

# Structure of matter, matter waves, atomic and molecular interactions

As an example: atomic force microscopy

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## Overview

**Topics:**

- atomic structure
- atomic models
- dual nature of electron
- propagation of free and bound electron
- quantum states
- atomic and molecular interactions
- atomic force microscopy

**Related exam questions:**

6. Proofs of particle-wave duality in case of electron. Matter waves in bound and free cases.

7. General description of atomic and molecular interactions.

**Textbook chapters:** I/1.1, I/1.2, I/1.3, I/1.4, I/2, X/2

**Related practices:** Light emission, Light absorption, Resonance

## Atomic structure

energy levels (shells) with  
K: max. 2 e<sup>-</sup>  
L: max. 8 e<sup>-</sup>  
M: max. 18 e<sup>-</sup>

nucleus, including nucleons:  
protons (p<sup>+</sup>)  
neutrons (n<sup>0</sup>)

chemical properties!

Z: atomic number = number of protons (= number of electrons)  
N: neutron number  
A: mass number = Z+N  
(Nuclear structure will be detailed in Lecture 10.)

## History of the atom

1803	~ 400 B.C.	<b>Demokritos:</b> atoms are miniscule quantities of matter.
	1803	<b>J. Dalton:</b> stoichiometric law, every elements consists of identical constituents, <b>billiard ball model</b>
1904	1900	<b>M. Plack:</b> Radiation law, quantum physics
	1897-1904	<b>J.J. Thomson:</b> cathode ray: discovery of electron, mass of electron „ <b>plum pudding</b> “ model
	1910	<b>R.A. Millikan:</b> charge of electron
	1909-11	<b>E. Rutherford:</b> discovery of nucleus, <b>planetary model</b>
	1913	<b>N. Bohr:</b> discrete energy states, <b>Bohr-model</b>
	1914	<b>J. Franck, G.L. Hertz:</b> evidence of energy quanta
	1923	<b>L.V. de Broglie:</b> electron wave
1913	1926	<b>E. Schrödinger:</b> wave function, <b>quantummechanical atomic model</b>
	1927	<b>W. Heisenberg:</b> uncertainty relation
1926	1927-28	<b>C.J. Davission, L.H. Germer, G.P. Thomson:</b> evidence of electron waves
	1932	<b>J. Chadwick:</b> discovery of neutron

## Discovery of electron (1897)

Sir Joseph John Thomson  
1856-1940

Observations	Conclusions
Ray deflects in electric and magnetic field toward positively charged electrode	CR consist of negatively charged particles („corpuscles“).
Very low m/q ratio.	These particles are either very light or highly charged.
The m/q ratio is independent of the nature of cathode (or filling gas).	These particles are fundamental components of all atoms.

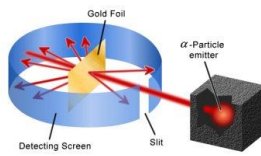
## Thomson's plum-pudding model (1904)

Negatively charged electrons embedded in a homogeneous, positively charged, liquid-like substance.

### Discovery of atomic nucleus (1909)



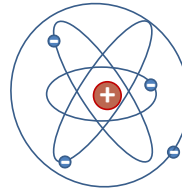
Sir Ernest Rutherford  
1871-1937



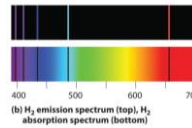
Observations	Conclusions
99.995% of all $\alpha$ particles suffered only slight deflection.	Density of the atom is inhomogeneous. Bulk mass is concentrated in a small volume inside. This volume is $10^5$ times smaller than that of the atom.
0.005% of all $\alpha$ particles bounced back through $180^\circ$ .	This core has to be positively charged.

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### Rutherford's model



- „Tiny solar system“
- Electrons (light, negatively charged particles) orbiting around the nucleus (heavy, positively charged particle).
- Coulomb interactions keep electrons orbiting.



#### Problems with the model:

- Such an atom cannot be stable (orbiting electrons accelerates  $\rightarrow$  accelerated charges radiate  $\rightarrow$  they lose energy and fall into nucleus)
- Could not explain the line spectrum of  $H_2$  gas.

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### Niels Bohr's atomic model (1913)



Niels Henrik David Bohr  
1885-1962

- Electrons can occupy only certain distinct orbits (numbered as 1, 2, 3, ...).
- Being on these orbits they do not radiate, but have constant energy ( $E_1, E_2, E_3, \dots$ ).
- Emission (radiation) takes place when an electron jumps to a lower energy orbit.
- Upon absorption of energy electron can jump to a higher energy orbit.

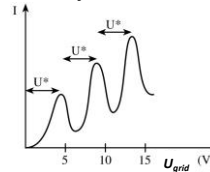
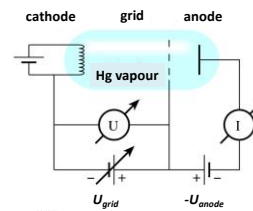
$$\Delta E = E_m - E_l = h \cdot f$$



- Explained well the line spectrum of  $H_2$ .
- BUT fails to explain the spectra of larger atoms, relative intensities of spectral lines, and further phenomena.

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### Franck-Hertz experiment (1914)



James Franck  
1882-1964



Gustav Ludwig Hertz  
1887-1975

#### Conclusion

Energy cannot change continuously but only by certain discrete values: quanta.

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### The wave nature of the electron

**Wave-particle duality:** Electron is at once a subatomic particle, with well defined mass and charge AND a wave.

Wavelength of an electron (1923):



Louis Victor de Broglie  
1892-1978

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{p} \quad \left| \begin{array}{l} h: \text{Planck's constant} \\ p: \text{momentum} \\ m_e: \text{mass} \\ v: \text{velocity} \end{array} \right.$$

$$p = m_e \cdot v$$

**Generalization: Matter waves** (particles of matter have wave-like properties.)

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### Interference experiments (1927-28)



J. Davisson and L.H. Germer

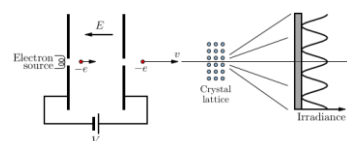
Experimental proof of wave nature: Interference of electron beams on crystals and metal foils.

Davisson, Germer and Thomson used electron beams to induce diffraction on a thin metal foils or crystals.

Interference pattern appeared, which is a clear evidence of wave-like properties.



G. P. Thomson



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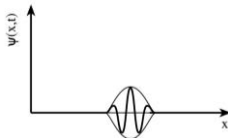
## The wave nature of the electron



Erwin Schrödinger  
1887-1961

### Propagation law of electron waves (1926):

A **wave function**(or **state function**)  $\Psi(x,t)$  is used to describe the amplitude of the electron wave as a function of position (**x**) and time (**t**). Electron is pictured as a continous charged cloud of finite size with a charge density proportional to  $\Psi^2$  at any point in space.



visualization: wave package

**location:** where  $\Psi(x,t) \neq 0$   
**momentum (p):** given by the shape

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### Propagation law of free electrons (e.g. vacuum tube electron)

Since  $\Psi(x,t) \neq 0$  holds for more than one point, the position cannot be determined with a simple numeric value.

Momentum neither can be given by a single numeric value.

The function is nonperiodic, thus it cannot be characterised by a single wavelength. Any  $\lambda$  between an approximate largest  $\lambda_1$  and smallest  $\lambda_2$  wavelength can characterize the wave package.

$$\text{Since } p = \frac{h}{\lambda}, \quad v = \frac{p}{m_e} \quad \text{and} \quad s = v \cdot t$$

instead of having a well determined single value for momentum, velocity and displacement, they can be characterised by any value between  $p_1$  and  $p_2$ ,  $v_1$  and  $v_2$ ,  $s_1$  and  $s_2$ .

$\Psi(x,t)$  will disperse while propagating and new wave cycles appear on the graph.



Werner Karl Heisenberg  
1901-1976

### Heisenberg uncertainty relation (1927):

A wave function(or state function)  $\Psi(x,t)$  is completely determined, although some pieces of the information it carries (e.g. position, momentum, velocity of the electron) are uncertain.

$$\Delta x \cdot \Delta p \geq h$$

$\Delta x$ : uncertainty of position  
 $\Delta p$ : uncertainty of momentum  
 $h$ : Planck's constant

Conclusion: The more determined the position (x) of an electron, the less determined the momentum (p), and vice versa.

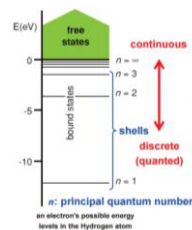
It can be extended to other pairs of physical properties (complementary variables) of a particle, eg. energy and time:

$$\Delta E \cdot \Delta t \geq h$$

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### What about electrons bound in an atom?

1. External force field is present due to the positively charged nucleus.
2. The field will move (distort) the state function of the electron to its own direction.
3. Electrons do not have enough energy to leave the proximity of the nucleus, they are in bound state.
4. Electrons disperse due to the uncertainty of their momentum.



#### As a result:

A dynamic equilibrium evolves between the attractive effect of nucleus and the dispersing nature of the state function.

Constant, stationary, symmetric state functions emerge to form discrete, strictly differentiated, well defined atomic electron states.

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## Properties of quantized atomic electron states

Bound electrons – quantized energy levels. Their state of the electron can be described by **quantum numbers**:

quantum number	possible values	characterizes	describes
principal	$n=1,2,3,\dots,7$	electron shell	energy level
azimuthal	$l=0,1,2,\dots,(n-1)$ or: s, p, d, f	subshell	magnitude of orbital angular momentum
magnetic	$m_l=-l,\dots,0,\dots,+l$	specific orbital within subshell	direction of orbital angular momentum
spin	$m_s=\pm 1/2$	intrinsic angular momentum (spin*) of an electron	direction of the spin (magnitude is constant)

All the four quantum numbers are required to characterize a bound-state electron.

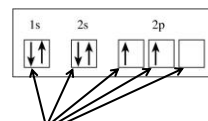
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## How will electrons occupy their quantum states?

**Pauli exclusion principle:** Within an atom there cannot be two electrons with all four quantum numbers being identical.

**Principle of minimum energy:** The total energy of the system should be minimized.

**Hund principle:** For a given electron configuration, the state with maximum total spin has the lowest energy.



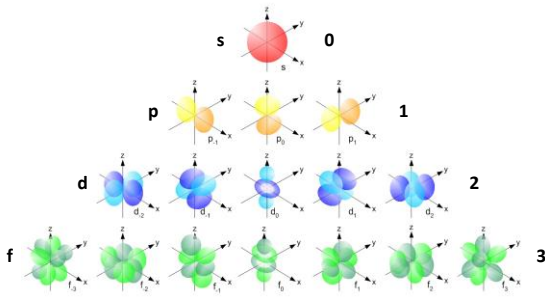
Carbon,  $Z=6$

**Electronic orbital:** states characterized by  $n$ ,  $l$  and  $m_l$  quantum numbers, which may be occupied by at most 2 electrons of opposite spins.

**Configuration:** Gives the (partially or fully) occupied subshells and the number of equivalent (same subshell) electrons.

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### Visualization of subshell structure



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### Atomic interactions

**Noble gases:** found in their atomic form in nature (He, Ne, Ar, Kr, Xe, Rn)

**Other elements:** form molecules held together by chemical bonds. (e.g.  $H_2$ ,  $HCl$ ,  $H_2O$ , ...) Each atom has a (more or less) fixed position in the molecule.

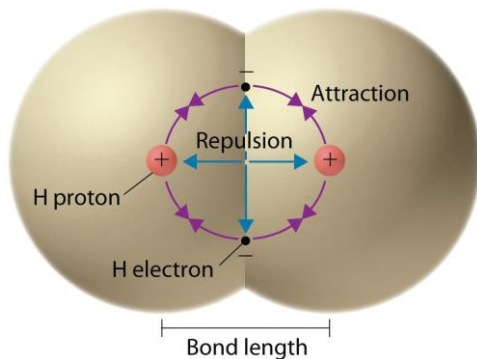
For elements with no stable isotopes, the mass number of the isotope with the longest half-life is in parentheses.

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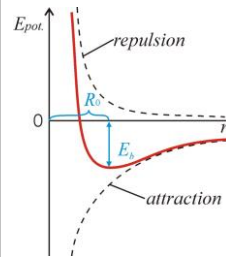
### Atomic interactions



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### Atomic interactions

Bringing two atoms (ions/molecules/...) close to each other attractive and repulsive forces emerge between them resulting in a net potential energy function with an energy minimum at a certain distance:



$$E_{pot} = E_{attraction} + E_{repulsion}$$

$$E_{pot} = -\frac{A}{r^n} + \frac{B}{r^m}$$

$E_{pot}$ : potential energy of the system  
 $E_{attraction}$ : E contribution of attractive forces  
 $E_{repulsion}$ : E contribution of repulsive forces  
 $A$  and  $B$ : interaction-specific constants (atom dependent)  
 $n < m$   
 $r$ : distance of atoms  
 $E_b$ : binding energy  
 $r_0$ : binding distance

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### Bond Types

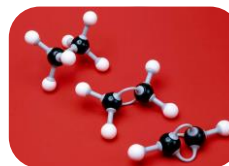
Classification systems:

- Intra/intermolecular bonds
- According to the strength of bonds:
  - Strong/weak
  - Primary (covalent, metallic, ionic)
  - Secondary (dispersion, dipole-dipole, hydrogen)
- Other Bond types...



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### I. Covalent bond



	$R_0$	$E_b$
$H_3C-CH_3$ ethane	154 pm	-331 kJ·mol <sup>-1</sup>
$H_2C=CH_2$ ethylene	139,9 pm	-590 kJ·mol <sup>-1</sup>
$HC\equiv CH$ acetylene	120,3 pm	-812 kJ·mol <sup>-1</sup>

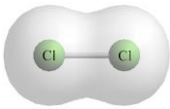
- Atoms are held together by electrons of common orbitals, called molecular orbitals.
- Valence electrons interact the most.
- Single, double or triple bond depending on the number of shared electrons.
- Some electrostatic component may be present (see later), but not predominant.
- Strong interaction:  $E_b > 1 \text{ eV}$
- (1 eV =  $1,6 \cdot 10^{-19} \text{ J}$  = 96 kJ/mol ~ 100 kJ/mol)

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## I. Covalent bond

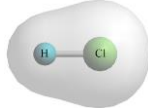
### Apolar (nonpolar or homeopolar) bond

Center of (+) és (-) charges of the molecule coincides  
Binding electron(s) shared equally  
„purely covalent“  
E.g.  $H_2$ ,  $Cl_2$ ,  $O_2$ , ...



### Polar (heteropolar) bond

Centers of (+) and (-) charges do not coincide  
Electrostatic contribution appears  
Electron cloud is polarized  
Electric dipole is formed  
E.g.:  $HCl$ ,  $HF$ ,  $H_2O$ , ...



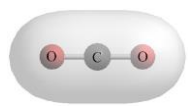
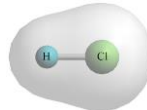
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## I. Covalent bond

**Electric dipole moment:** measure of the separation of positive and negative electric charges.

$$p = q \cdot d$$

$p$ : electric dipole moment  
 $q$ : charge (positive and negative)  
 $d$ : distance of separation  
[D, debye] ( $1D = 3,34 \cdot 10^{-30} \text{ Cm}$ )



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## I./b Metallic bond

- Atoms are held together by common electrons (delocalized orbital)
- Valence electrons form continuous electron band
- Strong interaction:  $E_D > 1 \text{ eV}$
- Multi atomic systems

Periodic Table of the Elements

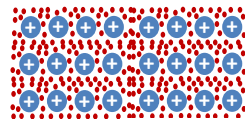
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118
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Legend:

- hydrogen
- alkali metals
- alkali earth metals
- transition metals
- poor metals
- nonmetals
- noble gases
- rare earth metals

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## I./b Metallic bond

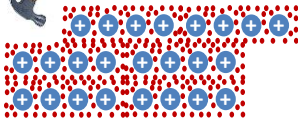


**Metallic lattice:** positively charged metal ions in a crystall lattice surrounded by a cloud of delocalized electrons.



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## I./b Metallic bond



### Physical properties:

Metals are:

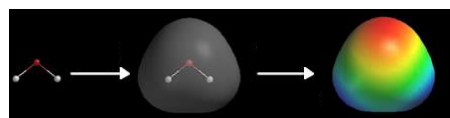
- Non transparent
- Ductile (shapeable)
- Good electric conductors
- etc.

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## II. Bond types involving electrostatic interactions

### Electronegativity

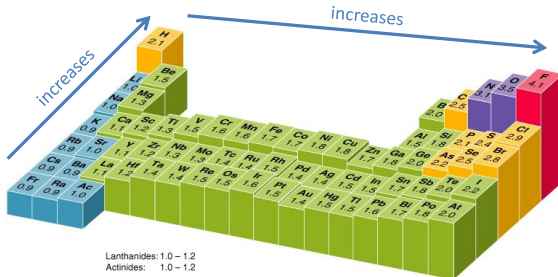
- is a chemical property that describes the tendency of an atom or a functional group to attract electrons towards itself.
- The higher the associated electronegativity number, the more an element or compound attracts electrons towards it.
- Approximately proportional to the sum of ionization energy and electron affinity.
- Calculated with different methods (*Pauling*, *Mulliken*, *Sanderson...*)



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## II. Bond types involving electrostatic interactions

Electronegativity according to L. Pauling (dimensionless units)

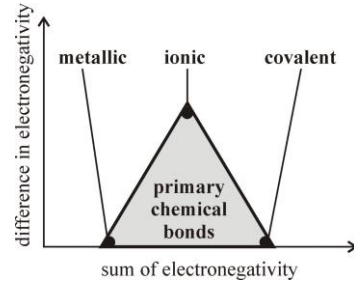


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## II. Bond types involving electrostatic interactions

Classic bonds classified according to electronegativity:

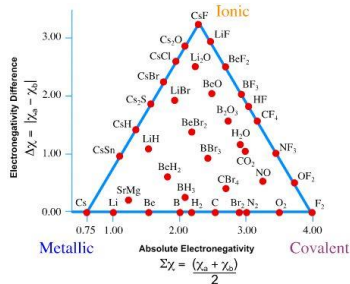
$\Delta EN$ : < 0,6 (apolar covalent) 0,6 – 2,1 (polar covalent) 2,1 < (ionic)



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## II. Bond types involving electrostatic interactions

Classic bonds classified according to electronegativity: an example



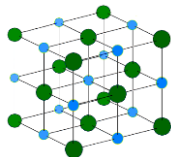
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### II./a Ionic bond

- Model: atoms are held together by Coulombic forces between (+) and (-) point charges
- „Limiting case of heteropolar bonds”
- Formed between atoms of significantly different electronegativity (e.g.: NaCl,  $\Delta EN = 3 - 0.9 = 2.1$ )
- Can form between two atoms, but ions are usually multi-atom systems.
- Long range interaction - attraction is inversely proportional to the distance (decreases slowly with it).
- Electrostatic interaction can be largely affected by other charged components (eg. dissociation in water!)
- Strong interaction ( $E_b > 1$  eV)

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### II./a Ionic bond

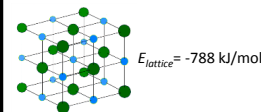
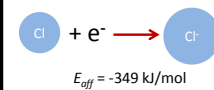
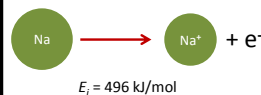


**Ionic crystals:** stoichiometric ratio of positive and negative ions are structured into a periodic crystalline structure. (e.g.: NaCl)



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### II./a Ionic bond



**Ionization energy:** is the energy required to remove electrons from gaseous atoms or ions.

**Electron affinity:** amount of energy released when an electron is added to a neutral atom or molecule to form a negative ion (measured in the gaseous state).

**Lattice energy:** measure of the strength of bonds in an ionic compound. Energy required to completely separate one mole of a solid ionic compound into gaseous ionic constituents.

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## II./b Dipole-dipole interaction

- Constant charge distribution is present in a (given part of a) molecule
- Partially (+) and (-) segments are held together by electrostatic interactions (Coulombic forces)
- Intra/intermolecular interaction.
- Weak interaction ( $E_b = 0,003-0,02$  eV)
- Energy of attracting interaction between dipoles:

$$E_{\text{attraction}} = p E$$

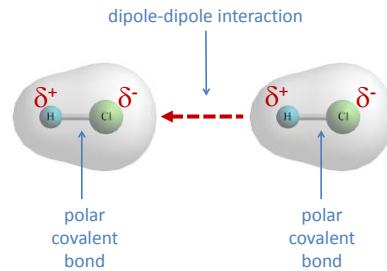
p: dipole momentum

E: electric field strength generated by the surrounding partners

( $E_{\text{repulsion}}$ : stems from the repulsion of the participant's electron cloud)

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## II./b Dipole-dipole interaction



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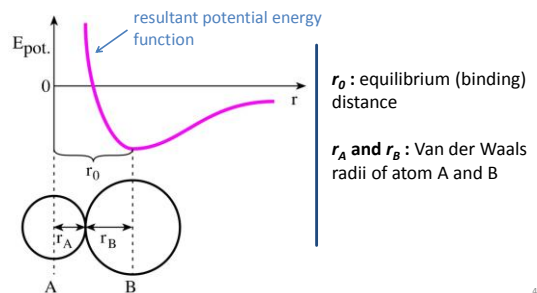
## III. Van der Waals-interactions

- Sum of attractive and repulsive interactions between two apolar atoms, molecules or apolar molecular parts.
- The **attractive contribution** (also called *London-*, or *dispersion force*) is a result of temporarily created dipoles that can induce the polarization of other apolar molecule or molecular part.
- Intermolecular or intramolecular interaction.
- Important biological role: formation of organic structures.
- Weak connection ( $E_b \sim 0,02$  eV)
- [according to other classifications Van der Waals interactions involve all types of weak electrostatic connections (permanent dipole-permanent dipole; permanent dipole-induced dipole, induced dipole-induced-dipole)]

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## III. Van der Waals-interactions

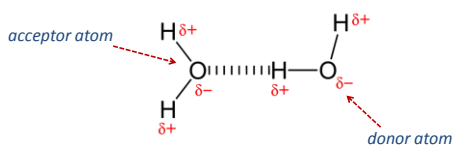
Equilibrium distance of a Van der Waals interaction can be considered as one definition of atomic size.



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## IV. Hydrogen bond

- Two atoms of high electronegativity are held together with a Hydrogen-bridge.
- Primarily between **F, N, O** atoms (pillar atoms).
- Intermolecular/intramolecular interaction
- Typical bond distance: 0,23 – 0,35 nm
- Well defined geometry.
- Important role in structural biology and biochemical reactions.
- Medium strong interaction (typical  $E_b = 0,2$  eV)



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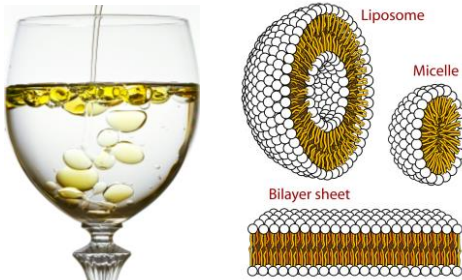
## V. Hydrophobic interaction

- Appears in aqueous systems (like biological environments!)
- Apolar, hydrophobic molecules tend to aggregate (form bonds with each other) in aqueous environment in order to exclude the polar water molecules and minimize their surface area exposed to water.
- Intra/intermolecular interaction
- It has mostly entropic origin (see later at Thermodynamics) through reduction of highly structured water cage around the apolar surfaces. (see Organisation of Water later)
- Important role in structural biology and biochemical reactions.
- Weak interaction.



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## V. Hydrophobic interaction



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## Scanning Probe Microscopy (SPM)

Family of instruments used for studying surface properties of various materials.

How do they work?

### Etimology and function:

**Microscopy:** a method being able to form image of small objects. How small? Size of resolvable objects spans from few pm-s to several  $\mu\text{m}$ -s.

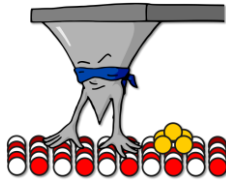
They are not „scope“-s in the classic sense of the word: They do not „see“ the object, they „touch“ it.

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## Scanning Probe Microscopy (SPM)

### Probe:

- A tiny, specifically designed component particularly sensitive to *atomic interactions*.
- The probe is brought very closed to the sample surface.
- The sensed interactions can be correlated with the distance between the probe and the sample.
- Various interactions can be observed depending on the design of the probe.
- SPM methods are named after the type of atomic interaction sensed by a certain probe.



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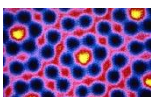
## Scanning Probe Microscopy (SPM)

### Scanning:

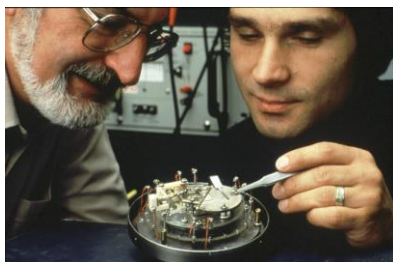
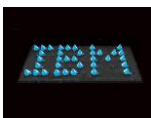
- A scanner controls the precise *position* (X; Y) of the probe and its *distance* (Z) from the surface to be imaged.
- The probe can be moved with pm sensitivity in X; Y; Z directions.
- The surface of region of interest (ROI) is scanned point by point during a measurement.
- (The material that enables such precise positioning is *piezoelectric ceramic*. If voltage is applied on it, the ceramic changes its geometry. See details in Ultrasound lecture, 2nd semester)

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## Scanning Tunneling Microscope (STM) 1981



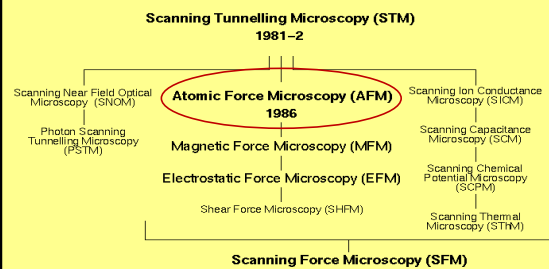
Atoms in a silicon chip



Heinrich ROHRER and Gerd BINNING  
Nobel prize: 1986

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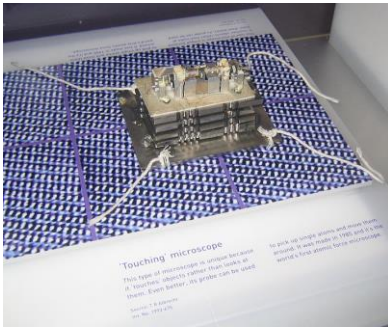
## Scanning Probe Microscopy "Family Tree" (SPM)



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## Atomic Force Microscopy



The first one. 1986.

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## Atomic Force Microscopy

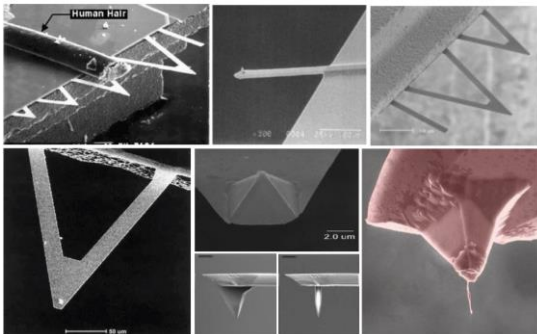


- The probe is a tiny, sharp tip, usually few  $\mu\text{m}$ -s tall, and only few nm-s in diameter at the apex.
- The tip is located at the free end of a cantilever that is usually 100-500  $\mu\text{m}$  long.
- Material: usually silicon nitride
- May be coated with a thin metal layer.
- Radius: 0.1 nm – 100  $\mu\text{m}$
- spring constant:  $\sim 0.1\text{--}10\text{ N/m}$
- $f_0$ :  $\sim 50\text{--}500\text{ kHz}$

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## Atomic Force Microscopy

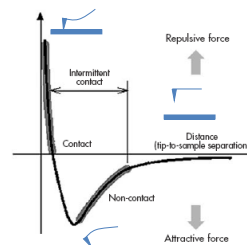
Different types of AFM cantilevers.



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## Atomic Force Microscopy

- Bringing the tip very close (few nm-s) to the sample atomic interactions arise between the very last atoms of it and the atoms of the sample.

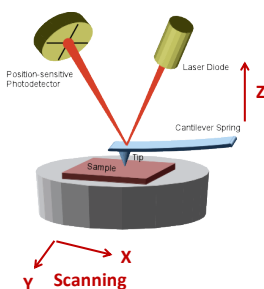


**Depending on the tip-sample distance:**

- Net attraction or repulsion may occur.
- Attraction at „longer“ distances.
- Repulsion at very short distances.

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## Atomic Force Microscopy



- Attractive and repulsive effects cause the cantilever to bend.
- Deflection of the cantilever is detected by an optical system.
- A laser beam is pointed at the very end of the cantilever, and reflected back to be sensed by a position-sensitive photodetector (PSD).
- Thus vertical deflection of the cantilever is amplified and can be detected with sub- $\text{\AA}$  sensitivity..

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## Atomic Force Microscopy (AFM)

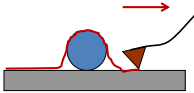
- Topographic image is collected with  $\sim 10\text{ pm}$  vertical and somewhat worse horizontal resolution.
- Any surfaces (conductors, insulators and semiconductors) can be imaged.
- Works in air and in fluid environment as well.
- Usually does not require fixation or staining of the sample.
- Biological samples can be examined in their native state and physiological environment.

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## Atomic Force Microscopy

### Contact mode:

- The tip is in perpetual contact with the sample surface.
- The deflection of the cantilever (i.e. the force exerted on the sample by the tip) is held constant.
- A Z feedback system is utilized to maintain the deflection at a constant value (setpoint) by lifting or lowering the cantilever.
- Topography data (i.e.: height) in each X;Y point is calculated from these Z movements



### Disadvantage:

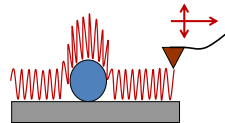
- Lateral forces exerted by the scanning tip may damage softer samples.

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## Atomic Force Microscopy

### Oscillating mode: (Tapping mode, Non-contact mode)

- Cantilever is oscillated close to its resonant frequency.
- The tip taps the surface gently
- The amplitude of cantilever oscillation changes with surface topography.
- A Z feedback system is utilized to maintain the amplitude at a constant value (setpoint) by lifting or lowering the oscillating cantilever.
- Topography data (i.e.: height) in each X;Y point is calculated from these Z movements

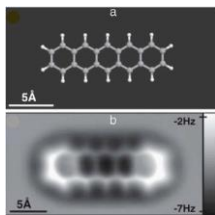


### Advantage:

- Virtually eliminated lateral forces.
- Allows more gentle imaging.
- Applicable for soft samples.

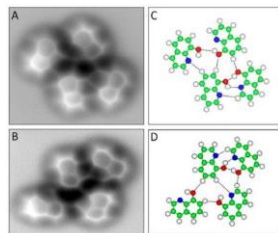
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## Scanning Probe Microscopy (SPM)



Pentacene molecule  
imaged with AFM

*Nature Chemistry* **1**, 597 - 598 (2009)

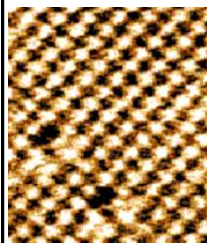


Hydrogen bonds between 8-  
hydroxyquinoline molecules scanned  
with AFM

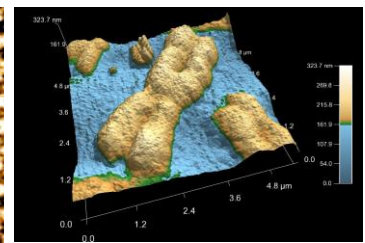
*Science*, 2013: 342 (6158), 611-614

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## Atomic Force Microscopy Images



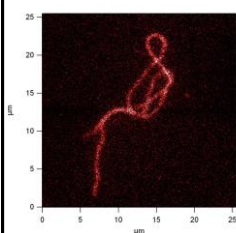
NaCl crystal surface



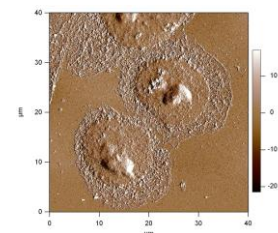
Human metaphase chromosomes

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## Atomic Force Microscopy Images



„The thinker“  
a single actin polymer



HeLa cells on glass

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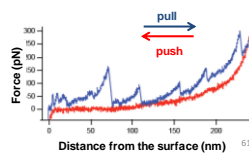
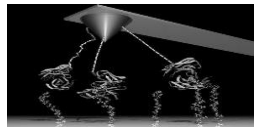
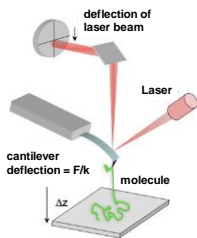
## Atomic Force Microscopy

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BrsoS5e39H8>

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## Atomic Force Microscopy

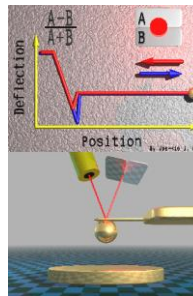
**Force spectroscopy:** Force-distance traces registered upon push-pull cycles of the AFM tip (movement only in Z direction)  
~10 pN sensitivity



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## Atomic Force Microscopy

**Force spectroscopy:**



Deflection of the cantilever ( $\Delta x$ ) is proportional to the force ( $F$ ) (Hooke's law):

$$F = k \cdot \Delta x$$

$k$ : spring constant of the cantilever

Binding forces, viscous and elastic properties can be measured perturbing the sample with the tip and registering the force response.

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Thank you for your attention!



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