

# **Electrochemical Energy Engineering, 2019**

## **12. Scanning probe techniques (ch. 16)**

**Scanning tunneling microscopy (STM)**

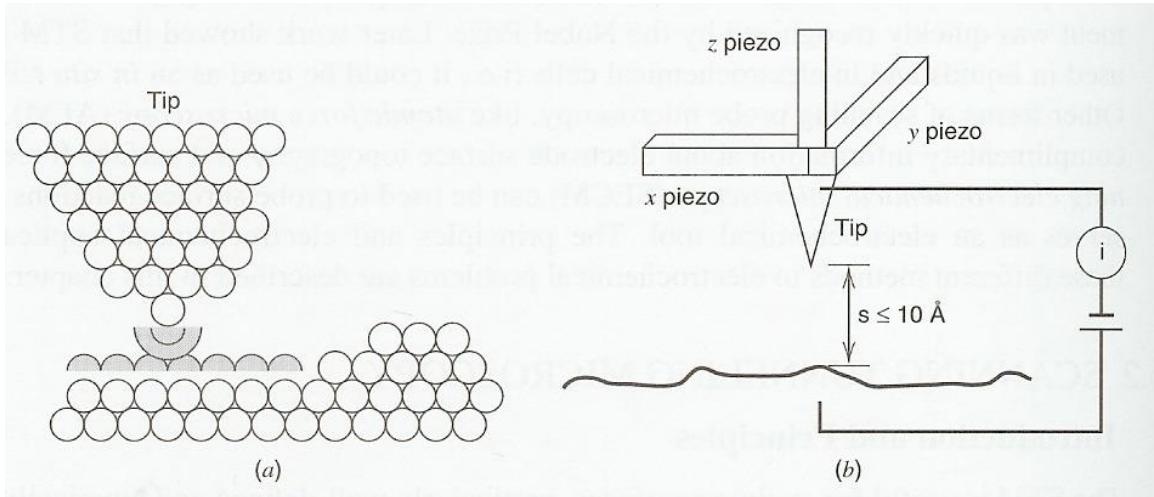
**Atomic force microscopy (AFM)**

**Scanning electrochemical microscopy (SECM)**

# Scanning probe techniques

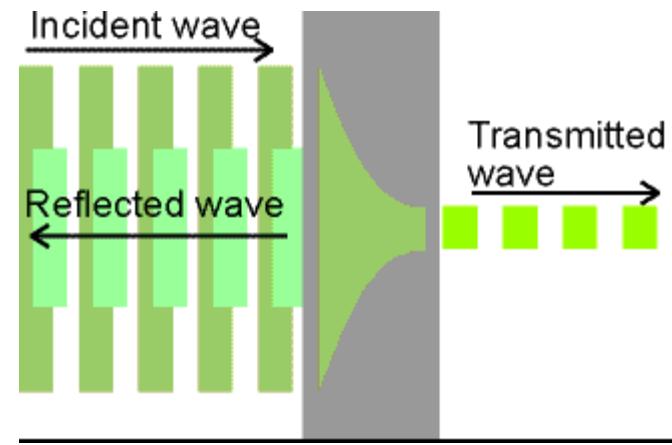
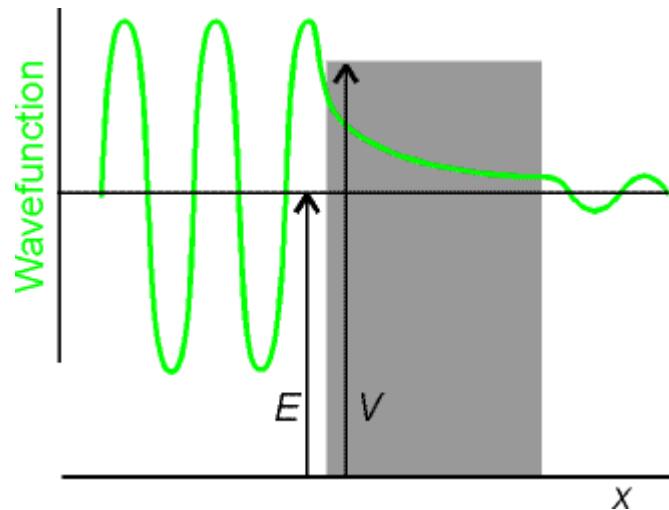
Microscopy: optical → scanning electron or force → STM, AFM  
*in situ* vs. *ex situ* techniques

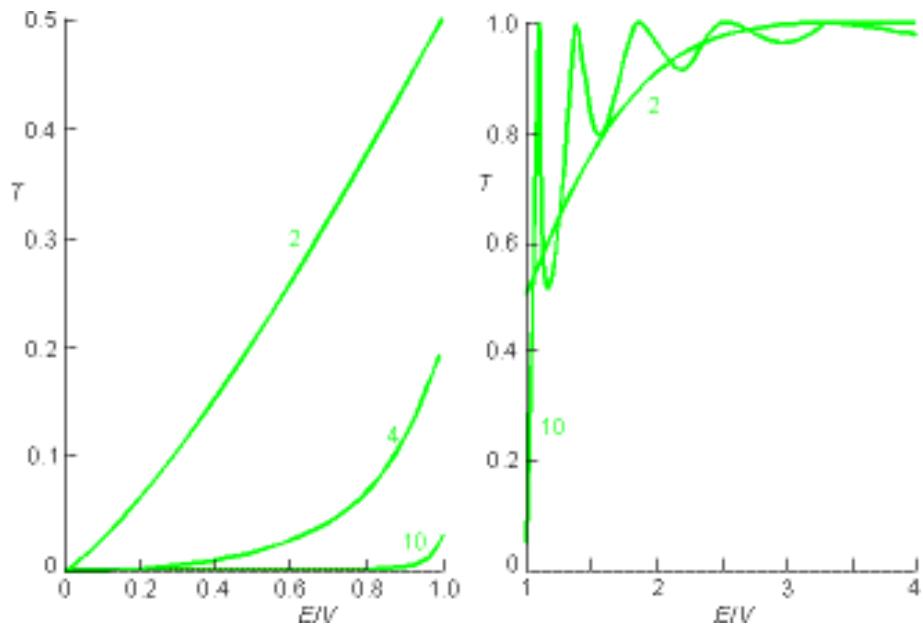
## Scanning tunneling microscopy (STM)



# Tunnelling

- if the potential energy of a particle does not rise to infinite in the wall &  $E < V \rightarrow \Psi$  does not decay abruptly to zero
  - if the walls are thin  $\rightarrow \Psi$  oscillate inside the box & on the other side of the wall outside the box  $\rightarrow$  particle is found on the outside of a container: leakage by penetration through classically forbidden zones “tunnelling”
- cf) C.M.: insufficient energy to escape





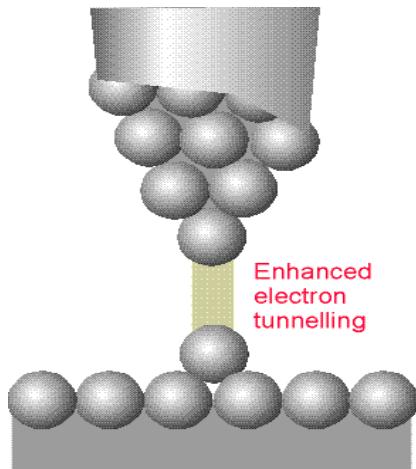
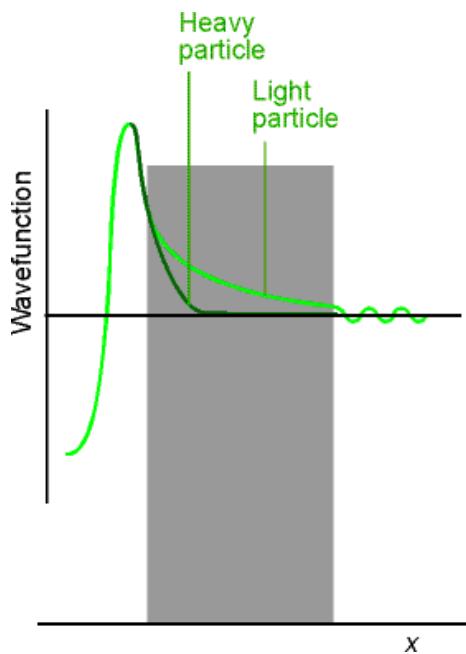
The transition probabilities for passage through a barrier. The horizontal axis is the energy of the incident particle expressed as a multiple of the barrier height. The curves are labelled with the value of  $L(2mV)^{1/2}$ . The graph on the left is for  $E < V$  and that on the right for  $E > V$ . Note that  $T = 0$  for  $E < V$  whereas classically  $T$  would be zero. However,  $T < 1$  for  $E > V$ , whereas classically  $T$  would be 1.

### enhanced reflection (antitunnelling)

- high, wide barrier  $\kappa L \gg 1$

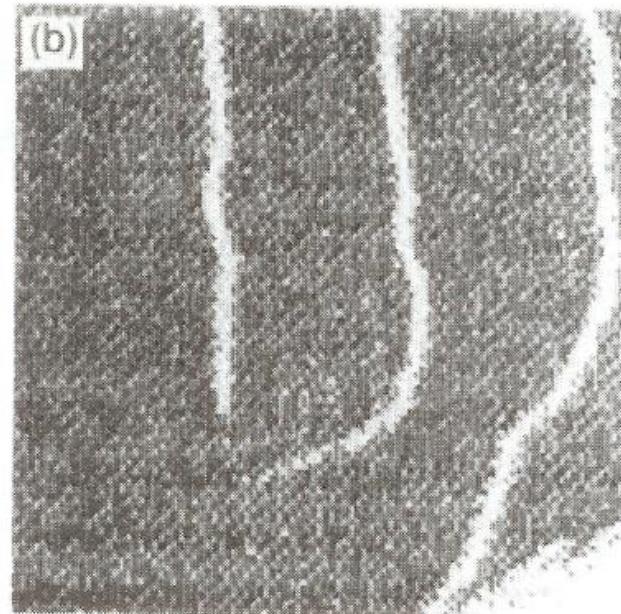
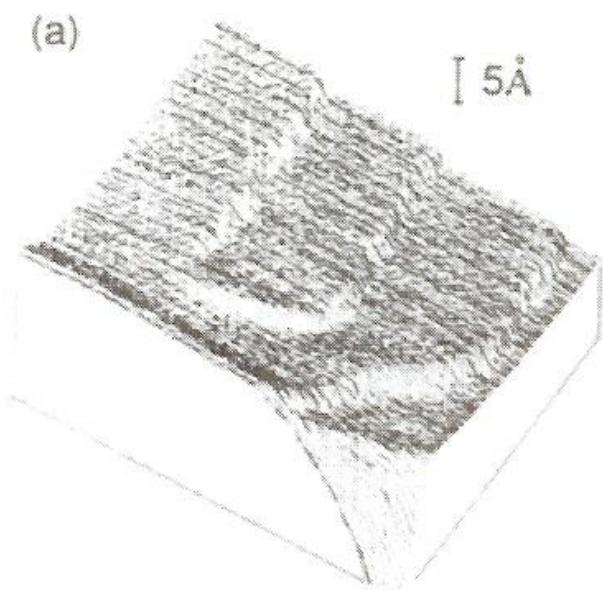
$\Rightarrow T$  decrease exponentially with thickness of the barrier, with  $m^{1/2}$

$\Rightarrow$  low mass particle  $\rightarrow$  high tunnelling \*tunnelling is important for electron

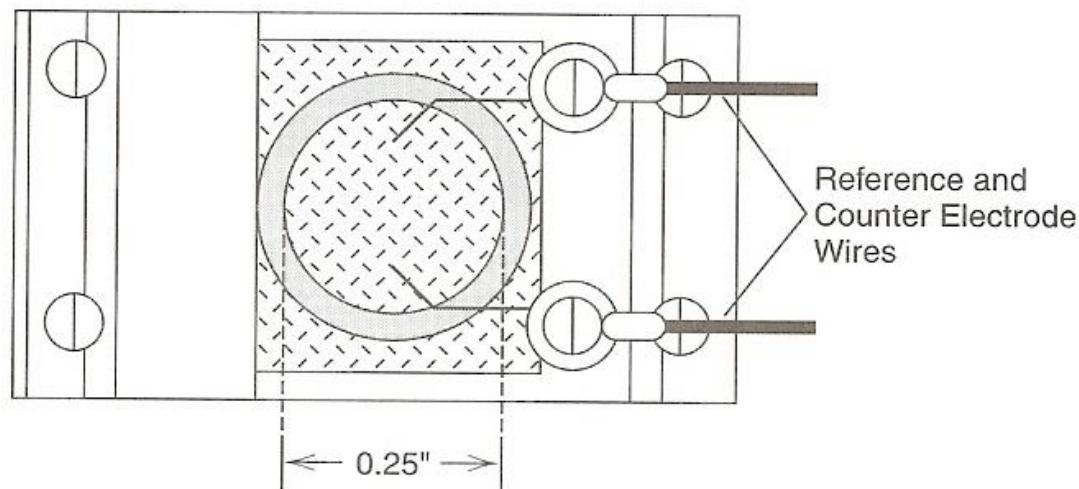
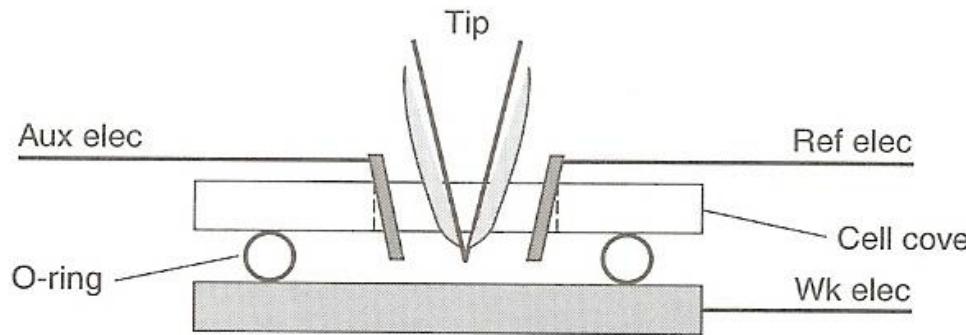


e.g) proton transfer reaction  
STM (scanning tunnelling microscopy)  
AFM (atomic force microscopy)

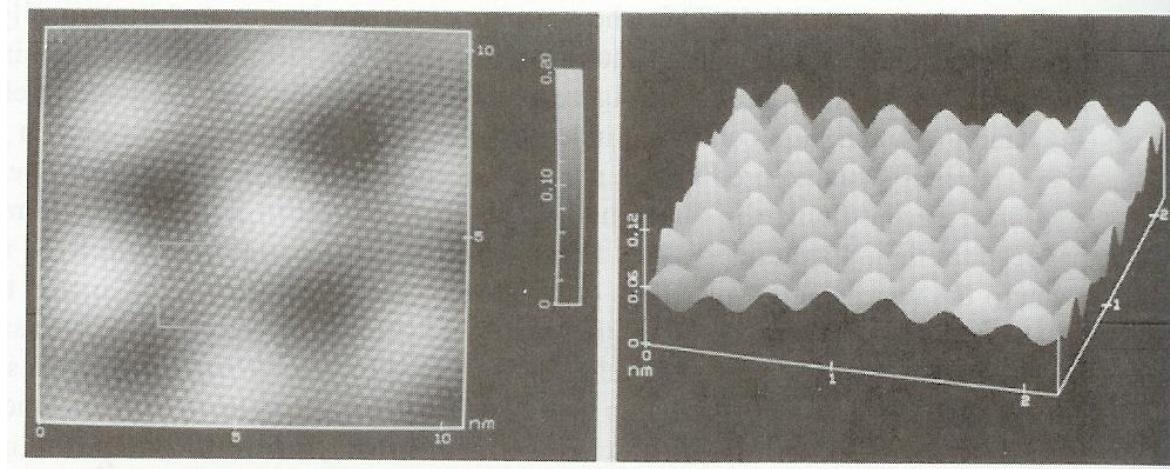
Au(111) at 0.7 V vs. NHE in HCl



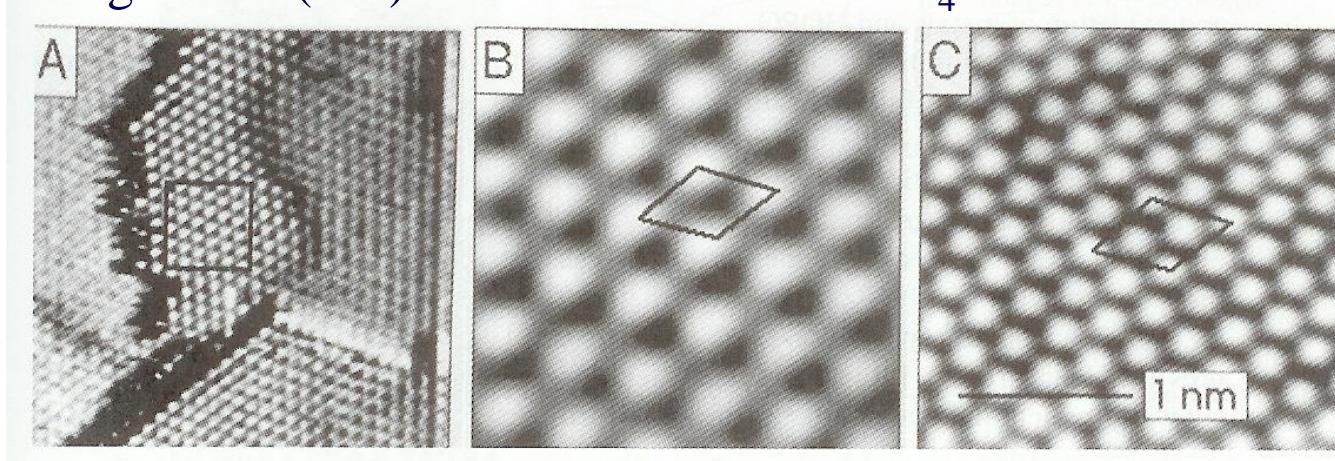
## *Electrochemical STM*



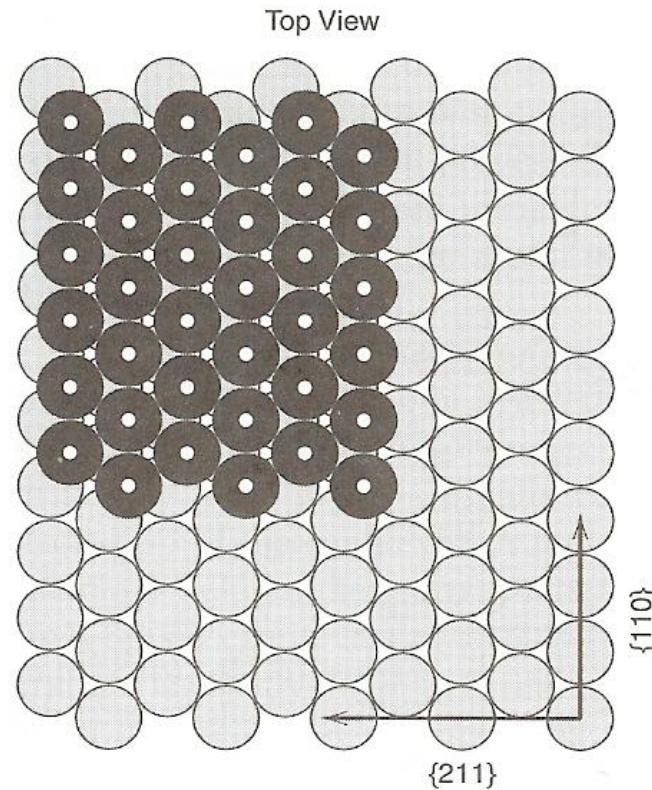
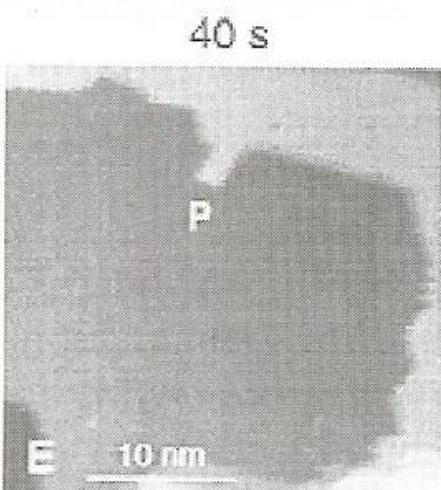
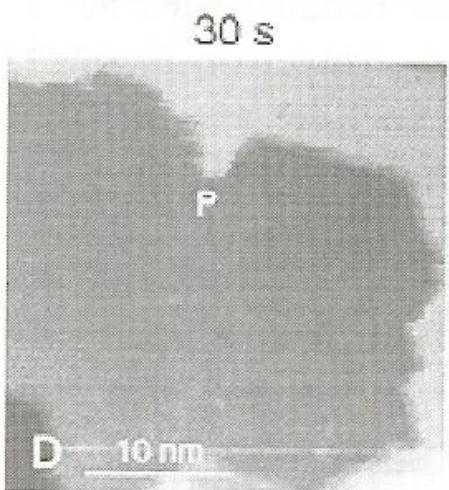
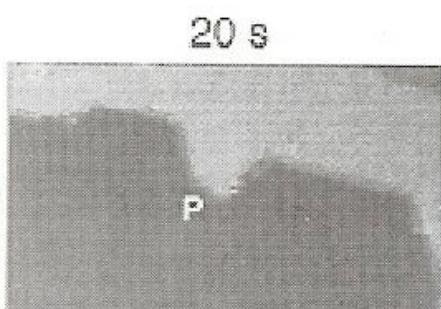
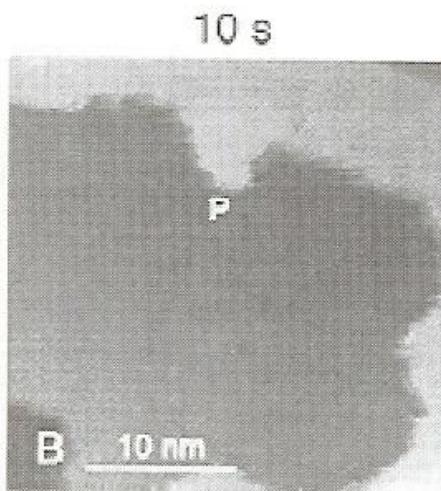
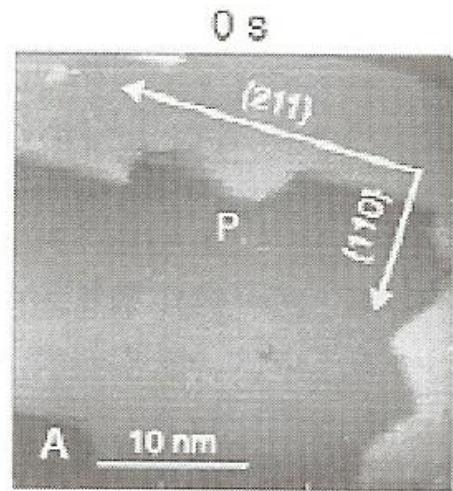
## STM images of HOPG

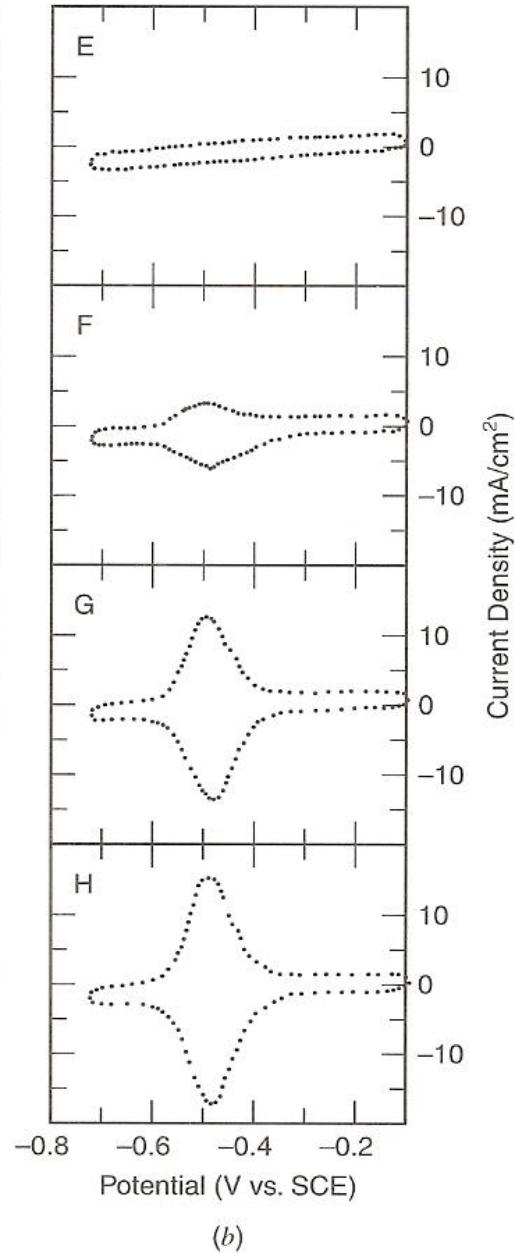
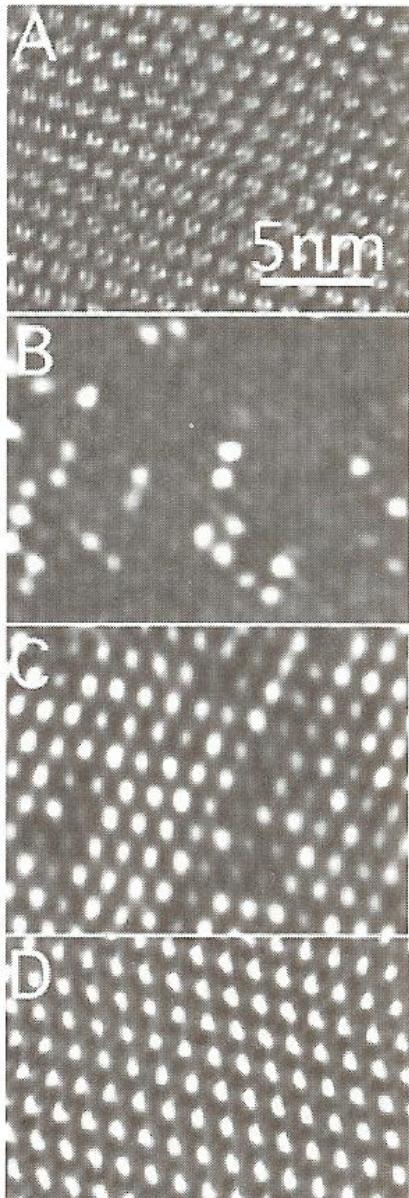


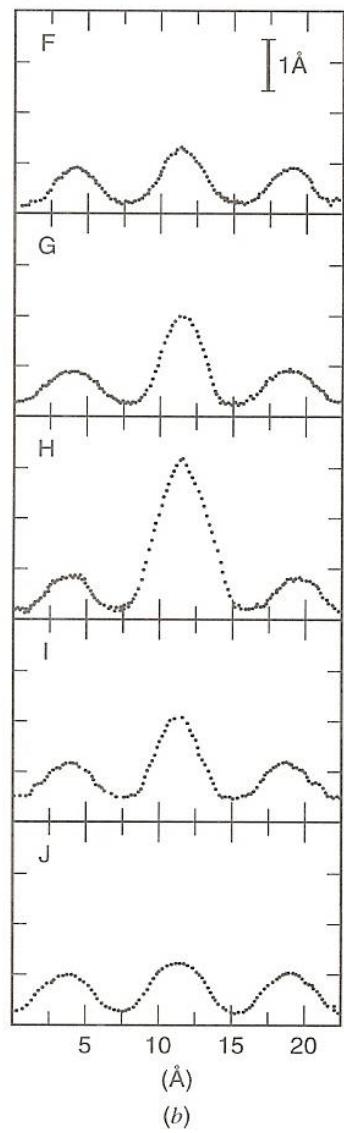
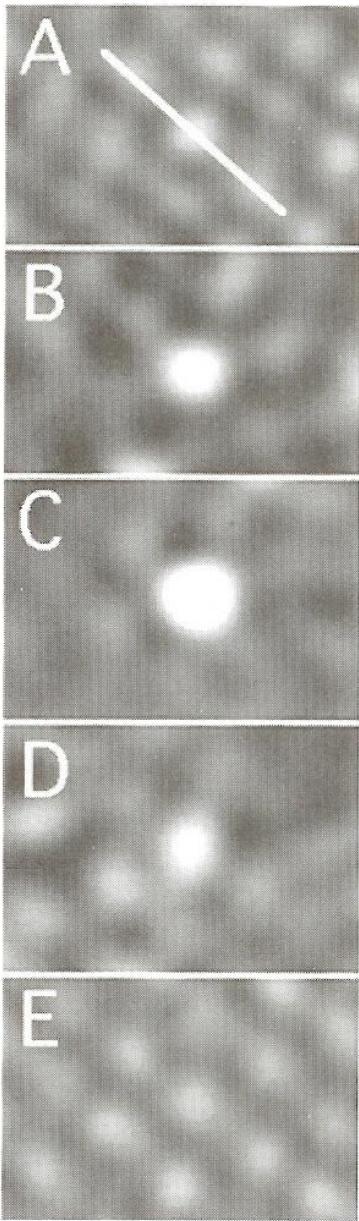
## STM images of Pt(111) with I-adlattice in $\text{HClO}_4$



# STM images of Cu(111): effect of etching

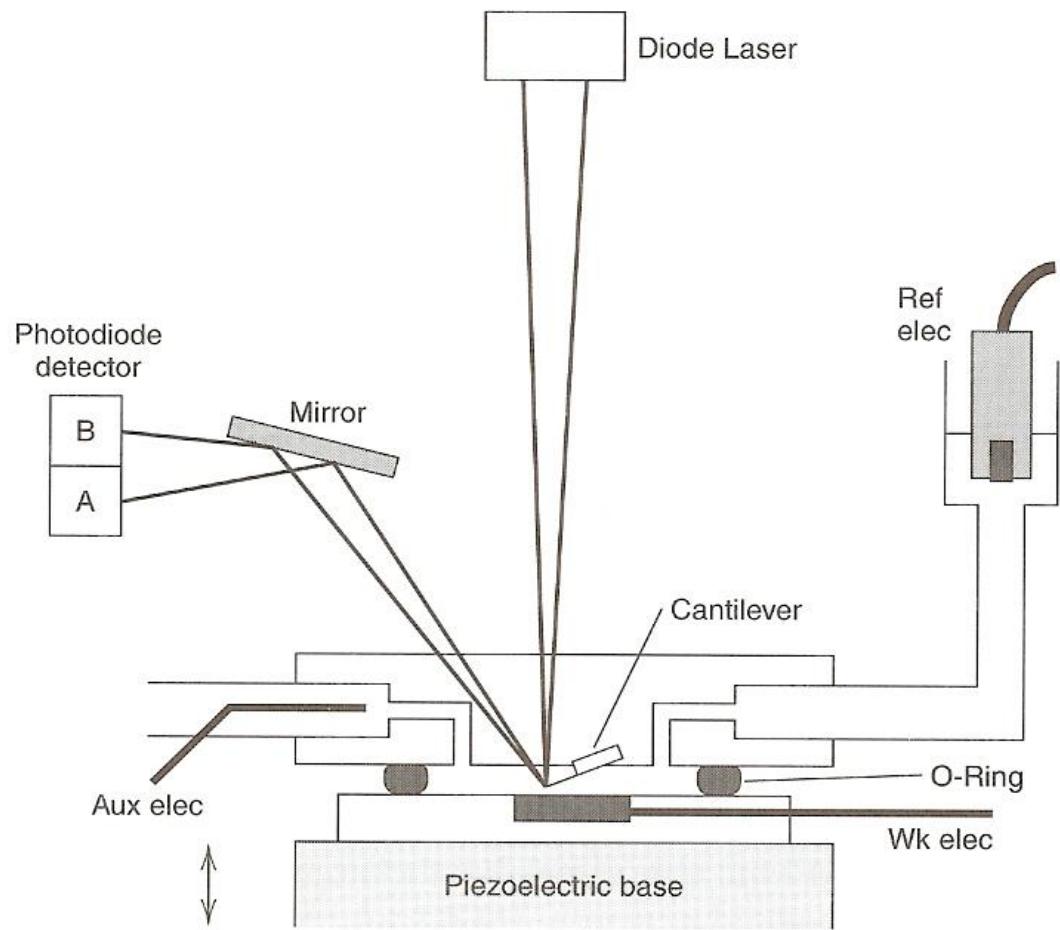




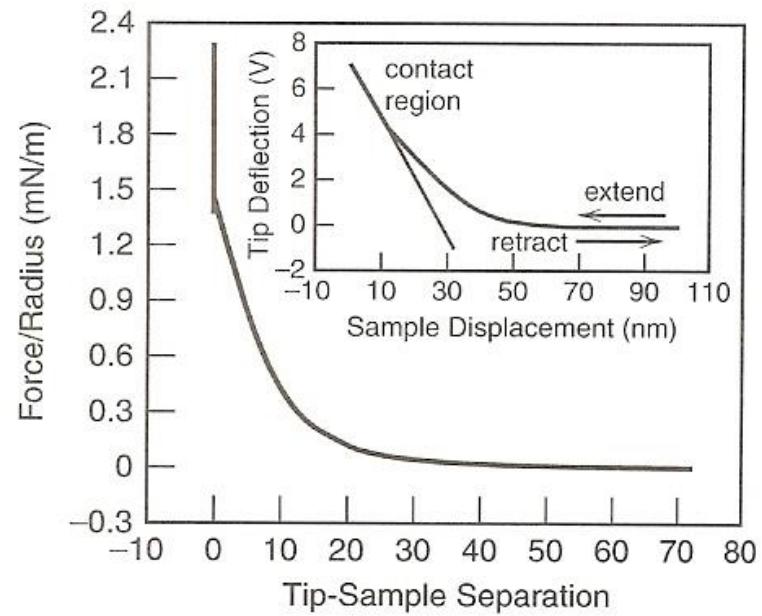
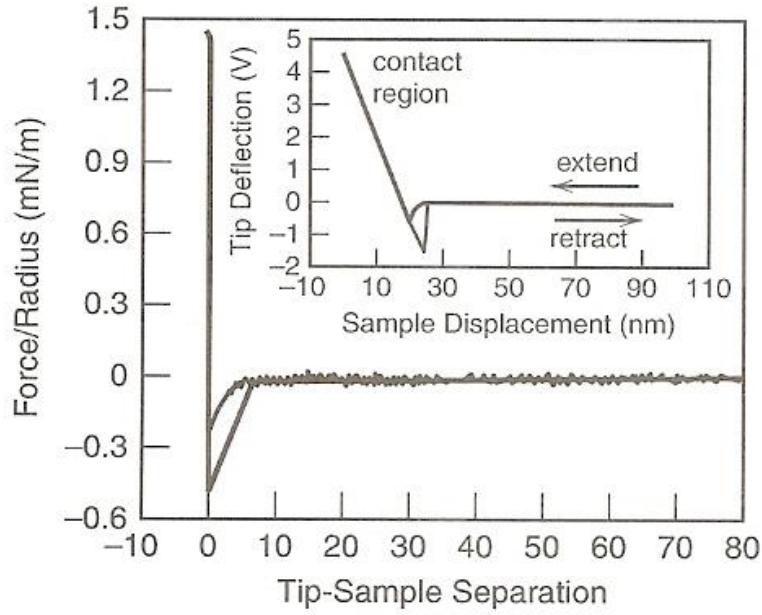


Scanning tunneling spectroscopy (STS)

# Atomic force microscopy (AFM)

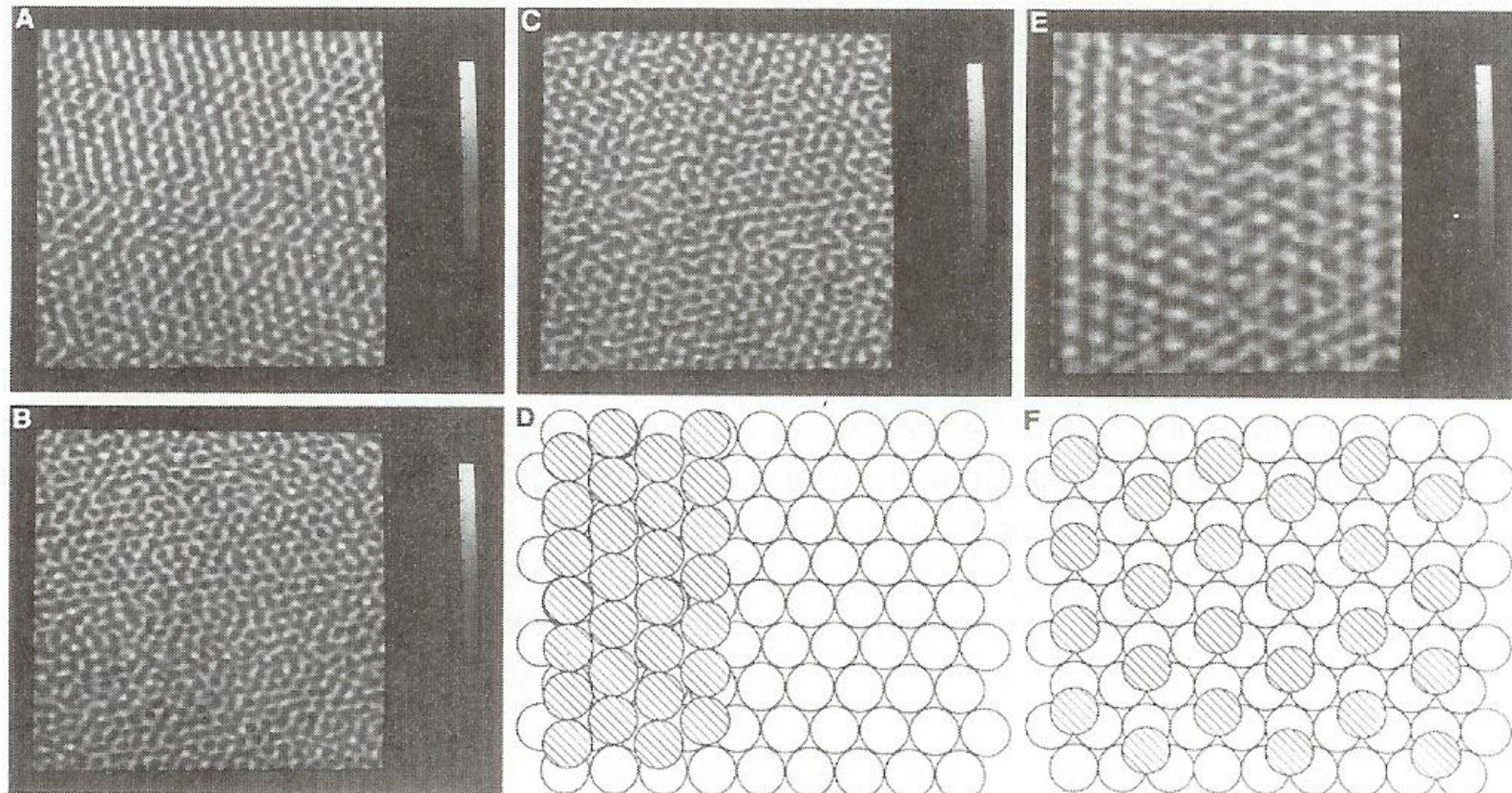


# Cantilever displacement vs. z-deflection for (left) attractive interaction and (right) repulsive interaction

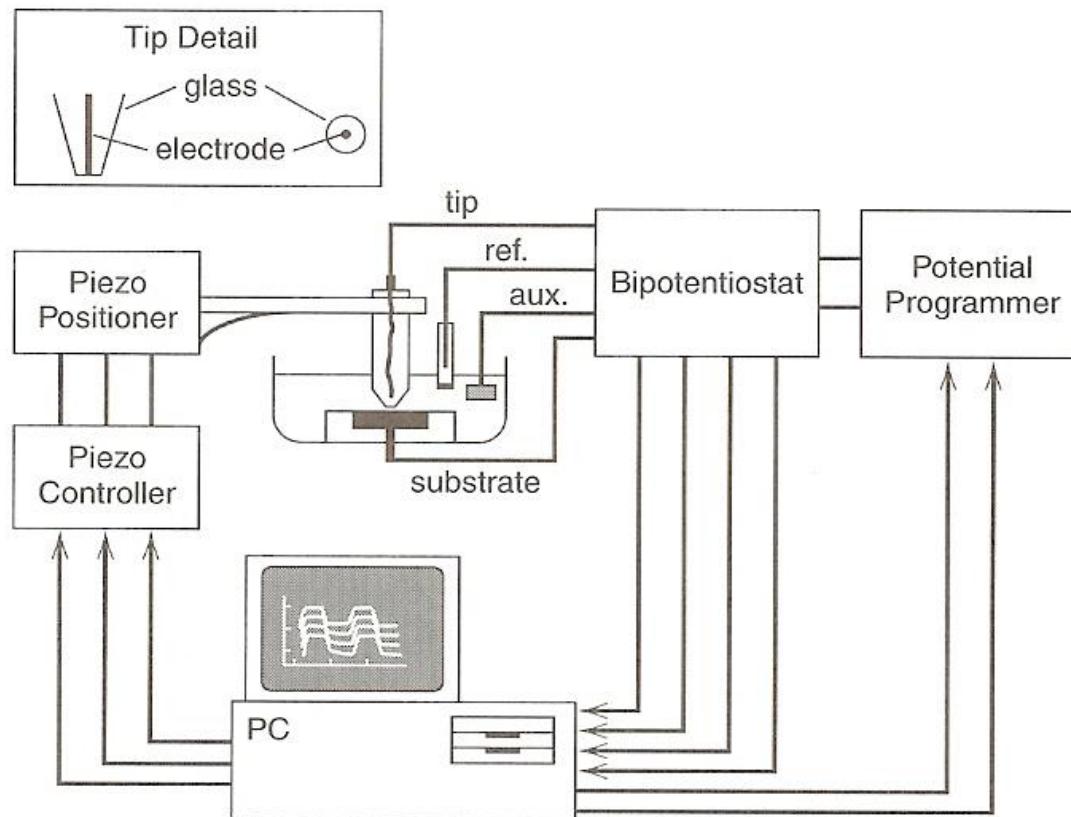


# *Electrochemical AFM*

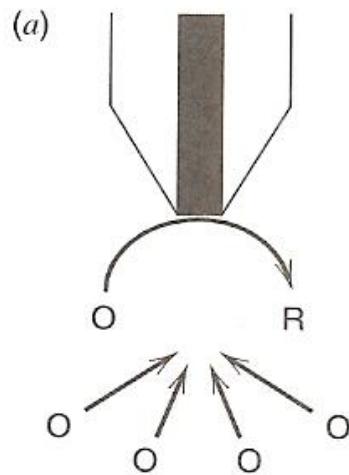
## AFM of Cu underpotential deposition (UPD) on Au(111)



# Scanning electrochemical microscopy (SECM)

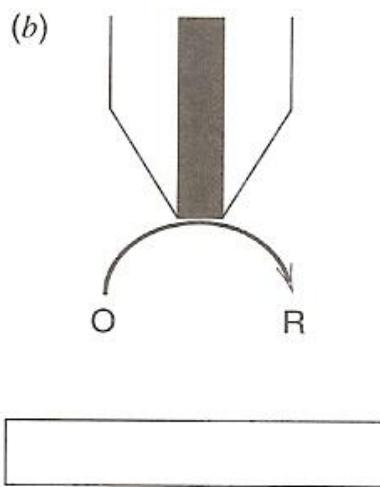


# Principles of SECM

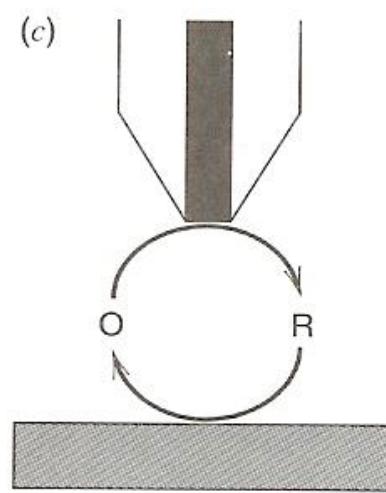


Hemispherical  
Diffusion

$$i_{T,\infty} = 4nFDCA$$

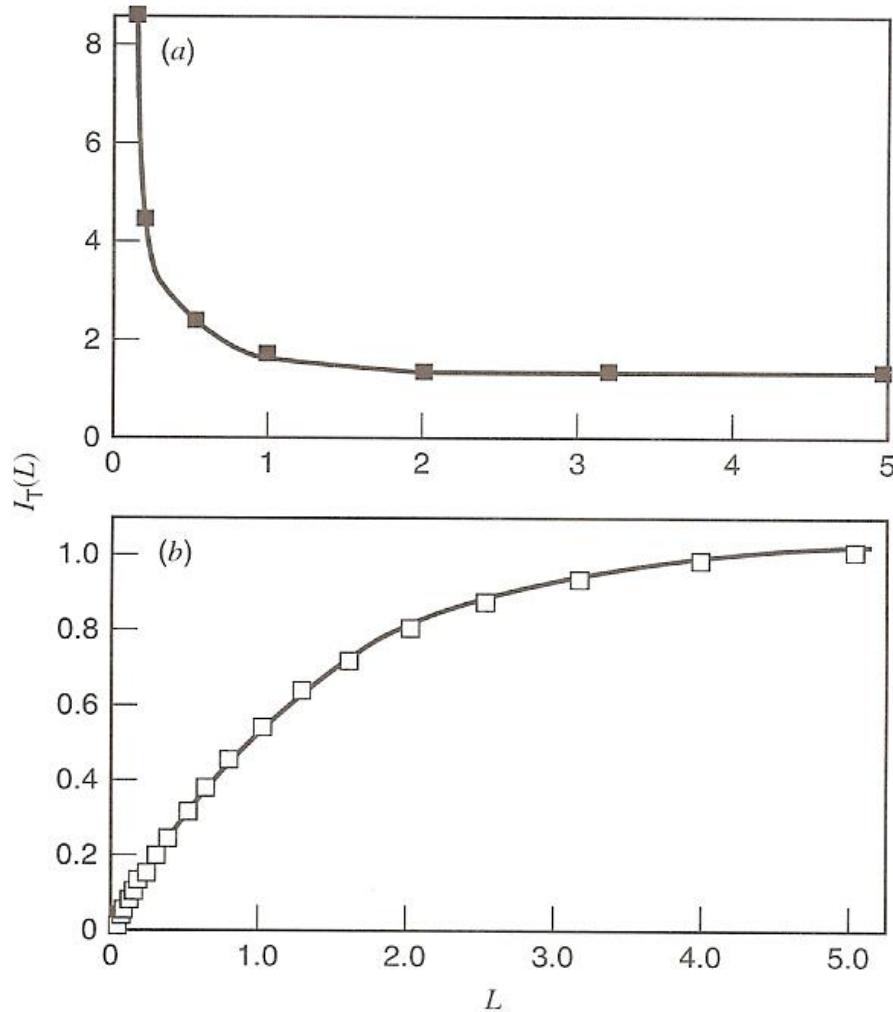


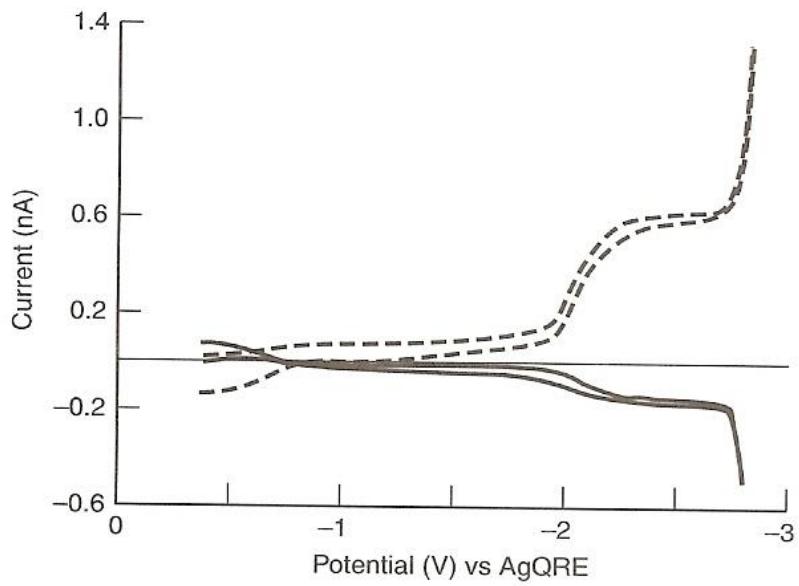
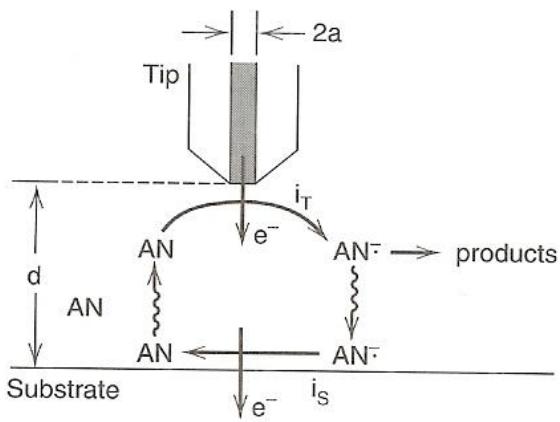
Blocking by  
Insulating  
Substrate  
 $i_T < i_{T,\infty}$



Feedback from  
Conductive  
Substrate  
 $i_T > i_{T,\infty}$

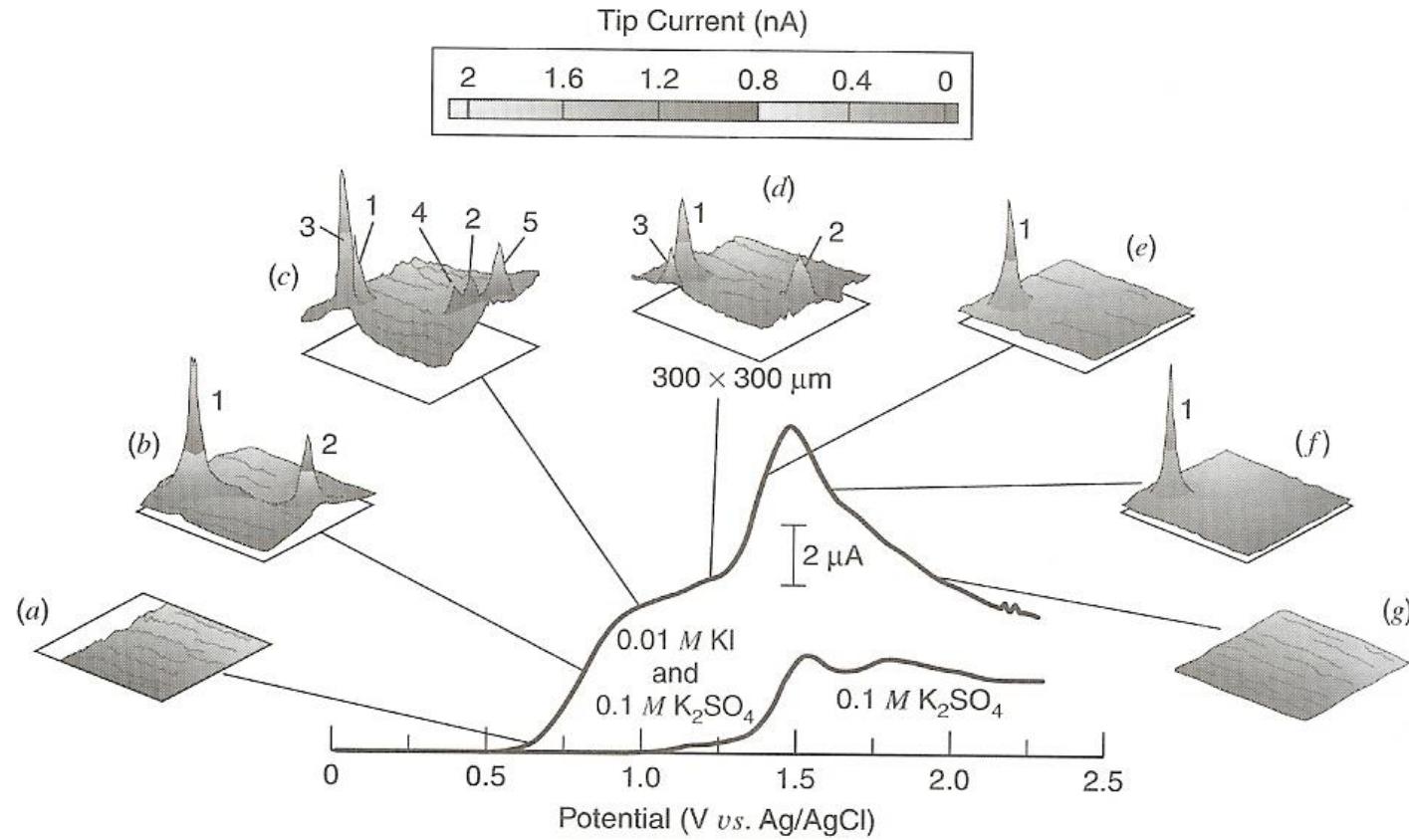
## SECM approach curves for steady-state currents

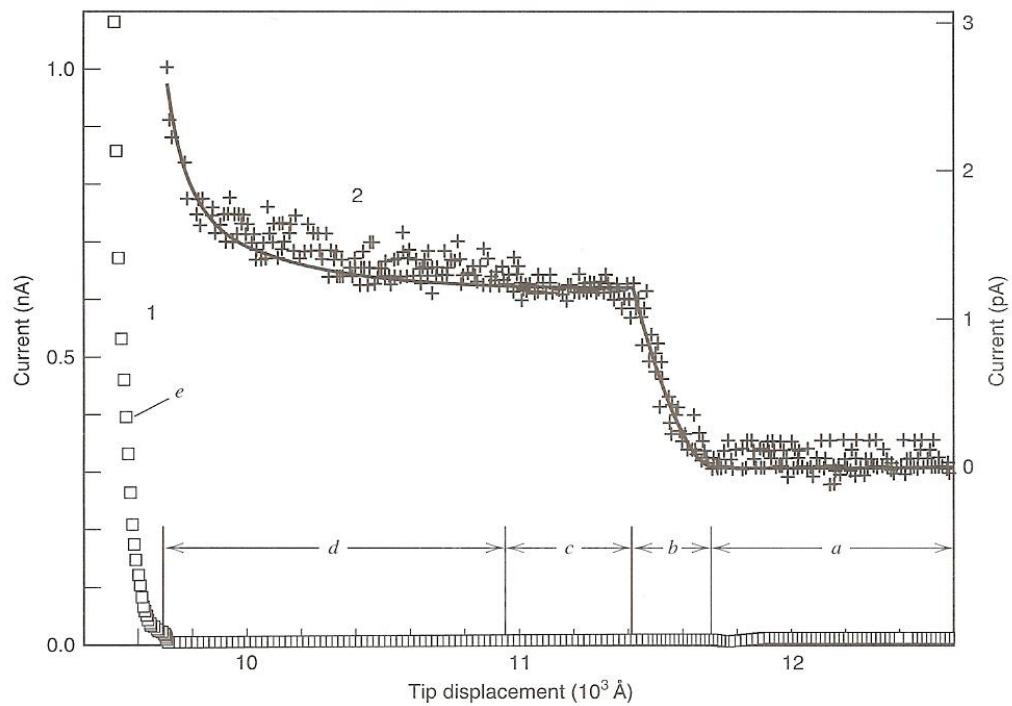
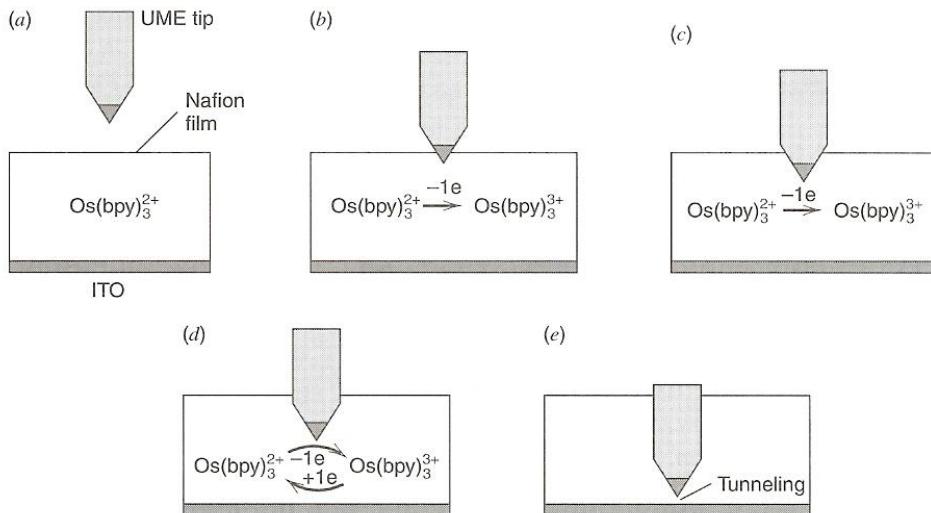




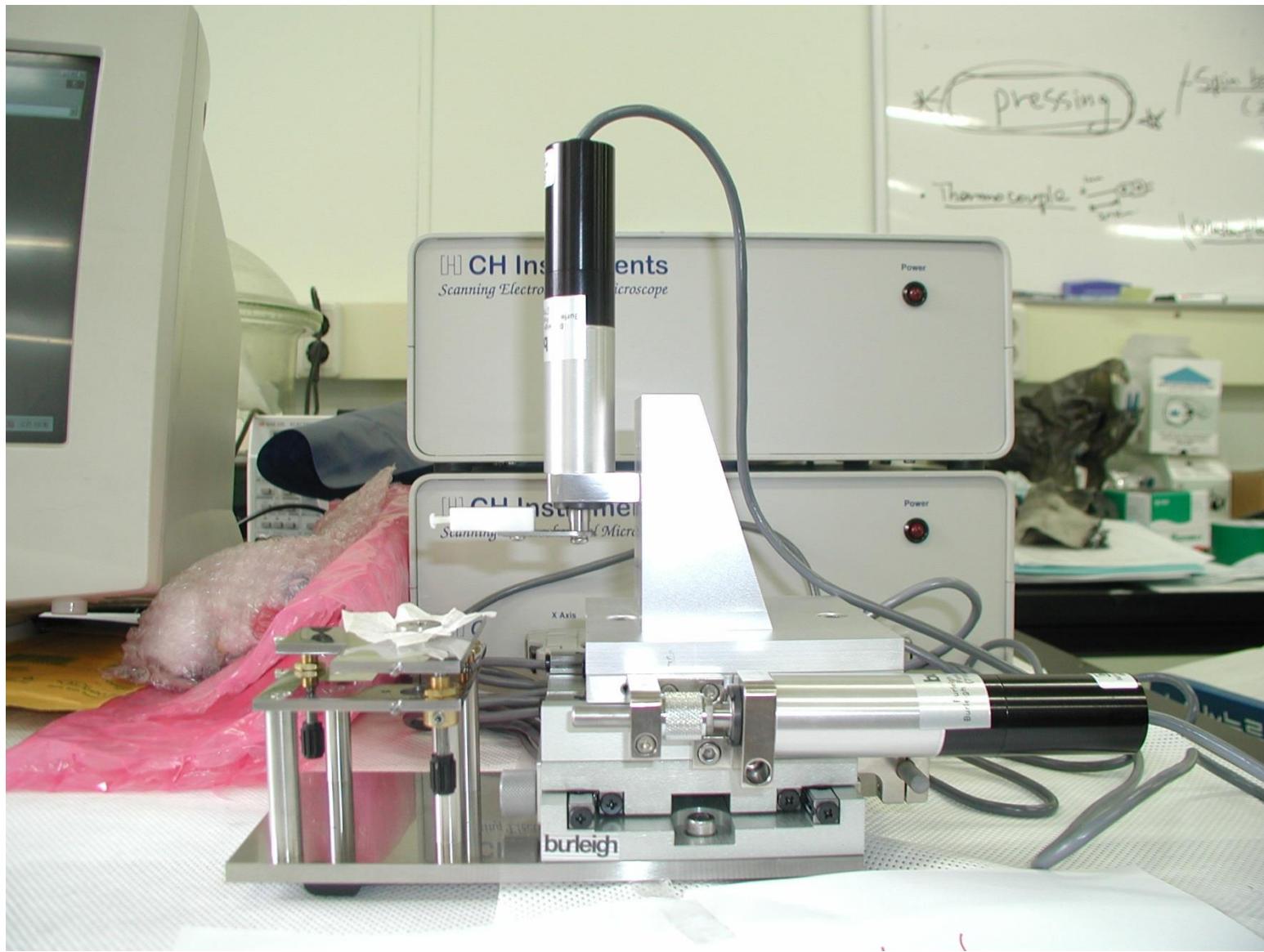
# Imaging surface topography & reactivity

## Ta oxide formation on Ta

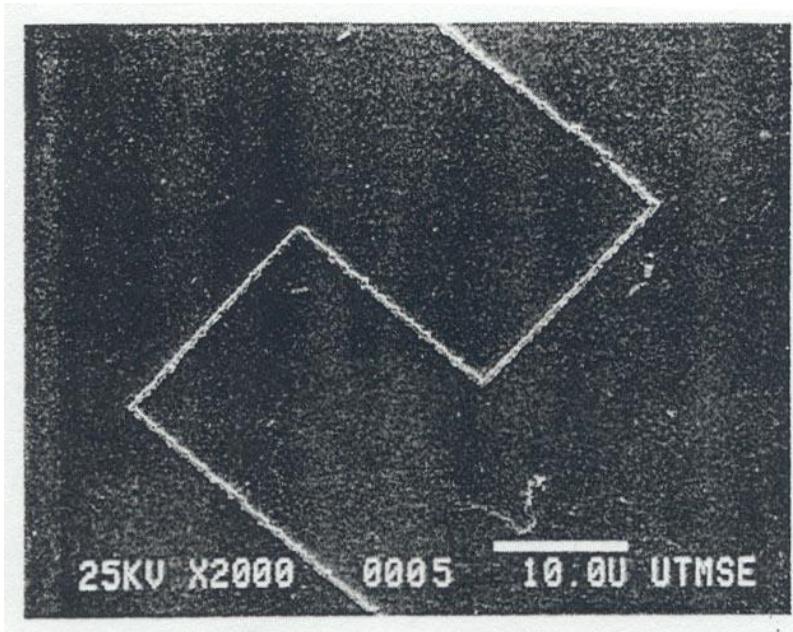




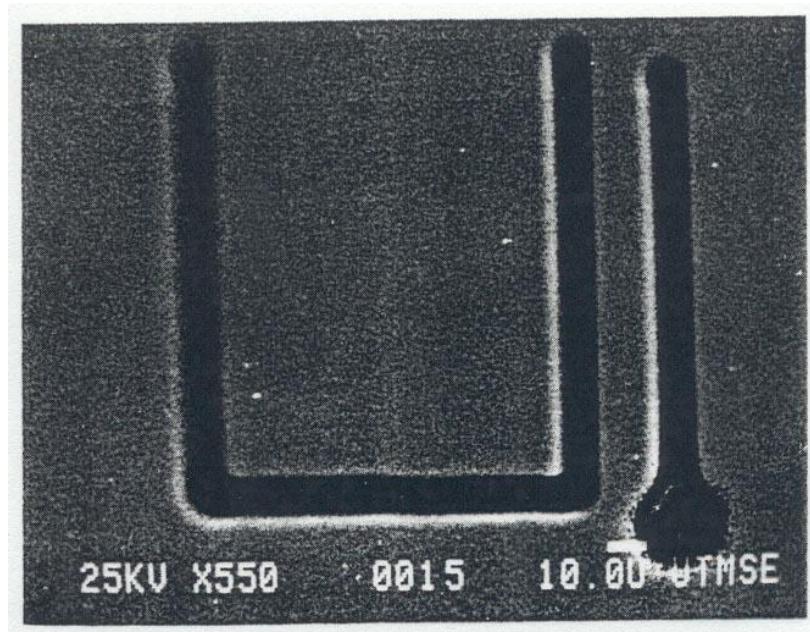
# Commercialized SECM



## SECM applications



Ag line formation



Electrochemical Cu etching