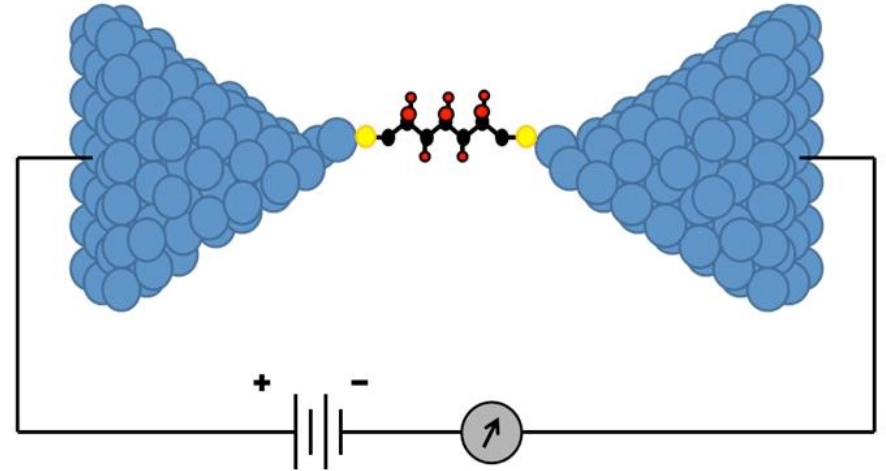
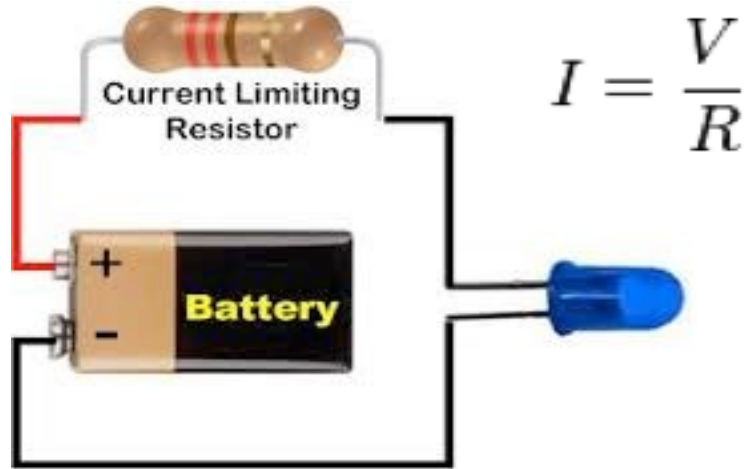


New developments in **SIESTA**
for high-performance materials
simulations

Overview of the TranSIESTA module for transport simulations

Pablo Ordejón
ICN2, Barcelona

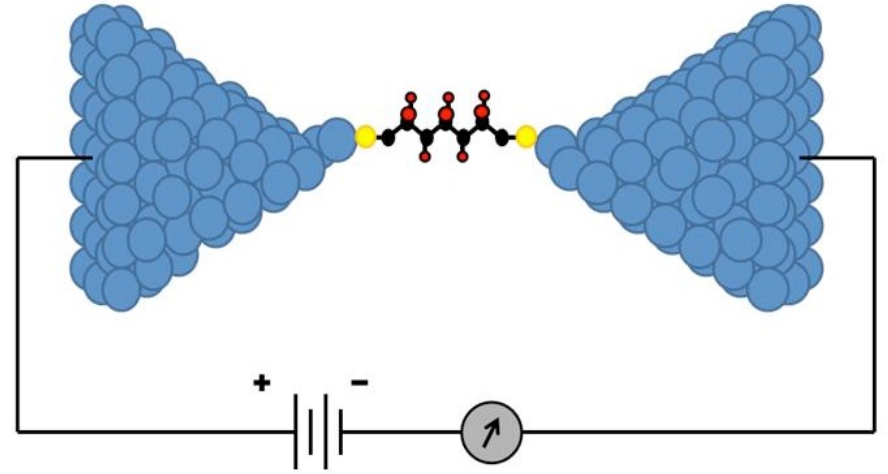
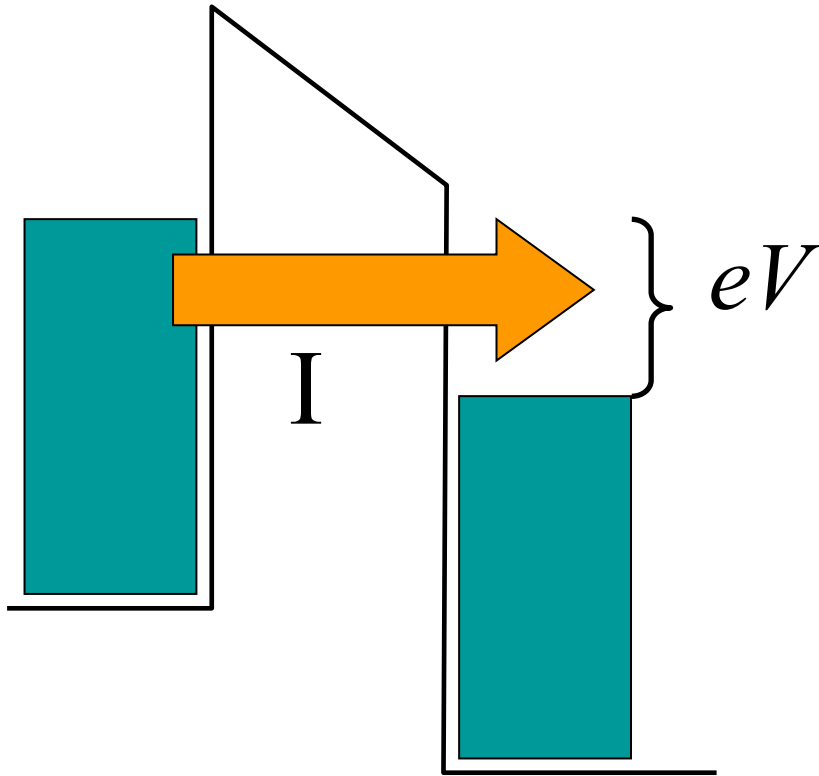
Challenge: Charge Transport at the Nanoscale



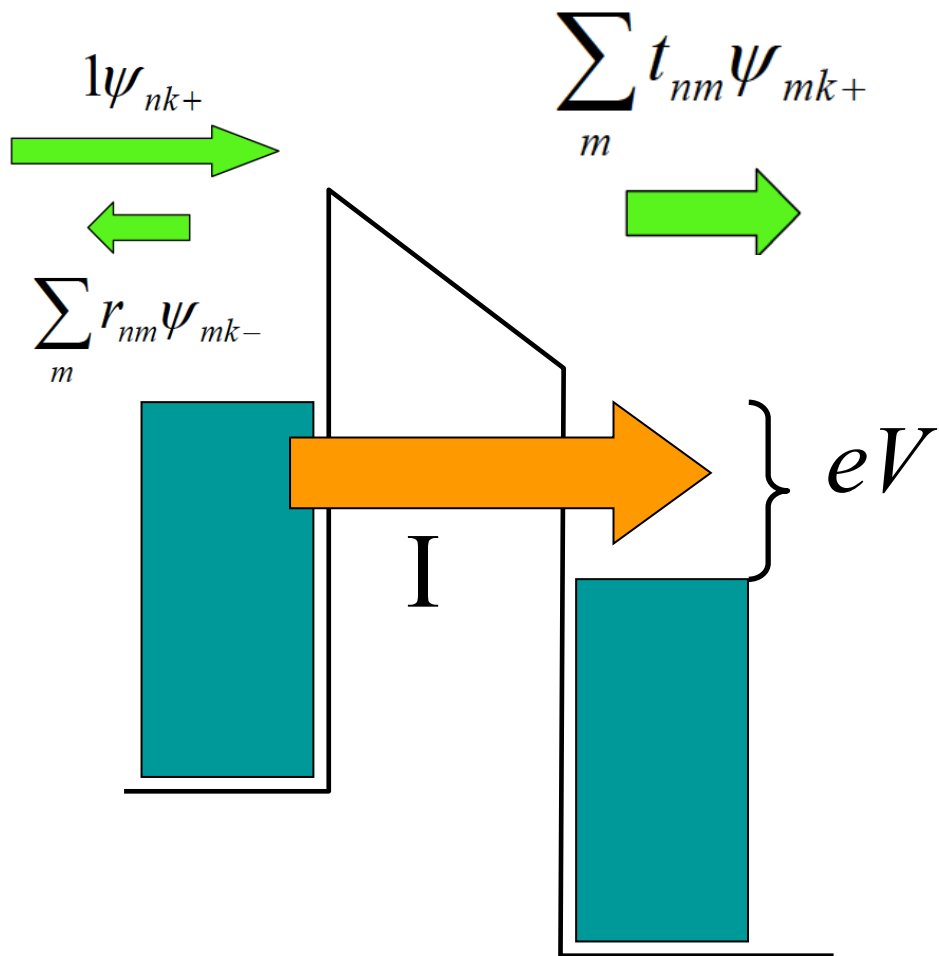
- Basic understanding of transport phenomena in nanoscale materials and devices
- Quantum effects are essential (quantum confinement; ballistic conduction; ...)
- Atomic detail
- “Ab-initio” (from first principles)
- TranSIESTA – module of SIESTA. Quantum Transport from Density Functional Theory
- Brandbyge et al., Phys. Rev. B 65, 165401 (2002)

Electronic Transport: Conductance of a nanocontact

$$I = \frac{V}{R}$$



Electronic Transport: Conductance as scattering



transmission matrix and transmission coefficient:

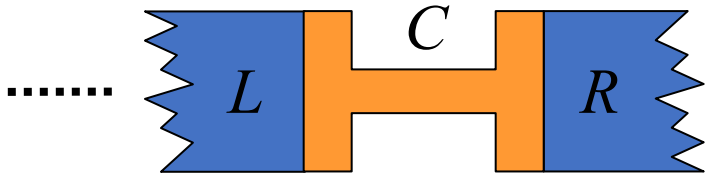
$$T(\varepsilon) = \text{Tr} [t^+ t] (\varepsilon)$$

Current

$$I = \frac{2e}{h} \int d\varepsilon (f_L(\varepsilon) - f_R(\varepsilon)) T(\varepsilon)$$

LANDAUER - BÜTTIKER

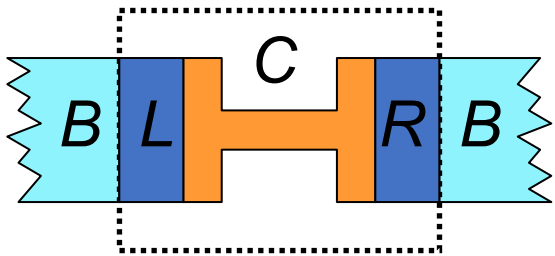
Green's Functions in an Open System



$$G(\varepsilon) = (\varepsilon - H)^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \dots & -V_L^+ & & & & \\ -V_L^- & \varepsilon - H_L & -V_{LC} & & & \\ & -V_{CL} & \varepsilon - H_C & -V_{CR} & & \\ & & -V_{RC} & \varepsilon - H_R & -V_R^+ & \\ & & & -V_R^- & \dots & \end{bmatrix}^{-1}$$

Contact:

- Contains the molecule, and part of the Right and Left electrodes
- Sufficiently large to include the screening

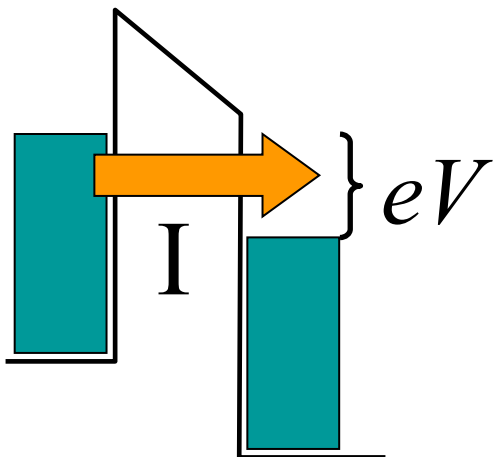


Solution in finite system:

$$G(\varepsilon) = \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon - H_L - \Sigma_L & -V_{LC} & & \\ -V_{CL} & \varepsilon - H_C & -V_{CR} & \\ & -V_{RC} & \varepsilon - H_R - \Sigma_R & \end{bmatrix}^{-1}$$

$\Sigma(\varepsilon)$ = Selfenergies. Can be obtained from the bulk Greens functions

Transmission and Green's Functions



transmission matrix and
transmission coefficient:

$$T(\varepsilon) = \text{Tr} [t^\dagger t] (\varepsilon)$$

LANDAUER - BÜTTIKER

Current

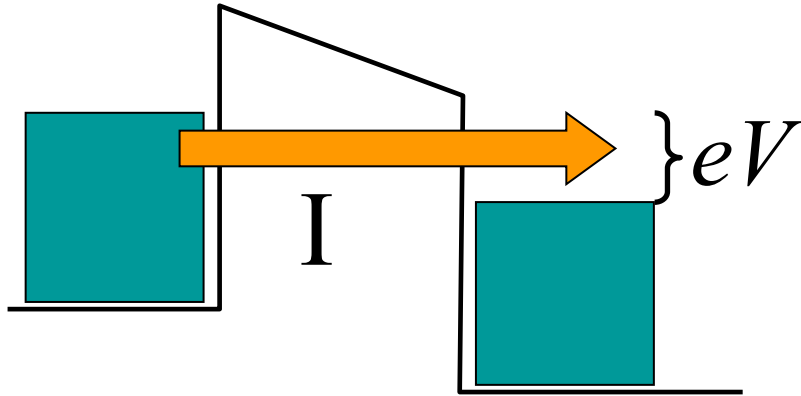
$$I = \frac{2e}{h} \int d\varepsilon (f_L(\varepsilon) - f_R(\varepsilon)) T(\varepsilon)$$

Transmission from
Green's functions:

$$t(\varepsilon) = [\Gamma_R(\varepsilon)]^{1/2} \mathbf{G}(\varepsilon) [\Gamma_L(\varepsilon)]^{1/2};$$

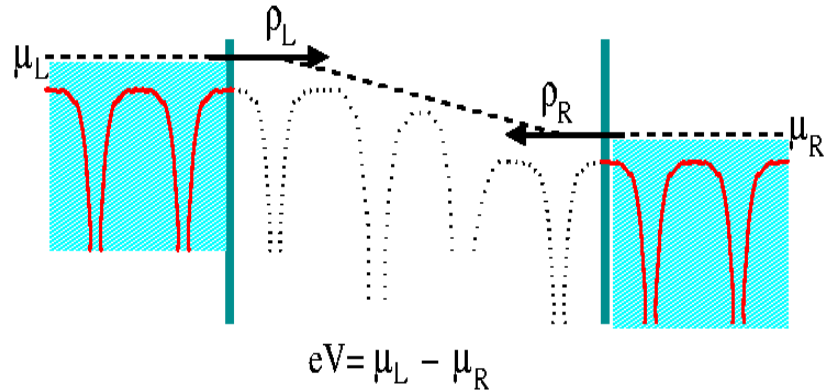
$$\Gamma_L(z) \equiv i[\Sigma_L(\varepsilon) - \Sigma_L(\varepsilon)^\dagger]/2,$$

Handling Non-Equilibrium to compute the Density



How to compute the electron density if there is not a single Fermi level?

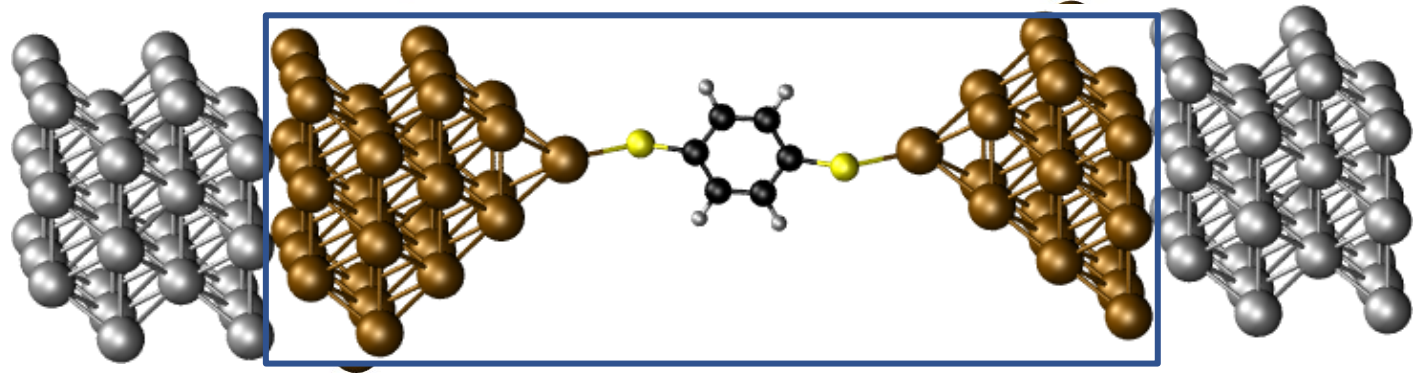
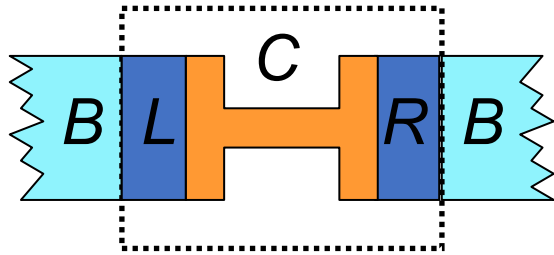
Non-equilibrium Green's Functions (Keldish formalism):



$$D_{\mu\nu} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\varepsilon \left[\rho_{\mu\nu}^L(\varepsilon) n_F(\varepsilon - \mu_L) + \rho_{\mu\nu}^R(\varepsilon) n_F(\varepsilon - \mu_R) \right]$$

$$\rho_{\mu\nu}^L(\varepsilon) = \frac{1}{\pi} \left(G(\varepsilon) \text{Im}[\Sigma_L(\varepsilon)] G^t(\varepsilon) \right)_{\mu\nu}$$

System setup

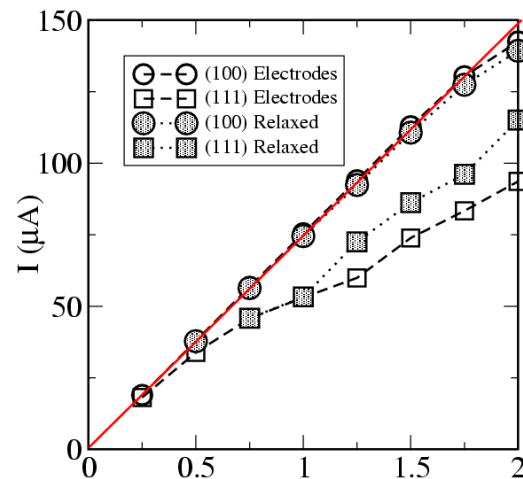
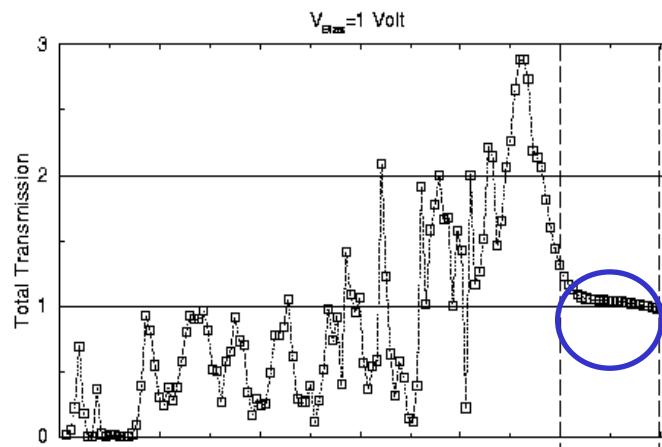
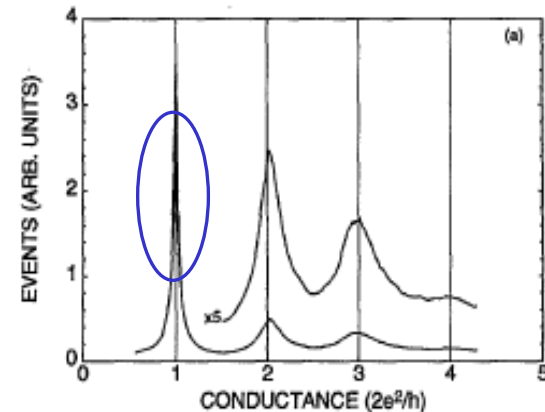
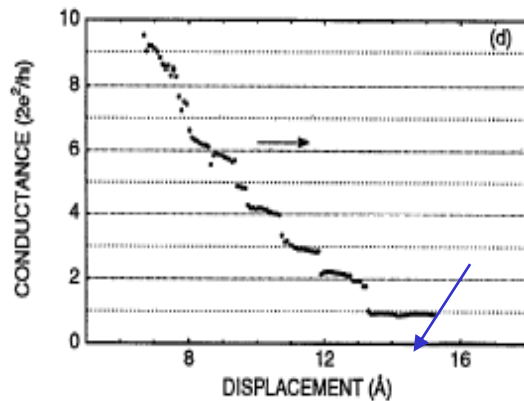
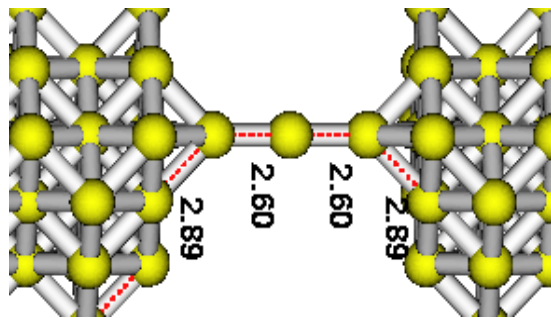
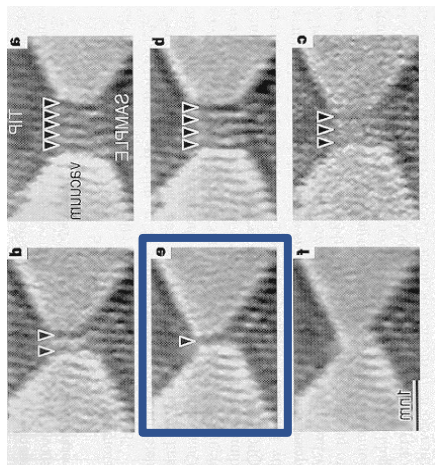


1. Define molecule or device
2. Attach connection to the molecule
3. Attach a few electrode layers
4. Effect of the bulk electrodes – via the Self-energies

- Consider the molecule as a defect.
- The defect has a screening length in the electrode region (thus the extra electrode layers).
- Ensure that the electrodes behave as bulk electrodes (away from the defect).
- A previous SIESTA run for the bulk electrodes is needed, to compute the self-energies.
- The TranSIESTA calculation is done in the contact region
- Periodic Boundary Conditions perpendicular to transport

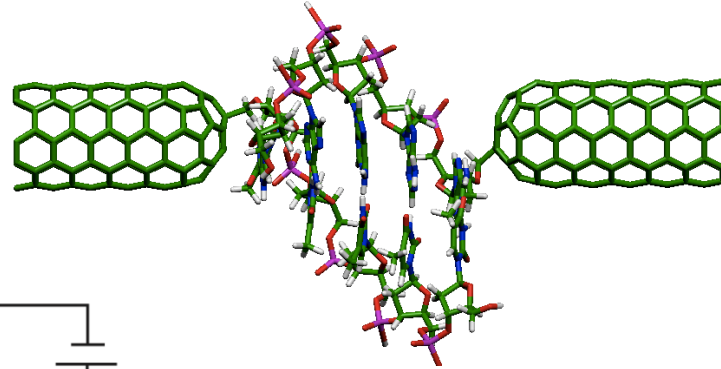
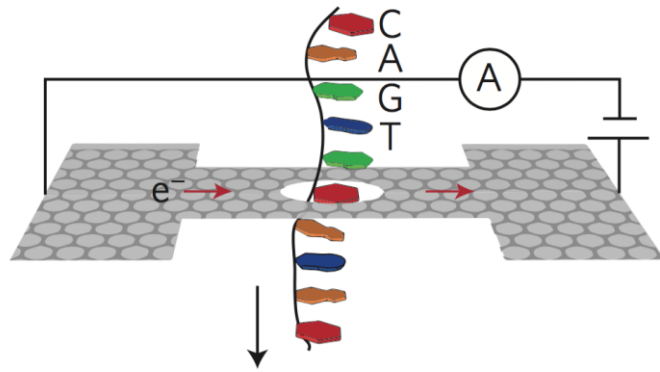
Some examples

Monoatomic Gold wires

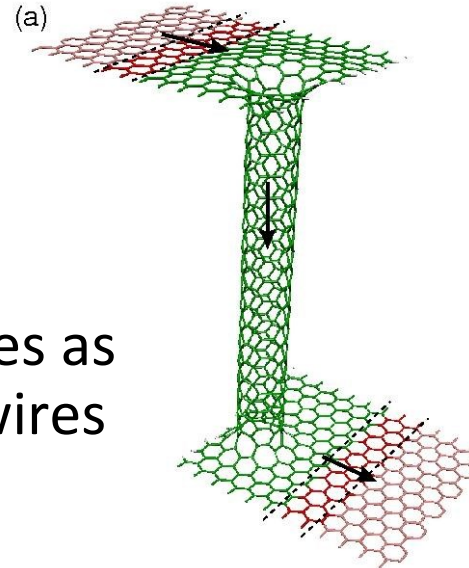


Some examples

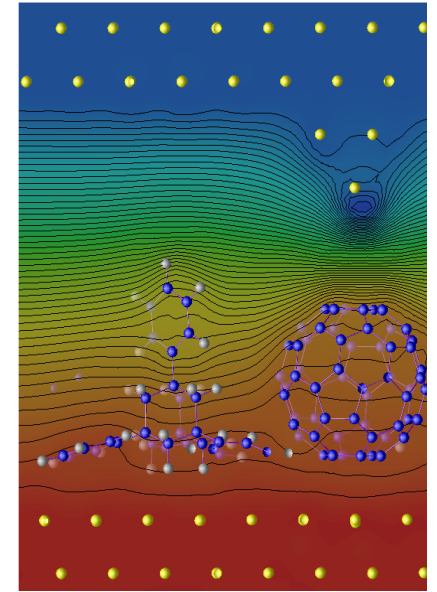
DNA Sequencing



Nanotubes as
electric wires



STM Imaging



Thank you!

pablo.ordejon@icn2.cat

