

# Nano-Mechanics: From Nanotechnology to Biology

Elisa Riedo

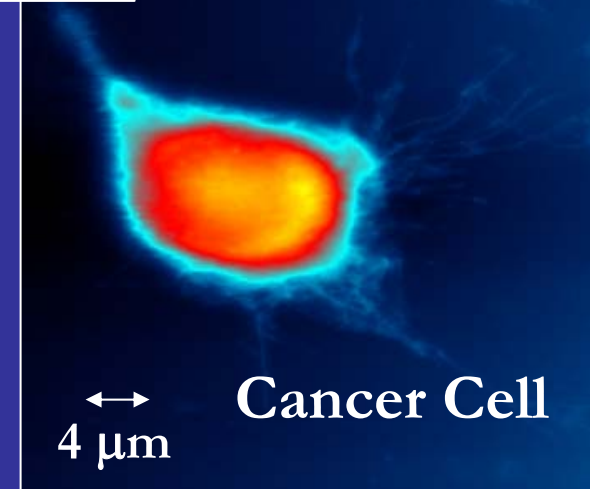
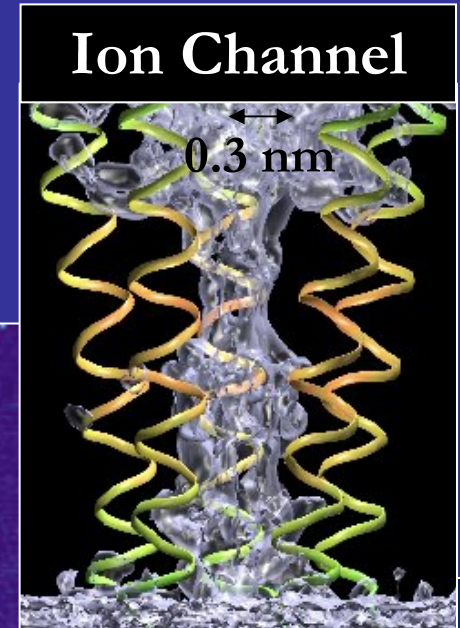
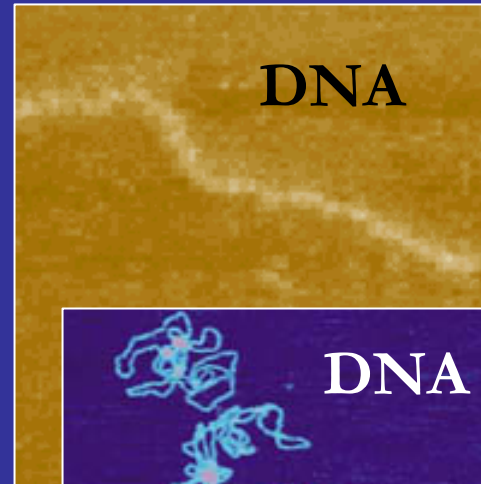
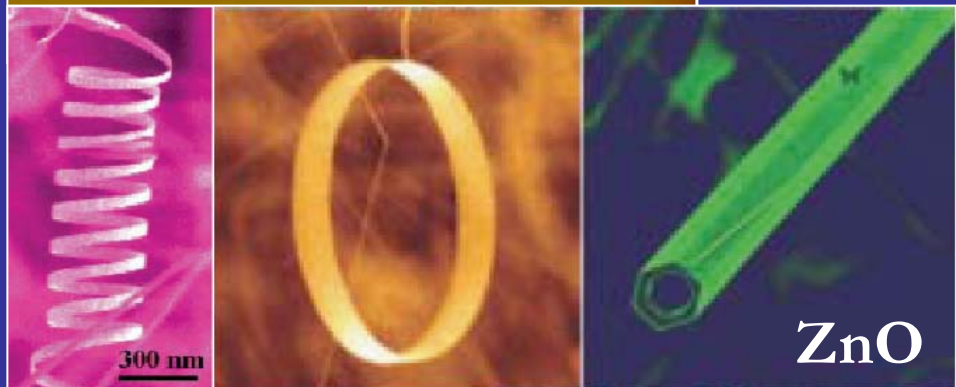
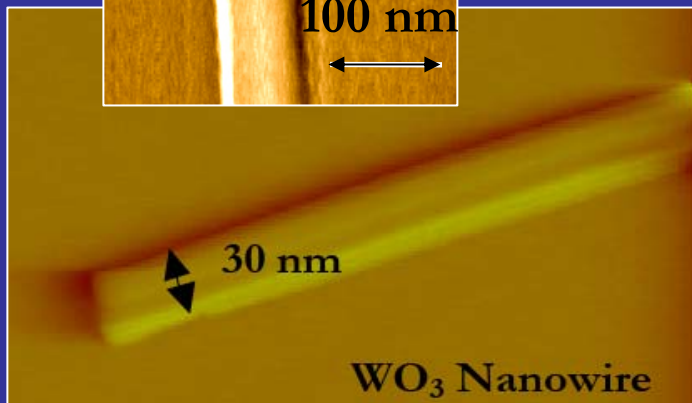
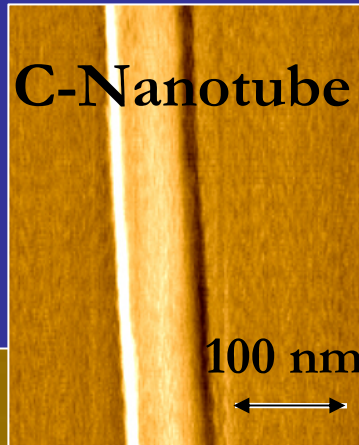
School of Physics, Georgia Tech, Atlanta



# Outline:

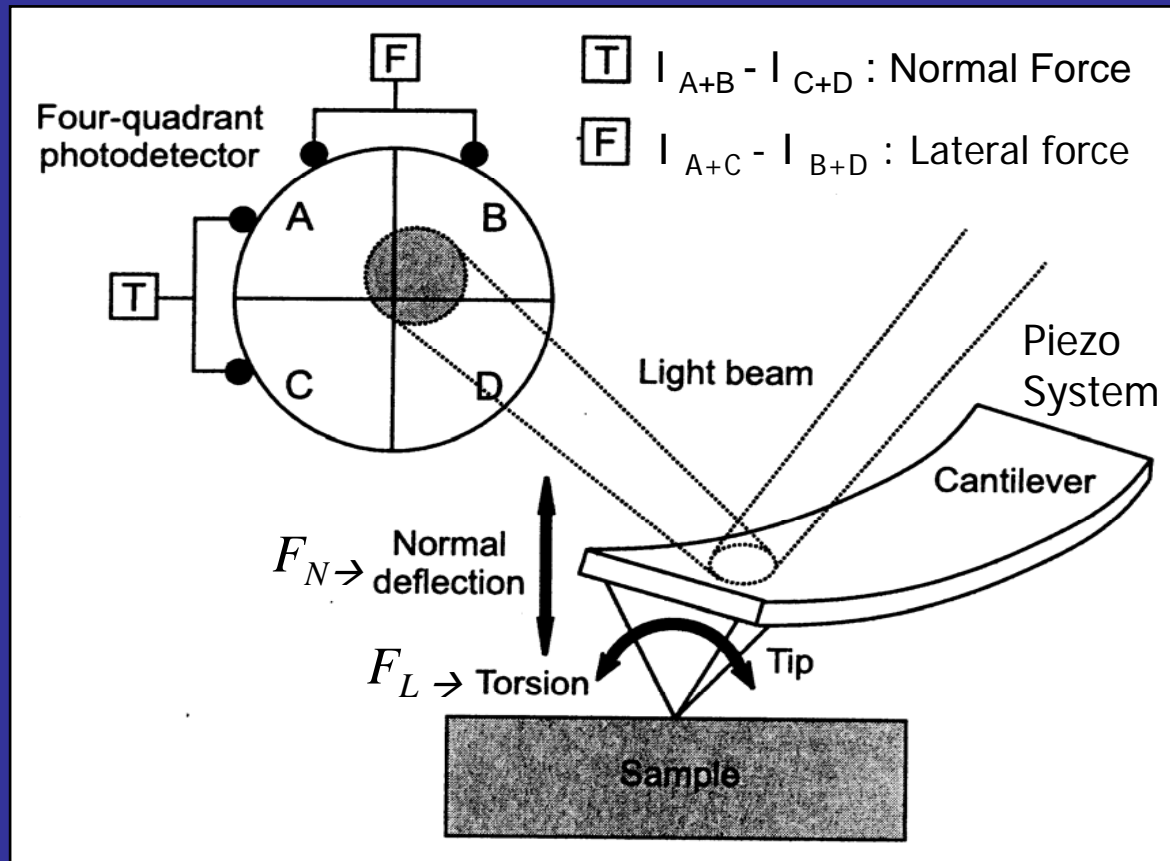
- Motivations
  1. Radial elasticity of multiwalled carbon nanotubes
  2. Axial elasticity of vertically aligned ZnO nanowires
  3. Water in sub-nanometer gaps: a model system for biological ion channels
  4. .. New project: Thermo-Chemical NanoLitography

# Why NanoMechanics ?

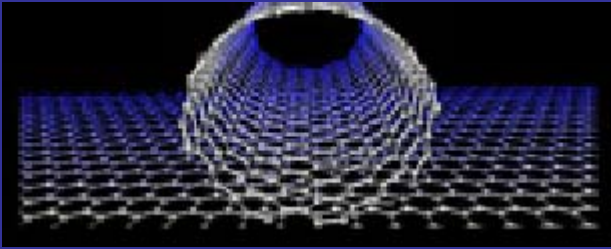


# Atomic Force Microscope (AFM)

AFM system based on the beam-bounce detection method

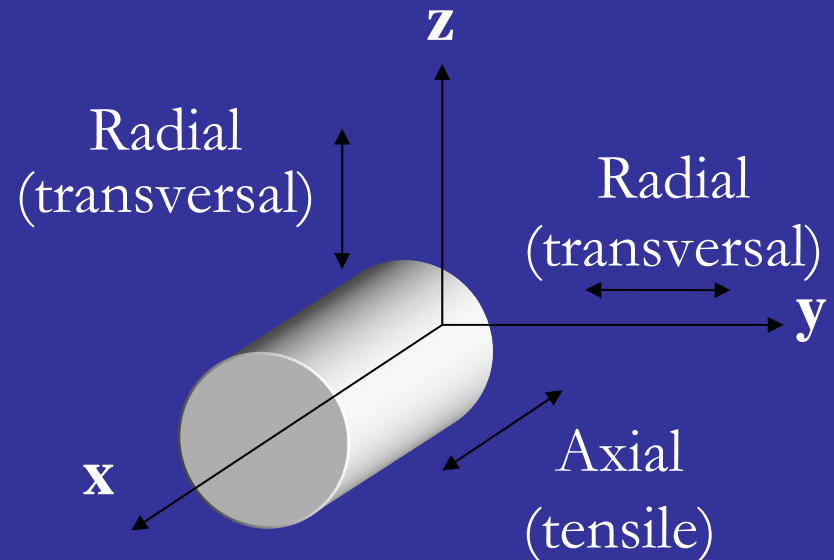


# 1. Radial Elasticity of MultiWalled NanoTubes

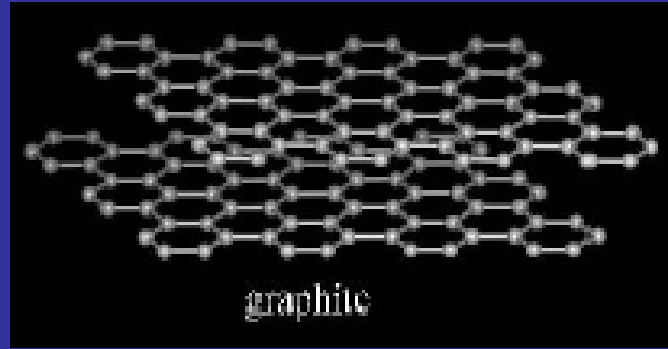


CNTs are made by enrolling graphite sheets

- They have cylindrical symmetry.
- Strong in plane covalent C-C bond
- Extraordinary axial stiffness:
- Axial Young modulus  $\sim 1$  TPa.



$$C_{11} = 1.06 \text{ TPa}$$



$$C_{33} = 36 \text{ GPa.}$$

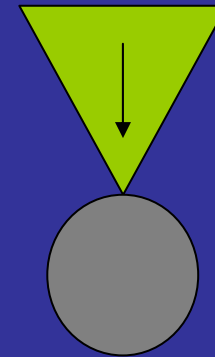
**Similarly the radial Young modulus of CNTs is expected to be much smaller than the axial one.**

Achieving a fundamental understanding of the radial deformability of CNTs is important for applying them in nanoelectromechanical and nanoelectronic systems.

For example, the radial deformation of CNTs may strongly affect their electrical properties.

# How do we measure Radial Elasticity?

Indenting a tip in the NT and  
measuring Force vs. Indentation  
remaining in the elastic regime



Very challenging →

To stay in the elastic regime, we have to measure  
Forces of a few nN vs Indentations of a few Å



# Previous work:

## So far :

Plastic regime or

Semi-quantitative results

Studies performed on only one tube

With an unknown number of layers

M. F. Yu, T. Kowalewski, and R. S. Ruoff,  
*Phys. Rev. Lett.* **85**, 1456 (2000).

W. Shen, B. Jiang, B. S. Han, and S. S. Xie,  
*Phys. Rev. Lett.* **84**, 3634 (2000).

# Our work:

## Now:

Elastic regime and

Quantitative results

Many tubes

Control of # layers and radius

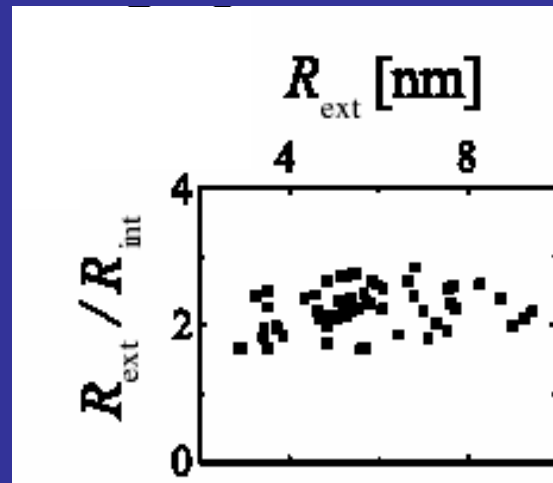
Palaci, S. Fedrigo, H. Brune, C. Klinke,  
M. Chen and E. Riedo,  
*Phys. Rev. Lett.* 94, 175502, (2005)



# Control of radius and # Layers

- 40 CNT with  $R_{\text{ext}}$  from 0.2 to 12 nm
- CNT grown by CVD
- CNT deposited on a Si substrate
- $R_{\text{ext}}/R_{\text{int}} = 2.2$  as seen from TEM

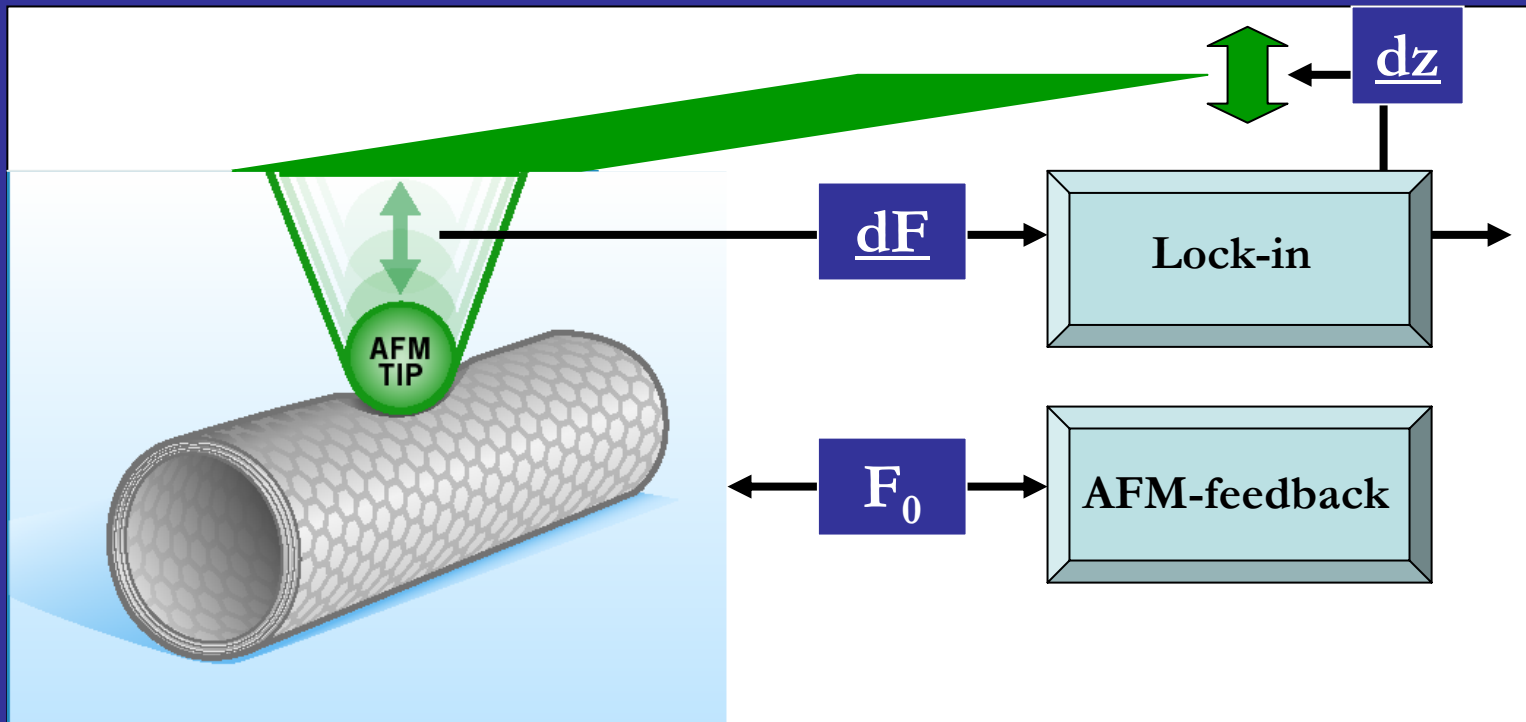
TEM measurement



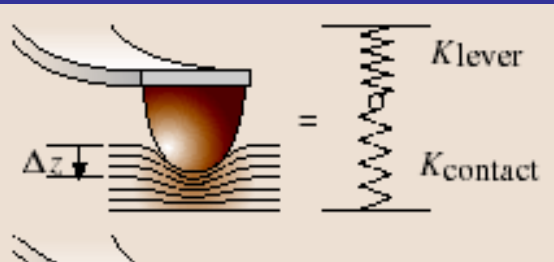
# AFM Modulated NanoIndentation:

Indenting an AFM tip in a sample up to a fixed  $F_0$  while small oscillations ( $1.3 \text{ \AA}$ ) are applied to the cantilever holder.

We measure  $dF/dz$  around fixed  $F_0$  instead of  $F(z)$



# Normal contact stiffness



R. W. Carpick, D. F. Ogletree, M. Salmeron,  
Appl. Phys. Lett. **70** 1548 (1997)



$$\left( \frac{dF}{d(z_{\text{lever}} + z_{\text{indent}})} \right)_{F=F_0} = k_{\text{tot}}(F_0) = \left( \frac{1}{k_{\text{lever}}} + \frac{1}{k_{\text{cont}}(F_0)} \right)^{-1}$$

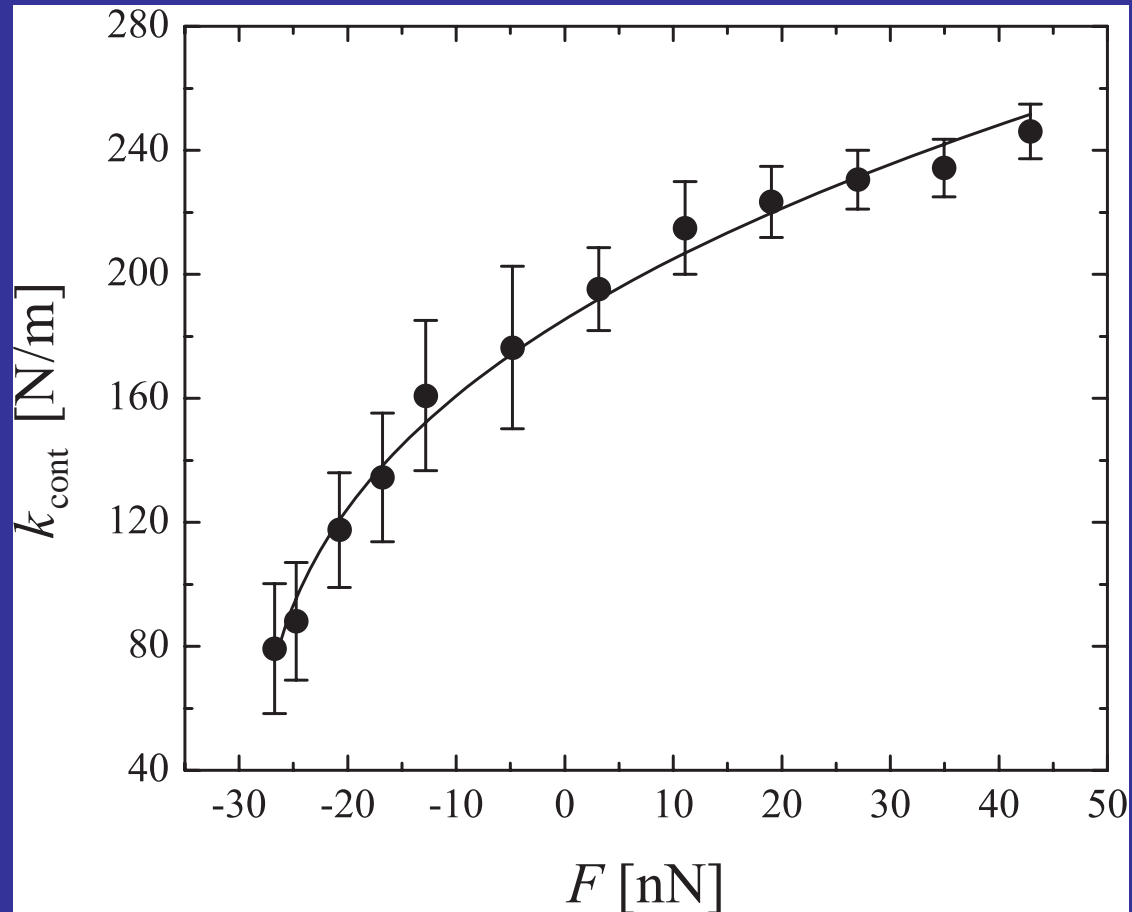
We measure  $dF/dz_{\text{tot}}(F) \rightarrow$  We obtain  $k_{\text{cont}}(F)$

$$(1/k_{\text{cont}}(F)) dF = dz_{\text{indent}}$$

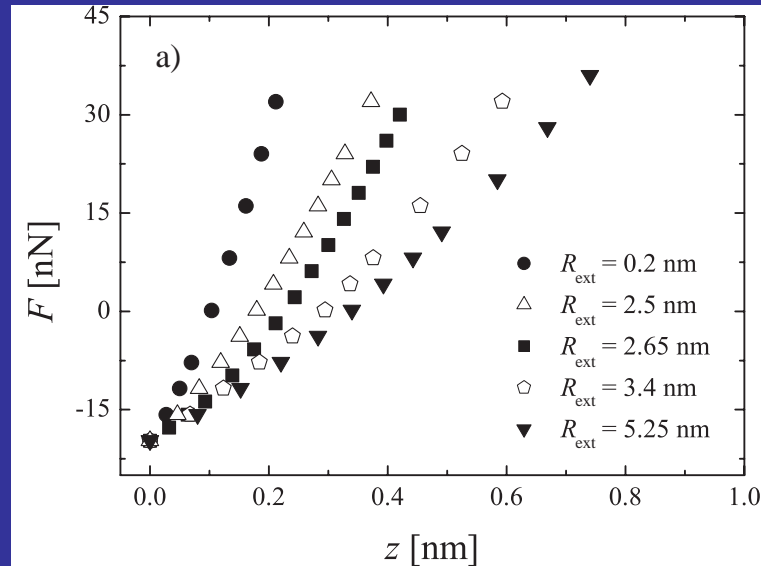
where  $z_{\text{indent}}$  is the indentation of the tip in the NT,

By integration we obtain  $F(z_{\text{indent}})$  from the experimental  $k_{\text{cont}}(F)$ .

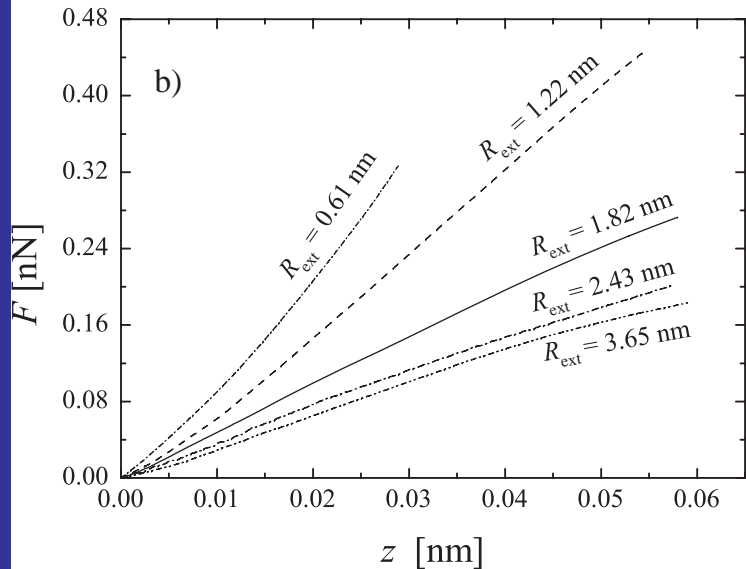
# Radial Contact Stiffness



# Normal Force versus Indentation



Experiments



MD simulations

How we can now extract the Young Modulus?

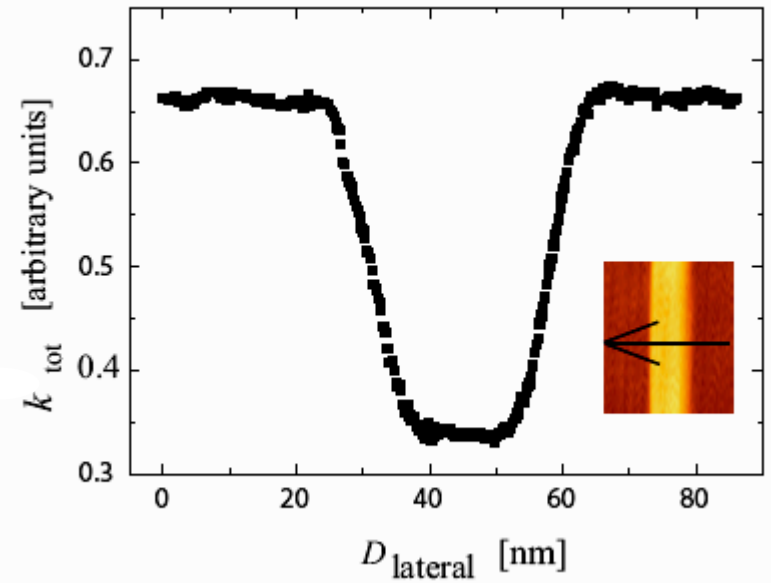
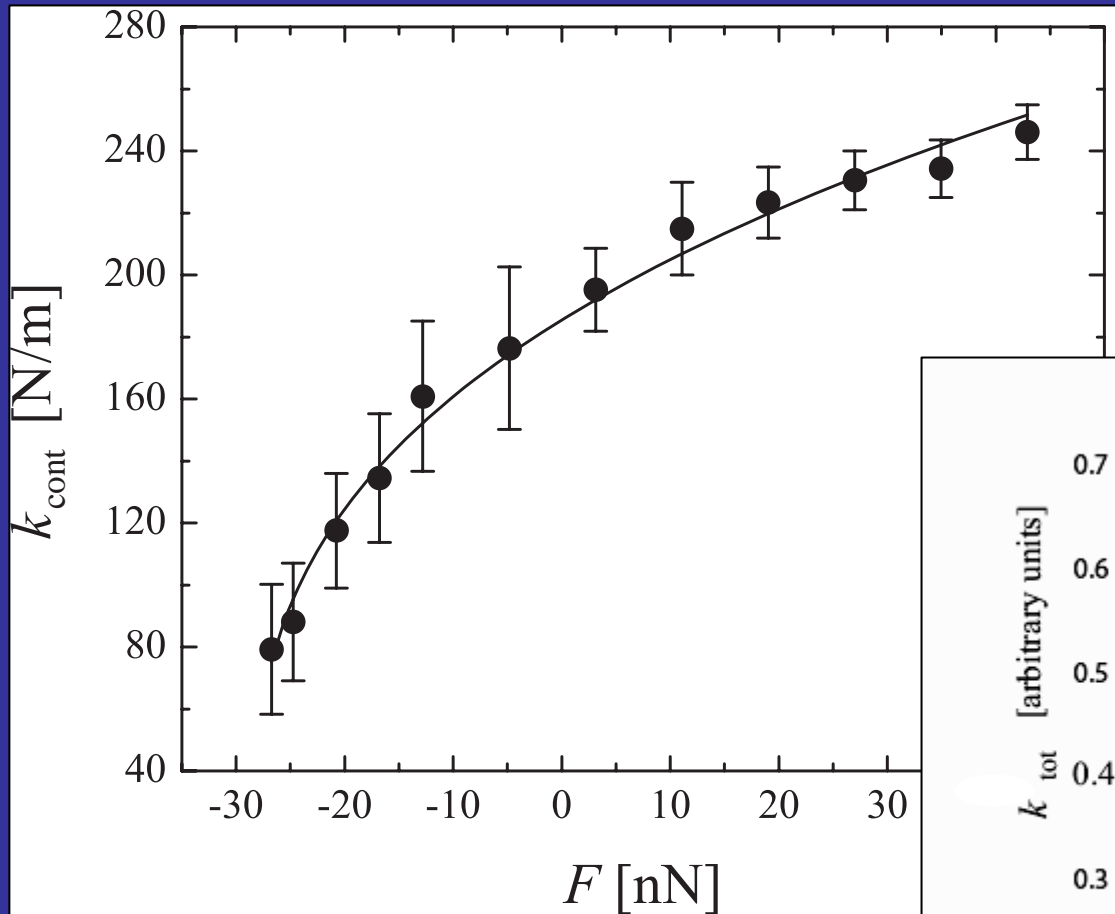
→ we need to calculate the Area of Contact

→ Hertz Theory

$$k_{\text{cont}} = \beta \left( \frac{R(F + F_{\text{adh}})}{\tilde{K}^2} \right)^{1/3}, \quad (2)$$

with  $\frac{1}{R} = \frac{1}{R_{\text{tip}}} + \frac{1}{2R_{\text{NT}}}$  and  $\tilde{K} = \frac{3}{4} \left( \frac{1-\nu_1^2}{E_1} + \frac{1-\nu_2^2}{E_2} \right)$ , where  $\nu_{1,2}$  and  $E_{1,2}$  are, respectively, the Poisson ratios and radial Young moduli of the tip and NT.  $\beta$  depends on  $R_{\text{tip}}$  and  $R_{\text{NT}}$

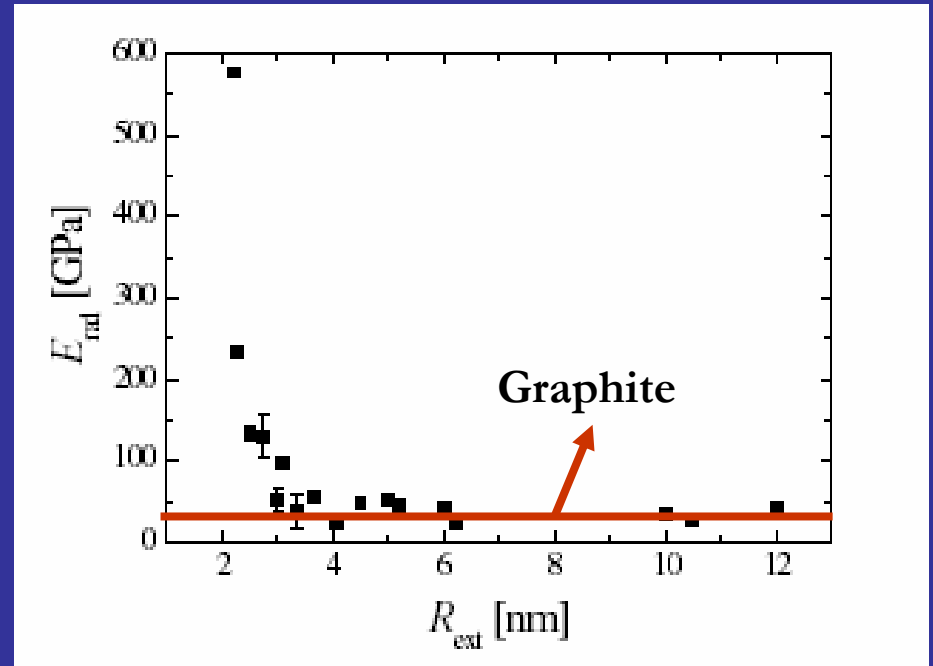
# Contact Stiffness





# Multiwalled Nanotubes

## Radial Young Modulus



- For  $R_{\text{ext}} < 4$  nm  $\rightarrow E_{\text{rad}}$  increases sharply by decreasing  $R_{\text{ext}}$
- For  $R_{\text{ext}} > 4$  nm  $\rightarrow E_{\text{rad}} \sim 30 \pm 10$  GPa  $\rightarrow$  Graphite  $C_{33}$  constant (36 GPa)
- $R_{\text{ext}}/R_{\text{int}} = 2.2$  and distance between layers is 0.34 nm  $\rightarrow R_{\text{ext}} \propto R_{\text{int}} \propto N_{\text{layers}}$   
 $\rightarrow$  for small  $R_{\text{int}}$ ,  $E_{\text{rad}}$  is controlled by  $R_{\text{int}}$ , while  $N_{\text{layers}}$  plays a minor role

## 2. Axial elasticity of vertically aligned nanorods :

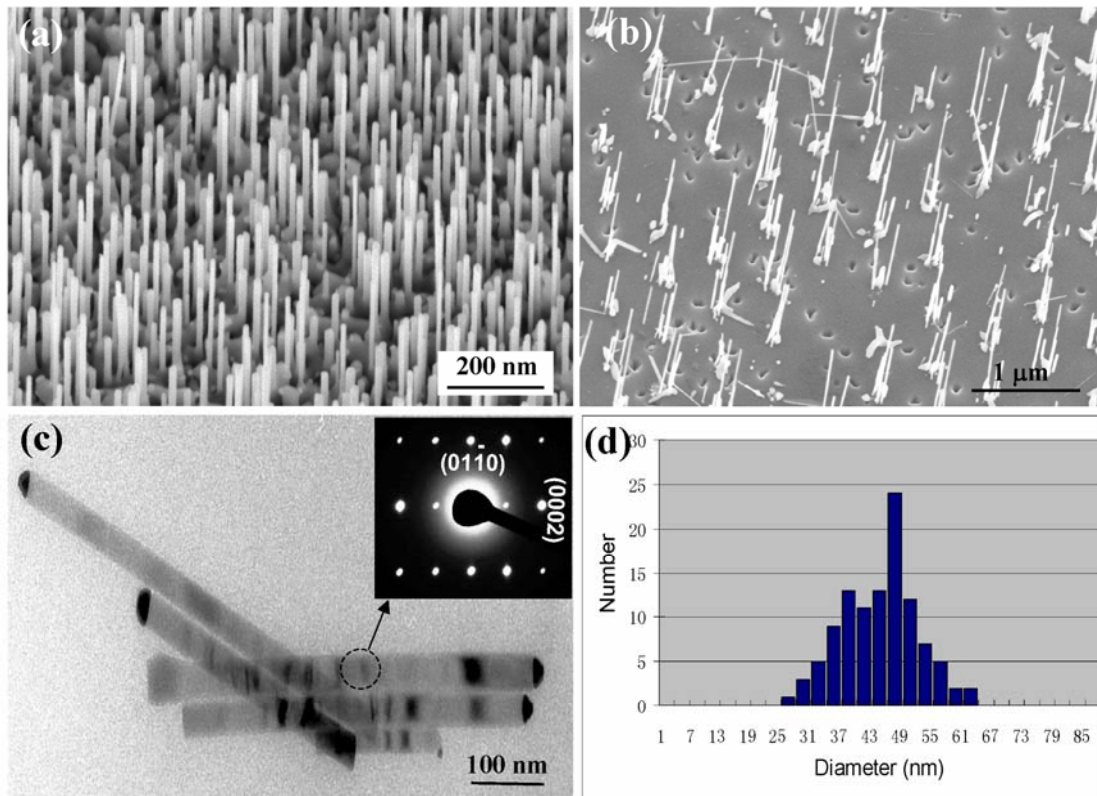
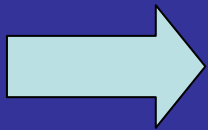


Figure 1

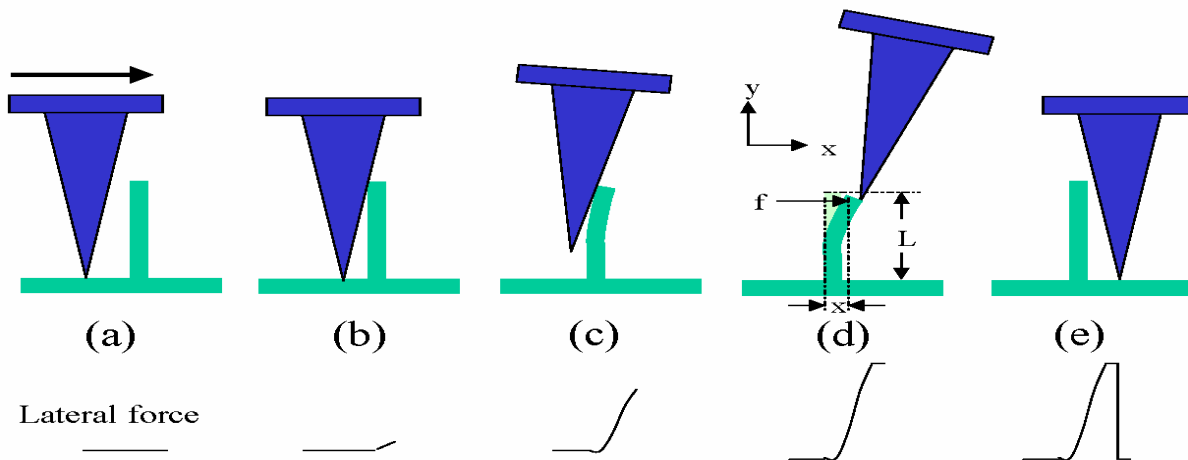
- The aligned ZnO NR arrays were grown using gold as catalyst by a vapor-liquid-solid method (VLS) process. On a  $\alpha$ - $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  substrate
- Applications: sensors, optoelectronics and field emission

# Axial elasticity

- How to measure the axial Young Modulus of these wires quickly and without destroying the sample ?

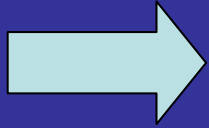


**We propose an AFM based method**



J.H. Song, X.D. Wang,  
E. Riedo and Z.L. Wang,  
*Nano Letters* 12, 1954 (2005).

# Axial elasticity



$$EI \frac{d^4 x}{dy^4} = (f_0 + f) \delta(y - L)$$

$f_0$  is the friction force between the tip and the NW

$E$  is the elastic modulus of the NW

$I$  is the momentum of inertia of the NW

$x$  is the lateral displacement perpendicular to the NW

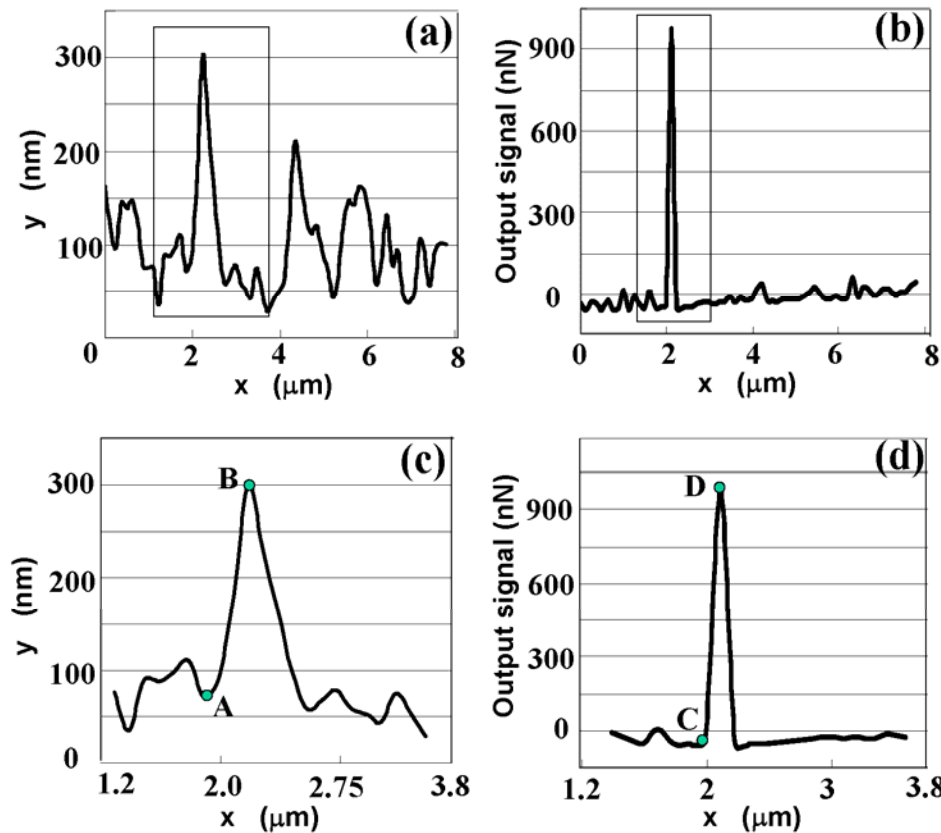
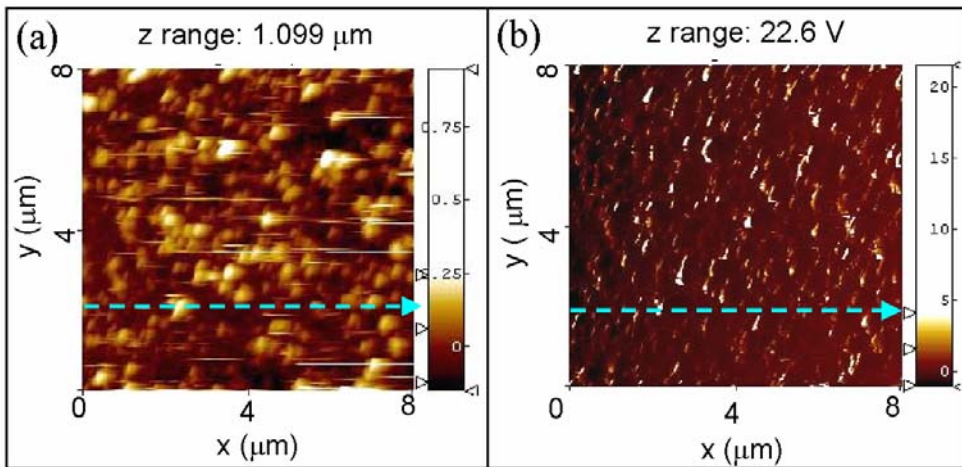
$y$  is the distance from the fixed end (root) of the NW to the point where the lateral force is applied

$L$  is the length of the NW

If we consider that  $f_0 \ll f$  then:

$$f = 3EI \frac{x}{L^3}$$

$$I = \frac{5\sqrt{3}}{16} \cdot a^4$$

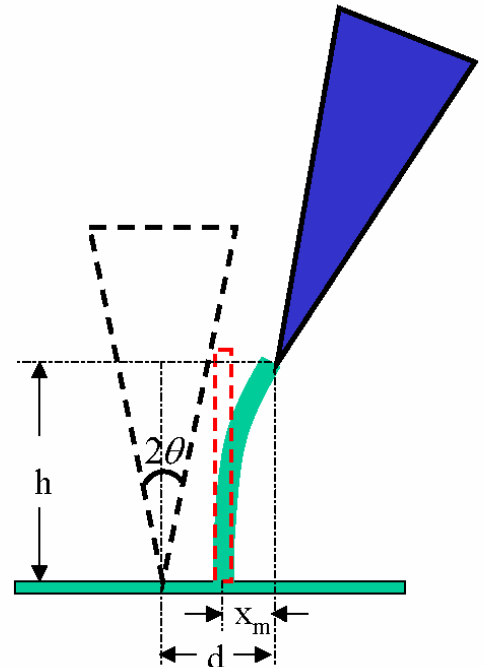


Topography

Lateral Force

$$L \approx \sqrt{h^2 + x_m^2}$$

$$x_m = d - h \tan \theta$$



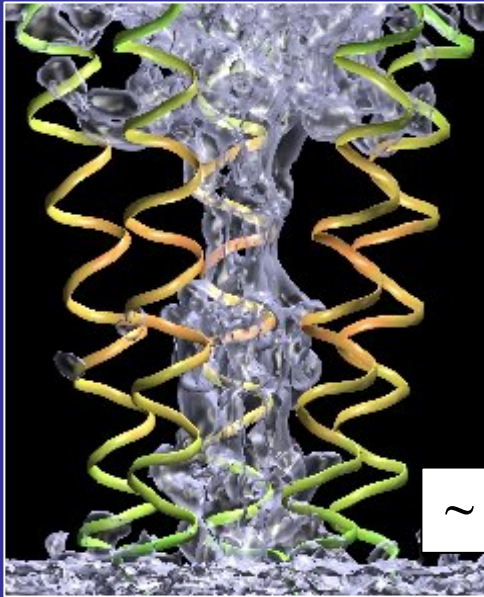
$$f = E \left( 3I \frac{1}{L^3} \right) x$$

# Results:

Nanowire	Length ( $\mu m$ )	Elastic modulus (GPa)
1	0.277	20
2	0.281	22
3	0.452	20
4	0.211	36
5	0.301	42
6	0.640	36
7	0.683	47
8	0.209	35
9	0.168	15
10	0.209	35
11	0.194	22
12	0.285	28
13	0.631	21
14	0.328	31
15	0.641	20

### 3. Water in sub-nanometer gaps: a model system for ion channels

Dr O. Beckstein and M.S.P. Sansom



Ion channels play a central role in the physiology of e.g. neurons, muscle, and heart cells. They allow rapid ( $\sim 10^7$  ions  $\text{s}^{-1}$ ) flux of selected ions through a transmembrane pore.

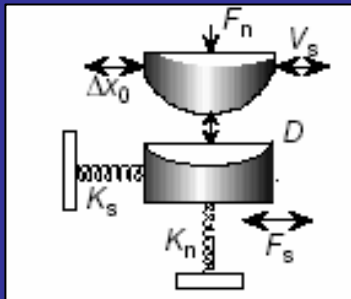
In order to understand the fundamental physical mechanisms of ion channel processes, including permeation, selectivity and gating, it is crucial to know what is the behavior of water in sub-nanometer gaps



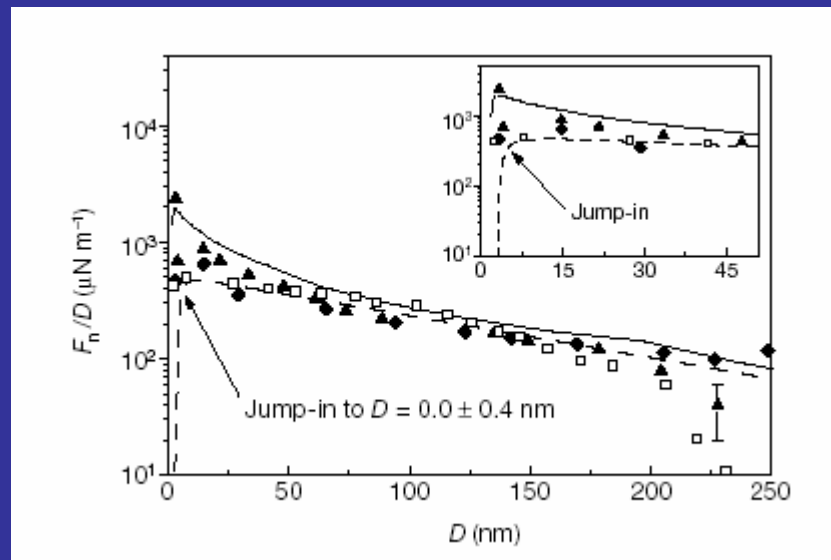
# State of the Art:

The key question:

Is water liquid or solid-like when it is confined in less than 1 nm?



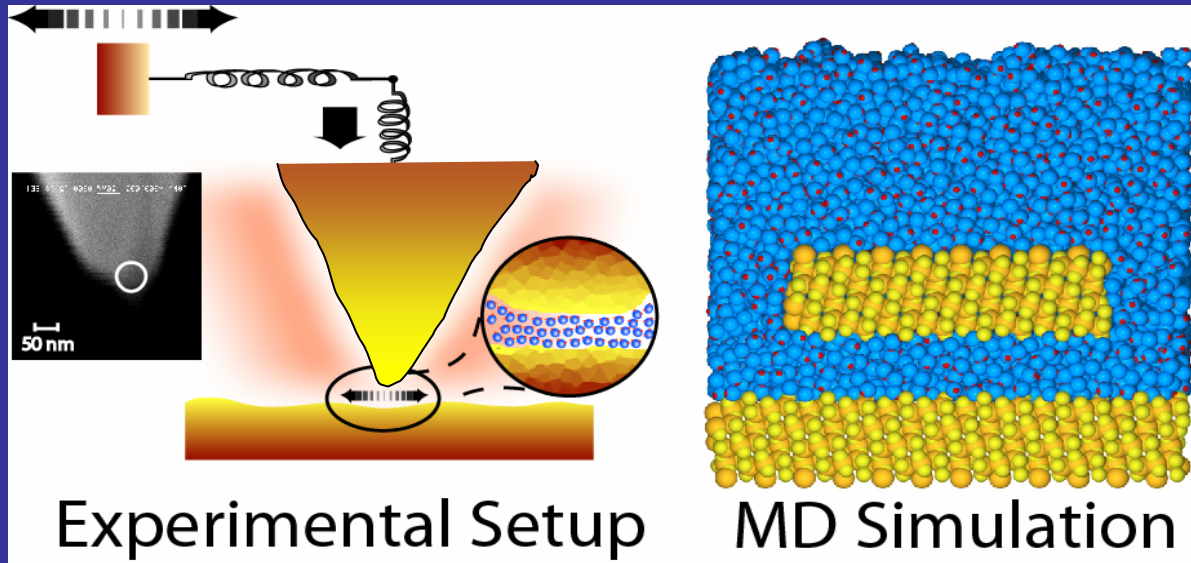
Pioneering studies of the forces between two macroscopic mica cylinders immersed in water, showed that water is fluid for gap sizes  $>2.4$  nm



Raviv, U., Laurat, P., and Klein, J. Nature 413, 51 (2001)

Our study:

# Water confined between an AFM tip and a solid surface (mica, glass and graphite)



T.-D. Li, J. Gao, R. Szoszkiewicz,  
U. Landman and E. Riedo,  
submitted

We have studied experimentally and theoretically the **normal and shear forces** encountered by a nano-sized tip when it approaches a solid surface in water.

We are able to investigate, with sub-Angstrom resolution, tip-surface distances from 2 nm down to 0.4 nm.

# Comparison of Solid Surface Samples

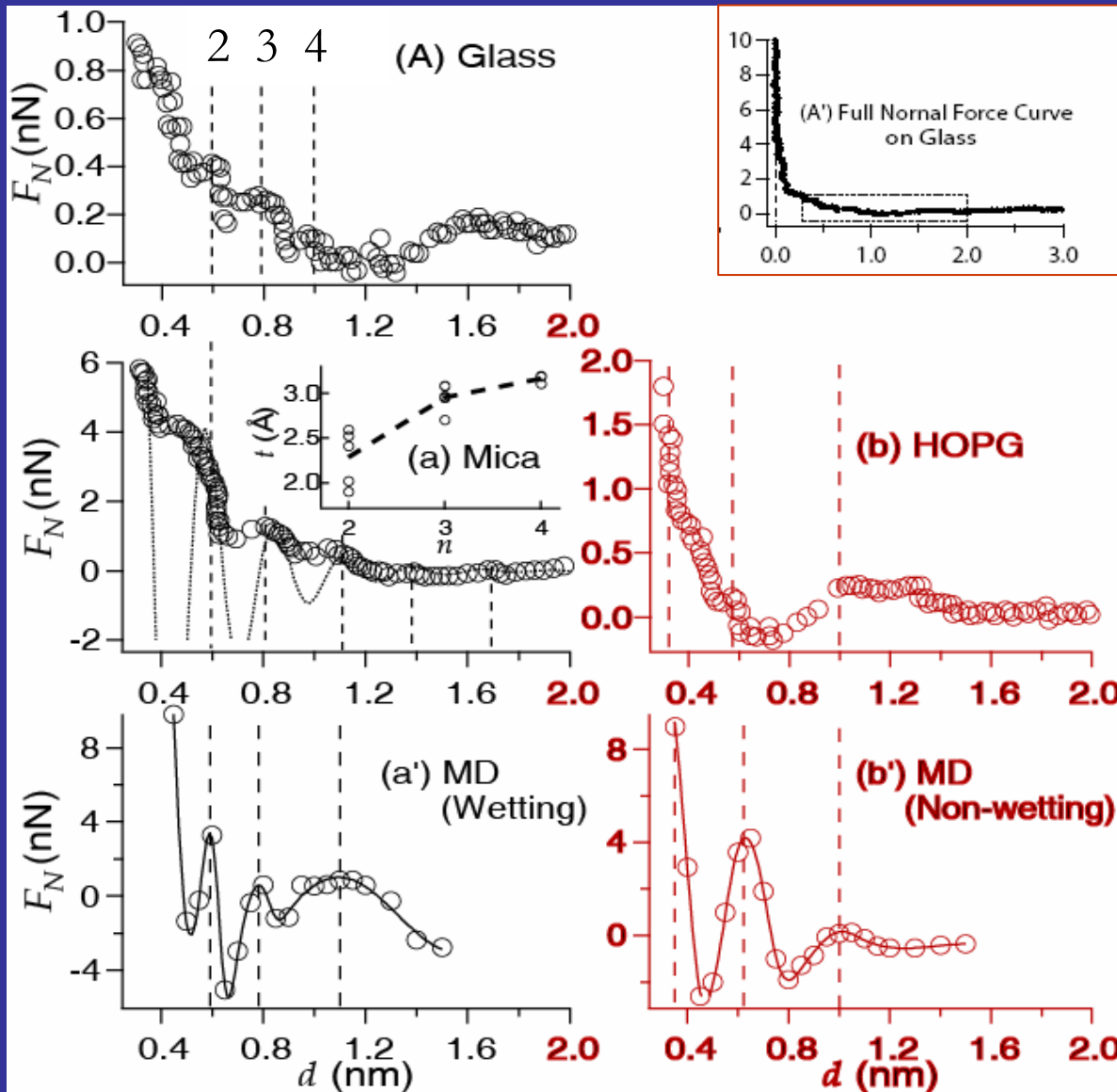
Mica	Glass	Graphite (HOPG)
Hydrophilic (Wetting)	Hydrophilic (Wetting)	Hydrophobic (Non-wetting)
Atomically Smooth	Nanometer Rough	Atomically Smooth

AFM Tip: Silicon Oxide, Hydrophilic

# Normal Forces

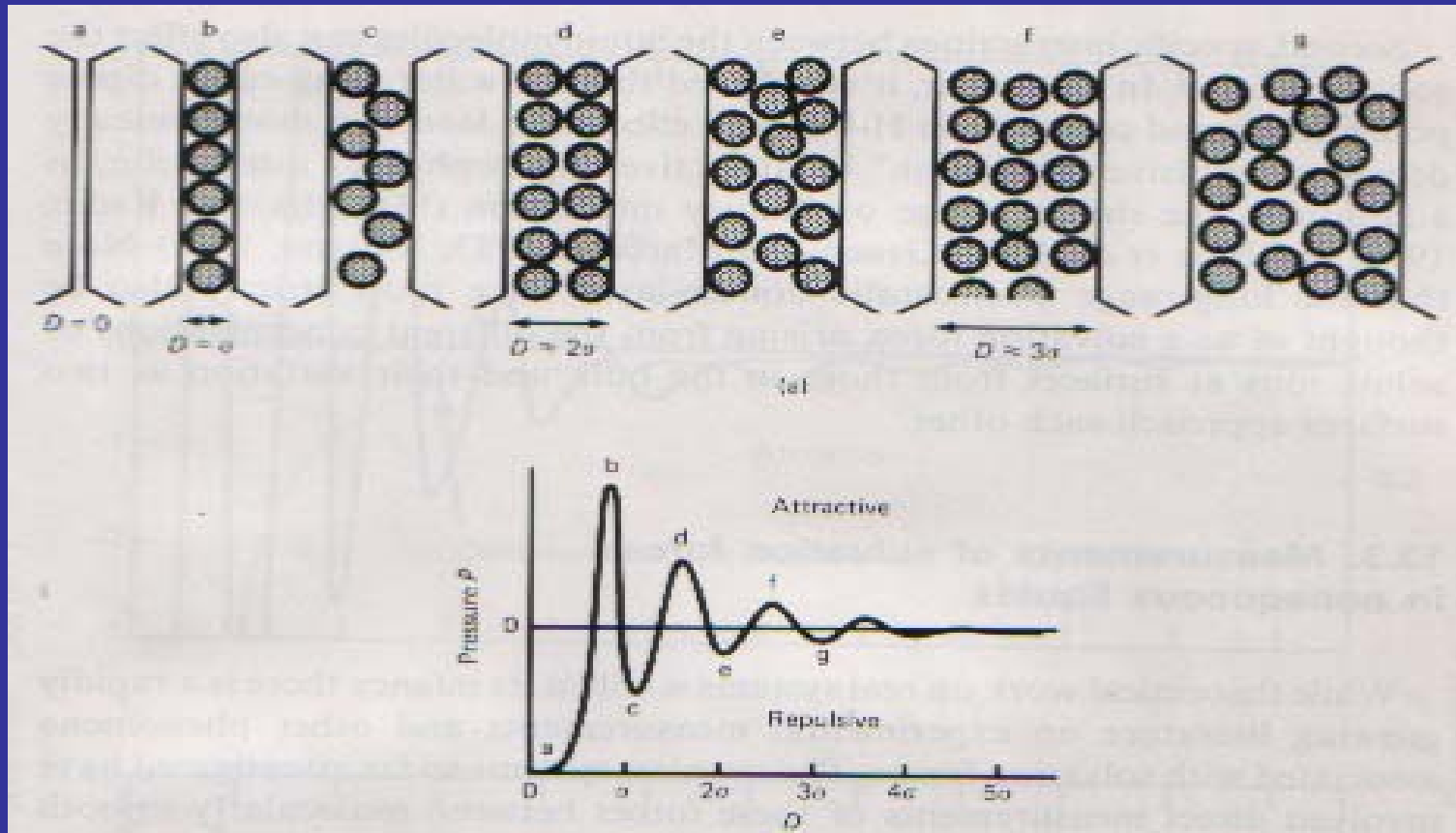
wetting

non-wetting



- Oscillations
- Periodicity:  $\sim 3\text{\AA}$ , Water molecule
- Oscillations more marked on wetting surfaces

# On the Nanometer Scale

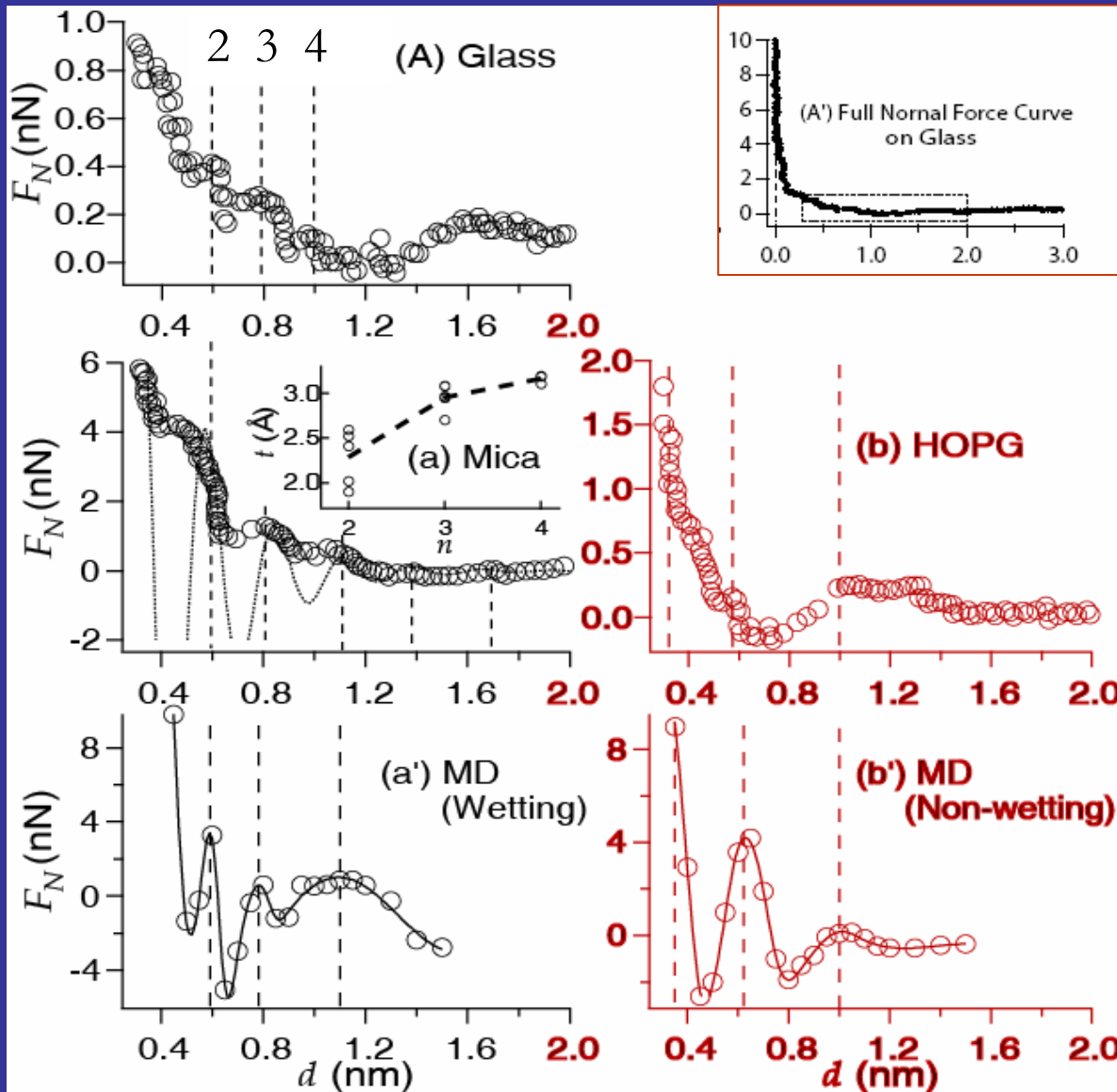


Israelachvili, *Intermolecular and Surface Forces* 1991

# Normal Forces

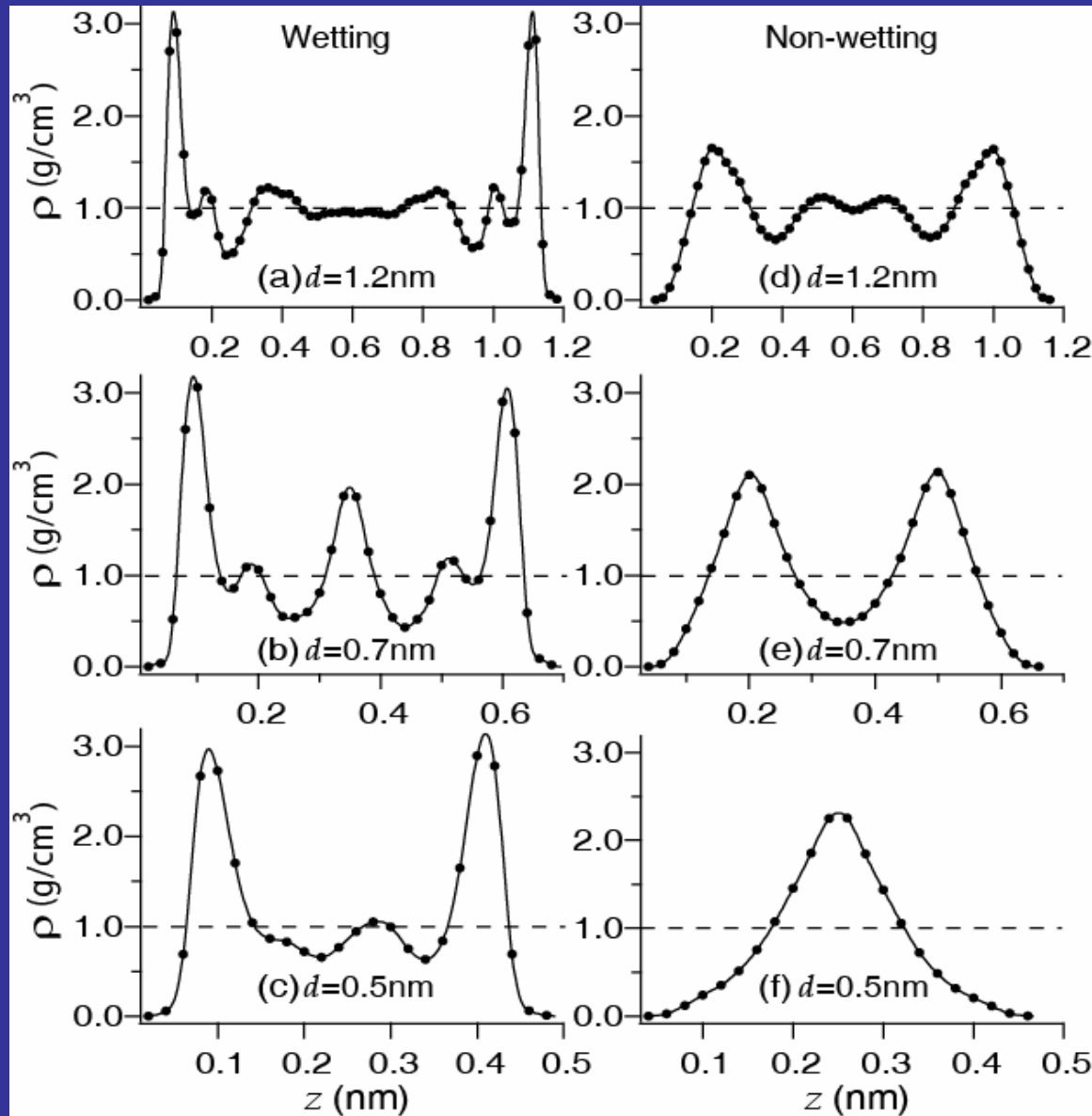
wetting

non-wetting



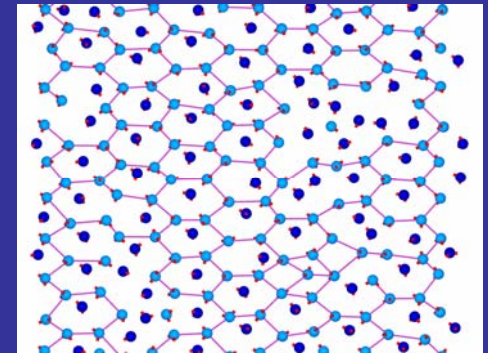
- Oscillations
- Periodicity:  $\sim 3\text{\AA}$ , Water molecule
- Oscillations more marked on wetting surfaces

# Density Profiles $\rightarrow$ High-Low density Transitions



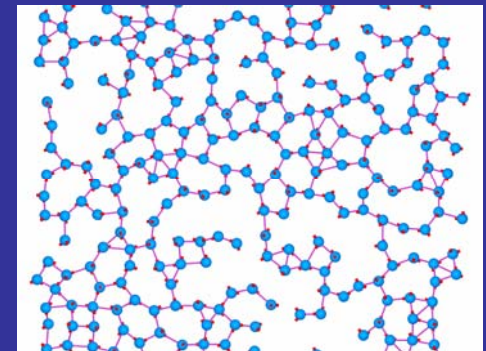
wetting

$d = 0.7$  nm,  $z = 0.1$  nm



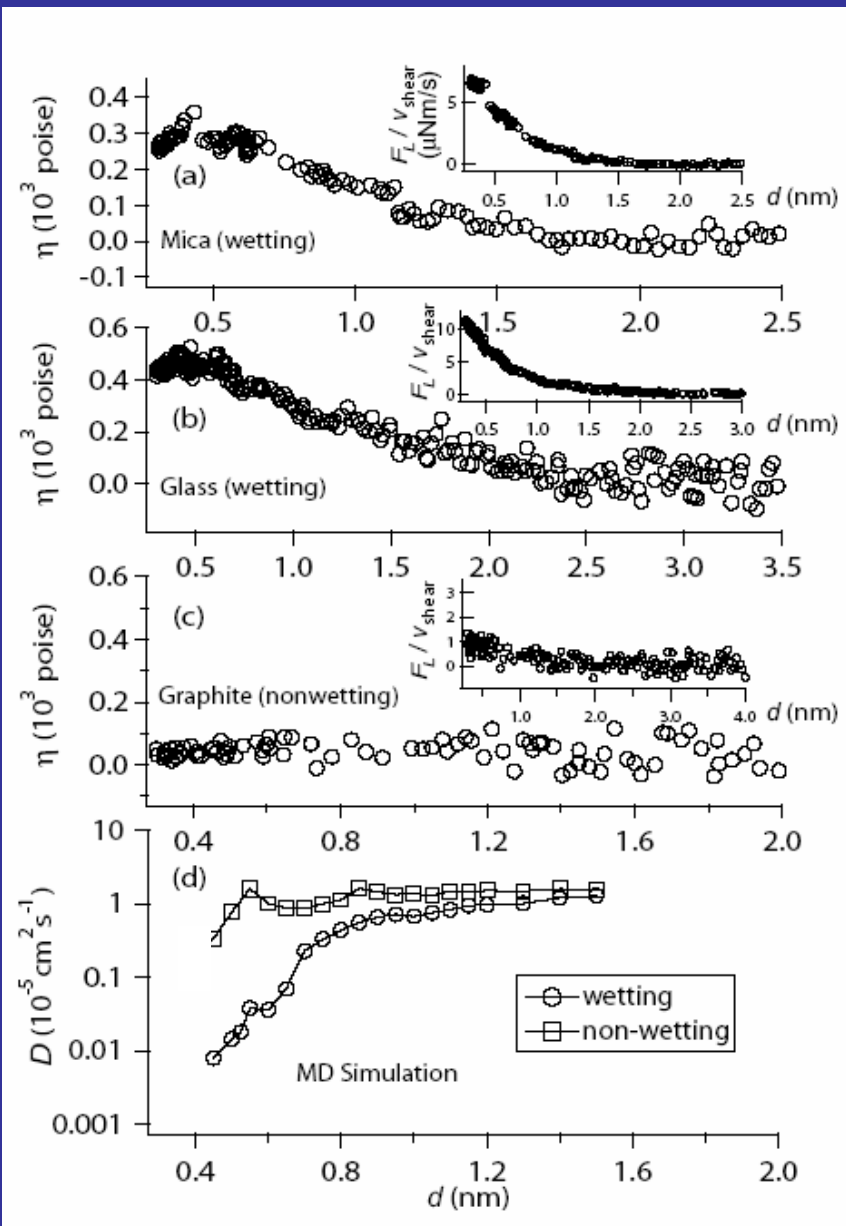
non-wetting

$d = 0.7$  nm,  $z = 0.2$  nm



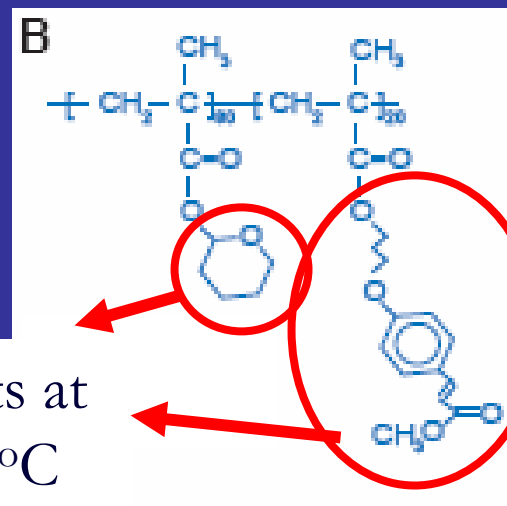
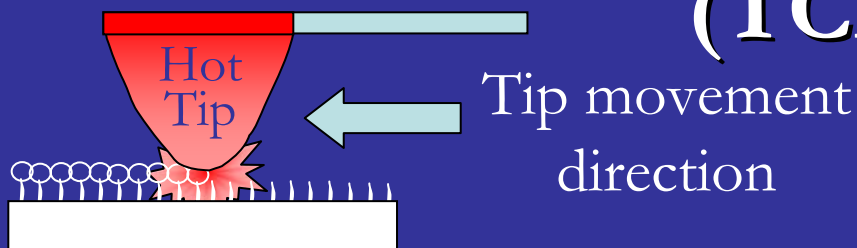


# Dynamic Viscosity and Diffusion Constant

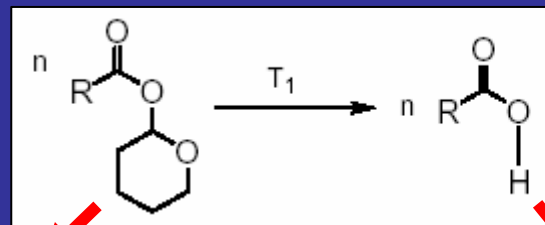
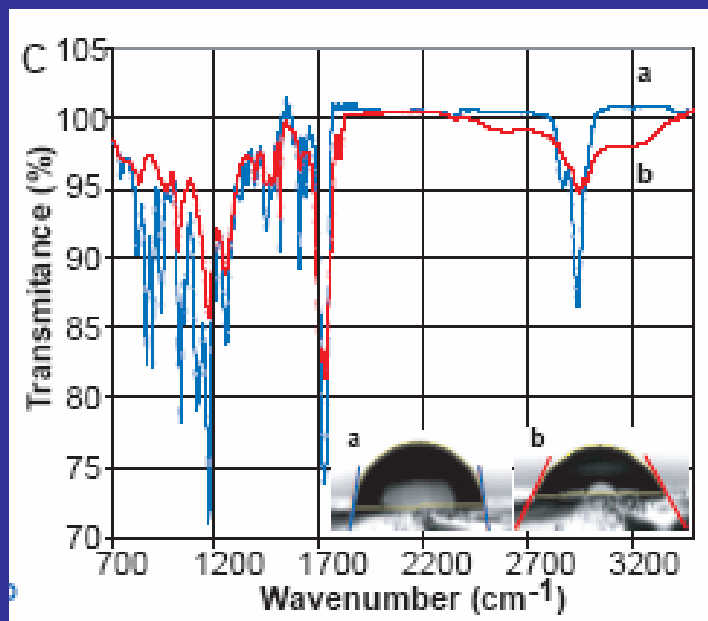


- $\eta$  (bulk  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ) = 0.01 poise
- $\eta$  (nano-confined  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ )  $\sim 10^2$  poise
- 4 orders of magnitude increase on wetting surfaces

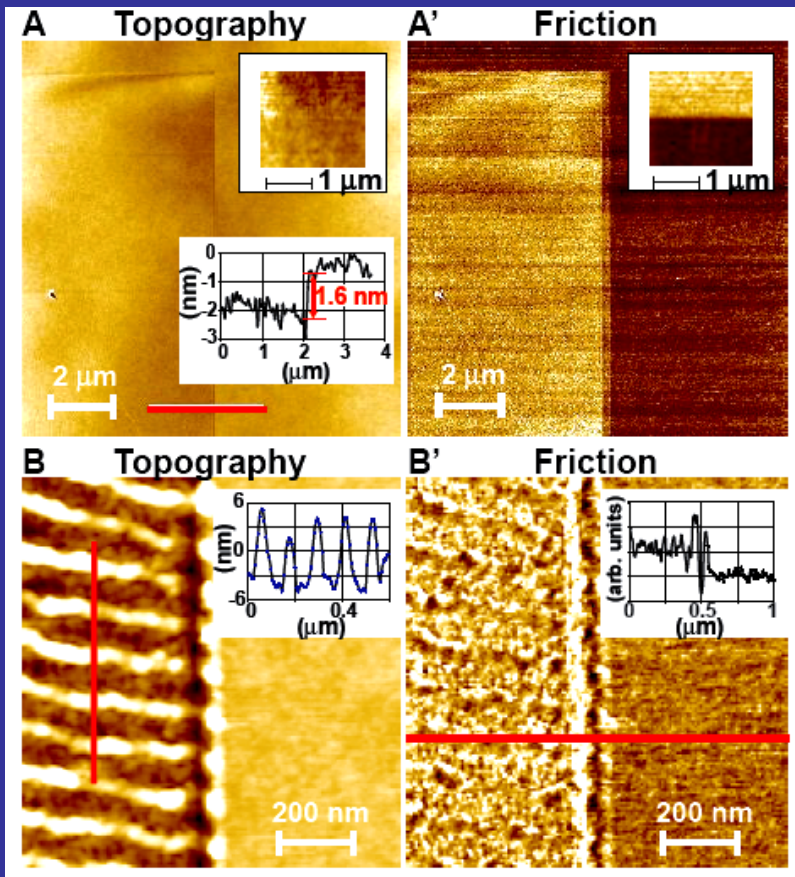
# 4. Thermo-Chemical NanoLitography (TCNL)



$p(\text{THP-MA})_{80} p(\text{PMC-MA})_{20}$

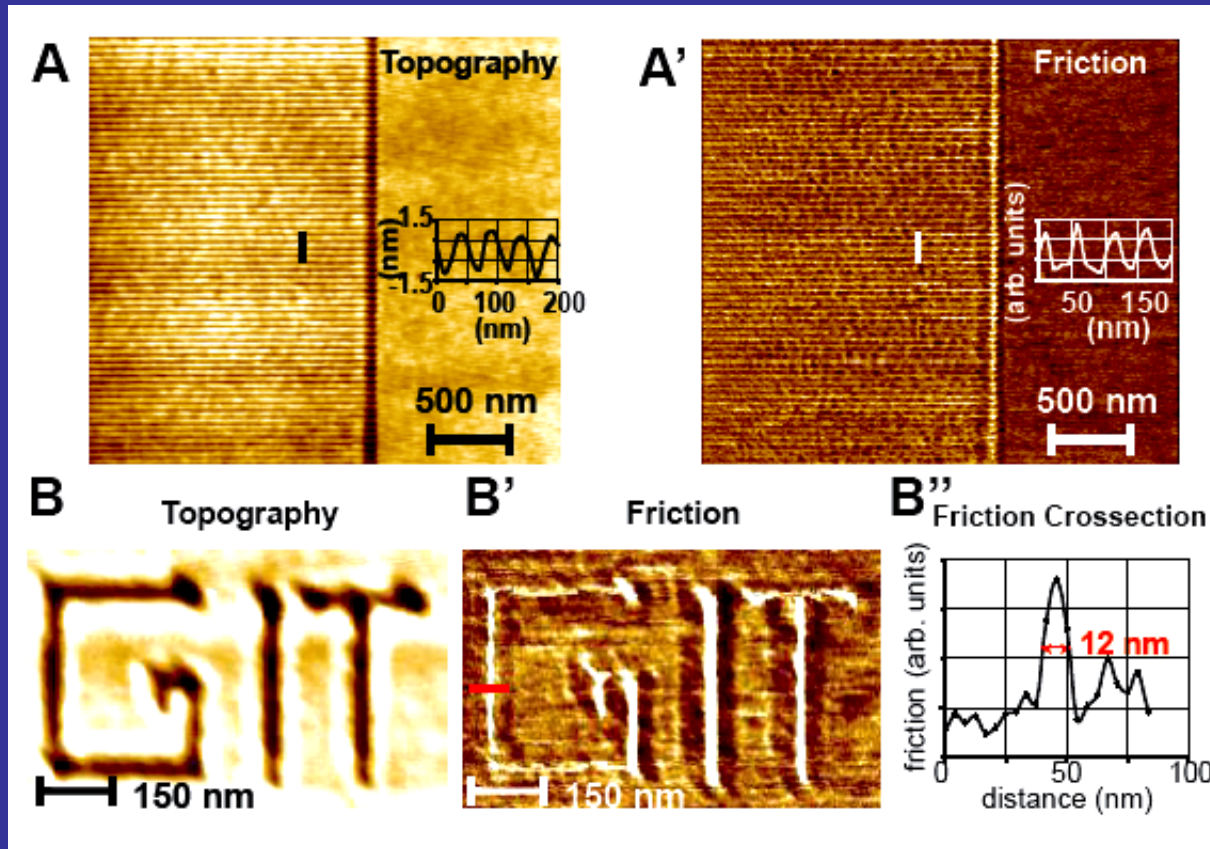


# TCNL at work...



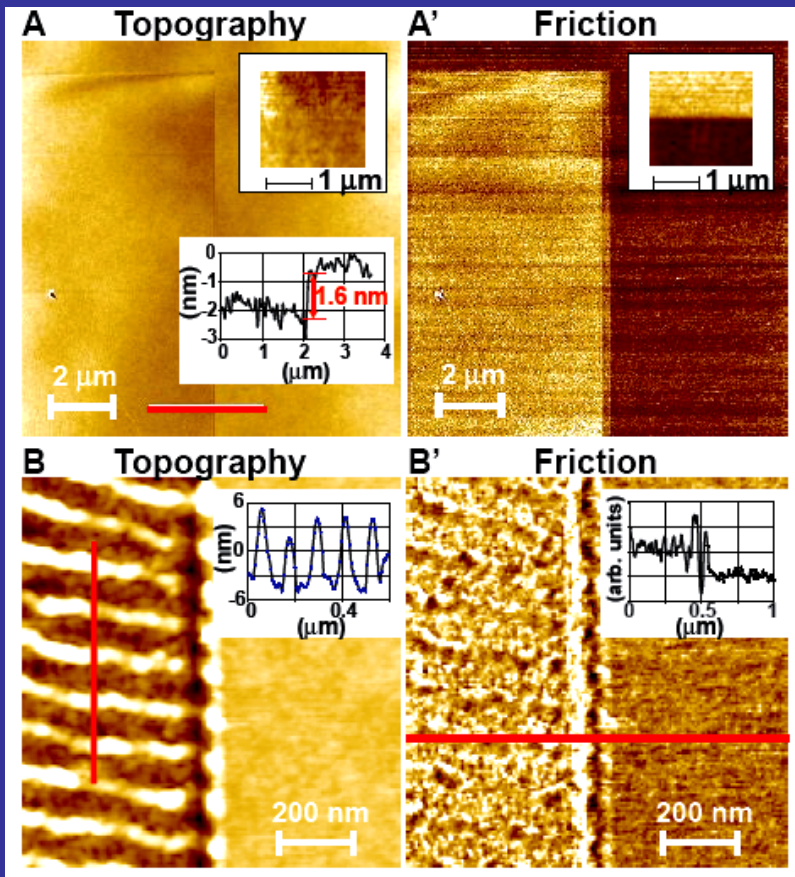
- Writing Speeds faster than 1 mm/s
- Working in a range of environments
- Possibility to control Surface Energy AND Topography
- Possibility to create hydrophilicity/hydrophobicity gradients
- Extendable to Many other systems

# TCNL at work...



- Line density of  $2 \times 10^7$  lines/meter (260 Gbit /inch<sup>2</sup>)
- Sub-15 nm feature size – (single molecule patterns?)

# TCNL at work...

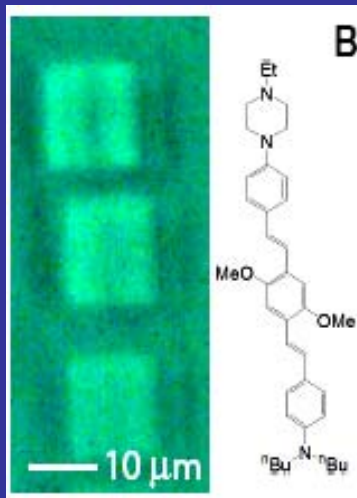


- Writing Speeds faster than 1 mm/s
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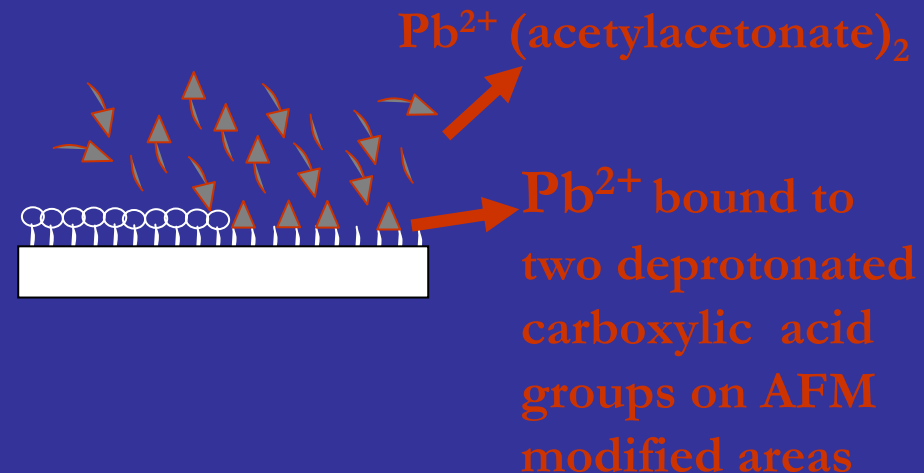
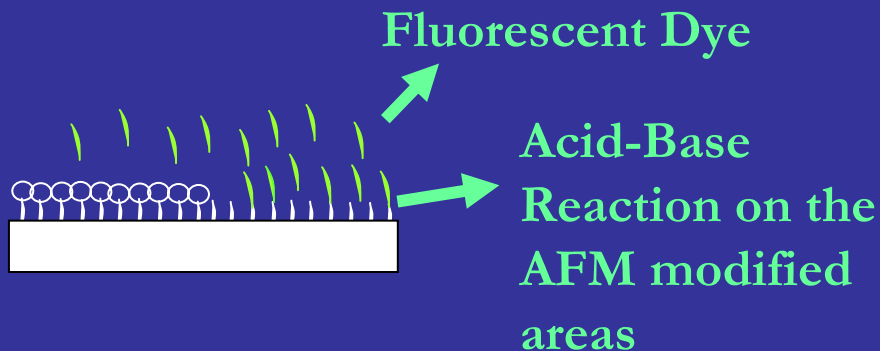
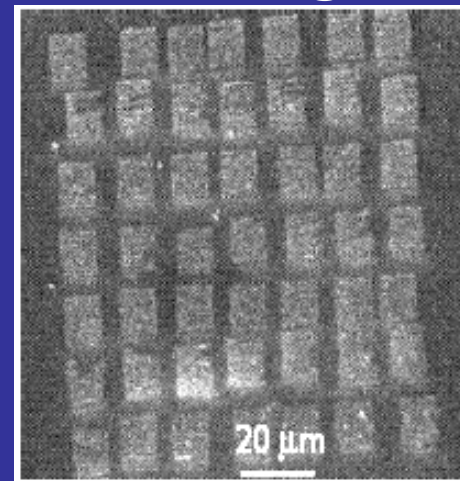


# Functionalization of Chemical Modified Areas...

Fluorescence image



SEM image



# Thanks For your attention.



## Undergraduate Students:

Anna Pavlova

Michael Chen

Jonathan Diaz

Stephen Medina

## Postdocs:

Dr. Robert Szoszkiewicz

Dr. Marcel Lucas

## Visiting Scientists:

Ismael Palaci

Lucel Sirghi

## Special Problems Students:

Se il Lee

Nikhil Sharma

Wenjei Mei

Jinhui Song

Ian Vicente

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T. Okada

S. Jones

W. King

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U. Landman

## Ph. D. Students:

Tai-De Li

De-bin Wang



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