

# Scanning Probe Microscopy

Thilo Glatzel

Department of Physics

University of Basel

[thilo.glatzel@unibas.ch](mailto:thilo.glatzel@unibas.ch)

- Scanning tunneling microscopy
- Force microscopy under ultrahigh vacuum conditions
- Molecular electronics



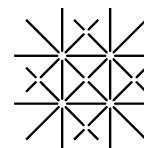
<http://www.nccr-nano.org>

**NCCR**  
*Nanoscale Science*

The diagram illustrates the NCCR Nanoscale Science network, centered around UNI BASEL, which is connected to seven partner institutions: ETH ZURICH, UNI ZURICH, PSI, IBM RESEARCH, EPFL, UNI NEUCHATEL, and CSEM.

```
graph TD; FBHB((FHBB)) --- UNIBASEL[UNI BASEL]; UNIBASEL --- ETHZ[ETH ZURICH]; UNIBASEL --- UNIZ[UNI ZURICH]; UNIBASEL --- PSIT[PSI]; UNIBASEL --- IBMRE[IBM RESEARCH]; UNIBASEL --- EPFL[EPFL]; UNIBASEL --- UNINEU[UNI NEUCHATEL]; UNIBASEL --- CSERM[CSEM]
```

FNSNF  
SCHWEIZERISCHER NATIONALFONDS  
FONDS NATIONAL SUISSE  
SWISS NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

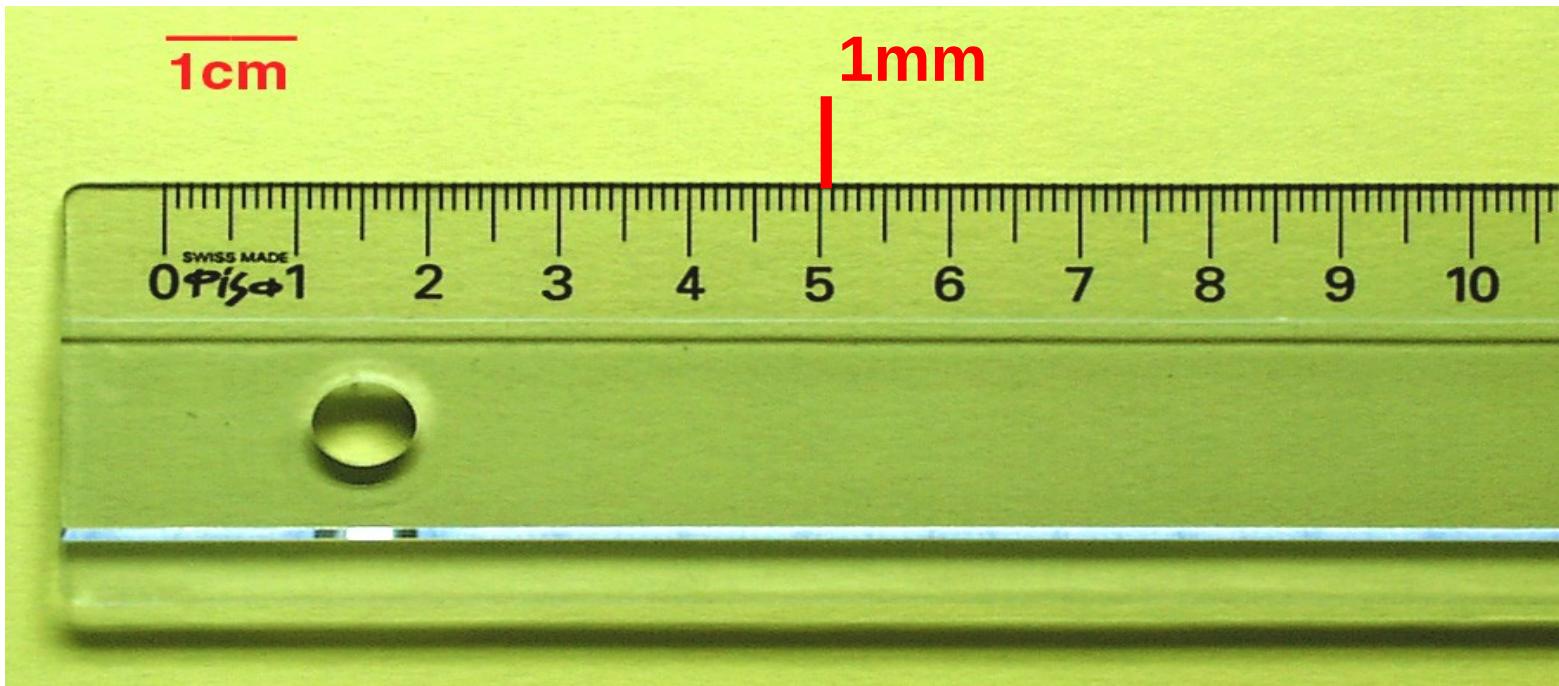


UNI  
BASEL

# What do scientists mean by Nanoscience?

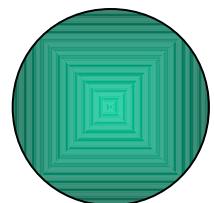
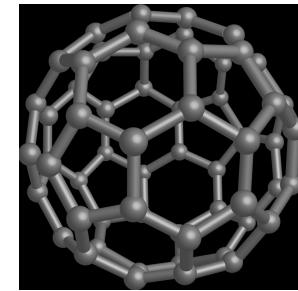
Prefix “nano”: one billionth of something like a second or a meter.

$1 \text{ nm} = 1 \text{ billionth of a meter}$



$1 \text{ nm} = 1 \text{ millionth of a millimeter}$

# How large?



12'740'000m



0.22m



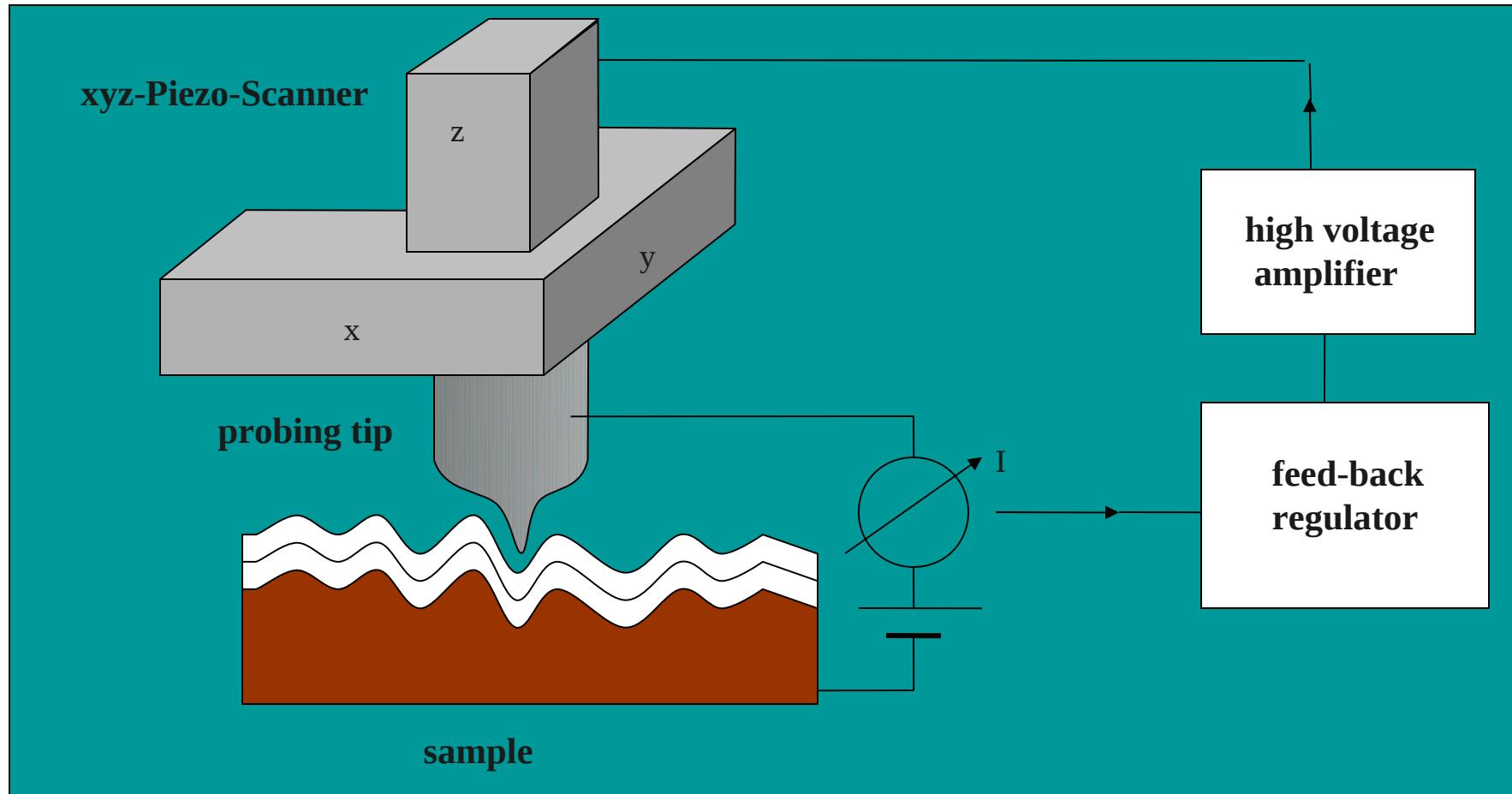
1nm

0.3nm

: 57'909'090

: 220'000'000

# Scanning Tunneling Microscopy (STM)



Feed-back regulator keeps current (pA-nA) constant.  
Contours of constant current are recorded.

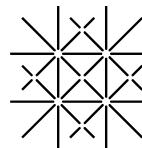
# Quantum tunneling



CLASSICAL PHYSICS

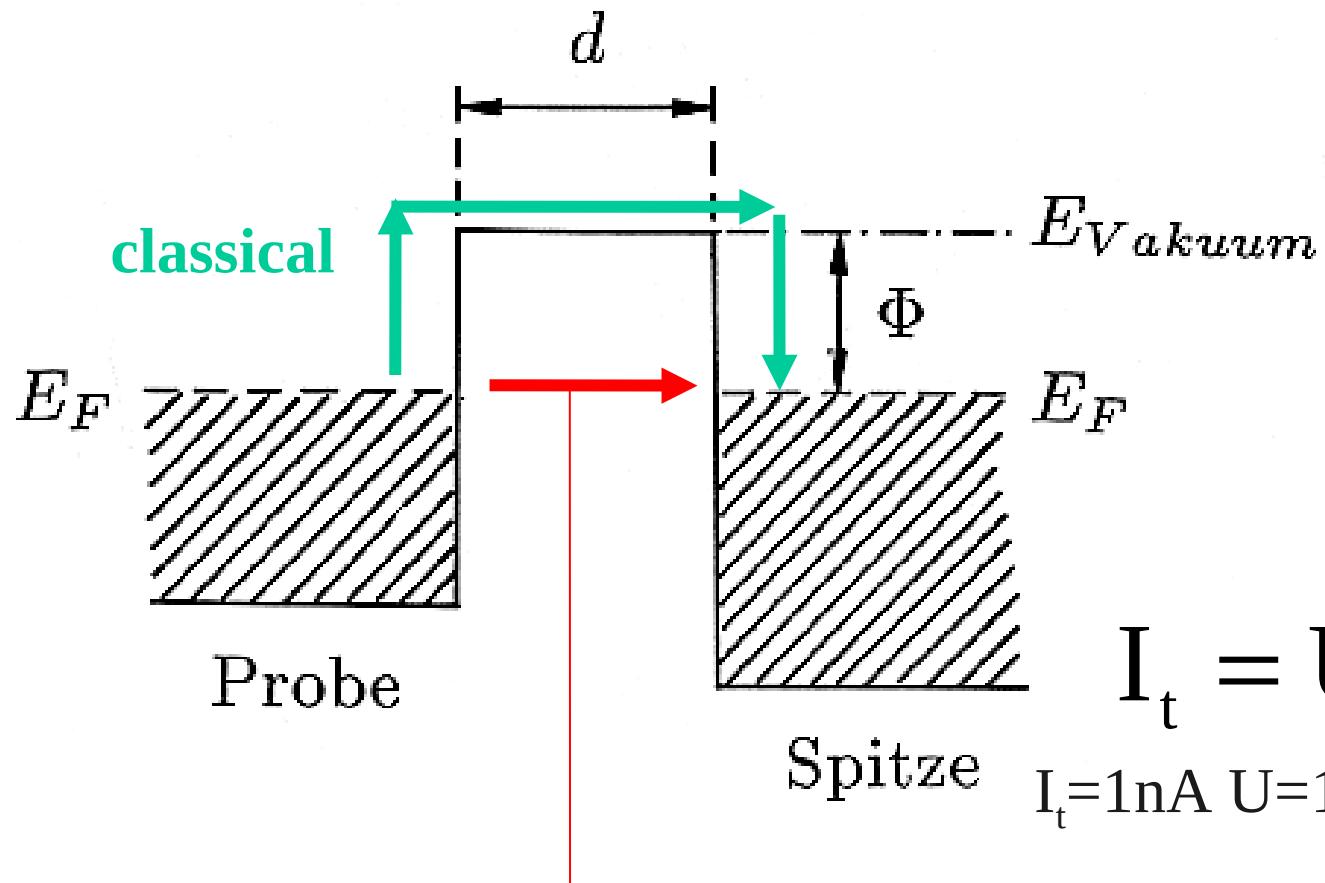


Quantum Physics



UNI  
BASEL

# Quantum mechanical tunneling

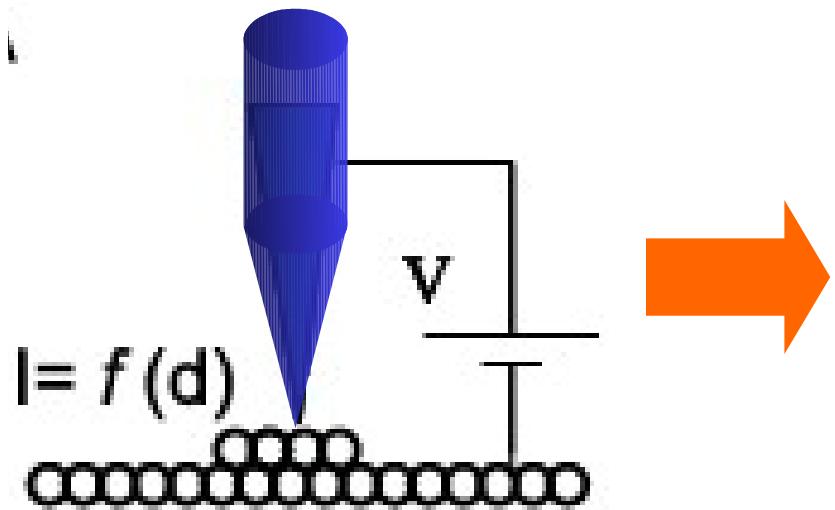


$$I_t = U \cdot e^{-d/\kappa}$$

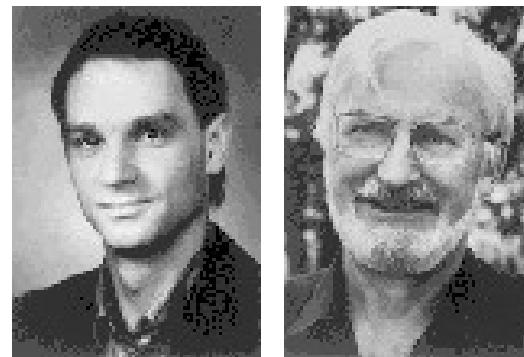
$$I_t = 1\text{nA} \quad U = 1\text{V} \quad \kappa \approx 0.1\text{nm}$$

quantum mechanical:  
Tunneling current

J. Frenkel, *Phys. Rev. B* 36, 1604 (1930)

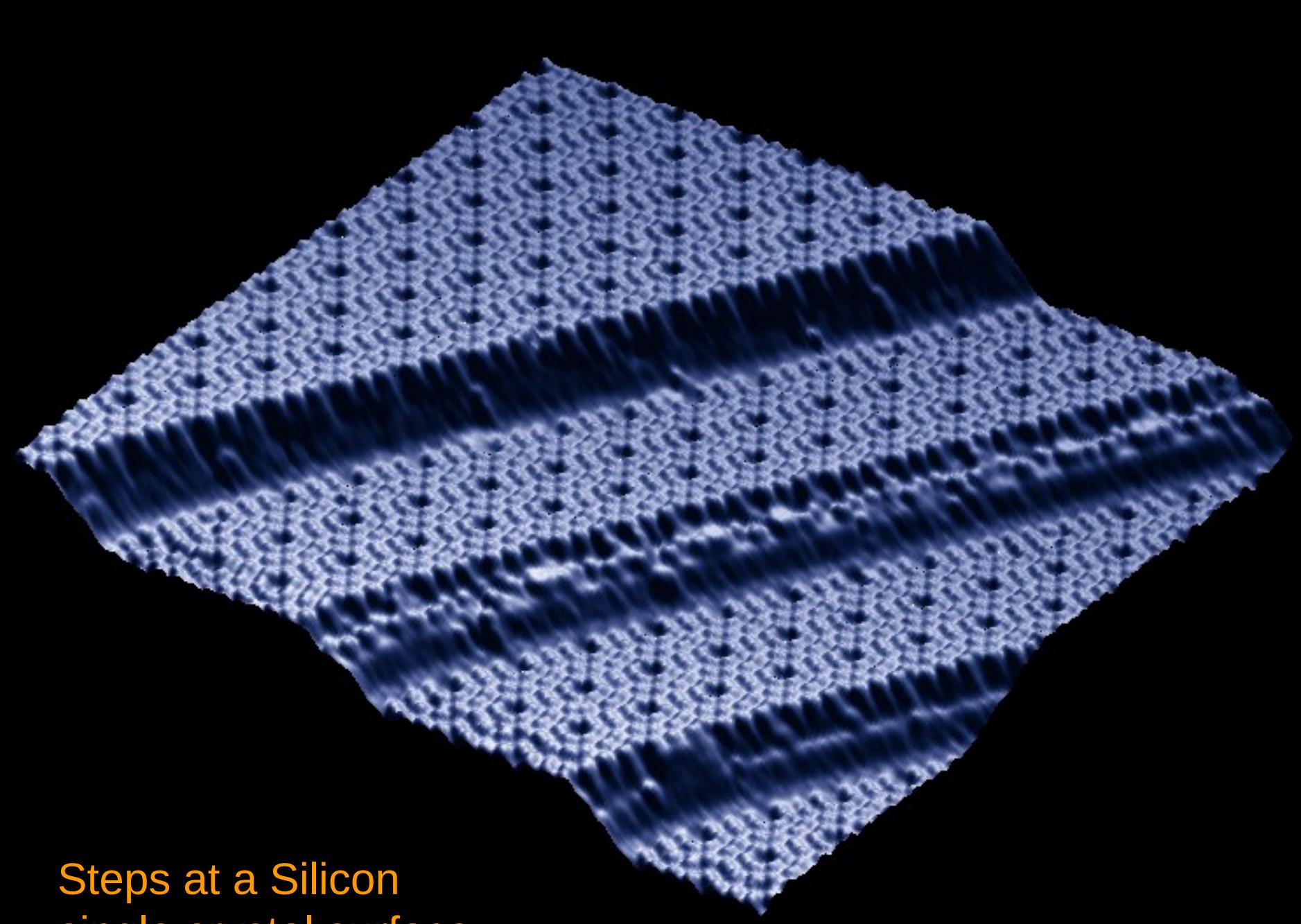


# Invention of the Scanning Tunneling Microscope (STM)

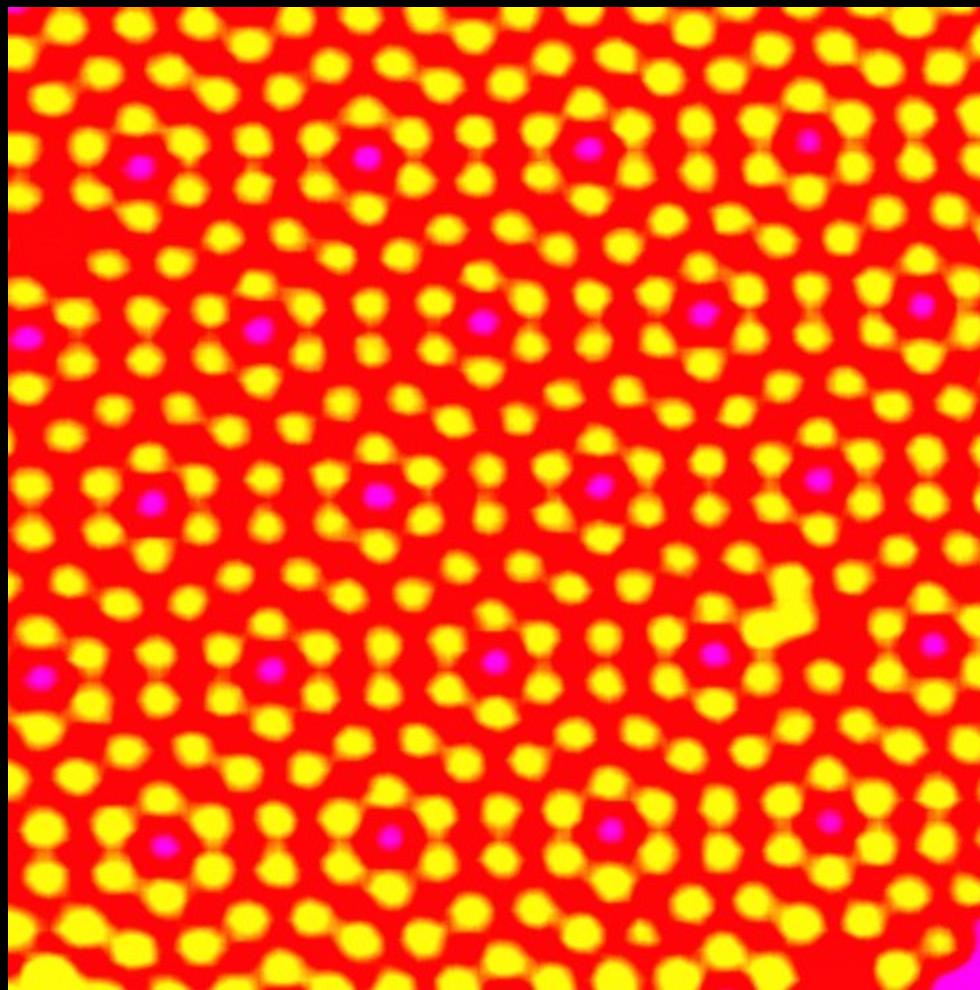


G. Binnig and H. Rohrer  
Nobel prize for physics  
1986

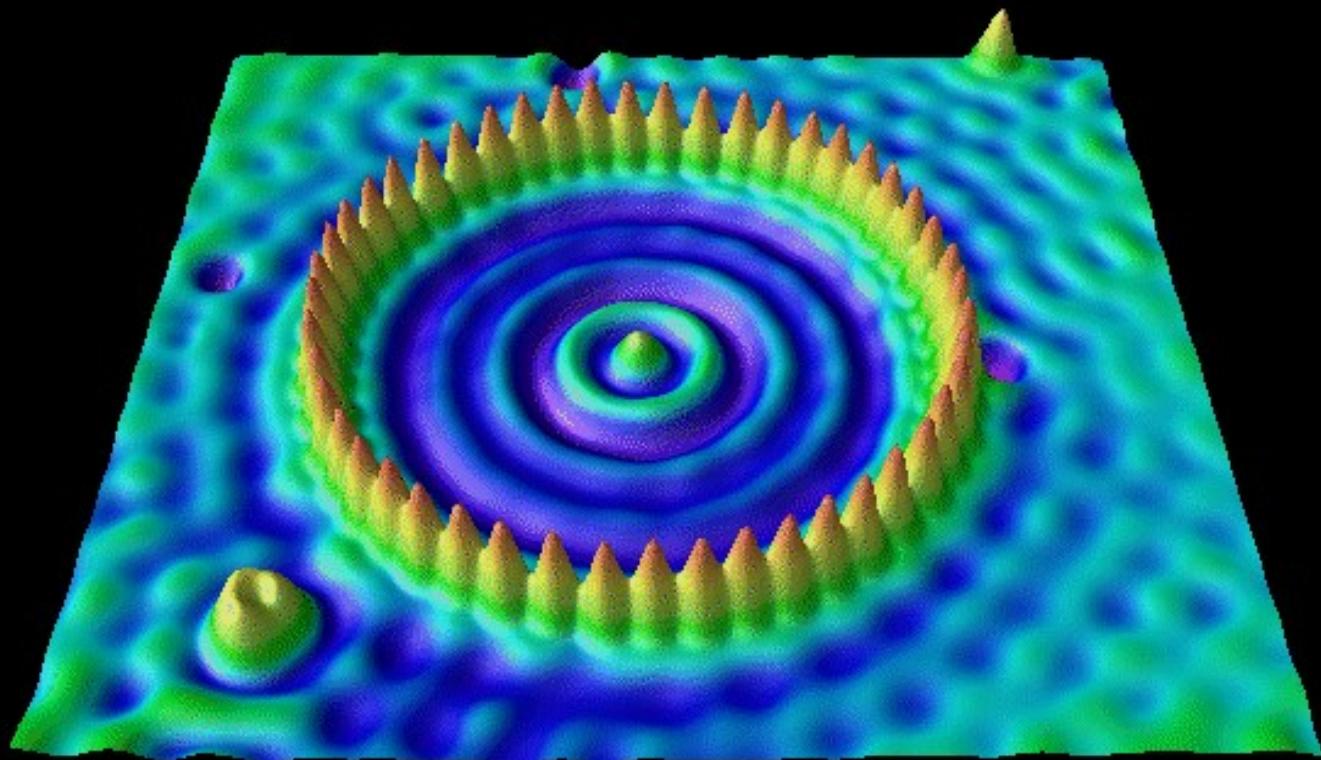
IBM Rüschlikon  
Switzerland



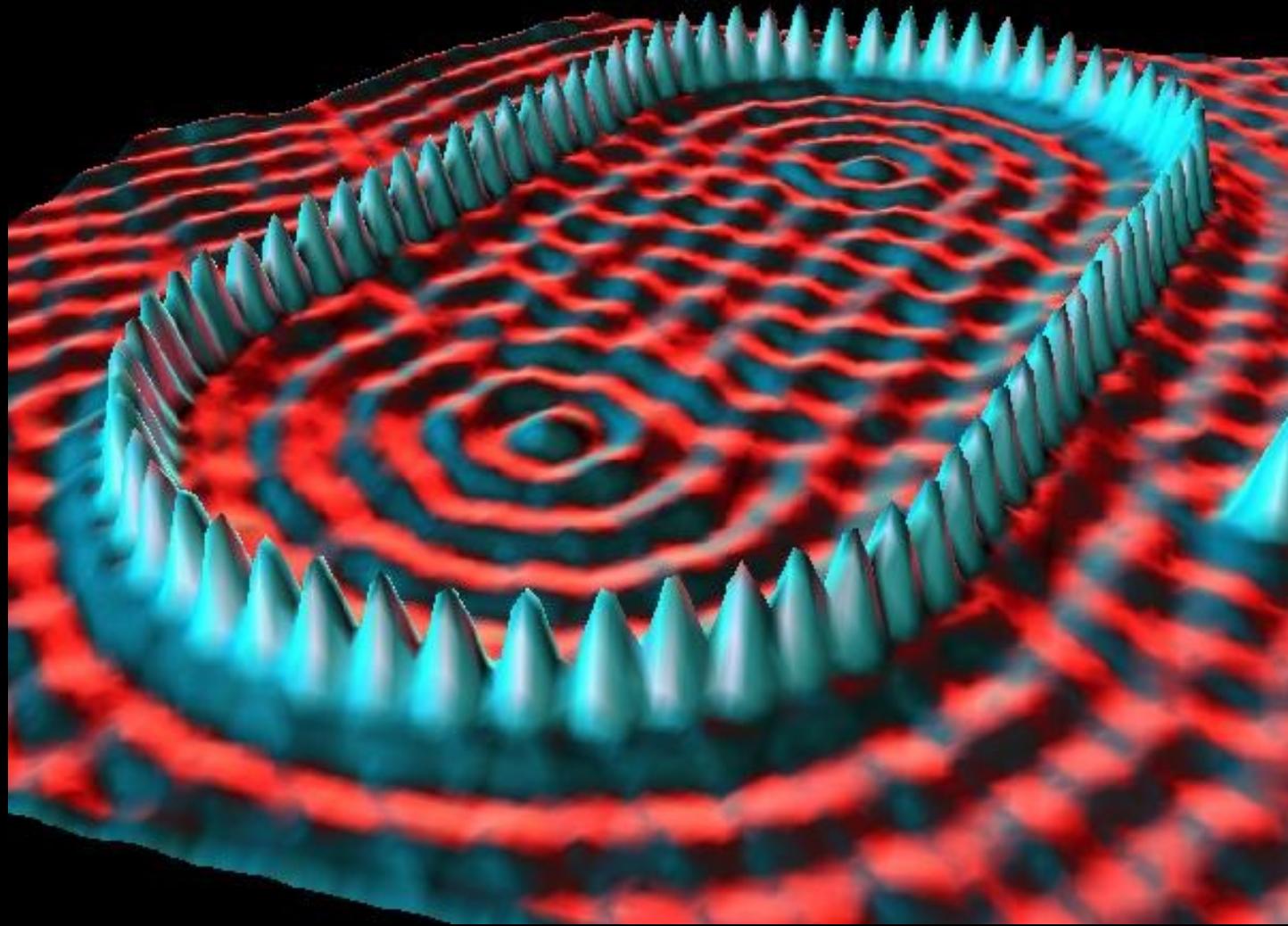
Steps at a Silicon  
single crystal surface.



Si(111)7x7 reconstructed surface



48 Fe-atoms on copper (Quantum corral)  
D. Eigler, IBM Almaden



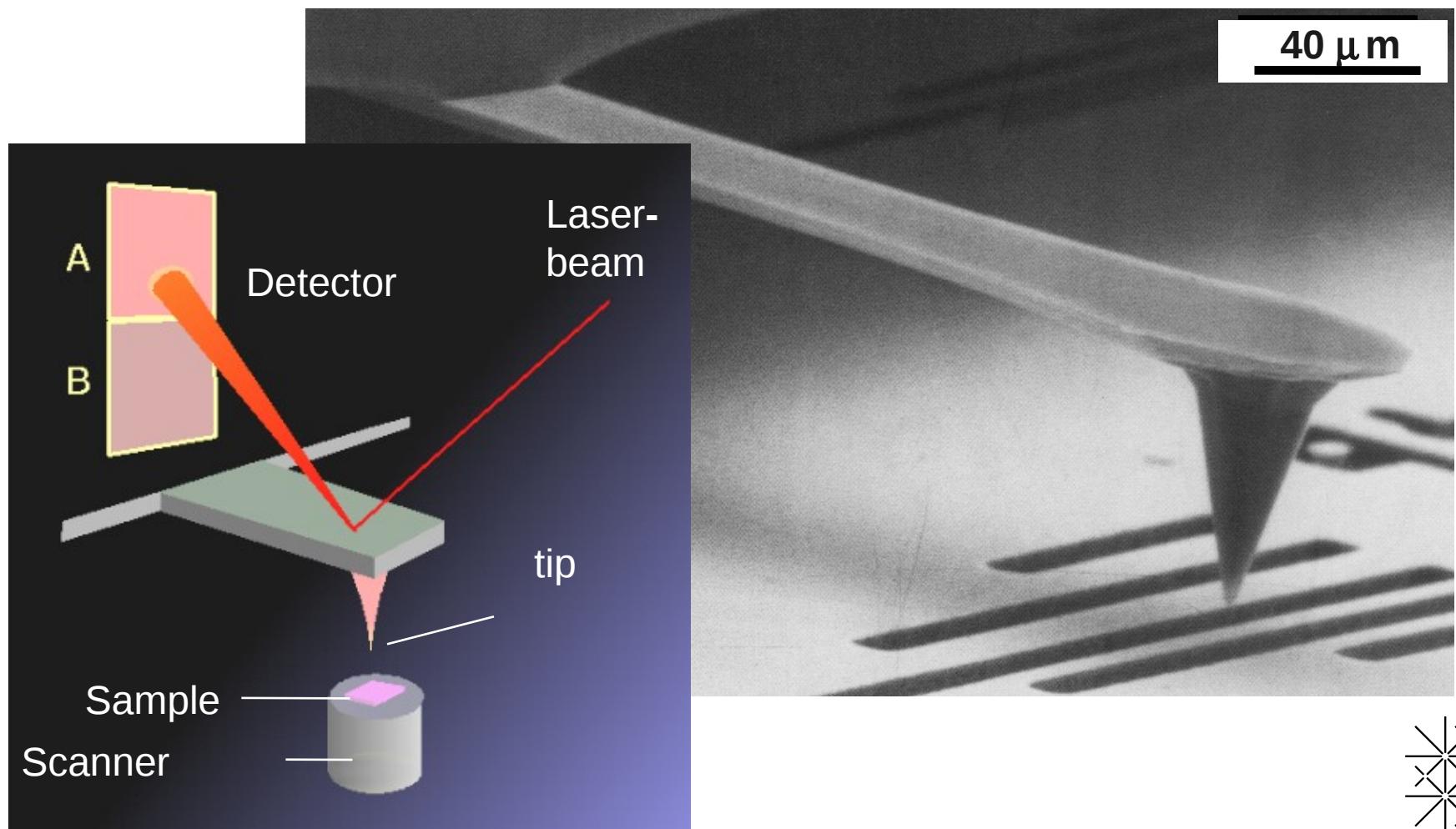
Fe atoms on copper

# STM for Schools

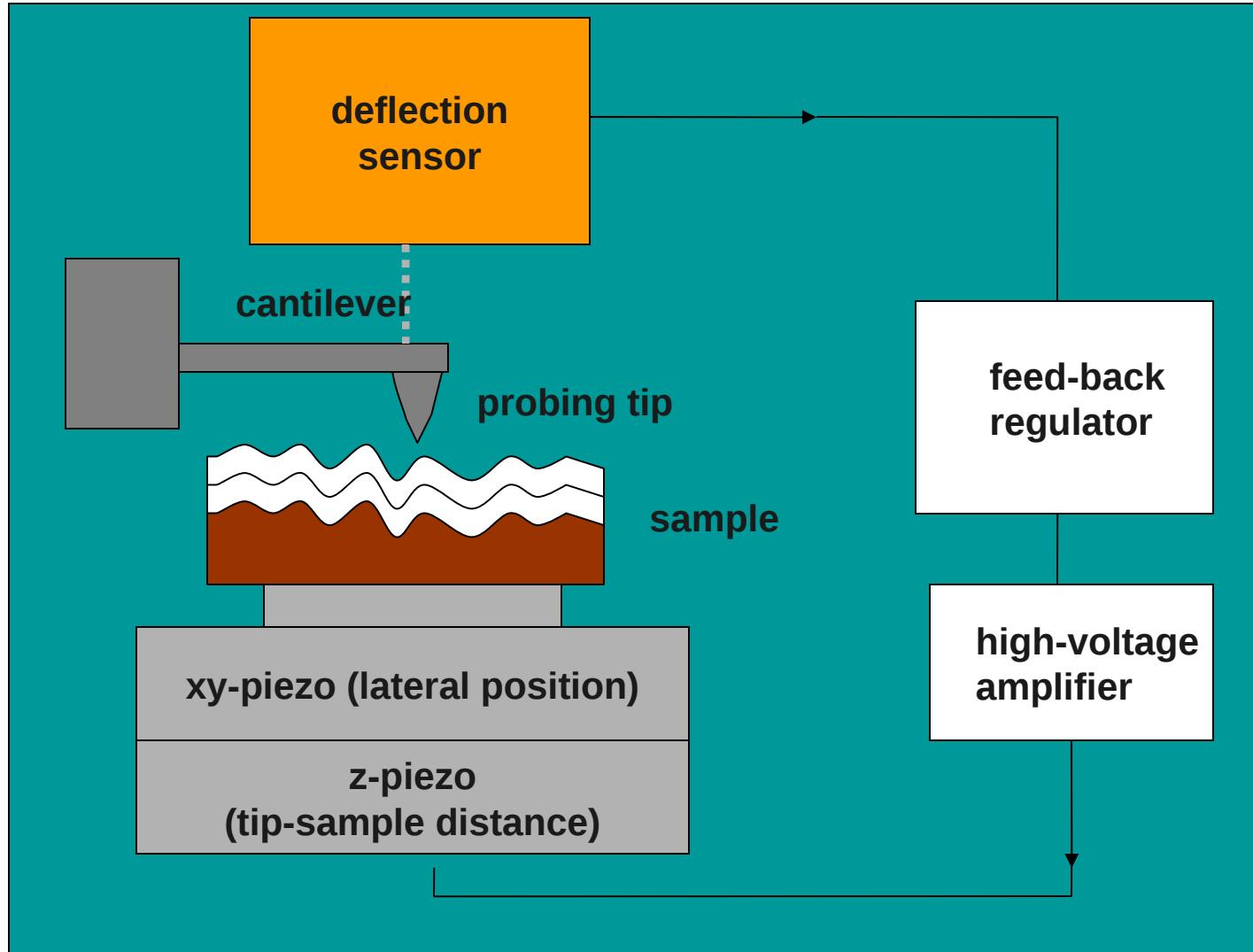


Nanosurf AG, Liestal: Start-up from the University of Basel

# Atomic Force Microscopy (AFM)



# Principle of Atomic Force Microscope (AFM)



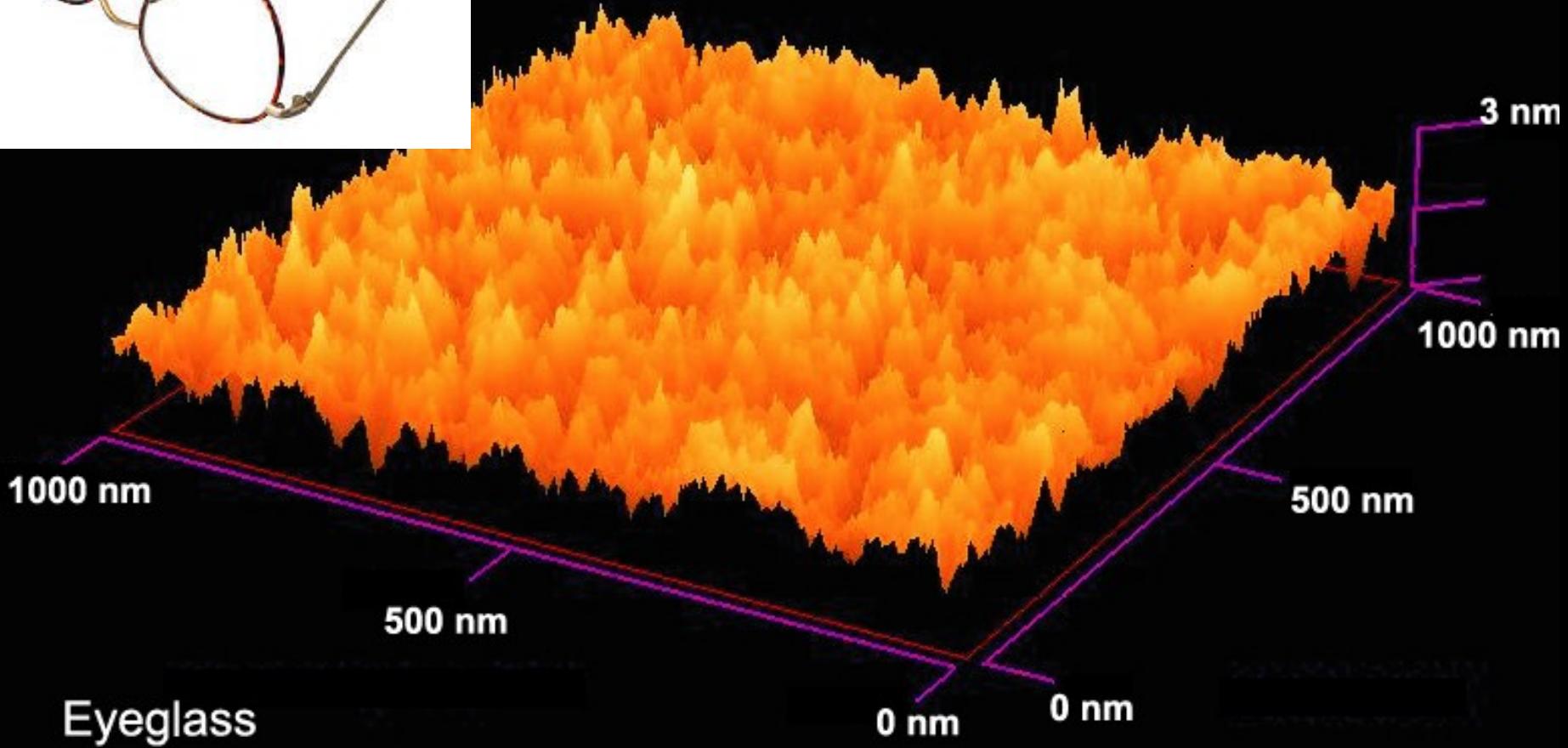
# Commercial AFMs



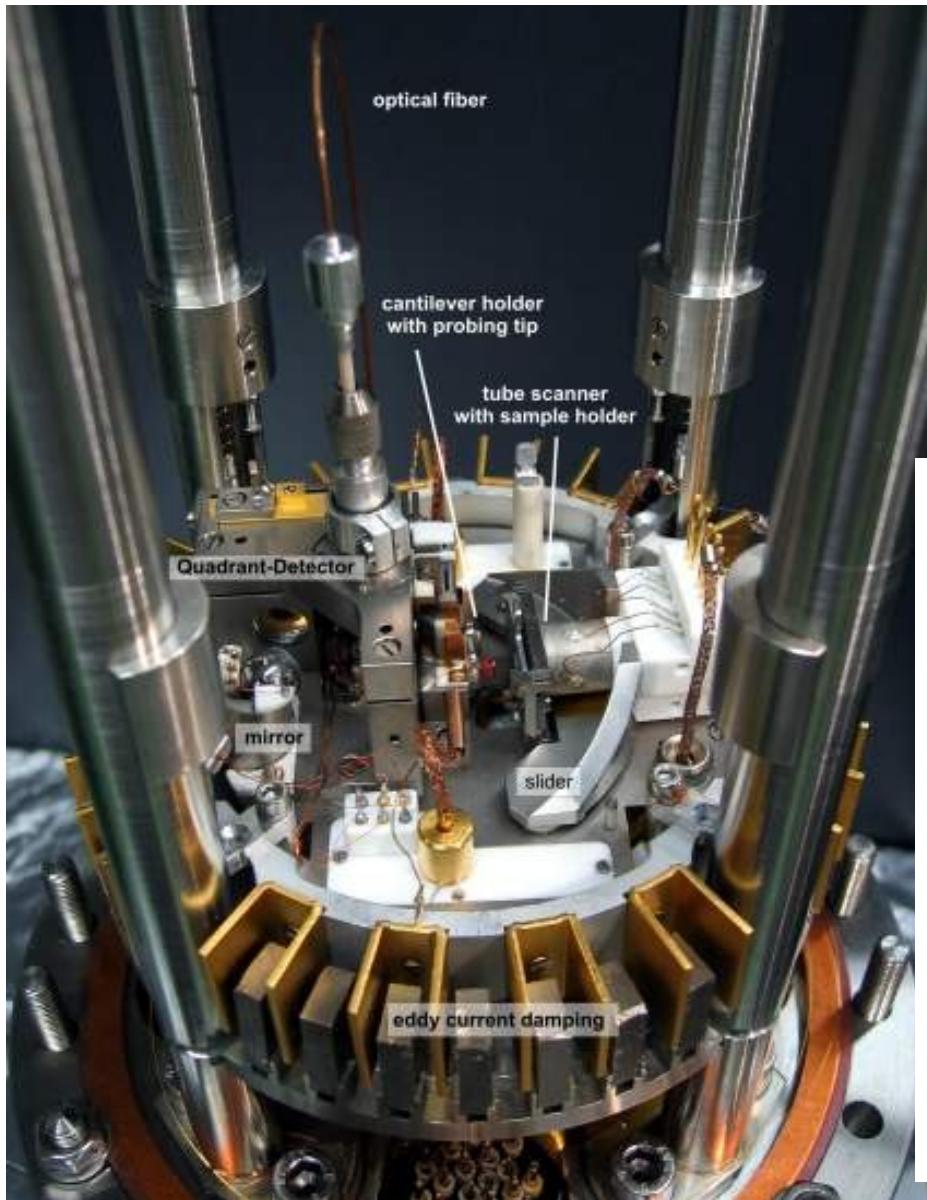
Veeco, US



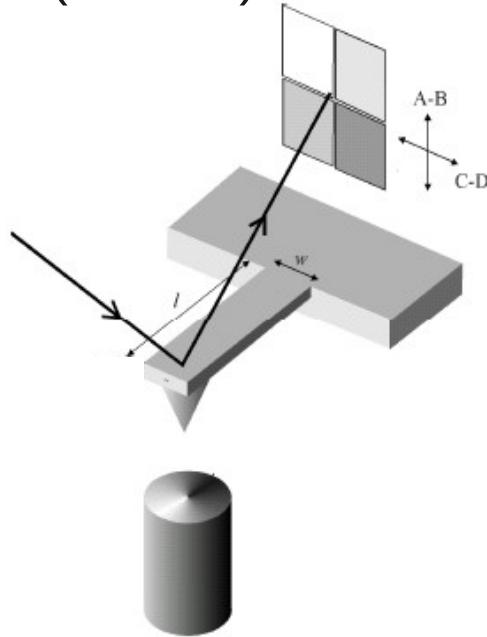
Nanosurf, Liestal, CH



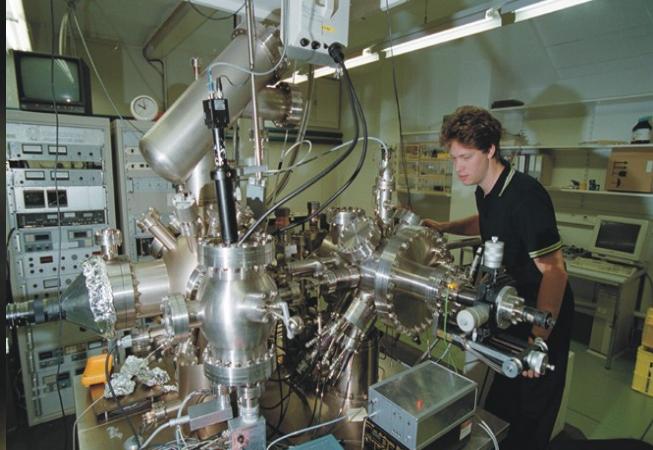
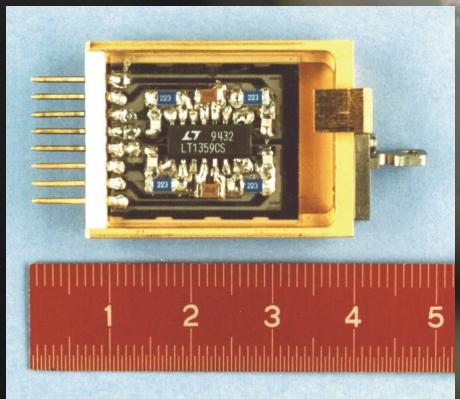
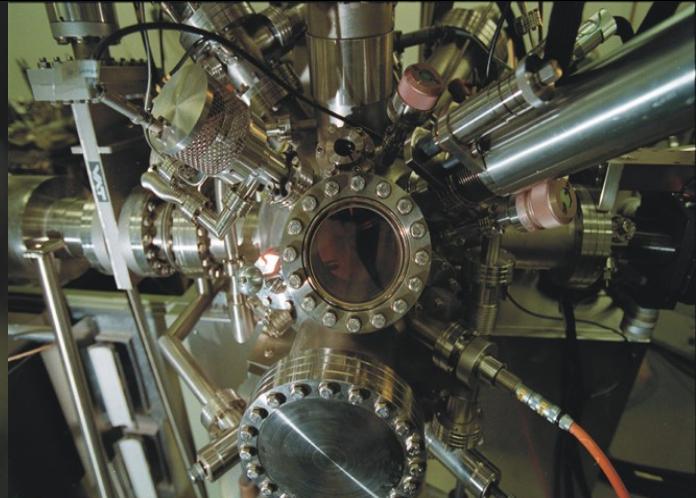
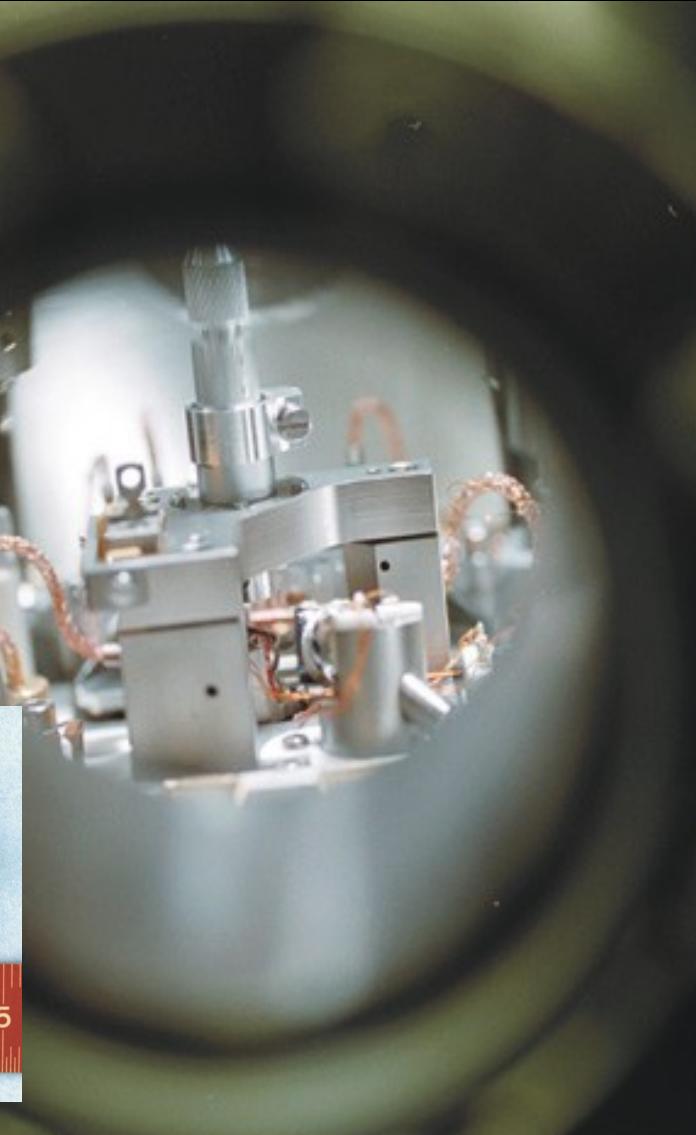
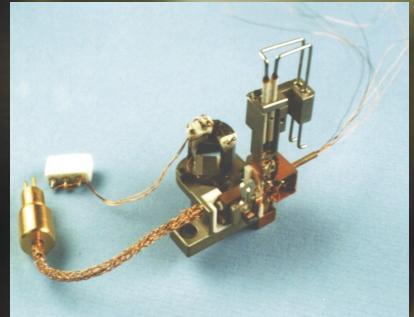
# Ultrahigh vacuum force microscope with in-situ preamplifier and stabilized light source



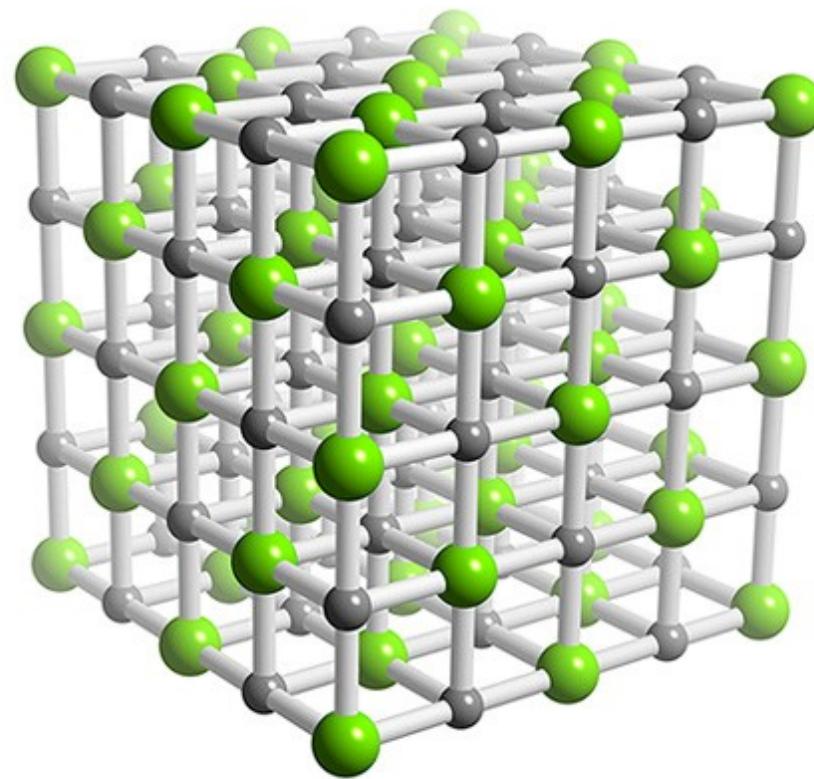
- UHV- chamber with base pressure  $< 10^{-10}$  mbar
- room temperature
- Fast in-situ preamplifier (<3MHz)



# Ultra-sensitive non-contact force microscope combined with STM

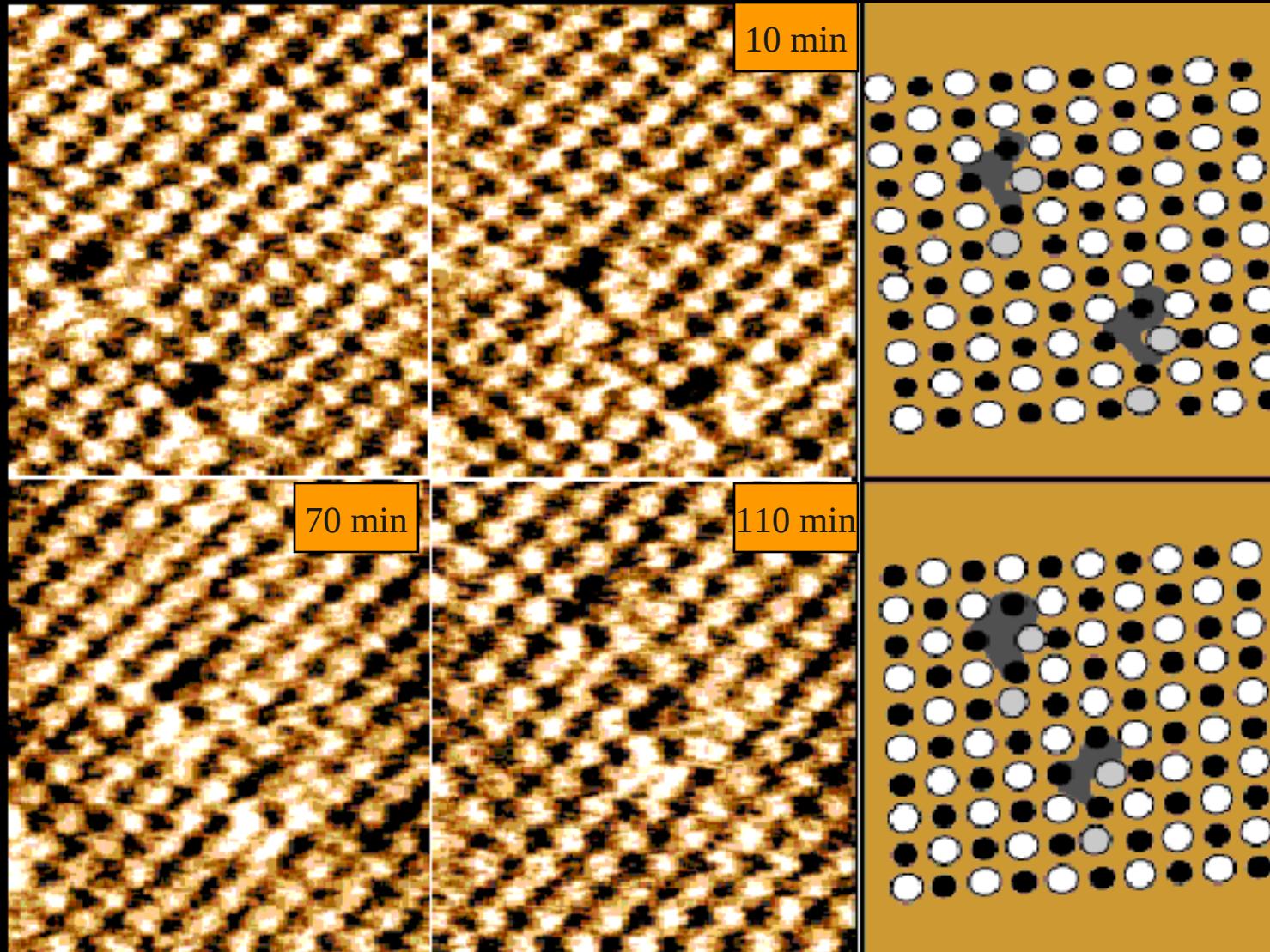


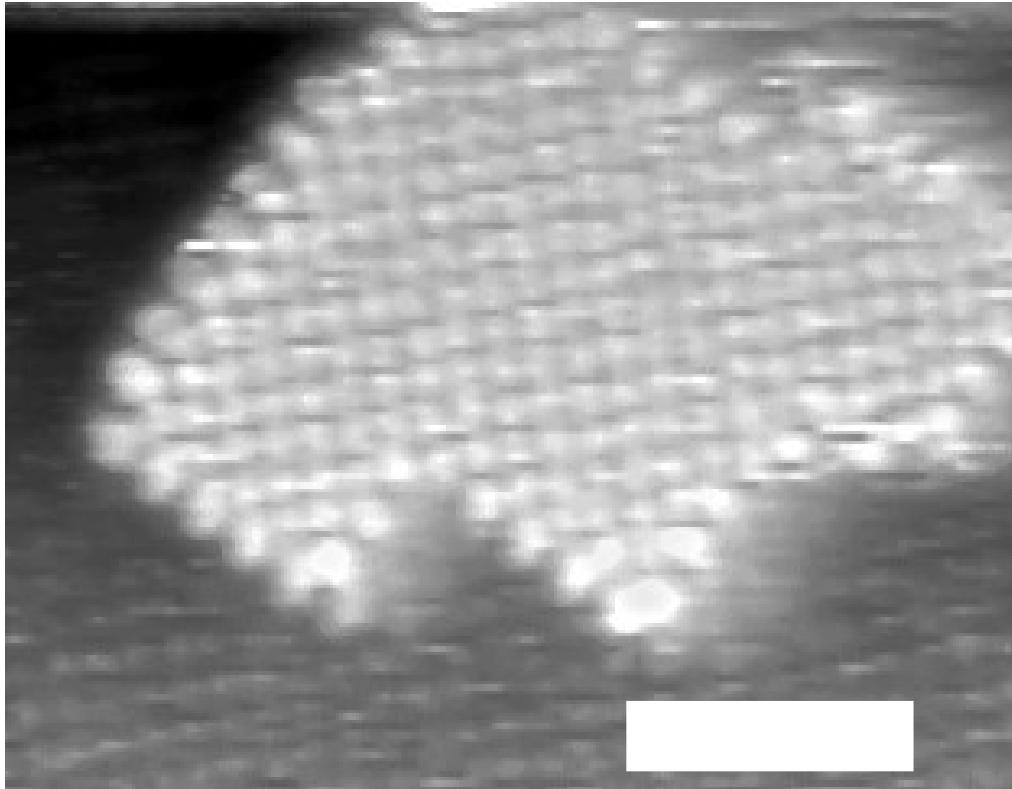
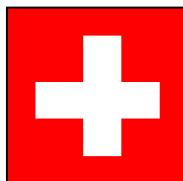
# NaCl-crystal



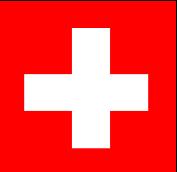
# True atomic resolution NaCl(001)

(Insulator surface with point defects)

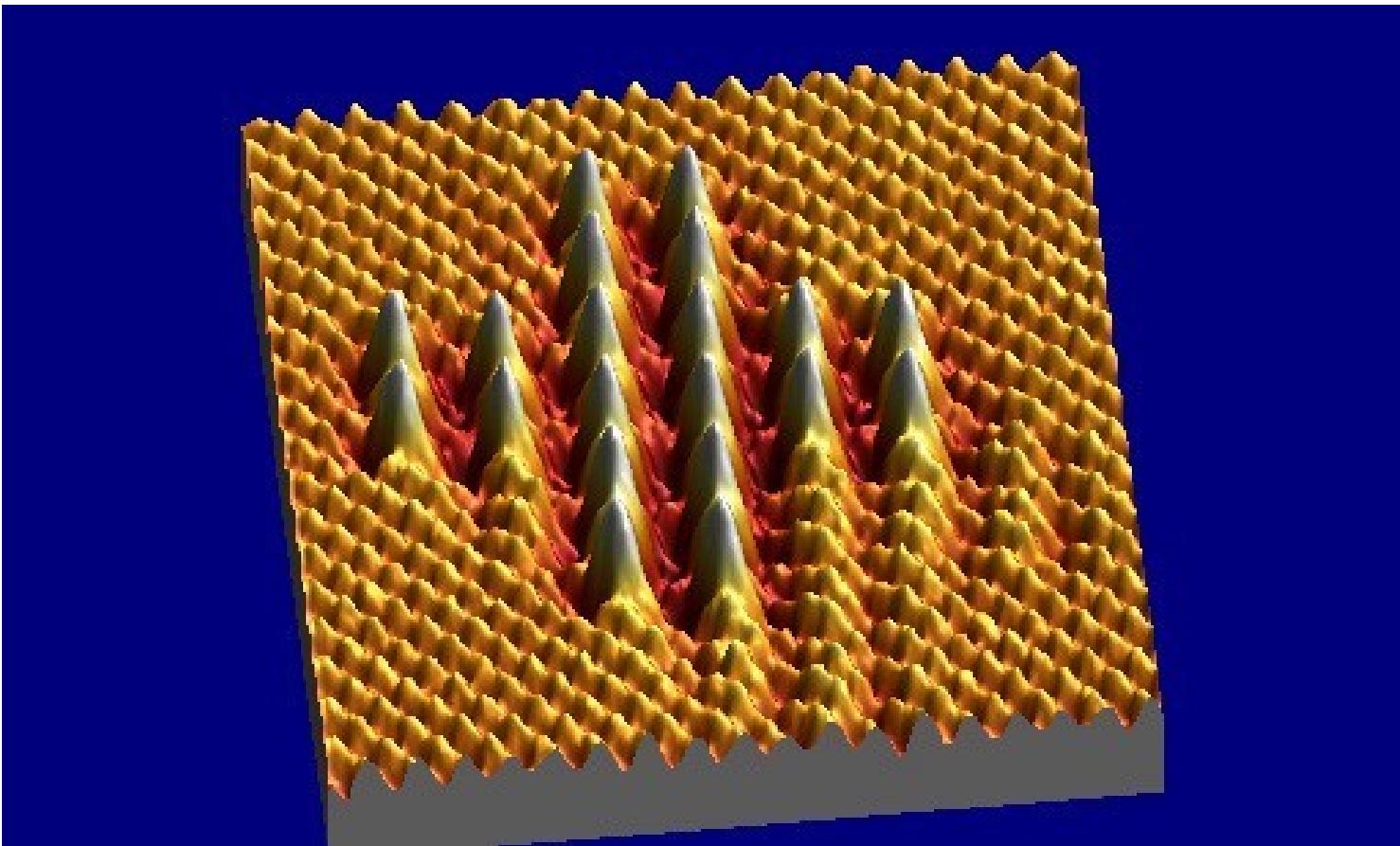




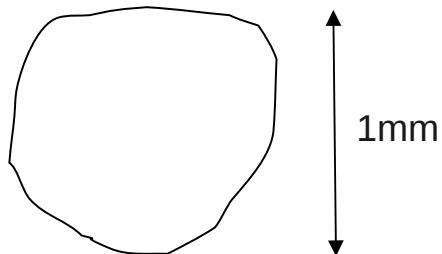
NaCl-Islands consisting of 120 atoms



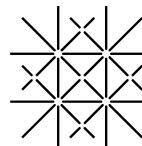
# The smallest Swiss Cross: Single Atoms on NaCl(001)



# Salt grain



One grain salt could store  
10'000'000'000 maps on the surface

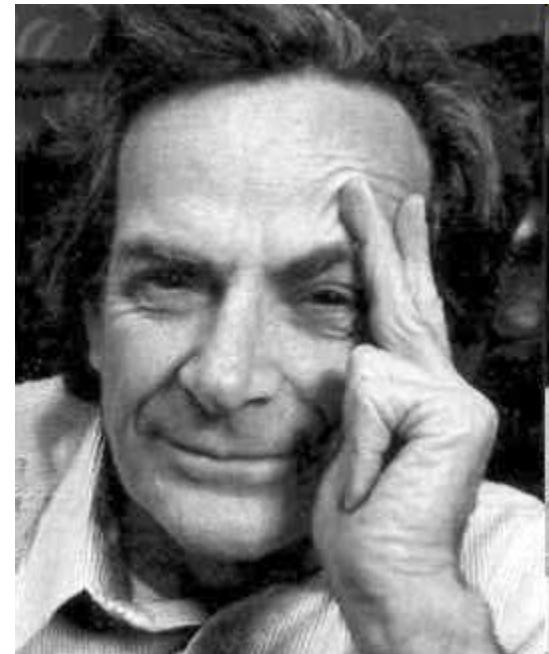


UNI  
BASEL

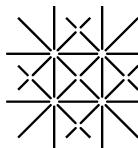
# There is plenty of room at the bottom



- Atomic-scale Memory:
  - Library on the tip of a needle
- 24 millions books =  $10^{15}$  Bits  
-1 Bit = 100 Atome =  $3 \text{ nm}^3$   
 $\Rightarrow 3 \cdot 10^{-12} \text{ m}^3$   
 $\Rightarrow$  cube with side length of 0.14mm

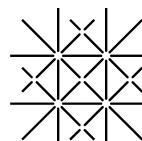
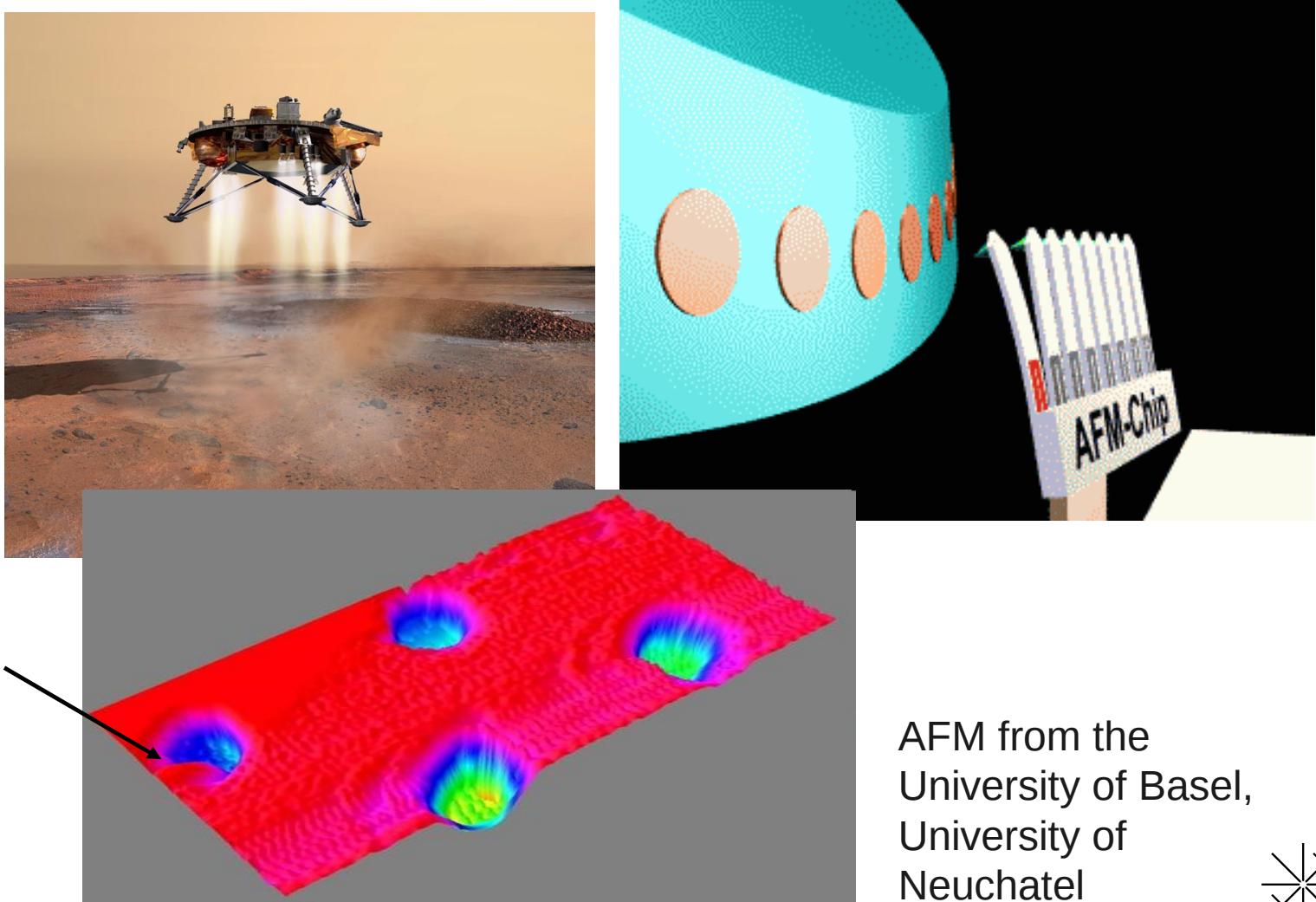


Richard Feynman  
Nobelpreis 1965



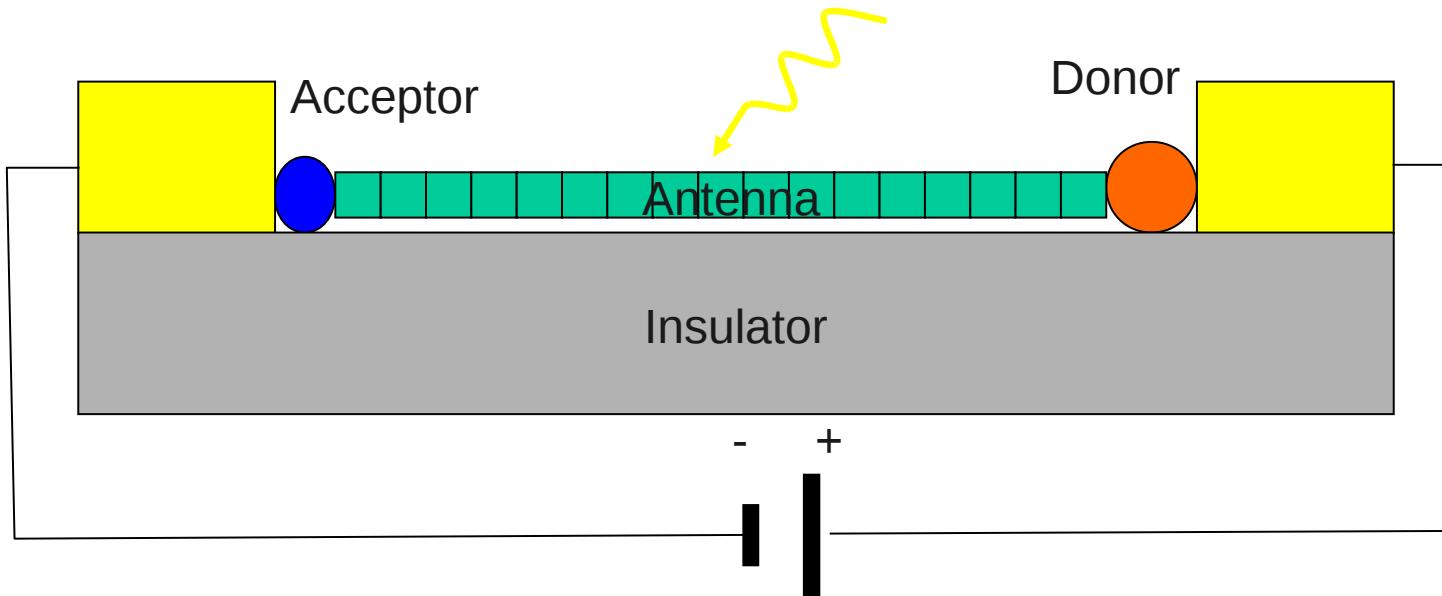
UNI  
BASEL

# Phoenix Mars Lander: AFM on Mars

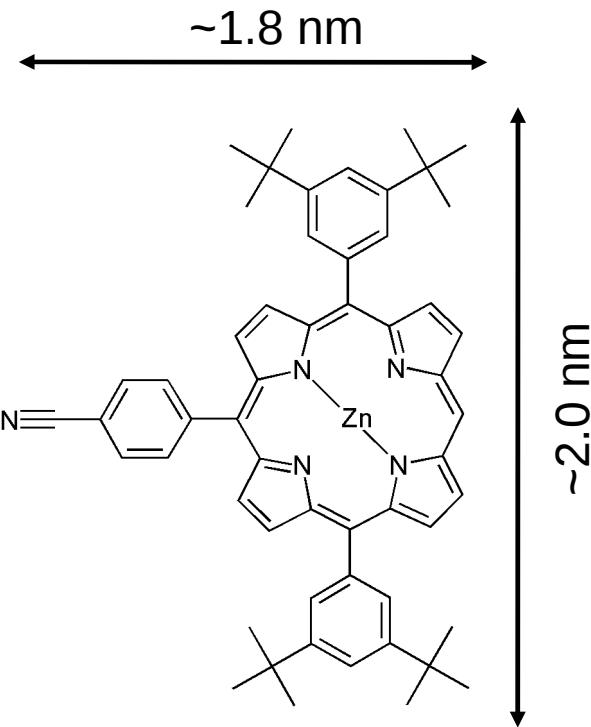
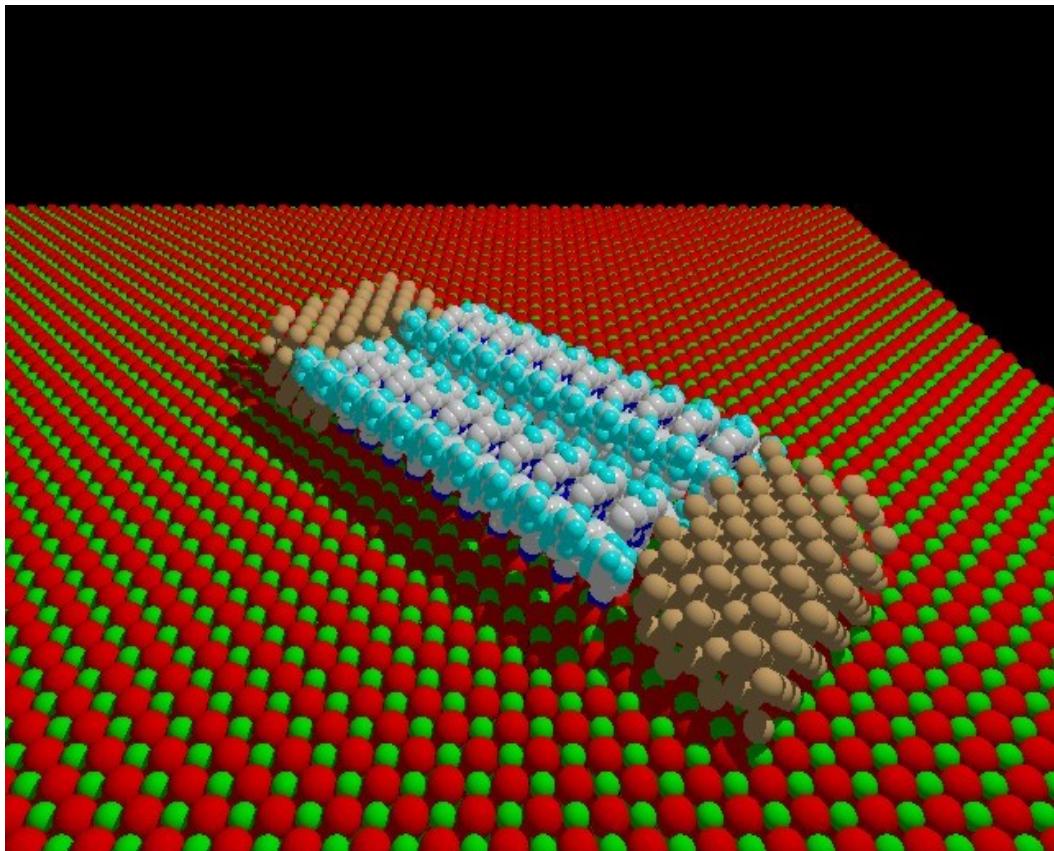


UNI  
BASEL

# Artificial Light Harvesting Complexes Novel approaches for photovoltaics



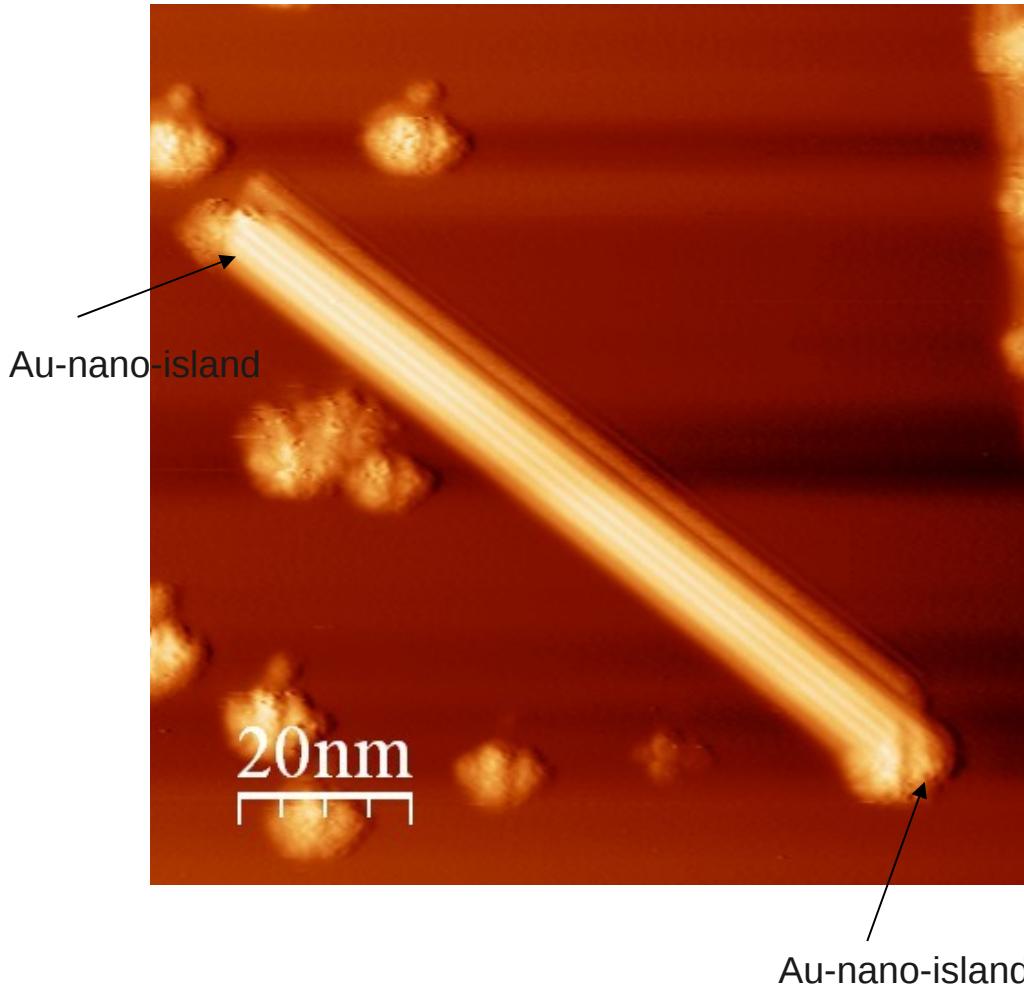
## Two Au-nano-islands connected by a molecular wire on an insulator



Cyano end groups help to immobilize the wire

Growth starts at Au-islands and is directed by the substrate in [110]-direction  
 $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacked molecules nearly perpendicular to surface

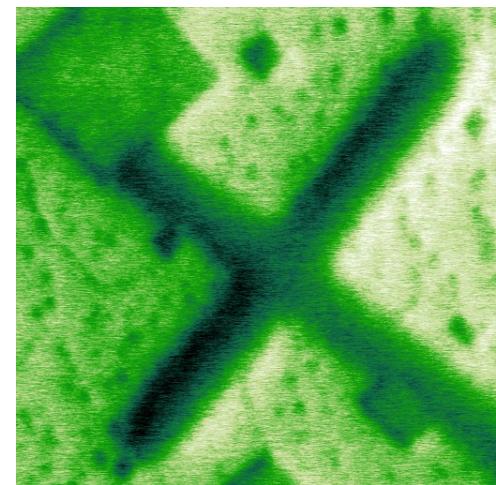
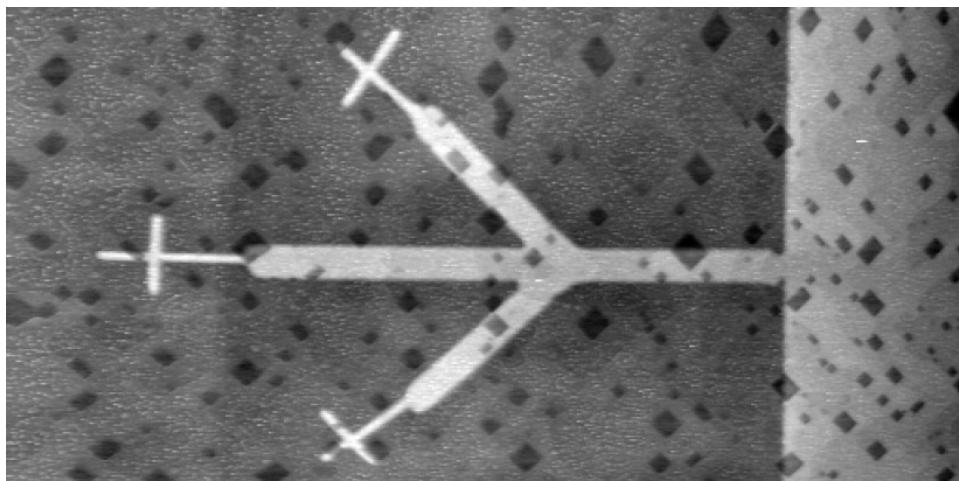
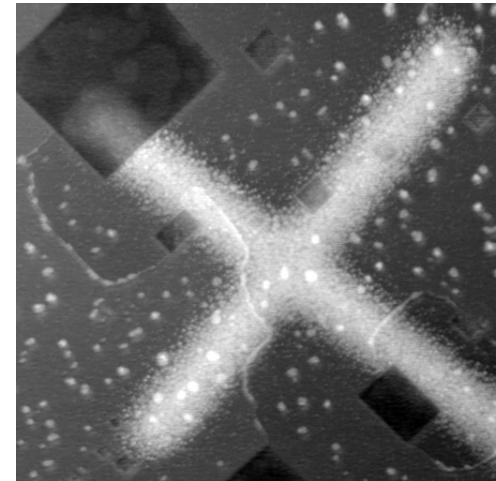
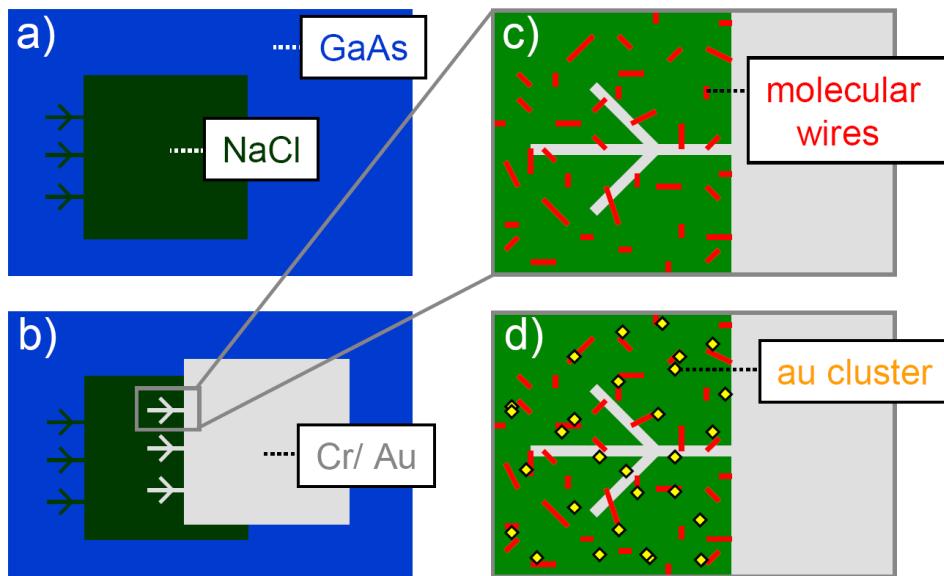
# Multi-wire of asymmetric cyano-porphyrins, which connects two Au nano-islands



Spacing between the molecular rows is 2.4nm.  
The height of the molecular wire is 1.5nm.  
The Au nano-islands are about 10nm in width  
and 1-1.4 nm high.

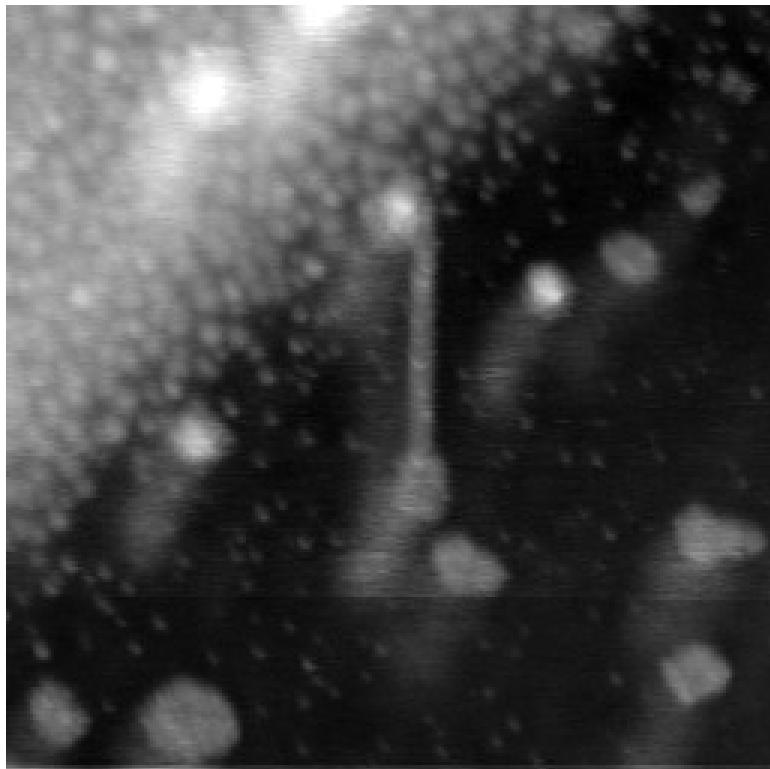
# Contacting Molecular Assemblies

## Nanostencil (IBM Rüschlikon)

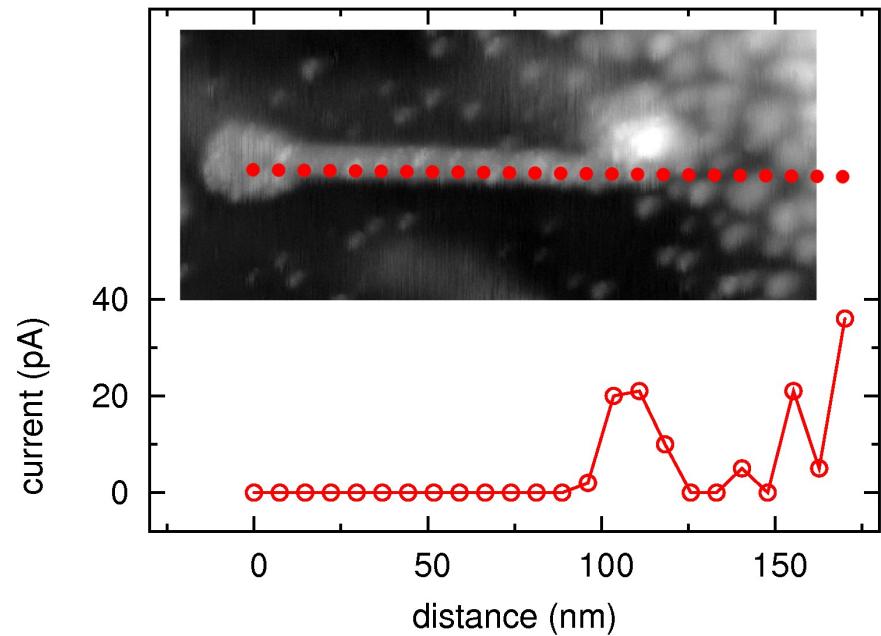


# Contacting Molecular Assemblies

## Nanostencil (IBM Rüschlikon)

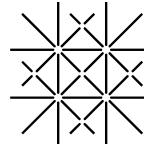


300x300nm<sup>2</sup>



Vielen Dank  
für Ihre  
Aufmerksamkeit!

Thank you  
for your attention!



UNI  
BASEL