ME597/PHYS57000 Fall Semester 2009 Lecture 22

Frequency Modulated AFM - Experimental Details -

Suggested Reading: F. Giessibl, Rev. Mod. Phys. 75, 949 (2003)

What is Required?

- High stability
- Measure small frequency shifts accurately
- Large spring constant



New Idea: Tuning Forks



Cost: ~0.25 USD

$$f_o = 2^N$$
; $N = \text{integer}$
 $f_o = 2^{15} = 32,768.0000 \text{ Hz}$

Quartz: a piezoelectric material



Introduction to Scanning Tunneling Microscopy, C. Julian Chen, Oxford University Press (2008).

Thermal stability of quartz compared to Si



F. Giessibl, Rev. Mod. Phys. 75, 949 (2003)

Electrode Geometry Selects Vibrational Mode







Vibration Spectrum



Raltron Model R26 Tuning Fork



Length (mm)	3.20 ± 0.01	Effective mass (kg)	2.72×10^{-7}
Thickness (mm)	0.40 ± 0.01	Spring constant (kN/m)	12.7
Width (mm)	0.33 ± 0.01	Resonance (kHz)	34.39
Density (kg/m^3)	2.65×10^3	Young's Modulus(Pa)	7.87×10^{10}



Eliminating the Parasitic Capacitance



Y. Qin, PhD thesis, Purdue University (2007).

Calibrating the Amplitude of Oscillation



Y. Qin, PhD thesis, Purdue University (2007).

Typical calibration (A_o vs. applied driving voltage)



Y. Qin, PhD thesis, Purdue University (2007).

Mounting a Tip: Tuning Fork AFM

$k \cong 1000 \text{ N/m}$



Q in vacuum \cong 45,000 Q in air \cong 9,000

Y. Qin, PhD thesis, Purdue University

Commercially available Q-plus sensor



Intro to Phase Locked Loops (PLLs)



Voltage-Controlled Oscillator (VCO)

Principle of Digital Phase-Lock Loops (PLL)

TASK: Instantly track and measure frequency of an input signal I(t) with high accuracy



- Negative feedback!
- Goal is to make $\Delta f = f f' = 0$

Tuning Fork AFM



No laser required to measure deflection

FM-AFM Constant Frequency Images



Scan while keeping $w(d^*)$ and Q constant

FM-AFM Force Spectroscopy



FM-AFM Force Spectroscopy W tip - HOPG substrate

