

Basics of Electron Microscopy



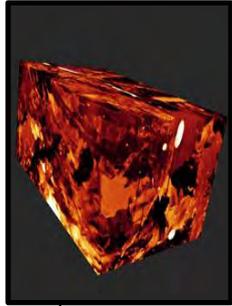
The moment "I think" becomes "I know".
This is the moment we work for.

// TECHNOLOGY
MADE BY CARL ZEISS

John Kelley
Electron, Ion and X-ray Microscopy Specialist for Materials
Carl Zeiss Microscopy, LLC

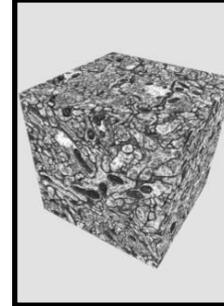
23 Jan 2019
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

- 1 Why Electrons?
- 2 Interaction with Matter
- 3 Electron Emitter
- 4 Electron Column Design
- 5 Operating Parameters
- 6 Insulating Samples



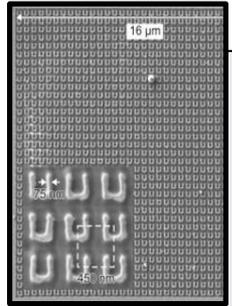
Materials Research

- **Task:** Understand and tailor physical properties of materials. Develop new materials.
- **Examples:** Steels, Alloys, Polymers, Ceramics, Composites
- **Image:** Manganese sulfide inclusions in steel. Courtesy of Georgsmarienhütte GmbH, Germany



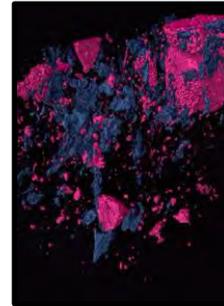
Life Sciences

- **Task:** understand structure and function of biological material
- **Examples:** Cell biology, Neurobiology, Histology, Zoology, Botany
- **Image:** drosophila larval brain. Courtesy of C. Shan Xu, HHMI, USA



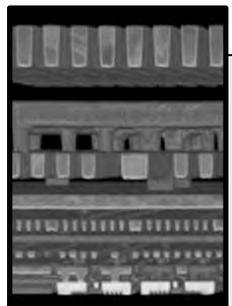
Advanced Materials

- **Task:** Design materials and functional nanostructures with improved or new physical properties
- **Examples:** Metamaterials, MEMS, Biomaterials
- **Image:** Focused-Ion-Beam Nanofabrication of Near-Infrared Magnetic Metamaterials, Enkrich et al. Adv. Mater. 17 (2005)



Raw Materials

- **Task:** find new profitable deposits of natural resources
- **Examples:** Oil&Gas (sedimentary rocks, shale), Mining
- **Image:** Pyrites and voids in shale rock. Courtesy of NanoFUN, Poland



Electronics / Semiconductors

- **Task:** Design better and more efficient electronic devices. Failure Analysis.
- **Examples:** Semiconductors, Polymer Electronics, Photonics
- **Image:** Cross-Section of IC with Intel 22nm-Tri-Gate-technology. Courtesy of UBM TechInsights, Canada



Manufacturing

- **Task:** quality control of material systems used in different industries (e.g. automotive)
- **Examples:** Coatings, Oxidation, Corrosion, Irradiation
- **Image:** Crack in steel sheet. Courtesy of AUDI AG, Germany

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Carl Zeiss Microscopy

Why electrons?

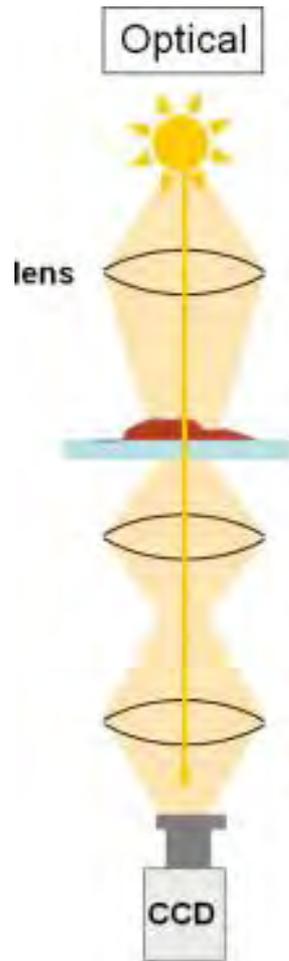


- similar **optical properties**:
 - diffraction, aberration, astigmatism etc.
- **spatial resolution** depends on wavelength:
 - the higher the energy (of the electrons)
 - the lower the wavelength,
 - the higher the resolution
- typical **acceleration voltages** of electrons:
 - Scanning electron microscopes (SEM): 0.2 – 30 kV
 - Transmission electron microscopes (TEM): 40 – 1200 kV

	Light Microscopy	Electron Microscopy
Wavelength	400 – 700 nm	0.1 – 0.002 nm (1 – 100 kV)
Spatial Resolution	~ 1 μ m	~ 1 nm
Max. Magnification	1,000 x	1,000,000 x
Modes of Operation	reflected light, transmitted-light	SEM, TEM
Samples	Unmodified, hydrated	vacuum-compatible

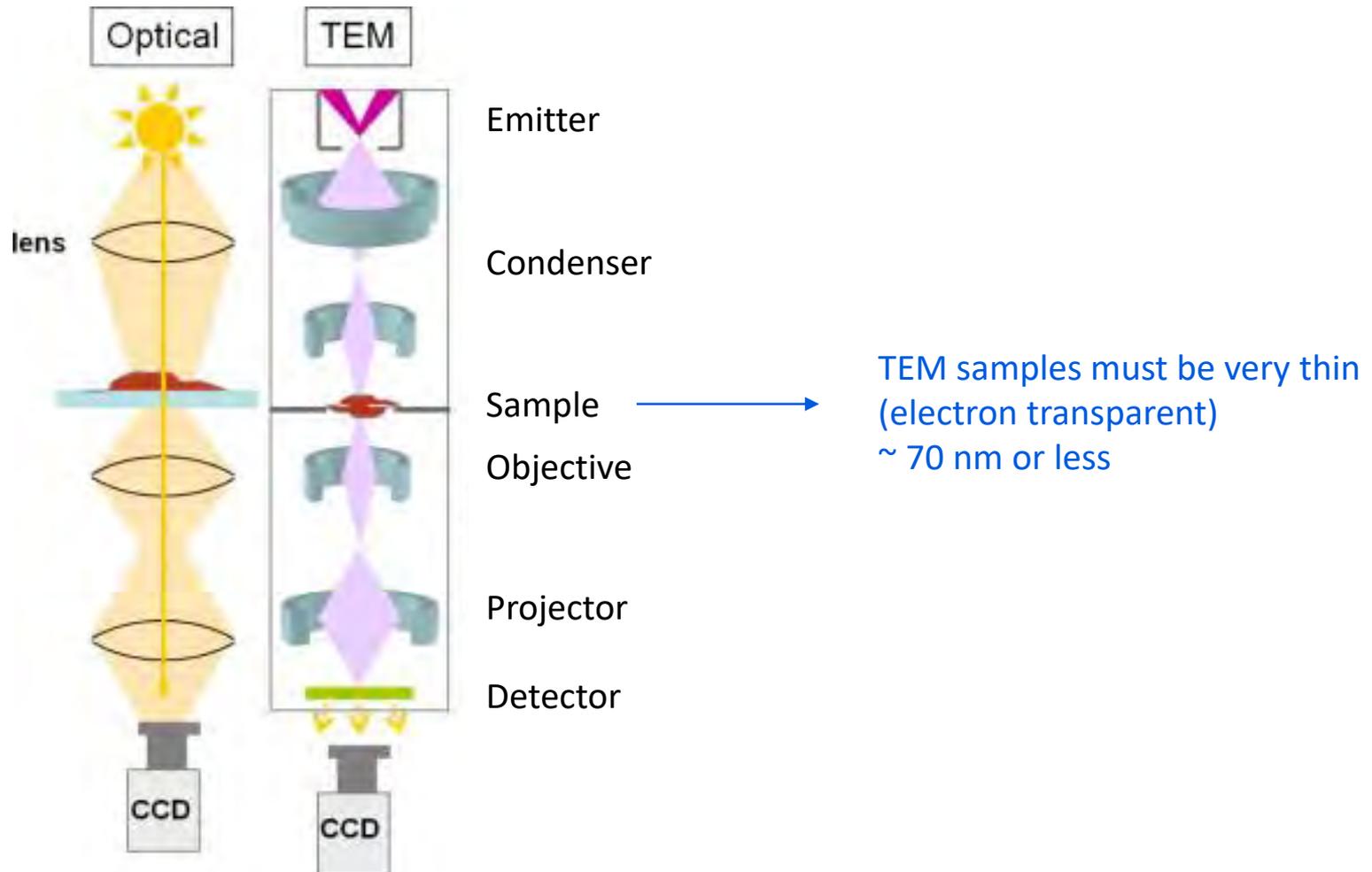
Carl Zeiss Microscopy

How a SEM works



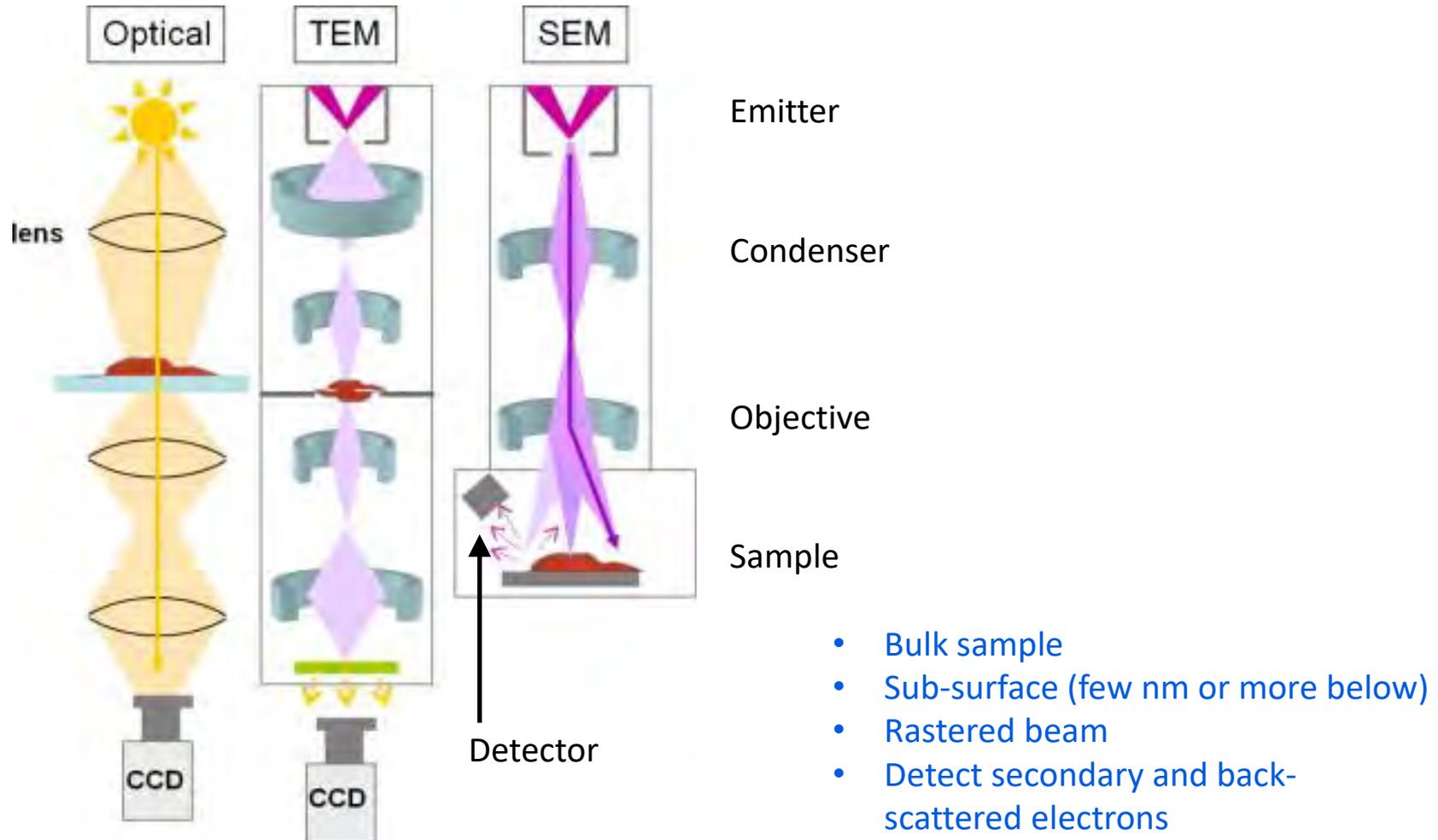
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How a SEM works



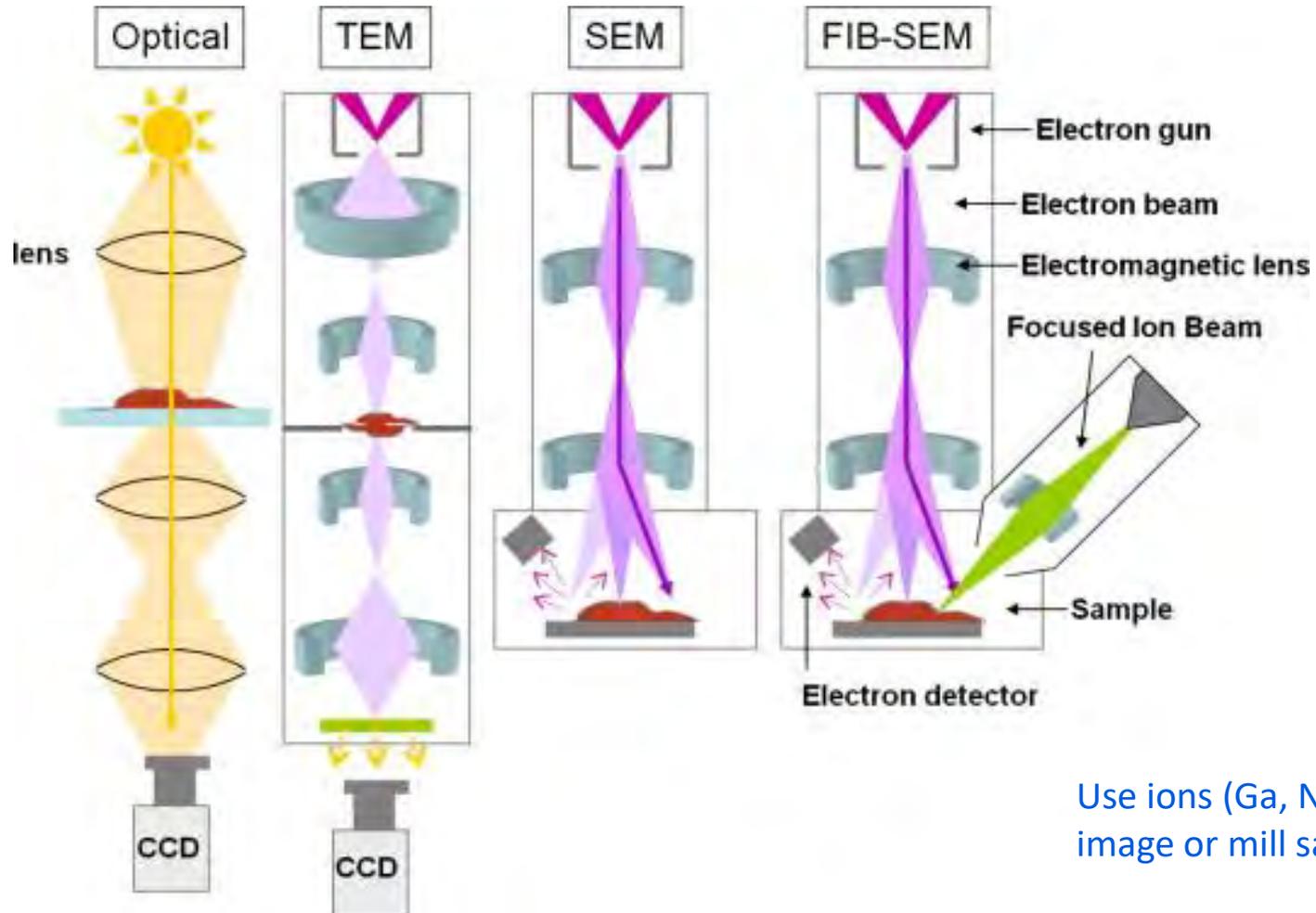
Carl Zeiss Microscopy

How a SEM works



Carl Zeiss Microscopy

How a SEM works



Use ions (Ga, Ne, He) to image or mill sample

Electron Microscopes

Electromagnetic Lenses



Optical lens

Light Source

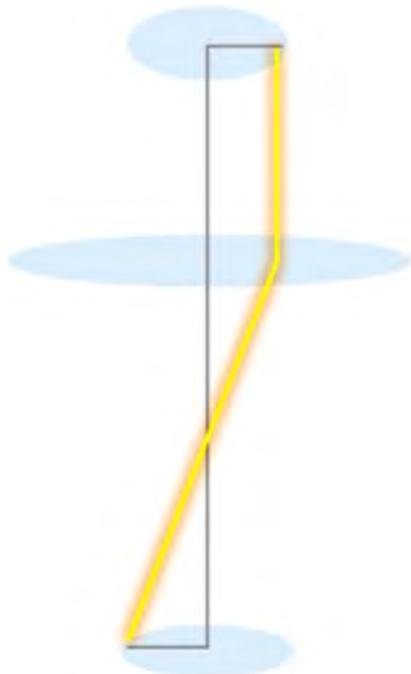


Image is inverted

Magnetic lens

Electron Source

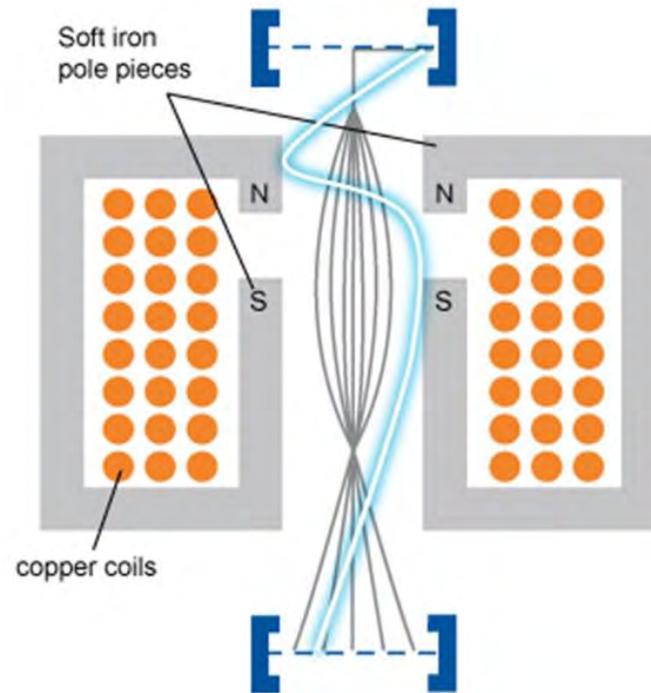


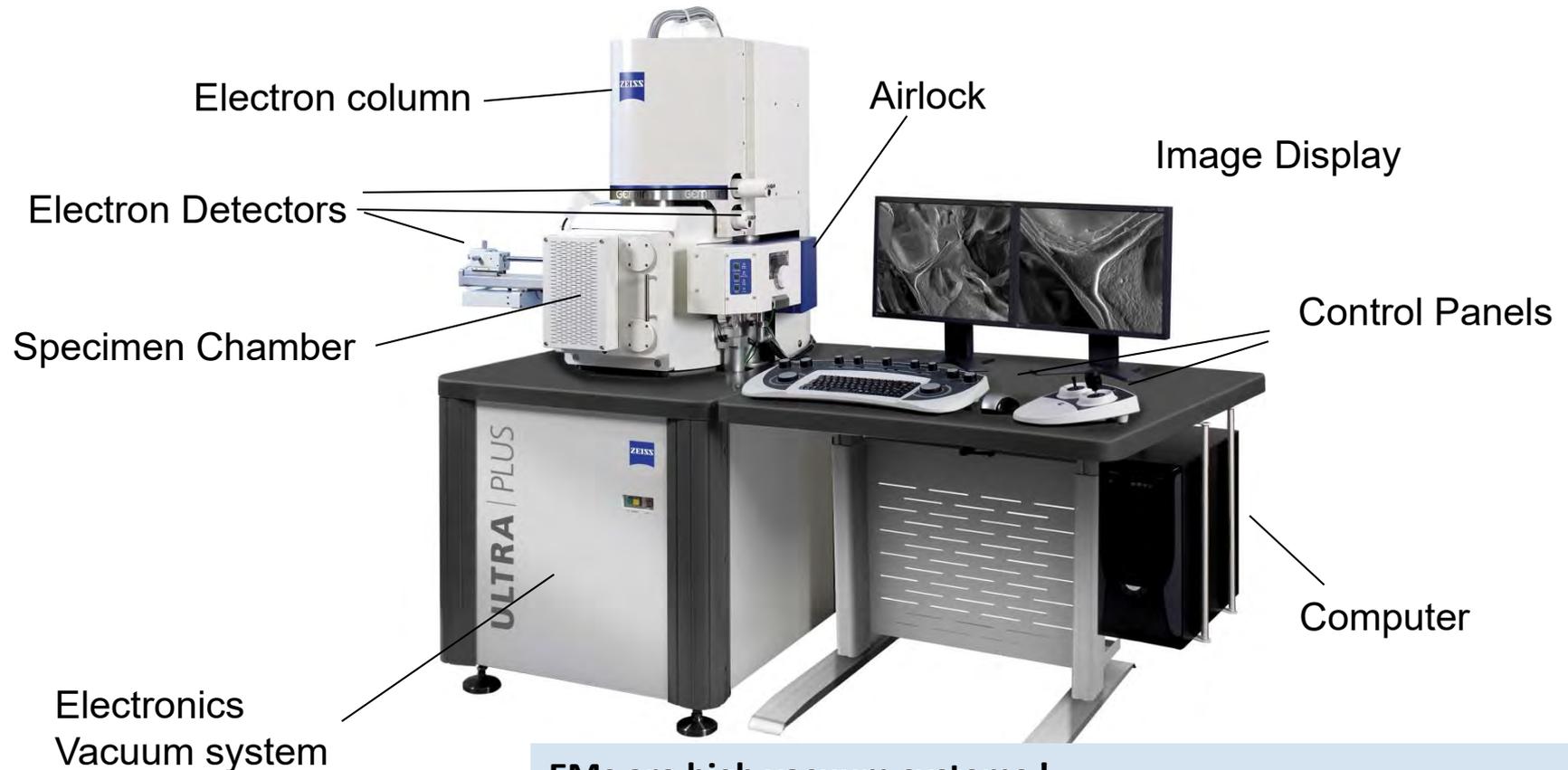
Image is inverted and rotated



We can change the strength of the lens (i.e. the focal plane) by changing the current, but not the shape of the fields.

Carl Zeiss Microscopy

Components of a SEM



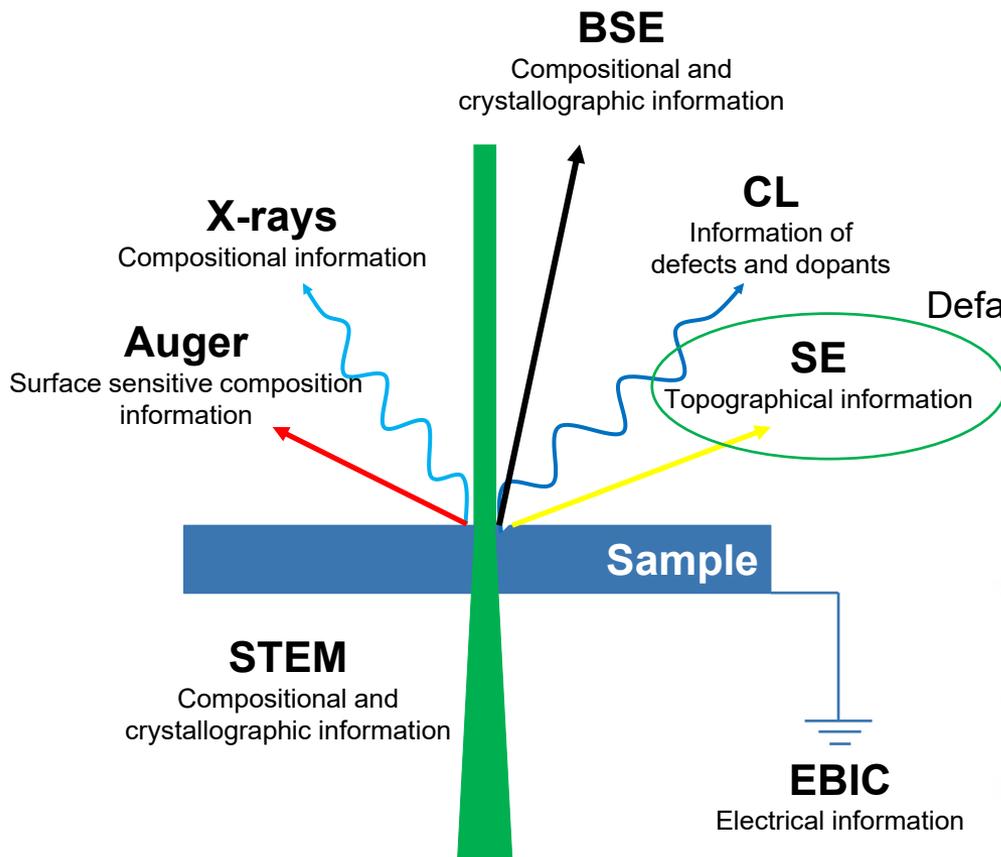
EMs are high vacuum systems !

- component requirements (pumps, gauges, seals ...)
- restrictions (samples, operation time ...)
- operation procedures

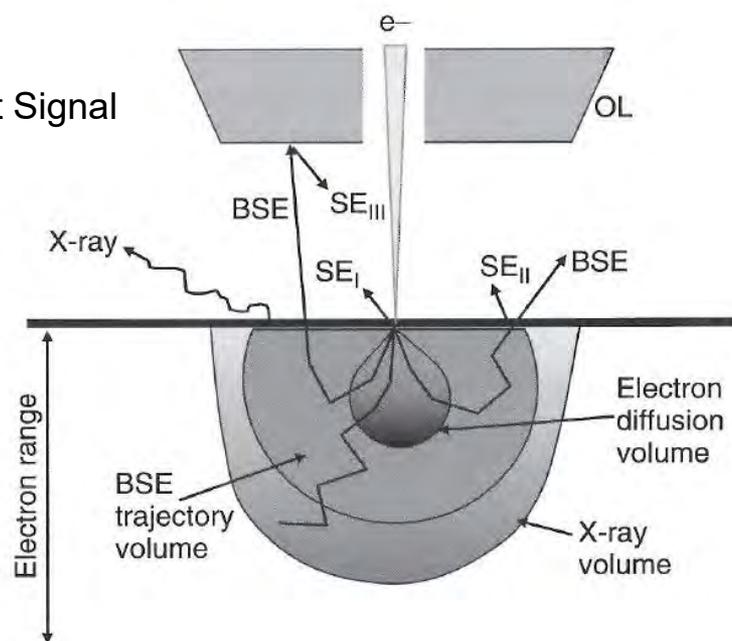
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Electron-Induced Signals

Plenty of Information Induced by Primary Beam



Surface and volume information associated with the signals



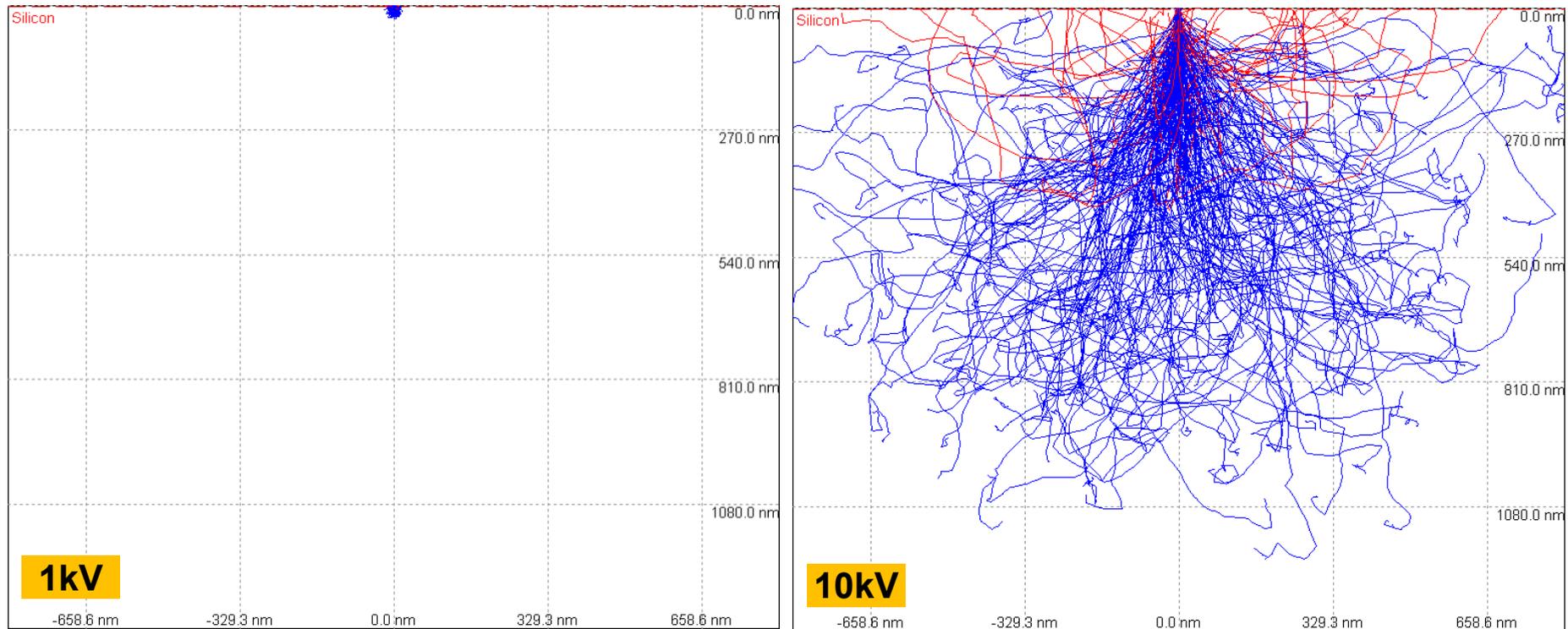
Signals and interaction volume induced by the primary beam

Beam-Sample Interaction

Influence of Beam Energy – Interaction Volume



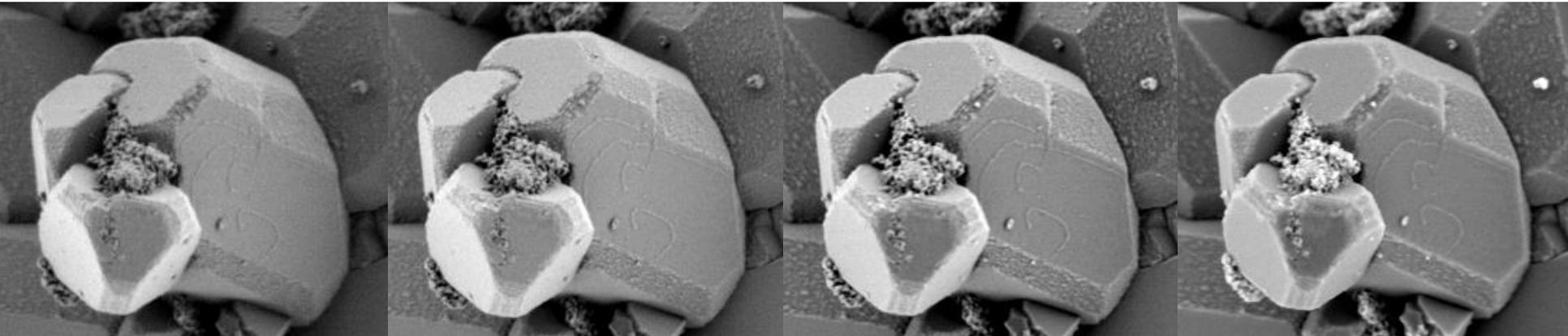
Monte Carlo Simulations



Monte Carlo simulation of the beam – sample interaction for a silicon sample at **1kV** and **10kV**.

Beam-Sample Interaction

Influence of Beam Energy – Image Quality

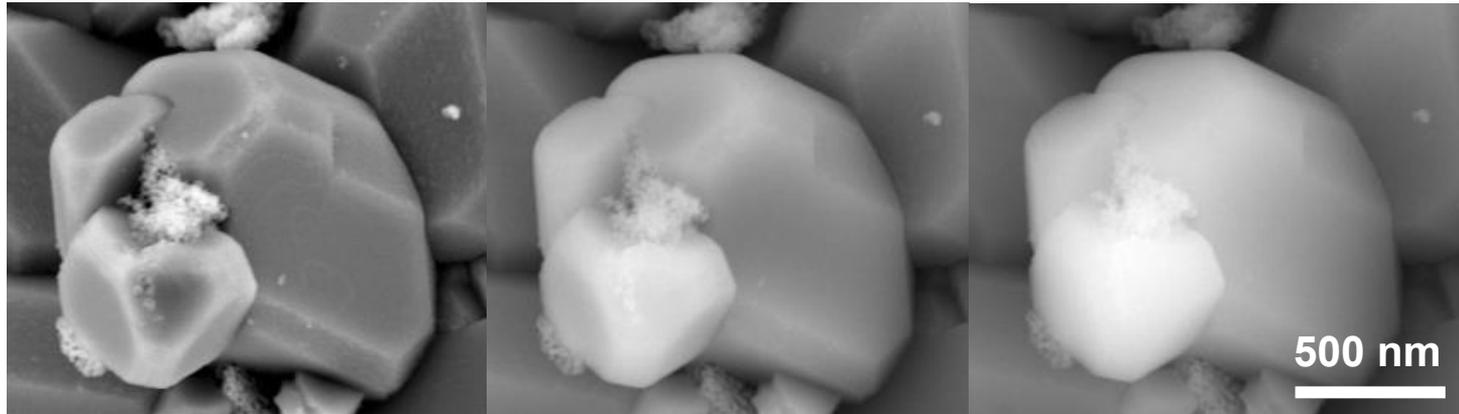


200 V

500 V

1 kV

2 kV



5 kV

10 kV

15 kV

500 nm

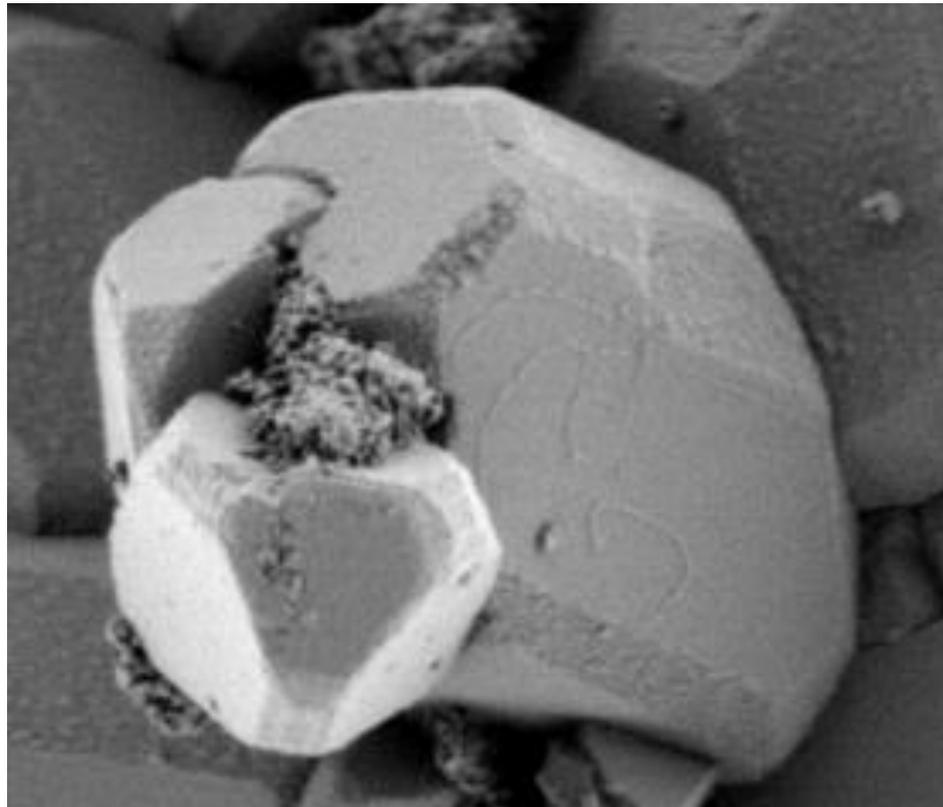
Iron oxide/ Zirconium dioxide composite

Beam-Sample Interaction

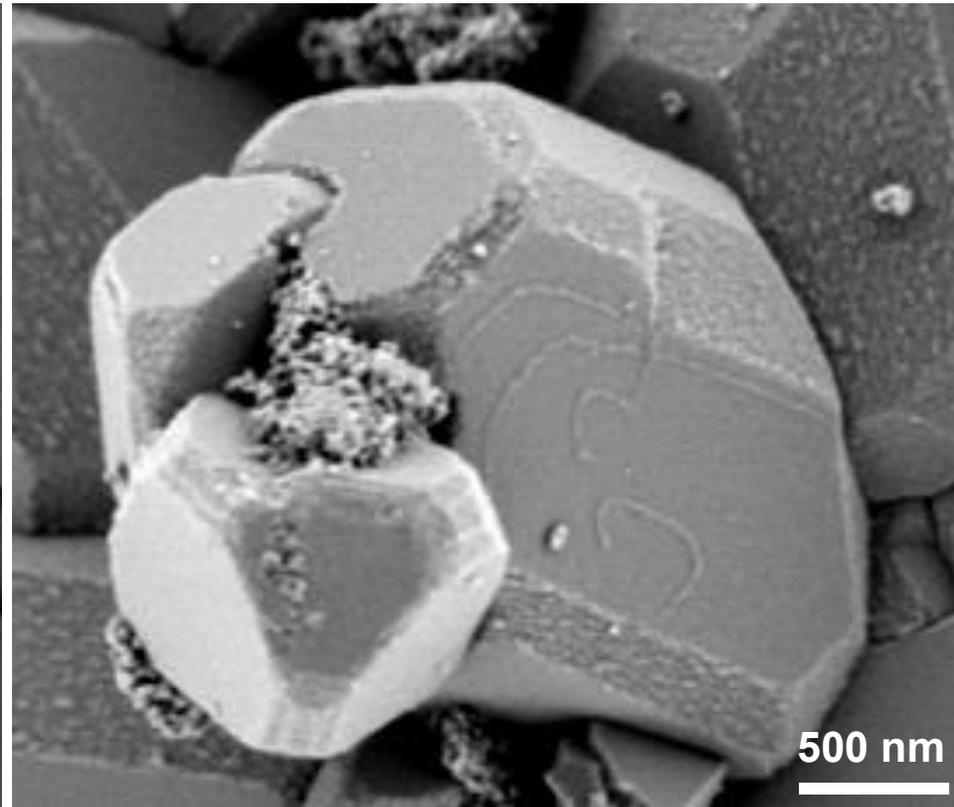
Influence of Beam Energy – Image Quality



Iron oxide/ Zirconium dioxide composite



200 V

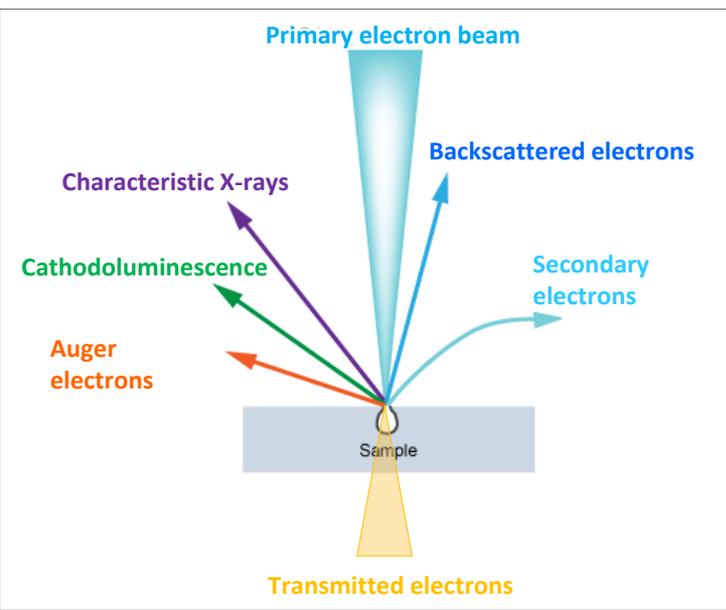


1 kV

Lower voltage provides more surface detail...*BUT*...with loss of S/N → loss of clarity!

How a SEM Works

How a SEM works

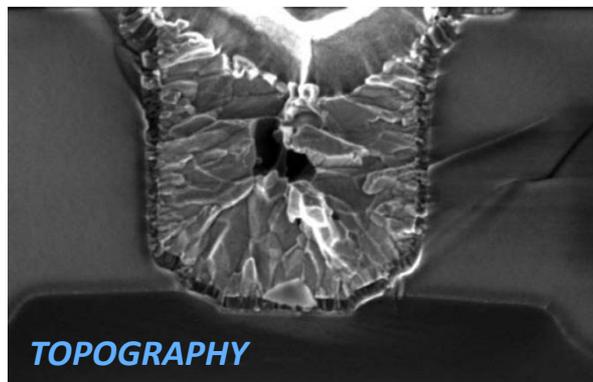
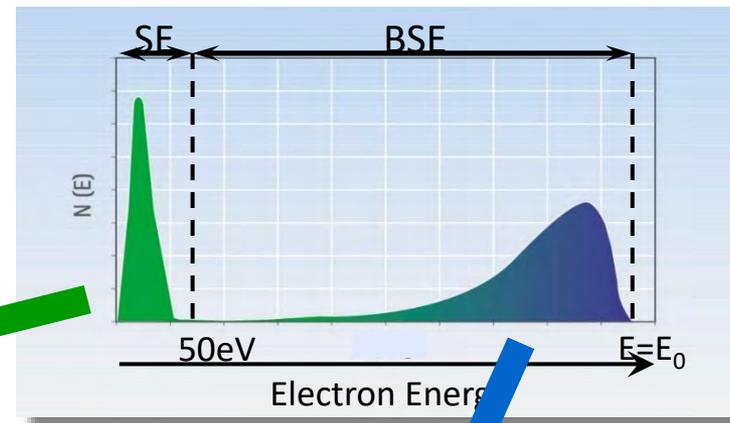


Backscattered electrons (BSE): Compositional contrast

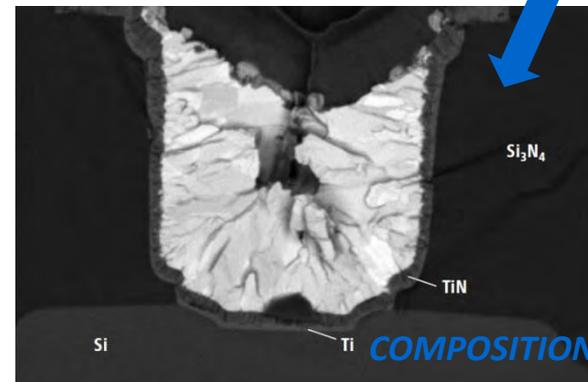
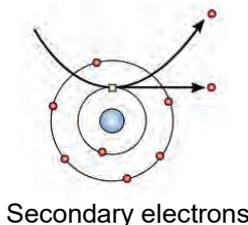
Secondary electrons (SE): Topographical contrast

Transmitted electrons (STEM): High-resolution, "TEM-like" contrast

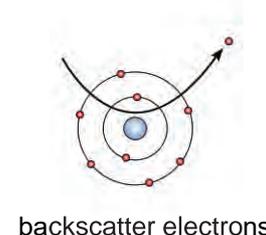
Characteristic X-rays (EDS): Elemental information



SE image from a sectioned semiconductor.



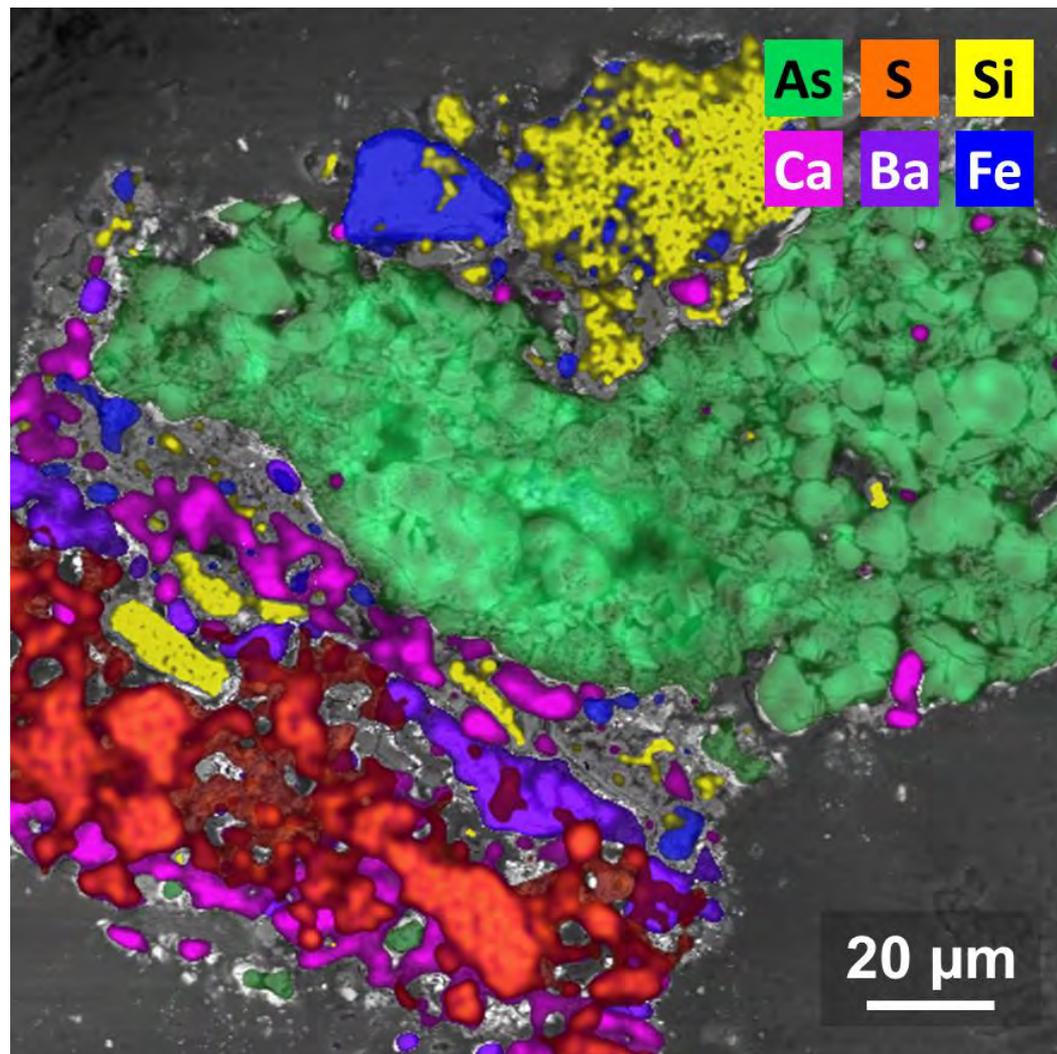
The same section but seen with the BSE detector



X-ray Detection (EDS/WDS)



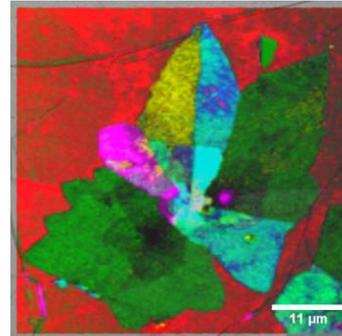
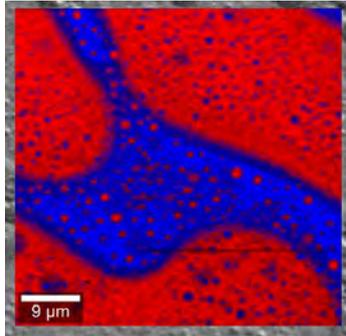
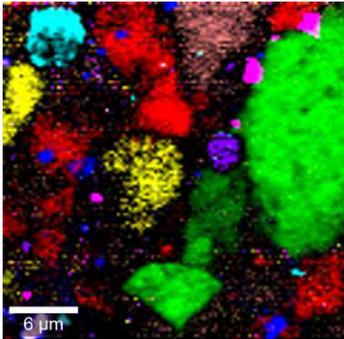
The SEM beam can excite emission of **characteristic x-rays** from the sample. Detection of these x-rays by *energy-dispersive* or *wavelength-dispersive* x-ray spectroscopy (EDS or WDS) reveals a sample's **elemental composition**.



EDS map image of a paint sample from original artwork.

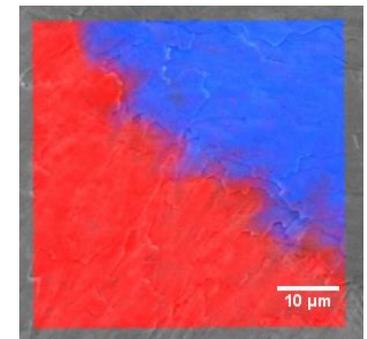
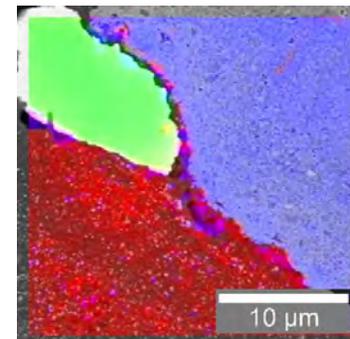
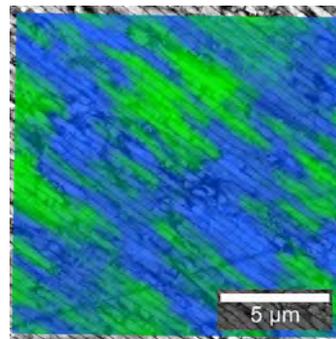
Analysis Beyond EDS

SEM + Raman spectroscopic imaging



Nonmetallic compositions and phases:

- Polymorphs
- Molecule phases
- Polymer blends
- Crystal orientations
- Fibrillary polymer
- Degree of Crystallinity
- Kinds of Defect
- Stress and Strain
- Surface coating
- Contamination



Application fields:

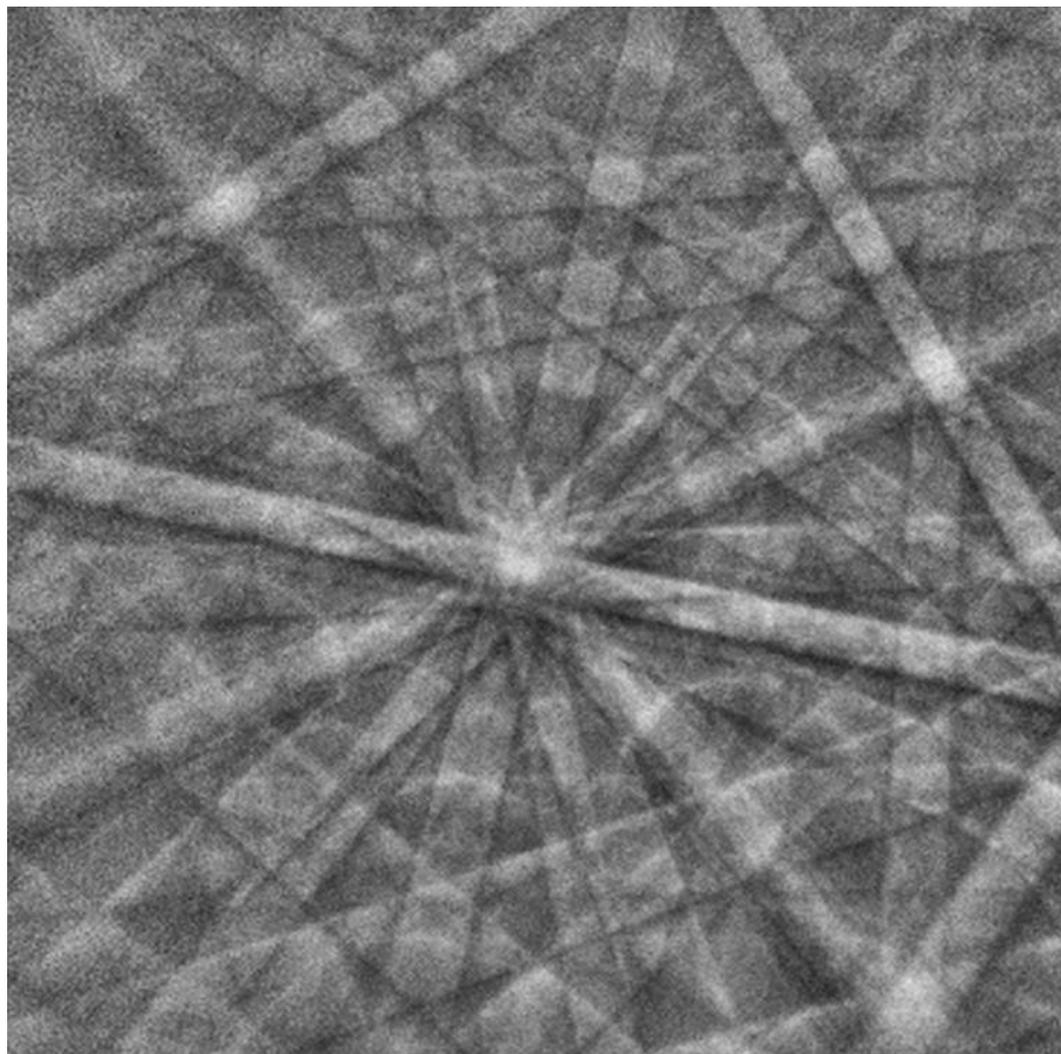
- Nanoparticles & 2D Mat.
- Polymer
- Carbon materials
- Semiconductor
- Geology/ Mineralogy
- Forensic
- Pharma
- Biomaterials
- Coatings
- Corrosion

Electron Backscatter Diffraction (EBSD)



Bragg **diffraction** occurs when the SEM beam strikes **crystalline matter**. The resulting electron backscatter diffraction (EBSD) patterns (see image) reveal the underlying **crystal structure**.

EBSD is useful for applications with metals, inorganics and ceramics.

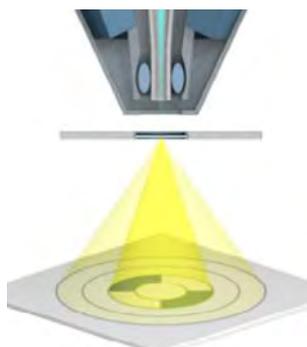


EBSD pattern of silicon.

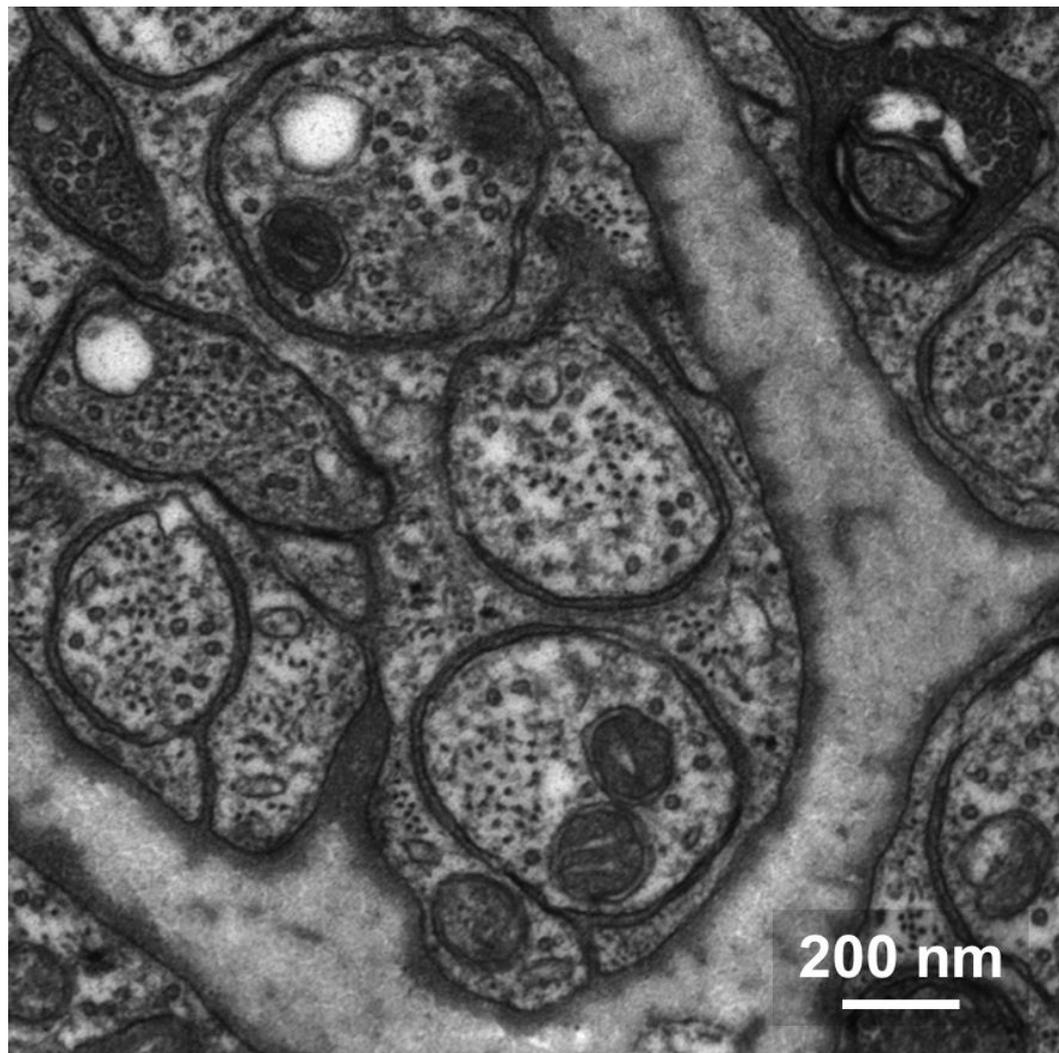
Transmitted Electrons (STEM)



When imaging very **thin samples** (<100 nm thick), electrons can pass through the sample. Detection of **transmitted electrons** yields scanning transmission electron microscopy (STEM) images of **particularly high resolution**. STEM has both materials and life sciences applications.



STEM image of mouse brain.

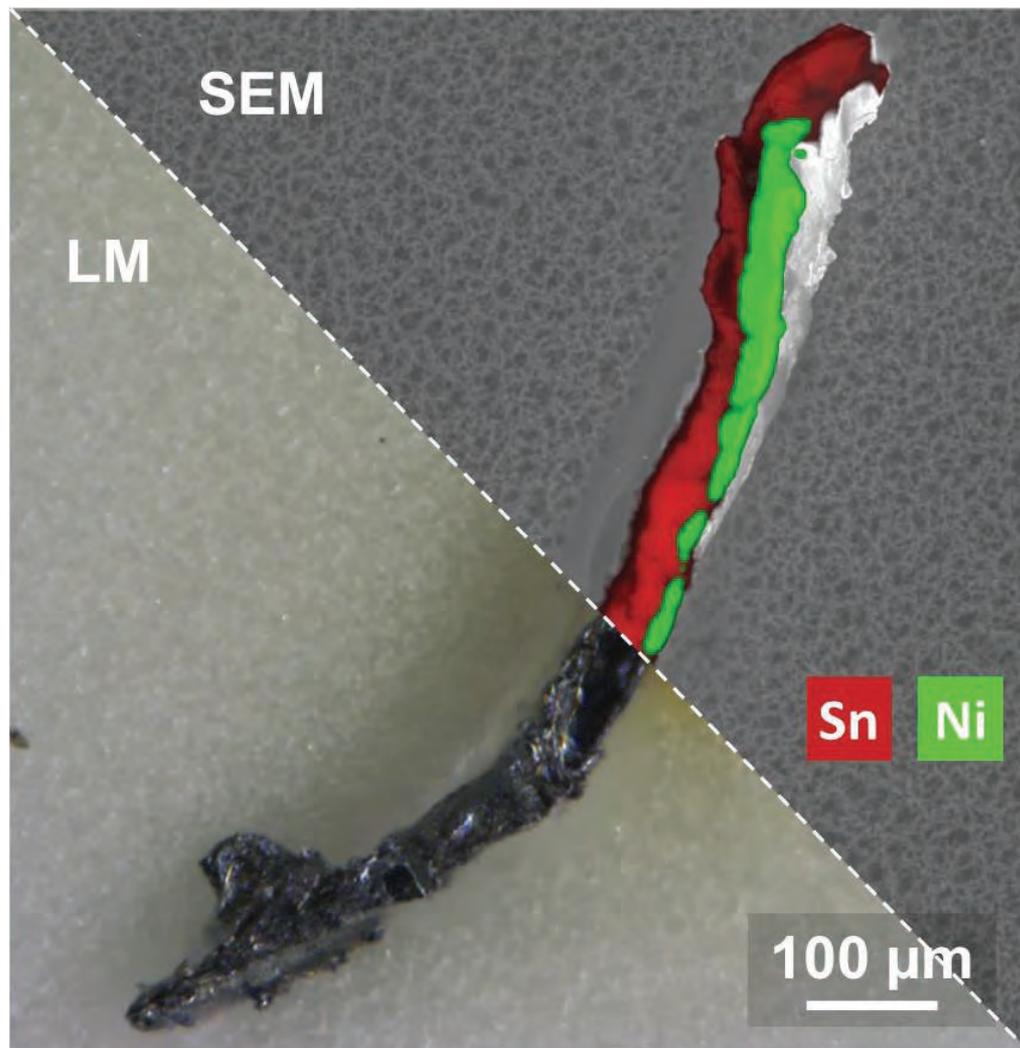


Correlative Microscopy (CLEM)



Many scientific problems require the *combination* of SEM with other complementary microscopy techniques, such as light microscopy. This approach is called CLEM ("correlative light and electron microscopy").

*In particle analysis applications, **light microscopy** provides the number and morphology of the particles, while **SEM** indicates elemental composition. Here, the targeted particle is metallic and rich in **tin (Sn)** and **nickel (Ni)**.*



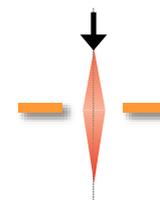
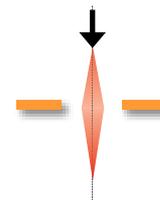
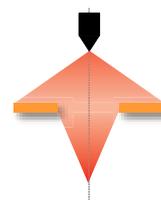
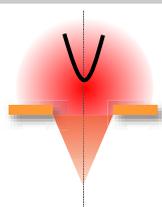
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Electron Emitters Comparison



Price ←————→ Performance

	Tungsten	LaB ₆	Schottky FEG	Cold FEG
Source Size (nm)	> 50,000	5,000	50	5
Energy Spread (eV)	3	1	0.7	0.25
Brightness (A/cm ² /sr)	10 ⁶	10 ⁷	> 5x10 ⁸	> 5x10 ⁸
Service Life (hours)	100-200	2000	> 2000	> 2000
Vacuum (Torr)	10 ⁻⁵	10 ⁻⁷	10 ⁻¹¹	10 ⁻¹¹



What does this mean?

Tungsten

“Light Bulb”: High *total* emission current, but low *probe* current and large spot size.

LaB₆

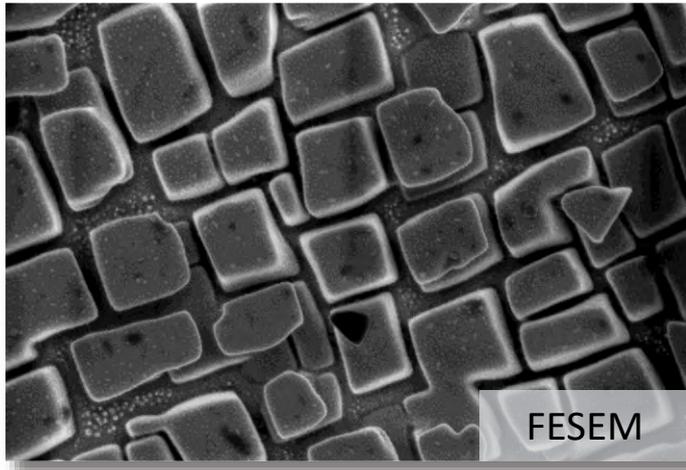
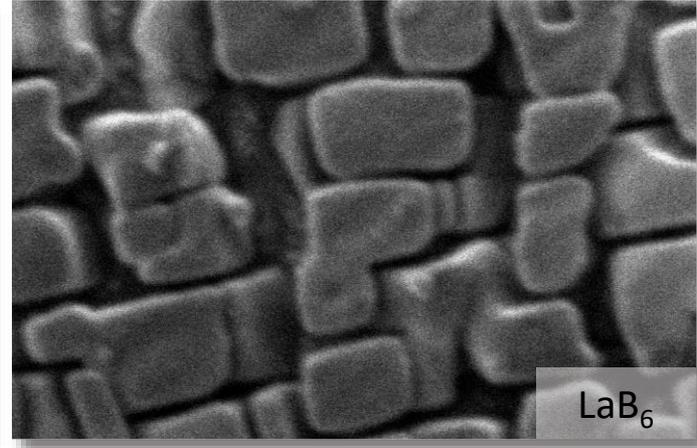
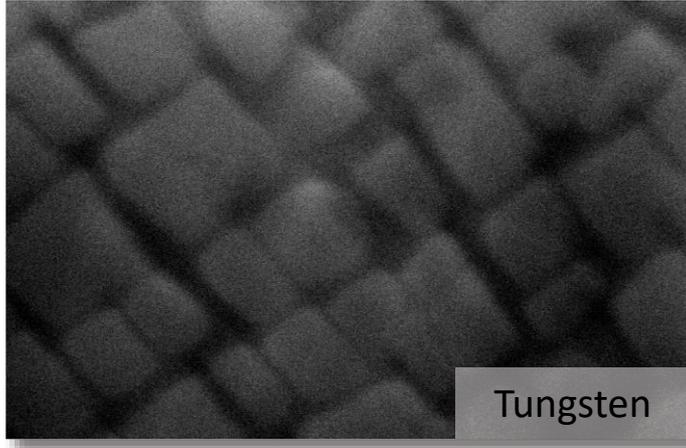
“Directed” thermal emission, somewhere between Tungsten and FEG

Schottky and Cold FEG

“Laser”: Lower *total* emission current, but high *probe* current in a small spot.

Electron Emitters

Comparison

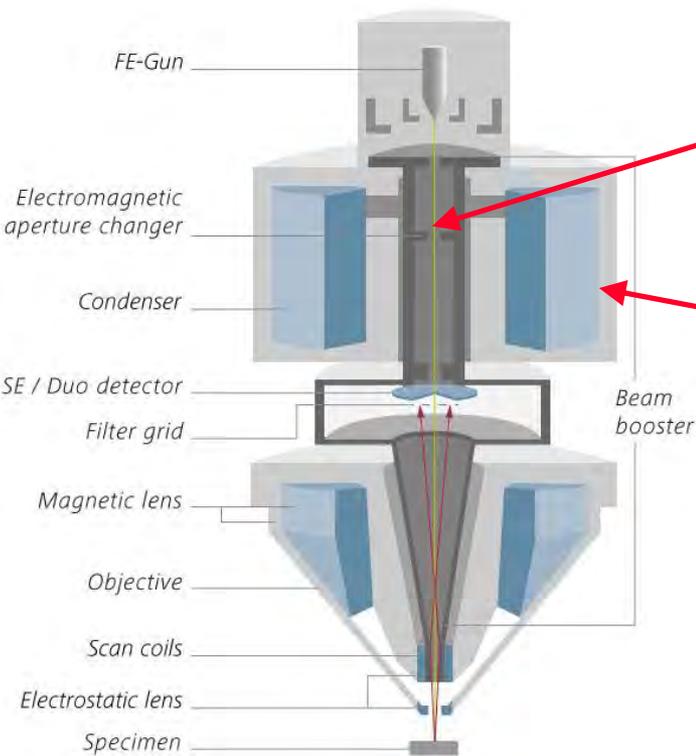
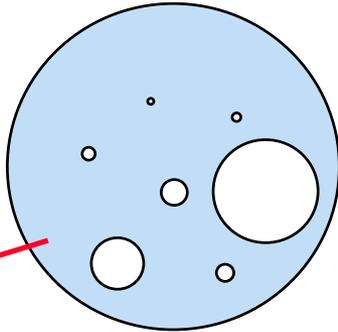


Alloy, 1kV, 35kx, SE image

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SEM Column Design

Single and Double Condensers

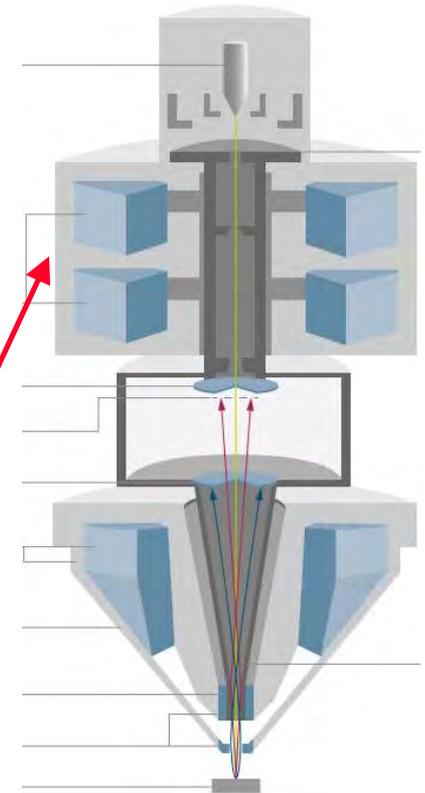


Single condenser

- discrete probe sizes (current)
- different size apertures

Double condenser

- various probe sizes
- fixed single aperture



Electron Beam Optimization

Effects of Beam Current (Aperture Size)



Condenser

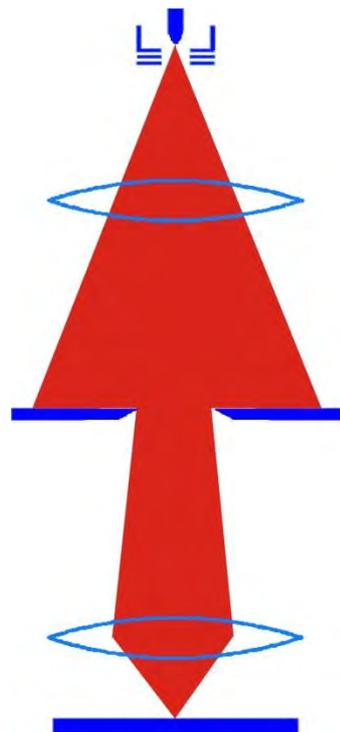
Used to optimize the aperture angle

Multi-hole aperture

Selects the beam current (6 different diameters)

Objective lens

Sample



20 μ m aperture
Optimized optics
0.8nm @ 100pA/10kV

Electron Beam Optimization

Effects of Beam Current (Aperture Size)



Condenser

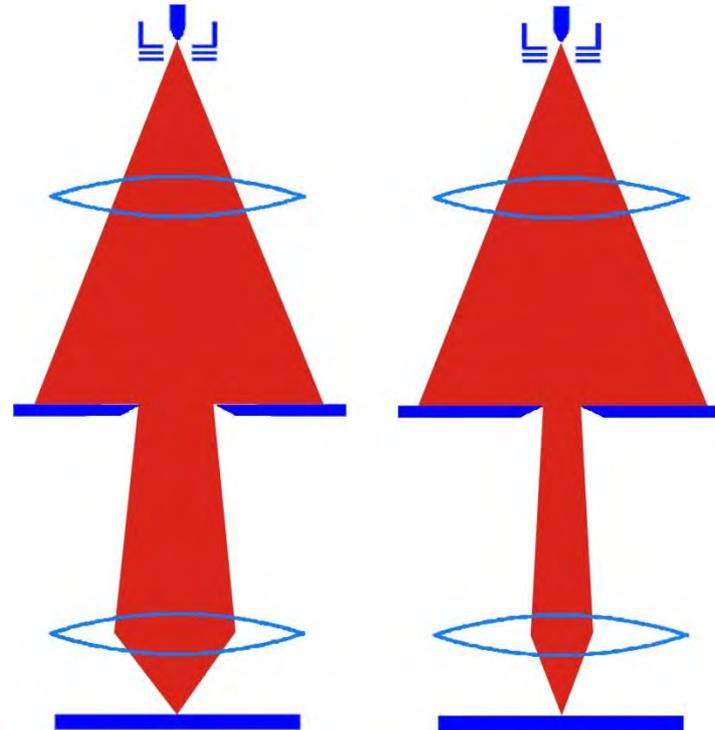
Used to optimize the aperture angle

Multi-hole aperture

Selects the beam current (6 different diameters)

Objective lens

Sample



20µm aperture
Optimized optics
0.8nm @ 100pA/10kV

7µm aperture
Limited by diffraction
1.7nm @ 14pA/10kV

Electron Beam Optimization

Effects of Beam Current (Aperture Size)



Condenser

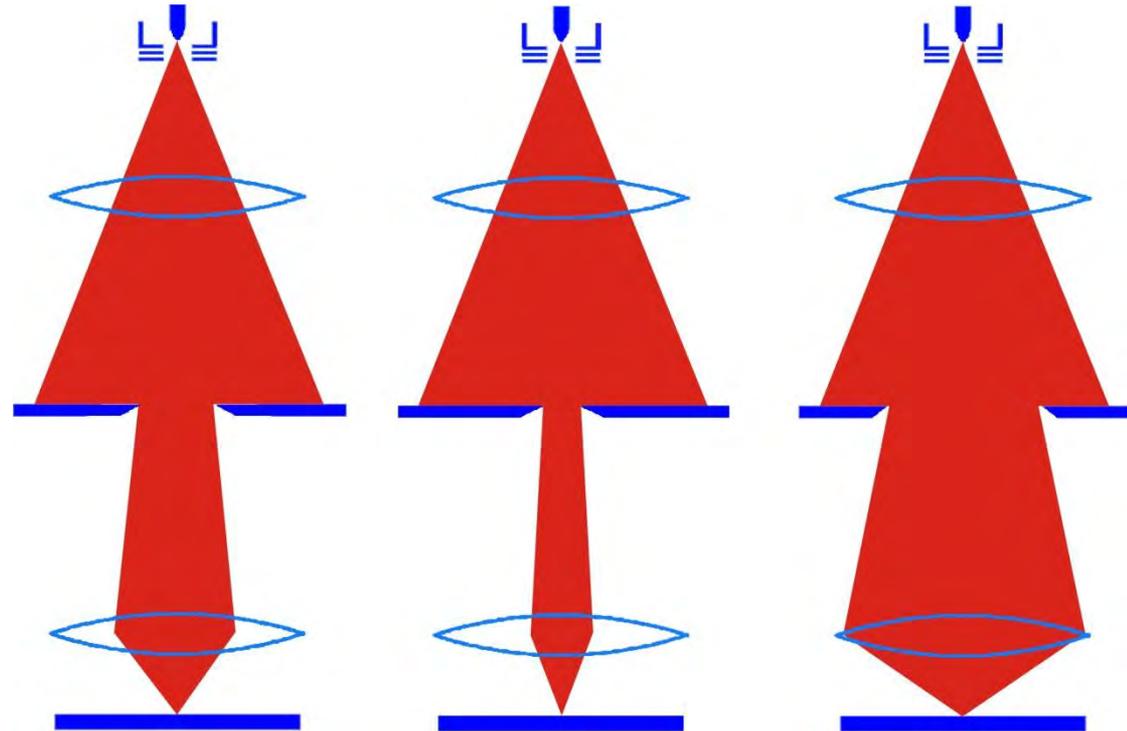
Used to optimize the aperture angle

Multi-hole aperture

Selects the beam current (6 different diameters)

Objective lens

Sample



20µm aperture
Optimized optics
0.8nm @ 100pA/10kV

7µm aperture
Limited by diffraction
1.7nm @ 14pA/10kV

120µm aperture
Limited by sph. aberr.
40nm @ 3.5nA/10kV

Resolution depends on the beam current!

Optimized imaging conditions for discrete probe currents

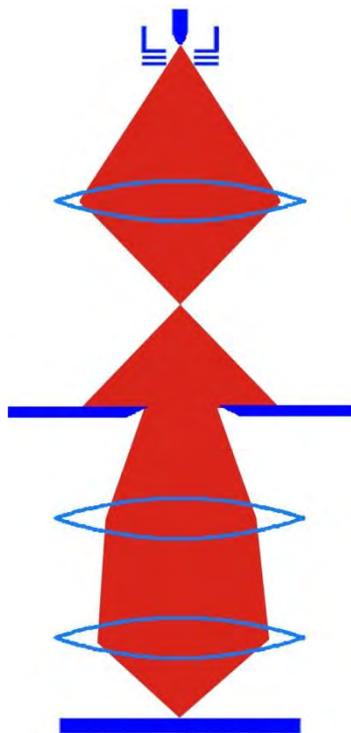
Electron Beam Optimization

Benefit of Double Condenser



Condenser 1

Selects the beam current



Fixed aperture

Condenser 2

Selects the aperture angle

Objective lens

Sample

35 μ m aperture
0.8nm @ 100pA/10kV

Electron Beam Optimization

Benefit of Double Condenser



Condenser 1

Selects the beam current

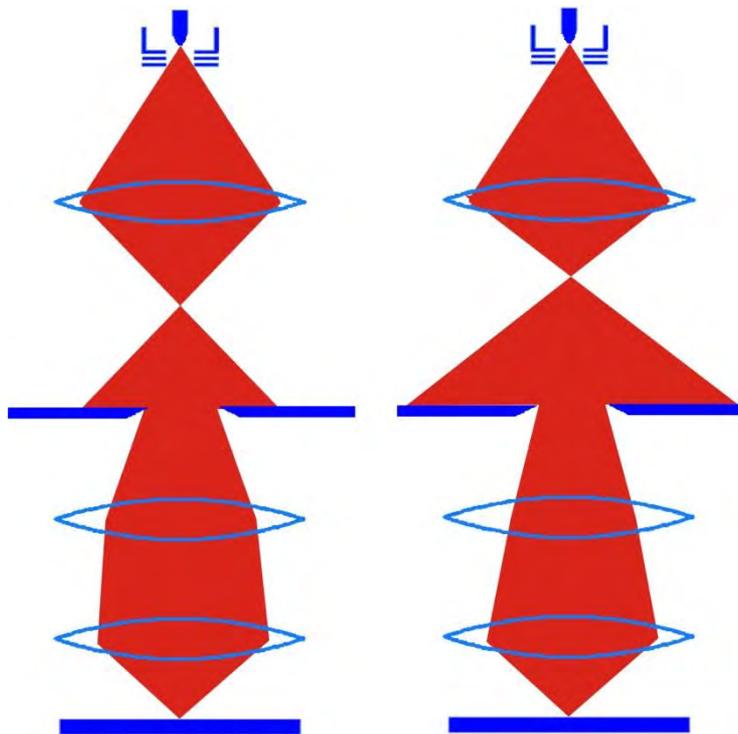
Fixed aperture

Condenser 2

Selects the aperture angle

Objective lens

Sample



35 μ m aperture
0.8nm @ 100pA/10kV

35 μ m aperture
0.7nm @ 14pA/10kV

Electron Beam Optimization

Benefit of Double Condenser



Condenser 1

Selects the beam current

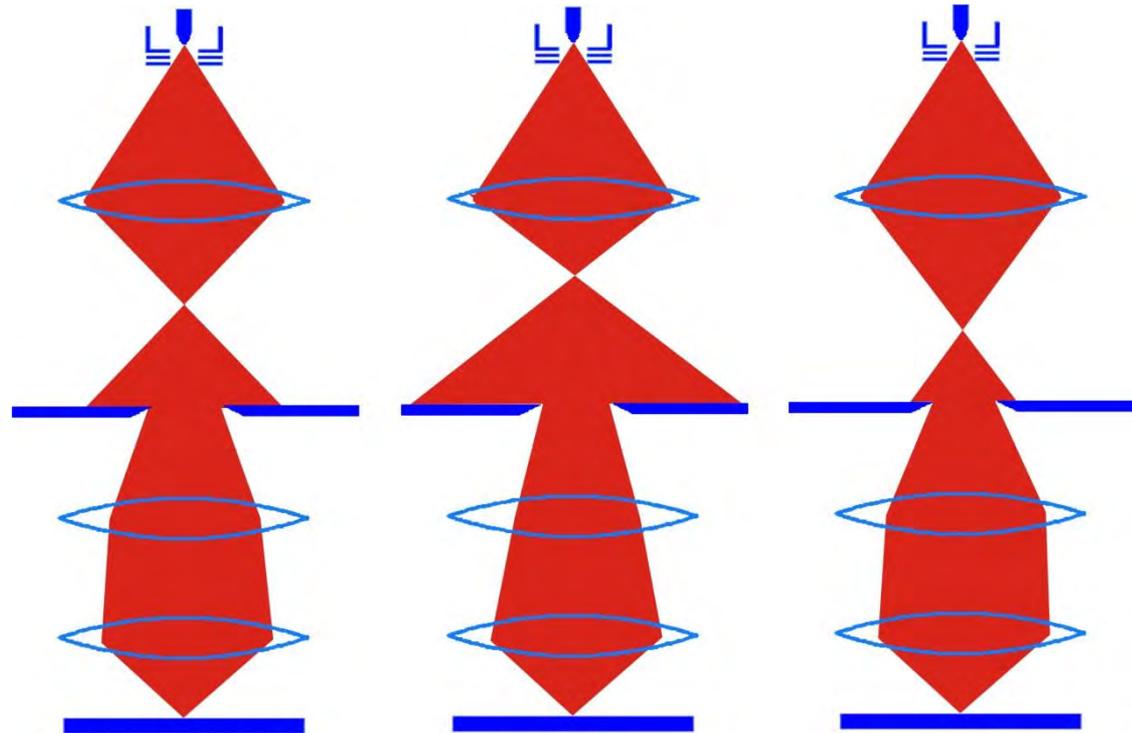
Fixed aperture

Condenser 2

Selects the aperture angle

Objective lens

Sample



35 μ m aperture
0.8nm @ 100pA/10kV

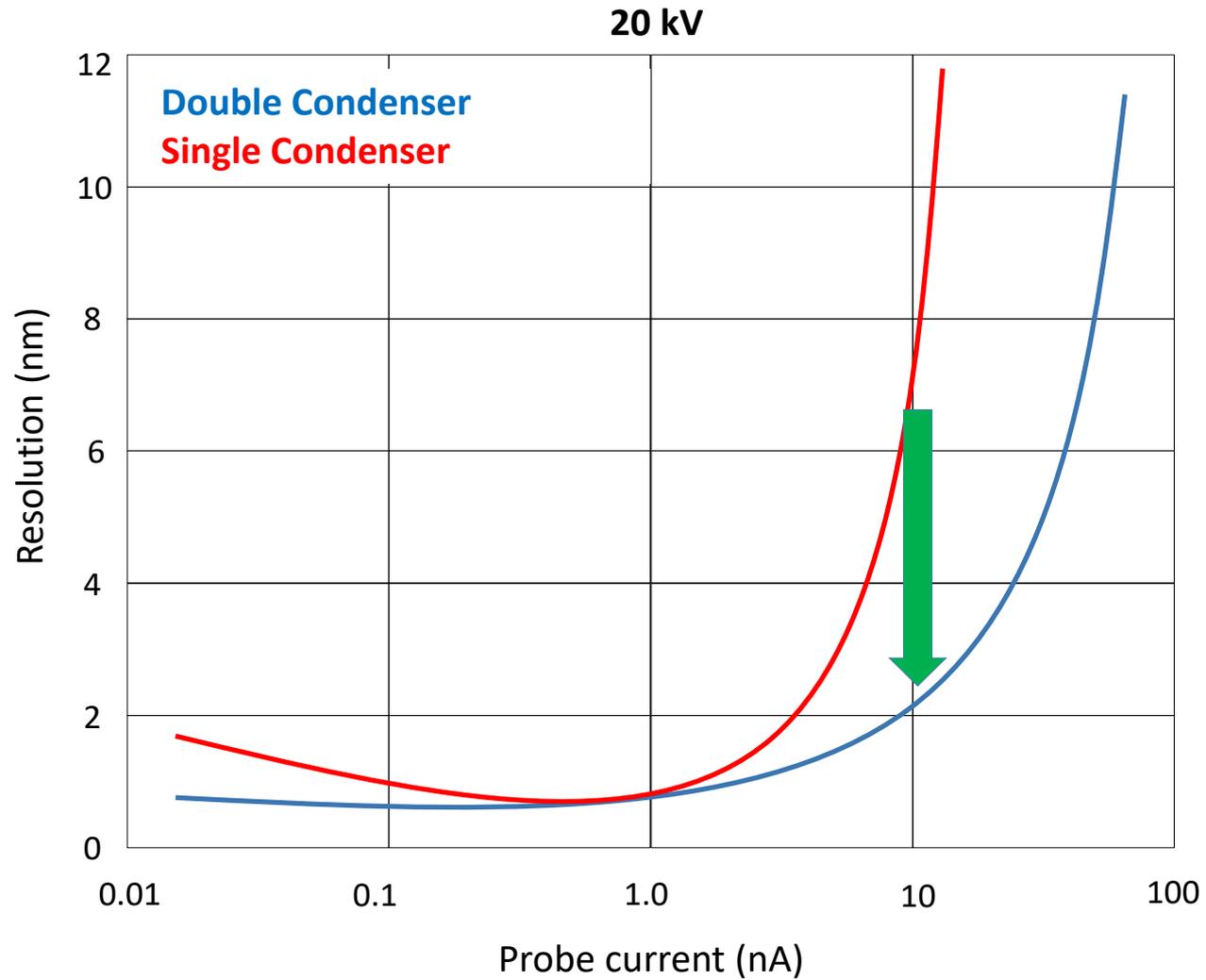
35 μ m aperture
0.7nm @ 14pA/10kV

35 μ m aperture
1.7nm @ 3500 pA/10kV

Continuous regulation of probe current and optimized imaging at any voltage

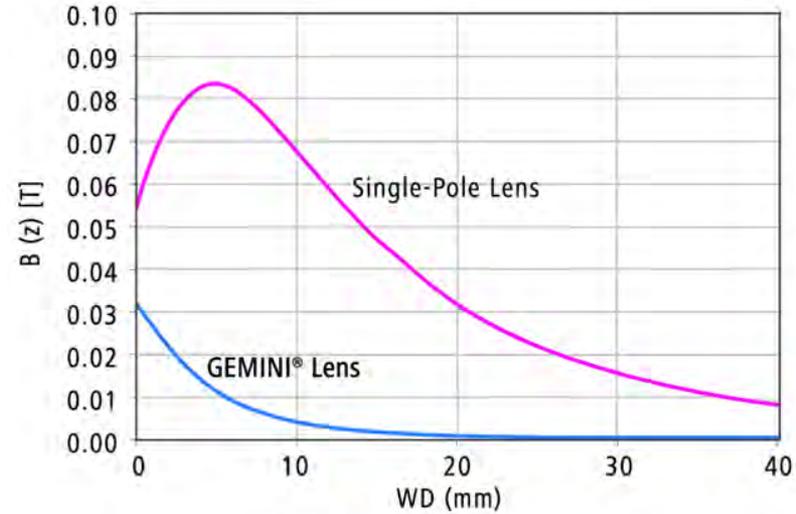
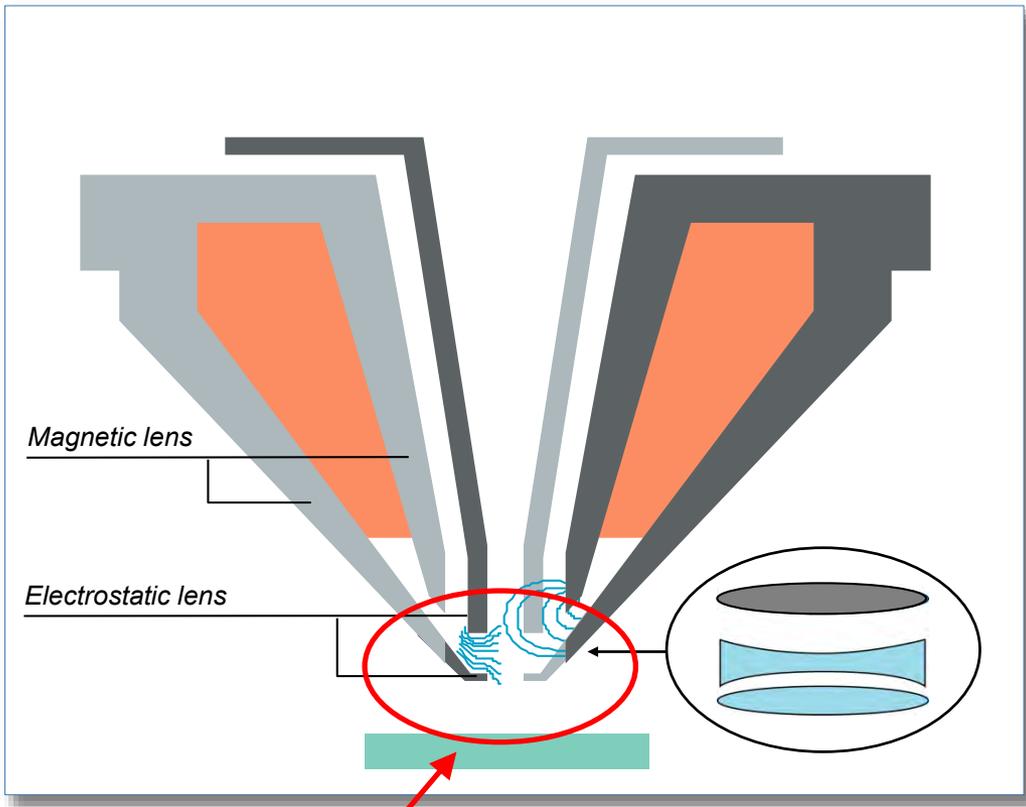
Achieving Greater Resolution

Moving Boundaries with Column Design



Objective Lens Design

Magnetic + Electrostatic Hybrid

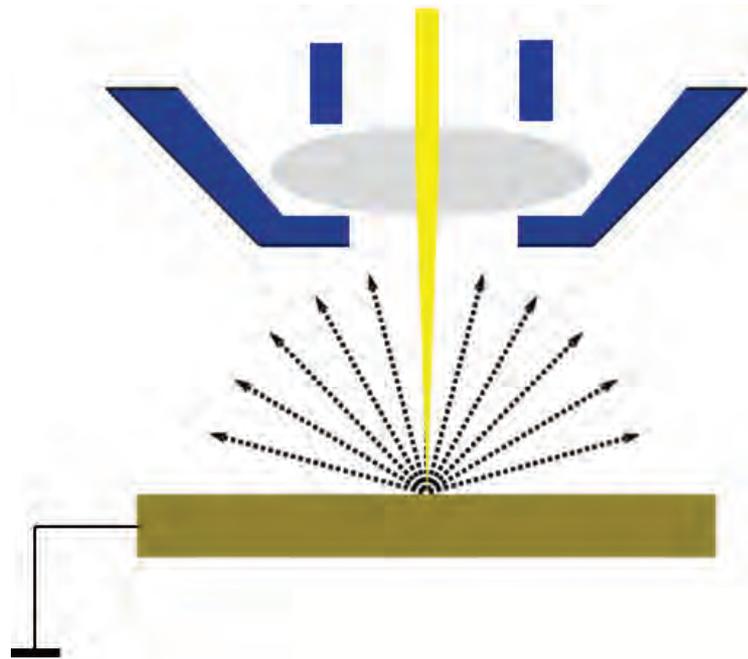


**No magnetic field at the sample
Imaging of ferromagnetic materials in UHR**

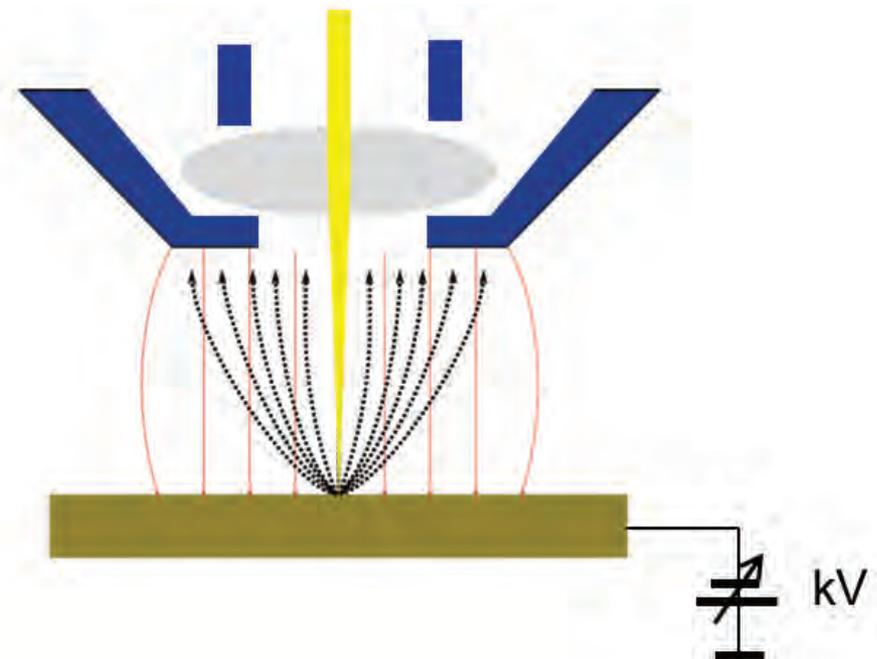
Electrostatic lens *eliminates magnetic fields* below the final lens to mitigate image distortion

Stage Biasing

Normal operation



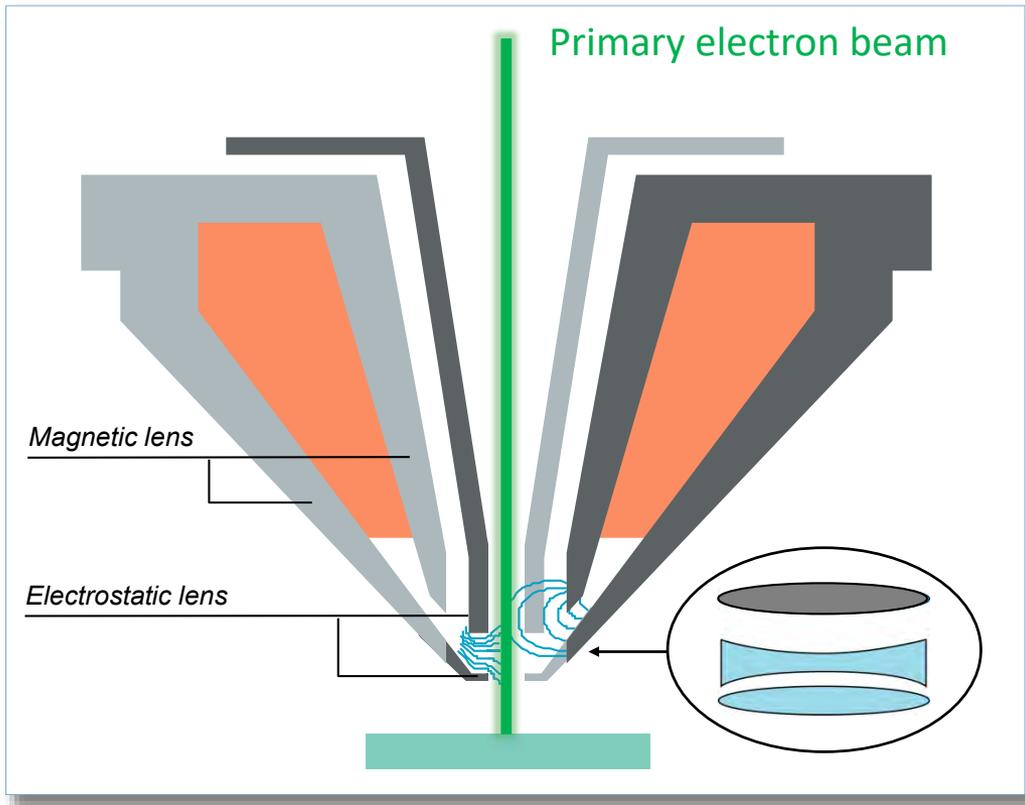
Stage Biased



- Improve resolution (sub-nanometer from 1 kV to 30 kV)
- Enhance contrast by tuning bias voltage
- Improve detector efficiency for inlens detection as well as BSD detection
- Suppress charging artifacts.

GEMINI Column

Beam Boost + Deceleration



Beam Booster technology:

Electron energy:
Landing energy + **8keV**

Deceleration to desired landing energy
In the column.

- The energy of the primary electrons in the column is kept at above 8keV at all times
- Maintains beam at high tension throughout the column preserving brightness until final deceleration at the objective lens

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Optimizing Imaging Parameters

Accelerating Voltage

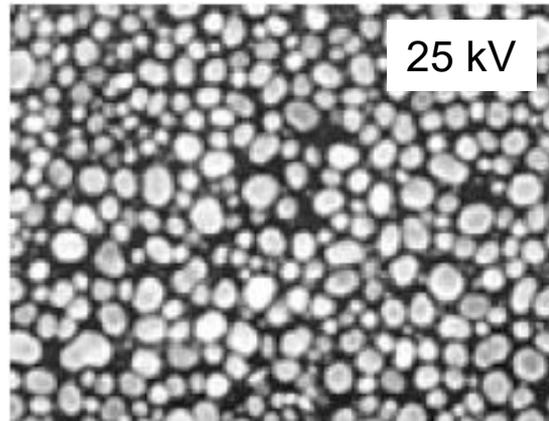
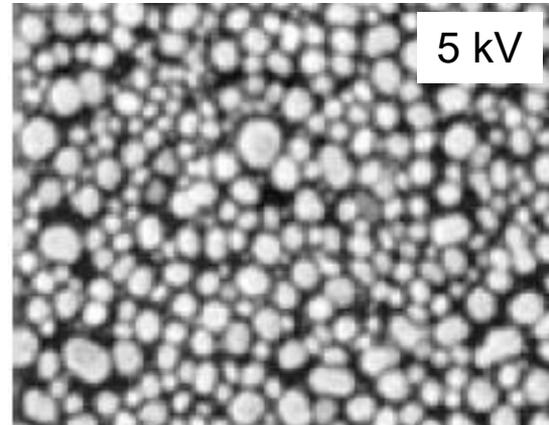


The accelerating voltage can typically be varied by the operator from < 1 kV to 30 kV on SEMs.

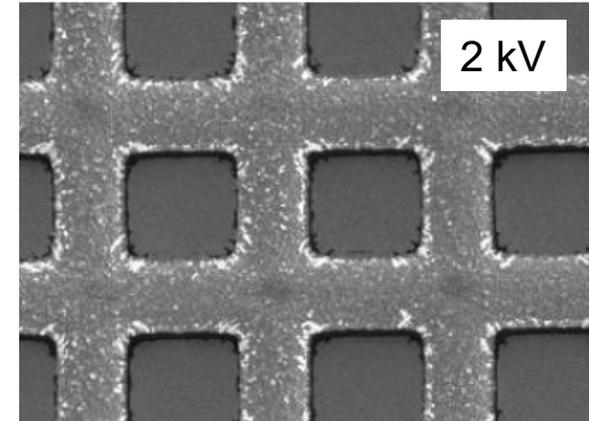
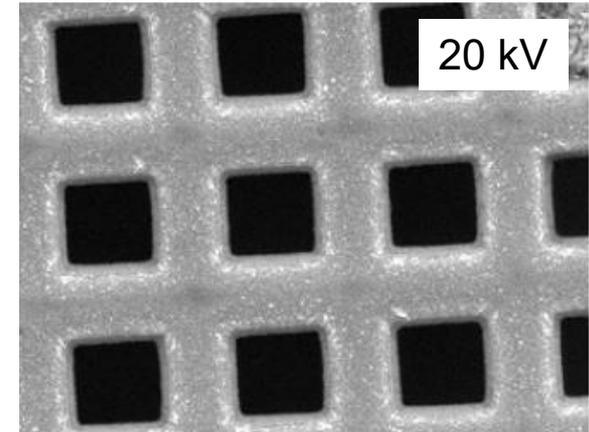
Increasing accelerating voltage will:

- *decrease* lens aberrations → smaller probe diameter → *better* resolution.
- *increase* the probe current at the specimen. A minimum probe current necessary for *good contrast* and a *high signal to noise ratio*
- potentially *increase* charge-up and damage in specimens that are non-conductive or beam sensitive

evaporated gold particles



30 nm carbon film over a Cu TEM grid



Optimizing Imaging Parameters

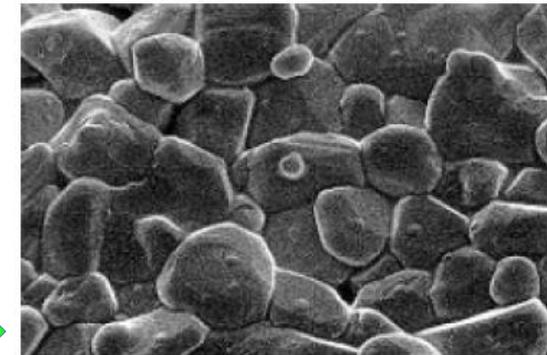
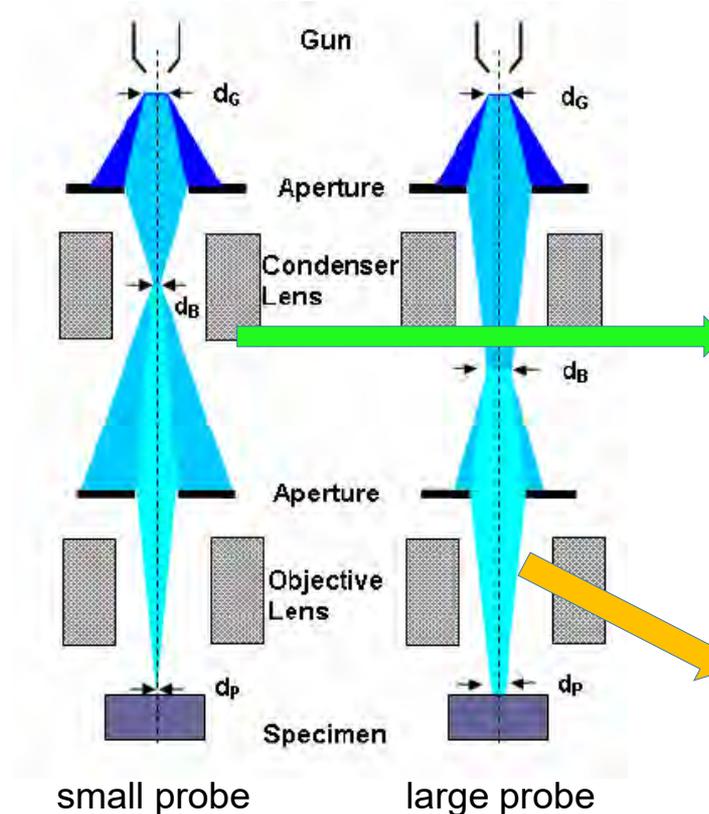
Beam Probe Diameter



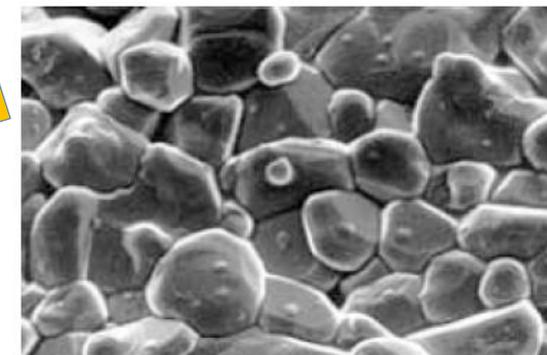
The probe diameter or spot size can be varied altering current to a condenser lens.

Decreasing the probe diameter will:

- decrease probe current
- enable *greater* resolution. Resolving small specimen features requires probe diameters of similar dimensions.
- decrease lens aberration due to a stronger lens setting



Smaller spot size: image is *sharper* but also *grainier* in appearance due to the lower signal to noise ratios associated with a lower beam current



Larger probe size: results in a *less sharp* but *smoother* image in appearance.

Hafner, 2007

Optimizing Imaging Parameters

Objective Aperture Size

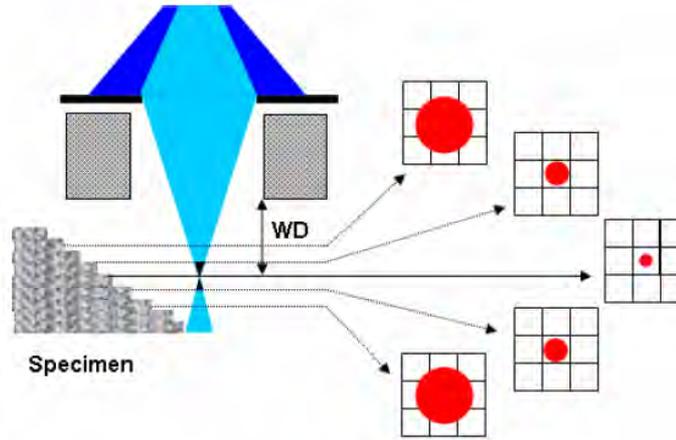


The aperture size can be selected by the user

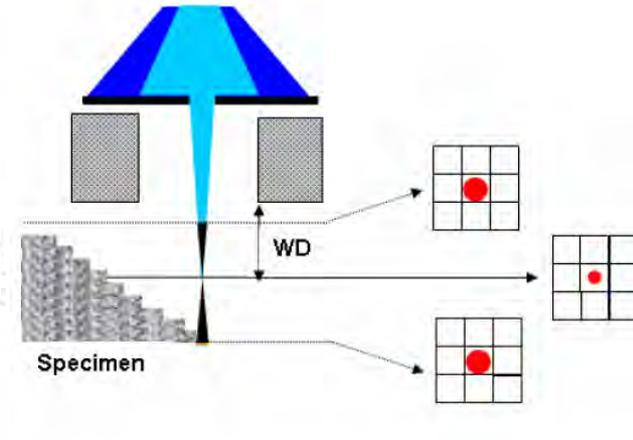
Decreasing the diameter of the aperture will:

- *decrease* lens aberrations → *increase* resolution
- *decrease* the probe current
- *decrease* the convergence angle of the beam → *increase* depth of focus

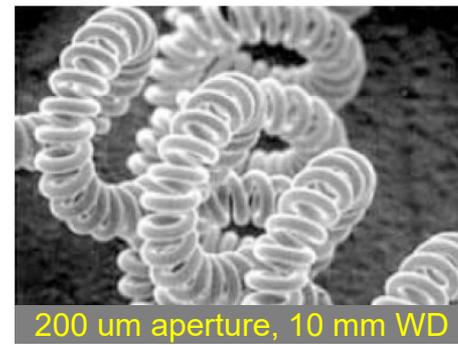
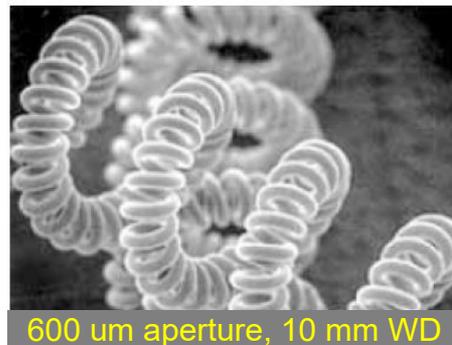
large aperture → large angle → reduced DoF



small aperture → small angle → increased DoF



Light bulb filament



Optimizing Imaging Parameters

Working Distance

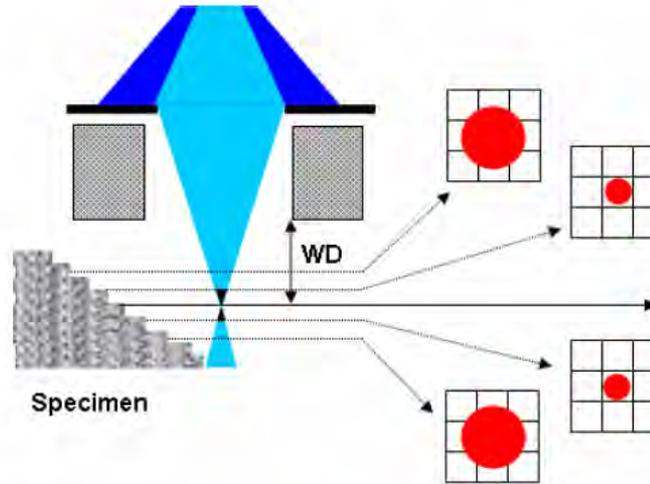


Working Distance is the distance from the final lens to the top of the sample

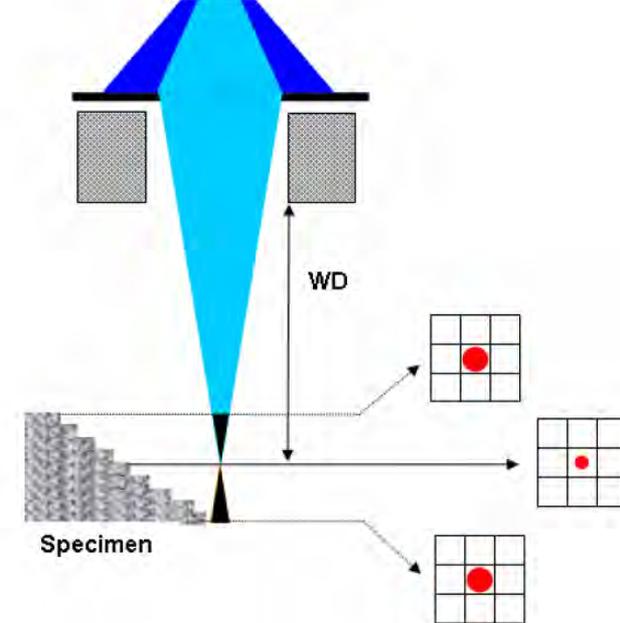
Increasing the working distance will:

- *increase* depth of focus
increase probe size BUT *decrease* resolution
- *increase* the effects of stray magnetic fields BUT *decrease* resolution
- *increase* aberrations due to the need for a weaker lens to focus

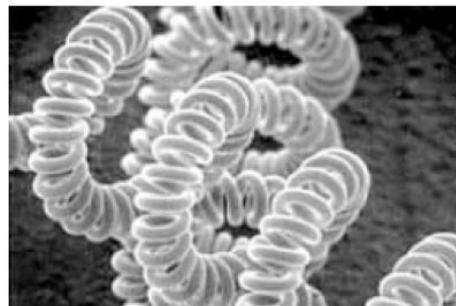
short WD → short DoF → higher res.



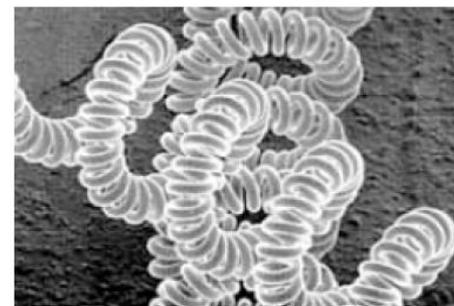
long WD → long DoF → lower res.



Light bulb filament



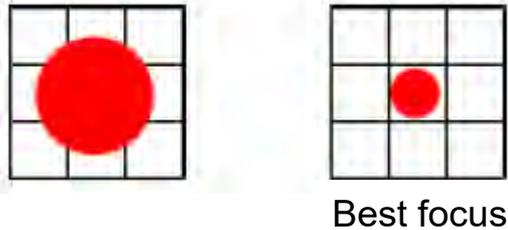
200 μm aperture, 10 mm WD



200 μm aperture, 38 mm WD

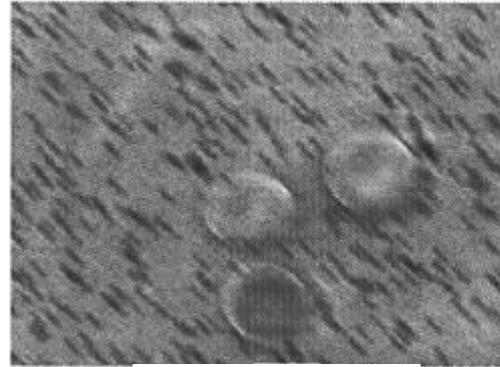
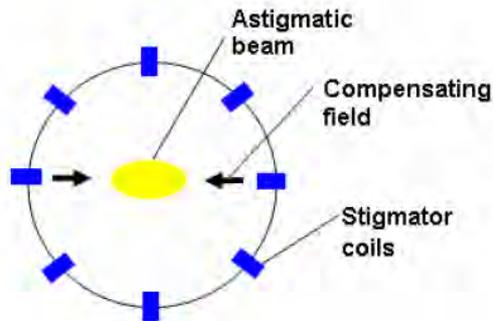
Optimizing Imaging Parameters

Focus and Stigmatism

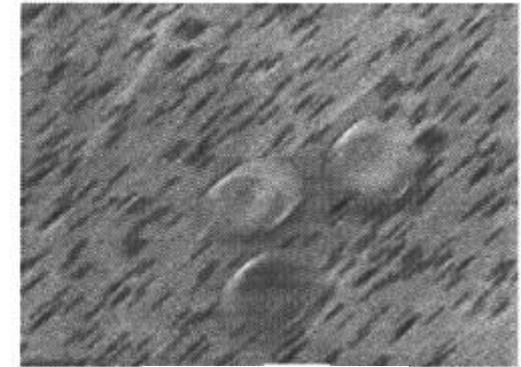


Objective lens astigmatism

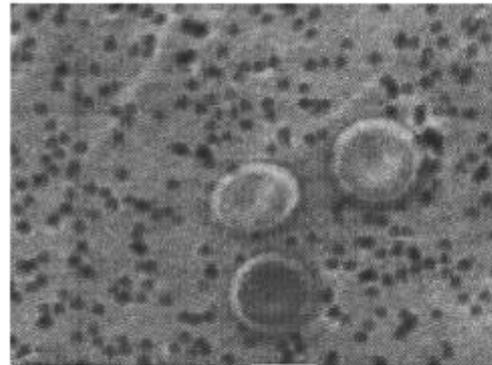
- Revealed as streaking when going in and out of focus
- Corrected by applying current differently to a ring of stigmator coils around the objective lens
- Correct to obtain circular beam



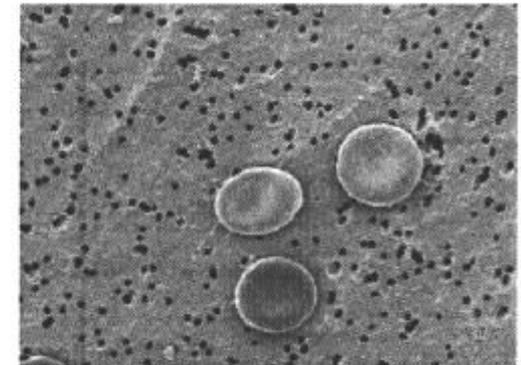
Under-focused



Over-focused



Focused, Astigmatized



Focused, Stigmatized

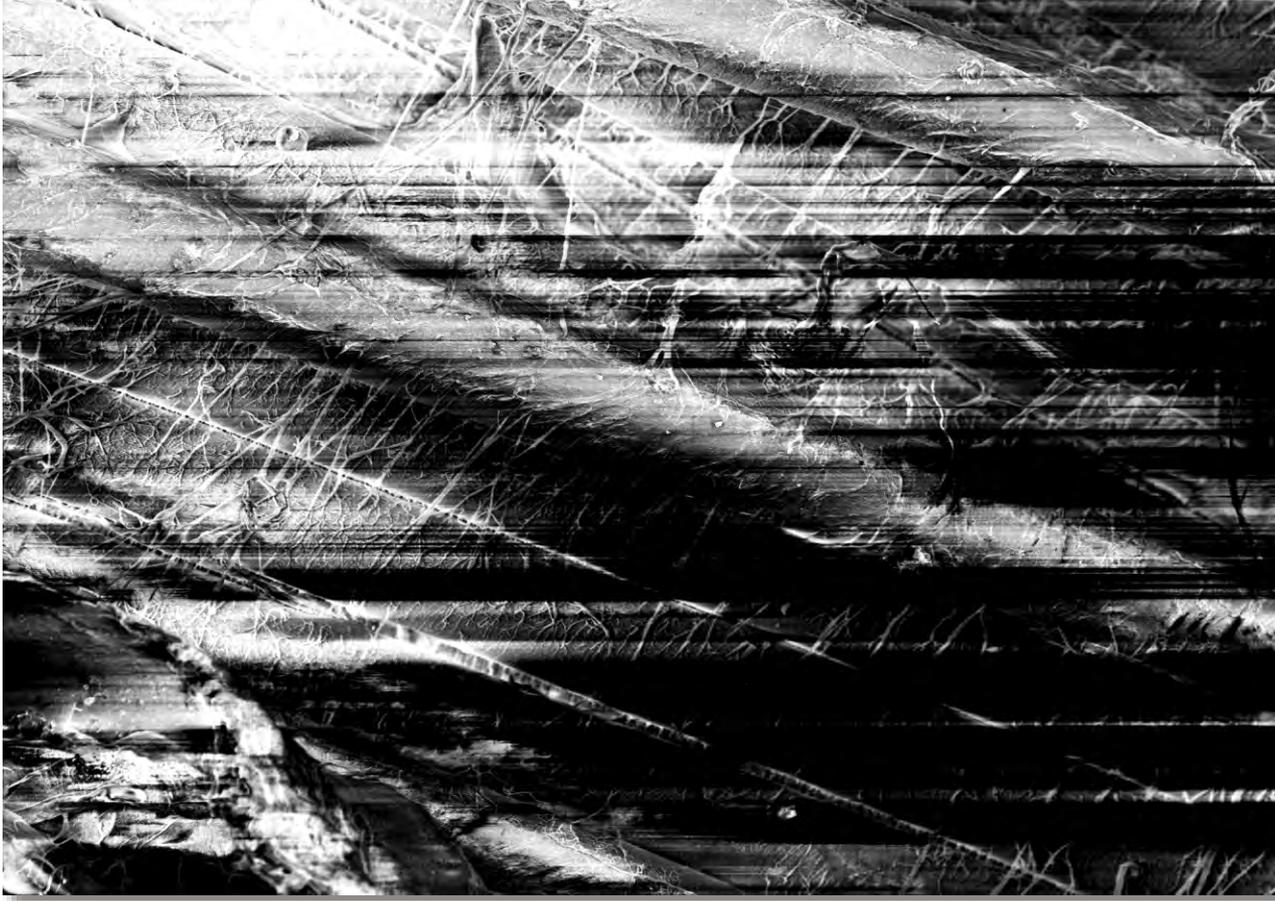
- 1 Why Electrons?
- 2 Interaction with Matter
- 3 Electron Emitter
- 4 Electron Column Design
- 5 Operating Parameters
- 6 Insulating Samples**

Electron Microscopes

Imaging difficult samples



Insulating or non-conductive samples: charging leads to artifacts and distorted images.



Example: paper fibers imaged at 5keV

Electron Microscopes

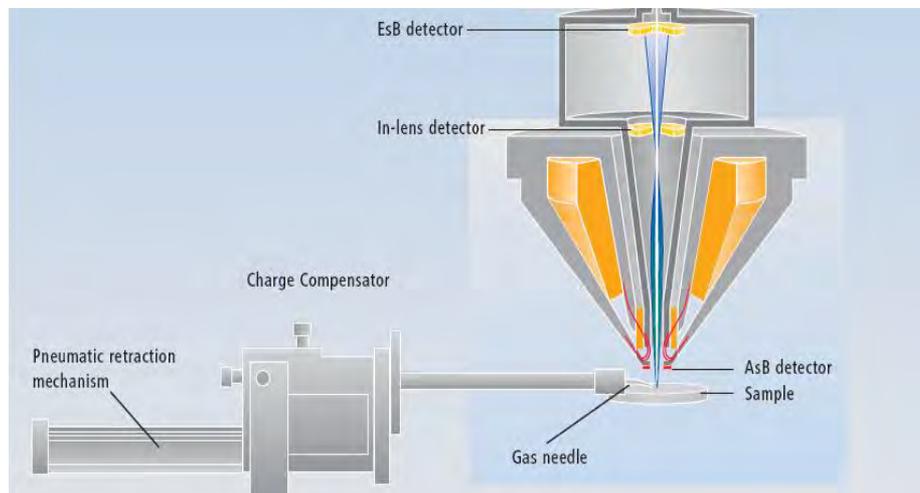
Imaging difficult samples



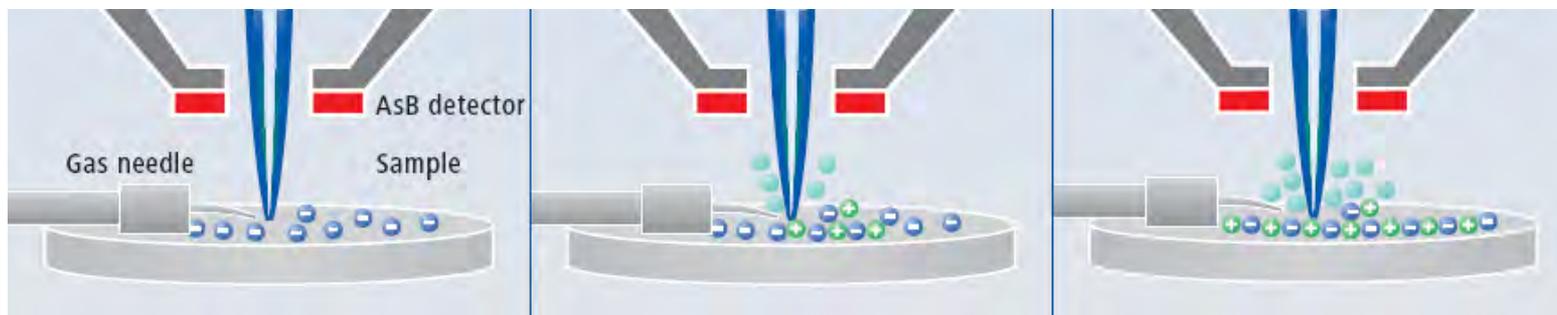
Insulating or non-conductive samples: charging leads to artifacts and distorted images.



Local Charge Compensation

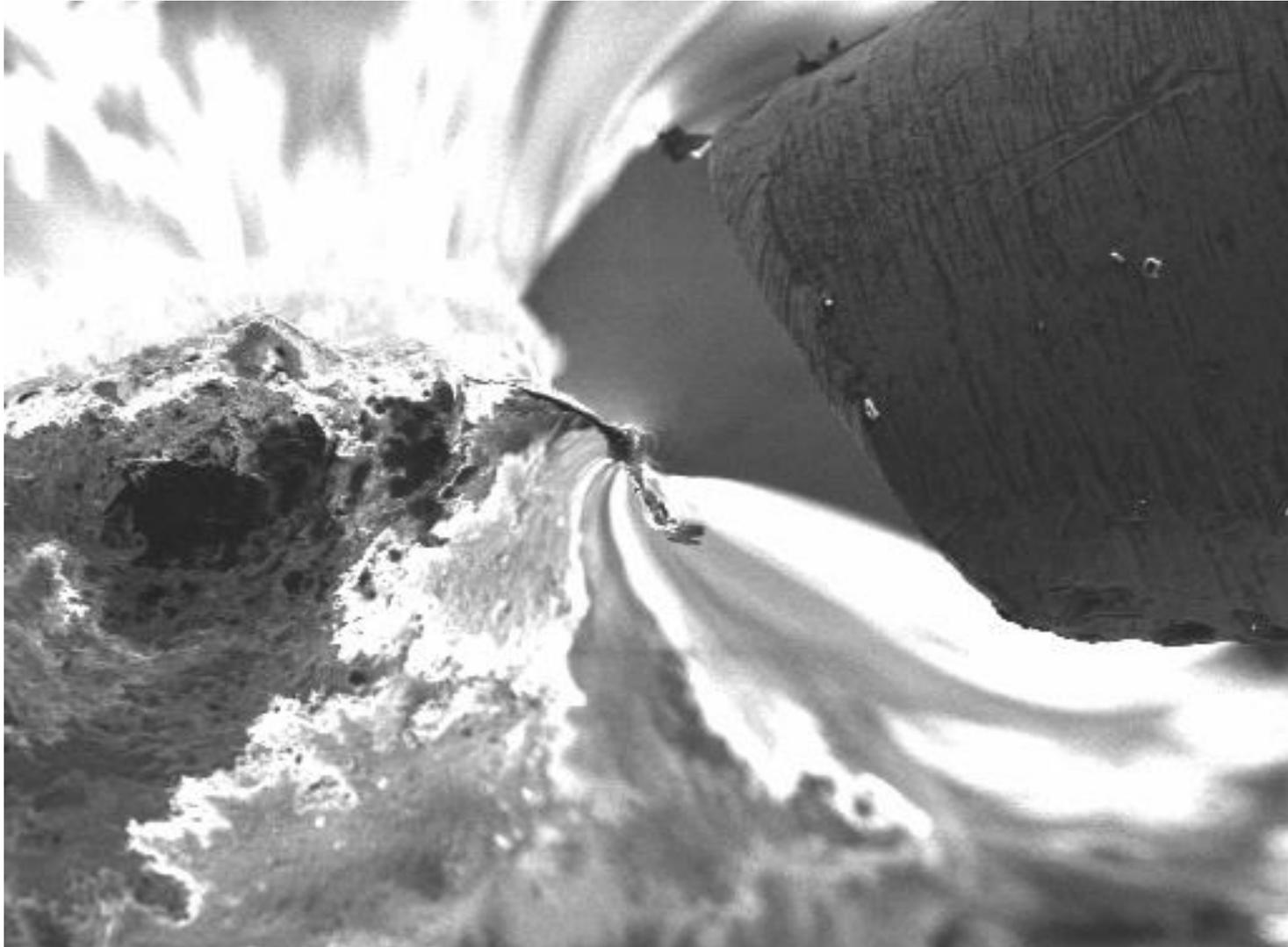


- Surface discharging with nitrogen ions
- No additional high pressure detectors needed (full InLens detection)
- Fully automated, discharging within a few seconds



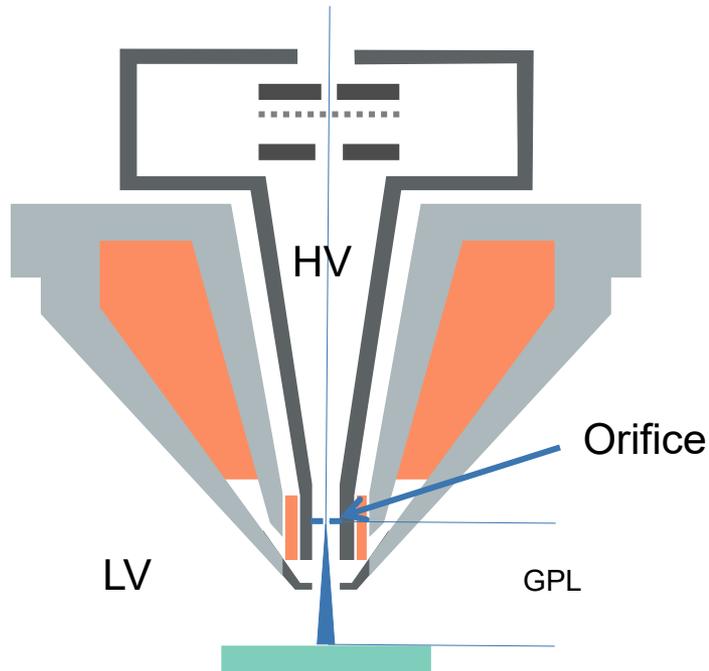
Easily Eliminate Charging Problems

By switching on local CC



[video link](#)

Variable Pressure (VP) Design



VP design

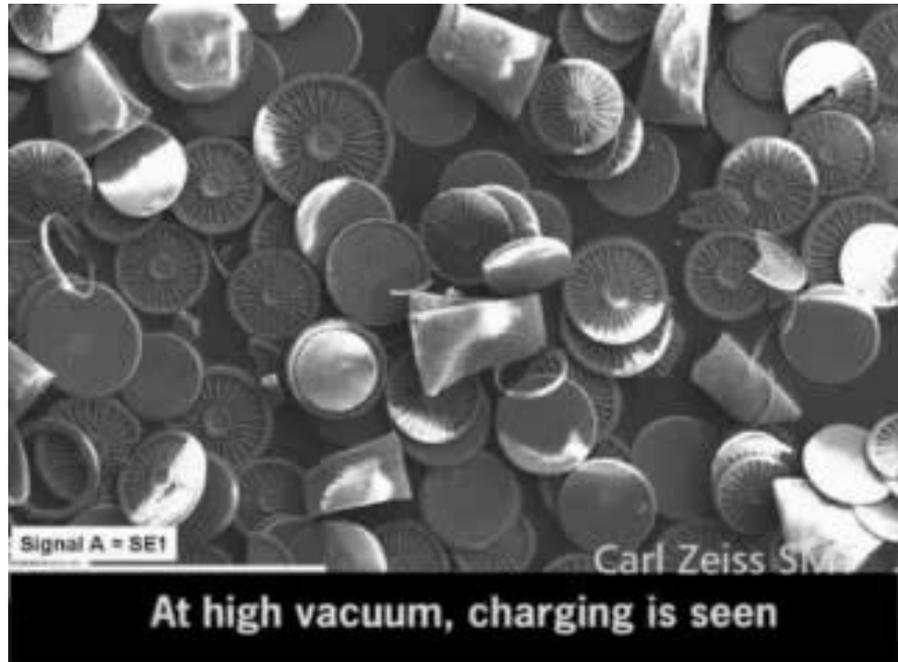
- Up to 133 Pa chamber pressure
- Gas molecules dissipate charge
- Loss of S/N, resolution

Difficult Samples

Insulating or non-conductive



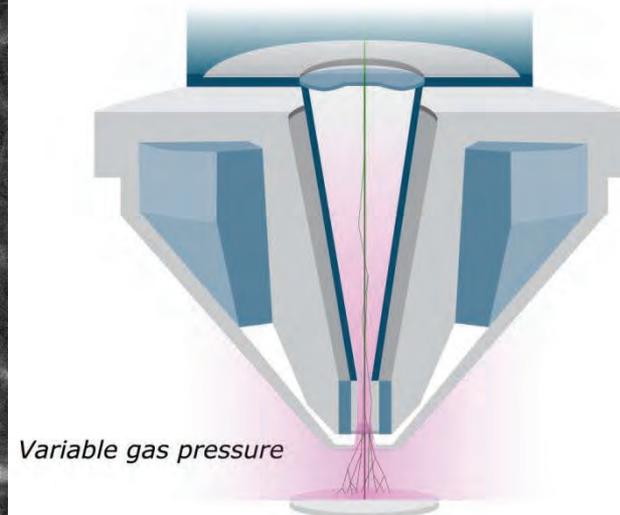
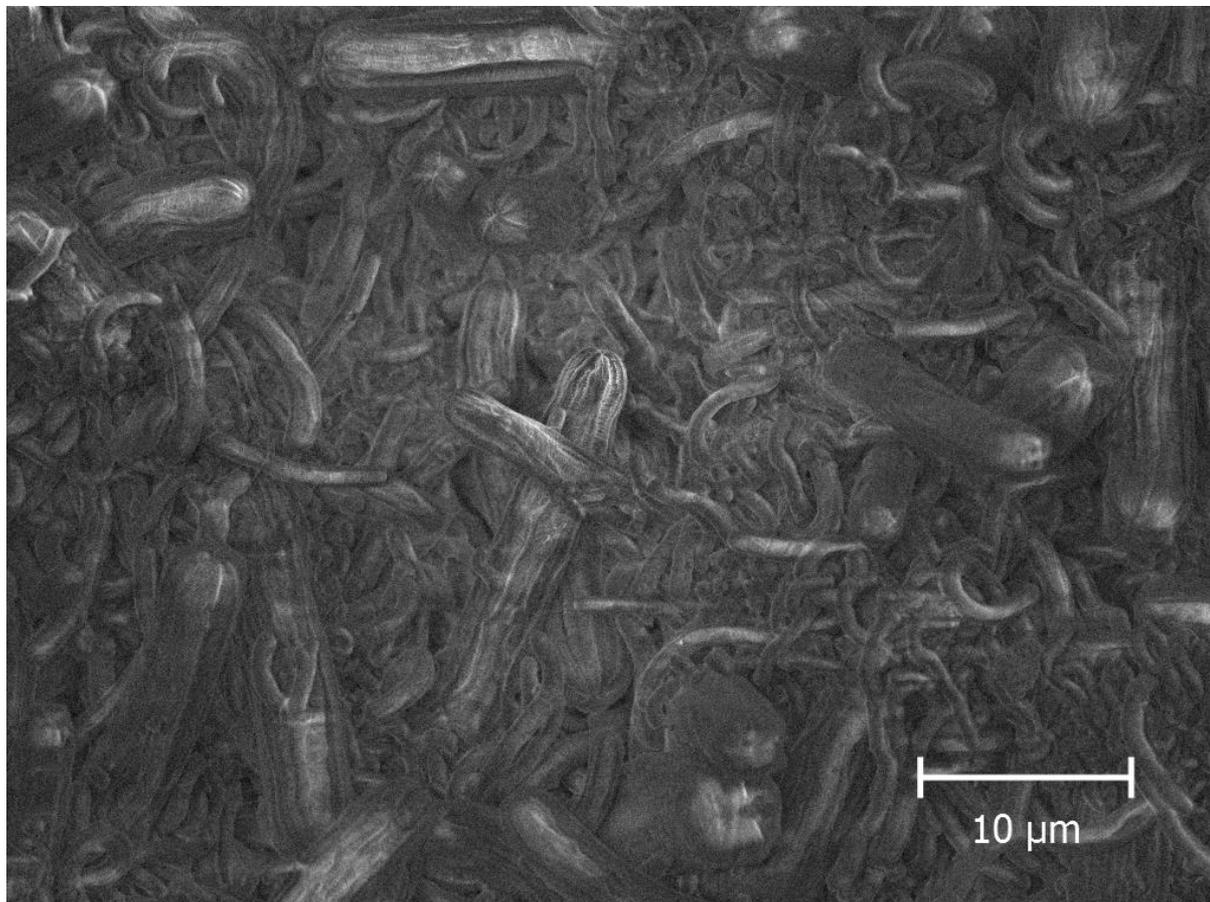
Imaging of insulating samples with Variable Pressure mode (VP)



Effective Charge Compensation in NanoVP



Fibrous polymer microstructures imaged at 3 kV in normal VP modes.



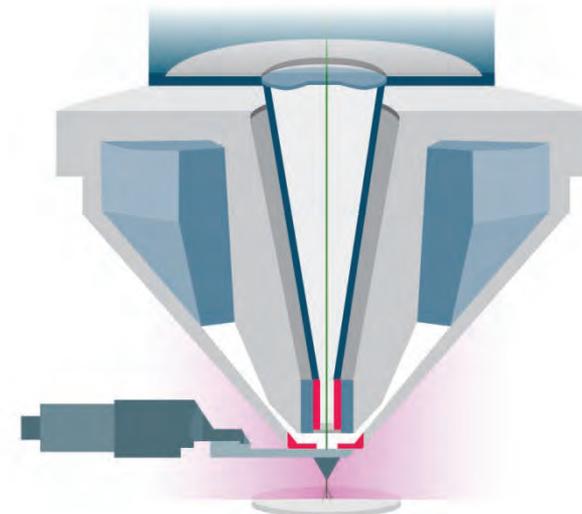
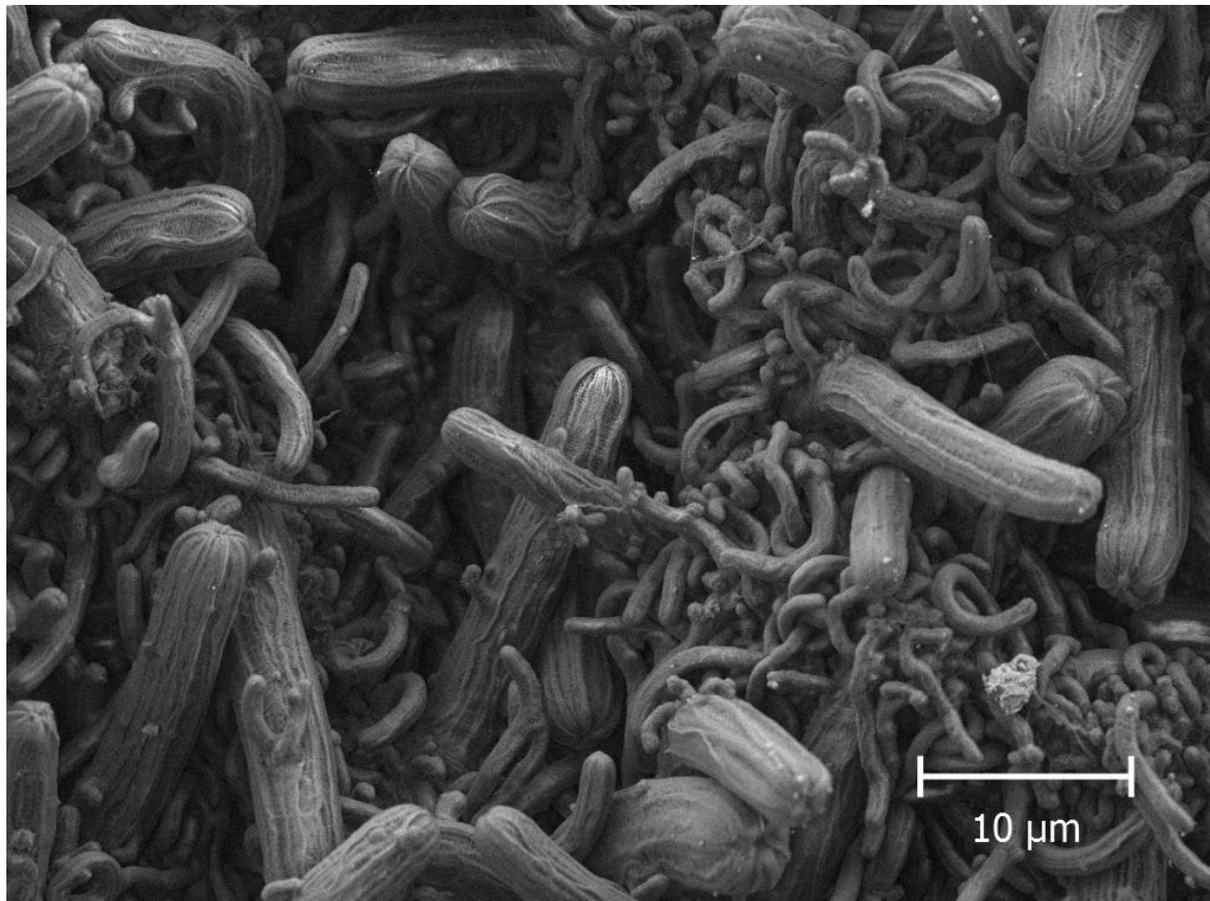
20 Pa in normal VP mode, VPSE detector

*Sample in courtesy of Dr. Hans-Georg Braun
Leibniz-Institute of Polymer Research Dresden
Max-Bergmann-Center of Biomaterials*

Effective charge compensation in NanoVP



Fibrous polymer microstructures imaged at 3 kV in NanoVP modes.

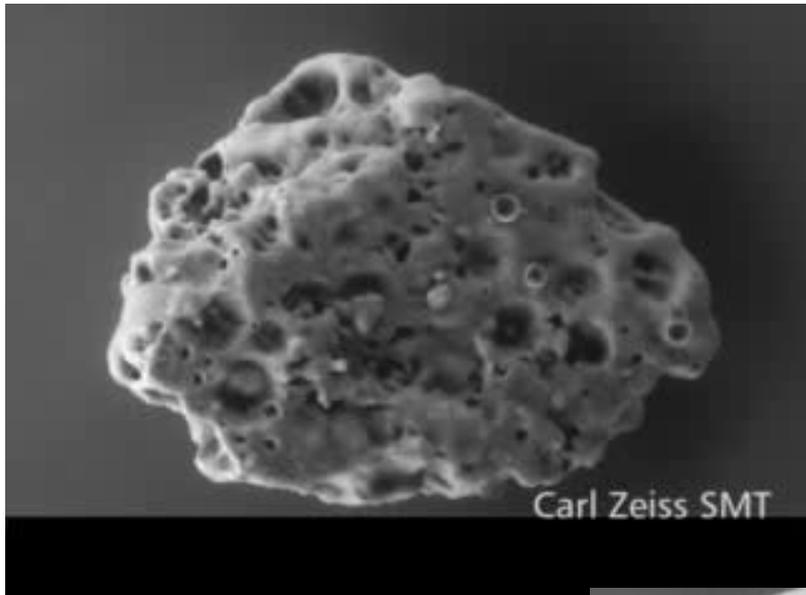


150 Pa in NanoVP mode, VPSE detector

*Sample in courtesy of Dr. Hans-Georg Braun
Leibniz-Institute of Polymer Research Dresden
Max-Bergmann-Center of Biomaterials*

Difficult Samples

Insulating or non-conductive



Environmental SEM –
freeze dried coffee beans
and water vapor



Electron Microscopes

In summary



Electron Microscopes...

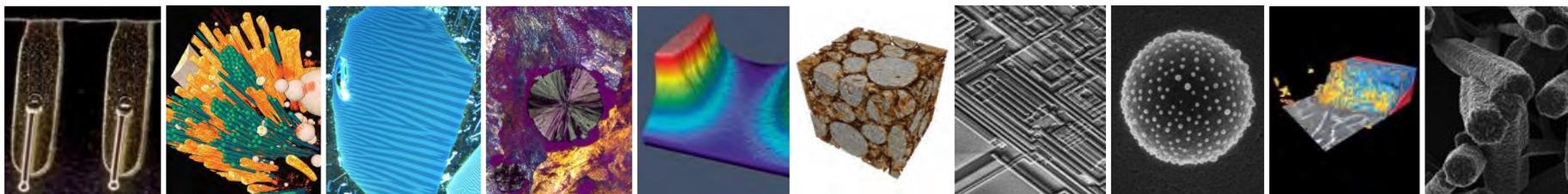
- ... use electrons instead of photons
- ... can achieve much higher resolution than light microscopes. The best ones can do < 1 nm (SEM) or 0.05nm (TEM)!
- ... use electromagnetic lenses instead of glass lenses
- ... adjust voltage, probe current, aperture size and working distance to optimize image quality and information
- ... have challenges imaging insulating samples, but modes to address available
- ... but can do more than “just” imaging

ZEISS Microscopy Portfolio

Multi-Scale Characterization for Multi-Scale Research



A complete microscopy portfolio...



Stereo LM Sub-micron XRM Widefield LM Polarized LM Confocal LM Nanoscale XRM C-SEM FE-SEM FIB-SEM Helium Ion Microscope

1 μ m 700 nm 250 nm 200 nm 200 nm < 50 nm < 2 nm < 1 nm < 1 nm < 0.5 nm

...to address multi-scale research challenges.



We make it visible.

Resources:

ZEISS – [Electron / Ion Microscopy](#)

ZEISS – [EM for Life Sciences](#)

ZEISS – [EM for Materials Science](#)

ZEISS - [Correlative Microscopy](#)

ZEISS – [X-ray microscopy](#)

Bob Hafner; Scanning Electron Microscopy Primer; Univ of Minnesota; 2007; [link](#)

Electron Microscopy in Various Sectors

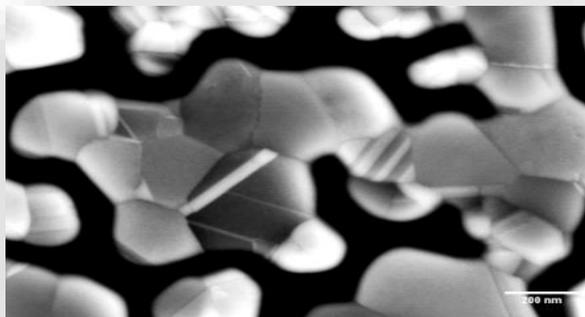
Serving Diverse Applications



Materials Science

**Basic Materials,
Functional Materials,
Nanomaterials,
2D Materials**

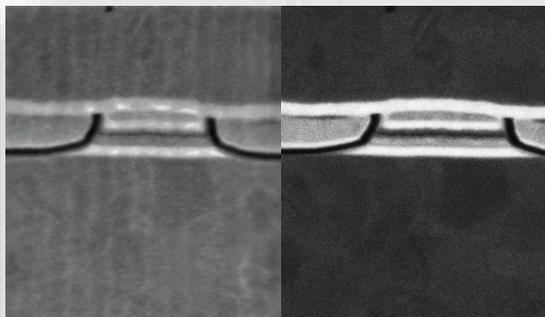
**Metals, Alloys
Ceramics, Minerals,
Polymers, Composites**



Industry

**Semiconductor
Data Storage,
Telecom, Flat Panel
Electronics
Battery, Solar**

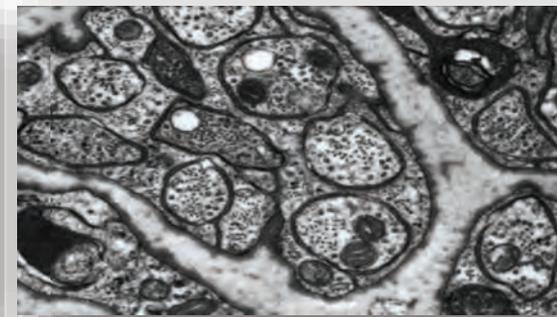
**Silicon, Resist, Metals,
Particles, Catalyst**



Life Science

**Bio, Pharma,
Cosmetics,
Medical Diagnostics,
Brain Research**

**Nano Bio Tech
Drugs, Cells, Tissues**



Carl Zeiss Microscopy

Why electrons?



- similar **optical properties**:
 - diffraction, aberration, astigmatism etc.
- **spatial resolution** depends on wavelength:
 - the higher the energy (of the electrons)
 - the lower the wavelength,
 - the higher the resolution
- typical **acceleration voltages** of electrons:
 - Scanning electron microscopes (SEM): 1 – 30 kV
 - Transmission electron microscopes (TEM): 40 – 1200 kV

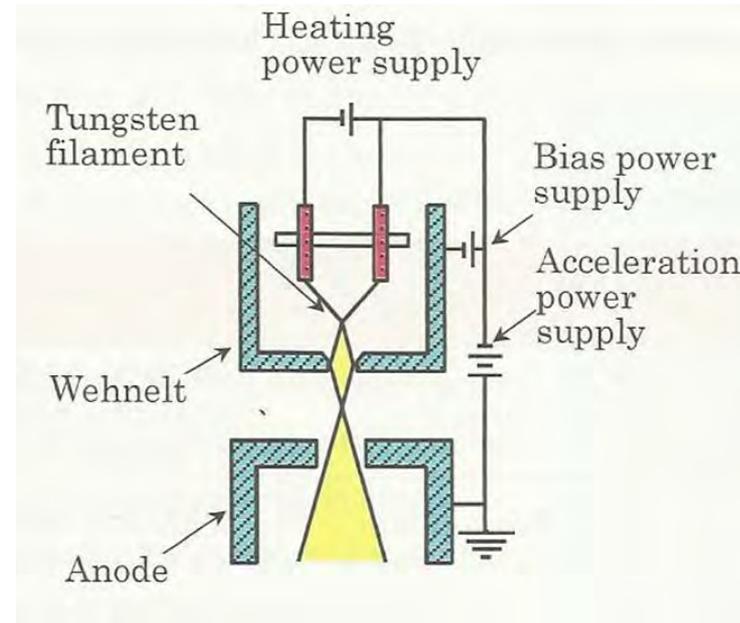
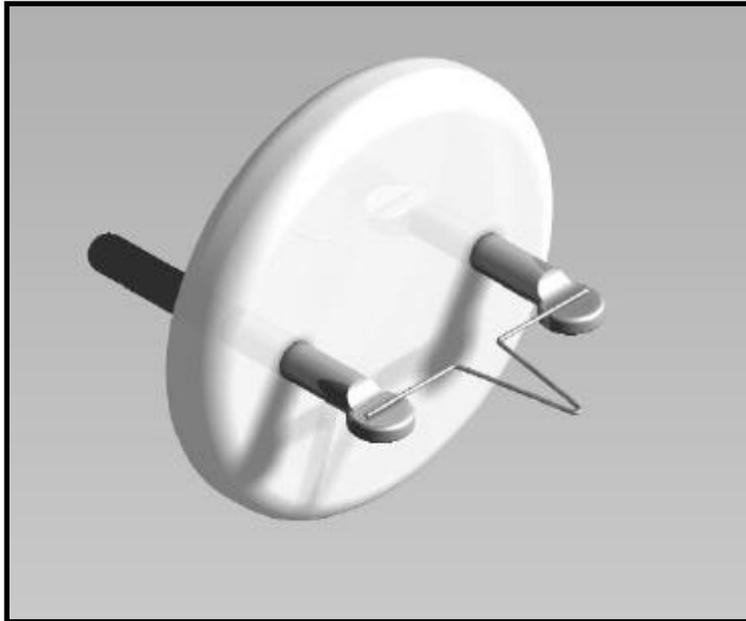
De Broglie wavelength

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{mv}$$

	Light Microscopy	Electron Microscopy
Wavelength	400 – 700 nm	$\lambda = 0.1 – 0.002$ nm (1 – 100 kV)
Spatial Resolution	~ 1 μ m	~ 1 nm
Max. Magnification	1,000 x	1,000,000 x
Modes of Operation	reflected light, transmitted-light	SEM, TEM
Samples	Unmodified, hydrated	vacuum-compatible

Electron Emitters

Tungsten

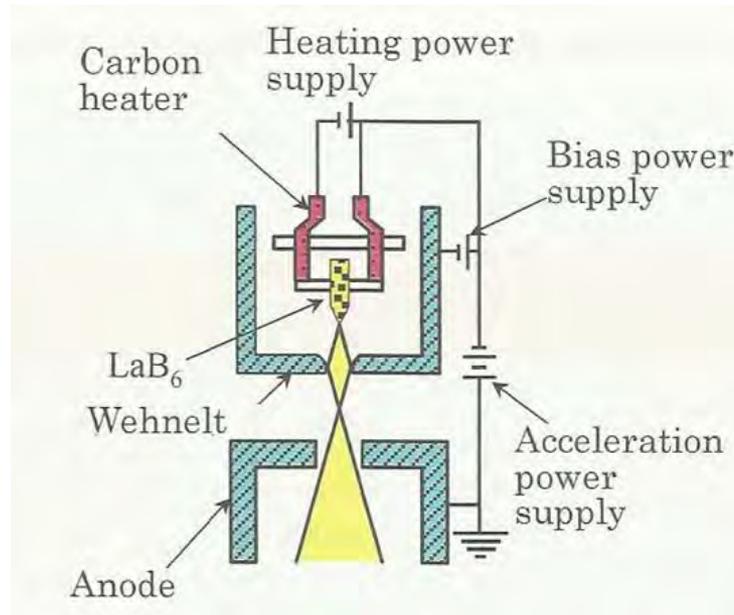


- Tungsten has the highest melting point and lowest vapor pressure of all metals, thereby allowing it to be heated for electron emission.
- V-shaped hairpin type
- Source size about $50\mu\text{m}$
- Energy spread about 3eV
- Service life 100-200 hours
- Very cheap

$$\text{Brightness } \beta = 10^6 \text{ A/cm}^2/\text{sr}$$

Electron Emitters

Lanthanum Hexaboride LaB_6

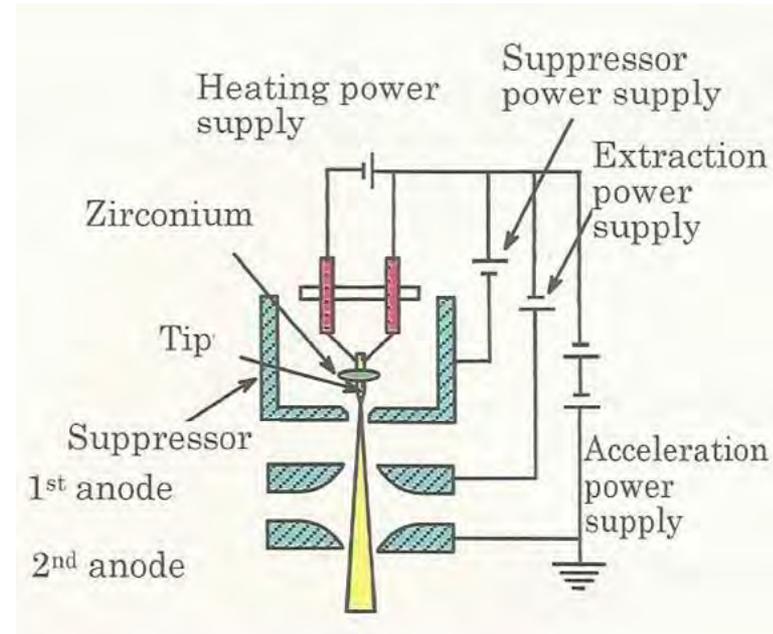
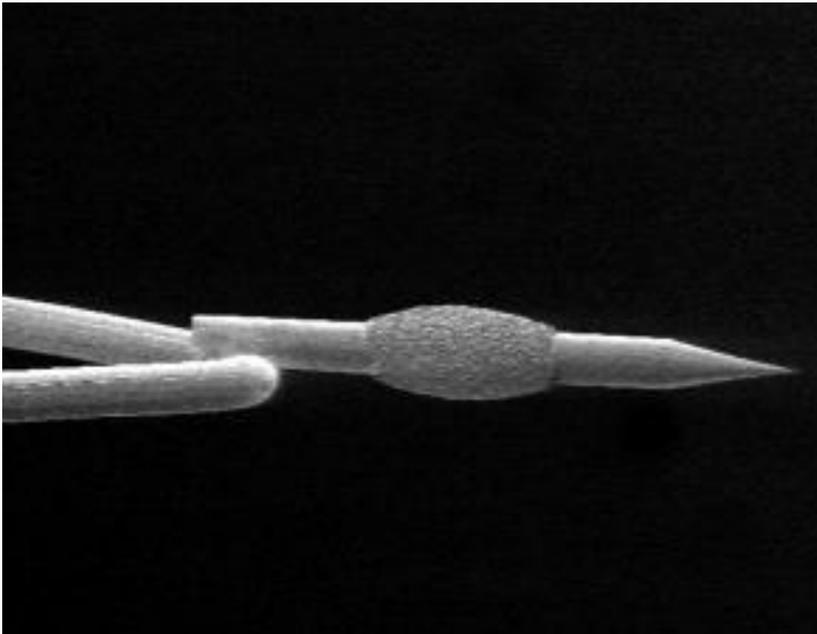


- LaB_6 filaments are single Lanthanum Hexaboride crystals ground to a fine point
- Source size about $5\mu\text{m}$
- Energy spread about 1eV
- Service life up to 2000 hours
- More expensive than tungsten (10-20x)

Brightness $\beta = 10^7 \text{ A/cm}^2/\text{sr}$

Electron Emitters

Schottky Field Emitters (FEG)



- Tungsten rod with a very sharp tip
- Tip is heated to about 1750K. Electrons are pulled out of the tip by applying an extraction voltage (tunnel effect)
- Source size about 0.05 μ m
- Energy spread about 0.7eV
- Service life > 2000 hours

Brightness $\beta > 10^8$ A/cm²/sr

LaB6 versus Tungsten Comparison



A comparison of the main characteristics of LaB6 and tungsten electron sources:

Characteristic	LaB6	Tungsten
Work function /eV	2.4	4.5
Operating temperature /K	1700	2700
Brightness /relative to tungsten	>50	1
Spot diameter improvement /relative to tungsten	1.5	1
Gun vacuum /Pa	10^{-4}	10^{-2}
Typical lifetime in normal mode /hrs	1000	50 - 100
Typical lifetime in long filament life mode /hrs	2000	>100
Resolution at 30 kV, 1pA /nm	2	3
Drift /% per hour	0.5	1
Approximate cathode cost /€	900	9

Lower work function allows electrons to be more easily emitted from LaB6 source (e.g. it is more efficient)

Lower work function allows a lower operating temperature → longer LaB6 lifetime

LaB6 can be more than 50x as bright as a tungsten

LaB6 can produce a spot 1.5x tighter than tungsten

The above parameters ensure LaB6 has a lifetime of ~ 20 times that of tungsten

The brightness and spot size contribute to a higher res.

Less drift for LaB6

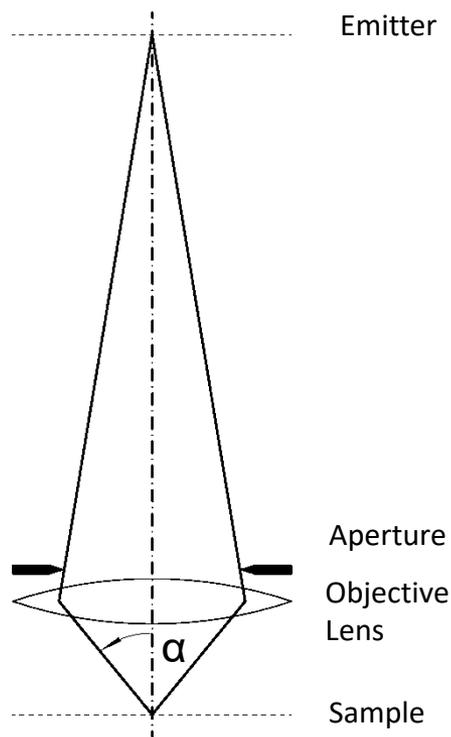
Although the cost of the cathode is higher, downtime costs need to be considered

Limits to Resolution

Optical Aberrations



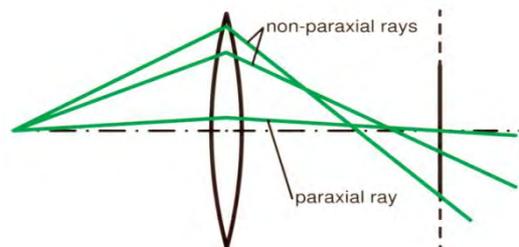
What limits the resolution in a SEM?



α : Aperture angle

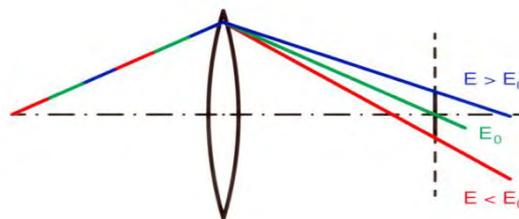
Probe size: $d_p = \sqrt{d_s^2 + d_c^2 + d_d^2 + (M \cdot d_g)^2}$

Spherical aberration:



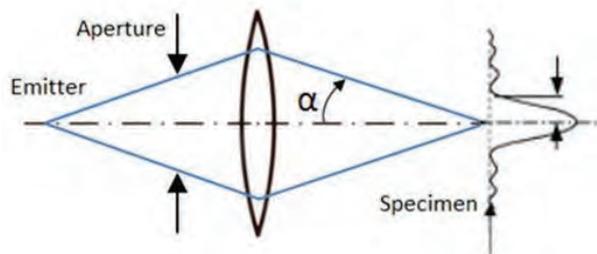
$$d_s = 0.5 C_s \alpha^3$$

Chromatic aberration:



$$d_c = C_c \frac{\Delta U}{U} \alpha$$

Diffraction:



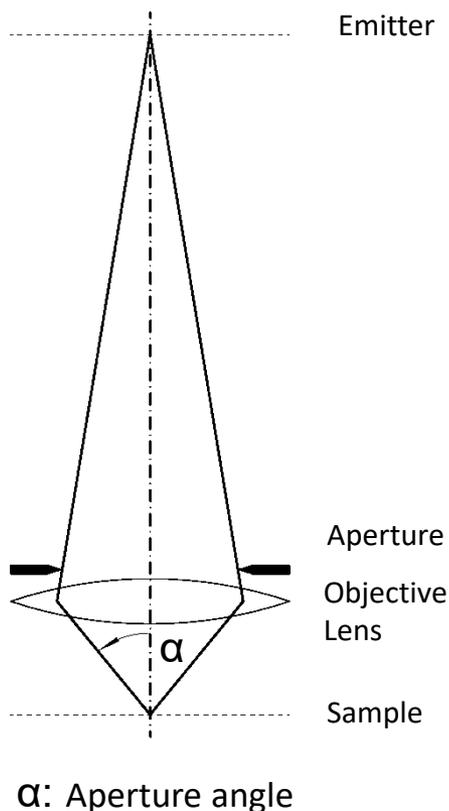
$$d_d \propto \frac{\lambda}{\alpha}$$

Limits to Resolution

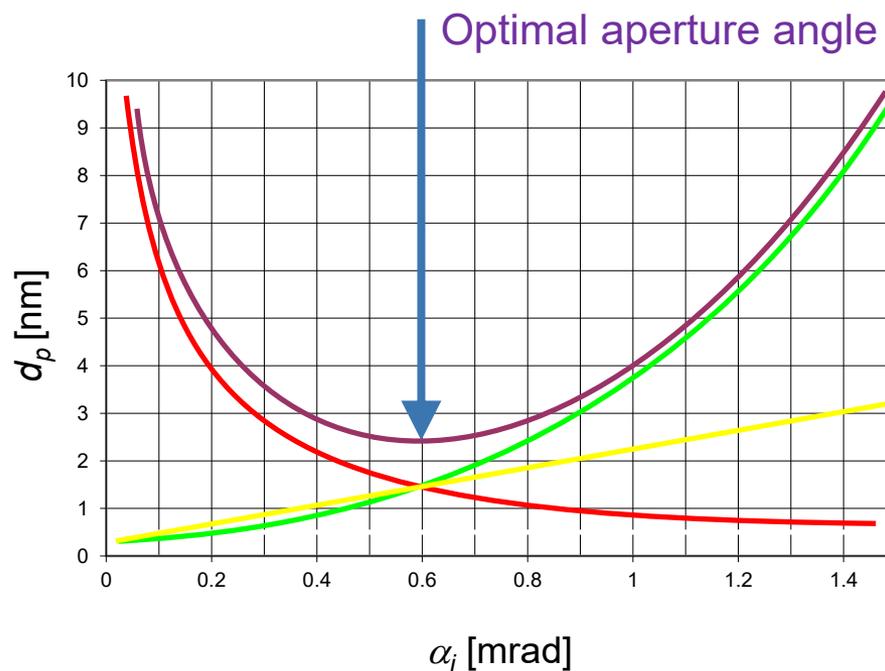
Optical Aberrations



What limits the resolution in a SEM?



- Spherical aberration: $d_s = 0.5C_s \alpha^3$
- Chromatic aberration: $d_c = C_c \frac{\Delta U}{U} \alpha$
- Diffraction: $d_d \propto \frac{\lambda}{\alpha}$



Probe size: $d_p = \sqrt{d_s^2 + d_c^2 + d_d^2 + (M \cdot d_g)^2}$

Chromatic Aberrations

Effects on Probe Size



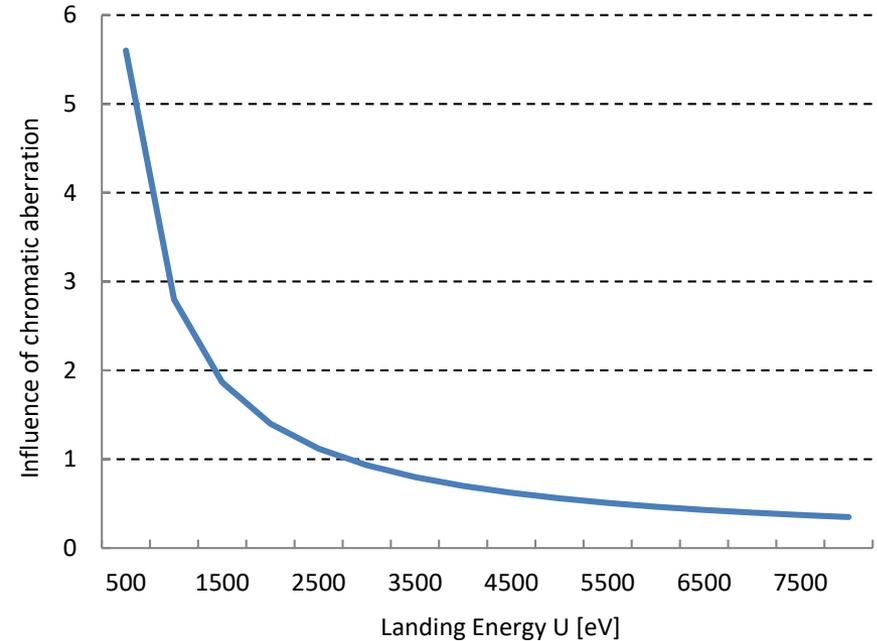
Probe Size:
$$d_p = \sqrt{d_s^2 + d_c^2 + d_d^2 + (M \cdot d_g)^2}$$

Chromatic aberration:

$$d_c = C_c \frac{\Delta U}{U} \alpha$$

At low voltages the dominating effect that increases probe size is **chromatic aberration**.

There are 2 strategies to reduce the effect of chromatic aberration:



Chromatic Aberrations

Effects on Probe Size



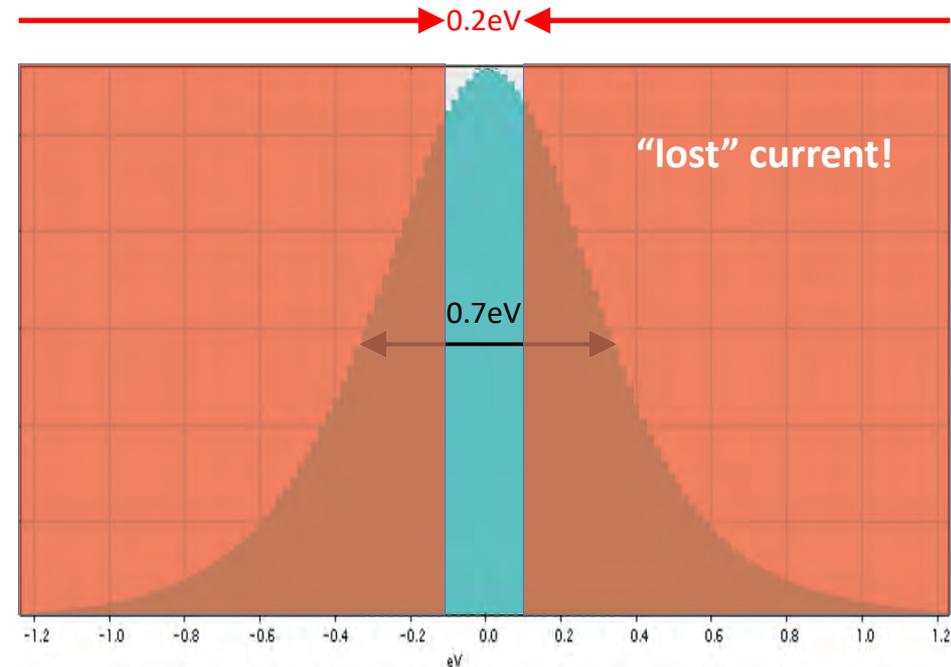
Probe Size: $d_p = \sqrt{d_s^2 + d_c^2 + d_d^2 + (M \cdot d_g)^2}$

Chromatic aberration: $d_c = C_c \frac{\Delta U}{U} \alpha$

At low voltages the dominating effect that increases probe size is **chromatic aberration**.

There are 2 strategies to reduce the effect of chromatic aberration:

1. Reduce the energy spread dU (monochromator, filter)
→ usually accompanied by a huge loss of beam current!



Energy width of a Schottky field emitter.

Chromatic Aberrations

Effects on Probe Size



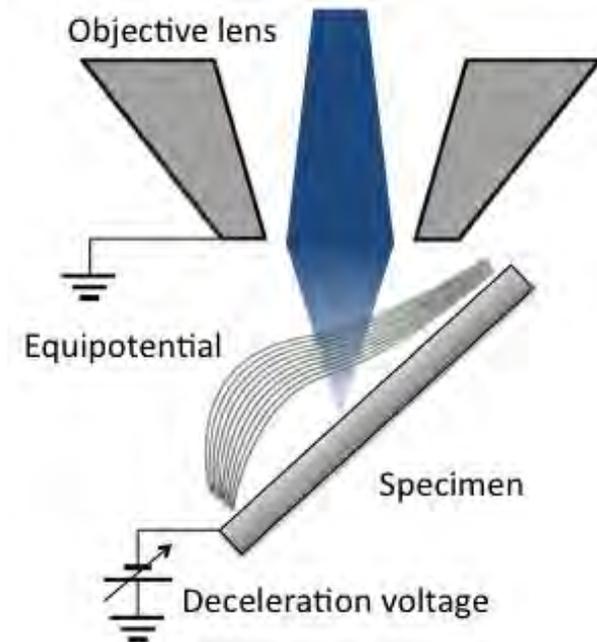
Probe Size:
$$d_p = \sqrt{d_s^2 + d_c^2 + d_d^2 + (M \cdot d_g)^2}$$

Chromatic aberration:
$$d_c = C_c \frac{\Delta U}{U} \alpha$$

At low voltages the dominating effect that increases probe size is **chromatic aberration**.

There are 2 strategies to reduce the effect of chromatic aberration:

2. Keep the electron energy U as high as possible and then decelerate the beam to the desired landing energy. One technique is stage biasing (“Beam Deceleration”), **but**
 - Sample must be flat
 - Sample cannot be tilted
 - Sample must not be rough
 - Conductivity must be homogenous
 - Discharging can happen



Chromatic Aberrations

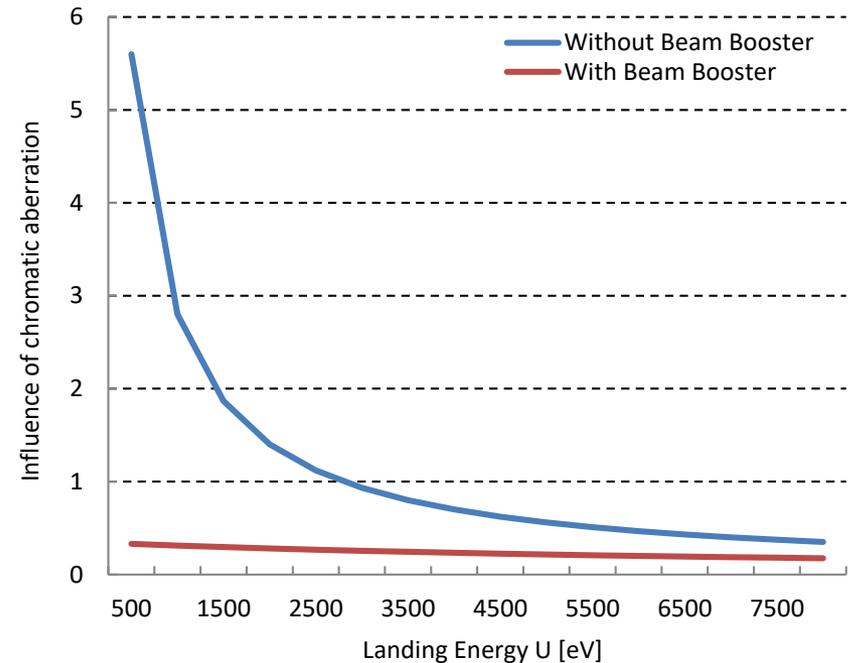
Benefit of Beam Booster



Probe Size: $d_p = \sqrt{d_s^2 + d_c^2 + d_d^2 + (M \cdot d_g)^2}$

Chromatic aberration:

$$d_c = C_c \frac{\Delta U}{U} \alpha$$

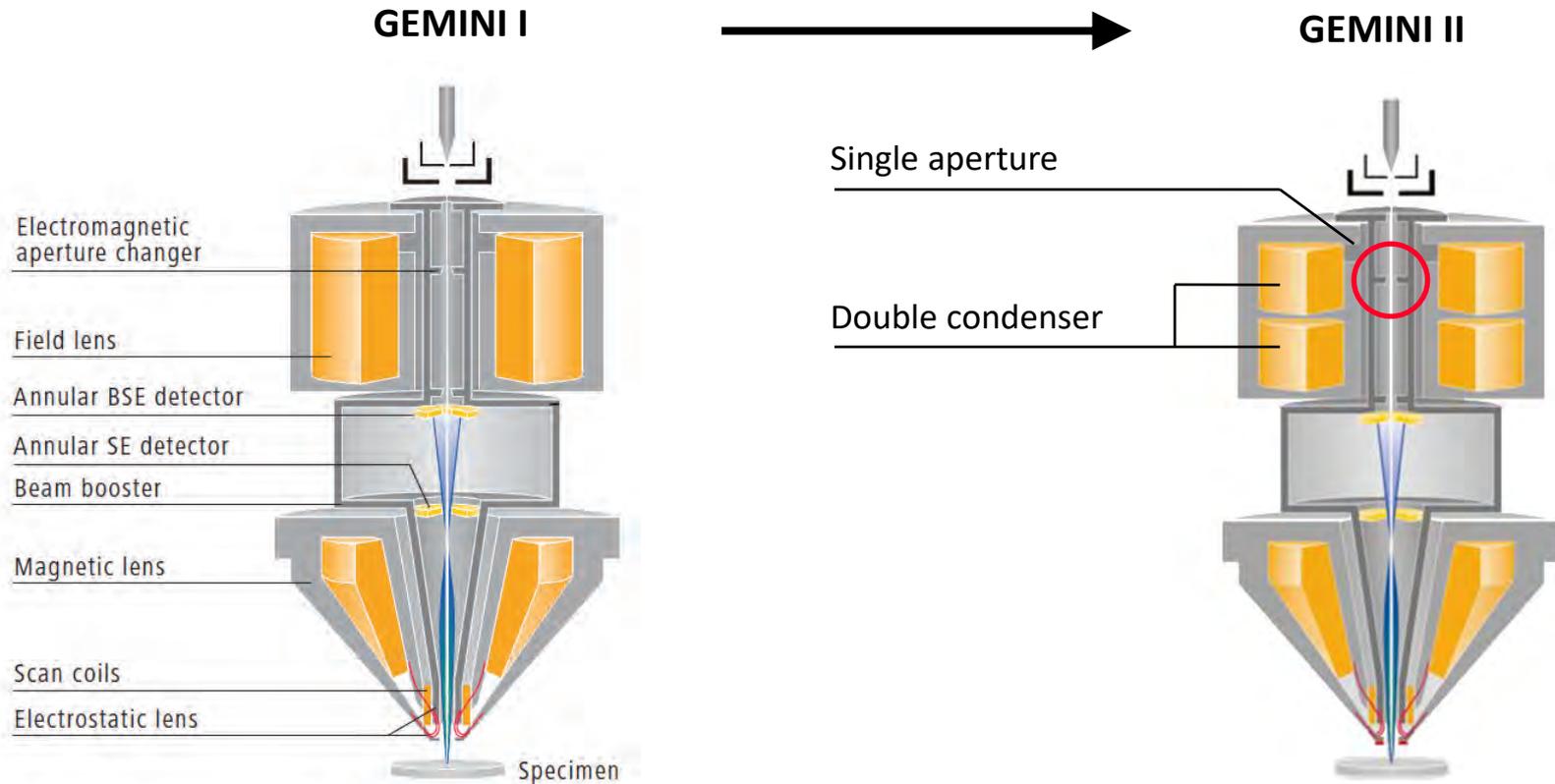


The GEMINI Beam booster advantage:

- The electron energy U is kept at above 8keV followed by *deceleration in the column*.
- No stage biasing is required
- No energy filtering needed
- Very high resolution even at (ultra) low voltages
- No loss of brightness and probe current at low voltages
- No alignment needed when switching from high to low voltages
- Does not influence the focused ion beam

GEMINI Column

Improvements in GEMINI Technology - GEMINI II column



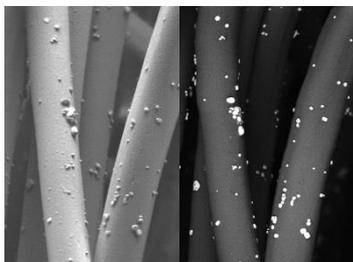
GEMINI Column

Improvements in GEMINI Technology - GEMINI II column

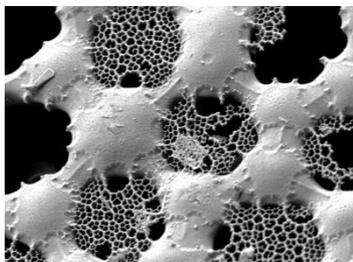


Continuous variation of beam current and acceleration voltage. No realignment needed.

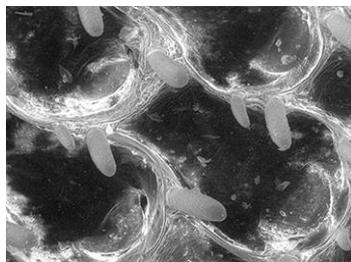
Comprehensive Signal Detection



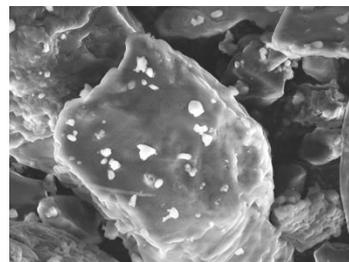
Inlens Duo: Inlens SE and BSE detector for high resolution topographical and compositional imaging of surfaces, thin films and nano particles.



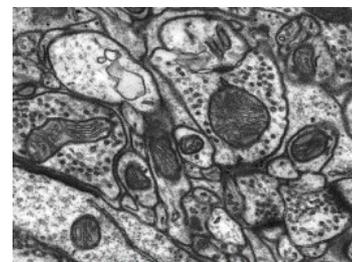
ETSE Detector: High resolution topographic imaging with 50% more signal to noise and reduced charging at low kV in high vacuum mode



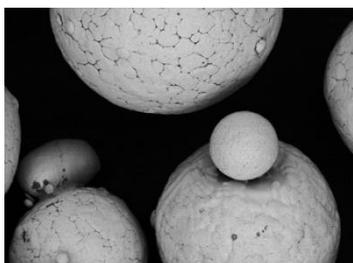
VPSE-G4: Fourth generation Variable Pressure SE detector provides 85% more contrast



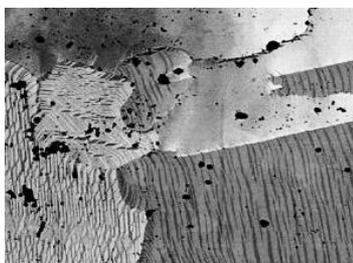
C2D: Cascade Detector for the ultimate performance in VP mode even at higher pressures.



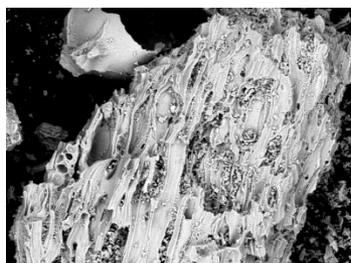
aSTEM: Annular STEM detector provides HAADF modes for “TEM-like” imaging of thin films or biological sections



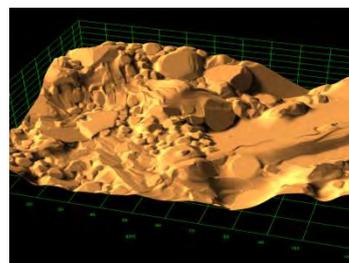
HDBSD: High definition BSE-detector for excellent low kV compositional imaging of all samples in all vacuum modes



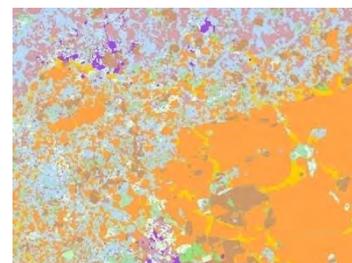
AsB Detector: Angular selective BSE-detector enables crystallographic & channelling contrast imaging of metals and minerals mounted in the final lens.



YAG-BSD: YAG crystal based scintillator BSE-detector provides fast, easy compositional imaging



BSD4: 4 parallel output BSE-detector provides “real-time” 3D imaging and surface metrology.



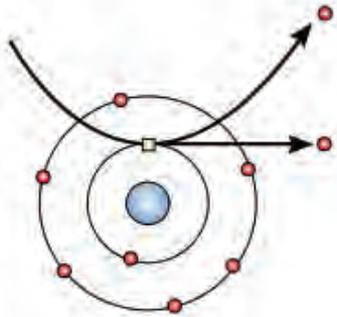
Dual EDS: Diametrically opposed EDS detectors at 8.5 mm working distance & 35 degree take-off angle delivers highest analytical productivity with results delivered twice as fast.

On-Axis In Column Detection System

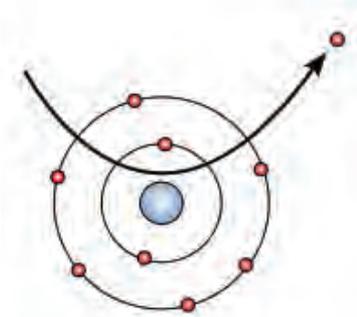
Different electrons carry different information



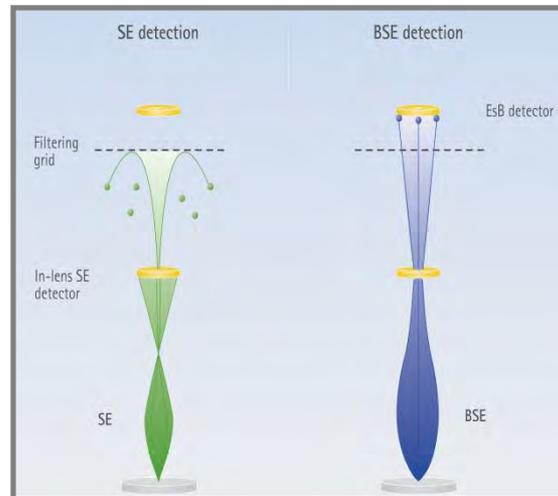
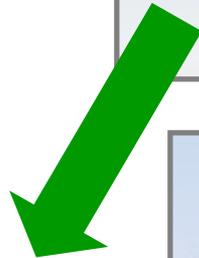
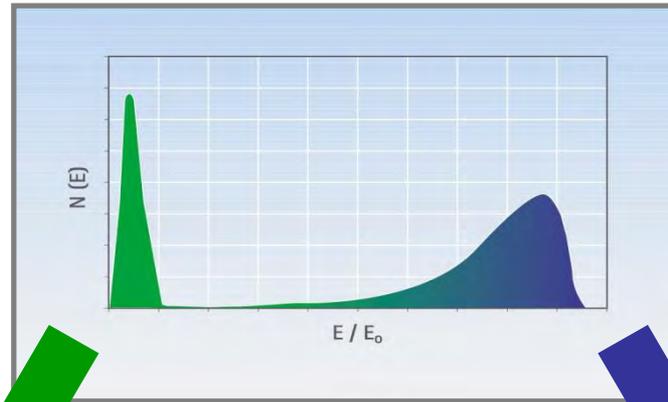
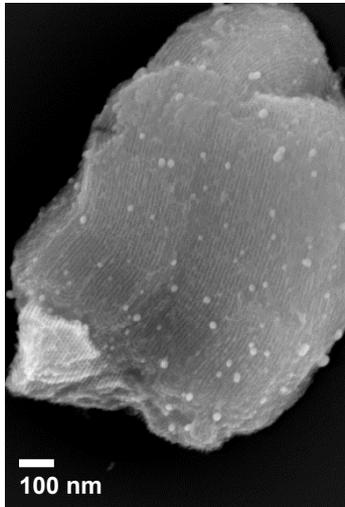
Secondary electrons



Backscattered electrons



Topographical information



Combined detection for maximum information!

Compositional contrast

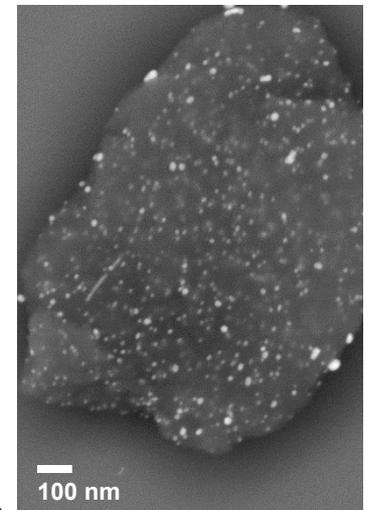


Image: Zeolite with Ag nanoparticles, 5kV. Sample courtesy of Fritz-Haber-Institute Berlin

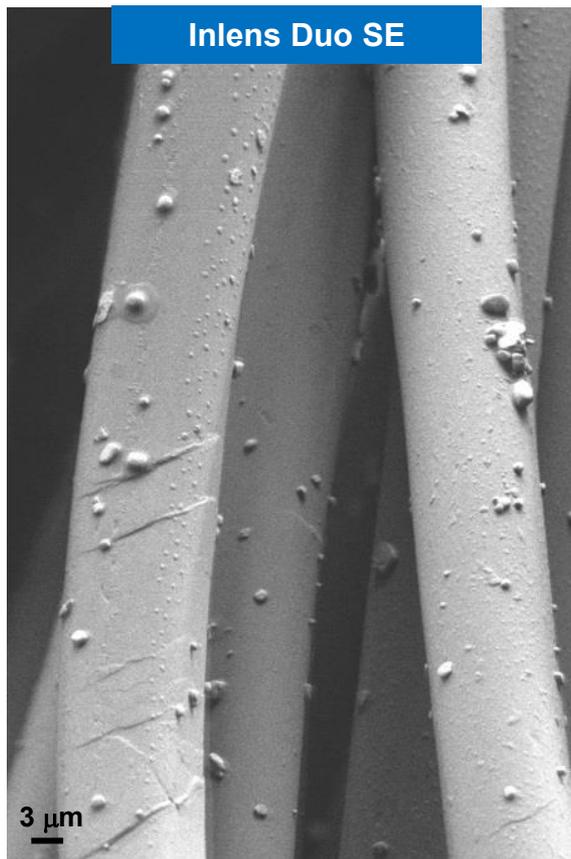
Comprehensive Signal Detection

Inlens Duo

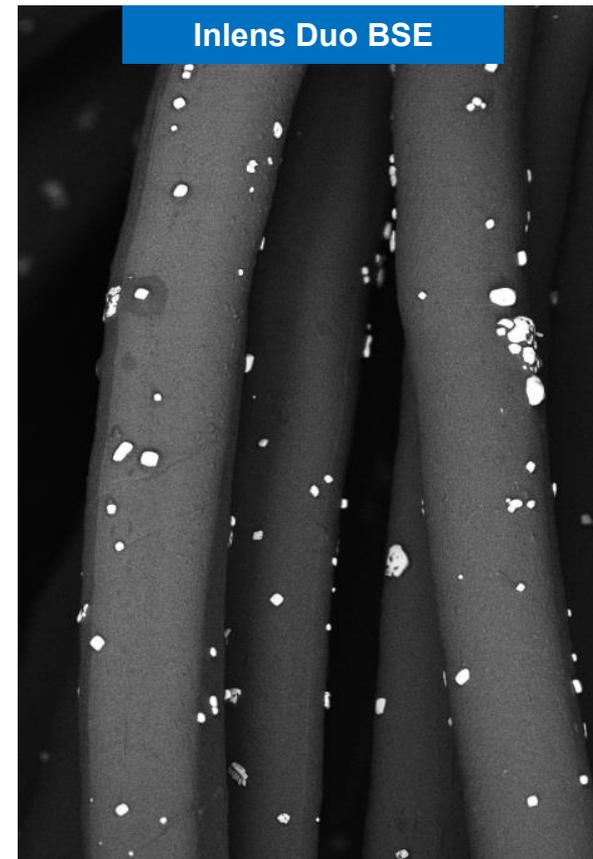


Inlens Duo:

- Affordable in-column SE & BSE detection - **two detectors in one**
- Sequential compositional and topographic imaging of layers, coatings, thin films and nano-particles



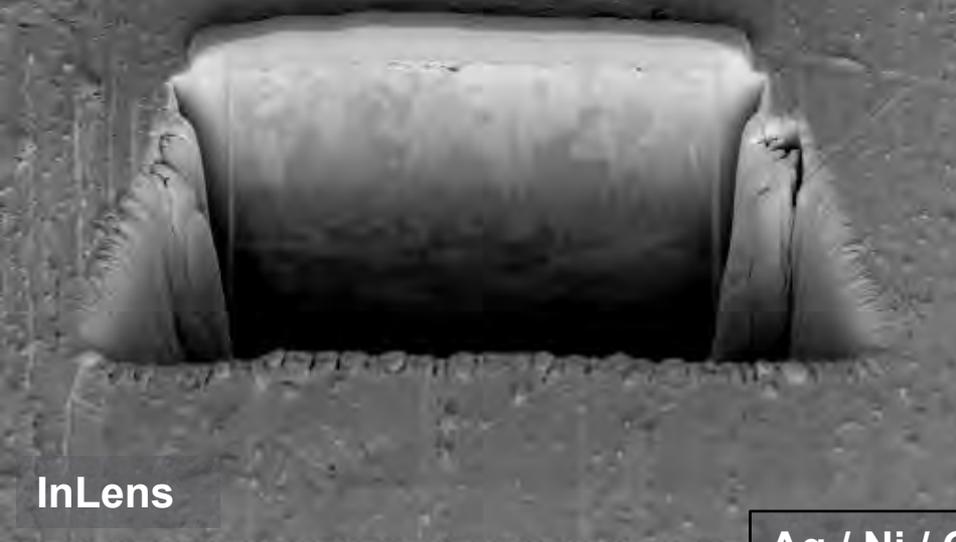
Topographic imaging
with on-axis in-lens SE
detection



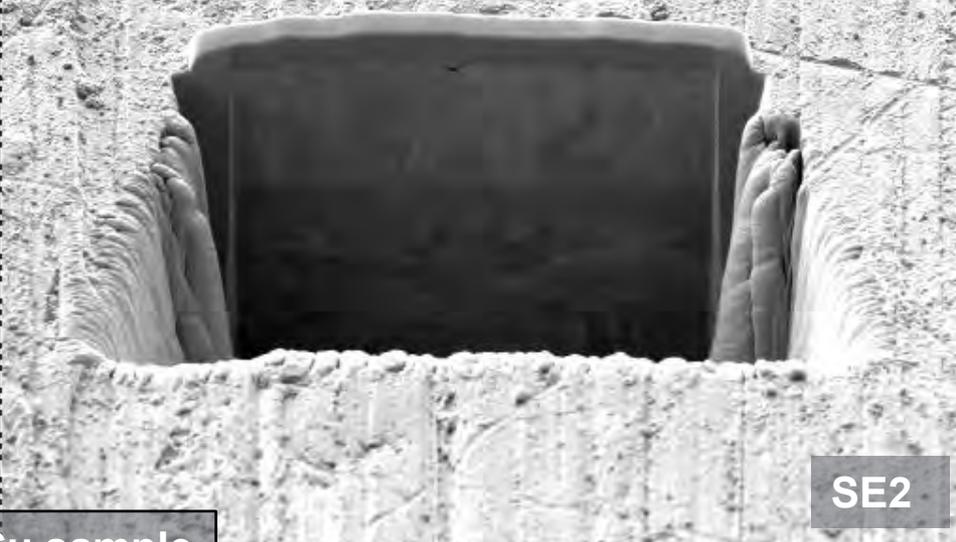
Compositional imaging
with on-axis in-lens BSE
detection

Imaging with Quad mode
...more information in less time

Sample courtesy of D. Willer, MPA Stuttgart



InLens

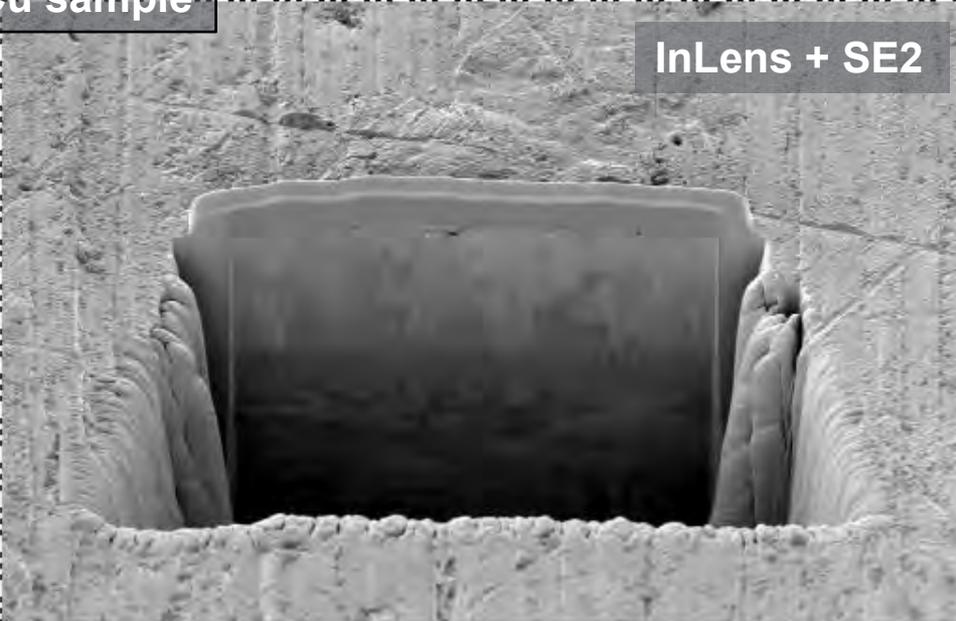


SE2

Ag / Ni / Cu sample



EsB



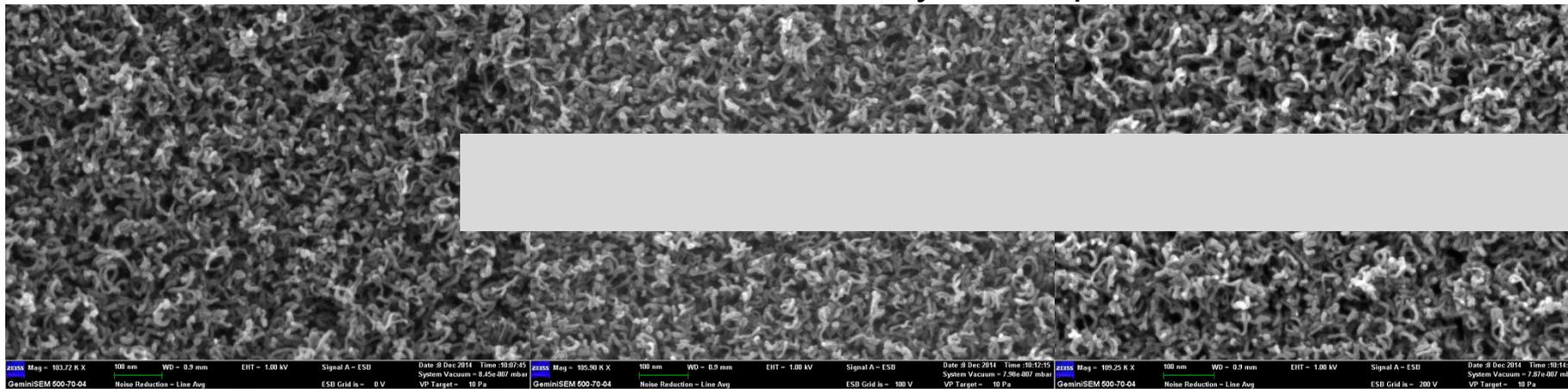
InLens + SE2

In-lens EsB Detection

Tunable energy selective backscatter



EsB detector on CNT with catalyst nanoparticles

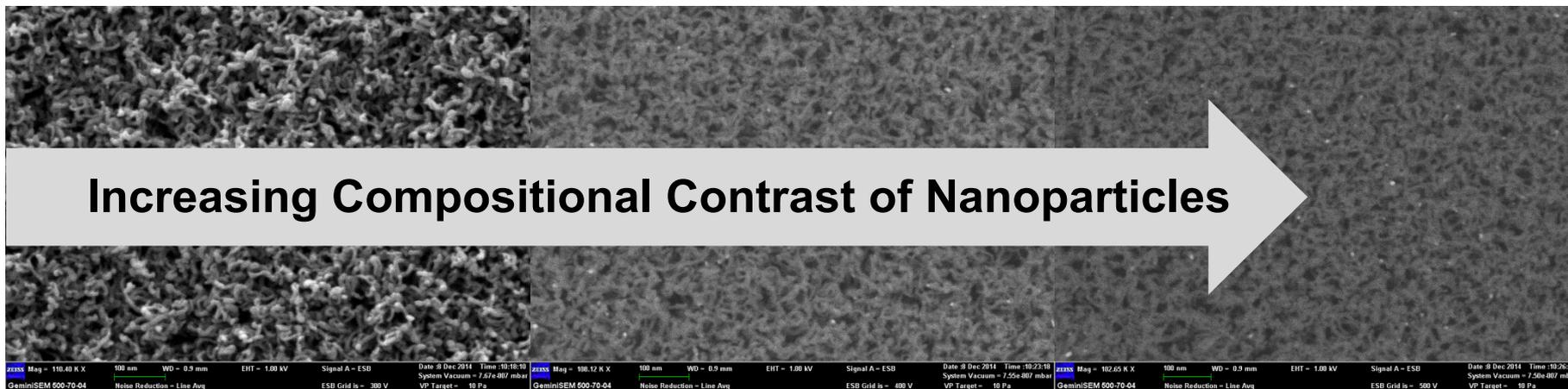


Grid 0 V

Grid 100 V

Grid 200 V

Increasing Compositional Contrast of Nanoparticles



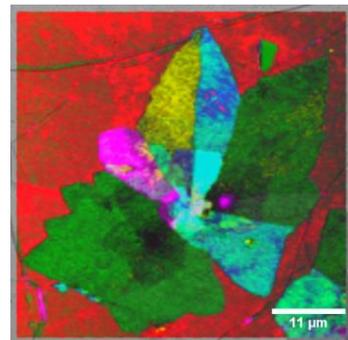
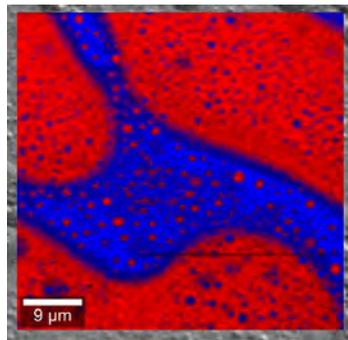
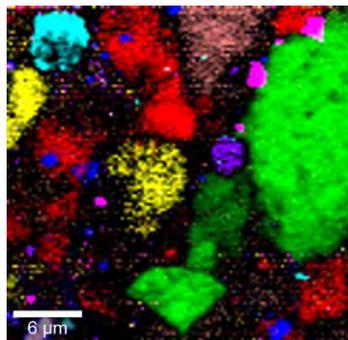
Grid 300 V

Grid 400 V

Grid 500 V

Analysis Beyond EDS

ZEISS FESEM + Raman spectroscopic imaging

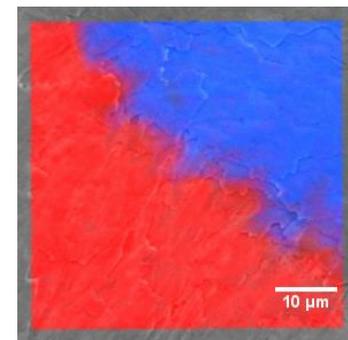
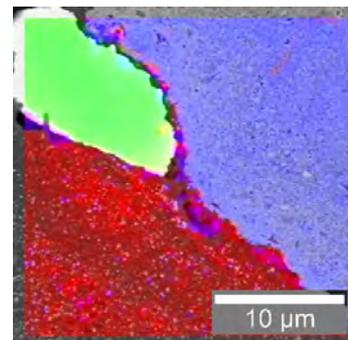
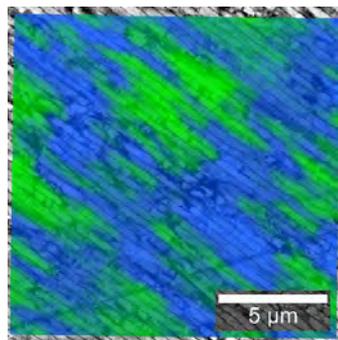


Nonmetallic compositions and phases:

- Polymorphs
- Molecule phases
- Polymer blends
- Crystal orientations
- Fibrillary polymer
- Degree of Crystallinity
- Kinds of Defect
- Stress and Strain
- Surface coating
- Contamination

Application fields:

- Nanoparticles & 2D Mat.
- Polymer
- Carbon materials
- Semiconductor
- Geology/ Mineralogy
- Forensic
- Pharma
- Biomaterials
- Coatings
- Corrosion



Why Correlative Microscopy?

Zoom in from micro to nano



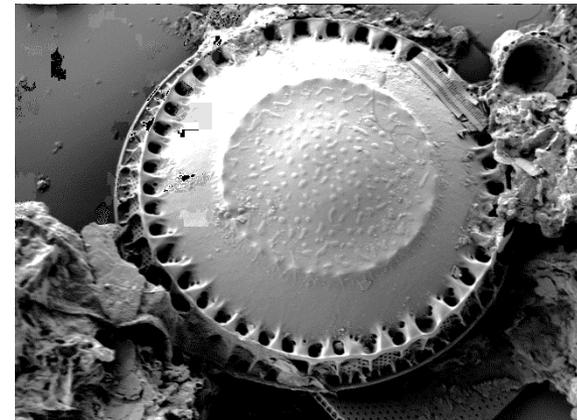
ZEISS Correlative Microscopy

Light microscope (LM)



Rapid light microscopy
overview – low resolution

Electron microscope (EM)



Targeted SEM imaging –
high resolution

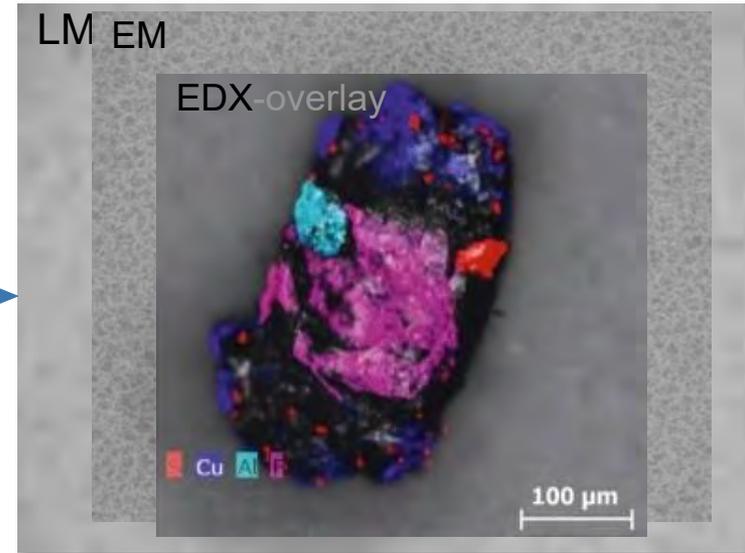
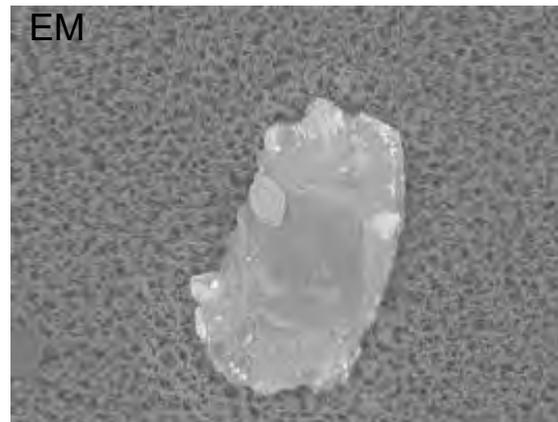
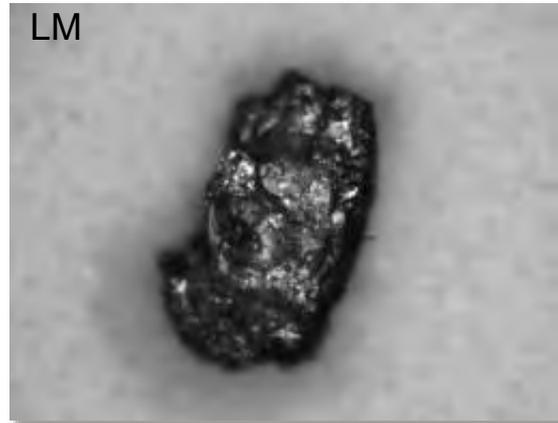


Correlative Microscopy

Correlation of functional and structural information



ZEISS Correlative Microscopy



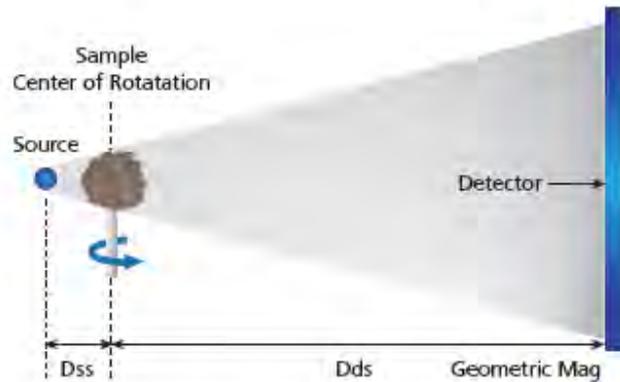
X-ray Tomography

MicroCT and X-ray Microscopy



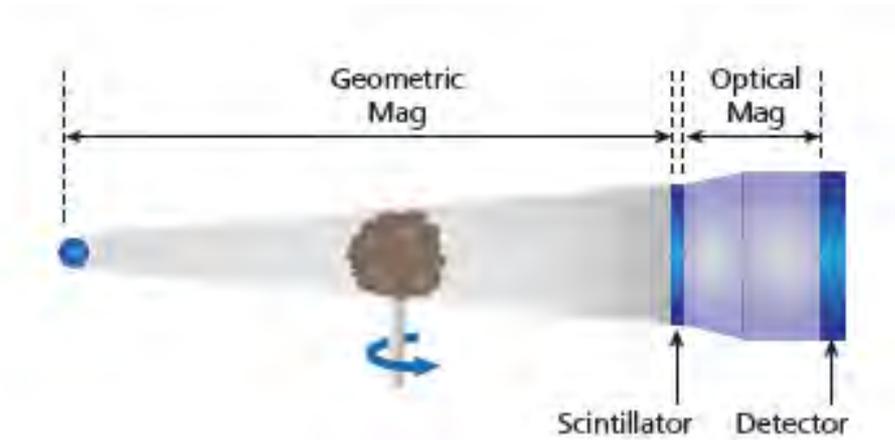
[ZEISS x-ray microscopy](#)

Conventional MicroCT



- Projection based architecture
- Resolution degrades substantially as the sample moves away from the source

Xradia Versa Family



- Two-Stage Magnification for unprecedented resolution and contrast
- High resolution is maintained as the sample moves away from the source

