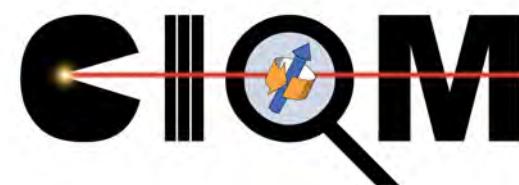


# Imaging the Motion of Electrons in Nanostructures

R.M. Westervelt  
Harvard University



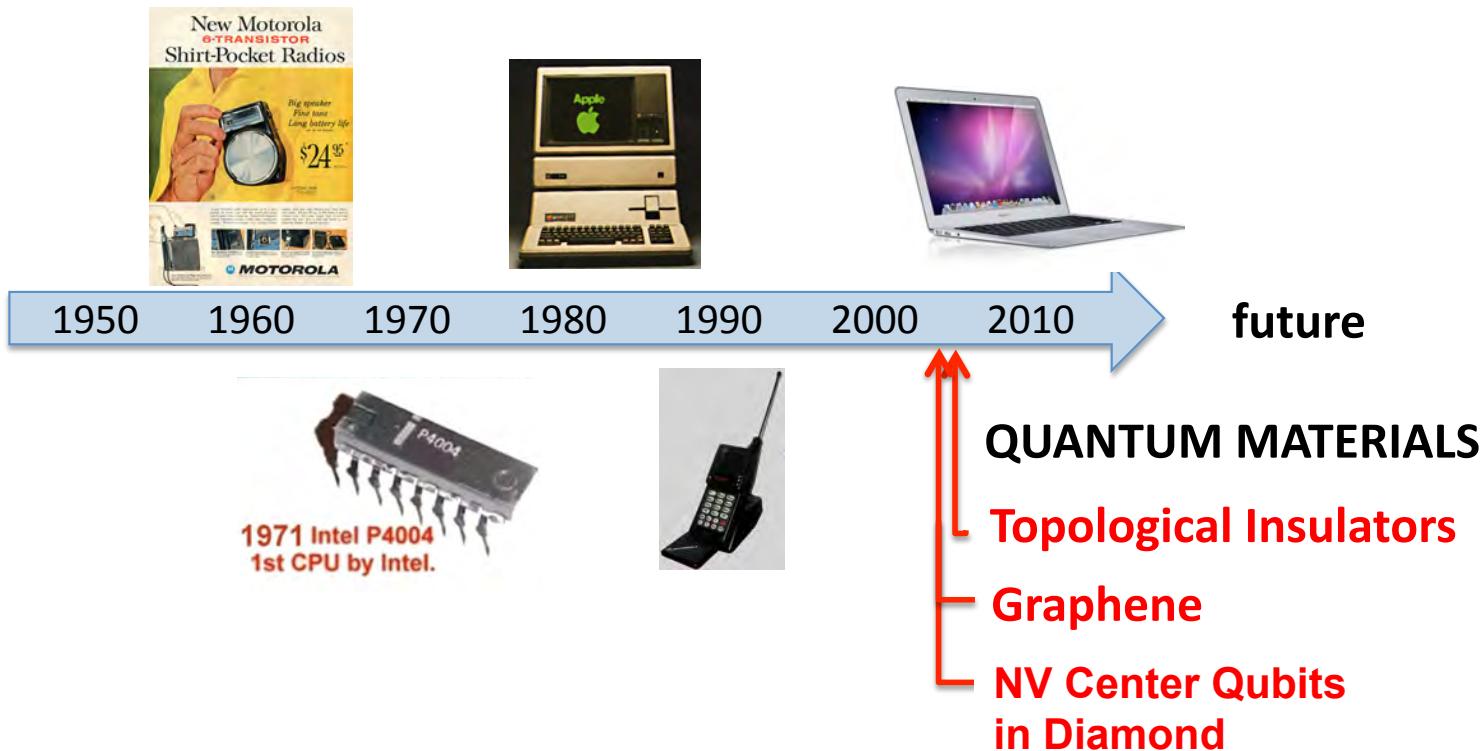
CENTER for INTEGRATED  
QUANTUM MATERIALS

# Imaging Electron Motion in Nanostructures

- Quantum Materials and Devices
  - Science & Technology Center for Integrated Quantum Materials
- Imaging Techniques
  - Capacitance Spectroscopy – Ray Ashoori
  - Imaging Magnetic Fields with an NV Center – Amir Yacoby
  - Imaging Electron Charge with an SET – Amir Yacoby
- Imaging Electron Paths & Control of Quantum Dots
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  - 2DEG Magnetic Focusing – Kathy Aidala
- Conclusions

# Quantum Materials Vision

Extraordinary new quantum materials enable atomic-scale electronics and photonics that transform signal processing and computation.



# Science & Technology Mission

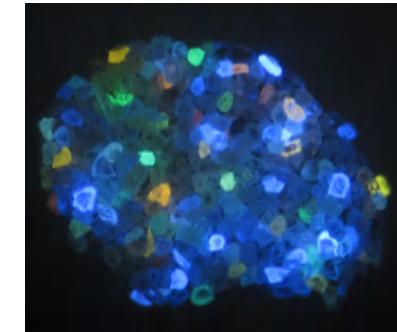
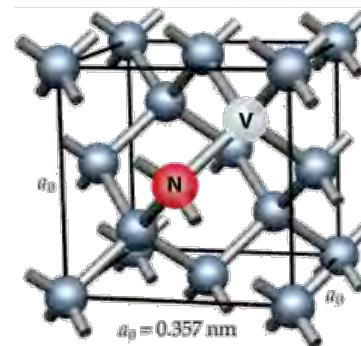
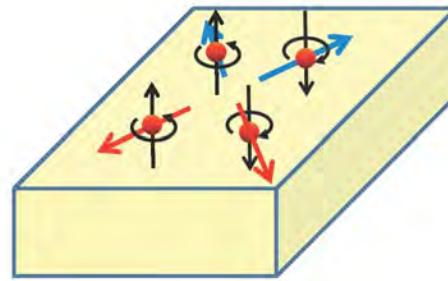
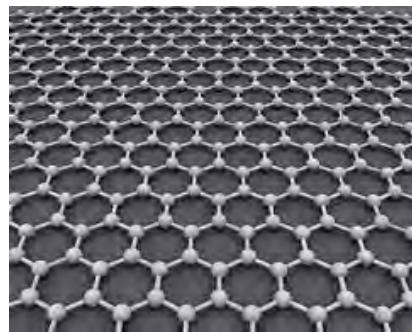
Integrated quantum systems made from atomic-scale devices, error-free data channels, and single-atom memory sites:

## Quantum Materials

**Atomic Layers:** Graphene, BN, MoS<sub>2</sub> – *atomic scale devices*

**Topological Insulators** – *topologically protect data*

**NV Center Diamond** – *1 atom memory sites, ultrasensitive magnetosensors*

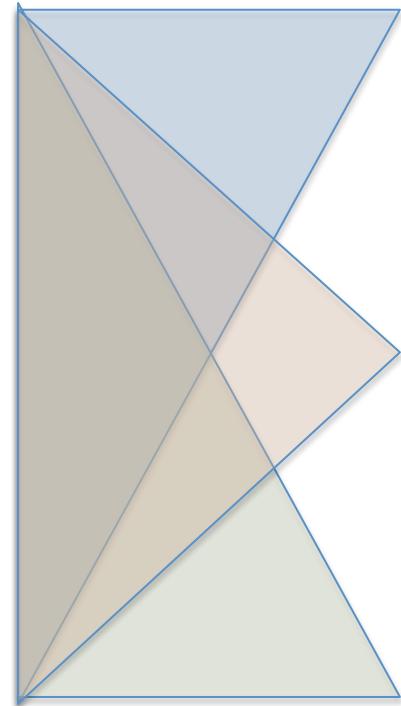


# Quantum Materials → Research Thrusts

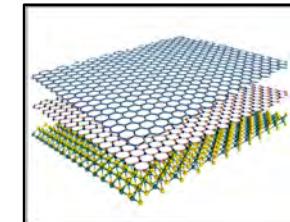
**Atomic  
Layers**

**Topological  
Insulators**

**NV Center  
Diamond**



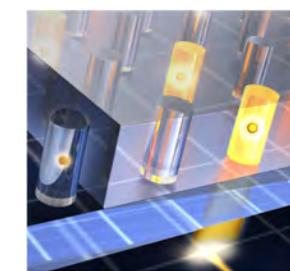
**Quantum Materials  
by Design**



**Quantum Electronics  
and Photonics**



**Atomic Scale  
Networks**



**Material**

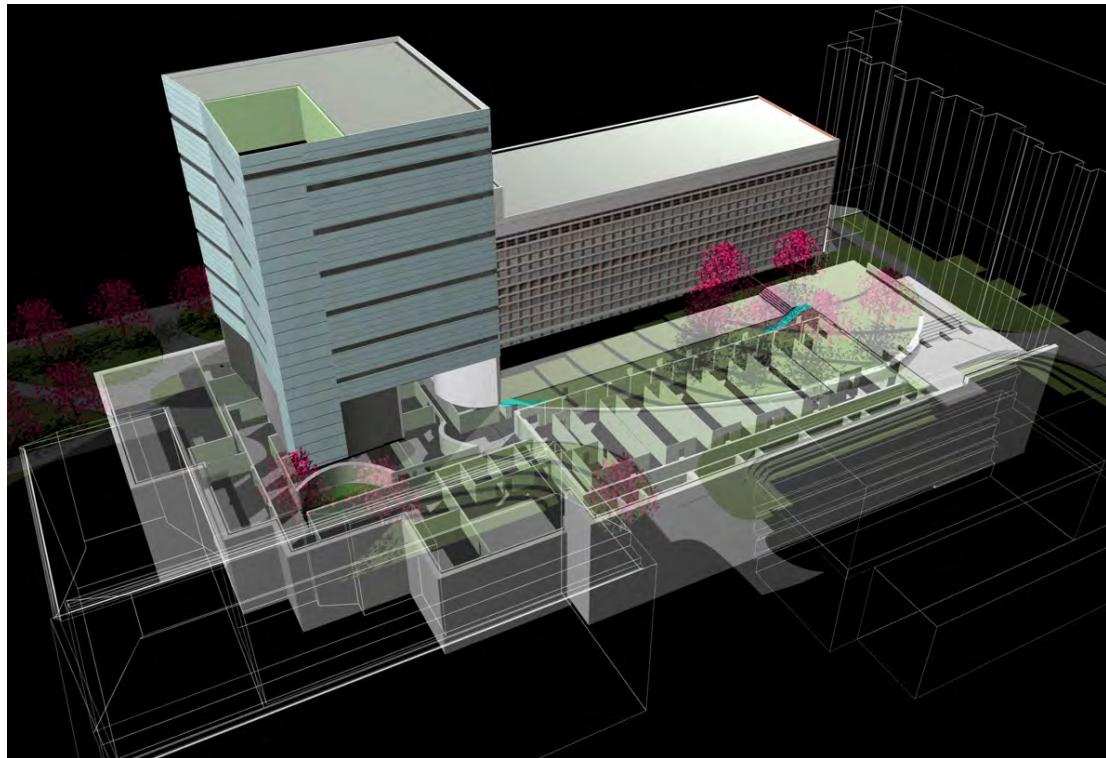
**Device**

**System**

timeline



# Center for Nanoscale Systems at Harvard



3 Story Building  
underground

10,000 sq ft Cleanroom  
for Quantum Materials

excellent imaging suite  
 $< 1 \text{ \AA}$ , TEM, STEM &  
Atom Probe

1500+ users

Bob Westervelt – CNS Director

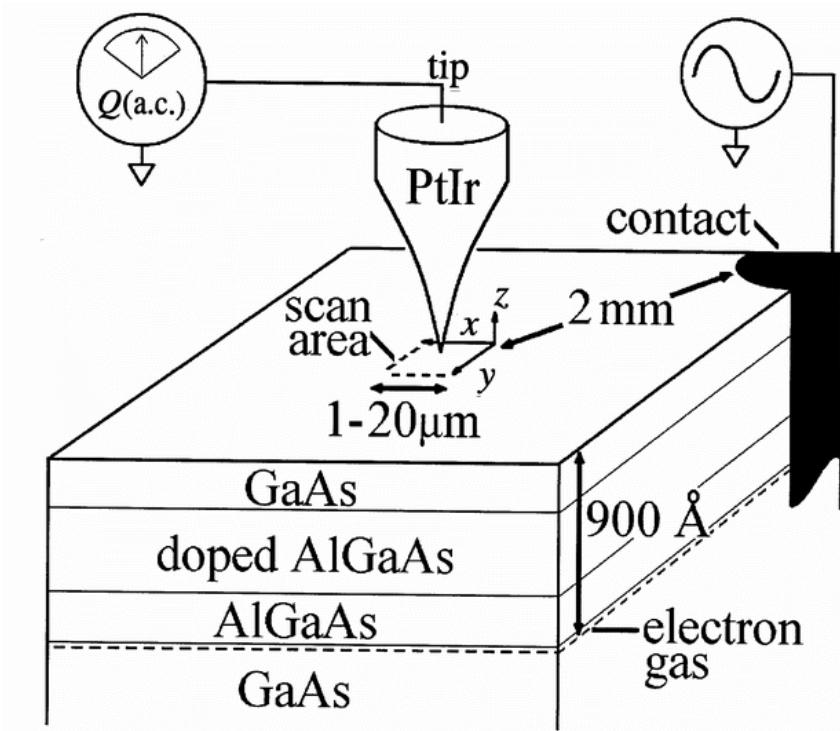
Bill Wilson - new CNS Executive Director  
previously led the Materials Research Lab  
at University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign



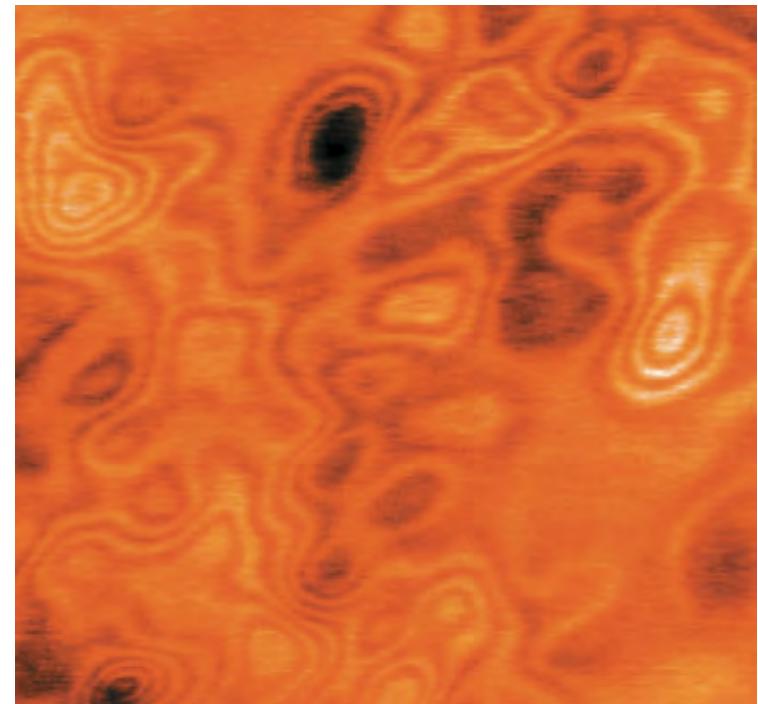
# Imaging Electron Motion in Nanostructures

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  - Imaging Magnetic Fields with an NV Center – Yacoby, Loncar
  - Imaging Electron Charge with an SET – Yoo, Fulton, Hess, Yacoby
- Imaging Electron Paths & Control of Quantum Dots
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# Subsurface Charge Accumulation Technique



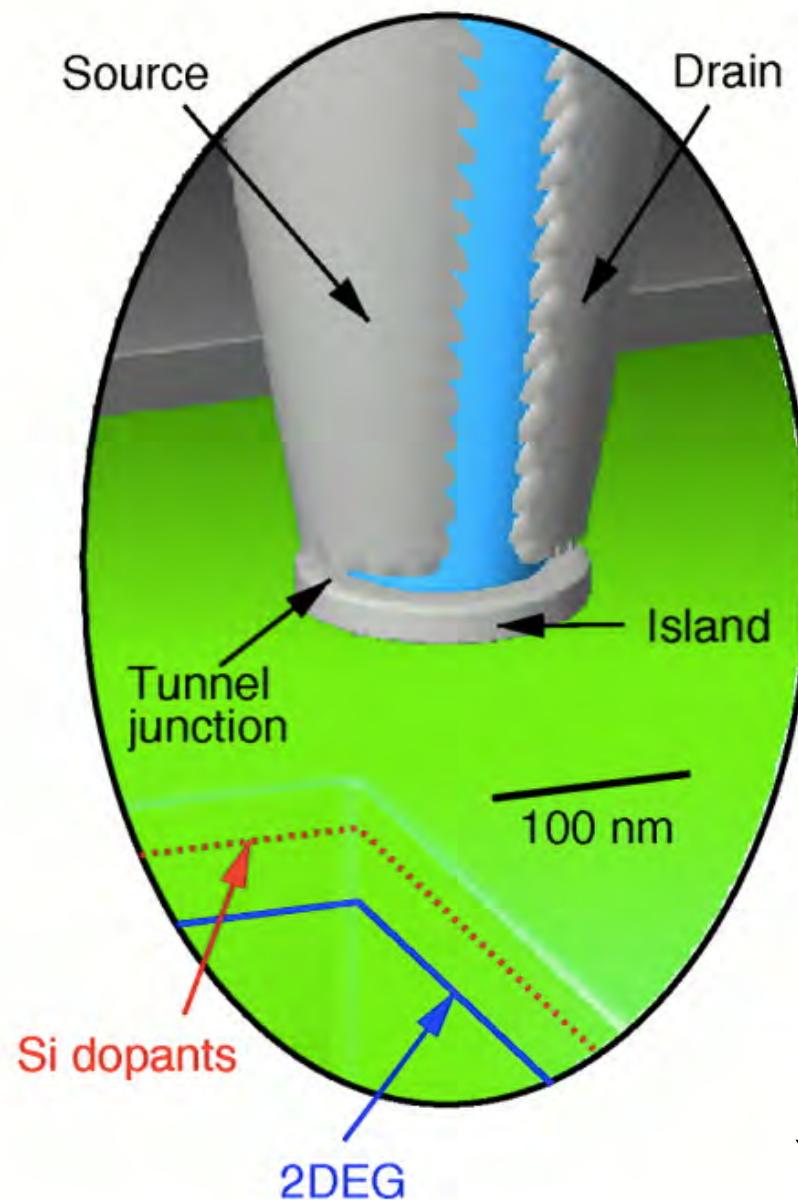
Capacitive imaging technique is based on the image charge induced in the electron gas by a scanned tip.



Subsurface Charge Accumulation image of quantum Hall liquid Landau level filling at low T in B.

Ashoori, Nature (1998); Science (2000).

# Imaging Electron Charge with an SET

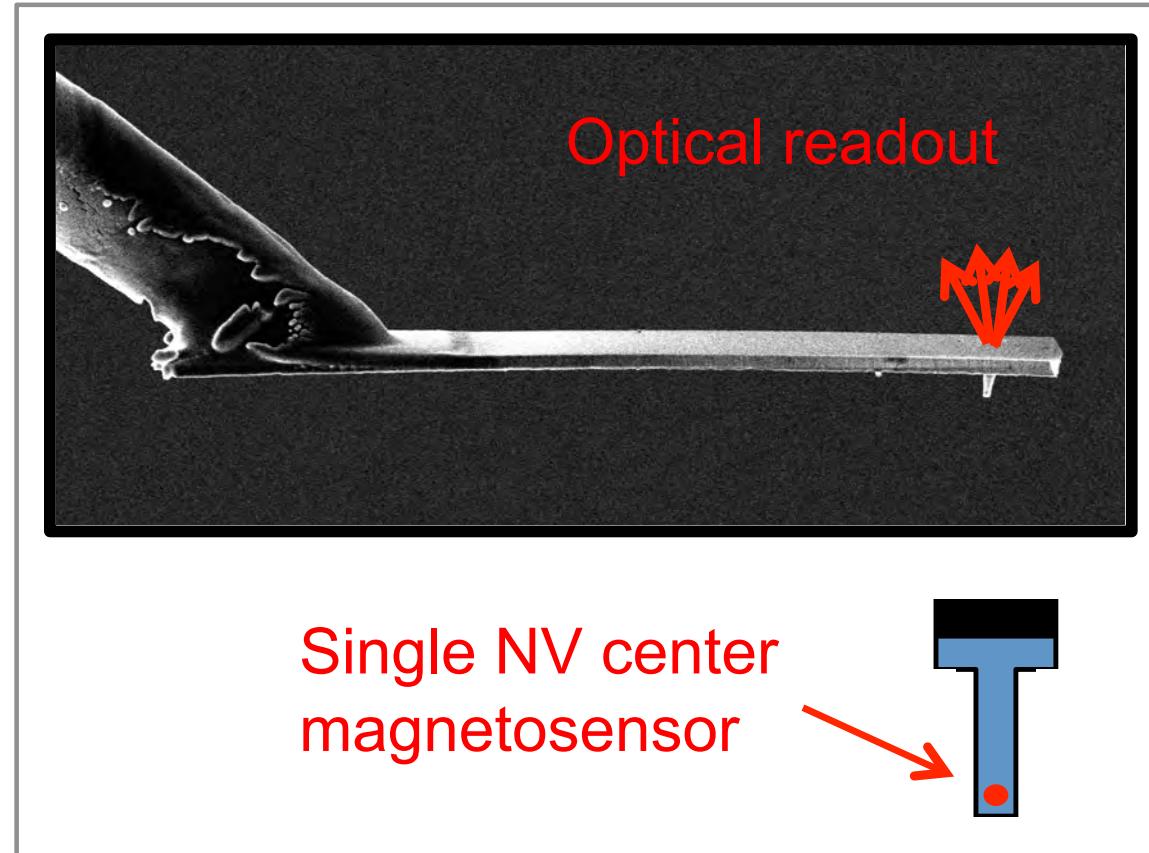


Ultra-sensitive single-electron transistor (SET) is fabricated on the end of an insulating probe via sequential metal evaporation.

The SET can sense a tiny fraction of an electron charge, and maps out the charge density as it is scanned across the sample.

Yoo, Fulton, Hess ... Science (1997)

# Ultrasensitive Scanned Magnetosensor based on a Diamond NV Center



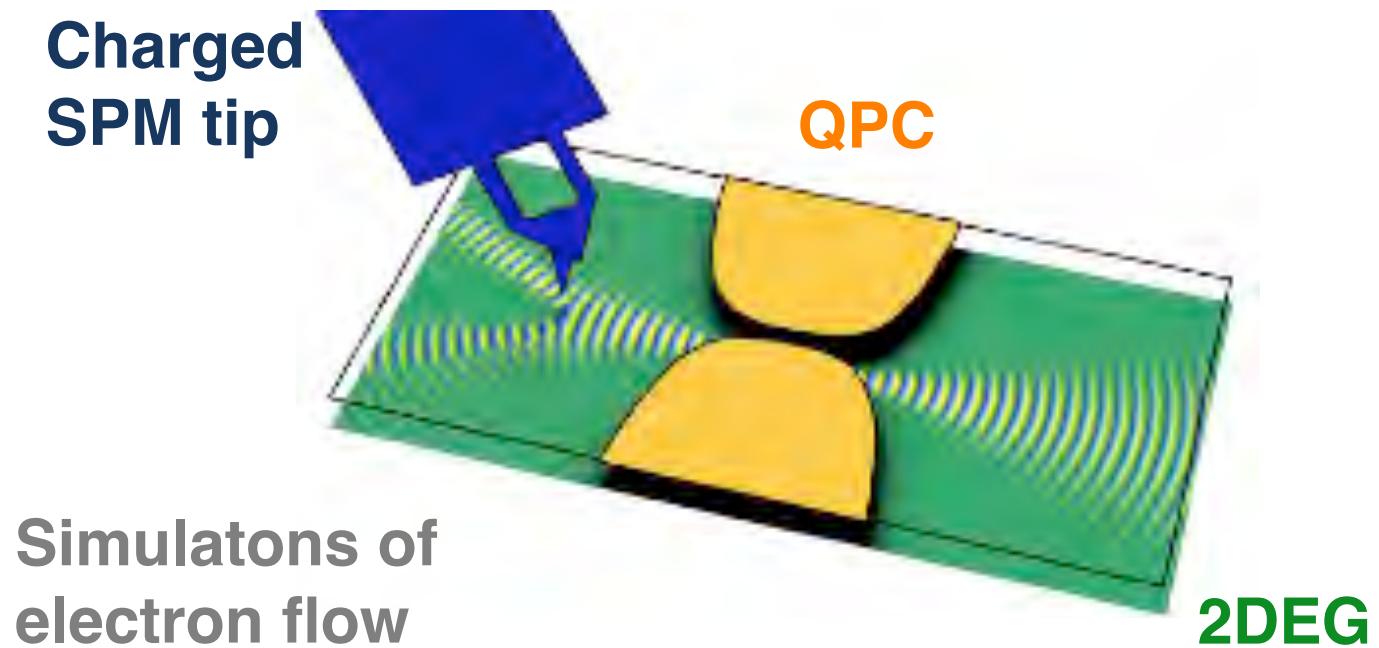
A nitrogen vacancy (NV) center in a diamond nanowire has ultrahigh sensitivity and spatial resolution.

Yacoby, Nature Nano. (2012)

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# Imaging Electrons in a GaAs/AlGaAs 2DEG

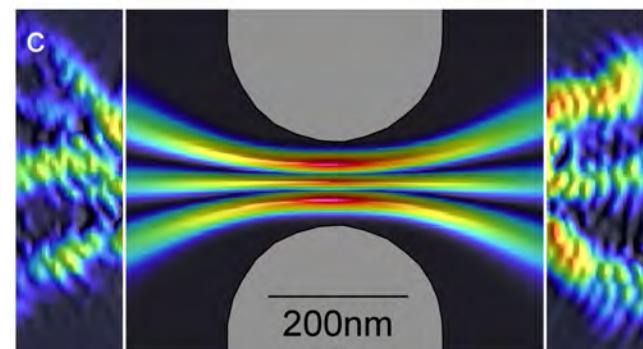
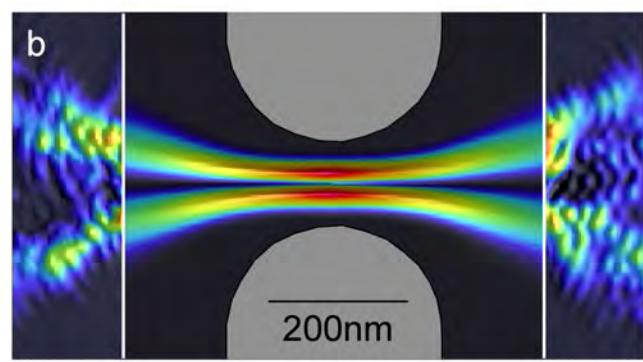
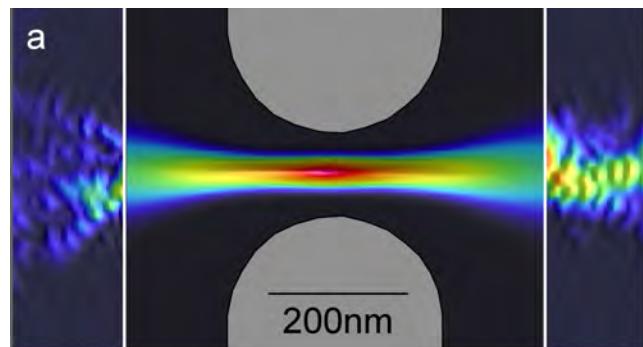
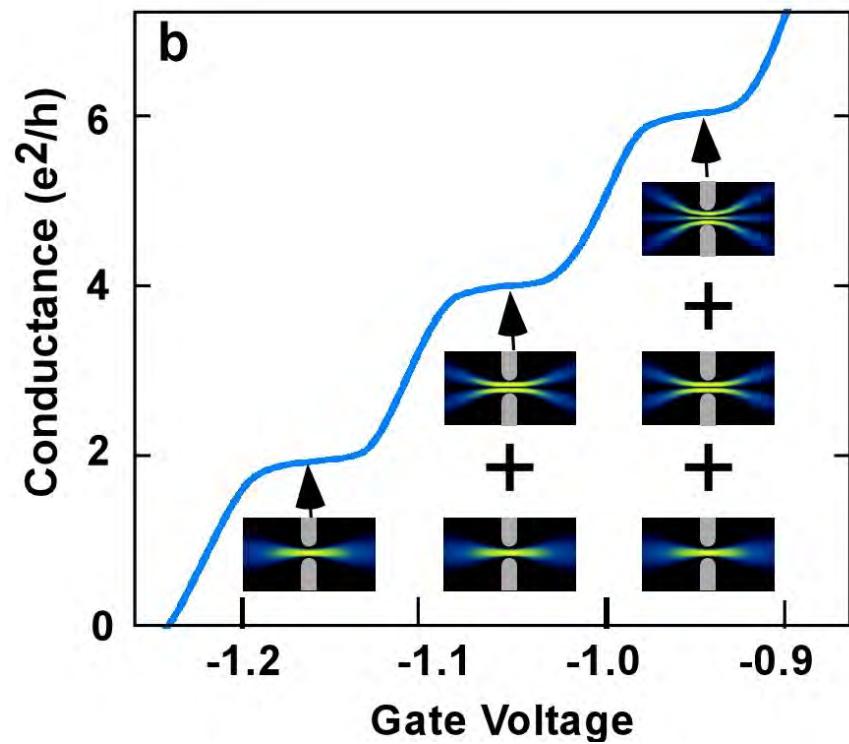


Electron waves flowing from a quantum point contact (QPC) are deflected by a charged SPM tip

Topinka *et al.* Nature 410, 183 (2001)

# Imaging Coherent Flow of Electrons from a Quantum Point Contact

Quantized Conductance Steps



Fringes demonstrate coherence

Topinka *et al.* Physics Today **56**, 47 (2003)

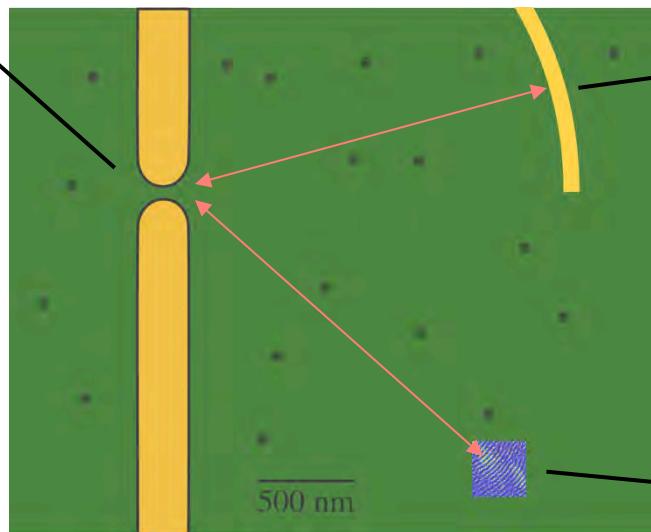
# Imaging Electron Interferometer

LeRoy *et al* PRL(2005)

Turning on the reflector creates fringes on the other leg of the V-shaped path

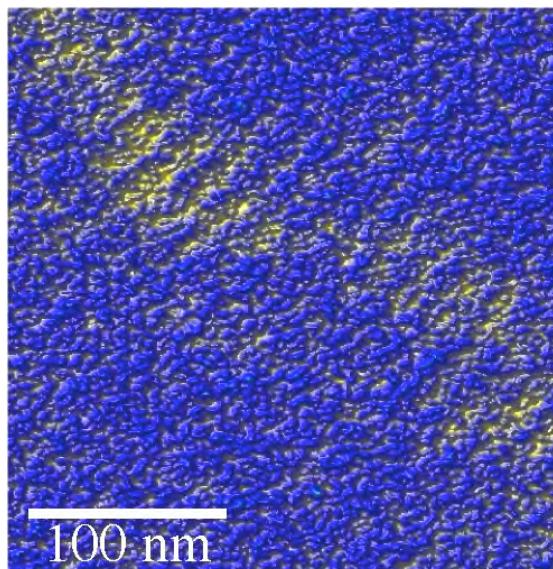
QPC

Reflector Gate

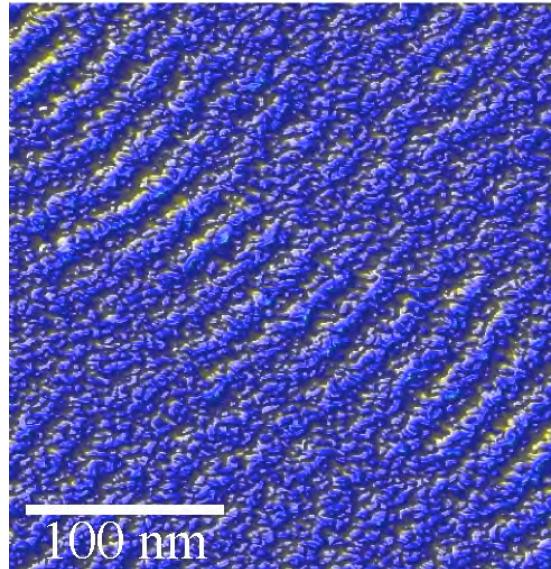


V-shaped path

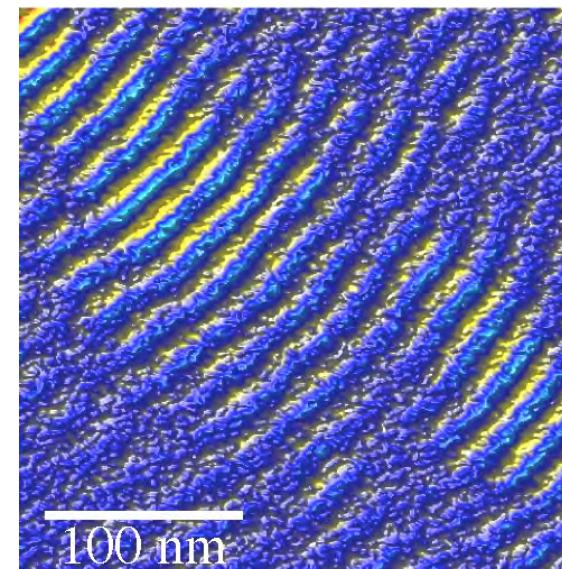
Scan Area



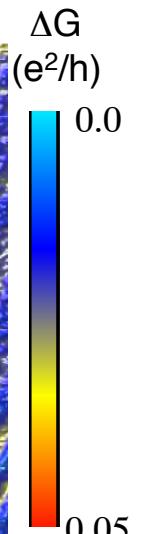
$V_{\text{refl}} = 0 \text{ V}$



$V_{\text{refl}} = -0.4 \text{ V}$



$V_{\text{refl}} = -0.8 \text{ V}$

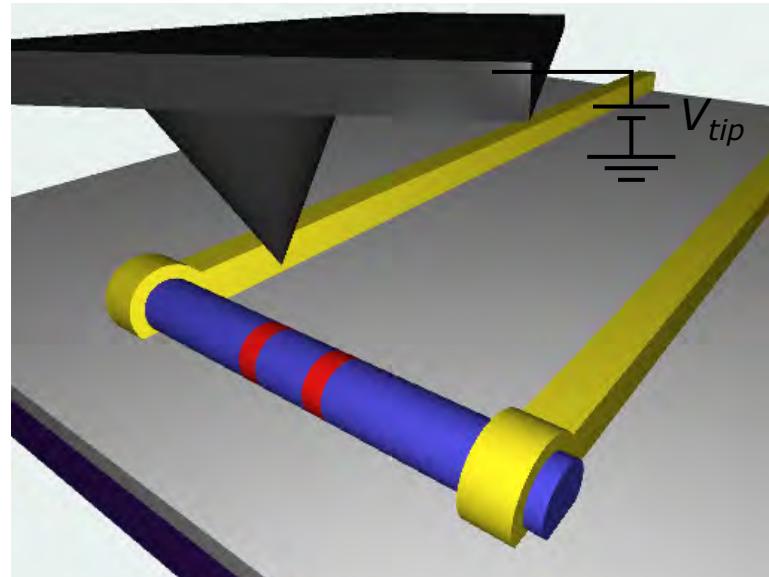


# Imaging a Quantum Dot in a Nanowire

SPM tip

InAs/InP Nanowire

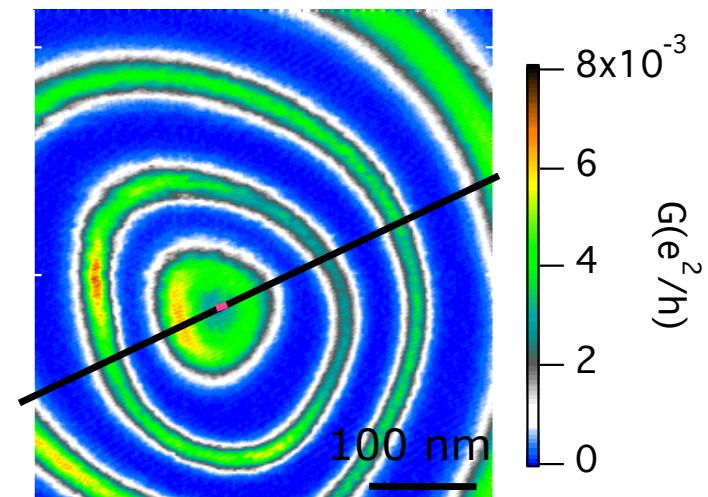
Conducting substrate



$T = 4.2 \text{ K}$

Insulating  
 $\text{SiO}_2$  layer

SPM image of  
InAs/InP nanowire



- Metallized tip is a movable gate
- Display dot conductance vs.  $r_{tip}$  for different  $V_{tip}$
- Conductance 'bullseye' locates dot and measures Coulomb blockade conductance

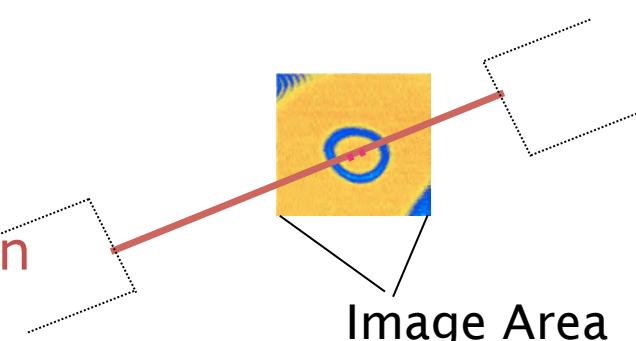
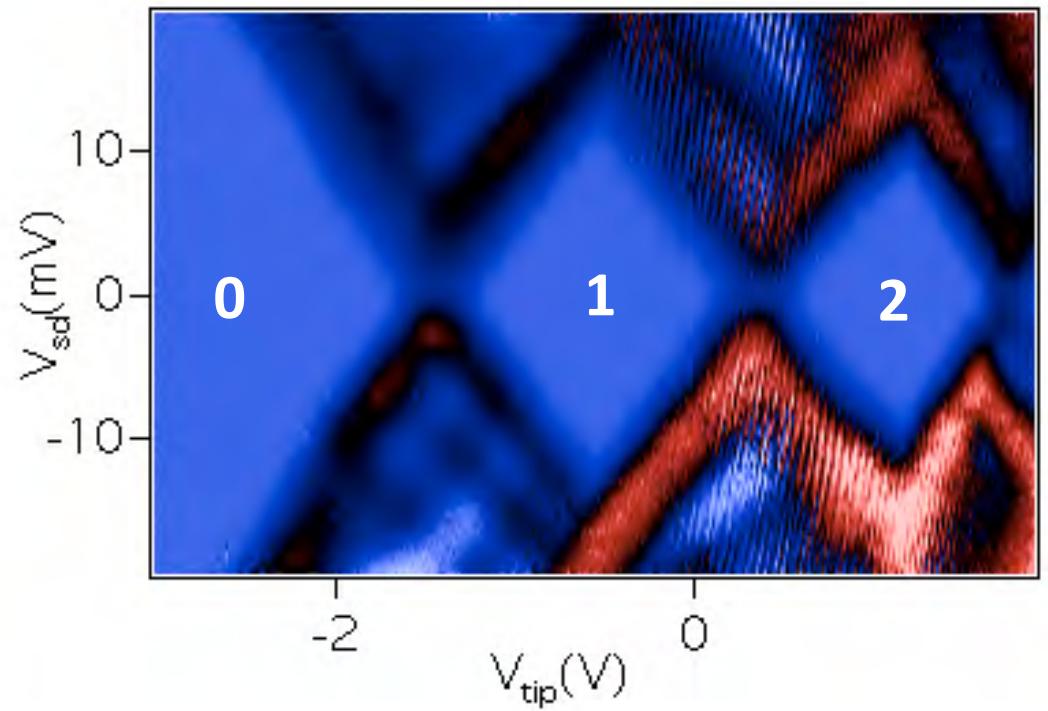
# Imaging the Nanowire Dot's Last Electron

$V_{\text{tip}}$  steps from -2.5 V to 1.75 V



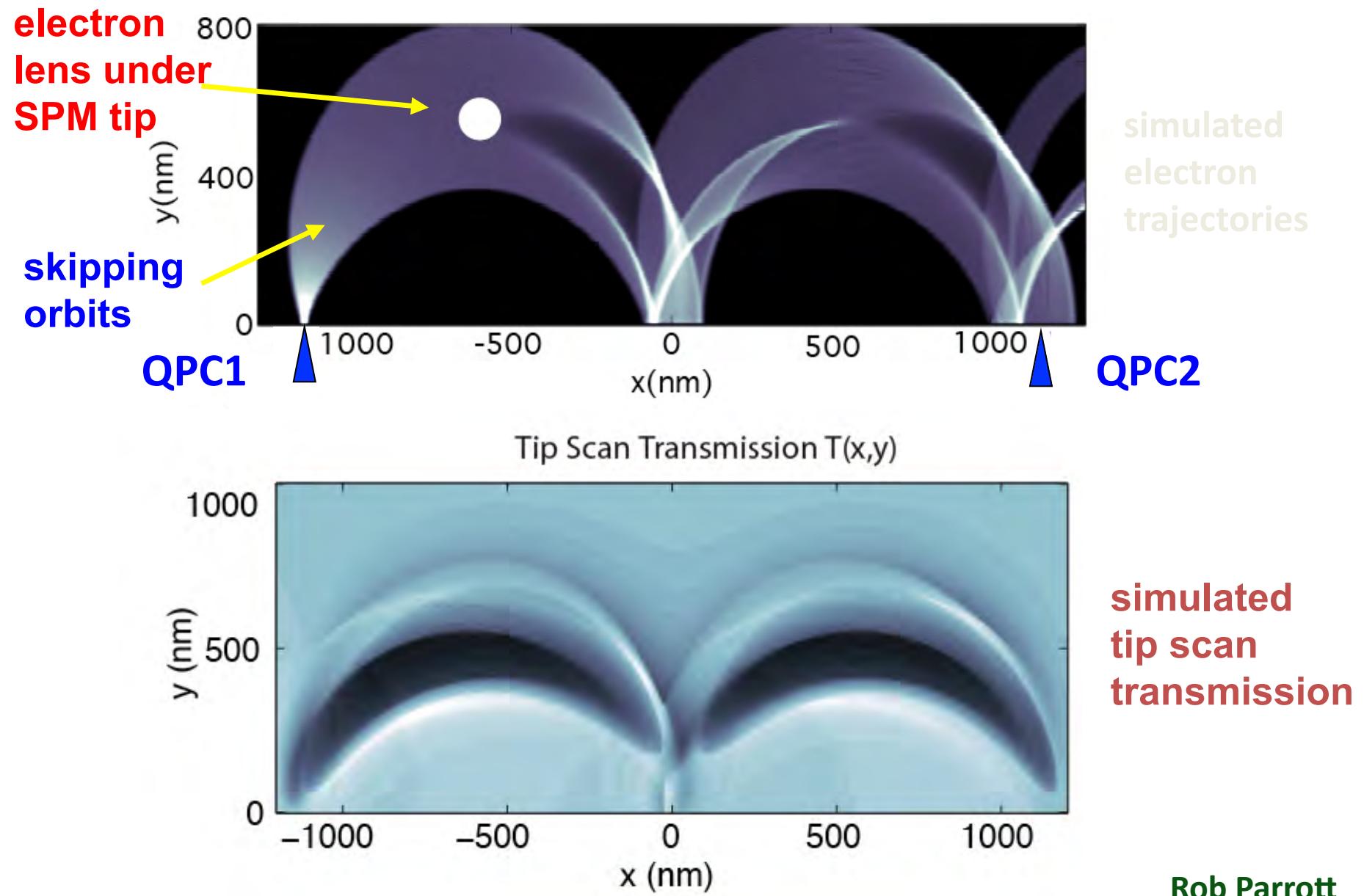
100nm

- Rings show addition of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> electron
- Rings shrink as  $V_{\text{tip}}$  increases



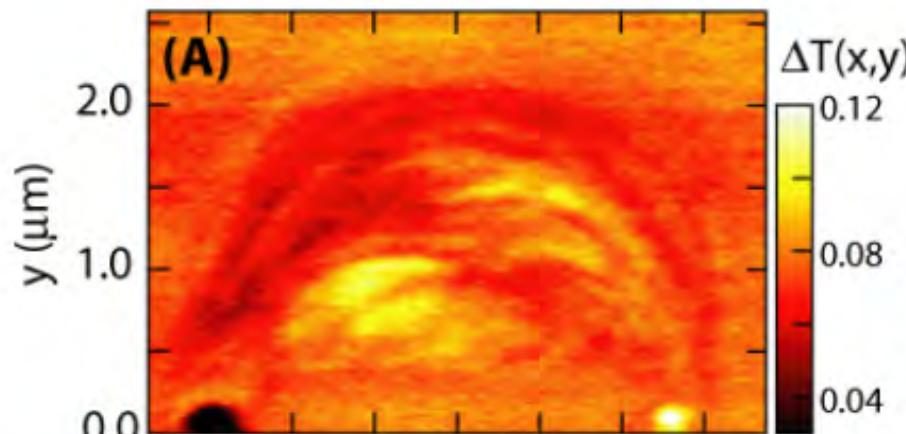
Bleszynski, Fröberg *et al.* (2007)

# Image Magnetic Focusing with an SPM Tip

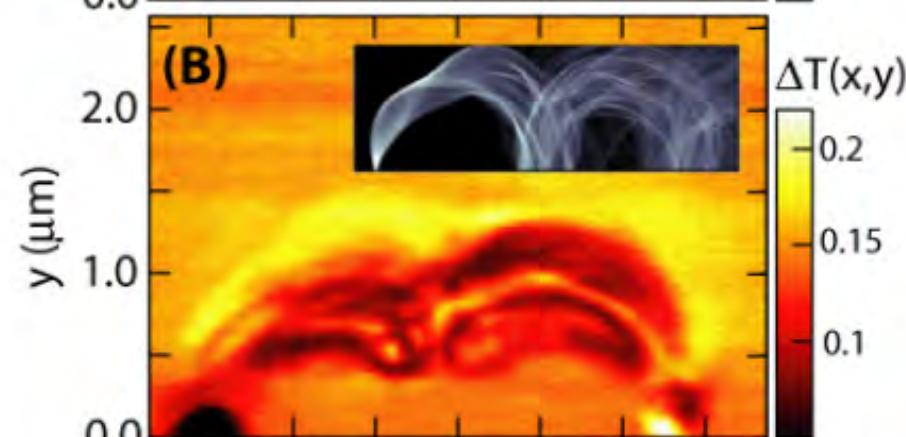


# SPM Magnetic Focusing Images

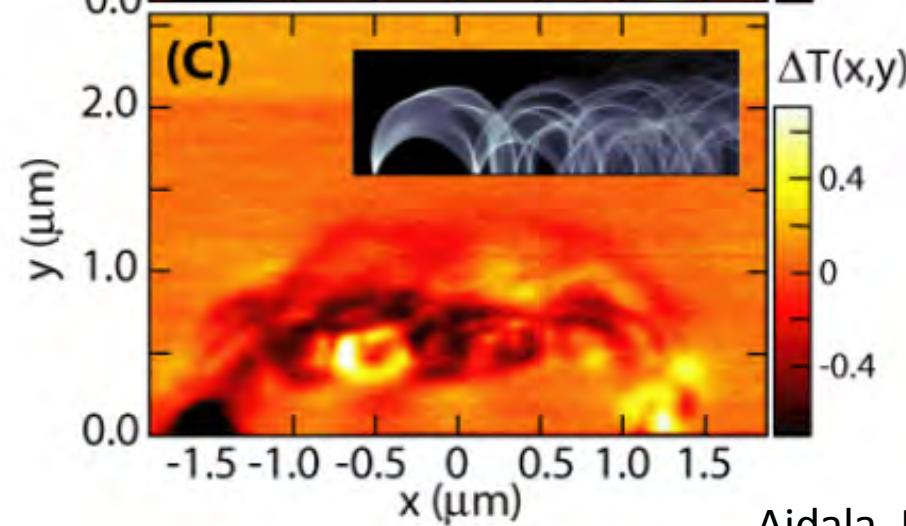
1st peak



2nd peak



3rd peak



insets are  
simulated  
trajectories



# Frontiers in Quantum Materials & Devices

*Atomic-scale Electronics & Photonics  
Spintronics & Quantum Information*

Science & Technology Center for  
Integrated Quantum Materials

Harvard Univ, Howard Univ, MIT, Museum of Science Boston

**May 21-22, 2015**

Harvard University  
Cambridge, MA  
[ciqm.harvard.edu](http://ciqm.harvard.edu)



## Speakers

**David Bell** (Harvard)  
**Marija Drndic** (Univ Pennsylvania)  
**Donhee Ham** (Harvard)  
**Yoshiro Hiroyama** (Tohoku Univ)  
**Jennifer Hoffman** (Harvard)  
**James Hone** (Columbia)  
**Hiroyuki Isobe** (Tohoku Univ)  
**Andras Kis** (EPF Lausanne)  
**Jelena Klinovaja** (Univ Basel)  
**Motoku Kotani** (Tohoku Univ)  
**Marko Loncar** (Harvard)  
**Hideo Ohno** (Tohoku Univ)  
**Tomas Palacios** (MIT)  
**Eiji Saitoh** (Tohoku Univ)  
**Yoshinori Tokura** (Univ Tokyo)  
**Tim Taminiau** (Delft Univ Tech)  
**Daniel Twitchen** (Element Six)  
**Qi-Kun Xue** (Tsinghua Univ)  
**Amir Yacoby** (Harvard Univ)