



MPhil Thesis Defense

**Self-Assembly of Two-Dimensional Organic
Networks Containing Heavy Metals (Pb, Bi)
and
Preparation of Spin-Polarized Scanning
Tunneling Microscope**

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12th Aug. 2014



香港科技大學

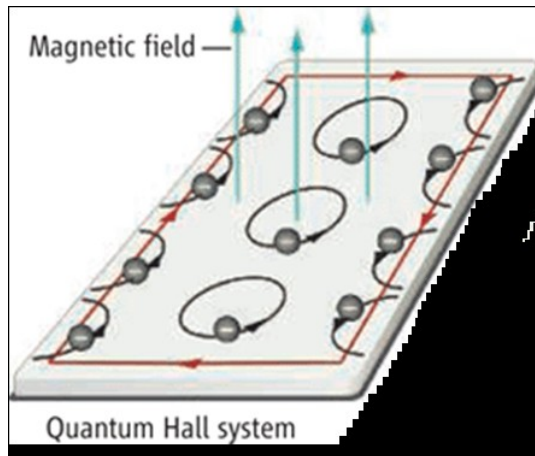
THE HONG KONG UNIVERSITY OF
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Outline

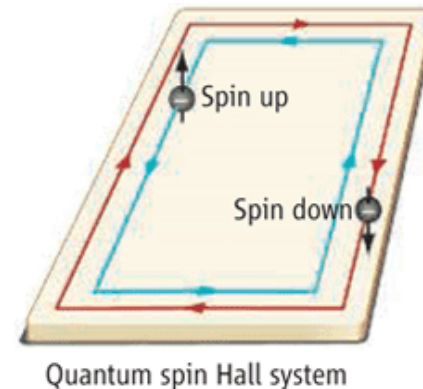
1. Introduction
2. 2D organic networks functionalized by two heavy metals (Pb, Bi)
3. Spin-polarized scanning tunneling microscope (SP-STM)
4. Conclusion

Topological insulator (TI)

- Insulating bulk electronic states & Conducting boundary states



Quantum Hall effect
1st topological state
Extrinsic: Magnetic field

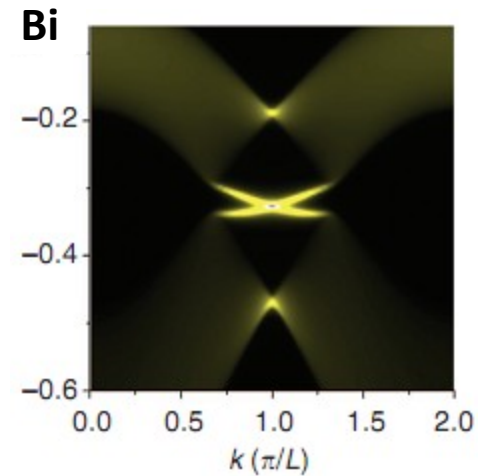
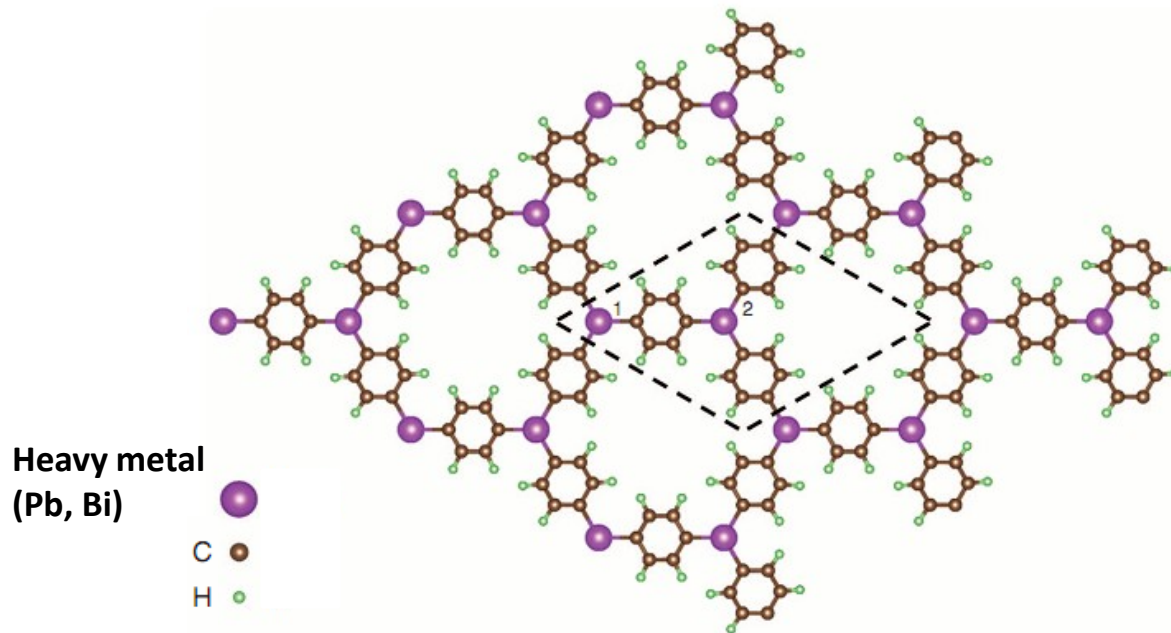


Graphene (QSH, theoretical)
1st topological insulator
Intrinsic: Spin-Orbit Coupling

- Topological edge states: robust to disorder on the boundary
→ Application in spin transfer (Spintronics)

Organic TI

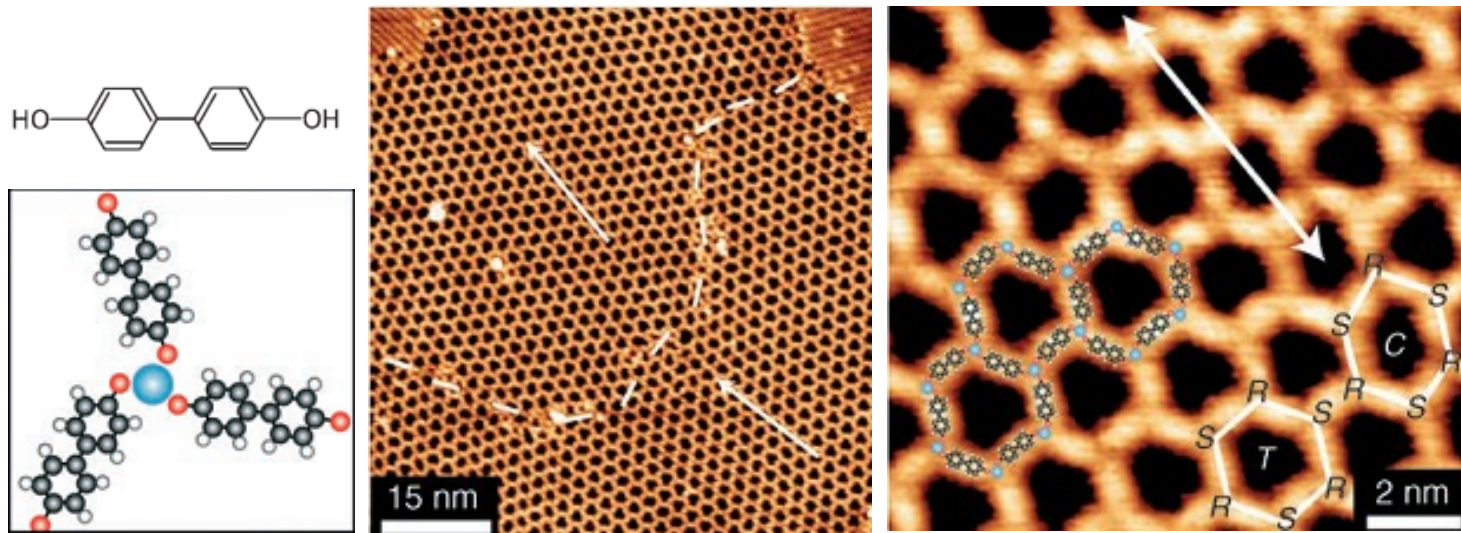
- Inorganic TI:
 - 2D: CdTe/HgTe/CdTe quantum well structure (2007)
 - 3D: $\text{Bi}_{1-x}\text{Sb}_x$ (2008), Bi_2Se_3 (2009), Bi_2Te_3 (250meV gap, RT)(2010)
- Organic TI:



Pb: 8.6 meV Bi: 43 meV

Motivation

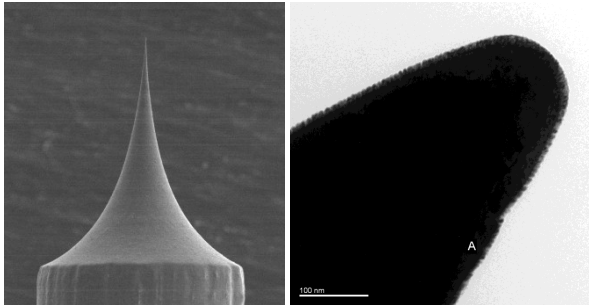
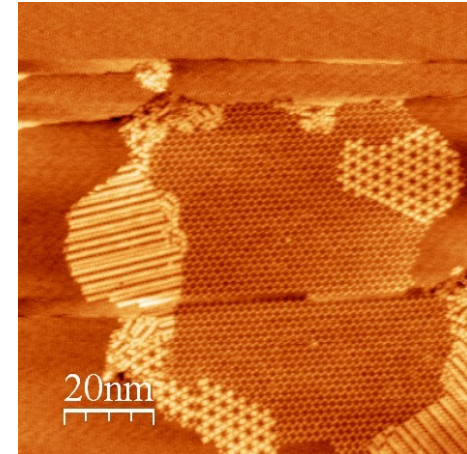
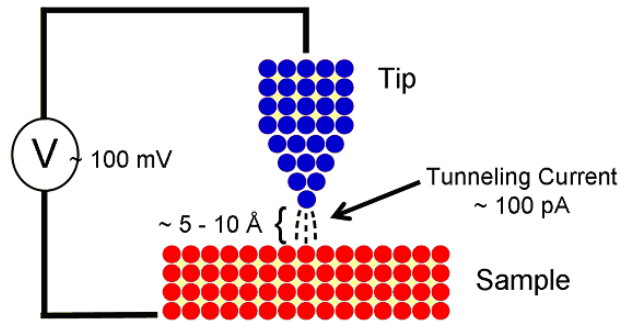
- Self-assembly:
 - Components spontaneously form ordered structures, like DNA
 - Non-covalent intermolecular interaction:
Coordination bonds for metal-organic network
No heavy metals, but only transition metals (like Cu, Fe) are involved in self-assembly on surface so far.



Fe-biphenolate hexagonal network

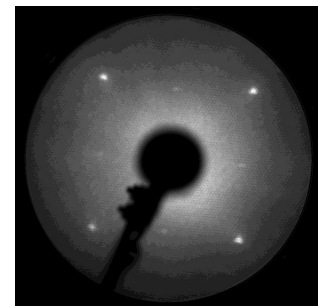
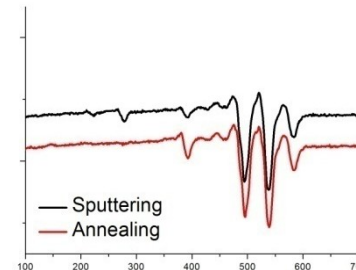
Experimental techniques

- Scanning tunneling microscope (STM)



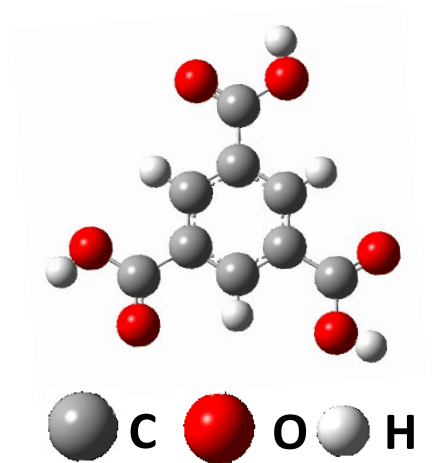
- Scanning electron microscope (SEM)
Transmission electron microscope (TEM)

- Auger electron spectroscopy (AES)
Low energy electron diffraction (LEED)



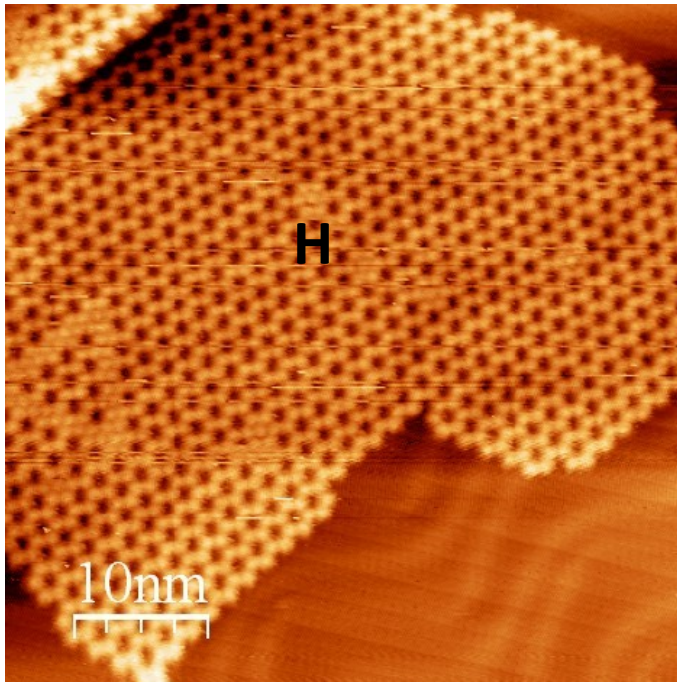
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 - a) TMA + Pb: metal-organic network
 - b) TMA + Bi: Bi cluster superlattices
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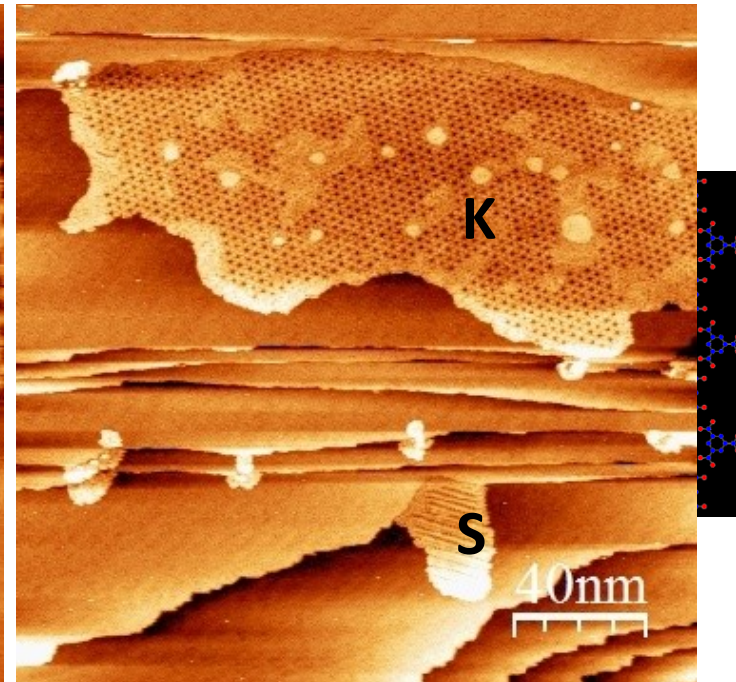


TMA + Pb: metal-organic network

- Two structures: kagome and stripe structure
 - TMA + Pb / Au(111), annealing at 170°C for 10 mins
 - TMA honeycomb networks disappear after annealing at 170°C for 1 h.

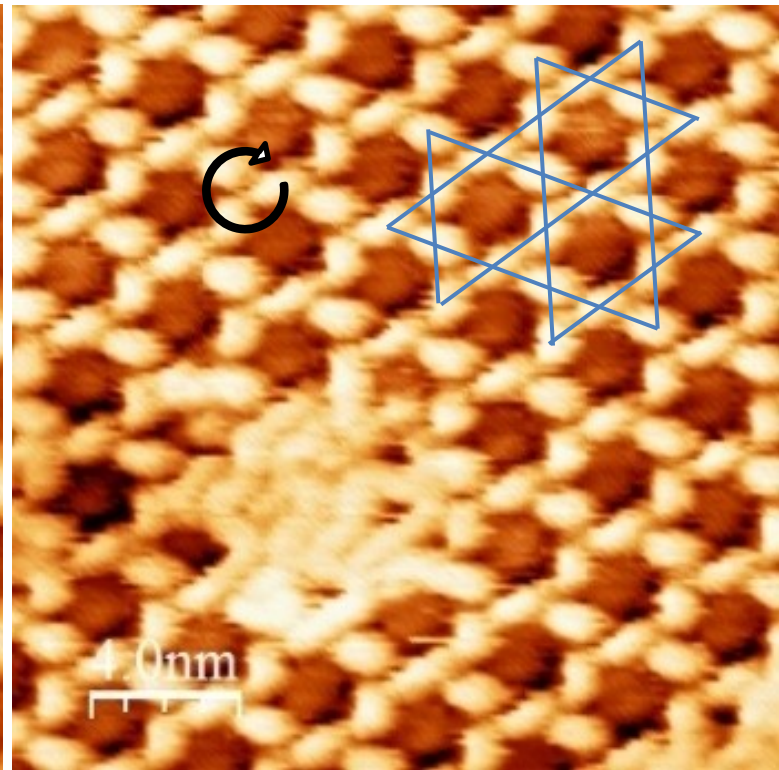
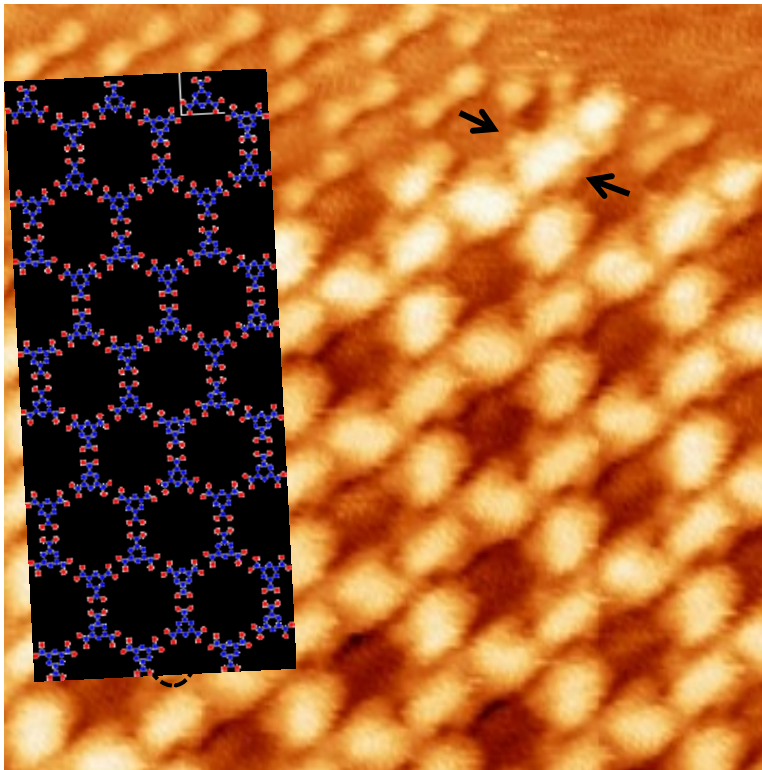


Pure TMA honeycomb network



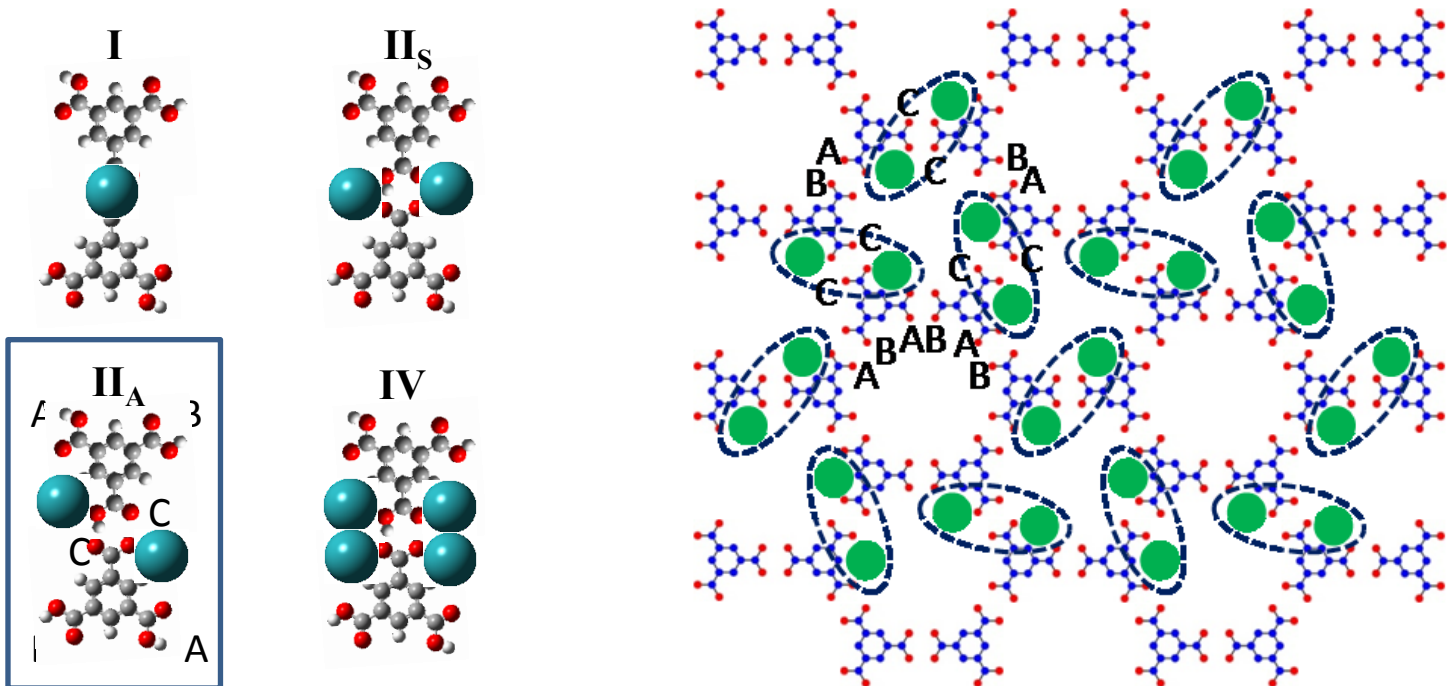
TMA + Pb: metal-organic network

- Kagome structure
 - Based on TMA honeycomb structure bright protrusion → Pb atoms
 - Chiral



TMA + Pb: metal-organic network

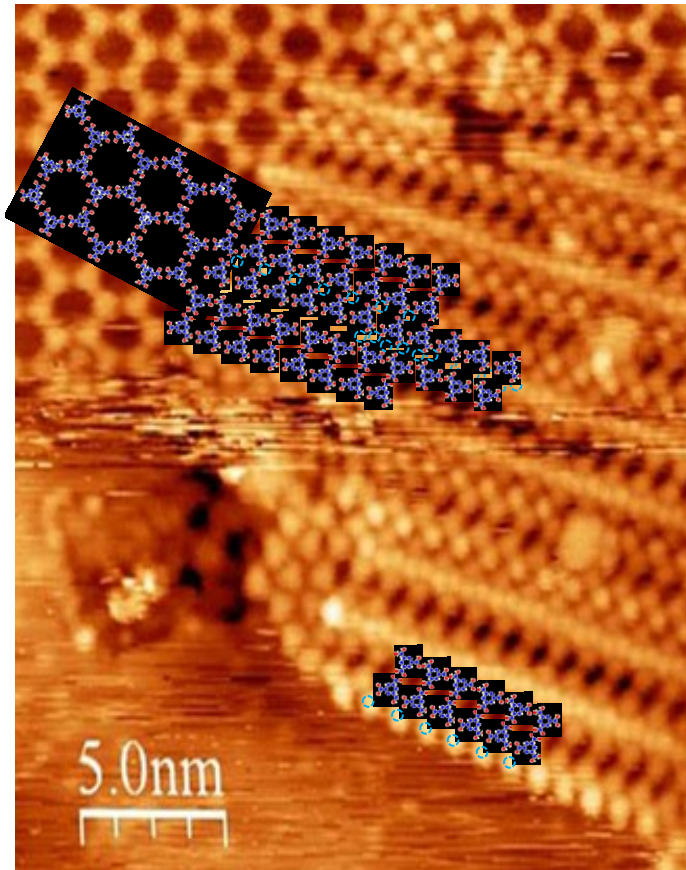
- Kagome structure
 - Bright protrusion $\rightarrow$ 2 asymmetrically attached Pb atoms
 - C-C, A-B connection:
 - Pb atoms share e^- with O and H, modify the dipole of the carboxyl groups
 - $\rightarrow$ strengthen the dimeric hydrogen bonds



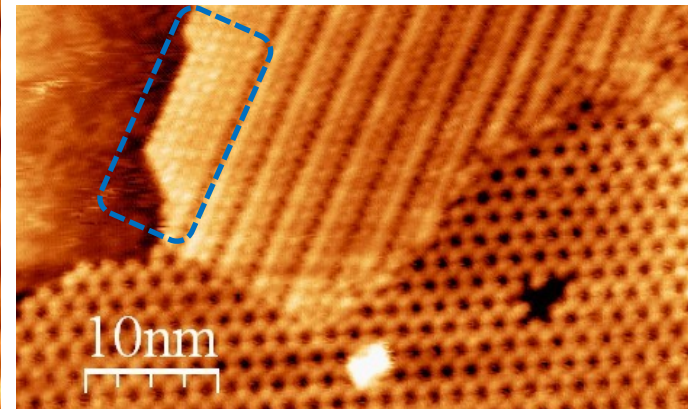
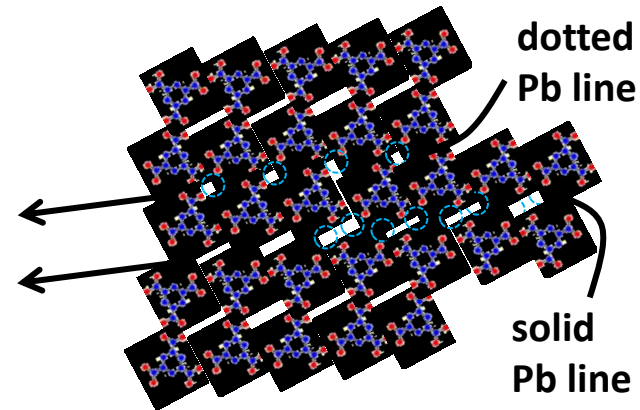
TMA + Pb: metal-organic network

- Stripe structure

Brighter dots $\rightarrow$ Pb atoms



dotted and “solid” Pb atom line

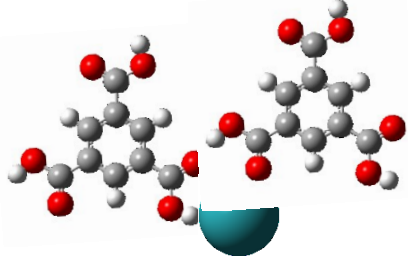


2D
dotted-line
phase

TMA + Pb: metal-organic network

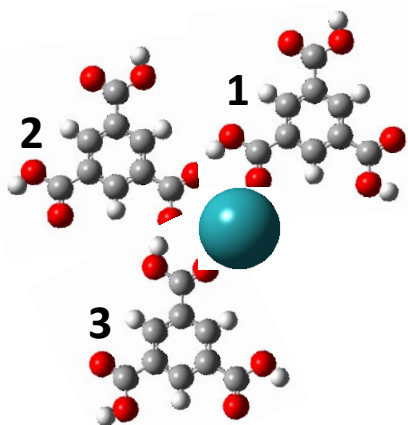
- Stripe structure

edge dotted line



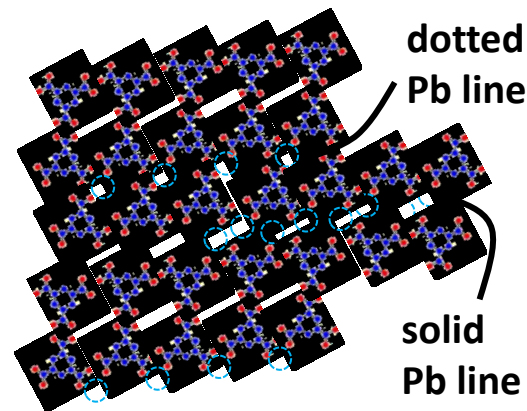
1 single H-bond
1 Pb-O bond
1 Pb-H bond

inner dotted line

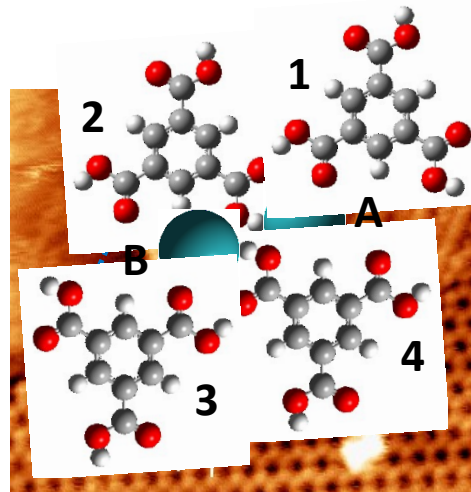


2 single H-bond
2 Pb-O bond
1 Pb-H bond

Mol. 1 and 3
are symmetric



solid line

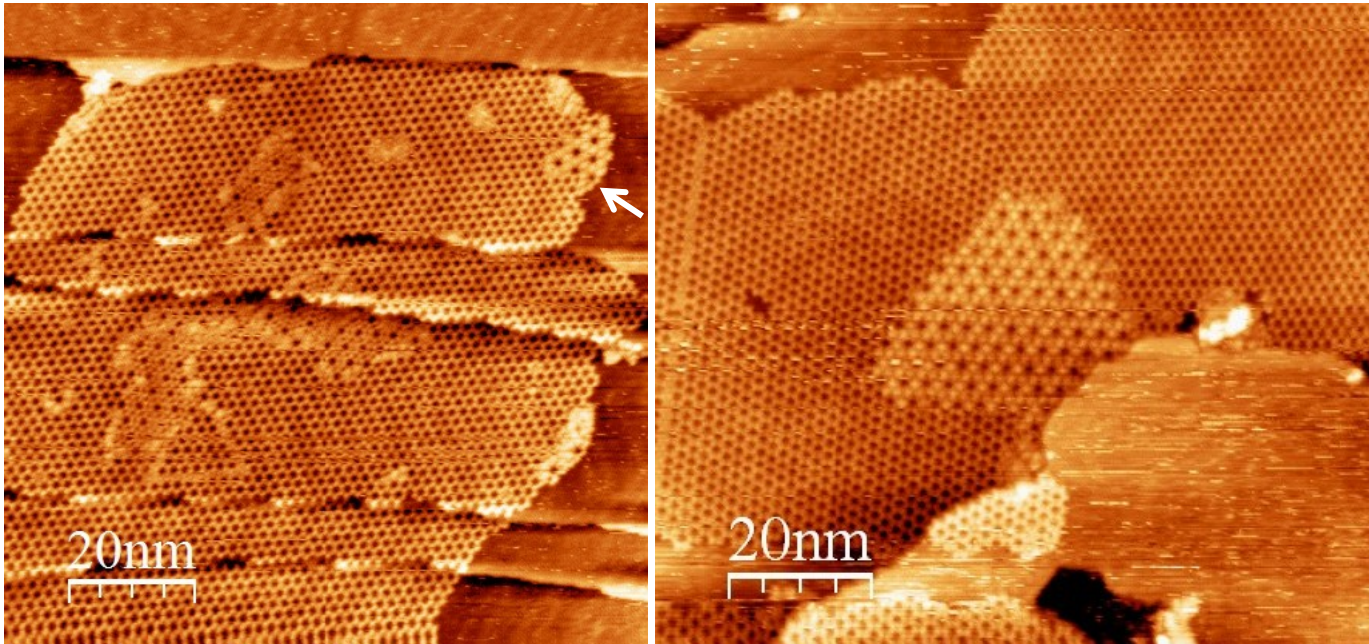


2 close-packed
edge-type
dotted line

2D
dotted-line
phase
(mol. 4 -- Pb atom A
mol. 2 -- Pb atom B)

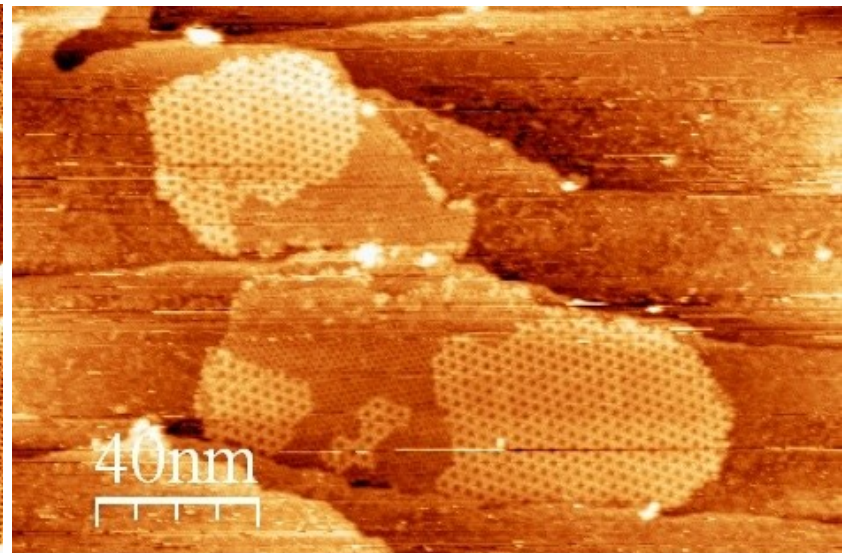
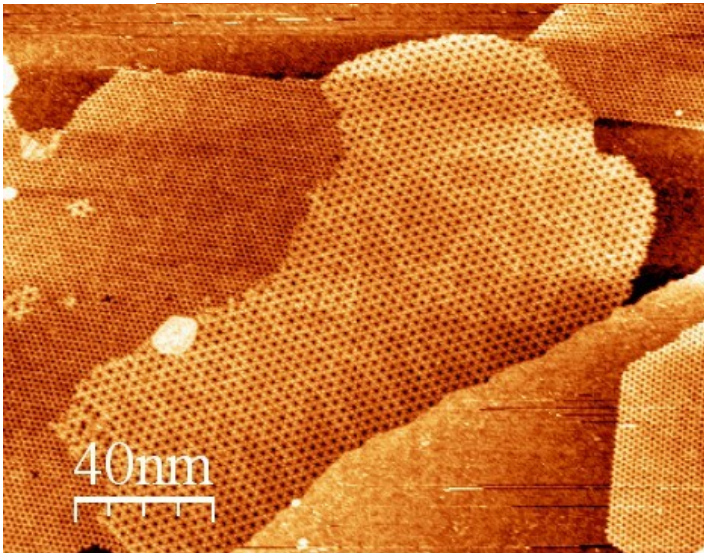
TMA + Pb: metal-organic network

- Growth mechanism: larger kagome structure
 - **Annealing temperature:**
120 °C → 170 °C, larger size kagome structure → 220 °C, desorbs all the molecules
 - Balance between the assembly rate and the desorption rate



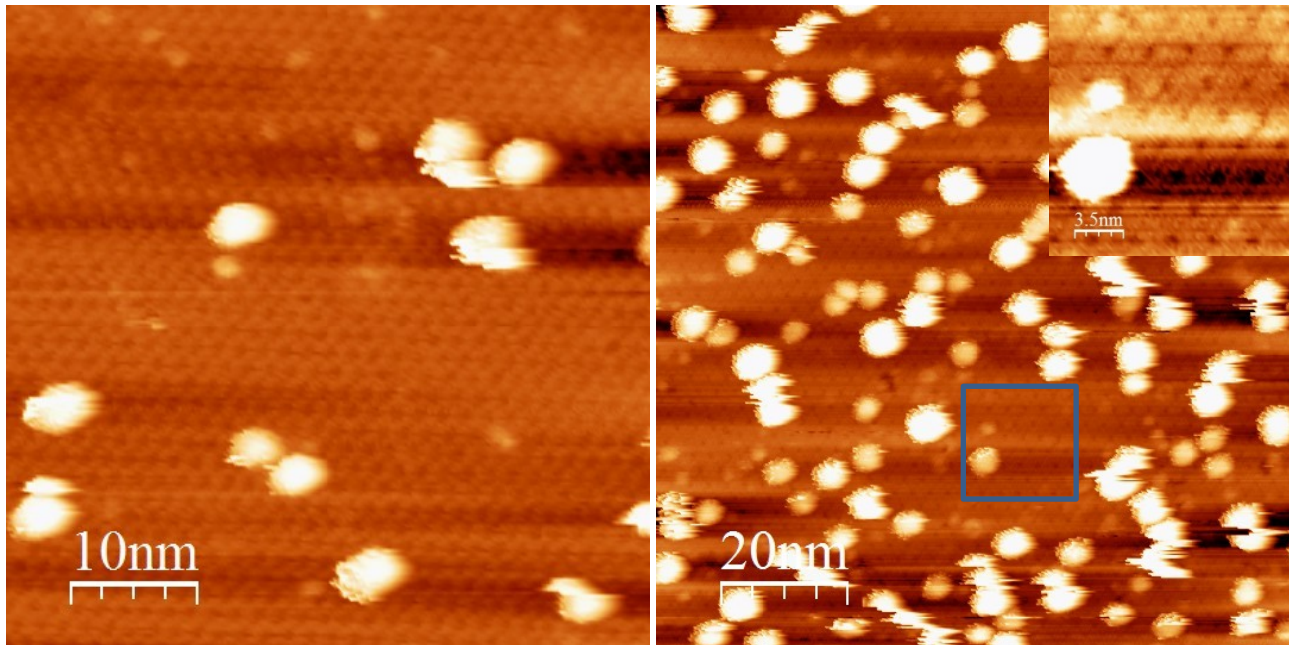
TMA + Pb: metal-organic network

- Growth mechanism: larger kagome structure
 - **Dosage:**
 - Pb atoms: 0.02 ML $\rightarrow$ 0.06 ML, larger size kagome structure $\rightarrow$ 0.1 ML, irregular clusters of complex of TMA mol. and Pb atoms
 - TMA mol.: 0.3 ML $\rightarrow$ 0.5 ML, huge size kagome structure
- $\rightarrow$ **TMA honeycomb networks support the growth of kagome structures**



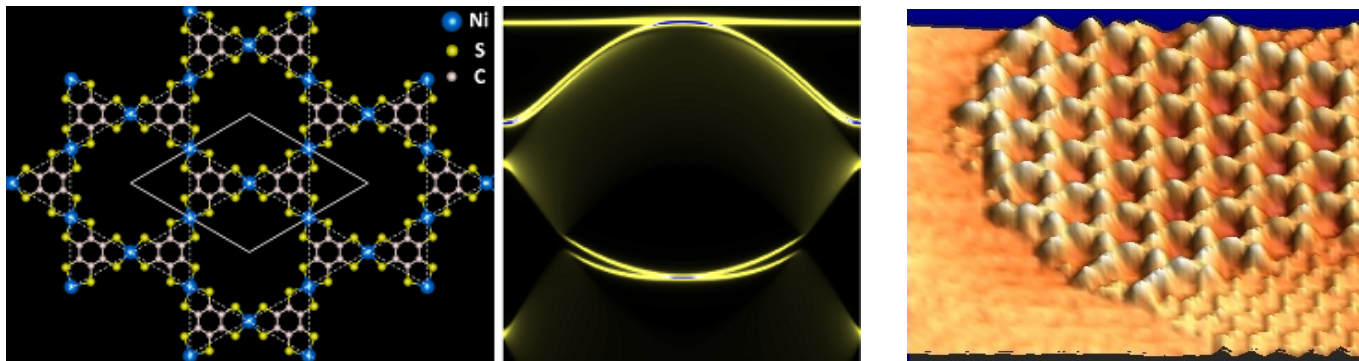
TMA + Pb: metal-organic network

- TMA + Pb on HOPG surface:
 - Pb cluster ~ 1.2 nm high: weak interaction between Pb atom and HOPG
 - **The strong interaction between Au(111) surface and Pb atoms plays a very important role in the formation and stabilization of the kagome and stripe structure.**



TMA + Pb: metal-organic network

- Conclusion:
 - Kagome and stripe structures based on Pb atoms and TMA molecules on Au(111) surface
 - Pb atoms form Pb-functionalized hydrogen bond networks, instead of coordination networks
 - **1st** work of 2D metal-organic networks self-assembled by **Pb on surface**
 - Topological edge states might exist on the edge of the kagome structure

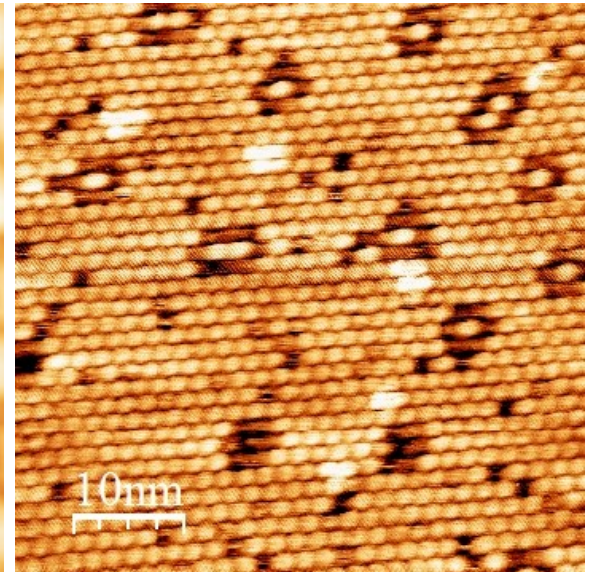
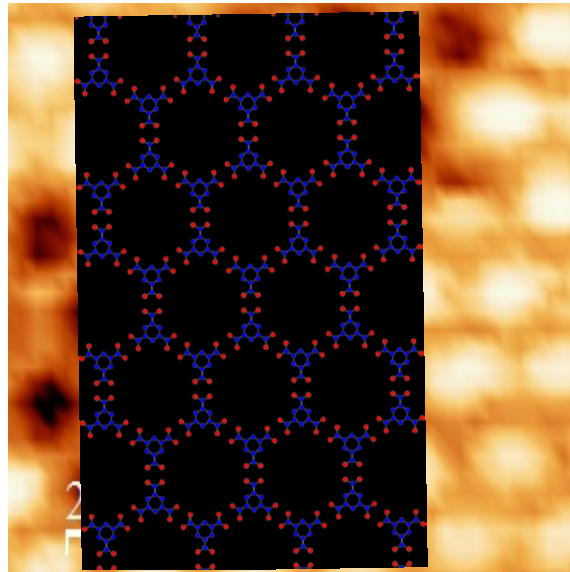
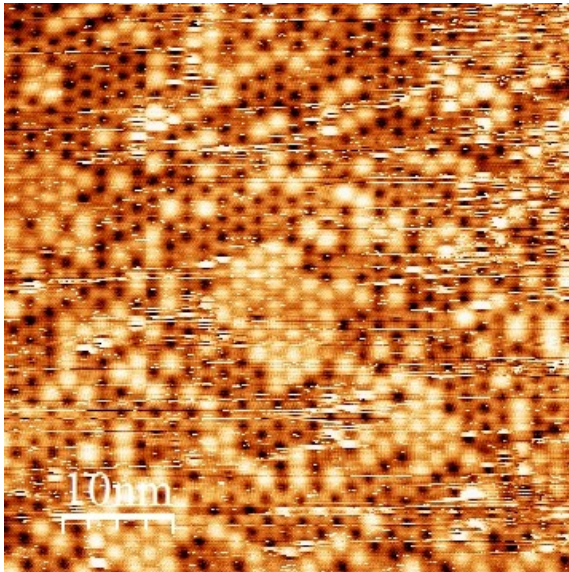


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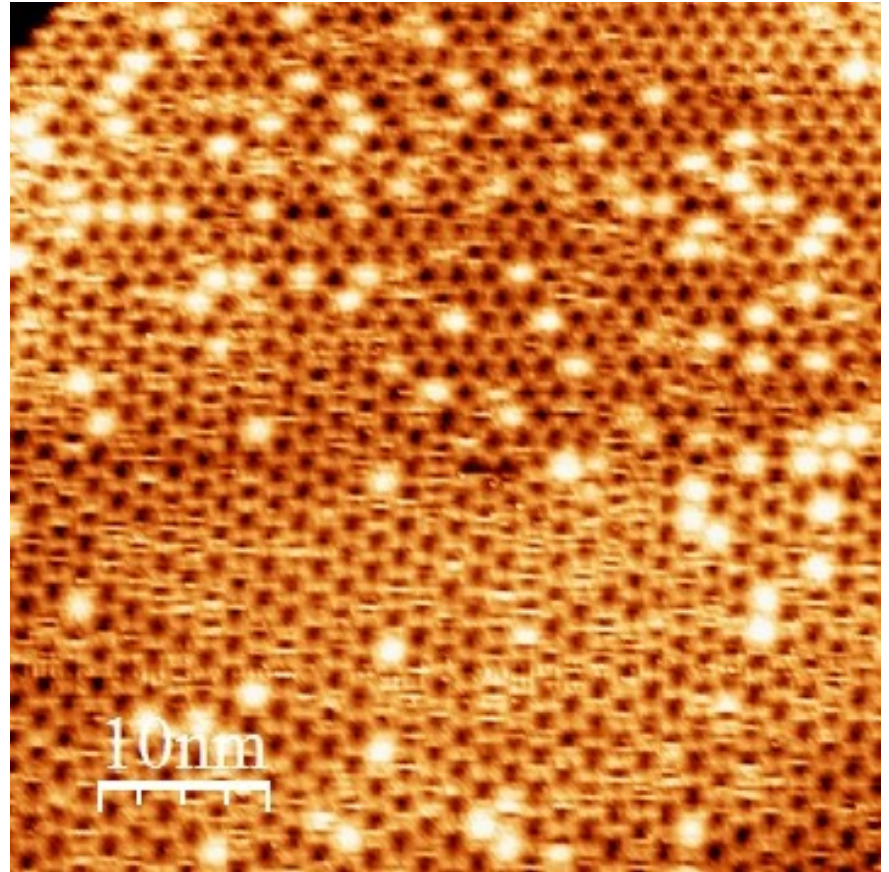
TMA + Bi: Bi cluster superlattices

- Bi clusters sit in the pores of the honeycomb network following the same periodicity as TMA honeycomb network.
- Intact honeycomb network, as template
- Perfect Bi triangular lattice (2 mins Bi)



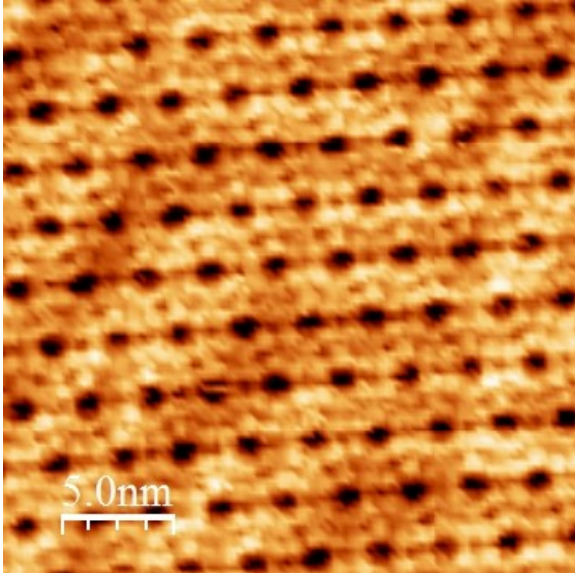
TMA + Bi: Bi cluster superlattices

- Bi atoms are desorbed from the surface after annealing at 120 °C
- No strong chemical bond between Bi atoms and TMA mol.
- Assembly process:
 - Bi atoms move freely on TMA honeycomb network,
 - Bi atoms are localized in the potential well of the pores of TMA honeycomb network

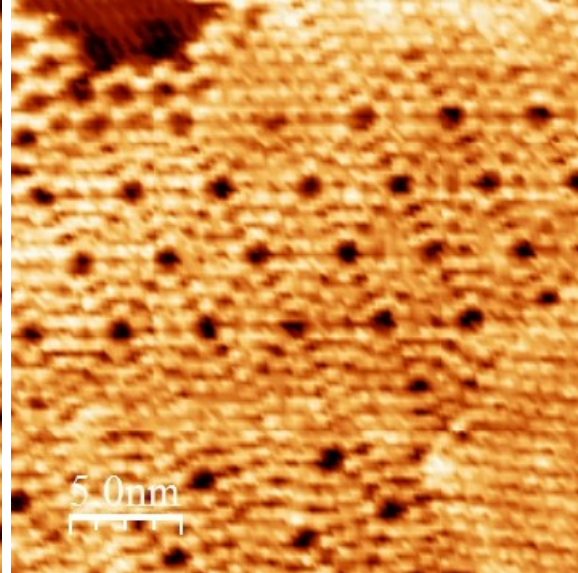


TMA + Bi: Bi cluster superlattices

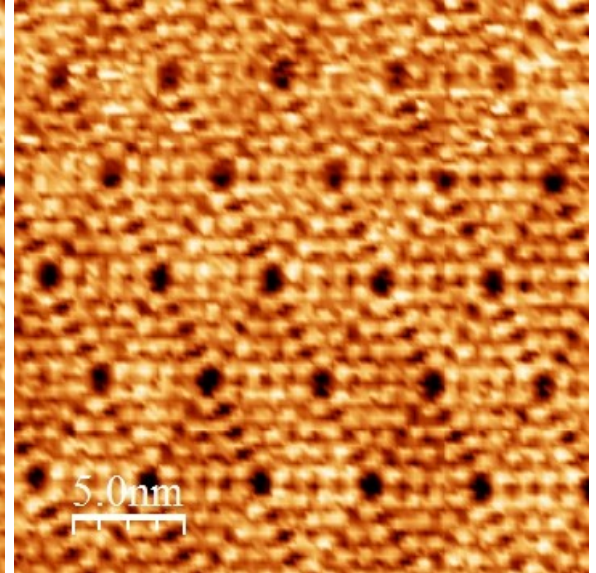
- On high density TMA networks
 - Varying Molecules coverage $\rightarrow$ Different high density TMA phases
 - Different structures are found in one sample even after annealing at 160 °C for 10mins



$H_{\text{TMA-2}}$: 1.65nm



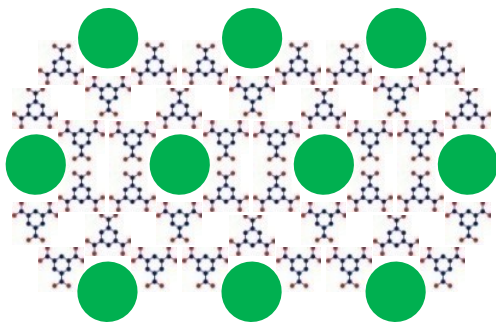
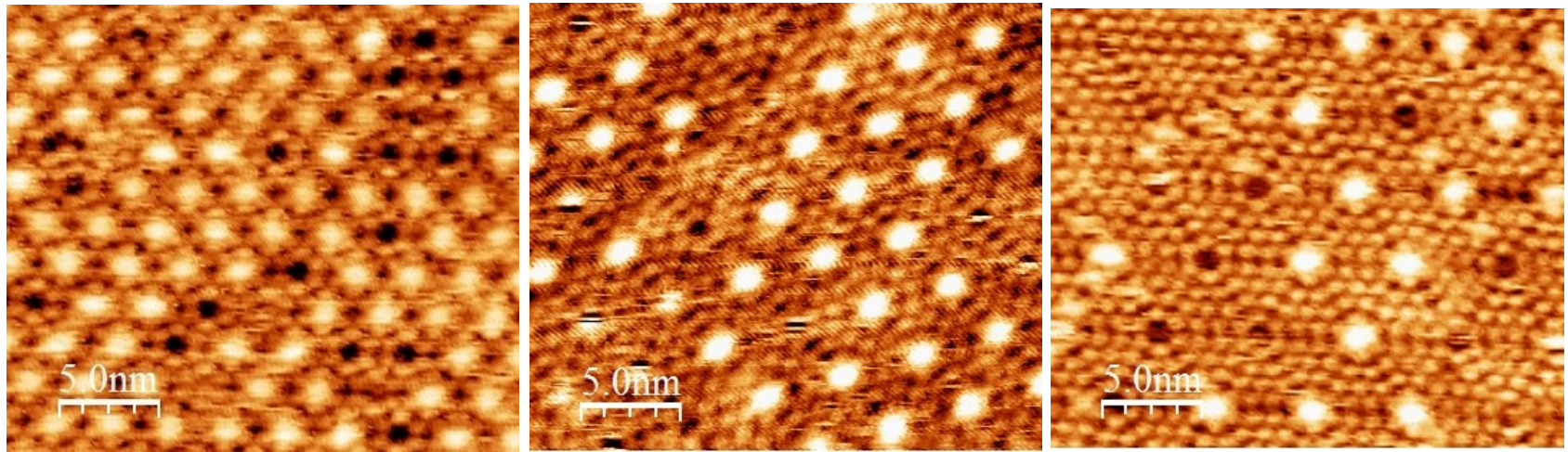
$H_{\text{TMA-3}}$: 2.55nm



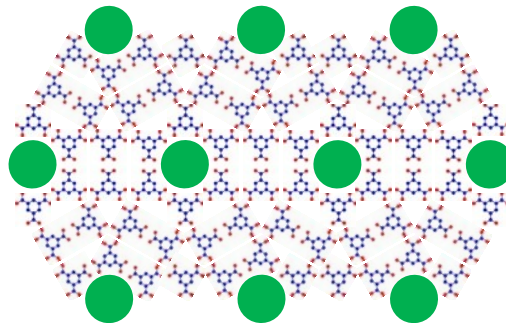
$H_{\text{TMA-4}}$: 3.55nm

TMA + Bi: Bi cluster superlattices

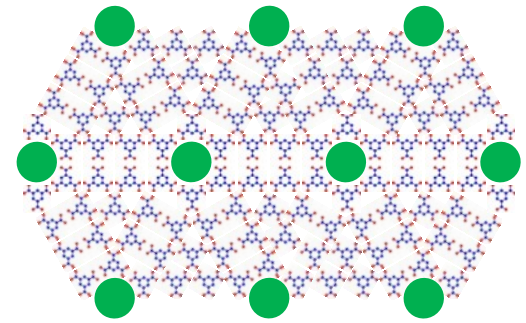
- On high density TMA networks



Bi-H_{TMA-2}



Bi-H_{TMA-3}

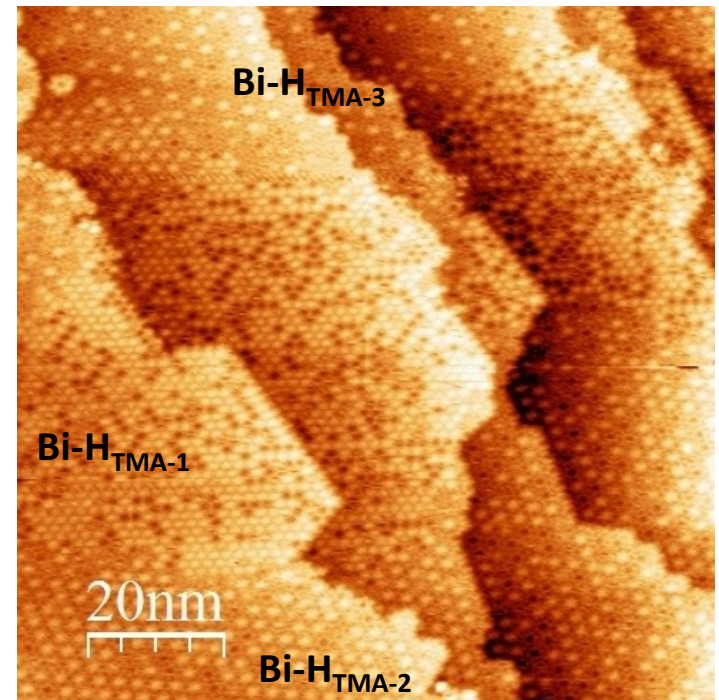


Bi-H_{TMA-4}

TMA + Bi: Bi cluster superlattices

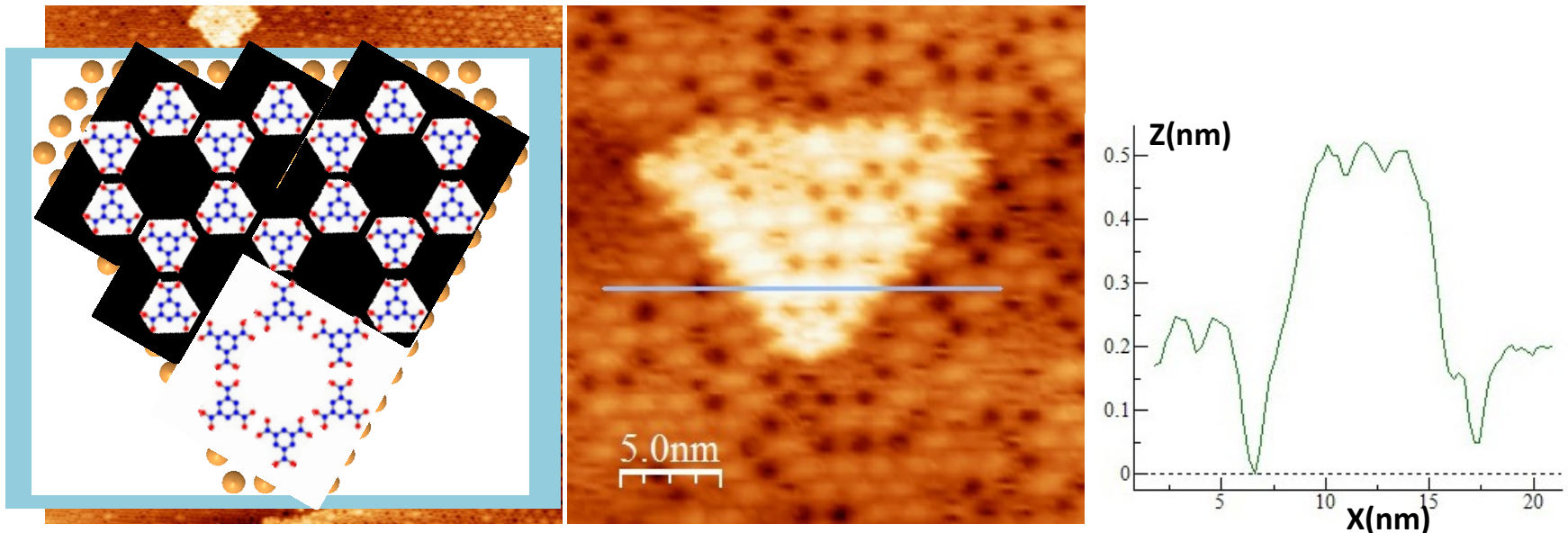
- On high density TMA networks
 - Lattice constant of Bi cluster superlattices follows the lattice of the TMA porous structures.
 - Local variation of Bi clusters density
- **Bi atoms can move from one TMA phase to another TMA phase**

Structure	Lattice constant (nm)	Bi cluster density (1/100nm ²)
Bi-H _{TMA-1}	1.65	42.4
Bi-H _{TMA-2}	2.55	17.8
Bi-H _{TMA-3}	3.55	9.16
Bi-H _{TMA-4}	4.38	6.02
Bi-H _{TMA-5}	5.30	4.11



TMA + Bi: Bi cluster superlattices

- Bi islands
 - Increasing Bi dosage $\rightarrow$ triangular Bi islands (monoatomic high)
 $\rightarrow$ in (111) packing
 - On top of the Bi islands, TMA molecules form the same type of network as the neighboring network
 - Bi atoms could occupy the pores of the TMA network on the island

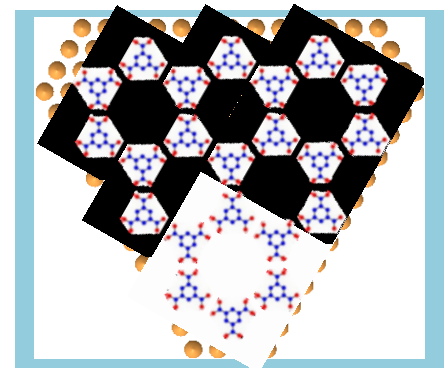


TMA + Bi: Bi cluster superlattices

- Bi islands

Growth mechanism:

- When the pores of TMA network are almost fully occupied, excess Bi atoms start aggregating in 2D islands.
- Since Au(111) surface is energetically favored adsorption site for Bi atoms, and the interaction between TMA molecules and Bi atoms is weak
- Bi atoms penetrate TMA network through the pores and aggregate into island on the Au(111) surface.

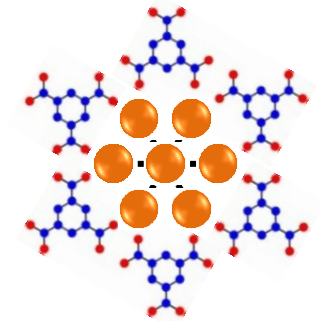
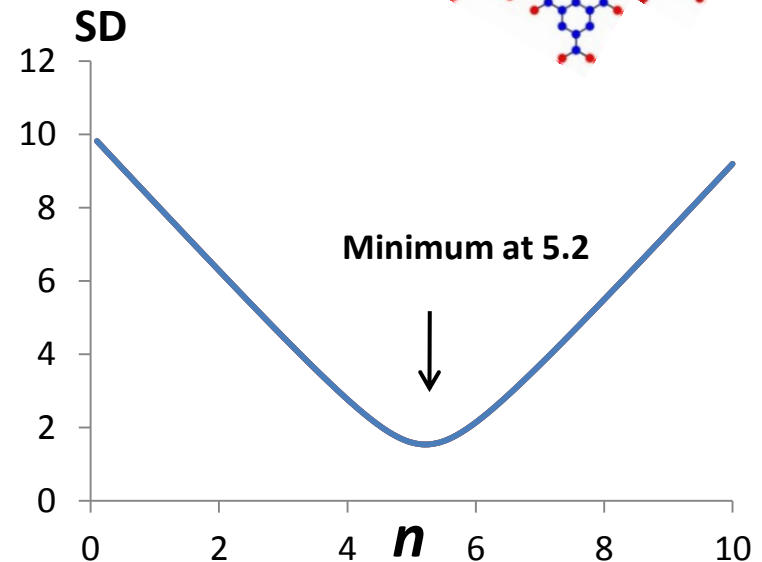
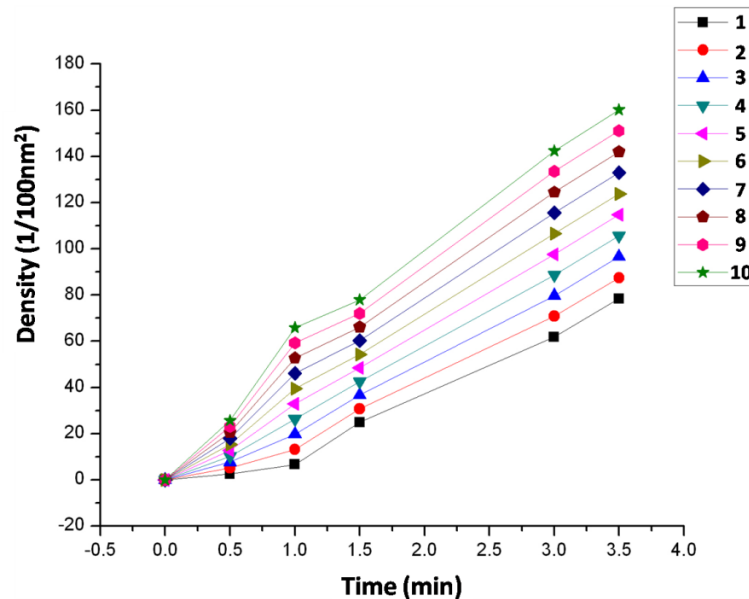


TMA + Bi: Bi cluster superlattices

- Determine no. of Bi atoms in a pore
 - Successively depositing equal amount of Bi atoms
 - The average area of Bi islands in unit area in each stage
→ the amount of Bi atoms in islands in unit area, $D_i(t)$
 - The average amount of Bi clusters in unit area in each stage $D_c(t)$
Assuming the number of Bi atoms in each pore is a constant n
→ the amount of Bi atoms in clusters in unit area, $nD_c(t)$
 - Linear relation between deposition time t and total density of Bi atoms in each stage $D_i(t) + nD_c(t)$

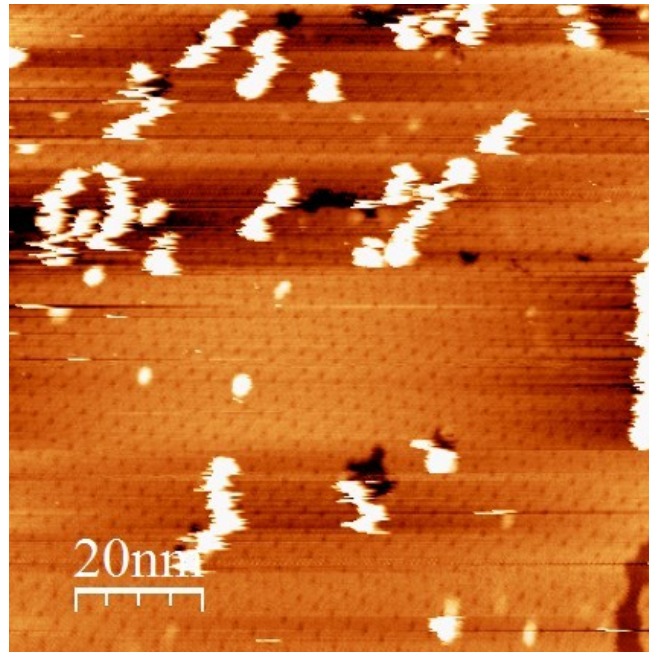
TMA + Bi: Bi cluster superlattices

- Determine no. of Bi atoms in a pore
 - minimum of standard deviation between $\{t, D_i(t) + nD_c(t)\}$ and linear fitting curve $y = k*t$ happens at $n = 5.2$
 - average 5 Bi atoms in a pore (max. 7 in (111) packing)



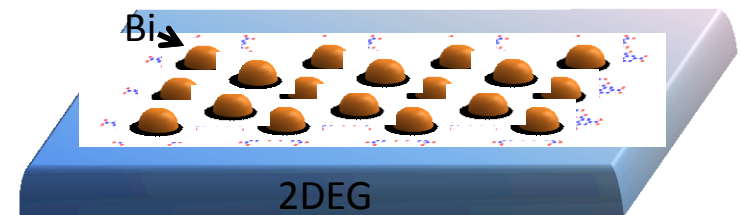
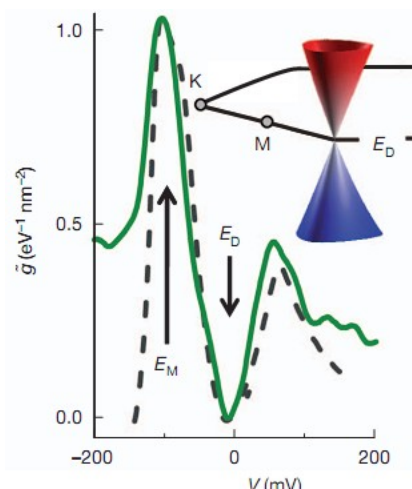
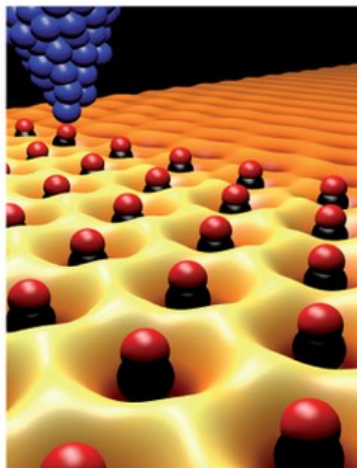
TMA + Bi: Bi cluster superlattices

- TMA + Bi on HOPG surface:
 - Irregular Bi clusters --- weak interaction between Bi atoms and HOPG
 - **The attraction between Au(111) surface and Bi atoms induces Bi atoms to reside in the hexagonal pores of TMA structures.**



TMA + Bi: Bi cluster superlattices

- Application:
 - Tunable barriers like molecular graphene, generating 2D artificial honeycomb lattice of electrons
 - Simple & fast: self-assembled Bi superlattices in large area
 - Bi cluster superlattices can be grown on Bi islands (strong spin-orbit interaction)
- possible candidates for 2D topological insulators

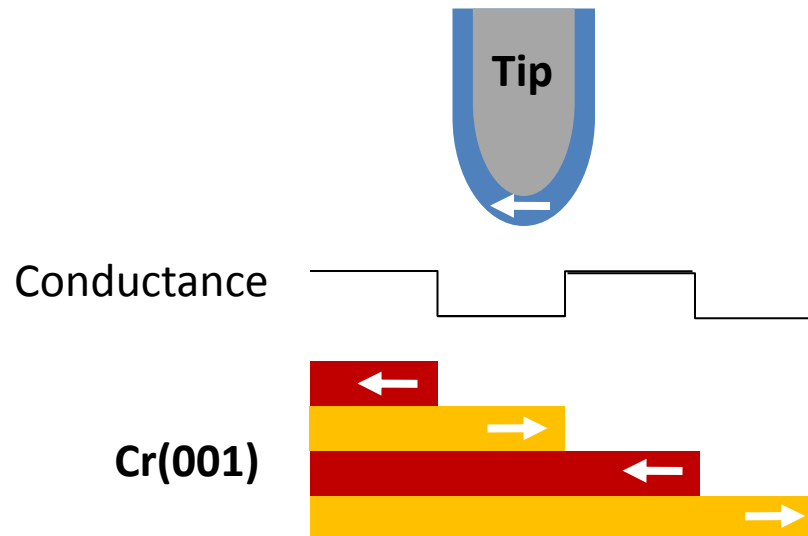


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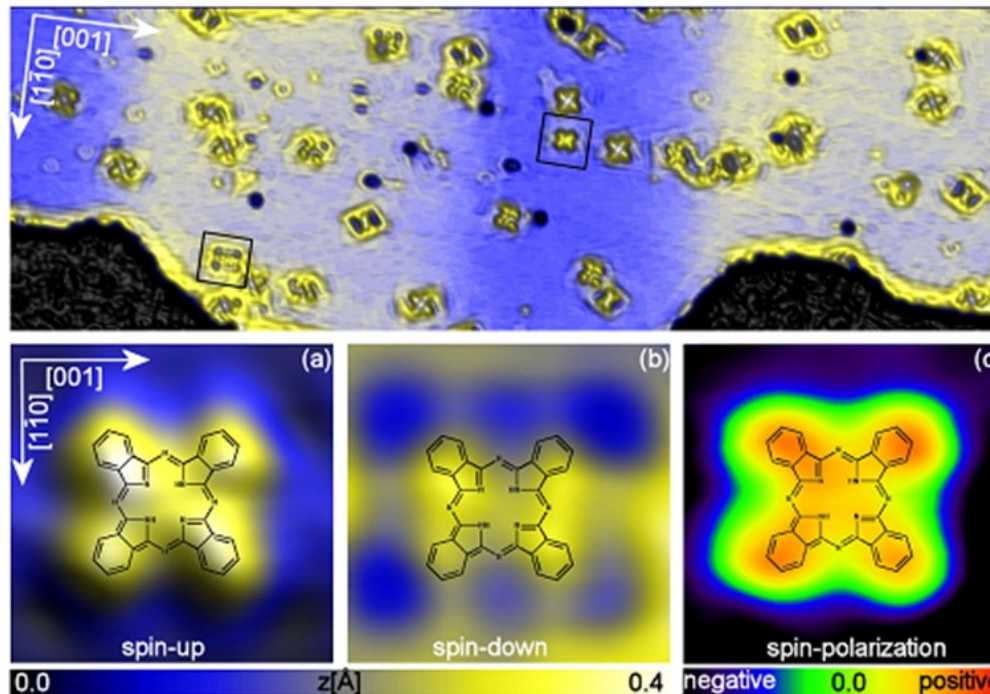
SP-STM

- Principle:
 - Spin-polarized tip
 - Magnetic sample consisting of domains with different spin polarization
 - Same orientation: highest conductance
opposite orientation: lowest conductance



Application

- Resolve spin states in molecule level
- Application: molecular spintronics, 2D & 3D TI
- ARPES: average over large scale, 3D TI



H₂Pc on different magnetic domain

Deduced spin polarization of H₂Pc molecule

Cr-coated W tip

- Spin-polarized tip:

- Type:

- bulk magnetic materials*

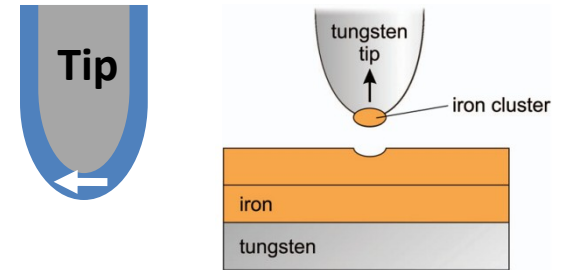
- nonmagnetic tips coated thin magnetic film*

- nonmagnetic tips with magnetic clusters on the apex of the tips*

- Material:

- ferromagnetic (strong magnetic stray field, modify the magnetic structure of the sample)*

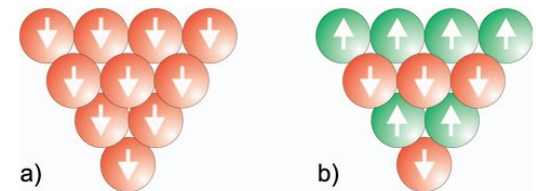
- antiferromagnetic (negligible stray field)*



- Chromium-coated tungsten tip

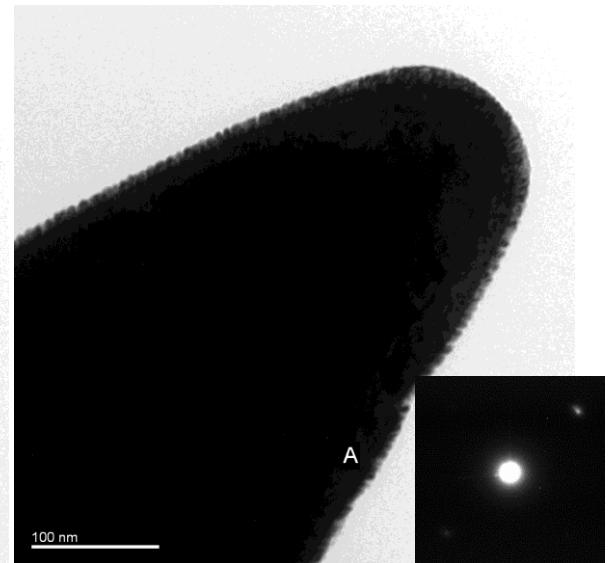
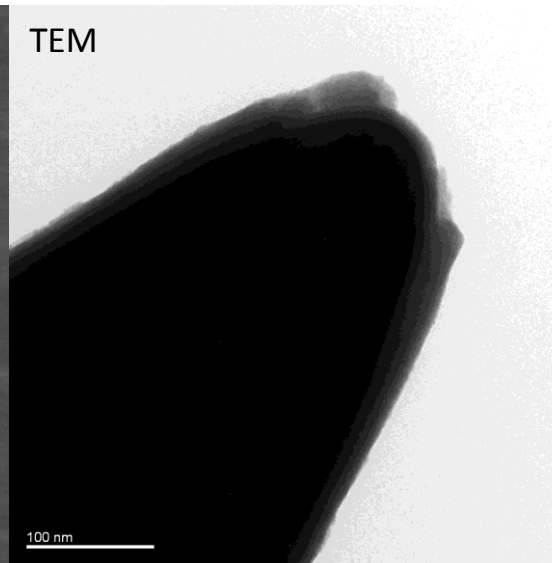
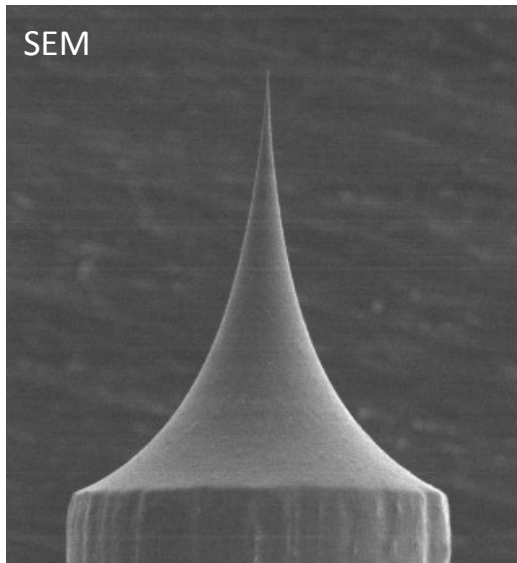
- antiferromagnetic material

- 25-45 ML: out-of-plane sensitive 100 ML: in-plane sensitive



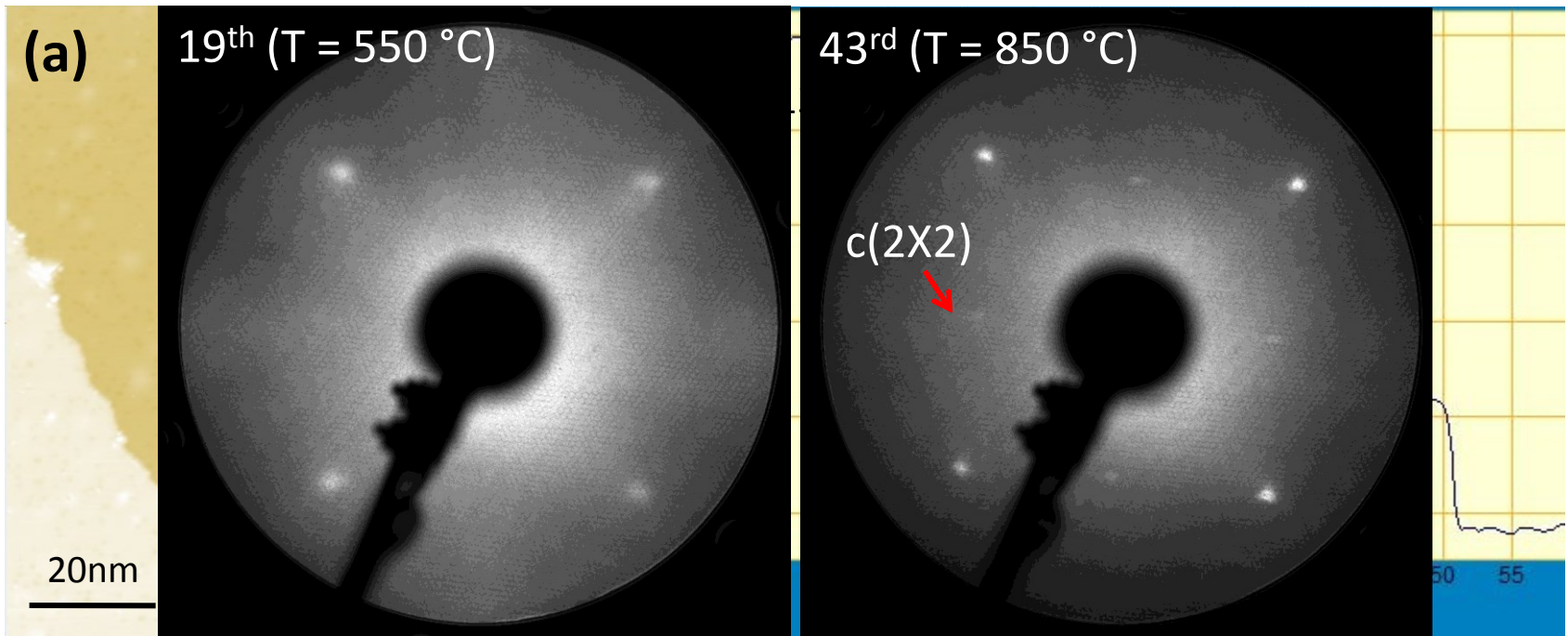
Cr-coated W tip

- Procedure:
 1. Electrochemical etching
 2. Annealing: remove tungsten oxide (WO_2 , WO_3)
 3. Coating (amorphous Cr) & Post-annealing (crystalline Cr)



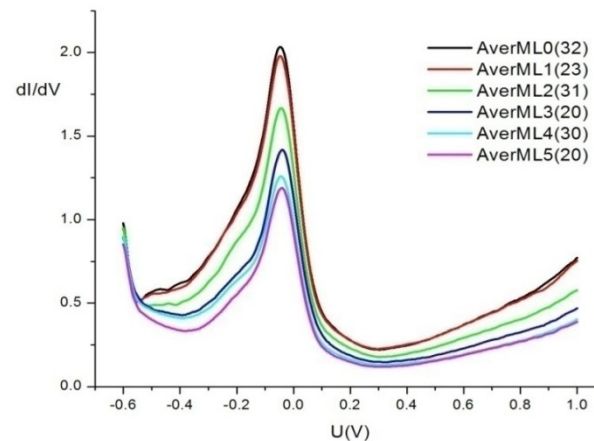
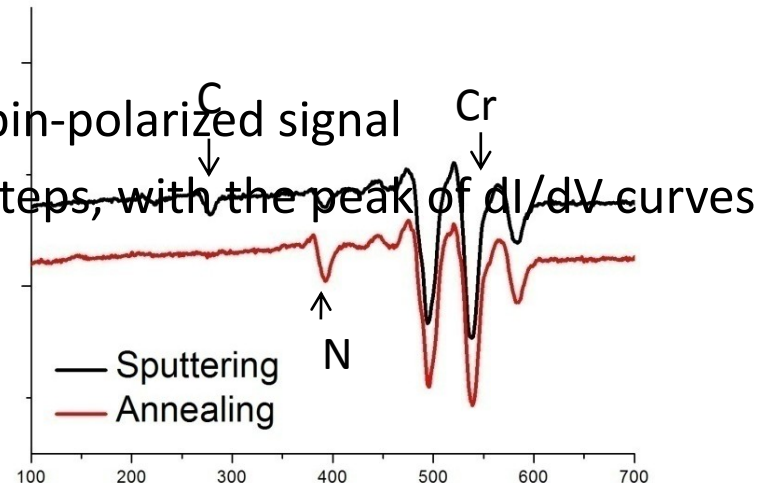
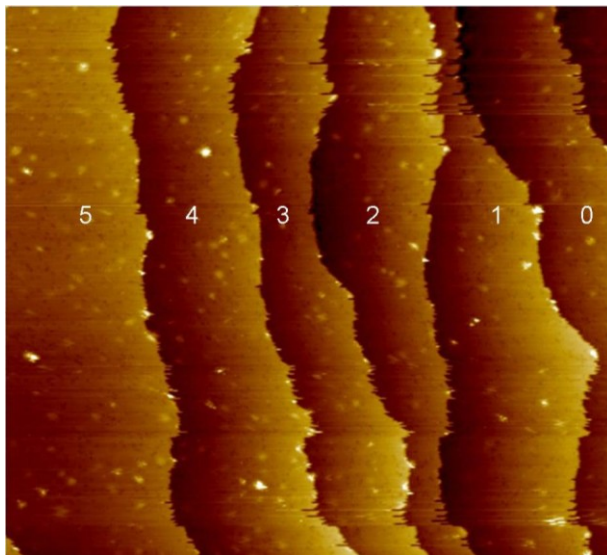
Cr(001)

- Magnetic sample: Cr(001)
 - *flat* with monoatomic steps
 - Method: sputtering with Ar-ion and annealing cycle by cycle
 - Monitored by LEED

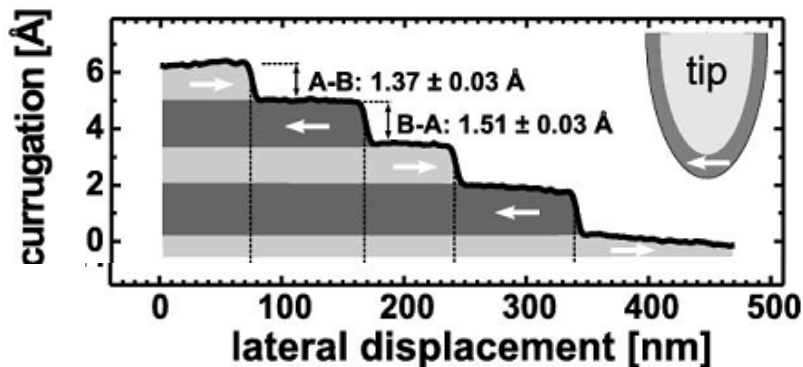


Cr(001)

- Magnetic sample: **Cr(001)**
 - With C and N impurities
 - Similar sample is reported with spin-polarized signal
 - *Flat* substrate with monoatomic steps, with the peak of dI/dV curves locating at -45 meV.
 - Annealing the sample at $\sim 750^\circ\text{C}$



SP-STM Measurement



- Operation modes:

- Constant current mode**

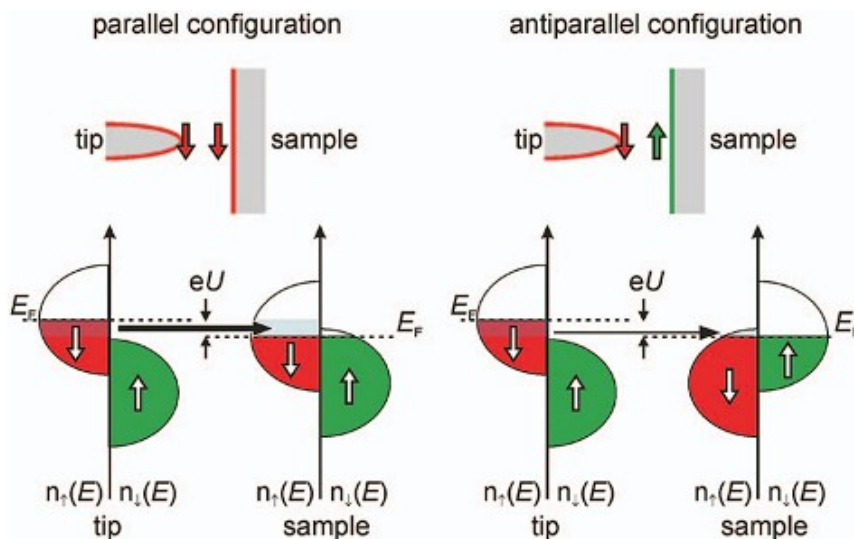
different tip heights on adjacent steps, due to different conductance.

$$P = \frac{\exp(A\sqrt{\phi}\Delta s) - 1}{A\sqrt{\phi}\Delta s}$$

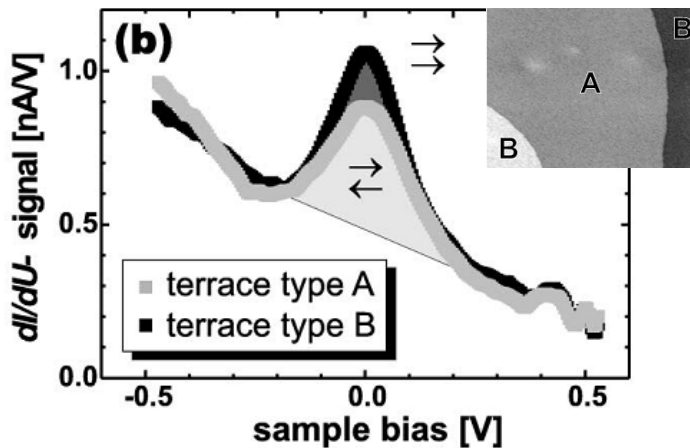
Δs is tip height difference

difference in conductance

~ **total difference** of the local density of state (LDOS) in different spin of the sample **below the bias voltage**.



SP-STM Measurement



- Operation modes:

- **dI/dV spectrum measurement**

dI/dV measurement on different magnetic domain, correlated with the LDOS v.s. bias voltage.

$$P = \frac{dI/dU_{\uparrow\uparrow} - dI/dU_{\uparrow\downarrow}}{dI/dU_{\uparrow\uparrow} + dI/dU_{\uparrow\downarrow}},$$

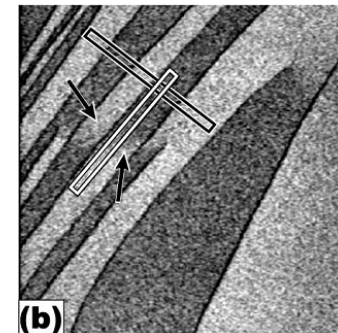
need a stable spin-polarized tip during measurement

- **dI/dV mapping mode**

spatial distribution of the dI/dV signal of the same area as STM topograph

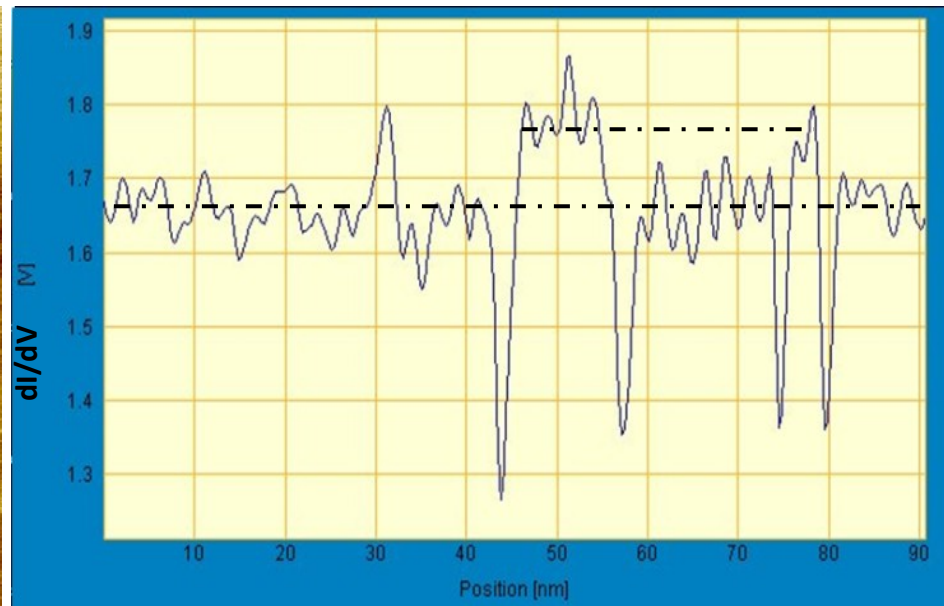
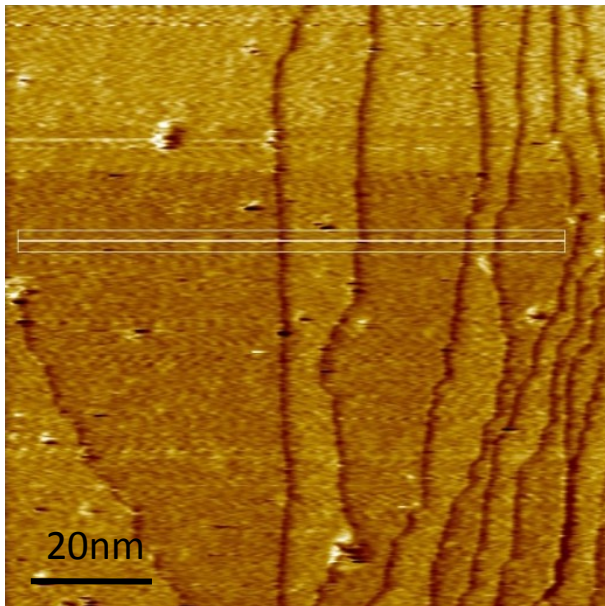
instant imaging of spin-polarized signal

easy to monitor the change of the SP tip



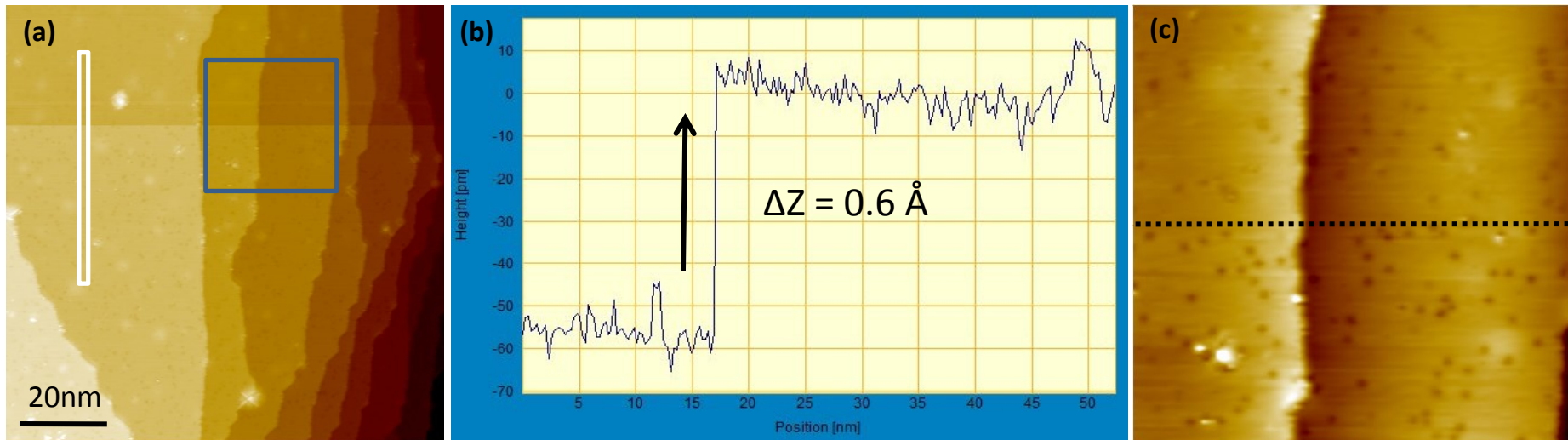
SP-STM Measurement

- Results of SP-STM measurements :
 - Spin-polarized spectroscopic image with spin contrast between adjacent terraces
 - The spin polarization of Cr(001) substrate at -0.15 V is
$$P = (1.75 - 1.66)/(1.75 + 1.66) = 2.6 \%$$



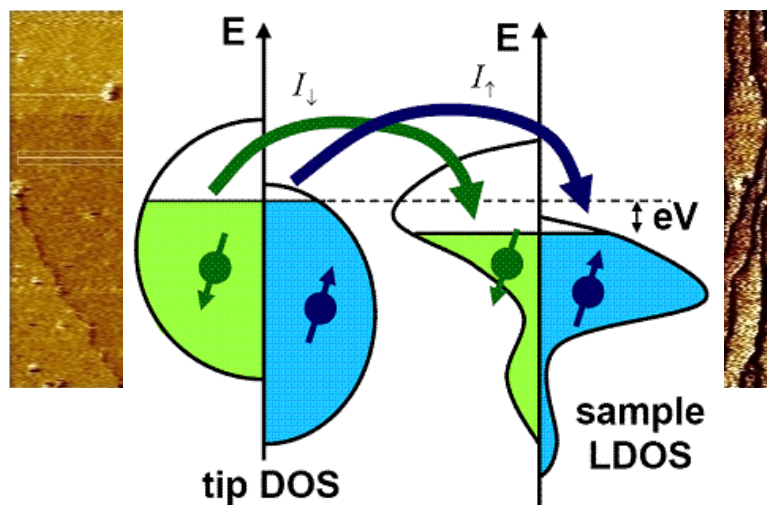
SP-STM Measurement

- Results of SP-STM measurements :
 - No spin-polarized contrast in the upper part of dI/dV spectroscopic image $\rightarrow$ the tip is unpolarized.
 - An increase of tip height $0.6 \text{ \AA}$ & contrast in STM image is improved $\rightarrow$ one atom was picked up by the tip



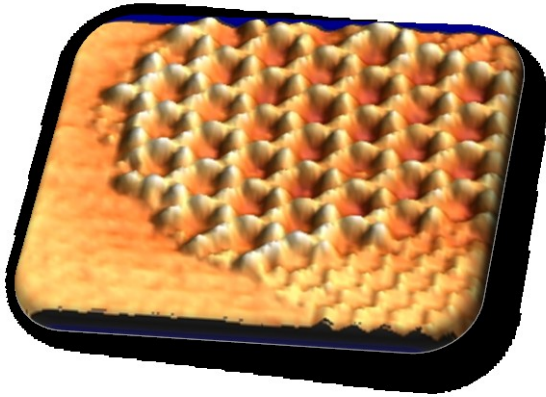
SP-STM Measurement

- Results of SP-STM measurements :
 - For a blunt tip, the spin-polarized tunneling currents generated from different spin sublattices of Cr (antiferromagnetic material) cancel each other.
 - The additional Cr atom sharpens the tip, and improves the spin-polarized signal.



- Reversed contrast at bias voltage -0.20 V
 $P = -2.4\%$
- Positive SP:
LDOS of spin-up $>$ LDOS of spin-down
Negative SP:
LDOS of spin-up $<$ LDOS of spin-down

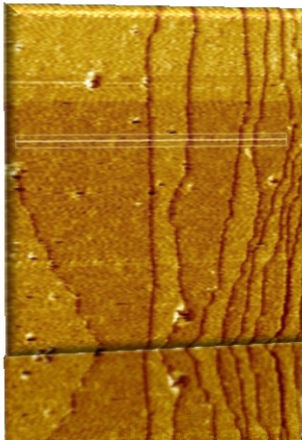
Conclusion



1st work of 2D metal-organic networks
self-assembled by Pb on surface
Kagome (*possible 2D TI*) and stripe structures



- 2D tunable Bi cluster superlattices
Potential candidate for 2D topological insulators



- SP-STM with spin contrast

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THANK YOU!