

# Rutherford Backscattering Spectrometry

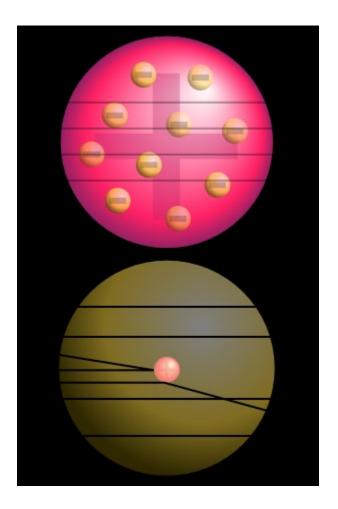
Timothy P. Spila, Ph.D. Sr. Research Scientist

Materials Research Laboratory

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University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

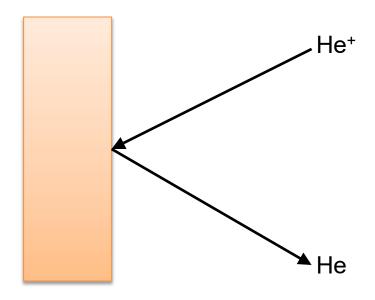
#### Geiger-Marsden Experiment



Top: Expected results: alpha particles passing through the plum pudding model of the atom undisturbed.

Bottom: Observed results: a small portion of the particles were deflected, indicating a small, concentrated positive charge.

#### Rutherford Backscattering Spectrometry



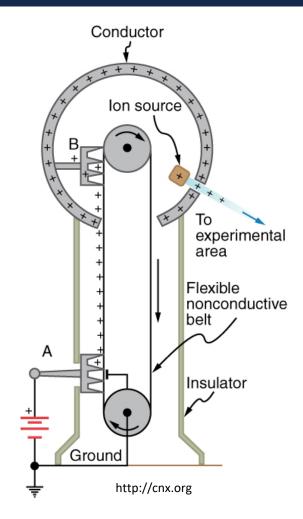
RBS is an analytical technique where high energy ions (~2 MeV) are scattered from atomic nuclei in a sample. The energy of the back-scattered ions can be measured to give information on sample composition as a function of depth.

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#### Van de Graaff accelerator



http://archive.thedailystar.net/newDesign/print\_news.php?nid=73473



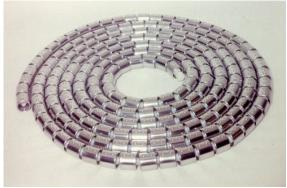
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## **Rutherford Backscattering Spectrometry**

#### 3 MeV Pelletron accelerator



beam size  $\phi$ 1-3 mm flat sample can be rotated



#### **NEC Pelletron**

- Ionization chamber
- Acceleration tube
- Focusing quadrupole
- Steering magnet
- RBS end station



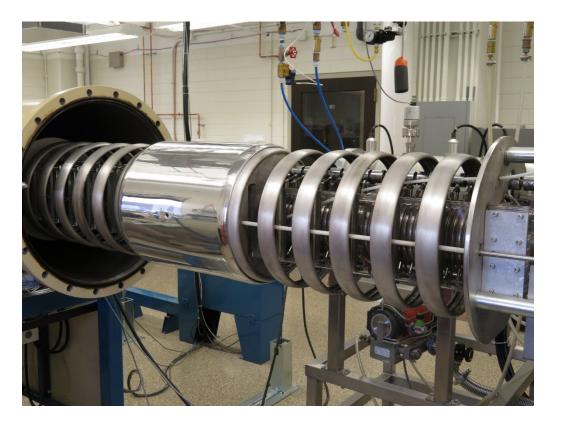
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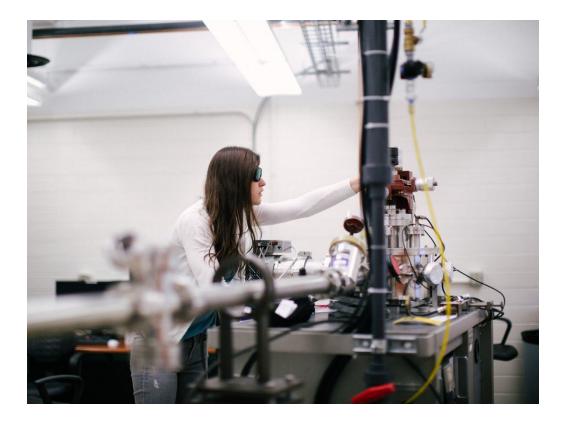
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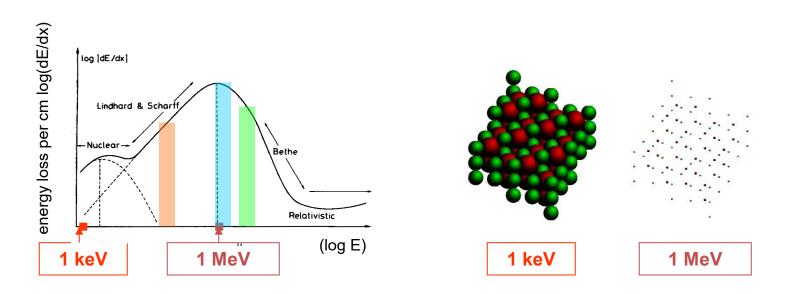
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#### Primary Beam Energy

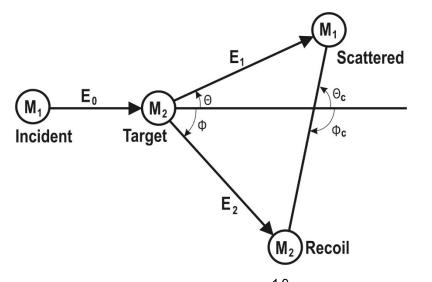


thin film projected on to a plane: atoms/cm<sup>2</sup>

$$(Nt)[at/cm^2] = N[at/cm^3] * t[cm]$$

Figure after W.-K. Chu, J. W. Mayer, and M.-A. Nicolet, Backscattering Spectrometry (Academic Press, New York, 1978).

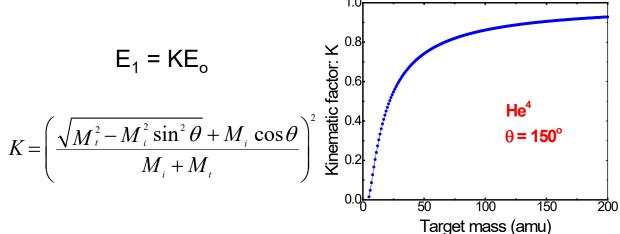
#### **Elastic Two-Body Collision**



# **Elastic Scattering**

$$M_1 v_0^2 = M_1 v_1^2 + M_2 v_2^2$$
  
 $M_1 \vec{v}_0 = M_1 \vec{v}_1 + M_2 \vec{v}_2$ 

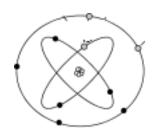
$$M_1 \vec{v}_0 = M_1 \vec{v}_1 + M_2 \vec{v}$$

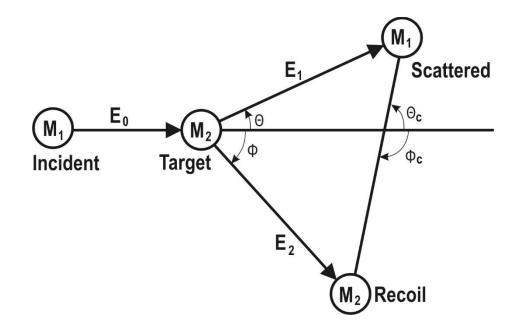


$$M_1 < M_2, \ 0 \le \theta \le 180^\circ$$
  
 $0 \le \phi \le 90^\circ$ 

**RBS**: He backscatters from  $M_2>4$ 

#### **Rutherford Scattering Cross Section**



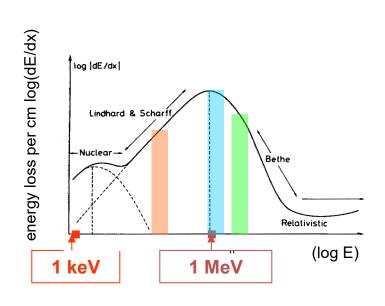


Coulomb interaction between the nuclei: exact expression -> quantitative method

$$\sigma_R(E,\theta) \propto \left(\frac{Z_1 Z_2}{4E}\right)^2 \left[\sin^{-4}\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) - 2\left(\frac{M_1}{M_2}\right)\right] \propto \left(\frac{Z_2}{E}\right)^2$$

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#### Electron Stopping



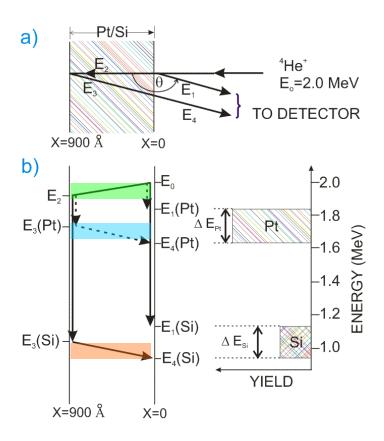
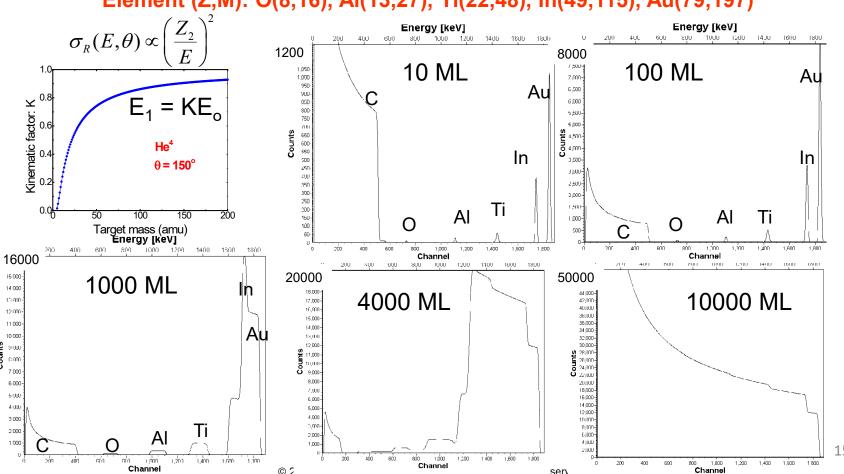


Figure after W.-K. Chu, J. W. Mayer, and M.-A. Nicolet, *Backscattering Spectrometry* (Academic Press, New York, 1978).

#### RBS – Simulated Spectra

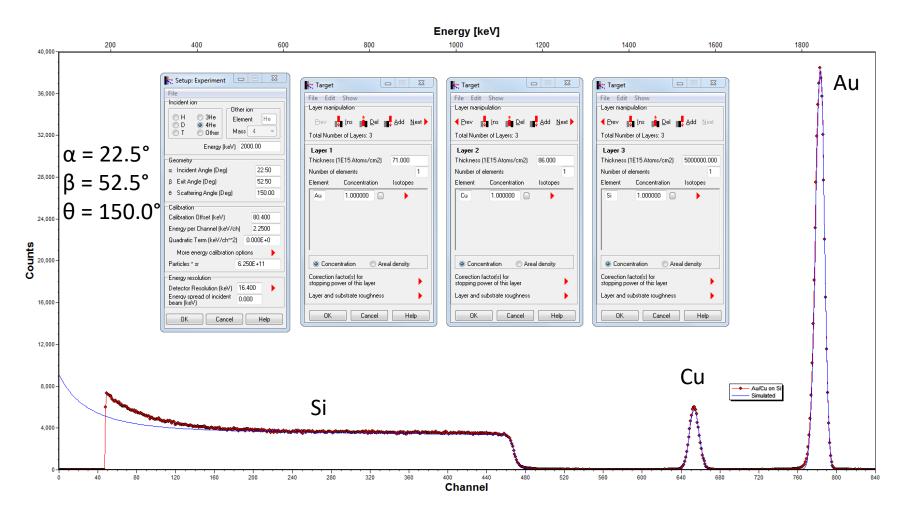
#### hypothetical alloy $Au_{0.2}In_{0.2}Ti_{0.2}Al_{0.2}O_{0.2}/C$

Element (Z,M): O(8,16), Al(13,27), Ti(22,48), In(49,115), Au(79,197)



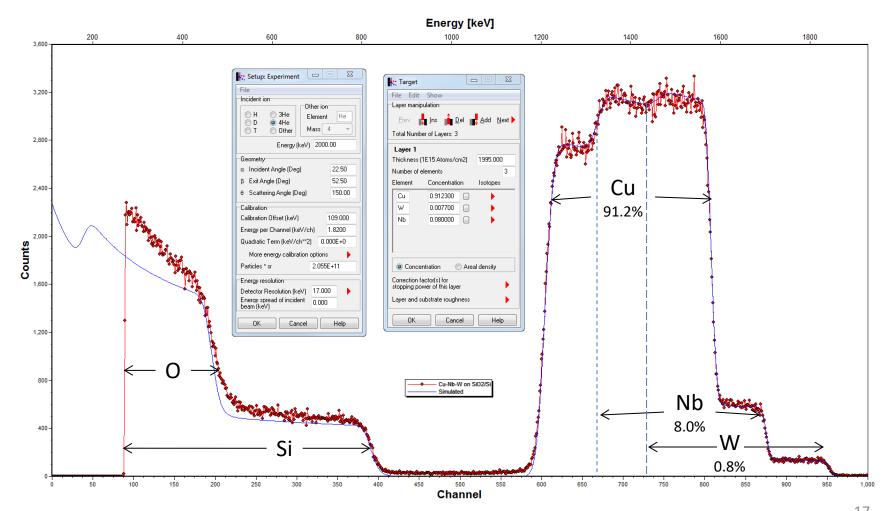


#### Calibration Sample

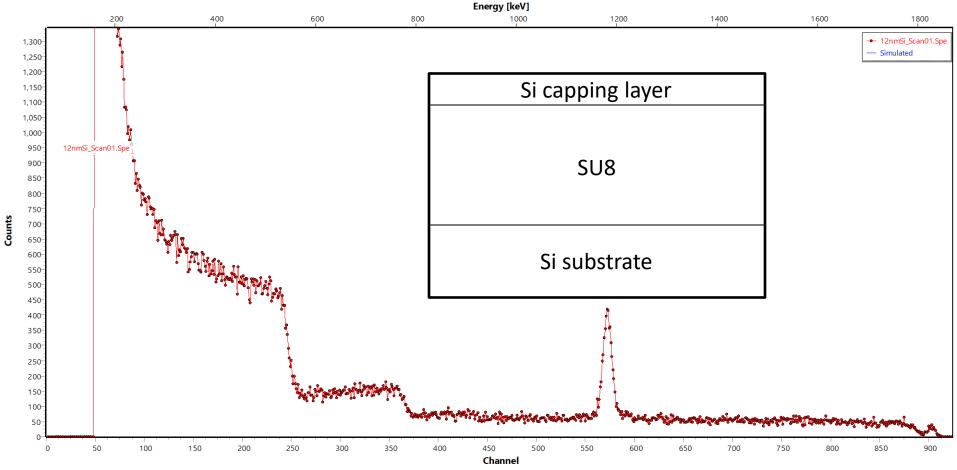


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#### Cu-Nb-W Alloy on SiO<sub>2</sub>/Si

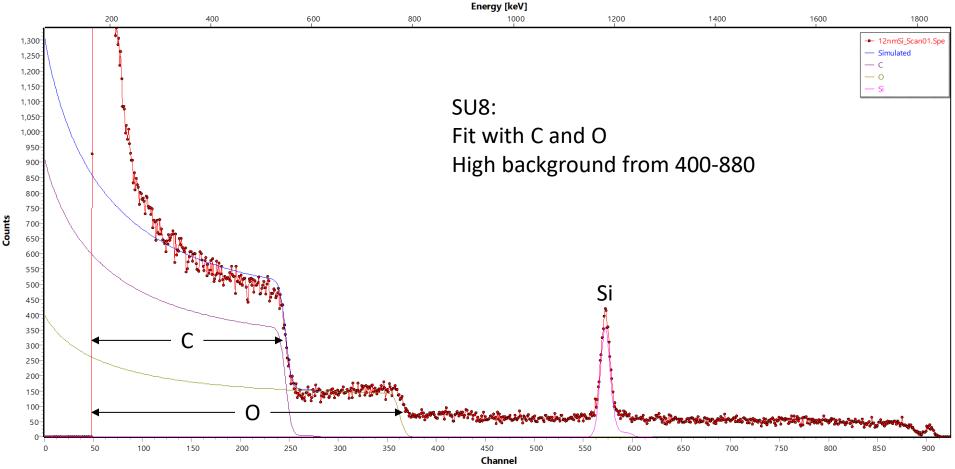


Courtesy N. Vo and R.S. Averback



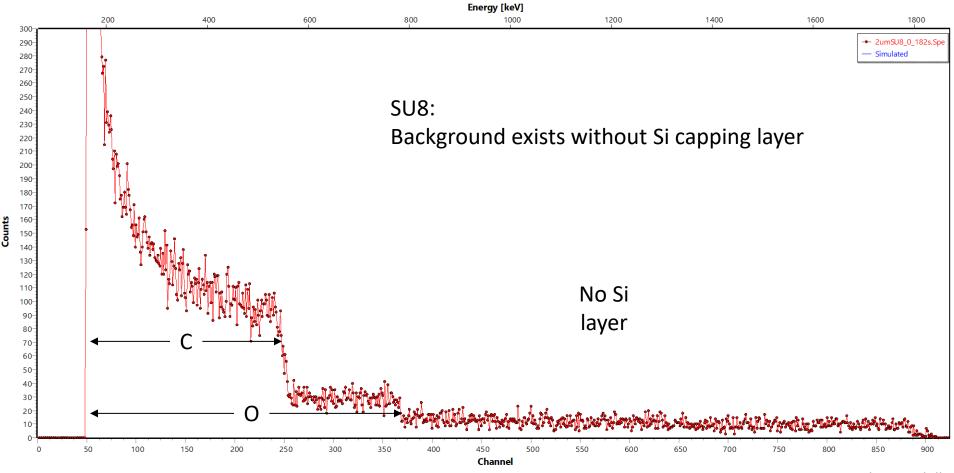
Courtesy J. Sun and D.G. Cahill





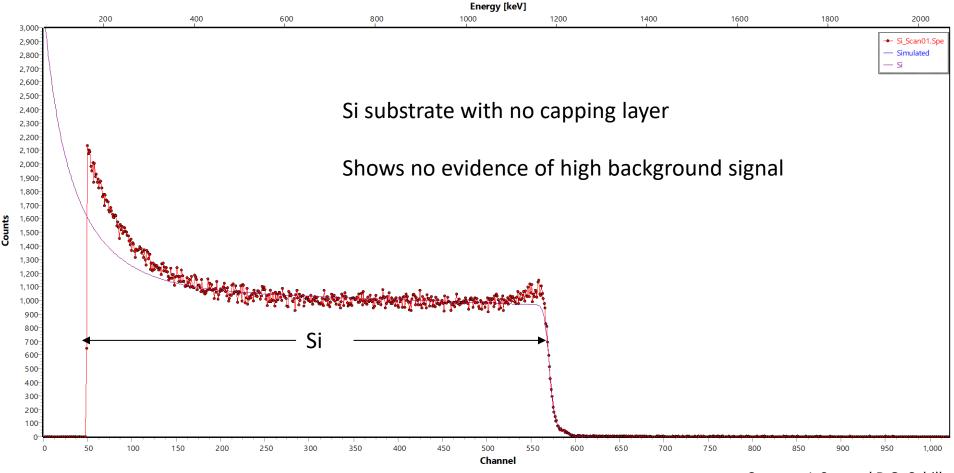
Courtesy J. Sun and D.G. Cahill





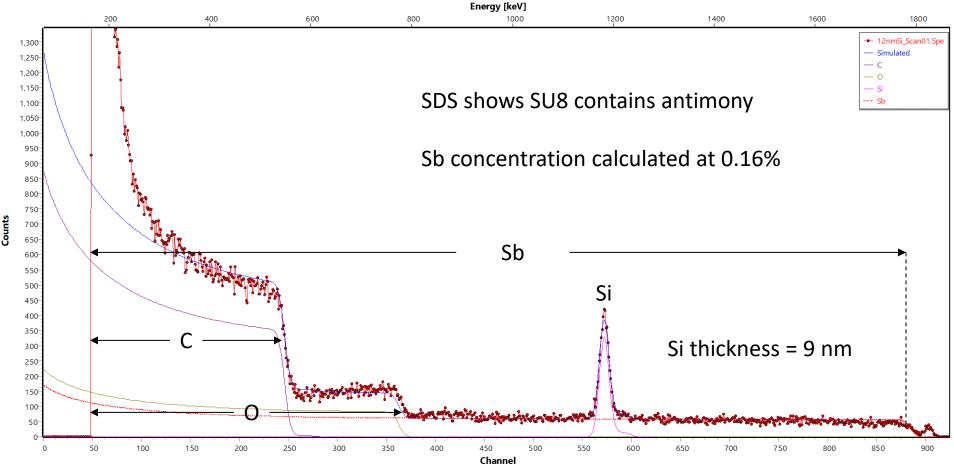
Courtesy J. Sun and D.G. Cahill





Courtesy J. Sun and D.G. Cahill



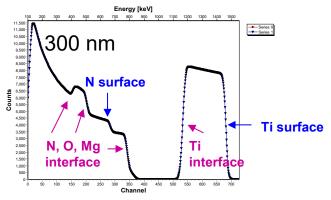


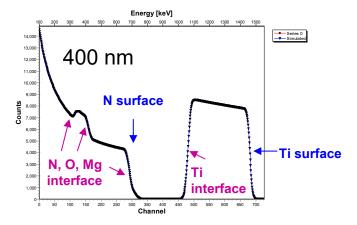
Courtesy J. Sun and D.G. Cahill

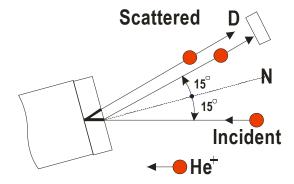
#### Thickness Effects

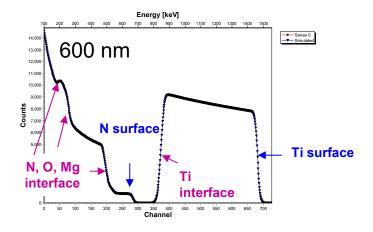


# TiN/MgO





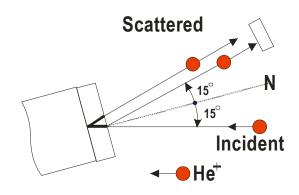


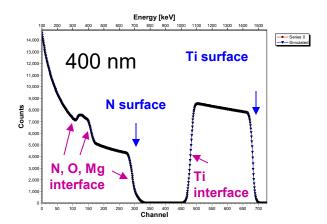


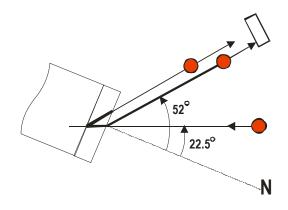
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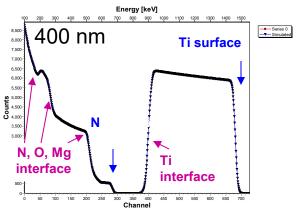
#### **Incident Angle Effects**











Surface peaks do not change position with incident angle

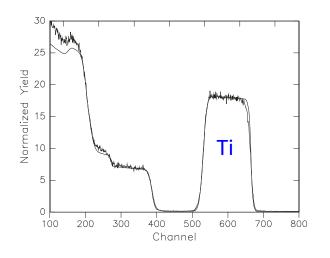


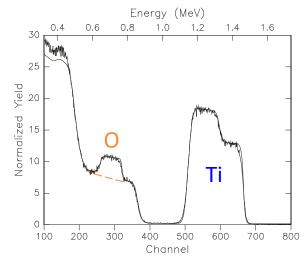
#### **RBS: Oxidation Behavior**

# TiN/SiO<sub>2</sub>

As-deposited

Annealed in atmosphere for 12 min at  $T_a = 600$  °C



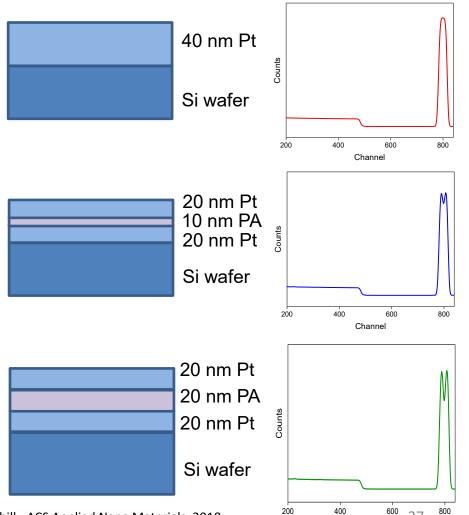


Experimental spectra and simulated spectra by RUMP

#### Areal mass density by RBS

 Free-standing polyamide films are too thin to give sufficient signal in the RBS.

 Use the added stopping power of the polymer to split the Pt peak in the RBS spectrum.



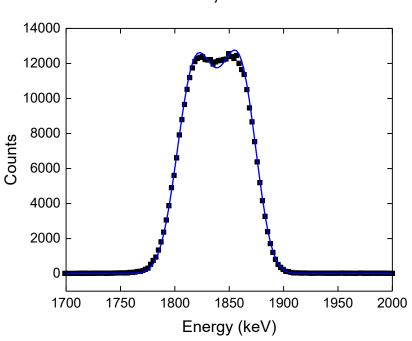
Channel

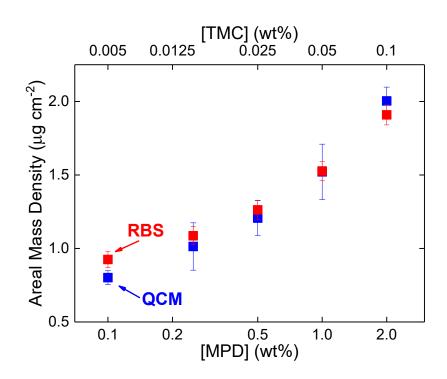
JM Dennison, X Xie, CJ Murphy, DG Cahill - ACS Applied Nano Materials, 2018

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## Areal mass density by RBS







# Additional Analytical Capabilities

#### **Elastic Recoil Detection**

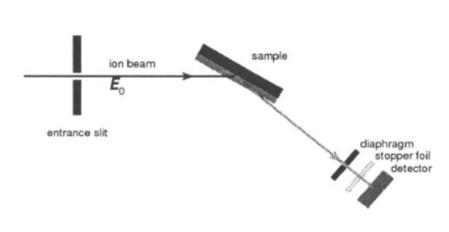
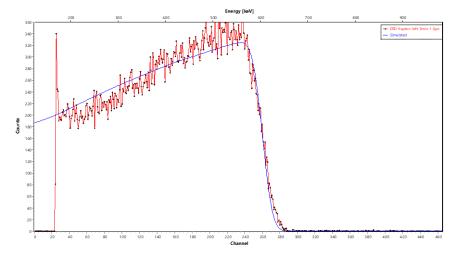


Figure 3. Schematic view of ERD in the conventional set-up.

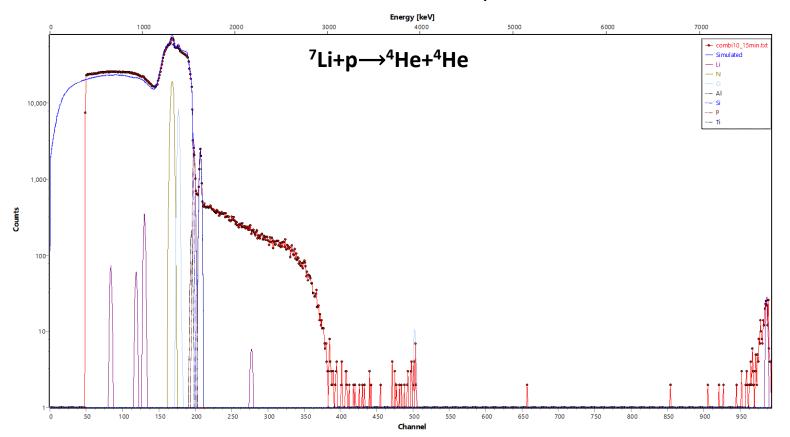
W M Arnold Bik and F H P M Habraken 1993 Rep. Prog. Phys. 56 859



Kapton Courtesy of X. Ji, D.G. Cahill University of Illinois

# Additional Analytical Capabilities

#### **Nuclear Reaction Analysis**



Courtesy of E.J. Cho, N. Perry, University of Illinois

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# Ion Irradiation



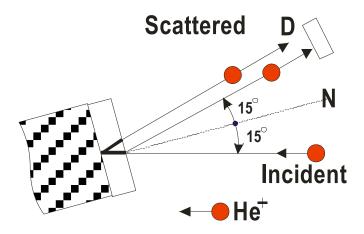
**SNICS** source

He source



Irradiation end station

#### **RBS Summary**



- Quantitative technique for elemental composition
- Requires flat samples; beam size  $\phi$ 1-3 mm
- Non-destructive
- Detection limit varies from 0.1 to 10<sup>-6</sup>, depending on Z
  - •optimum for heavy elements in/on light matrix, e.g. Ta/Si, Au/C...
- ullet Depth information from monolayers to 1  $\mu m$

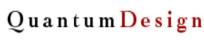
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