

MATRIX V 3.2

Modular hardware and software control concept

MATRIX vs. SCALA

Good arguments to change ...



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Introduction ▶

New functions (Atom manipulation) ▶

New functions (Spectroscopy) ▶

New functions (AFM) ▶

New functions (Miscellaneous) ▶

User interface ▶

Data management ▶

Programming ▶

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this is an interactive PDF document.

It offers you - **orange marked** - internal & external links for better navigation or additional information .

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- Has an improved signal to noise level
- Offers a digital scan generator with no electronic drift
- Uses a digital regulator with more functionalities and flexibility
- Offers more measurement channels (a minimum of 24 internal channels plus 6 external channels)
- Offers improved AFM control with a new digital PLL controller
- Uses automated drift correction by image correlation technique
- Offers extended scripting and remote access functions (i.e. using LabView)
- Is flexible for PC model changes
- And more!

See the following pages for details...

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Matrix V3.2

The advantages of the MATRIX Control System over its predecessor SCALA are:

- Easier to use due to a self explanatory graphical user interface (GUI)
- Improved signal to noise level
- Offers a digital scan generator with no electronic drift
- Uses a digital regulator with more functionalities and flexibility
- Offers more measurement channels (a minimum of 24 internal channels plus 6 external channels)
- Offers improved AFM control with a new digital PLL controller
- Uses automated drift correction by image correlation technique
- Offers extended scripting and remote access functions (i.e. using LabView)
- It is flexible for PC model changes
- And more!

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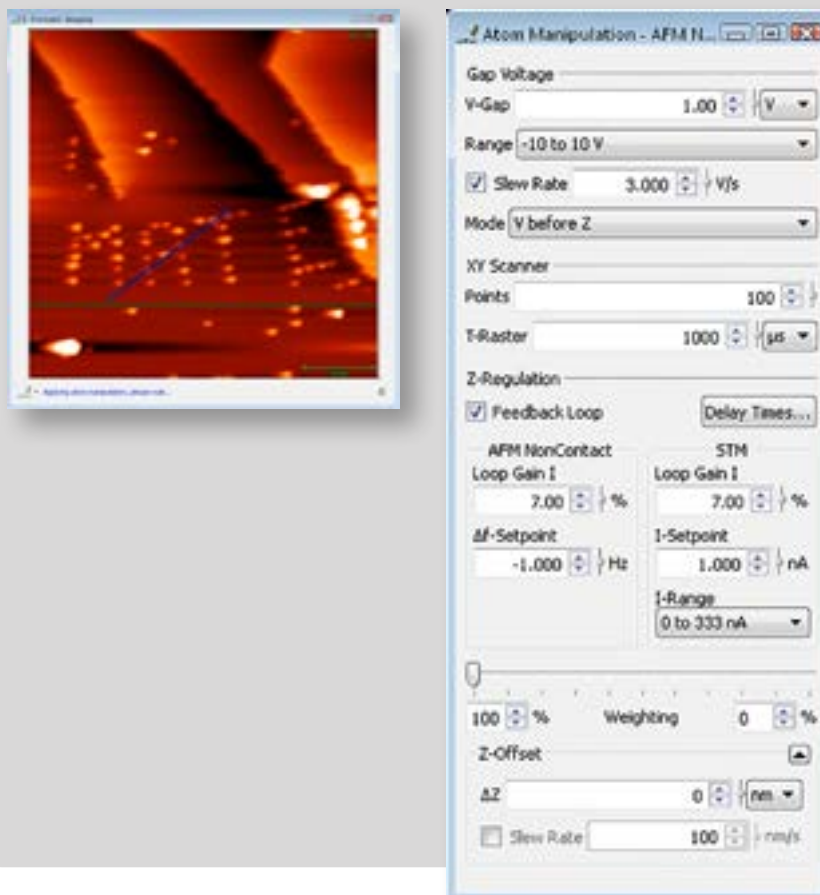
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Matrix V3.2

Scala

Atom Manipulation with user defined vectors.

n/a



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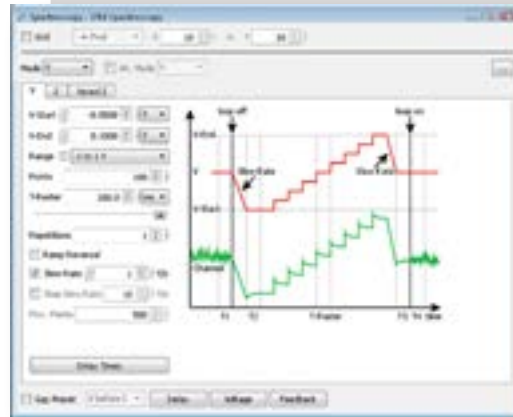
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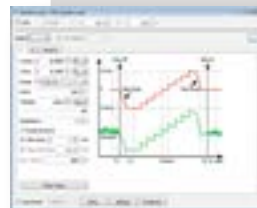
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Highly dedicated and flexible spectroscopy module



Synchronised activation of external modulation inputs with spectroscopy sequence



Scala

Limited functionality and flexibility

Bias modulation always active → visible in topography.

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Multiple spectroscopy curves at the same position (repeat n times).	n/a
Ramp reversal during spectroscopy measurement (-3 V ... +3 V ... -3 V)	Only single ramp direction (no reversal in one sequence)
Gap preset: parameters V_{Gap} , current set point and feedback loop gain can be set to alternative values prior to a spectroscopy measurement. This allows to change the tunneling conditions prior to a spectroscopy measurement.	n/a
Optional slew rate on steps for fine adjustment of voltage ramp	Only vertical steps
Very large number of points (>1 M) and long integration time (19 s/point)	4000 pts / 0.164 s/pt

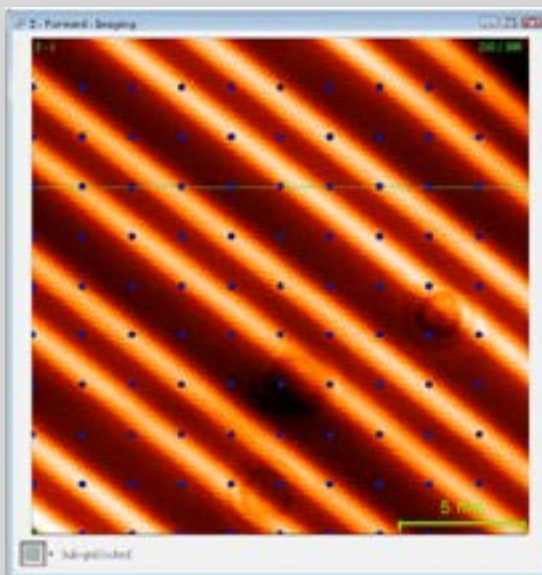
I-PDF-MATRIX vs Scala_Jul 2015

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Graphically adjustable grid positions



No graphical representation

Spectroscopy along a graphically defined line

n/a

TTL Trigger outputs for real-time synchronization of spectroscopy with external hardware

n/a

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Scala

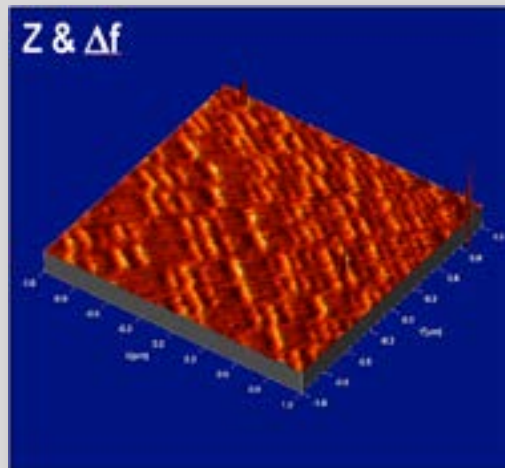
The following items are only available with our PLL extension. Our fully digital PLL provides superior stability and signal-to-noise ratio. It is optimized for small AFM amplitudes.

Analog electronics

MFM modes:

- Plane mode (scan on a constant plane with defined tilt)
- Z-profiling mode (1st pass: scan topography, 2nd pass: rescan obtained z-profile at defined offset)

Only plane mode



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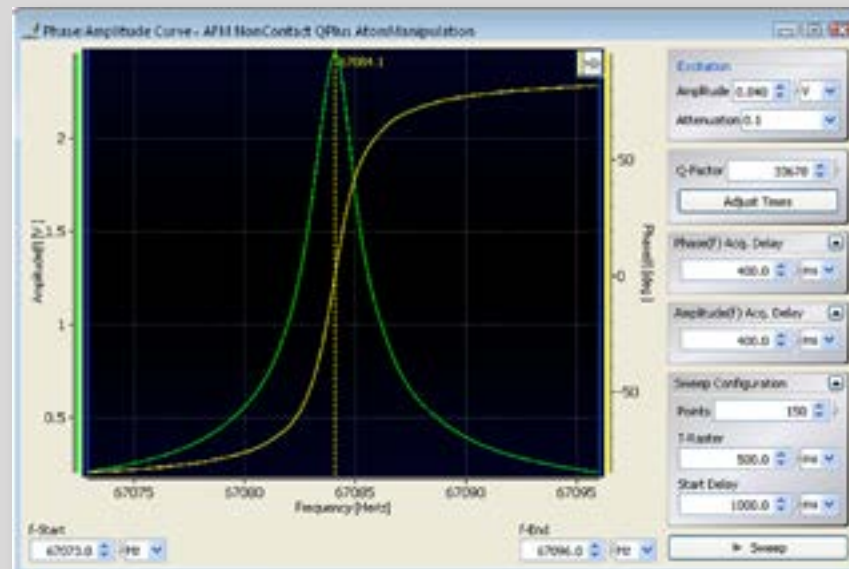
The following modes are available

- Constant amplitude mode (PLL active)
- Constant excitation mode (PLL active)
- Self excitation mode (PLL inactive)

Scala

Only self-excitation mode.

Resonance/phase curve acquisition



n/a

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Tip protection: the tip is automatically retracted if the amplitude becomes too small or the phase error too large (configurable)	n/a
Integrated controller for Kelvin-Probe Microscopy	n/a
Δf detection bandwidth selection	fixed
Analog monitors for AFM signals with adjustable calibration	n/a
Live-filtering of AFM data channels	n/a
Amplitude and Phase measurement channels for complete NC-AFM datasets	n/a
Highly accurate Lock-in type amplitude detection for NC-AFM	n/a

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Scala

Two-branch regulator. Two feedback parameters can be weighted and used for distance regulation at the same time, for example tunneling current and frequency shift.

n/a



User defined speed for auto approach or loop gain dependent speed. Each mode (STM, AFM) can be set individually.

Fixed speed for STM, loop gain dependent speed for AFM.

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Scala

Tip preparation tools (voltage pulse, indentation, combination of both at arbitrary position)

n/a



Up-/Down scans to minimize the effect of piezo creep.

Only most recent SCALA versions.

Separate settings for scan speed and tip relocation speed → tip is safe on sloped surface

Both speeds identical

Line delay function: delay the scan at the beginning of each line (both in forward and backward direction).

n/a

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Scala

Automated and manual drift correction.

Only manual drift correction.



Adjustable slew rates for V and Z changes

n/a

Prophylactic data storage (to avoid data loss caused by external events during long term measurements)

n/a

Continuous signal vs. time channels. Can be used as an oscilloscope or FFT tool.

n/a

User-configurable initial sampling delay and oversampling for each channel helps optimizing spectroscopy acquisition.

n/a



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Modular hardware and software control concept

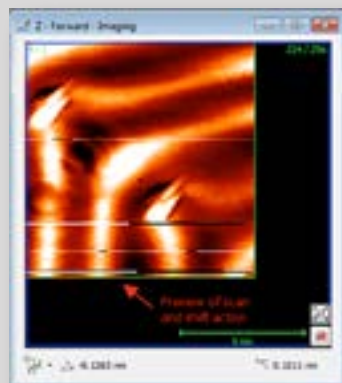
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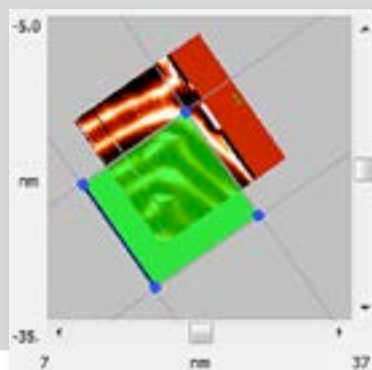
Interactive zoom, pan, and rotation directly in the data display by mouse control.

n/a



Copy scan data to scan control area as navigation aid

n/a

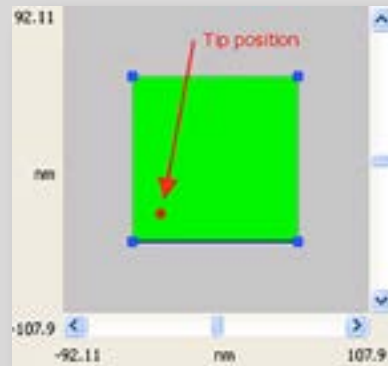


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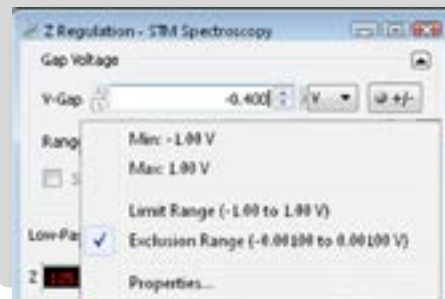
Scala

Tip movement visualization



n/a

Limits and forbidden values can be specified for each numerical control (like tunneling current, gap voltage, scan size etc.)



n/a

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Scala

Supports Window Schemes for alternative window configurations

n/a

Mouse tools (direct interaction with a channel display)

	Single Point Spectroscopy	S
	Spectroscopy at Line	Ctrl+L
	Voltage Pulse Position	V
	Z Ramp Position	Z
	Atom Manipulation	M
	Atom Manipulation with Z-Profiling	Ctrl+M
	Tip Relocation	T
	Drift Compensation	D
	Voltage Pulse	P
	Rotation	R
	Area Selection	A
	Sub-Grid	G

Mouse tools only for

- Single point spectroscopy
- Drift compensation

Acceptance of parameter changes in real-time → much smoother experiment control

After completion of scan line

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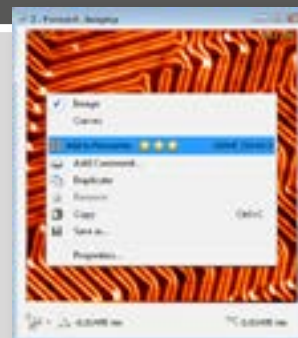
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Star-rating for easier data retrieval



Scala

n/a

Favourites Gallery function for easy access to image processing or browsing

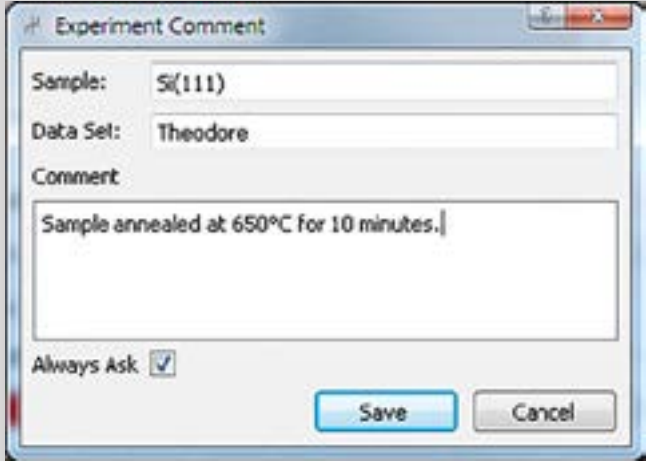


n/a

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<p>Comment system (global and image-by image). Data can be filtered for comments while browsing</p> 	<p>Only one comment field available. Data cannot be filtered based on comment</p>
<p>Easy Clipboard copy facility for images and curve data</p>	<p>n/a</p>

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Quick data browsing with Vernissage:

- complex filtering for channels, parameters etc.
- Mouse Drag and Drop support
- Parameter View for instantaneous access to measurement parameters while clicking through a series of images
- Table view for fast quantitative overview of data sets
- Export facility to different file formats (Bitmap, ASCII, SCALA Pro, etc.)

Commandline version for batch processing available



Scala

Data browsing with built-in viewer

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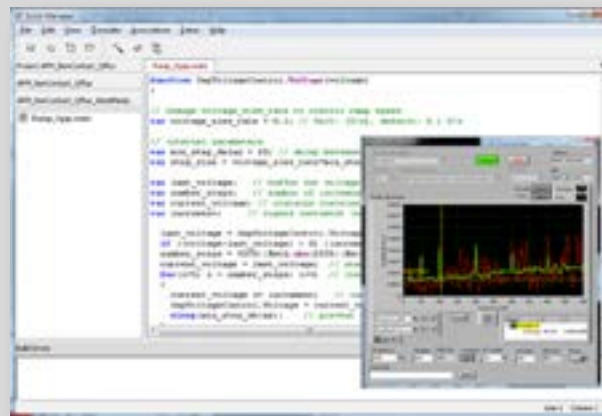
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Flexible Experiment Control through MATE programming language

- Automation
- Experiment modifications during a running experiment
- Trigger signals for experiment states (e.g. position reached, scan finished, line finished etc.)
- Integrated script programming environment with syntax highlighting and error checking
- Easy-to-learn script language based on ECMAScript
- Multiple simultaneous scripts and remote software extensions possible



Scala

Limited control

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Remote API for LabView and other external software via C-library with full MATE functionality	n/a

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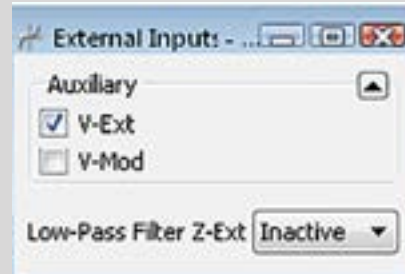
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Software-switchable low pass filters for distance regulation, external bias offset and various AFM monitor signals.

n/a

Software switchable external inputs V_{ext} , V_{mod} and Z_{ext}



n/a

>24 bit dynamic z-resolution with true 20 bit converter. Z-gain switching not necessary.

16 bit z-resolution → z-gain switching necessary for either full scan range or best resolution.

A/D converter sampling rate: 400 kHz.

100 kHz

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Matrix V3.2	Scala
6 external channels in addition to internal channels (like IT, Z, Δf etc.). Further extensible by additional A/D converter boards.	2 external channels, only 2 simultaneous channels.
Analog output: 2x programmable D/A converter per A/D converter board	n/a
Higher data rates possible (down to 5us/pixel, multiple channels)	10us/pixel + electronic drift/noise
Fully digital scan generation and feedback → much smaller electronic drift in X, Y and Z directions.	Analog scan generation and feedback with intrinsic residual electronic drift in X, Y and Z directions.
High performance bus system with CPU/FPGA/DSP on every board → no performance drop when extending system	Strongly Limited resources

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Front panel with BNC connector for all relevant analog signals → easy access	Limited BNC monitors at backside
Fast Ethernet connection to PC for long-lived compatibility and replaceability of PC	Proprietary IEEE1394
MATRIX is Windows 7 compatible	Only Windows NT and Windows XP
Fully compatible with Omicron microscopes, adaptor sets for older microscopes available	Only compatible with old instrument types

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- Scanning Probe Microscopy
- Thin Film & Tailored Systems
- Service & Engineering

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