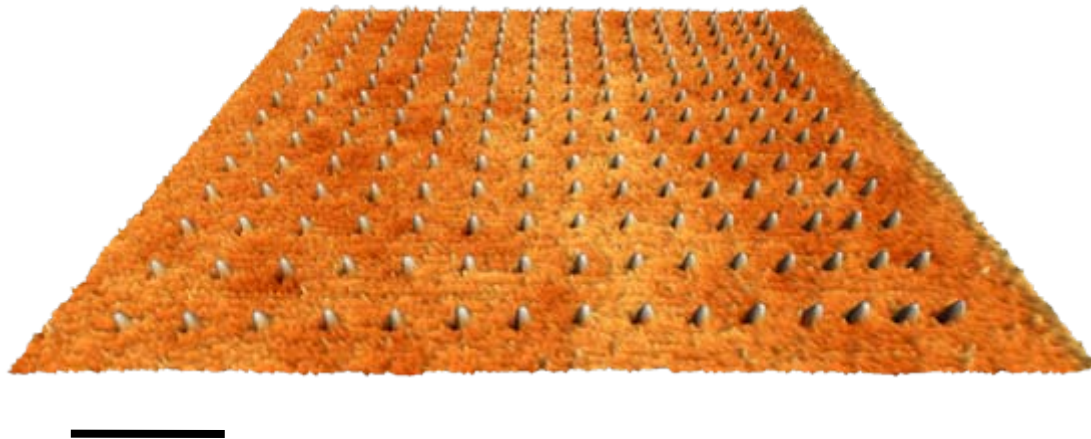


Liquid nanodispensing

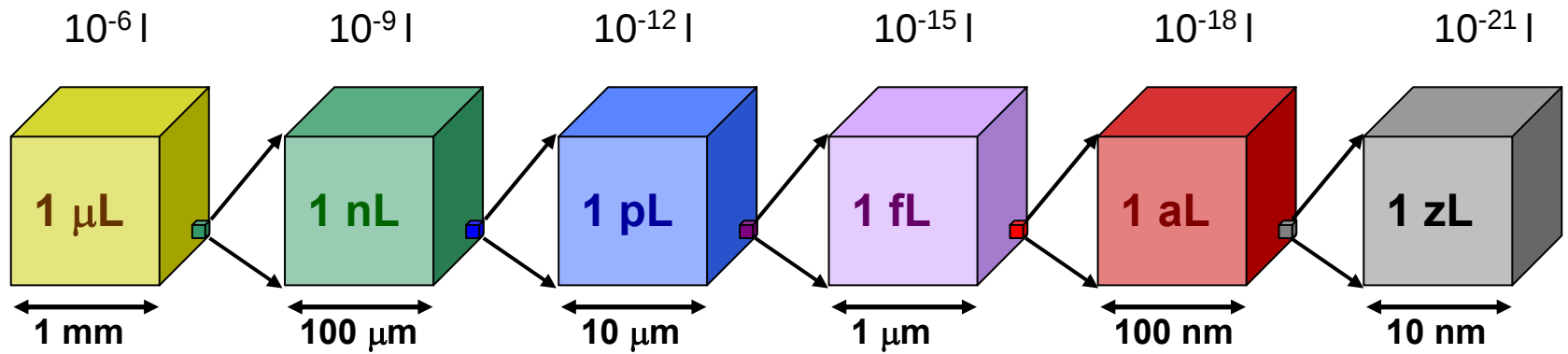
Thierry Ondarçuhu, Laure Fabié, Erik Dujardin, Aiping Fang

Nanosciences group, CEMES-CNRS, Toulouse (France)

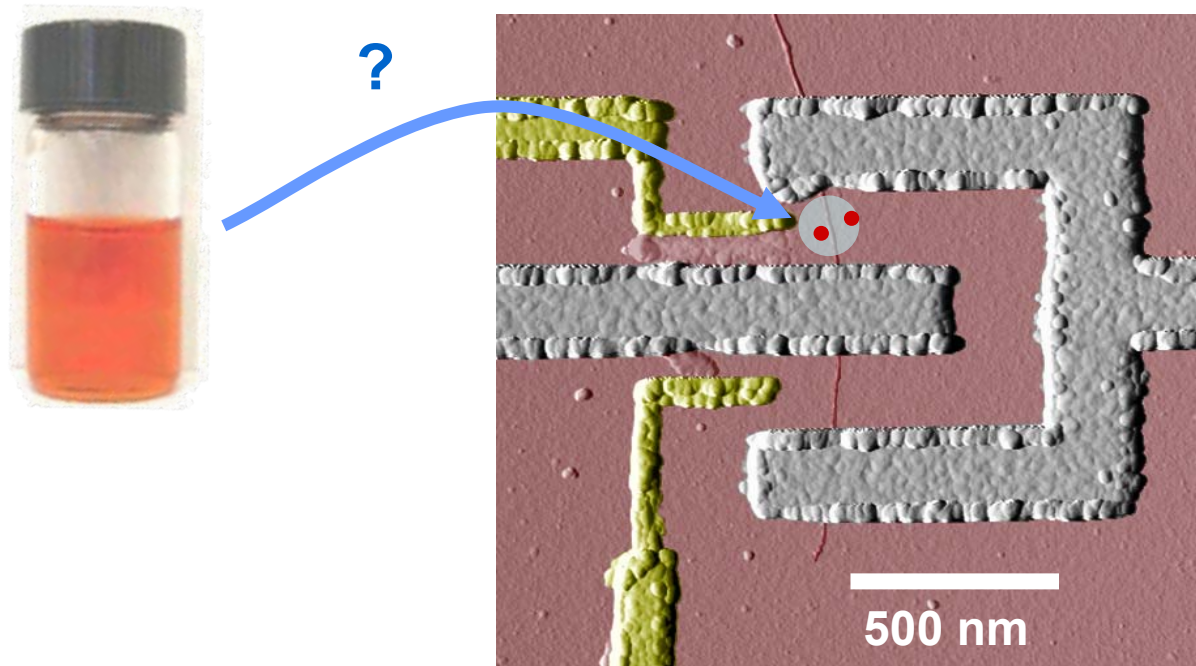


- Nanopatterning, molecule deposition
- Dynamics of liquids at sub-micron scale

Liquid volumes



Molecules deposition



JP Cleuziou, W. Wernsdorfer, V. Bouchiat, T.O., M. Monthieux, *Nature Nanotech* 2007

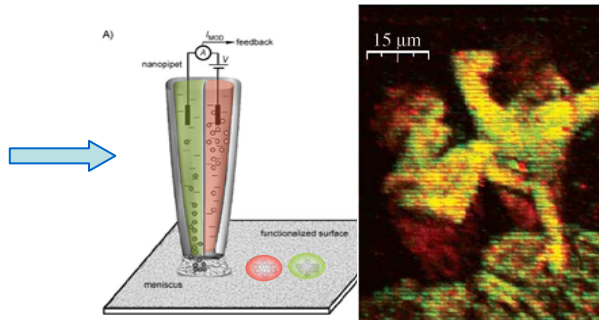
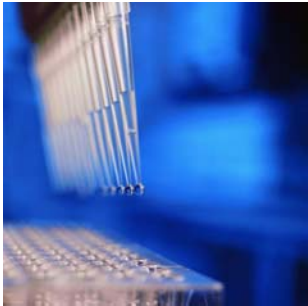
➤ Deposited volume : towards single molecule

$(100 \text{ nm})^3 = 1 \text{ attoliter } (10^{-18} \text{ l})$ of $1 \mu\text{M}$ solution ~ 1 solute molecule

➤ Positioning on nanostructures

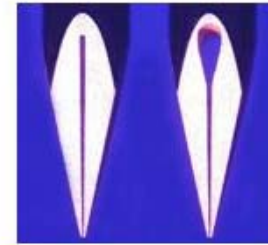
Direct patterning : liquid lithography

✓ Pipettes

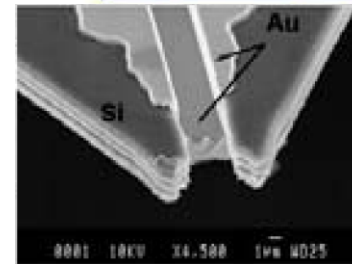


D. Klenemann et al., *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2005
Ionscope Ltd

✓ Pins

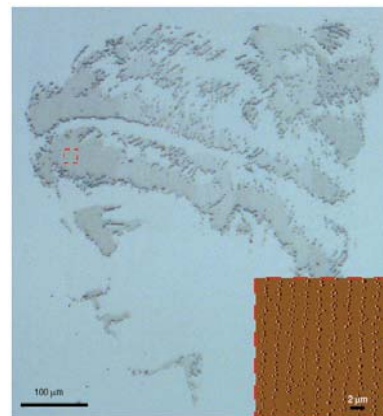
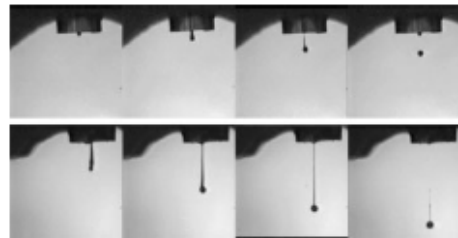


ArrayIt®



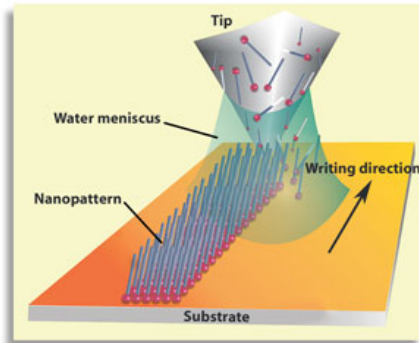
BioPlume (LAAS, Toulouse)
BioForce Nanosciences, Inc

✓ Ink-jet

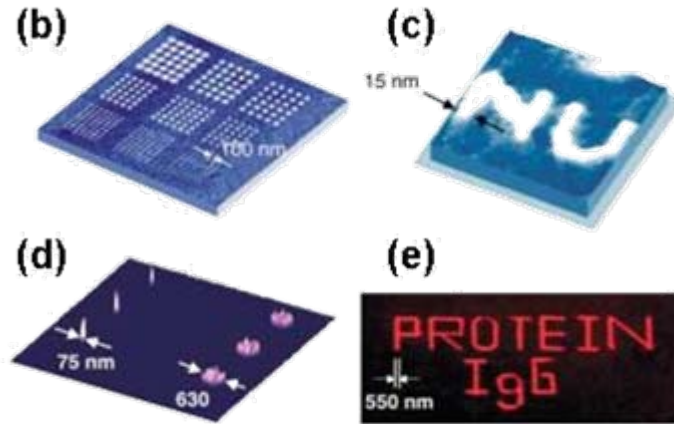


Park et al., *Nature Mat.* 2008

Dip pen nanolithography



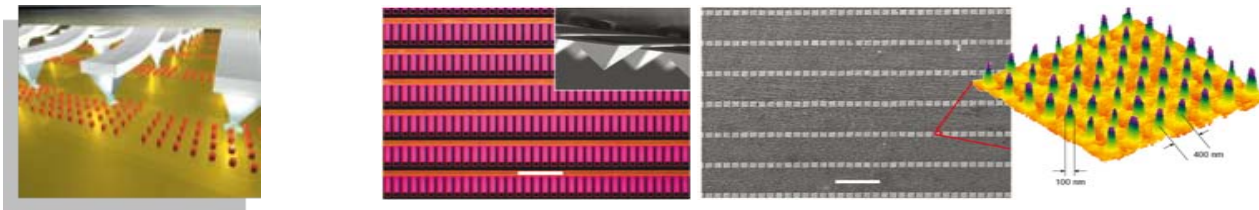
Piner, R. D. *Science* **1999**,
NanoInk, Inc



Review :

Salaita et al. *Nature Nanotechn.* **2007**

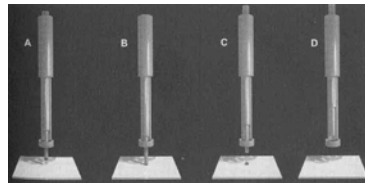
✓ Massive parallelisation



Methods

✓ Liquid lithography

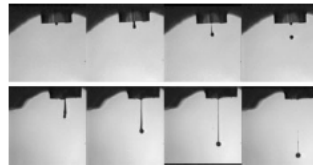
Pin and Ring method (DNA chips)



~ 200 μm

Ink jet

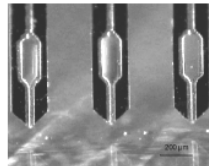
De Gan et al., *Adv Mat* 2004



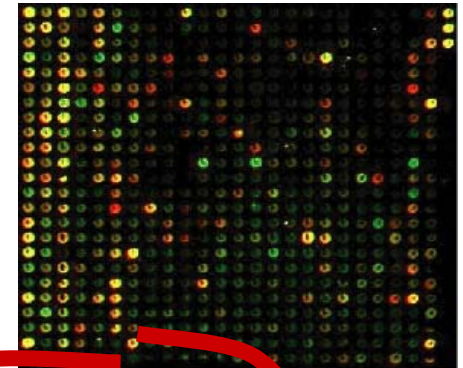
1 μm

Microlever plotters

Belaubre et al., *APL* 2003



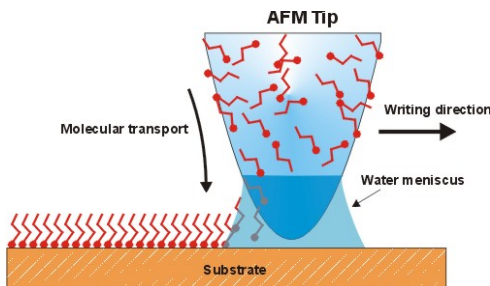
Few μm



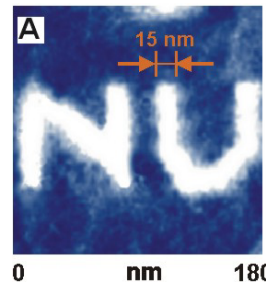
+ Versatile

-- $\emptyset \sim 1$ to 200 μm

✓ Dip pen lithography



Piner et al., *Science* 1999
Hong, Mirkin, *Science* 2000



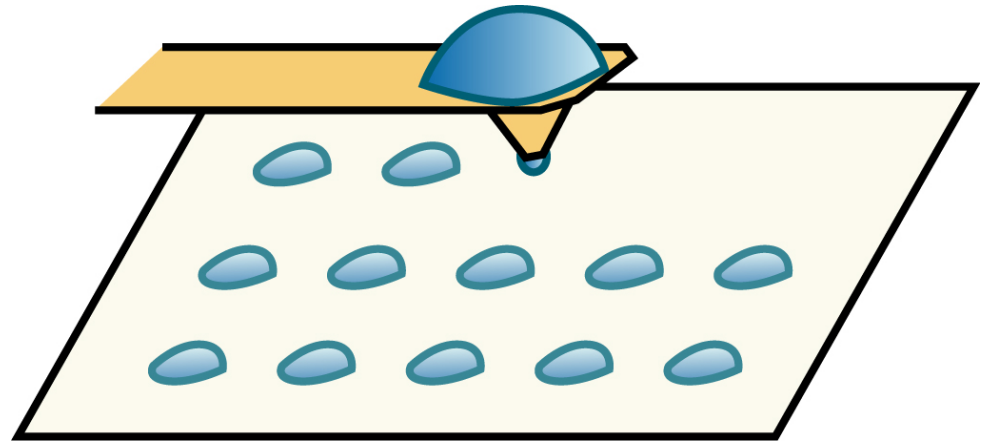
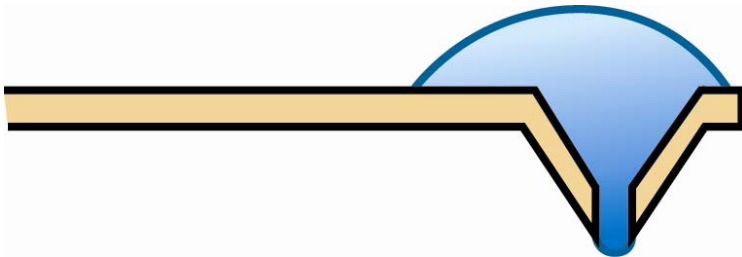
+ $\emptyset \sim 10$ nm

-- Limits in terms of transferrable molecules

-- No reservoir

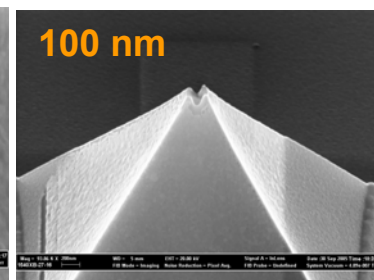
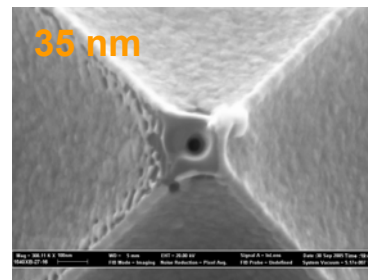
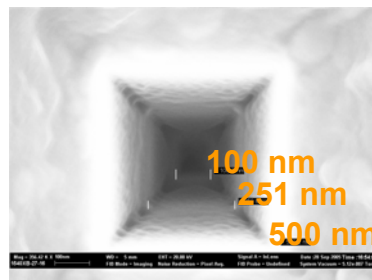
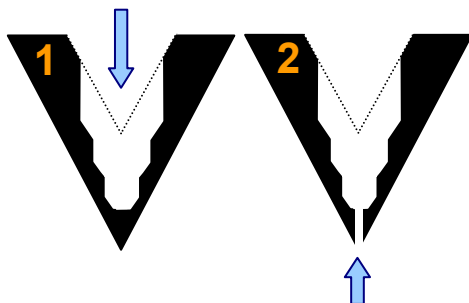
NADIS : liquid NAno DISpensing

Meister et al, *Appl. Phys. Lett.* 2004
A. Fang, E. Dujardin, T.O., *NanoLett* 2006

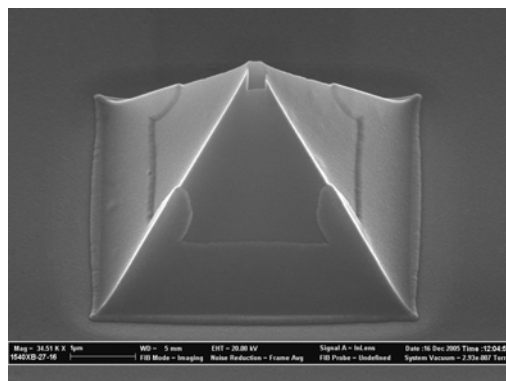


Fabrication of NADIS tips by focused ions beam (FIB)

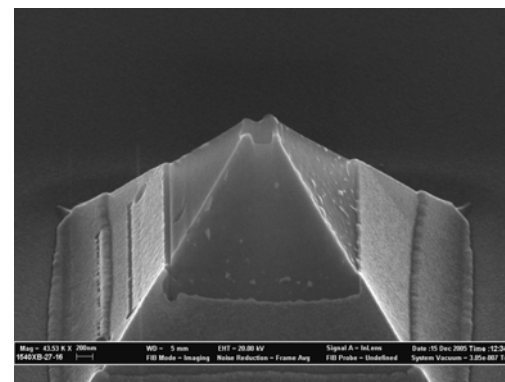
- ✓ **2 steps :** (i) *Thinning of tip wall from the top* (ii) *milling at tip apex from tip side*
(record : **35 nm**)



- ✓ **Surface functionalization**



Intact smooth gold surface
(for thiolate chemistry)



Smooth Si_3N_4 surface
for silane chemistry

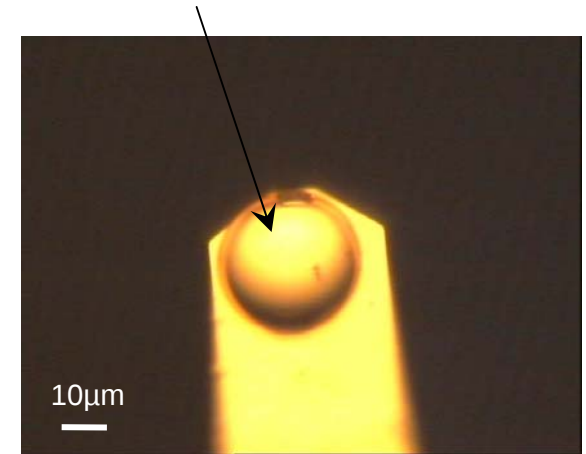
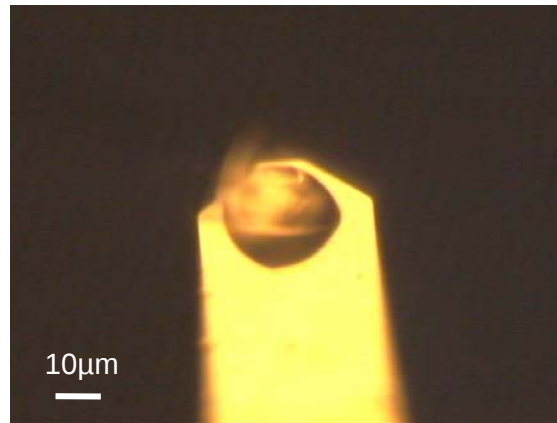
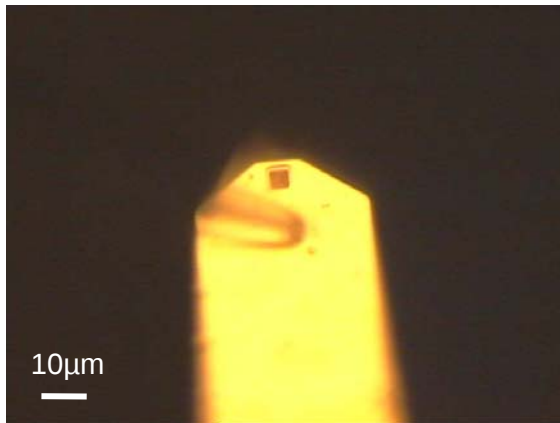
Deposition procedure

➤ Liquid

Glycerol ou glycerol-water mixtures (dilution max 6:4)

Solutions of molecules, dendrimers, proteines, nanoparticules...

➤ Loading of reservoir

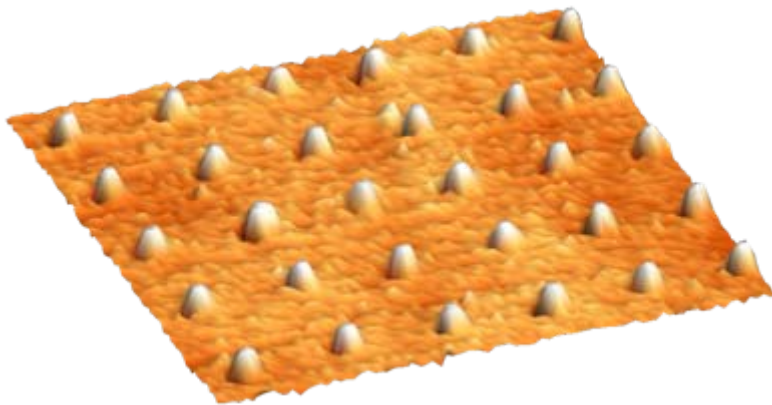


**Droplet deposited with a micropipette
and micromanipulator**

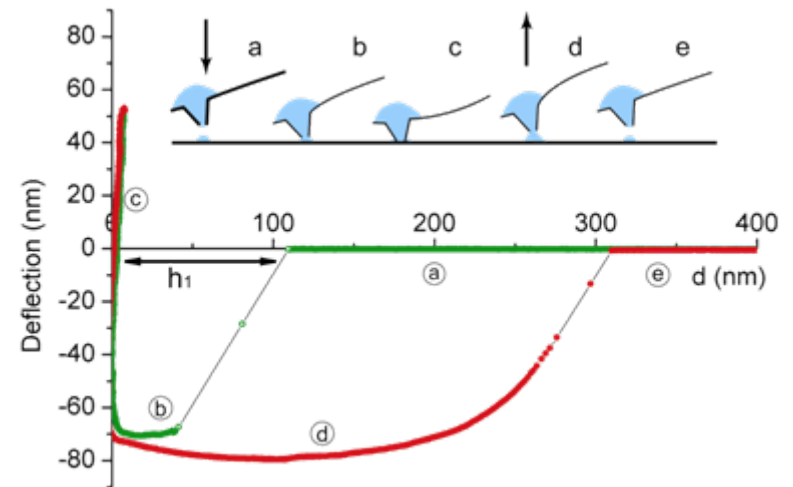
Deposition procedure

➤ AFM Multimode Picoforce in force curve mode

✓ Imaging of molecules spots

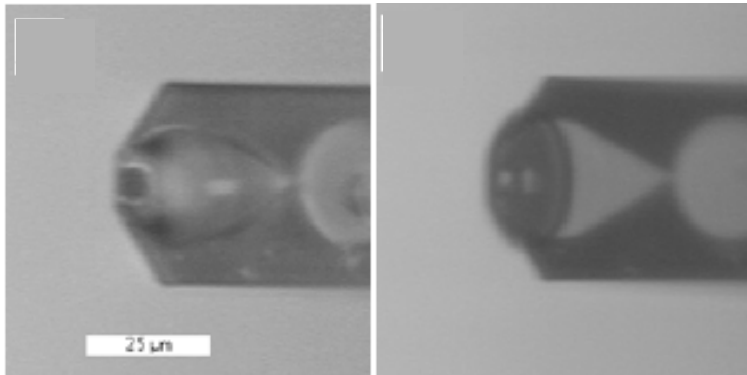
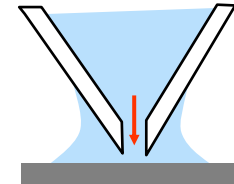


✓ Force curve



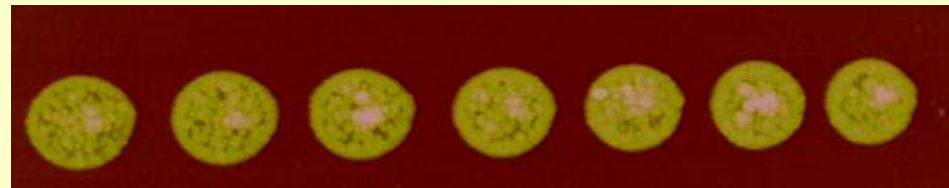
Influence of substrate properties

- **Hydrophilic tip** with 400 nm aperture



- **On hydrophilic SiO₂**

- **On NH₂-treated SiO₂**
($\theta_{av} = 53^\circ$)



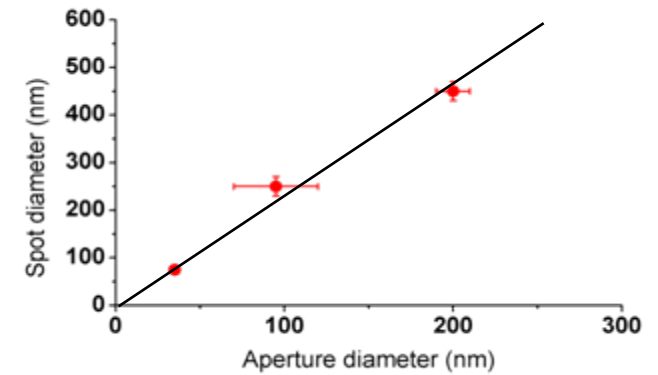
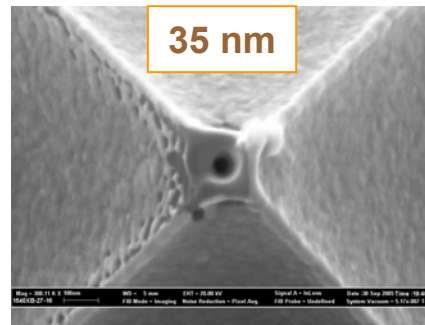
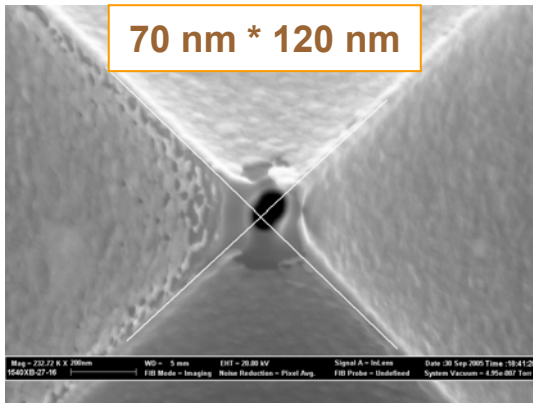
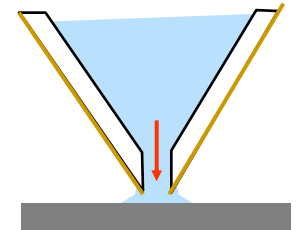
1 μm

- **On CF₃-treated SiO₂**
($\theta_{av} = 105^\circ$)

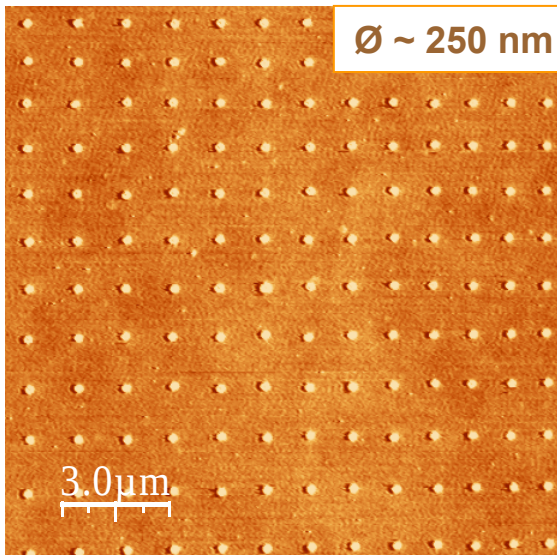


Ultimate dimensions : hydrophobic tips

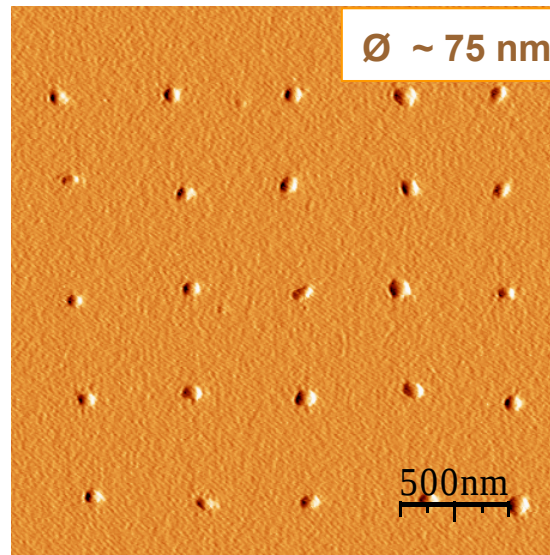
➤ **Hydrophobic tips** (functionalized by dodecanethiol)



Ø ~ 250 nm



Ø ~ 75 nm

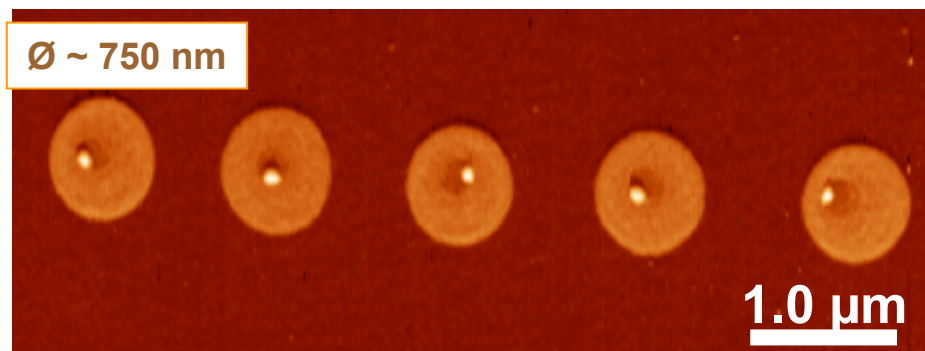
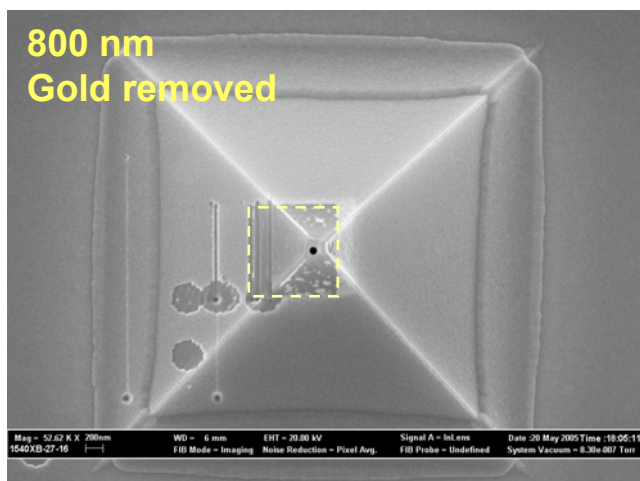
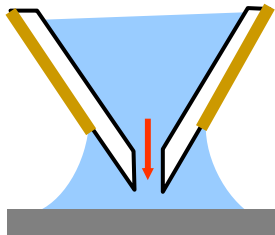


Spot diameter ~ 2x aperture diameter

A. Fang, E. Dujardin, T.O., *NanoLett* (2006)

Intermediate sizes

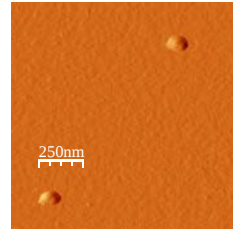
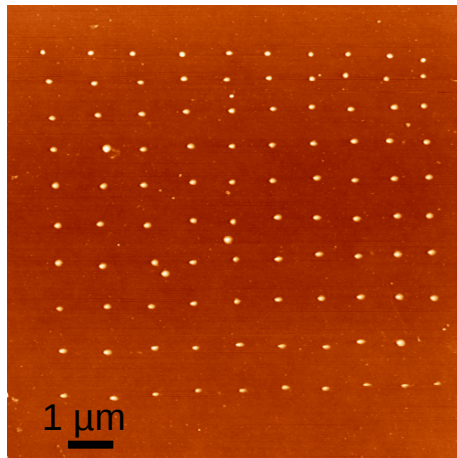
➤ Mixed tips



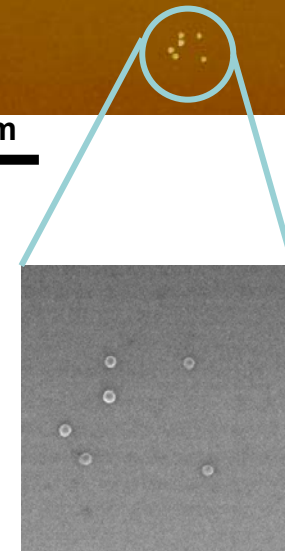
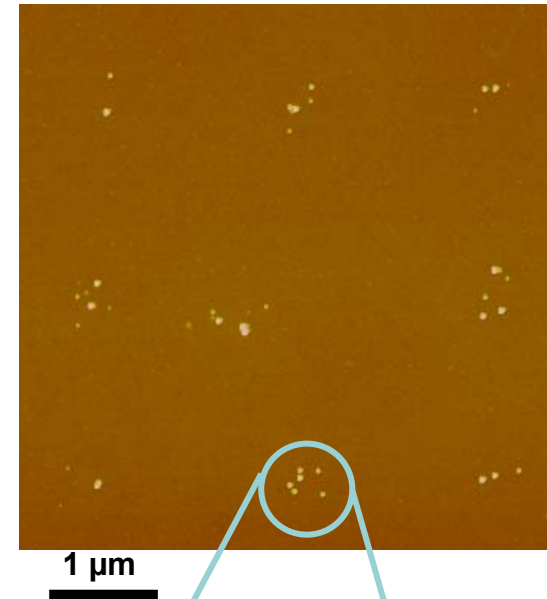
Spot diameter ~ size of hydrophilic region

Patterning of nanoparticles and proteins

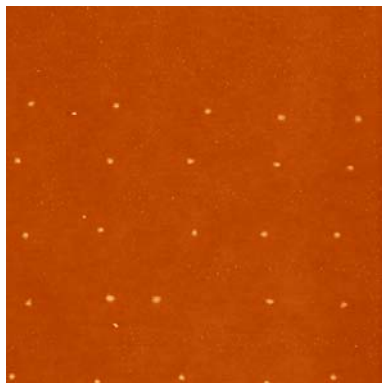
➤ DsRed proteins



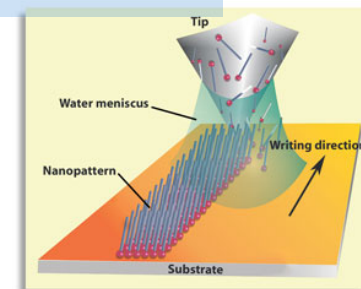
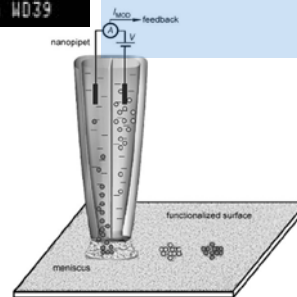
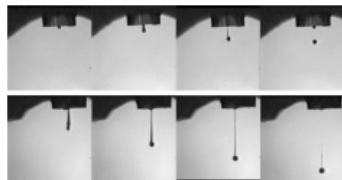
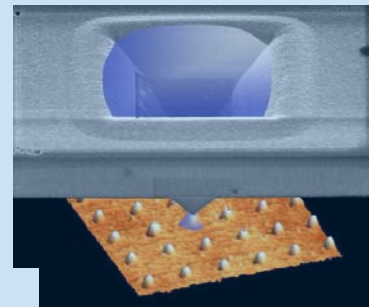
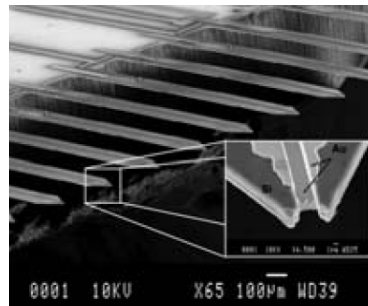
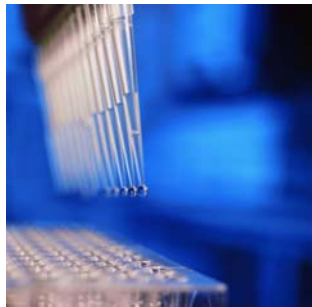
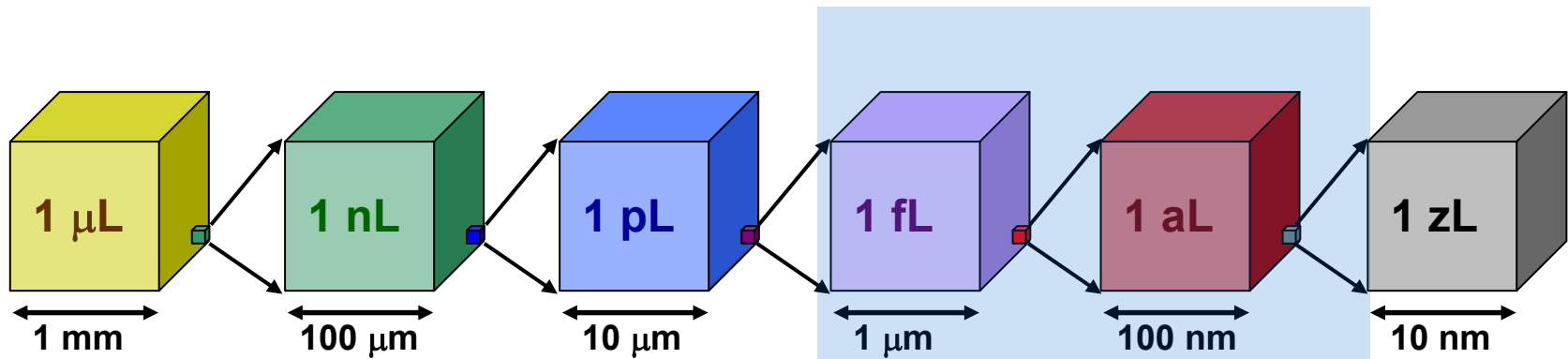
➤ 25 nm PS NPs



➤ EGFP proteins



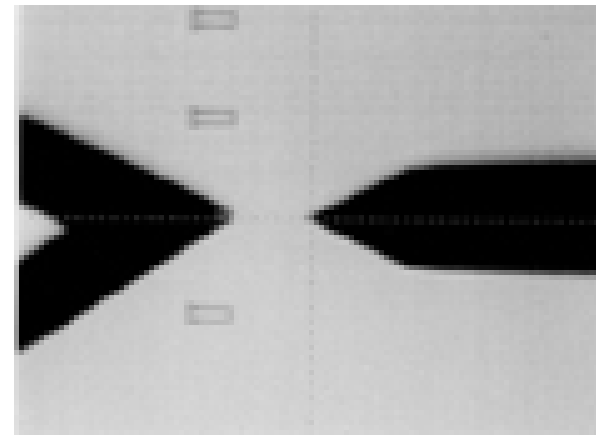
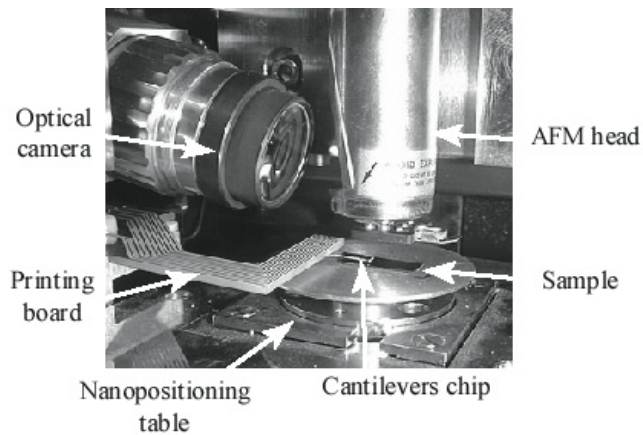
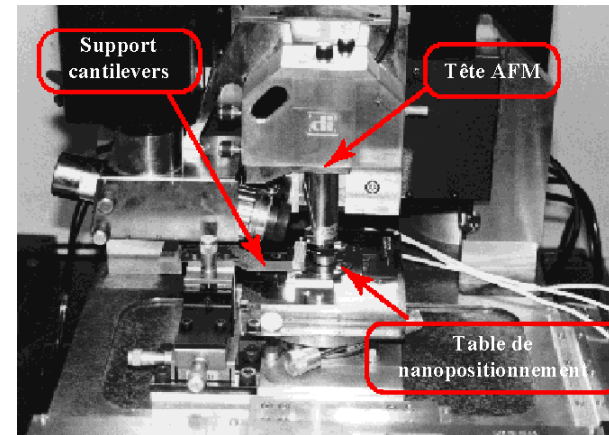
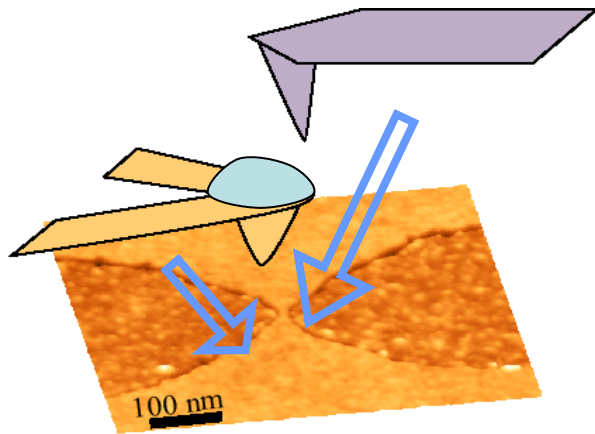
Comparison with other liquid dispensing methods



Deposition set-up

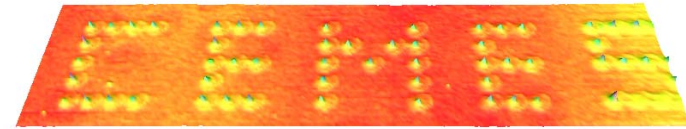
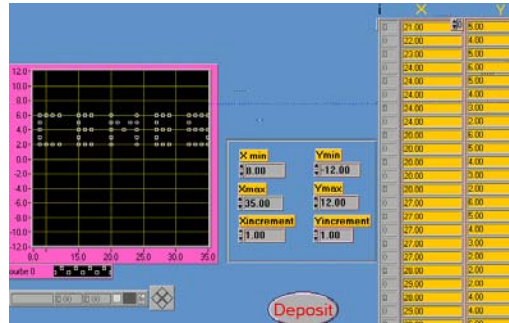
Ondarçuhu et al., *Rev. Sci. Instr.* 2000

➤ Set-up with two AFM tips



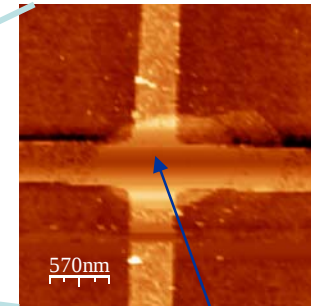
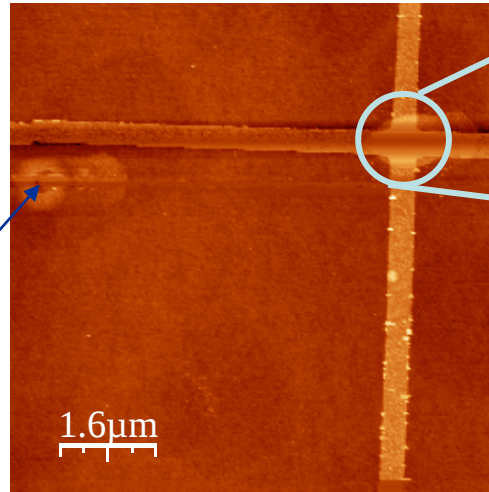
Deposition set-up

➤ Automated deposition



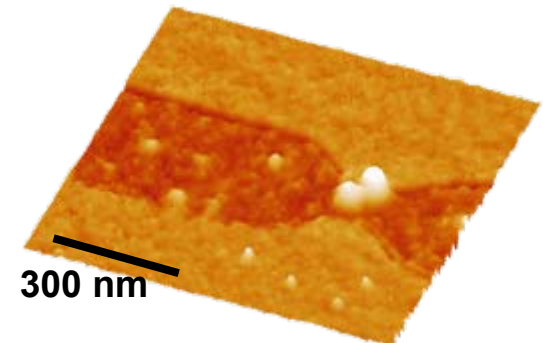
➤ Nanopositioning at a predefined place

1- Reference droplets



2- Droplet deposited on electrodes

Position accuracy : $\Delta x, \Delta y \sim 100 \text{ nm}$



Limitation

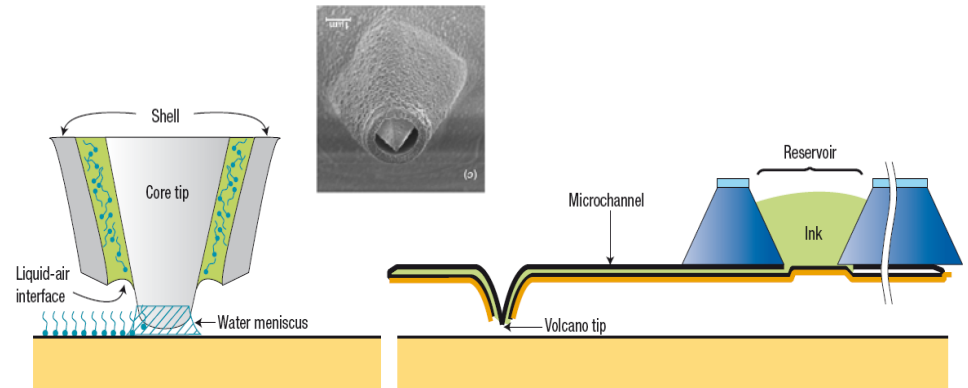
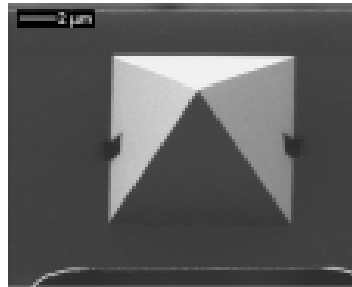
➤ Evaporation of the open reservoir

Cantilevers with integrated microfluidic channel

Ex : NanoFountain pen

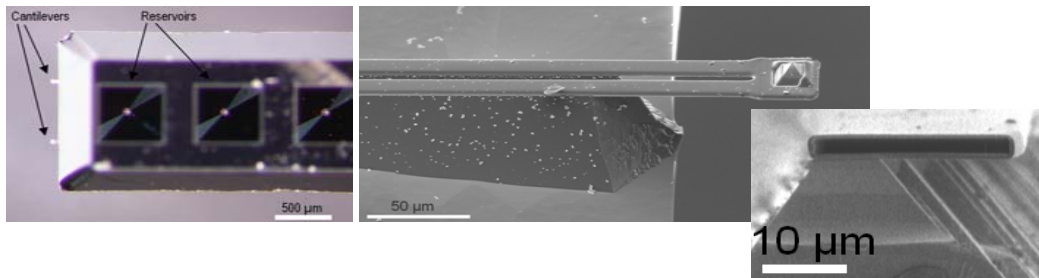


Deladi et al., *J. Micromech. Microengin.* 2005

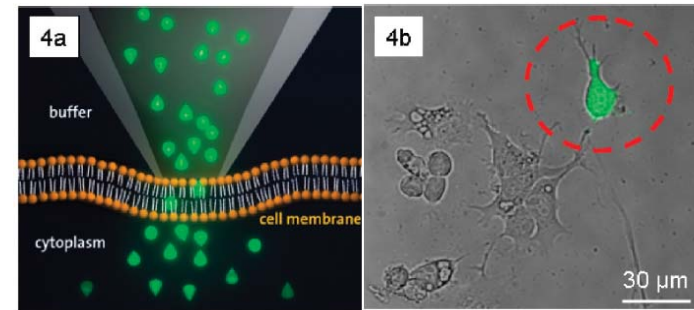


Kim et al., *Small* 2005

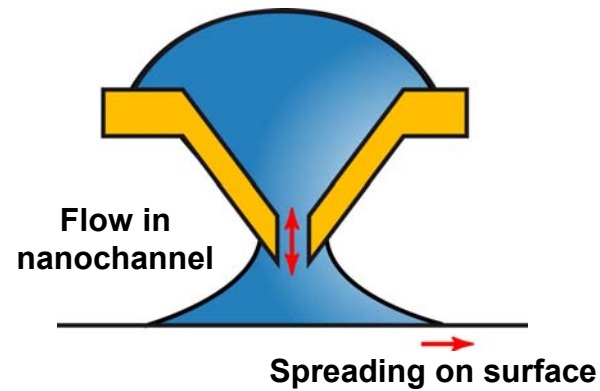
FluidFM



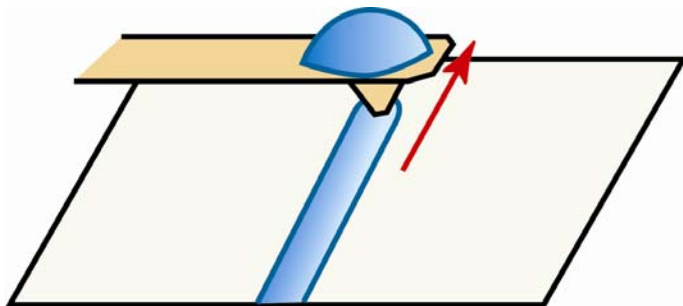
Meister et al., *NanoLett* 2009



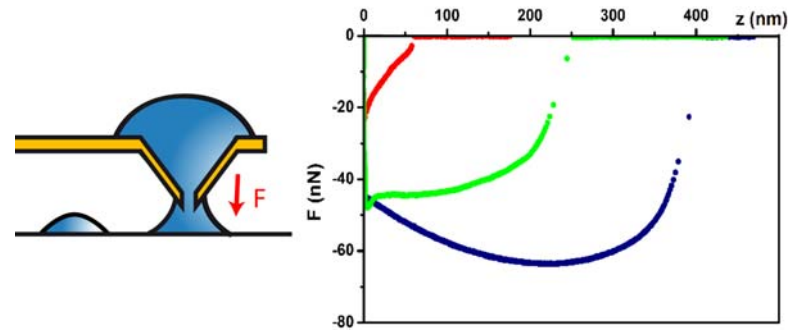
Liquid transfer mechanism



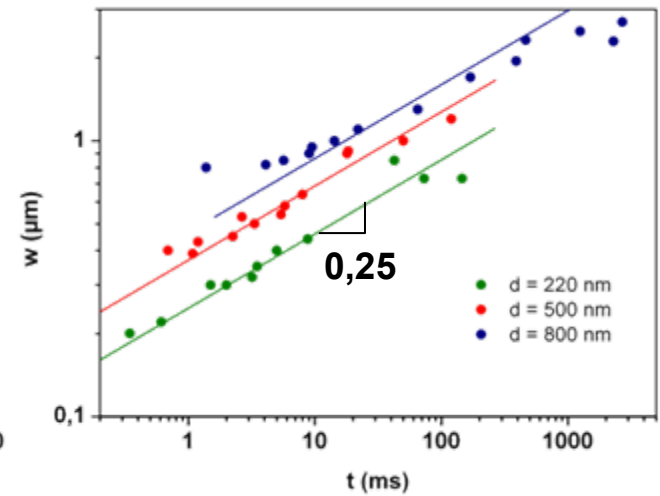
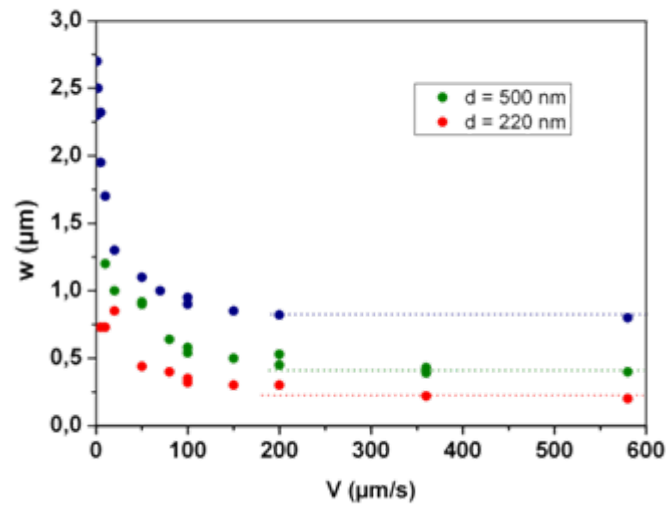
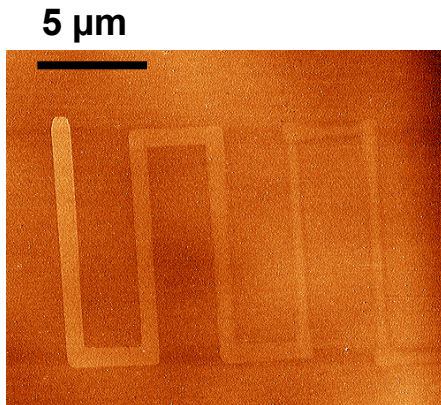
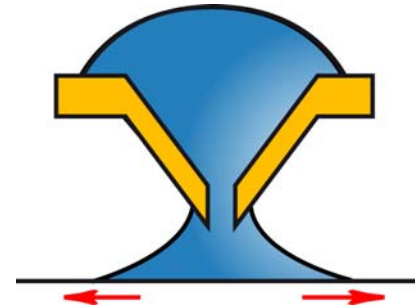
➤ Spreading dynamics



➤ Capillary force



Writing lines



$$t = w/V$$

➤ Dynamics of spreading at sub-micron and millisecond scales

Interpretation

➤ Dynamics of spreading : Cox-Voinov equation

$$\theta^3 = \theta_m^3 + 9.V \eta / \gamma . \ln(L/s)$$

➤ Spreading at constant volume ($\theta_m=0$) : Tanner's law

$$\theta \propto 1/R^3 \quad \longrightarrow \quad 1/R^9 \propto \frac{dR}{dt} \quad \longrightarrow \quad R \propto t^{1/10}$$

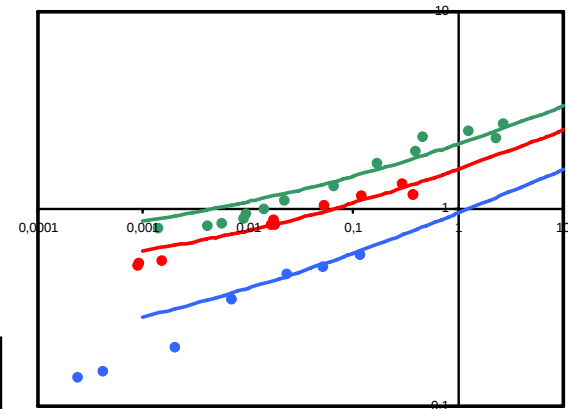
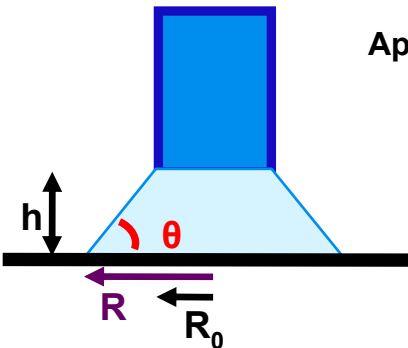
➤ Spreading at constant pressure

Approximations :

- 2 D
- Pressure = 0 $\rightarrow$ straight interfaces
- $\theta_m=0$
- Small angles

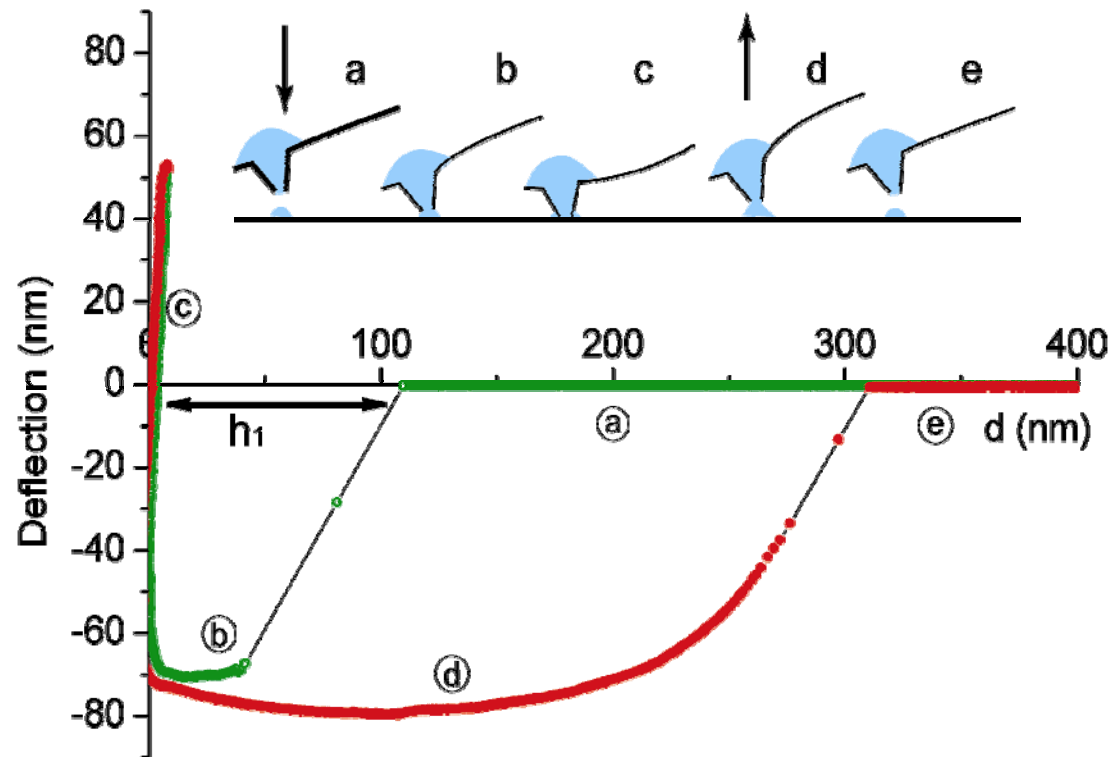
$$\theta \approx \frac{h}{R - R_0}$$

$$1/(R - R_0)^3 \propto \frac{dR}{dt} \quad \longrightarrow \quad R - R_0 \propto t^{1/4}$$

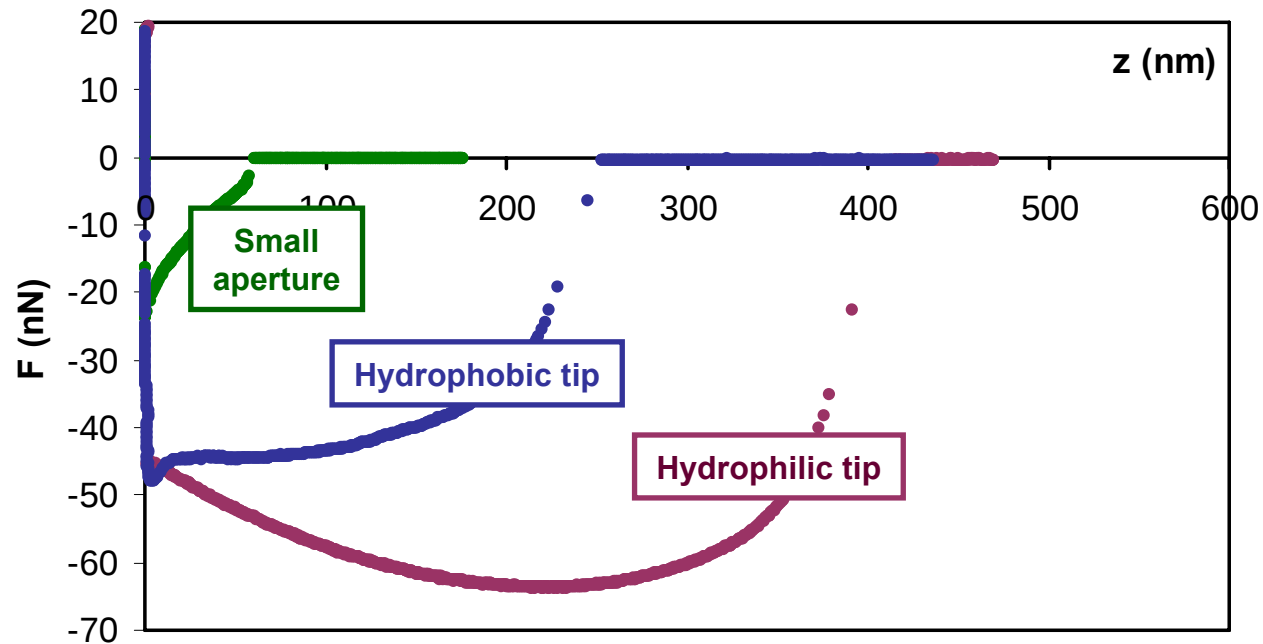


Capillary force during nanodispensing

➤ Real-time information



Interpretation of retraction force curves



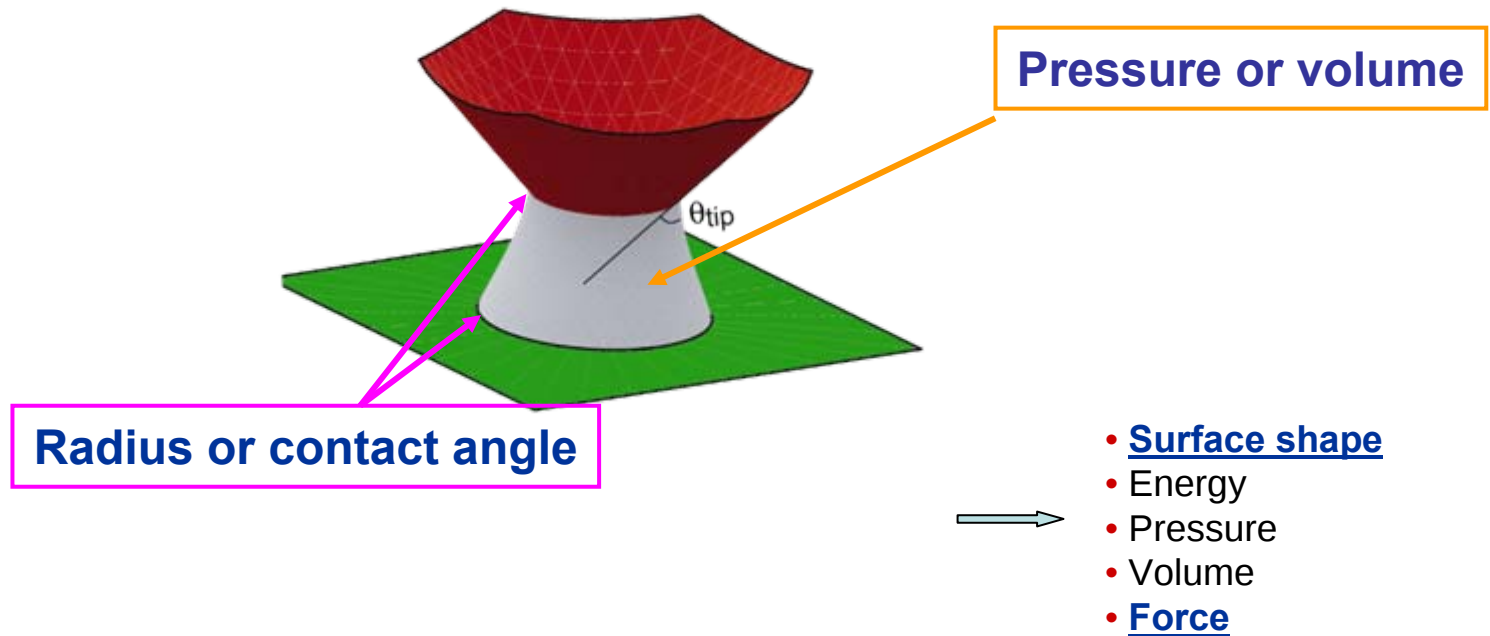
Profile of retraction force curves $\longrightarrow$ *Liquid transfer mechanism*

Correlation force curve shape - drop size $\longrightarrow$ *Realtime monitoring of deposit*

Modelization with “surface evolver”

<http://www.susqu.edu/brakke/evolver/evolver.html>

- Energy minimization for different boundary conditions and constraints

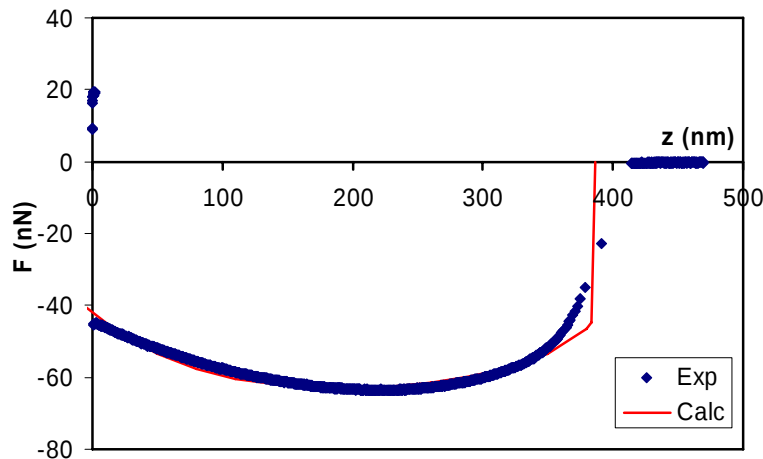
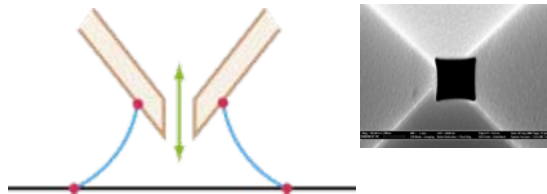


Hydrophilic NADIS tips

➤ Large apertures (400 nm)

Constant P

defined by réservoir



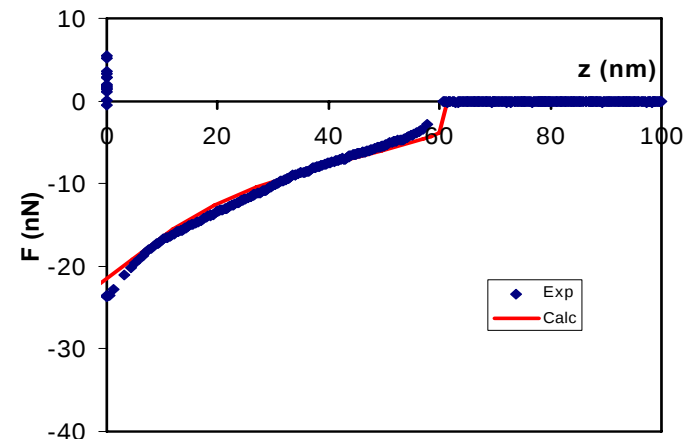
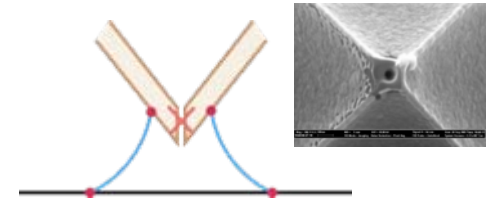
$R_{\text{surf}} = 400 \text{ nm}$, $R_{\text{tip}} = 300 \text{ nm}$
 $P = 1.4 \cdot 10^4 \text{ Pa}$

$$\frac{Q_{\text{Poiseuille}}}{Q_{\text{Nadis}}} \approx 10$$

➤ Small apertures (35 nm)

Constant V

No liquid flow during retraction

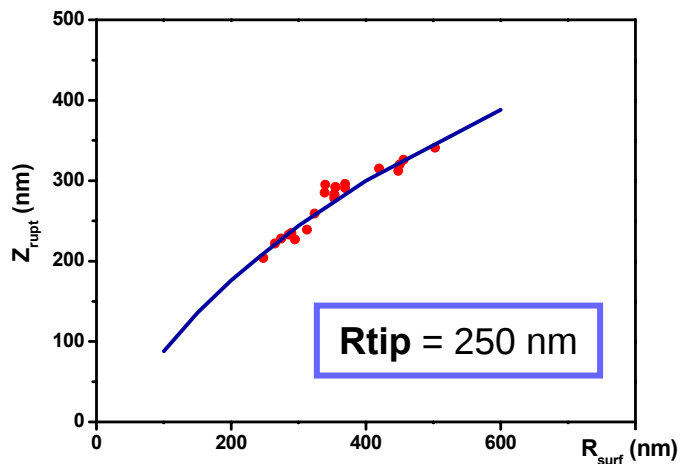
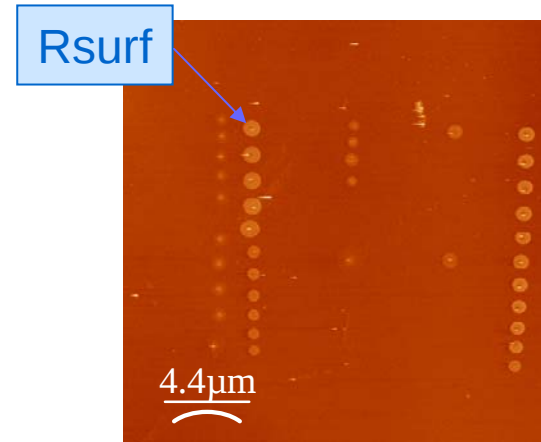
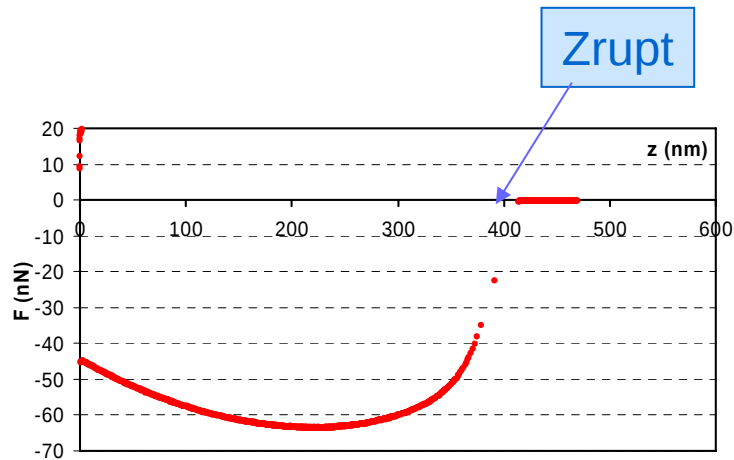
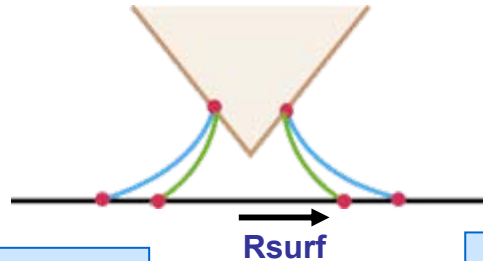


$R_{\text{surf}} = R_{\text{tip}} = 37.5 \text{ nm}$
 $V = 0.4 \text{ aL}$

$$\frac{Q_{\text{Poiseuille}}}{Q_{\text{Nadis}}} \approx 0,12$$

Correlation between droplet size and force curve

➤ Hydrophilic tip

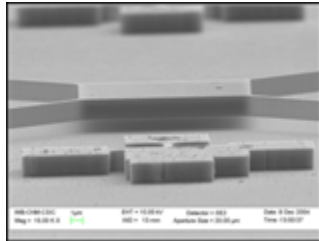


**Direct correlation
between force curve
and deposit size**

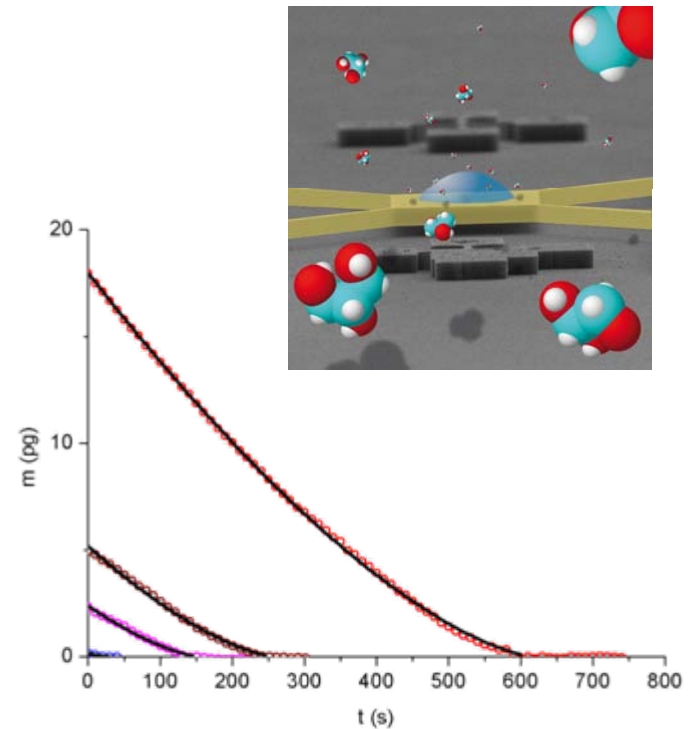
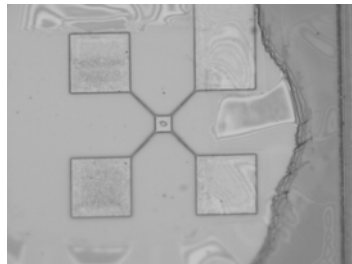
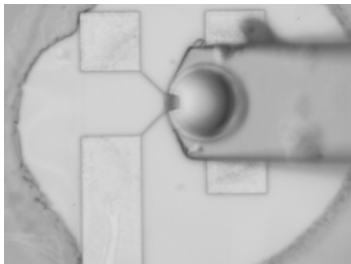
Evaporation of femto-droplets

J. Arcamone, et al., *J.Phys.Chem B* (2007)

➤ Mass sensing device (picogramme)



➤ Droplet dispensing by NADIS



➤ Litterature : « microdroplets » in volume ($1\mu\text{l} = 1\text{ mm}^3$)

➤ This study : « femtodroplets » ($1\mu\text{m}^3 = 1\text{ fl}$)

↪ $\div 10^9$

Conclusion

➤ NADIS : manipulation of liquid at sub-micron scale

✓ Patterning method

Towards single molecule deposition

Nanopositioning on predefined structures

✓ Tool for studying liquid dynamics at sub-micron scale

Spreading dynamics

Nanomechanics of meniscus

Evaporation of femtodroplets

