufacturer's instructions. Briefly, frozen tissue
18 sections were rinsed with PBS/0.05% Tween 20 (PBST) shortly and fixed again with 4% formaldehyde
19 for 3-5 min. Samples were then rinsed with PBST and incubated for 20 minutes in the staining mixture
20 composed of two drops of reagents 1, 2 and 3 in 5 ml of Tris 150 mM solution with a pH of 8.3. Samples
21 were then monitored under a Olympus VS120 Whole Slide Scanner.

22 *Immunostaining:* Tissue samples were first de-paraffinized and rehydrated gradually in graded ethanol.
23 Heat-induced antigen retrieval was then performed by bathing samples in a solution of Sodium Citrate
24 0.01M and 0.01% tween at pH=6 in diH₂O at a temperature of 98°C for 20 min, followed by a cooling for

1 10 min at the bench. Samples were then blocked in NGS (Normal Goat Serum) and 0.3% Tween in PBS
2 for 2 hrs, after which they were incubated for 24 hours at 4°C in primary antibody solutions of PBS with:

3 - Keratin 5 (mouse) 1: 100 dilution (Invitrogen: MA5-17057)

4 - Keratin 14 (rabbit) 1: 500 dilution (Biolegend: 905301)

5 - Keratin 17 (rabbit) 1:100 dilution (Abcam: ab109725)

6 Samples were then washed (2 x 10 min) and stained with secondary antibodies for 1 hr:

7 - Alexa Fluor 488 goat anti-rabbit secondary antibody 1:1000 dilution (Invitrogen)

8 - Alexa Fluor 594 goat anti-mouse secondary antibody 1:1000 dilution (Invitrogen).

9 - Alexa Fluor 564 goat anti-guinea pig secondary antibody 1:200 dilution (Invitrogen)

10 After staining, samples were rinsed, mounted on glass slides and imaged under confocal microscopy
11 using a Zeiss LSM 5 LIVE microscope and an Olympus microscope.

12 Alternatively, samples were blocked for one hour in blocking buffer [PBS (Corning, 21-031-CV) with 5%
13 Normal Donkey Serum and 0.1% Triton-X 100, after which they were incubated for 1 hour in primary
14 antibody solutions of blocking buffer with:

15 - PPAR γ (rabbit) 1:125 dilution (Cell Signaling Tech; C26H12)

16 - Perilipin (guinea pig) 1:125 dilution (Fitzgerald; 20R-PP004)

17 Samples were then washed (3 x 3min) with 0.1% Triton-X 100 and stained with secondary antibodies for
18 30 min:

19 - Alexa Fluor 488 donkey anti-rabbit secondary antibody 1:1000 dilution (Life Technologies)

20 - Alexa Fluor 594 goat anti-guinea pig secondary antibody 1:1000 dilution (Life Technologies).

21 Tissues were then counterstained with 20 μ g/mL Hoechst 33342 (Life Technologies, H1399) in PBS for
22 five minutes, washed and mounted.

- 1 *Fn immunostaining*: Fn fiber staining was performed by likewise de-paraffinizing and re-hydrating tissue
- 2 samples at day 6 post-treatment. Samples were then incubated in a PBS solution of:
 - 3 - Anti-Fn antibody (rabbit) 1: 200 dilution (Abcam: MA5-17057)
- 4 Samples were then washed (3 x 10min) and stained in a PBS solution for one hour of DAPI (1:200) and:
 - 5 - Alexa Fluor 546 goat anti-rabbit secondary antibody 1:200 dilution (Invitrogen)
- 6 Samples were then washed and mounted for imaging.

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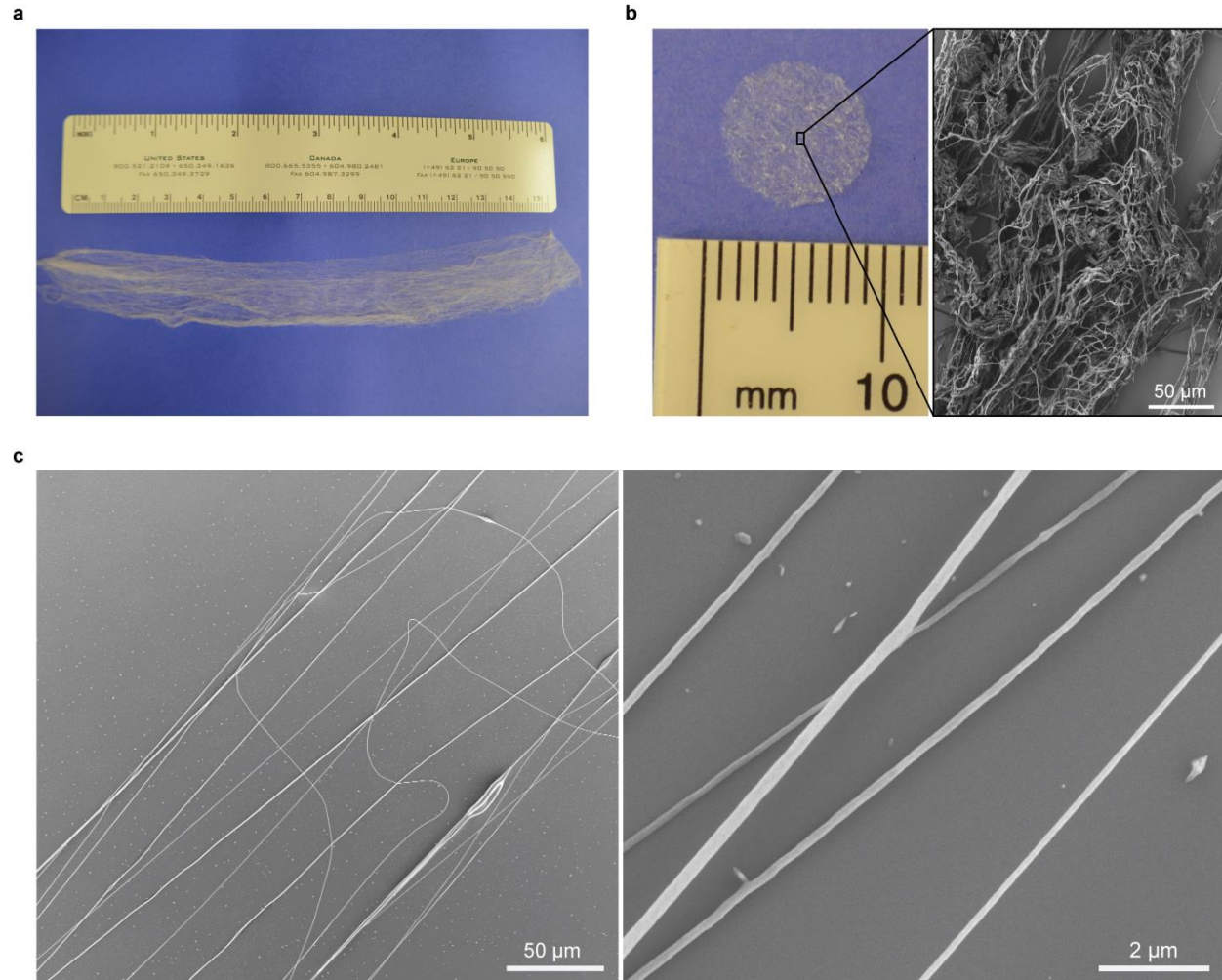
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1 **Supplementary Figures**

2

3 **Fig. S1 Fn scaffolds fabricated using the RJS.** (a) Photograph of a sheet of Fn fibers (approx. 100-200µm in thickness) spun at
 4 ~30,000 rpm using the RJS, collected on a rotating mandrel and unrolled post-spinning. (b) Fn nanofibers are then cut into 8mm
 5 discs with a biopsy punch and used for imaging (right panel shows SEM image) or used subsequently for *in vivo* studies. (c) SEM
 6 images show fabrication of intact and smooth Fn nanofibers with an average diameter of 457nm ±138.

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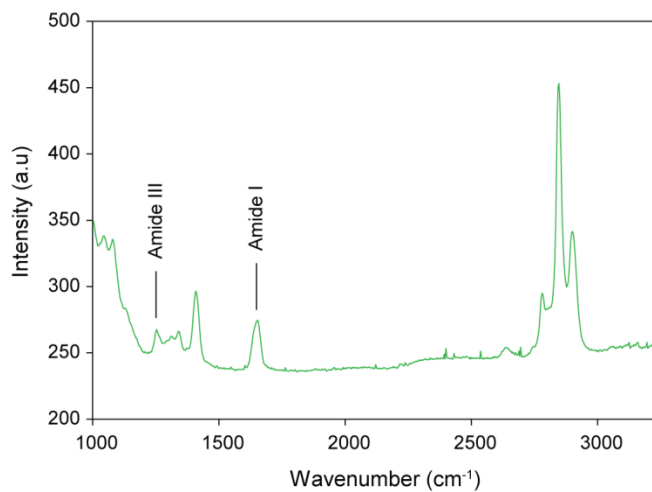
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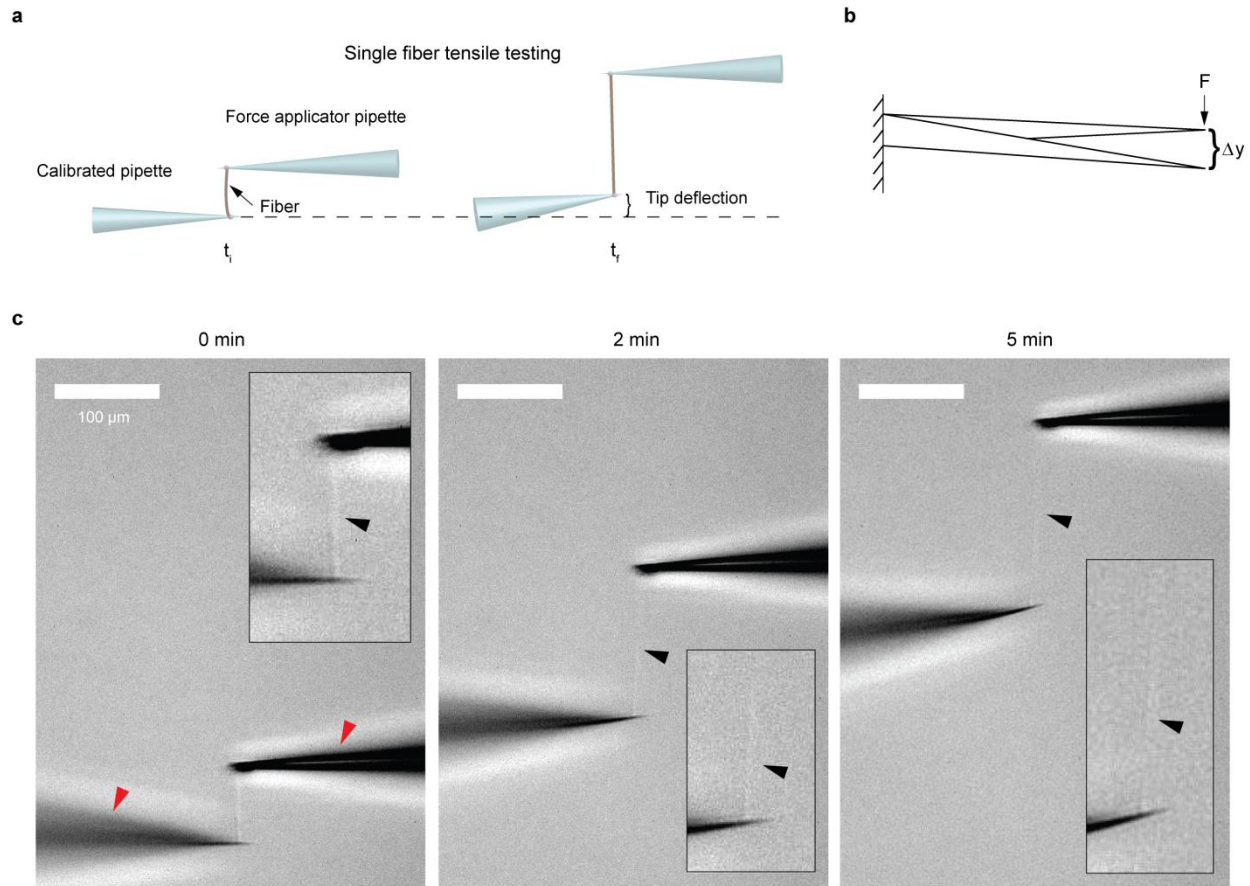
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2 **Fig. S2 Chemical structure analysis of Fn fibers by Raman spectroscopy.** Raman spectrum shows intact secondary structure
3 of Fn fibers with the presence of Amide I (1649cm⁻¹) and Amide III (1249cm⁻¹) peaks. Absence of Amide II peak suggest that
4 tertiary structures are in partially folded states.

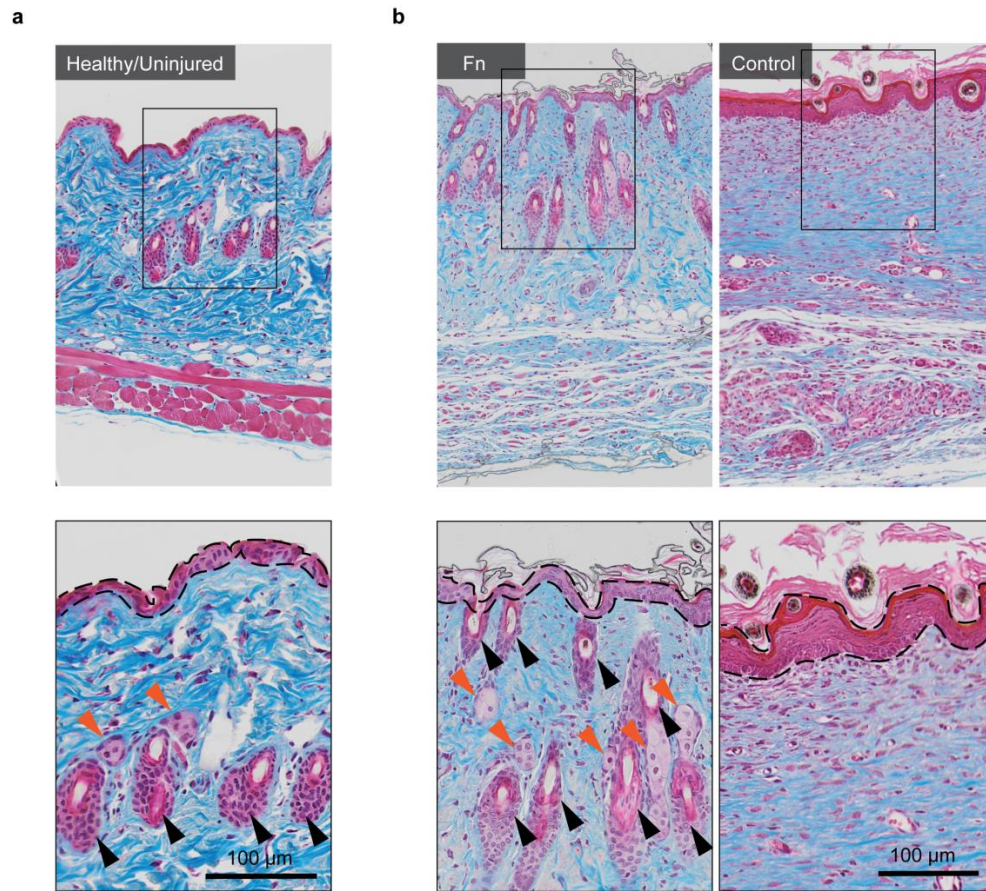
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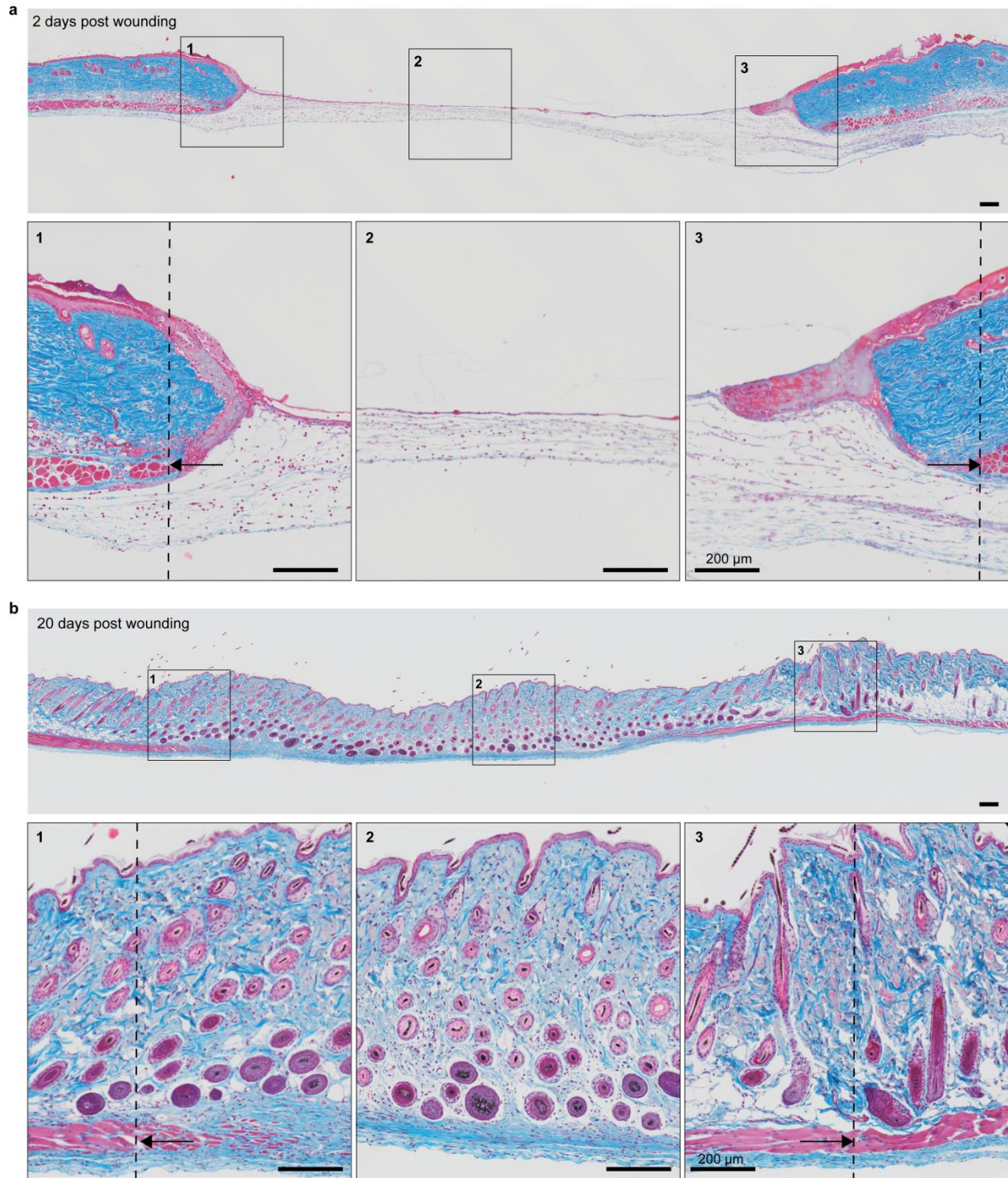
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2 **Fig. S3 Single fiber μ -pipette uniaxial tensile testing.** (a), The testing setup consists of one calibrated pipette and one force
 3 applicator pipette to which a fiber is adhered by a droplet of epoxy. Tip deflection is measured as the fiber is pulled. (b) Force is
 4 measured based on calculated beam stiffness. A known force (F) will deflect the pipette tip a known distance (Δy). (c)
 5 Representative differential interference contrast (DIC) images of a single Fn nanofiber (black arrowheads) attached between two
 6 μ -pipettes (red arrowheads). DIC images represent different time points (0, 2 and 5min) during uniaxial tensile testing (300%
 7 strain). DIC images show tip deflection as described in (a-b).

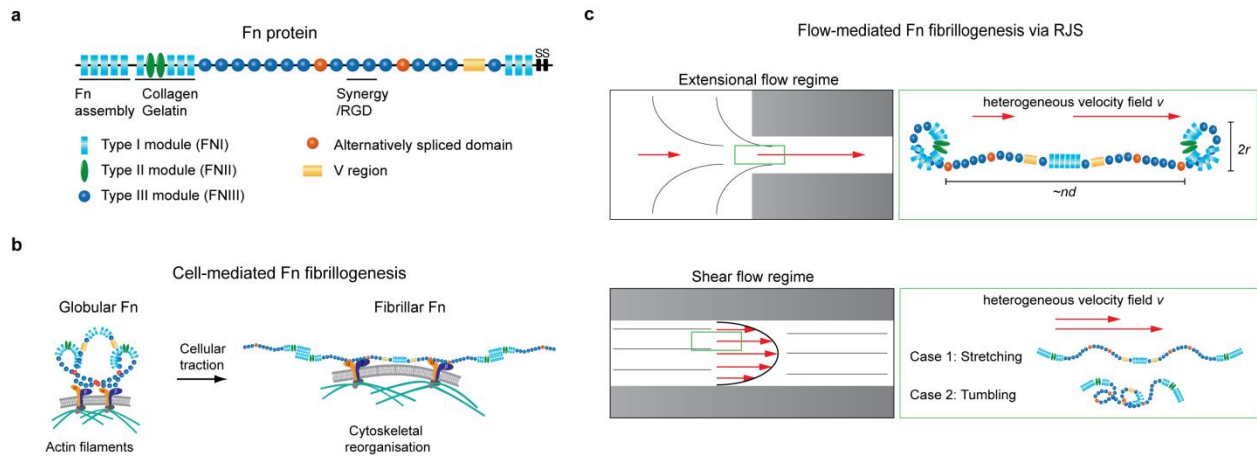
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 2 **Fig. S4 Epidermal thickness measurements and skin appendage density analysis description.** To determine if treated
 3 wounds had recovered original healthy epidermal structure, epidermal thicknesses of the different treated tissues were measured
 4 20 days post wounding and compared to healthy uninjured tissue. To verify recovery of dermal architecture, density of hair
 5 follicles and sebaceous glands in the treated-wounds were calculated using the same tissue sections. (a) Masson's trichrome
 6 staining image of unwounded healthy tissue with black dashed lines delimiting the epidermal layer in the skin tissue. Black and
 7 orange arrowheads mark the presence of hair follicles and sebaceous glands, respectively. (b) Representative images of wound
 8 centers 20 days post injury reveal epidermal thickness recovery for Fn treatments whereas the control remains thicker.
 9 Arrowheads demonstrate high abundance of hair follicles and sebaceous glands in the Fn treatment. The control condition was
 10 void of any skin appendages at the center of the wounds.

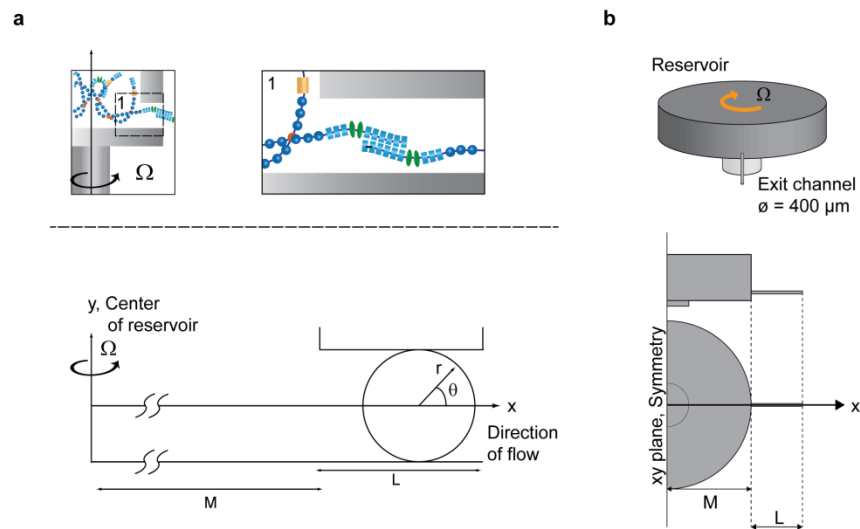


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2 **Fig. S5 Establishing wound edges for consistent measurements.** To perform accurate and consistent measurements between
3 our different treatment samples, wound edges were defined using the positions of the sectioned panniculus carnosus muscle tissue
4 (black arrows). **(a)** Masson's trichrome images of a non-treated full-thickness wound two days post injury, demonstrating
5 removal of the epidermis, the dermis, hypodermis and the underlying muscle tissue. Insets display position of original wound
6 edges with position of muscle tissue. **(b)** Images of a full-thickness wound 20 days post injury treated with a Fn nanofiber wound
7 dressing. Insets display original position of wound edges.

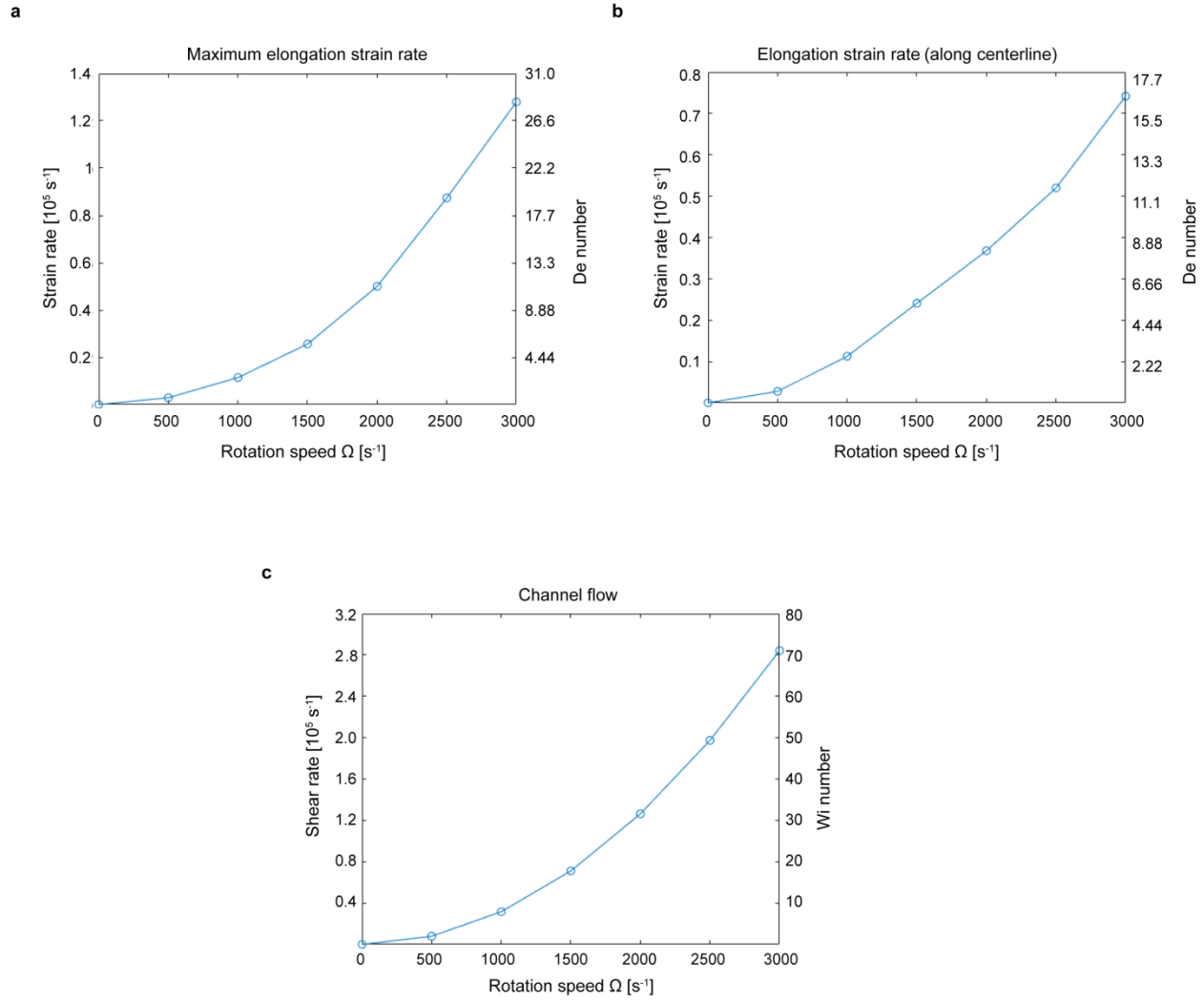


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2 **Fig. S6 Cell-mediated Fn unfolding and a theoretical model of Fn unfolding in the RJS system.** (a) Schematic of the Fn
3 molecular structure with relevant domains labeled. Of specific interest are the FNI₁₋₅ domains responsible for Fn assembly during
4 fibrillogenesis, FNIII domains with embedded beta-sheet structures providing mechanical elasticity and the FNIII₉₋₁₀ RGD and
5 synergy sites necessary for cellular adhesion. (b) Mechanism of Fn fibrillogenesis *in vivo*. Globular Fn binds to cells via integrin-
6 binding sites, inducing actin cytoskeletal reorganization and cell contractility. This in turn enables unfolding of the Fn molecule,
7 exposing N-terminal Fn-Fn binding sites (FNI₁₋₅) and generating polymerization of Fn into insoluble fibrils. (c) Mechanism of
8 flow-mediated Fn fibrillogenesis studied at the entry flow, where high extensional strain is experienced and the channel flow,
9 where high shear is experienced. Insets show Fn molecules undergo stretching due to extensional strain (top) or shear (bottom)
10 rates. (Top) An Fn molecule under a heterogeneous velocity field v can be modeled as a string of N modules, with a diameter a
11 and separated by a center-to-center distance d , while the clusters have a radius r . (Bottom) Because of the heterogeneous velocity
12 field perpendicular to the channel flow, the Fn molecule may either continue to stretch or become unstable and tumble.

13



14
15 **Fig. S7 Parameters for the CFD simulations.** (a) Schematic representation of the RJS reservoir and orifice (top, and inset 1).
16 The diagram below illustrates the reservoir section with the parameters relevant to the analytical model and CFD simulations. (b)
17 Geometries of the Fn solution in the reservoir and the channel for the CFD simulations are constructed such that the centerline is
18 aligned with the x axis and the yz plane for the symmetric boundary condition.



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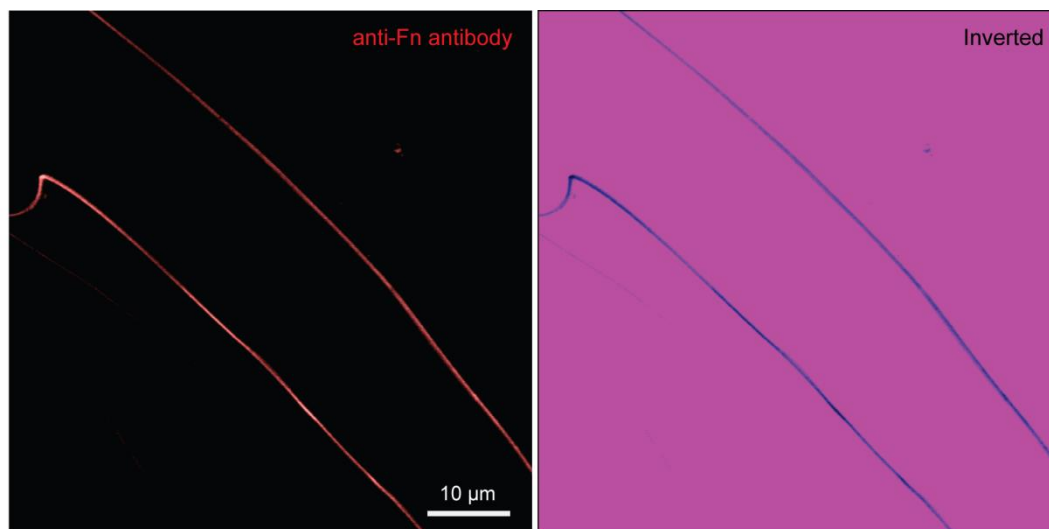
2 **Fig. S8 Deborah (De) and Weissenberg (Wi) numbers for different rotation speeds by CFD simulations.** (a) Maximum
 3 elongation strain rates and corresponding De numbers calculated for specific rotation speeds (0 – 3,000 s^{-1}) of the RJS reservoir.
 4 Results show an increase of De number with increasing rotation speeds. For the maximum rotation speed of 3,000 s^{-1} , a strain rate
 5 of $1.3 \times 10^5 s^{-1}$ and De number of 28.9 were calculated. (b) Elongation strain rates and corresponding De numbers along the
 6 centerline calculated for specific rotation speeds. For the maximum rotation speed, a strain rate of $0.76 \times 10^5 s^{-1}$ and De number
 7 of 16.6 were calculated. (c) Shear strain rates and corresponding Wi number calculated for different rotation speeds. For the
 8 maximum rotation speed, a shear rate of $2.9 \times 10^5 s^{-1}$ and Wi number of 79.0 were calculated.

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2 **Fig. S9 Immunostained Fn fibers.** Image of two Fn nanofibers stained with a anti-human Fn antibody confirms molecular
3 integrity of Fn post-spinning.

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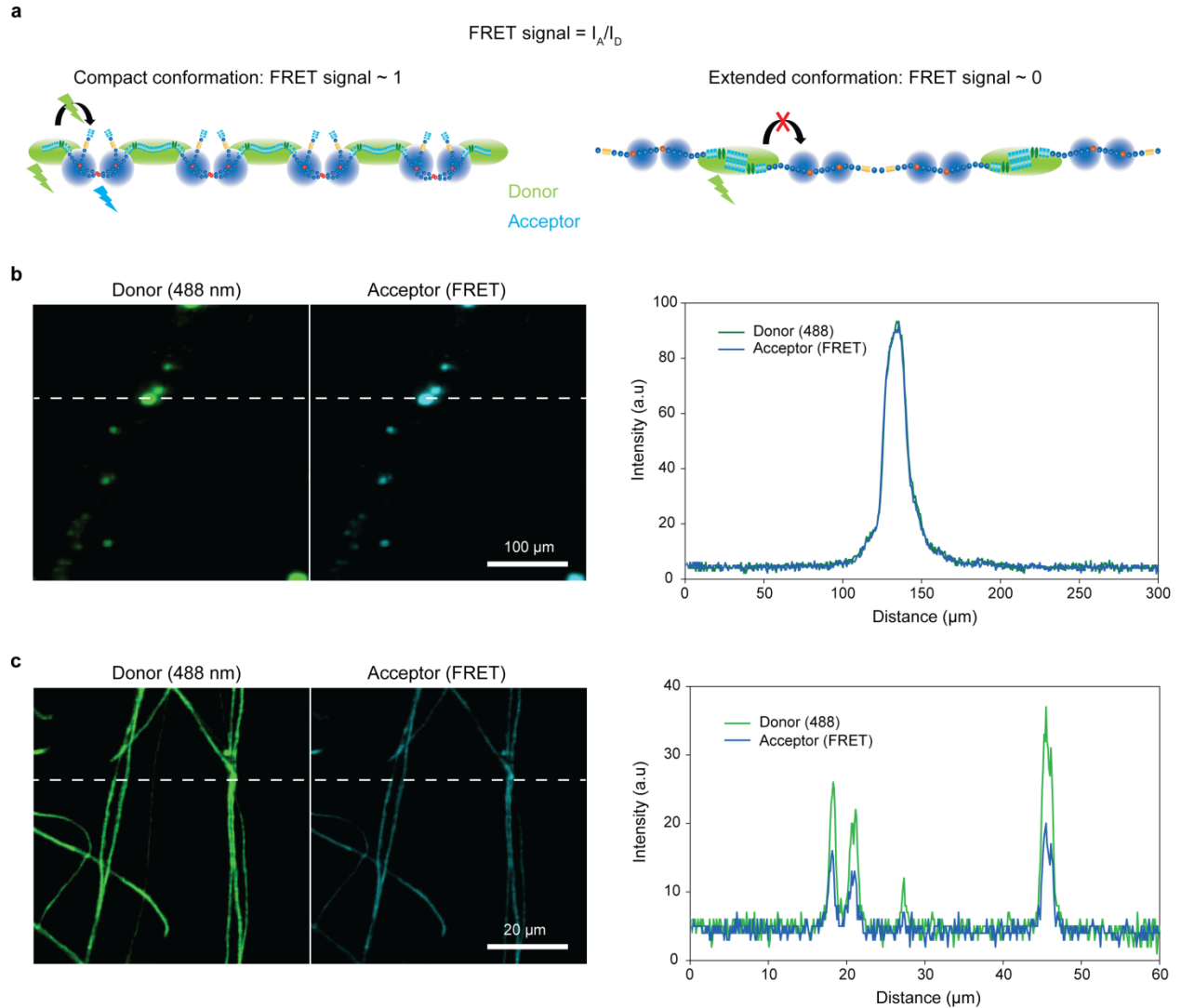
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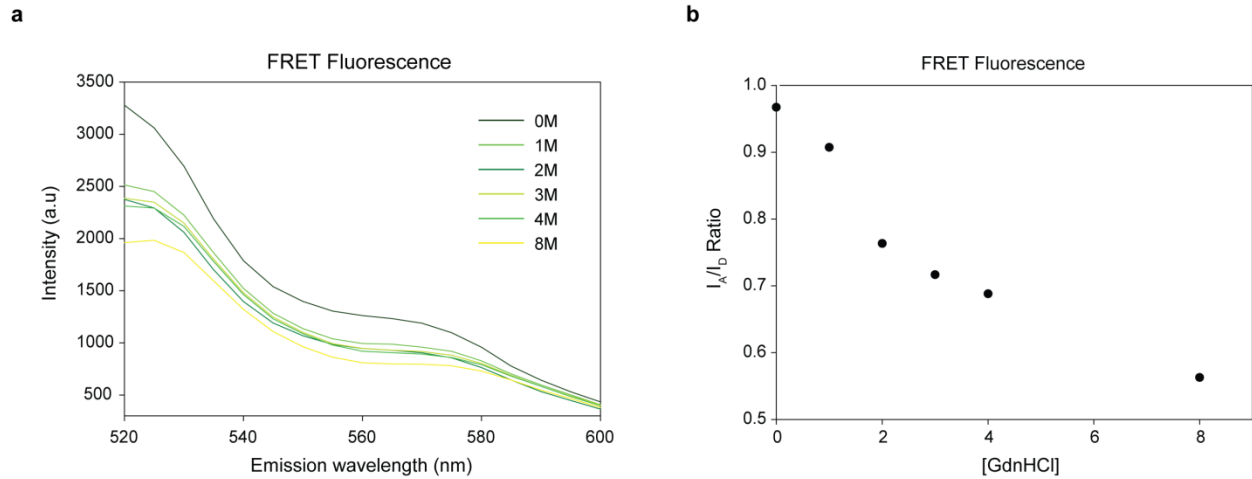
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2 **Fig. S10 Conformational structure of Fn nanofibers by FRET analysis.** (a) Schematic of FRET fluorescence, with a high
 3 FRET signal (close to 1) for the compact globular conformation and low FRET signal (close to 0) for the fully extended fibrillar
 4 conformation. (b) Confocal images at donor emission wavelength (520 nm) and acceptor emission wavelength (576 nm) were
 5 taken using the donor excitation wavelength (488 nm). Dual-labeled globular Fn adsorbed on glass coverslips shows strong
 6 FRET signal (compact conformation). (c) Dual-labeled Fn unfolded using the RJS shows a weak FRET signal (fibrillar
 7 conformation). Confocal images are also shown.

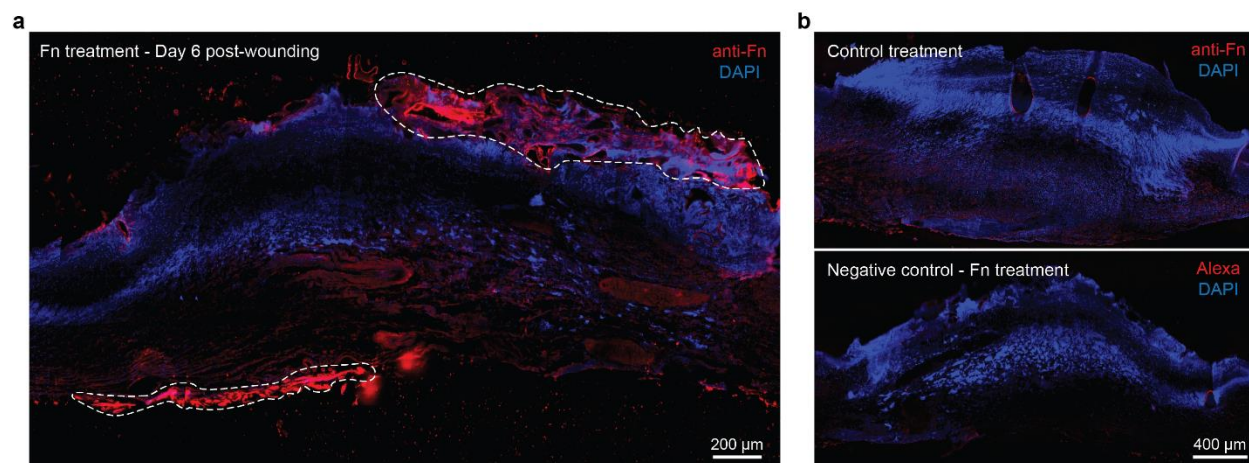
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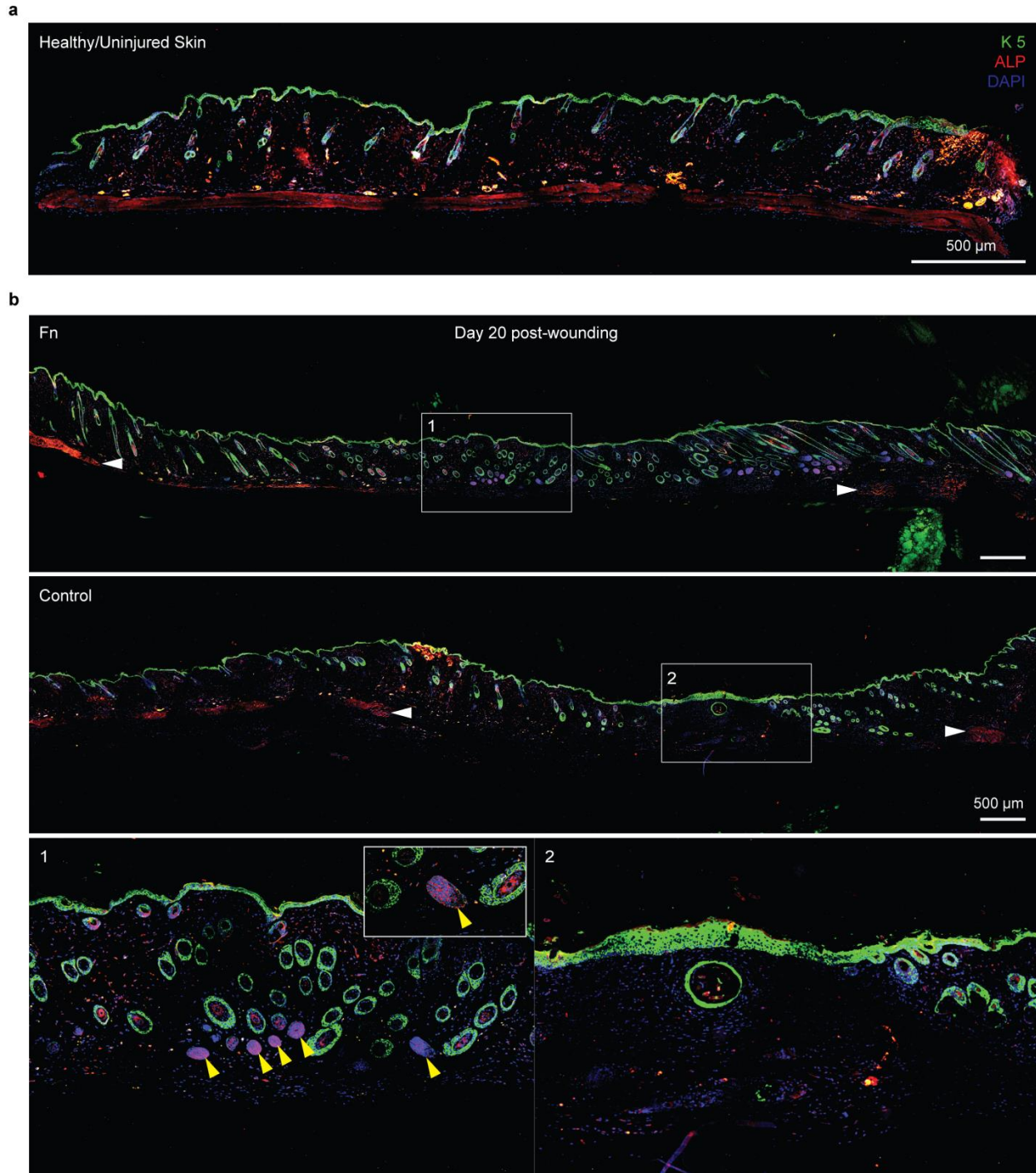
2 **Fig. S11 FRET sensitivity calibration for Fn unfolded via GdnHCl.** (a) FRET fluorescence spectra of labeled Fn in solution,
3 measured for increasing concentration of [GdnHCl]. FRET signal decreases with increasing concentration of [GdnHCl]. (b) The
4 acceptor intensity (I_A) and the donor intensity (I_D) ratios (I_A/I_D) were calculated to show sensitivity of FRET measurements of
5 Fn unfolding. FRET was lowest for exposure to 4M and 8M of [GdnHCl] with FRET signals of 0.688 and 0.5626, respectively.

6



1
2 **Fig. S12 Fn biodegradation confirmed 6 days post-wounding.** (a) Fn-treated wounded tissue immunostained with an anti-Fn
3 antibody (red) and DAPI (blue), depicting the presence of low amounts of Fn fibers in the reforming tissue. (b) Control
4 immunostaining at day 6 on the non-treated control wound (top) and negative control staining without primary anti-Fn antibody
5 (bottom).

6



1

2 **Fig. S13 Fn nanofibers supported recruitment of dermal papillae and epithelial cells throughout wounded tissue.** (a)
 3 Healthy tissue section stained for Alkaline Phosphatase (ALP), Keratin 5 (K5) and DAPI confirmed the presence of DPs and
 4 ECs. (b) Further histochemical stains of tissues treated with Fn nanofiber wound dressings and the control 20 days post injury.
 5 White arrowheads indicate original wound edges. Yellow arrowheads in Fn-treated skin tissue highlight the presence of ALP-
 6 positive cell niches, suggesting the presence of dermal papillae (Inset 1). Images reveal decreased density and distribution of
 7 ALP and K5-positive cells in the control, which is significant at the wound center (Inset 2).

8

1 SI Movies

2 **Movie S1** Close-up movie (time x 4) of the fabrication of Fn nanofibers using a RJS setup. Fn solution is
3 extruded in the rotating reservoir using a 1 mL pipette. Fibers were collected on a mandrel post spinning.

4 **Movie S2** Brightfield microscope movie (real-time) of a Fn nanofiber placed in water and subsequently
5 removed from water.

6 **Movie S3** Differential interference contrast time-lapse movie (time x 50) of a single Fn nanofiber under
7 uniaxial tensile testing (~300 strain).