

Advanced Application Examples using SEM-EDS



Bruker Nano Analytics, Berlin, Germany
Webinar, March, 2021



Presenters



Max Patzschke

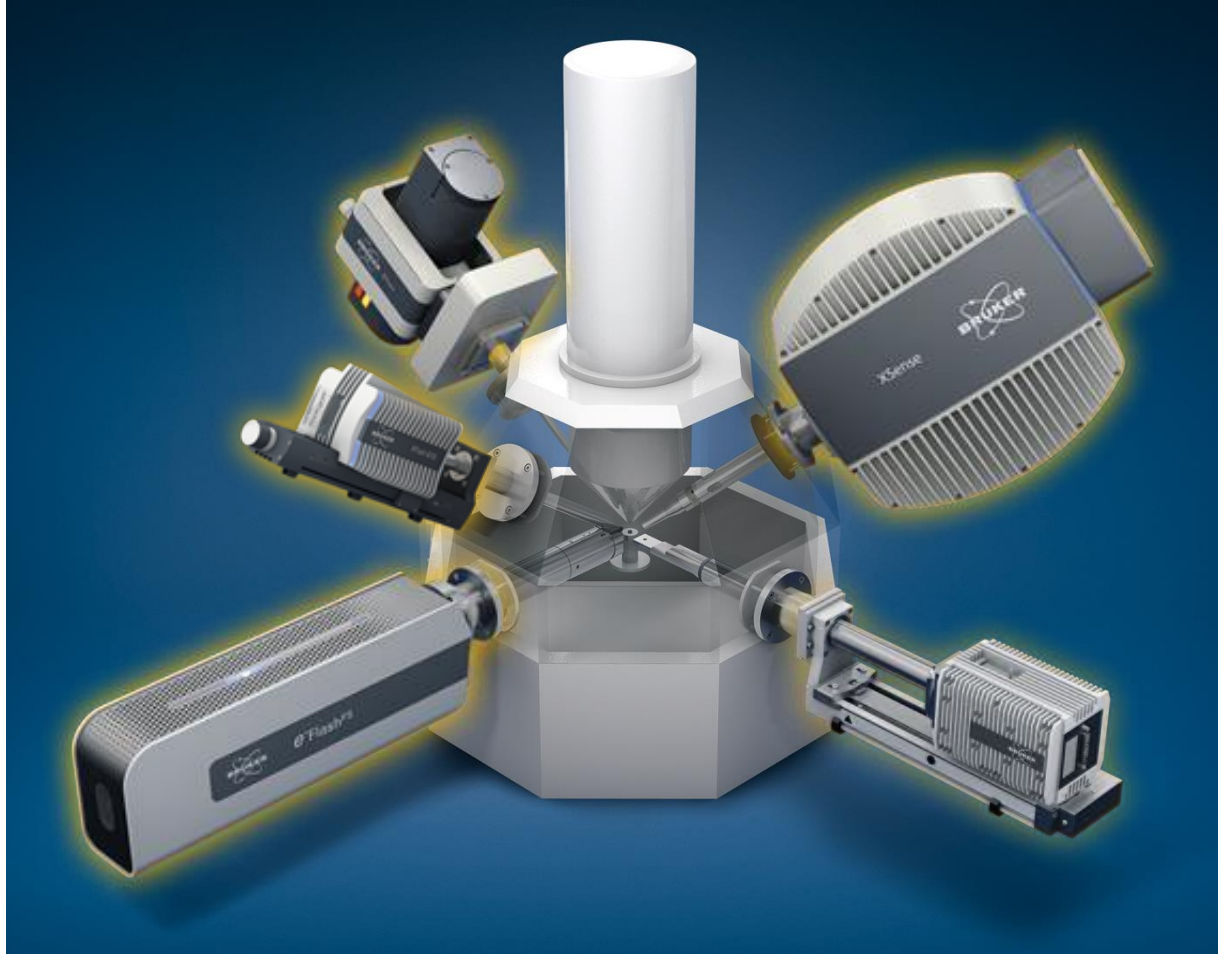
Application Scientist EDS
Bruker Nano Analytics, Berlin, Germany



Dr. Ifat Kaplan-Ashiri

Associate Staff Scientist
Weizmann Institute of Science

Bruker Nano Analytics Product Line – EM Analyzers

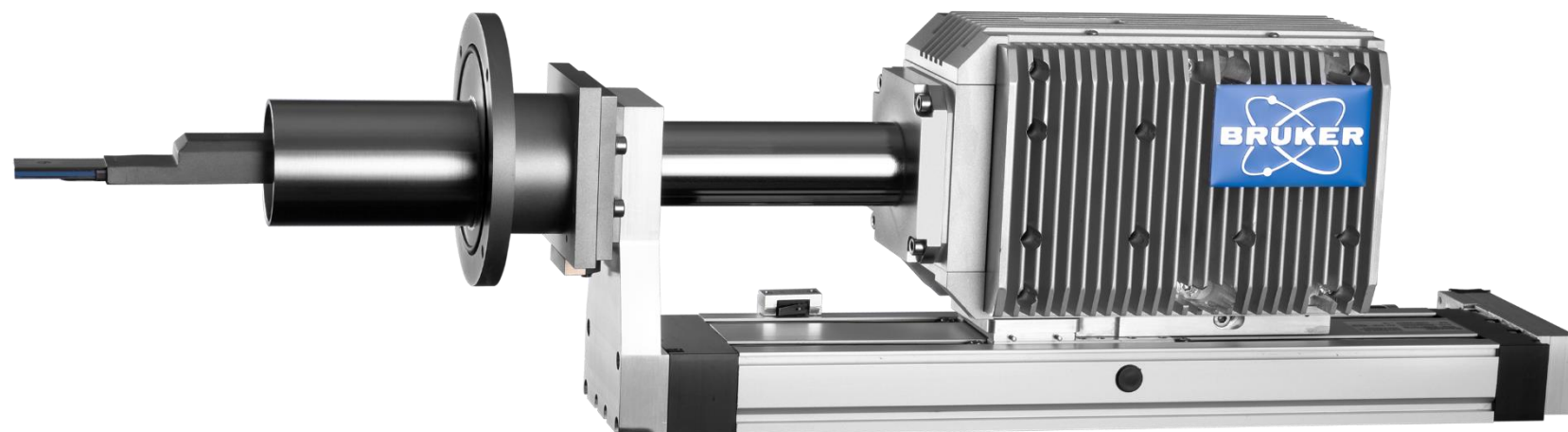
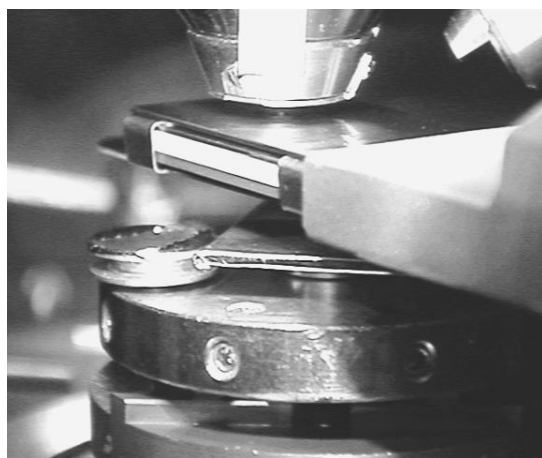


- EDS
- WDS
- EBSD & TKD
- Micro-XRF on SEM
- EDS/FlatQUAD

Flexible combination
of up to four
analytical methods
controlled by a single
user interface.

Facts of the XFlash[®] FlatQUAD detector

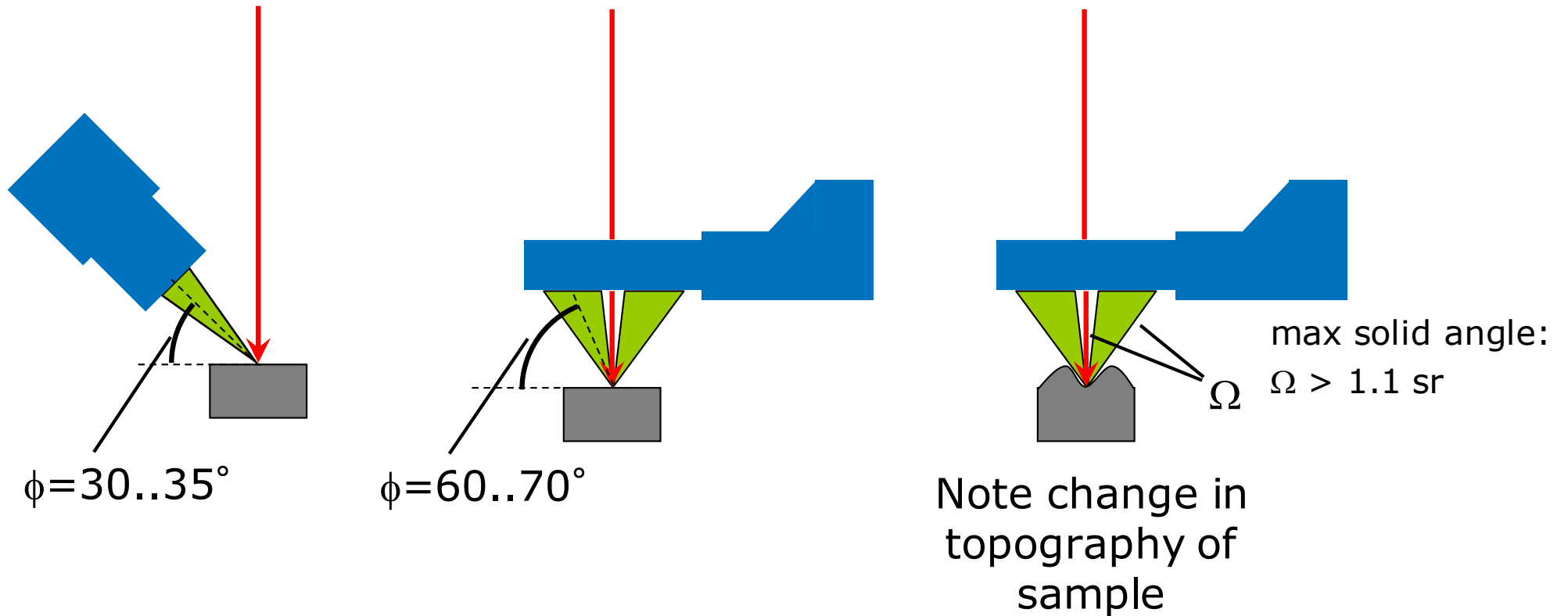
- Annular design, $4 \times 15 \text{ mm}^2 = 60 \text{ mm}^2$
- Placed between pole piece and sample (hole in the center for the primary beam)
- Energy resolution Mn $K\alpha \leq 129 \text{ eV}$
- Combination of high count rate capability and high solid angle ($\Omega \sim 1.1 \text{ sr}$)



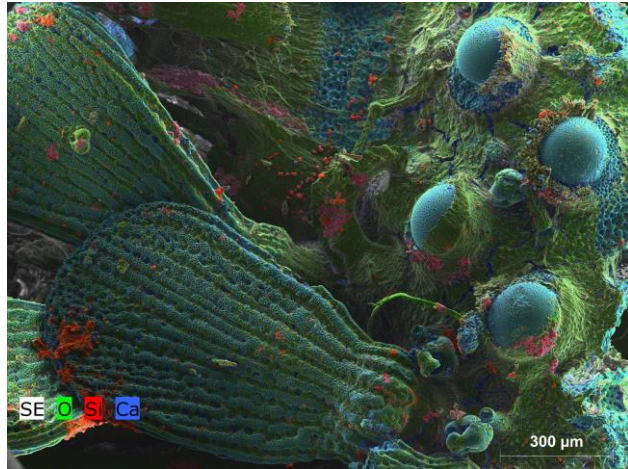
Advantage of the annular design of the XFlash[®] FlatQUAD



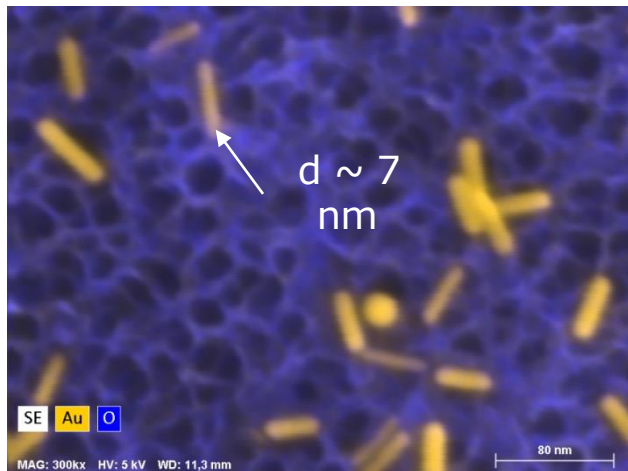
Take-off angle comparison: XFlash[®] FlatQUAD vs. conventional SDDs:



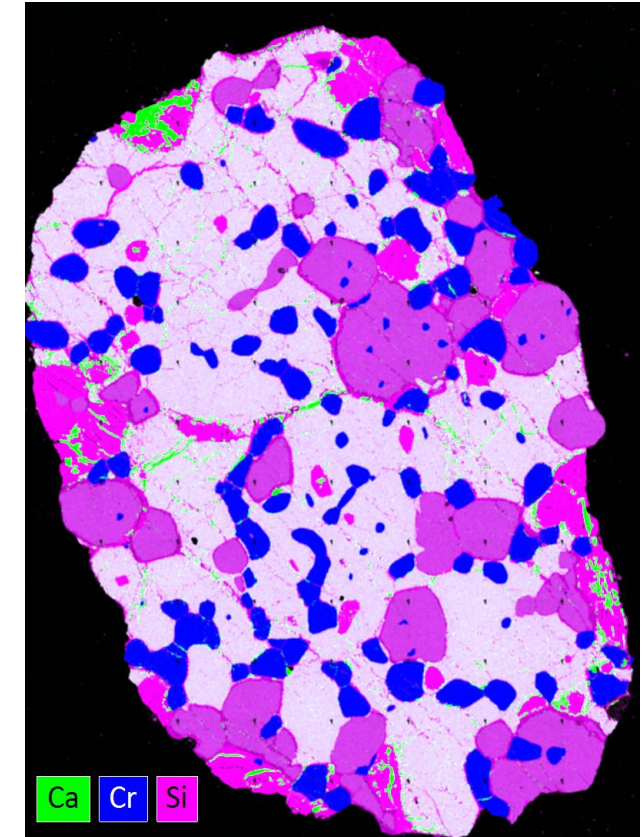
Advantage of the XFlash[®] FlatQUAD



- Life Science



- Nanomaterial



- High speed mapping of entire thin section

SEM-EDS Analysis – Materials and Life Science Applications

Ifat Kaplan-Ashiri

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Weizmann Institute of Science

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Bruker Webinar - March 11th, 2021

Outline:

1- Introduction to SEM and EDS

2- EDS parameters/considerations

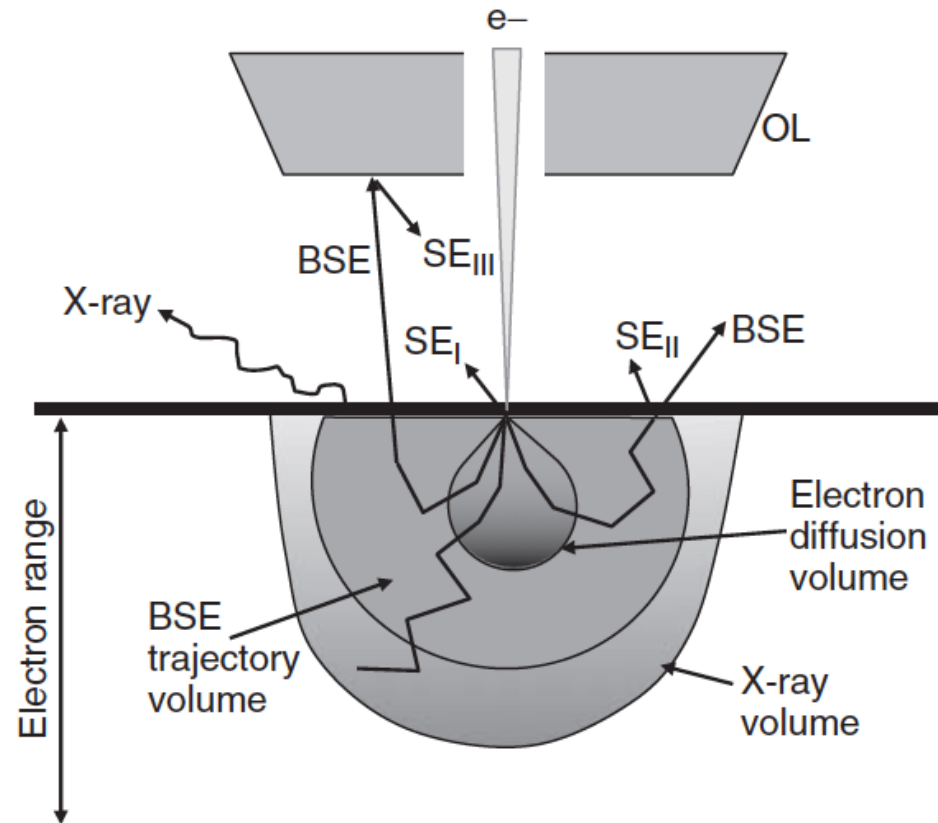
3- Applications:

Nanomaterials

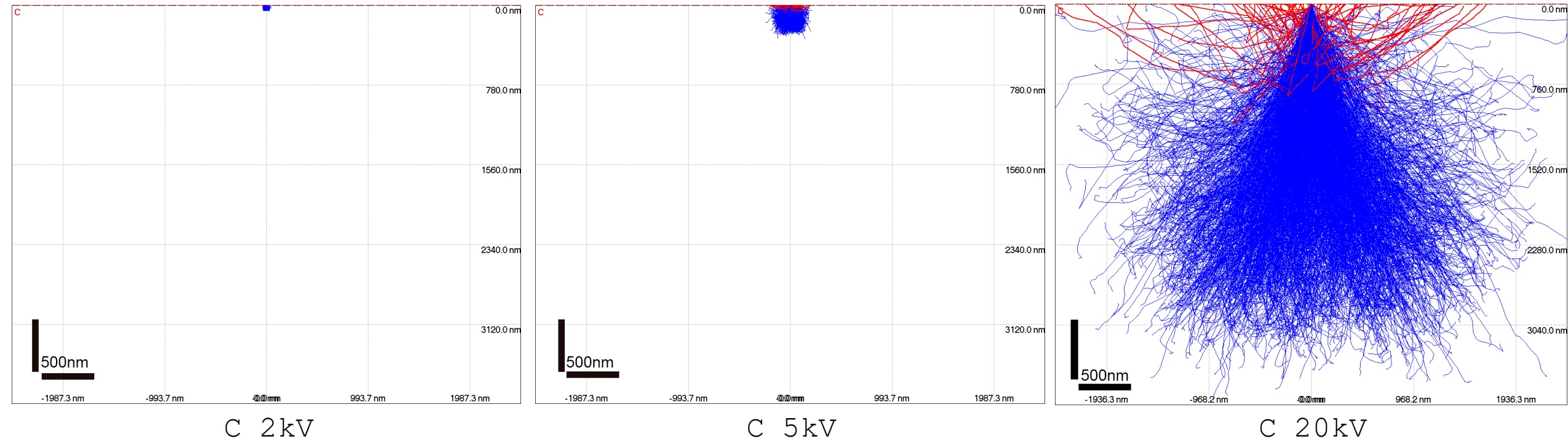
Cryo EDS in life science

5- Summary

Scanning Electron Microscopy



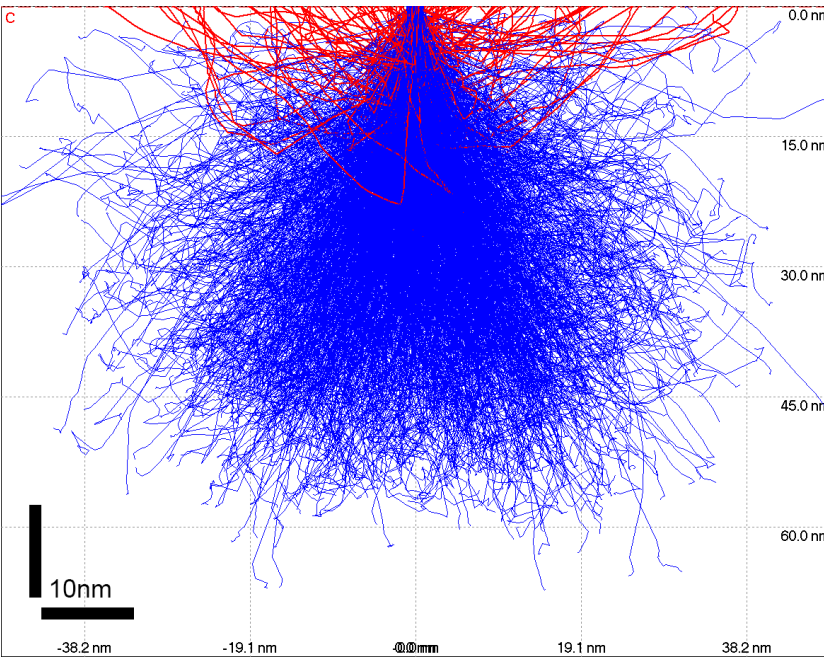
The Volume of Interaction



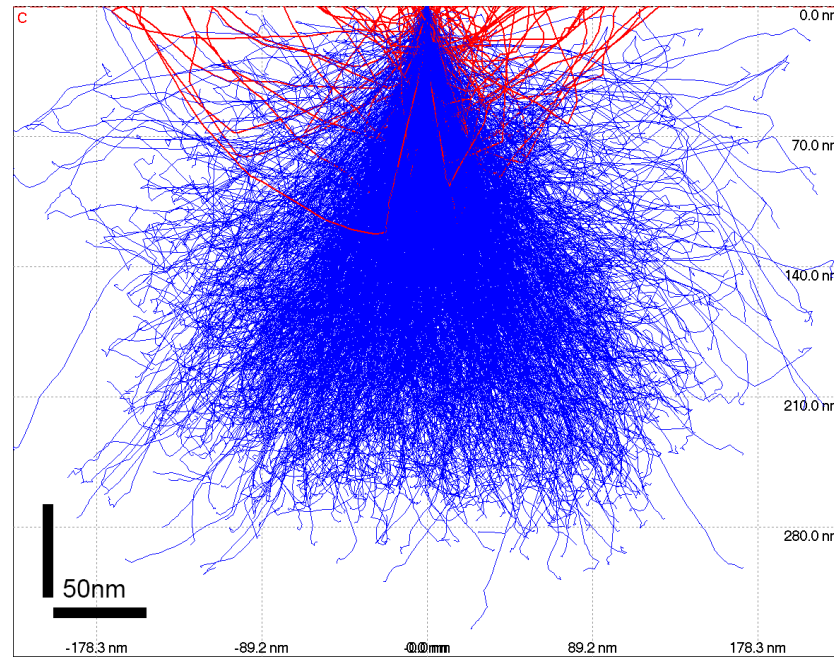
Monte Carlo simulations of electron trajectories

CASINO (monte Carlo SIMulation of electroN trajectory in sOlids) Version 2.24 simulator (Copyright © 2001: D. Drouin, A. Réal Couture, R. Gauvin, P. Hovongton, P. Horny, and H. Demers)

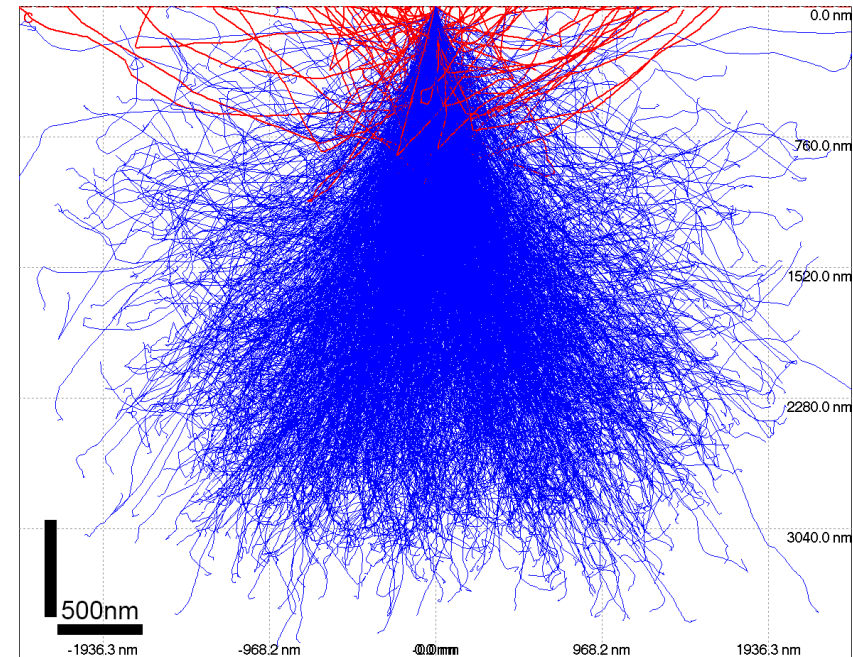
The Volume of Interaction



C 2kV



C 5kV



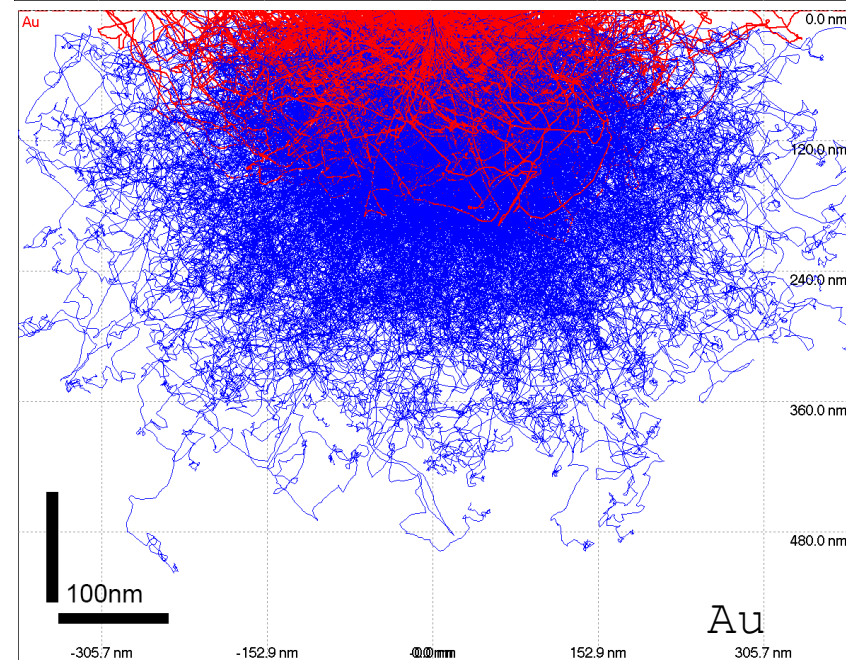
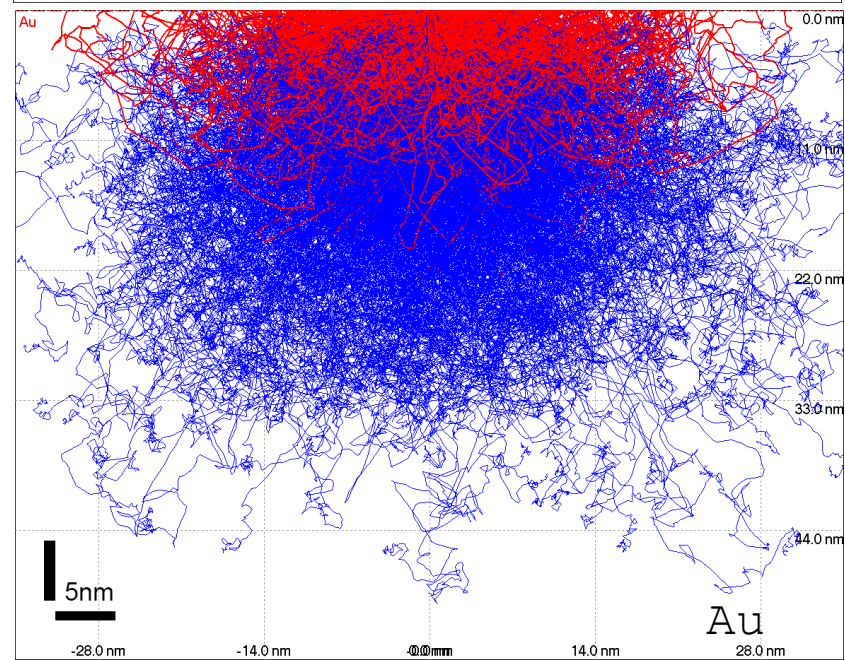
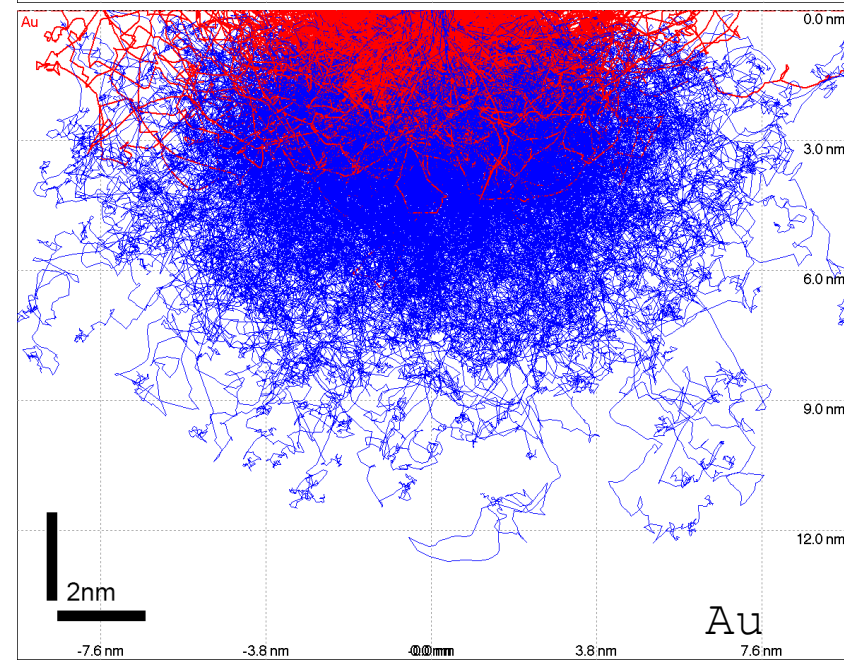
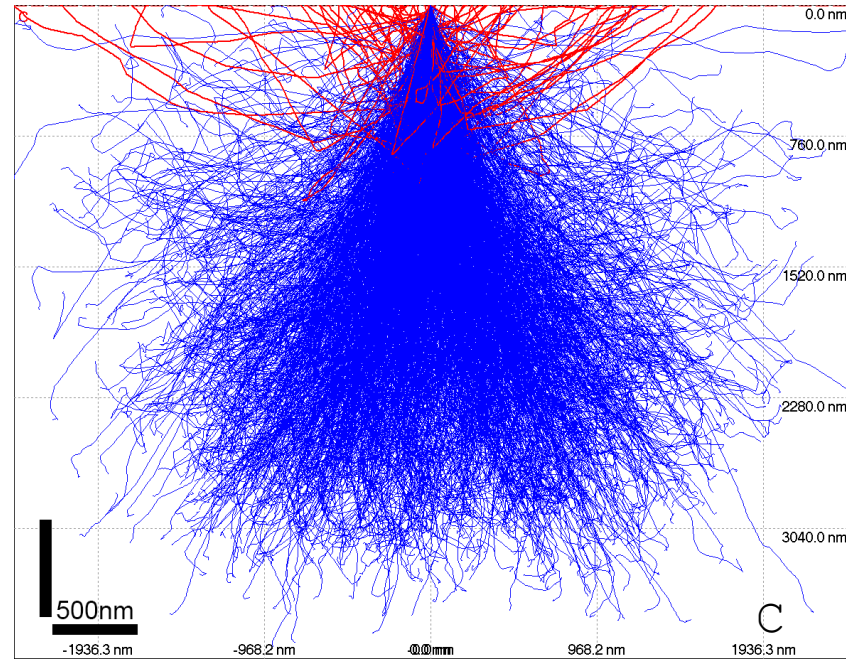
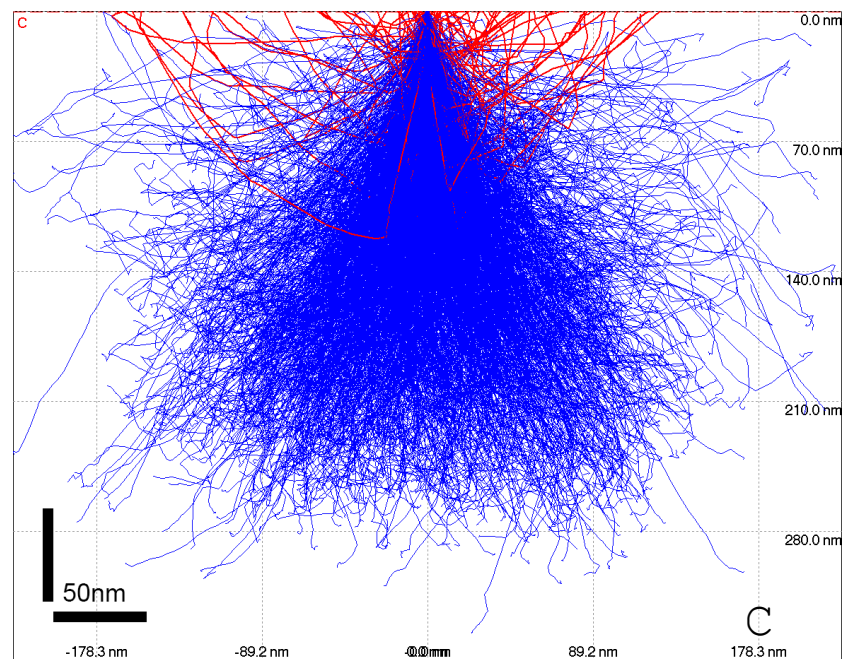
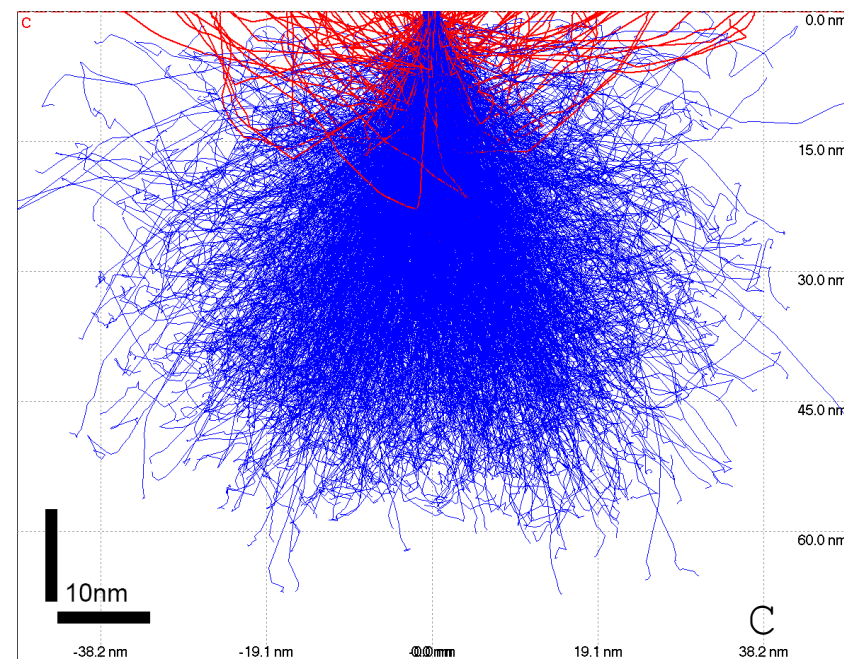
C 20kV

Monte Carlo simulations of electron trajectories

2kV

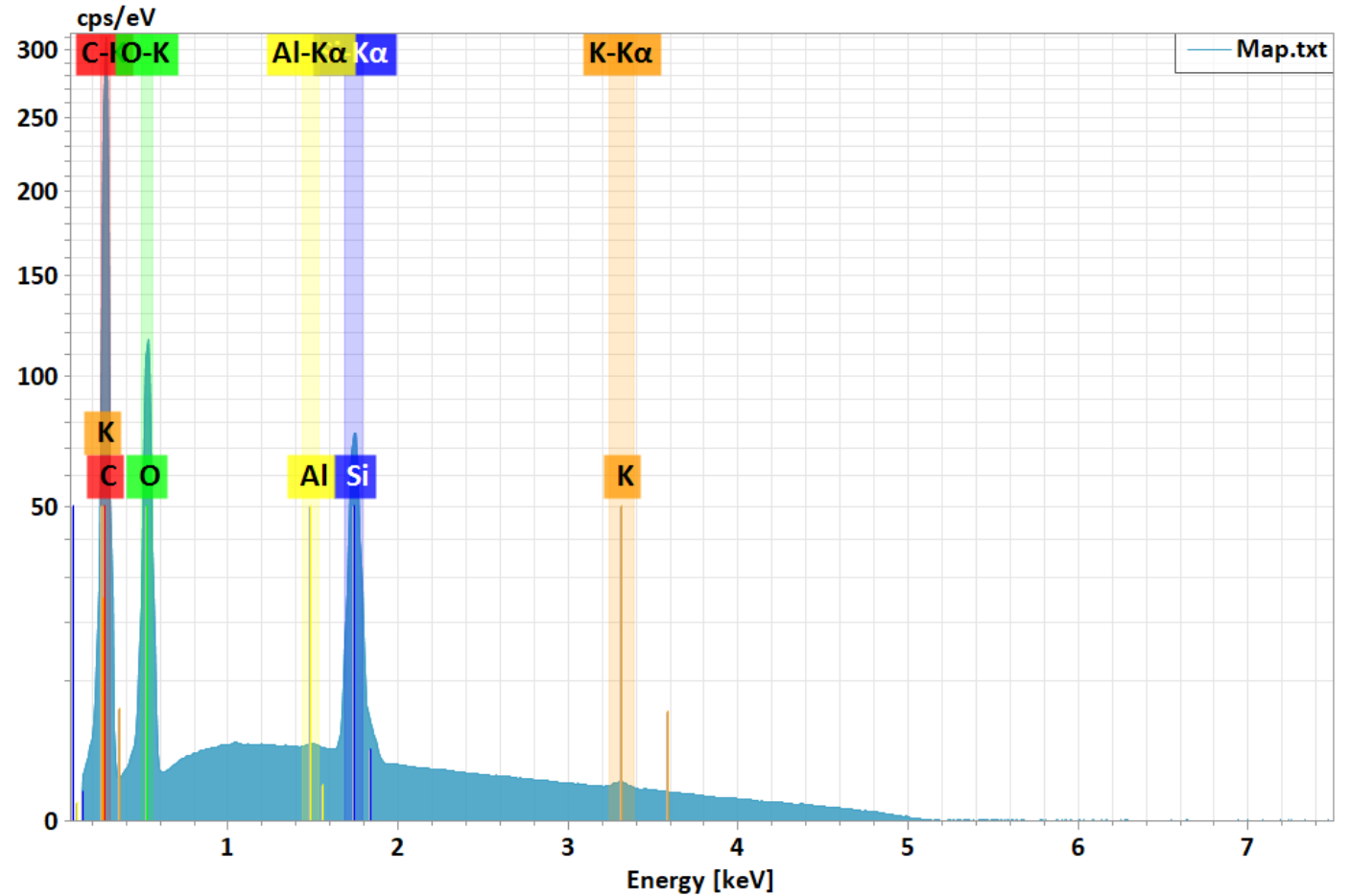
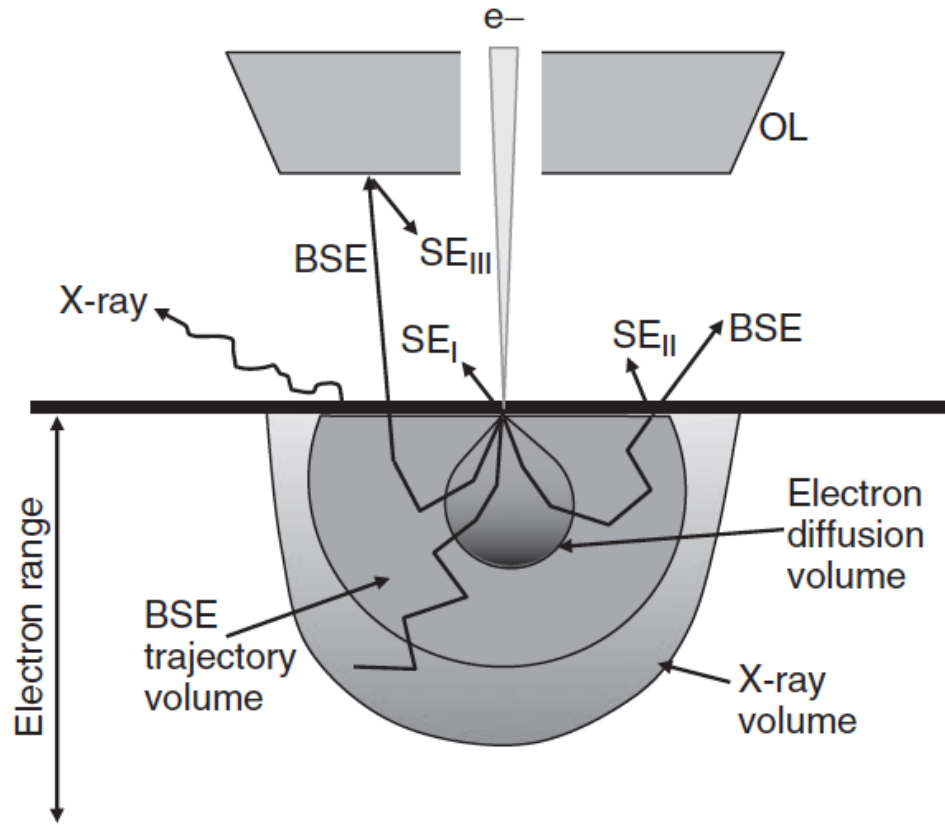
5kV

20kV

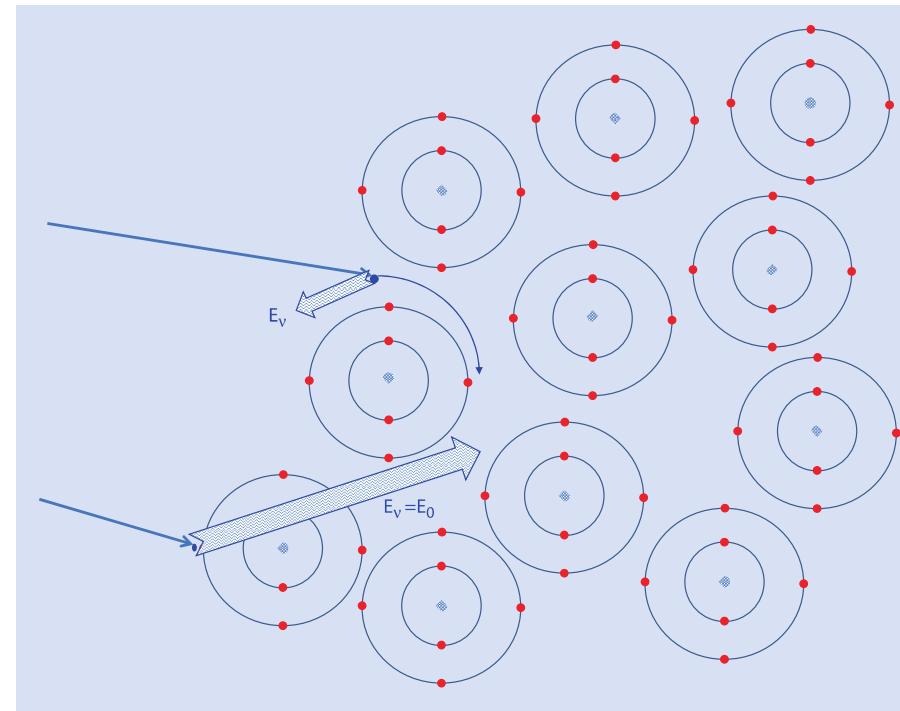
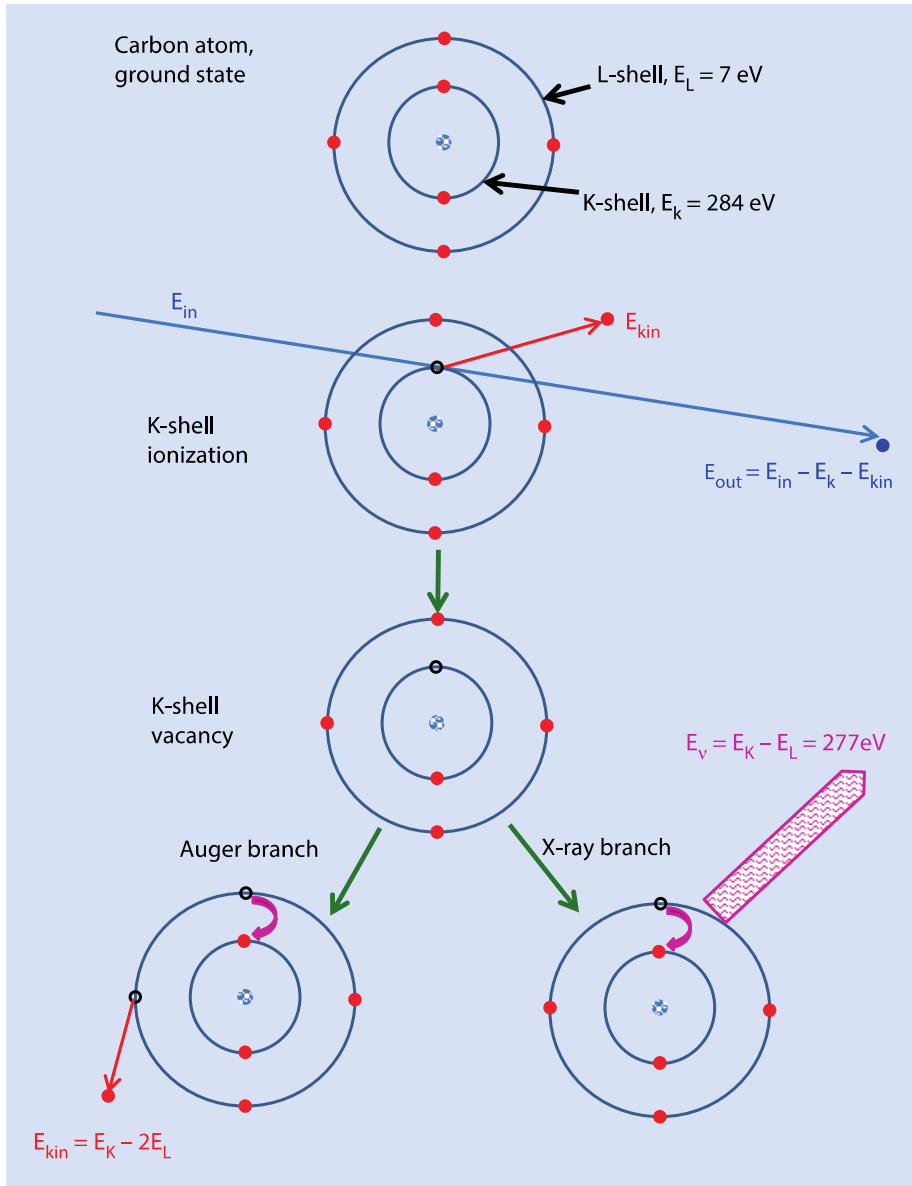


Measuring Elemental Composition

Energy Dispersive x-ray Spectroscopy - EDS



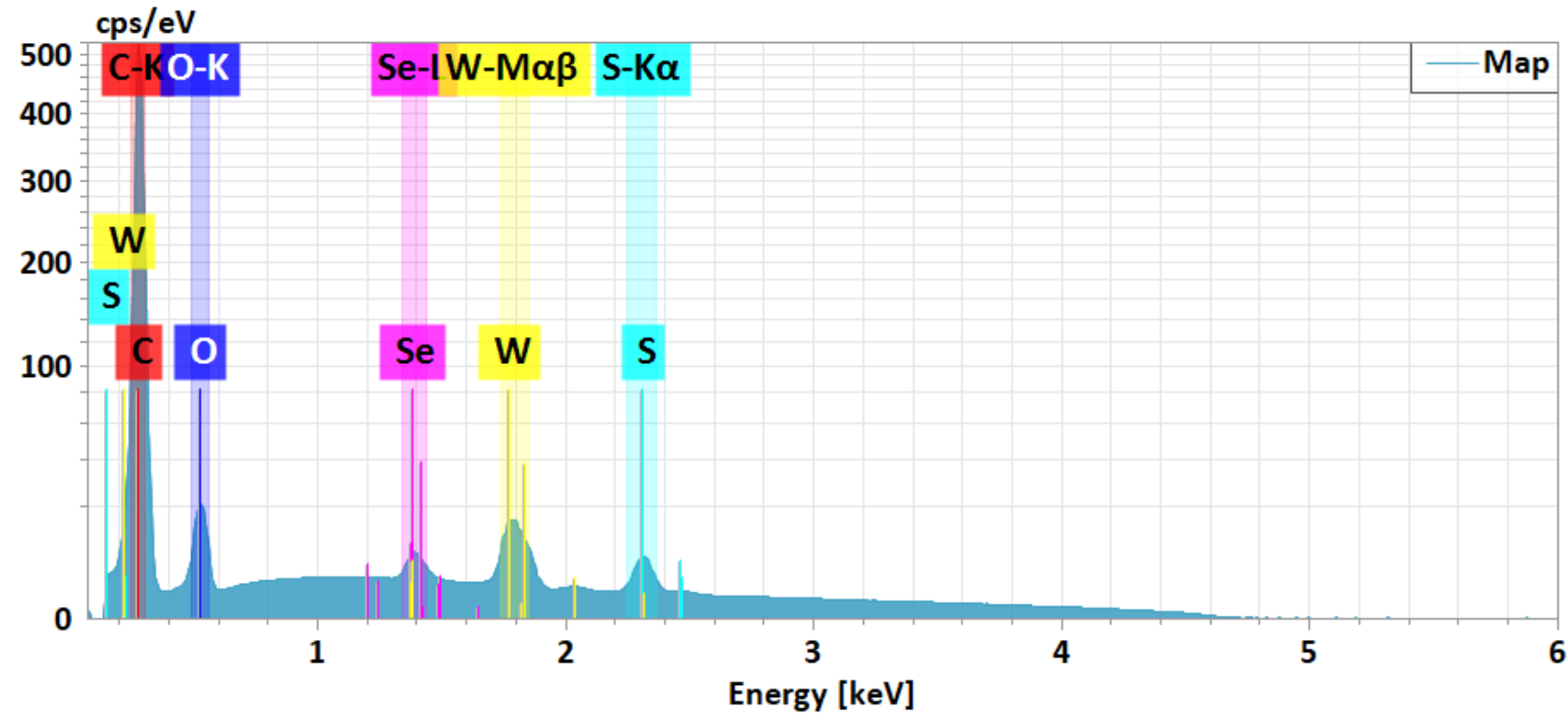
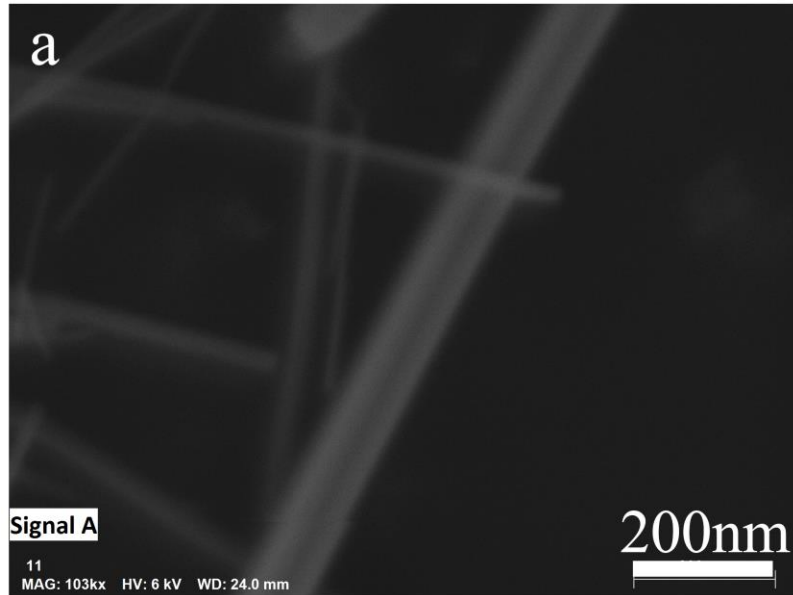
The Process of x-ray Generation



The incident electron is inelastically scattered. The difference in energy from an electron transition is expressed either as the ejection of an energetic electron with characteristic energy (Auger process) or by the emission of a characteristic x-ray photon.

Measuring Elemental Composition

Energy Dispersive x-ray Spectroscopy - EDS

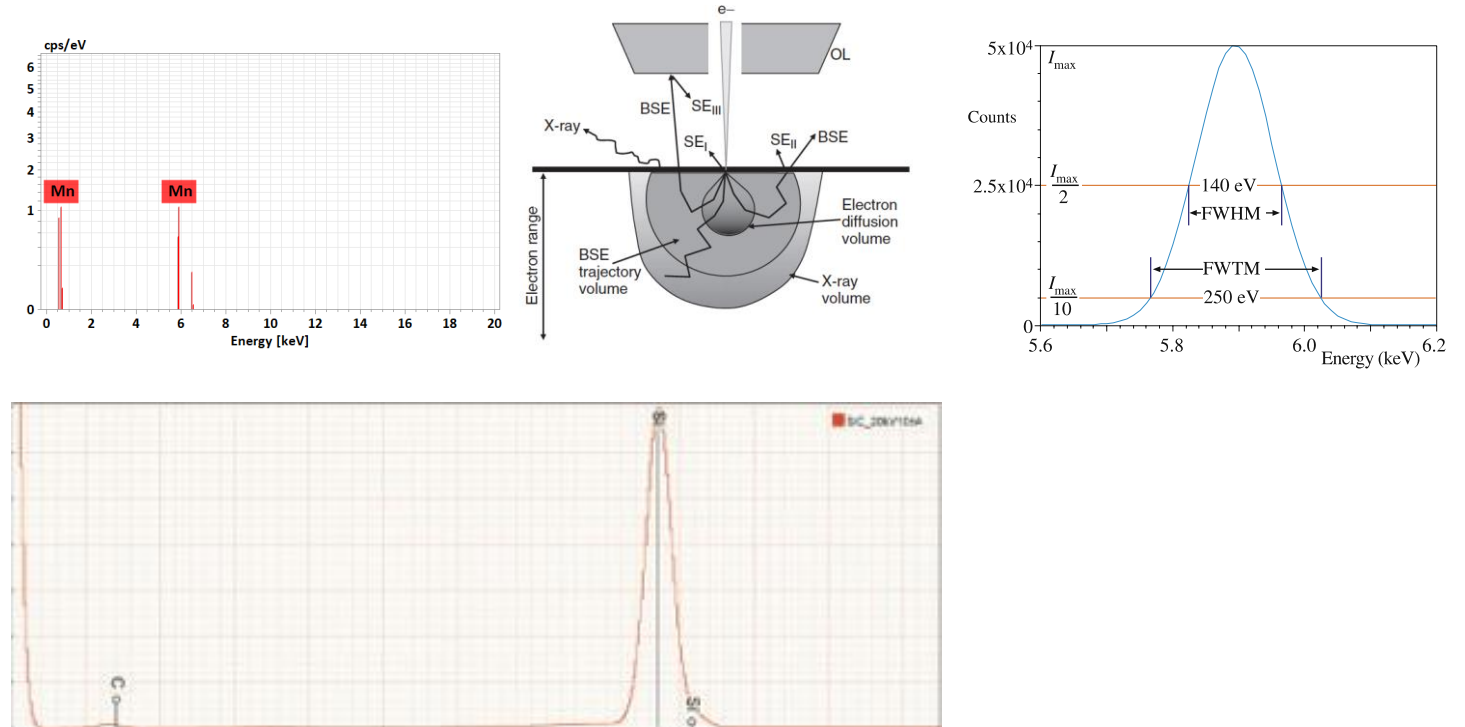


EDS Parameters

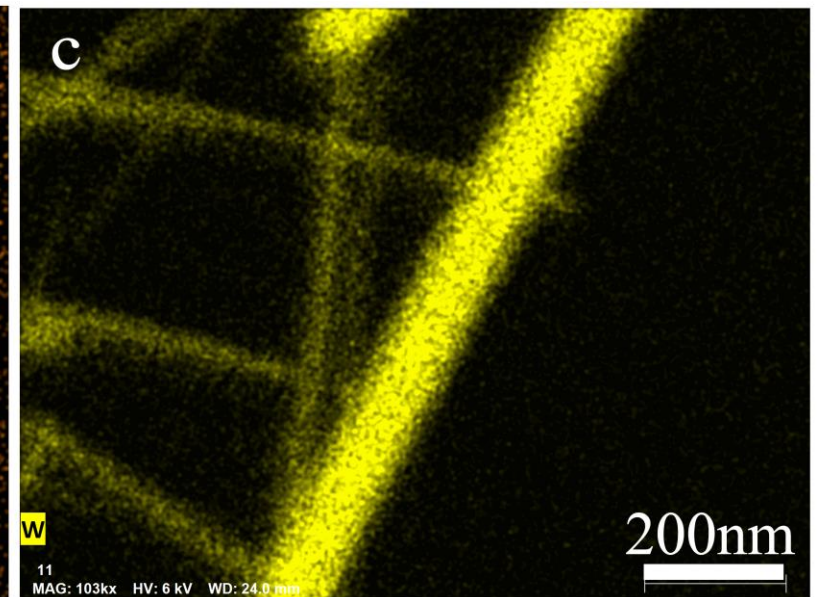
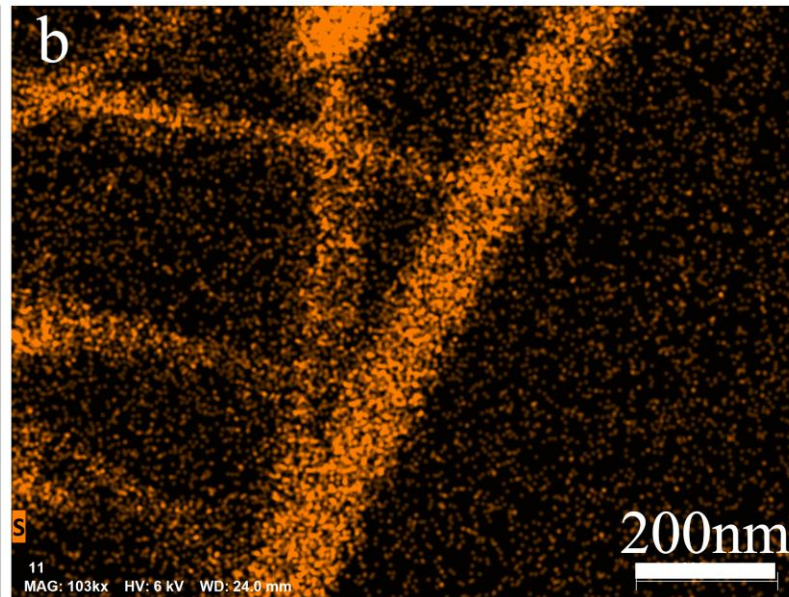
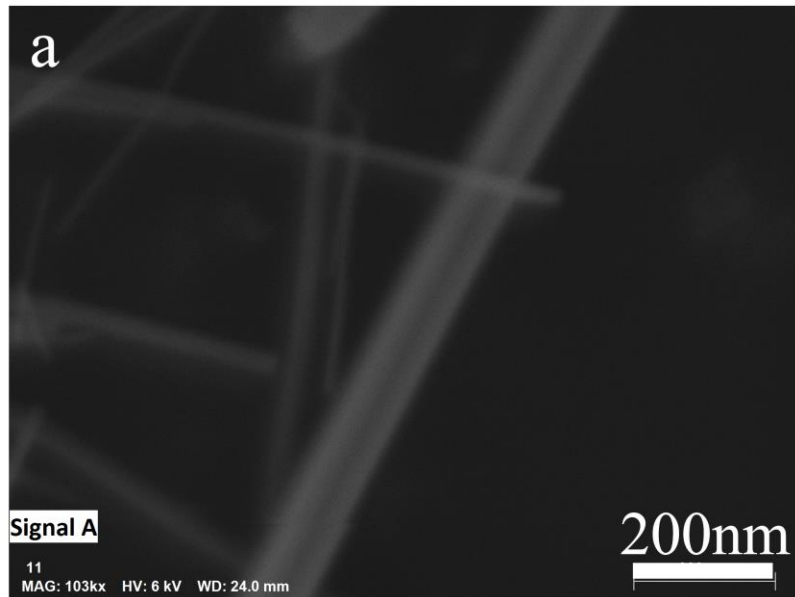
1. The critical ionization energy
2. Volume of interaction (set the spatial resolution)
3. Signal to noise
4. Spectral resolution
5. Minimum detected mass
6. Acquisition time (Beam damage)

Sample (composition, preparation, topography)

Instrument (EDS, SEM)

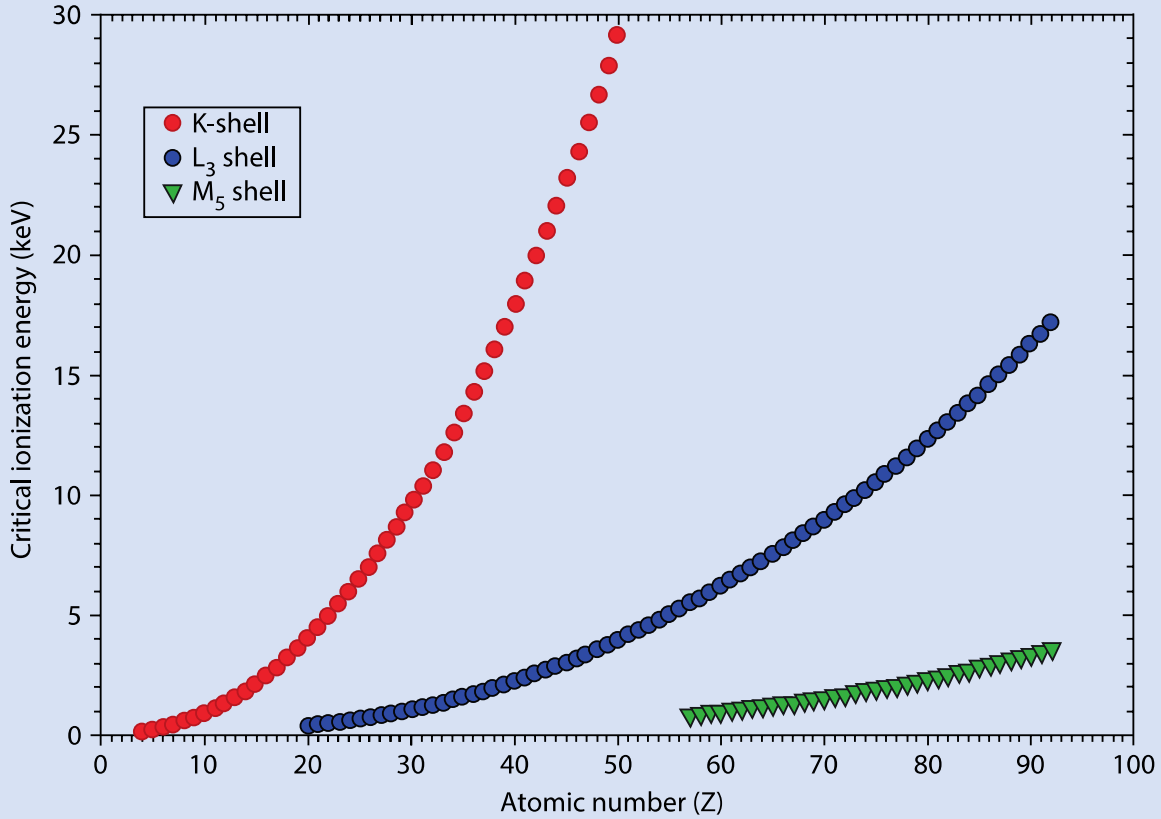


SEM-EDS of Nanoscale Materials

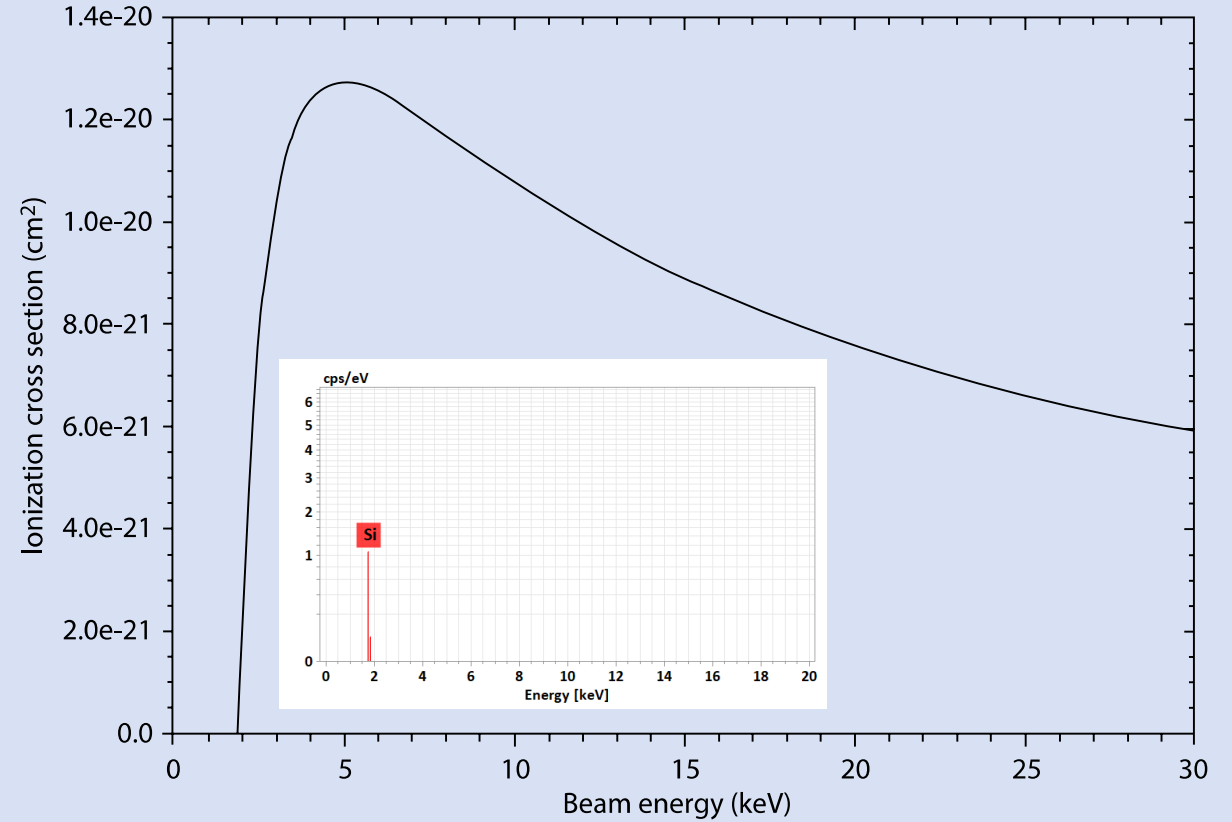


Critical Ionization Energy

Critical ionization energy of the elements

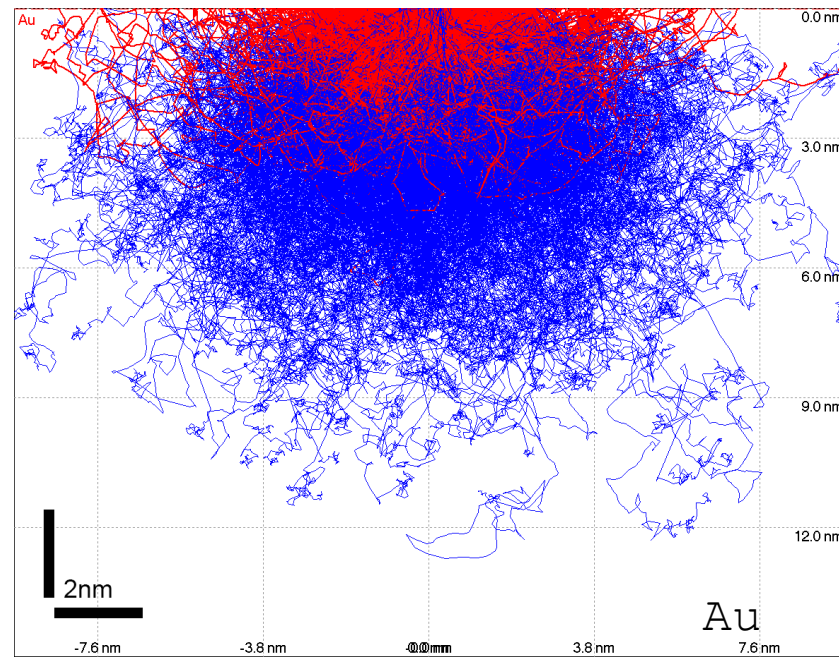


K-shell ionization cross section of silicon

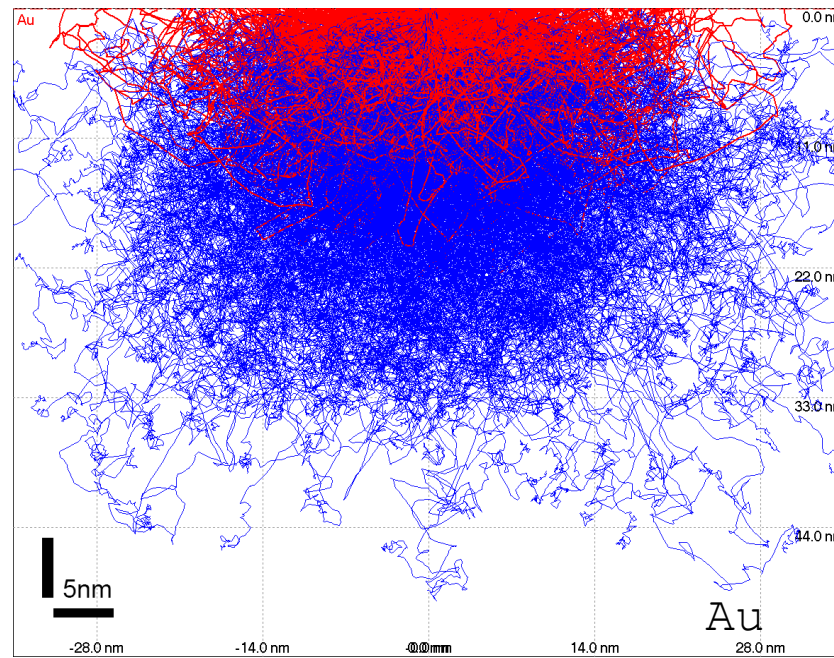


What is the limit ?

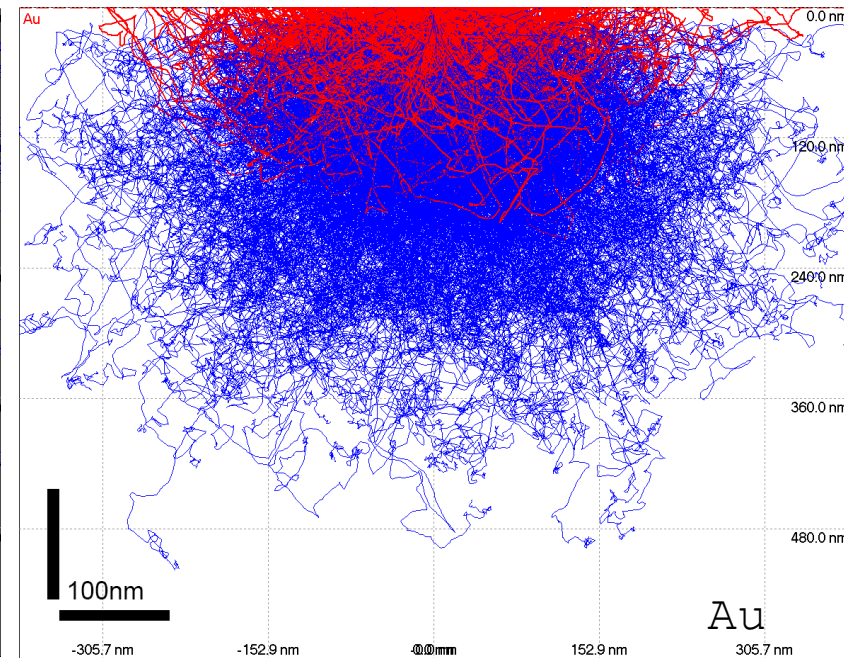
Volume of Interaction and Spatial Resolution



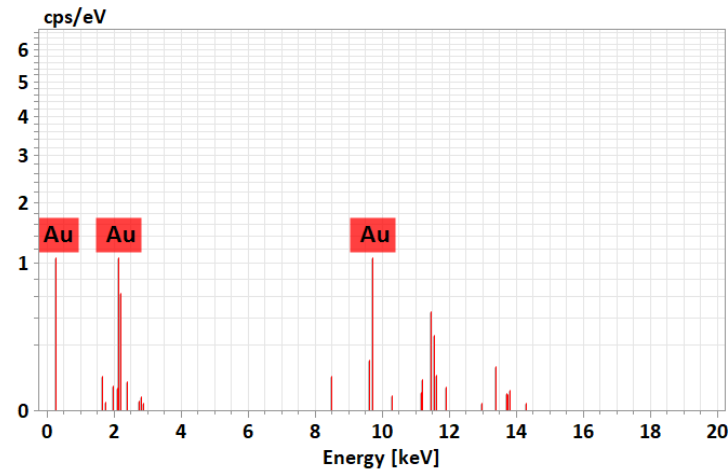
2 kV



5 kV



20 kV



X-Ray Peak-to-Background Ratio

The most important factor in determining the limits of detection in x-ray spectrometric analysis is the presence of the continuum background, that is, noncharacteristic radiation at the same energy as the characteristic radiation of interest. The peak-to-background ratio can be calculated as follow:

$$\frac{P}{B} = \frac{I_c}{I_{cm}} = \frac{1}{Z} \left(\frac{E_0 - E_c}{E_c} \right)^{n-1}$$

Where I_c is the characteristic x-ray intensity and I_{cm} is the continuum x-ray intensity, Z is the atomic number, E_0 is the accelerating energy, E_c is the critical ionization energy and n is a constant for a particular shell.

As the accelerating voltage increases the peak to background increases.

EDS Parameters

1. The critical ionization energy

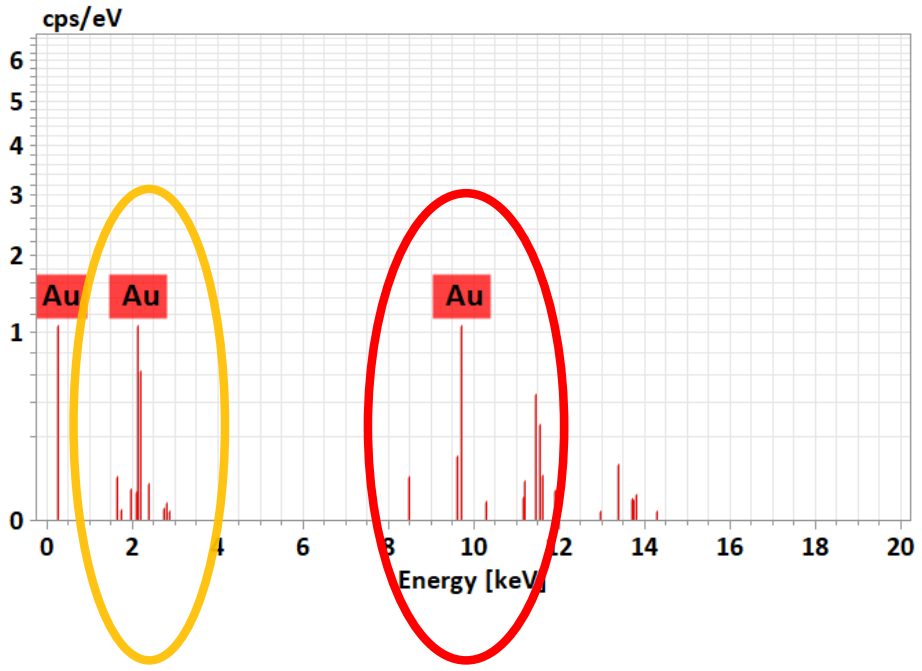
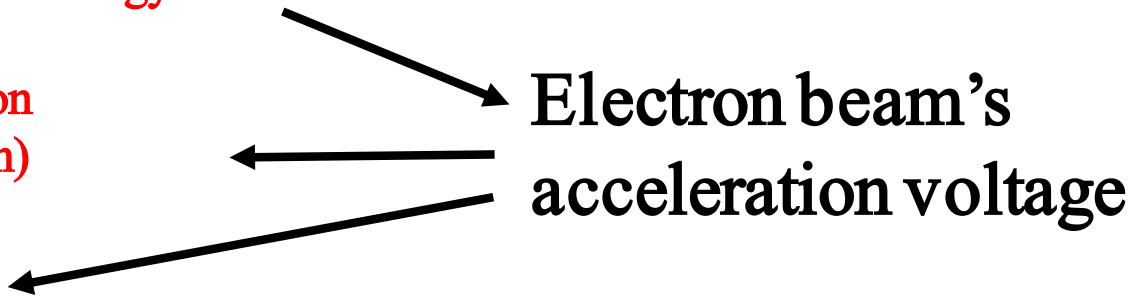
2. Volume of interaction
(set the spatial resolution)

3. Signal to noise

4. Spectral resolution

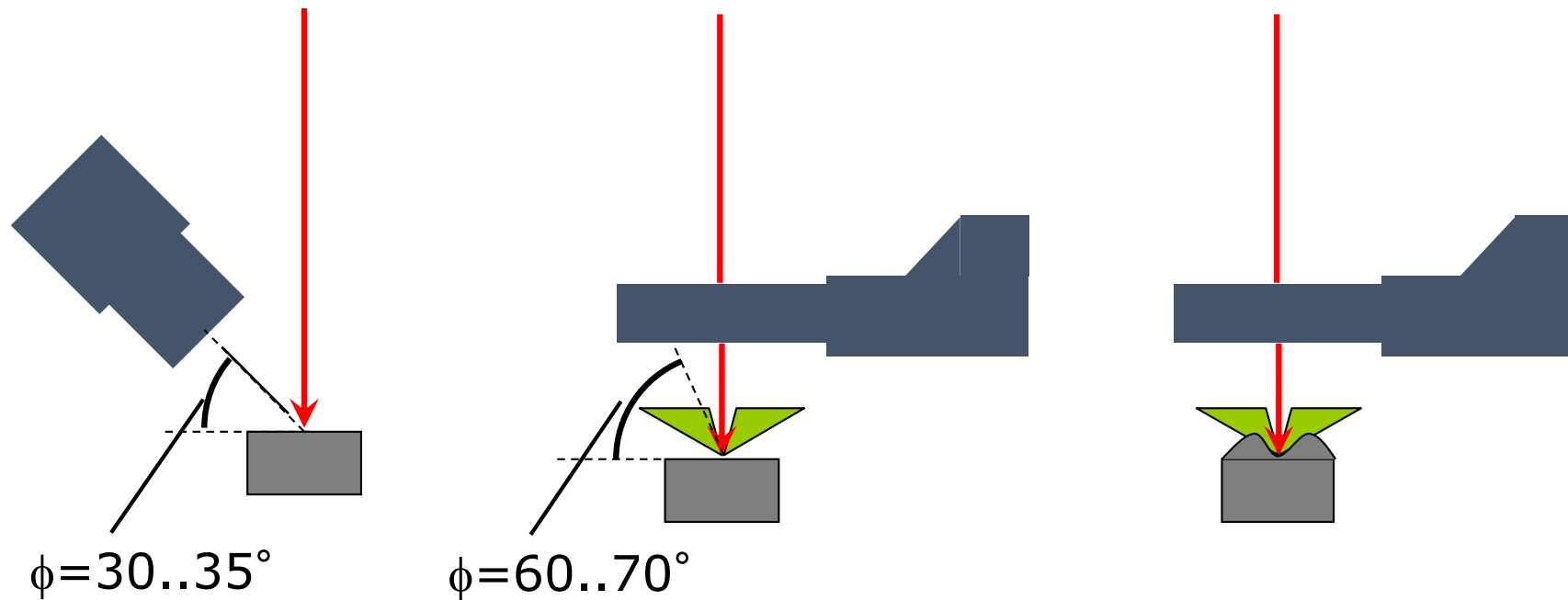
5. Minimum detected mass

6. Acquisition time
(Beam damage)

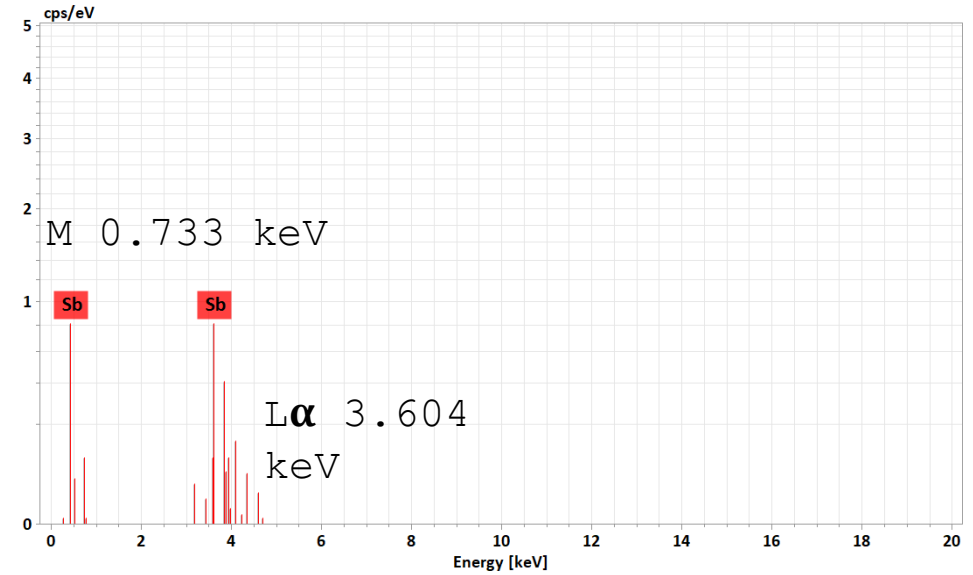
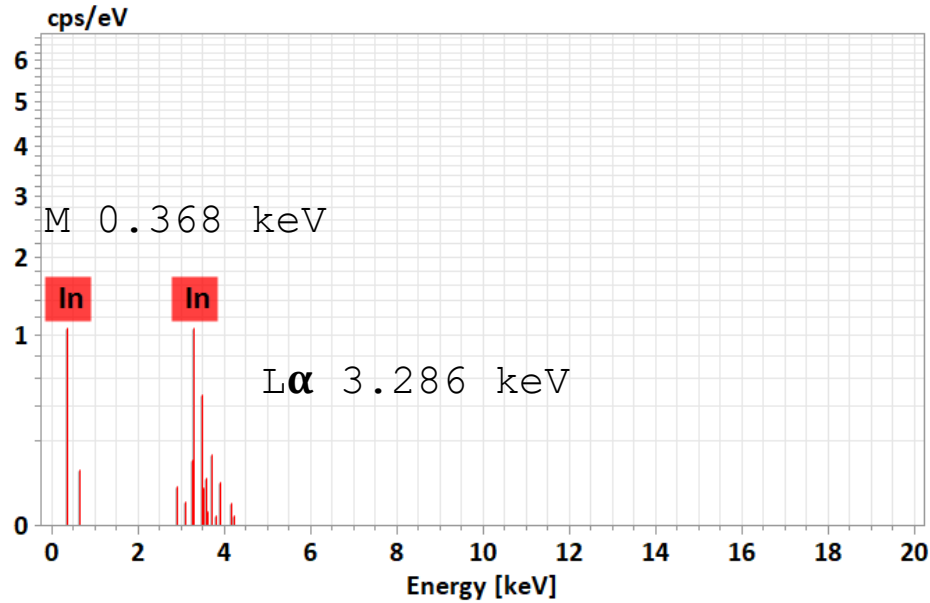


The Advantage of High take-off Angle and Annular Design

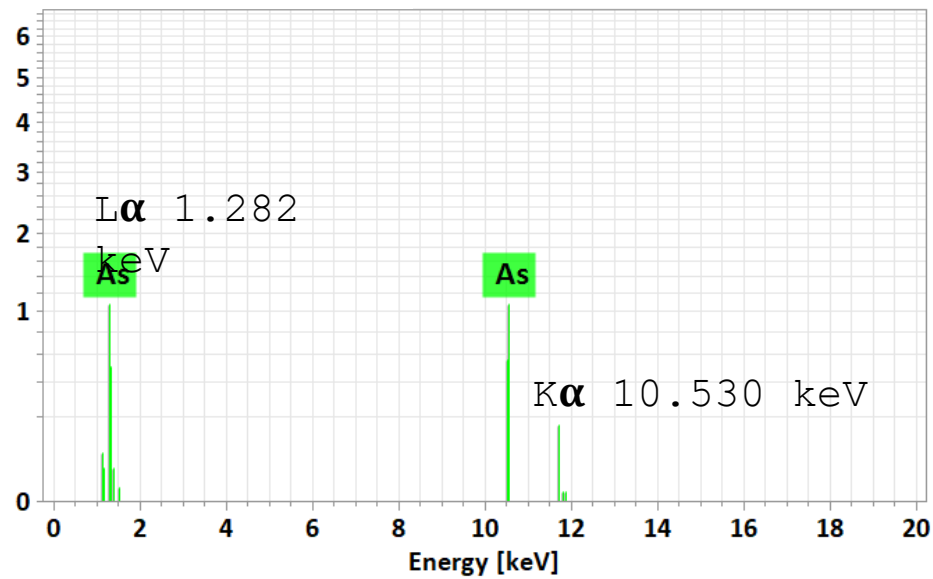
Take-off angle comparison: XFlash[®] 5060FQ vs. conventional SDDs:



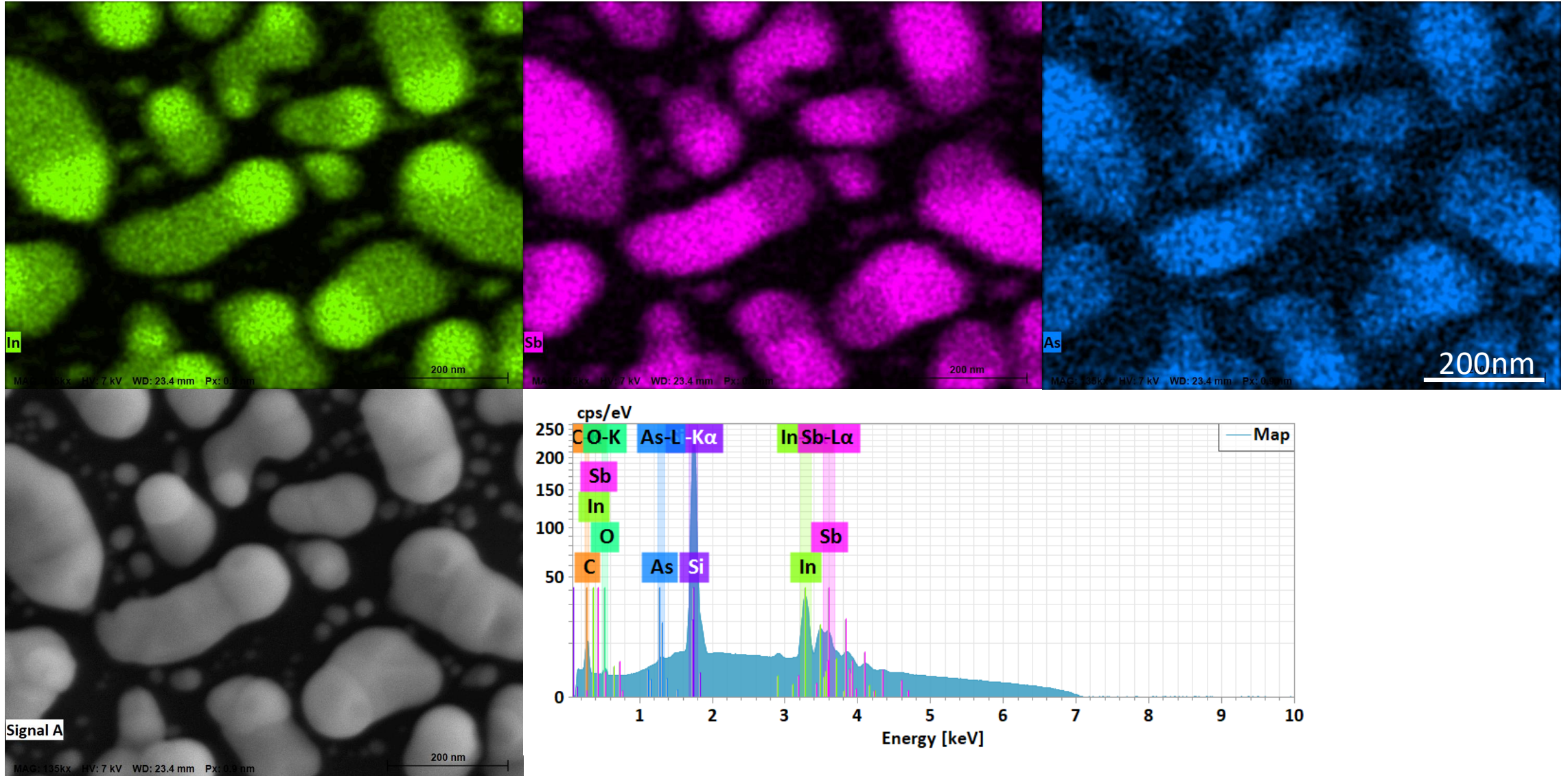
InAsSb Nanowires



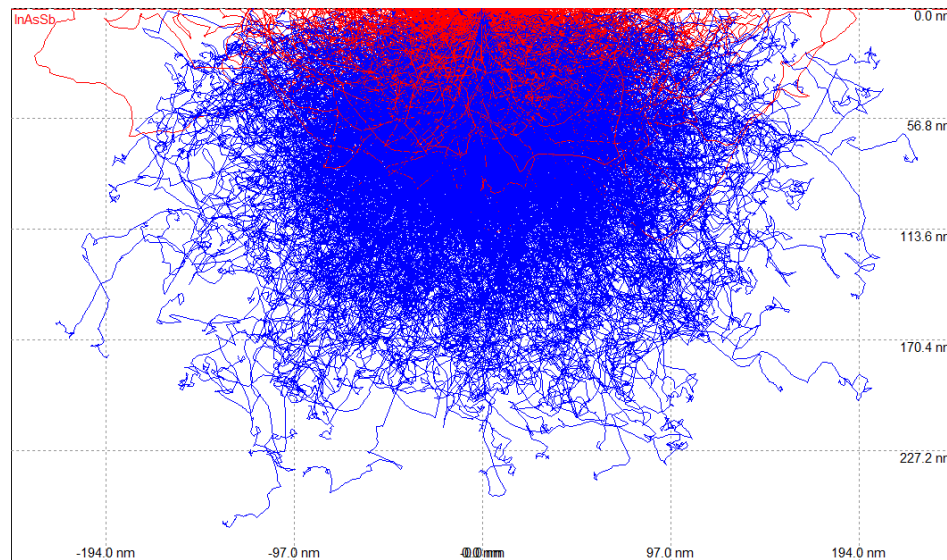
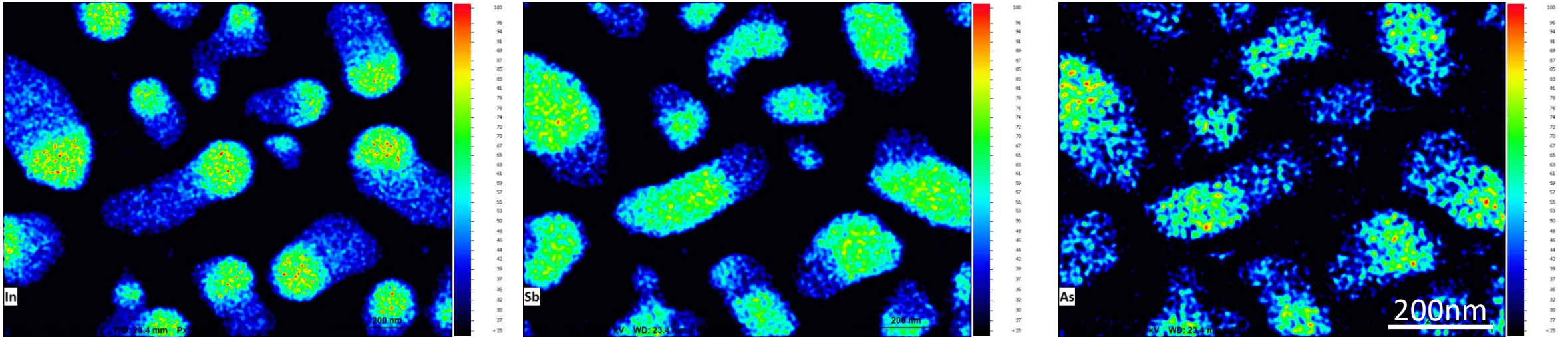
7 kV



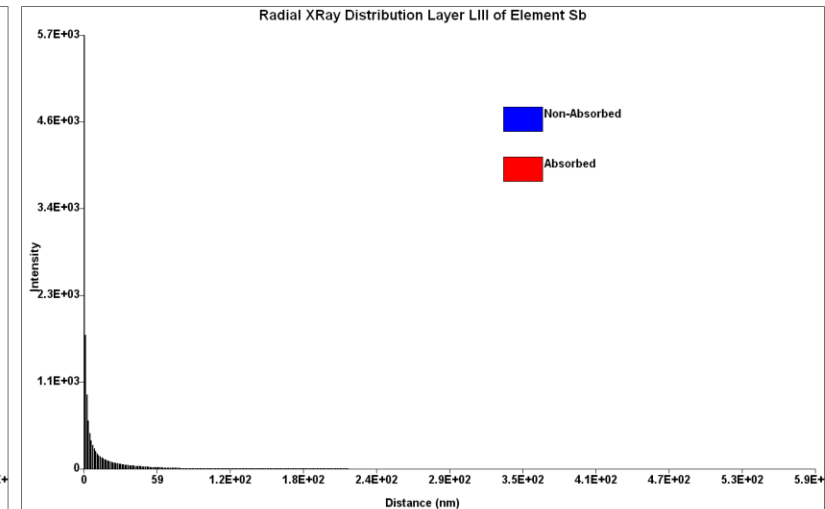
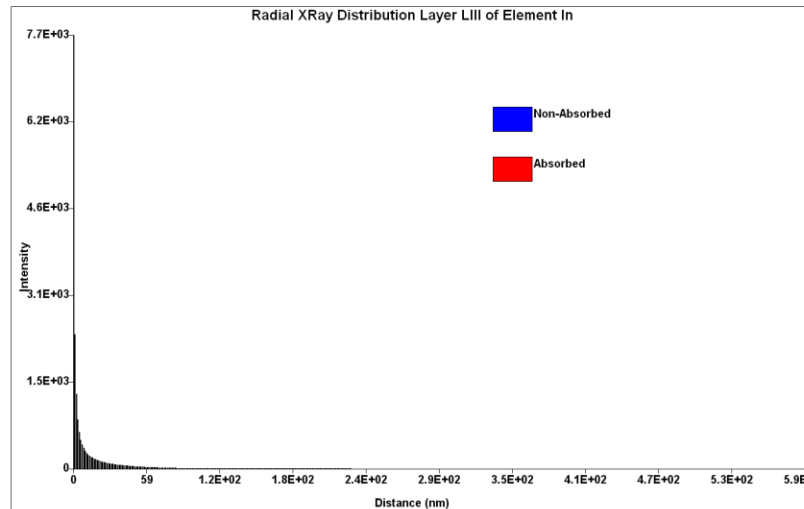
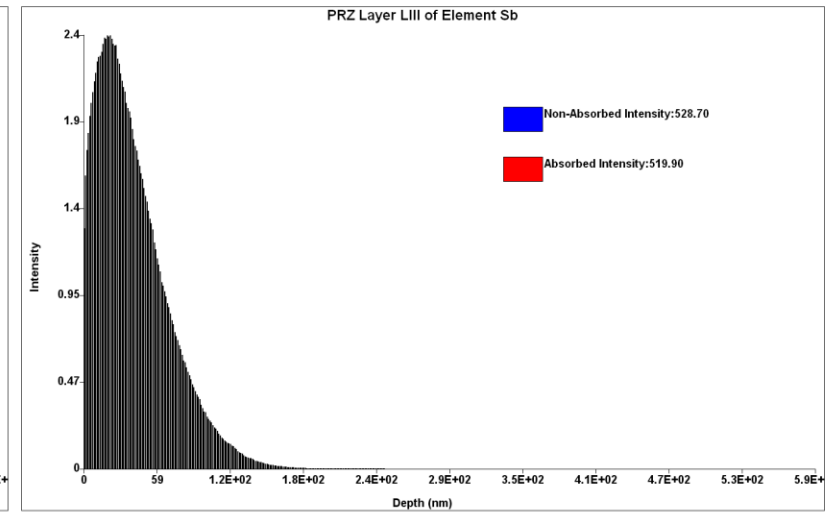
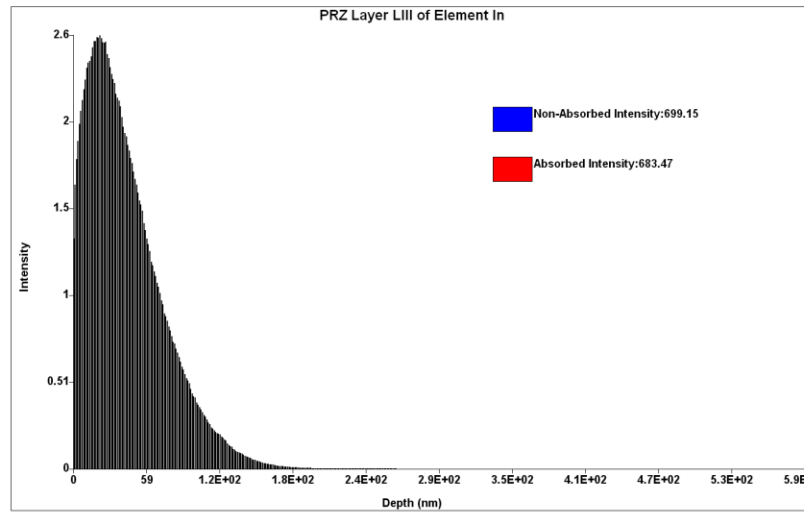
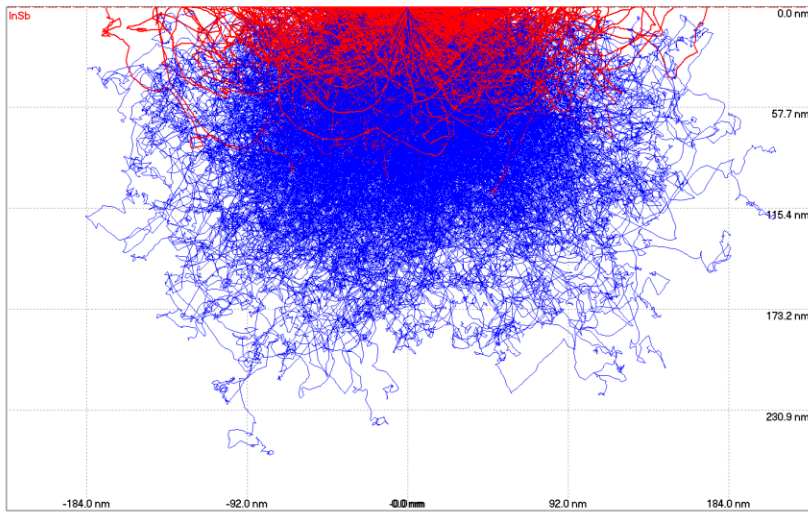
InAsSb Nanoparticles



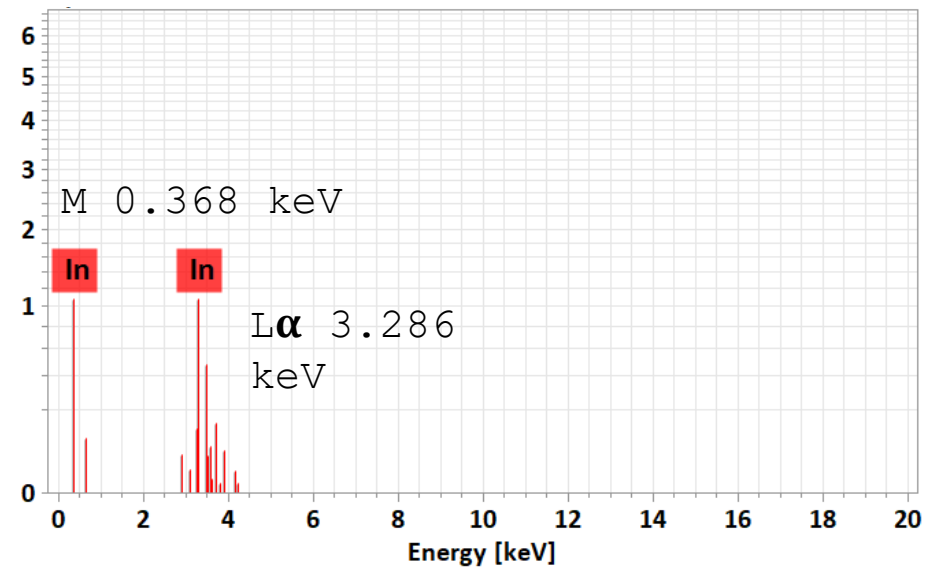
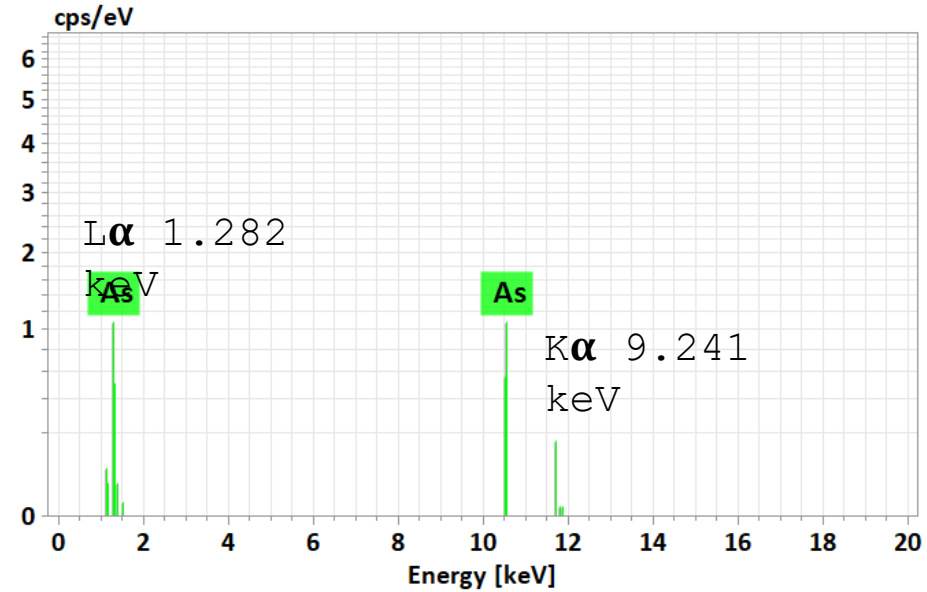
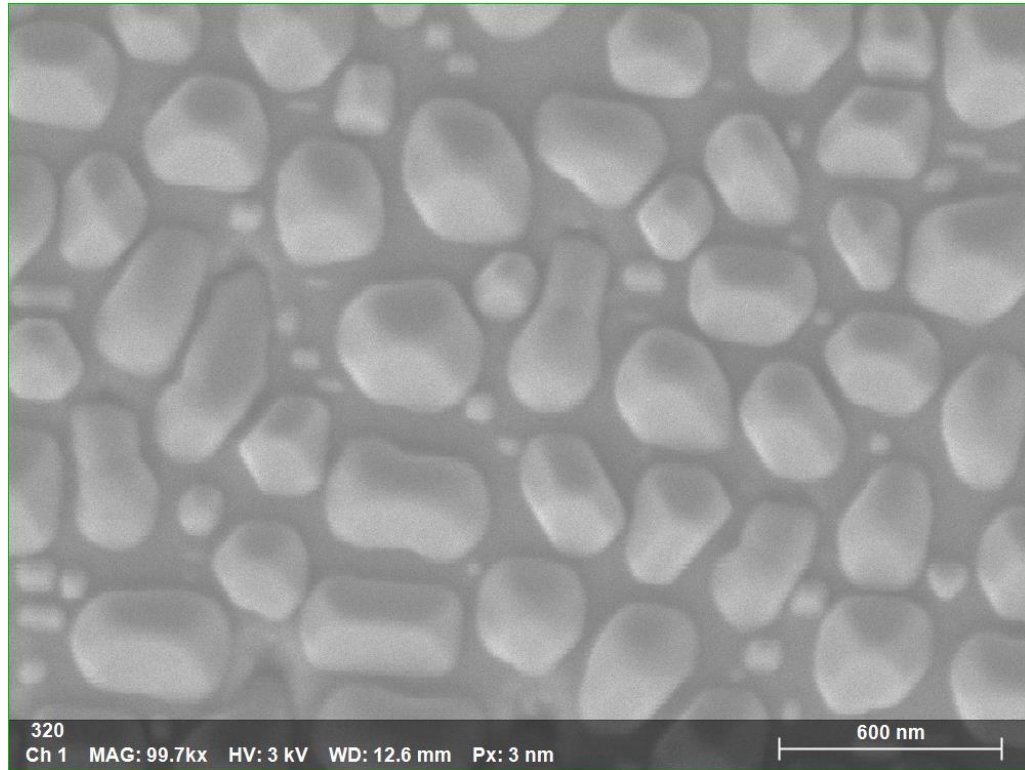
InAsSb Nanoparticles



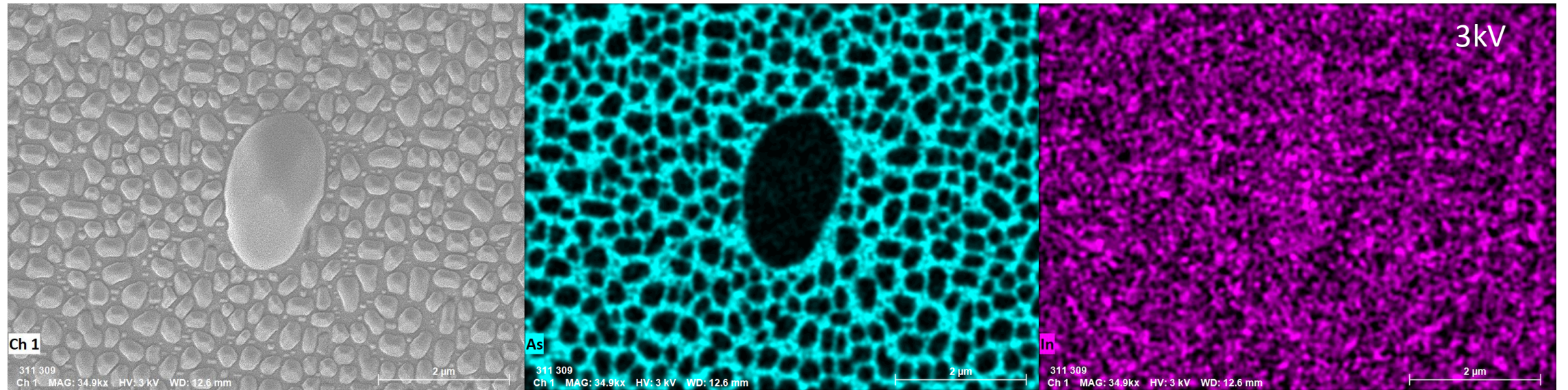
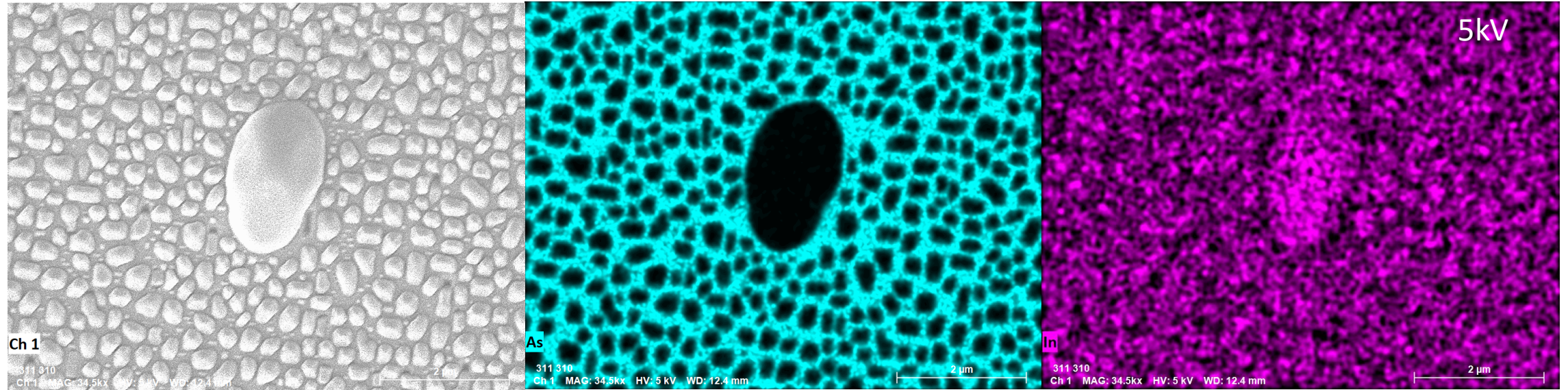
InAsSb Nanoparticles



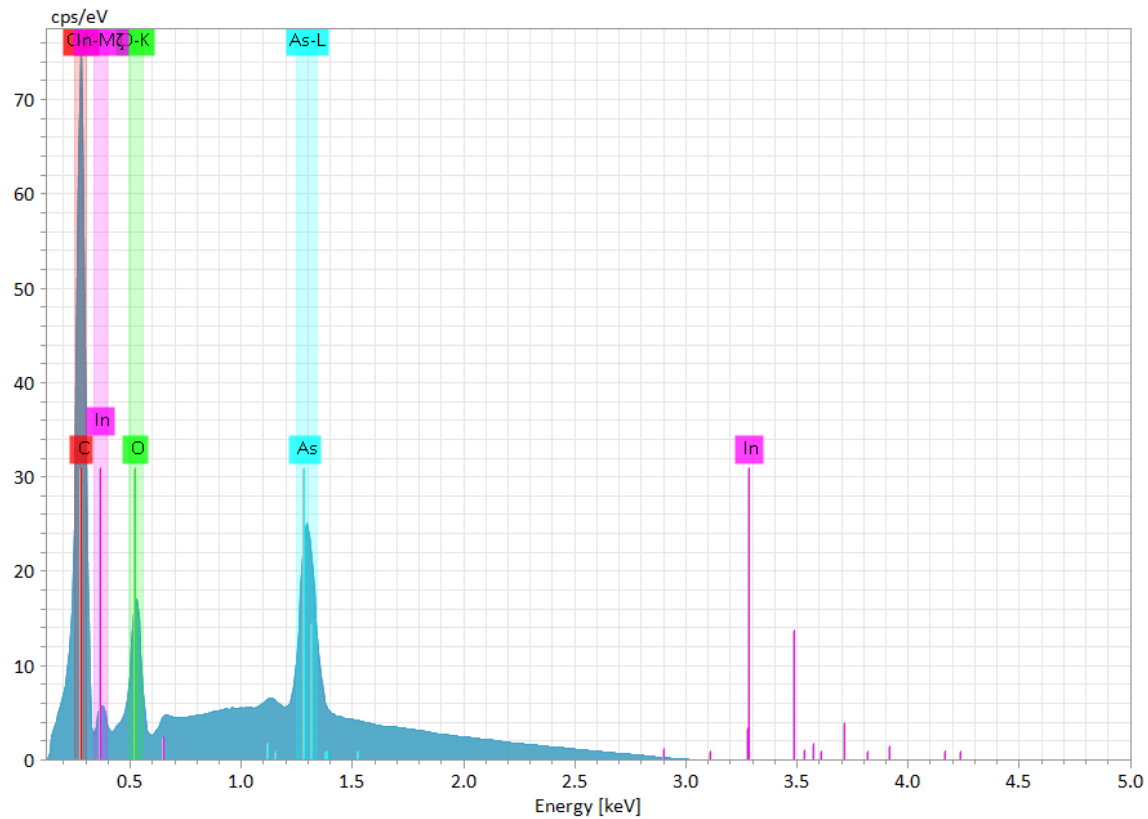
In on InAs



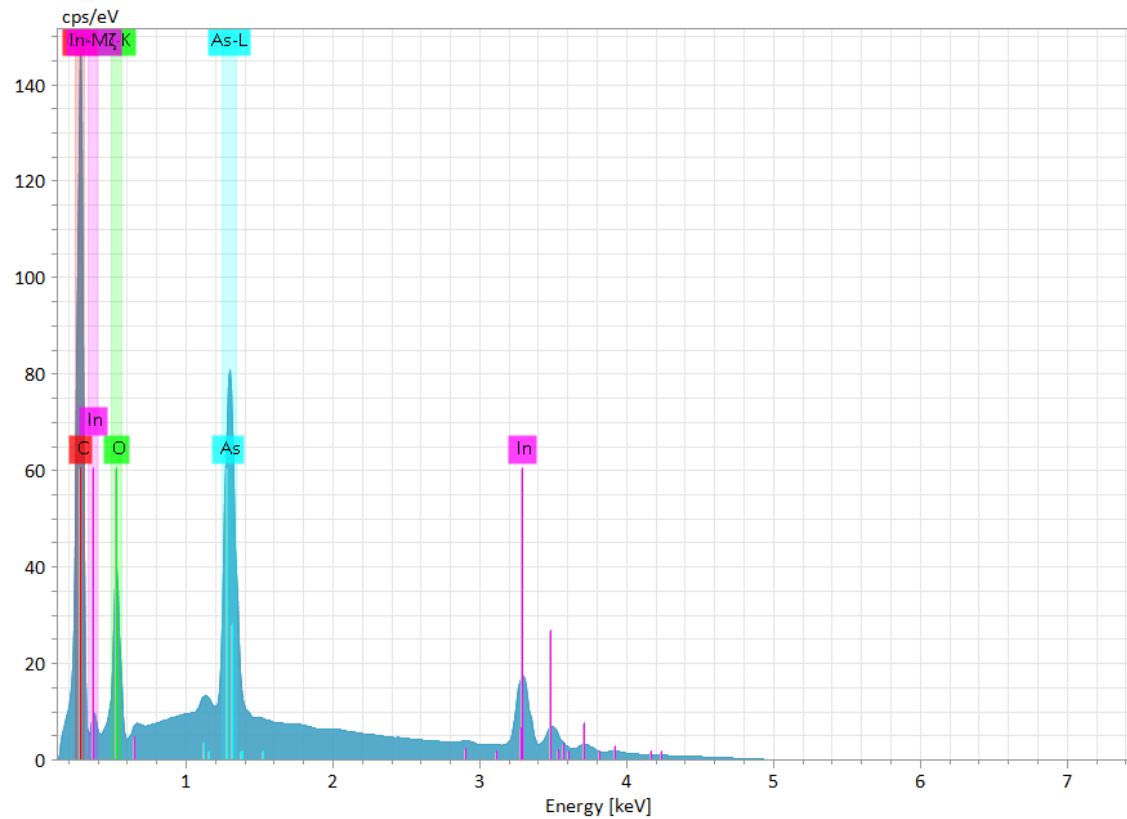
In on InAs



In on InAs

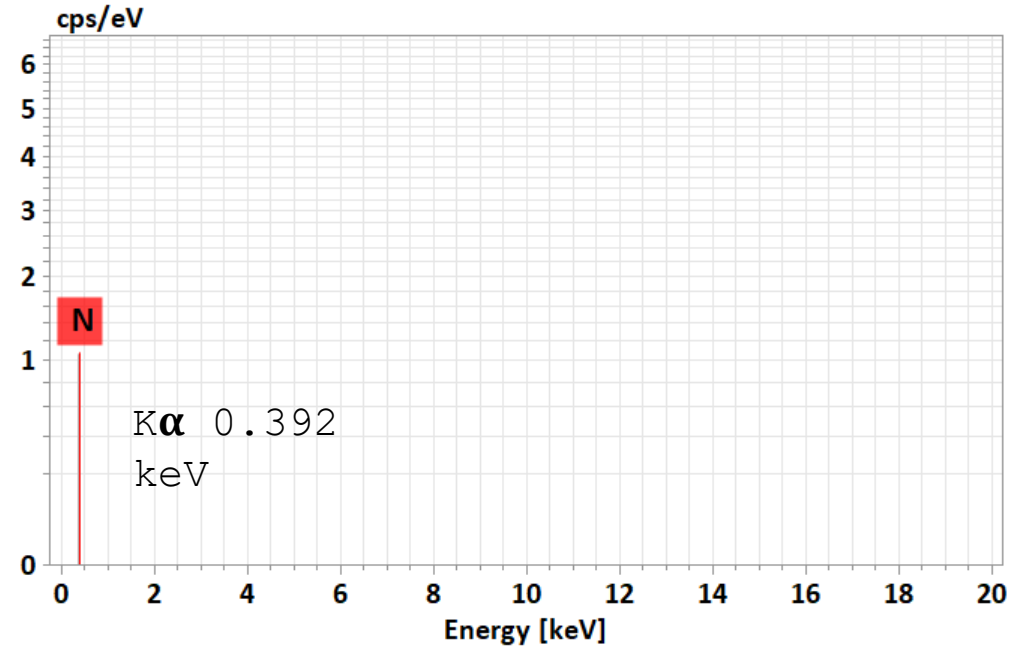
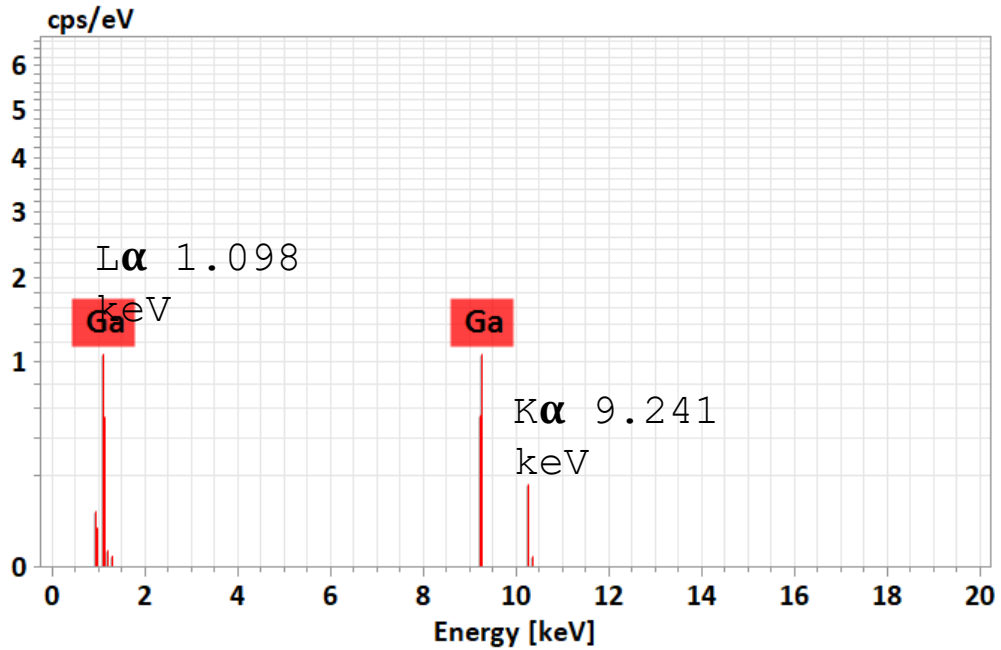


3 kV

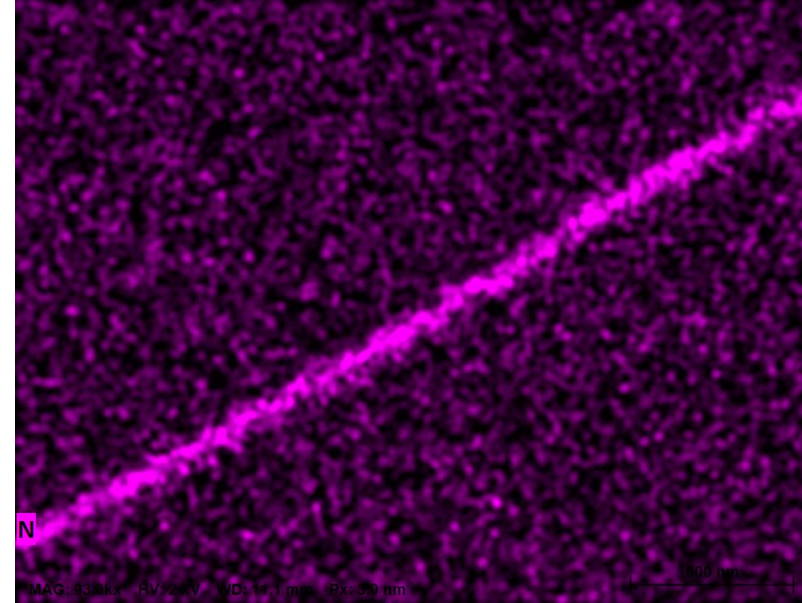
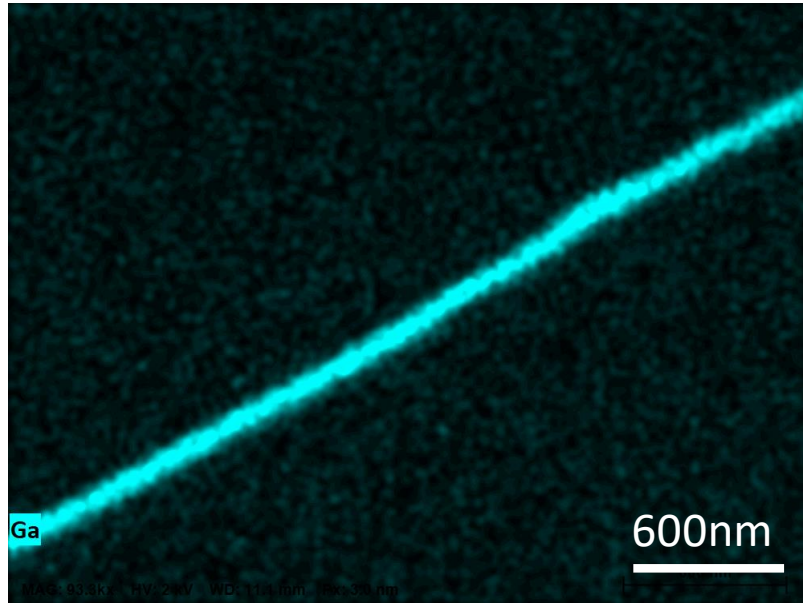


5 kV

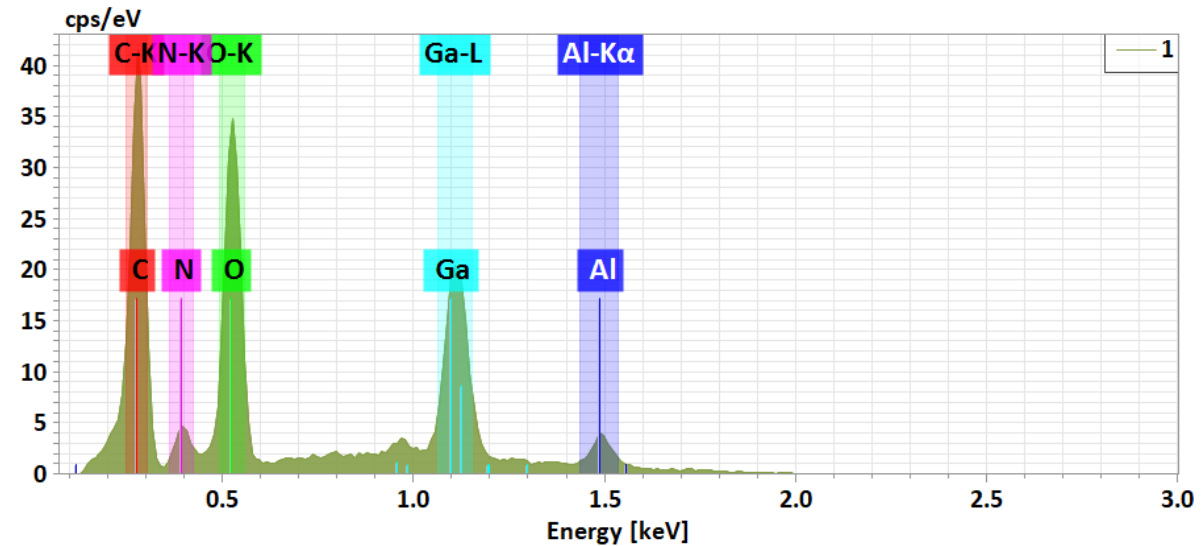
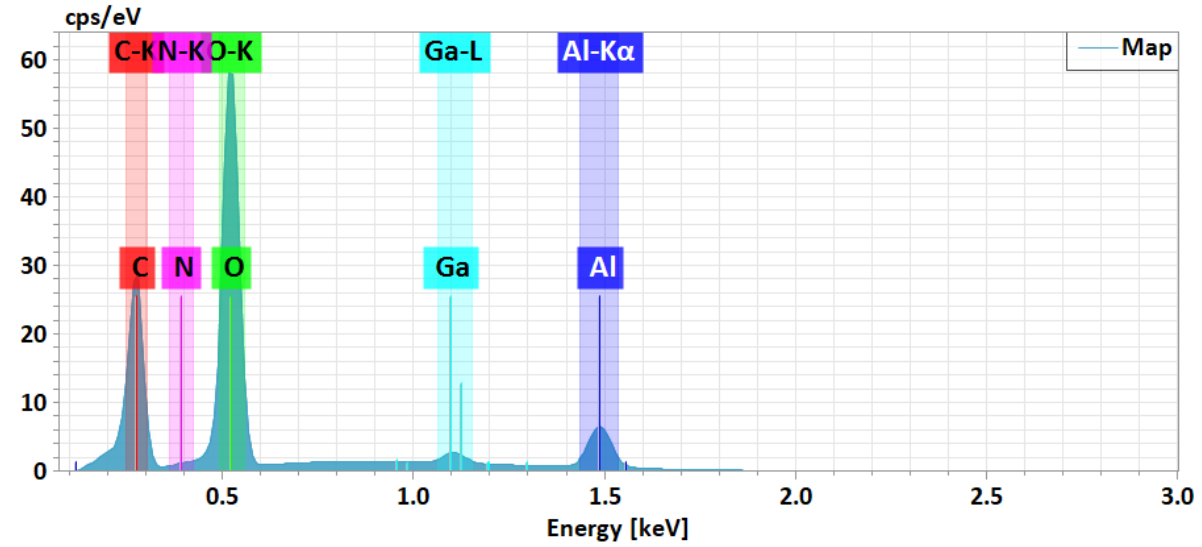
GaN Nanowires on Sapphire



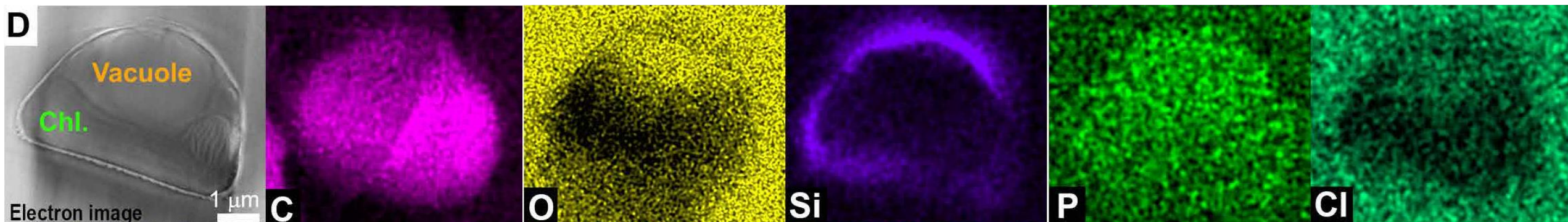
GaN Nanowires on Sapphire



GaN Nanowires on Sapphire



SEM-EDS in Life Science



Santosh Kumar et al. Sci. Adv. 2020; 6 : eaaz7554

EDS Parameters

1. The critical ionization energy

2. Volume of interaction
(set the spatial resolution)

3. Signal to noise

4. Spectral resolution

5. Minimum detected mass

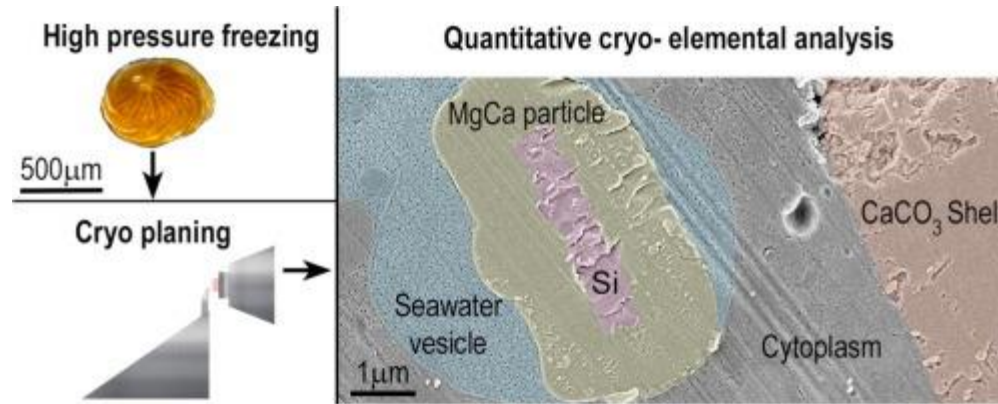
6. Acquisition time
(Beam damage)



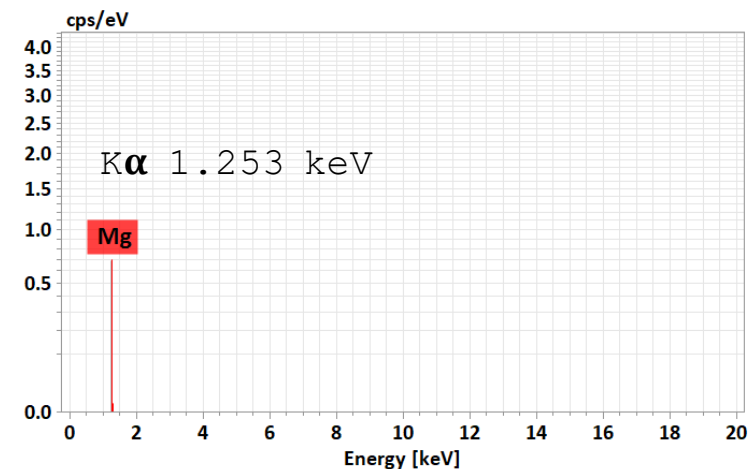
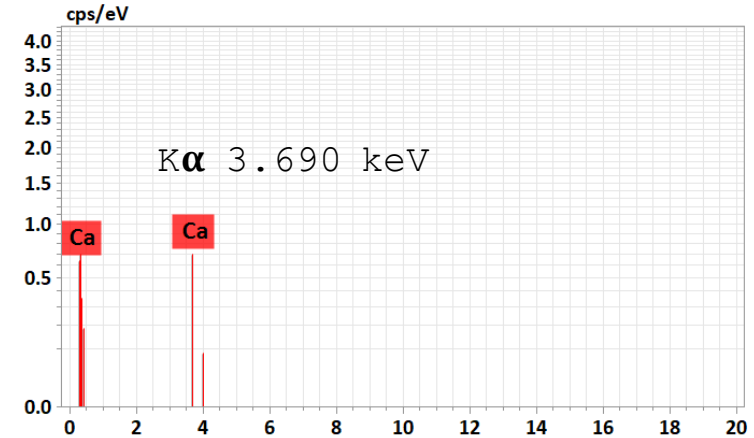
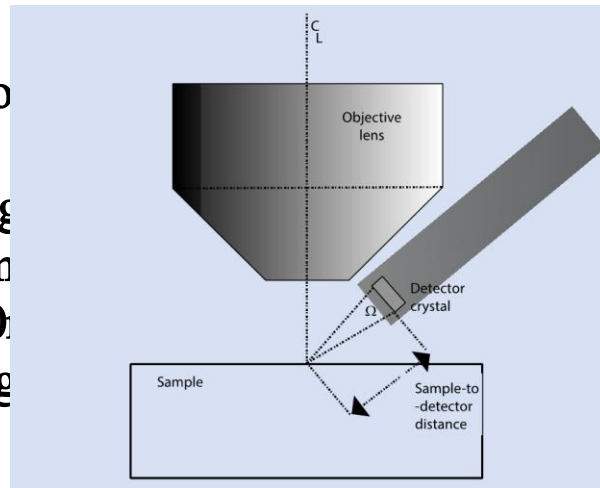
Cryo EDS

Characterization of unusual MgCa particles involved in the formation of foraminifera shells using a novel quantitative cryo SEM/EDS protocol

Gal Mor Khalifa et al. Acta Biomaterialia 77 (2018) 342–351

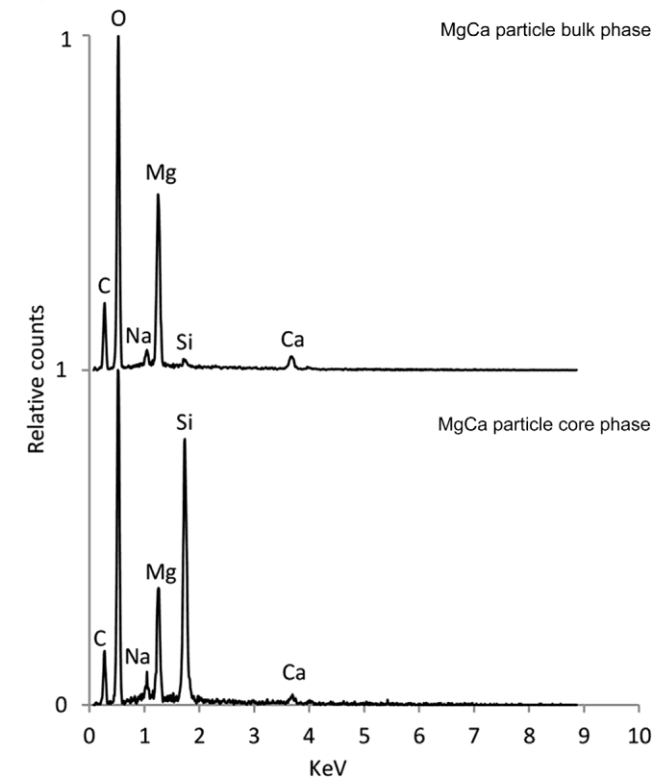
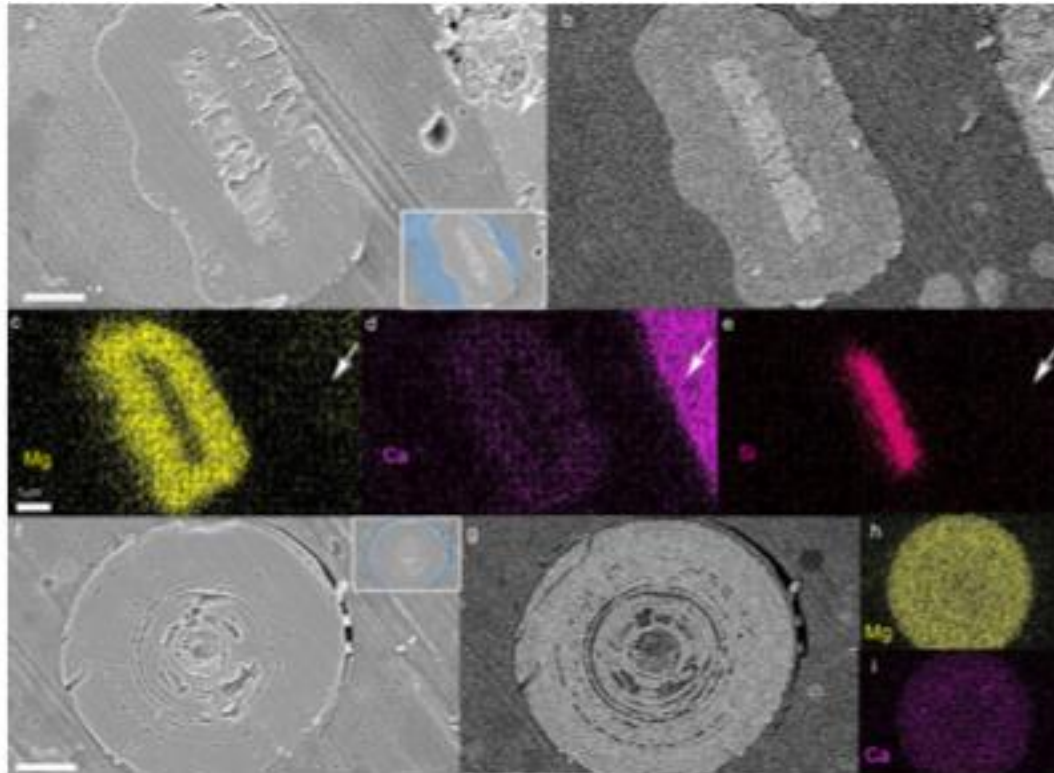


Cryo EDS with
HPF
Cryo planing
SE and BS imaging
C coating (10 nm)
EDS mapping



Characterization of unusual MgCa particles involved in the formation of foraminifera shells using a novel quantitative cryo SEM/EDS protocol

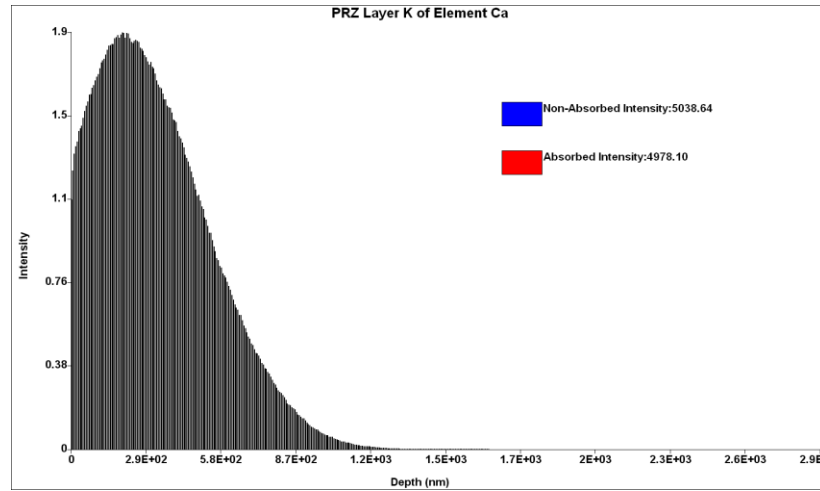
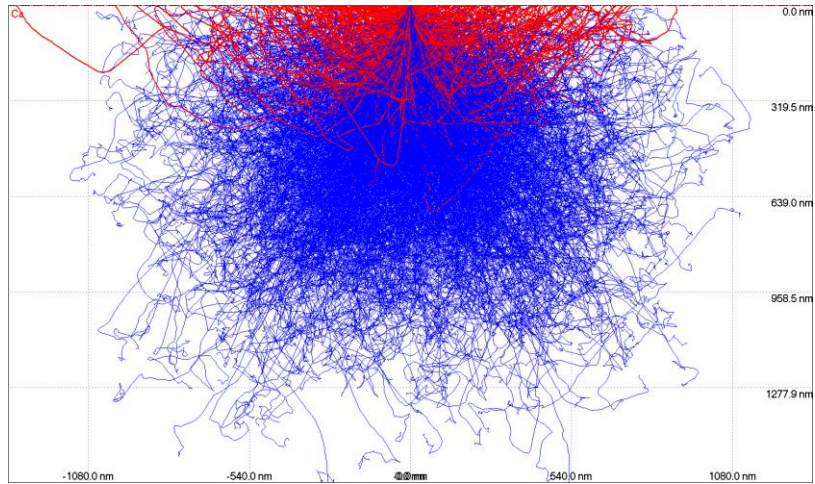
Gal Mor Khalifa et al. Acta Biomaterialia 77 (2018) 342–351



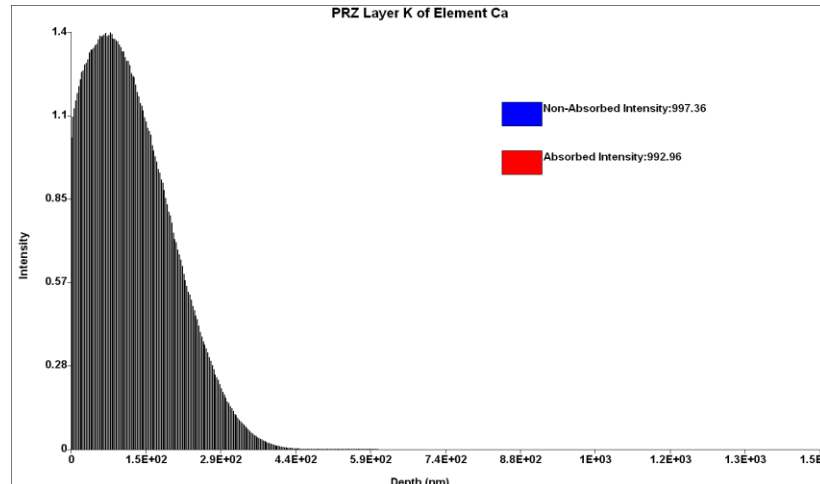
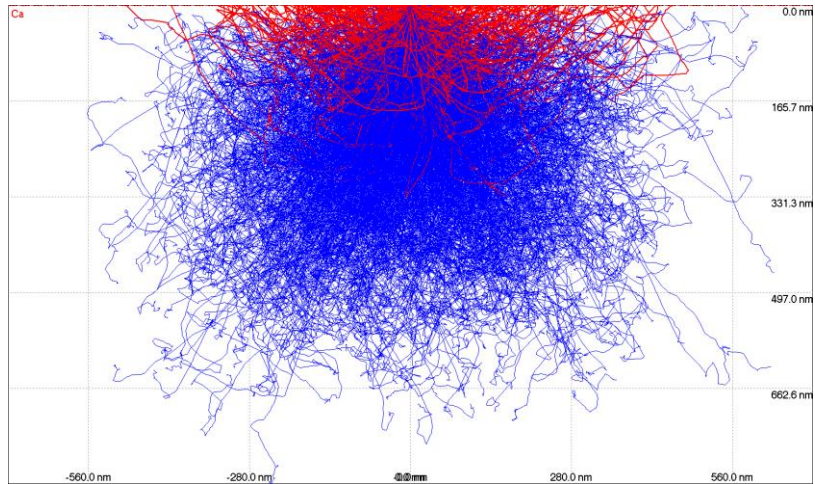
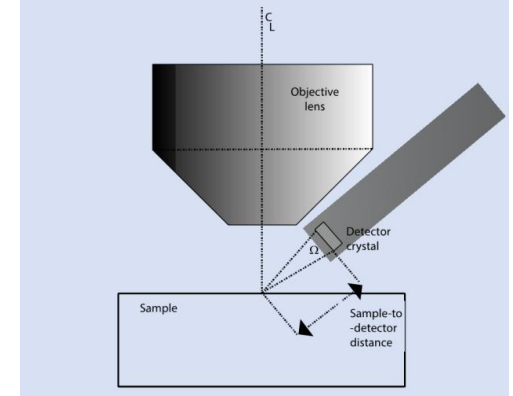
Correlative cryo- SEM/EDS analysis of two intracellular MgCa particles

Dr. Gal Mor Khalifa, Prof. Lia Addadi and Prof. Steve Weiner group, Structural Biology Dept., WIS

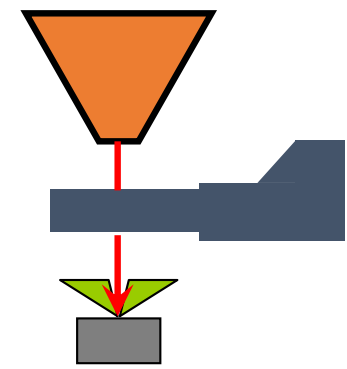
Ca - Volume of Interaction



Ca 9kV

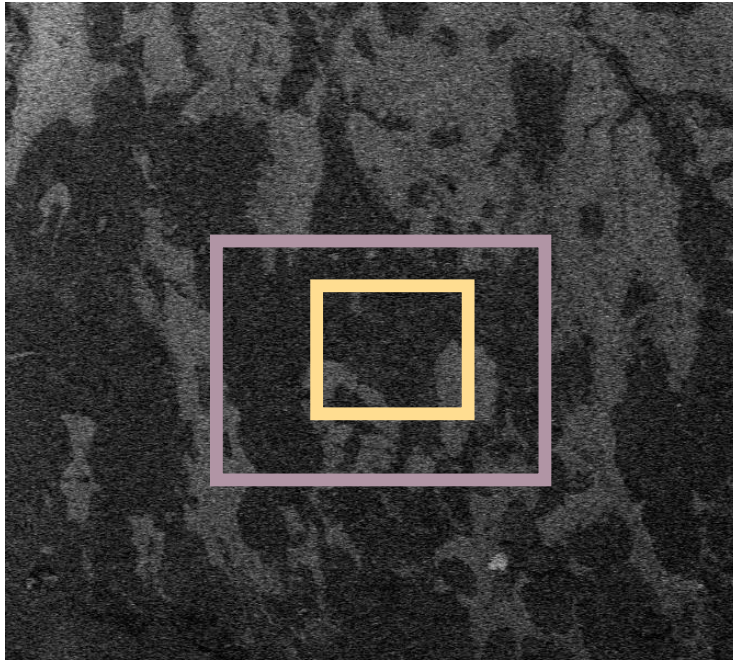


Ca 6kV

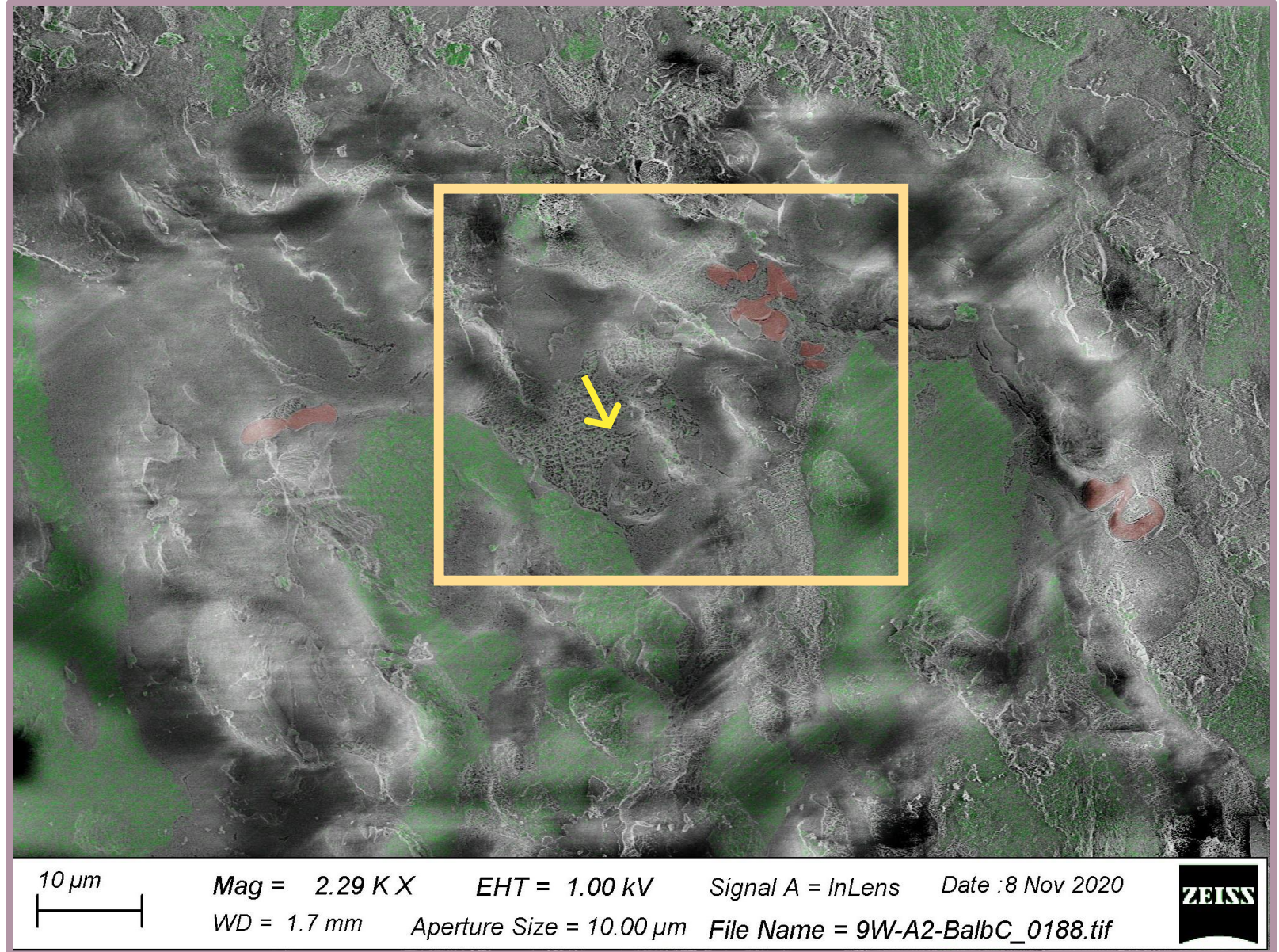


Locating Ca and P in a Bone

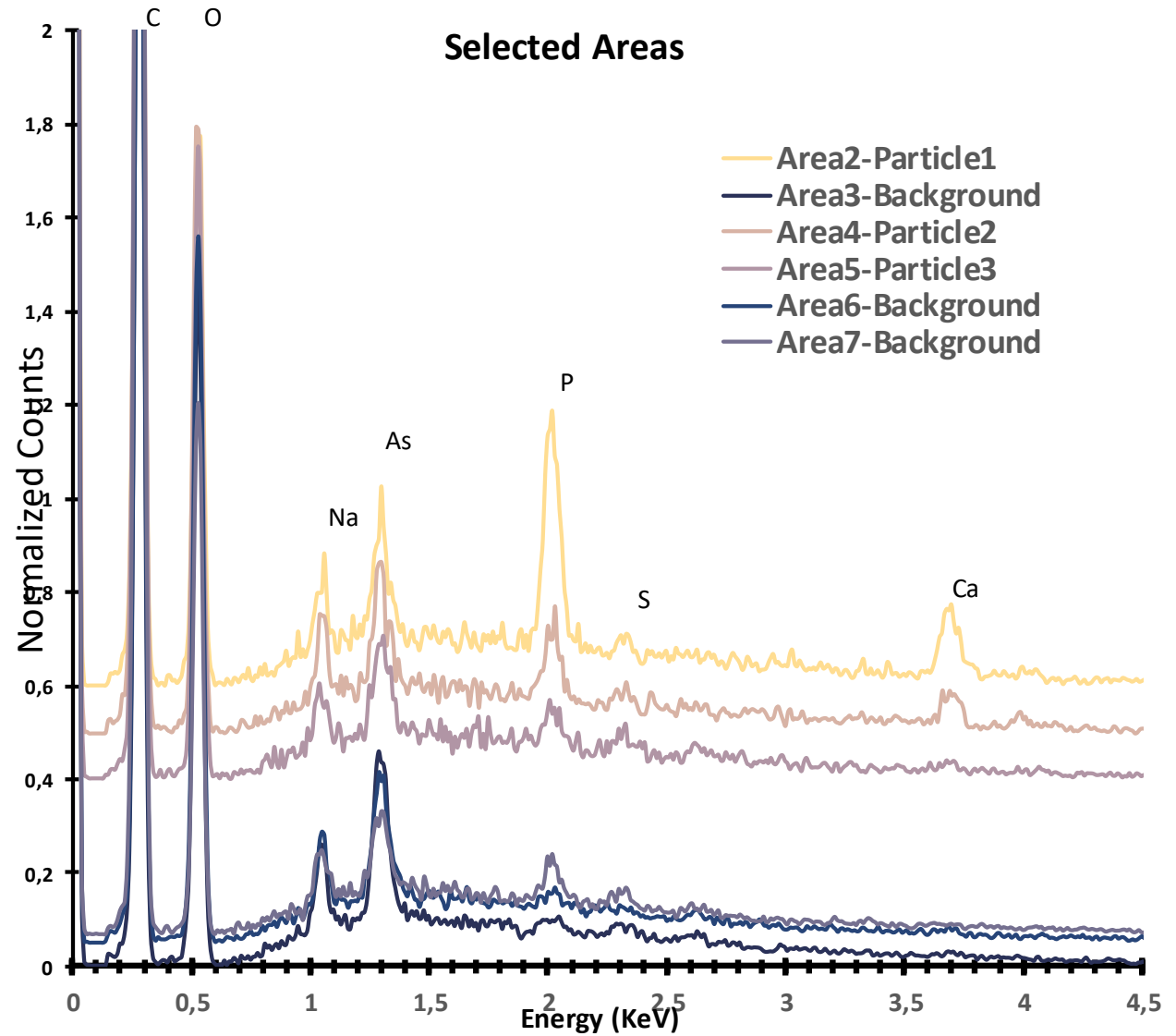
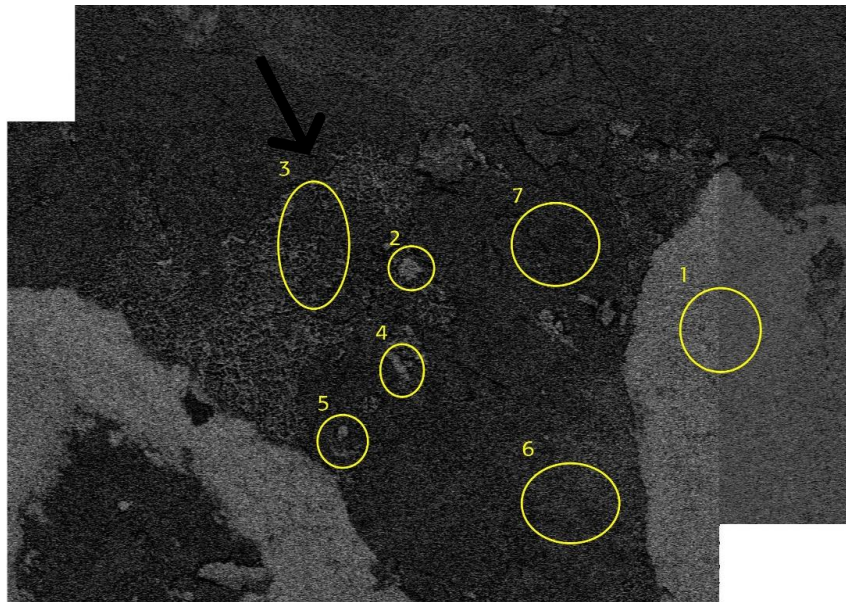
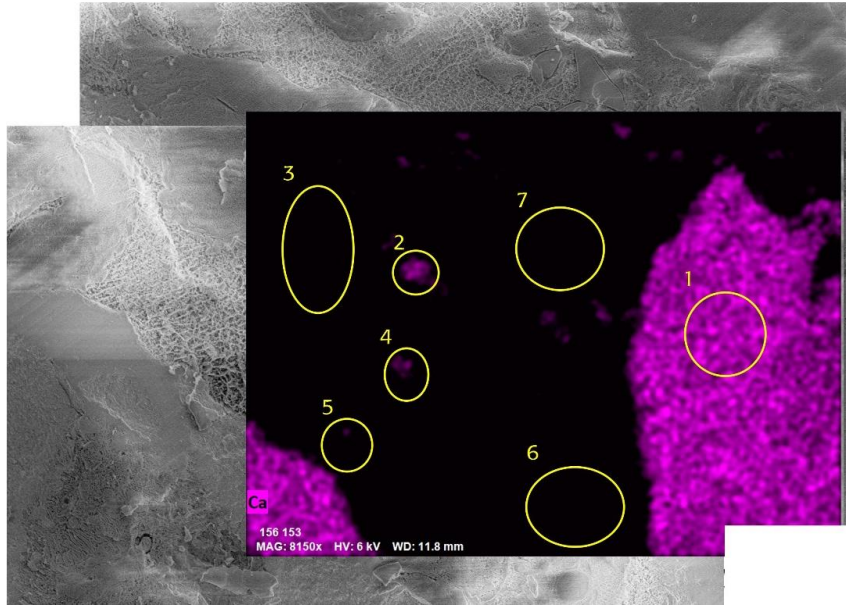
No need for flat surface, any topography can be measured



10 μ m

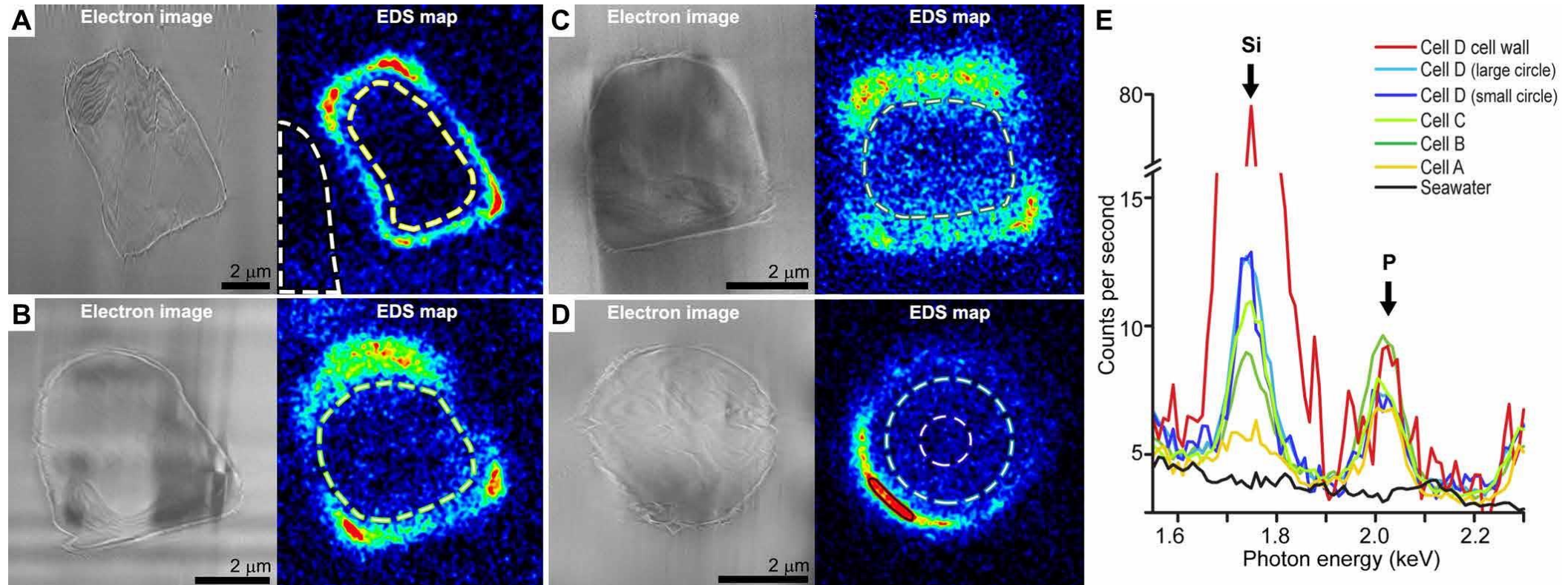


Locating Ca and P in a Bone



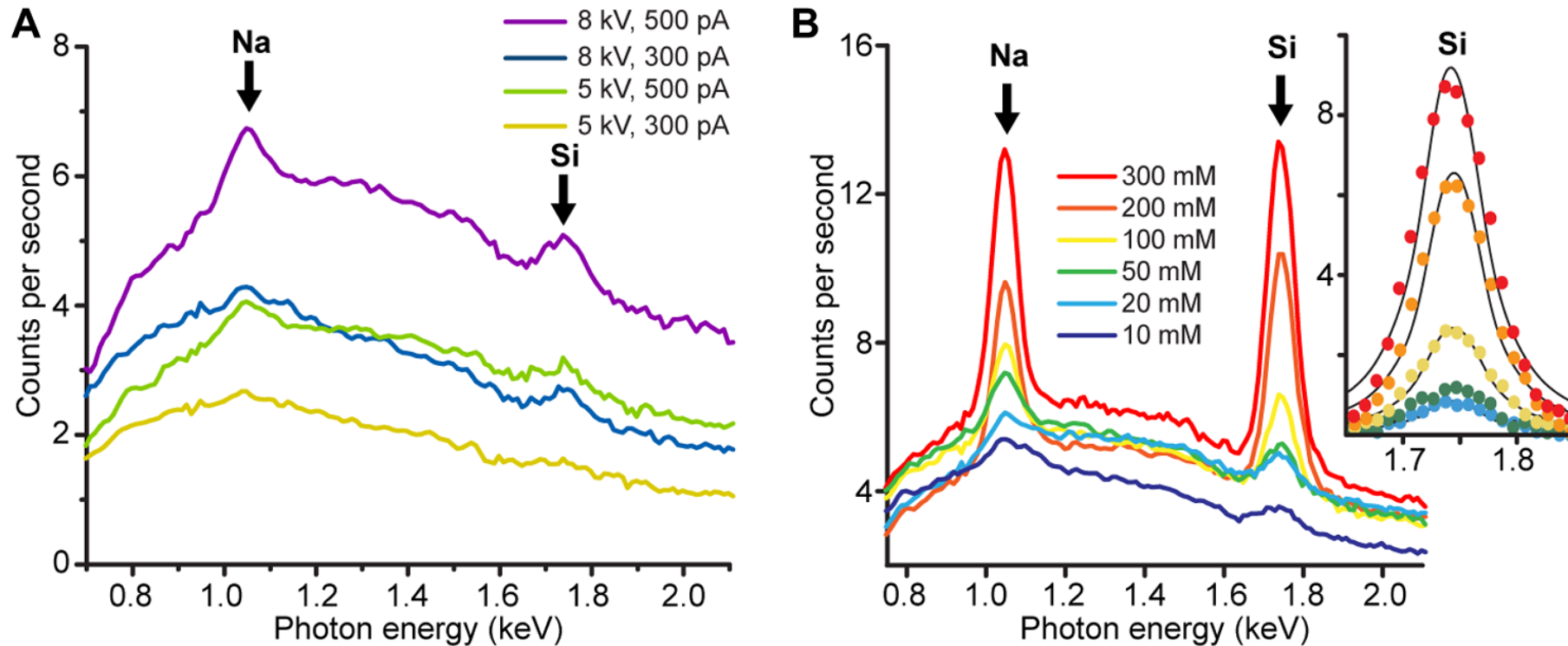
Imaging and quantifying homeostatic levels of intracellular silicon in diatoms

Santosh Kumar et al. *Sci. Adv.* 2020; 6 : eaaz7554



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Summary

EDS is an analytic technique that can be applied in different fields, from nanomaterials to biomaterials

By using the new EDS technology, the Bruker FlatQuad we are able to break some limits of lateral resolution.

Cryo EDS is a promising but challenging field that still requires the development of better workflows

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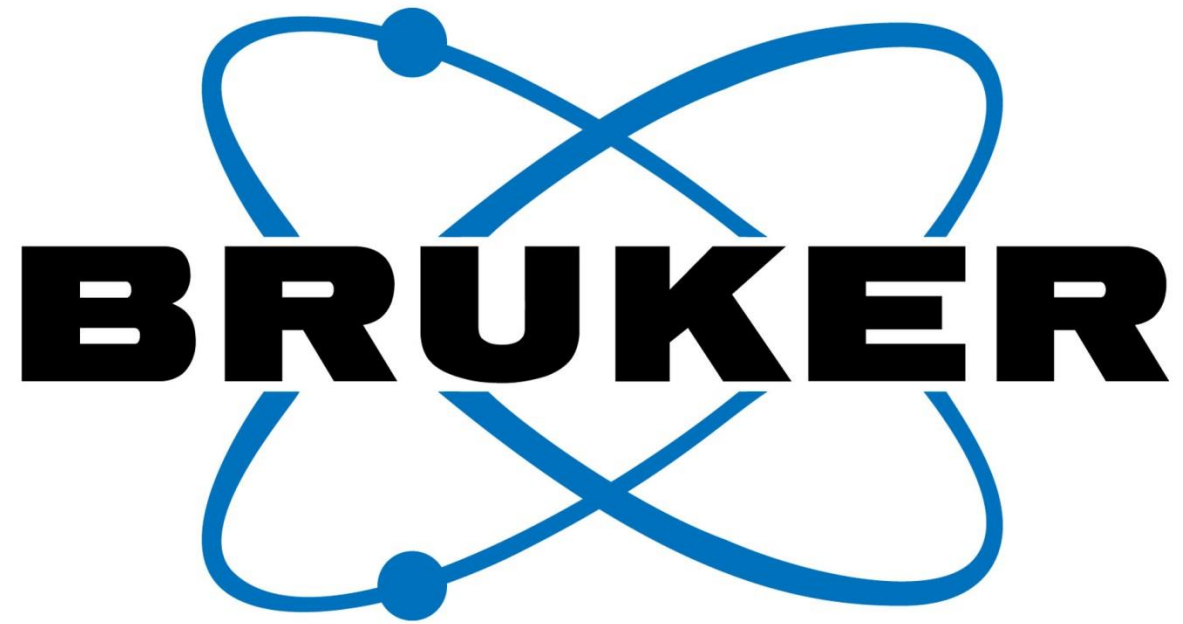
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Are There Any Questions?

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