Elements of the cosmos: what STEM-EDXS can tell us about the history of materials of the Universe



Guest speaker: Rhonda Stroud



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Moderator:

Dr. Igor Nemeth Application Scientist EDS, Bruker Nano Analytics



Guest Speaker Dr. Rhonda Stroud

Research Physicist, US Naval Research Laboratory



Dr. Meiken Falke

Global Product Manager EDS/TEM, Bruker Nano Analytics

























Single/multiple EDS



Ma et al., 2015, Current Biology 25, 2969-2975 http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.cub.2015.09.063

Annular EDS, FlatQUAD

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Annular EDS, Flat QUAD





Composite net intensity map of a Mocs meteorite specimen: a cracked surface with lead deposits (red) within the cavities

K: Interpretive drawing of a Cambrian arthropod fossil

A: Carbon-traces in direct illumination

B: EDS of C, Fe





EBSD +

Indentation etc. experiments and orientation mapping In Duplex steel





600

400





Geometric constraints in SEM and TEM: aiming for the <u>nm scale and below</u>, Solid and take-off angle are important to consider!





Windowless high collection angle EDS with 100mm² oval silicon drift detector and All advantages of the ESPRIT analysis software

XFlash®6-100 oval for SEM

Tailored to individual pole piece geometry Accelerating voltage up 300 kV, UHV compatible

- Solid angle up to 0.7 sr or e.g. 0.4 sr
- Take-off angle up to 13.4°, adaptions vary



- Accelerating voltage up to 30 kV
- Optimized for each microscope geometry
- Solid angle of up to 0.4 sr

XFlash®6T-100 oval for STEM







Example of STEM EDS using XFlash®6T-100 oval on TFS Titan: Quantitative Element Mapping of Semiconductor Nanostructures Deconvolution and Quantification Result







Data Courtesy: ACE

Example of STEM EDS using XFlash®6T-100 oval Nion UltraSTEM: Element Mapping of Multiferroic Bi₆Ti_xFe_yMn_zO₁₈

Raw cala



TCD (Trinity College Dublin) Nion UltraSTEM200XE 200 kV, Dedicated STEM, CFEG; $\Omega \sim 0.7$ sr, TOA > 13°



432x225 pixels,

4.1 msec/pix => 400 sec for map. No drift correction.

Bi = green, Ti = blue.

courtesy Lynette Keeney, Clive Downing and Valeria Nicolosi. TCD, Ireland.

Specimen:

 $Bi_6Ti_xFe_yMn_zO_{18}$

See:

"Direct atomic scale determination of magnetic ion partition in a room temperature multiferroic material" Scientific Reports **7**, Article number: 1737 (2017) open access

L. Keeney at al.: Scientific Reports **7**, Article number: 1737 (2017) open access

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Rhonda Stroud

USAP





Solar systems origins written in gas and dust

Fossils of Early Solar System

Laboratory Samples

Nittler and Ciesla (2016)

Secrets of the Early Solar System to be **Revealed by Laboratory Analysis**

Nittler et al.

Nature Astronomy (2019)

- **Essential Science**
 - What were the original ingredients or our solar system?
 - Why life on Earth? Where else?
 - Are there technologically useful materials in the cosmos?
- **Coordinated Microanalysis provides answers**
 - SEM + SIMS + FIB + STEM + XANES

Cometary building block

found in a meteorite 100 nm 10 nm MgSiFe

5 GKm

ALMA Image of

Protoplanetary disk

Secrets of the Early Solar System to be Revealed by Laboratory Analysis

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Nion UltraSTEM 200-X 0.7 sr Bruker SDD Xflash 100 Gatan Enfinium ER

STEM-EDS of SiC from an AGB Star Singerling et al., in review



Internal structure reveals complex condensation history from > 4.5Gy ago



Implications for Circumstellar Conditions



SiC Stardust from another AGB star





0.11 at% Al 0.52 at% N 2.1 at% Al 3.0 at% N



b Ti(V,Zr,Fe,Mo,Ni)C



Ti(Zr,V,Fe,Ni,Mo)C

Different Circumstellar Conditions



Nanodiamonds - from q-bit to stardust

- Nanodiamonds are broadly scientifically important
 - Common polishing compound, wear-resistant coatings
 - Biocompatible, functionalizable surface
 - Nitrogen and Si vacancy complexes for photoluminescence, spintronics / quantum computing

Commercial irradiated nanodiamonds Sigma-Aldrich



Cosmic Nanodiamonds

- Nanodiamond residue prepared by acid dissolution of meteorite
- First phase found in meteorites with an isotopic signature of extrasolar origin
 - Kr and Xe isotopes indicative of supernova origin, Lewis et al., *Nature* (1987)
- But only ~ 1 Xe per 10⁵ nanodiamonds, and solar C and N isotopic composition
- Most nanodiamonds could have formed in Solar System



Huss and Lewis, MAPS (1994).

stepped pyrolysis

EDS "Average" Nanodiamond Composition (~ 9x12 nm²)





EDS of individual impurity particles

5 nm



0.8 nm Ir particle

EDS on and off a Si atom







Stroud et al., Applied Phys. Lett. (2016)

Identification of Vacancy Centers in Diamond with EELS Calculated C-K edge spectra



Chang et al., Nanoscale 2016

Hot stage STEM-EELS Comparison with Stepped Pyrolysis





Nitrogen released from diamonds in "P3" temperature range, i.e., most likely solar system formed

Simultaneous EDS and EELS Spectrum Image of N-V Center in Nanodiamond



SI Analog HAADF Image Sub-pixel imaging

Simultaneous EDS and EELS Spectrum Image of N-V Center in Nanodiamond



Simultaneous EDS and EELS Spectrum Image of N-V Center in Nanodiamond



Diamond anvil cell synthesis of nanodiamond aerogel



STEM-EELS-EDXS of High Pressure / High Temperature Nanodiamond with incorporated Ar

HAADF





US Patent App. 16/297,338.

EDS Mapping of HPHT Graphitic Onion C with Incorporated Ar



Some areas with up to 40% Ar observed

Potential mechanism for archival gas storage over billions of years

Summary

- Physics and chemistry of materials are the same in space as on Earth
- Nanomaterials are as old as the stars

> 4.5 billion year old SiC

 Atomic-scale structure key to materials growth, history, & properties





Are there any questions?

Please type in the questions you might have in the Q&A box and press *Send*.



Innovation with Integrity