

# **Structure of matter, matter wave, atomic and molecular interactions. Atomic force microscopy.**

**Balázs Kiss**

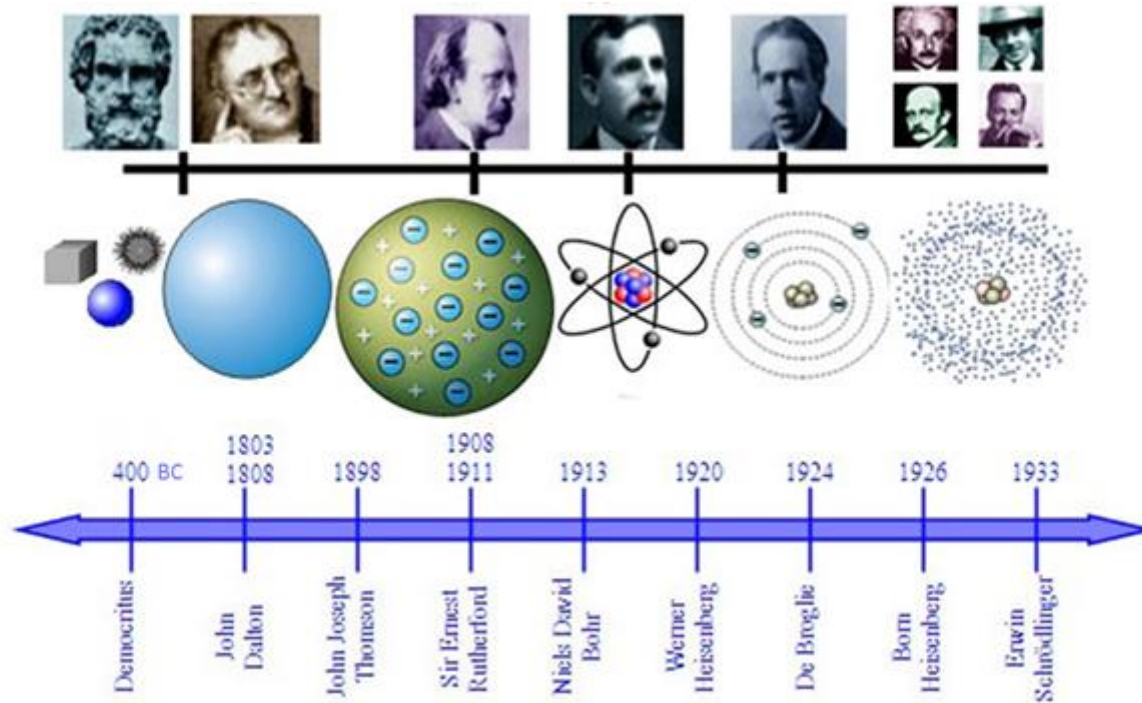
kissb3@gmail.com



**Myofilament Mechanobiophysics Research Group,  
Department of Biophysics and Radiation Biology,  
Semmelweis University**

*06. October 2021.*

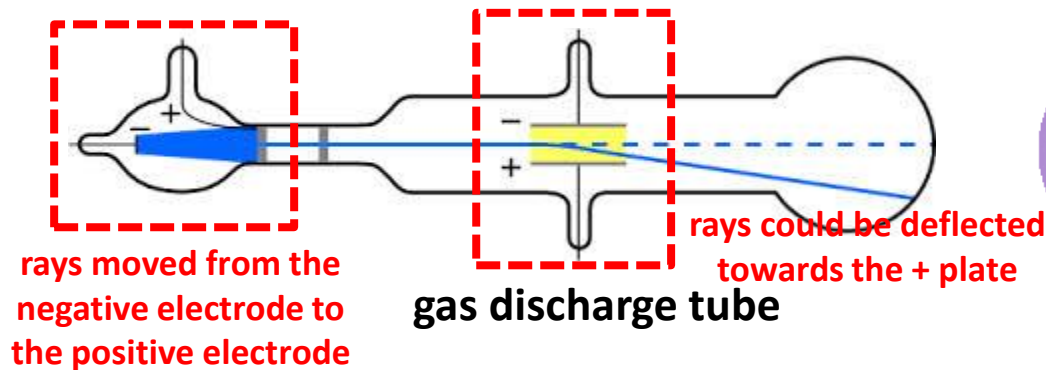
# Atomic models - History



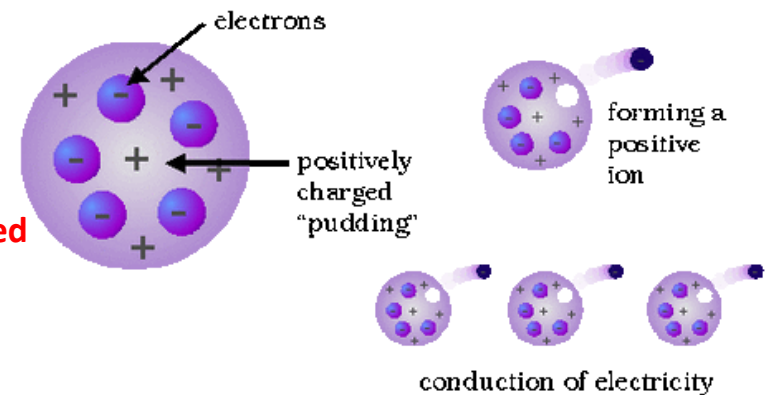
- **Democritus (~400 BC):** proposition of atomic structure („atomos”: indivisible)
- **Dalton (1803):** stoichiometric law: elements consist of identical constituents
- **Thomson (1897):** discovery of electron (cathode rays)
- **Rutherford (1909-1911):** nucleus (nucleons:  $p^+$  and  $n_0$ ) and electrons
- **Bohr (1913):** discrete energy states

# Thomson and Rutherford

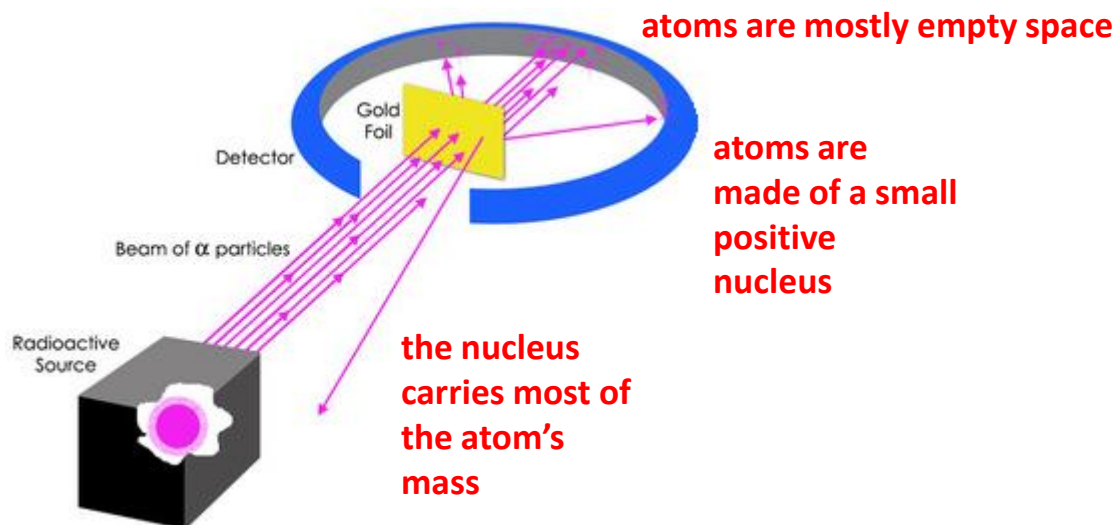
**Thomson:** discovery of cathode rays



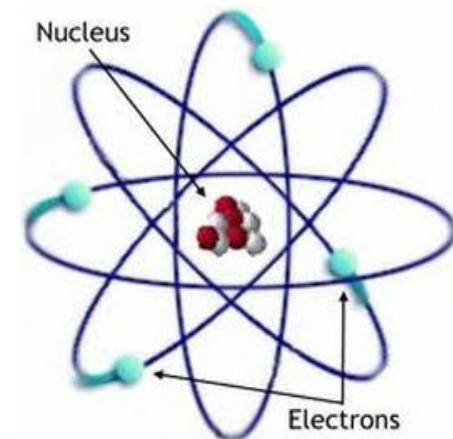
„plum pudding atom” or „blueberry muffin atom”



**Rutherford:** experiments with  $\alpha$ -particles

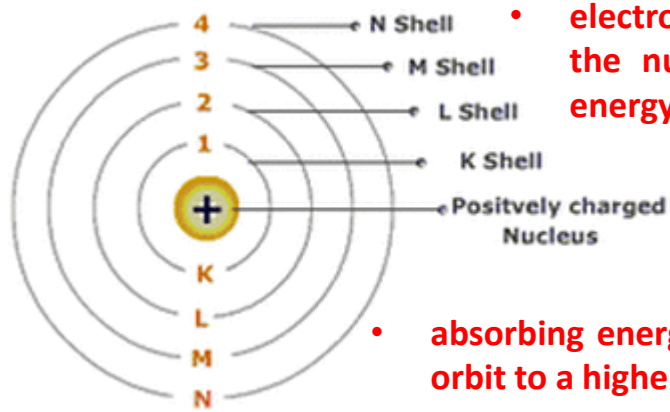


„planetary model”



# Bohr and Schrödinger

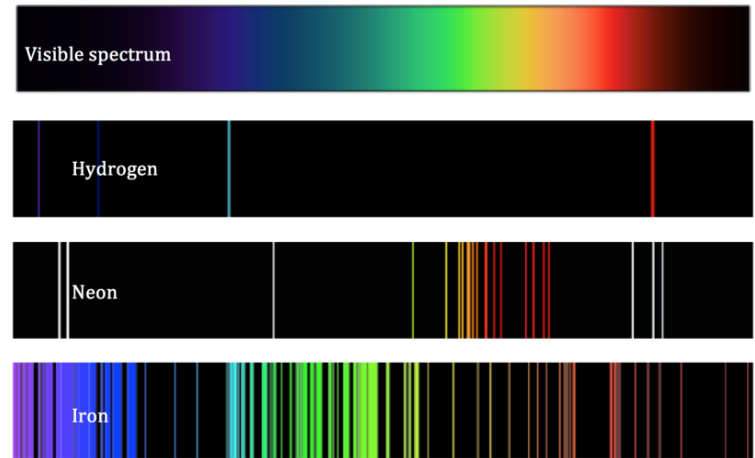
## Bohr: describing the electron shells



- electrons furthest from the nucleus have higher energy

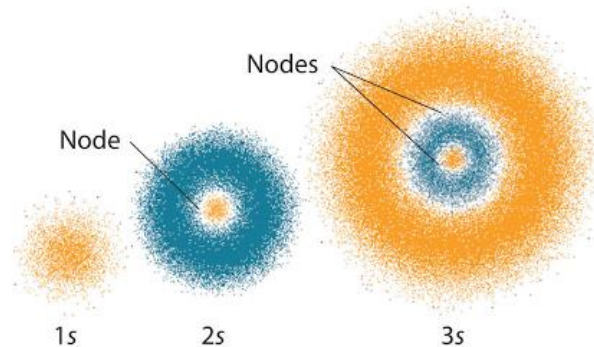
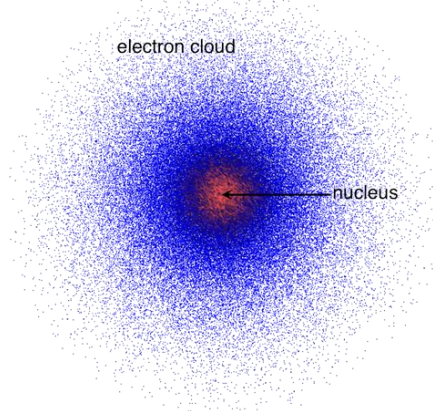
- absorbing energy: jump from a lower orbit to a higher
- losing energy: emission of photons

## Emission spectra of certain elements

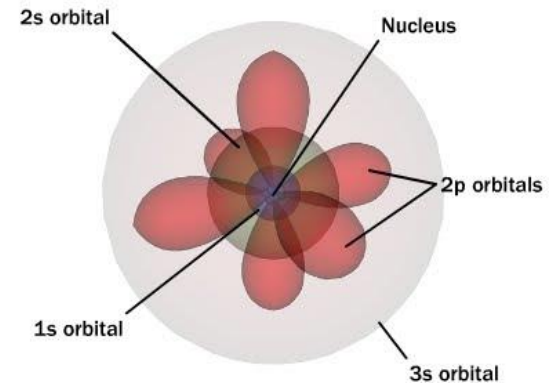


## Schrödinger: quantum mechanical model of the electrons

- no exact path, rather predicts the odds of the location of the electron



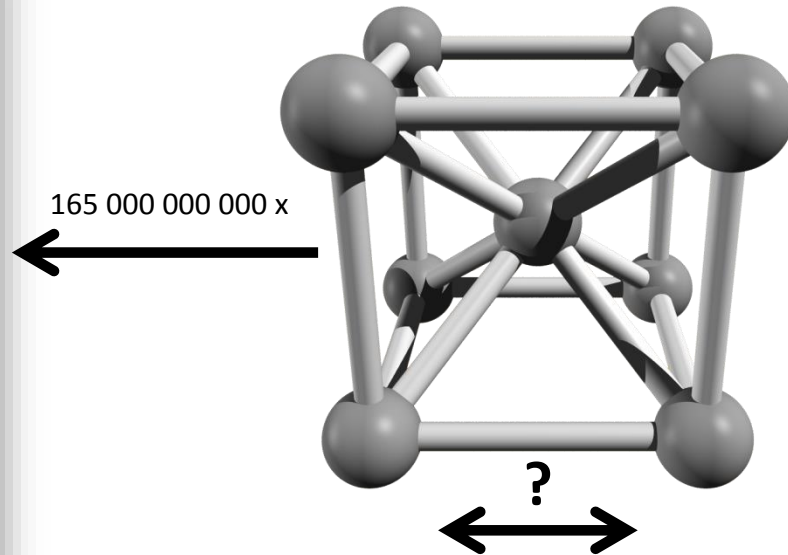
## Complex shapes of orbitals: electron clouds



# How are stable structures created/formed?



macroscopic scale: Atomium



nanoworld: face-centered cubic lattice of Fe

## Governing principle:

consequence:  
DISORDER

**repulsive**  
**interaction**



**attractive**  
**interaction**

consequence:  
ORDER

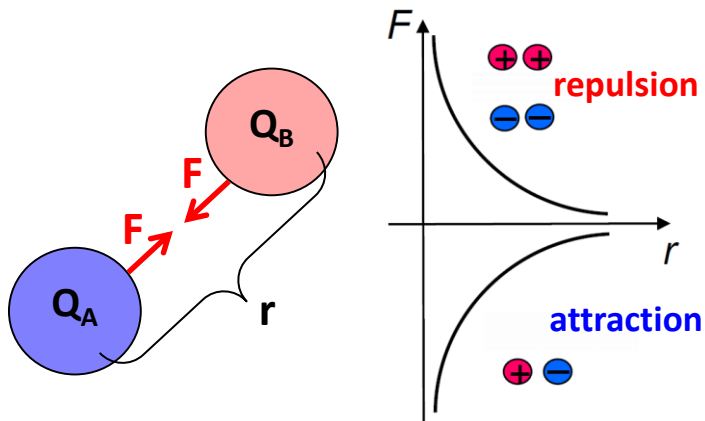
# Fundamental interactions in physics

Interaction type	Binding particle	Range (m)	Relative strength
gravitation	every particle	infinite ( $\sim 1/r^2$ )	$10^{-40}$
electrostatic (Coulomb)	charged particles	infinite ( $\sim 1/r^2$ )	$10^{-2}$
strong nuclear	nucleons	$10^{-15}$	1
weak nuclear	every particle	$10^{-18}$	$10^{-13}$

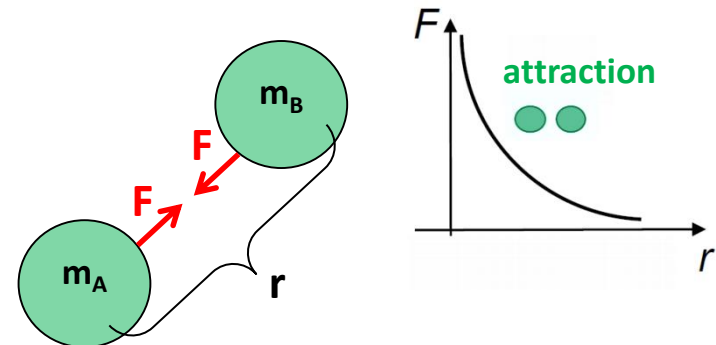
## Coulomb-interaction



## Gravitation



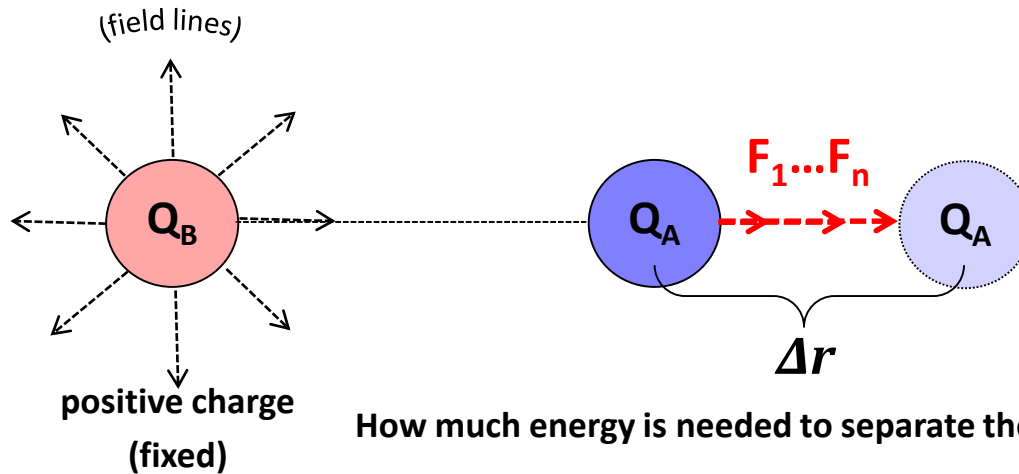
$$F_C = k \cdot \frac{Q_A \cdot Q_B}{r^2}$$



$$F_g = G \cdot \frac{m_A \cdot m_B}{r^2}$$



# Electric potential energy ( $E_{\text{pot}}$ )

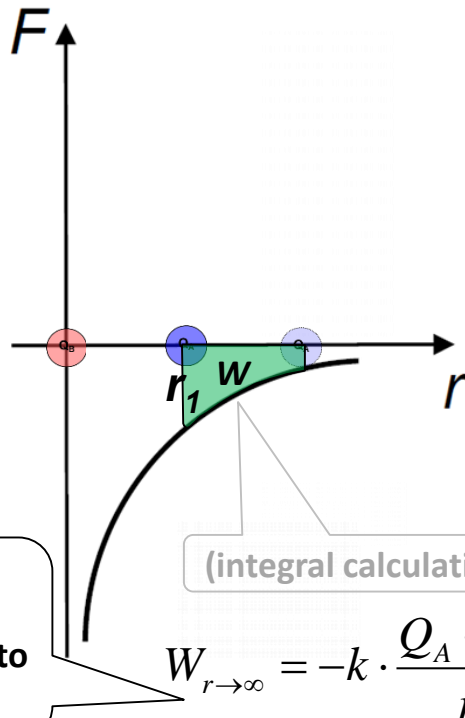


$$W = F \cdot s = F \cdot \Delta r$$

$$F = ?$$

changes continuously!

How much energy is needed to separate the negative charge?



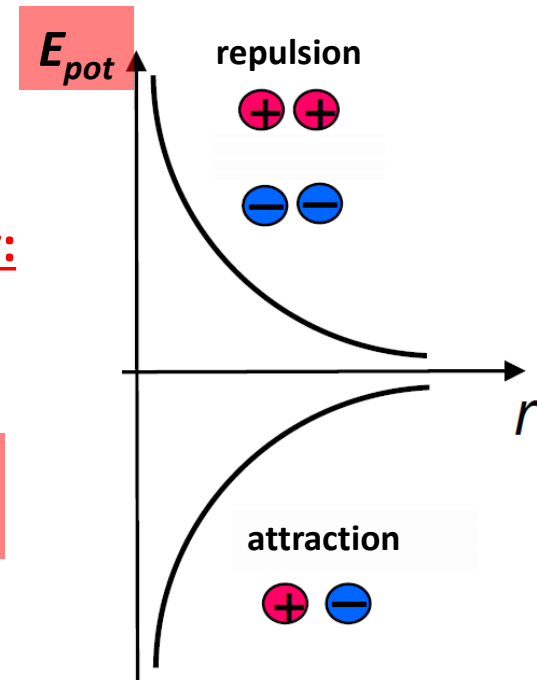
the negative charge is transported into infinite

(integral calculation)

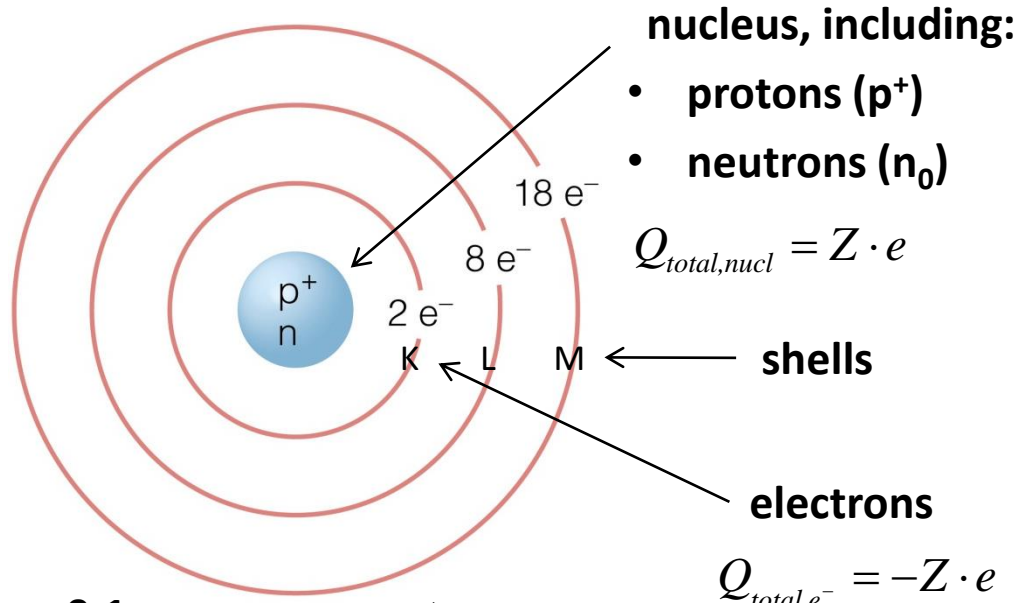
Electric potential energy:

$$E_{\text{pot}} = W_{\infty \rightarrow r}$$

$$E_{\text{pot}} = k \cdot \frac{Q_A \cdot Q_B}{r}$$



# Structure of the Atom



**Z: atomic number**  
**(number of protons)**

**N: neutron number**

**A: mass number**  
**(=Z+N)**

$d_{atom} \sim 0.1 \text{ nm}$

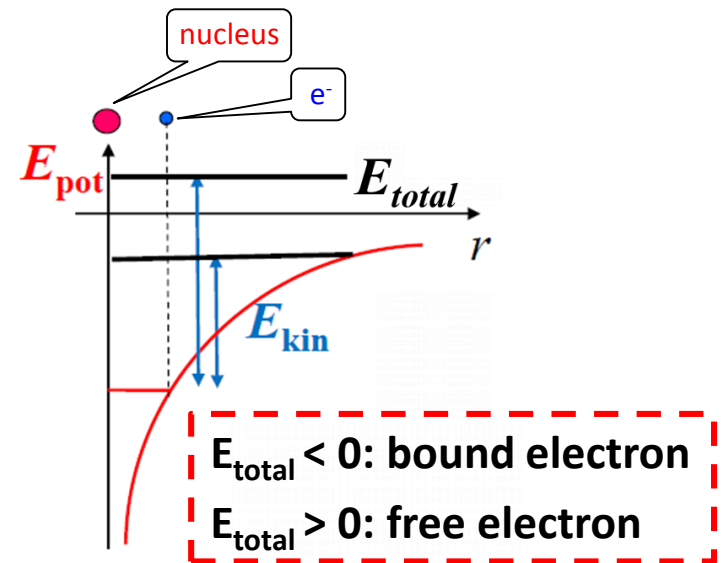
$$E_{kin} = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$$

**kinetic energy**

$$E_{pot} = k \cdot \frac{Q_A \cdot Q_B}{r}$$

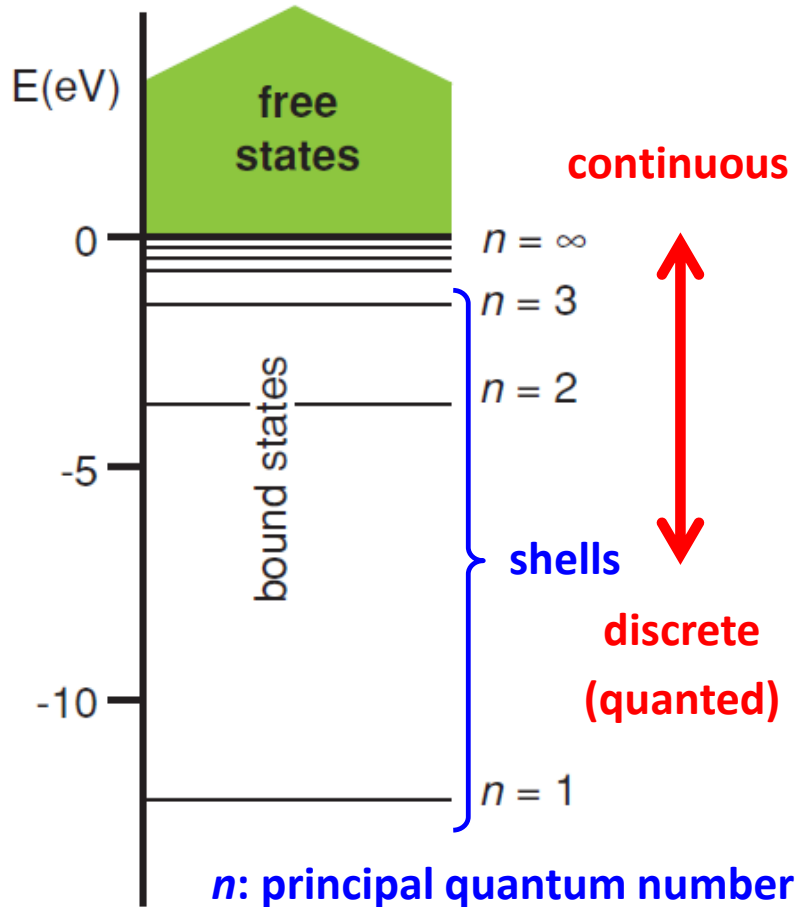
**potential energy**

$$E_{total} = E_{pot} + E_{kin}$$





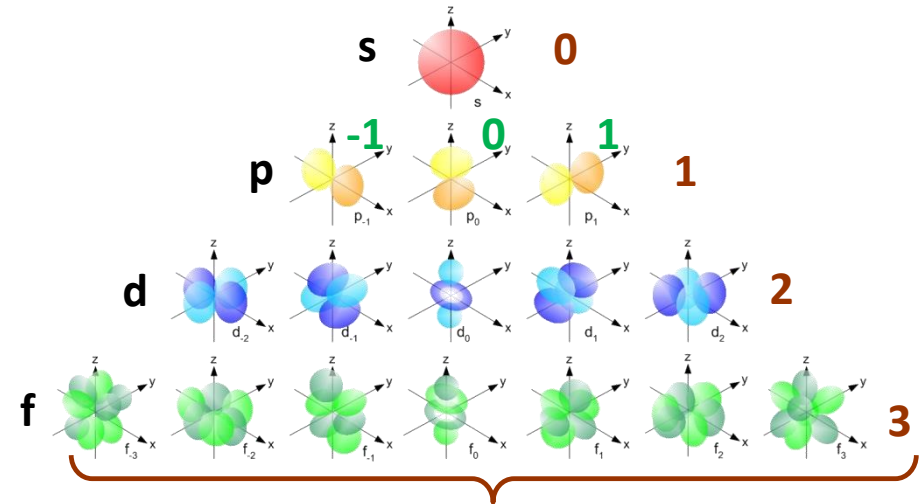
# The energy states of the electron



an electron's possible energy  
levels in the hydrogen atom

$l$ : azimuthal quantum number

$m$ : magnetic quantum number



s: sharp;  
p: principal;  
d: diffuse;  
f: fundamental.

subshells

see „Light emission“  
lab practical

- Principle of minimum energy
- Pauli exclusion principle

# Particle-wave duality of the electron

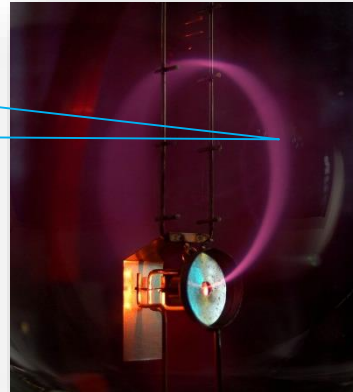
cf. particle-wave duality of the photon

$e^-$  beam is bent due to the presence of magnetic field

particle



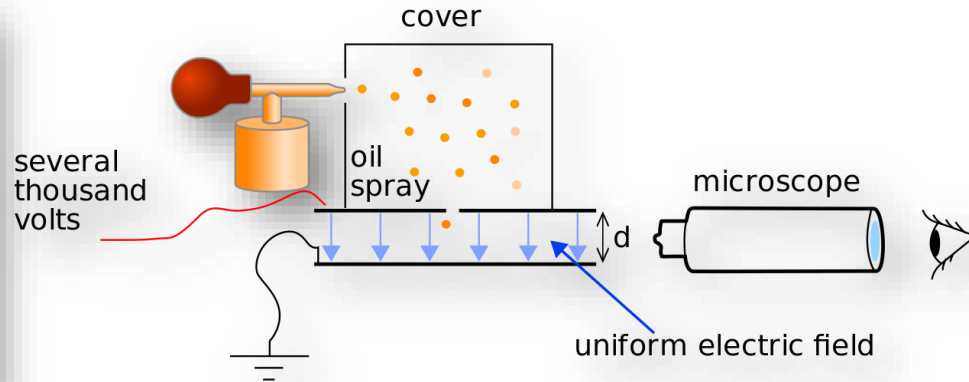
wave



mass

(Thomson, 1897; mass-to-charge ratio)

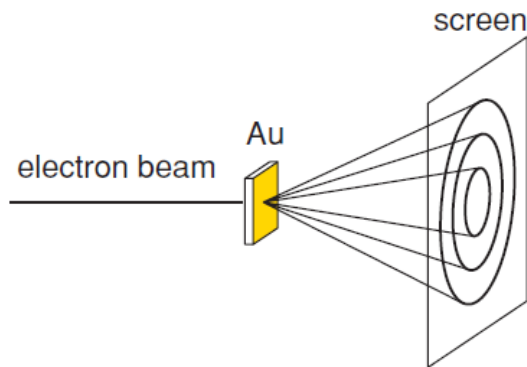
$$m_e = 9.1 \cdot 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$$



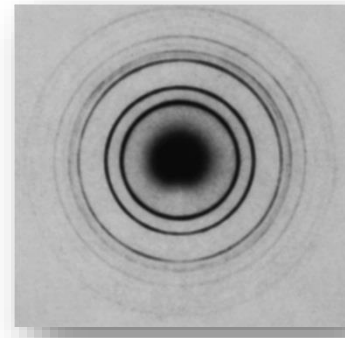
charge

(Millikan, 1910)

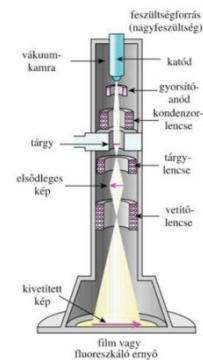
$$e = -1.6 \cdot 10^{-19} \text{ C}$$



Davisson and Germer, 1927



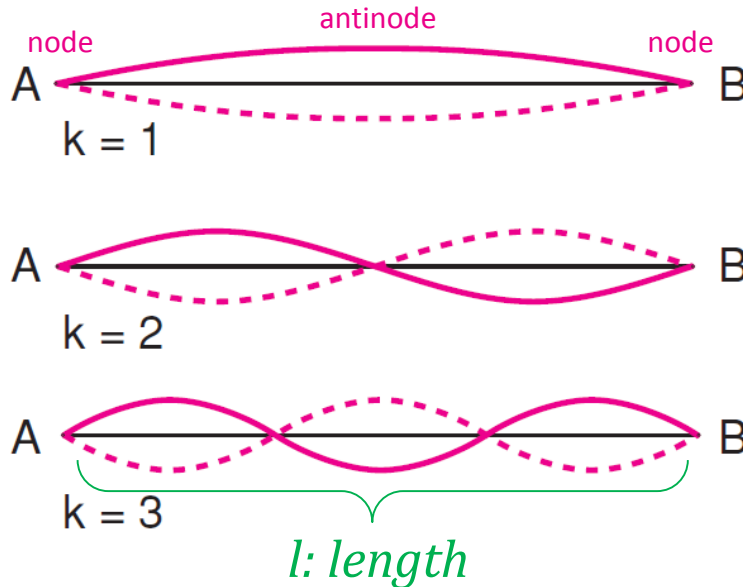
diffraction of fast electrons  
through a gold foil



electron  
microscope

# The electron as a wave

Analogy: stationary waves of a stretched string



$$l = k \frac{\lambda_k}{2} \quad k = 1, 2, \dots$$

only discrete values  
are allowed!

$\lambda$ : wavelength of the  
matter wave

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{p} = \frac{h}{m_{e^-} \cdot v}$$



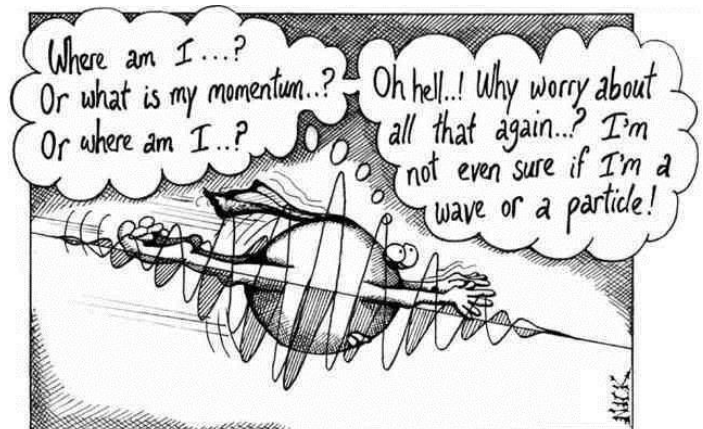
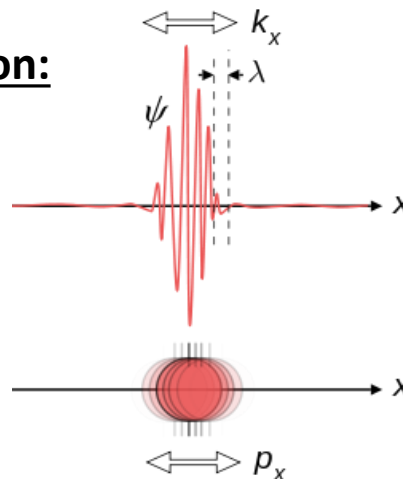
De Broglie, 1923

The state function of the electron:

$$\psi(x, t)$$

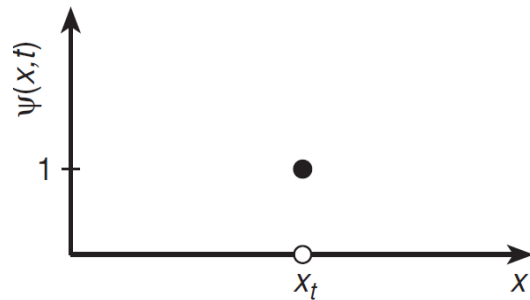
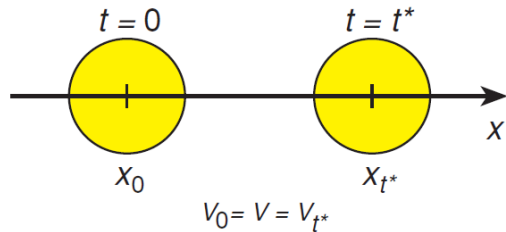
(Schrödinger)

- **location (x)**: where  $\psi(x, t) = 1$
- **momentum (p)**: "shape" of  $\psi(x, t)$



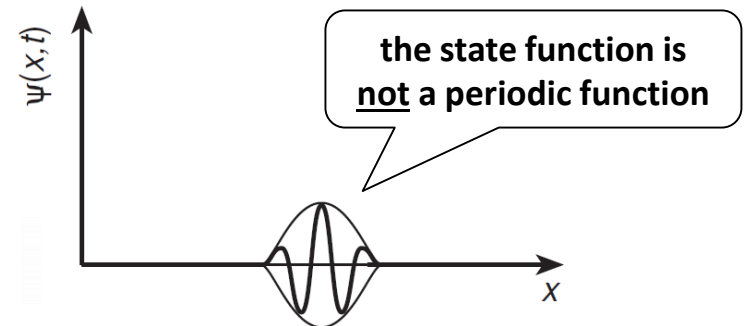
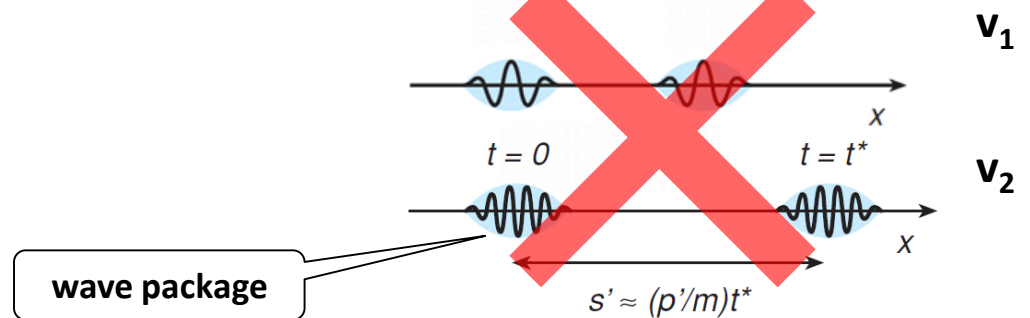
# The propagation law of free electrons

Classical mechanics: state of motion

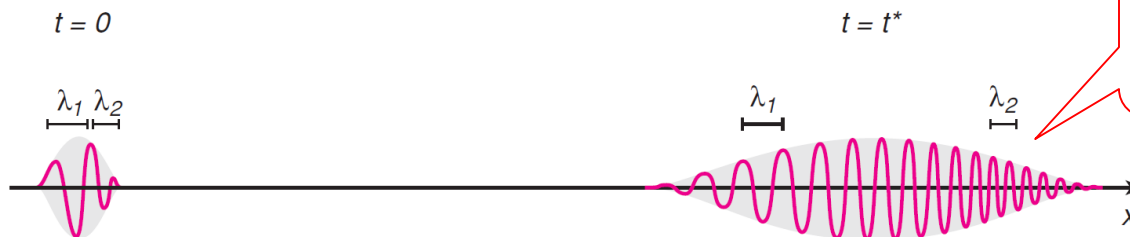


position of a classical object can be determined exactly

Propagation of electrons as wave package



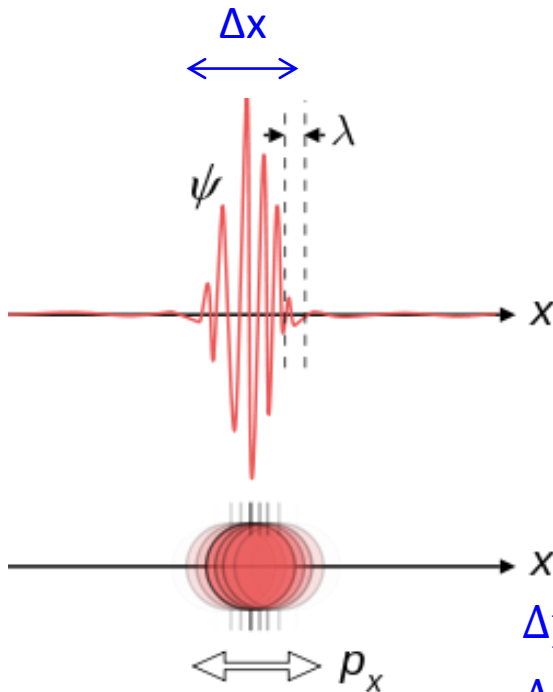
the state function of the electron



$\psi(x, t)$  will disperse while propagating

# The electron bound in an atom

in the electric field of the atomic nucleus (or proton)



deformed state function

$$\Delta p \sim \Delta(1/\lambda)$$

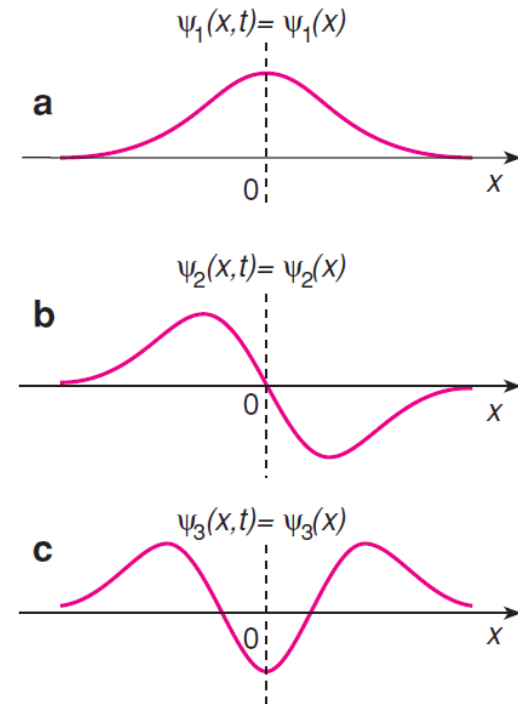
$$\Delta(1/\lambda) \geq 1/\Delta x$$

## The Heisenberg uncertainty relation

the uncertainty of the momentum ( $\Delta p$ ) in the case of a free electron:

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

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



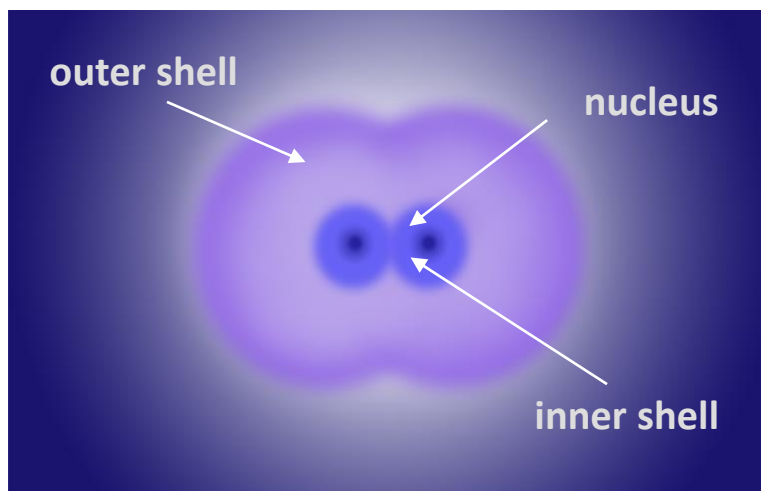
"one-dimensional H-atom"

$\Delta t$ : uncertain, so  $E$  can be certain:

**discrete energy levels**

# Atomic interactions

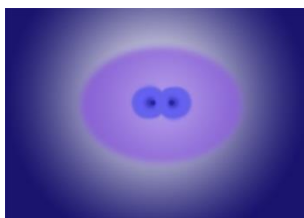
short range  
interaction:  
repulsion between  
nuclei  
(electron cloud overlap)



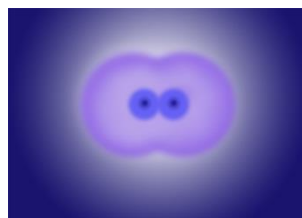
long range  
interaction:  
coulombic attraction

$\delta^-$   $\delta^+$

**repulsion**  
(inner shells and nuclei)

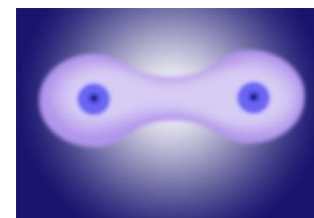


**equilibrium**  
attraction = repulsion

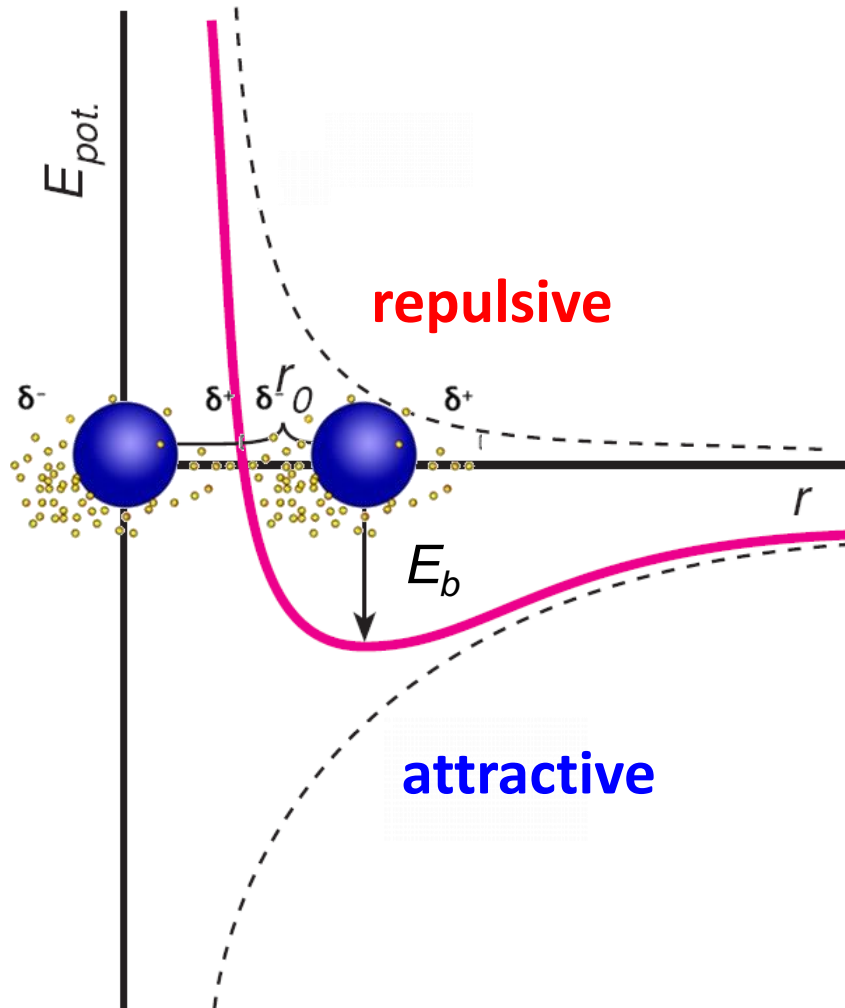


$\delta^-$   $\delta^+$

**attraction**  
(outer shells)



# Atomic interactions



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

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

A, B: interaction-specific constants  
(atom-dependent)

$n$  (attraction) <  $m$  (repulsion)

$r_0$ : binding distance

$E_b$ : binding energy



# Primary bonds

intramolecular  
strong  
primary



intermolecular  
weak  
secondary

„tendency of an atom  
to attract electrons”

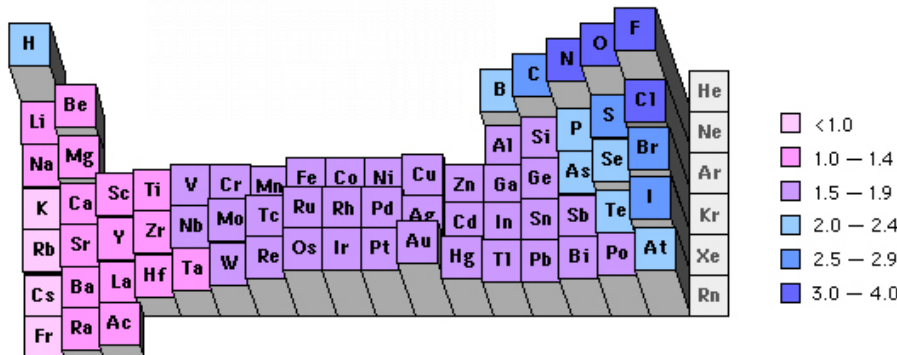
- **covalent**: common electron state around the participating nuclei, strong:  $E_b > 1\text{eV}$
- **metallic bond**: multi-atomic system,  $E_b > 1\text{eV}$
- **ionic bond**: Coulomb-forces between ions,  $E_b > 1\text{eV}$

type depends from  
**electronegativity  
(EN)**

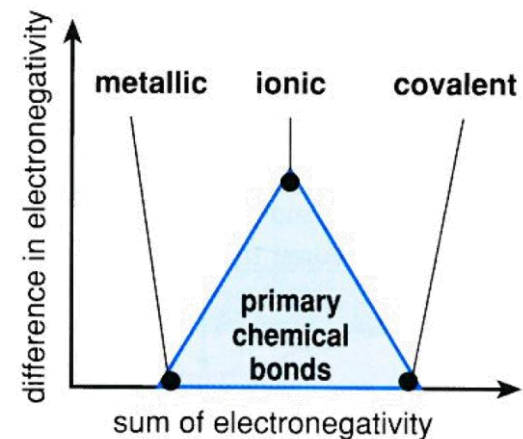
$$EN = |E_i| + |E_{ea}|$$

ionization  
energy

electron-  
affinity

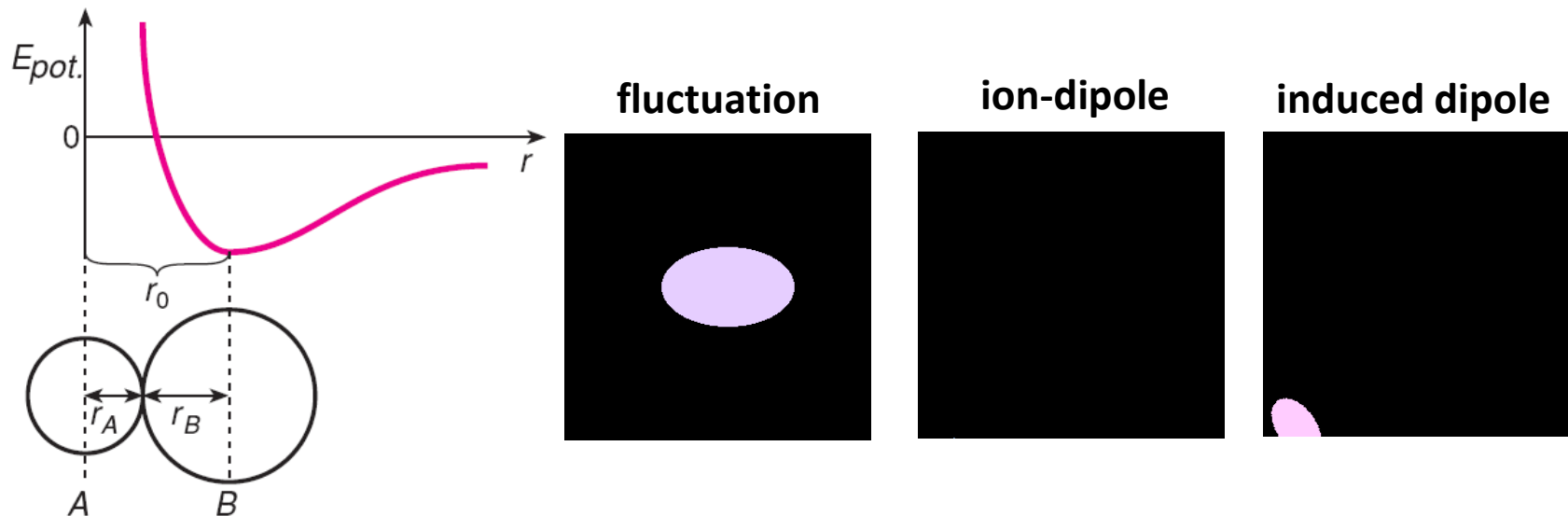


EN values according to  
Pauling



# Secondary bonds 1

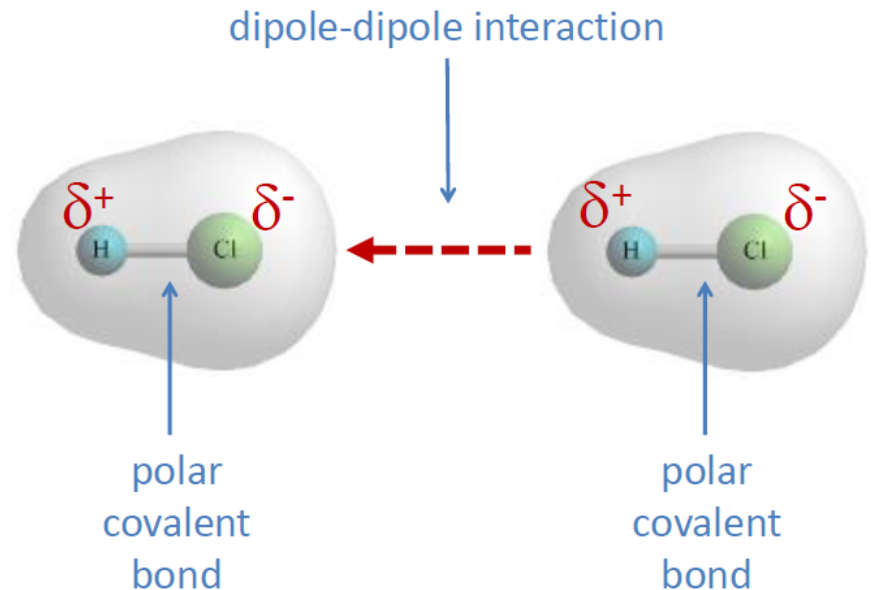
- **Van der Waals**: between two apolar atoms (without permanent dipole moment) where a temporarily created dipole interacts with an apolar molecule or atom thus converting it into a dipole (**induced dipole**)
  - **Van der Waals radius**:  $r_0 = r_A + r_B$
  - Intermolecular or intramolecular
  - Important biological role: formation of organic structures
  - Weak: ( $E_b \sim 0,02$  eV)



# Secondary bonds 2

- **Dipole-dipole interaction:**

- constant charge distribution is present in a (given part of a) molecule
- partially (+) and (-) segments are held together by electrostatic interactions (Coulomb-forces)
- intra-/intermolecular
- weak interaction ( $E_b = 0.003\text{-}0.02\text{ eV}$ )



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

p: dipole momentum ( $p=Q*d$ )

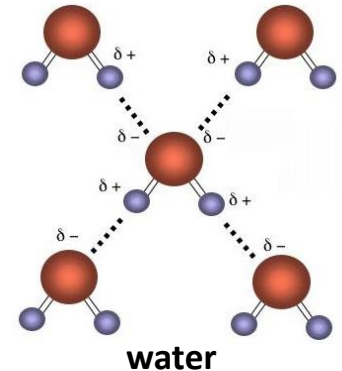
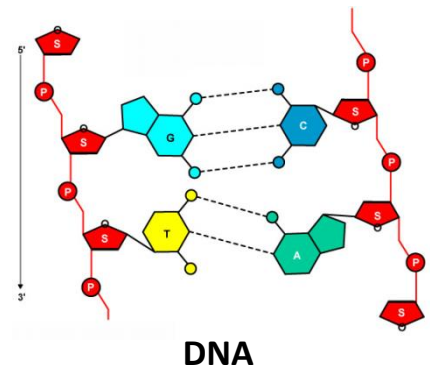
E: electric field strength generated by the surrounding partners

# Secondary bonds 3

- **H-bond**: the H-atom interbridges two other atoms (F, O, N) of high electronegativity

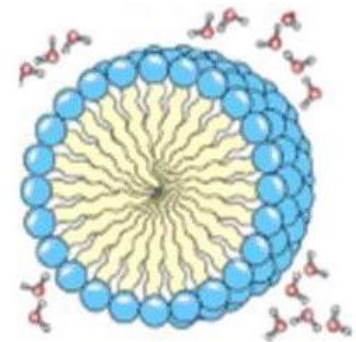
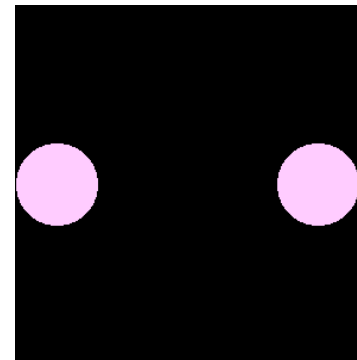
- $r \sim 0.23 - 0.35 \text{ nm}$

- $E \sim 0.2 \text{ eV}$



- **Hydrophobic interaction**: weak Van der Waals interaction ( $E_b = 0.003 - 0.02 \text{ eV}$ ), thermal motion ( $kT \sim 0.025 \text{ eV}$ ) could disrupt the system

- ordered water molecules exclude the apolar structures (contact surface can be minimized)



lipids in water

# Atomic force microscope (AFM)

**1. Van der Waals interaction is measured between the atoms of a sample and a sharp tip**

**2. The tip is deflected due to the Van der Waals forces.**

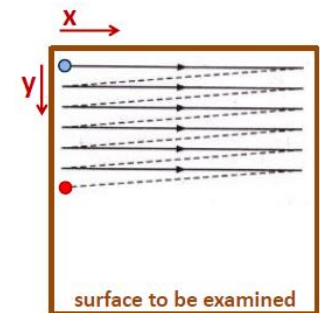
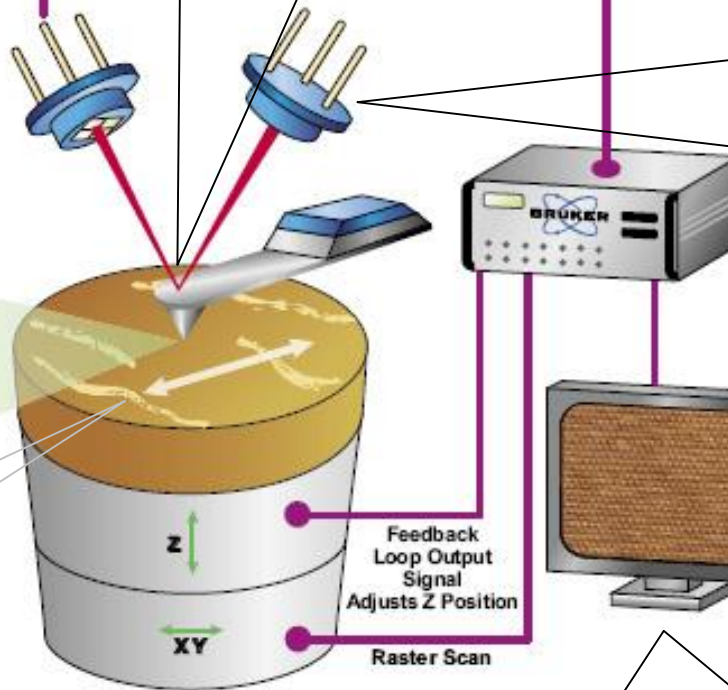
**3. The deflection is measured with a laser reflected onto a position sensing photodiode.**

atomically smooth surface (mica)

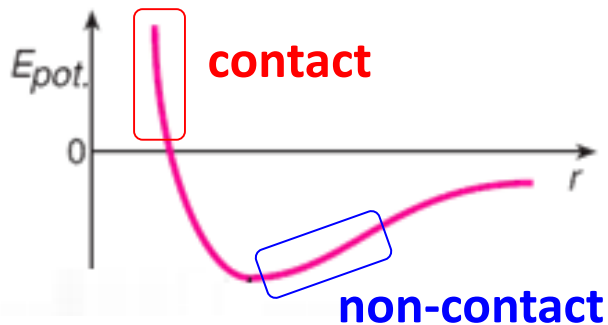
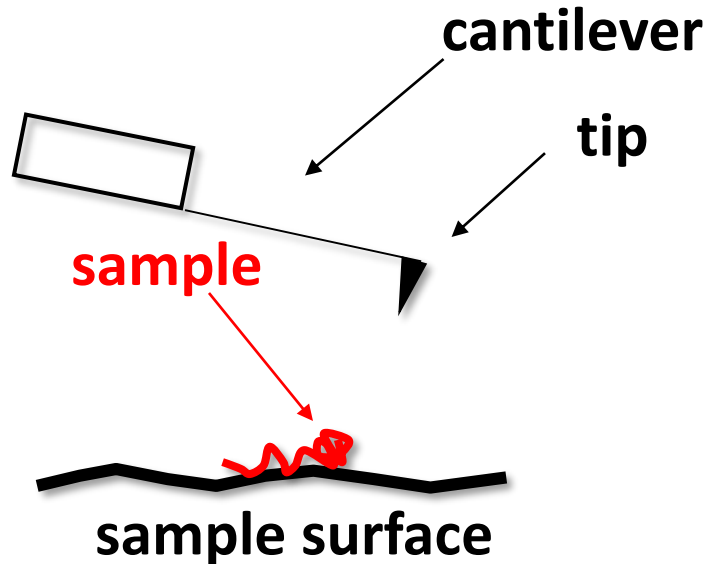
Feedback Loop Maintains Constant Cantilever Deflection

Feedback Loop Output Signal Adjusts Z Position  
Raster Scan

**4. The cantilever is scanned in X-Y-Z directions: atomic resolution with raster scan.**

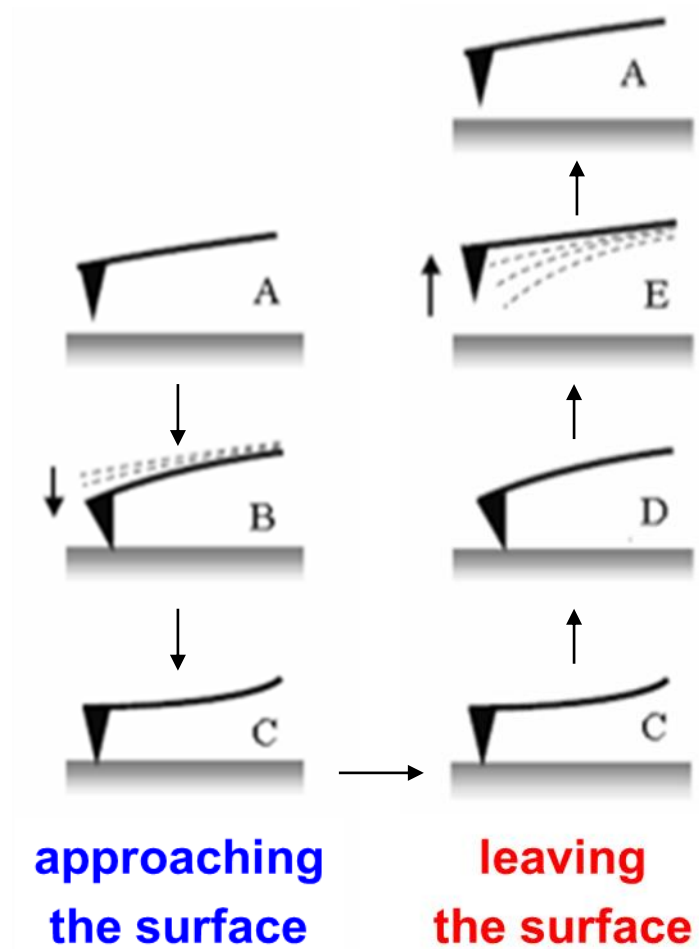
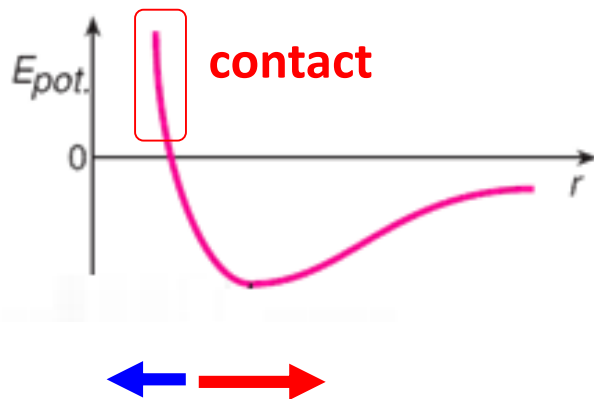
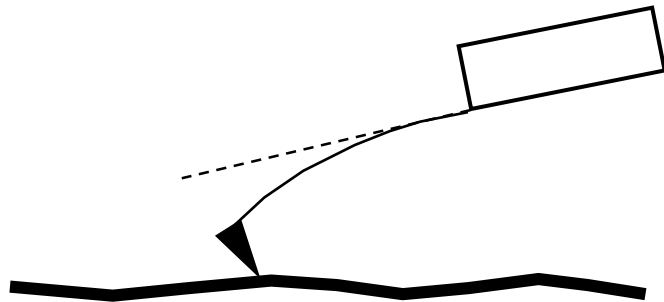


# AFM operating modes



- **Contact:** the tip touches the surface, the **deflection of the cantilever** (i.e. the force exerted on the sample by the tip) is held **constant**.
  - **Z-feedback** system: deflection is maintained 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
- **Non-contact:** the **cantilever is oscillated without contact** with the surface: resonant frequency ( $f_0$ ) and the amplitude of the oscillation changes with surface topography.
  - **Z-feedback:** maintains the amplitude by lifting or lowering the oscillating cantilever.

# Contact mode AFM



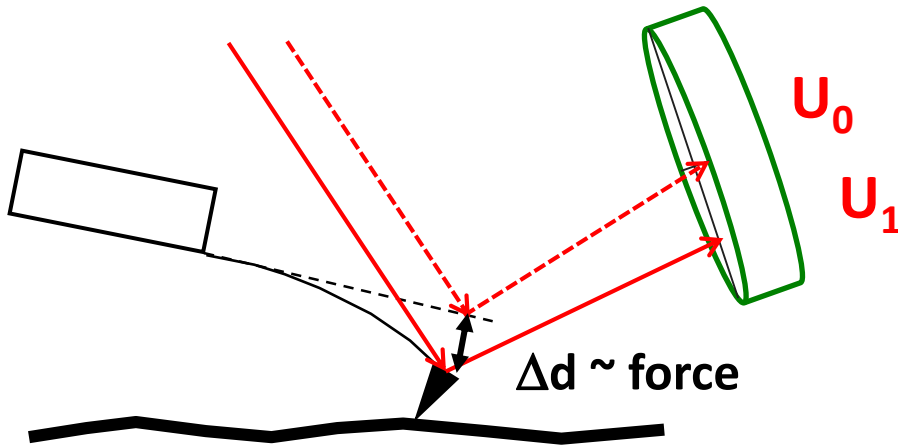


# Contact mode AFM

suitable for soft  
biological samples  
(e.g. cells)

position sensing  
photodiode

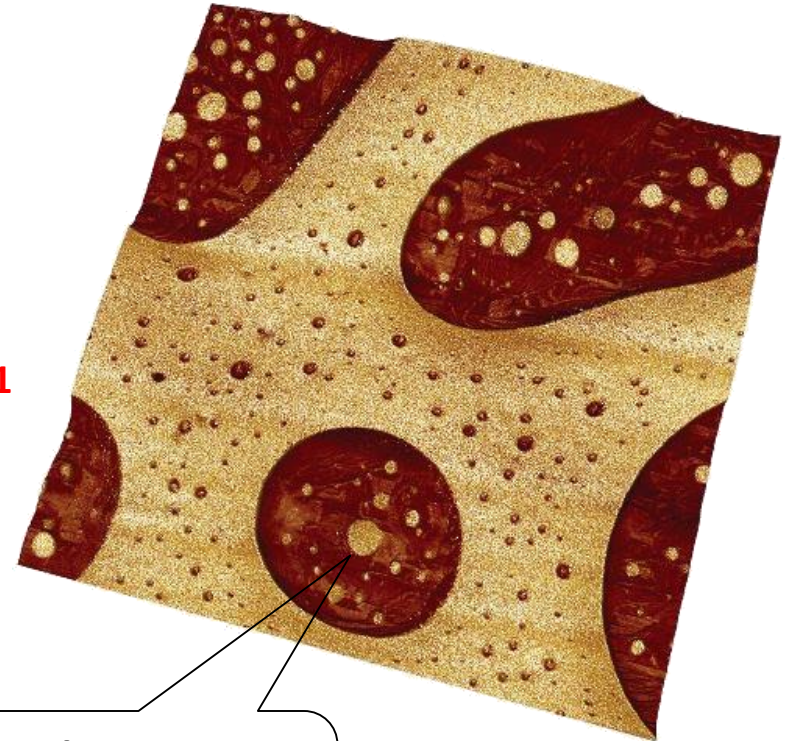
laser



$$F = D \cdot \Delta d$$

$\Delta d$ : deflection

D: spring constant

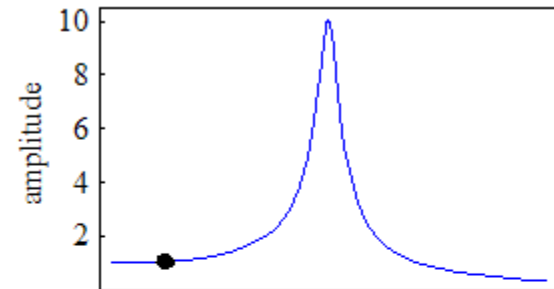
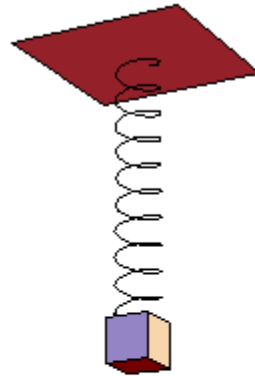


force / elasticity  
measurement on  
biological samples

# Resonance

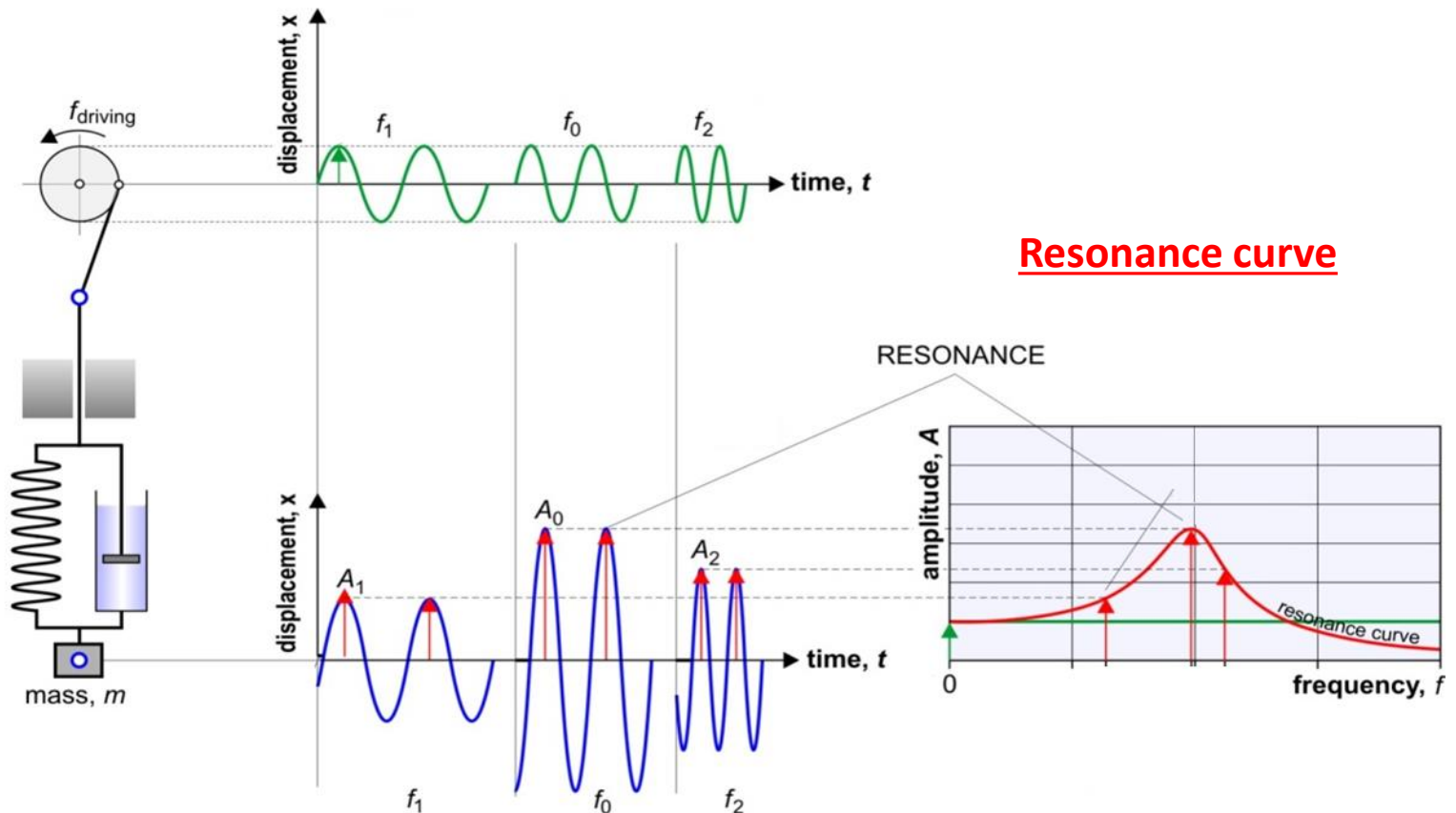
**Resonance:** a driven oscillation occurring when the oscillatory system is exposed to a driving force with a frequency close to its eigenfrequency ( $f_0$ ). Amplitudes may become extremely large.

## Driven oscillation

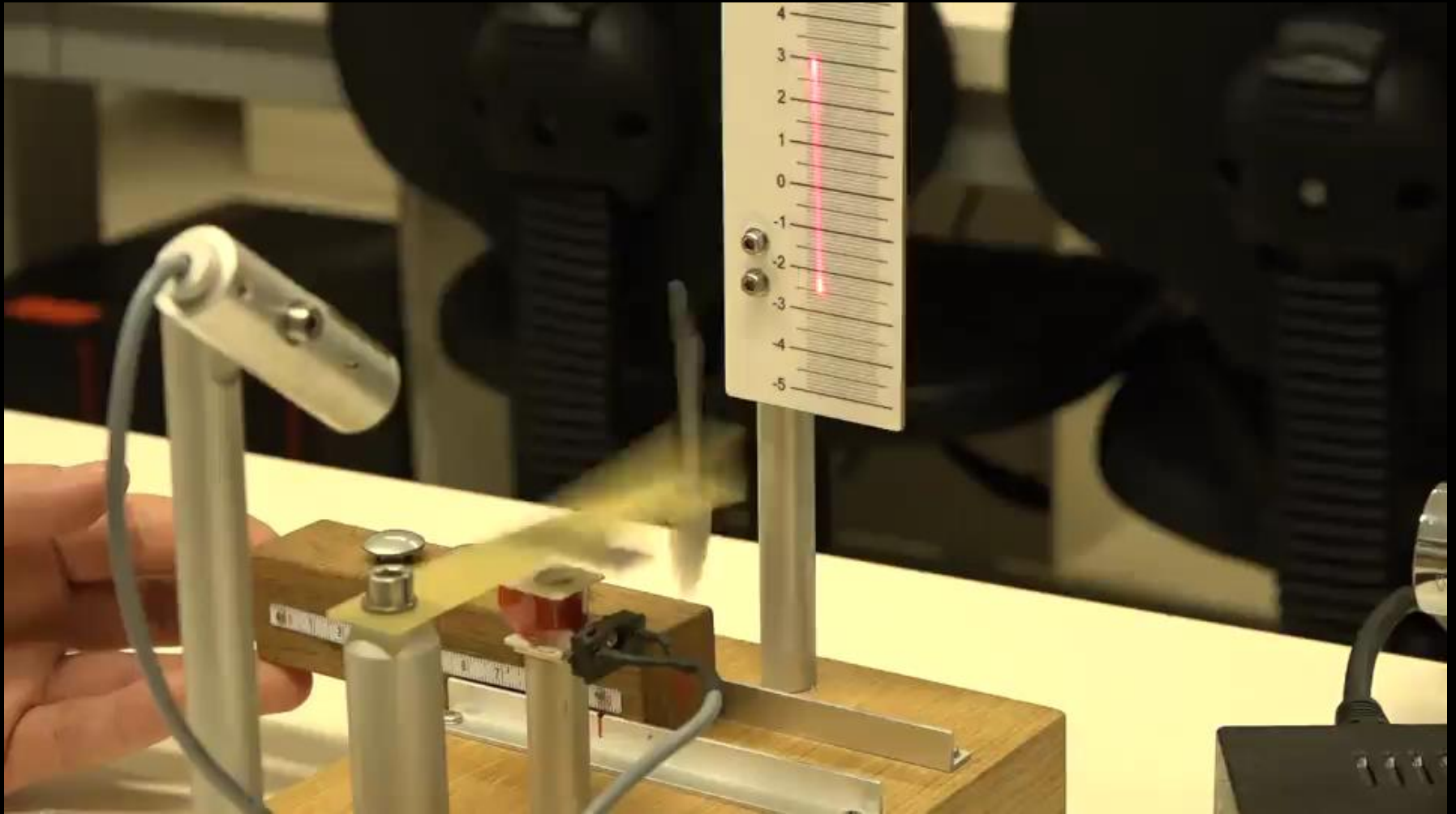


# Non-contact/oscillating mode AFM

**Resonance:** a driven oscillation occurring when the oscillatory system is exposed to a driving force with a frequency close to its eigenfrequency ( $f_0$ ). Amplitudes may become extremely large.

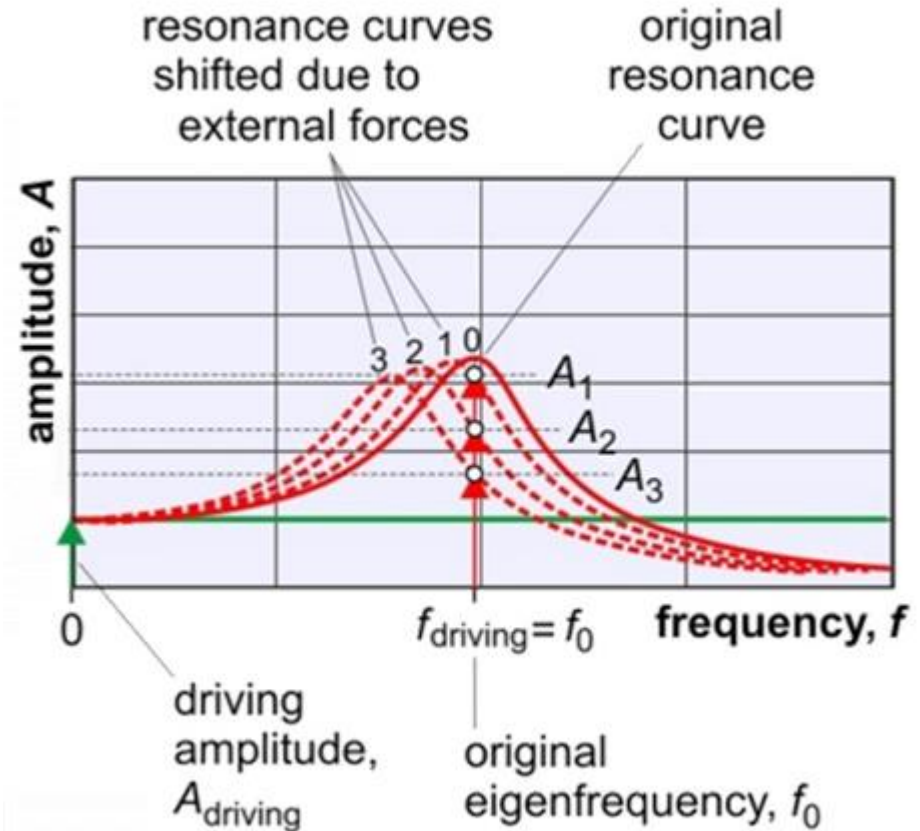
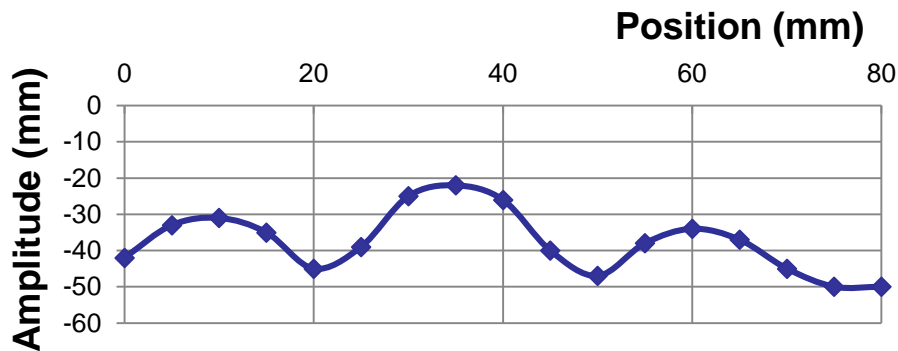
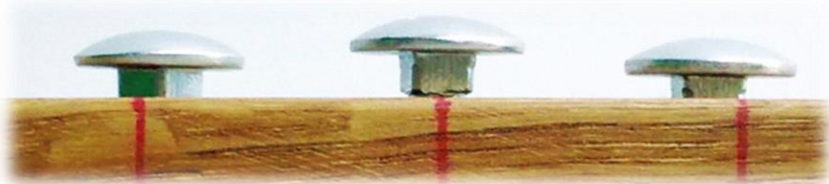
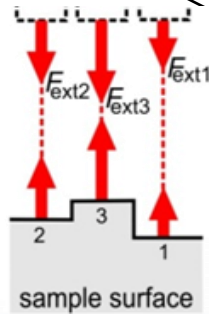
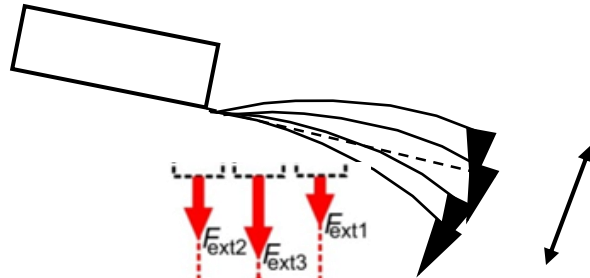


# Non-contact/oscillating mode AFM model



**N.B.: magnetic interaction models the Van der Waals forces**

# Non-contact/oscillating mode AFM

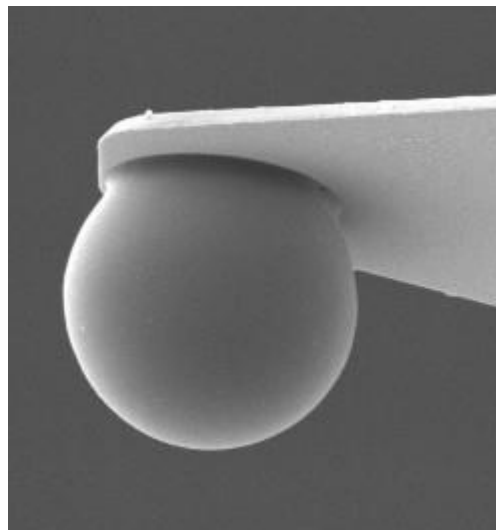
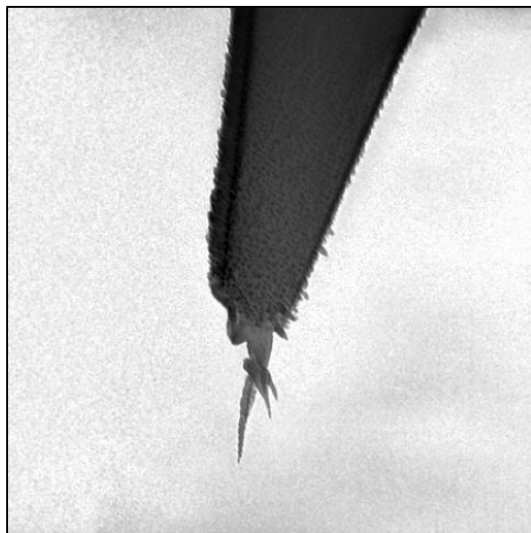
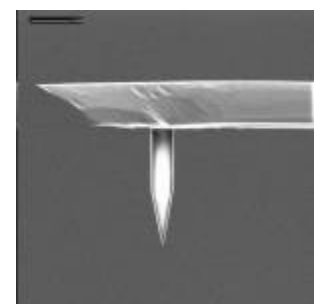
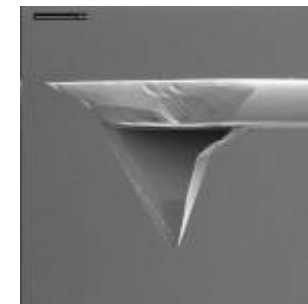
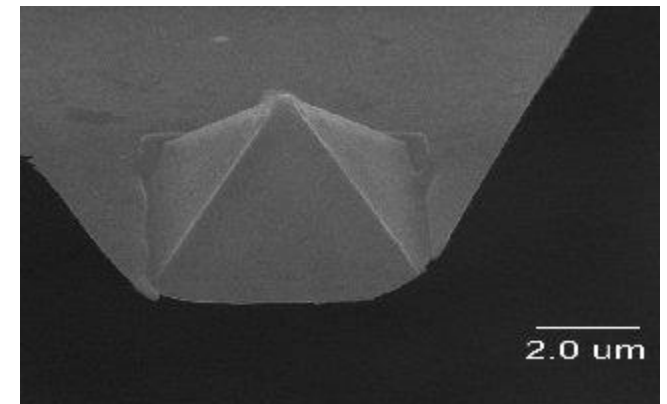
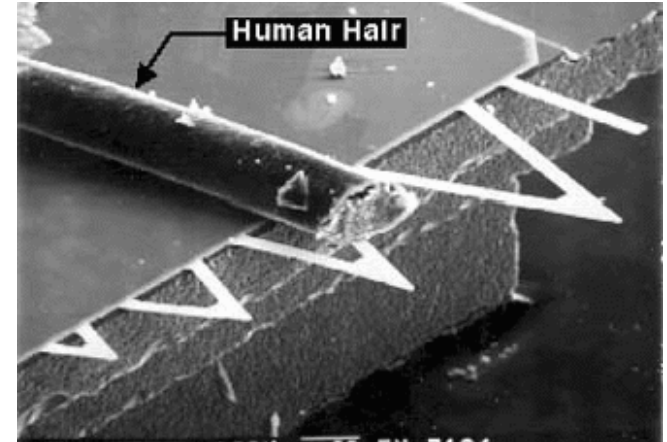


$$f_0 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sqrt{\frac{D}{m}}$$

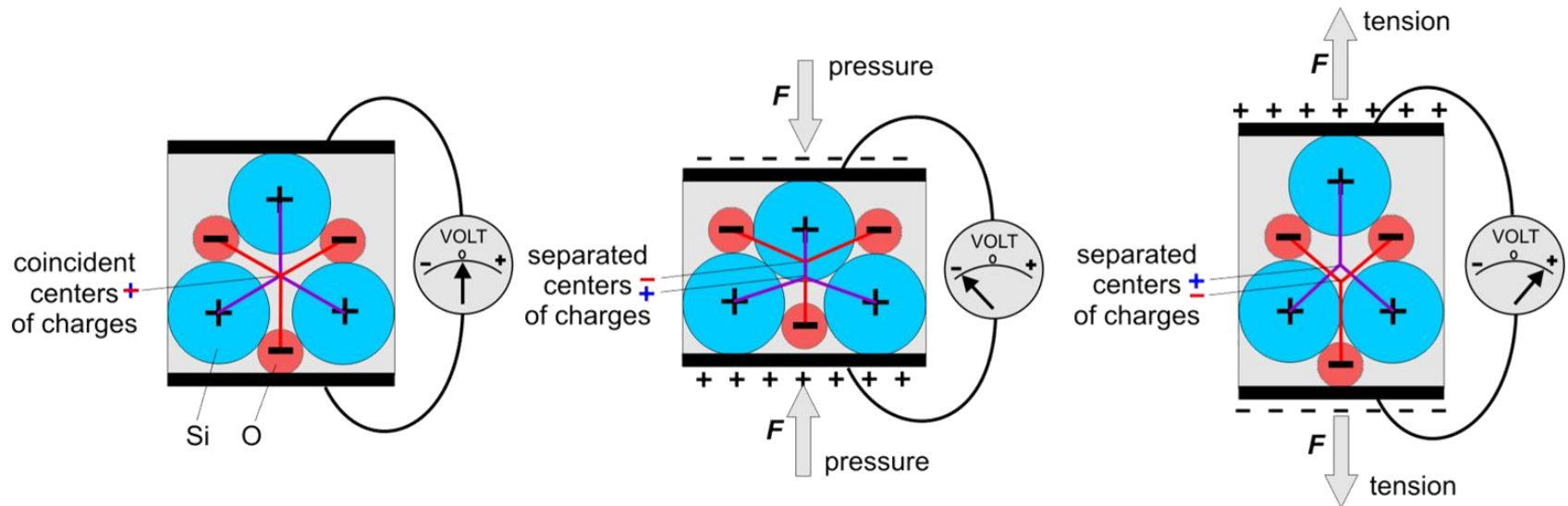


# Cantilevers

- Material: mainly silicon nitride
- Tip radius: 0.1 nm - 100  $\mu\text{m}$
- Spring constant  $\sim 0.1 - 10 \text{ N/m}$
- $f_0 \sim 50\text{-}500 \text{ kHz}$

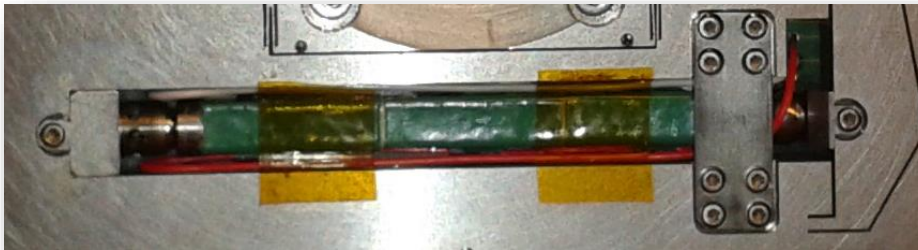


# Principle of X-Y-Z raster scanning: piezoelectricity



- direct piezoelectric effect: deformation  $\rightarrow$  voltage
- **inverse piezoelectric effect: voltage  $\rightarrow$  deformation**
- X, Y, Z axis piezo: e.g. 150 V  $\rightarrow$  40  $\mu$ m

0.1-nm-accuracy possible





# AFM - properties

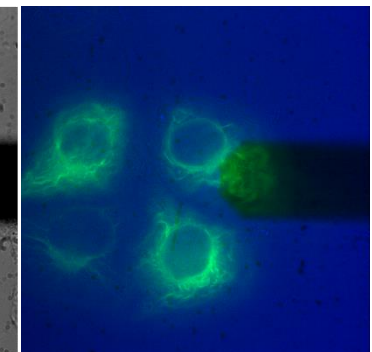
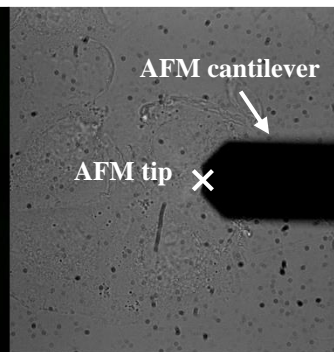
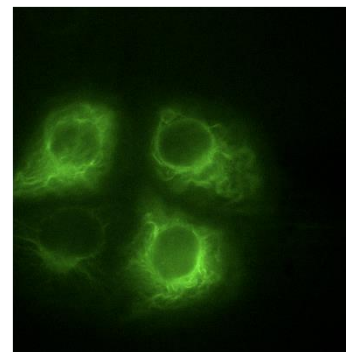
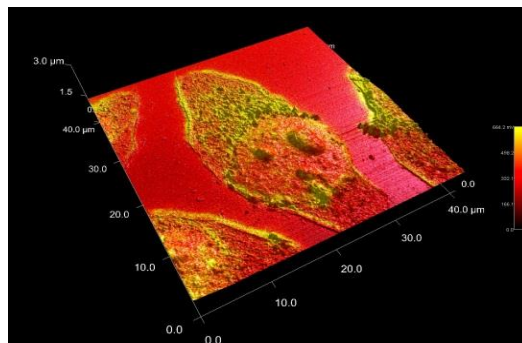
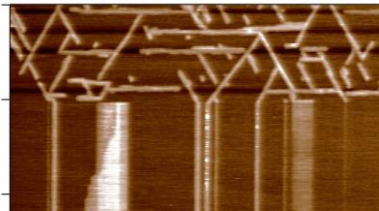
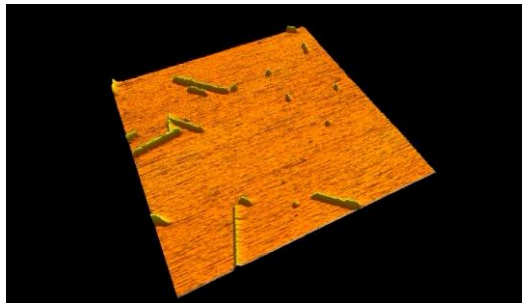
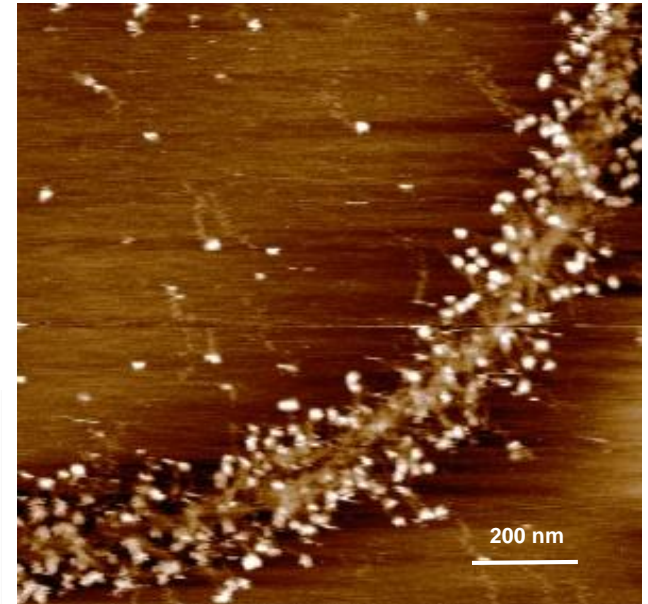
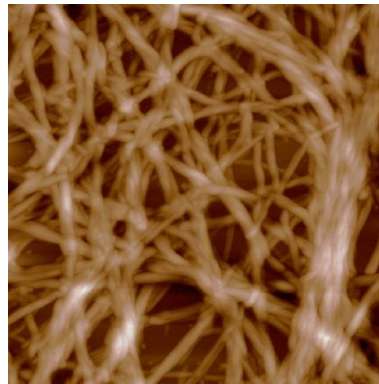
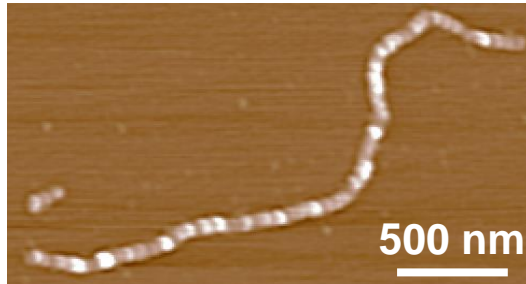
- **Main advantages:**

- 3D surface profile.
- Images are collected with ~10 pm vertical and somewhat worse horizontal resolution.
- Any surfaces (conductors, insulators and semiconductors) can be imaged.
- Works in ambient air, special gas or 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.

- **Main disadvantages:**

- Samples must adhere to a substrate. Surface adhesion may lead to distortion.
- Slow scan speed.
- Scan height limited to few microns („the flatter the better”).
- Scan size limited to few tens of microns.
- High cost.

# Images recorded in our lab at the Department

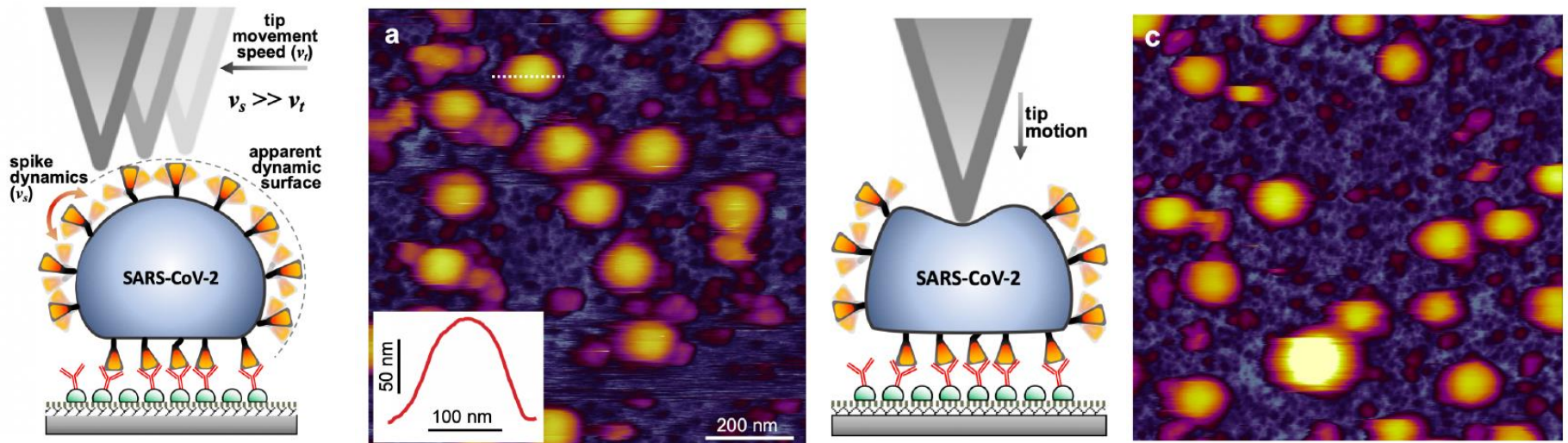


# Native SARS-CoV-2 imaged in our lab

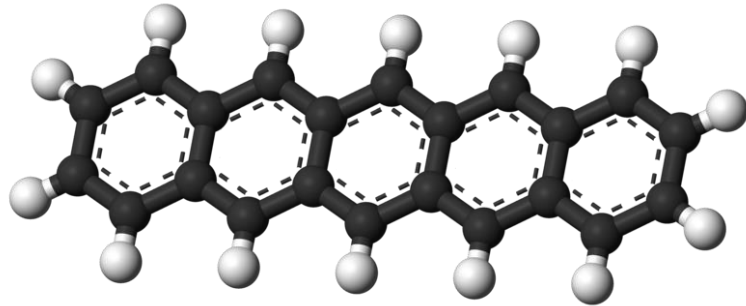
Topography, spike dynamics and nanomechanics of individual native  
SARS-CoV-2 virions

Bálint Kiss<sup>1#</sup>, Zoltán Kis<sup>2,3#</sup>, Bernadett Pályi<sup>2</sup>, Miklós S.Z. Kellermayer<sup>1\*</sup>

bioRxiv preprint doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.09.17.302380>



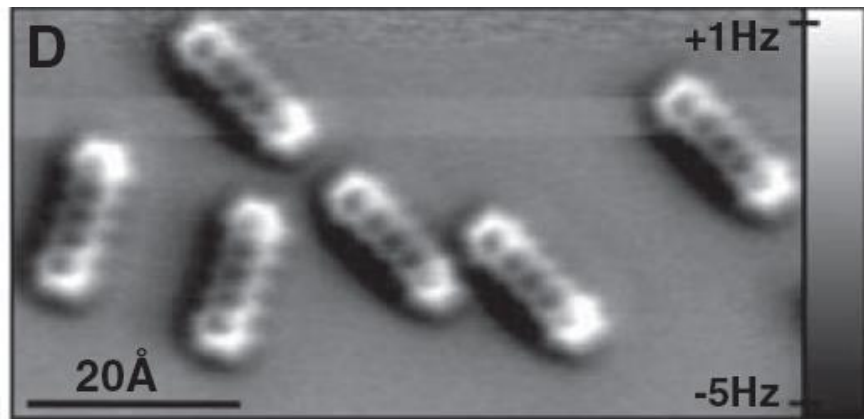
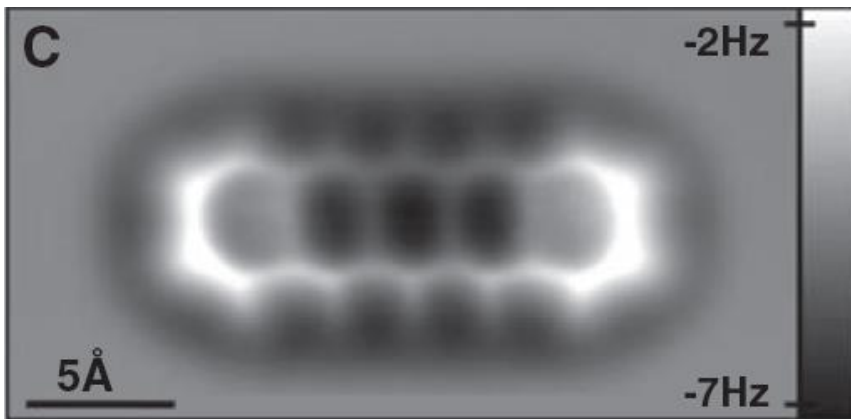
# Pentacene molecule



electron current through the tip (STM)



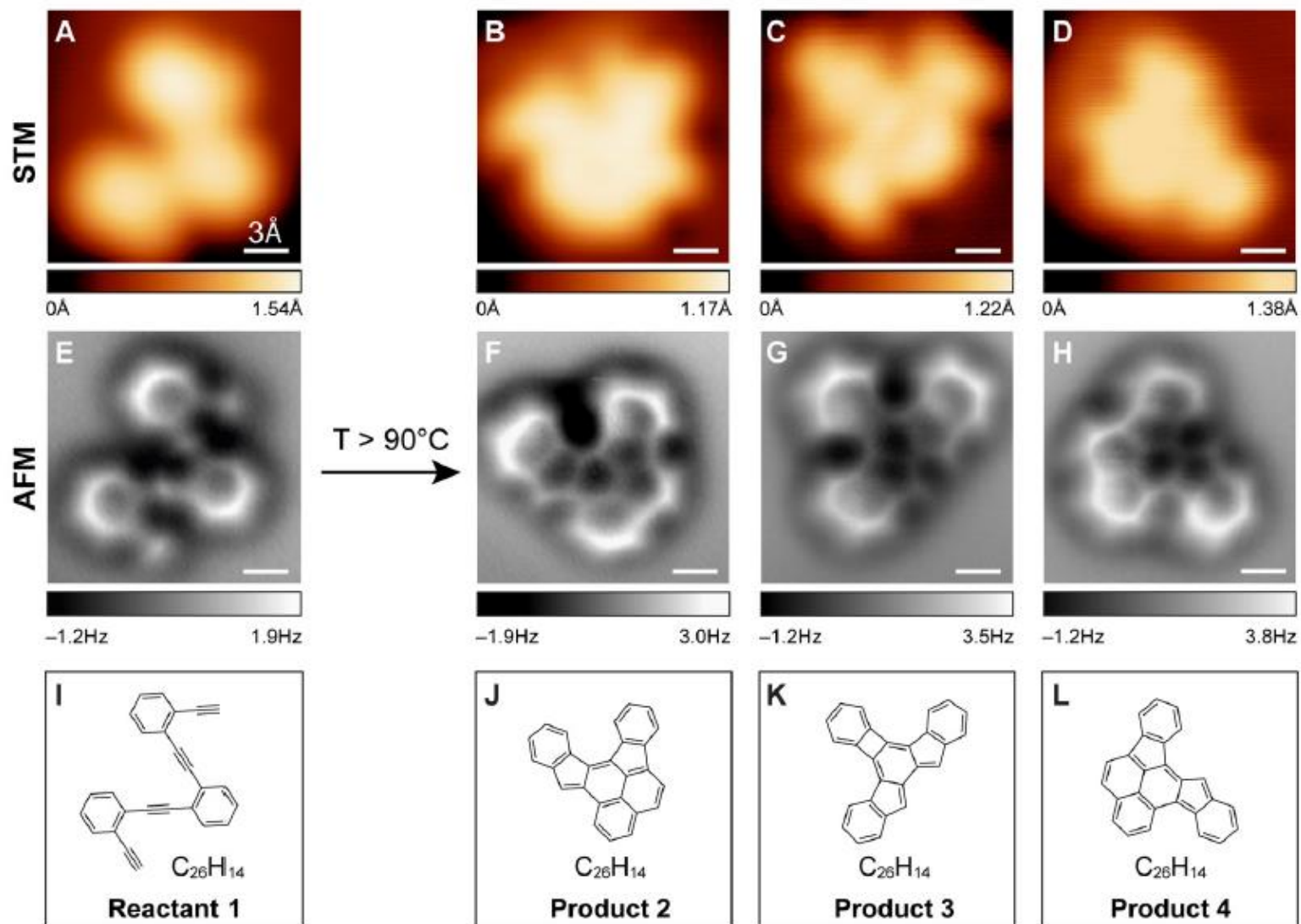
AFM images (tip covered with CO)









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



# Visualizing chemical reactions



Thank  
you  
for your attention!

<u>Modelos ATômicos</u>	
	DALTON
	Thomson
	Rutherford
	Bohr
	Sommerfeld
	???!!? Schrödinger