

Fig. 7. Measurement of the focal spot at the tip using a knife edge technique. Data (black) is approximately described by a Gaussian intensity profile with FWHM of 70 μm (red).

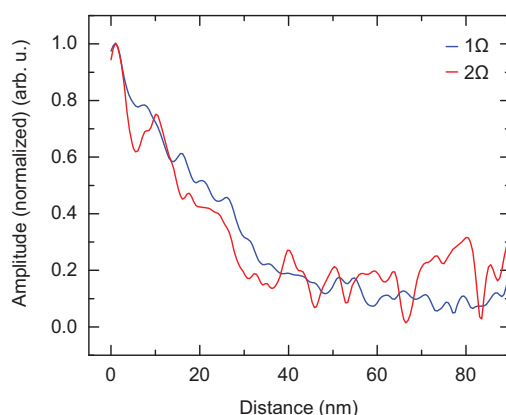


Fig. 8. Approach curves of the *s*-SNOM signal taken above a gold surface with reference arm at zero path difference. Demodulation at both the first (Ω) and second harmonic (2Ω) show strong near-field content with an order-of-magnitude increase within the last 50 nm.

at first (Ω) and second harmonic (2Ω) of the tip modulation frequency. Both contain strong near-field content with an order-of-magnitude increase within the last 50 nm. The approach curves were obtained with the reference arm at zero path difference for maximum heterodyne amplification.

Acknowledgments

We acknowledge Joanna Atkin for help developing the experiment. hBN samples were provided by Feng Wang and Samuel Berweger. Funding was provided by the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Basic Sciences, Division of Material Sciences and Engineering, under Award No. DE-SC0008807. The ALS is supported by the Director, Office of Science, Office of Basic Energy Sciences, through the US Department of Energy (DOE) under Contract DE-AC02-05CH11231. We would like to acknowledge a partner proposal by the Environmental Molecular Sciences Laboratory (EMSL), a national scientific user facility from the DOE Office of Biological and Environmental Research at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL). PNNL is operated by Battelle for the U.S. DOE under the contract DEAC06-76RL01830.