

programmable motion of molecules on a solid surface

Z. Suo

Division of Engineering and Applied Science

Harvard University

Work with

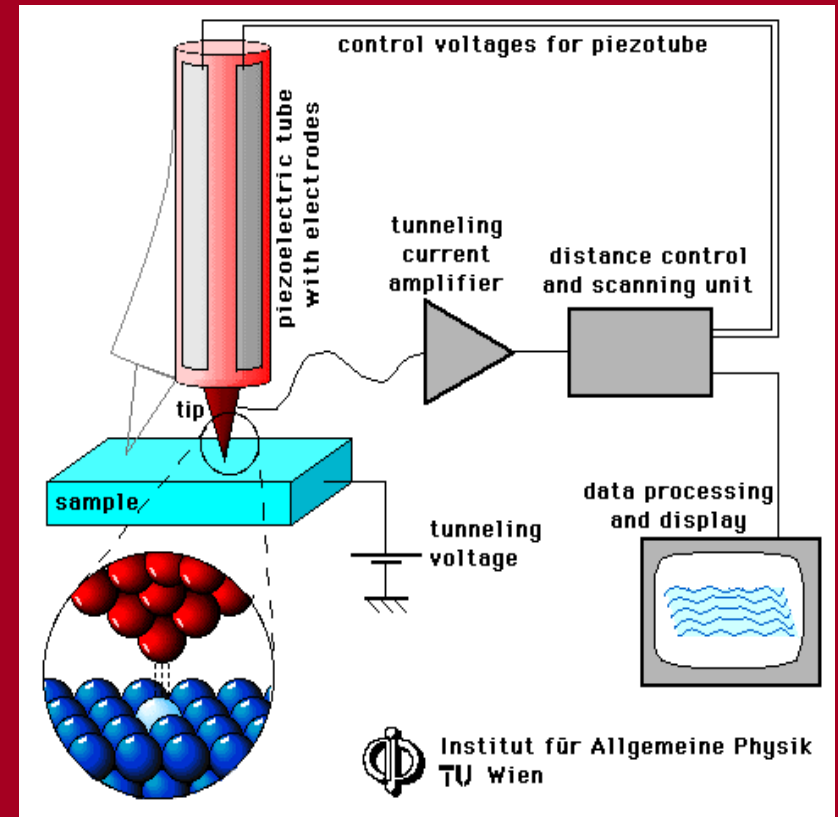
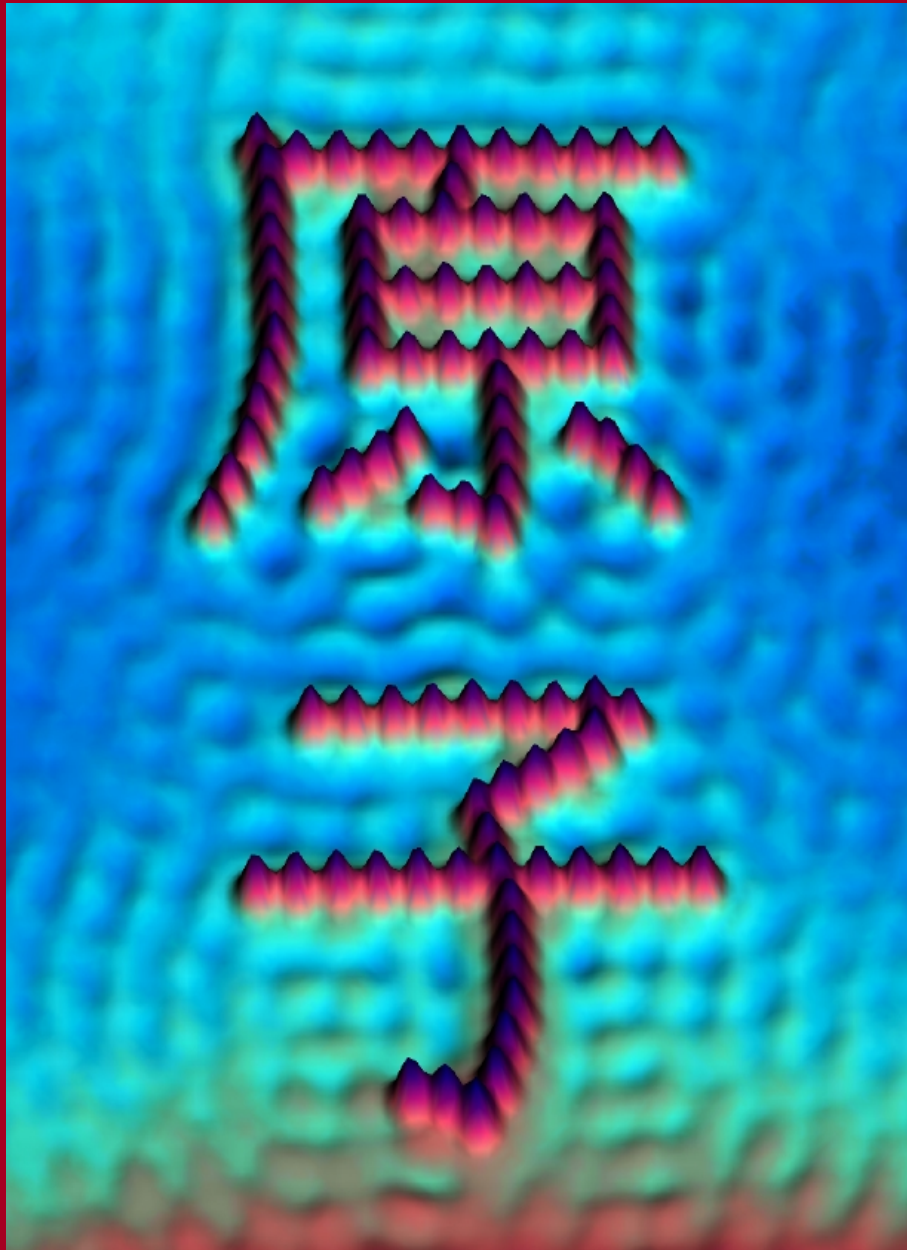
W. Hong, Harvard University

W. Lu, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Y.F. Gao, Brown University

G. Scoles, Princeton University

AP298r lecture
18 February 2004



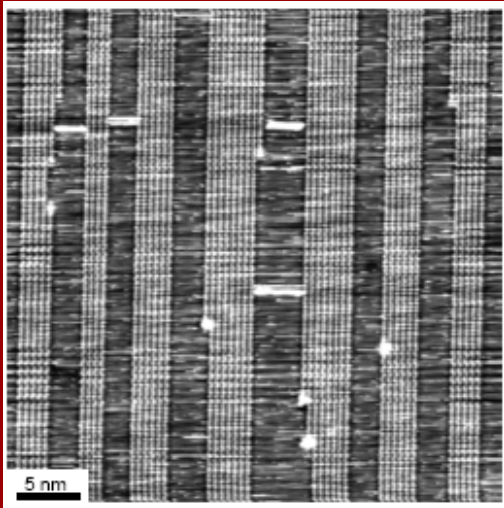
STM

Scanning Tunneling Microscope

Invented by
Gerd Binnig, Heinrich Rohrer
IBM Zurich, 1980s

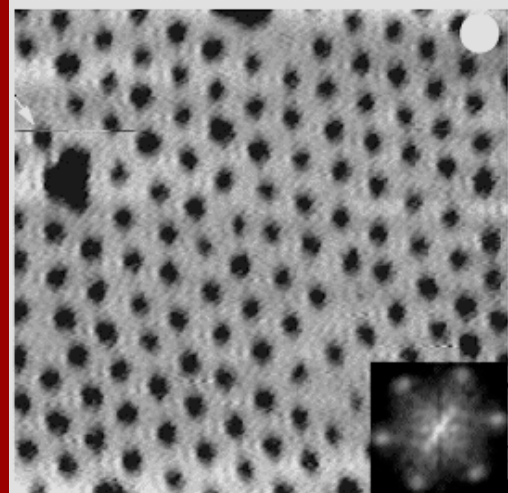
sub-monolayer

O on Cu (011)



Kern *et al.*
Phys. Rev. Lett., **67**, 855 (1991)

Ag+S on Ru (0001)



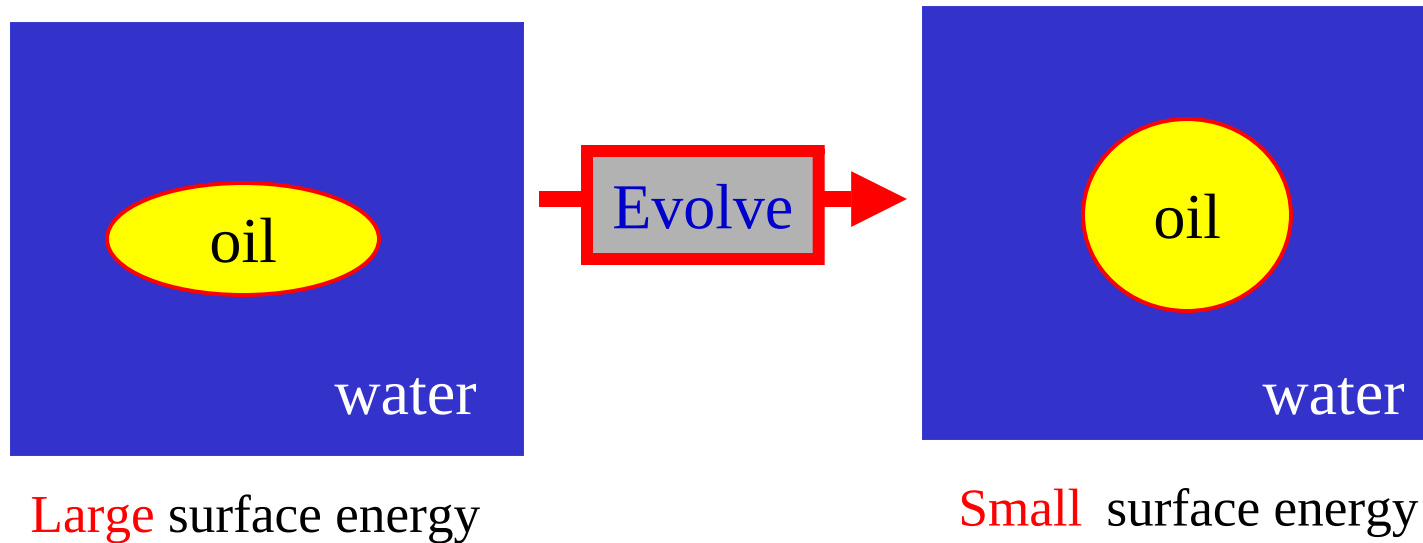
Pohl *et al.*
Nature, **397**, 238 (1999)

- Self-assembled
- Nanoscale
- High mobility
- Stable on annealing

A basic mechanics question:

What are the **Forces**
that drive self-assembly?

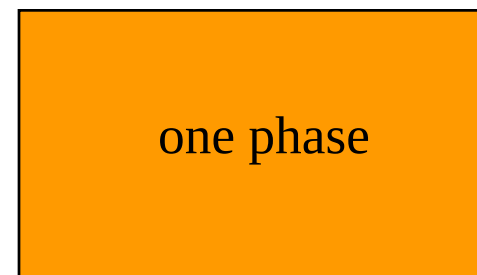
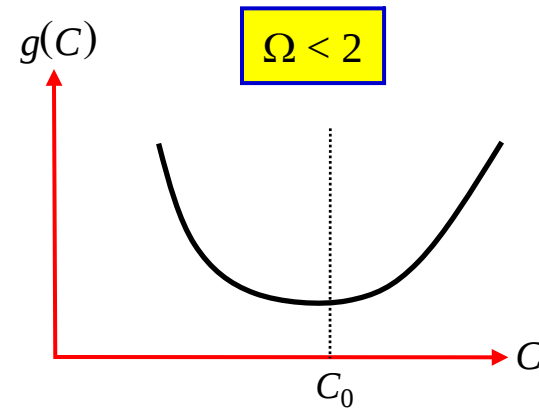
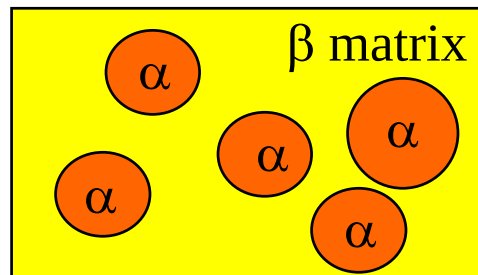
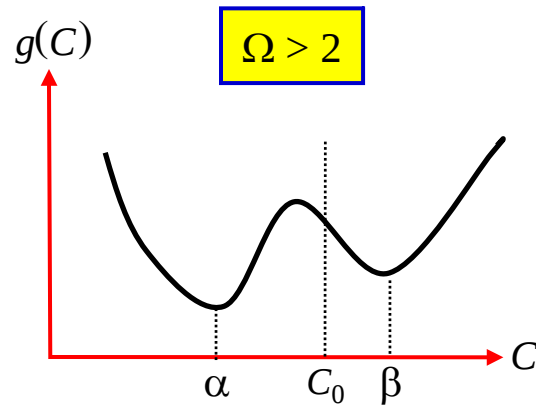
A familiar example



Free energy $G = \gamma A$

- Free energy depends on geometry
- Geometry changes to reduce free energy—**configurational force**
- Geometry changes by mass transport—**kinetic process**

Phase Separation

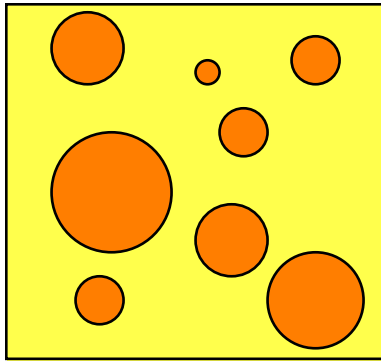


Free energy of mixing $g(C)$

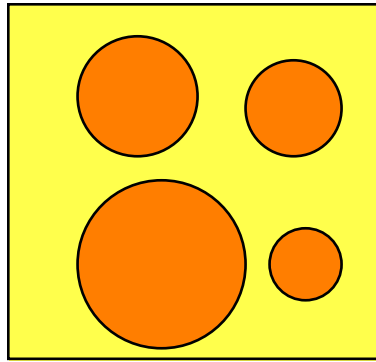
Regular solution

$$g(C) = g_A C + g_B (1 - C) + \Lambda kT [C \ln C + (1 - C) \ln (1 - C) + \Omega C (1 - C)]$$

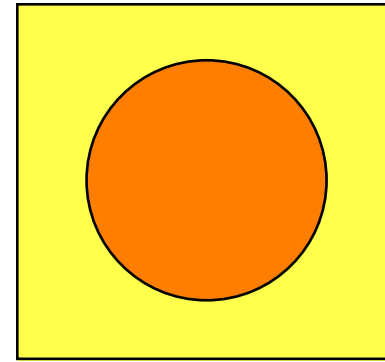
Phase Coarsening



Time 0



Time t

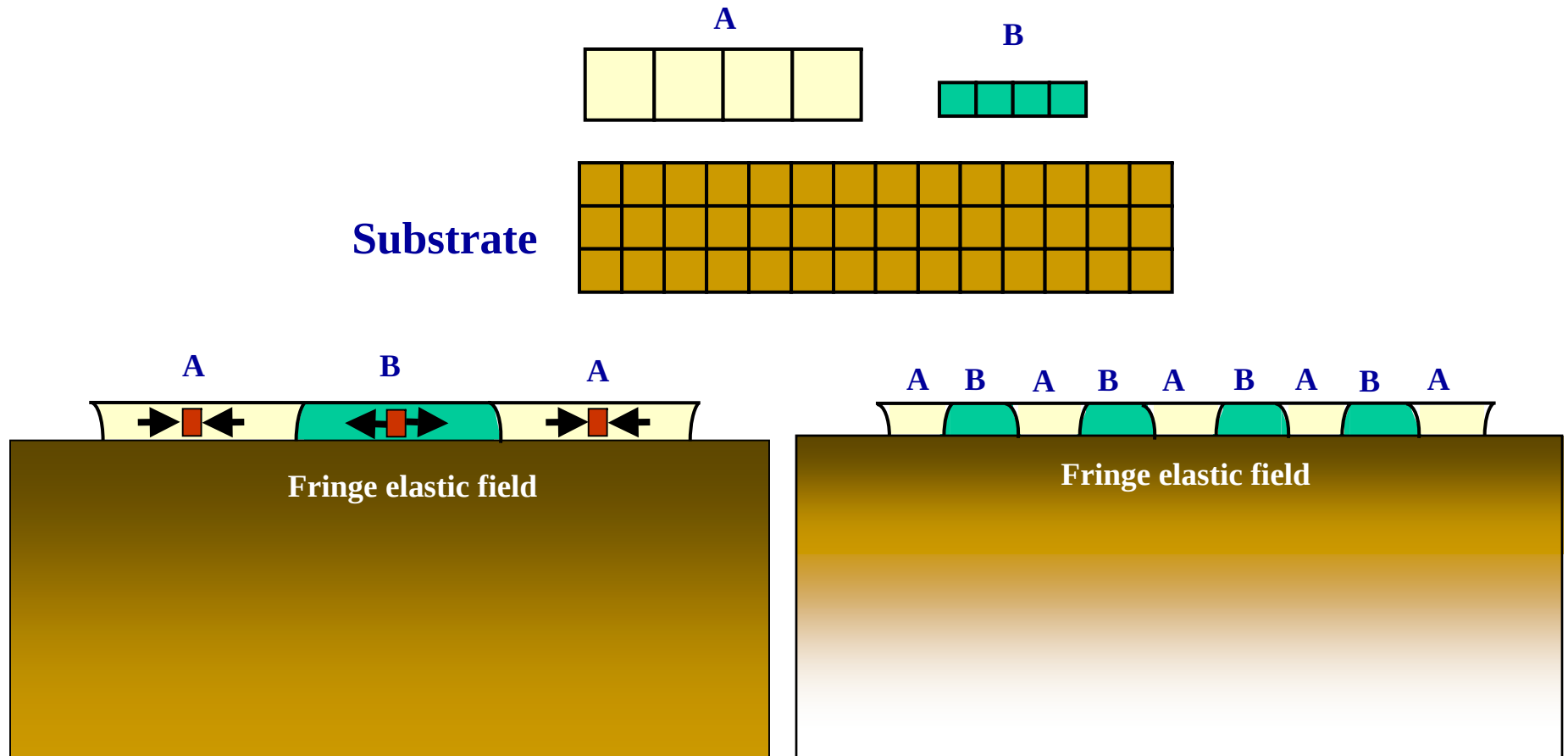


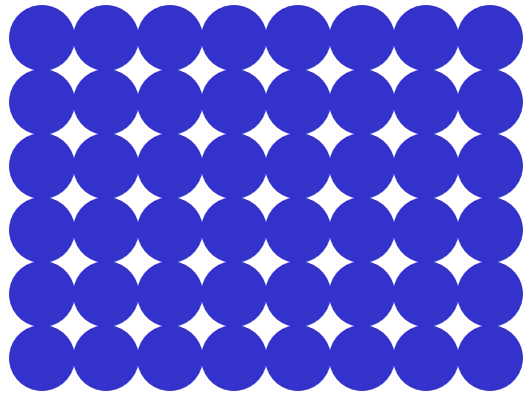
Long time

Phase boundary energy

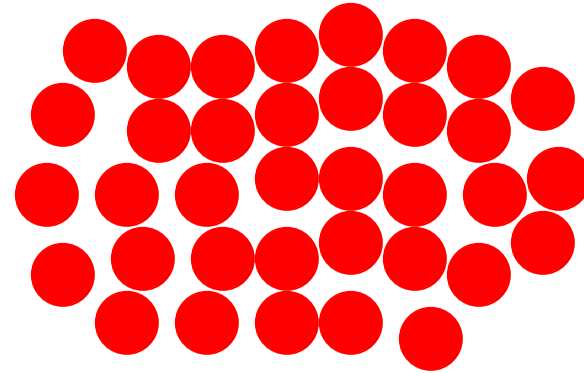
$$G = \Sigma \gamma L$$

Phase Refining

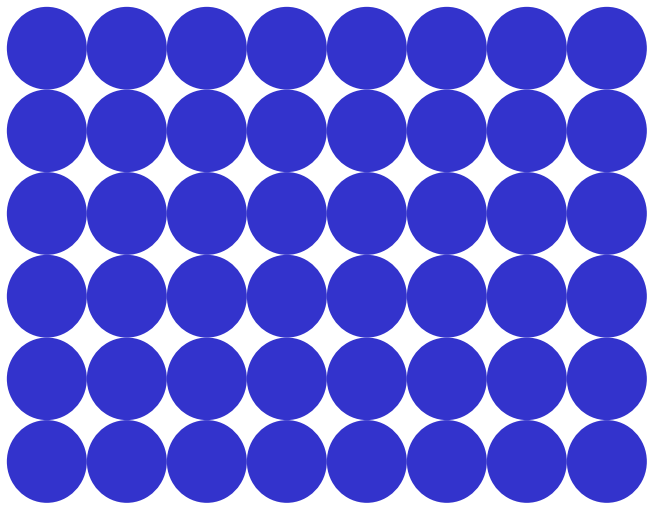




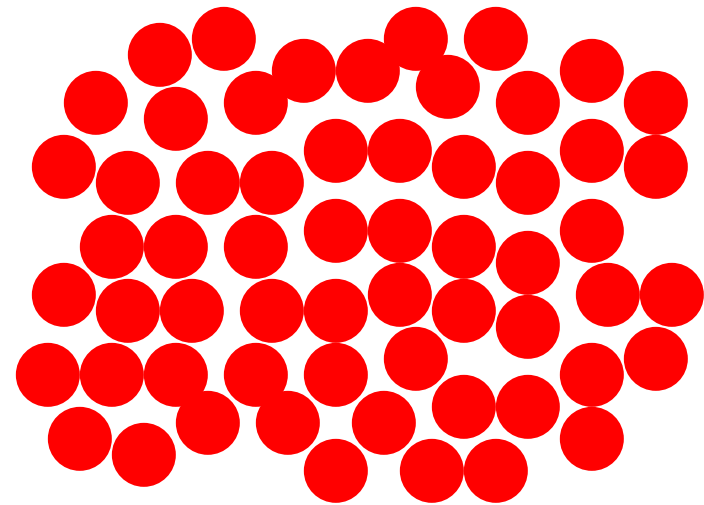
Solid surface



Liquid surface



Stretched solid surface

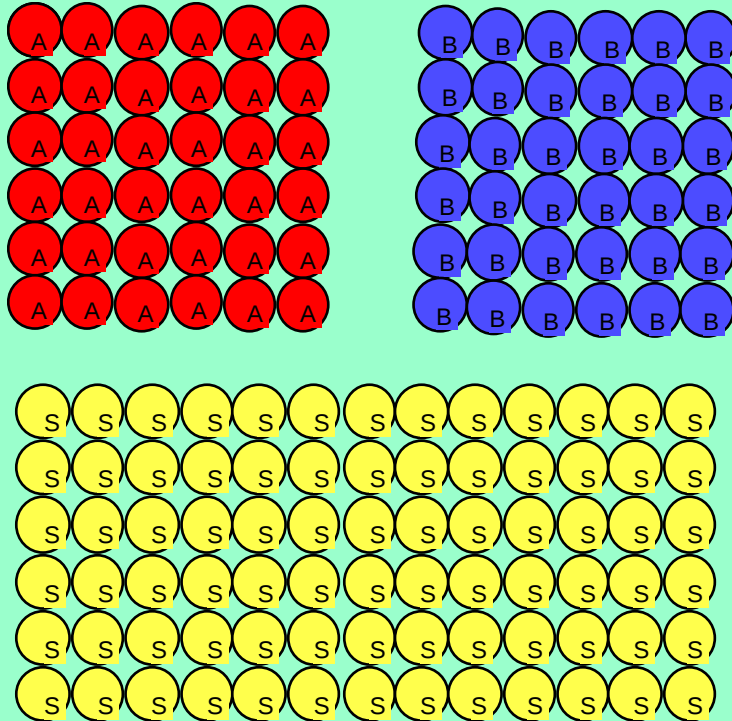


Stretched liquid surface

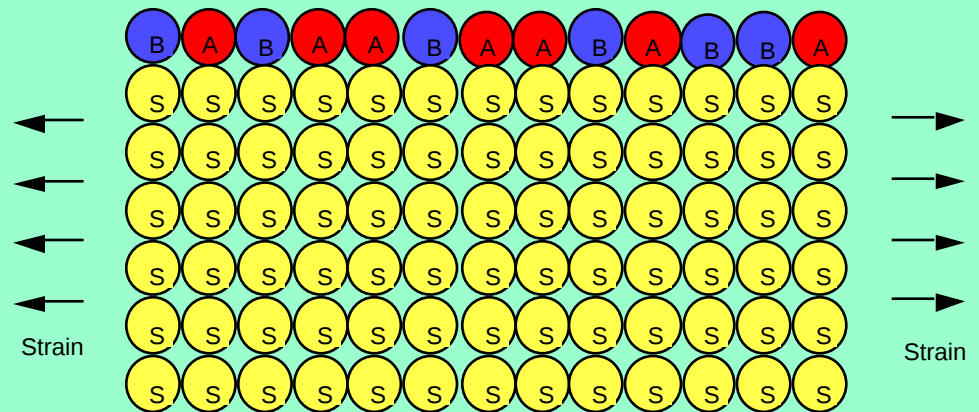
Energy per surface atom
depends on stretch

Energy per surface atom
is independent of stretch

Reference State: 3 infinite crystals



Current State



$$G = WV + \Gamma A$$

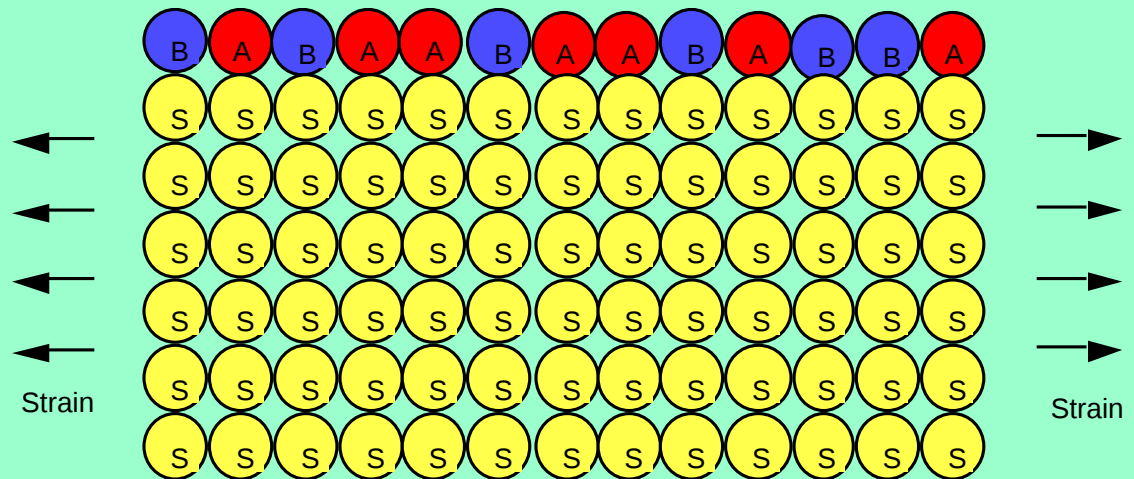
$$W = \frac{\text{elastic energy}}{\text{volume}} \quad \Gamma = \frac{\text{excess energy}}{\text{area}}$$

Surface Stress

Residual stress field in surface layers

Surface energy depends on elastic strain

$$\Gamma = g + f\varepsilon$$

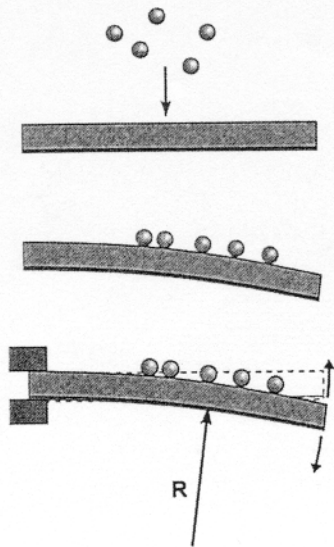


$f \sim (\text{residual stress}) \times (\text{layer thickness})$

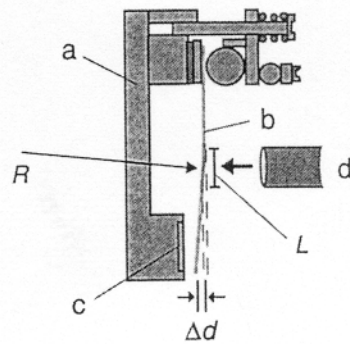
$$\sim (10^{10} \text{ N/m}^2) \times (10^{-10} \text{ m}) = 1 \text{ N/m}$$

Surface stress depends on concentration

H. Ibach / Surface Science Reports 29 (1997) 193–263

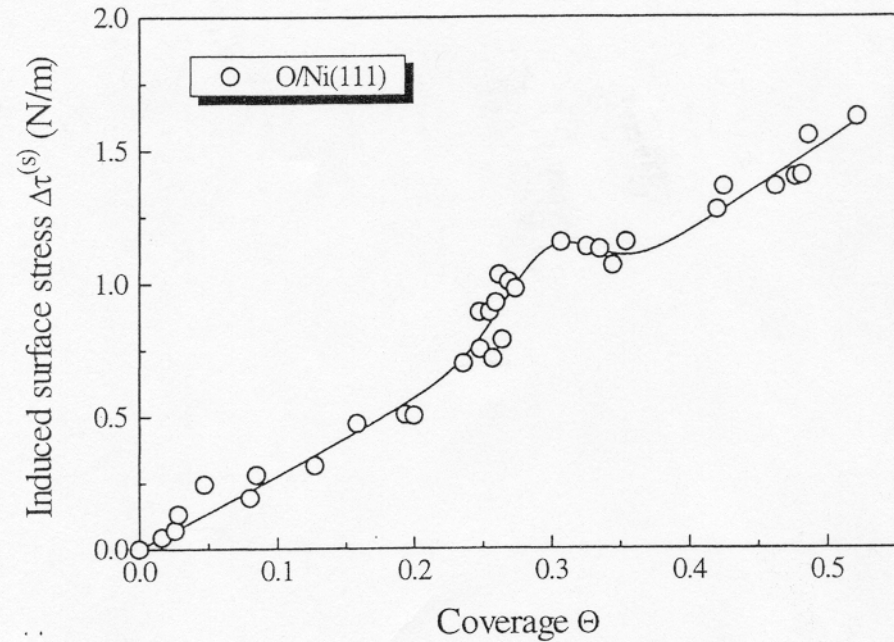


(a)



(b)

H. Ibach / Surface Science Reports 29 (1997) 193–263



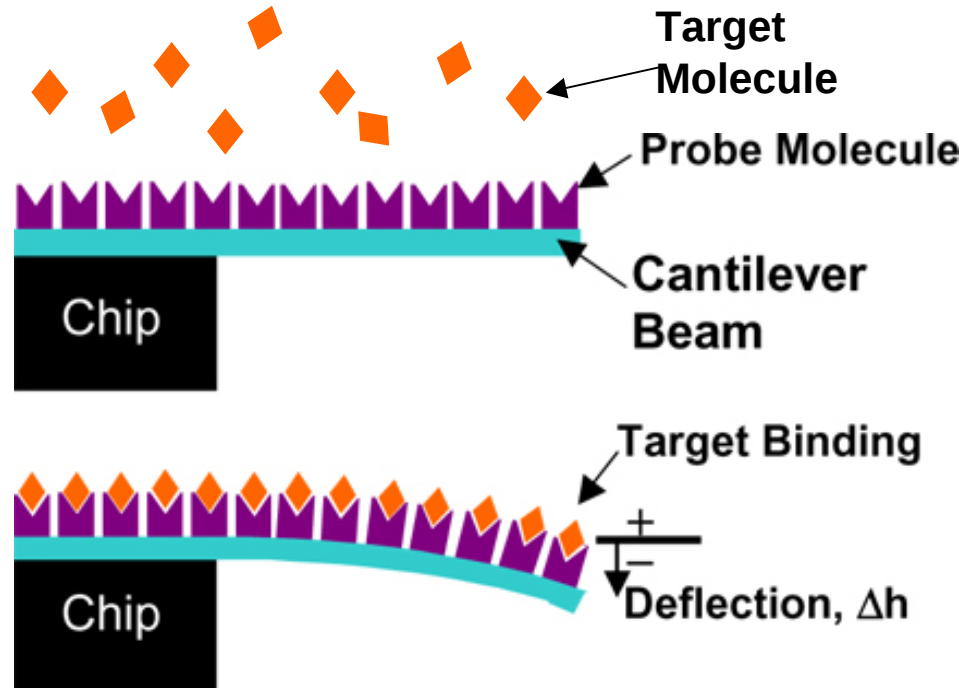
Wafer Curvature Measurement

$$\Delta f = \frac{EH^2}{6R}$$

$$\Delta f = \phi \Delta C$$

Translating biomolecular recognition into nanomechanics

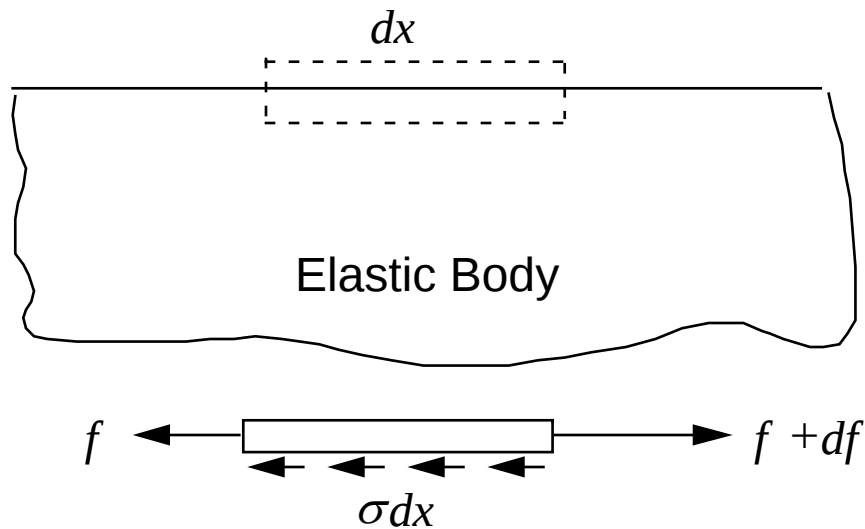
Fritz et al., *Science* **288**, 316 (2000)



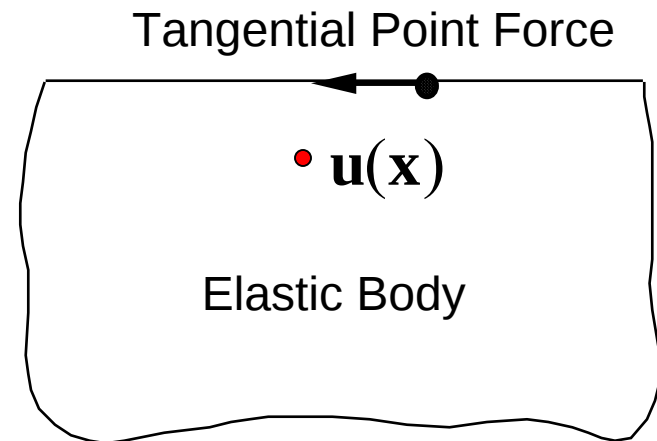
Surface stress couples concentration field and elastic field

$$\Gamma = g + f\varepsilon$$

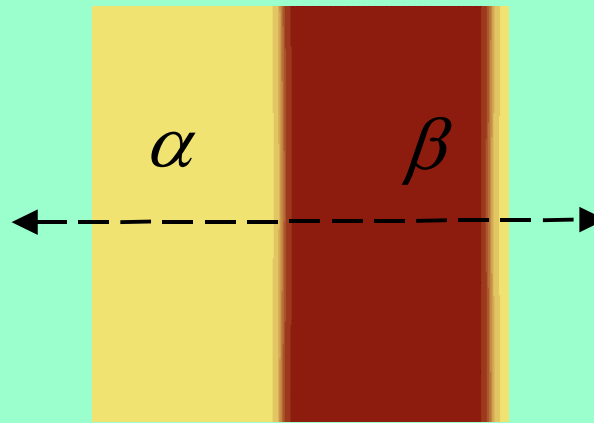
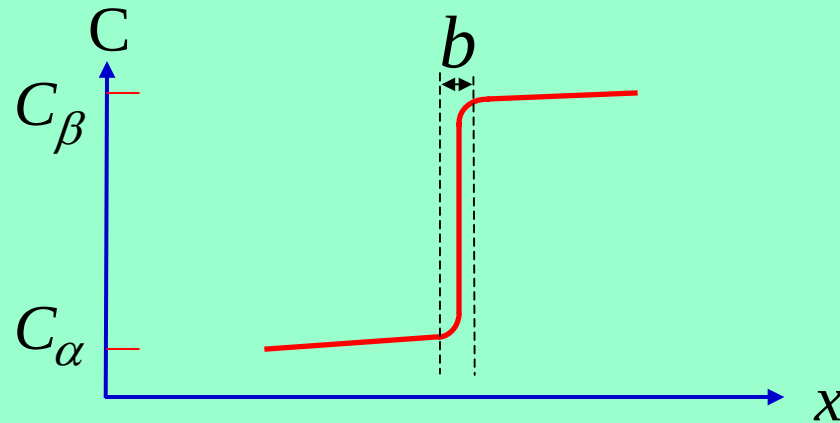
**“Marangoni effect”
(elastic analog)**



Cerruti solution



Phase boundary energy



Diffused boundary
Cahn-Hilliard model

$$\text{free energy} \propto h_0 \left(\frac{\partial C}{\partial x} \right)^2$$

Thermodynamic Model

Free energy functional

$$G = \int \Gamma dA + \int W dV$$

Elastic energy density:

$$W = \frac{E}{2(1+\nu)} \left[\varepsilon_{ij} \varepsilon_{ij} + \frac{\nu}{1-2\nu} (\varepsilon_{kk})^2 \right]$$

Surface energy is a function of $(C, \nabla C, \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta})$

$$\Gamma = g(C) + h(C) C_{,\alpha} C_{,\alpha} + f(C) \varepsilon_{\alpha\alpha}$$

Chemical potential

$$\delta G = \int \mu \delta C dA$$

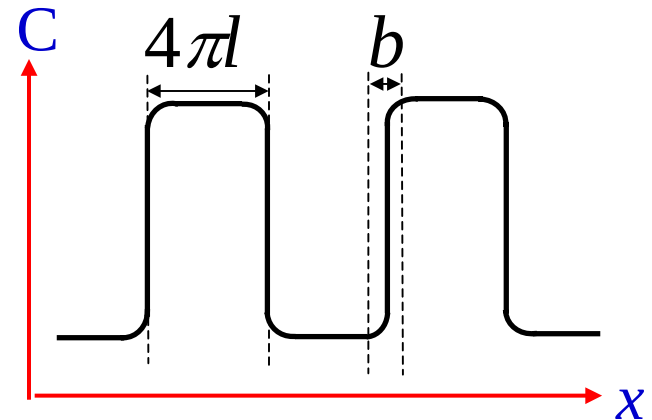
$$\mu = \frac{\partial g}{\partial C} - 2h_0 \nabla^2 C + \phi \varepsilon_{\beta\beta}$$

Demixing **coarsening** **refining**

Two Length Scales

$$\mu = \frac{\partial g}{\partial C} - 2h_0 \nabla^2 C + \phi \varepsilon_{\beta\beta}$$

Demixing coarsening refining



Phase Boundary
thickness:

$$b = \left(\frac{h_0}{\Lambda kT} \right)^{1/2}$$

$$h_0 \sim 10^{-19} \text{ J}$$

$$\Lambda \sim 5 \times 10^{19} \text{ m}^{-2}$$

$$kT \sim 5 \times 10^{-21} \text{ J} \quad (T = 400 \text{ K})$$

$$\rightarrow b \sim 0.3 \text{ nm}$$

Phase Size:

$$l = \frac{E h_0}{\phi^2}$$

$$E \sim 10^{11} \text{ N/m}^2$$

$$\phi \sim 4 \text{ N/m}$$



$$4\pi l \sim 4 \text{ nm}$$

A Diffusion Equation

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{C}}{\partial t} = \frac{M}{\Lambda^2} \nabla^2 \left(\frac{\partial g}{\partial \mathcal{C}} - 2h_0 \nabla^2 C + \phi \varepsilon_{\beta\beta} \right)$$

Phase separation Coarsening Refining

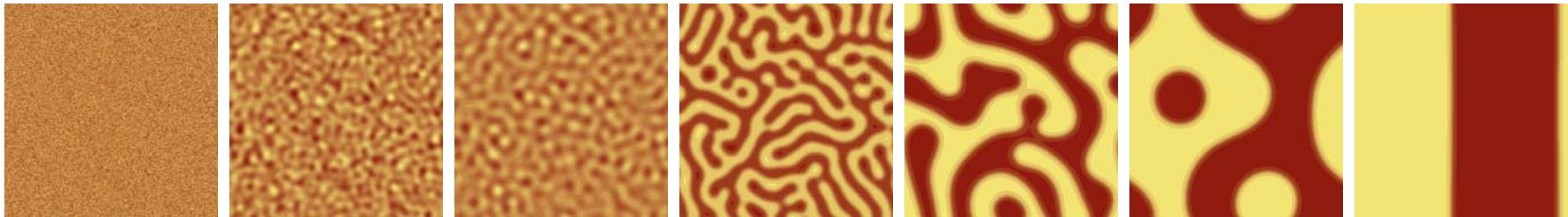
$$\varepsilon_{\beta\beta} = -\frac{(1-\nu^2)\phi}{\pi E} \iint \frac{(x_1 - \xi_1) \frac{\partial \mathcal{C}}{\partial \xi_1} + (x_2 - \xi_2) \frac{\partial \mathcal{C}}{\partial \xi_2}}{\left[(x_1 - \xi_1)^2 + (x_2 - \xi_2)^2 \right]^{3/2}} d\xi_1 d\xi_2$$

Cerruti solution

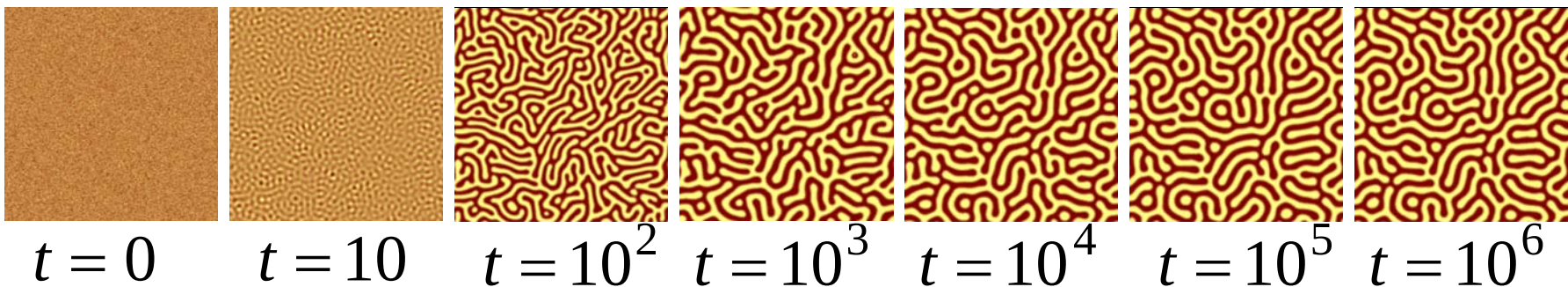
Regular solution $g(C) = \Lambda kT [C \log C + (1-C) \log(1-C) + \Omega C(1-C)]$

Simulation Results, $C = 0.5$

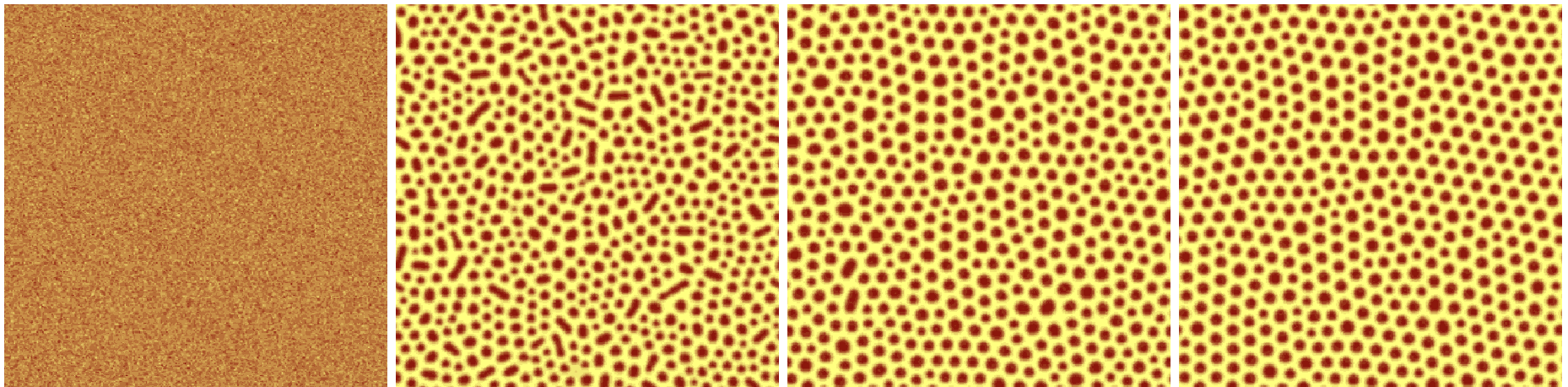
No elasticity refining



With elasticity refining



Simulation Results, $C = 0.4$



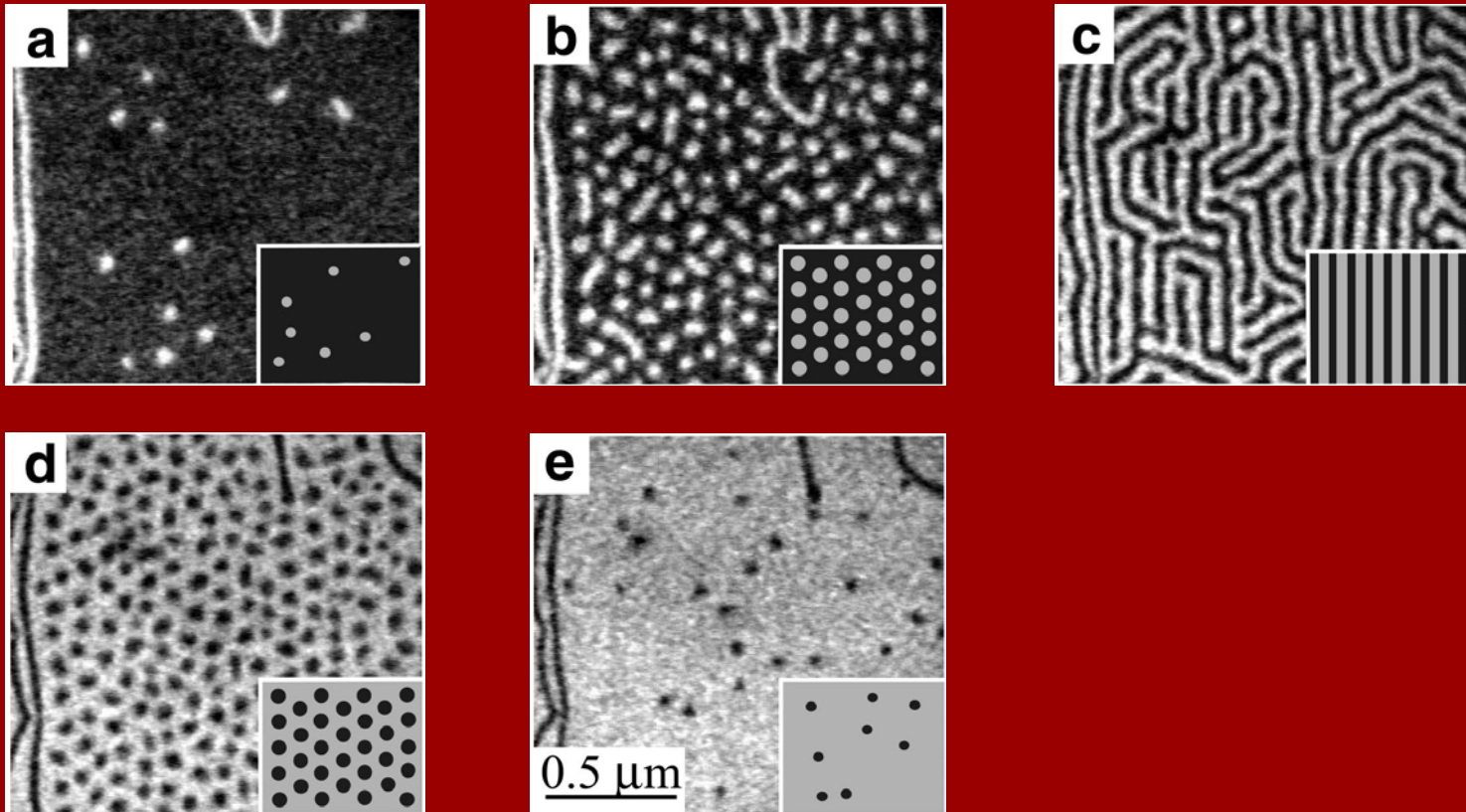
$t = 0$

$t = 10^2$

$t = 10^3$

$t = 8 \times 10^6$

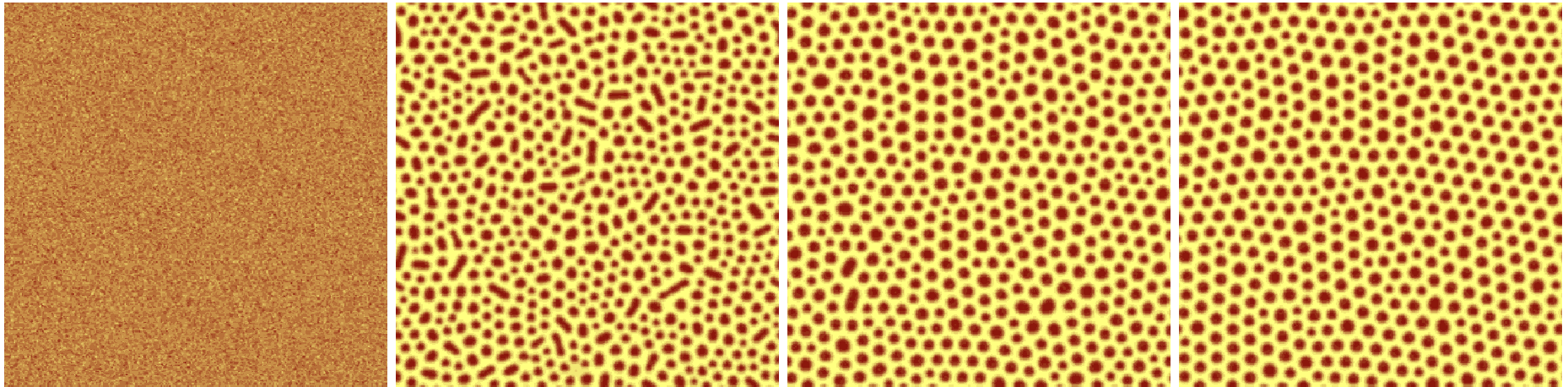
Pb on Cu (111)



The bright region is the Pb phase. The dark region is the Pb-Cu surface alloy. The average concentration increases from (a) to (e).

Courtesy of Gary Kellogg, of Sandia National Lab.

Simulation Results



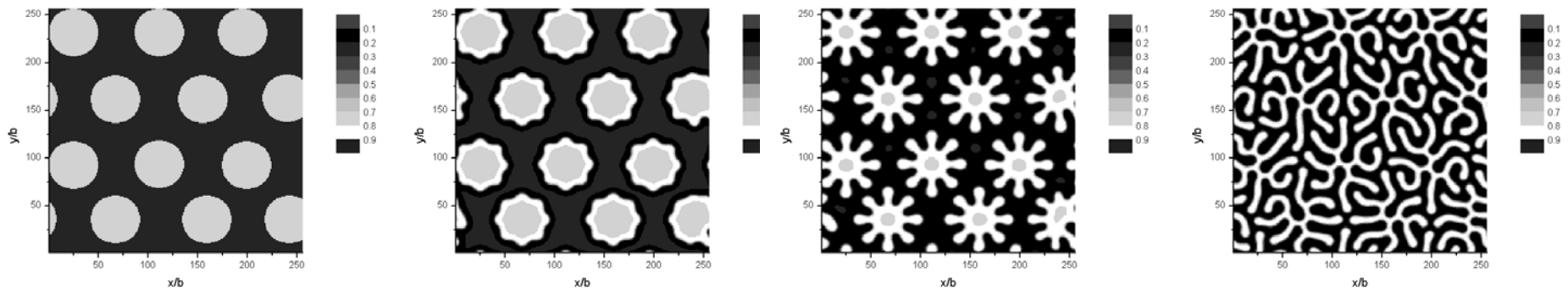
$t = 0$

$t = 10^2$

$t = 10^3$

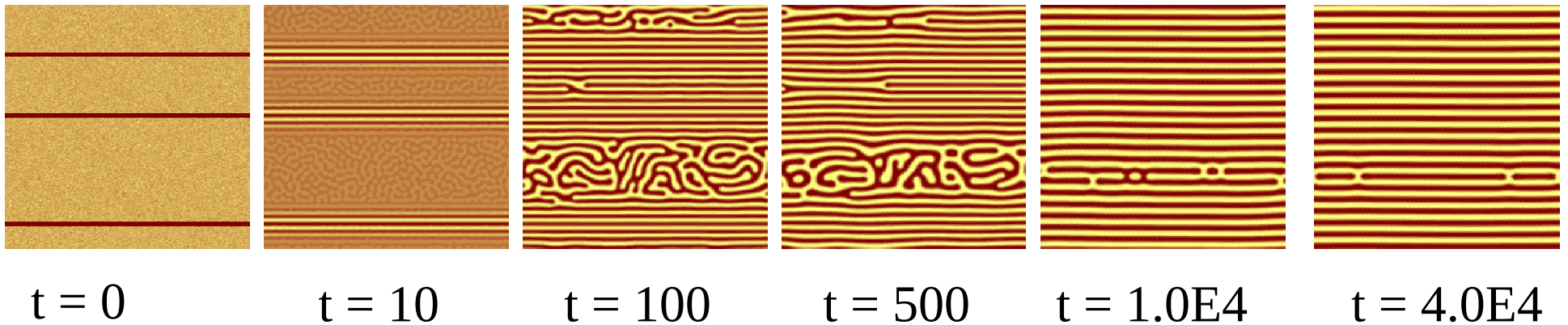
$t = 8 \times 10^6$

Suo, Lu, *J. Nanoparticles Res.* 2, 333 (2000).

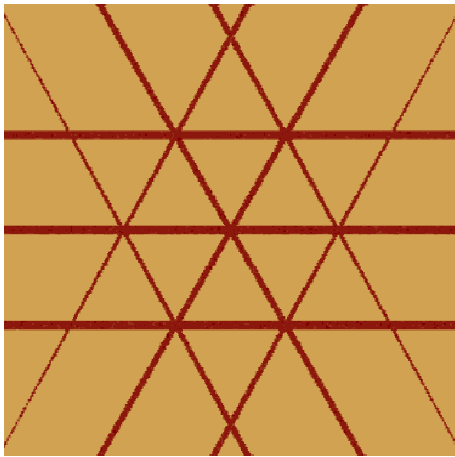


W. Hong

“Crystal Seeds”



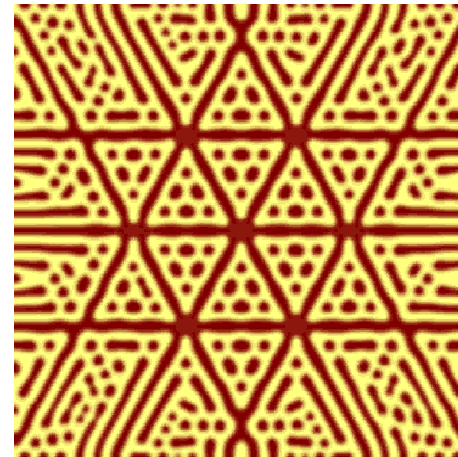
Guide self-assembly with a coarse pattern



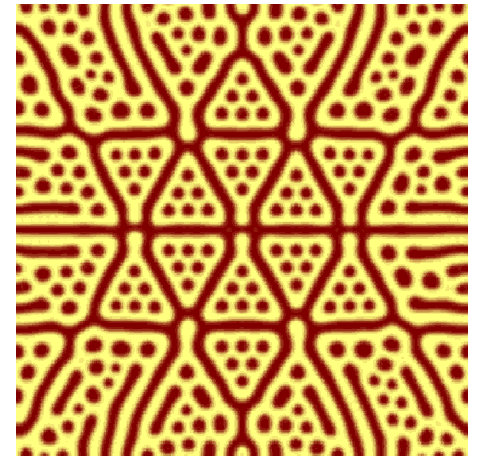
$t = 0$



$t = 10$

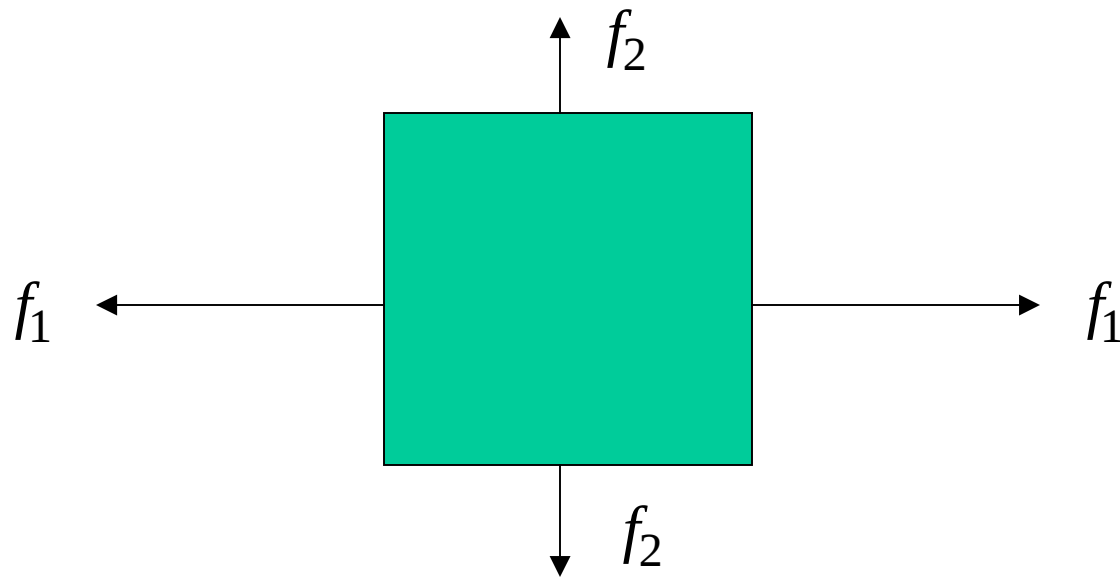


$t = 100$



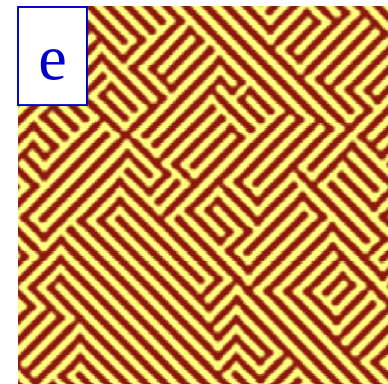
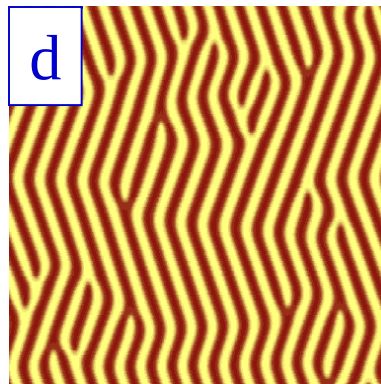
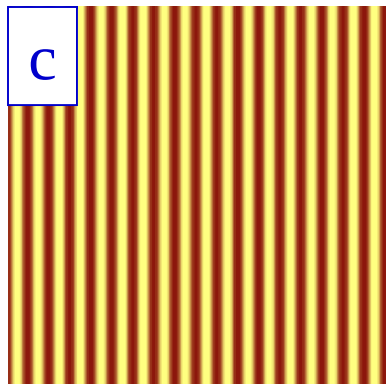
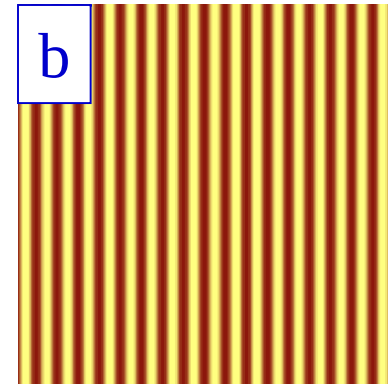
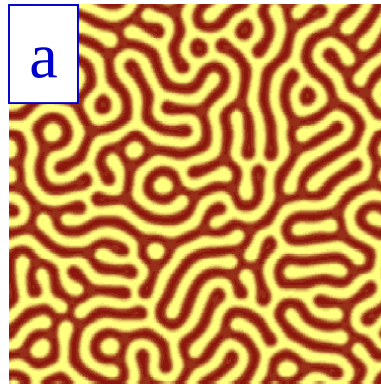
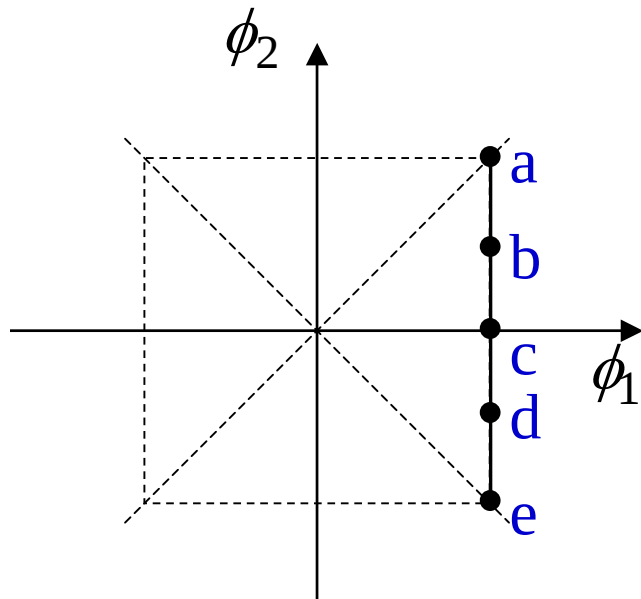
$t = 1000$

Anisotropic Surface Stress



$$f_1 = \phi_1 C \quad f_2 = \phi_2 C$$

Patterns due to anisotropic surface stress ($t = 2.0E5$)



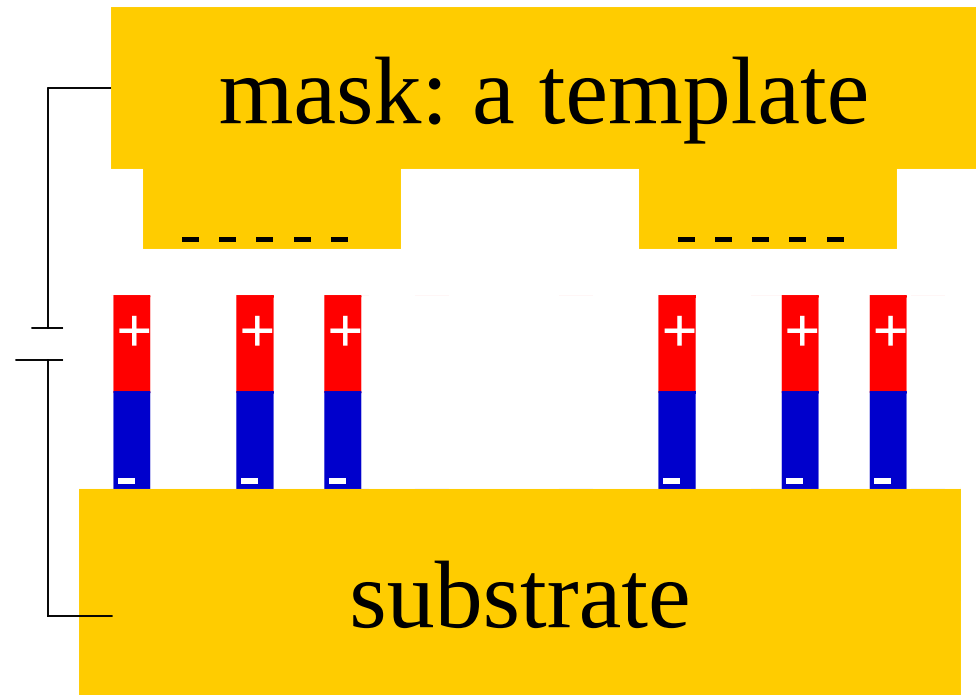
Molecules are more versatile than atoms.

Electrostatics is more versatile than elasticity.

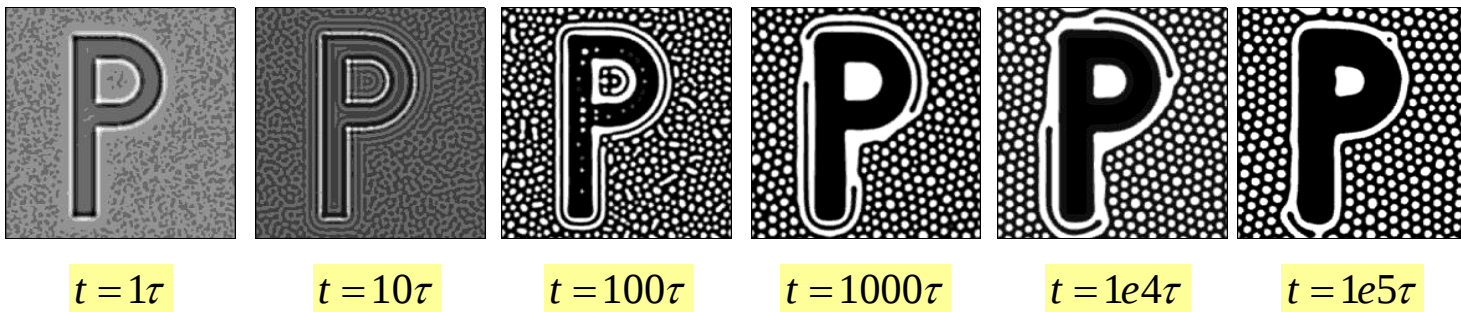
Can electric field direct molecular motion?

Gao & Suo, JAP, **93**, 4276-4282 (2003).

Pattern on the mask

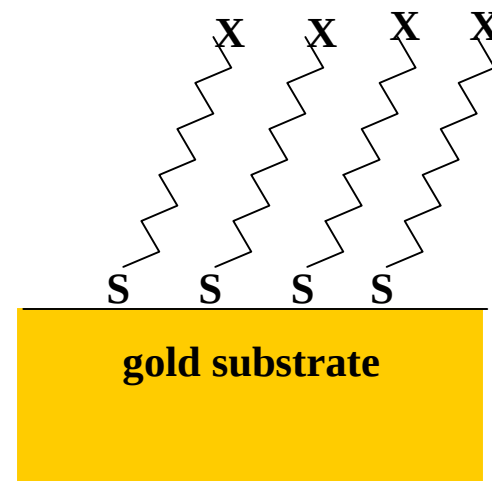
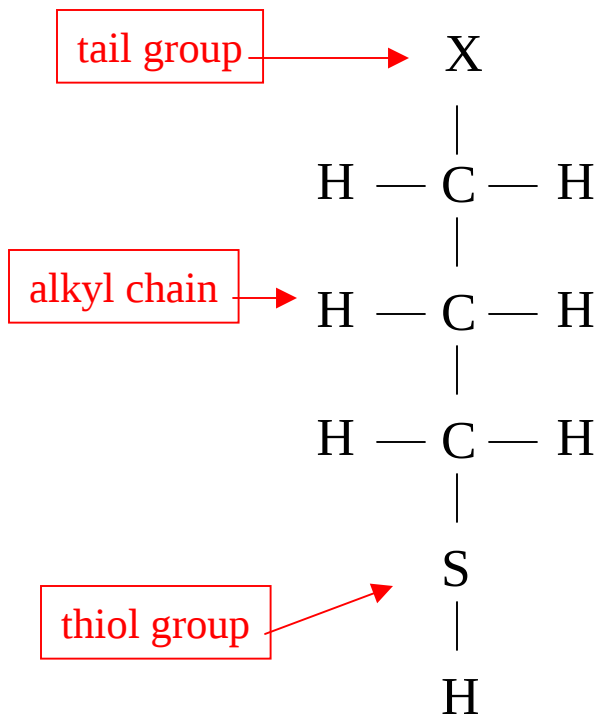


$C_0 = 0.4$

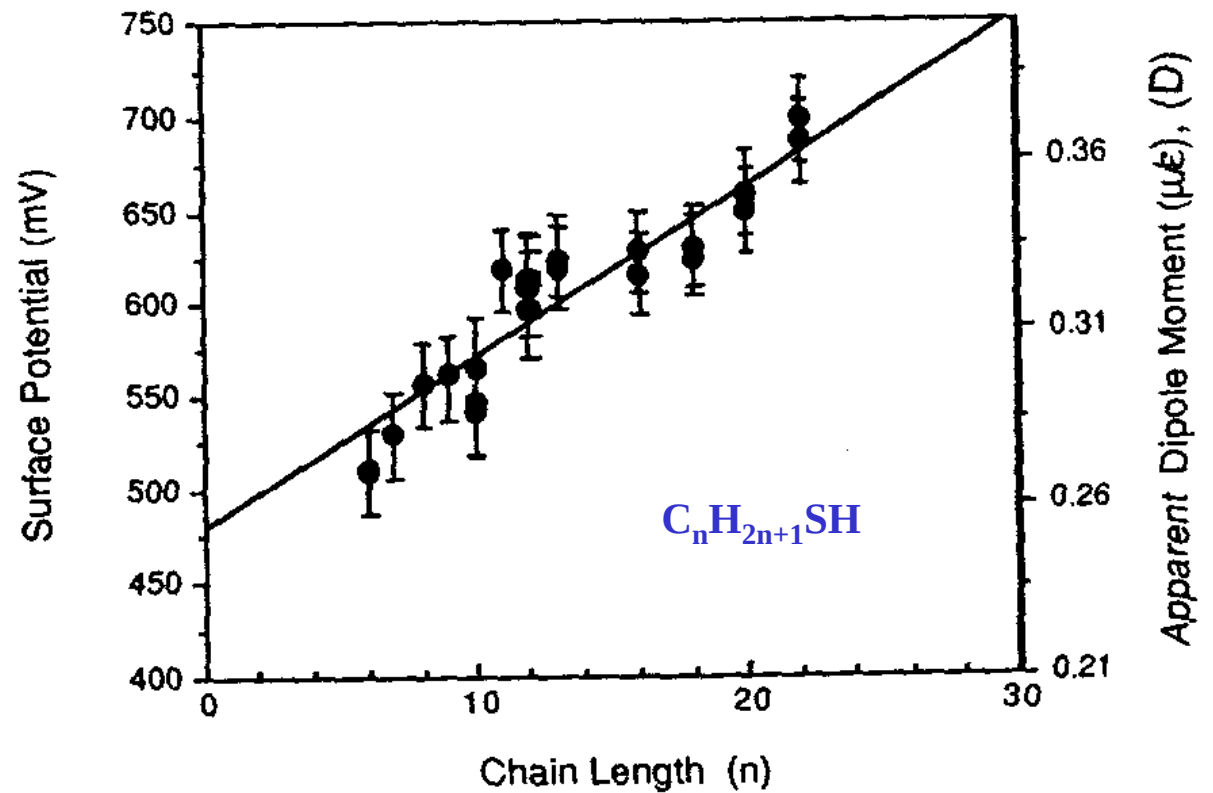
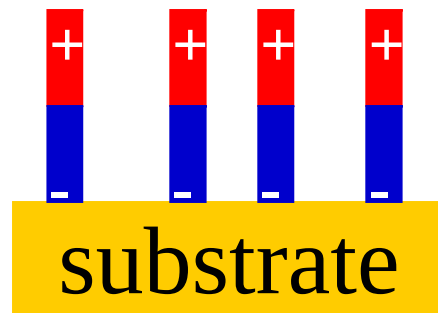


Write one book, print many copies

An example: alkanthiol on gold

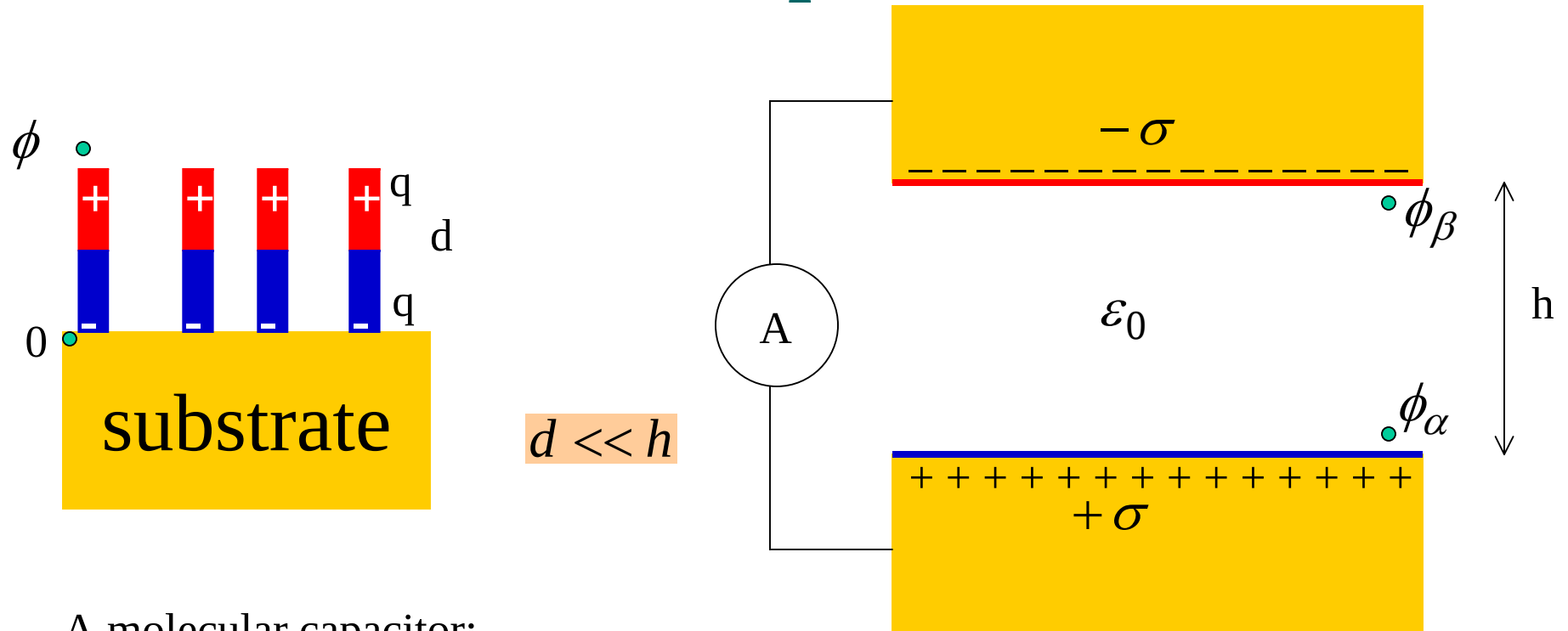


Adsorbates carry electric dipoles



Evans, Ulman, Chem. Phys. Lett. 170, 462 (1990)

Surface potential



A molecular capacitor:

$$\phi \approx \frac{qd}{\epsilon}$$

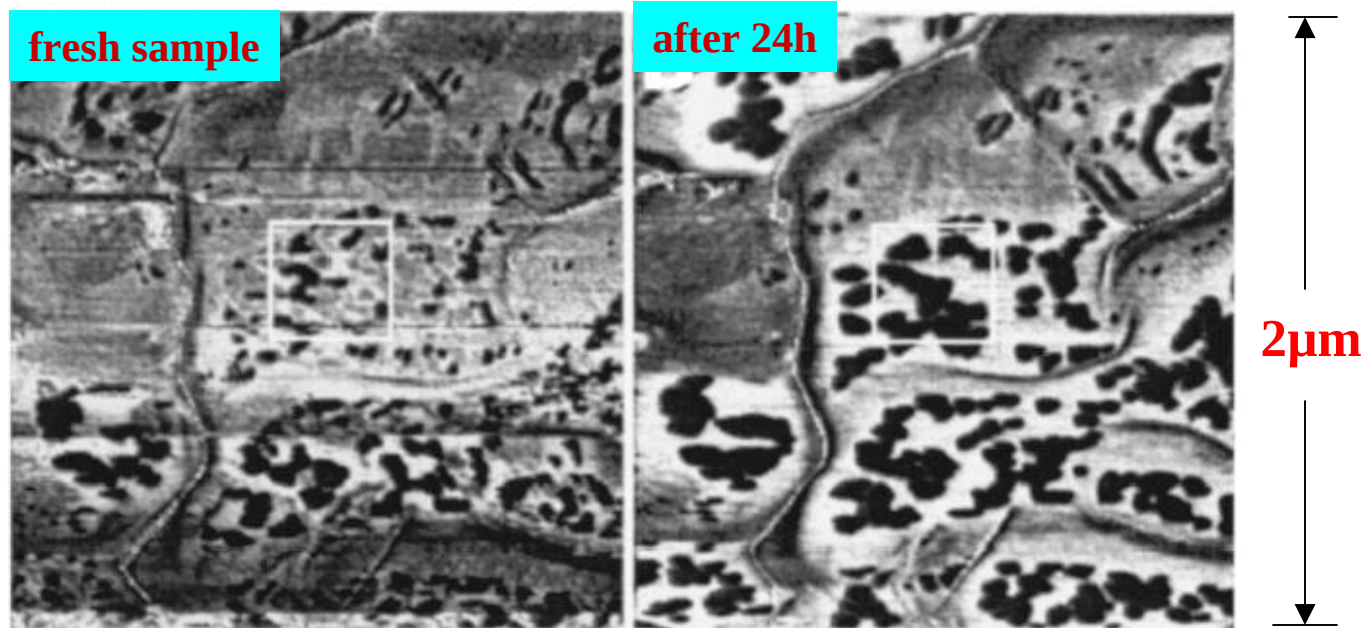
Kelvin method to measure surface potential

$$\sigma = \epsilon_0 \frac{\phi_\alpha - \phi_\beta}{h}$$

$$\Delta\sigma = \epsilon_0 (\phi_\alpha - \phi_\beta) \Delta\left(\frac{1}{h}\right)$$

Adsorbates move

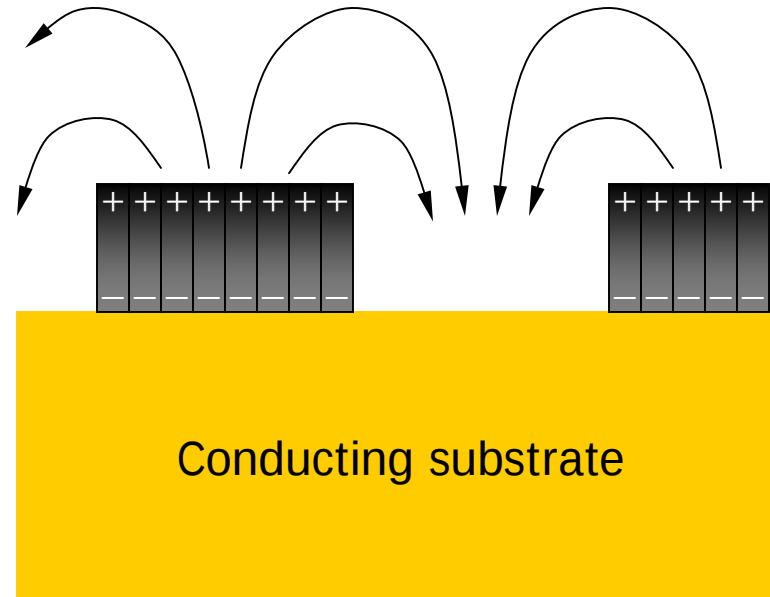
AFM lateral force images: $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{33}\text{SH}$ islands on Au(111).



diffusivity $\sim 10^{-21} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$

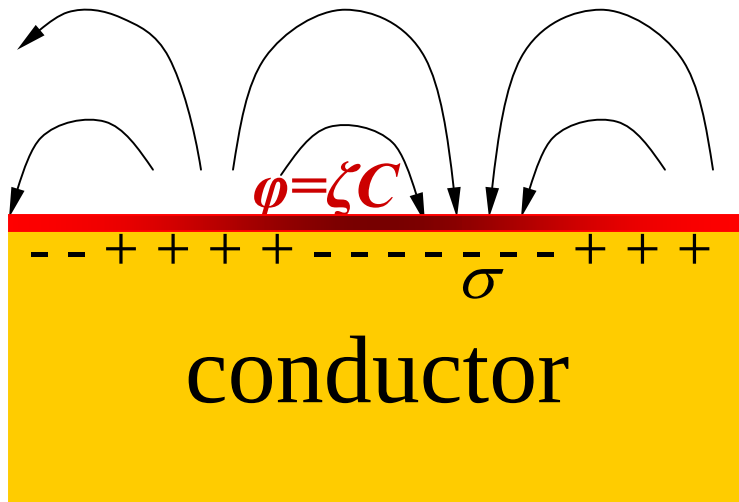
Barrena *et al.*, J. Chem. Phys. 111, 9797 (1999); 113, 2413 (2000)

Forces that move molecules



- Entropy
- Intermolecular attraction (van der Waals)
- Dipole-dipole repulsion
- Dipole-electrode interaction

Equation of motion



$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial t} = \frac{M}{\Lambda^2} \nabla^2 \left(\frac{\partial g}{\partial C} - 2h \nabla^2 C - \zeta \sigma \right)$$

Regular solution

$$g(C) = \Lambda k T [C \ln C + (1-C) \ln(1-C) + \Omega C(1-C)]$$

Electrostatic B.V.P.

$$\nabla^2 \Psi = 0$$

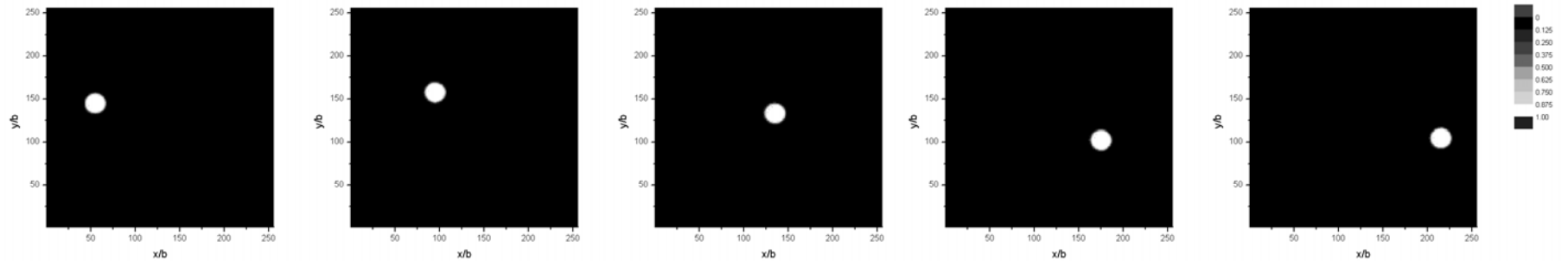
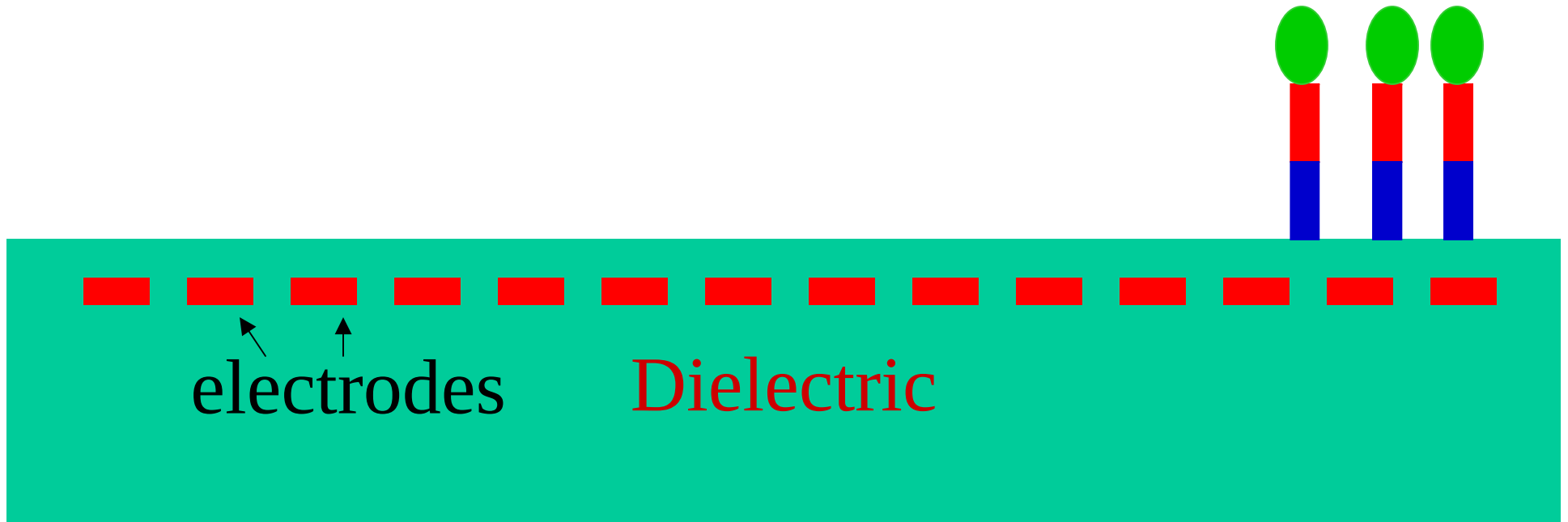
$$\Psi(x_1, x_2, 0) = \phi(x_1, x_2) = \zeta C(x_1, x_2)$$

Ψ is prescribed at electrodes

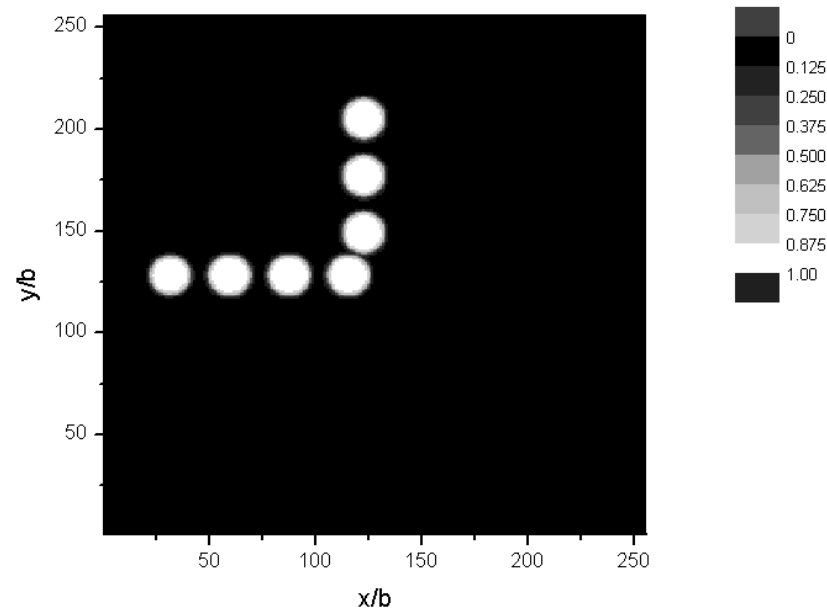
Charge at the surface

$$\sigma(x_1, x_2) = -\varepsilon \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x_3}, \quad x_3 = 0$$

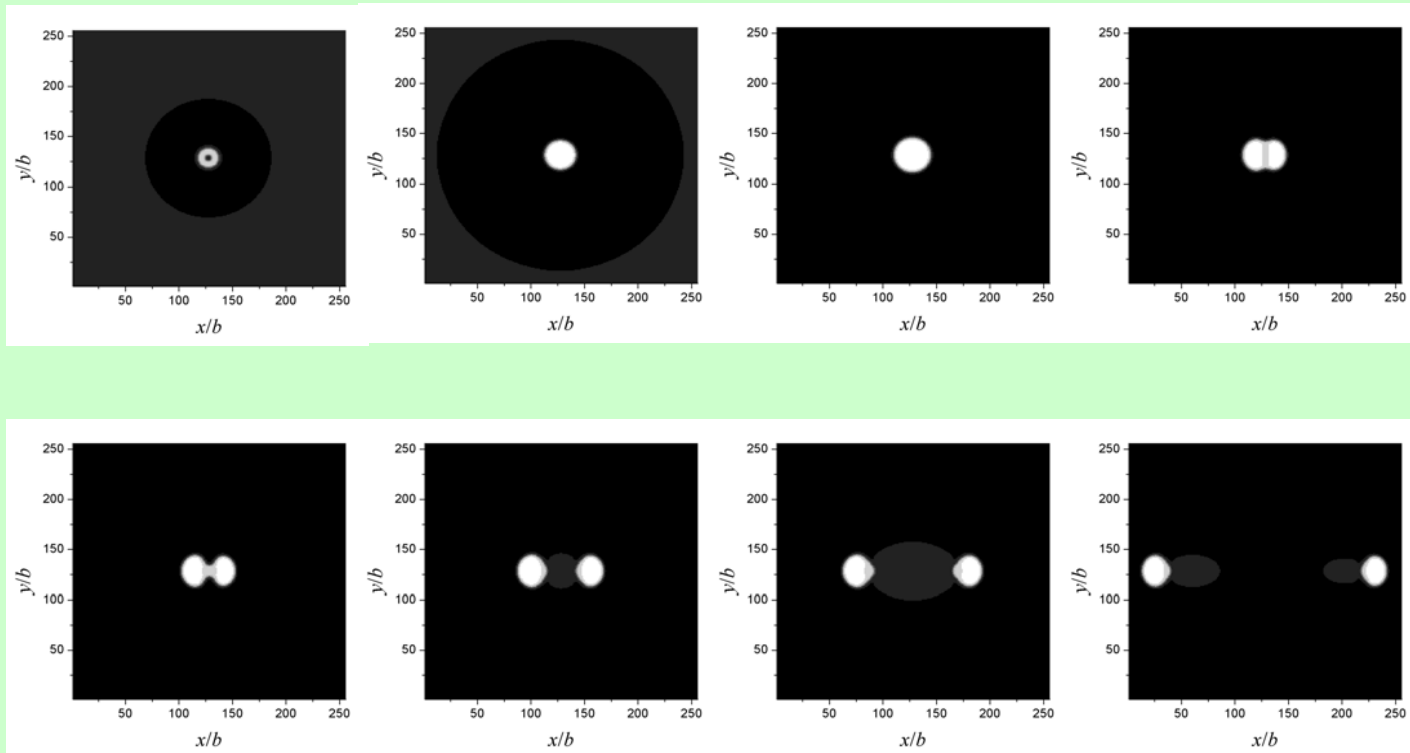
A mechanic has a new dream: The molecular car



Turning

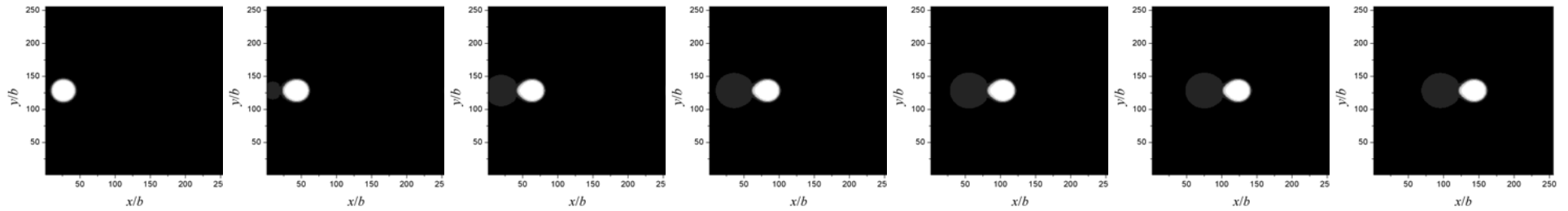


Splitting (or merging)

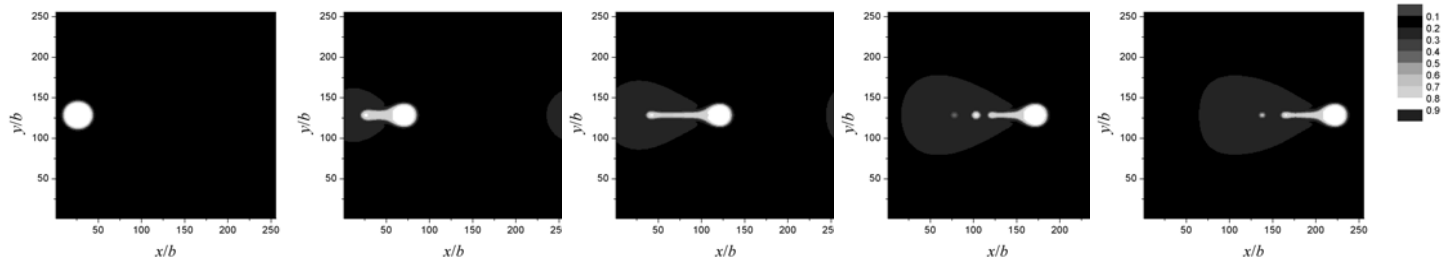


Speeding

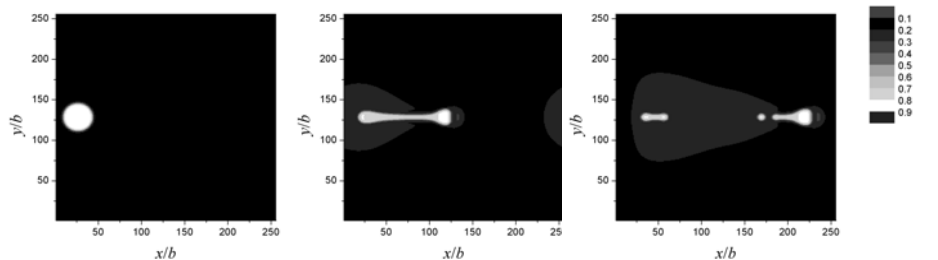
$\nu = 0.02$



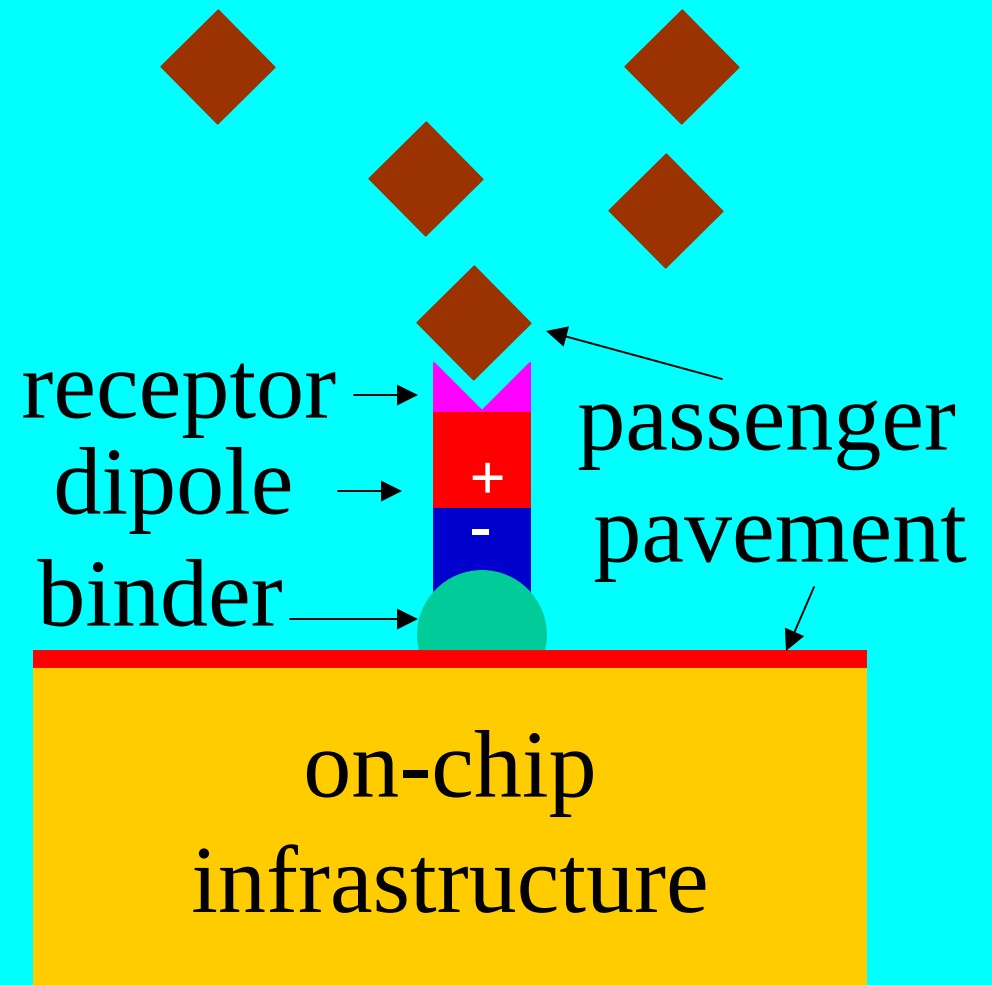
$\nu = 0.05$



$\nu = 0.1$

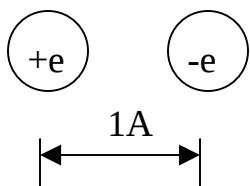


Division of labor: modular architecture



Add a dipole to a molecule

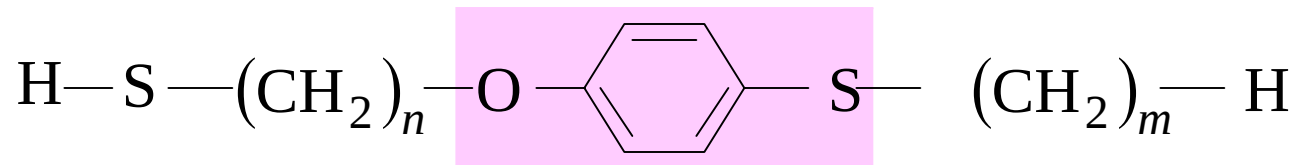
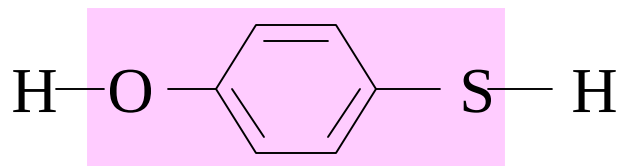
$$p = 1.6 \times 10^{-29} \text{ Cm}$$



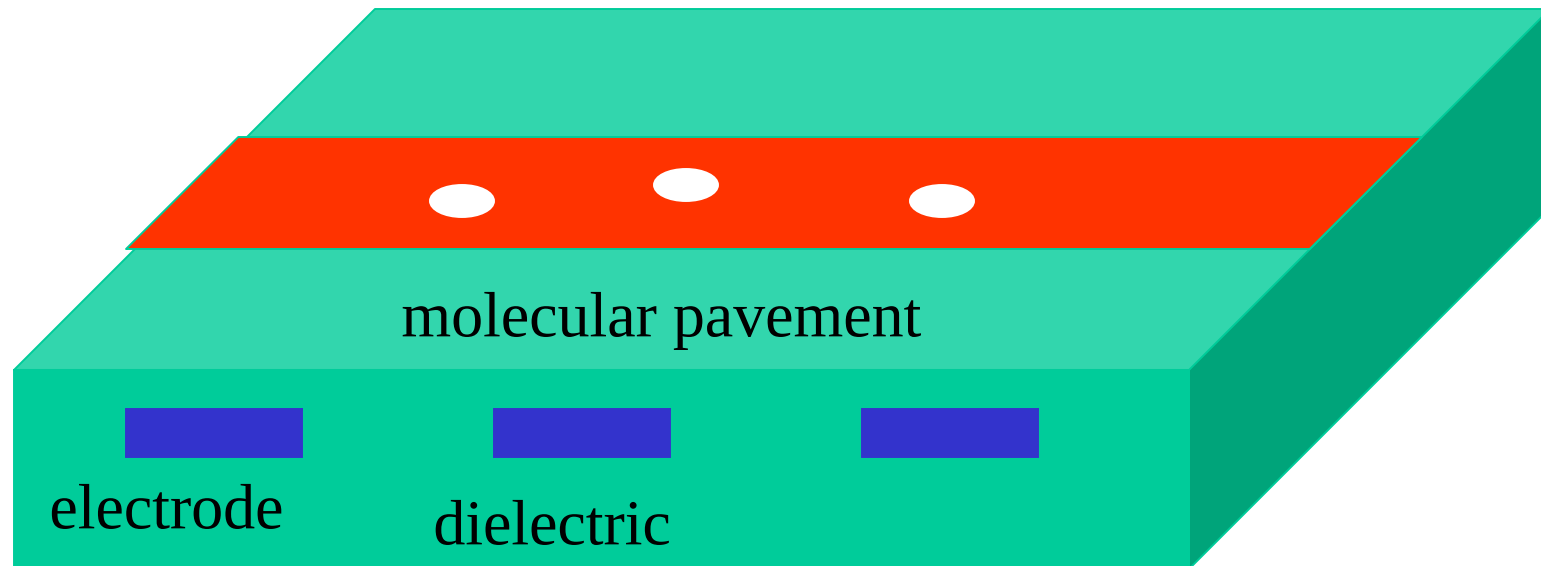
$$p = 0.617 \times 10^{-29} \text{ Cm}$$



$$p = 0.9 \times 10^{-29} \text{ Cm}$$

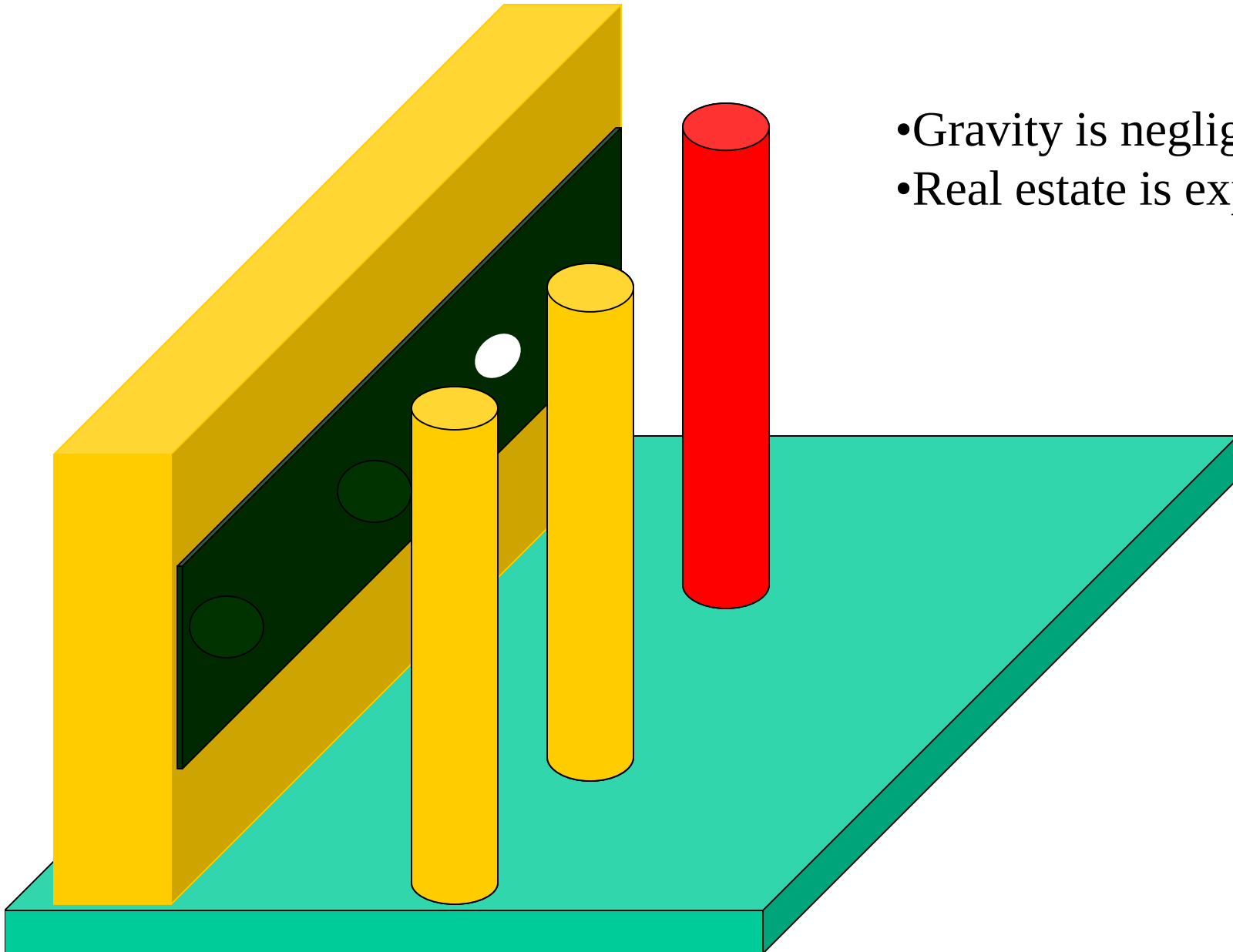


Molecular pavement



- cover steps
- confine the Brownian movement
- fast car
- repel trash
- chemical gradient

Highway-on-a-wall



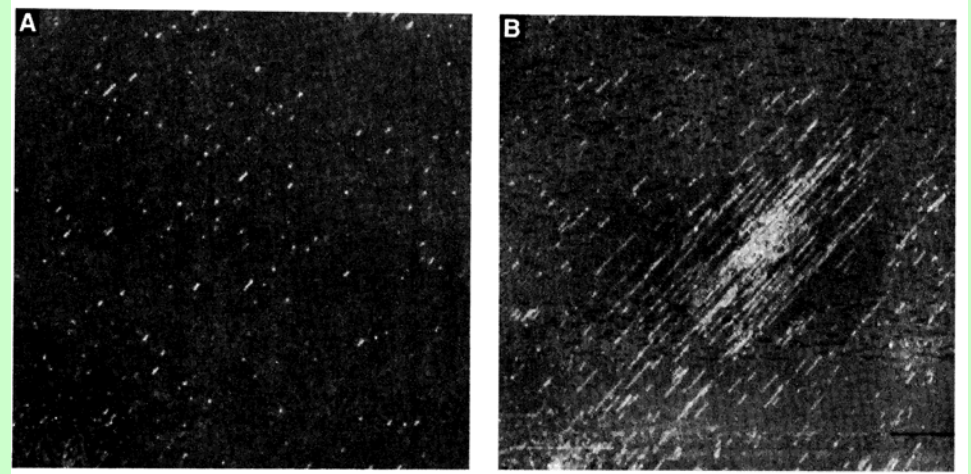
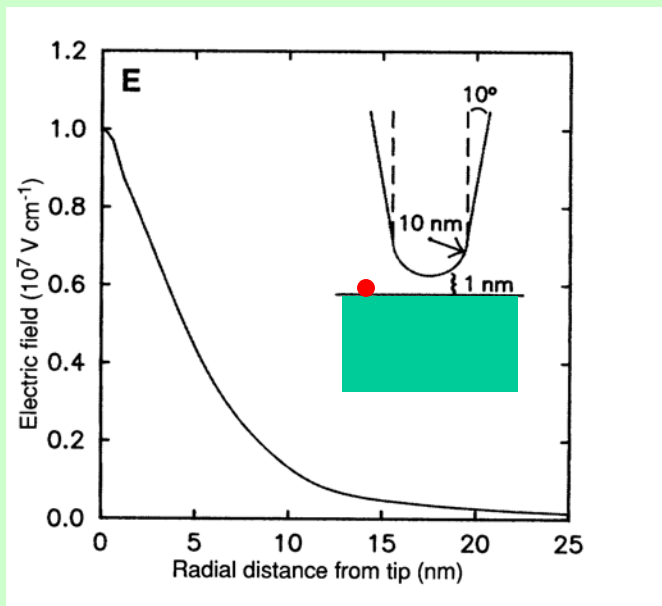
- Gravity is negligible
- Real estate is expensive

Questions from a mechanic

- Can we find a wheel/pavement pair so that the car runs rapidly on the surface, but does not fly away?
- Can we drive the car against thermal motion?

Cesium on GaAs

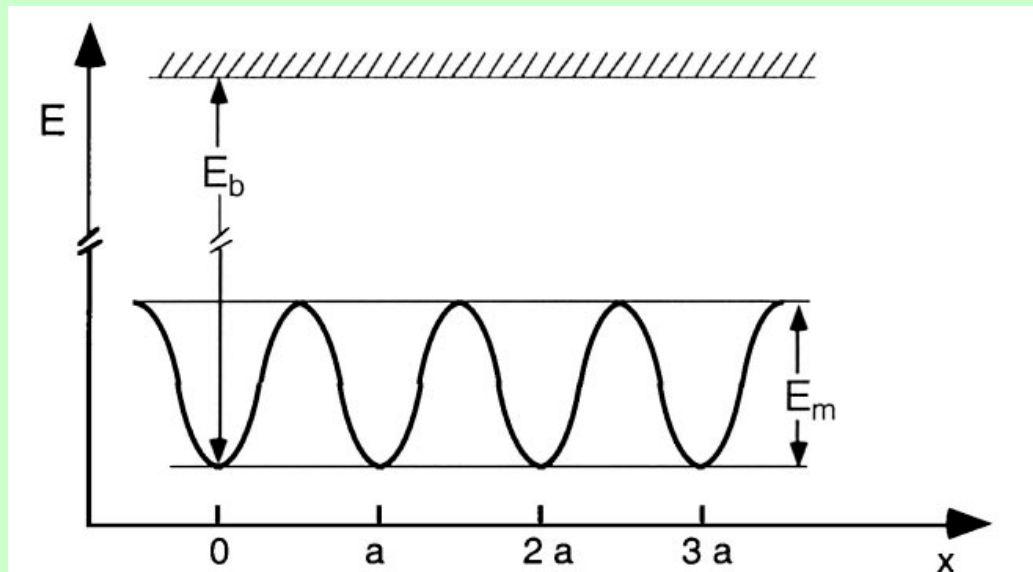
Whitman et al.
Science 251, 1206 (1991)



350 nm

3V for 0.1s

Binding energy, migration energy



$$E_b \sim 1\text{eV}$$

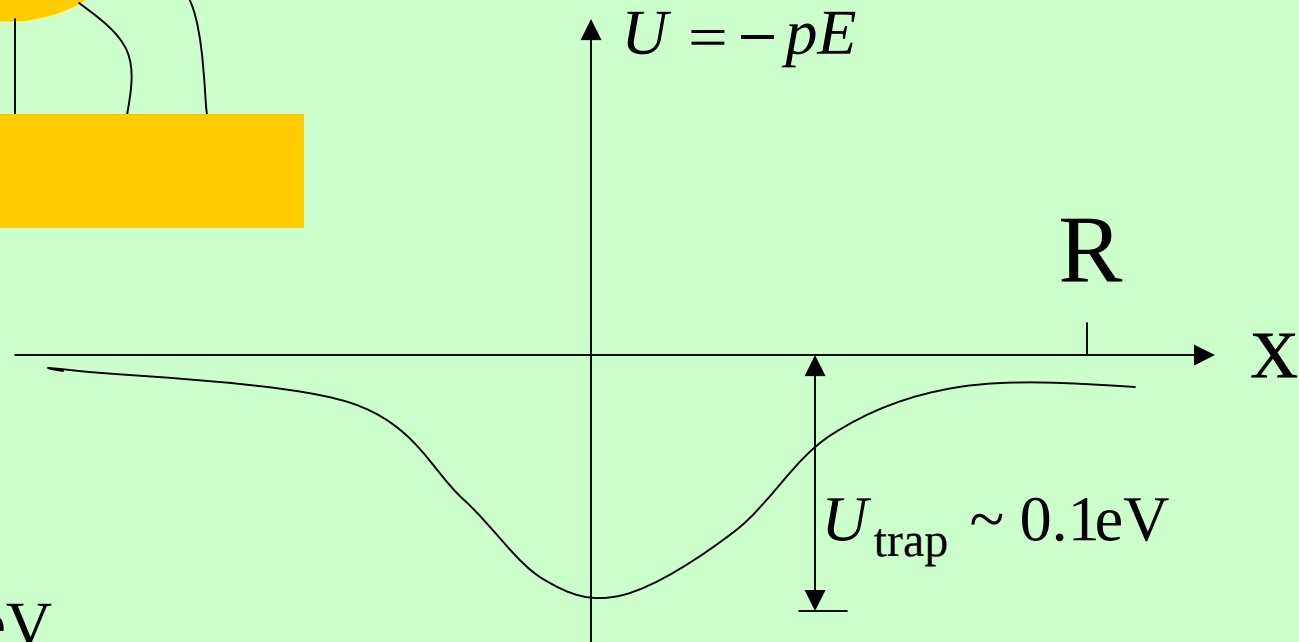
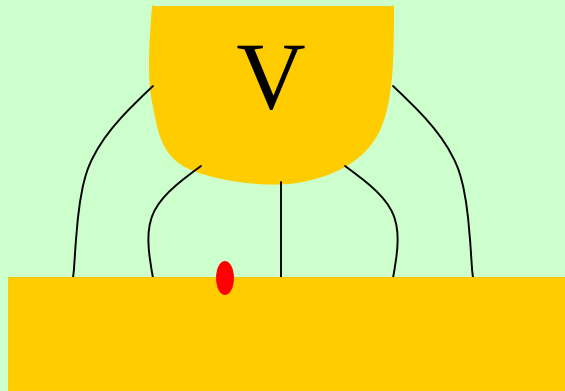
$$E_m \sim 0.1\text{eV}$$

$$kT = 0.025\text{eV}$$

No desorption: $E_b \gg kT$

Rapid migration: $D \sim \nu a^2 \exp\left(-\frac{E_m}{kT}\right)$

Electrode creates an energy trap



$$kT = 0.025\text{eV}$$

$$E \sim V / d \sim (1\text{V}) / (10^{-9}\text{m}) = 10^9\text{V/m}$$

$$p \sim ea \sim (10^{-19}\text{C})(10^{-10}\text{m}) = 10^{-29}\text{Cm}$$

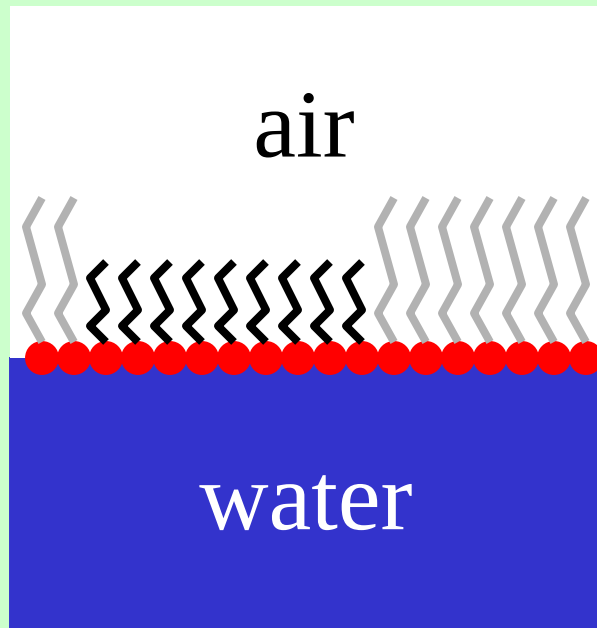
More numbers

$$D \sim \nu a^2 \exp\left(-\frac{E_m}{kT}\right) \sim (10^{13} / \text{s}) (10^{-10} \text{ m})^2 \exp\left(-\frac{E_m}{0.025 \text{ eV}}\right) \\ = (10^{-7} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}) \exp(-40 E_m)$$

$$f = \nabla(\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{E}) \sim p(V / d) / R \sim (10^{-29} \text{ Cm}) (10^9 \text{ V/m}) / (10^{-8} \text{ m}) = 1 \text{ pN}$$

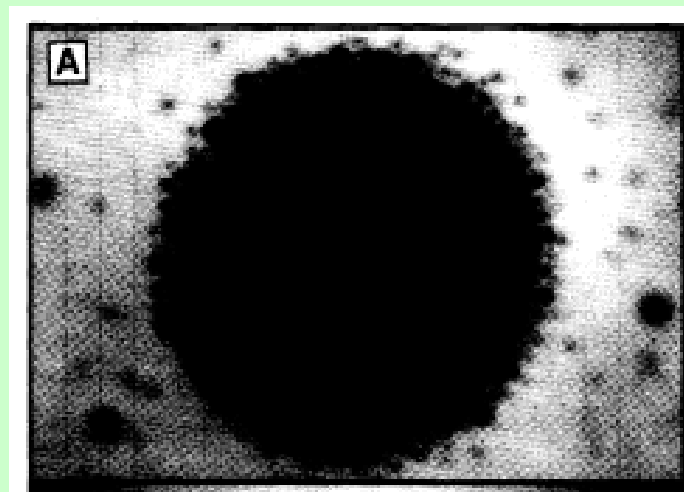
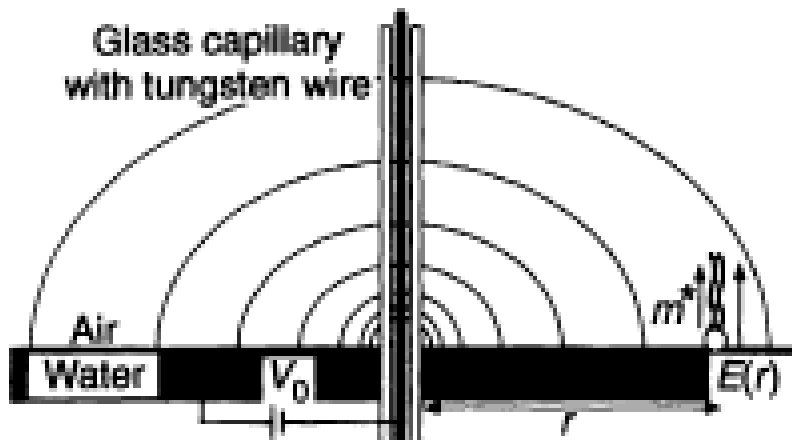
E_m	0.1 eV	0.5 eV	1.0 eV
D	$10^{-9} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$	$10^{-16} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$	$10^{-25} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$
$X = \sqrt{2Dt}$	10^{-5} m	10^{-8} m	10^{-13} m
$u = \frac{D}{kT} f$	10^{-1} m/s	10^{-8} m/s	10^{-17} m/s

Molecular boat?



Lipids on air/water interface

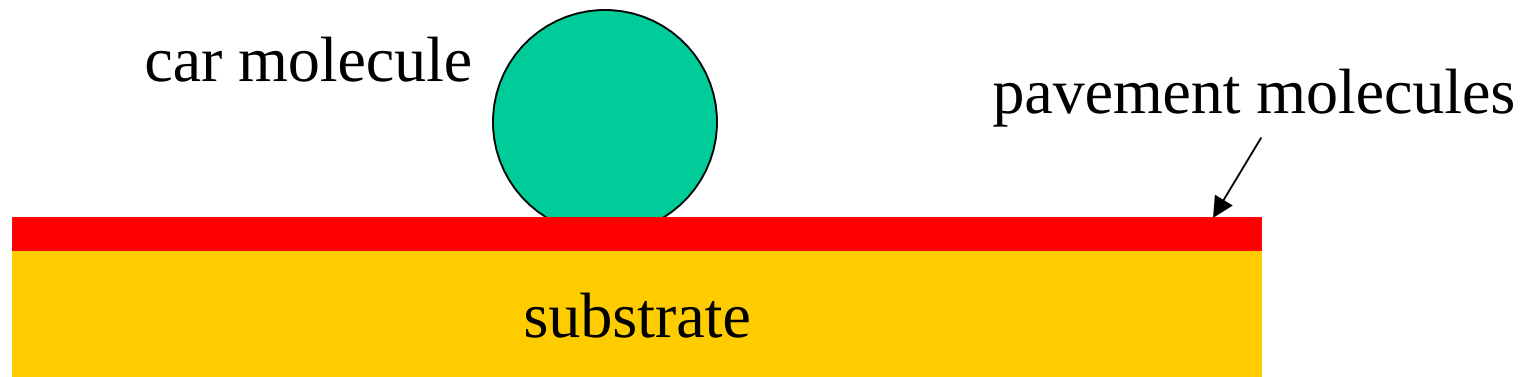
Lee, Klingler, McConnell.
Science 263, 655 (1994)



Why the molecular car now?

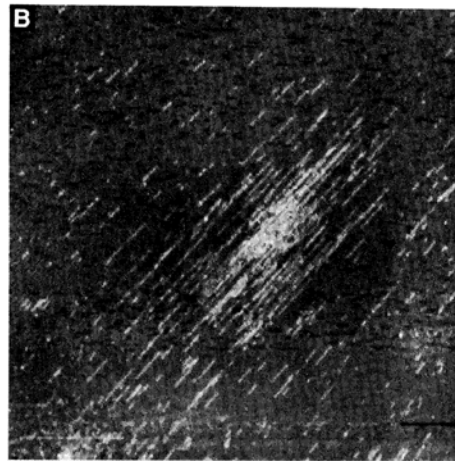
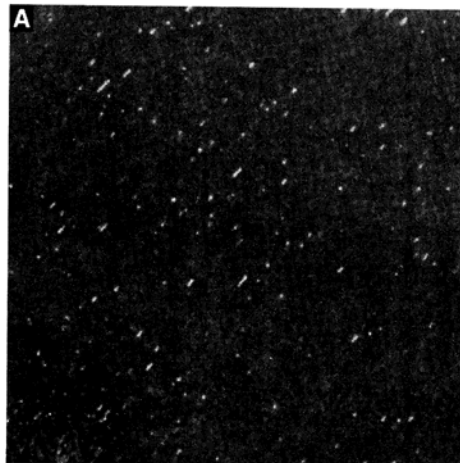
- **Scanning probes** (imaging, electrode). Tools to search for the engines, wheels, pavements.
- **Nanofabrication** (~ 100 nm in fabs, ~ 10 nm in labs). Tools to make on-chip infrastructure.
- **Molecular synthesis**. Tools to make the car.
- **Computation**. Tools to design the car and its on-chip infrastructure.

In search of engines, wheels, and pavements



Scanning probe: an imaging tool *and* a loading tool

$$X = \sqrt{2Dt}$$



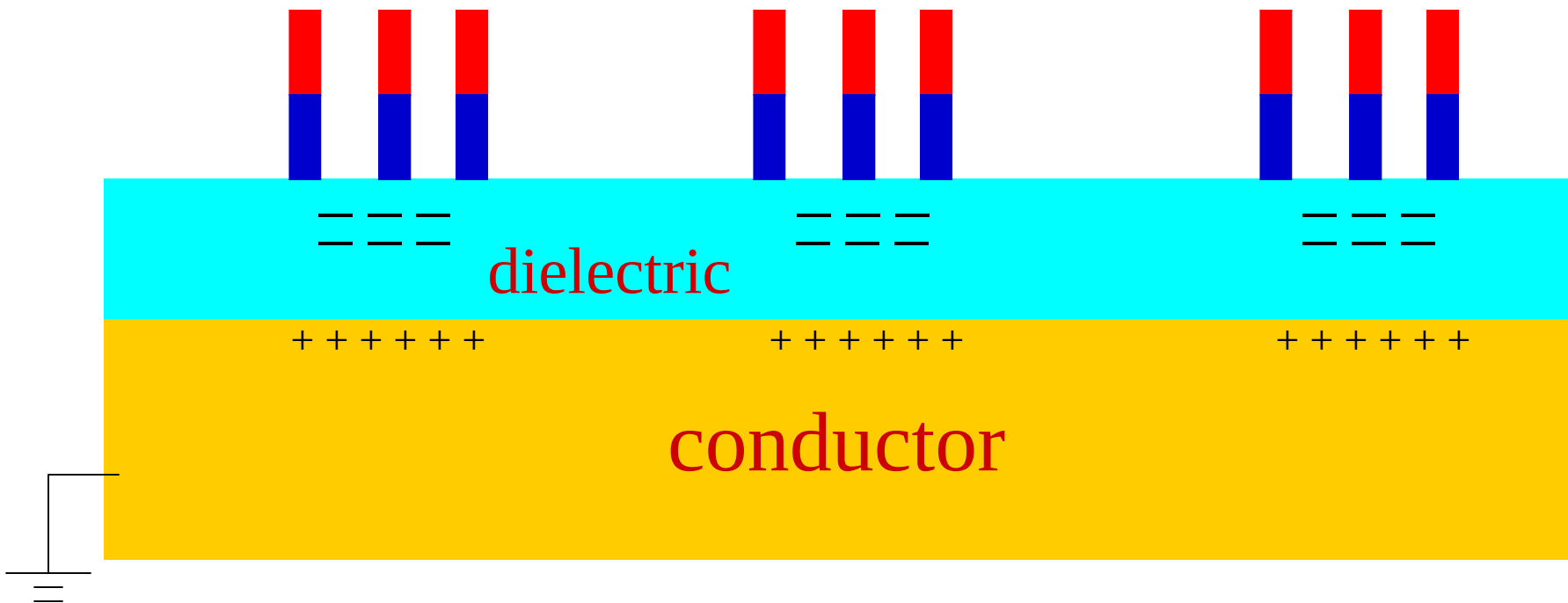
$$U = -pE - \frac{1}{2}\alpha E^2$$

$$\text{Prob} \propto \exp\left(-\frac{U}{kT}\right)$$

What is the molecular car good for?

- **Microfluidics, nanofluidics, molecular cars** (ultimate frontier of matter-transport-on-a-chip).
- **Drug discovery** (combinatorial chemistry).
- **Cancer detection** (medical diagnostics).
- **Proteomics** (identity and function).

Molecular Xerography

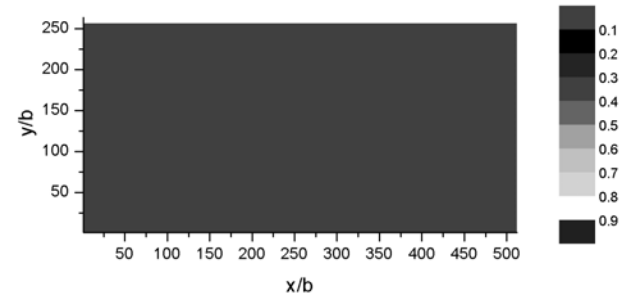


transcribe a charge pattern into a molecular pattern

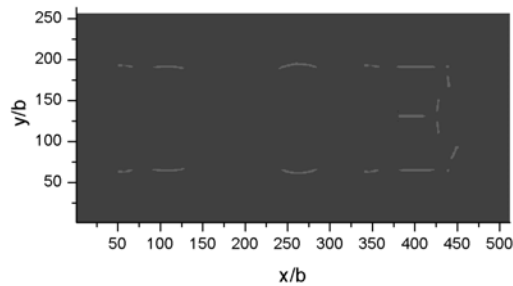
Transcribe a charge pattern to molecular pattern



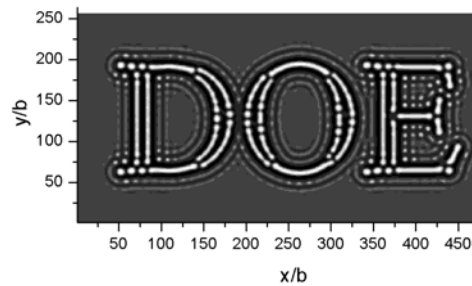
Charge Pattern



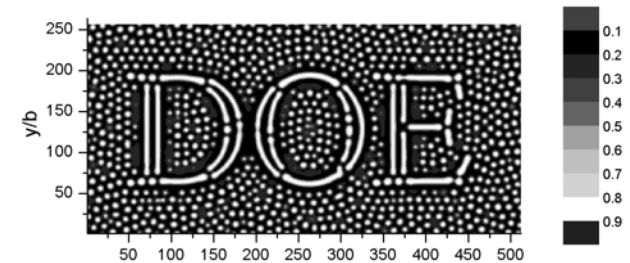
Initial molecular pattern ($t = 0$)



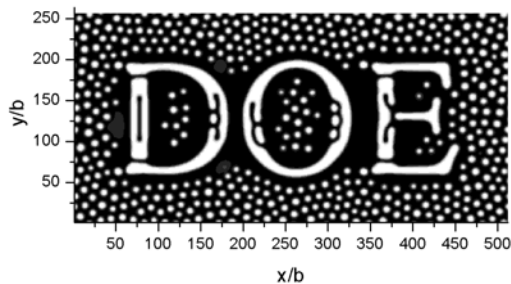
$t = 10\tau$



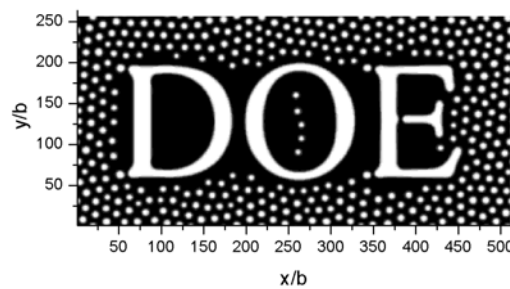
$t = 50\tau$



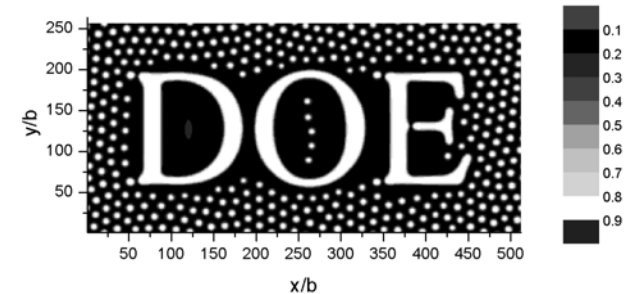
$t = 100\tau$



$t = 1000\tau$

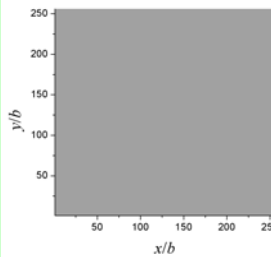
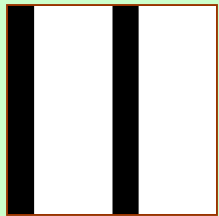


$t = 5000\tau$

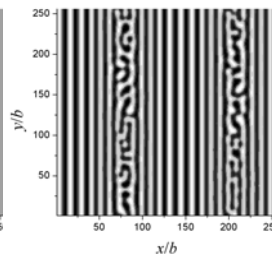


$t = 10000\tau$

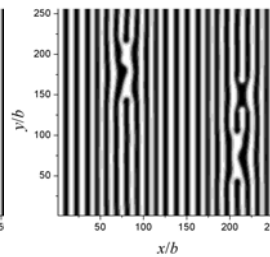
Field-Directed Assembly (FDA)



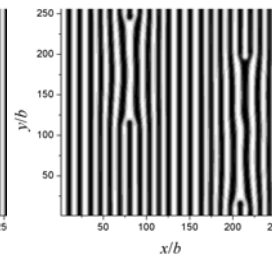
$t = 0$



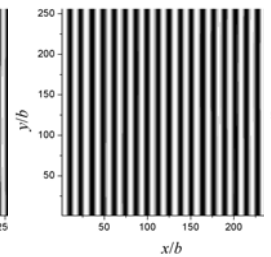
$t = 100$



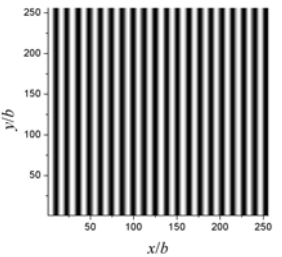
$t = 500$



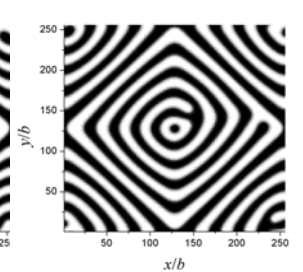
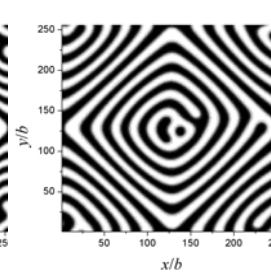
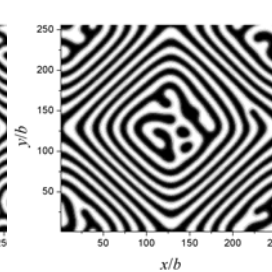
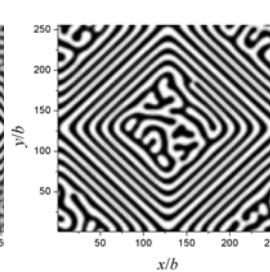
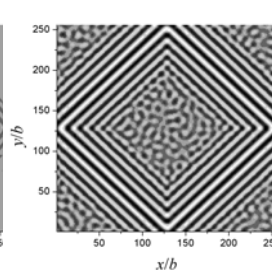
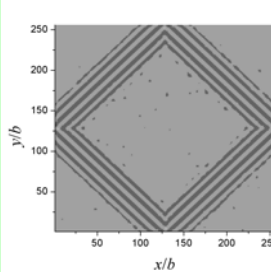
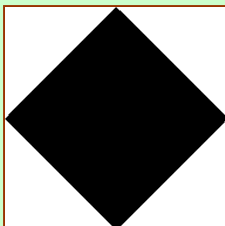
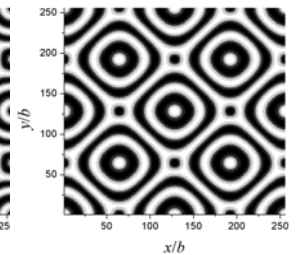
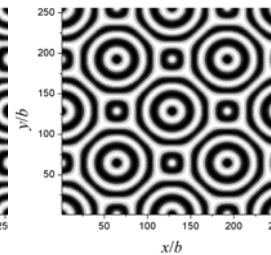
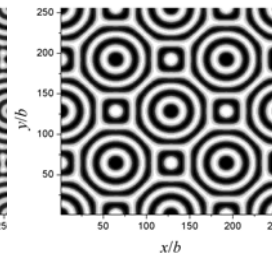
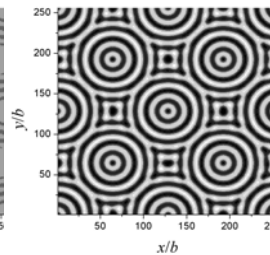
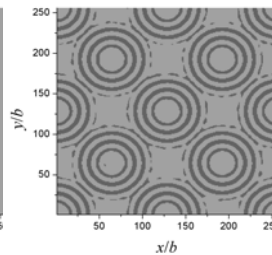
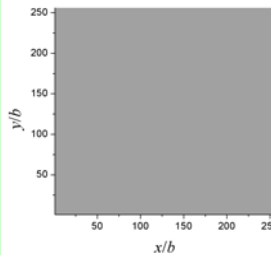
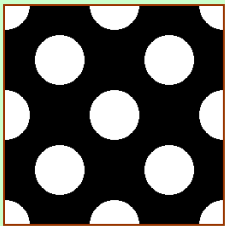
$t = 1000$



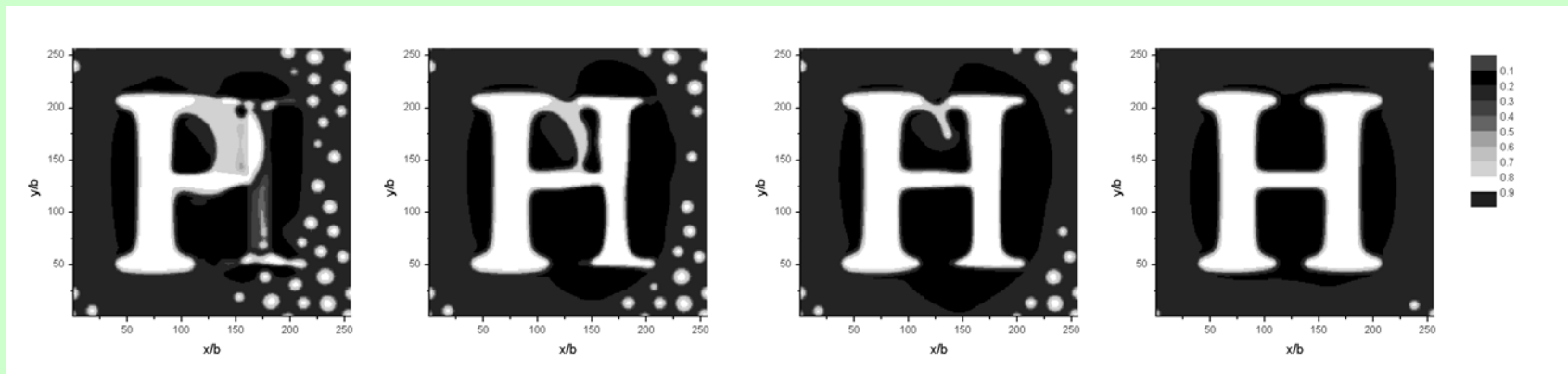
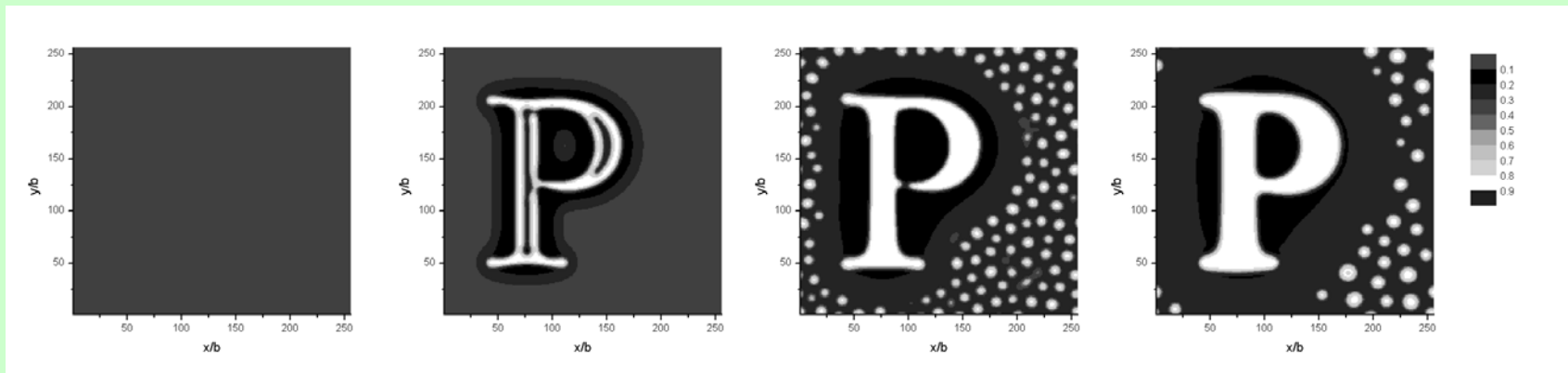
$t = 5000$



$t = 10000$



Re-Configurable Assembly (RCA)



W. Hong

Summary

- Adsorbates carry electric dipoles.
- Adsorbates move.
- Electric field directs their motion.
- Modular car: wheel, engine, passenger seat.
- On-chip infrastructure: electrodes, pavements.
- Re-configurable assembly.

www.deas.harvard.edu/suo

This lecture

Publications 130, 140, 150