

Electron Holography

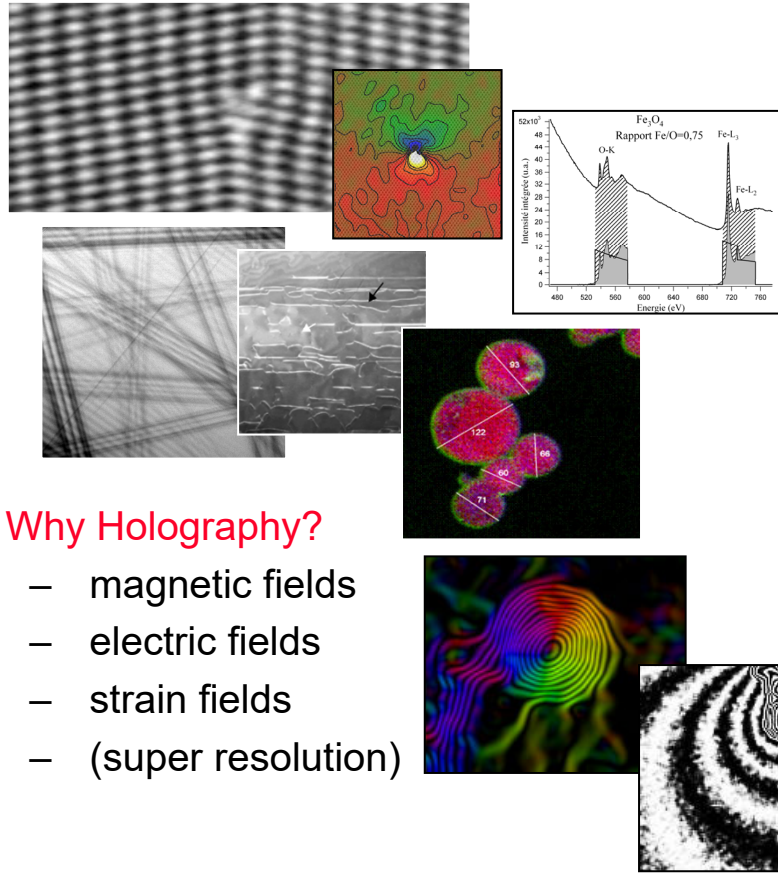
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Julien Dupuy, Kilian Gruel,
Cécile Marcelot, Robin Cours,
Bérengère Disic, Leifeng Zhang,
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**I3EM, CEMES-CNRS, Toulouse,
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CENTRE
D'ÉLABORATION
DE MATÉRIAUX
ET D'ÉTUDES
STRUCTURALES

Why Holography?



- Why Holography?
 - magnetic fields
 - electric fields
 - strain fields
 - (super resolution)

- Why HR(S)TEM?
 - local structure
 - (strain mapping, composition)
- Why Diffraction?
 - crystallography
 - (lattice parameters, bonding)
- Why CTEM?
 - defects
 - (morphology)
- Why EELS/EDS?
 - composition, chemistry
 - electronic states, (magnetism)



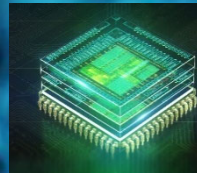
3

Martin Hytch – QEM 2025

Why fields?

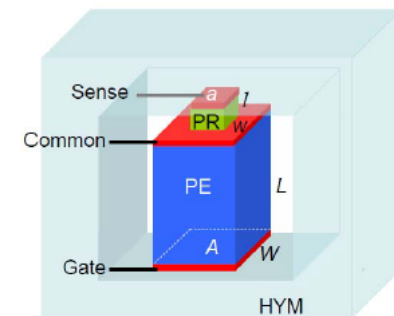
Certified BLE module
for connected smart objects

ST



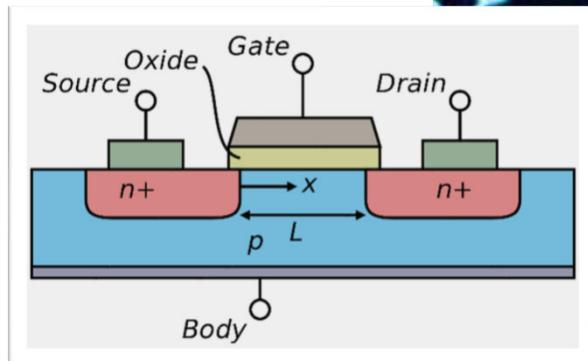
μ	A	V
ϵ	B	E

The PiezoElectronic Transistor (PET)



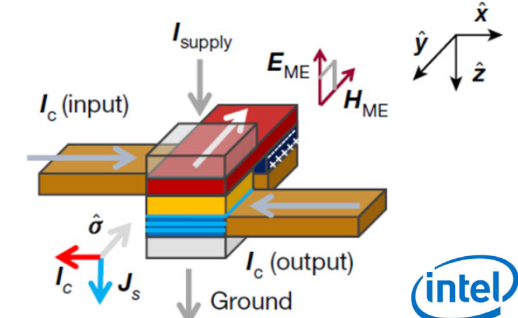
IBM

Field-effect transistor



Field-effect devices

MESO



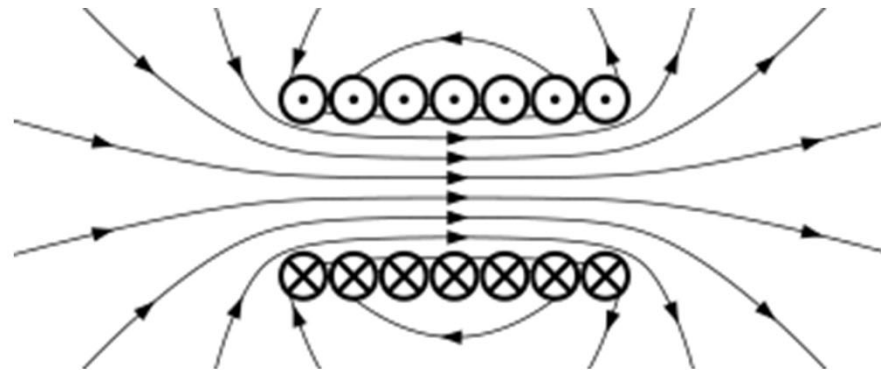
Maxwell's Equations

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

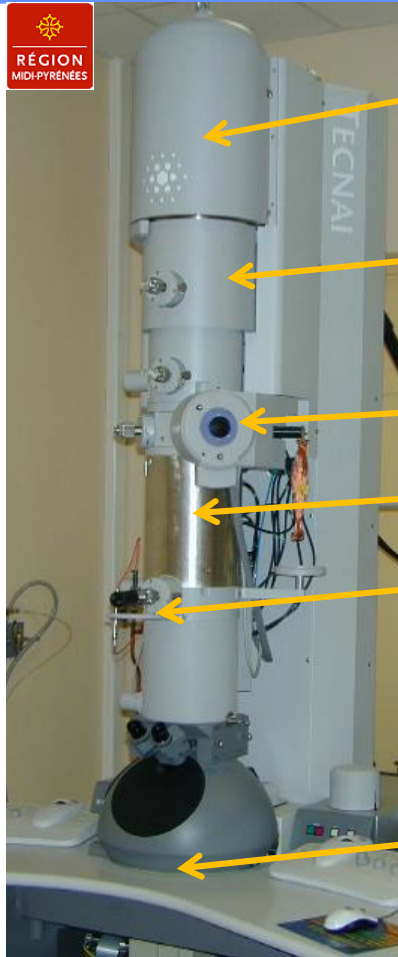
$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \mathbf{j} + \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t}$$



James Clerk Maxwell, Phil. Mag (1861).
On the Physical Lines of Force.

Electron Holography



electron gun

condenser lens system

specimen

imaging lens

biprism

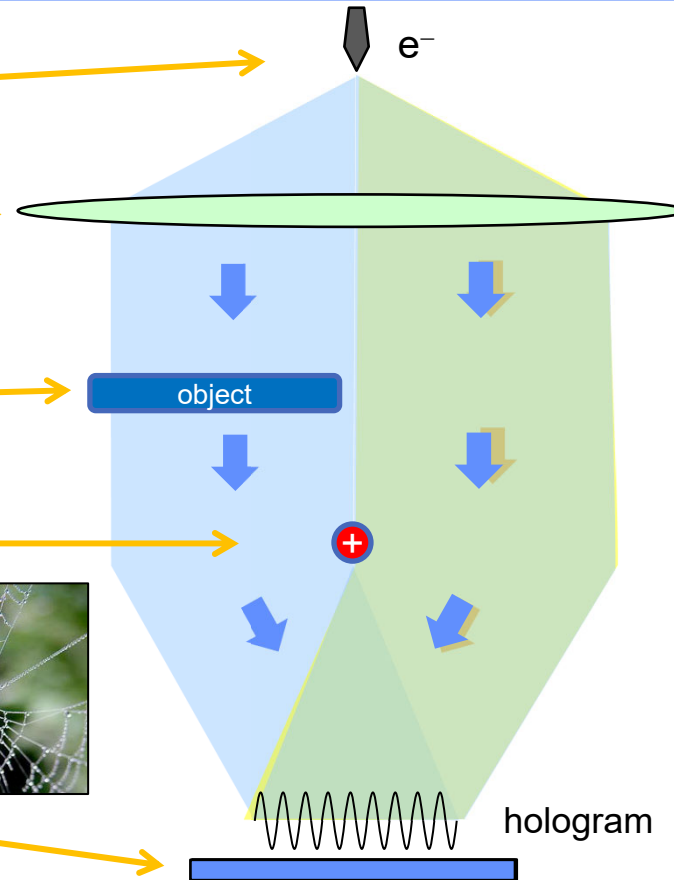
CCD camera

e^-

object

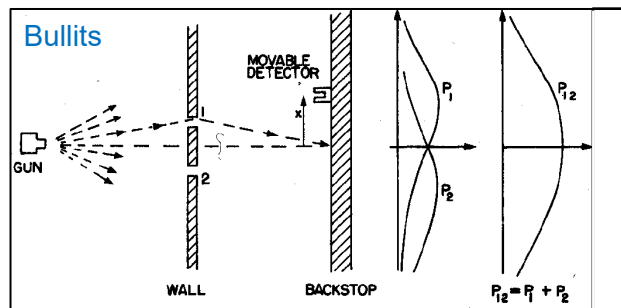
+

hologram

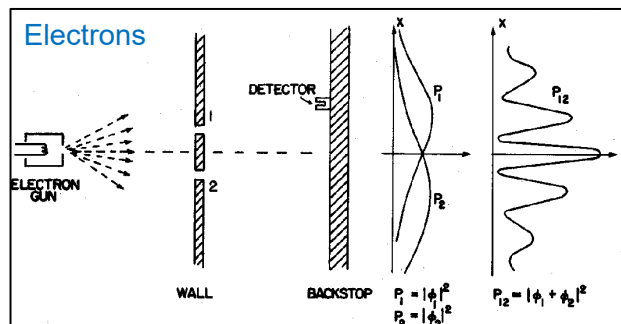


Wave-Particle Duality

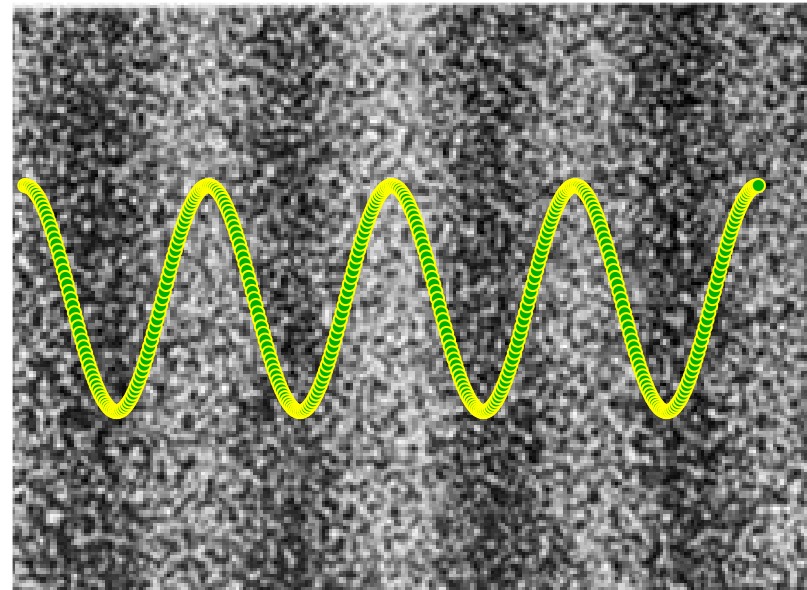
Double-slit thought experiment



R. Feynman, Lectures on Physics, Volume III (1964)



Experiment: electron holography, one electron at a time



P. G. Merli, G. F. Missiroli, and G. Pozzi, *American Journal of Physics* **44** (1976), 306–307

0.0001 e/pix

Christophe Gatel, K3 Gatan

Phase approximation

Wavefunction: $\Psi(\mathbf{r}, z) = \psi(\mathbf{r})e^{2\pi i k_0 z}$

$$k_0 = 1/\lambda$$

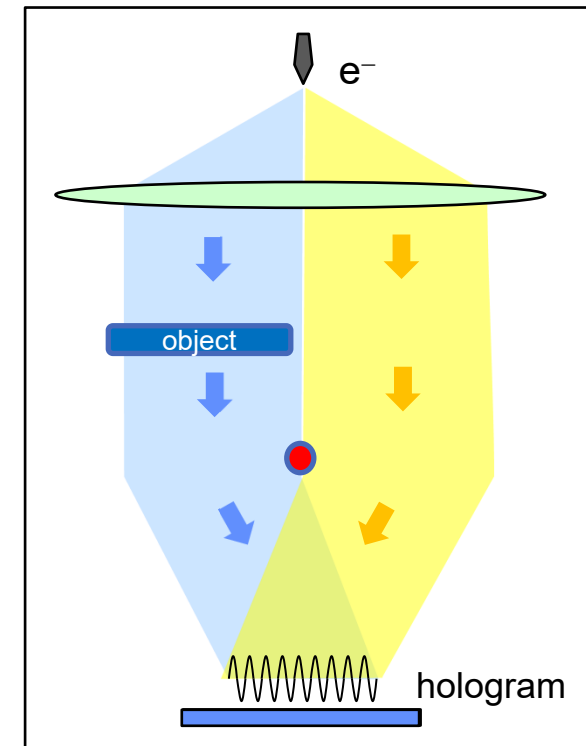
Incident wavefunction:

$$\psi_0(\mathbf{r}) = 1$$

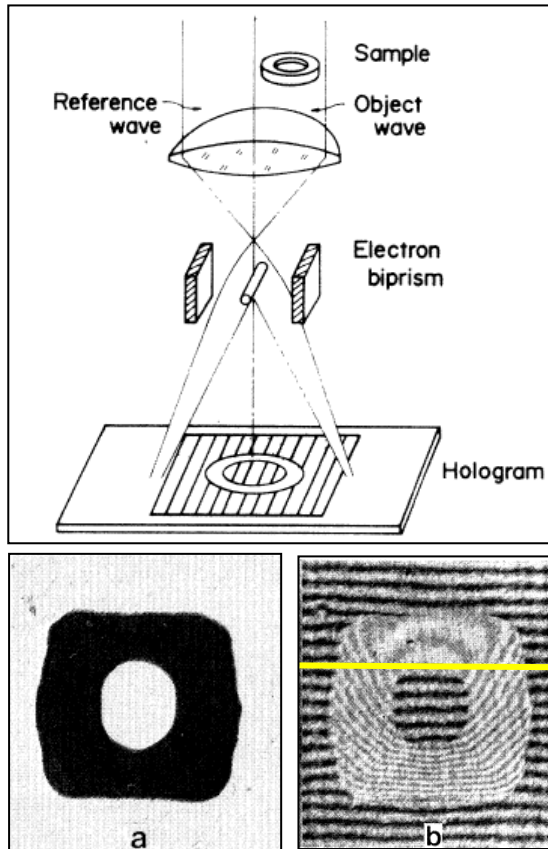
Object wavefunction:

$$\psi_{\text{obj}}(\mathbf{r}) = e^{2\pi i \phi(\mathbf{r})}$$

- Pure phase object
- Medium-resolution electron holography



Aharonov-Bohm Phase



$$\phi = c_E \int V^E(\mathbf{r}) dz - \frac{e}{\hbar} \int A_z(\mathbf{r}) dz$$

$$c_E = \frac{me\lambda}{2\pi\hbar^2}$$



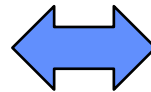
$$\phi^E = c_E \int V^E(\mathbf{r}) dz$$

$$\phi^M = -\frac{e}{\hbar} \int A_z(\mathbf{r}) dz$$

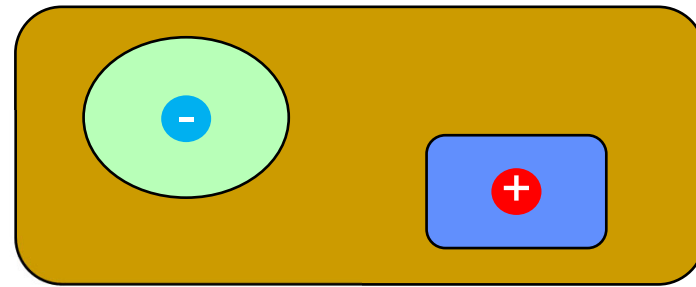
- **electrostatic phase**
- **magnetostatic phase**

A. Tonomura et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. 56, 1215 (1986)

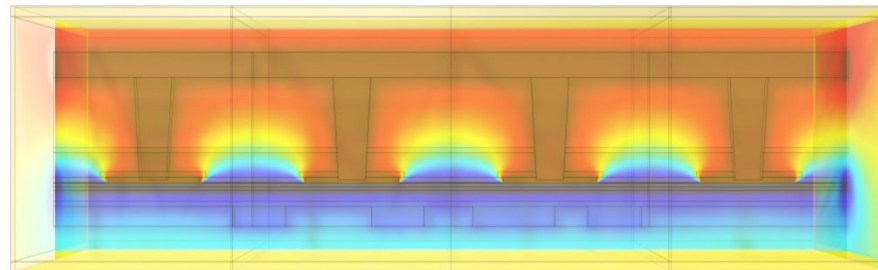
Atoms and Zone-axes



Amorphous or Off-axis

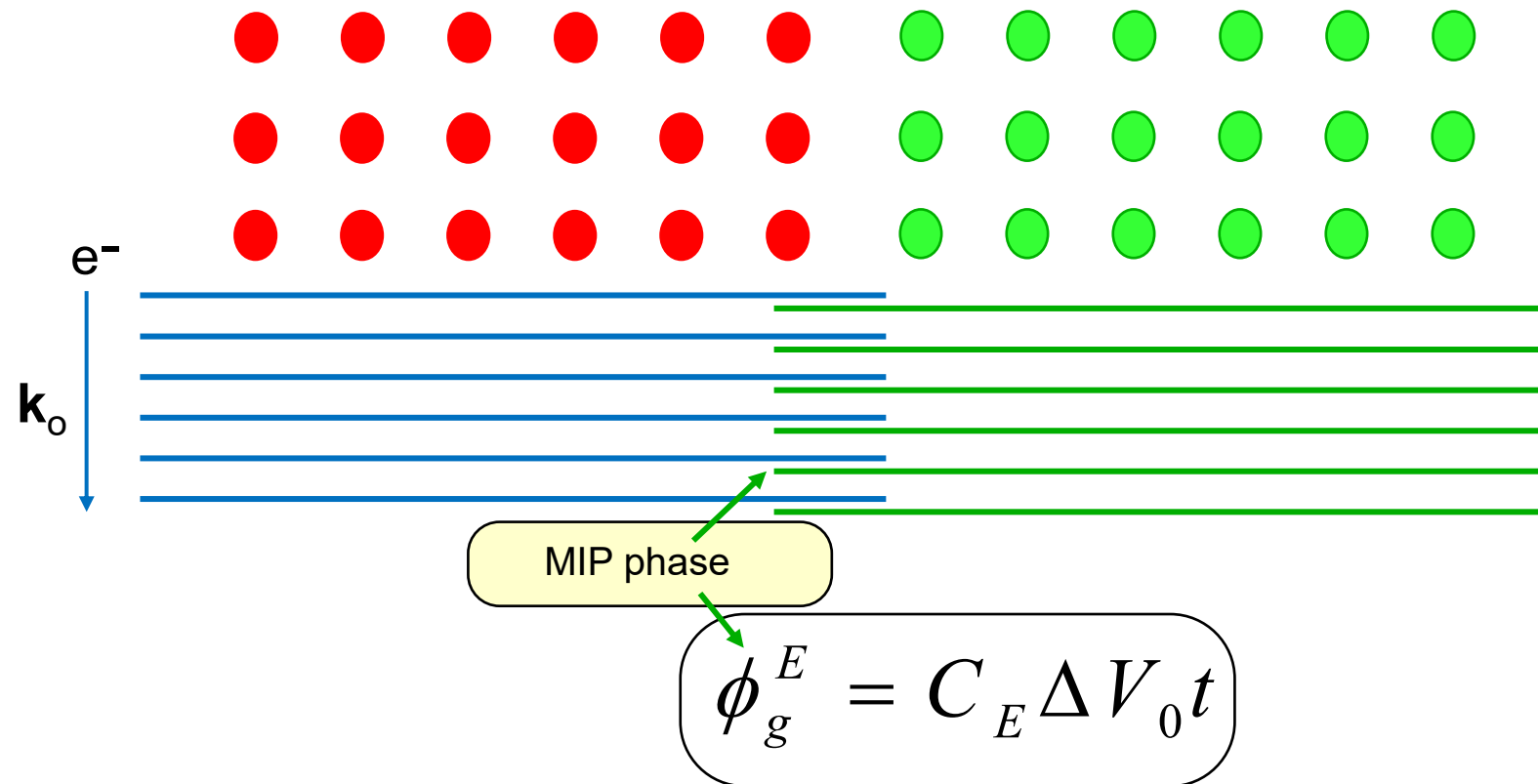


Internal potentials, charges, strain



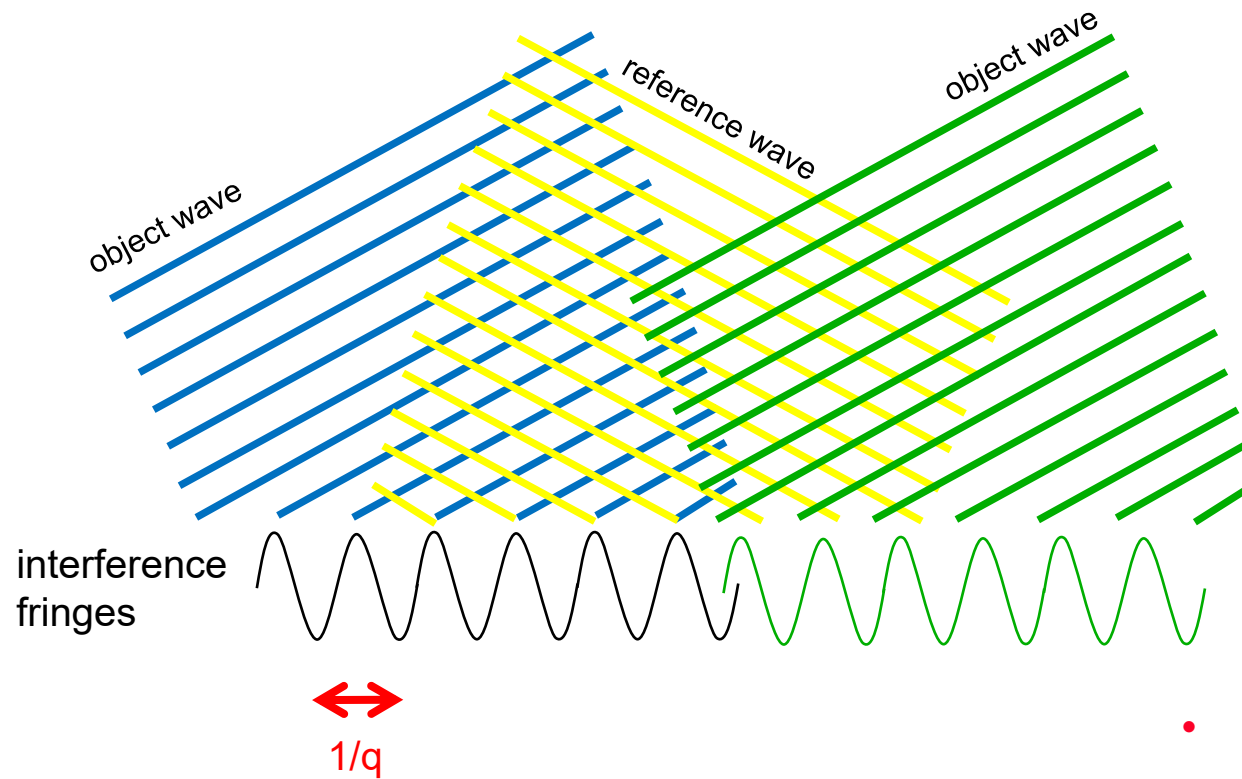
Finite Element Method (FEM)

Mean inner potential



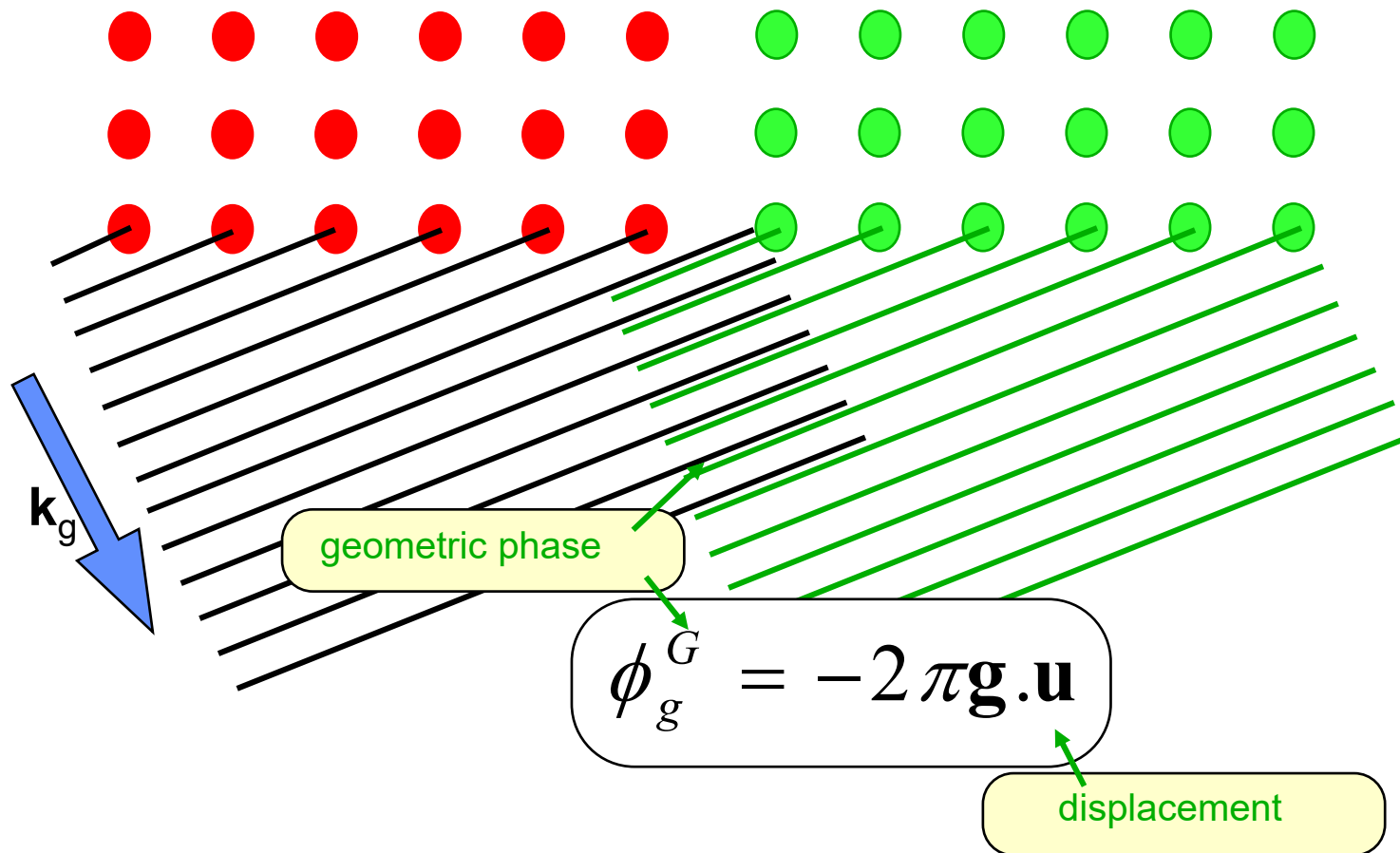
- But how to measure?

Phase measurements

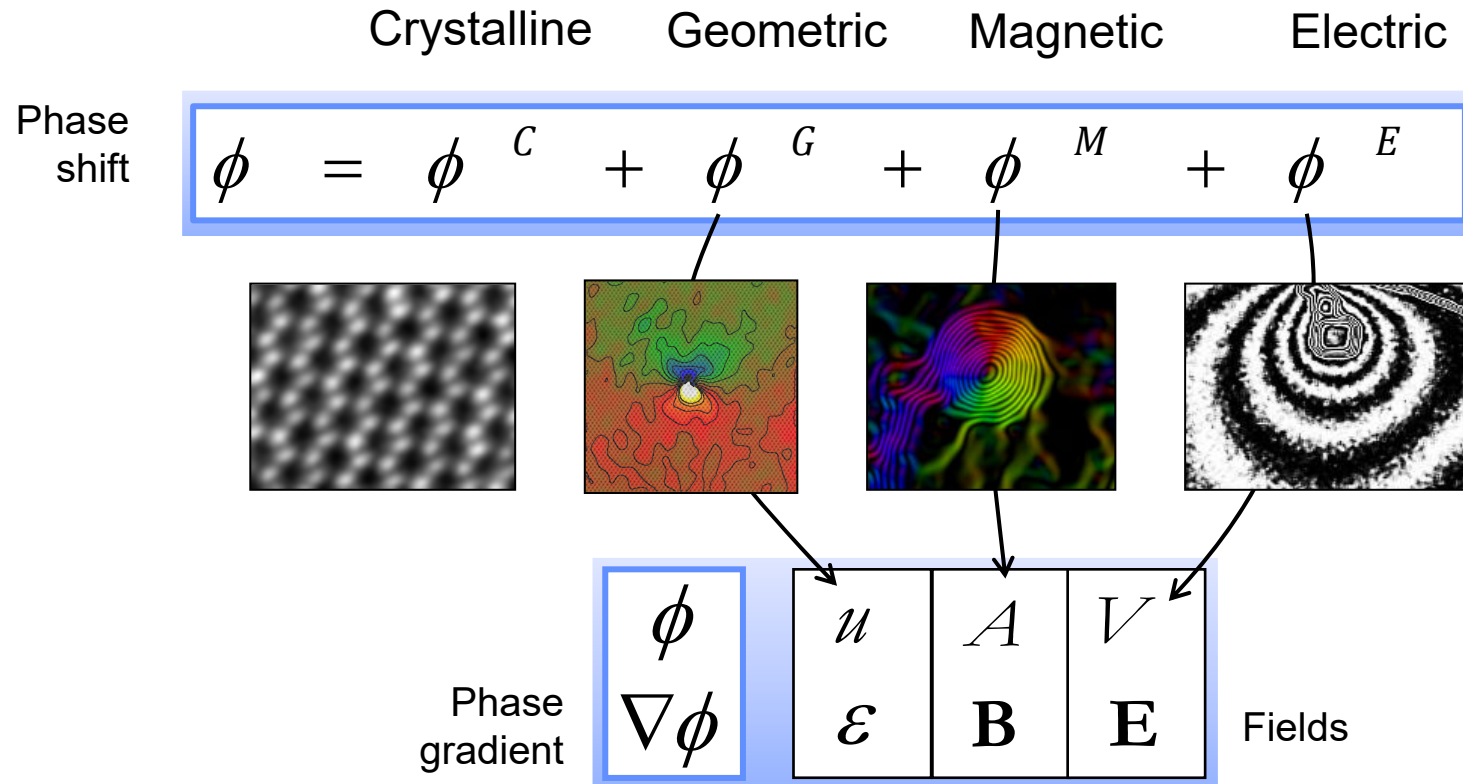


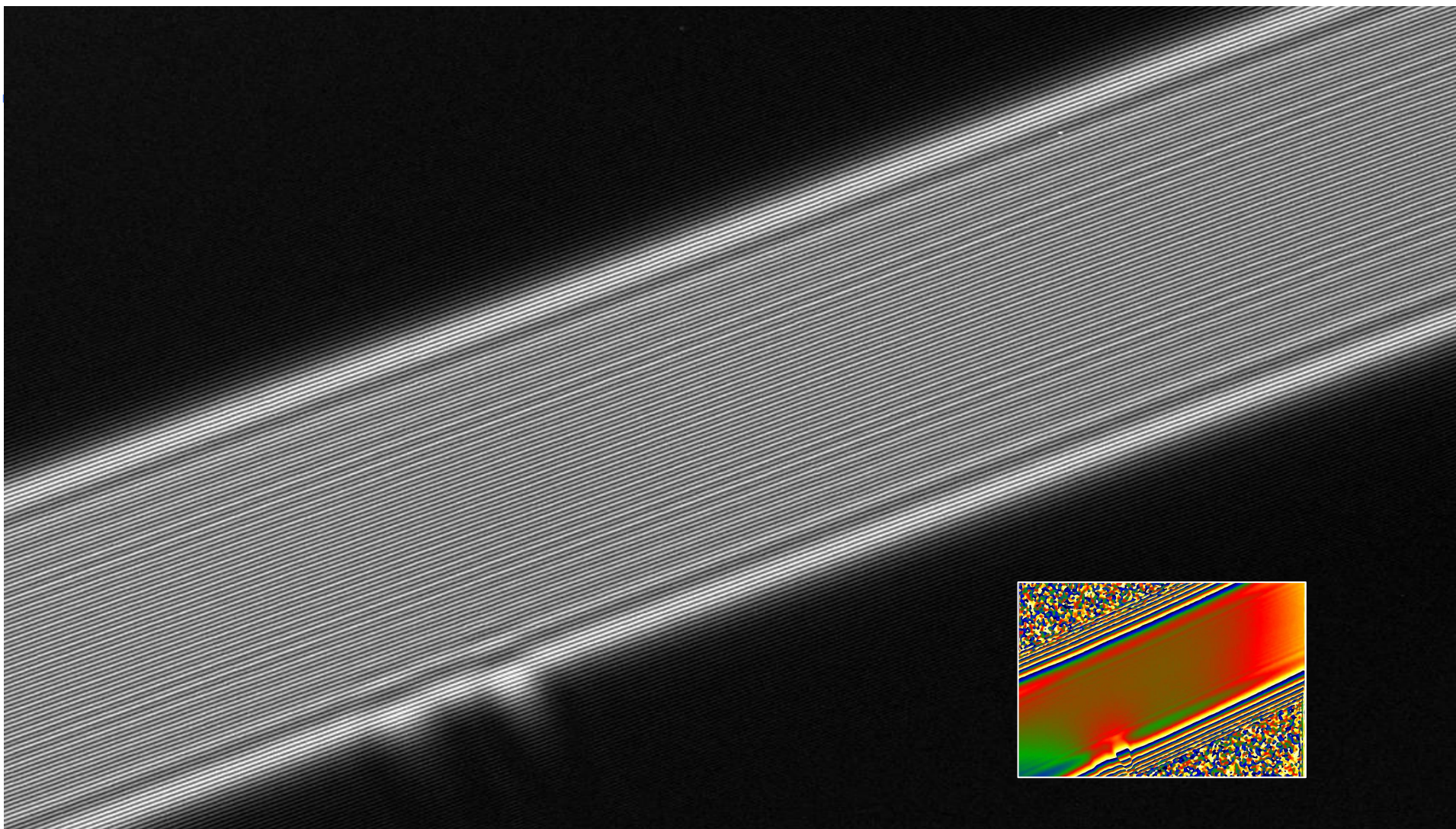
- Interferometry
- Geometry

Geometric phase



Phases in electron microscopy

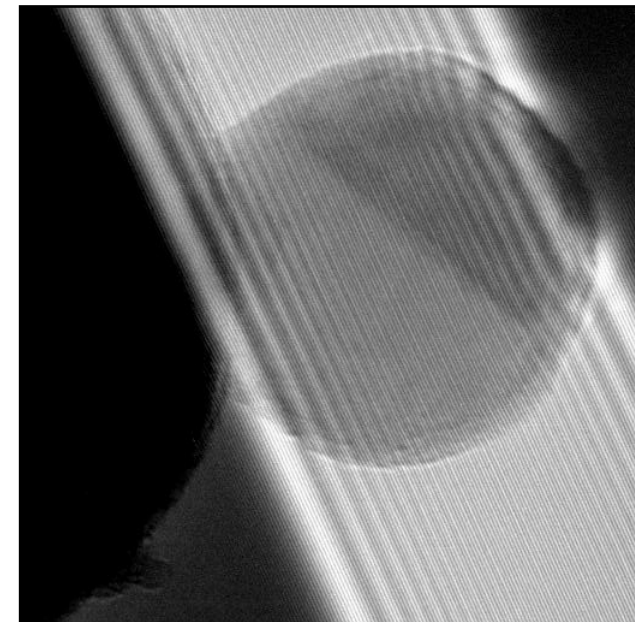
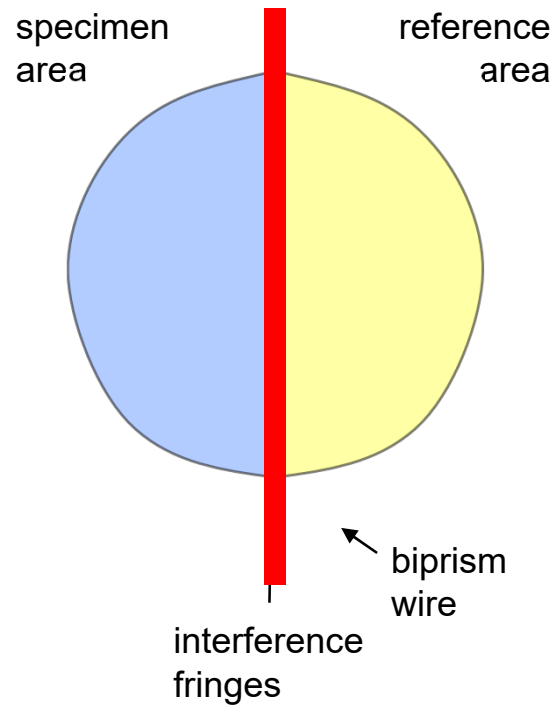
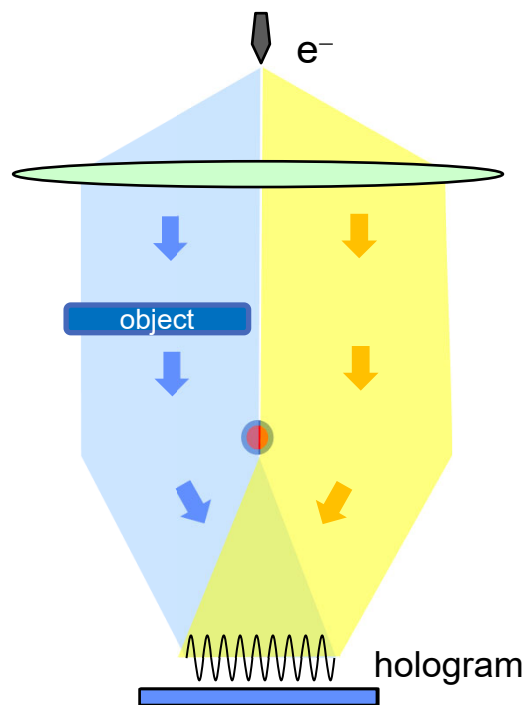




How to make a hologram

and calculate the phase

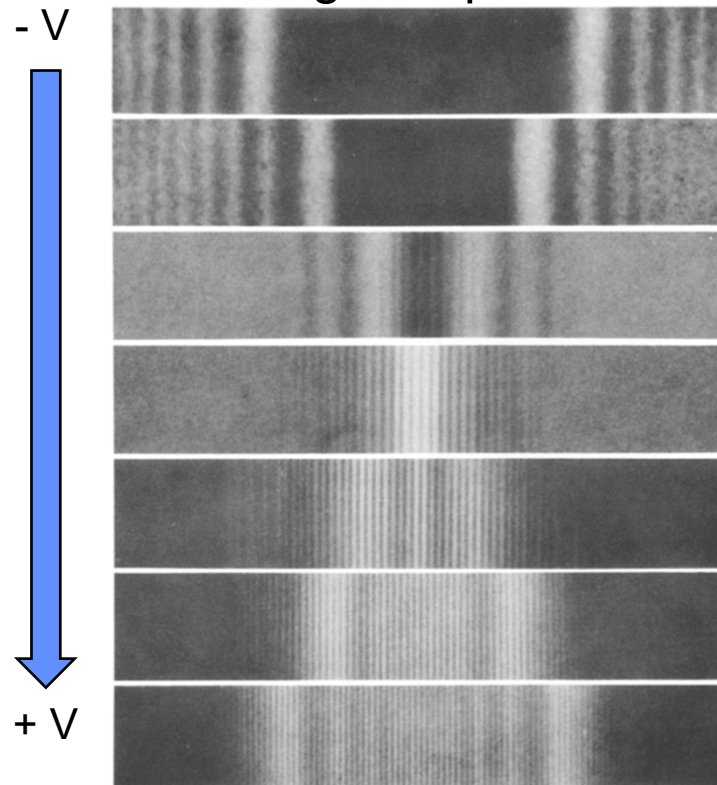
Electron holograms



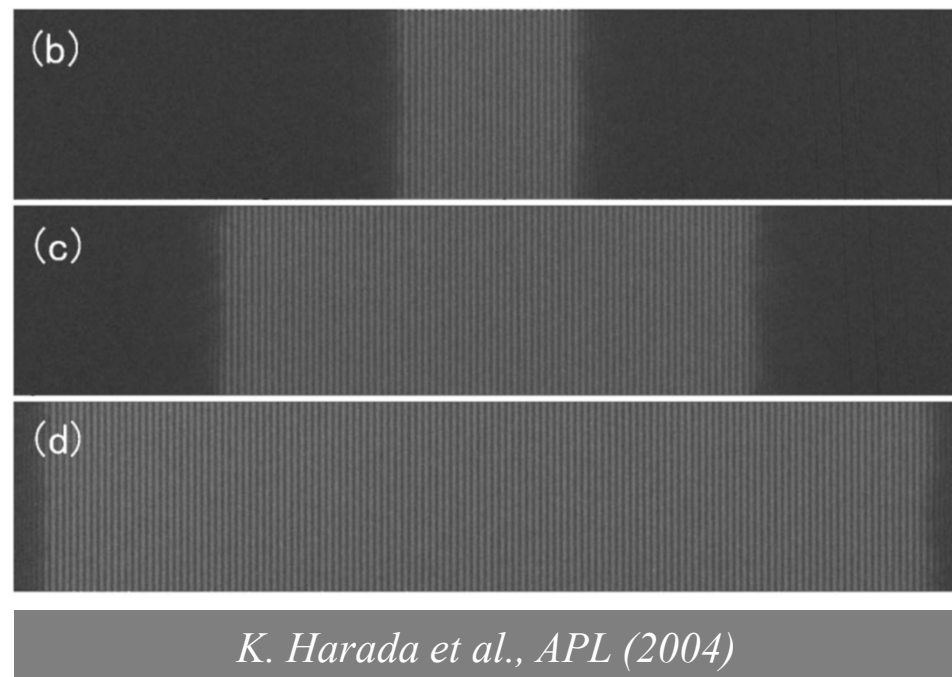
- elliptical illumination

Bi-prisms

Single Bi-prism

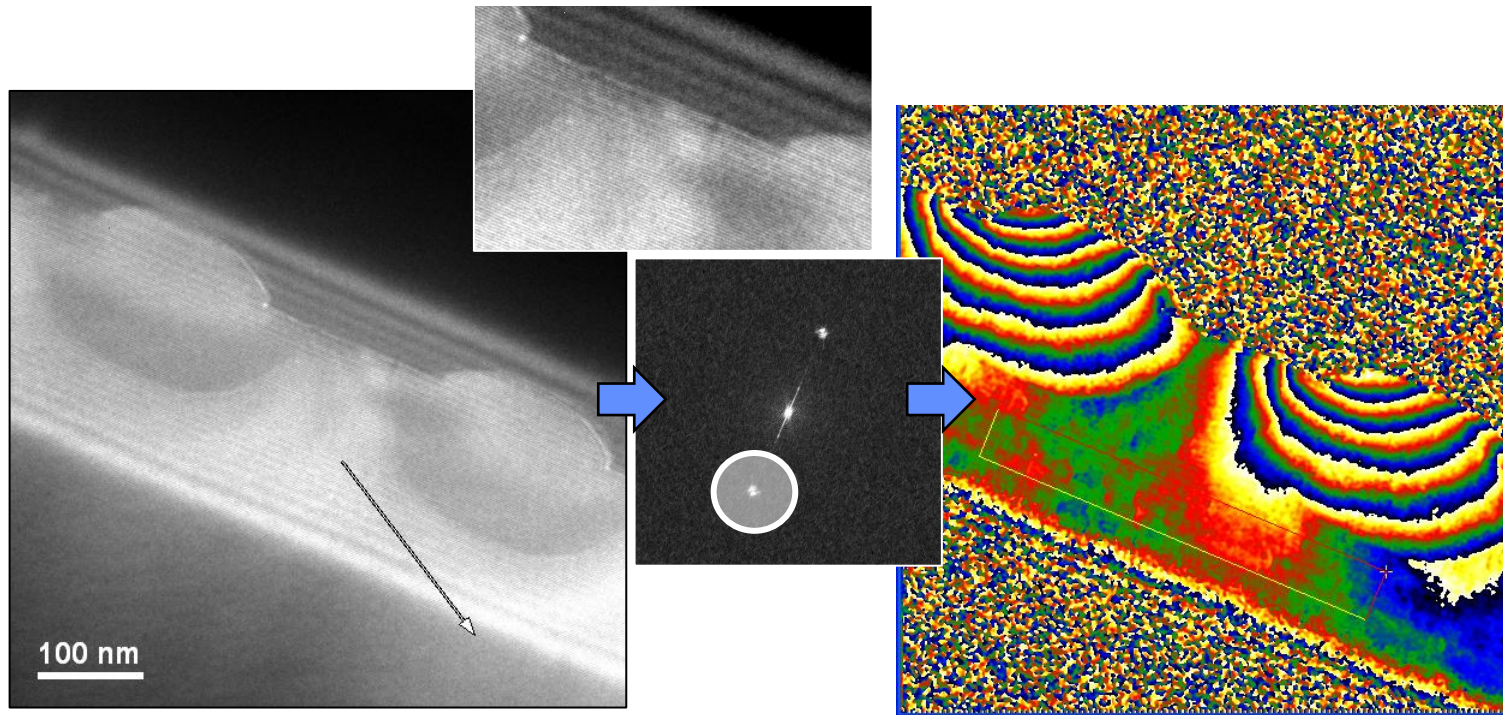


Double Bi-prisms



G. Möllenstedt & H. Düker, Zeitschrift für Physik (1956)

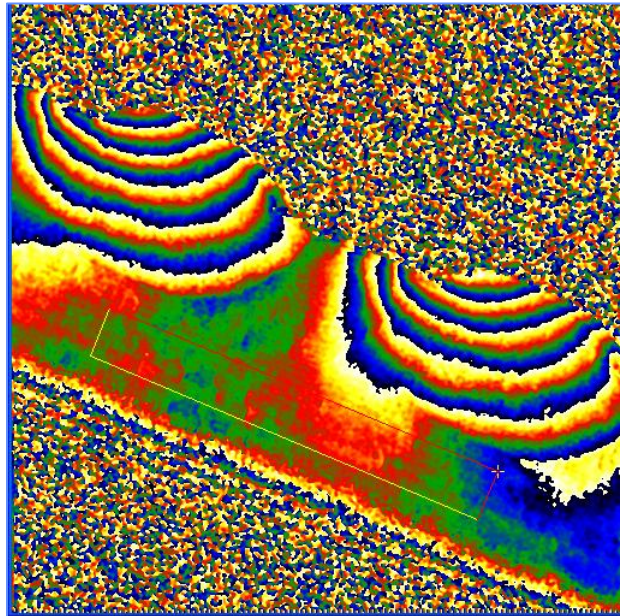
Phase calculation



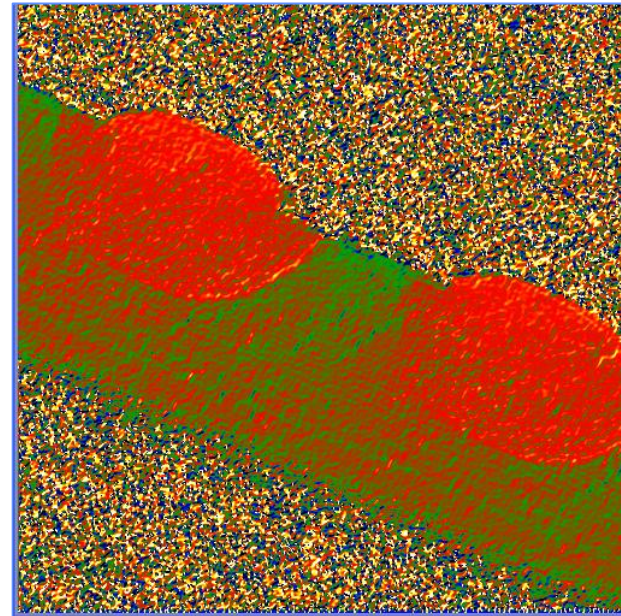
- choose appropriate mask size

Raw phase image

ϕ

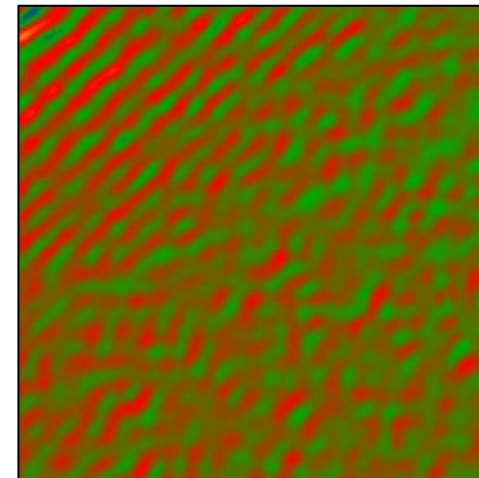
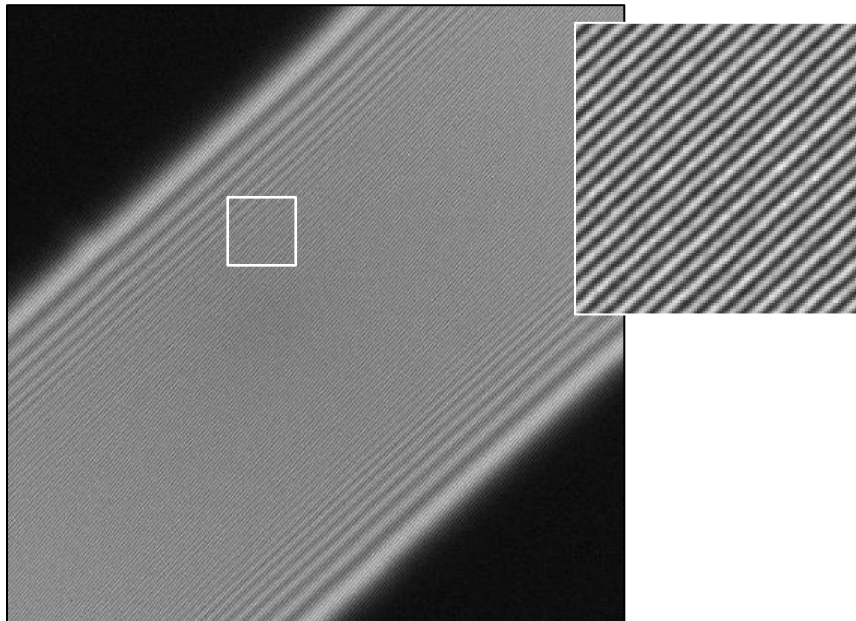


$\nabla\phi$



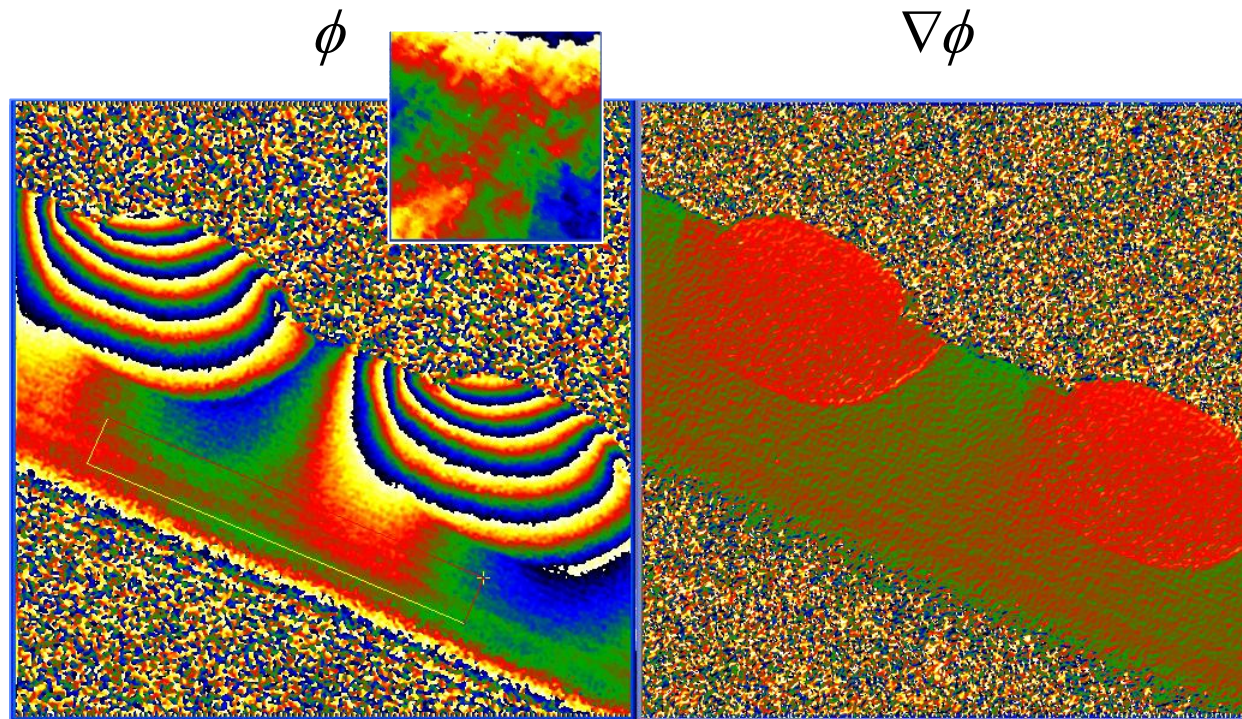
- derivative amplifies any problems

Reference Hologram



- counting statistics
- spatial coherence
- Fresnel fringes

Corrected phase



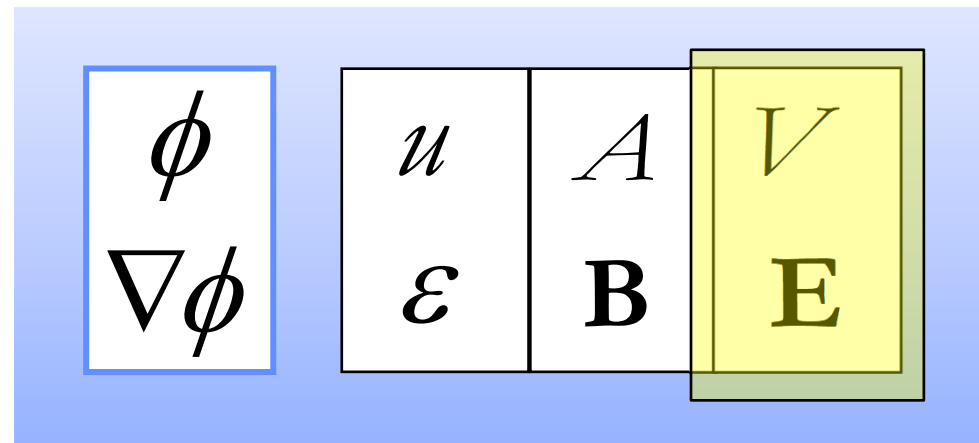
- better



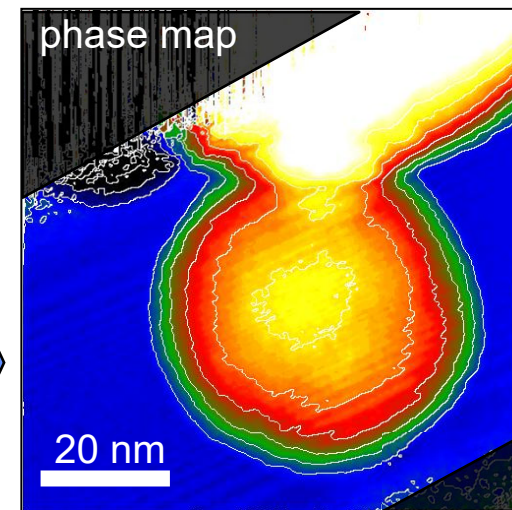
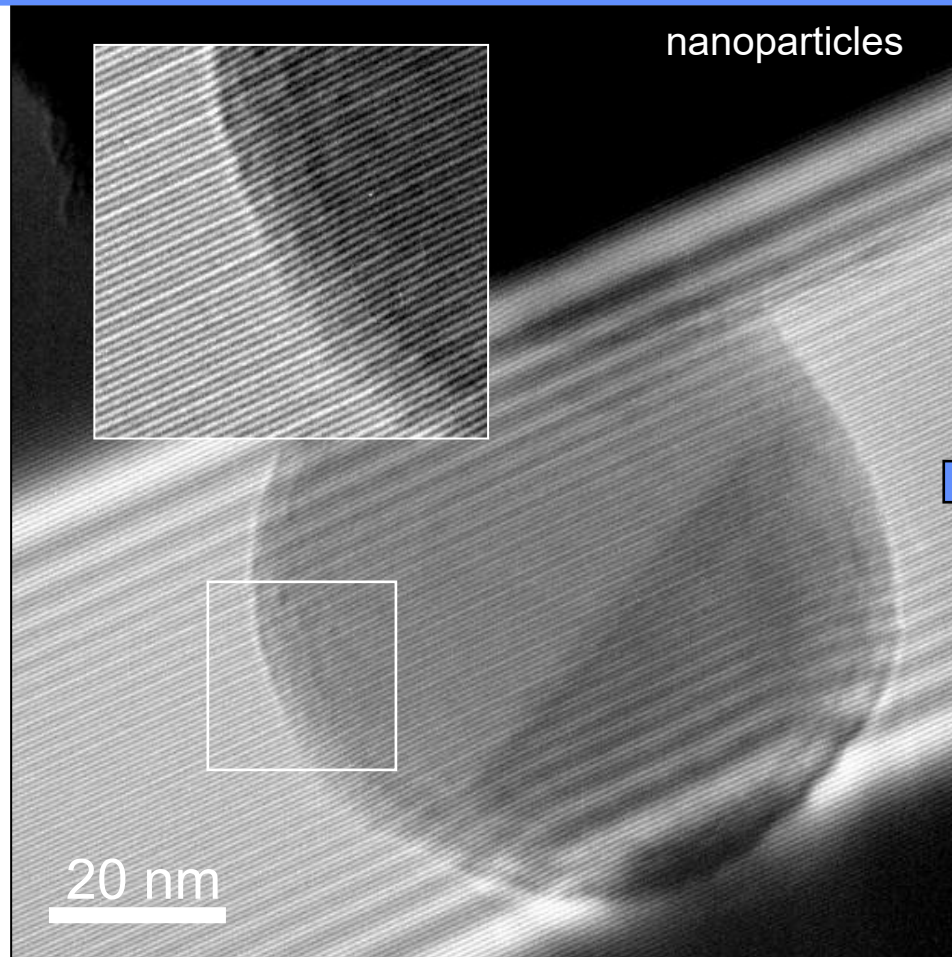
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Electric Fields

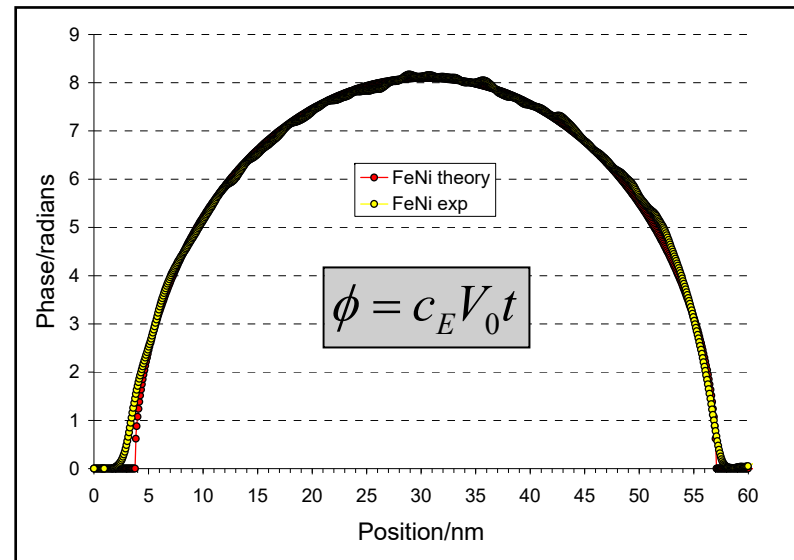
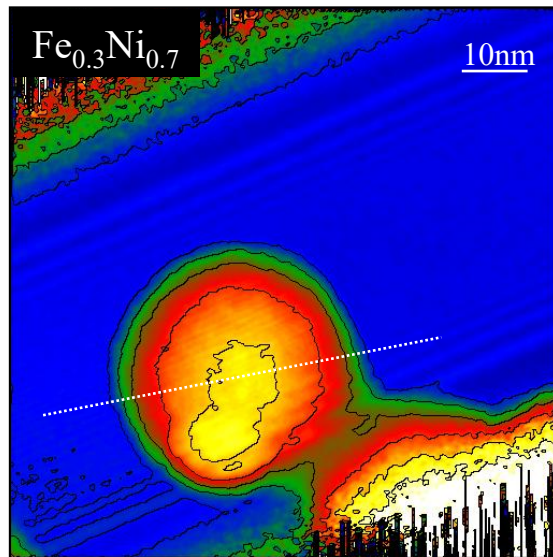


Electron holograms



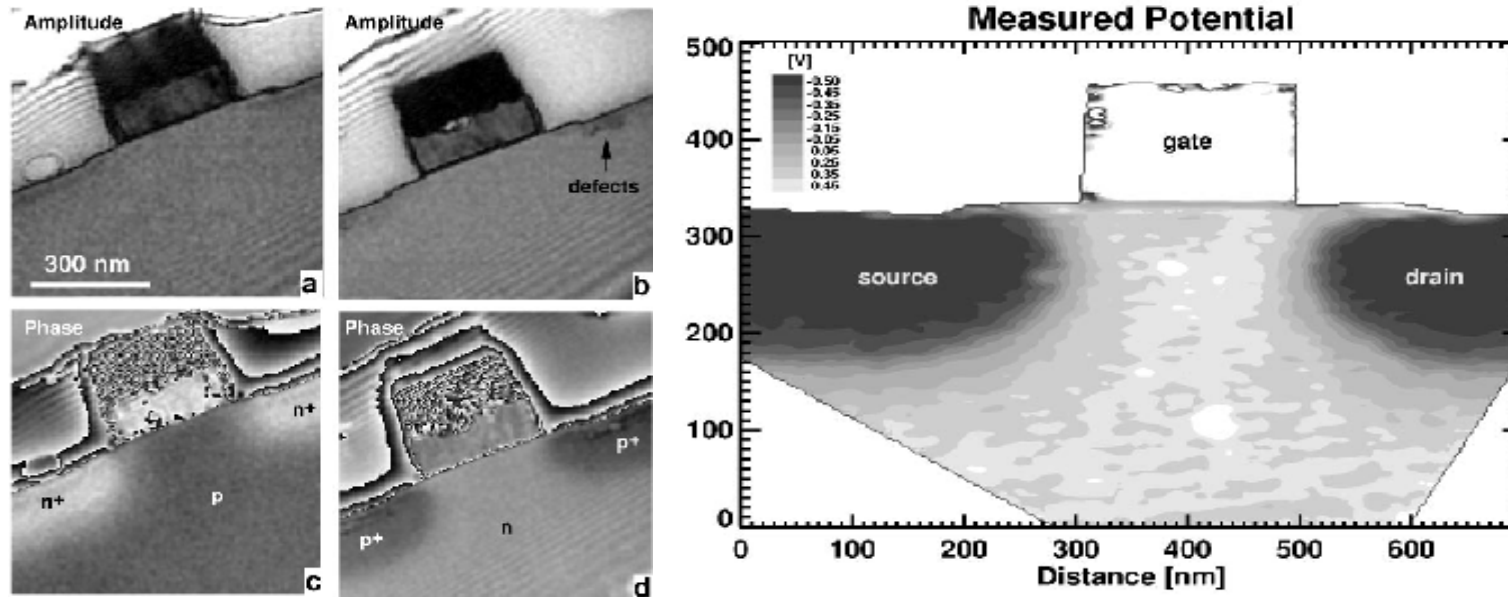
- electrostatic potential

Mean inner potential



- mean inner potential measurements
- observation of small particles

Dopant profiling



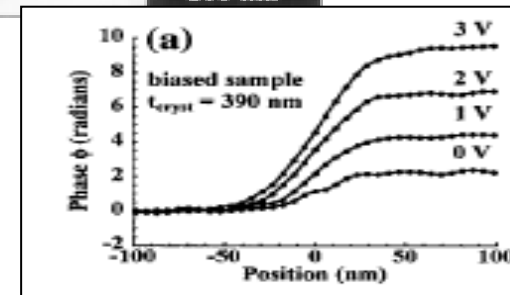
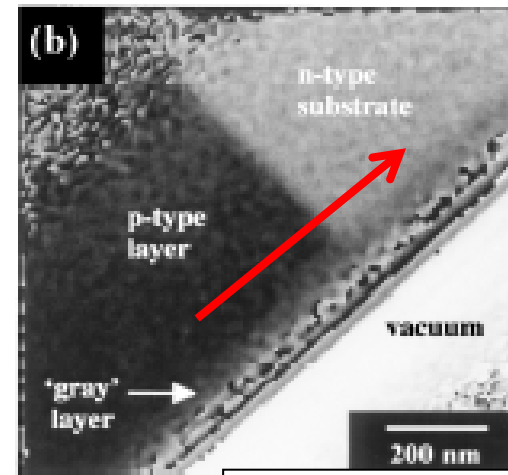
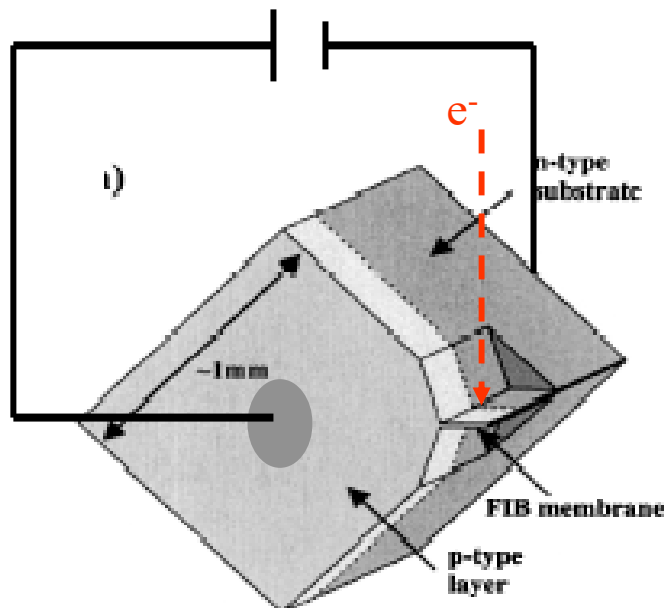
n-MOS and p-MOS transistors

Variation of the electrostatic potential across the junction = 0.9 ± 0.12 V

- specimen preparation the key

W.D. Rau, P. Schwander, F.H. Baumann, W. Höppner and A. Ourmazd PRL (1999) 82, 2614

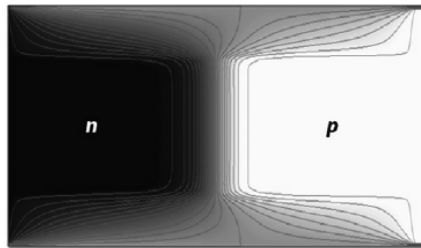
In-situ biasing



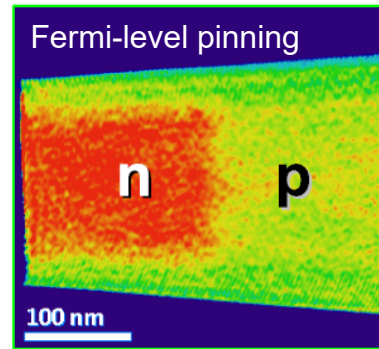
- dead layers

A.C. Twitchett, R.E. Dunin-Borkowski, P.A. Midgley, Phys. Rev. Lett. 88 (2002) 238302

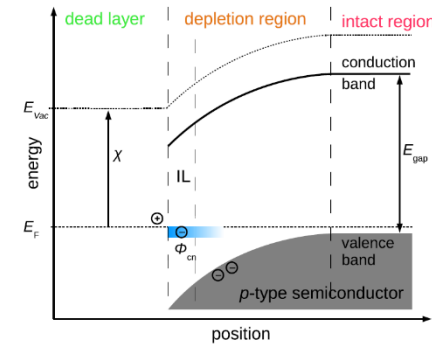
Many Years later



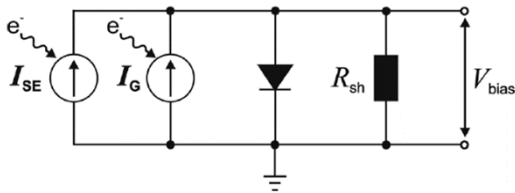
D. Somodi et al. Ultramic 134, 160 (2013)



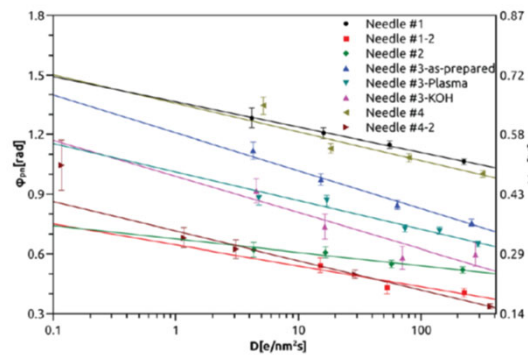
D. Wolf et al. APL 103, 264104 (2013)



p-n junction under e- irradiation



J.B. Park et al. APL 105, 094102 (2014)



- electrostatics
- electrodynamics

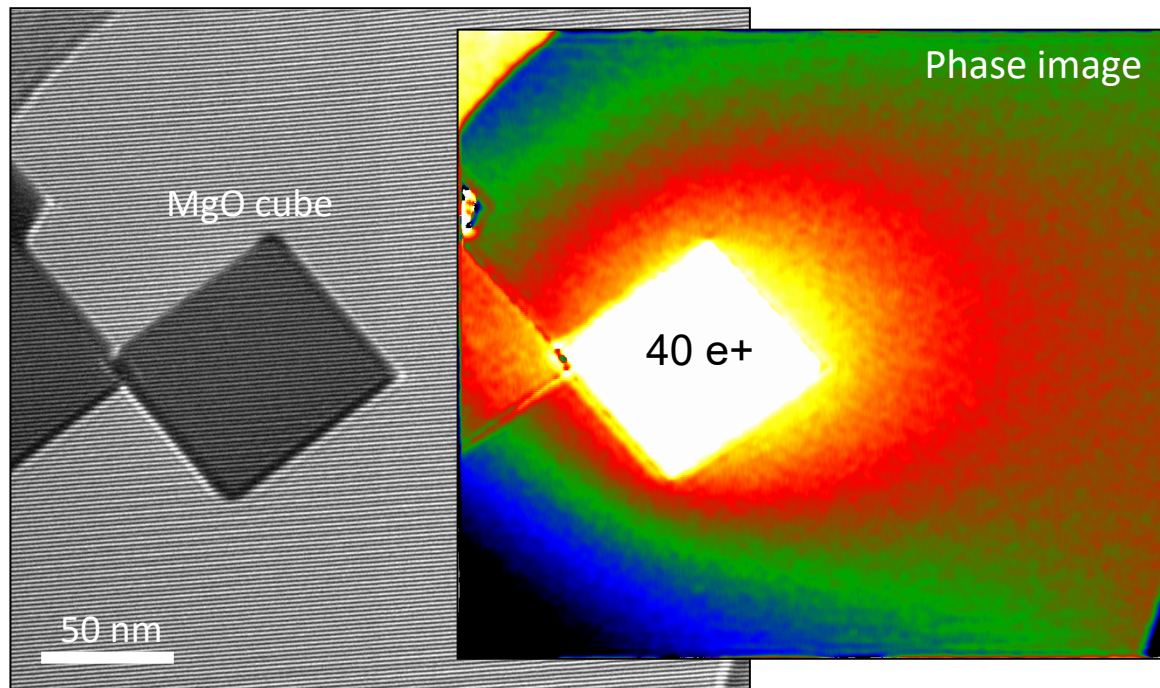
Question to Ask

What technique is best for my material or problem?



What material or problem is best for my technique !

Charge counting

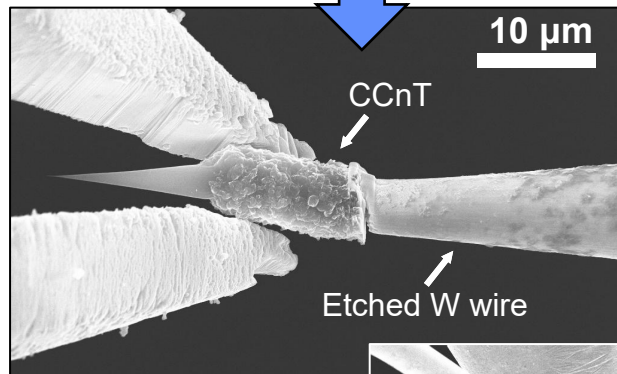
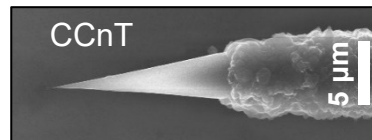


ϕ	u	A	V
$\nabla\phi$	ϵ	B	E

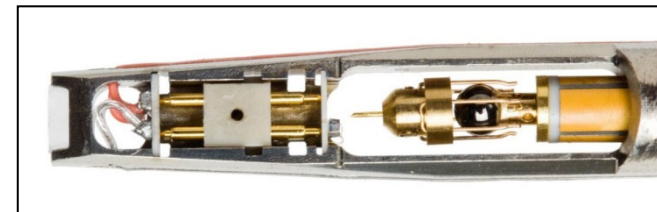
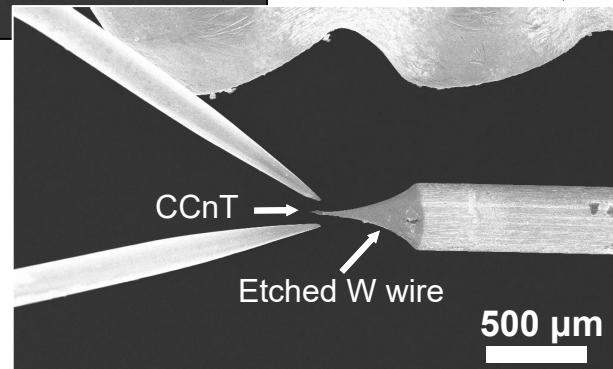
$$Q = \epsilon_0 \oint_S \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{S}$$

- Electric field in the vacuum
 - cube is charged!
- Maxwell's Equations
 - Gauss's Law

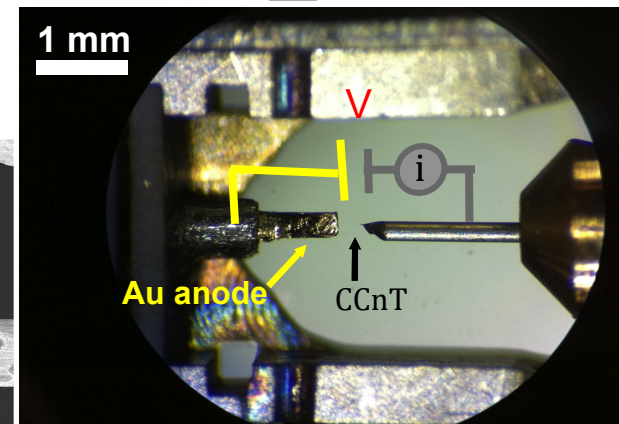
Nanoprobe in-situ biasing



FIB

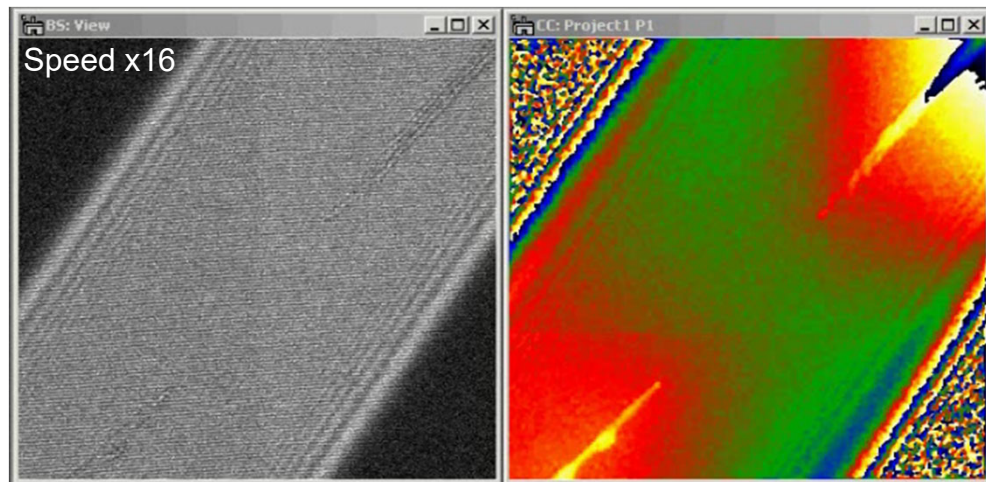
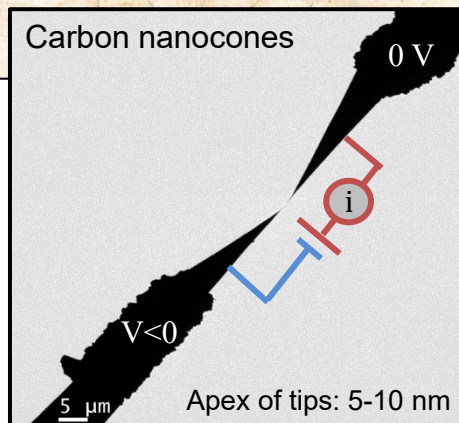
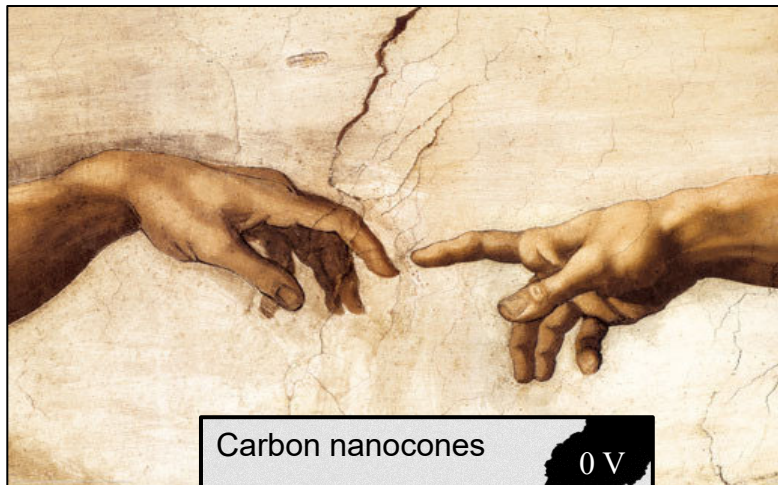


TEM



F. Houdellier, A. Masseboeuf, M. Monthieux, M.J. Hytch, Carbon 50 (2012) 2037

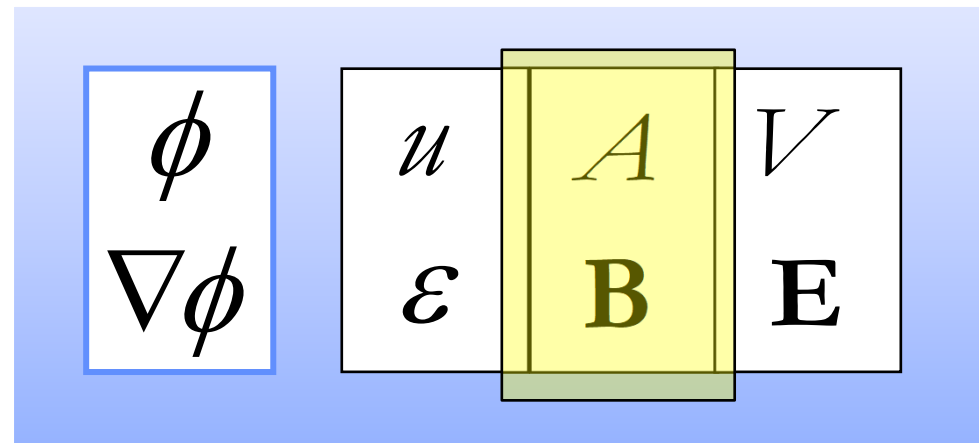
Michelangelo Experiment



- In situ experiments
 - Biasing the tips between 0 and 85V

L. de Knoop, C. Gatel, F. Houdellier, M. Monthieux, A. Masseboeuf, E. Snoeck, and M.J. Hytch, APL 106, 263101 (2015)

Magnetic Fields



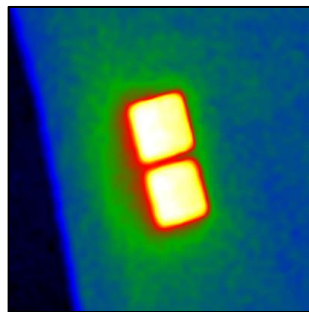
Electric and Magnetic Phase

$$\phi = \phi^E + \phi^M$$

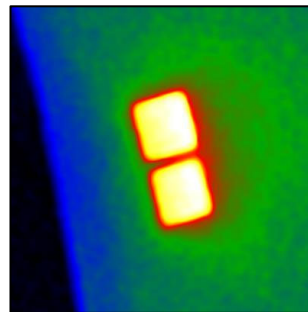
$$\phi_a = \phi^E + \phi^M$$

$$\phi_b = \phi^E - \phi^M$$

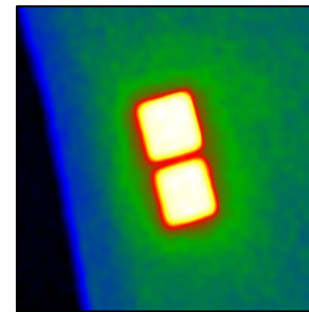
$$2\phi^E$$



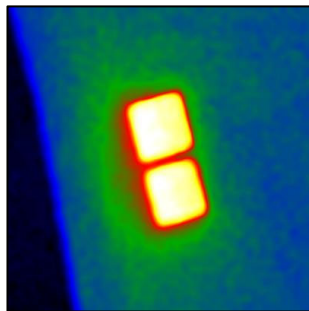
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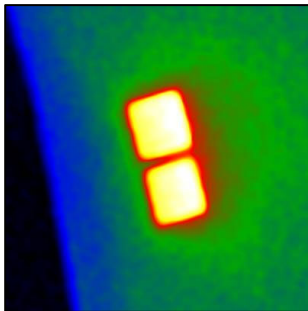
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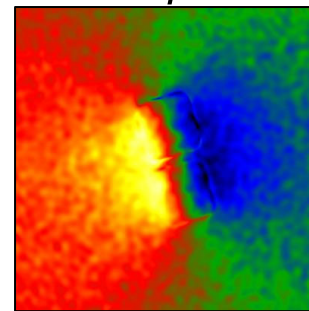
$$2\phi^M$$



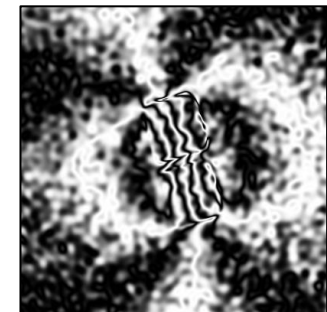
-



=



$$\cos 2\phi^M$$

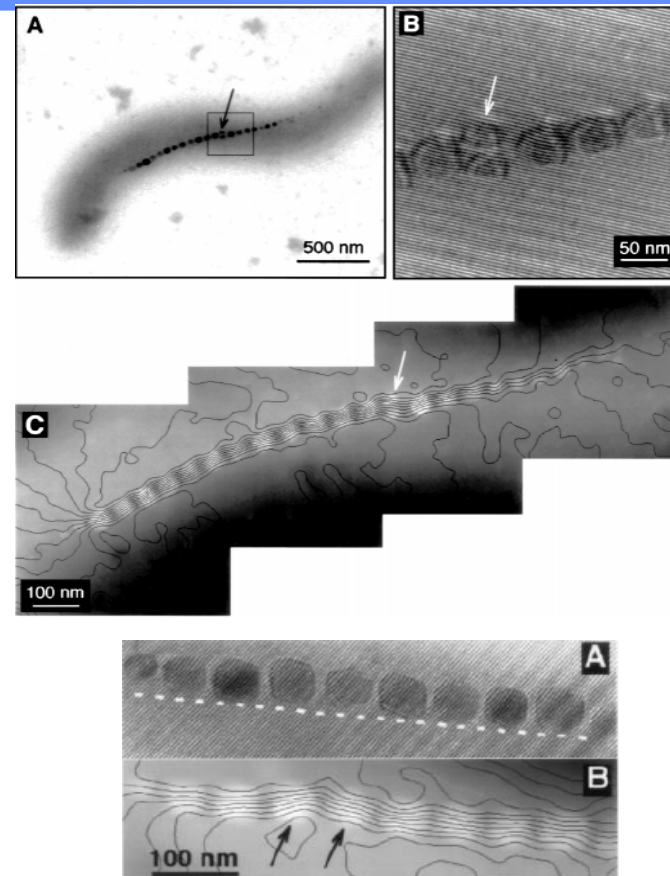
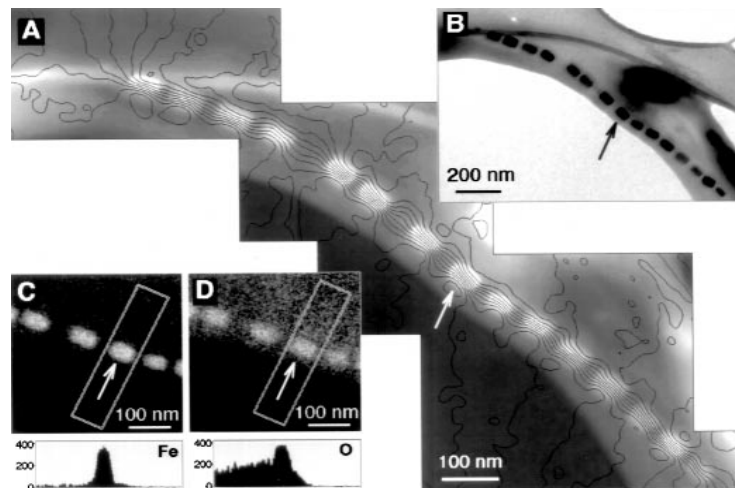


Christophe Gatel, Martin Hytch and Kazuo Ishizuka qHolo software (HREM Research)

Magnetotactic bacteria

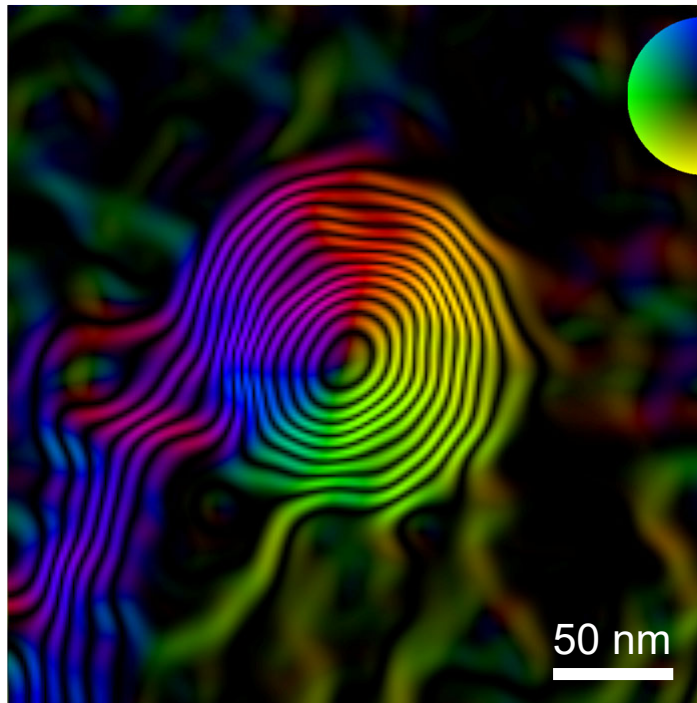
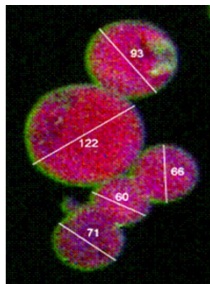
Magnetic Microstructure of Magnetotactic Bacteria by Electron Holography

Rafal E. Dunin-Borkowski, Martha R. McCartney,
Richard B. Frankel, Dennis A. Bazylinski, Mihály Pósfai,*
Peter R. Buseck

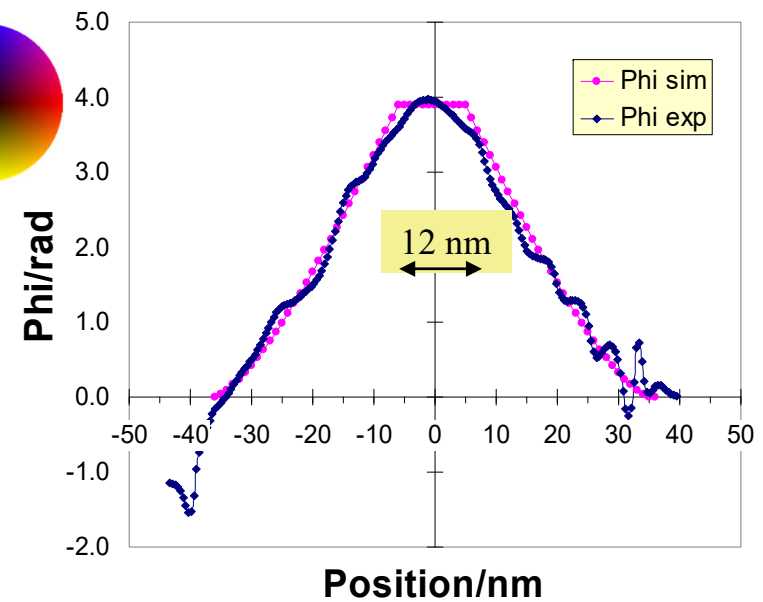


R. E. Dunin-Borkowski et al, Science 282, 1868 (1998)

Vortex cores

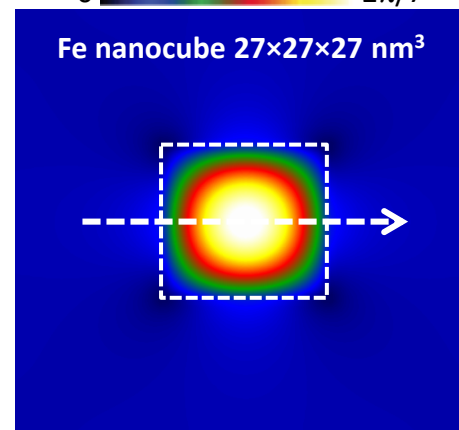
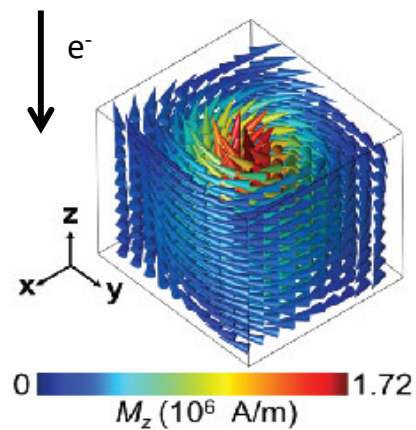
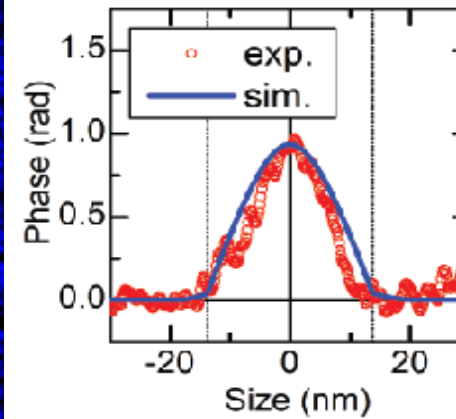
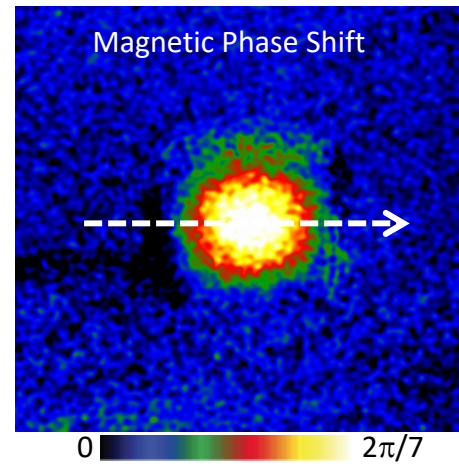
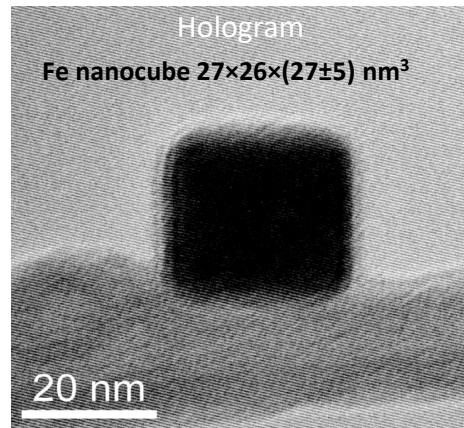


FeNi nanoparticles



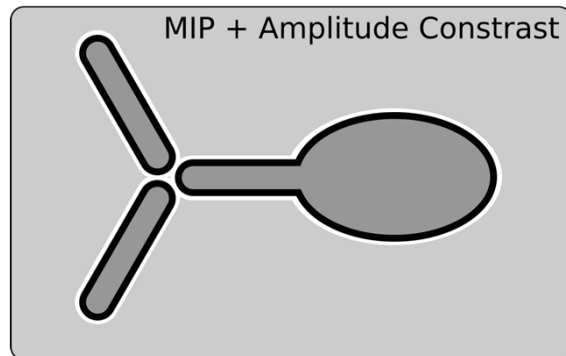
- measure the vortex core size
- compare with theory

Fe nanoparticles

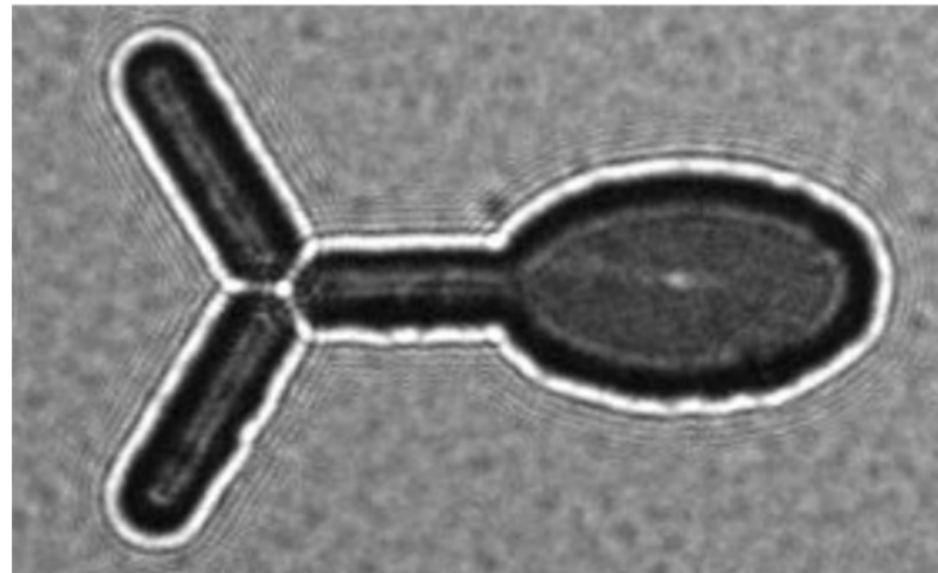
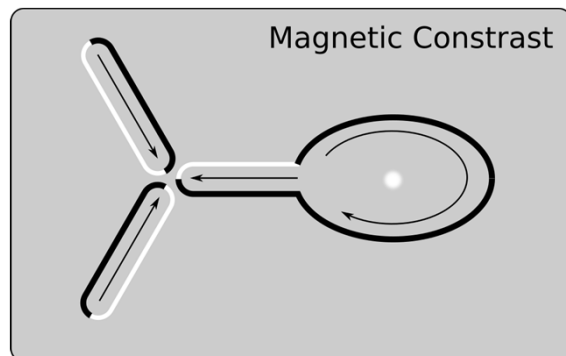


- Modeling

Beam me up, Régis

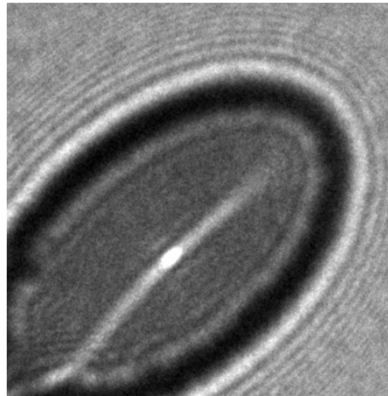


+

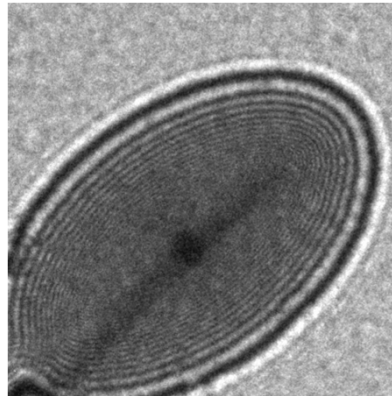


Courtesy of Aurélien Masseboeuf

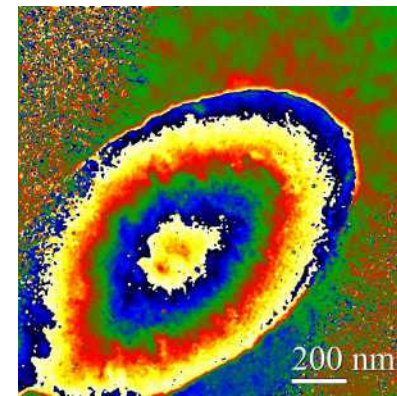
Magnetic holography



Fresnel - Under-Focused
(Greyscale)



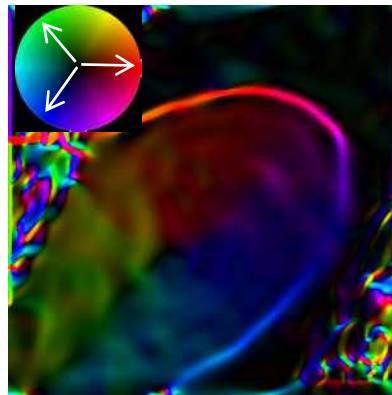
Fresnel - Over-Focused
(Greyscale)



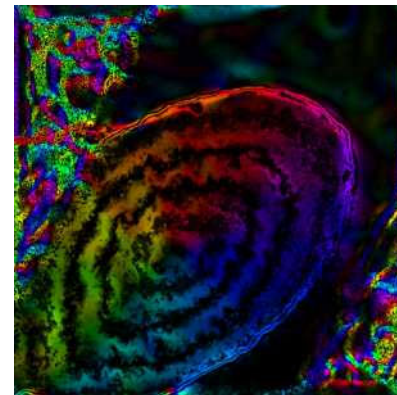
Holography - Phase (raw)
(temperature scale)



Phase Cosine
(iso-phase $\Leftrightarrow$ induction flux)

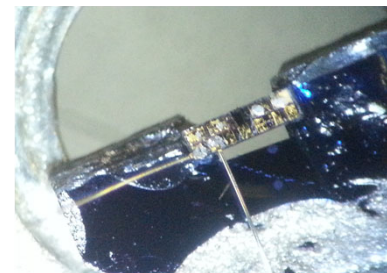
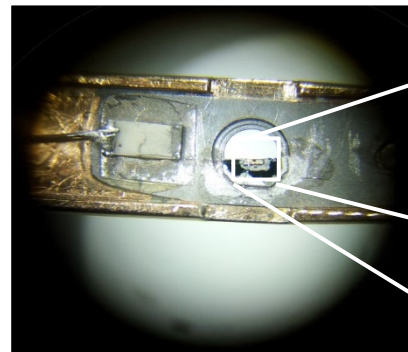
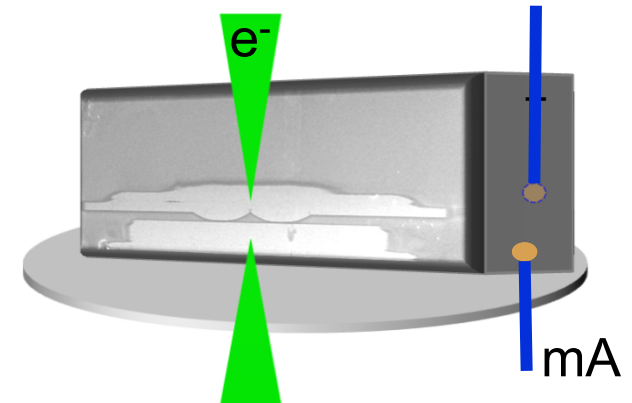
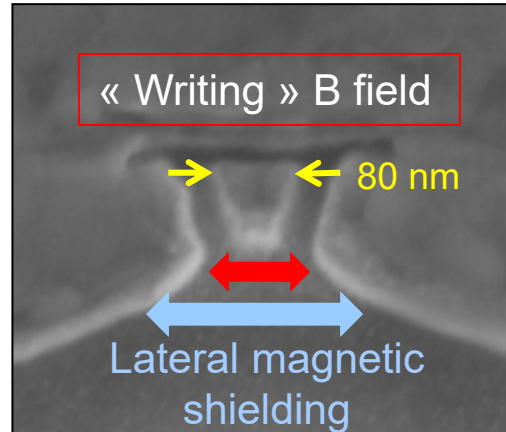


Induction Map
(Phase gradients - Colour wheel)



Composite Map
(Phase gradients x Contour)

Operando experiments



- Heroic experiment

J. F. Einsle, C. Gatel, A. Masseboeuf, R. Cours, M. A. Bashir, M. Gubbins, R. M. Bowman and E. Snoeck, Nano Research 8, 1241 (2015).



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Martin Hytch – QEM 2025

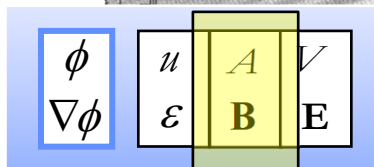
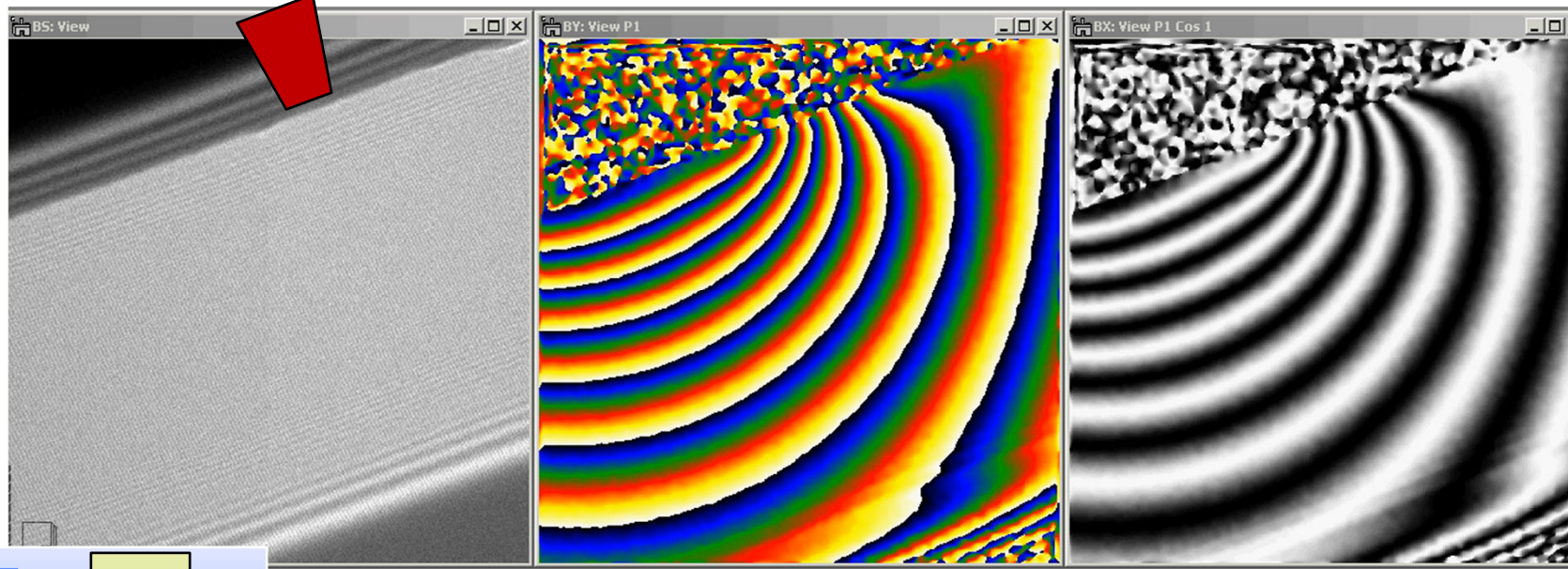
Movie



Hologram

Magnetic phase

Field lines



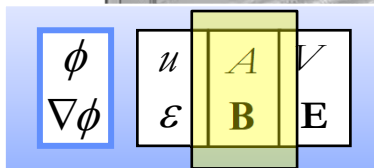
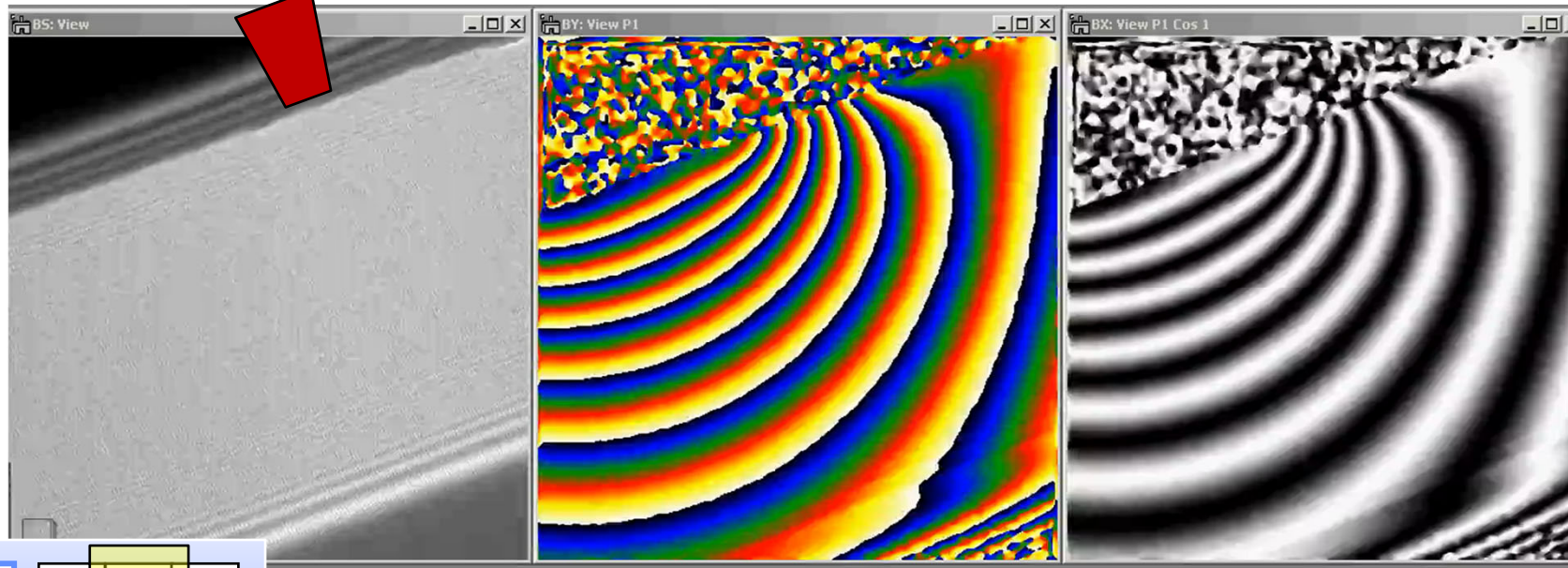
100 nm

Christophe Gatel & Martin Hytch, Holo Live! (HREM Research Inc.)

Hologram

Magnetic phase

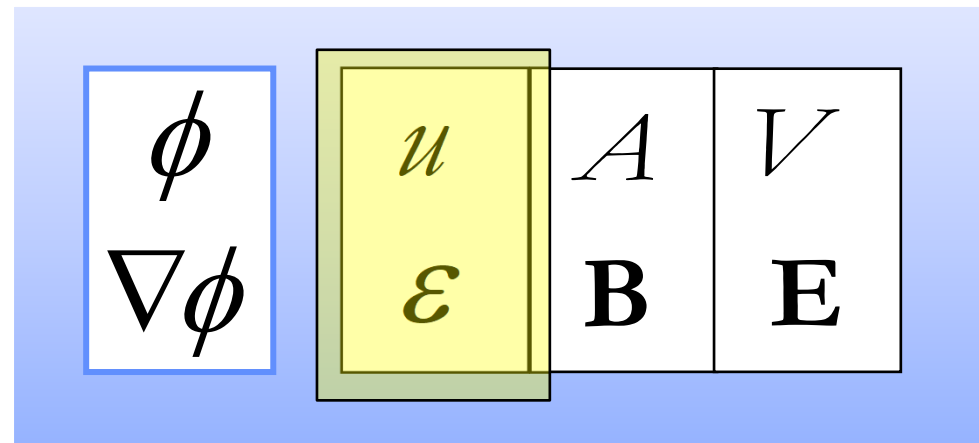
Field lines



100 nm

Christophe Gatel & Martin Hytch, Holo Live! (HREM Research Inc.)

Strain Fields



Geometric phase

wave function

$$\psi(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_g \tilde{\psi}_g(\mathbf{r}) \exp\{2\pi i \mathbf{g} \cdot \mathbf{r}\}$$

diffracted beams

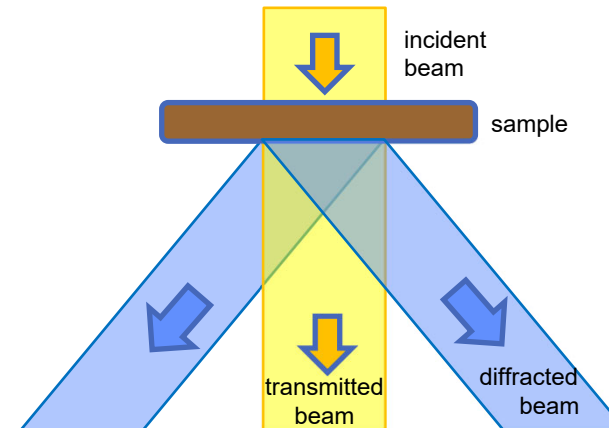
$\mathbf{r} \rightarrow \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{u}$ displacement

$$\tilde{\psi}_g \rightarrow \tilde{\psi}_g e^{-2\pi i \mathbf{g} \cdot \mathbf{u}}$$

geometric phase

$$\phi_g^G = -2\pi \mathbf{g} \cdot \mathbf{u}$$

displacement



$$\phi^G$$

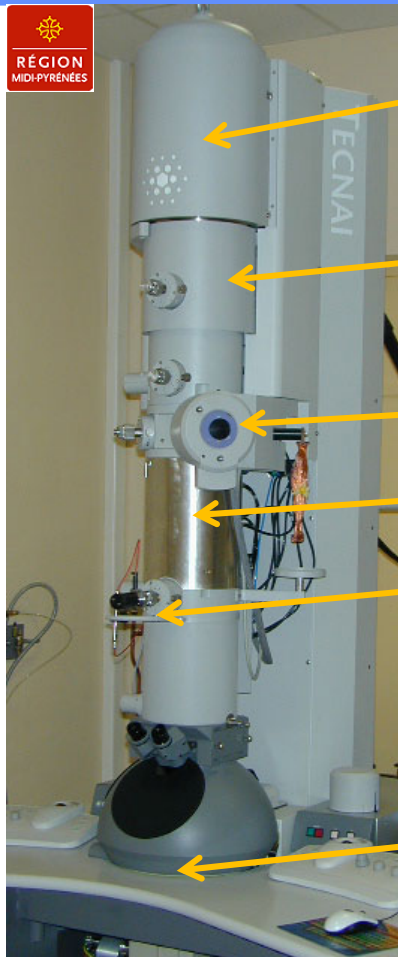
NO ϕ^G

$$\phi^G$$

$$\varepsilon_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_i} \right)$$

strain

Dark-Field Electron Holography



electron gun

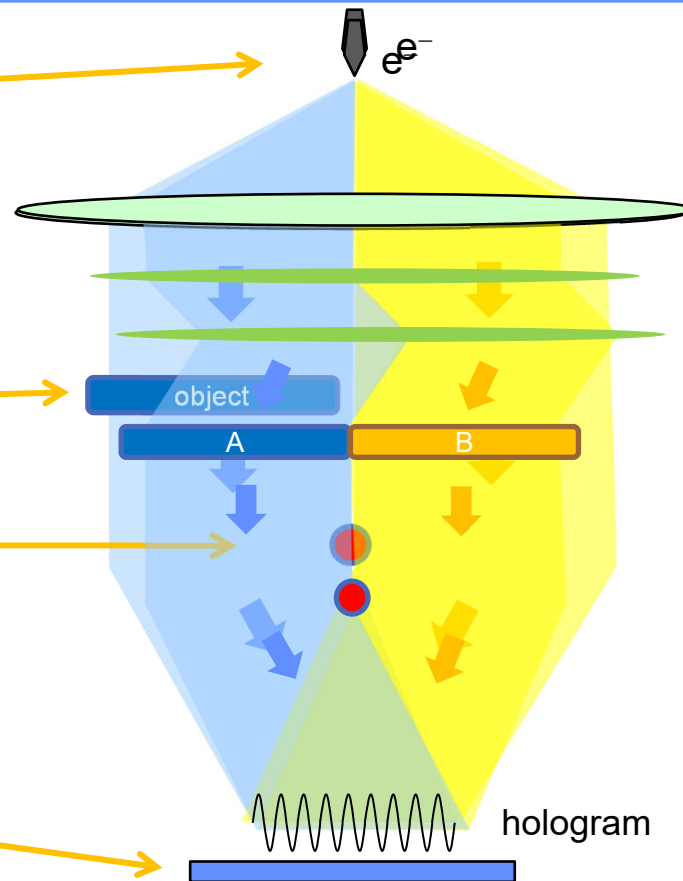
condenser lens system

specimen

imaging lens

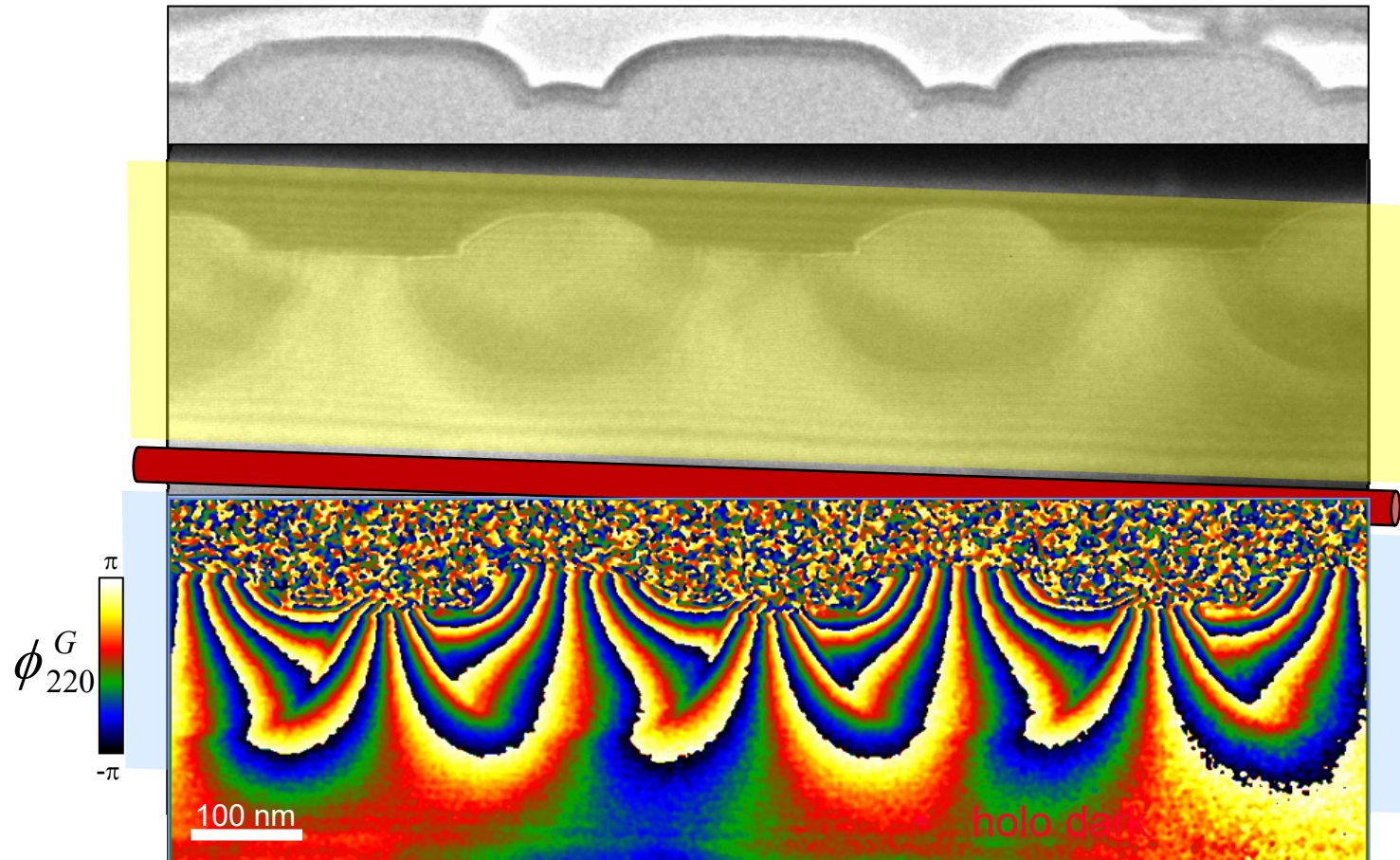
biprism

CCD camera

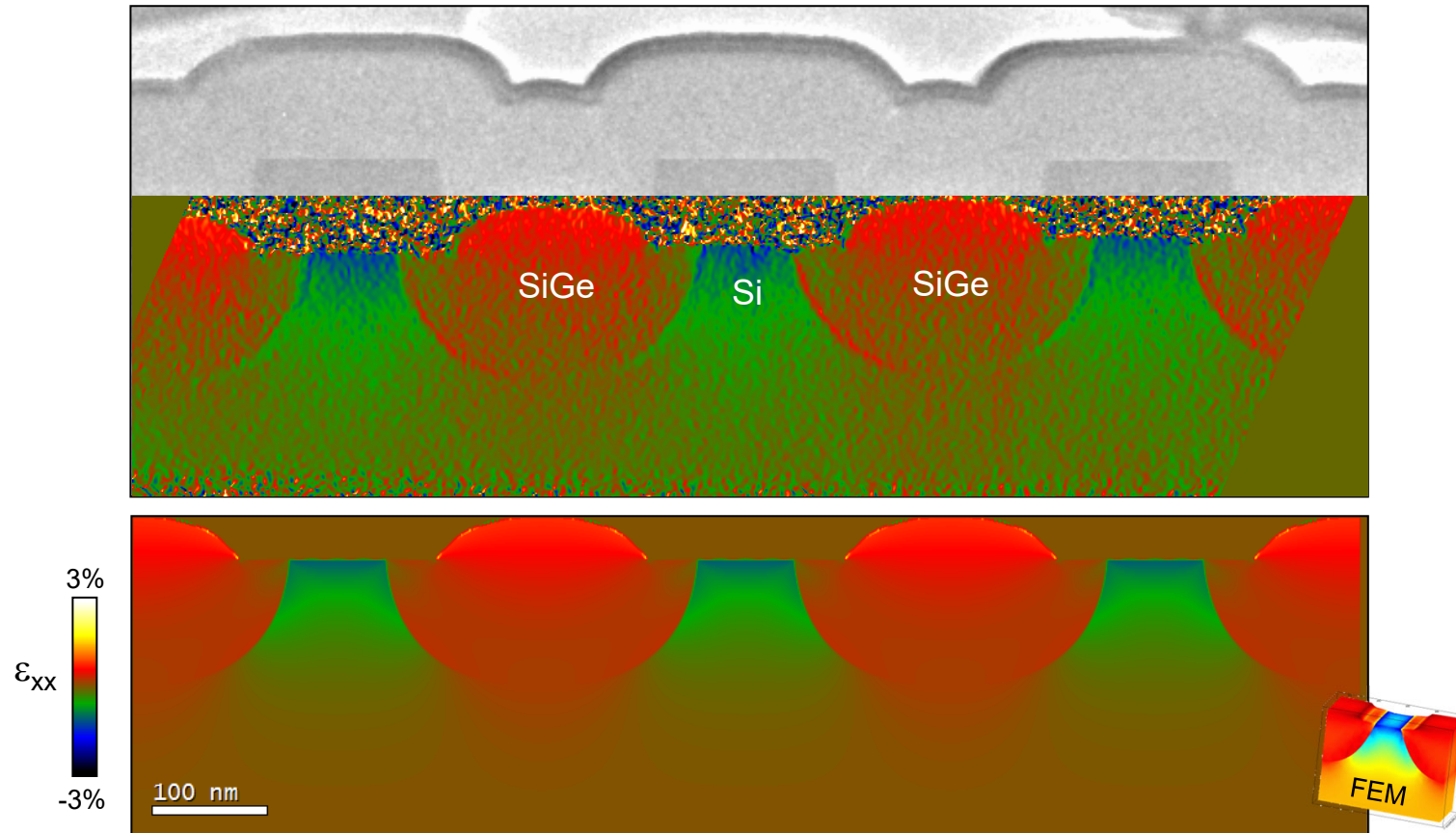


K.J. Hanszen J. Phys. D 19 (1986) 373

Experiment

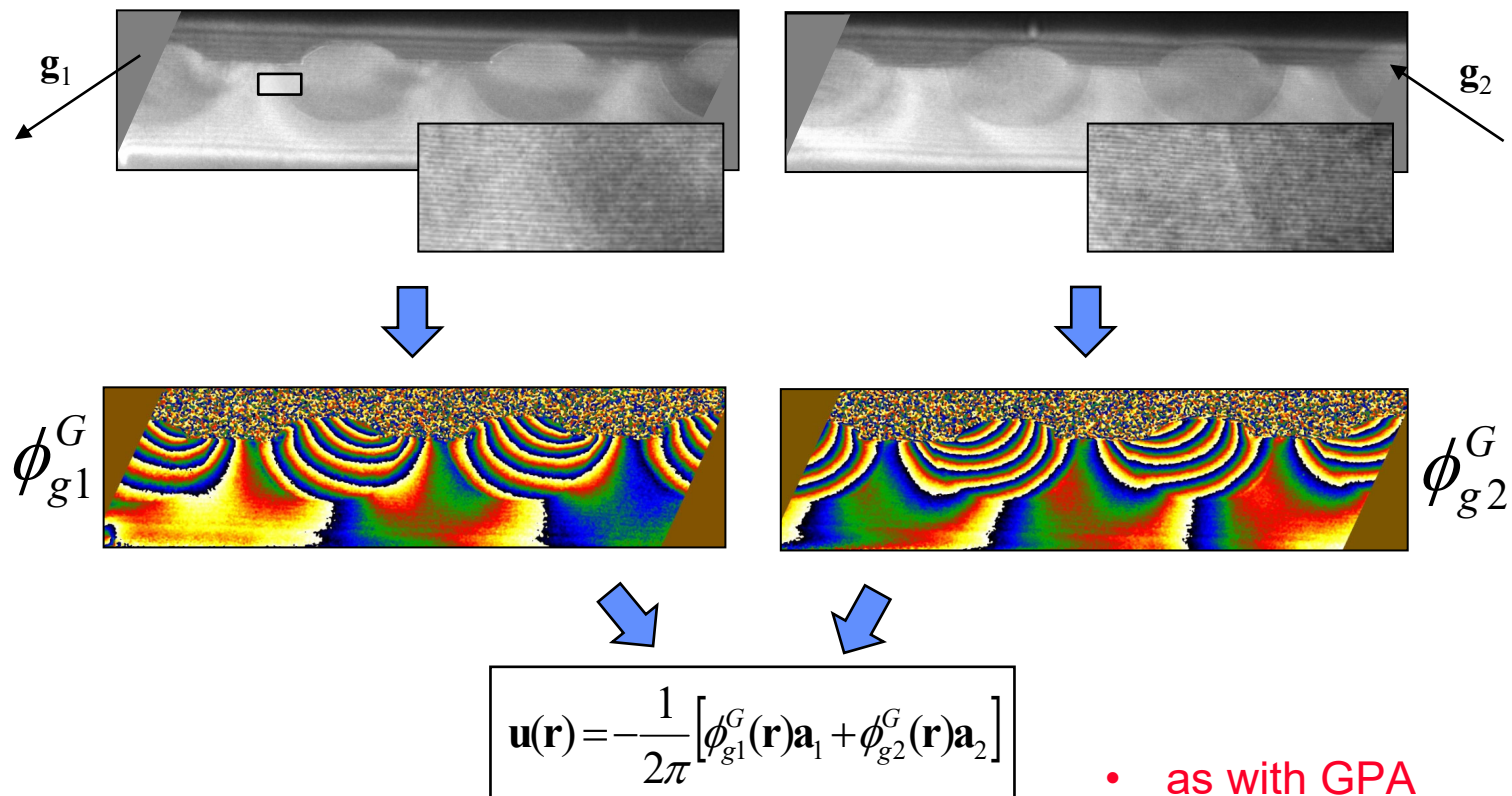


Strained-Si p-MOSFET



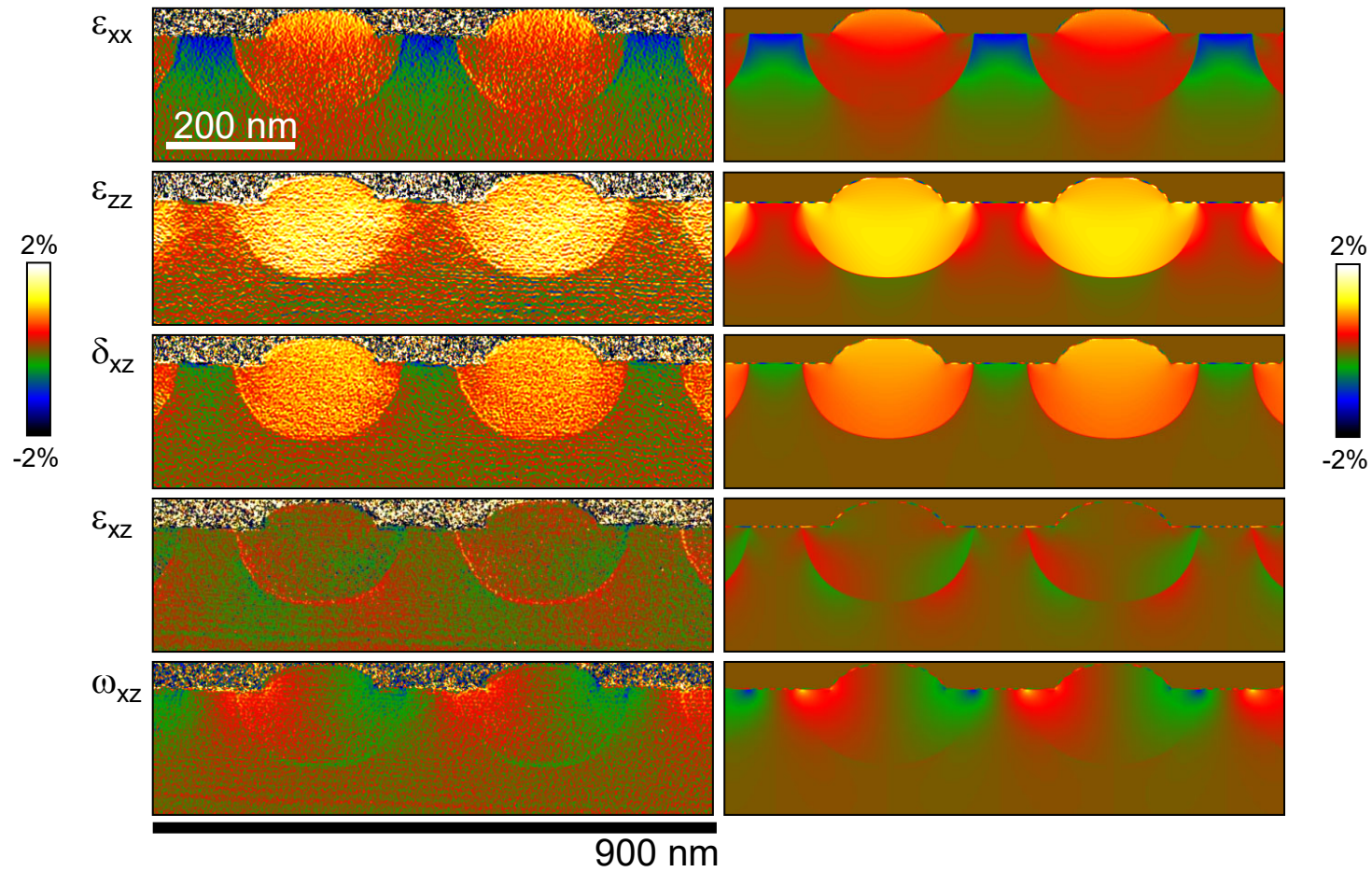
M.J. Hytch, F. Houdellier, F. Hüe & E. Snoeck, Nature 453 (19th June 2008) 1086

2D Deformation



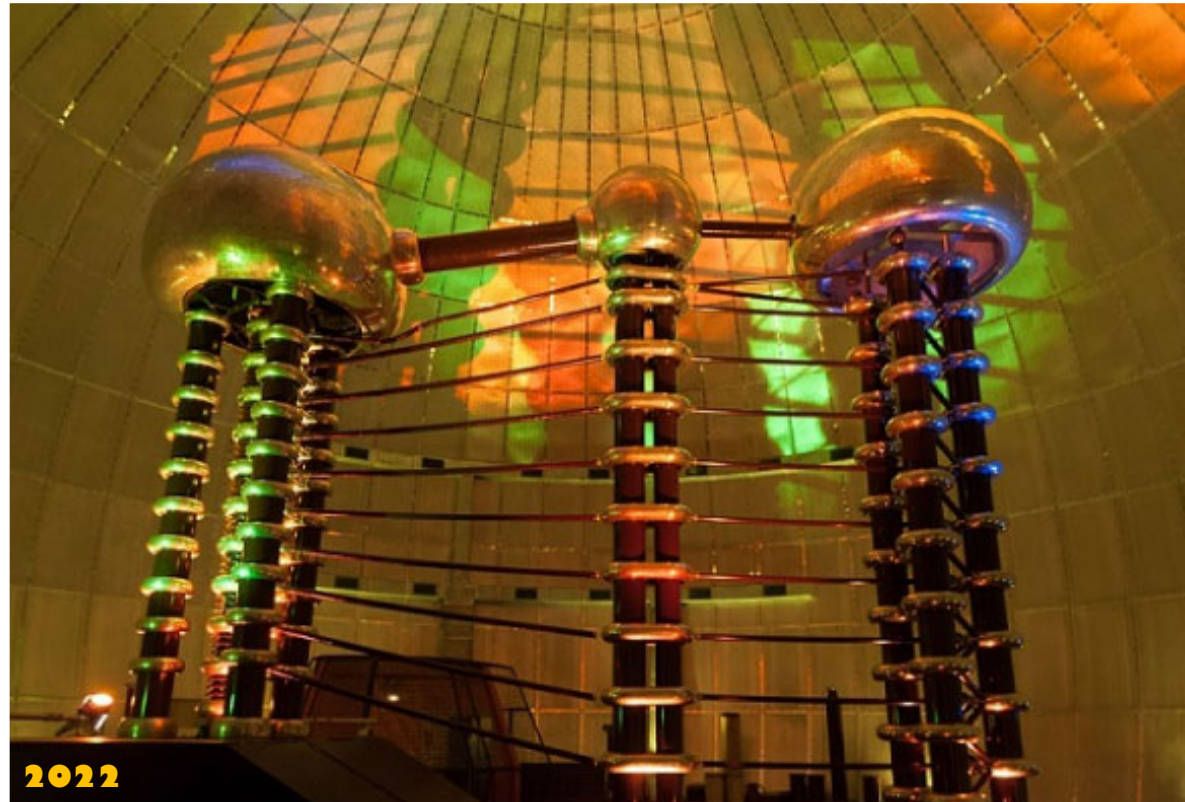
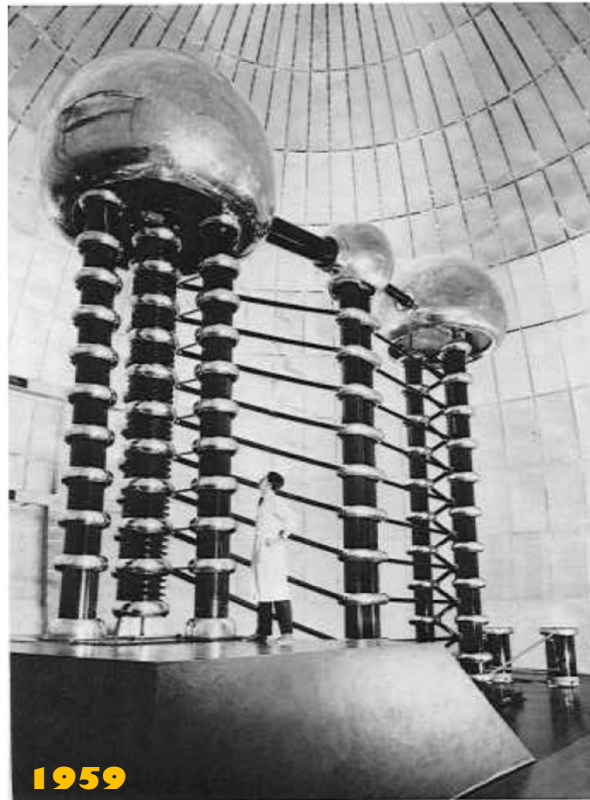
Martin Hytch, Christophe Gatel and Kazuo Ishizuka HoloDark software (HREM Research)

Strain components



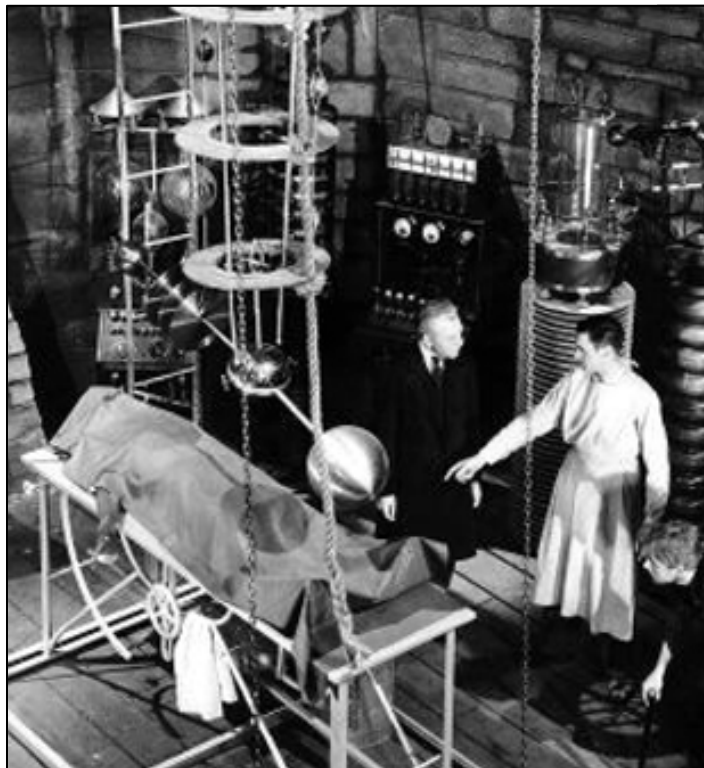


Inside « La Boule »



- 1 MeV electron accelerator, in free air

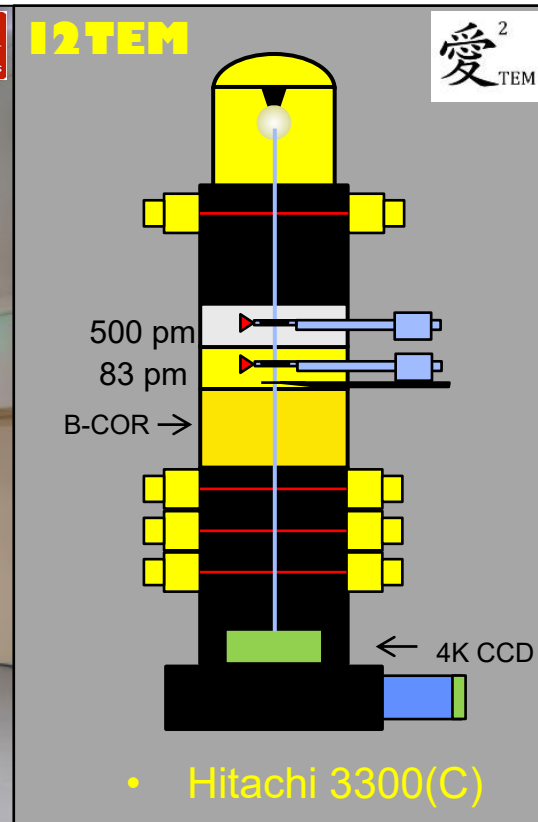
Downstairs « La Boule »



J. Whale & M. Shelley (1931)



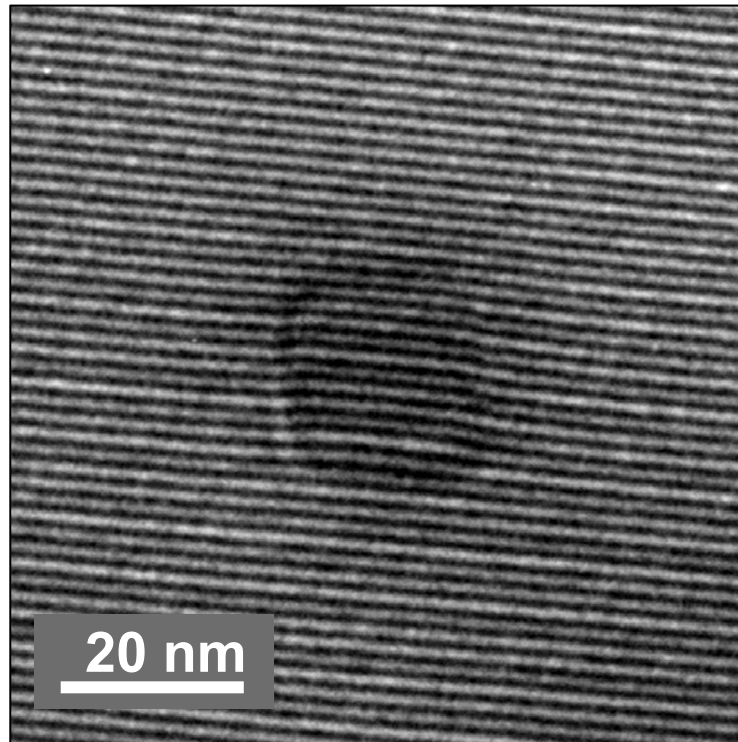
Florent Houdellier



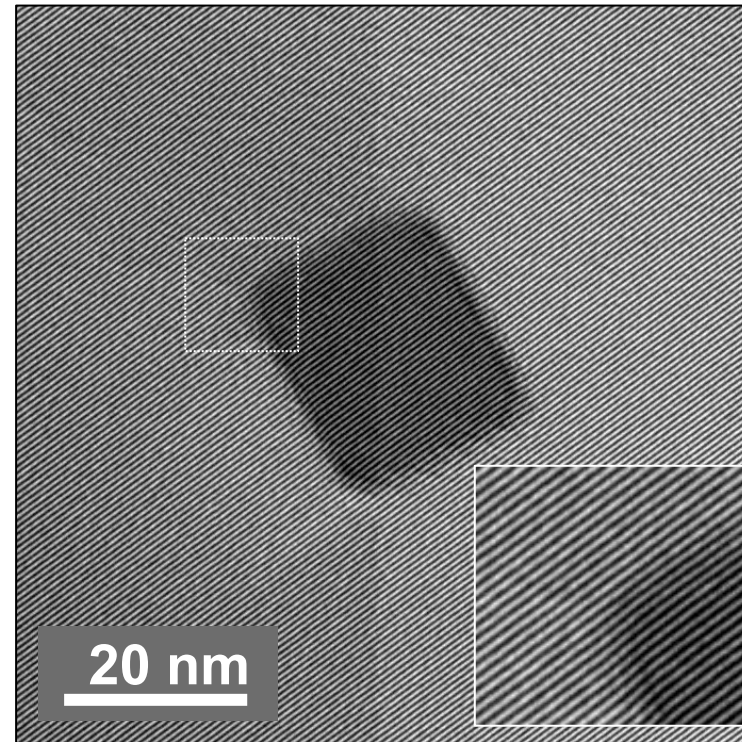
- Powerful and unique electron microscopes

New Instrumentation

SACTEM

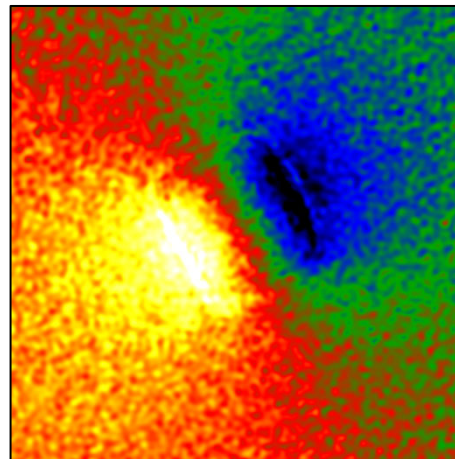
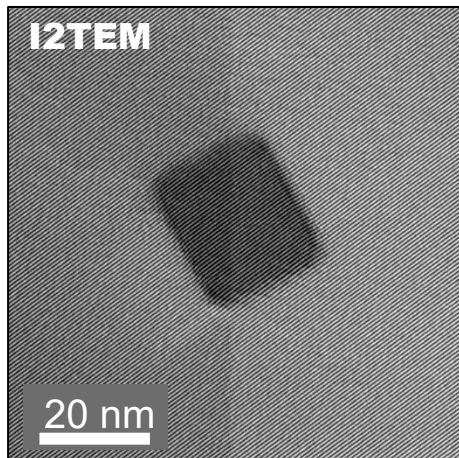
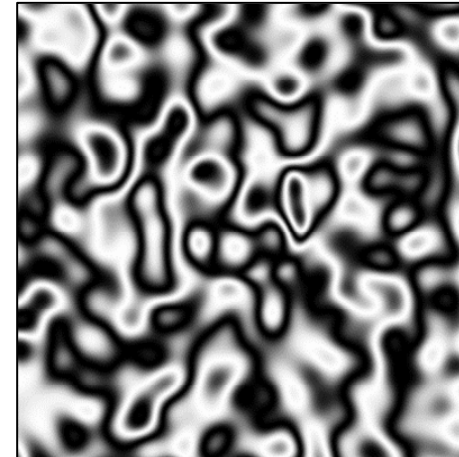
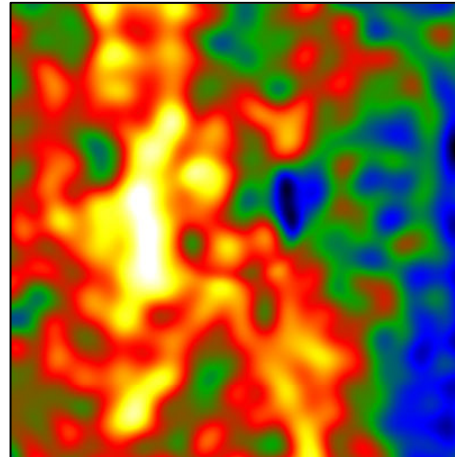
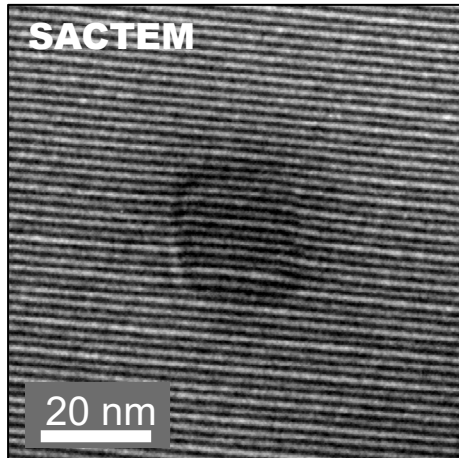


I2TEM

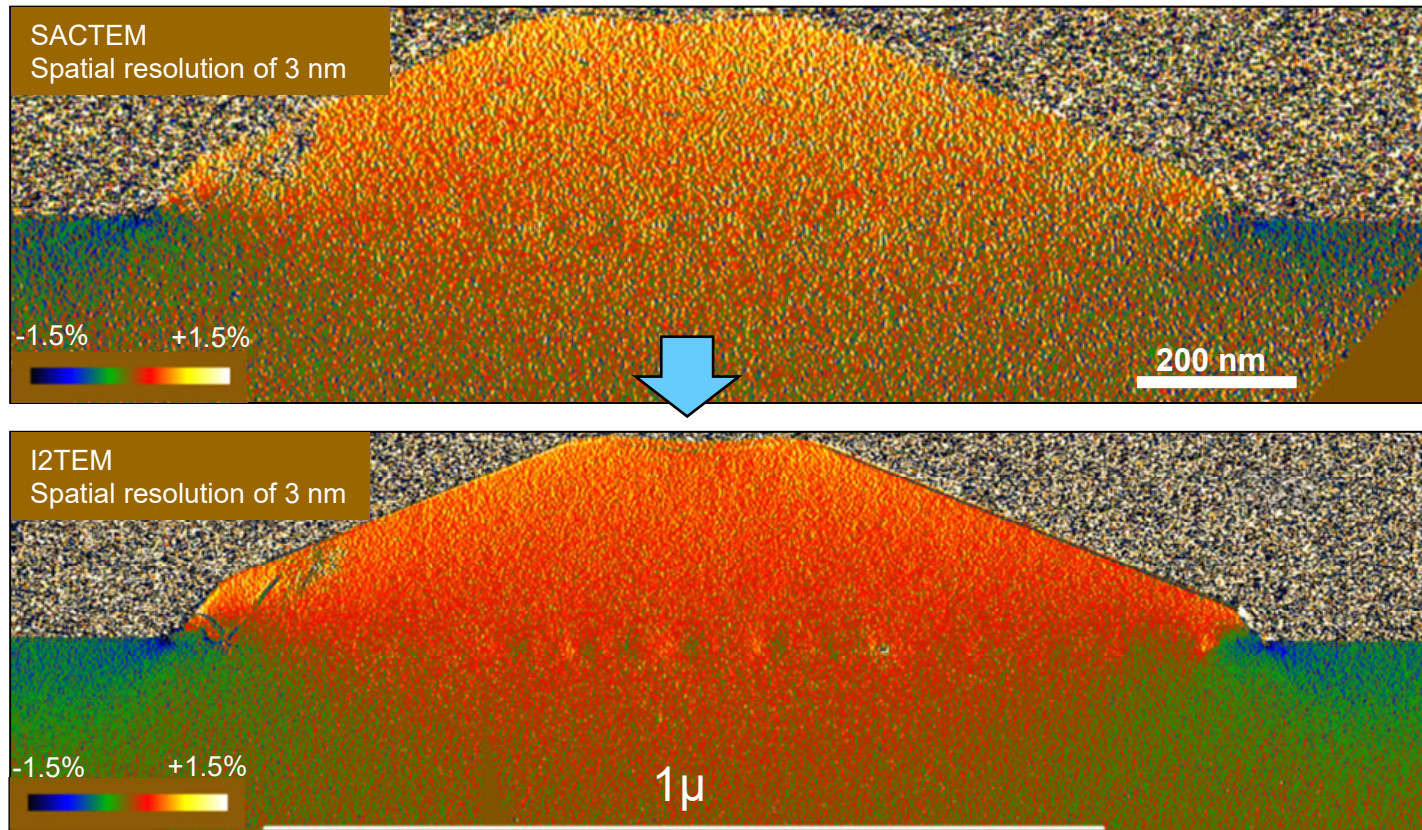


L.-M. Lacroix et al., Nano Letters 12, 3245–3250 (2012)

Magnetic phase: nc-Fe



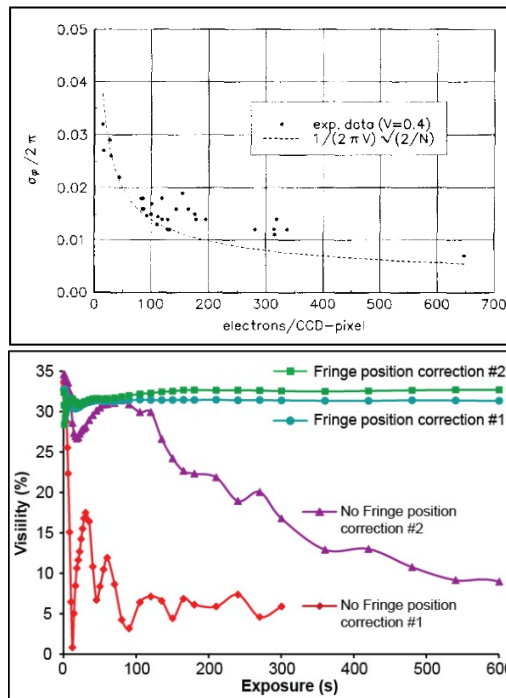
Stain mapping with DFEH



Courtesy of Nikolay Cherkashin

Longer exposure times

**More electrons
better phase sensitivity**



$$\sigma_\phi \propto \frac{1}{V} \sqrt{\frac{1}{N_e}}$$

Visibility $\nearrow$ $\nwarrow$ Dose

**Instabilities
reduce visibility**

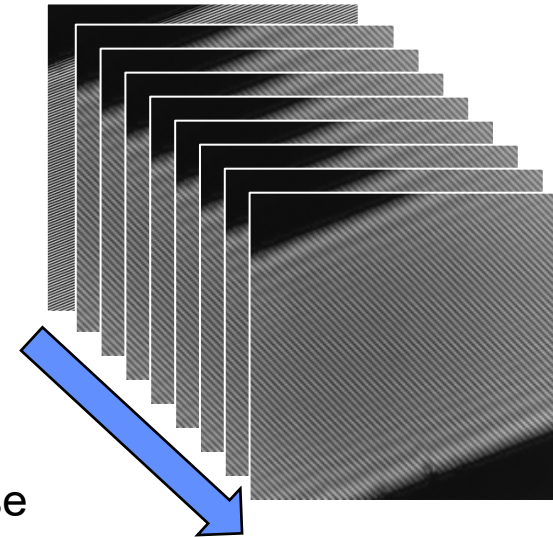


Image stacks

- short exposure times
- many images

*A. Harscher & H. Lichte
Ultramicroscopy 64, 57-66 (1996)*

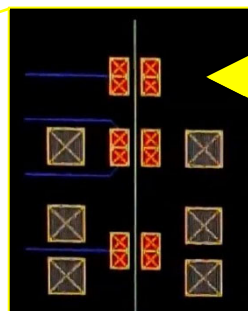
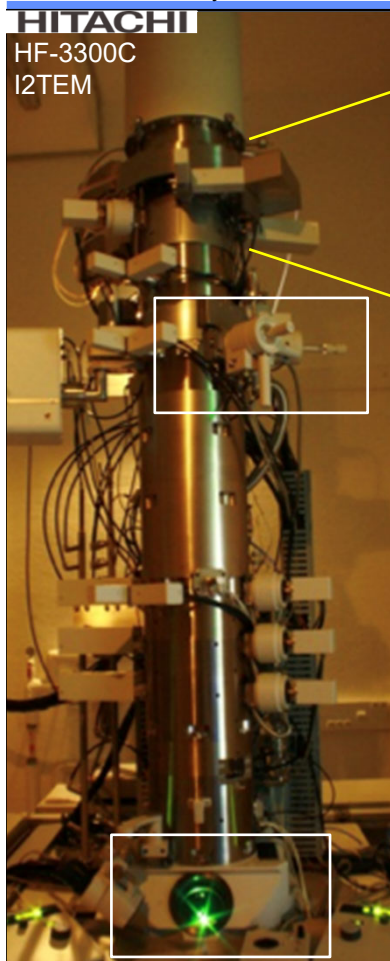
*E. Voelkl & D. Tang
Ultramicroscopy 110, 447-459 (2010)*



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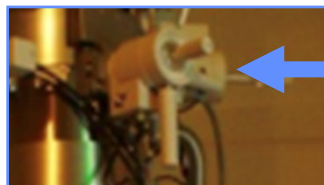
Martin Hytch – QEM 2025

Automation: Stabilisation



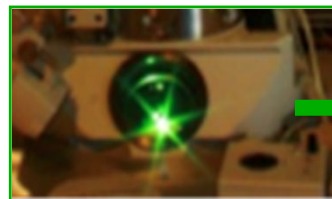
fringe control

gun tilts



specimen stage

specimen control

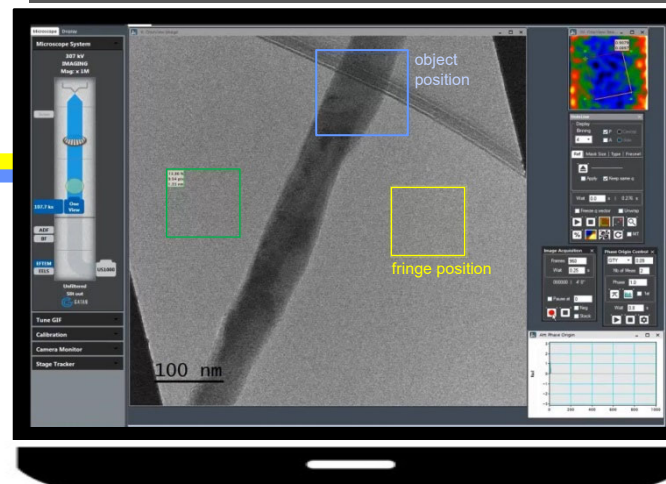


camera



OneView

C. Gatel, J. Dupuy, F. Houdellier, M.J. Hytch,
Applied Physics Letters 113, 133102 (2018)



object position

fringe position

```
Script
74 While (k<maxmax)
75 {
76   If (ScriptObjectIsValid(DDO_u)) stop = DDO_u.Get_Misc_Value(misc_temp)
77   Else stop = 1
78 }
79 If (stop) || (stop_UXA) Break
80 Else
81 {
82   If (Is) misc_first = misc_temp
83   Else If (misc_first > 1.57) misc_temp = 2*pi()
84   Else If (misc_first < -1.57) misc_temp = -2*pi()
85   misc = misc_temp
86 }
87 }
88 }
89 }
90 }
```

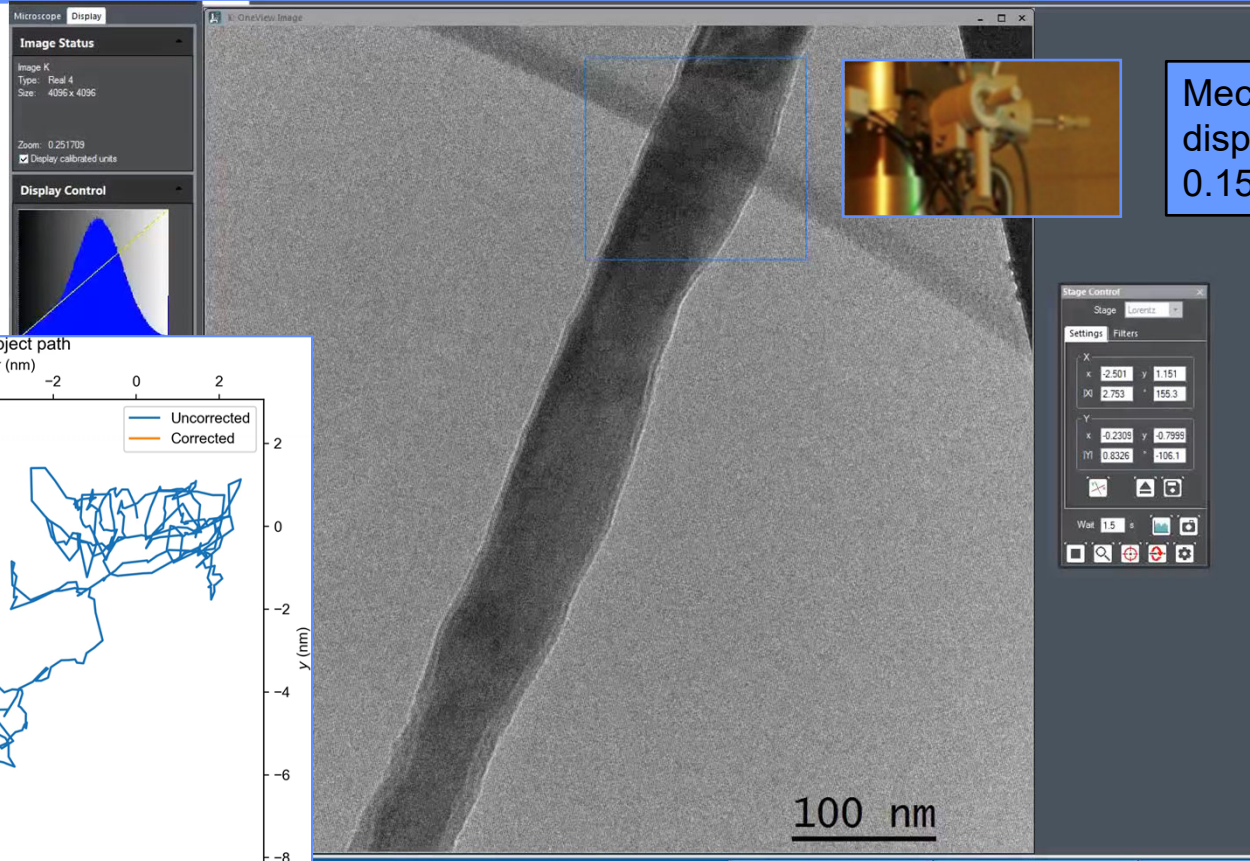
Image analysis and correction algorithm



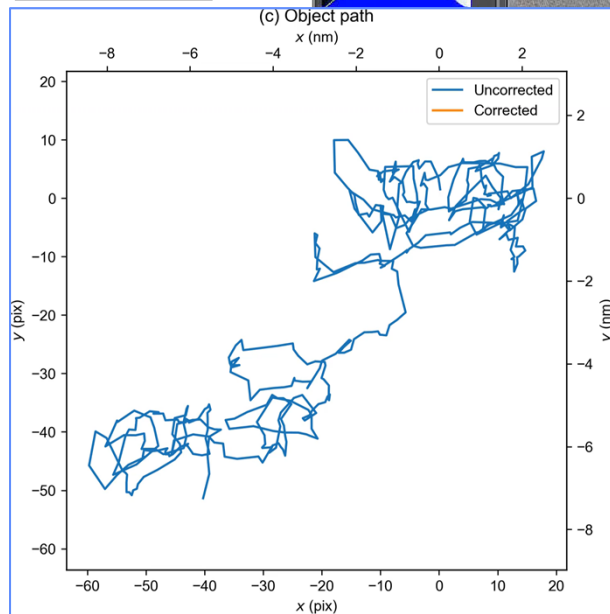
58

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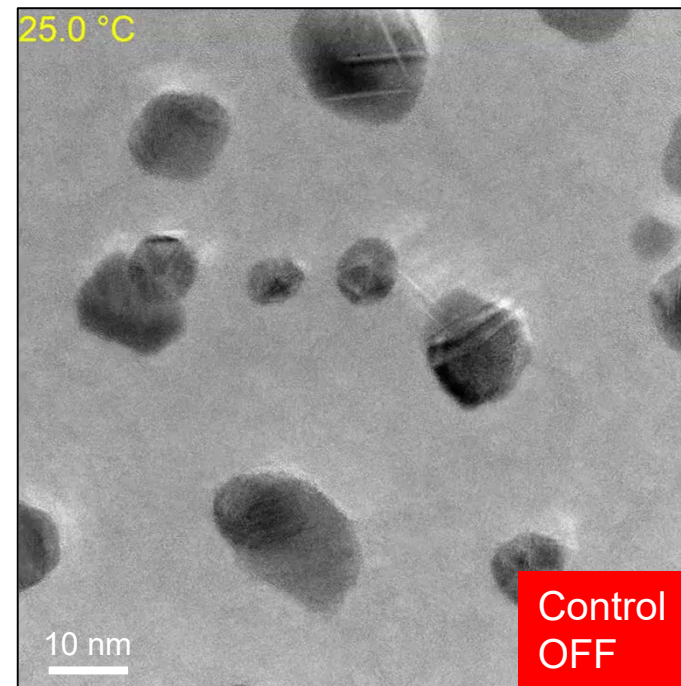
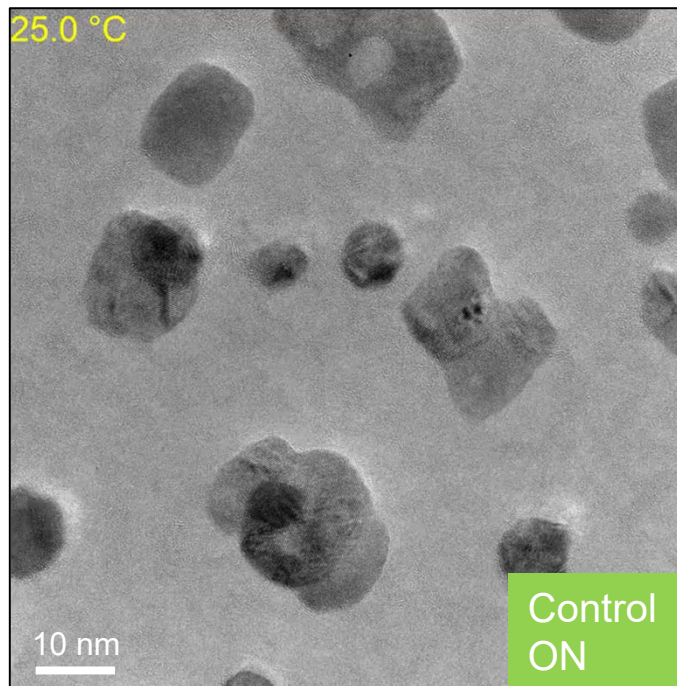
Stage control



Mechanical
displacements of
0.15 nm



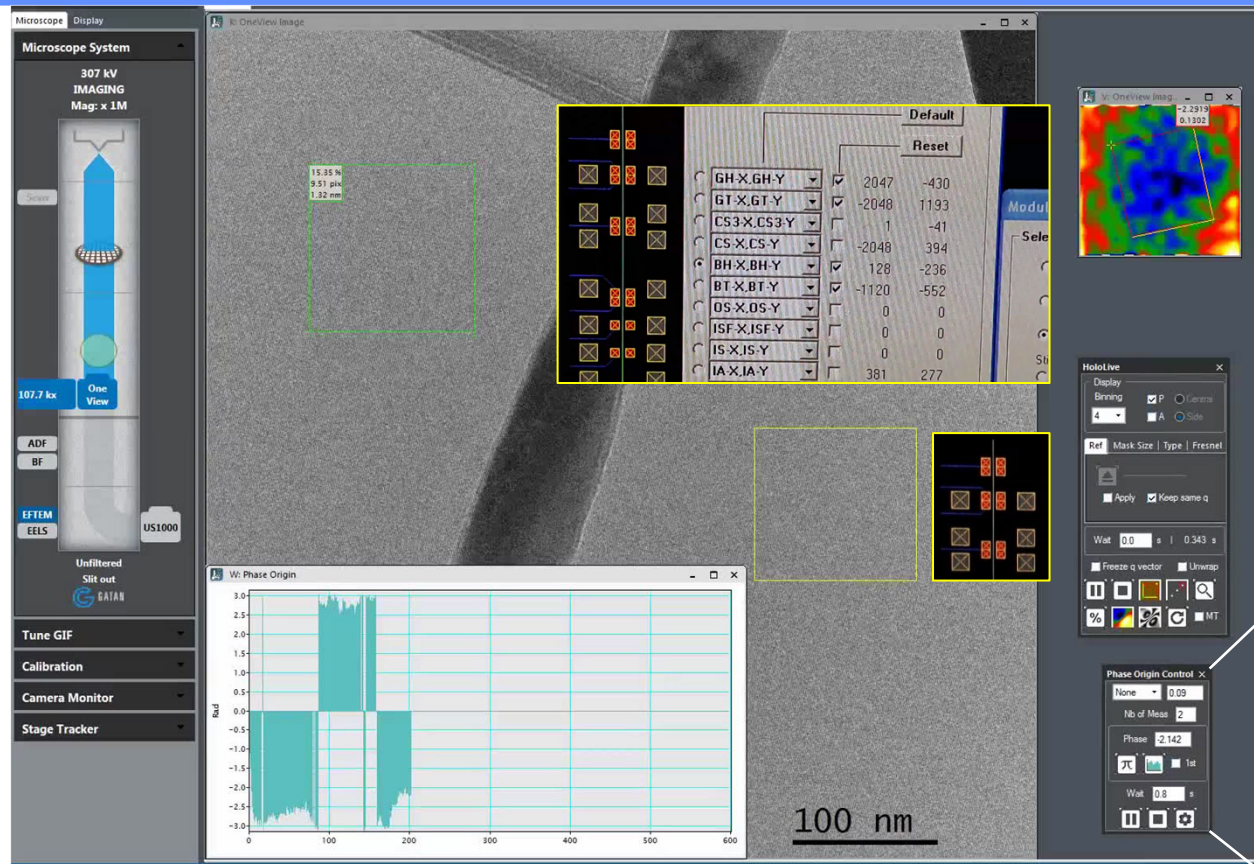
Specimen drift control



JEOL ARM 200

Collaboration C. Genevois and C. Bouillet, Platform MACLE Centre Val de Loire, Orléans

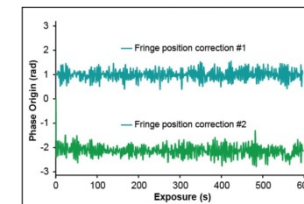
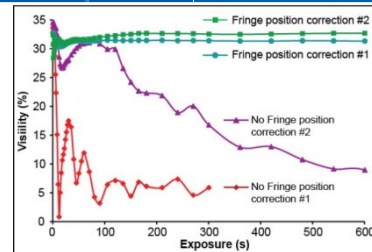
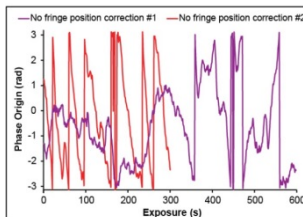
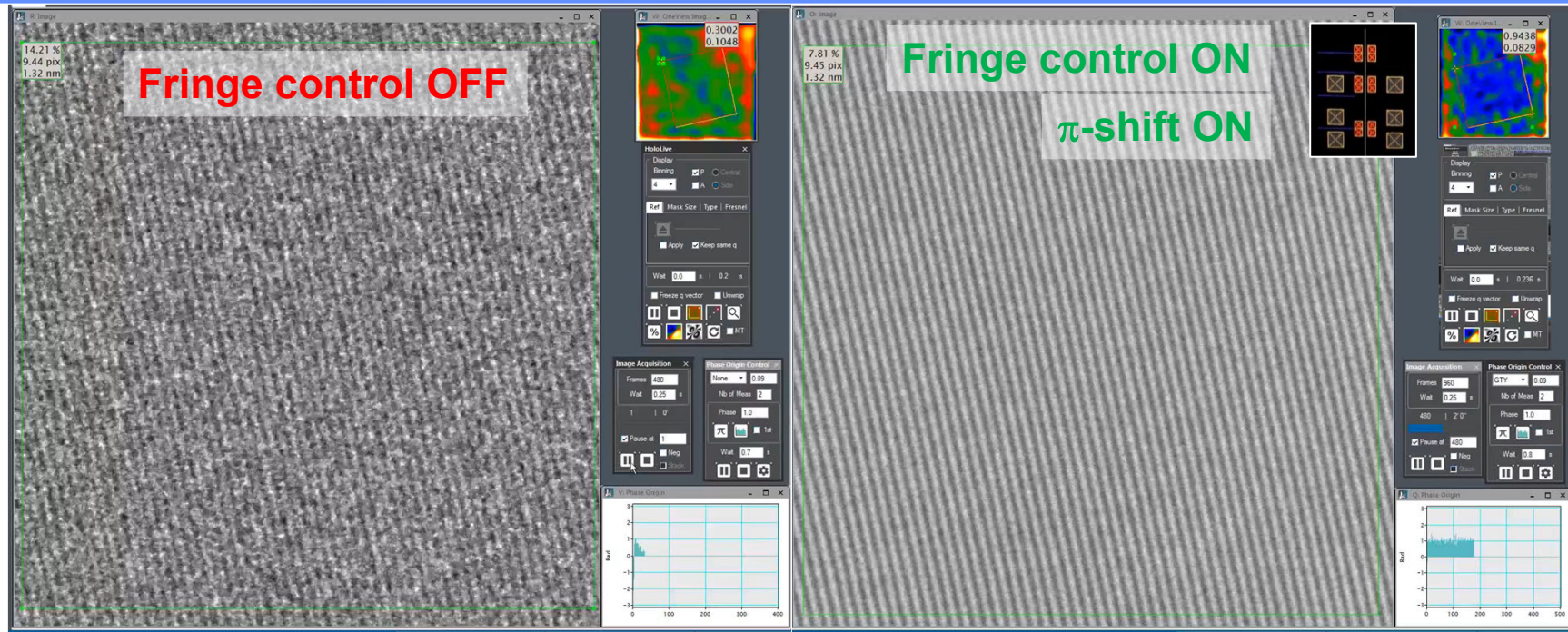
Fringe Control



beam tilts
of 0.13
μrads

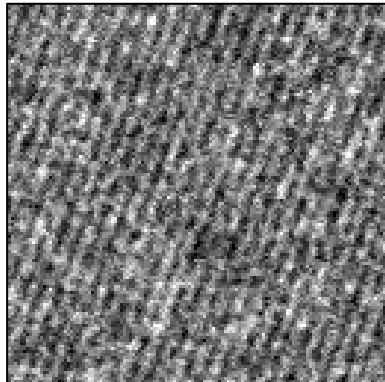


Fringe Control

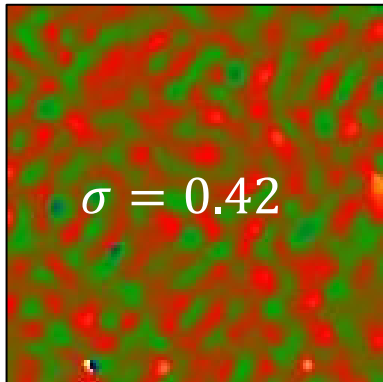
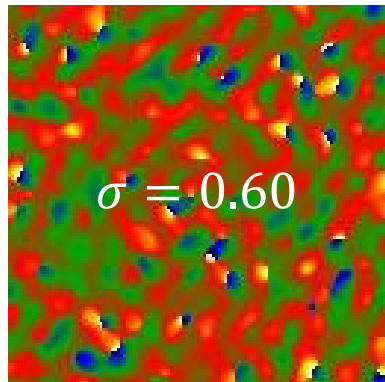
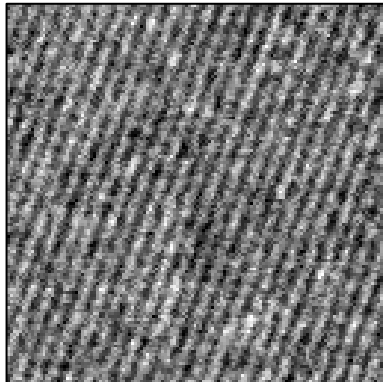


Time series

2 s



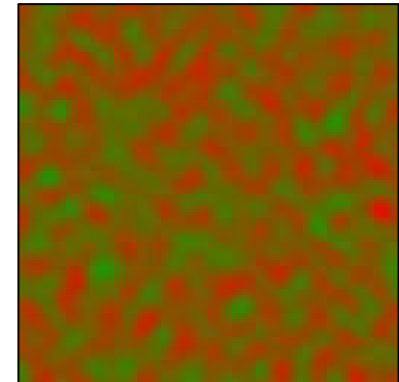
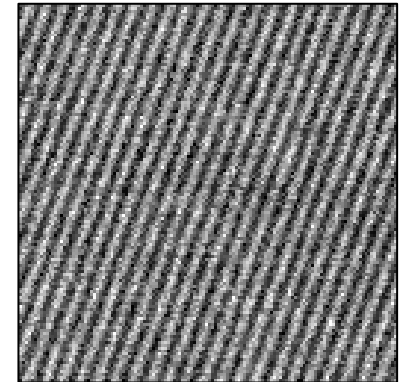
4 s



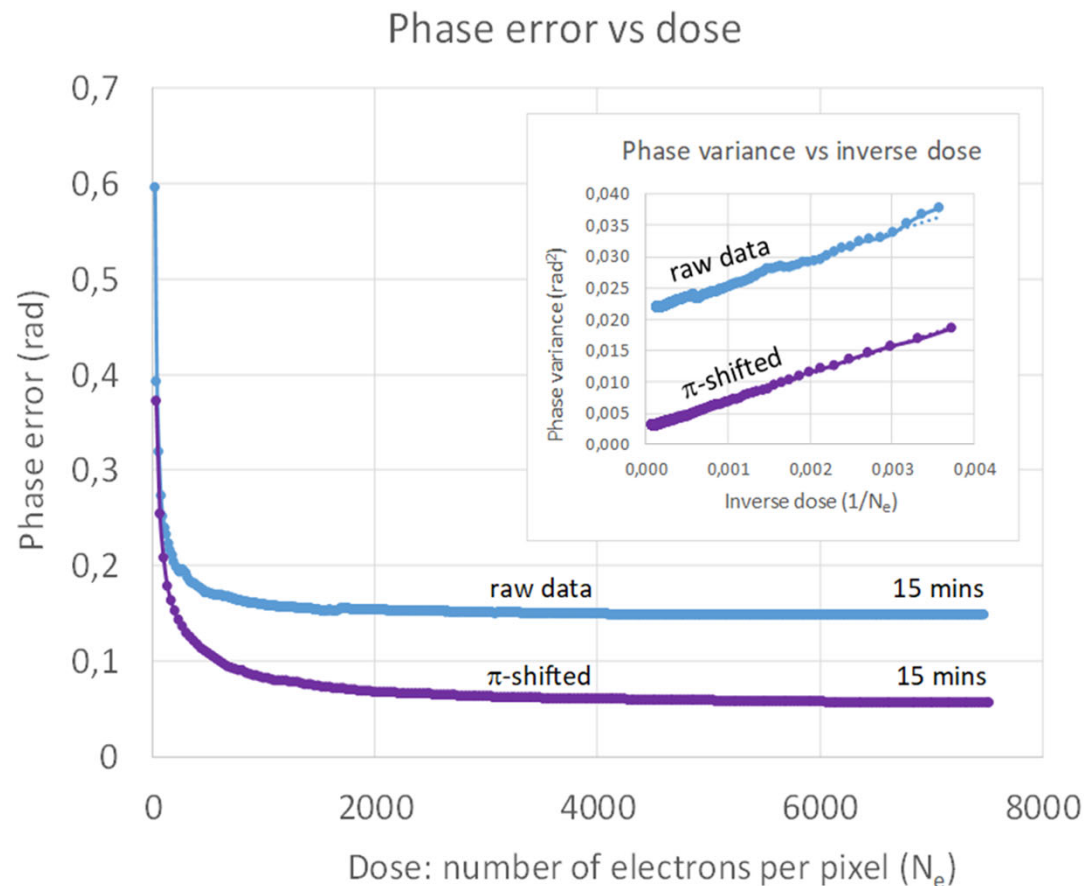
→ Every 2s →

Measure phase
standard deviation

900 s



Results



$$\sigma_\phi = \frac{1}{V_0} \sqrt{\frac{2}{N_e}} \sqrt{\frac{a}{\text{DQE}(q)}}$$

Visibility $\nearrow$ $\nwarrow$ Dose

Phase error from
electron dose

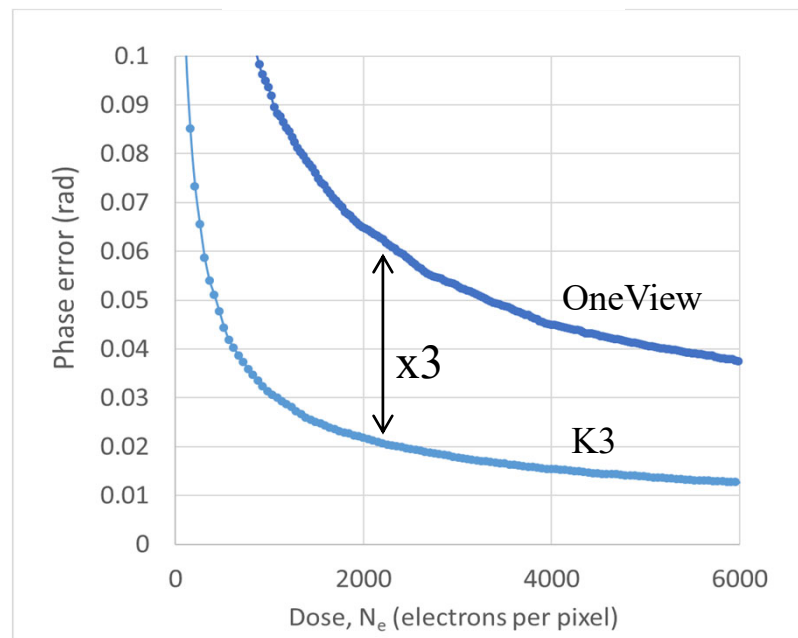
Unknown
constant
phase error

$$\sigma^2(\phi) = \frac{\sigma_e^2}{N_e} + \sigma_\infty^2$$

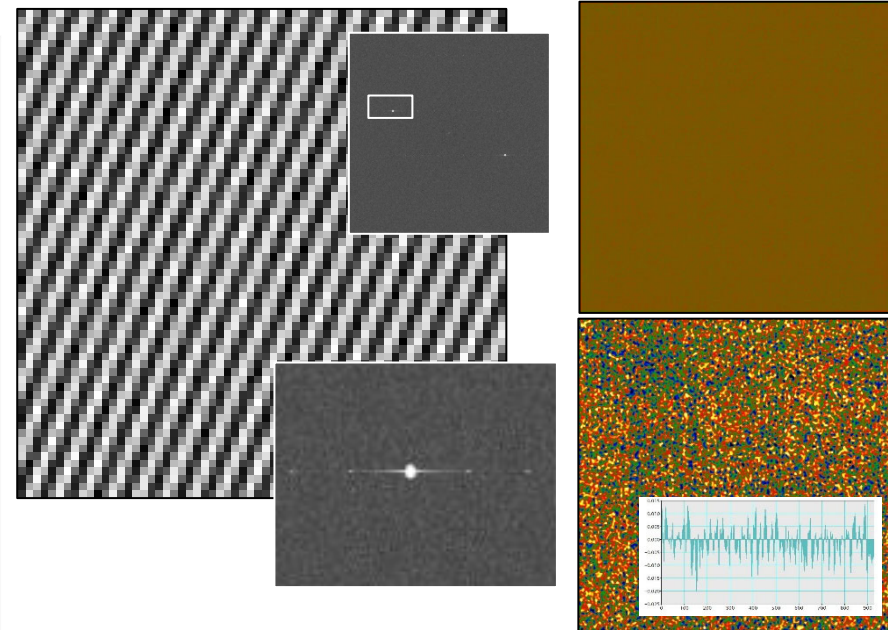
A Harscher and H Lichte,
Ultramicroscopy 64, 57-66 (1996)

ONEVIEW vs K3

Corrected holograms



Same pixel resolution



0.004 pixel displacement
20 nm on chip !



In-situ Holography

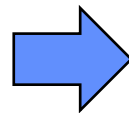
and quantification

In-situ Holography

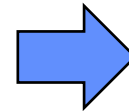
Holograms contain artefacts

Holograms contain unwanted terms

$$\phi = \phi^C + \phi^G + \phi^M + \phi^E$$

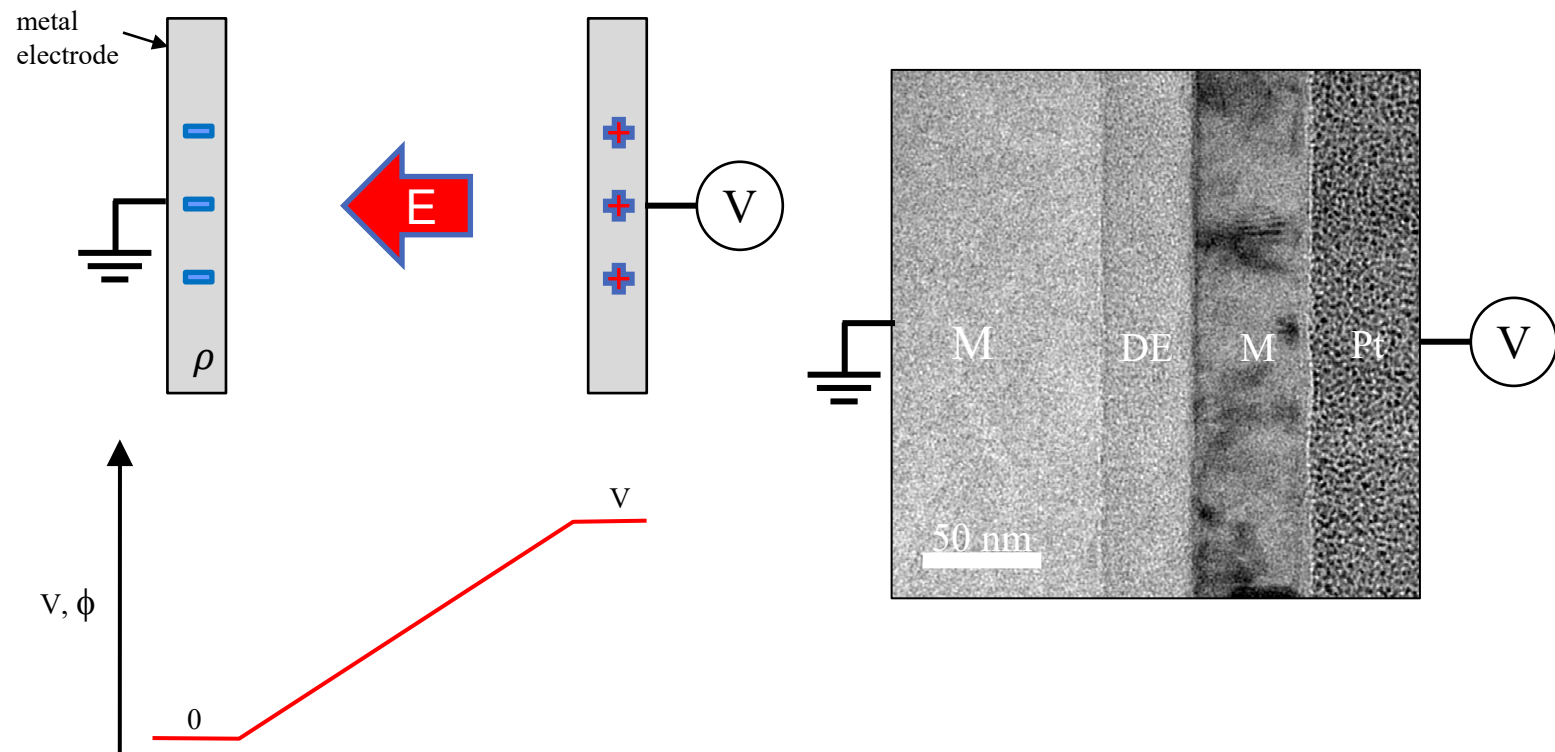


Vary the parameters



In-situ or operando

Model System: the capacitor





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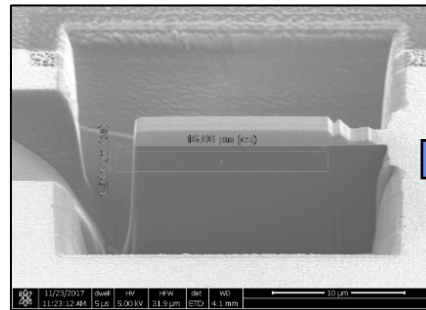
FIB preparation



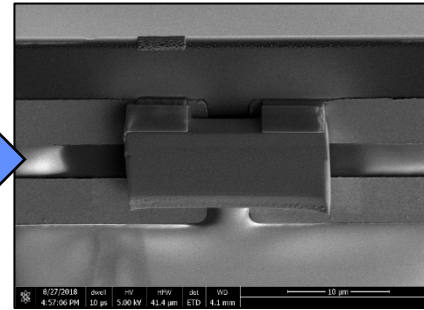
Nanocapacitor

Si or Ti
SiO ₂
Si (highly doped)

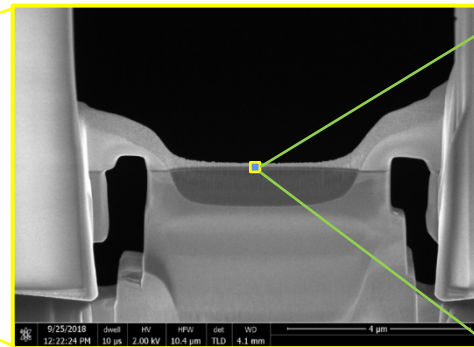
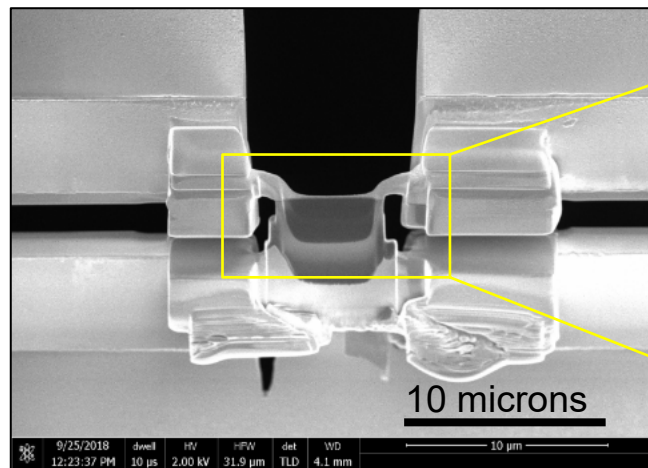
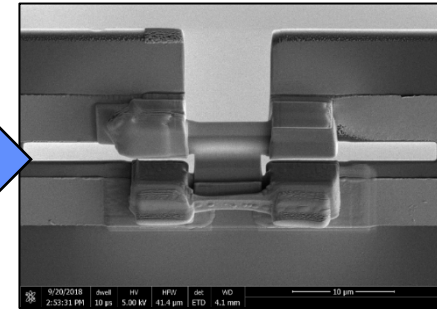
FIB liftout



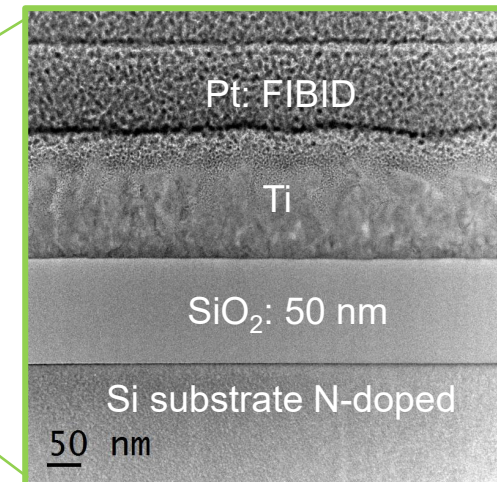
Placement on chip



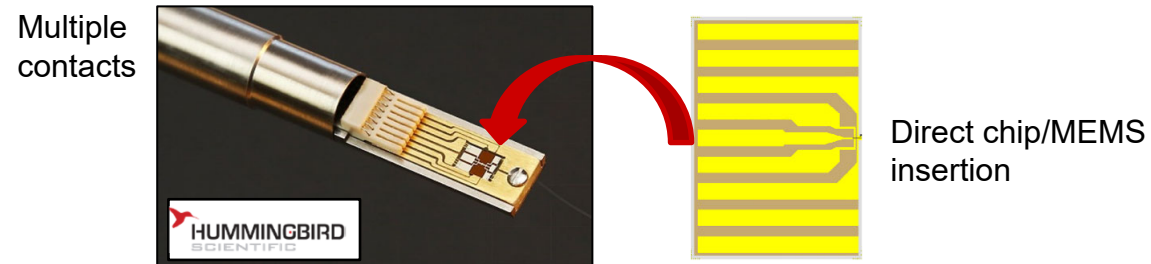
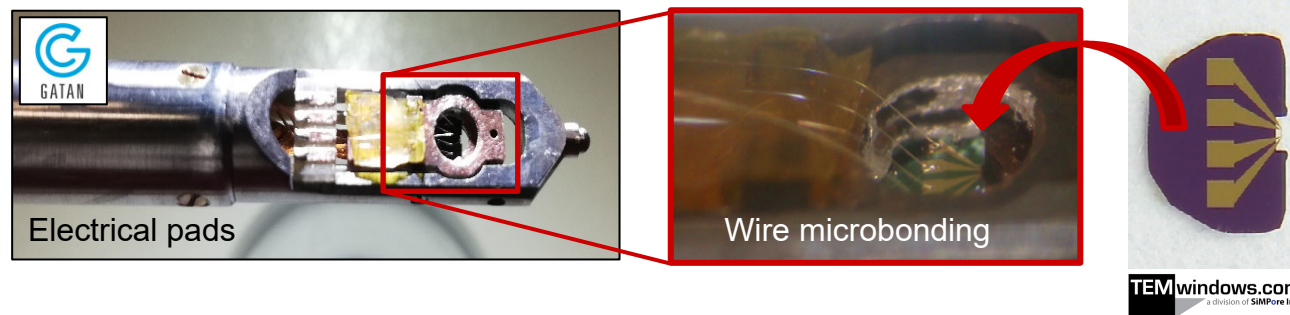
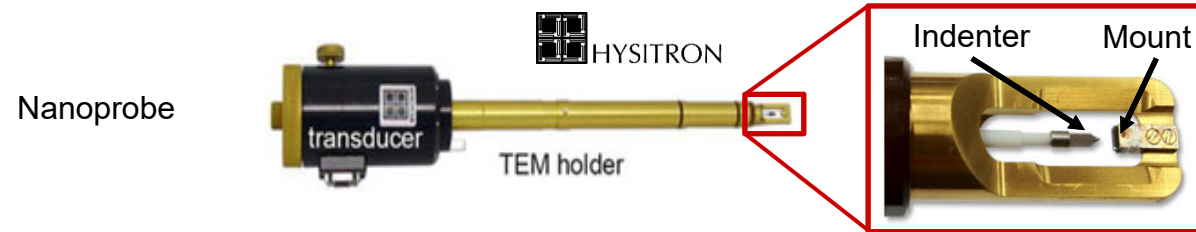
Thinning



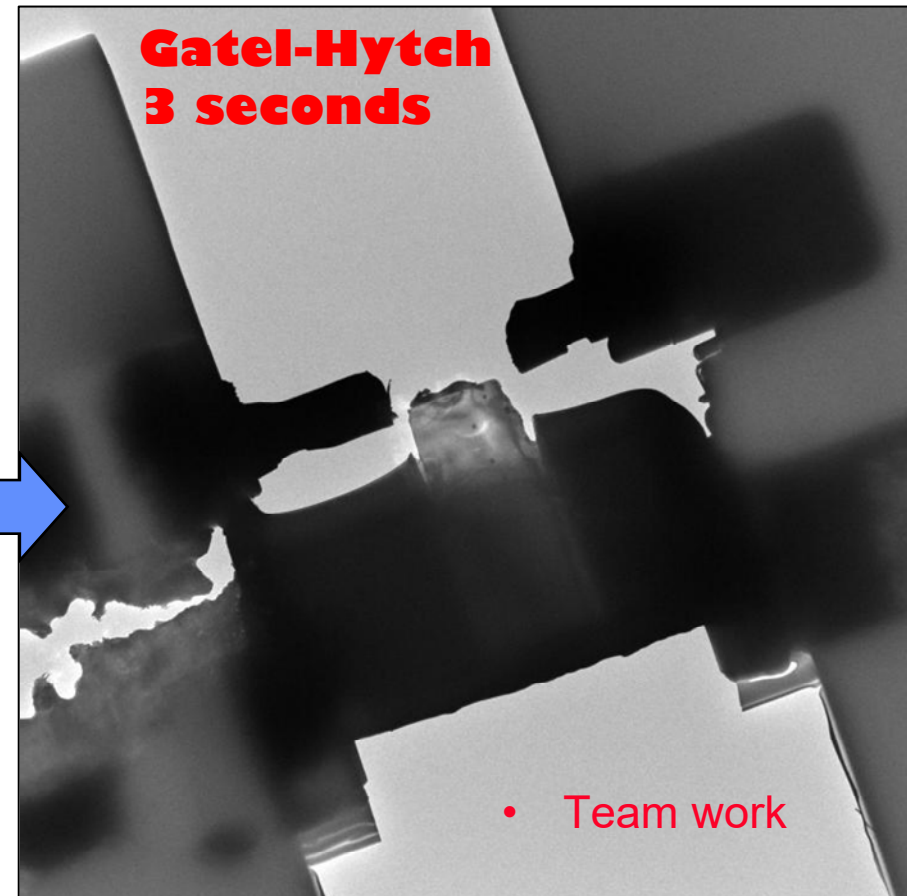
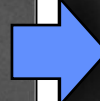
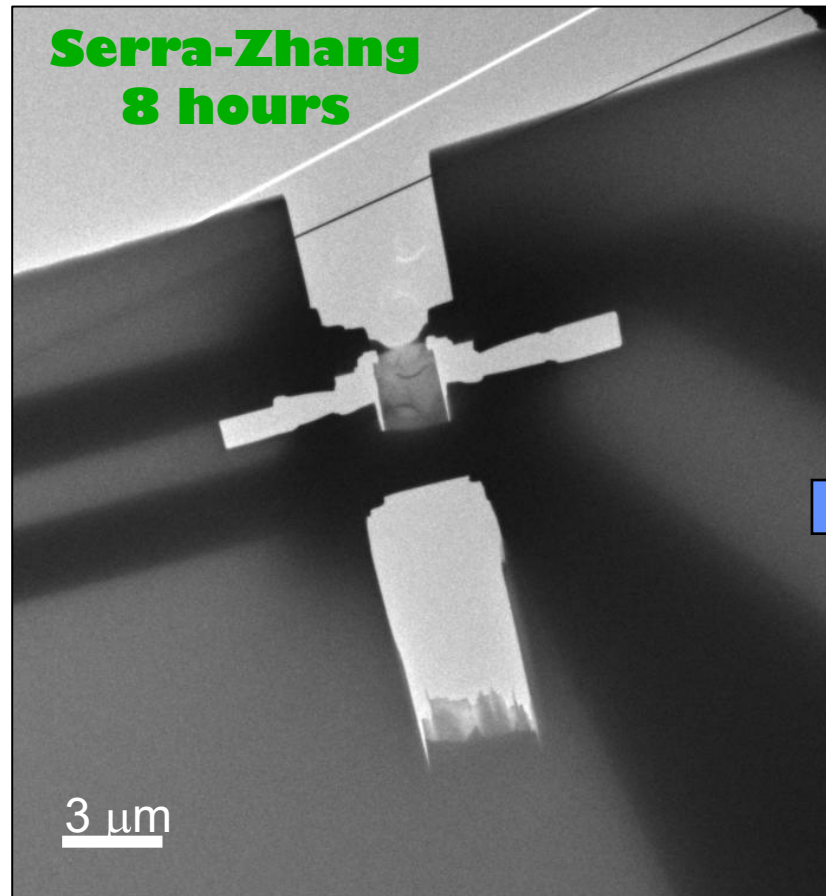
Raphaël Serra
Leifeng Zhang



Dedicated holders

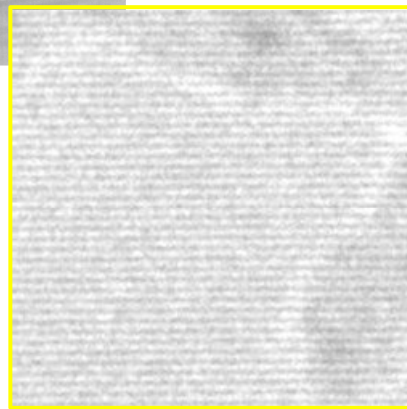
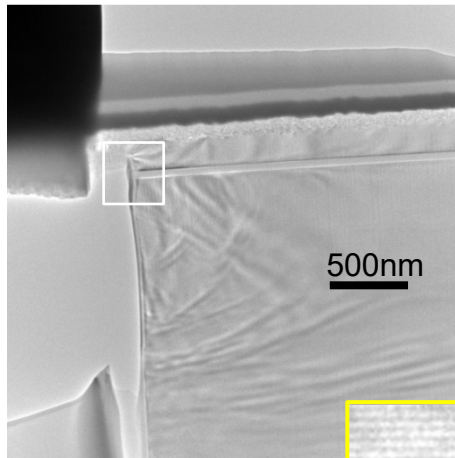


Exciting phenomena



In-situ EH: test structure

Electron Holography



$$\phi^E = c_E \int V(\mathbf{r}) dz$$

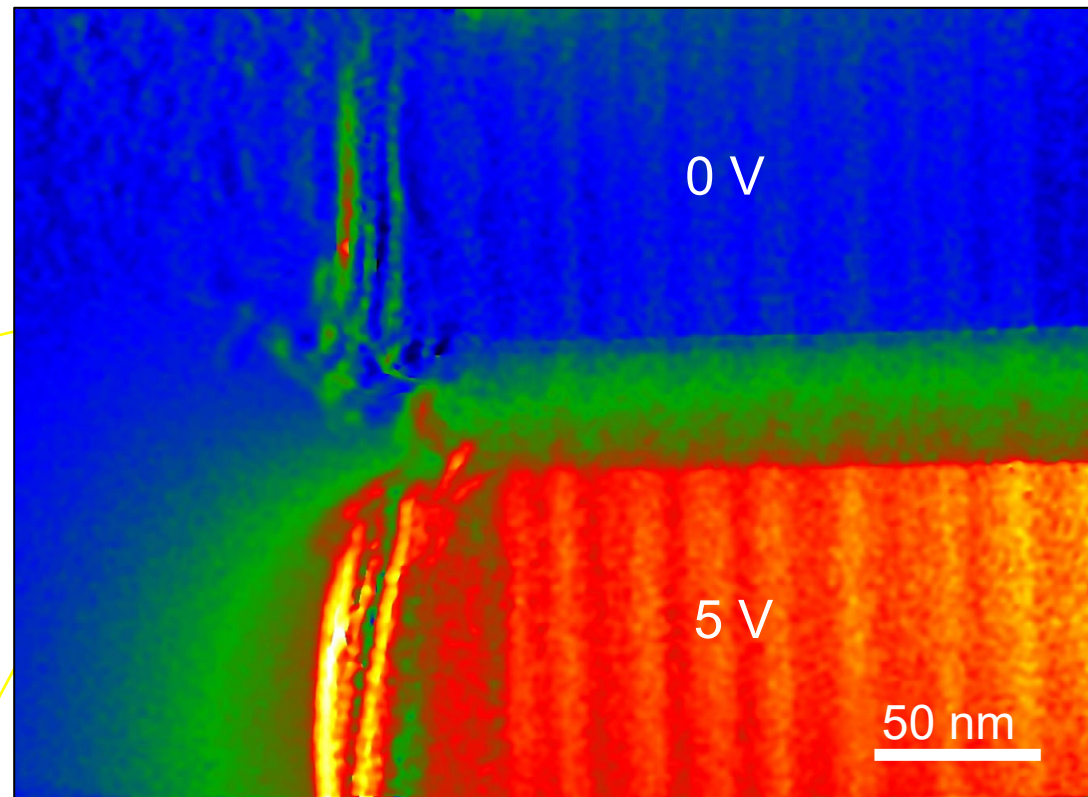
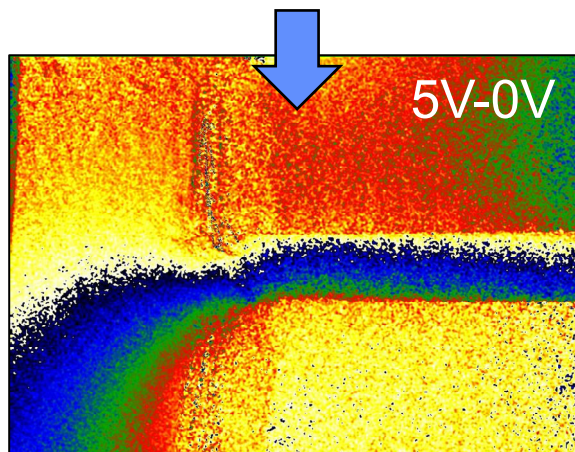
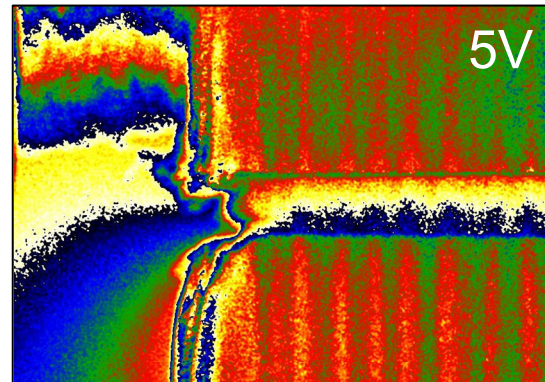
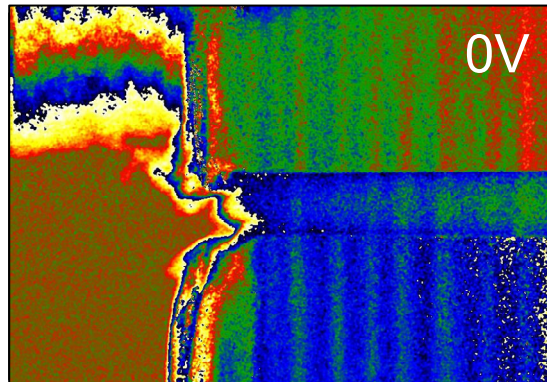
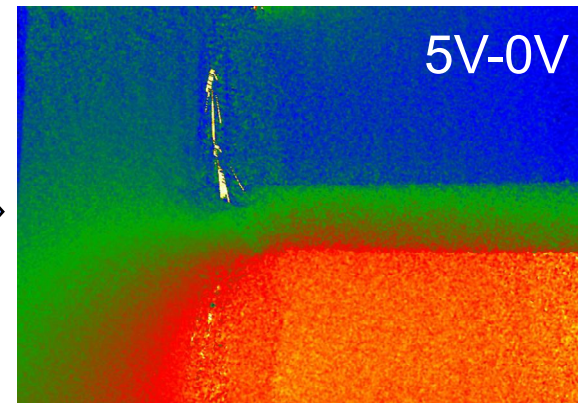


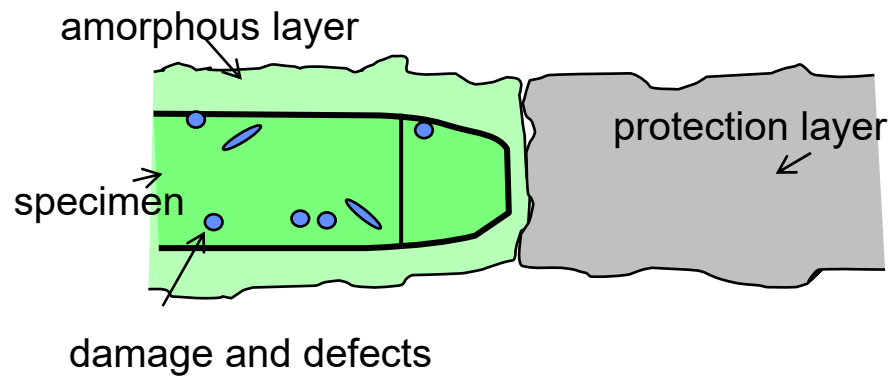
Image processing



Unwrapped

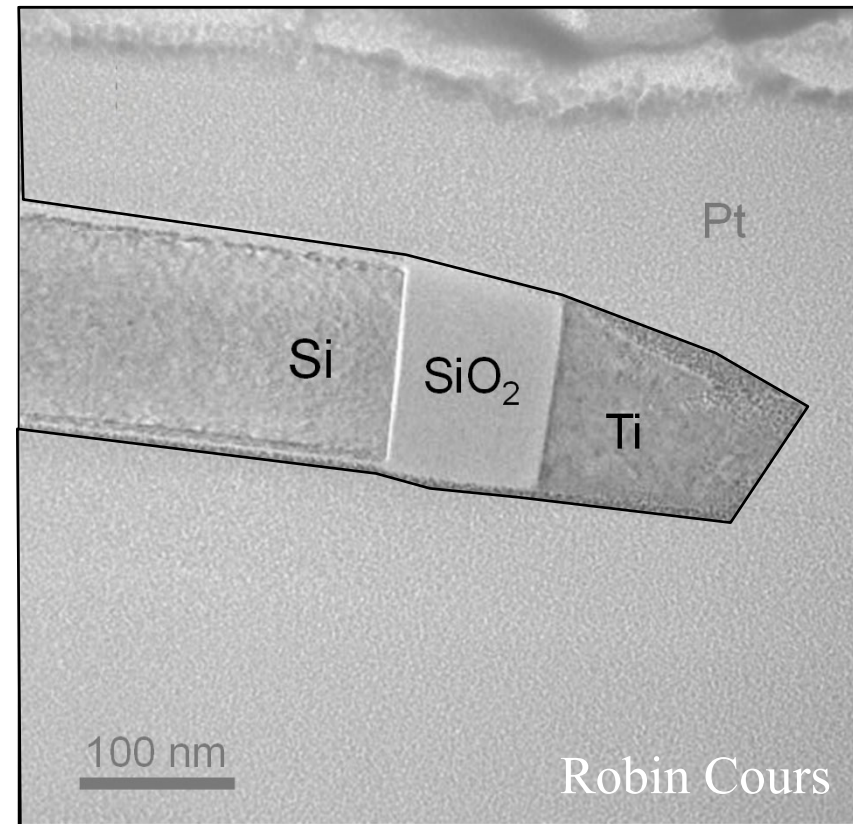


FIB sample preparation

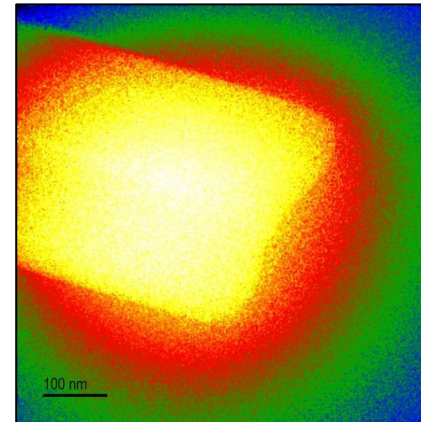
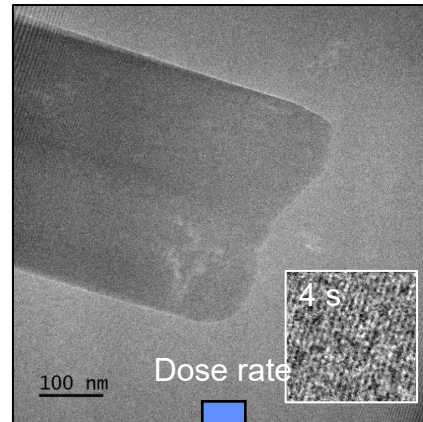
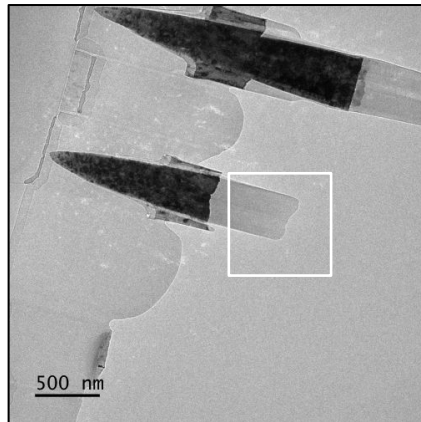


- surface protection layer
- amorphous layer
- damage and impurities
- specimen curvature and bending

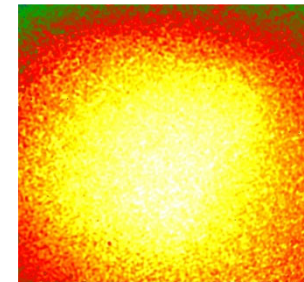
Cross of Cross-section



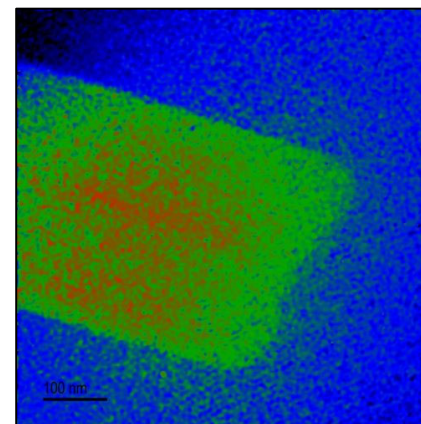
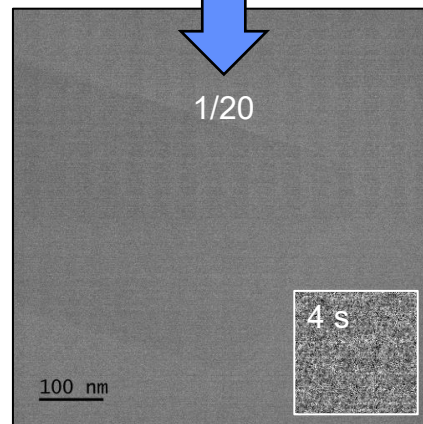
Beam Charging



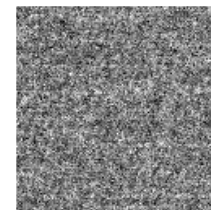
Phase difference



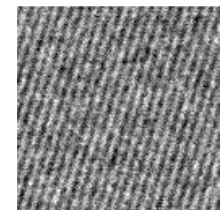
- Less charging
- Need long exposure times

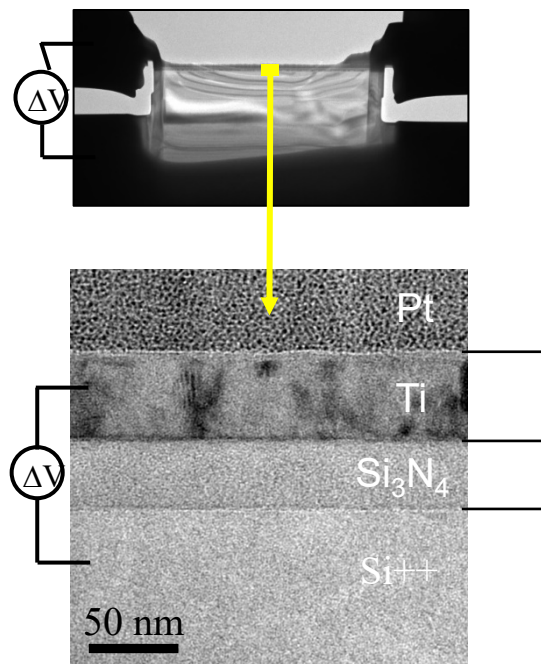


4 s

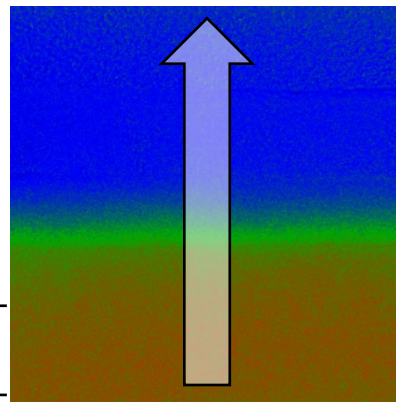


4 min

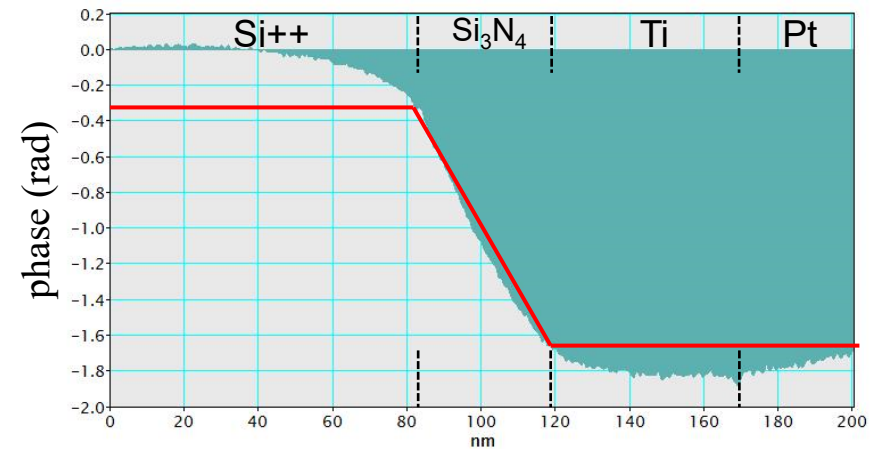




Biasing Phase



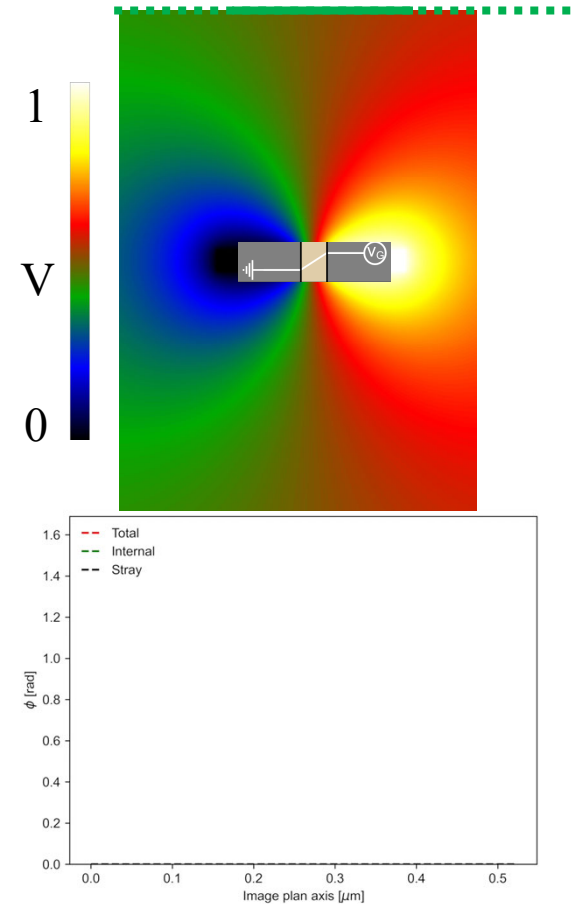
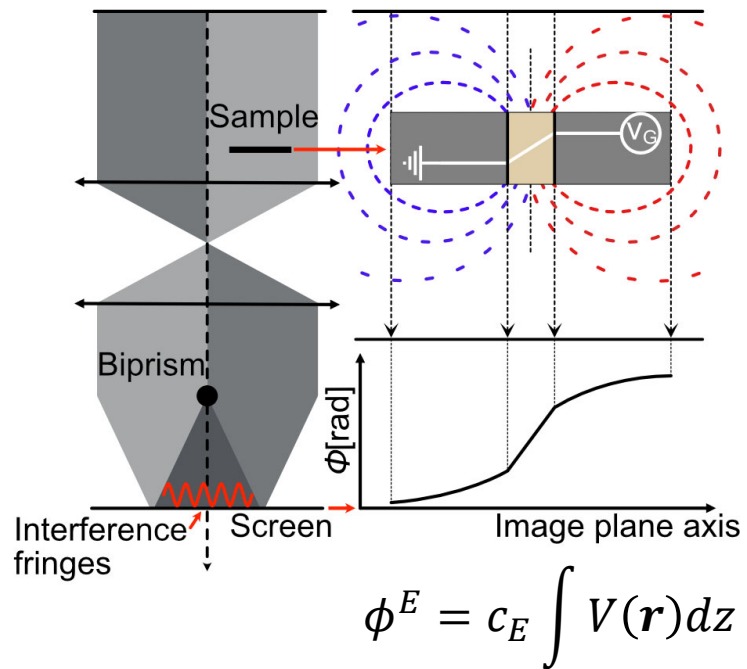
Biasing Phase profile



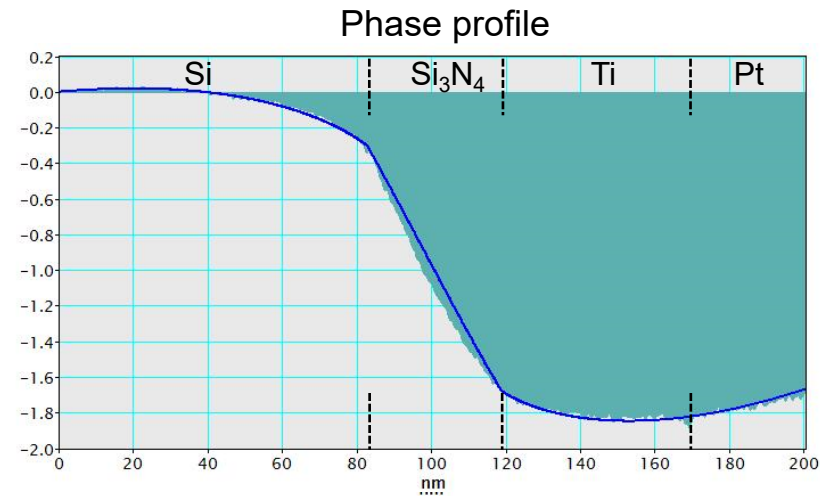
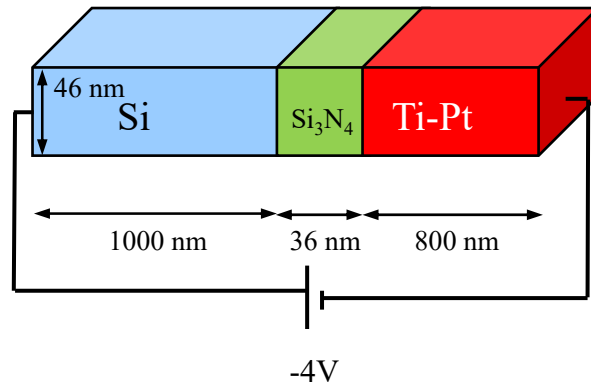
— Theory

1 rad $\approx$ 1 Volt

Stray Fields



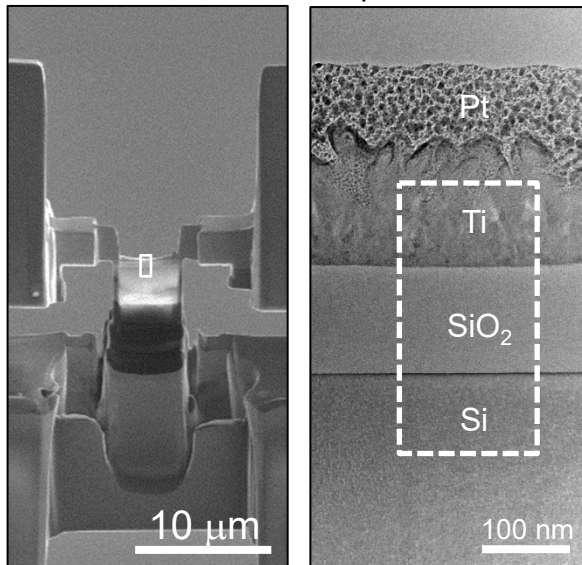
Fitting Solution



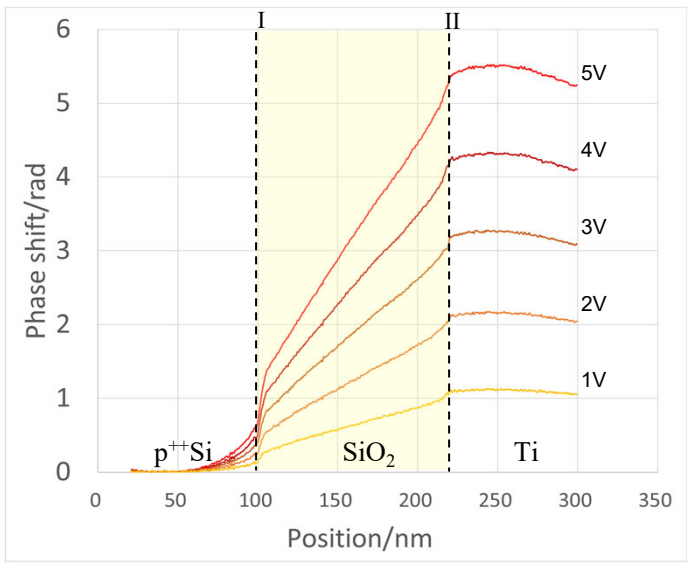
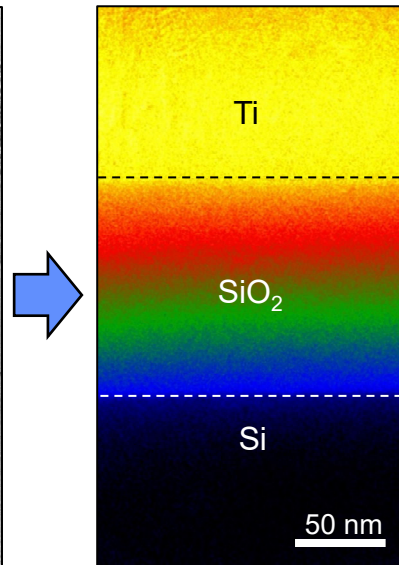
Perfect agreement with
volume charge density in Si₃N₄ of -2.10^5 C.m^{-3}

MOS: Si-SiO₂-Ti: MIM

MOS nanocapacitor

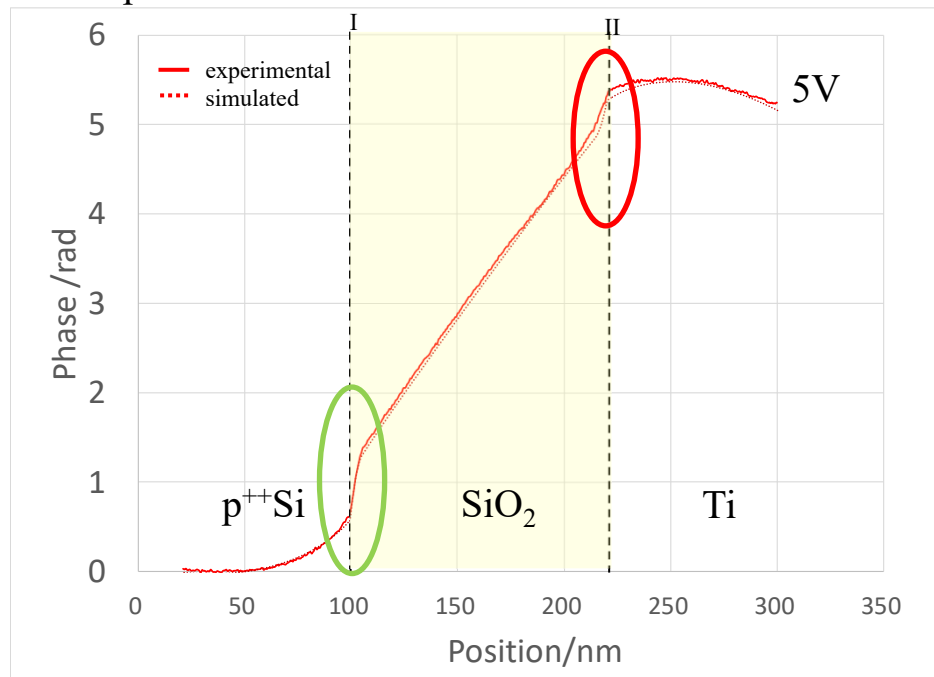


ϕ^E electrostatic phase

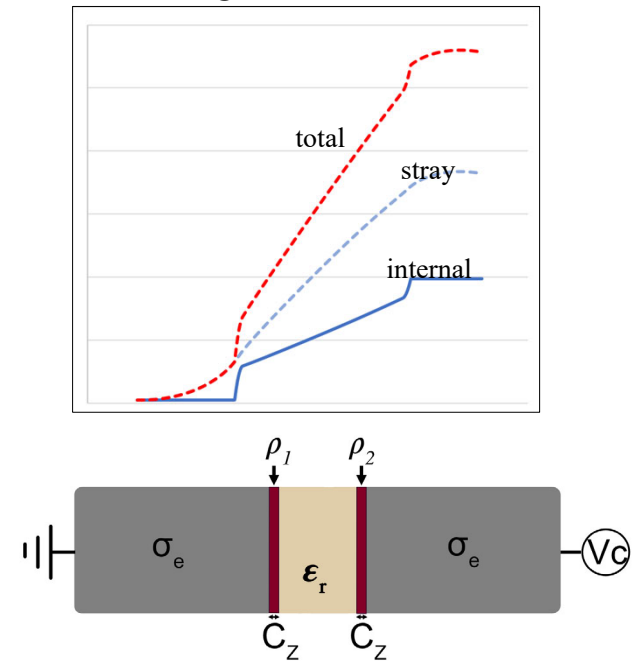


Stray fields and Charge Layers

Phase profile

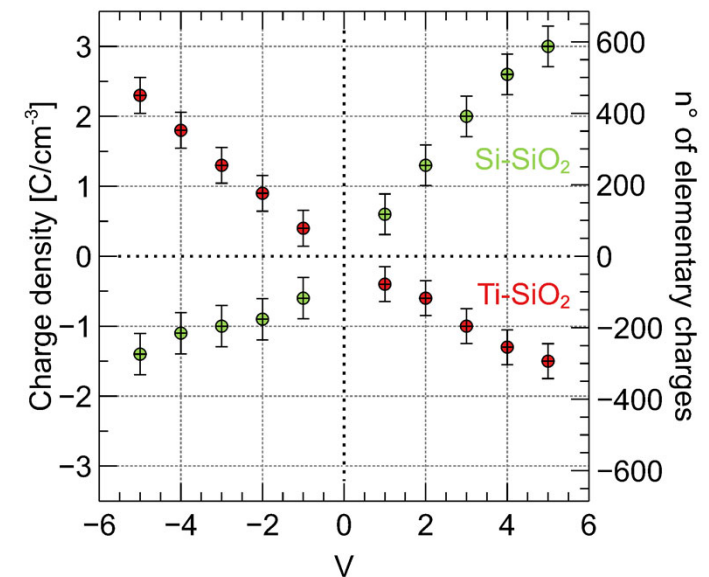
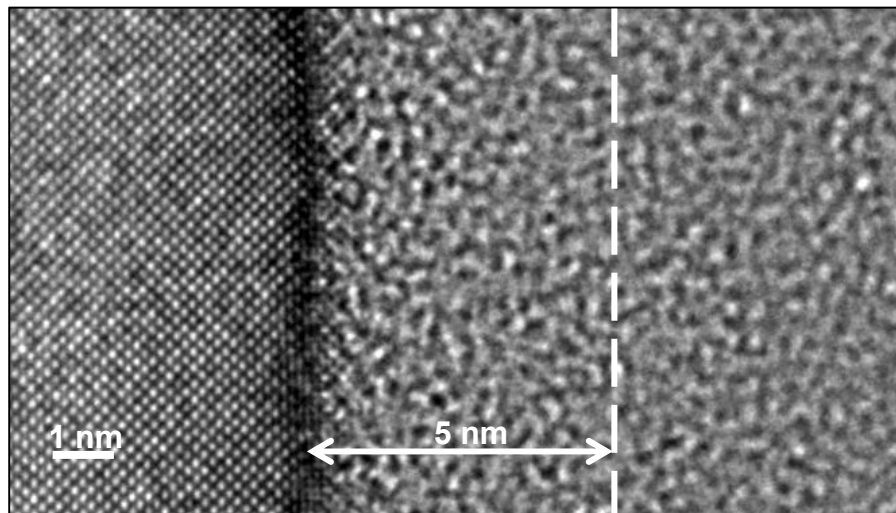


Modeling



Charge Layer Quantification

Interface Si-SiO₂



C. Gatel, R. Serra, K. Gruel, A. Masseboeuf, L. Chapuis, R. Cours, L. Zhang, B. Warot-Fonrose, and M. J. Hytch, Phys. Rev. Lett. 129, 137701 (2022)



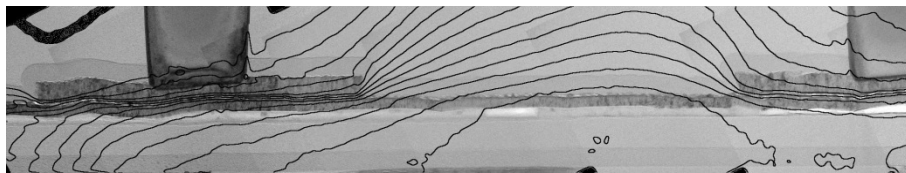
81

Martin Hytch – QEM 2025

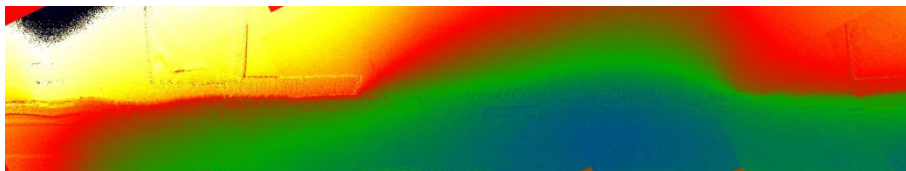
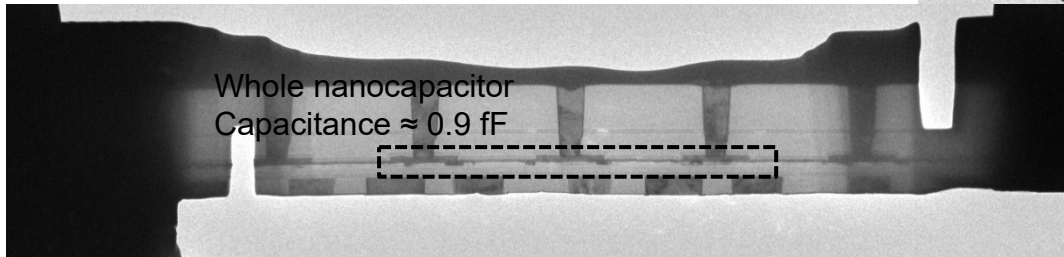
Active components



Real device in production

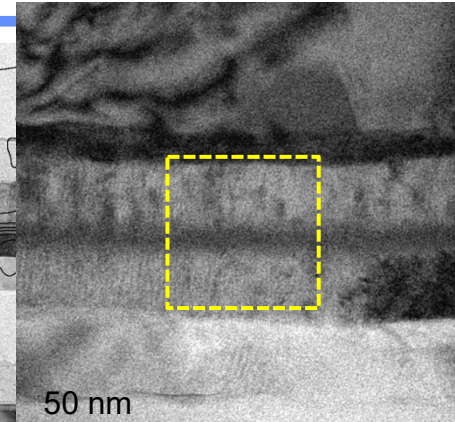
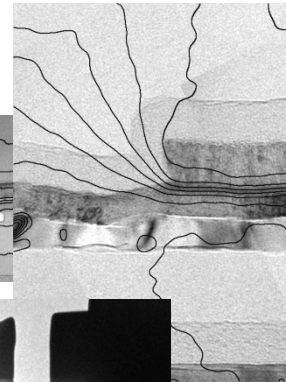


Whole nanocapacitor
Capacitance ≈ 0.9 fF



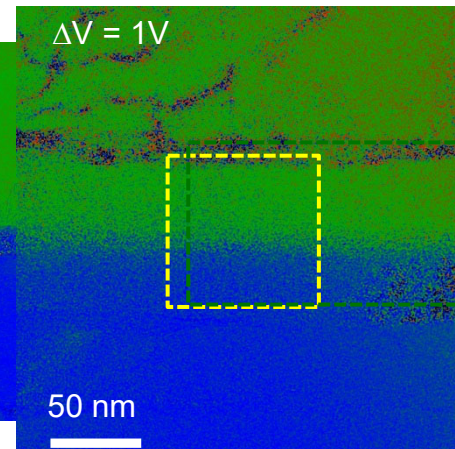
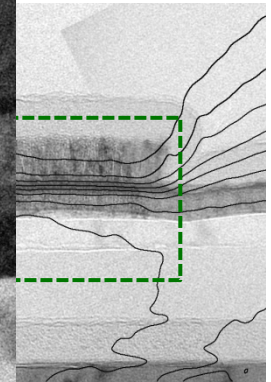
Field of view = $6.45 \mu\text{m} \times 5.50 \mu\text{m}$

Spatial Res. = 0.8 nm



50 nm

Interaction between nanocapacitors



$\Delta V = 1 \text{ V}$

50 nm

M. Brodovoi, K. Gruel, L. Chapuis, A. Masseboeuf, C. Marcelot, M. J. Hytch, F. Lorut, and C. Gatel, APL (2022)