



2272-2

Joint ICTP-IAEA School on Synchrotron Applications in Cultural Heritage and Environmental Sciences and Multidisciplinary Aspects of Imaging Techniques

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Use of selected analytical techniques for high-resolution imaging and elemental mapping of cultural heritage objects and in environmental sciences

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Outline



- 1) Introduction of Institutes
- 2) Experimental techniques
 - µradiography and µtomography (µCT)
 - dual-energy µCT
 - lab-based sources
 - Laser Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy LIBS
- 3) Applications
 - LIBS, LA-ICP-MS mapping
 - combination of µCT and LIBS (LA-ICP-MS) mapping
 - LIBS in phytoremediation

Location





Brno - the capital city of Moravia





The University





Brno University of Technology

- Founded in 1899
- Second-largest Technical University in the Czech Republic
- 8 faculties
- 21 000 students
- 170 study branches

Faculty of Mechanical Engineering

- Founded in 1900
- 15 institutes
- About 4600 students

The University - MU







Masaryk University

- Founded in 1919
- The second-largest public university in the Czech Republic
- 9 faculties
- 43 000 students
- more than 200 study branches

Faculty of Science

- Founded in 1919
- 13 Departments
- About 4 400 students





Establishment of a Centre of Excellence conducting research in the area of QUALITY OF LIFE and HUMAN HEALTH.



http://www.ceitec.cz/









Brno University of Technology www.vutbr.cz



Mendel University in Brno www.mendelu.cz





University of Veterinary and Pharmaceutical Sciences Brno www.vfu.cz

Institute of Physics of Materials, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic www.ipm.cz

Institute www.vri.cz

EL o 6 partners

- Veterinary Research
- **557** researchers (2015)
 - 7 research programmes 0
 - 64 research groups 0
 - 25,000 m² of new laboratories 0
 - 10 core facilities 0
 - Planned budget of EUR 210 mil.
 - Start of research activities: Q1 2011
 - Project completion: Q4 2015 0



GOALS



- Development and application of CT techniques for visualization of entire 3D structure of different samples with high spatial resolution.
- Development of laser-ablation based analytical techniques for 2D and 3D high-resolution elemental mapping.
- Combination of these two techniques.
- Key partners:
 - Department of Chemistry, MU, Brno, Czech Rep. (Dr. K. Novotný),
 - Synchrotron Elettra, Trieste, Italy (Dr. G. Tromba),
 - Oak Ridge National Lab., Oak Ridge, TN, USA (Dr. M. Martin),
 - Shenyang Institute of Automation, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shenyang City, China (Dr. L. Sun).

µCT – the SYRMEP beamline @ ELETTRA





µCT – the SYRMEP beamline @ ELETTRA



Advantages of SR for hard X-ray imaging

Characteristics	Advantages
Monochromaticity	no beam hardening k and L edge imaging quantitative CT evaluations optimization of X-ray energy (dose reduction)
Collimation	parallel beams, scatter reduction
Spatial coherence	phase sensitive techniques
Intensity	reduction of exposure time





Source: G. Tromba and the SYRMEP team @ ELETTRA

Phase-Contrast (PHC) imaging - the technique exploits the high spatial coherence of the X-ray source



In conventional radiology image formation is based on differences in X-ray absorption properties of the samples. The image contrast is generated by density, composition or thickness variation of the sample. Main limitation: poor contrast in soft tissue differentiation.

Phase sensitive techniques are based on the observation of the *phase shifts* produced by the object on the incoming wave. Contrast arises from interference among parts of the wave front differently deviated (or phase shifted) by the sample. Edge enhancement effects.



PHC imaging setup



- *z* =0 -> absorption image
- For $z > 0 \rightarrow$ interference between diffracted and un-diffracted wave produces edge and contrast enhancement. A variation of δ , producing a phase shift, can be detected
- Measure of $\nabla^2 \Phi(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$





PHC and L, K-edge imaging: Mapping of the metal intake in plants by X-ray μ -radiography and μ -CT

 Accumulation of metals, such as Cu, Zn, As, Cd, Pb, Hg, in the environment is a high health risk because of the possibility for these elements to be transferred to living organisms through fresh water or vegetables.

• Among the different solutions, a very promising method is phytoremediation: it consists in the removal of contaminants by means of their absorption and accumulation in roots and leaves of plants, specially cultivated for this purpose and then harvested. Recently, also transgenic plants have been obtained, with higher accumulation properties.

• To study these problems: detection of contaminants, comparison of accumulation properties of the various plants, mapping of possible biological structures accumulating specific metals within a tissue.

• We used dual-energy micro-radiography taking advantage of the highly-monochromatic, large-field synchrotron radiation to detect the heavy-metal accumulation in 2D and 3D biological samples.

µCT – the SYRMEP beamline @ ELETTRA **Applicarion Examples**



Mapping of the metal intake in plants by X-ray µ-radiography and µ-CT



Source: J. Kaiser et al., Eur. Phys. J. D 32 (2005) 113–118 15

µCT – the SYRMEP beamline @ ELETTRA Application Examples



Mapping of the metal intake in plants by X-ray μ -radiography and μ -CT

Helianthuus annuus leaf treated in a 10 mM PbSO₄ solution



E=13.150 keV, planar radiograph



Helianthuus annuus root treated in a 10 mM PbSO₄ solution 2 mm µCT slice Differential µCT slice

µCT – the SYRMEP beamline @ ELETTRA Application Examples

μ -CT of fossil samples



(~ 1 Ma years old) snake vertebra



SR-µCT slices of **a** healthy and **b** pathological fossil snake vertebra together with **c** the 3D rendering of the investigated fossil snake vertebra segment.

M. Galiová, J. Kaiser, K. Novotný, et al.: Analytical and Bioanalytical Chemistry 398 (2010) 1095-1107.



µCT – TOMOLAB @ Elettra





http://www.elettra.trieste.it/Labs/TOMOLAB/

- TOMOLAB is a cone-beam μ CT system equipped with a sealed microfocus X-ray tube, which guarantees a focal spot size of 5 microns, in an energy range from 40 up to 130 kV, and a maximum current of 300 μ A.
- A water cooled CCD camera providing a good combination between a large field of view (49.9 mm × 33.2 mm) and a small pixel size (12.5 × 12.5 microns²) is used as detector. Due to the cone-beam geometry it is possible to achieve a spatial resolution close to the focal spot size.
- Maximum allowed sample size is Ø 4.5 centimeters (the horizontal field of view of the CCD camera is ~ 5 centimeters and the sample has to fit it all during the scan).

µCT – TOMOLAB @ Elettra Application examples

µ-CT of fossil samples





GE v tome x I 240 @ CEITEC





http://www.gemcs.com/en/radiography-x-ray/ctcomputed-tomography/vtomex-l-240.html

- Source 2 sources microfocus (240 kV, 320 W, 3 -200 μm spot size) and nanofocus (up to 180 kV, 15 W, < 0.9 μm spot size).
- Detector DXR 250 (flat panel, 2048 x 2048 pixels, pixel size 200 µm x 200 µm, dynamic range 1:10000, up to 7.5 frames/s).

GE v tome x I 240 @ CEITEC Application examples





J. Kaiser, et al.: unpublished

HR 3D imaging → Chemical mapping





Laser ablation for sampling

- The total content of trace or matrix elements (i.e. accumulated metals) in the samples (e.g. plant tissues) can be determined utilizing routine methods e.g. "wet analysis" AAS or AES after the dissolution of the plant compartments.
- In order to investigate the trafficking, the spatial distribution of such metal ions in the tissues must be studied.









- Laser ablation is widely used for sampling of solid material into inductively coupled plasma mass/optical spectrometer (LA-ICP-MS/OES).
- LIBS as a type of atomic emission spectroscopy, which utilises a highly energetic laser pulse as the excitation source.
- LIBS is able to determine elemental composition of sample using radiation of this, laser-created plasma. Moreover, it is able to provide map of the elements of interest in different types of materials with high spatial resolution.

LIBS vs. LA-ICP-MS / LIBS is growing



- LIBS setup is simpler, the experiments are most cost reliable.
- LIBS gives a instantaneous signal directly related to the location at which a single ablation event occurred.
- LA-ICP-MS, usually more experimental difficulties this technique involves sample transport, so the signal produced in the mass spectrometer is not directly attributable to a specific location on the sample (without considerable care in the analysis).
- Detection limits: LA-ICP-MS (in general) lower.



LIBS – the ablation source







Creating the LIBS plasma

Plasma plume is created using an ablation laser.

Nowadays, the mostly used are nanosecond-pulsed solid state lasers, such as Q switched Nd:YAG. For increasing incident intensity and decreasing spot size the laser pulse is usually focused.

Typical fluxes on the surface then reaches orders of GW/cm².

The ablation spot is heated with speed about 10¹⁰ K/s and small amount of sample (in order of nanograms) is vaporized.

The plasma plume during the pulse duration expands with a speed about 10 km/s and creates an acoustic shock wave. 26

LIBS – the interaction chamber





The setup at BUT - autofocus





The setup at BUT - autofocus





Autofocus effect on ablation crater diameter.

More details in: J. Novotný et al.: Optical Engineering 48 (2009), 103604

LIBS – the plasma radiation





Collecting of the plasma radiation

Plasma radiation in the wavelength range typically 200-800 nm is collected and transported to the spectrometer (Czerny Before this temporal interval the LIBS diffraction grating and the plasma. prisms and illuminates an (I)CCD array in the As the plasma is cooling down, this between intensity and wavelength is then emission lines (so called processed by a computer.

Plasma radiation

Just after the laser pulse the plasma plume starts to cool down.

Typically after a few microseconds that the pulse hits the target the laser best conditions for realizing LIBS measurements occur.



Turner or Echelle configurations are used analysis cannot be performed due to the usually) by an optical setup. There the strong bremsstrahlung background caused light is dispersed by a system of mirrors, by ion-ion or electron-ion interactions within

camera. The signal in the form of relation background intensity fades out and sharp "elements' footprints") become visible. 30

LIBS – data processing



Data processing

Knowing the emission lines of ions, it is possible to determine chemical elements present in the sample (qualitative analysis). To determine their concentrations - to provide quantitative analysis calibration must be performed in order to determine the relation between concentration and emission line intensity.



Left: calibration curve using absolute intensity of Cr (359.35 nm) line, Right: calibration curve using absilute intensity of Cr (428.97 nm) line.

Source: J.P. Singh, S.N. Thakur, Laser-Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy, Amsterdam, 2007.

LIBS – different experimental configurations



Common pulse configuration in Dual-Pulse (double pulse) LIBS. a) collinear, b) orthogonal reheating and c) orthogonal preablative. Source: J.P. Singh, S.N. Thakur, Laser-Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy, Amsterdam, 2007.

[I] LIBS ablation laser (Quantel, Brilliant B). [II] DP-LIBS ablation (or re-heating) laser and pump laser for Ti:Sa laser [III] Solar LS, LQ 529A. [III] Ti:Sa laser (Solar LS, Carat). [IV] Interaction chamber with 2 μm precision movements in x, y, z directions (Tescan s.r.o.). [V, VI] detection system, [VII] CCD



LIBS – Fieldable LIBS













Alternative configurations for an experimental set-up based on LIBS: A) (man) portable system, B) remote system and C) stand-off system.

- 1. Laser head, 2. Optical fiber, 3. Spectrometer,
- 4. Detector, 5. Focusing lens, 6. Sample, 7. Dicroic mirror and 8. Telescope.

LIBS – detection limits/comparison



Detection limits

Typical detection limits of elements are from ppm, however, this varies a lot among different elements, sample types and experimental conditions, such as pressure or laser wavelength. Some elements can be detected even at concentration below 1 ppm, however some can be detected only qualitatively or have not been LIBS detected yet.

	Analytical techniques					
	GC-MS	LIBS	Raman	IMS	XRF	
Analytical capabilities						
Selectivity	•••••	•••	••••	••	•••	
Detection power	•••••	••	•••	••	•••	
Absolute analysis	•••••	••	•••••	••	••	
Analytical information	Molecular	Atomic	Molecular	Molecular	Atomic	
Operational featuring						
Sample preparation	•••••	•••••	•••••	•••••	•••••	
Sample size	•••••	•••••	•••••	•••••	•••••	
Lateral resolution	-	••••	•••	-	••	
Depth resolution	-	•••••	-	-	-	
Speed	•••••	•••••	••••	•••	•••	
Simplicity of analysis	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	
Solid sampling capability	-	•••••	•••••	-	•••••	
Instrumentation maturity	••••	••	•••	•••	•••	
Scalability	••	••••	•••••	•••	•••••	

GC-MS - gas chromatography– mass spectrometry, IMS – ion mobility spectrometry, XRF – X-ray flourescence spectroscopy.

••••• excellent; •••• very good; ••• good; •• medium; • poor.

The LIBS setups at BUT





[I] LIBS ablation laser (Quantel, Brilliant B). [II] DP-LIBS ablation (or re-heating) laser and pump laser for Ti:Sa laser [III] Solar LS, LQ 529A. [III] Ti:Sa laser (Solar LS, Carat). [IV] Interaction chamber with 2 µm precision movements in x, y, z directions (Tescan s.r.o.) [V + VI] Echelle spectrometer equipped with ICCD camera (ME5000, Mechelle, iStar, Andor), [VII] CCD camera. 35
The LIBS setups at BUT





LIQUID LIBS SETUP

Main field of application:

- Algal solution measurements, combination of LIBS (elemental analysis) with Raman spectrometry (algae iodine value from fatty acids).

Liquid LIBS – application example



ALGAL SOLUTIONS

- AN ALGAL SOLUTIONS (*TRACHYDISCUS MINUTUS* BOURRELLY) WITH VARIOUS METALS (Cu, Ca, Na, Mg) WERE USED IN THE FIRST LABORIOUS EXPERIMENTS.
- PHOTOSYNTHESIS: THE PLANTS CONVERT THE ENERGY OF SOLAR RADIATION INTO THE CHEMICAL ENERGY STORED IN PROTEINS, LIPIDS, CARBOHYDRATES, ETC.
- ALGAL LIPIDS ARE AMONG THE MOST PROMISING POTENTIAL PRODUCTS FOR BIOFUELS AS WELL AS FOR NUTRITION.



Trachydiscus Minutus

ARTICLE:

ILLEY, I. ET AL.: THE ALGA TRACHYDISCUS MINUTUS (PSEUDOSTRAURASTRUMAMINUTUM): GROWTH AND COMPOSITION, GENERAL AND APPLIED PLANT PHYSIOLOGY, 23 APRIL 2010, VOLUME 36 (3-4), PP. 222 – 231. SAMER, O. ET AL.: RAMAN MICROSPECTROSCOPY OF INDIVIDUAL ALGAL CELLS: SENSING UNSATURATION OF STORAGE LIPIDS IN VIVO. SENSORS, 17 SEPTEMBER 2010, VOLUME 10, PP. 8635 – 8651.

Liquid LIBS – application example





The LIBS setups at BUT





Standoff LIBS system

1 – Nd:YAG laser (Solar LQ 916) 2 – focusing optics 3 – collecting telescope (Sky-Watcher) 4 – detection system (Andor Mechelle 5000 + Andor Istar 734

- Fast characterization and sorting of archaeological objects.

The LIBS setups at BUT





Ongoing work – remote LIBS



Artificial Neural Network (ANN) for the identification and classification of mineralized tissues and bio-mineral structures



HRDLICKA, A., *et al.*: Development of a remote laser-induced breakdown spectroscopy system for investigation of calcified tissue samples. Applied Optics, May 2010, vol. 49, no. 13, p. C16-C20.

Three sets of spectra were recorded for 18 samples; the first training set of 98 spectra was used for the algorithm training. The training phase results in finding the best set of weights and bias values that would minimize the network output errors. This was done by using a backpropagation algorithm. The network optimization was carried out with the verification set of 21 spectra. To reduce of input data, we used only selected spectral intervals ($\Delta\lambda$) for lines detectable elements: Mg (279.55 nm), Si (288.16 nm), AI (396.15 nm), Ca (396.85 nm) and its combination,

Ongoing work – remote LIBS



ANN for the identification and classification of mineralized tissues and bio-mineral structures



To produce accurate results, the algorithm needs to be trained (i.e. calibrated) with a set of reference spectra representative of the targets to be analyzed (in our case, shell, mortar, soil, ceramic, tooth or bone). The first of all, the spectral emission of the plasma was measured for "known" set of materials for the identification of "unknown" samples. The obtained spectra were used to train ANN and the output was defined as 7 types of material (i.e. shell, mortar, brick, soil, ceramic, tooth or bone).

Ongoing work – remote LIBS





- prediction of brick chemical composition by artificial neural networks based on spectra obtained by remote LIBS.

- for major elements, good results were obtain in both cases, simultaneous prediction and prediction element by element

- for minor elements (P and S), results are very poor due to weak signal. On the other hand, next improvement can be reached in future by extension of spectra database.

- this approach can by useful for fast in-situ monitoring brick masonry of historical buildings. On the frame of ongoing work the spectral database will be expanded with data obtained from real (archeological) samples and the spreadsheet for ANN calculations will be optimized.

DP LIBS setup at the MU





- Ο laser wavelengths 266 nm + 1064 nm
- grating 2400 g/mm Ο
- interpulse delay 500 ns
- O energy 10 mJ/pulse + 90 mJ/pulse
- \bigcirc delay 1 µs, integration time 10 µs,
- \bigcirc entrance slit 50 µm
- distance of ablation craters 150 μ m (x, y) \bigcirc

1 – Ablation laser (New Wave, MACRO 266 nm), 2 – Re-heating laser (Quantel Brilliant, 1064 nm), 3 – Sample holder and precision movements, 4 – Delay Generators (Stanford RS), 5 – Spectrometer and ICCD camera (Jobin Yvon, Triax). 44

LA-ICP-MS setup at the MU







LA-ICP-MS

Nd:YAG laser (New Wave Research (UP 213)) ICP-MS spectrometer (Agilent 7500)

laser fluence: 9.5 J/cm² carrier gas: helium (flow 0.6 l/min) laser repetition rate: 20 Hz laser pulse width: 4.2 ns volume of ablation cell: 20 cm³ RF power: 1350 W

Applications - MAPPING



• LIBS of (bio)minerals

Samples of cultural heritage

- LIBS (LA-ICP-MS) of fossil bear tooth
- LIBS (LA-ICP-MS and µCT) of fossil snake vertebra

Environmental studies

• LIBS of plant compartments

LIBS - geological samples (granite)





K. Novotný, J. Kaiser, M. Galiová, et al.: Mapping of different structures on large area of granite sample using laserablation based analytical techniques, an exploratory study, Spectrochimica Acta Part B 63 (2008) 1139–1144.

LIBS - geological samples





LIBS and LA-ICP-MS were used for a multielement (Ca, Al, Fe, Mn) mappings of a granite sample surface. The sample was scanned with 100 x 100 individual sample points to map an area of 20 x 20 mm². The normalized signals were used for construct of contour plots which were colored according local distribution of the selected elements. The results of these two laser-based methods were compared and found to be similar.



K. Novotný, J. Kaiser, M. Galiová, et al.: Spectrochimica Acta Part B 63 (2008) 1139–1144.

LIBS on Biominerals





Example of the (cut) urolithic concrement (left) and fish scale sample (right) with the visible LIBS and LA-ICP-MS ablation patterns, respectively.

Source: M. Holá et al. - unpublished









- The investigated tooth (canine-C₁) of fossil brown bear (*Ursus arctos*) was excavated at Dolní Věstonice II-Western Slope, South Moravia, Czech Republic.
- The locality is dated to 26 640 ± 110 BP (uncalibrated ¹⁴C data) and belongs to Gravettian.

M. Galiová, J. Kaiser, F. Fortres, K. Novotný *et al.*: Multielemental analysis of prehistoric animal teeth by laser-induced breakdown spectroscopy and laser ablation inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry. Applied Optics 49 (2010) C191-C199.





- Abrasion of tooth's oclusal area and increments of cementum of tooth's root were studied in order to determine the age and seasonality.
- This bear died at the age of 14 years and it is possible to appoint the term of death from unfinished summer increment and absence of winter increment in between summer and autumn season (August to October).

M. Galiová, J. Kaiser, F. Fortres, K. Novotný *et al.*: Multielemental analysis of prehistoric animal teeth by laser-induced 51 breakdown spectroscopy and laser ablation inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry. Applied Optics 49 (2010) C191-C199.





Comparison of calcium distribution within the investigated cross section of canine tooth root.



M. Galiová, J. Kaiser, F. Fortres, K. Novotný *et al*.: Multielemental analysis of prehistoric animal teeth by laser-induced breakdown spectroscopy and laser ablation inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry. Applied Optics 49 (2010) C191-C199.





M. Galiová, J. Kaiser, F. Fortres, K. Novotný *et al*.: Multielemental analysis of prehistoric animal teeth by laser-induced 53 breakdown spectroscopy and laser ablation inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry. Applied Optics 49 (2010) C191-C199.



- The estimation of the sample hardness via magnesium ionic to atomic line intensity ratios is shown.
- The estimated hardness characteristic was proved by microhardness measurements.
- The Vickers test pattern was placed nearby the LIBS ablation craters for Mg detection.





The seasonal fluctuations of the Sr/Ca and Sr/Ba detected by utilized laser-ablation based techniques (SP and DP LIBS and LA-ICP-MS) evidenced the migration of this bear between his hibernaculum's location and the place where the fossils were found.



M. Galiová, J. Kaiser, F. Fortres, K. Novotný *et al.*: Multielemental analysis of prehistoric animal teeth by laser-induced breakdown spectroscopy and laser ablation inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry. Applied Optics 49 (2010) C191-C199.





The dark areas on the sample are well correlated with the lower Sr/Ba Sr/Ca ratio in the map. They are rather related to the narrow winter strips.



M. Galiová, J. Kaiser, F. Fortres, K. Novotný *et al.*: Multielemental analysis of prehistoric animal teeth by laser-induced breakdown spectroscopy and laser ablation inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry. Applied Optics 49 (2010) C191-C199.

COMPARISON OF LIBS AND LA-ICP-MS MAPPING

LIBS

close to areas in the sample mapped by DP-LIBS and LA-ICP-MS comparable diameters of the ablation craters and spatial resolution

LA-ICP-

MS

M. Galiová, J. Kaiser, F. Fortres, K. Novotný et al.: Multielemental analysis of prehistoric animal teeth by laser-induced breakdown spectroscopy and laser ablation inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry. Applied Optics 49 (2010) C191-C199.

100 µm





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LIBS - fossil bear tooth, RESULTS



If the tooth is not very affected by diagenesis from the LIBS and LA-ICP-MS measurements it can be concluded that

- the bear consumed a plant food mainly in the hot seasons by the Sr/Ca increased ratio visible mainly in the LIBS scans,
- the bears migration is characteristic not only for the years seasons but also for different years which is visible by comparison of the Sr/Ba ratios in the particular wide strips from the outer to the inner part of the dentine in the LA-ICP-MS maps and by the Sr/Ba decrease observable in the LIBS scan,



the bear probably changed its living territory in one direction.

M. Galiová, J. Kaiser, F. Fortres, K. Novotný *et al.*: Multielemental analysis of prehistoric animal teeth by laser-induced breakdown spectroscopy and laser ablation inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry. Applied Optics 49 (2010) C191-C199.





~ 1 Ma

- Material of fossil snakes comes from the Mladeč Caves site near the Olomouc city.
- Samples come from the deposits of the talus cone in the "Dóm mrtvých" being excavated in 1958-1959 (excavation no. II).
- The palaeontological research documents the Early Pleistocene (Early Biharian) age of the vertebrate assemblage. Snake fauna shows on the warm interglacial environment. Deposits of the excavation no. II are correlated with waalian interglacial, possibly the end of the waalian interglacial (Ivanov 1993, 2007).

M. Galiová, J. Kaiser, K. Novotný, *et al.*: Investigation of the *osteitis deformans* phases in snake vertebrae by double-pulse laser induced breakdown spectroscopy. Analytical Bioanalytical Chemistry, 2010, 398, p. 1095-1107.





Mineral component of the bone: carbonised hydroxyapatite $Ca_{10}(CO_3, PO_4)_6(OH)_2$

The Ca/P ratio is 2:1 in normal bone.

Natrix natrix specimen from the Mladeč Caves, Ealpy Pleistocene (Early Biharian).

Healthy vertebra:

A middle trunk vertebra. A section cuts the vertebra through the anterior portion of the neural arch, zygopshene and prezygapophyses. In ventro-lateral direction the section cuts the area of synapophyses.

Pathological vertebra:

Two fused posterior trunk vertebrae. A section cuts the posteriorly situated vertebra through the anterior part of the neural arch and the right synapophyse. Pathologic development with thickened bony trabeculae is remarkable mainly at the right side of the vertebra.





Fossil snake vertebra – µCT at ELETTRA Trieste











There are several stages of osteitis deformans (Paget's disease): 1 – resorption phase (osteolytic phase); 2 the mixed osteolytic and osteoblastic phase; 3 – osteosclerotic phase.

M. Galiová, J. Kaiser, K. Novotný, *et al.*: Investigation of the *osteitis deformans* phases in snake vertebrae by double-pulse laser induced breakdown spectroscopy. Analytical Bioanalytical Chemistry, 2010, 398, p. 1095-1107.







Content [mg/kg]	pathological	healthy		
Mg	1226.71	1025.45		
AI	3399.84	1798.90		
Si	5287.27	1652.69		
Р	204503.11	209780.44		
Ca	331288.82	338822.36		
Fe	2812.89	1495.51		
Zn	1177.80	1212.57		
Sr	661.72	597.80		
Ва	319.10	281.74		

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M. Galiová, J. Kaiser, K. Novotný, *et al.*: Investigation of the *osteitis deformans* phases in snake vertebrae by double-pulse laser induced breakdown spectroscopy. Analytical Bioanalytical Chemistry, 2010, 398, p. 1095-1107.



Pathological







- New bony trabeculae in fossil vertebra show on the highly increased representation of phosphorus Ca/P < 1 in pathological bony tissue indicating the later stage of the *osteitis deformans* (Paget's disease).
- 2. Elemental mapping of pathologic bony tissue could be a powerful tool for **considering the** *osteitis deformans* phases in fossil vertebrates.

M. Galiová, J. Kaiser, K. Novotný, *et al.*: Investigation of the *osteitis deformans* phases in snake vertebrae by double-pulse laser induced breakdown spectroscopy. Analytical Bioanalytical Chemistry, 2010, 398, p. 1095-1107.

LIBS of artworks



LIBS mapping is used since 1990s for analysis or cleaning of the artworks. As an example, Klein *et al.** reported in 1999 on on-line control of laser cleaning of sandstone and stained glass. A combination of a KrF excimer laser and LIBS was used. The spectroscopic study of the plasma emission was used to determine the elemental composition of the crust and the underlying material. The on-line implementation of LIBS to the cleaning process provided important information about the optimal cleaning parameters of artworks from glass and stone in order to avoid over-cleaning.

*S. Klein, T. Stratoudaki, V. Zafiropulos, J. Hildenhagen, K. Dickmann, T. Lehmkuhl, Appl. Phys. A-Mater. Sci. Process. 69 (1999) 441-444.

LIBS of artworks



Most recently, a multi-technique (X-ray diffraction - XRD, Scanning electron microscopy - SEM, Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy - FT-IR, Differential scanning calorimetry - DSC, Thermogravimetry - TGA, and LIBS) approach was utilized by Şerifaki *et al.** for the characterization of materials used in the execution of historic oil paintings in the 19th century church in Ayvalık/Turkey.

LIBS spectral measurements indicated that the pigments used in wall paintings were red chrome, green earth and iron oxide.

*K. Serifaki, H. Boke, S. Yalcin, B. Ipekoglu, Mater. Charact. 60 (2009) 303-311.

Environmental applications PLANT SAMPLES - Motivation

 Several transition metals (Cu, Fe, Zn etc.) are essential for plants just like for most other organisms. G



 However, they can easily be toxic when present in excess.



 In the course of industrialization emissions of metals have risen tremendously and significantly exceed those from natural sources for practically all metals.



- Beside the transition metals, also the circulation of toxic metals (e.g. Cd, Pb, Hg etc.) through soil, water and air has greatly increased.
- Investigation of influence of metals on an organism as well as of their transport and of maintaining of their level inside a cell is thus very topical.





Methods of plant elemental composition determination



Investigated samples



Sample		Investigated	Monitored	Methods			
		part	elements	LIBS	LA-ICP- MS	(Dual-Energy) µradiograpy	(Dual-Energy) µtomography
Helianthus Annuus		leaves, roots, stems	Pb, Cd, Mg, K, Ag, Cu	×	x	X	X
Zea mays	V	leaves, roots, stems	Pb, S, Mg, Fe	X	х	x	x
Cornus stolonifera		leaves	Fe	×			
Lactuca sativa L.		leaves	Pb, Mg	×			
Phaseolus Vulgaris		leaves	Pb, Cd, Cu			х	
Di _i plotaxis erucoides		roots	Pb, Cd, Cu				Х
Pisum Sativum		leaves	S			X	
Hedera helix		leaves	Mg			X	

Helianthus annuus leaf







Map of the lead pollutant in a) 5 mM and b) 10 mM PbAc treated sample together with the schematics of the ablation craters distribution on the sample (CV— central vein of the leaf sample).

J. Kaiser, M. Galiová, K. Novotný, *et al.*: Mapping of the heavy-metal pollutants in plant tissues by Laser-Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy, *Spectrochimica Acta Part B* 62 71 (2007) 1597–1605.
Sample analysis







Typical single-shot LIBS spectra taken at two different position on the leaf of Capsicum annuum sample. The 405.78 nm Pb (I), and 404.41 nm, 404.72 K (I) lines used in the analysis are clearly visible. The spectra were obtained using the following experimental conditions: pulse energy (at the sample surface) 10 mJ, gating pulse for the ICCD detector $-1 \mu s$ after the Q-switch signal and the integration time 10 µs. For the mapping, the selected LIBS spectra were processed in the following way: background was subtracted (for each shot) and the area under the selected peak (for appropriate chemical element) was calculated.



Sample analysis







The maps of Pb and K obtained from the studied area of the 2 days 10 mM $Pb(NO_3)_2$ treated *Capsicum annuum* leaf sample by LIBS analyses. The Pb distribution in fresh (frozen) and dried samples are visualized.

The maps are shown together with the photos of the samples. In the upper left corners, the part of the photograph is uncovered.

Lead is accumulated mainly in the central vein and the surrounding area of the leaf. The length of the bar is 1 mm.







Comparison of the Pb maps obtained from the studied area of the 2 days 10 mM Pb(NO₃)₂ treated Capsicum annuum leaf sample by LIBS and LA-ICP-MS analyses. The LIBS and LA-ICP-MS ablation patterns had a spacing of 500 µm and 200 µm, respectively. The diameter of ablation craters was ~200 µm for LIBS and ~100 µm for LA-ICP-MS. The length of the bar is 1 mm.

fs- and short wavelength LIBS





fs- LIBS: image of ablated spot obtained with an electron microscope*



Ablation laser: capillary-discharge based soft X-ray laser, wavelength: 46.9 nm, pulse duration ~2 ns, energy/pulse ~0.3 mJ. Image of ablated spot obtained with an electron microscope.







Plants useful for heavy-metal phytoremediation

- rezistant strong tolerance effective plant-transport mechanisms high accumulation high biomass fast growth
- Zea mays
- Helianthus annuus
- Viola lutea

HERBS

- Thlaspi caerulescens
- Phaseolus vulgaris



- Alnus glutinosa
- Salix viminalis
- Pinus contorta
- Populus tremula





Trees in phytoremediation



- sufficient accumulation
- sufficient tolerance
- high shoot and aerial biomass
- stabilization decrease a risk of air and water erosion
- in land where it si uneconomic to use other method
- where is no time pressure





Samples from naturally growing trees

- recultivated sludge bed in locality Smolník (Slovakia)
- historical Cu-mining area
- exploited from the 14th century to 1990
- the mine was definitively closed in 1990-1994
- sludge bed remediation process was started in 1989
- overlapped by mould with sawdust and planted by birch and pine trees





Cu, Ca



Laboratory cultivated twigs











Smolník



Calcium longitudinal distribution on the spring and bud of spruce (*Pinus sylvestris*) obtained by LIBS **single pulse**, four laser pulses into each point were shot and signal intensities were compared.





Smolník



Point distance = 500 µm

Copper distribution in central vein of the aspen leaf (*Populus tremula*) obtainted by LIBS **single pulse**; two laser pulses on each point.





Smolník

Cu(I) 324.754 - 1st pulse



Point distance = 500 µm

Copper distribution in the needle of pine tree (*Pinus sylvestris*) obtained by LIBS **single pulse.**





Example of **copper and calcium** distribution maps on cross sections of spruce twigs (*Picea abies*) **cultivated** in 50 mmol.l⁻¹ CuCl₂ obtained by **LIBS double pulse**.









Example of **copper** distribution maps after **ICP-MS data normalization** on cross sections of spruce twigs (*Picea abies*) obtained by **LIBS double pulse**; arrows show concentration gradients.

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION !





