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Nearly identical high-resolution images of a segment of BlueScript II plasmid DNA scanned in the atomic force microscope. By imaging plasmid DNA on mica in n-propanol, reproducible structure along the DNA strand can be revealed; this segment was scanned continuously for 15 minutes without moving or being damaged. Such imaging holds promise for the investigation of protein–nucleic acid interactions and chromosome mapping. See page 1180. [Computer art by Scott Hansma]

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