

# Microscope de champ proche à pointe diffusante

Yannick De Wilde

*Institut Langevin, Ondes et Images*

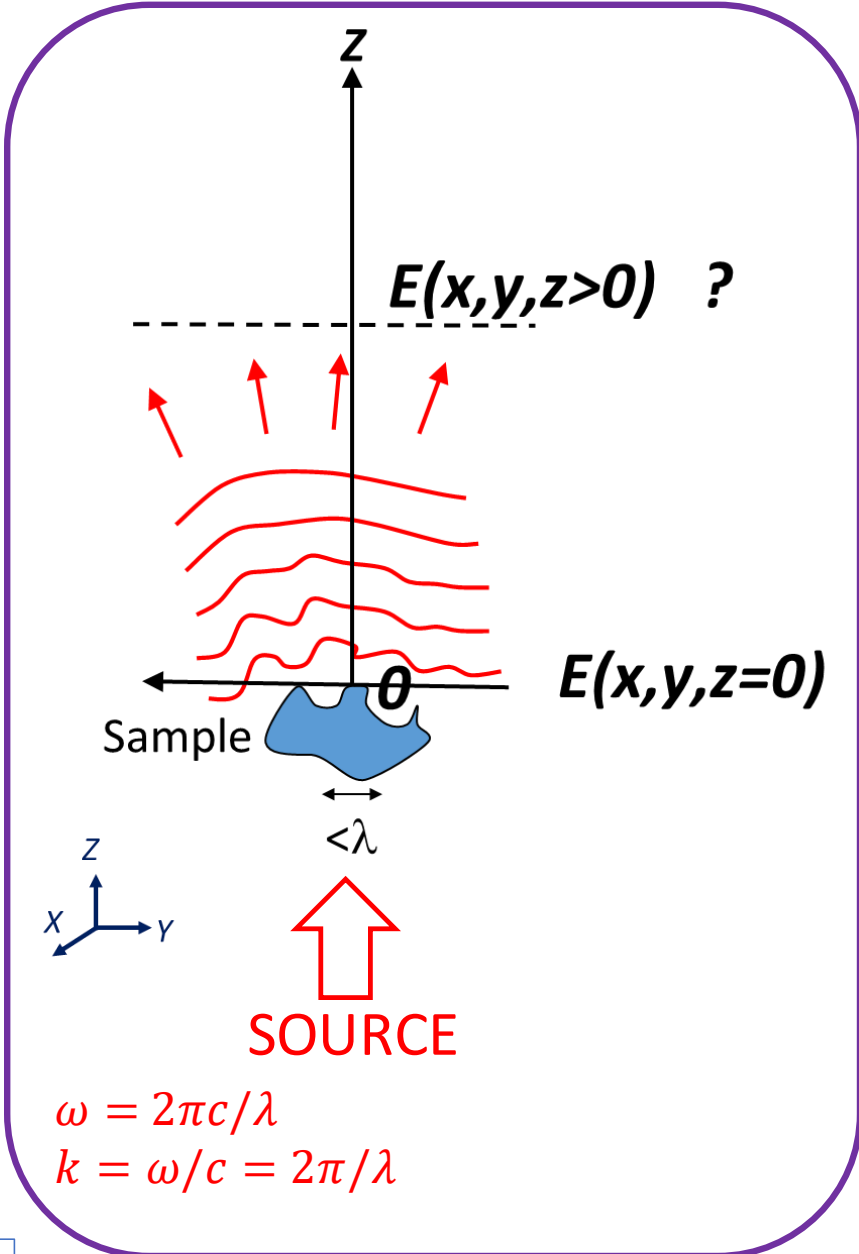
[yannick.dewilde@espci.fr](mailto:yannick.dewilde@espci.fr)



Institut **Langevin**

ONDES ET IMAGES

# Basic notions: Angular spectrum representation

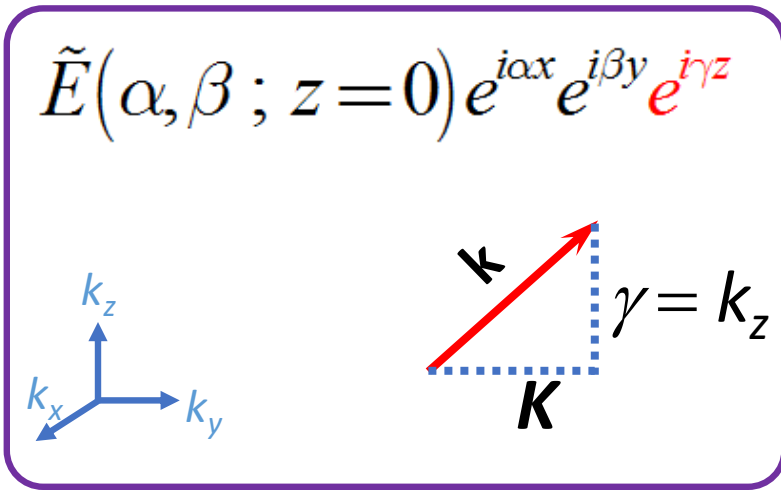


Helmholtz equation :

$$\Delta E + \frac{\omega^2}{c^2} E = 0$$

Solution:

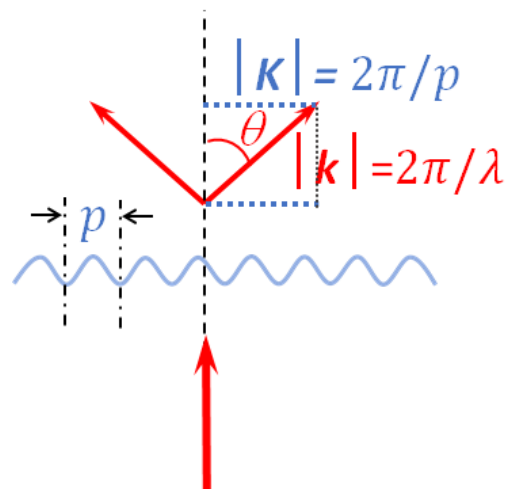
Superposition of plane waves



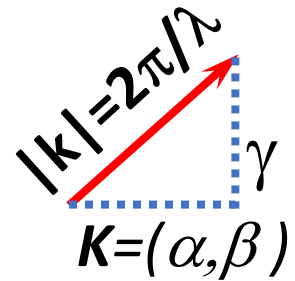
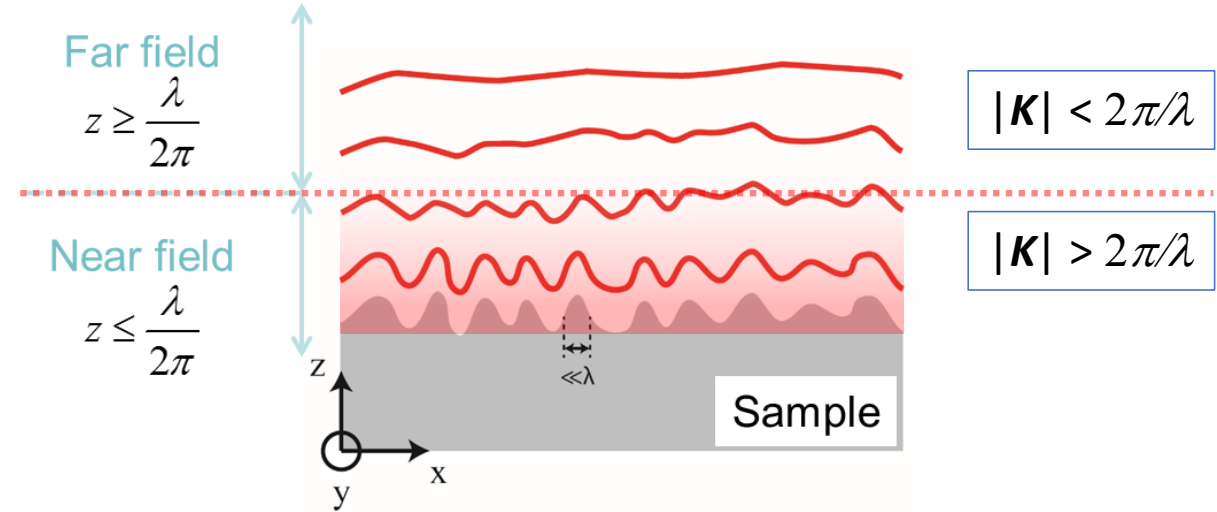
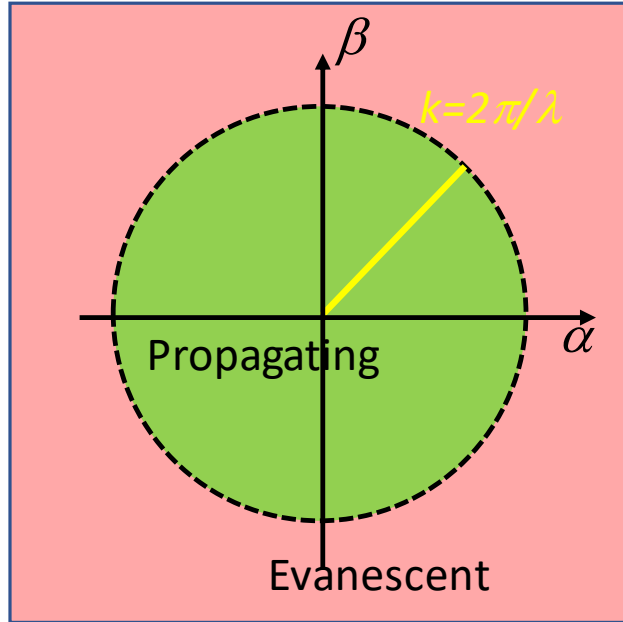
$\mathbf{K}=(\alpha, \beta)$  Transverse (in-plane) wavevector

└─> Spatial frequencies

$$\sin \theta = \frac{\lambda}{p}$$



# Evanescent vs. propagating EM fields



$$\left(\frac{2\pi}{\lambda}\right)^2 = |\mathbf{K}|^2 + \gamma^2$$

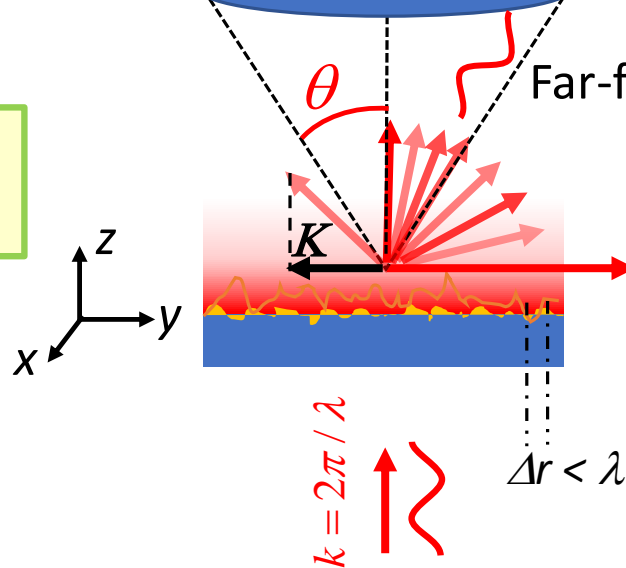
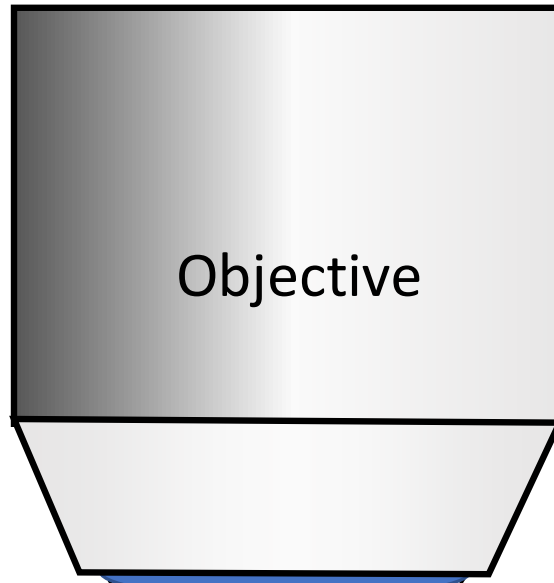
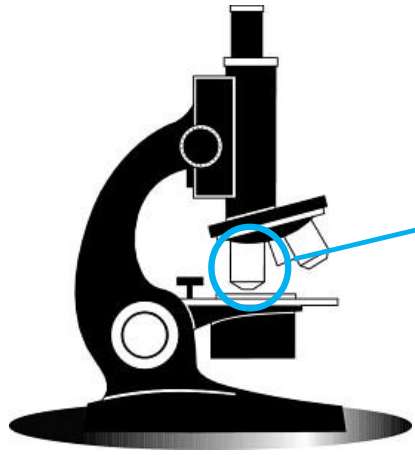
$$\tilde{E}(\alpha, \beta; z=0) e^{i\alpha x} e^{i\beta y} e^{i\gamma z}$$

$|\mathbf{K}| < 2\pi/\lambda \longrightarrow$  Propagating ( $\gamma$  real)

$|\mathbf{K}| > 2\pi/\lambda \longrightarrow$  Evanescent ( $\gamma$  imaginary)

# Limits of classical microscopy :

Classical microscope:

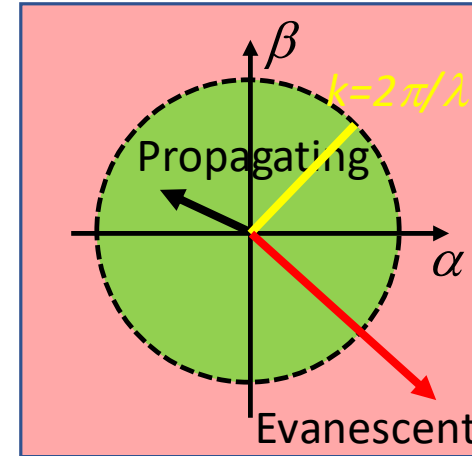


Far-field:  
Resolution  $\approx 1.22 \lambda / (2 \text{ NA})$

Far-field ( $|\mathbf{K}| < |k| = 2\pi/\lambda$ )  
propagating

**Near-field** ( $|\mathbf{K}| > |k| = 2\pi/\lambda$ )  
**evanescent**

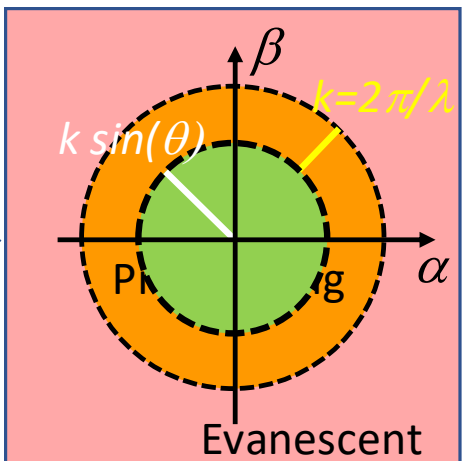
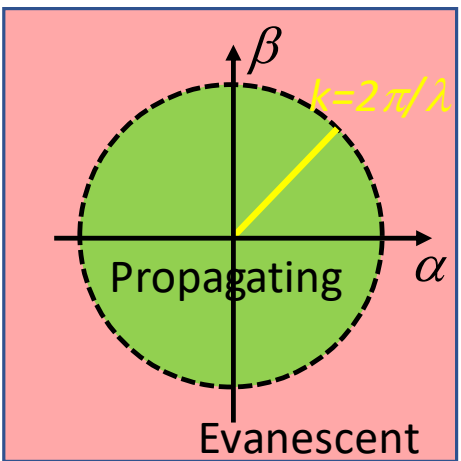
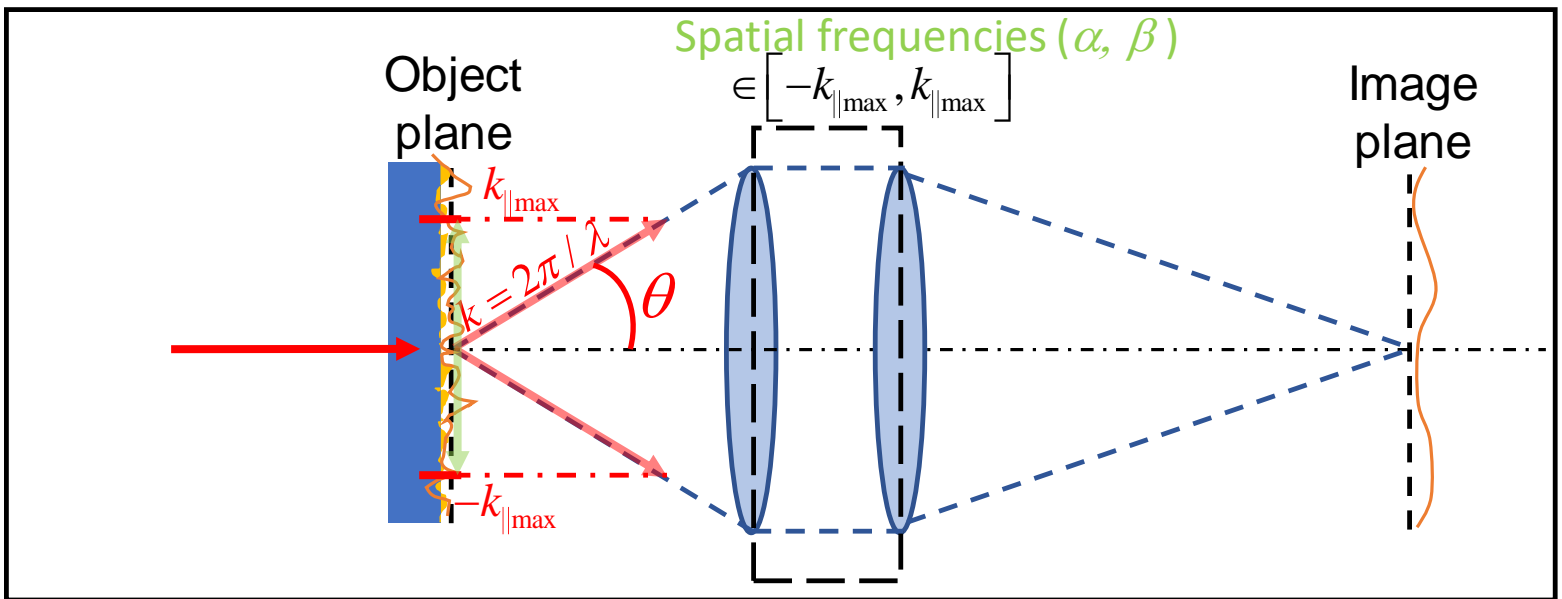
Spatial frequencies in xy plane



$$\gamma^2 = (k_z)^2 = |\mathbf{K}|^2 - (2\pi/\lambda)^2$$

- Distance= low-pass filter on evanescent fields
- Characteristic decay distance:  $\delta \approx \Delta r / 2\pi$

# Far-field regime: resolution limit

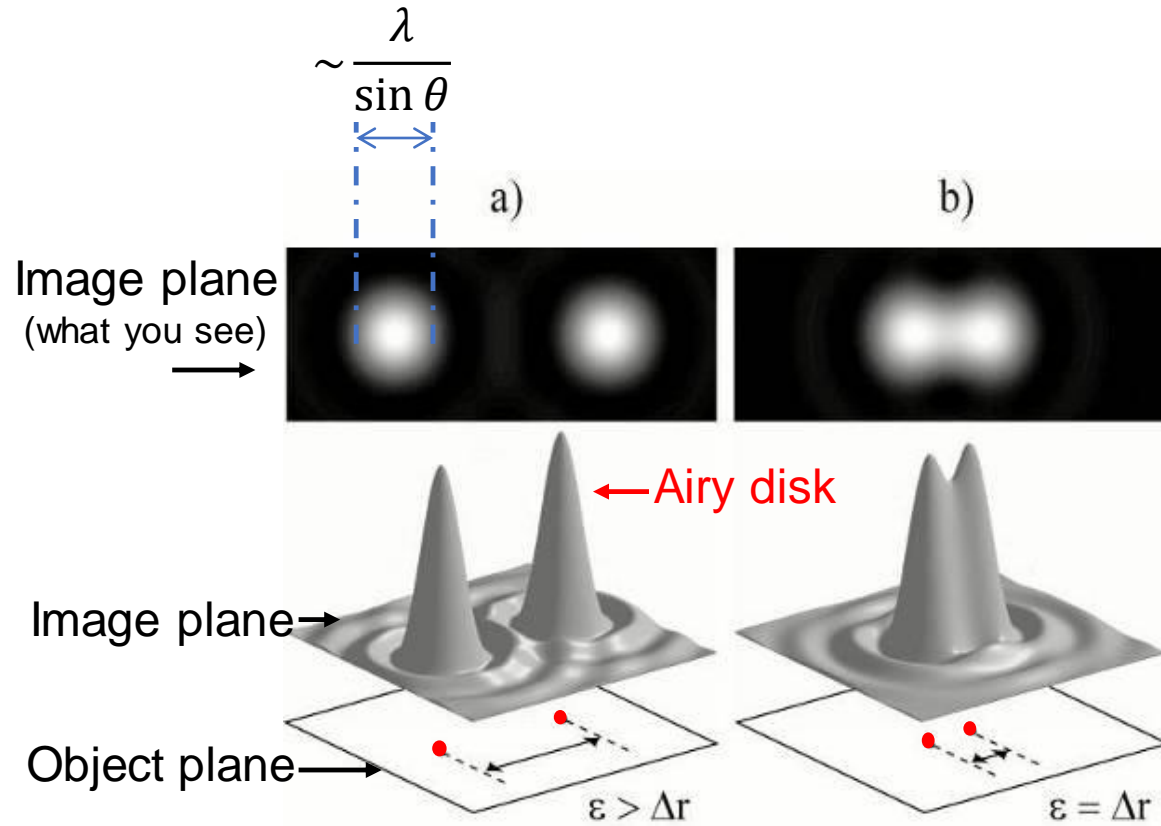


2. The far-field instrument is a low-pass filter of propagating fields. **Diffraction limit.**

Rayleigh criterion :

$$\Delta r = \frac{1.22 \cdot \lambda}{2n \sin \theta}$$

# Far-field regime: diffraction limit

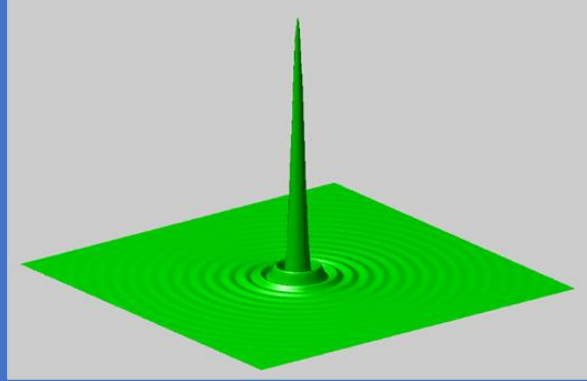


Rayleigh criterion :

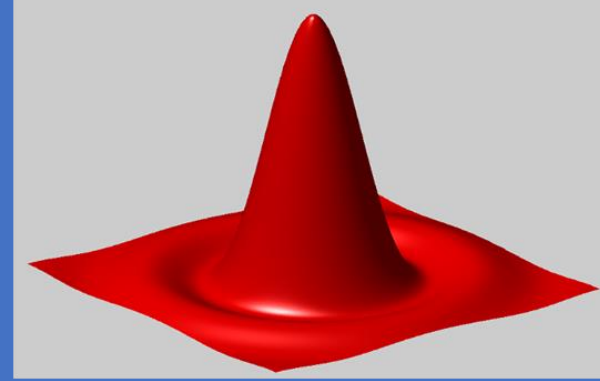
$$\Delta r = \frac{1.22 \cdot \lambda}{2 \sin \theta}$$

# Rayleigh criterion ( $\lambda$ dependence)

Image of 1 point :  $\lambda = 550$  nm (green)

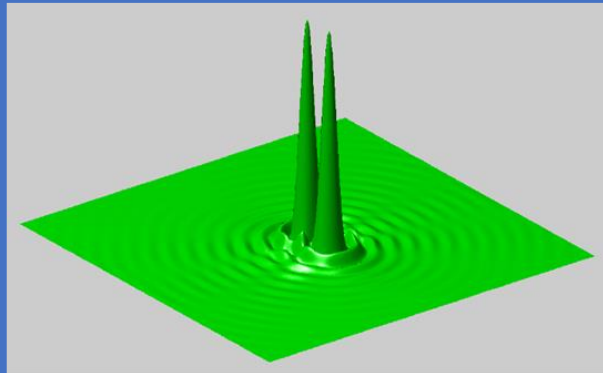


$\lambda = 10$   $\mu\text{m}$  (Infrared)

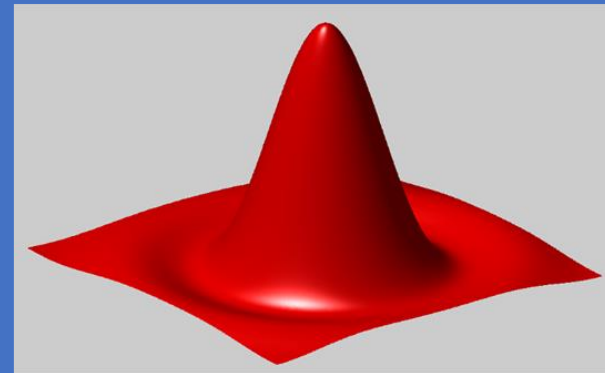


( @ Gilles Tessier )

2 points 1000 nm apart :



$\lambda \sim 0.5$   $\mu\text{m}$  ( visible )  
 $n = 1$  ;  $\sin \theta = 0.95$   
 $\Delta r_{vis} \approx 320$  nm



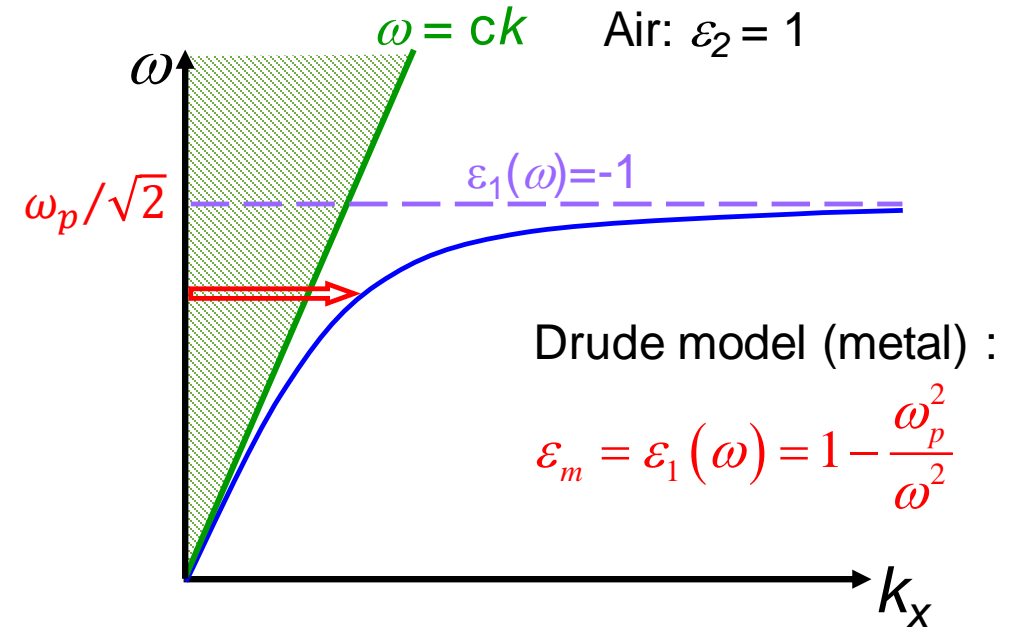
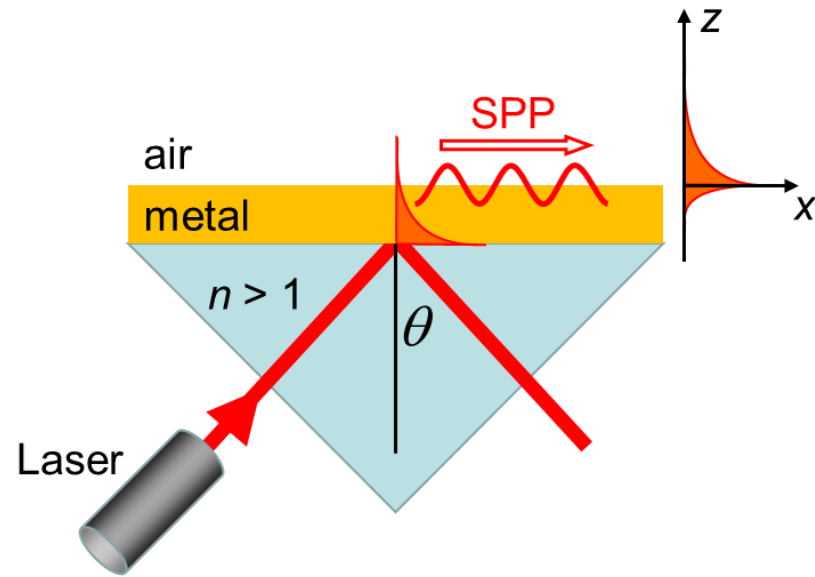
$\lambda \sim 10$   $\mu\text{m}$  ( IR )  
 $n = 1$  ;  $\sin \theta = 0.75$   
 $\Delta r_{IR} \approx 9$   $\mu\text{m}$



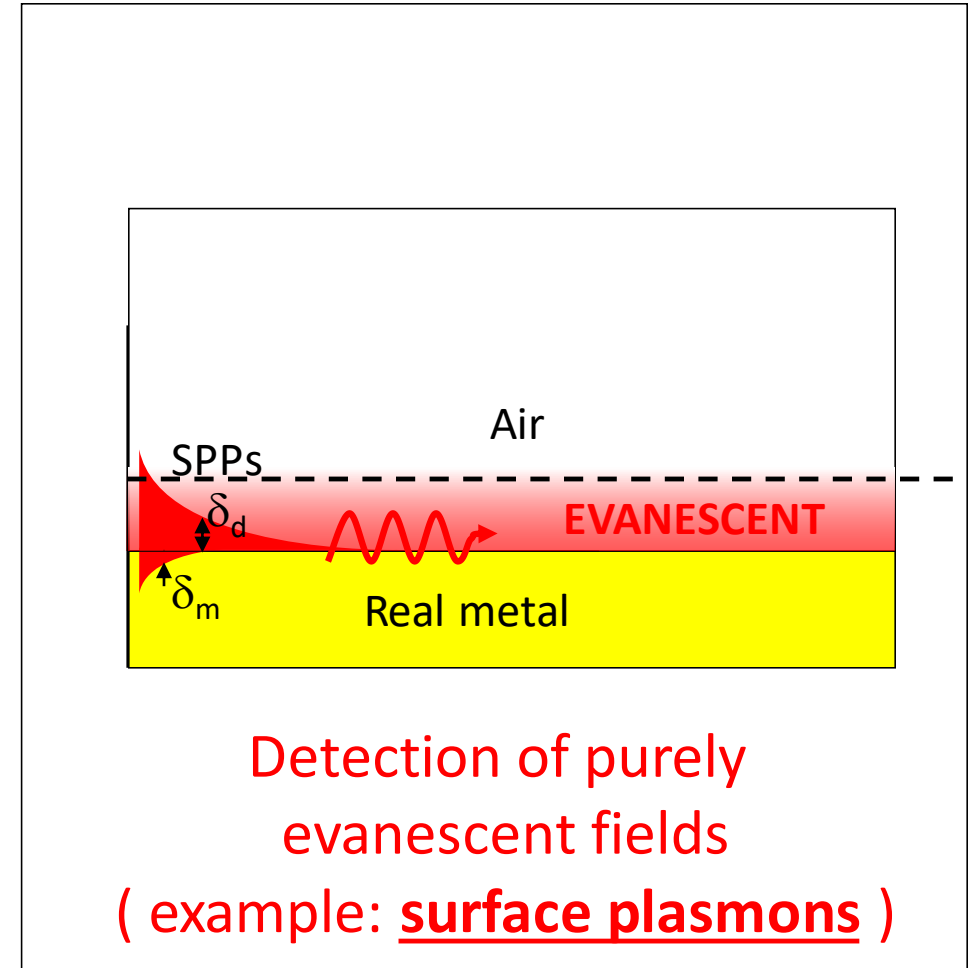
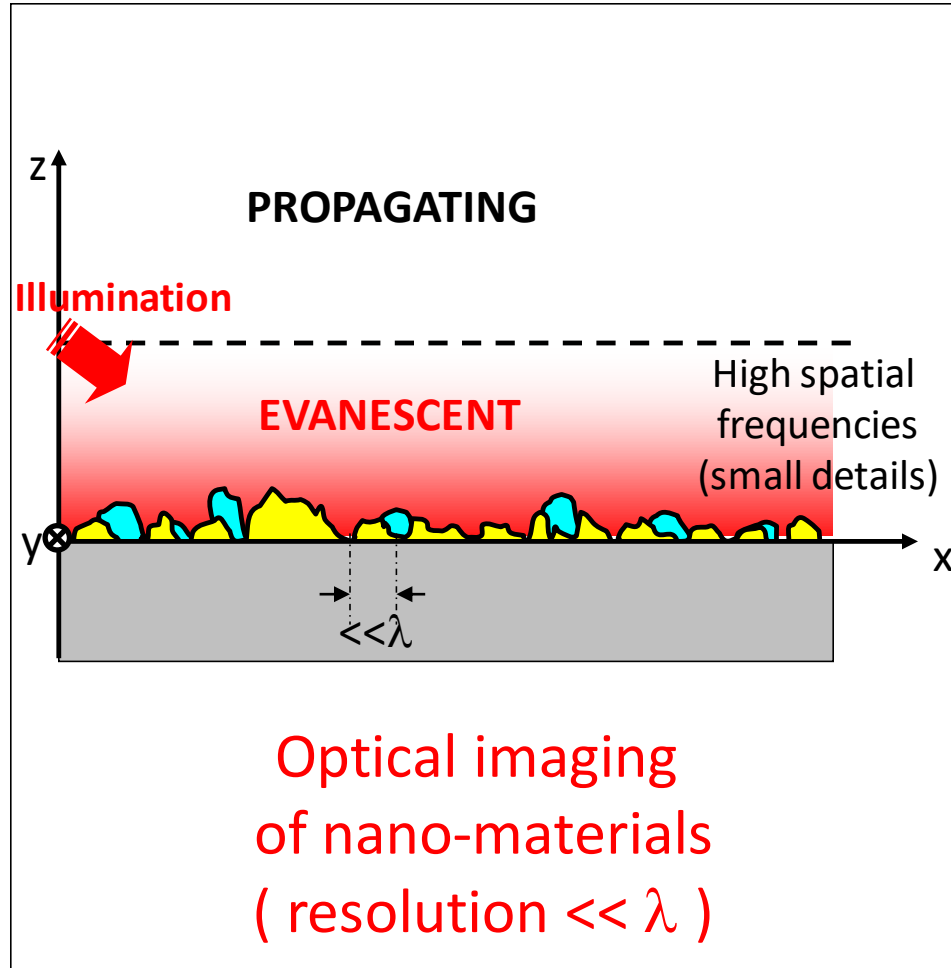
SPATIAL RESOLUTION STRONGLY  
LIMITED IN THE INFRARED ( $\sim 10 \mu\text{m}$ )  
+  
CANNOT DETECT SURFACE WAVES



# Surface plasmons polaritons:

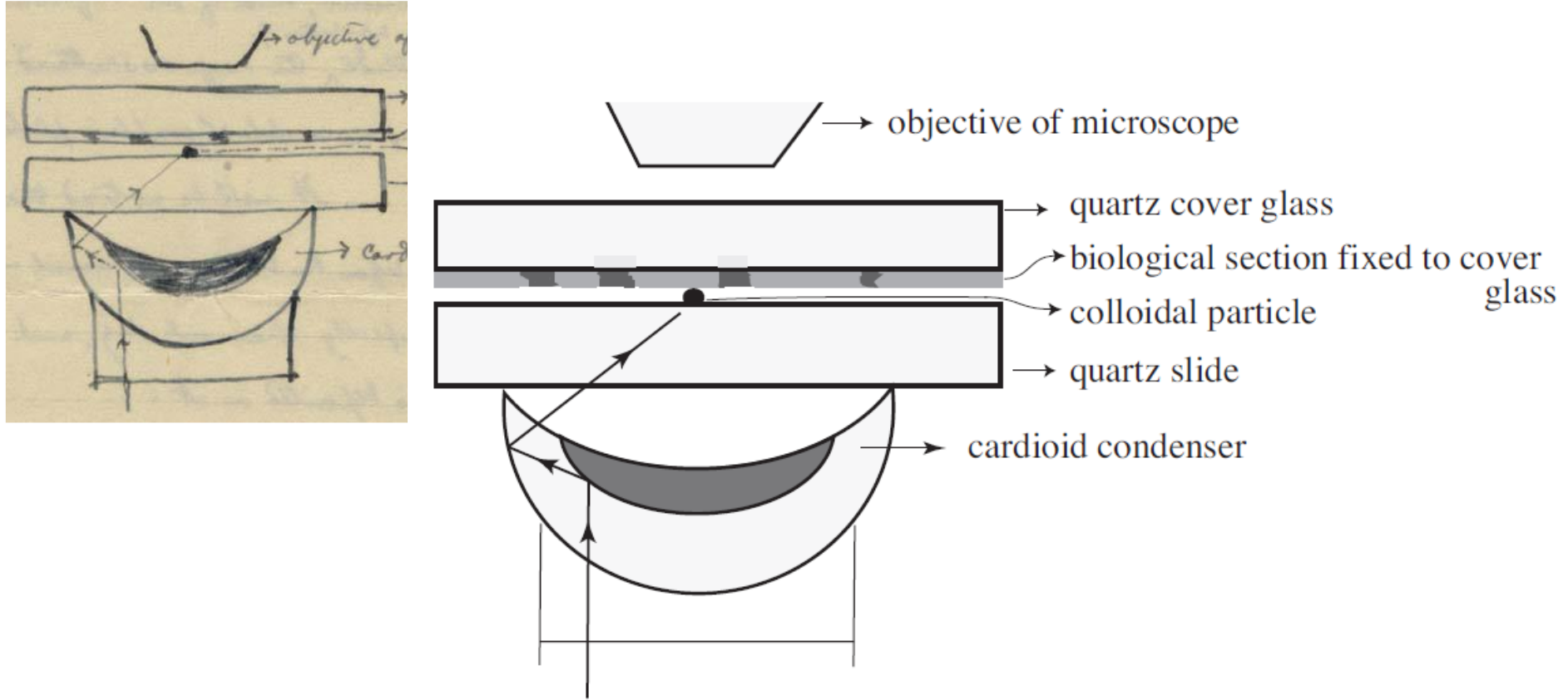


# How can we probe the near-field ?



# Synge original idea (1928)

Sub- $\lambda$  LOCAL PROBE = OPTICAL ANTENNA

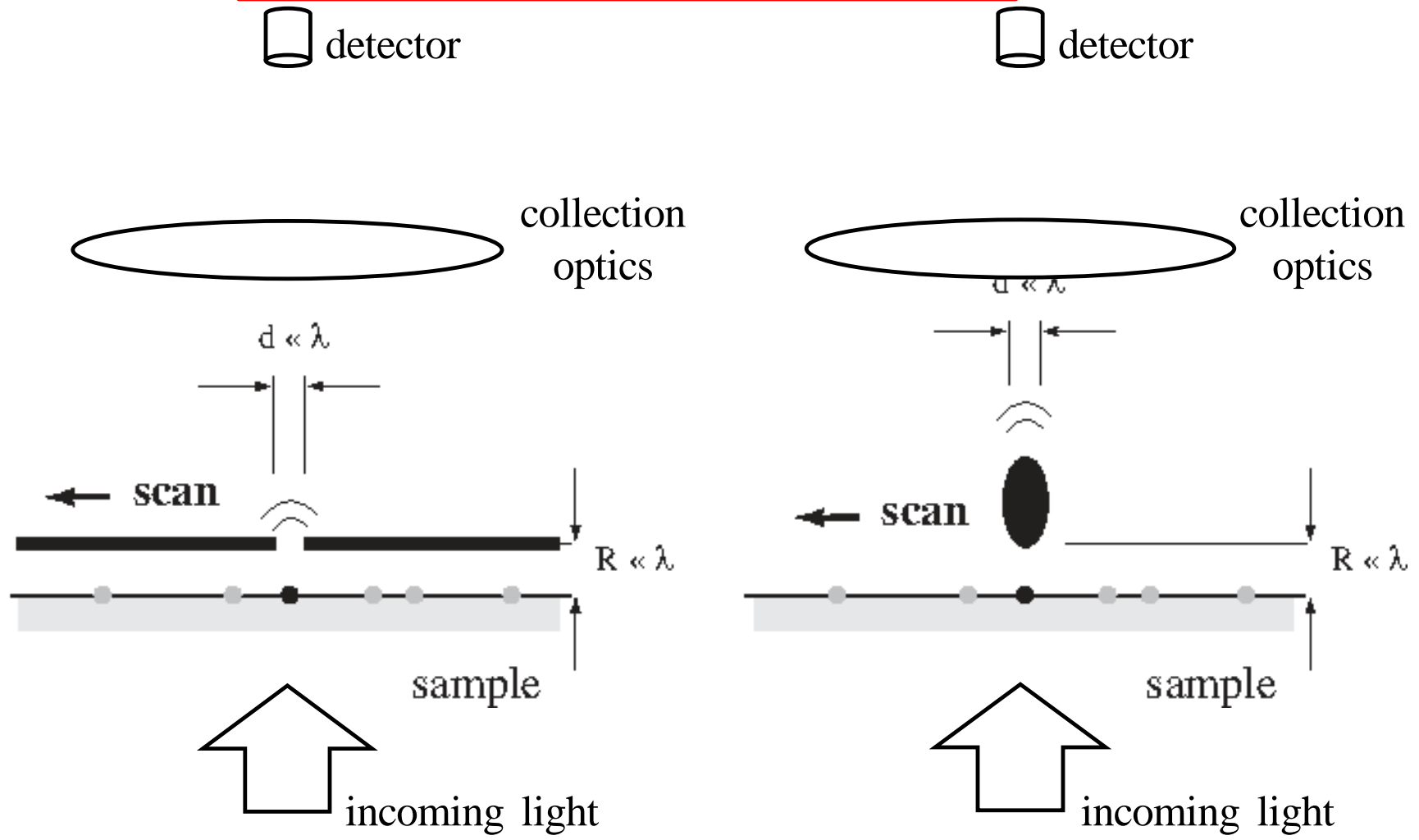


Novotny, "The History of Near-field Optics," *Progress in Optics* 50, E. Wolf (ed.), 2007.

## Letter from E.H. Synge to A. Einstein (April 1928)

# Syngé original idea (1928)

Sub- $\lambda$  LOCAL PROBE = OPTICAL ANTENNA



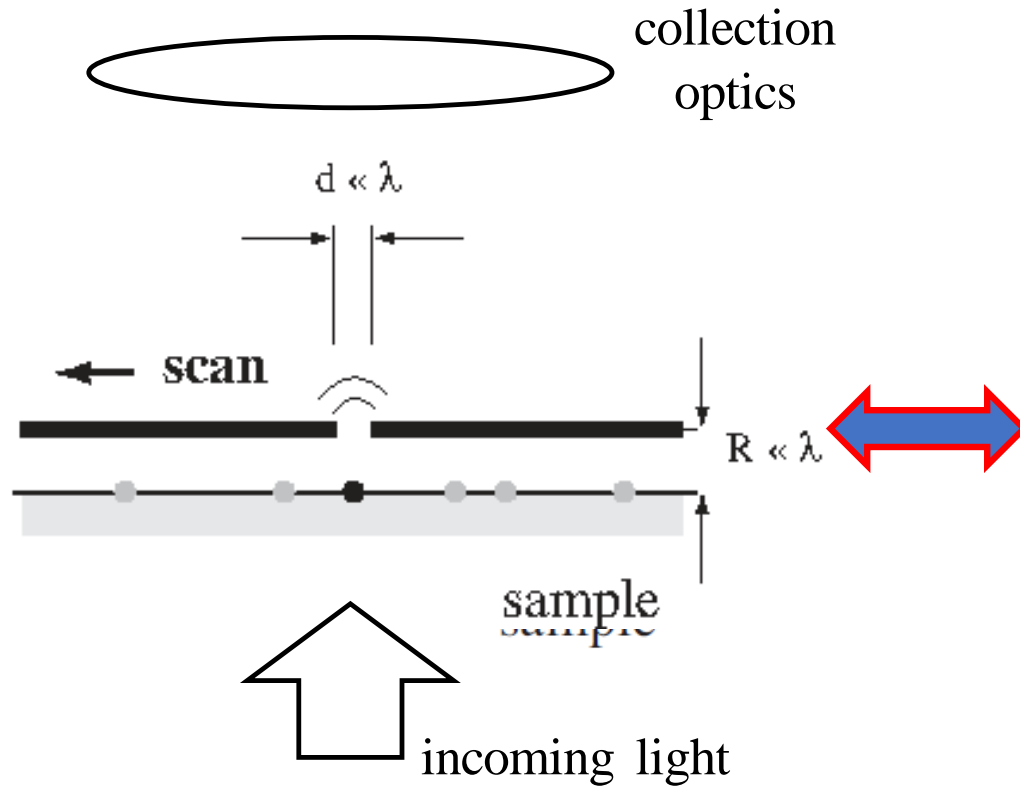
E. H. Syngé, *Phil. Mag.* S.7, **6**, 356 (1928).

Novotny, "The History of Near-field Optics," *Progress in Optics* 50, E. Wolf (ed.), 2007.

# Synge original idea (1928)

Sub- $\lambda$  LOCAL PROBE = OPTICAL ANTENNA

 detector



PERFORM THE LATERAL  
SCANS USING A PIEZOELECTRIC  
ELEMENT

E. H. Synge, *Phil. Mag.S.7*, **13**, 297 (1932).

E. H. Synge, *Phil. Mag. S.7*, **6**, 356 (1928).

# History of NSOM

(NSOM = near-field scanning optical microscopy)

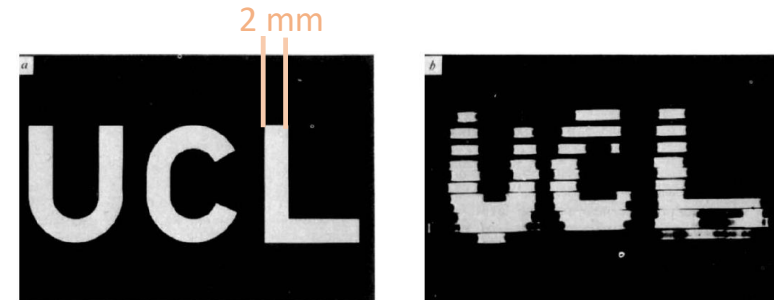
➤ **Concept of « ultramicroscopy » instrument**

E.H. Synge, "A suggested method for extending the microscopic resolution into the ultramicroscopic region," *Phil. Mag.* 6, 356 (1928).

E.H. Synge, "An application of piezoelectricity to microscopy," *Phil. Mag.* 13, 297 (1932).

➤ **Proof of Concept with microwaves ( $\lambda=3\text{cm}$ )**

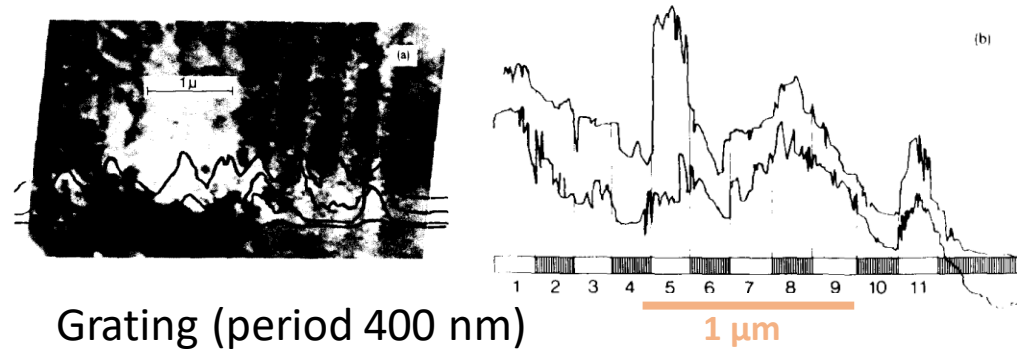
E.A. Ash and G Nichols, *Nature* 237, 510 (1972).



➤ **Sub- $\lambda$  imaging in the visible ( $\lambda=488\text{ nm}$ )**

D.W. Pohl, W. Denk, and M. Lanz, « Optical stethoscope », *Appl. Phys. Lett.* 44, 651 (1984).

Resolution = 25 nm  
( $\lambda/20$ )

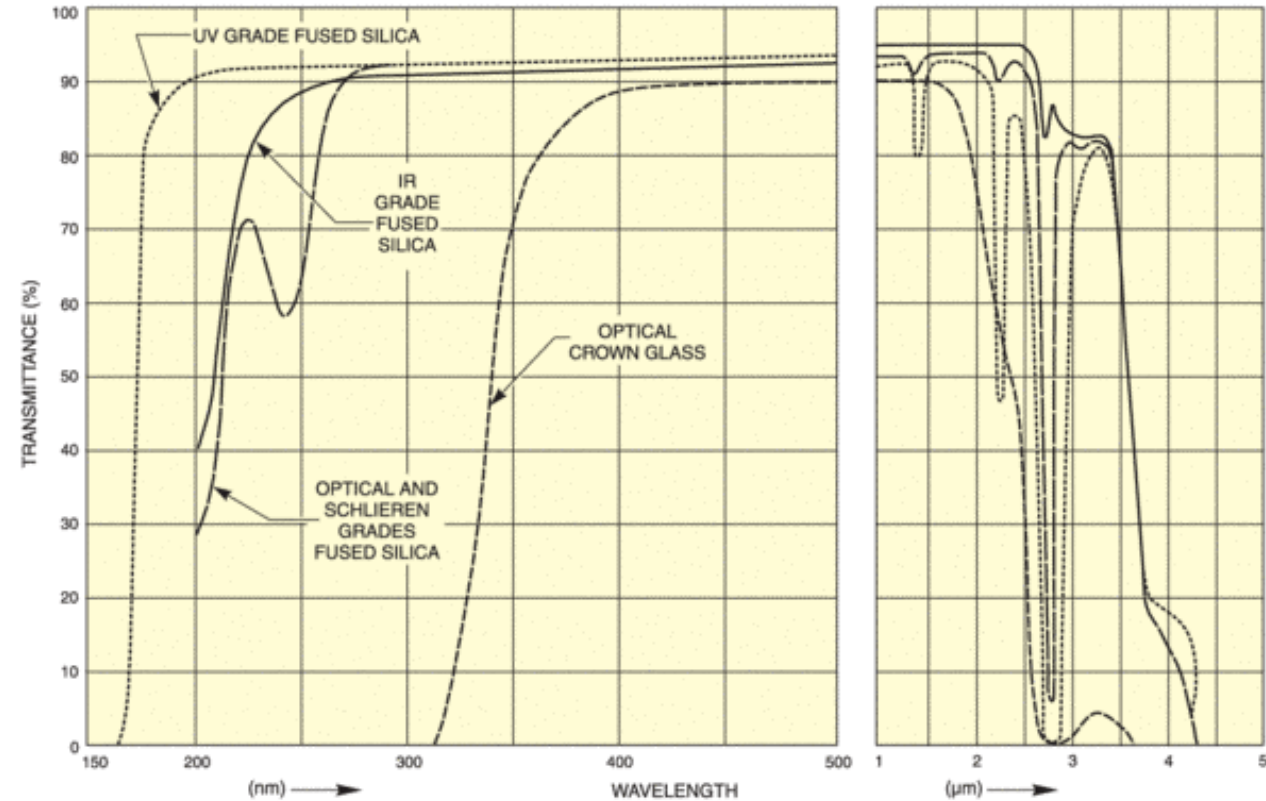
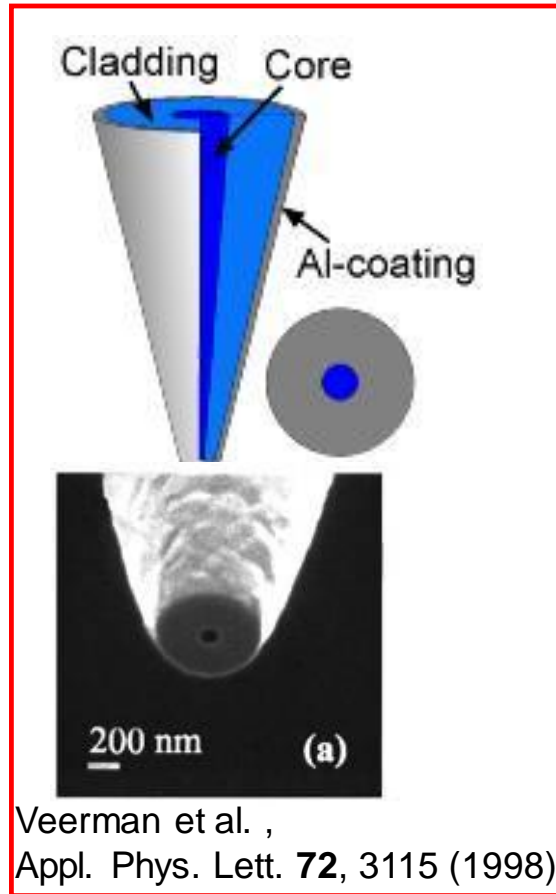
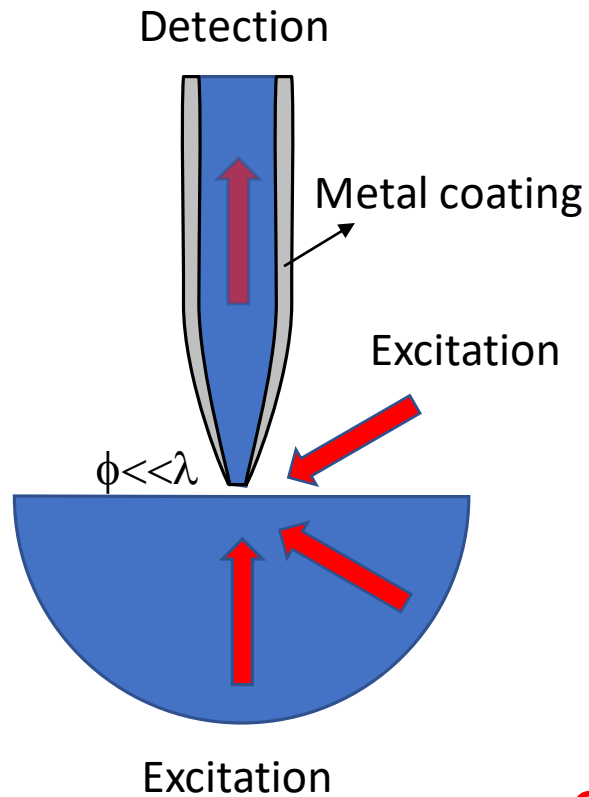


➤ **« Routine » NSOM instrument:**

E. Betzig, J.K. Trautman, *et al.*,  
*Science* 251, 1468 (1991)

# Aperture NSOM

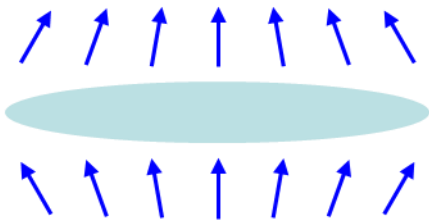
Tapered  
optical fiber



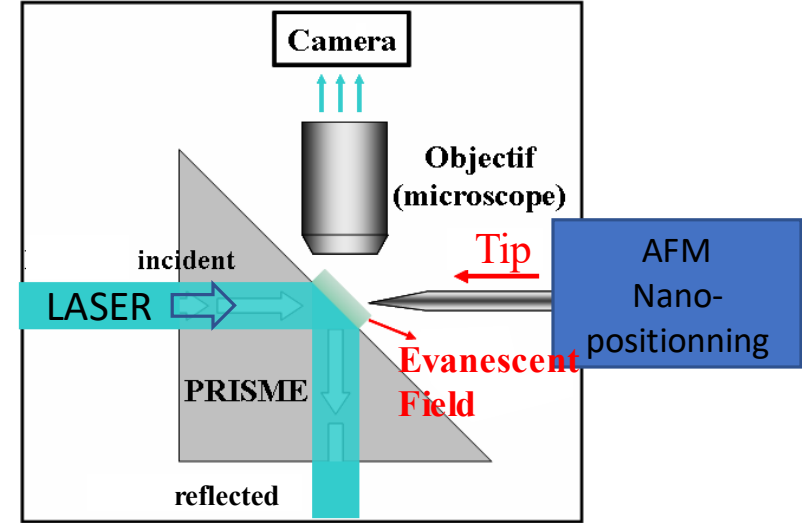
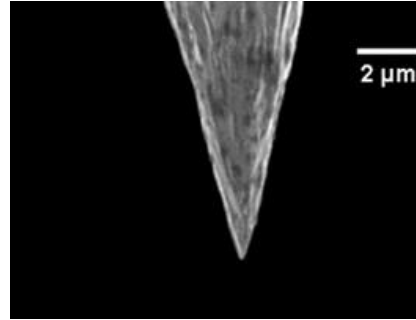
**Spectral limitation**

Silica fiber : Well-suited for visible and near-IR but not for the mid-IR (nor for THz) !!!

# Photon tunneling experiment with scattering tip



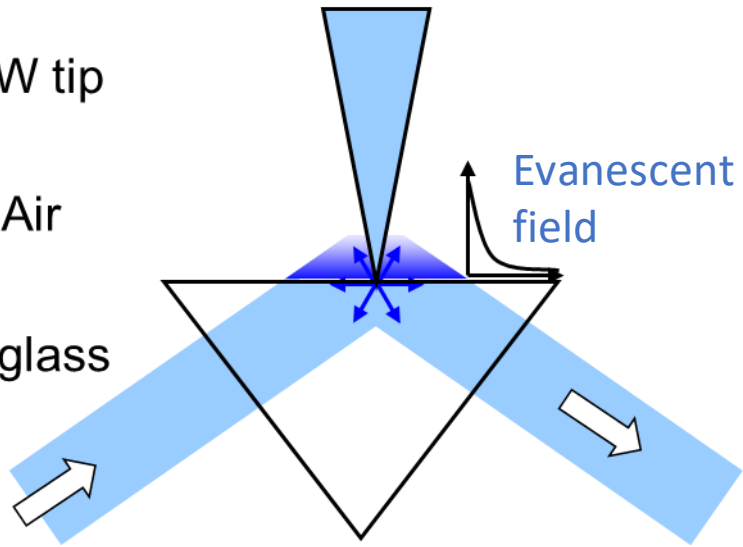
Tungsten tip  
SEM image



W tip

Air

glass





# Scattering-type near-field scanning optical microscope (Scattering-type NSOM)

Principle : controlled scanning of a scattering nano-object (tip apex)

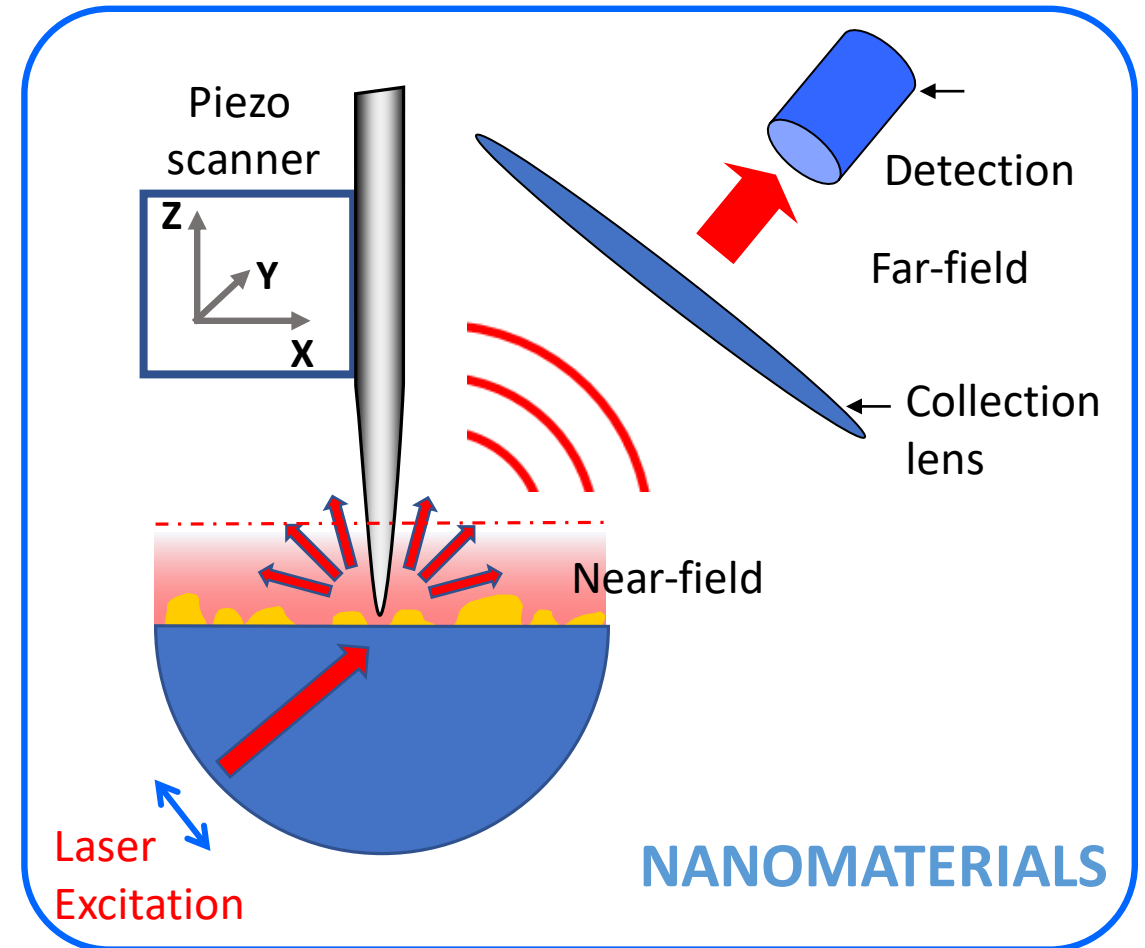
$$I_{scat.}(x_t, y_t) = \sigma |E(x_t, y_t)|^2$$

By measuring  $I_{scat.}(x_t, y_t)$ ,  
the local field  $E(x_t, y_t)$  at the  
tip's position is probed.

Optical imaging at sub- $\lambda$  scale  
« **SUPER-RESOLUTION** »



Claude Boccara



Wikramasynge et al., APL 65,1623 (1994)

Bachelot, Gleize, Boccara, Microanal. Microstruct. 5, 389 (1994)



# Scattering-type near-field scanning optical microscope (Scattering-type NSOM)

Principle : controlled scanning of a scattering nano-object (tip apex)

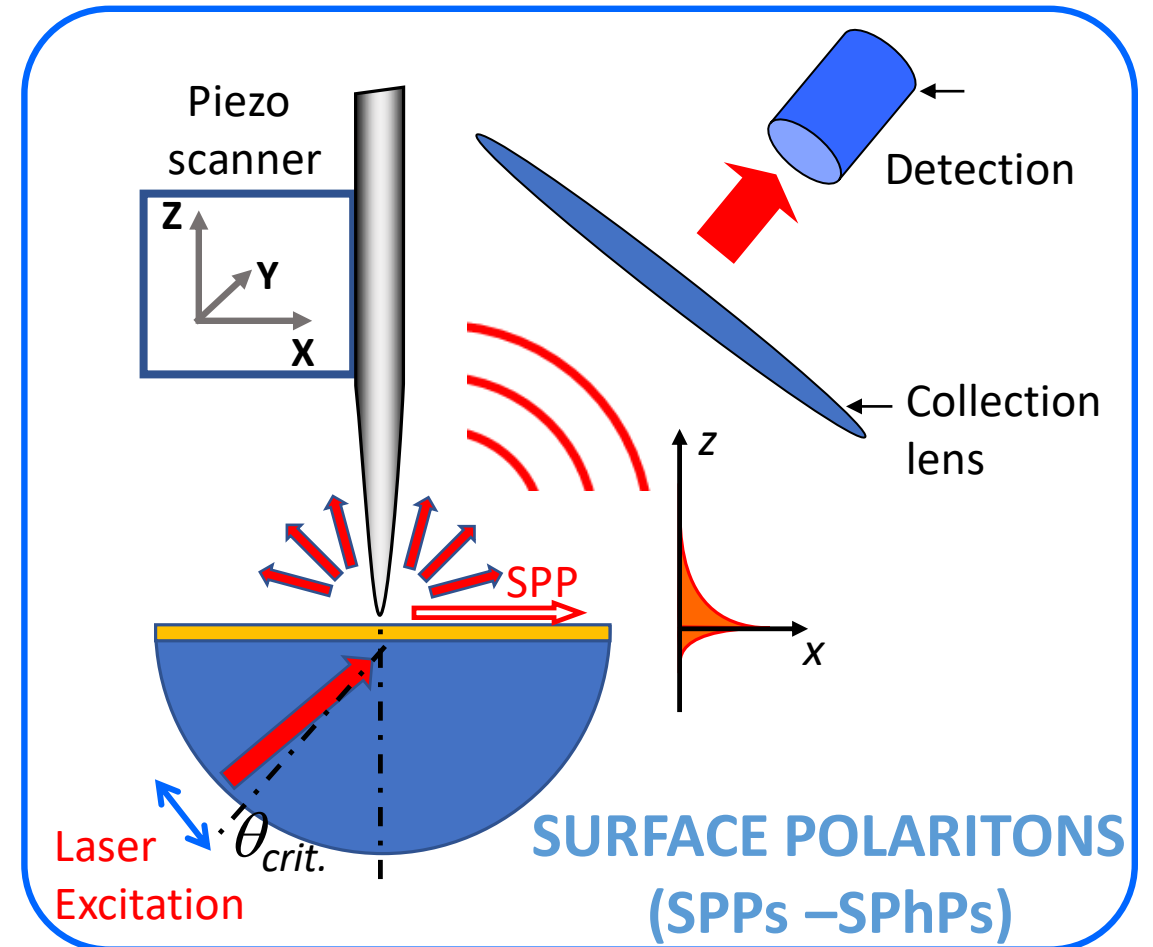
$$I_{scat.}(x_t, y_t) = \sigma |E(x_t, y_t)|^2$$

By measuring  $I_{scat.}(x_p, y_t)$ ,  
the local field  $E(x_p, y_t)$  at the  
tip's position is probed.

Optical imaging at sub- $\lambda$  scale  
« **SUPER-RESOLUTION** »



Claude Boccara

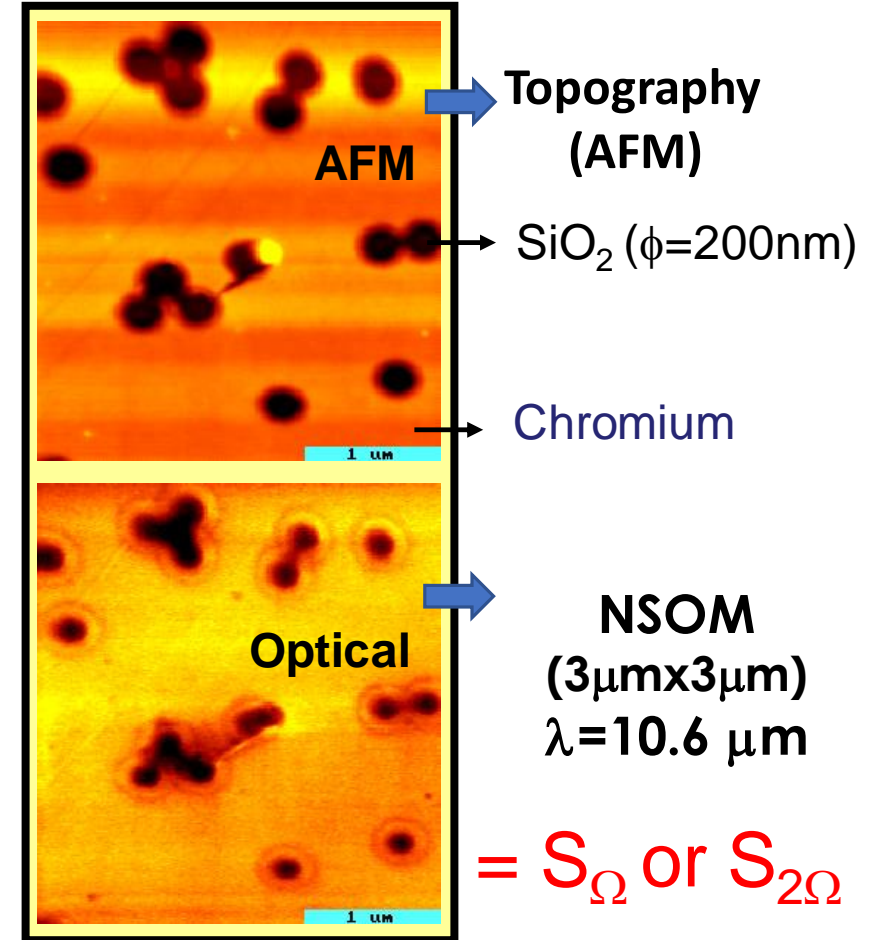
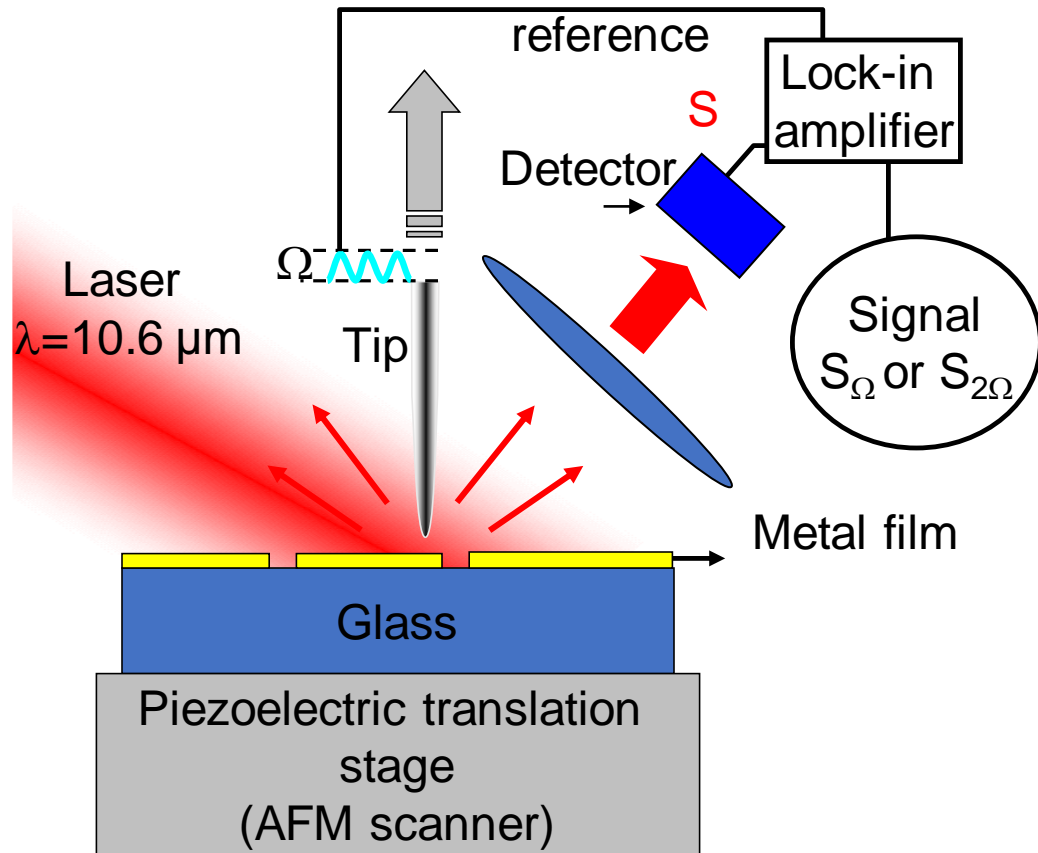


Wikramasynge et al., APL 65,1623 (1994)

Bachelot, Gleize, Boccara, Microanal. Microstruct. 5, 389 (1994)



# Sub- $\lambda$ imaging of nano materials with external IR source



Formanek, et al., JAP **93**, 9548 (2003)

$\lambda = 10.6 \mu\text{m}$



# Origin of the contrast

FAR-FIELD



Caravaggio  
Narcisse (1598-1599)

METAL

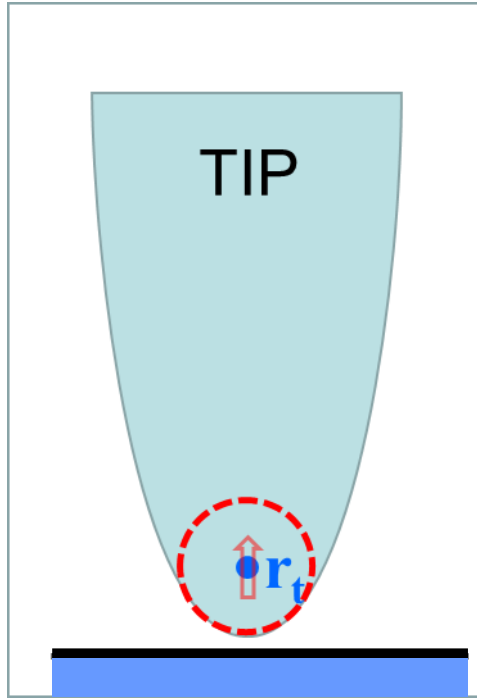


Pierre Paul Rubens  
Venus au miroir (1613-1614)

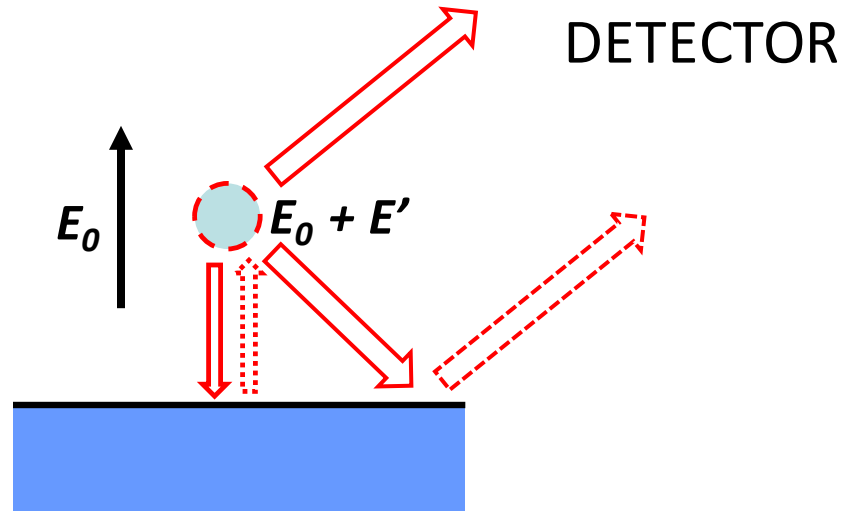
EAU →

# Origin of the contrast

NEAR-FIELD



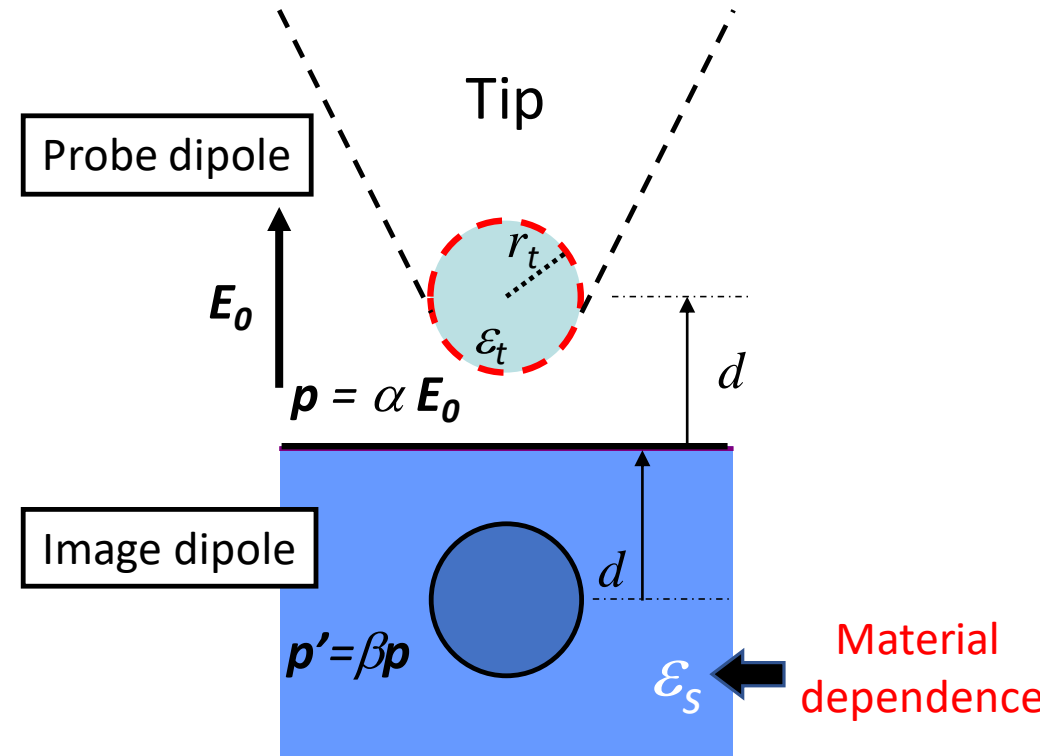
$\lambda$



Probe/image dipole model

Effective scattering cross section:

$$\sigma(\varepsilon_t, \varepsilon_s)$$



B. Knoll and F. Keilmann, *Opt. Comm.* **182**, 321 (2000).  
 K. Joulain *et al.*, *JQSRT* **136**, 1-15 (2014).

$$E' = E_{dipole} = \frac{p}{2\pi r^3} \quad \text{Avec } r=2d$$



# Example: Sample Au + SiC

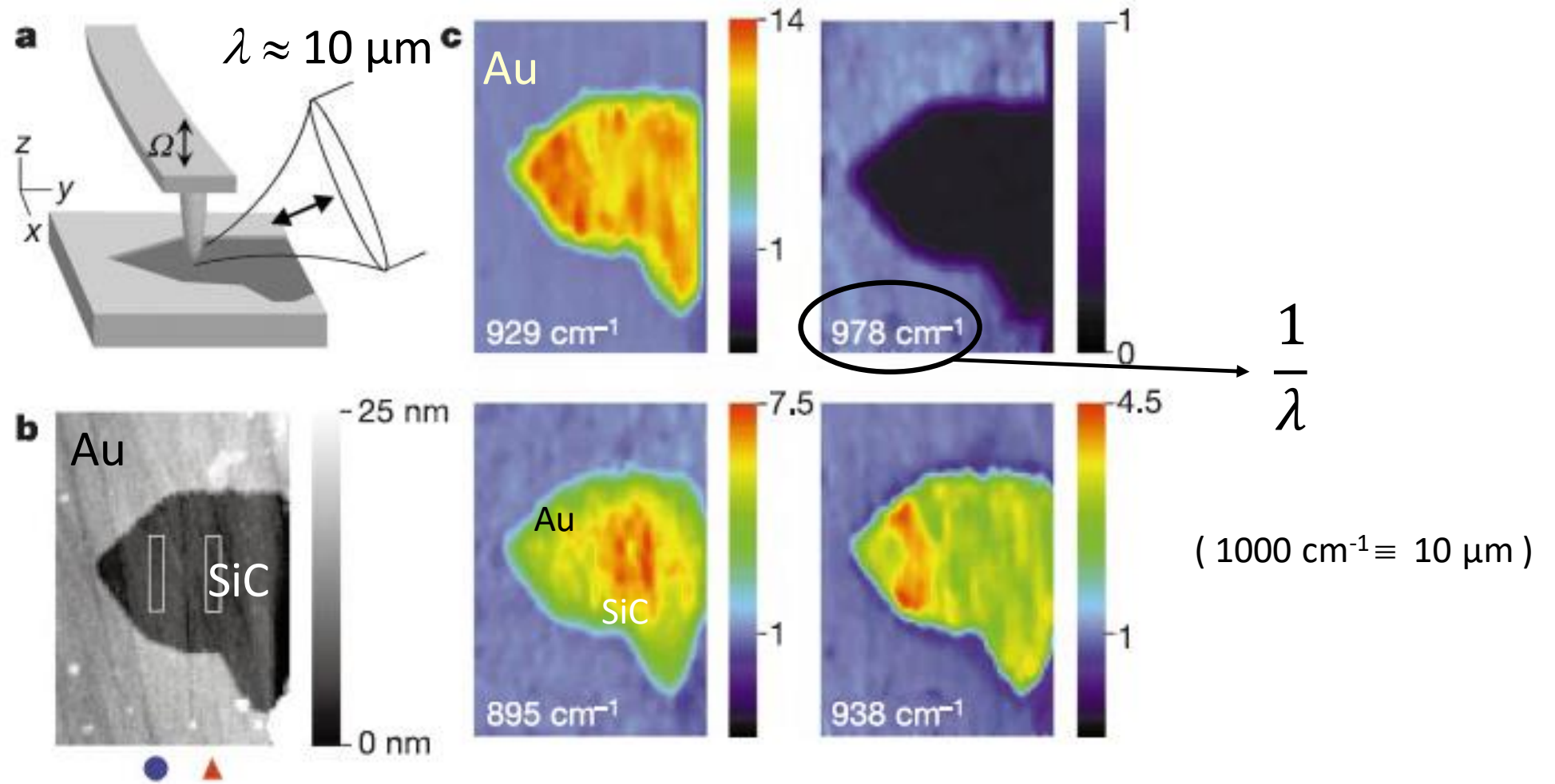
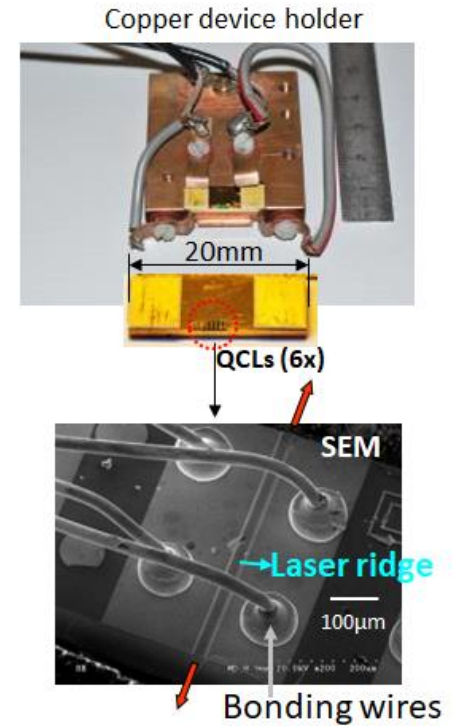
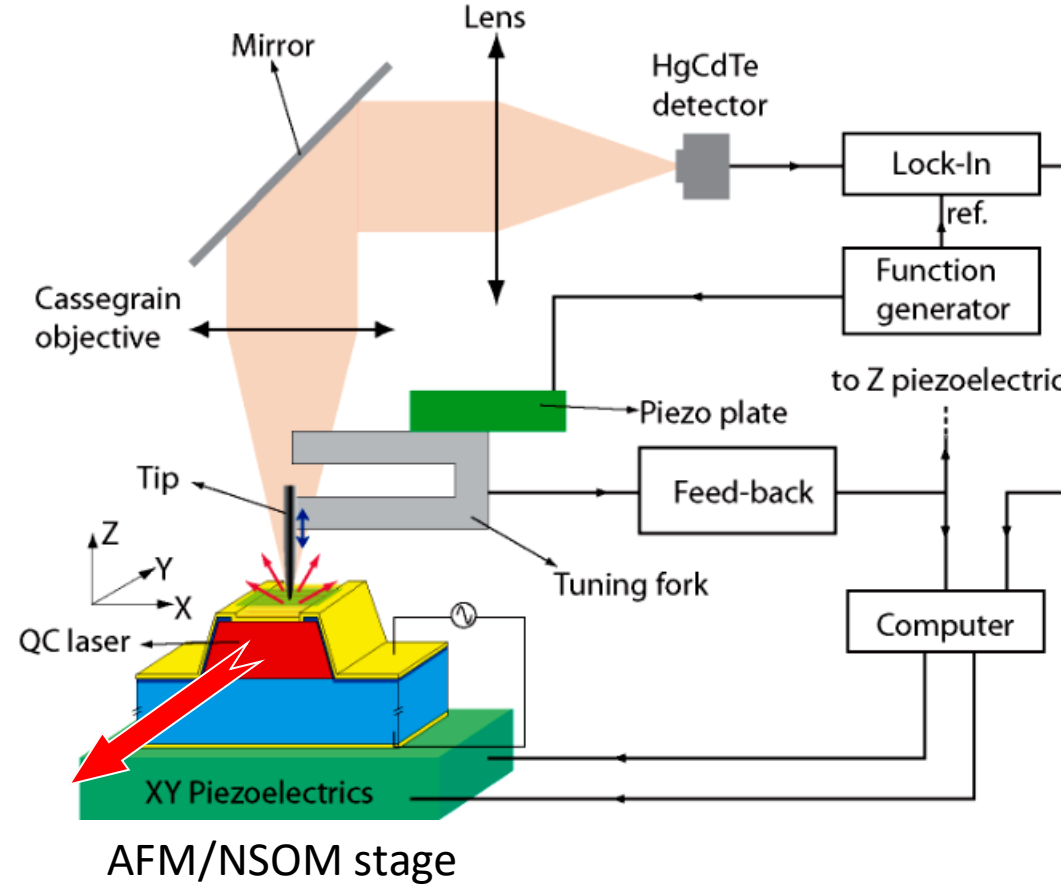
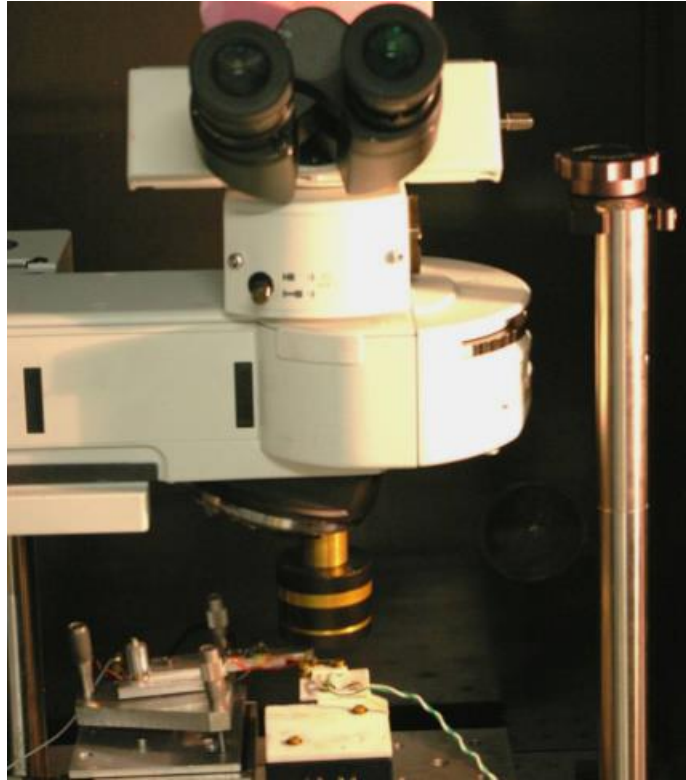


Image size:  $1.6 \times 2.3 \mu\text{m}$

Hillenbrand et al. , Nature **418**, 159 (2002)

# Scattering-type NSOM (s-NSOM) on active plasmonic devices (QCLs)



**Collaboration:** R. Colombelli, A. Bousseksou

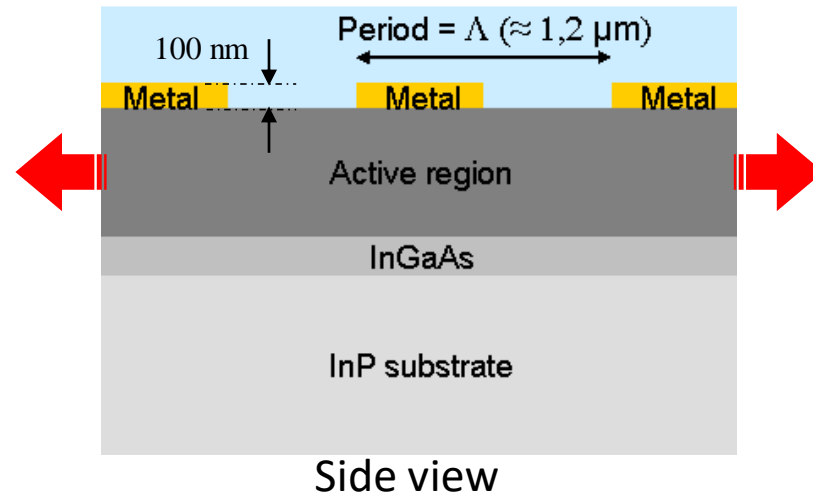
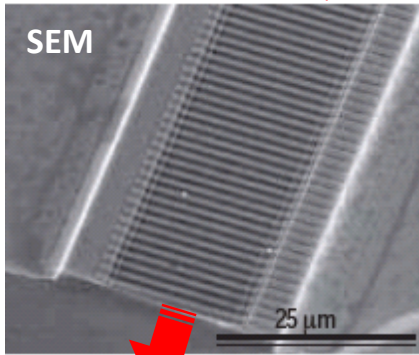
QCLs: Quantum Cascade Lasers

# QCL with metal grating

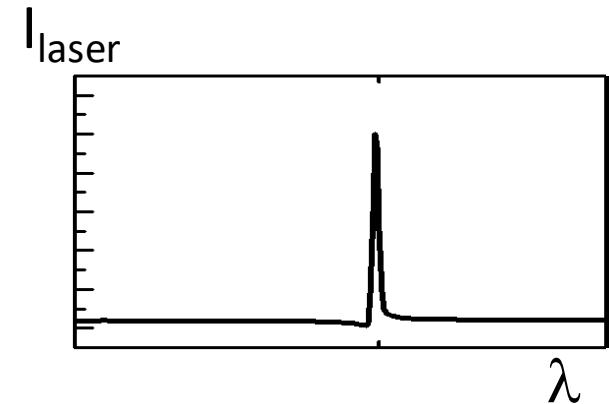
$\lambda \approx 7.5 \mu\text{m}$

$$\Lambda \approx \lambda / 2n_{\text{eff.}}$$

SEM image



Far-field spectrum



→ Single mode emission

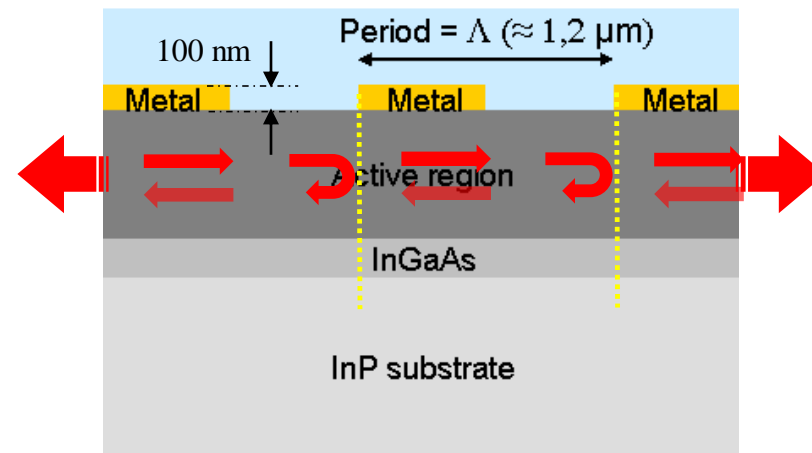
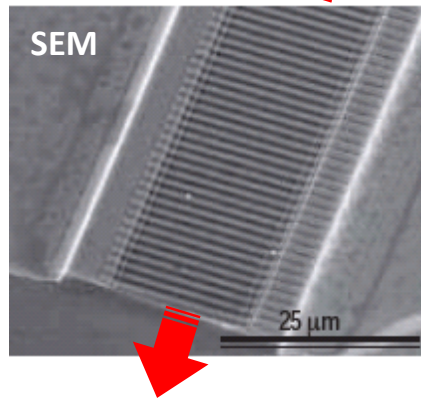


# QCL with metal grating

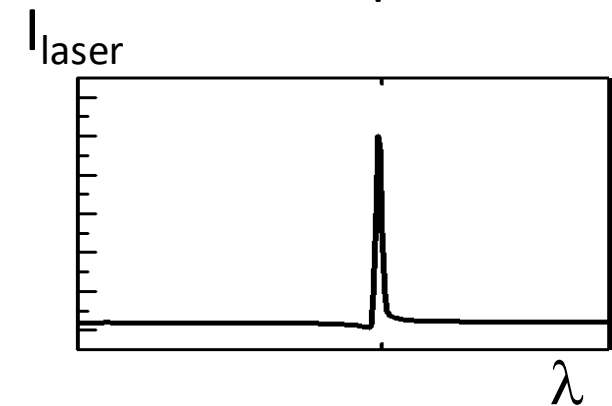
$\lambda \approx 7.5 \mu\text{m}$

$$\Lambda \approx \lambda / 2n_{\text{eff.}}$$

SEM image 

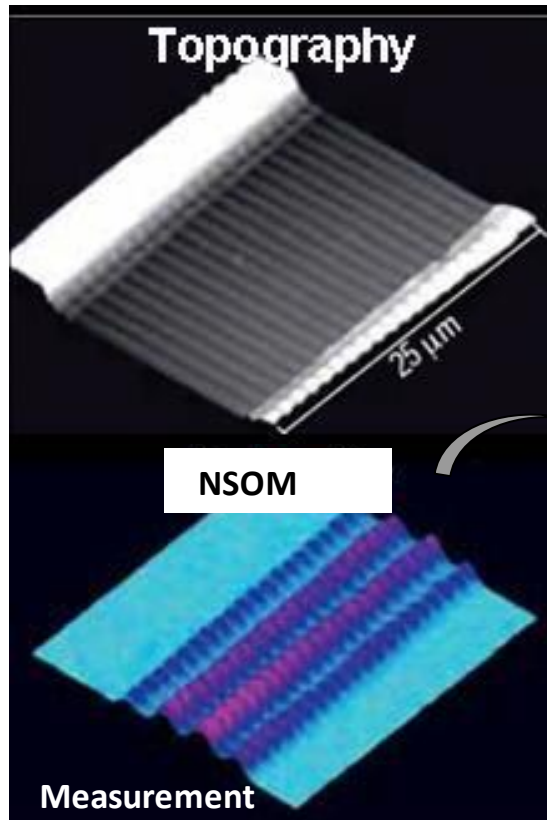


Far-field spectrum

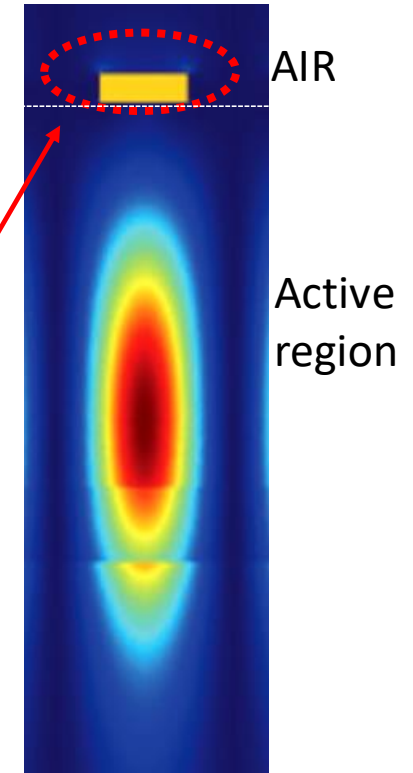
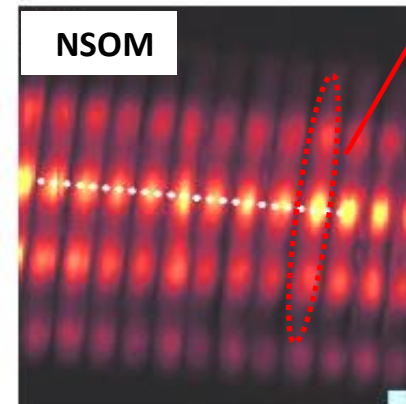
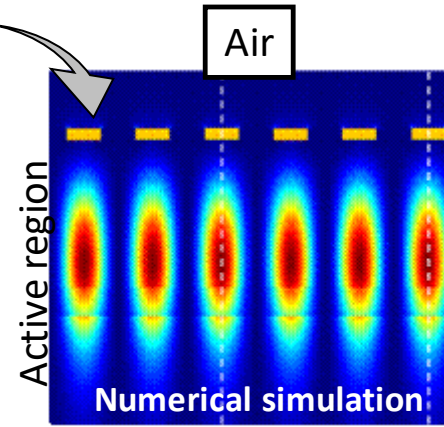
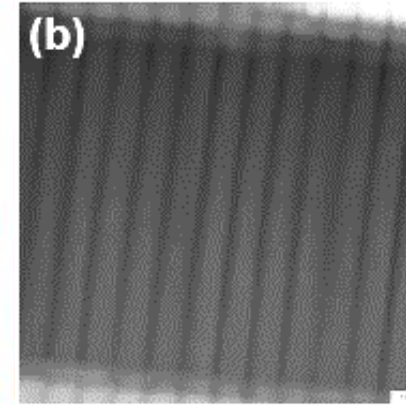


 Single mode emission

# QCL with metal grating : NSOM images



$\lambda \approx 7.5 \mu\text{m}$



numerical simulation (xz)

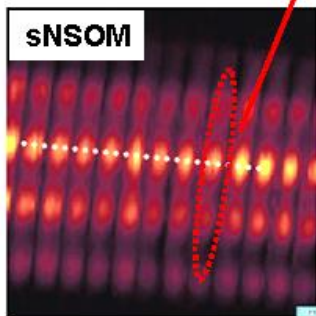
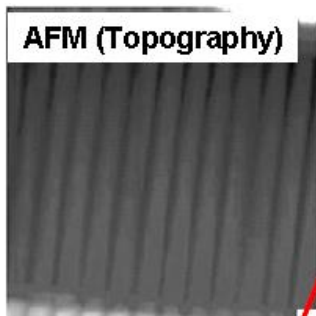
**Direct visualisation of the EM modes**  
**Hybrid** surface plasmons are generated on the metal grating

# Building block of active plasmonics: generator, coupler, passive SPP waveguide

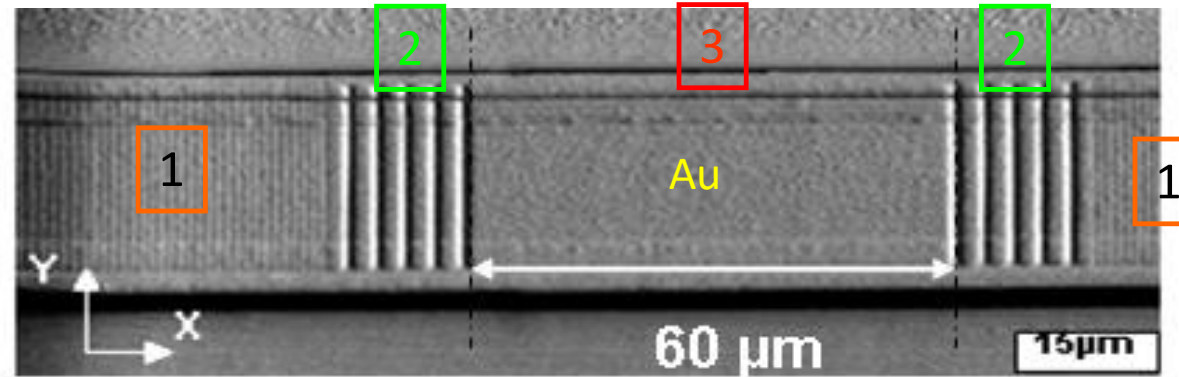
Measured topography (AFM)

1. DFB grating

**Generator**

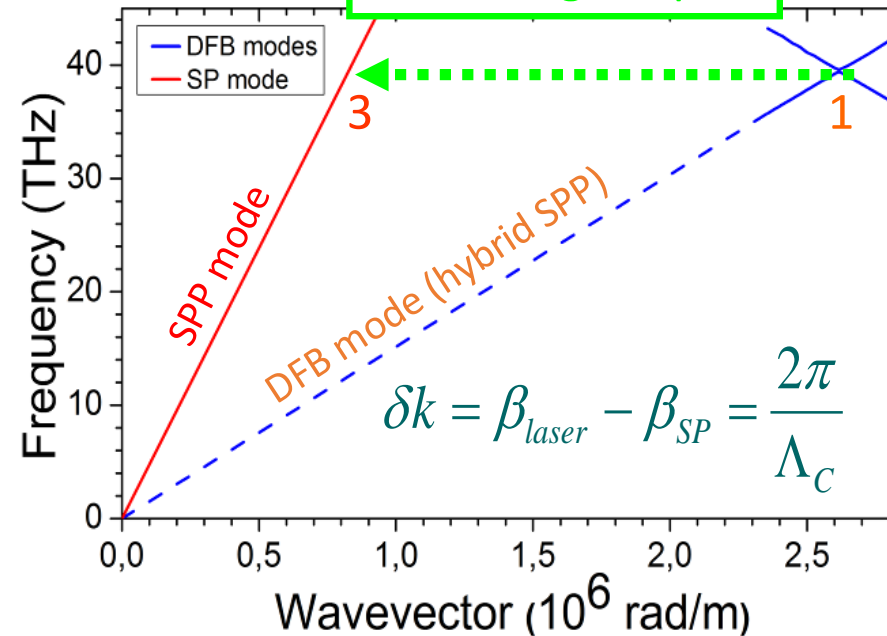


**Hybrid SPPs**

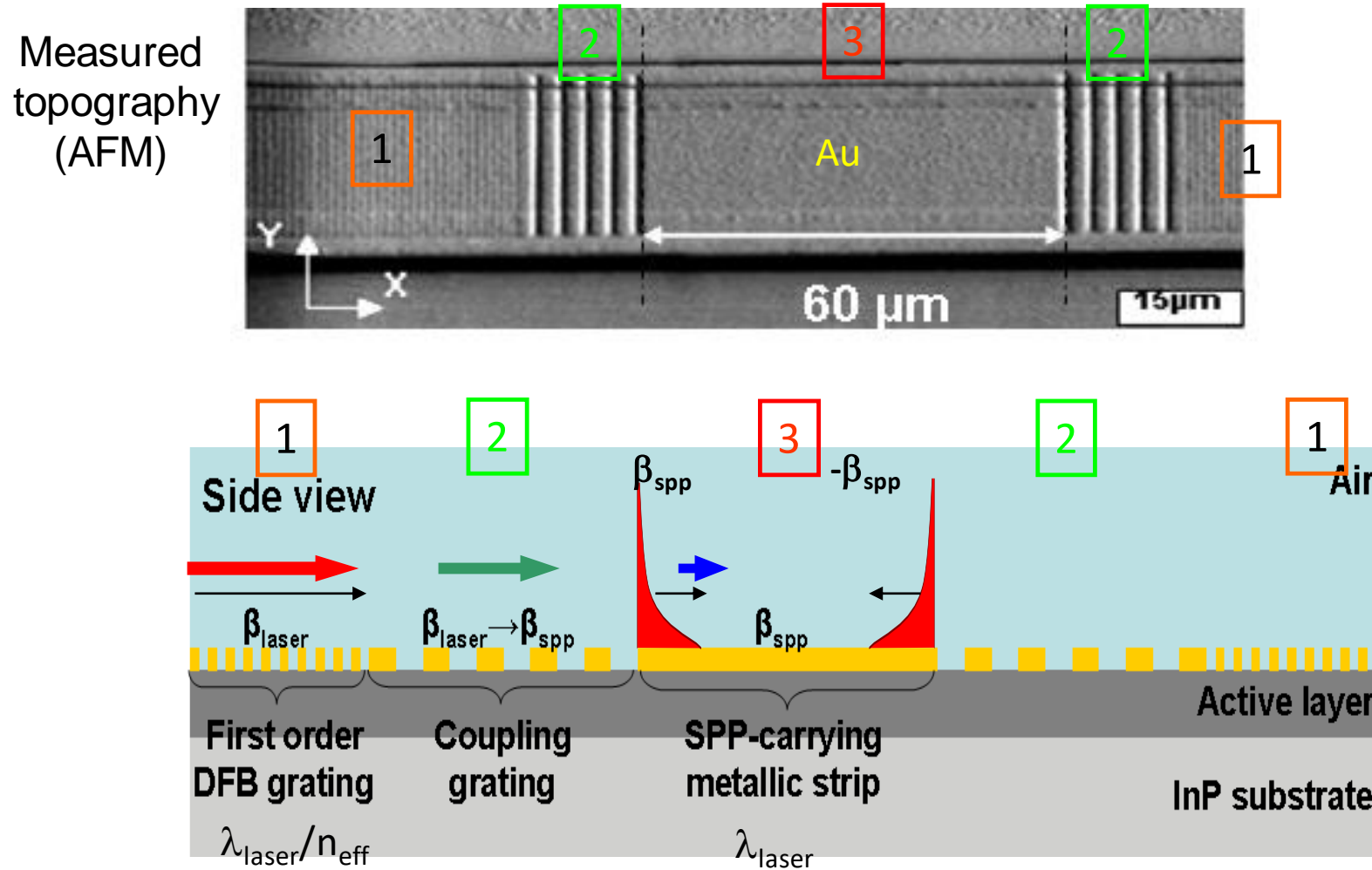


2. Grating coupler

3. Passive waveguide

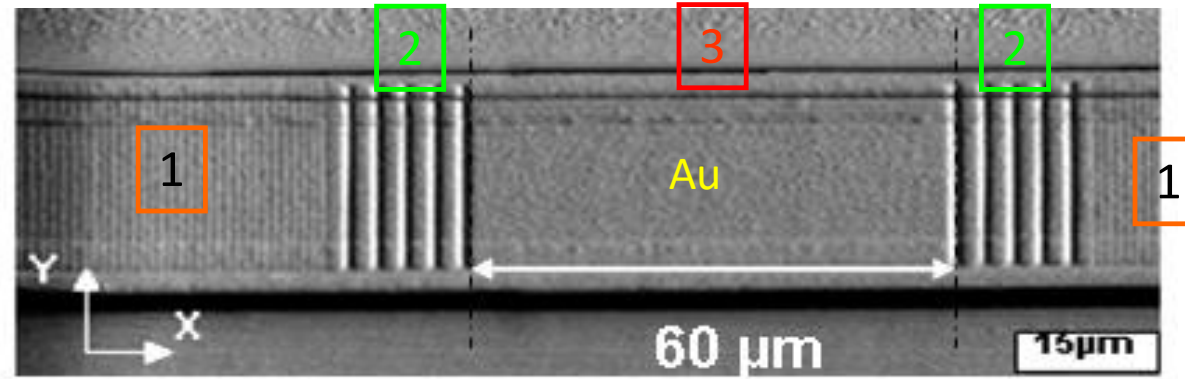


# Building block of active plasmonics: Slit doublet experiment

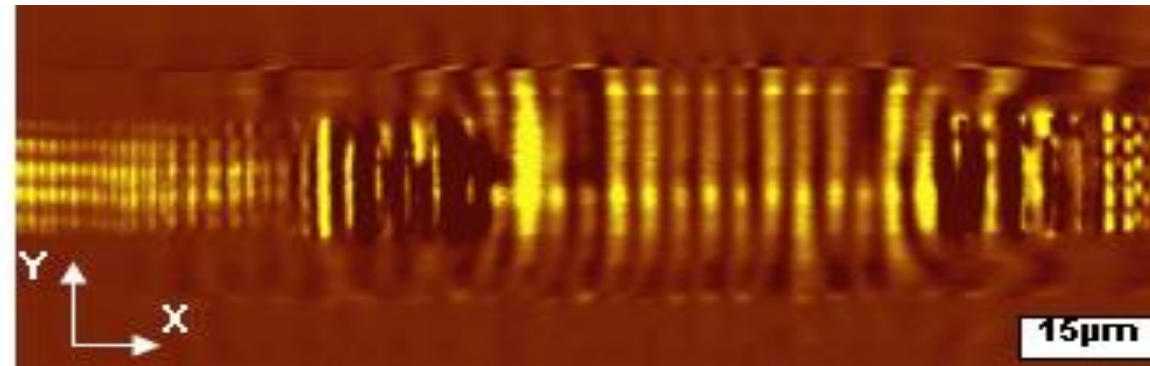


# Building block of active plasmonics: Slit doublet experiment

Measured topography (AFM)



Measured near-field  
 $\lambda \approx 7.5 \mu\text{m}$



**Generation and launching of SPPs**

**SPP generation at 7.5 μm**

Babuty et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 104, 226806, (2010)

**Spoof plasmons at 7.5 μm**

Bousseksou et al., Opt. Expr. 20, 13738 (2012)

**SPP generation at 1.3 μm**

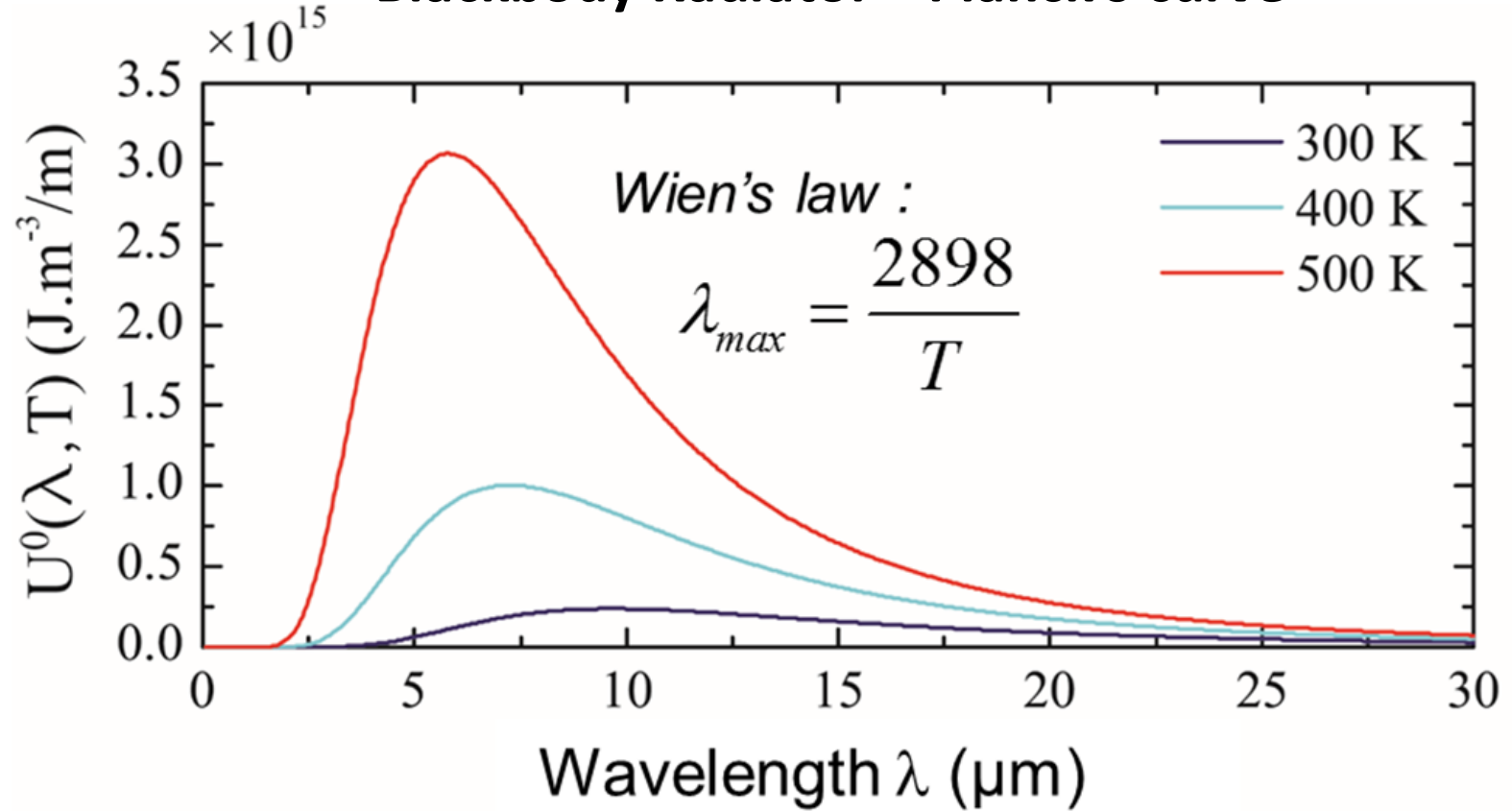
Costantino et al., Nano letters 12, 4693 (2012)

Greusard et al., Opti. Expr. 21, 10422 (2013)



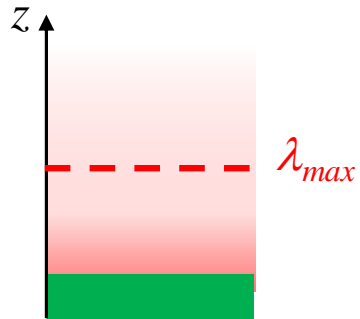
# Thermal Radiation

## Blackbody Radiator – Planck's curve



Far field:

$$z \gg \lambda_{max}$$

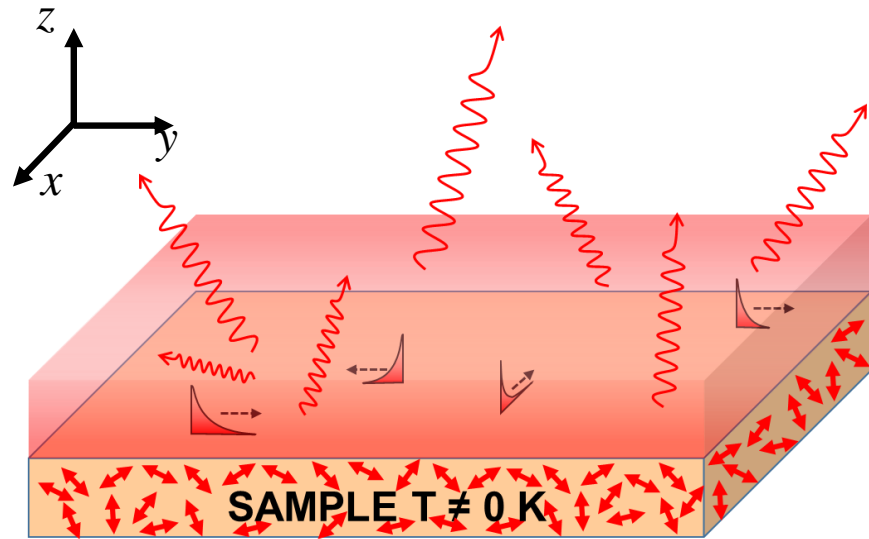


$$U(\omega, T) = \varepsilon^{\text{RM}}(\omega) U^{\text{BB}}(\omega, T)$$

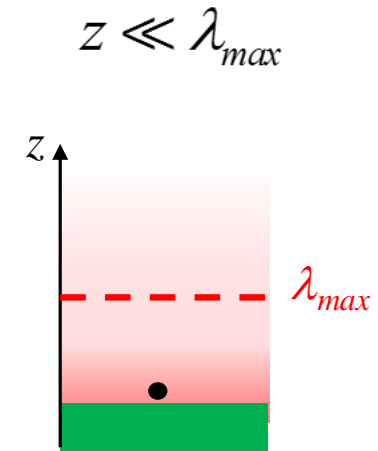
↑  
Emissivity

$$0 \leq \varepsilon^{\text{RM}}(\omega) \leq 1$$

# Real material radiation:



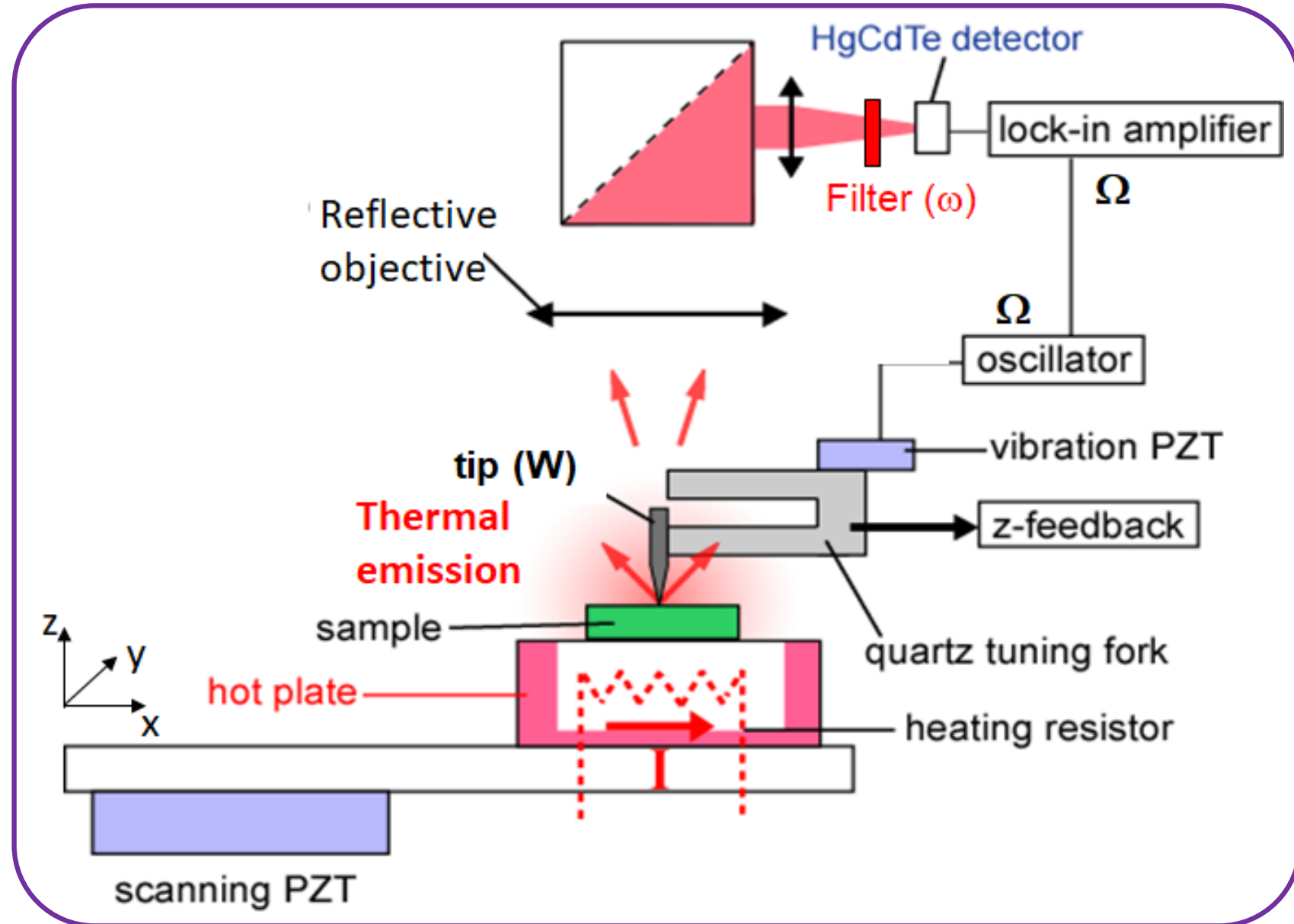
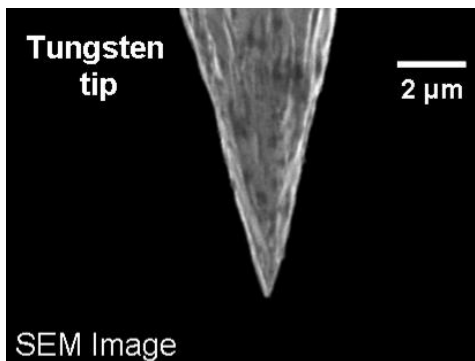
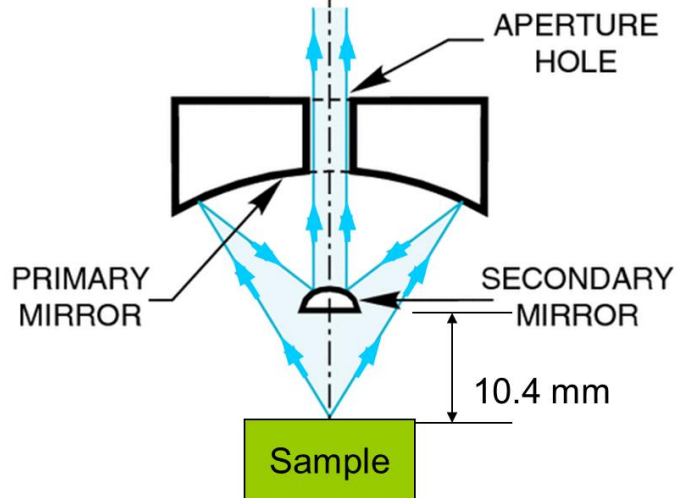
Near field:



# Thermal Radiation STM (TRSTM):

## Reflective objective (Cassegrain)

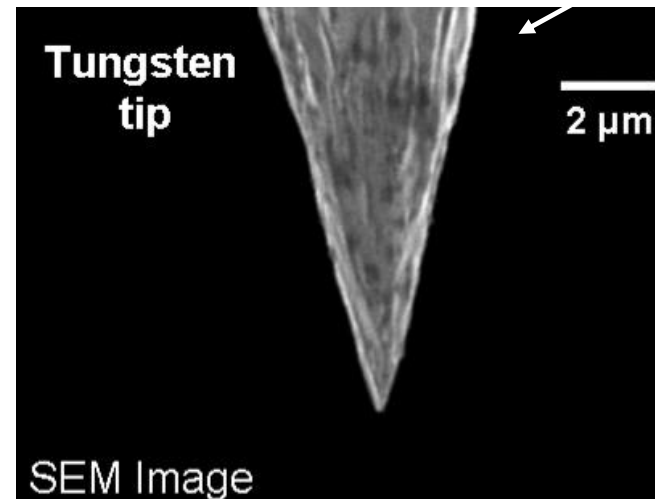
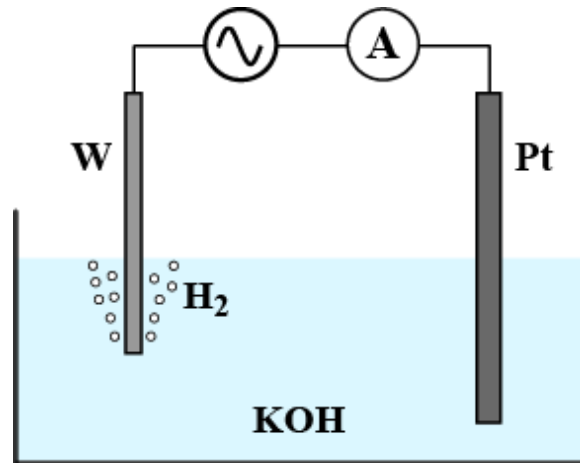
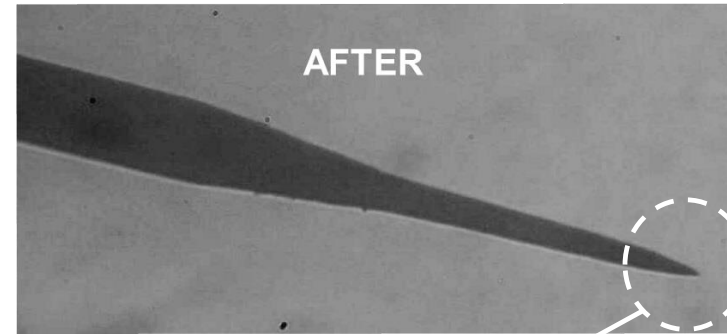
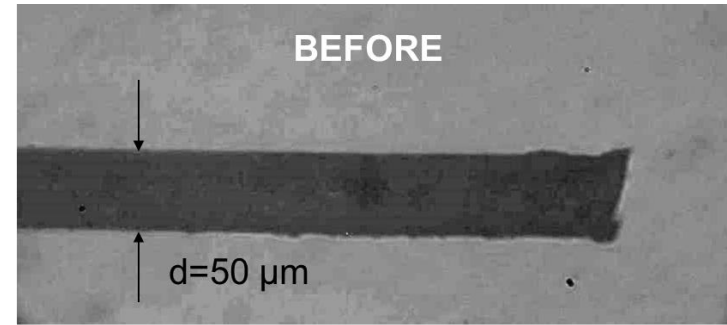
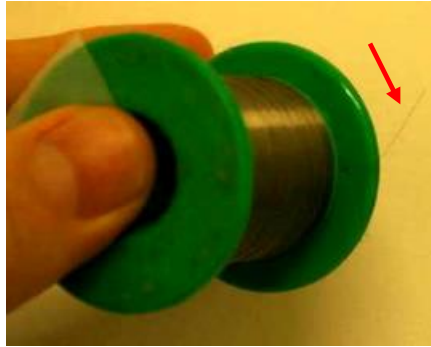
COLLIMATED LIGHT



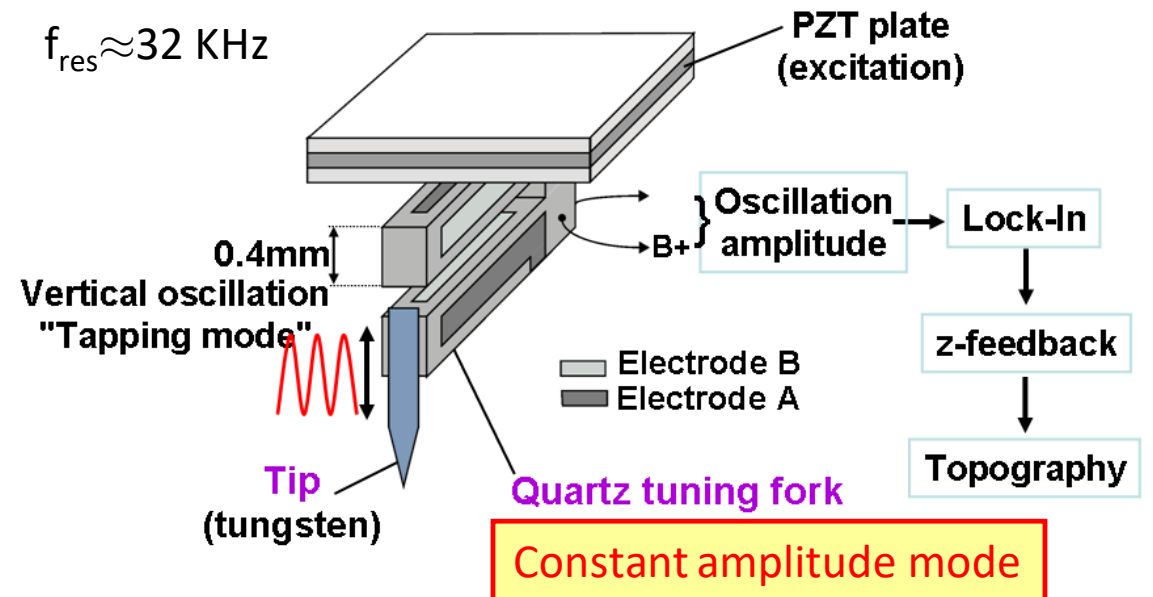
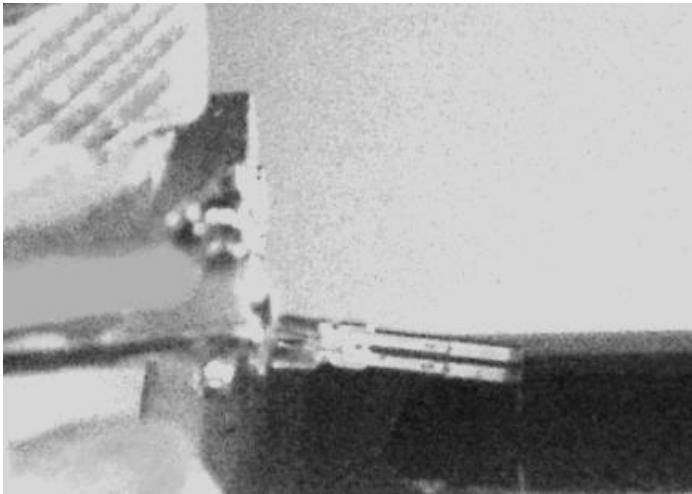
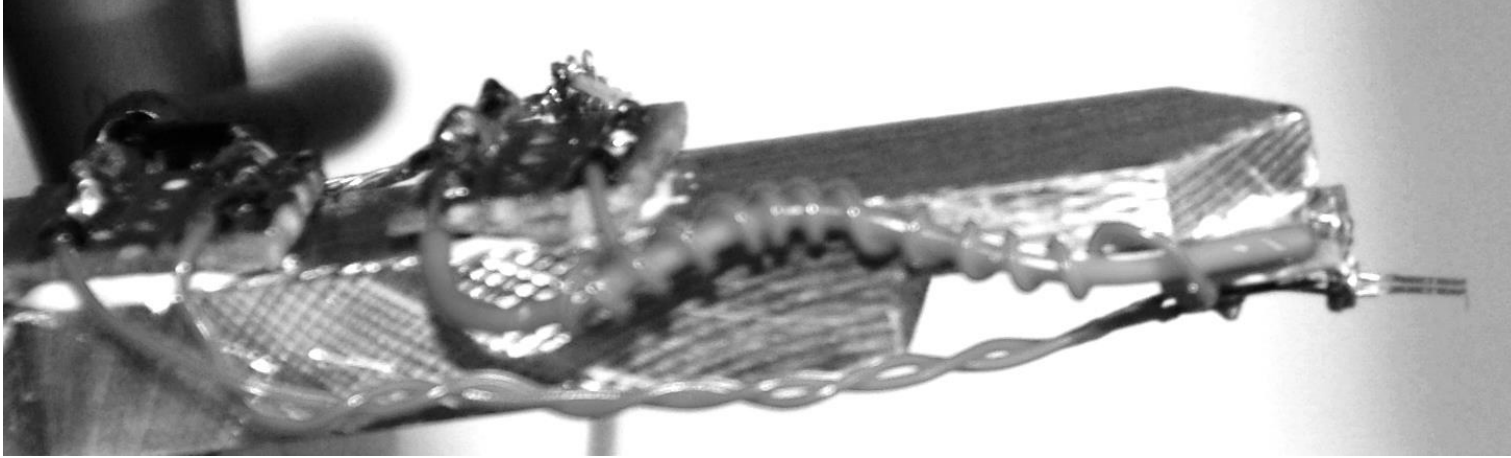


# Tip preparation

Tungsten wire



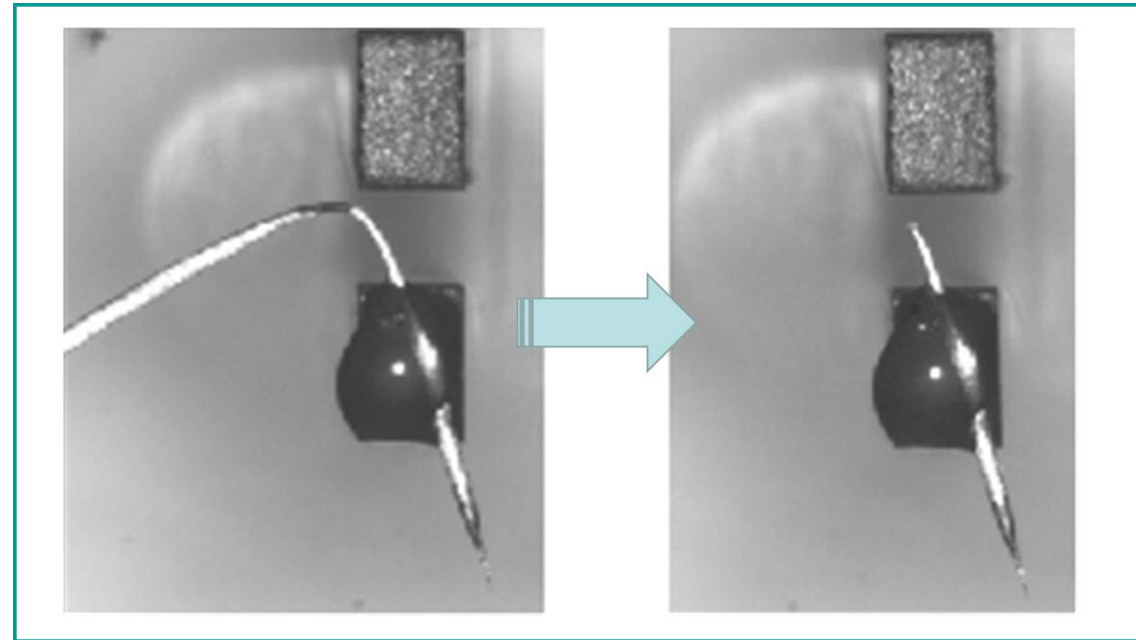
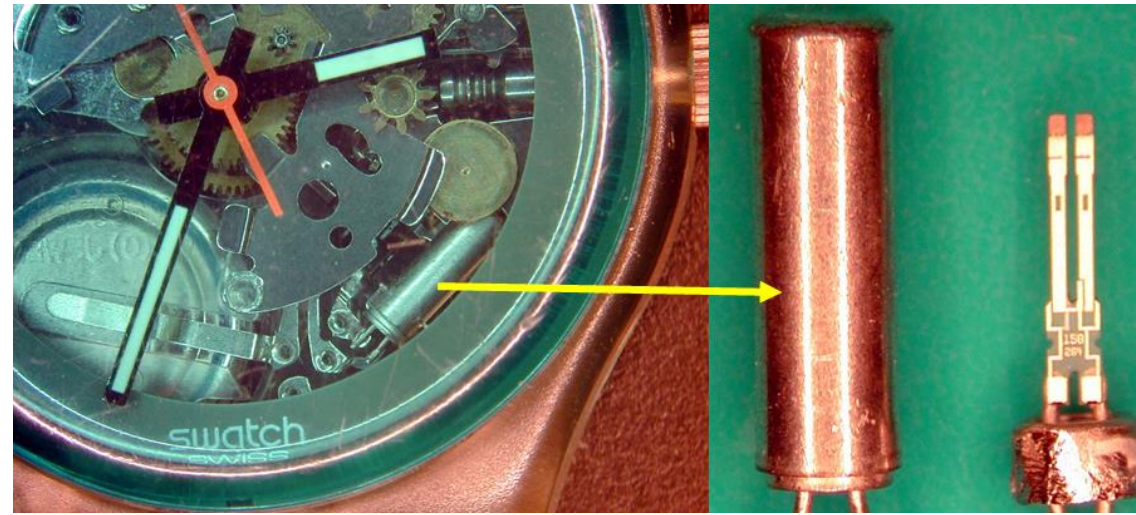
# Mid IR s-NSOM – TRSTM: Tip mounting and oscillation detection



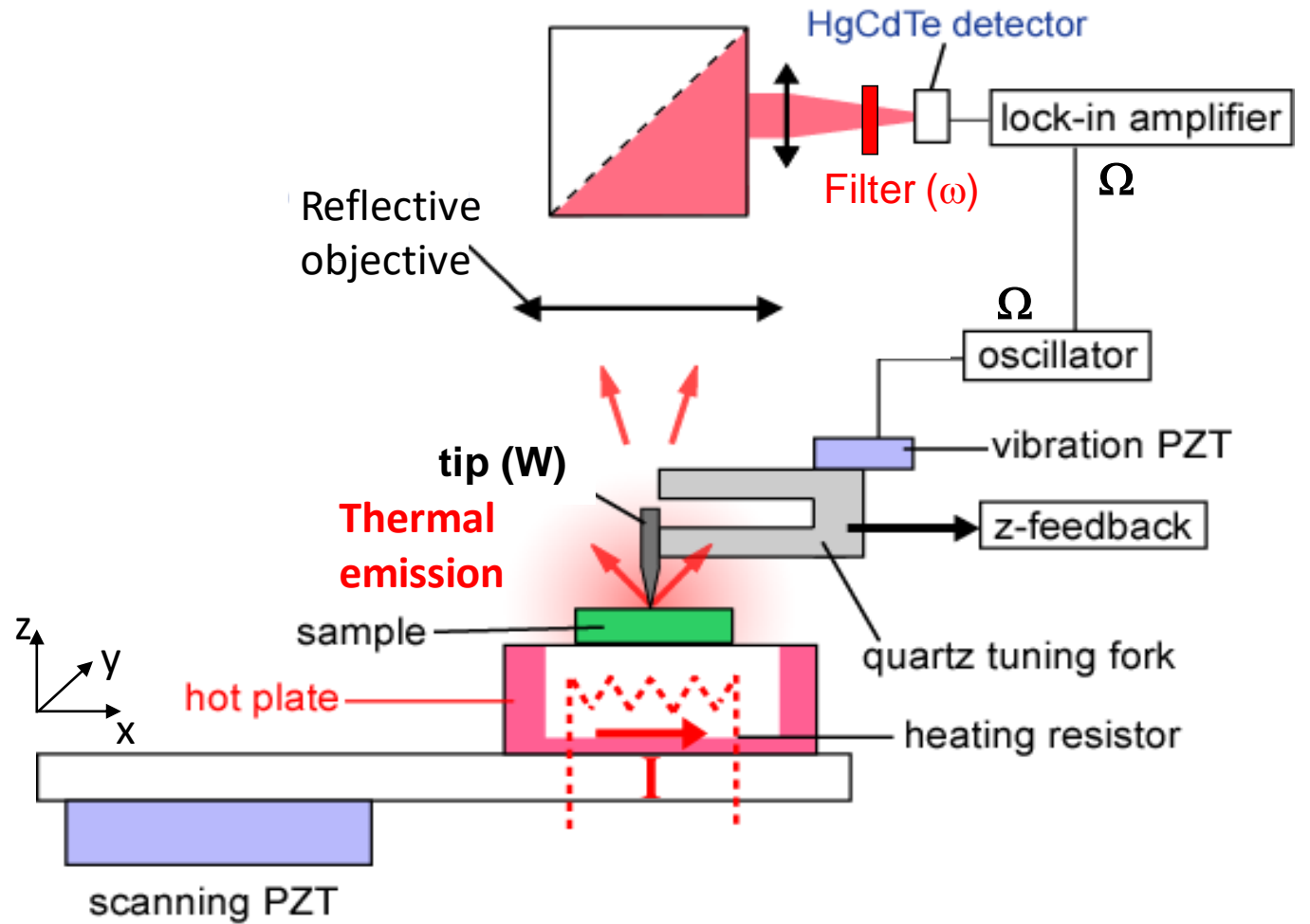
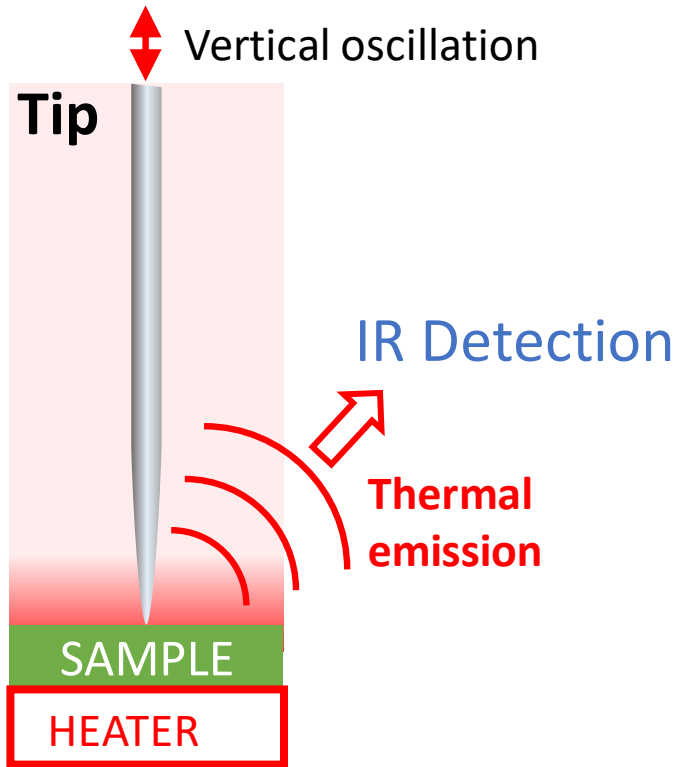
# Tip gluing

Quartz tuning fork

$$\Omega_{\text{res}} = 32768 \text{ Hz}$$



# Tip modulation

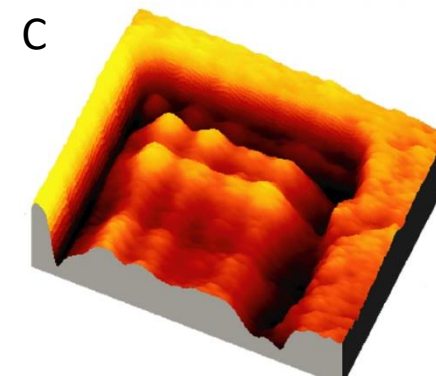
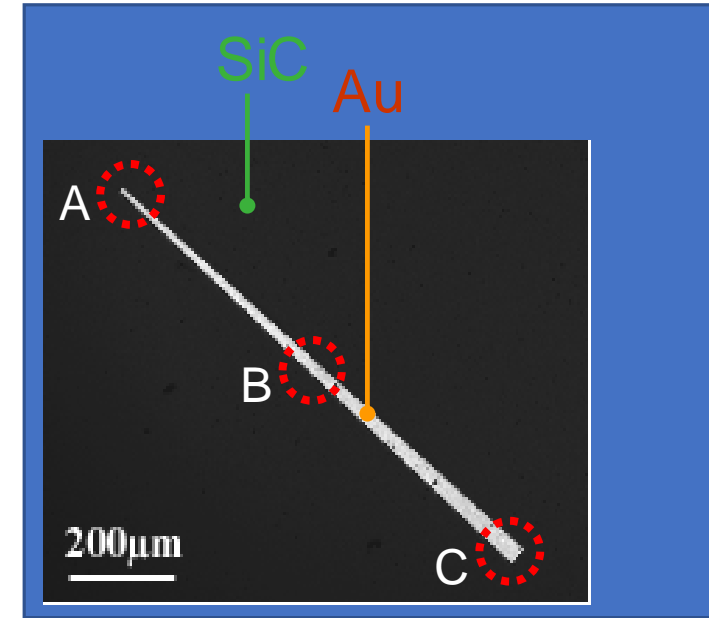
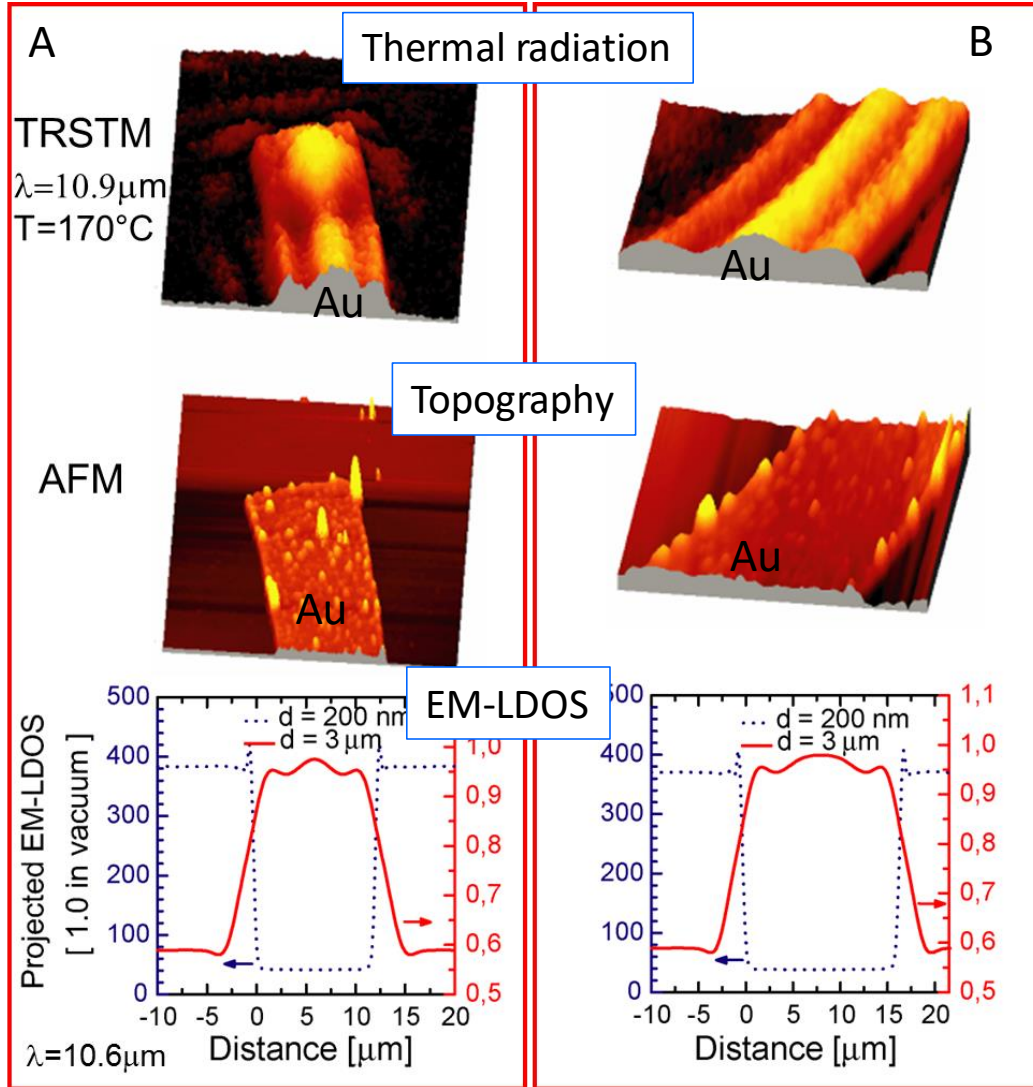


$$S(z_0 + a \cos \Omega t) \propto S_0 + A \frac{dS}{dz} \cos \Omega t + B \frac{d^2S}{dz^2} \cos 2\Omega t + \dots$$

Lock-In signal:  $S_\Omega \propto \frac{dS}{dz}$  at  $z_0$   $\Rightarrow$  **Suppression of far-field background.**

# Near-field imaging of EM-LDOS

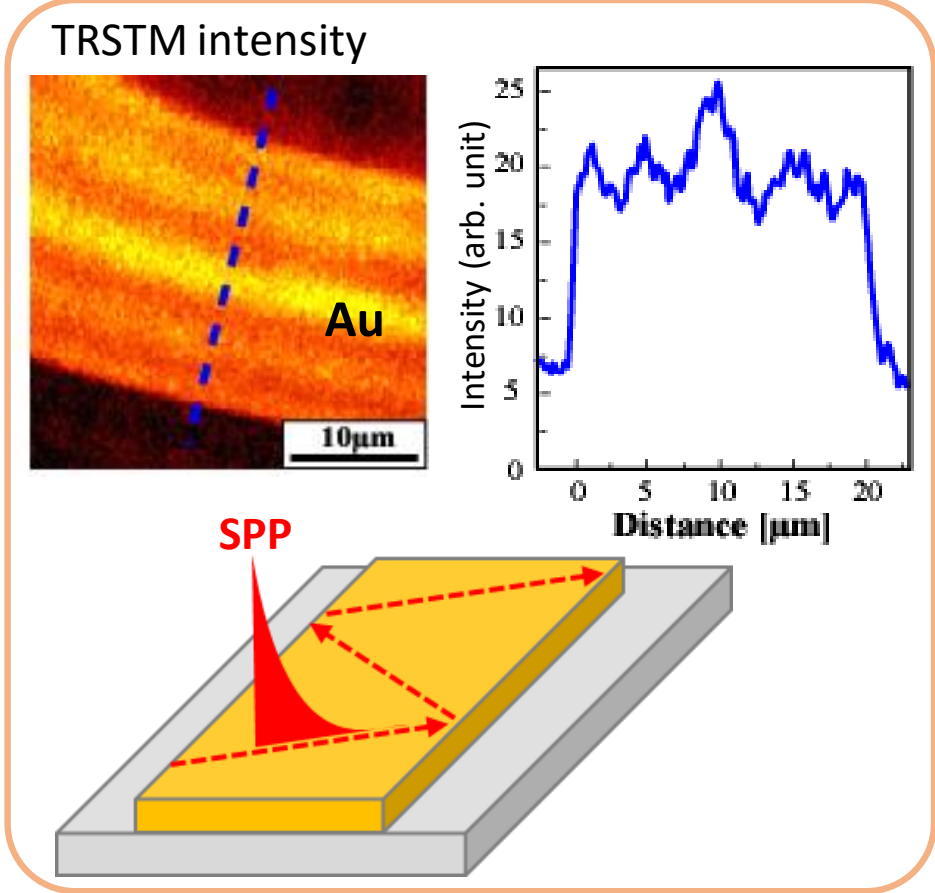
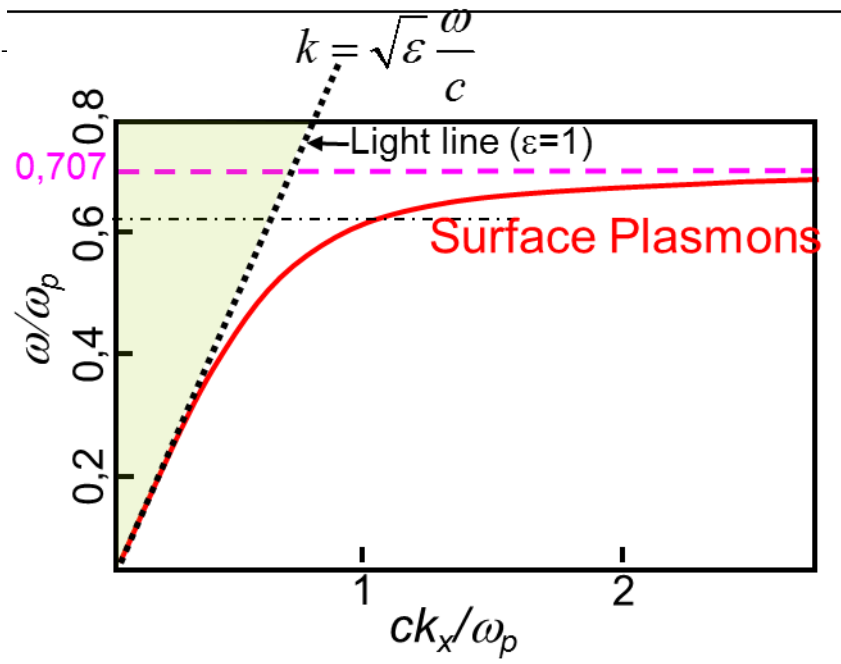
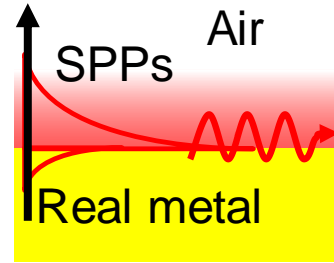
IMAGING ( $\lambda \approx 11 \mu\text{m}$ ,  $T \approx 440 \text{ K}$ )



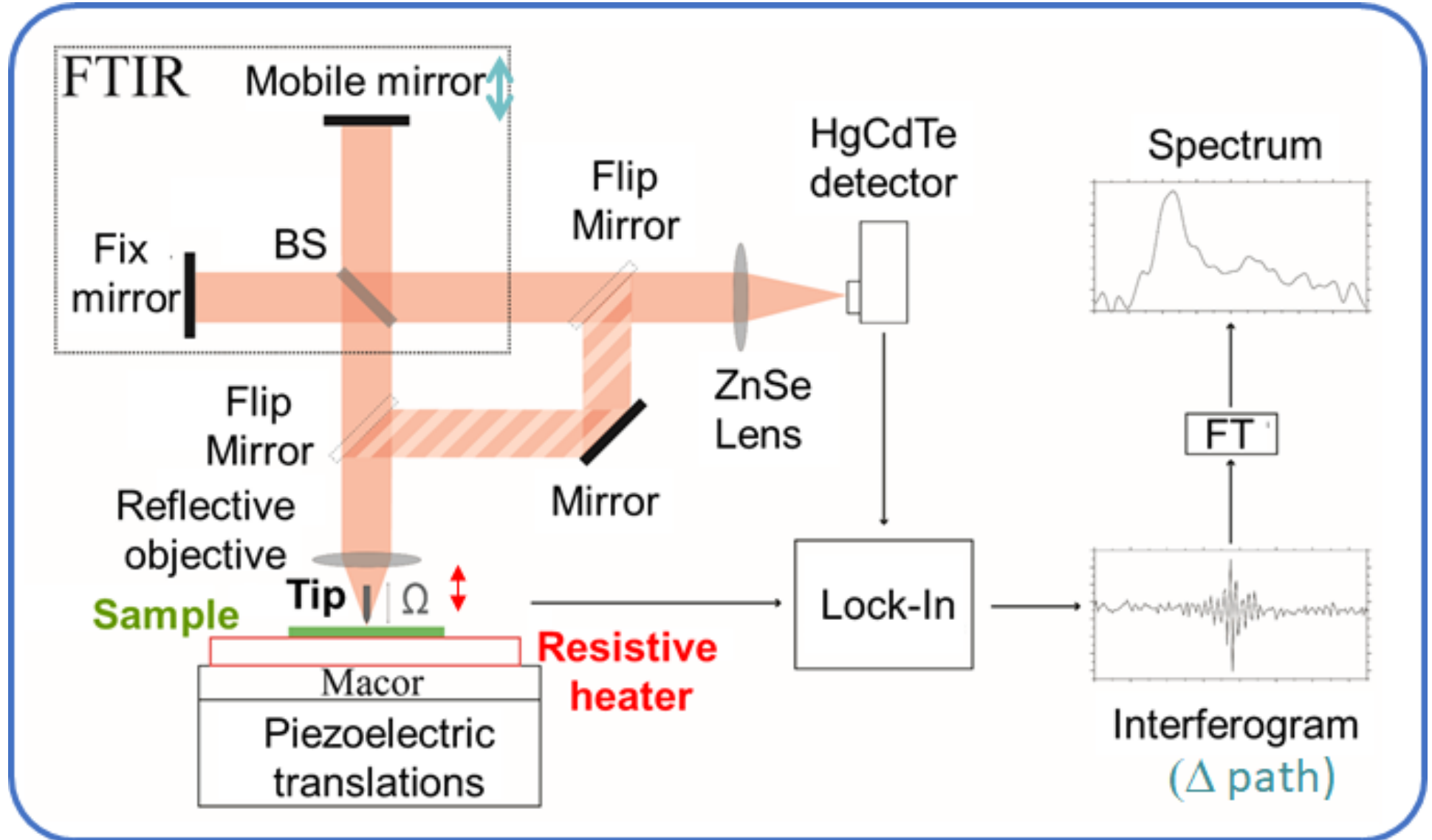
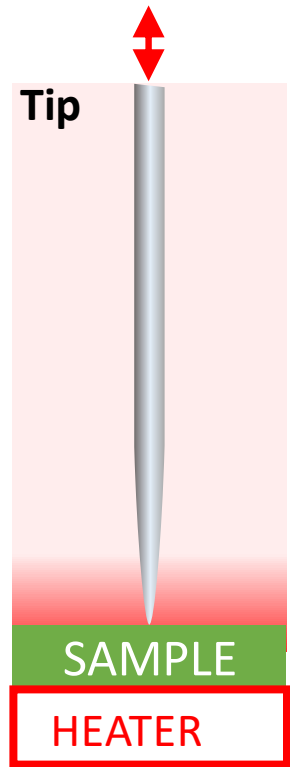


# Cavity modes of SPPs on Au

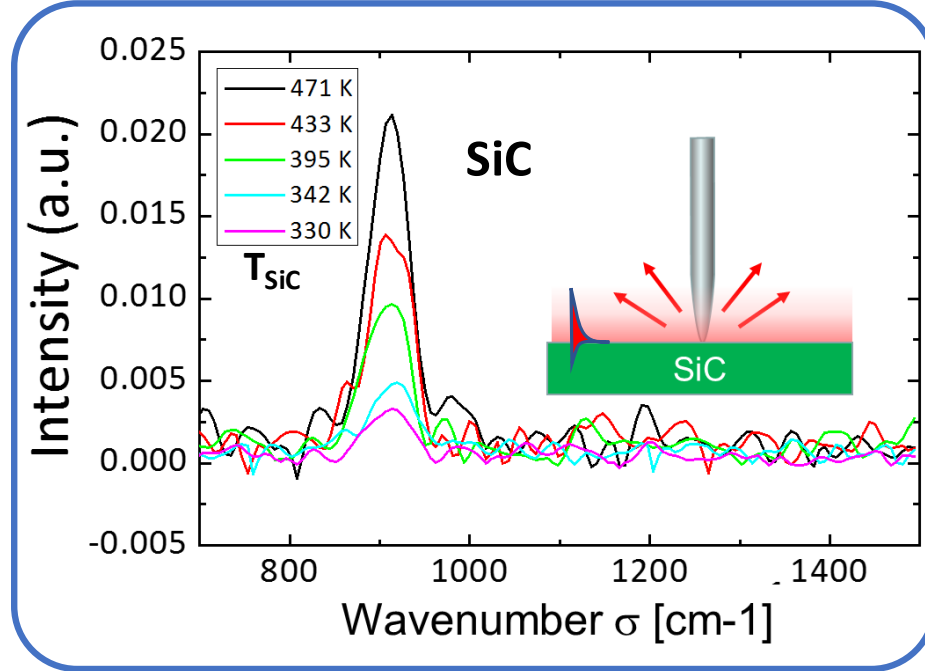
Surface waves



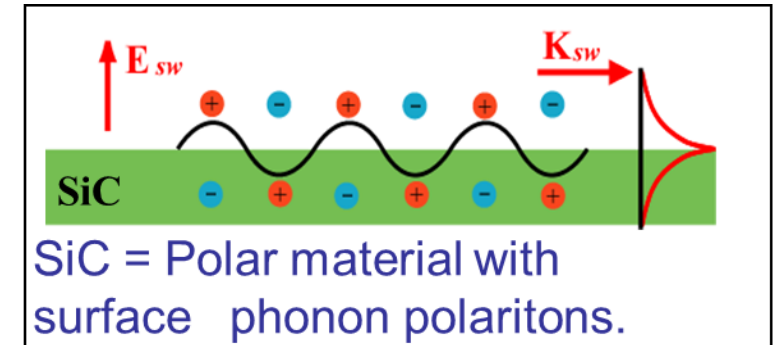
# TRSTM coupled with FTIR spectrometer



# TRSTM spectra on SiC:



Non-planckian behavior



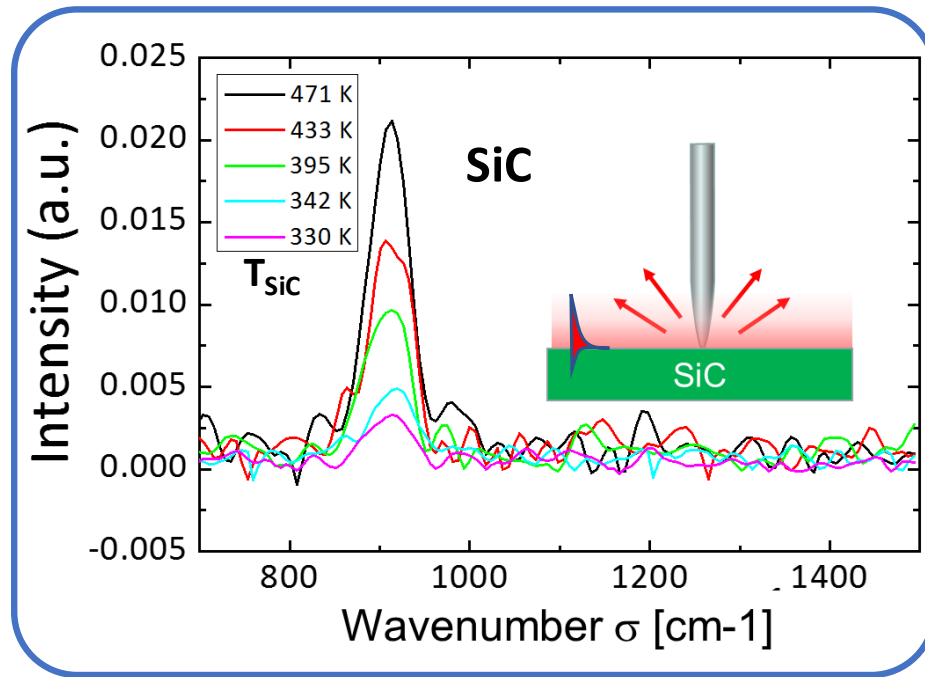
Prediction: Shchegrov *et al.*, PRL 85, 1548 (2000).

Near-field thermal radiation from surface **phonon** polaritons (SPhP).

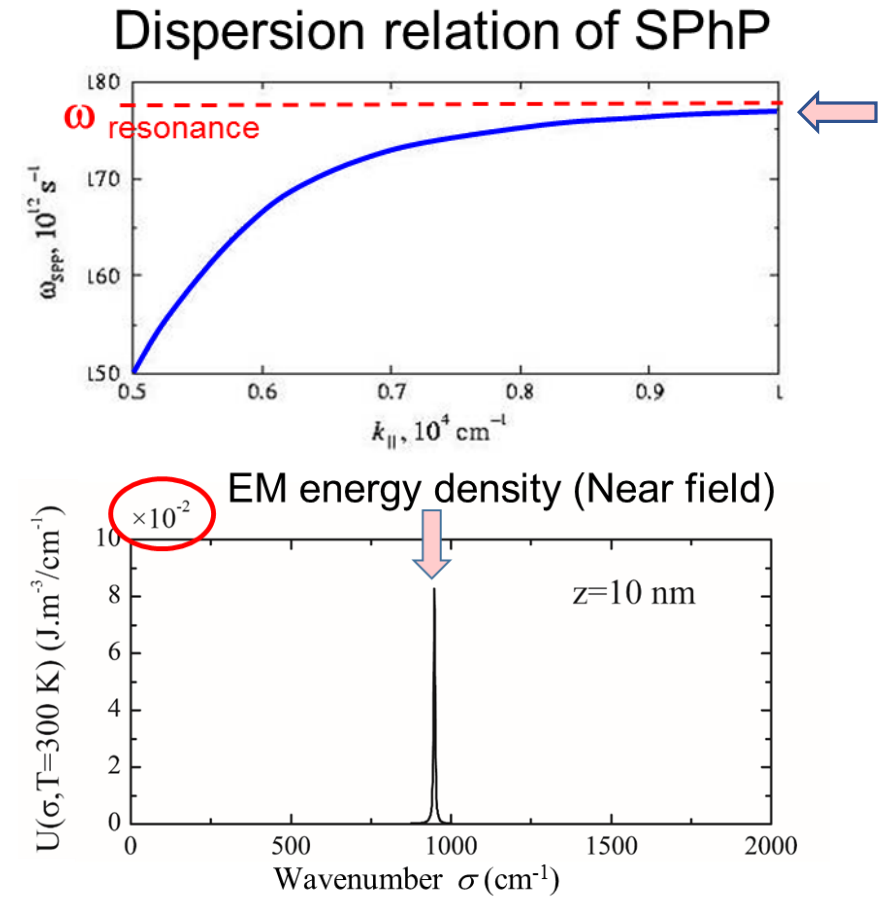
Babuty *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **110**, 146103 (2013).  
 Joulain *et al.*, *JQSRT* **136**, 1-15 (2014).  
 Peragut *et al.*, *Appl. Phys. Lett.* **104**, 251118 (2014).



# TRSTM spectra on SiC:



Non-planckian behavior

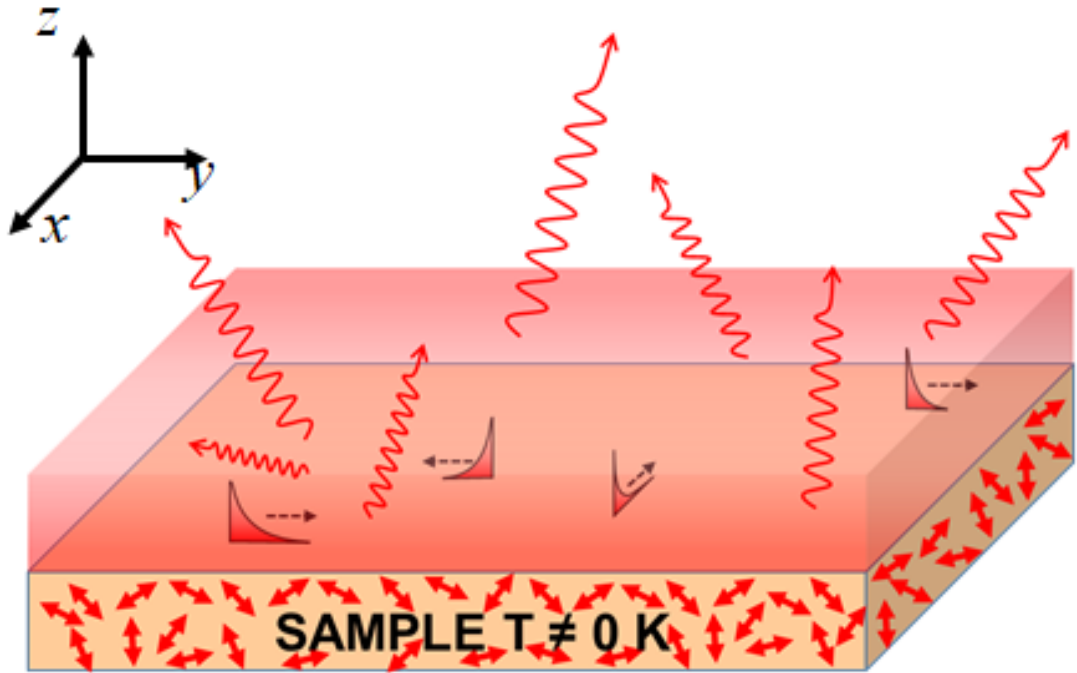


Prediction: Shchegrov *et al.*, PRL 85, 1548 (2000).

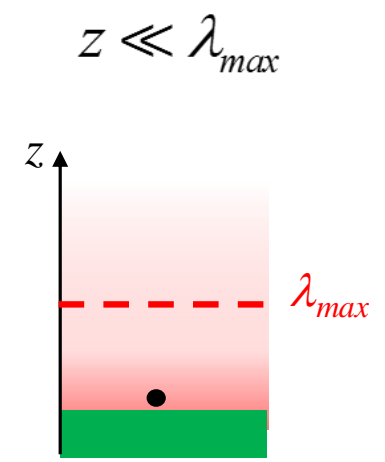
Near-field thermal radiation from surface **phonon** polaritons (SPhP).

Babuty *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **110**, 146103 (2013).  
 Joulain *et al.*, *JQSRT* **136**, 1-15 (2014).  
 Peragut *et al.*, *Appl. Phys. Lett.* **104**, 251118 (2014).

# Origin of the signal



Near field:



The TRSTM probes the electromagnetic local density of states (EM-LDOS) in the near-field.

- Predictions:
- EM-LDOS
  - Contribution of surface waves
  - **Coherence properties**

$$U(\mathbf{r}, \omega, T) = \underline{\underline{\rho(\mathbf{r}, \omega)}} \theta(\omega, T)$$

Local density of state (EM-LDOS)

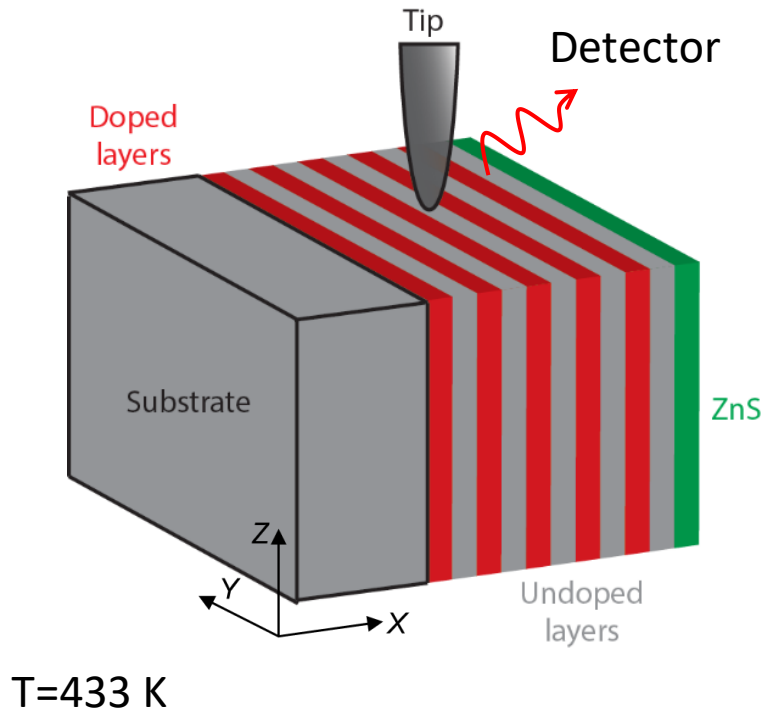
$$\theta(\omega, T) = \hbar\omega \frac{1}{\exp(\hbar\omega/kT) - 1}$$

Shchegrov, Joulain, Carminati, Greffet, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **85**, 1548 (2000)

Joulain et al., *Phys.Rev.B* **68**, 245405 (2003).

Carminati, Cazé, Cao, Peragut, Krachmalnicoff, Pierrat, De Wilde, *Surf. Sci. Rep.* **70**, 1 (2015)

# TRSTM study of doped/undoped semiconductor multilayer:



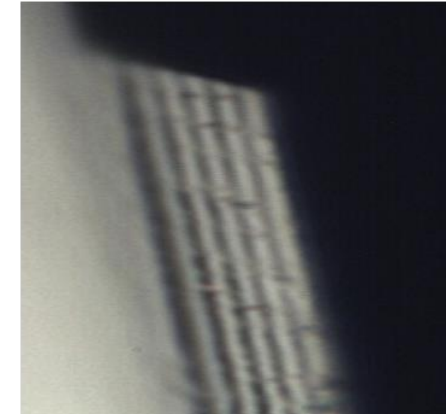
**5 pairs InAs/InAs(Si)**

Undoped InAs layers:  $\sim 10^{16} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ , thickness: 290 nm

Doped InAs layers:  $5 \cdot 10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ , thickness: 370 nm

ZnS layer, thickness: 2  $\mu\text{m}$

Cleaved edge



Collaboration :

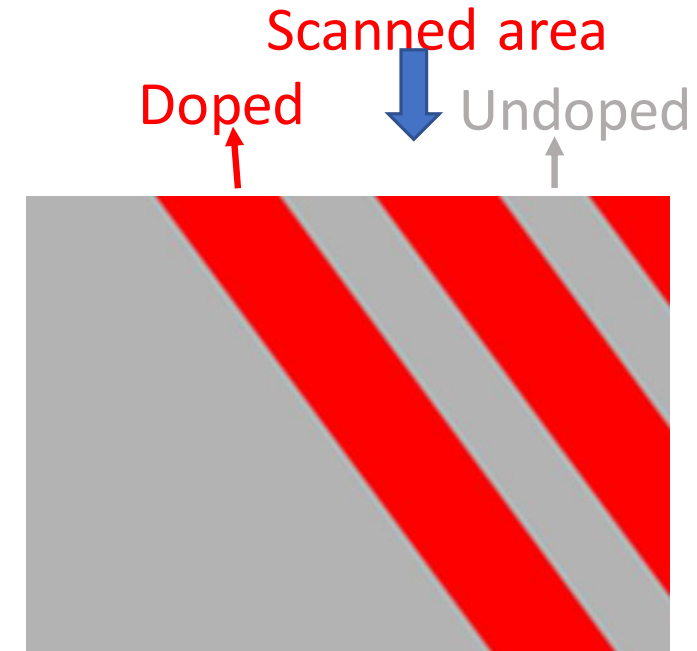
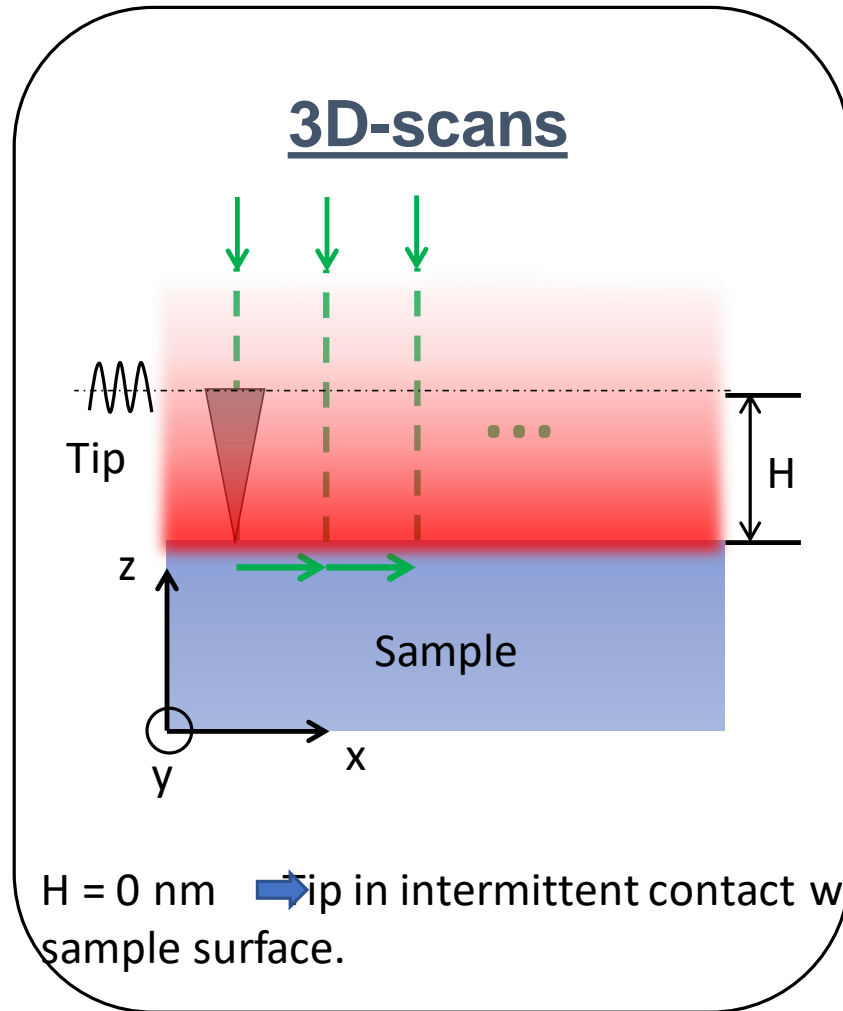


T. Taliercio  
L. Cerutti  
A. Baranov



J.-J. Greffet  
J.-P. Hugonin

# TRSTM imaging from far-field to near-field

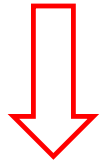


Scan size =  $2 \mu\text{m} \times 0.7 \mu\text{m} \times 200 \text{ nm}$

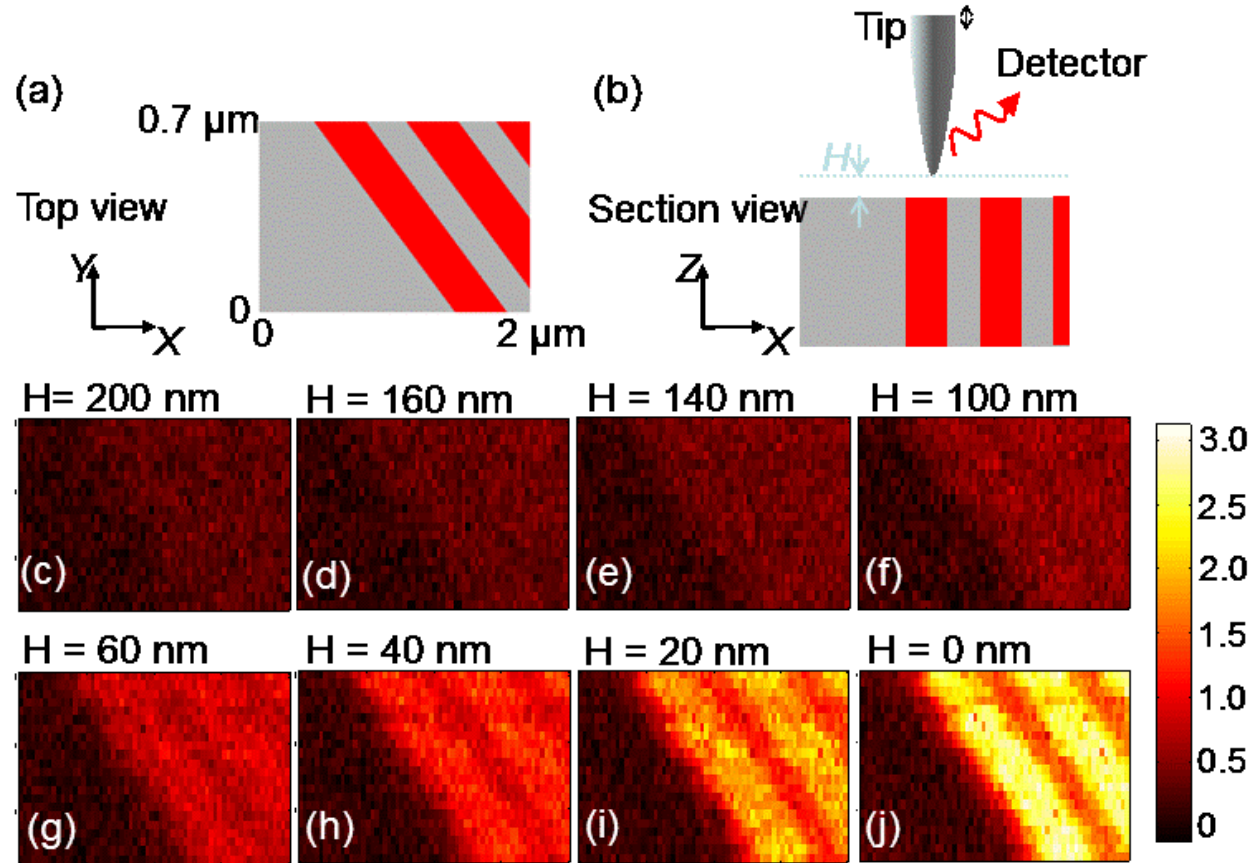
From  $H=200 \text{ nm}$  to  $0$

# TRSTM imaging from far-field to near-field

$$\left(\frac{2\pi}{\lambda}\right)^2 = |\mathbf{K}|^2 + \gamma^2$$



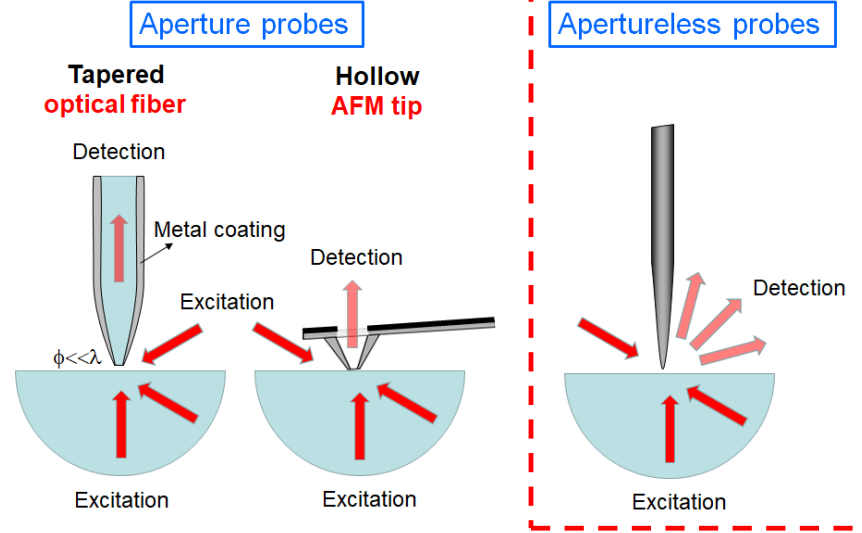
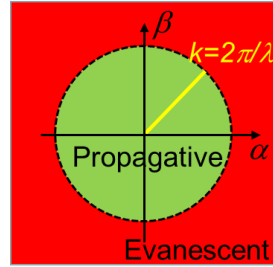
$$z^* = \frac{\Delta r_{\parallel}}{2\pi}$$



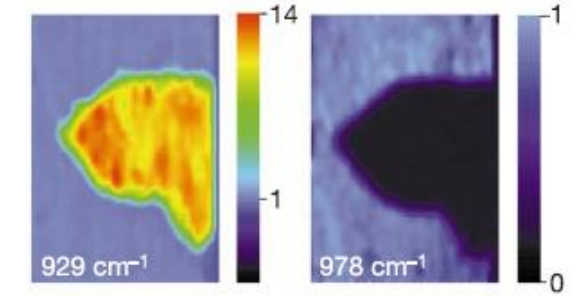
- Distance = Low-pass filtering.
- Homogeneous to heterogeneous EM-LDOS transition.

# Conclusion

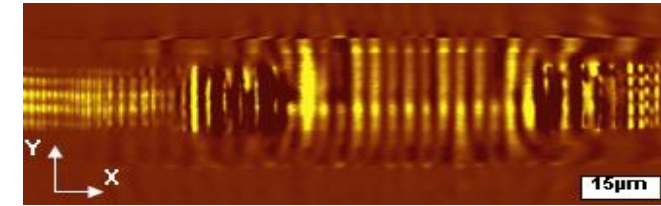
- NSOM information on evanescent fields



## Materials at sub- $\lambda$ scale



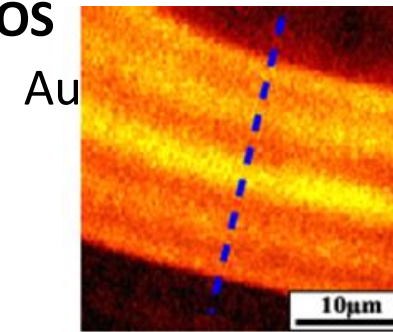
## Surface wave studies



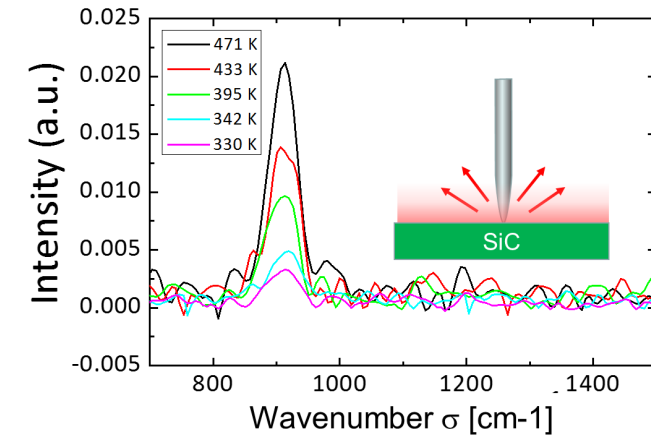
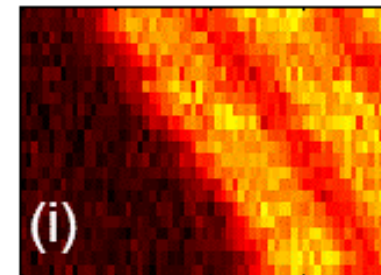
- TRSTM: Thermal radiation in the near-field probes the EM-LDOS

+ Coherence effects

- Super-resolution is achieved both for imaging and spectroscopy



H = 20 nm





# NSOM in FRANCE

## Liste non-exhaustive:

**Lille:** IEMN

**Paris:** ESPCI (Institut Langevin, LPEM),  
Sorbonne Université (INSP)

**Paris-Saclay:** C2N, ONERA, CEA,  
SOLEIL, Inst. Chimie Physique (UPS)

**Versailles:** GEMaC (UVSQ)

**Troyes:** L2n laboratory (UTT)

**Dijon:** Laboratoire ICB, Université de Bourgogne

**Besançon:** FEMTO St

**Nantes:** IMN

**Lyon:** STMS/INL (Ecole Centrale Lyon), ILM

**Grenoble:** Inst. Néel

**Marseille:** Inst. Fresnel

...

...

...

...

