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Advanced nano-electrical characterization of solar cells and 2-d materials with atomic force microcopy

Over the past 30 years, Atomic Force Microscopy has evolved from a microscope to measure just the surface topography to a wide variety of measurement modes that provides a way to characterize other atomic interactions or physical properties like magnetic field, electric field, nanoscale dissipation processes. thermal conductivity, electrical conductivity, resistance, surface potential, piezoresponse, Young modulus,... Electrical nanocharacterization with AFM has emerged as a powerful tool to map electrical properties at the nanoscale, like surface potential (work function) and conductivity. However, traditional setups in AFM make difficult to obtain accurate and repeteable results over several types of samples. Specially in the solar cells field, where both in-plane and cross-section electrical characterization need to be performed.

In this contribution we will show the capabilities new developed AFM modes: High Definition Kelvin Force Microscopy (HD-KFM), ResiScope, Soft-Resiscope and Scaning Microwave that overcome the intrinsic difficulties of electrical nanocharacterization with AFM. This techniques have been applied on a variety of solar cells samples providing high stability, sensitivity and lateral resolution.

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Figures

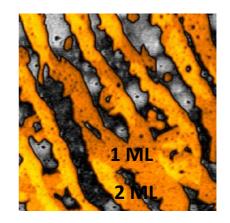


Figure 1: HD-KFM image on Graphene

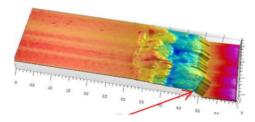


Figure 2: HD-KFM image of a cleaved perovskite solar cell