

Back to the Roots – Part IV: An Introduction to micro-XRF on SEM

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Presenters



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SEM-XRF (XTrace): Introduction

01 Introduction

02 SEM-XRF (XTrace) and
Rapid Stage

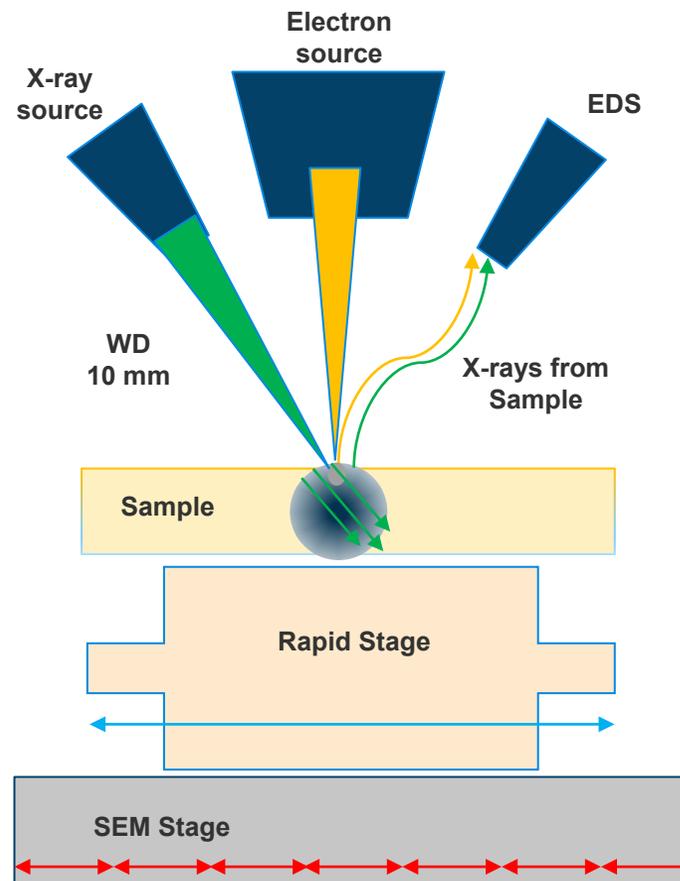
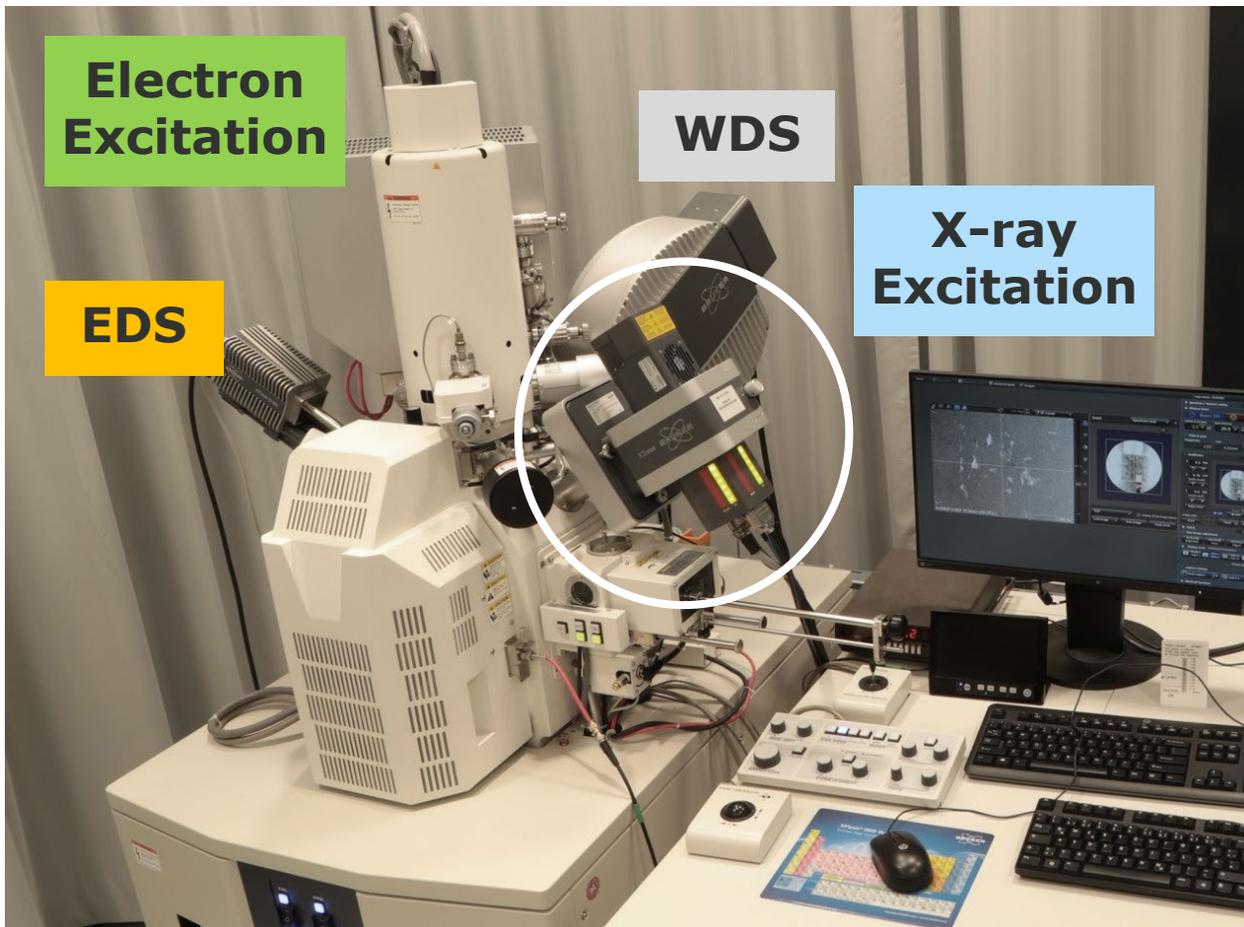
03 Applications and Examples

04 Summary and Conclusion

05 Questions and Answers

SEM-XRF (XTrace): Introduction

SEM and Analytical Options: Electron and Photon Excitation for micro-XRF and EDS/WDS



2 Excitation Sources:
Electron Beam (e-beam)
Micro-XRF (X-ray beam)

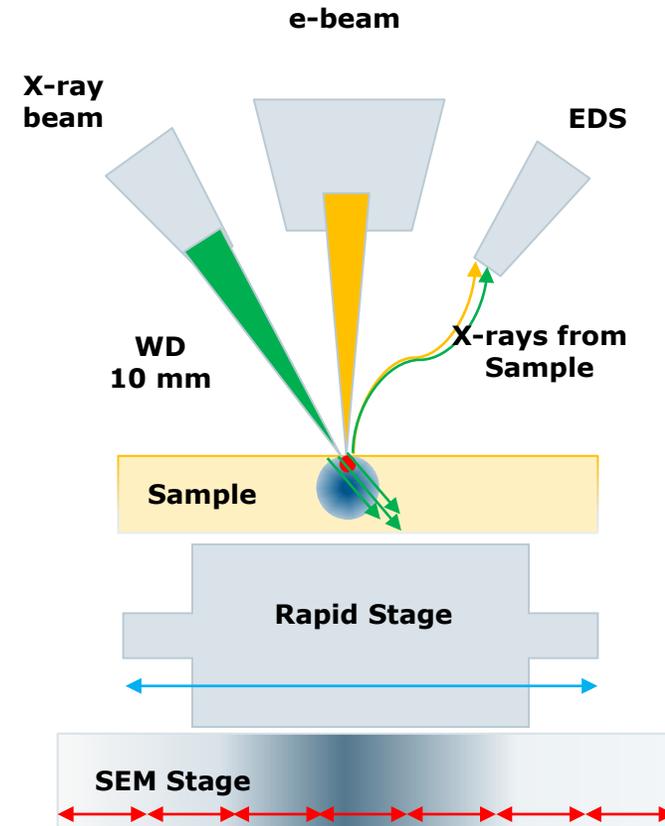
1 Detector:
Energy Dispersive
Spectrometer (EDS)

2 Stages:
SEM Stage
Rapid Stage

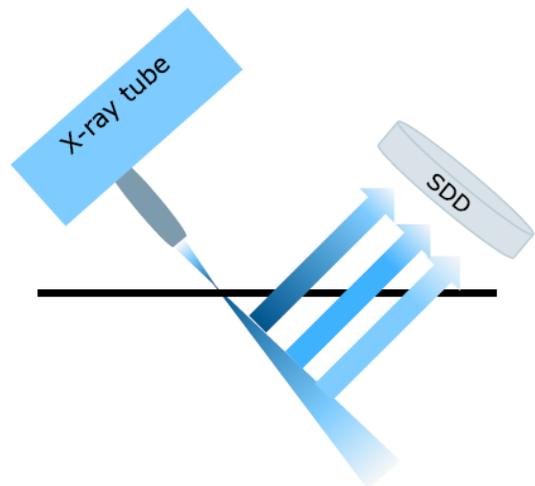
Analytical Parameters and Conditions

SEM-EDS vs SEM-XRF

| Parameter | E-beam (SEM-EDS) | Micro-XRF (SEM-XRF-EDS) |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| Spatial Resolution & Analyzed Volume | Ø: few µm Information depth: µm; (depending primarily on electron energy) | Ø: 15-30 µm Information depth: µm to mm; (depending on analysed element and matrix) |
| Detectable Elements | Atomic number Z ≥ 4 (beryllium) | Atomic number Z ≥ 6 (carbon) |
| Energy range | K- L -M - Lines (up to 20 keV) | K- L -M - Lines (up to 40 keV) |
| Concentration Range | Down to 1000 ppm | Down to 5 ppm |
| Quantification | Standard less and Standard based | Standard less and standard based |
| Data collection | Simultaneously | Simultaneously |
| Sample Preparation | Sample needs to be electrically conductive (commonly carbon-coated), polishing required | Electrical Conductivity not required, samples doesn't need to be polished |
| Sample stress | Heated due to absorbed electrons | minimal |
| Spectroscopic resolution | Down to 121 eV for Mn Ka | Down to 121 eV for Mn Ka |
| Distribution Measurements | By rastering e-beam | By continuously (Rapid) Stage movement since the X-ray optic is fixed in space |



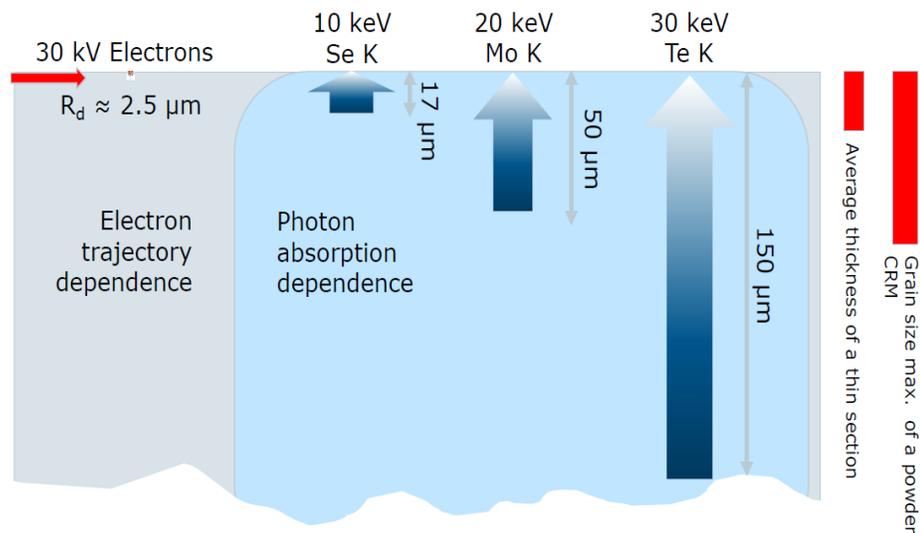
Spatial Resolution and Analyzed Volume: Transmission and Attenuation



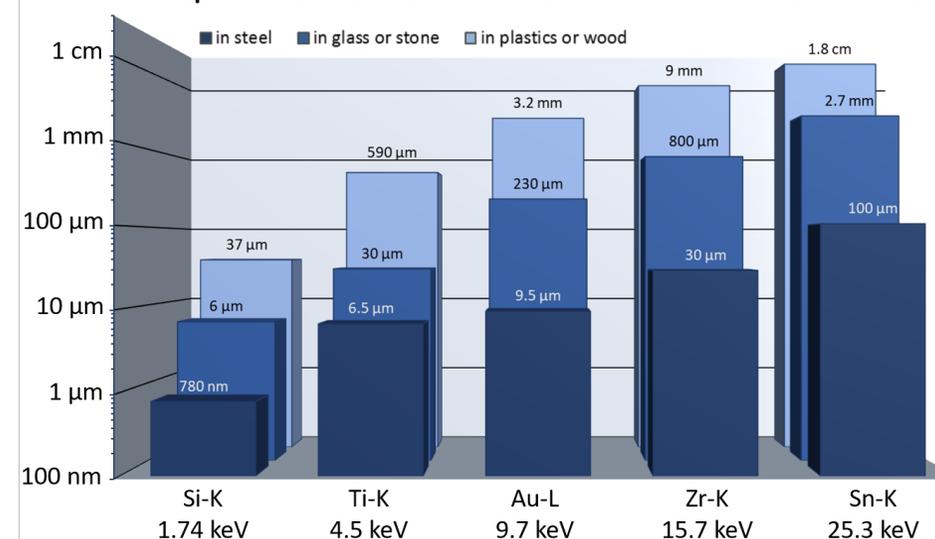
The transmission of X-rays is important for excitation of samples as well as for the fluorescence radiation.

Penetration depth: the depth that can still be excited

Information depth: the depth from which fluoresced X-rays can still reach the detector



Information depths of selected element fluorescence lines in different matrices



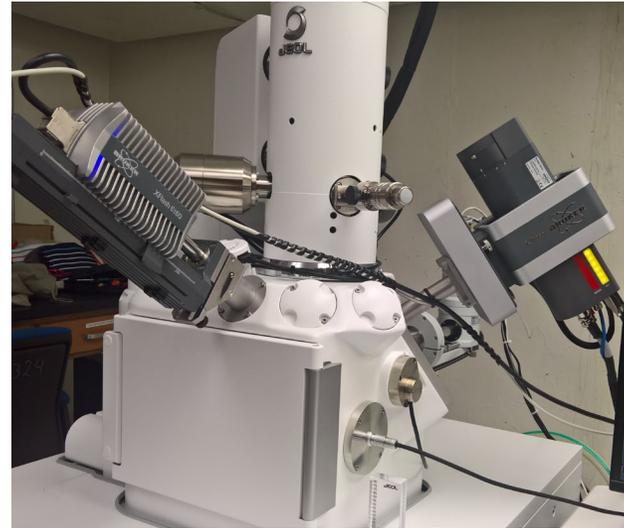
SEM-XRF and Rapid Stage Integration in ESPRIT Software

The screenshot displays the ESPRIT software interface with several key components highlighted:

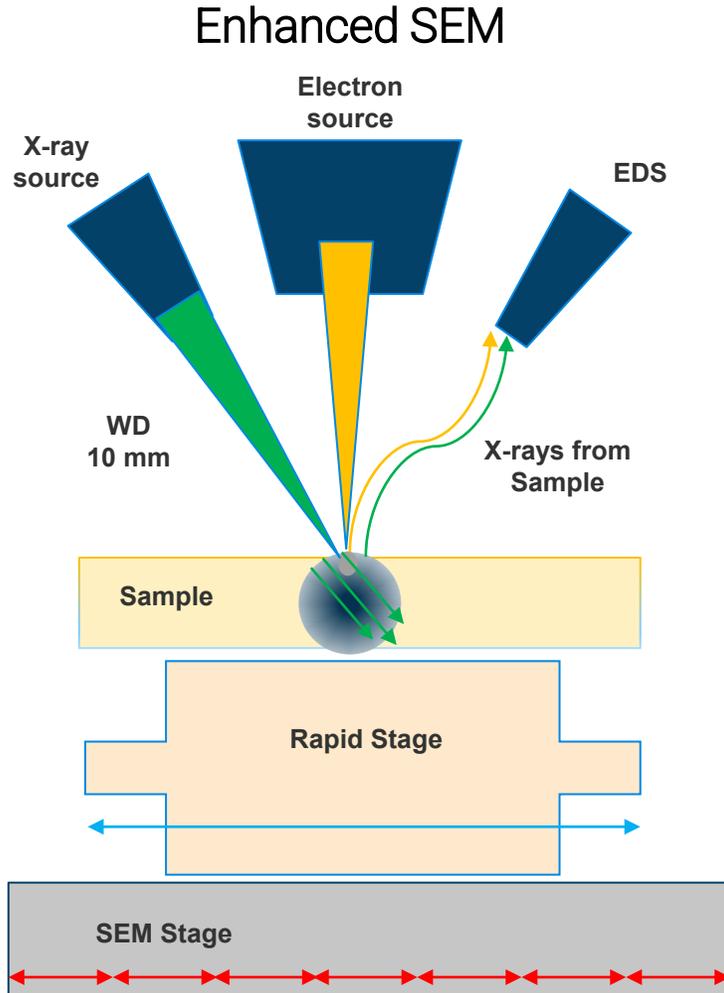
- Top Panel:** Shows sample information (Sample: Coating None), standards (ESL-506-15K), microscope parameters (WD: 12,000, Magn: 27.0, Stage X: 6,321, Stage Y: 1,725, Stage Z: 62,481), and X-ray source settings (Current: 600 μ A, Filter: Empty, HV: 50.0 kV, Pixel time: 4.8 ms).
- Map Area:** Displays a grayscale SEM image of a sample and a corresponding color-coded XRF map.
- Image extension Panel (Blue border):** Contains settings for image capture:
 - Activate
 - Width: 10 X 25.7mm
 - Height: 13 X 24.9mm
- Map time Panel (Blue border):** Contains settings for map acquisition:
 - Map time: Manual, Measurement time [s] (100), Cycles (1)
 - Map area: Full, Fixed, Variable
 - Map width: 12833.00 μ m, 500 Points
 - Map height: 9571.00 μ m, 375 Points
 - Point distance: 50.00 μ m
- SUBSTAGE MOVEMENT Panel (Yellow border):** A dialog box for adjusting stage movement parameters:

| | Current values | New values |
|-------------------------|----------------|------------|
| Move speed [μ m/s] | 500 | 3000 |
| Dwell time [ms] | 25.7 | 4.3 |
| Frame time | 12:49min | 02:08min |

Micro-XRF Installations: Adaptable to Various SEM models

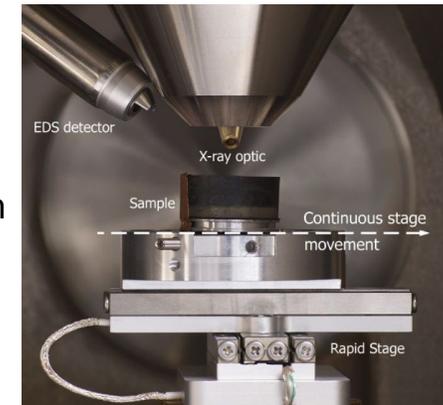


Introduction to Micro-XRF and Rapid Stage Differences to Electron Beam Excitation



Micro-XRF Benefits:

- Non-destructive analytical technique
- No charging effects
- Minimal Sample Preparation Required
- Lower detection limits (down to 5 ppm)
- Wide elemental range (from Z = 6 to 92)
- High Energy Lines Detection (Full Spectrum Range up to 40 keV)
- Ideal for Low kV or Beam sensitive samples
- Fast Large Area Mapping
- Micrometer scale measurement over cm
- Versatility in Application



SEM-XRF :

Application Fields

The following Application fields will have benefits from the enhanced functionality on the SEM:

- **Materials Science**
- **Archaeology and Art Conservation**
- **Environmental Science**
- **Geology and Mineralogy**
- **Forensics**
- **Electronics and Semiconductor Industry**

SEM-XRF (XTrace): Materials Science

Rare Earth Elements: X-ray Energies

Rare Earth Elements have a range of X-ray energies that are detectable by EDS:

K-Series: 34 to 55 keV

L-Series: 4 to 10 keV

M-Series: 0.5 to 1.5 keV

L-Series detectable with both electron and x-ray excitation source.

K-Series detectable with x-ray excitation source only.

The screenshot shows the 'PROPERTIES FOR CERIUM' window with the following data:

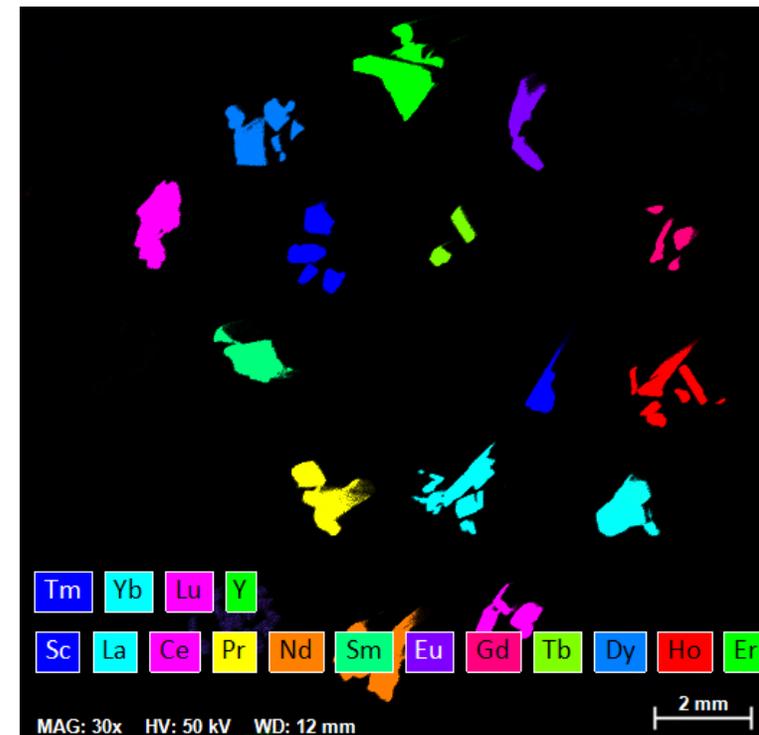
| Lines | Symbols | Energy (keV) |
|-------------------------------------|---------|--------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | KA1 | 34.720 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | KA2 | 34.279 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | KB1 | 39.256 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | KB2 | 40.220 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | KB3 | 39.169 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | KB4 | 40.334 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | KB5 | 39.541 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | LA1 | 4.839 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | LA2 | 4.821 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | LB1 | 5.262 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | LB2 | 5.614 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | LB3 | 5.361 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | LB4 | 5.274 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | LB6 | 5.432 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | LE | 4.728 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | LG1 | 6.055 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | LG2 | 6.325 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | LG3 | 6.341 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | LG4 | 6.528 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | LG5 | 5.875 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | LL | 4.287 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | M2N4 | 1.159 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | M5O3 | 0.862 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | MA1 | 0.884 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | MB | 0.902 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | MG | 1.078 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | MZ2 | 0.679 |

Options shown in the 'Spectrum region' section:

- None
- KA 34.692 keV
- KB 39.216 keV
- LA 4.837 keV
- LB 5.274 keV
- MAB 0.901 keV

Options shown in the 'Peak area' section:

- Wide (99%)
- Medium (87%)
- Narrow (55%)
- %



SEM-XRF Analysis of Rare Earth Elements (REE's): Comparison with SEM-EDS

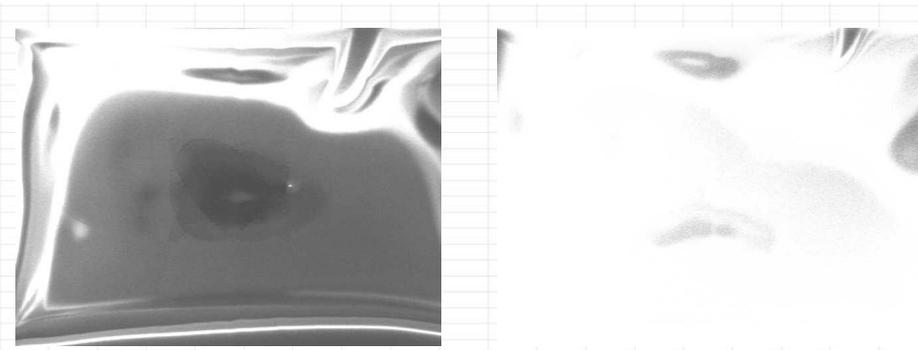
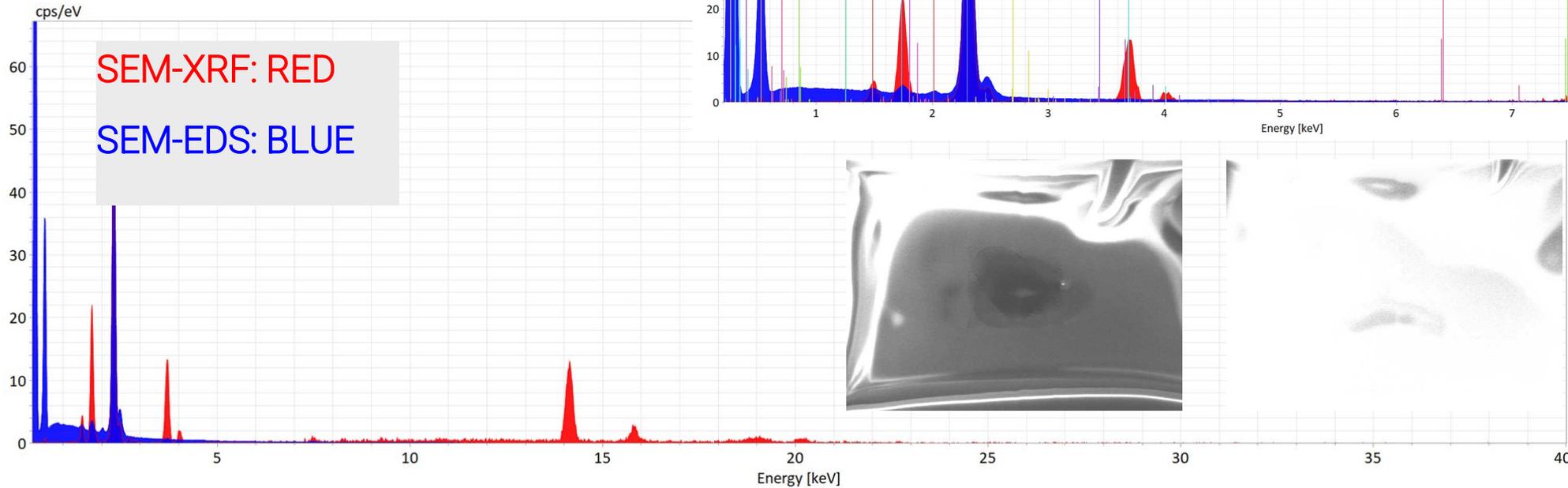
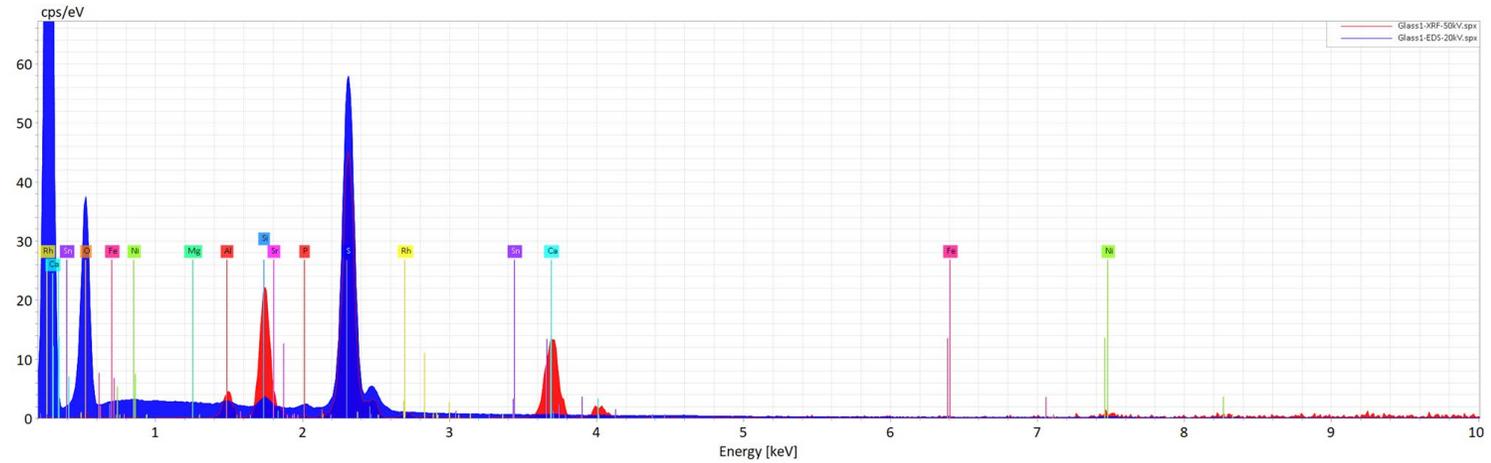
SEM-EDS is better for low energy lines

SEM-XRF is better for high energy lines

Glass Spectrum: SEM (20 kV), XRF (50 kV)

Bottom: 0 to 40 keV

Right: 0 to 10 keV



SEM Image showing charging under e-beam:
5 kV (left) and 20 kV (right)

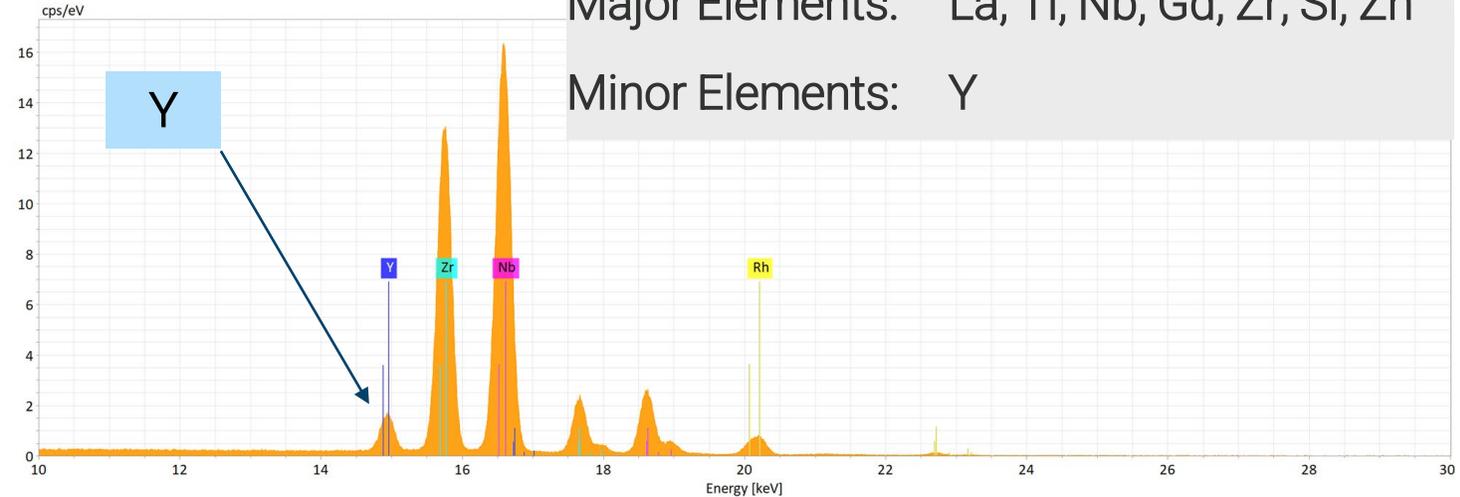
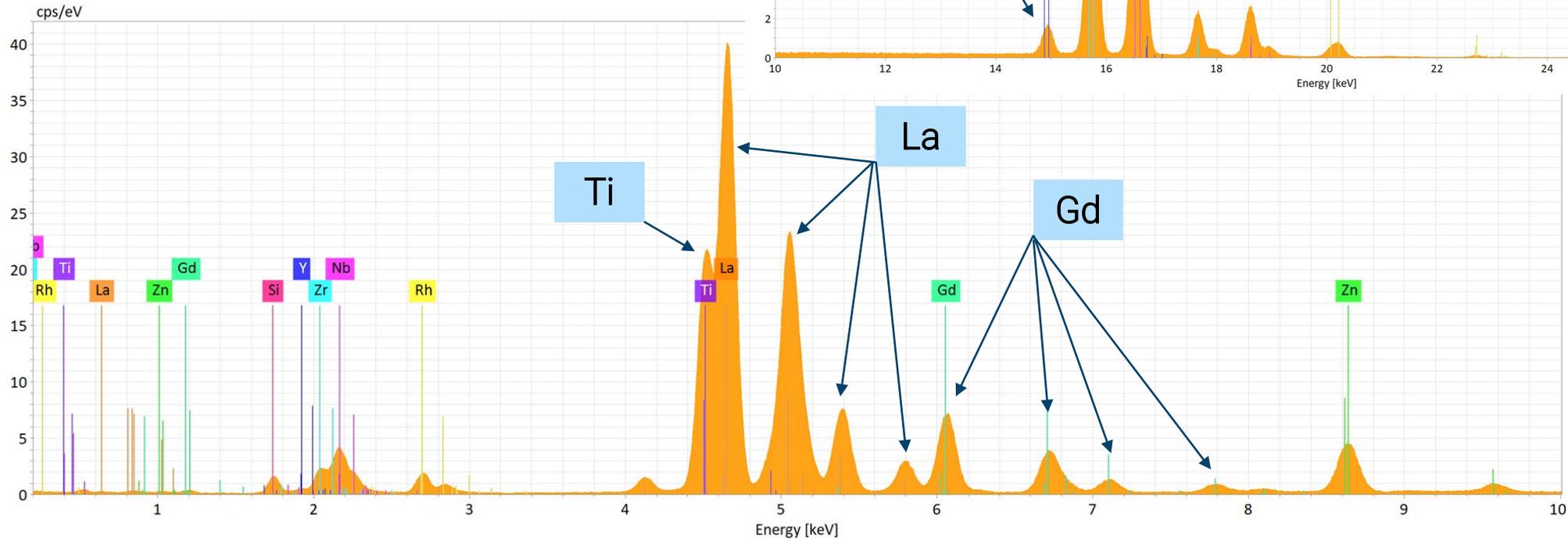
SEM-XRF Analysis of Rare Earth Elements (REE's): Applications – High Index Glass

Spectrum X-axis Range:

Bottom: 0 to 10 keV

Right: 10 to 30 keV

Major Elements: La, Ti, Nb, Gd, Zr, Si, Zn
Minor Elements: Y



SEM-XRF Analysis of Rare Earth Elements (REE's): Applications – High Index Glass

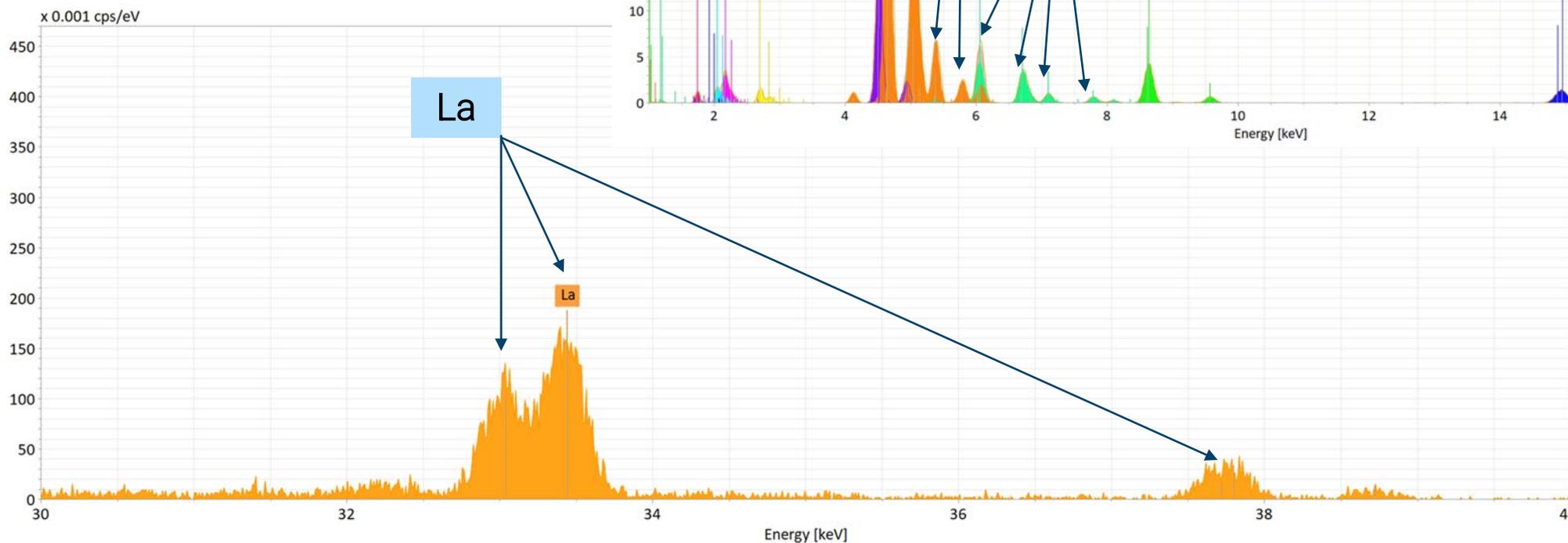
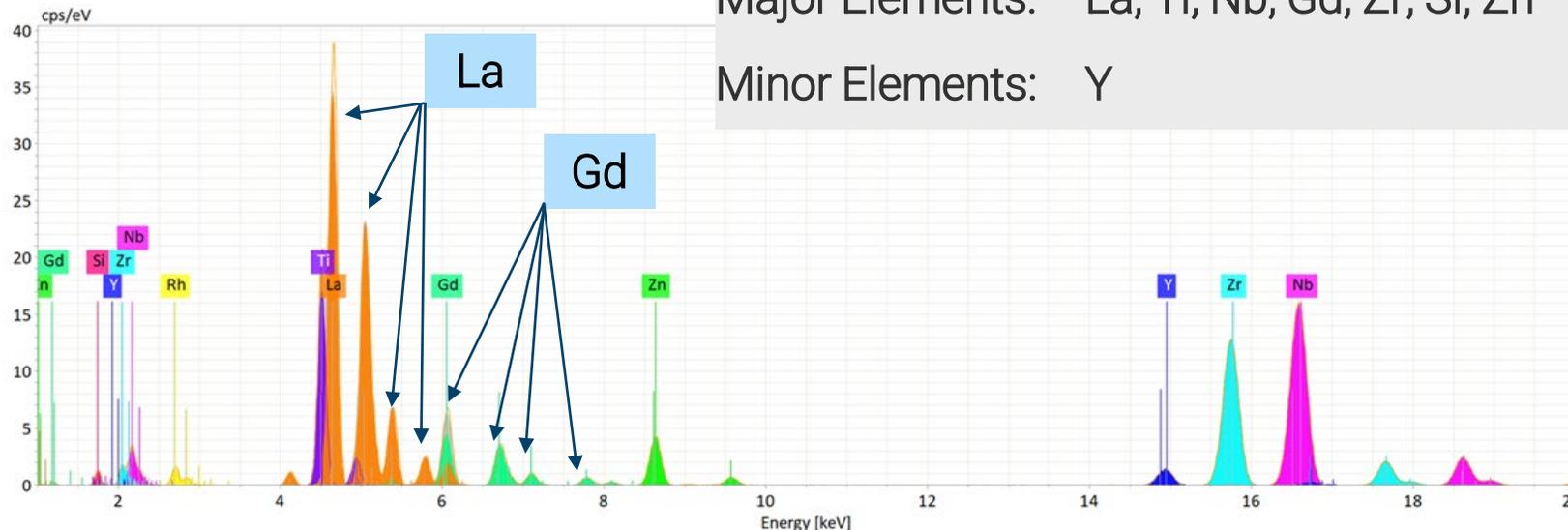
Spectrum X-axis Range:

Bottom: 30 to 40 keV

Right: 1 to 20 keV (Deconvolution)

Major Elements: La, Ti, Nb, Gd, Zr, Si, Zn

Minor Elements: Y

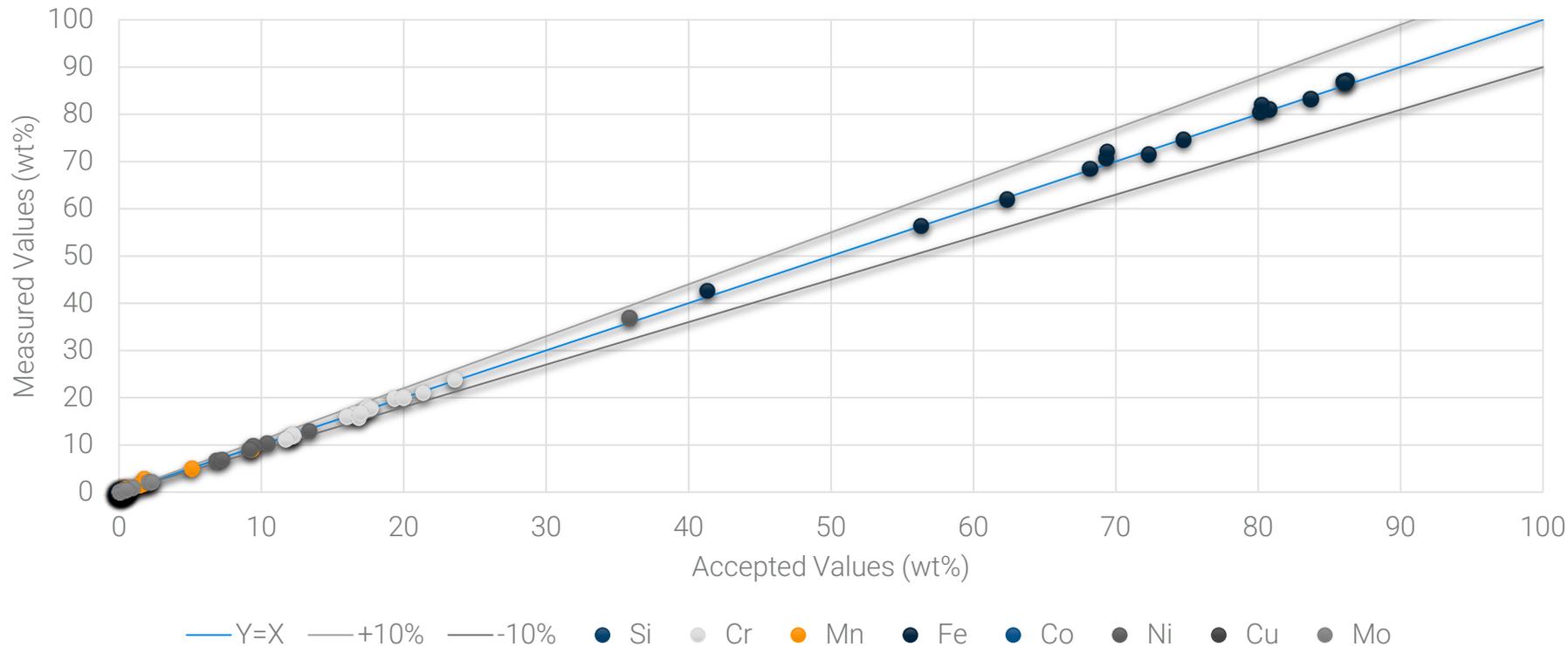


Analysis of Steels and Alloys

Excitation: Micro-XRF; Detector: EDS

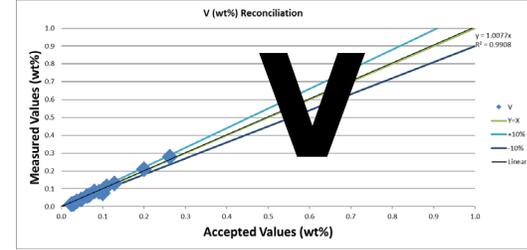
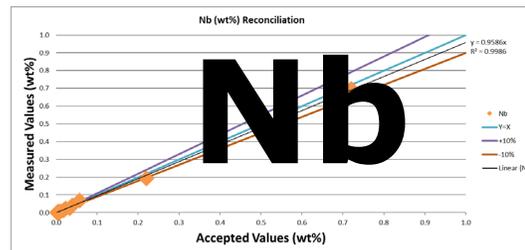
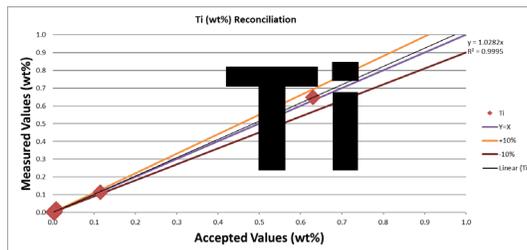
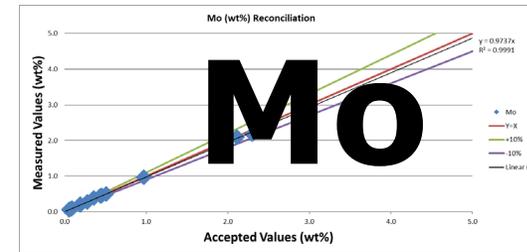
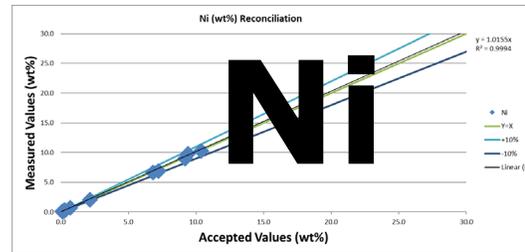
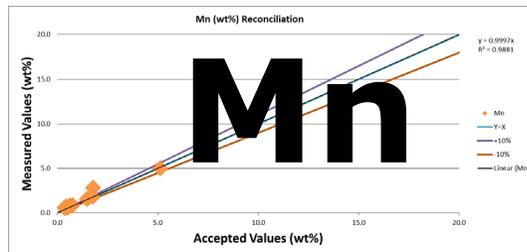
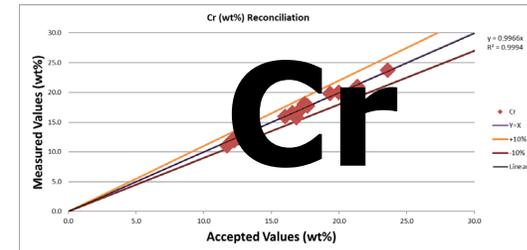
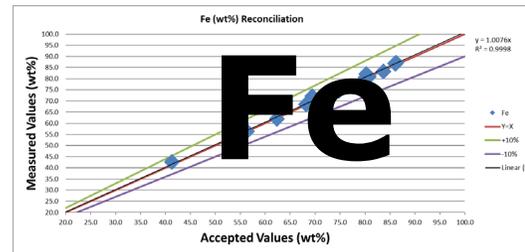
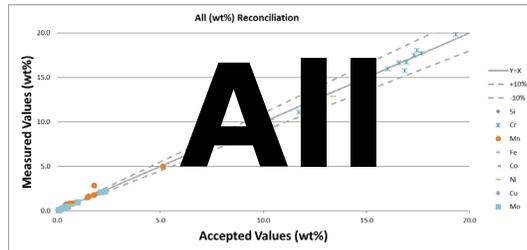
Analytical Conditions Point Analysis: 50 kV, 600 uA, No Filter, 130 kcps, under vacuum, Working Distance 12 mm, 120 seconds

All (wt%) Reconciliation



Analysis of Steels and Alloys Individual Elements

Micro-XRF Excitation. EDS Detector. SEM-XRF-EDS.



Analysis of Steels and Alloys

Combined Analysis

Sample 32: AISI 422-205B

| Element | Certified | MicroXRF | SEM-EDS | Combined |
|---------|-----------|----------|---------|----------|
| C | 0.22 | | | |
| N | 0.05 | | | |
| Al | 0.01 | | | |
| Si | 0.37 | | 0.34 | 0.33 |
| P | 0.01 | | | |
| S | 0.00 | | | |
| Ti | 0.00 | 0.003 | | 0.00 |
| V | 0.26 | 0.279 | | 0.26 |
| Cr | 11.72 | 11.084 | 11.37 | 11.32 |
| Mn | 0.68 | 0.797 | 0.87 | 0.75 |
| Fe | 83.70 | 83.243 | 84.55 | 83.20 |
| Co | 0.03 | 0.024 | 0.49 | 0.02 |
| Ni | 0.70 | 0.692 | 0.54 | 0.67 |
| Cu | 0.15 | 0.177 | | 0.15 |
| Nb | 0.02 | 0.012 | | 0.01 |
| Mo | 0.97 | 0.970 | 0.95 | 0.94 |

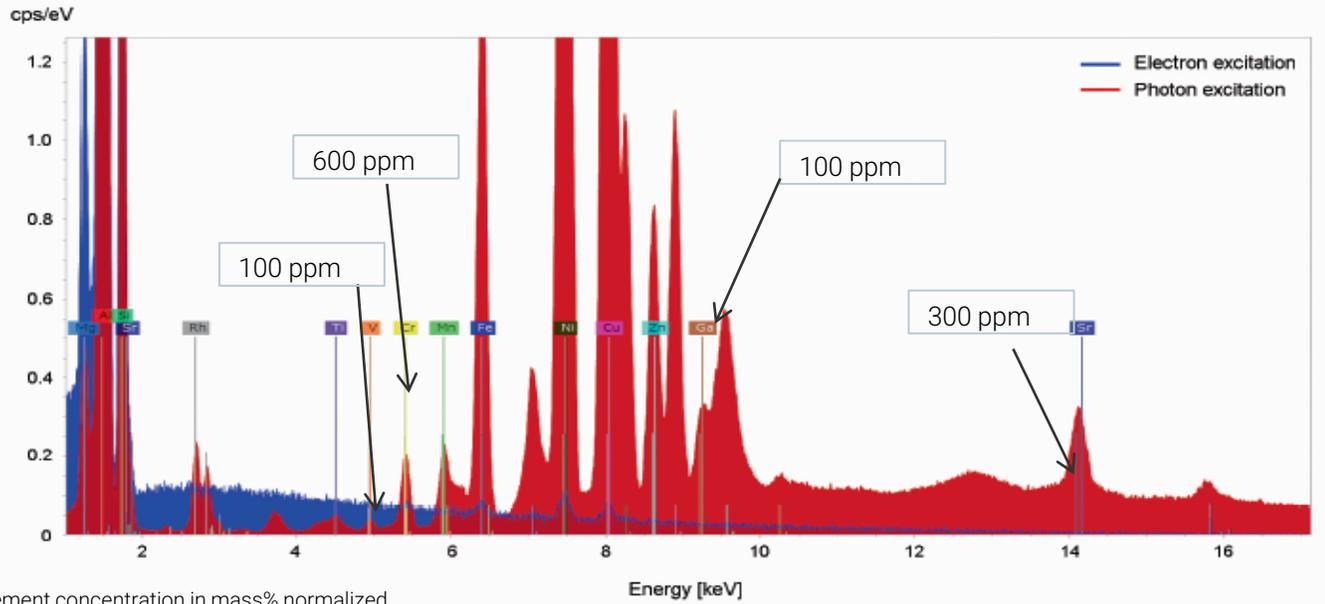


SEM-EDS/WDS
Low-Z elements

SEM-XRF
High-Z elements

Al Alloy

Improved LOD comparison EDS - XRF



Element concentration in mass% normalized

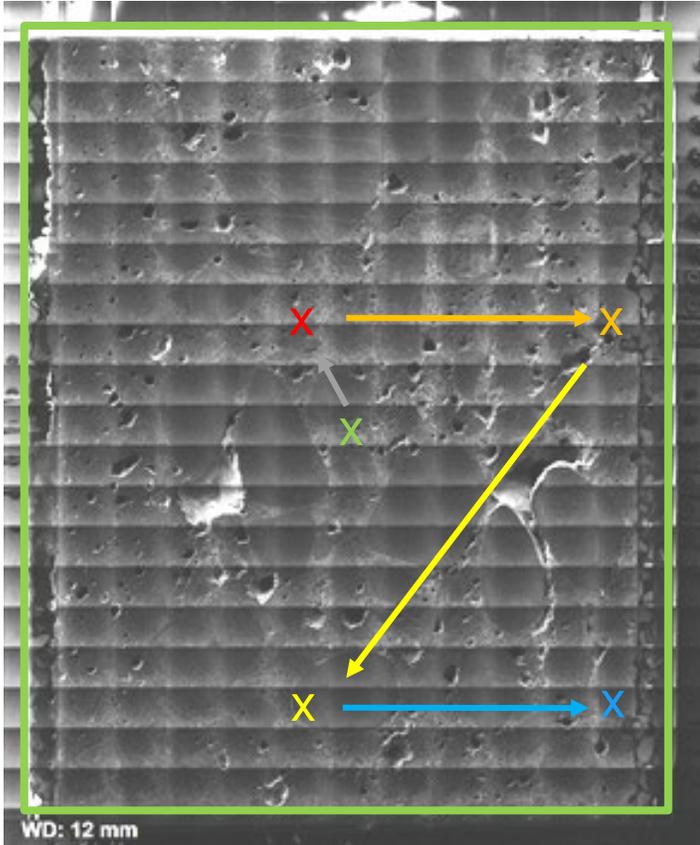
| | Mg | Al | Si | Ti | V | Cr | Mn | Fe | Ni | Cu | Zn | Ga | Sr |
|---|------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|------|------|------|-------|------|-------|
| EDS mean concentration value | 1.20 | 85.09 | 11.43 | n.d. | n.d. | b.d. | n.d. | 0.36 | 0.91 | 0.91 | 0.10 | n.d. | n.d. |
| Micro-XRF mean concentration value | 0.85 | 83.87 | 12.83 | 0.03 | 0.01 | 0.06 | 0.03 | 0.36 | 0.93 | 0.93 | 0.10 | 0.01 | 0.03 |
| Certified values | 1.1 | 84.52 | 12.00 | 0.011 | 0.0099 | 0.051 | 0.033 | 0.31 | 0.89 | 0.89 | 0.098 | 0.02 | 0.026 |



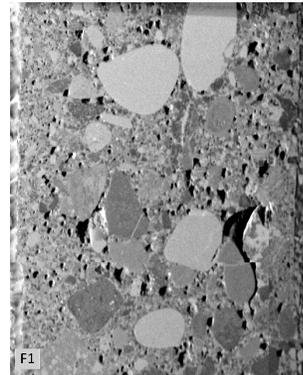
Fig. 1 Photograph of the analyzed specimen Alcoa Deltalloy® 4032

Large Area Maps

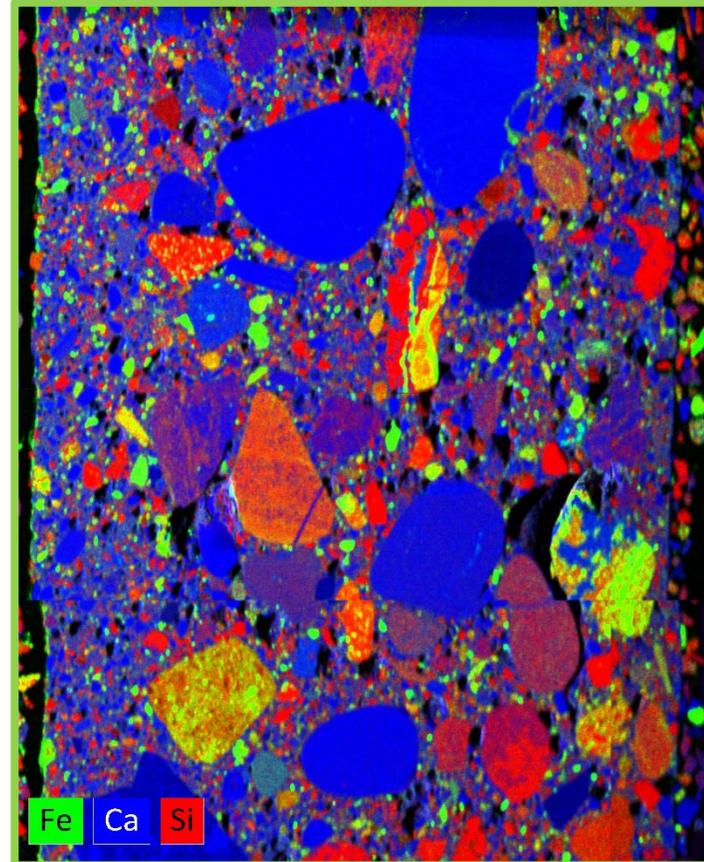
Rapid Stage + SEM Stage: SEM-XRF



Photograph of the sample



X-Ray Intensity Map



Large Samples:

Concrete Block: 61.8 mm x 74.4 mm

Such samples require a combination of the Specialised high speed stage + SEM Stage.

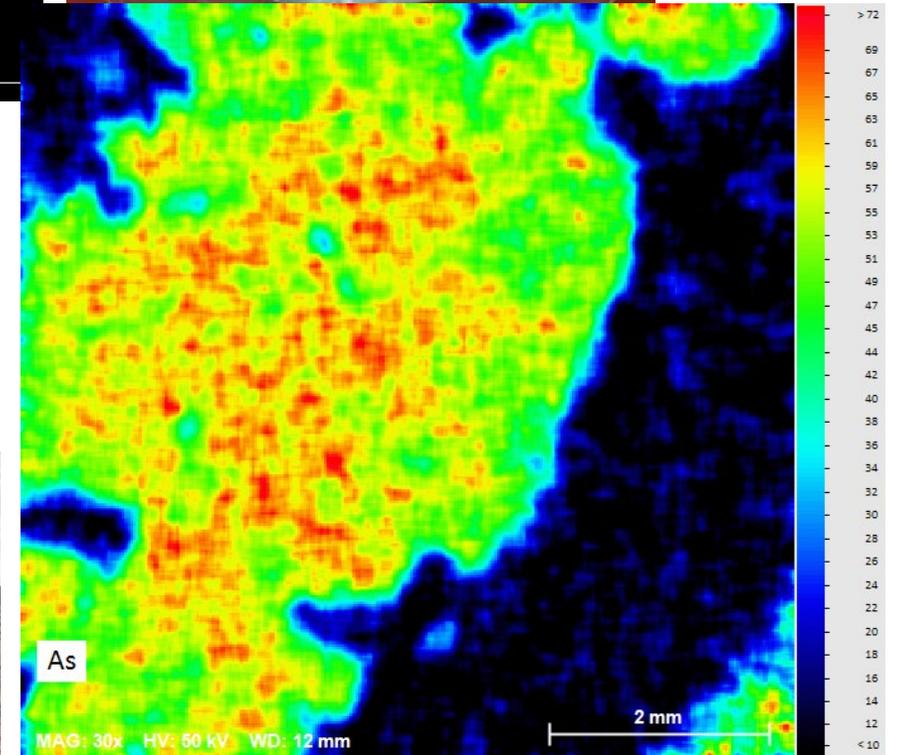
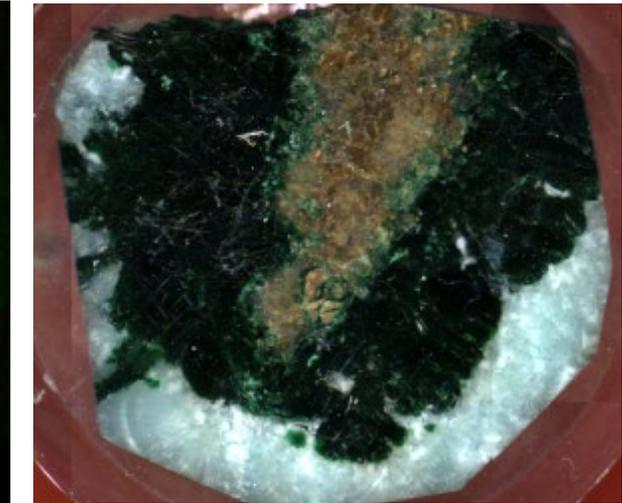
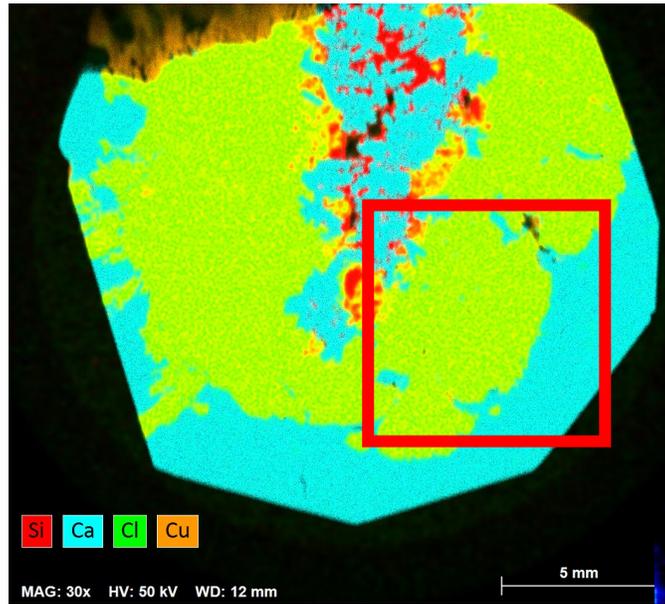
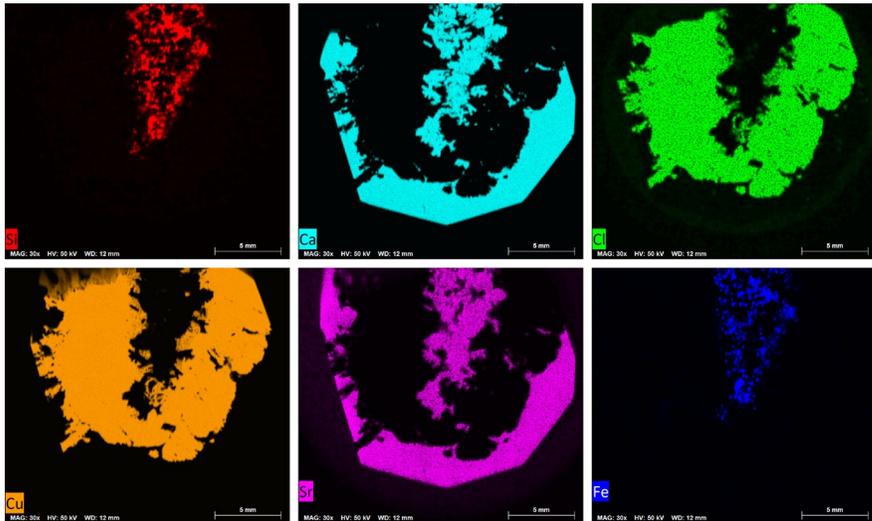
The sample is analysed in 4 maps which are mosaiced at the completion of the analysis.

Image Extension: SEM is 14 x 22

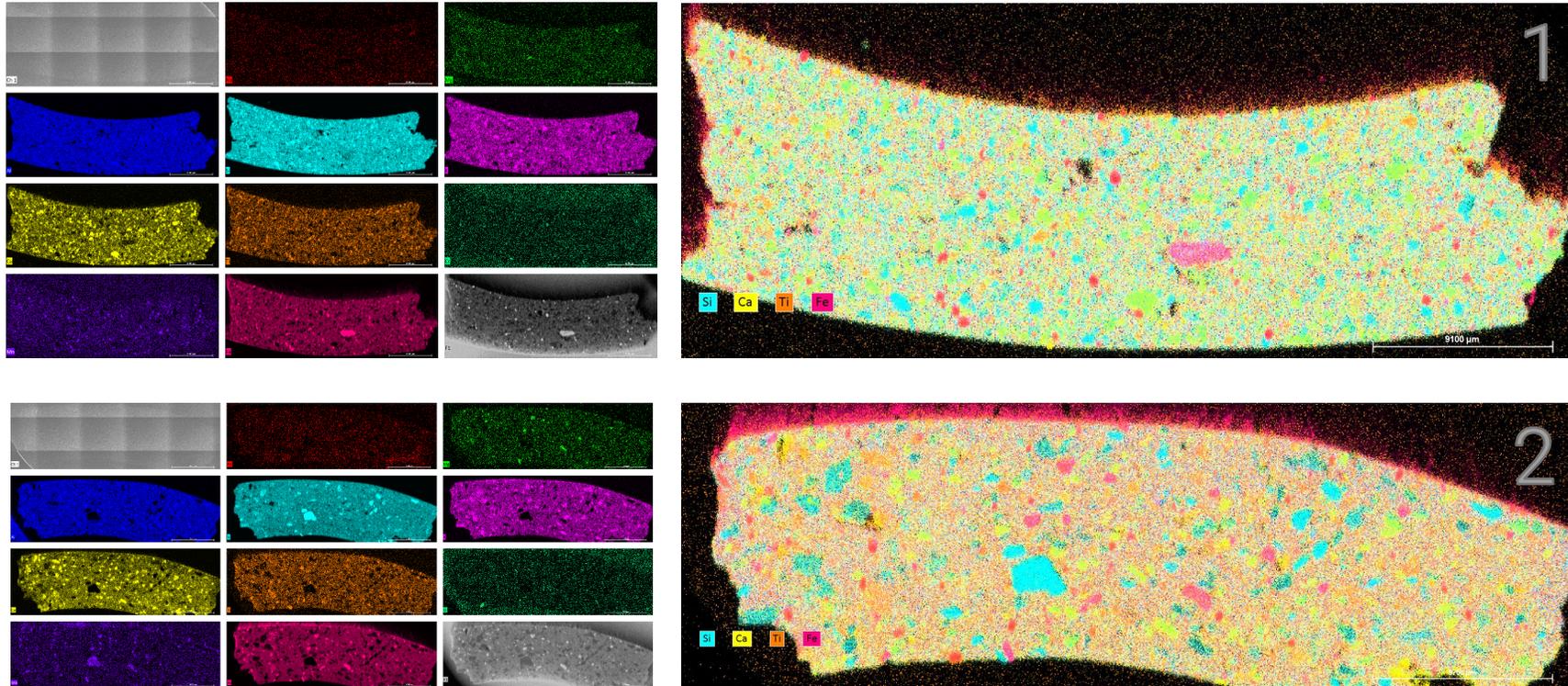
SEM-XRF (XTrace): Archaeology and Art Conservation

Analysis of Cu-bearing Ores Atacamite

Analysis of Atacamite:
Use of Filters for Trace elements

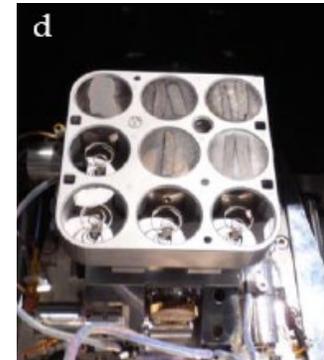


Analysis of Ceramics: Large Area Maps



Ceramic Samples from Northern Chile

Identify different mineral phases – probable different source material

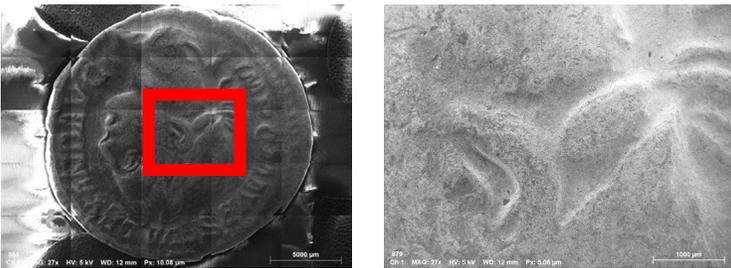
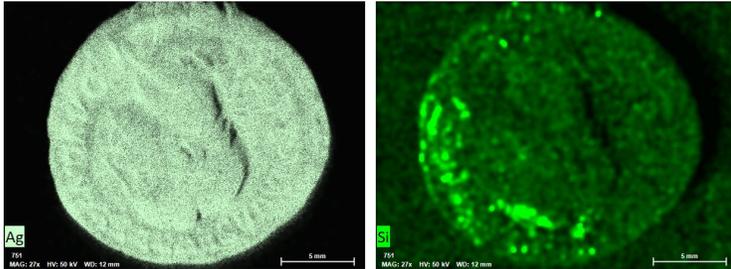
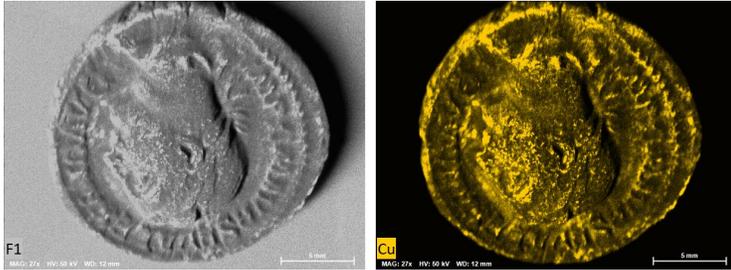


**Top Row: SEM, Na, Mg; Second Row: Al, Si, K;
Third Row: Ca, Ti, Cr; Bottom Row: Mn, Fe, F1**

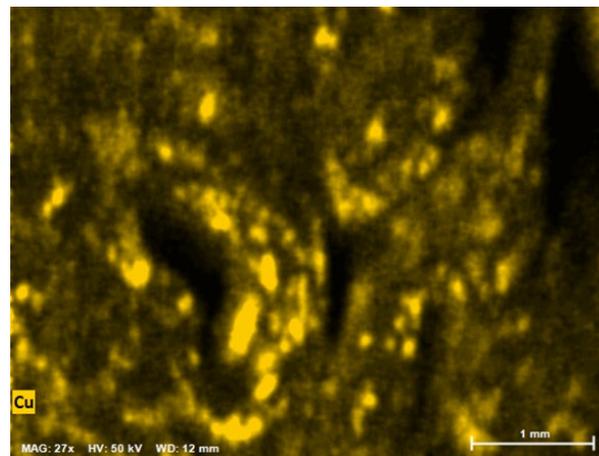
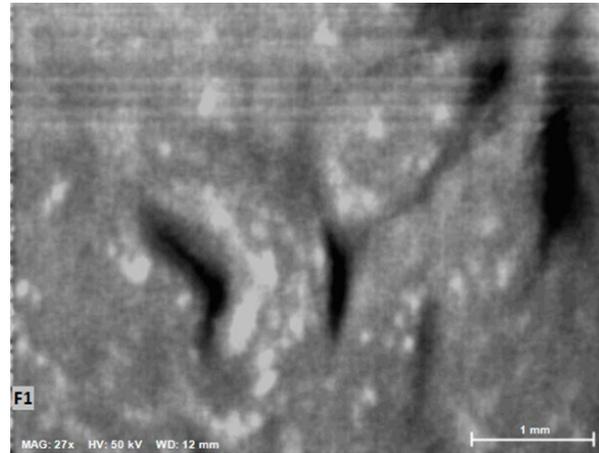
SEM-XRF: Analysis of Roman Coins



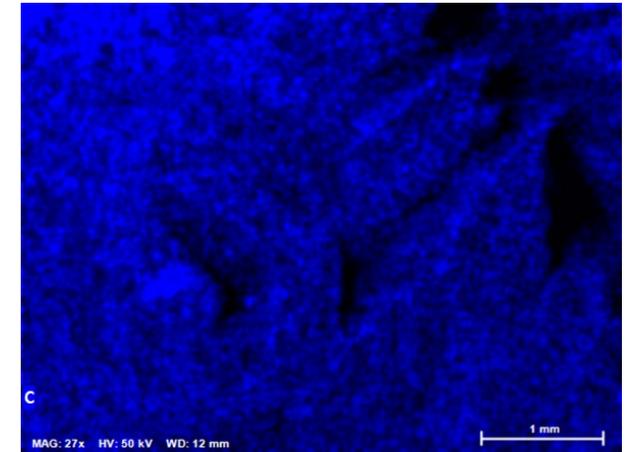
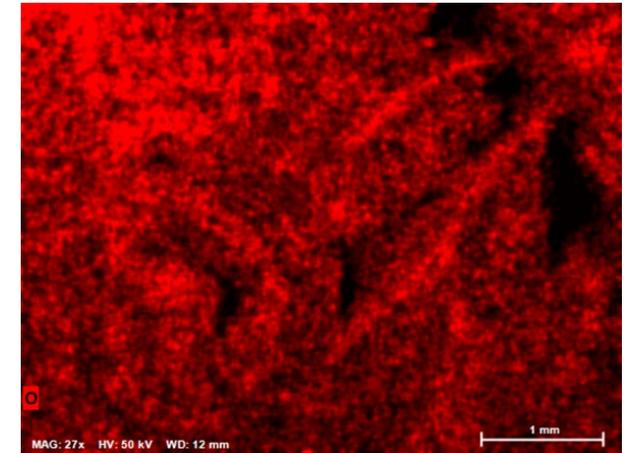
Areas of Combined XRF and e-Beam analysis



Dominated by XRF Signal

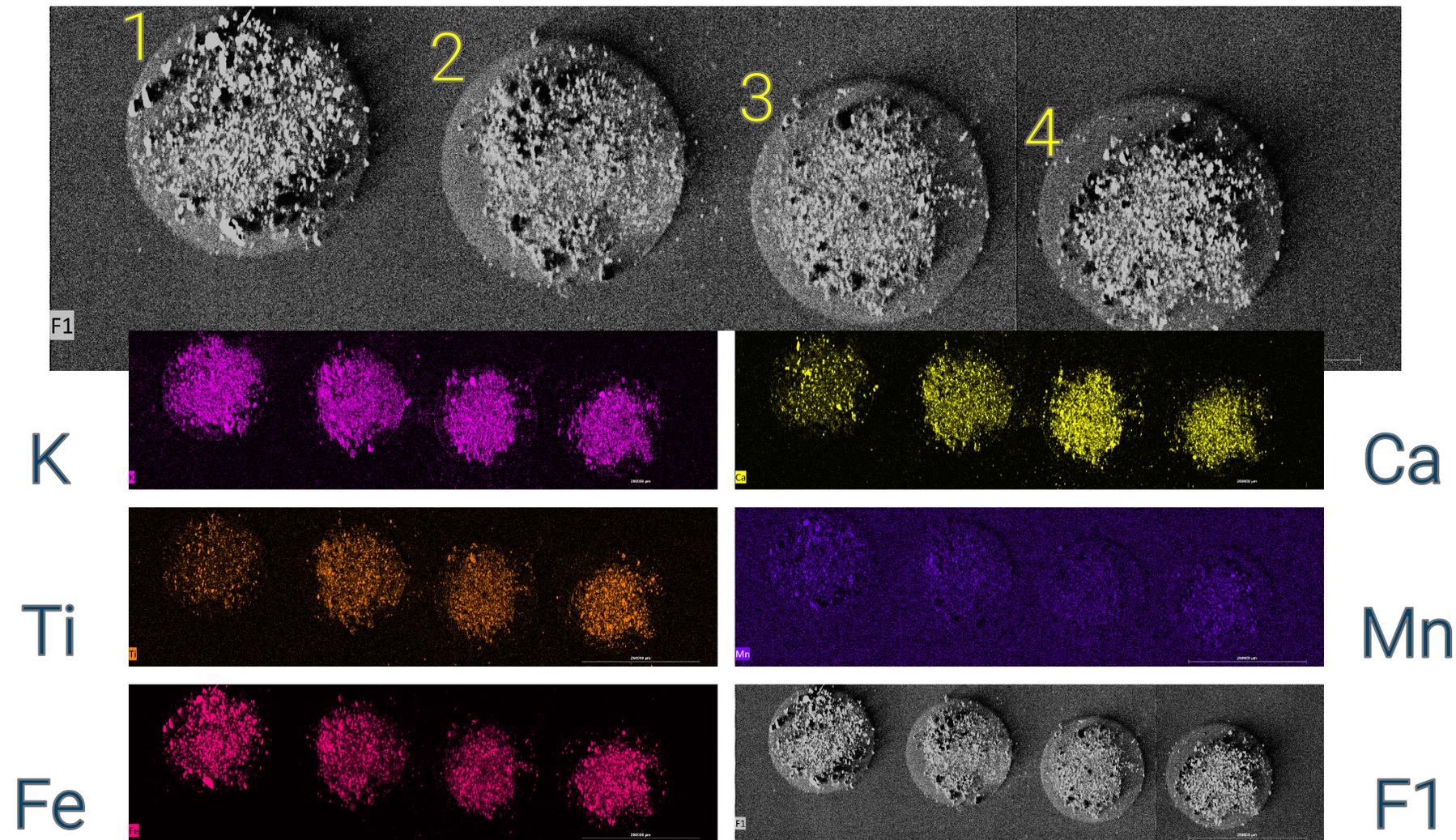


Dominated by eBeam Signal

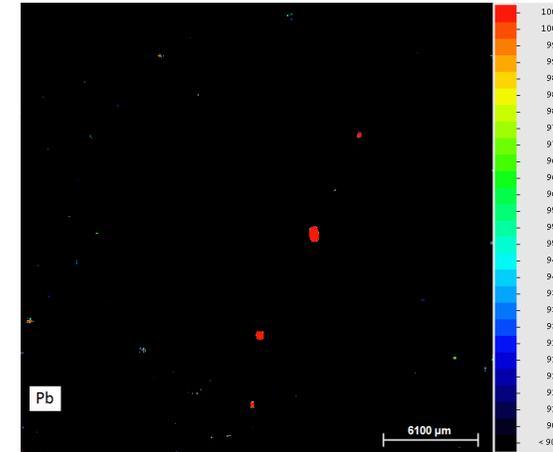
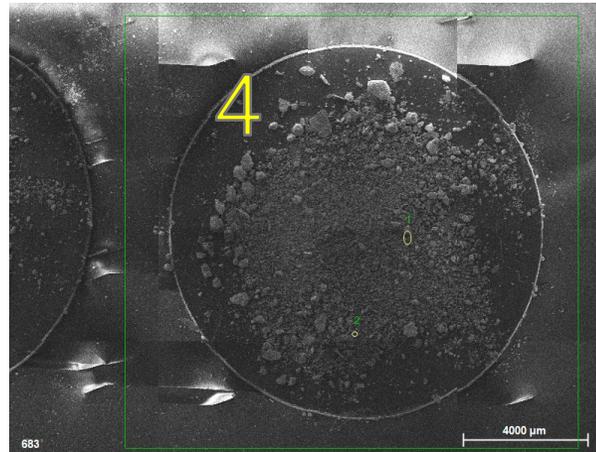


SEM-XRF (XTrace): Environmental Science

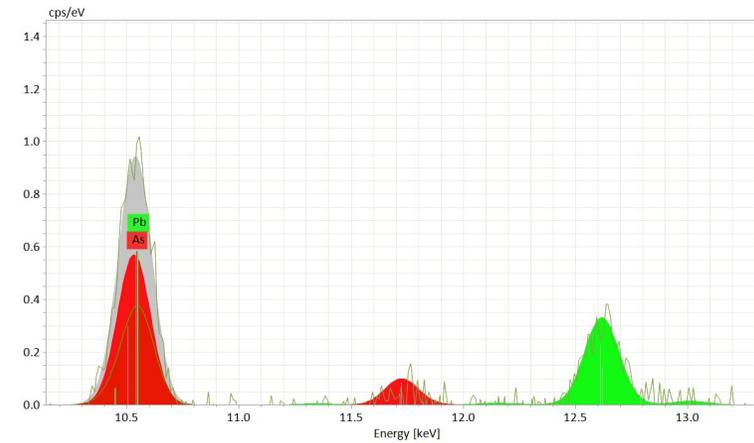
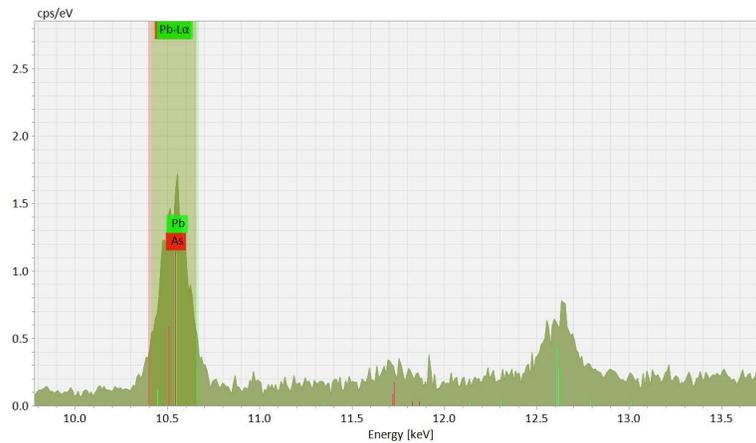
Analysis of Soil Samples: Large Area Maps



Analysis of Soil Samples: Large Area Maps



Pb



After Maximum Pixel Spectra determines presence of Trace elements.

Detailed investigation confirms presence of both Pb and As

Analysis of Soil Bedrock: Large Area Maps

Polished Sections:

Standard Size: 45 x 30 mm

Such samples can be completely analysed using the Specialised high speed stage only.

Example: Soil Sample from Korea

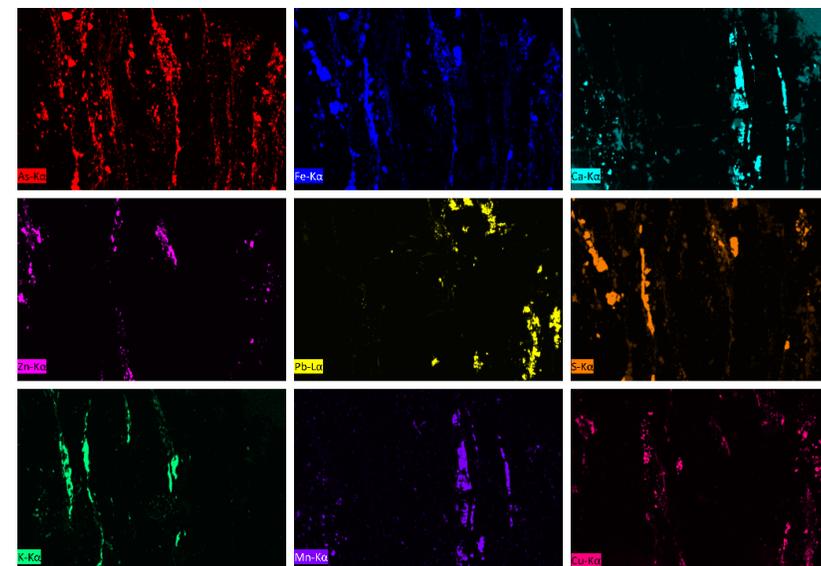
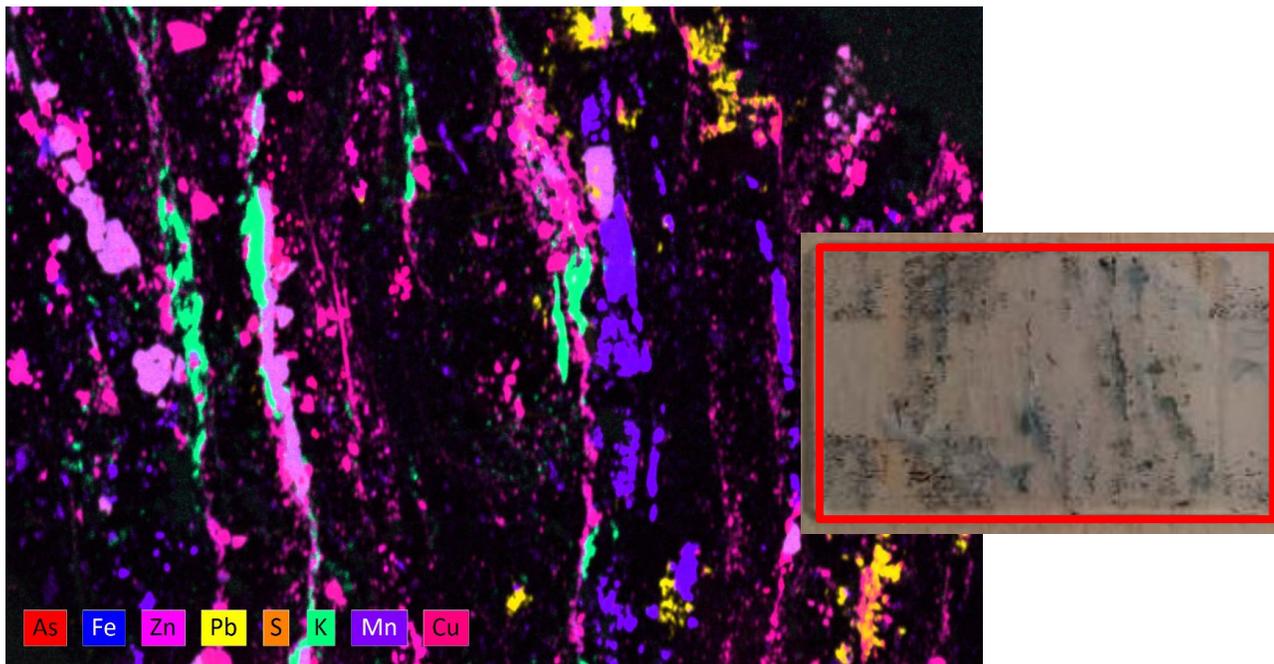
Analytical Parameters:

Tube Voltage: Rh at 50 kV

Anode Current: 600 uA

Pixel Spacing: 25 um

Analytical Time: 755 mins



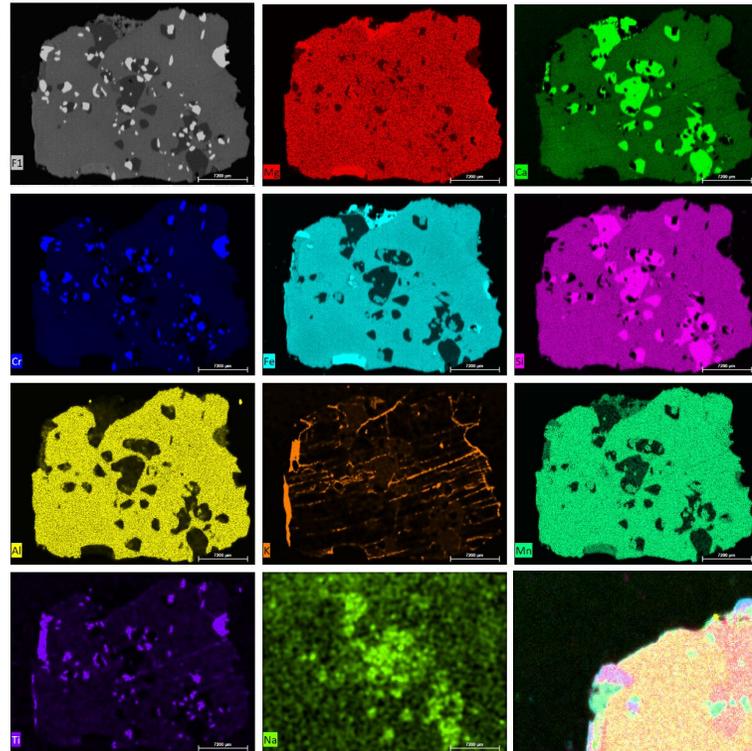
Top: Elemental Maps; Bottom Left: Mixed Elemental Map; Bottom, Right: X-Ray Intensity Map.



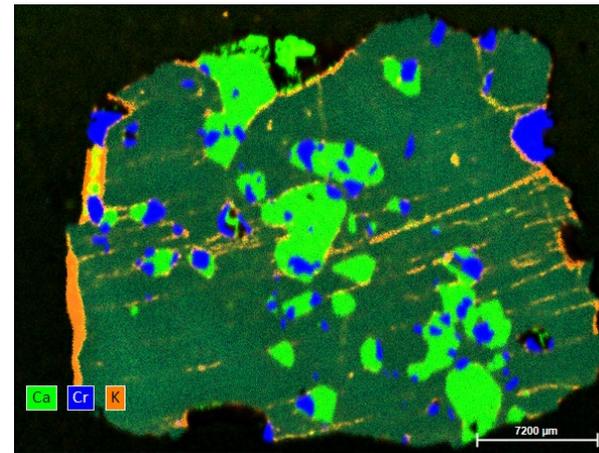
SEM-XRF (XTrace): Geology

SEM-XRF: Hypermap Results

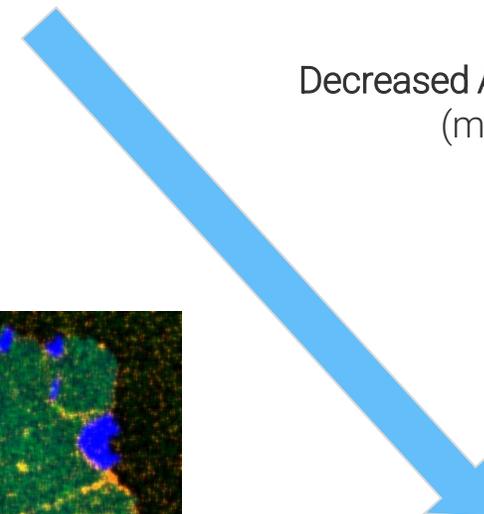
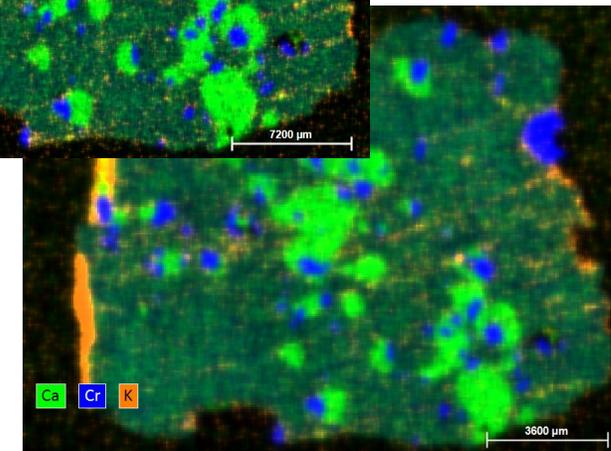
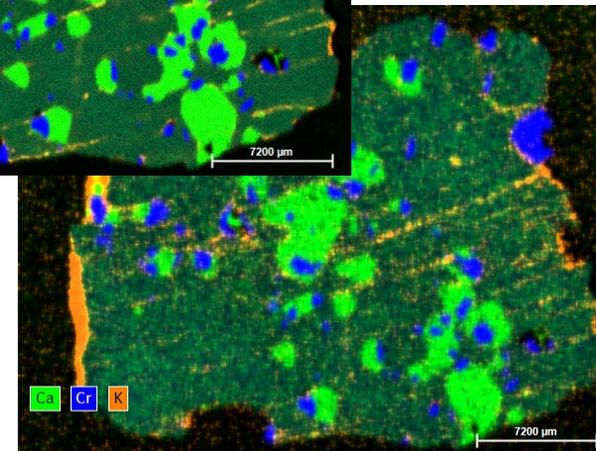
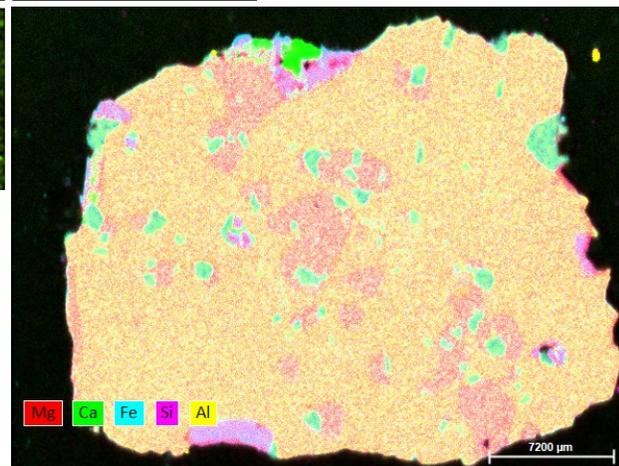
Analytical Parameters



Mantle Peridotite:
Garnet
Chromite
Clinopyroxene
Olivine



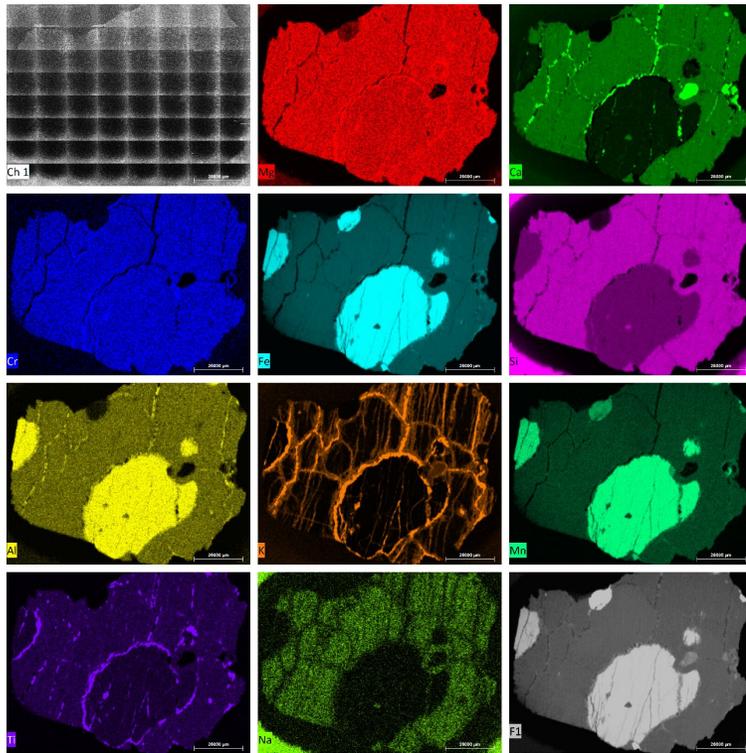
2 mm



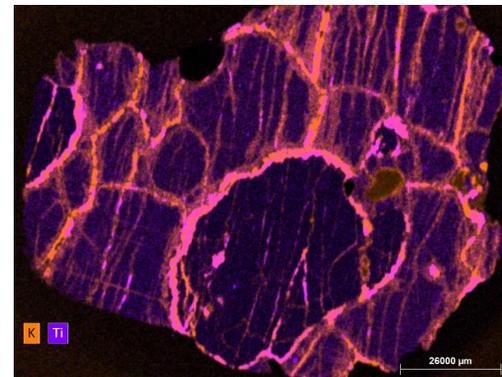
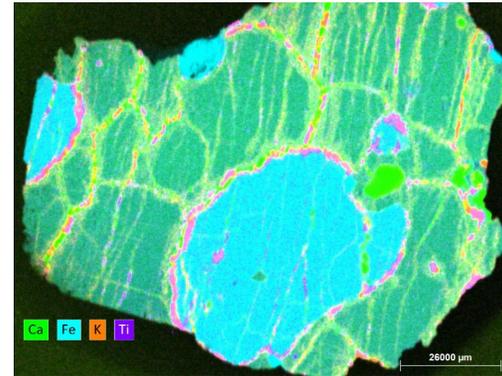
Decreased Analytical Time :
(minutes)
577
23
11

SEM-XRF-EDS: Hypermap Results

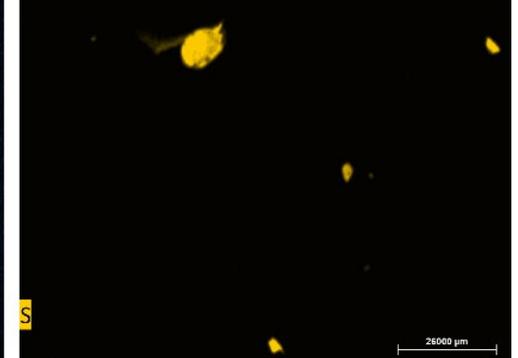
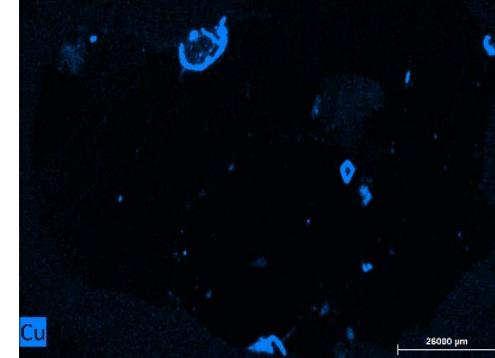
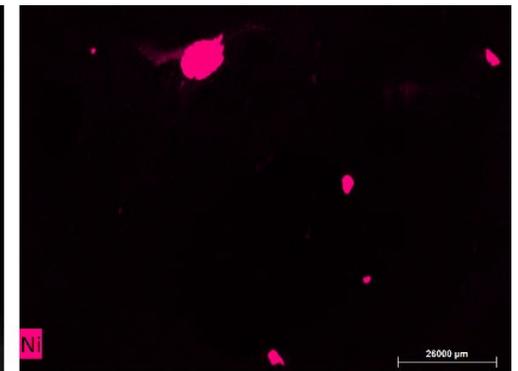
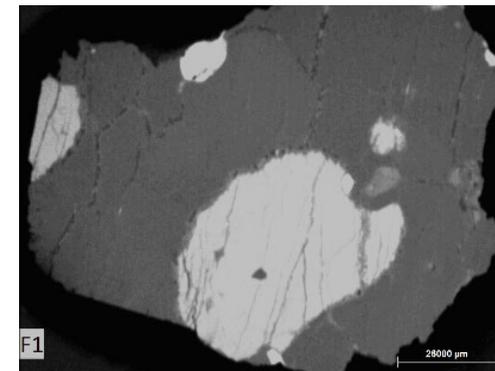
Analytical Parameters



Mantle Eclogite:
Clinopyroxene
Garnet



Metasomatic
Interaction



2 mm

Trace Phases

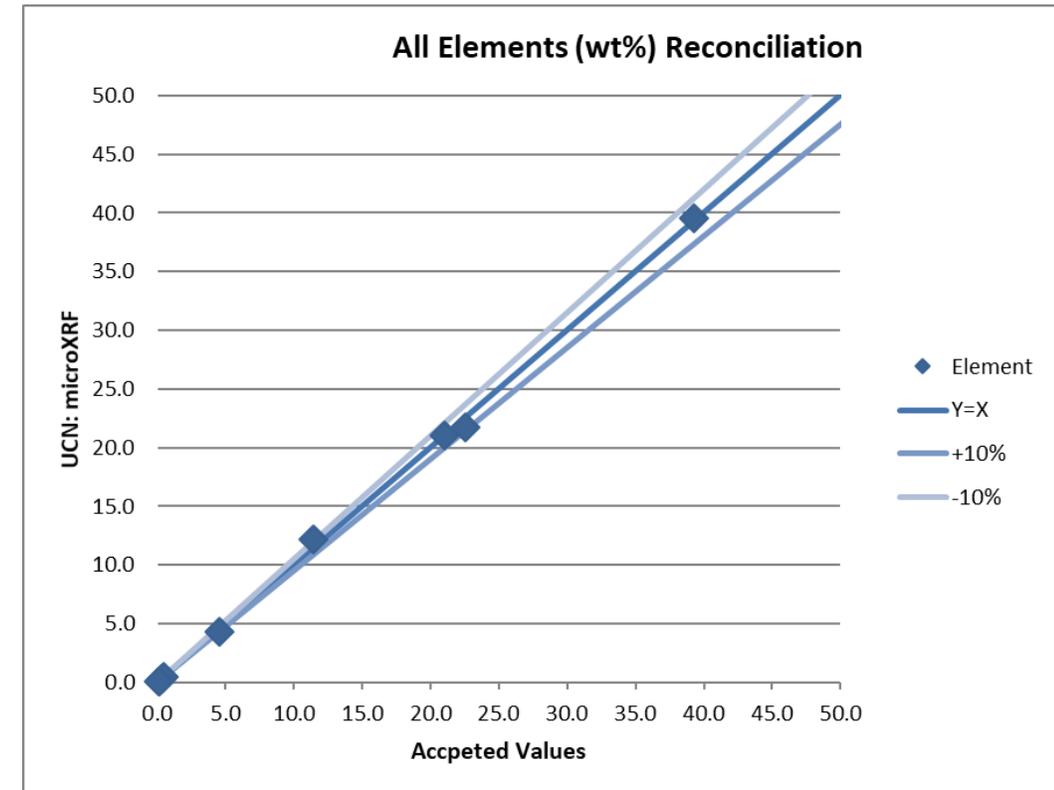


Quantitative Microanalysis with SEM-XRF

Point Analysis - major elements

Comparison XRF-EDS spectra for the same point: analytical precision

| Element | Unit | EPMA Values | XRF-EDS Values | Std. Dev. | Maximum | Minimum | Range |
|---------|------|-------------|----------------|-----------|---------|---------|-------|
| SiO2 | (%) | 39.28 | 39.22 | 0.18 | 39.48 | 38.89 | 0.58 |
| TiO2 | (%) | 0.28 | 0.30 | 0.02 | 0.33 | 0.26 | 0.07 |
| Al2O3 | (%) | 22.51 | 21.68 | 0.31 | 22.21 | 21.23 | 0.98 |
| Cr2O3 | (%) | 0.12 | 0.11 | 0.01 | 0.11 | 0.09 | 0.02 |
| FeO | (%) | 21.00 | 21.41 | 0.20 | 21.85 | 21.18 | 0.67 |
| MnO | (%) | 0.47 | 0.47 | 0.01 | 0.50 | 0.46 | 0.04 |
| MgO | (%) | 11.44 | 12.22 | 0.32 | 12.62 | 11.57 | 1.05 |
| CaO | (%) | 4.57 | 4.36 | 0.05 | 4.45 | 4.29 | 0.16 |

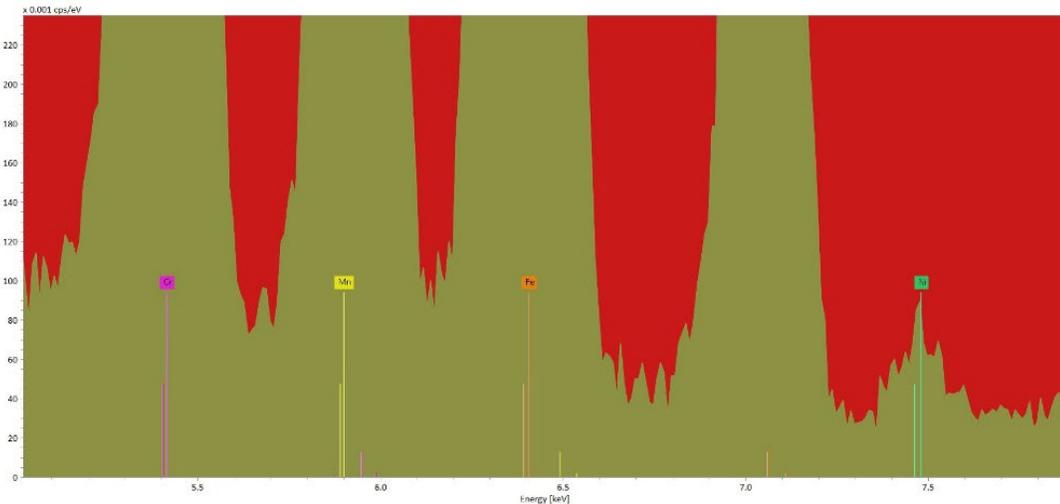
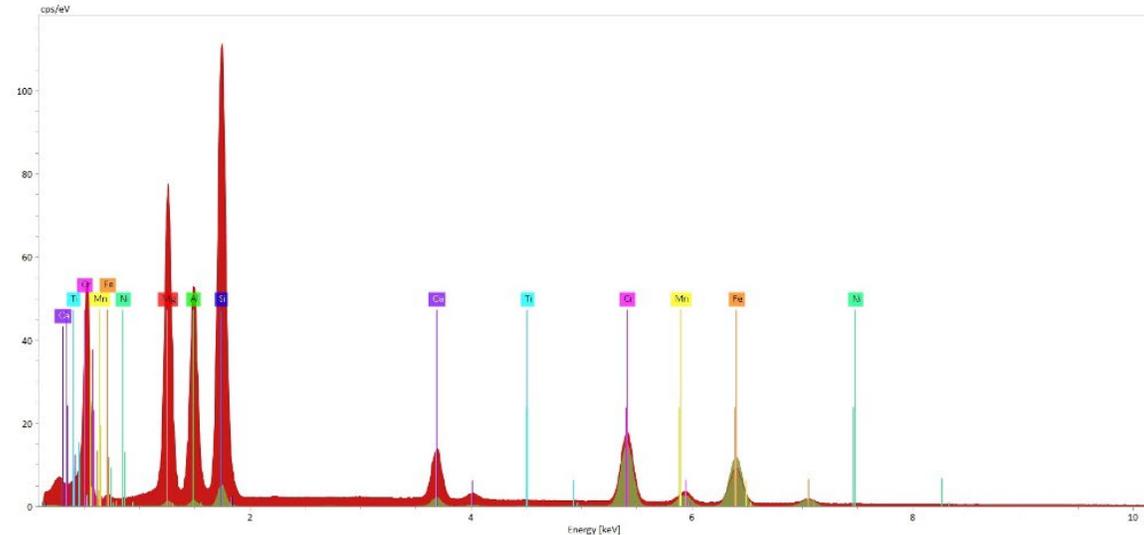


Quantitative Microanalysis with SEM-XRF

Point Analysis – major and trace elements

Trace elements possible with Micro-XRF

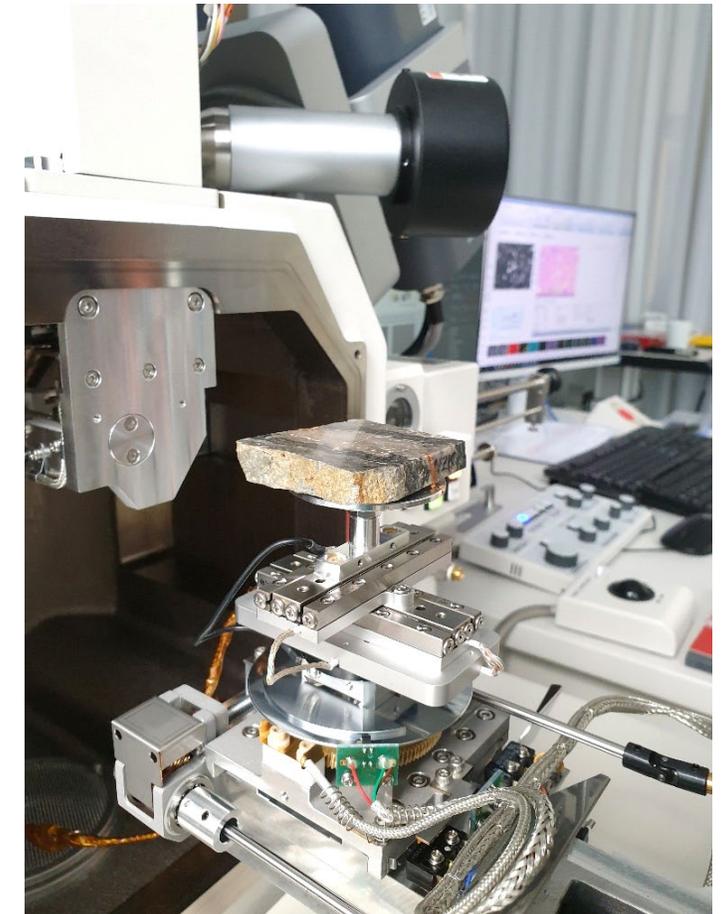
| Element | Unit | 90 sec | 120 sec | 180 sec |
|---------|-------|--------|---------|---------|
| SiO2 | (%) | 39.04 | 39.17 | 39.20 |
| TiO2 | (%) | 0.28 | 0.28 | 0.29 |
| Al2O3 | (%) | 22.23 | 21.97 | 21.87 |
| Cr2O3 | (%) | 0.11 | 0.11 | 0.11 |
| FeO | (%) | 21.16 | 21.05 | 21.02 |
| MnO | (%) | 0.49 | 0.48 | 0.48 |
| MgO | (%) | 12.29 | 12.57 | 12.63 |
| CaO | (%) | 4.35 | 4.31 | 4.33 |
| Ni | (ppm) | 26 | 18 | 28 |
| Cu | (ppm) | 3 | 5 | 4 |
| Zn | (ppm) | 173 | 143 | 150 |
| Ga | (ppm) | 7 | 0 | 28 |
| Ge | (ppm) | 17 | 22 | 17 |
| As | (ppm) | 28 | 28 | 28 |
| Rb | (ppm) | 41 | 69 | 59 |
| Sr | (ppm) | 28 | 0 | 28 |
| Y | (ppm) | 2 | 28 | 3 |
| Zr | (ppm) | 157 | 157 | 171 |
| Nb | (ppm) | 1 | 28 | 0 |



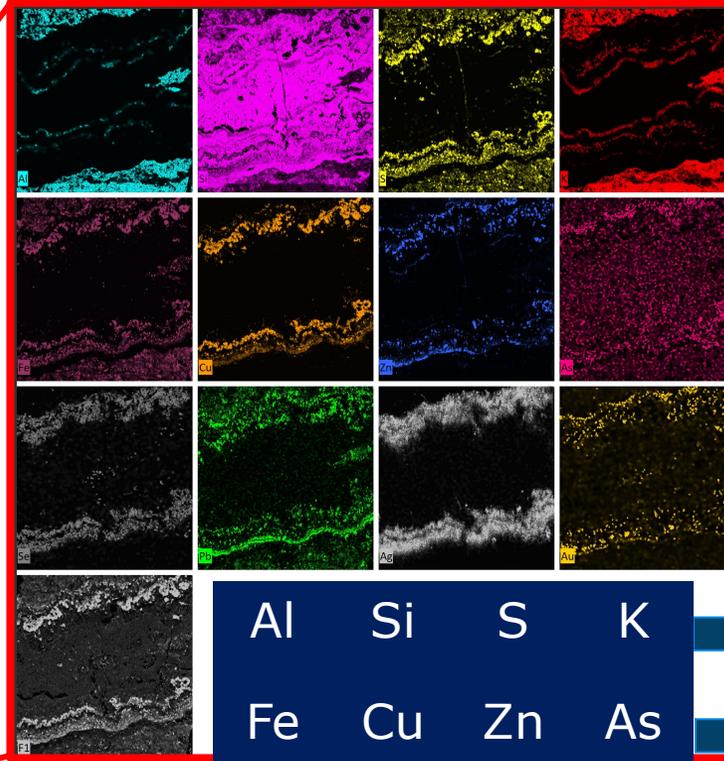
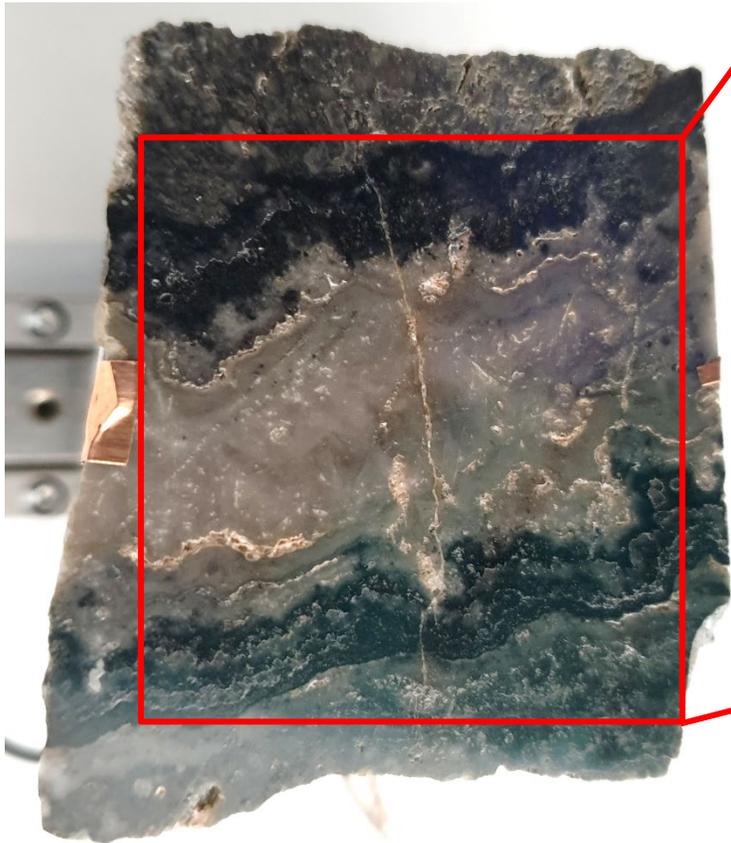
Case Study 1: Gold (Au) Epithermal Gold



| Mineral | Formula |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Native Gold | Au |
| Native Silver | Ag |
| <u>Sulphides</u> | |
| Pyrite | FeS ₂ |
| Chalcopyrite | CuFeS ₂ |
| Galena | PbS |
| Sphalerite | ZnS |
| <u>Gangue Mineralogy</u> | |
| Quartz | SiO ₂ |
| Adularia | KAlSi ₃ O ₈ |



SEM Micro-XRF Analysis: Epithermal Au Large Area Mapping



| | | | |
|----|----|----|----|
| Al | Si | S | K |
| Fe | Cu | Zn | As |
| Se | Pb | Ag | Au |

Beam: X-ray
High Voltage: 50 kV
Anode Current: 600 μ A
Analytical Spacing: 100 μ m
Dwell Time: 64000 μ s (64 ms)
Analytical Area: 4.5 x 4.5 cm
Total Analytical Time: 188 minutes

Spot Size: 25 μ m
Interaction Depth: 10 – 100 μ m

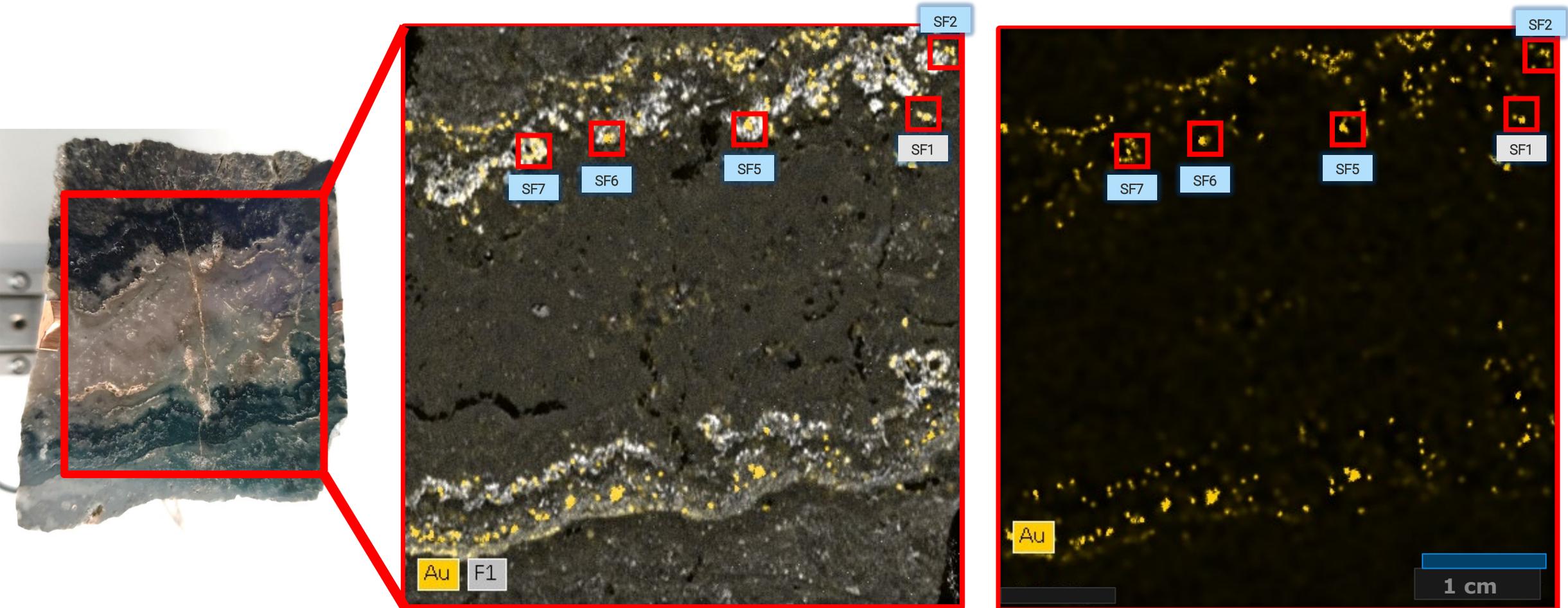
Host Rock Elements: Al, Si, K

Mineralisation: S, Fe, Cu, Zn, As

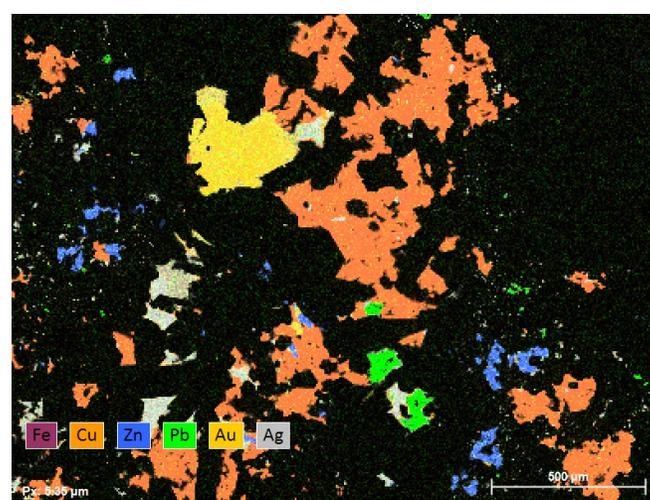
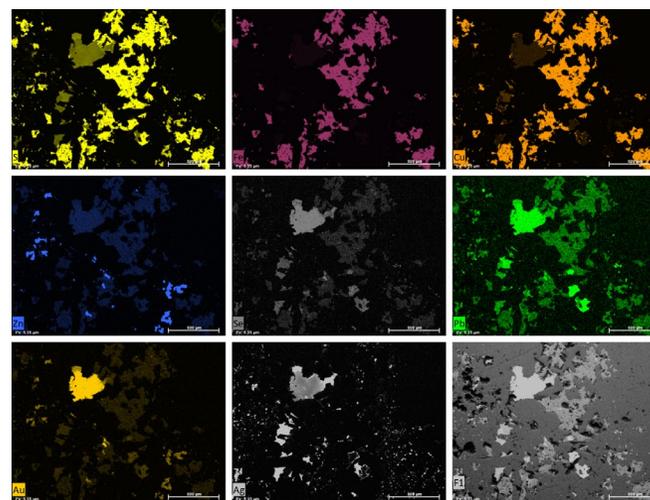
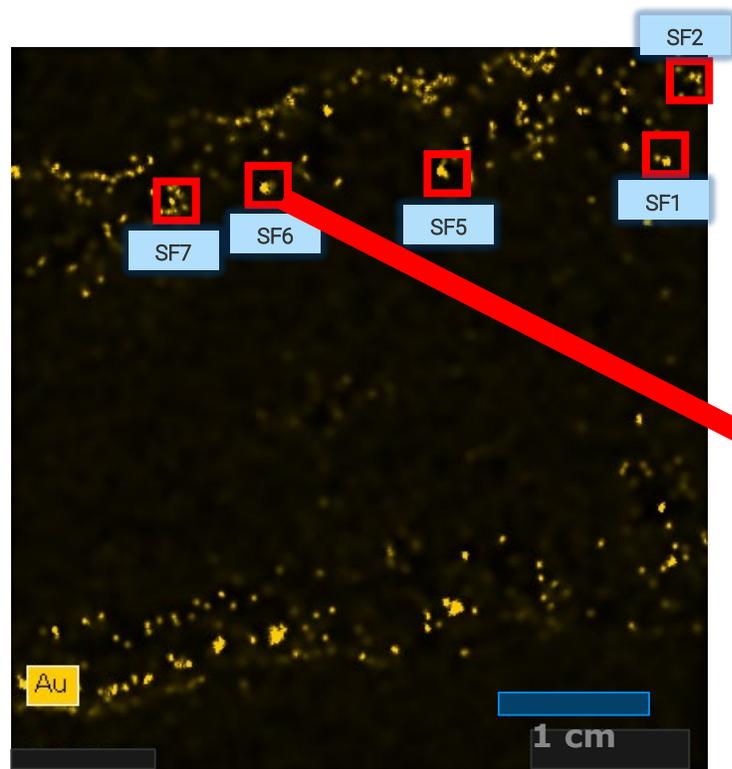
Economic Mineralisation: Au, Ag, Se

Epithermal Gold-bearing rock sample from Karangahake, New Zealand

Micro-XRF on SEM (X-ray Beam) Identifying Gold (Au) in the Sample



SEM-EDS (e-beam) Identifying Gold (Au) in the Sample

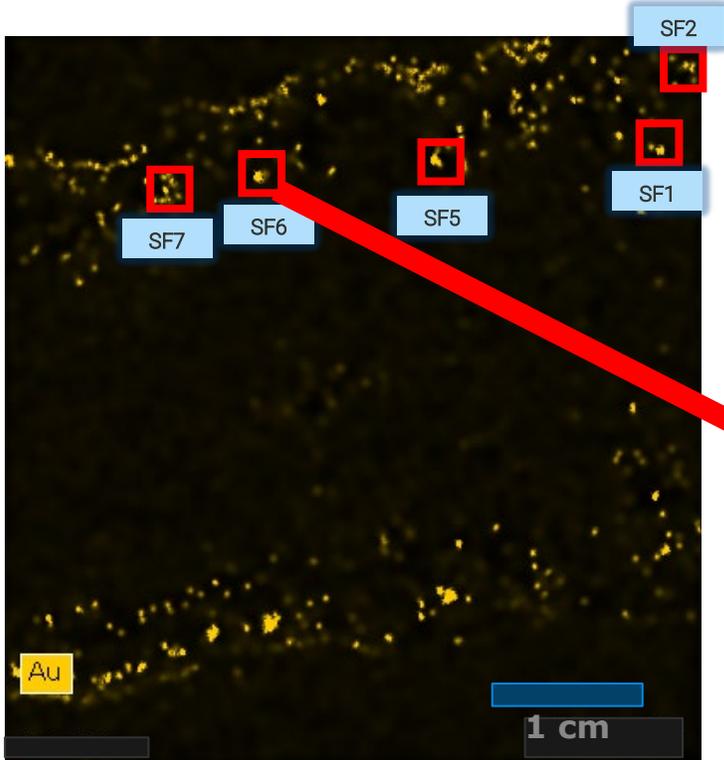


Single Field 6
Large Gold Grain;
Associated with Silver

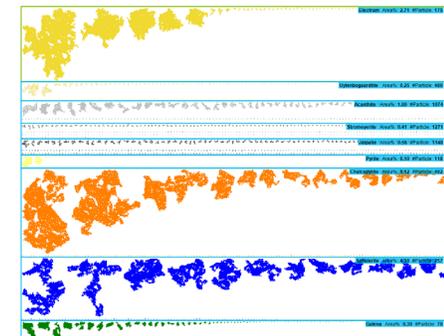
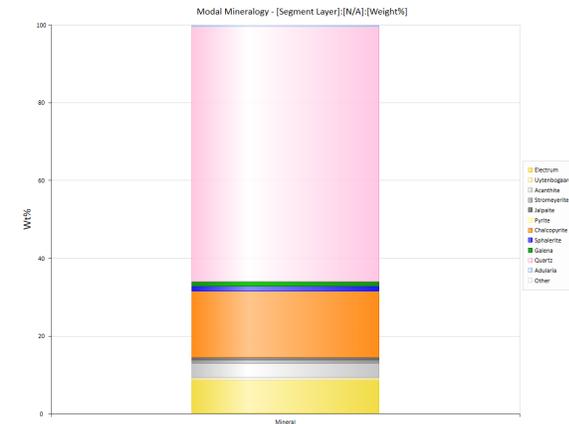
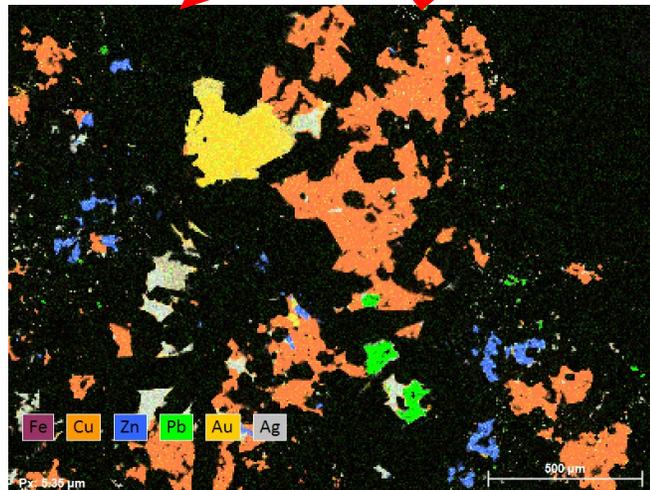
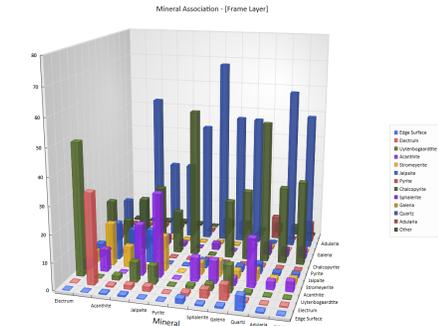
Other mineralization:
Pyrite (FeS_2),
Chalcopyrite (CuFeS_2),
Galena (PbS),
Sphalerite (ZnS)



SEM-EDS (e-beam) and AMICS Area: SF6



- Electrum
- Uytengbaardtite
- Acanthite
- Stromeyerite
- Jalpaite
- Pyrite
- Chalcopyrite
- Sphalerite
- Galena
- Quartz
- Adularia
- Other



SEM-XRF (XTrace): Forensics

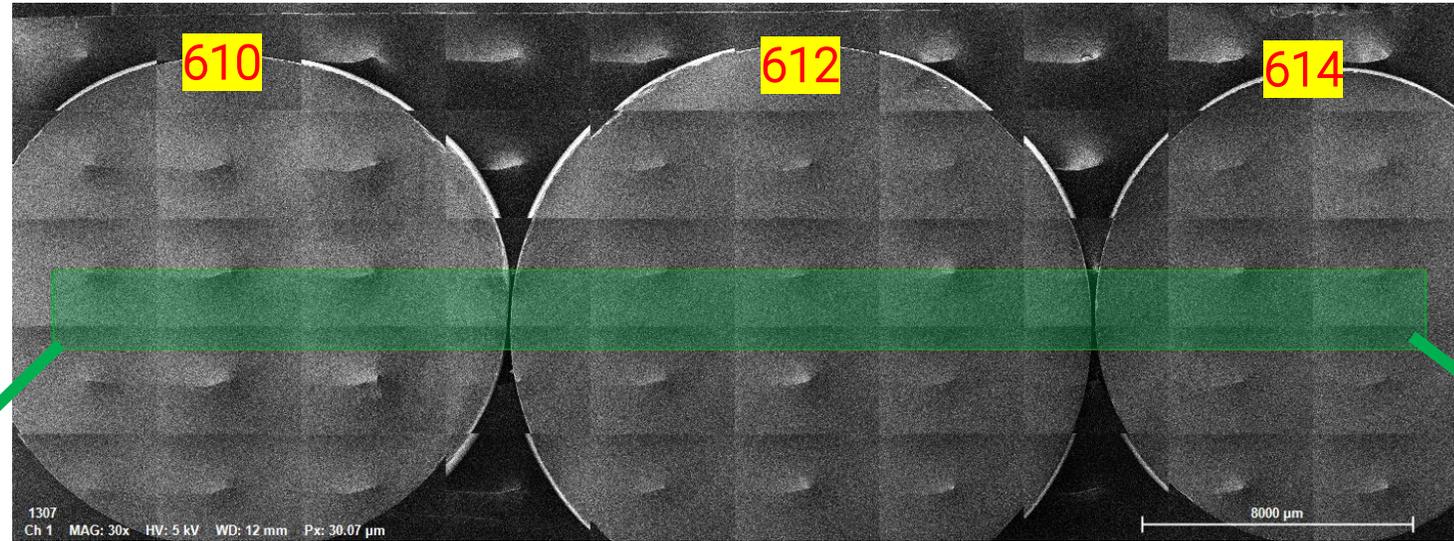
Micro-XRF on SEM NIST Standard Glasses

NIST Glass Standards

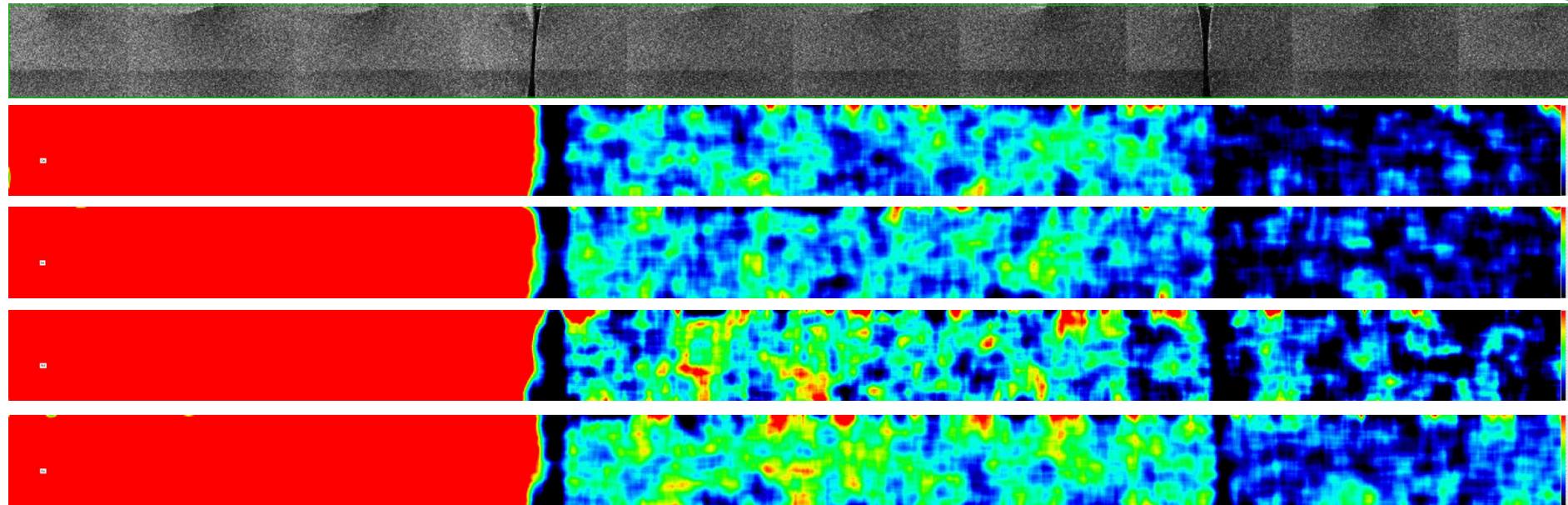
Analysis of NIST Standard Glasses with doped concentrations in the approximate range of:

- NIST 610: 500 ppm
- NIST 612: 50 ppm
- NIST 614: 5 ppm

Easily identify trace element concentrations

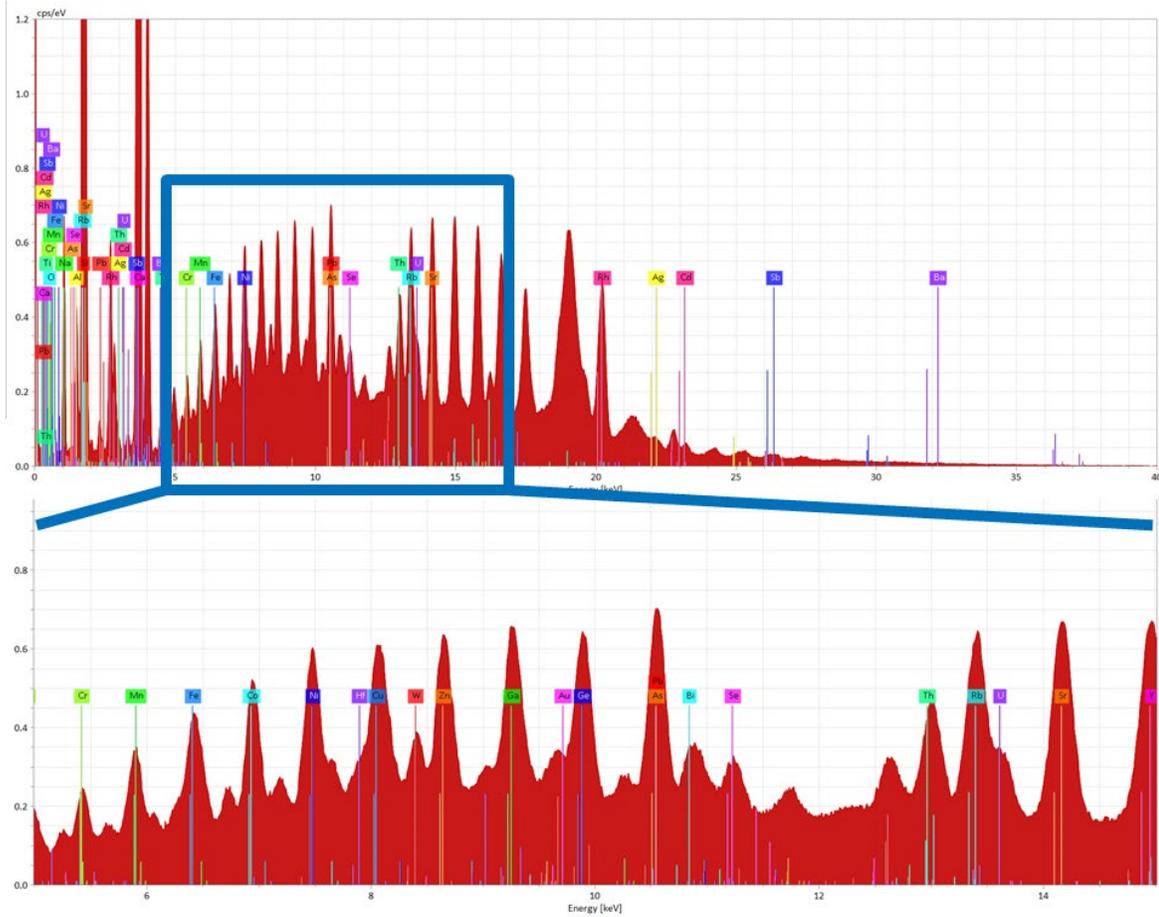


SE Image

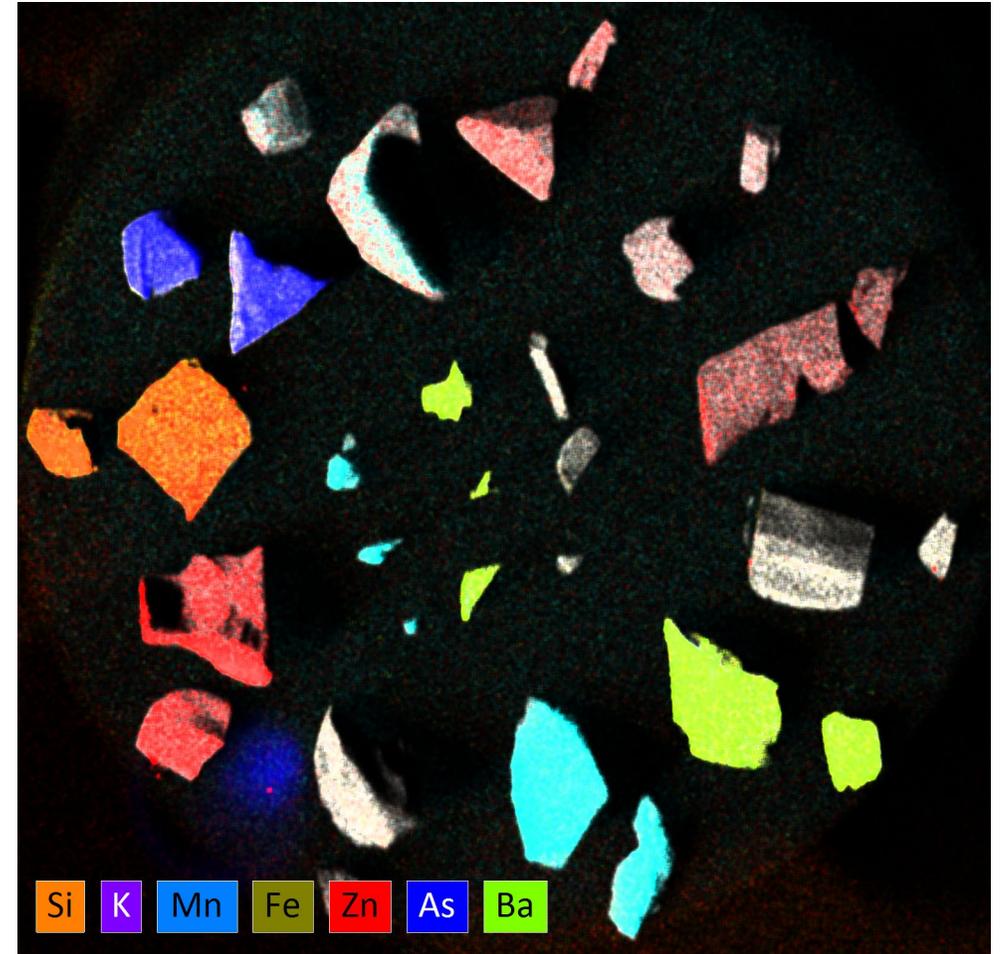


Micro-XRF on SEM

Applications: Trace Elements



Glass analysis: NIST 610

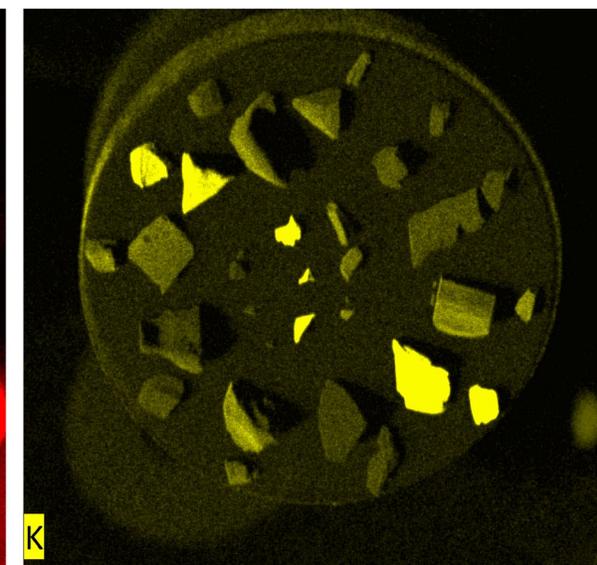
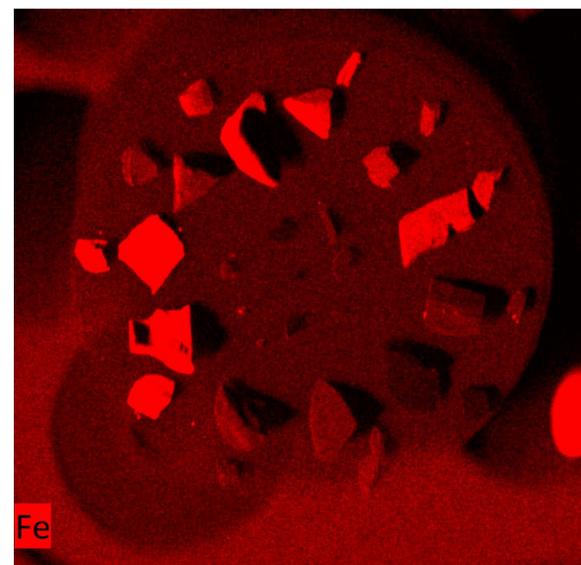
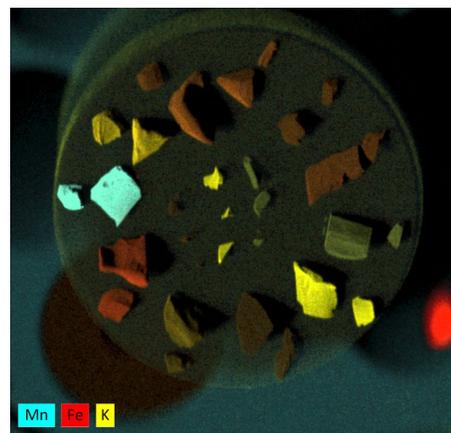
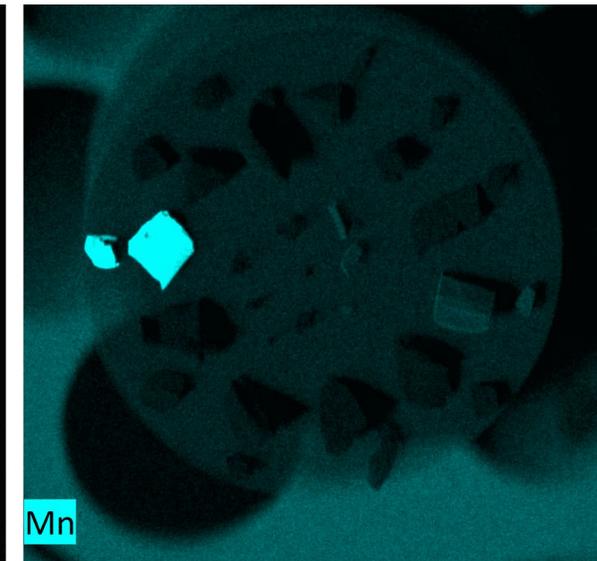
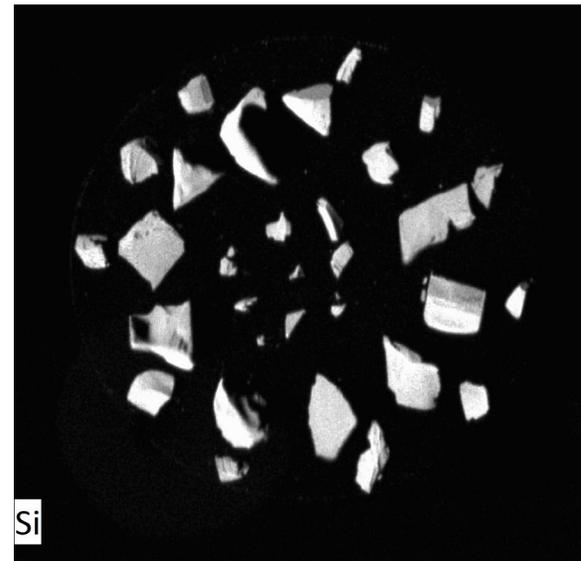
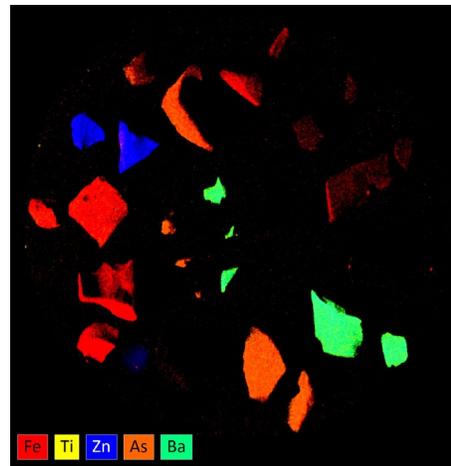


Forensics: Glass fragment analysis

Micro-XRF on SEM

Applications: Analysis of Glass

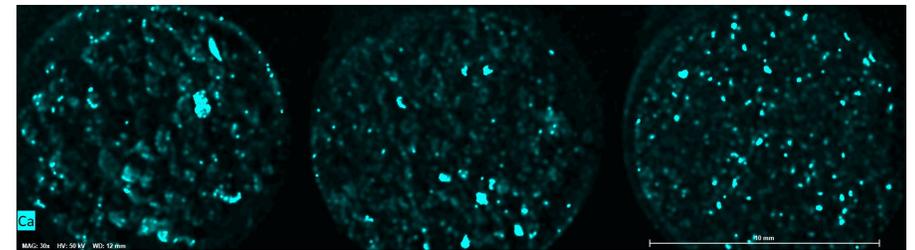
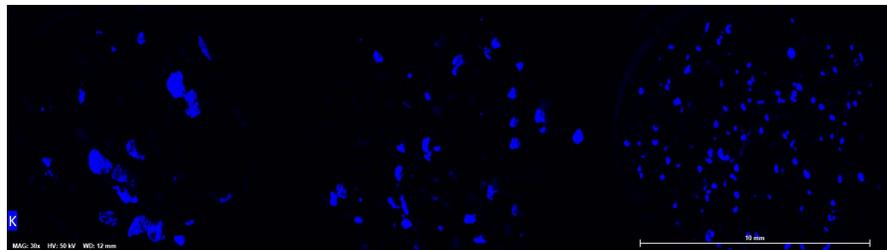
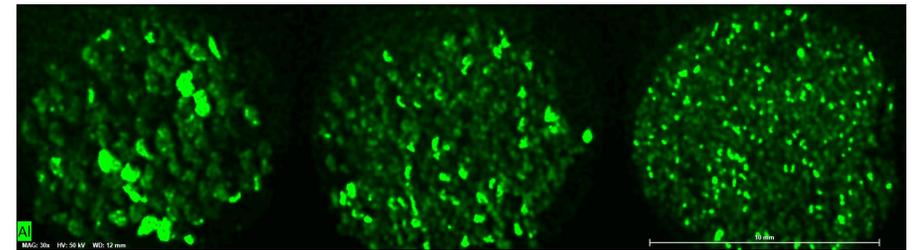
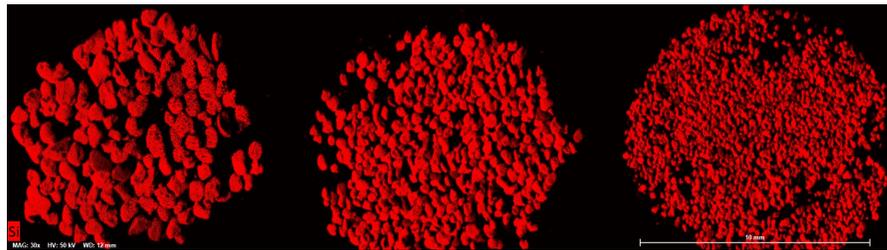
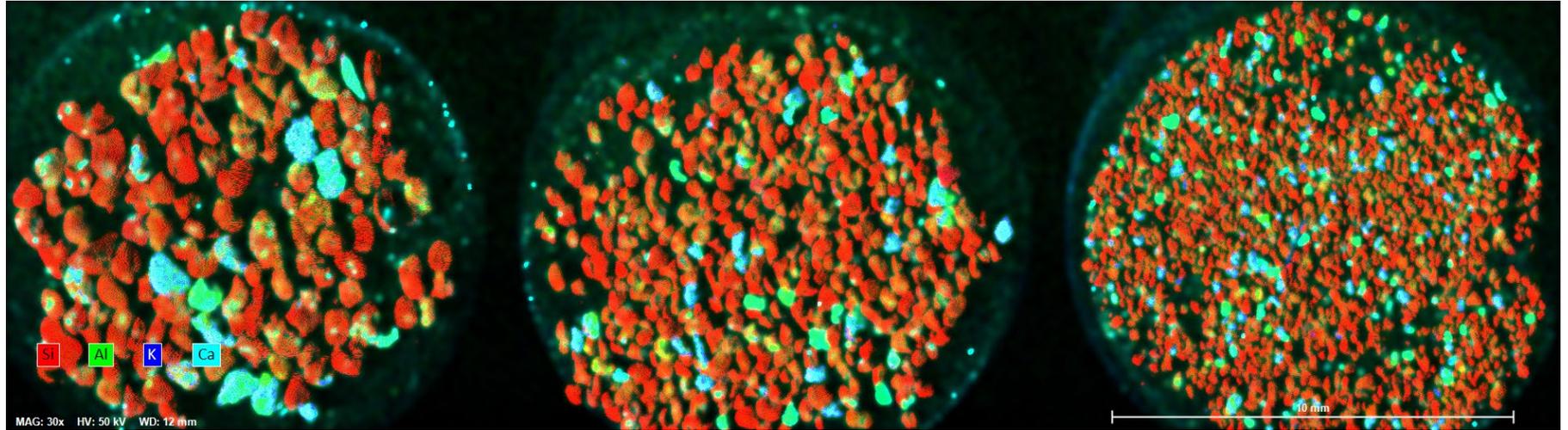
Glasses mounted for analysis



SEM-XRF: Analysis of Beach Sands

Analysis of Beach Sand

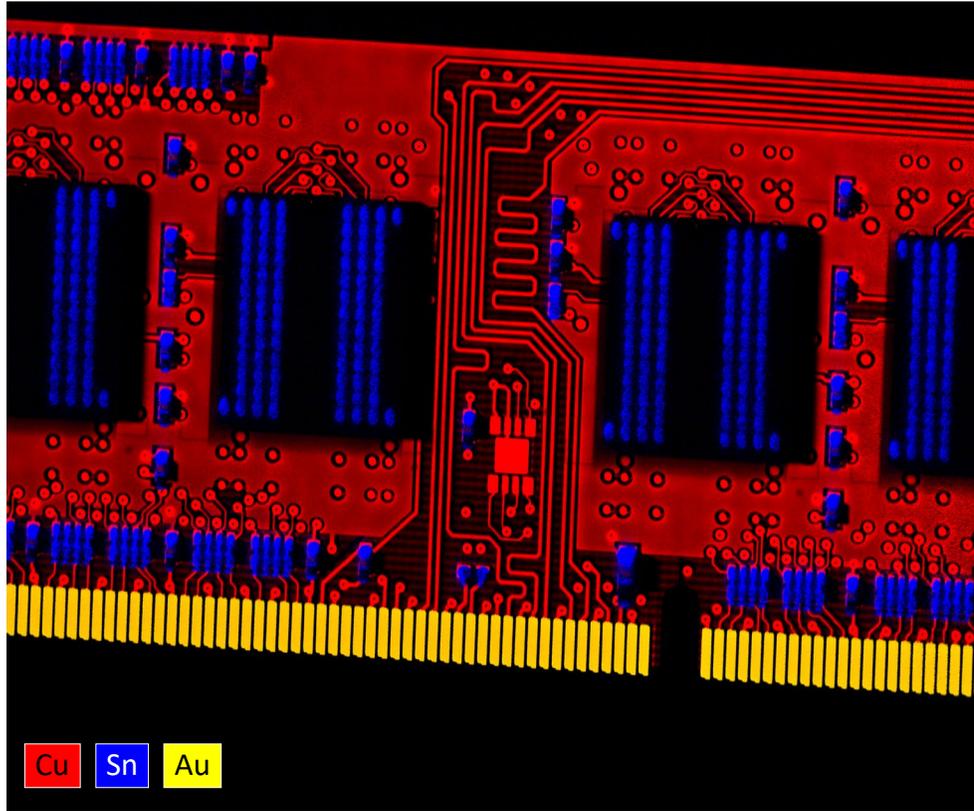
- Loose Grains
- Various Size Fractions
- Uncoated
- Large Area
- High Speed Stage Movement



SEM-XRF (XTrace): Electronics and Semiconductor Industry

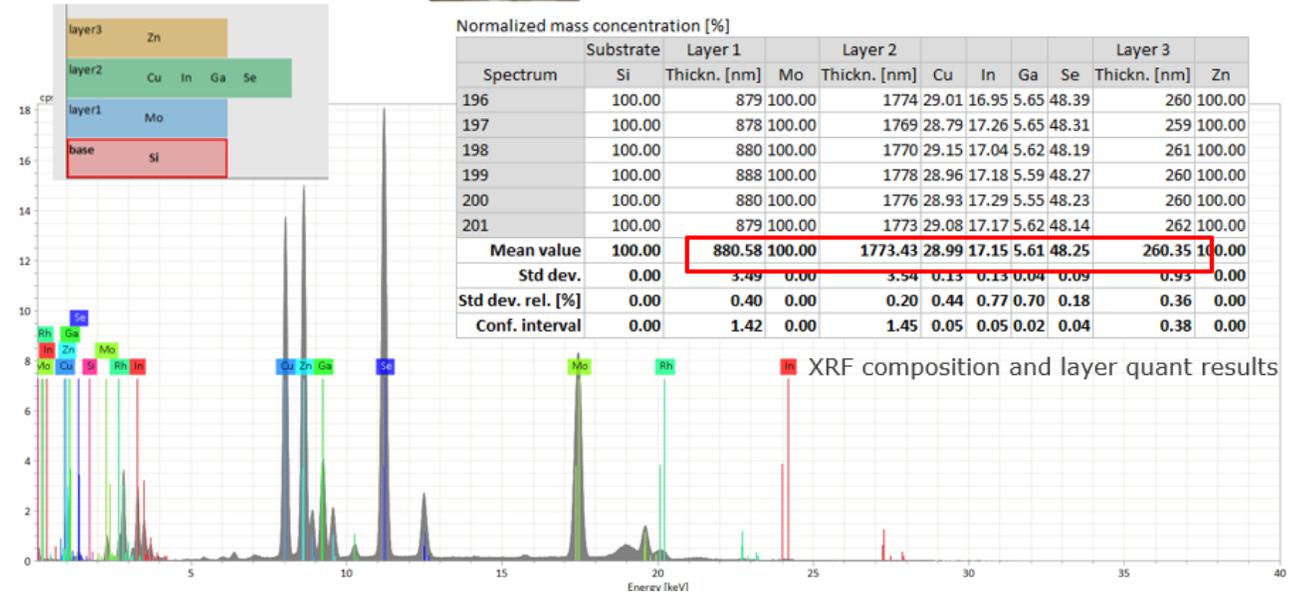
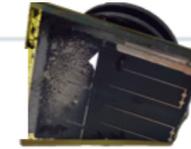
Micro-XRF on SEM

Applications: Electronics and Semiconductors (Layer Analysis)



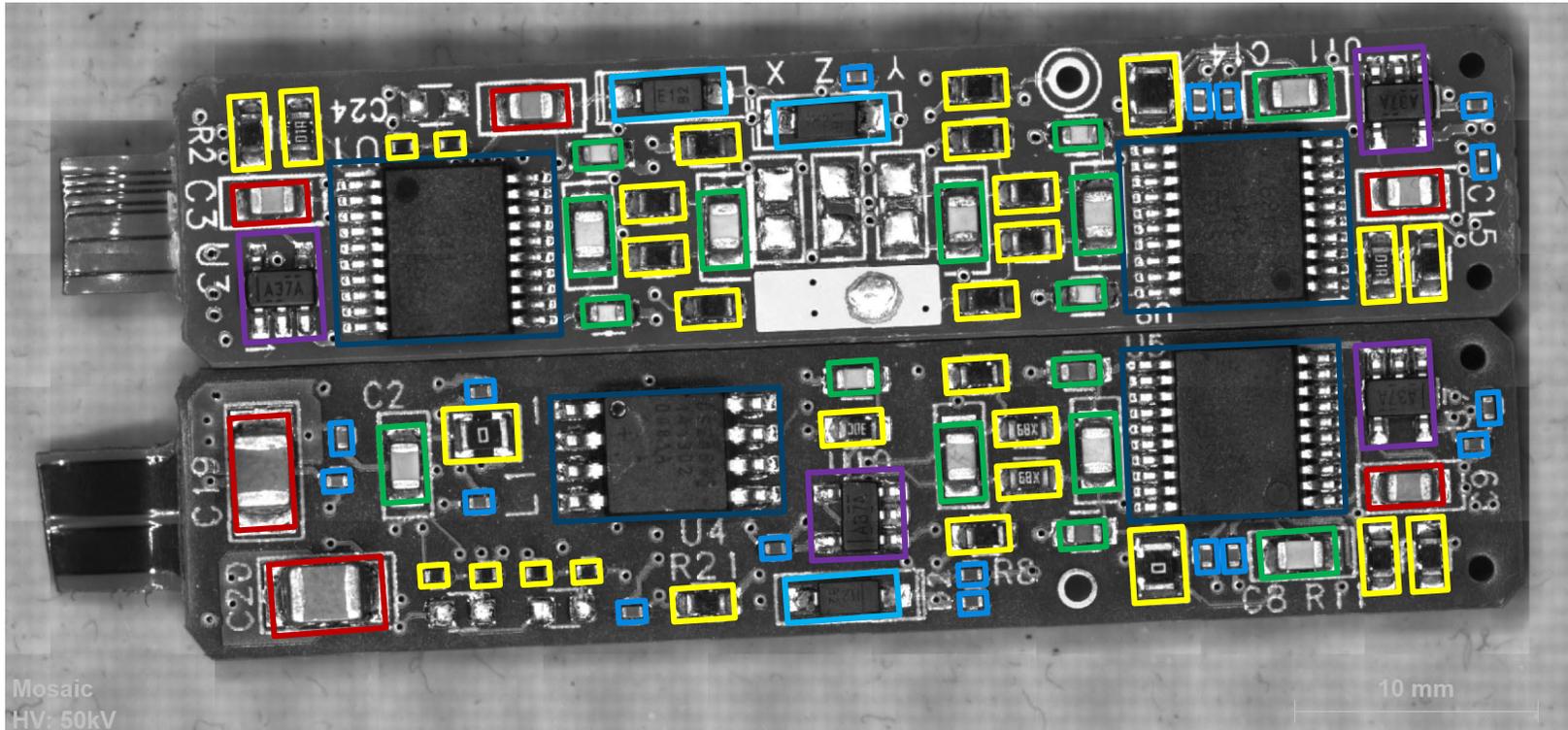
Electronics: Failure analysis on PCB

Sample courtesy:



Electronic & Semiconductors: Thin film analysis on various layer structures (solar cells, electronic contacts etc.)

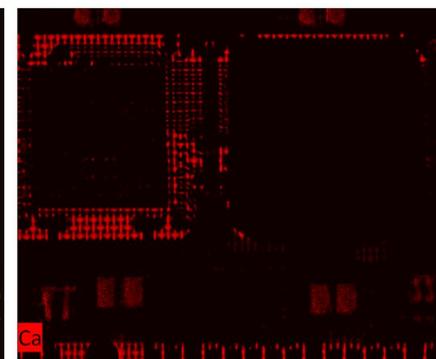
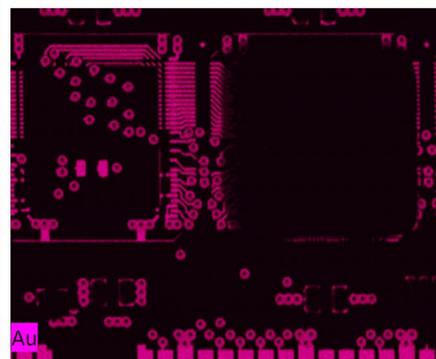
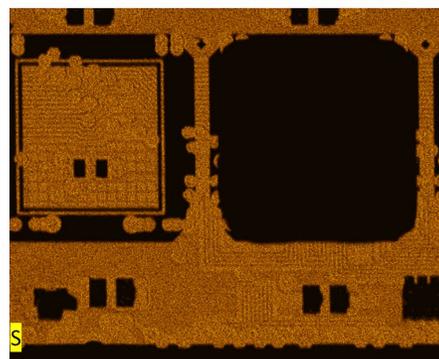
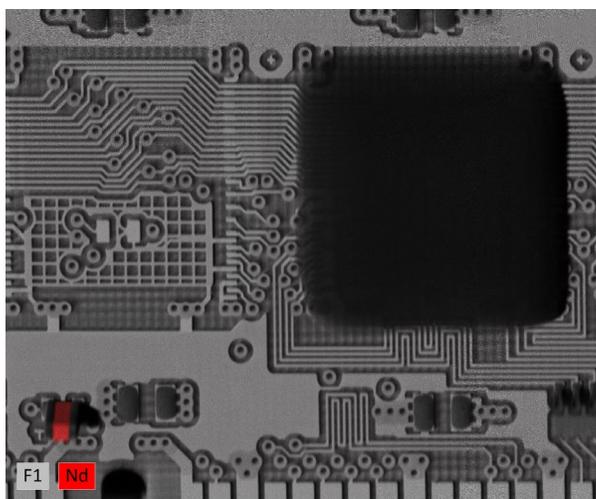
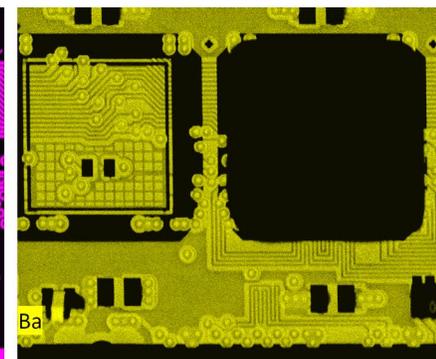
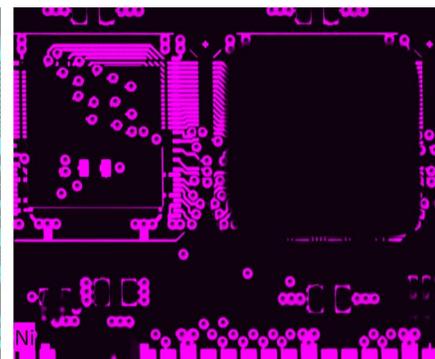
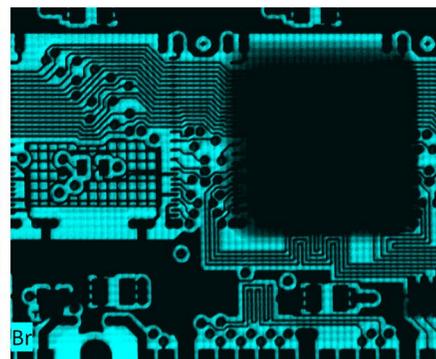
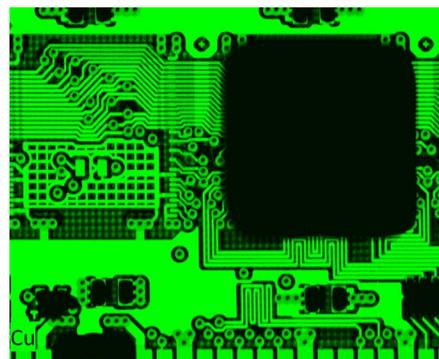
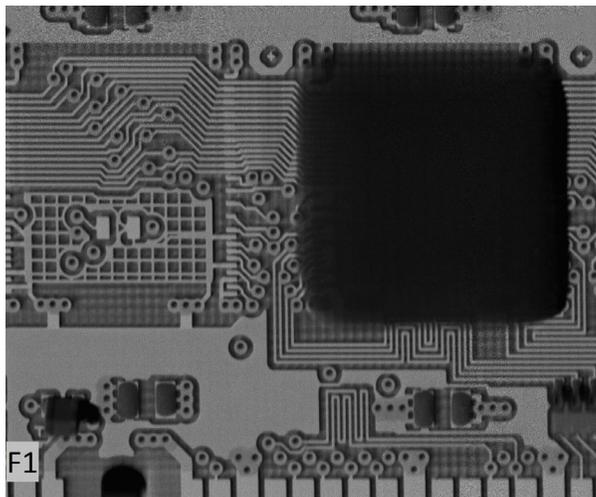
SEM-XRF Analysis of Rare Earth Elements (REE's): Applications – Electronics



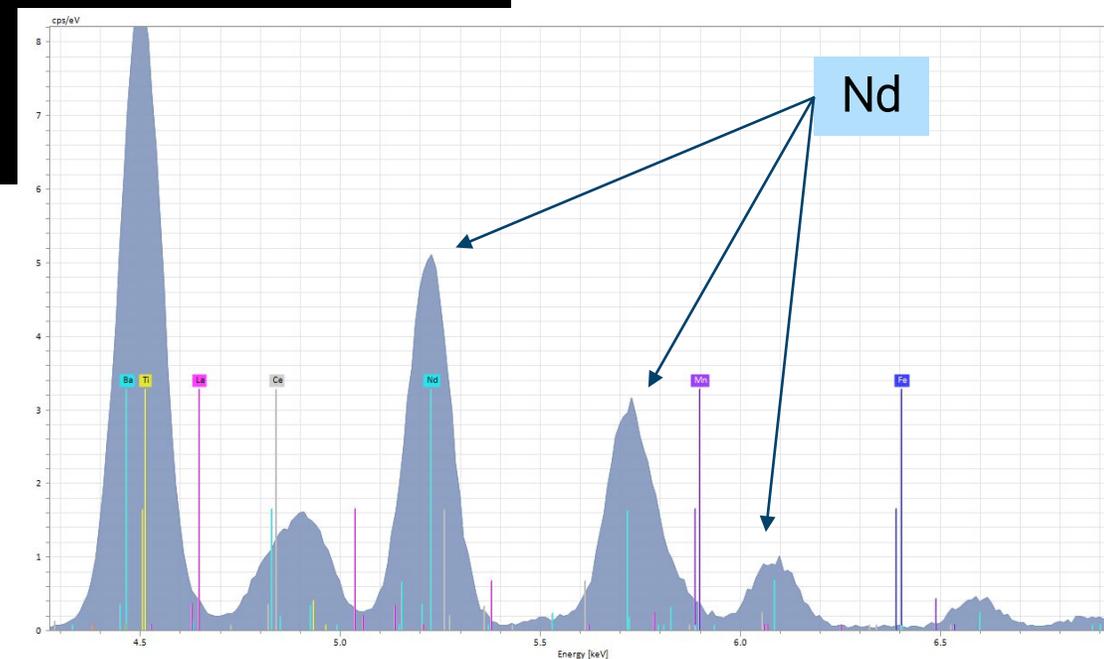
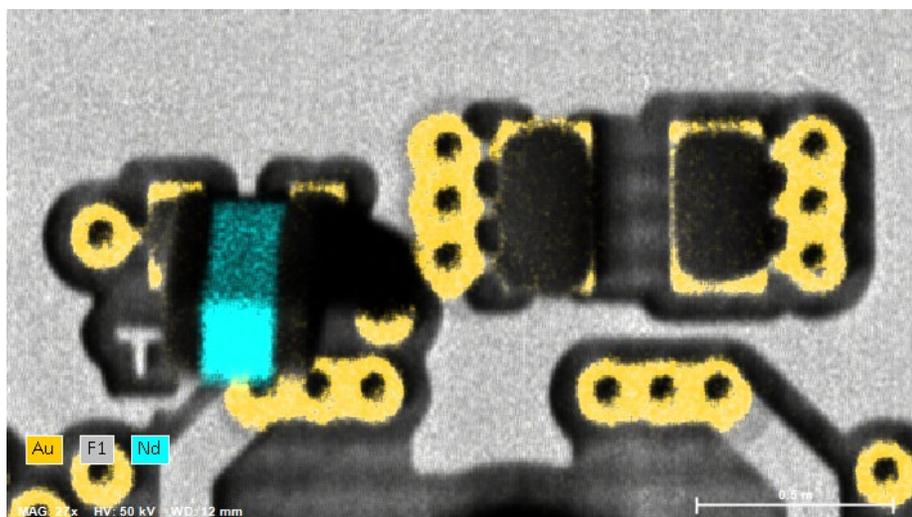
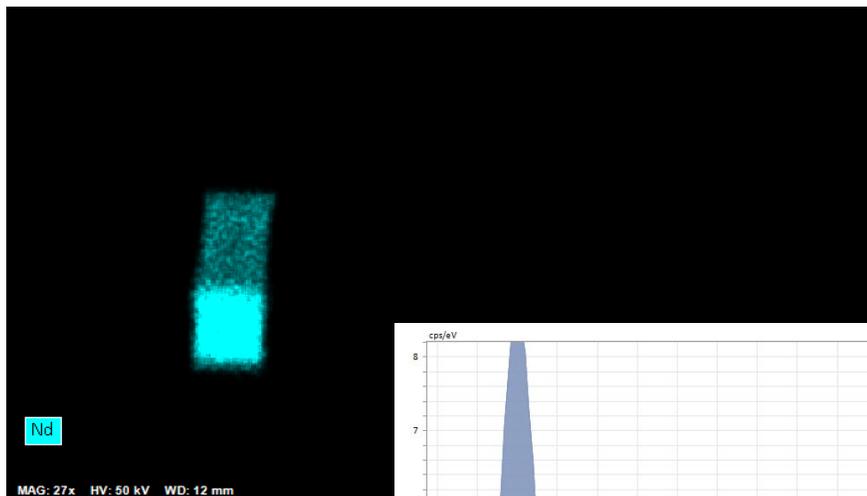
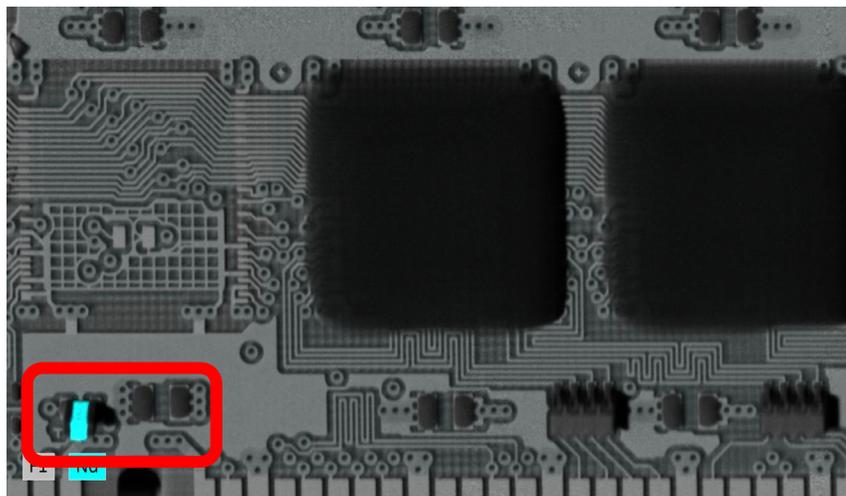
| | | | | | | |
|-------|--------------------|----------|-----------------|-----------|----------|-----------------|
| Diode | Integrated circuit | Small IC | White Capacitor | Resistors | Small EC | Brown Capacitor |
|-------|--------------------|----------|-----------------|-----------|----------|-----------------|

Image courtesy of Benjamin Monneron-Enaud, TU Bergakademie Freiberg, Germany.

SEM-XRF Analysis of Rare Earth Elements (REE's): Applications – Electronics



REEs Example: Applications – Electronics



SEM-XRF (XTrace): Summary and Conclusions

Summary and Conclusions: Micro-XRF on SEM

2 Excitation Sources:

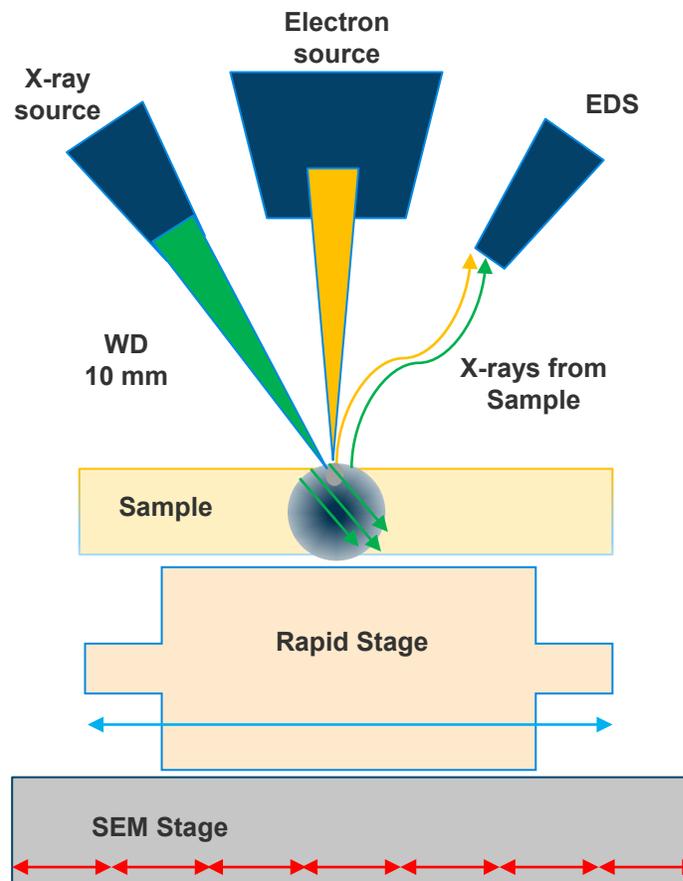
- Electron Beam (e-beam)
- Micro-XRF (X-ray beam)

1 Detector:

- Energy Dispersive Spectrometer (EDS)

2 Stages:

- SEM Stage
- Rapid Stage



Micro-XRF Benefits:

- Non-destructive analytical technique
- No charging effects
- Minimal Sample Preparation Required
- Lower detection limits (down to 5 ppm)
- High Energy Lines Detection (Full Spectrum Range up to 40 keV)
- Ideal for Low kV or Beam sensitive samples
- Fast Large Area Mapping
- Micrometer scale measurement over cm

Workflow: Correlating Micro-XRF / e-beam / EDS / WDS analysis

X-ray beam (Micro-XRF):
Fast over large area
Sensitive for traces

E-beam (SEM-EDS):
Spatial resolution

E-beam (SEM-WDS):
Spectral resolution

Correlation:
Compile, process and
interpret Hypermaps

Software:
Esprit (Elemental) and
AMICS (Mineralogical)

Micro-XRF (M6 JETSTREAM, M4 TORNADO, SEM-XRF (XTRACE))

- Fast analysis over large area
- Confirm presence of elements of interest
- Identify areas for further analysis
- Store stage positions of those areas

SEM-EDS

- High spatial resolution
- Fast analysis over small area
- Identify elemental and mineralogical relationships and associations on the micro- nano- scale.

SEM-WDS

- High spatial resolution (similar to EDS)
- Resolution of peak overlaps
- Low detection limits
- High sensitivity for low X-ray energy range

Micro-XRF on SEM (XTrace): Further Information

PRODUCTS & SOLUTIONS APPLICATIONS SERVICES & SUPPORT

ELECTRON MICROSCOPE ANALYZERS

QUANTAX Micro-XRF

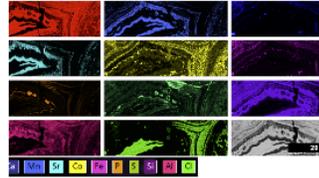
Trace Element Sensitivity with Minimal Sample Preparation

High-Speed Elemental X-ray Mapping even over Large Areas

Film Thickness Analysis

<https://www.bruker.com/>

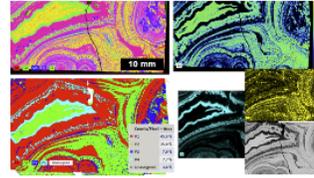
Search for: QUANTAX Micro-XRF



Large Area Mapping of Mineralogical Samples

The new Rapid Stage is specifically designed for SEMs to enable large area mapping over millimeter (mm) to centimeter (cm) scales. This will eliminate potential SEM X-ray intensity variation artifacts associated with low magnification mapping and thus enhance elemental and mineralogical information in a timeous manor that was previously not possible.

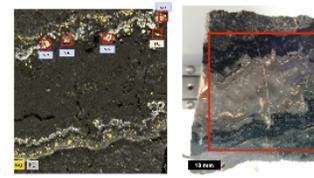
→ [READ MORE](#)



Elemental and Mineral distribution in Exotic-Cu Deposits

The ability to observe elemental changes within samples is important to understand geological processes and ore deposit genesis. The dual source system which incorporates a micro-XRF on a SEM enables elemental X-ray mapping over large areas, which shows major, minor and also trace elements on timeous manor that was previously not possible.

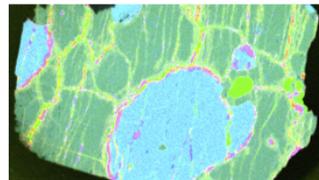
→ [READ MORE](#)



Dual Source Applications for Exploration and Mining: Au-bearing Epithermal Samples

The combination of micro-XRF with SEM enables the potential to analyze samples at multiple scales, from centimeters (cm) to millimeters (mm) to micrometers (µm) and below within a solitary system. Thus, by adding the micro-XRF to an SEM you convert your SEM to a dual source system, meaning that there are 2 excitations sources, the e-beam and photon beam. Either source can be used individually, or simultaneously, to generate sample X-rays that will be measured using the same EDS detector.

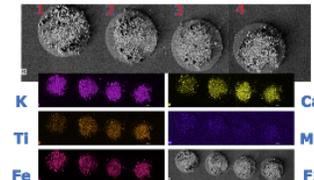
→ [READ MORE](#)



Mantle Petrology and the Source of Diamonds

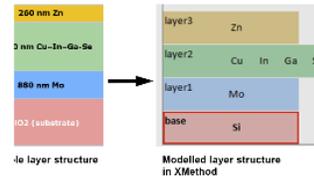
We present a SEM-XRF element map of a mantle garnet-spinel peridotite from the diamond-bearing Newlands kimberlite (South Africa, Kaapvaal Craton). The intensity of the various elements indicates certain minerals that are present in the sample.

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Identification of Contaminants and Toxins in Soils

Large Area Mapping (Hypermaps) using SEM-XRF can be performed on samples with topography. That is, minimal sample preparation is required and the sample can be analyzed directly without any degradation. This is particularly relevant in the analysis of soils, where any form of sample preparation, such as mounting and polishing or carbon coating, may alter the specimen.



Thin Film Analysis with SEM micro-XRF

As X-rays may pass through matter, X-ray Fluorescence (XRF) allows the determination of layer thickness. Using micro-XRF on SEM, the layer analysis (thickness and composition) is rendered feasible with spatial resolution at the micrometer scale. Layer analysis is strongly based on quantification using atomic fundamental parameter (FP).

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Posts

Stephan Boehm • 1st
Product Manager micro-XRF / SEM and WDS at Bruker Nano ...
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Are you interested to see a micro-XRF map collected using a SEM? Here is a beautiful example of an Exotic-Cu deposit sample from El Tesoro in Chile. This uncoated thin-section was measured using a Bruker micro-XRF excitati ...see more

Total X-ray intensity map

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It is general knowledge that the different colours of glasses are given by their distinct compositions. But did you know that it is possible to analyze such glasses in a SEM with minimal sample preparation? Here is an example of seve ...see more



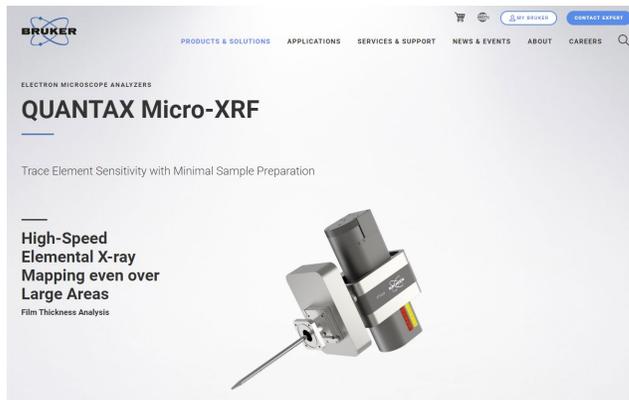
Micro-XRF General Information

Further Information

Web Site

<https://www.bruker.com/>

Search for:
QUANTAX Micro-XRF



Upcoming Webinars:

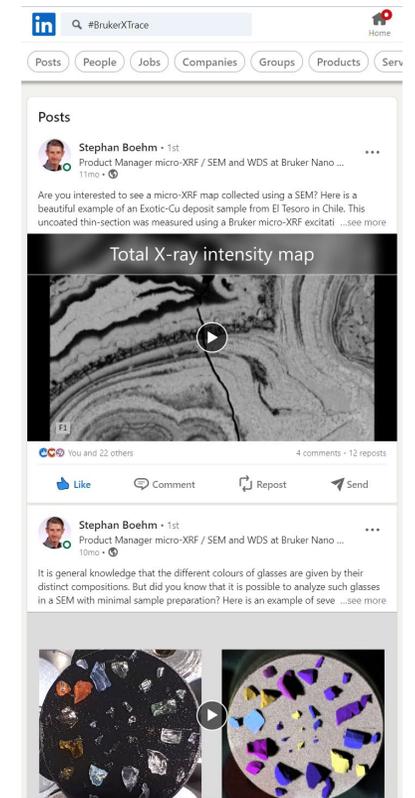
Back To The Roots, Part V:

Advantages of standard-supported micro-XRF quantification: Where are we today in terms of performance of FP quantification?

Date: 02.05.2023 (10 am, 5 pm)

And a new SEM-XRF webinar in June

LinkedIn Posts: #BrukerXTrace





More Information

For more information, please contact us:

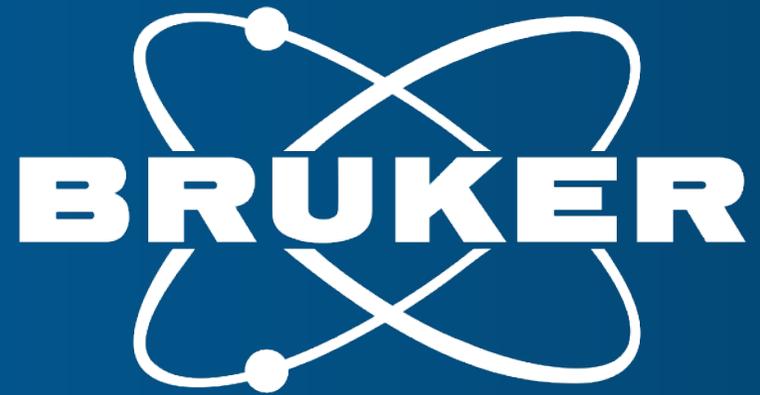
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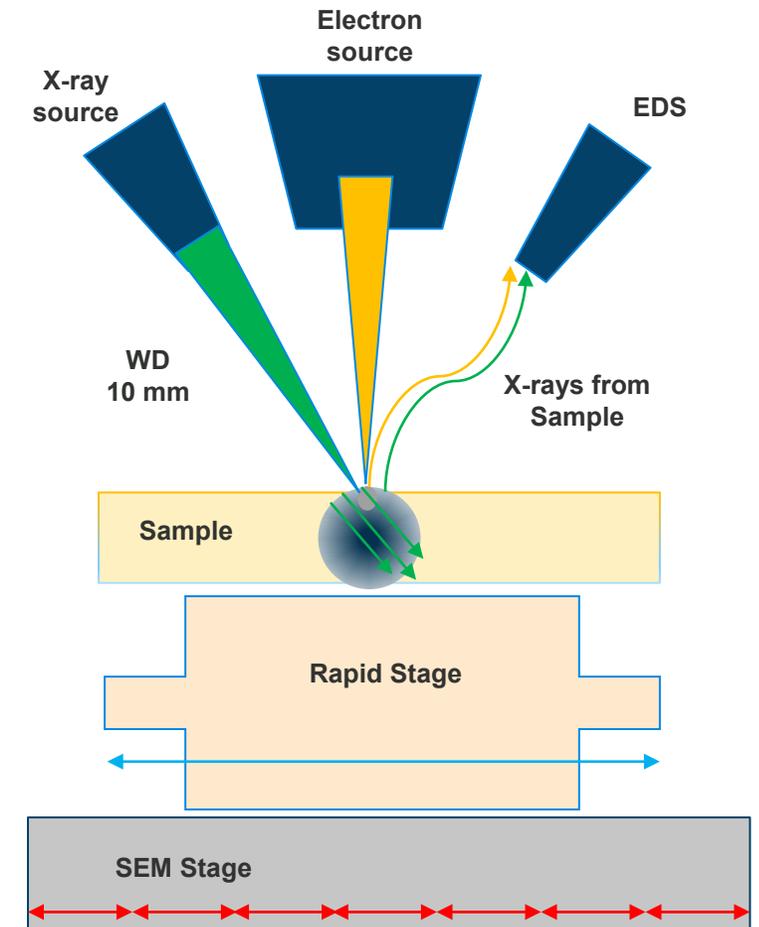
Stephan.Boehm@bruker.com



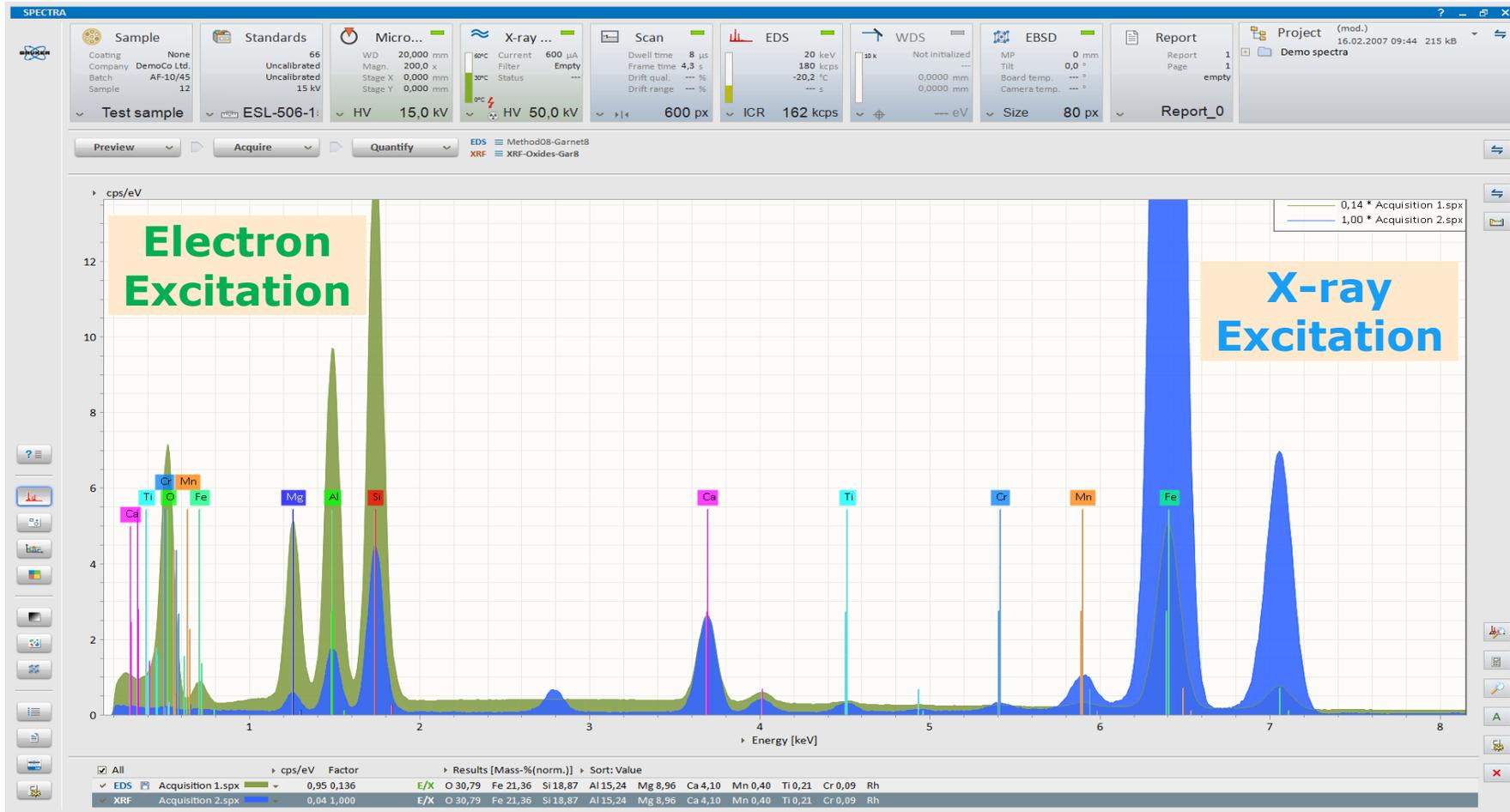
Innovation with Integrity

X-ray Fluorescence and Electron Excitation Analysis

- Excitation with either electrons or X-rays generate fluorescence radiation of the irradiated material.
- Detection is normally performed with energy dispersive spectrometers (EDS), independent of the excitation source. Signal collection and spectral presentation is identical, but quantification is different.
- Main differences:
 - Spot Size
 - Information depth
 - Elemental Range (Energy)
 - Limits of detection (Concentration)
 - Spectral Background
 - Sample Handling



Energy Dispersive Spectra Comparison: Electron vs. X-ray Excitation



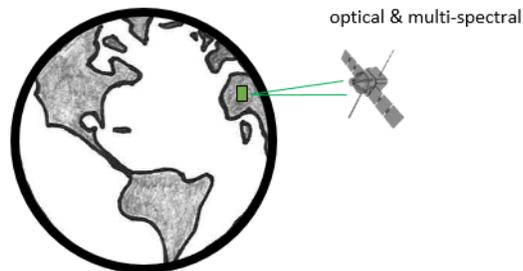
The garnet has:
40 wt% SiO₂ and
20 wt% FeO.

The different spectrum profiles are obvious. For example, the e-beam spectra (in green) the lighter elements are more intense.

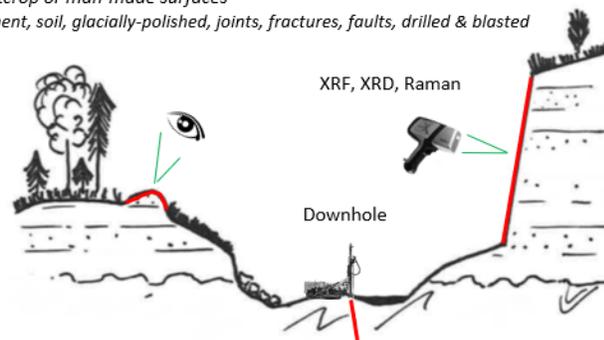
Whereas for the heavier elements the X-ray spectrum (in blue) has a significantly more intense signal.

Overview: Characterization Workflow of a multiscale approach

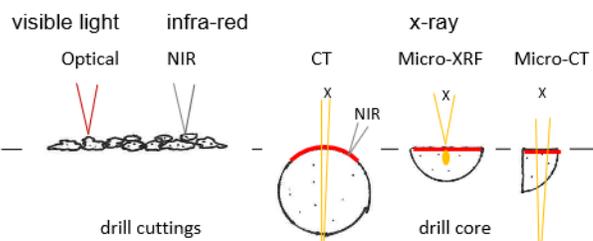
1 Mega 100's km
Space- & Airborne analysis
Land and sea
Rock, soil, vegetation, water



2 Macro km-metre
Field analysis
Natural outcrop or man-made surfaces
Rock, sediment, soil, glacially-polished, joints, fractures, faults, drilled & blasted



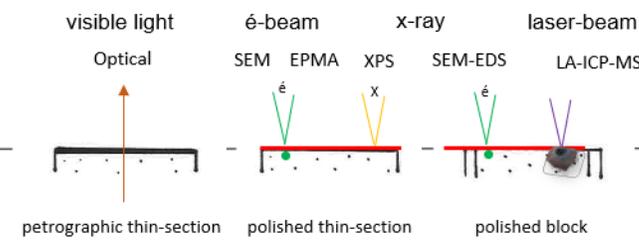
Micro-XRF M4 Tornado Plus



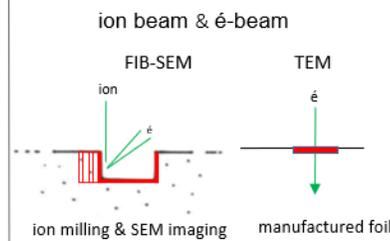
3 Meso metre-cm-mm
Laboratory analysis
2D surfaces; 3D volumes



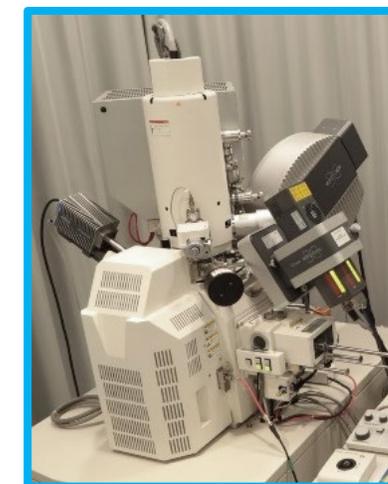
4 Micro mm-micron
Laboratory analysis
2D surface analysis



5 Nano micron-nanometre
Laboratory analysis
3D volume reconstruction & ultra thin foil analysis

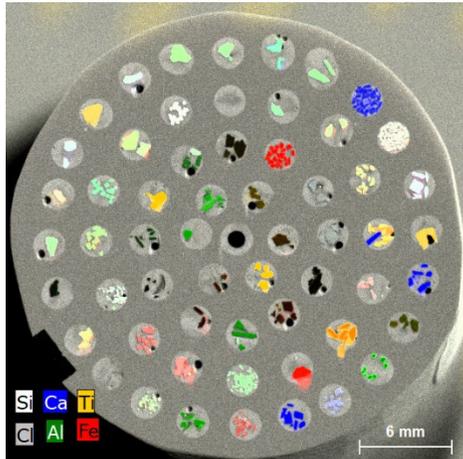


SEM-EDS-Micro-XRF-WDS

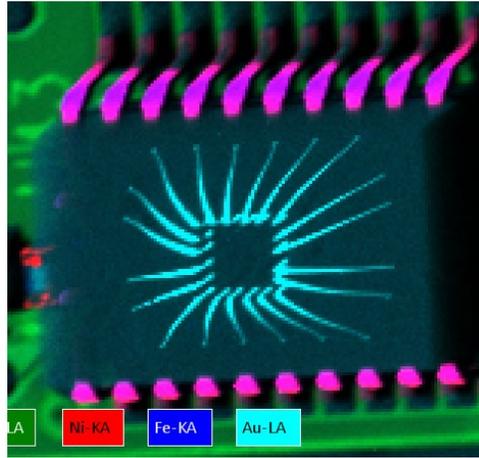


Butcher AR (2020) Upscaling of 2D mineralogical information to 3D volumes for geoscience applications using a multi-scale, multi-modal and multi-dimensional approach. *EMAS 2019, Conference Proceedings Volume, Trondheim, 19-23 May 2019.*

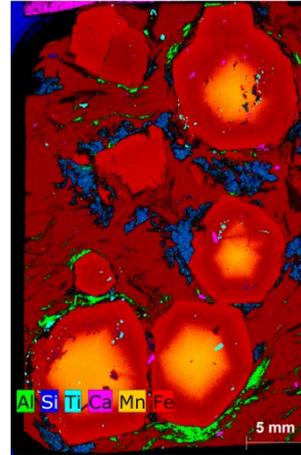
Micro-XRF Possibilities



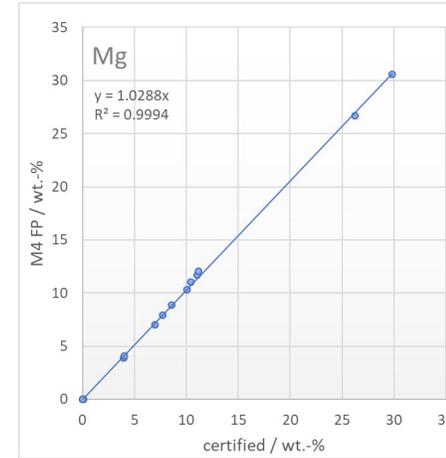
No sample preparation



Information from the depth of the sample



Trace element sensitive



Reference samples and standard supported quantification options

Micro-XRF: XTrace



Rapid Stage



- XTrace allows to combine the advantages of micro-XRF with the associated SEM options (high spatial resolution of the E-Beam and resolution of the WDS)
- X-ray beam is fixed in space and cannot raster as a e-beam can do, element distribution measurements will be performed via stage movement (either SEM stage or Rapid Stage)